

The Runcorn Record

July 2004



Queensland State Archives

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www.archives.qld.gov.au

Welcome

Welcome to the July edition of the 2004 Runcorn Record. This issue of the Runcorn Record covers all the fun of the Family History Fair, celebrates the arrival of over 6000 fascinating hydrographic charts and relates the exciting story of one researcher's unexpected find.

The new-look website is live and can be visited at www.archives.qld.gov.au Regular users of the site will notice that it now complies with government guidelines, ensuring that all government websites have a similar look to allow for easy navigation.

There are still some adjustments to be made to the content of the site and we would appreciate any feedback that might help us improve the site. Just click on to the photo at the bottom corner of the home page and send your comments to us in the email provided.

New phone number and email address

Please note that after 2 August there will be a new phone number to call Queensland State Archives. The general inquiry number will be (07) 3131 7777 and the new fax number will be (07) 3131 7764.

The old phone number (07) 3875 8755 will redirect your calls to the new number after 2 August.

Email addresses have changed to be consistent with our website and you can now contact us on info@archives.qld.gov.au

ARCHIVES AT THE EKKA: 5 - 14 August 2004

To celebrate the Year of the Built Environment 2004, Queensland State Archives will be screening a special presentation about Queensland's built heritage in the Theatre at the Frank Nicklin Pavilion at 2pm every day of the Show (except the first Thursday 5 August).

Come and visit us at the Department of Public Works stand at this year's RNA.

Find out more about the Year of the Built Environment from their website www.ybe2004.qld.gov.au

QSA's next exhibition celebrates The Year of Built Environment 2004 and opens in September.



Year of the Built Environment 2004
OUR BUILT HERITAGE



ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR – Queensland State Archives' stand at the Family History Fair

I dream of Genies.... Family History Fair - May 30 2004

The Queensland State Archive's stand proved to be very popular at the Family History Fair on Sunday 30 May. QSA Staff members were kept very busy as hundreds of genies snapped up the promotional jellybeans as well as various QSA publications at a special fair price.

The Family History dinner at Robertson Gardens was well attended the night before. It proved a good opportunity for Niles Elvery, Acting Manager Public Access and Jenny Kidd, Manager Marketing & Communications to introduce themselves to the committee and the other diners, many of whom are regular visitors to QSA.

It was great to see so many of the Family History Fair attendees taking the opportunity to visit QSA on the special Saturday opening on 29 May. The next Saturday opening is 24 July, 2004.

STOP PRESS

NEW PUBLICATION

NEW SIGNPOST CHILLIGOE IS READY FOR ORDERING - ONLY \$15

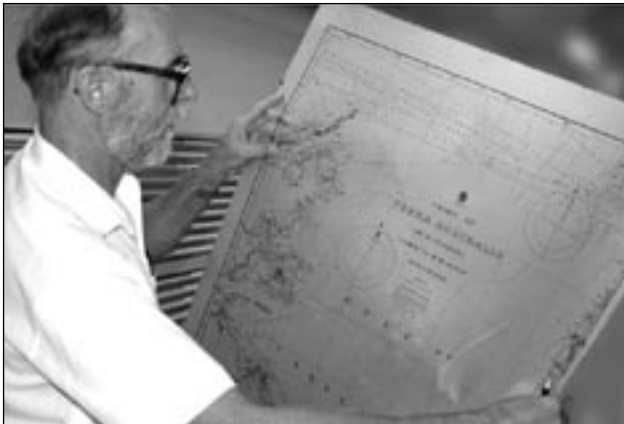
ORDER VIA POST,

QSA PO BOX 1397

SUNNYBANK HILLS 4109, OR IN PERSON OVER THE COUNTER.

Charts find new home at Archives

Graham Carter, Archivist with QSA's Collections & Access Unit, and his workmates have been busy itemising 9559 hydrographic charts dating from 1802 to 2000.



Graham Carter inspects a copy of a Matthew Flinders hydrographic chart dating back to 1802.

Among the collection, transferred to QSA from Department of Transport – Marine Section, are hydrographic charts prepared by the Harbours and Rivers Department, the British Admiralty (initially charts were under the province of the Royal Navy), Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Hydrographic Service.

“Hydrography - the underwater and near-water survey of rivers, creeks, bays, harbours and beaches – is one of the key functions of Maritime Safety Queensland,” said Graham.

“The charts are a key research tool for marine scientists, departmental officers and maritime historians and show how our waterways change over time, and what the government has done in terms of waterway control and management,” said Graham.

The charts record details such as regular water depth, shoal positions and least depth over all shoals, reefs, banks, position of the coastline, nature of the bottom, leading lines fixed and sounded, tidal stream measurements and observations, navigation marks, lights, sailing directions and details of shipwrecks.

Graham and a team of seven Archivists worked a roster system to itemise the charts. If you'd like to see the charts, check the catalogue for series 5756.

Bouquets for QSA staff!

Sometimes you have to leave to get recognised!

At a recent staff meeting, two QSA staff members **Nola Fulwood** and **Pamela Tarte** received staff recognition awards for their contribution to a positive work environment and individual excellence.

After 14 years with Queensland State Archives and as the former Manager of Public Access, Nola Fulwood who retired last year hasn't left the building! Her love for archival work sees her working three days a week as an Archivist, generously sharing her knowledge with staff and clients.

When presenting Nola with the **State Archivist's Award for Excellence**, State Archivist **Janet Prowse** joked that sometimes you have to leave and come back before you get recognised.

“Nola's knowledge of State Archives collection is unsurpassed and we are very pleased to show her our appreciation of her special skills by giving her this award.”

Senior Archivist Pamela Tarte, who works in the Arrangement & Description section, received the **Staff Recognition Award** after being nominated by her work colleagues as an inspirational team leader whose generous spirit made her a pleasure to work with very day.

Pamela thanked her colleagues and praised them right back!

“I work with a marvellous team whose commitment to their work is a daily inspiration.”

Staff members nominate colleagues for the twice yearly awards, with the winners chosen by a panel of three including the State Archivist.



Nola Fulwood, (left) and Pamela Tarte (right) receive their awards from Director & State Archivist, Janet Prowse.

NOLA FULWOOD FAST Facts

Time with Queensland State Archives: 14 years.

First ever job: primary teacher.

Hobbies: family history/classical music/knitting/travel the list goes on!

Best thing about retirement: time for hobbies.

Worst thing about retirement: not enough time.

Favourite find in QSA Collection: the nine English death certificates found in an intestacy file.

Favourite records: Colonial Secretary correspondence and lands files.

Divorce file brings unexpected Joy

Persistence paid off for Gold Coast resident and family history researcher Cynthia Heiner. She is jetting off to the United States this month ready to surprise her newly found relatives with her new US passport and a beautiful photo of her American GI father found in a divorce file at QSA last month.

“It is so exciting when a client finds something unexpected after years of searching their family background,” said Shiranthi Siyambalapitiya, QSA Reference Archivist.



L-r: Shiranthi Siyambalapitiya, Niles Elvery, Cynthia Heiner and Jocelyn Cuff look over Cynthia’s parent’s divorce file.

“When I opened this file and saw the wonderful photo of Cynthia’s father, I encouraged her to drive up from the Gold Coast to collect her documents.

“It is very unusual to find full colour photos in divorce files but you never know what surprises you are going to find in the course of your research,” said Shiranthi.

Cynthia has been trying for many years to obtain her US passport but was having great difficulty in finding the original of her parent’s divorce papers. It was on the suggestion of Jocelyn Cuff, QSA’s Public Access Supervisor, that she looked further afield.

Once she contacted the Supreme Court and got the correct divorce file number, Cynthia discovered that her parents divorce became absolute many years later than she had estimated.

“My advice to other researchers is that persistence pays off,” said Cynthia, “I really appreciate all the help I received from Shiranthi and Jocelyn and I’ve kept them up to date with the extra information I keep finding in the file!”

Wedding Bells

Imagine organising two weddings? Is she a glutton for punishment or simply a woman with her heart divided between two countries? Reference Archivist Katrin Hurlimann-Graham will get to wear the white dress twice when she marries her husband Keith Graham again but this time in a ceremony with her family and friends in Switzerland.

Katrin has gone to great lengths to explain that she is marrying the same man, in two ceremonies and it’s all legal. It will make interesting research for her descendents.

We wish Katrin all the very best for her nuptials and look forward to viewing the photos when she returns to the reference desk in August.



Reference Archivist Katrin receives a wedding gift from Karen Friedl, Manager Collections and Access, on behalf of QSA staff at a special staff morning tea to celebrate Katrin’s impending nuptials

Exhibition News

You can now visit the Flood Fire Famine Exhibition online at www.archives.qld.gov.au

The Flood Fire Famine exhibition, on display in the foyer at Runcorn, has been extended by popular demand so there is still time to visit.

Don’t miss our next exhibition, celebrating the heritage aspects of the Year of the Built Environment, opening in September 2004 and featuring many of Queensland’s favourite public spaces.

Helping Hands



It is not often we have so many of our hardworking volunteers at Runcorn at the same time, so we thought it worthy of a photograph. Standing with Niles Elvery, Acting Manager Public Access are Shirley Welch, Shirley McCorkindale, Beverley Isdale, Barbara Samuels and Jackie Croker.

These dedicated women volunteer their time to undertake a range of tasks including the indexing of records in the collection and we thank them for their invaluable contribution.

Diary Dates:

SATURDAY OPENINGS

9.45 – 4.15

Saturday 24 July

Saturday 21 August

Saturday 16 October

SATURDAY SEMINARS

Date	Title	Venue
Saturday 16 October	Buildings – A Roof over Queensland	QSA

SEMINARS, TALKS & TOURS

Date	Seminar Title
Wednesday 21 July	Teachers Records
Friday 27 August	Maps/Plans
Tuesday 21 September	Railway Staff Records
Wednesday 27 October	Building Plans
Tuesday 16 November	State Electoral Rolls

On the Road Again

On the Road is a chance for representatives from Queensland State Archives, John Oxley Library and National Archives of Australia to visit the regions and explain the processes of family history research.

Niles and his colleagues from National Archives Australia and John Oxley Library will visit:

30 July – 3 August

Townsville – Charters Towers – Bowen

5 – 9 November

Warwick – Stanthorpe – Goondiwindi

On the Road with the Hervey Bay Family History Association – a reader's photo



Dawn Miles from the Hervey Bay Family History Association sent us this photo of her group's day trip to Queensland State Archives at Runcorn on March 8 2004. The group were inspired to make the trip after hearing Niles Elvery, Acting Manager Public Access, speak in Hervey Bay during the first *On the Road* visit of 2004.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

The Runcorn Record is available for download free of charge from the Queensland State Archives website at www.archives.qld.gov.au. If you would like to be added or removed from our mailing list contact the Editor:

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Favourite Photos

Kids on Kings Beach at Caloundra, 1930s

Jenny Kidd, Manager Marketing & Communications

I have found many marvellous photos during the course of my work at State Archives but I'm particularly fond of this image. Although it was taken in the 1930s on Kings Beach at Caloundra it could well be a photo of my girls on Kings Beach in 2004! I find it fascinating that beach fashions have come full circle – the hats and the neck-to-knee outfits would not be out of place on Kings Beach today. Photos of kids on Kings Beach in the 1960s would show half naked little sprites with full tans, now those kids have grown up and dress their babies in the sun-smart 1930s style.

