

News from Farrer Place

May / June 2016

QUEANBEYAN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL MUSEUM SOCIETY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FROM THE EDITORS

What a wonderful Month April was at the Museum! Many events and visits. We have included some photos. There is lots coming up over Winter and Spring at the Museum as well. Hope you like our brand new newsletter format!

Kerrie Ruth &
Nancy Monk

Mysterious Night At the Museum August 27

Hosted by Nichole Overall —watch this space!

Members' Get Together Sunday 28 August 1-4

A Celebration of Community Festivals—Queanbeyan Floral Festival. Wanted: memories, photos, stories of this special event. The shops along Monaro St were decorated; there were many decorated floats, cars, trucks, bikes, horses. Groups wearing national costumes, marching girls, town band, Guides and Scouts, the Crowning of the Festival Queen. . . A number Community Festivals with street parades happened again in the 1980s. Nancy & Marilyn are your hosts.



**Old Police Sergeant's
Residence 1876- 2016
140 Years**

Any Kunta 1994 QDHMS Collection

History Week 2016 3-11 Sep Neighbours

History & Heritage Meeting 8 September 5.30 QPRC Library

Museum Working Bee Saturday 10 September 9.30 –12.30

History Week Museum Open Day Saturday 17 September 11-3

History Week Exhibition Launch Saturday 17 September 12 noon

Members' Get Together Sunday 27 November 1-4

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QCC HERITAGE AWARD TO MARILYN FOLGER

One of our long term volunteers, Marilyn Folger has received a QCC Heritage Award for Outstanding Contribution to Heritage. Marilyn has contributed to the research, preservation and promotion of local heritage over a long period. Marilyn has been involved in the Society for many years and has contributed on the Management Committee and as a regular volunteer. Marilyn hosts

with Nancy Monk our regular Members' Get Togethers. Other roles Marilyn has undertaken over the years include: researching and writing for *Quinbean*, cataloguing assistance, staffing the Museum on weekends, and hosting visiting groups. Marilyn has been a major contributor to the Society's Oral History Project. Congratulations Marilyn! **Kerrie Ruth**



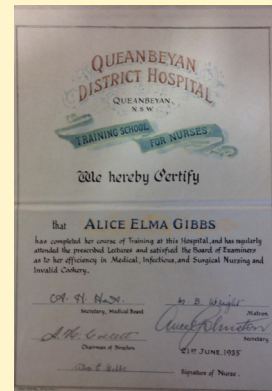
Marilyn Folger with her award. Nancy Monk on right. Photo Karen Moore

DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTION FROM PETER JOHNSTON

The first is a bound Nurses Certificate from the Queanbeyan District Hospital Training School for Nurses. The holder, Alice Elma Gibbs, was the second trainee to qualify for Nurses Registration (in 1935). The certificate has significant signatures of well-known Queanbeyan personalities. Dr AH Hart (Secretary Medical Board) was a founder of the practice now called GP Super Clinic. Miss Margaret Wright was hospital Matron from 1930 to 1952. A

framed photo of her hangs in our Hospital Room. Mr Arthur Collett (Chairman of the Directors) was a prominent businessman and former Mayor, Mr Ansell Johnston was Hospital Secretary/CEO for a record term from 1929 to 1961. Sister Alice Gibbs continued to serve in the Hospital until she married Ansel Johnston in 1938. Peter and his late brother John are offspring of their marriage. The second item is a certificate of proficiency issued by Queanbey-

an Amateur Swimming Club. The Club conducted Learn to Swim classes in the Queanbeyan River, at the bottom of Hayes Street. A wire-netting fence stretched partially across the River to prevent swimmers being swept away. Undated, but about 1953. This document is a tribute to the voluntary instructors who did their work in poor facilities and limited resources. Thank you Peter! **Nancy Monk**



**Alice Gibbs'
Nurse's Certificate**

Q M RESEARCH COLLECTION CATALOGUE



The catalogue for the Queanbeyan Museum Research Collection is now accessible on the PC located in the workroom.

There is an icon on the Desktop (QM Research Collection) to click on and open.

A guide to searching the catalogue is attached to the glass-fronted bookcase in which the collection is housed - also in the workroom.

The QM Research Collection has been catalogued similarly to the subjects and Dewey numbers used to locate books via the National Library's **Trove** database.

The catalogue will be updated regularly as books are catalogued and added to the collection. **Karen Moore**

FROM THE CATALOGUE

After a four week break, I returned to find I am now part of the newly formed Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council. I am back working with volunteers in the Queanbeyan Museum. I am currently collaborating particularly with Pat Brady who is accessioning incoming items;

Heather Thomson who is working on collection management in our store and Frances Flanagan who is accessioning the Blacksmiths Workshop. I can not write highly enough of their dedication to accessioning objects. It is great to come back to find a number of accession sheets already

filled awaiting entering into the system. Each catalogued object has a story and we look forward to creating story line to showcase these objects in an exhibition in the future.

Ximena Briceno



**Blacksmith's items
being accessioned**

INTERVIEW WITH THE OLD RESIDENCE

by Peter Johnston published in the Queanbeyan Age 31/5/78

That's right, I am the old police sergeants residence. I've been here for more than 100 years and I've seen a lot happen in Queanbeyan in my time.

DEPRESSION: I remember during the Depression in the early 30s when many a bagman drifted past on this way to Cooma or beyond. And the unemployed came here to pick up their sustenance provisions. Week after week there would be dole queues of sad-faced men and women lined up at the door

FARRER PLACE: After that later in the 30s they changed this part of Monaro Street to Farrer Place. I didn't mind. William Farrer and his wife (she was a Fane de Salis, you

know) used to pass here on their way to the shops. This area is what Queanbeyan is all about, I reckon. There are not many places with one of their local chaps on the Two Dollars note!

COURT HOUSE: I miss old Courthouse, you know I wouldn't tell you what happened in court, but I know my sergeant would come home sometime and curse those ignorant lay magistrates or those smart-tailed lawyers.

POST OFFICE: my other great mate. We are related, you see, as the builder John Kealman constructed us both. We used to work for New South Wales - Court, Postie and me. At the turn of the century the

Postie started to work for the Federal. HORSE POLICE: What's my oldest memory? I suppose it was in about 1879 when the Michelago Store was held up. All the police horses were saddled up in my yard. My sergeant was mounted up and his wife was standing on my front verandah as he led he troops into Cooma Street. It's just as well he came home with those little children in my end room.

DEMOLITION: My future? I understand there's a proposal for me to become a museum. People can come and look at me and read and think and talk about the great days.

Thank you Peter.

MEMBERSHIP

Some of you will have received reminders with your last *Quinbean*. Renewals are due annually in either April or October. **Fred Monk**

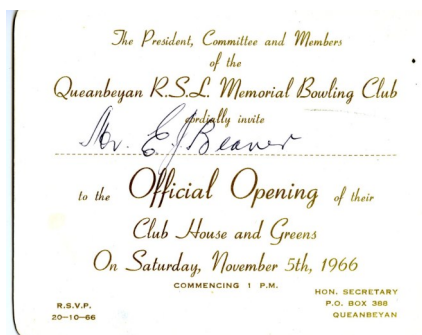
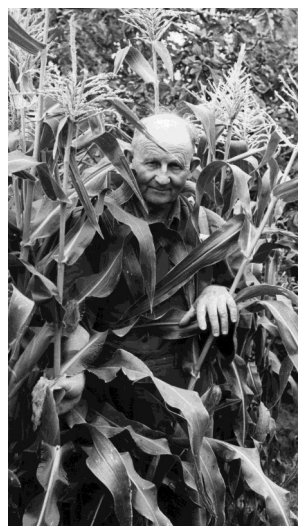
THANK YOU TO
OUR
GENEROUS
DONORS:

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M Lukacs
Yass Historical Society
Jerrabomberra Joeys

QUEANBEYAN
MUSEUM IS
SUPPORTED BY
QUEANBEYAN -
PALERANG
REGIONAL
COUNCIL

ERNIE BEAVER COLLECTION

Ernie Beaver was a well known Queanbeyan identity. He served on the Council for many years and was prominent in Queanbeyan Floral Festivals and the Queanbeyan Show as well as exhibiting at the Royal Easter Show. We have accepted a collection containing memorabilia of his life such as Trophy Banners from his show successes, his portable typewriter, used to record council business, photographs and rare publications. Photo on left is of Ernie in his garden in the late 1970s. Invitation on left is to the opening of the RSL Bowling Club House and Greens in 1966.



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than 100 years
and I've seen a lot
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Q D H M S I N C .

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We are on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/queanbeyanmuseum>

***like us and follow us to keep up to date with
Queanbeyan Museum news.***

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As usual the Museum has been buzzing with activity around the Heritage Festival which attracted around 200 visitors on the open day and involved a good number of local community groups. The hangings loaned by the Queanbeyan Quilters and Boab Cottage and the Multilingual Centre certainly brightened up the rooms and the Quilters are eager to contribute in the future.

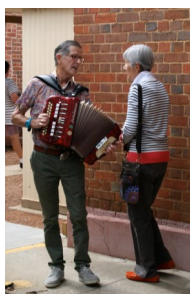
We have gained a mass of interesting donations from the Beaver family relating to the long serving Councillor, Ernie Beaver, and from Norma Roach.

We have had a number of groups including Yass Historical Society and some interesting and interested individuals, including Owen Wright, a descendent of the first Mayor of Queanbeyan. I also presented a talk and slide show about the Museum to the Queanbeyan City Council which was well received. Thanks to the work of our volunteers past and present who have made the Museum what it is—something to boast about!.

P.S. We always need more helpers!

John McGlynn

IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE QUEANBEYAN MUSEUM! - PHOTO GALLERY



Pat and Az's Pottery stall was very popular!



**Our Seniors Week Event *Memories*
at the
Museum was a great success**



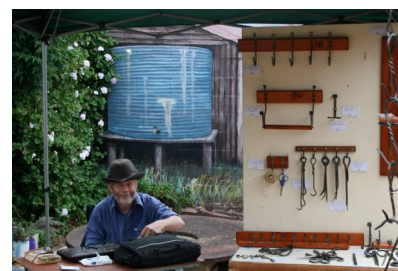
**The Pop Up Choir provided fabulous entertainment
at the Open Day**



**Roz McNeilly & Ann Rocca on
the Red Cross Stall**



Mayor Tim Overall with Heritage Award Winners



**John Boddington Blacksmith
from Ropsley Forge**