

Newsletter



Opening hours: Every Sunday 10am – 2pm
Or by appointment.

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(Mudgeeraba Heritage Centre)

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Committee formed June 2001; Incorporated November 2001;
Dedication and official opening 9 October 2004

President's Patter

Hello everyone

How much rain have we had in the past couple of months? For February we had 493mm and the gauge overflowed. March 466 plus mm with the gauge overflowing again. Unfortunately, we had to close on a couple of Sundays during March because the grounds were far too wet for our visitors to negotiate. It has been a busy few weeks at the Museum with filming taking place over several days as well. See an article in the newsletter about the feature film.

Joan

We are on Facebook and Instagram -
GC Hinterland Heritage Museum - please like us
and spread the word.

Due to the rising cost of postage = it has now gone up to \$1.10 - we would like to be able to email the newsletter to as many of our friends as possible. I know there are some of you who do not have email etc and that is fine. You will still get your newsletter as per usual. **If you receive our newsletter through the post but have an email address could you please send an email to info.gchmuseum@gmail.com and I will add you to the email list to receive the newsletter. Many thanks.**

Museum happenings



Our volunteers dressed the part for the opening of our railway display back in November 2021

Did you know that there is a movie being filmed at the Museum?



CODE NOIR - MOVIE

Several scenes from this feature film have been filmed at the Museum. It is due to premier early next year so keep an eye out for it.



Code Noir is a feature film based on the actual document that legitimised slavery during the colonial period. Destined to premiere by late 2022, the film explores a taboo area of history rarely seen and how such a madness could be accepted as a normality.

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

<http://www.codenoirmovie.com/>

“A Godless Country”

On the 1st March 2020, a small group of actors and film makers used our Slab Hut to film a short film based on life in the colonial days of Moreton Bay around 1832. The making of the film took a full day and we were lucky that they allowed us to take a few pictures of them while they were filming. The short film is titled ‘*A Godless Country*’ and has received 27 wins and 13 nominations in international film competitions.

A post on their Facebook page on 16th March 2022 stated that they had won Best Narrative Short at the Annual Cannes World Film Festival. This was one of their first big wins on the circuit.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064070473571>



Nerang [From a Correspondent]

Nerang. (1887, June 28). *The Telegraph (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947)*, p. 3. Retrieved March 1, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article174760996>

June 25. Tuesday last will remain a red-letter day in the history of Nerang by the celebration of the fiftieth year of Her Majesty S reign in the form of a grand picnic, which was held in the Nerang Showground. Old and young in the Nerang and Southport divisions were invited;£20 worth of prizes were ran for by the children also two watches, which cost £3 each, the gift of Mr H.G. Bryant. There were between 500

and 600 persons present. At about 3 o'clock all the prizes had been pretty well distributed, and the children were marched into the showroom, where an excellent spread was provided by a number of ladies in Nerang. After the children done justice to themselves and tables they patronised, they sang in a happy strains 'God Save the Queen' then returned to shake any over-indulgence down with the numerous swings which had been provided for them. After an interval of some minutes the bell rang, and in a very short time 16 tables were crowded with ladies and gentlemen. Mr E.J. Stevens, MLA, made a short speech, referring in very kindly terms to the 50 years glorious reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. He gave the ladies – who provided gratuitously tables so abundantly loaded with almost all the eatables than an appetite could crave – great praise for their extraordinary success. Many other very pleasant and praising remarks were made and followed by cheers. There was also roasted on the grounds a bullock whole, the gift of Mr James Cockerell, of Boobigin, Nerang. Mr W.S. Hayles, blacksmith of Nerang, went to no end of trouble in making the necessary ironwork for roasting the beast and otherwise seeing to its being cooked properly, which duty he performed perfectly. At about 11 o'clock am Mr E J Stevens, MLA and Mr R Hope, and numerous other gentlemen were seen with lumps of bread and roast bullock. The meat being young, tender and nicely cooked, it was relished by all who partook of it; two or three carers were kept going for an hour. At about 7 o'clock in the evening about 400 persons were gathered around the big ring in the show grounds, witnessing a brilliant display of fireworks, which lasted for about an hour and a quarter. The cheering and laughter of the crowd were a sufficient acknowledgement of satisfaction given by the Fireworks Committee. A free ball in the School of Arts concluded one of the grandest festivals in the history of Nerang.

A cricket match was played here on the Nerang cricket grounds, yesterday, June 24, between an eleven of Southport and an eleven of Nerang. Nerang, under the captaincy of Mr S Joseph went to the wickets first, and after some very decent play, were all disposed of for 72 runs. The Southport men, led by Mr Gardner, went in for their first innings, but were not quite so lucky as their opponents, they being all disposed of for 46 runs. Nerang in their second innings, after some good all-round play, came out with 116 runs. Mr Drew, manager of the railway survey party, did some first-class all-round play for Nerang, as did Mr A Willson, of the Commercial Hotel. The Southport men again tried their luck at the wickets, having 143 runs to get to win, but were all disposed of for 14 runs, thus Nerang won by 123 runs. The Southport team was only a scratch team, and played pluckily to the end. In the return match Nerang, no doubt, will

have something different to pick her teeth with. In the evening the visitors were invited to Mr Dell's music hall, where an excellent dinner awaited them provided by Host Dell. After justice had been done to the inner man, the following toasts were drunk and duly responded to: 'The Captains'; 'Umpires'; 'Scorers'; 'Ladies'; 'Host'; and the concluding toast was the 'Press' and was proposed in a very able manner by Mr Anderson of Brisbane fame in (re unemployed), which was responded to by Mr Ruge. After a number of songs another day's sport was concluded with 'God Save the Queen'.

The Hope of Nerang Lodge, No. 40, of the I.O.G Templars, which was established here on the 1st of April last, has up to the present initiated about 34 members, and on the whole is doing some very good work and to help it along Mr William Stephens, chairman of the Nerang Divisional Board, has offered to fund the lodge in coffee, bread and butter on the nights of its weekly meetings. The timely offer has been accepted. On Saturday evening, July 2, a branch of the I.O.G. Templars will be opened at Southport by Bro. J.D. Hirljij, D.D.G.W.C. Templar. Some visitors from Brisbane and Nerang will be present.

A fatal accident occurred here on the South Coast and Border Railway today, at about half past 2 o'clock pm, between the 26 and 27 mile pegs on the Nerang branch. It appears a batter blast was lit at about 1 o'clock, which did not seem to go off, and after waiting for an hour and a half, the men concluded that the fire had gone out. They then made to the cutting, The men who set the fuse alight sat down over the charge and began to prize it with his knife to see if he could easily teach the fuse again. Duffy and several others were in the cutting, a little below the charge. While the person was prizing with the knife the blast went off, completely covering Michael Duffy in the debris. Death must have been instantaneous. Another man got badly bruised and the third was pretty roughly treated. The person who sat over the blast got off almost clear, with the exception of a little powder splash in the face. The accident occurred on Mr Flannery's contract.

The progress of the railway to Southport and Nerang seems to crawl along very slowly. Some of the Nerang people still swear vengeance against the Works Department for not bringing the line into Nerang township. Well, perhaps they have good grounds for sticking to their ideas in respect to the route, because they begin to see it even much plainer now than before, that as soon as the railway is opened to Nerang on the south side of the river, South Nerang will flourish and Nerang proper will keep dying away every year; and all the land in the new part of the township is in the hands of two families.

I am sorry to say an old resident of Nerang, Mr E Bellis, has to serve three months in Her Majesty's goal for a wage's debt to the amount of 15. He has been the means of a deal of money and labour being circulated about Nerang, and on the whole, had done a good deal for Nerang and as the above shows nothing for himself.

Nerang School of Arts

Nerang School of Arts. (1888, July 14). *Southern Queensland Bulletin (Southport, Qld. : 1888 - 1891)*, p. 2. Retrieved March 1, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article226677031>

The annual meeting of the Nerang School of Arts and Mechanics Institute was held in the large hall of the Institution on Friday evening, the 6th instant; Mr E J Stevens in the chair.

The committee's annual report, read by Mr C A Lambert congratulated the members upon being free of debt but regretted that, during the year, many former subscribers had fallen off, thereby showing their non-appreciation of the benefits to be derived in the way of mental culture and improvement.

The reading room is supplied with the local and metropolitan newspapers, Sydney and Melbourne papers, Illustrated London News, Scientific American, and some of the most popular English magazines.

The hall is furnished with a grand piano and in the library are nearly 400 books, which number the committee would like to increase largely as soon as funds are available.

The financial statement showed a credit balance of 16 8s. 4d. and the balance sheet showed assets to the amount of 258 over liabilities.

The following officers and committee were elected: President, Mr E J Stevens; vice-president, Mr C A Lambert; treasurer Mr D Freeman; secretary, Mr P Warrener; committee, Messrs W Philpott, C H Philpott, R Hope, in addition to Messrs. S Joseph, H Schneider, J Veivers and E Cooper whose term of office had not expired.

Nerang School of Arts

Nerang School Of Arts. (1889, July 27). Southern Queensland Bulletin (Southport, Qld. : 1888 - 1891), p. 2. Retrieved March 1, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article226678311>

The annual meeting of subscribers was held in the reading room on Monday, 15th instant, to receive the committee's report and treasurer's financial statement and to elect officers for the current year.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr E J Stevens, the chair was taken by Mr C A Lambert, Vice president, who read the committee's report, which congratulated members upon the sound position of the institution, but largely attributed that position to the efforts of those ladies of the district who organised a bazaar for the sale of work, and to friends from Southport who have given a concert in aid of the funds. The report expressed regret that the advantages offered by the library and reading room are not more appreciated by the residents of the neighbourhood. We learn that the reading room is open daily, Sundays included, from 9am to 10pm; that the following papers are supplied, as well as chess, draughts, and dominoes, viz.: *Illustrated London News, Australasian, Town and Country Journal, Scientific American, Carpenter and Builder, Girl's Own Paper, Sydney Bulletin, Queensland, Figaro, Brisbane Courier, Telegraph, S. Queensland Bulletin, Logan Witness, and Southern World.* The three last named being supplied gratis by their proprietors. The library, which is open two days a week, consists of about 420 well-chosen books, which number the committee will increase as funds become available.

From the treasurer's statement we learn that during the year member's subscriptions amounted to £30, that £90 had been received in donations, and £45 odd from the Government. During the year a stage has been erected, seats and lamps procured, the building painted and the debt on the piano paid off. The institution now had assets in excess of liabilities to the amount of £350.

Mr E J Stevens was re-elected President; Mr C A Lambert declined to be re-elected vice-president and Mr Schneider was chosen to fill that position. Mr D Freeman and Mr P Warrener were re-elected treasurer and secretary respectively and the committee is now as follows, viz., Messrs. Lambert, W Philpott, C H Philpott, S Joseph, W Gooding, E Cooper and W J Browne.

OBITUARY – MR GEORGE WARPLES

OBITUARY (1932, July 29). *South Coast Bulletin* (Southport, Qld. : 1929 - 1954), p. 5. Retrieved March 19, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article133665300>

The South Coast district one of its oldest pioneer settlers by the death at Southport on Wednesday morning of Mr George Warples of Bundall at the age of 78 years.

Mr Warples who had lived in the district for more than 60 years was born in Leicestershire, England, on October 9, 1853, and came out to Queensland with his parents when he was about nine years old. For the

first few years the family lived at Kangaroo Point, Oxley and Coopers Plains, and then at Pimpama and Hope Island (Coomera). While living at Hope Island in the early seventies Mr Warples helped the late Mr G Pratten to survey Southport for its first land sale which took place at Beenleigh in 1875.



George Warples, a South Sea boy and W S Hayles outside the Smithy at Yarwolpah, Sugar Mill, Pimpama. (Photo from a private family collection)

The Warples family came to the Nerang district about 55 years ago and for many years lived about 2 ½ miles out from the Nerang township on the Beechmont road, and engaged in contract work for the council and farming.

About 40 years ago Mr Warples and his brother Mr Arthur Warples purchased a property at Numinbah from Mrs F Nixon and lived there until 1925 when they retired and bought a property from Miss H Davenport at Bundall near Southport where they have lived ever since.

Mr Warples was engaged in the timber getting trade for many years at both Numinbah and Canungra and for eight years was employed as a benchman at Burley Brothers sawmill at Pine Mountain. He took an active part in all matters affecting the welfare of the south coast district and was a member of the Nerang Shire Council for nine years. Mr Warples never married. He is survived by one brother Mr Arthur Warples of Bundall, near Southport and a sister Mrs A Cummings of Bardon, Brisbane to whom sympathy is extended.

The funeral took place from St Church of England Southport yesterday the remains being interred in the Nerang Cemetery.

Management Committee 2021

Joan Rudd [President], Anne Panitz [Secretary]. Sue Mills [Treasurer, Registrar, Newsletter] Jack Rudd, Brian Cox, George O'Brien, Lenore Crouch, Mariette Buckingham, Neil Sands, Pam Sands, Peter Jones, Carol Jones, Warren Davis, Tom Cowper, Luisa Williams.

Meetings held 3rd Sunday of each month on site.

Our aim is to collect and preserve historical and heritage material illustrating the growth and development of the Hinterland Region of the Gold Coast from the original pioneering days until today. We plan to arrange and describe these materials and make them accessible to the general public on a regular basis as well as providing educational programs where possible to increase public awareness and appreciation of the Gold Coast Hinterland region's history and development. Members of the Management Committee have connections with pioneering families in the district.

"Friends of the Museum" is for anyone who shares our same interest in preserving the history of our region and is interested in assisting with the set-up and operation of the museum.

Further details on the 'Friends' and application form may be obtained from the secretary.

Diary Dates - subject to change without notice

February 2022

- 6 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 13 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 17 – Victoria Towers over 50s
- 20 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 20 – Meeting 2pm
- 27 – Museum open 10am-2pm

March 2022

- 6 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 13 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 17 – Worongary SS to be confirmed
- 20 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 21 – Marymount College to be confirmed
- 24 – Mudgeeraba Creek SS to be confirmed
- 27 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 28 – Mudgeeraba Creek SS to be confirmed
- 29 - Marymount College to be confirmed
- 31 – Worongary SS to be confirmed

April 2022

- 3 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 10 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 17 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 17 – Museum meeting 2pm
- 24 – Museum open 10am-2pm

May 2022

- 1 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 8 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 15 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 22 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 29 – Museum open 10am-2pm

June 2022

- 3 – U3A group

July 2022

- 12 – Benowa SS to be confirmed
- 14 – Benowa SS to be confirmed
- 19 – Benowa SS to be confirmed
- 26/28 – Clover Hill SS to be confirmed

The Museum Committee would like to thank the Council of the City of Gold Coast for their continued support of the Museum through Whole of City Funding and rate reduction.