

**TUROSS HEAD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.
Celebrating 50 years of Active Community Service
COMMEMORATION BOOKLET**

PREFACE

In 1997 we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the formation of our Association. We look back with pride over 50 years of continuous active and voluntary service to the community. Since its inception in 1947 our members have worked tirelessly to gain many of the benefits which our residents enjoy to this day.

This commemoration booklet highlights events in the life of our Association. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the compilation of this information and give special thanks to:

Warren Buchan, our hard-working Secretary who has spent many days over the last year sifting through our records. No Minutes are to hand prior to 1968 so his Chronicle of Events includes reports and anecdotal history provided by early members. Items listed form only a small part of the myriad of events and achievements over the 50 year history of the Association.

Keith Lennon, local stalwart, who has drawn on anecdotes provided by Elaine de Mamiel and reports compiled by the late Ron Spalding and the late Sid Wakeford to give us an interesting glimpse into life in Tuross Head from 1947 to the 1970s.

Irene Marshall, a past president of the original Ladies Auxiliary (later re-formed as the Women's Club), whose report demonstrates their remarkable fund raising ability.

Dulcie Imrie, Maureen Baker and Denise Burton for their assistance with word processing and compilation.

This "window" into the history of our Association shows that pioneer members were faced with similar problems to those we face today. The words "volunteer" and "voluntarily" appear frequently as key words throughout the records. From the day when the first nail was driven in by a volunteer for the building of the

first stage of the Hall, right up to the present time, faith, hope and charity have symbolised the work of our members.

We hope that the message embodied in this booklet will inspire increased active membership in our Association so that cooperative community effort will continue to improve our quality of life in Tuross Head.

Tuross Head Progress Association Inc.
Management Committee
December, 1997.

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Notes from the early 1970s

The Progress Association has sometimes had a problem with numbers when meetings only reached a quorum. It never folded, however, and the members now include a group of diverse residents, which makes the Association interesting and very active in its aims for better conditions for Tuross Head. Constant liaison with Council is necessary over these matters but we keep trying.

In 1975, a memorial plaque was installed in Jutland Ave. to commemorate the centenary of the birth at Tuross House of Eva Mylott, who became a world-famous singer.

Another memorial was erected on Sandy Point to honour a former Association President, the late Ron Spalding, whose main interest for many years was the betterment of Tuross Head. He worked tirelessly for this goal.

There were approximately 20 presidents during the 50 years (1947-97), all of whom were an inspiration to our members. The office bearers have been instrumental, also, in doing their best.

The Progress Hall has had many improvements over the years, and is a popular meeting place for many committees. Our latest addition of note, was an almost new piano which has made a big difference.

During the years, the Picture Club and the Ladies Auxiliary (later known as the Women's Club) have contributed substantially to the funds for the Hall. The Women's Club in later years also supported many district charities, mainly the Moruya Hospital, Ambulance and many others.

Our current venture, the Tuross Boulevard Cycle/walkway, has the support of all Tuross Head. We are showing the Council what can be done and hope they will continue this work in the near future.

Dulcie Imrie President.

“Shaking the dust” ... The Progress Hall
Tuross Head Progress Association
1947 to 1997
Researched by R. Keith Lennon

There were two earlier reports prepared on the history of the Tuross Head Progress Association. Each was prepared by an officer of the Association who contributed to the development of the organisation and I believe that we should register our thanks to these members. Without their records my research would have been so much more difficult. The reports were compiled by the Late Ron Spalding and the Late Sid Wakeford.

There is however another person who deserves our thanks, Elaine de Mamiel, mother of Peter, who owns the cottage in Nelson Parade. This cottage was built by Syd. Mowsar for Mr and Mrs Freebody but that's a story for another time.

Each of the histories provide 1947 for the date for the commencement of the Progress Association and perhaps we should pause for a moment to capture the atmosphere of that time. It was during 1947 that the first batch of nylon stockings arrived in Australia and it was reported that these were sold out in half an hour.

It was during this period that most of the holiday makers from Sydney moved north for their holidays. The reason ... there were train lines and trains to get you to your destination. To go south past Nowra was an adventure ... the "roads" and punts were shocking, the bus trip was a boneshaker; but the limiting factor on the use of vehicles was the rationing of petrol (a wartime provision that was not lifted until 6 June, 1949).

Most of the cars on the road were old enough to vote, many had spent their war-time life on blocks to save their tyres. A great number were open, canvas covered beasts, well ventilated and usually stacked with a goodly supply of surplus army blankets to keep the occupants warm and dry. To own a car with a boot was pure luxury so the running boards were loaded and the rest went behind the front seat.

There were however some hardy souls who came (many on the train and bus) with their camping gear to enjoy the fishing, swimming and prawning at Tuross Head. These holiday makers were sprinkled with campers from the western towns of New South Wales who had learned of Tuross from a short film made by Hector McWilliam which was shown in this part of the state.

It was this group of people that the residents befriended and recognised that the camping (no water and rough deep dunnies) had to be improved and it was during 1947 that the Progress Association was formed to endeavour to upgrade these facilities.

The villagers formed a close group of community workers who held garden parties, raffles, card evenings, dances at the old Turlinjah hall (later destroyed by fire) and set out to buy a block of land with the hope of erecting a hall on the site.

For those who are interested in the history of the village it is important to know a little of the Morton family and their long association with the village.

Elaine de Mamiel is the daughter of Fred Morton, who brought Nelly Hogan, (who later became Mrs Fred Morton), to Tuross Head when she was 18 years old. Nelly was born in 1901 and she stayed in the old cottage that was at the rear of Wanda Taylor's house (demolished about 1978). This was the first cottage erected on that sub-division so she must have been here in 1919.

The cottage that Peter Taylor owns was built by George Morton, the father of Fred Morton, in approximately 1918. George Morton also bought land on the opposite side of Nelson Parade and erected a cottage, later known as Rainbow's cottage. The land was purchased from another earlier resident a Mr Tiedeman who was Mrs Berriman's father.

It was George Morton who was a member of the Progress Association and he wished to encourage this organisation. It was George Morton who sold his block of land to the Progress Association for the sum of twenty five pounds.

This was achieved when a syndicate composed of C.T. Campbell, chemist of Queanbeyan; G.N Morton, Tommy Dudley and Mr Land purchased 9 blocks of land as an investment on 16 February, 1949. The accounts from E.R Boardman, Solicitor from Queanbeyan shows the account paid for the block transfer to the Progress Association by G.N & F.C Morton

Now that the land problem had been solved it was but a short time before plans were drawn and approved by Council for the erection of the Hall to be 30 feet by 25 feet, weatherboard up to four feet, fibro above, galvanized iron roof. It was unlined and without a ceiling. It was basic but it was much loved by the community and visitors and it was opened to the public in 1949.

This was a genuine self funded community project. Those who could afford it made generous donations whilst a great deal of voluntary work saw the project to fruition.

Mr Billy Mowser was appointed as the building supervisor during construction but it seems that each and every resident who could wield a shovel or drive a nail was pressed into service on the construction. Materials

that were in such short supply during the post-war period miraculously turned up on the site and the galvanized iron for the roof came from Mr J.P Sheridan who provided extended credit for the material.

During the fifties the ladies of the village, who were responsible for the catering of many of the functions set out to provide funding for the erection of a supper room so the supper room on the rear of the hall was built and lined, a ceiling installed, sink and work benches and an electric urn provided

The popularity of the place increased the problems for the campers. At one stage campers were on the flat and a park, (now a car park in front of the boatsheds), Sandy Point, Lavender Point and the flat between these places; Rankins Point and the Caravan Park (on the sand) and as far as the start of Clive Park (where the cycle track was erected). They even erected tents on the sides of the road.

The greatest problem in Tuross was the lack of reticulated water so the Progress Association, which had now become Rangers for the Camping Area and collected camping fees for the betterment of the facilities, set about the building of a tank attached to the Hall to provide water for the campers.

Money was in short supply and although a spear point and pump was installed it was still necessary to construct the tank. It was eventually decided to raise the funds from a loan from the Council who insisted on the lodgement of the Deeds for the land with the Hall as security, naming the Council as Trustees for the property. A Special Meeting was held to arrange the change of Trustees and the amendment of the deeds.

The loan was then arranged and the concrete tank was built and it was not long before the campers were provided with a regular supply of water.

During 1953 a group of residents approached the Progress Association for permission to trial the screening of motion films in the Hall. A projector was purchased and a small projector box built at the rear of the Hall. This proved to be an outstanding success and it was supported by both the local community and the campers.

It was not long before a group of enthusiasts hatched a plan for the development of a better picture venue and during 1953 approached the Progress Association so that a formal agreement could be entered into for the right to use the Hall for this purpose and in return the Picture Club would increase the Hall size, build a proper projection room, install panic doors, line the inside of the building and install a ceiling. This extension added a further 30 feet x 25 feet to the existing building with a further 8 feet x 25 feet added for the new projection box and entrance.

These plans were lodged with the Council and were approved by Shire Clerk on 9 October, 1953 with the Application Approval No. 137/53. The plans required the further approval of the Chief Secretary's Department and this was granted on 13 September, 1954 after further minor modifications had been completed.

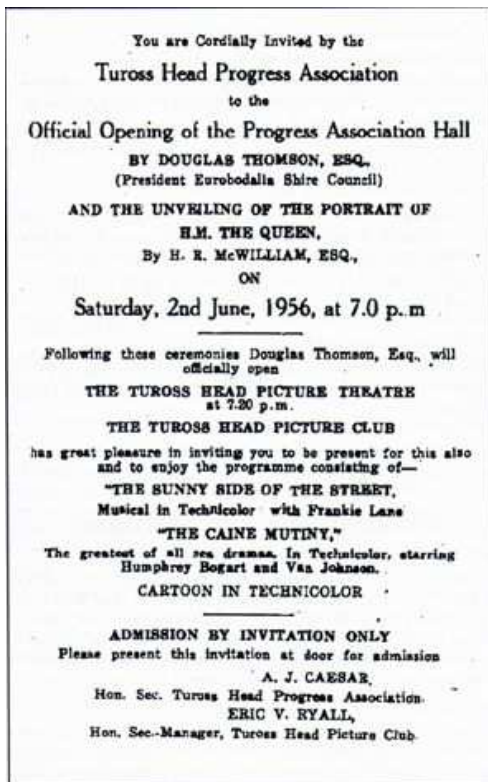
The financing and the building of the extension provides further evidence that a small community can efficiently provide for their development. Most of the workers accepted Debentures or loans to the Picture Club for their labours. Many could not afford to do otherwise ... work was short at that time.

One of the members loaned the Picture Club the sum of £150 so work was soon commenced and records indicate that a bill of £15-12-0 for "putting iron and guttering on the extension" was paid by the secretary who indicated that he was prepared to accept a Debenture for the amount. Two other members offered to allow £200 that they had paid on several accounts to "stand until the club is in a more financial position". By April, 1955 the ceiling and the lining of the building was started

A further development in the planning occurred on 14th April 1955 when the Progress Association consented to the erection of a stage in the Hall when finances became available.

The Picture Club purchased a Harbour & Heath "Compacta" 16mm projector for the sum of £363 -4-8 and it is interesting to note that one of the members offered to drive 1600 miles to Lismore and return for the cost of the petrol to pick up a set of arc lamps which would have cost the club £500 new. These were purchased for the sum of £100.

The official opening of the Progress Association Hall was on Saturday, 2 June, 1956. (see invitation).



It is evident that the Progress Association, the Picture Club and the Women's Auxiliary worked harmoniously for many years. The debenture holders were paid off in the ig60s and the profitability of the venture was assured by the use of voluntary labour with all the profits going to the village community.

The official opening of the Hall was a big event in the life of the Progress Association with H.M.McWilliam unveiling a portrait of H.M.The Queen. The President of the Eurobodalla Shire, Douglas Thomson, Esq. declared the Hall officially opened and the Tuross Head Picture Club provided entertainment with the showing of the films "The Sunny Side of the Street", "The Caine Mutiny", with the additional attraction of 'a cartoon in Technicolor.

I well remember during 1957, prior to the official opening, being tucked up with blankets on those canvas seats slung between pipes. The memorable part of the evening was to be invited into the supper room by the ladies of the village at Interval for a cup of hot coffee and cakes. It left a lasting impression of country friendliness.

The working partnership of the Progress Association, The Picture Club, and the Women's Club worked well until 1969 when the Progress Association drew up a new Constitution and before it could be registered by the Chief Secretary's Department it was necessary to confirm the ownership of the land and Hall. A search was made for the documents and after considerable delay the Council located the Deeds in a local solicitor's office. It was also discovered that the solicitor had transferred the Deeds to the Council as Owners not as Trustees.

There was a meeting with the Chairman, Secretary and Vice-chairman of the Progress Association who met with the Shire Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the Chief Health Officer and it was agreed "That as there had never been any trouble with Tuross Head Progress Association in the past we will leave the Deeds as they are, with Council as Owners and appoint the Progress Association to manage the Hall"

I can well understand the distress this caused in the village. I believe that the Association was given a very raw deal by the Council (still not too late to fix I suggest). It was able to gain ownership of a valuable property without compensation due to the inexperience of Progress Association officers who agreed to the terms. These terms were never at any time taken back to a Meeting and confirmed.

Although this provided a bitter pill for the members it was perhaps noticeable that the three groups who had worked so hard on the joint venture for the community no longer had a single goal. Each worked for the community, but set their own goals. Despite their differences the members of all three bodies cooperated in the maintenance of the Hall which has been well cared for. The Hall has been painted and repairs have been carried out. Electrical work has been completed when necessary, fluorescent lighting has been installed whilst the Women's Club has upgraded the kitchen and provided replacements.

During the Seventies the Picture Club became less relevant with the advent of television and further changes of the Video machine has pushed the community back further into their homes for this type of entertainment. The Picture Club eventually folded.

Theatres will still succeed, but only where there are large populations and the trend to multi-theatre units.

We would be very negligent if we did not recognise that the Picture Club provided the local community and the visitors with an entertainment area which was under supervision of the locals. It

was food for the community. It could not have existed without the use of the Progress Hall, it could not have existed without the generosity of the community who provided the capital, worked without payment and returned all the profits back to the community. They, like all the members of the Progress Association who continue to work in an unselfish way for the betterment of the community deserve a special vote of thanks.

R. Keith Lennon
71 Nelson Parade, Tuross Head 24 February, 1997.

TUROSS HEAD PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC. *Celebrating 50 Years of Active Community Service*

A Chronicle of Events:

1947 Tuross Head Progress Association was formed.

1948 Ladies Auxiliary was formed.

1949 Block of land purchased for £25. Building plans lodged with Council for Hall 25ft x 25ft. Upon approval construction began with voluntary labour.

1949 Hall opened to Public. Ladies Auxiliary donated £50 for purchase of piano.

1950 First dance held in the Hall.

1953 Motion pictures shown in the Hall for the first time. Picture Club formed. Association agrees with Picture Club's offer to increase size of Hall with a projector room 25ft x 8ft.

1954 Chief Secretary's Department approves plans for Hall extensions. Loan of £400 received from Council for construction of water tank to provide water for campers. Hall deeds lodged as security.

1955 Work commences on Hall extension with voluntary labour. Members take out debentures and provide loans for purchase of materials. Volunteers build stage in main hall.

1956 Official Opening of Progress Association Hall.

1960s Hall Building debenture holders were "paid off".

PRESIDENTS AND EVENTS OF INTEREST

RON SPALDING 1968-1970

Water connected to Supper Room at cost of \$32.48. New Association Constitution drawn up. First beach patrol at One Tree Beach. Public Meeting objects to high density residential plan for Kyla Park. Association member John Mount appointed Chair of Bega Valley County Council. Association discovers that Hall land deeds had been inadvertently transferred to Council in 1954!

JOHN MCEVOY 1970-72

Association members appointed as honorary rangers. Proposal to M.S.B. to link Tuross and Coila Lakes by an open cut channel near "The Narrows". NSW fisheries requested to close Tuross Lakes to netting. Ladies Auxiliary form own group with name of Tuross Head Women's Club. Council requested to improve street lighting and provide double lines on curves of roads through village. Weekend netting closures introduced. M.S.B. requested to provide Warning sign on Coila Lake reef.

PAT DWYER 1972-1974

Fluorescent lighting installed in Hall and new sink and hot water service installed in kitchen. P.M.G. requested to provide public phones in village. G.P.O. requested to provide house to house mail deliveries. Council requested to provide toilets at Coila Beach, street light and shelter shed at highway turn-off, and nature reserves around foreshores.

JOHN MOUNT 1974-76

Association members plant trees around water tower, expresses concern at lack of sports and play areas for local

children and finances and installs play equipment in play areas. Town water installed at Lavender Bay. Proposal to erect BBQs at Sandy Pt and Lavender Bay reserves. Water taps provided at One Tree Beach. Proposal to erect rock pool on south side of Plantation Pt. Septic tank effluent problems in old Coila area.

Eva Mylott Memorial stone and plaque installed in Jutland Avenue. Mrs H. Overgaard erects memorial cairn to her father, Hector McWilliam, in Birdwood Circle. Association Constitution revised and amended. Association opposes high rise development in Tuross Head area.

SYLVIA LERCH 1976-77

First female Association President. Association holds open public meetings to discuss local issues. First move made to establish a Youth and Sports Centre. Public meeting again opposes high density development at Kyla Park. Youth Club formed using Association Hall for activities.

Post Office store in Jutland Ave closes and transfers to new shopping centre in Evans Rd. Requested P.M.G. to provide public phones at new shopping centre and Council to provide toilets. More Police presence required in the village.

Concern at lack of numbers in Fire Brigade. Association members assist Fire Brigade to locate and clear street fire hydrants

LEN WARD 1977-79

Association requests developers to provide sports & recreation area at Kyla Park (high density proposal had been defeated and replaced with rural small holdings). Area west of Lake Street considered for tennis courts and playing fields.

Council requested to :

- Seal all unmade roads in Tuross Head and provide passing/turn lanes at highway turn-off
- Roads and pathways in village to be signposted
- Seal and provide light at Lavender Bay boat ramp
- Provide tree beautification plan for Tuross Head
- Compare rates raised from village against money spent maintenance and improvements
- Provide loan to paint and refurbish Association Hall.

NPWS requested to declare Chatham Park a flora reserve. Car park formed at entry to Plantation Pt. House delivery of mail commences February 1979. Street light and turn lane provided at highway turn-off. Children's Play Group formed and uses Hall for their activities. Eva Mylott memorial is officially unveiled on 16 September 1979

Association organizes petition to ban netting in Tuross Lakes. Requests NSW Fisheries to place zone limits on commercial fishermen (Nowra based fishermen had been netting in Coila Lake).

Association improves kitchen facilities and exterior lighting around Hall and purchases 150 new "stack on" chairs.

Annual subs raised
from 50 cents to \$1

Picture Club ceases operations. Village population reaches 550.

DARRYL STEWART 1979-80

Association opposes mechanical hauling of nets in Tuross Lakes. Supports formation of a local golf club. Proposes formation of a surf life-saving club and clubhouse. Youth Club granted permission to use Hall for roller-skating.

Proposal for a seaplane to operate from Coila Lake. Council requested to:

- Provide shelter sheds and re-route school bus route.
- Provide parkland and picnic facilities at Water Tower.

Appointment of police officer requested for village. Concern expressed over condition of timber bridge on highway over Coila Creek.

RON SPALDING 1980-82

Council requested to provide a second water tower. Association discusses proposed local sewerage scheme with Council Dual water mains to link Horse Island with Tuross Head.

Fluoridation of town water supply.

Council checks Pretty Pt as site for additional boat ramp. NSW fisheries closes Tuross estuary to netting between the entrance and the pipeline for period 1 December to 30 April annually.
Association discusses and accepts concept of nude/topless bathing on selected beaches.

Dune fencing and grass planting carried out at One Tree Beach at cost of \$8000.
Requested Warning signs be erected at unpatrolled beaches. Picnic table erected at Lavender Bay.

Association complains to Council that money allocated for southern areas is being directed to northern areas.
Supports "Riding" system for Council. Motion to dissolve Association defeated. Association introduces scale of charges for use of Hall in lieu of free use or donation.

Objects to Council Committee meetings being closed to the public.

PETER SQUIRE 1982-83

Association members embark on tree planting programme in village.

RON SPALDING 1983-85

Association continues to lobby Council and other state bodies for village improvements (already listed above). Long serving and dedicated Association President, Ron Spalding passes away.

LANCE ELPHINSTONE 1985-86

Hall ownership again queried - no follow up. Another request for police station in village. Sewerage system completed in village. Association requests home deliveries of newspapers.

VERLEYJORGENSEN 1986-88

Memorial to late Ron Spalding unveiled at Sandy Pt reserve. Public retirement function for John & Ruth Mount held in Hall.

Council requested to complete Monash Ave road link, established 60k.p.h. speed limit from Lake St to village and provide tourist map and layback on Hector McWilliam Drive adjacent to golf course.

Council closes Turlinjah Tip despite protests. Requested to provide twice yearly waste cleanups.
NSW fisheries requested to ban netting from estuary full-time between entrance and Pretty Pt.

Council approves in principal the proposal for a cycle/walkway from One Tree Pt to Youth & Sports Centre, Coila Lake. Pathway proposed - through Chatham Park.

Association donated \$300 to new local Rescue Squad.

CEC FITZGERALD 1988-90

Association donated \$200 to newly formed Scout & Cub Group which is using Hall.

Request more police presence in village. Support for Moruya Hospital as principal hospital.

Concern raised re public access to foreshores. Lavender Pt boat ramp widened by Council. Request for ban on spear-fishing in estuary. Council requested to supply criteria for opening of Coila Lake. Dog exercise area allocated north of Coila Lake entrance/bar.

PETER NIELSEN 1990-94

A period of intense activity with extensive renovations carried out by members to Hall and surrounds:

- Gas heaters and overhead fans installed in kitchen and main hall.
- Storage cupboards and educt vent installed in kitchen.
- Stormwater drainage renewed and flower gardens established around Hall.
- Hall interior repainted and exterior sensor lights installed.
- Council provides disabled access toilet.
- Peter Squire organizes concerts in Hall to raise \$2000 for purchase of a new piano.
- New stage curtains purchased and fitted.
- Dorine Roux fabricates stage curtain pelmet and cover for the piano at no cost to Association.
- Front hall kiosk converted into storage room.
- Wooden windows in Hall replaced with aluminium windows.

Association becomes incorporated.

Advise Council that lifeguard insufficient at One Tree Beach - again request formation of surf life-saving club.

Association successfully requests pay phone and authorized bus stop at Coila Service Station.

Public meetings organized to discuss netting in Tuross Lakes, aquaculture in Coila Lake, removal of blue bins and proposed Bolloway Corp. centre at Bingi.

Association donated \$ 100 to Rescue Squad "Buy a Brick" campaign.

Association adopts policy of laying a 'perpetual' wreath on Anzac Days and donating equivalent cost of fresh flower wreath to local school libraries (in rotation) each year.

Helps in the search for a local pharmacist and doctor for village centre. Dr. Cormac Kennedy and pharmacist, Peter Gready, commence practice in village.

Estuary Management Committee commences quarterly meetings in Hall.

DULCIE IMRIE 1994-97

Another period of intense activity:

- Underside of Hall screened with lattice and additional flower beds established.
- New footpath at front and side of Hall laid by volunteer members.
- Hall stage and foyer curtains treated with fire retardant.
- Peter Nielsen installs new loudspeaker system in Hall at materials cost only.
- Additional sensor lights, power points and lights installed at Hall at cost of \$327.

First Life Memberships conferred on Secretary, Warren Buchan and Treasurer, Joan Buchan in recognition of their dedicated efforts on behalf of the Association.

Calls public meeting to elect Steering Committee to investigate possibility of establishing a local retirement village. Period of negotiation ensues with Illawarra Retirement Trust which finally decides to shelve plans for local retirement village. Trust says lack of sufficient buyers for units - Committee considers unit prices too high.

Conducts public meeting on community transport and community care.

Once again requested return to "Riding" system for Council.

Public meeting held to discuss recycling opportunities in village.

Council depot relocated behind water towers. Tuross Lakes Preservation Group begin beautification programme on western side of Water Tower Hill.

Two park seats donated to Memorial Gardens at Plantation Pt.

Association Vice-president, Maureen Baker, is runner-up in NSW Individual Landcarer Award.

Council conducts first Roadworks public meeting on-site in village. Association lobbies for urgent roadworks. Council allocates approximately \$600,000 towards roadworks in their 1997-2002 management plan.

Associations Cycle/walkway Project - Tuross Boulevard; Graham Calcutt rejoins Association and is appointed Project Coordinator. Discussions with Council on joint development of the project. Fund-raising commences - functions and opportunity shop raise \$18,000. Work commences using volunteer labour. Council allocates \$20,000 plus cost of culvert restoration (\$6,000) towards project. first stage of Cycle/walkway completed and enhanced with tree planting.

President Dulcie Imrie, receives Life Membership.

Association celebrates its 50th Anniversary.
Warren Buchan Secretary.

LADIES AUXILIARY - Early History

(Compiled in 1979 by L Marshall from Auxiliary Minuted)

FIRST MEETING

The first meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary was held on 7 July, 1948. Mrs Mowsar was nominated the first President, with Mrs. Mayes, VicePresident; Mrs. Betty Knight, Secretary and Miss Royds as Treasurer.

It was proposed that meetings would be held every 3rd Saturday of each month in a member's home and rosters were drawn up accordingly.

FIRST FUNCTION

A Garden Fete was their first function, held in the grounds of Mrs. Mayes' home with such games as croquet, bobs, table tennis, quoits, etc. Prizes were donated by the members; 1/6d was the charge for afternoon tea and 3d entry for each competition; gross returns for the day were £55-5-7. A donation of fifty pounds was forwarded to the Progress Association.

The ladies were a very keen, hard-working group and held functions every week. Dances were held in Turlinjah Hall each Friday night, with a three-piece orchestra consisting of piano, sax and drums.

Mr. Mayes and Mr. Knight were the M.C.s. A bottle of beer was donated to be raffled at the dance at 1/- per ticket.

Other competitions were run, such as "Guess the length of string in a bottle" with prizes of 2 bottles of beer and a packet of cigarettes, or £1 note.

FIRST BANK ACCOUNT

The Ladies Auxiliary opened their first bank account in Moruya at the Commonwealth Bank, in August, 1948. At this meeting they also decided to charge their 23 members an annual membership fee of 2/- each.

OTHER FUND-RAISING EVENTS

An orchestra was booked for another dance in Turlinjah Hall and euchre was also included in this social; 3/- was charged which included the dance, cards and supper.

A Barbecue was held in the Turlinjah Hall grounds with campfire and supper, games and community singing in the Hall afterwards. Rent of £1-1 5-0 was paid for the hall with 5/- cleaning fee.

A stall was held on the Tuross Hall site. The ladies purchased a goose and a sucking pig for £2-5-0 and raffled them at 1/- per ticket £1 note was another raffle and not to be outdone with these raffles they also raffled a bottle of wine with a bottle of stout which realised £1-7-6

In January, 1949 the amount of £65-0-0 was given to the Progress Association for the Hall fund and one month later a further £50-0-0 was donated.

A PIANO FOR THE HALL

It was proposed to set aside £50-0-0 in the bank for a piano and it was in July 1949 that Mr. Maves was given the £50-0-0 to purchase the piano in Sydney, through an advertisement in the Sydney Morning Herald (this piano was still in use in the Hall until August, 1993 when it was replaced).

TUROSS "CLUB ROOM" ACTIVITIES

Takings for the first dance held in the Tuross Club Room, in April 1950 were £14-16-0. Dances continued to be run each Saturday night, commencing at 8 o'clock and continuing until midnight. Mrs. A. Berriman played the piano and Miss Berriman played the drums. The prizes for the spot dance were cigarettes for the gents and aprons for the ladies (these aprons were, no doubt, made by the Auxiliary ladies).

On Christmas Eve a party was given to the local children - gifts were bought for the tree and Mr. Hector McWilliam played Santa Claus. The children enjoyed the cakes, ice creams, soft drinks and sweets and Mrs. Flo Gillow played the piano for their entertainment. The childrens' party started at 7 and ended at 9. Then an adult dance would follow until midnight, with Mrs. Arthur Berriman playing the piano with the drums.

The dances were held each Saturday night from December to May. Each member was asked to supply supper, each bringing a dozen cakes and a tray of sandwiches (if butter was available). Mr Arthur Berriman offered to bring Bodalla visitors to these weekly dances and supply music free if £2 was paid for petrol and was accepted.

As well as the weekly dances a social afternoon was held every 2nd Wednesday in the Club Room, from February until April. Members provided afternoon tea, admission was 2/- with lucky door price, afternoon tea, card game and entertainment by Mrs. Flo Gillow on the piano. These few months of socials gave the Auxiliary a credit of £27-14-8. Fixtures were bought for the Club Room.

In August, 1950 a garden fete was held at the home of Mrs. Mowsar, with fancy stalls, produce, chocolate wheels, lucky dip, fishing pond games and raffles. It was then proposed that card parties would be held each Wednesday in a member's home to raise money for Christmas Tree funds.

MATERIALS FOR THE HALL

Roofing iron to cover the supper room was bought through the ladies' donations. Mr. S. Cox also ordered timber and flooring, weatherboards, doors and window, and 4 blinds for the Club Room.

FURTHER FUND-RAISING AND CHANGES IN OFFICE BEARERS

On 24 May, 1951, Empire Night Celebrations were held on the beach where members served coffee, tea and cocoa, with sandwiches and cakes.

At the Annual Meeting in June, 1951, Mrs. Atwell became President. She resigned, however, in February 1952 and Mrs. Hazel accepted the position.

A dance was held on the Easter Saturday which brought in the amount of £17-0-3 and was banked into the General Fund for the Supper Room extensions. An afternoon for the best decorated bike, scooter and pram was held on another occasion and a Mad Hatters' afternoon which brought in £10-12-6. Another garden fete was held, this time in the grounds of Mrs Sheridan's home. There was no mention in the Minutes of how much they took at this function but one of our foundation members reports in was £100-0-0. Mr. S. Cox was asked the price for lining the Supper Room and for drainage costs. They were to inspect a sink at Mrs. Sheridan's.

In the May holidays 1953 a Fancy Dress afternoon was organized and it realized £16-13-0. A Book afternoon was another attraction, each member to represent a title.

In June 1954 Mrs. L Hockey was elected President (Mrs. Hazel was confined to bed for some time). £40-0-0 was given to the Progress Association in September 1954 to extend the Hall. £60-0-0 was given to buy swings, etc. for the childrens' playground. At the Annual Meeting in June 1955 Mrs. Hazel returned and was re-elected President.

The crockery owned by the Ladies was hired out to functions, to the CWA. etc. and even to the opening of the Tuross Lakes Bowling Club. They decided, however, not to charge the Bowling Club!

Their good work continued on from this date but there is little recorded in the Minutes. Apparently the

Ladies still met every Wednesday afternoon for a working bee. The sewing machine donated by Mrs. Hogden was greatly used; others busied themselves with cutting out patterns and Mrs. Hazel taught some of them to basketweave. Most of these items were for orders or for sale at the Children's Christmas Tree afternoons in December. A rug was made each year, with most members contributing a few squares each, and the rug was raffled at Christmas.

Mrs. Hazel remained President until June, 1969. At the time these notes were compiled in 1979 she had become a Life Member and was still attending meetings at the age of 86!

Mrs. L Marshall was elected President in 1969 and resigned due to ill health in 1971. Mrs. J. Elphinstone was elected but resigned after a few months when Mrs. Gosnell was elected. She remained President until June 1977 when Mrs. Marshall was re-elected.

In May, 1971 the Progress Association wrote to the Chief Secretary's Department to clarify the functions of an Auxiliary Group to the Parent Body. It was then found that the Ladies had never been registered as an Auxiliary! At the July, 1971 meeting they became an independent group, to help all local needs, charities, and the Progress Association. It was firstly named the Women's' Organization and later changed to the Tuross Head Women's' Club and so another successful story could be written.

Briefly, in the 8 years as the Tuross Head Women's Club details are as follows:

Membership in June, 1979 had risen to 70 members.

The initial bank balance transferred to the new club was \$207.

Together with amounts raised from Stalls \$7080, Raffles \$385 and Membership, interest, etc. \$388, the Total Amount raised in 8 years was \$7960.

The amount of \$1259 was used to purchase and other materials to make rugs, etc. for raffles and stalls.

Total Amount donated in 8 years was \$6478, as follows:

Moruya Hospital \$3048, Moruya Ambulance \$1140, Moruya District Library \$50, Eurobodalla Nursing; Home \$1400 and Progress Association and village amenities \$840

I. Marshall, 1979