## Newsletter of the

## TOWNSVILLE MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

October 2023

1/27 Barbeler Street Currajong Q 4812

PO Box 284 Garbutt East LPO



#### **Special Points of Interest:**

- The Victoria Park Hotel
- An historical report on Townsville from 1875
- An article on the new aerodrome at Garbutt and the arrival of a Stinson Airliner

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Since 1985 Townsville Museum has been preserving the history of this City which is so important for future generations to learn about and appreciate. In September we received a significant collection of photos and newspaper articles from the daughter of a well known resident, Hubie Morris OAM. Hubie lost his sight at the age of 40, but this did not deter his determination to live a normal life. He was the first person in Queensland to receive a Guide dog and was sponsored by the Mundingburra Rotary Club to fly to Perth to be trained with his dog – his future eyes, so he could pursue as normal life as possible. Hubie's daughter, Yvonne Watkinson donated his life in pictures along with documents and newspaper articles to be preserved. This significant collection will be preserved forever and the Museum will feature a history board on life of Hubie Morris in the near future.

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Our AGM was also held in August and the committee was returned for another year. However to keep the Museum going we need volunteers, so if you wish to join us please call the Museum. Volunteers are needed Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

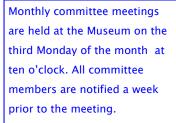
The month of August also marked a big milestone for one of our members, Helen Payne who turned 90 and a morning tea was given for Helen with other volunteers and members to help her celebrate. Helen has a long association with Townsville's history being a descendant of the Shaw family who owned businesses in West End including Shaw's Bakery. A wonderful lady with so much Townsville knowledge.

Until next time, Trish Cronin President

### TOWNSVILLE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**BUSINESS HOURS** 

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 2:30 pm ENTRY Adults \$5 Chn \$2 MEMBERSHIP FEES (12 months from 1 st July to 30th June) Single \$ 11.00 Couples \$ 16.50 Corporate \$ 32.50





CAPTAIN T. YOUNG

Well known Airlines pilot, who made his first landing on the new Townsville aerodrome

#### Inside this issue:

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# A PUB CRAWL THROUGH TOWNSVILLE VICTORIA PARK HOTEL



# The Victoria Park Hotel in its glory days. Sadly the old pub went up in flames in June 2018. This lovely original photo is from the Townsville Museum's photo collection.

From a Pattern of Pubs by Dorothy and Bruce Gibson-Wilde

### Victoria Park

Corner of Main (now Boundary) Street and Sixth Avenue, South Townsville.

1896-1898 Jane Guthrie1898-1903 Adelaide Joyce1903-1906 Mary Ellen Skelly

1906-1908 Bridget Herlihy 1908-1918? Robert Hall

By 1890 South Townsville had a large population, largely workers from the harbour, Cleveland Foundry and the railway. From 1890 to 1895 further industrial development brought an even larger influx of people. Rooney & Co. built their sawmills and workshops on the bank of Ross River near the railway bridge; Alligator Creek Meatworks opened; and in 1893 William Robertson opened the Vitoria Foundry on the banks of Ross river near Sixth Avenue.

Workers in these industrial plants started moving into what is now known as Railway estate. Victoria Park, fenced and improved in 1887, was by 1891 'the only ground in Townsville fit for football'.<sup>1</sup> With the park and Victoria Foundry nearby, the corner of Main (now Boundary) Street and Sixth Avenue was an ideal site for an hotel.

<sup>1</sup> North Queensland Telegraph and Territorial Separationist, 14 October 1887; North Queensland Herald, 6 June 1891

# VICTORIA PARK HOTEL

In 1892 permission was granted by the Licencing Court for the removal of the *Cosmopolitan* from McIlwraith Street to Main Street. However, the hotel did not disappear from the records until 1895. W. D. Casey, owner of the *Cosmopolitan* then applied for permission to erect a new building at the corner of Main Street and Sixth Avenue. The Licencing Court was reluctant to grant another licence as there 'were six hotels up to a few days ago, seven for 1,500 people'.<sup>1</sup> However, the licence was granted provided the building was erected within four months.

Jeremiah Dempsey, a local contractor, built a two-storeyed timber building, designed by architects Tunbridge and Tunbridge and valued at £1000.<sup>2</sup> On the night before it was due to be handed over to the first licencee Jane Guthrie, it was destroyed by fire. Dempsey had therefore to erect a new building which Mrs Guthrie opened in January 1896.<sup>3</sup>

It was probably the last hotel in Townsville with a narrow balcony rather than a wide verandah on the upper floor. Council bylaws were altered soon after its completion to allow hotel verandahs to extend over the footpath. In consequence, later hotels were all built with wide verandahs. Today it is one of only three such balconied hotel sin the city; it is one of the very few timber hotels now remaining in the Townville region.

<sup>1</sup> North Queensland Herald, 10 July 1895. The Cosmopolitan licence had expired.

<sup>2</sup> J. Mathew, private communication

<sup>3</sup> North Queensland Herald, 8 January 1896.



## TM&HS AGM

On Monday 28th August, members of the Townsville Museum gathered at the museum to hear the annual report delivered by Trish, our President, and the auditor's report presented by Nick our Treasurer. The new committee was announced after all positions were declared vacant.

The 2023-24 Committee is:

President: Trish Cronin

**Secretary: Sue Fox** 

Vice President/Treasurer: Nick Shailer

General Committee: Fay Jones, John McDonald, Petra Cartwright

# A REPORT ON TOWNSVILLE IN THE SYDNEY MAIL AND NEW SOUTH WALES ADVERTISER SATURDAY 5 JUNE 1875

#### **Townsville Scenery**

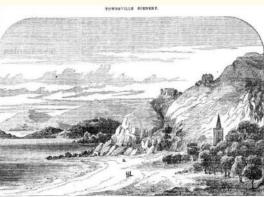
How pretty, how picturesque, are the exclamations that usually fall from the traveller as he gazes for the first time upon the portion of the outskirts of Townsville visible from the deck of the steamer anchored quietly in the roads some three miles from the shore. Certainly, from that distance the steep hill (Melton Hill), dotted here and therewith quaint looking houses—humpies they call them in these parts—mostly painted white with peaked roofs; the large hotels on the strand within a stone's throw of the sea; its rows of cottages on the beach running around the foot of the hill, together with a beautiful blue sky, contrasting strongly with the low dark green herbage with which the hill is covered, and the sea placidly calm, give the place a pleasing, picturesque look. To the right and north end of Melton Hill can also be seen the Catholic Chapel, which forms the subject of our first illustration,. Though a small wooden building, it is very nicely situated, and is found to be sufficient for the requirements of the place. The Rev. Father Connelly officiates. The subject of our other illustration, the Church of England—of which church the Rev. Mr Killdahl is the pastor—has more pretensions to beauty. It is a pretty little building of wood, compact, and nicely finished. It boasts of an illuminated window. The services of both churches are rendered complete by the aid of efficient choirs.

It might be as well to state, for the information of such as are not aware of the fact, that Townsville, otherwise known as Cleveland Bay, is one of the far northern towns of Queensland, situated 800 miles north-east of Brisbane and about 1,400 miles from Sydney. It is the outlet or port for a large number of northern gold-fields. It has lately come under our notice, in the telegraphic columns, as the nearest port to the sad scene of the recent wreck of the ill-fated Gothenberg.

In sketch No.1, the high ground to the right is Melton Hill; the Roman Catholic Church lies at the foot. The low reef running into the water in the middle distance is known as the bathing rock; beyond the mouth of Rosa's Creek. The high land to the extreme left is Magazine Island. The beach in the foreground used to be the old racecourse. In sketch No. 2 is shown the Church of England, under Melton Hill, on the right, the Government road leading past the front of the building. The main part of the background is occupied with the waters of Cleveland Bay. The heights to the distance include Magnetic Island.

Sketch 1





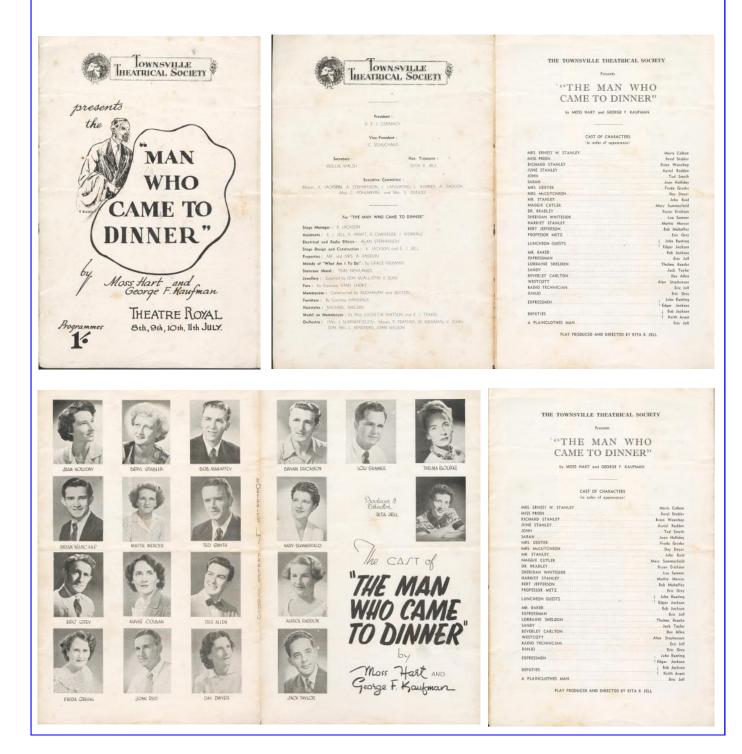


June 2023

# TOWNSVILLE THEATRICAL SOCIETY

In recent years, Townsville has been fortunate to have several theatre companies drawn from a pool of talented local people which provides an avenue of cultural entertainment for our local population. In past decades, this was also the case. Our President Trish has a programme belonging to her mother of a Townsville Theatrical Society production of "The Man Who Came to Dinner". The production was showing at the Theatre Royal in the Town Hall building in Flinders Street and ran for 4 nights.

Here is a copy of the programme. Trish's mother, Day (Daisy) Dwyer, played Mrs McCutcheon.



June 2023

# THE NEW AERODROME - LANDING BY STINSON AIRLINER - SUCCESSFUL TRY OUT

## An article in the Townsville Daily Bulletin Thursday 2 February 1939

The rapid progress of Townsville as one of the principal Australian air ports was given further stimulus on Wednesday afternoon, when the Stinson air liner named by Air Lines of Australia in honour of this city made the first landing on the new aerodrome reaching an advanced stage of construction at Garbutt's Siding.

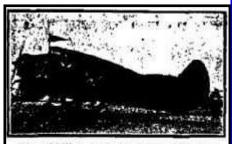
The pilot having the honour of performing the historic operation was Captain T. Young, a veteran of Australian commercial aviation, and the co-pilot was Captain W. Hill. Passengers aboard the Townsville comprised Messrs. J.H. Woolrych, and A. W. Rose, representing the Air Lines of Australia, and Alderman C.T. Leach, T. Aikens, W. J. Wakeford and J. P. Corcoran.

Construction at the new aerodrome recently reached the stage where a licence for landings was granted during favourable winds, thus permitting its use during periods of bad weather, when the aerodrome at Ross River, later to be disused, becomes boggy through bad weather. Airlines of Australia, being the principal airline operators using the Ross River aerodrome and likely to use the new landing ground, took advantage of the opportunity to seek from the City Council permission to make the first landing on the new site. At the same time, on being granted permission, they showed their appreciation of the Council's assistance to and cooperation with enterprises of flying by inviting his Worship the Mayor and the Aldermen to be their guests on the occasion of the historic flight.

Approval of the plans and specifications prepared by the City Council for the establishment of the new aerodrome was granted by the Federal authorities towards the end of last year, and on November 25 last the work of construction was begun under the direction of the City Engineer (Mr. F. H. Brazier), a gang of 45 workmen being employed.

The work of clearing and levelling the site was great ly expedited by an ingeneous piece of plant which, devised by Mr Brazier, came in for considerable commendatory reference by speakers on Wednesday afternoon. It consists of a heavy triangle, made of strong steel sections with eight feet sides, and teeth projecting out on two sides for a distance of 18 inches. Hauled by a tractor, it has dislodged not only anthills and lantana, but also a great number of small trees.

When the Stinson landed on the aerodrome on Wednesday afternoon, after a most enjoyable flight over the city and the bay, it came down on a fine gravelled runway, 800 yards long, and 100 feet wide, with a turning area at the end having a radius of 100 feet. This runway, on which the work of constructions has been completed, points North-West and South– East. Running out from its South–Easterly end is a second runway not quite complete, but in an advanced stage of construction, pointing South-West and North-East.



The Airlines of Australia Stinson air liner Townsville, which tried out the new Townsville scrodrome on Wednesday.

# THE NEW AERODROME - LANDING BY STINSON AIRLINER - SUCCESSFUL TRY OUT

This latter runway, while providing the same width and facilities for turning, falls short by 100 yards on the length of the first. It also was utilized during the afternoon when, in a takeoff from the 'drome, the machine carried aloft a party of passengers, including the foreman and some of the workmen of the job. On the return, it was also used for the landing, while when the official party returned to the Ross River aerodrome the first runway was used for taking off purposes. Both runways were thus fully tested for landing abd taking off purposes, which were highly successful in every instance.

When the official party on arrival at the aerodrome descended from the Townsville, they were met by His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. S. Gill) and Aldermen Parry and Hamilton, each of whom had been prevented by business or other reasons from making the flight. The City Engineer (Mr. Brazier) was also present and the Chamber of Commerce had representation in the persons of Mr. J. A. Hackett (President) and Mr. H. B. Marks (Secretary). His Worship, during the course of a speech, apologized for the absence of Aldermen North, Heatley, Mindham and Illich, who had been prevented both from making the flight and also attending the aerodrome.

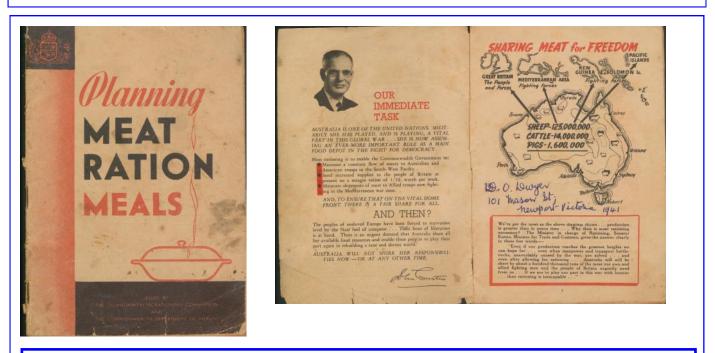
In addition to the civic representatives and others directly associated with the landing there was also a large attendance of the public, many with cameras, including motion picture equipment, for filming the events of the afternoon.

His Worship the Mayor made a speech, in which he expressed his and the Council's appreciation of the action of the Airlines of Australia in according them the invitation to fly in Stinson and also their gratification at being able to establish in Townsville such a fine facility for its development as an airport as this splendid aerodrome.



This article will be completed in the February 2024 edition of the newsletter.

## **RATION BOOKLET FROM AUSTRALIA IN WORLD WAR II**



This ration booklet was published by the Commonwealth Rationing Commission and the Commonwealth Department of Health during the Second World War when food rationing was the norm. Reading the suggested menus brings home to me how difficult it must have been to feed a family of any size, and it also puts into perspective how tough times were in the forties.

Thanks Trish, for providing the ration book from your family's valued collection.

Reading Prime Minister John Curtin's words will explain how Australia's meat supplies were subsidising the Allies and the Minister in charge of Rationing, Senator Keane explains the necessity for rationing to share our supplies around equitably.

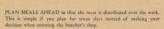


#### Newsletter of the TOWNSVILLE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### June 2023

# **RATION BOOKLET FROM AUSTRALIA IN WORLD WAR II**

#### TO "MEET" THE RATION RECIPESchopped 2 caps Mincel mean 12-caps (1 to 1 hb). Define the second gently till just breasy. In a greesal baking dish, place alternare layers of STEWS : even (#EC<sup>o</sup>F.), Ra-o moderate (110<sup>o</sup>F.) minutes. Tayat (1130 Res 8 mediate parties fed with Minced 12. Sa 6 large i tesspoon 1 lb. 11. Servoury Dumpline and 1 ib. 1 traspoos 1 roedium 7. Mince Slices : 1 lb. and mashed 1 cap nd fine, 1 cup 1 dessertspoon 1 teaspoon 1 teaspoon 1 teaspoon 1 tahlespoon shake 3 teaspoon Minced meat Porators, cooked and THOD. Consider must, manufage, and fluer and beaves in a brained part. Stir is provide the mean ing hangs. Add marks in almost and simmer this for sum minutary decouplings. Similar to generate, arrange with parting to generate, arrange. has over (571°E.) Is anti apples are another if eccentary and thick feast halose possing Serve with mashed por COUPON SCALE FOR MEAT Apples senter. 5 13. Serusage Servaury Apples Potatoes Onions Consisting ingredients, roll eed board into an obberg J Cost into disert and first in how for our still 3-2 min-GROUP " 14 Ibs. per cos Back Ribs (bos Blade Belar Chuck GROUP "D GROUP "A B: per coupe GROUP "B" I lb. per coupon Dumplings : 10. Bool Pottiss : Steak (chuck, biade, hole), mneed I bib Perper I tanpoon Salt Brankey, chopsel, I tanbound Salt ( company), and tangon Company, and tangon Company, and tangon Company, and tangon Mitterior Combine sequences, would have a static flow of the tangon Mitterior Combine sequences, would be a static flow of the tangon for a same we set did to the 10. Beel Po Rump Strak Topsale with asian autor or gravy, Prime Ribs (bone in) Thick Flank Beciliopser infinitiongle leave inition, chopped 1 medium inton, chopped 1 medium inter, minued 1 resuppon inter, minued 1 resuppon interpont 1 relukepson four 1 relukepson four 1 relukepson four 1 relukepson four 2 report 1 resuppon for trebor, fue dripping, for some al about tensor. Add max most the four messenger, and one Knuckle Loin (bone in) Loin Chops - 1 cup METHOD Rab or cat dripping and atted day ingredients. If catalying (first after modeling uses) (and the modeling uses) in such as the new bits to a soft decid with mill, drap spoonluls as top of mices, aroun tightly and coals for [ base. Face modeling addressing and the second second second information and the second second second second modeling and coals for [ base. Face modeling deployed. MUTTO Los Chops Losa Chops Losa Chops Foreguarter Foreguarter Chap Shoulder Bost end of Neck Breas LAMR Leg Champ Chops Lean Chops Losn Foreguarter Shouldes Foreguarter Chops Beat eed of Neck Breas Hand Lein (Fore) Loin (best end) Belly PORE Log Fillets MEAT RA N-COUPONED MEATH-tape, Some Mail, Tope n. Tongan, Maine, Koloren ra, Sweetraals, Co Taile Heels, On Cost, Cow Horiz MEAT RAT Yes smill not be man a Change Dockst. You may used are as the atentation of, if you are estimated to Group "A" uses, or 11 or Givens "A" U use seads MEATY HINTS



STUDY THE MEAT CHARTS IN THIS BOOKLET and find our what mass are available in your market. There are some you have avery unde before—find our shout them and our them. Your hutcher will help you, too, if you ask his advice. Dury complain because you can no longer both the out you wait—all meat has prescribedly the same

STORE MEAT CAREFULLY after you buy it, remove all wrappings from fresh mear, wipe it with a damp clean cloth, cover loosely with greaspored paper, and taree in the colder place unit you cook it. Chopped or minced meat should be used not later than the day after it is

KNOW HOW TO COOK MEAT: Cook joints and roatst at low peratures without far or water, allowing 10-33 minutes to each pe light temperatures and produced eaching periods make the dirink—thus a waterful method of treating in.

nat-that a waterial method of treating it. (b) the studies each mag and alwely, there or brains in covered surfaces on or case-moles with a firth water, rill just trender. The addition of high curst-theol of hermo or towners juscie or winteger, helps to make gigh num-theol of the mined maters in used for patters of hardwarg meat may be treated as tender mean and quickly cooked by grilling in or pany rilling ( $e^{i}dm^{-1}$  form)). If times it a problem, partially is done between the treated as tender mean and quickly cooked by grilling in or pany rilling ( $e^{i}dm^{-1}$  form)). If times it a problem, partially is done between the treated as the state of the treated by grilling is done between the treated and the treated by the state of the treated of the state o

USE EVERY SCRAP OF MEAT: Sive all available trimmings for stews, hash, or for mineing, all fat far cooking and bones for supp-for and allow any plate wate in yoor family. Look to your cooking-if the must alloh is perfectly cooked and well seasoned, there will not be a versiga left on othe plates.

MAKE MEAT GO FURTHER by combining it with other foods-vegetables, breadcrumbs, portrues, cereals, use stuffings and seasonings in roasts, braised mere or chups, and make the merit go twice as far.

BE THRIFTY WITH ANY LEFT-OVER MEAT, GRAVY OR DEIPPING: There are many wars of using them.

LEARN ALL YOU CAN ABOUT MEAT—Read newspapers, maga-inns; listen to radio programmes; attend lectures on cooking and nutri-tion; send for any pamphlets available; talk with your friends.

BE ADVENTUROUS WITH MEAT's Don't be afraid to try new resat dishes-put variety into the seasonings you use to give a new urn to the simplest meat dish.

VARY THE TEXTURE OF YOUR MEAT MEALS: If you neve mince or stews have something crisp in addition--Melbu Tosst, Fairy Broad, Tosst, Panry, Crisp Vegetables, for these provide variety in

Make yourself familiar with the price you should pay for Meat. Check the PRICE with the list which MUST be exhibited in each shop.





#### potatoes and other vegetables (dinner, Friday).

No Meat Coaport are required to porthan non-excepted mean or the following posts --Postry, Network Bloom Harry, Categories

THEY FARE ILSE WHERE.

It. 2 survey a week-weekees in barry trailer get film eation ) cent of

WHERE: Bartun - 1/2 worth inwrage im fan 1 E.) a sunt U.S.A. - 2 Im. a work (approx.) Canana - 2 20. to 23 Sta. a work invitating Bactel.

Purchase on Friday 5]-6 Ibs. forequarter of lamb to prepare four meat meals for 4 adults:

TEED

r 4 adults: ivide as follows— Raite shoulder and sep-arate it from neck and breast. Cook this joint by summering in boil-ing, salted water, till render (a b our 1 j tender (a b our 1 j nearly it bone and press houry); bone a

Cut four chops from the rib end. Trim and prepare as cutlets. Dip in egg and crumbs, fry and serve with mashed

 Cook the remaining chops (approx. 6) with vegetables in a stew or caseerole (dinner, Sat-urday). Prepare ristoles, using left-over cold meat from presed shoulder. Serve soup prepared from bones and stock from bones and stock (dinner, Monday).

(dinner, Monday). LEG OF LAMB (4) fibs., LEG OF LAMB (4) fibs., with bone weighing approx. 4 lb.), simmered, provides 4 servings hot (2) provides 4 servings hot (3) approx. 4 lb.), simmered, provides 4 servings hot (4) approx. 4 lb.), simmered, provides 4 servings hot (4) approx. 4 lb.), simmered, provides 4 servings hot (4) backed or roasted the same backed or roasted the same

# FAMILY JOINT

## Storage Space Necessary

smaller. This represents half of the weekly meat ration for a family of four adults. LEG OF MUTTON (6-7 LEG OF MUTTON (6.7 lbs, with bone weighing approx.] (b.): Divide to provide two joints and te provide two joints and te chop. (from leg end of filler). Use as follows: Fill let or chump end-stuff let or chump end-stuff and roast, year hot and cold. Shank end-boil and serve hot. Leg chop-braise stew or curry. Alternative method of uning: 6 servings hot, 6 cold and 6 made up dish.



without bone). When stuffed and roasted pro-vides the following serv-ings: 2 hot, 2 cold and 4 from a made up dish.

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# FROM THE PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

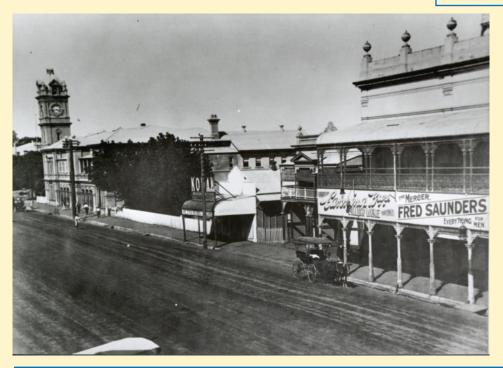


## Cage in which Gard swam from Magnetic Island to Townsville 26/07/1927

Access. No: 2006287 Events

From page 3 of "Caged" by Geoff Hansen and Diane Menghetti

"Bert Gard made the next recorded Magnetic Island swim, Gard, a miner from the Atherton Tablelands, stopped in Townsville on his way to the Queensland swimming titles in Brisbane. On Australia Day in 1926, he braved particularly rough seas in a crossing that washed him out of his cage three times. He must have arrived in Brisbane rather the worse for wear."



Flinders Street 1920 showing from left to right: The Post Office, a vacant Council allotment being used as a goat pound (became the City Library later), Kodak's Photographic Studios, the Central Fire Station and the Town Hall built in 1899-1900. The photo was taken by the Council to be supplied with others to tenders for the construction of a new town hall on the vacant Council allotment. The project did not proceed and the land was sold to the Commonwealth Bank in March 1921 for £5,500. Access. No: 1992080 Flinders Street



Townsville Museum

&

Historical Society Inc.

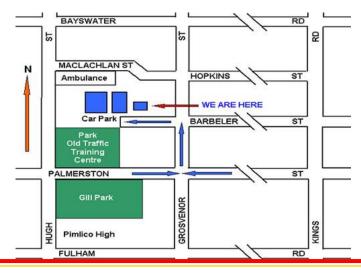
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## mogoer munya man from the clouds John Elliott

Contact Townsville Museum 47757838 or admin@townsvillemuseum.com.au





## OUR SUPPORTERS

Support The Groups That Support your Museum This book is a sketch of the life of James Morrill who resided among the aboriginals of North Queensland for seventeen years between 1846 and 1863, and who wrote a narrative of his life, shipwreck, landing on the coast and residence among the Aboriginals, and gave an account of their manners and customs and mode of living. Cost: \$39.95

