

# NEWSLETTER



**Volume 5 No. 5**  
**President 3350 2874**

**P.O. Box 416, ChermSIDE Qld 4032**

**October/November 2002**  
**Secretary 3359 3022**

---

## **Message from the Vice President**

**Pat O'Shea**

The big event recently was the opening of the Drill Hall in the Historical Precinct. The day was cloudy and the threat of rain made the organisers hold the speeches etc in the Hall. Unfortunately, this meant that the people outside could not hear the speakers.

Outside, the Army paraded a colour unit and a guard of honour for the Governor and invited guests. It was an impressive display of precision drill. The uniforms on display inside the Hall were equally impressive as was the Victoria Cross awarded posthumously at the battle of Milne Bay.

The Society stall on the veranda sold about \$80 worth of goods and we had a steady stream of visitors to see our display in the Fitzgerald Room showing military activity in the ChermSIDE area over two world wars. We used our display cabinet in the hall for the first time showing photos of the Milne Bay battle scene lent by Ray Dorr.

The official opening and naming of the Youatt and Fitzgerald rooms will take place at the meeting on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Peter Fitzgerald, the last Head Teacher, who is still teaching will be present. Descendants of James Youatt, who was the first Head Teacher from 1900 to 1910, will also be present. There will be a cup of tea or coffee to follow.

The drainage of the whole Precinct is now complete with the Drill Hall and School connected up by pipeline to the pond, which drains into Downfall

Creek. *No more ponds under the school when it rains!*

We have received a grant from the BCC of \$2,072.23 for the purchase of hardware needed in our collection, storage and retrieval of data. Also another application for a grant has been made to repair the Memorial Gates at Marchant Park.

We need sponsors for some things such as a Lap Top Computer and the Electricity Bills. So if you can suggest someone, let us know, please.

## **Register of Corporal Punishments ChermSIDE State School 1938-1962**

The Corporal punishment registers were kept by the head teacher of the school and in it were recorded all corporal punishments administered by the head Teacher or an authorised assistant teacher. Corporal punishment was to be administered as a last resort when the student had committed offences against morality, gross impertinence, and/or wilful and persistent disobedience. Girls over the age of twelve were not to receive corporal punishment.

Apart from the punishment aspect the book revives many memories of ex pupils and gives some idea of the type of behaviour that pupils of all times have undertaken. Sometimes the behaviour was amusing, sometimes dangerous, sometimes irritating but always interesting.

The only Punishment Book remaining starts in 1938 but there must have been earlier ones and later ones. Where are they? Probably lost along with many other records of the school. The State Archives contain a huge amount of material but it is only a fraction of the paper work that has

passed through the various Government departments. Just as well or else the buildings would have to be ten times the present size.

An entry in November 1938 records that eight pupils were misbehaving in the playground by attacking another pupil and injuring his hand. They were each given one stroke on the hand with the cane. Was this a case of bullying or just some rough play? We will never know.

Later that year there was a motor accident on Gympie Road somewhere near the school and nine pupils went off to see it. At least they were the ones who were caught. They left without asking permission, which would probably not have been given anyway. Teachers just never seem to see things the same way the pupils do. For this transgression they were each given one stroke on the hand. They probably thought the cost was worth while.

The first page ends at the end of 1938 and the second page starts on February 1943. What happened to the intervening four years? Were the pupils behaving perfectly? Were the teachers overlooking any inappropriate behaviour? Was everybody asleep? We will probably never know.

In April 1943 nine pupils were throwing clay at one another and breaking down the trenches. This probably refers to the trenches, which were dug in schools during WWII so the pupils could shelter if an air raid occurred. These pupils found the trenches exciting places in which to play but they had to pay one stroke of the cane each for the experience. *(Does anybody remember these trenches? Tell us about them?)*

At the same time two pupils were riding bikes around the playground after being warned several times. They were each given four strokes on the hands and a couple on the legs. This was obviously regarded as a much worse transgression, probably because they could have injured others, especially smaller pupils.

In 1945 a pupil was caught wagging school over two days and then trying to cover up by lying and presenting a forged note. To make matters worse he was implicated in a theft and the Police visited the school in the course of the investigation. He was given six on the hands and six on the "hind parts". Twelve strokes would cause a lot of pain and reminds one of the Convict punishments.

A similar punishment was meted out in 1947 for two pupils who were caught "Smoking a packet of Cigarettes and going to the locker room and stealing." Each got six strokes on the hands and two on the "hind parts".

On the other hand, in 1948 two pupils who were bullying a "weak lad going home from school" were given only one stroke each on the hand. Today this sort of behaviour would be regarded as much more serious than either of the

two above instances. Bullying is not tolerated today in either school or workplace.

Over the years there was a variation in the number of recorded incidents. It varied from none in several years to between 2 and 5 up till 1948. Then in 1949 a veritable crime wave seemed to hit the school with punishment inflicted on varying numbers of pupils over 33 dates. They were mostly of 1 or 2 strokes variety, such as fighting, walking on the top rail of the fence, disobedience, throwing stones, pushing another pupil into a puddle, bad language, sword fighting (probably with rulers) and many other minor matters.

These are the usual things that healthy pupils do in the course of growing up, so why the sudden increase in recording? Why weren't they recorded in similar numbers in previous years? The following table may show a possible cause.

### Record of Punishments in Punishment Book C'side State School No. 929

Year	Head Teacher	No of Incidents	Total Boys
38	JH Rice	2	157
39 to 42	JH Rice	Nil	
43	"	5	145
44	"	4	162
45	"	2	145
46	"	Nil	194
47	"	3	230
48	"	3	236
49	GH Scarth	33	257
50	"	27	258
51	"	22	274
52	"	22	322
53	"	31	335
54	"	26	344
55	JB Skene	9	366
56	RG Hunter	17	392
57	RC Haupt	32	430
58	"	27	452
59	"	31	453
60	"	33	445
61	"	31	405
62	"	22	391

*(Only boys are recorded in the table. In fact only one girl is mentioned in the book, she was in Grade II and she was 'severely admonished'.)*

Numbers of boys show a continuous rise over the years on the table but this does not seem to influence the incidence of punishments.

However when there is a change of Head Teachers there is a sudden and distinct change in the incidence. This could relate to the training and/or the beliefs of the Head Teachers also to some extent the changes taking place in the community.

Do you have any personal anecdotes about your time at the old school? If so please tell me about them so we can record them and include them along with the administrative story. It makes for much more interesting reading.

### ***Pat O'Shea***

### **From the old Botanic Gardens, George Street, Brisbane**

An Historical Survey 1828-1984 by Ross D McKinnon published as Chapter 15 Brisbane History Group publication.

Brisbane – People, Places and Pageantry  
Papers No. 6 1987

The following are excerpts.

“From 1875 Frederick Manson Bailey had been botanist to a board set up to enquire into diseases of livestock and plants in Queensland and in December 1880 he was appointed Acting Director of the Queensland Museum. When Walter Hill retired from the gardens curatorship in 1881, the botanical library that had been housed in his cottage was moved out to Bailey’s room in the museum basement.

The gardens had now definitely ceased to be the botanical centre of Queensland. They were put in charge of a head gardener, James Pink and after he retired in 1886, A.M. Cowan took over until 1889. Some improvement in status was effected in that year, when P. McMahon was appointed curator.

The great flood of 1893 covered the lower parts of the gardens and, apart from damage to the bunya pine avenue and other plantings, swept away a small building housing early records of introductions.

In 1905 J. F. Bailey, son of the colonial botanist, succeeded McMahon as curator and in 1912 was appointed government botanist as well. The gardens again became the botanical centre of the State, incorporating the herbarium and botanical library.

When in 1917, J.F. Bailey went to Adelaide as Director of the botanic garden, the position was divided. C.T. White, F.M. Bailey’s grandson, became government botanist and E.W. Bick, who had received his training with the Acclimatisation Society at Bowen Park became curator of the gardens. The library stayed at the herbarium in the botanic gardens.

In 1925 the department of Agriculture handed over the botanic gardens to the Brisbane City Council. There was considerable dissatisfaction expressed at the time and in 1946 their status was improved by the appointment of a Curator, J.R. Bailey, son of J.F. Bailey, a former curator. J.R. Bailey had for some years been curator of the Toowoomba botanic gardens. Following J.R. Bailey’s death, H.W. Caulfield was appointed curator of the botanic garden on 15 October 1956.

### ***Marion Eaton***

### **Place Names in and near Chermiside – former names**

Notes taken from discussions by members about their recollections of place names as they existed in the 1930 – 1950 period.

### **Carrs Hill**

Intersection of Kirby Road & Gympie Road, Aspley.  
The Carr family lived there.

### **Charlotte Street, Chermiside**

The Lord Mayor named this street after a Hamilton family member in 1930’s.

### **Chummy Town.**

Travelling north along Maundrell Terrace from the intersection with Hamilton Road, it was on the left hand side – near John Goss Park.

There were five English families who supported each other emigrating from U.K. The families included the Mills, Woolleys, Watts, Styler on the left and Freemans on the right side of Maundrell Terrace.

## **Dead Man's Gully**

A creek ran underneath Gympie Road close to the intersection of Kuran Street and Dead Man's Gully was a part of this creek system. It seemed to be confined to the area immediately outside present number 8 Kuran Street Chermshire where Joan Hamilton lives today (2002) on the northern side of Kuran Street. Kuran Street was named Duff Street at the time.

Joan Hamilton's father refers to this gully by its name Dead Man's Gully in his diary, but Joan is not aware of the reason for this name.

## **Duff Street Chermshire**

Now known as Kuran Street in 2002. Lord Mayor Jones renamed Duff Street to Kuran Street because he did not like the idea of too many streets in Brisbane having the same name. There is a Duff Street in Wavell Heights but the present day council has a problem with the name "Duff" because of its unfortunate conation.

## **Early's Paddock**

The Early's owned all the land from the intersection of Gympie Road and Hamilton Road up to the present day Kedron Wavell RSL in Hamilton Road. The paddock was situated in the present day Westfield shopping centre car park closest to the Kedron Wavell RSL and extended as far as the pool (opposite Eastleigh Street)

Sunday School Picnics were held there. There was also a cricket pitch behind Early's Shop which was situated just south of the present day Bob Jane site.

## **Early's Hill**

Was situated close to the intersection of Gympie Road & Banfield Street, Chermshire.

## **Gallagher's Flat**

There was a tannery where present day Westons Biscuits stands today, known as Gallagher's Tannery. Gallagher's Flat was situated in the same area on the Chermshire side of the Lutwyche Cemetery. This area was used for Sunday School Picnics.

## **Hall Street. Chermshire**

This street acquired its name from Joan Hamilton's great grandmother whose maiden name was Hall in the 1930's.

## **Kingsmill Street, Chermshire**

Was once named Margaret Street after one of the Hamilton family daughters in 1930's.

## **Radar Hill**

There is some confusion as to the exact location of this hill. One suggestion was the top of Barokee Street Stafford but the majority of members believed that it was situated on the cliffs above the present day Rode Shopping Centre on the corner of Appleby & Rode Roads, West Chermshire.

It was called this because during world War II there was a USA radar tower on the hill.

## **Sparks Paddock**

Sparks Paddock was 640 acres (1 square mile). 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade Park would be a part of this Paddock today. There was a slaughter yard at about Corrie Street. There were popular water holes in this area where boys swam in the nude. It was once thought that they had struck gold but it turned out to be copper. There is another area called Sparks Hill but this is in the Stafford area.

## **Thomas Street Chermshire**

Was named after Joan Hamilton's grandfather in the 1930's.

## **Norma Bell's Death**

Norma Bell was a school girl attending Chermshire State School in approximately 1928 and was tragically killed walking home. She was walking north along Gympie Road towards present day Wallace Street. At the section where the pipes went under the street, there was no track.

Joan Hamilton witnessed the accident. As Norma walked along the edge of the road because there was no footpath, a Morgan's Milk wagon came along and accidentally hit Norma. She died on the way to hospital. After this incident a bridge was erected with a walkway. Norma Bell's grave is in the Lutwyche Cemetery.