



Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc.

MUSEUM

Cnr Myokum & Stuart Streets MULLUMBIMBY 2482

OPEN: FRIDAY 10 AM – 12 PM

MARKET DAY (3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH) 9 AM-1 PM

NEWSLETTER

October 2014

MUSEUM NEWS

WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT AND ABOUT



Invitation to descendants of WW1 Veterans and their families

Commemorative Crosses Workshop

10am - Saturday 11 October 2014

Mullum Ex Services Club
As part of the Centenary of Commemorations and exhibition **Re-Membering Our ANZACS**, a workshop will be held

for descendants of WW1 veterans to write messages of Commemoration on wooden crosses supplied by the Australian War Memorial. Ultimately the crosses will be displayed as part of an artwork for the exhibition **Re-Membering Our ANZACS** in 2017 and then returned to the Australian War Memorial for distribution over war graves. RSVP Debby Gower 66842094

FOR VOLUNTEERS – Free Movie

A free private screening at the Byron (Community Theatre), to say thank you on behalf of the community for the work you do. If you decide to come, we pretty much start on time. So if you are late, come in quietly and take a seat without disturbing everyone else to **confirm you are coming** --just turn up.

This month's film is

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, is a 1954, one and a half hour comedy starring Charles Laughton, Brenda DeBanzie and John Mills, written and directed by David Lean. It's one of Lean's last Brit Pics before moving on to his international successes like **Dr Zhivago, Laurence of Arabia, Ryan's Daughter and Passage to India.**

Only a great English director could write and direct a film so lovingly about the power and sexual conflicts in a

David Lean makes every film a masterpiece. Jim Beatson is presenting this **Monday October 13 at 5.30pm sharp.**

Ocean Shores Historical Society and Ocean Shores Community Association

History Day - North of the Brunswick River 1869 to 1969

Saturday 11th October Exhibition commences: 11am

Frank Mills OAM *Hainsville, the first Village*

Margaret Everingham: *Oceanview: The house my father built* The story of Jack Bower



Ocean Shores Community Centre, Rajah Road
Admission Free. Enquiries 0431 477 445

Scouting Out Our ANZACS



An exhibition commemorating our local ANZACS

1 November 2014 to 30 November 2014



At Richmond Tweed Regional Library Station St. Mullumbimby NSW 2482

To commemorate the Centenary of World War One, we respect our local soldiers. PAN (Practicing Artists Network) members artists Angela den Heuvel, Deborah Go and Ross Collins have been mentoring and working with the 1st Mullumbimby Scout Group to research the impact of World War One on our local area. Inspired by their research they created **Scouting Out Our ANZACS** an exhibition commemorating local ANZACS.

Please join them for the opening on 1 November 10:30am at Mullum Library



MARKETS

Congratulations to our market managers, Sarah & Kim, for the great job they are doing in getting our market pumping again. The September market was a super lots of vibe, with happy shoppers, stallholders and museum members. Watch out for special attractions at our November market.



Change of Meeting Times

Monthly Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month at 2.00pm

Acquisition Meeting: Tuesdays following the monthly meeting needed at 10am

Reminders

Markets: Third Saturday of the month - 8pm.

Museum opening times:
Fridays 10am-12pm Market days 9pm

Faith of Our Fathers

Grand opera was staged in Lismore in Oct1886 with the finale of the Edith O'Gorman saga, featuring a corroboree enacted by a cast of 2000 Micks and Proddies in a traditional Christian war dance. Sharing the platform a large contingent of mounted troopers and 128 specially issued constables, which unfortunately prevented the festivities achieving the choreographer's climax. (Check it out on YouTube and via publicity).

Thereafter sectarian violence went underground and reports of verbal stouchees ever made the local rags, particularly around election times (at least into the 1930s when most newspapers began the process of correctness). The dominant group amongst these Christian crusaders were Presbyterians exercising commercial, media and local governance muscle way beyond their proportionate population percentage.

By 1933 the Mullumites enjoyed the distinction of having the largest concentration of Presbyterians in the Tweed region (18.6. 15.1%), and way above the State average of 9.9%. Thereafter they started to surrend share to the Methodists, but compensating with a rise at Byron Bay where their 17.8% aggregation was proportionally largest enclave in 1954. At that time their nemeses, the Catholics on 22.6%, could claim the honour of having the 2nd lowest regional cluster of Micks after Mullum on 21.4%.



Children of the Main Arm branch of the Salvation Army being brought to Mullum Sunday School, supervised by Major and Mrs Spillett, 1954. (At a consistent 1.6% Mullum's Salvos maintained the highest concentration in the Richmond-Tweed region through to 1961. But by 1966 they were unfashionable and slipped to 1%, while the regional and State averages remained at 0.4% and 0.5% respectively.)

But Mullum's Catholics had won bragging rights as the first mainstream religion to establish a permanent presence in Mullum with the opening of a church on Stuart Street in May1901. Inexplicably the Salvation Army was next on the scene with a Barracks/City on Dalley Street in Sep1900. The driving force was Sergeant Major John Mansell, who remained Mullum's most prominent Salvo through to his death in 1938. He or they made some early high recruits in John Reddacliff of Myocum, commissioned as a Cadet Lieutenant in Jan1901, and the prominent Ford family on Mullum's northern outskirts, eldest son William rising to the rank of Brigadier. And they continued to give Mullum the privileged title of being their proportionally largest regional community in the 1970s.

Another revelation of the census was that Anglicans (30.6%) and Catholics (18.6%) enjoyed the distinction of having the proportionally smallest communities of any LGA region, and significantly below the respective NSW averages of 39.8% and 26.3%. And Mullum's Greek Orthodox community was the largest in the region above the State average of 1.5%, while the town's Baptist brotherhood (2.3%) was second only to Tintenbar which double the State average of 1.2%.

The opening of the new Baptist Church in Argyle Street by Mullumbimby was another milestone in the advancement of Christianity in Australia, Mr J.D. Anthony, MHR, said on 29 January 1963. He said the building of the church by the voluntary workers had shown the people of the church to be a very dedicated and orderly group. His secretary, Mr Bill Bridgland, read congratulatory messages for the past seven years Baptist services at Mullumbimby have been held in the CWA Rooms....

The church building funds continued to do their bit in leading Mullumbimby's recovery, but Doug Anthony was nowhere to be seen at the opening of the 10,500 Methodist Church on 7 Dec 63, at which Anglicans were still in the process of a £8,000 refurbishment programme for their churches at Mullum (and 1947 Mullum boasted the fastest growing Methodist community on the Far North Coast as the Anglicans, Catholics and Presbyterians suffered percentage declines.)

The Methodists continued to increase their market share, making up 18.4% of Mullumbimby by the 1966 census sharing with Tintenbar the distinction of having the highest concentration of any LGA in the region, and above the NSW average of 7.2%. Also continuing to expand were the Adventists, now comprising 2.8% of residents, still by far the highest concentration in the region and still way ahead of the State's static average. Baptists slipped to 1.7%, but still above the regional and State average of 1.3%. The Presbyterian presence declined, now at an all time low of 13.4%, below the regional average of 15% but still above the State average. Anglicans also resumed retrogression, and while still Mullum's dominant group on 30%, they remained the proportionally smallest community of any LGA in the region and significantly below the State average of 38%. Byron Shire could boast that its 20% Catholic population was the lowest in the region (26.5%) and below the State average (27.8%).

Salvation

With the increase of crime, slums, juvenile delinquency, and the threat of war, mankind needed a spiritual revival, the Deputy Mayor, Dr Alderman told a congregation in the Mullumbimby Baptist Church on 1 May 64 during a civic welcome to Rev Harry Foley, of Fort Wyman Baptist Church, Rolla, Missouri, USA. Mr Foley is one of 150 Missouri Baptists who are engaged in a special Australian evangelical mission. He is spending a week at Mullumbimby as a part of the c/-Mission Director Mr Bruce Bridgland....

On 21 Jun 64 the Most Rev Dr J. Farrelly... blessed and laid the foundation stone of a new science block at the Convent School at Mullumbimby. The Bishop particularly praised the teaching work of the Sisters and said that if they were paid a salary each would receive £1000 per annum. Instead of that, each Sister receives £75 a year, so a bit of State Aid for non-Government Schools would be nice. On present day costs, he said, almost completely built building would be valued at between £16,000 and £17,000, but the voluntary group had made it possible to build the block at a cost of £4200.

In Mar 65 another mainstream church appeared at Bangalow, still the main home of the district's United Methodist Association, when the new Church of Christ Chapel opened in Street. Previously services had been conducted for some years at the home of the late Mr J.G. Snow prior to the official formation of the church in 1965. The congregation moved to the Temperance hall.

The Anglicans pressed on with renewal. In May 66 the Bishop of Grafton dedicated the new \$24,000 St James' Church at Byron Bay, replacing the old building built in 1898. The Bishop was back in Mullumbimby on 6 July 66 at the opening of the E Memorial Centre at Bangalow, which he described as "a triumph of faith in God against seemingly insurmountable difficulties." Speakers said the enormous effort involved for a parish of only 210 families to build such a centre for only 600 reflected devotion and good leadership.

Thereafter faith started to undergo a severe testing. By 1971 the towns were making significant headway

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This newsletter is written by
and for the members of the
BVHS

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David Roupell
Kim Pedersen

Market Managers:
Kim Pedersen
Sarah Newsome

Newsletter team:
Susan Tsicalas & Work
Experience Participants
Public Officer: Susan Tsicalas

All members are invited to contribute to this newsletter

*Please leave material with Sarah
or Liz
Tues Wed Thur 10 am - 2 pm.
Or email to:
bvhs@tridentcommunications.com.au

NEXT MEETING
N.B. Thursday 6th
November 2014 2.00pm
See you there!

*Deadline for agenda items
Wednesday 5th Nov 2014

MUSEUM HOURS
Friday 10am - 12pm
Market Saturday 9am - 1pm

BVHS Newsletter is produced
by NORTEC Work Experience
Participants and BVHS Inc.



Mullum leading the way with the biggest jump in those professing 'no
'indefinite' or 'not stated' on their census forms. These heathens made up
the town's population in 1966, the lowest of any of the 12 LGAs in the r
within 5yrs they'd recruited more followers to boast the fastest growi
non-religion in the region, now claiming 6.4% of Mullum's citizens. Second
was Byroshire, which jumped from 7.8% to 8.6%, while all other LGAs
Ballina showed a return to God, the regional average of nominalists falling
from 7.4% to 7.2%, running counter to the State inclination, whose
average grew from 10.1% to .11.5%

Amongst the faithful, Mullum's Methodists (18.2%), Adventists (2.5%),
(2%), Orthodox (1.6%) and Salvos (1%) continued to claim the
concentration of adherents in the neighbourhood, and still way above t
average. Conversely, the town's Anglican's continued to suffer, reduced to 29
the population by 1971 and still retaining the award for registering th
concentration of any LGA in the region. The Catholics also continued
penance in Byron Shire, still making up 20% population by 1971 and again
winning the distinction as the home of the smallest cluster of Mick
'Richmond Tweed Statistical Subdivision', followed by 23.5% at Mullum (i
had climbed back from its 18.8% low in 1961).

A year later the war of mood dancing hippies accelerated the return
paganism, with the Municipal council responding by using an unemploye
grant to create a denominational lawn cemetery, completed in Aug7
followed 2mths later with approval for the Witnesses to erect a church i
Queen Street. Nowadays Sundays are generally reserved for worshipping
nubile Aphrodites and Adonis at the beach, if not tarot readings at Cry
Castle.

(By the 2006 census Mullum was still carrying on the tradition for contrarin
30.7% of its citizens professing 'No Religion', second only to Bangalow (3
the region's religious leadership ladder, which saw Casino's 30.6% Cathol
coming in 3rd, just ahead of the worshippers at Byron Bay, which claim
30.5% 'No Religion' against a regional average of 19.1%. And it v
proportional to a decline in adherence to Country Party theology, the
Electorate once described as a *veritable Gibraltar for the Country Party.*)
Peter Tsicalas



Presbyterian Church on the move rebirthed as the 'Yellow Church Yoga Cer
marking a symbolic end to the influence of the mainstream Christian re
perpetrating another act of vandalism on Mullum's heritage).