

IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 81

Thursday 13th February 2014

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee

Sponsored by Keith & Nola Jones nee: Troth

LET'S GET IN THE MOOD

The following is extracts from a report that appeared in Idle Chatter in 1967 describing the Back to Quandialla Day.

In 2014 we won't be having a parade due to lack of numbers but it will still be a special day/weekend just the same.

I went to sleep.....and dreamt of marching girls in front of a band. There was a real band with the boom-booms and the ump-oars all in the right places. Bicycles decorated in every colour of the blessed rainbow and swaggies, there was that many of them I thought the depression was once again with us. In particular there was one character that Constable Middlemiss should have run out of town on appearance alone.

A bike loaded with everything from the kitchen sink to a "you know what" and pushed by the most disreputable limping "Down and out". A superb float from the Show Society featured a multitude of ribbons with wool and other products, it was beautifully decorated. The CWA Ladies had evidently worked very hard on their contribution to the procession. It was in the Association colours and its theme was service to the women and children of the district. Then there was a simple float and on that float were some young folk, many of them were wearing medals, no doubt earned by their Fathers in the past. It was the R.S.L. float and there was a dignity about it and a pride.

The Bland Rodeo Committee had a bucking horse which was most certainly a product of my nightmare. Ross Causer seized on the opportunity to display the red white and blue of the Ampol Co. Smart boy this Ross, he doesn't miss a trick. And there they sat in all their glory. The Past President, the President and two of the leading exponents of the

game of bowls. On the "green" in front of them was a little white Jack with three bowls touching. This was done to fool the natives. They don't really do those things on the fair dinkum green, but still it was nice and it was good to see the photograph of Doc Blamey the founder of the club. How he would have loved to see your efforts on Saturday. Golfers were there in full swing but you didn't have to frighten the life out of me. When I passed a complimentary remark to a very well known golfer, he let go with a swing and connected with something white. For one moment I thought it was a ball as it flew towards me, but like all golfers – he missed, and so no harm was done. The Auxiliaries of the Hall and the Hospital banded together to enter a float depicting one of their most prolific money raising activities – a street stall and if we hadn't kept an eye on them they would have been selling you something as they went along.

Not all the effort had been put into the floats, not by a long way. The Weddin Shire Council had done their bit to make the day. The gutters had been cleared of all rubbish and gaily coloured bunting was hung from every available point. The local shop keepers had gone to great trouble to present a more colourful front to the locals and visitors alike. The café had done some pretty good research to obtain the information which was displayed in their window. It is still there and if you haven't read it all I would advise you to do so. The C & M store went all artistic and actually painted a landscape to fill up their window and also showed some interesting photographs. Charlie Broben's swimming pool effort was perhaps the most topical and showed forthought and with assistance of many of the locals, the Bland District Store displayed many articles of historic interest. Even the baker made an effort together with the Bland Motors so all the old village took upon itself a real gala appearance and if you cared to look closely at Hopley's window you could have seen some interesting clothing.

I am sure that you will have noticed that I have refrained from mentioning names as much as possible. In an effort as big as the "Back to Quandialla day" many folk have worked and worked darn hard to make it the success it undoubtedly proved to be. So my personal thanks go to the Officers of the Ladies Swimming Pool Auxiliary, Barbara Sinclair – President, Dot McAlister – Secretary and Fay Armour – Treasurer.

Late final report that over \$1000 was grossed over the weekend. A mighty effort....."Good on yer" Quandialla.....

The "Back to Quandialla" weekend was organised by the Quandialla Swimming Pool Auxiliary to help raise much needed funds for the wonderful swimming pool we enjoy today. Mr Mitchell's full report was a little too long for our newsletter so I picked out the best parts for you to enjoy.

As mentioned earlier we will not be having a parade on our weekend but we will be endeavouring to have lots of displays that will interest locals and visitors. So, put your thinking caps on, and think about what you might have in the shed or cupboard that would help to make a display or just add to one.

THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

The next Centenary meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th March 2014, 7.30pm at the Bland Hotel.

NOW

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: The Quandialla Community will be celebrating World Day of Prayer on **Monday 3rd March at 9.30am in St Mark's Anglican Church.** This year's theme is "Streams in the Desert – Egypt" and our guest speaker will be Joan Smith. Morning tea will follow the service.

All Most Welcome

QUANDIALLA FRIDAY NIGHT JACKPOTS: It is certainly worth visiting Quandialla this Friday as both jackpots have increased again. The Bland Hotel Joker Draw will be \$880 this Friday and at the Quandialla Bowling Club Member's Draw you have a chance to win \$6500.

Ken and Judy McAlister would like to extend a BIG Thank You to all of those people who helped in any way with Nathan's funeral. We really appreciate the kind words and expressions of sympathy and those practical deeds that helped so much to make things more comfortable for us all on the day.

\$1200 in donations will be forwarded to Southcare Helicopters.

Thank you – Ken and Judy McAlister

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Extracts from IDLE CHATTER

Extract from IDLE CHATTER NO. Vol. 2 No. 35

THURS. FEB 6th 1958

GIFT EVENING...One of the best attended functions of this type was held last Friday in honour of Miss Lorraine Hope, prior to her marriage to Mr Peter Powderly. The CWA room was filled to capacity, and that fact in itself proves the esteem in which the people of the town and district, hold Lorraine. The proceedings were conducted under the able chairmanship of Mr W Dixon, and a grand time was had by all who attended. To all the good wishes expressed at the function, I would like to add those of many folk who could not attend and of course, my own. All the happiness in the world to you, Lorraine and Peter.....

UNLOADING RAMP...There will be a meeting of all interested people at 3 PM on Saturday February 8th to discuss the building of the unloading ramp for stock at the trucking yards. All those who bring stock to the rail-yards by truck should be present as should all agents.....Plans and specifications are available for your inspection.....

SCHOOL BULLETIN...I have just received a copy of Warnes Wonder Words, and must admit (although it hurts) that the sheet is well laid out and so terribly terribly correct. So much so, that I am almost afraid to submit my humble effort. I notice at the end it says "Not like another member of this fair community I do not have enough room etc etc" Now why doesn't somebody tell the silly man that he only had to turn the sheet over and use the other side? or has he got some motive in keeping one side clear of ink...

Passing Thought.....All men are born free and equal. It's their fault if they get married

Cheers everyone.....**Sue Priestley**