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Gawler Heritage Collection – Online Catalogue Available Now

Gawler Cultural Heritage Centre Staff, together with a dedicated team of volunteers, have been working for many months developing an online catalogue of items contained within the Gawler Heritage Collection. This process has involved digitally photographing or scanning items and loading the electronic images into the Centre's cloud-based catalogue system e-hive.

The Gawler Heritage Collection is comprised of three distinct collections, the Gawler Institute Collection, the Municipal Collection and the Local History Collection. There are over 4,000 items in the Collection including colonial paintings, historic books, photographs, objects and documents together with a reference library for researchers interested in family and local Gawler history.

"Cataloguing the entire Gawler Heritage Collection is a long-term, ongoing project for the Gawler Cultural Heritage Centre," said Mayor Redman. "The hard work of staff and volunteers developing the online catalogue provides the community with an opportunity to further explore the fascinating items that make up this important Collection."

"Most items in the Gawler Heritage Collection have very little information other than a simple entry on an asset list," continued Mayor Redman. "We know that there is a wealth of knowledge regarding Gawler's history in our community and we are hoping that seeing the items on e-hive will trigger people to contact the Cultural Heritage Centre with any additional information they may have about the object".

Images and descriptions of 842 items from the Collection are now available for the public to access online at <https://www.gawler.sa.gov.au/about-gawler/gawler-heritage/heritage-collection-1>

"The Cultural Heritage Centre is temporarily closed in response to Government restrictions designed to stop the spread of the Coronavirus, therefore physical access to the Gawler Heritage Collection is currently unavailable," said Town of Gawler CEO, Henry Inat. "Providing the online catalogue ensures that the community can still access the Collection for research, learning and enjoyment while the Centre is closed."

The e-hive catalogue provides more than just public accessibility to the Collection. The system allows Cultural Heritage Centre Staff and volunteers to create detailed records of the digitised items including conservation assessments, storage details and known acquisition information. This, in turn, provides for the effective and responsible management of the Gawler Heritage Collection ensuring it will be available for the community well into the future.

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ENDS

The media may make contact with Mayor Karen Redman on 0421 839 359