

CLARENCE RIVER ADVOCATE

September 2023

Volume 24 Number 3



STONE COTTAGE and MUSEUM

Corner Wharf and Grafton Streets, Maclean

(Location address only- see inside for postal address)

Open 1pm – 4pm Wednesday & Saturday

Tuesday 9am – 12 Noon.

(Other times by appointment)

MACLEAN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

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<i>Computer Group</i>	Peter Lowe
<i>Management Committee</i>	Executive plus Peter Lowe.

BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER

WE CAN ALWAYS HAVE MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH DOOR DUTY ON THE MUSEUM ROSTER. WE ARE OPENING WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY - 1.00PM TO 4.00PM. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO BEING OPEN TO VISITORS ON TUESDAY MORNING.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE WITH RESEARCH, FILING, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, ETC. ON TUESDAY MORNINGS 8.30AM TO 12.00 NOON

All correspondence to be addressed to: The Secretary

Maclean District Historical Society

PO Box 257. Maclean 2463.

Phone: (02) 66453416

Website: <http://www.macleanhistory.org.au>

Email: museum@macleanhistory.org.au

EDITORS COMMENTS – Welcome to the 3rd edition of the Advocate this year. This is a reminder that your annual membership fee \$10.00 was due on 1st July 2023, you will find a membership renewal form near the end of this edition. Ritchies loyalty program is finally paying us some small dividends, if you shop at Ritchies IGA can you select MDHS as your not-for-profit charity to further increase our dividends. Every little bit helps.

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- Meet the MDHS Member.
- Vale Tony Snape.
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MEET THE MDHS MEMBER.

SANDRA CONNELLY.



I was born in Dorrigo, 1947, and lived on a dairy farm, out of town. With no suitable transport to get to school, I began my education by correspondence at age 6, then attended Dorrigo Primary School from age 7, 1954.

Our family moved to River Street, Brushgrove in October 1955, and I attended Cowper Primary School. I then attended Grafton High School from 1959, doing the Intermediate Certificate in 1961, plus Leaving Certificate in 1963.

My first job was at Tyndale Plantation Motel, Shop & Restaurant for 2 months. I then joined the PMG, now Telstra, in February 1964, and worked in the Personnel section of the Administration office.

During my working life, I enjoyed the hobbies of gardening,

embroidery, listening to music, especially country, & square dancing. I started making my family tree in 1980.

Due to my family connections to Maclean, my grandfather, William McDowell, having had the bakery from 1938 to 1943, I joined Maclean Museum in 1984.

Around the same time, I was Publicity Officer for Brushgrove Progress Association, and assisted with the compilation of the Brushgrove book, as well as a historical display in Cowper Hall, for Brushgrove centenary in 1985.

In 1986, my parents and I moved to Grafton, where my interests in gardening, embroidery, country music, square dancing and family history continued.

During my life, I have been a keen collector of stamps, souvenir spoons, post cards, records and CD's. In 1992, I became redundant at work, and shortly after, I joined Jacaranda Embroidery group, and Grafton Senior Citizens. My involvement with Grafton Seniors soon expanded to being Publicity Officer, committee member, plus bus tour organiser.

Bus travelling has been a part of my life since starting high school, travelling daily to school and then work. After starting work, I have done a lot of travelling, mainly by bus, visiting every state of Australia. I have also done 2 cruises, one to the Pacific, visiting Fiji, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, the other to both islands of New Zealand. After retirement, I then also had time to make monthly visits to Maclean Museum, to do voluntary work, mainly filing.

In 1994 I took up line dancing, and while the square dance group folded in 2006, due to lack of numbers, I continue to be involved in all other activities and lead a busy life.



VALE TONY SNAPE.



DEDICATED: Tony Snape, Ruth McAulay, Yvonne Johnson and Marg Switzer have been awarded life memberships of the Maclean District Historical Society. Photo: Adam Hourigan

Tony joined the Maclean District Historical Society in 1983. Tony was the custodian of the gun collection for an extensive time. His valuable input in communication with the builders of the Bicentennial Museum (1985 – 1988) will always be remembered. His assistance and support by being an office bearer of the society in the form of the Treasurer (1988 -2011). His support continued by becoming the Public Officer (2013 – 2022) of the Society. His good work was rewarded and acknowledged by being awarded life membership of Maclean District Historical Society, July 2013.

His backing was always continuing towards the Museum in the form of his donations to the Museum and his loans. These were appreciated and welcome for our various displays.

Tony was a loyal member to the Society, his assistance, help and support of the Maclean Bicentennial and Stone Cottage Museum was second to none.

Farewell, and once again thank you for your loyal support and assistance to keep this Museum running smoothly.

Clarence River Advocate (NSW: 1898 - 1949), Tuesday 8 March 1904, page 2

MACLEAN BREWERY.

Upwards of 20 years ago, an enterprising firm, tempted largely by the splendid water supply available, erected a brewery in Maclean. The business was carried out with varying success by several persons until about four years ago, when the last proprietor, Mr. T. D'Arcy Burke, abandoned it. The brewery has lain idle for the last four years. Of late numerous inquiries had been made concerning it by intending investors from outside the district. It is probable that it would ere this have passed into the hands of some of these, had not Mr. J. G. Kempnich, proprietor of the Maclean Refrigerating Works, secured it. The new proprietor has had the plant completely overhauled and renovated, and has added new machinery, the brewery in all respects being brought thoroughly up to date, and capable of turning out a large supply of a first class product. The improvements have been carried out under the supervision of the proprietor and Mr. Humphreys, a brewer of 32 years' experience, over a quarter of a century of which has been spent in the Eastern States. This gentleman has credentials as head brewer from some of the leading brewing firms in Australia.

Brewing operations were commenced over a week ago, and have been proceeding satisfactorily since, and the first of the product will be on sale at hotels in a few days, after it has been racked off.

The brewery, which is situated in Stanley Street is an extensive building the main part being constructed of stone, with thick walls. A lofty tower, four storeys high, rises over the main building. The brewery is worked on the gravitation principle, The water is pumped to the top floor by a powerful pump, capable of sending up 3000 gallons per hour to a 2000 gallon tank, from which it is drawn as required for all parts of the building. Here is also a water boiler, where the water for brewing

is boiled by steam. A malt hopper is also on this floor, the malt being raised by means of a lift. On the next floor are the mash tuns and beer boiler (boiled by steam). There are three tuns, with a capacity for dealing with 300 hogsheads (about 16,000 gallons) per week. The next floor is the upper floor of the main building, measuring 75 by 40 feet. Here there is a Heybridge malt crushing machine, capable of treating fifty bushels an hour, and the refrigerating part of the beer making plant. The remainder of this floor provides an extensive store room. Descending to the next floor, we find the fermenting tun. On this floor is also a large storeroom and bottling department, with the necessary plant. Below this is the cellar, 70 x 40 feet, with accommodation for storing 300 hogsheads of beer.

On an extension on the ground level from the main building, are the steam boiler and engine. A condenser has been added, which receives the exhaust steam and supplies hot water where required. In this part of the premises there is also an aerating plant for manufacturing cordials, a cooper's shop, offices, etc.

The water supply is obtained from two wells, and is of the best quality, while the supply is inexhaustible. One of the wells has stood a test of 30,000 gallons in a day. The brewery will be officially opened tomorrow (Wednesday) at noon, by His Worship the Mayor of Maclean (Mr. J. M. Kelly).

Daily Examiner (Grafton, NSW: 1915 - 1954), Tuesday 18 December 1917, page 4

MACLEAN DAIRY COMPANY.

During November the Maclean Co-operative Dairy Company, Ltd., manufactured 32,043lb of choicest, and 1,343lb of second-class butter, a total of 33,386lb, as compared with 21,366lb for the corresponding month of last year. Suppliers were paid for 32,038lb choicest, and 1,236lb of second-class butter, at the rate of 1/2 ¼ for choicest, and 1/1 ¼ for second class, the total pay amounting to £1970/15/10. Second-class cream was equal to 4 per cent, of the total received, a substantial improvement on previous month, and an indication that suppliers are taking full advantage of the higher price offered by the Imperial

Government of 1/ per point per cwt. for each point which butter grades over 90 points, which arrangement has now been definitely confirmed. The factories' output is grading the highest points to maintain this, and suppliers should in their own interest use every effort, by frequent deliveries, and scrupulous care in cleansing separators and other utensils, to gain fullest advantage of the higher price offering, and of the unique opportunity offered of establishing a favorable reputation generally for Australian butter on the Home market.

* 100 Yrs. Ago *

July 1923

CLARENCE HORSES SELL WELL.

Mr. E. J. Meaney held a very successful horse sale on July 5, at Wardell. Lee and Kempnich, Clarence River, had a mob of fine draught horses to offer, and there was also a good yarding from the surrounding districts. The demand for farm horses was brisk, and a large number changed hands, prices ranging from £25 to £38/10/. During the last three years the Lower Richmond has depended on the Clarence for their supply of draught horses. A good deal of inconvenience was caused to both buyers and sellers through the Wardell punt being at the bottom of the river. Mr. Meaney was compelled to sell the horses on the east side of the river in Mr. J. T. Collyer's yard, and then cross to sell the balance in the Wardell saleyards.

MACLEAN FOOTBALL.

The executive of the Lower Clarence District Rugby League met on Monday night for the purpose of conducting a draw for the position of the clubs which are to play for the Dowling Cup. Ramblers will meet Harwood, and the Rovers will meet Brushgrove, both matches to be played at Maclean on Saturday, and the winners in each game to meet on Saturday, August 4, to play the final. It would be a very difficult matter to

say who are going to be the winners of the cup; in fact everything points to the final match being a draw, as it was last year. Ramblers and Harwood have played scoreless games on the last two occasions on which they met. The cup is on view in Mr. H. R. Till's window, River street. Maclean.

August 1923

THE RECENT CANE STRIKE.

"The Land" has the following to say regarding the recent cane cutters' strike on the Lower Clarence: By standing loyally together and refusing to meet the A.W.U. or the U.C.G.A. in conference, the F.S.A and the P.P.U. succeeded in giving short shrift to the cane cutters' strike. The farmers had resolved to do their own cutting in the event, of the unionists not returning within 24 hours. Finding that the farmers were in grim earnest the strikers abandoned their unreasonable attitude. The A.W.U. has now lost two strikes in succession. It will probably lose some more if it has the temerity to go on fighting farmers who have the sense to stand solidly behind their organisation.

MAIZE CROWING CONTESTS.

The results of the Clarence River maize-growing contest have been an eyeopener to many maize-growers throughout New South Wales. That such good yields (102 bushels to the acre) were obtained in so unfavorable a season, stands to the credit of this district. It speaks well for the method of selection of the competitors, and also clearly illustrates the wonderful productivity of the soil of the Clarence River.

The competitors in this contest are keen, level-headed maize-growers, and are without doubt working and selecting the right lines with the object of maximum production in view.

As far as soil fertility is concerned the Clarence River district is one of the richest in the State, and while it contains some of the most up-to-date and thorough of farmers, it also contains some of the most backward — men who owe whatever measure of success they have achieved solely to the natural fertility of the soil.

These maize contests are a step in the right direction, and without doubt will be the means of increasing, the output of maize from this district by improving the yields. It offers growers the opportunity of testing their

strains alongside the highest yielding in the district. Already the competition is keen, each competitor is improving his maize by selection, so as to maintain his position on the list and put his maize on top if possible.

September 1923

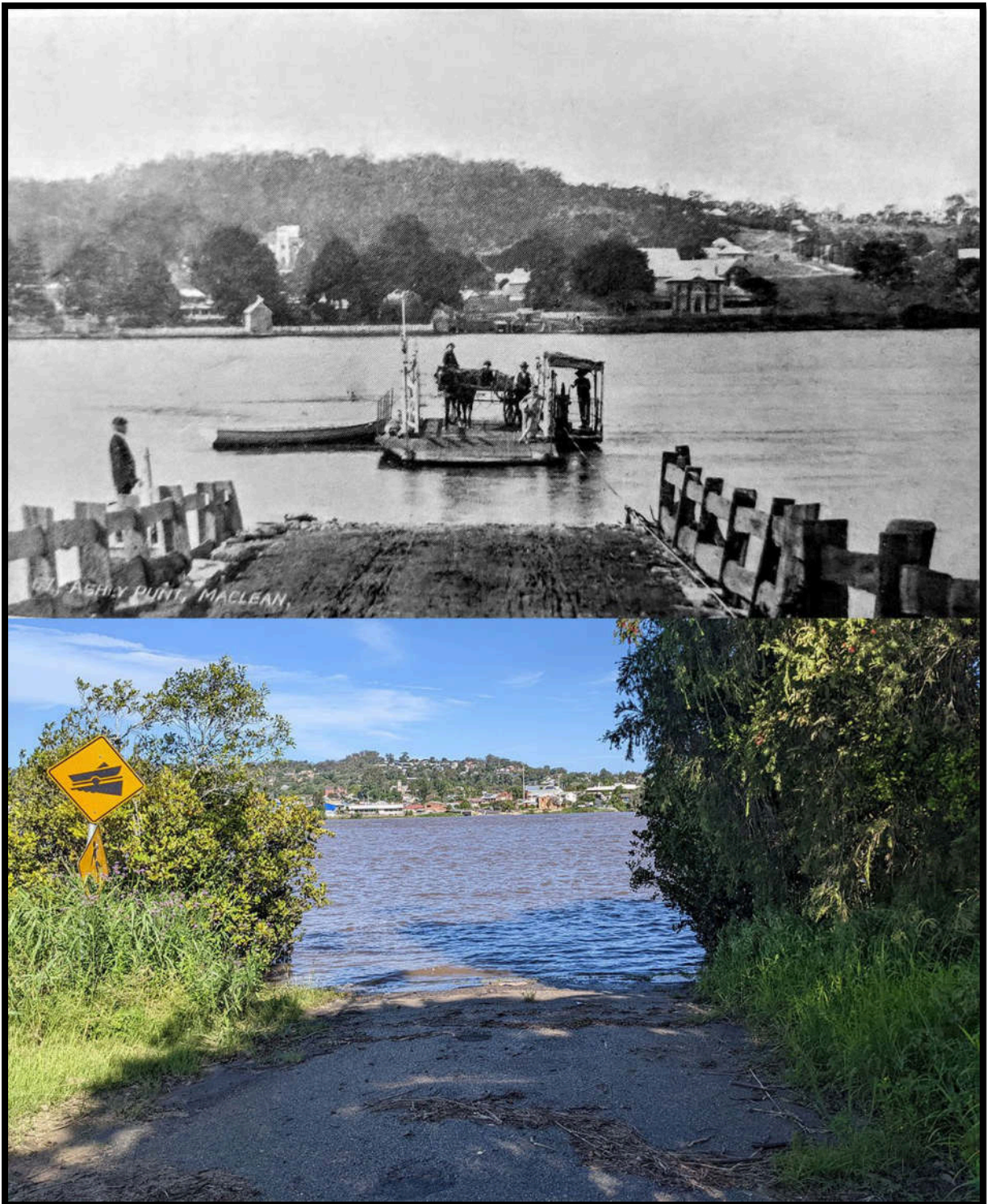
LOWER CLARENCE FACTORIES AMALGAMATION.

The "S.M. Herald" is responsible for the statement that the Maclean and Palmer Island Co-operative Dairy Companies, which have resolved to amalgamate, have in their search for a central site, and possibly with a view to obtaining a satisfactory building at a cheaper rate than by constructing their own, considered the possibilities of the Illarwill Fish Depot, which is situated on Woodford island, and about 1 1/2 miles from Maclean. This depot, was closed about two years ago, but for the last nine months has been leased for the manufacture of ice for fishermen. Maclean being the biggest supplier of fish to Sydney, its output having reached a total of 53,000 baskets per annum. Two of the directors of each of the companies, accompanied by their solicitor, interviewed Mr. E. B. Harkness, Under-Secretary of the Chief Secretary's Department, and asked for an option of purchase of the depot. Mr. Harkness gave a very sympathetic hearing and promised to lay the request before the Minister at an early date. It is the intention of the directors after the amalgamation to convert the depot into an up-to-date factory for the manufacture of butter, ice, and egg pulp. The Clarence River district is a big egg producing centre and it is believed that a profitable outlet for the eggs will be in the form of pulp.

MACLEAN.

Those interested in cricket on the Lower Clarence are requested to roll up to the meeting which is to be held in the Literary Institute, Maclean on Thursday night. There is a chance of the old pitch on Cameron's oval at Maclean being dispensed with, that is if the Maclean Council does not decide to purchase the oval. The decision by the council on the matter is being awaited with interest by all the sporting bodies on the Lower River. The oval has lent itself admirably to all kinds of sport, being situated in the heart of the town. There are other proposals and schemes being mentioned and put forward, but none of them are of any use to the

cricketers. It is to be hoped then that the cricketers and others will be forthcoming in assisting the council in arriving at a definite decision in the matter of the oval.

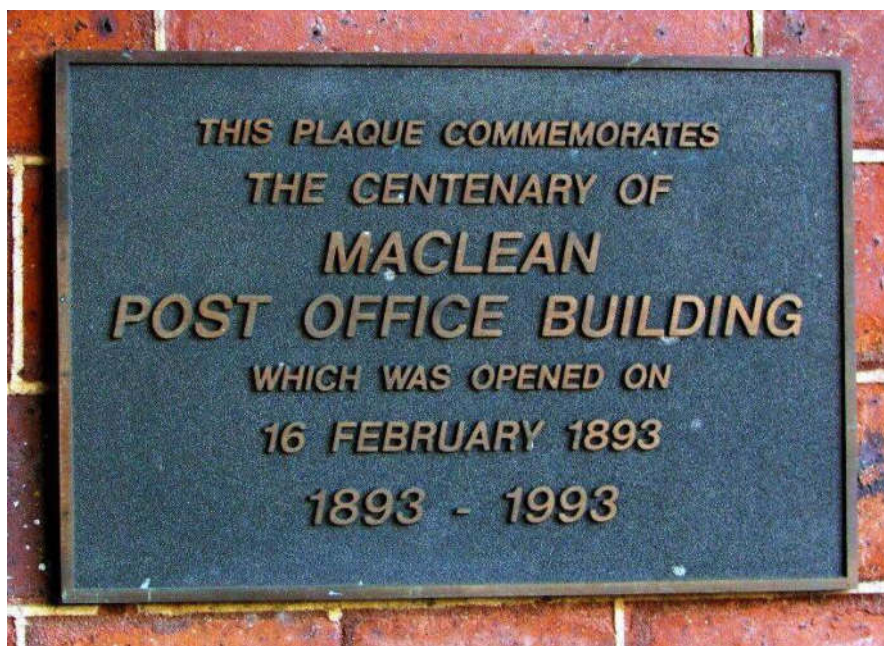


THE ASHBY PUNT (THEN & NOW)

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

Email us with details of what you already have plus what you would like, and we will endeavour to help. Research fees are \$25 per family, postage extra. If it is a large body of research, we may ask for a little more.

1. Family histories of Duncan Lyon & John McLachlan.
2. Robert Page and family, on their significant sites, cemetery records and farm property, which was near the brickworks.
3. The descendants of Cedric Gardener.
4. About Kia-Ora Private Hospital and Sunny Brae.
5. Location of a property called 'Inverness' probably between Maclean and Grafton that was visited in the 1930's and possibly owned by a McIntyre family. No information was found in our file.
6. The location of the Tyndale ferries.
7. Information about the Dalziel family.
8. Received information on James Rowles and family, early selectors at Palmers Channel around 1864, which we have placed in our files.
9. Email enquiry re Collins family of Lawrence.
10. Walter H. Collins and family of Lower Southgate and Lawrence, shop owner and farmer from mid-1880's.
11. John McLachlan, Harwood Island. Farmer, Morpeth Hotel c1860.
12. Thomas Landrigan and Patrick McConnell, descendants and early settlers of Palmers Island.
13. Email enquiry for any historical maps of Brooms Head from caretaker cottage to headland – replied no map – no map but have publication.
14. Enquiry re Mr. & Mrs. Graves, Marian/Mariann Smith, Graziella and Isabelle Letard in Maclean late 1880 - 1890. Mr Graves maybe a schoolteacher, no information found.
15. Enquiry to view articles donated by a Mr. G. Perry re the Gregory family who lived in the Stone Cottage.





MACLEAN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

ABN 73 033 923 282

The Bicentennial Museum and Stone Cottage

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please complete form to enable us to maintain accurate up to date records.

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\$10 per year (.....)

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BSB: 533 000

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Include SURNAME and 'SUBS' in payment information.

PLEASE EMAIL THIS FORM TO museum@macleanhistory.org.au if making a direct deposit.



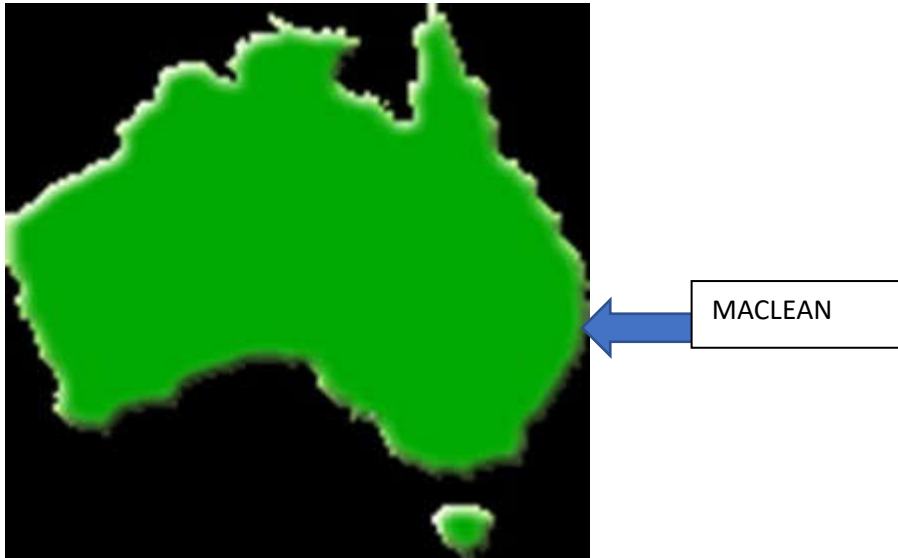
MACLEAN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

PUBLICATION COSTS

Book Title	Total Cost Posted (\$)	Book Cost (\$)
A Tour Among the Mills (Sugar Industry)	25.95	15.00
Amateur Dramatics - Maclean to 1962	20.95	10.00
Brooms Head Revisited	25.95	15.00
Brooms Head Revisited - CD	20.75	10.00
Champions in Sport	15.95	5.00
Clarence Valley WW1 Volunteers	47.95	30.00
Discovery and Settlement of the Lower Clarence	16.75	6.00
Do You Remember Them?	52.95	35.00
Ferries of the Lower Clarence	20.95	10.00
Ferries of the Lower Clarence - CD	20.95	10.00
Ferries of the Lower Clarence - CD and Book	25.95	15.00
Fishing Industry Lower Clarence River	30.95	20.00
From Canefields to Battlefields	35.95	25.00
History of Education on the Lower Clarence - Maclean	25.95	15.00
History of Education on the Lower Clarence - Maclean High School	30.95	20.00
History of Education on the Lower Clarence - Past Schools	25.95	15.00
Lower Clarence Cemetery List	25.95	15.00
Maclean and the 'Great War'	21.35	10.00
Maclean Brass Band	25.95	15.00
Maclean Scottish Connection	30.95	20.00
Maclean To the Reef and Back	18.75	8.00
Maclean, The First Fifty Years	54.35	40.00
McFarland Bridge Centenary	5.00	5.00
Michael Rush - champion Australian sculler	55.95	38.00
Rivers, Rowing, Racing and Regattas	39.35	25.00
Shark Creek Tales	17.75	7.00
Twins of Townsend	20.75	10.00
Wings Over Calliope	25.95	15.00

The Museum has published a substantial list of publications on different aspects of the history of Maclean and the surrounding area. Including the areas, World War 1 history and the Schwonberg publications. This updated list of our publications shows the total cost of sending the publications to interested parties via the post. Total cost is a combination of the cost of the publication itself, plus the packaging costs and postal costs. These two costs are based on the size of the publication.

MACLEAN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



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INSTAGRAM-macleanmuseum2463

*Our Society meets on the third Tuesday of every month
in our meeting room at the Museum at 9.30 am.*

