



THE



NEWSLETTER

NO. 103 OCTOBER 2016

THE GYMPIE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

215 Brisbane Road, GYMPIE. QLD 4570

P.O. Box 626, GYMPIE. QLD 4570

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

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

ELECTED OFFICERS

at A.G.M. 3.8.16

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

with **Assistant Jo Carson**

Mob. 0414015302

Historian: Bennett Suthers

Tel. 54823315

Mob. 0412434961

Historian: Chris Kapernick

Museum Markets

at the Duck Ponds (Lake Alford)

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

NOVEMBER dates: 6TH, 20TH

(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 20TH NOVEMBER 2016 at 9.30 a.m.

→ **Steaming Day first Monday of each month**

→ *Christmas Celebration for
Members/Volunteers on Sunday
11th December 2016 4.30 p.m.*

COMING EVENTS 2017:

* **Australia Day Thursday 26th January**

* **Annual Steam Festival**

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

THE GENERAL MEETING will be held on **WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2016**
at 7.00 p.m. upstairs of the Gold Room. Business includes: Work Projects, Forward Planning

Thankyou's

- to Rosie for organising sponsorship with Zinc 96.1 FM Radio
- to Wide Bay Historic Machinery and Gympie Historic Auto Club for their support
- to all the volunteers for your effort over the three days,
- and the 'Café at the Museum' for organising stallholders, and the catering.



(Left) Councillor Daryl Dodt official opening the 2016 Steam Festival.

(Right) Roger Harmon MC added other features of singer/musician, playing the gumleaf , demonstrating divining for water/gold.



The Society is pleased with the weekend going to plan with a large number of visitors gaining a better insight of Gympie's history, viewing the operating steam machinery, and browsing through the Museum.

Speech by Frank Lightfoot -

As president of the Gympie and District Historical Society, I'm pleased to welcome you all here today to see some of our historic equipment being used.

There are many people to thank.

To all our volunteers for the work they put in to prepare for the steamfest.

Vicky and her staff in the Café, for the work they have done to promote this event and also for their work in increasing our visitor numbers significantly since they took on running the café.

We also thank Zinc FM for promoting this event, the Wide Bay Machinery Club for bringing their displays, and Tina Van and Matt Drewitt the artists who painted our horse mural.

And finally, thanks to Councillor Daryl Dodt for being here to open the Steamfest and officially recognising the artists work.



The steam boat owned by Chris Kapernick was an added attraction on the dam beside the track of the miniature train. Rides were popular with the adults as well as the children.



Steam Festival (Cont.)...



Henry and Kirsty of Glenwood Jumping Castle are pictured with their snow cones stand, and the colourful jumping castle/slippy slide which are a good combination for children's enjoyment.

Thankyou to the stallholders for your support in attending the Saturday festivity.



(Left) The art of pottery creation - Ruth of Cooloola Pottery group
(Right) Annie Mac display - crochet items, knitted toys and variety of soap.

Other interesting stallholders were:

- . Jess' Jewellery
- . Teddys' Wooden Toys
- . Carol's Delight
- . Curo City (Karl & Fran)
- . Shazzan's Cards
- . Slow go on the go
- . Laser Assault



On a water bottle holder at the Slow go on the go stall, I noticed the label saying 'It's not the destination nor the journey that matters, It's the Fish!! Ed.



← Don Nahrung owns and restored the 1940's Southern Cross Farm Pumper which was made in Toowoomba.

Indoor fireworks in the Blacksmith Shop!
→ Jack is mastering the smithy technique of heating metal.



Museum Exhibits...

Slaves of the Needle

The tradition of young girls completing **samplers** as part of learning the domestic arts was well established by time Australia was colonized in the late 18th century.

Europeans brought with them the belief that needlework skills were an essential part of a girl's practical and moral education. Accordingly samplers often demonstrated skill through the use within their design of letters, numbers and pictures, and piety with the inclusion of religious or dutiful verses.

Samplers and the tapestry were all produced by children in the 1800's displayed in the Tank.

In addition, at this time, girls were taught sewing techniques, the making of clothes and patching and darning - all as an essential part of their education.

. One of the oldest sampler's is a 1818 of Nancy Wilkinson's hand worked cross stitch which is now showing signs of being very faded.

. Another exhibit is a sampler completed in 1878 by Mary Ellen Turner who was born in Queensland in 1867. It is likely to have been framed, as the framer "G A Watts, Gilder & Picture Frame Maker, Tapestry & Needlework neatly mounted, Commissioners Hill, Gympie" is stamped on the back. George Watts was then in business in Gympie, describing himself as a 'carver and gilder.'

. A tapestry of Sarah Elizabeth Shaw that took about a year to complete, was donated by her daughter Mrs Penelope Mullen. Sarah was a servant, at the age of 13, living and working for a confectionery firm in Huddersfield in Yorkshire, England.

Have you ever heard of a hem height marker/ gauge or a frock hem leveller?
Displayed in the Tank is this wooden stand (shown) which was donated by Noel Morgan, and another example of a leveller was donated by Mrs Brittain.



There are many creative ideas and variations of hem markers. Chalk hem markers were once used, but the level results were not always successful, as they didn't give an even, narrow mark particularly with circular skirts. Apparently to use these chalk hem markers, when the ball is squeezed, it shoots a puff of chalk to mark the hem.

More excellent examples of sewing work, and an assortment of lace are also displayed in the Calico Creek School as well as:- A sampler made by Emily Baker in 1886 at the One Mile School and donated by her niece Margaret Miller, a nightgown worn in 1880, and petticoats worn 1920 are donated by Marjorie Gibson.

Smocking was used most extensively in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and was developed in England. It is an embroidery technique used to gather fabric so that it can stretch. Before elastic, smocking was commonly used in cuffs, bodices, and necklines in garments where buttons were undesirable, It was practical for garments to be both form fitting and flexible, requiring lightweight fabric with a stable weave that gathers well. Cotton and silk are typical fibre choices, often in lawn or voile. Smocking is worked on a crewel embroidery needle in cotton or silk thread and normally requires three times the width of initial material as the finished item will have. Fabric can be gathered into pleats in a variety of ways.

With early smocking, or gauging done by hand, some embroiderers also made their own guides using cardboard and an embroidery marking pencil. By 1880, iron-on transfer dots were available and advertised in magazines. The iron on transfers places evenly spaced dots onto the wrong side of the fabric, which were then pleated using a regular running stitch.

Since the early 1950s, pleating machines have been available to home smockers. Using gears and specialty pleater needles, the fabric is forced through the gears and onto the threaded needles. Pleating machines are typically offered in 16-row, 24-row and 32-row widths, and manufacturers include Read and Amanda Jane.

Info. from Wikipedia



In the sewing display in the Calico Creek School -
The instruction sheet for this interesting and versatile machine a "Read" Smock Gathering Machine shows it is made by Read Patents (Pty) Ltd, Johannesburg.

Markets...



There are mancharacters seen at the Museum markets particularly at the first market in October. There was no holding back Izzy, as she was only too pleased to pose with the monkey for a camera shot to send to her friends. There was a noticeable increase in stallholders and patrons.

The morning of 16TH was like a back step into winter again with a low temperature, which then led the pathway to a pleasant spring day for a social outing. The Gympie Museum Re-enactment group entertained many patrons with their performance.

Café at the Museum...

Ice-cream is always popular during the summer months, especially after enjoying a walk around the duck ponds! Sharon is ready to scoop one of the many flavours, into the different sized cones.

At the entrance to the Café there is an artist (K. Pel) impression of the Brisbane Expo '88 Project, donated by the mentioned business people in the Cooloola Coast Region. These funny buildings are cleverly joined together as an elaborate pen and ink cartoon of Gympie identities and businesses in the 1980's. This poster was donated by Alan Dundas.

Did you know?

Grand Parents Day is on 30th October



FOR ANY SPECIAL OCCASIONS - BOOKINGS can be made by emailing Vicky:
cafeatthemuseum@hotmail.com

Museum News...

INVITATION to Volunteers / Members.....
YOU (and your Partner) are invited to the Christmas Celebration on Sunday 11th December at 4.30 p.m.
Café at the Museum for a (FREE) Buffet Meal.
For catering purposesPhone your reply to Café at the Museum 54 82 3995 if you are attending (By 4.12.16)

Email of thanks:

Good Morning,

On behalf of myself and the volunteers from Wondai and Murgon Visitors Information Centre, I would like to thank you for your hospitality during our Familiarisation Trip on Friday 23rd September.

I believe it is very important for our volunteers to actually see the places that they are talking about to visitors who come into our Centres. Being able to speak first-hand about the attractions, facilities etc on offer is most helpful when recommending places to visitors.

We thoroughly enjoyed visiting your centre, in particularly our guided tour with Allan. His knowledge on the history of the Gold Mine and Museum was phenomenal.

Regards,

Stacey Perrett

Visitor Information Centre Team Leader

Murgon Visitors Information Centre

Lamb Street

MURGON QLD 4605

- Gold Rush on Saturday 15th October - The 1942 International Fire Truck was entered in the Gold Rush Festival Velmec Automotive Mary Street Parade.

- The Museum was a stallholder ('Going with the Flow') at Gympie's Greatest Garage Sale held at the Senior Citizens Centre on 22nd October. Thankyou to the donors Ralph, Anne and Marilyn for various items and also Allan D. for your assistance on the day.

Much work is in progress including the new entrance at the Café, gantry, machinery, and cafe maintenance.

Models...

These privately owned models below were displayed on the Steam Festival weekend.



(L-R back) a Jensen oscillating engine; the gas vertical boiler with small reciprocating steam engine, and manual hand pump for water.

(L-R front) A semi portable stationary steam engine; a Wileco oscillating engine; Wileco road roller, and a 1804 Richard Trevorthink (British inventor and engineer) locomotive of the first ever built.

New arrival...



The Mary Valley made tractor -
Recently a 1944/45 Fordoverlandchevchryslerblitz tractor, was donated by Errol Matthias (son) of the maker/owner Gordon Matthias.

It is complete, and could be remobilized with some mechanical work.

THE



The Gympie & District Historical Society Inc.
215 Brisbane Road, GYMPIE QLD 4570
Postal Address: P O Box 626, GYMPIE QLD 4570

NEWSLETTER