

GLENGALLAN NEWS

Official newsletter of

GLENGALLAN HOMESTEAD TRUST LIMITED

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check out our website...

Share your recipes

GLENGALLAN COOK BOOK

The Glengallan Kitchen plans to publish a book of traditional country recipes and old family favourites. Send your recipes to:

Glengallan Cookbook Editor Libby Blomfield
PO BOX 922 Warwick Q 4370 Fax 07 4667 3700
email: glengallan@flexi.net.au

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Nine directors elected unanimously

All nine nominations to the nine vacancies were elected unanimously at the Annual General Meeting of Glengallan Homestead Trust Ltd on 24 September 2006.

Re-elected were Donna Fraser, chairman, Doug Roulston, vice-chairman, Col Smith, Treasurer and directors Peter Stewart, Bill Goddard and Fr Brian Sparksman. New directors are Helen Judd (Glengallan Station), retired bank manager Trevor King and surveyor Gary Hayes, a former chairman and director of the Company.

The annual general meeting was chaired by Glengallan Patron Mr John Barnes who expressed thanks to retiring directors Avis Stehn, David Ure and Ron Scholfield, who did not re-nominate. Among members attending the AGM were two former Directors, Ian McDonald and former chairman Bill White.

The meeting bestowed life membership on Dawn Mawhinney and Terry Weier for valuable and continuing contribution to Glengallan.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP due for renewal 1st January 2006

ENCOURAGE A FRIEND TO JOIN
GLENGALLAN HOMESTEAD TRUST
\$55.00 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
\$330 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The chairman reports (excerpt from chairman's report to AGM)

Strategies implemented last year to address a shortfall in visitation have been eroded by continuing high fuel prices which are being cited, right across the tourism industry, as the reason for declining visitation. The expected results from targeted marketing to the tour bus sector did not eventuate with mid-week bus bookings only now beginning to pick-up after the leaner-than-usual winter.

A concentration on function catering proved unsustainable at the projected level with its heavy reliance on volunteer labour. We have moved to commercialise this aspect of our business, forming relationships with local caterers and employing casual staff in our weekend coffee shop.

During this year, continuing problems of stormwater discharge and drainage around the Homestead have been further addressed. Unfortunately, an application for Federal funding to repair cracking to the north-west corner and cross-walls was unsuccessful and we must now investigate other means to undertake this repair.

The weekend gardens volunteer team has been augmented by Centrelink and Work for the Dole program participants tending to the heavier work.

The Family History Centre is moving towards fruition with significant progress in databasing our photographic collection, family documents and station records.

Our cautious approach to the formative years of our business - a deliberate strategy to overcome less-than-encouraging outcomes projected by consultant business planners and heritage tourism strategists - has brought us to a sound position but with need, now, to optimise trading.

Your Board is currently in discussion with key stakeholders to secure funding for employment of full-time management and marketing to move our operation to the next level. We have re-stated our concentration on the core business of heritage tourism and propose seven-day trading with the addition of tourist information among initiatives.

The futility of our effort, over the past four years, to access major government funding, is largely due to the fact that available funding programs are infrastructure-based and we have been unable to identify an infrastructure project that would deliver the desired economic sustainability, apart from which, we are hard-pressed to staff and maintain infrastructure we already have.

On a personal note, I ask Members to consider the multiplicity of roles that have, of necessity, fallen into the realm of the chairmanship of Glengallan Homestead Trust and, in my own experience, during two years of planning and execution of the restoration project and almost five years operation of Glengallan Homestead & Heritage Centre. The (voluntary) chairman of Glengallan Homestead Trust Ltd has, by default, become also the voluntary CEO of a substantial heritage tourism business.

Commercial reality suggests we must move forward with professional management and your Board believes it is time to make that quantum leap. As always, we invite input and suggestions for future projects that may be achievable within the commercial capabilities of the Company and as priorities are established by your Board.

- DONNA FRASER
Chairman

It's all go at Glengallan....

Recent functions and events at Glengallan include a rally of Model T Ford cars, the I Zingari Cricket Club annual meeting and dinner, a pre-wedding luncheon, a visit by the SE Qld Quilt Study Group, the Ipswich Legacy War Widows group and a wedding ceremony on the verandah.

The annual Deuchar Dinner was a resounding success with guests of honour Bob and Ilma Deuchar from Melbourne and Ray and Monica Deuchar and daughter Amy, from Casino.

This year, for the first time, we employed a professional caterer which allowed our brilliant volunteer catering group of Susan Goddard, Sue Cowley, Jill Roe and Libby Blomfield to concentrate on the aperitif, hors d'oeuvres and after-dinner truffles and cheeses with port and coffee in the drawing room. This proved a winning formula.

The 100-foot-long table was again beautifully presented thanks to volunteers Philomena Aspinall, Donna Fraser, Jane Morse, Clare Cotton and Jill Roe, with the Deuchar family silver taking pride of place in the traditional manner.

Also carrying-on one of our very own traditions set at the first Deuchar Dinner three years ago, the Heritage Highlanders led dinner guests from our Heritage Centre to the House and, led by Don McKechnie and Lionel Devine, piped the "pud" to the table with due ceremony.

The Deuchar Dinner is firmly established as our signature event and will continue to be a highlight of the Glengallan calendar.

If you would like to join us next year, keep the last Saturday in September free and let us know so that we can keep you posted.

NEXT FARMERS MARKETS 8AM-1PM FIRST SUNDAY IN DECEMBER