

THE TOWNSHIP AND EUNGELLA GENERAL STORES



IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS

1. Eungella General Store in 1934
2. Eungella General Store in 1940 (photo from Dulcie Dearness *nee* Wrench)
3. Eungella General Store in 1931 - this was the front and entrance facing west.
4. Eungella Post Office in 1937 (photo from Cedric Swayne - grandson of W.B. Swayne)
5. The second general store and cream depot (photo from Thelma Petersen *nee* Clews)
6. Eungella General Store in 1937, cars to left Chrysler Plymouth and Austin 7

The Goode Brothers, Jim Brennan then Andy Kelly ran an early store from a hut on the corner of the Eungella flat, during the Public Estate Improvement (PEI) Days. It was pulled down in 1937. Other small stores operated near some of the road camps.

W.B. (Wally) Swayne built and opened the Eungella General Store in January 1931, on the hill corner opposite Andy Kelly's store. This store and post office has had several owners and lessees over the years and still operates as the general store today.

When Wally's son Roy was running the store he hired Lou Edwards, initially as a butcher. Harold Petersen came to Eungella as a 14 year old boy to assist Lou in the shop and learn butchering. Harold later went on to have the milk and carrier run from the early 1960s to 1978.

In those days the general store supplied locals with all their groceries, bread, meat and ordered items. Folk would send their order in with the cream truck, the shop would pack it, and it would then be delivered back to the farms. People rarely made the trip to Mackay, maybe

once a year for some, usually only for doctor or dental appointments.

In 1947, a second shop was built - just up the road, on the school side of the first store. Swayne built it on the request of his grandson-in-law Arthur Wells. It had three different owners, closing in the late 50s.

Step Back in Time

gathering Eungella's past

Images were contributed to the "Step Back in Time - Gathering Eungella's past" project by past and present residents.

Visit www.history.eungella.com.au for more information.