

Ravenswood Round-up

September 2023

Loads of Variety in Town

Around 100 Variety Bash vehicles rolled into Ravenswood as part of the 10 day trip from Toowoomba to Cairns via North Queensland's inland townships. Variety Bash events support the Variety Children's Charity which is dedicated to empowering kids who are sick, have a disability or disadvantaged. The 25 year old (or more) cars are renown for bringing fun and excitement to far-flung corners of the country, and bringing smiles to faces. People who enter the Bash do it all in the spirit of raising funds to give kids in need a fair go.

The quick trip through Ravenswood also brought some cheer to our local kids as they stopped by the school to say hello and hand out some goodies. The children were spoiled with chock a block full shows bags, lollies and Suns AFL jumpers. Plus they gifted the school with a large tub of games and craft supplies – amazing! So thoughtful and unexpected.



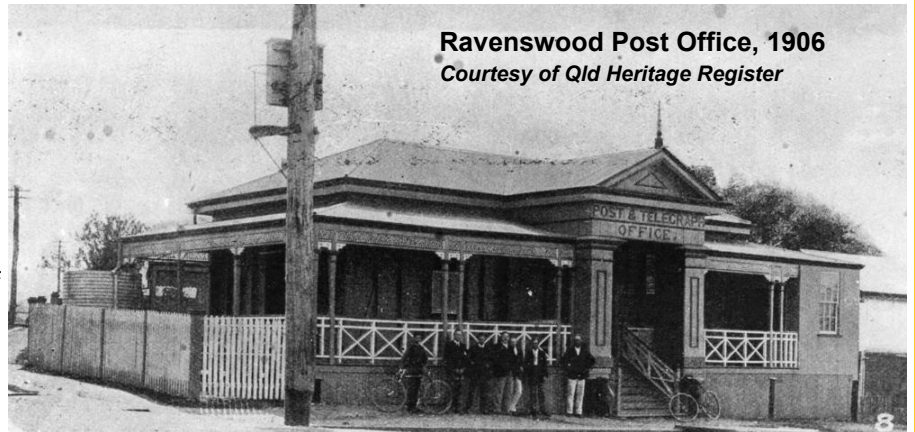
Ravenswood Community Meeting

Chaired by the Mayor Frank Beveridge and attended by Councillors, CEO and Executive team members, around 20 residents attended the annual Charters Towers Regional Council Community meeting. There was good conversation on a number of issues identified by community members and updates on achievements undertaken by the council. Included in the discussion was the recently installed tourist picture frame near Butlers Cottage, the removed houses sitting on blocks near the church and Telstra issues. All requests that were not answered on the day have been logged in Council's Customer Request system and allocated to the responsible areas for a response. Residents don't have to wait for an annual meeting to make enquires with Council. Requests can be lodged at any time by contacting the Customer Service Team on 4761 5300 or lodge a customer request on Council's website.



Ravenswood Post Office

After the discovery of gold in 1868 through to the early 1900s, Ravenswood became a town associated with major gold mining in North Queensland that gave significant impetus to the economic and social development of the region. The state's encouragement for such growth was demonstrated by establishment of public infrastructure such as post offices. Postal services were vital in the establishment of towns, particularly when they also had important economic resources.



Ravenswood Post Office, 1906
Courtesy of Qld Heritage Register

The Department of Works built a post and telegraph station in 1873 in Ravenswood and replaced it with the existing post office built in 1885 by the Queensland Public Works Department. The Ravenswood Post Office was added to the Queensland Heritage Register on 21 October 1992. With a distinctive classical pediment over the front entrance, the building has been used continuously since construction. As an important public building, its position on the corner of Raven and Macrossan Streets makes it a significant feature in the townscape of Ravenswood.

Throughout Ravenswood's ups and downs, it has continued to provide some government and business services to the surrounding community. It now runs as a small mixed business selling groceries, fuel, ice and other small items, in conjunction with the postal services. It truly is a convenient store for the local community and visitors.

Townsville 4WD Club Annual Clean Up

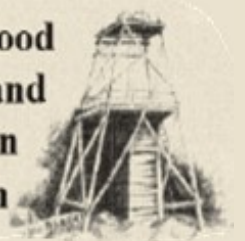
A heartfelt thanks from the Ravenswood community to the Townsville 4WD Club members who, for 20 years, have volunteered their time to clean up the Ravenswood Cemetery. This year was the largest turnout since 2015. With 24 members, two children and a few fur babies for company, the group completed the task of weeding and whipper snipping in two hours. This left plenty of time for few well deserved beverages and country cooked lunch at the historic Imperial Hotel. The weekend was a topped off with a tour of the gold mine on Sunday, before packing up and heading back to Townsville.



RRPA PIONEER'S LUNCHEON

All past and present residents of Ravenswood aged from 60 years are invited to celebrate Ravenswood's heritage at the Community Hall on Saturday 14 October at 9:30am. For more details and to RSVP contact Narelle Hancock on 4770 2047 or David Figg on 4779 3704.

The Ravenswood
Restoration and
Preservation
Association



Join us for a spooktacular evening at the **Ravenwood Halloween Ball!** Get ready to embrace the Halloween spirit and dress up in your most creative and frightening costumes. This in-person event will take place on **Saturday, October 28, from 6pm at the School of Arts Theatre (Town Hall).**

Prepare for a night filled with thrilling music, delicious treats, and bewitching decorations. Dance the night away with fellow Halloween enthusiasts and enjoy a variety of entertainment options that will keep you enchanted throughout the evening. Whether you're a fan of classic horror characters, mythical creatures, or pop culture icons, the **2023 Ravenwood Halloween Ball** is the perfect opportunity to showcase your creativity and immerse yourself in a world of frightful fun.



Don't miss out on this hair-raising event! Mark your calendars and get ready to have a spine-chillingly good time at the Ravenwood Halloween Ball! Head to **Eventbrite** for tickets online or purchase at the door on the night!

Senior Canberra Camp 2023 Artie, Wilfred and Miss Bianca went to an amazing week long camp with Greenvale State School to Canberra. Here is their report.

Though it was certainly cold, we had an awesome time. Our trip was packed with a lot of places to see, we learned a lot and had heaps of fun. The three of us greatly appreciate all the hard work from the parents, the community and the mining companies for all your support to make this trip possible for us.

We were first shown around Sydney, we then proceeded to Canberra and had an amazing four days in Canberra. We visited several national monuments like the Old Parliament House, Parliament House, Geoscience Australia, Abortorium, The Australian War Memorial, the Australian Mint, the Australian Capital Exhibition, Questacon, The Australian Institute of Sport, the National Gallery of Australia, and the Governor General's House. A trip to the snow was also squished in! Man, was it different to Ravenwood.

Safe to say the trip was packed full and we made the most of every moment. We flew home with many memories made. Our favorite moment on the trip was Questacon. Questacon is a Science place filled with fun games and cool stuff like caged lightning and man-made earthquakes! Fascinating!

Yours sincerely,
Artie & Wilfred (Y6)

NQ RAFS Outreach Community Playgroup

Ravenwood State School, 17th October 2023, 8:30am—11:00am

HELLO FAMILIES!

Barb Srhoj and Beth Flemming from NQ RAFS are coming to Ravenwood to run a playgroup with children from birth to 8yrs. NQ RAFS is an organisation that travel far and wide to visit children in remote areas. It's free to attend so if you know someone with small children then they are welcome to come along. Children will need a hat/sunscreen, shoes, their own water bottle and of course, lots of energy! If there is something your children love to do, please let NQ RAFS know so we can be prepared for when we came and play. Please note: signing in is necessary, parents/carers are also required to attend and if your child coughs or sneezes on a toy, it is the responsibility of a parent to sanitize the toy immediately.

RSVP nq.rafs@ucommunity.org.au or 0447 115 083 or 0472 556 181 or 4092 4318



North Shore State School camp stop over

Two large buses from Townsville rolled into town with close to 80 grade five students from the North Shore State School for the annual stop over on their way to Virginia Park Station as part of the school camp. A highlight is always a visit to the mine site. Ravenswood Gold’s bus driver Brian Hook looks forward to the visit each year. “I enjoy driving these kids around the site and hearing all the excited chatter. Makes me appreciate working here so much more when fresh eyes see what we are achieving.” The site tour was of particular excitement for Amara whose dad Ben Chisnell was operating one of the large haulage trucks transporting ore out of the pit the same day of the visit. Bens previous job was working at a mine with a seven hour bus ride to and from work. Ben said, “it’s so good working close to home as it gives me more time with the kids.”

With 90% of workers within a two hour drive from home, Ravenswood Gold mine is one of the largest employers in North Queensland, providing employment to over 420 full time personnel and a further 300 contractors. With the high cost of living, being able to help with financial stability for so many families means youngsters like Amara can enjoy time with their friends at school camps.



Community Notice—Sarsfield operations soon underway.

Ravenswood Gold has undertaken preparation works to mine in Sarsfield Pit. Blasting is expected to initially commence approximately once per week, weather permitting. Installation of additional noise, dust and vibration monitors in the community will provide real-time data to assist Ravenswood Gold with maintaining community friendly operations. If you don’t currently receive blast notifications via text and wish to do so, please email heather.allen@ravenswoodgold.com with your name and mobile

TEL Copperstring Effect Road Trip

Townsville Enterprise Limited (TEL) recently visited Ravenswood Gold mine as part of TEL’s “Unlock the North” road trip. Travelling from Townsville to Mt Isa, trip aims to raise awareness for regional industry in the north-west and advocate for Queensland Government support and investment in key industries, including mining, agriculture and renewables. With the announcement of the Copperstring Project to construct the largest power transmission line in Australia between Townsville and Mount Isa, the trip was themed the CopperString Effect. As Queensland’s largest gold mine, Claudia Brumme-Smith, TEL CEO, visited Ravenswood Gold to discuss the recent mine expansion and the benefits of providing local employment opportunities to support the region.



TEL CEO Claudia Brumme-Smith interviewing Gracie Charlton, Senior Environment Advisor for the TEL Road Trip Video.

Meet Bansi Our newest Environment Advisor will be out about the town checking the dust jars or taking water samples. Help her feel welcome with a friendly wave.



Sky News reporter, Lucy Gray was gathering stories on gold mining for the Sky News *Our Town* program; *Charters Towers region houses largest gold mine in Queensland.*



General Manager, Dave Mackay hosted Lucy’s visit to the mine, which included Lucy holding a newly poured gold bar, but not for too long!



COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

JOIN US FOR A CUPPA AND CHAT AT 10AM
THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT
THORP’S TEA ROOM AND TREASURES

What's happening?

Ravenswood Garden Markets Enjoy browsing through the Markets on **Sunday 10th September**.

Ravenswood Restoration and Preservation Association (RRPA) Members of the RRPA will meet on **Tuesday 12th September** at 3.30 pm at the Community Hall.

Royal Flying Doctors Service The RFDS will be in Ravenswood on **Wednesday 20th September**. Clinics will be held from mid morning to mid afternoon. For appointments call 04040 0444.

RG Community Morning Tea Come along to a community morning tea hosted by Ravenswood Gold Thursday **28th September** at Thorps Tea Rooms and Treasures.

Breast Screen Clinic The Breast Screen Clinic mobile van will be coming to Ravenswood on **28th and 29th September**. Call 13 20 50 to book your breast screen.

Church Service A Catholic Mass will be held on **Sunday 1st October** at 11.30am. All welcome.

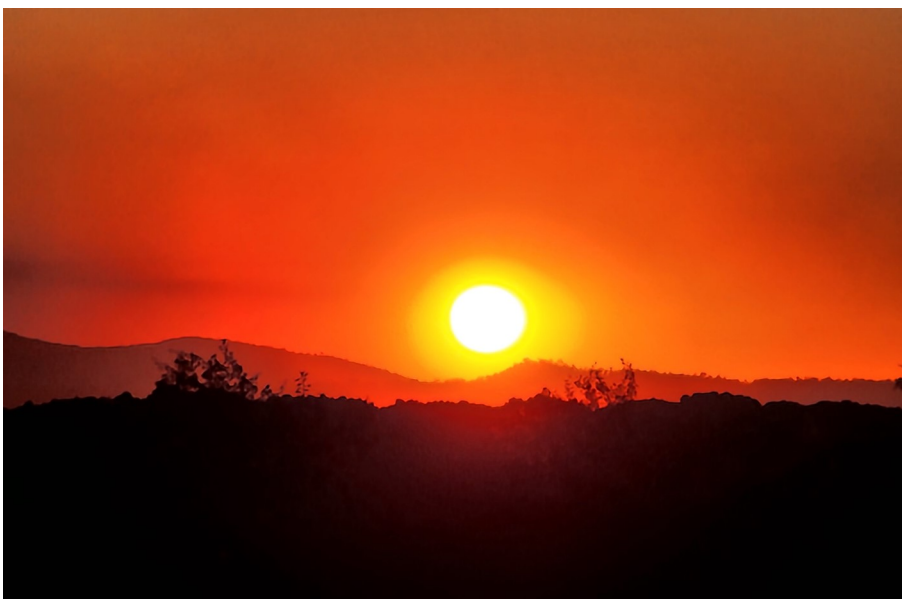
Pioneers Luncheon All past and present residents of Ravenswood are invited to the Pioneers Luncheon to be held on **Saturday 14th October**. RSVP to Narelle Hancock on 4770 2047.

NQ RAFS Outreach Community Playgroup Held at the Ravenswood State School from 8.30am to 11am on **Tuesday 17th October** for children birth to 8 years. RSVP nq.rafs@uccommunity.org.au

Halloween Ball Come along to the annual family friendly Ravenswood Halloween Ball held on **Saturday 28 October**. Tickets can be bought online or at the door. See page 3 for more detail.



Bianca Byers is all set up to pamper your dog with her mobile dog washing trailer. Call Bianca on 0429 950 828 to book appointments.



Ravenswood Gold Social Club **Picture Perfect Competition** has ramped with some amazing images. This months winner is the golden sun setting over the gold mine. The peacock shaking its vibrant plumage framed by the historic arch bridge was too good not to share. Keep the images coming in by emailing socialclubsecretary@ravenswoodgold.com.