

Thursday 27th December 2007

Local Historical Society Celebrates Jindalee Scout Jamboree Anniversary

The Centenary Suburbs Historical Society mounted a pictorial display at the Mt Ommaney Library to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the 8th Australian Scout Jamboree held at Jindalee from 28 December 1967 to 6 January 1968.

Centenary Suburbs Historical Society Secretary Dianne Ruffles said the display traced the Jamboree from its early planning stages through to its establishment, the embodiment of its theme “The Dawn of Friendship”, to having its legacy cemented in the renaming of the area where it was held from Jindalee to Jamboree Heights. This was the first time that a Jamboree was honoured by having the resulting suburb named in recognition of the event.

“Many street names in the suburb commemorate its Scouting heritage such as Patrol, Guide, Emblem, Woggle, Troop, Flag, Pack, Pennant and Masthead Streets,” she said.

In 1965 the Queensland Branch of The Scout Association of Australia accepted the invitation to host the 1967/68 Jamboree. 200 hectares of bushland at Jindalee was chosen to accommodate the event. Landowners, Centenary Estates Ltd, leased the area for a peppercorn rent for several years to include the "build up" and "run down" periods. More than 15,300 scouts from 19 Asian and Pacific countries as well as all Australian states and territories participated in the Jamboree.

The site was formally returned to Centenary Estates Ltd in September 1968.

The commemoration of this significant event for the Centenary Suburbs coincided with 2008 being proclaimed the Year of the Scout in recognition of the 100th anniversary of scouting in Australia – only one year after the movement was established worldwide.

A plaque commemorating the Jamboree is located at Bilga Street, Jamboree Heights.

