

TIMELINES

In fifteen minutes

Number 6

MURWILLUMBAH HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS OFF TO THE SHOW!

We're going to give you a look at the first 50 years of the Show!

And the big extravaganza...

We're screening the 1934 classic:-

THE BANANA

Fly over the Tweed, grow bananas; and see them delivered to the big smoke!

Friday and Saturday, 3 and 4 November 2025.

SEE YOU THERE!!!



The Society would like to see **your** family!

Send or lend us the photos from your family album. Whether the subject is receiving recognition for an exhibit or in the main ring or just having fun, we want to include your memory in the display.

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Keeping You Up-to-Date

The Society's committee met on Monday, 16 October. The immediate task at hand was getting ready for the Tweed River Agricultural Society's annual show. The banner of the Murwillumbah Historical Society will be raised. With the help of the Tweed Regional Museum, we will provide look back at the life and times of the show since its first debut in 1898. If you have any documents or photographs that can add to this story, please share them with us so that they can be introduced to the wider world.

Preparations are also underway for the members' Christmas lunch. At this time, it is planned to take a cruise up the river, ending the trip at Chinderah for lunch. While not yet set in stone, an early date in December is anticipated.

Our Next Meeting

1:00 pm on Monday, 20 November 2023, at the Society's Tony Clarke Research Room at the Tweed Regional Museum.

History in a Box

Looking through the newspapers on Trove, herewith a few snippets giving glimpses of the show in years past.

1898.

'A northern newspaper proprietor offered a prize of 10s 6d for the best baby at the Bangalow (Tweed River) Show, but the Committee declined to encourage such a competition. They don't class babies as agricultural products up Bangalow way.'

[*Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, 12 March 1898, p. 10.]

1900.

'Tuberculosis.

The tests conducted on stock at the Tweed River show were a revelation. Four out of seven bulls and one out of five cows reacted. The prize Guernsey bullock and the Government salted cow were amongst the victims, and the Government dairy bull doing stud duty in the district on examination disclosed that he was suffering from tuberculosis. These were all, or will be, destroyed, and the discovery of so great a number of tuberculous cattle among show beasts gives the unpleasant reflection that the disease must be alarmingly prevalent. The test was conducted by Mr. Bowker, veterinary surgeon to the Department, and post mortem examinations in several instances left no doubt as to the presence of the disease.'

[*Clarence River Advocate*, 28 December 1900, p. 5.]

1912.

'Any doubt in the minds of district dairymen as to whether milking machines of the day will have any injurious effect on the cows should be set at rest by the experience of Mr. T. M. Boyd, a well-known Tweed River farmer. He owns the cow which won the butter competition at Murwillumbah show, and also the cow which gave the highest test. During the 12 months prior to the show both these fine animals were milked by machines, which is sufficient proof that an intelligent use of the machines not only removes "the slavery" of the yard, but the cows suffer no ill effects.'

[*Tumut Advocate and Farmers and Settlers' Adviser*, 10 December 1912, p. 2.]

1917.

'LOSSES ON TWEED. SHOW ALLIGATOR ESCAPES.

Business places suffered heavily in the floods, and pine logs to the value of £1000 were washed out to sea. The show ground at the termination of the ring events on Thursday was a foot under water, and by night the ground was covered to a depth of 5ft. The exhibits were rescued at great risk. One prize cow and several pigs and fowls were drowned. Some children and side-showmen were marooned on a high point all night and were taken off this morning.

An alligator which was being exhibited escaped during the night, and has not yet been found.'

[*National Advocate*, 12 November 1917, p. 1.]