# THE FRIENDS' GAZETTE

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Queensland Police Museum
Established 2007
HISTORY - HERITAGE - HONOUR
3rd Quarter 2026 Edition


## President's Message

Once again, we are approaching our Annual General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday 7th October 2026 in the Flynn Gallery, Queensland Police Museum, ground floor, Queensland Police Headquarters, Brisbane. The secretary will shortly be sending out the notices including nomination forms. The nomination forms are important as it allows all members an opportunity to participate in the management of the work carried out by the FQPM.

This year I am seeking extra nominations for new members of the Management Committee and in particular, for the position of Treasurer. Our current treasurer Wayne Coyne has indicated a desire to retire after a long association with the FQPM. While all positions are up for re-election, I would encourage any member where possible to consider a position on the Management Committee which meets every second month at the Museum.

The year to date has been busy with a number of purchases to add to the museum collection and for equipment to assist the work of the staff in presenting a professional and informative view into the life and work of the Queensland Police Service.

Thank you all for your continued interest in the work we do as we continue to support the Curator and her staff in maintaining one of the best police museums in Australia.

Bob Burns APM
President

**Death of former Patron.**

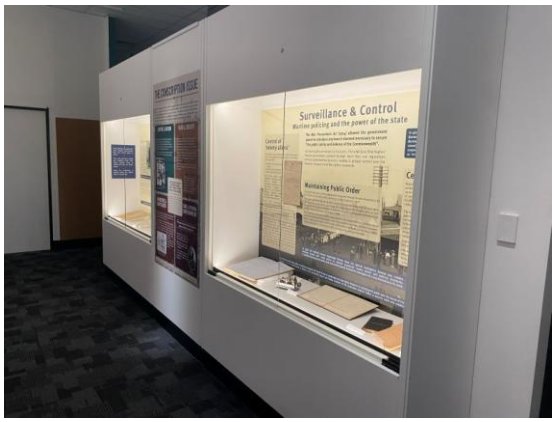
It is with great sadness we acknowledge the passing of our former Patron, Stephan Gollschewski AO APM, aged 67 who died on the 4th September 2026. We offer condolences to his family and friends.

**At the Police Museum.**

## New Exhibition

The temporary exhibition space has concluded the opening exhibition *Rogues and Vagabonds* that featured a series of original art works by Stephen Tiernan, a serving Detective Chief Inspector at the QPS Crime Command.

A new exhibition **"War and Police"** opened on Friday 28th August and will continue for the next few months. The exhibition explores the stories and experiences of Queensland Police during the Great War.



Inspired by Dr Anastasia Dukova's book *Queensland Police in the Great War* this exhibition explores the diverse experiences of officers who chose to enlist in the armed forces, those who remained in Queensland, and the challenges of policing the state during wartime.

The exhibition is to run until the end of February 2027

Entry is free.

**Fingerprint Artwork:**

An award-winning piece of glass art recently exhibited at the 150th EKKA Craft Awards has been offered for sale to the Police Museum. The eye-catching piece titled "First Fingerprint Success 1906" by glass artist John Rossberg was awarded first in its class category, and also, Best Exhibit across all the glass art at the 2026 EKKA.

The artist works in tubular glass imported from the USA and has created an image of the thumb print found at the scene of a safe blowing at Cullens Store in Kangaroo Point. The investigating sergeant noticed a fingerprint on a beer bottle. The print was matched to an offender James Craig by Sergeant Duncan Fowler, a Qld Police fingerprint expert.

Craig's conviction in 1906 was the first occasion an identification by fingerprint was recorded in Queensland. A full explanation of the event can be found in an article in the *From The Vault* series on https://mypolice.qld.gov.au/museum/2023/12/19/from-the-vault-first-fingerprint-success-1906/

The FQPM has contributed funds from the Donation Box located in the Museum towards the purchase of this art work. The artist John Rossberg will hand over the work at the end of August and will be on display at the AGM on the 7th October.

**New Interactive microscope:**

A museum grade microscope that's designed to enhance the presentation of information and exhibits for visitors to our museum has been ordered and is due for delivery by the end of September. The digital HD microscope system with rotating carousels will be able to provide visitors, particularly school and community groups with an interactive experience during visits in our museum.

**FQPM 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

**FQPM Standard Coin**

**Women in Policing**

**Mounted Police**

## Stubbie Holders

1884 1906 1960 1978 1990

## Police "Bobby" Whistles

Police "Bobby" whistles were a defining tool of British policing from the late 19th century through to the mid-20th, and they became an instantly recognisable symbol of the Metropolitan Police "Bobby." Made of brass or nickel-plated metal and tuned to a piercing, far-carrying trill, the whistle replaced the earlier rattle and allowed constables on foot patrol to summon help, signal danger, or coordinate during pursuits across London's streets.

## FQPM Polo Shirts

These smart looking polo shirts have the badge of the FQPM embroidered on the left breast. 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 are available, and they come in male and female sizes.
No member discount on this item.

**For more information on these items including pricing and how to order FQPM merchandise, visit the FQPM website shop.**
**https://www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au/shop/**

## Member's Discount

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

**QSHOP at Police HQ**. 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 10am–2pm. The **QSHOP** contact at hello@qphra.com

Any inquiries/orders can be directed to the Merchandise Officer FQPM.

Rob Cochrane
Merchandise Officer FQPM
merchandise@friendsqpmuseum.com.au

## FQPM Management Committee 2025/2026

The 2025/2026 FQPM Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in the Queensland Police Museum Seminar Room on Wednesday 1st October 2025. The election of office bearers was held, and the following financial members were appointed unopposed to the Management Committee:

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

Additionally, the following appointments were accepted and extended during 2026:

Commissioner's Advocate: Sen Sgt Mel Wilkins
Honorary Auditor: Wayne Osborne
Website IT Consultant Open Web Design: (Karen Lily)

## FQPM Management Committee Meetings – 2026

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 commencing at 10.00am. Members welcome to attend.

The FQPM meeting dates for the year (2026) are as follows:

Wednesday 10.00am 7 October (AGM) 2026
Wednesday10.00 am 2 December 2026
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Wednesday 10.00am 3 February 2027

## Membership

Membership of 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.
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## 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, incidents, or events of historical Police significance.

Should you feel that you could contribute, please contact the Secretary FQPM.

## Anomalies/corrections in the FQPM Website – www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

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.

Bob Burns APM
Editor: Friends Gazette www.friendsqpmuseum.com.au

6 September 2026