

Thargomindah's Self Drive Tours

Natural Sciences Loop

- Lake Bindegolly National Park
- Pelican Point on the Bulloo River
- Thargomindah Hydro Power Plant and Artesian Bore
- The Burke and Wills Dig Tree on Cooper Creek



Natural Experience Tour

- Kilcowera Station
- Hungerford, Royal Mail Hotel
- Currawinya National Park



Beyond the Range Tour

- The Grey Range
- Noccundra Hotel
- Wilson River
- Cameron Corner



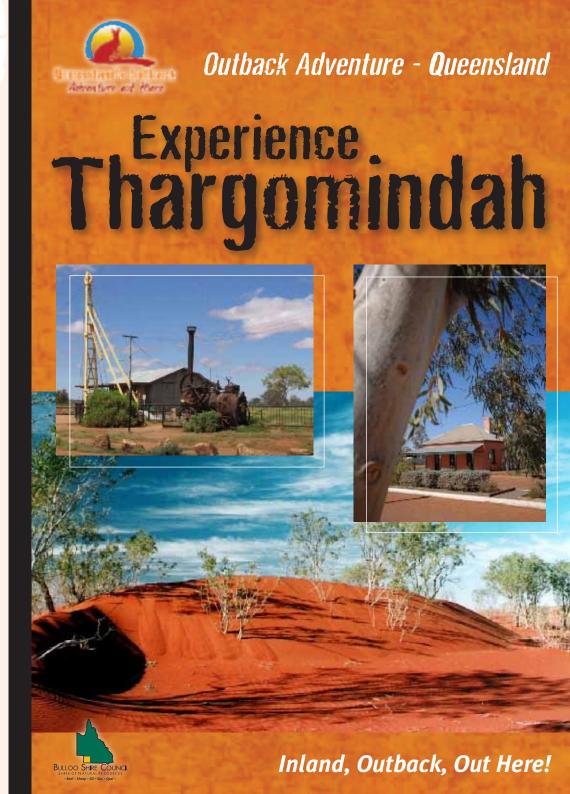
History's Footsteps Tour

- Noccundra Hotel
- Coopers Creek
- The Dig Tree
- Innamincka



Contact us:

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Thargominda Inland, Outback, Out Here!

Thargomindah is an aboriginal word, which can be interpreted as either "Cloud of Dust" or "Echidna", depending on the chosen dialect. The town lies on the banks of the Bulloo River, 200 kilometers west of Cunnamulla, and 1000 kilometers west of Brisbane.

In 1860 the epic expedition of Burke and Wills through far south west Queensland paved the way for settlement in the area. It was during this time that a remarkable bushman by the name of Vincent James Dowling



pioneered and settled Thargomindah Station, which is situated on the opposite side of the Bulloo River to where the town reserve of Thargomindah was gazetted on 31st December 1874.

Thargomindah has a population of approximately 250 people, and the traditional source of industry in the Shire is Beef and Wool, however today, petroleum/ oil and gas are a large part of the Shire's economy.

Each of the streets in Thargomindah is named after residents or notable people of the time. For example, Sams Street is

named after the "Fighting Person", Rev Hulton-Sams, a member of the 'Bush Brothers". It was believed that he had a practice of preaching, and then holding a sparring session. A poem was widely circulated after his death in France during WWI.

Facts and Figures

Average Annual Rainfall: Elevation:

Summer Temperature: Winter Temperature: Shire Area: Water Supply:

Great Artesian Basin Water Temperature: Bore Depth: Latitude:

Longitude: Mobile Phone Service:

Annual Events Calendar

Attractions

Hydro Power Plant

June:

July: September:

October:

"Gordon McKinlay Memorial" Channel Country Challenge Hungerford Biennial Field Day Noccundra Gymkhana

Thargomindah Annual Polocrosse Carnival Thargomindah Rodeo

Hungerford Horse & Motor-bike Gymkhana

10 inches (254 mls)

128.7m 25 - 48.7°C

0 - 24°C

74,000 sq kms

27 degrees 59 S

Telstra Next G

143 degrees 49 E

Bore water

82 - 84°C

820m

Thargomindah was the first town in Australia, and third in

the world, to produce hydro-electric power for street lighting by using the water pressure from the Artesian Basin. In

1891 drilling commenced on a bore to supply the town with water, and in 1893 a good supply was struck at a depth of

2650ft (808mtrs) with the water coming from the bore at a temperature of 84°C (182°F). The old bore was the source

of energy for Australia's first hydro-electric scheme when in 1898 Thargomindah's street lights were powered by means

of generators coupled to a water turbine driven by the bore's

natural water pressure. This method was in operation until

1951, when diesel generators were installed. The town was

Hungerford Sports Day Noccundra Campdraft Rodeo Gymkhana





For further information please check our website www.bulloo.qld.gov.au

Service Directory

Bulloo River Hotel/Motel	Dowling Street	07 4655 3125
Oasis Motel & Restaurant	Dowling Street	07 4655 3155
Caravan Parks		
Explorers Caravan Park	Dowling Street	07 4655 3307
Napunyah Caravan Park	Powell Street	07 4655 3198
Station Stays		
Kilcowera Station	Hungerford Road	07 4655 4960

07 4655 4324 Near Cameron Corner **Epsilon Station Eating Places**

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight Stafford Street 07 4655 3313 Oasis Restaurant **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3155 **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3125 **Bulloo River Hotel**

Emergency Numbers Thargomindah Hospital **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3361 Thargomindah Police 000 (Emergency) **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3200 State Emergency Service **Dowling Street** 07 4621 8000 Ambulance 000 (Emergency) **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3361 07 4621 8000 **Bulloo Shire Council Dowling Street** Bulloo Shire Council Flood Truck 07 4621 8000

Airline

07 4655 3035 Skytrans Booking Agent Gilmour Street

Banks Thargomindah Post Office Gilmour Street 07 4655 3147 - Agency for a variety of Banks

Thargomindah Post Office Gilmour Street 07 4655 3147 QGAP (Police Station) **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3291 Centrelink Agency: Thargomindah General Store **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3232 Thargo Motors **Dowling Street** 07 4655 3225 Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight Stafford Street 07 4655 3313 General Trade Industries Stafford Street 07 4655 3031 Turnout's Mechanical Services Stafford Street 0407 607 315 or 07 4655 3101

Dowling Street

Gilmour Street

Dowling Street

Dowling Street

Cnr Stafford & Frew Streets

Adjacent to New Cemetery

Cnr Stafford & Frew Streets

Internet Facilities

Thargomindah Library

Souvenirs

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight Thargomindah Post Office Thargomindah General Store

Sporting Facilities Thargomindah Community Centre

Thargomindah Golf Club **Transport**

Fergie's Roadhouse & Freight

National Parks

National Parks Thargomindah Sams Street 07 4655 3173 Currawinya National Park Ranger Sams Street 07 4655 4001



Inland, Outback, Out There!

Bronze bust sculptures of Vincent Dowling and John Leahy have been created by distinguished national artist William Eicholtz of Melbourne to honour the memory of two intrepid pioneers, and signify the importance of the contribution that they made to the settlement and growth of Thargomindah and the Bulloo Shire. The sculptures are seen as strong eloquent expressions of culturally important history and will assist in preserving and recording the foundation of the town of Thargomindah and the history of the region.

The old Cemetery is located very close to town, and contains only a few headstones. These date back to 1882. The new Cemetery is located on the outskirts of town and contains graves dating back to the 1890's. The Cemetery Register had to be reconstructed from local knowledge, as a fire destroyed the original records.



07 4621 8023

07 4655 3313

07 4655 3147

07 4655 3232

07 4655 3266

07 4621 8000

07 4655 3313



connected to the Grid system in 1988.

Leahy Historical House

Leahy House was built after 1885 when the deed of Grant was made to the Thargomindah Newspaper Company, which was owned by John and Patrick Leahy. It was sold to Sir Sidney Kidman, the cattle Baron, in 1912. The house is built of the original, locally made, mud brick and was continuously lived in until 1995, when the Bulloo Shire Council purchased the building. It was then handed to the Thargomindah Historical Society in Trust for the community.

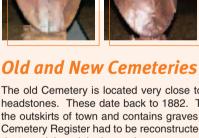


The Hospital was built in 1888 of locally produced unfired Mud Brick. The bricks were made from black soil on the banks of the Bulloo River just south of the town, at the site of what was the Chinese Market Gardens. The Old Hospital is also reputed to have a resident ghost, who is thought to be a former Matron, who unfortunately died in mysterious circumstances. Today the original Thargomindah Hospital is a Visitor Information Centre.



Thargomindah Herald Printers

The Thargomindah Herald Printers was built of locally produced unfired Mud Brick in 1870 and constructed by Patrick and John Leahy. The first Thargomindah Herald was published in 1884 and was widely circulated in the area. In 1884 John Leahy became a partner in the Thargomindah Herald, which had been established by Patrick, and was printed by P.J. Leahy for the Thargomindah Newspaper Company Limited. The Coopers Creek Advertiser was also printed in this building.



Cobb & Co Crossing

During the late 1880's, Thargomindah became the home for Cobb & Co Coaches, which serviced the distant settlements of Hungerford, Wompah, Oontoo, Kyabra and Toompine. The trip by Stage Coach to Cunnamulla, which was a distance of 150 miles, would take about 5-6 days, on a good road. The stone crossing was used up until late 1929 when the current bridge was built.

Thargomindah Post Office

The Thargomindah Post Office was opened in 1870; however it was leveled to the ground by a storm in 1877. In 1952 a fire burnt out the interior of the Post Office building. The present day Post Office still has the original exterior walls, which were constructed of the locally made Mud Brick. It is one of only four remaining buildings in the Town, constructed by the old Mud Brick method.





"CONDUIT between above and below"

Storm rain, the Great Artesian Basin and the river and creek systems are important water elements in the region. Artist, Fredrick White created this sculpture, which comprises a field of galvanized poles, representing the 4,700 bores that provide the only reliable source of water throughout much of inland Australia. There are 52 poles in the work – a number chosen to represent the need for water all year round. The illusion of depth in the centre of the work signifies the average depth of an Artesian bore, which is approximately 500 metres.