

Glasshouse Country & Maleny News

Henry Dyer

EVERY WEDNESDAY
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Hinterland *Heritage*

With Sonia Clark



Henry Dyer

This month we are focussing on local stories of our pioneering families. We are spoilt for choice with so many interesting and informative stories available through our local history groups and sources.

The Landsborough Museum is set to reopen to the public from today, Wednesday, July 1, and the team has provided some insight into the extraordinary life of Henry Dyer and his connection with the Landsborough (Mellum Creek) area. The locality of Mellum Creek was initially established for farm selections around 1871 and the fledgling settlement was used as a stopping point for Cobb & Co coaches making the run to the Gympie gold fields. According to local sources, around



Henry Dyer

1886 Henry Dyer came to Mellum Creek to manage a butcher shop for John McCallum, which led to a myriad of business and property interests in the area, including ownership of the general store, butcher shop, sawmill and hotel. Henry also went on to have a substantial family home built around 1888 on the

Maleny-Landsborough Road, where he continued to reside and run his businesses until the 1930s.

According to the Landsborough Museum, Dyers Hall was a key community meeting place for the area located next to the Landsborough Hotel (formerly 7/11 Store). The building was built by Henry and was used for a variety of purposes including town and later council meetings, and predated the Landsborough Council Chambers and Memorial Hall.



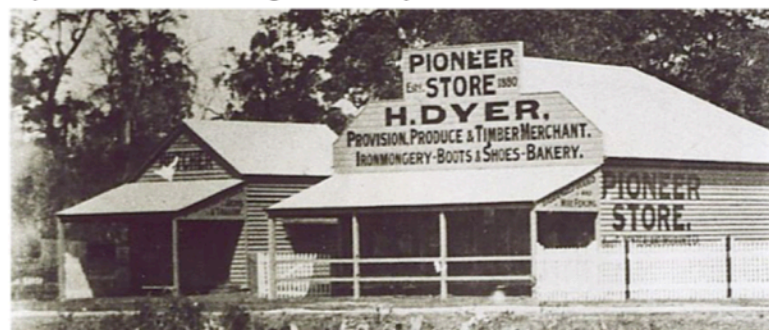
Henry Dyer and family around 1890-1900

Henry reportedly owned the first automobile in the Landsborough district and also the Landsborough Hotel (Mellum Club Hotel). Following the completion of the North Coast railway line in 1890, over the following years the central business area gradually shifted closer to the railway line. Over a two-week period in 1914, Henry supervised the hotel being moved

about 2km from its original location on Old Gympie Rd, on skids pulled with winches by bullock teams, to its present location in Cribb Street, to take advantage of the new developing central business area. As well as being licensee of the local Mellum Club Hotel, Henry Dyer also leased the railway refreshment rooms for a number of years.



Henry Dyer's Pioneer Store, with the family home pictured on the right



Henry Dyer's Pioneer Store and butcher
Image Credit: Picture Sunshine Coast. Sunshine Coast Council and Landsborough Museum.

Thanks to GC&MN