

# TIMELINES

The Quarterly Newsletter of Murwillumbah Historical Society Inc.

April 2016 Vol. 4 No. 4



## Welcome

Welcome to the April 2016 *Timelines*, the newsletter of Murwillumbah Historical Society. In this edition we complete our story on our historic 1909 Police Station and continue our stories about local family the Harbisons and the amazing organ at All Saints Anglican Church. In the ongoing "Lest We Forget" series we meet Zara man, Len Hines.

The aim of these newsletters is to introduce some of the rich historical heritage we share here in Murwillumbah and environs. **Please keep helping us to keep improving - your feedback, input, corrections and contributions are always most welcome.**

This edition's contents:

- Lest We Forget - Leonard (Len) Irvine Hines
- Historic Buildings of Murwillumbah - the Police Station Part 2 (final)
- The Harbison Family Part 2
- The All Saints Organ Part 2
- Museum Corner
- Murwillumbah TAFE Historical Timeline
- Guided Town Walks
- Roll of Honour
- Society and Contact Information

## Lest We Forget

To mark the centenary of World War One 1914-1918, Tony Clark is compiling a short article honouring the memory of our fallen for each *Timelines* until October 2018. In this edition we remember the story of Leonard Irvine Hines of Zara near Chillingham.



Private Leonard Irvine Hines (Photo Ref: TRM L0470-90)

Leonard (Len) Irvine Hines was born on 12 Mar 1896 at "Colyers Leigh", Moss Vale NSW. Len was the fourth son in a family of nine boys and two girls born to Thomas and Mary Hines. Thomas had earlier sustained a badly broken leg in a sawmill accident and was left unable to work again in that industry, so in 1903 he took Norman, his eldest son and went by boat and train to



## WE WANT YOUR OLD PHOTOS!

If you have or come into possession of any old, family or historic photos please don't bin them; donate them instead! Please contact the Museum (02) 6670 2493, email [trm@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:trm@tweed.nsw.gov.au)





Thomas and Mary Hines at Zara (Photo: TRM TH206-06)

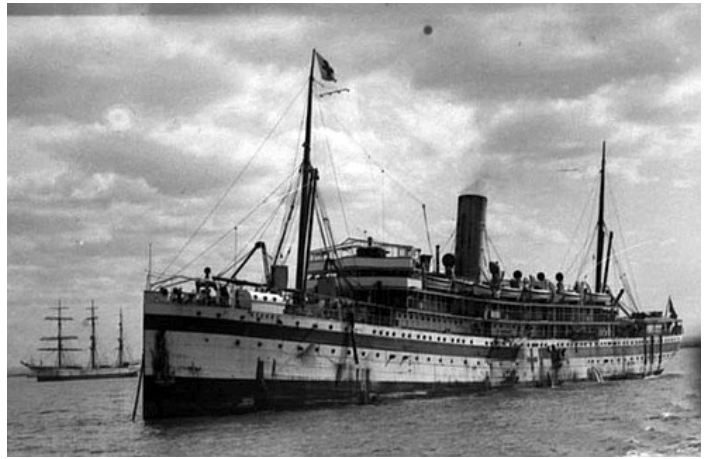
Murwillumbah. Here he was able to secure a lease on a farm and a selection of 150 acres adjoining the farm on Jackson's creek at Zara. The rest of the family arrived in the Tweed in mid-1905. All except the eldest two children attended Zara Public School (later became Chillingham Public School).



Chillingham Public School c1911 (Photo: Bob Hines)

With his parents' written consent, Leonard enlisted in Brisbane on 27 Aug 1915 at the age of 19 years 5 months. His service record states that he was 5ft 6in (169cm) tall, weighed 9 stone 10 lbs (61kg), had brown hair, a fair complexion and was a farm labourer still living at Zara. Enlisting in the 13<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, he was allocated Service Number 4207 and the rank of Private. After initial training at Enoggera, Leonard embarked with his unit from Brisbane on board HMAT A55 "Kyarra" on 3 Jan 1916, finally disembarking in Alexandria, Egypt on 19 Feb 1916.

On 29 March Leonard proceeded from Alexandria on board the "Transylvania" and disembarked at Marseilles on 4 Apr 1916 to join the British Expeditionary Force in France. Initially stationed at the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Divisional Base Depot, Leonard joined his Battalion from Reinforcements at Etaples, France on 25 May 1916.



HMAT A55 Kyarra (Photo Ref: AWM PB0516)

The Battalion's first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme Valley. As part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Division's thrust towards the Old German Line on 22 Jul 1916, the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion suffered considerable casualties. It attacked on the extreme right of the line and it was during this action on 23 July that Private Leonard Irvine Hines was killed; he was 20 years old.



Sandbags at Pozieres front (old Australian trench from 23 July 1916 (Photo Ref: AWM EZ0097)

Leonard was buried in the Pozieres Battlefield by Rev. W.E. Dexter, 1st ANZAC. An enquiry was held into his death with evidence provided by three informants which confirmed he was killed by machine gun fire "about half past 12, in the middle of the day, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1916 in front of Pozieres" (Pte F.W. Kneebone 4216 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF, Graylingwell Hospital). His personal effects,



Leonard Irvine Hines Death Penny (Photo: Tweed Regional Museum)



which comprised of a “Religious Book, Note Book, Belt, Handkerchief and Writing Pad” were returned to his mother. As the location of his grave is unknown, his name appears on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France. He is also remembered on The Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour, Panel 56 and The Murwillumbah Cenotaph.

#### References:

1. Leonard Irvine Hines 12/3/1896 – 23/7/1916 by Mr Harold Hines (nephew of L.I. Hines)
2. Australian War Memorial <http://www.awm.gov.au/>
3. National Archives of Australia <http://www.naa.gov.au/>
4. Commonwealth War Graves Commission <http://www.cwgc.org/>
5. Tweed Regional Museum collection
6. Australia's Fighting Sons of the Empire - ISBN 978-0-85905-568-0, (1922, 2014)

## Murwillumbah Police Station

*Thanks to Nick Gouliaev for another excellent installment in his series on our historic buildings. This is the final part (2) of the story of this Main Street icon.*

The Police Station is in the Federation style, in complete architectural and visual harmony with the rest of the precinct; an architectural delight. The roof is high pitched with gable roof ends, framed and clad with corrugated metal roof sheets matching the other precinct buildings, although the roof cladding now needs replacement due to the metal sheets showing visible degradation with rust. Facing the main street is a main entry to the Detectives' part of the building, with a roofed entry porch with double doors entry to the actual building, although today this is hardly ever used.

The porch roof is supported by timber posts decorated with Federation fretwork and brackets, as in the police station entry porch. All windows are original timber framed, clear glazed, of double-hung style and fitted with metal security grilles.



*The Police Station entrance looking from Police Ln (Photo: Nick Gouliaev)*



*The Police Station Detectives area (Photo: Nick Gouliaev)*

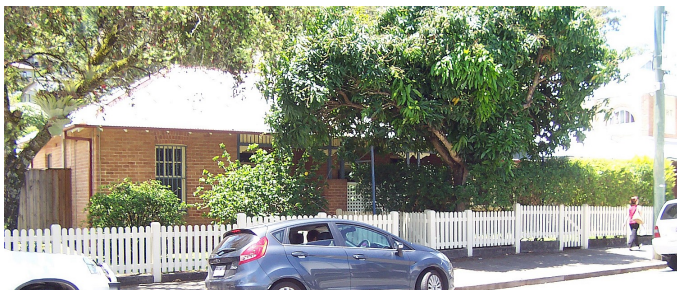
The brickwork is original, as used throughout all the precinct buildings. It is in first class condition and fitted with original terracotta air vents laid in stretcher bond with flush struck joints.

The main entry to the police station has been altered to be facing the main street instead of facing Police Lane. Today a concrete pedestrian access ramp with stainless steel handrails leads from the police entry porch to the entry gate at the Main Street boundary. The original main entry door has been replaced with a contemporary glass sliding door, electronically operated and CCTV monitored for a high level of security.

The internal walls are brickwork finished with smooth cement render, painted, and fitted with wide 150mm grooved Federation style skirtings at floor level. The air vents are original metal, adjustable and with a Federation floral decorative motif and are fitted to all external walls. The doors and windows are fitted with wide Federation grooved jambs and wide architraves. The doors are still in original Federation style; multi-paneled with glazed ventilation window above. The secure areas have been upgraded with new generation doors and high security locks. The other areas however still retain their original brass locks and latches, retaining the charming originality and authenticity of the internal atmosphere of 1909. The corridors have decorated arched openings and terminating with beautiful arch brackets, in harmony with the wide plaster cornices throughout the building.

The ceilings are a combination of plaster lined ceilings and tongue and groove timber ceiling linings with recent alterations to some areas now lined with flat plaster boards. Wide plaster cornices with flower and leaf imprints decorate the edges of the ceilings throughout. The ceiling heights in the original areas of the building are 4800mm but in altered areas are lower, to 4500mm or less.

Various rooms have an original fireplace but the



*The second section of the Police Station next to the Court House (Photo: Nick Gouliaev)*

hearthths of all the fireplaces are now closed off with a thin panel of white-painted Masonite. There are a total of four fireplaces in the building, but all would require careful refurbishment to re-awaken their 1909 architectural beauty, not only of the hearth and mantle shelves but also of the rooms.

The floors are of timber construction with timber floor boards, carpeted to some areas and covered with vinyl in others.

The Police lock up area consists of four cells, although only two are in use with the others used as storage rooms. The floors are concrete and all windows are fitted with heavy duty security grill/bars. Tweed Regional Museum Murwillumbah has an original steel cell door complete with "scratched surface graffiti" compliments of past prisoners in its collection. The cell door is solid sheet steel, approximately 25mm thick x 820mm wide x 2040mm high, hung on very heavy duty hinges, with a rectangular inspection hatch. These days the delivery of individuals in police custody is at the rear of building to a secured area close to the lock up cells.

The Police Officers have use of a recreational area with a BBQ and seating under a timber pergola at the rear of the building. This area is called "The Mango Bar" and was opened Friday 15 Feb 1985 by Hon. W.[Bill] Bugden. The patron is His Honor Judge K.F.E. Torrington. One of the pergola posts has another plaque affixed to it with the wording "SWOS RAIL" in honour of Patrol Officer Warren



*Architectural features around a leafy entrance to the Police Station (Photo: Nick Gouliaev)*

James.

A third plaque is inside the Police Station, on the wall in one of the corridors, dedicated to "Senior Constable Warren Keith James", born 13 Feb 1952, died 10 Sep 1980. The plaque was presented by Murwillumbah Jaycees.

#### Research and Acknowledgements

- Murwillumbah Historical Society research team: Nick Gouliaev, Tony Clark, Max Boyd, Joan Cuthel, Judy Keane (TRM)
- Police Officers; Dean Wilson and others
- Tales of our Times, Ron Johansen
- Red Sunday, Kath Pritchard, Murwillumbah Historical Society 2nd Edition 2015
- Northern Star (1876-1954) 8 Jan 1908 Page 2
- Municipal Murwillumbah 24 Oct 1907 (Reprint of municipal announcements)
- Georgian Architecture in Australia; Uri Smith in association of the National Trust of Australia
- The Federation House, Ian Evans, The Flannel Flower press.
- Australia's Yesterdays, Reader's Digest Pty. Ltd.
- Australia – The First Hundred Years, Being a Facsimile of Volumes 1 and 2 of The Picturesque Atlas of Australia, edited by Hon. Andrew Garran, M.A., L.L.D., M.L.C.

## The Harbison Family

*Interviews, research and story by Max Boyd. This is the second part of a fascinating human story which will span several parts.*

*[Continuing the history of Brian's key involvement in the local sugar industry....]*

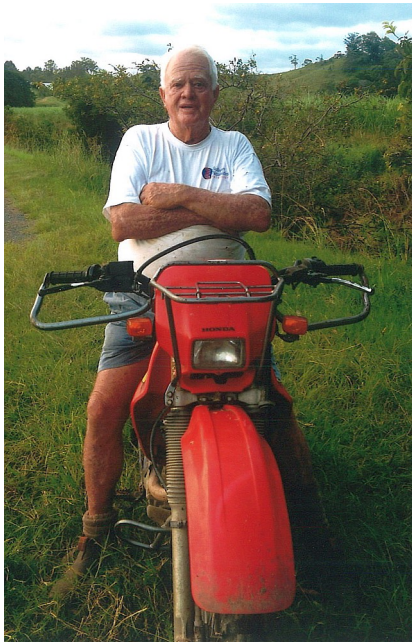
Crabbes Creek branch of NSW Cane Growers: They would meet four times a year. He was its Secretary for many years during the times when cane cutters and freight problems with CSR were major issues.

Tweed Council of NSW Cane Growers: He was first elected in May 1964; Junior Vice-President 1973 and 1974; Senior Vice-President 1975-80. In March 1981 a new draft constitution for the Tweed Cane Growers was drawn up. One of the recommendations was that a Sugar Milling Co-Op Board member should not be a member of the Tweed Cane Growers Council on the grounds of possible conflict of interest. He resigned in 1981 at the Annual General Meeting after 17 years as he was a Board member of the Sugar Milling Co-op.

NSW Cane Growers Council: The NSW Cane Growers Council is made up of elected cane growers from Condong, Broadwater and Harwood sugar areas. He was first elected in 1971 and did not stand for election in 1979 because he was involved with the Sugar Milling Co-op.

Australian Sugar Producers Association: This was the first sugar organisation formed in Australia. It





Brian Harbison on the land (Photo: Brian Harbison)

was made up of sugar millers and growers. There were twelve Vice-Presidents from the sugar industry made up of millers and growers. NSW had one representative grower. Each year the delegates from the 3 NSW Rivers would go to a major conference in Brisbane. On 20 Mar 1975 he was elected as the NSW

representative. He served for 12 years as Vice-President. In 1986 the structure of ASPA was changed and because he was on the board of the NSW Sugar Milling Co-op he was classed as a miller and had to stand down.

**NSW Sugar Milling Co-op Ltd:** On 19 May 1973 a Co-operative was formed to purchase the three NSW sugar mills from CSR. The first board meeting was held on 25 May 1978. The board was made up of three growers each from Condong, Broadwater and Harwood.

Tweed (Condong): FLB Eglington, SB Harbison, EW Dawes

Richmond (Broadwater): WJ Sneesby, GJ Spence, AJ Felsh

Clarence (Harwood): DJ Mcrae, LR Causley, HA Anderson

Government Rep: M Somers.

DJ Mcrae was elected Chairman; WJ Sneesby and SB Harbison – Vice-Chairmen. Brian was Vice-Chairman from 1978 - 2000 and did not seek re-election.

**Manildra Harwood Sugar Refinery:** On 15 Mar 1989 the sugar industry was informed that a joint venture company had been formed with Manildra group and NSW Sugar Milling Co-op to build a sugar refinery at Harwood. It was to be a joint venture based on a 50/50 partnership. Mr Dick Honan of Manildra and 600 growers were to form a partnership. Brian was elected to this board on 5 Dec 1988.

The board of directors were:

Sugar Milling Co-op: DJ Mcrae, cane grower – Chairman; GM Messiter, General Manager Sugar Co-op; SB Harbison, cane grower.

Manildra: JT Honan; PR Simpson, Secretary Manager; RG Davis, Accountant.

Brian served 12 years on the board and retired on 11 Nov 2000.

It can readily be discerned from the above information that Brian Harbison has been an outstanding citizen during his very busy and productive life time. This is the story that I originally expected to record but in the process I have unearthed from Brian much more of his family dynasty.

*To be continued next edition...*

## The All Saints Organ

*Our thanks to local historian and valued Timelines contributor Ross Johnson for this story. Ross wrote an illustrated history of this worthy organ in 2014 to celebrate its 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary of gracing our local Anglican Church, in two buildings over the years. This is part two of a multi-part story.*

On 23 Nov 2008 advice was received from Mr Hugh B. Knight, B.E., NSW Director of the Organ Historical Trust of Australia, advising of the instrument's classification as State Significant in NSW. Recognition was given to the survival of its tonal design, containing a Great Chorus from 2' to 16', and a very unusual feature of the time, a Harmonic Bass 32' stop on the pedal organ, and to the high quality of the metal pipes imported from Alfred Palmer & Sons, of London, regarded as the best in their field.



Conservation grant won! (Photo: Ross Johnson)

After much research and submission applications, with the support of Local Member for Murwillumbah, and a fellow music colleague of Ross Johnson, Mr Thomas George, MP., the announcement of a successful NSW Government Heritage Branch Grant of \$51 750 was made on 29th April, 2009, by The Hon Kristina Keneally MP. The balance of the \$155 809 project was met with specific bequests from Kittie Plumb, Elma Yates, Eunice Blow and the All Saints Organ Fund.



Thomas George MP (Photo: Ross Johnson)

W.J. Simon Pierce commenced on the considerable enhancement program. The work included a new moveable draw stop console in the nave and two additional ranks of pipes, a Great Clarinet and a Great Twelfth 2 2/3, an extensive capture system, MIDI interface and transposition features.



Simon Pierce, Ross Johnson and Derek Smart with the organ (Photo: Ross Johnson)

Dr Phillip Gearing, PhD, M Mus, LTCL, ARCO, of Toowoomba, Senior Lecturer in Music at USQ, was appointed as supervisor by the Heritage Branch. The application for NSW Government Funds, the liaison with the NSW Department of Planning and Pierce Pipe Organs was carried out by Ross Johnson.

#### SPECIFICATIONS

##### GREAT:

Bourdon	16	A
Open Diapason	8	B
Clarabella	8	
Dulciana	8	
Principal	4	
Harmonic Flute	4	
Twelfth	2 <sup>2/3</sup>	(2010)
Fifteenth	2	
Clarinet	8	(2010)

#### COUPLERS:

Swell Super Octave  
Swell Unison Off  
Swell Sub Octave  
Swell Super to Great  
Swell Sub to Great  
Swell to Great

#### SWELL:

Violin Diapason	8
Lieblich Gedact	8
Salicional	8
Vox Celeste	8
Gemshorn	4
Cornopean	8
Oboe	8

#### PEDAL

Harmonic Bass	32	
Bourdon	16	
Echo Bourdon	16	(A)
Principal	8	(B) (1973)
Bass Flute	8	
Fifteenth	4	(B) (1973)

Great Super  
Swell to Pedal  
Great to Pedal

*To be continued next edition...*

## Museum Corner

In support of Tweed Regional Museum, in each edition we intend to publish historical photos or historical items (hoping readers can help "fill in the information gaps") plus other items such as requests for public assistance, notices regarding upcoming events and talks etc.

### Women of the Tweed

The Museum is interested in adding a copy of the book 'Women of the Tweed' to its collection. The book was produced in 1988 as part of a TAFE bi-centennial project, and features profiles of local women. If anyone has a copy that they would be willing to donate, please contact Kirsty Andrew on (02) 6670 2274 or [kandrew@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kandrew@tweed.nsw.gov.au)



### Collector's Cabinet

Cabinets of curiosities arose in mid-sixteenth century Europe as repositories for exotic and fascinating objects from around the world. This passion for assembling and documenting extensive private collections was a precursor to some of the world's greatest museum collections. The passion for collecting continues...

Tweed Regional Museum has introduced a new Collector's Cabinet program, which profiles some of the passionate collectors in our community by giving them an opportunity to display their collection in the Museum.



## Collector's Cabinet



Are you a collector willing to share your private passion with the public? Contact Museum staff for more information, or visit our website <http://museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au>

## Murwillumbah TAFE History

*Given the threat of imminent closure which seems to be hanging over our TAFE college, it is a timely moment to feature this historical timeline of this major town asset. Thanks to John Stainlay and Ross Johnson, authors of the article.*

**1937:** Committee formed with H.G. Withey (Standard Sawmills) as Chairman. T.E. Flynn (Tweed Shire Council Engineer of the Council-owned power station on the site of the current swimming pool complex) was Secretary.

*First classes were held in the old School of Arts, adjacent to the Court House*

**1947 to 1969:** Classes were held in the upper floor of the Austral Building opposite the current Services Club. Until 1961 all Motor and

Mechanical trades were tutored in a Railway Institute Technical Unit (Carriage) that came to Murwillumbah Railway station for a week every month.

**1948:** Land set aside by the NSW Government for TAFE purposes adjacent to and below Murwillumbah High School. This was transferred to the Education Department circa 1953 for sports fields and future building expansion.

**1951:** George Hanna (Snr) (Founder of building company, Hanna and Edmed) replaced H.G. Withey as Chairman and served for a further 26 years.

**1956:** Darcy Stainlay (Partridge and Walker and North Coast Media Holdings including Radio 2MW, The Daily News and Channel 8 Lismore) appointed as Secretary and served for 26 years.

**1957:** Current site purchased from the Anglican Church (Church of England) as they were preparing to relocate to the current site in Byangum Rd.

**1961:** Following the opening of the new church on 1 Nov 1960, the old timber building was demolished and construction commenced on the Engineering Unit completed on the new site to house the motor mechanics and metal based trades. This building was only recently demolished.

**1969-70:** Construction and opening of the current main building.

**1971:** George Hanna (Snr) awarded an Honorary Fellowship of TAFE for services rendered.

**1978:** George Hanna (Jnr) replaced his father as Chairperson and remained committed for his lifetime until his death in 2008.

**1982:** There were 21 courses on offer across 50 classes. The student enrolment was 838! A satellite branch was conducted at Tweed Heads, in the Masonic Hall, with 3 courses over 10 classes and with 162 students.



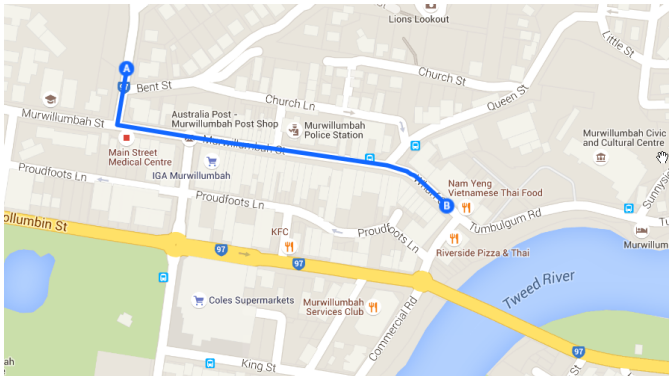
Photo: thanks to [www.echo.net.au](http://www.echo.net.au)



**1997:** With increasing attendances an additional building was constructed on the lower (Post Office) end of the property, previously the site of the old tick office – a NSW Government Department - which had been demolished following their relocation to Banner St adjacent to the Masonic Hall in the early 1960s.

**2016:** ???

## Guided Town Walks

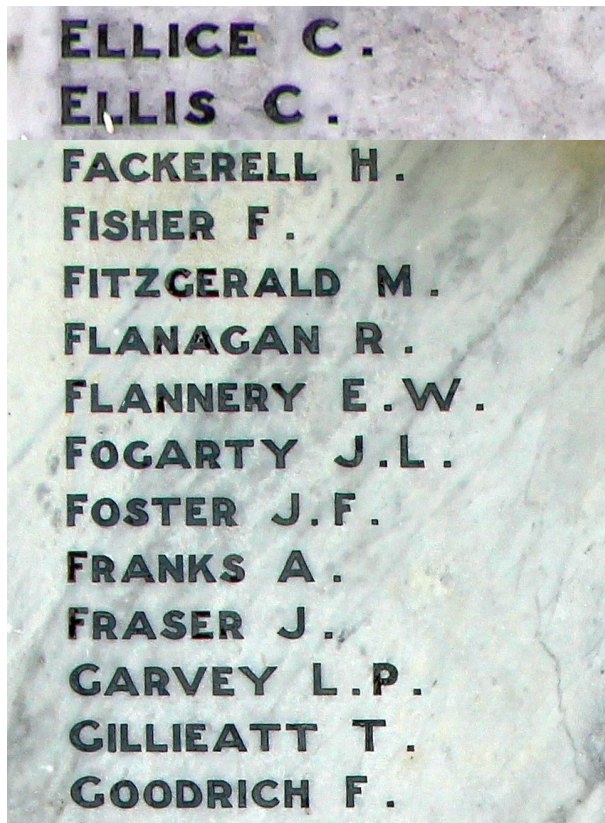


Don't forget our guided town-centre historical walks, led by Tony Clark, leave Tweed Regional Museum Murwillumbah (2 Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah) at 1pm on the first Saturday of every month.

It takes only an hour, covers a bit over 1km and is interesting, great exercise value and great value at just a gold coin donation to help the Society in its work. Please pass this notice around and tell your friends - see you there!

## Roll of Honour

The Murwillumbah Cenotaph lists 218 local fallen from World War One. We will publish the names of a group of them in each Timelines until the October 2018 edition. Here is the sixth set of fourteen names listed.



*Lest we forget.*



**ABOUT THE SOCIETY:** Formed 16 March 1959, the Society's aim is to research, preserve and promote the rich and unique history of our town of Murwillumbah and its surrounds in the picturesque Tweed River Valley of far northern New South Wales. The Society operates out of our Research Centre in the Tweed Regional Museum's historic Murwillumbah facility. The Society is proudly supported by the Tweed Regional Museum, a community facility of Tweed Shire Council.

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**Street:** C/- Tweed Regional Museum, 2 Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

**Postal:** PO Box 373, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

**ABOUT THE MUSEUM:** The Tweed Regional Museum is a Tweed Shire Council community facility, established in 2004, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Tweed Shire Council and the Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Uki and South Arm Historical Societies. It is one museum that operates across three branch locations; Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Uki, and in association with these three local Historical Societies. The three locations connect the Tweed Shire from the coast to the mountains, providing a unique journey into the history, people and places of the majestic Tweed Valley.

For information about the Tweed Regional Museum please visit: <http://museum.tweed.nsw.gov.au/> or phone on (02) 6670 2493.

