**Essays on Mount Crosby - Little Ugly Creek**

The lower part of Kholo Creek on the way to Anstead has always had the local name of Ugly Creek (and Ugly Gully). It gets an early mention in this June 1850 report in the *Moreton Bay Courier* describing a new North Road from Brisbane to Wivenhoe.

*"The road from this creek [Moggill Creek] to Sheehan's Flat, and to the Ugly Creek, is perfectly level, sound, and firm for upwards of five miles, far exceeding our expectations, passing through a small thin scrub, and crossing the bed of a small creek [Pullen Pullen Creek]. The descent to the Ugly Creek is steep; but can easily be made passable for drays by removing the top of the bank into its bed."*

In 1891, the *Queenslander* magazine wrote that it expected the unusual name arose from its awful road crossing, which terrified many a traveller. The *Queenslander* mentioned that this name was quite in contrast to the appearance of the place, and described it as one of the most beautiful creeks in South Eastern Queensland – even publishing a sketch of the tranquil creek in one of its editions.

Today’s crossing is downstream from where the old road crossed, but there are still some special things about the crossing. If you are a passenger going towards Brisbane, look out to the left hand side of the bridge to see the best example (perhaps the only example) of a giant lilly-pilly tree in the district. Rather too tall for a hedge.

Col Hester