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Andrew Gee (Federal member for Calare); Richard Whitham, (Facilitys Manager for Borg Panels); Col Roberts (ODMS); Jason Molketin, (Regional Manager NSW Forestry Corporation); Andrew McKibbin (Deputy Mayor Oberon); Mike and Sue Mangan, (Mangan Harvesting and Haulage)

Visitors inside the pavilion

From the President

In this Christmas edition of our newsletter we can lookback at the last 12months with a sense of achievement.

In the last few days, our long awaited machinery shed has been completed. This will help the museum preserve items of machinery which should be kept under cover, particularly those which have been worked on by the Rusty Restorers. The museum will also now have room to display items donated by the McKibbin family from 'Macquarie' one of the oldest properties in the area.

On the 30th of October the Forest and Timber Pavilion was opened by Andrew Gee. This event was a highlight of the year with over 120 guests from the timber industry gathering on a perfect sunny day. Partners in this much needed project for the town were present and acknowledged on the day. We now have a place where visitors and locals can find out about Oberon's extensive forest and timber industries.

During the year Oberon Council assisted the museum via a Section 356 grant to gravel the road and paths of the museum. This has vastly improved landscaping around the new pavilion and to the Babcock Cottage.

In preparation for the building of the new reception annex, the transportable accommodation has been moved, and the large ribbon gum pruned. The museum has also installed solar panels on the Forest & Timber Pavilion, inverter heating in the Muir Pavilion, purchased new tyres for the Jumbo Crane and erected new exterior interpretation of some of our machinery. The latter will be ongoing, as funds permit.

All in all it has been a good year for the museum with more to come in 2023, and I would like to thank our museum volunteers for their valuable assistance, and the Rusty Restorers for their excellent work in getting our old machinery in order ready for display.

I hope everyone has a happy and safe Christmas.
Col Roberts

A few more photos from the F & T launch:



Preparation for lunch



Col addressing the gathering

The **new Agricultural Machinery shed** - finished just in time for Christmas!



The Rusty Restorers continue to make huge improvements to the museum's equipment. The photos below show some of them working on a horse drawn tipping dray. If you are interested in joining them pop in to the museum on a Wednesday morning!



New flyer: With the upgrading of the F & T Pavilion it became necessary to upgrade the museum's flyer. A copy is included for your perusal.

Visits: In the last two weeks the museum has had visits from 70 students from the Oberon Primary School, and from 15 Forestry Corporation supervisors and Forest - Trac contractors - the latter were a little easier to manage but both enjoyed their visit to our museum. The museum has also participated in Oberon Outdoors Week and last weekend's Summer Spectacular Festival.

Finally, the winners of our recent **100 Club** raffle were Tim Arnison (\$750) and Peter Sheahan (\$250). Congratulations to both winners and many thanks to all those who supported the museum by purchasing tickets.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and a great new year!

