

THE PROSTON
POST IS PROUDLY
SPONSORED BY
NB DEPARTMENT
STORE AND
JACARANDA
TEAROOMS



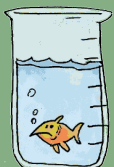
WISHING ALL
OUR READERS A
WONDERFUL
CHRISTMAS AND
A WETTER AND
BETTER NEW
YEAR.

**Lake
Boondooma
Current
Capacity
25%**

**In the
Rain
Gauge**

**At Proston
Post Office
Oct
45.8mm
Nov
8mm
2019 Total
301.1mm**

**This time last
year to end of
Nov 2018
634.2mm**



The Proston Post

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6

DEC 2019/JAN 2020

Putting Proston on the Map



ABC Wide Bay reporter Brad Marsellos, pictured above with Kathy Duff, visited Proston recently to find out the story behind how the little town of Proston is re-inventing itself. Cr Kathy Duff told Brad of how she decided to use the personal tragedy of losing her partner to suicide to try and make a difference to her town. Using her inheritance Kathy purchased the block of seven shops and handed them over to the Proston Village Community Group. A small team of hard-working volunteers are currently renovating the shops. The work has created a lot of interest and

is already boosting morale. Locals are enjoying coming into the street once more to chat or catch up over coffee. The first shop to be finished - Shop 44 - has opened as a pop-up gift shop and is proving popular. Well done all. We look forward to more progress in Proston village in 2020. If you'd like to listen to the interview, you'll find it on the ABC Wide Bay Facebook page.

Pictured below are volunteers John, Rosco, dog Chip, Wayne and Geoff after a very hot morning spent working on the roof of the shop awnings. Proston is very lucky to have this group of cheerful, dedicated (& good looking) volunteers!



Student Achievements Recognised

A large crowd filled the Proston Community Hall on Tuesday evening 26th November for Proston State School's Annual Awards Night. The evening celebrated the hard work and achievements of the school students and staff during 2019.

School Captains Kayla Delsureto and Aaron Nowland did a wonderful job of hosting the event. Winners of some of the special awards were:

- * Tafe Student of the Year **Lachlan Steer**
- * Junior Sportsperson of the Year **Alivia Wieland and Aidan Nisbet**
- * Senior Sportsperson of



From left School Captain Aaron Nowland, Cr Kathy Duff, School Captain Kayla Delsureto and Principal Mrs Samantha Skerritt.

- the Year **Alana Doessel**
- * Lions Citizenship Awards **Alivia Wieland and Michael Ward**
- * Scout Leadership Awards **Hayley Fox and Aaron Nowland**
- * QCWA Industry Award **Arleigha Bartlett**

- * South Burnett Regional Council Award **Kaitlyn Barber**
- * Deb Frecklington MP Award **Aaliyah Savage and Frances Bennett**
- * Herdsman Award **Jessica Jackson**
- * Kathy Duff Art Award **Declan Cobbo and Joshua Santleben**

Principal Mrs Samantha Skerritt reported on a very busy and successful year and announced the incoming School Captains for 2020. They are Kimberley Fisher and Dominic Malone, while Vice Captains are Alivia Wieland and Hayley Fox. Congratulations to all those students who received awards.

Councillor Kathy's Comments



Cr Kathy Duff

Proston is the pink capital of the South Burnett. Congratulations to the whole Proston community on the wonderful way that everyone came on board to support pinking up our region to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer. I know when Brad Marsellos from ABC Wide Bay came to Proston to do a story on the shops he was amazed to see the pink town and the spirit of the whole community. It was wonderful to see the rural properties also involved with some pinking up their mailboxes and gateways.

Proston Golf Club raised \$9400 which was by far the most money raised anywhere across our whole region. Congratulations to the Proston Golf Club Committee on this huge effort. The Pinknic in the Park & Movie Night was also a great evening. There was \$19500 raised across the whole region. Our Committee was excited by the amount raised and the success of the event and we are planning to hold it again next year possibly in October. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy, Holy &

Wet Christmas. Thanks for your support this year and I look forward to working with you all in 2020!! Please feel free to contact me at any time. I am keen to hear your concerns and to work closely with you. * **I can be contacted on 0437 020 705.**



Pat Henry did a fantastic job of pinking up Proston. Even the water in the pond turned pink!

“Pinked Up” and proud of it!

To quote our Pink Lady, Cr Kathy Duff, Proston has once again “punched above its weight” with the community throwing its full support behind “Pinking the Region for Cancer awareness” and “Teeing off for Breast Cancer Trials.” \$315.15 was raised for the McGrath Foundation from the Pink-nic in the Park, Get Pink

Day at Proston School and the Proston Village Shop Window competition and Photo Booth. Proston Golf Club held a fantastic family fun golf day, raising a staggering \$9400 for Breast Cancer Trials. What a wonderful show of support from a community with a big heart. Great work everyone. Let's do it all again next year!



Breast Cancer survivor Judith Garland and husband Brian joined the fun at the Tee off for Breast Cancer Trials Golf Day.



Cr Kathy Duff, Breast Care Nurse Sue Cox and Margaret Westerman at the Pink-nic.



Cr Kathy Duff gets to know Dangora Gully KASH the Cheque, the red angus bull named for Kerry & Sue Heit.

Rural Studies Celebration

The Proston State School Rural Studies Team celebrated the end of another great year at a BBQ attended by about 50 supporters at the Ag farm recently. Teacher Katrina Hayward thanked all present for their ongoing support of the cattle show team and the Ag program in general. “We simply couldn't do what we do without your support and it is

greatly appreciated,” Katrina said. Cr Kathy Duff congratulated Katrina and her team on the success of the program and said that it was fantastic to see local students have the opportunity for personal growth while gaining an insight into rural industries through the experiences the Ag program provided.



From left: Chloe Shaplan, Kimberley Fisher, Katrina Hayward (Teacher), Mikaela Ross (Teacher Aide), Morgan Dabonde and Jessica Jackson. Photo Kathy Duff

WANTED

Up
PoP ShOp

**We've got the space
Have you got the idea?**

Proston Village Community Group

The pop-up shop at 44 Blake Street will be OPEN for Proston's Christmas Shopping Night on Saturday 7th December from 5pm. New gifts are available as well as local arts and crafts. If anyone has art or craftwork they would like to place in the

shop to sell or display, we are happy to assist for a small commission. Donations of good quality items are also appreciated. 100% of sales go back into materials to assist in the ongoing refurbishment of the community shops. A Member's Meeting will be held early in the New Year and members will be advised of the details. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Proston
Christmas Shopping
Night
Saturday 7th
December
5pm til late
Come and visit NB
Department Store,
Jacaranda Tearooms,
Proston Health &
Beauty and Shop 44.**

Social Snippets

* Proston QCWA ladies welcomed approximately 80 people to their Pink Melbourne Cup Lunch in the Community Hall recently. Guests enjoyed a delicious 2 course lunch, followed by the judging of the Fashions of the Field. Congratulations to winners Amanda Bleys and John Papworth. The lovely day concluded with the drawing of the multi draw raffle and lucky door tickets.



Below is an email received by The Proston Post recently from some visitors to town.
"What a delight it was to take my 95yr old Dad and long time resident of Kingaroy, Doug Farmer and sister Carolyn Farmer, for a drive to Proston on Friday 1st November. Since Dad has gone into care at Canowrindra in Kingaroy my sister and I try to do regular visits and take him on outings. He had expressed his wish to revisit Proston and Wondai so off we set and turned off at Tingoorra for a lovely drive through to Hivesville and onto Proston. Imagine our delight and surprise when we saw the whole town decked out in "Pink" - Dad loved it and we had to explore all the streets before stopping off for a cuppa at the delightful Jacaranda Tearooms where we enjoyed scones with jam and "Pink" cream. My husband also enjoyed reading your "Pink" Proston Post as many of his mother's family have been residents of Proston in years past. Congratulations on a wonderful effort and much appreciated by myself, a breast cancer survivor." Diane Graham, Howard.



A big welcome to Archie Scott Charles Johnstone, a beautiful baby son for Maddie Smith & Scott Johnstone. Archie arrived on 16th November weighing 8lb 2ozs. Congratulations to all!

* The Introduction to Anxiety & Depression Workshop held during November was very well attended. Dr Tim Driscoll presented the workshop, which was organised by Andrea McGee from RHealth and Community Nurse Kathy Crane. The workshop has led to the formation of a local peer support group who are planning their first meeting for Wednesday 11th December at 10am in the Cultural Centre, Railway Park, Proston.

At the Library



The lovely display in the Library for "Pinking up Proston."

A message from Librarian Julie Manning
 I would like to advise that the Proston Library will close at 1pm on Friday 20th December and reopen at 9.30am on Thursday 2nd January 2020. I wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with peace and happiness.



Get to Know a Local!

Although a relative newcomer to Proston, John Power is part of the team presently devoting many hours of volunteer time renovating the shops in Blake Street for Proston Village Community Group. Whether he's measuring, hammering or painting, John goes about his work with a cheerful disposition. The volunteers would welcome donations of building materials, paint etc so if you have something that may be of use you can catch

John at the shops most days. Great work - your effort is much appreciated!

Name: John Power
Nickname: Noisy
Lived in Proston: 2 years
Occupation: Retired (some days)
Favourite Pastime: Having a chat/beer
Favourite Food: Chinese/Thai
Favourite Music: The Little

River Band

Favourite Sport: Rowing & Hockey
I can't live without: My wife
My secret talent is: I can go to sleep anywhere at any time!
Best Quality: Patience
Worst Quality: Better ask my wife!
Proston needs: Tourism
What I like most about Proston: The quiet and casual lifestyle



Dates for your Diary

Reinke Scrub Walk Sunday 8th December

Hivesville Christmas Celebration Friday 13th December

Proston Christmas Carnival Saturday 14th December

Hivesville Country Market Sunday 26th January (No market in December)

Australia Day Sunday 26th January

Mosaic Workshop Friday 31st January & Saturday 1st February

Church Service Times:

Catholic 8am Mass every Saturday

South Burnett Ministries 9.30am every Sunday

Baptist 10am on the 2nd & 4th Sundays, 2pm Bible Study on 3rd Sunday

Those were the days.....

Dry times hit in 1946

The following article titled Drought Grim in South Burnett: Proston's Dairying is Facing Disaster by R. F. Cornish was printed in the Courier Mail on Saturday, July 27 1946.

Cornish was touring Queensland's drought areas.

"Drought disaster is overtaking the Proston dairying district west of Murgon, which is the hardest hit drought tract in the South Burnett.

Exhaustion of water supplies, perhaps more than the food shortage, has confronted farmers with conditions the like of which they have not had to endure in decades.

Nowhere in a week's journey of 500 miles have I found the state of the country as deplorable as it is here.

Yet I am told that Proston is only on the fringe of the stricken area.

There were hopes for rain last night when 30 to 50 points were recorded, but they were dashed with the clearing of the weather this morning.

It was the best fall Proston has had since April, but without substantial rain following it will be the worst thing that could possibly happen to the district.

A big proportion of the farm lands is completely denuded of grasses, especially the Speedwell and Abbrwood areas. On other properties there are only thinning badly or dried-out strands of Rhodes grass.

Gums, Ironbarks Dying

Gum and Ironbark trees are dying on the ridges.

In a desperate bid to stave off disaster in Proston, producers weeks ago sent 3500 head of cattle to relief country on agistment and sold hundreds of other cattle.

As a result of consequent understocking, losses so far have been moderate, and dairy herds, generally speaking, have weathered the drought remarkably well, though in many cases

Peanut hay will not be available very long as supplies are nearly at an end in the peanut producing areas.

Most surface water has disappeared, the main supply being available from soakages in the Stuart River.

Many sub artesian supplies have diminished to be inadequate, and much is so mineralised as to be unfit for stock until it is diluted with some surface water.

Water being carted

In all parts of the area farmers are carting water, both for stock and domestic uses, and in some cases it is being hauled from 11 miles away.

Five army tankers sent by the army authorities in Brisbane on loan to the district are helping with daily schedules.

No less acute is the water situation for the 400 residents of the Proston township. With tanks empty, most supplies are now being drawn three miles from the Stuart River.

The risk of disease and infection has caused some people, including the local hotel, to obtain drinking water from the chlorinated water supply at Murgon, involving a 32-mile haul at a cost of £5 for 1200 gallons.

State school pupils have to equip themselves with water bottles. The solution, it is argued, is a national water conservation undertaking too large for individuals to handle.

A series of weirs across such rivers as the Stuart and Boyne are suggested as a practical measure.

To date few families in this district have availed themselves of the State Government's relief loan, not that the relief is not urgently needed, but because of the stringent terms which the Government has attached to the scheme.

Mr. C. E. Perkins, South Burnett representative on the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation, told me that any encouragement for producers to save

MOSAIC WORKSHOP

Proston



Friday & Saturday
31st January &
1st February 2020
4 to 5 hours each morning
Starts 9am

Please BYO

- Small to medium terracotta pot, or paver, or flattish item to mosaic
- Tile cutter – the type with a wheel is preferred
- Smoko & Lunch



COST \$25
(to be paid when booking please)
Bookings essential

To confirm your place in the workshop please contact
Kathy Crane on 0407 091 019

Reinke Scrub Walk



TO GET THERE: From Proston, follow Rodney Street to the School and continue on Weir Road for approx 2km.
Look for the entrance to the Park on your left.

For more information please contact
Kathy Crane on 0407 091 019.

Sunday
8 December
at 8.30am

Come and join in a walk of the Orange Circuit Track (approx. 2km) through Reinke Scrub Conservation Park.
All meet at the parking area.
Please remember to bring a hat, water bottle and closed in shoes for walking.
All welcome!



Proston Golden Spurs Hotel is open for business again
A warm welcome is extended to the new lessees

100 Years Down The Track

We are collating a book for our centenary and would love your Proston story!

500 - 1000 words

Please email your story along with any supporting photos to
theprostonhc@gmail.com

Proston Heritage Assn are collating a book for the Centenary and are looking for anyone who would like to contribute their Proston story/memory. In 500 to 1000 words tell us about your memories of Proston and submit it as soon as possible. Please email your stories, along with any photos you would like to include to theprostonhc@gmail.com

Boondooma Dam Yellowbelly FAMILY FISHING COMPETITION

FEBRUARY 8th & 9th 2020

Celebrating **30 YEARS**

\$50,000 Estimated CASH & PRIZES

MAJOR PRIZE: 395 Drifter BLUEFIN TINNI –MERCURY MOTOR 20hp
Including TRAILER, GARMIN FISH FINDER & SAFETY GEAR
Boat Package Valued @ **\$15,000**

FISHING!

BOONDOOMA DAM STYLE

\$20 Seniors / \$5 Juniors

Pre-Nominations accepted from 3rd January email: boondoomastocking@gmail.com

Cutoff date for Pre-Registration is the 31st Jan 2020

Competitors must have a Fishing Permit, Camping available at the Lake Boondooma Kiok Ph: 4189694

SENIORS – Prize Money for each weight-in period for the heaviest of each target species, plus trophy & prize money for the heaviest overall Yellowbelly & Australian Bass

JUNIORS – Winner & Runner-up for each weight-in period, plus a trophy for the heaviest overall Yellowbelly & Australian Bass

KLILLED/CUTTED & CATCH-N-RELEASE SECTIONS

LIVE WEIGHT TINS for Bass, Yellowbelly, Silver Perch, Jew & Spangled, Perch
OPEN TO SENIORS AND JUNIOR ANGLERS

More Info: BOONDOOMA DAM FISH STOCKING & MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION INC Ph: 0417 717 324 / 0456 999 332

Visit us on our **NEW FACEBOOK PAGE & NOW ON INSTAGRAM**

"THANKYOU TO ALL OUR AMAZING SPONSORS"

Alicia's Spa & Hair Worx

urban style day spa at country prices

36 BLAKE STREET, PROSTON

Upcoming Dates for January - Dec 2020

January 21	July 14 & 28
February 4 & 18	Aug 11 & 25
March 3 & 17 & 31	Sept 8 & 22
April 14 & 28	Oct 6 & 20
May 12 & 26	Nov 3 & 17
June 9 & 23	Dec 1 & 15

DONT FORGET!

Services Available are-
Trims and Style Cuts, Colours and Foils, Perms,
Waxing & Tinting, Manicures* & Pedicures*
(*Available by appointment only, session and senior discounts apply)

House Calls and Walk ins Available
Pre-Booking appreciated for longer appointments

Contact Alicia on
(07) 4168 1684 or 0438 763 679

Dates for Hairdresser visits for 2020

Read "The Proston Post" online at www.prostononline.info or "Like" and "Follow" the Proston Connection Facebook page.

If you have an item or photograph that you think may be of interest to your community it can be left at either NB Inspirations or Jacaranda Tearooms or alternatively email it to glrea6@bigpond.com for possible inclusion in the newsletter.