

The Lake Wendouree Museum Education Program

The Lake Wendouree Museum Education program aims to make the lake and the museum an integral part of the curriculum in every school in Ballarat and district and to encourage visitors from far and wide.

This great resource on our doorstep is under-utilised because nobody has up until now collected or co-ordinated all the ideas and activities which teachers have developed to use it.

This web site has been developed to serve that purpose and eventually host ideas spanning all areas of the curriculum and all year levels.

The Lake Wendouree Museum is about the past but its future lies in the contribution the community makes to it. We hope you will visit, bring your students and your imagination.

What's in the museum?

- ❖ Where was the first public swimming pool in Ballarat located?
- ❖ Where did a Lord, a Princess and an Empress appear together regularly in Ballarat in the late 19th Century?
- ❖ Do you know which type of bird commonly seen around the lake can live up to 25 Years?
- ❖ Why is Mill Street called Mill Street?
- ❖ What did soap, candles, sugar and leather all have in common in Ballarat at the turn of the Century?
- ❖ Why didn't people fish in Lake Wendouree until 1870?
- ❖ Before Europeans came to Ballarat, who used the lake as a meeting place?
- ❖ Do you know why during the 1956 Olympics all the events located on the lake postponed on November 24th?
- ❖ Where was the Ballarat Zoo?

The answers to these and many other questions can be found in the Lake Wendouree Museum.

Arranging a School Visit to The Lake Wendouree Museum:

- ❖ The museum is open to schools by appointment.
- ❖ You can arrange an excursion time to suit you by contacting:
Sandy d'Helin
Phone: 5331 4061
Email: stratg@netconnect.com.au
- ❖ The museum space is not large; it will take a maximum of 16 students comfortably. If you have a larger group it is best to split the group and arrange activities to do both in the museum and outside around the lake, in rotation.
- ❖ PLEASE NOTE: It is not presently possible to view the Golden City Paddle Steamer as it is undergoing extensive renovation away from the lake.
- ❖ The cost per student is \$1.50
There is no charge for supervising teachers.
An invoice will be forwarded.

A visit to the museum is best combined with other lake related activities:

Visit the Ballarat botanical Gardens:

The Robert Clarke centre

The Prime Ministers' walk

The Statuary Pavilion

Explore the newly developed wetlands in the north gardens

www.ballaratbotanicalgardens.com/education.htm

Disembark from your bus at the Olympic rings. Bring your nets, gumboots, microscopes and magnifying glasses and go ponding off "The Spit".

Have lunch in the Rotunda and spend some time in the Ballarat Community Adventure playground

Walk around the West side of the lake in Spring and discover the amazing swans' nests...by early November you should see plenty of cygnets.

Contact Malcom Fiegert at Forest Street Primary School to borrow ponding equipment.

How can your school be involved?

- ❖ Visit the museum on a "Teachers Day Out" (dates to be advised/register your interest by telephone or email) and tell us what additions you'd like to see.
- ❖ Share with us the ideas and activity sheets you've developed and used for lake activities. Let us know where you think they fit into the "Activities Grid" on the web site. The "grid" will be updated and expanded regularly.
- ❖ Use some of the ideas on the web page and give us feedback as to their value and any ideas for extensions or improvements.
- ❖ Send us the students' responses to the activities or their accounts of their time spent at the lake or in the museum. We'll publish some of them on the web site.

Breaking news around the lake.....Who's been doing what?..

A joint initiative of the Golden City Paddlesteamer Society and the Work For The Dole Scheme has enabled the restoration of the jetty alongside Gill's boatshed. The new jetty will enable passengers to board the Golden City Paddlesteamer without having to walk through the museum.

And this is just the beginning! Mr Ernst Zylstra, a retired engineer and boat builder will continue to work with the group on the restoration of the Golden City Paddlesteamer.

(If you have news and/ or photographs of educational activities around the lake we'd love to hear from you and to add them to the website)

Links to Related Material

The following websites all include information and activities which might be useful to you in preparing for a visit to the lake and The lake Wendouree museum.

- Ballarat Botanical Gardens Education: www.ballaratbotanicalgardens.com/education.htm
- Central Highlands Water: www.chw.net.au/
- Yarra Valley Water: www.yvw.com.au/corp-index.html
- Melbourne Water: www.education.melbournewater.com.au/
- Sovereign Hill education: www.sovereignhill.com.au/education/index.shtml
- Narmbool: www.narmbool.sovereignhill.com.au/narmbool/index.shtml
- LINCS: www.nifl.gov/lincs/