

Report from the Central Queensland Regional Group **[Rockhampton Branch]**

On the 16th March 2009 we had our morning tea, fifty one people attended, and we had 12 apologies. We commenced with condolences for two members the late Mr. Charles Harriman OAM and Mrs. Ruby Thomasson OAM who passed away, in sympathy with the members of their families a minute silence was observed. I gave a report on the Order of Australia National Conference which was held in Brisbane this year.



We welcomed our latest awardees Mrs. Helen Mc Kerrow, Helen's award was recognized for her service to the communities of Mount Isa and Cloncurry through a range of welfare, arts and youth organizations.

Our guest speaker was Yvonne Kelley. Yvonne devoted 12 years to family life, during which time she was an active member of the Central Queensland sub-

branch, Royal Australian Nursing Federation holding most executive positions. She returned to active nursing service after attending a one week Refresher Course at the Rockhampton Base Hospital in 1974. Following general ward work and flying with a Medical Officer one day per week to conduct country clinics, Yvonne joined the staff of the Education Center in 1977 and transferred to the position of In-service Educator in 1982 returning to the Education Center in for a further four years until hospital based nurse training ceased in 1996

In 1977 Yvonne began collecting Nursing memorabilia for the Rockhampton Hospital, the collection grew to encompass the whole Hospital and in 1988 the Hospitals Board officially opened a Museum on campus. Unfortunately the Museum now has to move due to the economic climate within District Health and the redevelopment of the Hospital. Negotiations are underway to move the Museum to the Rockhampton Heritage Village.

Yvonne holds a Graduate Diploma in Community Museum Management from James Cook University.

Our next meeting is a Luncheon, which will be held at the Rockhampton Leagues Club on 21st September, Fellowship at 12-30 pm, commencing at 1-00 pm.

Raymond Young
[Convenor Rockhampton Branch]