

## Profile

# Tamborine Mountain Heritage Centre M&GSQ Standards Program 2008



The Shop – a reconstructed building typical of a country general store in the early to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century



The Slab Cottage – constructed from genuine slabs recycled from other buildings. Typical of the lifestyle of the earliest settlers on Tamborine Mountain in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries



Scale model of the Curtis sawmill which was driven by a waterwheel

**Tamborine Mountain Heritage Centre**  
Wongawallan Road  
Eagle Heights QLD 4271  
P: 07 5545 3929  
[tamborinehistorical@hotmail.com](mailto:tamborinehistorical@hotmail.com)  
[rpokarier@aapt.net.au](mailto:rpokarier@aapt.net.au) (Ron Pokarier – President)

**Hours: Sunday 11.00am-3.00pm**

**Contact: Ron Pokarier, President  
Christine Martin, Secretary**

### 'Did You Know' – intriguing facts about the Museum & its collection

- ◆ During World War 2 the Japanese government tried to demoralise Australian troops in New Guinea by dropping occupation money printed for Australia. Some of these notes can be seen at the museum. The notes were donated to the Tamborine Mountain Historical Society by local community members.
- ◆ The Historical Society has in its collection the theodolite used by a local man, surveyor William Henry Davidson, to survey the Northern Territory and Queensland border in the 1880s. A theodolite is a scientific instrument used by Surveyors for measuring angles (directions) in the horizontal and vertical planes. When the border was re-surveyed and measured using modern surveying equipment about 20 years ago they found the original survey was only out by a metre or so in a couple of places, demonstrating the accuracy and skill of the surveyor.
- ◆ Before maize can be fed to animals it needs to be husked, shelled, and cracked. Various machines used by early settlers to perform these tasks can be seen in the Machinery Hall. This type of machinery is important to the history of Tamborine Mountain, as dairy farming was an important industry to the region. The Jenyn's dairy was relocated to the Heritage Centre and provides an accurate picture of how these dairies operated and how people obtained milk and cream before it was found in supermarkets in bottles and cartons.

### Our Profile

The museum is dedicated specifically to the history of Tamborine Mountain. The collection is housed thematically in a number of buildings: Pioneer Hall (a weatherboard re-located church), the Auditorium (meeting space, storage for documents and archives), Machinery Hall, Shop, Dairy and Blacksmith, Slab Cottage and an open style machinery shed. The shop, slab cottage and blacksmith shop are reconstructions of typical structures of the period of early settlement, from the 1880s onwards. The dairy is an actual relocated dairy typical of the structure and machinery used on Tamborine and in much of Southeast Queensland.

Pioneer Hall incorporates a "Fashion House" with a significant collection of early clothing worn by settlers on the mountain including a dress worn to the opening of federal parliament. There is also a scale model of the water-wheel which drove the Curtis sawmill, ingenious displays representing pioneer settlement lifestyles.

The historical society's collection includes a number of early photographs, documents and tape recordings of interviews of the families of early settlers.

### What the Standards Program has meant for our Museum

#### Documentation

The Standards Program has emphasised the need for more documentation regarding the collection including details of acquisition, preservation and restoration of particular items, as well as significance.

#### Improving Interpretation

We have realised the need for a consistent approach to interpretation of the buildings and displays. We are developing standardised signage to aid visitors to better understand the buildings and displays in terms of the chronological context of the settlement of Tamborine Mountain.