



Book Launch Cocktail Party – Benalla Art Gallery



Memorabilia Display – Dunlop Campus site of Benalla High School



Memorabilia Display – Faithfull Campus site of Benalla Technical School



Reunion Dinners Saturday Night



BBQ luncheon Sunday – Dunlop Campus

CENTENARY 2012

Our Centenary was held over the weekend of the 7-9 September 2012. It was held to commemorate 100 years of State Secondary Education in Benalla. As Benalla High school no longer exists, Benalla College celebrated the centenary of Benalla High School, incorporating Benalla Technical School, Benalla Secondary College and Benalla College.

This was a huge event and an outstanding success, attracting hundreds of people to Benalla over the weekend with people coming from interstate and overseas (as far as Ireland) to attend. One of the events was the publication of a book entitled "Our Schools 1912-2012" which is a great reflection on the schools over the decades and provides an excellent source of local history. Events held over the weekend included the opening of the centenary and book launch which was held on the Friday night at the Benalla Art Gallery, incorporating a cocktail party and an art exhibition. Other events held over the weekend included open days at both the Faithfull and Dunlop campuses and reunion lunches and dinners around various restaurants and hotels.

Several community groups supported Benalla College with this event, including the small but dynamic group of volunteers, the Benalla Pioneer and Costume and the Benalla & District Family History Group.

Benalla & District community benefited greatly over the centenary weekend. Motels and bed and breakfast venues were totally booked out. Restaurants and hotels also benefitted from the influx of visitors over the weekend. Some of the reunion lunches and dinners held (that we are aware of): Benalla Golf Club (lunch and dinner) Benalla Bowls clubs (over 300 people), Georginas, Commerical Hotel, North Eastern Hotel, The Royal Hotel, Kim Wah Restaurant, Gallery Café. The town was a-buzz over the weekend with extra visitors also giving business to local shops, bakeries and coffee shops.

The Centenary brought many visitors back to visit Benalla over the weekend. It rekindled old friendships and memories. People attending the centenary ranged from people in their 20's to their 90's. It also highlighted Benalla's wonderful attractions with many people visiting the Art Gallery, Museum, Tourist Bureau and Benalla Family History Group and Historical Society and the Glenrowan Ned Kelly Museum.

This event brought many people back to Benalla, along with friends and relatives who vowed to return – showcasing the best of our beautiful rural city.