

## The Chalet



### The Chalet 1930s

Built and opened for business in 1933

Photo from: Cedric Swayne

The site of The Chalet was bought from Jack (John) Cunningham by Dr Chenoweth who with the Hamiltons and Websters wanted to build a sanatorium, as it was thought the climate on the range was ideally suited to convalescing from various health problems. Frank and Florence Owen were installed as managers but unfortunately Mrs Owen died shortly afterwards and the two sons Max & Claude and daughter Joan took over the operations a little later.

(Parts of an Article from: Norm Foster's book " The Roof Garden Of Mackay" c.1985 page 100 –101)

According to "Chalet Opened" newspaper article 1976, the Owens family took out a miners lease on the land intending to build a humpy there. They cleared and levelled it along with George Bosel. Then the plan changed when the Doctor syndicate ( Dr. E. Chenoweth (Ernest), Dr. C.E. Williams (Charlie), Dr. M.J. Gallagher (Joe)) offered to build The Chalet if The Owen Family would run it..

The builders were Mr. Archie Mc Donald and at some stage Joe Galow

1933: It was noted that there were only 13 fine days for 12 months so .

1934: Officially Opened by the Prime Minister Mr. James Scullin

1935: Mr. James Hampstead took lease. He had no better luck, so closed for a few months

1935-6: Mrs C. Dunning ran it for another 12 months. Then it closed again.

July 1936 The syndicate asked Mrs Owen to reopen it. When she died her son Max Owen ran it for 10months

1937 Kaj Sprogoe (from Denmark) & wife Johanna (Hannah) (nee Pratt of Paget) bought it from the syndicate. They ran it highly successfully for 36 years.

(' Chalet Opened' article 1976 from: Heather Camilleri (nee Herron))

1958 The Chalet gained a liquor license and so became a hotel

1973 Laurence Barry of Mackay bought it from Kaj Sprogoe. Managed by Maurie & Judy Flynn  
Very popular with families. Cabaret introduced .

1976 John Hannay bought it from Laurence Barry. Ian Colson? Manager

1981-1986? The Faux brothers (Owen, Fred & Terry) took it over Managed by Owen Faux

1985 John & Vicky Archer from WA. bought it from The Faux brothers Archer owned it during 1985 as per when Norm's book was written]

(Parts of an Article from: Norm Foster's book " The Roof Garden Of Mackay" c.1985 page 101 more on p.101 & additional info. (these bits from Norm's book differ slightly)

Roach family ??? (Any further information or corrections are welcomed)

1990/91 Neville Baker bought it from John Archer. He managed it for a short while and then had a manager. [Jan Saliba]

Nov 1993-Jan 2003 Rob & Jan Saliba Managed & owned it in partnership with Neville & Leanne Baker [Jan Saliba]

2003-2009 Owned & Managed by Tony Murray & Christine Willing 24/1/2003 - 10/10/2009

2009 - current 2012 Owned & Managed by Tony Murray Assistant Manager Tess Ford