

Something to

CROWABOUT

e-Magazine of the

Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club Inc.

Incorporating

WAGGA WAGGA SENIOR CITIZENS' COMPUTER CLUB

(Member of ASCCA (Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association))

Issue 6

Published Quarterly

December 2010

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Members of Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens Club and Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens Computer Club wish to thank Wagga Wagga City Council for its support and contribution during the year.

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Who's got the bowling bug???



Friday afternoon at Wagga's Seniors Community Centre and some of our regular Club bowling members are gathered for some (not so) serious bowling. Then, early Monday morning (11th October) Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club members prepare to 'embark' on their annual trip for 2010.



**Seniors
Community
Centre**



Tripping around!!! Its early morning and our members are about to embark on the annual trip away. (October 2010)

Editor's Notes



Can't believe the year is nearly over and Christmas is upon us.

You will have observed a slight change in the front page masthead. This is to reflect our orientation towards including the whole of

Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club membership and not just one part of it. As time goes by we hope to showcase various activities within the Club.

I cannot thank those who have allowed me to tell their story within these pages enough. I hope you agree that it does add interest and a certain depth to a club magazine. And why call it an "emagazine" instead of a newsletter? This was done to reflect the fact that it is produced electronically (and emailed) for free, with hard copies printed only on request at a cost. And content is not restricted to club news.

If Women Controlled the World –it would probably be a much nicer place - BUT - regarding the promised continuation of pictures under that banner from the last issue, it was decided not to proceed. As a mere male, the editor thought the pictures were hilarious, but did not wish to cause any possible offence to our fairer (and more numerous) members. NOW, as for those Irish jokes, there's only one of you Paddy, so maybe.....!!

Wagga Wagga Senior Citizen's Club

Membership (\$5.00 per year) to over 50's

Weekly Programme of Activities

Day	Activity	Time	Cost
Mon.	Computer Club	9.30 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 Per hr
1st Mon. Of Month	Public Meeting Day Guest Speaker	1.30 pm	\$1.00
2nd Mon. Of Month	Cards and Indoor Bowls	12.30 pm	\$1.00
3rd Mon. Of Month	Luncheon Day	12 noon	\$4.00
4th Mon. Of Month	Sing-along	1.30 pm	\$1.00
Thursday	Computer Club	9.30 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 Per hr
Thursday	500 Cards	1.00 pm	\$1.00
Thursday	Line Dancing	10.30 am	\$1.00
Thursday	Craft	1.00-3.00 pm	\$1.00
Friday	Computer Club	9.30 am to 3.00 pm	\$2.00 per hr
Friday	Euchre	1.00 pm	\$1.00
Friday	Indoor Bowls	1.00-3.00 pm	\$1.00

Monthly Bus Trip: Normally 3rd Wednesday of month, destination decided at monthly meeting and bookings taken that day with payment.

Annual Bus Trip: Normally in October for 5 days.

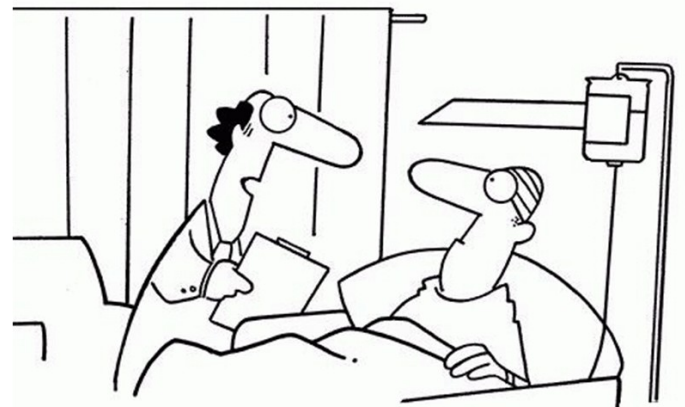
Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Club Committee 2010

President	Jim Weeden	69252001
Vice President	Gordon Hodges	69711807
Treasurer	Joyce Redman	69312243
Assistant Treasurer	Gwen Beasley	69310268
Secretary	Phyllis Ward	69251483
Assistant Secretary	Dawn McDermott	69251191

WAGGA WAGGA SENIOR CITIZENS' COMPUTER CLUB—COMMITTEE 2010

Chairperson	Judy Robertson	Ph: 69316125 Email: jroberts@dragnet.com.au
Secretary	Barry Williams	Ph: 69253065 Email: barrysonia@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Paddy Adams	Ph: 427654575 Email: vk2grq@ozemail.com.au

Committee: Dawn McDermott, Margaret Sommerfield, Enid Pendergast, Robert Stakenburg, Jim Weeden.



You caught a virus from your computer and we had to erase your brain.

Reminder

General Club Meeting is held on the **1st Monday** of Month.
Computer Club Committee meets on the **2nd Monday** of Month

Merry Christmas

Note from President.



2010 has been a busy year for the Club, and the friendship and fellowship between members is one thing that I noted during the year. I have enjoyed all the events and activities that I attended, but due to illness and other commitments I was not able to attend all of them.

The bus trips that were organised by the Club were most enjoyable, but lack of numbers meant a few trips had to be cancelled.

I would like to thank the Wagga Wagga City Council and the staff for their support during the year in providing the hall free of charge and for grants that were successfully applied for by the Club. I would personally like to thank Michelle Bray for her dedication to the Seniors of the city through her employment with the Wagga Wagga City Council.

I thank the Executive Committee and those members of the Club that run the various activities and sub-clubs for without your help the Club would not run as efficiently as it does.

I would personally like to thank Barry Williams for going outside the “square” and producing the “e-magazine”. Initially this was a small magazine for the Computer Club, but it was so well received it is now OUR magazine (Seniors Citizens Club Inc.). Being an e-magazine means that it is electronically transmitted but hard copies will be available to peruse and purchase on payment of printing costs. It is hoped that the e-magazine will be available widespread once the computer club has access to a web site.

To all those members that have not had a good year, may the coming year be a better one.

I wish each member a joyous and happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Jim Weeden, President 2010
Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens 'Club Inc.

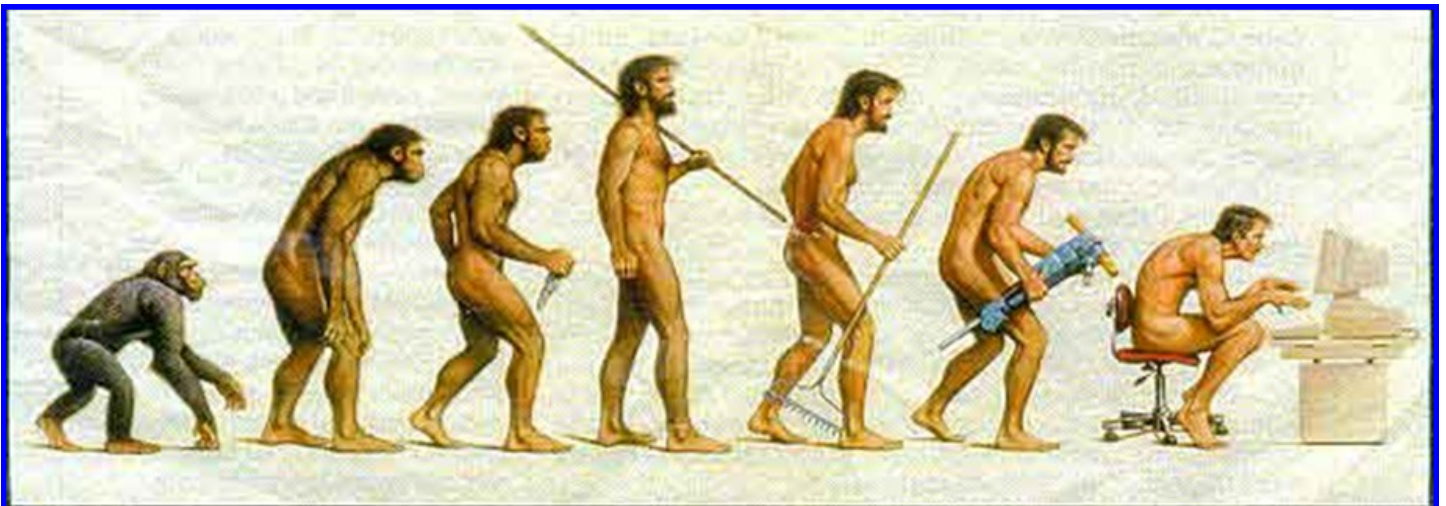


Important Club Dates for 2011

Luncheon and Join-up Day: 3rd Monday in January (17th)

First General Meeting and AGM 1st Monday in February (7th)

First Computer Club Meeting and AGM 2nd Monday in February (14th)



Progress is not always progress ... look where we started (so they tell us); look where we end.

Computer Hints & Tips

Downloading "Updates"

A reader wrote that he'd received a message asking him to click OK to download updates to his Dell computer. He did so and downloaded a destructive virus. Although certain software companies, such as Microsoft and Adobe, do offer periodic updates to their programs, computer manufacturers do NOT.

Microsoft sends updates to Windows users at least once a week and Adobe periodically asks users to download updates to Acrobat Reader (for reading PDF pages) and Adobe Flash (to read the animated "Flash" files seen on many web pages nowadays).

As for Microsoft updates, you should be receiving them automatically. If you don't get them automatically go to <http://www.update.microsoft.com>. Or click on Start>All Programs>Windows Update.

Internet villains are becoming more creative with their tricks to lure users into downloading malware, as well as conning people into typing in sensitive data to "update" various online accounts. If you receive something saying you need to "update" your PayPal or eBay or Amazon or bank account you can be sure it's a "phishing" scam designed to steal your identity.

Users of Facebook and similar sites are increasingly being hit with messages such as, "Is it really you on this video? I can't believe it! Click the link to play it." If you click the link you'll likely see a message saying, "You need an updated codec to play this video. Click to download the update." What will be downloaded; however, can wreak havoc on your PC.

Is it Malware or Not?

You may receive an authentic looking email which seems to come from an organisation well known to you and it prompts you to "click here". You are very suspicious, but how do you tell where it really came from?

Just rest the mouse cursor over the "click here" and the true sender will be revealed.

Sometimes the sender might try to look very similar to the genuine organisation, but mostly it will be obvious that it is a fraud.

A recent email appeared to come from the Australian Tax Office, complete with the coat of arms and Tax Office header.

However it really came from:-

"<http://93-97-177-54.zone5.bethere.co.uk>"

That is definitely not the Aust Tax Office!!!

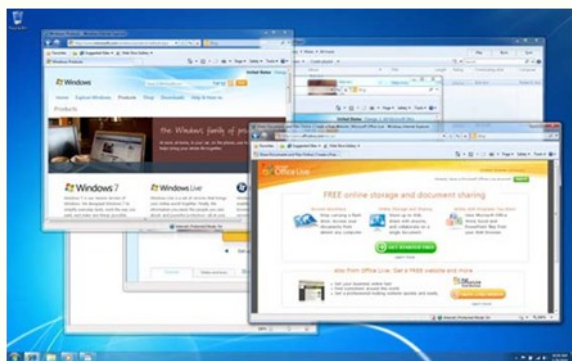


Display the desktop (A Shortcut)

Windows logo key  + D

Use this shortcut when you want to minimize a lot of open windows at once to check something on your desktop. It's a cinch to go from a cluttered view to a clean one.

From This.....To This in one jump.



Below is a link to "**Why is my Computer Running Slowly?**" Here are 12 possible reasons:

<http://it.flexinet.com.au/bits%20and%20pieces/RunsSlow.htm>



The Crows Joke Page

How the Media Twists the News

A biker is riding by the zoo, when he sees a little girl leaning into the lion's cage.

Suddenly, the lion grabs her by the cuff of her jacket and tries to pull her inside the cage, under the eyes of her screaming parents.

The biker jumps off his bike, runs to the cage and hits the lion square in the eye with a powerful punch.

Whimpering from the pain the lion jumps back letting go of the girl, and the biker brings her to her terrified parents, who thank him endlessly.

A *New York Times* reporter has watched the whole event. The reporter, addressing the biker says, "Sir, that was the bravest and most gallant thing I have ever witnessed in my whole life."

The biker replies, "It was nothing, really ... the lion was behind bars. I just saw this little kid in danger, and acted as I felt right."

The reporter says, "Well, I'll make sure this won't go unnoticed. I'm a journalist from the *New York Times* and tomorrow's paper will have this story on the front page. So, let me get some details: "What do you do for a living?"

The biker replied, "I'm a United States Marine."

"And what is your political affiliation?"

"I'm a Republican."

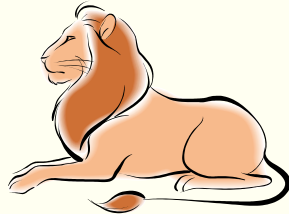
The journalist leaves, again promising a front page story. The following morning the biker buys a copy of the Times to see if it indeed brings news of his actions, and reads, on the front page:

"U.S. MARINE ASSAULTS AFRICAN IMMIGRANT AND STEALS HIS LUNCH"

Grandpa reminiscing about the Good Old Days

"When I were a lad, me mum would send me down to da corner store wiv' a dollar, and I'd come back wiv' five pounds o' potatoes, two loaves o' bread, three pints o' milk, a pound o' cheese, a packet o' tea, an' 'alf a dozen eggs.

Yer can't do that now, too many security cameras."



Man at the Supermarket



This man was completely lost in the kitchen and never ate unless someone prepared a meal for him. However, when his wife was ill, he volunteered to go to the supermarket for her.

She sent him off with a carefully numbered list of seven items.

He returned shortly, very proud of himself, and proceeded to unpack the grocery bags. He had one bag of sugar, two dozen eggs, three hams, four boxes of detergent, five boxes of crackers, six eggplants, and seven green peppers.

Chicken Gun

Scientists at Rolls Royce built a gun specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners and military jets all travelling at maximum velocity. The idea was to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

American engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high-speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the American engineers.

When the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurtled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof shield, smashed it to smithereens, blasted through the control console, snapped the engineer's back-rest in two and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin like an arrow shot from a bow..

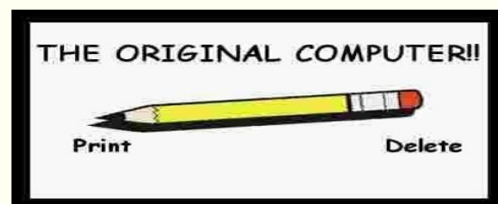
The horrified engineers sent Rolls Royce the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield and begged the British scientists for suggestions.

Rolls Royce responded with a one-line memo:

"Defrost the chicken."



Before Computers





Member Profile:



With the change in emphasis from a strictly computer club orientated publication to a more encompassing one of that of the entire Senior Citizens' Club organisation, we may make this the last of our 'members profiles' for now.

Happily, **Dawn McDermott**, the focus of this profile, fits both criteria as she has sat on both Seniors' Club and Computer Club committees.

Dawn was born at Forbes and as a nine year old moved to Cootamundra with her family. After leaving school she worked at Cootamundra Mercy Hospital for a time before moving to Junee at the age of nineteen. After marrying she raised six children and has thirteen grand-children and five great-grand-children (not bad for someone who would have you believe she "hasn't done much"!!!)

Moving to Wagga twelve years ago she was introduced to the Seniors Club. In that first year she learned about the Steering Committee for Seniors Week and has served on that committee since. Dawn also serves on the Seniors' Centre Hall Committee, and last year during Seniors Week was surprised with a presentation of an Award for her unstinting work for the Senior community.

Seniors in The News



On a cold, wet night in September at the Annual Community Grants Presentation in the Wagga Civic Theatre, Computer Club Chairperson Judy Robertson accepted on behalf of the club a certificate acknowledging the successful application for a Grant (of \$1891)



On Sunday, the 5th September, 2010 at an open day at the RiverGums Retirement Village, members of Wagga Wagga Senior Citizens' Line Dancers Group gave a demonstration to an appreciative audience. This group is led by Robyn Weeden and can be seen practising their routines every Thursday morning at the Seniors Community Centre in Tarcutta Street.

Pictured :Front (L) Lily Arfort, (R) Robyn McClure
Back (L) Robyn Weeden, (R) Betty Rapley

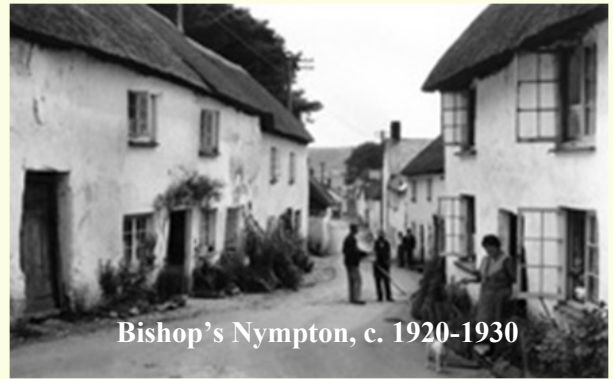


The October 15-16 flood (after a ten year drought) had a couple of unexpected consequences for the Club. First, flooding between Albury and Wagga (and a landslide on the Hume H/way) made a lengthy detour necessary, resulting in a delay of over ten hours for Club members returning from their annual bus trip. Then, the following Monday Luncheon had to be cancelled because the Wagga Senior Citizens' Centre was used to accommodate stranded passengers travelling on the Sydney to Melbourne train the previous night and could not be made ready in time for the Luncheon. A slight inconvenience considering what was experienced by others.

Ben-The Ten Pound Pom



Benjamin James Newberry was born on the 28th September, 1921, in Devon, England. He was the first of ten children, being followed by four brothers and five sisters. These were the 'Depression' years and life was tough. At a very early age, when he was only about two years old he was sent to live with his grandparents. They lived at Yeo Farm near the large village of Bishop's Nympton, North Devon. The surrounding countryside is hilly and fertile, comprising scattered farm houses. According to the 2001 census this village had a population of 932. Ben has fond memories of those early days, in particular a little chestnut pony which from the age of five he rode to school.



Bishop's Nympton, c. 1920-1930



Ben age 2 on his horse "Gypsy" at Yeo farm c.1923

Through the farm ran the river Yeo. Many a time Ben, as a young boy, would sit and watch the salmon "running" up the river, a sight he has never forgotten.

"My Nan was a wonderful woman" Ben said, "every day I came home from school she would have a glass of milk and a slice of cake waiting for me". "I lived with them until I was eleven years old, then my parents wanted me back home, I was getting helpful".

At the age of twelve Ben left school and went to work on a nearby farm, earning ten shillings a week.

"Mum took eight shillings and I was left with two shillings" says Ben. "I

worked there until I was sixteen years old, and then went away to work on another farm, living in with the farmer's family, once again for ten shillings a week. I worked there for another three years".

"On October 21st, 1941 I was nineteen years old and decided to join the R.A.F. (which didn't make the farmer very happy). Whilst in the Forces I moved around England quite a bit. I was involved in some of the great raids during the war, such as at Plymouth and Great Yarmouth".

It is difficult for anyone who has never been in a war zone to comprehend the devastation caused by bombing raids, such as the Blitz during World War 2 in England. The Blitz caused enormous damage to the country's infrastructure and housing stock, cost the lives of more than

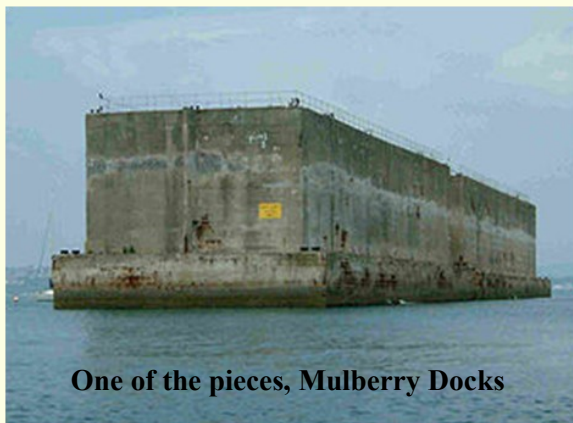
Ruins in Middlegate Street, Great Yarmouth, 8 April 1941



Middlegate Street, April 8th, 1941

43,000 civilians (a further 139,000 were injured), and tied up precious human and material resources.

At one point Ben found himself stationed at Start Point in Devonshire. This installation was a Radar Station and there were also gun posts dug into the sides of the cliff. *"Each morning we would see a tug boat pulling something that looked like a cement block, we had no idea what it was. This happened about 11 or 11.30 each morning. The next morning we would see the boat come back, or not, if a U-boat had found it. We discovered much later that they were parts for the "Mulberry Docks" "which would be used during the D-Day landings. They were taking these things out and sinking them; when the*



One of the pieces, Mulberry Docks

time came they would refloat them and put them into place."

However, Churchill was not happy with the rate of progress. He had sent a memo to Mountbatten on the 30th May 1942... "**Piers for use on beaches.** They must float up and down with the tide. The anchor problem must be mastered. Let me have the best solution worked out. Don't argue the matter. The difficulties will argue for themselves."



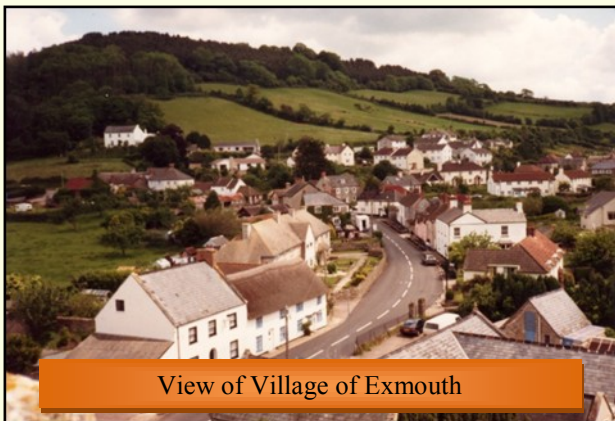
In 1942 Ben was stationed at Dungeness Point, a bleak headland on the coast of Kent, England. Formed largely of a shingle (gravel) beach, it also shelters a large area of low-lying land (Romney Marsh). *"We could look out across the English Channel and see the coast of France. There was a Coastguard Station there and one morning the Coastguard called us over to have a look through their telescope at this clock on a church tower in France. You could see the time, which read 10.45. We could also see a lot of small craft and we thought the Germans were coming."*



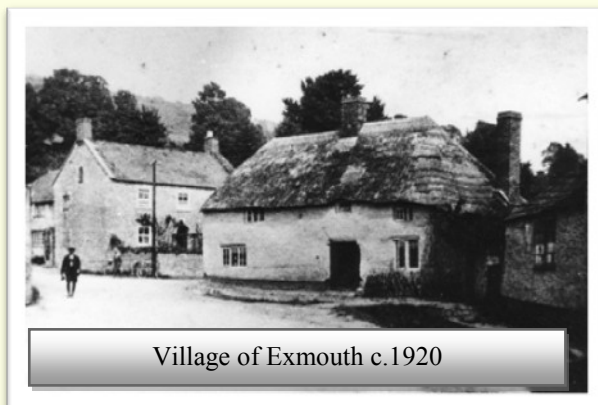
Ben in France, 1943

"In 1943 I went across the Channel, moving through France, Belgium and Holland, seeing quite a bit of action. I finished up in Hamburg, Germany, at the end of the war, serving two years in the Army of Occupation. On the 11th February 1946 I was discharged at Cardington, Bedfordshire."

After being demobbed, Ben once again returned to the land for employment. He was also very keen on sports, especially soccer. At various times Ben played for four different towns, Seaton, Beer, Callington and Exmouth. Ben's mode of transport was by motorbike at this time, and one day while playing soccer for Beer he met Eleanor (his first wife), who he eventually married. They had two children, Brian and Glenda. There was one feature of their home in Exmouth that is worth mentioning and that is, in common with cottages of that era in Britain the front door was only five foot high. This meant that if you didn't want a headache you soon learnt to duck your head on entering.



View of Village of Exmouth



Village of Exmouth c.1920



Ben's old home in Exmouth, c.1920



Same house as it is today

In 1955 they decided to leave the land of their birth, and set sail for Australia. Their ship was the P & O Liner "Strathnaver" They were part of one of the largest planned migrations of the 20th century - the White Australia Policy - designed to provide enough Anglo-Saxon manpower for the growing Australian economy. "Populate or Perish" was the catch cry of the times.

Hoping to escape post-war rationing and class-bound British society, over one million Britons migrated to Australia.

This assisted passage scheme cost ten pounds (Stirling) for adults, children under 18 were free. The only catch was that all assisted migrants had to stay for a minimum of two years - or pay the full fare for a passage home, which was at least £120, a large sum in those days and one that most could not afford.

The “Ten Pound Pom” scheme is the colloquial name for this assisted migration scheme. In spite of its name, this scheme was not limited to those from the United Kingdom but was open to citizens of all Commonwealth countries. (The word “Pom” meant English people, and was *sometimes* used in a derogatory manner).

On arrival in Australia Ben found employment with Mr. Stewart Andrew, the owner and manager of Berrembed Station, Matong in NSW. The children, Brian and Glenda, attended school, first at Matong and then at Narrandera High School. This was, Ben said, “heavy on the pocket” as they had to board in town because of the distance involved if they had to travel to and from school each day..

In time, Ben was promoted to Station Overseer. The property was ten thousand acres with seven miles of frontage to the Murrumbidgee River. Berrembed Station was also served by the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Channel, taken off Berrembed Weir, giving access to plenty of water in dry times. There were eight employees at Berrembed Station, consisting of Cliff Sparks (and family) the homestead gardener who had been brought out from England, a groom who milked the cows and kept the place clean, a stockman and Station hands. Ben’s wife Eleanor kept the Station Diary and did the clerical work.

During this time Eleanor and Ben would have children come up from the city to stay, usually for six weeks. These kids had never seen where their daily milk came from, but by the time it was to go home they did, and had also learnt how to ride a horse. In fact, at the end of their stay most didn’t want to go home!

Just some of the work carried out at the Station included such things as fumigating and ripping rabbit warrens, feeding pigs, mustering sheep and cattle, repairing fences, cleaning and spraying silos for weevils, transporting stock, getting and sawing firewood, sowing crops, servicing machinery, killing sheep and cattle for ration meat, to name but just a few.

Generally life was pretty good for Ben and his family in his adopted country. There were of course the expected illnesses and incidents, one such being in November of 1977 when Ben was unlucky enough to catch his little finger in a grain auger, damaging it to the extent it had to be amputated at the knuckle.

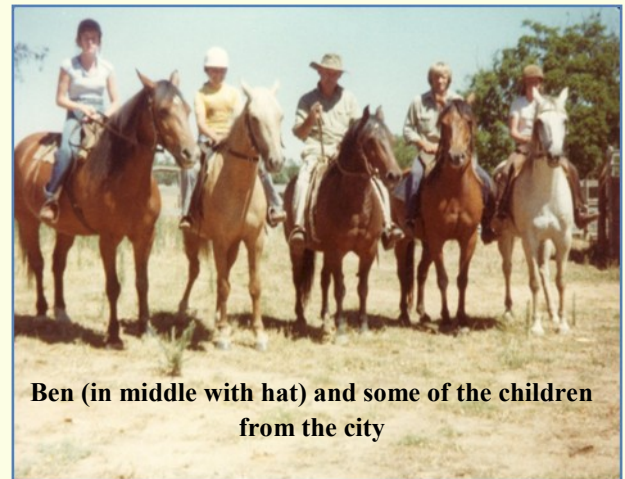
In 1985 Ben was in his 30th year of employment and had taken over as manager. Just when they were considering retirement disaster struck. Eleanor passed away, leaving, as Ben put it “a big hole in his life”. At the same time the owner, Stewart Andrew died and Ben was left to carry on for a while, working another two years for the family. In February, 1991 he retired to Wagga, moving to a house in Maple Road, Lake Albert.

“I joined the Senior Citizens and other organisations where I made quite a lot of friends and to this day I still enjoy my game of bowls (apart from the aches and pains).

One particular Monday I was sitting in the front row and a certain lady came and sat beside me, her name was Gwen. Both of us coming from England we started talking and I asked her for her phone number. Later in the week I rang her, and we had a lovely conversation. It seemed as if we’d known each other



P&O Strathnaver, Sydney



Ben (in middle with hat) and some of the children from the city



Ben & Gwen at Wagga Senior Citizens’ Birthday Celebration, August 18, 2010

for years. Our friendship strengthened and soon it turned to love.

We were married on the 21st November, 1992 in the Uniting Church in Johnston Street. We've had nearly eighteen years together, sunshine and rain, ups and downs. We moved to Bishop Dwyer Retirement Village and we call it our own bit of Heaven on Earth".

Ben is naturally very proud of his children, and grand-children. His son Brian, who works for one of the major Banks, and his wife Denise have two children, Jason and Tania. Jason (Ben's grandson) has an important position with Qantas Airlines. Ben's daughter Glenda became a nurse after training at Prince Alfred Hospital and later married Michael while working at Griffith Hospital. They have two children Michele and Justin, both of whom are accountants. Understandably Ben is pleased with their achievements and reckons he made the right decision all those years ago about coming to Australia, and doesn't mind being called a "Ten Pound Pom".

The End



MORE BITS AND PIECES



Useful Links

Were you born in the 40's or earlier, or perhaps in the 50's, and wonder what others of your age are up to? If so, two new websites are worth a look.

<http://www.bornintheforties.com.au/#/family/today>

<http://www.borninthefifties.com.au/#/home>

The sites offer a place to comment on topics like family, holidays, health, cars or memories, and to read the thoughts of others already posted. No membership is required, there is no cost involved, and the sites are easy to use.



Optical Illusion

The Old Man: Careful; this needs study—do you see two lovers kissing?



AND YOU THINK YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY AT WORK !!

Although this looks like a picture taken from a Hollywood movie, it is in fact a real photo, taken near the South African coast during a military exercise by the British Navy.

It has been nominated by National Geographic as "THE photo of the year".



Thought of the Month:

The richest person is not the one who has the most, but who needs the least .

Not a good day for Surfing!.....yet another good reason to stay out of the water.



MEMORIES OF WAGGA WAGGA SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB ANNUAL TRIP OCTOBER 2010

