



NEWSLETTER



Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum

Opening Hours: Wednesday & Sunday 10 am – 3 pm
(other times by appointment)

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<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>

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MUSEUM NEWS

2021 Greetings - welcome back to your museum.

When we look back at 2020 and realize we have survived lock-downs, COVID, working from home, isolation, cancellations, no dancing, limited numbers at gatherings, testing, hand sanitizing, staying at home, no overseas travel, waiting, border closures, and we even know the names of all the state premiers- this last little hick-up is insignificant!

Even though the museum has been closed since December 13th, things are still happening!

Thanks everyone for going the extra mile.

Displays:

Please check out displays in the community.

Currently we have displays in The Professionals windows in Brighton Road and 4th Avenue. Also two displays in Zillmere library. Thanks to Lynne Ives for permitting a display of her quilts.

Facebook Change:

Check out our new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>



Help Wanted:

Keen gardener or just keen to help out with gardening at the Museum – please call Pam.

COMING EVENTS

Monday 15 February	9.30 am	Management Committee Meeting (<i>all welcome</i>)
Saturday 15th May	1.30 pm	Launch of “Voices from the Past” – Town Hall

FROM THE PAST

Skating rink in Sandgate



The Victoria skating Park created by Mr George Jessop on a piece of land overlooking the jetty. Mr Hiram Wakefield, Mayor of Sandgate declared the rink open with a display of fireworks on the high cliff opposite the rink.

The public then rushed onto the skating floor but as no chalk had been laid down it was terribly slippery and falls were numerous. When the finishing touches have been given this will be the best floor in the colony.

(Brisbane Courier: 22.10.1888)

***Anyone able to pinpoint the exact location of the skating rink???*

Nashville

The locality known as Nashville or Nashville Hill took its name from James Nash who found gold in the Gympie area on 16 October 1867 according to older inhabitants.

(By the Seaside: No 65 27.05.1991)

WARTIME PILOTS CRASH IN THE SEA

(Grace Beecher – Bayside Star: 2/06/2010 page 37)

Many years ago I did the research and a talk on the two Airacobra aircraft that crashed into the sea opposite our local RAAF station (Lt Ferguson in the morning and Lt Joseph Cole in the afternoon) during the 1935-45 war.

While the Americans were in the Strathpine-Petrie area (then housing three aerodromes) there were seven accidents in planes resulting in deaths.

Lt Coles' body was never recovered and I knew all Americans who died (in any way) in Queensland were buried in a separate section in Ipswich Cemetery for Americans. As I was in touch with the US Army I enquired "would all these Americans be buried in the same area?"

They wrote back stating this was not the case, each person would be buried or cremated in their own hometown. Americans wherever humanly possible always bring home their dead.

One day in 1947, when all caskets were borne on gun carriers through the streets of Brisbane, 30,000 people lined the city streets to pay homage.

The date of the two plane accidents was July 15 1942 near Brighton RAAF base (now Eventide retirement home).

A similar accident occurred in World War 11 when two English planes collided above Young's Crossing Road, Joyner (top end of Petrie). A memorial is now situated in the area where these planes collided, thanks to then Pine Rivers Shire Mayor Yvonne Chapman. The two English pilots are buried in the war section of Lutwyche Cemetery.

SEA GIVES UP DEAD MAN'S RING

(Truth: 26/10/1947)

There has been a strange sequel to the fatal crash of an American war transport plane into the sea off Sandgate on July 15, 1942.

In the crash G I Joseph Coles was presumably killed and his body was never found. But recently a ring he was wearing on the flight was dug out of the mud on the toes of a little girl paddling on the foreshores of Sandgate.

Mrs Eileen Mateer of Newmarket with a party of her children and her parents was fishing off Deepwater Bend and left the children playing on the foreshores. When they returned, five year old daughter Mary showed her mother a large gold ring which she had dug out in the mud on her toes.

The ring was inscribed in raised letters, "The Citadel. The Military College of S C 1842" and in the centre was a raised palm tree with the number "40". Inscribed inside the ring was "Joseph P Coles, Kingstree, South Carolina, U.S."

Mrs Mateer wrote to this address and now has had a grateful letter from the mother of the deceased Joseph P Coles. Extracts from the letter read, "...You can imagine what a new grief it was for us to know that this ring which was so dear to him had been washed up by the sea. This was his college ring which his sweetheart placed on his finger at the Christmas dance (called "the Ring Dance") in his senior year the Citadel. We were there looking on, proud and happy never dreaming that in so short a time he would go to a watery grave"



Airacobra

P J CARSELDINE'S MILK RUN

(By the Seaside: No 104, 22/08/1994)

In 1920 Percy J Carseldine took over the family farm at Bald Hills which had been established by his Grandfather, William Carseldine in 1858 (see Bulletins 21 & 22). It was one of the first pieces of land selected at Bald Hills along with farms of the Stewarts and Duncans. By 1920 it was primarily a dairy farm and in line with the custom of the day of naming farms it was called "Fairfield".

In 1928, in order to sell the farm's milk direct to the public Percy purchased a milk run around the Sandgate area from J Gold who had a farm in what is now Depot Road, Deagon. The purchase included a horse drawn milk cart and the services of a lad to assist with the deliveries and help on the farm.

The cart had space for two, 10 gallon (45 litre) milk cans which were fitted with taps. The taps protruded from the rear of the cart and at each customer's house depending on their requirements, a half pint, pint or quart measure was filled from the tap and taken into the house and poured into a receptical. This was usually a jug or billy can but some of them were rather unusual containers. This was usually left in a convenient location such as at the top of the front steps or porch. Some customers paid daily, some weekly or monthly and few never!

This was known as a warm milk run. Warm milk was defined as milk delivered to the customer within six hours of being drawn from the last cow in the herd. It was before the large companies came into existence with their large pasteurising plants. Because it was not treated or refrigerated in any way it had to be delivered to the customer in a relatively short space of time hence the time limit on delivery. Also as homes did not yet have refrigerators (some had ice boxes) it was necessary to make two deliveries a day. As there was no such thing as zoning for milk runs a vendor would try to obtain customers from wherever possible.



Keith Bryce - Warm Milk Delivery – Sandgate: 1937 - 1957

SANDGATE RIFLE RANGE

August 1914, Rev A Maxwell (Rector of Sandgate) who had been a Captain of a Rifle Club in Victoria held a meeting for the formation of the Sandgate Rifle Club.

The Sandgate Rifle Club Miniature Rifle range was behind the Ice Works below St Margaret's Church on Rainbow Street. It was opened in the quarry formed when white clay was extracted to fill the swamp around Einbunpin Lagoon and the Post Office area around 1912.

There was a double wall filled with sand and a wall on the side with a shack in front with the firing mound. The range was illuminated by acetylene gas lights aided by tin reflectors.

.22 calibre rifles were used. Shooters were the first to use "clean bore ammunition" (after use the rifles did not need to be cleaned).



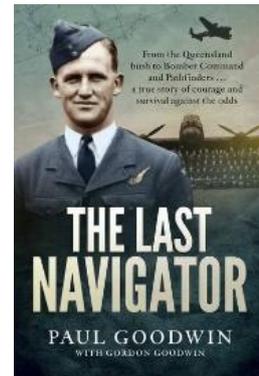
Cyril Verney of Sandgate Rifle Club - 1957

The club existed until 1932 and only terminated with the demolition of the Ice Works.

ADDITION TO MUSEUM LIBRARY

"The Last Navigator" by Paul Goodwin was donated to the museum. Paul thanked the museum for the help and research (refer Chapter 3).

An extraordinary first-person story of a boy from the Queensland bush who survived the dangers of Bomber Command to become Qantas' last navigator.



DISCOVERY OF THE MONTH

Following a research enquiry about a "D'Arcy Collection" which was cited in a publication by Beenleigh Rum, we pieced together knowledge from near and far, and unearthed the collection – it is a collection of glass picture slides which were donated by Yvonne D'Arcy.

Thanks to our Local Sponsors

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