



## Management Committee

**President:** Paul Meyers  
**Secretary:** Leigh Chamberlain  
**Minutes Secretary:**  
Lee Bull (ex-officio)  
**Treasurer:** Roger Harding  
**Committee members:**  
Bruce Sinclair  
Ruth Sapsford  
**Guest Speaker Programme:**  
Bruce Sinclair  
**Editor of Call of the Koel:**  
Leigh Chamberlain  
**Processing Committee:**  
Judith Marks; Elaine Machin;  
Leigh Chamberlain; Paul Meyers;  
Ruth Sapsford; Lee Bull  
**Web Master:** Piotr Maliecki

## 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 located on the third floor of Toowong Village, Sherwood Rd, Toowong.

**Time:** commencing at 9.30am till 11.30am.

Morning tea to follow.

## CONTACT DETAILS:

c/-of Secretary, PO Box 187  
Toowong BC, Toowong Q 4066  
Tel: 04011800921  
[tdhsoc@gmail.com](mailto:tdhsoc@gmail.com)  
[toowonghistory.org.au](http://toowonghistory.org.au)

**Members' meeting on 27th February from 9.30am: Fr Martin:**  
*In the Service of God: The Early History of the Catholic Church*

## From the President...

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome you all back.

On the morning of the TDHS's November Members' Meeting and Christmas party, some members awoke to find that they had an electricity blackout caused by the storm that had happened the previous night.

Early that morning secretary Leigh consulted committee members to consider the feasibility of cancelling our Christmas party. To our relief we discovered that Toowong Village had its own generators, enabling it to open as usual, and thus our party proceeded as planned.

Toowong was one of the suburbs that took a battering in the storm. Those of our members who were out and about reported that at 11.30pm that Thursday evening, various work crews were busy working under lights to render roads safe from fallen power lines and trees. In some cases roads were closed. The Burns Road rail overpass bridge was the scene of flashing lights as crews removed the last of the mural panels from the bridge.

In the aftermath, some Toowong residents had to contend with loss of power and phone services, which took some time to restore. In Josling Street, where a huge tree had fallen onto a house bringing down power poles, the street remained closed for some time after the storm, and it took a while before power was restored to residents in the area. The newspaper reported that several high rise buildings were damaged, and there was

damage also to houses.

The guest speaker programme for the forthcoming year has been finalized by Bruce Sinclair. So we can look forward to an interesting range of topics during the year. The first of these presentations are listed below.

The Society's working bee has met twice since the start of the year. Also some of the resources which were removed from the Society's cupboards in the Toowong Community Meeting Place have been replaced back there. However, the Community Meeting Place does not provide enough storage and we are facing a dilemma in that there is nowhere else to store the files. This is a problem which the management committee has been attempting to solve to date, but without success. Any suggestions would be welcomed.

Web master Piotr Maliecki has tabled more items on the TDHS's website's blog. A Followers' List has been set up so if you have family and friends who may be interested to have their name added please advise.

In closing I would like to congratulate TDHS Minutes Secretary Lee Bull nee Cribb who published her family history, based upon the family of her grandfather Robert Joseph Cribb, over the Christmas break. Titled *When Houses had Names: a Tribute to Isabel Mary Cribb of Dunmore*, if you would like to purchase a copy please contact us and we will pass on the request to Lee.

## Upcoming events

27 February: Fr Denis Martin, archivist of the Catholic Church will speak upon *In the Service of God: The Early History of the Catholic Church in Queensland*.

Fr Martin is a wealth of information about the early days and when he last spoke briefly to our members the information on the subject that he imparted was riveting.

27 March: Deb Drummond will speak upon the book *Lingering Doubts* that she wrote with her cousin Janice Teunis about their grandfather Reginald Brown, imprisoned for life for a crime he said he did not commit. *Lingering Doubts* shines a spotlight on the

1947 police investigation into what became known as the 'Arcade Murder'. The authors search for answers as they navigated a path through archived records, revealing numerous anomalies; police and Crown prejudice; a lack of accountability and suppressed evidence.

24 April: Fred Whitchurch: The story of the Toowong RSL Sub-branch. At 89, Fred is the oldest member of the Toowong RSL sub-branch. A natural raconteur, Fred has a wealth of stories about the sub-branch, especially the renovation of the old hall, and the building of the new Toowong RSL Memorial Club building in Sherwood Road. Alas, the buildings are no more!!

## State Election 2015

After New Year, when Queensland Premier Campbell Newman unexpectedly called an election, Queenslanders found themselves thinking about state political matters instead of relaxing and enjoying the summer weather.

The candidates for the Mt Coot-tha Electorate were Saxon Rice (LNP); Steven Miles (ALP); Omar Omeer (Greens); and Charles McAlister. There were 27,835 ballots counted, of which 349 were informal. 76.58% voted at the 42 polling booths while the remaining votes were cast in a variety of other ways, including informal. After being a LNP seat for a term, Mt Coot-tha reverted to the Labor Party as ALP candidate Dr Steven Miles won the electorate over former LNP incumbent Saxon Rice.

Members are advised that the TDHS sent a thankyou card to

Ms Rice in appreciation for all the assistance she has given our Society over the term of her office, and on behalf of the members wished her all the best for the future.

We look forward to working with Dr Steven Miles in the future on aspects of Toowong's history, and we plan to invite him to one of our future members' Meetings as soon as it can be arranged. Steven has been appointed to cabinet as the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef.

Upon being asked by Premier to accept these two portfolios Dr Miles described it on his Facebook page on February 15th as being 'an incredible honour'. He also announced on February 15th that he was setting up his Mt Coot-tha Electorate Office.

It was a busy week for Dr Miles as on the following day he was sworn in by Governor Paul de Jersey as a member of Queensland's newly formed cabinet.

## Frew Park Project (the former Milton Tennis Centre site)

The newly redeveloped Frew Park was officially opened with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, 29 November 2014. The Brisbane City Council has rejuvenated the former Milton Tennis Centre and Milton Bowl site into a 3.5 hectare inner city parkland. The site is located at 317 Milton Road between Frew Street and Milton Road, Milton. Construction of Frew Park started in October 2014 and was completed on 29 November 2014.

**Historic background:** Frew Park housed the Milton Tennis Centre, and is named after Mr Robert Dickson Alison Frew, the president of the QLD Lawn Tennis Association from 1910-1930. Considered the home of Queensland tennis since 1915, the Frew Park complex at the Milton Tennis Centre boasted 19 hard courts and four grass courts. In 1958, the courts were converted into Australia's major tennis centre for the Davis Cup final. In 1969, the first Australian Open was held here. It had an impressive record: it hosted eight Australian Championships/Opens and 16 Davis Cup ties (including three finals). Other events were hosted here and include concerts featuring acts such as the Rolling Stones (never to be forgotten), Elton John and Johnny Cash. Also 10,000 fans witnessed Jeff White retain his national lightweight title against Lionel Rose in 1971.

*Other snippets of interest are:*

- The Milton Tennis Centre closed in 1999 when Tennis Queensland sold the property to cover more than \$1 million in debts.
- Doncaster Holdings sold the site to Multiplex for a reported \$5.9 million in April 2002.
- Derelict and having suffered two fires, the stadium was demolished in May 2002.

## Roy Emerson Tennis Centre

Named after one of Brisbane's tennis greats, the Roy Emerson Tennis Centre includes six tennis courts, a rebound court, amenities and seating with a food and beverage outlet to ser-

vice park visitors. The Roy Emerson Tennis Centre is administered by Tennis Gear Australia.

**The Arena play space** has been designed to suit children and young people from 10-15 years of age. It combines architectural and play components to present a play space based on the former tennis court grandstand. Play areas for younger children are incorporated into the ground level of The Arena, along with features to cater for people of all abilities to enjoy play.



## Wendy Turnbull Green:

On 3 June 2014, Council named the large open space in Frew Park, Wendy Turnbull Green, after one of Brisbane's great sporting heroines and Queensland Sporting Hall of Fame inductee. Wendy was born and raised in Brisbane and was affectionately known as 'Rabbit' because of her court speed. She enjoyed success on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour as both a singles and doubles player.

## Book launch

The Richlands, Inala & Suburbs History Group Inc have invited our members to the launch of their latest publications titled *Wacol, Wolston, Woogaroo: 1823-2014*, Vols 1 & 2 at Wolston Park Golf Club on Thursday 12 March at 10 am.

Light Morning Tea will be served. RSVP by 6 March to Angela 3372 2358 or [secretary@rihghistory.org.au](mailto:secretary@rihghistory.org.au)

Cost: \$30 the pair. Postage (if applicable) \$ 18 00. Postal Orders to Richlands, Inala & Suburbs History Group Box 2088 Inala Heights 4077