

## QUEENSLAND ENERGY MUSEUM

### ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR JULY 2001-JUNE 2002

It has been a very busy year for QEM. With three entirely new exhibitions, two smaller exhibitions, one very large display combining five of our exhibitions in one venue, the completed QEM Banner and tourist brochure, we have been able to keep our name up there with the best. We have also managed to publish two books this year. However, the most significant development for us has been the completion of the QEM Internet site. We also added two features to the Education Page later in the year. The site can be gradually developed to include more and more of our collection, which will enable us to 'take the museum to the people'.

- August 2001: Book published, *Electric Memories: Connections to the Past*.
- October 2001: Launch of QEM Internet site, [www.energymuseum.com.au](http://www.energymuseum.com.au)
- November 2001: the Director presented a paper at the Museums Australia (Qld) Conference in Cairns, *Get to Know MEG and become part of the museum without walls*. The paper was later published on the Museums Australia Internet site.
- November 2001: Launch of *New Farm Powerhouse Memories* exhibition and start of libraries in Caloundra City.
- November 2001: Launch of *Powering the 40s* exhibition.
- December 2001: QEM had two exhibitions at the Distribution 2001 conference and exhibition at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- March 2002: Launch of *Sounds Electric!* Exhibition, which is the first of a series of joint exhibitions between Memories of Energy Groups (MEGs) and QEM. It is also the first type of partnership of its kind in Queensland.
- March 2002: Launch of *Lights On!* exhibition and start of a tour of rural and outback Queensland. The exhibition was opened by the Governor of Queensland, the Hon. Mr. Peter Arnisson as QEM's contribution to the Year of the Outback 2002.
- April 2002: Exhibition, *Treasure Revealed*, displayed in the QEM archive at Windsor for the Institution of Engineers Heritage Panel. The exhibition featured display panels with details of historical documents, technical drawings and advertisements of domestic appliances in the 1930s. Historical films were also shown to the group of visitors.
- The QEM tourist brochure was published. It is currently placed in around 160 locations in Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast.

- The QEM Banner was completed. This multi-coloured banner is for advertising QEM's objects, photographs, document collection and exhibitions.
- May 2002: Launch of *Shocking Stories!* at Pine Rivers Historical Museum. The exhibition will be a collection of five of QEM's current exhibitions. These are *Brisbane's Electrical Heritage*, *Connections to the Past*, *New Farm Powerhouse Memories*, *Powering the 40s*, and *Sounds Electric!* Some of the exhibitions will be extended slightly to link the various themes.
- May 2002: static display in the museum, *Laundry Work in the 1930s*.
- June 2002: Exhibition and accompanying book for CS Energy on Swanbank 'A'.

### VISITS TO THE MUSEUM

During the year, the museum had a number of coach tours arriving for morning or afternoon tea and a look around the exhibits. Historical films were also shown to the visitors.

### MEMORIES OF ENERGY GROUPS (MEGs)

We are continuing to expand the number of Memories of Energy Groups. During the year we have started small groups at Landsborough Shire Historical Museum, Kingaroy Bicentennial Historical Museum and Caboolture Historical Village. Expression of interest has also been received from as far away as Quilpie and Thargomindah. Groups will be established in these places in the near future.

### BRISBANE'S LIVING HISTORY

The tourist booklet published by Brisbane City Council continues to provide us with a place to advertise our services to potential visitors. The Internet site of the same name was launched this year and we have added a selection of our objects and photographs to the QEM page.

### DALBY POWERHOUSE

A new idea presented to us this year has been the suggestion to assist with the plan to establish a regional electricity museum at Dalby. QEM will be a partner to Dalby Town Council. It is early days yet and very much in the planning stages. However, it is an exciting prospect and we look forward to future developments.

### THANKS FOR ASSISTANCE

We have received acknowledgements for assistance to Bulloo Shire Council. We helped them with research and photographic material for the council's historical hydro-electricity display at Thargomindah.

### VOLUNTEERS

As usual, QEM is indebted to its team of volunteers. This year we also accepted some people from the Work for the Dole Scheme. Unfortunately, the people on these schemes are only allowed to stay with us for a specific length of time, normally three or six months. Some of the volunteers prefer not to stay for more than four weeks, so it can be difficult to establish training program for them. We have our regular few volunteers who have been with us for the whole year and the work undertaken by these people has been very valuable. QEM would not be able to operate without the

assistance of volunteers and it should be mentioned that the Director also contributes her time in a volunteer capacity each week, in excess of paid work.

Dr. J. King, Director  
Queensland Energy Museum.