

TIMELINES

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Murwillumbah Historical Society Inc

April 2017; Vol 5, No 4



Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of *Timelines* for 2017. Sadly, this edition has been compiled without the valuable assistance of Antony [Tony] Clark, late President of the Society who passed away in Dec 2016. Tony was responsible for our continuing series *Lest We Forget*, which responsibility has been taken up with aplomb by Society members Sandra Jones and Marie Fletcher. They begin their tenure with a biography of Victor Linklater.

Next, Society member and Secretary David Taylor, one of many honoured to call him a friend, pays tribute to Tony Clark, and recalls his life and his contributions to the Society and to the Museum.

Our continuing series on the Harbison family concludes with the final part 5. Then, like all good news media these days, we have a crime story. This one recounts the events in Murwillumbah in November 1978 when Australia's biggest robbery until then occurred at the then Bank of NSW.

Max Willoughby, *Timelines* Editor

The contents of this edition are:

- Lest We Forget – Victor Linklater
- Vale Tony Clark
- The Harbison family [final Pt 5]
- Guided town walks [advertisement]
- The big bank job
- Roll of Honour
- Society AGM on 19 Apr 2017
- Museum corner
- Society and contact information

We want to copy your old photos

If you have come into possession of any old family or historic photos, please lend them to us to copy! Please contact the museum 02 6670 2493 or email us at trm@tweed.nsw.gov.au

Lest We Forget

To mark the centenary of World War One [1914-1918], each edition of *Timelines* until Oct 2018 will present a short article honouring the memory of our fallen whose names are engraved on the Murwillumbah War Memorial. This edition focuses on Victor Linklater of Lismore and Murwillumbah.

Victor Linklater was born in Lismore to Thomas and Violet in 1896, one of four children and their only son. He attended Lismore Public School. In 1911 Thomas, who was an employee of the Railway Department, moved the family to Murwillumbah.

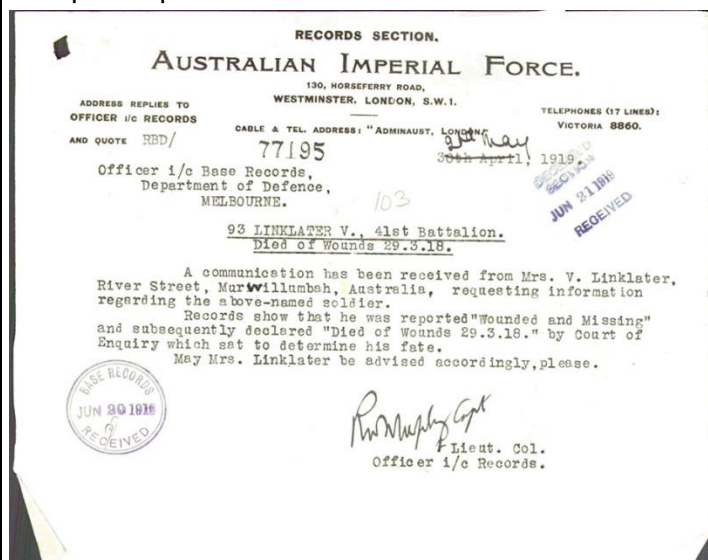


After being previously rejected on 'account of swallowing a scarf pin', Victor was finally enlisted in Brisbane on 4 Feb 1916 into A Squadron of the 14th Light Horse Regiment, AIF with an assigned

regimental number of 76. His occupation was listed as labourer, he stood 5ft 9 inches (175cm) tall and weighed 155lbs (70kg), with brown eyes and hair. The 14th Light Horse was raised in March 1916 at Enoggera Qld, attached to the 3rd Division. It was intended to be brought up to full strength as the 3rd Division's Light Horse Regiment, but the establishment was later reduced to only one squadron, A Squadron. They embarked in Sydney on the steamship *HMAT A72 Beltana* on 13 May 1916, bound for England. Like so many young soldiers, Victor, 19 years and seven months old, was leaving his homeland, never to return.

After basic training Victor joined 41st Battalion in France on 23 Sep 1916. He was wounded for the first time on 31 Jan 1917 and was invalided back to England on the *Princess Elizabeth* on 6 February. Whilst in England he was transferred to the 69th Battalion and assigned the regimental number 93. After Victor's recovery, he returned to France on 23 March, re-joining his original battalion, the 41st, where he distinguished himself in service and was promoted to Lance Corporal. He was wounded a second time on 10 October but, after a short recuperation, on 17 November he re-joined his battalion.

Victor fought his last battle near Sailly le Sec on 28 March 1918, when he was fatally wounded in the stomach, and died the next day. However, in the confusion of the battle he was first reported 'wounded in action' and the next day 'wounded and missing'. Several of his mates were asked to give witness statements regarding his death and Pte A V Bakers' report mentions Victor's link to Murwillumbah, with his occupation prior to the war.



Sadly, his parents were not to receive confirmation of his death until more than a year later, as the above letter from AIF HQ in London indicates.

Victor was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He is buried in plot VI, Row G, Grave no.11 of Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension in France.

By Sandra Jones & Marie Fletcher

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- Australian National Archives
- Australian War Memorial
- RSL virtual war memorial
- Tweed Daily, 26 May 1942
- Tweed Regional Museum
- UNSW Australian AIF project

Vale Tony Clark

Our President and friend Tony Clark passed away unexpectedly on 19 Dec 2016 following a rapid decline in his health and subsequent re-hospitalization after a pre-work up for heart & lung transplant. Tony will be dearly missed by his family and by his many friends in the Society and all throughout the community.

Antony Scott Clark (Tony) was born at Pindara Hospital at Benowa on the Gold Coast on 23 Oct 1972. He was the third of five sons to parents Doug and Patricia Clark. Originally from Numurkah in northern Victoria, the family relocated to Burleigh Heads on Queensland's Gold Coast in the early 1970s, just before Tony was born.

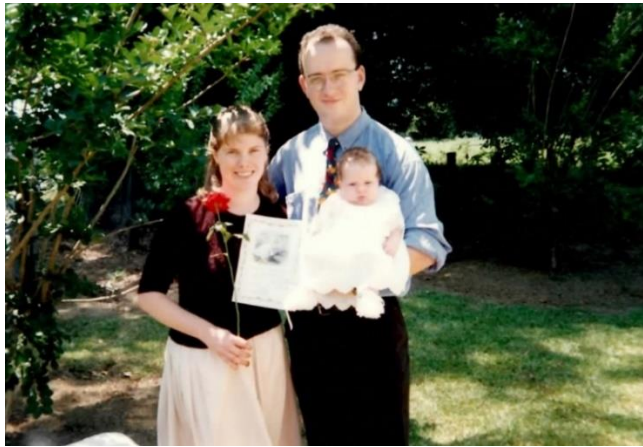
Tony was born with a complex heart condition and on the evening of his birth had the first of many trips to Prince Charles Hospital at Chermside on the north side of Brisbane. He was nearly lost several times in the first year before having a pioneering Blalock Shunt operation at thirteen months and gradually becoming stronger. Tony's heart condition was a major life-long health issue for him and his family but he confronted it bravely and to the utmost extent tried to prevent it impacting others or being the defining factor in his life.

When Tony was seven years old the family moved to Crystal Creek in Tweed Shire, far-northern NSW. By all accounts, the Clark farm was a great place for kids to grow up. Tony's stories of the constant repair to damage from numerous lightning strikes up there, riding down the mountain road to Crystal Creek School on motor bikes with his brothers, huge and numerous snakes, harvesting bananas and avocados, etc, were all endlessly diverting.

Tony's parents recalled that when he started school at Crystal Creek, the children were told by the teacher that they must be very careful with Tony as he was fragile and not well, to which they replied 'someone should tell Tony that'. He then attended Mount St Patrick College in Murwillumbah and later Murwillumbah High for Years 11 and 12. Tony's brother Michael recalled 'Tony had several operations that resulted in some large scars. As a child, he would show other children the scars and tell them, and convince some, they were the result of a shark bite'.

Tony first met Crystal Creek girl and future wife Loretta on the school bus in 1985 when, as Loretta recalls, 'he plopped himself down in the seat in front of me and introduced himself'. They started going out together in 1994 and married in 1996 in the last wedding conducted at St Michael's Catholic Church in Crystal Creek. The new family moved into a flat in

Church Ln, Murwillumbah before buying the family home in nearby Tumbulgum Rd in early 1997. Daughter Emily was born in 1997 and was the last baptism conducted at St Michael's in Crystal Creek before closure. Tony saw Emily graduate high school and complete her first year at university; a source of great pride for him.



Loretta, Tony and Emily at her baptism

Although entitled to welfare assistance because of his condition, Tony chose instead to work up to three jobs at one time, working at Murwillumbah Golf Course for almost 20 years, as well as at Border Park Raceway, delivering for QML among others, only stopping when medically retired. Tony learned many valuable and useful life skills during his working career, not the least of which was his ability to carry six schooners of beer from the bar to the table, three in each hand; a feat which always drew the admiration (and envy) of his friends, the writer included.



Early bar tending days

Tony's favourite school subject was Modern History and this interest became a life-long passion. Tony developed many interests during his jam-packed life including (but not limited to) family heritage and history, the Australian War Memorial, all things military and commemorating those who served this country. His patriotism was demonstrated by always being out at 5am each ANZAC Day honouring those who served.

Tony developed an increasing passion for collecting over his adult life. It was sparked through a life-long interest in stamp and currency collecting and further

developed when the family discovered a 1960s newspaper about John F. Kennedy under old lino at his grandmother's house in the early 1980s. Eventually he branched out into collecting in many areas including sporting memorabilia, oil bottles, barber shop artefacts, padlocks, Indian motorbikes paraphernalia and much more. All this, of course, went with a parallel passion to seize every opportunity to rummage through second-hand and antique shops from Toowoomba to Tasmania.



Mathew, Steven, Tony, Douglas, Patricia, Michael and Graeme

Tony joined Murwillumbah Historical Society in 2010. He held the offices of Vice President, Treasurer and finally President from 2015. He was a key member of the Society across all our activities, taking a leading role in fund-raising, research, writing regularly for our Timelines newsletter, support to the Museum and general Society management and administration. Tony was a tireless worker and contributor, with a fantastic interest in, and knowledge of, our history. He represented the Society on Council's Museum Advisory Committee and the Museum Coordination Group. He was a generous donor to the Museum and more than 60 individual items in the collection will forever be acknowledged as 'donated by Tony Clark'. Another enduring legacy from Tony is the Society's town historical walks through the main street of Murwillumbah; conducted on the first Saturday of each month and still using the script and materials Tony developed.

Tony was also an active and interested member of Tweed Valley Woodcrafters Association and all the decorative timber memorial boards listing Society Presidents and Life Members were crafted and donated by Tony.

Tony's funeral was held on Thursday 5 Jan 2017. In keeping with Tony's strong connection and friendships there, the service was held at Murwillumbah Golf Club and was extremely well attended by hundreds of Tony's family and friends.

And so, vale to our dear friend Tony Clark. He lived life to the full, with a lot of people not even knowing he even had a heart condition. In daughter Emily's words 'Dad taught me to be strong. He taught me to be

courageous. And above all, he taught me to never give up, just like he *never* did.'

Postscript

On Saturday 4 Mar 2017 members of the Clark family, Murwillumbah Historical Society, Tweed Heads Historical Society, Uki and South Arm Historical Society, Friends of the Tweed Regional Museum, and Tweed Regional Museum staff and volunteers gathered at Tweed Regional Museum Murwillumbah to attend the dedication of the Murwillumbah Historical Society research room as the Tony Clark Research Room. Those attending also enjoyed a private viewing of the exhibition *Tony Clark: Top Brass* featuring some of Tony's fascinating personal collection of objects.

By David Taylor. Thanks to Loretta and Emily, Pat and Doug and Tony's brothers Graeme, Steven, Mathew & Michael for their recollections and for approval to use parts of their written eulogies, and to the committee and members of Murwillumbah Historical Society Timelines sub-committee, Tweed Valley Woodcrafters Association and the staff of Tweed Regional Museum for their input and support. [All photographs courtesy Loretta Clark]

The Harbison family

Interviews and story by Max Boyd. Researched and edited for publication by Max Willoughby. This is the fifth and final part of this fascinating human story.

The previous instalment of the Harbison family story concluded with the retirement of Brian Harbison's grandfather Sydney Cowell Steele from the Bank of Australasia. He continues his narrative: -

During 1933, after my retirement from the bank, I purchased 28 acres for £1,000 from our neighbor George Miller, giving a new total area for Carruthers of 71 acres, 3 roods, 12 perches in the name of S C Steel. This land is all used by Cowell Park estate, except for 11 acres leased to G A Steel, giving a total area for the estate, including the leased 11 acres, of 674 acres, all contiguous.

During 1940 the property known as Bongoolah of 120 acres was purchased and used as a dry run for heifers. Because it faced the heavy traffic of the highway, driving stock to and from Cowell Park for dipping was a nightmare. About 1945 we leased 2 lots of Bongoolah for banana growing, 9 acres to Mr Rousseau and 6 acres to Keith Toovey. The former we bought back from Mr Rousseau and worked ourselves for a couple of years until low prices determined that it was better for grass.

In 1958 we sold Bongoolah for £4,000 to Percy Dixon, and bought Quinn's area, originally Buckley Kelly's, 139 acres adjoining Cowell Park, from Fred Quinn for £6,250. The area was originally selected as a homestead block and the title restricted it to an owner without farm land, so it was bought in Brian Harbison's name and called Sherwood after the name of his wife's home in NZ.

The total land area of the holdings is now 818.5 acres, comprising Cowell Park [463 acres, 2 roods, 14 perches], Sherwood [139 acres], Carruthers [71 acres, 3 roods, 12 perches] and Keevers [139.5 acres] purchased Feb 1963.

Banana growing

Banana growing at Cowell Park was started during WW 2 to keep my men, who were eligible for service, employed. From 1943 to 1958 we sold 8,876 cases for a net £15,333 [minus cost of cases], averaging £1.14.6 per case. This does not include a prior plantation of 320 acres at Broken Head managed over several years by Tom Fysh, purchased about 1916 and sold in 1952. This area was useful for a dry stock run, but gave a lot of droving trouble.



Brian Harbison

Arrival of Brian Harbison
My grandson, Brian Harbison, joined us at the farm in 1950 and with the help of my nephew Geoff Steel, we carried on together until Brian married Alison Brown in NZ on 26 May 1956. She is a NZ girl who had endeared herself to us, the daughter of Jack and Wynn brown of Sherwood at Cambridge NZ.

Brian and Alison now live at the homestead, Brian now managing Cowell Park. He was educated at the Armidale School and later spent two years at Gatton Agricultural College where he received diplomas in animal husbandry and agriculture.

This wonderfully detailed history written by Brian Harbison's grandfather Sydney Cowell Steel gives a remarkable insight into the activities involved in acquiring and developing such a wonderful property as Cowell Park. However, the story wouldn't be complete without some consideration of the life of Brian's father and Sydney Cowell Steel's son-in-law Dr John Kenneth [Ken] Harbison and his family. Ken Harbison was born in Cumberland UK in 1898 into an Australian family of medical practitioners - his father was the first of four brothers to enter the medical profession and most of their sons did the same. The family returned to Australia, to Numurkah in Victoria, when Ken was six weeks old, and in 1901 they moved to West Maitland in NSW. Ken matriculated from East Maitland boy's high school in 1916 and entered St Andrew's college at the University of Sydney. He enlisted for overseas service in World War 1 at the completion of his second year of medicine, when restrictions were lifted. However, the university company of 500 men was demobilised

after the armistice was signed, two days before sailing.

Ken graduated in 1922 and after residency at the Royal Prince Alfred hospital in Sydney, some months as a ship's surgeon, and various locum's positions, he commenced practice at Wyong NSW in July 1924.

In 1926 he married Sydney Cowell Steel's daughter Euphemia Moira Steel. Greatly helped by Moira, he continued in the very busy Wyong practice until, in 1928 he joined Dr Robert Austin in Armidale NSW. It was in Armidale that Ken, who had learned from his father, performed a great deal of surgery.

In World War 2 he served with the 2/5 Australian General Hospital with many other well-known doctors. Most of the members of this unit became prisoners of war, except for a small party which included Ken, from which the hospital was reformed. When the unit finally returned to Australia, it was set up in Armidale. In 1944, after further service in Brisbane and Sydney, Ken was discharged with the rank of major.

Due to Moira's mother's ill health, Moira and Ken moved to Murwillumbah to be near her. In 1950, he entered into a partnership with Dr Macgillivray of Murwillumbah and moved into a house at 19 Tumbulgum Road Murwillumbah where they were joined in June 1951 by his father-in-law Sydney Cowell Steel after the death of his wife Euphemia [Effie].



Ken and Moira Harbison

Kingscliff which had been purchased for £3,800 in November 1956 from Mr Harry Gill for use as a weekend. After retirement, it was enlarged and became the Harbison family home. Ken continued in part-retirement in a new and small practice in a surgery he had built on land in Marine Pde at Kingscliff, purchased for £7,500 from CSR.

He retired in 1969 after being a country general practitioner for 45 years. In 1968 and 1980 he had successful surgery for arterial and spinal conditions. Ken excelled in many sports including grade tennis, A-grade golf, rugby union, lawn bowls, rowing and

cricket. However, his favorite sport was athletics, particularly the high jump, pole vault and broad jump, and he was the universities and NSW champion on several occasions. He had many community interests including Freemasonry, Rotary from 1932 and Legacy from 1944. He died on 16 Sep 1985.

Cowell Park is now managed by Ken's grandson, and Brian's son, John Cowell Harbison. John was born in 1957 and attended Mooball Primary and Murwillumbah High schools, followed by a term at the Church of England Grammar School in Brisbane. He gained a Diploma in Farm Management from the Qld Agricultural College in 1976 and, after working in Mackay Qld as technical assistant in plant breeding and agronomy, worked and travelled in the UK, Europe and the US for three years before returning to the family farm in 1982.



John Harbison

In the late 1980s, he started growing bananas and gradually increased the area under that crop to 20 acres. In the early 2000s, he ceased growing bananas due to panama disease and the market dominance by Woolworths and Coles. The farm now has 250 acres of sugar cane and grazes 200 head of beef cattle.

John is a member of the Mooball-Crabbes Creek Drainage Union; Tweed Shire Coastal Committee; Tweed Sugarcane Productivity Committee, and he is the chief steward in the sugar cane section at the Tweed Agricultural Show. He has also served as: Tweed Chair, Australian Cane Farmers Association [1990 – 1995]; Vice President, Tweed Canegrowers Association [1985 – 2008]; member, NSW Canegrowers Association [1995 – 2008]; Deputy Chair, NSW Sugar Milling Co-operative.

Original story by Max Boyd AM, 28 Jan 2015

Acknowledgments

My sincere thanks to Brian for providing details of his own life, and for the photos, and for the extraordinary details written by his grandfather Mr S C Steel. I am indebted to the late Dr John Follent who had worked with Dr Ken Harbison at Murwillumbah Hospital and for the obituary he wrote on Dr Harbison's death. Lastly, I must thank John Harbison for providing the information about himself, his family, and for his photos.

Guided town walks

Don't forget our guided town centre historical walk, which leaves from Tweed Regional Museum (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, good exercise, 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.

The big bank job

Every second Wednesday was a big day in Murwillumbah in the mid-1970s, when most people were still paid in cash. It was the day an armoured car came to town with money for the fortnightly pay-packets of government employees and other workers of the region.

The regular arrival of the big Transurety Australia van, with its five armed guards, was a familiar sight, sometimes stopping traffic in Main Street as it made its way through town to the Bank of NSW, on the corner of Main and Brisbane streets, to drop off its load of cash. The bank, opposite the art deco Imperial Hotel, and only a stone's throw from the Murwillumbah police station, which in those days was open all hours, is now the Westpac Bank. With its perceived secure strongroom, in 1978 it was seen as a safe place to hold cash for short periods, and it has been reported that the bank was also used as a holding bank for much of the town and adjoining area, and for old notes collected from banks throughout north east NSW which were destined for return to the Reserve Bank of Australia.

On the evening of Wednesday 22 Nov 1978, after the regular visit of the armoured car, the strongroom was well stocked with cash, in used notes, all neatly packaged in plastic containers held in seven strong cardboard boxes. The total holding was upwards of \$1,763,400, now worth an inflation adjusted \$8.8M in 2017 dollars.

In Melbourne and Sydney meanwhile, there had been a spate of at least nine other high profile robberies which had grossed more than \$1M, including \$350,000 from an American Express office and \$250,000 worth of rings, earrings, diamonds and gold from a manufacturing jeweller, both in Melbourne.

All of the robberies involved Chubb safes, and featured an electro-magnet redundantly clamped by dyna-studs onto the side of the safe in question. This was used to precisely hold in place a diamond tipped drill to make a small hole just above the tumblers of the lock. Vision was enabled through a medical cystoscope then inserted into the hole, and a special attachment used to move the tumblers and open the safe. It was a particularly time consuming and intricate procedure apparently, for just a fraction of a millimetre either way when drilling above the tumblers would ruin the whole operation, and it's believed to have been perfected on a Chubb safe door which had been stolen in Melbourne in 1976.

Inevitably, the news media called the perpetrators of these robberies 'The Magnetic Drill Gang'. Victorian police say the mastermind of the gang was the ex-Painter and Docker union member Graham 'The Munster' Kinniburgh¹, a high profile Victorian criminal and safe breaker, considered the most influential gangster in Victoria in his time. Adam Shand, in *Bigshots: Inside Melbourne's Gangland Wars*,

describes Kinniburgh as the best safe cutter or 'tank man' in Melbourne: 'When you cut safes with him you were working with a perfectionist. Before a big job, he would obtain a safe of the exact same specifications and his team would practise in a warehouse, simulating the conditions on the day'.



Graham 'The Munster' Kinniburgh [source: The Age]

At around 7:30am on the muggy morning of Thursday 23 Nov 1978, a Murwillumbah security guard, doing his rounds of the Bank of NSW, noticed that one of the two wooden doors at the rear of the bank, in an access way, was ajar and the lock on the door was broken. Kinniburgh and his 'Magnetic Drill Gang' had struck again.



[source: Daily Telegraph]

When the police and bank officials arrived soon after the alarm being raised by the guard, they found a hole of about 1m square had been cut in the ceiling of the bank, presumably as an emergency escape route, and the combination lock dial and handle of the strong room door had been removed, ensuring that the safe could not be opened easily. Or opened at all, as it turned out, because local locksmiths, and four Chubb safe experts flown in thereafter by charter from Brisbane, who worked on the door for over five hours, were all defeated in their attempts to open it. It was subsequently found that the thieves had jammed the tumblers.

Finally, subtlety was replaced with brute force, in the form of a Tweed Shire Council engineer and workmen armed with pneumatic jackhammers and sledgehammers, who cut a hole in the external wall of the bank and through the thick reinforced concrete wall of the strong room.

Around 4:30pm the hole was of sufficient size for a

bank official to put his head through and look into the vault. His initial verbal report on this first inspection, 'they got the lot', has since echoed down the years, on souvenir mugs, tea towels, calendars, T-shirts, newspaper headlines and in a popular song about the robbery, 'A bank job in Murwillumbah' by Bullamakanka. Murwillumbah local Peter Moore made a killing with his T-shirts; it has been 'reliably' reported that the Great Train Robber, Ronnie Biggs, then holed up and on-the-run in Rio de Janeiro, ordered three of them. The only photographs taken inside the bank, before the crime scene was closed by police, were by local photographer Bruce Devine. They were reproduced worldwide.



[source: Daily Telegraph]

'The lot' was reported to be in excess of \$1.7m, at that time the biggest robbery in Australia². Police believe the whole exercise would have taken around two hours, it was reported, and by the time it was discovered by the security guard, the robbers would have been 'safely tucked up in bed', in hotel rooms on the Gold Coast.

There were some leads. Two girls reported seeing three men acting suspiciously outside the bank around 10.30pm on the night of the crime. One of the men, they said, was extremely short. Also, it was reported, Kim Fisher, a radio station announcer, said he heard banging in Main Street about 1:30am, as he knocked off work. Another man saw a white panel van parked behind the bank around 9.45pm and watched a man 'acting suspiciously' - loitering around the car, kicking the tyres and opening the bonnet. The witness said the man looked as if he was casing the bank: 'he was there about five minutes, then drove away', the witness told a newspaper.

From the witness descriptions, the police produced identikit images of two men. It was also reported they 'tore apart' the Gold Coast in the search for the robbers. It was also fairly evident that the robbers had some inside information - intriguingly, a senior NSW policeman was, unusually, transferred to the sleepy police post of Murwillumbah in June 1978, only five months before the robbery. The notorious Sydney criminal George Freeman, a man whose networks extended south into the Victorian milieu, had close connections with the Consorting Squad policeman, who was adversely noted by Justice Stewart's Royal

Commission on Alleged Telephone Interceptions as having been 'deliberately untruthful' in denying to the Commission that it was his voice on a taped conversation with George Freeman in 1976. The policeman retired soon after the robbery, in Aug 1979, with the rank of Inspector.



There is also a question as to why it took until 7:30am to discover the open door at the rear of the bank. Transurety Australia and Bank of NSW staffs were extensively interviewed by detectives investigating the case. However, despite a \$250,000 reward offer, presumably by the bank [in an attempt to recover \$1.7M], no arrests or convictions have ever been made, although some 12 months after the robbery, some of the notes reportedly turned up in Hong Kong. The Murwillumbah 'job' wasn't the gang's last, according to police. That was in 1983 in NSW when the Rose Bay branch of the Westpac Bank was relieved of a purported \$5M in gold and jewellery from 40 safe deposit boxes, with the thieves using a similar modus operandi to the Murwillumbah job.

By Max Willoughby

¹ Kinniburgh was shot and killed outside his Melbourne home in Dec 2003 during the Victorian gang wars of that period.

² The largest up to then was the so-called Great Bookie robbery of April 1976 when a purported \$1.3M was stolen from bookmakers at Melbourne's Victorian Club by machine gun armed robbers. It remains unsolved.

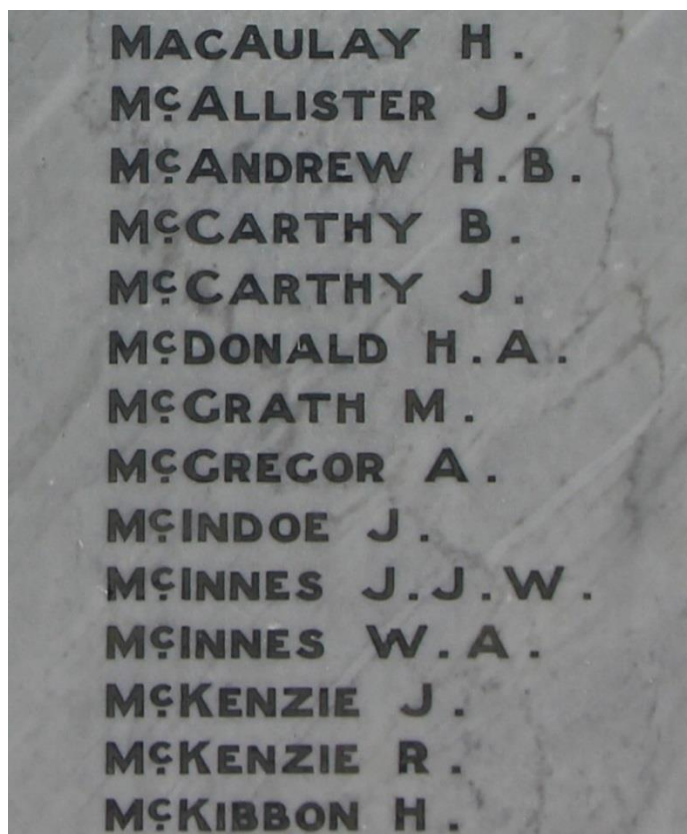
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Roll of Honour

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 tenth set of fourteen names listed.



Lest We Forget.

Society AGM

Congratulations to the Society members who were all unanimously elected to the following management committee positions at the Society AGM held at Tweed Regional Museum on 19 Apr 2017:

President: Ian Fox	Vice-President: Max Boyd, AM
Treasurer: Max Willoughby	Secretary: David Taylor
Public officer: David Taylor	Editor: Max Willoughby
IT officer: David Taylor	Social officer: Sandra Jones
Auditor: Joan Cuthell	Research officer: Joan Cuthell

Member: Robert Haywood

Member: Barbara Haywood

Member: Marie Fletcher

Member: Nick Gouliaev

Museum corner

At TRM Murwillumbah, our major exhibition, *Untold Stories: living with ability*, opened on 21 March and we have a range of public programs happening over the next three months to accompany this exhibition, including children's storytelling sessions with Bev Larsson and her guide dog Henry, and an NDIS Open Day/Information session. See the website for more details.

Tony Clark's collection of brass objects features in our Collector's Cabinet at TRM Murwillumbah until 27 June, and is a wonderful tribute to a valued friend and volunteer, whom we miss dearly. If you didn't get a chance to see this display at the Research Room dedication, now's a good time to pop in.

Our Tweed Heads branch is currently undergoing building works, with the addition of a work space and research centre housing the Historical Society. This will free up the Courthouse for new interpretation and displays, featuring the history of the buildings on-site and related themes. This branch will be open to the public again in July 2017.



ABOUT THE SOCIETY: Formed on 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.

CONTACT US

Phone: (02) 6670 2273 **Web:** <http://www.murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au/> **FB:** <http://www.facebook.com/murwillumbahhistory>
Email: editor@murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au **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.