



THE



NEWSLETTER

NO. 111 JUNE 2017

THE GYMPIE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

215 Brisbane Road, GYMPIE. QLD 4570

PO Box 626, GYMPIE. QLD 4570

(07) 5482 3995, Fax: (07) 54825686

Email: info@gympiegoldmuseum.com.au www.gympiegoldmuseum.com.au

ELECTED OFFICERS

President:

Frank Lightfoot

Tel: 54833965

Secretary:

Ralph Richardson

Tel: 54839418

Mob: 0408616709

Treasurer/Editor:

Marilyn Soanes

Tel: 54845211

Senior Vice President:

Max Travis

Tel: 54812157

Mob. 0414015302

Junior Vice President/

Historian:

Allan Blackman

Tel: 54828828

Mob: 0428332291

OTHER POSITIONS HELD:

Property Officer:

& Firearms Licensee

Ron Owen 54825070

with **Assistant Jo Carson**

Mob. 0414015302

Historian: Chris Kapernick

Mob. 0439535139

Museum Markets

at the Duck Ponds (Lake Alford)

1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month

JULY dates: 2ND, 16TH, 30TH

(7 a.m.-12 noon)

Site Bookings to Museum Café 54 823995

Come along and browse the markets
for some bargains and catch up with friends!

The next performance of entertainment
by the Gympie Museum Re-enactment Group
will be 16TH JULY 2017 at 9.30 a.m.



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→ Steaming Day first Monday of each month

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COMING EVENT 2017

Annual Steam Festival

Saturday 30th September/ Sunday 1st/ Monday 2nd October (Queen's Birthday)

THE GENERAL MEETING will be held on **WEDNESDAY 2ND AUGUST 2017**
at 7.00 p.m. upstairs of the Gold Room. Business includes: Work Projects, Steam Festival,
Followed by the *ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING* at 8.00 p.m.

The Unusual...

Readers have you ever been in Rodney Street, Proston in the South Burnett.

On a visit to Proston, Lea and her husband spoke to a couple of locals about this rampant plant. A lot of leaf litter could be seen through the windows of the building. Thankyou to Lea (Volunteer at Destination Gympie Region Lake Alford) for these photos.



Old Town Hall has new growth

Info. from www.thereporter.com.au/news/old-town-hall

The old Town Hall at Proston, built in 1934, was a picture theatre out the back and four retail shops out the front.

ONCE, it was a small pot plant in the foyer.

How could anyone forget me! (Ficus).

It now has burst through the window at the old Proston Public Hall and just keeps on growing.

Proston Library Officer Margaret Westerman works across the road from the old hall, and has watched on for the last 15 years as the small Ficus plant has grown outwards, now taking up the front window.

"The hall eventually closed when the new one was built and so it never actually got watered. It just continued to grow towards the light, found a broken window and made its way out through there," she said.

The overgrowth now attracts the interest of tourists heading to Boondooma Dam.

Queensland Day...

Queensland Day is when the new colony of Queensland was established. The **6th June** has officially been celebrated since 1981. The day is a state observance, and not a public holiday in Queensland. Some workplaces are decorated in the colour maroon to symbolise pride in their state.

Coming Event...

Kybong Rocks & Minerals Fest will be held on 4/5/6 August
Demonstrations of Gold Panning, and a stall in the Gold Rush marquee
will be attended by Museum volunteers.

Also on Sunday at the airport is the HUGE Fly Expo
and the Gympie Historic Auto club is also hosting their 4 club rally.

Kitchen Appliance...

Making Life Easier

‘Mum, can I lick the beater?’ I can imagine this question was asked numerous times when you were young. You didn’t even ask what was being mixed, all you know was that it was going to taste good.

It was about 1948 when the Sunbeam Mixmaster made its way into Australian kitchens.

This small appliance was not only a time saver, but overcome the painstaking task of beating cakes, sponges, omelettes, sauces and ice-cream etc. by hand - and gave Mum ‘more time for leisure and relaxation.’

The mixmaster is a revolutionary product that could mix, mash, whip, beat, stir, fold, blend, juice and cream, simply by adjusting the Mix Finder Dial and ‘tuning in’ the correct beater speed for the job.

They found their place on kitchen work-tops ready to spring into action upon request.

Households were blessed with the Mixmaster’s easily detached, quickly cleaned, glistening chrome-plated, full-mix beaters.



Is it a knife, a fork or a spoon? It’s a Splayd!

The name ‘splay’ means to slant, slope or spread outwards, which is exactly what the bowl does. Splayds were purchased in velour-boxed sets of four, six or eight, in either a mirror or satin finish, and there were not many sets silver or gold-plated.

In the late 1940s in Sydney the Splayd was the brainchild of Mr William McArthur, whose wife told said to him -

‘Why don’t you invent something?

You have the brains and I have the brawn.’

Bill thought it would be much easier if there was just one utensil to do the work of a knife, fork and spoon, so he designed an implement deeper, four fork tines, and more sharply angled ‘bowl’.

A splayd does the job of three utensils..... and saves on washing up!

It is suitable cutting through soft food and often used for eating chopped foods like rice-based curries, in place of a chopsticks or knife and fork.

Info. from Suburban...Icons by Steve Bedwell

In 1954 decor-enhancing hues were introduced - green, yellow, blue and coral. Below is an example which is on display in the kitchen of the House, along with a few other types.



Appearing in the Australian Women’s Weekly 10 June 1953, was this quote ‘It’s not a real mixer if the bowl does not automatically revolve.’

There is competition, from many food processors that have saturated the market in recent years.

Bankfoot House...

In October, the 150th Birthday celebrations of the heritage-listed Bankfoot House at 1998 Old Gympie Road, Glass House Mountains will be held.

The gold discovery led to the commencement of the Cobb & Co coach service and the establishment of Bankfoot House.

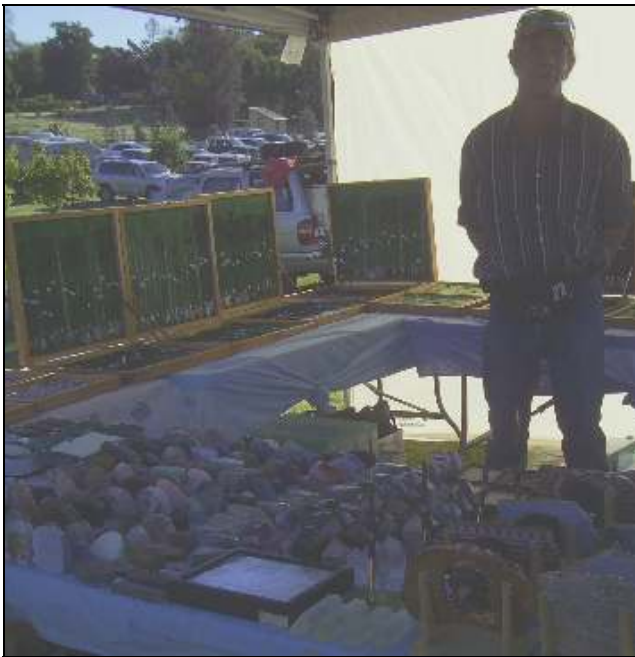
This house was named after the town of Bankfoot in Perthshire, Scotland.

The original house built by William Grigor (a Scot), was constructed in 1868 to service the steady stream of individuals, and coach traffic heading north to the Gympie goldfields. The accommodation house was extended in 1878 to provide separate family living quarters.

The 'Friends of Bankfoot House Inc.' is a volunteer community group assisting the Sunshine Coast Council to preserve this historic residence and the collection, open to the general public on the last Sunday of the month 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Markets...

Stallholders at the Museum Markets (18th June)



(Above) 'The Gem Man' Andrew Cavanagh has many polished stones, slabs of Australian and Overseas gem stones.

Andrew specialises in Opal cutting, and gift lines are aplenty including rings, earrings, pendants and pen holders. He will be attending the Kybong Rockfest in August.

(Right) Bolt Action Macadamia Nutcracker with Emz Pirie demonstrates how to use this gadget that also cracks pecan and walnuts. The 'No Smell Flytrap' can be placed indoors or outdoors, and looks interesting!





Condolances are conveyed to the family of Bennett Suthers.

Bennett passed away on 7th June.

He was a long time member of the Society, a historian, and held the position of President on a few occasions.



(Photos) Grinding, sanding and using a wire brush was some of the tasks Bennett undertaken.

Restoring exhibits for display purposes involved repairing, replacing parts, and painting as well as other work as required, such as restoration of the bullock wagon and establishing a display area for the bottle collection.

In recent times as his health deteriorated, he would occasionally visit his mate Allan S. for lunch at Café at the Museum and converse with his work colleagues on the Museum projects that were being undertaken. Alternatively, phone calls with Allan S. were on a regular basis, as Bennett was interested to hear of the work progress. On receiving the newsletter, Bennett would open the page of the Financial Statement and say ‘Is there any money left?’

Bennett will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

[Bennett was instrumental in persuading me to become a Museum volunteer, and also encouraged me to join St John Ambulance Gympie, as he was involved in a few community organisations.

It was a pleasure to have known him. Ed.]



Feeling right at home (outside the Cottage) with other members of the family

Thankyou to Alan Dundas for the donation of the goose gnome and three gerbera plants that belonged to his late mother in law.

The Harrison and Invicta Type 4M Lathes, both made in England have been maintained and are ready for use in the workshop



It was sad to hear that Steen Steenstrup passed away on 9th June. He was a Society member and volunteer a number of years ago and had valuable knowledge of the printing press.

After some work carried out on the Poco Proof Press, it became operational, producing a green printed cartoon. Steen also demonstrated printing to visitors during the 2011 Steam Festival.

The printing press collection of equipment are displayed in the Stamper Shed.



MEMBERS

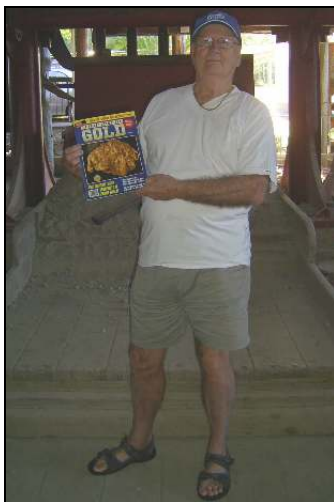
NOMINATIONS FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2ND AUGUST

As you are a financial member you are invited to nominate for any of the positions on the Management Committee (as listed on the front page of the newsletter).

Written nominations should be forwarded to the Acting Secretary 14 days before the A.G.M. If there are insufficient nominations in writing then nominations can be taken at the A.G.M. Contact Frank if you need a nomination form. Email: info@gympiegoldmuseum.com.au

Frank LIGHTFOOT
Acting Secretary
Gympie & District Historical Society Inc.

(Frank is Acting Secretary while Ralph is away on holidays)



Pictured is Mike Iredale who was a Museum member/volunteer some time ago. Thankyou to Mike for donating books.

* Thankyou also to Max and Jo for the books on gold .

* Thankyou to the Heritage Bank customer who contributes to the Museum.

*There was no steaming day on Monday 5th June due to the annual inspection/maintenance.

Volunteers have been concentrating their efforts on construction of the toilet at the Café. Work being carried out includes weatherboards on the outside, wall panelling inside, painting, installation of the pedestal, laying of floor tiles, fitting two upright panels of imported English glass in the window, and a wooden framed mirror.

2017/8 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS are now due

This window is in a prominent position when entering the new entrance. It catches the sunlight which highlights the colours in the stained glass of a gold panning scene.

The café is progressively being upgraded with plans including extending lining of the ceiling, plastering/painting interior walls, and floor covering. Other work is relocating the coffee machine and cash register. There will be another whirly bird installed on the roof, as well as a second coat of paint on the deck roof.



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