



Nobelius Heritage Park & Emerald Museum

Newsletter No. 11

Summer 2015-2016

Moving forward

Since a new committee was elected in July, the Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum has been a hive of activity.

Four grants amounting to \$25,000 were received in 2015 which will ensure the continued development and preservation of the museum's collection.

A grant was also provided for the assessment of the Nobelius Collection, which is registered as of National Significance.

Fireproof shutters have been installed under a Cardinia Shire Council's Capital Works grant with the museum matching the funds on a 50/50 basis.

A grant for a conservation needs assessment will be used to support the storage and preservation of our collection, and funds have been obtained for a roving curator to plan and display a new exhibition covering the history of Carl Axel Nobelius.

The garden around the museum is also being upgraded by council, including the installation of new directional signs, and interpretative panels about significant trees and other plantings.

Season's greetings

The management committee and volunteers wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. We will be closed between December 19 and Sunday, January 3. Our 2016 opening hours are Wednesday 10am-3pm and Sunday 1.30pm-4pm. The museum is located in Nobelius Heritage Park, 5 Crichton Rd, Emerald (Melways ref 127, G4).

Award for Roy

Roy Kendall's lifetime commitment to supporting the Emerald and district community has been honored with a 2015 La Trobe Community Award.

He was nominated by Nobelius Heritage Park and Emerald Museum, where Roy has been a committee member for more than 10 years.

Roy recalls learning in the original schoolroom at Macclesfield Primary School and working as a 13 year-old bringing timber out of the Beenak area for cartage to a Port Melbourne sawmill.

As a keen historian, Roy's memories of living and working in the Emerald, Macclesfield, Cockatoo and Gembrook areas is an invaluable asset.

"People don't remember the past and can't image what it must have been like travelling on horseback to school or to the shops. It's good that the museum helps to celebrate these times," he said.

Roy with Marj and Jason Wood.



We are seeking volunteers to join a roster for Sundays from 1.30pm-4pm. Contact the museum on (03) 5968 2151 for details.

A walk through time

The museum has hosted two external exhibitions this year thanks to the support of local resident, Kerry Champness.

Kerry's expansive collection of walking sticks continues to be exhibited at the museum along with a few special items from his display of wooden boxes launched during winter.

The exhibitions were appreciated by visits from Gembrook Seniors Club and Selby Primary School Grade 1 and 2 students, as well as many locals and tourists.

The exhibitions add to the museum's broad collection of artefacts along with displays detailing the life and times of this area from the late 1800s. Sections cover goldmining, timber, tourism and farming, along with education, sport, writers and pioneer women.

The history of Nobelius patriarch Carl and his family is also displayed, and the museum is hoping to tell a much bigger story of the Nobelius family and other district pioneers with a special exhibition later in 2016.

Museum president Chris Britton called for information and ideas about these early settlers so the exhibition can be expansive.

"Photos, memorabilia, diaries and other items will be most appreciated along with any memories or stories they may have been told over the years," she said. Contact Emerald Museum on (03) 5968 2152 or enquiries@emeraldmuseum.org.au



Kerry holds two of the more unusual walking sticks in his collection.

Glimpse of the past

A section of diary written in the 1890s by a local woman has prompted an enquiry to the Emerald Museum by the woman's family.

At age 22, Alice Jarvis arrived in Melbourne by ship from England to keep house for her brothers Walter and Ted. She described living on a property in the "Dandenong state forest village settlement" and that their supplies and mail came from Macclesfield.

Alice explained about fruit picking and taking the produce to Nobelius Nursery. She also wrote that the railway (Puffing Billy) would come soon which would save going to Lilydale to send fruit to Melbourne.

Having gained a personal glimpse of Alice's life in the 1890s, her descendants would like to learn more. If anyone can help please contact Emerald Museum at enquiries@emeraldmuseum.org.au