

Step Back In Time



Burgess Guest House 1936.

Photo from: John Dunbar

Burgess Guest House & Cooee queries



Article from: Daily Mercury newspaper- Mackay Library - Bernice Wright

Owned & run by:

Built by Len & Mrs. Burgess 1919-20 -Oct1942

Cliffy & Alice Old Oct 1942 -Oct1945

Florence Clews & daughter Thelma Oct 1945 -1950s

Built by Len Burgess late 1919-20 about the same time as the Cunningham Guest House 'Linga Longa' When we bought it Cliff took over the cream and carrier run from Lenny, serving also as mail man, and back loading deliveries of meat, groceries & bread. Two manually operated petrol bowsers were out the front of the guest house. It was war and rationing was in full swing.

I (Alice) ran the guest house as had Mrs. Burgess and also took over her role as honorary Ambulance attendant. People came at all hours. Meals seemed to be at all hours.

Farmers (and often their families) would come into the guest house and stay over night. (Some who had no transportation of their own would walk in to Eungella.) Cliff would wake them at 4.30am for an early breakfast and take them down to Netherdale along with the cream, to catch the train which left at 6am. They got to Mackay about 9 o'clock and left again at 3pm, arriving back at Netherdale about 6 o'clock. Cliff would pick them up and let them off at their farms as he picked up the night's milk.

We sold to Mr & Mrs Jim Clews snr in Oct 1945. A year later John Thompset bought the cream etc. run. At that time there were 62 suppliers of milk/cream. Mrs Clews (and her daughter Thelma) ran the Guest House until about the early 1950s. It was demolished late 70s - early 80s.

The tennis court was on the area near where the big shed is.

[Excerpts as written by Alice Old in an article in 1992 & Memories Of Crediton booklet p 20 1985]

The big shed, which collapsed during Cyclone Ului in March 2010, was built by Harold Petersen as a milk run / carrier depot in the mid 1960s.

This Guest house also served as a boarding house for many locals involved in the timber industry, working at sawmills or on the roads as well as school teachers. Even American soldiers stayed there during the war

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Article submitted by Glenda Parish

Coee Queries

The comments we have been receiving regarding this history segment have been rewarding.

Disbelief in Ivy Cunningham's coee, from above where the Chalet Cabins are, reaching over the hills along Dalrymple Rd to near Barlows Rd prompted further research.

Infact her husband John Cunningham didn't buy that block near Peases Lookout until 1932, well after they ran the Guest House Linga Longa. John moved around a lot pursuing varied exploits in many parts of Qld. Neil says his Aunt Jessie may have been referring to when his grandfather John was working with timber down Bee Creek way. Although she had written 'to call the men down from the farm with a coee for dinner. This must have been better than two miles as the crow flies.' We have been wondering from where?

Jessie's youngest sister Nellie also wrote "Mum could coee from Netherdale and dad could (we all could) hear her up in Eungella." In 1927 John leased the Excelsior Hotel in Netherdale for 4 years. [written info from her son Sandy West]. That is still a pretty good coee!

Article submitted by Glenda Parish

Alice Old wrote: "A tale I heard is that Mary Cunningham & her brother Bob (Neil's father) rode their horses over Pearces Lookout (probably Peases Lookout) and down the range to the Netherdale Hotel where they lived. A real "Man from Snowy River" job"!! [Excerpt as written by Alice Old in an article in 1992]