

Early Settlement of Tyagarah, Ewingsdale, Coorabell and St Helena.

In 1885 a journalist from the *Sydney Mail* cast a gloomy eye over the progress of settlement of the Brunswick, his observations published on 26Sep1885 and 30Oct1885 under the heading *Land Selection on the Brunswick*:*The common phrase of "living in hope" will very shortly and truthfully describe the condition of the selectors on the Brunswick and surrounding country. Farming does not pay..., except indeed a little in the timber trade....Large quantities of cedar were exported from the Brunswick fully a quarter of a century ago, but the industry was subsequently almost abandoned in consequence of the low price ruling for the timber..., coupled with the high freight charges to cover the risk from the dangerous bar.*

But now the selectors have arrived, chiefly from the Clarence..., a good sprinkling being the relatives of sugar-planters there. Some of them still possess freeholds on the Clarence, but are fulfilling the residence clause here, while others gave up their rented property and invested the savings of years in a selection on the Brunswick. Some of the Clarence millowners, too, determined on removing their mills to the new country which was supposed to turn out such a Canaan, and four years ago a healthy feeling of speculation took possession of the sugar growing community on the Clarence and Richmond. The industry had paid well on these rivers, and why should it not even on the far distant Brunswick and Tweed, where the soil was richer, and the climate, if anything, more congenial to the growth of cane? These arguments were, it must be remembered, used, too, at a period when sugar prospects looked considerably brighter than at present.

Under these circumstances, therefore, the land was selected, and such a run was there upon it that soon hardly an acre remained open on the Brunswick. Building and clearing commenced; the former was indispensable – the residence clause must be complied with – but the latter went on very slowly indeed. Sugar had fallen in the market; the crops of many of the farms kept as a standby did not yield so abundantly as before owing to frost. Millowners became rather dubious about removing their machinery such a long distance.... Thus it came to pass that after preparing his land for cane, and in some instances growing it, the selector awoke to the fact that prices had gradually lowered, the means of transport to Sydney were uncertain, and, worse than all, there was no mill to crush his cane. Then, again, the roads were guiltless of the expenditure of Government money; the hardworking pioneer must clear tracks for himself in all directions, or follow the old timber roads; must fetch his goods and chattels by boat, dray, or on horseback, and must, above all, reside on his ground for five years....

All these drawbacks were sufficient to dampen the spirits of the very pluckiest men; but the Brunswick settlers are made of the right stuff. They feel depressed and disheartened now and again, but one and all seem to be buoyed up with the hope of "a good time coming.".... Nevertheless, many of the selections would have to be abandoned; and while travelling the country of the Brunswick and noticing its similarity in every way to... Gippsland, the thought forced itself on my mind that before many years some of the selections here would also be thrown back on the hands of the Government.

In character, the people of the Brunswick and Byron Bay districts resemble those of Gippsland. They are, with few exceptions, steady, industrious, and hopeful..., but cheerily struggle on, until at least their five years' residence has been done. At the expiration of this term feel convinced that many selectors will take a long holiday with a view to earning the wherewithal to enable them to still hold and improve their farms. The fear of forfeiture on account of non-residence has kept the majority of them pretty closely to their homes, but once the above mentioned period is passed the ground is regarded as quite safe.

*The delay in the erection of sugar-mills has been the means as much as anything else of the depressed state into which farming has fallen. One can hardly blame mill-owners or capitalists from holding back, pending that state of the sugar market, the improvement of the bar, or the construction of a jetty; but certainly this delay has done incalculable injury to the district. Some of the selectors have expended hundreds of pounds without getting hardly a shilling return, and a good many are growing cane for plants and for the purpose of feeding stock whilst waiting for the erection of mills. One of these was to have been started two or three years since by **Messrs M'Auley Brothers**, who are millowners on the Clarence. Owing to a variety of reasons..., the firm postponed building operations until next year. This has been done in the face of possessing some 80 or 100 acres of splendid cane themselves, all of which has had to be left uncut....*

By only following, what through courtesy may be termed the main road, one can gain but a very crude idea regarding the extent to which selection has been carried on. "Where in the world are your settlers," I asked a

*brawny selector, "when they are not to be seen along the main roads?" "Oh," was the reply, "they're just scattered about all through the scrub like paddy melons." And this, after subsequent explorations, I found to be the case.... In going from the Heads to the Nubhoygum district (Tyagarah), five miles off, I followed a cleared line for some distance, but eventually it became almost indistinct from the scrub which had grown up on every side.... I reached the store and farm of **Henry French**.... Some cattle-fattening is done, a slaughtering license enabling Mr French to supply the district with beef; and on the south arm of the Brunswick or Tyagrah Creek, is the boat shed. Of all these Northern streams the use of boats effects a large saving in horseflesh....*

And so he reaches southern Tyagarah, a Scotch Presbyterian enclave created by interconnected Maclean residents who mainly selected low-lying, flood-prone landsuitable for cane growing, including **W. M'Kinnon, D. Cameron, John M'Innes, Angus M'Swan**, 260 acres; **C. Hall**, 100 acres; **A. M'Gilloray** (sic), 60; **M. M'Mahon**, 400; **M'Auley Bros**, 640; and **A. M'Kinnon**, who has about 600 acres of good land, some well-grassed paddocks, and an excellent crop of cane....(Clarence settlers, if not specifically from Maclean and district, also dominated the rest of the Parish of Brunswick, so much so that the *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* of 18Oct1892 reckoned that *The Clarence and the Brunswick stand in relation to each other as father and child*....)

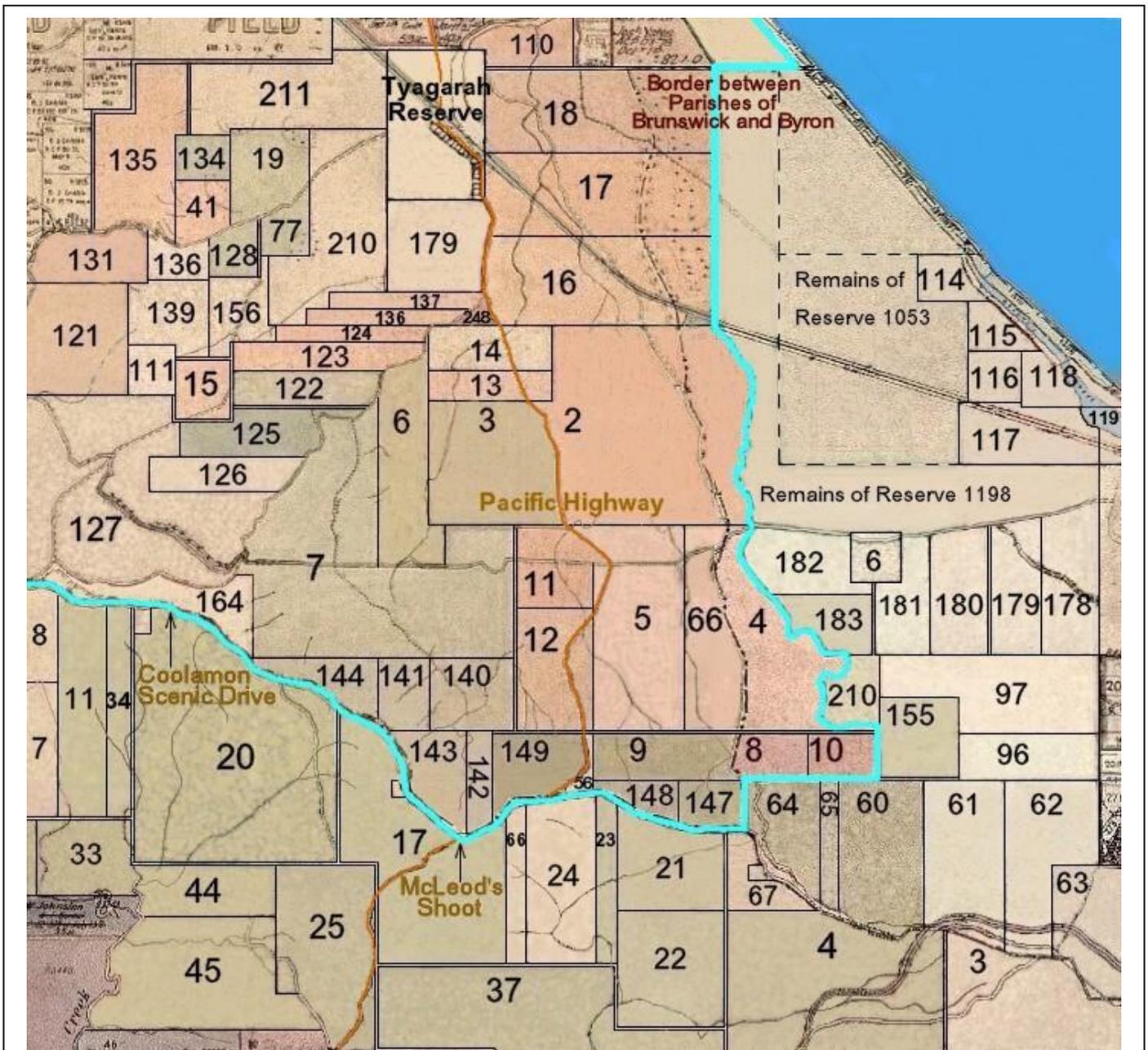
On 19Jul1944 the *Northern Star* published an obituary headed *Last of the Tyagarah Pioneers: The death occurred of Mr John McInnes, of Brisbane, at the age of 85. He was the last of the small band of pioneers who left their homes on the Lower Clarence River in March 1881, in search of suitable land in the Brunswick district.... After a minute survey of the district they eventually decided to take up adjoining blocks of land in Tyagarah.... These young men, who for the most part were between the ages of 21 and 30, were Clarence River natives, all of Highland Scotch descent.... They were **A. and J. McSwan, N. and J. McInnes, McAulay Bros., A. McGuilvery**(sic), **C. McNeill** and **A. McKinnon**. They selected 320 to 640 acres. The Tyagarah district was then dense scrub; consequently there were no roads and no pasture lands, and these pioneers had to leave their saddle horses at Ballina and walk the remaining distance of about 25 miles along the beach, carrying on their backs all the necessary equipment....*

After doing their residential term of five years, and as the future prospects for years to come were not encouraging, most of the selectors sold their properties. Sir T.T. Ewing purchased Mr A. McKinnon's portion of 640 acres, but after holding it for several years he subdivided and resold it. During Sir Thomas Ewing's term of occupancy a small portion of the surrounding district was renamed Ewingsdale. Barnes Bros., of Dyraaba Station, purchased McAulay Bros' portion of 640 acres, which they also subdivided and resold. Mr Connelly Dickie, then a well-known solicitor of Lismore, purchased Mr N. McInnes' portion of 320 acres....

Portion 2, 600ac in the Parish of Brunswick, was selected by the **McAulay Bros**, Neil (1867 Goodwood Island – 1944 Sydney) and Alex (1869 Goodwood – 1902 Tweed Heads), on 19May1881. They were the sons of **Donald McAulay** (1827 Isle of Skye – 1884 Mulgrave River, Qld) who landed with his parents, uncles, aunts, siblings and cousins in 1837. Donald did successful gold mining stints in California ~1849 and Victoria ~1850, enabling him to become a real estate baron on the Lower Clarence. He erected the first hotel at Ulmarra, '*The Caledonian*', and was amongst the first into sugar cane growing and milling at Snizort (Ashby). At Goodwood Island in 1866 he married **Euphemia** (aka Effy and Margaret Ann) **McDonald** (1844 Isle of Skye – 1925 Turrumurra, late of Tumbulgum and buried Tweed Heads). Donald's death at the hands of Aboriginals drew nation-wide interest.

Don's father **Alexander McAulay** (1799 Portree, Isle of Skye – 1882 Serpentine Creek, Harwood Island) carried the nickname "King McAulay" for his role as leader of the ten or so Scottish families that colonised the Williams River. In 1826 he married **Catherine McKay**, who unfortunately died during the voyage out in 1837. On board was 24yr old **Janet McLeod**, the daughter of the late **Sir Alex (Brigadier) McLeod** and **Ann McKinnon** (on board), whom he married 18mths later on 'Dunmore' at Paterson, Hunter River, the property of Andrew Lang, the brother of the **Rev John Dunmore Lang** who organised the migration of ~4000 Scots in 20 ships 1837-1840.

Don's half-brother **John Alexander McAulay** (1841 Dunmore Estate – 1922 Kingaroy, Qld) also had entrepreneurial flair, forming the partnership of *McAulay & McLeod* with his likely relative **John McLeod** and dominating the Lower Clarence butchering and sugar milling trade for many years. In 1904 he decided to try his hand at dairying, acquiring the farm of **Thomas Torrens** at Myocum, but 5yrs later elected to join the Mullum/Maclean enclave at Kingaroy, where he died in 1922. However, his son **Clarence Alexander McAulay** (1878 Maclean – 1952 Mullumbimby), remained a Mullum resident all his life except for a break for WW1 service, mainly working as a book-keeper at Mallams.



Composite of Edition 5 of Parish Maps of Brunswick (in use 1896-1906) and Byron (1894-1906)

(The Catholics in 'Green/Olive' surround the Presbyterians in 'Pink/Orange'. Portion 248 of 8ac at Tyagarah was initially reserved for a Public school. It became a Soldiers Settlement block wef 15Nov1918 (housing Walter Howard Lewis in 1918, William John Caine in 1920 and Arthur Olive Robb 1921) until taken up by Donald Kennedy 1921.

Don landed with his first cousin, **Christina McAulay** (1832 Isle of Skye – 1903 Mullumbimby) and her parents **John** and **Margaret** (nee **McDonald**). She married **Malcolm Nicholson McKay** (1830 Snizort, Isle of Skye – 1903 Mullumbimby) 1862 Chatsworth Island. John, the younger brother of Don's father, Alex 'King' McAulay, died at Kilgin near Evans Head in 1887. [Perhaps connected was John and Alex's older sister, Catherine McAulay (1788 Isle of Skye – 1852 at Sea) who, with her husband **Alexander McKay**, died during the sea voyage to Australia in 1852, leaving 3 children, Flora, Anne and Angus, to land alone].

Malcolm and **Christina McKay** selected 80ac at Main Arm (Parish of Mullumbimby) 31Jun1881. In 1884 their daughter, **Margaret Ann McKay** (1865 Palmers Island – 12Jan1939 Main Arm), married **Angus Gillies** who had selected 400ac 'Glen Isla' at Main Arm (Parish of Billinudgel) 9Jun1881.(Those interested in the genealogical nightmare of the McAulays and their interconnections may find some clarity at <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~jray/mckay/index.htm> . Note that this family appears to be unconnected to the ex-Clarence Pilot, **Captain Henry McAulay**, who gave his name to McAuleys Lane, Myocum.)

Meanwhile **Neil** and **Alex McAulay** were struggling at Tyagarah, where their uncle, **John Alex McAulay**, seems to have had his finger in the pie somewhere - in Oct1885 he had his 300ac 'Bolorobo Estate' on Chatsworth Island on

the market, together with the Dyraaba sugarmill and extensive infrastructure, because *his interests on the Brunswick are so large that he is desirous of concentrating his capital....* In Apr1886 it was reported that *The M'Aulay brothers are busy cutting timber for the erection of their sugar mill at Tyagarah....* But in Aug1887 it was noted that their neighbour **Mr Atkins**, *from the Clarence, purposes erecting, very shortly, a sugarmill near the bay upon Mr H. Barnes property. The original owners, Messrs McAulay Bros., had cleared a considerable area, and planted about 120 acres of cane....This will be a good thing for the district, and perhaps put new life into the drooping spirits of the selectors adjacent thereto; that is, if the last spark of hope has not been quenched by repeated losses and disappointments....* And in Feb1892 the Lismore Land Board recognised **Henry Barnes** as owner of Portion 2, but by this time the property was registered in the name of Henry's wife, **Grace Isabella Barnes**. (And Henry Barnes, owner of Dyraaba Station, was a close associate of John Alex McAulay).

Alex, a member of the Byron Bay Progress Association, joined the Public Service and was appointed Postmaster at Tweed Heads, where he died in 1902, while his mother and siblings were growing cane on their 250ac farm at North Tumbulgum, which still boasts 'McAuleys Road' (and for many years 'McAuleys Wharf'). Neil returned to farming at Chatsworth Island, but subsequently became Shire Clerk with Harwood Shire.)

And the innovative entrepreneur **Edward Stephen Atkins** (1840 London – 1927 Tyagarah) of Palmer's Island did indeed manage to drag his mill across the heath for re-erection in Quarry Lane, Ewingsdale. But he was beaten by the 1890s Depression and declared bankrupt in 1892, despite conversion of the sugar mill to a timber mill and a short-lived partnership with timber merchant **John Eldeit Glasgow**.

Portions 3 (249ac) and **6** (170ac) were selected by Catholic **Martin D. McMahon** on 18May1881 and 28Jul1881 respectively. He was born 1856 in the Shoalhaven district, the son of James and Catherine from County Limerick in Ireland. In the 1860s the family moved to Wyrallah, where James died in 1872 and Catherine in 1891. Martin seems to have acquired his own place at North Codrington in the 1870s, while his selection of the Tyagarah blocks was a likely speculative investment. Whatever the circumstances, he forfeited both blocks in 1886 and returned to the Richmond, where he died a bachelor in 1928. Portion 3 fell into the hands of **Robert Palmer Allan**, the brother-in-law of **Thomas Ewing MLA**, both doing well from the railway route, and Portion 6 acquired by the mysterious **R.W. Wilson** at the Sheriff's auction.

Martin's brother **Richard McMahon** (1853 Shoalhaven – 1930 South Gundurimba), selected **Portion 122** (60ac), adjacent to portion 6, on 8Jun1882 and forfeited 18Jul1888. In 1873 he selected 'Grandchester' at South Gundurimba where he became well-known as a horse breeder, at the same time he was supposedly fulfilling residential conditions at Tyagarah. He appealed against the forfeiture, but the place was re-selected by **William Caleb Andrews** 23Aug1889. Constable Andrews, the first resident policeman at Brunswick heads, was transferred to Byron Bay Jan1892 then demoted and given a disciplinary posting to Lawrence in Jul1893 after getting on the wrong side of **Garvin MLA** of Possum Shoot, although subsequently given a clean bill of health after suing Garvin for libel.

Portions 4 (207ac), **5** (300ac) and **66** (120ac) were initially selected in one 640ac parcel in the Parish of Byron by **Alexander McKinnon** in 26May1881, portion 5 carved off in a subdivision 15Nov1883 and portion 66 on 18Sep1884, Parish of Brunswick. His background is a bit vague, but he apparently landed from Argyshire with his parents, **John** and **Ann** (nee **McKay**), in the late 1850s/early 1860s and settled Woodford Island. He forfeited in 1886, in debt to the banks as well as **Robert Marshall** of Brunswick Heads, his blocks going under the auctioneer's hammer and won by Catholic **Robert Campbell** of Bangalow (portion 4) and surveyor **Thomas Ewing** with a foot in the other two at some stage. Alex was still in the district in 1888 when he married **Alice Gravener Atkins** (1864 Cape Town – 1926 Nambour), daughter of his sugarmill-owning neighbour **Edward Stephen Atkins**. In 1895 Alex and Alice settled on Chatsworth Island where Alex was released from bankruptcy in 1905, selling up in 1909 and becoming a dairy farmer near Nambour, where he died in 1923 aged 69.

Portion 7 (640ac) was selected on 4Aug1881 by Catholic surveyor **Joseph Bede Kelly** (1855 Popran Creek – 1931 Popran Crk), who dubbed the place 'Tyagarah' and went on to become one of the most prominent identities in the region. (See his story in the Newsletter of Feb2019). In Jun1916 he sold 73 acres to **F.H. Flowers** of Burringbar and in Jan1919 sold a further 120 acres to **S. Joyner** of Tyagarah, 100 acres to **John Hart** of Mullum and 74 acres to **G. Woodford**. The last 90 acres of 'Tyagarah' was sold in Apr1933. [Note that J.B.'s brother, **Godfrey Edwin Kelly**, selected the adjacent portions 140 (100ac), 141 (59ac), 142 (39ac), 143 (89ac) and 144 (75ac) on

28Jun1883, 13Dec1883, 1884, 31Jul1884 and 7Aug1884 respectively. And brother **John Ambrose Kelly** selected 70ac at Ewingsdale in the Parish of Byron in Jul1912.]

Portions 8 (53ac) and **10** (50ac) in the Parish of Brunswick were selected by **William Warrell** on 2Jun1881 and 18Jul1881 respectively, but initially registered in the Parish of Byron. There were at least three William Warrells running around the Lower Clarence at the time, with the Brunswick candidate marginally in favour of he was born 1863, the son of William and Jemima, in Presbyterian Ireland. He forfeited in 1888 and returned to Palmers Island where he married **Flora McLucas** in 1889 and died in 1933. His two Brunswick properties were picked up at the Sheriff's auction by Catholic Irishman **James Weir** on 31Oct1888, adding adjacent portions 155 (100ac) and 210 (55ac) in the Parish of Byron to his portfolio on 3Dec1896 and 5Aug1905, and in between time picking up **Patrick People's** Portion 77 (40ac) at Tyagarah. James (1853 Ireland – 1938 Ewingsdale) took up auctioneering in Byron Bay as his main day job, becoming prominent in the Bay's affairs and creating the 24 lot 'Seaview' subdivision in 1928. In 1894 he married **Mary McGettigan** (1867 Berry – 1951 Ewingsdale), the daughter of his Ewingsdale neighbor Bernard, and begat nuns and sons. In 1939 the 'Weir Estate' sold 6 more Byron blocks.

Portion 9 (103ac), initially located in the Parish of Byron, was selected by the elusive **William Jones** in Jun1881. He also selected adjacent **portion 148** of 39ac on 10Jan1884 and adjacent **portion 149** of 98ac sometime later in 1884. There was a wide range of eligible Jones candidates on the Clarence, but it's too hard to select a likely Brunswick migrant. Nevertheless, on 21Jan1884 Portion 9 came into the possession of Catholic **Bernard McGettigan**, who had also claimed portion 148 by 1888. He also acquired **portion 147** from oldest son **James McGettigan** on 8May1887. James also selected adjacent **portions 64** (103ac) and **65** (38ac) in the Parish of Byron 17Feb1887 (but partly selected 4Sep1884) and 26Apr1883 respectively, while Bernard selected **portion 60** (195ac) 13Jul1882, which he transferred to daughter **Mary McGettigan** 1Apr1886. Brunswick portion 149 came into the hands of Anglican **John Eric Johnson** on 9May1905 and Catholic **Bernard Buckley** on 5May1930. **John Eric Johnson** was the son of the prominent timber-getter **John Thomas** (aka '**Cudgery Jack**') **Johnson**, a pioneer selector at Bangalow with many family connections around Mullum and Tyagarah. **Bernard Buckley** was the son of Patrick below.

Bernard McGettigan was 4yrs old when he landed from Ireland with his parents **John** and **Bridget**, nee **McQuade**, in 1840 and settled on the South Coast. He married **Hannah Murphy** 1859 Kiama and brought his family to the Byron district in 1882, making him amongst the earliest South Coast settlers in the neighbourhood. (As a general rule the South Coasters made up the second wave of Brunswick immigrants, mostly arriving after the 1890s Depression when the cow was making great strides.) He died in 1891, predeceasing Hannah who died at 'Sea View' on St Helena in 1916, aged 79. Their daughter **Lizzie McGettigan** (1866 Berry – 1943 Casino) was the first school teacher at Mullumbimby, having '*19 scholars under instruction*' by Apr1886, comprising 6 Presbyterians, 5 Anglicans, 4 Catholics and 4 Methodists. She often bordered during the week with the Anglican Reddacliffs of Myocum, giving teaching away upon marriage to **Martin Moylan** 1892 Byron Bay.

Portion 11 (93ac), also initially in the Parish of Byron, was mysteriously registered at the Casino Land Office by **Colin John McNeil** 7Jul1881, but re-registered at the Murwillumbah Land Office 13Dec1883. He was born 1857 Bungay near Wingham to parents **Ludovic** and **Catherine**, nee **Gillies**, who landed from Inverness in 1836. In 1863 they settled on Harwood Island where Catherine died in 1876 and Ludovic in 1891. Whether Colin forfeited or sold his holding is a mystery, but he was back at Maclean by 1892, 2yrs after which Catholic Irishman **Patrick Buckley**, born 1844 Kings County, was in possession of his Ewingsdale farm. Patrick landed in Queensland where he married **Bridget Kelly** and came to Northern NSW in 1892 to work on the Lismore-Murbah railway. Bridget died 1904, aged 46, and Patrick in 1929, aged 85, both lying in Bangalow cemetery.

Portion 12 (145ac), was registered in the Parish of Byron on 7Jul1881 at the Casino Land Office by **Alexander McKay McLeod**, and re-selected at Murbah 24May1884. Alex was born 1861 Morpeth, the son of **William** who married **Flora McKay** of the Isle of Skye 1859 Sydney. The came to the Clarence in 1866 and settled on Woodford Island shortly after the death of William in 1873. Alex's Ewingsdale block was in the hands of the banks by at least 1900, but how and by whom the place was managed until Methodist **Thomas Andrew Cochrane** acquired it in 1907 is a mystery. Alex died 1948 Maclean, apparently unmarried. His brother Neil (1865 Morpeth- 1941 Maclean) selected Portion 12 (124ac) on the Main Arm, Parish of Mullumbimby, 20Apr1882. He sold up 1902 and returned to Maclean where he married **Marion McSwan** in 1905 and served several terms as an Alderman on the Maclean Municipal Council. T. A. Cochrane (1878 Bega – 1970 Mount Marshall, South Coast) was the brother of

prominent **W.G. Cochrane** of Myocum, who died Mullum 1943 aged 71. T.A. returned south in 1917, selling the place to '**J. Johnson**', possibly John Eric above.

Portion 13 (60ac) was selected by **Alexander McGilvray** 14Jul1881. He was born 1851 Aberdeen, Scotland, the son of Donald and Ann, but whether he turned up here from Maclean or district is uncertain. In the late 1880s he passed the place to Presbyterian **James Dinsey** and joined a likely cousin, **Neil McGilvray** (1849 Strath, Inverness – 1898 Tumbulgum), who had selected a couple of blocks on the river at Tumbulgum in 1881. Alex died at Tumbulgum 1902 and was described as '*an old resident of the Tweed*'. In Brisbane in 1878 Neil, the son of Neil and Catherine of Salen, Argyleshire, had married **Sarah Elizabeth Dinsey**, the sister of Tweed pioneer **George Dinsey** (1843 England – 1928 Tumbulgum), the father of James (1866 Williams River, NSW – 1848 Tumbulgum). James seems to have returned to farming at Tumbulgum by at least the mid 1890s.

Portion 14 (85ac) was selected by the elusive **Charles Hall** 21Jul1881. He was probably the same Charles Hall who selected in the Tweed Parish of Wollumbin – Portion 18 (140ac) on 18Oct1883 and adjacent portion 50 (46ac) on 28Jan1887, both near Byangum where a group of Halls from Kiama had selected. His Tyagarah block was mortgaged to the Commercial Bank which, in Aug1893, forced the sale of the place, by then boasting a 4-room cottage. The lucky purchaser was **Florence Georgina Richmond Powell** (1870 Tynedale – 1952 Hunter's Hill), although her brother **Frederick James Richmond Powell** (1878 Tynedale – 1924 Tyagarah) seems to have taken possession and had a hand in dubbing the place '*Arkarowie*'. Bachelor Fred had cobbled together a property of 186ac near Tyagarah Railway Station by the time of his death. The patriarch was **George Richmond Powell** (1832 Hawkesbury – 1908 Tyagarah), a pioneer of Tynedale opposite Woodford Island. He brought the whole family to '*Arkarowie*', son **Arthur Thomas Powell** (1862 Tynedale – 1955 Sydney) later branching out with the nearby property '*Weetalabah*'. Arthur's daughter **Marion Isabel Powell** (1901 Tyagarah – 1973 Lismore) made a dynastic coupling with **Spence Cornwell** (1893 Redfern – 1969 Lismore) of nearby '*Capenesk*'.

Portion 15 (50ac), later rebirthed as portion 120, was selected by **Thomas Frederick Townsend** 9Mar1882. Whatever his circumstances, his selection was forfeited/lapsed 17Nov1885 and the place fell into the hands of Presbyterian **Donald Alexander Wallace Kennedy** on 8Dec1886 (and confirmed 1Feb1887). Donald was born 1861 Patricks Plain, Singleton, the son of John of Kilmaniouck (sic), Inverness, and after an adventurous youth and handy inheritance he allegedly arrived in the Brunswick district in 1882. But his first purchase was the adjacent property of **John West McInnes**, who had selected 200 acres in 1881, which was forfeited/lapsed wef 6Jan1886 and re-selected by Kennedy 14Feb1886. And it looks like it was McInnes who had the place sub-divided, creating portion 123 (80ac) 15Jun1882, portion 124 (40ac) 22Jun1882, portion 136 (40ac) 17May1883 and portion 137 (40ac) 6Mar1884. But it seems he never spent much time on the place, as all his children were born in the Manning district 1881-1888. He was born 1859 Booral near Stroud, the son of **Angus** (1826 Isle of Skye – 1912 Woodford Island) and **Christina**, nee **McKinnon** (1835 Isle of Skye – 1915 Maclean), and died 1944 Brisbane.

The Kennedys were the stayers, Don marrying 26yr old **Rosalie Jessie Nixon**, the daughter of Fred of Brunswick Heads, in 1898 and now immortalised by Kennedy's Lane, and having a run at a seat on Byron Shire Council along the way. Rosalie (1872 Tumut – 1962 Tyagarah) continued to manage the place after his death in 1918, although selling off a couple of blocks along the way.

Portion 16 (320ac) was selected by **Angus McSwan** 14Jul1881. He was born 1834 Isle of Skye and landed with his parents **John** (1809 Isle Skye – 1882 Woodford Island) and **Ann**, nee **Cummins** (1804 Skye – 1888 Maclean) in 1838. They initially moved around the Hunter and Manning, where Angus married **Jane Madeline McKinnon** (1838 Skye – 1918 Maclean) in 1860, before settling on Woodford in 1862. Angus carved off a 66ac portion on the border with the Parish of Byron on 22May1884 and seems to have returned to Woodford semi-permanently in ~1886, leaving the blocks in the hands of various lessees. He died at Woodford in 1901, by which time son **Lachlan** (1876 Woodford – 1925 Bangalow) had been manager for a couple of years. He was bequeathed the centre portion of the Tyagarah block in 1901, and in 1903 brother **Neil** (1867-1934) turned up to claim his portion, staying until ~1908 before selling up and returning to Lawrence, shortly after which Brother **Archie** (1875 Woodford – 1959 Mullumbimby) gave up school teaching to take up permanent residence on the other half of the block.

About a mile north Angus's brother, **James McSwan** (1836 Skye – 1908 Maclean), selected **Portion 18** (300ac) on 28Jul1881. He effectively forfeited by not getting a 'Certificate of Conformity', and despite son William claiming ownership the place was sold to **Simon Bathgate** of Lawrence at the Sheriff's sale on 20Mar1888. James was on

the old age pension at Maclean by 1902. 'Lowlander' Bathgate, a Wesleyan Methodist of the 'Scottish Borders' region, was a pioneer storekeeper and pub owner of Lawrence, from where he moved to Sydney in 1892, having sold the Tyagarah block to **Nisbet Gray** in 1891. Storekeeper Gray (1859 Kirkconnell, Dumfries, Scotland – 1935 New Lambton) remained an absentee landlord until his death, with intermittent visits to his Tyagarah manager (**Arthur Goodsell** 1915-21). He is now immortalised with 'Gray's lane' Tyagarah.

Portion 17 (285ac) was selected by **Neil McInnes**, the brother of **John West McInnes**, on 14 Jul 1881. Neil died 5 Jan 1884, aged 26, during an operation in Sydney and was buried back at Maclean. His property fell into the hands of **Conly Dickey** (1845 Belfast – 1918 New Zealand), solicitor of Grafton, who relocated to Lismore in 1887 and chose to reside on his property "*Craighill*" at Goonellabah. He moved to Maitland in 1907, shortly after passing his Tyagarah property to Anglican **Horatio Edward Johnson**, the brother of 'Cudgery Jack' above. Horatio (1861 Narrowgut, Morpeth – 1941 Eumundi) had arrived in the Bangalow district in 1888 to join his 3 brothers. In 1891 he acquired portion 41 (40ac) at Talofa in the Parish of Byron, dubbing the place '*Hillsborough*', which he leased in 1904 to take up residence at his new home in Tyagarah, dubbed '*Hillcrest*'. This he leased in 1917 upon retiring to Brunswick Heads after acquiring the boarding house '*Bellevue*' from **Mrs J.H. Wakely**. After further moves he ended up with a property at Eumundi, where he died, but was buried back at Bangalow.

Allan McInnes (1853 Clarence Town – 1930 Tyagarah), apparently unconnected to John and Neil, selected **Portion 110** (80ac) on 29 Jun 1882. His father **Allen**, born 1817 Isle of Skye, died during the voyage to Australia in 1852, leaving pregnant wife **Christina**, nee **Nicholson**, and her young step-children, Margaret, Ann, Marian, Anne and John, the progeny of Allen and first wife **Catherine MacKenzie**, with a problem. Allan remained off the radar until the record of his Tyagarah selection in 1882 and his marriage to **Eliza Blanch** at Maclean in 1889. Presumably he kept a low profile during his compulsory residency, then leased the place out and resettled in at Maclean, where he begat 8 children through to 1910, at which time the family returned to live at Tyagarah. Allan died at Tyagarah in 1930 and Eliza continued to run the place until about 1953 when she moved into Mullumbimby, where she died in 1959, aged 92.

The adjacent Tyagarah reserve, a 240ac reserve for camping at the '*southern end of Tyagra Grass*', was proclaimed on 13 Oct 1879. Over the following years bits were hived off for railway purposes, an embryo village, travelling stock refuge and by agitators for special leases, including **James Atkin** (1885 Singleton – 1953 Tyagarah).

On 19 Jan 1905 James was also selector of adjacent **Portion 179** (144ac), also initially a reserve for native flora. He was a youngster when he came with his parents to settle at Blakebrook near Lismore, his father establishing a brickworks while James grew up to become a cedar-getter and bullocky. He married **Elizabeth Atkins** (1880 Maclean – 1961 Tyagarah) in 1902, becoming the son-in-law of ex-sugar mill owner **Edward Stephen Atkins**, who was living with them at the time of his death in 1927. His sister **Sarah Atkin** (1864 Singleton – 1926 Ewingsdale) married **William Flick** in 1887 and moved onto a property (dubbed 'Carabene') in Quarry Lane, purchased from **Thomas Ewing** MLA. After marriage James and Elizabeth initially leased a block off Thomas Ewing's Tyagarah holdings until selecting the ex-reserve next door.

Absentee landlord **Thomas Thompson Ewing** MLA had his selections of **Portion 210** (248ac) and **Portion 211** (225ac) confirmed on 23 Jan 1890. These were initially taken up by **John Hocquard** on 21 Feb 1889, but how they ended up in Ewing's hands a year later is a mystery. Surveyor Ewing (1856 Pitt Town – 1920 Sydney) came from Grafton to the Richmond in 1879 and in 1885 won a seat in parliament as a Protectionist representing the Richmond Electorate. In 1901 he switched to Federal politics, winning a knighthood in 1908 and retiring to his Burringbar farm in 1910.

Captain John Hocquard also selected **portion 156** (68ac) on 31 Jan 1884, **portions 111** (40ac) and **139** (89ac) on 8 Mar 1887 and **portion 138** (39ac) on 14 Jun 1889. He was born on Jersey, Channel Islands, in 1854, the son of John and Nancy of Normandy, and went to sea in 1872, settling permanently in Australia shortly afterwards. He spent many years skippering boats in the coastal trade before joining the NSW Harbours and Rivers Department, which initially stationed him at Iluka. He came to the Richmond in the mid 1880s (probably handing over to **Captain Henry McAuley**, later of Myocum), and in 1886 married **Sarah Ann Newberry** (1863 Cundletown – 1956 Stockton), the daughter of **John** (1823 County Tyrone, Northern Ireland – 1895 Alphadale) and **Sarah**, nee **Gilmore** (1839 NSW – 1927 Alphadale).

Captain Hocquard said in 1919 that *After some pioneering experiences on the land at Byron Bay (2½yrs), he was made first officer of that port, in which capacity he served for seven years...*, and became a foundation member of

the Literary Institute, trustee of the General Cemetery (along with **E.S. Atkin**), shareholder of Norco, amongst other things. In ~1897 he was transferred to Stockton, where he retired in 1919 and where he died in 1941. On a visit in 1933 he said he sold out at Tyagarah *at a price which nowadays would appear ridiculous. When he was at Tyagarah there was only one house in Mullumbimby. When they ran out of stores they had to ride to Lismore through bridle tracks....* Wife Sarah also came regularly, visiting brother Robert at Wilsons Creek and Wakely sisters at Brunswick Heads.

Next to Hocquard was **Thomas Flitcroft** (1852 Leigh, Lancashire – 1925 Woodford Island) who selected **portion 131** (96ac) on 27Sep1883. He landed with his parents Job and Jane in 1853, and while they remained at Kiama he made his way to Woodford Island around 1870. From there he joined the gold rush to the Brunswick, managing to survive through to 1892 when he sold up and formally selected adjacent **portion 121** (198ac) on 30Nov1892. But he quickly decided he'd had enough of felling and clearing and returned to Woodford with the wherewithal to acquire his original employee's property. But he forfeited portion 121 and in May1896 the Sheriff sold it from under him. Around 1909/10 his brother-in-law **Robert Amos** came from Woodford to acquire a 220ac property near Tyagarah Railway Station.

[And next to Flitcroft was **Donald Cameron** (1844 Hunter River – 1904 Gympie) who selected **Portion 132** (640ac) on the flats below Coorabell on 23Nov1882. He passed the parcel to his brother **Duncan** (1841 Wollombi, Hunter – 1915 Lismore) around 1891 and went farming near Gympie. Duncan had turned up from Woodford Island in 1888, marrying **Frances Flitcroft**, the sister of Tom, in May1892 after his first wife **Alice**, nee **Boyce**, died at Brunswick Heads in Feb1892. Duncan and Frances moved to Binna Burra a few years later and in 1908 retired to South Lismore. Tom's son, **Donald Wilson Cameron** (1878 Woodford – 1927 Penrith) went farming next to Uncle Don and was his executor in 1904.

And next to Cameron was **Edmund Williams** (1853 England – 1823 Brisbane) who selected **portion 133** (200ac) on 23Nov1882, eventually accumulating 1000ac and being credited with creating Coorabell. He married **Catherine Cameron** (1842 – 1920 Brisbane), the likely sister of Don and Dunc, 1881 Maclean. In 1893 the trio of Edmund Williams, Duncan Cameron and Job Flitcroft were appointed trustees of the Presbyterian section of the Byron Bay cemetery.]

Portions 19 (100ac), **77** (40ac), **128** (40ac) **and 134** (40ac) were selected by **Patrick Peoples** on 15Sep1881, 16Mar1882, 1Mar1883 and 4Oct1883 respectively. Patrick (1859 County Donegal – 1937 Paddington), the son of Robert, landed from Catholic Ireland in 1879 and almost immediately joined his relatives at Maclean. By at least 1887 he was licensee of the Clarecastle Hotel at Maclean, which he left in the hands of his wife **Grace**, nee **Doohan** (married 1887) to take on the Cosmopolitan Hotel in 1888. In 1890 he transferred the license of the Clarecastle to his brother/cousin **William Peoples**, late of the Commercial Hotel at Iluka, and bought the Royal Mail Hotel at Clunes, so how he managed his Tyagarah selections is a mystery. Grace died at 'Brunswick River' in 1893, aged 32, and in 1894 Patrick acquired the Royal Hotel at Broadwater. In 1895 he married **Bridget Boyle** and the following year sold everything to take his family to the USA for 8yrs.

It's known that **James Weir** acquired Portion 77 about 1890-95, but the fate of the others is a mystery until the advertised sale by Auctioneers *Virtue & Weir* of Bangalow of **E.H. Curtis's** 192ac dairy farm at Tyagarah, comprising portions 77, 128 and 156, in Oct1930. **Patrick Peoples** and family returned to Lismore in 1904 and again set about becoming hotel barons. He retired to Centennial Park in Paddington and died there in 1937.

Adjacent to Patrick Peoples was **William Manning McKinnon** who selected **portion 135** (198ac) on 12Jul 1883. He was born 1859 Wingham, the son of **William McLeod McKinnon** (1825 Isle of Skye – 1886 Bexhill, buried McLean's Ridges) and **Mary**, nee **McLean** (1831 Isle of Mull – 1901 McLean's Ridges), who were married 1857 Manning River and in 1862 settled at Maclean where William Snr became a storekeeper. William Snr, the son of **Malcolm** (1802 Skye - ~1865 Manning River) and **Euphemia (Effy)**, nee **McLeod** (1805-1832 Skye), landed with his father, step-mother, siblings and half-siblings in 1837 and initially settled at Dunmore on the Hunter. His wife **Mary McLean** landed 1838 with her parents **John** (1801- 1871 Manning River) and **Grace**, nee **McGuinness** (1910 – 1877 Oxley Island) and siblings.

William McLeod McKinnon and family came to the Richmond in 1878 and settled on 'Torwood', a 450ac selection near Keerrong. Closer to Bexhill his brother half-brother **Malcolm** (1845 Maitland – 1921 USA) had selected 400ac between 1879 and 1882, while his brother **Neil** (1831 Skye – 1908 Buckindoon, Coraki/Ballina) was happy with 40ac selected in 1886. His half-brother **Roderick** (1835 Skye – 1914 Eltham) selected near Eltham in 1879 and

remained there all his life. Also at Bexhill/Boat Harbour sitting on 364ac was his brother-in-law, **Neil McLean** (1846 NSW – 1918 Qld), whose daughter **Jane** (1868 Manning - 1955 Byron Bay) married his son, **William Manning McKinnon**, in 1889, and took up residence at Tyagarah.

On 13Sep1885 **W.M. McKinnon** picked up the adjoining portion 41 (40ac), the original 1881 selection forfeited by the mysterious **D. Gallagher**. Thereafter William kept a low profile, but at some stage after the turn of the century appears to have become a bootmaker in Ballina, from where he returned to Bangalow ~1909 to become an auctioneer with *Virtue, Noble & Co*, at which time he inexplicably started calling himself **William Allan McKinnon**. In 1917 he branched out on his own and seems to have had a successful real estate business through to the mid 1920s. He died at Bangalow in 1929, prominent daughter Jean in 1936 and wife Jane in 1955.

Just south **portion 125** (100ac) was selected by **James Coleman** 6Apr1882 and forfeited 13Feb1889, but escaped a forced auction when his father **Charles Coleman** took command and on-sold the place to Lever and George Somerville of Lismore. James has interesting antecedents, his convict grandfather **John Coleman** (1819 Sussex – 1871 Ballina) landed in 1835 after being sentenced to 7yrs for stealing a dead rabbit. He gained a stepson, Charles Jordan, when he married **Catherine Moran** (1823 Dublin – 1901 Ballina) 1852 Sydney and moved to Ballina in ~1863 to join the cedar-getters. His stepson, **Charles Jordan Coleman** (1843 Hawkesbury – 1901 Ballina) spent many years on the Brunswick, mainly based at Tyagarah Grass and Boyd's Mountain (believed to be the current Scarrabelotti's Lookout at Coorabell) drawing cedar for cedar merchant **Charles Jarrett** of Ballina. In 1864 Charles married **Susan Robinson Ainsworth** (1847 Sydney – 1915 Ballina), the daughter of **Captain Thomas Ainsworth** (1912 Manchester – 1864 Ballina), who landed as a convict in 1831 and settled at Ballina in 1847. Their son James (1865 Ballina – 1914 Ballina) was an active participant in the small Brunswick Heads community during his ~7yrs residence on the Brunswick. On return to Ballina he married **Catherine Fink** 1896 and begat 9 children.

Henry William Lever (1858 Brisbane – 1937 NZ), manager of the Bank of NSW Lismore 1892-1910, and **George Bennett Somerville** (1862 Wollongong – 1946 Toowoomba), solicitor of Lismore 1888-1937, acquired portion 125 ~1890 and presumably installed tenants/sharefarmers. (Somerville also acquired portion 125, Parish of Billinudgel, from the above **Rosalie Nixon** and subdivided to create New Brighton in 1908).

Adjacent to Lever and Somerville was **portion 126** (80ac), selected by **Emil Julius Erichs** (1861 Schleswig-Holstein, Germany/Denmark – 1915 Casino) on 28Sep1882. He likely arrived from the German colony on the Clarence with his Fischer/Fisher relatives. He seems to have passed the place to **John Fisher** ~1890 and moved to Myocum, acquiring the farms of Matthew Dawson and Jack Restall, comprising portions 84, 129 and 130 totalling 130ac. In 1891 he married **Pauline Rosina Strecker** (1859 Barden, Germany – 1935 Casino), who had come directly to Lismore upon landing in 1884, and in 1903 leased the place to a **Mr Taylor** and moved to Main Arm, acquiring a 50ac farm near Durrumbul school. In 1907 he sold the Myocum farm to John Fisher for £20/ac and took the family on an 8mth holiday home. In 1912 they sold up at Main Arm and moved to Stratheden, on Eden Creek, Casino.

John Fisher (1859 Grafton – 1948 Mullumbimby), was the son of **George Michael Fischer** (1811 Wuttemberg, Germany – 1885 Tregeagle, Lismore) and **Regina Catharina**, nee **Broezler** (1827 Germany – 1910 Tyagarah) and came from Yugilbar to Tregeagle with the family in 1878. (The Northern Star often pointed out that *All the Fisher boys (7 brothers) were recognised as the best axemen on the North Coast in the early days....*) In 1911 John paid £30/10/- per acre to acquire the 100ac 'Ivy Hill' farm bordering Mullum Municipality.

Both portions 125 and 126 were surrounded by **Portion 127** (640ac), selected by **Alfred Frederick Wallis** (1851 Yorkshire – 1929 Beaudesert) on 16Nov1882. He landed in the late 1870s, married **Susan Carrol Rose** (1854 Wollongong – 1936 The Channon) at West Dapto in 1879 and came to the Brunswick in 1880, selecting the property they dubbed "Mount Tyagarah" and christening their homestead with the Germanic name "Anhalt". Over the years they subdivided the place, sold off portions and installed sharefarmers on the remainder. They retired from the place in 1924.

Adjacent **portion 164** (115ac), covering the slopes of Possum Shoot was taken up by **Clarence Broughton Kedzlie** (1884 Shoalhaven – 1913 Mullumbimby) in 1911 and inherited by his wife **Florence Mary**, nee **Timbs**.

Parish of Byron

Portions 7 (400ac) and **8** (240ac) at Coorabell Creek were selected by the prominent **Thomas Temperley** (1844 Parramatta – 1918 Sydney) on 8Jun1882 and 16Nov1882. He was a sawmiller on the Manning in 1879 when he

was burnt out and shortly afterwards appointed *Inspector of Northern Fisheries*, basing himself on Palmer's Island on the Clarence. He settled permanently in the Richmond district in ~1886, with fisheries still as his day job, so how he managed his Coorabell properties is a mystery. By the mid 1880s Coorabell had become a major staging post on the Lismore-Brunswick Road, so much so that Temperley erected a boarding house. He sold up ~1892 to become proprietor of the Ballina-based *Richmond River Times*, giving up the fisheries job in 1892. In 1896 he and Scotsman **Dougal Gillies**, cane farmer of Tintenbar and father of a future Premier of Queensland, formed the *North Coast Anti-Alien Society*.

The Temperley properties were in the hands of **Edwin Peter Colyer** (1873 West Maitland -1957 Gladstone) by at least the mid 1890s. But early in the new century he ventured into Queensland to become a cattle baron, putting together the 16,000ac Moondoondah station in the Gladstone region, but selling up in 1912 to manage a smaller affair. His brother, **William Knight Colyerjnr** (1871 West Mait – 1908 West Mait), in partnership with his brother-in-law **James Deacon** selected the adjacent portions 32 (200ac) and 33 (120ac) after they were surrendered by **Richard Cogan**. W.K. returned to West Maitland to become a bank employee, dying there in 1908 a couple of weeks before his father, the Anglican **Rev W.K. Colyer Snr.**, born 1828 Brigstock, Northamptonshire, who had gone directly to West Maitland upon landing in 1954 and never left. James and Eleanor Deacon also departed around 1910, he also to become a banker, in which profession he was still practicing when he died at Goulburn in 1924, aged 51.

Catholic Irishman **Richard Cogan** had selected Portions 32 and 33 in Aug1882, portion 34 (81ac) 6Mar1884 and portion 11 (159ac) 13Sep1883. The latter two portions fell into the hands of Catholic Irishwoman **Mary Mooney**, nee **Geraghty**, the wife of Catholic Irishman **Patrick Mooney**. Cogan became owner and licensee of the Junction Hotel in Lismore in 1891, retiring to South Lismore in 1902 to become a cattle dealer in partnership with brother Michael. He disposed of most of his properties in 1906 and returned to County Cork, where he died in1908 and Michael in 1912.

Patrick Mooney came from County Mayo, aged 21, and initially worked on the railway around Tamworth until wandering between Sydney, Bowral and Melbourne. He came north in 1899 and after a short sojourn at Booree Creek took over Cogan's 240ac farm, which was still mostly dense scrub. He subsequently developed one of the major dairy farms in the neighbourhood, but 2yrs after the death of Mary in 1908 he leased the place and moved to Winton near Tamworth, thence Sydney, where he died in 1941.

His neighbor was Catholic **George Glissan** (1861 Sydney – 1934 Woollahra), who selected **portion 20** (640ac) on 30Jun1881. George, the son of **Dr James Glissan** (1802 London/Limerick – 1867 Newtown), was likely dummifying for his brother-in-law of **James Patrick Garvan** MLA (1843 Cappagh, Limerick – 1896 North Sydney). Likewise his elder brother **James Glissan** (1856 Sydney – 1910 Marrickville), who selected **portion 4** (604ac) on 7Jul1881. J.P.'s brother, **Denis George Garvan**, was the selector of **portion 25** (247ac) on 4May1882 and **portion 17** (385ac) on 27Mar1884. George Glissan had a double connection with the Garvan's; his 16yr old sister **Mary Genevieve Glissan** (1857 Sydney – 1921 Woollahra) married 28yr old J.P. Garvan 1871 Sydney, while in 1888 George himself married **Katie Garvan**, the daughter of Denis of Cooks River, Sydney, a relative of J.P.

Over the next few years titles were rearranged: **George Glissan's portion 20** was transferred to the *Citizen's Life Assurance Company* (which evolved into MLC), founded by **J.P. Garvan** in 1886; the CLAC also acquired **portion 37** (628ac), selected by **Benjamin Broadhead** 2Mar1882, and **portion 45** (311ac), selected by **James C. Bonnell** on 4May1882; **D.G. Garvin's portions 17** and **25**, **James Glissan's portion 4**, and **W.J. Moffitt's portion 44** (109ac), selected 20Sep1883, became the possessions of **Mary Genevieve Garvan** and her son **John Joseph Garvan**. In all, 7 properties totaling 2924ac were consolidated into the 'Garvan Estate'. In 1905 the sub-division of the estate provided 32 dairy farms for the Coorabell-Bangalow area, ranging from 47 to 122 acres, at which time J.J. Garvan, later **Sir John**, was managing director of CLAC, amongst the shareholders, senior executives, and directors of which were George and James Glissan, Denis George Glissan, **Denis Joseph Garvan** (son of Denis of Cooks River), and a host of assorted Garvans.

Meanwhile the Glissans were pulling their weight in the Byron Progress Association, while **J.P. Garvan** MLA was credited with being the first to introduce a cream separator to the district in 1886 to supply his Possum Shoot cheese factory, from which he reportedly had '100 cheeses' ready for shipment by Mar1887. He later claimed the credit for instigating the co-operative movement in the dairy industry. He lost his seat of Bega in 1894 and had a run at the new local electorate of Tweed, but was defeated by his neighbor **J.B. Kelly**. **George Glissan's** original

selection was named 'Possum Shoot', from which a 10ac 'business reserve' was carved off in 1889. **Denis Garvan's** original selection became home to Granuaile School in 1889.

The Garvan Estate surrounded the selections of **Casper** and **John Stock**, **John O'Keefe**, **Edward Boyle** and **Portion 67** (60ac), which was a reserve, for a school amongst other things, proclaimed 9Jan1882, until coming into the hands of the mysterious **William C. Norman** in 9May1891, (possibly William Cholmondeley Norman, 'Gentleman'), then to Edward Boyle by ~1900.

John Stock (1855 Grafton – 1923 Brunswick Heads) and his brother **Casper** (1860 Grafton – 1939 Lismore) had a rough start in life. They were arrested for vagrancy in 1868 and sent off to the 'Industrial School' in Sydney after their mother Juliana died in 1864 and father Johann became seriously ill, both members of the German community on the Clarence. The boys made their way to this area around 1880 and gained employment as timber-getters at McLeod's Shoot and St Helena, where John selected **portion 24** (180ac) on 10Oct1881 and Casper **portion 66** (47ac) next door on 12Jun1884.

Casper sold out to **John Scantlebury Allen** in 1899 and went farming in the upper Brunswick district, ultimately owning two blocks totaling 196 acres with river frontage near the Heads. He retired to Lismore in ~1925 where he became a staunch member of the North Coast Temperance Council and the Christ of Christ. John remained in the Bangalow district until taking up residence at Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads in 1907, while his wife relocated to Byron Bay. The brothers married sisters, Casper to **Sarah Staggs** 1880 Sydney and John to **Janet Staggs** 1888 Lismore.

Portion 23 (50ac) was selected by **Daniel Mumberson** (1854 Jamberoo – 1928 Burrawang) 28Jul1881. But it seems he only lasted five minutes before retreating back to the south coast, his selection formally declared forfeited 30Jun1885. But he returned in 1900 with wife **Rachael**, nee **Tully**, and most of his 11 children, to settle on the Tweed. His St Helena selection was acquired by **John O'Keefe** (1857 Jamberoo – 1938 Burringbar) on 27Aug1885. John, the son of **Francis** of County Kerry and **Margaret**, nee **Dinnen**, of County Cork, married **Margaret Boyle** 1878 Kiama and came north 3yrs later. They relocated to Burringbar in 1902. Coincidentally, another John O'Keefe (1864 Gerringong – 1937 Lismore) came north in 1884 and married **Emily Boyle**, daughter of **Edward Joseph Boyle** of St Helena, in 1891 and settled on a dairy farm at Goolmangar.

Edward Joseph Boyle (1846 Wollongong – 1910 Bangalow) had selected **Portions 21** (151ac) and **22** (200ac) 25Jun1881 and 1Jun1881. He, with second wife **Lucy Ann Simpson** and 7 children, appears to be the first of his family, and the first of the permanent south coast settlers, to come to the district. His parents, **Hugh** and **Mary**, nee **Meehan**, with baby **John** (1841 County Donegal, Ireland – 1913 Lagoon Grass, Lismore) settled at Jamberoo, and upon their deaths most of his siblings settled around the Richmond, John at Lagoon Grass and Michael and his sisters around Goolmangar, while Edward took up residence at St Helena, dubbing the property 'Tyrone'.

Edward became an active member of the Byron Progress Association, the Byron delegate to *The Alliance of District Progress Associations*, foundation President of the Bangalow A & I Society 1897 and a Provisional Byron Shire Councilor 1906.

The Byron Progress Association was formed in 1884 at a meeting in the Coopers Shoot home of **Eli Hayter** (1849 Camden – 1904 Byron Bay), the selector of **portion 3** (640ac) on 16Jun1881. He was the son of **Jeremiah** (1816 Wiltshire, England – 1891 Moss vale) and **Sarah**, nee **Elliot** (1818 Dorset – 1911 Moss Vale) and accompanied or followed his brother **William** (1851 Camden – 1919 Bangalow), who selected portion 33 (640ac) next door in the Parish of Newrybar 10Mar1881. Eli had a day job as a butcher and in 1886 became one of the first businessmen in the Bay when he opened his butchery to cater for the navvies building the jetty and later the hordes building the railway. In 1897 brother **John Thomas** (1839 Camden – 1927 Bangalow) came to take up a bit of Eli's sub-divided selection, accompanied by illustrious son **Joseph John Hayter** (1873 Burrawang – 1939 Byron Bay), chairman of Norco 1927-39.

Portions 61 (191ac) and **62** (192ac) at Skinners Shoot were selected by brothers **Owen Bishop Wareham** (1858 Sydney – 1912 Byron Bay) and **Frederick Valentine Wareham** (1856 Sydney – 1921 'Koreelah', Byron) 19Jul1883 and 16Aug1883 respectively. They were the sons of **John Valentine** (1832 Norfolk, England – 1912 Sydney) and **Susanna** (1832-1919) who landed in 1853 and had a pub in North Sydney before John caught gold fever, but recovering to take on Government Jobs at Milton (including Coroner and Clerk of Petty Sessions) before settling down as a conveyancer in Sydney.

Owen became one of the most prominent figures in Byron public affairs, serving as secretary of the Progress Association from 1884 until his death, Byron correspondent for the *Northern Star*, foundation secretary of embryo Norco in 1894, vice-president of the Jockey Club and Byron delegate to a host of regional committees. And together with Fred, *Wareham Bros* was amongst the biggest timber merchants in the region. Fred was also a foundation member and occasional treasurer of the Progress Association. In 1897 Owen started a full-time day job as an auctioneer and commission agent until passing the business to J.E. Glasgow in 1911. How he found time to manage his property 'Tulawney' along the way is a mystery.

Portion 63 (593ac) was selected by **Neville Graham** (1841 County Tyrone, Ireland – 1933 Murrumburrah) 16Aug1883. But it seems he was quickly daunted by the magnitude of the clearing task and went off to select 'Woodford' near Murrumburrah where he served for many years as an Alderman followed by 15yrs as Shire President. His brother **William** (1836 County Tyrone – 1902 'Newstead', Byron), perhaps coming off a selection at Tomki, promptly took over and developed one of the most well-known dairy farms in the neighbourhood. In 1892 'Newstead' became home to 'Graham's Town', a large railway camp with its own school catering to the needs of the many navvies. William died intestate and Neville returned to dispose of 'Newstead', already sub-divided by William just prior to his death. They were the sons of Wesleyan Methodist **Rev John Graham** (1798 Tyrone – 1888 Avondale, Illawarra) who landed from Northern Ireland with wife **Jane** (1804-1888) and family in 1844.

Portion 96 (102ac) is a mystery, but was in the hands of the ES&A Bank wef 28Dec1905 and part of the Belongil drainage scheme 1910, along with portion 97 (222ac) selected by **Alfred Bland Wilkinson** 15Feb1906. Alfred (1868 Parramatta – 1955 Chatswood), the son of the Anglican **Rev Thomas Hattan Wilkinson** (1820 Isle of Wight, England – 1876 Appin NSW) and **Julia Sarah Underwood** (1827 Sydney – 1906 Ashfield, Sydney), married **Fanny Glencairn King** (1872 'Gidleigh', Ashfield - 1949 Lindfield, Sydney) 1903 Sydney. Fanny was the granddaughter of **Admiral Philip Parker King** and great-granddaughter of **Governor Philip Gidley King**. (Her sister Susan married Alfred's brother, William Charles King.)

Alfred was an accountant of Bligh Chambers in Sydney, catering to the big end of town. He sold his Byron investment to 'Rathborne and Loadman' of Tomki in 1916, probably without ever setting foot on the place. Coincidentally, a few years later the property came into the possession of **Thomas King** (1868 Eden – 1932 Skinners Shoot), the son of **George** (1841 Wiltshire, England – 1911 Byron Bay) and **Keturah**, who came from Bathurst in 1907 to open a store at the Bay. Thomas helped in the store then went farming at Broken Head before taking up the Skinners Shoot property.

Portion 182 (111ac), initially part of a large reserve on what became Ewingsdale Road, came into the possession of **Harry Everitt** 31Dec1906, at the same time he was granted the lease of adjacent portion 181 (100ac). Between the two was **portion 6 (40ac)**, now known as the 'Island Quarry', originally selected by **David Taylor**, but abandoned in the early 1880s because of flooding. In 1888 **Owen Wareham** initiated the process to have it designated as an 'Aboriginal Reserve', but within a year it had been resumed as a quarry reserve, and in 1906 became part of Everitt's lease.

Harry (1861 Guildford, Victoria – 1941 Mullumbimby), the son of **James Everitt**(1820 London – 1895 Guilford) and **Sarah**, nee **Walters** (1828 London – 1902 Guildford), came to Byron Bay around 1890 to open a bakery, supplying bread as far as the Brunswick. Around 1903 he took up dairy farming near Anderson's Hill, upper Tyagarah, the spot now known as Everitt's Hill. Portions 181 and 182 were subsequently sub-divided to create four lots (adding portions 224 and 225), and in 1922 taken up by Shire Engineer **W.L. Muntz**, Shire Clerk **R. Brownell**, ES&A Bank Manager **J.R. Lousada** and **Harry G. Greville**, brother-in-law of Muntz.

Portion 180 (110ac), also initially part of reserve 1198 (5000ac) until broken up at the instigation of the Byron Progress Association in 1903, was selected by **Peter Nelson**(1863 Denmark – 1927 Sydney) on 10Dec1908, and **Oliver Virtue**, Bangalow real estate agent, in 1922/23. He landed in 1873 and had accumulated ~2000ac in the Parishes of Brunswick and Billinudgel by 1900. He was one of the leading figures at Brunswick Heads from 1882 and later a major developer at Mullumbimby, where he served as an alderman 1911-14.

Portion 179 (105ac) and **178** (113ac), also part of the super reserve, were subdivided to create four blocks, adding portion 226 (50ac) and 227 (49ac), and taken up in 1922-23 by **Edward Hazlett Crandell**, his son **Stanley Edward Crandell** (both of Mullumbimby), **Patrick Joseph Buckley** of Ewingsdale (son of Patrick, of portion 11, Parish of Brunswick) and Buckley's brother-in-law **William Oswald Byrne**.

Portions 114 (40ac) and **116** (40ac) at Belongil were taken up by **Joseph E. Simmons** 6Sep1883, transferred to **Nathan Julian Simmons**, probably upon death of Joe 1887, and forfeited 5Mar1888, 'on account no improvements'. Portion 116 was re-selected by **Arthur H.A. Hammond** 28Feb1889. **Portions 115** (40ac) and **117** (120ac) were selected by **N. J. Simmons** 13Sep1883 and also forfeited 5Mar1888. Hammond re-selected portion 117 on 29Nov1888 and portion 115 on 28Feb1889. **Portions 118** (50ac) and **119** (50ac) were selected by **N.J. Simmons** 4Sep1883, the latter becoming the 'Simmons Subdivison' which created 'Belongil Village', 200 lots going under the hammer on 12Dec1885 in *The Great Byron Bay Sale* for a nice return of £1000.

Joseph E. Simmons (1844 Sydney – 1887 Woolloomooloo), the son of **Isaac** (1805 Middlesex, England – 1872 at sea on way England) and **Matilda**, nee **Barnett** (1810 England – 1867 Sydney) was the brother of solicitor **Nathan** (1845 Middlesex – 1923 Lismore) who married **Louisa Miriam Hart** (1855 Melbourne – 1932 Lismore) 1882 Melbourne and returned immediately to Lismore, having first settled there in 1875. Both were buried with Jewish rites.

Catholic **Arthur Henry Albert Hammond**(1849 Bathurst – 1939 'Rosevale', Byron Bay), the son of **Henry George** and **Eleanor**, nee **McQuiggan**, allegedly arrived from the South Coast in 1880 after the death of his first wife. In 1882 he travelled to Sydney to marry **Esther McDonough** and returned to subsequently become an orchardist, bee-keeper, poultry farmer and dairy farmer at the Bay. He eventually owned portions 114 and 115 as well as 116 and 117. Esther died 1923 Ballina, aged 69.

R1198 of 5000ac, to *Reserve From Sale For Timber, Water Supply, And Other Public Purposes Pending Survey*, was proclaimed 19Jul1894 and straddled the Parish of Byron and Parish of Brunswick. It had been whittled away to about 500ac by 1900. R1053 was notified 10Dec1883 and a southern extension on 28May1884. Over the next few years more bits were hived off both, creating portions 215 (50ac, **A.H.A. Hammond**), 305 (450ac – **Oswald J. Byrne**), 309 (194ac – **W.P. Condon**), 310 (17ac – **T. Harris**), 311 (16ac – **J.W. Harris**), 312 34ac – **P. Buckley**), 313 21ac - **H. Gill**), 314 (17ac – **G.H. Flick**), 316 (39ac – **A.H.A. Hammond**), 321 (55ac – **F.A. Ellis**), 332 (31ac -?).