



Serving Thuringowa

CHAIRMEN and MAYORS
1879 -2004

Judith Jensen

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City of Thuringowa
2004

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by Anneke Silver

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PREFACE

This booklet presents the biographies of the Chairmen and Mayors of Thuringowa. In addition, it contains the views of current members of Council as they guide the future of the City.

Over the past 125 years Thuringowa has moved from a Divisional Board to a Shire Council to a City Council. It is the guidance of far-sighted leaders, such as Joseph Hodel, James Cummins, John Brabon, that has maintained Thuringowa's advancement, even during difficult economic times. In the last forty years, Thuringowa's rate of progress has accelerated under the direction of William DeCoursey, Dan Gleeson and Les Tyrell to become one of the fastest growing local government areas in Australia.

In compiling the biographies of the Chairmen and Mayors of Thuringowa, I have endeavoured to be accurate, but like most research there are gaps and uncertainties, particularly when it came to compiling the list of Council members in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Council Minutes have not survived for the period 1897-1906 and this has meant relying on other sources for details on the membership of Council. Many secondary sources have

been very useful in gaining an understanding of the life and work of the various Council Chairmen and Mayors. In this regard, I gratefully acknowledge the comprehensive doctoral thesis of Lyn Henderson, *More Than Roads, Rates and Rubbish: A History of Thuringowa Shire Council 1879-1985*, which saved me many hours of research. I also acknowledge the work of John Mathew and Dorothy Gibson-Wilde whose texts were useful research tools. To those descendants of former Chairmen, Dick Kelso and Freda Weston, thank you for your assistance. Many thanks also to Library Manager, Ron Store for editing the text and to the Friends of Thuringowa City Libraries for commissioning the artwork by Anneke Silver which has become the cover of the book.

I would stress that this is a living document, which can be revised and updated as more information comes to light. Library Heritage Services would be grateful for any further information that you, the residents of Thuringowa, might be able to add.

Judith Jensen
Library Heritage Services Officer
July 2004.

Serving Thuringowa

Over the last century and a quarter, Thuringowa has progressed from a local authority that was largely dominated by agricultural and pastoral leases to one which, while maintaining a connection with its rural past, contains rapidly expanding urban areas.

For the area to have survived economic hardship, constant boundary changes and the threat of abolition and amalgamation has required the guidance of astute and prudent leaders. These have included men, such as the Hon Joseph Hodel MLC, James Cummins and Charles Wordsworth. The early Chairmen of Thuringowa came from Thuringowa's pioneering families and as such, they demonstrated stoicism and thrift, character traits developed from eking out a livelihood on the land. However many also had incisive business sense, owning and operating their own businesses in the Townsville/Thuringowa area. Their leadership, ability to listen to both their constituents and their fellow Council members has steered the course of Thuringowa to its present promising position and optimistic future.

Under John Brabon, William DeCoursey, Dan Gleeson and most recently Les Tyrell, the area has progressed rapidly to become an interesting blend of urban, pastoral, commercial and industrial interests.

Under Les Tyrell's leadership, Council has made a strong commitment to Thuringowa's continued economic and social progress. Our current Council and its staff are committed to providing residents with a high quality of life that fosters a sense of community and unique identity.

I present this booklet to you as another part of Thuringowa's rich history. It provides a useful research tool for students, family historians and those interested in our past.



Lyn Russell
Chief Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

History of Thuringowa City Council

Under the Divisional Boards Act of 1879 the Thuringowa Division was formed. It covered an area that extended 170 kms along the coast from the mouth of the Burdekin River to Crystal Creek and inland to the coastal ranges. The Burdekin River formed the eastern boundary while the Leichhardt Range and Hervey and Paluma Ranges formed the inland boundary. In the north the boundary extended from the Paluma Range down Crystal Creek past Mutarnee to the coast. The municipality of Townsville was located within this area and consisted of the small area around the foot of Castle Hill.

Over the past 125 years the Thuringowa area has changed considerably, not the least of which has been the shifting boundary through which Thuringowa has gained and lost land to adjoining local authorities. Today the Thuringowa City area covers roughly the western third of the division's original area.

After the formation of the Division in 1879 the next two decades were ones of progress. Suburbs grew rapidly and by 1902 Thuringowa had 1,020 dwellings listed on its ratebooks. Such rapid growth drove infrastructure development and thus early Chairmen, Arthur Bundock and Joseph Hodel, led the way with the construction of the Ross River Bridge, the bridge at the Causeway and the Stewart Creek Bridge. These roads and bridges were constructed to serve not only Thuringowa's rural base but also its residential subdivisions of Hermit Park, Mundingburra and Rosslea. Water reticulation and sanitary services were established in these suburbs and street lighting and beautification work carried out along Charters Towers Road. Also during this period the Council's first administration building was constructed at the Causeway, near the intersection of Flinders Street West and Ingham Road.

Under the 1902 Local Authorities Act, divisional areas were renamed shires. Consequently, in 1903 the Thuringowa Divisional Board became the Thuringowa Shire Council. The period up to 1918 was one of consolidation and minor works not major projects.

In 1918 the Queensland Government transferred most of the urban area of Thuringowa to Townsville. The foreshore north as far as Cape Pallarenda and all the land north of the Ross River as far west as what is now Bamford Lane were lost. The population of Thuringowa dropped to 2,500 as the Council lost the suburbs of Belgian Gardens, West End, Pimlico, Hyde Park and Hermit Park, and the riverside farming areas of Mundingburra and Aitkenvale. As a result of this boundary change the Thuringowa Shire Office became located within the Townsville City Council area. The Council had objected strenuously to the excision and negotiated hard for compensation for the loss of land and infrastructure as well as outstanding loans. The episode placed enormous stress on the Chairman and Councillors and ultimately impacted upon the health of the Chairman, William Ireland, who died in July 1920.

The loss of this area meant Thuringowa became a poor rural shire serving the five rural areas of Giru, Woodstock, Mutarnee, Paluma and Rollingstone. Thuringowa's rural character predominated until the 1960s when urban development began in earnest. The Council adopted a conservative approach to policy during this period that included not only the depression years of the 1930s but also the period of World War II.

Although conservative in policy during this time, Thuringowa managed to take the initiative and implement three projects of regional significance.

These were the Houghton Tramway extension in 1922 and the region's first commercial airfield in 1930 both during the Chairmanship of James Cummins and, under Chairman Charles Wordsworth, in 1935, the construction of the Toonpan Dam. While these were not expensive projects, they revealed the Council's commitment to the region as a whole.

In addition, James Cummin's Council was notable for its nomination to Council of one of the first women to local government in Queensland. Isabella Fitzpatrick, a businesswoman and community figure from the Rollingstone area replaced, Abraham Ditton on the Council in 1924. While she did not stand for re-election later that year, her nomination at a time when women had just been allowed to enter local government signified Thuringowa's recognition of the contribution women could make to Thuringowa's future. However their initial prudence was short-lived, as women did not serve again on Thuringowa Council until 1970, when Ilsa Ryan was elected to Council. She was also Thuringowa's first female Deputy Chairman.

While the Council maintained a policy of low rating and low spending during the period until the 1960s, infrastructure did continue to be established in the area, particularly as a result of Thuringowa's role during World War II. The Townsville/Thuringowa area was an important staging point for the Pacific war and was host to seventy thousand military personnel in hospitals, staging camps, air support depots and supply facilities during the 1942-1945 period. The government developed infrastructure in the area to connect and support the area's numerous military, air and service establishments.

The period from the 1960s to the present has been an era of progress for Thuringowa. Under

John Brabon, William DeCoursey, Dan Gleeson and Les Tyrell the area has gone ahead in leaps and bounds. Its resurgence began with John Brabon and the construction of a new shire hall in 1963. The new hall replaced the old shire chambers at the causeway and was considered a symbol of Council's commitment to modernity.

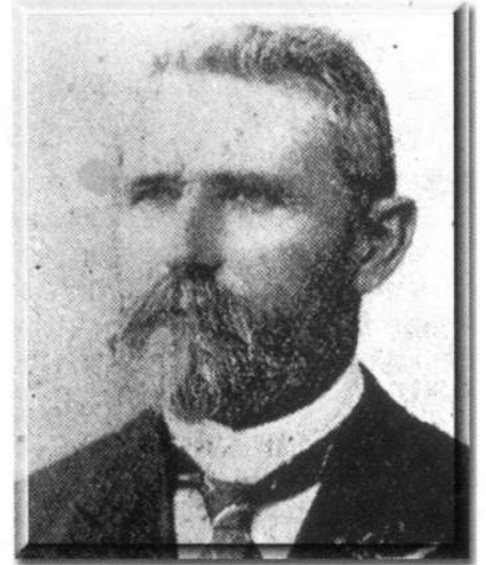
As a priority the Council undertook major works projects to upgrade roads, and provide water and sewerage services to its fast developing suburbs. William DeCoursey implemented water reticulation and sewerage connections in the new suburbs of Thuringowa. John Brabon widened Council interests to include welfare services and libraries. The Council developed recreational facilities; parks, gardens, playing fields and amenities. In 1979, under Dan Gleeson, Thuringowa Shire Council administration centre was moved back into the Thuringowa local area and in 1986 Thuringowa became a City.

Under the leadership of the present mayor, Les Tyrell, Thuringowa remains an interesting mix of urban, pastoral and industrial interests. There are still large cattle properties, sugar cane farms and orchards of mangoes and lychees within the city limits. Nickel is processed at Yabulu and light and heavy industries supply the needs of rapid growth in the region. Residential development continues at a fast rate with new subdivisions in the Northern Beaches popular with new home buyers, retirees and those interested in a 'sea-change'. Les Tyrell's Council is committed to providing its residents with a quality lifestyle and is about to begin Riverway, a project that will provide world-class recreational facilities for its expanding community.

Thuringowa is one of the fastest growing local government areas in Australia.

Hon. William Aplin 1840–1901

Lobbyist for Thuringowa



Early Life

William Aplin was born on 27 April 1840. He arrived in Brisbane in 1862 and came north to Bowen in 1863. Shortly after arriving in Bowen, he moved to the new settlement of Townsville. In 1865 he went into partnership with William Clifton and purchased the stores of Seaward, Marsh and Co. at Townsville, which traded as Clifton, Aplin and Co., then as Aplin, Brown & Co. and still later as Aplin, Brown and Crawshay. He held many public positions and in 1866 was Townsville's first unofficial postmaster.

He and his wife lived at *Edgecliffe* on Cleveland Terrace, Melton Hill. Their home was destroyed by a cyclone in 1867 but undaunted by the destruction they soon rebuilt on the same site.

He retired from the firm in 1881 and purchased Southwick station on the Burdekin River south of the Valley of Lagoons. He was a Member of the Queensland Legislative Council from 1880 until his sudden death on 18 February 1901.

In *A Journalist's Memories*, published in 1927, Major-General Spencer Brown described Aplin as

a cheery man, and had drifted into storekeeping on the Etheridge, ...In his heart he was always a bushman, with the love of the wide spaces, the brave horses, the flocks spreading over the open downs, or the dash to deal with rowdy cattle, or to cut off a small mob in a "moonlighting" expedition.

Council Achievements

William Aplin was Thuringowa's first Chairman. He was an ardent separationist, like many of the early Chairman and believed that North Queensland separation was the only redress to the 1892 cuts in local government funding. His main contribution to the Division was not in policy matters or infrastructure development but in his lobbying for Thuringowa in the Queensland Parliament following his election to Colonial Parliament in 1880.

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Frederick Gordon

Sound Administrator

Early Life

Frederick Gordon was one of the earliest settlers in the area. He started his timber business in 1870. Initially his business was located on ground on the creek bank behind Clifton and Aplin, then he moved a bit further up the creek to land behind the Telegraph Office in the area where the Brewery is now. As his business grew, he gained his own vessels. In 1875 he purchased the *Spunkie*, which conveyed cedar from the Daintree to markets down south. He was the first to convey timber to Townsville in his own vessels. He later added two schooners to his fleet, the *Moonta*, and the *Dancing Wave*.

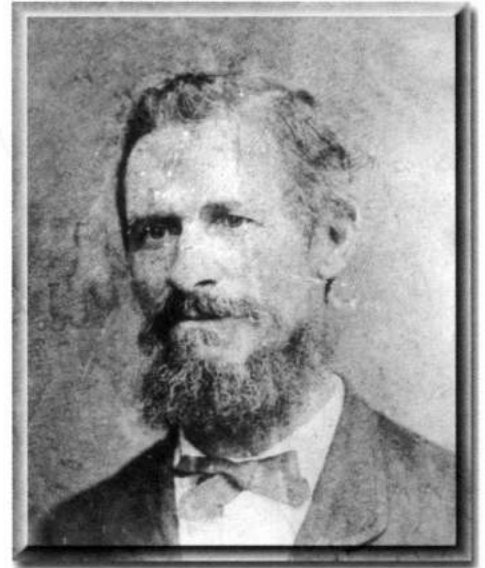
In conjunction with William Kirk, he was the first to introduce American oregon pine and redwood to North Queensland. These were popular with local builders. In 1886 he moved to reclaimed land in Stanley Street near the bank of the creek. Here he built a new office and stores where he sold timber and joinery. He assisted in the building of much of Townsville.

Gordon was a large property owner, influential and respected by the community. He served as a Justice of the Peace and magistrate. He accepted his community role well and served as President on the Hospital Committee for seven years

Council Achievements

He served as a member of the Thuringowa Divisional Board and was appointed Chairman in 1882. In this role his sound knowledge of the district came to the fore and curbed any hasty decisions that the board might make. The ratepayers were indebted to him for his independent effort to ensure the wise expenditure of revenue.

Serving Thuringowa



Early Life

James Miller was a builder, carpenter and plumber in Townsville. He had brickworks in German Gardens (now Belgian Gardens). Miller built the first two storey brick shops in Townsville in 1887. In 1889 he is listed as a commission agent with offices in Flinders Street. He was a separationist and also a member of the board of the Townsville Ice Company and was on the Hospital Board.

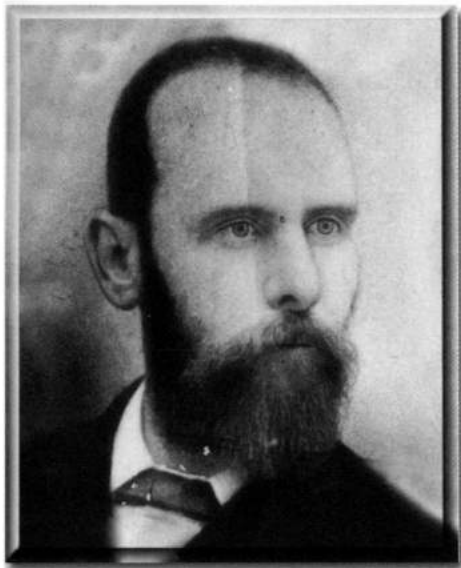
He served as a Committee member of the Townsville Caledonian Association, the Townsville Masonic lodge and the Townsville Grammar School Committee. Along with Messrs Robert Philp, John Richardson, David Buchanan and Alexander Mackenzie, they purchased land on the corner of Stokes and Wills Streets. In 1919 the land was transferred to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland. He died in March 1891 aged 61 years.

Council Record

Miller became Chairman in 1882. He resigned in controversy after only serving as Chairman for part of his term. He was replaced by Arthur Bundock.

Arthur Bundock 1850–1891

A quiet but effective leader



Early Life

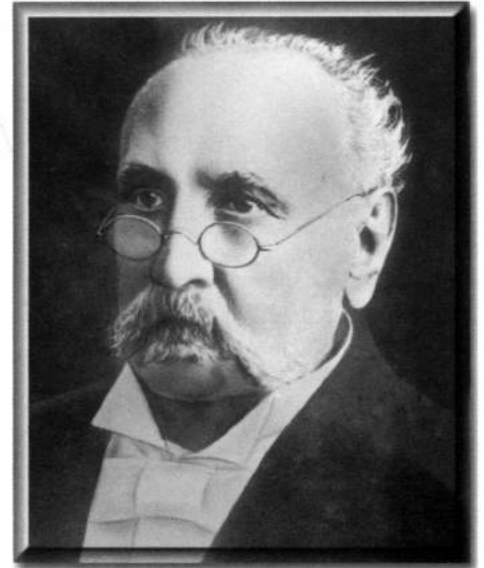
Arthur Glennie Bundock was born in 1850 near the Richmond River in New South Wales. After he finished school, he worked on his father's pastoral property. He arrived in Townsville in 1878 where he joined Walter Hays in partnership in a stock and station agency business.

A public-spirited person he was President of the School of Arts in 1887 and held a seat on the Show Society from its formation. He was a member of the Licensing Board for several years, member of the Fire Brigade Board and a trustee of both Queens Park and Townsville Grammar School. He also served nine years as Commissioner of the Peace. Arthur Bundock died on 12 February 1891.

Council Achievements

Arthur Bundock served as Chairman of the Thuringowa Divisional Board in 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886. On two occasions, in 1883 and 1884, Bundock became Chairman when the existing Chairman resigned in controversy. He was Chairman when the Causeway Bridge and the Ross River Bridge were completed. He had a strong sense of public duty and was an effective Chairman but he was a quiet achiever and did not receive the public acclaim of other more prominent Chairmen.

William Clayton 1840–1920



Early Life

William Clayton was born in Bridgnorth, Shropshire in 1840. He served his apprenticeship as a chemist in Shropshire and then worked in Birmingham and London. On his arrival in Brisbane he was registered as a chemist by the Queensland Medical Board and worked with wholesale chemists, Berkley and Taylor. Following his first venture in business in Imbil near Gympie, he moved to Maryborough before eventually settling in Townsville. He married in 1872 and by 1888 had a large family of six sons and two daughters.

On his arrival in Townsville he purchased John E Rutherford's chemist shop on the Strand. In 1877 he moved into a shop under the Masonic Hall in Flinders Street, about where the Cowboy's League Club is now situated. He initially called his new shop the Townsville Dispensary but by 1889 had changed the name to the Apothecaries Hall. He was the owner of the Westbourne Grove subdivision in Thuringowa.

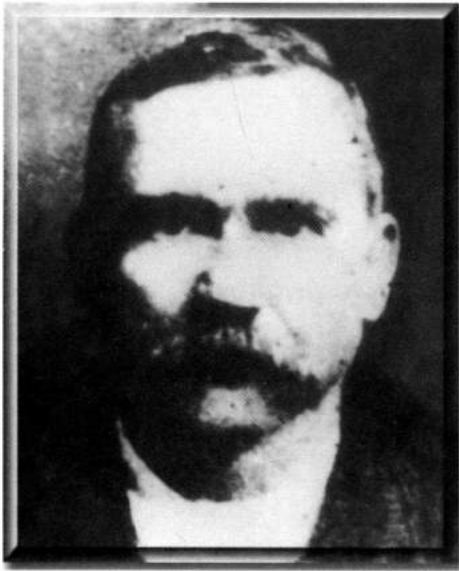
A prominent community contributor, William Clayton was a member of the Masonic Lodge and School of Arts Committee. He also served on the Hospital Board and was a magistrate for the area. He died on 25 February 1920.

Council Achievements

He was a member of the Thuringowa Divisional Board for many years and nominated for Chairman in 1884. He resigned in controversy after only serving a few months. His company, Clayton Brickworks had been awarded the contract to supply bricks for the construction of the Causeway Bridge. When flooding occurred in the area, ratepayers became concerned that the new bridge was of sound construction and thus they voiced charges of corruption and misuse of his position to change the design. Arthur Bundock replaced Clayton as Chairman in August 1884.

Frederick Johnson

Out and about in the Division



Early Life

Frederick Johnson came to Townsville in 1873 and worked on the construction of the harbour jetty. He then managed Caravan's butcher shop until buying it in partnership with Joseph Fletcher. After he bought out Fletcher, he sold the business to Bytheway. In 1875, he took up the licence of the *Carrier's Arms Hotel* in Flinders Street West.

In 1875 he left the hotel business and traded in horses and cattle with towns to the north. He re-entered the butchering business with another partner John White. Again he bought out his partner and in 1876 he sold a half-share in the business to William Castling. The partnership survived until 1908. In 1884 Johnson and Castling built the *Excelsior Hotel* in Flinders Street East and a new shop at the corner of Flinders and Stokes Streets.

Frederick Johnson lived at Ellerslie, situated where Cathedral School is now, and which had been Robert Philp's house. He owned Herbert Vale station with William J Castling 1892. His other business interests included shares in the Townsville Foundry and Shipbuilding Co. (1884), Townsville Bond and Free Storage Co. (1887) and Townsville Brewery Co Ltd.

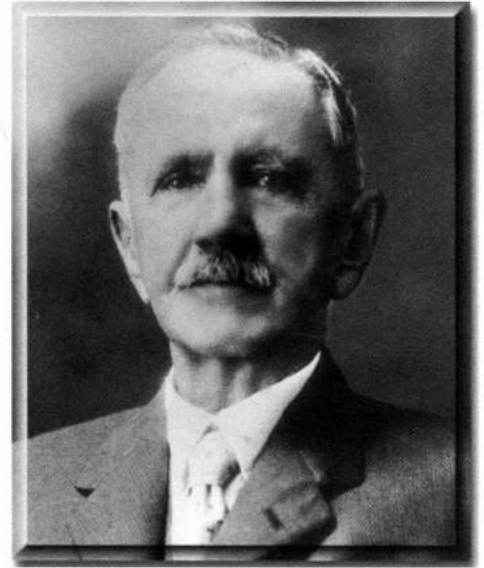
Council Achievements

He served as Chairman of the Thuringowa Divisional Board in 1887, 1888 and 1891.

The newspapers acclaimed Frederick Johnson as the best Chairman ever as he "got out and about". He was well liked by his constituents as he recognised their road, bridge and drainage needs.

Hon Joseph Hodel 1850–1943

Sound administration and community service



Early Life

Joseph Hodel was born on the Channel Island of Jersey in 1850. He came to Queensland with his parents and siblings in 1863. After working for a few years on a plantation on the Logan River, in 1870 he moved to Townsville with his first wife, Johanna and twin sons. Joseph joined members of his family who were already established in the area. In his early years in Townsville he pursued various trades including baker, confectioner and fruiterer, however by the 1870s he had launched into the hotel business.

Council Achievements

Joseph Hodel became a member of the Thuringowa Divisional Board in 1884. He was a member of the Board for 23 years, serving as Chairman on at least 14 occasions. During his service to the Board, improvements were undertaken in the Thuringowa area that greatly enhanced the region's economy and promoted further settlement.

In his first years on the Board, the Council focused on infrastructure development that included the completion of the Causeway

(1885) and the construction of the Ross River Bridge (1886). As Chairman he instigated the reconstruction of the Ross River Bridge in 1897; the building of the Stewart Creek Bridge on Alligator Creek Road in 1894; upgrading the sanitation system; and the establishment of the Thuringowa Water Board (1897). Once the basic infrastructure was established, he limited capital works but maintained a philosophy of pragmatism and progressivism throughout his chairmanship.

In addition to serving as Chairman, Joseph Hodel was the Thuringowa representative on a number of regional development committees. After the founding of the Townsville Harbour Board in 1895, he became the Thuringowa Divisional Board member on the Board. He remained on the board for 25 years, serving as Chairman for seven of those years. He was also Thuringowa representative on the Ayr Tramway Joint Board, serving as Chairman of the Board until 1910 when it folded.

Joseph Hodel retired from the Thuringowa Shire Council in 1916 but returned as a Councillor for the Shire from 1920 to 1922. He died in Townsville in 1943.

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Business interests

Hotelier

Joseph Hodel was a successful hotelier owning numerous hotels in the city, including the *North Star* in Flinders Street (1874), the *Newmarket* 1878-82, 82-83, 89-90, the *Grand* 1886-87, and the *Cluden* 1897.

Pastoralist

Joseph Hodel also developed extensive pastoral interests in the north. By 1876 he was listed in the Squatter's Directory as a leaseholder of land in Townsville. He owned and raced horses and turned his properties, Oaklands at Cluden, and Clevedon, south of Townsville, into lucrative horse raising and stud farms. He was one of the original members of the Townsville Pastoral Association and the Townsville Turf Club and was appointed one of the trustees for the Cluden Racecourse. In addition to his interest in horses, Hodel had a number of cattle properties including St Helier (1893-1896), (1903-1907).

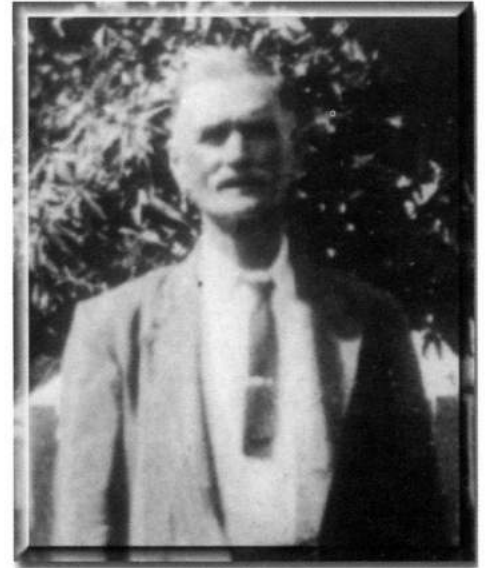
Other Business and Community Involvements

In 1914 Joseph Hodel was appointed to the Legislative Council of the Queensland Parliament and remained Townsville representative until the upper house was abolished in 1922.

After an initial failed attempt in the newspaper business in the 1880s, his interest revived in 1908 when he acquired shares in the Townsville Newspaper Company Limited. By 1910 he was a member of the board of North Queensland Newspaper Co Ltd.

About the turn of the century Hodel became a director of the United Insurance Co. Ltd continuing in that capacity for 42 years. In 1933 he was elected honorary member of the Townsville Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his long association with them and his "many years of most useful public service to the city".

Joseph Hodel's community involvement extended to membership of the Townsville School of Arts, State Orphanage and the Townsville Voluntary Defence Force as well various other charitable and sporting committees.



Early Life

Robert Mawby was born in Wellington, New Zealand around 1852. His father, Lawrence Mawby, originally from Lincolnshire, had arrived in Australia in 1846. Lawrence married and moved to New Zealand where Robert was born. The family returned to Lincolnshire for a short period but then came back to the antipodes, to settle in Queensland in 1864.

Robert was an early settler in the Thuringowa area. He worked as a stockman on Dotswood station where he met and married Selina Hudson in 1869. The couple continued to work there for another two years before they selected land on the Black River and on Bluewater Creek where they ran cattle and operated a dairy. In town Robert, together with his younger brother Thomas, kept a livery stables in Sturt Street and worked as carriers, transporting goods to inland settlements. Although he had fulfilled the conditions of the *Land Act* by December 1891, the death of his brother and economic depression caused Robert to surrender his lease on the Bluewater property. He retained the Black River property and at that time was living there.

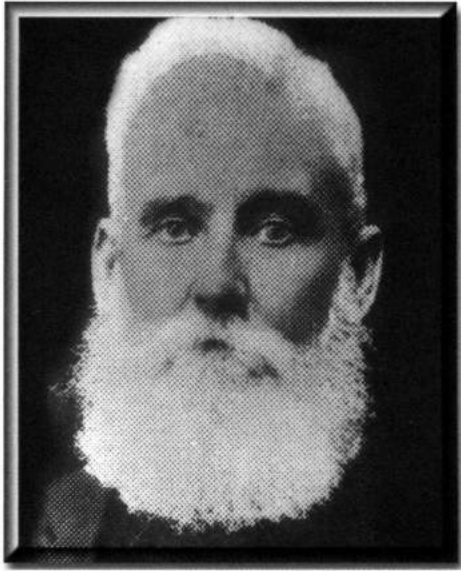
Robert Mawby was the licensee of a number of hotels, including the *Royal Oak Hotel* (1898-99), *The Day Dawn Hotel*, Ingham (1901) and the *Metropolitan Hotel* (1901-1904). He was Superintendent of the Townsville Orphanage for a period following his retirement.

Council Involvement

Robert Mawby was a member of the Thuringowa Divisional Board for five years from 1898 to 1903. He is listed in *Pugh's Almanac* as Chairman of Thuringowa in 1898 and 1899. As Council Minutes from this period do not remain in existence, it is difficult to confirm the exact period of his office.

Henry Abbot 1854–1928

Out and about in the Division



Early Life

Henry Abbot was born on a property on the banks of the Williams River near Dungong in New South Wales in September 1845. After he finished school he worked as a station hand on his father's property and as a drover taking cattle to Queensland. As an adult he went into partnership in the pastoral property, Fanning Downs, south west of Townsville, although he eventually bought out his partners.

In Ingham, during August 1888 he married his second cousin Francis Mary Neville. In 1892 Henry James Abbot had a furniture store in Flinders Street, near the *Palace Hotel* and a branch store at Charters Towers. The business folded in the 1890s but he re-emerged, trading in new premises in Flinders Street in 1902. He sold the business the same year to N Baxter.

His interest in pastoralism extended into public life where he served as President of the Townsville Pastoral Agricultural and Industrial Society for 11 years. He was a regular judge of cattle in the beef cattle classes at agricultural shows in Charters Towers, Townsville and Hughenden.

Council Achievements

Henry Abbot was Chairman of the Thuringowa Divisional Board in 1910, 1911. Abbot followed a conservative approach to local government which was reflected in moderate rate charges and small works projects.

He upset other members on the Council when he was absent from the area for a couple of months, had not arranged for an Acting Chairman to take over his duties and continued to receive the Chairman's stipend. As a result when another board member was nominated as acting chair he declined on principle. Members of the Board felt ratepayers were not getting value for their money.

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Early Life

In 1887 Edward Crowder was residing on land in the Hermit Park Estate. He was a builder and contractor by trade. He constructed and altered many buildings in the city, including the offices for Garbutt Brothers in Flinders Street 1910 and alterations to the rear of the *Exchange Hotel*. His daughter, Letitia was one of the first girls to attend Townsville Grammar School. He served a term as an Alderman on the Townsville City Council in 1915, and was Chairman of the Thuringowa Shire Council in 1914 and 1916.

Council Record

Crowder was Chairman during the conservative years of Council. His Council maintained a policy that valued surplus and did not take out loans for new public works projects but focused on consolidating existing infrastructure. In fact his Council spent more on office expenses and salaries than it did on public works.

After a temporary slump in the 1900s, the construction of housing again surged ahead in the western suburbs during Crowder's chairmanship. In January 1914, *The North Queensland Register* noted

...sites which a couple of years ago represented vacant plots are springing into brisk residential form. The sound of the carpenter's saw and the slink of the bricklayer's trowel are in active evidence and a new and busy group of suburbs is actively asserting itself.

His conservatism was evident in his Council's reaction to the prospect of adult suffrage in Thuringowa. Their opposition to this prospect was not surprising given that Council members came from the land owning elite and therefore were reluctant to share political power with the working class. In 1915 the Council lobbied the Queensland Local Authorities Association to extend its conference so that "this important issue" could be discussed.

William Ireland 1859–1920

Demands of office



Early Life

William Ireland was born in 1859 in Devonshire, England. He married Dorcas Lawrence in Misterton, Somerset in 1883. Following their marriage they came to Australia where William found work as a station hand on a property on the Upper Burdekin.

In 1885 they moved to Townsville with their children. William Ireland established a carrying business in the district. Initially he used a dray and horses but later he progressed to a wagon and a horse team. By 1895 they had acquired a small holding which they called Greenbower. The property was situated in part of the area now covered by the suburb of Kirwan.

In 1907, William's daughter, Anne, married James Kelso's son, James, and in about 1911 they went to live at the Laudham Park property on the Upper Ross. During World War I, William Ireland went into partnership with James Kelso in a cattle property, Granite Hills most of which was sold after the war.

William Ireland became a Thuringowa Shire councillor in 1915 and in 1917 he became Chairman, an office he held until just prior to his death in July 1920.

Council Record

William Ireland served as Chairman through a difficult period of Thuringowa's history and his experience serves as a reminder of the demands often placed upon Chairmen, Mayors and Councillors. In 1918 the Queensland Government transferred most of the urban area of Thuringowa to Townsville as part of a state-wide "Greater City Scheme". As a result the population of Thuringowa dropped to 2,500 and the shire office became located within the Townsville Municipal Council area.

However this did not happen without opposition from Thuringowa Shire Council members. At the 11 July 1917 Council meeting, the Chairman William Ireland drew attention to a newspaper account of a motion passed by the Townsville City Council calling for the creation of "Greater Townsville" by the inclusion of Thuringowa's western suburbs. After debating the issue, Thuringowa Councillors resolved to protest to the Queensland Government, stating that "the time was not opportune" and requesting that a "vote of the ratepayers" should be taken. The Government agreed but the subsequent vote of ratepayers in both Council areas found in favour of Townsville and the land was excised.

The Chairman, William Ireland, declared that the vote was not fair as the city roll had included "a large number of married ladies names entered as owners and their husbands as occupiers of dwellings". Despite the Chairman's attempts to argue against the outcome, the vote stood and the western suburbs were lost to Townsville City.

The fight continued after the excision over the payment of compensation to Thuringowa for the excised land, bridges and roads as well as for the loans taken out to build them. Although Thuringowa was ultimately successful in gaining compensation, the struggle was bitter and protracted and took its toll on William Ireland's health. He resigned soon after the excision due to ill health and died in July 1920.

Serving Thuringowa

James Edward Patrick Cummins 1884–1933

A ground-breaking conservative

Early Life

James Cummins was born in Sydney in 1884. His family selected land on the banks of Serpentine Lagoon at Major's Creek. He became a member of Thuringowa Shire Council in 1915 serving as Councillor for Division 3. In 1920 he was nominated by his fellow Councillors for the position of Chairman. He accepted the nomination and led the Council until 1929. James Edward Patrick Cummins died in 1933 at the age of 49 years.

Council Record

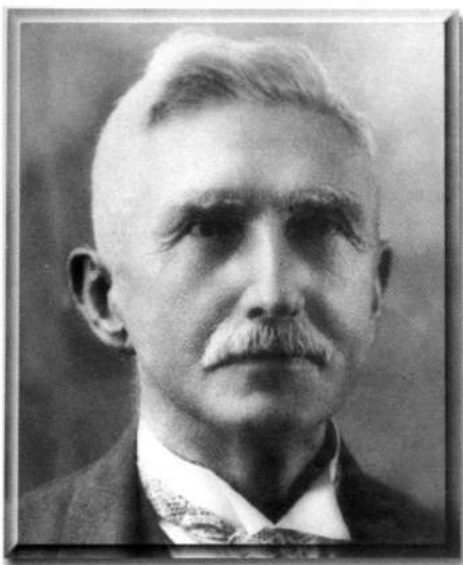
After the 1918 excision of the Thuringowa's suburbs, the Shire was financially constrained. Cummins' policies maintained a conservative approach to the Shire by not undertaking major projects. However two projects of regional significance demonstrated Cummin's initiative during difficult times. These were the Haughton Tramway extension in 1922 and the region's first commercial airfield in 1930. While these were not expensive projects, they revealed the Council's commitment to the region as a whole.

Moreover, Cummins departed from conservatism when his Council appointed one of the first woman to local government in Queensland in 1924. Isabella Fitzpatrick, an hotelier from Rollingstone, filled a councillor vacancy left when the sitting member, Abraham Ditton, resigned.

After 1918 local government was given increased responsibility for health care, including childhood immunisation and the upkeep of infectious disease wards at local hospitals. In 1918 hookworm infestations of serious proportions were discovered in north Queensland and a five-year joint campaign was carried out involving the Commonwealth Government, the States and the Rockefeller Foundation to survey and treat the disease in Australia. Cummins supported the campaign despite difficulties arising from Thuringowa's extensive geographic area and its financial position. The Council arranged information sessions at schools throughout the Shire and provided horses for campaign staff. In addition, Council's health inspector carried out inspections of outhouses and reported those not acceptable.

Charles Wordsworth 1866–1949

Moderation in difficult times



Early Life

Charles Wordsworth's formative years were spent in Britain. He was born in London in 1866 where his father worked as a Queen's Council. After his father died, Charles, then 15 years, came to Australia with his mother and brother. In 1880 in Townsville his mother remarried William Murray. In time Charles married Elizabeth Bennett and they had a large family of nine children. Tragically Elizabeth died following the birth of the last child and Charles was left to raise his young family with the help of his older daughters.

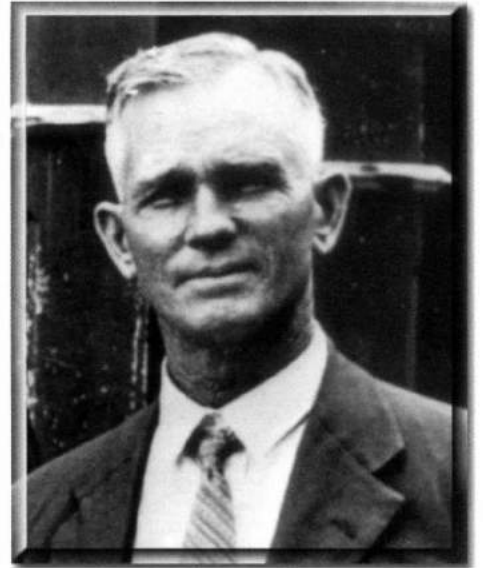
Charles and Elizabeth Wordsworth had settled on land at Manton between Reid River and Woodstock in the 1890s. Here Charles had developed the property, Springvale, running livestock including beef and dairy cattle and horses which were sent to India to be used as remounts for the British army.

Charles Wordsworth became Chairman of Thuringowa in 1930 and remained in the position until his death in April 1949. His son was elected to the office in May 1949.

Council Record

Charles Wordsworth was Chairman of Thuringowa during the difficult years of the depression and World War II. His leadership of policies emphasising low rating and low spending demonstrated his conservatism. At this time the Shire was poverty-stricken. Not only was the Shire suffering from the effects of the Depression and the decline in the cattle industry but it was also still feeling the impact of the excision of its residential suburbs to Townsville City Council initially in 1918 and again in 1936.

The increasing use of motor vehicles placed a burden upon Council to implement works programs to provide better roads. By 1936 only 19% of all roads in Thuringowa were graded or otherwise improved. While road works were a priority for the Council, the amount of money available from revenue and the small size of loans were not sufficient to implement major road works. In addition Council had an ongoing and increasing commitment to public health which in 1937 represented 33.3% of its expenses. Council's slow response to improve roads prompted the RACQ and the Townsville and District Development Association to call for the abolition of Thuringowa Shire in 1936. Luckily, Thuringowa successfully opposed their petition.



Early Life

James Kelso, junior, was born in Warwick, Queensland in December 1874. His father, James, first came to Australia during the 1850s gold rushes. James Kelso, senior, was a blacksmith by trade and had tried his luck on a number of goldfields but did not find any gold so returned to his trade as a blacksmith to earn a living. He went back to Scotland where he met and married his wife Mary. In 1874 James and Mary with their one surviving child migrated to Australia and settled in Warwick. About 1876 they moved to Townsville, where James Kelso, senior, obtained work at the Cleveland Foundry. In 1879 James and Mary Kelso and their children took up a selection on the upper Ross River where he ran cattle. The property became known as Laudham Park. James used his skill as a blacksmith to repair a broken wagon and then he began carrying goods to many of the mining centres as a way of earning extra money during the dry seasons. The women of the family established a dairy.

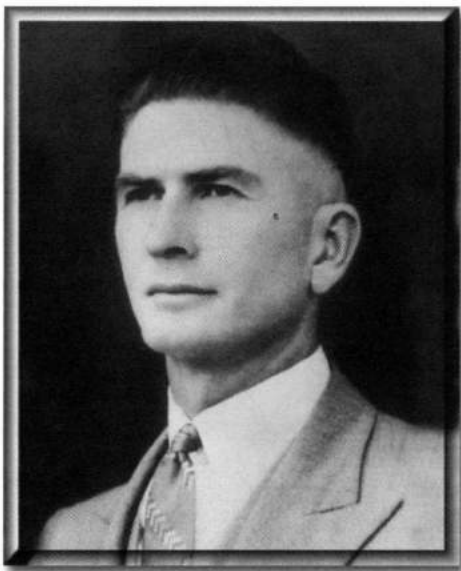
As a young boy James Kelso, junior, worked as spare boy on his father's carrying teams, which transported freight to Georgetown, Gilberton and other places. They carried the

first cyanide treatment plant from Charters Towers to the Cumberland, situated beyond Georgetown. They also transported the first load of timber to Richmond for the construction of Goldring and Tolano's Store. When James Kelso, junior, was 21 years old his father died. He continued in the carrying business but later gave it up to concentrate on pastoralism. In 1907 he married William Ireland's daughter Annie and in 1911 they went to live at the Laudham Park property on the Upper Ross. During World War I, James Kelso and William Ireland went into partnership in a cattle property, Granite Hills.

Council Involvement

James Kelso served as a Councillor on the Thuringowa Shire Council from December 1925 to 1955. He was nominated to Council on the death of William Patterson. In March 1949 James became Acting Chairman in the absence of serving Chairman, Charles Wordsworth, due to ill health. He was elected Chairman when Charles Wordsworth died in April 1949. Charles Wordsworth's son, W H F Wordsworth was elected Chairman at the next election in May 1949.

William H F Wordsworth 1904–1972



Early Life

William Howard Favell Wordsworth was born on the 31 May 1904 at Springvale station near Manton. His father, Charles Wallace Wordsworth, was a grazier and ran livestock on his property and served as Chairman of Thuringowa from 1930 to 1948. William attended Manton School not far from his parents' property.

On completion of his schooling he joined his father on the cattle property. Together they built up a impressive Shorthorn and Devon cross herd. In 1941 he purchased the property from his father and lived there until he retired in 1961. He never married and followed his father into local government becoming Chairman in 1949. He served the Council as Chairman until 1961.

Following his retirement and relocation to Mysterton, he retained his life-long interest in horses and raced several horses at Cluden. He died in May 1972 aged 67 years after a short illness.

Council Record

William Wordsworth maintained his father's conservative approach to local government adopting a low rating and low spending policy.

John Richard Brabon 1923–1997

Progressive outlook



Early Life

John Richard Brabon was born on his parents' property at Black River in 1923. His parents were members of pioneering families who had settled in the area. His father worked as a teamster and transported supplies to the mining fields. John was educated at home until he went to the Bohle School, a seven mile horse ride from home. John loved the rural life. He was a good horseman and was actively involved in the day-to-day running of his parents' property. Before and after school he helped yard the milking cows. John enjoyed music, and played the violin, accordion and harmonica.

At 18 years of age he enlisted in the Army. During World War II he served in the infantry in New Guinea. He was demobilised at the end of the war when he was 23.

After the war, he married. He and his wife had four children, two girls and two boys. He served as Thuringowa's representative on the Electricity Board, and was influential in ensuring that electricity was provided to the Hervey Range and the western areas. He lived on his cattle property, Glen Rowan station, Black River. He died in May 1997.

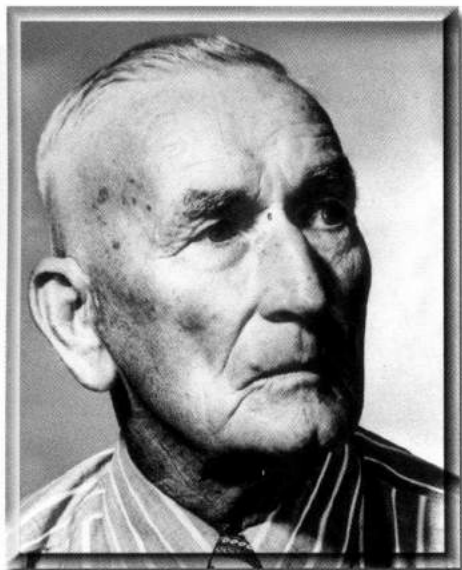
Council Achievements

John R Brabon served two terms as Chairman – 1961-1965 and 1969-1971. As a rural person, Brabon entered Council with rural issues foremost in his mind, however once in office his focus broadened to include welfare services and libraries. Brabon began a period of progressivism instituting major works programs which in the 1964-65 financial year totalled more than £68,000. He was Chairman when, in 1964, the Shire's administration building at the Causeway was replaced by a modern red brick building. He was instrumental in Thuringowa becoming involved in the Queensland Local Authorities Association (LAA) and the North Queensland Local Authorities Association (NQLAA). While previous Chairmen had maintained a conservative approach to local government, Brabon understood that with suburban development beginning in the Shire, Council had to increase rates and take out loans if it wished to provide services to its constituents.

Serving Thuringowa

William DeCoursey 1905–1990

Consolidated Thuringowa's new direction



Early Life

William DeCoursey was born in Muttaborra and lived there until he was 10 years old when his family moved to Hughenden. He attended school at Muttaborra, Hughenden and Mt Carmel in Charters Towers. He left school after the 6th grade. On leaving school he became a shearer and worked on western stations. At one time he was engaged in breaking horses on Dotswood station at the top of Hervey Range. He moved to Townsville in 1928 but used to go back shearing and working in the mines at regular intervals.

During the depression he worked out west on properties, in mines and on the railway. Prior to and during World War II, he carted timber. In addition he ran his own poultry farm in West End and managed another poultry farm for the Americans at Oonoonba. After the war he went into partnership with his brother who had a poultry farm at Black River.

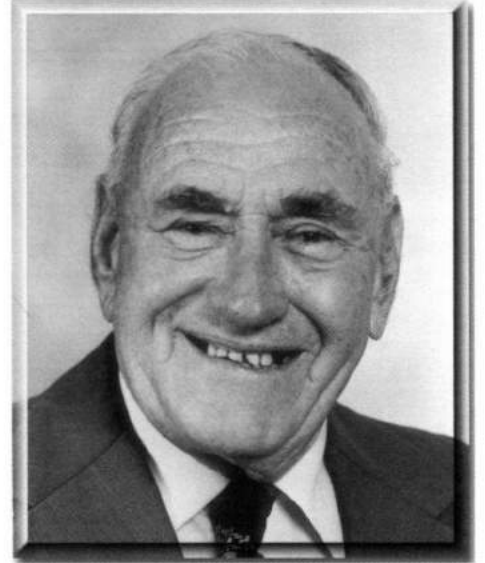
He became Chairman of Thuringowa in 1967. He served two terms, the first from 1966-68 and the second from 1972-75.

Council Achievements

When William DeCoursey became Chairman, the ratepayer population was relatively small and there were practically no services. Thuringowa was at the time a purely rural area. However DeCoursey continued the implementation of water reticulation and sewerage connections in the fast-developing suburbs. He strengthened the position of Thuringowa as a progressive urban-rural shire. In the 1970s social welfare became important and the Council developed recreational facilities; parks gardens, playing fields and amenities. To meet the cost of Council's works program he increased rates and loans and pushed Thuringowa into the development sphere. Under his Chairmanship Thuringowa became one of the major employing authorities in the area.

Dan Gleeson OBE 1914–1994

Strong and charismatic leader



Early Life

Daniel Gleeson was born on 11 November 1914 at the home of midwife, Nurse Blaxland on Ingham Road in Townsville. At the time his parents lived on land at the Bohle.

As a young schoolboy he rode five miles to Black School where his aunt was the teacher. In 1926 he moved from Black School to Aitkenvale School. Two years later at the age of 14 years he went to the Christian Brothers School located on Stanton Hill in the city. After he finished school, he took up an apprenticeship with Northern Cars and Tractors but the business folded before he finished his trade qualifications. He then worked with his uncle on his dairy, looking after the cattle. He was also engaged in cutting wood.

After a short time out of town working as a labourer constructing roads, Dan Gleeson returned to Townsville where, in 1935 he met and married Daisy May Campbell. In 1939 Dan Gleeson invested in a new truck and the couple moved to Silkwood where he secured work building bridges and roads. In 1941 they moved to Cairns where Dan Gleeson worked with the Main Roads Commission on the Cairns Aerodrome.

He continued to work for the Main Roads Commission throughout World War II. After the Cairns aerodrome he worked on defence

works around Townsville. He operated the heavy machinery at the quarry, but also carted material from the quarry to the construction sites. He was involved in the construction of airstrips at the Townsville airport, the widening of Blakey's Crossing, and construction at other World War II airfields including the Bohle, Weir, Dalrymple Road and Murray. Towards the end of the war the Main Roads Commission employed him as a motor mechanic.

After the war, for a short period of time he was involved in mining in the Mt Spec area. He resigned from the Main Roads Commission in 1955 and went to work for Readymix concrete until March 1956. In 1956 he accepted employment with Kern Bros who were working on the hard-standings at the Townsville aerodrome. Whilst working for Kern he went into earthmoving with the Pattels, a partnership that continued until 1963. At that time Dan formed DTJ & DM Gleeson, Earthmoving Contractors which he ran from 1963 to 1983 when his daughter and her husband took over.

Dan Gleeson became a member of the Australian Labor Party in the 1936. He ran for a seat in the Townsville City Council in 1949 and the seat of Mundingburra in the state election in 1953. At both times he was unsuccessful. He left the party in 1960.

Serving Thuringowa

After declining a nomination to stand for the Thuringowa Shire Council in 1970, he was elected to Thuringowa Shire Council unopposed in the 1973 election. He was nominated and elected as Chairman in 1976, and returned at subsequent elections, 1979, 1982, 1985, 1988.

Council Achievements

A great deal of development took place in the Shire during Dan Gleeson's period as a Councillor from 1973-1976. River Glen Shopping Centre was constructed in Kelso, Parkside Shopping Centre established in Kirwan (1976), and a small local store was built in Forrest Avenue Kirwan. In addition, the shop at the corner of Ross River Road and Gollogly's Lane was upgraded. Furthermore, residential development increased considerably with the construction of 1381 homes mainly in Kirwan and the Upper Ross.

Dan Gleeson was instrumental in persuading the community to get behind the establishment of an ambulance centre in Kirwan. The ambulance centre was opened in May 1979. He also was influential in the development of the Thuringowa Maternity Hospital which opened in October 1986.

During his Chairmanship, the Thuringowa Shire Council administration centre was moved back into the Thuringowa local area.

Serving Thuringowa

While there was some opposition within Council to the move, with some Councillors wanting to extend the existing building within the Townsville City area and place remaining staff in buildings at the Depot, Dan eventually convinced them of the benefits of his proposal. Tenders were called for the construction of the new building on Thuringowa Drive and construction begun. Staff moved into their new offices in December 1979.

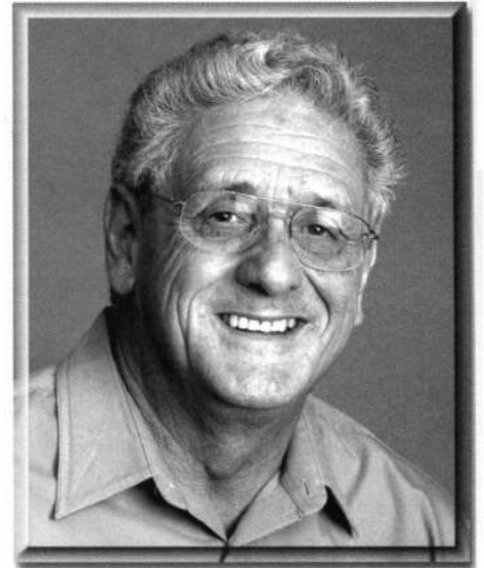
Further residential development occurred during his next term of office 1979-1981. It was during his fourth term, in 1986 that Thuringowa became a City with a population of some 32,000 residents. In 1990, during Dan Gleeson's fifth term, the Council moved towards the establishment of its own library service, severing its joint agreement with Townsville City Council which had begun in 1958. Shortly after the Thuringowa Library was founded, a Mobile Library was commissioned.

In 1986 Dan Gleeson was successful in getting the Townsville City Council to agree to the formation of a Joint Water Board. Members were Reynolds, Dobinson, Wilson from Townsville City Council and Gleeson and Tyrell from Thuringowa, Ian Hamilton was Chairman. This later became NQ Water.

Dan Gleeson was a strong and charismatic leader, who managed Thuringowa's progress from Shire to City.

Les Tyrell

Establishing an identity for Thuringowa



Early Life

Les Tyrell was born in Brisbane in 1945. While he was still a baby, his parents moved back to the north to the Tully area where he grew up. His early life centred on outdoor pursuits. On weekends Les and his mates explored the rainforest-covered mountains, went swimming and spearfishing in the local freshwater streams and played sport. He was a fair sportsman and was particularly keen on rugby league.

Les attended Tully State Rural School until the end of year nine when his parents moved to Ingham. He was awarded a teacher scholarship to complete secondary school but left after year eleven to pursue employment with public accountants, Carey and Hackett.

In the early 1960s he was offered a job with Development Enterprises and left the accountant's office. In 1965 he married Pat, an Ingham girl. The following year Les accepted a position as Deputy Accountant for Foxwood Timber. In early 1970, Foxwood Timber moved him and his family to Innisfail where he was assistant manager and later that year, he was moved to Cairns where he became manager.

In 1973, Les and his family were transferred to Townsville and settled in Thuringowa. In 1982 he went into partnership in a financial services consultancy. He remained there until he became Mayor.

Les has a strong sense of community responsibility. He was involved in the Junior Chamber of Commerce for many years and at one time held the office of State President and National Executive Member. When his children were young, he was an active member and office bearer of school and sporting groups. Such community focus gave him a good foundation for moving into local government. He was elected to Council in 1979 and became Mayor of Thuringowa City Council 1991.

Les was awarded the Centenary Medal for distinguished service to local government in 2003.

Council Achievements

In the early 1990s, the EARC Commission recommended the amalgamation of the two cities of Townsville and Thuringowa. While Townsville City preferred amalgamation, Les and his Council maintained the no change option. With the interest of Thuringowa's residents at heart, Les actively debated the issue. His Council believed that there were more disadvantages than advantages in amalgamation and took the position that the problems identified by the EARC could be easily overcome by cooperation between the two Councils. Les fought the amalgamation on two major points: firstly, that an amalgamation would not provide any substantial economies of scale, or saving to the community. He also argued strongly that there were different and

Serving Thuringowa

further emerging communities of interest between the residents of Townsville and Thuringowa. Les also argued that bigger was not better, and that Councils should be small enough to be able to respond adequately to the needs of residents when required. Residents of the City were surveyed by the Local Government Commissioner and were resoundingly against the amalgamation of the two Cities. Ultimately, the Commissioner confirmed all of Les and the Council's arguments in his recommendation for boundary changes rather than amalgamation.

As Mayor, Les has instigated major projects aimed at beautifying the city. In recent years he has introduced a streetscape strategy to improve the residential and commercial amenity of the city. The strategy which focused on footpaths, streets and median strips has included greening campaigns, signage, entry statements, street furniture and public art that have improved the amenity of the city. Works include the Northern Beaches entry statements and landscaping, the Kirwan commercial precinct upgrade and beautification work to roundabouts and median strips throughout the city.

In addition, the Council has transformed parks and recreation areas in Thuringowa. Major park improvements have been undertaken to Dan Gleeson Memorial Gardens, Mount View Park, Charles Moroney Park at Kelso and Michael

Hooper Park at Jensen to name but a few. Improvements included the erection of new facilities, lighting, landscaping, barbeques and furniture and sporting facilities.

The streetscape strategy and the transformation of parks and recreation areas have transformed the city and instilled a strong sense of pride in the community which has helped to develop a Thuringowa identity.

Les has continually supported public facilities that are jointly funded by Thuringowa and Townsville City Councils. These facilities include the Civic Theatre, Perc Tucker Gallery, the Dean Park Soundshell, Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre, Willows Joint Sports Complex (Dairy Farmers Stadium) and the Townsville/Thuringowa Cemetery Trust.

During his terms as Mayor the City of Thuringowa has become the fastest growing community in North Queensland.

The Future of Thuringowa

Les Tyrell's vision for the future of Thuringowa is for it to remain a city where families can enjoy the north's lifestyle; where there are opportunities for people to live, work and enjoy recreation in the city. He would like to see Thuringowa establish and maintain a strong community spirit, and become a vibrant economic base for the future of its residents.

Deanne Bell

Deputy Mayor



Early Life

Deanne Bell was born in Moreland, Victoria in 1948. As a child she was a keen gymnast and ballet dancer and enjoyed camping holidays with her family. Deanne was educated at Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary School in Oakpark, Victoria. She attended speech and drama classes at Bambi Smith College and was Dux of the Speech and Drama class in the late 1960s. She was also heavily involved in sport at high school and played squash in the school pennant competition. She was a member of a local church group and was a youth group leader for many years.

At 18 years of age Deanne entered the Miss Australia Quest to raise money for children with disabilities. Once a month she also undertook voluntary work at a local Home for the Aged, where she attended to the needs of the elderly - community work she enjoyed. For many years she followed Essendon as a keen supporter and member of the cheer squad.

At 15 years of age, she gained employment as a Laboratory Assistant but illness forced her to retrain as a telephonist, receptionist clerk

typist. She has also worked as a bookkeeper, sales assistant, child care worker, business owner, housekeeper and real estate salesperson. Deanne has lived in Thuringowa for 23 years.

Council Achievements

Deanne Bell was elected to Council 1994 and became the Council's first female Deputy Mayor in 1998. She was re-elected to the position in 2004. Currently, she is a member of the Corporate Governance Committee and Commercial and Economic Development Committee. Deanne works on many community committees including the Thuringowa Seniors Council and Pest Management Working Group.

During the 1998 January floods, Deanne worked in a voluntary capacity answering phones at the Disaster Centre and directing assistance to those in need. As a result of this disaster, Council, with financial assistance from State and Federal Governments, undertook drainage and flood mitigation works in Kirwan. Deanne considers the completion of the flood mitigation scheme which protects a large number of residential

properties in the Kirwan area to be a positive outcome for the local community - one which reinforces her role on Council.

Other Council community projects and commercial development also confirm her responsibility to the community. The development of the Cannon Park precinct from a bare patch of ground into a shopping centre which includes a theatre, hotel and restaurants has focused community shopping and recreational activities in the local area. Young people have not been forgotten and have benefited from the construction of recreational and sporting facilities in the city. These have included establishment of a BMX track in Neil McCarthy Park at Rasmussen. In addition, the provision of improved lighting in Council's parks has made them safer for residents to visit and enjoy in the evening.

The Future of Thuringowa

Deanne Bell would like to see the City centre and suburbs develop further, the first stage of Riverway completed and successive recreational nodes developed along the river.

She hopes businesses will continue to take advantage of Thuringowa's growing commercial areas so that employment opportunities increase for residents in Thuringowa. In addition, with the shift of population to coastal areas outside capital cities gathering pace, Deanne considers that Thuringowa is well placed to receive the baby boomers and "sea changers" who are either retiring or deciding to adopt a more relaxed beach lifestyle in the area. Through Council's membership of the Sea Change Task Force, which was formed to face the issue of rapid population and tourism growth in coastal areas, and Council's recognition of the importance of having infrastructure in place to meet the needs of new residents, she predicts Council will achieve positive community outcomes.



Early Life

Jenny Lane was born in the United Kingdom in 1949. She was educated at boarding school to high school level in the United Kingdom. She has been a resident of Thuringowa for 23 years and owns and operates a computer accounting service in Thuringowa with her husband, Richard. Jenny is a member of the Australian Institute of Management and has two adult children. She was first elected to Council in 1994.

Council Achievements

Jenny has served as a Councillor for ten years and is the current Chair of the Environmental and Community Service Committee as well as member of the Commercial Business Units Committee.

As Chair of the Environmental and Community Service Committee, Jenny's role has encompassed cultural life in Thuringowa. Jenny has seen Thuringowa Library grow from a small facility to a service, which offers a range of information services to local, distant and housebound residents of the City. The Library Service is very highly rated by Thuringowa's residents. Jenny found her involvement in *Grapple: a sensory engagement with contemporary art* to have very positive outcomes, both for the local community, and for the wider community of Queensland when it travelled to other parts of the state. The exhibition, which explored and engaged the use of senses other than sight, also had a community cultural development focus. It developed new gallery audiences as well as increased the general public's awareness of issues concerning the vision-impaired community.

Jenny has also found Council's initiatives aimed at protecting the environment to have been well supported by the community. Council has enhanced its recycling service with the provision of a second wheelie bin for all homes; developed

new infrastructure to deal with refuse and made a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions despite the continued growth of the city.

Sport and recreation projects have also had ongoing positive community outcomes. In 2003/2004 Council allocated funds to commence stage two of Charles Moroney Park in Kelso. The project involved the erection of a cricket practice net, fitness trail, barbecue areas, landscaping works, irrigation, gazebo, lighting, seating and upgrade of the basketball court. The next stage of the park's development will be the construction of a carpark. At Greenwood Park, Council has developed one of the largest sporting fields in Australia with sub-surface drip irrigation. While the upgrade of the park has provided local sporting groups with a premier sports field, the sub-surface watering system uses less water than traditional methods which is an added bonus for the environment.

The Future of Thuringowa

As Chair of the Environmental and Community Service Committee, Jenny Lane's vision for the future of Thuringowa focuses on the community and environment. It is her aim that Council develops and facilitates projects that continue to provide a healthy, safe and liveable community for residents; and that Council continue to implement strategies to preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment.

Serving Thuringowa

Sandra Chesney



Early Life

Sandra Chesney was born in Townsville and can trace her ancestors back to 1875 when her family owned the Cobb and Co depot in Townsville. Her family moved to Winton in her early childhood. After a brief period in western Queensland her family returned to Townsville where Sandra attended Hermit Park State Primary School and Pimlico High School. Her first job was with Samuel Allen and Sons as a clerk typist and later as a secretary. At nineteen, she decided to travel, first to New Zealand followed by a working holiday around Australia for a year. Whilst travelling around Australia, Sandra met her future husband, John. The couple married in Townsville and have four children. Sandra lives at Jensen.

In 1975, Sandra and John travelled Europe for twelve months. It was during her travels that Sandra came to appreciate the quality of life that we have in Australia. She believes that it is up to the individual to take an interest in maintaining community standards and that you have a responsibility to fight for what you believe. Raising four children in an area that was devoid of shops, high school, sporting facilities, public transport and had only one school was a challenge that prompted her to stand for Council in March 1988.

Council Achievements

Sandra Chesney has just been elected for her sixth term as Councillor for Division 1. She currently serves on Council's Planning and Development Committee and Environmental and Community Services Committee.

During her years serving the community, Sandra has played an active part in the implementation of many Council initiatives. She has seen Division 1 grow from an area devoid of services to one that provides essential services and commercial and recreational facilities for residents. These have included the construction of a shopping centre, high school, ambulance centre, police station, Geaney's Lane Bridge, a recreation centre at the high school and community centres for the Northern beaches. In addition she has seen Council's streetscape strategy implemented and the area beautified by greening campaigns, entry statements, signage and public art. She has also actively campaigned for safer access for the Mt Low Highway and Shaw's Road entrance to Thuringowa Central.

At the time of the January 1998 floods, Sandra was Acting Mayor. As a result of her leadership and commitment to the residents of Thuringowa at that time, Sandra received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Queensland State Governor in April 1998.

As a member of the Environmental and Community Services Committee she has supported the introduction of wheelie bins, recycling and the refuse transfer stations. Sandra is proud of her contribution to these Council initiatives which have had positive outcomes for the community of Thuringowa.

The Future of Thuringowa

Sandra believes that we live in the best part of Australia and that we should not put that lifestyle in jeopardy but that Thuringowa should develop a unique identity to complement its lifestyle.

Early Life

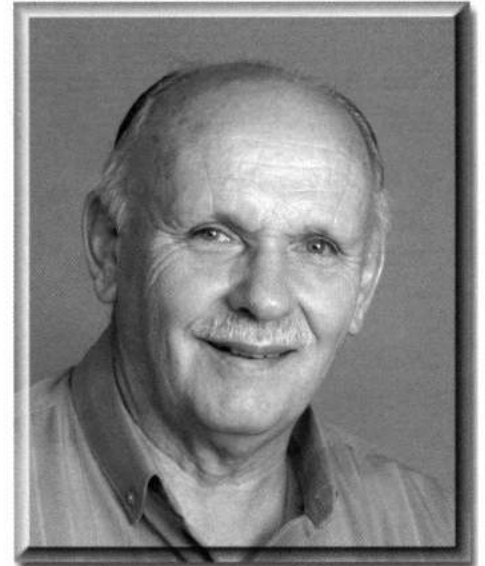
Brian Bensley was born in Brisbane in 1937. Due to a downturn in horticulture, his parents had moved from Stanthorpe where they had an apple orchard, to the city where his father returned to his former occupation as a builder. Brian attended school in Brisbane to year ten but undertook more advanced studies as a young adult. He was a keen footballer in his youth but gave it up when he began his apprenticeship as a motor mechanic. He was called up for National Service and undertook six months full time service in the Air Force where he was selected as a trainee pilot and subsequently obtained his wings. Following his time in the Air Force, he returned to his apprenticeship where he completed his trade qualifications and undertook further study to become an 'A Grade' mechanic. He continued to work in the trade for about nine years.

He then sought a more secure and active career in the Queensland Police Service. After serving for some years doing traffic duties in Brisbane, he moved into plainclothes work in the Juvenile Aid Bureau. Brian has served in many areas of the State including Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Bowen and Townsville. During his 31 years service, he rose to the rank of Superintendent and retired in Townsville at that rank in mid 1993. On retirement Brian built a new home in Thuringowa.

Brian is involved in many community groups and is presently the president of Thuringowa Central Rotary.

Council Achievements

Following his retirement, Brian missed involvement in community affairs and committees so he decided to stand for a seat in Division 2 of Thuringowa City Council. He was first elected in Thuringowa in 1997 and is currently serving his third term. At present, he is Chairman of the Commercial Business Units Committee and a member of the Commercial and Economic Development Committee.



During the 1998 floods Brian assisted in the emergency room for many days, supporting Thuringowa residents affected by flooding. After the floods he was instrumental in having Council make a commitment to flood mitigation works in the Kirwan area between Mill Drive and Charles Street. This was a multi-million dollar project which was finally completed in 2003.

He has also supported other Council projects including the bridge at Geaney's Lane, the City Image programme which included the streetscaping and flood mitigation work in the Upper Ross area, and Riverway. He has been very involved in the Crime Stoppers program in the twin cities area and held the chair for three years and been part of the Thuringowa Crime Prevention Partnership since its inception. He is also committed to Thuringowa's Seniors' Council.

The Future of Thuringowa

Brian Bensley believes that Thuringowa has achieved a high standard in recent years and is an outstanding example in Queensland and throughout Australia of good local government management. This extends across all areas of Council – environmental standards, planning, business units development and management, city image and beautification. He sees the Council's excellent staff performance and management as of most importance and it is his vision that standards be maintained and improved in the year ahead to make Thuringowa an even better local government for our community. He is committed to serving his community.

Serving Thuringowa

Kathy Girvan



Early Life

Kathy Girvan was born in Wellington in Central New South Wales in June 1947. At the age of nine years she contracted poliomyelitis and was treated at a hospital at *Kirribilli House* in Sydney. She attended primary and secondary school in Wellington but further education was undertaken at Marsden Ladies College in Bathurst. Kathy has an Associate Diploma of Business and Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

Kathy worked as a registered children's nurse at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children and at the Townsville General Hospital. She has also worked in a management role in the hospitality sector. In recent years, Kathy has owned two small businesses: an engineering workshop and North Queensland's first privately owned pet crematorium and cemetery.

Kathy has lived in Thuringowa for 20 years and has been a councillor for Division 1 for the past four years. Kathy has been involved for several years with the Northern Beaches Festival and is patron of the Rollingstone Sub-Branch of the RSL. She is also a registered breeder of dalmatians.

Council Achievements

Kathy Girvan was first elected to Council in 2000. She is Chair of the Planning and Development Committee of Council and member of the Commercial and Economic Development Committee.

As Chair of the Planning and Development Committee, Kathy feels that the community consultation process through which Council identified key issues relating to specific areas had a positive outcome for the community. These issues guided the development of local area plans that became part of the new planning scheme. Not only were there satisfying outcomes for the community but the resultant Planning Scheme gained national recognition when it was awarded the Urban Planning Achievement Award for the way it succeeded in incorporating Environmentally Sustainable Development.

Kathy considers that the community consultation process to develop Beach Management Plans for the northern beaches areas has had good outcomes. A number of working groups were held to identify and discuss issues to be addressed in the management plans. At the present time, the Beach Management Plans for Balgal and Toomulla have been finalised while those for Toolakea, Saunders Beach and Bushland Beach are in draft form. These plans will ensure the preservation of beach and dune areas, maintenance of natural biodiversity of the area and preservation of the character of the northern beaches while allowing for recreational use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

The Future of Thuringowa

Kathy Girvan envisages that Thuringowa in the future will be a diverse and progressive city which values civic and community pride, innovative ideas and ecologically sustainable development. She considers that the environmental values of Thuringowa's beaches, its blend of wet and dry tropics and biodiversity needs to be considered in any future lifestyle planning so that social well-being can be maintained.



Early Life

Irene Stewart was born in Toowoomba and spent her first eleven years on a dairy farm. She attended Wilsonton State School and Toowoomba State High School. She left school after year ten to work for Cobb and Co Transport. After three years, she gained employment with the International Harvester Dealer in Toowoomba, where she met her future husband. After they married, Irene and her husband moved to Townsville.

Irene has lived in Thuringowa for 27 years. She has three adult children and owns and operates a local business with her husband.

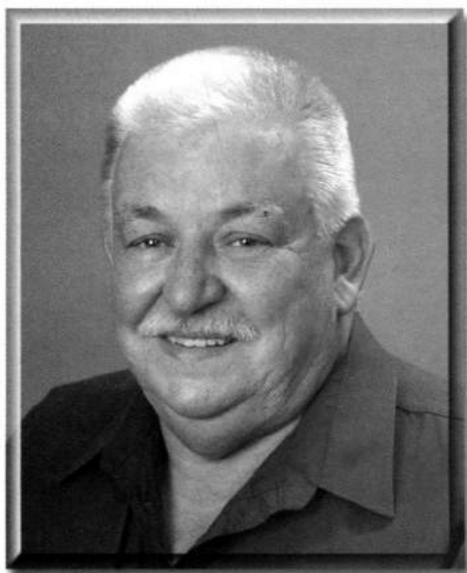
Irene is recognised for her extensive involvement in local junior sport. She scores for Suburban Park Cricket Club and is Treasurer of Townsville and District Junior Rugby League. She is also a life member of Townsville and District Junior Rugby League and Upper Ross Junior Rugby League. Irene also enjoys playing basketball each week for Lakers Basketball Club.

Irene is active in the community as a member and international director of Townsville Rotary. She represents the Council as a trustee of the Townsville/Thuringowa Cemetery Trust and is a board member of the Townsville Entertainment Centre Advisory Committee.

Council Achievements

Irene Stewart was first elected to Council in 1997. She is currently serving her third term as Councillor. Irene is chair of the Corporate Governance Committee and member of the Planning and Development Committee.

Brian Hewett



Early Life

Brian Hewett was born in Brisbane in 1944. He attended secondary school and university in New South Wales becoming a mechanical engineer whilst serving as a member of the Royal Australian Navy - Fleet Air Arm. After 15 years service, Brian retired from the Navy at the rank of Lt Commander, Aircraft Engineer Class 2.

For the past thirty years Brian has been the owner/manager of B & J Motors and has been a resident of Thuringowa for 21 years. He has served ten years on Council and is a board member of NQ Water, NQ Sports Foundation and the Upper Ross PCYC. He is also Thuringowa representative on the Townsville/Thuringowa Cemetery Trust.

Council Achievements

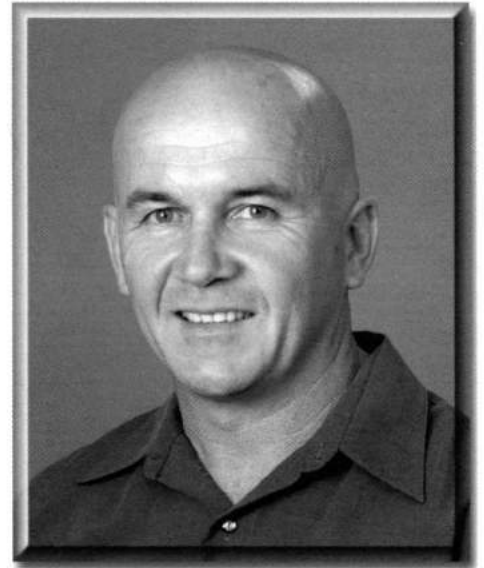
Brian Hewett was first elected to Council in 1994 and is currently serving his fourth term. He is Chairman of the Commercial and Economic Development Committee and member of the Commercial Business Units Committee.

He supported Council's commitment to overcoming problems of flooding that occurred in the Kirwan area during heavy rain in 1998. Council, supported by funding from State and Federal Governments, constructed a flood detention basin in Mountview Park to protect a large number of residential properties. The completion of the flood detention basin has had positive community outcomes. Not only will it take the peak off local flooding and protect the environment of Louisa Creek by acting as a catchment for silt and other undesirable runoff but it also provides an attractive park, complete with adventure playground, picnic facilities, walking paths with lighting and disabled access for the use of residents.

Brian Hewett considers that the Council's sponsorship of Carols by Candlelight and New Year's Eve celebrations has contributed to the development of a sense of community and civic pride in Thuringowa.

The Future of Thuringowa

Brian Hewett would like to see Thuringowa flood free in the future, Riverway completed and the community living in harmony with the environment and nature.



Early Life

Murray Hurst was born in Surat in western Queensland on a sheep and cattle property. He completed year twelve at Marist Brothers College at Ashgrove. Initially, Murray intended to enter the priesthood, but changed direction and joined the public service. He was employed as a pay clerk for the Main Roads Department in their Rockhampton office for two years. However Murray has spent the majority of his working life in management in the airline industry in Brisbane, Rockhampton Mackay and Townsville.

Murray is best known for his role with local rugby league teams. He has coached the NQ Cowboys, including the first two Cowboys' teams to ever play in semi finals. Over the years he has coached a variety of Rugby League teams many of which have competed against overseas and national test teams.

To add to his commitment to the sport and the community Murray helped to coordinate the successful 2003 Queensland Masters Golf Tournament at the Willows Golf Club. He is currently manager of Car Search Brokers Australia, North Queensland.

He has lived in Thuringowa for 12 years. This is Murray's first term as Councillor.

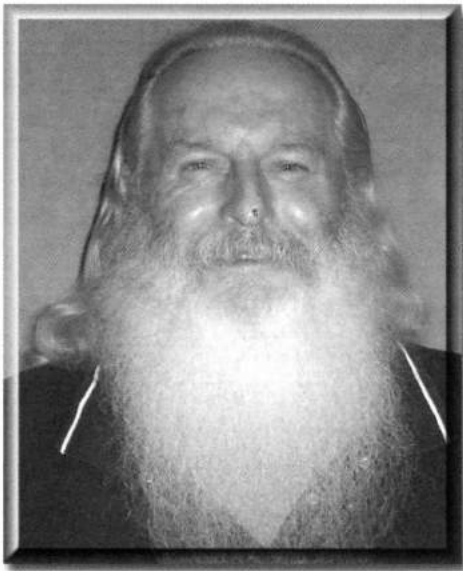
Council Achievements

He is a member of the Corporate Governance Committee and Commercial Business Units Committee. He is also Thuringowa's representative on the Airport Consultative Committee, NQ Games Sports Foundation Committee and the JCU Sports Foundation Committee.

The Future of Thuringowa

Murray believes that the skill of listening is the most valuable skill one can have as a Councillor.

Ken Turner



Early Life

Ken Turner was born in Brisbane in 1944. In his youth Ken was actively involved in sport, participating in tennis, cricket, soccer, sports shooting, water skiing and horse riding. Ken has been a resident of Thuringowa for 35 years.

Over the past 35 years he has been self-employed in the seafood industry. He has worked as a fisherman, catching seafood for the wholesale and retail markets. He established the Balgal Beach kiosk and was owner/operator of the Rollingstone Store, the Ocean Blue Fish Bar in Townsville. He has also run a backhoe and tip-truck contracting business.

Ken is probably best known for his role as Santa and as a past State Member for Thuringowa. Ken has also been involved with disability groups and is a founding member of the Leisure Accessible Club which provides recreation opportunities for the disabled and for senior citizens through cruises and fishing trips.

Council Achievements

Ken Turner was elected to Council in March 2004. He is currently a member of Council's Planning and Development Committee and the Environmental and Community Services Committee.

The Future of Thuringowa

Ken would like to see Thuringowa manage future growth in an innovative and proactive manner that achieves ecologically sustainable development. Thus Thuringowa will become a city where people enjoy a lifestyle which provides opportunities to live, work and play and which encourages their continued residence in the city.

Leeanne Hanna-McGuffie



Early Life

Leeanne Hanna-McGuffie was born in Griffith, New South Wales. She grew up in Hawkesbury Valley in New South Wales where she attended school. She was a member of the house colours, junior tennis team and one of the school leaders. She matriculated from Blue Mountains Grammar, Wentworth Falls where she was the first female student. Leeanne was awarded bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh awards.

Leanne is a registered nurse and manager who has many years experience in health and aged care. She attained her nursing qualifications at Blacktown Hospital in New South Wales and later undertook tertiary studies in Health Science, Human Resource Management, Health Administration, Education and Gerontology. She has worked in the management area of aged care for thirteen years building community services. She is currently Principal Consultant, Hanmac Pty Ltd, Consultancy and Education Services.

Leeanne is married with four children and has lived in the city for seventeen years.

Council Achievements

This is her first term as a councillor. She is a member of the Corporate Governance Committee and Environmental and Community Services Committee. She is also a member of the Senior's Council.

The Future of Thuringowa

Leeanne would like to see Thuringowa remain abreast of changes and innovations as they occur nationally and internationally while remaining mindful of the "grass roots" issues affecting residents and meeting their ongoing needs and expectations. She would like to see Thuringowa provide services to residents that are based on world's best practice.

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- Knowledge Centre, Townsville City Council; Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages; Thuringowa Library Heritage Services, Oral History Collection; Thuringowa Library Heritage Services Photographic Collection
- Photographs from:
- Knowledge Centre, Townsville City Council; Thuringowa Library Heritage Services Photographic Collection; Freda Weston, Dick Kelso

Appendix 1

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF CHAIRMEN AND MAYORS

1880	William Aplin	1906	Joseph Hodel
1881	William Aplin	1907	Joseph Hodel
1882	F. Gordon	1908	Joseph Hodel
1883	James Miller then Arthur Bundock	1909	Joseph Hodel
1884	William Clayton to August then Arthur Bundock	1910	Henry Abbot
1885	Arthur Bundock	1911	Henry Abbot
1886	Arthur Bundock	1912	Joseph Hodel
1887	Frederick Johnson	1913	Joseph Hodel
1888	Frederick Johnson	1914	Edward Crowder
1890	Joseph Hodel	1915	Joseph Hodel
1891	Joseph Hodel to March then Frederick Johnson	1916	Edward Crowder
1892	Joseph Hodel	1917	William Ireland
1893	Joseph Hodel	1918	William Ireland
1894	Joseph Hodel	1919	William Ireland
1895	Joseph Hodel	1920-1929*	James Cummins
1896	Joseph Hodel	1930-1948	Charles Wordsworth
1897	Joseph Hodel	Mar49-May49	James Kelso
1898	Robert Mawby	1949-1960	W.H.F. Wordsworth
1899	Robert Mawby	1961-1966	J. R. Brabon
1901	Joseph Hodel	1967-1969	William DeCourcey
1902	Joseph Hodel	1970-1973	J. R. Brabon
1903	Joseph Hodel	1973	William DeCourcey
1904	Joseph Hodel	1976-1985	Dan Gleeson
1905	Joseph Hodel	1986	Dan Gleeson – Mayor**
		1988	Dan Gleeson – Mayor
		1991-2003	Les Tyrell Mayor*
		2003-	Les Tyrell Mayor*

* From 1921, chairmen were elected for three year terms by the constituency; prior to this they were elected yearly by fellow councilors.

** Thuringowa was declared a city in 1986, thus Dan Gleeson became the first Mayor. Thuringowa was originally a Divisional Board, then under the 1902 Local Authorities Act, it became a Shire. Under its configuration, initially, as a Divisional Board and then, as a Shire Council, it was led by a Chairman.

Appendix 2

CHAIRMEN, MAYORS, MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS 1880-2004

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors	Occupation
1880	Hon William Aplin	William Kirk Spencer F Walker Edward Cunningham Robert W Graham George Saunders Charles S Rowe John Stieglitz John Carr	Freeholder, Reid River Grazier, Haughton River Freeholder, Reid and Ross Rivers Grazier, Woodhouse Station Burdekin Plantation owner, Lellersmere Station Burdekin Selector, Bohle River Grazier, Antill Plains Surveyor and selector Reid River Manager, Woodstock Station
1881	Hon William Aplin		
1882	Frederick Gordon		
1883	James Miller then Arthur Bundock	James Gordon John White William Clayton George Deane Arthur G Bundock S F Walker J C Steiglitz Edwin Archer Heraud	Police Magistrate Partner in West and Heraud general merchants 1881-1886
1884	William Clayton then Arthur Bundock		
1885	Arthur G Bundock	Andrew Wagner Hon William Aplin Joseph Hodel JC Steiglitz E Cunningham William Healy A M Rheuben	Dairyman Business, grazier
1886	Arthur G Bundock	Andrew Wagner Hon William Aplin J C Steiglitz E Cunningham J Carr Frederick Johnson	Dairyman Managed Woodstock Station for Robert Towns
1887	Frederick Johnson	Arthur G Bundock Frederick Gordon William Healy Daniel Grant T B Irving	Timber merchant Council's Common Ranger in 1878. 1883 accompanied engineer to examine water supply potential of Majors Creek
1888	Frederick Johnson	Frederick Gordon William Aplin William Lennon Joseph Hodel Daniel Grant	Manager Burns Philp & Co Ltd
1889	Joseph Hodel	William Lennon Frederick Johnson Frederick Gordon Frederick Cruickshank T Laurence	
1890	Joseph Hodel	Frederick Johnson Robert Gordon Thomas Laurence R Mawby Frederick Gordon	

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1900	Frederick Johnson	Joseph Hodel W J Affleck G T Pullen Robert Mawby Thomas Gleeson Laurence McBrian Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister
1901	Joseph Hodel	W J Affleck G T Pullen Robert Mawby Thomas Gleeson F Johnson Laurence McBrain Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister
1902	Joseph Hodel	WJ Affleck G T Pullen Robert Mawby Thomas Gleeson Frederick Johnson Laurence McBrian Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister
1903	Joseph Hodel	WJ Affleck GS Pullen Robert Mawby Thomas Gleeson Frederick Johnson Laurence McBrian Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister
1906	Joseph Hodel	Henry Abbot Thomas Gleeson Andrew Wagner Edward Crowder Frederick Johnson Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister James Sexton
1907	Joseph Hodel	Henry Abbot Frederick Johnson Thomas Gleeson Edward Crowder Andrew Wagner Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister James Sexton
1908	Joseph Hodel	Henry Abbot Thomas Gleeson Edward Crowder Andrew Wagner John Keiry Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1909	Joseph Hodel	Henry Abbot Bartley Keenan Edward Crowder Andrew Wagner John Keiry James Sexton Daniel Meehan Colin McAlister
1910	Henry Abbot	Robert Talbot Bartley Keenan Edward Crowder Andrew Wagner John Keiry Colin McAlister Joseph Hodel Daniel Meehan
1911	Henry Abbot	Edward Crowder Robert Talbot Andrew Wagner Joseph Hodel Daniel Meehan John Keiry Colin McAlister Barley Keenan
1912	Joseph Hodel	T A Gulliver Robert Talbot Andrew Wagner Henry I Madden Colin McAlister Daniel Meehan John Keiry Edward Crowder
1913	Joseph Hodel	William Ireland T A Gulliver Edward Crowder John Keiry Daniel Meehan Robert Talbot Colin McAlister Andrew Wagner
1914	Joseph Hodel or Edward Crowder	Andrew Wagner Daniel Meehan Edward Crowder Joseph Hodel T A Gulliver William Ireland Colin McAlister John Keiry Robert Talbot
1915	Joseph Hodel	Henry Sinnott (Council's Engineer and foreman of works) James E Cummins Edward Crowder Andrew Wagner John Keiry Daniel Meehan William Ireland Thomas Ryan

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1916	Edward Crowder	John Keiry Harry Page Frederick E L Spotswood Andrew Wagner William Ireland Henry Sinnott Daniel Meehan James E Cummins
1917	William Ireland	Edward Crowder Daniel Meehan William Young Frederick Spotswood Harry Page Henry Sinnott John Keiry James E Cummins
1918	William Ireland	James Cummins Frederick Spotswood Frederick Burdell William Young Daniel Meehan
1919	William Ireland	Abraham Ditton Daniel Meehan Frederick Burdell William Church John O'Donnell Thomas Ryan James Cummins Arthur Brookes
1920	James Cummins	William Ireland* Alexander McPherson Charles Wordsworth Frederick Burdell Abraham Ditton Arthur Brookes Daniel Meehan John O'Donnell**

* William Patterson Jnr replaces William Ireland

** O' Donnell resigns and replaced by Hon Joseph Hodel MLC

**1921 Changes to election procedure.
Election 23 July 1921
Chairman elected by ratepayers
not Councillors and three yearly elections**

James Cummins	Frederick Burdell Abraham Ditton* William Patterson Arthur W Hughes Daniel Meehan Charles Wordsworth Arthur Brookes Hon Joseph Hodel* Alexander McPherson
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* Isabella Fitzpatrick, Rollingstone replaces Abraham Ditton Jan 1924

** Joseph Hodel resigns Aug 1922 replaced by Cyril G. Cordingley

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1924	election 12 April 1924 James Cummins	Frederick Burdell William Patterson* Vivian Tealby Arthur W Hughes Daniel Meehan** Charles Wordsworth Matthew Carty Patrick Hayes John O'Donnell

* William Patterson died Dec 1925 replaced by James Kelso

** Daniel Meehan died Aug 1926 replaced by Richard Hogan

1927	election 9 April 1927 James Cummins	Frederick Burdell James Kelso (Grazier, Ross River) Vivian Tealby Richard Hogan Arthur W Hughes Charles Wordsworth David A Brookhouse Cyril G Cordingley John S D Vidler (Grazier and manager Alligator Creek meatworks)
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**1930 election 26 April 1930
Not ratepayers voting for Chairman back to
Councillors nomination and vote.
Charles Wordsworth**

Frederick Burdell James Kelso Vivian Tealby Richard Hogan Patrick Neville Cyril Cordingley Albert E Farr John S Vidler

**1933 election 22 April 1933
Charles Wordsworth**

Richard Hogan Patrick Neville William Francis Meehan James Kelso Frederick Burdell*** Vivian Tealby* (Licensee Armidale Hotel 1906-1914) Cyril Cordingley John O'Donnell Albert Farr**
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* Vivian Tealby died replaced by William Willison Crabb

** Albert Farr resigns Feb 1934 replaced by Francis Goodwin Hughes

*** Oct 35 F Burdell died, replaced by Albert S Burdell dairyman, Bohle

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1936	election 4 April 1936 Charles Wordsworth	Richard Hogan Francis G Hughes William W Crabb William F Meehan James Kelso Henry J F Brewster* E J Collins** R Wilson***
* Brewster resigned Feb 37 replaced by William D McCloskey		
** R Wilson died March 38		
*** 1936 Townsville City Council annexes land in Oonoomba Stuart Fairfield Idalia accounts for loss of two Councillors on Council		
1939	election 1 April 1939 Charles Wordsworth	Francis Godwin Hughes William D McCloskey James Kelso (Deputy Chairman) William W Crabb Richard Hogan William F Meehan
1943	election 1 May 1943 Charles Wordsworth	William W Crabb James Kelso Richard Hogan William F Meehan Francis G Hughes* William D McCloskey
* Hughes retired Mar 46 replaced by William J Forno		
1946	election – members of Council elected unopposed Charles Wordsworth James Kelso (Chairman April 49 – May 49)	William J Forno James Kelso* Richard Hogan William F Meehan William W Crabb William D McCloskey
* From Mar 49 Wordsworth absent due to illness. Kelso acting Chair. Special meeting called Apr 49 due to death of Wordsworth. James Kelso elected as Chairman		
1949	election 28 May 1949 William H F Wordsworth	William W Crabb James Kelso Richard Hogan William F Meehan Thomas Leon William D McCloskey
1952	election 31 May 1952 William H F Wordsworth	William W Crabb James Kelso Christopher Meehan Laurence M Ryan Ernest Batley William D McCloskey

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1955	election 30 April 1955 William H F Wordsworth	Laurence Ryan Thomas Leon* Ernest Batley** (Deputy Chairman) A G Nettelfield Richard J Kelso A H Innes
* T Leon resigned Nov 56 and replaced by Thomas R Marron jnr, Cane Farmer from Cromarty.		
** E Batley resigned Oct 57 and replaced by Henry C Guldbransen from Giru replaced him. RJ Kelso became Deputy Chairman		
1958	election 26 April 1958 William H F Wordsworth	John Brabon Allan Henry Innes Arthur George Nettelfield Christopher Meehan Henry C Guldbransen Richard J Marron (jnr)*
* R J Marron resigned Nov 60 replaced by Terrance Duckworth, Cane Farmer from Cromarty.		
1961	John Brabon	Terence Duckworth (Deputy Chairman) Henry C Guldbransen K C Ellis C Meehan* Frederick L Page Harold T Henderson
* C Meehan died replaced by Andrew T Webb		
1964	election 2 May 1964 John Brabon	Terence Duckworth (Deputy Chairman) Henry C Guldbransen A T Webb K C Ellis Harold T Henderson A H Innes
1967	election 29 April 1967 William C DeCourcey	Terence Duckworth Henry C Guldbransen Laurence K Ryan Arthur R Buck Harold T Henderson* Frederick L Page
* H T Henderson resigned replaced by Roy M Pace		
1970	John Brabon	Ilsa M Ryan (Deputy Chairman) Allan H Innes Dennis J O'Connor Frederick L Page Reynold W Hutley Lyle P Ace Terence Duckworth Henry C Guldbransen Francis S Hammond

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1973	William DeCoursey	Allan H Innes Dennis O'Connor Frederick L Page Percy John Hannon Laurence K Ryan* (Deputy Chairman) Lyle P Ace** Terence Duckworth Anna Mellick Daniel T Gleeson Francis S Hammond

* L K Ryan replaced by H R Slaney

** Lyle P Ace replaced by E T Brennan

1976	Dan Gleeson	Frederick L Page (Chairman) Peter F Percival Lionel J J Turner Arthur R Buck Percy J Hannon (Deputy Chairman) Edward T Brennan Christopher J Crossland Francis S Hammond Graham G Murtha Joseph C H Walters
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1979 Dan Gleeson

F A Farrell
Frederick L Page
Peter F Percival
Arthur R Buck
Percy J Hannon
Daniel P Meehan
Anna Mellick)
Charles Moroney
(Deputy Chairman)
George W Sandilands*
Hong Keun Sohn
Leslie R Tyrell

* E J Muller replaced G W Sandilands

1982	Dan Gleeson	Gary A Farrell Frederick L Page Peter F Percival Joy V Cooper Percy J Hannon Daniel P Meehan H G Stockham* D A Benson Karen L Ehrmann Leslie R Tyrell (Deputy Chairman) J E Underwood
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* E Pierotti replaced H G Stockham Apr 84

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1985	Dan Gleeson	Roger Brabon T W Collett Gary A Farrell Joy Cooper Percy J Hannon Daniel P Meehan Elia Pierotti H J Cole N Stewart B V Taylor Les Tyrell

1988 Dan Gleeson

Roger Brabon
Sandra Chesney
E A Collyer*
Joy Cooper
John Hannon
Ennio Gazzola
Elia Pierotti
Paul Fletcher
Neil Stewart
Les Tyrell
J P Dwyer**

* E A Collyer replaced by E H Preston in Aug 88

E H Preston resigns and replaced by M H Tolley in Sept 89
M H Tolley resigned Nov 89 and replaced by P J McCarthy

** J P Dwyer resigns Mar 89 and replaced by Dan Simpson

1991	Les Tyrell	Roger Brabon Sandra Chesney Peter McCarthy Elia Pierotti Leslie Paul Fletcher Cecilia J Gillman Brian J Hodson John Kelly Richard J Lane Colette Ringuet Patrick J Thompson
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1994 Les Tyrell

Roger Brabon
Mike Boys
Sandra Chesney
Deanne Bell
Kevin Cutler
Brian Hewett
Brian Hodson*
Jennifer Lane
Colette Ringuet**
Neil Stewart

* Brian Hodson replaced by Nev J Abbey May 96

** Colette Ringuet replaced by John P Comerford Oct 96

Year	Chairman/Mayor	Board Members/Councillors
1997	Les Tyrell	Roger Brabon Brian Bensley Deanne Bell Brian Hewett Cecilia Gillman Jenny Lane Irene Stewart Mike Boys Sandra Chesney
2000	Les Tyrell	Sandra Chesney Kathy Girvan Ron Taylor Deanne Bell Brian Bensley Brian Hewett Jenny Lane David Moyle Irene Stewart Alex Nelson
2004	Les Tyrell	Sandra Chesney Kathy Girvan Ken Turner Deanne Bell Brian Bensley Brian Hewitt Jenny Lane Leeanne Hanna-McGuffie Irene Stewart Murray Hurst



**THURINGOWA
CELEBRATES**



**THE CITY OF
THURINGOWA**