

Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc.

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Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society



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gbnmuseum@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

Newsletter July 2013

President / Weekend Roster Co-ordinator Mr John McGlynn

Treasurer / Membership Secretary /

Works Co-ordinator:

Secretary / Newsletter Editor:

Newsletter Editor:

Management Committee / Conservator:

Management Committee:

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

Vacant

From the editors

We have so much to report on with activities at the Museum: Heritage Festival, Working Bees and training. Coming up in September is History Week and Queanbeyan's 175th Celebrations.

Eds: Kerrie Ruth & Nancy Monk

From the President

Another busy period for the Society has seen one of the most successful Queanbeyan Heritage Festivals ever. Everyone pitched in at a Museum Working Bee to get the Museum ready while also working on the other projects. A spectacular Exhibition Launch was followed by over two thousand visitors to *The Way We Wore* at The Q.

At the Museum itself there were launches of the *Flyscreens to Electricity* CIT Exhibition and the Museum's Open Day, including *Queanbeyan's Living History*. As well there were *Time Travellers Tours* run by our members. A *Pub Crawl with Poetry Shot* started at the Museum with an historical talk by our curator. We also farewelled Elise Bernard, our colleague and exemplary cataloguer, we wish her well in her teaching career.

For Sale



No not the dress! But the mannequin! We have a small number of these elegant grey mannequins surplus to our requirements after *The Way We Wore*.

Cost is \$25.00 ea.

Contact:
gbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au



175 years
Queanbeyan
A town born 1838 - A city lives 2013

Important Dates for Your Diary!

Alberto Dias Soares Exhibition

September Dates and Venue TBC

Contact Wendy Smith

Exhibition Launch A Capital Idea – Halloran's

Way Thursday 5th September at The Q @6pm

A Capital Idea – Halloran's Way Exhibition

September 6 – 29 @The Q

Contact Gillian Kelly

Museum's Open Day, Queanbeyan's Living

History Oral History Exhibition Launch

Saturday 7th September 11-4 Launch 12 noon

Contact John McGlynn

Caring for Your Photographs with NAA

Monday 9th September @10am @Library Free

Contact Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au

History and Heritage Meeting

Thursday 12th September @6pm @Library

Contact Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au

Queanbeyan's Birthday – 28th September

11:00-11:45am Parade showcasing **175 years of transport**

12:00-1:00pm Formalities - Smoking Ceremony; Welcome to

country; Opening of Sensory Gardens; Tree planting; Cake

12:00-5:00pm Entertainment and food stalls including

indigenous games and other traditional children's games.

Make sure you check out the Museum's Stall!

5:00-7:00pm

7:00pm

7:30pm

Concert

Fireworks (river bank)

Gala Dinner Dance

Draft Program - most activities will be held beside the Queanbeyan River in Ray Morton Park, Wanniasa Park and Queen Elizabeth Park.

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Conservation Update

Kerrie and John have taken on the 'refreshment' of our Wash House exhibition. This exhibition shows how washing, both laundry and bathing, was done in the past and contains some very interesting objects. They are mostly made of wood and metal although there is also a Hessian apron, which is made from a sugar bag.

From a conservation perspective, this space is very good. The objects are protected from direct light and sheltered from the rain, both of which are major causes of damage. On Saturday, during our working bee, I examined the objects for signs of deterioration.

The rubber in the washing machine wringers has degraded but that can't be prevented or reversed. Other than the rubber, very little deterioration was found; the objects are sound though worn; so the main task will be cleaning. Kerrie and I have discussed what we want to represent. We decided our main aim was to show the objects as they were when they were in use and to stabilise and prevent any further deterioration. Pop in and see the refurbished Wash House, which should be completed in the next month or so. **Ellie McFadyen**

Cataloguing Update

As some of you may know I have finished in the position of cataloguer at the Queanbeyan Museum. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have worked with at the Museum over the last five years. I have learnt so much about museum collections and had the opportunity to help develop some fantastic exhibitions. I will not be completely gone from the museum; I plan to continue working with everyone at the museum as a volunteer.

In terms of the continuing cataloguing of the collection, it is still an on-going process. Recently we have started to search through the collection for items that can be lent to the Canberra Museum and Gallery for an exhibition they are displaying later this year to celebrate both the Centenary of Canberra and the 175th birthday of Queanbeyan. This exhibition will explore the historical relationship between Canberra and Queanbeyan.

Elise Bernard

*Queanbeyan Museum is
supported by
Queanbeyan City Council*

Spotlight on the QCC Local History Collection

The Local History Collection consists of: historical photographs; a small general genealogy collection; a small map collection; some historic monographs from the old Queanbeyan School of Art; a small collection of Queanbeyan ephemera and regalia; Queanbeyan's early rates books and a number of research collections: *The Sheedy Memorial Local History Collection* and *The Collection of Frederick J. McCauley*. The QCC Local Studies Collection has recently acquired a large addition to the research collection of Erroll Lee Scarlett the author of *Queanbeyan, District and People*. Newspaper collections include a complete run in microfilm of the Queanbeyan Newspapers 1860+ as well as 1930s onwards in paper and good collections of other regional newspapers such as Bungendore. The Library also has a good collection of history books about Queanbeyan. The QCC Local History and Special Collections Librarian Brigid Whitbread can be contacted on: Tel: 02 6285 6256; Email: Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au (works Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays). The next History and Heritage speaker at the Library will be as part of the 175th celebrations on September 12 at 6pm at the Library.



Washing Day photographs from the QCC Collection.

Above: *Washing Day Acton* c1920s
Left: *Washing Day Michelago* 1960



Welcome Kay!

We are privileged to have a Museum Advisor, Kay Soderland, thanks to South East Arts and Museum Galleries NSW who have provided the funding. Kay has met with us on re-looking at our high level Strategic Plan Goals and will be joining us in August for a session on emergency response protocols. Kay is currently National President of AICCM (the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material). Kay has worked as a professional conservator for over 25 years and established Preservation Australia in 2004.

Cities Across Borders: Canberra - Queanbeyan

This exhibition has been curated by **Canberra Museum and Gallery** as part of Canberra's Centenary year celebrations. The exhibition opened on 24 June and runs until 7 October 2013. The CMAG galleries are open 10am - 5pm Mon - Fri, and 10am - 4pm Sat and Sunday (closed public holidays). A number of items from the QDHMS collection are included in the Exhibition including:

Dr Patrick Blackall's portrait and brass name plate
A sheaf of Farrer wheat tied with a hessian ribbon
JB Young Flag and a selection of JB Young wrapping papers
Copper kettle used by William Farrer and a photograph of William and Nina Farrer
Mary Bower's MBE medal



Ana Chuda, Wendy Smith, Kerrie Ruth and Ellie McFadyen attended two **Assessing Significance Training Workshops** in Bega and Cooma run by Kylie Winkworth. The training was organised by Bega Historical Museum and South East Arts and was funded by a grant from Museum Galleries NSW. This was a great opportunity to meet our colleagues from the South Coast Museums and Cooma. We also got to look at and discuss some of the objects from their collections such as a decorative tin ware letter holder, oyster punts, ceremonial trowel and mallet, hawkers wagon and Archival collections. We had a number of items to assess ourselves including a saw, a letter, a doll and this wonderful scale donated to the Museum by John Petro. The scale was made by the Computing Scale Company – Dayton Ohio 1891 -1914 who eventually combined with two other companies and were the forerunners of IBM. Its condition is very good considering the age of the item - 90 -100 yrs old.



New Donations to the Reference Collection

Queanbeyan's Living History Update

We have completed five interviews and had four transcribed. There are several more in the pipeline and we plan to have at least two or three more completed and story boards made by the History Week launch on September 7th as part of our 175th Celebrations. Thank you to all who have shared their memories with us

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

R Curry
J & D Madew
M Clements
P Dennis
K Willis
Goulburn Workers Club
Day Out Group
D Quane
E Carter
D Richardson
B Adams
R & C Lewis
C & R May

Bush Capital Babies

Irlam, Ron

Bingara, NSW: Ron Irlam, [2012].

Abstract This book tells the life stories of a group of children born in Canberra, the new bush capital of federated Australia. Some were born in satellite towns such as Queanbeyan, Tharwa, Cooma just outside the Federal Capital Territory's boundary, or in cities such as Sydney, Melbourne or overseas but commenced infants schooling and lived their childhood lives in Canberra in the 1930s and 1940s". "The bulk of these 'bush capital babies' were either born locally or came to Canberra aged 2-3 years with Commonwealth public servants relocated from Melbourne or Sydney, the previous centres of Federal activity. Others came with tradesmen, teachers, businessmen and professionals. The children commenced their infant education at Ainslie Primary School, Telopea Park School, St Christopher's School Manuka, St Patrick's, Braddon and other small local schools close to Canberra. The stories are anecdotal and are presented in various forms ranging from their own presentations to interviews the editor carried out at various times reaching back some 15 years or longer.

Caring for the Community Rain Hail or Shine: the history of district and community health nursing in the ACT: 1911 to 2011 - 100 years.

Foskett, Alan, Sutton, Shirley, [and] ACT Community Nursing History Group [Canberra] ACT Community Nursing History Group, 2013.

Abstract This book describes the history of District and Community nursing in the Australian Capital Territory from 1911 to 2011. It pays tribute to, records, applauds and provides an accurate account of the work that was done by community nurses over some seventy years or so, and includes stories contributed by early district nurses. It also provides a valuable contribution to the celebration of Canberra's centenary year in 2013, since the growth of community nursing mirrors the growth of Canberra and the environs and is closely entwined with the history of the ACT and its health services. It includes a history of the contribution of Queanbeyan and its Hospital.

Karen Moore

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

The Way We Wore



Tiernan "girls" with their mother's dress.



Queanbeyan Heritage Festival 2013

From Flyscreens to Electricity Hessian and Ice – CIT Opening



Launch Of Queanbeyan's Living History - Oral History Project



Pub Crawl



Farewell Elise



Working Bees 23rd March and 15th June

