



Eudunda Heritage

# GUSTAV'S NEWSLETTER

Eudunda Heritage Gallery  
19 Bruce Street, EUDUNDA. SA. 5374



Valley of Hidden Treasures

**NUMBER 18 AUGUST 2006**

**Hello Everyone,**

## PRESIDENTS REPORT 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2006

It is with pleasure that I present my report to this the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Eudunda Family Heritage Gallery Management Committee.

2006 has been another very successful year with the Gallery again proving to be one of the outstanding attractions, along with the garden extensions, in the town: We have also played a part in the Garden development with the further development of the weighbridge and the placing of a small railways trike on the lines. A subcommittee of the Gallery has been formed with the aim to "save the old railway station" and we wish that committee every success. Our "Friends" were once again entertained at morning tea in the Eudunda Club. The support we receive from this group is immeasurable, thank you one and all.

With the assistance of a grant from the Regional Council of Goyder we have replaced the 120 year old roof on the Gosling Cottage. Again we have catered for various bus tours and special events the proceeds of which play a major role in our financial viability and my thanks go to the energetic team that provide that service. My sincere thanks go to our band of helpers, which I will not name personally for fear of overlooking

someone. They are the backbone of our Gallery and without them we would not exist, individually you know who you are and can feel proud that you have played a part in keeping the Gallery going. Thank you one and all, the committee, friends and the public, without you we would not be as successful as we are, with your continued support, assistance and time let us look forward to another great year. **Jim Reese**

## VOLUNTEERS

There is a vacancy on the Committee. If you know an interested person please contact one of the Committee Members. Extra Volunteers are needed to help man the desk. Two or three hours a month would be appreciated. If you may be able to help out contact one of the Committee. The Committee are planning a Colin Thiele bus trip on October 22<sup>nd</sup> for Committee and Volunteers. We will have a barbeque in the gardens so any volunteers that are interested please contact a Committee Member.

Heritage Gallery Opening time  
Hours are

Friday & Saturday shifts -  
10.00a.m.-1p.m.

Second shift 1 pm - 4pm

Sunday 11 am-1pm.

Second shift 1 pm - 4pm.

## **HERITAGE HAPPENINGS**

As usual we have been very busy. Celebrating 80 years of electricity was a great success. We had a colouring-in/poster competition amongst the school children of the area and received lots and lots of wonderful entries. Around 50 children from the Area School and St John's as well as approximately 70 locals and visitors came along to the morning tea and enjoyed the re-enactment. We used the competition entries to advertise the event and to brighten up local businesses and shops. We have received lots of new donations for the Gallery. Our cataloguing is continuing. We have sectioned areas to make identification and placement of objects much easier. Our Gallery continues to "come to life" with Terry making lots of dummies which we are dressing appropriately and placing through the rooms.

Have you noticed the shiny new roof on the cottage? An excellent, much needed investment.

We are working to update and improve our website

[www.eudunda.net/heritage](http://www.eudunda.net/heritage)

If you have any suggestions, please contact us. :

The shop histories, which are also an ongoing project, continue to prove popular. We get many positive comments on them with visitors actively seeking them out. Just how many can you count around our town?

Our dedicated band of volunteers keeps our "Barrow Stall" full. The homemade biscuits and jams are always popular and gardens are benefiting from the plants we have available. Special thanks to Ellen for her dedication and the Eudunda Bakery for their continuous generosity.

The new edition of Gregory's Australian Touring Guide will contain an advertisement for our Heritage Gallery. This is a biannual edition. Whilst a bit slower over the last few months our catering for bus tours continues. These are good opportunities to spread the word about our Gallery. We also catered for the Redex Trial recently.

We have supported the "Save our Railway Station Action Group", both financially and by having some of -our committee members in the new group. The Station will be 'sealed' initially to help prevent vandalism and gradually returned to its former beauty. It is a big part of our heritage and as a group we are very pleased to support its future. Thanks to Jim Dunstan and his band of volunteers, The Gardens' are continually improving. The rolling stock - a Railway Work Trolley, has arrived with many thanks to the Toune Family of Port Augusta. When it has been painted up with its 'proper'<sup>1</sup> Railway paint it will really set off the Signal Box. Please watch for continuing additions!

***BlatGoulder***

## **WHAT'S NEW IN THE ROOMS?**

- Melva Hintz has kindly donated saddlery and shoe equipment used by her husband Wally. The Saddlery was formerly located where the Eudunda Roadhouse now stands. It's been said there was a sunken garden where the petrol bowsers now stand.
- Diabola Separators
- Wedding Dress worn by Joan Latz's daughter.
- Erna Handke's latest donation of a home made busy book she made for her children around 1947.
- Clock in the front room at cottage
- New magnets and lots more souvenirs are coming soon.

## **GALLERY GOSSIP**

Congratulations to proud Grandparents Dot and Peter Bonner on the safe arrival of Aimee Kate born to Leah and Troy Bonner on the 15<sup>th</sup> July at Tanunda.

## **LEAKES LOOKOUT HISTORY**

Leakes Lookout is a prominent hill with an overhanging cliff about 15kms southeast of Eudunda and 2kms north of Mt. Rufus, in the range of hills between Eudunda and Truro in the Hd. of Dutton.

According to local history it derived its name from an early pastoralist Robert Leake. His parents migrated to Tasmania from England in 1823. In 1839 Robert came to S.A. with 390 ewes and 10 rams to set up a breeding establishment. In

1840 he was recorded as the fourth largest sheep holder in S.A. In 1841 Robert and his brother Edward who had now joined him, were concerned about the dry conditions in S.A. Apparently in this period they were grazing their stock in what is now the Hundred of Dutton.

According to local theory the above named hill derived the name Leakes Lookout as the Leake Brothers used this as a lookout as it has an extensive view to the east. From their they kept a lookout for camp fires which would indicate if there were aborigines in the area. If so, they would need to keep careful watch of their stock. In early 1844 Robert accompanied by overseer John MacIntyre, sixteen other men, 7,200 sheep and 32 cattle, set out for the south east. They had heard reports of rich and well watered land being available there. Apparently they crossed the river somewhere above Mannum - as at the time it was very low or dry in places. The journey was to prove a long dreary one as they had to travel over trackless, sometimes seemingly waterless ways, without really knowing where

they were going except that it was worth finding when they did get there.

When they first arrived near what is now known as Glencoe near Mt. Gambier, Robert wanted to hurry back to Adelaide to lay claim to this land. His overseer, John McIntyre pressed Robert not to settle at the first place but to seek further - and they found a big lake and ideal country for a home station. He certainly was proved right. He said later that before he left his home in Scotland he had a dream and knew that just beyond where they were they would find this. The Lake is now known as Lake Leake.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1844, Robert was granted an occupational license. They set up a homestead at the area now known as Glencoe. In 1863 they built the large Glencoe Woolshed which is still preserved in good condition today. By 1845 the Leake property had an estimated holding of 176 sq. miles. By 1851 it totalled 244 sq. miles. Their stock by 1860 totalled nearly 50,000. By this time there had been a dramatic shift in the relationship of black and white. The Aborigines had given up hope that the white people would disappear as suddenly as they appeared and that there was any possibility that they could win a war to dispossess them, and unable to pursue their traditional way of life to survive they had been forced to cooperate. They lived in camps near the homesteads, wore European style clothing and depended on what they could beg or be given as handouts. Many became addicted to alcohol and tobacco and they were particularly susceptible to white settlers diseases. Even relatively minor ones such as measles often proved fatal to them. They became more and more dependent on the settlers. It was nevertheless a symbiotic relationship with the pastoralists, as they

desperately needed shepherds and stockmen in the early 1850's when tales of gold and instant riches lured the white workers away. The Aborigines were particularly adapted to horse riding and many proved good stockmen. Submitted by Fay Grosser

#### **CONTACTS**

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#### **HERITAGE GALLERY**

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•Committee Members were elected at the Annual General Meeting but the Executive will be elected at the next Committee Meeting. Any alterations to the above will be posted in the Heritage Gallery window and printed in the next issue of the Newsletter.