

February 2025

Vol. 22 No. 1

Newsletter



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

238 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba
(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

Happy 2025 everyone. Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

We began the New Year with our Australia Day flag raising ceremony conducted by the Albert Battery, and while the numbers were down on previous years everybody enjoyed themselves. This year we had the Gold Coast Family History Association here for the first time as well as the Hinterland Band and the Antique Auto Club with their display of cars.

Thank you to our local members, Cr Glenn Tozer and Ros Bates MP for attending and supporting us on our special day.

Thank you to all our volunteers for your hard work in making the day a success.

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers at the Museum so if you are interested or know somebody who may be interested, please get in touch.

How long is it since you visited the museum? There have been lots of changes to the displays and extra displays added so why not come along and visit us again.

Joan

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

What's been happening at the museum

Christmas display in Franklin and Okey houses.



Time for the volunteers to relax after a busy year.





A new display in the costume room at Okey House.





Working on the railway.



Australia Day 2025.







A visit from Estia Health.





THE BOOMERANG FARM

<https://www.goldcoaststories.com.au/the-boomerang-farm/> viewed 02/02/2025

Johann Rosin settled his family in Mudgeeraba in 1885. On his new property which he named Boomerang Farm, he planted a vineyard, grew corn and bananas, managed a successful citrus orchard and in later years, ran a cattle property and dairy. In 1937, after Johann's death, the property was sold and the family relocated to Brisbane.

In 1960 Dr Lorin Hawes, an American aeronautical scientist who had worked on the atom bomb project in the USA, settled in the Gold Coast Hinterland on the former Rosin property. Guaranteeing that he could teach anyone to throw a boomerang, he opened the Boomerang Farm as a tourist attraction in 1965.

Designing his boomerangs using existing aerodynamic principles he started manufacturing boomerangs in a 70-year-old barn on the 200-acre farm. His factory produced 6,000 boomerangs each month.

While the Boomerang Farm was never a major attraction it received considerable publicity and was visited by many people to learn about boomerangs and explore the property. In 1994 Rob and James King built a nine-hole, par 35 golf course on 40 acres of original Boomerang Farm.

MAINLY FEMININE AFFAIRS by Freda

SOUTH COAST BULLETIN (SOUTHPORT, QLD:1929-1954), Wednesday 3 August 1949, page 23

First Masonic Ball at Burleigh Heads

GREAT SUCCESS – 300 ATTEND

Simple but effective presentation of 7 debutants

The Glideaway Hall at Burleigh Heads last Friday night where the first Masonic Debutante Ball was held, looked quite entrancing and fairylike with its decorations and coloured lights.

From the ceiling were splendid baskets of ferns interspersed with peach blossoms, bunting and coloured lights while the stage front was practically a massed bank of multi coloured paper flowers, and looked most artistic.

The Ball opened with the Grand March which was led by Wor. Brother H. Stone and Mrs Stone, but the highlight of the evening was the dignified presentation of the seven debutants who had been trained and were presented by Mrs S W McKenna, who was the Matron of Honour, to Worshipful Brother H Stone.

The debs, all in their white frocks and carrying bouquets of white and pink flowers, were thrown into relief by the Maid of Honour and the two attendants who were frocked in pale blue.

They all sustained their parts most effectively; reflecting careful training by an accomplished person, and holding the onlookers fascinated and almost spellbound. They walked, curtseyed and waltzed with dignity and charm.

Supper was served at Ocean Beach Guest House, the debs' cake being a feature of the table and was cut by Miss Elaine Richards.

For those who had not seen it done before, the few hundred-yard walk to Ocean Beach Guest House where a delightful supper was served, was quite romantic, for one passed from an artificial world in the hall to the natural beauty of a glorious night outside. The stars overhead, and the roar of the surf on the beach close by, gave one a feeling of elation and also a good appetite to enjoy the dainties of the supper table.

The official party at the ball included R W Brother Stone and Mrs Stone, Mr and Mrs M McKavanagh (Mrs McKavanagh was hostess), Mr and Mrs C W McKenna, Mr and Mrs A C Black, Mr and Mrs C Butler, Mr and Mrs J L Schuster.

Wor. Bro. L Schuster was secretary and his committee who carried out the general arrangements are to be congratulated on the success of the ball; and Messrs Les McMillan, W J Fradgley and G Ceessler who with the assistance of the White Star orchestra, kept dancing going with pep, mad an excellent MC.

DEBS' FROCKS AND PARTNERS

Miss Val Benstead – partner W Benstead – chose a frock of net and lace with a peplum at waist, and a frilled neckline.

Miss Shirley Morgan – partner Trevor Warren – wore all-over lace, over taffeta and her full skirt featured a bustle bow at back.

Misses Dulcie and Mavis Parker – S Hendrickson and D MacLean – were frocked alike in lace and hail spot net over stiffened taffeta, bodice having a draped shoulder line.

Miss Elaine Richards – partner V. Cooper – favoured off white taffeta, long bodice having a square neckline and to the full skirt was added a flat bow and bustle at back.

Miss Betty Wingfield – partner Ross Crockett – wore spotted net banded in satin American crepe finished with soft satin bows.

Miss Gladys Jensen – partner Mr Charlesworth – featured a lace trimmed French silk frock, with a flounced neck line and skirt.

Miss Rhonda Gill – Maid of Honour – was frocked in sky blue minon with a crossed and flounced bodice. The hip line was finished with a bow and long ends of cyclamen velvet and she carried a bouquet of cyclamen flowers.

Miss Betty Schuster and Miss Helen Webber – attendants – wore frocks of sky blue crepe and had pink bouquets.

Official party frocks

BURLEIGH HEADS

<https://www.goldcoaststories.com.au/burleigh-heads/> viewed 02/02/2025

In 1840 the surveyor James Warner named a number of locations in the region and twenty years later, in 1860 the surveyor Robert Dixon recorded the headlands near Tallebudgera Creek as Burly Head, possibly because of its massive appearance. The nearby creek was called the River Perry. Over the years Burly was changed to Burleigh and the Perry was renamed Tallebudgera Creek.

William Hanlon, whose childhood memories of the region went back to the 1870s, recalled that for the Koombumerri, Big Burleigh was known as Jellurgul and Little Burleigh was known as Jebbribillum or the Waddy of Jebreen. In another article, Hanlon referred to Jelliurgul as meaning a sugar bag or bee's nest.

Another identity who knew the area and its inhabitants well from the 1870s was Archibald Meston. He recalled fifty years later that the Yugambeh people called Big Burleigh Jayling (black) and Gumblemoy (rock), after the volcanic black basalt rock of the headland.

In 1871 the town reserve of Burleigh Heads was declared, and a survey was undertaken by G L Pratten with the first auction of 65 town allotments taking place in July 1872. Later land sales occurred in 1877 and 1878. Travel to the township was via rough roads or along the beaches from Southport. By 1882 the Nerang Divisional Board was working on improving the coastal track to what would eventually become Surfers Paradise and Frederick Fowler, a member of the Divisional Board, erected the first guest house at Burleigh Heads.

As transport options improved with daily coach services and the arrival of the railway to Booningba (West Burleigh) the township grew. Although Burleigh Heads was still mostly popular as a tourist destination during Easter and Christmas holidays when hundreds of visitors would descend upon the small village, its permanent population slowly grew with families like the Justins making it their home and providing facilities and services to passing and visiting tourists.

It was during this period that J G Appel recommended that an area be set aside for recreation purposes. This reserve eventually became the Burleigh Heads National Park

Management Committee 2024

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

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 2025

- 2 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 9 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 16 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 23 – Museum open 10am-2pm

MARCH 2025

- 2 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 9 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 16 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 23 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 30 – Museum open 10am-2pm

APRIL 2025

- 6 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 13 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 20 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 27 – Museum open 10am-2pm

MAY 2025

- 4 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 6 – Marymount
- 8 – Marymount
- 11 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 13 – Mudgeeraba Creek SS
- 14 – Mudgeeraba Creek SS
- 18 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 25 – Museum open 10am-2pm
- 30 – Estia Health

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.