



## THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND BRANCH

*Thursday 26 November 2020*

***"Coming out of Covid Morning Tea with a Historical Twist"***  
**GARDENS CLUB, CITY BOTANIC GARDENS, BRISBANE**

### *Pictorial Highlights*



The Art Nouveau style building used by the Gardens Club is steeped in history.



The delightful vista of the City Botanic Gardens and the Brisbane CBD skyline from the entrance to the Gardens Club.

Following the Annual Dinner and AGM held on 18 February 2020, no further events were organised by the Queensland Branch for the next nine months due to Government public indoor dining restrictions in Queensland designed to control the Covid 19 pandemic.

The easing of these restrictions enabled the Queensland Branch to stage its *"Coming out of Covid Morning Tea with a Historical Twist"* on Thursday 26 November 2020 at the Gardens Club, located in the beautiful Brisbane City Botanic Gardens.

Seventy-one (71) guests attended, which represented a magnificent turnout for a Queensland Branch morning tea. No doubt this was in part, a response to members having been deprived of social interaction for such a long period.

This event was just the tonic the Queensland Branch needed after such a long period of inactivity.



Our guest speaker was Dr Denver Beanland AM, who, in addition to his distinguished past service to the Queensland Parliament and the Brisbane City Council, just happens to be a noted historian with a keen knowledge of Queensland History. Dr Beanland gave a most interesting and stimulating insight into the first decade of Queensland from 1859 to 1870, highlighting the humble beginnings of Queensland and the key "movers and shakers" of the day.





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71 guests very  
glad to be  
socializing again.

### BRIEF GARDENS CLUB HISTORY

The Art Nouveau style building used by the Gardens Club is steeped in history. It was built as a curator's residence in 1908 and is the third home to be built here; the other two succumbing to the weather. During World War II it was used as a ward room for the WRAN officers of "HMAS Moreton". After the War it was again used as a curator's residence until the 1980s when Harold Caulfield AM, the last curator of these gardens retired. As part of the 1987 redevelopment of it was remodelled into a restaurant and kiosk and was opened in September 1989. The building's interior boasts some very endearing features. one of Brisbane's hidden gems.

These pictorial highlights have been compiled by Geoff Cowles OAM, Events and Awards Coordinator (Metro).