



The Brass Helmet

***Official Newsletter of the The Fire Brigades'
Historical Society of QLD Inc***

Oct - Dec 2009

New Arrival - Kingaroy Car 4
see back page for more details

Below: MFB responding to a firecall during the 1970s



The Society was begun in the early 1980's by a small group of energetic firemen. After an enormous amount of time and effort and after several moves the Museum was established at what was originally known as North Pine Country Markets, now YMCA Old Petrie Town. There are two buildings, a replica Fire Station and the main Museum building.

The collection embraces all fire services; industrial, commercial, rural, military and of course the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service with the aim to preserve the history of fire fighting.

We currently have 14 historically significant fire appliances on display.

Contacts

Visit our website at www.firemuseum.com.au

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The Queensland Fire Museum is operated by The Fire Brigades Historical Society of Qld Inc, and is located at YMCA Old Petrie Town, Dayboro Road Kurwongbah.

It is open to the public Sundays from 8am to 1pm.

New members Welcome
Contact us for details.

Memorabilia

A large range of firefighting memorabilia is available from the Queensland Fire Museum.

One of our specialities are brass and alloy cast items as shown on the right. Apart from the hose coupling, all items are produced exclusively for the Museum by local craftsmen.

All items are available for sale or produced to order from the Museum.

Prices are:	Brass	Alloy
Firefighters Axe	\$180	\$90
Half Helmet	\$25	\$17-50
Full Helmet (small)	\$35	\$25
Full Helmet (large)	\$45	\$35
Half Coupling	\$90	\$60

NEW ITEMS - small replica axe and QFS Shield

Also available is a large selection of fire fighting photographs in both postcard and cigarette card sizes. These can be purchased in sets or as individual cards.

These outline in photographic history the early days of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade through the Queensland Fire Service, Queensland Fire Service and the Queensland Fire and Rescue Authority eras.

Several of these appliances are on display at the Museum, including the 1958 Mack, 1959 Dennis TTL and the 1939 NSW Dennis Pumper.

A small selection of the postcard sized items is shown on the right. Should you wish to purchase items and are located outside Brisbane we can organise postage for you.



Eric (Jock) Honeyman

On the 10th August 2009, FBHSQ Secretary Jock Honeyman lost his recent battle with prostate cancer. Over the preceding months his illness prohibited him from attending the museum on a regular basis, but his enthusiasm and commitment over the years has ensured that his legacy will remain with us for a long time to come.

Whilst Jock was involved with many of the projects at the Museum, one of his more recent contributions was the relocation of our large fireman's helmet display that would not have been completed without both his ideas and hands-on approach. He ensured tasks were started and completed in a timely manner and as one of his enthusiastic (and much younger) volunteers I found it very hard to keep pace with Jock, even when his illness should have seen him slowing down himself.

We will all miss his enthusiasm, but most of all we will miss our friend. The respect shown to Jock by the large attendance of both current and past serving firefighters at his funeral will stay with me for a long time. Thank you, Jock.

Editor

Correction

In the last issue of the Brass Helmet, my story on the Redcliffe HP car 2 contained a few errors. Thankfully, we have received clarification from Stan Harrison on this matter. *Editor:*

"I was the State Fire Services Council officer responsible for design and specification in the 1970s and I can give a much fuller picture on this appliance. The SFSC decided to introduce a Combination Hydraulic Platform fire appliance for Queensland's provincial cities. As the typical CBD in these cities at that time generally had buildings not exceeding 3 or 4 storeys high it was considered that a 2 boom, 15 metre type would be most suitable, combining a role as a pumper with side-mounted pump and twin hose reels. In those years similar appliances were being produced in both the UK and USA and most of these 15 metre types also had only 2 stabiliser arms."

"The original programme was for 8 machines; omitting Brisbane, South Coast, Rockhampton and Cairns which already had Turntable Ladders. The chassis that were used were either Ford or Dodge, with the platform units supplied by either Cranvel or Abbey who were both based in Melbourne"

"In fact the first unit went to Mackay in 1972, with Redcliffe receiving the second unit in 1973. The full programme contained:

Mackay	Ford/ Cranvel
Redcliffe	Ford /Cranvel
Maryborough	Dodge/Abbey
Bundaberg	Dodge/Abbey
Ipswich	Ford/ Cranvel
Toowoomba	Ford/Cranvel
Gladstone	Dodge/Abbey
Mt Isa	Dodge/Abbey

I have attached several photos of these machines taken back in the 1970s, illustrating their function as alternative first attendance appliances for the non-metropolitan cities."

"They were well received and Rockhampton then decided to have one in addition to their TL. This one was based on an International ACCO chassis."



Above: Mackay Ford Cranvel



Above: Mt Isa Dodge Abbey

Where are they now?

As a fire engine enthusiast, I often wonder what has happened to the many appliances that I come across in our collection of photographs at the museum. At the FBHSQ we are trying to ascertain what has happened to many of these unique vehicles and below are a couple that we have not been able to locate. Can any readers help out with whether they still exist?

Below: Southport Car 4, Ford D600



Below: Caboolture Car 1, Ford F500



Queensland Fire Museum



Above: 1969 International C1500 pumper, ex-Kingaroy Car 4. This appliance was donated to the FBHSQ by the Jimna Rural Fire Brigade who obtained it direct from Kingaroy. It is fitted with a Tohatsu 1260 lpm pump drawing from a 1400 litre water tank. This truck is in remarkable condition for its age, with minimal rust but sunburnt paint (and a flat front tyre!). It will receive a full restoration, when FBHSQ funds permit, back to its original glory as shown below. It is currently being housed in our current project, a new workshop and storage facility located beside the replica fire station. This will be completed soon and it will allow us to work on our appliances away from the main display area, enabling this type of major work to be undertaken on site.



New: Signature series models available

Both scales on sale now 1:24 and 1:43

A new addition to our memorabilia range are these stunning Signature series diecast replica fire engines.

Large 1:24 scale \$99-00

Small 1:43 scale \$30-00

Contact us direct for more info on which models we currently have in stock. These are a must have for any enthusiast.

The full range can be ordered for you and they can be either collected from us at the Museum or we can post them to you at an additional cost.

