

IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 1

Thursday 2nd August 2012

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee

As we are making preparations for our Centenary the Committee thought it would be a good idea to start a newsletter to keep everyone up to date with what is happening. There was much discussion on how who and what to do and then someone mentioned the old "Idle Chatter" newsletter.

This newsletter was the brain child of Mr J.L. Mitchell a Stock & Station Agent in Quandialla. The chair outside his shop was dubbed "The Chair of Knowledge" Some felt it was the chair of chatter hence the papers name, but this was only a rumour. He started it in April 1956, it was one sheet of paper with news, sports and general tit bits of what was happening around the village and community, sent out weekly and most weeks he filled both sides. These newsletters were filled with articles of actual fact and lots of humour showing the hard working and fun side of the people who lived and worked in Quandialla at the time.

So with the collection of most of these newsletters which were collected by my father and handed down to me I have got them out of the moth balls and will use them for inspiration for this newsletter. I hope to also fill both sides of this page with news of what is going to happen in the FUTURE – Centenary Celebrations, what is happening NOW and a BLAST FROM THE PAST with extracts from Mr Mitchell's newsletters.

Our goal for this newsletter is to keep everyone informed of our celebration preparations for 2014, have some "can anyone possibly tell me about....." segments as there are some very big holes in our information. Plus did you know such and such items of what might be happening this week as well as a glimpse into the 50's & 60's via the ol' Idle Chatter. After I've done all that hopefully I have sparked your interest in our centenary and will be keen enough to read next week's edition all without making an

idiot of myself. *Interesting fact from the past some followers of Mr Mitchell's Idle Chatter called it Idiot Chatter all in fun of course.*

At this point I must mention the name of our newsletter.....

I have used Idle Chatter Mark II because I could not think of another name I hope I have not offended anyone but if someone could give me some ideas they would be very much appreciated and will certainly be considered. I know there are some very bright sparks out there so put your thinking caps on and help me out. I have also changed the style of the newsletter from one flat sheet of paper to this booklet style. Mr Mitchell use to hand his paper out and this format is easier to pop in with your mail.

As all the younger people in my life keep telling me you have to change with the times mother.

THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

I will tell you the date again in case you haven't noticed "Long Weekend in October 2014" so put that information in the memory bank because someone will ask you, plus you don't want to accept an invitation on that date and miss Quandi turning 100.

The next Centenary Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening 29th August, 7.30pm at the Bland Hotel. Everyone most Welcome.

Preparations have started on compiling a history of the area and if you have any information, memory or photos that you might think would be of interest could you please lend them to us. They can be left at the Quandialla Post Office where we would photocopy them and return the originals straight away also we can arrange someone to help you write down your thought if you need assistance.

Centenary Web Site will soon be up and running – hopefully more information next week.

NOW

I'm taking a leaf out of the ol' Idle Chatter and more a less chat about what is happening in our community. I hope Mr Mitchell will approve.

WANTED

Newsie items to write about or I will have to start waffling straight away or heaven forbid bore you with what I have done today yesterday and so on, or even worse make it up. Just let the lovely staff at the post office know what is happening and then you will see it in print the next week.

WARM WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to Deb & Lindsay Martin who have purchased a home in Third Street (Wally & Grace Anderson house for those old enough to remember). We wish you all the best.

QUANDIALLA FIRE BRIGADE

The Quandialla Fire Brigade held their annual meeting the other night, an exhilarating time was had by all that attended. On a serious note all the brigades in our areas (not only Quandialla) need younger volunteers to join and most importantly do some TRAINING so they can be available to assist in the future. Bevan McAlister would be a good person to speak to if you are interested or have any questions you would like answered.

BUSH DANCE – Celebrating “The Year of the Farmer”

Date to remember Saturday 18th August

THE PASSING OF A FORMER RESIDENT

It is sad to have to note the passing of Mr Bill Piefke late of Grenfell and formerly of “The Bland” Quandialla. Our condolences go to his family at this sad time.

BLAST FROM THE PAST this same day 1956

Extracts from IDLE CHATTER NO. 15 THURS. AUG 2ND 1956

WHAT NEXT

Wanted to purchase.....Cow gall stones. This is fair dinkum, you can see the advertisement for yourself in last week's Country Life newspaper. What on earth do they do with these things/ I haven't got any to sell but I might do a deal with a broken down appendix.

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“Boomps” a daisy

A succession of pot holes causing wheel wobble eventually deposited Jack Orphanos, Fred Marris and his brother Stan in a most undignified position. Jack's utility gave up the ghost, ran off the road and effectively if not gracefully, lay on its side to rest. How the three occupants escaped serious injury can only be explained by the fact that they were not speeding. Even so, Lady Luck must have been smiling on them and it's a fair bet that the lottery office will gain some revenue as a result of this accident.

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Hooray and jolly good luck to Frank Walsh who has at last been successful in a land ballot. He has drawn a block at Burra-Burra near Tullamore. I have never seen a more excited and pleased person than Frank when he received the telegram bearing the good news.

THE END – I have come to the end of my first and hopefully not my last newsletter. Hope you have enjoyed it. Special thanks go to my other half who has added his little bit, alright a lot of advice.

As Mr Mitchell use to finish.....Cheers

Sue Priestley.
