

# Textile News Feb 2014

Welcome to the New Year! I hope everyone has a happy and healthy 2014 and is fully recovered from our very successful Australia Day Dinner/Plays! One of our Textile Ladies, Anne, has recently been very ill but she is making progress and we were very pleased to have recently had two visits from her, our thoughts and best wishes are with her on her road to recovery. With our Exhibition area we have had a great start to the year with Russell installing new tracks for displaying hanging items, so we are looking forward to a new aspect for our displays, a big thank you to Russell. Since we started the project of creating toys, which are for sale near reception, we have raised nearly \$1,000 for the Museum and although sales have slowed down in January we hope to continue this project. Thank you to Sandra, Millie Cross, Carole, Moya, Sunny, Barbara and Kath for their assistance with cards for the Christmas decorations project. Be sure to see the fragile 1917 Wedding Gown in our Wedding Gown display. This gown is made from beautifully embroidered net lace. The bodice has an unusual diagonal insert of pin tucked net at the top of the bodice, this feature is also used for the left sleeve. The other sleeve is made from the embroidered floral net used for the majority of the gown. The front is decorated with small glass and diamante buttons. Lightly gathered at the waist, the skirt has a shorter, matching, shaped overskirt which is also cut on the diagonal. Unfortunately the original silk lining and silk belt which featured a rose has since perished. The gown belonged to Lucinda Fielding who was born in Redland Bay in 1889. Lucinda was the daughter of Eliza and William Fielding who were early pioneers in the district. The stained glass window in the Museum Chapel display area is a memorial to Eliza, William and their only son William Thomas. William, at the age of 18, drowned in the bay while trying to save the lives of others. The stained glass window was originally in the Baptist Church in Redland Bay. In 1912, Lucinda took a holiday to England and the continent. On returning home she became engaged to John Henry Oliver who wrote to her nearly every day, two of these love letters will be on display. They eventually married in 1917 and raised 4 daughters.

**Jan Banks**