

BREMER ECHOES

OUR FOREBEARS PAST, YET PRESENT STILL



IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC

VOLUME 35 NO 3

NOVEMBER 2017

RESEARCH ROOMS & LIBRARY

“Brigg House”

Cooneana Heritage Centre
1041 Redbank Plains Road,
New Chum, Ipswich 4303

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MONTHLY MEETING: SECOND Tuesday of the month at 9.30am
[except January]

Division 4 Community Meeting Room Station Rd. Booval
Shop 2 / 38 Station Rd Booval
Friendly Care Chemist Building

Dues are payable by 30th September.

Subscriptions New Single Membership	\$50
New Family – 2 members residing at the same address	\$65
Renewal Single Membership	\$40
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Journal only subscription	\$10

Visitors welcome at Research Library per day \$20; ½ day \$10;

Research undertaken by post – Initial Research Fee \$30

Additional Research fees charged at rate of \$25 per hour or part thereof.

Annual Membership includes Society's magazine Bremer Echoes
February, July, & November, posted or emailed.

Out of town members entitled to research on their behalf from Society records.

OPENING HOURS

Monday & Thursday 9.30am to 2.30pm
Saturday 9am to 12 noon – Closed Sunday
Closed all Public Holidays

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The First Genealogical Society in Queensland 1977



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Model by Malcolm Deas

Cover Photograph:

Official Opening of the Rosewood to Marburg Rail Line 26th January 1912
Courtesy Picture Ipswich & Editor's Collection

A Few Words from the President & Editor:

This is the final Bremer Echoes, for 2017 which seems to have rushed away. Hopefully some members have had success with their research and have found that ancestor who has been elusive for so long. Perhaps 2018 will be kind and help you all in “your digging”.

At the AGM there were no changes in the Executive and I thank those who have again stepped up to keep our Society running smoothly. It is surprising the number of little things that crop up and need to be done, and as with any small organisation there are only a small number of workers. The Society really does need more Library Assistants, and I am asking if you could find one day a month to come and help in the Library. An “old hand” is always with the new comers, and it is surprising what you can learn about your Society and the resources available. The best way to learn is to volunteer.

Challenge Employment & Training has begun the work on “Brigg House” to repair and renovate which will give training to young people, and help the Society improve the appearance of the building. It is expected the project will take 20 weeks, so it will be a few months into the New Year before it will be finished - something to look forward to.

Have you renewed your membership? I am afraid this will be the last magazine you will receive if the renewal is not paid by the end of the year. I know it comes around quickly – perhaps we are getting older or the world is moving faster.

I would like to wish a Happy Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous 2018 to everyone.

Best Wishes,

Irma Deas, President & Editor



Peace on Earth

*Welcome to the following new members;
We wish them well with their research.*

**NEW MEMBERS Jenny McMahon;
Dennis Cameron; Leanne Roberts;
Andrew & Claire Balsille; Sandra
Tilbury; Margaret Learmonth, Pam
Churchman, Bryan Marsden.
Re-joined – Judith Beitzel;**

A.G.M. 2017 PRESIDENT'S REPORT



*President Irma DEAS and Vice-President Claire JULER
At the AGM 12th September 2017*

I would like to present my President's Report for 2017, and welcome you to the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Ipswich Genealogical Society Inc

The Society was at Bell Arcade when the Annual Report for 2016 was presented, but within a month the move had been made to Cooneana Heritage Centre, and this has proved beneficial to all parties concerned. The other groups, the Ipswich Historical Society, the Spinners & Weavers, Historical Motorcycle Club Ipswich and the Retired Miners and newly arrived Blacksmiths and the Queensland Metal Artisans Club have all welcomed us to the Centre.

The Ipswich City Council moved the house from the Council Waste Depot at Briggs Road Raceview, and the Society was responsible for the repairs and renovations required. A portion of the verandah was closed in as a Reception Room, a ramp and front and back stairs and a portion of the roof as well as carpet tiles and new carpet where required. The phone and internet were our responsibility and were connected when we opened for business.

The quick move was made to allow the Society to be part of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations for the Ipswich Historical Society in October 2016. Members worked very hard to have our furniture, computers and resources in place in time for the 8th October and it proved to be well worth the effort. We

were congratulated on the appearance of “Brigg House” and I take this opportunity to thank the many members who helped to make it all happen. It was great team work and a credit to all.

The Society has been represented at the Welsh Church Fete, National Trust Great Houses of Ipswich and Gathering of the Clans this year and all were successful for the Society and helped to raise our profile in the community.

Members are updating our Indexes and checking and photographing the cemeteries of the area. Our database of these has grown and the grave photographs are a great help to researchers who are unable to visit in person.

This year the Society produced the CD, “Index to Ipswich Cemetery Burial Register 1847 to 2014” which has been of interest to many and also to other Family History Groups.

The stocktake has been carried out and being the first since our move, we now know what we have and where it is – hopefully.

An exciting day on 24th March 2017 when our Society celebrated the Official Opening of “Brigg House” and the 40th Birthday of the Ipswich Genealogical Society. The other groups at the Heritage Centre joined the celebration and in July we were part of the special day for the Spinners & Weavers who also reached the same milestone this year.

Two small books have been printed – one for our birthday – “From Then to Now” a pictorial history of 40 years of the Society and “Ipswich & District Churches” information on many of the churches in the area, some of which no longer exist.

The Society successfully applied to Cleanaway for a Community Benefit Fund Grant to cover material costs for repairs and painting as well as new guttering and downpipes for Brigg House”. The work is to be carried out as a project for Trainees at Challenge Employment & Training and we expect the project will finish early next year.

Another change has been made with the removal of the wall between what was originally the toilet and shower, to create one room which will give more space for shelves for scrapbooks and storage. Once again the husband of one of our members has generously offered floorcovering and installation for this room. Our thanks are extended for his great support.

It is hoped that an extension will be added in the near future for an Archive which will be home to our Queensland Government Gazettes and other valuable resources. The plans have been kindly supplied by the Ipswich City Council.

To all our willing workers “Thank you” for your help and support, our Society is an important part of the Ipswich community, and hopefully will be for many years to come.

Irma Deas, President 12th September 2017

IPSWICH CBD IN 1918

Survey maps of the Central Business District of Ipswich produced in 1918, provide a valuable resource for the family history researcher, and those researching local history. Over time there have been changes in some of the streets, for instance Nicholas Street turned onto the town bridge until the David Trumpy Bridge in East Street was opened in 1965.

Kern Corporation changed the face of Ipswich with the development of the Ipswich City Square in the late 1980's, closing Nicholas Street from the river to Brisbane Street. At present the area is being re-developed.

Local business man Wayne Wallace has donated a set of the maps to the Society, showing the Ipswich CBD in 1918, and these are now hanging on the walls at Brigg House for members and visitors to study. Thank you to Wayne for his generous donation.

Come back to 1918 and we will walk around the streets of Ipswich to see what we can find.

The bridge which crosses the Bremer River is at the end of Nicholas Street with a sharp bend and on that corner a little back from the road to allow room for the horse and wagon to pull up at the raised platform to load, is **Wilson's Ltd**



Produce Store. [Later *Risson Produce Store*] There is a bag store, grain store and engine house in a separate building, and a small room at the front of the grain store for **H. Russell**, the hairdresser, and I wonder why it is only men's barbers who have a red & white pole out the front?

Cribb & Foote Bulk Store occupies the next building and covers the area from Nicholas to Bell Street, giving easy access from both streets, and on looking up we notice the building has a Lantern Roof.

Charles Risson

Courtesy Picture Ipswich Whitehead Collection

The **Sydney Fruit Mart** is next with an added kitchen, shed, storerooms and stables and as we walk past we see that **Mr G.P. Ferris** the butcher has a section at the front of the building.

General Drapers **T.C. Beirne & Co** occupies the corner of Nicholas and Union Street, with their window displays showing a sample of their merchandise.

Walking along Union Street we come to the well-known **Commonwealth Hotel**, which is next door to the **London Tailor** of **C.W. Garslow**. Above the tailor, **Mrs Ajax** has a Boarding House, and then we come to **Mrs T. McMullin's "Clifton House"** another **Boarding House** on the Bell Street corner.

We now cross Bell Street and view the **Clothing Manufacturer, Alexander Stewart & Sons Ltd** who have a shed and a Dining Room at the rear of the main building. The '**Regis House**' Boarding House, run by **J.T. Laister** has extra bedrooms in a building at the rear.

We pass two dwelling houses with not a lot of evidence of life – perhaps the ladies are out the back washing – it is Monday after all, the men at work and the children at school.

The **Technical College**, takes up the rest of the block down Bell Street to Bremer Street and back up to **Alexander Stewart & Co** the Clothing Manufacturers. There is the **Trade School** Building with the classroom, the tennis court, and a Caretaker's room, a wash house and stables, and a large shingle roofed shed all on the College Grounds. The pupils are in class and we hear the voice of one of the teachers as we walk past.

Crossing Bell Street we can see the **Cribb & Foote** Bell Street entrance, and only a couple of older buildings and vacant land down to Bremer Street. In Union Street we see the beautiful facade of the **Railway Station** with a number of drays with their horses patiently waiting, so perhaps the train is due to arrive. Turning the corner into Nicholas Street, we walk on the over bridge above the railway line, and look down the line, but no train is chugging into the station. Continuing up Nicholas we come to **E.M. Walsh's Central Hotel**, which we have been told has a cellar, and a large fernery out the back, with a walkway to the laundry and wash room. At the rear of the allotment we can see two storerooms, stables and it could be a motor shed, as there is a big engine chugging away.

We should call into the grocers **Barry & Roberts** but we would have to carry our brown paper wrapped parcels so we do not stop. It appears to have a large storeroom at the rear.

As we pass **Watson Brothers** the butchers, we see the large wooden chopping blocks and the sawdust on the floor. Behind the counter stands a vat of brine for corning the meat which is sent out to outlying districts with the cream carter. The butcher has a freezing room, but most homes have only a Coolgardie Meat Safe, and no other way to keep meat except by having it corned. The Watson's engine room, mincing room and shed, a harness room and stables are on the same allotment.

We do not stop to buy a ticket at the small **casket shop**, as Grandmother does not approve of gambling. I look longingly at **Bearkley's Cafe** [*later Money*

Savers Drapers] but nothing is said about stopping for a drink. We pause to gaze in the window of **E.J. Smith's** small jewellery shop and wonder who lives in the rooms above.

Fosters Shoe Store with the latest fashion boots and shoes and that special smell of leather seems rather dark inside, but there are some customers so they must be able to see. Next another **Cribb & Foote** building - the produce store, and an office which is busy with a number of customers inside. [*Later this became Penneys Store*].

D. Kennedy the **bootmaker** has a boot repair workshop and two sheds, beside **Mr I. Ham's bakehouse** at the rear of the allotment. [*The bootmaker's shop was later divided in two and the other half occupied by Parker the tailor.*]

I would have liked to walk down the alley as I could smell the freshly baked bread at the **bakehouse** and wondered what was in the other buildings at the rear of **Mr I. Ham's Refreshment Room** [*later the Capital Café*]. Those buildings are owned by **I. Ham** and **W. Tatham & Son**, and we can see that the rooms above are occupied, as there are blinds at the windows.

[*Isaac Ham was Mayor of Ipswich in 1905*]

We could have walked along an alley and come out onto Brisbane Street, but decided to continue up Nicholas Street.

Next door to the refreshment rooms is the Tailor & Mercer **J. Scurrah & Son** with the **Friendly Society Meeting Room** above.

G. Saunders
Fruit Mart
[*later Nicholls*
& Senior
grocers and
later still
Auld's
Butchers],
occupies the
next building,
and then **J. Ball**
the seed man
and stationer,
which I thought
a strange
combination.



Nicholas & Senior Grocers 1956 Courtesy Glen McNamara

We pass **R. Johnson Ophthalmic Optical** next to **H.O. Williams** the **photographer** on street level, and he has a **studio** up the stairs. *[These two small shops later became a hardware shop and a hairdresser, and in the 1950's Mr Sharpe was the barber.]*

On the corner of Nicholas and Brisbane Streets, we stop and look at the **Provision Store, Tobacconist, Hairdresser and Marble Bar** of **T.H. Thomas**. I am surprised at the different things in the store and there is a strong smell of tobacco. *[This later became well known as Nolan's Corner Pharmacy]*

Rawlings Brothers Boot Retailers and **Predy's Watchmaker & Jewellers** face Brisbane Street, and we gaze at the lovely array of watches and sparkling jewellery, but do not stop to buy. We look down a narrow staircase to see an engine house at the rear of the buildings.

W. Tatham & Son Stationers front Brisbane Street and we had noticed from Nicholas Street that an alley led to their store at the back of their block. Another tobacconist, **J.P. O'Dea** has a small shop next to **F.C. Allen, Chemist** *[later Minnis the Chemist who was also Mayor of Ipswich from 1939 to 1949]. [Woolworths bought the Tatham building and opened their store in November 1929.]*

We see the name **Cribb & Foote's** again and this time the buildings cover the area in Brisbane Street from the Chemist to Bell Street and all of Bell Street to the Ritz Theatre. Very modern fittings for the **Toys** and **Furniture Departments** on the first floor, with **Hardware** and **Ironmongery** on the ground floor; the **Boot Department** and the **Grocery** section front Bell Street. I do not know where to look, there are so many exciting things and I wish I was rich and could buy them all.

I love the **Drapery and Millinery**, but as the war has been going for a number of years, fashions are more subdued, without all the feathers and lace of the early 1900's. We have no interest in the **Linoleum Department** and do not venture into the **Dressmaking** section which is above the **Produce Store**.

Cribb & Foote has storerooms next to the **Ritz Theatre**, which hold no interest at all and we stroll past, checking to see what is on at the Theatre next week. *[These storerooms became the Ritz Café in 1941. Photograph on Picture Ipswich]*

The last property in Bell Street, adjacent to the Railway is a large dwelling with a wash house, fowl house, shed and wood shed at the rear of the allotment, but we have no idea who lives there.

Cribb & Foote own the corner block on the opposite side of Bell Street and adjacent to the railway line, where we can see stables, a buggy shed, bicycle shed and oil shed, with a wash house, work shed, men's room and motor shed close by.

The **Tivoli Open Air Theatre** with the **Model Band Hall** at the rear takes up the next allotment, but at this time of the day there is no one about. Perhaps one night we might come to a show and hope it does not rain.

The “**Lorna Doone**” **Boarding house** is run by **Miss Walsh** and she has stables and a wash house at the rear of the property, for the use of her guests. *[later a **Billiard Room**, **Hairdresser** and **Café** and the property owner was **A. Currey**].*

The **Auditor and Accountant, G.W. Allen** is next door, and he also had stables at the rear of the allotment. *[Some years later the building was occupied by **H. Walker** the electrician.]*

The **Caledonian Hotel** with mine host **M.E Stewart** is a popular place with the locals, and the stables and wash house and a manure pit are all on the property.

George Treagle is a **Wholesale Confectionary Manufacturer & Importer** with a **Confectionary Factory**, and as we walk along the sweet smells of the lollies is in the air. We can see an engine room and stables in the back yard. *[This was later **Smout’s Café**].*

We seem to have a number of places to eat as now we are outside **Café Majestic**, and I would like to stop for a cup of tea, but no one suggests it. The draper **A. & H.C. Haenke**, have some lovely material on display, and we linger for a little while in the store.

Two **Solicitors Walker & Walker** and **H.V. Gibbs** occupy the next building, so nothing of interest there. *[**J.P. O’Dea Tobacconist** moved from **Brisbane Street** into the **Drapers shop** in **Bell Street** in 1929.]*

On the corner of Bell and Brisbane Streets is the lovely **Australian Bank of Commerce** with other businesses above, but we cannot see a sign to say what they are. *[This was to become the site of the **Bank of New South Wales**].*

We pass another chemist, this time the **City Pharmacy** of **Allen & Minnis** and they have a bottle room downstairs. *[This was a time when chemists made up the medicine from the doctor’s scripts, and bottles were cleaned and reused].*

We are walking down hill and pass **Gordon’s White Arcade** where we see a **General Dealer, Hardware etc** and at the rear of the building, the kitchen of the **Pie Maker J.G. Wilson**. I could really enjoy a pie, but again we keep walking.

A.W. Bugler Hairdresser & Tobacconist, *[more tobacco?]* and **W. Brookman’s Billiard Room** seem to be places for the men. I do not think refined ladies would smoke cigarettes or a pipe, or play billiards.

H. Grainger the Painter & Picture Framer is busy tapping away, probably framing a portrait of one of the notable people of the town. Please can

we stop at this nice little place the **Khaki Tea Room** and sit down for a drink, I am quite thirsty from all this walking. Oh lovely a comfortable chair!

*[Years later this block became the site of **Londy Café, a Fruit Shop and Mining & Hardware.**]*

Leaving the café, we pass a laneway and come to the **Bookseller Mrs Winks** on the ground floor of the building, and **Miss B. Kelly the Music Teacher** above. When we looked down the laneway as we passed, we see a lumber room, kitchen, wash house and small bathroom. It is always interesting to see the back yard, of these shops.

Now we come to **N.M. Smith, Fruiterer & Confectioner** and **M. Byrne the Hairdresser & Tobacconist**. No one in Ipswich should be in need of a haircut, barbers are everywhere. I can smell the baking bread, cakes and pies, of **E.H. Wilson Pastry Cook**, and I know he has a large **Bake House** with a brick oven, at the back of the shop, stables for his horses, a coach house, feed room and fowl house and at the rear of the allotment, **E.H. Wilson** has a cart shed and fowl house.

For many years the **Queensland National Bank** has stood on the corner of Brisbane and East Streets with stables at the rear of the allotment. Facing East Street the blacksmith **J.G. Stevens** is working at his large forge and the ringing of hammer and anvil can be heard. It must be hot work. He has stables for his horses in one corner of the property.

We are now walking past the **Wholesale Fruiterer G.W. Turner** and there are a lot of wooden boxes stacked up that I think would have arrived packed with apples and stone fruit. There seems to be more stables at the back which have the name **E.H Wilson** on them.

The **Ipswich Aerated Water Co. Factory** with lots of bottles and drums in the yard is a very noisy place and next door is a **Boarding House** with a detached kitchen bedroom and wash house and stables at the rear.

I am told **Mr H. Wyman Architect & Builder** has his business in one half of the next building and perhaps he lives in the other half of the house; this has a detached kitchen and dining room.

The very well respected **Dr J.A Cameron** lives in the large house facing East Street and the last house in the street beside the railway line is the home of **Dr Stang** and it has a detached bedroom and there is a wood shed, fowl house and motor shed at the rear of the allotment.

[Each property on the map is marked with "C" which appears to have been an outside closet [toilet / dunny].]

We will walk some more streets next edition – Ed.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN 1935

The Bremer River is visible in the bottom left hand corner, with Bremer Street beside it. The rail line from Brisbane can be seen coming from the left side and the line from North Ipswich and the Railway Workshops from the bottom right.

Brisbane Street connects Nicholas, Bell and East Streets, and Limestone Street at the top of the photograph runs parallel with Brisbane Street. These two streets are now one way.

Photograph courtesy Whitehead Collection Picture Ipswich



Limestone Street >

Brisbane Street <

This aerial photograph of the portion of Ipswich CBD was taken in 1935, and shows the blocks mentioned in this article, although there would have been changes in the buildings in the intervening years

East St

Bell St

Nicholas St

////////////////////////////////////

QT 21/12/1921

OLD IPSWICH

"RED GUM'S" REMINISCENCES

During the work of excavation across Brisbane-street, opposite the newly-acquired premises of the Big White's furniture warehouse (latterly styled "Dr Flynn's old surgery"), in connection with the extension and laying down of concrete drains in carrying out the sewerage scheme of the Ipswich -City Council, a part of an ancient log- culvert was revealed, at a depth of some 9 feet below the level of the main thoroughfare (writes "Red Gum").

Walter Bruce **DARKER**



*Walter **Darker** was President of Rotary Ipswich Branch for many years, and the Rotunda in Queen's Park was named The **W.B. Darker** Rotary Rotunda in his honour in 1949. The Rotunda has been renovated and was re-opened on Saturday 7th October 2017.*

*The Rotunda in Queen's Park
before Renovations*

Courtesy Picture Ipswich

Walter Bruce **Darker** was born on 11 September 1878 at North Ipswich the 7th of 12 children of Richard Thomas **Darker**, and his wife Williamina, née **Forbes**. Educated at North Ipswich Primary School, Walter worked with **P. L. Cardew & Simpson**, solicitors, before joining the Royal Bank of Queensland. In 1904 he and his brother Thomas were book-sellers in Brisbane Street, Ipswich, and later joined his aunt Johanna, whose husband colliery-owner **Joseph Stafford**, died in 1917.

Johanna formed a partnership with Richard and Walter and continued to run the **Stafford Bros Collieries**. Richard **Darker** died in 1921, and Walter's brother Tom joined the company, and on the death of Johanna **Stafford** in 1925 the mine became known as Whitwood Collieries Pty Ltd.

Over the years, Walter was president of the Queensland Colliery Proprietors' Council, the Ipswich Chamber of Commerce and the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Queensland; the first Queenslander to be president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Australia, and also chairman of the Australian national committee of the International Chamber of Commerce. Chairman of the South Brisbane Gas & Light Co. Ltd, the Royal Insurance Co. Ltd (Brisbane branch) and of Allan & Stark Ltd, and director of the Brisbane Permanent Building & Banking Co. Ltd.

Walter was a tireless contributor to community activities and a generous philanthropist; he was a prominent Rotarian and a Freemason. During World War II he chaired the State division of the Australian Red Cross Society. Walter never married and while attending a Masonic function at Ipswich he died on 25 March 1950. One of the benefactions included the endowment of undergraduate scholarships in the faculty of engineering at the University of Queensland.

ROSEWOOD MARBURG RAILWAY LINE

Extract from John Kerr Collection, The Workshops Rail Museum Ipswich

The railway line from Ipswich to Bigge's Camp, now known as Grandchester opened in 1865. Rosewood was on this line, and as early as the mid 1880's petitions circulated asking for a rail link from Rosewood to Marburg, a distance of about 9 miles. Along the proposed route were a number of collieries which would use the rail, and at Marburg a sugar mill, with acres of sugar cane grown around Tallegalla and Marburg which would be transported to the mill by train.

Another suggestion was a line from Wanora to Glamorganvale then to Marburg but it was thought the Rosewood to Marburg line would pass through more sugar growing land, which should generate more revenue.

The 1891 Petition mentions the sugar plantation and mill, sawmill, two large stores, a bank and two hotels in the town of Marburg. It was suggested the rail line would bring closer settlement to the area.

Between 1885 and 1908 there were a number of petitions and deputations to the Government with different routes suggested, and many meetings were held as there were some settlers not in favour of the rail line.

The rail line construction began on 10th November 1910 and opened in December 1911. The Official Opening was on 26th January 1912, with a special train hauled by PB15 No. 406, to bring 352 passengers for the ceremony.

The official party of seven in First Class left Brisbane with over 150 other passengers, and 183 climbed aboard at Rosewood for the journey over the spur of the Little Liverpool Range, which was high enough to give excellent views to the south taking in Mount Walker and the main Great Dividing Range.

The sidings along the route in 1911 were – North Rosewood, with earth bank for loading, but no buildings; Perry's Nob siding with shelter shed and combined office and goods shed, closet and lamp room and a cottage; Kunkala the same but with tank and combined cattle and pig yard.

Tallegalla also had the shelter shed with combined office and goods shed, closet, lamp room and cottage and a Government Dam on the Rosewood side of the station. Birru was just a siding with no buildings and an earth bank for loading. Malabar the station for Minden, Miller's or Two Tree Hill had a combined office and shelter shed but the siding was unfinished.

At Marburg there was an office and waiting room and shelter shed with a triangle for the train turn around. The Progress Association requested pig yards and a truck weighbridge for the station, and "one of the new auto cars on the line for passengers." From 6th May 1912 all trains were goods with passenger accommodation.

During World War 1, because the name was said to be German it was changed to Townshend, but by 1920 it reverted to Marburg.



Townshend Railway Station taken between 1916 & 1920



*Last train to
Marburg*

*Over the years
there was less traffic on
the line, and more cars
on the road. The
Rosewood to Marburg
branch line closed on
the 30th April 1964.*

*Courtesy Picture Ipswich and
Bevan Dance*

Names associated with the Petitions, Deputations, and mentioned in articles in Rosewood Register & Marburg Mail over the years leading up to the opening of the line were 1885: **Isambert, Foote, Wakefield and Macfarlane.**

1891: **A.L. Frederick** store manager, **T.L. Smith, W.C. Bachmann, B. Hohnke & J. Dunning**, farmers, **W.A. Gibson**, manager sugar mill, **J.P. Jensen** and **J.H.W. Linning** butter factory managers.

In 1895 a letter was sent to the Commissioner seeking plans of the surveys of the proposed lines by **Thomas L. Smith**, Sugar Planter, Vigneron & Distiller from "Woodlands" Marburg.

In August 1907 **F. Viertel** was the Secretary of the Marburg Progress Association, with **A.L. Frederick** Treasurer, **W.A. Gibson** and **H. Heiner** members of the committee.

About 90 people in Rosewood in 1908 signed to say they were in favour of the rail line to Marburg, and **Selwyn Ogg** manager of the Royal Bank, **J.F. Hall**, Halls Limited of Glencoe Colliery, and **A. Gower** sawmill manager headed the list. All signatures were male.

A proposal to extend the rail line from Marburg to Lockrose did not succeed, and the following letter from the Queensland Times 2nd April 1910 was one of the many that appeared in the newspapers of the day.

Rosewood-Marburg Railway

Our Marburg correspondent writes as follows:

At a recent meeting of the Rosewood-Marburg Railway League the following letter was received, and it will no doubt be read with interest by persons in this locality:

To Mr. W. A. **Gibson**,

Dear Sir, I now and again read a little of your meetings in connection with the proposed Rosewood-Marburg railway. As a native of Marburg, and a farmer of Lockrose, Tarampa Estate, I feel myself justified in saying a few words concerning the proposed railway, and the possibilities of the district I live in.

As you have good influence, so most likely to come in contact with the most of the farmers in the area, the contents of this letter might encourage some of them that are not in favour of the line. After the meeting that was held in Marburg, addressed by Ipswich business men and local residents, and after having the matter put before them in figures by Mr. **Bottomley**, I am surprised to see so many still trying to prevent the railway from being built. It is just as Mr. **Itzstein** said at the meeting that what the people of the district wanted as an education was to travel the country and see what was being done in other places. If they did, they would wonder why Marburg had been satisfied so long without a railway.

Well, anyhow, if they did have a look at the farmers in the Tarampa Estate, they would find themselves something like a quarter of a century behind the times. The Minister said the line would not stop at Marburg that it would eventually go through the Tarampa Estate or in that direction. I think it will not be very long before the Marburg people will hear of us trying to get the railway from Marburg to the College siding.

The people I hear say, if that were done, it would be one of the best paying lines in Queensland. People here are not afraid of the guarantee system, nor are they afraid that it will not pay. It is nothing to see 60 or 70 tons of chaff, come into Forest Hill every day, let alone corn, pumpkins, potatoes, &c., two-thirds of which come from the Tarampa Estate. Besides that, there are very nearly as many farmers taking their produce to Laidley, Gatton, Coominya, and Lowood, all of which would be going down through Marburg. The farmers here say that, if this line were built from the College siding, through Glenore Grove, Lockrose, Hillside, and through to Marburg, it would be one of the best things ever done. This end would help to pay the Marburg end. It would save duplicating the line from Ipswich to Toowoomba.

This is the district that is putting the burden on the Toowoomba line. I also enclose the Forest Hill return for January and February, although the returns are not too good now, because people have not had the time to send away anything just now, but then, the returns are not too bad at that.

There is Mr. **Krause** and Mr. **Stegemann** of Marburg who might be able to confirm what I say in this letter. If you think that my information will be of any help to you, you are quite welcome to make the best of it in your own words, or in more suitable words. Hopefully that, when it comes to it the majority will be in favour of the line, Yours Faithfully. *[No signature]*

Information from – The Workshops Rail Museum John Kerr Collection, Rosewood Register & Marburg Mail, Queensland Times and Picture Ipswich.



*At the Marburg Station where
trains used the “Y” to change
direction*

*Courtesy Picture Ipswich & Bevan
Dance*

QT Saturday 15th October 1927

NOTABLE JUBILEE; QUEENSLAND WOOLLEN COMPANY STATE'S FIRST MILL.

“In the commercial history of Queensland one of the most interesting chapters deals with the woollen manufacturing industry. To-morrow is the jubilee of the opening of the Queensland Woollen Manufacturing Company's mill at North Ipswich, the first - and still the largest - factory for the manufacture of wool to be built in Queensland.

One of the most important red-letter days in the history of Ipswich was October 16, 1877, when Sir Arthur **Kennedy**, the then Governor of Queensland, in the presence of a large crowd, and amidst the booming of artillery, shortly after noon spoke the words that formally opened the new factory of the Queensland Woollen Manufacturing Company.

The event was marked with all the importance of a public holiday and the standing of Ipswich in the State in those memorable days was emphasized by the attendance at the function of the Premier (Mr. John **Douglas**) the Minister for Works (Mr. George **Thorn**). the Minister for Justice (Mr. J. Malbon **Thompson**), Messrs. F. T. **Gregory** and J. C. **Heussler**, M.L.A., the Mayors of Brisbane, Ipswich, and Toowoomba (Ald. A. **Hubbard**, F. C. **Chubb**, and John **Gargett** respectively), notable Ipswich citizens, and the Chairman of Directors (Mr. Wm. **Ginn**). The Governor, in his opening address, spoke in eloquent terms of the spirit of enterprise shown by the citizens, and stated that Ipswich bade fair to be the centre of one of the finest manufacturing districts in any part of Australia. The directors of the company at that time were Messrs. W. **Ginn**, S. **Hodgson**, J. **Macfarlane**, J. **Reilly**, and S. **Shenton**.

The first manager of the mill was Mr. W. **Kelso**, who previously had been in charge of the Sussex-street woollen mill in Sydney, and who superintended the laying down of the machinery in the Ipswich factory.

The genesis of the movement to establish a woollen factory in Ipswich goes back to 1874, when many rumours about it were in circulation. A paragraph in the "Queensland Times" of August 20 1874 connected the name of Sir Joshua Peter **Bell** with the rumour. Having been one of the "wool kings" in this State, Sir Joshua did contemplate, for a time, the idea of establishing a factory, chiefly on account of the town's proximity to the coal area, and its situation on a navigable river, in addition to which there was at that time the possibility of railway extension to "blue water" - a deep water port. He however, abandoned his intention.

The subject remained in abeyance for some time, but the feeling was abroad in Ipswich that the time had arrived for the establishment of such an

Industry, and a meeting of persons interested in the formation of a company for the purpose of establishing a woollen factory in Ipswich was held in the Council Chambers on August 21. The Mayor (Ald. Thomas **Pryde**) presided and the following gentlemen were present: Messrs. G. H. Wilson, J. M. Thompson. A. W. **Darvail**, J. **Macfarlane**, E. W. **Hargreaves**, W. Graham, G. Cameron, F. **Kidner**, W. Ginn, T. Bennett, J. Brady, J. Watson, W. **Vowles**, R. **Talon**, F. Curnow, H. Shanks, W. **Hendren**, J. **McGill**, J. S. **Denham**, and Captain **Burns**.

The meeting unanimously decided to establish the industry in Ipswich, and Mr. William **Ginn** was appointed Secretary, pro tem. A committee comprising the Mayor, Messrs. **Watson**, **Macfarlane**, S. **Hodgson**, **Vowles**, **Curnow**, and Captain **Burns**, was formed to prepare "a full and definite report as to cost of machinery and buildings, working expenses, and all other information of consequence," to be laid before a future meeting.

The committee presented its report at a public meeting held on October 15, 1874, and it was adopted. At the instance of Messrs. W. P. **Mellefont** and J. S. **Denham** it was resolved to form a company with a capital of £10,000 in shares of £1 each. Messrs. J. M. **Thompson**, J. **Ryan**. G. **Thorn**. C. **Gorry**, D. **McGrath**, P. **O'Sullivan**, W. **Hendren**. D. **Shine**. E. W. **Hargreaves**, J. **Greenham**, O. **Bashford**, and H. **Curran** were added to the provisional committee to arrange the preliminary business of the new company. In 1874 the following provisional directorate was formed:

Ald Thos. **Pryde** (Chairman), Messrs. A. **Macalister**, Geo. **Thorn**, jnr., Geo. **Harris**, M.L.C., Dr. W. H. **von Lossberg**, Capt. J. **Burns**, and Messrs. T. **McIlwraith**, M.L.A., S. **Hodgson**, J. **Macfarlane**, J. **Watson**, E. W. **Hargreaves**, Daniel **Shine**, G. **Bashford**, Daniel **McGrath**. P. **O'Sullivan**, J. **O'Reilly**, J. **Foote**, W. **Vowles**. H. **Curran**, J. **Ivory**, C. **Gorry**, H. **Dalsey**. W. A. **Cross**, J. **Isambert**, W. **Hendren** and J. **Brady**; Solicitor Mr. J. M. **Thompson**.

The year 1875 was a busy one for the company, public meetings were held at Redbank, Goodna, Peak Mountain, and Pine Mountain. At a public meeting in the School of Arts on May 27 the formation of the company was completed. It was stated at that meeting that 8300 shares had been taken up. A further public meeting, held on June 18 to appoint directors, was said to have been one of the most successful meetings ever held in the town. It was decided to postpone the election of directors until the deed of association was prepared.

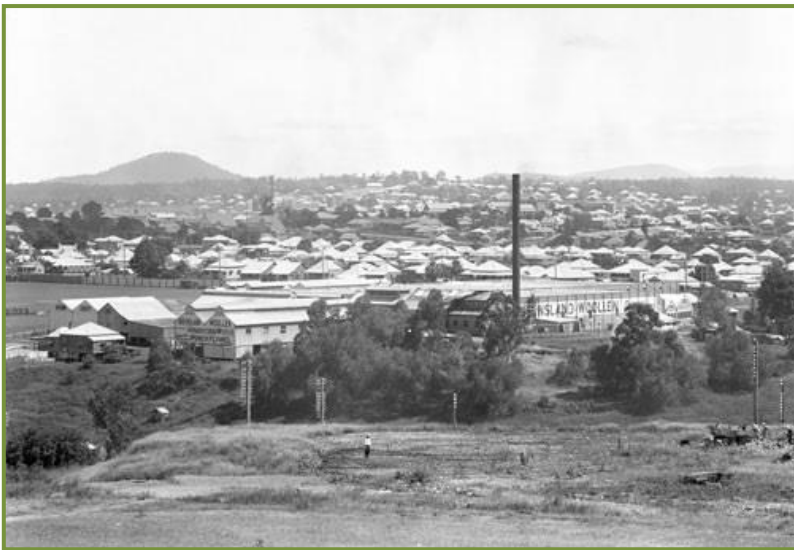
A general meeting of shareholders adopted the deed of association on July 2, and on July 30 a poll was taken in the School of Arts for the election of the first five directors and two auditors. The nominations were those of Messrs W. **Ginn**. S. **Hodgson**, J. **Macfarlane**, J. **Reilly**, S. **Shenton** (these five were subsequently elected), C. F. **Chubb**, W. **Hancock**. E. W. **Hargreaves**, W. **Vowles**, J. **Watson**:

and for auditors, Messrs. A. **Buchanan**, S. H. **Hunter**, Jos. **Ivett**, R. J. **Kendall** and D. T. **Keogh**.

Messrs. **Hunter** and **Kendall** were elected auditors. Mr. Richard **Burrell** was appointed Secretary. The company's first registered office was in an office on the first storey of Messrs. **Cribb** and **Foote's** drapery establishment. In September, 1875, the company purchased eight lots of Crown land at the bend of the Bremer River, where the factory now stands.

Just a year later the tender of Mr. William **Chamb** was accepted for the erection of the factory buildings at a cost of £2386. In the meantime Mr. J. Kennedy **Donald** father of Mrs. **Darnley-Morrison** of "The Chestnuts" Denmark Hill had succeeded Mr. **Burrell** as Secretary.

*Queensland Woollen Company North Ipswich 1930 (Pine Mountain in the background)
Whitehead Studios Picture Ipswich*



The factory was opened on October 16, 1877 and on November 8 the first public sale of plain and fancy tweeds, consisting of between 2000 and 3000 yards was conducted at the factory by Messrs. **Hughes** and **Cameron**. During 1879 the first clothing factory in connection with the company was established under the

superintendence (sic) of the late Mr. Robert **Neill**, in part of the premises of Messrs. **Ginn** and **Hooper** in Bremer-street at the foot of Bell-street. In the eighties the capital was increased from £10,000 to £25,000.

The first buildings had been built of wood. but in 1890 new and more extensive brick premises were erected, additional up-to-date machinery was installed, and retail shops for the sale of readymade clothing were opened in Ipswich, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton and Charters Towers. The total value of the machinery in 1889 was set down at £30,000 and the buildings were valued at £12,000. In 1892 no less than £11,500 was paid away in wages to the employees, over £3000 in clerical salaries, and for rent and rates £1400. The

company suffered a heavy blow through the unprecedented floods of February 1893.

Since those days the company has continued to flourish, until to-day it employs over 200 hands, to whom yearly wages mounting to between £25,000 and £30,000 are paid. The present capital of the company is approximately £72,000. Last year the value of material sold was over £100,000, consisting of serges, tweeds, flannels, worsteds, blankets and rugs.

The present directors are Messrs. H. G. **Simpson** (Chairman), A. T. **Stephenson**, Robert **North**, A. F. **Whitehill** and T. **Nimmo**. The company has for some time past discontinued making clothing and operating retail shops. At one time the company carried on the clothing factory, now conducted by Messrs. **Bishop** and **Woodward**, at the corner of East and Limestone Streets. That firm took over the business on February 1. 1911. The company also had the premises now occupied by the Mining and Hardware Supplies Limited, in Brisbane-street, where it had a retail shop with a factory at the rear.”



*Bishop & Woodward on
the corner of East and
Limestone Streets
Busy workers in 1920*

*Whitehead
Collection Picture Ipswich*

The Ipswich City Council has acquired the old woollen mills and at present work is being carried out to stabilize walls and generally clean up the long unused site.

Suggestions have been made as to its future use as it is of historic interest, and it will be interesting to see what the future brings. Ed

IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY			
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS			
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017			
OPENING BALANCE AS AT	30-Jun-16		
BENDIGO BANK CHEQUE ACCOUNT	\$	8,009.65	
BENDIGO BANK TERM DEPOSITS 30 June 2015	0010699971/2505	\$	13,350.45
	0010600971/2506	\$	19,563.00
Deposits for 2015/16	TOTAL	\$	32,913.45
CHEQUE ACCOUNT			
Membership Fees	\$	5,040.00	
Research Fees	\$	507.00	
Door Money	\$	121.00	
Donations & Gifts	\$	23,385.90	
Projects			
Library Equipment & Supplies			
Printouts & Photocopying	\$	142.10	
Other Income	\$	35,094.59	
Functions & Displays			
Raffles	\$	184.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$	64,474.59	\$ 72,484.24
Income plus investments			
LESS EXPENDITURE			
CHEQUE ACCOUNT			
Annual Costs	\$	4,106.73	
Society Rental	\$	2,886.00	
Subs			
Bremer Echoes Print & Post	\$	113.75	
Projects			
Committee expenses	\$	1,145.00	
Petty Cash			
H&R Audit fee	\$	110.00	
Books, CDs, Microfiche etc	\$	231.10	
Library Equipment & Supplies	\$	1,572.69	
Other Expenses	\$	39,292.19	
Functions & Displays			
Fixed Assets			\$ 49,457.46
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE			\$ 23,026.78
Cheqs not presented by 30 June 2016			
927 C Juler	\$	35.00	
928 I. Deas	\$	55.00	\$ 490.00
930 Common Curtesy Pest Control	\$	400.00	
Presented July 2016			
ACTUAL BALANCE 30 JUNE 2017			\$ 22,536.78
MONEY HELD BY THE SOCIETY			
30-Jun-17			
BENDIGO BANK - CHEQUE ACCOUNT			
	\$	-	
BENDIGO BANK INVESTMENT ACCOUNT 0010600971 2505	\$	-	
VALUE AT 30 JUNE 2015 0010600971 2506	\$	-	
INVESTMENTS WERE CANCELLED			
VALUE OF FLOAT MONEY	\$	85.00	
Eric Clarke			
Treasurer 10 July 2017			

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