

# Alison Smith

## Journalist and Queensland Times Director

Date of interview: 1994

Interviewer: Robyn Buchanan

Interview available on CD



Alison Smith - left - wearing a dress printed with pages from *The Queensland Times*

### Track 01

I was born on 18th November 1904, at Dr Flynn's Hospital which was somewhere in Limestone Street in Ipswich, I think. [His house was in Limestone St, the site is now *Villa Maria*. He later built a separate hospital in *Roderick St*]

I attended Ipswich Central School. First of all that was situated down near the old Ipswich Railway Station and near the Baths - we used to have weekly swims there. And then later on, a new school was built on Limestone Hill. The school is now in part of Queen's Park.

### Working at the Queensland Times

My work at the Queensland Times was a very interesting time in my life. I joined about 1920 and worked for two years in the "Front Office", as we called it then. That was when the Queensland Times was on the corner of Ellenborough and Brisbane Streets. Everybody knew the old Queensland Times - it was where the buses stopped and it was at the back of St Paul's Anglican Church. I left the QT for a few months then I was offered the position of Social Editress and I was there for about 12 years.

*Interviewer: Was it unusual to have a woman writing as Social Editress? Were you the first one or was there one before you?*

No, before I took over, they wouldn't really have been Social Editresses, there were just Social Reporters. I think they concentrated on reporting who went away for holidays and who was round about the place, and that's about all they did before I took over.

One of my first tasks was to conduct the Woman's Page in the Queensland Times. That was very interesting because I used to write a "letter" every week containing comments and I included recipes and all those sort of things. As well, I used to move around the town, looking for other bits and pieces of news. Of course, I also conducted the social column - in those days it seemed to evoke a lot of interest, knowing where people were going and how long they would be away. Nowadays we are not allowed to do that, are we? With vandalism and that sort of thing you don't advertise your movements.

We used to have quite big columns especially at Christmas time. So many people used to move down



*The Queensland Times office, corner of Brisbane and Ellenborough Streets*

to Southport, we used to call it “Little Ipswich” down there. I know lots of Ipswich people who had houses at Southport, and they went down at Christmas time.

It was quite an event really. The Ipswich Railway Workshops always closed down for Christmas and there was an exodus. Ipswich was pretty well dead at Christmas time and you could throw a stone down Brisbane Street I think without any trouble.

## Track 2

### Reporting balls

There were plenty of social functions to look after especially through the winter months in June and July. That was the Ball season and it was a very busy time when all the associations ran their annual balls. Chief of these would be the Hospital Ball and the Ambulance Ball. They were always held in the Old Town Hall and were always organised by a very efficient secretary - one excellent secretary was Vera Sullivan, the daughter of Jim Sullivan who had the North Star Hotel, just opposite the QT.

The secretary was usually assisted by a Committee of women who were also very efficient and capable people. The supper was served on the stage of the Town Hall - that was the only place for it - and in the morning, these women used to collect and make their trifles and jellies and sandwiches and goodness knows what and prepare a beautiful supper.

Mrs Gardiner, I remember, was an excellent person.

She used to always be in charge of the coffee and she made the best cup of coffee I ever tasted. She was a very popular woman, she used to go to most of these balls. Then I can remember a man named Harry Daniels. He was Cribb & Foote’s window dresser and he used to do most of the decorations free for these two balls, elaborate decorations, he was very artistic.

A couple of hundred people attended, I suppose, and for most of the big balls, the Town Hall would be crowded. I never ever counted them but I suppose there would be easily a couple of hundred. The frocking was always an interesting point. A lot of people used to come and “spectate” up in the gallery - they used to sit there and watch the dances and make their comments.

*Interviewer: So they came just to look at everyone else?*

They used to come to look at everybody, they didn’t take part in the ball they were just spectators.

For music, some balls used local orchestras, they were quite good ones, and sometimes they used to import people from Brisbane, for example Billo Smith used to come up with his orchestra. That was a long time ago, well over 50 years ago.

Then they always had a Master of Ceremonies, M.C., as they called him. One I can remember quite well was Jack Shaw. He used to just make sure that everything went well and that everybody behaved themselves. In those days, there was no beer drinking at all, they never ever had it in the balls, there was purely and simple a supper up on the stage and everybody enjoyed



Miss Alison Simpson (now Mrs Smith) and other members of the Literary Staff of the Queensland Times, 1926

themselves. I think they were always started at 8 o'clock and finished at mid-night, although sometimes might go until 1 o'clock in the morning.

The Town Hall was the main venue, but St. Mary's also used to have very good balls, for the CYs and other organisations, and they were always very well controlled. The CYs were the Catholic youth group, the C.Y.M.S.

Then the Show people (the QP and A) had a ball at the showgrounds. One particular ball I remember was a very big affair, I think it was the first ball they ever had and a tremendous lot of people came to that.

My main job at the balls was describing the frocks. In the Town Hall I used to wait up in the cloak room to see people as they came in to discard their cloaks and so on, I thought I would get a better description by being close at hand than by waiting until they were twirling around.

At the beginning of the season everyone had lovely nice new frocks, in those days, people used to make the one frock last the whole season, and it used to be a bit difficult towards the end of the season, if there weren't any new frocks to describe, I just used to have to say they were 'those present'.

*Interviewer: So in the description of the event, you also had a description of the people's clothes?*

Oh, yes, that was part and parcel of the report. That had to be *everybody* - I would get into trouble if I didn't note them all. I remember one person, I wouldn't want to mention the name, but she was very upset because I didn't mention her frock.

As soon as I felt I had got enough - of course I had to note down the men attending as well - I would go to the office and type it out - and sometimes I was there until about 12 or 1 o'clock in the morning, typing out the report for the next day - it always appeared in the next days paper.

It was quite a job I can tell you, at night time. But in those days, I used to walk around quite a lot and there was never any fear of being accosted in any way whatsoever. Later, I was lucky to have a car, well I didn't but Uncle had one. Uncle used to be quite worried about my walking home because where we lived - up near Limestone Park as is called now, Golf Park it used to be called then - was about 20 minutes walk from the office and I used to walk home by myself at night after I had finished.

Anyhow Uncle got a car and I learned to drive and I could drive myself around at night. His was, I think, the first Whippet car in Ipswich. I loved driving. I used to drive everywhere and would drive Uncle around quite a lot to bowls and down to Brisbane, to his Bowling Clubs and Tennis Clubs. Aunty and I used to go down to Brisbane and park the car at Barnes Auto over the bridge and we would do our shopping or take Uncle out to one of the Bowling Clubs. I could drive anywhere in Brisbane those days, and follow the trams up the street. I couldn't do it now.

*Interviewer: Did you have any problems describing people at balls?*

Not really. Everybody was co-operative and they didn't mind my asking them, 'would you like to have your frock described' and they would say it was alright, because they all knew me so well.

Then I would go down and have a few dances too, I always had plenty of dances, never lacked partners, and they made sure I had some supper before I left for the office. I didn't stay upstairs too long. As soon as the music started I went down.

Everybody was advised to be there by 7.30 because we had programmes, and that was a most important part of the ball - to make sure you had a partner for every dance. Different men would come up and say "Can I have a dance". The most important dances used to be the first and the last dance and the supper dance, because if you had somebody to take you to supper, that was very nice. I was lucky, I always had a partner but I was never there for the last dance, I was back working by then. Still I enjoyed what I had.

### Track 03

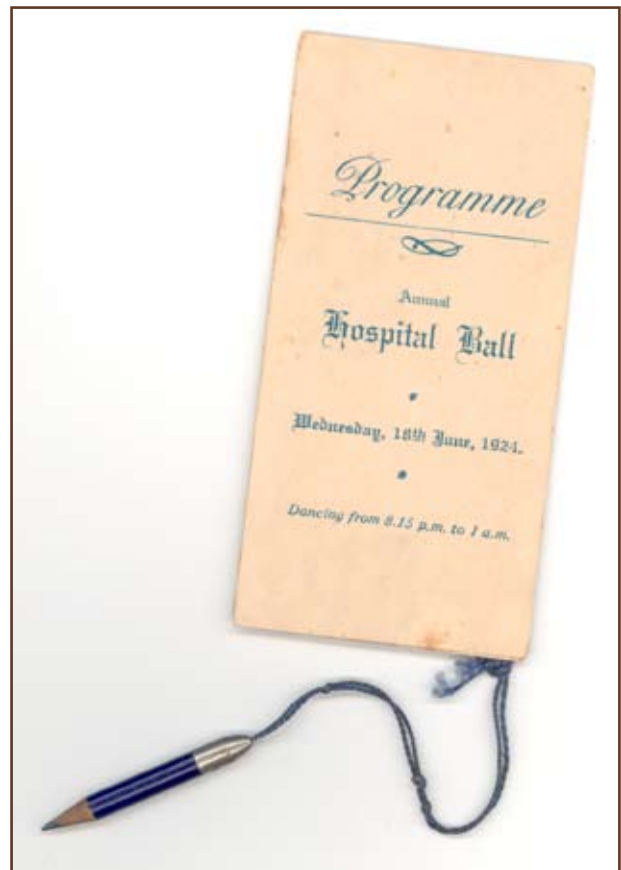
#### Other Social Functions

There used to be lots of morning teas and garden parties for fundraising, that was quite a feature of Ipswich. There was one very popular garden party at Mrs Bottomley's place. [In Grey St, now the Ipswich Club] They used to have big garden parties there, in aid of the Hospital mostly, and the Mayoress of the day was usually there. I always had to take the names of those present, that was most important, I don't know why but everybody liked to know who was there. Every social function that occurred, the attendance was always noted, it seemed to be the thing to do in those days and everybody seemed to be interested and say "Oh, she's there again...."

*Interviewer: So if you didn't go it was interesting to read about who was there?*

That's right, and of course I might have missed somebody's name out and - oh dear! "They never mentioned my name".

I used to attend the Cambrian Concerts. They were



always very popular, especially around eisteddfod time. The Ipswich City Concert Orchestra was very well attended. It was a string orchestra and it was really very beautiful.

I always used to report the monthly meeting of the CWA. In fact I was one of the Foundation Members of the C.W.A. I just can't remember the exact year we were formed, it must have been sometime in the 20s I think. I reported that first meeting. Mrs A.P.W. Tregear was our first President. She was the wife of the Police Magistrate at the time and she was a very fine woman. Another President I can remember very well was Mrs D.A. Gledson. She was a very good President too. The C.W.A. was first formed by Mrs Farmer she was the Queensland President of the Queensland Country Women's Association.

There were quite a number of others I could mention, Mrs D.G. Sinclair was the wife of the Postmaster and they lived in the Town Hall at the time. She was, I think, the first secretary. And I know Aunty, Mrs Parkinson was the treasurer at one stage, too. Miss Emily Barker was a very fine upstanding woman, she was an ex-school teacher and she was the President of the C.W.A. for some years. She was a wonderful person. I also used to go down to Booval to their C.W.A. meetings and morning teas.

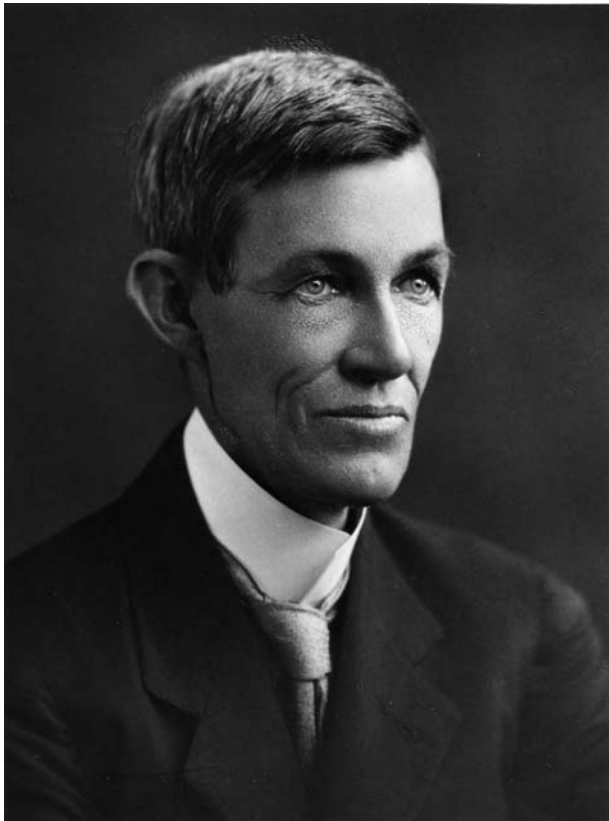
The Golf Club used to have an Annual Ball at the old Golf Club. They also had their weekly or monthly meetings. That was in what they called the Golf Park



*Great Britain bowlers visiting Ipswich Bowling Club in November 1926. Alison, her Uncle Hugh Parkinson and Aunt Marion are all in the crowd.*



*The Croquet Club*



*Uncle and Aunt - Hugh and Marion Parkinson*

but previously that was called the Horse Park; it is now called Limestone Park. It has had three names.

Then of course there was the Croquet Club. Auntie belonged to the Croquet Club. She used to play every week and they had monthly "At Homes" where different women had to be hostess for the teas. These were held at the Croquet Clubhouse. It was a very lively club then and they used to have some beautiful parties. Sometimes they would have a breaking up party around about Christmas time, it was the only time people were allowed to move on to the Croquet Court because it was just so very sacred, nobody was to walk on it.

The Bowling Club also held big events. I have a photo of when a British Bowls group came to Ipswich and they had a big social function. The Bowling Club used to have their yearly events and once again, all the names had to be taken down.

*Interviewer: You must have known everyone in Ipswich.*

Oh, just about. I used to move about and I was pretty well known through that - and of course Uncle was involved in so many different things.

#### Track 04

#### Hugh and Marian Parkinson

Uncle was Hugh Parkinson. He was a director of the Queensland Times and his father previously was one of the founders of the Q.T. I sort of lived Queensland Times all my life and somebody said I must have

ink in my blood. Uncle was a very fine man he had a wonderful nature and I was very very fond of Uncle, and he was of me too, I'm glad to say. They never had any children and I think I benefited by that. And Auntie, she was my father's sister, my paternal Aunt, and she was a lovely person too. She and I were all the more like sisters. Her name was Marian.

Auntie took part in lots of functions. She was President of the Legacy Club for quite some time, in the Memorial Hall and we used to go to monthly meetings. There were also lots of parties and morning teas in aid of the R.S.L and we provided lunches on Anzac Day.

Auntie was in everything, she was inclined to do things to help people and she was a very good Church woman. We were all involved in St Paul's. Auntie was secretary of the Woman's Guild at St Paul's for about 30 years and Uncle was on the Parochial Council for many years as well. We used to organise Fetes and that sort of thing. I was in the Girls' Friendly Society for quite a long time before I was married.

Auntie was interested in the Bush Book Club. Every week, somebody used to bundle up books and magazines to send out to bush people. I know Auntie had her turn once a month. I used to help her and we would have to make up a bundle - usually a couple of books, magazines, and sometimes books for children would go into that parcel, to be sent right out west. People enjoyed that because they didn't have radio and television and that sort of thing then. They would send



*Nicholas Street - photograph taken by Hugh Parkinson. Berry's Smallgoods is on the left.*

their books back and get another parcel. I don't know whether it still exists, but it was a very active society for a while.

*Interviewer: Something else you mentioned your Uncle was involved with was the promotion of bougainvillea.*

Yes, he and Mr Turley, F.W. Turley, who was the curator of the park, he lived in a little house right up on the hill in the Park. He and Uncle were very friendly because they both belonged to the Ipswich Horticultural Society. Uncle was a very keen gardener, he loved his roses and sweet peas and he always used to exhibit his flowers in different competitions. But he and Mr Turley got together one day and they decided that Ipswich should have an emblem and Bougainvillea really seemed to be uppermost in their thoughts at the time. They decided to promote this and eventually it became the emblem of Ipswich. Uncle used to take photos of it and he had great difficulty because he only could use a box Brownie in those days, but eventually they managed to get a good photo which was reproduced in colour and used on different things. He made some Christmas cards and advertised Bougainvillea that way.

## Track 5

In the 20s and 30s, Ipswich was a quiet town. Of course, Cribb & Foote was the centre of it all and after that building was burnt down I think it burnt the heart out of Ipswich, I really do, because it was the most dreadful shock. C & F's used to be where you would meet, at the corner of C & F's in Bell Street and it was a beautiful shop, no doubt about it.

There were so many old shops that I can remember that had so much character. I can remember all the different shops right up to the corner, up to Nicholas Street - Minnis Pharmacy, Preddeys Jewellery Shop and Nolans on the corner and then all down Nicholas Street there used to be Parker the tailor, and there was a Ham Cafe - at one stage I believe that was Ham, Tongue and Pickles, they had an establishment there - and further down I think there was Barry and Roberts, and on the other side Berrys the smallgoods place, we used to get very nice sausages there, and Horseley's the newsagent, Goleby's the saddler, and Whitehouse's Cafe - that was pretty well where all the wedding spreads were. I had my wedding reception there in 1933.

Whitehouses was just an ordinary place. They sold cakes and morning and afternoon teas but they were nothing like Rowes Cafe in Brisbane. But it was a very popular place for a reception. They just made a very simple type of thing, in those days people didn't expand like they do now because everything connected with food seems to be so competitive now, doesn't it. They had upstairs rooms where they used to have all the social spreads.

I can remember the formation of the Rotary Club when the first Rotary Club was formed and that was early in the 20s - and Uncle was one of the first Rotarians too. As you know the Rotarians picked men from different leading establishments - he was as a printer. The first meeting was a wonderful evening. Something so different was the Rotary Club - we were just wondering what it was all about at the time. It has developed into so much now. [The Rotary Club held its meetings at Whitehouses.]



*The North Star Hotel - photo taken by Hugh Parkinson from the Queensland Times verandah*

On the corner of Brisbane and Nicholas Street was a bank, the Commonwealth Bank wasn't there then, but there was another bank, a National Bank. Mr Woodward, our backdoor neighbour, was Manager of that bank and then a Mr Wearne came after he was there.

Next door to the bank was Berrys, then Billy Mathers. Billy Mathers started in Nicholas Street in a very mild way [the first Mathers Shoe Store] and I can remember when he used to come to the Q.T. and bring in his advertisements. He is dead now himself but now one of his sons has been knighted and they have done so well, they have branches all over Queensland. I can remember him quite well walking into the office with his advertisement, that was when I was in the office, I used to take the ad from him.

Some nights I used to work at night time up until 8 o'clock to take advertisements, I always used to feel very responsible because I had to lock the strong room up and I had a bicycle and I used to ride the bicycle at night time and I had a dreadful time with the blessed head lamp on my bicycle it was always breaking down.

The Q.T. was right in town there, as I said everybody knew the Q.T. corner. It was a real landmark, I think it was a great pity in a way it was sent out to where it is, but still I suppose, it has had to expand. But it lost identity, I think.

#### Track 06

I remember the early Depression Years in Ipswich because my first husband and I, Rod Foote, were friendly for quite some years before we became

engaged, we couldn't afford to get married. He only had about two days work in a fortnight and we had to save up on that and we were engaged for a couple of years before we were married. But he was friendly with the Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Railway Workshops, Mr Bobbie (R.J.) Chalmers, and he got Rod a position down at Waugh and Jephson Caterpillar Tractor people in Brisbane at that time and that was what put us on our feet in the end.

Mrs Chalmers, his wife, was commissioner of Girl Guides in Ipswich at the time and she wanted me to take it on but I said, I couldn't do that, I didn't feel competent to do it. It required training and a lot of responsibility with that.

#### Visitors to Ipswich

You might be interested to know that some years ago I interviewed Mrs A E Moore, the wife of the Premier at that time who had come to Ipswich to open the Ipswich Show. She was a very charming woman. She told me about her family life and so on but I was terrified because she was staying at the Palais Royal Hotel. I was very worried about going to see her at a hotel, but anyhow she put me at ease and she was very nice about it all.

Then there was Molly De Gunst. She was a singer who came to Ipswich to give a recital. She was from Bundaberg and she had a beautiful contralto voice. It so happened we had a C.W.A. Meeting that day. She was a very charming person too so she spoke to the women at our meeting and she was also given a civic reception. Of course she sang that night and had a very big audience to hear her too.

And it might be interesting to know I heard Dame Nellie Melba who sang in the Ipswich Town Hall many years ago. That would be in the early 20s. I can't remember much more about it. The Hall was packed to hear her sing. I can just remember her figure on the stage.

### Early Ipswich

Other things I can remember happening in Ipswich if its interesting to know this. At the time before we had electric light, they used to have a lamp lighter going along the streets. He was a man named Georgie Wall, and he was a bit of hunch back and he used to ride a little pony. I can remember him going along Thorn Street where we used to live, and he used to stand on the horse's back and light the lights at the street corners. The pony used to stand there.

I can also remember an organ grinder with his monkey coming along and playing for pennies in Thorn Street. He had a monkey with a little hat on and he used to grind around with his organ and people would give him a penny.

Limestone Park was only used for golfing at the time. They never had any sports in it other than the golf.

There used to be an old ice-cream man used to go around in a little open cart with a little pony and he had his ice-cream in a big cask with a wet bag over it and sell penny icecreams. We used to think it was just the spot to have a penny ice-cream, they were good ice-creams too.

There were lots of lovely things I can remember like that. I don't suppose there's too many can remember those now, there might be a few. If I am spared I will be 90 in November. [1994]

### Extra Notes provided by Mrs Smith

I remember the Blackall monument which was situated at the intersection of Brisbane and Nicholas Streets. That is now erected on Denmark Hill. At the corner of the streets was a bank and residence with the Gas Company offices in Nicholas Street.

Looking down Brisbane Street towards the Town Hall was where Cardew and Simpson, Solicitors had their office. Next door was the London Pharmacy, W.F.S. Fox Chemist, a newsagent, Jackson and Meyers Auctioneers, Edwards Electricians and Whiteheads Photographers where they usually displayed the latest bridal photos.

Next door was Dr W. Jackes Dentist and behind his surgery facing Limestone St was Stephens, a blacksmith.

Further on was Peter Spathis Cafe. he always served a glass of water with his luscious sundaes. A fish shop was next door, then the Palais Royal Hotel.

I expect there would not be many, if any, who would remember Bossie Martoo's open-air picture theatre with its canvas chairs and rows of wooden stands for seats. I remember a serial picture named "Gloria's Romance" played by Billie Burke, a very beautiful actress. I was

**MARTOO'S OLYMPIA**

THE FINAL ! BILLIE BURKE, THE FINAL !  
SIXTH SERIES,

**"GLORIA'S ROMANCE."**

**To-Night. To-Night.**

THIS PROVIDES GREAT INTEREST FOR YOUNG AND OLD.



**To-Night.**

Her storm of emotions and troubles breaks—the clouds of doubt and uncertainty clear away.

THE LAST AND MOST FASCINATING FEATURE.

**"Love's Reward."**

You simply must see BILLIE BURKE in her most beautiful mood. Come and enjoy Gloria's happiness with her—it's beautiful. Come and see the fascinating

FINIS OF

**Billie Burke**  
in  
**GLORIA'S ROMANCE**

a small girl but was allowed to go to the pictures each week with my Aunty and Uncle as they were interested in the serial. It was a special treat.

I have fond memories too of the old silent pictures later on in the Wintergarden Theatre. Presenting the productions always was an orchestra consisting of piano (Nancy White), violin (Effie Toohey), violin (Nancy's father) and a trumpeter. It was wonderful how that orchestra provided appropriate music to suit the entertainment. later on came the talkies. It was a memorable night - Al Jolsen and his "Mammy" was one of the first.

The visit of the Prince of Wales was a notable occasion.

I was so thrilled seeing him. I threw a bunch of flowers I was carrying into his car as he drove past.

Exciting was Dr Brown's first car - more so because he gave me a ride in it. This would have been about 1911.

In those days, the QT was a penny, telegrams or wires as they were sometimes called, were a cheap and popular means of expressing wedding or birthday wishes. Not so popular though in wartime as they were usually harbingers of bad news. The cost was only a shilling (10 cents) for 16 words. Petrol was only one shilling and sixpence (15c).

As a concession to summer, Cribb and Foote, Beirnes and Bayards provided colourful cardboard fans for their customers. Brisbane firms did the same. Those were the days when one could sit on a high cane chair at a counter to be served by a competent attendant - commonly called a counter jumper. Rolls of material were offered for selection, the purchase recorded on a docket and if paid for, was conveyed in a gadget by a wire pulley to the upstairs office to be returned with change.

Parcels were rarely carried. They were usually delivered without charge. Hats were always delivered in large

cardboard boxes. Customers were allowed to take goods home by appro [approval] to make their final choice and trusted to return items in good order.

Butchers would call regularly, groceries ordered earlier by an "order man" would be delivered, usually with a packet of boiled lollies. The ice man called every day with a double block on Friday. I remember a butter man, Jimmy McFarlane who would deliver a pound or half pound of butter on an enamel plate from his horse-drawn cart.

Every Friday, Cribb and Foote drove the horses, used in their carts or lorries, out to their paddock at Raceview. I loved to hear the clip-clop of the horses' hoofs.

Another fashion was "At Home" days when the ladies had a special afternoon each month for friends to visit. Featured of course was afternoon tea and the "best" china.



*Bell Street c1930, photo taken by Hugh Parkinson*

# THE SHOW BALL

## A GREAT SUCCESS.

### BRILLIANT SCENE AT TOWN HALL.

A brilliant scene was witnessed in the Town Hall last night, the occasion being the show ball. The efforts of the ladies' committee were crowned with complete success, the increasing popularity of the show being demonstrated by the large crowd of patrons. "I am more than pleased," said the president (Mr. R. P. Watson). "It is our first effort in this direction, and the response is more than gratifying."

The ball is an innovation so far as the work of the Q.P. and A. Society is concerned. Members of the committee felt that one thing in which past shows were lacking was the absence of social intercourse. It was felt also that the annual ball would create more interest in the annual show, and thus be a means of raising revenue, apart from the direct benefit obtained through the sale of tickets for the event itself. The committee's decision to make an effort to arrange the ball as part of the campaign, to popularise the society was followed by an enthusiastic meeting of ladies, at which the project was taken up earnestly by a number who had considerable experience in the arrangements of such functions. The number of members on the committee was not large, but the personnel created the general impression that success was certain. The ladies' committee consisted of Mesdames R. P. Watson (president), the Mayoress (Mrs. A. T. Stephenson), and Miss C. Watson (vice-presidents), Mrs. D. G. Sinclair (treasurer), Mrs. E. J. L. Easton (secretary), and Mesdames J. H. Bearkley, C. Hodnett, E. D. Stewart, F. A. Barbat, H. E. Barlow, P. W. Cameron, H. W. Watson, H. Parkinson, W. H. Greasley, and Miss Kilner.

#### THE DECORATIONS.

The interior of the hall presented a charming sight. The outstanding colour was provided by artificial wisteria blossoms made by the ladies, which were strung across the hall and entwined with asparagus fern. Electric lights, amber colour, was intermingled with blooms, and the effect was particularly pretty. The festoons were joined to an attractive central figure decorated with flowers and tinsel, and on the walls neatly arranged shelves displayed pot plants and flowers. Pictures also were artistically hung. The decorations of the stage were an outstanding feature. The front portion was beautified by

tween pillars decorated with coloured paper. The supper tables also were tastefully decorated, gerberas being the predominating flower, while at the back wisteria blossoms and asparagus fern were tastefully arranged.

The decorative work was in the hands of Mr. H. Daniels, assisted by Messrs. P. Meldrum and W. Spiers, and members of the ladies' committee. The lighting installations were carried out free of charge by the Electric Services Company, the workers being Messrs. M. C. Hayward and W. S. Wallace.

Spirited music was supplied by the Lyric Orchestra, led by Miss Pommer, and Messrs. J. M. Shaw, M. Molloy and H. S. Wilson were the M.C.

Amongst those present were:—The Mayoress (Mrs. A. T. Stephenson), who was gowned in a dress of balmain satin crepe-nyonnes, ruched side panels, finished with blue and pink hand-made flowers and black metallic lace, while Mrs. E. J. Easton chose a gown of black charmante, charmingly trimmed with jet. A frock of black satin

charmante, early Victorian bodice, puffed sleeves, bouffant skirt, trimmed with double wheels, formed with picot-edged accordion pleated satin waist, line completed with large cerise rose at left side, was chosen by Mrs. P. W. Cameron; cerise feathers in her hair completed her toilet. Mrs. P. Barbat was gowned in black satin, finished with blue and gold cabachon at waist. Mrs. Barlow wore a frock of pale blue morocain, georgette sleeves, draped skirt and a hand-made posy at the waist, while Mrs. H. Watson appeared in a dress of tangerine paillette, puffed sleeves, draped at waist with aeroplane and hand-made posy. Mrs. D. G. Sinclair's toilet consisted of black charmeuse with sequin overdress, and Mrs. H. Parkinson was gowned in powder blue charmeuse, finished with gold flowers and hand-made rose of material.

Mrs. R. P. Watson chose a dress of black charmante, relieved with gold tissue; a hand-made posy of blue and pink flowers finished the waist line. Mrs. C. Hodnett wore a charming dress of black with a wide berthe of black and gold embossed lace, and Miss C. Watson looked becoming in a gown of black satin beaute, handsomely trimmed with jet. Mrs. E. D. Stewart was attired in blue brocaded crepe morocain, with silver lace sleeves. A henna satin-beaded charmeuse was worn by Mrs. Bearkley, and Mrs. S. Wilson was gowned in black satin, overdress of black sequins. Mrs. S. Pifer was becomingly gowned in green charmeuse bodice, with skirt of black lace over buttercup. Mrs. Sullivan wore a dress of shot taffeta, and Mrs. Runge's frock was of vieux rose morocain, finished with hand-made spray at waist. Mrs. Flynn was attired in black satin morocain, trimmed with jet beads. Mrs. Duncan Thompson was gowned

in black satin, overdress of sequin net with cerise spray and gold lace at side. Miss Egan (Woombe), was charmingly frocked in a pink satin morocain, prettily trimmed with french flowers. Miss G. Woodward wore a frock of blue brocaded satin, trimmed with white fur, and Miss L. Kilner was tastefully attired in apricot satin, trimmed with diamond cabachon at waist. Miss D.

Miss P. Molloy's choice was jade green satin grenadine, early Victorian bodice, overdress of tulle, embroidered in silver. Miss Moore wore a frock of kingfisher blue satin, overdress of blue georgette, trimmed with sequins, and finished with cabachon at waist. Miss M. Wilson was frocked in pink satin charmante, with posy of flowers at waist, and Miss S. Mundt was charmingly gowned in black satin, overdress of black sequin net, relieved at waist with cerise popples. Miss N. Winlaw looked dainty in a dress of pale blue brocaded tulle, and Miss H. Vincent wore a frock of cream charmeuse, with oriental trimmings. Miss L. Green was tastefully frocked in pink shadow tissue crepe-de-chene, early Victorian style, with cabachon at waist. Miss Vincent wore a dainty gown of black duchess charmeuse, trimmed with silver flowers at waist, and Miss L. Jones wore a dainty frock of navy taffeta, early Victorian bodice, finished with lemon flower at waist. Miss E. Ploetz looked charming in a frock of tangerine brocaded crepe-de-chene, and Miss Costello's dress of kingfisher blue, with a feather cabachon at waist and relieved on the shoulder with a gold flower, suited her admirably. Miss Flynn wore a dainty frock of tomato satin, overdress, georgette, finished at waist with hand-made flowers. Miss M. Runge chose a dainty frock of red georgette, trimmed with hand-made spray.

A hand gold t admire with b great Daley etta, a whilst in a ge relieve chon a Ploetz apricot bachon Messrs M. J. Missus way, M Sinclair W. M. Day, N William Simpson Wilson Holaha wood, A. St Molloy, tophers Mather W. Ws Pomme son.

Q.P. and A. Society.

First Grand  
Show Ball.

Town Hall, Ipswich,  
May 21, 1924, at 8.15 p.m.

Programme.

President:  
Mrs. R. P. Watson.

Hon. Secretary:  
Mrs. E. J. L. Easton.

Program for the Show Ball, 1924 and Allison's description which appeared in The Queensland Times

# Social

Any information contributed for this column must be duly authenticated, otherwise it will not be published. "At Home" announcements will be inserted on payment of a charge of 1/6 per line.

Miss Joyce Cope, Woodend, spent a holiday with her sister, Mrs. T. Hutchins, Ashgrove.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Kluck and daughter have returned to Morton Vale after spending a very enjoyable holiday in Redcliffe.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith have returned to Ipswich after spending a holiday at Bondi House, Redcliffe.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Rich and family, Silkstone State School, will spend the vacation touring the Southern States.

Miss E. O'Connor intends spending the vacation at Caloundra.

Miss M. Gledson will spend part of the vacation at Swanpool, Victoria.

Mrs. M. B. Brown will be the guest of her sister in Brisbane during the vacation.

Miss M. C. Curtis leaves for Manly to-day. Miss Curtis has been transferred to Wynnum Central.

Miss E. Cole will spend the vacation in Sandgate.

Miss E. Tansey intends spending the vacation at Southport.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sebley will spend the vacation at their seaside residence, "Evley," Southport.

Mr. V. Callinan will spend the vacation touring the Northern Rivers.

Mr. A. J. Smith leaves by plane on Monday for Sydney. Mr. Smith has been transferred to Sherwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Sargent and family will spend part of the vacation at Margate Beach, Redcliffe.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Ross will spend Christmas at Bongwarra, Western Queensland.

Mr. M. A. Toohey intends spending the Christmas vacation at Blackheath, Blue Mountains.

Mr. G. Scott is spending the weekend at "Evley," Southport, as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sebley.

Mr. T. Dimmock (Head Teacher, Blair State School) and Mrs. Dimmock and family will spend their vacation at Main Beach, Southport.

Mr. D. F. Simond will spend his vacation at Childers and Coolangatta.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Melville, State School, Lucinda Point, will spend the vacation with Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Melville, Brisbane-road.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. D. Ringrose, Bardon, Brisbane, are spending a fortnight's holiday at Coolangatta at "Stella Maria."

Mr. and Mrs. F. Moorhouse, Silkstone, leave this morning by car for Southport.

Miss Young, Herbert-street, left this morning by car for a month's holiday at Southport.

Mr. R. A. Kerr, M.A., B.Sc. (Head Master of the Boys' Grammar School) and Mrs. Kerr leave this morning by car on a motor tour of the South.

Miss Lillian M. Armitage, M.A. (Head Mistress of the Girls' Grammar School) left by the mail train last night for Maryborough.

Miss E. Cribb, M.A., "Goolawan," Denmar Hill, will leave to-day to spend a week at Coolangatta, followed by a fortnight in Sydney.

Miss E. Bostock, Salisbury-road, will spend the Christmas vacation at Sydney, Canberra, and the Blue Mountains. She leaves to-day with Mr. and Mrs. Kerr.

Miss E. M. Colling leaves to-day by boat for Sydney.

Miss J. Elliott, B.Sc., left for Gymple yesterday.

Miss I. M. Carmody, Girls' Grammar School, left on Thursday evening for Brisbane.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Dale and family, Montauban-street, leave to-day to spend the holidays at Caloundra.

Mr. C. K. Evans, M.Sc. (Principal of the Technical College) and Mrs. Evans and family, Fifer-street, Eastern Heights, will spend the vacation at Tallebudgera. They leave to-day.

Mr. Alan Beiers, Roma, arrives to-day, and will spend a week as a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Viv. Walket, Bundamba.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jackson and family, Montauban-street, leave for Southport to-day.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hooper, Laidley, are holidaying at Southport. Mr. K. Hooper (formerly of the Ipswich Grammar School), who has just passed his finals in medicine at the Sydney University, will arrive at Southport to-day to spend the vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hooper.

Mr. and Mrs. B. McVish and Miss Mary McVish have returned after a holiday spent at "The Bund," Queen's Beach, Redcliffe.

Misses Dorothy Luther, Gattón, and Jose Coleman, Toowoomba, are the guests of Mrs. E. A. Ross, "Moyallon," Ipswich.

Mr. A. G. Stevens, Head Teacher, North Baffle Creek State School, will spend a vacation with his mother, Mrs. Edith Stevens, South-street.

# Social

Any information contributed for this column must be duly authenticated, otherwise it will not be published. "At Home" announcements will be inserted on payment of a charge of 1/6 per line.

Miss Myra Sommerlad, Tenterfield, is spending an extended holiday in Ipswich and Brisbane.

Mrs. A. Munro and Miss Olive Munro, Bremer-street, left yesterday for a holiday to be spent in Sydney.

Miss Elaine Reason, Mortimer-street, will be the guest of Miss Jessie Frazer, Rosewood, this week.

Miss Beryl Gordon, Frenchton, is the guest of Miss Cameron, Moffatt-street, for a few days.

Misses Evelyn and Marie Grant, Gladstone, are spending a holiday with Mrs. Norman Grant, "Inglebrook," Lowry-street.

At the annual meeting of the Ipswich Croquet Club on July 29 it was decided to appoint the President (Mrs. J. T. Millar) and Mrs. M. W. Hanke as the grounds committee, and Mrs. J. T. Millar, Mrs. S. H. Harding and Mrs. E. Lewis as the selection committee.

Mr. Norman Hooth, "Burnside," Colvin-street, North Ipswich, is spending a holiday at Coolangatta.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Frankling, who spent Saturday in Ipswich, intend spending Exhibition week in Brisbane before leaving for their future home at Cairns. Mr. Roy Frankling is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Frankling, of Ayr, who were at one time residents of Ipswich.

Mr. W. James, with her two sons, is holidaying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomas, "Northwen," Blackstone.

A pleasant function was held at Nixon's Cafe on Saturday afternoon in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Frankling, of Cairns, who have been holidaying in the South. Mesdames J. P. Collett and J. T. Peters acted as hostesses. Musical items were rendered by the Misses F. Perkins, E. Callow, E. M. Phillips, and Mr. R. G. Phillips, and elocutionary numbers by Miss E. M. Phillips. Several toasts were honoured, Mr. R. G. Phillips presiding at the gathering. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Collett, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Peters, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. J. Frankling, Mr. and Mrs. J. White, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Callow, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Phillips, Mesdames G. Sauer, W. Hinton, and W. W. Packer, Misses F. Perkins, M. Elliott, Callow (4), E. M. Phillips, H. Bennett, Messrs. W. Elliott, N. E. Callow, V. Elliott, D. Frankling, A. Bennett.

Mr. J. Faulkner, on behalf of West Moreton Motors, Ipswich District agents for Dodge Bros. Motor Cars, entertained Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hinkler and a number of friends at lunch at the North Star Hotel, Ipswich, on Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Hinkler were motoring through Ipswich from Bundaberg on their way to Brisbane, and the opportunity was taken to do honour to the famous group and his wife.

Those present included the Mayor (Ald. A. T. Stephenson), Ald. J. F. Walker, Messrs. John Casey (President of the Chamber of Commerce), John Faulkner, C. Timra, A. E. Jones, Blake, and others. After lunch a great crowd gathered to get a glimpse of Mr. Hinkler, and the party departed amid cheers called for them by the Mayor.

Social pages from The Queensland Times in the 1920s, including lists of people going away for holidays and a description of a luncheon for Bert Hinkler at the North Star Hotel.

# FOR THE WOMENFOLK.

## "PATRICIA PAT'S" WEEKLY LETTER.

Dear Judith,

Quite soon now—surely, in just a few weeks—we shall all have thrown off our colds, flues, and grumbles, and be laughing gaily at the first merry advent of Spring. Even now the herald is in the garden, and it is a pleasure to go for a ramble round the suburbs to peep over fences and see the Iceland poppies, the first candytuft, the velvet bowen of the first wall flowers and pansies, and drink in the fragrance of early stocks, nigellone, violets. We Queenslanders are very fortunate in that there is no one reason of the year when we are not blessed with flowers and birds. In the middle of our winter the wattle is at its best. Certainly the butterflies disappear during the Winter months, but then we welcome them all the more gladly in the Spring. These beautiful things seem to be becoming fewer as the years roll on; I do hope we are not going to lose them altogether.

There is a subtle charm in the warm sunny spring days with their lingering breezes. Everything seems to become infected with happiness. The birds go into ecstasies and nearly burst themselves with song in the joy of it all. I know a beautiful old weeping fig tree that holds a veritable bird choir all through the Spring months, and what peans of joy issue from those green branches. The bees, too, in the first warm days, seem to buzz more merrily as they hurry from flower to flower, and the butterflies after their long absence, are like gay little excited sprites as they flutter among the blooms.

"In spring time, the only pretty ring time,  
When birds do sing, hey ding a dink, ding;  
Sweet lovers love the spring."  
(Shakespeare).

It was a pleasure to note in the Press recently that the Government had decided to protect permanently the koala or native bear—Australia's most popular little animal. Do you know that millions of them have been killed for the sake of their pelts, and millions, too, fell victims to a disease that swept through Eastern Aus-

"Whatever the weather may be," says he,  
"Whatever the weather may be,  
It's the songs ye sing, and the smiles ye wear,  
That's making the sun shine everywhere."  
J. W. Riley.

tralia during 1887-9 and 1900-1902. So that it is no wonder now we see them only rarely in the bush sitting in their quaint way in the fork of

## ROSE TRIMMED SACHET.

### A DELIGHTFUL GIFT.

A really luxurious padded nightie sachet makes a dainty possession for oneself, or a perfectly delightful gift for a friend. Make yellow and turquoise blue art silk, furnishing taffeta makes this lovely case.

Much quicker than embroidery and even richer-looking to adorn the sachet is a big hand-made flower spray. Made at home, the cost is only a few pence.

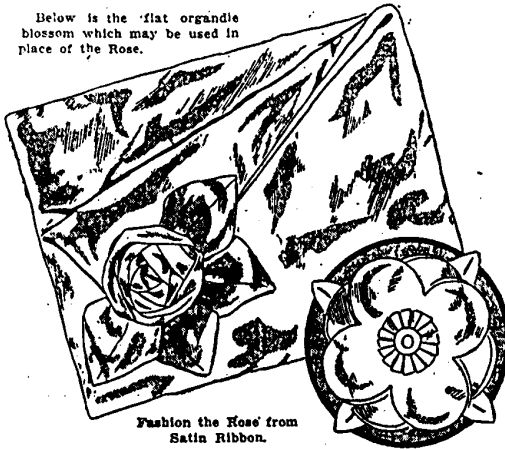
According to your fancy (and your piece bag!) you trim this sachet with a rose and leaves, made from ribbon or a big, flat organdie blossom with felt foliage.

For the sachet itself, you will need 1 yard each of turquoise blue and

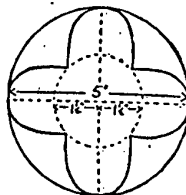
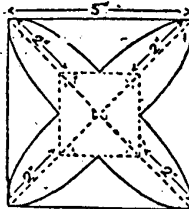
along the upper edge of the ribbon, as shown.

Hold the buckram so that this last stitching is at the top and again fold the ribbon diagonally down towards you, securing it twice as before. Your rose is now beginning to form, and looks like the illustration. Continue holding the last stitching upwards, drawing fresh folds towards you and tacking each down, until all your ribbon is used and the

Below is the flat organdie blossom which may be used in place of the Rose.



Fashion the Rose from Satin Ribbon.



Right—Shows how the ribbon is stitched to the buckram foundation to make the pretty rose trimming.



## JAMS AND JELLIES.

### OF FRUITS IN SEASON.

Jams and marmalades differ very little from each other; the former are made from juicy berries, such as strawberries, gooseberries, &c., while the latter are made from the firmer fruits, such as pineapples, or pinks or oranges, &c. Both require care and attention in boiling; the slightest degree of burning communicates a most disagreeable taste, and if they are not boiled properly they will not keep. A properly constructed

### THIS WEEK'S RECIPE.

#### MUSHROOM SAVOURY.

This makes a simple, yet delicious savoury. Make a stiff white sauce, add cooked mushrooms (asparagus, sardines, hard-boiled egg, and caper, shreds of chicken, rabbit, or fish, may be used instead of mushrooms), put in the dish, sprinkle with grated cheese, and garnish with a roll of fried onion and parsley sprig. Serve hot.

ted preserving pan and long wooden spoon or stick are necessary to make them successfully. Jam must be well boiled; when suddenly cooked, it should jelly fairly firmly when dropped on to a cold saucer. The scum should not be removed until the jam is nearly ready, and then carefully skimmed off with a wooden spoon.

Jams, jellies, and marmalades of every description are covered as speedily as possible with paper brushed on both sides with white of egg, before the escaping steam loses its power to exclude the air.

#### GRAPEFRUIT MARMALADE.

1lb. grapefruit, 2 small lemons, 1lb. navel oranges, 12lb. sugar. Grate all the fruit on a vegetable grater; put in the preserving pan with 8 pints water and boil for 1 hour. Add 12lb. sugar, and boil for

vedges stitched invisibly together—gives the leaf a realistic pointed tip.

#### An Organdie Flower.

If you prefer the organdie flower with its slightly upcurling petals for your sachet, you will need some scraps of deep yellow organdie, a small wooden button-mound and a 5in square of green felt or non-fraying cloth.

The very simple patterns for flower and leaf you can cut yourself, according to the diagrams. If you use a 5in circle as a basis for the petals and a 5in square as a basis for the foliage, you will find it very easy to rule out each into quarters and

one more he kept at a 12

#### GOO

Cut the grapefruit into 12 cups of water, add sugar to taste, sugar to taste. Boil for 1-2 hours.

#### GOOS

Take fine, ripe, wash a 12 pints col. of gooseberry the fibre, and comes a jar through a 1/2 syrup of a 1 portion to a little water. When the bottle, add together for 10.

#### C.

Take 1 lb cupfuls sugar. Put the cane slice the wenz with the wenz all night. Then add the jellies.

#### CITRUS

Slice up fruit with salt an 12 hours; put cold water—fruit; boil for 12 hours. I again 12 hours sugar 12lb. till clear, an

#### COMPL

Weigh the 2 cups water each pound into fine str 2 cups water with the pip. Allow day. Boil for 1-hour, sugar and 1 utes.

#### PINEAPPLE

4 pineapple pineapples, cut them for 1-hour, cup of sugar jellies, add 1

#### TOMA

Allow 1lb. and 1 lemon fruit. Slice out pipe and to cover till preserving of water, as it comes to add gradually lemons so as Boil till it is

#### LO

Use good s loquats, cut-cover with 6 hours, strain juice; to eve and the juice gather into a until it boils hours, or until

#### 1

Peel and 1 every 1lb. It boil until, sugar to 1lb. hour, or until

A typical women's page prepared by Alison Smith in the 1920s