

Coorparoo
& Heritage Group
Districts

Invites you to hear

Dr. Robert Ørsted- Jensen,

Speak about

**The Early Scandanavian Settlement in
South-East Queensland**

According to the Queensland Historical Atlas:-

"The defining feature of Colonial Queensland was its high immigration population.

In a concentrated effort to populate the land with European settlers, Queensland Colonial administrators had enacted a pioneering immigration policy between 1860 and 1901, allowing Queensland to claim the highest percentage of foreign residents of all Australian colonies in 1891. As well as the multitude of English, Irish, Scottish and German settlers that accepted government offers of open land and assisted passage, there was also a significant Scandanavian element that would call Queensland home."

Dr. Robert Ørsted-Jensen was originally educated in Social Science (M.Soc.Sc) at the University of Roskilde in Denmark, and has previously worked in the Danish parliament. He is a PhD from the School of Political Science and International Studies at University of Queensland. He has for some years, nurtured a particular interest in historical institutionalism of Colonial Australia, Colonial politics, human rights and frontier race relations. He is otherwise versed in the political history of Northern Europe and Russia during the nineteenth and into the twentieth century and nurtured additional interest in the immigration, land and settlement policies of Colonial Queensland

Come along and listen to Robert speak about the influence early Scandinavian settlers had on South-East Queensland.

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

When? Saturday **2 April 2022** at 2pm

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



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MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

The Annual General Meeting was held prior to the February meeting. All existing committee members were re-elected un-opposed. Unfortunately, owing to health issues Judy Rechner has had to resign leaving a vacant position on committee.

Elected members for 2022 are President: Ron Baker, Vice-President: Richard Jeffreys: Treasurer: Angela Hawes: Secretary: Helen Hastie: Committee: Barbara Carloss, Lesley Brandis, Pat Skytte and Ruth Blair. Congratulations to all the committee members on their election. The President's Report for 2021 accompanies this newsletter.

At the February meeting Robin Kleinschmidt OAM gave an informative presentation on the early German presence in South-East Brisbane area. A copy of Robin's address is currently being put into a binder and will be added to the Eris Jolly library for members to borrow.

It had been planned to have a speaker from the Cross River Rail project speak to us at the April meeting. However, owing to several circumstance including the February floods this talk has been deferred until later in the year, possibly June. Fortunately we have been able to engage Dr. Robert Ørsted-Jensen who will speak about the early Scandanavian settlers in the South-East Queensland area. This is a nice segue following the talk last meeting about German settlement in the South-East Brisbane area. Robert has undertaken considerable research into Scandanavian and particularly Danish migration.

Since 1922, the Queensland Country Women's Association (QCWA) has been the iconic and relevant association of choice for women state-wide, coming together for a variety of reasons. Their vision is simple: "for the women of Queensland to come together to support communities, while celebrating their interests and forging friendships in a respectful and caring envioroment."

Who can forget going to the Royal National Association Exhibition (Ekka) and going to the CWA Pavillion for a cuppa?

We have asked the QCWA if they would like to provide a speaker at one of our meetings this year. We will keep you informed of the outcome.

Planning for the October bus tour is well under way. This year it is planned to travel to the Sandgate/Shorncliffe area. There are many significant heritage buildings to view from the coach. This trip is planned for 1 October. Put this date in your diary. Afternoon tea will be taken at a kiosk along the foreshore. Expressions of interest in participating on the tour will be called for at a later date.

Continuing our articles on prominent Coorparoo identities we thank Pat Skytte for her story on Brigadier General Lachlan Chisholm Wilson. The Chisholm Wilson family lived along Cleveland Road Coorparoo and Lachlan and his brother were among the first children to enrol at the newly established Coorparoo State School.

BRIGADIER GENERAL LACHLAN CHISHOLM WILSON
CB, CMG, DSO, VD Croix de Guerre
of the 5th Light Horse Regiment

The information presented here comes from mostly from 'From Law to War' written by Lt. Col. Robert Likeman.

It is a beautifully written, comprehensive book on the life of Lachlan Wilson.

Lachlan Wilson was born 11 July 1871 at "Talbarra" Waterford on the Logan River. Talbarra was the property of his parents Charles Wilson and Amy Mary Chisholm. They were pioneering farmers in the area whose parents had emigrated from Scotland.

Lachlan was the third of their six children.

[In the year of Grace 1871 Australia was far removed from the turmoil in Europe.]

Charles Wilson tried several ventures, growing and milling sugar in the Logan area. Eventually the family left the area and settled in Cleveland Road Coorparoo.

Lachlan and his brother Colin were in the first intake of pupils to Coorparoo State School in January 1876.

The education was good there and Lachlan won a scholarship to the Brisbane Grammar School where he studied for three years before being employed in the public service in the Lands Department. He also took up studies for the Bar and entered the Bar in 1895.

In 1899 the Second Boer War began and Australia was asked to send soldiers. In December 1899 the second contingent of the Queensland Mounted Infantry began training and left on the "Maori King" in January 1900. The AMP Society paid by Queensland Government gave life insurance to Chauvel's Mounted Infantry. Wilson was taken prisoner during this war because he would not abandon his wounded friend (from high school days) Buchanan. They were released after four days.

After returning from the Boer War he practised law in Townsville and in 1903 married Nellie Grant Hartley.

He joined the AIF as a Major in September 1914. His regiment was the 5th Light Horse Regiment. He went to North Africa and then Gallipoli. He became Lt. Colonel on recommendation of Field Marshall Sir William Birdwood.

There among other constant fields of action he repulsed the Turks and took a position thereafter named "Wilson's Lookout".

After Gallipoli the 5th were sent to Egypt and Palestine. They were the first Australian regiment to cross the Suez Canal.

They used a Queensland spear point pump to tap wells in the desert.

In 1917 he took over the 2nd Light Horse Regiment becoming Colonel and acting Brigadier General in charge of 3rd Light Horse.

Two significant operations - assisting capture of Bersheba and in 1918 they made their successful entry into Damascus ahead of the legendary Lawrence of Arabia.

They were treated as saviours and emancipists by the locals showering them with confetti, rosewater, rugs, silk, perfumes, flowers and fruits.

He was respected by his men and idolised by the majority. "The Colonel will never lead us into a death trap".

Throughout three strenuous campaigns his cool calculating brain was ceaselessly active in striving for every comfort possible for the men and their true friend the horse.

Returning to Australia he was active in public life especially the RSSAILA and Commander of the Voluntary Defence Corps 1941-1945.

The going down of the sun.

Lachlan Chisholm Wilson's last official engagement was as head of the Anzac Day Parade April 1945. He died at home on 7 April 1947. His home was 325 Bowen Terrace New Farm. He was three months short of 76 years. He was the last of the Light Horse Generals to fade away. End of an era.

Wilson is buried at Toowong Cemetery beside his wife Nellie and daughter Betty.

A simple slab on the southside of the hill denotes his final resting place.

sic transit gloria mundi.

Bibliography From Law to War by Lt. Col. Robert Liberman

Wikipedia

Years of service 1899-1901

1904-1931

Second Boer War

First World War

Second World War

"I wondered if the Little Corporal had ridden on ahead of the column. And I thought with a smile, nodding in my saddle, of the old colonel riding ahead of the regiment. He was about the same build as Napoleon. We have a lot to put up with from the Heads, still I thought we would rather have the old colonel leading us than the Little Corporal"

Trooper Ion Idriess recalling the desert march led by Lt. Col. Wilson

Strong competent commander, superb horseman

Deserves to have the recognition he deserves not "the least known distinguished man in Queensland"

COORPAROO & DISTRICTS HERITAGE GROUP

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021

It is my pleasure to report on last year's activities.

We have had to endure another year with Covid restrictions but fortunately we did not have to cancel any meetings

Our 2021 membership list stands at 54 members. Regrettably we lost 2 members who have resigned owing to poor health. They are most welcome to rejoin if their health improves.

The current Committee consists of 9 members. Two additional members joined the committee following last year's AGM. Additional Committee members are required.

It's not too late to nominate for this year's committee. Members find participation enjoyable and informative

Once again we were fortunate to experience interesting speakers.

In February, following the AGM, we listened to Dr. Margaret Cook speak about *A River with a City Problem*. Margaret gave an informative address about the numerous floodings of the Brisbane River and the problems the city has caused to the river. Margaret's book *A River with a City Problem* was very popular and many copies were sold. Our group has a copy in the Eris Jolly Library.

Judy Powell, at our April meeting, put a new slant on *The Brisbane Line* and spoke about how she had researched historical documents about war time Brisbane and how she incorporated these facts into a murder mystery novel titled *The Brisbane Line*. Janet also sold several copies of her book at the meeting.

Our own member, Barbara Carloss, spoke in June about *Early Pioneers of Coorparoo District - the Kennett Family*. Barbara is a descendant of this family and spoke about her life in a new district. At this meeting we celebrated the group's 30th birthday with a large birthday cake. It was fortunate that Barbara brought a large contingent of her family along to help devour the cake.

In August, Professor Peter Roennfeldt gave us an informative talk about the former Albert Hall in his address *It all happened at Brisbane's Albert Hall*. The images shown brought memories of visiting this theatre. Peter's books were again very popular with several sales taking place.

Once again we were able to have our October Bus tour. This year we ventured further afield with an excursion to look at some of the Historic buildings of Ipswich. Because there are so many historic buildings to see, the trip time was extended with lunch included. Lunch was had at the Queens Park Cafe and despite a few minor mishaps a hearty lunch was enjoyed. Participants were provided with a route map and comments on the sites visited.

At our Christmas meeting in December Dr John Jell acquainted us with *Coorparoo's Distinguished Geologist, Professor Dorothy Hill*. This remarkable woman spent most of her life living in Coorparoo and was a pioneer for women in the academic and scientific fields. At this meeting we were joined by several members of the Annerley Stephens History Group who also joined in with the Christmas Celebration funded by a Senior's Celebration Grant donated by the Brisbane City Council. We thank the Lord Mayor and his Council for this grant

I would like to thank the speakers who addressed our group and look forward to another year of interesting talks.

The group's website has now been running for over a year. This site can be accessed by coorparoodistrictheritage.com.au. or cdhg.com.au.

Thanks to Greg Doolan the group now has a Facebook page which Greg has agreed to monitor. Thank you Greg. Members are encouraged to look at the page and also contribute information about the district. facebook.com/Coorparoo1991 will access the page.

Our book library, The Eris Jolly Library, is continuing to expand due to generous donations by members and purchases of our speaker's books. The collection is kept in a cabinet in the Kingsbury Room at Queen Alexandra Home Community Centre and is available at each of our meetings.

I would like to thank Mr. Joe Kelly MP, Member for Greenslopes and his staff for assistance with the photocopying of flyers and notices of meetings etc.

There are a number of members of our group who need to be thanked for their individual contributions.

Angela Hawes for looking after our finances and attending the door at our meetings

Helen Hastie for taking the minutes at our Committee meetings and also managing the serving of afternoon teas at our general meetings.

Judy Rechner for looking after the lending library and any other general activities.

Other Committee members for their input into various activities and contributions at committee meetings.

Also our three tiers of political representatives who generously donated prizes for our Christmas raffle and members who also donated prizes are thanked for their donations.

Our Honorary Patrons, Helen Hicks & Bruce Hunter and also our Honorary Auditor Philip Dyson are also thanked.

Lastly I would like to thank all members of our group for their continued support and attendance and contributions towards venue hire and afternoon tea. I look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

Ron Baker OAM

President