THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
Established 2007
HISTORY - HERITAGE - HONOUR
4th Quarter 2024 Edition

FQPM President's Message

Another year and another AGM has been held and the Christmas season and the accompanying hot weather is already upon us. No doubt members are asking themselves how the time just keeps flying. The FQPM Annual General Meeting held in October provided a few changes of responsibilities for our Management Committee. Geoffrey Sheldon has taken on the role of Secretary, a role he held when the FQPM was first established in 2007. I thank Debra Austin for her time as secretary that she held over the last twelve months. There is a vacancy for committee members on our current committee and I would be pleased to welcome any FQPM members who would like to join us in supporting the Queensland Police Museum.

Later in this bulletin, a version of my Presidents Report to the AGM is published and it contains an outline of the activities over the past 12 months. A significant event in the report is the advice that Commissioner Steve Gollschewski APM has agreed to our request to be Patron of the FQPM. I thank him for his interest.

It is my hope that Christmas will be a time for family and friends for all FQPM members. I thank you for your interest in our work and look forward to your support again in the new year. I would like to wish all members of the FQPM a joyful Christmas and safe New Year in 2025.

Bob Burns APM President,

POLICE REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024

The FQPM was once again invited to attend the annual Police Remembrance Day ceremonies at the Queensland Police Memorial in the Botanical Gardens, Brisbane. Secretary Geoff Sheldon attended on behalf of the Friends and laid a wreath to honour fallen QPS officers since 1861.

Dedication and blessing of grave of Constable 1/- Roy Doyle QPM.

The Mackay-Whitsunday Branch of the Queensland Retired Police Association took the opportunity on National Police Remembrance Day, Friday 27th September 2024 to conduct a dedication and blessing of the restored plaque on the lawn grave of Constable 1/c Roy Doyle QPM at the Mt Bassett Cemetery, Mackay. The restoration included some replacement items to be prepared, together with an additional plaque outlining the story of the event where Roy Doyle perished in 1956.

The event included a blessing by Police Chaplain Dr Rosemary Dunn, Archdeacon of Mission & Ministry Anglican Diocese North Queensland and an address by District Officer Superintendent Shane Holmes who represented the QPS Commissioner Steve Gollschewski and read Roy Doyle's service history.

Local QRPA Life Members Dennis Hansen, Bev Houley, President Bob Maher and Secretary Andre Wijtenburg ensured a memorable service for the Doyle family including daughters Diane and Judith who unveiled the restored plaque. Diane took the opportunity to proudly wear her father's Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry awarded posthumously by Queen Elizabeth II on 30th October 1956.

The history of the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and Gallantry has a short but interesting history. Australia wide some 709 QPM's for distinguished service and only 6 for gallantry have been awarded, one of which is owned by a Queensland police officer, the late Roy Doyle.

Roy Doyle's daughters Diane Jeffs & Judith McGrath with Superintendent Shane Holmes

The Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry – a history.

Senior Sergeant Mel Wilkins, Manager of the Honours & Awards Unit of the QPS has provided a comprehensive history of the Queen's Police Medal awarded for distinguished service or gallantry from 1954 to1989.

The Queen's Police Medal is an Imperial medal awarded for distinguished service or for gallantry. This award was introduced on 19 May 1954 by Queen Elizabeth II and was awarded to members of police services from the United Kingdom and Commonwealth Countries. This award and the separate Queen's Fire Service Medal were created to replace the former combined King's Police and Fire Service Medal. This award ceased to be awarded to members of Australian police services, following the introduction in 1986 of the Australian Police Medal to the Australian Honours and Awards system. The QPM award was last awarded to an Australian in 1989 and a Queensland police officer in 1987. Between 1954 and 1989, 709 QPMs for distinguished service were awarded to Australian police officers from Australian police services, including 6 for gallantry.

The 32-millimetre-wide ribbon features a two vertical stripe of dark blue flanked by three silver stripes. The medal is made of nickel-silver. The front of the medal displays the effigy of Queen Elizabeth II. The back of the medal depicts a figure holding a sword and shield and is inscribed with the words '**For Distinguished Police Service'**. The recipient's name is engraved on the rim of the medal.

Whilst this award was awarded predominantly for distinguished service, it was also previously awarded posthumously for gallantry for 'acts of exceptional courage and skill at the cost of their lives'. This award for gallantry is distinguishable by the additional single thin red stripes running through the centre of each silver stripe and the back of the medal being inscribed *'**For Gallantry**' instead of '**For Distinguished Police Service'***.

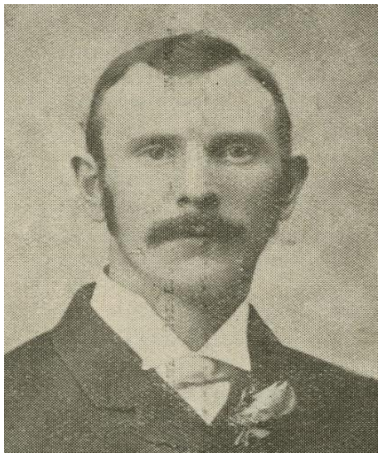
From 30 November 1977, this award was no longer awarded for gallantry as it was replaced by the Queen's Gallantry Medal which was introduced on 20/06/1974. The award now considered a foreign award is worn on the left-hand side of the chest after all other Australian awards. Recipients can only be awarded this award once and are entitled to use the post-nominal **QPM** after their name.

Change to FQPM membership fee

The recent AGM considered and approved an increase in the ordinary membership fee rise from $15.00 to $20.00. Cost of badges and postage contributed to this rise. Fees for Life Membership and Junior Membership are unchanged.

HONOURING OUR PEOPLE

Sergeant Thomas James HEANEY, Woolloongabba,
Sworn in: 18th December 1888; Reg. No. 555
Died: 27 September 1906



Thomas Heaney joined the Queensland Police Force in 1888. In the early hours of 7 June 1905, while on patrol, Constable 1/c Thomas Heaney witnessed a male offender exiting a window of the Norman Hotel at Woolloongabba. Heaney approached and attempted to arrest the offender, Henry Smith, and a violent struggle ensued. Heaney was struck from behind by a second offender, Smith's accomplice, Lawrence Blake. Heaney was hit multiple times over the head with a metal bar rendering him unconscious and with severe head injuries resulting in skull fractures.

Heaney was transported by ambulance to a hospital for treatment where doctors reported he has sustained a compound communicated fracture to the skull about his left ear, several cuts and abrasions to the head and a fractured jaw. The two offenders. Smith and Blake, were later arrested and charged with grievous bodily harm and burglary. The trial of Smith and Blake was held in November 1905, both defendants pleaded Not Guilty and conducted their own defence. At the trial Sergeant Quinn, officer in charge of the Woolloongabba police station gave evidence as to the duties of Heaney and how he went to the scene in Qualtrough Street and what he saw there. He produced portions of a pair of blacksmiths tongs which he picked up nearby, parts of which were blood stained. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, Blake was sentenced to 10 years and Smith to four years imprisonment.

The Medical Board declared Heaney unfit for further service and he was medically retired on a full police pension on 1st January 1906. Also on that date Heaney was promoted to the rank of sergeant and back dated to the date of the attack on 7 June 1905. At the time of his death he was 38 years of age and a widower with four children. He had been stationed at Woolloongabba and had performed good work during his 18 years of service.

On 27 September 1906, some 9 months after his medical retirement, Thomas Heaney died at his residence in South Brisbane. The attending Doctor certified that he died from primary injuries of a fractured skull and secondary injuries of paralysis of the muscles of the throat and larynx.

Even though Heaney was no longer a serving police officer, his death was reported to Police Commissioner Cahill. He was granted a full police funeral and was buried at the Toowong Cemetery alongside his late wife Mary.

FQPM Heaney / Ebbitt Grave Project.

IN 2015 the FQPM researched the resting place of Thomas Heaney in Toowong Cemetery and discovered he was in an unmarked grave in front of the grave of his relative Constable Benjamin Ebbitt. Ebbitt had died in 1894 four years after being seriously assaulted during an arrest in Croydon where he had lost an eye and never returned to duty. The grave of Ebbitt was in a derelict condition and following more research a project to restore this grave and construct a new grave over Heaney was carried out.

above: The before and after views of the Benjamin Ebbitt grave.

left: The newly constructed grave of Thomas Heaney.

Presidents Report - AGM 2024

I have the honour to report on the activities of The Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Inc for the period of October 2023 to September 2024.
This year is the 17th year of operation of the Friends and the Management Committee has identified appropriate activities relating to our obligations under our constitution. This year enabled the FQPM to continue with the various activity as outlined in our constitution.
The major focus of the FQPM has been, among other things, to locate and assess the condition of the graves of those officers whose name appears on the QPS Police Memorial and to ensure the sites are maintained to a standard befitting an officer who has died while performing their duty. There are currently 150 officers whose name appears on the QPS Memorial. I would like on behalf of the FQPM, to acknowledge and pay respect to all officers who have died on duty in Queensland since 1859.
The impediment posed by seasonal weather in the north west of the state has eased sufficiently for us to finally complete the remote grave of Constable Nathaniel Roberts on Connemara Station west of Jundah. The memorial plaque for Roberts is also to be placed on the monument stone at Windorah adjacent to the earlier plaque for Constable Thomas Callaghan who also perished and whose grave has not been located.
A small number of restoration projects have been completed in Rockhampton and Mackay where local retired police members have been identified to assist with the logistics of obtaining local trades to carry out the tasks. These projects will be supported by Management Committee members where appropriate particularly with the financing of the work.
Our continuing commitment to the QP Museum staff has continued with financial support for the purchase of some art work for the Flynn Gallery.
On 18th October last year the Committee and members attended the presentation of the QP150 Ceremonial Sword to the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Dr Jeannette Young for display in the public gallery. I am informed that the sword attracts much attention during the regular tours of this significant building.
During the year the Queensland Police Service had a change of leadership and incoming commissioner Mr Steve Gollschewski has kindly accepted our request to be the Patron of the FQPM during his term as Commissioner of the QPS.
During the year to date a number of presentations were made by myself in company with committee members to police and public groups detailing the work of the FQPM. Additionally I attended the Police Remembrance Day Vigil service at the Police Memorial at the Brisbane Botanical Gardens and laid a wreath on behalf of all members of the FQPM.
My appreciation also to Curator Lisa Jones and her staff for the work they do to promote the story of policing in Queensland during this the 160th year of the Queensland Police.
To our many life members and ordinary members who have remained loyal supporters during the past 12 months I express my appreciation for your interest and support as we continue our work in upholding our motto of History, Heritage and Honour.
I wish to acknowledge our independent auditor Wayne Osborne who has continued to assist us with ensuring our reporting requirements are appropriate and meet the financial reporting requirements of our constitution and of the *Queensland Associations Incorporation Act 1981*.

In conclusion I would like to acknowledge the members of the Management Committee for their work during the past 12 months. I look forward to our year ahead with confidence that we will continue our important projects with the support of our members and sponsors.

Bob Burns APM
President The Friends of the Queensland Police Museum Inc.

Release of eCopy and print-on-demand book.

A reference publication titled *Queensland Police in the Great War: A Compendium*, which provides concise personal, military and service histories, with select extended biographies, of the 180 Queensland police officers who joined the Australian Imperial Force in the First World War, is now available. Dr Anastasia Dukova, a policing historian was working with staff at the Queensland Police Museum and believed that the stories of these men remained lost to public knowledge.

Some 10 full-length biographies have been researched and drafted by Dr Dukova. The final step to create an eCopy and print-on-demand book via the Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing service is now completed and is available on the Amazon platform. One of the completed full-length biographies (Billy Elsdale, Police Tracker), was published on the Queensland State Library blogs on ANZAC Day 25 April 2024.

Merchandise items make great gifts, a memento of something special in your life or perhaps an item of interest for collectors. All proceeds from the sale of FQPM merchandise assists the organisation to preserve the history of policing in Queensland for future generations.

Challenge Coins

The FQPM has a variety of interesting challenge coins ranging from the standard edition FQPM challenge coin to special edition coins commemorating events in the history of policing in Queensland. The price of each challenge coin is **$15** or

$12 each for FQPM members. How to receive a member's discount is outlined below;

Standard Edition
These 42mm challenge coins are beautifully finished in silver cupro-nickel and come in a clear protective cover. The obverse side depicts the badge of the FQPM which is based on the Queensland Police helmet badge in use from 1906 – 1960. The reverse side depicts the current Queensland Police Service badge which was introduced in 1990.

Women in Policing
These limited-edition challenge coins are the same size and quality finish as the standard edition FQPM challenge coins. The reverse side depicts a Policewoman directing traffic and it is based on a photograph of a Policewoman from the 1980s. The coin recognises just one of the many roles' women play in the Queensland Police Service.

Queensland Mounted Police
To acknowledge the contribution that horses made to policing in Queensland since 1864, this challenge coin is similar in size and finish as the standard FQPM challenge coin. The reverse side depicts a silver raised 3D image of a mounted constable (circa 1950) in the Police paddock at Oxley near the current site of the Queensland Police Academy.

Stubby Holders

The FQPM stubby holders depict the five types of Queensland Police hat badge that have existed since 1884. The price of each stubby holder is **$7** or **$5** each for FQPM members. How to receive a member's discount is outlined below.

Polo Shirts

These smart looking polo shirts have the badge of the FQPM embroidered on the left breast. They are made from 65% polyester for durability and 35% cotton for comfort. The fabric is 210gsm pique for easy care and reduced pilling. A variety of colours is available, and they come in male and female sizes. The price of each polo shirt is **$40.** There is no member's discount on polo shirts.

Member's Discount

Members of the FQPM are eligible for a **discount** on some FQPM merchandise.

Orders can be either posted (postage extra) or picked up from Melissa at Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane 4000. Do not forget to ask for your **member's discount**. Alternatively, any queries regarding merchandise can be made to the FQPM Merchandise Officer at merchandise@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

FQPM merchandise and a range of other Queensland Police Service memorabilia can be purchased directly from **QSHOP** which is conveniently located next to the Queensland Police Museum on the ground floor of Queensland Police Headquarters, 200 Roma Street, Brisbane. The **QSHOP** is open to the public each Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm. The **QSHOP** can be contacted at hello@qphra.com

FQPM Management Committee 2024/2025

The 2024/2025 FQPM Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in the Queensland Police Museum Seminar Room on Wednesday 5 October 2023.

The election of officers was held, and the following financial members were appointed unopposed to the Management Committee:

President	Bob Burns APM
Vice President	Rob McCall
Treasurer	Wayne Coyne
Secretary	Geoff Sheldon
Committee Members	Kevin Darch
	Robert Cochrane (Website Administrator)
	John McCormack
	Gerry Stevens

Additionally, the following appointments were accepted and extended during 2024:

Honorary Auditor	Wayne Osborne
Website IT Consultant	Open Web Design (Karen Lily)

FQPM Management Committee Meetings - 2025

The FQPM Management Committee meets every two months on a Wednesday, commencing with the first Wednesday in February of each year. The meeting place for all meetings, unless otherwise advised, is held in the Flynn Gallery of the Queensland Police Museum. Members welcome to attend.

The FQPM meeting dates for the year (2025) are as follows:

Wednesday 1000 hours 5 February 2025
Wednesday 1000 hours 2 April 2025
Wednesday 1000 hours 4 June 2025
Wednesday 1000 hours 6 August 2025
Wednesday 0900 hours 1 October 2025
Wednesday 1100 hours 1 October 2025 (AGM)
Wednesday 1000 hours 3 December 2025

Memberships

Membership to the FQPM assists the Association to continue with its goals in the advancement of the Queensland Police Museum, the acquisition and restoration of Police heritage objects and the enhancement and effective sharing of knowledge concerning the history of policing in Queensland.
FQPM members are requested to encourage potential members to apply for membership.

The FQPM offers four levels of membership:

- Ordinary Membership: Annual subscription: $20.00 per year;
- Life Membership: $100.00 **(after 1 year as an ordinary member);**
- Corporate Membership: $50.00 annual subscription; and
- Junior Membership (under 18 years of age): $15.00 one out payment until they attain the age of 18 years.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR!

The FQPM is still seeking copies of the following books and publications for the Queensland Police Museum Library:

Two publications written by former Commissioner Frederic Charles Urquhart (1858–1935):

Camp Canzonettes (1891); and
Blood Stains (1919). (This publication is mentioned in the entry for F C Urquhart in the Australian Dictionary of Biography).

The FQPM is prepared to pay any reasonable cost to obtain these publications, however donations are always acceptable.

For Information:

The Curator, QPM has advised that Frederick Urquhart's 'Camp Canzonettes' is now available online via the State Library Queensland website (File Size = 51.4MB)

http://onesearch.slq.qld.gov.au/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=slq_alma21235181990002061&context=L&vid=SLQ&search_scope=SLQ&tab=slq&lang=en_US

Newsletter (Friends' Gazette) Articles

We endeavour to keep the Newsletter (the Friends' Gazette) interesting and relevant to our members and in doing so, we require (preferably) unpublished short stories, articles relating to former QP officers or staff members, incident, or events of historical Police significance.

If you have a relevant story of interest, please contact the Secretary FQPM.

Anomalies/corrections in the FQPM Website

The Secretary would appreciate any members who, while scanning the FQPM website may detect any anomalies or incorrect information. Please pass this information on so that corrections can be made by the FQPM Website Administrator. It's important that we ensure that our website is up to date and accurate.

www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

Bob Burns
Editor FQPM
0423100786

11 December 2024