

Coorparoo
& Heritage Group
Districts

Invites you to hear

Sheila Campbell

Speak about

**The Queensland Country Women's Association's
Centenary**

Who hasn't had a cuppa at the QCWA stand at the Brisbane Ekka?

This year the Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) celebrates its centenary, having been formed in 1922.

The Association was formed with a vision to vision to be; *For the women of Queensland to come together to support communities, while celebrating their interests and forging friendships in a respectful and caring environment.*

Local branches throughout Queensland provide friendship and mutual support to their members while contributing to the betterment of life in their local communities. Over time, many branches have evolved to include support for wider issues such as domestic violence campaigns and fund-raising for international initiatives such as orphanages.

Did you know that in 2017 the QCWA created its own perfume, '1922' to mark its 95th anniversary. It was released at the 2017 Ekka and was developed by Damask Perfumery in Brisbane. In 2019 the QCWA received a Queensland Greats Award from the Queensland Government.

Sheila Campbell is the current State President of QCWA.

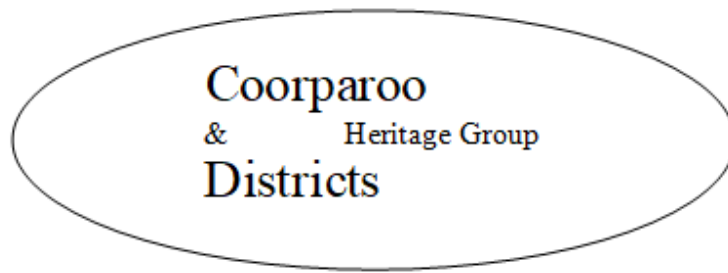
Come along and listen to Sheila speak about the Queensland Country Women's Association and its achievements over the past 100 years

Where? **Kingsbury Room
Queen Alexandra Home Community Centre
347 Old Cleveland Rd. Coorparoo**

When? Saturday **6 August 2022** at 2.00 pm

Non-members are welcome, but why not join our group? A small donation to offset hiring charges would be appreciated. Bring a plate to share at Afternoon Tea.

Contact President Ron Baker OAM 0412 944 095 Vice President Richard Jeffreys OAM 0411 511 369
Mail: Hon. Secretary. PO Box 263 Coorparoo Q 4151



JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

The Cross River Rail talk presented by Jordan Haimes at our June meeting was very informative and he gave us an insight into the enormity of the project. It was interesting to see some of the artefacts recovered during excavation of the nearly 6 km long tunnel

Several committee members recently paid a visit to the Cross River Rail project display centre at 1/151 Elizabeth St. City and were extremely impressed. The display is open to the public and members are encouraged to have a look at this display.

We look forward to learning more about the Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) who this year celebrate 100 years of service to the community. Sheila Campbell is the current President and she has kindly agreed to address our members at the 6 August meeting

Members driving past the corner of Old Cleveland Road and Cavendish Road will notice that the Tram Stop 26 post has been removed. Our group informed Councillor Fiona Cunningham that the post was in a state of deterioration and she has organised for the post to be repaired. It is hoped that it will not be missing for too long.

The Brisbane City Council is currently working on improvements to the Martha Street Camp Hill Village Precinct. These improvements include:

- Upgrading footpaths with exposed aggregate concrete,
- Street greening including street tree planting,
- Intersection upgrades and relocated pedestrian crossing,
- Marked parking bays and consolidated loading zone,
- Ground cover plantings to new and existing garden beds,
- New unique seating and standard Council street furniture,
- Public art installation for the community and visitors to enjoy.

Our group has been requested to provide historic information about the area.

Did you know that the area was named by the local community as The Fiveways to describe the intersection of the roads that met there.

The Martha Street Precinct was undeveloped until the 1950's when some shops and a service station were constructed. An inspection of a 1946 aerial photograph shows vacant sites on both sides of Martha Street. This material will be used on a Notice Board to be erected during the completion of the project as part of the public art installation.

Councillor Fiona Cunningham has also requested our group to provide historical information about the six suburbs that comprise the Coorparoo Ward. This information, accompanied by an appropriate photograph, will be printed on a colour brochure and should be available shortly.

The route for the October bus tour of the Sandgate/Shorncliffe area has been finalised and information on many of the places along the route is being sourced. A booking sheet will be available at the August meeting.

Councillor Cunningham is also keen for our group to develop heritage walks around Coorparoo Junction and the Stones Corner Shopping Precinct. President Ron Baker has taken members of his Rotary Club on walks he has planned previously and could also take members of our group on similar walks if sufficient members are interested. The best time for these walks will be when the temperature gets a little warmer.

Continuing our articles on prominent Coorparoo identities this month we feature Thomas Mulhall King whose family home was Erica.

THOMAS MULHALL KING, I.S.O.

Thomas Mulhall King was born in 1842 in Kentish Town, London, the second son and second of eight children of Alexander King and Lucretia Ann Mulhall. After the family arrived in Melbourne in 1849, his father tried his luck on the Victorian goldfields but lost most of his modest fortune in the process. He was much more of a success as a mathematics and language teacher of his children.

In 1862, after an apprenticeship as a shipping clerk in Melbourne, Thomas obtained employment in Queensland, as a customs clerk at the age of 20. Twelve months later he was in the Queensland civil service as assistant to the Collector of Customs., William Thornton . Due to his considerable ability with mathematics and French, King filled the office of keeper of the Queen's warehouse and accountant to the Department of Customs. More important positions followed , including under-secretary to the Treasury, chairman of the Government Advertising Board and commissioner of stamps. In 1901 he took over the post of auditor -general from Lieut. Edward Deshon, his Coorparoo neighbour whose son Arthur Popham was to marry his youngest daughter Violet Brenda in 1914. King remained with the Audit Department until 1907 when he was appointed deputy commissioner of railways, and retired in 1911. In 1903 he was awarded the first Imperial Service Order of Queensland for his long and faithful service to the crown, 'his persistent industry, his sound judgement and scrupulous regard of honour'. King is reputed to have had some influence in the naming of Cavendish Road. He was a keen whist player with friends Arthur J. Carter, Hugh William Elder Mackay and George V. Hellicar. They had no doubt referred to the *Principles of Whist: Stated and explained by "Cavendish"* in 1862. This was the pseudonym of Englishman Henry Jones (1831-99), a London doctor who became an authority on card games and first formulated a system of playing whist. But perhaps they were thinking of Lord Frederick Cavendish, 2nd son of the 7th Duke of Devonshire, who in 1882 had been tragically assassinated by Irish nationalists in Dublin soon after his appointment as chief secretary to the lord lieutenant of Ireland. The ancestral home of the dukes of Devonshire was Chatsworth, which was later represented in Coorparoo by Chatsworth Road.

Before achieving public status, King married Irish born Jane Maria Macdonnell, daughter of Captain Robert Harkness Macdonnell, in Melbourne in 1866.

The Kings probably moved into their new dwelling called Erica in 1890, which was one of the fine nineteenth century residences of Coorparoo. This long lowset timber house was named after either the home of King's maternal grandfather at Hatfield in England or Mt. Erica which was part of the suburb Prahram in Melbourne.

Thomas and Jane King had a large family of three sons (Reginal Macdonnell, Frederick Hubert and John) and six daughters (Barbara Evangeline Lucretia, Lillian Ida Kathleen known as Pearlie, Eileen, Amy, and Violet Brenda). It is not surprising that Erica was the setting for much social entertaining, though this was reduced somewhat when Jane became an invalid and eventually died on 23 September 1905.

King remarried in 1908 and spent some time in Europe with his second wife Aniella Zichy-Woinarski after his retirement from public life in 1911.

He died in Melbourne on 1 December 1921, but was buried in the South Brisbane Cemetery at Dutton Park with his first wife.