



**Presidents Report**

Again the year is busy with our volunteers hard at work. The Tuesday group while busy working also enjoy a morning of friendship and laughter. Should anyone with an interest in nursing like to join the group they would be most welcome.

The school tours have commenced again and should the school specifically request to visit the hospital our volunteers are there to show them around and discuss any equipment. As a rule the children have to look at what is different to what they know today.

The static display which is maintained by Ashley Reid shows our local nurses who went to serve in the wars. This display displays current topics and is always very interesting to have a look at. Ashley has also set up a display of photographs of early Rockhampton Hospital buildings.

The library cataloguing continues with Janet and Errol. The surplus books which we have duplicated of have been given to the Emu Park Museum and they were very grateful to accept them.

We are very grateful to the village people for the maintenance of our building as there are always some small jobs to be done and we appreciate their time and expertise for the repairs. We have had a meeting with Debbie Drinan who is the new Village Manager. It was good for her to come to the hospital and have a look at what we do and how we maintain our collection and to discuss any issues she may have. It gave us the opportunity to chat with her and we had a lovely morning tea. It was nice for Debbie to meet our group of volunteers.

We are all busy with our various tasks at the museum and we would encourage you to bring your family and friends to visit, the volunteers are always in attendance on market days.

This Newsletter is different from many in that there is only one photograph. Errol and Ashley have put together stories which help to give us a feeling for life in Rockhampton in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, largely based on newspaper stories.

**Lorraine Antonello**  
**President**

**The Grand Corroboree 1903.**

Among the many archived manuscripts held at the Country Hospital Museum is a well-worn aged book containing the handwritten Minutes of the Rockhampton Hospital Committee Meetings held from 1903 until 1921.

Recorded among the Minutes is an item titled "**Corroboree Account.**" This item was discussed at a special meeting held in the office of the Secretary, Mr. Dawbarn, on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1903.

The item reads:

*The President Mr. S. W. Hartley, moved that the account in connection with the recently held Aboriginal Entertainments amounting to 79 pound, 18 shillings and 10 pence be passed and paid, the Secretary to obtain the largest discounts possible, prepare and publish an abstract of the Receipt and Expenditure. Mr. D. Fahey seconded the motion and it was carried by all present."*

To the curious reader this appears unlike any previous fund raising activity held to supplement the annual endowment allocated to the Hospital Committee by the Queensland Government through the Office of The Home Secretary.

A search of the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin newspapers stored in the Archives of the National Library of Australian TROVE newspapers website told of "Aboriginal Entertainments" to be held at the Rockhampton Rugby Union grounds in February 1903.

A notice placed in the newspaper on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February promoted the entertainments as "**The Grand Corroboree**" and advertised three events which would be held. The first was to be held at 3pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February with the second in the evening of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and the third in the evening of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Railway Department supported the events by running special trains to assist people from out of town to attend. Return train departure and arrival times from Emu Park and Westwood to Archer Park railway station in Rockhampton were advertised with return fares costing adults 2 shillings and

1 shilling for children.

The Rugby Union Grounds, located in what is now Browne Park Rugby League ground on George and Murray Streets, was within easy walking distance for people arriving by train at the Archer Park Railway Station. Admission to the grounds was by ticket only with tickets being sold from the back of trucks parked outside the gates. Each ticket cost 1 shilling per head with an extra charge of 1 shilling for a horse and 2 shillings for a vehicle.

Mr. Archibald Meston, who held the position of the *Southern Protector of Aborigines in Queensland* from 1898-1903, chose 30 participants from districts throughout Queensland, the Northern Territory, South Australia and New South Wales to take part in the events.

In Queensland, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people lost their legal status as British citizens following the passing of *The Aboriginal Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act 1897*.

In January 1898 two "Protectors of Aborigines" were appointed to administer the Act. Mr. W. E. Roth was appointed for the northern and central regions of the State and Mr. Meston for the southern region. Their roles were very wide ranging with enormous control over the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people.

The Protector was authorised to remove indigenous people from their homeland to missions and government reserves. Locally Woorabinda was established in 1927 as a Government reserve. The Protector kept records of the removals, births, deaths and could give or reject permission for marriages or for people to have leave from the mission or reserve to visit relatives outside.

Mr. Meston arranged and directed the program for the three Rockhampton "Aboriginal Entertainments" explaining each activity to the crowd as the Aboriginal participants, painted in traditional colours of their clan, displayed their skills with boomerang, spear and nulla-nulla throwing along with tracking scenes of hunting emus and kangaroos.

The method of lighting a fire with two sticks and how to successfully rob a bee's nest were activities that drew loud applause from the audience.

The Foresters' and Oddfellows brass bands of Rockhampton added to the festive atmosphere by playing various musical selections between the cultural displays.

The Morning Bulletin reported a football game between a team of fifteen Aboriginal players and a

#### Forthcoming 2016 Rockhampton Heritage Village Events

##### Sunday 8th May 2016

Mothers Day Markets

##### Sunday 10th July 2016

Market Day

##### Sunday 11th September 2016

Market Day

##### Sunday 27th November 2016

Christmas Markets

Please take the opportunity to visit our Museum during these events. While the Museum is open daily, it is on Market Days that members of the Association will be on hand to help you with any enquiries and discuss the displays in more detail.

#### Association Membership

The Association your support for our activities. We operate on a normal financial year (July—June) and new memberships paid now will be credited to the 2016-2017 financial year.

If you wish to join our Association, application forms are available from Committee members, from the Museum, from the Contact us page of our website

[www.achha.org.au](http://www.achha.org.au)

or by emailing [secretary@achha.org.au](mailto:secretary@achha.org.au)

Please make cheques payable to Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc. and post to ACHHA Inc, Box 4035, Rockhampton Qld 4700 or pay by direct deposit to our Westpac Membership Account BSB 034-210 Account No. 23-3836. To enable us to identify you, please use your family name plus Mem (for membership). Any of the Committee members listed on the final page will be pleased to assist you.

#### Membership Fees

##### Annual

Individual	\$20.00
Couple	\$30.00

##### Life

Individual	\$200.00
Couple	\$300.00

#### Donations

The Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc (ABN: 86 751 554 596) is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, please pay as above or by direct deposit to our Museum Account BSB-034-210 Account No. 23-3844. Please identify yourself by your family name plus Don (for donation) and make sure that we have your address for a receipt.

team of fifteen local players was held on the final night and much to the crowd's delight a boxing match was held between two members of the Aboriginal group who gave a demonstration of the art of self defence.

Amid much applause at the conclusion of events Mr. B. Fahey, Acting President of the Hospital Committee, thanked Mr. Meston for the displays given at each of the three events and praised the Aboriginal participants for their creditable performances saying "they had afforded displays that were unique in the history of entertainments in Australia."

Mr. Fahey then thanked the Fire Brigade, Police, the Mounted Infantry, the Foresters and Oddfellows Bands and went on to thank the Hospital Secretary Mr. R. Dawbarn for his zeal in making this such an unqualified success. He closed by thanking the community for their support in raising two hundred and fifteen pounds for the Rockhampton Hospital Fund. The crowd although smaller at this performance responded with loud applause.

In February 1904 the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin reported on the Rockhampton Hospital Committee Annual Meeting of Subscribers and recorded the President, Mr. S.W. Hartley, "Regretted to say the statement of Accounts for 1903 did not reveal a satisfactory condition of things, that was financially." The total income for the Hospital in 1903 was 4,654 pound 17 shillings and 2 pence compared to 5,500 pound 2 shillings and 3 pence in 1902.

Without the funds raised from "*The Grand Corroborree*" the condition of things financially would indeed have been in an even more unsatisfactory condition.

#### Sources:

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*Rockhampton History Centre, Rockhampton Regional Library.*

<http://qldrailheritage.com/archerpark/notes/01-tramsystem.pdf>

*A Brief History of Government Administration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Queensland 1994 Kathy Frankland.*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald\\_Meston](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archibald_Meston)  
*Rockhampton Hospital, 1858-1945 Dr. David Carment*

*Cultural Advice B. Hatfield*

**Ashley Reid**

**Vice President**

#### **Mr James Daley - Dispenser - Rockhampton Hospital**

Although we have an excellent pharmacy display at our Country Hospital Museum, we haven't attempted to write any stories about early pharmacists in our Newsletter. As always these days, we turn to the National Library's Collection of digitized newspapers on Trove for information (<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/search?adv=y>).

As it turns out, the day-to-day life of a pharmacist in the hospitals did not rate much newspaper publicity. Actually, they were not "pharmacists" - they were Dispensers working from their Dispensaries.

One of the important early Dispensers at Rockhampton Hospital was Mr James Daley, born in Rockhampton in 1874. In the Morning Bulletin of 10<sup>th</sup> April 1895 we are told that "*Mr James Daley, West-street, who was at one time in the employ of Mr. T. Ingram, chemist, has received an intimation that he has passed the preliminary examination of the Pharmacy Board of Queensland.*"<sup>1</sup> This gentleman was called both Daley and Daly. While we believe that the latter is correct, most articles use the former and we will too.

While we soon found that there was little information about how Mr Daley went about his duties as Dispenser, reading references to him on Trove gave further insight into hospital and community life in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and complements Ashley's story above.

Just over a year after the above note in the Morning Bulletin, a special meeting of the Rockhampton Hospital Committee on 23rd May 1896 appointed Mr Daley, 22 years of age, from a field of four to replace Mr J. P. Gordon as Dispenser after the latter's resignation. His appointment was at a salary of £100 per annum with quarters provided.<sup>2</sup>

Mr Daley must have settled into the job quite well because about two years later he asked the Hospital Committee for a rise of £20 in his salary and it was granted.<sup>3</sup> There was some initial dissent about the size of the salary but it was noted that "*He gives every satisfaction to the doctor*".

The following politically incorrect 1898 story which mentions him has nothing to do with his work as Dispenser but it shows how much times have changed but also stayed the same since 1898. A Japanese man Jhing Yamanaka was before the Police Magistrate on a charge of vagrancy. He had been examined by a Doctor who concluded that he was quite capable of looking after himself. This is how the hearing progressed:<sup>4</sup>

*The Police Magistrate : There is no record of any*

*crime against this man. I think we might let him go, and let him leave the town.*

*(To accused): What are you – a cook ?*

*Accused: Yes, sometimes me cook.*

*The Police Magistrate: Some of your country-men here ? Accused: Ye , some here.*

*The Police Magistrate: Suppose I let you go, you go away and go to work? You no want to go to gaol?*

*Accused: No. I no want to go to gaol.*

*The Police Magistrate: If I give you some rations will you go away and get some work?*

*Accused: I want to go to work.*

*The Police Magistrate (to Inspector Meldrum): The accused has been annoying one of the nurses at the hospital. I think it is only admiration, and nothing heinous. (To accused): All right, you go to work. If you do not go to work I will lock you up. You must stop away from the hospital. Do not go near the hospital any more.*

*Mr. James Daly, dispenser at the hospital, said the man was a terrible nuisance at the hospital and had to be put off the premises.*

*The Police Magistrate: We cannot lock up all the people in this world who are a nuisance to us.*

*Mr. Daly: He comes up there at night as well.*

*The Police Magistrate: He is not the first man who has gone up there, I suppose. He was only serenading.*

*(To accused): You must keep away from the hospital. Accused: Cannot I go up there?*

*The Police Magistrate : No, you cannot.*

*Inspector Meldrum: There is a young lady up there he is after.*

*The Police Magistrate: Yes, he is attached to one of the nurses and she does not reciprocate his affection. We cannot make a criminal of him for that.*

*Accused: I do not want to go to a strange place. I like stop Rockhampton. I like to live all my life in Rockhampton.*

*The Police Magistrate: All right, you can stop here. You must not go near the hospital. If you not go to work and keep away from the hospital you will be put in gaol. You can go now.*

Another claim to fame for Mr Daley came when he was MC for “a very enjoyable dance given at the Rockhampton Hospital on Friday evening last” (Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 1901). This is the report of the function – the way it is written you can just imagine the scene.<sup>5</sup>

*A very enjoyable dance was given at the Rockhampton Hospital on Friday evening last, the matron (Miss Hood) and the nurses entertaining quite a large number of their friends. The building was beautifully decorated with flowers, curtains, and*

*ever-greens on the inside, while outside and along the verandahs coloured fairy lights and Chinese lanterns were hung in profusion, presenting quite a picturesque scene. Two of the private wards and part of the nurses' quarters had been cleared for dancing, while the verandahs were requisitioned for promenade and refreshment rooms. Among those present were Captain Curtin and Lieutenant Beresford from the gunboat Gayundah, and a few of the local naval officers attended in uniform. The night was very suitable for dancing, being cool and pleasant. The dance music was supplied by some of the ladies and gentlemen present. In the course of the evening Mr. J. B. Ward favoured the company with the song "My Life for Thee". A very enjoyable evening was spent and the success of the evening was due in a great measure to the efforts of Miss Hood, Nurses N. Schmidt, Haylock, and Huet, and Mr. J. Daley (master of ceremonies). The proceedings terminated about a quarter-past one o'clock with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."*

It appears that Mr Daley also had a role in preparing hospital reports for the Government if this article is anything to go by. On 15<sup>th</sup> February 1902, the Morning Bulletin reports on a dispute in connection with the Government audit. The hospital sub-committee which was to look at the problem had met once but had to refer the accounts to Mr Daley. Unfortunately, he had been confined to bed with typhoid fever for nearly the whole month so a resolution was awaiting his recovery.<sup>6</sup>

Mr Daley's reporting role seems to be confirmed a year later when there is a late returns problem – and presumably a late night for Mr Daley! <sup>7</sup> This exchange highlights the very robust discussion which was often a feature of Hospital Committee meetings.

*The Chairman: The annual meeting of subscribers will be held on Friday next. I move that Messrs. Hartley, Rogers, and myself form a sub-committee to draw up the report. - Mr. Miller: I have much pleasure in seconding that. - Mr. Hartley: We should have the Hospital returns to include in the report. Has the Secretary got them ready? They should be in the hands of the Registrar-General by the 31st of January. - The Secretary: I have not got the returns from the Hospital yet. - Mr. Hartley: I should like to know how it is that the returns are not ready. - The Chairman: The Resident Surgeon may be able to explain the cause of the delay. - Dr. Chapple: I did not understand there was a delay. Mr. Daley, the dispenser, has finished them - but he has not copied them out. - Mr. Hartley: They should have been ready a fortnight ago. The Chairman: Is it not your*

*duty, doctor, to see that the returns are properly furnished and properly prepared? - Dr. Chapple: I have done all my work in connection with them. - The Chairman: But I was under the impression that the supervision of the dispenser was part of your province. Is that not so? - Dr. Chapple: Yes, that is so. - The Secretary: There are special returns that I have to get from the Hospital before I can get mine away.- The Chairman: I understand from the Resident Surgeon that the returns will be in by tomorrow.*

In another example of his multiple roles outside dispensing, Mr Daley was apparently in the right place at the right time when a miner, Michael Riley, who had been injured in a mining accident died in the hospital but not before making a will appointing him as Executor and bequeathing £25 to the hospital.<sup>8</sup>

The Hospital Committee was often struggling with finances. In early 1906 they decided to reduce the Matron's salary from £100 to £85 and the Dispenser's salary from £120 to £85. Miss Hood left the hospital at the end of the year but Mr Daley's salary was soon increased again to £100.<sup>9</sup> One of the reasons the increase was supported was that new rules meant that he administered chloroform besides attending the duties of the dispenser.

When a patient was admitted in October 1906, Mr Daley was given two bottles which were thought to contain poison. The man died and Mr Daley informed the inquest that he handed the bottles to the police a couple of days later.<sup>10</sup> In 1907, when the Visiting Committee came to inspect the hospital, they were shown around the wards by the Matron, Miss Christmas, and the Dispenser, Mr Daley.<sup>11</sup> All was in order.

This photograph of Rockhampton Hospital staff in 1910 including Mr Daley was provided by Ms Anne Prince whose Grandmother Beryl Campbell trained at the hospital from September 1908 until September 1911.



*Rockhampton Hospital Staff 25th December 1910. Front Row (L—R): Nurse Edith Toft, Matron Rose Christmas, Dr G. L. Murray (Medical Superintendent), Nurse Howard, Mr J. Daley (Dispenser); Second Row: Nurses Edith Dawbarn, Agnes Norton, Grace Homewood, Amy Hall, Mary Dunn; Back row: Nurses Winifred Knight, Beryl Campbell, Carolyne Griffith, Eva James, Mary Price.*

Mr Daley continued his service to the hospital uninterrupted until early 1911 when he wrote to the Hospital Committee seeking a year's leave because "in order to keep up with the times, he found it necessary to undergo a further course of study in the different branches of the profession".<sup>12</sup> Basically he wanted to go to Brisbane and spend a year completing his pharmacy qualifications and the Committee granted him 12 months leave with 3 months on full pay. It turns out from reading Barry Bryant's PhD thesis that Mr Daley was pursuing a new opportunity. It was agreed in 1910 that the University of Queensland should take over pharmacy education, raising the entry requirement to matriculation. The University admitted a small group of students in 1911, Mr Daley among them.

In late November that year he sent a telegram to say that he had passed his final qualifying examination as a pharmaceutical chemist under the Queensland Pharmacy Board. In December, there was formal advice that in the recent Queensland College of Pharmacy exams conducted by Queensland University, Mr Daley had passed practical chemistry, materia medica, theoretical pharmacy and practical pharmacy.<sup>14</sup> It is not known how many students began the 1911 course but there were six names published with passes or credits at the end of the year. As it turns out, this experiment did not continue and soon the profession itself established an independent Pharmacy College in George Street. The University did not control pharmacy education again until 1960.

It appears that Mr Daley did not return to his position at the hospital, as least not in a full-time role, and there was a series of short-term appointments until that of Mr A. H. Smith in December 1913.<sup>15</sup> Mr Smith was working for Row & Co. Among his previous appointments were 3 years as dispenser for the Royal Australian Navy. The salary was £100 plus quarters and board.

Mr Daley must have moved to Boonah in about 1916 because there is an account of him visiting Rockhampton in 1946 after 40 years.<sup>16</sup> He expressed surprise at the changes which had occurred in Mt Morgan and Rockhampton after

that time. He had established a chemist shop in Boonah where he was the chairman of the Ambulance Centre, chairman of the School of Arts Committee, president of the Band Committee, president of the Vigoro Club and deputy chairman of the Boonah Fire Brigade. It seems that he was a very dynamic character.

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#### Association contact details:

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#### Elected Office Bearers

**President:** Lorraine Antonello  
**Vice-President:** Ashley Reid  
**Secretary:** Errol Payne  
**Treasurer:** Kay Smith

**Archivist:** Yvonne Kelley

#### Committee Members

Nancy Crapp  
 Del Leitgeb  
 Carol McIver  
 Bill McIver  
 Jocelyn Philp  
 Christine Putman  
 Norma West