

**Templestowe Memorial Hall  
Anderson Street, Templestowe.**

The official opening of this red brick, gable-roofed hall by the Premier, the Hon. H. W. Lawson, MLA, took place on 22 June 1922. It was reported in the district press that by this date the hall was almost completed at a cost of about 2000 pounds<sup>291</sup> Tenders for the excavation of the site were called in January of that year.<sup>292</sup> The new building included "a commodious hall and stage, library, dressing, cloak and supper room besides a cabinet for picture shows." The local MP, W. H. Everard, MLA, also attended the opening.<sup>293</sup>

In his opening speech, the Premier expressed his surprise that in such a small district residents had "erected two memorials, a memorial hall and a memorial stone."<sup>294</sup>

Both the memorial hall and the monument honoured the Templestowe men who enlisted in the 1914-1918 War. They were the result of a major fund-raising campaign, which included sports meetings, a garden fete, and a Grand Bazaar (which ran for three days) held at the time of the opening.<sup>295</sup>

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<sup>291</sup> *The Reporter*, 16 June 1922.

<sup>292</sup> *The Reporter*, 13 Jan. 1922.

<sup>293</sup> *The Reporter*, 30 June 1922.

<sup>294</sup> *The Reporter*, 30 June 1922.

<sup>295</sup> *The Reporter*, 17 March, 31 March, 14 April 1922.

The old 1882 timber Mechanics Institute (one of three in the municipality) became the supper room for the 1920a building. Local builder, E.P. Sheahan, who was responsible for the construction of the new building, moved the old Institute, rotating it to form the supper room at the rear. Sheahan was responsible, also, for the refurbishment of the 1920s hall after the Second World War.<sup>296</sup>

*Of local historical and social significance* as a past and present focus of community sentiment as a Mechanics Institute and then as a memorial hall, and for its historical value in demonstrating the process of the growth of the Templestowe community. It has associations with the local builder ,E.P. Sheahan.

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<sup>296</sup> Sheahan family records.

<sup>297</sup> ... ..