PROPOSED NEW FACTORY.
SOUTH BRISBANE.
FOR MESSRS. T. TRISTRAM.

SCALE: 1INCH = 1FT.

T. TRISTRAM
AERATED WATER
FACTORY.

FRONT ELEVATION.

SECTION 12.

FRONT ELEVATION.
TWO PIONEERS OF ‘ENGLISH’ IN QUEENSLAND – JJ STABLE AND FW ROBINSON

2013 Fryer Award winner Dr William Hatherell explores the establishment of the discipline of ‘English’ through the work of academics JJ Stable and FW Robinson.

A WOMEN’S TRIBUTE TO WAR

Historian Judith McKay tells the story of Daphne Mayo’s Queensland Women’s War Memorial as recorded in two manuscript collections in the Fryer Library.

QUEENSLAND WOMEN’S FRANCHISE PETITIONS OF 1894 AND 1897

Deborah Jordan delves into the records of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union and discovers how the union contributed to the achievement of women’s suffrage in Queensland.

JACK F HENNESSY, ARCHITECT OF THE GREAT COURT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

John East discusses the work of Jack F Hennessy.

BRISBANE BETWEEN THE WARS

Excerpted from an online exhibition by former Fryer staff member, librarian Jeff Rickertt, this article explores some of the ways Brisbane architecture reflected political, social and economic changes during the interwar period.

HANDS ON HISTORY AT FRYER

Librarian Liz Alvey profiles an event held in Fryer in conjunction with the Professional Historians Association and the Australian History Association Conference.

OBITUARIES

Fred Derek Osmond Fielding, Emeritus Professor Ken Goodwin AM, Margaret Mittelheuser AM

WHAT’S NEW

Fryer congratulates two award winners, farewells one manager and welcomes another, and provides an update on digitisation of the collection.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

A look at events enjoyed by the Friends, and upcoming activities.
and German at The University of Queensland from 1912 and the University’s first professor of English language and literature from 1922 until his retirement in 1953, and Frederick Walter Robinson, lecturer in English and German from 1923 and associate professor of English from 1946 to 1958.

Stable and Robinson were legendary figures in the early decades of the University. With just a handful of colleagues, they effectively were the English program at The University of Queensland from 1920s to the 1950s. (For most of this period, English was an honours school within the Department of Modern Languages, with a separate Department of English only established in 1953.) However, Stable and Robinson did not confine their energies to the University. Both were leading figures in the development of school English in Queensland, and in the numerous cultural societies of the time.

The Fryer Library is a wonderful place to study the careers of these two energetic and influential men. Robinson was of course the founder of the library (as amply documented in Mark Cryle’s article in the June 2010 edition of Fryer Folios), and the thirty-four boxes of his papers (UQFL5) form one of Fryer’s core collections. Fryer also has some of Stable’s papers (such as his 1923 inaugural address to the English and Modern Language Associations of Queensland, and his 1930 book, *The Development of English in Australia*), as well as many of his letters and other papers (UQFL466).

The story of the spectacular rise of ‘English’ over the course of the twentieth century has been told in many recent books and essays. Leigh Dale’s *The enchantment of English* (2012) does this for university English in Australia. But the story of ‘English’ in Australia is a highly localised affair, with individual universities and state education systems offering their own variations on national and international narratives—very often decisively influenced by powerful or charismatic individuals. In the case of Queensland, both the state and the university, the two key such individuals were Jeremiah Joseph Stable, lecturer in English, French
Languages Association of Queensland) and copies of his edited books that touched the lives of generations of children in Queensland secondary schools—four anthologies of poetry starting with *The bond of poetry* (1924) and his edition of *Julius Caesar* (1936), published as part of the Australian Students' Shakespeare series, of which Stable was general editor. Fryer also contains records of many of the cultural societies in Brisbane that Stable and Robinson helped to launch and sustain during the inter-war period—particularly the Queensland Authors and Artists Association (F1456), the English and Modern Languages Association of Queensland (F1455), and the Anthropological Society of Queensland (F1462).

In a period when the University effectively dictated the secondary school curriculum through its power to set and mark the junior and senior public examinations, Stable and Robinson played key roles on the relevant committees and maintained a lively dialogue with their school colleagues. Much of this is recorded in the University Archives, particularly the minutes of the Public Examinations Board.

As a young lecturer in the 1920s, Robinson led a group of university and school teachers of English to conduct a local version of the Newbolt report under the auspices of the English and Modern Languages Association of Queensland. The *Report on the teaching of English in secondary schools in Queensland*, published in October 1927, was the result of four years of characteristically methodical work by Robinson, involving the collation of responses to detailed questionnaires sent to every secondary school in Queensland as well as a considered response to some of the key issues—such as the relative importance of literary and language studies—raised by Newbolt.

Stable's main contribution to school English was through a series of anthologies—beginning with *The bond of poetry* (1924)—that were universally
used in Queensland secondary schools and formed the poetic tastes of more than one generation of Queenslanders. The bond of poetry, along with its successor The second bond of poetry (1938), was editorially innovative in placing Australian poems alongside such stalwarts of the English canon as Coleridge’s ‘The Rime of the Ancient Mariner’, suggesting not just bonds of citizenship with the home country but also ways in which Australian poets had developed and modified imported genres and texts.

Robinson was also concerned with the place of Australian literature and culture in relation to its European antecedents. He is widely credited with offering the first university course in Australian literature in the 1920s. Importantly, however, Australian content was embedded within a broader course on English literature, reflecting the conviction of both Stable and Robinson that the national literature could only be meaningfully considered within this English context.

Robinson’s Fryer papers, for example, include his notes from ‘Australian Poetry: Seven Lectures to English 1 Class of Queensland University, 1947’.

While circumstance brought Stable and Robinson together, the two men had significant differences in background and temperament. Although born in Australia, Stable had grown up in Europe, learning to speak French and German fluently and receiving his secondary education in Switzerland before reading for the medieval and modern languages tripos at Cambridge. Robinson’s early training was in the classics, going on from a stellar undergraduate career at the University of Sydney to complete his doctorate on Roman history (written in German) at the University of Jena in pre-war Germany. Stable and Robinson were competitors for the McCaughey chair in English Language and Literature in 1922. The fact that Stable was the successful candidate reflects Leigh Dale’s wry comment about assumptions underlying the appointment of the first university teachers of English in Australia: ‘Publications were valued, but not to the extent that Oxford or Cambridge degrees were’.

While Stable never ventured too far from his disciplinary moorings, Robinson was a veritable renaissance man. In addition to his literary interests, Robinson participated in an extraordinarily broad range of activities, including Australian anthropology (particularly the documentation and preservation of Aboriginal bora rings in the Brisbane region), academic heraldry, and the design and landscaping of the Saint Lucia campus—the Fryer collection includes Robinson’s 1936-37 plans for the campus, which were submitted to a competition held after the intention to build the new campus was announced in 1935. Although grounded in traditional scholarship, Robinson’s work exemplified the ‘interdisciplinary’ approaches that were to become fashionable only decades after his death. One of his long-term projects, part of which formed the basis for his 1963 Macrossan lectures on ‘Prelude to Australia’, was provisionally titled Australian literature: the prelude and the first seventy years up to 1850 whose ‘theme is not so much works of literature as the body of ideas and emotional reactions [about Australia] which slowly, in a new environment, at least may lead to literature’. A chapter title of this manuscript work exemplifies the approach—‘Greek Geographical Theory and the Idea of the Antipodes’. Robinson’s scholarship draws on a large range of historical, journalistic, anthropological and philosophical—as well as literary—texts.

Robinson’s range of interests and inspiring, if somewhat formal, teaching style made him a formative influence on the careers of many outstanding UQ alumni, including the writer David Malouf and former professor of English Peter Edwards. In the early 1990s, Edwards organised donations from many of Robinson’s former students to fund the installation of the ‘Doc Robbie Memorial Benches’ just behind the union building and overlooking the natural amphitheatre that Robinson had once envisaged as becoming the University’s Greek theatre (the papers relating to this exercise are collected as F3317).

Robinson published little in the way of conventional literary scholarship and criticism—although he was quite industrious in producing commemorative and historical publications such as Canberra’s first hundred years (1924) and The University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane (1957). Something of the charisma and ability to make connections between disparate areas of knowledge that so impressed his students, however, does come through in his extensive lecture notes.

For example, in a 1947 lecture, Robinson makes extraordinary connections between Aristotle’s notion of mimesis, Wordsworth’s ‘Intimations Ode’ (‘As if his whole vocation, / Were endless imitation’), and Aboriginal custom as reported in Tom Petrie’s Reminiscences of early Queensland. He speaks of Petrie’s story of a camp-fire where ‘some men told stories of ‘past exploits’ (res gestae) while others assumed the role of some person or animal. In such stories, lies the germ of epic, which has given us the Iliad, the Odyssey, our own Beowulf… The other men, who would assume the role of different persons, or imitate animals, show the first germ of primitive drama’.

—Richard Hodder

The bond of poetry

2 From a note to the author from Professor Craig Calhoun, 2 January 2009.


4 Final lecture on ‘Prelude to Australia’.

5 Reminiscences of early Queensland, 1852.

6 The bond of poetry, 1938, p. 252.
Clearly Robinson’s notion of ‘English’ is a world away from the professionalised and specialised university discipline that emerged in Australia in the 1950s and 60s under the influence of the American ‘new criticism’. While the new criticism emphasised the autonomy of the literary text, which it held should be considered independent of biographical, philosophical or political contexts, Robinson embodies an older, essentially anthropological, understanding of culture that sees literature as just one part of the manifold ways in which humanity expresses its relationship with society, history and the natural environment.

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As the 2013 Fryer Award winner, DR WILLIAM HATHERELL researched collections in the Fryer Library, particularly the papers of FW Robinson, to extend the ground-breaking research published in his 2007 book *The third metropolis: imagining Brisbane through art and literature 1940-1970* (UQP). His other publications include journal articles on Australian literature and cultural history and the Australian dictionary of biography entries for Laurence Collinson and John Manifold.
From 1925, when Daphne Mayo confidently opened a studio in Ascot Chambers, the city’s first ‘skyscraper’, she was never short of work and was soon to create some of Brisbane’s grandest monuments. Her first architectural commission was for a frieze and pilaster capitals for the new Tattersall’s Club (1926), soon to be followed by a tympanum and stations of the cross for the Church of the Holy Spirit, New Farm (1929–30), and, grandest of all, a tympanum to grace the entrance of the new city hall (1927–30). Given her skill in architectural work, Mayo was an obvious choice for the sculptural embellishment of the state war memorial, particularly for a distinct women’s contribution to the scheme.

In 1925 Brisbane’s ‘girl sculptress’ Daphne Mayo returned to her home city in triumph, having completed her training at London’s Royal Academy with the award of a gold medal. The timing of Mayo’s return was crucial to her future success. In that year, nineteen suburban councils were amalgamated to form Greater Brisbane, creating one of the world’s largest municipalities and bringing the city new prestige and wealth. The first lord mayor, William Jolly, was keen to transform the city into a worthy capital and major civic projects were being planned, including a new, £1 million city hall and a state memorial to World War I, the latter to occupy a newly-created Anzac Square. The time was ripe for Mayo’s sculpture to enhance Brisbane’s new civic architecture.

Historian Judith McKay tells the story of Daphne Mayo’s Queensland Women’s War Memorial as recorded in two manuscript collections in the Fryer Library.
The Queensland Women’s War Memorial originated in 1929 with the Brisbane Women’s Club, which had been formed two decades earlier as an off-shoot of the Queensland Women’s Electoral League, its members being middle-class women interested in public welfare and reform. The project’s instigator was the club’s then president, Flora Harris, daughter of the well-known local suffragist Elizabeth Brentnall and herself a leading advocate for women. Flora Harris convened the club’s memorial committee while her daughter, Noela, acted as secretary; her papers recording her involvement are preserved in a collection given to Fryer by her grand-daughter. Other club members at the time included such notables as Freda Bage, foundation principal of The University of Queensland’s Women’s College, and Josephine Bedford, philanthropist and pioneer of the Children’s Playground and Crèche and Kindergarten associations in Queensland.

Sadly, the Brisbane Women’s Club launched its campaign for the £1000 needed for the memorial in October 1929, just as the Great Depression struck; the resulting stringencies made the goal unattainable for almost three years. The campaign began with an appeal to women and women’s organisations throughout the state to donate at least one shilling, and this was followed by a series of fund-raising dances, bridge parties and musical performances in Brisbane and beyond. In September 1930 a spectacular Old World Dress Pageant was held in the newly-opened City Hall, raising £273. Originally the memorial was to be a panel cast in bronze and a cascading fountain, but by November 1930 only half the necessary funds had been raised so it was reduced to a carved stone panel and a drinking bubbler. The memorial was finally unveiled by the governor’s wife, Lady Goodwin, on 24 March 1932, by which time the memorial committee was still unable to discharge its debts so it organised a fete. The so-called Family Fair was held in the City Hall the following month, raising another £250 and enabling the committee not only to meet all the memorial expenses, totalling £1011/13/-, but also to donate warm clothing to unemployed returned servicemen.

Though Flora Harris and her committee consciously chose a woman sculptor for the memorial, they did not seek to highlight the service and sacrifices of women in the war but, rather, to honour all Queenslander who had given their lives. Hence they rejected Daphne Mayo’s original scheme as described in her papers in Fryer—of four processional figures representing a serviceman, a servicewoman, an industrial worker and a ‘woman keeping the home front going’—in favour of a more military scheme. This was to represent all branches of the Australian Imperial Force, from artillerymen and signallers to sailors and airmen, and was to be officially checked for its accuracy. So the memorial became an overwhelmingly masculine procession of warriors who accompany a horse-drawn gun carriage; the sole woman represented, a nurse, can hardly be seen. In the words of a contemporary description, the figures were

in an earnest and purposeful march, pressing forward with eagerness and intent, as they follow their Unseen Leader through Battle to the Great Beyond.

The procession was probably inspired by a recent British precedent: the bronze friezes by Alice and Morris Meredith-Williams in the Scottish War Memorial, Edinburgh, which also represent various branches of the military and advance with the same solemnity. Interestingly, among Daphne Mayo’s papers are several articles on this much-admired memorial, including an article from the Brisbane Courier of 31 December 1927, published soon after its opening. In her memorial Mayo has added a tribute to her own family’s grief. The soldier at the head of the procession is a likeness of her only brother, Captain Richard Henry McArthur Mayo, who served with the Australian Mounted Division in the Middle East and died in 1924, aged 32, of a war-related illness. The war also brought grief to the Harris family. Flora’s son, Gunner Eric Brentnall Harris, who served with the 14th Field Artillery Brigade on the Western Front, died on 24 November 1918, aged 22; he had been discharged earlier as medically unfit after being gassed at Ypres. It is not known, however, whether he is depicted in the memorial.

In July 1931, after Daphne Mayo’s final design for the memorial was accepted, she began preparing a full-sized clay model. Two months later she was ready to start carving the large stones that had been set into the Ann Street retaining wall of Anzac Square. In this work, undertaken during the summer months of 1931–32, she was assisted by George Harvey, the stonemason son of her former teacher, the artist LJ Harvey. She later described her routine:

I used to get up at first crack of dawn, 4am I think, toast a crust of bread and a slice of bacon, and get into my little car and off to the job. Sometimes it would be so dark when I got there that I had to
wait until it was light enough to see—this would probably be about 5am. By 9am it was so hot working against that stone wall that I nearly fried. Then I packed up and went home and was back again at 4pm, working until dark.9

Once the carving was completed, a bronze wreath and the commemorative inscription were added, the latter carefully chosen to honour all who had ‘lost their lives through the Great War’ so that those who died later as the result of war injuries, such as Mayo’s brother and Harris’s son, could be included. Beneath the carved panel, words adapted from John Arkright’s famous poem ‘O Valiant Hearts’ were added: ‘Splendid they passed, the great surrender made, Into the light that nevermore shall fade’. These words, which so aptly describe a ghostly procession marching to eternity, were chosen by Josephine Bedford of the memorial committee. Also, a bronze drinking fountain supported by dolphins was added. To complete the memorial, an ornamental iron railing designed by the City Architect, AH Foster, was erected; this was funded by returned army nurses.

For many years the Queensland Women’s War Memorial has been a focus for Anzac commemoration by women, led by members of the Brisbane Women’s Club. The memorial, located in a quiet corner of Anzac Square, continues to inspire those who venture to see it.

DR JUDITH MCKAY was guest curator of the Queensland Art Gallery’s exhibition Daphne Mayo: Let There be Sculpture, 2011–12.

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In the lead-up to the centenary of women's suffrage in Queensland in 2005, historians and archivists searched hard to find the Queensland women's franchise petitions. But to no avail. It was several years later, when undertaking research for his biography of Elizabeth Brentnall, the president of the many-faceted Women’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), that John McCulloch located a double petition from 1894 and a second petition from 1897 in the Queensland Parliament. With the assistance of the State Archives, the originals were carefully photographed. The Queensland Family History Society has undertaken the transcription and meticulous checking of the documents in preparation for the Parliament to make them available online for searching. A website containing these petitions will be launched shortly. The petitions are a crucial part of Australia’s suffrage history.

The right of every person to have a vote was one of the great struggles of the nineteenth and twentieth century in the western world. In most countries, women, people of different races, and people without property were explicitly excluded from voting.1 By the 1890s women in different parts of the globe were beginning to focus on the vote, as both an instrument of reform and a powerful symbol of equality. Women’s right to vote in New Zealand celebrated as the first in a self-governing nation in the world, appeared to have resulted from a monster petition.2 Across Australia, women were inspired by the New Zealand success. In 1894, a series of huge public franchise meetings were held in Brisbane to form associations to work for suffrage, and then, across...
the colony, regional centres followed suit. Reform was much needed. Until 1890 married women could not own property.\(^3\)

The very first item on the agenda of these 1890s meetings was the drawing up of a petition for female suffrage. The Women’s Equal Franchise Association (WEFA) which came to spearhead the women’s movement in Queensland called for one vote and one vote only for all white women in its petitions. Overwhelmingly, the women of Queensland wanted equality with and for men, an equality based on one vote for one person. They rejected the existing property qualifications, which entitled wealthy men to as many votes as they had property titles in different electorates (the plural vote). On the other hand, for the Women’s Franchise League (WFL), electoral reform for men was seen as a separate issue and they wanted the vote for women on any basis. The WFL started collecting signatures for their petition but WEFA was much better organised.

150 copies of the WEFA petition were sent out from Brisbane.\(^4\) Gympie, Bundaberg, Warwick, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Albion, Charters Towers, Charleville, Croydon, Nerang, Southport, Coomera, Hughenden, Longreach and various other places joined with the Brisbane association. Some of these new societies were promoted by the Women’s Christian Temperance Union. Some emerged from the vigorous labour movement, but most were new amalgamations of men and women from different sections of the local communities. In the final weeks leading up to the tabling of the petition, WEFA arranged for two coupons to be published in the four-page weekly, The Worker, so readers could cut out the coupon, sign it and then send it in to the newspaper’s office.

None of the records of WEFA has survived, but glimpses of how dedicated bands of women canvassed can be seen through reports in the records of the WCTU and in the newspapers of the time, the Courier and the Worker.\(^5\)

Far left: 1894 Queensland Women’s Franchise Petition. Photo by John McCulloch
Below: Report on Womanhood Suffrage, Minute book, 12th Annual Convention, Bundaberg, 1897, UQFL438, Box 16, Fryer Library, The University of Queensland Library

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**Womanhood Suffrage.**

This important branch of W.C.T.U. work has made rapid strides during the year. Since my last annual report there has been a general election of members to the Legislative Assembly, and, with few exceptions, the candidates for Parliamentary honours spoke favourably on the subject. Many of our W.C.T.U. women attended the political meetings, and by their presence testified to the interest taken in political matters, and to their desire for womanhood suffrage. A petition has been drawn up for presentation to the Assembly, asking that the restrictions of sex may be withdrawn, and that women may in consequence have the rights and privileges of citizenship as we have at present the burden of being taxpayers, and responsible to the laws without the right of protecting ourselves from unjust legislation. I earnestly ask all our members to sign this petition as promptly as possible, and that each member make it known to the large body of women outside the temperance cause, who are in favour of womanhood suffrage, many of whom would sign such petition if it were brought before them. I have sent copies of the petition to Thursday Island and other places. Our Unions are doing good work, notably South Brisbane District, whose energetic superintendent caused circulars to be sent out to the different candidates at the elections in that district. Favourable replies were obtained from all but one, and his hesitancy was not on account of the justice of our claims, but how it would work out in practice, thus ignoring the foundation of all sound government —justice to all classes. The Downs District report that Miss Murcutt’s visit was productive of much good; her lecture on Franchise was greatly appreciated, and created much enthusiasm, in consequence of which Womanhood Suffrage has made distinct progress there. From the Wide Bay Superintendent a most enthusiastic report was received of the good work done; the women there during the elections interviewed the candidates and attended their meetings. Ipswich also reports good progress, having papers and discussions, and active work in circulating our Franchise Petition. Roma, though not yet possessing a superintendent, is well to the front on the question of suffrage. In all the North Brisbane Unions active work is going on in obtaining signatures to the petition. At present the question of Electoral Reform is engaging the public mind, and it is considered certain that some changes will be made very shortly. We must be active, both by voice and pen, to bring our claims to suffrage forward. Our sisters in South Australia now possess the political franchise; in Victoria the Premier has promised to introduce a Bill this session emancipating the women; New South Wales is also advancing, a motion being before the Assembly there; in New Zealand there is a proposal to admit women to a seat in the Legislative Council. Queensland alone is backward, and refuses to recognise that women are equally concerned with men in the rights and duties of citizenship. We hope the time has come when all true men will unite in removing all disabilities of sex from women.—C. E. TRUNDLE, Superintendent.
The sheer size of Queensland underlined the logistic nightmare of collecting signatures. About a quarter of Queensland’s population was concentrated in Brisbane. Overall, most of the addresses given were urban: Brisbane, Ipswich, Gympie and Bundaberg. The WEFA petitions (one for men and one for women to sign) were collected in only six weeks and signed by 7896 women and 3575 men. The fate of the second petition of 1000 signatures collected by the WFL is not known; the petition was never presented.

At much the same time, in 1894, the South Australian petition of 11 600 names was collected. The petition ‘prayed’ for the right of women to vote under the same conditions as men and was the joint work of the WCTU and the non-partisan Women’s Suffrage League. The monster petition, the largest ever in South Australia, was tabled in Parliament in 1894 on the third reading of an electoral bill to give women the vote on the same basis as men.

The bill was expertly pursued on the crest of the confluence of Liberal and Labor forces, and was ultimately successful. Queensland’s petition was not successful in bringing women the vote. In the early 1890s Queensland was wracked by the great depression, huge floods and a good deal of political turmoil. 1894 saw the second shearers’ strike. To pursue electoral reform initiated by a social movement through Parliament, several factors were pivotal. These factors were political opportunity, powerful and skilled advocates within the Parliament, and an unstable government. Although the WEFA petitions were tabled in Parliament by Labor leader, Thomas Glassey, the associated bill asked for more than the petitions did, notably the enfranchisement of shearers and miners. This bill and a second by Charles Powers, an independent liberal, did not get the majority needed in the Legislative Assembly. The Parliament was polarised and Glassey’s bill was filibustered.

Three years later, in 1897, the second women’s franchise petition was tabled by the WCTU. It called for the extension of the franchise to women and the removal of the ‘disability of sex’. The women’s section of the Temperance Union was established in 1886. They were ‘an amazingly ambitious, politically aggressive women’s organisation’ Ellen Carol DuBois finds, and through the circulation of advanced ideas within the movement combatted ‘the sense of isolation on the periphery.’ By 1894 there were 1426 women and 1000 ‘honorary men’ on its membership rolls, and 43 branches across Queensland.

The WCTU ‘must be counted among the most significant women’s political organisations’ finds Helen Irving. The Union was dedicated to promoting abstinence from alcohol and other harmful drugs. Arguing that drug abuse leads to all kinds of other issues, the group pursued a very wide-ranging reform agenda mostly advocating for the welfare of women and children.

Queensland suffrage history is in its early stages. There are extraordinary gaps in the archival record and empirical narrative. No records survive from the two key suffrage associations and no personal papers from key suffragists prior to the federal vote in 1902. There are as yet no editions located of The Star, Queensland’s only suffrage weekly newspaper, and only a few editions of Flashes, an important women’s social paper established in 1893. Details can only be traced through the lens of male journalists working on daily and labour newspapers. That is, until we begin to look at the holdings of the WCTU in the Fryer Library. In the early records and minute books held there is something miraculous for Queensland women’s history.
From the early 1890s, the WCTU became actively involved in the suffrage movement. There were dedicated suffrage ‘superintendents’ of suffrage departments within many of the branches even as far afield as Mackay; and district superintendents of franchise as well as the colonial superintendent who networked internationally. Charlotte E Trundle, pragmatic and zealous, was appointed the Colonial Superintendent in 1893. While signatures were being collected for the 1894 WEFA and WFL petitions, Trundle spoke at local WCTU groups. Unions particularly active on the suffrage issue were those located in the Brisbane suburbs of Albion, Ithaca and the Valley as well as the ‘Y’ unions in Corinda and the Frances Willard ‘Y’s. The organisation and tiered structure of the WCTU, built as it was on small local urban groups, inspired and encouraged women to address their personal and local issues in a broader context. In the Fryer Library we can read this in the early surviving minute books of some of the unions — those of Gympie, Ipswich, Albion, and Brisbane Central. The Ipswich women were highly politicised; the Albion group was more concerned with music and devotions, flowers and suppers. Through them all is the intervention of Trundle, guiding, visiting, giving papers on the franchise question and encouraging their own suffrage superintendents who were promoted to positions of responsibility and empowered, and educated and educating in the processes of lobbying and political change.

Each Union had a certain autonomy, with various degrees of involvement from local public figures and liberal churches. Executive minutes of meetings presided over by the charismatic Elizabeth Brentnall only survive from 1897, but the records of frequent conferences at regional, colonial (and federal) levels are present in the collection with details about the franchise departments. Despite the representations by the press of a divided movement, the WCTU sought unity. There were two petitions (the WEFA and the WFL petitions) being circulated for the ‘general public’ to sign. Sarah Payne, the president of the Ipswich Union, urged WCTU members ‘to sign whichever they chose’. We gain an extraordinary insight into the trans-local and the trans-regional political and religious spaces opened up for the meeting of these women (and men) in the pursuit of a more humane society. The WCTU Colonial Executive decided not to organise a separate WCTU petition in 1894. A further petition would ‘weaken the cause’.

We can understand the internal reasons for the initiation of a second petition, not just the more readily observable historical pressures. In 1895 the WCTU decided to go ahead with its own petition. Districts were mapped out for canvassing and passed over to the individual
begin to see something more than just the signatures on the digitised petitions, we can early women and men find their forebears’ connections with other local movements and institutions (primarily the temperance movement and churches, and the labour movement). With much experience in the house-to-house distribution of tracts, WCTU members collected signatures throughout Brisbane and regional Queensland. Not only Union members went canvassing. Women stood with their ‘lists’ for successive Friday nights on the street corners. In early 1897 the Third Triennial Australasian Convention of the WCTU was held in Brisbane and leading suffragists from all over Australia were in town for that week; women and men would have signed at large public meetings. Womanhood Suffrage Superintendent CE Trundle wrote in 1897:

“Womanhood Suffrage

In conclusion, I desire to thank most heartily the members who gave so much of their time and labour to the work of gaining signatures; in a Queensland summer it is no light work to walk out long distances, but it was a proof of how earnestly women desire legal disabilities to be removed from them, and that they may be equal and honoured citizens with men.

CE Trundle, Superintendent

3869 signatures were collected. The petition makes no mention of the property vote or the residential requirements. The WCTU petition was presented to the Legislative Assembly in July 1897, by James Drake, leader of a small independent opposition group. The Courier noted the petition, but apart from a very brief paragraph echoed by a couple of other papers, there was a startling lack of publicity. There were no associated electoral reform bills.

Only a few women appeared to have signed both the WCTU and the WEFA petitions. While the WFL’s feminist ideals were more closely aligned to those of the British Women’s Franchise League, both the WCTU and the WEFA had stronger connections with other local movements and institutions (primarily the temperance movement and churches, and the labour movement). With strong feelings of local autonomy, they were better capable of organising signatures on the community level. From the census figures of 1891 and 1901, there were 80,410 to 107,119 women of twenty and above. One of every seven to eight women in Queensland was politicised enough to sign a petition; this is suggestive of the pervasive community support.

From further examination of the WCTU records, we will be able to extrapolate and understand how signatures were clustered and collected on the petitions; when the descendants of these early women and men find their forebears’ signatures on the digitised petitions, we can begin to see something more than just the streets where the signatories lived but which communities they were part of. In the days before news polls, the petitions formed an essential building block in the feminists’ campaign for the vote achieved at the federal level in 1902 and at the state level in 1905.

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The impressive heritage-listed sandstone buildings which form the nucleus of the St Lucia campus of The University of Queensland are used by thousands of staff and students every week, and photographed by many visitors to the University. Despite this, the name of the architect who designed this complex is virtually unknown today. In the 1930s he was a prominent member of his profession, and one who “can probably lay claim to having Australia’s first international practice.”¹ His name was Jack F Hennessy.

Hennessy’s father was also called Jack F Hennessy, and he was also an architect, so the two men are sometimes confused. The father was born in England to Irish parents and trained as an architect in Leeds and London. He worked in the United States for some years before arriving in Sydney in 1880.² Four years later he went into partnership with Joseph Sheerin, an Australian-born Catholic architect, and established a flourishing practice under the name of Sheerin and Hennessy. At a time when there were still few Catholics in the professions in Australia, Sheerin and Hennessy enjoyed the...
patronage of the Catholic Church and of many Catholic businessmen.

In 1884 Hennessy senior married Matilda Silk, who bore him seven children, four of whom survived childhood. The second child, and the only son to reach adulthood, was John Francis junior. He was born on 8 January 1887 at Burwood, Sydney, and was probably destined for a career in architecture from an early age. He began his secondary education at the Christian Brothers’ High School at Lewisham, and continued it at St Patrick’s College, Goulburn. On completion of his schooling he was articled to the Sydney architectural firm of Sulman and Power.

For want of a full degree course in architecture, aspiring architects had to make do with the architectural course offered at the Sydney Technical College, which Hennessy attended. His father then sent him overseas for about five years for further study and experience. Jack Hennessy senior had worked in the United States and believed that the future of the profession was being forged in America. His son spent four years studying at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as obtaining work experience with American firms before returning to Sydney, via Europe, in 1911. While in America, Hennessy met his future wife, Dorothy Grady. They were married in 1913 and three children were born to them before the untimely death of Dorothy Hennessy in 1919.

When Hennessy returned to Australia, his father’s long-time business partner, Joseph Sheerin, was ready to retire. Hennessy senior took his son into partnership in 1912 and the firm of Sheerin and Hennessy was born as Hennessy and Hennessy. The largest project which the father and son team would undertake began shortly after their partnership was formed, and was not completed until well after the death of the senior partner. This huge undertaking was the construction of the nave and towers of St Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney, to the design of William Wardell, one of the leading Australian exponents of the Gothic Revival.

The firm of Hennessy and Hennessy began to expand its sphere of activity into Queensland. The young James Duhig, who was to become one of the great builders of the Catholic Church in Australia, had become a close friend of the younger Hennessy. After Duhig became archbishop of Brisbane in 1917, Hennessy and Hennessy were awarded many commissions, and the first major project was the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Stuartholme, at Toowong. The opening of Stuartholme on August 1, 1920 was a memorable day for Jack Hennessy junior for more than one reason, because it was there that he met the woman who was to become his second wife. Stella Beirne was the youngest daughter of the wealthy Brisbane retailer, TC Beirne. For an architect wishing to expand his practice in Brisbane it was a perfect match and they were married in 1922.

Hennessy’s work for the Catholic Church in Queensland included many significant buildings, such as the boarders’ residence at the Range Convent, Rockhampton, the transepts and sanctuary of St Stephen’s Cathedral in Brisbane, St Vincent’s Hospital in Toowoomba, Nazareth House at Wynnum North, Villa Maria in Fortitude Valley, Corpus Christi Church at Nundah, St Ignatius Loyola Church at Toowong, the Mater Hospital at Mackay and the Pius XII Provincial Seminary at Banyo. In 1924 Hennessy established an office in Brisbane, and to manage it he appointed one of the staff from his Sydney office, Leo Joseph Drinan, who would make a major contribution to the firm’s success in Queensland.

Duhig dreamt of constructing a huge cathedral in Brisbane that would be one of the wonders of the Southern Hemisphere and, as his biographer records, ‘he had an ally in all this, a man of vision as broad and of energy as restless as his own, a man as optimistic as he, as daring, as ready for the greatest risks,’ in other words, his architect. Hennessy and Duhig settled on a plan for a massive Renaissance basilica, and the foundation stone of the Holy Name Cathedral, on a large site opposite All Hallows Convent, was laid on 16 September 1928. Work on the construction of the extensive foundations then commenced but the huge sums required were beyond Duhig’s means. Although work continued intermittently for years, the only part of the structure that was ever completed was a crypt fronting Gipps Street.

Hennessy’s business relationship with Duhig was becoming very complex. Hennessy had been looking for suitable stone to build the Holy Name Cathedral and had sent an engineer to the United States to investigate Benedict stone, a manufactured stone produced by mixing crushed natural stone with cement and removing minerals which caused disintegration in natural stone. Hennessy recommended the adoption of Benedict stone for the construction of the cathedral and Duhig decided to set up a factory in Brisbane for the production of the stone, using a local porphyry as the natural ingredient.

However the cost of setting up the factory, plus the royalties to be paid to the parent company, exacerbated Duhig’s already serious financial problems. In 1930 he was able to obtain a loan from the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Company (CML), using as security the Benedict Stone Works and other properties. Hennessy
was already working on a new building for CML in Brisbane, which was to be the first of a series of such buildings, and CML agreed to use Benedict stone in all of these buildings. The resultant relationship between Duhig, CML and Hennessy is one which Duhig’s biographer has described as ‘mutual dependence’. Ultimately, Benedict stone was not a financial success, and the works were sold in 1950.

Although Hennessy was one of the leading Australian ecclesiastical architects of his day, his practice was by no means confined to work for the Catholic Church. His marriage to the daughter of TC Beirne soon yielded some important commissions from his new father-in-law, including a cinema, flats for the accommodation of Beirne’s staff, and extensions to his large department store in Fortitude Valley.

Hennessy’s most important commercial client would prove to be the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Company (CML). As already noted, an intricate relationship developed between Hennessy, CML and Duhig. Hennessy began his work for the company by refurbishing and extending the Mutual Life Insurance building in Martin Place, Sydney, which CML had purchased as their new headquarters. The company then asked Hennessy to design for them a new building in Brisbane. The ten-storey building beside the General Post Office in Queen Street was opened in November 1931, and it is perhaps the most admired of Hennessy’s surviving buildings, although little of the original interior remains. It was also the first large building to be built using the locally produced Benedict stone. Contemporary media reports described the style as ‘modern Romanesque’, and it is today often loosely described as art deco, but in many ways it is a uniquely Hennessy style, a commercial equivalent of his Romanesque Revival churches.

The directors of the CML were so pleased with the Brisbane building that they commissioned Hennessy to construct a series of buildings, all in the same style, in other cities in Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, and ultimately in Britain as well, where only the Birmingham building would be completed before the Second World War put an end to the company’s plans for expansion. Hennessy’s work for Colonial Mutual had been noticed by other insurance companies, who were keen not to be left behind. This brought him major commissions in Sydney, Melbourne and Wellington from the Australasian Catholic Assurance Company and the Prudential Assurance Company.

In 1935, the year which marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of The University of Queensland, the Queensland Government came under increasing pressure to finally begin building a new campus for the University on the land at St Lucia which had been donated for that purpose by Dr James Mayne and his sister. In September
1935 the Premier, William Forgan Smith, set up a committee to advise on the transfer of the University to St Lucia. This committee deliberated from October 1935 until June 1936.

Late in June 1936, before the findings of the committee were even made public, Forgan Smith saw Hennessy ‘and indicated that he most likely would be given the work’. The formal offer was made late in July. Reaction from the local architectural profession was predictable, swift and fruitless. Nobody was prepared to publicly attack Hennessy, who was a very successful and well qualified architect, but they complained that ‘there was no need for the Government to go outside the State for professional advice’; the failure to hold a competition for the project had left ‘a strong feeling of dissatisfaction’.

The reasons for Hennessy’s appointment remain obscure, but it was well known in Brisbane that Archbishop Duhig had the Premier’s ear. Hennessy, as we have seen, had a close business relationship with Duhig, and the archbishop may well have hoped that Hennessy would recommend the use of Benedict stone from Duhig’s factory for the construction of the St Lucia buildings. The fact that Hennessy’s father-in-law, TC Beirne, was warden of the University added to suspicions of favouritism. The appointment of Jack F Hennessy as architect to the new University may or may not have been a Catholic conspiracy, but it certainly seemed that way to many people in Queensland.

Within two months Hennessy produced a plan for the new campus which, although subsequently modified and never completely realised, is still recognisably the present Great Court. However the process of construction would prove to be long and tortuous. Financial stringency, professional jealousy, bureaucratic delay and, not least, the Second World War and its long aftermath, all combined to obstruct Hennessy in the realisation of his grand plan. Building work commenced in March 1938, but the last of the buildings to be built to the Hennessy design, the Biological Sciences (Goddard) Building, was not opened until June 1962.

Hennessy’s post-war career was a rather sad affair. He had fallen out with Archbishop Duhig in 1938 and received few further commissions from the Catholic Church. Construction of large commercial buildings came to a standstill during the war and did not resume until the 1950s, by which time Hennessy was seen as old-fashioned. His decision in 1950 to sue Archbishop Duhig for unpaid fees relating to the Holy Name Cathedral project did little to enhance his reputation. The court found in his favour and he was awarded the very significant sum of £25,720, but it was
a Pyrrhic victory. As Duhig’s biographer puts it, ‘they decided for Hennessy; yet oddly, Hennessy left the court under a cloud’.

Jack F Hennessy died of heart disease on 4 September 1955, at the age of sixty-eight. He was soon forgotten, but many of his buildings remain. They are fine examples of some of the main currents of Australian architecture during the inter-war years and are certainly worthy of renewed study.

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After taking on a pilot near Cape Moreton, the Orient Line mail steamer slowly made its way across Moreton Bay and into the mouth of the Brisbane River. Its voyage had started in London and progressed via the Suez Canal to Ceylon and on to Australia, berthing at Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney. Brisbane was the end of the line. As the ship progressed upstream, one passenger stayed on deck and took in the view:

After passing Pinkenba, the character of the river banks improves. And we steam between high slopes on which are pleasantly dotted the charming suburban homes of the well-to-do citizens. Alongside the new wharf at Bulimba, on the waters of a wide and deep river, the ship makes fast, and her outward voyage is at an end.

After a brief excursion around the city, our observer recorded:

It is a busy city, but, of course, lacks the magnificence of the greater capitals. But with Queensland increasing in prosperity at its present pace, it may not be many years before Brisbane will vie with Sydney and Melbourne in importance.¹

Eight years later, war and recession had dimmed the hopes of Brisbane’s boosters. The city remained a quirky and limited provincial centre, with fewer than 210,000 people living within ten miles of the GPO.²

The economic and imperial considerations that influenced the decision to found the colony of New South Wales appear to have played no role in the founding of Brisbane. The settlement was established in 1824 with one goal in mind: to create a secondary punishment centre for recalcitrant convicts. This narrowness of purpose, the brutality that came to be associated with it, and the settlement’s administrative and economic subservience to Sydney, combined to discourage the emergence of an urban entrepreneurial class capable of shaping Brisbane into a strong centre for independent commerce and manufacturing. When significant economic development did occur, in the 1840s, it was led not by Brisbane capitalists, but by pastoralists pushing their flocks overland from New England to the Darling Downs.

Whereas Sydney and Melbourne produced an urban bourgeoisie with distinct interests and the political will to contest the dominance of the ‘squattocracy’, in Queensland, rural capital (initially pastoral, later mining and sugar) had no equivalent rivals.

Throughout the interwar period, Brisbane’s development remained tied to rural commodity production in two fundamental ways. Firstly, it was a processing centre and port for southern Queensland’s primary produce. Brisbane was also the commercial and administrative hub of rural industry for the entire state. Many Brisbane workers supported pastoralism, agriculture and mining in white collar roles.

Brisbane manufacturing, meanwhile, remained small by national standards. The larger factories were simply processing sites for primary commodities such as meat, sugar and timber. Manufacturing proper was limited to light industry producing consumer goods for the local market, especially clothes, processed foods, beverages and furniture.³
Although most Brisbanites did not grow prosperous under the sway of an economy dominated by mining, sugar and pastoralism, their city certainly expanded, especially in the 1920s. From an estimated population of 209,946 in 1921, Greater Brisbane was home to 284,758 people by 1929, and 325,890 by 1938.¹

On 1 October 1925, nineteen municipalities within a ten-mile radius of the Brisbane GPO ceased to exist, replaced by a single authority: the Greater Brisbane Council (GBC). This had a profound impact on the city’s development; growth between the wars would probably have occurred regardless, but orderly growth, accompanied by a systematic expansion of vital infrastructure, would simply not have been possible under the old system.

Unlike the growth spurt of the 1880s, interwar expansion did not markedly alter overall population density but led instead to greater suburbanisation. This was largely the result of improved transport systems and new town planning ordinances which raised the minimum area of residential allotments in new subdivisions from sixteen to twenty-four perches.² From 1925 to 1929, over 13,000 new dwellings were built.³

For coolness’ sake, most of the houses are built of wood and possess wide verandas screened from the sun by straw blinds; they are raised high from the ground on piles, capped by inverted saucers to resist the depredations of the white ant, the bane of the settler in this and other parts of Australia.⁴

In this 1928 description, Kathleen Ussher captures some of the defining elements of the Queensland house: the use of tin and timber, the verandahs, the reliance on elevation to reduce heat and escape pests. Many of these features were not, of course, unique to Queensland.

Many of those new dwellings of the late twenties would have been villas, in the form of elevated timber and tin bungalows set amongst gardens. “The many hills in and around Brisbane are dotted with villas and comfortable cottages”⁵ observed Thiel in 1922. This bore out the predictions of John Dunmore Lang, who in 1851 had written “there is no place I have ever seen in all our Australian colonies, with the single exception of Sydney, in which there is so great a number of beautiful and interesting villa sites.”⁶ The villa was a comparatively expensive and detached dwelling, and the gardens blended European flora with plants from the tropics, remnants of native vegetation, and vegetable plots and fruit trees from which householders stocked their larders. Hens, too were a common sight; a 1927 census turned up 141,000 of them.⁷

Other, introduced styles were modified to complement the local traditions. The Californian Bungalow, for instance, became popular in Australia in the 1920s, but the Queensland version was invariably an elevated, high-ceilinged dwelling constructed from timber and galvanized iron.⁸

For Ussher, the reasons for the Queensland style lie principally in climate and construction costs. Balwant Saini, however, takes issue with this explanation. Though agreeing that the early wooden and iron bungalow was cheap and quick to build, he points out that the internal design of many of these homes prevented cross ventilation, while the thin wooden walls and iron roofs were far from ideal for heat proofing. In the summer months verandahs were often the only habitable spaces.⁹ Europeans persisted with this inappropriate mode of shelter, he argues, because of their notion that a house should function as a barrier (rather than a filter) between its occupants and the outside environment.¹⁰

The sub-tropical and tropical bungalow, though, was not a fixed form. It evolved and features were incorporated to enhance climate control. Latticed screens and shutters were introduced to manage the effects of sun, wind and rain. Doorways were topped with fretwork panels and arches which were both decorative and facilitative of cross ventilation. In the twenties sash windows were replaced by casements which caught the breezes.

Most Europeans, moreover, readily accepted their verandahs and gardens as legitimate living spaces, despite the notional cultural barriers that separated them from nature. For its part, nature penetrated the sanctity of indoor life with impunity. “You are on the threshold of the tropics,” noted Thomas Wood, “and a little of the tropics comes over the threshold to meet you. None of the teeming, pulsating life of the East, not all its colours and its smells; but the heat and the fruits and the flowers, the velvety nights, the stars like...
lamps in the sky." The verandah became the point of mediation between these two worlds. Few Brisbane verandahs lacked a table and chairs for dining. The day bed and the ‘sleepout’ were common.

The interwar years heralded bigger stylistic changes as well.

From the late 1920s, homes of brick, concrete, fibro and tiles became more popular, partly because new construction techniques for brick veneer dwellings reduced the quantity of bricks required and therefore the cost. But the cost was still sufficiently high to prevent brick and tile challenging timber and tin as the preferred material of mass housing, particularly once economic depression set in.

In 1935 brick and tile dwellings purchased through the Queensland Government’s home finance company, the State Advances Corporation, ranged in price from £750 to £1150, whereas the average price of the twenty-four timber designs on offer was £592, the cheapest being £360.15

The one housing sector where brick and masonry did make a significant impact was the new field of unit accommodation. Brisbane had had boarding houses and hotels since the nineteenth century, but the concept of multiple self-contained apartments in a single building dates from the 1930s, when changing attitudes to accommodation and the deleterious effect of the Depression rekindled interest in high-density, inner-city living.

Kangaroo Point, New Farm, Highgate Hill and Spring Hill were suburbs favoured by this form of development. Though timber structures remained ubiquitous, bricks and concrete supplied a new richness to Brisbane’s architectural fabric.

Freed from the decorative limitations of timber and its sub-tropical aesthetic, architects and builders looked to new stylistic influences for inspiration. Many of the brick flats, houses, and commercial buildings erected in this era reveal a strong affinity with the international Art Deco and Modernist schools of design. Despite the depredations of progress Queensland-style, some examples of these can still be found.

In 1926, falling wool and mineral prices pushed Queensland into recession. The situation worsened in 1929 with the collapse of world stock markets. As the Australian economy plunged into crisis, the official national rate of unemployment reached 23 per cent in 1930, and rose to 28 per cent a year later.16 Because of its smaller manufacturing base, Queensland rate of joblessness remained around ten per cent lower than the national average, but it was a catastrophe all the same.17 Once workers on relief projects and ruined farmers were included in the tally, about 30 per cent of the Queensland workforce were out of work.

At the 1932 Premiers’ Conference, Queensland’s new Labor premier, William Forgan Smith, argued that ‘a vigorous public works policy be adopted for the absorption of the unemployed’18. His government initiated a range of public works projects over the next few years, the most significant of which were the construction of the Story Bridge, the Somerset Dam, the Hornibrook Bridge, the deep water harbour at Mackay, and The University of Queensland’s new site at St Lucia.19

In keeping with this approach, the Government assisted the Brisbane City Council to maintain a program of public works by providing subsidies and supporting the Council’s efforts to raise loan funds.20 As a result, many of Brisbane’s unemployed found relief work in the construction of suburban infrastructure. Between 1934 and 1940, 44 miles of bitumen were laid and 86 miles of gravelled or metalled surfaces were added to the city’s road network, mostly through the labour.
of relief workers. Many suburbs were sewered by crews of the unemployed. From 1934 to 1937, 190.5 miles of sewers were built across the city and over 7000 houses were connected to the sewer system.\(^{21}\)

Off the streets, the Depression produced visible changes as well. Due to falling incomes, house styles became simpler and more functional. As Rechner notes, ‘rather than two or more gables with decorative infill, verandahs with broad columns, windows with sunhoods, styles with low-pitched hip roofs and minimal decoration became predominant in the 1930s.’\(^{22}\) But this was not a universal pattern. The State Advances Corporation continued to promote and sell a range of house styles to Queenslanders earning no more than £750 per annum. Even in the Depression year 1933-34, the Corporation found buyers for 15 865 of its homes statewide.\(^{23}\)

For the minority of Brisbanites not unduly affected by the economic collapse, the combination of depressed prices and slashed wages presented an ideal opportunity to build homes of superior refinement and status. Thus, one legacy of the Depression was an even sharper class differentiation in the city’s residential environment. The villas, hilltop and otherwise, continued to appear, and, for a fortunate few, Brisbane remained that ‘sweet young city laughing in the sun.’\(^{1}\)

This article is excerpted from an online exhibition, *Brisbane between the wars: a history by design*, authored by former Fryer library staff member, librarian Jeff Rickertt. To view many more images, and more information, please visit [https://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/brisbane_btw/](https://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/brisbane_btw/)

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Fryer Library hosted the Professional Historians Association at a white gloves reading room event, as part of the recent Australian Historical Association conference.

To coincide with the conference theme of ‘Conflict in history’ and the centenary of the First World War, the white gloves tour showcased special collections material from this period. War diaries were of particular interest to visiting historians. The diary of Bey Refik, a Turkish soldier who fought at Gallipoli, provided a counterpoint to the diaries of Gympie teacher Allan Nash, who was killed at Gallipoli, and William Amiet, who served on the Western Front. Despite their small dimensions, the pocket diaries provide an unparalleled insight into day to day life at the front.

Attendees were also able to examine correspondence from the front. Among the delicate, embroidered silk cards and utilitarian field postcards, are longer letters which contain personal descriptions of First World War experiences. These include letters from Stewart and Kenneth Lodington, whose service included Egypt and France; Austin Pratt’s personal account of his experience at the Gallipoli landing; as well as examples from the JD Fryer collection, including Jack Fryer’s fateful letter to his sister Liz, where he outlines his decision to enlist.

Photographs of the period were also on display. These included albums which belonged to Florence Elizabeth James-Wallace, an Australian nursing sister who served in No 3, Australian General Hospital, Australian Army Medical Corps; official war photographs taken by Frank Hurley, from the Alfred Mills papers, as well as the 1916 Kodak camera and photographs developed from the film, used by Richard Betteridge during his service with the Australian Flying Corps 67th Squadron.

The white gloves tour was warmly appreciated by attendees. The evening successfully fostered interaction and engagement with historical materials as well as highlighting the strength and extent of the Fryer Library’s First World War collections.

Three displays, prepared by UQ students as part of their coursework, also exhibited the range of material relating to historical conflicts represented in Fryer’s collections: including memorabilia from...
the First World War, realia from Australia’s home front in the Second World War, and political ephemera from the moratorium movement during the Vietnam War.

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Fred Derek Osmond Fielding

14 August 1929 – 25 June 2014

Derek Fielding was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, of English parents. Both parents, Harry Osmond Fielding and Elaine née Harvey, died before he turned 10. Fortunately he was taken in by the Masonic Orphan Boys' School in Dublin. In vacations he visited a grandmother living at Sheffield: later he was often eloquent about how often he had crossed the Irish Sea.

Derek graduated from Trinity College Dublin in 1951, having concentrated on modern history and political science. He met Audrey May Reynolds, who became his wife in 1953. (They were to have three sons.) He worked in Sheffield City Libraries, 1951-57.

The Fieldings migrated to Auckland, where Derek had been appointed Deputy University Librarian (1958-60), and thence to Perth, where he was Deputy University Librarian, 1961-65. Harrison Bryan had left The University of Queensland, and after more than a two-year gap, in June 1965 Derek Fielding became James Forsyth Librarian of The University of Queensland.

The collection at the end of 1964 had been about 360,000 volumes; by the
end of 1992, the year of his retiring as University Librarian, there were to be over 1.5 million volumes.

Derek Fielding had a strong instinct to manage (but not overmanage), and to change organisations for the better. As an administrator he was adept both in teamwork and also in delegation. Again and again in his career he saw a disordered situation, and in annual reports, articles in periodicals, or agenda papers of the university, the profession, or government agencies, he described the disorder, and set out possible solutions. If committees were formed, he reported progress to the university or the profession or more generally. He always remembered administration involved human beings. Once, during a time of some imaginative daring in women's dress, a staff newsletter set out his answer in staid language, but I am sure that I remember his oral presentation to a meeting: 'It is impossible to set out a detailed dress code for library staff, but staff are asked to dress in a way that is no more than momentarily distracting to readers or to their fellow staff members'.

When Derek Fielding arrived, much of the collection was spread through nearly forty libraries other than the Main Library. Harrison Bryan, his predecessor, had at least established a central card catalogue recording these holdings: Derek planned a much stronger service amalgamating small libraries into very broad subject divisions. There could be more senior staff available, and facilities such as microfilm readers and photocopying machines more usefully placed. Derek steadily negotiated for this growing structure. The Biological Sciences Library was the first success, opening in 1976. I remember meeting him in January 1990 as he walked with great satisfaction towards the opening of the last major building on his list, Physical Sciences and Engineering Library. In 1971 Derek's book on administration had appeared: Australian university library administration.

We'll return to the library system later; but let's see him settle (?) in Brisbane. The Fielding family made their home in Kenmore. Derek had played Rugby Union in Perth. He was never the person to be a mere spectator, so at Ballymore he was also on a referees' appointments committee. He played squash; for a time he sailed, to share a recreation with his growing sons; later again, he played bowls at St Lucia. Over the years he also became increasingly involved in music, and was a volunteer announcer and committee member of the FM classical music broadcasting station 4MBS.

But the last paragraph questions 'settle in Brisbane'. Queensland in 1965 was not a place for someone keenly interested in public policy and free discussion to 'settle'. Alex Byrne, in the September 2000 issue of Australian Academic and Research Libraries honouring Derek Fielding, quotes Joh Bjelke-Petersen musing on the state and nation if there were no media: 'Then we would live in peace and tranquility and no one would know anything'. Derek worked against censorship, particularly in public and school libraries, and chaired the Library Association of Australia's Freedom to Read Committee, 1969-74.

Derek's stance on censorship and civil rights was a fine protection for University of Queensland Library services during student protests for greater civil rights: students waiting to stage an all-night sit-in in the Walter Harrison Law Library were given permission as long as there was no disorder or detriment to the library. Derek was President of the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties 1975-79. At times the university or the council requested him to be an observer at points of possible protest. This included a match during a 1971 Springboks Rugby tour during apartheid protests: happily, there was no violence, except on the Rugby field. At other times his reports to QCCL were much less reassuring.

Derek had become a member of The University of Queensland Senate 1972 (till 1983). He chaired a committee of the Senate, reporting on university organisation in 1982. In a PhD thesis on politics and organisational reform at the university, RK Kidston includes him in a list of seven individuals who by their ‘dedication and personal ability ... played the most prominent roles in the reform of the University’s system of governance over the 1969-1982 period’.

Back to libraries. With an explosion in student numbers, ease of photocopying, and electronic transmission of texts, traditional copyright laws were under great strain. Yet again we see Derek setting out the problems, and then very active in copyright law review committees established by the Commonwealth Attorney-General and by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Copyright Committee. Communication between whole library systems, let alone branch libraries, became more and more demanding in an electronic world. Derek was prominent in committees to help major libraries interact well with the National Library of Australia, such as the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services. After a trip to the United States in early 1968, he had had the cataloguing staff reclassify the whole University of Queensland collection to the Library of Congress classification (Very many of the titles had already been classified to that classification by LC or elsewhere, but it still proved to be a 10 year project). The steadily increasing demand of users was for an increasingly borderless information world. Derek, his Technical Services Librarian Mary Rose McCarthy, and various specialists worked steadily towards this world. The task is endless, but Derek Fielding and his allies worked thoughtfully towards it.

Many other official positions in Derek Fielding’s profession are not mentioned above. He went briefly to be Pro-Vice- Chancellor, Academic Services, at The University of Queensland, August 1992-July 1994. On retirement he was made Librarian Emeritus of The University of Queensland. In 1991 he had received the highest award of the Australian Library and Information Association, the HCL Anderson Award. More generally, in 1996 he was honoured as AM, Member of the Order of Australia.

In retirement he had much more time for family, including, at the time of his death, ten grandchildren. He read, he listened to music, he followed public affairs. But in the last year or two the once great ability to express his thoughts clearly was fading. He died at his home on 25 June.

SPENCER ROUTH retired from The UQ Library in 1997 after a career spanning 38 years of service as Reference Librarian and later as Collection Development Librarian. He was a member of the Queensland Working Party of the Australian dictionary of biography, as well as contributing biographical articles to this work. Spencer was awarded an honorary doctorate from UQ in 2005 in recognition of his distinguished career and contribution to the University Library. He was awarded an OAM in 2011.
Ken Goodwin (1934-2014) was raised in Homebush, Sydney, son of a lift driver and a dressmaker. He was the first member of his family to attend university. He came to The University of Queensland in 1959 with a BA Hons. and a Dip. Ed. from the University of Sydney, and teaching experience at both high school and Wagga Wagga Teachers’ College. His initial appointment was in the Department of External Studies, but after three years he “went internal” and joined the English Department as a lecturer. Through the 1960s he advanced rapidly, completing his MA from Sydney and his DPhil. from Oxford, and being rapidly promoted to Senior Lecturer (1967), Reader (1970), and Professor (1971). As a colleague at the time commented: “One minute he was Mr Goodwin, the next he was Dr Goodwin and the next he was Professor Goodwin”.

Goodwin wrote his Masters thesis on the influence of the poet, Ezra Pound, and his earliest interest was in modern British poetry. However, attending a conference on the nascent sub-discipline of Commonwealth Literature at Leeds in 1964 led him to convene at UQ in 1968 the first triennial conference of the newly formed Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies. The detail of Ken’s planning for this conference became legendary, down to piles of sixpences (the then price of a local phone call) being placed next to the public phones in the residence in which international delegates were staying. The Association formed national and regional branches, with Ken becoming the foundation chair of the South Pacific branch. He was voted Chairman of the international association a few years later. His role in the Association put him in personal, literary and professional contact with academics and writers from many Commonwealth countries among whom he was popular and respected, leading to appointments as external examiner to universities in Fiji, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea, and as advisor on chair appointments at the University of Hong Kong.

In the early 1970s as well as changing from year-long courses to semesters, the University embarked upon a process of administrative democratisation. Until 1973 the ranking professor in each Department was appointed also as Head for life. Rotating Headships were introduced, with the Departments asked to vote for their Head. Under this new system, Ken Goodwin became the first elected Head of the English Department. Curiously, he was also made Acting Head of the Department of Religious Studies for part of this time. He guided the English Department through an exuberant but unruly period with great tact and diplomacy.

As an administrator, Ken had certain sterling qualities. He had an excellent sense of departmental politics, chose his battles carefully, and did not waste energy or time needlessly. His rhetorical style was elaborate but rational rather than passionate, and deeply effective. In a meeting where controversial topics were being discussed he would typically wait until the more strident positions had been put and then, when the energy in the room was starting to sag, would nudge the meeting through complicated analogies, multi-part arguments, and references to abstruse rules and precedents in the direction he felt it should go. His ability to project total command of the immediate argument and simultaneously of the contextual issues, rules, precedents and probable outcomes without seeming to be confrontational was unparalleled.

Throughout his career he was recognised as a go-to person for all sorts of administrative difficulties and complexities. In still-hierarchical 1971, as a newly promoted Reader he was made Acting Head of Department ahead of two senior colleagues, one of whom had even had experience in the role. When the idea for an Australian Studies Centre was floated within the Department it was Ken who negotiated its passage through the various committees in the approval process. When he spent a study leave working in Fryer on his history of Australian literature, he had to protect himself from interruptions by counsel-seekers by concealing where he was working. In 1992 he was recruited by the University of Southern Queensland as Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic to beef up their research profile.

Although his formal degrees were earned for theses on English topics, he was reviewing Australian literature from very early in his teaching career, and his work in Commonwealth literature enriched his...
Ken was rewarded with many recognitions and honours across his career although the sharp-eyed might notice that many of the honour-givers wanted their pound of consultancy flesh. He was a member of the editorial boards of numerous journals, of committees of learned societies, of judging panels for literary awards, of boards of trustees for art galleries, of committees for music societies, of library foundations, and of academic research centres. However some honours were more graciously altruistic. The Alliance Française in Toowoomba made him their patron, the University of Southern Queensland awarded him a D. Litt., and in 1997 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia.

He deserved a long and productive retirement working on his music (he played piano, harpsichord and recorder), extending his scholarship and reviewing, and continuing to sit on the occasional board and committee, but it wasn’t to be. A stroke in 1999 greatly reduced his abilities and although he was still to be seen at the occasional Friends of Fryer event, and even managed a few further publications, he never really recovered. Some of his papers relating to Commonwealth Literature associations, and to the Australian Vice Chancellor’s Committee on English Standards have been donated to the Fryer, as were transcripts he made of Australian poets’ talks and interviews at the Warana Writers Weekend over almost a decade.

Although Ken habitually projected an air of reserve, competence and erudition, he had a way of setting against that a robust, self-deprecating, and sometimes zany sense of fun. When he was overseas on leave in 1980 a colleague wrote to him mentioning en passant the visit to the Department by a prominent Australian poet. Ken subsequently replied: ‘Have I ever told you that [the poet] is one of only two people who have ever thrown a typewriter at me. It was in my room, too, when I worked in External Studies. Powerful arm, rotten aim, fortunately.’ Something of that side of him must have communicated itself to his students. In the early 1980s Ken arrived at his office one morning to find the door blocked by a large mattress decorated like an airmail envelope addressed to him. Ken played up to the prank declaring that he was going to report the students to the Post Office for failing to provide a return mailing address, and that he wasn’t going ‘to take the matter lying down’.

CHRIS TIFFIN lectured in the Department of English (later the School of EMSAH) for over 30 years. He is a long-time Friend of Fryer.

REFERENCES
1. Other staff to transfer from External Studies to the Department of English about this time included Peter Edwards and Alrene Sykes.
2. Information on Ken Goodwin’s appointments and promotions is drawn from the University Archives, and University Calendars.
3. Personal information.
5. The Proceedings were edited by Goodwin, and published as National identity, Heinemann Educational, Melbourne, 1970.
6. For the first time in 1973 the staff lists in the University Calendar used an asterisk to indicate who was head of Department. Previously it had invariably been the senior Professor.
7. Technically the vote was non-binding guidance to the Vice-Chancellor, but in fact no vote by English Department staff was ever over-ruled.
12. His last publication seems to have been ‘Realistically, it’s better to be naïve: communication theory may be at the end of its tether’, The Australian (Higher Education) 23 February 2005, pp. 36-7.
13. UQFLS40.
14. P2241.
The University of Queensland community is saddened by the recent death of Australia’s first female stockbroker and UQ alumna, Dr Margaret Mittelheuser AM.

Former Acting President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Debbie Terry at UQ said Dr Mittelheuser was a remarkable individual who had secured a place in Australia’s financial and social history.

‘In a career spanning more than 50 years, Margaret made an extraordinary contribution to the finance and stockbroking industry, raising many millions of dollars for state and local governments and private organisations’, Professor Terry said.

‘Not only was she one of the longest serving stockbrokers in Australia, she was a role model for women everywhere.

‘At a time when government and the financial industry were entirely dominated by men, Margaret became the first female graduate to work at the then Commonwealth Department of the Interior in Queensland.

‘In 1964, at the age of only 33, she became the first female partner of an Australian stockbroking firm and possibly in the world at the time’.

Dr Mittelheuser was deeply committed to the community, and many women’s organisations, libraries, educational institutions and the arts have been enriched by her philanthropic support.

These include the Queensland Art Gallery, the State Library of Queensland, the Girl Guides Association (Qld), Griffith University, the Australian Federation of University Women and the Board of Trustees of Brisbane Girls Grammar School.

‘Margaret, along with her sister Cathryn, was also a frequent and generous donor to The University of Queensland who helped fund the purchase of several works of art for the UQ Art Museum as well as other important records for the Fryer Library’, Professor Terry said.

‘She was an exceptionally bright and generous woman who leaves a strong legacy to the arts and women’s organisations. She will be greatly missed.’

Dr Mittelheuser won a place at The University of Queensland when she was only 16, and graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce in 1952 and a Bachelor of Arts in 1973.

She received an honorary Doctor of Philosophy from the University in 1996 for her contribution to stockbroking, education and the University.

In 2006, an MBA prize was established in her name at The University of Queensland Business School. It is awarded every year to the top graduating MBA student in Business and Accounting.

She is survived by her sister, Dr Cathryn Mittelheuser AM, a distinguished plant physiologist and strong supporter of UQ.

Over many years Margaret Mittelheuser and her sister Cathryn have been active supporters of Fryer Library and the Friends of the Fryer Library. Their continued generosity has enabled Fryer Library to acquire many beautiful and significant items, which can be preserved and made available to students, scholars and the wider community.

FAREWELL TO LAURIE McNEICE

After eleven years as librarian, senior librarian and Manager in Fryer Library, Laurie McNeice retired on 2 May 2014. Friends of the Library had a chance to farewell Laurie at the William Hatherell event in March, when Laurie was presented with flowers to mark the occasion.

We wish Laurie a long and happy retirement full of travel and good books!

INTRODUCING SIMON FARLEY, MANAGER, FRYER LIBRARY

On 4 August Simon Farley joined the staff of the Fryer Library as Manager after the retirement of Laurie McNeice. A UQ graduate with an honours degree in English Literature, Simon subsequently studied journalism and librarianship at QUT, and is currently studying part time toward a Bachelor of Theology through ACU.

Simon worked at the State Library of Queensland from 2003 to 2014, most recently in the role of Curator, Military Collections QANZAC100 Project and as Manager, Arts Portfolio of literature, music and Australian art.

‘The Fryer is an iconic Australian heritage library with beautiful collections and skilled and knowledgeable staff. It is an honour for me now to become part of a tradition stretching back to Dr FW Robinson’s establishment of the JD Fryer Memorial Library of Australian literature in 1927. The initial gift of money from students of the University of Queensland’s Dramatic Society on 17 November 1926, allowing for the first books to be purchased in memory of their friend Jack Fryer, seeded what has become over the course of decades a jewel in the crown of the University of Queensland Library.

‘Having curated military collections housed in the State Library of Queensland’s John Oxley Library it is significant for me that the Fryer is named after WWI soldier and popular UQ student John Dennis Fryer. It is also of interest that it was founded by Dr Robinson “Doc Robbie” who had been an intelligence officer in the war. After such traumatic and destructive years the Fryer was born out of a desire to collect, conserve and to celebrate Australian life and the literature that documents and creatively transforms it.

‘What drew me to this role and collection is this strong emphasis on literary manuscripts and the unique and rare materials to be found here. With the papers of writers like David Malouf, Peter Carey, Xavier Herbert, and Oodgeroo Noonuccal, the Fryer is a wonderful resource for students and researchers here at the University and for the wider community. Such collections confirm for me sentiments expressed by the famous writer and librarian Jorge Luis Borges when he wrote, “I
“have always imagined that paradise will be a kind of library.”

I’d like to thank Laurie McNeice for the legacy she leaves behind and her great passion and commitment to Australian literature. I’d also like to thank Senior Librarian Penny Whiteway and all of the staff here in Fryer and in the wider University of Queensland Library for making me feel so welcome.

FRANK MOORHOUSE RECEIVES AUSTRALIA COUNCIL AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN LITERATURE

Frank Moorhouse is the 2013 recipient of The Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. This is the second year running that an author whose papers are held in the Fryer Library collection has received the award; the 2012 winner was Herb Wharton.

The award recognizes the long and influential career of Moorhouse, from his early works using the innovative ‘discontinuous narrative’ to his later ‘Edith trilogy’, one of which, Dark palace, won the Miles Franklin Award in 2001. Moorhouse has also written film scripts, essays and short stories, and has been a strong defender of the rights of authors in matters such as copyright.

Fryer Library holds an extensive archive of papers from Frank Moorhouse, including drafts, notes and research material for his books and writings, going back to The Americans, baby (1972). As well as literary material there is also a large amount of personal material including correspondence and photographs.

THE 2014 FRYER LIBRARY AWARD

The winner of the 2014 Fryer Library Award is Dr Fred Cahir.

Dr Cahir’s project aims to reconstruct the history of the Aboriginal people and gold mining in Queensland from pre-colonisation to the twentieth century. The project, the first major historical study to examine and recognise the role of Aboriginal involvement in Queensland gold mining, will draw on a wide range of archival and secondary sources from the Fryer Library.

DIGITISATION UPDATE

After months of behind-the-scenes work by staff across The University of Queensland Library, including digitisation and eSpace staff, we have added or updated over 500 photograph records to eSpace, all of which are discoverable and searchable through the National Library of Australia’s Trove service. One example is the popular Hume Family images, which are being re-digitised at a higher resolution and added to eSpace.

Regular readers may recall that in the What’s New column in the 2013 issue of Fryer Folios were reproduced some images from digitised glass slides. Here, courtesy of Stanton Mellick, is the story behind the slides coming to Fryer, and a little of the history we have been able to discover:
Early in 1979 a young man, Mr Glen McKay, walked into Carina Heights Pharmacy, Brisbane, handed the owner, Mr Oliver (SOA) Mellick, a glass negative and enquired could it be printed. Fortunately he had handed it to a pharmacist who was, as well, a knowledgeable photographer and who immediately sensed history behind the plates. After a few tactful questions he found that the young man’s mother, artist Gwen McKay, had found a box of glass negatives – 306 as it turned out later – in the garage of the house she was occupying in Christie Street, South Brisbane, and this plate was one of the collection. They had apparently lain there for many years.

Sensing a potential cache of Brisbane in earlier days Oliver Mellick persuaded Mrs McKay to donate them to the Fryer Library which readily accepted the offer of the plates and promised him, in return, a print of each of the plates when available.

Some years, thirty-four in fact, were to elapse before Laurie McNeice could honour the Library’s promise but on 28 June 2013, she sent an email to Oliver’s brother, Stanton (JSD) - formerly of UQ’s English Department - telling him that the glass negatives had been digitised and asked for his help in providing information about the people and scenes in the negatives. After meeting with librarian Elizabeth Alvey, who was in charge of the project, he received a DVD of the find, took it home and handed it to his wife, Sally McPhee-Mellick, a longtime family researcher to see what she could find out.

That was the beginning of a careful and fruitful search which started with a photograph of a tombstone in Toowong Cemetery and ended up with her finding Mrs Ursula Harris of Woody Point, a descendant of those named on the tombstone. After a meeting at the Fryer Library Mrs Harris was given a DVD and she, too, started on the task of identifying whom and what she could in the photographs and that still goes on.

As an indication of what has found, Ursula Harris has identified some family members, a photo of the Peace Carnival Regatta on 19 July 1919, and what appears to be a photograph of American aviator, Arthur Burr Stone, who made the first flight here at the Brisbane Exhibition Grounds on 6 July 1912. There are, as well, photographs of the Brisbane River with sailing ships tied up at what were formerly the Stanley Street wharves.

The lengthy work of identification proceeds - tedious but the fortunate outcome of a chance encounter in a Carina Heights Pharmacy many years ago.
25 JULY 2013: 
**THREE CROOKED KINGS**

Author and journalist Matthew Condon sat down in conversation with historian and UQ academic Dr Geoff Ginn for an intriguing discussion about his latest book, *Three crooked kings*. The first in a trilogy, the book uses Terry Lewis’s personal papers to follow the former police commissioner’s career, exposing the story of how Queensland society was shaped by almost half a century of corruption.

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11 OCTOBER 2013: 
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**

Friends of Fryer joined the celebrations for the 200th anniversary of the publication of Jane Austen’s *Pride and prejudice* with a morning tea, display of Austen-related items from the library’s collections, and a special ‘meet the author’ session with the president of the Jane Austen Society of Australia, Susannah Fullerton.

Susannah shared many of her insights about Austen’s most popular novel, which she discovered while researching her most recent publication *Happily ever after: celebrating Jane Austen’s Pride and prejudice*. From the first edition published by Edgerton in 1813 to the proliferation of novels, adaptions, mash-ups, and merchandise, Susannah charted the continued affection for the novel and its growth in popularity over the last two hundred years.

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15 NOVEMBER 2013: 
**THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTRALIAN LITERARY STUDIES**

Fryer Library helped celebrate the 50th anniversary of the journal *Australian Literary Studies* (ALS). Hosted by Emeritus Professor Graeme Turner, the evening included two important tributes to ALS and to its founding editor, Emeritus Professor Laurie Hergenhan. Craig Munro provided an amusing overview of the journal’s development, even calling the number of articles on key Australian writers as a horse race. Emeritus Professor Michael Wilding described the significant role of ALS in the Australian studies landscape as well as Professor Hergenhan’s innovative editorial direction. University Librarian Bob Gerrity remarked on the close ties between ALS and the Fryer Library, particularly the preparation of Australian literature bibliographies, a forerunner to the current online AustLit database. The event closed with a celebratory birthday cake.

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5 DECEMBER 2013: 
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Friends of Fryer were joined by their Patron, The Honourable Justice Ian Callinan QC AC, for the annual Christmas party. Justice Callinan spoke about his career as a writer and his love of writing. University Librarian, Bob Gerrity, opened the event by noting this year’s recognition of the donation which founded Fryer Library as one of Australia’s Top 50 Philanthropic Gifts. Most importantly, the evening was a lovely chance to catch up and celebrate the end of 2013, with drinks and refreshments in the Duhig Tower foyer (complete with Christmas tree).
21 MARCH 2014: ‘DOC ROBBIE’ THE MANY WORLDS OF FW ROBINSON

Our inaugural Friends of the Library event in March was presented by Dr William Hatherell. Winner of the 2013 Fryer Library Award, Dr Hatherell presented his research findings on founder of the Fryer Library, FW Robinson, after spending much of the second half of 2013 examining the 34 boxes of Robinson’s papers, and related materials. He spoke about Robinson’s many interests, activities, projects and personal networks - encompassing anthropology, geography, history, classics, university architecture and German culture as well as the English literary tradition and the first attempts at a systematic study of Australian literature and culture. An engaging speaker, Dr Hatherell entertained and informed the audience, which included members of Associate Professor Robinson’s family.

14 APRIL 2014: CATCHING AUSTRALIAN THEATRE IN THE 2000s

In April, Dr Stephen Carleton moderated a lively panel of David Berthold (La Boîte’s Artistic Director and incoming Brisbane Festival Director), Todd MacDonald (Associate Director at Queensland Theatre Company), and Kathryn Kelly (freelance dramaturg and critic), to discuss the future of live theatre in Australia.

The enjoyable panel was followed by the launch of Catching Australian theatre in the 2000s (edited by Richard Fotheringham and James Smith) by Associate Professor Frances Bonner (UQ), with a reply by Emeritus Professor Veronica Kelly FAHA to whom the book is dedicated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

5 SEPTEMBER 2014: CLARE WRIGHT, WINNER OF THE STELLA PRIZE, SHARES THE REMARKABLE HISTORY OF THE FORGOTTEN WOMEN OF EUREKA.

Presented in conjunction with the Brisbane Writers Festival and The University of Queensland Library, Clare Wright, winner of The Stella Prize, will share the remarkable history of the forgotten women of Eureka. The event will be held at 2pm at the Library Conference Room in the Duhig Building.

18 DECEMBER 2014: FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY CHRISTMAS PARTY.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION
If you would like to become a Friend of the Library please go to the website at: www.library.uq.edu.au/about-us/friends-library/
Click on the Friends of the Library application form and complete the online membership form.

If you would like more information about the Friends please contact:
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