

Media Release

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Redlands heritage saluted at Serpentine Creek Cemetery

This Saturday, the history and rich cultural heritage of Redland Shire will be formally saluted when Redlands Shire Mayor Don Secombe unveils a commemorative plaque honouring the original trustees of the heritage-listed Serpentine Creek Cemetery.

Originally gazetted on 22 February, 1890, Serpentine Creek Cemetery is the final resting place of numerous well-known settlers, and now celebrates 115 years of service.

The event will be hosted by the Victoria Point Scouts and students from Kimberly College. Other guests include Mr. John English, MP and Councillor John Burns, as well as representatives from Redland Shire Council, the State Heritage Department, the Department of Main Roads, Sharks Football Club, and Greening Australia Queensland.

Although the State Heritage Department retains ownership of the cemetery, the Friends of Serpentine Creek Cemetery was born in 1997 and has been largely responsible for its maintenance and restoration ever since. Headed by local resident and retired schoolteacher, Kath Hughes, Friends of Serpentine Creek Cemetery is a group of local residents who aim to restore both the cemetery and the associated heritage-listed vegetation.

With the aid of students from Kimberly College as well as the Victoria Point Scouts, Friends of Serpentine Creek Cemetery has continued to regenerate the cemetery flora, and now boast more than 80 varieties of native flowering plants occurring throughout the grounds.

As part of the Greening Main Roads Corridors Program – a joint initiative between Greening Australia Queensland (Inc.) and the Department of Main Roads – erosion concerns around the cemetery have been addressed, and the affected areas have been revegetated with native plants from the road reserve.

Numerous local businesses including Karremann Quarries, Bunkers Nursery, Redlands Landscapes and Paul Jones the Blacksmith have become involved in the effort, donating both materials and skilled labour to assist in the further beautification and restoration of the cemetery grounds.

What: The unveiling of the commemorative plaque by Mayor Don Secombe

When: 10 am Saturday 19 March, 2005

Where: Serpentine Creek Cemetery, Beenleigh-Redland Bay Road

Local residents and any others with an interest in the cemetery are welcome to attend.

Ends.

For more information, contact:

Mark Trudinger, Greening Australia Queensland (Inc.)

Ph: (07) 3902 4404, fax: (07) 3902 4422.

Email: mtrudinger@qld.greeningaustralia.org.au