



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>

February 2023 - Vol 1

MUSEUM NEWS

A new year brings with it hopes for health, happiness and prosperity as well as ideas and plans for projects and activities. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Sandgate & District Historical Museum and we, in the spirit of those who went before us, embark on 2023 with renewed vigour and rekindled enthusiasm for bringing the history of Sandgate and surrounding districts alive. We want to share our knowledge of the interesting, important, quirky and entertaining events and people of the past, all of which have made our lovely area the place it is today.

So, happy 2023 to all. Please tell your friends and visitors about us and do drop in to the museum yourself – we might have something amazing to tell you about your great-grandmother, your house or your first school. We might be able to identify that weird old object you found in the back shed and we can definitely give you information about our historic and beautiful suburbs.

HISTORY OF THE SANDGATE MUSEUM

The inaugural meeting of the Sandgate & District Historical Society and Museum was held in 1982 and in 1989 the society became incorporated, with a constitution outlining the aims of the association. All that was lacking was a home and in 1993, with the aid of a Queensland Government grant, the society purchased the old Jehovah's Witness Hall at 150 Rainbow Street, Sandgate.



COMING UP

- **Monthly Management Meeting** - Wednesday 15 February, 10.15 am
- **Tea with History** – Thursday 23 February, 10 am - our first for the year
- **Presentation of the Museum Operational Sustainability Plan** - Tuesday 28 February, 10:00 am
Please RSVP by Tuesday 21 February
- **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** - Sunday 23 April at 2:00 pm at the Museum
- **Visits to Redcliffe Community Bus Group** - May 23, June 6 and July 18
- **Sandgate State School** - celebrating 150th anniversary this year.

TRANSPORT DISPLAY



What do you remember about the early days of travel in and around Sandgate and Shorncliffe?

The theme of the museum's current display is transport in old Sandgate and Shorncliffe.

Come and view the interesting historical artefacts and photos that illustrate the way our forebears got around.

The museum would love you to share any memories, stories, conversations and/or pictures you may have of early transport in our area.

Also check out our Facebook page for more local travel stories from the past.

TEA WITH HISTORY

Come and enjoy a cup of tea with a historical twist for only \$10.00
The last Thursday of every month at 10:00 am
Bookings necessary. Please phone: 3869 2283 (*Numbers are limited*)
First for 2023: Thursday 23 February 2023



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to long-time member Iris Dean for her 92nd on 6 February. Wishing Iris and all supporters of the museum all the best for the coming year.



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.



NEW YEAR MUSINGS

In keeping with the New Year good wishes expressed in this newsletter, we provide some glimpses of New Year celebrations past.

Sad to relate, New Year's eve in 1890 "did not display any particularly lively feature" with the exception of "here and there a band of juniors ... with the annual fireworks attendant on the last day of the year". A somewhat more sedate New Year activity was the "magic lantern lecture" illustrating parts of Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, offered by Mr Richard Kingsford at the Baptist Church.



New Year's Day crowd at Sandgate 1907

Things had picked up by 1894 when New Year's Day was celebrated with a regatta and "sports in Cabbage Tree Creek". To facilitate the attendance of spectators, the regatta committee hoped that they could lease the Shorncliffe pier or, if that were not possible, to establish whether it could be opened to the public "at their own risk" – hardly a ringing endorsement of the safety of the pier. Danger notwithstanding, "the Sandgate Town Band will be in attendance [to provide] music throughout the day".

By 1899, New Year in Sandgate was a little more boisterous, with the crews competing in the annual regatta coming ashore, pitching tents and "mingling together" to spend the evening "in a happy manner, telling yarns and singing sea songs". Fortunately, as reported by the *Brisbane Courier*, "nothing approaching rowdyism occurred" although on the stroke of midnight "crackers, rockets etc were let off all over the place, bells rang, whistles blew" and 1900 was ushered in to the tune of *Auld Lang Syne*.

In 1906, when cars were still very uncommon and motoring was a rarity, holidaying novelty seekers in Sandgate were treated to joyrides along the seafront. In fact, as the *Brisbane Courier* tells us, "owing to the number of people unable to have a motor ride on Boxing Day", Messrs Boyle and Browne – responding to high demand – "have decided to run both cars along the Esplanade" on New Year's day. Exciting times indeed.

A more culinary celebration was planned in 1912, when a "grand picnic supper", advertised as "Ye Olde English Feast", was to be offered to the "many city and suburban people who spend their New Year's Eve at Sandgate". This repast would involve "the roasting of an ox". Also on offer were "open-air amusements, [a] promenade concert, and music and village dances", the festivities to be illuminated by "400 coloured and fairy lamps".



Patriotic carnival at Sandgate, New Year's Day 1918

For the convenience of visitors, "a special midnight train will leave Sandgate Central Station at 12.15".

In 1916, no doubt affected by wartime austerity, things were very much more subdued. As reported, rather sadly, by the *Telegraph*, "the only local attractions in the evening were the picture shows on the pier and at the Town Hall."

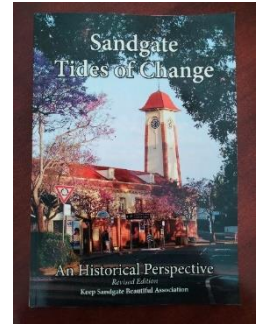
FOR SALE AT THE MUSEUM

TIDES OF CHANGE

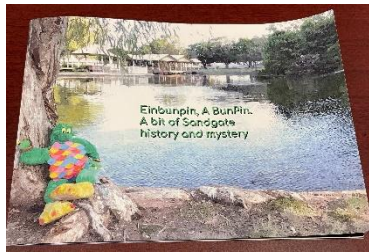
The new edition of *Tides of Change* is now available at the Museum for \$20.00.

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.



EINBUNPIN, A BUNPIN: a bit of Sandgate history and mystery



A special history of Sandgate written by local author, Dr Deborah Cronou for younger readers for only \$10.00.

Deborah has kindly donated all proceeds from the sale of the book to the museum.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

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

Annual membership fees for 2023 are due in April

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 OPENING HOURS

Sunday and Wednesday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

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



Dedicated to a better Brisbane