

Willis L. Haenke, formerly Chairman of Directors of Rhondda Collieries Pty Ltd, and who died in 1987, dedicated in his will, funds “for the purpose of preserving, and promoting an awareness of the History of Coal Mining in the Ipswich Region.”

The start of the Foundation would come into effect after the death of his second wife. She passed away in 2006 and so the task of the Trustees, Hugh Taylor, who succeeded Prof Ray Whitmore in 2003, and Wybe Geertsma (the son-in law of Willis L. Haenke) has now begun.

The Foundation is recognised by the Australian Taxation Office as a Charitable Fund. This means that the Foundation is also a Deductible Gift Recipient.