



THE PIONEER

THE BUDERIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

November/December 2023

PATRON

Lorrell Jamieson

PRESIDENT:

Kevin Briggs 0488 021 894

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Ruth Ormerod 5326 1740

Lyn Nichols 0402 306 992

Geoff Baker 0435 068 241

CURATORS:

Photographic Collection:

Janet Baker 0432 900 940

House Museum Collection:

Gail MacDonald 0455 040 411

History Resources Collection:

Geoff Baker 0435 068 241

MEMBERSHIP:

Steve Ormerod 0412 392 488

DIARY DATES

Lions' Buderim Christmas Fair,
Buderim War Memorial Hall
Saturday, 25th November, 2023
8am -2pm

BHS Christmas Soiree, Pioneer
Cottage
Friday, 1st December, 5-7pm.

Welcome to our final Buderim Historical Society newsletter for 2023. In this Edition, we have a wide variety of items that will keep you up to date with what has been happening. We usually start with a report from the President, but Kevin and Anne Briggs have been away on a post-pandemic trip overseas. Our recently elected Vice-President Doug Benckendorff has been at the helm in Kevin's absence, ably supported by Ruth Ormerod.

End of Year Events

Christmas Fair

This year the Lions' Buderim Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 25th November at the Buderim Memorial Hall. Please come along and support the Buderim Historical Society by purchasing some raffle tickets, baked goods or second-hand books. We are very happy to announce if you win 1st prize in the raffle you could be the lucky recipient of one of Prue Cawley's legendary Christmas cakes. Thank you, Prue, what a woman!

BHS Christmas Soiree

Please find attached to this newsletter, your invitation to join us to celebrate another great year at Pioneer Cottage. We have decided not to send out raffle tickets with your invitation this year. Instead, we are hoping you will either buy some by calling at the Cottage during open hours (11am – 3pm) from Monday 20th November, or at the Fair or when you join us for our Soiree. The lucky winners will be drawn at the Soiree on Friday 1st December.

Buderim Garden Festival display of Pioneer Cottage Garden

Pioneer Cottage and Vise House grounds looked a picture for this year's Buderim Garden Festival Open Gardens weekend 14th & 15th October.



Buderim Garden Club recorded 294 visitors to our garden, and of these, 173 also toured Pioneer Cottage. Visitors were full of praise for the garden display. Our volunteers had worked hard to ensure our stall selling plants, baked goods and second-hand books was a huge success, with funds raised going towards the cost of rejuvenating the garden.

On the Saturday, Noel Williams, one of our long-standing members, delighted visitors playing old gramophone records. It was observed that some ladies were wiggling their hips in time with the music. Great fun!



Sunshine Coast Open House display of Pioneer Cottage

Once again this year, Pioneer Cottage featured in the Sunshine Coast Open House weekend on Saturday, 21st October, where buildings of architectural interest, old and new, were open to the public.

Janet Baker provided a very interesting handout highlighting architectural items of interest for visitors to note as they toured the building. A special thanks to Janet for also ensuring posters of the Cottage over the years were on view.

BHS was honoured to receive a visit from Melissa Hoedel, Executive Director, Brisbane Open House (accompanied by her daughter) and Peter and Jenny Wyatt from Melbourne. Peter was a guest speaker at the Sunshine Coast Council's Forum on The Story of Sunshine Coast Architecture, held the night before the Open House weekend. Thanks very much to John Deevers (who was taking Peter and Jenny on an Open House tour) for making Pioneer Cottage the first stop!



The 32 visitors were full of praise for the volunteers who care for the Cottage and grounds.

Lucky Winner!

This year's very happy winner of the Museum Mystery Madness Pioneer Cottage competition, a \$50.00 book voucher, was 10 year-old Alex King of Buderim. There were 15 entries from our Pioneer Cottage visitors. Unfortunately, there were no lucky winners from BHS in the Sunshine Coast Council Heritage final draw.

Sunshine Coast Council Grants

Sunshine Coast Council has notified BHS of the success of the application for funds to purchase and install a touch screen and hard drive in the museum room at Pioneer Cottage. The touch screen will provide a means of giving museum visitors the chance to look through the significant historical photos in BHS' photographic collection. BHS member Ross Eason with assistance from other BHS members is currently re-digitising these photos for display through the touch screen.

The touch screen will also provide a means of making other historical material in the BHS collection available for public viewing.

BHS is also waiting for news on whether the application under the Council's Collection Care program to restore selected artwork and prints has been successful.

Donation of Guys Siding Switch Mechanism

BHS member and member of Buderim's Guy family, Jeanine Roberts, has recently donated the switch mechanism for the Buderim tramway catchpoint at Guys Siding. It has been in the Guy family's possession since the dismantling of the tramway in 1935, initially saved by Jim Guy and then preserved by his son Ivan – Jeanine's father.

In researching the provenance of the item, it was manufactured by the British railway manufacturing firm, McKenzie & Holland, at its foundry in Northgate, Brisbane. The foundry was established in 1897 and supplied infrastructure for railways and tramways around Australia. It also supplied the rivets for Brisbane's Story Bridge and later played a role in manufacturing munitions during World War Two.

The weighted end of the switch mechanism was used to shift the tracks to enable trains to divert from the main tramway track into Guys Siding.

When Keith Guy gave his recent presentation on Jim and Connie Guy, he brought along a photo of Guys Siding which shows the switch mechanism in position. Consideration is being given as to how best to display it at Pioneer Cottage.



Arbour in Buderim Village Park

It has been pleasing to see the Sunshine Coast Council's completion of the new arbour in the Buderim Village Park, organised by the Buderim Garden Club to celebrate its 75th anniversary. BHS was initially approached in March 2021 to suggest historical images that might help communicate Buderim's agricultural and horticultural history. Earlier this year we also proofed some of the history text.

Interpretation Plan for Pioneer Cottage

As reported last month, the Sunshine Coast Council has selected the BHS to obtain expert assistance to develop an interpretation plan to guide the museum layout in Pioneer Cottage. BHS will get four sessions with Josh Tarrant from the Queensland Museum to help us take our Interpretation planning (story telling through different mediums) to the next stage, building on Stage 1 of the Interpretation Plan completed in 2018.

We will be looking at how best to give members the opportunity to contribute their thoughts and ideas during the process with Josh.

Indexing BHS Historical Records

New BHS member Madeline Roche, who has a tertiary degree in museum studies, has completed her initial volunteer training with Ruth Ormerod and is now working with Janet Baker to review and index the contents of the local history folders in the BHS collection of historical resources. Having an index will enhance the Curatorial Team's ability to pull together resources from across the collection – documents, photographs and objects – to respond to enquiries about Buderim's history, requests for presentations and to create temporary themed displays.

Old Buderim Families with Connections to India

We have recently had contact with descendants of two Buderim pioneering families with connections to India

A recent visitor to Pioneer Cottage was Denise Iscak, daughter of Buderim resident Henry Iscak. Denise grew up in the family home in Fielding St and was very pleased to find a number of items relating to the Iscak family on display, including the sugar mill evaporation pan donated by Henry.

His father Mohamet Iscak, born in Delhi, India, had initially come to Buderim in the late 19th century to work in the sugar mill established by Joseph Dixon and John Fielding. In the early 1900s he was the man responsible for planting the fig trees in Wirreanda Park for the Smyth family.

We also heard recently from Michelle Selwood, a great-granddaughter of Sion and Hannah Singh. Michelle made contact to track down a 2007 book on the Singh family "*India to Buderim Mountain*", a copy of which is in the BHS library.

More on the story of the Iscak and Singh families can be found in Bill Lavarack's book, *Stories of Old Buderim*. Bill has also extensively covered the sporting contribution of Mahomet Iscak's sons, Henry and William, in his book, *History of Sport in Buderim: the First Hundred Years*.

There is also another book on the Singh family, "*Sion Singh: a Sikh pioneer : Buderim Queensland*", published in 2017 by the Australian Indian Historical Society. It is available online through the State Library of Queensland and the National Library of Australia.

We are looking forward to further contact with Denise and Michelle in telling the story of their families' contribution to the history of Buderim.

From the Archives – A Cheeky Buderim Joke

Found in the BHS archives - the Buderim Community Bulletin was produced towards the end of the Second World War to give locals away on war service (referred to as "Digs and Diggerettes") all the gossip from Buderim. A cheeky joke in the July 1945 edition was as follows –

Said one strawberry to the other, "If I hadn't been in the same bed as you, I wouldn't now be in this jam. Oh!"

Life wasn't all hard work for Buderim's strawberry growers!

Pioneer Cottage Christmas Closure

Just a reminder that Pioneer Cottage will close over the Christmas holiday period from Monday 11 December 2023 and will re-open on Monday 8 January 2024. We hope our visitor guides enjoy the break and come back ready for an enjoyable year ahead of helping our visitors experience Buderim's past, brought back to life in Pioneer Cottage!



*The Management
and
Social Committee
of*



*The Buderim Historical Society
invites*

*You, your spouse / partner / family / friends
to*

Our Christmas Soiree

on

Friday 1st December 2023 from 5pm to 7pm

in the

Pioneer Cottage Grounds

5 Pioneer Cres Buderim 4556

*Please come along and meet and mix with the members and
volunteers dedicated to keeping our doors open.*

Please bring a small plate of goodies to share.

Drinks provided



RSVP

by Friday 24th November 2023 to - lbuhk@bigpond.net.au

5444 1955 or 0417 743 992

For Our Christmas Raffle this year

*We will be selling tickets at PIONEER COTTAGE from 20 November,
at the LIONS' CHRISTMAS FAIR STALL on Saturday 25 November*

&

*at PIONEER COTTAGE on the EVENING OF THE SOIREE
1st December, 2023*