

The Chronicle

The latest Ray Park Heritage Group news, views and announcements

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At a glance

Present Business Owners at Carlingford North Shopping Centre 2021

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Local Heritage Bygones

Helen and Robert Lees Poultry Farm

Later the site of the Carlingford North Shopping Centre.

Article written by Jacqueline Irvin (nee Finch)



At the top of the photo Orchard Road meets North Rocks Road and the home at this intersection is the Lees Poultry Farm later to be the Carlingford North shops and Service Station.

Photo looking south from near the corner of Orchard Road (left of photo) and Murray Farm Road with Karril Avenue across the centre with the van making its way.

Photo courtesy of Lola Rodgers

Lees Poultry Farm property was located on the corner of Pennant Parade and North Rocks Road, Epping (now Carlingford); later to become the Carlingford North Shopping Centre which was first registered as West Epping Shopping Centre, opening on the 1st October, 1964.

Helen Victoria known as Nellie and Robert John Lees moved to this location in 1929. They rented the property for two years and then purchased it. Nellie and Robert married at St John's Church Darlinghurst, Sydney in 1916 and built a home in Lansdowne Street Eastwood. Two daughters were born, Nancye Irene Cutler and Helen Mary. The depression came and Nellie, Robert and the two girls aged 9 and 3 years moved to the five-acre poultry farm then addressed 7 Pennant Parade Epping. The property was named "Woodleigh" and later was numbered 3 Pennant Parade, Epping, and then 3 Pennant Parade, Carlingford. The original house was sold and demolished in 2015 and two houses were built on that block.

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Local Heritage Bygones

Helen and Robert Lees Poultry Farm

Later the site of the North Carlingford Shopping Centre.

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“Woodleigh”, home of Robert and Nellie (nee Helen Edwards 1889 1944) Lees whose poultry Farm was situated on a 5 acre property at the junction of Pennant Parade and North Rocks Road. The Carlingford North shops and Carlingford CarCare garage stand here today (2021)

Photographer: Marilyn Guyot, 2004

The original poultry farm property had a small house and various sheds so Nellie and Robert were able to commence their poultry farm business. This must have been quite a change from their lives in Darlinghurst and Eastwood. The house was small being of two rooms separated by a hall, small kitchen and a veranda at the back of the house. Two rooms were added to the front of the house and the “L” shaped veranda at the back was divided into four small rooms and a bathroom. The property had brooding, laying and roosting sheds and a cow was purchased which was mandatory for the country area. The farm was self-sufficient with mixed fruit and citrus trees and vegetables. Lucerne and corn were grown for the poultry.

The eggs were sold to the Egg Board and also privately to two shops in Epping. The shop owners collected the eggs for sale in their shops being Hamilton’s Grocery store and Moran n Cato’s shop.

Nancye and Helen would walk to the corner of Ray Road and Pennant Parade to catch the bus (affectionately called “The Butter Box”) into Epping. This bus owned by Mr Miles only ran on weekdays. Nancye continued to attend Eastwood Public School and then Homebush High School and Helen attended Epping Public School and Hornsby High School. Nellie, Robert’s wife died in 1944 aged 55 and Robert continued to work the property until his death in 1957 aged 78. Nancye had married Sydney West prior to Nellie’s death. Helen, was engaged to Desmond Finch a nurseryman with his business at 559 North Rocks Road, Carlingford. Helen and Desmond married at St. Paul’s Church at Carlingford in 1947 and lived with Robert helping to run the poultry farm. Desmond and his brother Bruce worked their nursery and cut flower business at North Rocks Road and then the business was moved to Galston. The Lees poultry farm property was sold in approximately 1960 and was divided into the business area being Carlingford North Shops and fourteen house blocks.

Wayne, Jacqueline and Helen Desley were raised in the original home until Helen and Desmond built a new home in 1970 on the block beside the older house, still on the original site of the farm. Desmond died in 1990 and Helen died in 2006. Nancye, died in 2019 at the age of 99 years. The Carlingford North Shopping Centre including the Service Station was on the corner of the five-acre poultry farm site. Some locals may remember the fantastic bonfires that was had on the site. Wayne, Jacqui and the local children would build the bonfire for weeks leading up to Cracker night. We would drag timber, trees, tyres and anything that was combustible and build the bonfire.



Circa 1936 Helen and Nancye daughters of Robert and Helen (Nellie) Lees with a new born calf. They are facing west toward Pennant Parade in the fruit trees and vegetable garden. The small garage like building is the incubation shed on the right where the chickens were hatched, and then transferred to the longer building. This was called the brooder where the chickens lived in warmth created by the hot water service until older.
Photograph courtesy of Helen Finch nee Lees

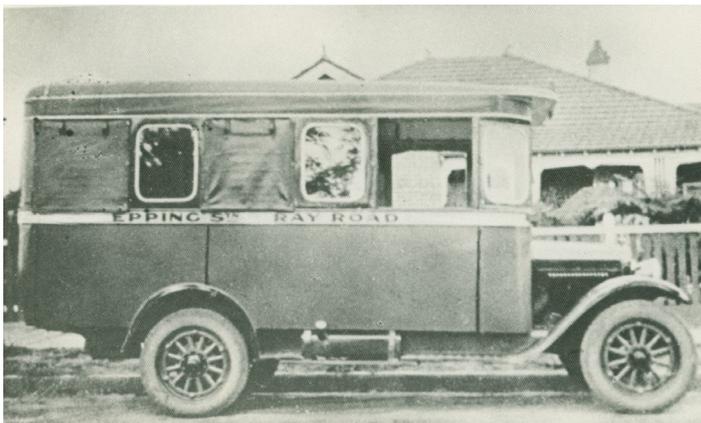


Photo above: One either walked or travelled into Epping by bus. The bus was affectionately called "The Butter Box", and was owned by Albert Miles. It ran from the corner of Ray Road and Pennant Parade along Ray Road into Epping Station, then travelled on the other side of the railway line out to Malton Road. If it were wet, Mr Miles would run the children down to Epping School.

It was not uncommon for some of the locals to give him a shopping list and money. He would purchase goods and bring them back in the afternoon. The bus service stopped at 7.30 pm. No bus on Saturdays or Sundays except after the Epping pictures on Saturday nights. From the early 1920s this bus service was a boon for local people into Epping Station in time for the steam train bound for the city (Sydney).

Photo courtesy of Eric Schuberg



Off to the city, Robert John Lees (1879- 1957) who first settled with wife and two daughters on their poultry farm between 1929 and 1930. The double entrance gates to "Woodleigh" would have been on the corner of now Pennant Parade (previously known as Tunks Road) and Plympton Road, Carlingford.

Photo courtesy of Helen Finch (nee Lees) born 1926

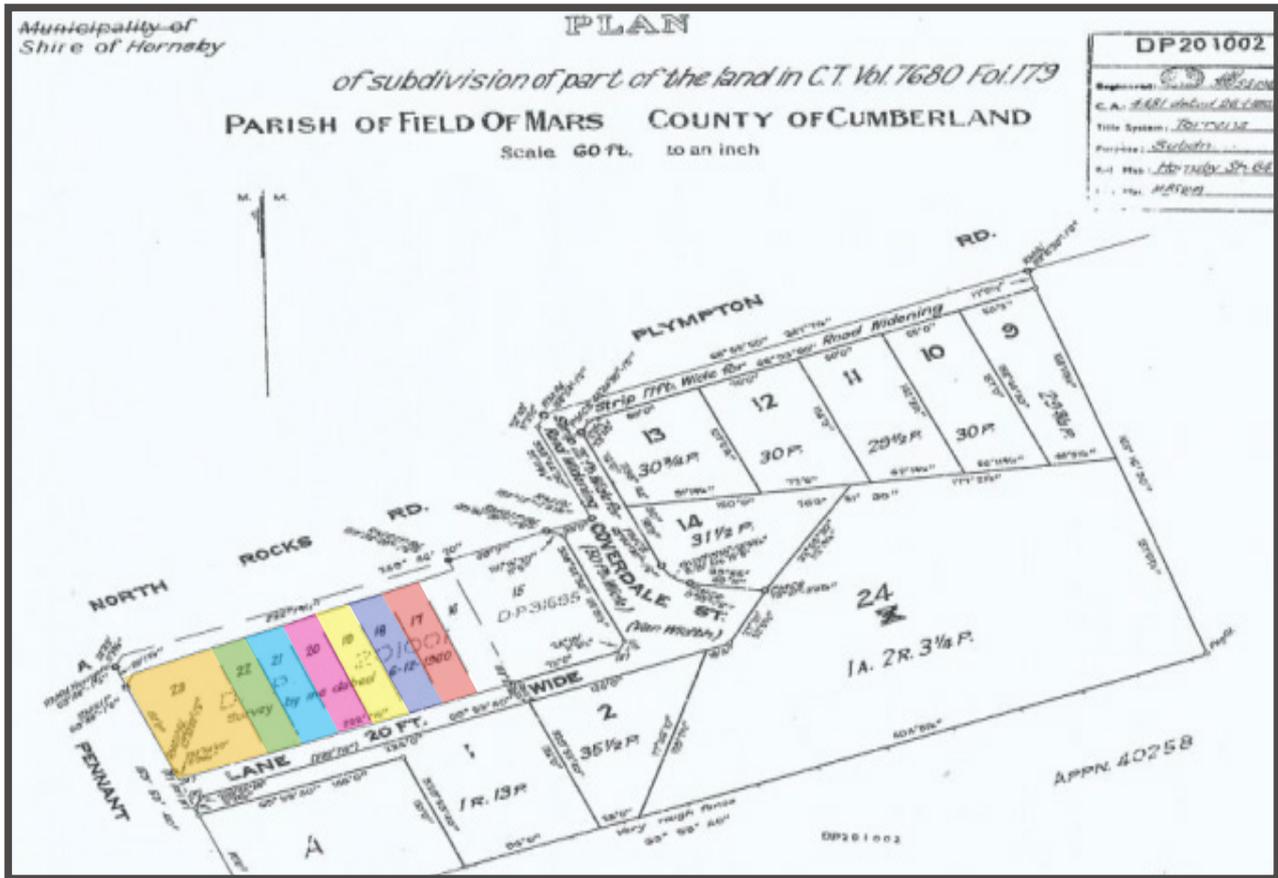
We can proudly say that we never blew up letter boxes but great fun was had leading up to Cracker night, building the bonfire and dividing and storing our crackers and rockets under our beds. The thought of storing them now in the house is unthinkable. Great fun was also had by getting up early the morning after cracker night and looking for the crackers that had not gone "off". These were called fizzers and by breaking the cracker in two you could set fire to the remaining powder and hold them and watch the powder burn. Mr Malcolm Macdonald known as "Mac" and his wife Edna had the poultry farm on the site of Casben Close. Mac joined in the bungler fights. On the last cracker night held on the site of the shops, someone managed to put a bungler in the pocket of Mac's jacket and blew the pocket and the side of his jacket off!

In those days the fields were open, the roads unsealed and the pleasures of being a child in this country area was a delight. The surrounding farms were soon subdivided and the housing boom came to the Carlingford area.

The shops were finally built in two stages.

Continued on pages 4 and 5.

Stage 1: Shops from West to East 2021



- a** Ampol Service Station, Fruit Market, now Carlingford Car Care. Ron Engel since 1999
- b** Newsagent and Post Office, now Swimart. Margaret Xu, since 2018.
- c** Hardware Shop, now Chickensalt. Sam and Lydia Kamperos, since 2009.
- d** 'Green Grocer' - originally Mr. Phillip Lopez then followed the Bietola family (who moved their business to site of the present Service Station before moving grocery business to Beecroft). The Green Grocer shop became Florist and Gifts under Maureen Masterman followed by Osbornes (1993-1994) then Beautiful Blossoms in 1994-2017 (Lynda Langley) and now Patrick and Dianne Lim's Blooming Day Floral since 2020.
- e** Warman's Grocery Shop, now David's Cakes. David Williams since 1992.
- f** The Butcher Shop, now Webster's Meats. Sarah and Duncan Webster, since 2003.
- g** Poulton's Pharmacy, now Carlingford North Pharmacy. Simone Greville, since 2003.

Helen and Robert Lees Poultry Farm

continued from page 3

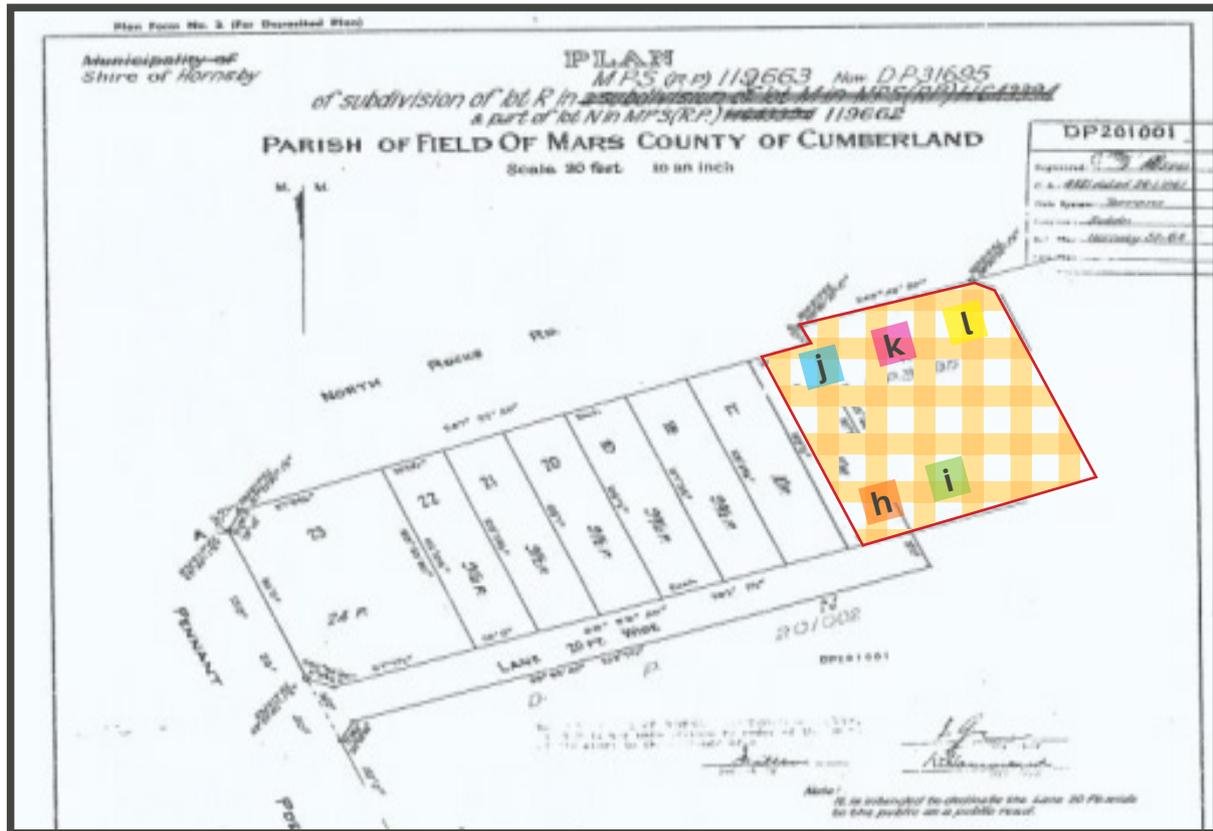
- a)** "Ampol Service Station" owned by Rothwell Family. Fruit Shop owned by Sam, Julie and Roy and now "Carlingford Car Care" Service Station owned by Ron Engel.
- b)** The Newsagency and Post Office now "Swimart" Pool Shop. Mrs Elva Denny managed the Newsagency and Post Office. Helen Finch and Mrs Macdonald (Mcdonald's poultry farm acreage at Casben Close) worked at the Post Office until it was sold in 1984.
- c)** The Hardware shop in the stage 1 is now "Chickensalt" owned by Sam and Lydia since 2009.
- d)** 'Green Grocer' - originally Mr. Phillip Lopez then followed the Bietola family (who moved their business to site of the present Service Station before moving grocery business to Beecroft). The Green Grocer shop became Florist and Gifts under Maureen Masterman followed by

Osbornes (1993-1994) then Beautiful Blossoms in 1994-2017 (Lynda Langley) and now Patrick and Dianne Lim's Blooming Day Floral since 2020.

- e)** "Warman's Grocery" shop. Warman's became "Jewels" and moved to the Stage 2 building. The shop then became a Cake and Pie Shop owned by Alan Booth. "David's Cakes" is owned by David Williams. David commenced his apprenticeship here at the age of 16 years and has owned the business since 1992.
- f)** Butcher Shop originally owned by Frank Fayer, Mr Loy, Laslo and Peter and now "Websters", business owned by Sarah and Duncan Webster.
- g)** "Poulton's Pharmacy" owned by Edward Poulton, Tony Baraket and now "Carlingford North Pharmacy" owned by Simon Greville.

Walkway dividing stage 1 & 2.

Stage 2: Shops from West to East 2021



- h** Hairdresser Business, now Discount Pet Meds. Ed and Monique Etzeniny, since 2020.
- i** Dental Surgery 1972-1981 (up stairs at end of walkway) now Sydney Mobile Podiatry. Sarah Connery, since 2019.
- j** Dress shop and Haberdashery (at one point was divided and a Video shop was installed), now Newsagency and Australia Post

- k** Jewels Groceries, The Friendly Grocer, now Rossi's Fresh Grocer. Stephen and Amanda, since 2016.
- l** Doctors Surgery, Pool Shop, now The Liquor Central Carlingford Shop. Simon and Alisa Mazzei, since 2016.
- *Locations on map are approximate for reference purposes only**

h) Hairdresser Business down the small walkway now “Discount Pet Meds.”

i) Premises at the end of the walkway up the stairs was a Dental Surgery owned by Eugene Irvin from October 1972 to 1981. This business was moved across the road to 73 Orchard Road, Beecroft. The dental business was sold to Dr Ferlito in 2010.

j) Dress shop and haberdashery. At some stage the rear of the shop was divided and a Video Shop was installed. The shop is now a “Newsagency and Australia Post” managed by Parveen Sharma.

k) “Jewels Groceries” (relocated from the stage 1) “The Friendly Grocer” shop and now “Rossi’s Fresh Grocer” owned by Stephen and Amanda Rossi. Stephen grew up in the area and his maternal grandparents lived in Coverdale Street.

l) The end shop was a Doctors Surgery, Pool Shop and now a Liquor Shop. “Select Liquor” was the first business and now “The Liquor Central Carlingford Shop.”

m) Dr Ken Lau commenced the “Family Medical Practice” at 73 Orchard Road, Beecroft and then moved to the corner block of Plympton Road and Coverdale Street on the original Lees property.

The parking area was a minefield crossing from one side of the street to the shops as cars parked on North Rocks Road in front of the Dentist and Doctors rooms. Cars coming up from Epping on Plympton Road and down from North Rocks Road would pass through the area with people crossing the road to the shops. Hornsby Council eventually reconstructed the parking area as it is today.

When the Green Grocer shop moved from the site of the service station and the original Liquor Shop applied for a DA there was an objection to these businesses. Ron Engel runs the service station proficiently with excellent care and the Liquor shop has never attracted unsavoury customers as was the thought at that time. The shopping centre is well run and provides an excellent service centre that the area could not do without.

Jacqueline Irvin, May 2021.

Present Business Owners at Carlingford North Shopping Centre 2021



Webster's Meats

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 4, Shop 18

Webster's Gourmet Meat Kitchen came to life in November 2003. It had been an established butcher shop for 30 years and had been previously owned by the Parsci brothers. The community support was instant, and we soon realised that we had started a business in a fantastic area with great customers who gave us the opportunity to bring our vision of creating a beautiful butcher shop to life.



This was our first time owning our own business and the responsibility felt enormous. We felt that we were taking a gamble as even though we had done our research on how to run a business and spoken with and listened to the advice of business owners that we respected we really didn't know what we were doing or what we had signed up for. However, we were jumping into this business wholeheartedly and prepared to give it our all to see if we could make this little dream of ours' come to life.

We not only came to life but we have thrived in our community who received us with open arms. Before we



officially opened the shop we spent a whole weekend with an army of tradespeople, family and friends who helped us give the shop a little makeover. We had big visions of a grander renovation but that would have to wait. While we were busy fixing up the shop we met so many of our future customers who stopped to welcome us to the North Rocks Road Carlingford shopping strip. Their easy-going nature and friendliness helped to put us at ease and the anxiousness of starting a new business subsided a little and was replaced with a feeling of excitement.



We have now been a part of the community for over 17 years and have grown from a one-person shop to having 7 wonderful team members and countless local school kids who have worked with us doing the washing up and cooking the bbq on Saturday mornings. Duncan and Sarah celebrated their first wedding anniversary on their very first Saturday in the shop. Our customers helped celebrate the births of our 2 children and together with our customers we have all shared our stories of our proud, and not-so-proud moments of our lives'. We have laughed with our lovely customers and have cried with them, we have helped raised funds with our customers to support charities close to their hearts, we have celebrated the births of their babies and shared their grief when they have lost a loved one. We have watched our customers' children grow up and many have now become customers of their own. Often a customer will pop in to just have a chat and we love that.



Our ethos of practicing whole animal butchery, dry-aging our beef, supporting local farmers and understanding



where our meat comes from has been appreciated by our customers. We have always strived to bring the best quality products and cooking advice to our customers and love hearing about their recipes and how they cook their meat products. As we grew as a business we made another renovation to the shop in 2016 to create more space and to freshen it up. We have enjoyed winning many business and food awards and was listed in the Foodies Guide in the Sydney Morning Herald as one of the top 5 butcheries in Sydney. In 2021 Duncan featured in Australia's first ever The Butchers Cook Book which showcases 100 meat recipes from butchers around Australia.

We have loved being a part of this amazing community and are thankful to be surrounded by so many wonderful businesses in our North Rocks Road Carlingford shopping strip. The past 17 years have been more than we could have imagined and we are looking forward to continuing to serve and be a part of our beautiful community

Sarah & Duncan Webster, Webster's Meats



Rossi's Fresh Grocer
 Location can be found on the
 Subdivision Plan, page 5 part of
 Shop 15/16

Stephen and Amanda opened Rossi's Fresh Grocer 4 and a half years ago. Stephen grew up in the industry and had worked in his families fruit and veg business that was another great local business in the area, helping and learning to grow and run a greengrocer business at a young age. When Stephen met Amanda she also joined the family business and learned the trade in gourmet groceries, together we opened our own store and are a strong team to run a great greengrocer.

Our aim is to serve the community with only the best quality products and accompanied by the highest of customer service also wanting to offer a relaxed and happy shopping environment. We love the community

and wanted to create our own Rossi's Community. We serve the highest quality fruit and veg, groceries, deli lines, dairy, frozen goods and for the time poor a great range of take home pre prepared meals that are made fresh on site daily. We also have a coffee bar for that extra relaxed shopping environment.

We also love to hear customer feedback and requests



to help us improve our business and mold the business around our community. We also would like to give back to the people that give so much to us with our own customer loyalty phone app which can be downloaded on the apple app store or the google play store, once downloaded create an account and start using to get points every time you do your shopping.

Our team of excellent staff are a happy bunch of people



Some of our friendly team Frank, Stan & Samuel

that love their job and enjoy engaging with the Rossi's community, the store could not run without them so if your around the store please come in and say hi, we are here to have a chat and answer any questions that arise.



Our in house chefs Annalisa & Fan

If you would like to keep up to date with Rossi's don't forget to like or follow our social media pages:
Instagram @rossisfresh **Facebook** rossisfresh
Stephen & Amanda Rossi, Rossi's Fresh Grocer



Carlingford North Pharmacy

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 4, Shop 17

The "original" shops (Current Pool Shop down to the Pharmacy) were all built about 60 years ago by the original Pharmacy Owner, Edward "Ted" Poulton.

The only way to prevent another Pharmacy from opening up in close proximity to you back in those days was to be the Landlord and put covenants on what each shop need to be. This situation is very different now with Licensing and PBS Approvals, but these were the times.



Ted Poulton eventually sold off each of the shops to the original occupants and they have now all changed hands a couple of times since, with the exception (I think) of the Bakery which is still in the hands of the original owner.

The Pharmacy was operated by Ted Poulton for pretty close to 20 years before it was purchased by Tony Barraket. Tony bought the store as a fall back option after months of lease negotiations were going nowhere with the managers of Carlingford Court. Tony then owned that Pharmacy for another 20 years with most of that time the Store being managed by Brian Allman who later went on to buy a few Pharmacies in Beecroft.



Carlingford Car Care

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 4, Shop 23



"The team at Carlingford Car Care are ready to look after all your servicing and car repair needs, as well as providing competitively price Mobil fuel".

Ron Engel, Carlingford Car Care since 1999

I was fortunate enough to have worked for Tony as a Pharmacy Student in his Carlingford Court stores while undertaking my University studies. When he sold these stores in 1998 I went and worked at The Sydney Adventist Hospital for my Intern Year and then later moved to St Vincent's Hospital, and also spent a couple of years working as a locum Pharmacist in the UK. When I returned to Australia I was ready to leave Hospital Pharmacy and was fortunate enough to contact Tony right after his manager had resigned. I worked for him for a few months and later was offered and accepted the offer to buy the store and business.

Interestingly Websters and I both settled on our stores on the same day, 3rd of November 2003.

I'm not sure how much extra there is to add. There are a lot of holes in the story because I was not really around for the first 40 years, maybe David or another owner might be able to fill in a few more gaps.

David's Cakes is the longest serving Owner now. He has maintained ownership for in excess of 20 years, (I am sure David could give you the exact figure)

Regards,

Simon Greville, Carlingford North Pharmacy



Discount Pet Meds

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 5 part of Shop 15/16

Caring for Pets and Animals locally and across Australia, Discount Pet Meds is a licensed pharmacy & pet supplies company. We carry all branded medications as sold by your veterinarian, at discounted prices. Visit our online store at www.discountpetmeds.com.au - helping to make your pet medication and supplies more affordable.

Regards,

Ed and Monique Etzeniny, Discount Pet Meds



The Beauty Haus

Shop not located on Subdivision Plan Maps

At the BEAUTY HAUS, we believe that everyone should feel comfortable in their own skin and with confidence glowing from that knowledge, from the inside-out.

We are dedicated to putting your needs first... to have a balance of skin health and relaxation. To these ends, we offer services and products of undeniably the highest quality.

Samantha has over a decade of experience in the beauty industry with specialist training in DMK and Eminence Organics treatments. She continues to educate herself in the industry and prides herself on being professionally trained and dedicated to her clients' needs.

Regards,

The BEAUTY HAUS, Epping



The Beauty Haus has been open for over three years now in Epping.

Located 2/49 Pennant Parade Epping



Swimart

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 4, Shop 22

I don't know much about the history of the shop. Although, I have been told that when the shop opened it was first a Newsagency and Post Office which later relocated further along.

Paul Porter had his Swimart Shop for more than twenty years, and his son Mark took over for a short time.

I bought the business in 2018.

Margaret Xu, Swimart



Swimart carries a large number of products and service is available seven (7) days a week
 [Monday - Friday 9.00 am - 5.30 pm]
 [Saturday 9.00am - 4.00pm]
 [Sunday 9.00 am - 3.00 pm]



Liquor Central

Location can be found on the Subdivision Plan, page 5 part of Shop 15/16

"Alisa and Simon purchased the business (formerly Hall's Select Liquor) from Gary and Linda Hall in Feb 2016.

We enjoy hand selecting wines, beers and spirits for the store and sharing our passion with our customers.

We thoroughly enjoy being part of the North Carlingford community. and getting to personally know so many great people."



Opening Hours

[Monday 11.00 am - 8.00 pm]
 [Tuesday, Wednesday 10.00am - 8.00pm]
 [Thursday 10.00 am - 9.00 pm]
 [Friday 10.00 am - 9.30 pm]
 [Saturday 10.00 am - 9.00 pm]



Happenings in Progress

UPDATES: Hazlewood Senior Age-Friendly Disability area

Dorothy Doolan, June 01, 2021

3. Amenities Block

3a) Community Toilet Fund – The last deposit into Community Toilet Fundraising (CTF) Special A/C, BSB 062 300: 1055 6663 was made 03 February, 2021 leaving the Balance of \$2,085.

No active Facebook postings since the 16th March, 2021 executive meeting.

3b) The 2021 Community Building Partnership \$150,000 Grant Application was unfortunately not able to be supported by CoP Council [see Pino Todarello's 30 April, 2021 email response below to Ray Park Heritage Group's request for assistance].

Feed-back on a number of times during the last 2 years: eg. "There are larger parks and key commercial centres in the City of Parramatta LGA which currently do not have public toilets", is something that has a familiar ring to it!

30 April, 2021

The cost of a new amenities as previously advised is approximately \$200K to \$350K. Whilst I appreciate the committees desire for a new toilet block to be constructed in Hazelwood Rose Park there are multiple other higher priority sites within the Parramatta Local Government Area where amenities and other infrastructure are required by the local community. Whilst we appreciate the great work that you and the Ray Park Committee has and continues to do for the local community, Council's Open Space Capital Works Program for 2021/22 is fully committed, and on that basis we cannot commit to supporting the grant application.

Regards

Pino Todarello | Supervisor Open Space and Natural Resources

4. Way forward to achieve our goal in having an amenities facility at Hazlewood Rose Park, Carlingford Outcome of the Executive Committee Meeting, held on June 1st 2021

Unfortunately, Hazlewood Rose Park is not on the list of amenity priorities for City of Parramatta Council, but we do need their support to maintain the facility even if we can gather funding for installation and commissioning. We need support from our Ward Councillors, Bill Tyrrell, Lorraine Wearne & Donna Davis to endorse this project. We have written to Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP in his capacity as State Member of Epping, and he has directed our correspondence to the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Hon Gareth Ward and Minister for Local Government, the Hon Shelley Hancock MP on 25/03/2021 for their attention and consideration. We are awaiting their response.

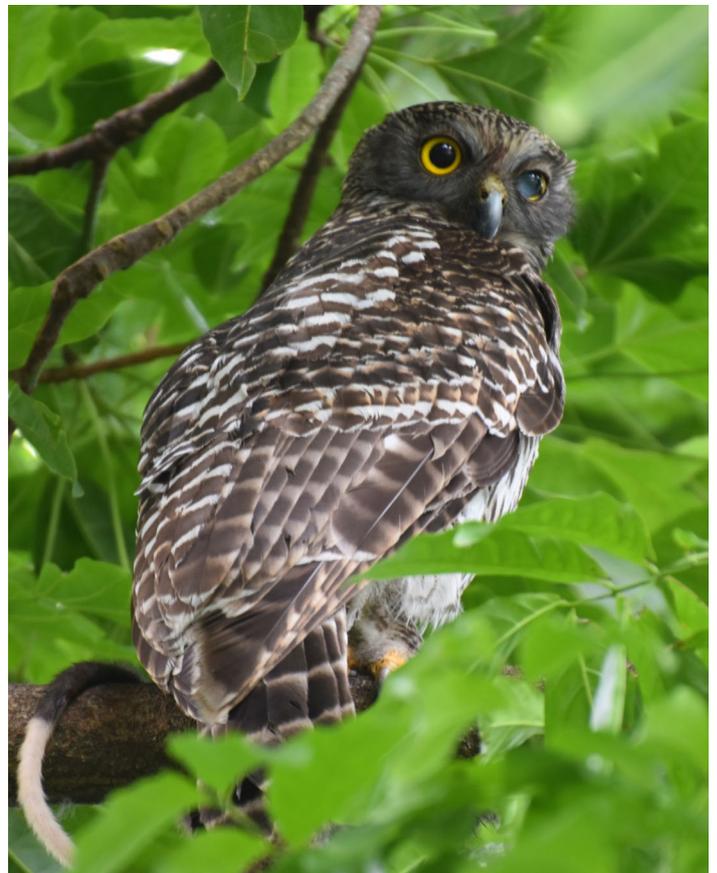
Nocturnal Neighbours Project

Project Update:

In 2020 the Nocturnal Neighbours camera was used to monitor a newly installed Nesting Box near the 1st Roselea Scout hall. The only animal activity observed was a possum running across the top of the box in the nearly 9 months of monitoring.

The monitoring team are considering sites for the next installation of the camera.

The team have been observing and photographing animals and birds in the local area including powerful owls, tawny frogmouths, water dragons, frogs, eels, turtles and insects.



Powerful Owl, a long term resident of Ray Park and surrounding area. On 4th July, 2018 he had taken up residence for couple of days on the branch of large Illawarra Flame tree in the backyard of 29 Ridge Street, Epping. This photo is showing evidence an old eye injury which occurred early evening of February 2011. He was knocked unconscious after hitting the windscreen of the Crawford family car on Plympton Road, opposite Ray Park.

Anna & Juliette wrapped the injured bird in the beach blanket and took it home putting it on the kitchen table.

Taken to North Ryde Veterinarian centre, the Owl regained consciousness and had 2 weeks with Wires.

Was released into Plympton Road area 2 weeks after recuperating at Wires.

Photo taken by Strath Clarke

Carlingford Produce Store

June 01, 2021

Article by Belinda Turco

On 8th April, 2021, I was privileged to participate in Dr Margaret Leask's recording of Rob Cayzer's oral history. It took over three hours! Though the aim of this project was to record Rob's recollections of the Store's machinery and logistical operation during its heyday, Margaret captured a lengthy dissertation of Rob's life experiences. This imparted a rich fabric and character to the operations of the store and the peripheral activities that bolstered its success. Some of the fabulous anecdotes included:

- Clashes with Associated Dairies Owner Greg Lindsay and other staff at the Friday meetings nicknamed 'the kindergarten'.
- Kids used to go down the chute for fun!
- A lady came in one day wanting things for goats - she had just bought some, but they weren't weaned...Rob found a bag of milk replacer for her but not sure what happened to them after that!
- Possum nests were part of the inventory!
- ...and the customer is always right! Some frequented the Store for 40 years

We plan to obtain a transcript of the interview so it can be

shared more widely, however this will cost in the vicinity of \$500 so we will await a suitable grant opportunity as there is no pressure on time, now that it's been recorded.

TAHE emailed us on 15/06/2021 to advise that though there was some delay in Sam vacating the premises, he was able to "make good" and left the premises completely on 18th May. TAHE's facilities maintenance team have since secured the site in the interim, while our Contact began the procurement process for the Heritage Consultants. Those Heritage Consultants that were interested in taking on the project visited the site during the week of 7-11 June 2021 for a final inspection before compiling and submitting tenders for the project.

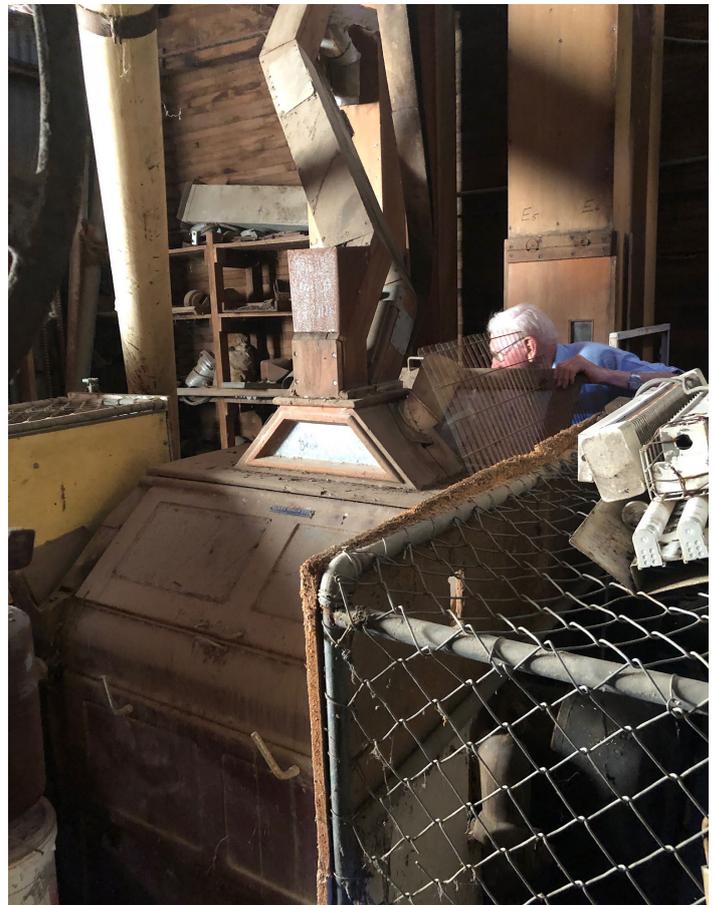
TAHE were also happy to hear that we'd recorded Rob Cayzer's oral history, and have encouraged us to share it with their internal heritage team as they may be interested – a representative from this team was copied on the email. When the transcript is done, we will share!



Margaret and Rob with the CPS and Parramatta Light Rail construction site in the background – as it was on 8th April 2021.



Rob is currently 81 years old, and was Manager of Carlingford Produce from July 1983 – December 1988. He grew the business by branching into grain trading and securing annual contracts with feedlotter. If he was 20 years younger, he'd get it up and going again! He relished attending field days and agricultural shows and building relationships with multiple generations of farmers throughout his 20 year career in the industry.



Produce was fed from the silos around the mill via the augur operated from the button board. The grooves of the roller mill were adjusted to requirements for the end product – how tight or loose the grain need to be. This machine could run unattended, steam powered by the boiler near the kitchen which has since been removed.

Ray Park Heritage Group President's News Update - June, 2020-2021

Executive Committee accepted Epping Community Bendigo Bank's "consultancy donation" of \$800.00.

Our Group members are invited to suggest/provide the locations of historic sites and buildings in the area, so that the Bank can investigate the viability of erecting a suitable plaque at each venue to publicise the historic nature of the subject. There would be no workload for RPHG other than to providing the locations.

An idea regarding the heritage plaques: we could utilise the opportunity to promote our group and focus on sites & buildings constructed in the 1940s – 2000. This time period appears to be undocumented by local groups and should interest us as a new project in the coming year for our group. We could publish these project activities in our quarterly newsletter, The Chronicle under "Happenings in Progress", Plaque the Building's Birthday and acknowledge the support of Epping Community Bendigo Bank for plaquing the sites at no cost to RPHG. What are your thoughts/suggestions?

A couple of examples that spring to mind include the St Gerald's School Community Hall, which was previously the Pennant Hills Radio Station Engine/machinery room (1912), and the Carlingford North Shopping Centre built, opening 1st October, 1964 [Go to Chronicle Page 17 to see member, Rod Best's summary of early SHOP history with list of much more yet to be researched].

Monday 07 June, 2021 Meeting with Stephen Hu, Branch Manager of Epping Community Bendigo Bank, Suite 1, 2 Pembroke St. Epping NSW 2121

Mission Statement – *"The members of our community who bank with us receive high quality banking services – and are the source of our profits. The more people who bank with our local branch, the higher our profits. The higher our profits, the more funds we can pass back into local community projects, and the higher the financial dividends for our shareholders"*

Executive members, Jacqui Irvin, Belinda Turco and Dorothy Doolan attended the meeting. **Ray Park Heritage Group's banking account has been transferred from the Commonwealth Bank to Epping Community Bendigo Bank** (Not-For Profit Everyday Account, there is no monthly fee for that particular business account and most of banking services are unlimited and free of charge).

Direct Transfer:

Ray Park Heritage Group
BSB: 633-000
Account Number: 184423119

Reminder for 2021-2022 Membership Fee. Due 30 June, 2021

Please do not forget to include your name if paying by Direct Transfer.

Sponsorship of Ray Park Heritage Group's newsletter, The Chronicle. It makes it possible for it to be shared with hundreds of "history friends" on our contact list, as well as our members by email; in addition, the limited number of hard copies as hand-outs at the SHOPS. Without the sponsorship and support of our local businesses this would not be possible.....THANK YOU

With the continued interest and educational experiences that brings our local heritage back to modern day, we hope to continue in remembering and celebrating the memories and stories of our past local residents and the contributions they made to the area.

Finally, my special thanks and much appreciation must go to Sally Typltova who has volunteered hours of her time putting each issue together for me, and exercising a great level of patience with my short-comings! THANK YOU

Treasurers Position and Reporting

The Annual General Meeting's Financial Report for 2019-2021 held on 06 July, 2019, prepared by Shayne Johnson (under Booksweeper Business Services) was not passed. This was due to a member's concern re report having been prepared by a none member of Ray Park Heritage Group, and who was unable to attend the meeting.

This was followed up with an enquiry via NSW Department of Fair Trading and resolved ie *"Booksweeper Business Services may be employed to produce the financial reports who may not be a financial member of the Group"*.

Extra Executive Meeting held on 09 July, 2019 with Annual General Meeting financial report for 2019-2020 being accepted. Shayne Johnson prepared the following two financial reports of the year, but our aged MYOB system made it impossible for her to continue and work offline. Jacqui Irvin appointed Acting Treasurer with Narelle Wood's assistance until position is hopefully filled AGM 15 August, 2021.

Dorothy Doolan

Ray Park Heritage Group Incorporated

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 2.00 pm 15 August, 2021

1 st Murray Farm Scout Hall
11 Haines Avenue, Carlingford

Please note: Members to encourage young people to join Ray Park Heritage Group – please use the Application Form below right

About

Ray Park Heritage Group

Ray Park Heritage Group is an incorporated body managed by a committee elected by the members.

The Group is concerned with the preservation of the local history of the area bounded by the creek catchments and adjacent lands of Carlingford Road, Beecroft Road, the M2 Motorway and Pennant Hills Road.

OUR OBJECTIVES:

- Foster an interest in local history and surrounding areas by interchange of information among members of the group.
- Collect and coordinate local history accurately assisting with conservation and promotion of the heritage of City of Parramatta.
- Arrange displays of historical photographs and information acknowledging source and in particular photographs courtesy of the photographer or provider.
- Arrange days of celebration with an appropriate theme.
- Liaise with appropriate local schools on local history/bush care/environment.
- Liaise with appropriate Bush Regeneration groups.
- Maintain contact with City of Parramatta Council (CoP) regarding the Pioneers' Track, while keeping association with Hornsby Shire Council, the areas local council 1906-2016.

Application for Membership

Ray Park Heritage Group Inc.

Initial Joining Fee: \$20.00
(includes Annual Membership Fee)

Annual Membership Fee: \$15.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please tick one option

New Membership \$20.00:

Renewal Membership \$15.00:

**Cheques should be made payable to:
Ray Park Heritage Group Inc.**

Date Paid: _____

Post cheque to:

54 Bambara Cres, Beecroft NSW 2119

Payment via bank transfer to:

Ray Park Heritage Group

BSB: 633 000

ACC: 184423119

Ref: Your Full Name

**Bank: Epping Community
Bendigo Bank**



Research Questions & stories from the past

Have you got any stories of the past local history you want to share?

Send us your stories to see them featured in coming Issues of The Chronicle

email stories to rpheritage@netspace.net.au

Would you like to know more about your local history?

Send us an email with any questions to see them featured in coming Issues of The Chronicle

email questions to rpheritage@netspace.net.au

Mystery Photos Collection

We've solved the questions!

Thank you to Peter and Christine Ray for uncovering the mysteries to a few of our photos from the mystery collection.

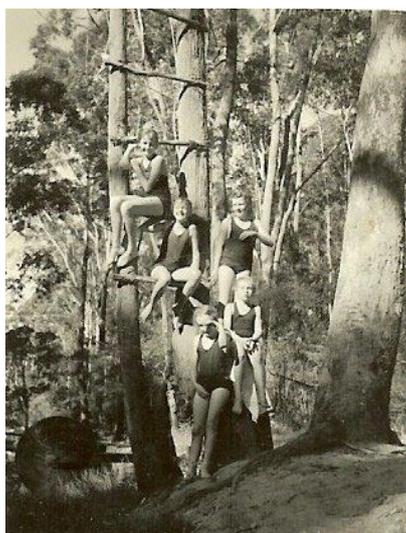
Who were these Children?



Left to Right: Standing, Dulcie Ashdown, Lilian Ray, Molly Ray, Poppy Ashdown, —, —, Marie Ash-down. Middle row—Ken Ray, Victor Ray, Bob Ray? Front row—?, Dorothy Ray, ?

Don't know when taken or where but think it was in an Epping back yard.

Where were these photos taken? Photographer?



This was taken by Eva Ray at Rays Creek on the Southern bank in the 1950s The children are from top to bottom, Joan Simms, Mary List, Nerida and Christine Ray, and Jenny Simms. The trees the ladder was built on are still growing today on what is left of Rays creek.



This was taken by Eva Ray at Rays Creek on the Southern bank in the 1950s The children are from top to bottom, Joan Simms, Mary List, Nerida and Christine Ray, and Jenny Simms. The trees the ladder was built on are still growing today on what is left of Rays creek.

Carlingford North Shopping Centre

Originally known as West Epping Shopping Centre these retail and commercial premises were initially built at a critical watershed in how we shopped.

Built upon land of the Wallumeda (Dharug speaking) people, it was then part of a grant in 1856 of 56 acres to John McRoberts. It remained within the broader Mc Roberts and related families until 1959 when just over 5 acres was purchased by Robert John Lees a neighbouring poultry farmer and the parcel of just over 4 acres comprising what is the majority of the commercial space was purchased by Contemporary Timber Homes Pty Ltd. Between 1961 and 1963 the land was subdivided into largely the current commercial configuration anchored by the petro station on the corner of Pennant Parade and North Rocks Road.

The watershed that was happening at this time was the shift from stand alone department stores (like David Jones, Farmers, Anthony Horderns) and shopping strips with shops fronting a road or other public space and servicing a local community, and the development of a shopping mall which was inward facing and centred around a supermarket or department store. In 1959 the first Westfield shopping mall was constructed by John Saunders and Frank Lowry in Blacktown. In 1963

Anthony Horderns built its first department store in a Sydney suburban shopping centre at West Ryde. In 1961 the Village Arcade was built in Beecroft – with a small supermarket located in the ‘centre’ of the arcade.

In the early 1970s Westfield built its mall in North Rocks and in 1972, the Module was built in Beecroft.

Contrary to these developments these shops formed part of retail history built around a strip and which was designed to serve only the immediate neighbourhood.

The initial strip of shops (from 1962) were built and owned by Edward Poulton and were then extended eastward by West Epping Shopping Centre Limited.

After pressure from the local community, the shopkeepers and the local State member, Andrew Tink, from 2005 vehicular access and parking was immeasurably improved to enhance the use of this shopping precinct. This contributed to the change in these shops as their reliance on the local neighbourhood started to diminish and instead customers had to be attracted from further afield. The shopping strip started instead to become a hub.

A history of shop occupancy remains incomplete but looks (heading from west to east) something like the following mix of retail opportunities and store history:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1960-69	Service Station	News/Post Office	Hardware	Green Grocer	Grocery	Butcher	Pharmacy	Dress/Haberdashery		
1970-79					Bakery				Grocery	Doctor
1990-99								Haberdashery/video store		Swimming pool
2000-09			Chicken							Liquor
2010-20		Swimming pool		Florist				News/post office		

A. Originally an Ampol Service Station owned by the Rothwell Family. There was also a fruit shop on this site owned by the Bietola family until they moved to Beecroft. The Carlingford Car Service Station was opened by Ron Engel and moved to the Mobil franchise.

B. Mrs Elva Denny originally managed the newsagency and Helen Finch and Mrs McDonald worked in it until it closed in 1984.

C. Originally the Hardware Shop, is now Chickensalt.

D. Starting as a Green Grocer, originally owned by Phillip Lopez. It was then conducted by Sam, Julie and Roy Bietola until they moved to the service station. It is now Blooming Day Floral.

E. Originally Warman’s grocery it became a Jewells franchise until relocating to I. It then became Alan Booth’s Cake & Pie Shop. David William commenced his apprenticeship in this store at age 16 until owning the business since 1992 as David’s Cakes.

F. The Butcher was originally owned by Fayer, Loy, Laslo and Peter but is now Websters Gourmet Meats owned by Sarah and Duncan Webster.

G. the pharmacy was initially owned by Edward Poulton who

sold to Tony Barraket who also had the pharmacy in Carlingford Court. His manager was Brian Allman who went on to own Beecroft Pharmacy. In 2003 it changed its name to Carlingford North Pharmacy and is owned by Simon Greville.

H. originally a dress shop and haberdashery. It was later divided to open as a video store. It is now the newsagency and Australia Post managed by Paveen Sharma.

I. This became the grocery store having moved from E. The franchise arrangement changed from Jewell to The Friendly Grocer. It then became Rossi Fresh Grocer.

J. Initially a doctor’s surgery it then became a pool shop before converting to a liquor store – at first Select Liquor and now Liquor Central Carlingford Shop

At the rear of the extension area was

(i) initially a hairdresser which is now Discount Ped Meds - owned since 2020 by Ed & Monique Etzeniny;

(ii) up the stairs was a dental surgery from 1972-1981 of Eugene Irvin which is now Sydney Mobile Podiatry - owned since 2019 by Sarah Connery.

Initial research article compiled by Anne Tsang – summarised by Rod Best 2021

Dorothy Doolan recognised at Epping Community Bank's Community 2121 Awards

Article by Rob Phillips, Chairman, Epping Community Bank Branch, Bendigo Bank

The Epping Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank is proud to have honoured Dorothy Doolan from the Ray Park Heritage Group at our recent Community 2121 Awards presentation at Epping Rotary Club.

The Community 2121 Awards are presented to deserving volunteers who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and selfless dedication for the benefit of our local community. The Bank sees the awards as recognition of those quiet achievers who tirelessly work in so many ways to serve our community in an outstanding capacity. Dorothy has served the community in many ways for many years, and is a most worthy recipient of such an award.

The Community Bank Epping is a GENUINE community bank. It operates on the principle of SHARED VALUE, which is not just 'shared values', however noble those values might be. Nor is it just a sense of 'social conscience' or 'social responsibility'. Nor is it just 'corporate philanthropy'. It is all of these, and much more.

It embodies the link between business success and corporate social responsibility – the success of a company and the social health of the community around it are mutually dependent.

Our Community Bank is a franchisee of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. It uses the bank's infrastructure and expertise to provide local community members with financial and banking services through a successful community-owned business venture.

The crucial point of difference from other banks is that, under the terms of the franchise agreement, our Community Bank reinvests up to 80% of its net profits back into our community to support local initiatives and stimulate community well-being. That is what we mean by a genuine Community Bank.

Shareholders expect a financial return, but they are also committing to a **community investment** for the benefit of the community as a whole. The community is at the centre of the business, not at the margins. Our high-quality banking services are the means to our end – to generate profits, and thus provide funds to support our community.

Since our foundation in 2004, our company has returned over \$1.2million to the community in a wide variety of projects. We must stress that these funds come from our branch, our local company – Epping & Districts Financial Services – the franchisee of Bendigo Bank.

The members of our community who bank with us receive high quality banking services - and are the source of our profits. The more people who bank with our local branch, the higher our profits. The higher our profits, the more funds we can pass back into local community projects, and the higher the financial dividends for our shareholders.

It is a WIN-WIN-WIN situation.



Pictured left to right:
Vic Imarlian (*Zappi's Pizzeria*)
Toula Serna (*Epping Rotary President*)
Trevor McAlister (*Epping Rotary*)
Dorothy Doolan (*Ray Park Heritage Group and Bambara Bushcare Group*)
Madison Hubert (*A young entrepreneur who not only created a street library in response to Covid-19, but single-handedly researched and designed her own mental health program which is being adopted by the Scouts across Australia*)
Rob Phillips (*Chairman, Bendigo Community Bank Epping*)
Connor Snell (*Michael Snell's son*)

Gum Tree Cottage Walking Excursion

Monday 26th April 2021



On Monday the 26th of April, children, parents, and educators from Gum Tree Cottage Pre-School were incredibly lucky to be able to observe a Kookaburra nesting box being installed onto the trees in the Habitat Havens area as part of the pre-schools fundraising program for 2021.

The children in the Koala Group (4-5 years old) at Gum Tree Cottage chose this initiative because they have been learning about the impact of urbanisation on natural areas and they decided that it was most important to have spaces in our local community where native animals and birds can feed, sleep, reproduce and be protected. We believe starting children early in the process of learning about and developing respect for natural environments will help them to become active participants in caring for their surroundings as they grow.



The children had been very excited about participating in this event and their excursion on the day certainly did not disappoint. The explanation of the process by Narawan Williams from Fauna Field Ecology was extremely entertaining; the children were also quite amazed at

the ease with which Narawan navigated raising himself into the trees. We know that many of our children and families have made the trip back to the Habitat Havens over the past few weeks to see the box and learn more about other features in the area such as lizard habitats, bee hotels and the general history of our local community. This experience has started us off on many learning experiences and activities; we are grateful to have been a part of this event.

We would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to Dorothy Doolan, who spent many hours helping to arrange this event and provide us with direction and contacts in order to purchase and install the Kookaburra box. We really appreciate the time and effort Dorothy has given to us and we look forward to being able to visit our box in the future as well as contribute to more boxes and programs in the future. To everyone involved in helping to care for the Habitat Havens area; thank you for your time and effort, our children are very lucky to live in a community where they will be exposed to wonderful role models and community members who volunteer their time and skills. We can't wait to hear about the wildlife who make our box their home.

Nicole Cluff
Educational Leader
Gum Tree Cottage Preschool



Carlingford North Pharmacy

498 North Rocks Rd.
Carlingford NSW 2118

9871 1183

simonmgreville@yahoo.com.au



Shop 2/49
Pennant Parade, Epping

9090 2351

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snap-eastwood](http://snap.com.au/snap-eastwood)



Shop 1, 500 North Rocks Rd
Carlingford NSW 2115

9872 4707

admin@liquorcentral.com.au

From Fruit Bowl Farms to Housing Boom Vol. 1 & 2

Written by Chris Staples

This is a pictorial history of how our local area changed from being the fruit bowl of Sydney to its development through subdivision of the farms.

Volume One

- 850 copies printed
- all sold

Volume Two

- 500 copies printed
- remaining 189 copies available

(Volume 2 covers the area south of Carlingford Road to Mobbs Lane and the eastern side of the old Carlingford railway site).

Greeting cards for sale

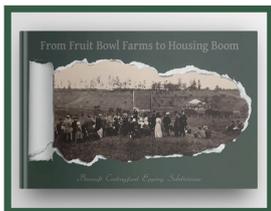


Orchard Farming Cards

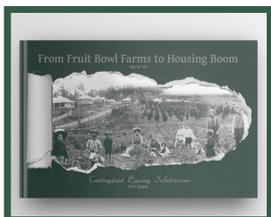
A range of heritage photos, in sets of 5 Blank Cards.

Contact for orders.
Phone 9876 5713
Dorothy Doolan

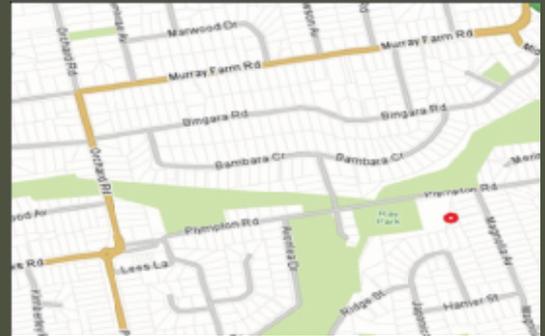
Book sale updates



SOLD OUT
Fruit Bowl Farms to Housing Boom Volume 1
Chris Staples



189 left in stock
Fruit Bowl Farms to Housing Boom Volume 2
Chris Staples



Map Reference
Habitat Havens

New Bushcare Project

Volunteers required to prepare and then plant 'Zone Ross area', Habitat Havens Bushcare site (end of Magnolia Walkway, Epping)

Group Work Plan
(can be flexible)

(Week days/weekend day... Weekly or Monthly)

Contact Dorothy
rpheritage@netspace.net.au
9876 5713 or 0438 676 011

New volunteers welcome to spend just an hour or two

Discussion time and time to enjoy a cuppa afterward

Take home native plant seeds to grow in your own garden!

Initially prepare and then to plant during May, June, July

TOOLS AND GLOVES PROVIDED