

# GUST AV'S NEWSLETTER



From  
THE EUDUNDA FAMILY HERITAGE GALLERY  
BRUCE STREET, EUDUNDA

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HELLO AND HAPPY NEW YEAR. Another year has flown by and now the time is drawing near to our annual Friends of the Gallery Morning Tea, hope to see you all there.

### President Jim's '1/2 Term Report

Visitors to the gallery over the past six months will have noticed many changes, the sports section through the archway has been shifted to the back shed, the area which it previously occupied is now taken up with displays of local organisations and businesses. Council has vacated the middle room and we now have a large area suitable for displays or as a research room. We have had a visit from the SA History Trust, who conducted a workshop concerning the cataloguing of our display material this new area could be used just for that purpose.

At present we are housing the Colin Thiele Sculpture in one of our front windows, until minor repairs are carried out on the fiberglass material that the sculpture is made of, at which time he will return to the centenary gardens. The Eudunda Roadhouse has presented us with two daily sales books, which they found during renovations to the shop. The book covers the years 1877 & 1878, which makes an invaluable record of the people of the district and their needs at that period of our history. Gosling Cottage is proving a favorite with tourists and their comments in the visitor's book reflect that. It is very pleasing to read.

**Jim Reese President**

**Progressive Eudunda:-** Eudunda Courier and Murray Flats Advertiser, Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1925

Eudunda is becoming a "live-wire" town alright, which is already being proved by the fact that the Commercial Bank have erected new premises, and the Council has nearly finished renovating the District Hall, and don't let us forget that a new Post Office and new Savings Bank will shortly grace the town with their presence. Eudunda has not even been missed by the Railway Authorities for are not the old station buildings on the Morgan side, going under a course of renovation. Here's some particulars! The old waiting room for ladies is being extended and made into one large parcels office and a brand new waiting room, porters room and a lamp room are being built out in bricks and gables to match, this building is to have a stone facing, to say nothing of a septic tank and electric light which will be installed. The structure ought to be completed in about a month's time. Mr. C. Brown (the stationmaster) also will have an office to himself

**Have you  
rediscovered  
Eudunda?  
Colin Thiele Drive  
only 25 km's and 55  
minutes of your  
time.  
Pick up map from  
Eudunda Heritage  
Gallery.**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
Eudunda Area School  
Did you attend Eudunda  
Area School between  
1948-1998 and miss this  
event??

"50 years of class,"  
printed to commemorate  
this event is available  
from the Eudunda  
Heritage Gallery for \$5.00  
plus Postage and handling  
We also have glasses,  
stubbie holders and  
magnets

AUSTRALIA PLAINS

*March 5<sup>th</sup> 1924-* A fire, which might have caused considerable damage, broke out in the implement shed at Mr. Gunther's farm on Wednesday last, the cause of which may be attributed to the carelessness of the 17 year old son, Leslie. It appears that Leslie made up his mind to increase the average of the cat mortality for the month and with this object in view he collared the gun and set out for his quest towards the implement shed, Despite the strict warning from his mother not to shoot in the shed, youth's pride and self-reliance predominated and contrary to mother's advice he entered the shed all ready to fire at the first glimpse of a cat. A few minutes after entering two loud reports rang forth and Leslie emerged with a big fat "tommy" in one hand and gun in the other smiling the smile of self-praise of good marksmanship. Up to this point no serious harm besides disobedience was apparent but might have resulted into considerable damage but for the timely arrival of Mrs. Gunther. About 20 minutes after shooting Mrs. Gunther had cause to attend to the poultry and when she entered the yard, to her surprise, saw volumes of smoke issuing from the shed. She immediately gave the alarm to the boy and with great difficulty got the fire, which had a good hold, under control after damage had been done to the super phosphate, etc. Had Mrs. Gunther postponed her duties which she intended carrying out for another quarter of an hour nothing could have saved this shed which comprised all the seed

wheat, super phosphate, etc., for the coming season and the haystacks are also in close proximity to the shed, all would have been a heap of ashes and just through disobedience. Let this be a warning to other lads who are apt to disobey. Above all heed your mother's advice.

**Curious Letter to a Watchmaker:** *Eudunda Courier and Murray Flats Advertiser Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1924.*

The following letter has been sent to us by a subscriber who become possessed of it considerably over fifty years ago, when he was a lad at the trade. As an instance of the contrast in deference shown to the watchmakers then and at the present time, it certainly is unique:-

"I herewith send thee my pocket clock, which greatly standeth in need of thy friendly correction. The last time he was in thy friendly school he was in no way reformed, nor in the least benefited thereby, for I perceive by the index of his mind that he is a liar and the truth is not in him, that his motions are wavering and irregular, that his pulse is sometimes slow, which betokeneth not an even temper; and at other times it waxeth sluggish, notwithstanding I frequently urge him; when he should be on his duty, as thou knoweth his usual name denoteth, I find him slumbering, or as the vanity human reason phraseth, I catch him napping. Examine him, therefore, and prove him, I beseech thee, thoroughly, that thou mayest, being well acquainted with his inward frame and disposition, draw him from the error of his way, and show him the wherein he should go. It grieves me to think, and when I ponder thereon I am verily of the opinion that his body is foul, and the whole mass is corrupt. Cleanse him, therefore, with thy charming physic, from all pollution, that he may vibrate and circulate according to the truth. U will place him a few days under thy care, and pay for his board as thou requirest. I entreat thee, friend John, to demean thyself in this occasion with judgment, according to the gift which is in thee, and prove thyself a workman. And when thou layest thy corrective hand upon him, let it be without passion, lest thou shouldst drive him to destruction. Do thou regulate his motion for a time to come, by the motion of light that ruleth the day, and when thou findest him recovered

from the errors of his ways and more conformable to the above rules, then do thou send him home with the just bill of charge, drawn out in the spirit of moderation, and it shall be sent to thee, the root of all evil."

—*AMJ Gazette*.

Bert Tunnibill entered the kitchen and stood watching the woman at the washtub.

"Is Owd Edmund at whoam, missus?" he inquired.

"'Naw, 'ee ain't!"

"Eh? Whurbe'ee, then?"

"'we wanted too-pence ter buy milk fur bullpoop, an' Ah tow'd Mm ter goo an' 'ang issen. 'Ah can't 'ang missen wi'out ro-ap,' 'ee's gone aout ter back yard ter 'ang 'issen a reet!"

"'As he, ba goom?" exclaimed Bert. "Ah'll goo an watch 'un!"

When Tunnibill reached the door of the yard he pulled up, and saw Owd Edmund manipulating a stout rope.

"'Owd Edmund," said his friend, casually, "wots doin'?"

"Ah'm 'angin' missen," replied the other, gloomily.

"'Angin' thasen?" exclaimed Bert. "'The canna 'ang thasen wi' ro-ap ra-ound tha's stomach!"

"'Well, Ah tried 'angin' by ma neck but Ah cud 'ardly breathe."

**ANOAK SINGH REUNION** Held on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2003.

Seventy people, adults and children, had a lovely day at the Eudunda Sporting Complex, with relatives coming from Adelaide suburbs and Port Augusta.

They visited the gravesite of their ancestor Anoak Singh and had a plaque laid in his memory at the Eudunda Cemetery.

At the Sporting Complex the Eudunda Heritage Committee provided lunch.

The Sutherlands book was on sale as this was the known address of Anoak Singh and his family. Photos of children at school and the family home were on display as well as in the book.

After lunch a birthday cake for two of the younger relations was cut. Then Father Christmas arrived to the delight of the gathering. Once again it was a pleasure to be part of a family reunion, getting to know their part in the

history of South Australia and in particular Eudunda and surrounding areas.

### STERILIZE THE MILK CANS.

#### ADVICE TO PRODUCERS.

*Eudunda Courier and Murray Flats*

*Advertiser, March 1924.*

With the advent of hot weather the sterilization of milk cans is of the utmost importance from the bacteriologic and economic standpoints. This applies especially to the cans which are returned supposedly in a clean, sanitary condition to be refilled by the producer. Unless sterilized on the farms, cans which have not been treated in a thorough manner by the factory will probably be the cause of it receiving very poor if not extremely undesirable milk the next time. Even when cans are washed and rinsed soon after being emptied, but are not sterilized, they will usually contain at least several million bacteria, especially if a number of utensils are washed and in the same water. In warm weather these millions will be increased to billions in 24 or 48 hours, for in such cans plenty of moisture and food material or bacterial growth are usually present.

Experiments recently conducted by the dairy division of the United States Department of Agriculture showed that in the first rinsing of one unsterilised can soon after washing 47,000,000 bacteria were found, while the count for a similar can immediately after sterilization was 3,600. Another similar unsterilised can which was held 24 hours yielded 16,000,000,000 bacteria at the first rinsing, while in the fourth can, which had been sterilized and dried, only 16,800 bacteria were obtained by the first rinsing after 24 hours. The unsterilised can which had been held 24 hours would have contaminated milk placed in it with over 400,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter, as compared with probably not more than one organism per centimeter in the corresponding sterilised can. These counts, although not meant to be taken as a standard in any sense of the word, show that thorough sterilization of milk cans is most essential particularly in hot weather.

**FORCES OF NATURE:** - *Hills, Valley and Plains:* - Researching early records it appears Eudunda has had many natural disasters. As early as November 2, 1886 the country around Eudunda was reported to be flooded.

Heavy flooding occurred again the April 1889 when much damage was done to the roads and fences. Phenomenal rains on December 5, 1902, resulted in acres of land being transferred into lakes, water was several feet deep along the railway line. This volume of water in the Murray Flats was the largest record since the 1889 floods.

Again in November 27 and 28, 1903, thunder storms with heavy rains fell in many areas, causing damage around the town being flooded. April 1909 heavy storms unroofed straw covered sheds and barns. Three or four windmills were reported to have blown over with two being completely wrecked. Scrub land east of the township 'presents a sorry appearance' with large mallee and peppermint trees broken. At one time it was thought the Peep Hill church would be unroofed. In May 1909 a silent earthquake shock was felt at 9.45pm it appeared to be traveling in a southwest to north-east direction. All the low lying country was underwater in August 1909. Fires at Anlaby in December of 1909 destroyed approximately 10,000 acres of grassland and an estimated stock loss of 1,000 sheep. Fifty firefighters from Eudunda fought the blaze.

Many heavy snow falls have been recorded and in 1905 on August 29, snow fell during most of the day and again on July 29 and 30, 1909 the hills surrounding the township were white and later in 1950s and 1977. Heavy snow falls were again encountered throughout the district in 1984.

A sudden downpour in January 1910-125 points of rain in half an hour. Many drams and creeks were a torrent, in many instances the floodwaters poured through the houses. The railway authorities were pleased as only 3' of water remained in their dam. Very little water was caught in the Deep Creek Dam as a farmer had closed the drain to fill his own tanks. October 1910 a "sharp earthquake was felt'. Heavy thunderstorms and torrential rain fell in the Eastern Central district and lower Murray Valley, the Eudunda streets were again under one foot of water to 20 to 25 feet against the railway embankment, 2.94 inches fell from 10pm, March 3, to 6am March 4. In one part of the district 600 acres of land was underwater. The railway dam burst its banks and many other dams burst causing haystacks and homes to be surrounded by water, many cellars were filled. Roads were blocked with much debris and Mr. Wilksch found it impossible to continue his rounds, it was with much difficulty he could.

ride back to Eudunda on horseback'. All trains were cancelled to and from Eudunda.

Rain lasting about an hour and hailstones the size of pigeon eggs fell in the Julia area in 1914 causing over £200 damage to the roads, a 12' iron gate was washed a mile away. The heaviest rain since the 1870s, 'the Julia creek never experiencing such a heavy downpour before'. Mr. Richards from Point Pass and Mr. Reuther from Julia were drowned in the Julia creek whilst on their way to Hampden siding to collect Mr. Reuther's son who was returning from Queensland to celebrate the parents silver wedding celebration where 300 guests had been invited.

Wind damage in the Ngapala district on October 18, 1933, Eudunda was experiencing floods in 1937 and 1945 and many parts of the district suffered damage. March 14, 1974, a funnel shaped tornado tore through the township where trees, roofs, sheds in it's path of about 50 meters in width were badly damage accounting to many thousands of dollars.

To follow the rains one can't forget the dust storms of December 9, 1944. Eudunda and the Murray Flats experienced severe dust storms this again happening on 'Ash Wednesday' February 16, 1983.

Don't forget  
Eudunda Heritage  
Committee Friends  
of the Gallery  
Morning Tea  
10.30am  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
February 2004  
At the Eudunda  
Club

I hope you enjoy our little Newsletter and find it interesting and informative. If you have any local yarns or family history you think might interest fellow Friends of the Gallery please send or drop them into the Gallery.

Editor - Vicki Matthews