

REPORT FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 10th OCTOBER, 2023.

This report covers only the most significant events in our spinning year. It focuses on our outreaches into the community, our achievements and social events.

Our final meeting for 2022 was held on 22nd November. On 25th October we welcomed our third new member for the year, Janette Thurley, from Clayfield.

Our Christmas Party was held on 13th December at the Redland Bay Golf Club in North Street, Redland Bay. Once again, Miriam conducted a challenging quiz on Cleveland, Moreton Bay and their surrounds. Winners here were Judy Boyland on 15, Sandra on 14 and Susanne on 13. Very close results! We thank Miriam for organising this mind bender and its lovely prizes.

Our first meeting for 2023 was held on 14th February, 2023.

The first major event for us was the hip operation of Narelle Edmonds on 10th March. Narelle is on permanent early duty and also attends Grace's Knit and Knatter at CapellaBay on Monday afternoons with Sandra. To date we have reached session 364. Narelle was absent for ten weeks as she recuperated. She was greatly missed from both groups. She returned to our spinning meetings on 13th June.

Charlotte Kennedy, Judy Saunders and Sandra Davis participated in the annual Heritage and Harmony Festival at the Redland Museum on Sunday, 19th March. Charlotte was spinning, Judy weaving and Sandra ragmatting.

One of our former members, Joy Hopetoun-Smith, passed away on 3rd May after a long illness. Joy was a member from 2013 to 2020.

The Olde English Fair at St. George's in Birkdale on 13th May was cancelled. Charlotte and Sandra were planning to attend. A simpler Market Day replaced it. Sandra attended.

Three of our members participated in the 27th Beanie Festival at Alice Springs. Miriam Elkin submitted a beanie in the competition section. The theme was "My Tale's Told" and Miriam was successful in winning first prize for her exquisite Arctic beanie. Dianne Mitchell and Sandra Davis submitted beanies in the general section. Dianne actually represented our group as a volunteer at the Festival.

On 28th June, our group notice appeared in the new local publication, "Redland City News" and was updated in July with current contact details. It appears every week.

Charlotte, Lea Wood and Miriam donated beanies to the Redland Museum Beanie Tree, which was in its 14th year. This event was coordinated by Sandra.

On 25th July, Shirley Rhodes' husband, Allan, gave a presentation on ShelterBox Australia. At our meeting of 22nd August, Vice President Merhyl suggested that we give a group donation of \$500 to this organisation. On 12th September this was done.

In July, Judy Saunders organised a stall for us at the Winter Market at the Old School House Gallery in Shore Street, Cleveland on 30th July. Five members and two assistants participated. Crocheted rugs, knitted garments, woven items and hand spun yarn were sold on a glorious winter day. Judy feels we should repeat this event in 2024.

Our meeting of 8th August was cancelled because our annual camp at the Outlook in Boonah was in progress at the same time and several of our members were attending it. Patricia Williams later gave a very detailed report on this camp, which was a great success. Our 45th anniversary would have occurred on this very date, but was celebrated on 22nd August instead. On this same day we welcomed our first new member for the year, Lyn Mason from Alexandra Hills.

The annual Switch On To Science event, organised by Kathy Bower's husband, Ross, was held at the Redland Museum on Monday, 14th August. Charlotte demonstrated spinning on her Ashford wheel while Sandra demonstrated the ancient art of drop spindling. It was a very busy day.

At our meeting of 12th September, Lindy Boshler suggested via email that we have a group bus trip to Mountview Alpaca Farm at Canungra on Tuesday, 21st November. A unanimous vote was taken that we will attend. Thanks go to Lindy for organising the trip.

Our two group outreaches, Grace's Knit and Knatter at CapellaBay in Capalaba and the Saturday Knit and Knatter at Hoya Gardens in Alexandra Hills are both being well attended.

Our first meeting of 2024 will be on Tuesday, 13th February. The 2024 spinning calendars will be issued then, too.

SANDRA DAVIS. 6th October, 2023.