

IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 42

Thursday 16th May 2013

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee

Sponsored by Bland Hotel

PART SIX – R.S. Grinter’s Memories 1923 – 1926

Horses were a very big part of farm life and transportation.

The following are some memories of these fine animals.

Toby on the Wagon: Uncle Walter had bought a medium sized horse at a sale. In due time when we came to break him in, Uncle Walter’s stock yard had three good rail fences and the fourth one was a wire fence. He drew a high wagon up along the wire fence in an attempt to bluff the horse, but this did not stop Toby from springing onto the platform of the wagon which was higher than him (about six foot high). He nimbly dropped to the ground on the other side and galloped off. He later turned out to be a good little worker and gave no further trouble.

Dressing a Beast: It was Uncle Walter’s turn to kill a beast for meat, which was distributed around some of the neighbours. The animal was usually slaughtered under a gum tree and pulled up to a required height by a horse using a pulley and rope. The usual horse for this job was not available so the one he used was a “broken stepped scratch puller”, her name was Star and she put so much effort in to the job that just as it got to the right height, Star gave it an extra tug with a result the beast and all the rope tackle came down in all the gum leaves at the foot of the tree, the air was BLUE. As the beast was only partly skinned it was not a big effort to clean the beast off and start again, the main trouble was keeping the blow flies entertained.

The Snoring Horse: Uncle Walter had a heavy Clydesdale horse that he called Smiler he was his favourite “leader”, a horse that answered him without the use of reins. Smiler developed a white growth on his left eye and the local vet was asked to come and remove it. The vet put some

chloroform in an old felt hat and put Smilers nose into it, he staggered around for a while and then collapsed like a stack of bricks. The vet removed the growth, which never grew again and the horse, well, he snored through the whole operation. Smiler was such an excellent horse to answer a voice that often times his winkers came off and during hay carting when moving from stook to stook, Smiler would take his portion from the top of the stook.

On our way back from a social at Leveck’s, Ernie Fiegert and I were coming home in a horse and sulky. The road was very wet and not formed and one wheel went up on a bit of a tree root or stump and the other sank and we went over, consequently we both ended up on our hands and knees in the mud. There was no moon, no street lights, it was pitch black. We slipped the horse out of the shafts, pulled the sulky up straight, put the horse back in the shafts and continued home.

THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

MOTHERS’ DAY DINNER REPORT

Our first fund raiser was a huge success and the Centenary Committee would like to THANK the following:

The Quandialla Bowling Club for their donation and the use of their facilities, the workers who cooked, the next group who washed up, the young ladies who assisted with delivering the meals, the door people and raffle sellers, the mystery donors of the raffle and lucky door prizes and EVERYONE that attended and supported our night.

The Raffle - a cookbook stand plus a Kate Bracks cookbook was won by Kim Broomby, the following won boxes of chocolates – Barry Keir, Mary Deery and Deb Martin.

The lucky door was won by Robin Dowsett.

The breakdown of money raised – Profit from the meal – 890.00

Donation - QBC	360.00
Raffle	<u>92.00</u>
	1342.00

ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

NOW

CENTENARY MEETING will be held on Wednesday 29th May at 7.30pm at the Bland Hotel. All Welcome.

GREAT NEWS: David Smith has been discharged from hospital and will be home when you read this. Welcome Home David and a big hello to Kathy, it must have been hard work watching David lay around this past week. Bet you both are pleased to be home and back in your own bed.

CHEERIO CALL to Lindsay Martin who is also on his way home. His operation went well and Deb tells me he is in very good spirits.

QUANDIALLA JACKPOTS: The Quandialla Bowling Club Members' Draw has jackpotted to \$5850 - you must be there to win if your number is drawn.

The Bland Hotel Poker Jackpot will be \$220 this Friday.

QUANDIALLA SWIMMING CLUB A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm at the Bland Hotel, followed by the General Meeting. Please forward matters for Agenda to either Martina Dykhoff or Kim Broomby.

All welcome and encouraged to attend.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Friday 24th May 2013 at 10am

"Kaloola" Quandialla (on the Wyalong Rd)

Home of Dorothy & Bryson Troy

Donation for a Cuppa - All proceeds to the Cancer Council.

DARTS: Do you remember playing darts when you were young? The Bland Hotel will be holding a Darts Comp/Night on Wednesdays', starting next Wed 22nd at 7.30pm. Partners will be drawn for and every player will have at least two games for the evening. Names to be in by 7.30pm, a draw will be organised, nibbles will be provided and a prize for the winners on the night. A small cost of \$5 per player, this will go towards the winners' prizes & nibbles. P.S You are not locked into every Wed night (meetings and other obligations do pop up) each night is a new comp. Dust off those darts oops can't find them - don't worry there will be darts available at the bar.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE PUB NEXT WEDNESDAY.

GARDEN CLUB will be meeting on Saturday 25th May at 10am at Sarah Ryan's. Perennial Plants from Canowindra will be giving a demonstration on propagation. Plants will be available for Sale. ALL WELCOME

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Extracts from IDLE CHATTER

This same day in 1957

Extract from IDLE CHATTER Vol. 2 No. 3

THURS. 16th MAY 1957

C of E BALL. To those of you that did not attend the Church of England Ball last week, some details of this very successful function may be of interest to you. It was much better attended than most people thought would be the case, and those who made the effort were well rewarded. The Ball was officially opened by the Rev. John Davies who was accompanied by his wife. It was a happy crowd of dancers with the younger people well represented. There were visitors from Girral, Wirrinya, Bribbaree, Temora, Caragabal and Randwick. The frocking was a very high standard and the judges of the various competitions were faced with a hard task. Eventually declared as the Belle of the ball was Miss Mabel McNamara and the Ballerina was Miss Ruth Jarrett of Bribbaree. The waltzing competition was won by Miss Fay Keir who was partnered by Mr Bobby Graham. The music was supplied by the newly named Melody Makers.

FIRE. It is quite unusual to receive a fire call at this time of the year, but the Bland brigade was called to a fire on Vic Harris's property last week. About ten acres of grass was burnt and anyone knowing the rank growth on the plain will agree that it was lucky that a more serious fire was averted.

FORECAST. In an effort to ease your minds, I have made very many enquiries from the powers that be and with the greatest of pleasure I am able to announce that it will rain between the first and the thirteenth of the month. They are going to let me know which month at a later date. Don't write to thank me I am only too pleased to help. In other words, think nothing about it.

TENNIS. The Young Anglicans are holding a tennis tournament on Saturday May 25th. The next part of the notice reads "at the town courts if they are finished". I see by another notice in one of the windows that there is to be a tennis club meeting, with one item of business "the finishing of the courts". It is to be hoped that this job is soon completed. However if the town courts are not available the tournament will be held at the Bland.

Cheers for another week **Sue Priestley**