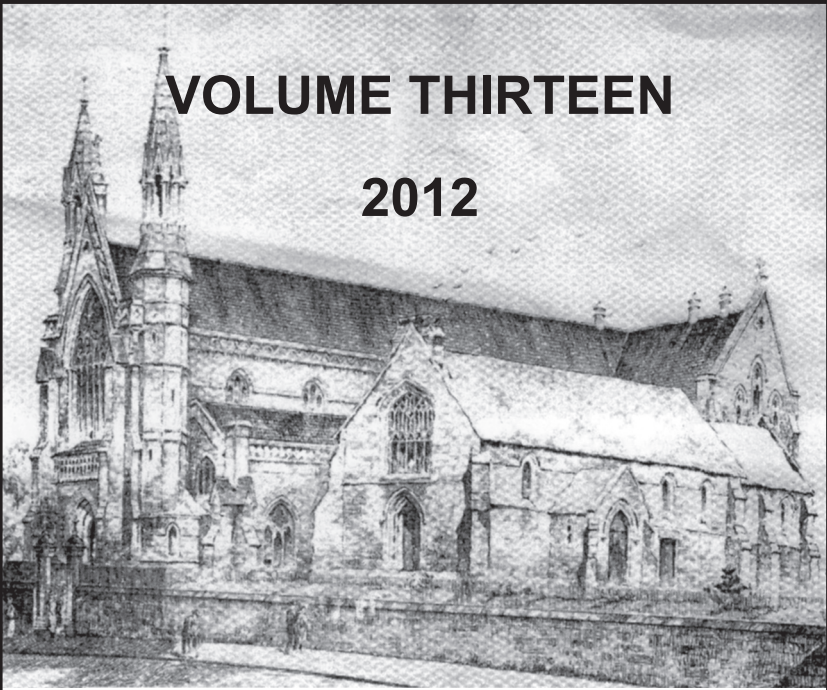


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St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane
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Proceedings
of

**BRISBANE CATHOLIC
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

PROCEEDINGS
OF
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CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION

The appearance of Volume 13 of the *Proceedings* of the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society comes in the 25th year of our Society's existence. For anything to last so long, in an ever-changing world, is surely an indicator that the Society fulfills a need in the life of our Queensland Church. The content of this present volume is further evidence of the ways in which that need has been addressed.

When our first President, Rev. Dr. Tom Boland, founded the Society in 1988, Australia was enjoying its Bicentennial Year of European settlement, and Queensland that magic event known as Expo '88. It was intended that the *Proceedings*, and the series of talks that inspired them, would provide a means of telling and recording episodes from our past, which might otherwise remain unnoticed as our story is passed on to future generations.

In the early days, the appearance of a volume of the *Proceedings* owed much to the activities of Christian Brothers Gerard Hodda and Leo Ansell. They were ably assisted by a faithful band of proof readers who prepared the periodical for publication with Church Archivists' Press. As computers came more and more into use, the process of preparation changed also. Today, our appreciation goes to Sister Genevieve Carroll rsj and Anne Seto for a job well done.

Since the inception of our Society, other events of significance have taken place in the life of the Queensland Church. Occasions such as the Year of Great Jubilee (2000), the Sesquicentenary (150 years) of the diocese of Brisbane (2009), and the canonization of Australia's first saint: Mary of the Cross MacKillop (17th October 2010) come readily to mind.

Three of Brisbane's seven Bishops—Archbishops Francis Rush, John Bathersby, and Mark Coleridge—have exercised Episcopal oversight and patronage of our Society. Our current Archbishop Mark Coleridge has been most enthusiastic in his support of the Society's activities.

I began editing the volumes of the *Proceedings* with volume 5; and I can promise that the articles which follow continue the high standard of earlier years.

Fresh understandings continue to emerge concerning the life and career of Bishop James Quinn. Sisters Margaret McKenna rsj and Ann Hetherington rsm examine the bishop's Roman Connection and his relationships with Queensland's early Sisters of Mercy.

Other personalities have also come under investigation. The second part of Patricia Kelly's paper on journalist Brian Doyle (1915-2003) concludes her study of the career of one of *The Catholic Leader's* former editors. I have made a comparison of the lives of two Catholic Queensland Premiers, from opposite sides of politics: Thomas Joseph Byrnes (1860-1898) and Thomas Joseph Ryan (1876-1921). Dr. Robert Riddel has examined the ecclesiastical work of eminent architect Robin Dods (1868-1920).

Three parishes have celebrated significant anniversaries during the last two years and their skilfully-told histories are placed before you for your consideration: Clifton (by Mrs Leona Murphy), Maryborough (by Fr. Denis Martin), and Red Hill (by Br. Tim Scott cfc).

The work of the various religious orders also forms part of this volume's offerings to its readers. Fr. John Boyd-Boland ofm provided a very enjoyable look at the activities of the Franciscans in Queensland, with special reference to Padua College. Mr Brian Matthews, on the other hand, chose as his field of investigation the school at Mary Immaculate, Annerley. Sisters of the Religious of the Sacred Heart and Sisters of St Joseph both made considerable contributions to this school, before it passed finally to its present status as a school run by Brisbane Catholic Education. Brian's long association with this community made his paper a very enjoyable one.

Lay organisations are also included here. Dr. Stefano Girola spoke of the Italian Catholic Federation in Queensland. Organisations such as this played a significant role in the lives of many migrants as they sought to find their place in Queensland life. Mr David Jefferies, Secretary of the Queensland Chapter of the Knights of the Southern Cross, presented a paper on the history of this laymen’s organisation. Many of the civil liberties and benefits enjoyed by today’s Catholics are the result of the Knights’ lobbying activity throughout the 20th century.

It goes without saying that literary activity also forms part of the activities of the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society. On 18th October it was a privilege for your Society to be involved—along with the Centre for Early Christian Studies, Australian Catholic University—in the launch of the final three volumes of sermons by Cardinal Blessed John Henry Newman. These volumes form part of the definitive edition of Newman’s works issued by Clarendon Press, University of Oxford. The volumes’ editor, Brother Frank McGrath fms is a “Brisbane Boy” and a member of our Society. Congratulations Brother Frank!

Two of our significant members have died since the last edition of Proceedings was published: Sister Nora Boland rsm and Mr Denis Cleary. Short obituary notices are included in this volume. Let us pray for them: may they rest in peace.

Finally, I conclude my remarks by thanking once again all who have contributed to the publication of this volume. You know what you have done, and how much I am in your debt. To you, our readers, I wish you many hours of enjoyable reading.

Rev. Dr. Chris Hanlon

President,

BRISBANE CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY