



Andrew and David Halford with their parents Terry and Annette Halford after the unveiling of the Commemorative Town Feature at Dublin, next to the Schlodder Shelter. (539362)



One of the time capsules, containing items courtesy of Mallala Primary School. (539362)

History marked for three Plains communities

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"It's a great honour for a start, it brings back lots of great memories," he said.

"All the community spirit (here) set me up for a lot in life."

Following the unveiling, people had a chance to peruse the classic vehicles on display before heading down for morning tea at the Windsor Institute.

Later in the afternoon, it was time for the second unveiling by the jinker shelter at Port Parham, unveiled by two descendants of the town's namesake John Parham, Barry Parham who is based at Port Elliot and Sue Wegener, who lives at Louth Bay on the Eyre Peninsula.

"As members of the Parham family, it's a real honour to be asked to do this. We have a long history in the area, the Parham family, and we all lived and worked around here," Mrs Wegener said.

"We are very proud to be their descendants and to unveil this memorial today."

Port Parham also saw the placing of two time capsules, the other being in Dublin, with contents created by Mallala Primary School, which will be opened 50 years from now in 2076.

Committee member involved in organising the 150th celebrations Kym Bailey said he had a peak at what the students of Mallala Primary provided for the time capsules.

"The theme was about the past, the present and the future so the kids put this little project together," he said.

"They saw the past as a bunch of old people, when I looked at some of the drawings of the present, all I saw was kids with their families and drawings of their homes and their pet dog and all these other sorts of things, and then we looked into the future and there were just so many cars with flying wings and all these sorts of things."

One more unveiling took place Sunday morning next to the Schlodder Shelter at Dublin, with honours going to Terry and Annette Halford who have a long term association with the town.

Mr Halford, who had served as Dublin CFS Brigade Captain for nearly 20 years, said the memorial was a great addition next to the Schlodder Shelter and he was honoured to unveil it with his wife.

"It was such a surprise, I couldn't believe they asked me, an insignificant Pom who's been here for 54 years," he said.

"It's been absolutely fantastic, certainly congratulations to all involved and they picked such great venues for these sculptures."

Soon people enjoyed the fresh air and sunshine at Dublin Oval for the Strawberry Fete, before more events took place in the afternoon which included a Cemetery Walk.

Mr Bailey said thanks went to the three

communities, Parham and District Action Group, Port Parham Sports and Social Club and Dublin History Group for making the monuments possible, with big thanks going to Adelaide Plains Council, in particular David Paton who advocated for council to commit funding to make the projects happen.

Mr Paton, who has stepped away from council as he campaigns for the seat of Ngadjuri as the One Nation candidate, said he felt humbled to have been thanked by the committee.

"The community is my priority, it always has been," he said.

"It was done at a time when it was about helping the communities, not getting votes."

Dublin History Group president Andrea Brow said it was a fantastic weekend, achieving everything that organisers aimed to achieve.

"The idea of the whole community coming together, old friends and neighbours and family getting back together and the really important thing about the weekend was (nearly) every event was free, it allowed the community to come and be a part of it," she said.

Mr Bailey said one thing that stood out to him was how the event brought together federal and state politicians, especially as South Australia prepares for an election.

Member for Frome and Liberal Candidate for Ngadjuri Penny Pratt MP said it was a thrill to be a part of the weekend's festivities.

"When Dublin History Group asked me two years ago to clear my diary for this long weekend, for this celebration of 150 years of Windsor, Parham and Dublin townships, I was excited to imagine how they would pull it all together," she said.

"Now that the time has arrived the feedback's in, and it's clear that the way all the communities have rewarded the planning committee by turning out in big numbers to celebrate the past, present and future of this area is great.

"I witnessed the cross-pollination of these three towns, attending each other's events and swapping stories from their childhoods. How wonderful to see so many people travel from far flung areas to come back in commemoration."

The event committee has expressed thanks to Adelaide Plains Council, Dublin History Group Inc., Parham and Districts Action Group, Port Parham Sports and Social Club, Mallala Primary School, Dublin Cricket Club, Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group, Taylor and Forgie, Gawler Veteran Vintage and Classic Vehicle Club, Plasma Art, Gomersal Wines, Lara Apollo, Plains Producer, Penny Pratt MP, Tony Piccolo MP, Mayor Mark Wasley, Peter Christopher OAM, Terry Halford, Brian Gurr, Barry Parham, Don Williams, Doris Woods, David Paton, Sharones Cakes and Things, the volunteers and everyone who attended.

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