



Special Points of Interest:

- *New Displays for 2018*
- *Thomas Roe Carter*
- *Heritage Day 2018*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

They say “the older we get the more time we have to enjoy ourselves”, well I don’t know about you, but I think the days are getting shorter and I don’t have enough time to do all the things I want to do. Here it is June already. Since my last Message to the Members, so much has happened at the Museum. We have a new kitchen and laundry display, thanks to Warren Jones for donating his time to building the ‘room’, to our neighbour, Earl Emmerson who painted the walls and to Noel Cronin and Fred Hague for moving the displays, laying the new timber floor and putting the display back – all this done on one Saturday. John McDonald has also been busy upgrading his Telecom/Telstra display area with the addition of an interpretative board and display case telling the story of the laying of the communications cable to Magnetic Island. A great addition to this area. We have also added the last Postman’s bike to the Postal and Telegraph area. The bike was used by Brian “Bluey” Shields when he was a postman and on his retirement, he purchased the bike and donated it to the Museum. “Bluey’s” story is displayed with the bike.

Heritage Day was on Sunday 20th May and thanks to Gary, Jan & Wendy for manning the site and to Arthur Rains for provision of a display on cameras. The display attracted a lot of interest from the public and Arthur was happy to talk to everyone about the different styles of cameras. It brought back memories for some and others, particularly the younger generation, were fascinated at the type and style of cameras used in the past.

A reunion of retired Townsville Bulletin printing staff was held on Monday 28th May to launch the new interpretative boards telling the story of print and publishing and to thank Colin Dempster for his financial contributions to the display. The addition of new displays makes the Museum more interesting to the visitor.

Our life member, Nick Shailer has just recently retired from Queensland Rail and is certainly enjoying his many visits to other Museums. He has just returned from visiting the Sunshine Coast. The most noted discovery was that the Sunshine Coast Council has a Heritage Levy of \$11.00 per year on every property in its area and the funding goes to providing support for museums, preservation of heritage places and staging annual heritage days in the region. They also have a Sunshine Coast Museum Trail brochure, the same as is available in Cairns and which I have been trying over the last 12 months to get our Council to provide for this area. What a difference this would make if Townsville City Council were to adopt the same idea and make history and heritage a priority in the region. One can only but live in hope.

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.



Unknown (1998). *Chun Tie family in front of the Hong Kong Restaurant, Townsville, 1998.*
Held by CityLibraries Local History Collection

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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

MEMBERSHIP FEES

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

Single \$ 11.00

Couples \$ 16.50

Corporate \$ 32.50

CARTER STREET, NORTH WARD

Thomas Roe Carter, storekeeper and general merchant, was a partner in Mcleod, Carter and Company, Bowen in 1864. The partnership was dissolved in 1865 and he moved to Cleveland Bay where he went into partnership with Frederick Augustus Fryer, general merchants. Later he traded on his own account as T.R. Carter and Company. A member of the first municipal council established at Townsville, he served several times as an alderman before resigning from the Council on 24th May 1869. He became a director of the Cleveland Bay Express Newspaper Company on its formation in 1866.

The street was originally known as Carters Lane (Plan No T118.5 1866).

In the twenties and thirties the upper section of Carter Street was known as Billy Goat Track by locals.

Mathew, J. (1995). *Highways and Byways*. Townsville, Queensland: Townsville City Council.

Helga Griffin wrote in "Frontier Town", referring to the arriving of the *Uncle Tom* on 17th January 1865.

Besides its Melanesian cargo, *Uncle Tom* also brought urgently needed building materials and the builder. Captain Moran had problems finding the camp behind the mangroves. Boats were despatched in the direction of a flag which marked the settlement. The opening through a barrier of trees was now fifteen feet wide. When the ship was brought to the landing area, a temporary wharf was built and the cargo discharged. Moran noted that the only building in sight from the landing was fashioned from sheets of iron tied together with strips of rawhide – no doubt around a framework of poles and saplings of fresh timber – a common method of building in the formative stages of settlement throughout north Queensland. Black, Walker and Ross lived in these bachelors' quarters. Out of sight and hidden by shrubbery and landform, on the spot where the Bank of New South Wales would be built a year or so later, stood a "rough store" which was managed by Peter Lauder. He lived in a crude hut with his wife, the first white woman in Cleveland Bay; she cooked and waited upon the rest of the settlement. The only other building was a small hut near the lagoon on the site later occupied by the more substantial building of Comerford's dairy. The firm Messrs Carter & Fryer brought more supplies for the settlement on the *Emile Desmond* towards the end of February 1865. On paying Black for the lease of the wharf site, they opened a small store. The *Amy* then returned from Brisbane with a large quantity of illegal liquor which on distribution, "quite upset the community for three days".

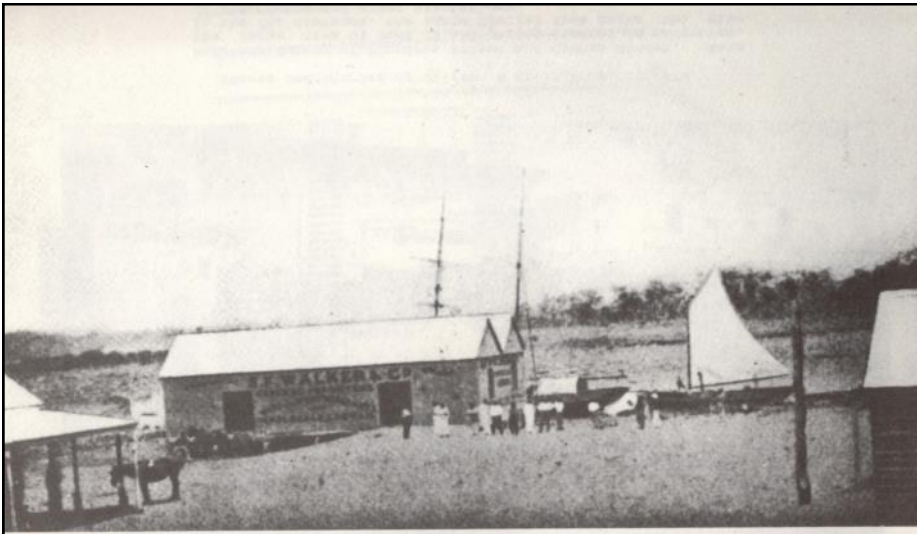
Thomas Carter stood for the first Council elections in 1866. Helga Griffin writes:

Nominations to the first Municipal Council in mid-April 1866 revealed that merchants, professional men and publicans were leaders in civic affairs. Among those who competed for office were: professionals George Johnson (architect), Alfred Cooper (chemist), Thomas Rowden (surgeon and dentist), and Wynford Grimaldi and Spencer Walker (accountants); merchants were represented by John Black, Thomas Carter, William Aplin and William Clifton; and publicans by William Ross and Frederick Hamilton. James Gordon was the returning officer. Candidates for the six vacancies were invited to express their views at a public meeting held at the Criterion Hotel. Residents of the town registered 72 votes, and non-residents 45, a total of 117 votes. Although Carter proved to be marginally more popular, Black's pioneering role and his *de facto* leadership till then made it a matter of course that he should become the first mayor. This did not prevent him from heaping scorn on the election procedures of his competitors, referring to the meeting as the most mismanaged one he had ever witnessed. The newlyelected council included Messrs Black, Aplin, Fryer, Carter, Johnson Hannum (later the town architect), Roberts (surveyor), Cowan (solicitor), and Grimaldi (later a Town Clerk). A week before the council elections, and after several delays, Black's tallow rendering plant began operations – a neat conjunction of his pastoral, business and urban roles.

Reference:

Griffin, H. (2014). *Frontier Town: A history of Early Townsville and Hinterland 1864-1884*. Townsville, Queensland: North Queensland History Preservation Society

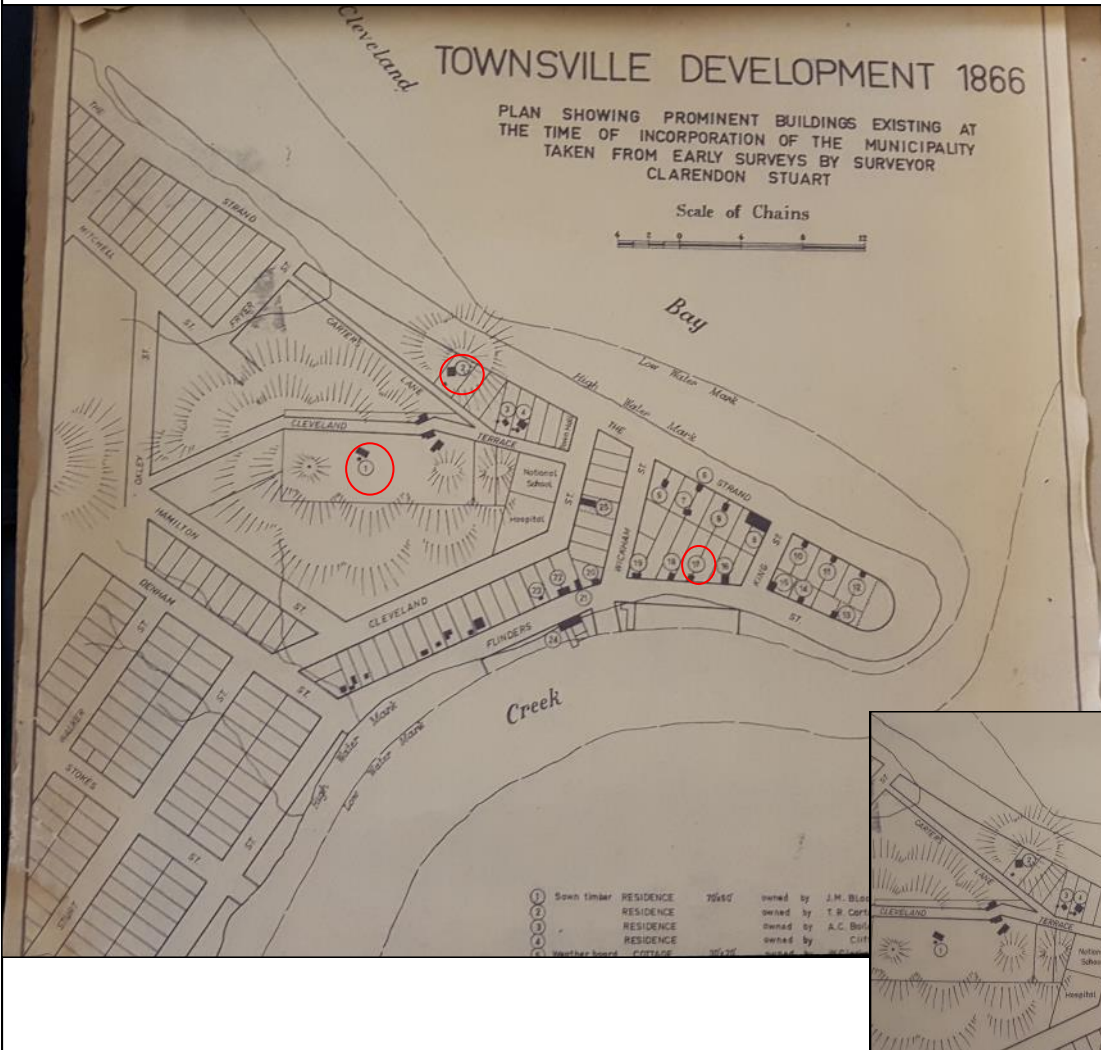
CARTER STREET



Stores of S.F. Walker & Co., c. 1870
 Erected in 1865 for Carter & Co. on the site of the present Queensland Insurance building in eastern Flinders Street.
 Jubilee Carnival Programme, 1913

Reference:

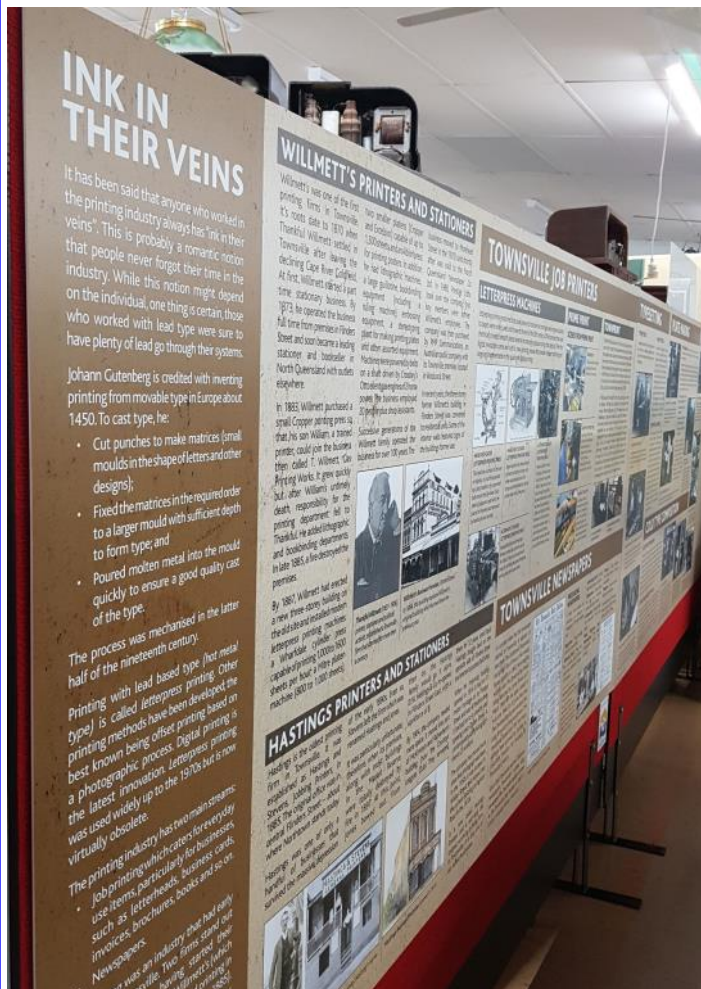
Gibson-Wilde, D. (1984). *Gateway to a Golden Land: Townsville to 1884*. Townsville, Queensland: History Department James Cook University



From the Museum's Map Collections:

A Map of Early Townsville 1866, showing John Melton Black's residence at Number 1 and T. R. Carter's residence at Number 2 in Carters Lane. Thomas Roe Carter's business was undertaken at Number 17 on the

NEW DISPLAYS

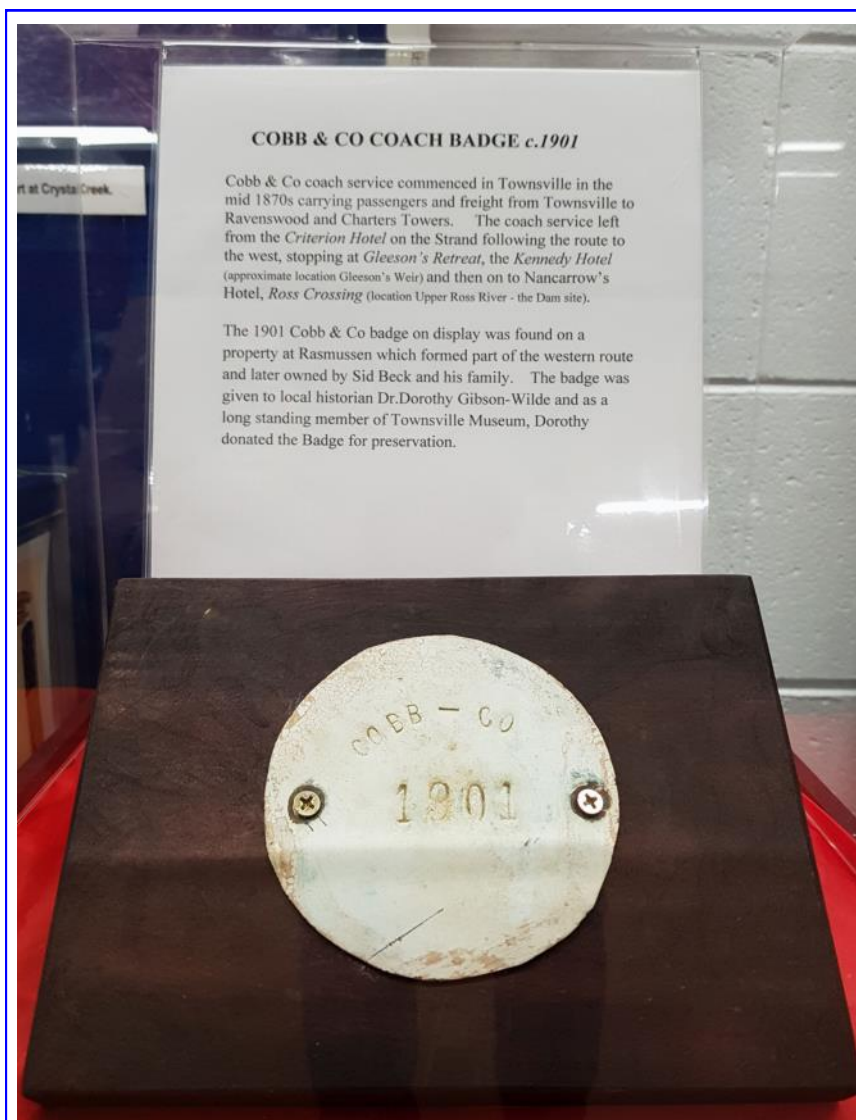


This new display was created from an older display which was enhanced and updated. Thanks to Colin Dempster and Geoff Hansen who over saw much of this process, and Colin who donated funds towards this project. Opened 28 May 2018.



In the Communications section in Hall 2, this significant bicycle has been housed very recently. It is the last Postman's bicycle which was used in Townsville, before they were superseded by motorized scooters in the 1970s.

NEW DISPLAYS



This Cobb & Co badge sits proudly in Hall 2 close to the beginning of the Timeline which lines the walls in that building. We are very fortunate to have this badge as it was found in recent years on a property in the suburb of Rasmussen in the western suburbs area of Townsville. It was given to Dr Dorothy Gibson-Wilde, a member of our museum and she passed it on to us to preserve for the future generations to see. Thanks to Noel Cronin for creating the display case for this interesting piece.



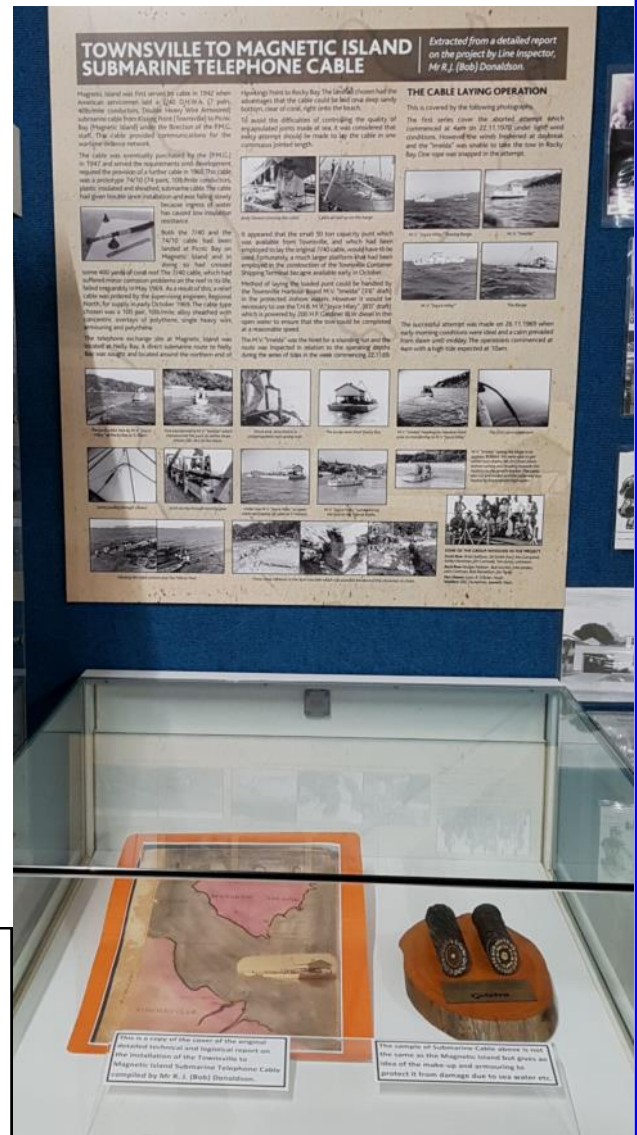
An assortment of items connected to Townsville General Hospital is in this cabinet in Hall 1. Recently, the polaroid camera was added to it. This camera was used in the Operating Theatres at Townsville General.

NEW DISPLAYS



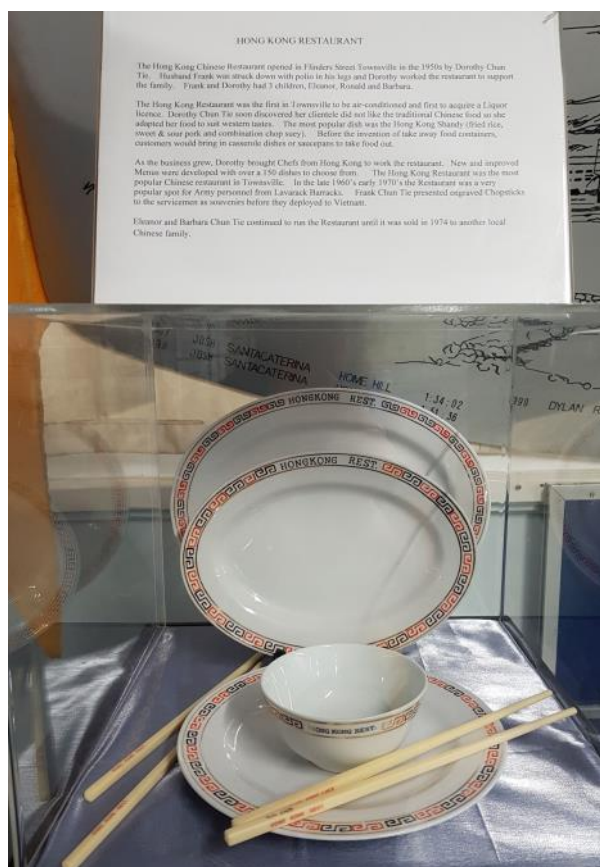
The stove recess was added to the pre-electric kitchen display in Hall 2 recently. It shows the common design of the kitchen around the stove area in kitchens from the turn of the century. Complete with a chimney, this stove recess was completed in rapid time with the help of a friend of Trish and Noel Cronin who was aided by some willing museum volunteers.

New floor boards complemented the stove construction in this display, showing the bare floor boards which was often the case in housing in those long gone days.



John McDonald has created a display to tell the story of laying the Townsville to Magnetic Island Submarine Telephone Cable. This display is housed in the Communications section in Hall 2.

NEW DISPLAYS



The Hong Kong Restaurant in Townsville's Flinders Street was an institution for many years. It was the first restaurant to be air-conditioned and also to hold a liquor licence.

Many families would remember the smartly dressed employees in the restaurant which was reputed to be the best Chinese Restaurant in the town.

This display is found in Hall 1.



Unknown (1969). Staff in the kitchen of the Hong Kong Restaurant, Townsville, late 1960's.
Held by CityLibraries Local History Collection



OPENING OF BULLETIN DISPLAY—28 MAY 2018



Past and present Townsville Bulletin employees were invited to view the new panel describing the printing process that many of them had worked on their whole working lives. Colin Dempster, a Museum member and an ex-Bulletin employee himself, donated some funds to the Museum to get this new updated board underway. Together with Geoff Hansen, they redesigned the board for the Printing Press area of Hall 2. With around thirty guests arriving to view the new display, the morning was a resounding success. Trish Cronin, President, welcomed the group to the Museum.



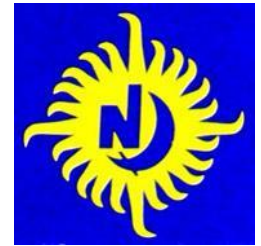
HERITAGE DAY—20 MAY AT WEST END PARK

Heritage Day at West End Park was a very successful day with thousands of families coming to the park to participate in the focus on Heritage for the day.

Arthur Rains, a very long standing member of our Museum, set up a display on cameras, both movie and still cameras, which proved to be a drawcard for many people. He was engaged in conversation for much of the day and by day's end, had earned a well-deserved rest. Thanks Arthur!

Museum Manager, Gary Mann and Jan Mann helped to set up and dismantle the display which runs from 10am to 2pm on the Sunday. Thank you Gary and Jan for your commitment to this Museum.

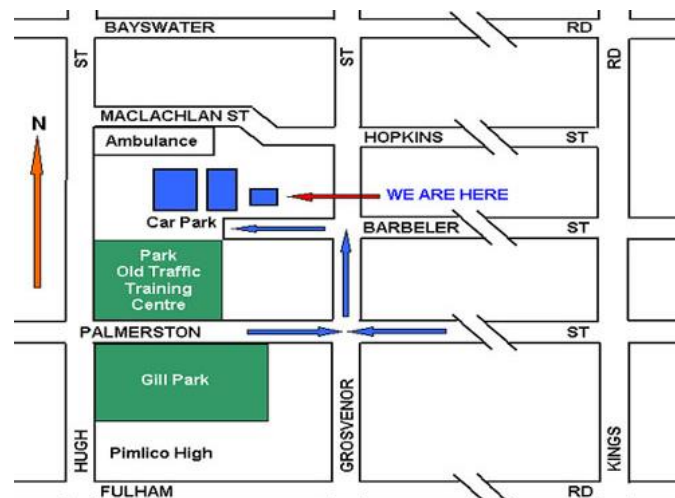




Townsville Museum
 &
 Historical Society Inc.
 PO BOX 785
 HYDE PARK QLD 4812
 Phone: 07 4775 7838

Email: admin@townsvillemuseum.com.au

Website: <http://www.townsvillemuseum.com.au>



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OUR SUPPORTERS



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