



IPSWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2016



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

Thursday 14 January:
Museum reopens to visitors

Saturday 23 January:
*City of Ipswich Medallion Awards
(invitation only)*

Saturday 6 February:
*Members' meeting 9:00 am start -
everyone invited*

Saturday 5 March:
Members' meeting

Sunday 13 March:
*Ipswich and Queensland Steam
Railways - Jack Weber*

See inside for further information
about these events

WELCOME TO 2016!

This is a very special year for your Society as we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in October. The Society was formed in October 1966 after a group of concerned citizens prevented the destruction of a pile of limestone from the convict era left at Cunningham's Knoll. There is a plaque on a wall at the Knoll commemorating the event.

On Saturday 8 October 2016 we will hold a grand celebration for our Golden Jubilee at Cooneana Heritage Centre. We are inviting various entertainers, groups and displays, stallholders, refreshment providers **and you** to make the event one to remember. Ipswich City Council is fully supporting this event and the Mayor will be there to open the festivities.

We are preparing a book detailing the history of the Society that will be launched at the Golden Jubilee. If you can contribute any memories please contact Margaret Nicol on 0407 655 317 and she will arrange to interview you.

COONEANA HOMESTEAD RESTORATION

Work on the roof should be completed by July. The west wall timbers need replacing to correct a lean. Brad Palmer is taking care of this. Once the roof is finished it will be all hands on deck to get the old lady ready for the Golden Jubilee!

TRANSPACIFIC NEW CHUM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

Our application for a grant to move the old surveyors' hut to the Heritage Centre from its current location was successful. Arrangements for the removal will be made this month. Once the building is relocated and suitably fitted out it will house our collection of survey maps, to provide visitors and researchers with a valuable reference collection. Transpacific is renaming their business "Cleanaway" so you will see a new Cleanaway logo - in recognition of the grant - on the survey hut rather than a reference to Transpacific once the building is in place.

MORE NEW (OLD) BUILDINGS

Councillor Victor Attwood has negotiated on our behalf for two houses to be moved onto Cooneana Heritage Centre. These should be on site soon. One will house the Bundamba Naval Association. We will need to connect power and water, and ensure safe access to both.

We have asked for the second house to be high set with the potential for concreting underneath to increase its potential use. Our Spinners and Weavers and/or the Ipswich Genealogical Society could use this facility if it is suited to their needs.

SUNDAY OPEN DAYS CHANGED

This year the Centre will be open to visitors on the second and fourth Sundays each month from April to November to align with Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway and Historical Bus Association tours. Easter falls on the fourth Sunday in March and our first presentation for 2016 will be on Sunday 13 March. Jack Weber will introduce us to steam railways of Ipswich and Queensland from 10.30am. Sunday presentations for the rest of the year will be offered on the fourth Sunday in the month.

CITY OF IPSWICH MEDALLION AWARD

The Ipswich Historical Society has been nominated to receive a City of Ipswich Medallion Award for making a significant difference to the City! The awards ceremony is scheduled for Saturday 23 January at the Civic Centre. Invitations have been accepted for our President, Vice President and Secretary to receive the award on your behalf. **Way to go!**

QUERY FROM OUR WEBSITE - FOUND OLD CIGARETTE LIGHTER

We receive lots of emails from people searching for information from the past via our website: www.ipswichhistoricalsociety.com. One, from Erin, a librarian at the Viva Cribb Local History Room, Ipswich Library, seeks information about a cigarette lighter found under the roots of an old mango tree on the property located at 14-16 Bremer Street (now Ipswich Heritage Lodge, previously owned by Gustof Muller and daughters (residential) and Johnston's Brewery (commercial)).



Staff at the Viva Cribb Local History Room discerned the following:

- Appears to previously have been covered in enamel or a type of shell (possibly paua shell from New Zealand)
- The mechanism inside is a piezo ignition first used by Ronson lighters in the 1950s
- Could be a miner's head or soldier's head

Australian War Memorial staff said:

- Most likely the lighter mechanism was installed at a later date to replace an older mechanism
- Lighter itself most likely produced between 1910s - 1930s
- Could also be a motorcyclist's head (vintage helmet design)

The lighter is available at the Viva Cribb History Room at the Ipswich Central Library if anyone would like to see it.

Can anyone provide more information? Did you ever have a lighter like this? Did you know anyone else who had one, especially people who lived at the Bremer Street address?

Please send any information you have to Sandi at ipswichhistoricalsociety@gmail.com to be forwarded to Erin. Thanks for your help.

NEWS FROM THE SPINNERS AND WEAVERS

The Spinners and Weavers will be presenting a display at the Redbank Plains Library during February. If you are in the area, drop in and take a look at the work of this talented group.

IPSWICH HISTORY - WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

Do you have a passion for preserving the past? Are you keen to see major aspects of Ipswich life - from the beginning as Limestone to today's growing city - represented for people to experience and enjoy? If the answer is 'yes' we invite you to join the Ipswich Historical Society and help us further develop Cooneana Heritage Centre and its value to Ipswich citizens and visitors.

Information and an application form is available online: www.ipswichhistoricalsociety.com/membership or you could call in on a Thursday or Saturday. We would love to meet you and will be happy to show you the collection and discuss plans for the future

Questions or comments? Email us at ipswichhistoricalsociety@gmail.com or come along to our members' meetings. The next meeting will be held on **Saturday 6 February**, followed by morning tea.