

Peach Trees Gazette

Peachester History Committee Inc. Newsletter
Number 187 ~ April-May 2023

NEWS AND COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL: PHC Annual General Meeting at the Peachester Hall, from 11.00am, lunch to share as usual. As an interesting activity for the meeting, we will watch a documentary film (see cover below) from NFSA, produced in 1951 for the Commonwealth of Australia's Jubilee, "Cavalcade of Australia 1901-1951". The film runs for 33 minutes, using historical footage to highlight important events in the first 50 years of our nation.

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL: Bush Dance at Peachester Hall, organised jointly by a group of local parents, Landscape Band and Peachester Hall Committee. Booking details on poster (see page 5). Proceeds towards aircon for the hall!

SUNDAY 23RD APRIL: Regular fourth Sunday Heritage Centre open day, 10.00am to 2.00pm.

SUNDAY 7TH MAY: This is our usual PHC meeting day, however to allow the Mt Quilters to run their Quilt Show on this weekend we are going on an outing.

Breakfast from 8.30am at Warrior Restaurant, 88 Irwin Rd Beerwah, followed by a visit to Landsborough Museum. More information on both venues page 2. We will need to finalise numbers before the date, so please let us know if you can come.

SATURDAY 20TH MAY: Combined Schools Reunion at Woodford Community Hall, 10.00am – 4.00pm. PHC gathering photos and memorabilia for Peachester, Crohamhurst and Commissioner's Flat State Schools – all contributions welcome.

SUNDAY 28TH MAY: Heritage Centre Open day, with a visit from the Blackall Range Horseless Carriage Club – including a Show & Shine in the parking area beside the hall and church.

See you soon if you can join us for any of these events.
Helen 54949557, Jocelyn 54390895

MEMORIES OF CROHAMHURST SCHOOL



Crohamhurst State School opened in 1913, with the first teacher Miss Laura James. The school was closed in 1960 and students moved to Peachester School.

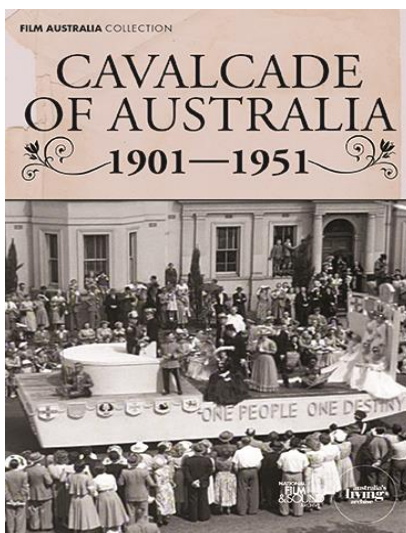
This marvellous group photo of parents and children at the school has been recorded as 1914 ... perhaps an official opening function, or breaking-up day that year.

Newspapers online through *Trove* provide glimpses of the people and events at the school over the years. This report is from the *Nambour Chronicle*, 21st December 1917. The short item on the next page is from the *Brisbane Courier*, 24th December 1919.

CROHAMHURST.

SCHOOL BREAK-UP.

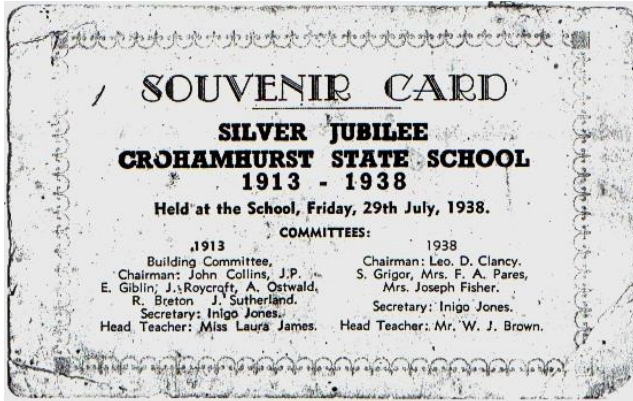
Another of the pleasant functions for which our State School is becoming quite celebrated took place last Friday, the occasion being the distribution of the prizes and breaking up for the holidays. An attendance of over 60 gave quite an animated appearance to the scene. After luncheon, provided by the ladies, had been dispensed with the children under direction of the head teacher, Miss E. H. Craig, rendered a programme of songs and recitations. "The Garland" was most effective; the children carrying wreaths and wands of most exquisite flowers and ferns. It was enthusiastically enjoyed. Another encore was secured those little girls who sang "Three green Bonnets" in costume. The prizes were then distributed by Mrs. Owen Jones; the class prizes being as follows: Fifth, Gordon Craig; Fourth, Veronique Jones; third, Ursula Jones; second, Gwendoline Jones; first, Maurice Simpson; Infants, Edward Roycroft. Spelling prize, Gordon Craig. Best Kept Garden, Gertrude Ostwald. As a result of the competition for the gardening prize, the school grounds were quite brilliant with flowers, and were greatly admired by the company. The chairman, Mr. J. Collins, in a particularly apt and happy speech, called for cheers for Mrs. Jones. The Secretary congratulated Miss Craig on the success of the entertainment, and cheers were given for her. The proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem, after which afternoon tea was served by the ladies downstairs.



CROHAMHURST STATE SCHOOL.

At the breaking-up picnic of the Crohamhurst State School the children rendered an excellent programme of songs, recitations, dialogues, &c. Waldemar and Robert Breton were successful in winning two special prizes for a composition on "Bush Life in Queensland."

The following Silver Jubilee souvenir card reveals a lot about this little school in a very concise way. Note the names, especially the secretary in both 1913 and 1938!



ROLL CALL
 for past and present
 students, teachers and families from

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Banana Settlement | Mt Mee |
| Bellthorpe | Neurum |
| Bellthorpe West | Peachester |
| Bracalba | St Mary's |
| Commissioner's Flat | Stanmore |
| Crohamhurst | Stoney Creek |
| Dahmongah | Villeneuve |
| Delaney's Creek | West Vale |
| Durundur | Winya |
| Kalangara | Woodford |
| Mt Delaney | |

Woodford Lions Sausage Sizzle Coffee, Tea, Drinks

Enquiries 0429899115
 Bookings www.trybooking.com/BWOG
 Bring along your school memorabilia

Would you like to organise your own class reunion on the day? Let us know and we can set a space up for you.

All Small Schools Reunion
 20th May 10am-4pm Woodford Community Hall

Reminder: general invitation to the Reunion at Woodford on 20th May. Please pass on this message to anyone who may have a connection with any of the schools listed.

WARRIOR RESTAURANT & BAR

"Located in the Crocodile Hunter Lodge, Warrior Restaurant & Bar is a unique dining experience you won't want to miss. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner, our menu's identity is derived from the classical techniques of the world with the modernisation that is Australian cooking. Recipes are influenced by the unique produce that Australia has to offer, in a celebration of our region. Executive Chef Craig Milne spends his time sourcing beautiful local ingredients to create these dishes.

Paying homage to the First Nation people and the plant life they have been utilising for thousands of years, we at Warrior endeavour to take these earthy flavours and pair them with the fresh produce of our neighbouring farms."



For breakfast menu see: www.thecrocodilehunterlodge.com.au



NEW ERA FOR LANDSBOROUGH MUSEUM



At the request of the Landsborough and District Historical Society, Sunshine Coast Council will now manage one of the largest community museums in South East Queensland, including its collection of more than 14,000 objects.

The Landsborough and District Historical Society has operated the Landsborough museum since 1976 and managed its collection in the former Landsborough Shire Council Chambers – a council-owned, State heritage listed building.

Sunshine Coast Council Community Portfolio Councillor Rick Baberowski said that while he was pleased council could step in, the call for help from the Historical Society showed the enormous pressure volunteer groups faced.

"The Landsborough and District Historical Society has given 45 years of dedicated service to help preserve and, most importantly, share some this region's heritage and this is no small feat," Cr Baberowski said.

"I'd like to sincerely thank the society and all past and present members who gave their time, effort and energy to this endeavour.

"It is therefore with gratitude and some sadness that council accepts the gift of the entire Landsborough museum collection into the region's Cultural Heritage collection and has agreed to take over the management of the Landsborough Museum from 2022."

SCC website: www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au from media statement 11 Nov 2021

FAREWELL TO IAN BATEMAN

PHC members were sad at the recent passing of our good friend and member Ian Bateman. We extend our deepest sympathy to Kay and the Bateman family, and thank them for the following eulogy (slightly shortened for the Gazette) which was presented at Ian's funeral by his son Cameron. The first two photos are from the family, the others from PHC files.



Thank you all for coming. Dad would have been so glad to see you all and no doubt would have circulated as much as he could to catch up with you. As you know he did like a chat. He was always being pulled up by someone for a chat, although it didn't take much encouragement on the second person's part. Seriously though my mother, sister, myself and our families thank you for coming along. It would have meant a lot to Dad and does mean a lot to us.

Dad's maxims grew out of the love of and for his large family. They were: to do anything for anyone and never to harm anyone. Although the first of these did cause him to loan a generator which we are still waiting for the return of some 50 years later.

Ian Francis Bateman was born on the eve of World War 2 on 29th June 1939 into a loving and respected immediate and extended family. His parents, Vina and Francis, or Frank for short, were both working hard on the farm, but gave Dad and his brother Tom, when he came along in 1943, a wonderful family life. The fact that Frank was able to stay on the farm as an essential worker during the war and that the army had a camp on the family farm, Gatehurst, midway between Woodford and Stoney Creek, made the war years a time that Dad always talked about fondly as he was treated very well by the soldiers. For a while after the war, sounds of gunshots could be heard while burning off around the old army camp.

During Dad's early years, up until 1950, he had two sets of grandparents very present in his life. Charles and Elizabeth Bateman would visit from Nundah always around Christmas, and would stay with the family intermittently through the year. Percy and Mabel Bleakley, being local, were either visited or visiting throughout the year. Dad's family would either do Christmas or New Years with the Batemans or the Bleakleys each year and reverse it the following year. During the year, because there were at least five Bateman farms in the district and a similar number of Bleakley farms there were often evenings of cards. Also they managed to see each other at the Stoney Creek and other district dances. Dad always talked of the fun had preparing the dance floors with kerosene and sawdust where they would polish the floor by pulling people around on sacks.

Dad's schooling, until 1951 took place at the local school, Kalangara. There aren't many tales to be told of this time apart from riding to school on horses or being given a lift with his teacher. Although he did talk about some of the girls having their pigtails or pony tails dipped in ink wells. My poor grandmother; Vina tried to teach Dad to play the piano, but Dad's response to the call to the piano was to climb the bowen mango tree beside the house at Gatehurst. He wasn't a big fan of sitting inside and taking formal lessons as a child, although he was always a voracious reader. He would, without fail, read one to two books per week, as an adult, and tell me he just skimmed them. However you could ask about the book he'd just finished and he'd give you a very detailed summary.

Dad's formal education finished at Gatton Agricultural College. He enjoyed his time there and was impressed by the machinery. Nuffield tractors were a favourite, probably due to the fact that Frank, his father, was still using draft horses. He enjoyed most other activities except formal lessons in classrooms which he tolerated. He loved being outside and doing more practical activities. At Gatton the boys were able to join cadets, complete farm tasks and also learn bush carpentry. It wasn't all a bowl of cherries as the boys had to have cold showers in a drafty shower block. Gatton winters are bracing to say the least. Despite this his time at Gatton made a big impression on Dad, so much so that he seriously considered a move there in the mid 1970s to grow small crops.

Following his time at Gatton Dad returned to work on Gatehurst with his father. There was always a strong bond between father and son and this was enhanced during these years. He played cricket for Stoney Creek with his father. The game was a lifelong passion for both of them. He and my grandfather also attended Rugby Union and Cricket internationals in Brisbane together. Once able to drive Dad became active in Junior Farmers and the Young Nationals. Here he developed and enhanced lifelong friendships.

The next significant friendship he cultivated was the one that became his most significant. On a return trip from the Exhibition Dad met a very young Kay Small. According to Mum he bent her ear for a considerable time, not that she told him politely or impolitely to stop. They were engaged on 22nd November 1963.



Mum and Dad were married on 5th December 1964, and took a driving honeymoon to Mackay. Mum and Dad enjoyed eight years of married bliss, working the cream dairy at Eatonvale, before I arrived. During that time they also changed from dairying to growing beef cattle. While incomes tightened in the late 1970s and 80s for beef cattle farms, Mum and Dad threw themselves into family life.

My memories early in this period include Sunday drives and extended visits to friends like Brookers, Pages and Wilkes and relatives like the Smalls, Gripskes and Batemans. We also had a good look at life in the Lockyer Valley as Mum and Dad weighed up a move there following a horrible drought. On the 20th March 1976, during a visit to Helidon, where Dad was working on a farm, we suddenly had a visit from Aunty Shirley and Uncle Tom and that afternoon my sister Megan was born. Dad's working life continued at a fair pace, following Megan's birth, as he added contract fencing and power poles to his income stream and workload.

Dad was a very good horseman and as Megan and I grew we wanted to do more with him. We would always want to be out with him and had to have a mustering roster put in place to stop the fights over who would muster with Dad as there were only two horses. It should be mentioned that, as well as managing us he was owner manager of two family farms and still set aside family time. I was lucky, as Dad and I were both cricket fans, we spent many hours both playing, in anticipation of and watching cricket at the Gabba and on TV, with our particular favourite being the West Indian teams of the 80s. Dad had a deep admiration for the way Clive Lloyd conducted himself on the field.

Dad's hard work and Mum's household management allowed us to go on 3 week holidays each Christmas, initially in Caloundra and then in Hervey Bay. We all fell in love with Hervey Bay and the years we couldn't go were bitter pills, but essential as we were going through droughts. We all loved Hervey Bay so much that my wife and I bought a house there and we have all had combined family holidays there.

Following Tertiary studies for both Megan and I, we settled into working life and enjoyed frequent visits from and to Mum and Dad. Megan moved to Roma in 1999 and immediately after we heard the name Bruce Proud mentioned in conversations. It was no surprise, after seeing them together, that in 2000 we were told that Bruce and Megan were engaged, and they were married in 2001. Dad particularly enjoyed time spent with Bruce and Megan in and around Roma and luckily could take the time following his retirement.

Mum and Dad were also regular visitors to myself and Elizabeth from the time we were engaged in 2002 and married in 2003, in Charleville, Hervey Bay and Brisbane. He loved to help in my many projects about the home from moving walls to digging trenches.

Dad had a health scare in 2003. He had two heart attacks, and unlike his father, was the grateful recipient of a stent to open an occluded artery. This scare was the catalyst for his retirement. He and Mum became great bus tourists and enjoyed participating in the Kilcoy Dance group and attending functions held by the Peachester Historical Society. They enjoyed these activities immensely and made many friends through them up until Dad's recent illness.



Mum and Dad were present shortly after the births of their grandchildren: Heather, Isabella, Anna, Peter, James, Nathan and Phillip. He and Mum would travel to Roma, Brisbane and Hervey Bay regularly to attend important events and just to spend time with them. His devotion to and love for his grandchildren was returned by all of them manifold. I can remember my son Peter watching Grandpa chainsawing a house stump and copying Grandpa with his toy chainsaw on another house stump. You only need to look carefully at the slide show to see the joy on Dad's face whenever he was with any of them.

In essence he came into the world and was the grateful recipient of the love of his grandparents and parents which he passed on when he became a parent and grandparent.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for attending today and being a part of his life. We will all miss you greatly Dad.

SLIM'S FIELD



The Beerwah Bulldogs Rugby League Club recently named their main field at Beerwah Sportsground in honour of life member of the Club, Dennis "Slim" Moroney.

The announcement was made at the Bulldogs season launch on 4th March. Club President Stephen Hammil spoke of Slim's unwavering support for the Club over decades, at matches and behind the scenes, and the Committee felt that this was a way of publicly recognising Slim's work and commitment.

Slim is also a long-term and committed PHC member, and we congratulate him on this well-deserved honour.

LOCAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

This is the function mentioned on page 1. The Hall Committee is hoping for support from all the groups which use the hall for their regular activities, including PHC of course. Let's hope that by next summer we can offer hirers an air-conditioned hall!

Peachester BUSH DANCE

22 APRIL 2023, DOORS OPEN 5:30PM



KICK UP YOUR HEELS AND TOES TO THE MUSIC OF
"THE LANDSCAPE BAND"
at the
PEACHESTER HALL

TICKETS: \$15 ADULTS/ \$5 CHILDREN/ \$35 FAMILY OF 4
ONLINE DISCOUNTED TICKETS: Go to EVENTBRITE.COM.AU and search for the PEACHESTER BUSH DANCE

THE PEACHESTER HALL COMMITTEE WILL BE RUNNING A SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND SWEETS, AS WELL AS THE BAR!
PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS AIRCON FOR THE HALL!



Dolce Diva

*A Singing Circle for Women
who love to sing and bring joy to the world*

Start your week off on a good note!

Experience the gift of
women singing together
in delight-full harmony in
these beautiful singing sessions
designed especially for women.

**Join us for a 10 week Autumn Singing Season
beginning March 6**

**Monday mornings 9.30am - 11.00am
at the Peachester Hall**

All women welcome!
No singing experience required

To find out more - Call Emma Creed today!

0438 619 518

from previous participants...

*"It's so gentle... and sacred... and not so serious at all."
"It's the most delicious nourishment for my heart, mind and soul."
"We really do make the world a better place when we sing together."*

Emma Creed - is a Community Music Educator and Sound Healer. In her own unique, gentle, holistic and light-hearted style, Emma creates a sacred, safe and super-fun space for experiencing new levels of Self Expression - moment by moment, breath by breath.



www.facebook.com/EmmaCreedAU

ADVICE FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Many PHC members dabble in their family history as well as our shared research on local history. These "golden rules" could be applied to both. While most of our readers are way ahead of the basic processes, these hints remind us of some important research principles we should never overlook. The following hints are part of a larger chart – you can follow it up yourself online at www.gotgenealogy.com

gotgenealogy.com's

GOLDEN RULES OF GENEALOGY

"SPELING DUSN'T COWNT"

1 Back in the day folks couldn't spell and many could barely write, so how a name sounds is more



important than how it's spelled. Use wild card or Soundex searches to help find variant spellings of names.

documents have different dates. Which date is "correct?" They all are.

IF UNSURE, SAY SO

6 Future researchers will thank you for being honest if you simply say that you cannot prove a specific fact, yet you "suspect" such and such is true. Don't fudge the facts. **Ever.**



ASSUME NOTHING

2 Check all your facts, don't assume that any particular document is right or wrong, and always try to find other independent sources to corroborate your facts as much as possible. Verify, verify, verify. For instance, don't assume:

- your ancestors were married
- census information is accurate
- vital (or other) records were correct
- your ancestor's life events were recorded
- ancestors had the same name as their enslaver

USE DISCRETION

3 **Never lie** in your genealogy reports, but use discretion when reporting family information, especially when it involves living relatives.

ALWAYS DOCUMENT YOUR SOURCES, NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY CONTRADICT ONE ANOTHER

4 Over time, you will compile more data and those seemingly contradictory pieces of evidence may prove to be just the pieces of the puzzle you need to prove or disprove your theory. Be consistent as you cite your sources. There are standard citation formats, but even if you just make up your own format for listing your sources, be consistent with it. You want your descendants to be able to retrace your steps, so **always** cite your sources.



MOST DATES ARE APPROXIMATE

5 It's okay to state that someone was born "btw 1901-1903," "abt. 1845," or died "May 1915" if you don't have an exact date or where various

YOU CANNOT DO IT ALL ONLINE

7 Yes, we love doing research online and there's nothing better than using the computer to find new sources, view digital images of original documents and even connect with relatives. For family historians, the Internet will never replace the wonderful work of libraries, county courthouses, archives, and historical societies. Do as much as you can online, then turn off your computer and hit the bricks!

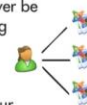


JUST BECAUSE IT'S ONLINE DOESN'T MEAN IT'S TRUE

8 The Internet is a wonderful thing but it's filled with oodles of bad information. Don't make the mistake of believing anything you find online at face value. Verify against other sources, even if you paid for the information you found online. Consult the original source whenever possible.

PASS ALONG YOUR RESEARCH

9 No matter how many decades you spend researching your family, your research will never be done. Plan on passing along your research to the next generation's researchers. Leave excellent notes, cite all your sources, explain your shorthand ... in essence, leave your research the way you'd have liked to have found it.



SPREAD THE WORD

You have our permission to use/publish these Golden Rules as much as you like. Just give us credit for them, okay?

CAN YOU RELATE?



PHC OUT AND ABOUT

Photos: Trudy and Jan with Jim Hall display at Beerwah Library, so many birthday celebrations, Peachester School classes visiting, Landscape Band at Irish film evening, Roadrunners Car Club visit the Heritage Centre, and Beerwah librarians checking out our displays.

