

The Windmill

Balaklava Muszum Inc

October 2025

Another successful Balaklava Show was held on Saturday 27th September, the weather was perfect and thank you to the Balaklava Show Committee for all the work done to make it a great day. Balaklava Museum attended again this year and had the Caterpillar D4 on display. The D4 was put together in a rush to defend Australia from attack before and during WWII, it saw service in the South Pacific fleet before it was seconded by General MacArthur and rebadged US7 fleet defending Australia in the islands and around Darwin, mainly repairing bomb blast holes in airstrips. There was some maintenance on the D4 needing to be carried out before the show, thank you to members who worked on this. Thank you also to Roberts Haulage who transported the D4 to and from the show.

The Museum also drew their annual raffle at the show. Thank you to Grace Wade and Sarah Tiller for organizing this and to all members who donated toward the prizes. Raffle tickets were sold for the week preceding the show and at the show throughout the day.

The Museum was also part of the Dalkey Trail, supporting the Balaklava Children's Centre.



Promotions Report

The following is the Promotions Report presented at our AGM in August.

Just a recap from the last 12 months of being the Promotions Officer.

The following is a list of Groups we had visit the Museum some of which we had the pleasure of catering for more than once -

- The Port Broughton Day Program
- Gawler Car Club and Oldsmobile Club
- Country Health Connect, Crystal Brook
- Country Health Connect, Laura and Gladstone
- Fleurieu Antique Machinery Society of South Australia
- Barossa Village
- A small group of Students from Balaklava High

also, some groups of Reception and Year 1's from the primary school.

We had our annual 2024 raffle and a rather windy day for the Balaklava Show, handing out packets of coloured pencils as part of the Dalkey Trail. Last Christmas we decide to opt out of the Christmas Parade due to a lack of time, but that didn't matter too much as the parade was cancelled because of hot weather.

We had our Christmas party here at the Visitor Center, with a pooled luncheon and raffle.

I was lucky enough to have been contacted by Matthew Pantelis from 5AA. He was doing a segment on History in the mid north visiting several museums. We showed him around the museum and then I sat down with him and had an interview for the radio.

And this year we celebrated 100 years of Caterpillar at our open day in May. Advertising with The Plains Producer, flyers, Facebook and the Community page on the internet with 5CS.

And lastly Facebook. Facebook has become a very useful tool for promotions, and information to be put out there instantly. We have had very positive feedback, especially during History Month. In May I decided that I would use Facebook to promote local history, I put something on Facebook every day in May. This was good, not just for local history but for the museum. This also gave us more of a following on Facebook.

Works Report

Thank you to all members who helped with preparations for the Balaklava Show display and to all members who worked throughout the day.

We have now received a Certificate of Occupancy for the Records Room. Work is continuing in setting up and transferring records from Centenary Hall.

Weed spraying and general maintenance is continuing across both sites, thanks to all.

Kevin Julyan

Balaklava Church of Christ Community Care SWAP Shop Grant

Balaklava Museum was successful with their grant application project titled “Signage”. Both Centenary Hall and Urlwin Park needed more signage to attract both locals and tourists to the sites.

We thank Balaklava Church of Christ for the opportunity to fund two new signs as pictured below. These were created by TADS, and museum members worked on the framing and supports.



Just a Reminder of changes to our museum roster

It has become increasingly difficult to find people to fill rosters and as a result members were being asked to fill positions much more regularly. To counteract this issue it was moved, seconded and carried that our opening hours be changed as follows –

Both Centenary Hall and Urlwin Park will be open 2.30-4.00 on the second Sunday of each month. Urlwin Park will be open each Saturday from 10.00-12.00 as members are already at the site and it gives visitors more options to visit.

Museum Roster		
Centenary Hall		Urlwin Park
October 12	L Dall R Tiller	T Dall D Tiller
November 9	L Jenner R Gardener	A Julian J Walker
December 14	M Zerk R Bemrose	P Godbolt G Fisher
February 8	D Taylor B Rodgers	P Taylor A Kirkland

NOTE: Museum will NOT open if Adelaide temperature is 35°+

Museum opening times :

Centenary Hall and Urlwin Park sites : 2:30 - 4:00 second Sunday of each month.

Urlwin Park : Saturdays 10:00 – 12:00

(other times by appointment) Visitor entry : Adult \$5.00 Child \$1:00 per site.

Working Bees are held most Saturdays 9-12 at Urlwin Park, all welcome.

Please like and follow us on Facebook.

Balaklava Museum – Urlwin Park and Centenary Hall

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