

TIMELINES

In fifteen minutes

Number 4

Good news everyone!

Lunch at the Hotel Victory

Come and have lunch with us at the **Hotel Victory at Mooball on Saturday, 16 September 2023**. The food is excellent as we have tried it. Google the menu to see what we mean.



There is a history of rivalry between two villages caused by a fire, and a change of location for a pub. Leo Kelly, a local resident of Mooball, will have lunch with us and tell us this fascinating history of the hotel and the village. He is an inexhaustible mine of information. He is looking forward to joining us. Other story tellers may also join us.

So keep that Saturday free and meet at the hotel at 11:30 in order to secure a table.

This is a self-drive excursion. Please let **Betty Hamill 0458 793 223** or **Bev Fairley 0406 773 257** know as soon as possible if you would be interested in coming.

Research

In this issue we meet Joan Cuthel, who these days is the heart and soul of the Murwillumbah Historical Society's research work. Joan is also a life member of the Society.

If you take time to look back through the Society's newsletter, Timelines, you will see her name cited as a contributor to the research undertaken for any number of articles. Scanning issues from 2013 to the present, she has worked with other Society members including Tony Clark, Max Boyd, Joan Campbell, Ann Robinson, and Quentin Snow (2013); David Taylor, and Nick Gouliaev (2015); and Ian Holston, Ross Johnson, and Geoff Smith (2017). Her work with the Society is a family tradition, her father George Fletcher having been closely involved in its work prior to his death. In 2019 published his autobiography, with Joan providing the photographs that illustrated the article.

If you send through an enquiry to the Society asking for information about a Tweed ancestor, or the Murwillumbah house you now live in, you can be sure that Joan will be the person who will soon be in touch with you to find and give you the 'good oil' you seek.

Standing Invitation. We're looking forward to hearing from you and welcoming you as you take an active part in your Society. Remember, we're on the lookout for a Treasurer. It could be you! Come to our next meeting:

1:00 pm on Monday, 18 September 2023, at the Society's Research Room at the Tweed Regional Museum.

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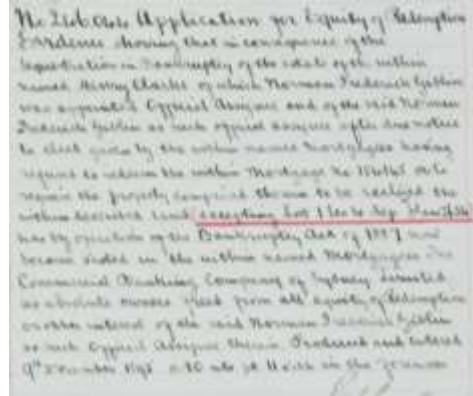
Mail: C/- Tweed Regional Museum, 2 Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah NSW 2484 or PO Box 373, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

History in a Box

It is often the case that many enquiries received by the Society remain unresolved. Here are a few open questions. Who knows, you the reader may be able to provide a definitive answer.

Why was Hannah Clarke called Alice Clarke in her obituary?

The closest our research has got to an answer is that the land her husband, Henry, owned at one point during his life had been purchased from Samuel Gray, who in turn had purchased the block that had been the lapsed conditional purchase of Alice Hyland (*New South Wales Government Gazette*, 9 December 1873). The north-east corner of Henry's property was the village of Cudgen (as shown on the map in the title deed); though he lost everything in the financial crash of the 1890s (the relevant notation



found in the same title deed, Historical Land Records Viewer, Volume 1133 Folio 65). Hannah had the honour of opening the Cudgen sugar mill in 1888 (*Northern Star*, 8 November 1882).

Where was Newtown?

No, not the Sydney suburb. Newtown in Murwillumbah. Searching the *Tweed Daily*, it appears that people living along Mooball and Ewing Streets were occasionally reported as living in Newtown. Was it a real estate agent's promotional tactic or was it a way of improving the social standing of the area. Newtown had a private hospital, Newbrae, on Mooball Street. Even as late as the 1930s and 1940s there were newspaper articles referring to people who lived at Newtown. Poor little James Riley, who was run over by a bus near the aerodrome when he lost control of his bike in 1931, was the son of the Riley family living in Newtown. And in 1942 Valerie Gilzinnis dislocated her right knee playing tennis at Newtown. (*Tweed Daily*, 6 June 1914, 15 July 1914, 27 April 1931, and 18 July 1942.)

Town Allotments.
By Public Auction.
Sat., June 13.
Moriarty's Rooms.
12 BLOCKS in Newtown, Murwillumbah, 4 being Ewing Street, 8 being Mooball Street.
EXCELLENT SITES.
LEONARD MORIARTY has been favored with instructions by Mr. J. P. B. Wiggins to sell as above.
AT 10.00
On account of Mrs. O. G. McDonald, Tweed Heads.
7 ALLOTMENTS in South Murwillumbah.
Particulars later.
Don't Forget Sat., June 13.

The sound of music?

Other enquiries also pique the interest of the researcher. The Murwillumbah Lions Club will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of its found in 1948. The Society was asked to provide some



information about life in Murwillumbah in that year. On 30 June 1948 the *Tweed Daily* listed the balls that were being held around that date. What caught the eye was the number of bands and orchestras that were providing the music for the festivities: Les Cox and his Melody Masters; Deegan's orchestra; Clare Loder's band; Bill Rolls' orchestra; and Jack Ward's band. A quick search of the Tweed Regional Museum's Collection found a few photos of Bill Rolls' orchestra,

but nothing for the others. The photograph shown appears to be from the 1938 Uki Diggers' Ball, where 'Rolls' orchestra supplied very attractive music'. (Tweed Regional Museum, Item 36228, and *Tweed Daily*, 24 May 1938; the names common to both sources are Bonnie (or Bonny) O'Keefe, Jan McAndrew, and the flower girl, Flora McAndrew.) But what did these ensembles sound like? Did these musicians record their music? Are there any flyers or programs that give us an idea of the music they played? At present these are unanswered questions.