



Redhead Village Newsletter November 2012

The Post Christmas at Redhead Saturday 24 November Redhead Public School

Come and join us for a fantastic afternoon and evening! Relax, buy your Christmas presents, have a coffee and meet your neighbours.

Program for the afternoon:

2:00 pm Markets Open
2:00-7:15 Photo Booth for gold coin donation
2:30 Santa arrives on Fire Truck
3:00 Novatones (Men's Choir) performs
3:00-6:00 Coffee Cart
3:00-7:00 FREE Face Painting
3:30 & 4:00 Guided tours of Redhead's Community Garden
5:00 Redhead School's P&C Sausage Sizzle starts
5:00 Sew Funky fashion parade in School Hall
5:30 Callaghan Singers perform in School Hall
7:15 Markets start to pack-up
7:30 to 8:30 Carols in the School Hall

New Footpath between Redhead Surf Club and Beach Road

Some time ago Redhead Surf Club approached the Council who agreed that the footpath would be a real safety benefit, but there were currently no funds available to build it. The surf club wanted the footpath for this summer season and fortunately, construction company **Laing O'Rourke** were pleased to donate their workforce and resources for the project which was completed in September 2012. The new footpath will make it much safer for our kids, mums with prams, elderly people and others to walk down to the beach.

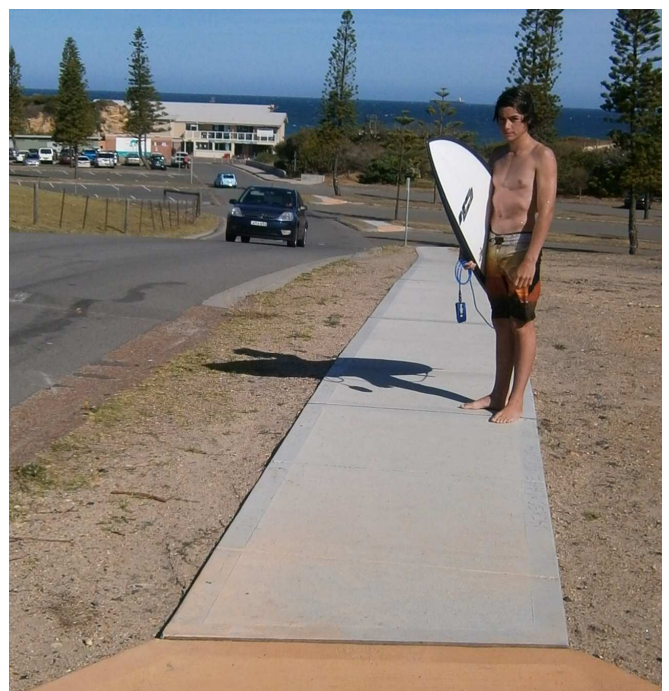
One of **Laing O'Rourke's** sustainability aims is to: "Leave a positive legacy in the communities in which we operate, through a commitment to youth training and employment and community facilities."

For Redhead, this aim has been to our benefit, and Redhead Surf Club plus the Redhead community as a whole, acknowledge and thank **Laing O'Rourke** for this fine gesture.

Decision on Mine Buildings Expected Mid December

In August 2012, Lake Macquarie City Council advertised for Expressions of Interest for reuse and lease of the mine heritage buildings and three proposals were received in September. They include a proposal for the buildings to house the Redhead Men's Shed, and two commercial proposals, "The Precinct" and "The Old Colliery". Both of the latter proposals include a cafe and community activities. All three applicants presented their proposals to Council in October and were interviewed by the assessment panel. Andrew Bryant, Coordinator Community and Recreation Development, plans to have a recommendation to the Council for their meeting on 10 December. The report will be publicly available from 3 December and residents will have an opportunity to discuss the recommendations with Council during the week.

Restoration work on the Winder House is complete but there will be more work soon on the Fan Engine House and the Poppet Head Upcast Shaft as detailed plans are prepared.



Redhead youth, Nelson Rankin on the new footpath

Redhead's QANTAS Link

By Tom Harwood, Historian, QANTAS Founders Museum, Longreach QLD

Q.A.N.T.A.S. stands for Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Service but if Redhead hadn't been where it is 90 years ago, there's a strong probability that QANTAS may not have survived and it's certain that it would be operated quite differently.

QANTAS took delivery of their first aircraft, an Avro 504K in Sydney in January 1921. At the same time, a Longreach stock and station agent had bought a second-hand BE.2e, a First World War observation aircraft and he asked Hudson Fysh, one of the founders of QANTAS to fly it from Sydney to Longreach for him.

Paul McGinness, the other founding pilot was to fly the Avro. This machine had an unusual feature for its time – there was a crank handle back into the cockpit so the pilot could start the engine himself.

Like most of its contemporaries, somebody else had to turn the propeller on the BE.2e over by hand to get it started so it was agreed that the third company founder and its only engineer, Arthur Baird would fly with Fysh.

The planned route for the first day's flight was from Sydney to Moree via Newcastle and Singleton but soon after passing Manly, the sky ahead started getting darker and before long the two aircraft were dodging around heavy clouds. Fysh lost sight of McGinness and then found himself trying to maintain control of a fairly primitive aeroplane in thick cloud with no real idea of which way he was going.

As the aircraft started to spin out of control it emerged into a wide valley with cloud on the hills all around. Fysh was able to get the aircraft back under control and landed it on an uphill slope beside a miner's cottage. The miner's wife emerged from the cottage to invite Fysh and Baird in for a cup of tea while they waited for the cloud to clear and they discovered they were at Redhead, close to the coal mine. When the cloud started to break up, the airmen cleared a few bushes and careered downhill until the aircraft left the



QANTAS
FOUNDERS MUSEUM
LONGREACH

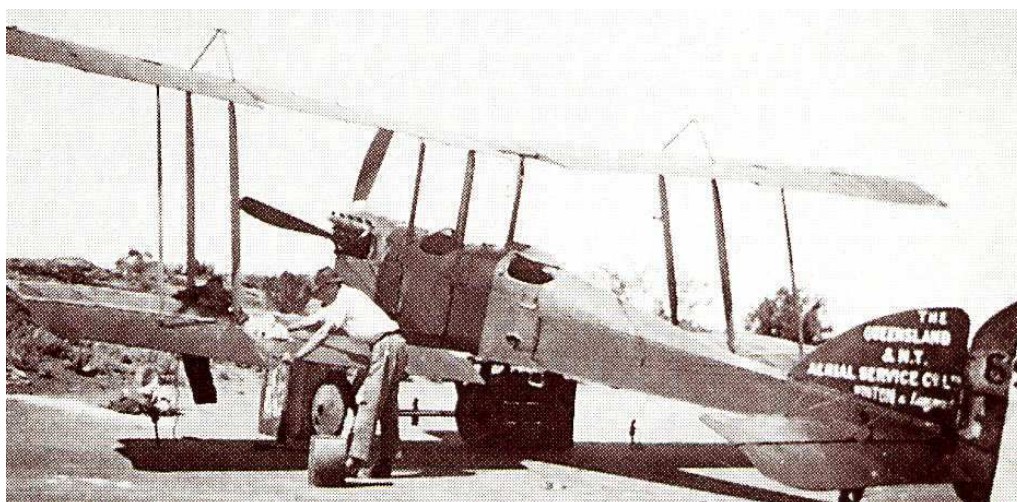
Qantas Museum Exhibition
Original 1922 Qantas Hangar
707 Restoration tour
Secrets of the 747 tour
Wing Walk & 747 tour
McGinness' restaurant
Founders gift store

The Museum is open daily from
9:00am to 5:00pm (except Christmas Day).
Tours operate daily and bookings are essential.
Phone: (07) 4658 3737 Fax: (07) 4658 0707
Email: info@qfom.com.au
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QANTAS
FOUNDERS
MUSEUM

ground, barely clearing some telephone lines which stayed in Fysh's memory for a long time afterwards. Fysh said the lady later sent him a photo of the mine but he doesn't mention her name in his writings.

Both Baird and Fysh established and enforced the safety standards for which Qantas has always been rightly famous so it's interesting to speculate on how different things might have been had Redhead and its lifesaving valley not been where the BE.2e fell out of the cloud that January day in 1921. Ironically, when the BE.2e finally reached Longreach, the stock and station agent found that he didn't have the stomach for aviation. He sold the machine to QANTAS for the £900 he'd paid for it and it became the company's second aircraft.



QANTAS founder Hudson Fysh and the BE 2e biplane he landed in Redhead in January 1921.

Story Time at Redhead Community Library



Kids enjoy Story Time at Redhead Community Library

"Story Time" happens on the first Friday of each month at 10:30 am. It is for 0-5year olds but it is also a great way for mums with children who may not have started school yet, to meet and get to know others in the area. Some of the mums have moved to Redhead recently and these times together can make settling into a new place a lot easier. Story Time is run by the ever enthusiastic Library Committee.

The Library is available for group bookings. A Justice of the Peace is available on the first Saturday morning of each month.

Phone 4944 7473

Location: cnr Hutchinson and Brown Streets.

Youth in Redhead

Youth Engagement is one of the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood projects.

Its aim is to create opportunities to engage the energy and creativity of Redhead's youth (young people aged 12-25 years) so that they can invest their skills and talents in our neighbourhood; and be more involved in citizenship and community activities.

In 2010 we undertook a survey of Redhead students at Whitebridge High School, but our Youth project leader left and the project was put on hold. This year Cardiff TAFE students updated the 2010 survey by interviewing Year 8 and 9 students and Redhead businesses and sports clubs. They then prepared a

Q. What are two reasons for the significance of the following names in Redhead: Hyde, D'Este, Engel, Henery, Heath, Boundy and Heaney

A Names are of men from Redhead who died in WW1, and recorded on the war memorial at the top of Redhead Road.. They are also names of lanes in Redhead.

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Youth Engagement Report that was presented to the Redhead SNG in June.

Improvements suggested by students include general safety, the need for skateboard facilities in Redhead, and better Public Transport, but we now need a project leader to be able to follow through with the report's recommendations.



Signe Bladt-Woicsek and Pat Norton receive the Youth Engagement Report from TAFE student Leanne Benson on behalf of Redhead youth with Vesna Dragoje from The Joint looking on.

Progress on Redhead Natural Environment Project

A Vegetation Plan workshop, supported by LMCC and including people from Redhead Landcare, Freshwater Creek Landcare and Redhead Bluff Landcare got this project started. Brian Hilton came up with the idea of the Coastal Corridor Project and Council were really enthusiastic about it. They prepared a Coastal Corridor plan which is a model for the Redhead Vegetation Plan. Plants were obtained through Landcare and LMCC. Four community planting days have been held plus two days for Year 10 students from St Marys High School, and a planting by a group of Landcare students in August. Over 3000 plants have been planted and they are all green and growing.

As well, for a week earlier this month, groups of students from Belmont Christian Collegeworked on Cain Street Reserve under the supervision of their teachers. They were there for about four hours each day. Dave Doggett from Redhead Care Landcare organised the work and a number of volunteers were there to supervise and assist.

During 2013, the Redhead Vegetation Plan will be completed to extend the principles of the Coastal Corridor project to the whole of the Redhead neighbourhood. The Redhead SNG will continue to support the Redhead Landcare Groups and will be encouraging residents who live on the perimeter of Redhead to actively care for the native vegetation.

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Bottlemart

REDHEAD CELLARS

95 Cowlshaw Street, REDHEAD

WEEKLY SPECIALS

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CSIRO Reports Sea Levels are Rising

The global average sea level rose by close to 20 centimetres between 1870 and 2007. Sea levels rose at an average of 1.7 millimetres per year during the 20th century, and 3.4 millimetres per year from 1993 to 2007.

Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood

The newsletter is distributed to everybody's letterbox in Redhead and to 200 houses by email. To be more sustainable we would like to send more by email and reduce the number of paper copies we put in letterboxes. If you would like to receive your newsletter by email and in colour, let us know by sending us an email and include your home address. Our email address is sustainableredhead@gmail.com or call the Secretary on 4944 8110

Thanks to our newsletter sponsors for this edition; Truevision, Anipet, Redhead Cellars, and QANTAS Founders Museum. If you would like to volunteer for any of our projects, join the Redhead SNG. Phone the Secretary on 49448110. This newsletter published by the Redhead Sustainable Neighbourhood.