

## *A Shared Love of History*

### **A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE SISTER MARY PETER HODDA 1925 – 2005**

*The Brisbane Catholic Historical Society has been very fortunate over the years to have the membership and commitment of many people. Sometimes, two or more members of the same family have been involved. One of the Queensland families to have shared their love of local history with the group, is the Hodda family. Three of the six children of James and Christina (nee O'Dowd) were active members of the Society from shortly after its inception until recent times. These were Brother Jim Hodda, a Christian Brother, and Sister Bernadette Mary and Sister Mary Peter, both Sisters of Mercy.*

*In 1991, Sr M Peter joined Sr Bernadette M in the All Hallows' community. Sr Bernadette M said the two of them looked forward to going to the meetings as often as they could until Sr M Peter suffered a stroke in 2002. When she died in January 2005, her interest in the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society was recognised by the presence of some of the Society's books on her coffin. For a few years now, ill health has prevented Sr Bernadette Mary from attending meetings; however she still enjoys receiving and reading the publications and in that way keeping abreast of the news of the Society.*

*All three family members were active in the organization. Bro. Jim Hodda was Treasurer for many years before he died in 1998, and Sr Bernadette M served for a time on the committee as Assistant to the Secretary. In 2000, Sr M Peter wrote an article on the Holy Year for the Society's periodical.*

*James Hodda had always shown a keen interest in local and family history, and obviously his children inherited this trait. All of them*

*were willing to share the result of their research and reading, and their sharing of this gift added much to the collective knowledge of the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society. For this, we are truly grateful.*

Sr Patricia Sullivan rsm

**Reference sources:**

Conversation between Sr Bernadette Mary Hodda and the author, August 2006.

Autobiographical article by Sr Mary Peter Hodda, *Emmaus Tattler Christmas 2004*.