

# TIMELINES

In fifteen minutes

## Farewell 2024, welcome 2025

Number 17

The Murwillumbah Historical Society, led by Beverley Fairley, can look back on a year of achievements. The Society has held a number of functions in its own right and has supported a number of community events where it has provided participants the opportunity to find out about Murwillumbah and the surrounding district's history. In addition to the research service provided by the Society at Tony Clark Research Room at the Tweed Regional Museum, the Society has digitised and added to the Tweed Regional Museum Collection Murwillumbah High School's student publication *The Parnassian*, which was first published in 1923. Last, and hopefully not least, by the medium of the Society's *Timelines* newsletter and this bulletin, historical issues have been researched and published for the edification of the general public.

Here's looking forward to a wonderful 2025!

## Events



Saturday 30 November, from 2.30 pm to 7.30 pm at Prospero Street and the Northern Rivers Rail Trail at the Murwillumbah Railway Station precinct, South Murwillumbah.

The entertainment will include storytelling salons with exhibitions, tours and local history with the Society and community members.

You can secure your free tickets at <https://brnw.ch/21wOsNj>.

## With the Committee

It was a bumper roll up – nine Committee members and only two apologies.

The Society's stall at the Murwillumbah show was a success. Enquiries, discussions and sales of the publications held by the Society. Beverley Fairley thanked the Tweed River Agricultural Society, with special mention of Dee and Karen, for their personal assistance.

Betty Hamill organised a quiet but congenial Christmas function for us on Wednesday 20 November.

**Please note that in December and over the holiday period there may not be members in the room every day as we are in abeyance. Public access will be dependent on the opening hours of the Tweed Regional Museum.**

## Our Next Meeting

The Society warmly welcomes new members. We meet on the third Monday of every month, except December.

**1:00 pm on Monday, 20 January 2025, at the Society's Tony Clark Research Room at the Tweed Regional Museum.**

CONTACT US: Phone: (02) 6670 2273

Web: <http://www.murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au/>

FB: <http://www.facebook.com/murwillumbahhistory>

Email: [editor@murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au](mailto:editor@murwillumbahhistoricalsociety.org.au)

Mail: C/- Tweed Regional Museum, 2 Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah NSW 2484 or PO Box 373, Murwillumbah NSW 2484

## History in a Box

### Christmas in Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads and Cudgen in 1924

Giving you a taste of Christmas 100 years ago as reported in the *Tweed Daily* on 27 December 1924.

#### THE HOLIDAYS

All North Coast Townships Thronged.

Shops Do Record Trade.

#### CROWDS AT THE SEASIDE.

Christmas—celebrated by Christian countries as symbolic of the dawn of hope in the world—has again passed borne on the fleet wings of time.

This time its appearance synchronised with the appearance of better seasons than had been experienced on the North Coast for some years. Consequently preparations on a lavish scale were made by shopkeepers to meet the big demand expected for Christmas goods. The heavy volume of business done at all shopping centres fully justified these preparations.

...

#### BUSY TIME IN MURWILLUMBAH.

Murwillumbah streets were thronged with happy crowds on Christmas Eve. The business places were filled with buyers, all of whom appeared to have cash at their disposal. Shopkeepers report it is many a day since their takings were so large, thus reflecting the bounteous season which this district is experiencing in common with other parts of the North Coast.

Yesterday and last night it was quite a different story. All who could manage to do so made their way to the beaches, and the town had a deserted appearance.

#### AT THE SEASIDE.

#### CROWDS THROG DOWN RIVER TOWNS.

Christmas Eve at Tweed Heads and Coolangatta was a most disagreeable day, and the first impression of the thousands of visitors who poured in during the day must have been an adverse one.

A fierce south-easter blew all day with almost blinding results, sand being blown into the faces of passersby.

Campers and showmen found it impossible to erect tents in the wind, while [sic] those already erected were well trid [sic] out. There were 12 passenger trains from Brisbane to Tweed Heads, most of which were well packed with visitors. These continued to arrive well into the early hours of Christmas morning. On the Tweed side cars and boats carried hundreds of passengers to the seaside throughout the day. By night time the towns seemed full, and a large crowd of happy people blended the two towns into one.

Christmas morning broke in perfect contrast to the previous day, and gave an ideal proclamation of "peace on earth." Church services were well patronised, and the beaches were crowded throughout the day.

Greenmount, Kirra, Tugun and Currumbin beaches all held their throngs of surfers in full enjoyment of a glorious surf. Thanks, no doubt, to the zealous guardianship of the surf clubs and their patrolmen, there were no accidents, although several were prevented by the timely help of the life savers.

The usual instructive displays of surf work were given by the teams, and watched with keen interest by the visitors, particularly the new comers. Very noticeable this year is the decided increase of motor cars, many parties having travelled a long distance by car with their camp equipment to be here (a tribute to our resorts).

Many campers find the car a serviceable wind break and anchorage to the tent in windy weather. Motor boats, buses and service cars all had a busy time.

#### RECORD FOR CUDGEN.

The largest crowd ever seen at that resort gathered at Cudgen Headland yesterday. Upwards of 100 motor cars were lined along the esplanade. The sea was in a benign mood, and full advantage was taken of the excellent surf by a large number of visitors. The excellent fishing which Cudgen provides was also exploited to the full.