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The Proston Post

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JULY 2017

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Ambassador**
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Lake Boondooma Current Capacity

49.9%

In the Rain Gauge

Total for June
at Proston
Post Office
8.8mm
Yearly Total
377.2mm



Proston's Last Dairy Farmer

It's 5pm on a winter's evening and while most of us are winding down for the day and heading indoors, Steve Wilkinson is on his 4-wheeler bringing in his 80 odd dairy cows for the final milking of the day. While Steve rounds up the herd, his mum Ronda is busily getting things organised in the Dairy.

Ronda, her late husband Allan and son Steve purchased the dairy farm in October 2001 and since then have made significant improvements. A 10-a-side herringbone dairy has been installed with an automatic feeding system, as well as an automatic computerised calf feeding system, which identifies each calf by their eartag and calculates and dispenses the right amount of warmed milk for that calf.

The dairy herd is made up of Friesian Jersey cross cows and

they are fed 3kg of dairy meal twice a day. The meal is bought from Goldmix Stockfeeds and Steve adds extra protein meal to the ration as well as rolling out 2 round bales of grassy green panic hay each day.

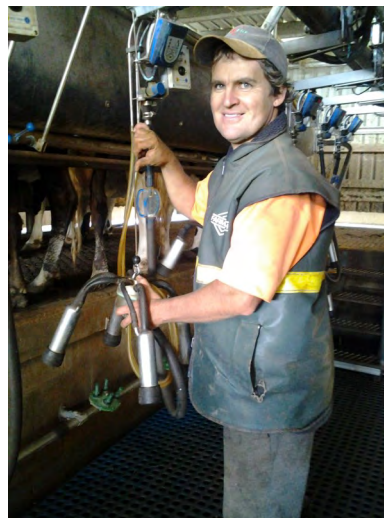
The milk is sold to Pauls and is stored in huge refrigerated vats until it is picked up by the milk tanker every 2nd day and taken

to Nambour or South Brisbane and occasionally Rockhampton for processing. Production at present is approx. 500 litres a day.

Steve and Ronda explained: "Each milking takes about 2 hours and then another hour to wash up and clean everything. This happens twice a day, 7 days a week." This is the last remaining dairy farm in the Proston district and while it's not a life for everyone, Steve and Ronda obviously enjoy it.

By 8.15pm the evening milking is finished and they finally head home for their evening meal. Tomorrow the routine will start all over again with the morning milking at 6am.

So the next time you reach for a bottle of precious white stuff, spare a thought for the dedicated dairy farmers like Steve & Ronda who make it all possible.



Steve Wilkinson at work in his Dairy

Lions Club Changeover

Proston Lions Club held their Changeover Dinner at the Proston Bowls Club recently. New office bearers are President Raymond Dionysius, Secretary Del Blanch and Treasurer Les Blanch.

Outgoing President Hec Dionysius presented Robyn Grivell with a

Community Defibrillator which was purchased with a grant obtained from the sale of Lion's Christmas Cakes and funds raised by Proston Rural Supplies through customer participation in the Rewardle Program. The Defibrillator will be located in the business area of



Blake Street and training will be provided free of charge by our Ambulance to any interested persons. Great work Proston Lions & Proston Rural Supplies!

Councillor Kathy's Comments



Cr Kathy Duff

Make sure you catch the "Unlocking Proston" Photo Exhibition during the month of July.

I am honoured to be on the BIEDO Board. BIEDO stands for Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation. The CEO is our very own local, Kristy Frahm. Kristy has done an amazing job steering the organisation with a focus on building business and community resilience.

The Women in Ag Days have been an opportunity for rural women to

network with other like-minded women and also learn from some great keynote speakers.

The Open House events have been an opportunity for business people to share ideas and view a wide range of resources available to help support businesses both existing and start-up.

I attended the BIEDO Think Digital Workshop where we learnt about virtual reality

and other amazing technology to promote businesses through the digital world. For more information about BIEDO check out their website and Facebook page.

Please contact me at any time if you wish to catch up on Council matters on 0437020705.

Heritage Walk

A large group of people with an interest in Proston's history met on Saturday 24 June to take part in a Heritage Trail Walk. The walk was not only to familiarise everyone with the Heritage Trail but also to gather information for future Centenary celebrations. Only a small part of the Trail was covered and more walks will be held going forward.

The "Unlocking Proston" Photo Exhibition is being held for the month of July in the shop next to Spar Supermarket. Photos that depict Proston events,



people, places & life spanning the past century would be very welcome. These images will be collected digitally and if you go to www.facebook.com/TheProstonHC you will find a continually updated catalogue of photos. To add to this collection, email your digital

image, with a description, to TheProstonHC@gmail.com. If you need some help, please ask the volunteers at the exhibition or contact Kathy Crane on 0407091019. Follow The Proston Connection facebook page for updates.

Hivesville Market endures

The Hivesville Country Market, which began in October 2008, is still going strong thanks to the many selfless helpers, stall holders and all who support the combined communities of Proston & Hivesville. Irene McDonald and Trish O'Hanlon have been busy spreading top soil so patrons can enjoy a nice lawn, while Max & Reen Walters have

donated some hollow logs which have been planted up. Eric and Joan Spicer do a great job of entertaining the children with their ever popular Children's Free Craft Workshops and Jumping Castle.

The Proston CWA ladies and Proston Lions Club look after everyone's appetite very well with delicious burgers and morning tea goodies. The

market also enjoys the support of the Proston Angels Relay4Life Team, Coverty Community Social Club and Proston Men's Shed and feel very fortunate to have Cr Kathy Duff as their Patron.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in July and a working bee is planned for August. The market is held on the 4th Sunday of each month at Hivesville Sportsground.



Social Snippets



Athol Ramke, Evelyn Kingston, Vicki Ramke and Jim Kingston recently celebrated Evelyn's Birthday with a special trip to Jacaranda Tearooms and they loved it. Evelyn was delighted to be have her coffee served in a beautiful bone china cup.



A very big CONGRATULATIONS to Proston's Rural Ambassador entrant Kate Roberts (below), who will represent the South

Burnett Sub-Chamber at the Ekka in August. Kate was announced as winner at the 2017 Sub-Chamber Awards Evening held in Wondai recently.



- ◆ Les & Del Blanch recently enjoyed a 28 day tour of England, Wales, Scotland & Ireland. They were impressed by how green everything was.
- ◆ This month marks 20 years since the Proston Health Clinic was relocated from Blake Street to its present location adjoining the Ambulance Centre. Community Health nurses during that time include Glenda Johnson, Carmel Walsh and our current nurse Kathy Crane, who has been looking after our community so well since October 1990.

At the Library

MINIATURE GOLF

Get ready to tee off at Proston Library during the school holidays with a round of mini golf. There will be obstacles and fun galore so get your buggy to the Library on Thursday 6 July at 10am. Please phone Julie on 4168 9103 to book.

CONVERSATIONS AT THE LIBRARY

The Proston Conversations Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 10am for an informal hour of fun and merriment. All welcome.



Liz Wessling and children Katie & Paul take time out at the Library.

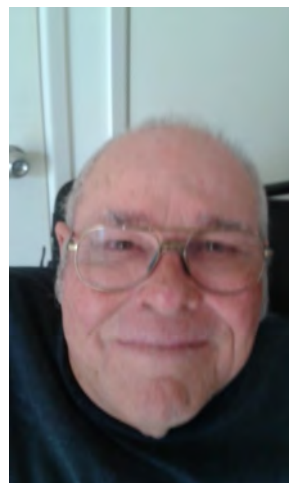
We note with sadness the recent passing of former long-time Proston resident Denny Etherington. Denny was a stalwart supporter of everything Proston, in particular the Ambulance, where he was instrumental in canvassing local residents for donations towards the building of the new Ambulance Centre. Denny was also a wonderful dancer and was much in demand as a partner for Deb Balls, Show Balls and Spring Fair Balls.

We extend our sympathy to Shirley, Murray & Teena, Lindsay & Jodie and their families.

Who's Who in the Zoo?

Gordon Constable has called Proston home for the last 10 years and he loves it. He moved to the area to be near family, staying with his nephew Russell Steer, before buying a partly built house across the road and finishing it to accommodate his wheelchair needs. Coming from Cessnock, NSW, Gordon said the Queensland weather was also an enticement. Gordon has been a great supporter of Proston Over 50's

Club and has completed 4 years as President. Since settling in Proston, Gordon has made many good friends and he and his dog Indii are a familiar sight around town. Gordon also commented that it was easier to get out and enjoy a social life here and he had come to know many nice people. His family also love to visit and he is currently enjoying a visit from his sister and her husband.



Gordon Constable

Proston Over 50's Club invite you to join them for a Social Day on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Proston Community Hall. 9.30am start with M/Tea, games, raffle, lucky door, light lunch 12 noon. Come and enjoy a game of BINGO on Friday 21 July at 9.30am. \$50 Jackpot \$2 entry inc. morning tea

Dates for your Diary

School Term 3 starts Monday 10 July

Hivesville Country Market Sunday 23 July

Church Service Times for July:

Catholic 9am Mass every Saturday

South Burnett Ministries 9.30am every Sunday

Baptist 10am on the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 2pm Bible Study on the 3rd Sunday

Proston Bowls Club
Everyone is invited every Wednesday night from 6.30pm for hot meals @ \$2.50 each, TV, darts or bring your own board games. For information and/or lift to the Club (within 5kms), ring Ian on 0418132844.



The Mindfulness Based Stillness Meditation programme run by Ros Melmeth during May was well attended and enjoyed by all. Ros will be returning on 22 August for a follow-up session. In the meantime, to keep the momentum going, those interested will meet on Tuesday evenings at the Cultural Centre from 5 - 6pm. This is an opportunity for those who would like to come along and support their meditation and relaxation practice.

Sessions are free and are aimed at helping to develop mindfulness and relaxation practices to reduce the negative effects of stress. Please bring a shawl or blanket for the cooler weather. Hope to see you there.

Kathy Crane, Community Health Nurse.

CWA Date Claimers:
Melbourne Cup Lunch
Tues 7 Nov.

Trivia Night (Australian Theme) Sat 9 Sept in conjunction with Covertly Rural Fire Brigade.

Those were the days.....

*Anyone for Tennis?
Standing at back:
Mrs Kidd, Mr
Nowland, Miss
Edwards and seated
in front:: Tom Went
and Elvin Went on
the Tennis Court at
Camden Knoll circa
1914.*



Read "The Proston Post" online at www.prostononline.info or "Like" and "Follow" the Proston Connection Facebook page.

If you have an item or photograph that you think may be of interest to your community it can be left at either NB Inspirations or Jacaranda Tearooms or alternatively email it to glrea6@bigpond.com for possible inclusion in the newsletter.