

NEWS FROM FARRER PLACE

Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum Society Inc.

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Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society



Newsletter October 2014

Important Dates for Your Diary!

To contact us: send an e-mail to 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 62972730

From the Editors

It has been an exciting few months with lots of enjoyable and successful events at the Museum to report on.

Eds: Kerrie Ruth & Nancy Monk.

From the President

Once again we are approaching the end of another highly successful year for the Museum and the Society. Don't miss out on visiting the Museum to see Gillian's latest triumph, the Red Cross Exhibition. It was good to have the co-operation of the Red Cross and the Queanbeyan Quilters. Our Society aims to reach out to the community.

Come to the excursion advertised elsewhere in this newsletter. Come to the AGM on 8 December and nominate to join the Committee. Join the volunteers on the weekends, Wednesday or Thursday at the Museum to contribute to and enjoy the many tasks to be performed.

We are busy researching, showing groups through from schools and community groups, describing and cataloguing the collection, helping with exhibitions, providing on-line resources about the Museum and history, contributing to *Quinbean* etc etc. Congratulations to all involved and a warm welcome to the new batch of volunteers but we can always do with more!

John McGlynn

Museum River Festival Stall – Drop in and say hello - Sat 11th October by The Queanbeyan River 12 - 4

Tour of Glenburn / Burbong Historic site - Hosted by Friends of Glenburn Sunday 12 October 9.30 - 3.30 Meet @Museum @9.30 for car share FREE

New Museum Exhibition - The Sesquicentenary of Public Education in Queanbeyan from 25th October @Museum

QDHMS Inc. AGM

Monday December 8 2014 at 6.30 pm

@Queanbeyan Museum

**to receive President, Treasurer, Membership Secretary
Reports and Election of Office Bearers**

Office Bearer and Committee Nominations to the Secretary

QDHMS Inc. PO Box 480 Queanbeyan 2620

by December 1st 2014

e-mail The Secretary qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au

for nomination forms

QDHMS Memberships fall due in April and October each year

Photo on right: Mrs Valerie Smith and Norma Roach cutting our 45th Birthday Cake

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Society Excursion - A SMALL RURAL COMMUNITY NO MORE – THE GLENBURN/BURBONG HISTORIC PRECINCT IN THE KOWEN FOREST, ACT

A Brief Overview of its History:

It was a very early European settlement – 1831. it became a thriving small rural community with many families, most working for absentee landlords or on small (40 acre) holdings;

♦ they worked hard and played hard for example a bachelors' ball was held in 1895, dances and a farewell function in 1906;

♦ it had its own public school from 1882 to 1906;

♦ by early 1900s it was 'finished' – poor farming land, rabbits/hares and general economic conditions;

♦ we are fortunate that so much remains (much of the area is not suitable for pines); and we need to protect and conserve what remains.

There has been very significant work by ACT Parks and Conservation Service and The Friends of Glenburn. But much more needs to be done.

What we will see

♦ The Glenburn shearing shed complex. Origins in 1860. Until recently was the oldest operating shed in the ACT. Bad condition. No protection or conservation work has been done.

♦ The Colverwell graves commemorate the drowning of two little Colverwell girls in 1837. The oldest marked graves in the ACT were restored in 2005.

♦ Coppins Homestead Ruins (1891) and Orchard (for morning tea). Protection and conservation work to liberate chimney and separate fireplace from blackberries. Osage Orange tree.

♦ Kowen Public School site (1882 to 1906). Close your eyes and imagine the conditions the children experienced.

♦ Charcoal Kilns site (WW2).

♦ Glenburn Homestead (1897 and 1900) (for lunch). On a much larger property than the others. Family moved to Glencoe (northern NSW) because, notwithstanding some 2 000 acres, could not make a go of it. The hare drive of 1895. Their farewell party was held in 1906.

♦ Colliers Homestead Ruins (1880) and Orchard). Audacity of the Campbells of Duntroon (building a substantial stone home on land they did not own). The Bachelors Ball in 1895.

♦ Site of Curleys Homestead and Orchard. Jumble of rocks only recently uncovered after liberating them from blackberries. The homestead was a substantial home.

Further Information – see National Parks Association of the ACT website www.npaact.org.au and click on *Friends of Glenburn*, and *Glenburn and Burbong*.

Col McCalister Tour Leader, *Friends of Glenburn*

Queanbeyan's Living History Oral History Project Continues

The oral history project is continuing. Marilyn has been interviewing Bill Grey and Jim Woods. I have completed my interview with Aboriginal elder, Ethel Baxter and interviewed Bishop Pat Power. We are adding to our list of people to interview and some of the new volunteers are interested in participating. We held a meeting on 4th December at the Museum. Everyone is welcome to join the Oral History group, just e-mail us at the Museum.

John McGlynn

Acquisitions

Neal Gowen whose father was a past President of the Society made contact with us at our 45th Birthday party. Neal has very kindly donated digital copies of his Father's photo album to the Museum collection. The donation was very timely as two of the photographs of Neal's Aunt Noeline Scarlett (nee Duncan) in the Junior Red Cross, have been used in our newest Exhibition - 100 years of Queanbeyan Red Cross.

Red Cross photos from Neal Gowen's collection.

Right: Junior Red Cross, marching in 8 Hour Day parade Qbn, 1941.

Below: Noeline Scarlett (nee Duncan) in her Junior Red Cross uniform, 1941.



Thank you to our generous donors:

M Budakoski
N Donoghoe
J & R Hill
H Quince
K Willis
E Rawlings
M Clements
P Dennis
D Quane
O Warren
R Curry

***Queanbeyan Museum is
Supported by
Queanbeyan City Council***

From the Registrar, Cataloguer, Museum Assistant

For the last few weeks, I have been assisting with cataloguing objects from the collection, and assisting in the production of two exhibitions, *100 Year Red Cross Calling* and the forth-coming *150 Years of Queanbeyan Public School*. In addition, I have been working on packaging and photographing a collection comprising 35 78-rpm shellac discs, which will be featured on the *45 Pieces of Queanbeyan* online exhibition along with a portable gramophone. The collection was donated by Muriel Hasler and played by a local family who were descendents of Blewitts of Lobb Hole. Photographing this record collection made me reflect on the progress of sound technology. As today we tend to store music in the cloud purchased virtually from iTunes, a single track or a whole set, and listen to it in a small portable device, a computer, tablet or phone. This particular 78-rpm collection provides us a glimpse of music played and danced to in Queanbeyan during the 1920s. Tracks such as *A Thousand Miles from Here*, 1924 played by Carl Fenton's Orchestra or *Hi, Ho the Merrio*, 1926 by Irving Aaronson, describes the musical zeitgeist of the 1920s, the first one with dark lyrics yet in a bright tune, and the second one describing a man being happy and in love. Whether this music was limited to private households I tend to think the fox trot was the hip-hop of its generation, loud, edgy and fashionable forward, after all it became popular and fashionable across the world after the first Great War. Most of the 78s in this collection were produced by Regal, Brunswick, Parlophone, Zonophone and Columbia records. They are 10 inches or 25 cms in diameter and double sided containing only two tracks. Each track lasts approximately 3 minutes 45 seconds. Advertising slogans as 'Surface smooth as glass' or 'His Masters Voice' or 'Two Good Selections on Every Brunswick Record' were catchy phrases companies used to advertise these. As a note of interest, all these 78s have a miniature royalty stamp glued on to the record's label. This stamp reflects the royalties paid to the artists by the record companies. **Ximena Briceno**

Queanbeyan Hospital's Owl

The Owl was originally installed above the air-conditioning units "to keep the pigeons away". Fake owls on buildings are a part of European folklore. The Owl had been the roof since 1974 when the extension was opened by Sir Roden Cutler, who was in Queanbeyan to also unveil a plaque declaring Queanbeyan a city. Listed in the QDH Heritage Report in 2006 the owl then resided in the Maintenance Staff Office. Following building the new Hospital the owl was installed on a building in the courtyard housing the 'Reflection Room'. This feature wall is of red brick from 1933 hospital frontage.

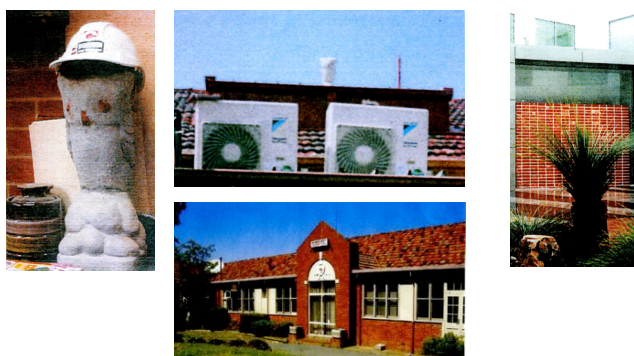
Nancy Monk



A RARE EVENT

The Sesquicentenary of Public Education in Queanbeyan

Our newest Exhibition celebrating Isabella Street's 150 years, is currently being put together by our indefatigable Curator Gillian Kelly. Gillian reports that the exhibition will open at the Museum to coincide with the Schools's 150th anniversary of 28th October. QPS is amongst the oldest public schools in rural NSW. The exhibition is not a comprehensive history but will feature a large collection of photographs, and objects from the collection: gown and trencher, school port, boy's leather shoulder bag, girl's school uniform and other QPS related objects such as a Leaving Certificate, copies of report cards, exercise books, a Queanbeyan Intermediate High School Badge, and other badges. Drop in to the Museum from the 25th October and check it out!



Book Cataloguing Project

The project is progressing well. The following much referred to books have now been rebound - *Queanbeyan Pioneer Cemeteries, 3 Volumes and the Index* and Rex Cross's *Bygone Queanbeyan*.

Karen Moore

We are on Facebook!

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

Check out our new Facebook page

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

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

Queanbeyan History Week 2014

Launch of Red Cross Queanbeyan 100 Years - Exhibition



Above Bill Hopkins with his 1929 Model T



Above Beautiful quilt piece "Star of Wonder" by Sandra Still

Farewell Peter!



We had a very enjoyable dinner to farewell Peter Conlon. Pic shows Peter unwrapping his farewell present – ½ dozen bottles of vino to enjoy in his retirement!

45th Birthday Party



Right: Dorothy Holgate (nee Gray) daughter of Sergeant W. Gray, who lived in the Museum building, with our Birthday Cake. Below left: Cr Trudy Woods spoke at our Birthday party Below right: Rachel Wright from Three Sides Marketing launched 45 Pieces of Queanbeyan



45 Pieces of Queanbeyan

Right: Four objects from our 45 Pieces of Queanbeyan On Line Exhibition:
Monk Fiddle
Victoria Hotel
Mantel Dogs
Wrights Store
Journal
Wilcox & Gibbs
Sewing Machine



Photographs by
Ximena Briceno