

# IDLE CHATTER Mark II

Newsletter No: 4

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2012

This newsletter is an initiative of the Quandialla Centenary Committee  
and this week is **Sponsored by Allen & Bev Kelly**

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## 100 Years of McAlisters at “Pineleigh” Quandialla

*It is 100 years this month that the property known as “Pineleigh” was purchased by Richard Bevan McAlister and there has been a McAlister farming the property ever since. For our community this is certainly an historical occasion and I am very pleased to be able to report about it in our newsletter.*

Richard McAlister and his brother Hugh came to the area for work where Richard mostly worked cutting timber.

In August 1912 Richard Bevan McAlister purchased a block of about 800 acres which he called “Pineleigh” and set up his own timber mill approximately 300 metres from the present “Pineleigh” house.

Richard married Amy Elizabeth Anderson in 1917.

Tragically Richard drowned in the surf at Bondi Beach in 1937.

His wife Amy passed away eighteen months later.

Their eldest son, James Roy McAlister (Jim) took over running the farm and quickly married Frieda Hutchinson in December 1938 so they could care for his younger siblings, Edna, John (Jack) and Emily (Iris).

Jim and Frieda had 5 children – Clive (Jim), Bevan, Robert, Ken and Sharon.

Jim snr worked the farm until his death in September 1974.

Frieda stayed on the farm for two years but then sold “Pineleigh” to her youngest son Ken and his wife Judy in 1976, where they raised their 4 children Nathan, Rebecca, Arianne and Mitchell.

Ken and Judy are still farming at “Pineleigh”.

**A Name for our Newsletter:** The following names have been suggested “Echidna Leaflet”, “The Chatter Chronicles” & “The Centenary Report” plus a lot of readers have indicated the present name is very suitable. Will let you know next week.

**Newsletter Sponsors:** A very BIG THANK YOU to those who have either given or promised me money. For those who would rather drop some small change in a tin there will be a money box on the PO counter, all donations will be gratefully accepted.

## THE FUTURE – CENTENARY NEWS

*You are Invited to attend*

### QUANDIALLA CENTENARY MEETING

When: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August

Time: 7.30pm

Where: The Bland Hotel

All Welcome

**Forwarding on a Request:** An email was forwarded on to me which originated from Margaret Jones/Nowlan who is asking for assistance. She is looking for photos and info from St Brigids School. Contact me if you can help and I will give you her email address.

## NOW

**Congratulations** to Trevor & Sarah Ryan on the safe arrival of their daughter Clementine Kathleen.

**Best Wishes** to Ellie Piefke who celebrated a very special birthday last weekend. Many Happy Returns on turning 21.

**Well Done** to two local lads who will be graduating from the Goulburn Police Academy on Friday 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations go to David McGuire and Blake Stanley, David will commence work at Merimbula and Blake has a posting at Griffith. Quandialla wishes you both all the best in your new careers. After reading the school newsletter congratulations to Gregory Foster he will also be graduating with our local lads.

**Tai Chi:** Did you know you could join a class and learn to do Tai Chi in Quandialla? A class is being held on Tuesday afternoons at 3.30pm at the Quandialla Central School. For further information phone 6349 1777.

**But PLEASE NOTE there will be NO class next week (28.8.12)**

**Bush Dance:** I was unable to attend the Bush Dance last Saturday due to a prior commitment but I sent my roving reporter (my other half). By the sounds of it I missed a very enjoyable evening. John was feeling a little out of sorts as he has a cold and was only going to pop in and say hello, well that didn't happen, 2 hours plus later, a couple of attempts at dancing (he has decided he has two left feet – I could have told him that) and a lot of chatting he dawdled home. He reported that the weather was very nasty and might have deterred a few but those that braved the elements would have had a wonderful time. The music by "The Tin Shed Rattlers" was great even if you didn't dance just watching was pure entertainment. He also said it was great to see so many children enjoying themselves on the dance floor and thought there had to be 100 of them. When I raised my eyebrows at that comment he retracted and said it looked like a 100 with all the arms and legs going every which way. But the bottom line and I quote him "a fun night was had by all." Congratulations to the small band of workers that organised this function.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST Extracts from IDLE CHATTER

**This same day in 1956**

Extract from IDLE CHATTER NO. 18 THURS. AUG 23<sup>RD</sup> 1956

### BOWLS

*I have pleasure in printing the President's report for 1955-6*

*Fellow Members - It is with much pleasure that I am able to report to you a year of progress and pleasant bowling. To my committee - I sincerely thank you for your co-operation, good work and attendance of meetings, and the committee do appreciate the help given them throughout the year by the members. You will know by the Treasurer's report of the very satisfactory state of our club's finances. Just a brief outline of our improvements for the year. We now have a very efficient water supply and sprinkler system, a good set of equipment to work our greens comprising of pumping plant, electric roller, coring machine and rotary mower. The hedges and ornamental trees have all done well and will soon be making a very nice show. Your club house will soon have the additions finished, and it will then be very convenient and comfortable. We have had the never failing help from the Ladies club. The new kitchen will be a big improvement on the one they have had to manage with, Thank you ladies for a job well done. The bowling season has been marred by a lot of wet weather and bad roads but we have had many pleasant day's bowls. Our B & C pennants teams had a good season of bowls, meeting a lot of happy bowlers and winning a few matches. I think all showed improved play by games with new players. The green has caused us some considerable trouble due to too much rain and a fungus disease, and the drainage appears to be no good in such a season. I think the time has come for us to consider the building of an additional green. By his death in February, we lost our Patron. Though an old man, he attended constantly and was a very keen supporter. We also lost a new member, Ron McKinnon who was not spared long enough to enjoy what our club had to offer. I regret very much the serious illness of our late green keeper and member Garney Collins, and hope that he will soon be well and bowling again. In conclusion, I wish your incoming President a happy term and I thank all members for their co-operation and kindness through the years I have been your President. I do appreciate the honours you have bestowed upon me.....A.R.Penfold.*

Due to the length of this report & space available I left out a section where Mr Penfold congratulated those who won championships, major bowls days etc (no names were mentioned). I thought this report gives you a hint of what the club was like back then.

Sorry about the small print was hoping to fit everything in. Cheers **Sue Priestley**