

December 2025

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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

Another busy year is coming to an end, and we can look back and reflect. As usual we had a busy time with visits from schools, aged care, various organisations including Probus and a local RSL and a group on a bus trip from Bundaberg and our Sunday visitors, also participating in the Mudgeeraba Street Party and a display at the Mudgeeraba show.

A lot of work has been done on the Museum grounds to enhance our presentation also adding new displays. It was also one of the saddest years with the passing of two of our most beloved members in George and Joan, their wealth of knowledge and inspiration will be truly missed by everyone.

To the Committee and Volunteers 'Thank you' for your hard work throughout the year, without you the Museum would not function. To members and friends of the museum I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We will be closed from 21-12-2025 through to 4-1-2026 re-opening of 11/1/2026.

We are looking forward to 2026.

Neil

Museum Happenings



Above: Thanks to Cr Glenn Tozer for the new picnic table in the Museum grounds. It has already been put to good use.

Below: Members of Nerang RSL enjoyed touring the Museum as well as morning tea and lunch catered for by our wonderful volunteers.





Below: Mudgeeraba Probus enjoyed Devonshire tea and a tour of the Museum.



Members of a local church group enjoyed a tour of the Museum and a picnic lunch.



REMEMBRANCE DAY – Southport Observance

REMEMBRANCE DAY (1953, November 18). South Coast Bulletin (Southport, Qld. : 1929 - 1954), p. 28. Retrieved November 10, 2025, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article226270829>

Remembrance Day was observed at Southport on 35th Anniversary of the First World War Armistice on November 11th, when representatives of the RSL and Local Authorities laid wreaths on the Memorial in Anzac Park and a short service was held.

Promptly at 11am the Mayor (Ald L. Peak) representing the South Coast Town Council, Councillor W. Birmingham representing the Albert Shire Council and the Nerang Sub-Branch RSL and Mr T. Primrose president of the Southport Sub-Branch RSL placed wreaths on the base of the memorial.

Then followed one minutes silence, the Last Post and Reveille was sounded by Mr George Panitz, then two minutes silence and a prayer and the Benediction by the Rev. R. Everitt concluded the ceremony. Amongst those present were the president of the Southport RSL Women's Auxiliary (Mrs Wesener) and several members of that organisation and a number of 1914-18 Diggers.

11:00am, 11 November – Lest we forget

<https://www.rslaustalia.org/history-of-remembrance-day> viewed 30/11/2025

At 11.00 am on 11 November 1918 the guns of the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous war. In November the Germans called for an armistice (suspension of fighting) in order to secure a peace settlement. They then accepted the allied terms for unconditional surrender.

Australia was a small nation with a population of fewer than five million. From this small population base, no less than 416,809 men enlisted of which 302,000 served overseas. Of these, 62,000 were killed and 155,000 wounded.

At least a further 8,000 died of war-related injuries after the war. These figures do not include the neurological trauma inflicted on so many soldiers, which negatively affected their lives and those of their families for many years afterwards.

The eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month attained special significance in the post war years.

The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war.

The first modern world conflict had brought about the mobilisation of over 70 million people and left between nine and thirteen million of them dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave.

On the first Armistice Day, on 11 November 1919 the two minutes silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. The silence was proposed by an Australian journalist working in Fleet Street, Edward Honeu. At about the same time a South African Statesman made a similar proposal to the British Cabinet, which endorsed it. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the Armistice 'which stayed the worldwide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom'. The two minutes silence was popularly adopted, and it became a central feature of the commemorations of Armistice Day from then on.

In Australia on the 75th anniversary of Armistice, on 11 November 1993, Armistice Day ceremonies again became the focus of national attention. On the day the remains of an unknown Australian soldier, exhumed from a First World War military cemetery in France, were ceremonially entombed in the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. Ceremonies were conducted simultaneously in towns and cities all over the country, culminating at the moment of burial at 11am and coinciding with the traditional two minutes silence. This ceremony, which touched a chord across the Australian nation, re-established Remembrance Day as a significant day of commemoration. In November 1977 the Governor-General, Sir William Dean, issued a proclamation formally declaring 11 November as Remembrance Day and urging all Australian to observe at least one minutes silence at 11am each year to remember those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts.

Throughout Australia memorials of all sizes were established to commemorate the sacrifice of Australia's sons. Most cities, towns and suburbs erected monuments.

In 1939 Australia was again involved in a world war. The tradition of Armistice Day continued, but its name was changed to Remembrance Day as it would now honour the dead of WWII and the later Australian military involvements in Korea, Malaysia, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and the myriad peacekeeping operations throughout the world.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the volunteers
of the Gold Coast Hinterland Heritage Museum.**

Management Committee 2024

Joan Rudd [Patron], Neil Sands [President], Anne Panitz [Secretary]. Sue Mills [Treasurer, Registrar, Newsletter] Jack Rudd, Brian Cox, George O'Brien, Lenore Crouch, 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

December 2025

7 – Museum open 10am-2pm
14 – Museum open 10am-2pm
21 – CLOSED
28 – CLOSED

JANUARY 2026

4 - CLOSED
11 – Museum open 10am-2pm
18 – Museum open 10am-2pm
25 – CLOSED

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.