



THE PIONEER

THE BUDERIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

PATRON

May / June 2018

Lorrell Jamieson

PRESIDENT: David Wood
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Prue Cawley 5445 1341

SECRETARY: Bev

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Lavarack 5445 1355

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NEWSLETTER

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Buderim Historical Society

**HISTORY TALK - SATURDAY, 9th JUNE at 2:00pm by
BILL LAVARACK**

The History talk will be "The Friends Farm on the Mooloolah River".

In 1868 a group of Quakers or 'the religious society of friends' from Sydney selected blocks of land upstream on the Mooloolah River flood plain. Their idea was to set up a utopia free from sin. They established a commune and started a farm growing sugar cane. This was the first attempt to grow sugar on the Sunshine Coast, but it was poorly planned and, about three years later, floods wiped out the enterprise. Two of the 'friends' were Joseph Dixon and Gustav Riebe who then selected just up the hill on Buderim, becoming two of Buderim's earliest pioneers.

President's Report May 2018

Following on from the recent fire audit and the findings from the inspector, Ruth and I have produced draft fire plans for Pioneer Cottage and Vise House. Once finalised these documents will be included in the information folder for door guides. The evacuation diagrams have been refined and a sign erected near the garbage bins to direct people to the area for assemble in case of a fire. The recent rains have been very beneficial for the garden and the new turf, but there is still a small leak in the roof above the dining room.

The roof plumber returned to inspect the roof again, but his visit coincided with the school visit by Matthew Flinders students, so he will need to return on another day. The outside toilet has now been repainted and plumbing fittings replaced.

DIARY DATES

HISTORY TALK.

Bill Lavarack

Saturday 9th June at 2pm



**My assistant trying out
the high chair.**

Our intrepid volunteers have been busy cleaning and refreshing the displays inside Pioneer Cottage, room by room, resulting in very positive feedback by recent visitors to the cottage.

We still have two grant funded projects outstanding; the preparation of an Interpretive Plan and conduct of a Preservation Needs Assessment. The consultants engaged for these projects have been fully occupied on other work, and Sunshine Coast Council has approved extension of these projects to the end of June to enable completion.

The highlight of the last month was our presence at the Sunshine Coast Council Heritage Showcase, held at the Eumundi School of Arts on Sunday 22 April. Prue put together our display, which included items from our collection relating to World War 1 and information about Eric Foote and the Foote Sanctuary. The adjoining booth was occupied by the Tramways Group and Prue did a demonstration of butter making. The Cultural Heritage staff from the Council were happy with the quality of displays and the level of patronage, stating that the numbers were higher than past years. It was an opportunity for members of local Historical Societies to network and compare notes and many visitors to our booth indicated an intention to visit Pioneer Cottage soon.

The Sunshine Coast Council have staged several workshops in the past month to improve the skills of our volunteers.

Following on from the inaugural Open House event in 2017 the Cultural Heritage staff at Sunshine Coast Council have invited us to participate in the 2018 Open House, to be held on 20 October 2018. The organisers aim to involve 30 buildings across the Sunshine Coast with support from Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Council and the Australian Institute of Architects Qld Chapter. We are in the process of putting together a small brochure based on the Buderim walks brochure, for a shortened walk starting and finishing at Pioneer Cottage.

David Wood

17 May 2018

VALE



It is with great sadness that we must tell you that our Curator of many years, Wilma Hiddins, has recently died. Wilma was a devoted Pioneer Cottage worker who used her great expertise and knowledge in the management of our collection and cared greatly for the building as well. She attended the cottage 1½ days each week and only really took time off to go bird watching with Peter. Lately she had experienced health problems but as soon as possible she was back at her work station. She said she couldn't bear to sit around and do nothing.

She willingly ran our Trash and Treasure days along with Ruth and had lots of friends who willingly helped her.

We miss her and will find it hard to replace her work ethic and effort.

Because of her love of birds, we are placing a bird bath in the cottage garden in her memory later this month.

Thank you, Wilma and our sympathy goes to Peter and their family.

Work report

Our new lawn is looking wonderful thanks to Doug and his vigilance and diligence. David has now completed the replacement of sections of both toilets as well as painting the inside of the cottage toilet. All the “junk” from in this toilet is now stored in the new garden shed.



Laurel has been working non-stop in the garden and recently she had her grandson Benjamin, aged 4, helping her. He is a very keen gardener and really kept her and I on our toes.



The veranda was wet from rain and when I arrived to open at 11 he was most insistent that I put out the danger sign.

School visit

Matthew Flinders Anglican College attended with their year 2 classes. They are great children who really enjoy seeing how the pioneers lived but it was exhausting for our volunteers. Up in the attic becomes very hot and three groups over 31/2 hours is wearing on our voices. The payback, though, is that the children often bring their families to visit.

Education report

I recently attended a two-day workshop at Bankfoot House on “Museum Cleaning” which was run by the Sunshine Coast Council for Bankfoot House volunteers. I was the only person not on their staff invited ! (does this mean they think the Cottage could be better cleaned or just that they know we are willing learners ?)

Bankfoot House was built in 1868 and is a state heritage-listed property and the oldest surviving residence in the Glass House Mountains. Cobb & Co coaches travelling between Brisbane and the Gympie goldfields used the property as a lunch stop and staging post. It was donated to the council with everything still in it. This has presented them with a huge job of accessioning everything as well as cleaning it now as most of the items have been displayed or stored.

I am now more appreciative of what our forebears at Pioneer Cottage did. It is a huge job and a very detailed one.

We are going to have another Cleaning Bee at the cottage on the 20th July at 8.00 am.

Jess attended a class at the SCC library on transferring data from cassettes to hard drives and she and I are going to Nambour library to start our process this month.

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