

# BREMER ECHOES

*OUR FOREBEARS PAST, YET PRESENT STILL*



*IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC*

*VOLUME 36 NO 2*

*JULY 2018*

## **RESEARCH ROOMS & LIBRARY**

### **“Brigg House”**

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

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Phone: 07 3282 6454

Or email: [secretary@igs.org.au](mailto:secretary@igs.org.au)  
Website: <http://www.igs.org.au>

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

**Division 4 Community Meeting Room Station Rd. Booval**  
**Friendly Care Chemist Building**

**Dues are payable by 30th September.**

**Subscriptions Single Membership   \$40**

**Family 2 members residing at the same address   \$55**

**NO JOINING FEE APPLIES**

**Journal only subscription [Posted or mailed]   \$10**

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

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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**

### ***Cover Photograph:***

*The nine debutantes and their partners with the Official Party, at the Scottish Ball held at the Ipswich Town Hall in 1940.*

## ***BREMER ECHOES***

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**The Journal of the IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC**

**The First Genealogical Society in Queensland 1977**



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*We welcome our new members and wish them success with their research:*



Brynn LLEWELLYN; Linda DOHERTY;

Lorraine PITCAIRN; Bette FRITZ,

Teresa HARDING; Maxine JONES;

Janelle GRIFFITHS; Noela SIDDANS;

Elsie DENHAM re-joined;

**A Few words from the President/Editor:**

The year has half gone, which is hard to believe. The Society members are hard at work answering queries, entering data to our computers and helping visiting members and visitors. The best way to learn what resources are available at “Brigg House” is to volunteer as a Library assistant. There is always an experienced member on hand to help and guide you, and you are never alone. Please give it some thought as we really do need more help in the Library.

Thank you to John Rossiter, Brian Jeffrey and Eric Jones for their articles for this edition of Bremer Echoes”. I am grateful for their contributions, as they make the magazine more interesting, and it does make it easier for me.

Included you will find a membership form, as this is the last magazine before our AGM in September. I know that is a long way off, but it is convenient to send it with the magazine, and nomination forms for positions on the Committee are available from the Secretary and if you would like to nominate or nominate someone else, please contact the Society by email [secretary@igs.org.au](mailto:secretary@igs.org.au) or call to “Brigg House”.

Our presence at the Welsh Church Open Day and the Gathering of the Clans in June was well received and we gained new members. They were both delightful days as this is the only Welsh Church in Queensland and has been here since the 1880's, and the Pipe Bands came from all over Queensland. “They do stir ones Scottish blood.”

*Irma Deas President / Editor*

*At the End of the Day      From the Editor's Collection*



**PLEASE NOTE:**

**2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Annual General Meeting of The Ipswich Genealogical Society Inc.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 9.30 am

Division 4 Community Meeting Room Station Road Booval

The Monthly General and Committee Meeting will follow.

All welcome.

Nomination forms are available at “Brigg House”,  
Cooneana Heritage Centre, 1041 Redbank Plains Road, New Chum, Q. 4303  
email: [secretary@igs.org.au](mailto:secretary@igs.org.au)

Please return the forms to: The Secretary PO Box 323 Ipswich 4305  
by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018

**AGM AGENDA**

Minutes from the 2017 Annual General Meeting

Business arising from the minutes

President’s Report; Treasurer’s Report;

Election of Officers: President; Vice President;

Secretary; Treasurer; Appointment of Auditor;

Please inform the Secretary of any other business you wish to include  
on the Agenda by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018.

*Irma Deas, President Ipswich Genealogical Society Inc*

*20<sup>th</sup> June 2018*

## EARLY IPSWICH CEMETERY RECORDS

### FINDING A GRAVE

*John ROSSITER*

Instructions were given in March 1844 to surveyor, J. C. Burnett, to survey land for burials at Ipswich, to cater for the various religions. Approval of the plan was given on 31<sup>st</sup> August that year and the first burial in that ground would have been after 1<sup>st</sup> September. Each religion was responsible for the keeping of their records. Not all of these church registers would have survived but those which did were, much later, microfilmed into a record known as the “Early Church Records”.

If there was no minister of religion or a representative of the church present to carry out the burial, no record was created and therefore nothing was recorded. Such information may have been recorded in family letters or in a newspaper.

The Civil Registration Act came into being on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1856, when it was necessary to register all births, death and marriages, at the Police Office for that district. These resulting certificates were required to show the place of burial and the religion, but there was no indication as to an actual burial plot within the allocated area for that religion. If a headstone marking a burial site has not survived, there is no way of knowing just where a particular body was buried.

Their set of rules was approved in June 1868 and the first interment in the Burial Register was shown as being in the Roman Catholic section for a **John Carr** aged 4 years and 6 months on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1868. Young John died in the Ipswich Hospital while being treated for a kidney ailment. His parents, John and Jane, were employed by the **McConnells** of ‘Cressbrook Station’.

Further research has found that the register should have shown the name as **John Kerr**, son of John and Jane **Kerr**, and the age was actually 3 years and 8 months. As a commemoration of the first registered burial by the Cemetery Trust, the Ipswich Council named the short street, linking Warwick Road with Cemetery Road – “Carr Street”.

Within the last few years, a number of possible early burials have been added to the Ipswich Cemetery Records. However, it is certain that not all of these were actually buried in the Ipswich Cemetery. As the area of the Ipswich policing district in those early days was so vast, it was not possible for some to be brought to Ipswich for burial. Deaths within the designated area had to be registered at Ipswich, however, they did not have to be buried there. In several cases it would have taken a couple of days to get to Ipswich. From the introduction of Civil Registration the place of burial (but not the plot) should be known, but this is not the case with burials prior to that.



“The Ipswich General Cemetery Trust” was formed in June 1868 and Cemetery Regulations were drawn up in line with the Government Act, setting out fees and charges, together with the ‘dos and don'ts’. These rules were published in the Queensland Times on 30<sup>th</sup> June of that year. The Trust consisted of a representative from each of the seven major religions :- G. H. **Wilson** (Church of England), John **Johnston** (Roman Catholic), Stuart Hawthorn (Presbyterian), Francis **Curnow** (Wesleyan), Henry **Challinor** (Independent), Gustavis **Weise** (Lutheran), Coleman **Davis** (Jewish). The first burial recorded by The Trust was on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1868.

The only burial records for the Ipswich Cemetery prior to the Trust were those kept by the various churches. If the death occurred after the commencement of Civil Registration, that death certificate should be carefully studied to confirm the cemetery where the burial took place.

While a “clover leaf” burial number for each grave was issued by The Trust, over time, many of these were removed and thrown on other graves. It was not until much later that a “row number in that section and a grave number within that row” were recorded for each burial.

A major clean-up of the early burial ground was carried out in June 1977. With the ever-increasing burden of caring for the cemetery, The Trust had not been able to do all the work required and the early ground had become a serious hazard. Surviving headstones were moved to the north-eastern corner of the cemetery and re-erected. The ground was filled and levelled and returned to an orderly manner.

Due to the burdens associated with caring for the ever-increasing cemetery, The Trust resigned in 1979. The Queensland Government Gazette announced on 29<sup>th</sup> September that year that the *Council for the City of Ipswich* had been appointed as Trustees for the cemetery reserves previously under the control of The Trust.



*Foggy Morning at the Ipswich Cemetery*

*Courtesy John ROSSITER*

## STREETS OF IPSWICH 1918 *{Continued}*

*Today we are off to see more streets of the Ipswich Central District as it was in 1918. We have walked from East Street to West Street and now we will go as far as Waghorn Street which is the western limit of the maps, then perhaps some of the other side of Brisbane Street*

We walk past vacant allotments on the western side of West Street, and turn the corner into Brisbane Street and the only building is the large **Ipswich Branch of the State Government Insurance Office**, with the **Ipswich Branch of the State Butcher Shop**, a vacant shop and the grocer **Mr D. Shine**. There are steps leading down to a bath room and a big open area under the grocer shop, and buggy sheds, stables, and a manure pit near the back of the allotment. A large shed which is for the storage of benzine, which is used for lights and engines, is not close to the other buildings.

**Mr J. Barlow** is mine host at the Club Hotel, a large establishment with the upper floor covering **Mrs Lebeter's** Fruit and Confectionery shop. On the other side of the vacant allotment, **Mr W. Watson** has his dwelling with a fruit shop attached. Behind his shop there is a wash shed, store room and fowl house, with stables in the corner.

The next building is a vacant shop which looks a bit sad with cobwebs on the windows, and leaves and dust on the ground. Behind the shop there are two rooms, one on ground level and the other is raised with steps at the front. Along the back fence, there are a feed room, stables and a shed.

**Cribb & Foote** have their Ironmongery Department in what was once the Flour Mill, and they have a store and a separate shop, with a chain store and bolt storeroom, and a platform at the rear for loading goods. A lane leads to the back of the building, where there is another platform where wagons are waiting to be loaded.

*Back of the Old  
Flour Mill -  
Railway Line  
beside the  
Fence  
Courtesy  
Picture Ipswich*



**Mr F.W.  
Johnson** has  
his City  
Coach Works

next door and he builds the most amazing buggies and other horse drawn carriages. All the different work-shops are together; there is a paint shop and behind that the blacksmith is working at his anvil, shaping the glowing hot metal from the forge. A large work shop, storage area and iron racks cover the allotment. The back fence runs along the railway property.



There is a Produce Store and railway platform behind the buildings which have **W. Siemon & Sons Ltd** painted on them. **Mr Siemon** receives and sends produce by train and has his own platform. What a good idea. The building that opens onto Brisbane Street, sells groceries and other goods and another produce store, and on the floor above, **Miss G. Hill** and **Miss J. Elliott** teach music. We can hear the sound of a piano and a violin as we walk by. At the far left corner **Mr Siemon** has his stables and harness room.

The **Union Hotel** is a large building with a verandah and a bathroom on the first floor, and the bedrooms are on the same level. **Mr C. Nash** is the owner of the hotel. There is a kitchen and a large room, which is perhaps the dining-room on the ground floor, and a fowl house out the back. The stables and a shed are along the back fence.

Next we pass **M. Peero** the quilt maker, with half the building the shop, and the other half the dwelling. There is a workroom and a shed at the back of the allotment.

Another plumber **Mr H.W. Palmer** has a store room and stables at the rear of his block with a small workshop to one side at the front. There are sounds coming from inside, so they must be working.

We are almost to Waghorn Street and I will be glad, as it has been a long walk.

We have decided to stop and have a drink of cordial at **Mrs R.E. Hall's** fruit shop and she sells confectionery. **Mrs Hall** lives on the premises, and there is a verandah across and along half the front of her home. There are three sheds at the rear of the block and one is for a motor, which we can hear running.

The very large **Metropole Hotel** with **Mrs E. Ryan** in charge, sits on the corner of Brisbane and Waghorn Streets. There is a small shop at the front, but it looks sad, as it is vacant. I would like to know what they sold in a little shop like that. The hotel has a verandah across the back of the building, and it would be a good place to sit and watch the trains go by.

We turn and walk back across Brisbane Street and see the site of the old sawmill, on Waghorn Street between Brisbane and Limestone Streets, which now only has a couple of sheds and a small office, owned by **A.J. Deadman**. A large block of land but not used very much.

Facing Brisbane Street is the temporary Fire Brigade Station, and there is talk of a new fire station to be built close by. The Cabinet Maker **Mr W.G. Cafferky** has his large workshop at the back of the allotment with timber racks and stacks and a small shed, and he lives above his workroom at the front of the block. The workshop has a shingle roof; these are becoming rare.

Behind his back fence there is a large home with a slate roof, and an addition on the side with an iron roof. There are verandahs around the home, and it stands on a large allotment with nice gardens. There are two fowl houses, a buggy shed, stables, and another shed with a wooden roof. Wonder who lives in the lovely home.

We walk past the site of the proposed new fire station and there is a 10 foot high Belfry at the back of the block and nothing else.

The lovely **Baptist Church** stands proudly on the hill with steps leading up to it, and has been here since 1877.

Another vacant allotment, with just a horse yard in the back corner, and we can see the back of the **Baptist Sunday School** which faces Limestone Street. It is a high building with steps leading down the side to an open area underneath.

**Watson Brothers** Butchers have their butcher shop at the front of their home, which has verandahs across the front and back and along the side in front of the kitchen and bedroom. Behind the house, they have a bathroom, fernery, wash house, buggy shed and stables and a feed and harness room. They have an engine for the corn cracking machine. Their block extends to Limestone Street with another dwelling, cart shed and fowl house.

Next door are two small dwellings and the **Watson Brothers** stables and fowl house. Behind is a dwelling which faces Limestone Street and there is a coach house and stables.

**Johnson Brothers** the Undertakers have a shed behind their building and a cart shed with a shingle roof and stables on their block.

**Mrs M. Blunt** is the proprietor of the **City Boarding House**, and back portion of her establishment is brick and on ground level. There is a wash house attached and a fowl house at the back of the allotment.

Over the back fence behind these two businesses there are stables, and a fowl house and a dwelling with wide verandahs facing Limestone Street.

The saddler **W.H. Stevens** has a small building at the front of his block which extends back to Limestone Street.

The consulting rooms of **F. Ekeberg** the Herbalist have another building attached and each has a slate roof. We can see the stables down the back, and stairs lead up to another level and on the other side of the wire fence there is an earth closet in one corner. More stairs go up again and the allotment extends to Limestone Street, and there is a small shed at the rear.

**Mrs G. Walters** has a boarding house which comprises two buildings which have verandahs across the front, one on ground level and the other appears to be closed underneath. Stables and a small fowl house can be seen at the back of the block.

We have not been to visit the large **Lyric Theatre** which we have just passed, but hopefully one day it will be possible to attend a performance; maybe when we are older. *[This was later the site of Faulkner Motors.]* The building covers half of the allotment and another boarding house – this time **Miss Reed** is the business owner of the other half. *[Later Parkinson & Flynn Printers]* No stables appear to be on this block.

The next building has three shops fronting Brisbane Street, **Queensland Leader Co Ltd** Printers, the \*\* **I&WMUFS Dispensary**, and **G. Dowden** the undertaker has the third business, with Boot Repairer **E. Barry** in a small room

in a separate building which also has a bottle room attached. This is behind the main building. There is a meeting room on the top floor for Union Meetings.

**Mr Dowden** has his Coach House at the back, accessed by a lane beside his shop.

*\*\* Ipswich & West Moreton United Friendly Society*

We come to another **Cribb & Foote** building, this time it is a large garage with a concrete floor, and there is an office at the front and a benzine store room with an earth floor beside it. Aunt Helen tells us that **Cribb & Foote** have been in business in Ipswich for a very long time, and over the years they have helped many farmers and business owners through the hard times. The two families have lovely homes which have beautiful gardens and even some have a tennis court. Wouldn't that be nice to have your own tennis court? Perhaps one day.

The grocer and wine merchant **T. Faulkner & Co** occupies the next building which is long but not very wide, and has a storage area underneath. A narrow lane leads to the brick stables at the rear of the property. We can see that there are two more storage rooms and a kitchen attached to the shop area.

Another narrow lane separates the wine merchant from the fruiterer **Mr H. Themor**, who also sells confectionary- I wish we could spend some time in this shop, as everything looks lovely. Ah well! Aunt keeps walking. There is just a small fowl house in the back yard.

*[This building became **Voglers** hobby shop, and generations of children have received Christmas and birthday presents from **Voglers**]*

The furniture dealer **A. Macrow** and the produce merchant **D. Bill** trade from the next building and there is room for a third, but at present it is empty. In the back yard there are stables and a store room. **Mr Vogler** the gun and lock smith has a very small shop with a large forge out the back. Next door is the **Queensland Government Savings Bank**. We have been told the bank has a large vault.

We cannot continue our walk today so next time we will begin our walk from the Brisbane and Ellenborough Streets corner.



*Aerial View of* Brisbane St,  
Ellenborough and Limestone Street  
block.

*Thought to be in the 1930's*

*Whitehead Collection Picture Ipswich*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Casks have been made for hundreds of years, and were used to transport goods all around the world until the 20th century. On the sailing ships everything on board was packed in casks so the Cooper was much in demand

A barrel is a cask that holds 36 gallons or 164 litres, and there are many types of cask. They have different names which depend on their size and the amount they hold, with some being constructed by the “dry” or “slack” coopers for dry goods such as cereals, nails and tobacco, the “dry-tight” coopers made casks to keep the moisture out, for flour, butter and even gunpowder. The “white” coopers used the lighter coloured woods for domestic and dairy use – butter churns and pails for milk and washtubs. The “tight” or “wet” coopers were very skilled and made casks for lengthy storage, wine, beer, whisky and water. These casks were made of oak and were expected to last about 50 years. For many years, herrings were salted and packed in barrels.

By the middle of the 1800s with the invention of machines, coopers were losing out to the machine made casks, and then with metal casks for beer, the die was cast for the end of an era. Today wine and whisky barrels are made in much the same way as they always have been, and the skills of the cooper will hopefully be around for many years to come.

The names of some of the casks are no longer in use, but can be seen on the signs of a few old pubs in England, with the “Three Tuns” and the “Frog and Firkin” being two of them.

The names and amount they hold:

PIN	4.5 gallons	20.5 litres
FIRKIN	9 gallons	41 litres
KILDERKIN	18 gallons	82 litres
BARREL	36 gallons	164 litres
HOGSHEAD	54 gallons	245 litres
PUNCHEON	72 gallons	327 litres
BUTT or PIPE	108 gallons	491 litres
TUN	225 gallons	1023 litres



## IPSWICH FIRE BRIGADE HISTORY *Part 1*

*[Robert JEFFREY 1823 – 1884, was the great great grandfather of Society member Brian JEFFREY who researched and produced the original article. This is an extraction with the permission of the author Brian JEFFREY]*

In the 1860's Ipswich did not have an official Fire Brigade and the Municipal Council was not in a financial position to provide the funds. An approach was made in 1863 to the Insurance Companies, and an agreement was reached with the Ipswich Municipal Council. The Insurance Companies would finance the hoses and reels and the Council would accommodate the equipment and put in place the by-laws to keep it functioning.

*Ipswich Fire Brigade 1878*

*Courtesy Brian Jeffrey*

By 1865 the town was still waiting, but it had a means of fighting fires in the form of the Southern and Western Railway Fire Brigade (SWRFB - sometimes known simply as the Railway Fire Brigade). It comprised



thirty-five volunteer firemen dressed in what the Brisbane Courier described as a 'very neat and appropriate' uniform. They were paid two shillings an hour while on duty at a fire and one shilling an hour while practising. The brigade was under the command of Mr. R. T. **Darker** locomotive superintendent at the Ipswich Railway Workshops. In July 1866 the Brigade marched from North Ipswich to the water reserve and spent about half an hour exercising with a hand-operated pumping engine purchased from Sydney by the Municipal Council. The Council also installed three fire hydrants in Nicholas and Ellenborough Streets. Beyond the reach of hoses attached to those hydrants, however, people still had to rely on the water carts and buckets.

A fire broke out in 1867 at the Ipswich Cotton Ginning Company at the corner of Brisbane and Mortimer Streets, and destroyed the slab and shingled roof building. The SWRFB reached the scene quickly, but could not save the building; they did manage to extinguish another fire caused by flying sparks, although it was done with buckets of water because of the inadequate water supply. The SWRFB proved its worth over the next few years by responding quickly to fires and preventing them spreading to adjoining property.

Shortly after midnight on 30 June 1878 a fire broke out in the stables of the house occupied by Robert **Jeffrey** (1824-1883) in Lowry Street, North Ipswich.

He had a large quantity of hay and pumpkins stored there along with ten bags of corn and a few pairs of wagon wheels. Fortunately, no horses were present



but a dray man in Robert's employ who was sleeping in the stables had a narrow escape. The SWRFB was helped by numerous townsfolk to fight the blaze with buckets of water and wet blankets, but unfortunately the stables could not be saved.

Around 4.00am on 4 July 1878 the clanging of fire bells woke townsfolk to a fire which completely destroyed the central block of the town, the same area which had been devastated by a blaze in 1863.

At last something was done about the situation when the Municipal Council established a new town fire-fighting body known simply as the Fire Brigade and equipped it with 820 feet of hose wound round a drum mounted on a tricycle, plus twelve tomahawks and belts. One fireman was required to pedal the tricycle to the fire while the other firemen and volunteers made it there on foot. Later George **Phillips'** coach-building business in Brisbane Street supplied a made-to-order fire reel.

The workshop of Messrs. Brown and Macgregor in Bremer Street provided a handy meeting place for the new brigade.

At the brigade's first practice on 27 July 1878, sixteen firemen turned out under the command of newly-elected Superintendent R. T. **Darker** and Deputy-Superintendent W. K. **Havard**. There were two fire plugs in Bell Street and the same in Brisbane Street, and their streams of water over-topped the highest elevations in the street and the exercise was declared a success.

Captains W. **Harris**, John **Drysdale** and Joseph **Beasley** were elected at a General Meeting of the Fire Brigade on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1878. Each captain was in charge of their team of two 'branch men', two hydrant men, two coupling men and a winder.

In September of the same year, John **Murphy**, A. **Friedland** and John [1845 – 1923], the son of Robert **Jeffrey** became brigade members and John **Jeffrey** was associated with the volunteer group for many years, attending practice sessions each month. On 9 March 1885 he was elected to the post of No. 1 Captain.

In May 1885 the Government Gazette carried news of the appointments of William Henry **Johns** and Samuel **Harvey** as Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent respectively of the Ipswich Fire Brigade. However, despite such progress, it was not until July 1885 that the Municipal Council gave any consideration to making an annual contribution towards putting the brigade on a sound financial footing.

At the brigade's monthly meeting in August, Superintendent William **Johns** reported that boxes for storing fire-extinguishing equipment had been placed at the Bull's Head Hotel in Little Ipswich and the Belle Vue Hotel in Downs Street, North Ipswich, with a key for the locked box left with the hotel proprietors.

At the beginning of 1887, the Ipswich Fire Brigade posed for a group portrait taken by leading town photographer F. A. **Whitehead**. New Superintendent Josiah **Francis** (William **Johns** having resigned the previous year), Assistant-Superintendent Samuel **Harvey**, Captains John **Jeffrey**, W. **Howes** and T. **Handel** and all the fire-men turned out to pose with the brigade's three fire reels. The occasion gave townsfolk their first opportunity to see the men's new locally-made dark blue uniforms decorated with gold or silver facings for the officers and red for the firemen.



### The New Hose Reel



The Queensland Times reported in November 1888, that Brigade member T. **Griffiths** had made a new hose reel: “that is neat and light, but apparently strong and well-made, and various little improvements have been affected. For instance, the stand-pipes, torches, &c, are held in their places by springs instead of straps, for convenience in removal, and the lamps are hung on pivots. Beneath the seat, too, is a handy tool-box. The reel is furnished with 500ft of new canvas hose, with new stand-pipes, nozzles, &c. It is made with shafts, so that a horse may be used with it if required on special occasions.’ The newspaper summed up: *‘Altogether, it seems to give complete satisfaction, and to be handy to work, while in it the brigade should have good value for money’.*

The next generation of the **Jeffrey** family to be involved in the Fire Brigade was Robert [1872 – 1951] who was first a volunteer from about 1905, and later in a permanent capacity.

In November 1908, a suggestion was made that a horse be used by the Brigade and perhaps they could borrow the horse from the Ambulance Brigade. The Ambulance Brigade replied that the horse was necessary for their own use.

When the Fire Brigade moved from a small shed at the lower end of Nicholas Street to new premises in Brisbane Street, it appears that a horse was in use with a fully equipped ‘horse reel’ and an improved method of coupling the horse to improve the brigade’s response time.

To be continued:-

Ipswich Ambulance  
Brigade c1900  
Courtesy Edith  
Henry



## A NEW HOME FOR AN OLD WAR HORSE

“Mephisto”

Moving into South Bank

Museum

Courtesy - The Workshops

Rail Museum (TWRM)

*Extract from Bremer  
Echoes July 2015*



### “MEPHISTO – THE ONLY ONE”

During the “Great War” Britain was the first to use tanks in 1916, but by late 1917 Germany had a fleet of 20 A7V Sturmpanzerwagens, which had been assembled by Daimler-Benz, and were in combat by 1918. “Mephisto” was one of them.

This huge heavy tank has seen many changes in its history, as during a battle at an area known as Monument Wood, near Villers- Bretonneux it became stuck and was abandoned by the German Army. In July 1918 Australian soldiers mostly from Queensland, of the 26th Battalion managed to drag the tank, [while under enemy attack] back to Allied Lines, and eventually it was shipped as a war trophy to Britain and then on to Australia.

“Mephisto” the only surviving A7V in the world, arrived at Norman Wharf in Brisbane, in June 1919 and was towed by two Brisbane City Council steamrollers, to the Queensland Museum on Gregory Terrace where it remained on display at the entrance to the Museum for 60 years.

The South Bank campus of the Queensland Museum was the next home, and the tank was moved there in 1986. It stayed until the devastating flood of 2011 when it was covered with flood waters as it was impossible to move it in time.

After conservation work, “Mephisto” was sent to The Workshops Rail Museum at Ipswich west of Brisbane, and was on display until another move to the War Memorial in Canberra for the Centenary Commemorations.

*The tank was returned to the Museum at South Bank (inside the building in a new position) in February and will be unveiled in late 2018 as part of a new exhibition.*

## EARLY COMMUNICATIONS IN BLACKSTONE

Eric C. Jones

From gravel road to bitumen, and then cement footpaths, it took a long time, but together with electricity came street lights and so we progressed from kerosene lamps.

A castle on the hill made Blackstone famous. A Post Office and Police Station became a part of Blackstone's progress, the Post Office at the Aberdare Store in Thomas Street and the first telephone conversation was at the Williams family home in Mary Street with the number 69. The family was kept busy relaying messages throughout the village. In later days the Police Station closed and the Post Office moved to a house in Mary Street.

In those early days, the postman would walk around Blackstone carrying a leather bag and he would do this twice a day. His presence was identified by a whistle being blown to announce a mail delivery. There were no cement footpaths, and he had no bicycle or motorbike, but sometimes rode a horse.

Many letters arrived from Wales, and were simply addressed to a name in a street - no house numbers or postcodes at that time. Local delivery cost 2½d [two and one half pence] and today it costs \$1.00.

Telegrams were also common communication, especially for weddings and the bereavements in Blackstone.

Blackstone Busways first to operate locally and on one occasion when addressing a group of visitors at the church, a lady identified herself as being the daughter of Mr JONES who ran the early buses. One of them was aptly named "Royal Oak" after one of the ships that sailed from England to Australia.

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



Do you recognize this couple?  
Eric Gilbert GRIEVE  
Married 11 May 1935  
Thelma Campbell HUNTER

*The Society would like to pass this  
photograph to a member  
of the family.*

*Please contact the Society  
Details inside the front cover.*



## KIRCHHEIM CEMETERY HISTORY

There is a cemetery close to the Brisbane to Toowoomba Highway at Haigslea where many of the pioneers of the district are buried. It was opened in 1870 when the area was known as Walloon Scrub, and in 1873 a Lutheran Church was built, but it was damaged in 1924 by a cyclone, and the church was moved to Marburg and never replaced.



The name was changed to Kirchheim, and in 1916 during the First World War, when there was ill feeling towards anything German, the area became Haigslea, named for World War 1 General Haig.

In 1959, the Moreton Shire Council was appointed as trustee and at the Health and Community Services meeting held on the 25th September 1990, the

cemetery was renamed Haigslea Lawn Cemetery

On 26th September 1992 a plaque was unveiled to the pioneers of the district, the many men and women who opened up the area. Today some descendants of the early settlers still call the area home.



*Photographs  
From  
The Editor's  
Collection*

## **PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

Write to the Secretary PO Box 323, Ipswich Q 4305

### **PLACES OF WORSHIP – Ipswich & District Churches**

Short history of some of the churches in the area

\$5.00 + \$2.50 P&P in Australia

### **INDEX TO IPSWICH CEMETERY BURIAL REGISTER 1847 – 2014**

Over 36,000 records giving full name, age, death and burial dates where available

1 CD - \$20.00 + \$6.00 P&P

### **INDEX TO IPSWICH GENERAL CEMETERY 1851 - 1992 &**

**Columbarium Wall 1949 - 1992.** One microfiche \$6 includes postage in Australia. This index contains over 15,000 entries with details of name, age and date of death.

### **BIRTH, DEATH & MARRIAGE EXTRACTS 1858 – 1865** from The North

Australian & Ipswich General Advertiser. \$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

**CITIZENS OF IPSWICH - 1904** Names of Ipswich citizens in 1904 taken from Available Church Records - Baptisms, Deaths and Marriages, Electoral Rolls, Post Office Directory, Available School Rolls, Queensland Times Reports.

\$10 + \$10.00 P&P in Australia

**IPSWICH & DISTRICT PIONEER REGISTER - pre 1914;** Pioneer Families of the Ipswich, Gatton, Laidley, Boonah and Esk areas of Queensland.

**Please note prices:** Set Volumes 1 & 2 - \$10 + \$18 P&P in Australia

**JUBILEE HISTORY OF IPSWICH 1910** Commemorates the Jubilee of Municipal Government. Reproduced on CD from the original 157 page book \$19.50 (\$6.00 P&P)

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