# **OBERON & DISTRICT MUSEUM**

Newsletter: No. 16 August, 2023

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#### From the President

This newsletter is to advise you of our AGM coming up next month (September 23<sup>rd</sup>) and to invite members to nominate for positions on the committee and, or, just come along to hear the annual reports and selection of the new committee. See details later.

In the meantime developments at the museum include the completion of the renovated slab hut. The slab hut relocated to the museum from Knights property needed re-timbering. So the museum has rebuilt this slab hut using recycled timbers from Timber Industries demolition, slabs from Oberon Hospital's old morgue and local Stringybark poles. Traditional building techniques were used, and we now have a safe weather proof slab hut for older rural items. The use of slabs from the old morgue adds an interesting new dimension to the story of the slab huts. Our thanks go to Spiro and HPP for the recycled timbers from TI and to Murry Yeoman for its construction.

Also completed recently was the second Robinson Dray rear wheel. The hot shoeing of the felloes was open to anyone interested, and although it took two attempts this time, the result was perfect.

Construction of the reception annex continues. At the time of writing we have cladding, wiring and plumbing completed, lining with gyprock will soon follow.

One of the items donated by HPP to the museum from the demolition of the Timber Industries Sawmill is a large heavy duty drill press. This item was located in the old 1943 part of the sawmill where overhead gear with belts drove various items of machinery in the workshop. In most situations such items of machinery have makers plates attached, from which the museum can research information, like when it was made, and where it came from. Unfortunately these maker's plates were removed before the museum took possession. It would be really great if someone in the community could help the museum with information about it and the work it did. This drill press will have a second life at the museum, but its real value is the story it has to tell. The Museum thank Mike Bitzer from HPP, for this item of machinery.

Also completed recently is the concreting of the entrance to the museum. This has been an

unsightly mess for some time and combined with our new gateway will give our museum a more welcoming and obvious access off Scotia Av. We would like to thank Oberon Council for its assistance with this project.

Col Roberts





# **Klok Family History**

Lynn Swannell has been researching the history of Fred Klok who came with his family to Oberon after the Second World War. Fred worked for Timber Industries, and the family lived in a number of well-known residences in Oberon. Fred's connection with the timber industry brought Lynne to the Museum and we were able to supply her with useful information for her research. In recognition of our assistance Lynne provided a framed a photo of Fred and other local identities with the top wheel of the huge breakdown band saw that operated in Timber Industries before it was closed. We thank Lynne for this, and wish her well with printing her book about her family's history.



(from left) Keith Haslop · Fred Klok · Stan Fagg · Don Lewis · Bill Wilcox pictured with the head pulley off a twin band saw Timber Industries Oberon circa April 1969

### **Membership Renewals**

Membership fees for the 2023-2024 financial year are now due. Please consider this as your renewal notice.

You can pay your \$15

- in person, by dropping in to the museum during opening hours (Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays 10.30am 12.30pm; or
- by posting it, with your name, to The Secretary, Oberon District Museum, P.O. Box 239, Oberon 2787; or
- by Direct Deposit to Oberon District Museum, BSB 062 632, Account Number 00901068. Make sure you include your name.

## **Annual General Meeting**

10.00am Saturday September 23rd at the Museum

Anyone interested in a committee position should obtain a nomination form from Secretary Pam Dellow (ph: 0418 671 754), or collect one from the Museum during opening hours. Completed nominations need to be in to the Secretary by Friday September 15th.

Do come along and support your Museum. Find out what's been happening and what projects are in store. Morning tea will be provided.