



NEWSLETTER



Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum

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

Phone: 3869 2283 Email: info@sandgatemuseum.com.au Web: <http://www.sandgatemuseum.com.au>
<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>

November 2022 - Vol 3

MUSEUM NEWS

The museum and society have had a busy and productive year, having welcomed many visitors and helped many people with family history, information about houses and general historical inquiries.

The museum was a part of the inaugural Open House Villages of Brisbane event in August and had a very successful day with over 150 visitors to the museum, many enjoying our Devonshire Tea.



Goodbye and best wishes to member Hilda Beijnon who has moved home to Holland to live. Unfortunately, we farewelled two stalwart members and supporters. Vale Grace Beecher and Grace Cowen.

COMING UP IN 2023

- **Presentation of the Museum Operational Sustainability Plan** to take place at the museum at 10 am on Tuesday 28 February 2023. You are cordially invited to attend
Please RSVP by Tuesday 21 February 2023
- **Tea with History** - our first for the year. Thursday, 23 February 10 am. Book early - Ph 3869 2283

VOLUNTEERS

The museum functions thanks to the hard work and dedication of its volunteers. There's always room for more! Please drop in on Wednesday or Sunday to have a chat. We are looking particularly for someone interested in old houses, photography and walking. We have an extensive archive of photos and information on many of the beautiful old homes of our area and need an enthusiastic person to assist with keeping it up to date.



CHRISTMAS BREAK

The museum will be closed for the Christmas/New Year holidays from Monday, 19 December to Wednesday, 18 January.



Wishing all supporters of the Historical Society & Museum a very Happy Christmas and a relaxing and safe holiday season

SOME CHRISTMAS MUSINGS



Christmas Festivities

Christmas for our forefathers in Sandgate (“the premier seaside watering place for the city of Brisbane”) was a busy time. Those of a religious bent flocked to churches. At Christmas 1898, St Nicolas was well attended and “beautifully decorated with palms and flowers” including frangipani and marguerite daisies. Naturally, “anthems and carols were well sung” and, perhaps in deference to the waiting Christmas repast, Canon Matthews “preached short sermons”.

Local businesses, especially the bakers, certainly got into the spirit. In 1887, the *Moreton Mail* described the festive array of goodies in the windows of the shops of two of them, Mr Bott and Mr Dow, as “specialities in the eating line” such as cake, plums and currants, “which made the passers-by positively lick their lips as they passed”.

Christmas Holidays

Among those passers-by were undoubtedly some of the many holidaymakers who descended on the area in their thousands. The *Telegraph* tells us that on 27 December 1897 “about 3000 persons went down by train in the morning”. Spare a thought for the railway workers. The revellers congregated at Moora Park and along Flinders Parade. “Demand for refreshments”, said the paper, “appeared to be brisk”. No doubt the pubs did a roaring trade.



Sandgate by the Sea, 12 miles by rail from Central Station.



Shorncliffe 1934

Christmas Cricket

What else is a Christmas ritual? Well, there's cricket. In Sandgate, the first cricket eleven played under the auspices of the Gordon Club, started by Canon Matthews in 1897 to encourage the sporting endeavours of the youth of the Anglican Church, although the game was played informally well before that. In 1895, the *Queensland Times* reported on an interesting game in Sandgate in which a team of 18 girls played nine boys, "all born cricketers". "According to the paper, "a unique afternoon's amusement" was provided by the spectacle. The writer concluded that "there is already some talk of founding a girls' cricket club". Tell that to the Queensland Heat.



Christmas Mozzies



Especially for those who live close to mangroves, Christmas time has some less happy associations. Think the incessant whine of the mosquito, think the slapping at and squishing them – too late, it's got you – and then, inevitably, there's the scratching. Happily, in the early 1930s, Mr Bill King, a local businessman, launched a counter-offensive against these annoying pests.

He set up a mosquito coil factory in Deagon Street, Nashville,

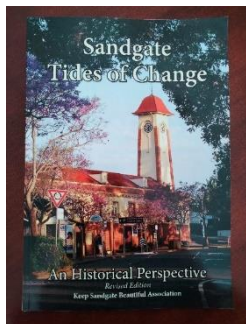


moving later to Braun St, Deagon. Again, spare a thought for the workers of this enterprise who had to deal with toxic

and unpleasant ingredients, twisting the coils by hand and leaving at the end of the day with their arms covered in the green dye used to colour them.

TEA WITH HISTORY

A cup of tea with a historical twist is on offer at the Museum
The last Thursday of every month at 10 am
Bookings necessary - \$10
(Numbers are limited)
Phone: 3869 2283
First for 2023: Thursday 23 February



TIDES OF CHANGE – Christmas Gift Idea

The new edition of *Tides of Change* is now available at the Museum for \$20.00. This would make a wonderful Christmas gift.

Tides of Change was originally written by Maree McDonald in 1997 and republished in 2009. The third edition was published by KSBA to coincide with their 50th anniversary celebrations.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES – still not too late

Membership is vital for the museum to run - without your assistance the society could not function. Thank you.

Annual membership fees were due April 1 2022
Single: \$20 Family: \$30
Payment options: At the museum by card, cash or cheque, or direct debit
(BSB: 084 365 Account: 52 501 9521)
(Please use your name as a reference on direct deposits)



MUSEUM ENTRY FEES

Adult \$5
Child \$3



FACEBOOK

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/SandgateHistoricalMuseum>

Thanks to our Local Sponsors

The Full Moon Hotel DSE Pest Management
Matthew Thomas Café

Sandgate & District Historical Society & Museum Inc is proudly supported by Brisbane City Council



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