

OBERON & DISTRICT MUSEUM

Newsletter: No. 6
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From the President

Negotiations with the McMahon family have paved the way for a healthier future for the museum. An agreement has been reached which will see many items of machinery with local significance remain in the museum under the control of the museum. Importantly the agreement ensures all restored and donated items will remain. The agreement will also see some items removed from the museum. This will reduce duplication and create space for display and interpretation.

Part of the agreement sees the machinery shed kit, which cannot be erected because it does not meet snow load specifications, removed from the museum. Removal of this and machinery items will occur over the next six months.

The agreement does not cover items in the Pavilion's Asset Register which will be the subject of further discussions.

Paul Toole recently announced funding from Community Building Partnerships to repair the Museum cottage. The cottage is in poor condition and the funding will enable repairs to make it structurally sound and weather proof. Heritage advice has been received for these repairs, and work will commence in the near future.

The new enclosed shed for the museum now has a Construction Certificate and the slab should be going down shortly. This shed will be home for a timber

industry history display and a workshop for the 'Rusty Restorers'.

We are now in a new financial year so we are calling for membership renewals. See details later.

The ODMS AGM has been set for Sunday 13th September 3.00pm at the museum. All members are welcome to attend.

Now that the museum can move forward with more confidence we are looking forward to your ongoing support. We have much to achieve in the near future and the support of members at our working bee days will greatly assist.

There will be an opportunity to donate to our new machinery shed appeal on your renewal invoice, and maybe you have friends who would like to support the museum by becoming members.

Col Roberts

Funding results

The photo above is one of the results of funding received from Council as part of a Museums and Markets Trail which is being co-ordinated by Council's Development Officer, Matt Webb. Mark, from Marks Signage, has done a wonderful job enlarging two of our photos so that they fill a whole wall behind the 1930s streetscape. The smaller insert is a shot of the main street looking east, about 1900, and the larger photo is looking east again, probably sometime in the 1940s.

The funding also allowed the museum to erect a new outdoor sign, more interpretation “posters” within the main pavilion, and extra advertising brochures. A huge thank you to Matt Webb, to Oberon Council, and to Mark, from Marks Signage, for their combined efforts here.

Annual General Meeting:

This is fast approaching. The AGM will be held at the museum on Sunday 13th September at 3.00pm. Please come along to show your support, hear what’s been happening and elect your committee for the following year. Anyone interested in a committee position should obtain a nomination form from the Secretary, Pam Dellow, by phoning 0418 671 754. Completed nominations need to be in to the Secretary by Sunday, 6th September.

Donations and other improvements

Our request for aquariums resulted in donations from Horrie Lewis, Julie Anne Rowlandson and Joy Toole. All these aquariums are now being used to “house” bottles, ceramics and china. Not only do they provide very suitable display cabinets, they also provide security, and we are very grateful for these people for their generosity.



Another great addition in recent times has been a glass display cabinet donated by Billie Rowe. This has been restored by Col and now contains some of our most precious musical items. Thank you Billie!



And while we are talking about additions and achievements mention must be made about the “Rusty Restorers” success in restoring the bellows and completing the task of returning it to working order in

the blacksmith’s shed - a great result and a credit to all involved!



Local Knowledge

We are very fortunate to have members who hold a wealth of knowledge about Oberon and its history. In the photo below Joyce Ballinger is sharing her knowledge of Oberon’s main street in the 1930s with Pam Dellow. We are happy to report that, on the whole, the restored streetscape is a “pretty accurate” representation!



Membership renewals

Thank you to all those members who have already paid their membership fees. These fees form a significant part of our income and are therefore crucial to our ongoing viability.

Invoices will be sent to “unfinancial members” shortly.

We are attaching a membership form with this newsletter in the hope that you will make an effort to attract some new members for us! Key benefits for members include: receipt of this regular newsletter, free entry to the museum, and the knowledge that you are supporting the retention of Oberon’s history for residents, visitors and future generations! What more could a member want?

If you do succeed in coaxing a family member or friend to join, payment details are on the form.

Date to Remember:

- ◆ Annual General Meeting: 3.00pm, Sunday, 13th September, at the museum