

What's new in the Heritage City this November...

Day out with Thomas

Everyone's favourite blue engine is steaming back to The Workshops Rail Museum this summer for *Day out with Thomas* opening Sunday 27 December 2020. Rounding out his 75th Anniversary year, Thomas will be joined by family favourites including The Fat Controller, Annie and Clarabel, Douglas, Trevor the Traction Engine, and George the Steamroller. Get set for wholesome family fun this school holidays with plenty of activities on offer including the Thomas Play Pit, craft, colouring in, and games, as well as an opportunity to meet The Fat Controller. As a special addition for the duration of the event, the museum's model railway will feature Thomas and children are encouraged to find the iconic blue engine steaming round the tracks. When it's time to unwind, visitors can relax and watch a Thomas movie in the theatre, before it's full steam ahead for more fun around the museum including the diesel train simulator and the *Sciencentre*.

Tickets to *Day out with Thomas* include entry to the museum and all exhibits. Visitors are encouraged to make a day of it and explore all the museum has on offer with family tickets just \$44.50 for two adults and two children. In addition, there will be a sensory friendly session on Wednesday 6 January from 8:30am - 11am.

Day out with Thomas is packed full of things for the whole family to see and do:

- Meet Thomas and The Fat Controller
- Dive into the Thomas Play Pit
- Become railway engineers in the track building area
- Get hands-on with a range of Thomas activities including craft, colouring in, and games
- Find the hidden Thomas trains on the huge model railway
- Take a break and watch a Thomas movie
- Let off steam in Nippers Railway, the indoor adventure playground
- Explore 15 larger-than-life exhibits including the *Sciencentre*, steam trains and train simulators
- Buy a Thomas Showbag or T-Shirt in our retail shop.

Contact Louise Whitlock 0419 822 426 louise.whitlock@qm.qld.gov.au

Glamping at Keira Farm

Keira Farm has added new glamping and camping options to their accommodation offering. The Lodge is the name of their new luxury 5m-wide bell tent with queen bed, arm chairs, floor cushions and a rug. It also comes with a private gas heated camp shower and toilet. Campers have access to a six acre area on the 500 acre working cattle farm with an amenities block with flushing toilets and hot showers.

Contact Sandra Pegler 0418 870 520

New Mustang

Back in July the V8 Experience launched their first new generation race car, The ECB Mustang, and with covid restrictions in place, was soon booked out across the first few events at Queensland Raceway. With the immediate reactions of those first drivers, being so positive the team at Peters Motorsport went to work on the second Mustang. And now it's here....The Haltech Mustang is available to drive at their December and January dates - Book now - www.qldraceways.com.au They are fast and 100% race cars giving you a true V8 Race Experience.

Contact Brett Peters 0429 528 400

From Horses to Horsepower

On 15 November, watch the horse-drawn WW1 Dray Forge being used by the Cooneana blacksmiths during their last open day of the year. This forge was created by blacksmith Peter (Ned) Kelly from an old dray using his research into the design. Such forges were used by blacksmiths supporting mounted troops overseas when they and their horses were constantly on the move. It is a work of art and gives us a good idea of the difficulties our troops and their support workers faced during that conflict.

See how travel changed from horse power to horsepower. Vintage and veteran motorcycles belonging to the Historical Motorcycle Club of Queensland Ipswich Area will be on display. Ride a Heritage Bus around historical sites in Blackstone with commentary. Bus leaves Cooneana at 11am, 12 noon and 1pm. Tickets \$2.00 included on the online booking link. See miniature buildings by the Ipswich Mini Crafters and the the Spinners, Weavers, Fibre Artisans of Ipswich demonstrate their skills. Spend an hour or two exploring all the displays, exhibits and buildings at Cooneana Heritage Centre.

The Horses to Horsepower event is being held on Sunday November 15 from 10am-2pm, bookings are being taken online: <https://www.discoveripswich.com.au/tour/cooneana-heritage-centre-open-day/>

Contact Sandi Jones 0411 271 522

4 Hearts Brewing Company releases new seasonal brew

The Belgian Blonde beer is now on tap at The Pumpyard. The new beer has a light mild body and is pale gold in colour. At 7.4% alcohol it is a nice crisp easy drinking beer.

Medium banana and light spice from the yeast come through on the aroma and palate. Light malt, easy drinking and a slight alcohol warmth. Slight stone fruit may be detected in the background from the NZ Motueka dry hop addition. Best served with seafood, moules & frites or a good pizza!

Contact Abbie Glossop 3282 9076

Watercress Creek open day

On November 22 from 8am-2pm farmers Bernie and Lorraine Mahon will open their olive and lime farm to the public. Walk through the olive grove and lime orchard, purchase a picnic pack and enjoy the serenity. Or find out how they make their gourmet olives and preserves on the farm. While Bernie is a fourth generation farmer, he planted the olives and limes, the farm was originally a dairy and then small crops. His farm gate is open on weekends also for the public to stock up on produce and take a picnic in the trees.

Contact Bernie on 0416 201 640 or email blmahon53@gmail.com for more information.

Dilwali event cancelled, but new menu released

Indian Mehfil owners Raj and Priyanka Sharma have hosted the Ipswich Diwali Festival, attracting hundreds in a vibrant celebration for food, music and dancing, at their popular Indian Mehfil restaurant for the past decade. This November would have marked their 11th annual festival but since Co-vid has put a halt to that this year, they're instead celebrating with a new menu and regional Indian specials throughout November. They have kicked off with the Rajasthani region this week, offering Laal Maas - a rich and hot tender lamb curry and marinated chicken Reshmi Kebabs.

There's also a spiced buttermilk Masala Chhach drink to try. New dishes will feature each week of November. Book a table on 3281 8683.

Contact Wendy Hughes on 0411 583 599

Moonshine Theatre launch

Woodlands of Marburg are launching a new outdoor theatre experience called the Moonshine Theatre. The big screen will be suspended from the side of the mansion, seats will be set up on the manicured lawn. The theatre will run on a fortnightly basis on Saturday nights with tickets costing \$10. Tommy Smith Café will be opening on the nights also selling snacks and for dinner before the movie. The first run was postponed due to last week's storms. A special session will be held on Friday December 13, showing classic horror movie Friday The 13th.

Contact Michael Rowan 0487 742 538 or David Ritchie 0467 898 222

Santa spotting

A new campaign showing of gift experiences and ideas will kick off this month. Santa will be spotted at various locations across Ipswich from having a beer at the Pumpyard to feeding the sheep at Haigslea Ewe Nique Hobby Farm or riding on the steam train at Queensland Pioneer Steam Railway.

Contact Carly Morrissey 3810 7712

Xmas wish list

Ipswich Tourism operators have some amazing gift ideas this Christmas, that will help you if you're holidaying at home, or just want to support a local business.

1. Heli-tour with Pterodactyl Helicopters
2. Floating Images Hot Air Balloon Flights
3. V8 Race Experience in one of their new Mustangs
4. Luxury getaway at Spicers Hidden Vale
5. Relaxation thanks to Ipswich Massage and Herbal Spa
6. Sip 'n' Dip art class
7. Haunted Mansion tour at Woodlands of Marburg
8. Styled picnic at The Soul Nook Collective
9. Dining at a hatted restaurant – Homage, or fine dining at the Cottage.
10. Christmas escape room voucher at Seraphim Escape

For more gift ideas see <https://www.discoveripswich.com.au/xmas-wish-list/>