

IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 71

Thursday 5th December 2013

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee

Sponsored by Quandialla Bowling Club

THE COUNT DOWN IS ON

Only 19 more sleeps till Santa arrives.

You would all know by now - I LUVVVE Christmas and everything that goes with it.

I love putting up the tree or two and a few decorations, sending and receiving Xmas cards. The late dash on Christmas Eve wrapping presents that you have only just found because you had hidden them so well. Having family and friends drop in, getting together on Christmas Day with family members. Giving and receiving presents, eating and drinking and eating a bit more, terrorising the family with those table poppers (somehow I always come off second best but I do give it my best shot every year), wearing those ridiculous bonbon hats and getting your photo taken. They are all just a few things I love about Christmas.

However, there is one thing that isn't on my Love Christmas List – "Shopping At This Time Of Year". It is one thing I haven't improved on with age and wisdom, I still leave everything till the last minute and end up running around for that certain hard to find gift. We only have 19 more shopping days but with our schedules John and I only have 3 Saturdays. This is a mark of how desperate we are, we will be braving the crowds this Saturday in Young. We didn't realise it would be Young's Cherry Festival weekend when we made our appointments – hope we can get a park somewhere in the town limits.

We have all been there and done the crazy shopping thing where you find you have 5 presents for one family member and only 2 for

another and then you have to make that last minute dash to even things up. Thankfully all our children are grown and earning more money than we are, but are now working on all those big ticket items like a mortgage etc, so we have finally put a limit on things. We talked about Chris Cringle, but that would mean only 1 present under the tree for me. So instead we decided to have a \$20 limit on pressies. It is a challenge but it has been fun the last few years, shopping for those bargains or unusual gifts.

Now with all that age and wisdom I was talking about I now shop with a list and cross each name off when I have found the perfect gift, but somehow I always end up working overtime trying to find something for that certain person (no names mentioned but it starts with J) who is so hard to buy for. At this stage we have two presents under the tree, one for each dog. Maybe I should just buy "J" a doggy stocking too.

Christmas is a wonderful time for so many reasons!!!!!!!

THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

CENTENARY RECIPE BOOKS

On sale - Monday 9th December, just in time for that Christmas gift.

You can purchase books at the Post Office or Café for \$10.00 each.

Phone or email orders can be taken.

Phone: 6347 1305 or email suepcentenary@gmail.com

Money raised from book sales will support the Centenary Celebrations.

DON'T FORGET to buy your tickets in the guessing competition which is the last fundraiser for 2013.

Kay and Dennis Burns have generously donated a copy of

"The Old Bailey to Bimbi"

The Story of an Australian Family written by Bruce Robinson.

It would make a lovely present or a wonderful addition to your collection of local history. Tickets are available at the Post Office or Café for \$2 each and will be drawn at the Community Christmas Party on Sunday 15th Dec.

NOW

THE QUANDIALLA COMMUNITY CHURCH invites everyone to CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS at a Reading and Carols Event - Retelling the Christmas Story at the church from 7 pm on Christmas Eve. Supper afterwards

RELAX.....REMEMBER.....REJOICE

CHRISTMAS MAILBOX & TOWN SCENE COMPETITION: Judging will take place during next week so have your display ready by Monday 9th Dec. Winners will be announced at the Quandialla Bowling Club Community Christmas Party on Sunday 15th.

John and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors – your support is greatly appreciated.

Weddin Shire (1st \$100 – Town), Quandialla Fire Brigade (2nd \$50 – Town), Quandialla Post Office (1st \$100 – Mailbox) and the Quandialla Progress Association (2nd \$50 – Mailbox)

EXPRESSION of INTEREST: Calling for names of any young ladies wishing to make their Debut at the Quandialla Memorial Hall Scots Debutante Ball to be held late April 2014 – Phone Sue P: 6347 1255 or call in to the P.O.

QUANDIALLA FRIDAY NIGHT JACKPOTS: The Joker Jackpot at the Bland Hotel will be \$680 this Friday and the Bowling Club Members Draw has jumped to \$2600 – *Must be there to win!!!!!!*

People on the Driftway must be happy with the progress of the upgrading of that previously very ordinary road. My roving reporter has informed me that work has continued in recent months and that there is now just over 8 kms of good surface which is wide enough for 2 cars to pass without having to drop 2 wheels off the edge of the tar. Still a long way to go but now you can see the light at the end of the tunnel - I mean road.

Waffle Time: No more news for love or money - when we first started I.C. I made a promise to myself – “I would not leave any blank spaces” so now we waffle. Actually I’ve done a fair bit of waffling for most of this newsletter. Unless I have an idea on a story line early in the week I tend to write about whatever is happening at the time. Hope I haven’t bored you too much, but I have completed this week’s I. C. and I do love Xmas.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Extracts from IDLE CHATTER

Extract from IDLE CHATTER NO. 40

THURS. JAN 31st 1957

Some of the Bland residents are very hostile. In 1928 a tree of the cactus variety took root and made a brave showing. This year it burst into flower and was a pleasure to behold. Most of you that travel the Bland road will know the tree to which I refer. Now some vandal has chopped the top half of the tree down and removed same. No doubt it will be looked after but it will never give the same amount of pleasure to so many people. Who dun it?

Surely I can spare myself a bit of room in my sheet to thank? the person responsible for taking 1000 gallons of water from my tank at the depot near the railway. The fact that I have a certain amount to help me in my business apparently counts for nought. Once again Thank you.

If he pinched it to mix with Lord’s Aldrin jetting fluid, He’s pardoned.

Extract from IDLE CHATTER NO. 41

THURS. FEB 7th 1957

Eight units of local farmers and the fire brigade were on the spot this week to assist the railway men in their efforts to burn off the large amount of growth from the railway property. This operation in the opinion of some was a dangerous procedure, but it is to their credit that they were there to help should their protests be overruled by the fire captains. Hughie Russell and Len Trounson decided that it was safer to burn with a full crew available rather than run the risk of a train starting something when no one was about. It was a hot job and not without some risk. The risk was there because of an idiotic ban imposed by some City bureaucrats when things were safe to burn and just as promptly lifted when everything was powder dry. The railway job could have been done in December with little risk and the resultant break would have been of great value if we had been unlucky enough to have had an outbreak. It is high time that competent authorities be asked for their views before these shiny seated individuals play ducks and drakes with the security of the countryside. Get me a soap box and I could go on for a long time on this subject.

Cheers for another week **Sue Priestley**