THE HERBERT RIVER STORY

Bianka Vidonja Balanzategui
DEDICATION

"He was an intrinsic part of the district he loved – a veritable walking history of this community and his death leaves a gap that no one will entirely fill".1

This story is dedicated to Robert “Bob” Shepherd with gratitude.

Image 1 Robert ‘Bob’ Shepherd, local historian and Editor of The Herbert River Express.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Finally, I would like to thank my family: husband Mark, children Javier, Keziah, Viktoria, Petra and Sabin, and mother Laurel, who always give me the emotional and physical space necessary to pursue my first love, the past and its stories.
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All images are taken from the Hinchinbrook Shire Library Local History Collection unless otherwise noted.

DEDICATION

Image 1 Robert ‘Bob’ Shepherd, local historian and Editor of The Herbert River Express.

PRELUDE

Image 2 Aerial view Lower Herbert River. (Copyright Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2011)
Image 3 Lower Herbert River.
Image 4 Hinchinbrook Island, view from Cardwell Range.

ORIGINAL INHABITANTS

Image 5 Australian Aboriginal group at the base of the Seaview Range.
Image 6 Australian Aboriginal men, Ingham district. One is weaving a basket.

EUROPEAN ARRIVAL AND COLONIZATION

Image 7 George Augustus Frederick Elphinstone Dalrymple, Chief Commissioner for Crown Lands to oversee the opening up of the Kennedy District to leasing for grazing purposes. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 14465)
Image 8 Sir Robert George Wyndham Herbert, Queensland’s first Premier and after whom the Herbert River was named. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 15693)
Image 9 Early Cardwell, a new port to access the hinterland behind Seaview Range.
Image 11 Valley of Lagoons Homestead. Ludwig Leichhardt named Valley of Lagoons because of its impressive chain of waterholes.
Image 12 Vale of Herbert Station. The proprietors of the Valley of Lagoons appointed Henry Stone as manager of the Vale of Herbert waystation, half way property, between Cardwell and the Valley of Lagoons.
Image 13 Stone Hut circa 1875. In1869 Henry Stone took up permanent residence in the Herbert River Valley at Stone Hut located on Trebonne Creek.
Image 14 Henry Stone. As the waystation, the Vale of Herbert Station, was located on the first land selection claimed in the Herbert River Valley, Stone is considered to be the first European to settle in the Herbert River Valley.

Image 15 House with thatched roof: To Kalon, Trebonne Creek, Lower Herbert with Messrs R.S. Alston, E.J. Kerly, Mrs. Alston, Mrs. Kerly and Ned Hill.

Image 16 James Cassady, owner of Mungalla, was known for his cordial relationship with the Aboriginal people. (Atkinson, R.L. *Northern pioneers*, p.136)

Image 17 Mungalla, like most of the large properties of the time, featured a tennis court and a carefully sculptured garden. (Reproduced by kind permission of Richard Wallace and the Mungalla Aboriginal Business Corporation)

Image 18 Gowrie Creek. Messers Scott, Clark and Stone and Aboriginal people and dwelling. The Vale of Herbert waystation encompassed land from the junction of the Stone and Herbert Rivers through to the present Abergowrie area.

Image 19 Wallaman Falls. On Arthur Scott’s first trip to the Valley of Lagoons he and Dalrymple caught sight of a deep gorge and broad valley and could hear waterfalls in the distance. Henry Stone is credited with being the first European to see the Falls.

Image 20 Mt. Fox, extinct volcano.

AND THEN THERE WAS SUGAR

Image 21 Gairloch Sugar Mill, the first mill on the Lower Herbert, opened by Lord Normandy. The mill first crushed in 1872.

Image 22 Charles Léon Burguez on horseback, Gairloch Plantation, Lower Herbert, 1880. Burguez installed himself as manager of Gairloch. He was a colourful character who pursued the grand plantation lifestyle despite living well beyond his means.

Image 23 Kanakas chipping cane at Mona vale, Halifax, 1899. One vital aspect of the plantation system was that the labour force was usually servile and indentured.

Image 24 Macknade House and Mill. Brothers Arthur and Frank Neame were amongst the first to take a gamble on the future potential of the Valley. The Neames named their property Macknade.

Image 25 Arthur Neame. Arthur recorded in his diary that had not his brother Frank died, he would have stayed on in the district and had hoped that his own children would have taken over the Macknade plantation in time. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 195780)

Image 26 Halifax Landing with Paddle Steamer Kent. Land with a Halifax River frontage, purchased by C.S.R. from August Anderssen, enabled the company to build a wharf.

Image 27 Waterview Station, Police Camp, 1872. The detachment was first stationed at Waterview, a selection taken up by John Allingham on Waterview Creek which was also the site of the Telegraph Repeating Station.
Image 28 Sir Alfred S. Cowley on horse in front of Manager’s House, Hamleigh Sugar Plantation. The Hamleigh Mill enterprise was started by the Hamleigh Sugar Company and first crushed in 1883.


A TALE OF TWO TOWNS

Image 30 William Bairstow Ingham after whom the town of Ingham was named. (Souter, G. New Guinea: “The Last Unknown”)

Image 31 W.B. Ingham in stern of larger boat, Herbert River opposite Cordelia, 1874.

Image 32 Mesopotamia. Native Mounted Police Barracks, Lower Herbert, 1874. Waterview was too isolated from the main settlement so the detachment was relocated to Stone and Scott’s Mesopotamia block which became known as the Police Paddock.

Image 33 Group of Aboriginal people, Macknade. As the Aboriginal people were ‘let-in’ they assumed European clothing.

Image 34 Planters Retreat Hotel, Gairloch Road, 1876. In 1875 George and Isabella Wickham opened up a hotel, The Planters’ Retreat, halfway between Ingham and Gairloch.

Image 35 Original Hinchinbrook Divisional Board Hall. In 1879 the Hinchinbrook Divisional Board was created and a Divisional Board Hall was constructed adjacent to Palm Creek in the new town area in 1883.

Image 36 The first Post Office in Ingham, 1880 with John F. Roach and family. A telegraph and Post Office was erected when a telegraph line link was established from Waterview to the Office on the Camping Reserve.

Image 37 Telegraph Hotel, the first hotel in Ingham. The Telegraph Hotel began trading in 1875 on the Camping Reserve.

Image 38 The first Queensland National Bank in Ingham. W. Stevenson (Manager), 1881, the year that it opened for business.

Image 39 The first store in Ingham, Kenion & Co. established in 1882.

Image 40 Roscommon, East Ingham. William Hawkins’ Roscommon Estate was on the opposite side of the creek to the Camping Reserve.

Image 41 Lannercost Street, Ingham, 1906. Lannercost comes from the name of an ecclesiastical district in Cumberland, England.

Image 42 Halifax Hotel, H.F.A. Robinson. The hotel was first opened by William Copnell in 1881 on a portion of August Anderssen’s land.

Image 43 Macrossan Street, Halifax, 1897. The town of Halifax came about after a Government land auction in 1886.

Image 44 Dungeness at the southern outlet of the Herbert River. A wharf and store were built there by the Neame brothers with Haig and Miles.

Image 45 Point Lucinda, port to the Herbert River. Lucinda became the shipping port when the foreshore at Dungeness succumbed to sea encroachment.
FROM “RUM SWIZZLES” TO HARD YAKKA

Image 46 Samuel Griffith (seated far right) campaigning to be Premier of Queensland visited the Herbert River district in 1883. He is pictured here with a group of local landholders and businessmen. James Cassady is believed to be the 6th from the left of the seated men.

Image 47 This group is believed to be the first of the European cane cutters and pictured at Gentle Annie near Halifax in 1904. The employment of European cane cutters was possible after the Sugar Works Guarantee Acts of 1893 resulted in the conduct of the sugar industry by small farmers.

Image 48 Felix Regazzoli ploughing with horse drawn plough. (The Herbert River Express, Reflections of Our Century 1901-2001, p.15)

Image 49 Loaded cane trucks being pulled out of the paddock by horses.

Image 50 Loaded cane trucks being hauled across bridge over Palm Creek, 1908. At first the bridges were primitive, constructed from timber felled on the properties.

A LIFE TO BE ENDURED

Image 51 Ingham printing press in aftermath of cyclone, 1890.

Image 52 Feared reptiles: snakes and small crocodile on display behind Dolan’s Hotel, Halifax, 1912.

Image 53 Dr. W.C.Macdonald with Ingham Hospital Board Members and 2nd Nursing Staff, 1909. The first building of the Ingham Hospital was erected in 1883.

Image 54 Ingham Hospital. It would be several decades before improvements to the primitive hospital facilities would be achieved.

CHILDREN “RUNNING WILD” – THE ADVENT OF SCHOOLS, SHOWS AND CHURCHES

Image 55 Ingham State School with first Principal Othman Blakey, 1886. The school opened in 1885, its site being the present day Botanical Gardens.

Image 56 Halifax Provisional School. The original school was constructed in 1883. (Halifax S.S. Centenary 1883-1983, p.48)

Image 57 The first Church of England, Ingham. The first was built in 1886, largely as the result of funds raised in a huge grand bazaar organized by Reverend F.B. Clive. It was rebuilt in 1891 after the cyclone of 1890 destroyed the original one.

Image 58 Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church, Ingham, built 1893 at the instigation of Father James Cassar who was tired of saying Mass in the Divisional Board Hall, the same hall that was used for public entertainment.

Image 59 Our Saviour’s Church, Halifax, Easter Sunday, 1902. This church was described by Bob Shepherd as “probably the first purely community effort venture, as well as the first essay in purely tropical architecture.”
Image 60  Afternoon tea at Gairloch House. These were more leisurely times when every plantation manager’s house had a tennis court and tennis, croquet and afternoon tea parties were enjoyed.
Image 61  Alston family and friends at the base of Wallaman Falls, 1912.  
(Reproduced by kind permission of Charlie Cunningham)
Image 62  Wallaby shoot at Blackrock, involving adults and children on horseback, 1911. Hunting excursions were popular.
Image 63  Halifax fancy dress party. Fancy dress parties were popular for young and old and were held to raise much needed funds to build schools and churches.
Image 64  Sports meeting at Roscommon.
Image 65  The Herbert River Pastoral and Agricultural Association Committee and judges, 1908. The first Herbert River Pastoral and Agricultural Show was held in 1883.
Image 66  Ingham Race Course. The first annual horse race was held on September 19 1879 after the Herbert River Jockey Club was formed.
Image 67  Ingham Jockey Club members and racehorse named Messenger, 1909.
Image 68  Macknade tennis match. Tennis parties continued to be popular, especially amongst the residents of the C.S.R. Mills, Macknade and Victoria.
Image 69  Parade with Municipal Band, Lannercost Street, in honour of death of King Edward, May 1910.

DRIVING HOME IN THE COOL OF THE EVENING BY MOONLIGHT

Image 70  Boat on the Herbert River, Vale of Herbert Station, 1865. Many of the first European residents had their own boats for crossing the river or making short journeys to visit friends or to access the various small communities along the river.
Image 71  Station bullock team, Elphinstone Creek, 1874. The first European built bridges and roads saw heavy dray traffic to and from the pastoral properties further up river.
Image 72  Macknade view of Herbert River with steamer. Steamers plied the Herbert River transporting goods and sugar cane between the mills and Dungeness and later Lucinda.
Image 73  Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Barnes and family of Ashgrove, 1900. Boat, foot, bicycle, horseback or buggy were the main means of getting from one place to another.
Image 74  Cane train hauling loaded cane trucks over bridge.
Image 75  Cane train with passenger carriages. Once C.S.R. came to the district a two foot gauge tramway was laid down which carried not only cane but passengers and goods both between Halifax and the Plantation and also between the Plantation and Ingham.
Image 76  Cane train with passenger carriages in Macrossan Street, Halifax.
Image 77  Verri family in car, Lannercost. By World War 1 cars began to appear on the bush roads of the Valley.
Image 78 Camp horse wagon in Lannercost Street. Lannercost Street was the original stock route after all! (The Herbert River Express, *Reflections of Our Century 1901-2001*, p.5.)

**MIGRATION AND THE HERBERT RIVER VALLEY**

Image 79 Kanaka (Melanesian) servants and child, Gairloch. The first female Kanakas arrived in the Valley in 1882 and they too were engaged in field work including cutting cane which skill they were describe as executing “very deftly”.

Image 80 The *Jumna*. The first large group of Italians arrived in North Queensland in the ship, the *Jumna* in 1891. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 69247)

Image 81 Regazzoli’s Commercial Hotel, Halifax. This building is said to be the first brick building in the Herbert River Valley. (Reproduced by kind permission of Kay Mark)

Image 82 Macknade farmer Sandy Walker with a group of Italian cane cutters, 1906. The employment of Italian cutters in the Herbert River Valley precipitated several arrangements with cane cutters that were to become standard practice in the Australian sugar industry. (The Herbert River Express, *The Canecutters. A Tribute to the Sugar Field Workers of Herbert Valley*, p.9)

Image 83 Chinese Joss House, Halifax. Halifax became a little ‘China town’ complete with Joss House. It was described as a beautiful little building painted peacock blue, gold and purple. The interior walls were painted with dragons, trees and birds with colourful plumage.

Image 84 Finnish pioneers of the Herbert River Valley. The first group of Finns to the Herbert River Valley came to clear land and plant cane for C.S.R.

Image 85 Spanish immigrants, the Miguel family, Hawkins Creek circa 1925. One of the earliest Spanish migrants to the Valley was Antonio Miguel who came in the late 1890s to cut cane.

**WORLD WAR 1**

Image 86 Herbert River Express and H.J. Hoffensetz, General Printer, Lannercost Street, 1904 run in partnership by brothers-in-law A.C.Cockrell and H.J. Hoffensetz.

Image 87 Frank Cassady, circa 1936. Frank was son of James Cassady of Mungalla. Frank was Shire Chairman from 1921 until his death in 1936.

Image 88 Light Horse Brigade, Ingham 1914. Australians who fought in the mounted units were held in great esteem by the British for their riding and shooting skills.

Image 89 Ingham Military Sports, Light Horse on Ingham Racecourse.

Image 90 A float in an Australia Day parade during World War 1. With the war clearly not going to end quickly and the casualties mounting horrifically it was
important to maintain public support for the war effort. ("The Images of Yesteryear", *The Herbert River Express*, January 27, 2000)

**THE "CRITICAL THRESHOLD"; MIGRATION IN THE INTER-WAR PERIOD**

**Image 91** Ingham Italian Club, 1930. In 1926 an Italo-Australian Club was opened in Ingham where Italians could safely congregate, and even consult local Italian doctor, Dr. Piscitelli.  
**Image 92** Frank Erba and family, Trebonne General Store, 1937.  
**Image 93** L’Ospedale Cardiarelli, circa 1936. Opened by Dr. Piscitelli to cater for the healthcare of monolingual Italians.  
**Image 94** Sacred Heart Memorial, 1927 flood. At Father Mambrini’s instigation a Catholic Committee was formed to erect a monument for a communal grave for those bodies recovered after the 1927 flood. The monument was dedicated to the Sacred Heart (of Jesus) and was blessed on November 26 1927.  
**Image 95** Inscription on the Sacred Heart Memorial, 1927 flood.  
**Image 96** Finn’s Hall, built with voluntary labour and donated materials circa 1935-1937. Church services were held in this building. (Reproduced by kind permission of Helka Karhu (nee Junnila), Naantali, Finland)  
**Image 97** Finnish immigrants at Finn’s Hall, Long Pocket, circa 1936.  
**Image 98** Leandro Illin with Teddy Kennedy, Parky Atkinson, Tommy Illin, Vera (Lullie) Illin, Dick Illin, Flora Illin and Harry Illin. (Reproduced by kind permission of Mr. Ernie Hoolihan)  
**Image 99** White Rose Café. Everywhere, there sprang up Busy Bee Cafés, and Blue Bird Cafés, and Paragon Cafés, and Majestic Cafés and Bellevue Cafés! And so in Ingham, true to the trend, Greek immigrants opened The White Rose and The Majestic Cafés.

**“HOT BOXES” – SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND CLUBS IN THE INTER-WAR PERIOD**

**Image 100** Methodist Church, Ingham. The Council and Chamber of Commerce both had aspirations for the town of Ingham. The brick Churches built by the Methodist, Catholic and Anglican Parishes were suitably impressive.  
**Image 101** All Soul’s Church, Victoria Estate. On October 29 1922, a little church, All Soul’s Church, was opened and blessed at Victoria Estate to commemorate the lives of those men from the Estate who had lost their lives in World War I. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 191691)
Long Pocket State School, 1925. As the sugar industry developed with the rise of the small grower, the Valley community expanded. The schools established to serve this sprawling community were numerous. Long Pocket State School opened in 1915.

Herbert River Representative Football Team 1924. One of the most fiercely contested sports today, Rugby League, had its origins in the district in 1920.

Boxing Day Picnic, Lucinda. Tug-of-War contest. (Shaw, H. Lucinda North Queensland Yesterday and Today, p.21)

Halifax Convent Boarding School for Boys. The school was officially opened in July 1927 and took boarders from five years of age.

Forrest Beach Surf Life Saving Club March Past Team, circa 1928. (Horsley, B. Sea, Sand and Swamp. A history of the township of Allingham and Forrest Beach, p.42)

Opening of St. Teresa’s College, Abergowrie, 1934. This school was the brain child of Bishop McGuire, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Townsville. His objectives were twofold: “to provide a rural education for the country boys of the diocese and...to explore and demonstrate the possibilities of land utilization in North Queensland.”

**PROGRESS AND ORDER - THE INTERWAR YEARS**

H. Lynch with mule team leaving Frank Fraser’s Store, East Ingham. In the 1930s a foot and traffic bridge was finally built over Palm Creek to link East and West Ingham and several large concrete commercial premises were erected. It was suggested that “East Ingham .. presents the natural direction in which future business must extend”.

Palm Creek and Palm Terrace with buildings including those of the Ingham Masonic Hall, and Queensland National Bank, 1920.

Ingham Shire Hall, Lannercost Street, circa 1922. A symbol of post war optimism was the building in 1919 of a new Shire Hall building. The main lessee of the Hall was the Ingham Picture Company. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 156014)

Ingham Brick and Pottery Works at the Ingham Show circa 1920-30s with Jens and Arthur Neilsen, and Thomas and Jack Cheshire. (The Herbert River Express, February 23 2008 p. 5)

Showgrounds Terminal, first train at Ingham, 1924. The North Coast Railway line was finally completed when on December 10 1924 three sections, Lilypond to Cardwell, Feluga to Cardwell, and Innisfail to Daradgee all opened.

The Farmers’ Building, Lannercost Street, circa 1937. As it was considered that The Queensland Cane Growers’ Association was of sufficient status and dignity to warrant having its own building the Executive purchased by public auction a block of land in Lannercost Street in 1934 and on September 29 of
the same year the Farmers’ Building was opened. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 91184)

**Image 114** Water Tower, Ingham. The construction of a 120 feet high concrete water tower in the centre of town altered the skyline and signified important benefits for the health of the town’s residents.

**Image 115** Opening of Lucinda Road, 1932. One of the most significant road works carried out by unemployed labour during the depression was the opening of the gazetted tourist road to Lucinda in 1932. (Copy of an image donated by Cheryl Gossner)

**Image 116** W.Yet Foy Bakery in Herbert Street, circa 1930. The Chinese presence was so obvious then that not only the main street of Halifax but East Ingham too, had something of the appearance of a China Town. (The Herbert River Express, *Reflections of Our Century 1901-2011*, p.16)

**Image 117** Ingham Aerodrome, opening, August 5 1939. In the early 1920s the few planes that landed in the Valley did so on the racecourse. In 1939 a licensed aerodrome came into use.

**Image 118** Ingham Post Office. Another more substantial structure to satisfy the aspirations of the Council and Chamber of Commerce.

**BUBONIC PLAGUE, HOOKWORM, DRUNKEN DEMONS AND OTHER PERILS OF VALLEY LIFE!**

**Image 119** Women’s ward of the Ingham Hospital, 1916. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland Image Number: 188283)

**Image 120** Ingham Hospital. In 1931 the Council was able to withdraw from the Townsville Hospital Board arrangement and set up its own Ingham Hospital Board and a new hospital was finally completed in 1938.

**Image 121** Ambulance building and vehicles, Ingham. A purpose built ambulance building was erected in 1927.

**Image 122** Ingham ambulance car and first superintendent, Mr. Edgar Von Alpen, 1925.

**Image 123** Ingham residents ferried on Herbert Street during the 1927 flood.

**Image 124** 1927 flood in the main street of Halifax. Walton’s Hotel in the background. (Photograph donated to Hinchinbrook Shire Library Local History collection by Don A. Simpson)

**Image 125** 1927 flood, Long Pocket. House torn from its stumps by the force of the flood waters. (Photograph donated by Mrs. Dorothy Jackson)

**Image 126** The *S.S. Rona* docked at Lucinda Wharf.

**Image 127** Ingham Hospital staff n.d. Dr Leckie (left) Dr Morrissey (right) Dr. Gordon Morrissey was a general practitioner and part-time superintendent of the Ingham District Hospital for many years. He is best known for making the first clinical diagnosis of Weil’s Disease. Dr. Leckie was a long serving doctor in the Valley.
WORLD WAR 2

Image 128 Day Dawn Hotel, Lannercost Street, Ingham. The setting of Dan Sheahan’s poem *A Pub With No Beer* was the Day Dawn Hotel.

Image 129 Dan Sheahan. Irish immigrant, farmer and poet whose poetry speaks in a lively and entertaining voice of the times he lived in. (Reproduced by kind permission of the Sheahan family)

Image 130 Herbert Street in the 1940 flood. In that year the Valley again witnessed the savage damage of which a cyclone is capable.

Image 131 Women cane cutters in 1942, Ingham district, when all men folk were interned. (Reproduced by kind permission of the Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria.)

Image 132 Dynzie Smallwood served as a gunner with the 1 AIF Artillery Battery against the Japanese in New Guinea. (*Herbert River Express*, July 8 2010, p.8)

Image 133 Ettore Giuseppe Cantamessa (standing on far right), Herbert River Pastoral and Agricultural Association, Committee members, 1925.

Image 134 Funeral cortege, Ettore Giuseppe Cantamessa. (Reproduced by kind permission of AVAR)

AFTER THE WAR

Image 135 Patane and Leotta Bus Service operating between Ingham, Halifax, Macknade and Bemerside.

Image 136 Trucks loaded with watermelons, outside Commercial Hotel, Halifax, 1946.

Image 137 Lithuanian displaced person cane cutting gang with female cook. (Vidonja Balanzategui, B. *Gentlemen of the Flashing Blade*, facing p.40)


Image 139 Gilroy Santa Maria College. A Christian Brothers’ Day College for both primary and secondary students was constructed on Roscommon Estate, opening in 1949.


Image 142 Junior Farmers’ Club. (Original photograph belonging to Merv Cockrell)

Image 143 Ingham Shire Chairman, James Lawrence Kelly, 1936-1943 and 1946 to his death in 1952.

Image 144 J.L. Kelly Memorial Public Library opened by Chairman E.L. Burke June 13, 1953.

Image 146 Young soldier settler cane farmers in the Abergowrie district. (The Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited, *South Pacific Enterprise*, unpaginated)

Image 147 Abergowrie State Primary School, Abergowrie, 1953.


Image 149 Keys Building, Palm Terrace, built in the year of the Melbourne Olympics, 1956.

Image 150 Ingham War Memorial opening, Lannercost Street April 25, 1959.

Image 151 The airport terminal Ingham, 1959. Ingham was served by both major domestic airlines, ANA and TAA with scheduled DC3 services. (Reproduced by kind permission of the Civil Aviation Historical Society Inc.)

Image 152 Ingham Hospital staff and board members and Dr. Morrissey. Further improvements to the hospital included the adding of a laboratory in 1948 and a nurses’ quarters in 1962.

Image 153 Ingham Municipal Band at opening of Ingham Swimming Pool 1962. (Donated to Hinchinbrook Shire Library Local History collection by Eric Lloyd, Roleystone, W.A.)

KOREA, VIETNAM AND BEYOND

Image 154 Warrant Officer Class 2 Keith Payne receiving his VC from the Queen aboard the Royal Yacht, *Britannia*, in Brisbane, 1969. (Reproduced by kind permission of the Kennedy Regiment Library, Ingham)

Image 155 Keith Payne VC Ingham Botanical Gardens.

MARCHING TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM

Image 156 Photograph taken from a video of the 1964 Maraka Procession. ((Posted on youtube.com by Johnny Zanetti 2009)

Image 157 Ingham State High School, circa 1965. The first Secondary Department was added onto the existing Ingham State Rural School and opened on February 1, 1949. In 1950 the foundation stone of the Ingham Intermediate and High School was laid and then in 1952 the building was opened.

Image 158 Joe Mizzi, Frank Grasso and David Brown with new cane harvester. At the forefront of the development of a viable mechanical harvester were brothers, Laurence and Joe Mizzi.

Image 159 Historic trees, Macrossan Street, Halifax. The trees that line Halifax’s Macrossan Street were planted as shade trees sometime around 1885.

Image 160 Evacuating houses on Townsville Road, flood 1967. Local flooding was the result of torrential rain over the Tableland’s catchment area. The levels reached by the floods of 1927 and 1967 were similar.
Image 161 Sam Vella in front of his flood damaged house, Ingham, 1967. As in floods before it, the destruction left in the wake of the 1967 flood was heartbreaking.

Image 162 Canossa Home for the Aged, 1973. The complex was opened on January 28 1966 and duplication of the hostel accommodation was achieved in 1973.

Image 163 Palm Creek along Eleanor Street to the Show Grounds during the flood of 1977. The Herbert River was again in flood, this time as a result of runoff from the Tablelands and local catchment rain after Cyclone Otto moved from the Gulf into the Coral Sea near Cape Tribulation and crossed the coast at Bowen.

Image 164 Homebush and carriages Maraka Festival n.d. The Homebush steam locomotive and Deauville carriage, the very same carriage that once conveyed local residents to town and on holiday outings, were restored and in 1978 C.S.R. offered them and a voluntary crew for free rides during the Maraka Festival. These rides continue to be popular today, amongst young and old, as for a short time the passenger is transported back to a past era.

Image 165 Lower Herbert Lions Retirement units were opened in 1980.

Image 166 Lucinda bulk sugar loading facility opened on July 2 1979 by Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

Image 167 The International Club opened in 1978. In the grounds of this Club a monument was erected and dedicated to the Alpini Corps in 1987.

Image 168 Canegrowers’ Building, Lannercost Street Ingham. Ingham’s first skyscraper, the Canegrowers’ Building, was an exciting addition to the skyline of the town, opening in 1970.

Image 169 Edward (Ted) C. Row, MLA. Edward lived at Evandale, an historical property on Stone River Road.

Image 170 Sir John Row opening the Halifax Bridge, 1 December 1978. Sir John’s political career was a distinguished one including not only his stint on the Legislative Assembly but a long period as Minister of Agriculture and Stock (later Primary Industries) and Deputy Premier in 1962.


Image 172 Vi Groundwater, Hinchinbrook Shire Councillor. The establishment of the Herbert River Museum Gallery and the Barrier Reef TAFE, Ingham Campus, came in good part from the efforts of Vi Groundwater (OAM).

Image 173 Barrier Reef TAFE Ingham Campus and Hinchinbrook Shire Library opened in 1999.


Image 177 People representing the Piemonte region of Italy in the Australian Italian Festival street parade, Ingham, 1995. (John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland)

Image 178 Fireworks light up the night sky over Ingham on New Year’s Eve as thousands of residents farewelled 1999 and welcomed in the new millennium at the 2000AD celebrations hosted by the Hinchinbrook Shire Council. (The Herbert River Express, Our Century 1900-2000. A Pictorial History of the Hinchinbrook Shire, p.43)

Image 179 The endangered Mahogany Glider. (Reproduced by kind permission of John Young of www.johnyoungwildlife.com)

THE HERBERT RIVER VALLEY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Image 180 21st Century Sugar Cane Harvesting. (Reproduced by kind permission of John Young of www.johnyoungwildlife.com)

Image 181 Noorla Heritage Resort. This hotel was built in 1928 as a boarding house. As a hotel it was a popular meeting place for Italians and hosted several visiting Italian dignitaries. A later addition to the hotel structure was a shop whose ornamental parapet used to display the merchant’s name can still be seen today.

Image 182 Hinchinbrook Central. In 2008 the Gusmeroli family invested in a large modern shopping centre, Hinchinbrook Central Shopping Centre.

Image 183 Tyto Information Centre. (Reproduced by kind permission of the Hinchinbrook Shire Council)

Image 184 Mafeking Tree and plaque. Stephen Simpson planted the Mafeking Tree, a blackbean tree, on Palm Terrace, to commemorate the military relief of Mafeking. His son John (Jack) was one of those troops besieged in the town of Mafeking for seven months from October 1899 to May 1900 and was wounded during the relief operations.

Image 185 Memorial to Joice NanKivell Loch in Memorial Gardens, 2002.

Image 186 The former Halifax Police Station. This 123 year old historic building went to auction in 2010. It is significant for its association with Prime Minister Arthur Fadden, whose father Richard John Fadden was Police Constable in Halifax in 1894 when his wife gave birth to their son Arthur.

Image 187 February 2009 flood. (Reproduced by kind permission of Mary Brown, NQ Aviation Services)


Image 189 Managed Investment Scheme (MIS) companies bought up former cane and cattle land for the planting of eucalypts trees.

Image 190 The Crushers: The year that all three senior grades of the Herbert River Crushers made the Grand Finals in the Townsville and District Ruby League. Pictured is the A Grade team. (The Herbert River Express, September 16, 2010, p. 17.)
Image 191 Anglican Debutante Ball 2010. The tradition continues (The Herbert River Express, May 27, 2010, p. 6.)
Image 192 Maraka Queen Entrants, 2010. Another tradition that continues into the 21st century. (The Herbert River Express, October 21, 2010, p.1)
Image 193 Brothers Phil and Tommy Emmanuel are always welcome visitors to Ingham. (The Herbert River Express, September 16, 2003, p.1)
Image 194 The Tyto Complex – aerial view. (Hinchinbrook Shire Council)
Image 195 NAIDOC Week celebrations (The Herbert River Express, July 17, 2007, p. 1)
Image 196 Shire Hall, 21st century.
Image 197 The last of the small schools to open (August 2 1980) and still going strong in the 21st century: Forrest Beach State School.
Image 198 Victoria Mill today (Reproduced by kind permission of John Young of www.johnyoungwildlife.com)
Image 199 New 32 bed hospital. Completed at a cost of $41.4 million it was opened for patients on May 26 2009.
Image 200 New Police Station. The old Police Station building was pulled down and a state of the art police station built in its place in 2005. This building, together with the new Halifax Police Station, was not officially opened until 2007
Image 201 New Ingham cemetery features Italian style mausoleums. Visitors to the Valley find these structures fascinating. (Reproduced by kind permission of John Young of www.johnyoungwildlife.com)