**Essays on Mount Crosby - Kholo's First Bridge 1876**

From the beginning, neighbouring Mount Crosby and Kholo held similar aspirations for rural development and gauged their success against the arrival of the road, the school, the post office and the bridge; but in these riverside places the bridge had special significance.

Kholo's first bridge arrived in 1876 during an early heyday in which they developed new roads, a provisional school, a post office and the pumping station for Ipswich's first water supply scheme.

From the early 1870s, the bridge had been the subject of strong lobbying by locals McAndrew, Clegg and Holt; and was supported by the sympathetic minister for West Moreton, Mr James Foote. The appearance of a bridge at Kholo seemed improbable (even ill-advised) when, during an 1875 parliamentary debate about how to spend £10,000 made available for bridges across the upper Brisbane River, Minister Foote surprised the gallery by suggesting £5,000 be directed to a Kholo bridge that would serve only eight selectors, most of whom were non-resident.

Unlikely it may have seemed, but the residents (or should that be the resident) of Kholo saw a bridge constructed at the site known as Rocky Crossing and on 23 June, 1876, the bridge was officially opened at a ceremony attended by Messrs. Foote, Pechey and Pettigrew, MLAs.

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