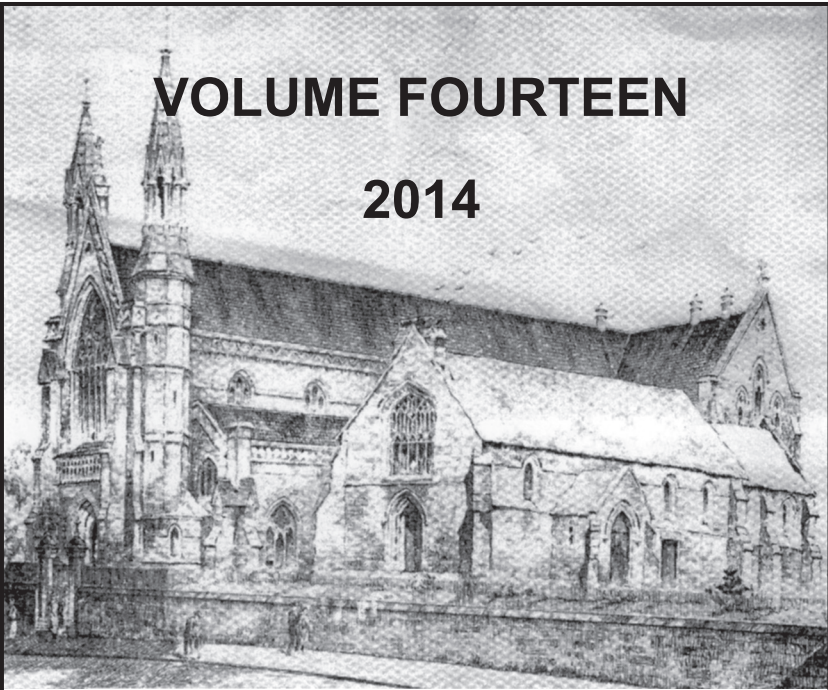


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*of*

**BRISBANE CATHOLIC  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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# Contents

## *Introduction*

**Fr Chris Hanlon** v

## *PRESENTED PAPERS*

1. *Jerome Davadi: Priest and Orchardist*  
**Ian Bonaccorso** 1
2. *If These Stones Could Talk:  
The History of All Hallows' School*  
**Sr Anne Hetherington rsm** 31
3. *Beneath the Surface: The Spirituality of Br Ambrose Treacy*  
**Br Regis Hickey cfc** 47
4. *An Overview of Catholic History on Stradbroke Island*  
**Dr Stefano Girola** 59
5. *Fr Jeremiah O'Leary: Parish Priest of Coorparoo*  
**Fr Chris Hanlon** 89
6. *A Screeching Noise Across the Paddocks:  
The Camp Mountain Railway Crash of 1947*  
**Greg Hallam** 113
7. *Wilston Parish Centenary*  
**Josephine Nolan** 133

8. <i>Miss Florence Honoria O'Reilly: Businesswoman and Philanthropist</i> <b>Sr Pauline Smoothy rsm</b>	<b>143</b>
9. <i>Three French Priests in Central Queensland</i> <b>Neridah Kaddatz</b>	<b>161</b>
10. <i>St Patrick's College Shorncliffe</i> <b>Dr Michael Carroll</b>	<b>185</b>

#### OTHER ARTICLES

<i>A Short Account of St Cecilia's Parish Hamilton on the Occasion of its Centenary</i> <b>Paul Martin</b>	<b>199</b>
<i>Vale Bill Condon</i> <b>Michael P Sullivan OAM</b>	<b>205</b>
<i>Books Received</i>	<b>207</b>
<i>Index of Volumes</i>	<b>209</b>

# Introduction

Welcome to Volume 14 of the *Proceedings of the Brisbane Catholic Historical Society*, which operates under the Patronage of the Archbishop of Brisbane, Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, D.D. The papers contained in this volume continue the high standard of previous years and treat many aspects of the life and history of the Ecclesiastical Province of Queensland.

Several of these embrace the activity of priests and the communities they served throughout the State. Ian Bonaccorso has written on that great founder of the Stanthorpe region and its variety of agricultural pursuits, *Jerome Davadi: Priest and Orchardist*. I have contributed an article on the priest who was responsible for much of the early development on Brisbane's South Side, *Jeremiah O'Leary: Parish Priest of Coorparoo*. With Neridah Kaddatz's paper, *Three French Priests in Central Queensland*, attention moves to the work of three pioneering priests of the Rockhampton Diocese: Fr. Pierre-Marie Bucas and his two nephews, Frs. Julien Plormel and Jules Bucas.

Dr. Stefano Girola has contributed a paper, *An Overview of Catholic History on Stradbroke Island*, which sheds more light on the early Passionist Mission to the Aborigines, in the context of the recent centenary celebrations at which our Archbishop presided.

Catholic education is represented in our volume by two papers. *If These Stones Could Talk: The History of All Hallows' School* is by Anne Hetherington rsm and Dr Michael Carroll contributed one on *St. Patrick's Shorncliffe*.

Greg Hallam provides a retrospective on a tragedy of yesteryear in *A Screeching Noise Across the Paddocks: The Camp Mountain Railway Crash of 1947*. This paper provides an outline of the events as they unfolded and suggests how the accident came to take place.

As usual, various parishes celebrated their centenaries during the year. Two of our papers commemorate these events: *Wilston Parish Centenary* by Josephine Nolan and *A Short Account of St Cecilia's Parish Hamilton on the occasion of its Centenary* by Paul Martin. The centenary of a third parish, St. Brigid, Red Hill, is a story told elsewhere by Br. Tim Scott, cfc (see 'Books Received').

Over the years, significant individuals have contributed greatly to the development of the Church in Queensland. This volume contains the stories of two of them. *Miss Florence Honoria O'Reilly: Businesswoman and Philanthropist* was written by Sr. Pauline Smoother, rsm and *Beneath the Surface: The Spirituality of Br. Ambrose Treacy*, by Br. Regis Hickey, cfc.

Finally, we acknowledge the passing of Mr. Bill Condon, who has audited the Society's financial records for many years. Michael Sullivan has provided an insight into the man ('Vale Bill Condon') who—you could say—'kept us in business'.

To you, our readers, I wish many hours of happy reading.

Rev. Dr. Chris Hanlon  
President,  
BRISBANE CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY