



Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc.

MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

June 2020

17 Myokum Street MULLUMBIMBY 2482

OPEN: TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 10 AM – 12 PM

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM? THE LATEST:

We are preparing for **re-opening the museum on Friday 12th June** in accordance with COVID-19 health and safety protocols. A risk management plan has been undertaken for the health and safety of both visitors and volunteers covering hygiene, deep cleaning, signage, personal distancing, cash handling, contact tracing and hosting groups, using recommendations from the Australian Government, NSW Government, Safe work Australia, Volunteering Australia and the National COVID-19 Co-ordination Commission.

Being closed has given BVHS executive time to catch up on other planning matters, e.g. finalising our disaster plan and updating the strategic plan.

The Nortec Work Experience Program has been suspended until the end of June at least, there is no news as to when it will recommence. And when our market will return is anyone's guess. It will depend on the Government's protocols.

ANOTHER OLD UNUSUAL TOOL

Source: www.woodmagazine.com/woodworking-tools/hand/hollow-augers

This tool has been in our collection since 1985 but no current member knew what it was or how it was used until Professor Google was consulted and we learnt that it was part of a Wheelwright's box of tricks.

Wheelwrights were... building spoked wooden wheels for everything from army artillery to... hansom cabs. Strong joints were crucial... as some of the wheels took terrific abuse...

A lot of force came to bear at the outer ends of the spokes, where they connected with the felloes, the arc-shaped segments that made up the outer rim of the wheel.... Standard practice called for mating a round tenon on the end of the spoke with a hole bored into the felloe. Craftsmen often formed the tenon with a device somewhat like a plug cutter, known as a "hollow auger".

The first USA patent was in 1829 and the last in 1911. In that time 85 different styles were patented.

Made to fit in a bitstock or brace, the device appealed to chairmakers, laddermakers, and other craftsmen as well as wheel-wrights. With a hollow auger, a sturdy joint could be made in two relatively simple operations. And, with a means of cutting the tenons uniformly, parts could be made in a batch rather than being individually hand-fitted.

Variations among hollow augers generally involved methods of setting the diameter of the tenon.

Some cut fixed standard sizes, others were adjustable....

Hollow augers couldn't survive the decline of wheelwrighting. As steel wheels drove out wooden ones in the years following World War 1, demand for hollow augers flagged.... In the late 1940s, the few remaining models disappeared from the market.

Our adjustable hollow auger has no manufacturer or patent number. Sizing is marked on the base plate and one of the uprights.

It stands at 15cm high and is 7.5cm across the widest part of the base plate.



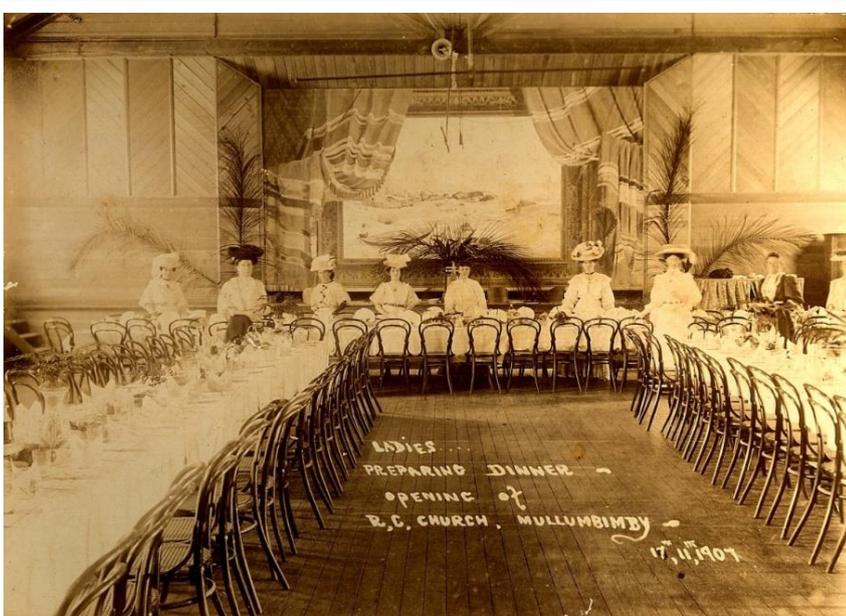
The Hartmann Virtuosi

Mullumbimby experienced its greatest ever growth rate from the end of the 1890s Depression through to the start of WW1, thanks mainly to Her Majesty the Cow. By Dec1903 when Norco made another record monthly payment to cream suppliers of £26,000 the place was a flourishing commercial centre, servicing rapidly growing communities from Burringbar in the north to Goonengerry in the west. And on the social front the town could boast an Orange Lodge, Temperance Lodge, Oddfellows Lodge and a branch of the *Hibernian Australian Catholic Guild*, along with Jockey, Cricket, Football, Tennis, Rifle, Debating and Glee Clubs. Into 1904 came a growing interest in cultural and leisure pursuits with formation of an *Orchestral Society* by violin virtuoso **W.H. Burge**, a *Choral Society* under the baton of **H.T. Southwood** (which morphed into a *Musical and Dramatic Society* in 1905), and a Brass Band under conductor **R.R. Mallett**. Increasing affluence and the facilities provided by the new School of Arts meant Mullum was also on the circuit for regular visits from touring troupes.



Drama Club and Orchestra, School of Arts 1909

All the prosperity convinced **Joseph Plowright** that Mullum could support its own newspaper, duly launched as the non-controversial *Mullumbimby Star* in Oct1905 from an office in Burringbar Street. At the end of the year **Constable Watts** advised that the town, presumably meaning the area encompassed by the boundaries of the 'Government Village', had a population of 530, and that 300 more seekers of the promised land had taken up residence within his patrol district during the year. And to accommodate this rush of immigrants dairyman **Hugh McD. Livingstone** bought a piece of **J.C. Morrison's** farm east of the railway station in mid 1905 to create the 176 lot Livingstone Estate, selling most within 12mths.



Ladies preparing dinner to celebrate opening of Mullum's new Catholic Church, School of Arts hall 17Nov1907. (Photo by Victor Hartmann)

At the AGM of the Progress Association in Jan1906 newcomer **Dr Leighton Kesteven** was elected president with a grand vision of a self-governing fiefdom, which was given a push along in Aug1906 by a visiting SMH journalist who saw *a seething cauldron of excitement, and its fame may be very fairly gauged by the ease with which its polysyllable name passes from mouth to mouth from the Clarence to the Tweed. It has outgrown its services most alarmingly, and the sooner it becomes incorporated as a municipality, the better it will be for the health and comfort of its people....* (And a sure sign that Mullum was now visible on wideband radar was the appearance of the Greeks to open a café in mid 1906).

The Municipality became reality in Sep1908 and there to immortalise the occasion was

Victor Henry Hugo Hartmann, doing his day job as a professional photographer while moonlighting on the district stage as a music maestro. Also in town by then were his musically gifted sisters, **Elsie Meta Hartmann** and **Ilma Caroline Hartmann**, and brother **Hulbert Emile Hartmann** who married **Alice May Wilson**, daughter of **Alexander Cameron Wilson**, first licensee of the Middle Pub.

These Hartmanns were the grandchildren of **Christian** and **Caroline Hartmann** who landed from Germany with children

August and Caroline and grandson Gustav (son of Hermann) in 1863. The family Tree, summarized from <https://www.halenet.com.au/~jvbryant/hartmannindex.html#anchor1438475>, looks like this:

Christian Gottfried Hartmann (1803 Brunswick, Germany – 1887 Dundee, Glen Innes) married **Carlana** (aka 'Caroline') **Wilhemina Dameier** (1806 Hanover, Germany – 1889 Gunnedah) at Othfrasen, Hanover, in 1830, and begat:

1. **'Nuna' Hartmann**, died young Germany
2. **Wilhemina Hartmann**, born 1806 Hanover, Germany; migrated USA 1858 and married 1. Fred Holtz, 2. Charles Moeller.
3. **Hermann Christopher Christian Hartmann**, (1834 Othfrasen – 1923 Dundee); married 1. Wilhelmina Holtz, 2. **Johanna Louise Sophie Kiehne** and migrated to Australia 1864. (Johanna died 1923 Dundee, Glen Innes, aged 81). 10 children.
4. **Carl Hartmann**, died young Germany
5. **Caroline Henrietta Hartmann**, (1840 Hamburg, Germany – 1911 Gunnedah), migrated Aust with parents 1863. Married **Jacob Westerweller** 1865 Tamworth (Jacob migrated 1858 and died 1914 Gunnedah). 7 children.
6. **August Henry Hartmann**, (1845 Othfrasen – 1926 Bingara); married 1. **Bridget Anne Leary** (1845 West Maitland – 1892 Dundee, Glen Innes) 1872 Tamworth, 2. **Fanny Louisa Murphy** (1872 Warialda – 1952 Wallsend) 1894 Bingara:
 - A. **Ladiska Amelia Hartmann** (1873 Gunnedah – 1917 Gladesville). Married John Hubert King 1897 Bingara. 7 children.
 - B. **Victor Henry Hugo Hartmann** (1874 Gunnedah - 1951 Port Macquarie). Married 1. **Clara Aloysia Byrne** (1881 Tweed River – 1912 Mullumbimby) 1908 Murwillumbah, 2. **Isabella Frances Sloman** (1880 Emmaville – 1950 Wauchope) 1914 Glen Innes:
 - (a) **Irene Clare Hartmann** (1909 Mullum – 1969 Wauchope). Married Wilfred McCudden 1931 Port Macquarie.
 - (b) **Kevin Louis Hartmann** (1910 Mullumbimby – 1998 Sydney). Married Ruby V. Shadforth 1942 Randwick.
 - (c) **Vita E. Hartmann** (1915 Gunnedah – 1932 Wauchope)
 - (d) **John Gounod Hartmann** (1917 Coffs Harbour – ?). Married Monica Cross 1942 Taree.
 - (e) **Beatrice Mary Hartmann** (1919 Bellingen - ?)
 - C. **Edwin Hermann Hartmann** (1877 Gunnedah - 1938 Sydney). Married Catherine A. Ryan 1913 Woollahra)
 - D. **Leo Edwin Hartmann** (1878 Gunnedah - ? Sydney)
 - E. **Hulbert Emil Hartmann** (1880 Dundee - 1954 Murwillumbah). Married Alice May Wilson 1906 Mullumbimby.
 - F. **Helena E Hartmann** (1883 Warialda - 1891 Dundee/Emmaville)
 - G. **Elsie Meta Hartmann** (1885 Dundee – 1948 Brisbane). Married Dougal Argyle Gillies 1921 Brisbane.
 - H. **Ilma Caroline Hartmann** (1887 Dundee - 1981 NSW?). Married Frederick Arthur Robinson 1924 Brisbane.
 - I. **Horace Hartmann**(1897 Warialda - 1969 Wollongong). Married Eva M. Lee 1923 Bingara.
 - J. **Camilla Millie Hartmann** (1898 Warialda - 1985 NSW). Married 1. Norman Murray 1925 Sydney, 2. Aubrey J.W. Morris 1931 Bingara)

Into the late 1890s / early 1900s Victor was based at Glen Innes where he practiced his photography, played football and cricket and entertained with his violin at various functions around the district. (At the *Tingha Public Hall...* his manipulation of the violin was excellent... said the *Inverell Times* of 19Sep1900). But around 1901 he decided to get serious with his day job and opened the *Richmond Studios* at Ballina, from where he gained wide recognition as a professional photographer when his photos were published in various newspapers, notably of the *Pioneers Reunion* at Ballina in May1902 when *Several flashlight photographs were taken during the evening, and groups of photos of the early settlers were taken during the day by Mr Hartmann and Mr F.C. Curry.*

With Ballina as his home base he also hawked his portable studio around the wider district as an itinerate photographer, the *Sydney Mail* considering his photo of the Tumbulgum Cricket Team worthy of publication on 17May1905. Around this time he seems to have made Mullum his new base with a studio in Stuart Street, probably around the

AT MULLUMBIMBY.

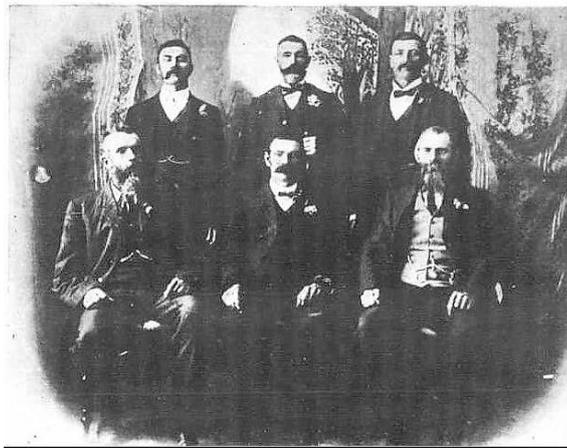


Photo. by V. Hartmann. MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF MULLUMBIMBY.
Back Row, Reading Left to Right: Ald. T. Torrens, P. Nelson (Returning Officer), Ald. J. Davidson.
Sitting: Aldermen W. J. Reilly, J. N. Hollingsworth (Mayor), J. I. Stewart.

Mullumbimby Aldermen as they appeared in the *Sydney Mail* 16Dec1908, acknowledging **V. Hartmann** as the photographer. (The final product from the Hartmann Studio had W.R. Baker's head superimposed on Peter Nelson's body, centre rear)

V. HARTMANN
Photographer

TEACHER of Violin, Mandoline, Guitar and Flute. Terms on Application. Agent for Nicholson's Pianos.

Pupils prepared for Trinity College Exams.



Band, of any size, for Dances, etc.

Advert from Mullum Star of 2Feb1911

same time that brother Hulbert arrived in town looking for business opportunities. But Catholic Hulbert married Presbyterian **Alice Wilson** at Mullum in Sep1906, coincidental with her father Alexander passing the license of the Commercial Hotel to **George Gurney** and returning to Murbah, where he subsequently went into partnership with his son-in-law in a store in Prospero Street. The partnership was dissolved in 1913 and Hulbert became sole proprietor, going on to become a prominent citizen of Murbah, serving as an alderman on the Municipal Council for a number of years and raising some fine musicians.

The first reference to Victor moonlighting on the musical stage came in May1907 at a social at Upper Pocket, where **Miss Malone and Mr Hartmann** played some nice extras..., and a couple of days later at a School of Arts concert, where *The items which met the most favour was the selection by the orchestra, in which Mr Hartmann played with style, and showed himself a master of the violin....* May1907 also saw the departure of **Mr Cawood**, accountant with the ES&A Bank, who was instrumental in reforming Mullum's orchestra in Feb1907. And on 25Jul1907 *The first concert under the auspices of the Brunswick Orchestra took place in the School of Arts..., when the performers were favoured with a good audience. The Orchestra comprised 12 violins, (led by Mr Hartmann), 'cello, cornet, euphonium, and piano, with Mr Lancaster as conductor....*

In Sep1907 **Mr D. Lancaster** (the conductor) wielded the baton for the last time, he having been promoted to Howell Public School..., and in his farewell speech said that the society owed much of its success to the efforts of their talented leader (**Mr Hartmann**), who had been most assiduous in the assistance he had rendered the society.... Sep1907 was also the first reference to the **Misses Hartmann** in town, with their attendance noted at an Anglican Tea Meeting.

At the Catholic Church in Murbah in Jan1908 Victor married **Clare Byrne**, the daughter of **James Byrne**, a pioneer selector of 100ac at Boatharbour on the Tweed. With bread-winning obligations the new husband then hit the road again as a travelling photographer, getting credit from the *Sydney Mail* of 26Feb1908 for photos of the Guyra Show (opened 18Feb08). And at some unknown time he had a sojourn at Harwood, the *Grafton Argus* of 20Apr1908 reporting that *During the week the "Argus" correspondent (at Harwood) is in receipt of a splendid musical composition entitled the "Brunswick Waltz", by Mr Victor Hartmann of Mullumbimby. Mr Hartman is well and popularly known on the Lower Clarence. A short time ago he travelled the district with an up-to-date phonographic outfit, and was stationed for a rather lengthy period at Harwood, where he won for himself a golden opinion as a violinist. Today he occupies a rather prominent position in the musical world at Mullumbimby, where he is a leader of a fine orchestra, and of the Roman Catholic Church choir. In addition to these, he also conducts a large musical school with upwards of thirty pupils. Mr Hartman studied under renowned violinist, Rivers Allpress, of Sydney, and the gentleman predicted for him rather a brilliant future. His Lower Clarence friends, of which there are a legion, will watch his future career with interest....*

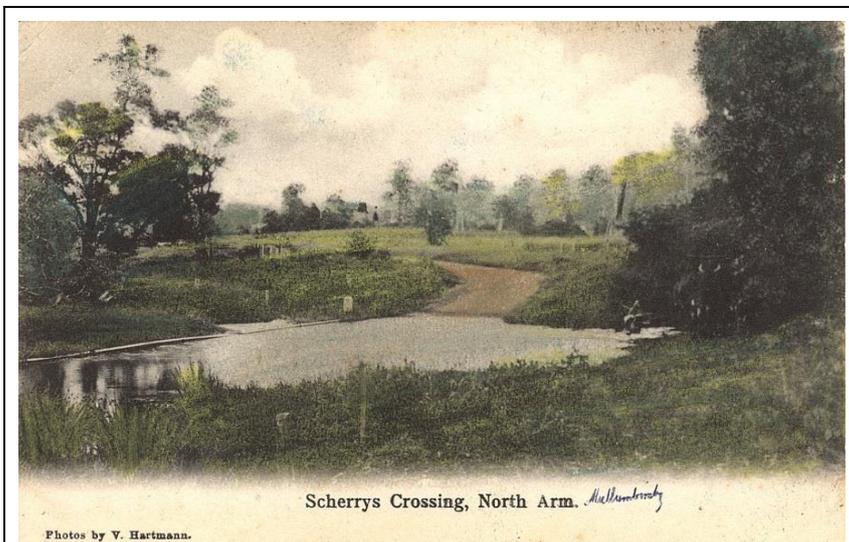
This production is his first attempt at musical composition, but he hopes at an early date to place before the public many more selections, including marches, overtures, etc.

[Victor had the copywrite to *The Brunswick Waltz* registered on 13Apr1908. It was last



H.E. Hartmann's General Store, South Murwillumbah, (from *The Guide to the Tweed and Brunswick, from Tweed Heads to Byron Bay for 1919*, page 66).

(This building erected 1910 was partially demolished 1933 to make way for new architect-designed brick edifice. For more information on Hulbert see the Jul2016 edition of 'Timelines', the Quarterly Journal of the Murwillumbah Historical Society Inc., at <http://www.murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au/timelines/201607%20Final.pdf>)



Photos by V. Hartmann.

Sherry's Crossing along the Main Arm Road - Post Card by V. Hartmann

played on 21Aug1957 by **Mr A. Denereaz** at a recital in the Civic Memorial Hall.... A published copy has been in the possession of the McDonald family at Cooper's Lane for many years. The cover of the published sheet depicts an artist's sketch of Chincogan and the old wooden Federation Bridge....]

Thereafter Victor stayed at home as demand for his musical services grew, to the extent that he and his sisters were performing at balls, dances, concerts and assorted functions in and around Mullum two and three times a week, even playing for the excursionists on board the 'Kelvin' on its evening river cruises between Mullum and Bruns. In between he took a rest with his day job at the photographic studio, music school and orchestra pit, while his sisters, Ilma on piano and Elsie on violin, took a break with their dressmaking business in the Nelson Building in Burringbar Street. Something had to give, so in May1911 Victor sold the photography business to the mysterious **William H. Gray**.



The Brunswick Orchestra 16Jun1911. (Probably Victor Hartmann centre).

In Nov1911 The members of the Brunswick Orchestra gave an invitation concert and dance... arranged to mark the occasion of a presentation medal to their conductor, **Mr V.H.H. Hartmann**.... **Mr J. Hollingworth**, President of the Orchestra, presided and proposed the toast..., and in doing so, said Mr Hartmann's services had caused the town to be musically uplifted. He spoke at length on the benefit the Orchestra had been to the town, and attributed this mainly to the persistent attention and unflinching energy of their conductor. (Applause). Reference was made to the great improvement the Orchestra had made under Mr Hartmann's baton, and of the competition at the Lismore Musical Festival, which could not have been undertaken had not the conductor put his heart and soul into the work..., his words endorsed by a choir of others signing Victor's praises.

Victor, Elsie and Ilma continued their hectic schedule, the girls also joining the *Presbyterian Mutual Improvement and Debating Society*, while Victor prepared the Brunswick Orchestra for its performance at the Grafton Musical Festival..., but Although the Brunswick Orchestra had to be content with second place in the Orchestra competition, nevertheless their meritorious performance reflects the highest credit on the members and the conductor, **Mr V. Hartmann**, and has served to bring the district into further prominence in musical circles.... A month after that accolade his wife **Clare** died, aged 30, leaving him with two small children, although he continued to meet his musical commitments without too much apparent domestic disruption.

In Feb1914 **Ilma** was farewelled at a function in the Oddfellows Hall. Anglican **Rev H.J. Velvin** expressed regret at the departure of their guest – she had done good work in connection with the church and also her musical ability had been at the disposal of all. **Ald W.J. Reilly** and **Messrs R.Y. Gourlay** and **G.D. Bridgland** also expressed their regret at the loss the town would suffer. **Mr Victor Hartman** returned thanks on behalf of his sister for the honour they had done her. Dancing was then again engaged in.... She initially settled in Sydney, but at some stage relocated to Brisbane where she was recorded as a nurse in 1919, and where on 13Sep1924 she married 35yr



Mullumbimby Brass Band as 'orchestra' 1913

Front L to R: J. Milgate, T. Milgate, A. Robinson, W. E. Selwood,
Middle: C. Armbruster, D. Bridgland, W. Milgate, L. Healy,
S. Milgate (Bandmaster), S. Milgate (sic), E. Maddy
Rear: V. Hartmann, A. Norris, H. Yager, J. Mackay, W. D. Bryant.

old **Fred Robinson** in an Anglican ceremony at which she was 'given away' by Elsie's brother-in-law, **William Neal Gillies**, who became Premier of Queensland 5mths later. Fred died 1954 Brisbane and sometime afterwards Ilma returned to Sydney, possibly with son Henry.

Elsie had left for Brisbane in late 1914 and remained in hiding until the record of her marriage on 27Oct1921 to 43yr old journalist **Dougald Argyle Gillies** (aka Argyle Dugald Gillies), the brother of W.N. and **Robert Towers Gillies**, all Tintenbar residents when their Scotsman father formed the *North Coast Anti Alien Society* in 1896. Presbyterian William Neal was a foundation Councillor on the Tintenbar Shire with a serious allergy to 'Hindoos' when he was Labor candidate for Richmond in the entertaining 'White Australia' election of 1910. R.T. Gillies became a farmer at Cudgera, President of the Tweed Shire Council 1924-25 and Labor MLA of Byron 1925-27.

Except for a sojourn on their Cudgera property Elsie and Argyle mostly grew bananas at Upper Brookfield on the outskirts of Brisbane, where Elsie died in Feb1948. *The Tweed Daily* said *In 1910 she came to Mullumbimby, where she engaged in dressmaking for about four years before moving to Brisbane.... Mrs Gillies was a capable violinist, with a most engaging personality, and had a large circle of friends both in Brisbane and on the Tweed, as was shown by the large number of floral tributes....*

Meanwhile Victor had been farewelled to Brisbane 2wks after Ilma, the Mullum Star noting that **Mr Hartmann** *did a lot for music here and was leader of the Brunswick Orchestra. In this connection, before a competition especially, his time was absolutely at the disposal of the Orchestra, for which he worked hard and well. His undoubted musical ability was shown in the honourable position the Orchestra always took. His services were always available for any function, and very few concerts took place in town without his name appearing on the programme.* His intention was to seek employment in Brisbane theatre orchestras, but for whatever reason he returned home to Dundee to marry **Isabella Sloman** in an Anglican ceremony on 12May1914, with the apparent intention of settling in Gunnedah. But by at least late 1917 he was teaching music at Coffs Harbour and by at least mid 1922 had settled permanently at Wauchope.

On 5Jul1922 the *Coffs Harbour Advocate* noted that **Mr Victor Hartmann**, *who worked up a fine orchestra in Coffs a few years ago, is now following his profession of music at Wauchope, where Mrs Hartmann will join him this week.* By late 1922 he had formed the Wauchope Orchestra, which had its first outing in Feb1923, and in Apr1923 competed in the Kempsey Eisteddfod, where a reporter noted that *I think the members, together with their capable conductor, Mr V. Hartmann, are deserving of every credit for their very fine performance....* Thereafter pupils from his music school consistently took out awards at Eisteddfods around the region, including all of his own children. In 1932 he was the judge of the violin section at the Taree Eisteddfod and referred to as *Professor Victor Hartmann*.

Mullum retained its reputation as a musical powerhouse in the region when the inheritor of Victor's baton, 17yr old prodigy **Audrey Barrett**, formed a Jazz Band in 1921 to arguably take Mullum into the Roaring Twenties. Downstream came **William 'Pop' Pringle** who, at Mullum's Golden Jubilee in 1958, composed the song, *"Hail Mullumbimby, "... dedicated... to Mrs Stewart (nee Barrett)....* The town has continued to be blessed with music impresarios, the latest being the RSL's group of proletarian vodka connoisseurs who formed the Comrades Collective Choir of 'Dustyøsky' and recently propelled the Commune of Mullumgrad onto the international stage (or at least the Russian one). (They are the spiritual heirs to the more sober and elegantly attired 'Mullumbimby Male Chorus' formed in 1928.)

Peter Tsicalas

Brunswick Valley Historical Society Inc. Newsletter

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

17 Myokum St, Mullumbimby
P.O. Box 378 Mullumbimby 2482
02 6684 4367

bvhs84@yahoo.com.au

www.mullumbimbymuseum.org.au

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Chris Cooney

Newsletter:

Members

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All members are invited to contribute to this newsletter

Please email contributions for the newsletter to
bvhs84@yahoo.com.au

*Deadline for newsletter items
Friday 3 July 2020

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday 14th July 2020
@10.30am

MUSEUM HOURS –
Tuesdays and Fridays
10.00-12.00
Market Saturdays 9.00 - 1.00

MULLUMBIMBY
COMMUNITY MARKET

Cancelled until further notice

Ph: 66843370

mullummarkets.com.au

