



**Special Points of Interest:**

- *An interesting letter from the past*
- *A draft paper written by Jim Manion, manager of the NQ Newspaper Company Ltd*
- *A short biography of E.E. Cowley by Member Nick Shailer*

Monthly committee meetings are held at the Museum on the third Monday of the month at ten o'clock. All committee members are notified a week prior to the meeting.

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year 2016 to all our members, volunteers and friends of the Museum. What a great year 2015 was with so much happening with new displays, lots of visitors and of course our 30th anniversary celebration. 2016 is going to be just as busy and we are now in the process of updating the History Timeline to bring it in line with the 150 years of Townsville's history. The Museum received a Grant from the Townsville City Council's T150 program and it is planned to have the Timeline on display mid year with a special event held for its launch.



Last year the Museum lost one of its long serving members and volunteer, Graeme Mounsey. Graeme was a very quiet man, did a great job looking after our photo collections and enjoyed everyone's company. We still call the "computer and desk" *Graeme's* and the girls on Tuesday, Lydia and Petra never did get the chance to take him "pole dancing".

Unknown (1888). *Flinders Street East, Ross Creek and Ross Island from Cleveland Street, 1888.* Photo held in City-Libraries, Local History Collection

Our 30th Anniversary book is being worked on and should be available soon. It will be a wonderful keepsake. Thanks to Geoff Hansen for all the time he has spent putting it together and "Thanks" also to Lyn for her patience. On the subject of books, don't forget to tell friends and family about the wonderful selection of books available at the Museum - they make wonderful gifts.

The Museum has acquired quite a few new artefacts and photographs from local residents. Some are very important to Townsville's history and it is hoped later this year new displays featuring these artefacts will be completed. The Queensland Ambulance display compliments the medical displays in Hall One. The Museum was also given the Flag Staff and original Charter of the Townsville Rotary Club and is on display in Hall Two. A feature board on the history of Townsville Rotary will be completed soon, thanks to the generosity of Geoff Gelling of Hastings Printers.

**Inside this issue:**

2016 is going to be a very busy year for all the committee and I look forward to working with you all.

Bye for now,  
Trish Cronin

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**TOWNSVILLE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**BUSINESS HOURS**

Monday to Friday

9:00 am to 2:30 pm

First and Third Sundays of the month

1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

ENTRY BY GOLD COIN DONATION

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

(12 months from 1st July to 30th June)

Single \$ 11.00

Couples \$ 16.50

Corporate \$ 32.50

## HAMILTON STREET, CITY

Named after Frederick Hamilton, the son of the Reverend William Hamilton of London. In 1865 he was the licensee of the Burdekin Hotel at Macrossan and in September of that year he applied to have "his licence transferred to his house at Cleveland Bay." His hotel at Townsville, known as Hamilton's Hotel was situated at the corner of Flinders and Denham Streets on the land now occupied by the Perc Tucker Regional Gallery. In conjunction with his hotel he offered the use of a 1500 acre (600 hectare) paddock to rest horses at a charge of one shilling per night, five shilling per week or ten pounds per year. He was elected a member of the Townsville Municipal Council in 1866 and retired by rotation in July, 1867. He took up Hinchinbrook Station in 1868 and later purchased Pajingo Station. By 1870 he had opened a butchers shop in Denham Street, offering beef and mutton for threepence a pound and sausages for fourpence. He built the Victoria Bridge Hotel at the corner of Palmer and Dean Streets, South Townsville in 1900, having already built several shops in Palmer Street. He retired to Sydney in 1904.



Unknown n.d. *Mr Fred Hamilton, one of Townsville's early pioneers.* Held by CityLibraries, Local History Collection.

Mr Hamilton built the West End Hotel on the site now occupied by the Perc Tucker Art Gallery.



Unknown (1884). *View of Flinders Street and Ross Creek, c.1884.* Held by CityLibraries, Local History Collection.

"The buildings in Flinders Street from left to right are Clifton and Aplin Brothers store, the fire station (small shed), the Electric Telegraph Station, and the Town Hall. The West End Hotel on the corner of Flinders and Denham Streets is opposite the Electric Telegraph station."

Information is transcribed from the back of the photograph.

## FROM THE PAPERS OF JIM MANION, MANAGER OF THE NORTH QUEENSLAND NEWSPAPER COMPANY

Our Museum holds a few papers which belonged to Jim Manion, manager of the North Queensland Newspaper Company in the 1980s. Jim loved history and researched the history of print in Queensland. He presented the Clem Lack Memorial Oration in March 1983 where he demonstrated his historical knowledge of the press throughout the early years of the state of Queensland.



**Mr Jim Manion**

Here is one draft of a research paper written by Jim Manion. (No date is recorded.) As far as possible I have reproduced the annotations and marks inscribed on the paper in biro.

### N.Q. Telegraph & Territorial Separationist

19 December 1887

It is with Pleasure that we congratulate the proprietors of the Townsville Herald Newspaper Company on the excellent Christmas Number they have published. There are over seventy pages of very interesting matter and illustrations of all the Principal buildings and business houses of the town.

The "History of Townsville" by Mr E. J. Banfield is complete in every particular and written in that style for which the author is so noted. No journal would be so acceptable to people at Home as the Christmas Number of the Herald.

### HISTORY OF THE TOWNSVILLE HERALD

It is interesting to conjecture why a community as small as Townville felt the need for its own newspaper. With a population numbering (annotation added here "less than 200") there was not a wide selection of competing retailers or settlers. The community was centrally housed and word of mouth communication would soon have spread news of any local events or scandal.

It was probably too early to have generated any projects which required evidence of strong local support to sway the politicians and bureaucrats in the far removed capital.

(Annotation: As early as January 1868)

The report of the half-yearly meeting of the Cleveland Bay Express Newspaper Company Limited expressed confidence that the venture would become self supporting but placed the ultimate responsibility in these terms:

"It rests entirely with the inhabitants whether it is so or not; at any rate one thing is certain, that Cleveland Bay without an organ to represent her wants, her position as a port would very soon take a retrograde step, and become a second or third rate port, instead of, as we believe she is destined to become, one of the most important ports of Queensland."

There was a large influx of ships crews and travellers, even before the gold and silver discoveries inland generated the flood of prospectors. Early statistics show that these people outnumbered the locals by almost six to one in 1865 and even by 1881 was running one and a half to one.

The first issues of the Cleveland Bay Express showed a high content of advertising for hotels and then, of course, there were the shipping movements.

However the Townsville experience was not unique as the rapid spread of graziers and miners over the vast area of the infant colony of Queensland was accompanied by a proliferation of newspapers. A tradesman only needed a small press and a supply of type to enter the Fourth Estate. In most cases the optimistic expectations of those press entrepreneurs were not realised. Many of those slim new sheets failed to survive to celebrate their first anniversary.

## FROM THE PAPERS OF JIM MANION, MANAGER OF THE NORTH QUEENSLAND NEWSPAPER COMPANY

The year of establishment, proudly quoted as 1866 on the front cover of The Townsville Herald, under the banner, recognised that the Herald's ancestry was firmly based and linked back to the earliest newspapers in Townsville. Both the Cleveland Bay Herald and the Cleveland Bay Express were founded in 1866, the latter using the plant of the shortlived Herald which was started by the outspoken James Thorburn Brown on 3 March 1866.

That venture only survived for four months and, after the failure, the angry Brown claimed that his interest in the venture, engendered by an approach from associates of J.M. Black, had been falsely obtained through quoting subscriber numbers that turned out to be less than half of those eventuating when the paper commenced.

Brown was an American and, in the aftermath of the popular feeling about the American Civil War, created animosity in the community by his practice of flying the Stars and Stripes on a flagpole outside the newspaper office. So much hostility in fact that the flagpole was cut down on two occasions.

The Cleveland Bay Express published its first issue on 30 June 1866, just two weeks after the demise of the Herald. ~~It utilised the plant and equipment of the Herald.~~ J. M. Black was obviously the financial backer of the venture until the joint stock company was formed and even then Black and Company took up 20 of the 90 shares issued. He exerted considerable influence over the content and operation of the paper. ~~So much, indeed, that a disgruntled resident, sheltering behind the nom-de-plume "To be continued," was to write in the paper, and to be subsequently reprinted in the Port Denison Times:-~~

~~"It is a pity that there is not an independent paper in this town as everything has to go through the hands of the Lord-Bishop of Townsville before it is allowed to be printed."~~

~~The fact that it was printed in the Express rather belies the censorship alleged by the correspondent.~~

*Check this.*

A joint stock company was formed to finance a new paper following the closure of the Express after the edition of 6 April 1867. It had reached its second volume and published 41 issues. The revived Express, operating under the amended title of the Cleveland Bay Express and Cardwell Advertiser, was first published on 29th June 1867. It commenced a new numbering cycle reverting to Vol 1, Number 1.

ok✓

John Melton Black headed the list of directors who included a chemist, J. E. Rutherford, a solicitor, J. R. Cowan, two merchants, T. R. Carter and W. A. Ross, and a hotel keeper, C. S. Rowe. Black and Ross both served as mayors of the municipality.

The ownership of the plant remained with Black and Co. The report of the half yearly meeting in January, 1868 ~~decided~~ seconded the decision to negotiate with Robert Towns & Co. for the purchase of the plant, "thus placing the "Express" on a more independent basis". This came eight months after the partnership of Towns and Black was dissolved "by the effluxion of time". It followed Black's departure to Sydney and his notice of 28 August 1867 that R. Towns would assume responsibility for all debts of the former partnership.

While the first company had a very limited issued capital numbering only 90 shares, there was a very wide distribution over 47 separate shareholdings, of which the majority consisted of a single share, apart from the significant holding of Black & Company and Ross, Aplin, Cowan and Carter with five shares each.

This wide community involvement in the Company was to surface again when the Townsville Herald Newspaper Company was floated in 1882. The earlier company, The Cleveland Bay Express Newspaper Company Limited was liquidated in 1870 when the editor, Henry Bohm, acquired the business. Many of the first shareholders had failed to meet the progressive calls for further contributions so that, by 1869, eight shares were forfeited and calls totalling 26 pounds were outstanding. Many years later Mr F. Gordon, the former secretary, still retained; "A lively recollection of the troubles he experienced in getting sufficient money week by week to pay the compositors".

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[This paper will be concluded in the June issue of this newsletter.]

## AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM OUR PAST

Townsville  
21st April 1888

His Worship the Mayor,

Sir,

I have to report for your information that this morning (Thursday) with 5 men I made a raid on goats on Ross Island where there are from 300 to 400, a number of whom are wearing collars although only one goat out of the lot appears to be registered up to 25" inch. I succeed in driving them into the Drill Reserve 123 of which number 27 were fully grown male goats.

In compliance with instructions I notified that I would retain the goats in the Reserve until 10.00 am. From about 7.00 am until 9.15 am, a great number of children from 12 to 11 years old incited by a number of grown-up people removed rails in different parts of the fence, rushed through the mob of goats, and sent dogs after the goats, at about 9.15 am, Constable Sowards whom I had sent for, arrived and in his presence:- Mrs Thomas, Mrs Elliott and Mrs McGinley and others, whose names I was unable to obtain, assisted by a large mob of children forcible removed all the goats except about 14 or 15. Throwing stones, etc. in all directions.

I caught one youth about 12 years old and struck him twice with a piece of clothes line I had in my hand, a man named Morris jumped over the fence and rushed at me with his clenched fist and shook it in my face several times at the same time threatening to do me serious bodily harm if I did not allow the boy to take his goats and do as he likes in the Reserve, owing to the stone throwing, etc, although there was Constable present. I was forced to withdraw from the Reserve and allow the remainder of the goats to go free.

Alderman Piegrome was present from a little after 7 o'clock till the finish.

I am Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
C. Pease.  
Inspector of Nuisances



Unidentified (1914). *Page 22 of the Queenslander Pictorial, supplement to The Queenslander, 19 September, 1914. John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland*

Caption: Lieutenant Colonel H.W Lee (in command of the Queensland Infantry Battalion of the Australian Expeditionary Force) on the charger presented by Hon. A.H Wittingham M.L.C. Talma, photo.

Caption: Flock of goats for milk and mutton at Sunnyside, Townsville. Perroux, photo.

## FROM THE PAGES OF HISTORY.....

### Rainfall Records for Townsville 1871 – 1922

Newspaper cutting provided by Harvey Low, Member of Townsville Museum.

*Fifty-one Years of Rainfall  
Records for Townsville*

*Recorded in inches*

1871	33.35in.	1881	49.69	1894	97.78	1907	59.64	1919	49.36
1872	58.06	1882	55.91	1895	56.53	1908	38.21	1920	20.74
1873	53.41	1883	39.83	1896	66.79	1909	35.32	1921	unable to read
1874	66.46	1884	48.87	1897	59.24	1910	67.96	1922	31.28
1875	66.46	1885	35.67	1898	42.34	1911	53.42	<b>Average annual rainfall is 48.39 inches.</b>	
1876	33.32	1886	46.68	1899	45.41	1912	31.50		
1877	69.85	1887	56.85	1900	33.67	1913	49.54		
1878	38.48	1888	24.18	1901	48.51	1914	48.90		
1879	53.20	1889	51.09	1902	13.63	1915	53.76		
1880	41.03	1890	79.12	1903	67.03	1916	83.13		
		1891	75.92	1904	36.38	1917	44.83		
		1892	52.50	1905	30.23	1918	49.36		
		1893	34.58	1906	57.74				

## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2015

A group of about twenty members and volunteers celebrated the end of the year and the festive season at Aqua Restaurant at The Ville in the marina precinct of Townsville.

It's always a great time to catch up with people that you often don't get to see very often as we all work on different days at the museum. There was a lot of chatter and even more munching over that delightful meal.

Bring on 2016!



Christmas luncheon was held this year at Aqua at The Ville on 14th December 2015.

## RECENT EVENTS—A TRIP TO THE HERBERT RIVER MUSEUM IN HALIFAX

On Saturday 6th February, a group of Townsville Museum members and volunteers drove up to Ingham to view the Herbert River Museum. Geoff invited Muriel, a local author to accompany us on our visit too. Muriel has a great knowledge of local history too and was very helpful in pointing out various interesting facts about the community. We were met at the door by Coral Gard and her volunteers who made us feel most welcome and we spent over an hour viewing the artefacts and reading about the Herbert River district's history. This district is rightfully proud of its past and it is commendable to see so much of its history preserved by the local community benefactors. The museum's buildings are steadily growing and have the quaintest street frontage to Macrossan Street in Halifax. After the visit, we drove out to Lucinda to catch a cooling breeze and buy some tasty food by the sea.



Row 1: Coral welcoming us at the door, Petra and Fay, Joe and Gary with Lydia, Fay and Jan on seats.

Row 2: Lyn and John, Lydia, Geoff, Muriel and Joe.



Row 3: Julie, Joe and Gary, Harvey and Dell, Noel and Trish.



## E. E. COWLEY —KANGAROO HUNT SAUCE— PART ONE

Article written by our Member Nick Shailer who has an extensive bottle collection.

Two of Townsville's sought after bottles are the two sizes of Cowley's Kangaroo Hunt Sauce. Ephraim Cowley was born in 1838 at Cricklade Wiltshire into the fairly large family of John (shoe and bootmaker and Baptist minister) and his wife Martha.

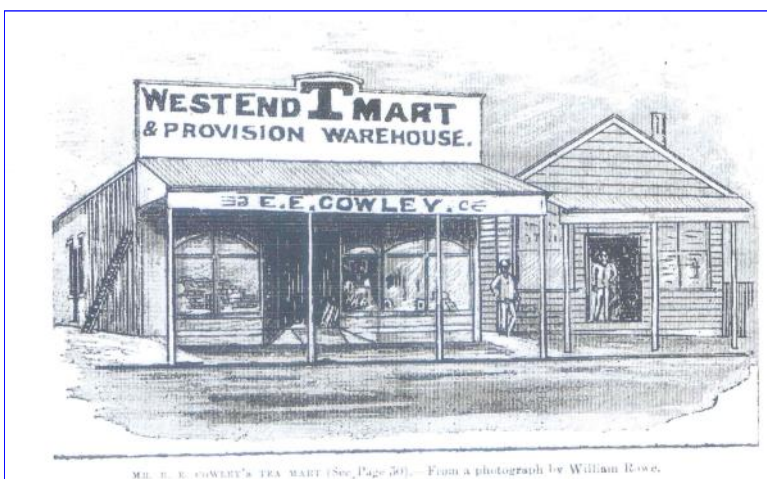
In 1861 he is recorded on the English census as a shopman for a grocer in Bristol, and looks to have arrived here in Australia circa 1863.

He was in Townsville by 1883 as there is a newspaper report of his marriage to Miss E. Toft, the daughter of Captain J. P. Toft who was a Customs officer here. The wedding report mentions that there were 8 bridesmaids and the church was decorated with a "Very Grand Display" of roses supplied from Gulliver's nursery at Acacia Vale.

From a report in the North Queensland Register in 1892 Ephraim looks to have been set up as a wholesale and retail grocer by 1880, his premises being on Flinders Street midway between Stanley and Blackwood Streets. The article mentions his Kangaroo Hunt Sauce, and baking powder and also included his manufacturing of mango chutney and tomato sauce and the roasting of coffee and pepper. It's a pity he did not use embossed bottles for these products!

By the late 1890s, he had sold his business and retired to Sydney where he died in January 1918 at his residence in North Sydney. His wife passed away in November 1933.

He had sold his business to James Wackett who had worked for him but by 1902, James had financial problems and poisoned himself so the business was again up for sale.



MR. E. E. COWLEY'S T-MART (See Page 50). — From a photograph by William Rowe.

A drawing of E.E. Cowley's T Mart taken from a photograph by William Rowe.

NOTICE TO STOREKEEPERS, HOTELKEEPERS, HAWKERS, AND THE  
GENERAL PUBLIC

E. E. COWLEY & CO

RETIRING FROM BUSINESS

10,000 WORTH OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE  
10,000 WORTH OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE

TO BE IMMEDIATELY DISPOSED OF AT COST PRICE

INSPECTION INVITED

E. E. COWLEY & CO. having decided to relinquish Business, the whole of  
their STOCK will be SOLD FOR CASH ONLY, at Prices that must ensure a  
speedy clearance.

Overdue Accounts not arranged for before the end of the present month  
will be sued for without further notice

E. E. COWLEY & CO.  
FLINDERS STREET TOWNSVILLE.

( THE ABOVE AD IS FROM THE WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 28, 1900  
"TOWNSVILLE DAILY BULLETIN" )





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-AVAILABLE SOON -

A Book by Geoff Hansen

Keeping Our Heritage: Townsville Museum and  
 Historical Society 1985—2015



OUR SUPPORTERS

Support  
 The  
 Groups  
 That  
 Support your  
 Museum

