



DONALD SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWSLETTER

November 2016





Contents

Cover: A rainy Centre afternoon - very peaceful	
From the Chairman , Message to the Members	2
Centre News, AGM, Melbourne Cup Luncheon	3
Features Pages, History of Parchment Craft, DSC Walking Group, Manager's Christmas Message, Christmas closing times	4,5
Poetry Page, Dylan Thomas, Banjo Patterson, Dante Gabriel Rosetti	6
Travel Pages Out With a Difference and Away With a Difference.	7,8,9
Invitation to Members' Christmas Party	10

From the Chairman

As we approach the end of another year, we can look back with some satisfaction on our activities and achievements for 2016. A glance at the activity schedule on our website will reveal that some activities have ceased and new ones begun. I don't intend to list them here but wish to reiterate to members and potential members that we are willing to undertake new initiatives and welcome any suggestions. These may not always be feasible and we may need your help to plan and commence them.

Our conveners are invaluable in all our activities and it must be realised that someone has to convene and manage any new activity. Even if someone from the Centre begins an activity, we must eventually find a convener to maintain and manage it – so be warned; this is probably the main reason for some people keeping their peace and not making the suggestion.

One of the major topics throughout 2016 has been the development of an extension to the Donald Simpson Centre premises to develop a community hub. This hub would house several other organisations and change the nature of the Centre. At first, this seemed like an enhancement of what we are about with other like organisations cooperating with us to create a more complete community venue.

Those of you on our email list will have received, provided all is well with your internet connection, a message about decisions taken by the Board of the Centre in relation to the hub development. For those who did not receive that message for any reason, it is reproduced at the end of this article. As it states, a meeting is being sought with the Mayor to discuss our concerns. We will be keeping members informed of developments. As our name states, we are a community centre and our community consists of our members and potential members and it is our responsibility as a Board to seek the best possible conditions for the Centre and to maintain open lines of communication.

In closing I wish to thank all those who manage and volunteer at the Centre as well as all of you who support it in any way. I wish you the compliments of the season and look forward to an enjoyable and prosperous 2017 in your company.

Tony Christinson

Board Chairman

MESSAGE TO DONALD SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTRE MEMBERS

In keeping with the Board's responsibility to keep members informed, this is an advice to members that the Centre Board has recorded the following resolution in relation to the proposal to extend the Centre to develop a Community Hub:

The Board of the Donald Simpson Community Centre (the Centre) expresses its objection to the following aspects of the Community Hub proposal:

1. The inclusion of residential accommodation (e.g. auditorium is rented out and used by members for noisy activities both day and night);
2. The intention of one of the parties to conduct a competing coffee shop on Hub premises (the Centre's café is integral to our future financial viability)

Motion 1:

THAT relevant stakeholders, including the Redland City Council, be notified that the Board of the Centre does not support a Hub Development which includes these 2 elements.

Further, the Board of the Centre has genuine concerns about the lack of risk assessment of social and practical aspects of the Hub in terms of:

- Parking
- Traffic flow
- Loss of amenity in the park
- Destruction of the park environment
- The continuing viability of the Centre
- The adverse effects of the construction phase on the Centre's operation
- The likelihood that the original cooperative nature of the development could reasonably be achieved.

A meeting has been sought with the Mayor to discuss these issues.

Members will be kept informed of any significant developments.

Centre News

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 26 September. Attendance was pleasing for and AGM with about 50 members signing in and a number of guests from other organisations for this AGM in our thirtieth year.

Two event should be mentioned: election of the new board for 2016-17 and the appointment of our first two Life Members.

Life Membership

The Board proposed a rule change to allow the Centre to appoint life members who are deemed worthy to receive this honour. For our first life members, the Board thought that it should recommend that the AGM appoint two members with the longest membership of the Centre. Our recommendation was accepted by the meeting and appointments were made to Life Membership of:

Antje-Jans (Anne) Beuker who joined on 1 May 1987 when she bought a brick and had her name entered on the board at the back of hall. Anne attends the Centre to play Bingo on Thursday with her daughter and carer, Louise.

Lorna Robinson who joined on 4 September 1987 and has served on the Management Committee of the Centre. Lorna is a member of the Handicraft Group which meets at the Centre on Fridays.



2016 Life Members Antje-Jans (Anne) and Lorna

Board Members 2016-17

The following members were elected to the Board for 2016– 2017. There was no ballot as no positions were contested.

Chairman; Tony Christinson
Deputy Chairman: John White
Secretary: Chris Sheehan
Treasurer: Paul Barnes

Board Members: Peter Armstrong, Jenny Chesher, Susan Denne, Lorraine Dillon, David Ferguson, Marcell Gorman, Peter Mann.

At its October meeting, the Board elected Noni Silman to the twelfth Board membership.

Melbourne Cup Lunch

A very well subscribed lunch was conducted on 1 November for the big race. After some pre-race problems with television and internet services, bravely overcome by Manager Thomas, we saw the race on the big screen in the auditorium.

Prior to the race, a chicken salad lunch was served by our excellent volunteers and diners were able to enjoy a free bubbly or punch and purchase a chaser from our drinks bar.

At \$10 per person, this is a very successful and affordable event for the Centre which we will continue as long as there is a demand.

Some of our DSC winners



“You rarely win, but sometimes you do.” — [Harper Lee](#)



Features Page

The History of Parchment Craft

Hey! Did you know that there is another world out there? It is said that once you enter it, "you are trapped" forever. But there is a sunny side to it, once there you will never wish to get out. It is called ... Parchment Craft World!

Parchment Craft goes back to the earliest days of written text since the 14th Century, and was conceived in countries like Germany, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands and from which, later in the 19th century, it spread to France, Paris, Europe and South America, from where it has spread the world over, thus it's fascinating history. Parchment was invented in the Turkish city of Bergama (Pergamum in Latin) when people had to find an alternative to papyrus because of the local wars preventing the importation of its raw materials. Parchment in its original form is the skin of sheep or goats, specially tanned for writing or painting on, where today, we, of course, use a paper substitute.

It is believed that Parchment Craft has been used in Spanish cloisters in the 15th Century to decorate holy tracts or even book binding. When you see some of the early bookbinding done by Spanish and French book binders, you will notice that they have used parchment that has been washed in some compound to make it translucent and has then been embossed and pricked. Very primitive tools like a needle tied on a piece of wood, an empty ballpoint pen or knitting needles and a piece of felt for embossing were originally used, where today we now use machine-made tools that vary from one to ten needles and different sizes and shapes of embossing tools.

In the wake of Columbus trying to convert the natives of the New World, the church of Spain followed where the Spaniards took them with not only their Language and Religion but also their Ecclesiastical crafts. In South America today, parchment craft is still taught mostly in convent schools and throughout South America where various forms of the craft has evolved. The basic factor in all these different approaches to the same craft remains the same: embossing, perforating, cutting artificial parchment to produce raised patterns and lace-like designs.

Throughout history, parchment had been used for many different purposes in printing books, important documents, paintings and wall decorations. Parchment Art was exclusively European until early in the 16th Century when European settlers took the craft to South America, where it became extremely popular until today.

In Puerto Rico the general craft is called *Tarjeteria Pergaminada* which basically means the art of creating greeting cards with parchment paper.

Today, with Parchment paper, one can create

greeting cards for all occasion, mural decorations, boxes, bags, lampshades, realistic flowers, framed artworks like fans, sceneries, and any decorative pieces. The choices are endless and are only limited to one's creative imagination.

The good news is that The Donald Simpson Centre is the Portal through Parchment Craft World. Contact Saint Peter aka Flor at 0438 320 648 for more information and she'll open the gates of the new world. Have a lovely Christmas everyone and a safe New Year. Cheers!



Samples of parchment craft as displayed at the Donald Simpson Centre.

Donald Simpson Walking Group

John and Helen Simon moved to Cleveland last October after downsizing from the family home in Sydney. As former members of a competitive running club and a recreational walking club, they were happy to discover the local Donald Simpson Walking Group.



John was a sprinter and took an early interest in coaching. Later, he took up distance running to further his coaching experience. Finding that he enjoyed the longer events, he eventually "graduated" to the marathon distance. However, a hip replacement put an end to his running career.

Helen, having mixed regularly with John's running mates on a social basis, decided to become a club (Southside Masters) member. Rather than sit around while others raced, Helen began to take part in the occasional walking race. Having been born blind, she needed a guide and former N.S.W. Marathon champion Ron Whitham, offered to help. Ron had taken up competitive walking after finishing his running career. From the occasional race, Helen began to compete weekly in 3 K and 5 K races. In 2008 she won the Club Championship handicap. Helen also took on the 14K City to Surf and completed 18 consecutive events, the last in 2015. John and Helen are looking forward to many more walks with the Donald Simpson Walking Group.

Please note summer times are from 7.00 am to 8.00 am

Features

Manager's Christmas Message

Seasons greetings to all members and friends of the Donald Simpson Centre.

We are nearing the holiday season and another year has gone swiftly by. 2016 has been a great year for the Centre, and the membership base has continued to grow.

Improvements over the past couple of years at the Centre speaks for themselves and I thank you for your valuable feedback, and appreciation. As I constantly keep mentioning, the DSC is very fortunate to have a good Board who invest their valuable time and input towards the growth and viability of the Centre.

The Centre is aiming to sport a new look by having a digital signage outside our building for promotion and advertising. We are still working through the feasibility of this project. As you all must be aware, the Centre's timetable is running at capacity. This year, there has been an increase in all health and wellness activity as well as social activities. But if you as a member feel a particular sport or an activity might be an added benefit to the Centre and its members, please feel free to air your ideas to manager@donaldsimpsoncentre.com

As I have announced at the AGM, the year 2017 marks the 30th anniversary celebration for Donald Simpson Centre. This is a great and an exciting time ahead, and keep tuned to our newsletter, website, facebook, etc. for ongoing information regarding upcoming events.

To conclude, I take this opportunity to once again thank my office team, hub café team, Board Members, and all the volunteers at the Donald Simpson Centre, who have helped me accomplish tasks around the Centre to keep the Donald Simpson Centre as an evergreen Centre and as a second home to all its members.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and joyous and prosperous 2017.

Thomas Jithin,
Manager



DONALD SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTRE

CHRISTMAS CLOSING TIMES.

The DSCC will close on

Thursday 22nd December, 2016

and re-open on

Tuesday, 3rd January, 2017

Board and management wishes you all a safe and happy holidays.



NOVEMBER 19 CABARET

POSTPONED

Unfortunately, there were insufficient ticket sales at this time of year to justify proceeding with the Cabaret on Saturday November 19 and it has been postponed until 25 February.

The two groups which were due to entertain you on the nineteenth will again be engaged for February 25.

They are Braidwood String Trio, a talented local group of two violinists and a cellist, and The Constellation of the wolf a young contemporary group playing a mixture of covers and their own compositions.

Please mark 25 February 2017 in your calendar from 6.00pm to 9.00pm for musical entertainment, light dinner and drinks.



DSCC Manager, Thomas, photographed this koala in one of the melaleuca trees in the median strip in our car park. It underlines our pleasant location surrounded by parkland which still supports wild life.

Poetry Page

On this page, we will attempt to bring our readers a variety of poetry instead of a continuous flow of prose. Please let us know about or send us a copy of your favourite poems. If you write and wish to share your work, send it to us. This month's collection has been a selection of the Editorial Committee to start us off.

Do not go gentle into that good night

Dylan Thomas, 1914 - 1953

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.
Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green
bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding
sight
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height,
Curse, bless me now with your fierce tears, I pray.
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Many of you will know this one by Banjo Paterson

Been There Before - Poem by Banjo Paterson

There came a stranger to Walgett town,
To Walgett town when the sun was low,
And he carried a thirst that was worth a crown,
Yet how to quench it he did not know;
But he thought he might take those yokels down,
The guileless yokels of Walgett town.
They made him a bet in a private bar,
In a private bar when the talk was high,
And they bet him some pounds no matter how far
He could pelt a stone, yet he could not shy

A stone right over the river so brown,
The Darling River at Walgett town.

He knew that the river from bank to bank
Was fifty yards, and he smiled a smile
As he trundled down; but his hopes they sank,
For there wasn't a stone within fifty mile;
For the saltbush plain and the open down
Produce no quarries in Walgett town.

The yokels laughed at his hopes o'erthrown,
And he stood awhile like a man in a dream;
Then out of his pocket he fetched a stone,
And pelted it over the silent stream –
He'd been there before; he had wandered down
On a previous visit to Walgett town.

This next one is a little more obscure but it has a message. Look it up.

The Woodspurge

By Dante Gabriel Rossetti

The wind flapp'd loose, the wind was still,
Shaken out dead from tree and hill:
I had walk'd on at the wind's will,
I sat now, for the wind was still.
Between my knees my forehead was,
My lips, drawn in, said not Alas!
My hair was over in the grass,
My naked ears heard the day pass.
My eyes, wide open, had the run
Of some ten weeds to fix upon;
Among those few, out of the sun,
The woodspurge flower'd, three cups in one.
From perfect grief there need not be
Wisdom or even memory:
The woodspurge has a cup of three.

Travel Pages

Out With a Difference



**Summer's Day
Country Touring**

Wednesday, 11th January - The first stop on our leisurely trip out into the countryside, will be a morning tea break in Fernvale. Then it is on to Esk where, weather and time permitting, we will stop for a short stay in the popular country village. Our journey will then take us through Cabooabah and skirt around Somerset Dam to Hazeldean. From here we travel to Kilcoy for our lunch at the Exchange Hotel (alternate drop menu). Sit back and enjoy the scenery with a pleasant outing to start the New Year. Members cost \$52.00. Bookings close 20th December 2016.

Friday 20th January - O'Reilly's is situated 300ft above sea level with a home base of 20,200 hectares in the Lamington National Park. The scenery is breath taking and the Tree-Top walk is a must. Just the place to visit on a hot summer's day. Morning tea will be at Canungra, a picturesque little village in the valley, with this trip you will have 4 options.

- 1 Coach only \$42.
- 2 Coach and Bird Show \$57.
- 3 Coach and Lunch \$67.
- 4 Coach, Lunch and Bird Show \$82.

Please advise which options you would like when booking. Light lunches can be purchased at Mountain Café and gifts or B.Y.O. Set lunch in the restaurant will be roast and vegetables w/bread roll. Apple crumble and custard / tea or coffee. Prices quoted are members costs. Bookings close 22nd December, 2016.



**O'Reilly's Rainforest
Birds of Prey**



**Valentines Luncheon
Flutterbies Cottage Café**

Monday, 13th February - Today's visit will take us into "The Heart of the Caldera" to the rural village of Tyalgum, a place of history and country charm, originally a cedar felling outpost. Today Tyalgum is home to a growing community of people drawn to the peace and natural beauty of the area. Tyalgum is surrounded by the spectacular scenery of the World Heritage listed Gondwana Rainforest of Australia and includes Mount Warning, the Border Ranges and Mebbin National Parks. We will start the day with morning tea at Point Danger before travelling through Murwillumbah to Tyalgum. Members cost \$55.00. Bookings close 23rd January, 2017

Wednesday, 15th February - Today is the start to the 2017. Back to the Tivoli, shows. February's show consists of Davidia, Soprano, Chris Gable, award winning instrumentalist, David Stephens, popular Vocalist, Peter Kays award winning comedy mask impressionist, Tivoli Showgirls all presented by the ever-popular host, Wayne Cornell. Bookings for this show must be in by 4th January. As always coach option is available at \$30.00. M/T will be served on the 5th floor and lunch venues are available on the 1st floor. Members Cost \$45. Bookings close 4th January, 2017



Back to the Tivoli

**Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for a wonderful 2017 from all in the
Bookings Office**

Out With a Difference



Bunjurgan Estate Vineyard

BBQ Lunch

Wednesday, 22nd February - A genuine welcome is extended to visitors at the Cellar Door and an opportunity is afforded to visit a smaller vineyard with a "different" atmosphere and a unique lifestyle. Bunjurgan Estate Vineyard was planted in 2003 and features 2,500 vines, terraced into a contoured south-east facing hillside. Tony and Anna Lomax from "Carabeen", a neighbouring beef farm, will provide a range of their Bazadais eye fillet steak and salads for our lunch today. A range of cheeses will compliment the 3 ports offered. We will have 6 tastings - Chilled Rosé, Sangria and Verjuice plus white, cherry and Tawny Port with chocolates. Members cost \$68.00. Bookings close 1st February, 2017

Wednesday, 8th March - RACQ Lifeflight Rescue has been providing an emergency rescue helicopter service to the Queensland regions for 35 years. Our tour will be at the Sunshine Coast Hangar. Take this opportunity to see how this essential service operates. For safety reasons this tour is limited to 30 persons. Closed in shoes must be worn or you will not be admitted to the hangar. Lunch is at the Maroochy Bridge Hotel. Members cost \$63.00. Bookings close 17th February, 2017



RACQ Life Flight Rescue



Marian Valley Monastery, Witheren

Lunch - Fox and Hounds

Friday, 24th March - Hidden in the valley 10km from Canungra is the Marian Valley Monastery-Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians. There are many Chapels of Peace and statues throughout the gardens. The beautiful Stations of The Cross figurines, imported from Vietnam, are situated in the picturesque grounds approximately a ½ hour walk. The Pauline Fathers have been in existence since 1205 and were founded in Hungary. Lunch today will be at the very British Fox and Hounds Country Inn, Wongawallen. Make your meal selection when ordering. Comfortable walking shoes will be advisable for this trip. Enjoy this day of peace and serenity. Members cost \$67.00. Bookings close 3rd March, 2017.

Friday, 31st March - Cruise to the Gold Coast and experience what makes the marine area so unique by sightseeing in sheltered waters and discovering the breath taking natural beauty of 300 Whitsunday style islands, as well as the Broadwater, Sovereign Island, Tipplers Resort, Couran Cove, Jumpinpin, Moreton Bay Park and the Brisbane River. Watch for marine wildlife such as dugongs, dolphins, black swans, turtles and sea eagles. Enjoy a lovely Autumn day on the water. Morning tea, barbecue lunch and afternoon tea will be served whilst cruising. We return to the Centre by coach. Members Cost \$99.00 Bookings close 10th March, 2017



**Brisbane to Gold Coast
M.V. Lady Brisbane**

Out With a Difference reserves the right to alter or omit any part of the itinerary or change the reservation, features and/or means of conveyance without notice. OWAD reserves the right to cancel the tour should it not reach minimum numbers and clients will be notified prior to departure should this occur.

A \$7.00 cancellation fee applies

Away With A Difference



Best of Yeppoon - * *Third trip now open for bookings* * Sunday 2nd April — Saturday 8th April, 2017.

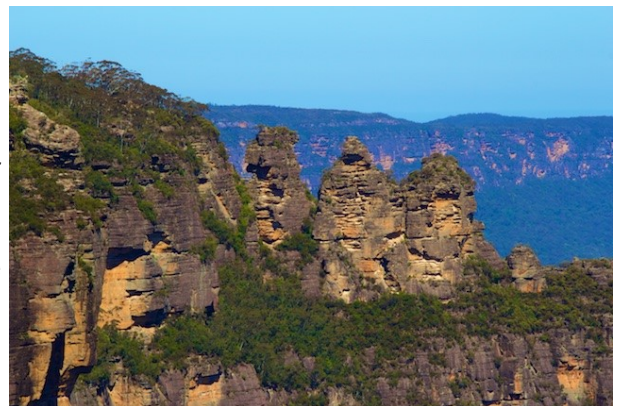
At Bayview Towers, beachside accommodation. This is an additional tour as the first two booked out very quickly. Travel to Rockhampton on the Tilt Train where we transfer to the coach for the trip to Yeppoon and Bayview Towers. Highlights include Byfield National Park, a trip along the Keppel Coast after a visit to Shell World, a Gladstone Harbour Cruise and much more. All tours, attractions and meals as per itinerary. Cost \$1039 plus applicable rail fare.

“Spectacular Scandinavia” with optional Baltic Adventure cruise aboard Holland America’s “MS Zuiderdam” - 14th May - 12th June, 2017 inclusive. Land only 18 days/17 nights, land with cruise 30 days/29 nights. Includes fully customized itinerary. Flights with Emirates, via Dubai a sightseeing tour in Singapore. Starting in Copenhagen, Denmark, and travelling through Sweden and Norway through stunning scenery and fiords and historical villages and buildings, the trip ends in Oslo. From there you either board your flight home or continue on for your cruise around the Baltic. Ports included Tallin, St Petersburg and Helsinki, finishing in Copenhagen. Eight places available. Please book and deposit ASAP. Final payment 22nd February, 2017.



Christmas in July - Macleay Valley, New England, Warwick’s “Jumpers & Jazz” - 24th - Sunday 30th July, 2017. Includes luxury coach travel, quality motel accommodation, all meals, tours and attractions as per itinerary. Highlights include House with No Steps, Solitary Islands Aquarium, Slim Dusty Centre, Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Saumarez Homestead, Standing Stones, Standing Stones. Christmas Dinner at the Abbey of the Roses and one full day to explore the Jumpers & Jazz Festival and much more. Price \$ 1840.00 pp twin share. Tour price based on minimum of 20 passengers. Itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Country NSW - Blue Mountains – Cherry Blossoms - Monday, 9th October - Monday 16th October, 2017 - Tour price includes return economy flights, luxury coach travel, 7 nights quality accommodation, all touring and entrance fees and meals as per itinerary. Highlights include, Norman Lindsay - National Trust Gallery and Museum; Echo Point and Three Sisters Lookout; Cowra Highlights Tour, Japanese Gardens and Cultural Centre; landra Castle Lambing Flat Museum, Kiama Blowhole and Cathedral Rocks; Nan Tien Temple, Sea Cliff Bridge and much more. Tour Cost:\$ 2745.00 per person Twin Share



Bookings open for all tours; Brochures available.

Download full itineraries and prices from our website.

Thank you for your support of our Travel Program throughout the year. We have experienced some great destinations. May Christmas be a time of peace and joy and 2017 be a year of good health and happiness.

Val Henry, Tour Leader.



DONALD SIMPSON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Invites

All members & friends



for an End of the Year party/gathering on

17th (Sat) December 2016

from 10am to Noon

There will be entertainment by



• *Jim and Tonics (Cappella Quartet)*

• *Arrival of Santa Claus
from North Pole*



• *Fun, games, raffles etc.*

FREE EVENT

RSVP Call 07 38211089



Hub Café will be open to purchase Christmas Delicacies

Information Session by Home Instead Senior Care

- Wednesday 23rd NOV at 10.00am -

Join us for this free information session to learn more about 40/70 rule and caring for someone with Dementia.

Free for all, morning tea provided, sponsored by Victoria Point Community Bank® Branch of Bendigo Bank