

Ravenswood Round-up

April 2024

Celebrating 150 years



What a memorable day it was when a large crowd of almost 200 people descended on the Ravenswood State School to celebrate 150 years of state school education. Attendees rekindled friendships and reminisced their adventures and antics of school days at the longest surviving inland town of North Queensland.

Ravenswood State School Principal Katee and her small team are to be congratulated for the time and effort put in over many months of planning the event. Representatives from the Charters Towers Regional Council attended including the then Mayor Frank Beveridge. Adding to the success was Ravenswood Restoration and Preservation Association organising a bus for the Ravenswood pioneers to travel from Townsville. Ravenswood Gold provided the delicious lunch and sponsored the *Amazing Historic Race of Ravenswood State School* encompassing a fun interactive tour of the school, with challenges along the way. Thanks also goes to Top Camp, Imperial Hotel, Railway Hotel and Thorps Tea Rooms and Treasures for providing prize vouchers. The commemorative mural will be a lasting legacy of the milestone for the school.



Sitting on right are two of the students from class of 1937, Ron Eardman and Dot Weinheimer. Standing are two of four generations of RSS students; Lesley Smollett, daughter Raelene and seated, her great granddaughter April.



HEALTH and COMMUNITY CARE Living outside major cities centres provides unique challenges for health and community care providers to deliver services to our community. We are not so remote though that good health and community services are available within one to two hours along the highway. More conveniently, the Royal Flying Doctor Service deliver primary health care at monthly clinics in Ravenswood. Another valuable resource for regional communities to access health services is the Queensland Government's Telehealth video link. Information on how to access this service is available on www.health.qld.gov.au/telehealth.

Home and Heritage

History of Ravenswood School

Ravenswood was gazetted as a town in 1871 after a tent settlement sprang up on the discovery of gold in 1868. As more families moved into the town, the need for a school was soon apparent which coincided with Queensland becoming the first colony to provide free primary education from January 1870.

In 1872, a Ravenswood School Committee was formed and tenders were called to build a school to meet the needs of the growing community. The government expected townships with more than 30 potential pupils to put up a third of the school costs. The School Committee valiantly raised £306/18/-. With disagreement between the Committee and the government regarding the building plans, the Committee purchased the old 'Emerald Isle Hotel' for the modest sum of £18 as a temporary location. Children started attending classes in October 1883, while the two-classroom school and residence were completed. Students moved to the newly built school in January 1874 with an enrolment of 70 students. In 1889, the school reached its peak enrolment of almost 400 children. The school was extended in 1905 and consisted of eight classrooms and a gymnasium.

Mining in Ravenswood enjoyed a boom between 1900 and 1908 as more modern techniques were applied to ore processing. However, as mining costs rose, returns fell. After the end of the First World War, it became apparent that the field would not pick up again. In the 1920s people moved away from Ravenswood and buildings were relocated to other towns. As the population declined, some of the school buildings were progressively removed from the town.

In the late 1970's, exploration recommenced over leases and the modern Ravenswood mine was established in 1978, reigniting town activity. In 2019 Government approval was given to expand the gold mine processing plant and recommence open pit mining of Buck Reef West. This required the school to be relocated. A decision was made to retain the two buildings of heritage significance; the original 1873 school room and residence, thought to be the oldest surviving house in North Queensland. These two buildings sit proudly alongside the new school buildings on Elphinstone Street, and continue to support the education of the children in Ravenswood.



ANZAC Day Service

The ANZAC Day Dawn Service has become an integral part of honouring service women and men in Ravenswood. Organised by the Ravenswood Restoration and Preservation Association join with work colleagues, friends and family at the Court House grounds at 5:45am on Thursday 25 April. A breakfast provided by Ravenswood Gold will follow the service at the Community Hall.

~ LEST WE FORGET ~



Dalrymple Cluster Cross Country

With the busy school term coming to a close, Greenvale, Pentland and Ravenswood State Schools joined together for another exciting school cluster sporting event. Hosted by Ravenswood State School, the Dalrymple Cluster Cross Country Competition brought students and their families to Ravenswood the Friday before end of term. The course consisted of a 3km route, 2km for younger students and 400m for the kindy kiddies.

Thanks to the generosity of Ravenswood Gold, a 1.5km

track was graded around the circumference of the Ravenswood Golf Course to prepare for the competition. Each and every one of the 30 competitors did their very best and were winners in their own right. We must be proud of our very own students with combined efforts heralding the Ravenswood State School as the winners of the 2024 Cross Country Competition. *Read more and the students report attached.*



Easter Hat Parade. It was loads of fun at the end of term Easter Hat Parade. Parents and visitors enjoyed being entertained at the Easter concert with students singing and dancing their way through Easter themed ditties. Parents and visitors also joined in the groove, jumping in for a round of the Hokey Pokey.



Ravenswood Community Health Support

Ravenswood Gold provides health services to the community within the limitations of the Ravenswood Gold clinical health team. These limitations are due to recent government directives, and the mine's duty of care for the health and safety of Ravenswood Gold employees. To ensure good health care for our community, **in an emergency situation**, please dial **Triple 000** to enable Queensland Fire and Emergency Service (QFES) and/or the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) to assess the situation and send a vehicle. QAS and/or QFES can call on the fully trained Mine personnel to respond to your **emergency** until they arrive. The Mine Site Nurse and/or ERT will attend **emergency** callouts day and night, as requested by the QAS.

Emergency callouts involve situations such as:

- Trauma incidents (fractures, spinal injury, eye injury)
- Unconsciousness from neurological conditions (strokes, seizure)
- Substance abuse or accidental poisoning
- Unrelieved chest pain of greater than 15mins duration
- Uncontrolled haemorrhage conditions
- Respiratory distress
- Resuscitation cases
- Anaphylaxis
- Diabetic emergency
- Snake bites
- Mental health crisis

In non-emergency situations, you can speak with a medical doctor any time of the day or night by calling the Royal Flying Doctor Service on **1300 MY RFDS (1300 69 7337)**. A doctor will advise on how to treat the condition and when required, RFDS will contact the Mine Site Nurse to provide support. Please be aware there is no rostered nightshift nurse so calling the RFDS will help to manage the fatigue wellbeing for the day shift nurse, particularly if your non-emergency medical condition is after hours.

New on the job

Next time you call our office, you may have the cheerful voice of Aleikah Heron on the end of the line. Aleikah joins our team as a Mine



Pictured is Big Dave being prepared for site access.

Site Administrator and will be in our front office ensuring site access requirements are met, as well as general administrative support. Welcome to Ravenswood Aleikah!

Information Day and Site tour Four enthusiastic Birriah people enjoyed a mine site tour to potentially spark interest in working on a mine site. They met with members of the Safety and Training team to learn about possible apprenticeships and traineeships and discovered opportunities working in the Environment Approvals and Community Department.

Hopefully the visit to the mine will be the beginning of a flourishing career in the resource sector.

Pictured left is Jared Cheney and far right, Kody Royal hosting the Birriah visitors



Water Treatment Plant

Managing the transition of our current Water Treatment Plant to the new Water Treatment Plant underway, with water quality testing showing sparkingly positive results. The new Water Treatment Plant should be fully commissioned by end of April, with an operating system able to modify treatment of raw water by both manual and automation inputs.



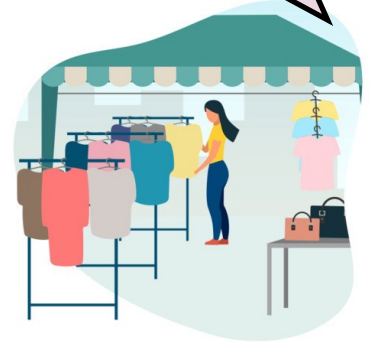
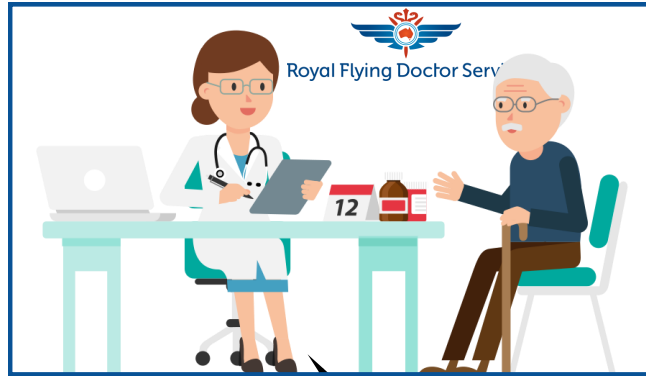
To contact Ravenswood Gold, phone (07) 4736 9100 or email info@ravenswoodgold.com

What's the rave in Ravenswood?

JOIN IN A GAME OF BINGO AT
2:30PM SUNDAY 14th APRIL
AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL.



With a variety of stalls, locals and visitors can enjoy browsing through the **Ravenswood Garden Markets** on the **second Sunday** of the month from **7am to Midday**.



NQ RAFS Outreach Community Playgroup is back in Wednesday 17th April. Children from birth to 8 years can enjoy some playgroup fun. For more information, contact the school or phone 0447 115 083.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service primary **health care clinics** are every four weeks. The next one will be **Wednesday 1st May**. Additionally, appointments are available to attend **RFDS Skin Cancer Clinics** on **Friday 12th April** and **Friday 10th May**. Phone 4040 0444 to book appointments.

NIGHT GOLF AND BBQ FOR SOCIAL CLUB MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. TUESDAY 16th APRIL.



SOCIAL CLUB ANZAC COMMEMORATION Tuesday 23rd April at the Camp Green Room. 6:15pm. Trivia, 2-up, darts, dinner and drinks.



RRPA Committee meeting Tuesday 9th April at 3:30pm



General Store opening hours:
Monday - Saturday
8am- 6:30pm
Sunday 9am - 6.30pm

Thorps Tearoom and Treasures opening hours:
Wednesday - Sunday 10am- 3pm
Phone: 0427 714 284

Top Camp Roadhouse and Caravan Park opening hours:
Monday - Sunday
4:30 am- 8:00 pm
Phone: 07 4770 2168

The **ANZAC Day Dawn Service** is to be held on the Court House grounds at **5:45am** on **Thursday 25th April**.

A non denominational **Christian service** will be held at the Ravenswood Church on **Sunday 7th April** at 11.30am.