

Toomey Family Reunion Newsletter

Provided to inform family members of the reunion details

Number 1

October 2009

Why is there going to be a Toomey Family Reunion?

A family reunion is a way of getting family members together who may have lost touch with each other over the years. Some time ago when talking to Shirley McFadzen of Mackay, she said she had been speaking to a few of her cousins about a family reunion and everybody thought it would be a great idea!

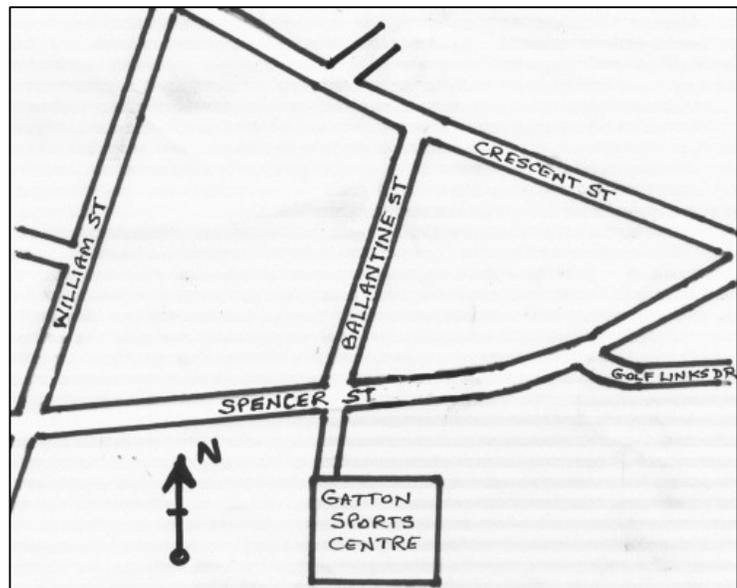
Apart from the opportunity for different branches of the family to get together and 'catch up,' a reunion will be a good chance for all family members to contribute information about their branch of the family for a book. Hopefully, there will be family members who will be willing to share stories, photographs, documents or letters from the previous generations which may have been handed down to them.

Who is invited?

Everyone who is a direct descendant of Jeremiah Toomey together with their spouses and friends are invited. See the website link www.ezitree.com.au/reunions/toomeys/entry.htm for a listing of the first two generations (sons and grandsons) of Jeremiah. From there you should be able to work out if you are a descendant or not.

When and where is the Reunion?

The reunion is to be held on Sunday, 25th April, 2010 (ANZAC Day), between 9am and 4pm at the Sports Centre, Gatton, Queensland. The Sports Centre is located in Spencer St., Gatton opposite Ballantine St. On the map shown at right, the Sports Ground is indicated with the box.



What about Food and Drinks?

The Gatton Lions Club was approached some time ago and has agreed to do the catering for the reunion. It was felt that this way, those attending could spend all their time talking and sharing family experiences and not having to worry about bringing food or cooking.

The cost is a very reasonable \$12.50 per person, with children 4 years of age and under free and those between 5 and 12 years of age \$8.00. This will cover morning tea from 9am to 10:30am of tea, coffee, sandwiches, slices, biscuits and cake. Lunch will be a bar-b-que from 12 noon with sausages and steak, onions, coleslaw, tomato and lettuce. Whilst you may prefer to bring along your own food, please use the catered facilities and join with us in supporting a local community group.

What about accommodation?

You will be required to arrange your own accommodation. Unfortunately, there is only one motel in Gatton itself, the Gatton Motel (07) 5462 1333 which is in the same street as the Sports Centre. The local hotel, the Gatton View Hotel, (07) 5462 1072 on Warrego Highway, Gatton, also has accommodation. However, many of the surrounding towns such as Laidley, Esk and Ipswich have motels and there are certainly plenty at Toowoomba which is only about half an hour away from Gatton by car.

I was told when I rang the Gatton Visitor Information Centre, that the Gatton Caravan Park has closed and the local museum hopes to have between 5 and 10 caravan spaces available shortly in the new Gatton Historical Village. This is located on Freemans Road, Gatton and you should ring the visitors centre on (07) 5462 3430 if you want to make a booking.

How can I contribute?

At present, the best thing that you can do to help the reunion is to confirm your attendance; it is very important for catering purposes to know how many people will be coming. The Lions Club who are catering for the reunion require a minimum of 50 people to make it worth their while. We need to have firm numbers by the end of February 2010. So please confirm your attendance by email, telephone or letter to any of the Toomey Family Reunion contact people shown below.

You can also assist, by checking if you have any old photographs, etc, and providing copies so that they can be included in the book of our Toomey reunion. As we get closer to the reunion, there will be other jobs to do especially on the day. These will include things such as collecting meal money for the Lions Club, checking off names of those who have arrived and providing them with name tags. We will be seeking further help at that time but in the meantime if you have any suggestions or questions, please contact us.

A copy of the newsletters will be placed on the website as they are issued. Please check the web site on a regular basis to see if there have been any changes.

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