

The

Friendly Times

Newsletter No.18 Autumn 2016



FOR KING AND COUNTRY 1914 - 1919

The Serpentine Jarrahdale Library Friends Inc. is pleased to bring you details of their next event.

On Thursday 28 April 2016, between 2 and 4pm at the SJ Community Resource Centre, Linton Reynolds, researcher, historian and former Mayor of Armadale will share his research about the men and women of Serpentine Jarrahdale who left our shores to fight for King and Country between 1914-1919.

Linton will talk about the resources he used in his research and how they were interpreted to give insight into the people. He will then relate particular stories of the Serpentine Jarrahdale boys, many of whose names will be familiar.

Linton's research is ongoing so if you have treasured photographs or WW1 memorabilia he would be very grateful to view them. The information he is accumulating will finally be published into an historical volume, or possibly two, which will be treasured by all with an interest in local and world war history.

A break for refreshment at 3pm will be provided.

Please join us for an absorbing and thought provoking presentation.



Pte George Bett, AIF, 1915



*Don't forget the
next book sale!!*

Friday

8 April

**9.30am - 12
noon**

A Piece of Penned Poetry

*I've just come home from the February meeting
Of the SJ Library Friends
And Meg the Media Officer
Implied that we all need to get out our pens.*

*The next newsletter is rapidly approaching,
But it is severely lacking in lines
Of articles to fill the Autumn Edition
In the March copy of "The Friendly Times".*

*So what can I write to submit...
I need something to give Meg a smile.
I've got to come up with an article,
But it might take a while to compile.*

*Maybe I could write a book review
Or choose an author to analyse,
But I'd like to write something different
For a literary exercise.*

*I enjoy reading classic and amusing odes
From Dorothea Mackellar to funny Pam Ayres,
And from Banjo Patterson and Henry Lawson,
To name a few with poetic flairs.*

*Well maybe I could write a poem;
I could try to pen a verse or two,
But what would be the content?
Maybe the meeting notes will give me a clue.*

*The newsletter is due out in early March,
That's "The Friendly Times" Autumn Edition,
So with my pencil and paper primed,
I'm an SJ Library Friend on a mission!*

*Now autumn is a wonderful time of the year
With the weather beginning to cool down,
And the leaves on the deciduous trees
Are turning yellow and red and brown.*

*Another aspect about autumn
Is when I like to read a good mystery
While turning the leaves or pages
Of books from the Mundijong Library.*

*And now I have a piece for the newsletter.
I've just penned a verse or two.
I hope you all enjoy "The Friendly Times",
So 'til another time, I bid you adieu...*

*Jan Johnson
16th February 2016*

Have you found a hidden treasure in our library, read a good book or just have something to say? Email us, drop us a line or find us on Facebook.

sjlibraryfriendsmedia@outlook.co

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Oral Histories of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

The Mundijong Library's oral history interview team have completed 14 interviews although a few are still to be transcribed. However, 13 older interviews, which were done between 1979 to 2000 and donated to the Library, have now been digitized, transcribed and bound. You will find all these completed interviews available for loan on the Community History shelves in the Library. You will be able to listen to the interviewee telling his / her story whilst following it on the transcript - or just read the transcript.

However, as our team of interviewers is reduced to 4 available members at the moment, the Library Friends are aiming to organise another training session as several members have recently shown interest. If anyone is interested in being part of the second training group, please contact Jan Skillington on 9525 5703 or 0432 873 327. We have 5 members interested and would like the group to increase to 8 if possible.

The training is done by the Oral History Association of WA and will be done over one day. A half-day workshop, run by Jan Skillington and Rob Richings at a later date, will demonstrate the use of the recording equipment.

Transcribing of interviews, although time consuming, is thought provoking for those interested in local history. If you have typing and computing skills you may like to try transcribing. There is always room for more!

We look forward to hearing from you!

Jan Skillington

The Crossroad by Mark Donaldson VC

This is a story of how a dreadlocked, snowboarding, surfing larrikin became a VC winner.

It is a story of how dedication and wanting to achieve a goal can surpass some of life's setbacks. I would definitely recommend this book and best of all it's available to borrow from the Mundijong Public Library.

Ross Cooper



A March message from your president

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Libraries Matter!

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2016. We hope you are thrilled to read the reports of past events and the promise of those planned for the coming year.

One of the aims of the Serpentine Jarrahdale Library Friends Inc. is to lobby local and state governments for library resources. You will find our initial campaign is launched in this edition of the Newsletter.

An unusual addition to our newsletter is a poem written by one of our Committee. We hope you like it. Also, it would be great if other members, not just Committee, have items which they may like to see published in our Newsletter – not just poetry but book reviews, stories, memories, anecdotes from family history and others. You will find a request for this sort of item from our Media Officer elsewhere in the newsletter.

We have an exciting program of events planned for 2016, so watch out for the advertising!

Jan

Janette Skillington
President: SJ Library Friends Inc.
jmskillington@westnet.com.au



The Guerrilla In Our Midst

Our Autumn OGM was indeed as advertised – a night to remember!

Proprietor of the Australian Native Nursery in Oakford, Nancy Scade delivered an enthralling talk on Guerrilla Gardening and despite the failure of technology (so unfortunately no images available) the show did go on.

There were gasps of shock and much laughter from the audience as we bounced around the world picturing in our heads the places, the people, the politics of the time, and the whole naughtiness of transforming a neglected space into something beautiful for the community to share.

Together with her teams of urban commandos, Nancy has participated in many guerrilla gardening projects within the Shire and is well known for her enthusiasm for the environment and her work with Landcare.

Libraries play a vital role in the community. A library serves its community through the provision of access to knowledge and information.

The Mundijong Public Library has over 40 years of service to the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale. In a rapidly growing community the Library Services Manager and her staff meet the challenges of a building which is bursting at the seams by creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere and providing many fascinating and stimulating services and events for the appreciative community.

The Serpentine Jarrahdale Library Friends Inc. supports the Shire's proposal to provide a second library in Byford in the near future and strongly recommend extensions to the Mundijong Library.

An extended Mundijong Library will allow for improved staff work areas and an office for the Library Services Manager. It would provide capacity for additional and extended services and programs where space is currently an issue, such as children's events and Library Friends functions. Currently the use of other venues is necessary.

An extended Mundijong Library will also provide accommodation for the growing community history, oral history and archival collections ensuring a safe and authentic record of knowledge created and accumulated by past generations of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

We urge the Shire Council to recognize that libraries play a fundamental role in society and are a necessary gateway to knowledge and culture.

Jan Skillington



From the Library Manager's Desk....

Hi all

Thank you for supporting the library and its events such as Library Lovers' day and the Afternoon Teal event. Your presence helps to make them successful and enjoyable.

Thanks to Meg for setting up the Facebook page for Friends and sharing our events. Hopefully you have gone to the page and "liked" it. This is another great way to reach the community.

We have 2 main events for March. One is the Combined Book Club events. We are inviting the members of book clubs to meet each other and have a "social" event at the library. Whether you are part of a book club or not you are invited to come along. Tuesday 22nd March from 5.30pm Please book.

Our other event is the "Sing with me" launch, details in this newsletter. The Better Beginnings programs are vital to assist the literacy development of children. We are one of the pilot libraries for the trial of the program and would love to reach as many families with children aged 2. Low literacy levels in our community are of concern and we can make a difference. It would be great to have your support at the launch. Please contact Lizelle for more information or if you can assist on the day.

For April, the library and Friends group are sharing a stall at the April 9 SJ Food and Farm Fest. Please come along and support this great community event. Following on from that we will move into the School holiday program which includes Movie Night, Magic Workshop, Oz Wildlife, Scitech, craft session and the launch of Make-a- Hat children's art competition in a lead in to Library Week.

We have so much to offer... please spread the word.

Regards Lisa

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Hidden Treasures in our Library

The Cow she is a funny animal

The cow is a mobile, animated machine – housed in unprocessed leather. One end is equipped with a mower, grinder and other standard equipment including bumpers headlights, wing flaps and fog horn. At the other end is a milk dispenser and insect repeller.

Centrally located is a conversion plant consisting of a combination storage and fermentation vat, three converters in a series and an intricate arrangement of conveyor tubes.

This machine is also equipped with a central heating plant pumping system and air conditioning. Although mysterious and secret this plant is unpatented it is available in various sizes, colours and output capacity ranging from one to twenty tons of milk a year. – Information service. University of California.

This article was found in the Archives of the Community History Collection.



Committee Members

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|----------------------|-----------------|
| President | Jan Skillington |
| Vice President | Tamara Vinci |
| Treasurer | Kirsten Cugley |
| Secretary | Karen Hunter |
| Membership Secretary | Ellice Foulser |
| Media Officer | Meg Cooper |
| Committee Member | Ann Brown |
| Committee Member | Jan Johnson |
| Committee Member | Kay McBroom |
| Committee Member | Mary Plant |
| Committee Member | Allen Smith |
| Committee Member | Rose De Bruin |
| Committee Member | Dennis Lucas |

