

DEEPWATER

PROGRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Circulation 310 E:eventsdeepwater@gmail.com Edition number 411 October 2025

We acknowledge the elders (past, present and future) of the Ngoorabul people.

An Interesting Life-Story

There have been few more interesting or likeable personalities in Northern New England than Mr. Thomas Tully Kelly, whose death occurred at his residence in Deepwater. A native of Ireland, he inherited the wit and kindly heart characteristic of the sons of that country, and these are the traits for which he will be best remembered by the people among whom he had lived for just on 50 years. The life story of the late Mr. Kelly is closely interwoven with the history of Deepwater and adjacent districts, and many of the institutions which to-day flourish in that area are monuments to his citizenship and to the liberal patronage which he bestowed on any movement which had for its object the advancement of the town and district. There is no institution in Deepwater, and, for that matter, few within a good radius of that centre, which has not benefited by the personal and financial assistance of the deceased gentleman, who sought no reward beyond the continued welfare of the town of his adoption. The courage and foresight which he displayed as a young man launching out on a commercial career proved valuable factors in the community life of Deepwater in the infant days of that town and established him as a driving force in all the efforts conceived to establish for it a permanent place on the map.

Mr Kelly also played an influential part in the pastoral and mineral development of the extensive Deepwater district, his backing of quite a number of enterprising settlers and miners enabling them not only to win for themselves financial stability, but also to exploit the rich resources to the advantage of the district itself as a whole. Essentially honest and

straightforward in every phase of his life, Mr. Kelly was also a big-hearted man, and his assistance was never denied those who sought it. Mr. Kelly was born on the banks of the River Shannon, near Knockcroughery, county Roscommon, Ireland, on April 28, 1851, and at the age of 29 years he left his native land for Australia, sailing in the "Carnatic" under Captain Hynd, from Plymouth five days later. The pleasant, though stormy voyage, covered 104 days, and the young Irishman landed at Townsville, Queensland, on September 28, 1880. The young immigrant's first impression of the land of his adoption was by no means pleasant. Townsville was in its very early developmental stage, and the population comprised a preponderance of blacks. Disappointed in some measure, the new arrival endeavoured to make the best of things and set about finding a job. For weeks he travelled over the extensive district seeking employment, until, when his money was exhausted, he realised he would have to look elsewhere. Borrowing £5 from a friend he boarded the steamer "Alamang" for Brisbane, where he arrived in due course, but found the prospects very little brighter. With his swag on his shoulder, he trudged all round Brisbane, and meeting with no success trekked south. Arriving at Toowoomba his luck changed, and he secured a job hilling maize and potatoes, receiving the munificent wage of 15/- a week and keep. His hours were long — from daylight to dark— but he was pleased to stick out for the three weeks it lasted.

THE FIRST STACK BUILDER

After leaving the 'hilling' job Mr. Kelly was taken on for the harvest at Messrs. Fisher and Devonport's Headington Hall Station,

30 miles south of Toowoomba. When the harvest 'cut out' he came farther south, and in 1881 secured employment on the farm of the late Mr. J. H. Sommerlad, of Tenterfield, in which district he was one of the first to build wheat stacks. Later in the same year he arrived in Glen Innes, and was fortunate in getting a position in Messrs. Lewis and Phillip's store, which was situated on the present site of the Imperial Hotel. By strict economy the young immigrant had by this time saved a few pounds, and he was eager to become his own master. This ambition was realised when he became the proprietor of a boarding house on the site now occupied by the National Bank, having acquired the business from Mr. Jack McGraw. After running the business with some success for a few months he sold out to Wm. O'Connor, a brother in-law of Mr. Barney Kelly, late of Glen Innes, and set out for the south. He travelled by coach to Uralla, in December 1882, a year after the opening of the railway to that centre. At Uralla he took the train to Newcastle. Mr. Kelly was at this time suffering severely from insomnia, from which he suffered more or less practically all his life. From Sydney he went to Wollongong, and visited some relatives, returning again to Sydney, whence he proceeded on a trip to the Old Country, via South America, in the hope that it would relieve the insomnia.

AN ANCIENT WATCH

On arrival in England, he secured employment on the wharves shifting sleepers and engaging in other equally strenuous jobs. In 1883 he visited London for the big Fisheries' Exhibition, and in September of the same year he again left for Australia, this time his capital comprising his ship's ticket and a silver watch manufactured by H. Samuel, of Manchester,

Continued page 3

FOODWORKS

DEEPWATER

Serving the local community since 1948

Save! Save! Save! By shopping locally!

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Saturday 7:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Public Holidays 9:00am - 1:00pm

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Free home delivery within Deepwater Village!

Spend \$50 or more in a single transaction and you receive a 3% instant rewards discount!

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Deliveries outside Deepwater by arrangement.

DID YOU KNOW?

DEEPWATER ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

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POP IN AND SEE CHRIS, OR GIVE ME A CALL ON 0408743348

E-MAIL chrisecho54@bigpond.com 55 TENTERFIELD STREET DEEPWATER, N.S.W 2371

Notices

The Deepwater School of Arts Hall committee are delighted to see the Hall being used by the Community. However due to the requirements of Crown Lands (the hall is on Crown Land) – all bookings need to be recorded.

The Hall can be booked through Foodworks.

Enquiries can be made through the hall chairperson, Mary Hollingworth. tinkernanny@outlook.com

WANTED

This space or larger could be yours if you have any stories to share true or fiction or even History of our town

You can remain anonymous if you wish. Just let the editor know.

Continued from page 1

and which he had in his possession at the time of his death. On arrival in Queensland, he found work hard to get, but managed to secure a few days here and there, enabling him to save a little. Later he travelled per boot, then across country to the Richmond River. At Lismore he secured employment making bricks for and helping in the actual erection of the courthouse. The insomnia affected him in excruciating form in Lismore, and for 13 weeks he did not have a decent night's sleep. He stuck to his post, however, and, saving all the money he could, he returned to Tenterfield. Through the late Mr. Isaac Wherea the purchased a horse, cart and harness from Wah Fun On, for £32/10/, and with the rest of his money, 2/10, he purchased goods and set out hawking. For three years Mr. Kelly hawked, giving up opening a store at the silver mines then working at Pye's Creek. This was in 1888, and there were at least 200 people in and around the mines. Towards the end of '89 the mines — chief of which was 'the Burrow' — went down, and Mr. Kelly shifted his store to the Castlecrag Mines, where he remained until 1892. Here he had charge of the post office, in addition to running the store, and had a prosperous time until the mines petered out.

To be Continued Next month.

By Willem Van der Heul information fromThe Trove

Sudoku

	4	5			2	3		
2				1	3			9
	1				4		5	
5	6	1						
			1		7			
						1	2	6
	2		8				9	
9			3	4				8
		3	2			5	6	

Answers Page 6

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Welcome to Deepwater web page www.DeepwaterNSW.com

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Printed by: Deepwater Public School

Distribution by: Deepwater Post office

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WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH



Church Services:

Anglican Church Service (Forbes Street Deepwater & Moore Street Emmaville)

The Church services alternate weekly between Deepwater and Emmaville if a Month has five Sundays the 5th Sunday will be in Torrington

- First Sunday Deepwater 9:00am
- Second Sunday Emmaville 9:00am
- Third Sunday Deepwater 9:00am
- Fourth Sunday Emmaville 9:00am
- Fifth Sunday Torrington 9:00am



Church Wardens Deepwater - Reuben Cooper 0499 868 321 **Emmaville** - Heather Reynolds 0428 347 252

Catholic Church Service (Simpson Street)

Sunday at 10 am

Church in the Shed (Deepwater School Of Arts Hall Tenterfield Street)

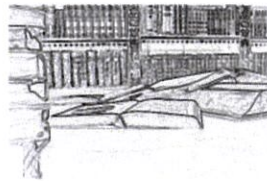
Sundays at 10 am

Deepwater Rubbish Tip Hours:

Thursday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Saturday: 1:00 pm -3pm Sunday: 10am -12 noon

Library Service:

Wednesday 10 am - 12 pm and 1.30 pm - 4 pm
Home Library Service Deliveries 1 pm – 1.30 pm



Preschool:

at the CWA Hall
Tuesday 9.00am – 3.00pm
Thursday 9.00am – 3.00pm



Progress Association Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday 8th October 5:15 pm at the School of Arts Hall

(Code Of Conduct Rules will be followed)

Everyone welcome.

Sewing Group

Meets Monday's at the School of Arts Hall
9am to 4pm - leave when you want to.



Tiny Tots Group

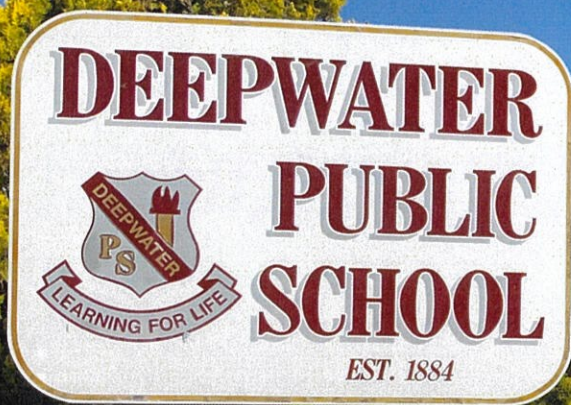
For Mums with little ones
Mondays 1pm—3 pm At the Anglican Church Deepwater
Refreshments provided.
Contact Trudy 0428 266 417 or Penny 0408 728 149



8	4	5	6	9	2	3	7	1
2	7	6	5	1	3	8	4	9
3	1	9	7	8	4	6	5	2
5	6	1	9	2	8	4	3	7
4	3	2	1	6	7	9	8	5
7	9	8	4	3	5	1	2	6
6	2	4	8	5	1	7	9	3
9	5	7	3	4	6	2	1	8
1	8	3	2	7	9	5	6	4

Sudoku answer

For notices to be included, please send details to eventsdeepwater@gmail.com
Cut OFF date for the next Newsletter is 20 August.



**DEEPWATER PUBLIC SCHOOL AND THE P&C
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR**

END OF YEAR PRESENTATION NIGHT

Come along and be entertained by our
students and celebrate their
achievements.

THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025
DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM FOR A 5:30 PM START

Venue: School of Arts Hall, Deepwater

Everyone welcome



Join us for our annual

*Christmas Carols
and Twilight Markets*

6th December 2025

5 - 7.30pm

Hosted by the Deepwater P&C

Stallholder Expressions
of Interest

Contact the P&C on
deepwaterpc@outlook.com
to book a stall or for more information





0426 977 997

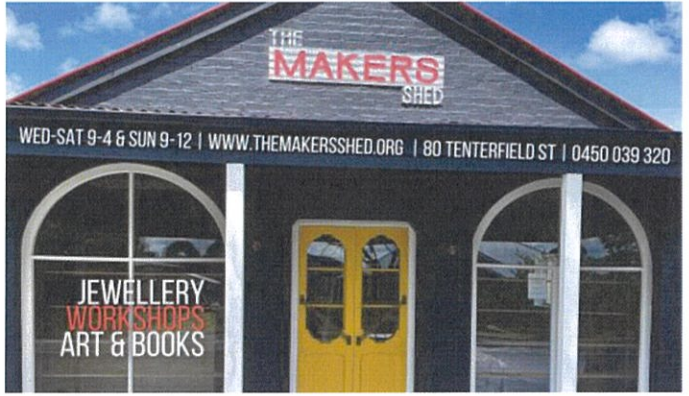
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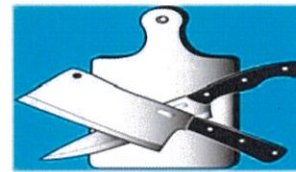
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