Did Patrick Mayne murder Robert Cox

Sat May 12th - 1pm to 3.30pm
Level 2, Auditorium,
Sir Llew Edwards Building (14),
Cnr University Drive & Campbell Rd,
UQ St Lucia campus (Free parking available)

Rosamond Siemon, the author of the controversial book, ‘The Mayne Inheritance’, argued that if it was not for a murder and robbery committed by Patrick Mayne on Sunday, 26 March 1848, the University of Queensland would not have been built at St Lucia. She maintains that an innocent man, William Fyfe, was wrongfully hanged for the crime and years later Mayne confessed.

The theme of the book is that Mayne murdered Robert Cox, stole his money and the stolen funds were used as the cornerstone for his massive property empire. The family wealth was gifted to the university so they could acquire the St Lucia land. Was the University of Queensland built on blood money? It is a story of murder, mystery and intrigue.

Stephen Sheaffe, a well known barrister and historian challenges this controversial book, and says it should be classified as a novel and not a work of history. He has examined the statements presented at the 1848 inquest into the murder of Cox and the judge’s notes of the Fyfe murder trial. He argues there is no evidence to support the contention that Mayne confessed to murder and that he murdered Cox.

Did Patrick Mayne murder Robert Cox or is it all myth making with the tragic consequence that the reputations of the most significant benefactors to the university are being impugned, trashed and defamed?

Entry: RHSQ Member $15  Non-member $20
RSVP by Wed 9th May:
RHSQ Tel: 07 3221 4198 or info@queenslandhistory.org.au
Limited disabled parking available – advise if required when you RSVP.
Refreshments included in ticket price.

Try to read the book before you come to the debate