



GEMBOREE 2011

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

August 2010 – Edition 1

Bathurst Showgrounds, Bathurst – Easter – 22nd – 25th April, 2011

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Welcome to the first email Information Newsletter which will be sent to anyone who registers for the GEMBOREE 2011 and has supplied an email address or people who may wish to visit over the four days. If you do not wish to receive these emails then simply send me an email saying as such and I will remove you from the email newsletter list. Remember any suggestions or additions would be appreciated and considered.

The newsletter will include information on the GEMBOREE 2011 and associated activities as well as what there is to see in and around Bathurst and district, including some of its historic past. There will be snippets on local mining, the payable gold discovery near Bathurst, tourist attractions and more. I hope you enjoy it and if you have friends feel free to have them send their email address to amcrae@lisp.com.au. This will also be found on the Gem and Lapidary Council's website at www.gemlapidarycouncilnsw.org.au where the competition schedule, registration form, tailgating form and heaps more information can be found.

This newsletter is in pdf format for easy emailing.

Alan McRae

GEMBOREE 2011 CONTACTS

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A WORD FROM THE CO-ORDINATOR

Hello, Im Ernst Holland the Co-Ordinator for the GEMBOREE 2011. We were very pleased with the response we had to the GEMBOREE in Bathurst over Easter 2005. This time we are endeavouring to have an even a better show with field trips, dealers, displays, competitions and many more activities over the four days. So please put us in the planner as we all looking forward to seeing you at Bathurst in 2011.

GEMBOREE 2011 LOCAL FIELD TRIPS

Field trips for the GEMBOREE 2011 are still being organised with gold being the theme for next year's events.

GEMBOREE 2011 PROGRAMME

Once the GEMBOREE 2011 Programme has been completed later this year it will appear in this newsletter.

HISTORIC GOLD ATTRACTION

For those visitors coming to Bathurst for the GEMBOREE 2011, and either arriving early or staying longer, will want to visit the historic goldmining village of Hill End and Tambaroora which had its most famous gold rush in the 1870s during which time 'Holtermann's Nugget' was found. Wattle Flat and Sofala is on the way, these two villages being in significant gold bearing areas in the 1800s and 1900s. Gold is still found around here.



There are still a number of original houses, banks and some restored businesses left in Hill End, one being the famous "Great Western Store" of Henry Stuart. There is also the (working) Royal Hotel.

Henry Stuart was born in Bonhill, Dumbartonshire

in Scotland on 13th February, 1829. Henry arrived in Australia from Scotland in 1848 on the "Bermondsey". He married Mary McCarthy on 20th March, 1854, in Wattle Flat. Mary was the daughter of Daniel McCarthy and Honorah Denahy. The couple later established a store in Wattle Flat, opening on 19th September, 1864, which was later known as Ireland's Store when Mary Ireland, who was related to Mary Stuart, took over. Henry also purchased a block of land at Wattle Flat, next door to St Thomas Church of England and a block at Hill End with Mr. W.T. Pullen. It was on the corner of Dennison and William Streets. He constructed his Western Store premises in 1872.

In February 1873 Stuart and some others applied for Mining Lease No 4962 on the Lower Turon. Henry Stuart was elected an Alderman in Hill End in November 1873. Henry and Mary left Hill End after the end of the goldrush and settled in Redfern in Sydney. Henry died in Redfern on 18th July, 1901, aged 72 years.

KEEN JUNIORS IN OUR CLUB



For members of the Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc it is not hard not to notice the enthusiasm of James (on left) and Sam Gordon, seen here with their tourmaline specimens that they collected last year. They plan to place some entire in the competitive section at the GEMBOREE 2011. They can be often seen reading or looking through rock, mineral and fossil books at our meetings. Their enthusiastic eyes soon locate specimens on field trips and they both have a nice collection of specimens.

BATHURST'S ROYAL HOTEL

One of the most famous old hotels of Bathurst was finally restored over a decade ago and is once again a spectacular landmark. Built in William Street on an acre of land the 'Royal Hotel' started out as one of Bathurst's earliest inns known as the "Good Woman". It initially started as a single storey brick building when Bathurst and district had some 3,500 inhabitants. Nicholas Read opened this inn in July 1843. Nicholas Read bought the land for £950 with the building erected on part of Allotments 8 and 9.

Nicholas Read was not new to the hotel business as he had been licensee of another local inn which had also been named the "Good Woman", it too being located in William Street somewhere between Durham and Howick Streets for some three years previously.



Bathurst District Historical Society Photo –

There are two restaurants currently in the restored Royal Hotel that you can visit for coffee or a meal whilst here for the GEMBOREE 2011. Enjoy its hospitality and there is also a woodworking gallery in the building as well. You can even stay in it on the top floor as there are apartments.

DID YOU KNOW?

* Even though gold was discovered in payable quantities near Bathurst in 1851 but it was the 1860s and 1870s that were the golden years of New South Wales' gold mining activity. The Government of New South Wales decided in 1861 to legislate to control the various Gold Mining Companies that were being formed to undertake underground mining, this being due to scarcer amounts of surface alluvial gold. The act was known as the Limited Mining Partnership Act of 1861. Within its provisions the agents for each new mining company were required to publish in the New South Wales Government Gazette certain particulars. Within basically the next two decades some 23,000 people purchased new shares and there were some 450 gold mining companies established in this state alone.

* One gold mine at Hill End and Tambaroora, some 53 miles on horseback or mailcoach from Bathurst, boasted a return of gold that wasn't even crushed. In the Hickson, Creighton and Beard's mine the miners located a flat layer of gold which they were just able to roll up. After taking the roll of gold to the surface it was weighed – proving to be just less than a massive 3,000 ounces. Despite such finds it was to be Krohmann's claim, on the southern end of the field, which was to be the richest on the field.

Alan McRae – GEMBOREE 2011 Publicity Officer and Newsletters Editor