

The Village Clarion



Friends of the Loxton Historical Village Newsletter No. 14 February-March 2009

Editorial

Mid January to early February was a very hot period not very conducive to volunteering at the Village! Jeff Schiller did paint & varnish the shop doors, and I suspect the “wet paint” sign would hardly be necessary with the very short drying time!

The Exhibit Committee has put extra time into processing the backlog of forms which we now use to receive and recommend object donations for accession. I am pleased to say the process is working better as we all get familiar with the required steps.

Looking at the next two months activities in the Diary Dates, there is a lot to prepare for and to do. One of the aspects of “village life” that interests me is how to build a better team attitude amongst our volunteers. There are potential volunteers out there who would like to be a part of our projects and help us in what we do. None of us are getting any younger, so all the more reason to have a succession plan in place, with every effort to pass on the special skills and knowledge that we have to those willing to learn. One urgent need is to have more people learn the starting procedures for our many engine exhibits. I hope we can make a start on this in March, as we plan to make more of this feature on our Easter Alive Day.

Diary dates

Saturday Feb. 28th Loxton Mardi Gras parade and activities
Sunday 1st March 8am Church Service followed by catered breakfast. (Helpers at 7.30am please)

Tuesday 3rd March, 2pm Accreditation committee

Thursday March 12, 4pm **Friends of the Village**, Institute

Thursday 19th March LHV Bingo at Loxton Club

Sunday 22nd March, Spirit Australia Cruise upstream.

Tuesday 24th March, 5.15pm **Management Committee**.

Thursday 26th March, Spirit Australia Cruise, downstream.

Thursday 2nd April, 10am, Bordertown VIC visit.

Saturday 4th April, **Bus Trip to NHMA Field Day** at

Murray bridge 7am (sharp) departure. Check your pocket for the itinerary. (Book with Ed or Shirley)

Thursday 9th April, 4pm, **Friends of the Village**, Institute

Sunday 12th April **Village Alive**, Singer Car Club visiting.

Tuesday 28th April, 5.15pm, **Management Committee**.

Further Ahead: (History Trust of SA activities)

Tuesday 12th –Wednesday 13th May, Disaster Preparedness Workshop at the Village.

SA History Week, 22nd to 31st May.

May 27th-29th, LHV planning “The Village comes to Town”, the Pie Cart and the Carousel.

Mark these in your diary or on your calendar, and see if you can help with these activities

Friends of the Loxton Historical Village

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Education		
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Exhibit Signs

Over several years, Ross Coombs has been patiently repainting the numerous exhibit signs throughout the Village. A recent inspection showed that many of these signs



have deteriorated due

to exposure to the elements, and Ross could see he would be going over them again!

We have taken digital images of most of the signs now, and are keen to have the worst ones repainted professionally. Obviously, this important work can only proceed as our finances allow. Ross (pictured) shows a sign for the Fordson half track that will need to be repainted soon. Below are two examples of signs needing attention!





Project Update:

The Cellar:
 Work began in December, and is now complete, thanks to “Shine” Stanitski, Allan Hucks and Melvin Fielke, seen here applying dribond to the salt damp affected walls



The tractor gang: Melvin, Fielke, Ron Menz and Trevor Earl were present for the first run of the Fordson Half Track down the Village main street on February 23rd. This project also involved mechanical assistance from Laurie Mann, and the result is the combination of three tractors.

New steps, a fine hand rail and rendered walls

“Johnny” Schmaal cleaned and repainted many of the items on display.

A big thank you to all involved!



Other projects now in our sights are:

- Refurbishment of Loxton’s Hut
- The long awaited toilets!
- The display in the thatched roof shed.

Reminder ! Have you paid your July to June subs?

Our Treasurer Deb Schiller reminds Friends of the Village of their annual \$5 subs! Subscriptions are used to offset costs of running the Committee and projects of value to all members.

For editorial material, diary dates , contributions or comment, please contact Richard Wood: Phone/fax: 8584 7718
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Closing date for the next Clarion : Monday March 23rd 2009
The views expressed in “The Village Clarion” are solely the views and opinions of the contributors, and not necessarily those of the Management Committee or the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. At the time of printing, the Editor believes the information contained in this newsletter is true and correct, errors and omissions excepted.



Alec Pocock recalled it took him six weeks to clear 240 acres of Mallee shoots near Paruna with a similar half-track Fordson tractor. The work was done with rubber tyres on the front! (Modern equipment would handle that job in just a few days!)

Laurie Jolly (left) and Laurie Mann were helping at the October Village Alive Day.

Laurie Jolly has been a reliable Trolley (quad) operator for many years.

Laurie Mann has recently joined our Friends group and has an interest in tractor and machinery restoration.

