

Call of the Koel

23 November 2018

Newsletter of the Toowong and District Historical Society Inc.



Management Committee

President: Ruth Sapsford

Secretary:

Leigh Chamberlain

Minutes Secretary:

Lee Bull (ex-officio)

Treasurer (Acting):

Bruce Sinclair

Committee members:

Barbara Erskine

Guest Speaker Programme:

Bruce Sinclair

Editor of Call of the Koel:

Leigh Chamberlain

Web Master: Elizabeth Lucy Wilkinson

MEETING TIMES

Monthly meetings featuring a guest speaker are held on the 4th Friday of each month from January until November.

Where: In the meeting room at the Toowong BCC Library, (Third floor, Toowong Village, Sherwood Rd, Toowong)

Time: 9.30am—12.00 noon

Followed by morning tea

CONTACT DETAILS:

c/-of Secretary

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January Meeting

Friday, 25th January 2019

Members' Day

Members are asked to share their family history and reminiscences about living in Toowong

From the Editor's desk...

Welcome to this edition of the Toowong and District Historical Society's newsletter.

Vale: Much loved and respected TDHS member Judith Marks sadly died in late August. President Ruth Sapsford spoke at our September meeting to pay tribute to Judith for her contribution to our Society. Not only did Judith provide a magnificent morning tea, she was also always ready to provide details about the area of Toowong that she grew up in and to assist in other ways. During morning tea members toasted Judith's memory with a glass of wine. Judith's sister Jane Hassell (who was present) thanked our members for their kind words.

Upon his discharge from hospital former president Paul Meyers moved out of the local area to a retirement village. We wish Paul all the best for the future and thank him for his contribution to our Society whilst he was its president.

Sadly, former TDHS secretary Therese Murtagh, who had been ill for some time, died recently. Therese was TDHS secretary ca. 2004-2008 and was also the History Head of Department at the former Toowong College. Her father, Mr Muir, was a former principal of Toowong State School, and is remembered for his introduction to the school of the recorder musical instrument and for the band he formed for students to play the instrument. Sadly, Therese's husband died about 3 weeks before she did. Our sympathies were forwarded to the family on the occasion of this double bereavement.

AGM (August, 2018): At the Society's AGM the following committee places were filled as follows:

President (Ruth Sapsford); (Secretary, Leigh Chamberlain); Treasurer (Bruce Sinclair); Committee member (Barbara Erskine). Lee Bull was appointed as Minutes Secretary. There is still a vacancy on the committee.

Leigh Chamberlain (Editor)

Members' Day 25th January, 2019

2019 ushers in the celebration of 160 years since the Separation of Queensland from New South Wales on 10 December 1959.

That is when we all became Queenslanders!

Prior to Separation, though, there were many, many people who had settled in the inner western suburbs and who called the area which later became Toowong, home.

TDHS Update...

CBD History Walk

After last year's highly popular history walk around Lang Farm Estate, the TDHS continued the theme of Escape into the Past by scheduling a walk around Toowong's CBD area on 5th August, 2018. As we started the walk in the Toowong Post Office carpark in Ebor Street, we thank the Toowong Post Office for granting us permission to do so.

The Rev. Tom Sullivan, Rector of St Thomas's Anglican Church, invited our participants to a tour of the church, followed by morning tea. St Thomas's Anglican Church has a rich and interesting history and our participants all agreed that the tour of the church and the morning tea was a very pleasant way to conclude the morning's activities. We would like to thank Rev. Sullivan and the Anglican Parish of Toowong for their hospitality.

Another walk is planned for late July 2019 and the route will be along Sherwood Road and Dean Street. TDHS researcher Lee Bull is busily anchoring research into this topic. If you have any photos or information to share to assist with the walk please contact the TDHS.

Remembrance Day Service

The Toowong RSL Sub-branch invited the TDHS to attend the Remembrance Day Service at Toowong Memorial Park on Sunday, 11th November, 2018. The service commemorated the significance of the centenary of the declaration of Peace to end the hostilities of WWI. The service commenced at 10.30a.m. at the Soldiers' Monument. TDHS Secretary Leigh Chamberlain laid a wreath on behalf of the Society.

After the service a plaque was unveiled for the ANZAC Discovery Trail that the Toowong RSL Sub-branch had installed in the park followed by a family fun day. This included a steamroller under steam, F-111 Flight Simulator, rides, food, live music and 3 Festival of Rugby Matches.

Descendents of some of these families are still living in the area today, and have had a lengthy association with Toowong.

At our next Members' Meeting in January we invite members and guests to bring along stories of your family's association with Toowong.

Please come along and join in, regardless of the length of your family's period of association with Toowong and tell us about your family's story.

Remembrance Day 2018...



(Above): The ceremony at the Soldiers Monument

Top row from left: At the top of the hill in Toowong Memorial Park prior to the start of formalities; Centre: RSL Sub-branch President Kerry Gallagher conducts proceedings; Right: TDHS Secretary Leigh Chamberlain after laying a wreath on behalf of the TDHS.

Above left: The Soldiers Monument as a blaze of colour; Right: The wreath laid by the TDHS at the Soldiers Monument.

(Below): Unveiling the plaque for the ANZAC Discovery Trail



Far left: RSL Sub-branch president Kerry Gallagher stands next to the plaque for the Toowong RSL Anzac Discovery Trail after he unveiled it.

Above centre: The crowd makes its way down from the top of the hill to view the unveiling of the plaque ceremony.

Above right: The crowd stand chatting after the unveiling ceremony.

Left: Plaque for the Toowong RSL ANZAC Discovery Trail [Photos by Leigh Chamberlain]