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## November Textile News

**Our new display in the Redland Museum Textile Exhibition Hall pays tribute to the two special iconic events which were held in the Redlands over many years – the Redlands Show (R.H & I Show – Rural, Agricultural and Industrial Society) which was last held in 2001 - and the Redlands Strawberry Festival – last held in 2002 (since changed to Redfest.)**

**The display features 2 gowns which had been worn on the 1988 Redland Shire Council Float in the Strawberry Festival Parade and also 3 beautiful gowns worn on the 1989 Redland Shire Council Float. The 1989 Float won the best float for that year and was then entered in the Warana Festival, followed by the Toowoomba Festival of Flowers where it won the Grand Champion Float Award.**

**Rescued Gowns! These gowns were then stored with the winning Float in a shed at Redland Bay. In 2008 the Redland Museum was contacted to see if they would like any of the stored items. On checking the items when they were brought to the Museum, two black plastic bags containing the gowns were discovered, these had been forgotten over the years – there were holes in the bags where vermin had been nesting and also the rain had come in through the roof of the shed. The gowns were not in a good condition but it was decided to try to save them. After a lot of cleaning and restoration we are lucky to have the beautiful gowns now on display as they are iconic items from our past.**

**We also have a display of award ribbons won by Hiliary White at the Redland Show in 1975 when he was the most successful exhibitor. Hiliary, of Mt Carmel Orchard, grew over 30 varieties of citrus fruit and crossed an orange with a mandarin/orange (tangerine) to produce the ‘Tangor’, he also introduced the avocado to Queensland.**

**Another item on display is a unique bedcover created from all the prize ribbons won by beautiful Arabian horses which were exhibited at different Shows - including the Redland Show - this item was donated by Rhonda Retallack.**

**We hope you enjoy our new display.**

*Jan Banks*