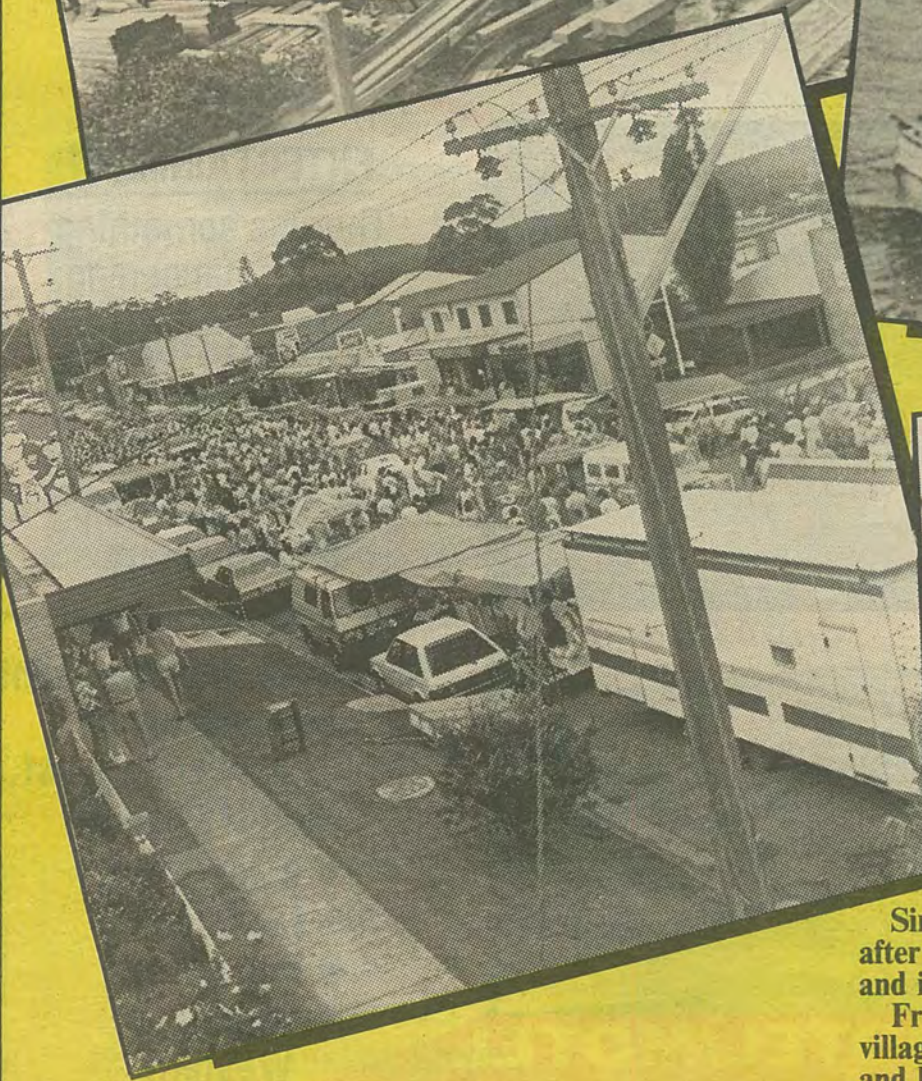
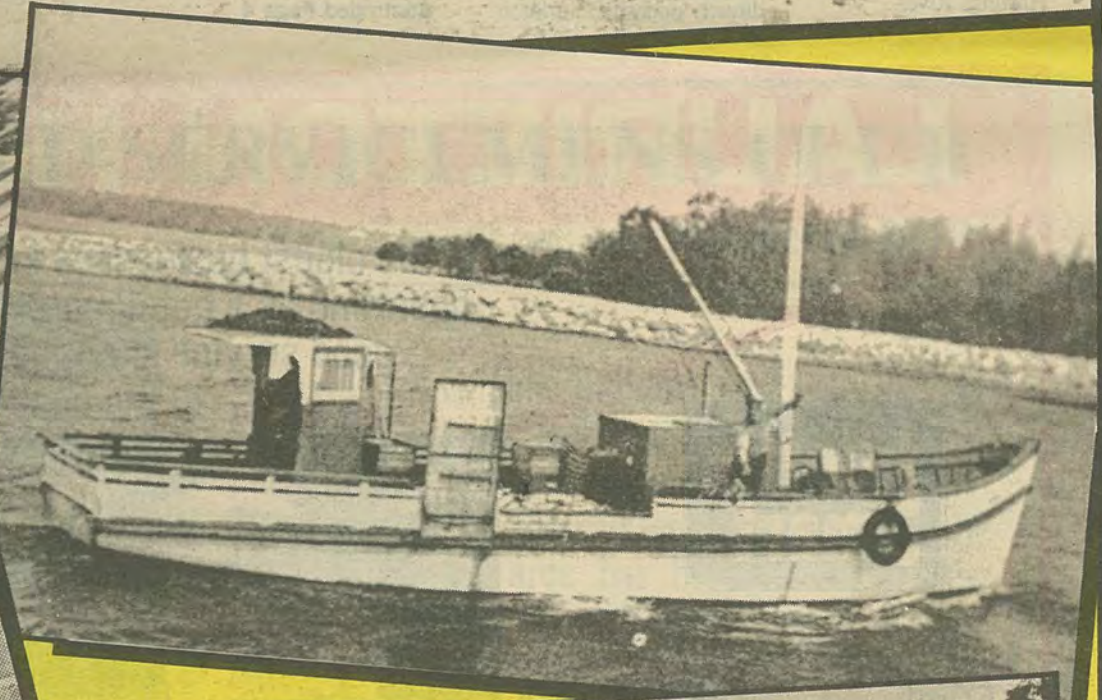
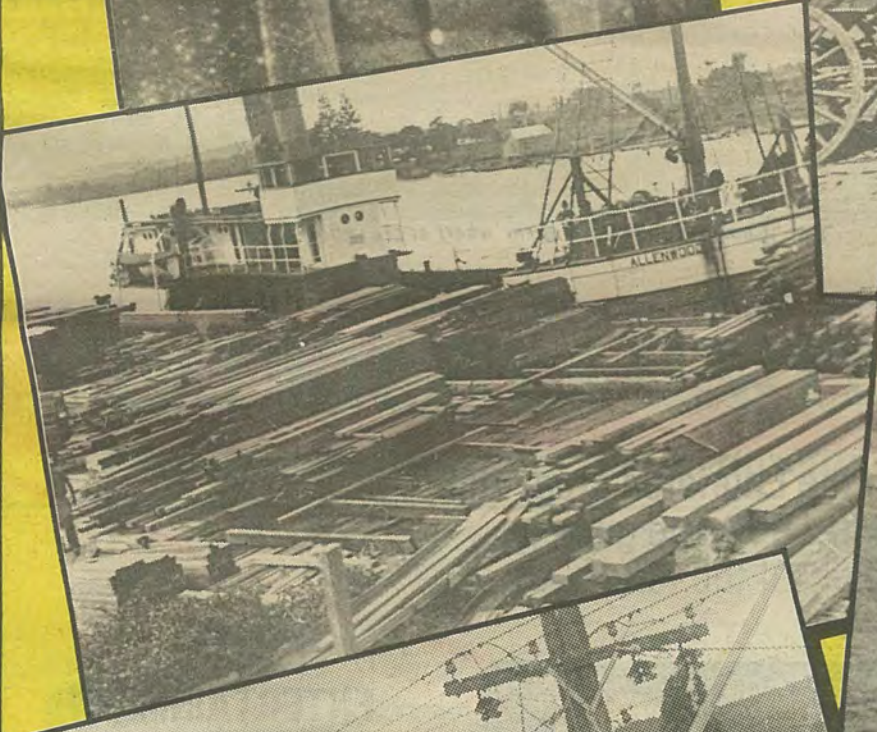


"YOUR LOCAL PAPER"

The Camden Haven Courier

This feature could not have been compiled without the help and support of our business community and older residents who have readily contributed a host of interesting stories and photographs. We have tried to contact as many people as possible in our very limited research time and hope your contributions have all been included.



Since the day explorer John Oxley discovered and named the Camden Haven after Lord Camden on the 15th October 1818, the colourful history of the area and its people has delighted historians of many ages.

From its timber industry beginnings to the tourist orientated towns and rural villages of today, the area has quietly progressed through the ingenuity, enterprise and hard work of its people.

This feature is not an attempt at an historical recording of the Camden Haven's past. Instead it is a salute and reminder to our readers of the many individuals and businesses who have contributed in some way to our magnificent district: Local achievers, we hope you enjoy it as much as we did compiling it.

An introduction

To compile a feature with as broad a title as **Local Achievers** is an awesome task in itself. To compile it chronologically is a near impossibility.

The response from commercial and retail establishments, both old and new to be included in this Courier feature has been phenomenal. They have entrusted us with

precious old photographs and literature which we have attempted to reproduce in an entertaining and informative fashion.

We have tried to contact as many businesses and individuals as possible in the short time available to us to ensure this feature appears on Australia Day 1989, the official end of Australia's bi-centennial

year celebrations.

A major source of our reference has been the magnificent filing system now in place at the Laurieton library. Editions of the Camden Haven Courier dating back to 1954 have been indexed and bound, providing an easy method of pinpointing relevant information. Librarians Wendy Hagney and Brenda Bates have also been extremely helpful.

Hotel history goes back to 1911

Tracing back the history of the Laurieton Hotel was not one of the easiest tasks, but thanks to Mr George Bonzer of Laurieton we were able to make a start — by the way, Mr Bonzer turns 99 years of age in March.

We went back to 1911 when the publican was Mr Watson and the Laurieton Hotel was a single storey building made out of timber. It consisted of a bar, dining room and accommodation for eight people.

The rooms were basic

with mosquito netting around the beds for added comfort. The guests mainly consisted of travellers to the area, one being the Tooths traveller who would bring his horses and sulky to the hotel with the liquor supplies, which were brought up from Sydney on either the "Jap" or the "Comboyne".

One of the highlights of the trading at the hotel was the Diamond Head races, when riders from around the area would join in the festivities.

The staff of girls consisting of Laurie and Albury Buckman and Liz-

zie Porter would provide a luncheon from the kitchen of the hotel and we are told that Laurie Buckman at that time made the best scones in the Camden Haven area.

Through the years the hotel has had many changes. After the first that completely destroyed it the present hotel was built out of brick. With further extension it has become in 1989 one of the venues of the Laurieton area with live entertainment weekly and drive-through bottle sales. The accommodation has also been upgraded with com-

fortable rooms to many more guests.

The hotel families now restaurant, bar and snack bar. Top class entertainment for the young (at heart) appears at the hotel, and continues to be a meeting point in the area. It has been known for years.

Laurieton H has entertained thousands of people the years and continues to achieve its high hospitality.

Early timber pioneers

Much has been documented recently regarding the contribution of Joseph Laurie to the establishment of Laurieton after he arrived in the area in 1872.

He built the first sawmill, the first store and had two sailing ships or ketches built at Laurieton to transport sawn timber to Sydney.

The following extract from the Daily Mail of June 1903 entitled "Laurieton and its flourishing timber industry — a thriving part of the North Coast" follows the establishment of further timber mills around the same era:

Two years after the arrival of Joseph Laurie, Mr John Hibbard built a mill at "Camden Haven Heads", but owing to the trouble experienced in getting teams to draw logs removed his plant to the Hastings River.

Mr John Rodger was the next to try his fortune by building at Laurieton, the Newholm mill, which was destroyed by fire about 1897, however it was rebuilt soon after. Later on Messrs Shipman and Fitzmaurice erected a mill at Kendall which was sold to Mr E. B. Perrett and Messrs Dun and Bagan erected what became the Dunbagan mill on land selected on the opposite shore from Laurieton by Mr Robert Dun. This mill was later purchased by Mr George De Fraine.

About 1895 the Australian Timber company was formed and erected a large mill at Kew. This was later purchased from the official liquidator by Messrs Longworth and Co., and removed to Laurieton adjoining another smaller mill which that firm had erected a year or two previously. Those two mills were directly opposite Laurieton

on the other side of the river.

In 1897, Captain George De Fraine started to trade to Camden Haven with his small ketch the Ethel B.T. and carried the output of the Dunbagan mill. High charges for towing on the river induced him to purchase the steam tug Unique — action which caused the reduction of the charges from five pound to four pound per vessel.

This reduction speedily brought him the whole of the trade and in 1893, in addition to his proprietorship of the tug he entered with Mr John Rodger on his first experience as a sawmill. The partnership lasted for about three years when De Fraine purchased Joseph Laurie's half of the Laurieton mill and joined Messrs McKay and Bibby. Later De Fraine acquired the whole working of the mills in conjunction with the Dun-Bagan mill and

Continued Page 4



The "Comboyne" berthed at the wharf at the end of Laurie Street.

LAURIETON HOTEL/MOTEL

One of the oldest businesses in the Laurieton area, still operating as a hotel/motel in 1989 and giving good service like they did at the turn of the century.



100 Pipers Scotch Whiskey
750ml **\$14.99**

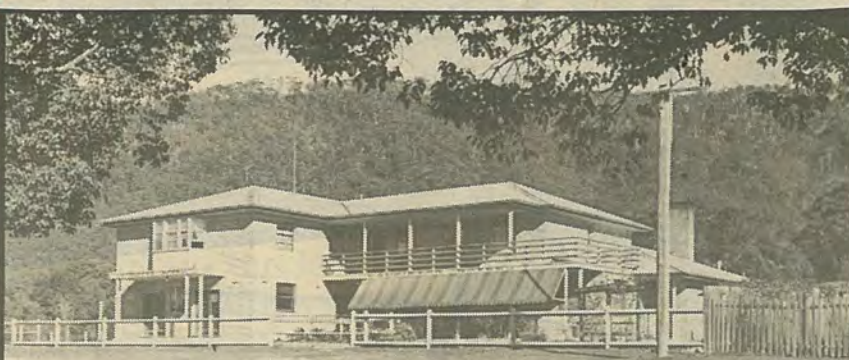
Carrington Champagne
750ml **\$3.99**

West Coast Cooler 6 Pack
250ml **\$6.99**

Chateau Tanunda Brandy
750ml **\$14.99**

Stanley Leasingham Wine
Casks 4 litres.... **\$6.99**

Free home delivery
within 5km
min. purchase \$20.



LAURIETON HOTEL/MOTEL
Bold Street, Laurieton Phone 59 9004

- DRIVE THROUGH BOTTLE SHOP
- ACCOMMODATION
- BISTRO AND RESTAURANT
- RELAXED ATMOSPHERE

LIVE

ENTERTAINMENT

There is something
always happening

28th January

OVERIDE

**\$4 cover charge.
8.30pm start.**

Check our entertainment
guide weekly for
bands appearing most
Saturday nights

- Rock 'n' roll
- Modern
- Pop
- Country & Western

Award winning club that gets better and better

The award-winning Laurieton United Servicemen's Club just seems to keep improving.

Named Most Improved Club in its category in the 1987 Daily Telegraph Club of the Year Awards, the club has continued to live up to this accolade in every way.

Renovations which started nearly two years ago have transformed the club interior and have resulted in a drastic increase in trading figures.

For the financial year to the end of May, the club announced a profit of \$243,000 after tax, an increase of 31 per cent on the previous year.

This result was achieved on top of a total renovations bill of \$1.6 million, which includes the cost of the most recently completed improvements to the downstairs Sports Room.

Opened earlier this year by snooker champion Eddie Charlton, the room has a new bar, new snooker table (bringing the total number to three) and 15 dart boards.

The management is not stopping there, with plans to extend the administration area, install a new computer system and enlarge the catering facilities which the club has outgrown in a short time.

The club has run its own

catering operation for the past 14 months, and according to the Acting Secretary Manager Graham Skillings they didn't realise how great the potential was.

In the first 10 months they lost \$7000. Graham Skillings said this loss was "minimal", as the Board's intention is to break even while providing "quality and service".

He said they could easily double the size of the dining room and bistro.

"At the moment we average about 270 meals a day which can double in the busy period. The way we're trading we can easily double that."

An indication of the strength of the club is that it only needed to borrow \$250,000 out of the initial \$1.03 million cost of renovations.

And whilst undergoing these major alterations, the club has still managed to maintain its profile as a community leader.

Donations to the community have increased from \$2900 in 1983 to \$19,100 in 1986, when the 'community chest' format was introduced. Last year, this figure rose 30 per cent to \$26,000 and this year the club is committed to donating a further \$29,500.

Last year the club also returned \$102,000 to members through discounts, entertainment sub-

sidies, and functions, compared with \$34,000 in 1983.

The driving force behind the club's dramatic improvement over the past four years has been the club's young Secretary Manager Mike Carney. In April last year, the entire club industry along with the local community was shocked to hear of his near-fatal accident at John's River, between Taree and Port Macquarie.

While he is still in a serious condition but slowly recovering in hospital, Graham Skillings is ably handling the top management role.

Laurieton United Servicemen's Club, located on the banks of the Camden Haven River, is the largest employer in the area, with 35 equivalent full time staff or 54 including casuals.

It has a membership of 3400 out of a population of 4000 in the town and 6000 in the district, and yet the membership is still increasing by an average of 50 per month.

Graham Skillings says the area has grown since the amalgamation of Camden Haven and Wauchope districts into the Hastings shire.

"Port Macquarie in encouraging high rise development and the less well-off residents get pushed into the surrounding areas such as Camden Haven (which includes North Haven, Laurieton

and Dunbogan) and Wauchope."

Licensed in 1955, the club's articles allow for an open board and do not specify any number of ex-servicemen. The club owns the building outright and sponsors the local RSL sub-branch.

Last year, the club played host to about two major functions a month, including five major bicentennial celebrations.

On Australia Day the club held a colonial dinner dance followed by a blessing of the fleet and all-day carnival the follow day; in April there was a junior and juvenile ballroom dancing exhibition, a mammoth tag fishing competition and all-day carnival; and in July there was a combined Rotary/LUSC international cabaret.

Also in July the club hosted a carnival on the riverbank on the occasion of the dedication of Camden Haven's own flag. And in October, the local theatrical company staged a live revue at the club.

In 1987, the club catered for about 500 delegates and wives and 120 children at the Apex Zone 10 Convention held over two days in October. Some 1420 chairs were required.

The club was able to cater for this large number of people most professionally (including feeding them four meals) while at the same time offering regular facilities for members and guests.



President of the LUSC, Mr Bob Hall and club director Fred Harper proudly display the magnificent brass plaque presented to the club early last year. At the time Mr Hall commented that the award was representative of the efforts of the staff and management working towards the same goal — that of total community involvement.

LAURIETON UNITED SERVICEMENS CLUB

Cnr. Lake and Seymour Sts., Laurieton

Phone: 59 9110



This was the original building which housed the Laurieton United Servicemens Club in 1952. During their 37 years of operation there has been many changes (as you can see). The growth in the Camden Haven area has brought many new members to the area and has therefore meant expansion to today's level. Laurieton United Servicemens Club continues to grow each year and as in 1955 it is still the "Friendly Club on the North Coast."

Laurieton United Servicemens Club as it is today, it has been voted by The Daily Telegraph as The Most Improved Club in "B" Section.

The club hosts a number of facilities for members and their guests, including:

- Dining Room • Bistro
- Poker Machines • Dance Floor
- Full Bar Facilities
- Child Minding Service
- Function Area
- Games Room
- Video Dance



Camden Haven love affair

Almost twenty years ago Ken and Enid Hall decided to quit Sydney's rat race and move to the mid north coast with their three small children to start life anew.

For the first four years Ken worked for Dulhunty's Real Estate in Port Macquarie but realised that there was as much pressure living and working in Port as there was in the city. After looking around Ken and Enid decided to buy Doug Holding Real Estate at 12 The Parade, North Haven, two sons beside him, Ken and they officially commenced trading from that office on Saturday, March 1, 1974.

At that time they were competing against Reid's Real Estate and Laurieton Real Estate at Laurieton, Frank Bannelle at Kew, Al Midson Real Estate at Lake Cathie and Col Gardiner (the only original remaining), who then operated from his shop at Bonny Hills.

It quickly became apparent that a fortune would not be made overnight, but it was the lifestyle that appealed, and so they decided to dig their heels in and make a go of it.

The Halls hired Pat Kerr (nee May), in February 1975, and this allowed Ken to get out and about for the agencies that he had taken on whilst Enid and Pat ran the office. Pat worked full time for the company for over ten years

until she married and retired whilst with the Halls, and is still employed on a casual basis.

To improve the family income the Halls took on the Douglas Homes franchise, Unibuilt Kitchens, Champion Pools and Commercial Union Insurance. K. B. Hall and Sons were now into land and house packaging and could insure the lot if required. Ken was awarded a builder's licence because of the work that was involved in constructing swimming pools. Out of the office, and working hard in the open with his two sons beside him, Ken looks back fondly to this time.

As the business began to grow it became quite obvious that they could not continue to work with four people in an office which measured only 12 x 18 foot, so it was decided to demolish their 'Ava-Rest' Units and build the office at 26 The Parade (or 526 Pacific Drive of late) as their headquarters and this was opened in mid 1980.

Since arriving in the area Ken joined and held almost every position in Rotary from president down, was secretary and president of the Camden Haven Promotion Association, secretary and treasurer of the Real Estate Institute of NSW (Mid North Coast) and president and secretary of the Mid North Coast Valuers Group (now called the Australian Institute of Valuers), of which Ken

was recently made a fellow.

Ken is first to shout the praises of his number one backstop, wife Enid, who studied and gained her own real estate licence in 1978. Ken has always found paperwork in front of him, and it was Enid who helped take the pressure off by being able to handle situations that might arise.

An increased work load was a major reason for opening the Bold Street Laurieton office on March 1, 1985, eleven years to the day that they opened their first office in North Haven. The 'Patience Place' Arcade was built in partnership with the accounting firm of Brian Potts and Associates.

K. B. Hall and Sons now employs 11 people, Pat Kerr, John Smith, Marcia Faddy, Kim Merryful, Joe Carroll, Monique Shaw, Del Dobson, Elaine Anderson, Ken and Enid Hall and son Bruce who joined the company 18 months ago and is presently studying for his licence.

The Halls are just as fond of the area as they were when they first moved here, and still think it is the prettiest spot on the coast. They are another example of people who arrived in the Camden Haven with humble beginnings, but through hard work and full community involvement are as much a part of the community as people who have lived here all of their lives.



The original Ken Hall Real Estate office at North Haven.

Continued From P2

Timber industry

became the largest producer of the district carrying the whole of the timber in his own vessels.

In 1903 the following mills were in full working order on the Camden Haven River. Mr De

Fraine's Laurieton and Newholm, 36,000 feet; E. Dun-Bagan mills with an B. Perrett, Kendall, output of 100,000 super 30,000 feet — in all six feet, Longworth and Co's mills capable of placing New and Concord mills upon the market at a low estimate 240,000 super feet with an output of about 75,000 feet; J. S. Rodger of hardwood.



'Snigging' logs at Lorne in the early timber years.

Victoria Longworth remembers

"HOLIDAY HAVEN"

The Twomey family lived on a property fronting Watson Taylor Lake and it was called "Humbug".

There was a large family of boys and girls and all were educated at Laurieton.

Later the property was sold to a syndicate who wished to turn it into a holiday resort called "Holiday Haven". It had cabins

and recreation hall with launch. piano and billiard table. But the isolation proved too much and they eventually closed down.

Folk were met at Ross Glen or Laurieton by



FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE

LAKE CATHIE
\$395,000



An attractive Spanish type home with 2 flats downstairs. The property is situated in a unique beachfront situation having a reserve to the beach adjoining the rear boundary. Ensuite off main bedroom. Three (3) garages.

We publish our own "Real Estate News" of the Camden Haven each month. This can be sent out to any interested party. Just contact either office.

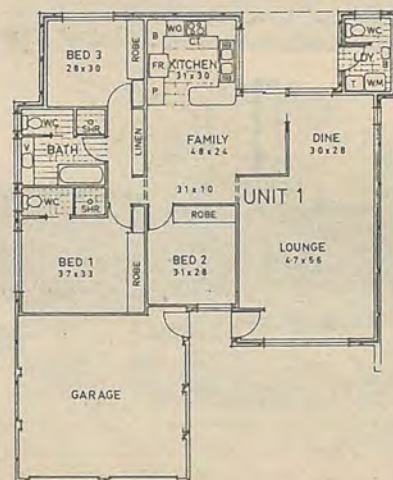
LAURIETON
\$165,000

PEACH GROVE

To be erected. This 3 bedroom single storey sandstock brick and tile building.

Choice of floor coverings and light fittings for early buyers.

All landscaping to be completed.



NORTH HAVEN
\$125,000

'RIVERVIEW COURT'



One of the nicest units in town. Opposite bowling club. Large balconies, excellent river views. Lock-up garage. 2 bedrooms, fully furnished.

OWN YOU OWN BOWLING OR FISHING LODGE

IS YOUR PROPERTY FOR SALE?

We urgently require all types of listings!

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We have available residential lots in all the new subdivisions from \$30,000 per lot.

ACRES FOR SALE

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|-------------|-----------|
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| LAKE CATHIE | \$65,000 |
| WEST HAVEN | \$43,000 |
| KENDALL | \$36,000 |
| DUNBOGAN | \$42,000 |
| OLD BAR | \$125,000 |

(22 ha (55 acres, 2 km. from beach)

BUSINESSES

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| PIZZA SHOP | \$11,000 + S.A.V. |
| CAFE TAKEAWAY | \$20,500 + S.A.V. |
| HAIRDRESSER | \$30,250 |
| SPORTS AND TOY SHOP | \$36,500 + S.A.V. |

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K. B. HALL & SONS Real Estate

26 THE PARADE, NORTH HAVEN, N.S.W. 2443. PHONE: (065) 599 400. A.H.: 598 359
SHOP 1-73 BOLD STREET, LAURIETON, N.S.W. 2443. PHONE: (065) 598 024. A.H.: 598 017

Local support recipe for success at Retravisation

Over 20 years ago Ralph Gill and Mary Watts were the local staff of what then was a branch store of St Clairs and Knight, the now defunct Port Macquarie based electrical retailing firm.

They took the gamble by taking over the business as a partnership—one which has endured over the years despite the usual early 'knockers' and a series of misfortunes which would have ended most fledgling firms.

"In our first year we

were robbed of \$6000. We weren't insured and our total assets amounted to another \$3000," recalls Ralph. "Later in the year I was involved in a road accident and spent two months on crutches whilst at another early stage Mary and I didn't collect wages for six months."

According to Ralph joining the Retravisation group was the best move the business could have made. "If not for Retravisation we wouldn't be here," commented Ralph. "We'd never have been able to

compete with the major electrical dealers—now I smile when I see our opposition catalogues.

Another important decision five years ago resulted in a move for the business from three small adjacent shops where John O'Rafferty real estate and Seashelles Boutique are now situated to the roomy current premises on the corner of Seymour and Bold Streets Laurieton. Airy, well-lit with plenty of window space and ample parking the new premises represented a 33 percent increase in

floor space, resulting in an expanded range of stock, comprehensive video viewing area and room to hold Ralph's now 'famous' microwave demonstrations.

Long serving staff Ian Slater and Lex Pensini have become a vital part of Ralph Gill Retravisation at Laurieton through sales, service and friendly advice. However, both Mary and Ralph realise the success of their business is directly attributed to continued custom from the local people of the Camden Haven.



Styles may change but good old fashioned service is still our game!



Joanne's Boutique

If we don't have what you're looking for, we'll order it.

CENTREPOINT LAURIETON

PHONE 59 9875

Victoria Longworth remembers . . .

In 1977, Laurieton Public School celebrated its centenary and the "Valley Advertiser" took the opportunity to run a series of brief notes by Miss Victoria Longworth on the early days of Laurieton and district. We're sure you'll find they make interesting reading:

MOTOR CARS

The first motor car brought to Laurieton was owned by Sir Allen Taylor. It was a large "Minerva" and it caused great excitement. Horses took off and ran ahead of it as far as Kew, turned north and went to Herons Creek. The car went on to Sydney. This car was later purchas-

ed by Robert Longworth.

Among early car owners: Tommy Dodd, Jim Gill, Arthur Gibson, George Bonser (taxi), George Webber (taxi), R. Sonter (taxi), C. Leverton (taxi), S. Thomas (taxi).

LAURIETON PUBLIC SCHOOL (1877)

The first school was only a small one and later extended.

The residence was much the same design as the first Post Office.

The present house was built in front of the old one, part of which was left for a kitchen. Built by John Longworth and H. Rose, it

was later altered to make it on one level.

The old house was taken by bullock team up to the site in Lord Street.

Headmasters — John Thomas Collie, 1877; John Still Robinson; G. B. Morris, 1883; Edmund Debenham, 1897; Robert Argue (R); G. W. Hammond (R); Norman Long (R); Mr Short (R); Mr Kable (R); Mr R. Jory (R); Mr Carter (R); John Hanley, 1921; W. Hatcher, 1930; James Staines, 1933; Mr Carter, Mr Murphy; Lewis C. Rodd, 1941; Edward English (R), 1947; John Britt (R), 1947; George Dickson, 1953; Ernest Waters (R), 1958;

Ian Miller, 1958; V. Fifield, 1978; Vince Martin, 1981; Terry Miles, 1987. (R — Relieving).

Assistant Teachers — Miss A. Tetsell, Miss J. Moudt, Ella Debenham, Miss Deane, Miss C. Leslie, Miss I. Fryer, Miss I. Riddle, Miss Suters, Miss J. Hinde, Miss Crimmings, Miss Ward, Miss Connors.

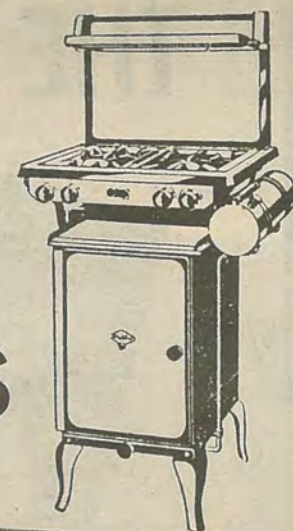
KYLIE TENNANT (Authoress)

While living in Laurieton, where her husband Mr L. C. Rodd, was headmaster at the Public School, she wrote the book "Lost Heaven" and one

Continued P7

Past, Present & Future

NEC RELIABLE HI TECH CONSUMER PRODUCTS



NEC
66 CM.
STEREO
COLOUR
TV

\$1995
COMPLETE WITH
STAND AND
SPEAKERS



NEC MICROWAVE

Model 501 • Mechanical Control
• Compact 17 L (0.6 cubic ft. cavity)
• Stirrer Fan
• Full size cavity glass tray
• Defrost and cook

SERVING YOU WITH THE LATEST IN ELECTRICAL KNOW HOW

Ralph Gill & Co.

RETRAVISION

CNR. BOLD AND SEYMOUR STS. LAURIETON—PHONE: 59 9229

Finance arranged down to nil deposit to approved customers

A good product, good staff, and a lot of hard work

In 1946 Laurie Bucton bought the butcher's shop opposite the Plaza Theatre in Laurieton (where the recently built pale coloured brick units stand), from one Clarry Ford, and so began the 'Wiggly Tale' success story.

Rodney Bucton represents the fourth generation of butchers in the Camden Haven, his great grandfather having owned and operated a shop at Kendall, so the family have the strongest possible credentials in the meat industry locally.

Part of Laurie Bucton's purchase was a slaughter

yard which ran back to where BMG Concrete now is situated, and an area that will soon be taken up by a very modern light industrial site. Like his father before him Laurieon slaughtered meat to supply the local market, but decided to grow pigs using the very latest methods at that time.

Through hard work and Laurie's entrepreneurial talent he was soon producing and selling ten pigs a week — unheard of before in this area.

With wife Ruby at his side Laurie continued to work and progress, eventually opening a shop in North Haven where the

present newsagency stands, and another on the Parade opposite Ocean Street which not only retailed but was the smallgoods factory.

Some twenty-five years ago it was decided to move from the first Laurieton site to the present location in Bold Street, which of course looked nothing like it does today. In fact, there have been five extensions and alterations to the premises since the Bucton family bought the property.

In 1963 the piggery simply outgrew its Laurieton location, and 'Piggery Hill', between North Haven and Bonny

Hills was purchased for the ongoing pig breeding program. The purchase of the new property gave Bucton's the ideal opportunity to start from scratch and design an ultra modern piggery to their own specifications.

Selecting their initial breeding stock was done with the utmost care. They decided then on hygiene standards that would not chance the introduction of 'foreign' stock and the bacterial problems that they might bring with them.

Today the piggery has a reputation second to none in cleanliness and the standard of pig produced. This did not happen by accident, but rather by a lot of thought and planning, and old fashioned hard work.

Artificial insemination has been introduced and this eliminates the possibility of disease whilst introducing new genes into the stock.

From those far off days when the Buctons were growing and selling ten pigs per week, and rightfully feeling very proud about same, the piggery now has an output of 70/75 pigs per week, all of which are retailed through the Laurieton shop.

This may not sound impressive to some outside of the meat industry, but when one considers that some metropolitan outlets are lucky to sell two to five pigs in a week the size of the local operation can be more fairly judged.

The present size of the Bold Street shop would be

far bigger than most on the coast and the larger city centres. The driving force of present day Buctons is Mr Bob Bucton who has introduced many new ideas over the past years as his father, Laurie, at long last, slows his own pace a little.

At its height the Laurieton Wiggly Tail shop retails one thousand Wiggly Tail T-shirts, hundreds of aprons, and innumerable colouring-in books, tea towels and tea spoons. Another mini industry that has grown within an industry.

Since the introduction of these novelties around 1977, the 'Wiggly Tail' name has been carried all over the country and even overseas. Bob, always quick off the mark when it comes to retailing, realised that the very unlikely event of a butcher's shop becoming a tourist attraction could actually happen and set about to make sure that it did. Today, bus loads of tourists can be seen coming into town from Wingham, Kempsey, Forster and surrounds, especially to buy mouth watering pork and hams from Buctons.

Bob is quick to point out that whilst they are here they're exploring the rest of the town, so more than Buctons are benefitting.

People often break their journeys up and down the coast to call on the 'Wiggly Tail' shop, and stay overnight before completing their trip.

With the piggery now producing four tonnes of

pork per week, Buctons decided to breed their own beef in 1987. The pastures, which have to be seen to be believed, are the greenest of green, thanks once again to careful thinking and planning. The lush paddocks get that way by an irrigation system that feeds the grasses with pig effluent, and to quote the song, "and the cattle are standing like statues".

Buctons handle their own meat from conception to 'market', using their own transport to ensure that the animals arrive at the Wingham abattoir in tip top condition.

Bob, like Laurie, is quick to point out that these things don't happen on their own, and without good staff they couldn't possibly succeed. Buctons, as well as being the oldest retailer in the area also employ a large number of people and these include Tony Buttsworth, Robin Clenton, Helen Buttsworth, Jenny Kesby and Tony Bignell in the retail

section. Graham Yager, Jason Bignell, Troy Mephan and Margaret Bird in the smallgoods and preparation sections, June Relf, office, and at the piggery Mike and Helen Drewitt managing, assisted by Peter Osborne, with Eric Unicombe in charge of the cattle and the farm.

Add to these people the efforts of Bob himself, wife Jenny who has helped in the office, and is most responsible for any new designs which appear from time to time, their children Rodney and Sheree who can be seen working in the shop on weekends and at school holiday times, and of course Mrs Ruby Bucton and her contribution of hard work over the years. And the man who started it all — Laurie 'LA' Bucton, who though supposedly slowly lowering his work load still puts in a hard day's work.

The secret to Bucton's success over the years? A good product, good staff, and a lot of hard work.



CAMDEN HAVEN TOURS

CARING FOR THE CAMDEN HAVEN

THURS., 26th, AUSTRALIA DAY TOUR:

(A real Fair Dinkum day out). Tour departs 7.30 and starts with breakfast on top of North Brother Mountain.

SAT., 28th, LANSLOWNE VALLEY:

See Volcanic plugs, Visit Mt Cockcombe Pottery. Lunch at Billind Eve Nursery. Return via Rossglen Pottery.

MON., 30th, TRIAL BAY GAOL:

Travel the rich Macleay Valley to South West Rocks stopping off at Gladstone (for pottery and antiques), visit Trial Bay Gaol. Return via Smoky Cape Lighthouse.

Free pick up from motels and caravan parks by arrangement.

All tours: Fares Adults \$17, Pensioners \$15, Child \$7.

Will pick up at Lake Cathie, Bonny Hills, North Haven, Laurieton, Kew and Kendall.

Bookings ring: Wayne Twomey 59 9503, Camden Haven Travel 59 9048. 73 Bold Street, Laurieton.



Mr Bob Bucton

THE WIGGLY TAIL STORY SINCE 1946!

THE PIGS:

Only the finest standards of quality are used in the breeding.



THE SHOP:

One of the early photos before large extensions.



THE FOUNDER:
Laurie Bucton

THE FACTORY:

"Piggery Hill" between North Haven and Bonny Hills



BUCTION'S BUTCHERY

Bold Street, Laurieton

Phone: 59 9057

Victoria Longworth remembers...

Continued From P5

person who read the book asked — "Weren't there any decent folk living in Laurieton?"

Naturally it did not get much appreciation here as it was mostly about the sordid stuff you can find in any community.

MURDER?

There was great excitement one morning when "Ss Allenwood" left the Government wharf to go to the mill and the propellers brought to the surface the body of a man just above the punt surface.

The body was bound and heavily weighted.

It was seen by Rob Longworth who was rowing a boat behind the "Allenwood" and gave the alarm.

It proved to be the body of a Mr Parcell, a fisherman who lived in the old bake house.

TELEPHONE WIRES

A telephone was connected to the Pilot Station and the wires were carried on very high posts across the river above de Fraines' mill, but the sailing vessels had to pass underneath to reach the mill.

One vessel had a mast too high, so a sailor was sent up to lift the wire over it. It went on and left him hanging there until the vessel could be brought back.

The posts from Laurieton across Diamond Head plains to Moorland were put in by John Longworth and so connected with Cooperbrook.

FIRST POLICE STATION AT LAURIETON

This was built at the entrance of Laurieton (corner of Bold and Tunis streets) next to the Catholic Hall.

Constable Cape was in charge, then Constable Kent, next Constable Jacob.

Kew became the main station and the Laurieton dwelling sold and moved to a farm property at Moorland where it still stands.

While stationed at Laurieton Const Kent's small daughter and Alan Bell, who lived opposite, became victims of the dreaded polio.

These were the first cases in Laurieton.

There were no doctors nearer than Port Macquarie and Taree, so midwives did a wonderful service.

Mrs Metcalf, Mrs Smith (1895), followed by Granny Bell. Granny Buckton did a great service to

the Kendall district (she was one of the original family of Smiths).

THE GERMAN MINE

A mine was washed up on south Beach and found by Harry Seaman and Albert Eggers.

They secured it and advised Capt Holdridge (Pilot Station). Various folk came from Sydney and dismantled it and later a fire was lit in it — the different acids made wonderful illuminations while it was burning.

Later it was brought to Laurieton and put on the street corner near the School Arts and strung up by a chain in the hall. The weight made it too dangerous and it was eventually placed in the garden at Robert Longworth's.

It was offered to RSL or US Club but was not accepted.

It is now in the War Museum at Garden island and is the only German mine found on our coast.

The "SS Wollonbar" laden with butter, was lost off the coast above Port Macquarie (torpedoed). Boxes of butter came ashore and was in good condition and much appreciated by those that found them.

"SS Nimbin" (Capt Bysantson) struck a mine during the Second World War. Sole survivor was Wattie Nicholson. He lived at Laurieton for a number of years.

DOCTORS

The first resident doctor

Continued P13



Mine from German raider "Wolf" washed ashore 200 yards south of Point Perpendicular 1920. Left to right: Captain Holdridge, Harry Seaman, Mr Wilson.

Latest concept in retirement living

Just two minutes from beautiful Laurieton, lies the very latest concept in retirement living, Shalimar Country Club.

Set in superb grounds, directly on the majestic Queens Lake, views abound.

Shalimar is a lifestyle for the 55s, offering discreet quality in design, workmanship and setting.

This unique village gives people a chance to retire to a place of elegance and comfort not often seen in retirement communities.

Selfcare villas have all the quality and style you would expect in your own home.

All the modern comforts are available.

There is no 'second best' at Shalimar; the villas are completely built to the highest standard.

You have the choice of one, two or three bedroom villas at Shalimar.

All are spaciouly designed, some with cathedral ceilings, walk-in robes and two bathrooms.

Guests are welcome at Shalimar Country Club and there is plenty of space for them, too. Use your den when the grandchildren stay.

Managers live on the site. The village office is open every day from 10 to 4 and the gardens are managed by the groundsman.

Your weekly outgoings range from \$30 a week depending on the size of your villa. This includes rates and taxes.

Your costs would be for your private telephone, electricity and internal insurance.

Shalimar's lifestyle is designed for those on a fixed income.

Your villa is yours to sell whenever you wish and it will be refurbished by the management before resale. This preserves the standard of the village.

Villas come complete with carpet, double curtain tracks and sheer curtains, all pelmeted. There are selected light fittings, exhaust fans, dryers and kit-

chen blinds. Flyscreens and security doors are included. All you need to bring are internal drapes and furnishings.

Life at Shalimar Country Club has so much to offer.

The lifestyle at Shalimar for the 55s and over offers an opportunity to relax and enjoy all nature's bounty.

Certainly this magnificent peninsular jutting into Queens Lake must be one of the most spectacular settings for a Retirement Village.

Not only is the land elevated, but it's also flat.

Residents have 30 acres surrounded by the lake on which to stroll, picnic with guests, or just sit and enjoy the scenery in the place they call "home".

Shalimar is one of the 'new style' resident-funded Retirement Villages bringing to the Hastings area a quality, comfortable and secure lifestyle for the mature aged.

One of the most important aspects of Shalimar's lifestyle is the freedom it allows residents.

Freedom from the everyday mundane responsibility of household maintenance, freedom from the worries of paying water and council rates and freedom to spend time enjoying their retirement, especially if you're on a fixed income.

This is retirement at its best. Your own self-care villa, built with privacy in mind enables you to live with all the home comforts but without all the upkeep responsibilities. Someone is in charge of those responsibilities 24 hours a day, and there's always the emergency call system should ever help be needed.

The caring, capable staff at Shalimar are there to ensure smooth running of the village, maintain the property and organise entertainment.

They are qualified to assist in emergencies. The atmosphere at Shalimar is one of a happy, relaxed family.

"Life Begins in Retirement"



Enjoying the grounds of the Shalimar Estate right on the lake foreshores.



Friendships and Shalimar go together.



Luxury and comfort, an integral part of the interior design.



Your dream home come true at Shalimar.



Time to relax in your retirement at Shalimar.

- Resident Managers
- Village Bus
- 24 Hour Emergency Call
- Village Boat
- Fabulous Views
- Lake Frontage

FOR YOUR SLICE OF HEAVEN — MAKE ENQUIRIES NOW!

"The lifestyle is yours — the responsibility ours"



Shalimar

Country Living for the over 55's

349 - 361 OCEAN DRIVE, LAURIETON
Inspections 10 - 4pm daily — Enquiries (065) 59 8688

New plaza historic building

NEW PLAZA HISTORIC BUILDING

History is in the making with the opening of Laurieton's new Plaza De Luxe picture theatre! Laurieton, like many of her neighbouring towns and indeed like most country towns in Australia, developed an appetite for mass entertainment which could never be fully whetted until the great era of moving pictures.

Dance halls, concerts, the old hotel that succumbed to fire some years ago, and private parties filled the evening entertainment "curriculum" of the busy timber and fishing village that grew up nearly a century later to be Laurieton.

A few pianos, a number of button accordions, and the ever popular mouth organ and the concertina, ranked with the violin to bring gay music into the lives of hard working, hard living populace during her struggling youth... but Laurieton was growing up, and came to demand the benefits of modern living with the introduction of wireless, moving pictures and, of course, the motor car which facilitated transportation and extended the field of mass entertainment to neighbouring Port Macquarie and Taree where these new fangled "talkie" pictures were taking their place.

Prior to the last World War, movie pictures were shown in the Laurieton School of Arts, and later

this was taken over by two enterprising theatre proprietors who owned units at Taree and Port Macquarie... the brothers Hatsatouris, George and Peter.

They immediately set themselves the task of improving the service with wider programmes, new equipment, better seating, etc.

Two years ago they installed the CinemaScope screen at the School of Arts and have constantly improved the machinery to bring up-to-date service.

However, their efforts were limited by the inadequacy of the old building.

Last year the manager at Laurieton, Mr Bruce Longworth, announced plans for the new theatre. Immediately the district was buzzing with speculation. How would it fare with the coming television?

Mr Peter Hatsatouris answered this.

"When I had the old hall at Port Macquarie," he said, "and radio was arriving, the skeptics said the age of movies was finished! But people are human, and humans are social creatures, and consequently they like to congregate and enjoy the unmatched pleasure of a 'night out' together. So, after the initial thrill of radio subsidised, moving pictures

came right back into their own again!"

MET THE CHALLENGE

Mr Hatsatouris said that the motion picture industry met the challenge of radio with much better films, better equipment and generally better entertainment.

Even today they are meeting the challenge of TV, and the equipment going into the Plaza De Luxe bore witness to that, he said.

"There is no substitute for motion pictures," declared Mr Hatsatouris, "and the public are proving that in Sydney right now, where the swing is back to the movies!"

"TV cannot give you what the modern picture theatre can!"

Laurieton now has the most modern theatre on the coast... and again a page of history has been turned.

LOCAL MEN BUILT IT

Built in almost record time, considering the difficult weather that plagued the project almost from the start, the Plaza De Luxe was built by a team of eight local builders, headed by North Haven building contractor, Mr Leon Ostler. Six plasterers, two

electricians, one bricklayer and assistant, and one painter completed the "gang".

Local firms from Laurieton, Taree, Ross Glen and Kendall supplied everything that could be got locally, whilst the well-known sound production engineers, Westrex Ltd, had a big hand in the technical equipment.

Local signwriter and painting contractor, Mr Colin Jamieson, was responsible for the painting, etc., and Oxley County Council wired the building.

Mr Norm Semple was the expert plasterer whose artistry is apparent in the foyer especially, and the well-known "Gibson" cranes (operated by Mr Rufus McCarthy) placed those colossal steel frames in position for the body of the building.

A Sydney architect drew the plan.

Local bricklayer, Mr Harry Adcock, laid 50,000 bricks that went into the Plaza De Luxe, and the story is told among the workmen that he kept the cement mixer running hot!

The bricks came from Wingham clay, and the Camden Haven grew the timber.

The Plaza De Luxe is truly a "local" theatre!

The Plaza—then and now

The then tiny fishing village of Laurieton was buzzing with excitement on the evening of Wednesday, February 25, 1959 in anticipation of the official opening of the new Plaza De Luxe Theatre.

In honour of the occasion, the Camden Haven Courier was published two days earlier and carried a special four page supplement. Hastings Shire President Cr H. S. Bransdon travelled from Wauchope to officiate at the opening ceremony.

Laurieton, that fishing and timber village nestled against the North Brother Mountain, with her face toward the Camden Haven inlet and her heart set on progress, was just emerging from isolation to tourists when the once a month travelling picture show was replaced by a twice weekly movie program on June 6, 1947.

Movies were shown in the School of Arts and on that night "The Corsican Brothers" headed the billboards,

starring Douglas Fairbanks Jr.

Following satisfactory patronage, the management carried out various improvements to the projection and sound equipment including the installation of Cinemascope in 1957.

The inadequacies of the School of Arts building became obvious and in 1958, local manager Bruce Longworth announced plans to construct a new picture theatre on the corner of Bold and Laurie Streets.

Building work commenced in August, 1958, culminating in the official opening on February 25, 1959. Opening program was "Peyton Place" starring Lana Turner, Hope Lang and Lee Phillips.

Other major attractions seen during the early months at the Plaza included Never Say Goodbye with Rock Hudson, Oklahoma starring Gordon Macrae and Jerry Lewis in The Sad Sack.

The theatre flourished under the manager and later ownership of Bruce Longworth. Following his sudden death in 1972, a series of management

changes saw the theatre decline in appearance, comfort and community esteem. It seemed for a while that, as with many other country theatres, the Plaza would succumb to the demolisher's hammer.

Since 1986, under the management of Denise and Russell Dodds, and with the generous assistance of Mrs Sylvia Kerslake, the Plaza has been reborn.

Major improvements including new seating, carpeting and air-conditioning combined with considerable upgrading of projection and sound equipment have combined to give local residents and visitors a moviegoing experience unsurpassed in many country and city centres.

In a very highly competitive market place, the Plaza has been fortunate to secure early release dates on all recent major films, often 4-6 weeks ahead of neighbouring centres.

The management of the Plaza Theatre is determined to meet competition head on and provide an ever improving service to the people of the Camden Haven.

You heard it on the

...the... leave... our Camden Haven flag fluttering proudly in the breeze.

In the well done category, take a bow Plaza Theatre Laurieton, after some checking with other movie programs up and down the coast, your selection is second to none. If there was a 'Jaffa' Award for such efforts it surely would be yours.

As we all know the Camden Haven Lion's

Today we take... to say well... Capably led... fearless leader, p... Gerry Gardiner... Lions were at it a... Saturday at... Centenary bash w... special mention r... made of the Os... ning efforts... "Tatey" Tate... gather as ma... possible in... charity, i...



★ PLAZA THEATRE ★

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- IMMUNISATION
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

LAURIETON — Laurie St. _____ 59 9003
WAUCHOPE — High St. _____ 85 1133
PORT MACQUARIE — Morton St. _____ 83 9944

A functional caring community facility

The opening of the Camden Haven Community Health Centre by the Federal Minister for Health, Dr Everingham on October 4th 1975 represented a major achievement for Camden Haven residents.

The centre was built as a real community effort with \$22,500 of the \$115,000 required to build the facility being contributed by the community.

The remainder of the cost was met by the Commonwealth and NSW State Governments under the community health program.

It was felt at the time that with such outstanding community involvement in the establishment of the centre, its success was assured, and so it has proved.

The centre is fulfilling a need for the community. It is cared for by an advisory management board under the

umbrella of the Hastings Hospital Community Health Board. Members are appointed by the Minister for Health.

The ladies auxiliary work extremely hard to raise funds to make the centre a comfortable, functional and useful facility.

Services from the Camden Haven Community Health Centre now include day care, parent child program, baby health clinic, physiotherapy, com-

munity nursing sister, social workers, dietitian, speech therapist, occupational therapist, drug and alcohol counsellors, clinical psychologist, psychiatric counselling, immunisation clinic, school screening, weight control workshop, community craft, meals-on-wheels, natural family planning, ante-natal classes.

Co-ordinator at the centre is Mrs Rosemary Thrush who is available five days a week on 59 9003.

JAPANA HOLIDAY UNITS

For the holidaymaker who wants a touch of luxury.



- Ultra modern units — fully serviced.
- Next to the bowling club.
- Walking distance to the beach.
- Luxury fittings. • Centrally located.

Cnr. Ocean Drive and Alma Street, North Haven.

PHONE 59 9140.

From Gloucester to North Haven

The name Hardy has been linked with North Haven permanently since 1959 when Mr and Mrs Jack Hardy Senior purchased the small North Haven Post Office Store from Mrs Eveline Long and her daughter Joan.

Originally from Gloucester, where Jack had managed Northern Motors, the Hardys came to North Haven expecting hard work, and they weren't disappointed!

The team of Hardy's senior and Hardy's junior, (John and Judith), kept the doors open seven days per week, even on Christmas Day, offering unbeatable service to the residents and visitors of North Haven.

In 1965 Jack and Molly Hardy retired to Port Macquarie and John and Judith took over the business. The first change came quickly and the shop was re-modelled into a self-service, the stock lines were increased, but the seven day service remained the same.

Hardys custom grew as North Haven gained more permanent residents and Bonny Hills started to develop and they soon



The Hardy's Post Office Food Store prior to major renovations and extensions in 1978.

gained the reputation of never letting a customer down . . . if they didn't have it on the shelf, (which was most unlikely), they would get it in quick smart.

After some time the decision to expand was made, and local builder Max Thompson, John and son Alan started the renovations/extensions at the end of July 1978 and finished in time for Christmas trading that year.

John played football for Laurieton in 1960, and both he and Judith were supporters of the Surf Life Saving Club and the original Sea Rescue who used the Hardys' boat. John was also a founding

member of the Laurieton Fire Brigade, having been attached to the brigade in Gloucester.

Judith has always been keenly interested in local community matters, and like John, keen to lend a helping hand. She supported John when he was president of the Camden Haven Golf Club, a position he held for some time.

After twenty eight years of 'open all hours', John and Judith decided to sell in 1987. Their sons Phillip and Allan had chosen plumbing and carpentry for their livelihoods and as it was most unlikely that they would ever be running the store, it was time to move on.

The Hardy family, then

proceeded to have the Japana holiday units built on the corner of Alma Street and Ocean Drive, and opened for business in 1987. The word Japana is derived from the initials of the family's christian names and this venture now occupies John and Judith full time.

Hardys' Post Office Store in North Haven became folk lore to thousands of visitors and locals who used it, and will no doubt remain that way in those peoples' memories for years to come.

Over the years the Hardy family have contributed much to the development of the North Haven business community.

BOATING SPECIALS

ECHO SOUNDERS • ECHO SOUNDERS

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Rec. Retail \$689.00

NOW ONLY \$449.00



ONLY A FEW LEFT AT THIS PRICE, SO BE QUICK

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- ★ Plastic Rod Holders Side Mount \$ 3.90
Thru Deck \$ 4.90
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10mm x 40m \$28.90
- ★ 5 gall. Steel Fuel Tanks \$59.60
- ★ 5 gall. Plastic Fuel Tanks, incl. connector \$79.80
- ★ Yazaki Boat Speedo Kit \$76.40
- ★ Yazaki Outboard Tachometer \$76.40
- ★ Supa Sponge \$ 1.90
- ★ 4 litre Johnson Outboard Oil \$14.90
- ★ Plastic Battery Box \$19.80

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR ONE-STOP BOATING SHOP

SONTERS MARINE

60 BOLD STREET, LAURIETON . . . 59 9665

North Haven garage success

The brothers Porter, Dick and Bruce, arrived in North Haven as keen young mechanics in November, 1956, and built the single bowser garage on the Parade.

The Porters hailed from Wauchope where Bruce had completed his mechanic's apprenticeship with Bowden's garage. The new business consisted of a very small shop which housed spares etc, a small workshop next door, and a wooden ramp up which

vehicles were driven (and not always successfully), for underneath repairs. No such thing as hydraulic ramps in those days in the Camden Haven!

In 1961 Bruce married his sweetheart, Miss Janette Hanslow, who up until that time had been working for the Bucton family. Dick had sold his share to Bruce twelve months before as his wife suffered with asthma and they had decided to move to the drier climate of Moree.

In 1962 Jan presented

Bruce with a bouncing baby girl, Tracey, their only child. In 1962 Bruce presented North Haven with four new petrol bowsters, and in 1962 the floods came and submerged the garage!

Over the years there have been four extensions to the garage. The first two widened the spares shop and what is now the bike shop, the third created their first modern lubrication bay, and the fourth provided a panel beating and spray painting shop at

the rear.

The garage now has up to date equipment for mechanical repairs, spray painting and panel beating, plus you can almost guarantee you will find the spare part you're looking for as Porters have built up a comprehensive supply of parts over the years.

Jan and Bruce both worked long hours in establishing their business and then continued to work hard to assure its success. When they were not at the garage the Porters would be involved in some community project. When Bruce first came to town he played first grade football for the Camden Haven and was a foundation member of the Camden Haven Apex Club, as well as assisting with the local Scout movement.

He continued his involvement in community affairs throughout his life in the Camden Haven, and



Porters Service Station before extensions and the new lubrication bay.

Continued P15



For over 9 years, Peg has been offering good old fashioned service in her craft and haberdashery business. Peg's Place is always well stocked.

FOR THE LARGEST RANGE

- Long Stitch Kits
- Cotton
- Wool
- Applique Motifs
- Ribbons
- Lace
- Jewellery
- Accessories

Peg's Place

Bold Street, Laurieton

Phone 59 9413

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BUT ALWAYS!**

That is the motto for

SHOEYS LAURIETON

YOUR PLACE FOR SAVINGS ON ALL GROCERY,
FRUIT, MEAT, SMALLGOODS AND GIFT LINES.



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Humble beginnings from Kendall club



Like so many country clubs, the Kendall Services and Citizens Club can trace its origins to humble beginnings. A group of six ex-diggers formed the Kendall RSL Sub-branch in the local barber shop and billiard room in 1951.

By 1954 the sub-branch had sufficient

funds to open the first RSL club premises at the present address, Graham Street, Kendall.

This first building was a modest affair consisting of a two-room fibro construction some 50 x 20 feet. Modest yes, but it was the first club building in the Camden Haven district.

The passing years saw many additions to

the club building. However a period of economic downturn in the 1970s saw the club change in June 1981 from an RSL Club to the Services and Citizens Club.

This change of management put new life into the organisation and a new growth period was experienced.

Renovations and additions were carried out

with the aim of providing the community with a well-presented modern entertainment facility.

Club members proud of their picturesque riverside location at the club's easy, relaxed friendly atmosphere.

Adequate testimony to the club's popularity is a membership of in a township of 80

MAJOR SUPPLIER FOR SAWMILL INDUSTRY

A fifth generation company specialising in automated and semi-automated sawmilling equipment to suit both the hardwood and softwood timber industry is A. E. Gibson and Sons Pty Limited.

In recent years the company has been actively involved in broadening its base into the general engineering field and currently this occupies about 30 per cent of the firm's capacity.

The company has a history of over 100 years in the sawmilling and

engineering industry and with its modern approach has been instrumental in assisting the sawmilling industry with up to date sawmilling machinery innovations.

Gibson's after sales servicing throughout the many years within the industry, together with its reputation, has seen the company maintain its position as a major supplier to the sawmilling industry with an increasing share of the market.

The company boasts an active management team controlling sales, production and product

design departments. The staff level averages 35 but depending on workload can be as high as 55 personnel.

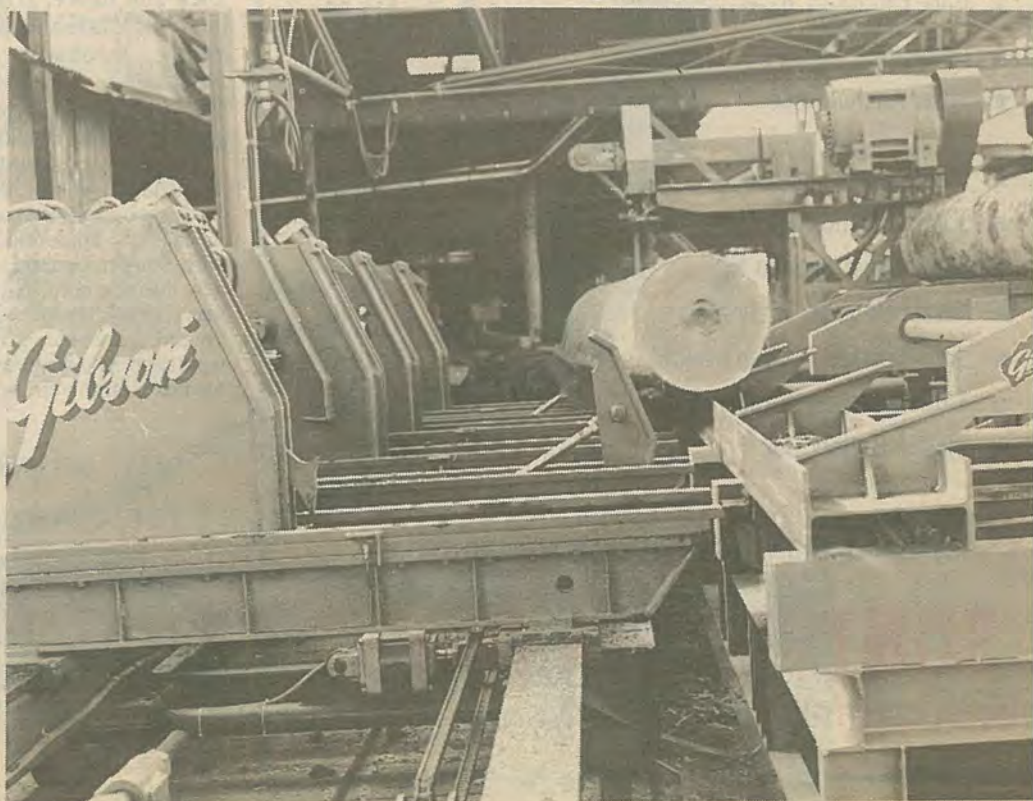
Quite a deal of effort is spent in the area of research and development and to date A. E. Gibson and Sons have been responsible for the building of two experimental sawmills.

The company is owned and managed by Mr John Gibson, son of the founder, and a great grandson of the original Gibson who first commenced sawmilling and engineering activities in

the Kendall district. Personnel are employed locally and the company enjoys a harmonious industrial relationship with its employees.

During the year son's have built clientele throughout Australia timber industry and have exported equipment to USA, Fiji, Papua Guinea, New Zealand, Burma, India, Solomon Islands and Norway.

In recent years sons have developed local market of sales, manufacture and testing hydraulic equipment.



Arcade and hairdressing - hand in hand

Hair dressing has played an important role in the history of the Jeanaree Arcade situated in Bold Street, Laurieton.

Currently, 'A Head of Style' managed by Esmaree Bignell is operating from the premises which were built by her parents around 20 years ago.

The first hairdresser to start up when the arcade first opened was Roma Moss, who named the salon "Arkoola". Since then there have been a few owners of "Arkoola" which is now situated across the road.

Esmaree's mother, Jeanette Hurd bought the Top Knot salon in Arnott Street, Laurieton, nearly three years ago and several months later opened up "A Head of Style" in the Arcade — there has been a hairdresser located in the Arcade continually since it first opened.

Esmaree and Jeanette are involved in the two businesses — a family affair, with the Arcade in the ownership of Jeanette's father, Les Stace.



Esmaree Bignell and mother Jeanette Hurd.

A love of travel

A love of travel and geography prompted Jenny Shapcott to involve herself in the travel industry in 1976 whilst living in Sydney, and the move up the coast to Dunbogan in 1981 further entrenches her in a business she still finds interesting and extremely satisfying.

Jenny and husband Ray moved to the Camden Haven in 1981 and bought the Dunbogan boatshed from Dawn and Bob Banks. With Ray managing the boatshed, Jenny secured a job with Oxley Airlines in Port Macquarie.

Meanwhile, Chris Hellowell from Port Macquarie Travel had opened a travel agency in 1979 known as Camden Haven Travel in the Jeanaree Arcade on a two day week basis. Jenny took over the management of the agency in January 1983 and expanded it to a full time business.

The following year the business moved to much larger premises next door to the fruit shop across the road in Bold Street.

Jenny employed local girl Lynne Woodger who has since left to further her travel career with Continental Airlines in Sydney.

The business moved again in June 1986 to more attractive and personalised premises in Patience Place Arcade opposite the Laurieton Hotel, and Jenny's father Ron Musgrave became involved in its operation.

In January 1988, Wendy Crozier joined the Camden Haven Travel team, and the modern premises, friendly and competent staff and comprehensive agency connections have ensured the success of this now fully established Laurieton business.

As with many local business people interviewed in this feature, the proprietors and quick to point out that any success is simply due to the support of local people to which Jenny is extremely grateful.

Further evidence of Jenny and Ron's commitment to the business occurred last year, when with retirement of Todd and Beryl Roods, they involved themselves financially in the operation of Port Macquarie Travel.



The Camden Haven Travel team, Jenny Shapcott, father Ron Musgrave and Wendy Crozier.

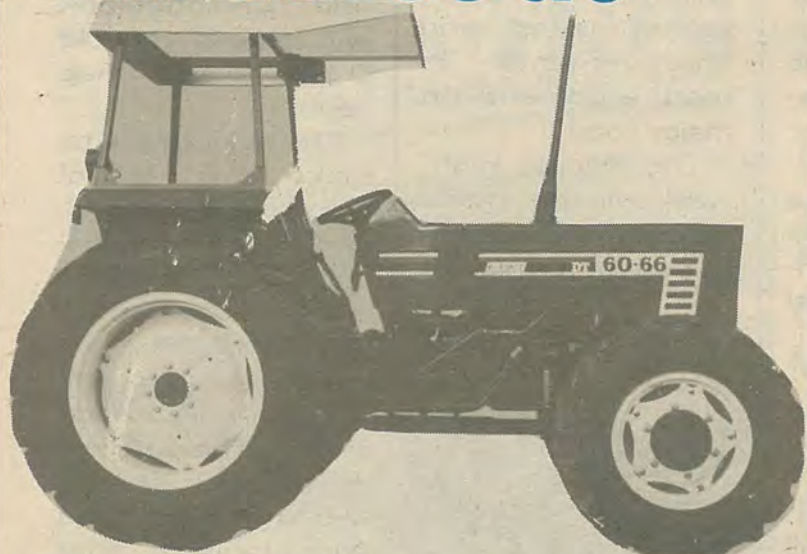


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BRAKES: Disc type, oil bath, mechanically operated.

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CLASSIC HAIR



Since the Roman days, hair has been a major part of fashion and now in the 1900's—

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and

TOP KNOT SALON

are leading the fashion conscious woman.

Both owned and operated by a mother and daughter team, they have made their mark in the community over the past few years of trading.

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A HEAD OF STYLE

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Phone 59 8644

JANETTE at

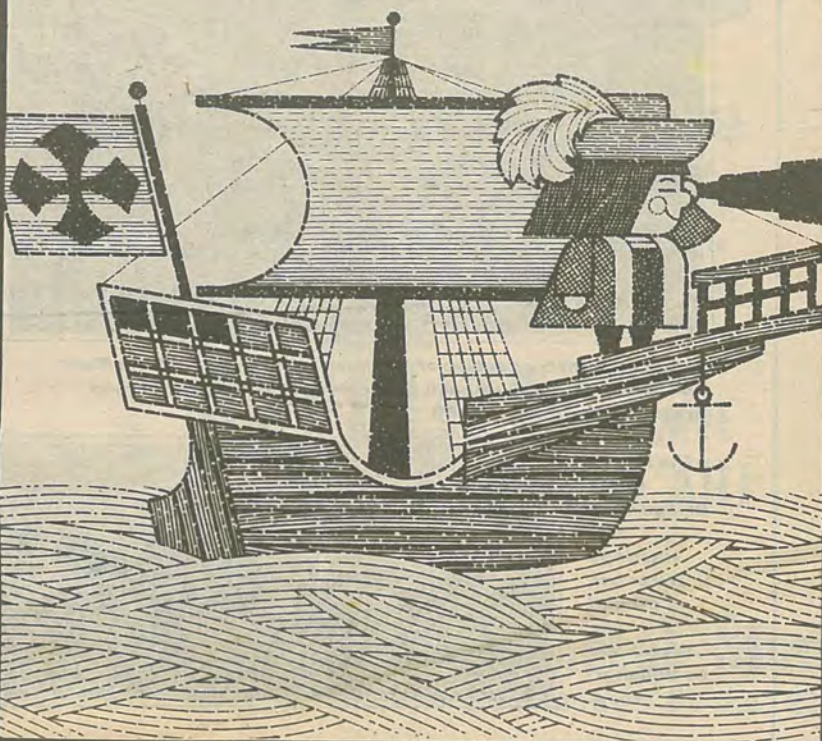
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Phone 59 9573

TRAVEL HAS CHANGED,
THROUGH THE YEARS
BUT OUR SERVICE HASN'T.
IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO GO BY
PLANE, BOAT OR TRAIN
CAMDEN HAVEN TRAVEL

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59 8338

Sales and Hire — a successful formula

Jerry and Pat Wright first moved to the Camden Haven nine years ago from Springwood, where Jerry was involved in the building and construction industry.

Soon after arriving the Wright's realised the need for a hire business as they, along with dozens of others had to travel to Port Macquarie or Taree to hire gear to do jobs in the area.

The Wright's opened in a shed in McDonald's Lane in 1983 where Dr and Db Glass are now situated. A steady stream of customers to that address convinced them that they needed bigger premises so a series of shops was built in Seymour Street next to the Commonwealth Bank, with Laurieton Hire occupying the first shop.

Jerry has been actively involved with the SES for over four years and as a member of the

Camden Haven Chamber of Commerce is not frightened to voice an opinion. Pat works side by side with Jerry in the business as well as raising their three children, Ken, Chris and Kate.

Apart from hiring pumps, chain saws, generators, mowers, compressors etc, the Wrights have won some first grade agencies and represent such notable companies as Victa, Rover, White (ride on mowers), Tanaka,

Briggs and Stratton and Yardman.

In an effort to promote their products and share the latest information and first hand knowledge the Wrights hold chain saw safety clinics and can be found at every agricultural show in the area.

The Wrights have achieved a great deal in their time in the Camden Haven both by establishing a successful business and contributing in community affairs by the giving of their time and talents.

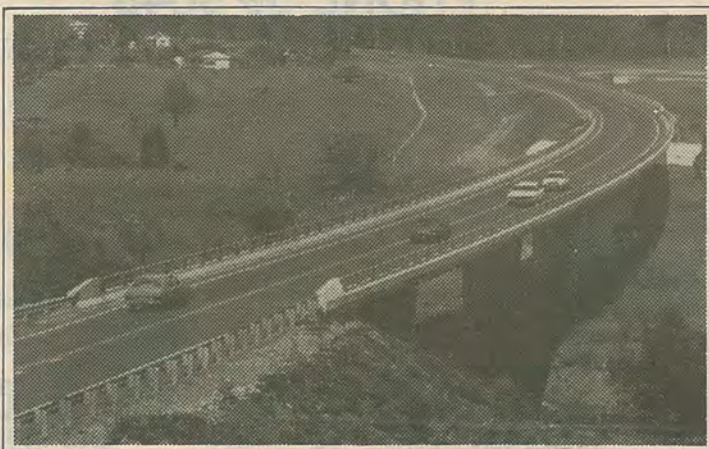


Laurie's mill on the banks of the Camden Haven River.

WE'RE IMPROVING ROAD TRAVEL ON THE MID NORTH COAST

With an efficient Roads and Traffic Authority. And reconstruction of the Pacific Highway at key points.

January 16, 1989 saw a big step forward in improving road travel on the Mid North Coast and surrounding districts, and for New South Wales as a whole.



A three kilometre section of the Pacific Highway at Maria River and Stumpy Creek has been duplicated. The new section was opened in September 1989.

The Rocks Ferry Bridge over the Hastings River has improved the Wauchope to Bellangri road.



The new Roads and Traffic Authority took over the responsibilities of the former Departments of Main Roads and Motor Transport, and the former Traffic Authority.

Combining the government bodies responsible for improving road travel will result in significant efficiencies.

Road modernisation will proceed faster. Road Safety will be increased.

The benefits will be seen statewide, but the Mid North Coast, in particular,

can look forward to the replacement of bridges, the construction of overtaking lanes and improvements in road alignment on major roads.

The Pacific Highway will be made safer, with a combination of construction, reconstruction and improved traffic management.



A new bridge near Ross Glen has improved the Camden Haven River crossing on the Pacific Highway.

Reconstruction of the section south of Kempsey has been recently completed. Work on Stage 1 of the section between Herons Creek and Port Macquarie is well advanced.

And a Tollway, between Bulahdelah and Coolongolook will bypass the old O'Sullivan's Gap section.

The objective is to make road travel throughout the region, and throughout the State, safer and more convenient.

You can already see the new Roads and Traffic Authority at work on the Mid North Coast and surrounding districts and you'll be seeing a lot more of us as we fulfil our responsibility to the people of New South Wales — to improve road travel.

ROADS & TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
Improving road travel, statewide

THE CONSULTANCY GROUP ROADS 75

Highlights from the past . . .

McDonald's Hardware

Continued From P7

was Dr Begg and he brought his bride (a German lady) here for a number of years. Then they moved to Wauchope and were very well known and respected.

Dr Eichler, accompanied by his brother, Charlie, was here for a number of years. Charlie had been a very clever dentist.

After the doctor left the district Charlie stayed on at Kendall for a number of years and was cared for by many of the townspeople.

Dr Ella Chambers — here for a number of years, then to a practice in Canberra.

OYSTER LEASES

The first to start commercially was Mr F. J. Gibbins, of Arncliffe, and his sons Alfred and Edwin lived here and carried on the business for many years.

Many men were employed in the timber and fishing industry.

The Concord Mills and Iceworks were destroyed by fire and Rodgers Mill opposite became the main centre and was later taken over by Allen Taylor & Co or Longworth's Laurieton Ltd.

This was later sold to Heron's Creek Timber Co and Longworths went out of business.

Over the years they had bought out Laurie's and de Fraines' interests and owned butchery, bakery, general store, houses and land, there and at Kendall.

John and Robert then had a division of all their properties and had them transferred into their own names.

Thus ended a J. and R. Partnership that started when they were lads in a prayer book and bible.

They both helped in all town interests and Church of England, but John (well known as Uncle Johnny) was Clergyman's Warden until his death in 1946.

BOB HOPE

(Catalina Flying Boat)

In August, 1944, the plane taking Bob Hope and party to Sydney made a forced landing in the river opposite Dunbogan.

It came in with only one engine and clothes, beer and other things had to be jettisoned before they landed.

It was late in the evening, high tide and poor visibility and it landed on a spit with only a few inches of water.

The party were taken to Laurieton and that night put on a show in the School of Arts. This was followed by a dance and Mollie Southwell taught Bob how to do the hokey pokey dance.

Sea planes flew in every day causing great excitement and they took the party on the Sydney; they fixed the other plane, which had to be dug out.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Some splendid travelling troupes performed in the School of Arts — magicians/conjurors, Edwards' dramatic troupes, good singers, Marie Narelle.

Splendid fancy dress balls; local concerts con-

tained plenty of talent, especially when the harbour works were under construction. In the early days, Mr Gillespie was a talented player of the accordion and in great demand for dance music.

Children's concerts were excellent annual flower shows (wild and garden flowers); cooking, art and fancy work sections.

Scotts' Orchestra — piano, two violins and sax — was one of the best we have ever had and a delight to listen to. Queen competitions at intervals.

Popular girls competitions. Winners over the years — Edna Jones, Myrtle Gibbins, Lot McGilvray, Annie Webber, Betty Perkins.

SPORT

Cricket and football were played in the paddock behind John Longworth's house on the Concord side of the river.

Tennis on a concrete court next to the School of Arts.

Later a 9-hole golf course was formed around the football ground.

Race enthusiasts formed a club and "The Laurieton Cup" meeting was the first on the list.

Doc Duncan brought a horse from Sydney called "Lady Mac" and this won the cup, ridden by C. Harris of Kew.

Then a proper course was formed and fenced, also registered, and many meetings were held. A log punt was used to help take the people across the river.

They left their cars on the Laurieton side.

There was one bad accident when Mr Henshaw's horse "Midnight" collided with the fence and the broken rail entered its side and rump. They were going to destroy it but John Longworth cared for it for months, spraying with a pump and Lysol. Splinters came out at intervals and when the last one came out the horse galloped around the yard. It recovered and was able to rear a foal.

ELECTRICITY

While only a young man, Terry McGeary was the first to have electricity at his home on the Dunbogan side of the river. He built his own generator and ran it with a windmill.

NORTH HAVEN

Only a few families lived here in the early days — Mr Long, Mr Chapman, Mr Royan, Mr A. G. Smith had a holiday cottage.

Messrs Alf Ostler and Mr Eames started its just progress.

Mr Ostler started a pineapple plantation.

A small punt provided the only access to Laurieton and later a pile bridge was built. This later was replaced by the present structure. But Mr Ostler started the idea and helped raise funds.

From the completion of the bridges North Haven got its name and really went ahead.



McDONALDS HARDWARE STORE

Bold Street, Laurieton

Phone 59 9023

Established July 1, 1955

Mc Donaldas



One of the first advertisements to appear for McDonalds — Courier 1955..

Mrs Jean McDonald and Mr Robert McDonald, the original founders of McDonalds Hardware with their son Robert. Together as a family they have made the McDonalds Hardware Store what it is today.

For all inside painting
**remember
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only!**

First say

REVELITE
WALL ENAMEL



... then name your finish!

With Revelite, you can enamel every inside surface and still have the flat, semi-gloss or full-gloss finish you prefer. Choose wonderful 3-dimensional colours that can't fade, colours that are washable, even scrubbable. Revelite gives lasting perfection to every room.

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Taubman's

REVELITE WALL ENAMEL

The Best Enamel of All!

From—

McDonald's General Store

General Store — Laurieton — Phone 23

Our reputation — your guarantee

Vince and Beryl Beecher opened for business at their present address on August 17, 1971, and haven't stopped running!

After twenty years butchering for the Bucton family Vince decided that he would like to be the master of his own destiny and bought the North Haven business of Lyle and Peg Holbert. Eager to get their new business off to a good start the husband and wife team worked side by side, often from two in the morning until eight o'clock at night.

The Beechers' backgrounds had provided excellent training for their venture, Mrs Beryl Beecher being the sister of Laurie Bucton of Wiggly Pork fame, and Vince having first become involved in the meat industry as a boy of twelve when he worked in Clarry Ford's shop making sausages and delivering meat—this was before the Bucton family bought the business and moved from Kendall.

At the time the

Beechers' brought their North Haven business they owned a small farm at Ross Glen which they sold in 1972 to buy a bigger property at Comboyne. This property was to keep the North Haven shop supplied with beef, and, in fact, still does — but nowhere near enough to cope with Vince and Beryl's expanding business.

At the suggestion of Col Terry the Beechers prepared in these early years some forty trays of mean prizes for Laurieton United Servicemen's Club's Sunday raffle thinking that they had done very well. Little did they realise at the time that in years to come the supply of meat trays would amount to half of their business, supplying both the LUSC and North Haven Bowling Club and others with hundreds of trays each week.

As with so many other local business successes, Beechers Butchery outgrew its premises and a new shop was designed of much bigger proportions to fit over the original shop. Beryl and Vince are quick

to praise Max Thompson, the builder, for his construction job in preparing the shop as we know it today.

Through all of this turmoil Beechers carried on, not losing a single day's trade!

A few years ago, with more room to move, Beechers decided to diversify and make their own smallgoods. Today their home cured hams and bacon are sold state wide. In fact, last year they supplied 300 hams to the NSW Bowling Club, a big increase from the fifty hams when they first started. New lines like Strassbourg, Brawn, along with old favourites such as silverside and leg ham are now made and sold on the premises.

Another success which sprang from an experiment is the cooking and selling of cold meats such as roast beef, lamb, and pork, which they sell in single units or supply in quantities large enough to feed a dinner dance.

Beryl and Vince have recently celebrated their

Ruby Wedding (December 4, 1988), and look back on their past involvement in the area with very fond memories.

As well as supporting Vince in his business enterprises and social club involvements, Beryl raised two children, Robyn and John. She has enjoyed the occasional game of golf over the years, and with Vince is a member of Laurieton's Uniting Church, where they were married forty years ago. Her pleasant attitude and eagerness to lend a hand have made her a popular member of the community.

Vince has been very active in the community from the time he played football for Laurieton and Camden Haven in his youth, to becoming a foundation member of the Camden Haven Surf Life Saving Club, through his work in the community as a member of Rotary, which saw him honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship Award in 1987, meals on wheels, and CHAPCA. Vince was also a member of the Laurieton School of Arts and Sports Ground committee before being taken over by council and his community involvement led to him being presented with the Citizen of the Year award early last year.

Beechers' Butchery now employs ten people, two of the butchers who did their apprenticeship with Vince and another apprentice in his third year. Vince and Beryl are very proud that they have been able to have apprenticed six butchers since they started business.

Their motto throughout has been "the harder you work the luckier you get" but both are indeed thankful that they have been backed by good staff over the years, which has made the job a lot easier. Vince and Beryl Riverview Lounge of Beecher, their record North Haven Bowling Club, the ANZ Bank, Laurieton, the television sub-station on Middle Brother Mountain and Wingham RSL.

Westpac notes

As the bank of NSW, Westpac are the oldest banking institution represented in the Camden Haven.

The present branch was opened on October 13, 1975, in a futuristic building constructed by local man, Leon Ostler. Col Terry (later Col Terry and Col Collyer Real Estate) had the agency for some time before that at their office in the shop now used for storage between John Barrett's Pharmacy and Bucton's Butchery.

Right from the start Westpac have been involved in supporting community projects, and today are a major supporter of CHAPCA and its race day, Kendall School Mathematics Competition (in conjunction with the TAFE College), the Police Charity Day and LUSC's Community Chest, just to name a few.

Apart from achieving a first class banking service they have become a strong supporter of the people that they serve.

A 60 year association

The name Ostler has been associated with North Haven for over 60 years when Alf Ostler and his brother Albert built their first home (now the Reef Restaurant) on The Parade, after moving here from Rawdon Island.

Alf opened a small shop, twelve foot by twelve foot in a front room of the house and sold fishing tackle, groceries and later ice-cream, etc.

The second family home, still occupied after being transported to Kendall, was built by Alf Ostler and son Leon, where the Bell's complex now stands on The Parade.

Later the Ostlers were to build, over a period of years, the series of small cottages from the corner of The Parade and Ocean Drive and running along the river side of that block.

These were known as Ostlers' Cottages and were to cater for the tourist trade that Alf Ostler so strongly believed would benefit the area.

Alf Ostler was a man who gave so much to the Camden Haven. He was for many years keenly active as a member of the Progress Association, The North Haven Hall Committee (which he built with son Leon), the Baths Committee (which he helped build at North Haven), and was a member of the Hastings Shire Council for 12 years.

He also grew fields of sugar pineapples (known as prickly pines), passionfruit, and grapes (hence Vine Street), for the produce market.

Alf Ostler lived a full and active life, and his contributions to the community are marked by the naming of the park near the baths in North Haven where a plaque com-

memorates his contribution to the North Haven community.

Alf and wife Alma Tyler (nee Eames), had two children, Doris who married the only plumber in town, Mr Fred Lee, and their son Leon (known as 'Rusty'), a well known builder in the area being responsible for most of the major buildings and extensions in recent years, like his father before him.

These buildings include Westpac, Laurieton, LUSC (original and the new extensions and renovations of the Tarcoola Lounge and the Games Room), the Riverview Lounge of Beecher, their record North Haven Bowling Club, the ANZ Bank, Laurieton, the television sub-station on Middle Brother Mountain and Wingham RSL.

And, like his father before him Leon has continued to give back to the community through his sporting achievements, and his support of local sport and causes.

The Ostlers have, and continue to achieve much in the Camden Haven.



SINCE 1975
Westpac

has been a part of the Camden Haven area supporting the financial needs of their clients, and now moving with them into the 90s.

Westpac

BOLD ST., LAURIETON 59 9803
Manager: Jerry Gardiner



PORTERS SERVICE STATION

Ocean Drive, North Haven
PHONE: 59 9167

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Ocean Drive, North Haven
Established 1956

Vince Beechers
Quality Meats and Smallgoods
Since 1971



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- LOCAL PORK
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Specialising in HOME CURED HAMS and BACON MOUTHWATERING SMALLGOODS

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Our Reputation Your Guarantee
"Old Style"
SMOKE HOUSE
HAMS & BACON

NORTH HAVEN
PHONE 59 9393

North Haven Bowling Club — home of the 'Riverview'

North Haven Bowling Club was officially opened on the eighth of June 1957 by the Vice President of the Royal New South Wales Bowling Association, Mr Keith Anderson.

The first president was Mr Fred Long, assisted by secretary Mr Jim Gibson and treasurer Mr Dick Edwards, who were strongly supported by the original members who were keen to see the club off and running.

In an effort to build the first green and club house debentures were offered at ten pounds each. These were very popular with an interest rate of five per cent being paid, some suppliers of material and transporters of same even took debenture in lieu of payment!

The club needed a

membership of one hundred to be considered for a liquor licence, and papers of the day speak of a membership drive which was quickly called off as people rallied to join the club. The original membership fee was one pound eleven shillings and six pence (\$3.15), with lady members being charged one guinea (\$2.10). Far from being kept out, as happened at some clubs in those unenlightened days, membership for ladies was agreed to in principal as early as February, 1955.

With beautiful views, perfect drainage for the greens, a club house plan (by retired architect Mr S. N. Rickard) being submitted with the licence application, and a very strong committee, the club was destined for success right from the start.

Early in the club's

history the Riverview Carnival was established as a suggestion from the women's club, with Mary Watts and Joan Walker being the major promoters of the idea. November had been a slow month particularly for the tourist trade in the area, and as the weather was warming and there was plenty of daylight at that time of the year it seemed ideal. The carnival has gone from strength to strength, and is certainly the biggest on the coast, and possibly one of the biggest in the state and country, with over five hundred people now coming to the Camden Haven for the bowls.

One of the club's stalwarts is their bowls secretary, Mr Harry Notley, who joined the club from Nestles B.C. in 1957 and was elected as bowls secretary in 1967.

He has held that position continually except for the year 1973.

The original committee would have had to be super optimists to have perceived the club's progress to this date. There are now over 1700 members being served by a permanent and part time staff of thirty. Bar sales in 1988 exceeded \$80,000 with poker machine takings more than \$370,000. Special nights held throughout the year attract crowds of up to six hundred either bopping along to a pop band or enjoying the pace of an old time band.

The club, as well as catering for the needs of its members and visitors, also sponsors several local sports and charities which have come to rely on the generosity. Amongst the recipients are the Camden Haven Surf Life Saving Club, Camden Haven Sea Rescue, local cricket and hockey, the North Haven Bowling Club Fishing Club and the Camden Haven Show.

With the addition of the Riverview Lounge some time ago, the club is able to cope with the capacity crowds that it entertains over the year in comfort. Although the feeling of close comradeship might have faded slightly because of the increase in the size of its membership, North Haven Bowling Club remains a very friendly venue, with a keen eye on what is happening in the district surrounding it.

For over 34 years a smiling face has always greeted members and their guests at the North Haven Bowling Club.



Trevor Lewis and Ian McIntosh

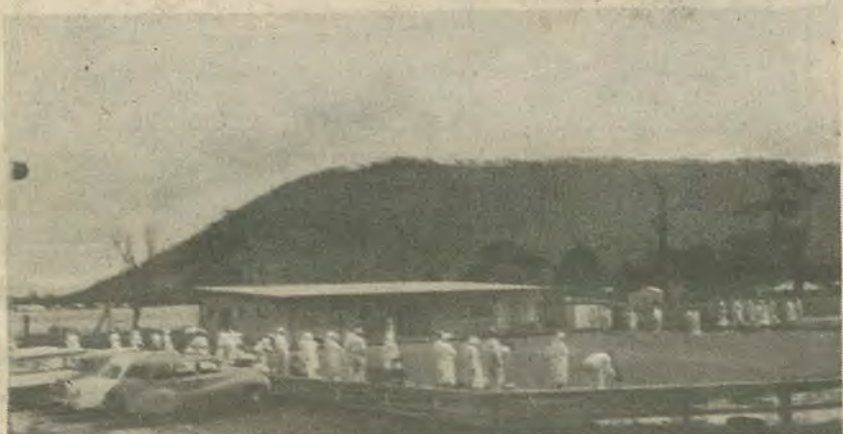
- Bistro — Open Lunch and Dinner
- Live Entertainment
- Function Rooms • Full Club Facilities
- Bingo • Meat and Seafood Draws

You are always welcome at the

NORTH HAVEN BOWLING CLUB

Woodford Road, North Haven

PHONE: 59 9150



The original North Haven Bowling Club and green. The building is now situated in Tunis Street and used as the Laurieton Scout Hall.

L. A. OSTLER

Lic. No. 2724

QUALITY HOMES, RENOVATIONS AND EXTENSIONS



The Parade, North Haven, featuring the Ostler cottages.



Continuing a proud tradition of building projects within the Camden Haven area for over 33 years.

Leon Ostler built the L.U.S.C. building in 1966 and followed up with extensive renovations in 1987.

ALMA ST., NORTH HAVEN PHONE 59 9163

When old timers like Dudley Baker, Weller Maiden the original advisor on the greens layout, and the first greenkeeper Ray Ellington, looked to the future from their humble beginnings they could not have wished for a better result than what North Haven Bowling Club has become today.

Porters history

Continued From P9

was Fire Captain and an active member of the Camden Haven Sea Rescue at his untimely death in 1988, at the age of 53.

Porters' garage continues to act as the radio base for the Sea Rescue, and Jan now manages the garage alone. At present Porters' employ five mechanics, three panel beaters/spray painters and two casual driveway attendants—a far cry from the days when Bruce and his brother first set up business.

As well as running the garage Jan has the company of daughter Tracy, and grandchildren Kirra and Kyle and son-in-law Les, and busies herself with cake decoration and sewing in her 'spare' time.

Both Jan and Bruce have been an inspiration to others of just how much one couple can contribute to an area by sheer hard work and a helping hand.

We're stacked to the ceiling with

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SPECIALS JUST FOR YOU

QUALITY BANANAS

59c kg

5KG COMBOYNE POTATOES

\$2.99



Mike and Carol Rath would like to thank the Camden Haven residents for their support over the past 17 years in making the Laurieton Fruit Bowl the success it is today.

LAURIETON FRUIT BOWL

97 BOLD STREET, LAURIETON, PHONE 59 9310

A HISTORY OF LOCAL NEWS



Sue O'Brien of Laurieton holds aloft a 1954 edition of the Camden Haven Courier along with a more recent copy of the districts local newspaper whilst indexing past copies for the Laurieton Library last year. The history of the Courier, in fact goes back to 1914 when the Courier mast-head was designed and registered by the late Mr Hartley Peake, a retired minister of religion, who operated the paper until it closed at the commencement of World War Two in 1939.

Laurieton post office remembers

Laurieton's first Post Office was opened in 1875 with Joseph Laurie as the first postmaster on, or about the present Post Office's location.

The old building has seen only a few changes in its history and has now really outgrown itself. Tenders have been called for the designed and construction of the new Post Office, (and in fact end on 24/1/1989), which is expected to be completed by December 1989, and will occupy the site on the corner of Seymour and Lake streets.

The present staff of six permanent members and two casual employees is a far cry from the days that Mr Joseph Laurie ran the Post Office, originally petitioned as "Peach Orchard", but authorised as Laurieton by the then Post Master General, Mr J. F. Burns, who in his statement of consent did say "at which place can be called Laurieton".

The Post Office remained non official until 1949 when it received official

status and the first Post Master, Mr D. J. McLaughlin took over. Mr McLaughlin held the position until retiring in 1958, when Mr Jack Hitchens was appointed. Mr Hitchens retired to Dunbogan in 1965, handing over the reigns to Mr Ken Berick who retired locally in 1972 when the present postmaster, Mr Barry Sainsbury took the position.

The post office was raised in status from a Grade 2 to Grade 3 in March 1984, which effectively meant that Mr Sainsbury was out of a job at that grade, and had to compete Australia wide for appointment to the new Grade 3 Laurieton position which fortunately he won.

Amongst some of the controversial happenings at the Post Offices were the cut over to an automatic exchange from the manual operation, which meant the end of an era with most people being on a first name basis with the operator. The opening of the telegraph line in January 1981 was swiftly followed by its closure in

October of that year because of lack of patronage. After much local protest the telegraph was once again opened on June 22, 1982!

Another alteration occurred in 1985 when the mail no longer came by rail to Kendall but was delivered direct to Kempsey Distribution Post Office, and then sent to the different centres by Australia Post Road Transport.

The teething problems have long since been sorted out and in the 1987-88 period 393,755 articles were posted from Laurieton, 632,528 were received, and 221,425 were re-dispatched to the small outlets like Moorland and Kendall.

In 1958 there were fifty telephone subscribers which have grown to cover 1800 today which would be impossible to handle under the old system.

The latest acquisition of Laurieton Post Office was a facsimile system introduced in November, 1988, heralding the arrival of electric postage in the

Camden Haven.

A continuous diary has been kept by the post master of Laurieton Post Office since it became official in 1949, a process that will continue into the future to ensure that the postal history of the area is preserved.

The new Laurieton Post Office will be more conveniently located being so much closer to the main shopping centre. It will offer more than four times the present working space for the comfort of staff and customers, and amongst other benefits the long waiting list for postal boxes will be reduced when the number on offer jumps from the present 140 to 540.

A sign of the times, Laurieton on the move, the old Post Office that has served so well for so many years will be replaced to cater for the larger demand, but the memories and history of the old building will hopefully live forever as efforts are increased to preserve it as it is for future community use.

Family involvement

The Gardiner family was well known in the district as more than a fair cricketer and represented the area for 20 years.

In 1974 the first small real estate office was opened on the corner of Bartlett Street which Col would occupy at weekends while Mrs Gardiner ran the shop.

Col had begun to train in real estate under Mrs Marie Barrelle some time before. The office became so successful it was decided to form a company with Mrs Barrelle in 1977, and Bonny Hills Real Estate was born.

In 1980 Mrs Barrelle retired, and in late 1985

the new office was built in Ocean Drive, opening in late November. The new complex boasts every modern amenity including fax, photo copying, air-conditioning, and most importantly after their first premises, room!

Col was a keen golfer at the Camden Haven Golf Club and played night tennis at Bonny Hills, he also enjoyed scuba diving and rock fishing. For a man who came here to semi retire he has achieved a great deal, and his business, with the help of his wife, Heather, and daughter Sheryl has an enviable reputation on the coast.

LAURIETON POST OFFICE

Getting the Camden Haven's mail through since 1857.



Laurie St., Laurieton

59 9010

THE GARDINERS

COL, HEATHER & SHERYL

Serving Bonny Hills and the Camden Haven

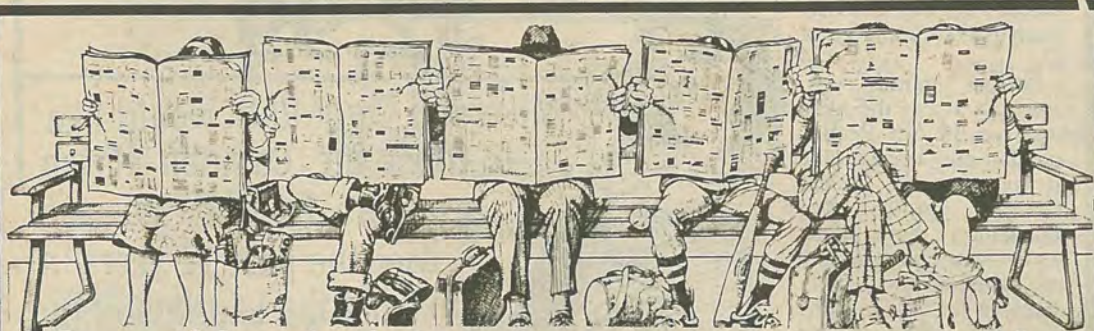


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Something to interest everyone, every week!

"YOUR LOCAL PAPER"

The Camden / Haven
Courier

Bold St, Laurieton 2443. Phone 59 8397, 59 8035. P.O. Box 75, Laurieton.

Serving The Community Since 1914

Kendall markets

The Kendall Country Markets run by the Camden Haven Learning Exchange on the first and second Sunday of every month has been in operation for seven years.

This popular attraction contributes to the local economy by providing an outlet for up to 75 stalls selling a broad range of locally produced goods from vegetables to jewellery.

The markets also draw a large number of people to Kendall and provides a boost to other local enterprises, such as the antique shop, art and craft gallery, plant nursery and the local cobbler.

Pictured right: The Laurieton Fruit Bowl has been under the same ownership since 1972 when Michael and Carol Rath, with children David (2½) moved from Sydney to family business has commenced business. The

The Twomey family story in Australia started way back when two brothers left County Cork in Ireland in the early 1800's.

Once arriving in Australia, John Henry and his brother Jeremiah jumped ship at Port Botany. Jeremiah went south while John Henry came north to Taree where he married a widow whose name was Le Strange (nee Stace), with one child.

They moved to Peach Grove (now Laurieton). The family grew with the

addition of three girls, Helen Mary and Greta and a boy Patrick Manning.

John Henry died while working in the mill and his widow married Johnny Hanlen.

Patrick Manning became an oysterman and married a girl from Saltash, namely Edith Evelyn Rooke. They helped boost the local population by having 15 children.

They had six sons who mainly started their early working lives as fishermen and boat builders before moving into other trades

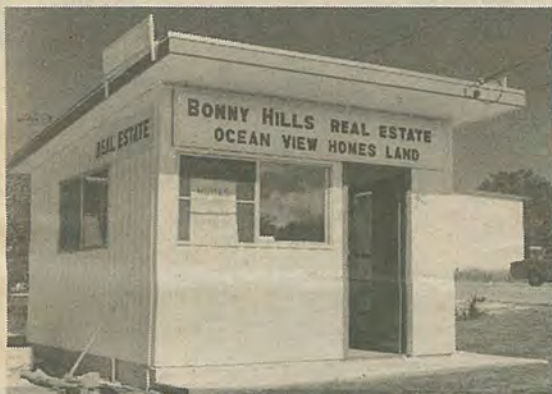
and fields of endeavour. The girls were domestics before they married and moved away.

The Twomeys are still pioneering, building businesses from scratch.

Ian Patrick Twomey is an electrician specialising in computer air-conditioning and refrigeration, while Wayne Twomey (ex plumber) started Camden Haven Tours three years ago providing popular discovery tours for locals and visitors.



loyal support of the local community.



Col Gardiner's first Bonny Hills Real Estate office in Ocean Drive.



The original Kew Real Estate office on the Pacific Highway.

Still pioneering



Roger McCosker

- Real Estate Agent
- Auctioneer
- Stock and Station
- Business Agent

(065) 59 4121 (all hours)

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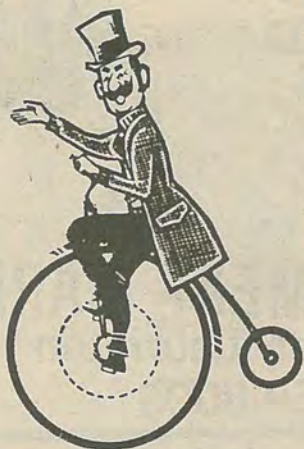
The Gateway to the Camden Haven

Mr Roger McCosker, principal of Kew Real Estate, has been involved in real estate in the Camden Haven since 1973, longer than any other agent currently operating in the Camden Haven.

Roger recalled some of his first sales in the area — a building block in Kendall for \$4000, and old style home for \$4750, a small cottage in Wauchope for \$10,000, a furnished cottage in Laurieton for \$17,250 and a block of land, Ocean Drive, Bonny Hills for \$6000.

Kew Real Estate moved into a new modern brick office some 18 months ago, and still being at "The Gateway to the Camden Haven", Roger, with office/property manager Clare Foster, are able to introduce buyers to any property in the district.

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"Part-time" business now expanded and established

Established in March 1983 to serve the Camden Haven area D and D Glass has gone from a fun, part-time two man operation to an ever expanding business venture.

Owners Don Robinson and David Bignell now employ eight people, cover an area from Coffs Harbour to Sydney and have two factories, one at Wauchope and one at Laurieton.

Expansion at Laur-

ieton is likely in the near future if or when a suitable industrial area is decided upon.

Initial operation was just glass and glazing and a few flyscreens, but now the business includes all possible aspects of glass, glazing, aluminium windows, cedar windows, security fly screens, flydoors and mirrors.

In fact, according to David Bignell, D and D pride themselves on their ability to go and find any product needed by their customers.



Bob McAndrew, manager of the Laurieton D & D Glass factory.



The opening of the Kendall School of Arts.



This photo, taken around the turn of the century is a view east over Kendall from Comboyne Street looking towards North Brother Mountain. No railway existed at the time. The house at left in the foreground belongs to Ron Poulton and next door is the blacksmith's shop. Tex Emery now owns a home on the site of the 'smithies' shop and can testify to its past history by the number of horse-shoes he has found whilst digging in the garden. The tree at right of picture is the one located in front of the Kendall School of Arts' building.

"A great day for Kendall"

"His Excellency, Lieutenant General Sir John Northcott, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., was the first Governor of New South Wales to visit Kendall.

He was given a Civic Reception by Hastings Shire President, Mr H. S. Brandon, last Monday, July 25, when the Official Opening of the Kendall War Memorial took place.

After the Governor had performed the opening ceremony and inspected the Baby Health Centre, he was entertained by the RSL Sub-branch in their new club house."

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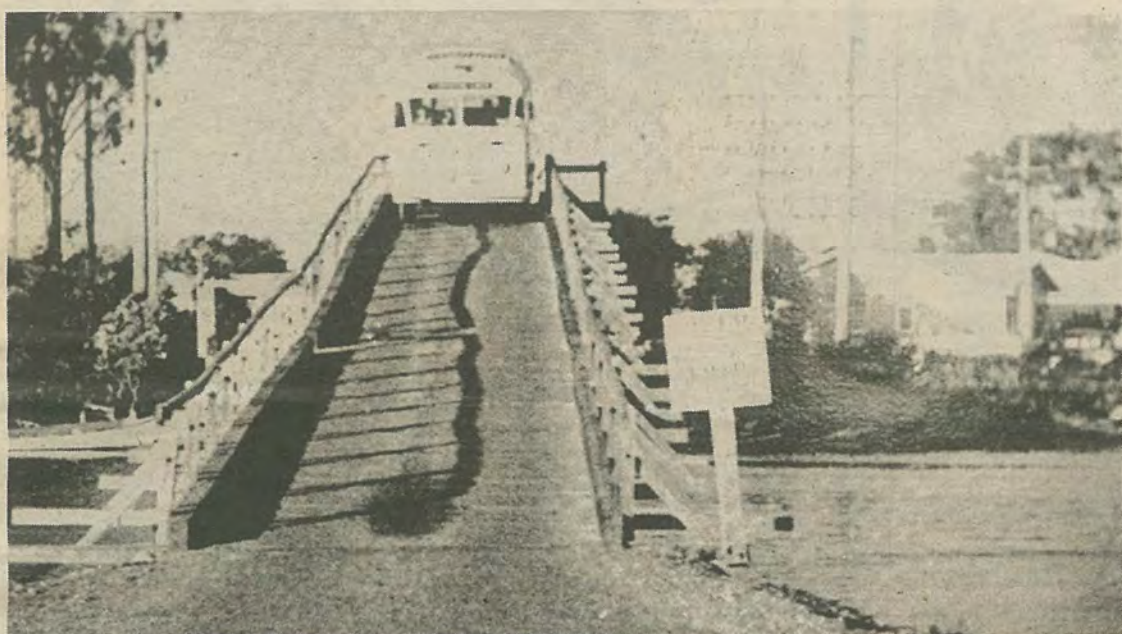
My, how we've changed . . .



De Fraines Stores



A blessing of the fleet and sail past was held on the Camden Haven River in conjunction with the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. (Photo supplied by E. G. (Warregal) Lenehan).



A Sonter's bus crosses the old "humpy-back" bridge at North Haven.



The Dunbogan punt was situated at the end of Laurie Street.



The Commonwealth and log punt.



Bill Hall dropped in this photo of the rickety old bridge which spanned Gogleys entrance at the site of the present fish cleaning tables. Six flatettes were situated on the island known as French's Cottages — popular with fishermen in the 1950s.



Charles Eade, Sid Eade, Syd Longworth, Bob Longworth and Bill Hoole at the Longworth mill.

A thank you from the editor

It has been a pleasure, despite the many extra hours involved in preparing this feature. As stated earlier in the supplement its not an attempt at a history of the Camden Haven area, but more of tribute to our achievers in business, both old and new. We have been inundated with old photographs of the area, and have used as many as possible in an attempt to make the feature as interesting as possible. Many we couldn't use and we apologise to those who entrusted us with these precious prints. Again, by including many of these photographs our editorial space was limited and not everyone was included. However, the feature would not have been possible without their advertising support contained herein and we commend all these businesses to you.

Finally, I would like to congratulate my staff, Leigh Smith, Faye Peel and Peter Billington in compiling this feature under difficult time constraints.

We hope you've enjoyed it.

Ian Hodgkinson.



The opening of the war memorial on the corner of Laurie and Bold Streets, Laurieton.

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