



NEWSLETTER
October 2018

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc.

MUSEUM

Cnr Myokum & Stuart Streets MULLUMBIMBY 2482
OPEN: TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 10 AM – 12 PM
MARKET DAYS (3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH) 9 AM-1 PM

PRESIDENT STEPHEN TAKES THE REINS AT THE SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MARKET

With Market Manager, Sarah, taking a well earned break our illustrious BVHS President, Stephen, stepped up, taking on the job with enthusiasm, diligence and obvious style.

In the photo at right, Stephen, sitting in front of his unmanned Vinyl Record stall at the back of the Shed, was caught in a dilemma, thinking about responding to another stallholder's query.

Channelling Hamlet: "Shall I go? Shall I not?"

Another job well done, Stephen.

"THE CROWLEY GROWLIES"

On 13th September, ten gentlemen from Crowley Village, Ballina visited the museum. Stephen and Susan had the pleasure of guiding them through our museum exchanging many an interesting story amid hilarity.



NEW BLACKSMITH DISPLAY COMPLETED



Congratulations to 'Work Experience Participant', Fergus Canning, for his great work putting together artefacts from the Shed, photos from the collection and researching family stories about blacksmiths in the region. A great outcome of Fergus's passion.

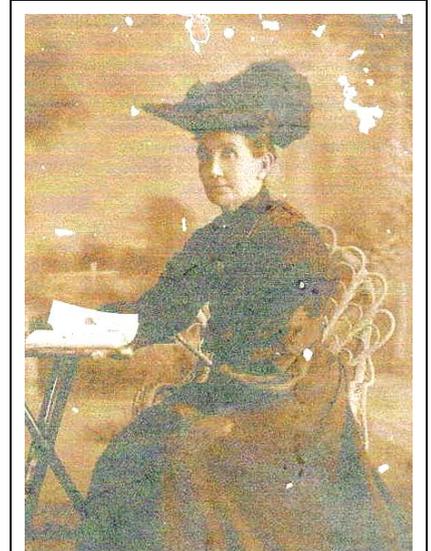
A call to readers: BHVS would appreciate the donation of a blacksmith's anvil with local provenance, to enhance our collection.

Remembering Maria Hains

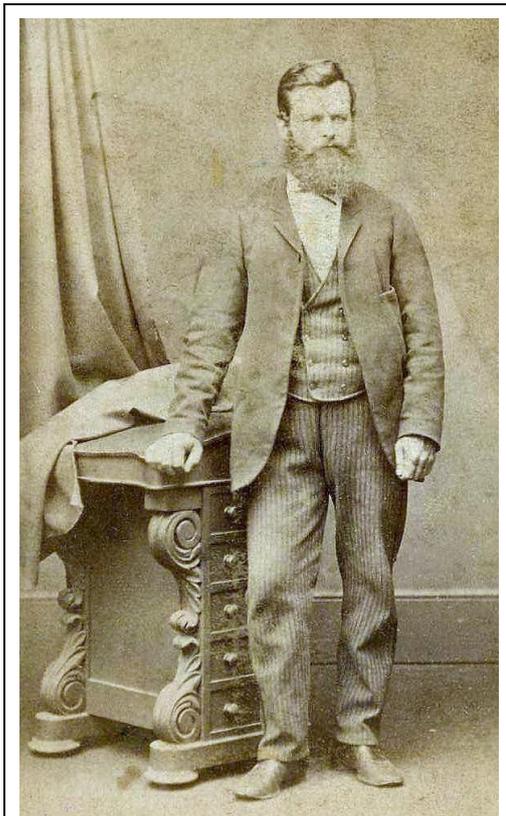
Maria was born 1851 Sydney, the fifth and last child of **John Cochrane** and **Mary Ann Reynolds** (nee **Bissaker**). Her mother, a native of Birmingham, England, died Oct1866, aged 52, followed 5mths later by her 60yr old father, a quarryman from Guernsey in the Channel Islands, leaving **Maria** in the care of her sister **Ellen** (1845-1892) in the family home in Kent Street. Sister **Eliza** (1841-1900) had moved out a few years after marriage to Anglican Irishman Thexter McAuley in 1858, while sister **Ann Victoria** (1847-1939) disappeared after marriage to Anglican Londoner Walter Scott in Jun1867. The phantom sibling remains in hiding.

Maria, with her 7yr old namesake daughter **Maria**, was still living in the family home when she married seaman **Delancy/Delaney Hains** in May1879. Delaney, born in Nova Scotia, Canada, 1Jan1854 but raised Boston USA, was rarely home, spending most of his time on the water shipping timber between Ballina and Sydney, but found time to beget daughter **Miriam Orlanda (Linda)** in 1882. It seems he had been installed as skipper of the new 88 ton Schooner '*Ocean Bride*' shortly after it was purchased by timber merchant **Patrick Hogan** for £1500 in Aug1875.

In Jan1881 **Captain Hains** was promoted to the helm of Hogan's 140 ton schooner *Brilliant*, a regular cedar seeker to the Brunswick and Byron Bay. Over the next couple of years he also skippered Hogan's 173 ton Brigantine *Drover*, another regular sight off the Brunswick bar. Hogan, a land owner of Newrybar, was well-known on the Brunswick, having installed a resident agent on the North Head by at least 1882. He unsuccessfully challenged Samuel Gray for the seat of Richmond in 1882, despite comprehensively winning the Brunswick booth, but prevailed 3yrs later, serving as MLA for Richmond for 2yrs until switching to the Macleay electorate, thence Raleigh.



Maria Hains
(Courtesy McCormack Family)



Delancy Hains
(Courtesy McCormack Family)

In 1883 he offered the Brunswick agency to **Delaney Hains** and shortly afterwards **Maria** and the two girls left civilisation to take up residence in their new frontier home. It seems they built an annex to their North Head residence which Maria managed as a store while Delaney was away buying, harvesting or shipping cedar. This looks to be the case in late 1884 when a couple of commercial travellers passed through *in the hope of securing a few orders...*, and *we cross the river, swimming our horses...* to see **Mrs Hains**.

Things were looking up by mid 1885 when a Sydney Mail reporter noted that *A township is slowly but surely being formed at the Heads. At present there is one hotel, two stores, the ferryman's residence, and the post and telegraph office. The latter is to be shifted this week from a ramshackle old building, which also acts as the pilot station, to a new one on the opposite or south side of the river. It is here that the township of the future will flourish. Mr Marshall's commodious and comfortable hotel... is the only business place at present – but a new hotel is, I understand, shortly to be built, and already a courthouse and police station are in the course of erection.... The stores, one of which is on either side of the river, belong respectively to Messrs Lund and Haines...*, but both remaining active as cedar merchants in their day jobs.

Twelve months later nothing much had changed when a *Town and Country* Journalist remarked that *The look-out station, and a store kept by Mr Haines formed nearly the whole of the buildings on this (North) side...* But

Henry Stone, a timber merchant of Ballina, was nearing completion of his 2-storey Court House Hotel in Fingal Street, and **Delaney Hains** was in the process of planning a large store on the corner of Mullumbimbi and Tweed Streets, where the Catholic Church now sits. At this time too, the block at 40 Mullumbimbi Street was acquired in Maria's name, their new private residence appearing on this site sometime later (and now home to the heritage-listed 'Barnes House').

By this time **Delaney** was a cedar merchant in his own right, having severed ties with **Patrick Hogan**. And in the cedar

shipping business it looks like he kept his hand on the tiller, chartering and skippering his own boats. At the Brunswick Sports Carnival in Jan1887 the *Tug of War* was won by **Captain Hains' Crew**. By this time too he was active in community affairs and outspoken at most Progress Association meetings. He was elected treasurer at the first AGM of the re-vitalised Association in Mar1888, a couple of days after he acted as 'Starter' at the Brunswick Races. The AGM *resolved to again jog the memory of the Minister for works on the state of our bar, the appointment of a pilot, a boat and crew.... A few months ago Surveyor Sommerville pegged off in this township a portion of land as a site for a School of Arts....*

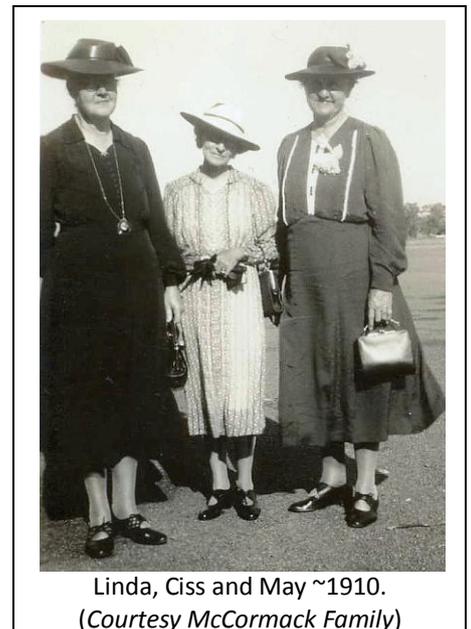
Delaney was appointed a trustee of the School of Arts site in Jul1889 and 6mths later Treasurer and 'Clerk of Scales' of the Horse Racing Committee. But then came the 1890s Depression and collapse of the timber market. By late 1892 he was bankrupt, the stress from which caused his admittance to the Callum Park Asylum in Sydney, where he died in 1897.

In the meantime four more children had arrived; **Estella Belinda** in 1885, **Lydia May** 1887, **Mabel Jane** 1889 and **Ivy Elizabeth** on 18Jan1892. Their elder half-sister, **Maria Jnr (Ciss)**, has the distinction of being a foundation pupil at both the Mullumbimby and Brunswick Schools, the latter erected by **Delaney** as an annex to the Hains store in May1888. It opened with 13 pupils, all Anglican except for the three Catholic **Jarrett** children, under the tutelage of 19yr old strict Presbyterian **Johanna Cameron**. (At Mullumbimby 20yr old Catholic teacher **Lizzie McGettigan** had claimed '*19 scholars under instruction*' by Apr1886, comprising 6 Presbyterians, 5 Anglicans, 4 Catholics and 4 Methodists. Presumably **Maria Hains** bordered with someone during her Mullum phase rather than attempt a daily ~14 mile round trip by boat or horseback to Mullumbimby Grass.)

The census of Apr1891 found 70 people (43m and 27f) living in 11 dwellings in the Village of Brunswick, the jail and 2 pubs housing 63% of them, while the school teacher, **John Burgess**, was '*camped in tent*', designated as 'Household No 9', by which time the school enrolment was 24. (**Delaney Hains** was 'Head of Household' No 8, housing himself and 6 females.) In May1891 the School Inspector said a new classroom was urgently required as the railway will bring an influx of new enrolments, and *At present there are a post and telegraph office, two or three stores, two hotels, a police station, and other houses erected upon portion of the village reserve.*

By May1892 it was claimed that *The miserable humpy doing duty as a Public school for many years is an eyesore....* The new brick schoolhouse, built by **Joe Yates** of Mullum for £263 on the 5 acre reserve on the corner of Fingal and Park, opened Nov1892, while classes had been conducted in the School of Arts for the past few months. But with departure of the railway navvies average school attendance sunk below 12, and in Jul1896 the place was closed.

After a long fund-raising effort the Brunswickers had celebrated the opening of their *School of Arts* on Anniversary Day 1892. *The entertainment was given by the Black Diamond Minstrels from the Tweed River. The first part of the performance... - comic dialogues peculiar to the negro fraternity.... The second part of the programme was a plantation scene - the troupe in full nigger costume.... There was a large gathering of the general public, over 150 being present.... The hall was then cleared for the ball, and dancing was sustained till daylight...,* males outnumbering females 3 to 1. The Hains were not amongst the listed attendees, but **Mrs** and **Miss Hains** made an appearance at the Easter Ball. A week later 12 males attended the farewell for postmaster **Francis** at the Ocean View Hotel, at which *I regret to say that at 11 o'clock, when all the toasts, &c., were over, the revellers had the bad taste to rouse up all the young ladies in the township....*



Linda, Ciss and May ~1910.
(Courtesy McCormack Family)

Shortly afterwards **Maria Hains** took the family to reside on her 42-acre property at 'The Pocket', acquired in her name in 1891. The family machinations after Delaney's departure are a bit vague, but in Aug1892 the Sherriff was authorised to sell all of Delaney's household furniture as well as all remaining drapery, groceries and miscellaneous goods in the store.

Hainsville

Maria's property straddled the strategic intersection where the road from Mullumbimby met the Brunswick-Murbah Road (or where Coolamon Scenic Drive now terminates at Ocean Shores). There may have been a store and staging post already established on the spot, servicing coaches and travellers transiting past, but, even so, the store rapidly expanded

under Maria's proprietorship to meet the demand from the railway navvies. It was also the home to the Post Office, formally upgraded from a Receiving Office in Apr1893.



Hainsville store and Post Office ~1893. (Maria Hains seated centre).

Work started on the Mullum-Murbah section of the railway line in late 1892 and a large navvies' camp developed on Maria's property, but fell partially on that of her southern neighbour, **Herbert Williams** with the 100-acre property 'Mountainview', and was initially called 'Williamstown' where **John Clifford** ran the 'Mountain View Hotel'. But most of the camp fell on Maria's property and by May1893, following the appearance of the pukka Post Office Store, the name 'Hainsville' quickly superseded 'Williamstown'. Her property was also the home to **Patrick Smith's 'Pine Valley Hotel'** (transferred to **George Marsden** in May93) and **Jack Restall's** butchery (bankrupt 1892). On her northern boundary was the 39-acre

property of **Donald Munro** who built the 'Kiora Hotel'. **Mrs Jane M'Guire** scored the license for the *Tramway Hotel* on **Gerald O'Connor's** property at Billinudgel (transferred to **Patrick McGrath** in Feb1894).

(In reminiscing in Dec1908 a commercial traveller said *The next camp of lively memory was "The Pocket". Here were three or four hotels, sly grog shops galore, and every form of entertainment favoured by railway campers..., probably including a red-light district.* In describing the camp near Bangalow he reckoned that the navvies *objected to pimps, and had a salutary, slushy way of dealing with suspects....* In the same vein, a journalist with the SMH thought it worth mentioning in Jan1892 that *Byron Bay boasts of the largest number of camp followers, and a good deal of business appears to be going on....*)

In Feb1893 a Pocket resident wrote to the Northern Star on *the necessity of police protection at Williamstown. There are about 500 railway people here, with three hotels, and about a dozen shanties. It is a regular pandemonium on pay week and Sundays.... There are about a dozen business places in the camp....* **Mabel Hains** (Mrs J.N. Warner, 1889-1976) recalled for the Billinudgel School Centenary book *that businesses operating at the camp when she lived there with her parents included a post office, saddler, baker, general stores, a fruit shop, a barber, a butcher, a drug store and a number of hotels and halls...,* plus an exorbitantly charging washer-woman said 19yr old schoolteacher **Malcolm Lamb**, who had to pay a quid per week to share a room with navvies (representing 70% of his salary). In a subsequent potted history of Hainsville, published in the North Coast Advocate of 19Oct1983, it was stated that the place *once boasted a population of 700 people.... It was famous for its Shanty Hotel, once reputed to have been backed by the 'biggest heap of empty bottles in the world'. Hainesville had grown as a staging place....*



Maria Hains ~1924
(Courtesy McCormack Family)

The schoolhouse arrived by bullock team from 'Grahamstown', a deserted navvies camp three miles south of Byron Bay, and deposited over the hill at what became Billinudgel, about a mile north of Hainsville. It was dubbed 'Tuckaburra' and opened for business in Aug1893. Within a month enrolment was 120, necessitating leasing of **Mrs McGuire's** Hall adjacent to her *Tramway Hotel*.

By Oct94 *Most of the camps along the line are deserted, and at every pay numbers of men are being discharged....* The formal opening of the line took place on Christmas Eve 1894 at Murbah, and 6mths later it was reported that *The Pocket is now almost deserted. Mr W.P. Child has closed his store... and moved to Macksville.* (William Child had turned up from Bexhill in late 1893 to acquire a store, assumed to be the Hains business.) By Dec1895 there were only 26 pupils enrolled at the school, which was re-christened 'Billinudgel' in Aug1899. Accommodation was still tight in Feb1897 when new married teacher **James Bourne** arrived and had to rent the ex-Signal Master's cottage

on the North Head, enjoying a daily walk to and from Billinudgel for the next two years.

Maria Hains was still living at 'The Pocket' in 1901, but at some stage down the line went to live with daughter Mabel in Toowoomba. In 1933 her daughters presented an Alms Dish to the Billinudgel Anglican Church inscribed "*To the glory of God, in memory of our dear mother, Maria Hains, died January 12, 1924, aged 71 years. Presented to St Clement's Church by her daughters.*"

In Apr1953 *Dreams of many years materialised for residents of Billinudgel this week when the town was officially hooked up to the electricity circuit. The oldest locally born resident, Mrs L. Piff (nee Lydia Hains), had the honour of throwing the switch.... The greatest crowd ever seen in the streets of Billinudgel gathered to see their streets and homes a mass of illumination....*

With thanks to Peter Tsicalas



Hains Sisters at the 75th Anniversary of Brunswick Heads School 4May1963

(L to R: Ivy, Linda, Mabel, May)

Maria (Ciss, 1872 Sydney – 1941 Kadanga) married Alfred G **Cooper** 1905 Lismore, moved to Queensland 1910, first Cooroy and later Kadanga.

Miriam Orlinda (Linda, 1882 Sydney – 1968 Toowoomba) married Francis **McCormack** 1901 Brisbane and eventually settled Toowoomba.

Estella Belinda (1885 Bruns – 1947 Yeppoon) married William Frederick **Jarman** 1910 Lismore and moved Queensland.

Lydia May (May, 1887 Bruns – 1964 Billinudgel) married Frank **Piff** 1912 Billinudgel and settled The Pocket.

Mabel Jane (1889 Bruns – 1976 Toowoomba) married John Norman **Warner** 1919 Billinudgel and settled Toowoomba.

Ivy Elizabeth (1892 Bruns – 1986 Tregagle) married Edward G. **Pryce** 1924 Billinudgel and settled Tregagle after 10yrs Billinudgel.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE HISTORY?

If Criminal Justice History interests you, read on for details of a study being undertaken by Dr Alana Piper.

"Hello,
My name is Dr Alana Piper and I am an academic at the University of Technology Sydney. I research criminal justice history and am conducting a survey on the public's engagement with crime history.
The purpose of this online survey is to find out about public interest in and understandings of criminal justice history.
This online survey is run through SurveyMonkey and takes 5-10 minutes to complete.
The survey is completely anonymous."

Participation in the survey would be most appreciated.

The survey can be found via the following link - <https://criminalcharacters.com/survey/>

NOTICES

Mullumbimby's Magic – The Culture of 70s-80s Part 2 - Activism & Politics, a blockbuster of a doco, is in the final stages of production. Screenings are being organised for Thursday Dec 6th at the Civic Centre Mullumbimby and at the Drill Hall Mullumbimby on 7th December at which there will be 2 screenings. We will advise when tickets will be available. Stay tuned. Check out the [facebook page](#) for interesting photos, titbits and news.

Mullum Music Festival is supporting our November market so we will have three acts performing on our main stage that day. Check out the festival's program booklet for times and artists.

BVHS Inc Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 6th December at 2pm. We would love to see many members at our AGM.

The meeting date has been changed to accommodate Byron Shire Council's requirements for an audit in November as a condition of our 5 year market lease.

BVHS Inc is pleased to promote a local initiative

Enova Community Energy - Offer live on Crowd88!

Dear Community members,

Enova Community Energy, Australia's first Community Owned Renewable Energy Retailer has launched their Equity Crowdfunding campaign on Crowd88.

- An established Australian energy retailer with a licence to retail electricity across the National Electricity Market.
- Currently owned by 1,100 community shareholders.
- Committed to building a decentralised, distributed clean energy future that does not leave anyone behind.
- Successfully met its customer acquisition targets and has generated revenue north of AU\$5M in FY2018.

Enova Community Energy is now seeking new capital to scale up their model and fund growth from their Northern Rivers NSW base into Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Southeast Queensland and other diverse regional communities.

Invest Now as little as \$100.00 and participate in Australia's community energy future!

[Learn More](#)

Crowd88 Contact Details

Email Address:

info@crowd88.com

Mailing Address:

Level 12, 179 Elizabeth Street
Sydney, NSW 2000 Australia

Telephone:

+61 2 9993 4488

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc. Newsletter

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

Cnr Myokum & Stuart Sts
Mullumbimby
P.O. Box 378 Mullumbimby 2482
02 6684 4367

bvhs84@yahoo.com.au

www.mullumbimbymuseum.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/MullumbimbyMuseum

Patrons: Frank Mills OAM
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Sadie Mudge

John Davis

Shed Manager Roland Sjoberg

Market Manager:

Sarah Newsome

Heritage Panel Representative

Chris Cooney

Newsletter team:

John Davis & Work

Experience participants

Public Officer: Susan Tscicalas

All members are invited to contribute to this newsletter

*Please leave contributions for the newsletter with John, Tues or Fri 9am to 12 noon.

Alternatively email to:

bvhs84@yahoo.com.au

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 1Nov 2018

2.00pm

See you there!

*Deadline for agenda items

Wednesday 31st October 2018

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesdays & Fridays

10am - 12pm

Market Saturdays 9am - 1pm

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

