

From Swords to Ploughshares

Townsville men and women who served their community in war and peace



1922 Anzac Day procession, Flinders Street, Townsville. The standard bearer is Sergeant H. Thorley
Image courtesy of CityLibraries Townsville Local History Collection, BRN 321835

11 November 2018 was the centenary of Armistice and the end of World War I. This exhibition commemorates the contributions of Townsville's returned service men and women to the creation of peace and a flourishing community after the war. It explores the stories of those who volunteered to serve during the war as they resumed their civilian lives, and it recognises the roles they played in developing their town, region, and country.

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Trish Cronin has spoken of her father's resilience. William Dwyer served in the Navy during two World Wars, and he also served during peacetime:

Well Dad never really talked about his navy life.... Dad was always busy, he was always working, he was always heavily involved in doing things. He never ever showed any anger towards the War. I know he lost quite a few mates in the War.

From an interview with Trish Cronin about her father William Bede Dwyer. Collected by Townsville City Council in the series Memories for a New Generation: Townsville Remembers WWI. Available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyKPRWUeI2Y>

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