

Butter Factory Banter



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The Christmas holiday season is just about upon us and as it has been a busy year for RHPI, I am sure that everyone is looking forward to sitting back and relaxing. We take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and to thank everyone for their support over the past year.

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the Car Boot Sale in October. Once again, it was great to see all of the stall holders supporting the Butter Factory and also the townspeople who came along. The Twilight Markets that we were planned for 27th November were cancelled due to other organisations in town having events on around the same time. Watch this space for more Car Boot Sales next year.

The Apex *Fine Wine & Dine* dinner held at the Butter Factory on 30th November was once again a huge success for the Apex Club. Everything was set out beautifully in the grounds of the factory ready for a 6.30pm start when a huge storm came through and caused havoc with chairs and tables etc strewn all over the place. The Apex club regrouped, with the help of Ken and Ray, and cleaned everything up ready for the 80 guests to enjoy a 5 course meal and strings orchestra.

The **Book Launch** held on Friday 5th November was a huge success. Approximately 50 invited guests enjoyed morning tea under the beautiful trees in the grounds of the Butter Factory. The weather was perfect and the jacaranda tree looked a picture. Following morning tea, a reading from *The Roma Butter Factory* book on ***NUISANCE WHICH REQUIRES PROMPT ATTENTION*** and ***BUTTER FACTORY NUISANCE*** was read by Jodie Beitz. These two letters were written by Jack Dunstan and addressed to *The Editor Roma "Star"* in 1910.

Ossie Kadel, a former Roma resident who spent his first 6 years of life on *Minkadell*, gave a 'brief' talk on his life experiences, one of which was helping in the family dairy. One of the guests was quite moved by his speech and took note of what he spoke – *If we can understand our history.. we can understand how we were back then and how we are now.. then we can also get an understanding of what it was like... then the real history.. is lost..* The Kadel family had a simple dairying system, which was common but not very popular back in those days. It was called **DMK – Dad Mum and Kid**. His family's story can be found in the *Dairying Families of Roma & District* book along with other local families such as McCabe, Rowbotham, Waldron, Finnigan, Riley, Ferguson, Kiesker, York and the list goes on. These 2 books are available for \$30 each. Give us a call if you would like one. They would make a great Christmas present!

Ken attended the second Meadowbank Auction on 6th November. Unfortunately he missed bidding on the water tanks which originally came from the RJ Williams Wool Wagon that RHPI purchased last year. He did come home with a cream can with the original name tag of *Murray, Hodgson* on it. We were fortunate in buying a glass butter churn in perfect condition and ready for use from an antique shop in Wondai. If you are ever going through Wondai, it is a great shop to call into and have a browse through. We even found an old bottle, with the label in perfect condition. *Old Squatter Rum* bottled by **Roma Traders**.



RHPI has been fortunate in receiving a grant from *Origin* for the purchase of a lawn mower. We thank Origin for their support of community groups.

A lovely evening was held at the White Bull Tavern on 17th November to farewell Ray Howson as he has moved back to his hometown of Adelaide. He was presented with several gifts, one of which was a poem written and read by RHPI member Diann Heffernan which is attached to the newsletter.

RHPI held a BBQ stall at the Christmas Street Party on 2nd December. It was a very busy night and we thank all of those people who supported our stall.

On Friday 3rd December, committee members of RHPI and interested persons met with the Outback Assist Team for a presentation of the Business Case for the further development of the Butter Factory. It is an exciting project to be involved in.

A *big welcome* to new members of RHPI, Carmen Golder, Daphne Steers, Kim Edwards, Kelley Eadie/Karl Hill, Jess Wild, Julie & Pom Walker, Pat Sheehan, Gavin McCabe, Bill Albeck, Barbara Kunde, Chris & Susie Mackenzie. Looking forward to seeing you at one of our gatherings in the near future. We now have 65 members.

Next meeting will be on Saturday 22nd January at 2pm at the Butter Factory.

Thank You!

We gratefully thank the following people/organisations for their donations, be it items or their time. These are recent donations and do not include the fantastic items that we received in the past. Apologies if I have missed anyone.

Barbara Kunde: Memorabilia of the Butter Factory – Alan Stanley Cooke – Cream Tester.

Jennifer Crocker: Old newspapers relating to dairy industry.

Brian O'Rourke: Original bat wing doors off Royal Hotel which was originally owned by Tommy O'Rourke.

David Bowden: Radio 4ZR sign.

Jodie Beitz: Glass Butter Churn.

Upcoming Events

22nd January 2022 General Meeting 2pm

19th March 2022 Twilight Markets 5pm – 9pm

14th May 2022 Plough Day & Tractor Pull

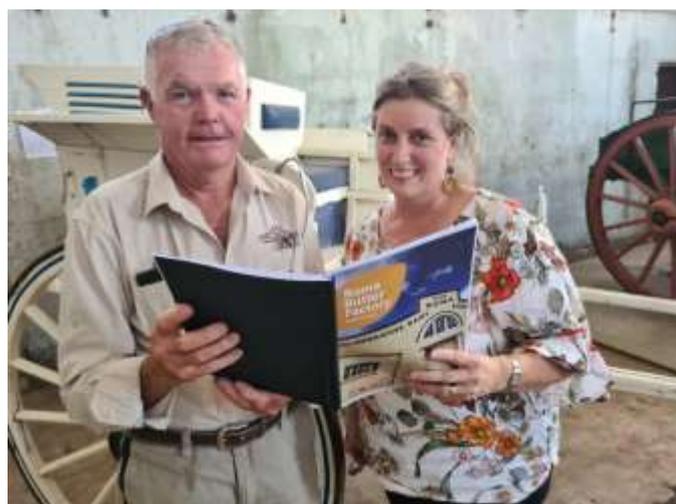
These events are a major part of our fundraising efforts. We would love your assistance, let us know if you'd like to help!



Second man from right, Allan Stanley Cooke, cream tester at the Roma Butter Factory for 44 years.
Photo courtesy of Barbara Kunde (granddaughter of Mr. Cooke).



Left: Mayor Golder, Ken Beitz, Beryl Giles, Dot Brindley, Diann Heffernan and Jodie Beitz at the Book Launch on the 5th November.
Right: The two published books now available to purchase
Photos courtesy of Veronica Beitz



Left: Ken Beitz & Melanie Grieves-James (OQ Assist) Reviewing the Business Case
Right: Members and Guests at the Presentation of the Roma Butter Factory Business Case made possible by previous secretary Ray Howson & FRRR grant funding
Photos: courtesy of OQ Assist and Krista Hauritz Marketing

A Little Ray of Sunshine

**His talents he has but many,
Volunteering played into his scheme,
You'd find him strongly committed,
When welcomed as part of a team.**

**To secretarial duties he's been devoted,
Given extra work, he didn't moan,
One thing though for which we prayed,
That he wouldn't lose his mobile phone.**

**With sanding machine firmly balanced
Hand motions like a pro,
He gladly removed that old paint,
With no sanding disc to hinder or slow.**

**Please think twice before letting him loose
With a paint brush or a hammer,
Builder he never claimed to be,
But his enthusiasm never did stammer.**

**He always excelled at sorting cans,
I swear this is the truth,
You would also find him very keen,
For cake to fill his sweet tooth.**

**Thirty years have passed since he arrived,
For volunteering he become renowned,
Over the years many can thankful be,
T'was Roma that he found.**

**What's this I hear, his bags are packed,
And South Australia he is bound,
From Roma missed he'll surely be,
A thread around which he has wound.**

**Good luck Ray and all the best,
May each day bring happiness anew,
You may have us in for tea and a chat,
Next time we travel through.**

**When sitting back – peaceful, relaxing,
You might be enjoying the view,
Please take a moment to reflect
On the R.H.P.I. and its friendly crew.**

by Diann Heffernan 2021