



GUSTAV'S NEWSLETTER

From

THE EUDUNDA FAMILY HERITAGE GALLERY
BRUCE STREET, EUDUNDA

E-mail: www.websouth.com.au/ecbat

President: Dot Bonner
PH. 85 811 298

Secretary: Fay Grosser
PH/FAX. 85 811 326

NUMBER 2. JUNE 2001.

Thankyou to those very kind people who have given this Newsletter the "thumbs up."
And 10/10 to Adrian Doecke for pointing out the omission of the Date on the first edition!

TOURISM and ACTIVITIES

April was a short, busy month for the Committee with a small busload of people venturing here from Swan Reach. We catered for them with a cold luncheon. At the end of April we supplied lunch at the Eudunda Area School for the teachers from Eudunda who were participating in a regional meeting. This was a finger food meal. At the beginning of May was the Business House Breakfast, and at the end of May was another of the enthusiastic WEA Tours complete with Luncheon!

COLIN THIELE BOOKS

The Gallery is working toward stocking the full range of Colin Thiele Books. A number of them are in stock, ready for sale. These reasonably priced publications with their Australian themes make ideal gifts.

SOUVENIRS

Modestly priced items - such as Key rings with the Colin Thiele Logo, Colin Thiele teaspoons, bookmarks - or perhaps something a little dearer, a Eudunda T Shirt - are always available.

SECOND HAND BOOKS & MAGAZINES

It is astonishing to see the turnover in these items. The 50's generation (and thereabouts) derives much pleasure in finding reading material from its youth.

**Die zeit is an Keinem Pfahl gebuden.
Time is not tied to a post.**

FUTURE EVENTS

June 27 - Siebenschlaefer

July 14/15 - 24 Hour Motorbike Trial

October Long weekend - "100 Years of Federation and Flowers."

HISTORY BOOKS

"Looking Around Worlds End Creek"

This most recent locally produced Book is the newest addition to the Heritage Gallery Histories For Sale book shelves. It has been compiled by Dehla Launer and sells for \$18.00. It is full of photos and much information about long gone residents, the school, sporting fixtures, churches, Burra Creek, Lapford, the cream factory - so many items of our forebears' visions and hard work.

The Friedrichswalde Tarnma Book (\$20.00) and the Reichelt Family History are new to the Gallery, too.

When you next visit the Heritage Gallery peruse the titles of the other available History Books, note the extremely reasonable prices on them, and purchase one, two or more for your own library. Their prices do not reflect the huge numbers of hours put into producing them - they really are bargains. And, apart from that, the stories in each one are unique. What brave, strong people those pioneers were - there were no comforts, no gadgets, no electricity, not very many of life's luxuries at all.

U.F.O.'s

Australia Plains is one of the first localities within Australia to have **officially** recorded U.F.O. sightings in the 1940's.

MEAT PRICES

In 1843 Prime beef and mutton were procurable for 1 penny to 3 pence per pound.

SIEBENSCHLAEFER

(as promised in the previous Newsletter)

Siebenschlaefer is a German word meaning Seven Sleepers. This word has been linked with the 27th June for fourteen hundred years or more. In folk history the belief is that if there is rain on 27th June some rain will fall every day during the following seven weeks.

FRIEDRICHSWALDE (TARNMA)

Lutheran Day School and Public School

Records date to 1861 of Teachers being at Friedrichswalde as the school was first held in a barn or private home. When the school was built in 1871 we presume the stone for the building came from the Tarnma ranges east of the town. The building consisted of two school rooms and three rooms to accommodate the teachers and their families. Lutheran Church services were held in the school for one year until the Immanuel Church was built in 1872. It is recorded that the first five teachers at the school also conducted burials for the townspeople. The main school room and woodwork room had timber floors, and one teachers room and the verandah had slate. In the 1870's as many as 50 children attended school, not only Lutheran children attended, but children from other denominations. Teacher W. Biesel who taught 1912-1913 acquired a bell for the school from Germany. Some older residents believe the Lutheran Day School became a Public School 1909-1910.

The first six teachers were –

1861-62 F. Lehmann

1863 F. Torbitzky

1864-69 W. Milde

W. Bartholomeus –first teacher in school building.

1873-76 J. Wanke-reported 50 children attending school.

1876 J. Black –reported 57 children attending school.

Miss Timmell was the first female teacher 1908-1910.

(An extract from "Friedrichswalde Tarnma" compiled by Betty Marshall and Betty Dreckow.)

MOUNT MARY PROVISIONAL SCHOOL

In the early 1900's there were families of Irish and English origin living in Mount Mary

–

Bradley, Lynch, Bettison, Colbert, Birch, Pledge, Masterton, McCarthy, Dicker, Hefferan, Reade, Roebuck, Badman, Hutcheson, Young- hence the following correspondence to the Education Department.

6 January 1913

Sir,

Kindly permit me in behalf of myself and in behalf of the parents of Mount Mary to ask you to try and have the school here re-opened this year.

It is a sad sight to see children in this town raging (sic) from 11 years up to the age of 6 years constantly roaming and running around the fields daily instead of being in a school where they might learn something to their advantage and especially now when schooling is so much required.

It is true they can go by train to other schools some distance from their homes where they join in with many more strong and rough children who endanger their lives in travelling departments it is by no means safe to allow them to travel by train when children much older are so rough I have no children of my own but if I had I would certainly not let them join in with those rough Germans it is tiresome to travel in the carriage with them I believe it is in view at the present to have it re-opened and of course its repairs (sic) is very few required main thing is the walls to be cleaned as it is not in bad repair.

I am one who believes in education

(UNSIGNED)

Miss Margaret Dellow re-opened the Mount Mary Provisional School 21st January 1913.

Mount Mary School opened in April 1886. It was called Krichauff's School. During 1910-1912 it did not have continuous attendance and closed.

(An extract from "I remember Mount Mary" compiled by Margaret Zerner.)

ADVICE TO LOVERS PRINTED IN A 1916 BOOK ON ETIQUETTE – It is not considered good manners to display demonstrative affection continually and

publicly. "All frothy tendernesses and amorous boilings-over are insults on and affronts to company," advised Swift, an authority on the subject.

GUM VALE SCHOOL

Established on Section 62 Hundred of Bower. School 11 km north west of Bower.

In the early 1920's a number of families living in the area felt the real need for a school. It was eventually agreed that Harry Niemz's offer of land and location for the school be accepted and that parents help Harry to build the school.

A room measuring approximately 20feet by 15feet was constructed of limestone and mortar. It was well ventilated and an open fireplace yielded the required heat on cold wintry days – mallee roots and wood being freely supplied by the parents.

Though the school's enrolment never exceeded that of 23 pupils (1934), it was well served by dedicated, conscientious and industrious teachers to whom the children responded well, developing and maintaining a fine tone throughout the school's life.

(Gleaned from the D.I.'s reports.)

1927 holds a particular fascination and sense of achievement in the hearts of the old scholars who were in attendance at that time. Gum Vale School, only three years of age, took part in an Exhibition of School work which was displayed at Sutherlands on 14th September 1927. Competitions were held in book work, sporting activities and band work. Depending on the memory of old scholars the participating schools were: Australia Plains, Geranium Plain, Rocky Plain, Sutherlands, Mount Mary, Bower, Neales Flat, Brownlow Centre, Peep Hill, Upper and Lower Bright, Robertstown West, Emu Downs and Robertstown. There is some doubt whether Eudunda, Buchanan, Hampden and Hansborough schools were included in the competition.

Apparently this was the first exhibition of its kind in the area and Gum Vale School, whilst numerically the smallest, came out on top. It proudly claimed the top awards in Sport, Fife Band and Drill (Physical Education). Gus Schroeder was awarded 100 yards Championship and ribbon, his brother Mart came second. Gus won the High Jump Trophy, Lu Niemz the 135 yards Boys race.

Doris Lawrence was the most successful girl competitor. Lu Niemz was awarded six first prizes in bookwork, drawing, copy book, transcription, dictation, composition work and manual book. The girls displayed some very fine needlework and the boys displayed raffia hats. Mart Schroeder received highest marks as Kettle drum player and highest marks for a flute solo.

(An extract from "Emmaus to Worlds End" compiled by the Point Pass/Robertstown Jubilee 150 Historical Committee.)

THE CENSUS in the early 1900's

Win Bonney (nee Wolf) remembers the Census Forms being delivered and collected by the Police who were on horseback.

ANZAC DAY

RECOLLECTIONS BY LOCAL RETURNED SERVICEMEN

Ken Bartel – Ken's childhood and youth were spent in Bower. He was employed by the Malcolm Reid Furniture Emporium, Adelaide, when he enlisted for World War 2 duty. He joined the R.A.A.F. at the Adelaide Railway Station Recruiting Office. Ken spent 17 months in New Guinea with the R.A.A.F. ground crew, serving at Milne Bay and Finchhafen.

Peter Bonner – Peter volunteered for National Service in 1969 and ended up serving 4 ½ years in the Regular Army. He was a Corporal Specialist Vehicle Operator, moving Tanks between Puckapunyal and Bandianna. When Australia withdrew from the Viet Nam War Peter was in the next Group destined to be sent there.

Ralph Carter – Ralph enlisted for World War 2 service in 1943 when he was 18 years old. He went to Shepparton No.1 Recruit Depot for his Basic Training, then to No.2 B.A.G.S. (Bombing And Gunnery School) Port Pirie, then to No. 2 Embarkation Depot at Bradfield Park, Sydney. He was a member of the R.A.A.F. ground crew. After 6 months' service, Ralph was the most disappointed recruit in Australia when he was deemed unable to continue to overseas duty.

Geoff Mosey – Geoff was called up for National Service in October 1968. He served in Australia for 1 year, and spent a year in Viet Nam. Discharge was in October 1970. Geoff trained in Ingleburn, Sydney, and after

that he went to Nui Dat as a Transport driver. Geoff does not regret his term in Viet Nam. He and his fellow Servicemen thought that they were doing what was correct at that time.

Jim Reese (Senior) deceased – Jim was a member of the Army Reserves in 1939 which was located at Warradale. He was a Sergeant in the Reserves and was co-opted into the Regular Army when Australia became involved in the World War 2 hostilities. Jim Snr. taught the new recruits all about saluting, marching and weaponry. (Clem Weckert was one recruit.) In these early stages of the War there were insufficient numbers of rifles for such drill and Jim Snr.'s recruits "made do" with broom handles!

Clem Weckert – Clem was 21 years old when he was called up for World War 2 duty on 10th March 1942. He was discharged 4th December 1945. Clem served with the 108 Anti Tank Unit in New Guinea and New Britain. After that Clem spent 12 months guarding Italian Prisoners of War at Cook on the Nullarbor Plain. The first Sunday Clem was at Cook it was 117 degrees Fahrenheit. They all slept under 4 blankets at night because at 7.00 p.m. it became COLD. The blankets were hung on lines during the day to warm up for the chilly nights.

Edgar Zander – Edgar joined the A.I.F. when he was 18 years old. The recruits trained at Sandy Creek. When they were ready, they were marched from there to Woodside, after midnight to escape exposure to the enemy, fully kitted and in rain. From Woodside Edgar went to Queensland, and there he joined the 2/27th Battalion. He went to New Guinea and fought the Japanese in the Markham and Ramu Valley Campaign, and the Shaggy Ridge Campaign. Edgar owes his life to the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels (New Guinea Natives) – there were 2000 attached to the Unit – who carried him out from Shaggy Ridge, just before the end of the Campaign. He was flown to the 2/9th A.G.H. hospital in Port Moresby.

THE 1941 FLOOD

Gordon Schutz, Point Pass, recalls 1940 as the worst drought ever. The Schutz family sowed 400 acres of wheat and reaped 400 bags. There was no income. And so Gordon, his sister Edna and two cousins were taken to Angaston to work in the fruit Harvest. They

picked and cut apricots, dipped and dried plums, and then went on to do grape picking. Pay was 10 pence (8 cents) per hour and board was 2 pounds (\$4) per week. They were employed by John Ahrens, a contractor.

Around the 18th or 20 January 1941 there was a thunderstorm during the night at Angaston, therefore they were unable to work in the fruit, so John Ahrens decided to go to a Sale at Weckerts at Stonefield. He took Gordon with him. It was raining heavily. They drove through Truro and down Accommodation Hill – the road was bitumenized by then – and they noticed the water rising by the side of the Accommodation Hill road. At the Stonefield turn-off John Ahrens decided to turn round and go back to Angaston because of the rising water on the Stonefield Road. As they were going back up the Accommodation Hill they were driving through water one foot (30 cm) deep pelting down the Hill. Those who went to the Sale were marooned there overnight. Gary Schutz who also lives at Point Pass vividly remembers the water in the flood being 8 inches (20cm) deep over the Point Pass Road from his home to his Uncle Emil Schutz's home. Art and Rosa Lange lived at Gum Vale at this time. The floodwaters raged through Gum Vale, trapping Art and Rosa in their home. The waters rose to above window height. Thankfully, the wood swelled around the windows and the doorways, keeping out the water. The Lange's were inside their home for 5 hours while the water swirled and finally flowed away. Deep Creek was full and all of the floodwaters eventually found their way to Craigies Plain.

BACHELOR'S BREAKFAST

Cut genuine cured and smoked ham into small pieces, a good handful of ham; put it into the frying pan with 300 ml of normal cream (not the real thick cream); set the stove on medium heat, keep stirring until the cream starts to turn to oil, take off the stove. It is now ready to eat! Cut some thick slices of bread and with them dip the mixture out of the frying pan. Most delicious! It is probably full of Cholesterol and unwanted fat, but who cares, it tastes good!! By Lance Minge.

(An extract from "Meet the Minge's" Family History.)

Margaret Rogers. Ph 85 811 386

E-MAIL: mrogersau@yahoo.com.au