



IPSWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017



COONEANA HERITAGE CENTRE
Opening Times
Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
2nd and 4th Sundays:
10:00 am-2:00 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 11 February, 9:00am:
Meeting to discuss events for the year

Saturday 4 March, 9:00am:
Members meeting

Friday 24 March, 9:00am-2:00pm:
Ipswich Genealogical Society Open Day

Sunday 26 March, 10:00am:
'Fashions of Early Ipswich' by Dorothy Walsh

Friday 31 March, 6:00pm
Opening of Spinners & Weavers exhibition 'What's in the bag?' at Ipswich Community Gallery

See inside for further information about these events

EXCITING START TO THE NEW YEAR

Our first meeting for 2017 was very well attended and each report contained lots to keep us busy throughout the year.

CONSERVATION PLANS

The long-awaited Conservation Plans for Cooneana Homestead and the Rhondda Office building have now been received. Your executive will be discussing the implications for the Society and will have printed copies available for discussion with other members shortly. The receipt of the plans means that, although some of our planning may need to be amended, we can soon begin again to restore Cooneana Homestead and we have some guidelines for the sympathetic use of the Rhondda Office building.

COAL MINERS

Following the opening of the Ipswich and Rosewood Miners Memorial on St Barbara's Day - 4 December – it has been decided that the St Barbara's Day service will be held there on an annual basis. St Barbara is the patron saint of coal miners.

A display showing major mine strikes of the 20th century is currently available to visitors. Our miners will contribute to some further displays about mining disasters, miners photographed working inside coal mines and the miners' memorial to be shown on computers in the museum.

SPINNERS & WEAVERS

The Spinners & Weavers group has a full calendar for the first part of this year. Their exhibition of work, titled What's in the Bag and curated by Lorraine Kitching, will open in the Ipswich Community Gallery on Friday 31 March at approximately 6pm. All supporters welcome to attend and view the artistic handmade items on display.

During the Ipswich Festival (4 -14 May) the group will have a stall at St Paul's in Ipswich and host an Open Day in Brighton House at Cooneana Heritage Centre.

Mid-year will see the group celebrate its 40th anniversary. An Open Day is being planned for June or July.

Dorothy Walsh and Mieke den Otter are both respected artisans who have been invited to speak at the Feltmakers' Convergence in Toowoomba in October.

SUNDAY PRESENTATIONS

Our popular Sunday presentations return in March and will be held throughout the year on the fourth Sunday in each month. Our first presentation will be held on **Sunday 26 March** when Dorothy Walsh will be talking about Fashions of Early Ipswich. The presentation will no doubt be very interesting as Dorothy has a love of costumes through the ages and is an excellent speaker. Cost is only \$2.00 so come along and enjoy her talk.

DISPLAY TEAM

The annual Anzac display is being set up in the room next to the kitchen. The team have acquired three child and two adult mannequins but would dearly love a couple of male mannequins. If you come across any please let us know.

IPSWICH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OPEN DAY

You are invited to pop in to Brigg House on Friday 24 March any time from 9am to 2pm for a look around, a chat and a cuppa. Check out the resources the Genealogical Society has available for family research and speak with their members about how they assist people.

IPSWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BLOG

Did you know we have a blog? There are several historical articles posted on the blog written by various members. All are thoroughly researched and make for interesting reads. You can access the blog from our website: www.ipswichhistoricalsociety.com.

EVENTS FOR 2017

Margaret Nicol has called a meeting for 9am on Saturday 11 February for everyone interested in deciding what events we will have this year. She has some suggestions for consideration and will welcome your ideas.

The Ipswich Festival event for the Society will be a full day of the half-hour talks given during our Golden Jubilee 2016. Lorraine Pitcairn is organising the speakers – as she did last October. The date is Saturday 13 May and cost will be \$10.00 which includes a light lunch.

Also during the Ipswich Festival, we have agreed to take part in a costumed re-enactment of the Tea Ladies meeting a carriage full of soldiers during World War I. This will take place at the Railway Workshops Museum on a date to be confirmed. Dorothy Walsh is our organiser. Both men and women are needed to participate, so if you are interested let us know.

HISTORICAL MOTORCYCLE CLUB

The plans to set up the Motorcycle Club workshop over the Christmas break were abandoned because of the heat. Their working bee has been rescheduled to Saturday 18 March.

BLACKSMITH

The blacksmithing courses being run by Martin Geddes are proving very popular – so much so he has a waiting list to July that gets longer by the week. Martin plans to hold an inaugural gathering of blacksmiths over the Queen's Birthday weekend in October.

Questions or comments? Email us at ipswichhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or come along to our members' meetings. The next meeting will be held on **Saturday 4 March**, followed by morning tea.