

IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 59

Thursday 12th September 2013

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee

Sponsored by Harry & Narelle Gault

RECENT TRAIN BOLT ON SOUTHERN LINE

The following article was printed in the
Forbes Times Friday 22 August 1920

From the Junee "Southern Cross" we take the following particulars concerning the recent break-away of a goods train, travelling from Cootamundra, when Mr Les Hoad, of Quandialla was the only passenger aboard.

Mr Les Hoad, of Quandialla, boarded this train at Cootamundra on his way to Junee. The train consisted of coal and was very heavily laden. When it got on top of the bank near the Gap the coupling broke, and away sped the guards van and about twenty trucks back on the main line to Cootamundra. Mr Hoad was in the guards' van by himself, the guard having previously left to adjust some other portion of the train.

As the runaway trucks sped back to Cootamundra, they gained enormous speed, and the solitary passenger reckoned he was right up against it. He had a look out, and thought there was sure disaster ahead, and when the train was going at the rate of about 60 miles an hour, he hung out. The train ran on down and passed the Bulagero siding, and the officer there at once telephoned Cootamundra that a runaway train with a passenger hanging onto the guards' van had just passed.

Preparations were made at Cootamundra to run the train on to the Temora line. Passing Martin's gates Mr Hoad decided to make a jump for it, and this he did landing heavily on the ground, and sustaining severe injuries, which fortunately are not dangerous. He jumped ten yards the other side of the gateway: had he jumped opposite the gate, it must have meant instant death. As it is he sustained a badly cut knee, bruises to the head, a cut face etc. The van as it passed the points at Cootamundra became detached from the trucks, which were upset on the Temora line, and was pulled up quite right. Mr Hoads tennis racquet and boots, etc. were in the van, and never left the place where he put them.

Can you help Me:

I am working on the Village History for our book and I know we don't have a lot of information on certain people that lived and worked in the village. But we do have stories that have been handed down or articles like the above story that is of interest and helps to paint a picture of what life was like.

I was wondering if there might be some I.C. readers out there who might have some memories of shops, the people who ran them or about people that just lived in the village.

For example I would like to include in our book something about the Blacksmith Dave Gordon and I thought memories would be a good way to portray what a character he was. So if you have any tales of Dave or a café owner, a publican, doctor, postmaster, business, a person, an event or whatever, I will be very pleased to hear from you.

Please contact Sue P at the P.O. anytime or phone 6347 1255 or by email - suepcentenary@gmail.com.au

THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

Centenary Social Event - *Bush Picnic at Reeves' Property*

Sunday - 15th September 2013

Come along and enjoy a relaxing day, afternoon or evening this Sunday up at the mountain before it gets too hot or you get too busy. No need to worry about food, a BBQ (12-1.30) will be available for lunch at \$10 per adult and Robert Reeves will be hosting a 2 course evening meal (6pm) with a Camp Oven Roast Dinner for \$25 per couple or \$15 per single. Some walks have been organised but how energetic you get is up to you.

Bring your chairs, drinks, whatever you require for a fun time.

See last weeks' I.C. for further details

Proceeds from the meals will go towards Centenary Projects.

Catering for Robinsons' Clearing Sale on Saturday 21st September.

The Centenary Committee are working on a roster for the day, if you can spare an hour or two please contact Marlene Taylor on 6347 2160

NOW

CENTENARY MEETING

Wednesday 25th September at 7.30pm at the Bland Hotel

AGENDA

Discussion re: Program, Fettleers & Settlers Wall, Train Costs & Timetable
List of Helpers required and other business

ALL WELCOME

LAKE TO LAGOON FUN RUN / WALK: Very proud to report that Quandialla was well represented again this year at the Lake to Lagoon event. There were a few new faces that deserve to be mentioned because I didn't think they would have a snowflakes chance in hell of finishing the walk let alone a quick shuffle sort of run. But I am told by the veterans that Jeremy was Quandialla's surprise packet with the determination of a prize fighter, he was going to finish or die whichever came first and finish he did - in under 90 minutes. Daniel also had a goal and that was to beat Jeremy so he did a fast shoe footsie thing that looked like running to cross the line a few minutes in front of Jeremy and Judy. Jillian, Vicki, Kim, Angela, Graham and Jackie also competed and were all pleased with their times. When Jeremy told me of his achievement and Judy let me know how everyone went I actually thought for about 30 seconds that I should have a go next year, there was no reason why I couldn't do it but then I quickly realised I would have to get out of bed very early, then actually walk for more than 500 metres, so 32 seconds later I decided I will stick with what I know I can accomplish and continue reporting about these committed folks wonderful achievements.

BLAND CREEK FIRE BRIGADE: A truck familiarisation afternoon will be held at the Quandialla fire shed on Friday 27th September starting at 3pm.

Members are encouraged to attend.

JACKPOTS: Bland Hotel - \$440, Bowling Club Badge Draw - \$3250

BEST OF LUCK TO SAM BROOMBY who will be playing for Temora in the Aussie Rules Grand Final at Wagga this weekend. Have a great game Sam!!

Caragabal Sheep Races - Saturday 14th September

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Extracts from IDLE CHATTER

Extract from IDLE CHATTER NO. 6

THURS. MAY 29th 1956

BANG BANG. Please make special note that the pigeon shoot set down for Saturday the 2nd of June has been postponed to a later date. The committee feel that the state of the roads would prevent a lot of visitors from making the trip.

WHOA THERE. Garage men are reporting an alarming number of brake failures, due no doubt to the wet and dirty conditions of the roads. So drive carefully just in case. This precaution paid off last week when a lorry failed to respond to braking and collided with another parked vehicle which in turn was forced forward into a utility truck. Had the first vehicle been driven recklessly, heavy damage would have been a result. As it was the damage was slight and confined to the moving truck.

WET TRACK. A sheep van was derailed between Berrendebba and Caragabal last week, and was dragged a considerable distance. By the looks of the track well over a hundred sleepers were badly damaged. Another derailment was in the vicinity of Eurabba when the motor train parted company with its luggage tender. Neither of these accidents were serious, but it serves to show that the wet conditions also play havoc with the rail roads. This item is published as news and not in a spirit of criticism. I say with sincerity, that if the whole of the railway system was staffed by such men as we in this district are blessed with, there would be no need to ask the Yanks "What's wrong"

QUANDI FIRST. It is indeed an ill wind that blows no-one good. The ill wind is the condition of the roads connecting Quandialla with other towns, and the good from it is the increased business being conducted in YOUR own town. This is a condition very much appreciated by us "Townies". However, we know that our prosperity goes hand in hand with that of the man on the land. So we join you in hoping that conditions will rapidly improve, but, when this happens will you do us a favour? Try and get into Quandialla before going elsewhere.

Things haven't changed since 1956, the weather still causes problems and the town still needs your support.

Cheers - **Sue Priestley**