

# Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc.

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ABN: 61508481930

Right: *Letter Scales*  
**Post Haste**  
exhibition 12 April



Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society

## Newsletter March 2014

President / Weekend Roster Co-ordinator Mr John McGlynn  
Treasurer / Membership Secretary /  
Works Co-ordinator: Mr Fred Monk  
Secretary / Newsletter Editor: Ms Kerrie Ruth  
Newsletter Editor: Ms Nancy Monk  
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Management Committee: Mr David Flanagan  
Management Committee: Ms Margaret Keys  
Management Committee / Conservator: Ms Ellie McFadyen  
Management Committee: Ms Frances Flanagan  
Curator / Quinbean Editor: Ms Gillian Kelly  
Historian / Researcher Ms Marilyn Folger  
QCC Cataloguer / Museum Assistant Ms Ximena Briceno

To contact us: send us an e-mail to  
[qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au](mailto:qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au) to the attention of who you want  
to contact and your message will be passed on to the  
appropriate person. President 02 62972730

## Important Dates for Your Diary!

**Oral History Workshop – Sunday 30  
March – 1.00 – 3.00pm @Museum**

**Working Bee – Sat 5 April  
Working Bee 9.30 -12.00. All members  
welcome, bring lunch to share from 12  
noon.**

### From the editors

This year there are a number of  
anniversaries: Isabella St is 150 and  
our very own Society is 45! We  
also have another great Heritage  
Festival coming up. **Editors: Kerrie  
Ruth & Nancy Monk.**

### From the President

Once again I can congratulate  
the Museum members for a full  
and exciting program of events,  
publications and displays. At  
the same time I urge you to  
help out: anything from  
sweeping up the leaves to a  
scholarly article for Quinbean.  
All would assist in spreading  
the load! **John McGlynn**

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## Queanbeyan Heritage Festival 2014 - Journeys

**Festival Launch & History and Heritage Meeting**  
**Thursday 3 April 6pm @QCCLibrary. Talk by John Cope.**  
**All welcome.**

**On the Street Where You Live Queanbeyan Then and Now Photographs**  
**3 – 30 April @QCCLibrary**

**Picnic in the Past – Sunday 6 April 10.30am @Queanbeyan Park**

**Queanbeyan Museum Open Day Take Queanbeyan's Journey with Us**  
**Saturday 12 April 11-4 @Museum Eats Entertainment Philately**

**Printing Museum Open Day**  
**Saturday 12 April 12.30-4 @Printing Museum – See Working Presses**

**Queanbeyan City Council Heritage Awards**  
**Saturday 12 April 12 noon @Museum**

**Post Haste – Exhibition Launch Queanbeyan's Post Office est. in 1836!**  
**Saturday 12 April 12.30 @Museum**

**A Bush Journey Explore Queanbeyan's hidden gem of remnant bush**  
**Sunday 13 April 10am @Bicentennial Park Meet at Gilmore Place**

**Mysterious Queanbeyan by Moonlight Tour by Nichole Overall**  
**Friday 11 & Thursday 17 April 7.30-10pm Bookings: Mob: 0413 671 123**

## ***Renoir and the Queanbeyan Museum?***

An unlikely association, you might think, but there is a connection.

I recently read a fascinating article which highlights the effect of light on pigments. Conservators and analytical chemists, using a technique called Raman Spectroscopy, examined a pigment in an 1883 painting by Renoir, 'Madame Leon Clapisson'. The painting has a background that appears to be dark grey. The spectroscopic analysis identified the original pigment and revealed that the background and the pigment were originally much more red than grey. The pigment had faded from its original colour of red, to grey, probably due to exposure to light. If you are interested in the details of the analysis that led to this discovery you can read the article or you can appreciate the difference just by looking at the current painting and the recoloured image. The URL is

<http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/2014/02/raman-restore-renoir-painting-carmine-lake-red-pigment>

What has this to do with Queanbeyan Museum? Quite a bit, actually. Perhaps we don't have many paintings, much less by Renoir (that we know of) but we do have other objects that are susceptible to light fading. Our photographs, especially colour photos, postcards, painted objects and textiles, all have pigments and dyes that may fade from exposure to light. In our museum, to prevent light fading, we store our collection away from light, in a dark room. When objects are on display, we aim to control the amount of light on our objects and thus minimise fading.

**Ellie McFadyen**

## ***Queanbeyan's Living History Oral History Project Continues***

The project has been a great success with 12 people interviewed so far and more in the pipeline. Another workshop with Mary Hutchison is organised for Sunday 30th March 1.00 - 3.00. This is a chance for those who have participated and want to share their experiences and also for people who haven't participated so far and want to use oral history for their own group or family histories. All interested Society members welcome, let me know if you'd like to attend.

**John McGlynn**

## ***From the Registrar, cataloguer, Museum Assistant's Desk***

It is an exciting opportunity to start work as a cataloguer-registrar at the Queanbeyan Museum. The museum is truly of the Queanbeyan region with the collection featuring objects made locally, modified or imported. This is a reflection of the ingenuity and wealth of the Queanbeyan community from its foundation to today.

The greatest challenge in registering and cataloguing objects is finding the provenance and its historical significance. The greatest satisfaction is learning something new about the history of the objects and how the objects contributed to Queanbeyan's past.

I have an original plan of the museum's footprint where each room is referred with a letter. I am using the assigned letters on the plan to refer to the location when objects are on display. Currently, I am working with Ellie McFadyen on Wednesdays on collection management and registering of objects.

**Ximena Briceno**

## ***New Museum Website***

You may have noticed that we now have a new website. Until mid last year we had a website with only five pages. When the hosting for this old website ran out last June, we took the opportunity to upgrade our site to a new platform. This has been developed by Kerrie Ruth and Karen Moore, who, during recent months have attended workshops delivered by Regional Development Australia Southern Inland, a partner of the Capital Region Digital Enterprise Program. This is an Australian Government initiative to encourage businesses and not-for-profit organisations to get online and take advantage of the opportunities of high speed broadband. These workshops have enabled Kerrie and Karen to learn to build, improve and maintain a website using Wordpress. Mentoring has also been provided to assist with making the changes to the Museum website. Enjoy the new website and please provide comments for the continuing improvement of the site. [www.queanbeyanmuseum.org.au](http://www.queanbeyanmuseum.org.au)

**Karen Moore**



Above from left: Rachel Wright from Three Sides Marketing who conducted the Regional Development training with Karen Moore, Kerrie Ruth and John McGlynn from the Society.

***Queanbeyan Museum is supported by  
Queanbeyan City Council***

### ***Regional Museums Visit to Bateman's Bay Old Courthouse Museum***

We can learn so much from our regional colleagues and they can learn from us! Our Bateman's Bay colleagues visited us a few years ago. Myf Thompson, their honorary curator also joined us for the Significance training we did through the CIT. In December last year a number of us visited Bateman's Bay Old Courthouse Museum to say hello and to check out their systems and the Museum. They are blessed with a large number of qualified volunteers because they are a retirees town and are extremely enterprising. It was a most enjoyable and useful day. **Kerrie Ruth**



Left: Queanbeyan Museum folk at the Old Courthouse Museum Bateman's Bay

### ***QDHMS Celebrates 45 years!***

On the 11 August 1969 a group of far sighted Queanbeyan people met to set up an Historical Museum Society. We are celebrating our 45<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a birthday event in August to which all those involved in the Society over the years are invited. We are also featuring an On Line exhibition on the new Museum website showcasing 45 objects from the collection. We have put two objects up (see right) and 43 are to come over the year!



*With this Trowel  
Nina Fane De  
Salis  
Laid the Chief  
Corner Stone  
of the  
Temperance Hall  
Queanbeyan  
23rd August 1877*



### ***Thank you to our generous donors:***

R Curry      P Monaghan  
N Monk      D Richardson  
M & A Burgess  
R Baum  
B Oakeshott  
B Sommerville

### ***Isabella St Public School - 2014 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations***

- A photographic exhibition to be launched on Friday 21st March 2014
- A Fete will be held at the School on Saturday 29th March 2014.
- There will be displays of memorabilia at other events, to be finalised, throughout this year.
- The Queanbeyan Museum will put on a display to celebrate Isabella Street's 150 years at the Museum in October 2014.



### ***Book cataloguing Project***

Cataloguing of the reference collection of books and journals held by QDHMS is continuing following standard Library practice and procedures; about one third of the collection is now catalogued. During January all the books and journals held by the Museum were moved and are now located on one set of shelves in the workroom. This will make it much easier to access the reference material. **Karen Moore**

***We are on Facebook!***  
***<https://www.facebook.com/queanbeyanmuseum>***  
***Check out our new Facebook page***  
***and friend us like us and follow us to keep up to date with Museum news***

# It's all happening at the Queanbeyan Museum! - Photo Gallery

## Museum Projects



Queanbeyan Museum's very own TARDIS is a Taxi Phone box from outside the Royal Hotel. It is being restored and interpreted by Gillian Kelly with assistance from Gordon Kelly and other volunteers.



Before and after shots of the two cupboards in the kitchen which are being revamped with glass shelves, white paint, new lighting and artfully arranged objects.

## Queanbeyan Heritage Festival 2014 Take a Bush Journey

### New Acquisition



Left: A donation from our colleagues at Bateman's Bay who are disposing of items that don't relate to their area. This document is accepting an application to set up a friendly society. It is interesting because it has crossed out Canberra and inserted the new word **Queanberra!**



Explore Queanbeyan's hidden gem of remnant bush, which is Bicentennial Park. Meet at 10am on Sunday 13 April at the top of Gilmore Place, for a guided walk with local naturalists Tom Baker and Bill

known that application has  
been made, for permission to  
of the <sup>Queanberra</sup> ~~Canberra~~ Council  
Committee of Management  
all be Enrolled. Acknowledged  
United Order of Oddfellows