

# Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc.

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ABN: 61508481930

Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society



## Newsletter February 2013

President / Weekend Roster Co-ordinator Mr John McGlynn

Treasurer / Membership Secretary /

Works Co-ordinator:

Secretary / Newsletter Editor:

Minutes Secretary / Newsletter Editor:

Management Committee / Conservator:

Management Committee:

Management Committee:

Management Committee:

Management Committee:

Curator / Quinbean Editor:

Historian / Researcher

QCC Cataloguer

Mr Fred Monk

Ms Kerrie Ruth

Ms Nancy Monk

Ms Ellie McFadyen

Ms Lee Davy

Mr David Flanagan

Ms Margaret Keys

Ms Frances Flanagan

Ms Karen Moore

Ms Gillian Kelly

Ms Marilyn Folger

Ms Elise Bernard

To contact us: send us an e-mail to

[qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au](mailto:qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au) to the attention of who you want to contact and your message will be passed on to the appropriate person. President: 02 62 972730

### **Working Bee - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** **9.30 - 4pm including shared lunch**

There is always something to do at the Museum. If you are interested in volunteering there are jobs available from the smallest to the ongoing such as cataloguing and staffing the museum on weekends. Come and talk to our busy team on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, join in and see how you can contribute to running your local Museum.

### **Important Dates for Your Diary!**

#### **From the editors**

As you can see it is going to be a big year for history & heritage in 2013. We hope to keep you up-to-date with happenings!

Eds: Kerrie Ruth & Nancy Monk

#### **From the President**

A typical example of the activities at the Museum was a Saturday when I dropped down to the Museum to open up for the roster to find, Fred, Frances and David finishing a morning's work on the garden and general pruning and tidying. Then Ana, Lee, Marilyn and Jane came in to learn about the recorder for the oral history project from Lea Collins the equipment expert. No sooner had they gone off, one ready to tape her first interview, than a visitor turned up to seek information and to share stories about her family's long involvement in Queanbeyan. As well another two people visited, one of whom went out of his way to compliment the Museum and promised to bring his wife in soon. **John McGlynn**

**Choosing the Site** – Queanbeyan Players presents, St John's Church Reid, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28 Feb & 1, 2, 3 March. Ph Diana (6295 8732), Jennifer (6249 8392)

**Queanbeyan's Moving Memories** – Historical Movies presented by NFSA and QCC – Free - Friday 1st March, 2.00 & 7.30pm - contact The Q on 62856290

**Museum Working Bee** – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 9.30am

**Queanbeyan Museum Presents The Way We Wore - Exhibition Launch** – Friday 12 April 6pm – @ The Q – Exhibition open 13-27 April

**History and Heritage Meeting** – Thursday 18 April 6pm – QCC Library

**Queanbeyan Museum Flyscreens to Electricity CIT Exhibition Launch** – Friday 19 April 6pm

**Time Travellers Tours of Qbn** – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April - contact QDHMS

**Pub Crawl with Poetry Shot** – Saturday 21st April - contact QCC Library

**Museum's Open Day, Queanbeyan's Living History Oral History Project Launch & QCC Heritage Awards** – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April from 11am

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## Call for Expression of Interest

### QDHMS rep on QCC Heritage Advisory Committee

Our hard working, highly experienced and dedicated Rep on this important Committee, Gillian Kelly, has expressed a wish to step down from the role. Gillian has offered to mentor the successful applicant. We are asking interested members to submit an Expression of Interest to the President, John McGlynn outlining your interest in heritage issues, qualifications and experience. Contact John on 6297 2730h or [gbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au](mailto:gbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au) for EOI requirements. Once appointed, you will be required to consult with the Management Committee and report to the Management Committee monthly.

## Conservation Update

Alison Wain is teaching a unit on Sustainable Repair and Restoration in the Museum Studies Course at the University of Canberra. Last year she approached us to see if the museum would be willing to lend objects for the University of Canberra to treat. The relationship has progressed and this week Alison visited the museum to select items for her students. Alison was very impressed by the diversity of the collection and also by our well organised storage. Fred Monk and Ellie McFadyen helped Alison to find items that would be suitable. The items were selected to demonstrate damage where part of the object had become detached. The items that were chosen included a book, a pamphlet, a teapot with a broken lid, a cake of pumice soap, damaged babies bonnets and booties, a piece of horse's harness and a broken chair from the kitchen. Alison hopes that the objects might stimulate interest in Queanbeyan Museum and perhaps encourage students to develop stronger ties with Queanbeyan Museum, perhaps even volunteering.

Ellie McFadyen

## Queanbeyan's Living History Update

We have had four workshops to prepare for the recording sessions and everyone involved is enthusiastically making plans to interview a wide range of people. Mary Hutchinson has led us through the process of getting the most out on the session and Lea Collins has given us practical instruction on the equipment needed. John McGlynn

### Gardener/s required

Do you have a couple of hours a week to spare to keep the Museum garden looking spic and span? The work isn't heavy. We have someone who can assist you, but doesn't want to be the main gardening person. This could be the one job you do a week for the Museum! Just e-mail us!

### The Wash House

We are redeveloping the Wash House at the Museum and would love to hear your stories of wash day, bath day, ironing and recipes for soap! Contact Nancy, Kerrie or John.

## Regional Museums

In 2012 Ellie McFadyen and Kerrie Ruth were privileged to take part as reviewers in the Museum and Galleries NSW Standards Program conducted in the Eastern Riverina. Ellie and Kerrie visited Tumut Museum, Kerrie visited Greens Gunyah Museum at Lockhart with Tamara Lavencic and Ellie visited Adelong Alive Museum with Louise Douglas. It was a great experience. The Greens Gunyah folk at Lockhart were inspirational in having survived not one but two floods through their Museum in the last two years! They have had a new Museum designed which would be above the flood level and are busy applying for grants to have their dream realised. It was interesting to discuss the significant items chosen by the groups. Lockhart has a significant collection from *Bronking Station*, which was a huge squatter's holding reflecting the early European settlement of the area including the rise of Australian trade unionism amongst the shearers. Tumut has a highly significant collection focussing on Miles Franklin.



Outbuildings at Greens Gunyah, Lockhart showing the flood line



Ellie McFadyen with Tumut Museum colleagues

This year Kerrie and Ellie will be part of a team reviewing 17 Museums in the Western Riverina such as Deniliquin, Hay and Albury.

## Cataloguing Update

It has been a busy start to the year with the cataloguing continuing to progress. With the upcoming Queanbeyan Museum exhibition *The Way We Wore* at The Q Exhibition Space for the Heritage Festival and our 175<sup>th</sup> celebrations, we have been putting the digital catalogue to the test searching for everything wedding related in order to research photographs and gowns from the collection. Using the catalogue we have been able to discover some wonderful gems in the photograph collection. This has been exciting not only to find our wide range of items but also to know that the work going into cataloguing the collection is useful and worthwhile. It means we can gather information on exhibition themes more quickly and easily. To see the Queanbeyan Museum gowns and photographs make sure you get to the *Way We Wore* at The Q from April 13- 27.

Elise Bernard



***Queanbeyan Museum wins for  
Collection Management  
at the 2012 IMAGinE Awards!***



On Friday night 23 November, museums, galleries and Indigenous keeping places throughout NSW came together to White Rabbit, Sydney where the winners of the coveted IMAGinE awards were announced.

Queanbeyan Museum won an award for Collection Management for the work carried out by the volunteers of the Queanbeyan and District Historical Museum Society in partnership with Queanbeyan City Council over the last four years; including the implementation of the recommendations of a Preservation Assessment Survey, an ongoing cataloguing and re-housing project, significance assessment training and collection handling for volunteers, and successful completion of stage one and two of a new purpose built storage building. This is a significant achievement for a primarily volunteer run organisation, such as Queanbeyan Museum, who are privileged to be able to work in partnership with Queanbeyan City Council on these Collection Management and other Museum Projects.

Established in 2008, the IMAGinE Awards celebrate the achievements and diversity of a museum and gallery industry comprising of over 650 organisations and approximately 5000 paid and volunteer workers. With over 70 nominations, this year's winners represent the best of regional and metropolitan NSW visual arts and cultural heritage experiences.

Michael Rolfe, Museums & Galleries NSW CEO, said the nominations in the Collection Management Category highlighted the diverse sector's commitment to preserving local histories.

"The judges commented that the nominations to this category reflected how organisations are looking at new strategies and fresh approaches to the management and care of their collections," said Michael Rolfe.

"The winners represented extraordinary achievements made throughout the year with some strong examples of how innovative strategies are helping to create more accessible and meaningful collections."

***A big thank you to the  
following people for  
their kind donations:***

J Lacheta  
R Baum  
A Blundell  
Hudson car club  
J Cope  
M & D Stanton  
J Partridge and M Long  
E Burton  
J Burfoot  
N Monk

***Cataloguing of reference collection held by QDHMS***

The collection of reference material, which includes books and journals, held by the QDHMS is currently being catalogued following standard Library practice and procedures. It is intended that the data for each book and journal title will be loaded onto Mosaic, thus creating a 'Library catalogue' and enabling easier access to this collection. The details of each book will include the author, title, publishing details and a unique call number (or shelf number) together with a synopsis of the book. Journals will include the title and publishing details as well as the holdings, and, if applicable, the holdings policy. Subject headings will be included to facilitate searching for material on a particular subject. The books will be shelved in numerical order by the unique call numbers, and the journals will be maintained in alphabetical order in pamphlet boxes. The arrangement will be the same as that found in most Libraries. Once the collection has been catalogued and loaded onto Mosaic, there will be an ongoing need to catalogue new material as it is received into the reference collection.

**Karen Moore**



*Queanbeyan Museum is supported  
by  
Queanbeyan City Council*

***Access to the Collection & Outreach***

This is proving to be a busy time for usage of the Museum Collection with an impressive list of material supplied by our Curator Gillian Kelly for the following: a PowerPoint of 50 photos for the opening of the Crawford St Honour Walk; an article and photographs for The Q 2013 program; supplied photographs for Queanbeyan's 175<sup>th</sup> postcards; rewrote Queanbeyan History text; supplied photographs and had input into the walking trail article for the Info Centre publication; supplied photographs for Queanbeyan's Moving Memories Film Poster; photographs from the collection were featured in Ian Warden's Column in the Canberra Times.



# It's all happening at the Queanbeyan Museum! – Society Photo Gallery

## Society Excursion – Marilyn's Ruins Tour to Gungahlin (Old Ginninderra)

## Queanbeyan's Living History Oral History Project



**First Stop** The little Black Mountain stone Presbyterian Church was dedicated and opened in 1873. An extension using the same stone was opened in 1901. It was not used as a church after 1920 and fell into disrepair for a period of some 20 years until it was restored and re-dedicated as St Ninian's in 1942. In 1979 it was again extended, using the same stone, to become the present Uniting Church, Lyneham ACT.



Lee Davy, Lea Collins our technical trainer and John McGlynn mastering the art of digital sound recording as part of the QDHMS 175<sup>th</sup> Birthday Oral History Project

**Fourth stop** *Charnwood site*. In 1833 Henry Hall became the first resident landowner of the Ginninderra District. He called his grant of 3,492 acres *Charnwood*. Today the exotic trees, including old olive trees, are all that is left to mark the site



**Second stop** *Crinigans' Stone Hut Ruin*. This was the home of Marilyn's forebears and we heard the heroic tale of the saving of the site and its excavation. We handled numerous small artefacts that had been found in the excavation, which gave great meaning to the visit.



**Fifth stop** *Palmerville Heritage Park, Giralang*. This is an old significant Canberra site. James Ainslie is said to have camped on the Ginninderra Creek when he was seeking pasture for Robert Campbell's sheep in the 1820s. Ainslie was led to better pastures at Pialligo (later *Duntroon*) by an Aboriginal woman. The Ginninderra cricket ground was on the flat land adjacent to the settlement. The Ginninderra team which included famous Aboriginal players had an almost unbeaten record. Under William Davis there were many social occasions at old Ginninderra. A brass band was often in attendance at cricket matches.



**Last stop** *Weetangera Cemetery* with 23 marked graves, the earliest from 1873 with most from the 1880s.