

Cultural and Social Activities

Driving, hiking, and picnicking by the many delightful Brisbane and Stanley River crossings has always been extremely popular throughout the Brisbane Valley. Saul Mendelsohn, a Nanango storekeeper, captured the atmosphere in his song which has been popularized in country and western style, while retaining the old-fashioned words:

'Brisbane Ladies

The first camp we make we'll call it the Good Luck

Caboolture and Kilcoy then Colinton Hut,
We pull up at Stone-house, Bob Williams's paddock

And soon the next morning we cross the Black Butt.

On, on past Taromeo, to Yarraman Creek Boys,
It's there we will make a fine camp for the day,
When the water and grass are both plenty and good boy,

The life of the driver is merry and gay.

Next right through Nanango — the jolly old township

Good day to you lads with a hearty shake hands.'

That was how many people enjoyed their weekends travelling through the Valley.

The changing role of women and the amount of leisure time available for working men have altered social attitudes and expectations. Working bees, whether they be for construction of schools, sporting ovals, parks, social welfare activities during the depression, or making camouflage nets in the war, were foci out of which developed much stronger associations for community service — the *Returned Servicemen's League*, *Country Women's Association*, and the *Local Producers' Associations* which evolved into more modern lobby groups.

Social activities began in the Brisbane Valley in the 1840s as home-grown events organized on the stations. As towns developed public halls were constructed for a wide range of social functions throughout all the dairying and timber districts. They were proof of community progress. Most were constructed with voluntary labour with gifts of timber from local sawmillers. Each had local trustees and committees of management. As population drifted away and rapid motor transport

has centralized social activities in larger towns these halls have fallen into disrepair and trustees have dispersed. Others were removed because of inundation of land by the Wivenhoe Dam. However the flow back to rural living and increased popularity of indoor evening sporting events has revitalized the remaining halls. The Shire Council has taken an active role in maintaining halls and sporting grounds throughout the shire. There are also voluntary groups who maintain sporting and recreational facilities. Esk identity 'Khaki' Drew, voluntarily maintains the Biarra Hall and grounds.

Branches of associations abound throughout the Shire — the CWA, RSL, service clubs, church organizations and their welfare groups, Red Cross Society, branches of political parties, art and craft guilds, garden clubs, pottery clubs, hobby groups, lodges — and in the past Coronation celebration parties, debating societies, St George's, St Andrew's, and St Patrick's Day celebrations, dances, drama and eisteddfod groups, picnickers to the delightful river scenes, card parties. Perhaps the first to appear were the churches, the quadrille, and dramatic societies in the nineteenth century.

At Harrisborough (Fernvale) in February 1873 there was grand entertainment with burlesque' by two visiting professionals and local talent. The show was completed by Tullochgoram performed by kilted gentry. Phrenology and mesmerism using handwork attracted Lowood people. The Lowood blue ribbon temperance meetings drew sixty to seventy people each time. There were regular lectures by local clergy, Reverends Legat and W. Wall and the drum band also attended. Circuses were most popular especially where there were huge captive audiences like the railway day-labour workers at Esk in 1902.²

Educational activities were popular — reading, debating, and 'Spelling bees'. In April 1880 a 'penny reading' and 'spelling bee' were held at Esk. The entertainment also included music and recitations. In the 1890s the Fernvale Mutual Improvement and Debating Society met weekly. Four months after the 1893 floods wreaked the landscape the first meeting of the Lowood Mutual Improvement and Debating Class was held; storekeepers J.D. Handley and L. Shureck were chairman and treasurer respectively. The Esk

History of the Shire of Esk

Parliamentary Debating Class was formed in December 1893. George Launder recalled that live Parliamentary debating classes he attended as a young man in the Esk Old School of Arts building in 1898 spurred his interest in politics which culminated in his service as Shire Councillor from 1943 to 1952. In 1898 Pat Clifford, storekeeper and Esk Divisional Board member from 1889 to 1898, was 'Premier' and other leading townsmen were his Cabinet or the 'Opposition'. The Lowood society folded up in 1895 and the Anglo-German (Lieder Kranz) Glee Club was formed on 24 July. The 'alternative' Lowood Debating Society was the 'Reichstag', comprising a group of farmers who sat near the railway station discussing events and issues and usually spoke in German. Most towns had these 'societies of knowledge'. The Esk society changed into a Literary and Debating Club in 1904 with the ministers, Rev. Archdeacon Holt and Rev. E. Eldridge, as chairman and secretary. Biarra farmers also had a Mutual Improvement Society in 1897.³

School concerts demonstrated children's talents for parents and citizens and raised money. Parents and teachers exploited all local talent. On 9 November 1880 Captain Vernor presided over Wivenhoe school's lengthy programme of twenty-six songs, recitations, with no fewer than seven encores in their concert. At Esk in 1888 Mrs McConnel of Cressbrook, President of the YWCA, was patroness of the newly formed Esk Combined Christian Choir which held concerts. At Lowood in October 1890 over one hundred people attended the concert given by the versatile Lowood cricket club. Soon after, the Fernvale Amateur Minstrel Company of nine performers played before a similar number in the Fernvale Hall. In 1897 when the Fernvale Church of England congregation were building their church they invited the Rosewood Amateur and Dramatic Company to visit and perform; the evening's entertainment raised £6. At that time the Mount Beppo farmers established their band, holding regular dances to raise funds to purchase instruments. On the first Sunday of the month they regularly held open air performances where up to 150 people attended. By 1900 there were two Mount Beppo brass bands with a total of thirty-two players, both conducted by C.W. Marshall.⁴

Esk had a Brass Band from 1903. At first W.T. Gray of Ipswich was instructor. The band played every Sunday night in the Memorial Park. A Musical Union began around 1907. Sydney L. May, organist and choirmaster of the Central Congregational Church at Ipswich and later Honorary Secretary of the Place Names Committee

in Queensland, was conductor from 1907 to 1910. Esk reformed its town band in October 1920 after a recess during the war. It was a prestigious organization with T.C. Pryde as President, and three Vice Presidents, E.F. Lord, E.W. McConnel and G.H. Graham. The Lowood brass band was formed in June 1912 with bandmaster, A. Mills and townsmen, C.H.D. Lindeman, James Lawlor and Walter E. Michel forming the managing committee. They practised in F. Gutzke's shop. In February 1913 W. Vercoe was appointed bandmaster and A. Pointing, his deputy. A.H. Pointing had been conductor of the Greville Wesleyan Church Choir in Bristol, England, so he was the perfect choice as conductor of the new Lowood Choral Society in May 1912. Toogoolawah formed a brass band in May 1919 of which E.C. McConnel was President and Mr Napier conductor.⁵

The Toogoolawah Choral Society presented its first concert in Alexandra Hall in June 1913 with C.E. Daniels as conductor and visiting violinist, C.J. Bottger of Brisbane. Lowood and Esk Manchester Unity lodges combined to present a grand concert in the Lyceum Hall in May 1916 with solos, overtures, dialogues, recitations, duets and a farce, all producing a profit of £4. Brisbane Valley eisteddfods commenced in 1914. A spectacular one was organized by the Lowood Methodist Church in Kerr's Hall in March 1917. Rev. W.C. Kleindlerst presided and Sydney May adjudicated. After the war musical contests were used in Toogoolawah to raise funds for the Alexandra and Good Templars Halls as well as for the town band and the ambulance.

Dancing Clubs and Coronation Day celebrations featured with the card parties as ways of raising money for worthy ventures. The Kaiser's Coronation Day was celebrated with a banquet and ball in the German settled areas with as many as four hundred residents attending with 'loyal German colonists and their families'. In 1900 the MCs were not afraid of proposing resolutions like 'any anti-imperial pro-Boer expressions should be regarded as treason to the Empire and condemned by all loyal subjects as such' when they knew they would be passed unanimously. Similarly the Esk branch of the Society of St George held their grand ball and euchre tournament in the Lyceum Hall on 23 April 1915. The Esk Town Band played at the front of the hall before the ball while their sons were preparing to land on Gallipoli. That night 125 couples danced to music provided by W.T. Gray on the violin and A. McMillan on the piano. Euchre parties often went hand in hand with dancing evenings. Those who did not dance played cards and enjoyed the music.⁷



Mt Beppo Band. 1914.

Back Row (L to R): O.C. Tetzlaff, Otto Granzien, W.C. Granzien, Fred Breischke, Otto Teske, C. Meier, Ernest Teske, H. Gumz.

Middle Row (L to R): Harry Redlin, Rudy Kaddatz, Gus Marschke, W. Brieschke, Alb Teske, Bill Marschke, Otto Tetzlaff, Aug Tetzlaff, Harry Leisemann, Edward Granzien.

Front Row (L to R): Ted Marschke, Aug Henning, Chas Granzien, P. Leisemann, Bill Geohgan, O. Sinclair, J. Molkentine, Alf Greinke, O.C. Granzien [Conductor].
Dennis Teske, Mt. Beppo

Public Halls were built throughout the region to hold meetings and entertainments. Many still survive in various forms and uses. The Fernvale Hall, managed by Ted and Mary Schmidt for thirty-six years, demonstrates the value of the halls and the caring attitude of shire residents. Likewise the survival of the Biarra hall through 'Khaki' Drew's and the council's efforts as well as Cr Keith McPherson's thirty-three years service as an office holder of the Moore Soldiers' Memorial Hall Committee. From Linville in the north and Lowood in the south-western corner of the shire halls serve as meeting places for regular meetings of aerobics classes, senior citizens clubs, political parties, art and craft groups, sporting clubs and even church services.

The first public hall at Fernvale was owned by Edwin Hine, timbergetter, and was purchased from him by the Rose of Fernvale Lodge in October 1891. The large cotton barns of Cribb and Foote and Harris Brothers had been used for public functions in Fernvale in the 1870s. There were several in Lowood over the years. Curiously the contract for the first one was let by Blank Brothers sawmilling family to Lars Andersen, Esk sawmiller, in March 1893. With stage and two

dressing rooms the 48 by 20 foot building was opened in June that year. Another was built in 1904 beside the Club Hotel. The old one was burnt down in September 1904 and was replaced the following year.⁸

In Esk the Lyceum Hall, including the School of Arts, was used for public meetings. Whilst the School of Arts fulfilled the function of public education, the hall itself was extended several times to accommodate the roles of public entertainment and arts and crafts exhibitions. There have been numerous caretakers over the years. In the 1920s it was Joseph Bailey, the service car proprietor and later the milkman. The Lyceum Hall was extended at a cost of \$50,000 in 1976. When the Olympic Hall was built at Clifford Place near where the Council Chambers now are, it was used regularly for a miscellany of amusements. It was moved to form part of St Mel's Church school in 1924.⁹

At the northern and eastern ends of the shire halls were built in all the dairying areas before or during World War 1. The 1912 Boxing Day sports at Deep Creek provided a £7 start to fund raising for their hall. The energetic committee at Colinton

had a School of Arts hall and raised money for a piano and stage extensions in 1915. The Monsildale Hall was opened with a patriotic fund dance in October 1915. Employees of Hancock and Gore's sawmill built the hall using timber supplied gratis by the sawmilling company.¹⁰

The Toogoolawah Alexandra Hall had been built soon after the railway arrived with funds raised locally. In July 1919, after the lifting of Influenza Restrictions allowed a public meeting to be held, the Toogoolawah Amateur Gardening and Progress Association decided to extend the hall. They accepted the tender price of £500 by architect Burley for extensions. The rebuilt and enlarged hall with electric lights supplied by its own plant was opened with a fancy dress ball on 31 August 1921.¹¹

The Bryden Hall burnt down on 18 December 1927 after a dance on 17 December 1927 but an inquiry held at Esk was unable to ascertain the cause of the fire. William Titmarsh was Secretary of the seven trustees who managed the hall and it was insured for £300. The committee accepted a tender for £497 from Conie and Bread of Ipswich in March 1928 for building a hall 51 by 24 feet after the stumps had been delivered to the site. When the hall had outlived its purpose at Bryden it was eventually moved to the Esk Show Grounds in 1980 as a pavilion.¹²

A hall was constructed at Billy's Creek to serve the Northbrook and Dundas residents in 1928. The committee of E. Hine, H. Spann, J. Hine Snr., H. Kroger, C. Varley Snr, J. Spann and C. Varley Jnr decided to build it on land leased from the government at 5s. per year for thirty years. The stump capping ceremony for thirty eight stumps was performed by Cr Alex Smith, Chairman of the Esk Shire Council in July 1928. In 1946 the Esk Shire Council took over trusteeship of the hall. Mount Beppo also had a hall built in 1928. It was extended in 1940 and opened by Cr. W.M. Gorrie. However by the 1960s the population had drifted away and it was used less and less. Charles H. Soden's building, used as Harlin's hall, was burnt down on 6 May 1930 and a new hall was opened at Murrumba by E.L. Grimstone MLA that month. The last dance was held in Murrumba Hall in June 1977 before it was closed and removed to Coominya to make way for the Wivenhoe Dam.¹³

The Alexandra Hall in Toogoolawah burnt down on Thursday 28 August 1930 at 2.30am. A ball had been held the previous evening. As there was no water supply or fire-fighting equipment the building could not be saved although a crowd worked feverishly, saving Menzies cafe and bakery only thirty feet away. The building was well

insured. The committee to rebuild the hall comprised G.S. Wilson, solicitor, C. Munro, factory manager, F.J. Carthew, H.A. Teske, sawmiller, and J.A. Menzies, cafe proprietor. They proposed a sixty by forty feet building with fifteen feet wide stage at an estimated cost by day labour of £1,900, tenders were called in October 1930. At Christmas the tender of Rundle and Nixon of Monto of £1,520 using local timber and local labour. The new hall was opened with a grand ball on Friday 1 May 1931. Mr Trattles ran the pictures there in the depression years; new arc lights were installed in 1934 and fans were installed in 1940.¹⁴

Linville Methodist congregation reclaimed an old building and remodelled it as a Pioneers Hall, opened by Harold Richter, MLA in June 1963. Somerset Dam town almost lost its Community Hall in 1985 when the Brisbane City Council threatened demolition and the Esk Shire Council then took over trusteeship of it. The Shire Council gradually took over control and management of public halls as it became difficult to attract active trustees and committees in the small towns and districts. The Council has also provided financial assistance to Community Hall Committees for building programmes. A new Community Hall for Lowood was designed in 1976 with the benefit of \$15,000 of Federal government funds as well. The Council also assisted with the construction of the Lowood Town Clock in 1977 and maintenance work at Moore, Esk and Toogoolawah Halls in 1976, 1980, 1981 and 1984.¹⁵

In the 1930s, when public halls were popularly used, entertainment cost nothing or very little. Eisteddfods played an important role and there were often community singing evenings. 'Forget the Depression' was the title of the community singing evening held in the Alexandra Hall on 6 July 1931. Grand concerts were also held to raise meagre funds for public facilities such as the ambulance and the brass bands. The Esk Presbyterian Ladies Guild held a Scotch Concert in the Lyceum Hall on 26 November 1932 to raise funds for welfare. For Christmas in 1935 the Presbyterian Dramatic Society in Esk performed dramatic entertainments like 'Her Gloves' and 'Ferrills Fix'. By war-time the Toogoolawah Amateur Theatrical Society (TATS) gave excellent performances of plays in the Alexandra Hall in aid of the Patriotic Committee Funds.¹⁶

After the war the Lowood Show Entertainments Committee drew artists from as far away as Yarraman and Brisbane for their performances in the Show Hall. A dramatic society was formed in Lowood early in 1952. One of their first performances was a three act play, 'Glanashagen',



Toogoolawah War Memorial in McConnel Park. 1987.

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produced by Mrs R. Sheedy, staged in the Jubilee Theatre in April 1952 in aid of St Brendan's Roman Catholic Church. The Esk Little Theatre Group has performed in the Lyceum Hall over many years and folded periodically when key characters have been transferred from the town. They were keen on comedy in the 1950s.¹⁷

Coin evenings and euchre parties were extremely popular in the 1930s and 1940s. St Mel's Church ladies were especially keen and held Princess Competitions which raised funds from the coin evenings. Some of these were held in Lars Andersen's home and garden. There were also 'shilling' evenings held at the Bowden's home at Biarra to raise money for the cricket club. First Aid Classes conducted at Harlin by George Launder in 1939 were accompanied by piano entertainment by Joyce Gorrie. Esk had a skating club in 1931 and events were held regularly in the Lyceum Hall. It has always been a popular entertainment in the town and in 1981 the Esk Shire Council built a skating rink in Esk for \$20,000. Esk also had a Garden Club from April 1956 to February 1975 and held numerous horticultural shows.¹⁸

Otherwise residents entertained themselves in family groups visiting district beauty spots. As roads gradually improved and cars became more affordable trips to the coast for holidays became popular and day trips in lorries to National Parks in the Ravensbourne and Perseverance areas and to Somerset Dam became possible. In June 1949 a party of Lowood hikers rode twenty miles up England Creek and made the 2,000 feet ascent up Mount Glorious. Hikers also climbed Glenrock along the track which is periodically disguised in undergrowth. The Brisbane and Stanley River crossings have always been popular swimming and picnic spots.¹⁹

Picture Shows were introduced at Esk from 1914. In January 1914 the School of Arts Committee approved F.W. Dredge's application on behalf of the Royal Electric Picture Company of Brisbane to screen films in the Lyceum hall on a regular basis. 'Talkies' were introduced in 1931. Lowood had a cinema from World War 1 as well. The Lowood Picture Company Limited was formed in 1926 to take over the plant previously used by B. Hope and to install a mirror arc and special lenses. The hall had electric light and the projector was powered by a Globe Felix motor and dynamo and 100 horsepower Johnson Lundell engine. Pictures were screened in the Alexandra Hall in Toogoolawah and in the 1930s the Amateur Gardening and Progress Association took over from Mr Trattles. There was growing competition from Smith's travelling picture shows which company screened

films in country halls. The first movies held in the fine new Somerset Dam hall were screened by L. McCorkell of Esk using a Racycophone on Friday 14 August 1936 with a large attendance. McCorkell had taken over from W. Andersen in the Lyceum Hall at Esk and in 1939 introduced technicolour films. H.T. Knowles showed pictures at Moore after the war and Geoffrey Rawlins at Mount Beppo in 1949.

In the 1950s both the Alexandra and Lyceum Theatres screened films on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday evenings. By 1967 they were running at a loss because of the advent of television and the drift of young people to the city to work. The Lowood Jubilee theatre, owned by Margaret Walters, closed in 1966 and the building, retaining its canvas chairs and Raycophone projector and screen, remains unused.²⁰

Dances have been an ever popular method of raising funds for all sorts of public purposes. There were Flannel dances, Diggers dances, Cinderella dances, St Patrick's Day dances, Barn dances, Benefit dances, in aid of the ambulance, schools, Show Societies, social welfare, churches, lodges, RSL, Hall funds, amateur cyclists, School of Arts. In the 1930s the chief musicians were Kamp's orchestra at Lowood, Red Star Jazz Band (E. Kamp, piano, F. Jones, saxophone, G. Zernike, violin, W. Muckert, drums), Snell brothers orchestra at Colinton, W. Duncan and L. Lawrence at Lower Cressbrook, Tip Top orchestra, Ivy Porter, R.S. Williams, and George Porter on tenor horn at Colinton, 'Quavers' orchestra from Ipswich playing at Somerset dam at the first Catholic Ball on 11 September 1936 and the first Church of England ball there on 1 October 1936. Jack Kleise used to run a special truck from Toogoolawah to Colinton for these dances. Young people played tennis or cricket all day and then went to the dance at night. The trucks and buses clattered home in the early hours fostering numerous romances. For those who did not dance there were the euchre games and dancing lessons held throughout the district by instructors.²¹

The balls created enormous interest and taught social graces. The first Catholic Debutante Ball held in Toogoolawah took place on 17 March 1937. A Foundation Day ball was held at Somerset Dam on Monday 31 January 1938. Messrs Brown, Maltman and Thistlewaite did the decorations and lighting. They created a map of Australia in bougainvillea on the screen, there was a gonyah on stage and Aborigines fished in Sydney Harbour. Jack Colahan was M.C. and Miss Marie Watkins' orchestra and Col Neilsen provided the music; versatile musician Eddie McEwan also played. In



Pakleppa's cottage with shingle roof, a familiar sight to highway travellers south of Esk until burnt down in the mid 70s.

Keven A. Ruthenberg

September 1938 the Church of England held a highly successful Debutante Ball at Linville in Quinn's Hall, raising £20. The first Masonic Debutante Ball in the district was held on 14 September 1951 under the auspices of the St John Biarra lodge. In Esk and Toogoolawah the committees arranged that the Church of England and Catholic Debutante Balls alternated between the towns through the 1960s and 1970s.²²

Fetes and carnivals also abounded — with both amazingly sophisticated organization and alternatively highly successful functions without any planning. At the turn of the century they were held chiefly to raise funds for the churches. The ladies of St Agnes's, St Andrews', and St Mel's all arranged fetes and bazaars, 'Scotch Trysts', and Irish Jigs. Large bazaars were organized to celebrate the openings of churches and halls. The Toogoolawah Amateur Gardening and Progress Association, of which Mrs J.H. McConnel was President was very active around World War I; two hundred visitors attended a garden fete and display of flowers at Cressbrook on 13 May 1916. At Coominya, Bellevue Homestead and the Lumley Hills provided the extra attraction. A Rainbow fete held in aid of the St Martin's Church of England building fund and opened by Mrs Lumley Hill in May 1921 raised £301 on one day.²³

To celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II Esk had an illuminated six feet high crown in front of the Post Office. The day began with church services, followed by a picnic luncheon at the

recreation grounds and children's sports. The programme in the Lyceum hall in the evening included a concert, speeches, cartoons, films, and community singing. Toogoolawah held a procession of decorated floats, motor cars and marchers, all organized by H. Nichols. The procession was led to McConnel Park by the fourteen girls and boys of the Fulham Pony Club. The twenty decorated floats included the Queen's coach drawn by four grey horses. The Post Office and Upper Brisbane River Pasture Improvement and Development Committee promoted by Mr Duncan McConnel, also entered floats. Trees were planted in the park and a fancy dress football match was held. In the morning J. Wothington circled the town in his tiger moth plane and the RAAF Mustang fighters flew over in the afternoon.²⁴

On the 'Back to Esk' weekend on 11 and 12 November 1971 T. Boyle's bullock team paraded through the town and the pioneer generation attended a huge ball. Sir Douglas Fraser, son of the Shire's first engineer, attended, but it was really a weekend for everyone with an association with Esk since 1873.²⁵

The most recent occasion of much celebration in the Brisbane Valley was the opening of the Splityard Creek pumping and power station and the Wivenhoe Dam in 1984 and 1985. Warana festivals and FREEPS were held in conjunction. As well the 'Eskhibition' organized through the Brisbane Valley Art and Craft Society by



St Andrew's Anglican Church, Toogoolawah. 1987.

Terry Conway

St Mel's Roman Catholic Church and former convent and school, Esk.

Terry Conway



personalities such as Mrs Pat Jenkins for the display of arts and crafts, has been enormously successful. It also attracts Brisbane patrons travelling up by special steam train.²⁶

Churches

The hallmarks of the religious observance in the Brisbane Valley have been both ecumenism and conservatism, particularly in the German Lutheran and Apostolic denominations. In the 1850s itinerant priests visited the pastoral stations. In the 1870s selectors commenced subscription lists to erect halls for all denominations. The Caboonbah Udenominational Church has been a successful example of this tradition.

Church congregations expanded as districts prospered. In 1871 the Lutherans established a church at Fairney Lawn. The Apostolics formed a group at Tarampa in the early 1870s as did the Baptists in 1873. The same year the Presbyterians established a congregation at Esk and bought land. The Roman Catholic congregation began in 1877, the Anglicans formed their parish in 1889, the Methodists established a congregation in 1882 and the Salvation Army in 1892. The Methodists had already established themselves at Wivenhoe in 1871. Lowood had German Baptist and German Lutheran churches since the formation of the town. The Wesleyans had been holding services in a store in Lowood but in February 1892 decided to build a church.²⁷

The most architecturally interesting church in the Brisbane Valley is St Andrews Anglican Church at Toogoolawah. It was designed by the diocesan and renowned Queensland architect, Robin S. Dodds, and dedicated by Archbishop Donaldson on Sunday 12 May 1912. The wooden church, 78 by 30 feet with shingle roof and silky oak altar was built for £900. Mrs Mary E. McConnel played a significant role in having the shingle roof erected. The carving on the altar was crafted by a Miss Crouch in honour of Herbert P. Gardener's son. The wardens at the time were H.P. Gardner and George Launder, both long serving Shire Councillors as well. The first wedding in the church was that of Sid Hill and Bertha Jones in June 1912.

Within a year the building was damaged in a severe storm causing it to bulge out some six inches. The building now has been listed by the National Trust for its architectural significance. A new shingle roof of 32,000 crows ash shingles was put on as a single gable roof in 1964 and completed in 1966. The external walls of brown stained weatherboard feature buttresses supported by

timber stumps angled into the ground. The interior lining consists of natural timber in tongue and groove with V joints. The doors and windows are gothic in style. A new rectory was built in 1925 for £1,008.²⁸

The Anglican and Roman Catholic residents of the Brisbane Valley were catered for by itinerant priests riding round their parishes, so the first church buildings constructed in the valley were those of the German Lutherans and Baptists, established between 1871 and 1873, soon after selectors occupied the land.

German residents of Fairnie Lawn district gathered in mid November 1871 to plan a Lutheran church. A £35 subscription was raised at the meeting and subscription lists were sent around the district and to Ipswich. Local trustees for the church were chosen and a site selected on rising ground near the new bridge. St Peters Church was consecrated on 2 June 1872 by Rev. E. Heiner of Ipswich. Rev. F. Schirrmeister of the German Station in Brisbane and Rev. C. Hellmuth of Logan River also preached. About 250 people gathered at Fredrich Draheim's house for the service by Rev. Heiner and then marched to the site of the church for the consecration. The church (32 by 21 feet) was built of hardwood and the roof and doors of pine. The total cost of the building and seats was £80 and it was almost paid off. The building was submerged in the 1893 flood and later shifted to higher ground about a mile west. It has continued to serve the community for over a century and special celebrations were held on 10 September 1972.²⁹

The early churches of Lowood all conducted their services in German. A Lutheran church known as the Bethel Church was erected in the early 1880s, with services conducted by Rev. Heiner. Bandidt, Weise, and Marback were the first elders; the adjacent cemetery was the first in the district and available for all persons. The Lutherans opened a new church in 1896 with a full-time minister, Pastor Hartwig in 1897. They had been part of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod but in 1906 changed to the United German and Scandinavian Lutheran Synod. Between 1897 and 1923 monolingual German-speaking Pastors S. Horelein and H. Wallatt served in Lowood. The first bilingual pastor came in 1913 and Pastor Ludwig Doehler came from Alberton in 1923. They built a new 50 by 28 foot church costing £400 in 1910. President of the Synod, Rev. J. Kolkhe opened it on 21 August 1910. The new Bethel Lutheran church was opened at Christmas 1915; its altar was designed by B. Qualischefski of Boonah Rural School. The opening services were held in



Biarra Hall. 1987.

Terry Conway

German and choirs visited from Fairney Lawn, Minden, and Marburg. The Lutheran Church of Australia conference for 1927 was held in the new church.

In August 1938 Brisbane contractor, Cyril Sievenhausen, moved the Bethel church over Dennein's bridge to be closer to the manse. At the same time an old church erected in 1925 at Clarendon was shifted in to Park Street, Lowood by G.A. Hart to form a new Evangelical Lutheran church, named St Mark's.

Pastor Doehler fostered both bushwalking and social welfare in his parish; he took the parish youth group on bushwalking trips throughout the Brisbane Valley teaching them an appreciation of the geography and geology of the region. He published several booklets on the subject, *By Stock Route to Murgon*, *Two Tree Hills*, *Mt Cotton*, *Mt Walker* and *Mount Glorious From the West* in the 1940s. He also encouraged his parishioners to support the Hope Vale Aboriginal Mission Station in Cape York. Pastor Doehler became a legend in the district. He was known to swim regularly in the river even in winter and he walked barefoot often, even through frost. The Bethel congregation held numerous social functions together like camp-fire socials at Sippel's farm at Patrick Estate — with a huge log fire and twenty dozen saveloys and eight and a half dozen bread rolls for seventy-four

people. Bevan Gerchow provided music on the accordian. Our Saviour's, a new Lutheran congregation, was formed in Lowood in 1977 and the congregations have continued their diversity within the one faith.³⁰

The Esk Lutheran church building, constructed before 1900, lasted until 1968 when it was replaced by a 58 by 20 feet one brought from Silverleigh near Oakey on the Darling Downs.³¹

The Apostolic churches, originally associated with the Baptists, have formed close-knit congregations in the Brisbane and Lockyer Valleys. The Baptists opened a new church on the Upper Brisbane River in September 1873; very likely this was at Tarampa and became the Apostolic Church there. The land had been donated by Mr Lancaster and it was a hardwood building to accommodate one hundred people. The congregation had been formed three years earlier with two other German churches in association with the English Baptist churches under the ministry of Superintendent Gerrard. Five acres had been purchased to build a chapel, minister's house, and school room. Two of the churches seceded from the association and the building did not proceed. The second priest of the Tarampa Apostolic community was August Ferdinand Dargusch who immigrated to Queensland in 1876 and selected 120 acres at Tarampa on 26 May 1876.³²

The Mount Beppo Apostolic community held its first services in 1882 soon after the land was selected and occupied. Evangelist H.F. Neimeyer rode over in mid-November 1882 and baptised three infants of the fourteen families. C. Meier, F. Marschke, and W. Greinke were instrumental in the formation of the Mount Beppo church. Carl Caspar Meier was born in Switzerland in 1853 and immigrated in about 1881 when he married Herminia Amelia Krause at Laidley on 15 November 1881. He selected block 148 of the Parish of Cressbrook in the Mount Beppo area, which he occupied on 28 August 1882. He was ordained deacon of the congregation in 1887 and services were held in his home. He served as deacon and then priest of the Mount Beppo Apostolic community until 1894. F. Marschke also became a deacon of the community during that time. In 1894 a church was built by Adolf Birron on Marschke's land opposite the school, using timber supplied by Henry Somerset, and in 1911 it was removed to its present location. Priest Meier, who could not swim, was drowned in McGovern's creek on 5 January 1898 when a flash flood came down after a cloudburst as he was taking produce into Esk. A new church, 50 by 25 feet with two porches, was erected in 1913. In 1929 the congregation expanded by spending £300 to shift the old Toogoolawah Union Church over and painted the whole building; the church has gone on to celebrate its centenary in 1984.

Enormous celebrations were held periodically when pastors from Hatton Vale like Rev. W. Niemeyer attended. One of the German Apostolic church's colourful traditions is to celebrate golden wedding anniversaries in the church. The couple enters the church followed by a long line of descendants. The 'bride' wears a golden crown of oak leaves and acorns with matching bouquets. Enormous corteges are characteristic of Apostolic funerals. When Rev. F.D. Lindenmeyer, ordained in 1900 and a keen rose gardener, died at the home of his daughter and son-in-law, O. Granzien, in November 1941, a milelong cortege followed his funeral.³³

The Apostolic Church commenced as the Union Church; on formation of the new Apostolic Church at Toogoolawah the congregation sold their old church to the Mount Beppo Apostolic congregation in 1929. Since the resumption of land in the Mount Beppo area for the Wivenhoe dam some of the Apostolic community has moved into Toogoolawah and swelled the congregation there.³⁴

In the early 1870s the **Church of England** erected churches in the Fernvale area where there was a larger population. A new church, St Mark's,

was built at Wivenhoe Pocket in 1886 and regular monthly services were held, alternatively by the Anglican priest, Rev. Wheatley, and Rev. Legate, a Presbyterian minister. The building was washed away in the 1893 flood and afterwards subscriptions were collected in Fernvale and Lowood to build a new church on a hill in Lowood. On 15 August 1896 the parishioners celebrated the church anniversary with a special service with popular preacher Rev. A.R. Bartlett from Ipswich, tea meeting, football match, and a concert in the evening. A. Bolden was Chairman of the Committee and J. Wade its Secretary.³⁵

St Agnes's Church was built in Esk by Lars Andersen, a prominent parishioner, and dedicated on 29 October 1889 by Bishop William T. Webber, Rev. F.J. Leighton being the incumbent. The town had been served previously by priests visiting from Ipswich and holding services in the Union Church, later St Andrew's Presbyterian church.

After the Nestle's factory had closed, the Esk and Toogoolawah parishes merged to become the Brisbane Valley Parish. The rector appears to have lived in Toogoolawah from about 1933 and the Esk rectory was let. Rev. K.A. Watts had been at Toogoolawah.

The Anglican church built small churches wherever committees raised enough funds. Linville erected a new church in 1915 after the committee organized several concerts in Greber's Hall to raise money for the building and an organ.

St Agnes's church at Esk expanded during World War 1. The church committee in 1918 represented a wide spectrum of Esk Shire interests. C.F. Blank and J. Jones were churchwardens and the Parochial Council comprised E.W. McConnel, G.H. Handley, Baker, N.G. Buchanan, E. Lord, G.H. Langton, Colin Hill, L. Andersen, E. Haupt, C. Lindley, G. Shambrook and R. Blank. The Esk Shire Council's only two shire engineers, P.W. Hill and Graham Wyatt have been Wardens. The Ladies Guild actively raised money for patriotic funds and towards the church's new organ in 1918. In 1919 the new memorial organ was dedicated in memory of Captain W.J. Handley, killed in action in the Holy Land on 16 July 1918. The imposing Helidon sandstone pillars and iron gates, presented by Francis Edward Bigge, were designed and installed by Andrew Petrie of Toowong in 1920. In 1949 a memorial window over the altar was dedicated at the diamond jubilee by Archbishop Halse in honour of John Jones, Eleanor Jones, and Constance E.J. Chittenden. Today the church and its picturesque grounds present a gracious entrance to the town of Esk and regularly one Sunday per

month also serve as a gathering point for arts and crafts and plant stalls.³⁶

St James Anglican Church erected in the 1890s at Lowood has always been a part of Rosewood parish. As a result of the Spring Fair held in McKenna's Hall they were able to extend the church in 1928. Among the wardens during the war years Miss E. Patrick was rector's warden at a time when it was rare for women to be wardens.³⁷

An energetic effort was made in 1936 to open a church at Somerset Dam. An old church was shifted from Fernvale and renovated by Mr Hobbs of Esk under the direction of the diocesan architect, Mr Percy. S. Scott made the altar voluntarily and the lectern was a fine example of gothic artistry. The first wedding, of Nancy M. Morris and Cyril R. Stirling of Pittsworth was held on Wednesday 6 May 1936 in the uncompleted St Mark's church.

Both the Church of England and Roman Catholic churches at Somerset were dedicated on the same Sunday, 30 August 1936, by the respective Archbishops of Brisbane, Wand and Duhig. Two special trains, the first with two locomotives and nine coaches and the second with six coaches, came from Ipswich and thirty trucks took them all out to Somerset Dam. Archbishop Wand's car overturned when it skidded in gravel near Mt Brisbane; Mrs Wand was injured and the car was towed to an Esk garage. However Archbishop Wand continued with his engagements at Somerset Dam that day.³⁸

The first **Methodist** church in the Brisbane Valley was built at Fernvale on land donated by Emmanuel Denman in 1871. After the completion of the Primitive Methodist Chapel and fencing the opening was celebrated by Superintendent Lancaster with a special tea on 18 June 1872. Rev. J. Spalding arrived in April 1882 as Clergyman for the district and commenced services in Esk. Rev. W. Little, who used to ride down from Crow's Nest for services, opened a church on 25 November 1883 in Middle Street at a cost of £37. The Brisbane Valley circuit was formed in 1902 with Rev. J. Moorehouse as its first minister. The Esk congregation built a church beside the Esk Shire Council headquarters and the old building was moved to Toogoolawah in 1906. Wilfred Hawken, stalwart of both the Methodist church and the Esk Shire Council, welcomed the new minister, Rev. T.H. Taylor in July 1919. Later ministers who served in the Esk-Toogoolawah circuit were M. Lee to March 1932, Rev. Thomas Cherry, Rev. Williams and Rev. I. H. Grimmett, who went to King's College at the University of Queensland in 1939; Dr Ian Grimmett returned to Esk to preach

the eightieth anniversary address in 1963. Three stained glass windows made in Toowoomba were installed in the church in October 1983 in honour of two of the longest-serving church members, Richard and Elsie Muller.

A Methodist church was established in Lowood in the early 1890s following the efforts of the committee comprising E.C. Nunn, W. Denning, E. Michel, H. Lindeman, H. Linke, A. Benhagen, H. Lawson, H. Phelps, and W. Michel. That church lasted until 1902. In the 1920s Assistant Station Master at Lowood, Bert Evans, assisted with all the Methodist concerts, social evenings and church services. A short list of the various ministers were Rev. S. Musico to 1917, Rev. I. Castlethorn from 1917, Rev. J.J. Wilson from April 1928 through the 1930s, Rev. S.J.R. Muir from 1941 to 1946, Rev. G.B. Robinson to 1950, Rev. O.J. Gunders, and Rev. Evan Jones in the 1960s. A new parsonage was built in 1957 to replace the old 1899 house.

There were also Methodist churches at Moore and Toogoolawah from 1907. The Toogoolawah church was the old Esk one remodelled with a new roof, the vestry was added in 1926, electricity installed in 1936, and the Celia Hawken youth room was added in 1962. The first Methodist church at Linville was built by the Carseldines before World War 1. After its eventual closure an old school building was remodelled at Linville and opened as a Methodist church on 6 July 1963 by Harold Richter, MLA.

The Methodist and Presbyterian churches at Esk and Toogoolawah officially combined to form a co-operative parish in 1973 and the Methodist minister, Rev. Kevin Bachler, was recognized by the majority of Presbyterian members. It became the Brisbane Valley Parish of the Uniting Church of Australia on 22 June 1977, extending from Coominya to Mt Stanley.³⁹

The **Presbyterian Church** was the first church established in Esk. David and Mary McConnel saw the project as a celebration of their silver wedding anniversary. Until the Methodists and Anglicans erected their own buildings the church was used by all three denominations and known as the Union Church.

The McConnells were Presbyterian and had employed a minister, Rev. Adam McIntyre at Cressbrook in 1864. At the land sale in Esk in 1873 the McConnells bought land on the southern side of Redbank Creek near its junction with Sandy Creek. They promoted a subscription list for the church and pastoralist and businessman Alexander Raff was among local pastoral lessees who donated money for the building. James Jones, John Milner,



Alexandra Hall and Craft Shop, Toogoolawah. 1987.

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and T.W. Long along with D.C. McConnel were on the first committee. Over the years the McConnel families have actively supported both Presbyterian and Anglican churches. The new St Andrew's church, seating 120 was opened on 2 February 1876 by Rev. David Watt. The young immigrant minister died of consumption on 3 August 1877 and was followed by five relieving ministers until Rev. James S. Pollock was inducted into the charge on 29 September 1880. The charge covered the region from Wivenhoe to Nanango and Kilcoy to Atkinson's Lagoon. The manse was built of cedar, six rooms and kitchen.⁴⁰

The Presbyterian Church was strong in Esk by 1889 supported by pastoralists and businessmen, especially Carl and Herman Blank, J. Smith, John Moore of Colinton, J.M. Gorrie, J. Anderson, J.H. McConnel and S. Marshall. The Session members were Geoffrey Smith, David Muir, James Jones, Thomas Pryde Snr, John Reid, Robert Scott, E. Harding Snr, James Brown, and John MacDonald. David Muir was Session Clerk for thirty-five years of growth up to 1930. There were over two hundred adults enrolled in the charge and Esk had a Sunday School of around ninety pupils in 1908.

The minister was conveyed around the charge preaching at Atkinson's Lagoon (Union Church), Bellevue Homestead, Biarra Hall, Caboonbah

(Undenominational Church), Coominya, Deep Creek (Undenominational Church), Fernvale, Harlin, Hazeldean (Union Church), Cressbrook, Moombra Hall, Moore Hall, Murrumba Hall, Toogoolawah (Union Church), Villeneuve and Wivenhoe. The minister also cycled extensively, covering around fifty miles on a Sunday! The Ladies Guild was formed in 1908 and held many successful St Andrew's Day Scottish Trysts.

The ministers through this growth period were Rev. W.G. Stevens, 1906-1910, Rev. John Lundie, 1911-1916, Rev. Mervyn Henderson, Cambridge University Graduate of 1906, from 1916-1922, Rev C.B. Watts to 1932, when he was transferred to Kingaroy. Rev T. Gray served from 1943 to 1947, Rev. A. Calvert, Rev. George G. Johnson to 1969. Many other preaching centres were added as settlement expanded — Buaraba Creek, Benarkin, Booie, Cressbrook Creek, Colinton, Crossdale, Crow's Nest, Dundas, Emu Creek, Glencoe, Glen Esk, Glen Harding, Hopetoun, Hazeldean, Ivory's Creek, Kentville, Kilcoy, Kipper Creek (Barbour's), Lowood, Moore, Mt Beppo, Mt Brisbane, Mt Esk Pocket, Nukinenda, Northbrook, Ottaba, Perseverance, Sandy Creek (Bellevue), Somerset Dam, and Taromeo. Over that wide range of activity there was a strong team on the Committee of Management led by session clerks, D.C. McConnel, 1873-1885, George Smith, 1891-1892,



Apostolic Church, Mt Beppo. 1987.

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James Jones, 1892–1895, the long-serving David Muir, 1895–1930, T.C. Pryde, auctioneer and strong Sunday Observance advocate, 1932–1943, storekeepers and landowners, R.M. and B.M. Chaille, 1959–1962 and from 1962 respectively. The church bought an old hotel billiard room for a hall before the depression. Rev. T. Gray was the last minister to live in the old manse, which was sold for removal in 1947; a new one was built in 1948. Today the church continues to be used as a Continuing Presbyterian Church worship centre.⁴¹

For the Uniting Church formed on 22 June 1977 in Esk the usage of the Methodist and Presbyterian Church buildings in Esk has reversed. Until 1889 the St Andrew's building was used as a Union by Wesleyans until 1883 and by Anglicans until 1889. Today St Andrew's is used by the Continuing Presbyterian Church and the former Methodist Church by the Uniting Church.

Roman Catholics first met for worship in Esk at the Glenrock Hotel on 27 January 1877 and considered building a school and residence for two of the Sisters of Mercy. The St Mel's church at Esk was built by Lars Andersen in 1884. Churches in surrounding districts followed — Hugh Conroy laid the foundation stone on 12 August 1900 for St Anne's at Bryden which opened in 1901, St Patrick's at Moore in 1905, St Agatha's in

Toogoolawah in 1918, St Francis Xavier's in Coominya in 1923, and St Joseph's at Somerset Dam in 1936. St Mel's burnt down in 1905 and was rebuilt.

A school was established at Esk in 1923 using the old Murrumba hotel building, remodelled by contractor F. Lee. It was operated by the Sisters of St Joseph, and served the district until 1965 when it closed because numbers fell so low with the drift of population and the opportunities of the State High Schools at Lowood and Toogoolawah. The building was then used as a Parish Hall until 1966. The Convent was a two story building built of pine and hardwood with fourteen rooms, two bath rooms, and kitchen and laundry attached.⁴²

The parish was administered from Ipswich until 1913. Sir James Duhig, Archbishop of Brisbane from 1917 and knighted in 1959, visited the area regularly for confirmations and openings of churches. In the early years Hugh Conroy would meet him at Esk railway station and take him to Bryden for services. In June 1912 as Coadjutor Bishop of Brisbane, he came to Esk for the annual communion breakfast of St Mel's branch of the Hibernian society and to discuss the establishment of the Esk convent and school. In conjunction with the silver jubilee of the Roman Catholic church Sir James Duhig opened the new presbytery at Esk on

20 October 1964. At the Missa Cantata special service Rev. Fr. V. Pender celebrated and Rev. Fr. H. McGeehan, former student at the Esk Convent School, assisted. Fr. Leo Hayes preached the sermon.⁴³

Several new churches were opened as the prosperity of the region increased. St Agatha's Roman Catholic Church at Toogoolawah was opened by Archbishop Duhig in January 1928. It cost £11,000 but had a debt of only £700 on it when it opened. Toogoolawah remained a separate parish until 1953. On 30 August 1936 both the St Marks Anglican and St Joseph's Roman Catholic Churches in Somerset Dam were dedicated. St Joseph's was a stained weatherboards building with pine facings and the timber was donated by parishioners, Conroy, McManus, and Copley.⁴⁴

St Brendan's Roman Catholic church at Lowood catered for the European Catholic tradition rather than the Irish tradition celebrated at Esk, Toogoolawah, and surrounding districts. St Brendan's congregation was established in the 1890s, after fund raising by all sorts of concert and fete activities. In January 1926 E.C. Nunn was Master of Ceremonies at their 'Flannel and Fuji' dance for building funds. The Show Hall was decorated with ferns and butterflies and umbrellas hanging from the ceiling creating an attractive artistic effect. Annual balls were held in the 1940s.⁴⁵

The **Baptists and Church of Christ** had much smaller numbers of adherents and a number of small churches throughout the Valley. Esk, Toogoolawah, Murrumba, Tarampa, and Minden all had Baptist churches. The faith and liturgies of each were slightly different, depending on the heritage of the congregation. The Murrumba church was shifted into Esk in 1963 but support at Esk declined and services ceased in 1971; the building was then removed to Toogoolawah in 1973 and used as a hall. The Toogoolawah church expanded and local tradesmen and volunteers converted another old church into a two bedroom manse which was opened by Rev. J.D. Tanner, Superintendent of the Baptist Union of Churches in Queensland, in October 1983. The Tarampa Baptist congregation grew and in 1982 purchased an allotment from A.R. and D.J. Karrasch for a minister's house.⁴⁶

The **Church of Christ** was one of the earliest churches established at Fernvale through their Blue Ribbon Society temperance meetings, conducted in the German Baptist Church by Reverends Black and Bagley. Unfortunately disagreements occurred and they were barred from

the German Baptist Church. Sixteen members, including the Arndt and Suchting families, met at William Adermann's house and decided to erect their own building at Vernor's Siding on the road to Lowood. Decorated inside with fernery it was opened on 24 May 1886 with 130 attending for a tea meeting. Another building was constructed in Fernvale in 1925 when the Vernor one fell into disrepair; there is now only a cemetery beside the Vernor site and the Fernvale Church of Christ was shifted to Lowood in 1949.⁴⁷

The Caboonbah Undenominational church demonstrates how the need for economy in country areas can overcome denominational barriers. The church was built in 1905 on land donated by Katharine Somerset, daughter of D.C. McConnel. Henry Somerset organized water sports to help raise money. The church was built by Lars Andersen who donated his tradesmen's services in return for the value of the timber on the site. The building was built on high stumps so that elderly people could enter directly from a buggy. The church has been moved above the land resumptions up to the Wivenhoe Dam flood heights and a plaque unveiled in the church recognizing the contributions of the Somersets:

To the glory of God
and in remembrance of
Henry Plantagenet
Somerset
and his wife
Katharine Rose
Who founded this church
Write me as one who loves
His fellow men.⁴⁸

The decline in church attendance since World War II was reversed in the 1970s when new charismatic groups were established in the Valley. Old church buildings have found new uses for community activities and today the Esk CWA rings out with praise on Sundays.

ENDNOTES

1. Ron Edwards, *The Big Book of Australian Folk Songs* (Adelaide, Rigby, 1976) p50.
2. BC 7 February 1873 quoting QT; Q 6 March 1886; QT 9 February 1895 and 22 March 1902.
3. QT 8 May 1880 p3, 14 May 1892, 27 June and 12 December 1893, 6 August and 28 November 1895, 21 October 1897, 22 November 1898 and 9 July 1904;
4. QT 13 November 1880 p3, 1 September 1888, 29 October 1890, 14 February 1891, 12 and 21 October 1897, 28 May 1898, 2 June 1900.
5. For further biographical details of S.L. May see ADB Vol 10 pp462-463; Notes by Alma Sturgess held in Esk Shire Library Local History Collection; QT 2 May 1903, 29 May 1912 p6, 15 June 1912 p3, 7 February 1913 p7, 13 May 1919 p6 and 27 October 1920 p6.

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6. QT 18 June 1913 p7, 1 June 1916 p3, 11 December 1922 p3 and 9 February 1924 p3; BC 13 March 1917 p8 c3.
7. QT 1 February 1900, 26 April 1915 p6.
8. QT 1 November 1891, 11 March 1893, 13 and 27 June 1893, 30 July 1904 and 23 May 1905; *Esk Shire Directory* Vol 1 No 1 (July 1985) p5.
9. Personal reminiscences of Ann Ryan, Taringa, 12 August 1971 in Esk Shire Library Local History Collection; ESKM 20 May 1976 p10437.
10. QT 7 January 1913, 6 March 1915 p3 and 20 October 1915 p7.
11. QT 21 July 1919 p5, 1 September 1919 p7 and 10 September 1921 p2.
12. ESKM 25 September 1980 p1488; QT 12 January 1928 p3, 15 March 1928 p8 and 4 May 1928 p8.
13. ESKM 10 April 1946 p674 and 23 June 1977 p108194; QT 12 January 1928 p5, 15 March 1928 p8, 25 July 1927 p5, 27 July 1928 p12, 25 June 1930 p14 and 27 June 1930 p10; ER 30 August 1940; BVS 22 October 1965.
14. QT 29 August 1930 p6, 4 October 1930 p7 and 20 December 1930 p14; ER 9 May 1931; BVA 2 May 1934, 17 October 1934 and 7 February 1940.
15. A prerequisite for financial assistance has been that the constitution of the Hall Committee complies with Section 32 (8C) of the *Local Government Act 1936-1985*; ESKM 18 December 1975 p10234, 8 December 1977 p108,440, 13 March 1980 p1,160, 14 November 1980 pp1557-8, 22 April 1981 p1767, 29 June 1984 pp3632 and 3637 and 13 June 1985 p4132; BVS 12 July 1963.
16. ER 27 June 1931, 19 November 1932, 14 December 1935 and 27 September 1940; BVA 25 February 1931 and 1 July 1931.
17. QT 30 October 1951 and 29 April 1952; BVS 24 May 1957.
18. ESKM 22 October 1981 p2120; ER 1 and 22 August 1931, 8 December 1933, 3 July 1937 and 16 December 1939; private interview on 19 July 1986 with Mrs Joe Martin who was a member of the Esk Garden Club from 9 April 1956 to 4 February 1975; BVS 5 August 1966.
19. QT 18 June 1949.
20. ESKM 12 June 1935 pp571-572, 14 June 1939 p137, 14 March 1945 p523 and 24 August 1949 p881; QT 2 February 1914 p2, November 1926 and 1 October 1985 p12; ER 14 February 1931, 14 July 1934, 8 February and 22 August 1936 and 4 November 1939; BVA 10 June 1931 and 26 April 1933; BVS 18 October 1957; BVR 22 December 1967.
21. ER 28 March, 1, 15 and 22 August, 26 September, and 17 October 1931, 13 February 1932, 7 April 1934, 6 July 1934 and 5 and 26 September 1936; QT 19 December 1931; BVA 27 May and 18 November 1931.
22. BVA 27 January 1937 and 21 September 1938; ER 12 February 1938 and 27 September 1940; QT 18 September 1951 p7.
23. QT 30 May 1903, 4 November 1910 p2, 7 January 1913, 17 May 1916 p2, 28 May 1921 p5.
24. QT 4 June 1953 p2.
25. BVR 19 November 1971; QT 30 October 1971 p14.
26. ESKM 26 and 31 January 1984 p3393, 25 October 1984 p3875 and 24 October 1985 p4410.
27. M. McConnel, "Memories of Days Gone By" *op.cit.*; *Esk Presbyterian Church Centenary* (1976) pp6-8; P86/2 M60 ABL, Canberra; QT 13 June 1871 p2, 25 November 1871 p2, 9 September 1873 p3, 20 January 1877 p2, 4 May 1882 p2 c6, 28 February 1891, 16 January 1892 and 28 October 1949 p7.
28. QT 15 May p7 and 28 June 1912 p2, 7 February 1913 p3, 18 July 1925 p13 and 5 March 1971; BVA 4 August 1937; *National Trust of Queensland Journal* Vol 4 No 1 (April 1980) pp29-30.
29. QT 25 November 1871 p2, 30 May 1872 p3, 6 June 1872 p3 and 1 September 1972 p13.
30. ESKM 11 March 1925 p655; QT 28 February 1891; January 1926, January 1927 (Grace Nunn collection.), 27 April 1949, 3 August and 5 November 1951, 21 May 1957 and 29 April 1977 p14; ER 3 and 24 September 1938 and 22 October 1938; *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 10 September 1955.
31. QT 29 February 1968 p2.
32. Greinke collection of photocopies from records held by the Greinke family, QSA and the Genealogical Society of Utah Library at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane. The photocopies have been deposited in the Esk Shire Library Local History Collection; QT 9 September 1873 p3.
33. Greinke collection of photocopies; ER 17 November 1934, 6 April 1934; For biographical details of Rev. F.D. Lindenmeyer see ER 21 November 1941; QT 14 January 1928 p7; ESKM 20 December 1984 p5.
34. ESKM 12 June 1929 p22.
35. QT 6 November 1886, 17 August and 26 October 1893 and 4 August 1896 p3.
36. QT 10 March 1915 p7, 10 June 1918 p6, 2 July 1919 p6, 27 October 1920 p6 and 28 October 1949 p7; ER 4 November 1939.
37. QT 16 September 1897, November 1928 (Grace Nunn collection), 27 May 1947.
38. ER 11 January 1936, 8 February 1936, 9 May 1936 and 5 September 1936; BVS 1 March 1957 p5.
39. QT 13 June 1871 p2, 2 July 1872 p3, 4 May 1882 p2 c6, 28 February 1891, 4 April 1896, 6 March 1902, 17 April 1917, 14 July 1919 p3, February 1925 and April 1928 (Grace Nunn collection), 10 April 1946, 5 April 1950, 2 May 1950, 21 February 1973 p25, 7 June 1977 p16 and 2 November 1983 p22; ER 9 February 1907, 19 March 1932, 7 October 1933, 11 January 1936 and 8 April 1939; BVS 13 September 1957, 12 July 1963 and 18 October 1963; BVR 16 April 1971; ESKM 17 December 1908 p195 and 8 July 1925 p708; *Toowoomba Chronicle* 10 October 1983 p2.
40. *Esk Presbyterian Church Centenary* (1976) p6; M. McConnel, "Memories of Days Gone By" *op.cit.*; biographical details of Rev. Adam McIntyre and his death in 1866 are in QT 9 June 1866 p3, 7 August 1877 p3, 8 January 1878, 20 September 1975 p11 and 4 November 1975 p20; ER 28 March 1936.
41. *Esk Presbyterian Church Annual Report* 1889; *Esk Presbyterian Church Centenary* (1976) pp3, 5, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 25; QT 21 January 1890 and 18 June 1891; ER 23 April 1932.
42. QT 20 January 1877 p2, 10 February 1877 p3, 16 August 1900, 1 November 1921 p3 and 23 January 1923 p7; BC 4 June 1927; BVS 5 June 1959 and 22 April 1966; BVR 12 February 1971 (History of the Roman Catholic Churches in the Esk Shire by Miss Eileen McCarthy.)
43. QT 17 June 1912, 24 October 1964 p3; BVS 11 and 25 October 1963; for biographical details of Archbishop Sir James Duhig see ADB Vol 8 pp356-359 and T.P. Boland, T., *James Duhig* (St Lucia, University of Queensland Press, 1986).
44. QT 16 January 1928 p6; ER 1 August and 5 September 1936.
45. QT January 1926 (Grace Nunn Collection) and 12 April 1949.
46. ESKM 16 May 1963 p2256 and ESKM Town Planning Committee 15 and 17 March 1982 p2321; QT 4 April 1973 p41 and 2 November 1983 p19.
47. Q 5 June 1886 and 12 June 1886 p928; QT 16 August 1949 and 26 September 1957.
48. QT 23 November 1880 p3, 11 November 1970 and 22 November 1970 p13; 'Henry Plantagenet Somerset' (Unpublished manuscript researched and written by Erik Erikson, May 1983, and held by the Brisbane Valley Historical Society); H.P. Somerset's 'Autobiography' (Typescript held by Esk Shire Council Library in the Local History Collection).