



GUSTAV'S NEWSLETTER

Eudunda Family Heritage Gallery
17-19 Bruce Street, EUDUNDA SA 5374

Open: Friday/Saturday 10am– 4pm

Sunday 11am - 4pm

Phone: (08) 8581 1552 email: EFHG@bigpond.com

website www.eudundaheritage.com



President and Local Historian

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2012 Chairpersons Report

DIARY DATES

Eudunda Hospital 90th: 28th Oct

Melbourne Cup Lunch: 6th Nov

Eudunda Show: 11th Nov

Sunday Roast at Eudunda Club:
25th Nov

Festival of Christmas:

7th, 8th & 9th Dec

Eudunda Street Party:

Friday 7th Dec

Welcome to our newsletter and we hope you are all enjoying the spring weather, though rain is badly needed.

At our recent AGM Jim Reese was once again elected as our Chairperson, we thank Jim for his dedication to our committee and his annual report follows. Irene Hall continues as secretary and Ora Jenke, treasurer. We have a great committee, one of the secrets to our ongoing success.

I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report for the past 12 months during which time I have received much help and support from my committee. Our committee is thanked for their efforts from March to May when many hours were spent at the gallery clearing out displays to allow the main shop floor to receive sanding, painting and polishing, giving the floor and the gallery a new look- which has been commented upon by many visitors to the gallery since the restoration was completed. My heartfelt thanks and the thanks of the committee also are extended to all outsiders who came in and lent a hand shifting heavy displays. Thank you one and all. The Eudunda Family Heritage Gallery are running guided tours in conjunction with various bus

companies, initially with the Colin Thiele theme and at present we are working to cover other parts of the district. Once again I am indebted to my hard working and dedicated committee. Members of the committee are looking forward to the commencement of work on the enlarging of the new display area at the rear side of the back shed where when completed it is anticipated farm equipment will be on display. I would like to thank each and every one of the volunteers who spend time at the Gallery, showing visitors around, selling soup to hungry customers and generally helping where they are needed. Your help is invaluable too. Thank you.

The support of 'Friends of the Gallery' is still continuing with many enjoying the 'Friends of the Gallery' morning tea in February. Hopefully everyone who attended the morning tea had an enjoyable morning.

Due to my health problems during the past year I have not been as active as I would have liked but with such wonderful support and understanding from my committee the Eudunda Family Heritage Gallery has continued to operate. May this situation continue for many more years to come.

To conclude once again I sincerely thank my committee, everyone involved in any way with the Gallery and my wife Carolyn for all your help, support and understanding during the past 12 months. Thank you one and all.

Jim Reese, Chairperson.

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

We have continued to have a steady flow of tourist buses coming to town. They pick up one of our volunteers at the Town Gardens who act as a guide for the tour the bus takes. They do a lap of the town before heading out towards Point Pass. Up past the old rabbit canning factory site and onto Hampden, turning at the Pines, passing Colin Thieles old house (this house was the one Colin lived in for most of his childhood, though not his first house. As a baby he lived in a house along Range Rd at Julia). The view from the road here is spectacular with the mallee flats on one side and the ranges on the other. From Julia they return through Hampden before heading back to Eudunda. After the tour the visitors come to the Eudunda Hall for lunch. We are constantly pleased and proud with the lovely positive feedback we get on the lunch. They all love

our 'home cooking'; we get amazed visitors looking at our new kitchen in the Hall and being so envious! After lunch they go up to the Heritage Gallery, stopping at our local shops on the way. Bus Tours are great for our whole town. Whilst we are very good as a town supporting all the many causes, shops and groups we have, buses bring in outside dollars to our town, they give us a chance to showcase our town. We try very hard to ensure they all leave with a really positive outlook and memory of our town, which they will then pass on. From the constant feedback we get we think, with everyone contributing, we are achieving this. We are presently organising a second bus tour route to take in Tablelands Road, then heading east through Neales Flat.

During September Endeavour Tours booked in a bus every weekday during the month with 2 buses per day on the last week. This has been a very large work load for the committee and volunteers and we sincerely thank every one of you, please remember the big lift to our bank balance and all those happy faces, it really has been worth it! We are always looking for helpers with the bus trips, both as tour guides and also helping

in the kitchen. We always have a laugh so please think about offering your time and help. Talking helpers...some more offers to be on the roster for the Heritage Gallery would be appreciated.

AROUND THE ROOMS

Ben Schultz has started work on our new shed. This is so exciting, when finished we will be able to really have a sort out in the present back shed and move the larger farming equipment into the new shed. This will then free up a lot of space for the rest of the displays. We nearly have the front building reorganised after the massive job of getting the floors sanded. Come into the gallery and look how everything is settling in. It is looking great.

GALLERY GOSSIP

Congratulations to Blat and Charlie on the birth of their first grandchild, Felix William and to Dot and Pete, their 3rd grand daughter Summer Rose. Irene and Ken have new twin great-grand daughters, Indianna and Kiara.

We wish safe and happy travels to Dot and Pete as they head to Darwin.

Well done to our 'sister committee' Eudunda Hall and Catering on successfully providing 171 lunch packages to the riders from Bike SA, who recently stopped at our town. Another big mob, leaving with full tummies & happy memories. Hall and Catering are also looking forward to another successful Melbourne Cup Luncheon, with all the guests dressing up in their 'cup best'. There will be some wonderful hats and outfits; competition for the prizes is always stiff. So do mark Tuesday 6th November in your diary. Doors open at 11.30am. Tickets available from the Heritage Gallery, see one of the committee members or phone Irene on 08 85811 306.

Eudunda Show is a fantastic day and our Cold Serves sell well. All the Heritage committee always enjoy this very social day. See you at the Show on Sunday 11th November.

December 7, 8 & 9 will see the 'Festival of Christmas' on in Eudunda Hall. Please enter a display and come along and support the Festival. It has been awhile since our town has held

one; let's make it another great success.

Then it will be hot potatoes at the Christmas Street Party on Friday December 7th!

Recently I stumbled across this article from December 2007 from the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper. I thought you would enjoy as much as I did reading about our lovely town from a Sydney-sider's perspective and how we were represented in the paper:

Eudunda

Quiet rural village famous as the birthplace of Colin Thiele

Eudunda is a town with plenty of charm and historic interest. What sustains the township is the attractive main street with its interesting historic buildings and vine-draped verandahs. Eudunda is located 115 km from Adelaide and is situated 416 metres above sea level. Its average annual rainfall of 460 mm indicates that this is land which is extremely vulnerable to droughts. Eudunda has been somewhat reinvigorated in recent years by means of some energetic marketing, new economic

ventures in town, and the connection of Gunn St with Bruce St, thus creating a continuous shopping precinct.

Eudunda's was the birthplace of highly-regarded educationalist Colin Thiele who achieved a degree of fame with his hugely successful children's books, 'Storm Boy' and 'Blue Fin', both of which were adapted to film. Thiele's presence is subtly suggested by the silhouette of one of his characters, 'Gustav', over each entrance to the town. Accompanying 'Gustav' is a kelpie dog, evoking the town's rural heritage. A statue of Thiele can also be found in Centenary Gardens.

The first Europeans in the area were those travelling to the Adelaide markets from western NSW via the Murray flats. The Eudundacowie springs, to the west of the town, were used by these men to water their stock. The name is obviously a local Aboriginal term, said to mean 'water out of the ground'.

Eudunda township was established in 1870 after settlers began moving into the

area throughout the 1860s. The founder of Eudunda was John Henry Hannan who owned the land which was surveyed and divided for sale. At this time cattle and horses were being moved to South Australia from western Queensland and the town became a popular watering hole for the herds and the drovers who had travelled down Cooper Creek. Their ultimate destination was Kapunda which, at the time, was a township effectively owned by Sir Sidney Kidman. At one point 3000 horses were sold in Kapunda in an auction which lasted for a week. All of the horses were the property of Kidman and many of them had been brought to the town from his property holdings in western NSW, South Australia and western Queensland.

For many South Australians the town is known as the home of the state's first farming co-operative. At its height the Eudunda Farmers Co-operative Society Ltd had 62 branches. It is now part of the IGA group of supermarkets. The co-op started in the 1890s when a group of German farmers met at Manns Hotel and decided

that they should work together. The idea was that the co-operative could transport and sell timber and could collectively buy goods with the profits. Thus the local storekeepers, who were prone to charging large interest rates, could be by-passed.

Mrs Appelts Diary

1909

January 21: 108' in the shade. A fire broke out in our branch store causing £30 - £40 damages. It was caused by smoking.

February 5: The young people played tennis against Eudunda-England V's Germany and ours won. The players were Rudie, Graebner, Herb Pfeiffer, Fridi, Victor Appelt, Eddie Hansen and Ted Nickel .

March 10: Mrs Williams was buried the day before yesterday. It was the first time the hearse has been used.

March 27: It is 25 years today since the foundation stone of our Church was laid. The pastors Heidenreich, Oster, Appelt, Bode, Fuhlbohm, Carlson and Georg were present on that occasion.

April 26: Mr Woithe had a nasty accident some galvanized iron blew off his roof in a dreadful storm today and his leg was

broken. Elders Smith's sale yards were used for the first time today. July 29/30: Heavy snow, everything was pure white.

September 25: The gas light was used for the first time tonight.

October 17: New hawker came today. Fitz is to take him to Stonefield to introduce him to our customers there.

October 21: Pastor Georg's wife of Australia Plains came to Eudunda today for the first time in 8 years. We were invited to Doctor Feige's silver wedding; Vida had to play a solo

December 13: A big fire broke out at Prior's near Freiderichswalde and spread to Anlaby Station and to Hansborough. About 1,000 sheep were burnt and 10,000 acres of grass as well as wheat and hay. Several farmers lost their harvest.

December 22: Mr Herman Pfeiffer had an accident a German wagon with 35 bags of wheat went over both his legs, he is in Kapunda Hospital.

Eudunda Hospital 90th Birthday

February 9th 1922

“The need of a hospital in Eudunda had long been recognised as being a very urgent one and today that need has been realised and the hospital stands as a lasting memorial of the liberality of the residents of our town and district. The building occupies a conspicuous position on a hill overlooking the town and miles of country extending over the Murray Flats, and the building itself marks the designing skill of the architect and the excellent workmanship of our local contractors (Messrs. Severin and Both) and local workman, who accomplished a building second to none in our state.

The Opening Ceremony

The 28th day of January, 1922, will long be remembered as a red letter day, for on that day was opened a Temple of the greatest cause- to care for the sick and wounded.

The hospital movement was started about 3 years ago, in response to a petition signed by over 80 residents of the surrounding district and today, after many months of hard work by the organising committee, the hospital was ready for opening. The fine block of buildings stands

as a lasting memorial of the liberality of the residents of the hospital district; when I state donations from the 3 district councils averaged over £6 per ratepayer, it will be understood that the importance of providing an institution for the care of the sick and suffering, which is second to none in South Australia, for up to date was fully recognised.

We are proud of the fact that local contractors and local workmen were able to carry out such an important piece of work. The women of the district have taken a splendid part in the equipment of the hospital. Not only have they contributed sufficient money to make possible the furnishing of a three bed, two bed and one bed ward, and the whole of the nurses quarters, but they have also done all the necessary sewing to equip the Hospital with all its linen requirements.

In the ward-naming competition the residence of the Julia District earned the right to name the biggest ward, and they have furnished that ward. The residents of point Pass and the surrounding district recently held a special effort which provided funds for the furnishing of a two

bed ward and several other generous hearty folk have presented beds and other equipment. The last fortnight has been a heavy strain on the furnishing committee especially the matron and Mr. Wiesner.

The services of the matron, since her appointment have been of very great value to the committee and deserving of special recognition.

We are sorry to say that several of the beds and other articles of furniture have not arrived in time for the opening. We are grateful to the inspector general of hospitals, the secretary of the South Australian Hospital association, Mr. McLacklan, and the other members of the district for the assistance, at all times so freely rendered; we believe we have an excellent nursing staff, and we look to them to carry on the work that the co-operation of all parties has made possible.

The movement to establish a hospital at Eudunda was inaugurated at a public meeting held in the district hall on December the 4th 1918. At that meeting a committee was appointed consisting of D. Matison and Messrs. Secombe A.W.Crawford, Hooper, Davoren, Gosling, Eckermann, Sobels and C. A. Pfeiffer. The personnel of the committee underwent many

changes as time progressed. It was at first resolved that money be raised by debentures but at a later meeting it was decided to organise a campaign of straight out donations. Then at a meeting held July 16th 1919 a letter was received from the Chief Secretary enquiring whether the committee was prepared to take steps under the District council Act to make provision for maintenance of the hospital by rating.

The expenditure, without the furnishing items is about £11,545 which leaves a credit balance of a little more than £2,000 towards the furnishing and maintenance of the hospital. I wish it to be quite clear that we have not this £2,000 in hand, because there is still due to us subsidy, rates, and subsidy on rates, to the amount of £3,065. More money is still required so the board asks you, on this occasion of the realization of our wishes that you will give in the warm hearted way, as here to fore.

Donations will be gratefully received by those on the gift stall. It is the hope and expectation of the board that the institution will be opened free of debt. That can be realised if you are generous in your support today."

Editors- Irene Hall & Blat Goulder

