

Newsletter



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

238 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba
(Mudgeeraba Heritage Centre)

PO Box 1233, Mudgeeraba, Qld 4213
PH: 07 5559 1457

Email: info.gchmuseum@gmail.com

Web: <http://gchheritagemuseum.org.au/>

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

President's Patter

Hello everyone

Once again, we have been feeling the effects of recent lockdowns. I hope everyone is travelling well during these trying times. At our recent AGM Anne, Sue and myself were re-elected as Secretary, Treasurer/Registrar & President. I thank everyone for having faith in the work that we are all doing. I would also like to thank all our volunteers who spend an enormous amount of time working to keep the Museum spic'n'span and open for everyone to enjoy. A BIG thank you everyone. Another BIG thank you must go to Dr Peter Ochsenbein of Mudgeeraba Foundation for his continued support to the Museum. We won't have our usual display at the Mudgeeraba Show this year but will have a small stand beside the Rotary Bar. We are in the final stages of an exhibition based around the Nerang Railway Station and the importance of rail transport to the industries in the Hinterland of the Gold Coast. We will let everyone know when this is open.

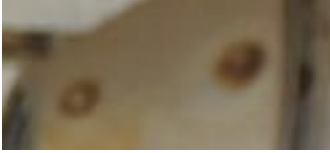
Joan

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 top \$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.gchhmuseum@gmail.com and I will add you to the email list to receive the newsletter. Many thanks.**

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

In our last newsletter we asked **DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS AND WHERE YOU WOULD FIND IT IN THE MUSEUM?**



Answer

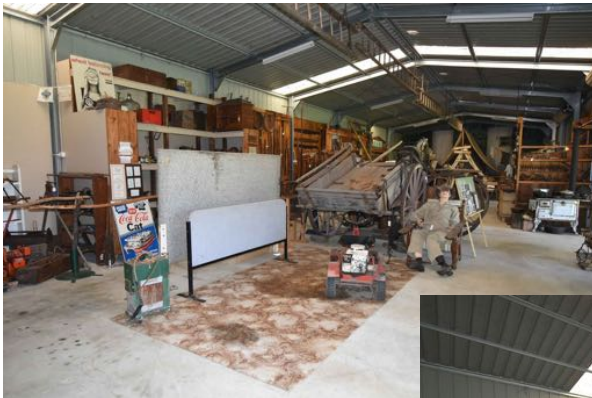


Did you correctly guess the holes in the discs of the cream separator in the cream shed? They can be seen middle right of this photograph.

Did you guess the correct answer?



Recently we had two blacksmiths busy being creative in the blacksmith shop. It is not very often that we have two of them there on the same day.



Our diorama of Mudgeeraba has found a new home in the big shed. Here are before and after pictures.





The Museum at night.



The Big Shed



Around the Railway Station.



Slab Hut



NERANG SCHEME – Unemployed and Bananas

NERANG SCHEME. (1933, January 25). Queensland Times (Ipswich, Qld. : 1909 - 1954), p. 8 (DAILY.). Retrieved July 1, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article113445849>

BRISBANE, January 24.

The Minister for Labour and Industry (Mr M P Hynes) announced today that the Government has decided to go on with the Upper Nerang scheme of banana farms for the unemployed, provided certain other land is included. Mr Hynes said that in addition to the Crown lands available there were about 1200 acres of privately owned land adjacent to the proposed road. The owners of this who would benefit by the construction of the proposed road to give access to the area were to be asked to come into the scheme voluntarily, that is, make their land available for the settlement of the unemployed. If they did not do so, said Mr Hynes, their land would be resumed.

NERANG SHOW

NERANG SHOW. (1905, October 21). The Queenslander (Brisbane, Qld. : 1866 - 1939), p. 33. Retrieved July 1, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article20799156>

The fourteenth exhibition of the Southern Queensland Agricultural and Pastoral Association was held at Nerang on Friday week. The weather, although cloudy and threatening, was cool and pleasant, and no rain fell after the arrival of the Ministerial party from Brisbane. The show was a pronounced success, and the committee and members of the society are to be congratulated on their successful effort. A special train left Brisbane at 9.30am and amongst its passengers were the Hon. D F Denham (Minister for Agriculture), Hon. E J Stevens, MLC (president of the society), Hon. T F Johnston, MLC, Messrs. Cowap, Mackintosh, Barton and Reinhold, MMLA, Messrs. F Stewart Brown, J Jackson and others. Nerang was reached about 11.45 and the party were driven at once to the ground where they proceeded to inspect the exhibits. The vegetables were beyond praise, and showed how well adapted the district is for their growth under natural conditions, even in a dry season. Special attention was at once directed to several very interesting exhibits of arrowroot, whilst the swede turnips, carrots, cabbage, lettuce and other exhibits formed a display not to be seen at any recent shows. Fruit, especially citrus fruits, shown was excellent in quality and in good quantity. The dairy and farm produce section was also well represented, whilst some fine samples of sugar cane were exhibited. The horses, especially the draughts, were exceedingly good, but the cattle and pigs were disappointing and did not fairly represent the Nerang district. Poultry were only fair. Amongst general exhibits, the Singer Manufacturing Company had a good display of their machinery. The dial oil engine was also shown by Messrs.

Wendt and Lewis. Waugh and Josephson displayed Alpha Laval separators, Messrs. Clark and Fauset Melotte separator, Preston and Co. the Princess and the Crown Separator Company Crown separators. After the party had made a tour of the show they inspected some fine teams of farm horses, shown in competition for the 'Courier' Cup presented by the Hon. E J Stevens and which was won by Mr F Parr. A return was then made to the pavilion, where the official opening took place.

The Hon. E J Stevens, president of the society in asking the Hon. D F Denham to open the show, said that owing to weather conditions the attendance was not equal to the usual roll up. They were pleased that Mr Denham was with them and asked that gentleman to declare the show open. Mr Denham congratulated the committee on the success of their show. It was a success both for quality and range of exhibits. The display of vegetables was wonderful and manifested both good soil and good cultivation. The land on which they had been grown was well prepared and nothing left to chance. Such work must produce the best results and while in a favourable season it might not so much matter in such a season as the present it told. Vegetables such as these grown by white labour would soon leave no margin for Eastern labour, which would find its avocation gone. He was astonished at the variety of the exhibits and referred to several interesting features such as sugar cane, potatoes, citrus fruits, tropical and semi tropical fruits as evidence of the great resources of the district. He thought the show of cattle disappointing more especially as with its more consistent rainfall this district was well suited for dairying purposes. He could only conclude that something had happened to prevent the best cattle being shown. The plough horses would be a credit to any part of Australia. The object of these shows was to pit product against product, and it was the duty of any person having a good animal or product to bring it forward and help the committee. Thus the show would be educational as it was intended to be. The district could and should also show better pigs, for it had every element requisite for their production. He then declared the fourteenth annual show of the society open. (Cheers).

THE LUNCHEON. At the luncheon, which was an excellent repast provided by Mr J F McDougall, Southport, the Hon. E J Stevens presided, and at the table with him were: The Hon. D F Denham, Messrs. Cowap, Mackintosh, Barton, Reinhold, MMLA, Messrs. Isaac Andrews, (chairman Nerang Shire Council), E Hicks (chairman Southport Shire Council), R Hope, F Stewart Brown (Queensland Investment and Land Mortgage Company, Brisbane), E Fass, W D Mellor, E H Owen, John Siganto, G Andrews and many other prominent residents. Before proceeding to the toast list, Mr Stevens said, as requested, he had issued invitation to all the Ministers and he regretted that, with the exception of Mr Denham, they had been unable to attend. He also apologised for the absence of the member for the district, Mr Plunkett, through illness.

The toast of 'The King' having been honoured, Mr Isaa Andrews proposed 'The Parliament of Queensland', coupled with the name of the Hon. D F Denham.

Mr Denham who had a most cordial reception, in responding, expressed the pleasure it afforded him to find Mr Stevens presiding. From the very inception of the society, he had been their president and he advised them to keep him in this position as long as he lived. It would be very hard to find anyone who would take such an interest in the district as did their president. He regretted the absence of the Premier and of Mr Plunkett but in each case their absence was unavoidable. He did not approve of politics at shows. He supposed Parliaments were necessary with the exception of the Federal Parliament. He was pleased to see some little acknowledgement of the just claims of Queensland in the matter of the Orient contract had at last been given; but the tardy and hardly given acknowledgment was wholly insufficient. The matter was not settled, and he hoped to see it brought before the Hight Court. The only real good achieved was that Queensland's just claims to be considered in any future contract were now admitted. After all, Parliament was a very small matter compared to the elements. Whatever we might control we could not control the seasons. There were three R's in agriculture – roads, railways and rainfall – and these were necessary to give the farmer success. At Clifton the other day he gazed on what should be acres of golden grain and was grieved to see the fields of sickly green and he wondered if something could not be done to help the growth of cereals in that wonderful country. The Main Range contained ravines that would easily make splendid catchment areas for water conservation and on his return to Brisbane he asked his Under Secretary if any report on the subject had ever been made to the department. A report of Mr Rigby, 1888-89, was produced with reference to the Downs and the Logan and Albert districts and also information about the 'Kow Swamp' in Victoria, where water was conserved for irrigation purposes. He intended to write to Victoria for further information about this latter work but he thought that much might be done with King's Creek, the Lockyer, and other watercourses. Mr Rigby recommended a weir at Waterford three-quarters of a mile in length, which at a cost of 14,000 would provide 840,000,000 gallons and give sufficient water for three submergings of 4in. each annually. What a boon such a supply would have been in the wheat district during the last few months – water must be conserved cheaply to be of use. Another way to provide for districts where water conservation would be too costly would be to cultivate those grains and wheats that are good drought-resisters. The Maranoa crop this year would be largely a failure and what grain could be saved there should be kept for seed and would prove most valuable. Money was necessary to accomplish what he had sketched. The loan fund was well-nigh exhausted and must be replenished. At the same time, it was necessary to desist from further borrowing for two or three years in order to facilitate the

conversion of loans falling due in 1911. He would be willing to replenish the loan fund by sales of land, and use funds from it for making good roads, light railways and for water conservation. A matter of great interest to the district was the early opening of the Numinbah lands. The Minister for Lands had informed him that 8000 acres of good land at the top of Nerang Creek would be available, and that the surveyor would be on the land by the 20th instant. He did not like the idea of the forests being destroyed but forests could not be permitted to stand in the way of agriculture. It had recently been estimated that the forests of New South Wales were worth thirteen and a-half millions sterling and those of Queensland were certainly much more valuable. Little idea existed of what a valuable asset Queensland possessed in her forests and the question of timber conservation would shortly have to be dealt with so that the present wasteful method of cutting it might cease. He strongly advised farmers to go in for good horses, cattle and poultry. It cost no more to feed a good animal than a bad one and it was much more profitable. The Agricultural Department existed to help the farmer and he wanted them to let the department know their wants. He trusted soon to see the time of poverty eaten up by the years of prosperity. He expressed his thanks for the hearty manner in which the toast was received and proposed the toast of success to the Southern Queensland Border Agricultural and Pastoral Association, coupled with the name of the president, the Hon. S J Stevens. This, he said, was a toast about which two opinions did not exist. He trusted yet to see the agricultural societies show that they did not exist alone for their one annual exhibition but would hold meetings say every three months to compare products and the conditions under which they were grown and at which there could be an association talk on all matters affecting their interests. (Cheers). The Hon. E J Stevens, in responding, thanked the Minister very cordially for the eulogistic manner in which the toast was proposed and the enthusiastic way in which it was received. It was his very great pride to be their president and he was pleased to have the Minister for Agriculture present so that he might see what could not be seen elsewhere in Queensland at present, without irrigation. Irrigation was of the greatest moment, but the adoption of expensive methods of production for export would prevent us competing with others. He was glad to learn that the Numinbah Reserve was to be thrown open for selection. Since he ceased to be their member he had not interfered with their public affairs unless specially asked to do so. He had, however, been asked to see the Treasurer about a road to open up access to the Numinbah Reserve and Mr Kidston had stated that if the agricultural land was what it was reported to be the cost of making the road would be money well spent, and it would be done. Timber conservation must give place to closer settlement. The Nerang district had already been denuded of its best timber. He questioned if there was any cedar left on Numinbah. He hoped that the 10,000 acres to be thrown open would soon be increased to 20,000 or 30,000

and thus give opportunity to our neighbours from Northern New South Wales who were so prosperous there, to come and settle. He was glad to see so many old pioneers present. They had great difficulties in the early days, but the fact of their success despite the difficulties had been the greatest argument for the extension of the railway from Beenleigh to the border. He hoped soon to see the gap between Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah bridged by a railway. It would come and he was certain if the members over the border combined, they could compel their government to construct the line. They had been able by united effort to get the Lismore line and they would get this. Mr Stevens paid a high tribute to the efficiency of the Agricultural Department. There had been three Ministers for Agriculture, but Mr Denham had made it a live department, and a benefit to every district in the State. He had assisted the farmer, initiated the poultry export for which there was a great future for Queensland. The department had never before been administered as at present and they had only to listen to the Minister's speech to know that he was a man of ideas, with ability and energy to carry them out. It would afford him great pleasure to do anything in his power for the benefit of the district. In conclusion he thanked them for the manner in which the toast had been honoured. (Loud applause).



*Members of the Nerang Show committee, circa 1909-1912. Do you know who any of these gentlemen are? Let us know
(Image from City of Gold Coast Local Studies Collection)*

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

September 2021

- 2 – Somerset College
- 5 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 7 – Emmanuel College 9.15am
- 9 – Emmanuel College 9.15am
- 12 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 13 – Clover Hill State School 9.30am
- 13 – Clover Hill State School 9.30
- 16 – Clover Hill State School 9.30
- 17 – Mudgeeraba Show
- 18 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 18 - Mudgeeraba Show
- 19 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 19 – Mudgeeraba Show
- 19 – Museum meeting 2pm
- 26 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 26 – Museum meeting

October 2021

- 3 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 9 - Gold Coast Camera club
- 10 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 12 – Kings College
- 17 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 17 – Museum meeting 2pm
- 21 – Senior's Day 10am-1pm
- 24 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 26 – Kings College
- 31 – Museum open 10am-2pm

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.