

ANDREW ALLEN'S INTERVIEW WITH COLLEEN EGGLETON, HELEN EGGLETON, KEVIN AND MARGARET RIXON, JULIE CROWLEY ON 4th AUGUST 2016 AT HJ DALEY LIBRARY.

AA Today we're meeting at HJ Daley Library and it's the 4th August 2016, and with me today is Colleen Eggleton, and her daughter Helen, I've got that right haven't I Helen, Kevin and Margaret Rixon and Julie Crowley and myself Andrew Allen, and we're going to be talking and asking some questions and memories of Colleen. So Colleen what I might do is start with, I guess, when you were born.

CE On the 8th May, in 1925, and I was born in Singleton.

AA Okay, and when did you first come to Campbelltown?

CE Ah, Campbelltown, in 1944, my Dad was appointed as a teacher at Kentlyn School. And there was no accommodation out there, and no accommodation in Campbelltown, and I tell you now, I've slept on the bypass going up towards the mall, 'cause that was an old, it was called The Retreat, and it was an old building with like, well, my Dad reckoned it was the stables at the back, and then eventually we got a house out at Kentlyn.

AA Now, The Retreat was where the, they had a dentist in there at some stage?

CE Where the bypass is, right there where the bypass runs, and Archie Walker lived on the corner. From Dumaresq Street, ah, from Queen Street to the bypass there was people by the name of Bill Roses, Cora, she was Cora Vardy, Tessie Armstrong's parents, and Ray Carroll, and that was the houses that were there in that street, and then on the other side I'm not so sure of who, I know Archie lived on the corner and he was married to a girl by the name of Joan King, and she, her people were back in the history of Campbelltown, well and truly. They owned the, where the mall is, right opposite where all the buildings are opposite the mall, that was Archie Walker and Lloyd King's dairy farm.

KR Yeah, Bradbury Park. Bradbury House.

CE Yes, that was a dairy farm back in the '40s.

AA Yep, okay.

H And that street that you were talking about, where Aunty Cora lived,

CE Allman Street.

H That was Allman Street

CE Yeah, that was Allman Street, yes.

AA So The Retreat was knocked down to make way for the bypass?

CE Yes, oh it was knocked down well before that, Andrew, well I suppose they had the plans in view, but it was a lady from Picton that owned it and used to rent it out.

AA Yep. Do you remember, is it the Merrits, Susan Merrit, have I got that right?

CE What was it?

AA There was a lady who lived in Allman Street that I've read lots about, and she lived with her daughter, um.

CE Would be Mrs Armstrong.

AA That's not the name I was trying to think of.

CE Her daughter was Desi Armstrong, and she married a chap by the name of Wynton, and then she finished up, she married a chap by the name of Holmes, and, I could have brought you a photo of some of those people, and he lived in Lithgow Street. Kevin would remember.

KR Yeah, yeah.

CE Yes, yes. Charlie was it? Charlie Holmes.

?? He was on the railway.

CE Yes, well they had a son, but the daughter was of the first marriage.

AA And Cora Vardy lived at Ivy Cottage?

CE Yes. And, yes, well the Vardy's lived in Allman Street up there further in up past where the dam was. Yes, they lived up there until Campbelltown was developed.

AA Do you remember Austin Park, you know where Bocking had Austin Park?

CE No, not,

AA The house, whether the house was still around when you were here,

CE No, no, it was gone.

AA Okay. So your father was a schoolteacher at Kentlyn, so where did you live?

5 minutes

CE Well I used to drive him out to Kentlyn every day, and then we got a place, you know where there's a boy of, Winton built a big home, there at Kentlyn, in was all in the papers at the time, well right opposite there was a brick home, but there was no, the laundry was out in the paddock, and I hadn't come from this type of life, and the toilet was out in the paddock,

(General laughing)

And there was no, when you got up to St Patrick's, which was St John's in those days, when you got there that was the only road, there was no asphalt from there out to Kentlyn It was all dirt road. Not only was it dirt road, it was rough road. And there was no, we had no phone. I had to walk

anything up to a mile and a half to get to a phone, and there was petrol rationing of course, during the war, so you couldn't just get in the car and drive, so Kentlyn in those days was, and the school wasn't equipped. Anyway eventually my father was transferred over to Mount Hunter to the school there. Yeah.

AA Did you recall how many students there were at the school?

EC Ah, there wouldn't have been any more than about, I'd say there'd be lucky if there was twenty. A lot of the people at that particular time, they told us, some of the houses had dirt floors. Now you might be surprised at that. I know, my dad had to visit a family, there was no problem, the children were, they were excellent children, and when we went there I was absolutely amazed to find that there was dirt floors in that home. But there were a lot of people had lost their money during the depression, and they moved to Kentlyn, and if you went into some of their other homes you'd find they had beautiful cut glass and things that they had salvaged I suppose, say from when they lost their money otherwise. And one particular family, the little boy was coming, Laurie (or Lowie) was their name,

KR Oh yeah, Bruce?

CE Yeah, well they finished up, that man was an electrician, and they finished up, he was the, for the Richmond Trots, he was the one that done all the electrical, the amplifying and everything. So that little boy went to school at Kentlyn. Yeah, so they were a family that had lovely things in their home. Yes, so Whiting's was another, and Gardiners. There were other families that were out there. Kevin might remember some of them.

KR Yeah, I remember the Gardiner boys, they had the garbage run.

CE Yes, and there was another man that lived out there, he always reckoned, his wife had some illness and and she wasn't there, and he had two boys, and the sergeant of police, Sergeant Cashmere he told me, he said they were the two loveliest boys, they used to leave their pushbikes there while they went to school at Parramatta, that was the closest high school. And this man, he used to give his name, and he had so many names, and finished up he was going to be the Prince of Madrid! He was French. (laughing) And he was always going to be the Prince of Madrid. So Kentlyn in those days, it was a very poor area.

AA Was it?

CE Yes, it was, and McInnes, er, McInneys, it was a name like that, were the people we had the house rented from. But when you come out the door, one day I couldn't get the car started, and I finished up with it down in the bushes before I got it started. I had to get my Dad into the doctor so there was only one doctor in Campbelltown in those days. So there have been some changes.

AA It's funny how it's changed from a poor area to a fairly.....

CE Yes, someone told me recently, they said a house was sold out there for 1.something million, and I said well I can remember it when it had dirt floors! They had the kitchen as a wooden floor and the bedrooms were dirt. Yes, so that's some of the changes out there.

10 minutes

- AA** And the road's changed to get out there hasn't it, 'cos it used to go down past,
- CE** Yes, the difference in it, it used to shake the car to pieces! You'd be picking pieces up off it!
- AA** Yeah, and it used to go down past where the congregational cemetery is now, didn't it? That was the main...
- CE** Yeah, well you went down the hill and there was a bend, and then you went out past what is Airds and then you come along, and people by the name of Willis lived on a corner, and you went around that corner, and then you went up and people by the name of Darling lived along there, and then you come along to where the school is, and there was always the hall, they always had that hall. And then you went down past Gardiners and then it was down to where we lived. I could nearly draw the road!
- AA** Yeah, and do you remember the water tank on the corner there where you went down the road, there was a big water tank there wasn't there?
- CE** No, a lot of the houses down past St John's there were settlement homes, and there was always a rumor that a judges son, what they used to call remittance men years ago, or the black sheep of the family, and one of them was supposed to have lived, and of course at that stage Campbelltown was so far from Sydney that he could be, you know, had a home out here to keep him out of the city I suppose, but I don't know whether that was authentic or not.
- AA** So when you came here, so you would have been about, if you were born in '25, were you, you said.
- CE** Yes, I was about 18.
- AA** So what did you do when you came here?
- NC** I didn't, well, I was the driver for my Dad, he didn't drive, and, he had a Model T Ford years ago, and he could drive it anywhere, in those days you didn't go very far. And he bought a 26 Chev, and he couldn't handle it at all, anyhow I was the driver. And my mother had cancer, and that was the reason he applied for a move to closer to Sydney so she could have treatment in St Vincent's, and she died six weeks after we moved to Mount Hunter.
- AA** Okay.
- CE** Half of the Mount Hunter school is in Picton. In those days, teaching was different to what it is today. The teacher was never told when the inspector would arrive. So from the beginning of the year to the end of the year you never knew what day he was going to drive into the school yard. And my Dad always said that he always knew to pick the dullest child in the school to give an answer, and in those days he wrote a report at the end of the day, you got one, the other went to the department, and that report went on the judgment of the teacher's salary, and if it wasn't a good report his salary dropped. So that's where Teachers Federation has altered that system today.
- HE** You taught a bit of sewing in the school.

EC Oh yes, after my mother died, I'd done a technical course and I taught, but not out here at Kentlyn, that was at Mount Hunter.

AA What was Campbelltown like? So you came in the war years, didn't you, the Second World War.

CE Yes, I came, I was astounded, because Singleton a lot of people had their own cars, but I was astounded to see the old horse and sulky was still well and truly around. Mr. Tripp, he lived on the corner of Dumaresq Street and the bypass, and he used to deliver the mail out to Kentlyn three times a week. Horse and sulky.

15 minutes

AA Are you talking about Charles or Vince? Is this Charles is it?

CE No Charles I think had a garage.

H? This is Vince.

AA Charles did at some stage too, but that was more before.

CE Yeah, the garage was on the corner of Dumaresq and Queen, and he had two sons, Leo and Frank. And then this other Mr. Tripp, he had the horse and sulky and he used to deliver the mail out to Kentlyn with the horse and sulky.

AA It would have been too late for Charles of course. Okay then.

CE There was just nothing in Campbelltown at that time, there was Bursill's, and Bussell Brothers. They were the two main grocers. Bursill's were there near Seven Stores or something there in Campbelltown. There was a house on the corner, do you remember those people? The name will come to me. A brick home on the corner of Dumaresq and Queen Street. Then Bursill's, no, there was a butcher. Ewers the butcher, they eventually came and then there was Bursill, Bill Bursill, he had a brother and a sister, and the father was, they always told that Campbelltown had the old verandah posts, and Mr. Bursill was on the council and the story went around that he was asleep at the council and the motion was whether the poles would be removed and he woke up just in time to agree that the poles be removed and he owned a lot of the buildings that in the street. And he lived in a two storey home, right opposite Lithgow Street.

?? Up where George's Restaurant is.

AA It's hard to imagine that isn't it, a house being there, I've seen photos of it.

CE Yes, it's hard to remember, the School of Arts on the corner on the other side of the street, and then there was Mr Chernich and Clissold lived in the two storey place and the lady that had the, the Commonwealth Bank was a little fibro building, a Miss Huckstepp had that, and she expected that little children would be contributing to the bank and my Dad, well there was petrol rationing, and we used to drive in bank times to do the banking, and he suggested the children by war bonds with their money and Miss Huckstepp wasn't very happy with my Dad over suggesting that. So when I think of the Commonwealth Bank in Campbelltown today and what it was when I came here, it was the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, it's the Advertiser office now and that

was called the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, and Archie Walker's dad was the bank manager.

AA And on the other corner to the School of Arts was it Solomon's when you were here?

CE Solomon's were up further, they were more or less on the corner of Milgate Lane.

AA Oh, over there.

CE Yeah, and Miss Macpherson had a shop there, and she sold all sorts of things and the other lady had the fruit shop, Mrs Fairbairn.

AA And Fred Lower, was it Fred Lower?

KR Fred Lower, yes.

CE Oh he was on the corner of the other street and Reeves, Reeves family is still around here, they had the shop on the other, and then there was the little fire station, and then Paul O'Loughlin's grandfather had the Balalaika Café.

20 Minutes

AA Oh, did he?

CE Yeah, and then next to that was Mr Veness the chemist, and then there was the Bagleys, or it was Watson's Newsagency before that. And then there was a Teddy Macpherson and there was also a Mr Coogan had the butcher shop.

AA I've got a question to ask you Colleen!

(laughter)

CE So that was about, I knew all those off by heart!

AA Do you remember, so can you tell me a bit about the one armed butcher? Do you remember him?

CE Yeah, yes, Teddy Macpherson, my husband boarded with Mrs MacPherson, they lived in King Street, 2 King Street, Campbelltown, and Mr. Macpherson, Teddy's dad, was the manager of the Milk Depot. Ray was a boarder there, and a chap by the name of Len Cremer. And the three of them had to share one bedroom. And actually there's some connection between Mrs Macpherson and Don Bradman's family.

AA Is there?

NC Yes, because Mr. Bradman used to come up, Ray had met him, and he used to come up to, actually Don Bradman's niece, you'd probably know this do you?

AA No, I've vaguely heard some kind of connection there.

CE Well, Lillian, she was Lillian Sullivan, you've heard of Gordon Sullivan -

AA Yes, I know Gordon.

CE Well, Gordon's brother Les was married to Lillian, and Les died, and Lillian, she married, what's his name, Owens, Mick Owens, the real estate chappy, and I think she's in Carrington now.

?? But she's still independently living.

CE Yes, and the other sister Audrey, and they lived, where the parking area is of the Catholic Club in the street you go down, to the bypass. And Mrs Sproule, Lillian was Lillian Sproule, there was only the two girls, Lillian and Audrey, you probably knew both of them Margaret.

MR Yes.

CE Lillian was a great singer, yes.

Indistinct.

CE Yes, and Mick died a few years ago. Actually it's his son that's head of the Oran Park, Michael, Michael lives at Bow Bowling.

AA And there was lots of places, going down Patrick Street, there was houses and businesses down there, wasn't there?

CE Yes, now as you came down Railway Street, we'll come down Railway Street, Lacks were on the corner, and there was also a shed, I suppose it was for horses and that in those days. And then Paul O'Loughlin's dad owned where Tommy Munro lived, and then Paul was reared there too, the next to that was a Mr McLean had a little milk bar and shop, and then there was a, it became a barber shop, but when we came to Campbelltown, a Mr Ducat was the Real Estate, and he had that. Then the Royal hotel was on the corner, and then as you went around that Railway Street or whatever it was called there were the, Bullah, a Bullah Vardy's, his home was there. And then you went up the little street to come back up to Queen Street and Reg Hayes who had the cordial factory, that's where he had his cordial factory, and on the other side was where Riders timber place, no, Brunero's.

AA Brunero's timber yard.

CE Timber place, and then you come up and Reeve's were on the corner, well that was where Mr Lower was on the corner, had his little shop. And as you come around into Queen Street, Rider's garage was there.

KR Yep, Fred.

AA What about some photographs, was there any sort of memorable photographs you took in your days with the newspaper? Was there anything that you were sort of proud of?

NC So that was more or less that area. But on the other side of the street was the police station, and then the vacant block of land, and then the Court House.

AA So, Fred Rider, he was the son of the glass engraver, is that right?

KR I think so, yes.

MR Yes, and he always had very nice cars himself, he lived next door to us in Condamine Street.

25 Minutes

AA Yeah, okay. Going back to the hotel, the Royal Hotel, it's hard to imagine where that is, like in relation to today, whether it was where the taxi place is now, where they pick up the taxis, or whether it was a bit further down on Hurley Street.

CE Actually Jack Nap Real Estate, his people, they had the Royal Hotel. And he married the girl Lack. Claire. That's where the Naps were down on one corner and the Lacks were up on the other.

MR The Royal was just opposite the railway station.

CE Yes, it was opposite the railway station.

KR Yeah, it wasn't very far.

AA Wasn't it?

MR Just across the road from the Police Station.

EC Well, actually Ray had a milk run, and on Mondays was the day to go out and collect the money, so we had a little Ford Prefect and so did Jack Nap's had, he had a little Ford Prefect, anyhow, Ray went into Lack's and collected his money, and he came out and of course he didn't look, and he got into the other Ford Prefect, and when he got in it he thought 'this car's not as good as it used to be, what happened to it' and anyway he discovered he was in the wrong car! Anyhow he drove it down as far as the hotel, and left it and went back and picked up his own car. He didn't go and tell them he got in the wrong car!

MR So he left the car down at the Royal.

CE He left it at the Royal, yes. Went up and got his own.

MR But that's where it was, it was just, because the street wasn't that wide. And it was just diagonally across from the...

?? 'cause there's so many bus shelters, and you know how it goes, it's really quite wide

AA So the old Police Station would be about where the underground tunnel is now?

CE No, near where the new Court House, not the new Court house, on the corner. (sic)

KR Used to be around about there.

CE Yeah, round about there.

MR There was a roundabout at the bottom so there was a road around both sides of the roundabout and the hotel was after that.

CE See there was a little street, like where the court house is, you probably already know that, the man that used to light, I can't think of his name, but I know some of the family are still living here, grandchildren and great grandchildren, he used to light the gaslights in Campbelltown years ago, and there was a Miss Edwards lived in a brick home next to it, well then there was a little street that ran down evidently towards the railway, it might have been a laneway, and people by the

name of Star lived there, Gerla Star married a chap, Shaw, and I think they live over Blaxland, er, Blacktown way somewhere. But then all that other land there where the council is, that was all open land, that was where the circus when it came to town. Do you remember that Kevin?

KR Yes.

CE Always that's where the circus would be, Worth's Circus, or Soles or whoever came, was on that vacant block of land. That was all open. And there were three little cottages there, and opposite was where Archie Walker's in-laws, they had a brick home there.

KR They were three terrace houses. I can remember one time they burnt the toilet down!!

MR You did??!!

KR No, no they did.

(Laughter)

CE That last house, there was a Mr Lyons, and he worked at the depot, and he lived there in, down in one of those brick homes.

KR No he lived in the corner of Browne Street.

CE It was the corner of, the little one that runs up near the picture show.

KR Yeah, Browne Street.

CE It was the corner of Browne Street, yes, and also the Coopers lived there too, do you remember them?

KR Yeah, Merv Cooper

CE Merv Cooper, yes, and there was the three little dwellings that were there, and a Mrs Golding whose daughter was married to a chap by the name of Harris, and there was.

KR Clissold was there too.

CE Yeah, there was another family, oh Smith.

MR And was there a Meredith family too, 'cause I went to school with Merediths that came from down that end?

30 minutes

KR They were down the other side of Broughton Street. They were 98 Queen, ah, Sydney Road.

AA Ok, so Carlisle's, when was Carlisle's around.

CE Carlisle's, that came later and King's owned that land, and next to Carlisle's, the little shop, was a little house, and people by the name of Lampey lived in that. Mr Lampey worked, I think it was PMG in those days. And then when they left people by the name of Gonsalves moved in there.

AA Oh yes, the oar factory.

KR That's after they sold the oar factory

Indistinct

CE But where the police station – that was an old brick building.

AA I was just about to ask you about that, there was an old hotel or inn wasn't there?

NC No-one ever seemed to know what the name of it was. So I don't know, I can't tell you Andrew.

AA I think it used to be called The Wheelwright Arms at one stage.

CE It could have been.

AA Back in in the early days, yeah, Grahams I think had it.

CE I know, like down at the other end of town they used to say the First and the Last, and the other one was Merv Winton had the one down there, where McDonalds and all of them are. What do you call it?

KR The Commonwealth Hotel.

CE It's got a name...

MR That's that one there...

CE No, no, the one near our end.

MR Down near McDonalds? Opposite there?

CE You know, where Sizzlers and all those, well that's got a name, that area, where the kids skating rink is.

MR Oh, you're down Woodbine.

CE Yes, Woodbine, yeah, and Mr Winton, I can remember him telling my husband he found in an old cellar there, he found old bottles that had been there from the hotel years ago.

AA Did he, okay, I'm a bottle collector so that's interesting.

CE I guess they were empty!

(laughing)

AA I had all these things in my head I was going to ask you. So you worked in Marie's lingerie shop didn't you. Marie Kelly's.

CE Yes, Marie Kelly, she was on the corner of Dumaresq, ah, Allman Street and Queen Street, and my sister went into partnership and then she finally bought Terry Kelly out of the business after the mother died, and at the back of that building, I used to park my car in that, that was all vacant land. And at the back of it was where the Kelly's lived in a little old cottage.

AA Okay, and they had a, didn't they have a motorbike shop as well?

CE No.

KR That was, he used that other house as his office, and also the shed next door. Now he was a motorbike rider, racing rider, in the 60s and 70s. Horton or Houghten, I can't think of his first name. But I used to deliver spare parts there many, many years ago. He ended up building a house out the back of Camden somewhere.

AA Okay, and Colleen, the shop moved later didn't it? Did it move to Dumaresq Street?

CE Ah, Miss, Aileen Kelly, who had never married, she sold the land for 40,000 pounds I think it was, and you can imagine what it would be worth today, so then my sister, there was a little shops for lease in Dumaresq Street that had been built, and so my sister moved down into the, I think it's a travel agency or something now, and that's where she moved to, but anyway, with the Kellys, I've got a photo of the day that Campbelltown was made a city and it's a photo of Marjorie Hillitch and her daughter, and myself and my sister taken outside, we're dressed in old fashioned clothes, so I think Helen might have it.

35 minutes

MR What was your sister's name?

CE Nell Maine yes, Nell Maine, yes.

AA Oh, she was your sister, Nell was your sister.

CE Yes, yes, she was my sister, they only had the one daughter and she's in Brisbane. Yes so she was there, oh gosh, I don't know how many years she was in business in Campbelltown. A lot of people would go down at the, it was nothing to probably (indistinct...), there was a little area out the back and there was a storeroom and we had a cup of tea and so forth, and you'd probably go out and you'd find some lady sitting in a chair, and you'd look, and she'd be some lady that'd come in with some problems, and she'd get upset, and my sister was one, she wouldn't miss out on getting a dollar in the till, so she'd take them out, and sit them out at the back of the shop until she'd get time to talk to them and calm them down, and one day a young lady came in, anyway my sister said to her, she said "can I help you?" and she walked up and she had a gun, and she said "yes, I'll have what's in the till", and my sister was shorter than I am, and she thought, no, I've had a good day today, I'm not going to give you what's in the till, and she said, "oh you don't want to go around, you're a young girl, you don't want to go around doing things like that, that's foolish that is", so she talked her out of it. But twelve or eighteen months later, my sister, there was two ladies in the shop, one couldn't be seen, she was in the fitting room, and this lass came in, and she walked down, and my sister, I think Margaret will tell you the same, always liked the shop to be tidy, she didn't like things to be strewn here, there and everywhere, and this lass went down, she was pulling things off the shelves, and my sister said "can I help you", and she said, "no, you can't help me", and as soon as she spoke, my sister knew it was the same girl that pulled the gun on her, and anyway, so she said she came up and there was a stand and she started flicking through that and my sister said, "can I help you?" and she said, "I told you, no, you can't help me", so the lady my sister was serving called out to the lady in the fitting room, and once she knew

there were three of them she left and an Inspector of Police who was a friend of ours, he was at Campbelltown, and I told him, and he said, "you tell your sister she's eighteen months harder than what she was when she was in, so anyway, until my sister sold, I can tell you, you were always very hesitant.

JC cautious

CE as to what might come in the door. It was never known locally, but the police came and took my sister down to the station to go through the books to see if she recognized the lass, but she said by the time I finished I felt I was the criminal and the one that got away, but it was never ever, you know, no-one knew that it had sort of even happened, I suppose those days, not like media today, everything's out in the open.

AA So, the shop was fairly successful was it, it was a busy shop?

CE Oh yes it was a very good shop, and when her husband was retiring, she thought, well the best, you know, wouldn't sell the business and anyway lo and behold she was just going to sell out her stock and a person came in and wanted to buy the business, yes. No, she had a very good business and she had a good name with the big firms in Sydney and so forth which was very good for her, but anyway it's all water under the bridge now!

AA And I believe you worked at the bakery as well, is that right?

40 Minutes

CE No, no, Ray had, when I first met him he was a delivery, he used to deliver the bread for Harrison's I think it was, on the corner of Warby and, er, the corner of Broughton and Queen Street, and anyway I suppose I was a bit demanding, but I said I wanted a home when I got married, and so he bought a milk run, and the milk at that time, Kevin's grandfather, he had a dairy up off Badgally Road, and he had all of the town, Mr Harrington did, so he agreed to sell Ray from Lithgow Street through to Leumeah, so Ray bought the business, that part of the business from Mr Harrington and he bought himself a horse and cart and he used to deliver the milk every day from Lithgow Street, he'd get the milk at that time from Archie and Lloyd up here at the depot, at the, opposite the Mall, and then when they sold that business, that property, Ray used to get the milk from the depot, and he used to keep the horse, where it's parking area today on that side of the railway line, people by the name of Farrer owned it, and this Mr Farrer was to do with the electric trains in Sydney, is that right Kevin?

KR Yep

CE So anyway, and their son lived up in Lithgow Street, near Reddall Street, he built and the son lived there, so it was actually Kevin's Granddad, and I don't know whether Kevin knows but where his Grandparents lived in Rose Bay, was where the Woollahra Golf Club

KR Yeah, opposite, my Grandparents had the house opposite, in Fraser Street, and on the other side of the golf course was where (indistinct) into Real Estate.

CE Well, that's where our wedding reception was held, at the Woollahra Golf Club, and your Grandmother, you probably knew, there was a log on the property, and she got Frank O'Loughlin's

dad to go down with his truck and bring this log and put it on the property up here. But I don't know where the log is today! It might still be up there Kevin! Yes, so that's that part of history. Well as I said, when Ray bought the block of land in Queen Street, we had no neighbours and then eventually a chap by the name of Cec Smart, where the, there's a Real Estate shop on the corner, but up further, you probably all know who lived in all those houses do you from Broughton Street down?

KR We're hoping you can tell us!

AA No I don't really know,

CE Well, Cambournes were on the corner, they had a lovely brick home, and there were Merediths, and there was, I think, fourteen people living in a little cottage there, they all married and come home with their children, and then there was a vacant land which eventually, what's his name, Thorburn built on that, and then there was Bill Wilkinson on the corner. On the next corner Doug Hayden lived there, and the man that built three houses there was a chap by the name of Steve Fahey, and he built those houses, they cost 480 pounds each. And there was a schoolteacher, Mr Callinan who was principal at Camden, and I don't know who the other one was, and then a Miss Carroll lived in the next one, and then she had a vacant block next to her and she eventually built a house on that, on the other side of Iolanthe Street was Mr Reader, and he used to work for the Main Road, and then next to him was the Eggletons, that was Ray's Grandparents owned that home, and Ray's parents lived in it, then it was vacant land until Kevin's Dad built a house for Kevin's uncle.

KR Grandfather,

CE For Pat Harrington,

KR Pat Harrington, yeah, he built two houses on the corner of Warby Street,

CE Yes, the other one was Phil's I think at the time. And we were on the opposite side of the street.

45 minutes

KR And McAuliffes bought it.

CE Yes, McAuliffes bought it.

KR They bought it in about 1945, 46.

AA Right.

CE So then on the other corner were people by the name of Ball, and Hogans, in that photo is Joe Hogan, and he lived in that house, and people by the name of Taylor, who was connected to Kevin

KR Yeah, Dad's older sister (indistinct) Taylor

CE and McGuinnesses, that's just more or less opened up as that detail place. Well, it was always understood that Mr McGuinness said they could sell the house, but they couldn't sell the land. All those years, well we've gone from there nearly forty years and that land was vacant before we left there, but evidently they've worked out some way that the property has now developed into a

commercial, so then Kevin's Aunt and Uncle lived further down the street, so then we went onto the football ground, where we only had to walk down the road and we were at a game of football.

AA It's hard to imagine there being a football ground there now isn't it.

CE Yeah, well that's where Sam's and all those places, yes, that factory outlet. And people by the name of Ireland and Sullivans were all in that area.

AA Did you go to football much?

(Laughter)

CE Me? Did I? That's why Helen won't go because Ray was a referee, well he played and then he had an injury to his arm so he then decided he'd go as a referee, and from then on he went to, as a selector and a coach. I've got his wallet and everything from when he was presented, and so we went off, Ray used to be probably selected to do the line and the first match at Bowral, and then he'd be doing the main match. And we used to travel down on a Sunday if he was appointed that Sunday for six pounds, that's all he got. Imagine what the referees get today.

AA So did he cop it?

CE No he was noted as the fairest referee in Group 6 and even one day it was a final between Camden and another team at Mittagong and before the match I was walking around with one of the kids, and they said they were glad he was the referee because they knew they'd get a fair deal. He was one of those people if you were in the wrong you were in the wrong but if you were in the right well you were in the right. There's a photo there, did we show that one to Andrew, it's the bridge, you know the overhead bridge down at, it's not a photo, I have got the photo, the overhead bridge, down at the end of...

AA Patrick Street? Down that way?

CE No Queen Street.

JC Over the railway line?

CE Over the railway line.

AA Oh righto,

CE When it was being built.

AA Yeah, I think we've got this one in our collection.

CE There'd be someone that would have had them.

KR Now Colleen, I've got to pester you for one, your house in Queen Street,

CE Queen Street, yeah.

CE A couple down from there was an older house.

CE Yeah, that was Millers lived there. From where the police station there's the Phoenix, the Chinese Restaurant, well, the man that developed that land that was where he first lived, I can't remember his name, and then Dud Hayden bought that, and then Tony Coffin lived next door, and next to him were people by the name of Maneer, and then the O'Reilly family, and then the Ellesmores, and then the Kirkhams. So then on the other corner for a long while there was a vacant block, and then Mr Longhurst that had that transport, he lived there, next to him Cec Smart, that was where Stars finally moved into that house, then there was our house,

?? No, Fiske.

50 minutes

CE Oh, no, there was Fiske, George Haddock, he built that, George Haddock, by the way, Andrew you probably know this, where the mall is now, Paul O'Loughlan's aunt built the Good Intent Hotel there years ago for 33,000 pounds I think it was, well next to that was George Haddock, who was a plumber, and next to him was Campions. Then the bank was next. But Campions, Mr Campion was a postman.

AA Oh, yeah, I know who you mean, yeah. So do you remember him much?

CE Yes, he was a tall man, and Mrs Campion, she always walked up to mass every, well in those days there was only mass once or twice a week at Campbelltown, she'd always walk from there up to mass, whatever day mass was on. When those houses went, Harris's timber yard was put in there. You probably knew that.

AA Yeah, I know where you mean now.

CE No Mr Campion, he was a tall man, and they had two daughters.

AA Right, right.

JC And then when she moved from Queen Street she moved up into Lindesay Street almost on the corner of Innes Street. She lived next door to Kevin's aunt, Mary Peters, and she built the brick cottage there.

KR Who was that?

JC Mrs Campion.

CE And I'll get back to Kevin, we were to our house, then Merv Jensen built, and then a chap, he married a girl Wall. Walls lived in this old brick, you were asking me what that...

JC No, Millers lived in the old historical brick house,

CE No, no, the other one up near Carlisle's corner. People by the name of Wall lived in that old building. They lived in King Street, that chap, he was a builder, he built the place and then eventually one of the boys of Wall and his wife, they moved into that house, then there was Millers in the brick house. And we used to pay 10 shillings a week to Mr Miller. We didn't have a garage, so we used to pay to use their garage. Where there land finished Andrew, it was called

Struggle Town, you probably all know that, well, there was people lived in houses alongside the railway line.

?? Yeah, I know where you mean.

CE And there were people by the name of Dean, and Cains, and then along the railway line was what they called the fettlers and they lived court

in tents. And we could look out from our back verandah, and you'd see them going out, as the old coal trains went through, and the coal fell off, people'd go along and pick up the coal along the railway line.

?? But the sparks would come from the trains and set the tents alight, and people would lose all their belongings.

AA Really.

CE No, anyway, it now has come they've given Eggleton Reserve, it's up in Glenorie Park, and it runs from one street down to the bottom street. So that's the land they've given in compensation for the land that they've developed where the water lies. Evidently Ray's grandfather, he was an alderman, or a councillor and the day he got word that William Eggleton, he's in that photo up there near Dredge's Cottage, or his name, he got word that he'd been killed at the war, and he went home and he gave up working on the council and everything.

AA Did he?

55 minutes

CE Yes, yes, unfortunately. Yes, so they went back a long way in the history of Campbelltown. Now Ray, it was a pity he didn't write down a lot of things, you know, growing up, he would've been a hundred and one, so he would have had a good knowledge, but I know with the man who used to light the gas lights but I can't think of....

AA I've heard of his name but I can't think of it.

CE Yes, well he lived in this nice brick home. But even in your street Kevin, there weren't many houses were there. And your house, is it gone?

KR No it's still there.

CE It's still there.

KR There's about six storeys up above it, alongside it.

CUP OF TEA CHIT CHAT

CE Margaret's family go back a long way too.

MR Kevin's family further still. Mum came, a bit like you, at the tail end of the war. She came to help her uncle with his staff, at the hotel, but she was more often the staff, rather than helping.

CE I think they used to always tell the story of Dr Jones's children, used to go down and get into the water tank, the water trough that was there near the park, and the kids used to go, his children would go down and get into the water trough, that was the swimming pool in Campbelltown!

Laughter!

AA So where was that?

CE It was right there at Mawson Park, you know where you go up the main, if you were going from the main street up, it was just along there wasn't it Kevin.

KR Yes.

CE And then when Dr Jones died, and Dr Thomas, and his surgery was opposite St Peter's Church. And anyway Ray had been to him I think when he'd injured his arm at football, so in those days you couldn't go and have a drink at the hotel on Sunday unless you travelled 30 miles, so the people used to come out from the city on the train, and when that train left in the night to go back to Sydney there was a lot of drunks, anyway, this Sunday night Dr Thomas came out his gate and there was a chap drunk and lying in the gutter so he looked at him and he thought it was Ray, and Ray was a teetotaler, so anyway he thought I can't lift him on my own, where am I going to get someone to help me, so the only place in Campbelltown on a Sunday night was at the railway, so he went down to the railway and he explained to them that this chap was in the gutter, and he had an impediment in his speech, Dr Thomas, and he eventually got out, they said who do you think it was, so he eventually got out that he thought it was Ray Eggleton, and they said forget it, he doesn't drink, so they left the poor fella in the gutter! (Laughter) No-one went to rescue him. Any road it was quite a joke, they thought it was, Dr Thomas didn't want Ray to get..., there was an Irish cop, Gerry, you must remember Kevin, and he would run anyone in, and poor Dr Thomas was afraid that if he found Ray he'd run him in. Anyway it wasn't Ray, so whoever he was poor fella, he must have got up and got away himself. So there was some funny things. And then there was a family of Fitzpatricks that lived out here at Glenlee, and one night Brian, he'd been in visiting Lacks, and he came out, and in those days Campbelltown main street had a mold in it and the cars went along the mold and if you stepped off there you slipped into the gutter, and anyway, he was going across the street, and a man and his daughter were going to the coast, it was a holiday weekend, must have been the October weekend, and anyway just as he was going off, Brian slipped and hit the mudguard, anyway he was killed there at the corner of Railway Street and Mawson Park. He was only a young man but I remember we'd just come out of the pictures, must have been a Friday night and there was a great commotion in the town, because...

60 minutes

AA Did you have any funny experiences with Dr Thomas yourself?

CE Yes, yes, he was one, it didn't matter what time of the night you called Dr Thomas, he arrived, or the early hours of the morning, not only that he was always dressed with a collar and tie, we thought that he had a suit or something that he zippered up the back because he was always dressed, and it was commonly known if there was a mother in Camden giving birth he'd be over there, and if he got a call here at Campbelltown in the middle of the night, he'd come back during the labour period, and see to the person here, and then he'd go back. No, he was a wonderful

man, and when he got a, when the Holdens came out, so he got himself a new Holden, anyway he must have had a bit of lead in the boot one night, he was going along and the cops pulled him over, and he had an impediment in his speech, and he said “and the d—d-d-darn m-m-m-motors not warmed up yet” he said!! Yes, so everyone knew the joke about him. And he had a brother that lived up around Maitland somewhere, I think he was a chemist, but no, he was a lovely man, and a very genuine good man.

AA He lived next door to Percy Marlow did he? Were they next door to each other?

CE Ah, yes, up in that street, as you went up from the hotel, eventually went over to the Nepean Electricity, but Langdon, what’s his name, Langdons, they lived there, Dr Thomas, Marlows, and McKellars, he was a retired bank manager from Camden, Sheila Slattery worked for that bank manager in Camden. And then there was Miss Lysaght, you know Lysaghts in Wollongong?

AA Yes, yes.

CE Yeah, well Miss Lysaght, Mrs Lysaght and her daughter.

AA Okay, so that was on the corner of Cordeaux and Oxley?

CE Yes, yes, and around the corner there were a couple of homes, I don’t know who owned them but you know Robert Penfold, that’s the ...

AA Yeah, yeah,

CE Well, his mum and dad lived in one of those houses.

AA Max Penfold?

CE Yeah, Max was here as the, he was the Chamber Magistrate or something.

MR But before we got to the bypass too, before we got to Angela Lysaght’s, there was a Mrs Hyman, as well, she always had a beautiful garden,

?? I know the one Margaret’s talking about because I walked past it.

MR It was between the Lysaghts and the Wilkinson’s I think Mrs Hyman was.

?? It was a little white cottage?

MR Yes.

?? Yeah, it was a beautiful garden.

MR She always had a lovely garden.

KR And the Kitcheners were in there before they went up to Sturt Street.

MR Oh right.

KR That’s way back. They call that house “The Meadows”.

AA And Lysaght’s was a fairly big house wasn’t it?

MR Yes, lovely wide verandahs, beautiful in summertime.

?? Beautiful driveway.

MR it was always shady along there, on the verandah.

?? It was class.

MR But there were a lot of homes that should not have been knocked down like on the corner of Queen and Broughton Street, you know that was the old bus depot but there was a lovely sandstone house there, and what Kevin was saying, Millers, I'd go down the road there and play with their niece from Queensland, and it had beautiful French opening doors onto the verandah, and oh, it was absolutely beautiful.

KR It was a cow of a place on the milk run 'cause there was trees growing out over the driveway, and there was only one light on the corner of Warby Street which was a house block away, so you'd be walking down there one foot in front of the other feeling around for the verandah post because at the bottom of the verandah post was the milk can!

MR And Mrs Kays had a lovely home too, that was another lovely home.

?? Where was that?

1 hour 5minutes

MR Mrs Kays, down at the bottom of Chamberlain Street, a two storey place

?? Oh yes, yes.

CE Old Mrs Kane, that was around in Chamberlain.

?? Just down from where the high school is.

CE Tyler Street.

MR Yeah, that's right, they've knocked that down too. It's criminal!

AA And Vardy's was pretty nice too, wasn't it, in Patrick Street?

KR Oh yeah, best climbing tree in town.

MR I don't know, O'Loughlin's had a good mulberry tree.

AA And there was houses in Milgate Lane, where was Milgate Lane, there was houses all the way down there too.

MR Stykies

?? Kay? Robyn?

MR Yeah, Robyn Stykie. Are they still around?

?? They lived in Patrick Street.

MR And Highduckie, they lived down that street.

KR Bill Kirby lived right down the bottom of that street.

CE I don't know, I could be wrong, but Richie Benaud's, you know, the cricketer, his first wife I'm sure lived in that street they used to say, she was a Campbelltown person.

HE Mum thinks her surname was Lavender.

KR Oh, right, okay. That's another story again.

?? Connections! Albert Duguid's wife was a Lavender. I've just been looking at that the last couple of days.

KR That's another story. That's interesting.

CE But where the theatre was, the cinema was on the corner of Browne and Queen Street, the house next to it, there was a little weatherboard home there and people by the name of Cain lived in that. The chap that, er, Shafer, Kenny Schafer the motor, you know he has the repair, motor repair, his first wife, she was the girl Cain. And then there was the bakery on the corner. On the other side as I said were the Cambourne's, it was a lovely brick home, but why they knocked those old brick homes down...

KR You'd think Joh Bjelke Petersen was around, wouldn't you.

AA Yeah, you would. What about the old house near the Court House, it might have been before you got here, the house, Charlie Hannaford had it, next to the Court House, was that around?

CE Oh yeah, that's the one I said the man that used to light the gas lights, that was where he lived, and then a Miss Edwards lived in the next one, they were two nice brick homes. And that was in Queen Street, but when we, Ray had the house built we weren't Queen Street, we were 73 Sydney Road. And eventually it went over to Queen Street, but we had no kerbing and guttering, and I must look up for you a rate notice, I'm sure I've still got a rate notice, and it was three pound something a year, rates, in Queen Street, well, Sydney Road. I'll see if I've got the, my problem is I've got these things put away, but I can't get them out because I can't see. So I have to wait for some of the family to be around to check on it. But when I do Andrew, I'll let you photocopy one off it, just to show you what rates were back in those days.

AA That'd be great, yeah.

CE And the rate office was the little cottage, er, little room next door to the Town Hall up here, and the Town Clerk was Mr Sheather, I've got a photo of Mr Sheather outside the church at our wedding, both he and his wife in amongst the crowd, or the guests, and with the result, with Queen Street there was actually nothing much, like, there were vacant blocks, and eventually, as I said, all we had was mud gutters out the front, and you had a bridge over it if you had a car, so, you know where Mr Daley lived when he first came here? Did you ever know where his house was? On the corner..

AA Not when he first came here, no.

1 hour 10 minutes

CE Joan Slattery had just sold it. She's moved to Gerringong. Well, Mr Daley built this lovely home on the corner of Lilian Street and Genty Street, is it Genty?

?? Lindesay Street.

CE And next door to that, Mr Bloomfield, who was the deputy, they built next to it. So it was kerbed and guttered around their place, so the water then decided it'd divert and go down the hill, and come out onto Queen Street. So this day I'm sitting there and, you couldn't have a phone either in Queen Street, the PMG couldn't, and because Ray had the milk run, eventually we were allowed to have a phone, so all our neighbours used our phone. And no-one ever owed a penny on that phone, they always paid whatever they owed. We took all messages, it wouldn't matter if someone rang up and said "so and so died, would you go and tell someone that this person had died", you took the good message and you took the bad message. And anyway, this day on there, a Mr Pope had the garage, Tripps Garage was on the corner of Dumaresq and Queen, and Popes Garage was on the other corner. And he phoned me and said "Colleen, do you realize the water's rushing through your yard?" And I said "no", and I went out, and here was the water coming straight down, and I was frightened of it getting into the front and right into the house, and anyway, I phoned O'Loughlins, and they sent a man down to divert the traffic. So I phoned the council to tell them, and I asked to speak to Mr Daley, and they said who's speaking, and I told them, and they said oh you can't speak to him. But what it was, about a fortnight before, someone had phoned him and they kept an account of the conversation, so that's why he was hesitant, so he sent down the engineer, and he took one look at it, and there was nothing he could do, only they cleared out the gutters. So the day that they were clearing them out, they were taking Mr Reader, the man on the corner of Iolanthe, his truck was being used, so they were taking the soil out, and throwing it into his truck, and Ray went out and he said would you mind putting the soil up on the footpath and build the footpath up, so no, they couldn't, because the main road owned the gutter and the council owned the footpath so we couldn't do anything about it, so that went on until eventually when it was changed over to Queen Street and we eventually got kerbing and guttering. But when the water would come down with such force, it'd tear these little bridges, that was the force of the water.

MR So Col, what year was that?

KR 1955

CE What year? Well, I was expecting Helen at the time.

HE It flooded many times, because we used to say we had water frontage!

(Laughter)

HE I can remember there were new houses built at the back at Langdon Avenue, and I came out on our front porch, 'cause then the water went through, I can remember and these people had not long moved in, and I can still see the boy standing there, he was about 8, jumping up and down because the whole house was surrounded with water, you know. It used to just tear through. But

Shane, Margaret went to school with our next door neighbor and one day Shane followed a ball across to the opposite side of the road, someone must have thrown the ball and Shane went after it, anyway, a car was coming down the road and Shane dived into the gutter and the car crashed into their bridge, so anyway Mr and Mrs Fiske went out and said, you know, gee, what happened, well, Shane had crawled out from underneath the bridge and went round the back and didn't tell her parents that the car that crashed into the gutter was dodging her, and anyway they said oh gee what happened, and they said, well your daughter was apparently chasing a ball and she was underneath, and then they went and checked with Shane and she was alright, but there was always drunks going into the gutter and everything.

KR Remember the night cart that went into the gutter?

?? Oh, that'd be lovely.

CE Oh yes, yes, poor old night cart.

AA It was full was it?

KE I told you that story!

AA Yeah, I think you told me, yeah.

CE No well actually we had sewerage right from when we went there, because Ray was offered another house up on the corner of Chamberlain and what is the bypass now, but it was called, what was that street called? Moore Street. And anyway he said to me, well this house is already up, and I said has it got sewerage and he said no, and I said well forget it. So anyway we stayed at the Queen, continued on with the Queen Street one. But we did have sewerage there.

KR Well Dad put the sewerage on not long after we bought the house in Warby Street. 'Cause we always had sewerage on there. I think it was 1941, '42. But not everybody connected. Because it cost Dad 29 pounds to connect it, and everybody else said, oh that's too dear, we're not going to pay that much.. Twelve months later it was 100 pound!

CE And then there was the chap with the clotheslines. Remember they used to go around selling the clothes...

KR The clothes props.

CE Yes, and selling rabbits.

KR Just one thing Col, do you remember Mavis Sheather? She died in 2010, at the age of 107.

CE Was she really! She worked for Mr Chernych. Yes.

AA So that was Fred's, Fred's daughter.

KR Fred's daughter. I'll send you the information if you like. Because her mother is related to the Petts who married the Coopers who, it's in our family somewhere, (laughter) there's millions of them! Thousands of them.

CE Yeah, there was a Frida Sheather too, and then your Aunt had the hairdressing shop. Your Mum

KR Mum had.

CE Yeah, the hairdressing shop there where Mr Chernych, the chemist, er, the Dentist was.

KR Mum started off in Railway Street.

CE And then there was along there, there was like a little terrace of houses, wasn't there. People by the name of Moore lived in them. The chap Moore lived out here at Menangle, um what's his name? He'd be able to give you a lot of history too of Campbelltown.

KR That's that Moore down.....(indistinct)

?? She was the teacher's aide at St John's and her mum used to live in the same lot of units where Paul lives now.

CE Yeah, so they lived in those cottages, and there was also a little shop along there too, because I know Ray bought a canteen of cutlery there. You remember that?

KR Oh yes, yeah. There was a few shops there, it's hard to put it back in, up next to the hotel, there was one that Alf Gee used to be down next to Mrs Fairburns, but he moved up with his record shop and next door to that was a Mr Anderson, a boot maker.

CE That's right

KR Then a bit further, I think there was a vacant block there, or a bit of a paddock, then there was a house there that was originally was the dressmakers,

CE It could have been.

KR then they come into the shops where Southern Radio was there for some years when colour tv first came out and at the end of that building Everett Langdon had his first car yard in Campbelltown.

CE Well, see, a Dr Wajnrib

KR Yeah, he was up behind

CE He was up behind

Laughter (indistinct)

CE We must be driving you mad Andrew!

AA No, I'm just trying to keep up with you, yeah, I wasn't sure what street you were talking about.

1 hour 20 minutes

CE No, well when Dr Wajnrib came, and Helen wasn't well, and I said "oh I'll go to the new doctor", we couldn't get to Dr Thomas or something, and Ray said, "no you won't, he puts all kids in hospital". So we had to go back to Dr Thomas because Dr Thomas didn't put kids in hospital but Dr Wajnrib did. And the house that he had, bought, was owned by Col Clissold, there was two taxi drivers in Campbelltown.

KR So, Col's house was sold to Wajnrib.

CE Yes, that's right yes, they sold to Wajnrib.

MR I've got a photo of it taken in 1969, and we were trying to work out

CE Well that's where Miss Huckstepp had her little Commonwealth Bank, in the beginning. Then that land was, so when the Commonwealth Bank was built, that's where it was, in front of Wajnrib's place. And when, I must tell you this, Campbelltown the banking that's here today, well when Ray had the milk run and we didn't have a car in those days, and of course everybody paid for the milk in pennies and ha'pennies, and threepences and everything and of course it would be covered in milk, but any rate, Sunday night was the job of counting and it had to be banked on Monday morning. So Mr Gibson was the bank manager, and he said to Ray, he didn't have enough money, enough change to hand out to the shopkeepers in Campbelltown, so he used to come to our place every Monday morning, and Ray had a wooden case, I've still got it, and the money was packed in that and the deposit slip was all in, and Mr Gibson would come and pick up the money and take it to the bank and do it all for us because he had no money to hand out to the people in Campbelltown. So anyway, I was in hospital, must have been with Helen, and my sister was there, so Mr Gibson came, and of course Ray hadn't told her what the procedure was, so he said he'd come to pick up the money, and she said 'no way', and she would not give Mr Gibson the money, so poor Mr Gibson had to come back later, when Ray was there because he hadn't finished the milk run you see, so of course Mr Gibson was early because he had to get the money in early to, so that's how Campbelltown banking was! Yes, so there's been some funny things happen over the years, and then it got that in later years Ray had a vender out to Wedderburn and anyway with the result when it come to doing the banking, I'd come up with the money and because it was heavy the boys in the bank would say to me "don't you get out of the car, we'll come out and get the money from you", and I thought to myself at the time, how many banks today would come out, and they'd just say "no you park out there and we'll come and get it. You're not to be carrying that money."

AA Yeah, wow.

CE And that was Saturday morning banking

KR It's an interesting story too of how Ray lost his bread run. Because Warby had given him the bread run, because he worked for Warby, so he gave Ray a separate bread run and when Warby's went broke the bankruptcy people took the bread run back into Warby's business and the whole thing was dissolved and Ray was without a job.

CE No Ray still had, he still continued on as he was with the bread and the milk and the post office. Ray had the three. The saddest thing I think I ever saw was, you know, Warby's, they'd done so well, and the boys 21st birthday was in the Town Hall and they'd even bought like a president's chair for him, and they were just, everything just went their way, and anyway when they went bankrupt of course he, Mr Warby was in Rotary and she was in Quota and everything else, and one night he came to our place, I've never felt so sorry for a man in all my life, he had this little old truck and he was driving back, and he had a meal with us, and I thought to myself how sad to think of a man that was so, and he was a generous man, he really was a generous man John Warby, with the result I just thought to myself that just shows you, everyone just sort of dropped

him once he wasn't a big business man and I'll never forget him driving off that night in his little old truck, anyway he knew where he could come and our place was still the same, it was no different. I never wanted it to be any other way either. So no, it was, he was a very generous man.

MR But that home is still in Broughton Street there

CE Yeah they built a new home.

MR ...and just where the Shell garage is on the corner of Queen and Broughton, it'd be next to those villas, there are villas up, probably about three house blocks up, it'd be the third house block up from the garage, where the garage would have taken part of their neighbours, and you'll see there's a

CE Nice little home there...

MR It's either fibro or weatherboard. Weatherboard, yes, I think it is weatherboard, and that was Warby's first home?

CE No, they had an older home and then they made money, sort of thing, and they built, and they had a lovely house warming, and it was beautifully furnished and everything, and then, they moved down to Kiama, the daughter's, there was a home down there but it was in her name so it wasn't touched, and anyway he used to cook bread, as you go out of Kiama, you know the Post Office is on the corner, at Kiama, you know Kiama,

?? A bright pink building

CE And you're just going along and there's another beach, well they had a bread shop, he opened down there, and because he cooked bread on a Sunday they put him into jail!

AA OH!!

CE Yes! They did! They put him into jail, I'll never forget that! If ever a man got it hard, he did.

KR But they had to release him, because when he was in jail, they put him into the kitchen where he was making bread, and he made bread on the Sunday, so then he got in touch with his solicitor and he said, well, if you can make bread in jail on Sunday, why should a man be convicted of making bread on Sunday outside? So they had to let him go.

AA I've never heard of that before! Couldn't cook bread on a Sunday!??

KR Oh yeah, that was a trade.

CE The son is still here, Roy Warby.

?? Roy Warby, accountant.

CE Accountant. Yes, Roy's still here, he's a lovely young man. No, they were a lovely family.

AA Was there many, do you remember many personalities from the town, was there any sort of characters, or any interesting personalities?

CE Ah, let me think now.

?? Well, what about the little old fellow, what was his name?

CE Billy North.

(Laughter)

KR Don't laugh at

CE Do you remember Billy North?

AA I've heard all about Billy North. Well not all about him, but I've heard some things about him.

CE Well, do you remember, Kevin might be able to tell you the story. Mrs Reader and your aunt going into the city, and Mrs Reader had a little daughter, so anyway, the two ladies went off shopping, Billy North went with them, he used to do the garden at Readers, and he went off shopping, er, they went off shopping and he was minding the little girl, anyway they got lost. So it got later and later so Billy thought the best thing to do was get on the train and come home, so he did. But the two women were panicking because they couldn't find them in the city, so eventually they had to come home, so they came home and of course where Kevin's aunt and uncle lived was only just down the street, they were down in the same street, anyway Rita went down and the second baby, Pat was minding the two, Kevin's uncle was minding the two kids, but any rate Pat was involved in an Ugly Man Competition out at Appin, so he, time was getting away, and he had to get to Appin, so he thought what would he do with the kids? So when Rita went down she couldn't find the baby, anyway she went back to Readers and Readers, they went down with her to see if they could find this baby. Anyway they couldn't find the baby and as they were walking out, there were meat safes in those days, and Mr Reader bumped the meat safe, and as he did, the kid cried, and what Pat said, he thought the safest place was to put the kid in the meat safe.

Laughter

1 hour 30 minutes

CE Kevin probably knew that one

KR Yes, he also got arrested for riding his pushbike backwards down Queen Street, and when he went to court a couple of days later, the magistrate said, the charge was drunk and disorderly, riding a pushbike backwards down the main street, the magistrate looked at him and said, if you can ride a pushbike backwards down the main street you're not drunk! So they let it go!

Laughter.

CE Ray had an episode with, there was only the Sergeant in town and there was no motorbike, anyway, the first motorbike cop was Keith Westwood, and he had a bug on people riding a bike without a light, and Ray was a very good contestant for that, because he'd grown up in Campbelltown when you didn't have to worry about cars. So he was playing tennis up at St John's, so he got on his bike and he's riding up to, and he saw Keith Westwood in front of the courthouse, so Ray decided he'd go down Railway Street, and up as I said past Brunero's yard and so forth, so anyway he heard Keith kick over the bike and he went like hell to get down, so anyway, he went around and he knew Keith would catch him, so he got the bike and tossed it over the fence,

and he got scratches on himself too, but any rate he took off and he just got up to the main street and he could hear Keith coming again, so he tore across the street, he had the milk run in those days and he went over, and this Mr and Mrs Clissold that lived in Chernych's, Chernych lived upstairs, and they lived downstairs, and Mr Clissold heard the noise and he came out and he said "good grief man", he said, "what are you doing here, you come first thing in the morning and last thing at night?" and Ray said, "I'm dodging Keith Westwood the cop because I have no light on my bike", so anyway, Keith couldn't find him, so when Keith went, he went up and played tennis and then the men from the tennis came and helped him get his bike out of the back of the.. so those were some of the funny things that happened in Campbelltown. Yes, so you know, as I said that was one policeman, he was the one who was mobile, the Sergeant wasn't mobile, he had nothing, no car, no nothing, not like it is today.

KR There's about 150 police now.

?? Billy North wasn't the one that they said when the Harbour Bridge was opened,

CE No, no

?? Who was that one?

CE That was out here where Mount Annan, well part of it, because Sedgewicks and Nashes owned a lot of that land, because actually, what's his name, John Fahey, when Mount Annan was to be named they first of all wanted to name it Macarthur, and Kath Sedgewick who you know of, the Sedgewick family, she objected, she phoned John Fahey the next day and she said, "no way are you going to call that Macarthur Gardens." She said because Macarthur would not do a thing for them on this side of the river, and so she said it's not going to be, anyway as it happened it wasn't called Macarthur. So anyway, this man had a property out there round, not far from Macarthur Square, and anyway he had been, as I said the newsagency was there near Lacks Hotel in those days, so he went in this day and said he'd been to the pictures, and they said how did you enjoy it, and he said, oh good, he said, I'm going back, he said, again today to see if that white horse beats the black horse, so anyway some weeks later he came back in, there was a photo of the Harbour Bridge, well of course it was the bottom, and it was opposite to what he was looking, so anyway he said, I told them that, he said, I told them that Harbour Bridge would fall in one of these days. So he was quite sure the Harbour Bridge, but those were some of the little funny things that the poor old things, they're all gone now.

AA Do you remember Miss Payten?

CE Yes, yes, oh yes Miss Payten. One of them, she'd always, I've got a photo, but I think the papers had it before, of Rose Payten at the tennis, yes I think they'd already have that, but Ray had it. No, Miss Payten, she used to walk up past our place, see they lived there....

?? Her shoes, were practically no shoes

H It was really sad

MR I was trying to find out about that not long ago

CE See there was a big silo, did you know where the silo was?

AA The silo?

CE Just as you went over the overhead bridge, wasn't it Kevin.

KR The old flour mill.

AA Oh, yes, yeah

CE And that was where that was.

AA Okay, yep.

MR And she was very bright and had a breakdown, is that what the story was?

H? Probably was

MR I was trying to find out about that a while ago

AA So what relation was she to Rose then?

CE Well Rose Payten probably would have been her aunt. Oh she might have been her sister.

MR She was the architect's daughter, Wilga was the architect's daughter.

AA Alfred was it?

H Well they had a nice home.

CE Yeah, that was just over the overhead bridge.

H Brick, and it had two great big palm trees.

AA They're still there aren't they? I think the palm trees are still there.

H Oh really! Because you sort of drive away from there, because you used to come down around there and everything, but another story like what we did with Dad, the Mamones had the fruit shop in Campbelltown, and they had the Christmas pine trees, so anyway there was this old nursery, what they called the nursery over on Badgally Road, so anyway Dad said, 'oh we'll go over to the nursery, we can go through the fencing and get our own Christmas tree. So my sister and I we get in his little truck and off we go over to the nursery, so anyway we're coming back, we got a sort of a nondescript pine tree, and he saw the Mamones, because close up time, 5 o'clock, I don't know, whatever day it was before Christmas, or Christmas Eve close up, and all the pine trees that they hadn't sold they had on the back of the truck, so Dad knew where they were going to dump them over at the old nursery, so he said "oh we'll just sit here for a little while", so we pulled up in what is Blaxland Road area, anyway sure enough, they went up the road, dumped their pine trees, as soon as he saw them go down the road he did a U-turn and went up and got a much bigger pine tree!

Laughter.

CE Yes, it was like the Christmas trees of today. You know, as I said, over there, that was a tennis court, and it was Searles Nursery, the florist shop in King Street Sydney, and that's where the flowers used to be grown that went into Searles.

AA Where?

CE Over here at Badgally Road.

AA The nursery, from the nursery you mean.

CE Yeah, that was the nursery. That was what they used to, sell the... they grew the, Mr and Mrs Malvern.

KR Malverns.

CE Yes, they were the ones that were there.

AA Did you know Barkley Hayden?

CE Yes, yes, yes, the Haydon's we knew very, very well. And there was the ones up in Kevin's street, they grew flowers didn't they.

KR Yeah.

CE Yeah, and we used to get them, there was no florist in Campbelltown. Miss Kitt. Her, that cottage is still there on the freeway.

AA Yeah, she was the florist wasn't she.

CE She was the main florist, yeah.

KR Mrs Downes used to grow a lot of flowers too.

CE Pardon?

KR Percy Downe's wife Dorothy.

CE Yeah, they were sisters, weren't they?

KR I don't know.

CE Mrs Haydon and Mrs, I think they were, no, I'm thinking of Mrs Rowles

KR I don't know

CE No, Mrs Downey, Peter Downey's mum you mean?

KR No, no, Eric Downes.

CE Oh, the Downes's. Yeah Eric and Alf, well they're both in that photo. Eric and Alf, and they had some engineering place over on Blaxland Road. Alf lived up in where those units of O'Loughlins are. I'm just trying to think of what his wife's name was. Who she was, I knew who she was. And that Mr Gibson, the bank manager, his brother in law was Jack Crawford, the tennis....

1 hour 40 minutes

AA Oh yeah

CE Yeah, and when they came to Campbelltown they had, their son was about sixteen, Neil, and he was a good tennis player, but at that time there was only Eaglemont, and St John's I think,

KR St Peter's

CE I think St Peter's tennis courts come later, so Mrs Gibson who was Jack Crawford's sister, she used to measure out, where those units are in Reel (sic) Street and there was a little fibro place they lived in, and she used to measure out the distance of a tennis court and she'd play tennis with Neil there, they always thought he'd probably make Wimbledon, and anyway, it came a big tennis final at Camden, there was a chap by the name of Tommy Starr who was the leading tennis player of the area and he lived at The Oaks and the final came off on a Sunday and I think every man and his horse was at the tennis at Camden, it was there where the Bowling Club, and oh, it was an awful hot morning, and of course Neil was only about sixteen and Tommy would have been about twenty four, so of course those days, on the opposite side of the street was a milk bar as they called it in those days, anyway the boys had to have a break, and someone went and got Tommy a drink, and anyway I can remember him going back on the court and he had the old handkerchief tied in the four corners, and anyway, when he went to go back on he went to the wrong end of the court he was that confused, anyway Neil beat him, and any rate, Tommy was only about twenty six, twenty seven when he died, but Neil never, Mr Gibson always used to say he'd go and carry his ports if he got to Wimbledon, he never did, but that's who they were connected to, was Jack Crawford.

KR He did beat Frank Sedgeman one day in the early days too,

CE Pardon?

KR He did beat Frank Sedgeman in Sydney, in the early days too, he got that high up into the levels, but just never quite cracked it in the long term.

CE Long term, yeah. Yes, so there was some, that was about one of the stars of Campbelltown.

H We've got plenty of stars now, we've got Mark Binskin, Lisa Wilkinson, Robert Penfold, Kate Ritchie, Tim Campbell...

AA Jai, Jai,

H Oh that's right the young boy,

AA Did you ever go to Mr Cherney the dentist? "Cause they say he was fairly severe!

H I think he might have given me a boiled lolly!

(Indistinct)

CE There was Mr Cherney and the other one was...Dr King

H Dr King was the bad one!

AA Oh was he?

H Oh, he was terrible.

CE What it was, was Helen was only about two and a half and she had to go to the dentist, so I took her down, and it was Dr King, and he was a tall, oh I'd say he was about six foot two, and he was married, he was connected to the Bursill's, and Miss Bursill was his dental nurse, and she was a big woman. Of course we were only small people so of course Helen put on a performance when they put her in the chair, so he said to me, "you hold her feet" and Miss Bursill held her head, and that finished Helen at the dentist. She never ever went back to Dr King again.

H Oh he was horrible.

CE He was there in the, what was the old New South Wales Bank building? In the main street.

AA Oh yeah.

CE Yeah, that's where he was. Well then he went from there up to Glenalvon, the historical,

H The brick home next door.

CE So he was there, but any rate

H The story was, you never saw two sad looking children, did you ever see his daughters? And the story was they couldn't have – Oh did you go to school with them? Weren't they sad looking?

MR Yeah.

CE One was in a pram and the other one pulling the pram.

H Well they were walking at the stage I saw them. Standing like where Coles was originally in the main street at the doorway with their mother who was like a yard of pump water too

MR She passed away about three weeks ago.

H Oh did she? How old was she?

MR I don't know, well, pretty well up there

H So anyway, they reckoned that they couldn't have an ice cream or any lollies!

MR No, I used to go to their birthday parties,

H Did you! They had birthday parties?

MR Yes, yes, celery, um,

H Celery and carrots!

MR We had very varied birthday parties at their house, and they used to get dolls instead of Easter Eggs.

H Dolls! That would have suited me!

MR They had no lack of money but they weren't allowed anything sweet, so they used to get big presents at Easter but they were never allowed to have sweets.

H And did they go to Campbelltown High?

MR Yes.

H And did they end up on drugs?

MR Oh dear...

H That was a story we heard.

MR Oh, really? No.

H No they didn't.

MR Lillian went to England because she was good on the piano and she had a breakdown, and she has like schizophrenia, one of those, so she's actually been a lot of her adult life in like group homes and things, she's kind of sat by herself now...

H Oh how sad,

MR She's a different sort of person, and Margaret went to Germany with dance, and she did very well in the ballet in Germany.

H So they were in the arts.

MR But she's still in Germany she never came home again.

H Because they'd be pushing sixty.

MR No well Lillian's the same age as me, so she'd be sixty four this month, Margaret's the same age as Hank Reeve so she'd be about three, four years younger than that, so she'd be sixty.

H Oh well, there you go.

MR For all that they had, there was problems.

H Yes, sad life.

KR And they had the King Singer's. A choir of singers, I always (indistinct) they were a very heavy choir, not good, not for a young bloke anyway.

MR Lillian's attached to a, Lillian's getting her comfort through a church she's found that does a lot of music. She not long ago told me a story, because she was very bright at school, and going through school with the Kings, and you know, these people who are all these high flyers and the teachers used to look after them, you know, they'd always get chosen for everything, I can remember last time I spoke to Lillian she said, one day, she just didn't want to go to school, she just, her mother sent her off to school, she just didn't want to go, and I was thinking, wow, so she went into the

Mereweather's house on the corner, Miss Shiels, you know that MYOB, and said, I don't want to go to school, and so she went in there, at which of course she then rang the school and told the school that she was there, then rang the parents and told the parents she was there, and she got pushed to school, got into strife at school, then came home and got into strife at home. This poor child who obviously had some issue on the day, but she just couldn't face school, and she ended up in such huge trouble because she went to a place that she thought they were going to be nice to her and they...

H Mmm, safe home.

MR to me I thought, why wouldn't you want to go to school, because she was one of those blessed children that had everything, but obviously she didn't.

AA And you used to visit the cinema a bit, Macquarie Cinema did you? Were you a regular goer there?

CE Yes, we had one certain place we always sat in the cinema upstairs. A Mr and Mrs Eves had it but it was Mrs Eves father that had had it, now what was his name?

H Nichol?

CE Er, yes. And then her brother, he was involved in it too. But they'd come from Bathurst, yeah, to Campbelltown and there was, I think the girl, the Eves' daughter would still living here in Campbelltown,

KR Beverly.

CE Yeah, Beverly. And there were three boys and the one girl.

KR Yeah, Barry, Bob, and John. I don't know where Barry is, but

CE Barry was at Bathurst but he was moving from there, and I think they were going to move to Port Macquarie or somewhere.

?? Yes I think they are.

KR Bob's up at Port Macquarie with John Harrington. Not Port Macquarie, ah,

H No John's at Nabisac.

KR Yeah but Joan's got a house at, what's the name of the place?

CE Nambucca?

KR Tuncurry?

CE Down where your uncle, near your uncle,

H Tuncurry, oh Foster.

CE Well, one of the, John, he bought there at Nambucca, not Nambucca,

H No, Nabiac

CE Nabiac, was where he was because it was near your uncle.

KR Yeah

1 hour 50 minutes

CE Yes, so there was, they always had good films though, and that was about our main entertainment in Campbelltown in those days, and there wasn't much...

AA So that'd be a Saturday afternoon, and on a Wednesday was it? Twice a week?

CE No, well Friday night was when always we went, and there was always Saturday afternoon was the matinee for the kids, and Saturday night. I think it would have been Wednesday probably, but most of the country ones, that was how they went, Wednesday and Friday, Saturday.

KR Saturday night used to be busy 'cause that's when the bus come from Minto and Ingleburn. And also the troops used to come down from Ingleburn Army Camp sometimes too. Twenty or thirty or forty of those'd come up in a truck sometimes.

AA Okay.

CE Yes, so they were all connected, the Eves and the Nicholls.

KR The Nicholls lived just up near the Manse.

CE And then the drive-in opened there at, on the way to Narellan. So that all went. So that's no longer there either. So its

JC And everything black and white in those days? When did colour come in? can you remember Col?

KR Oh no, we had colour.

H When colour came, to the big screen? Or was it at the drive in? Did you ever have colour pictures at the cinema?

CE I don't think so, oh no, no it was all black and white, and you got two films, it was always you got the one before the main film, was better than the main film. But no, the colour wasn't in then.

KR Colour started about the mid thirties. A lot of bigger productions. They might not have had a projector here for them.

AA The Wizard of Oz was in colour and that was '39 so...

CE But you notice that the actors and actresses of years ago, their diction is so much better than what it is today. Today they warble on, and you can't hardly, my hearing, another part for spare parts, and you can't hear them. And of course it's good at our place, I like Helen to put it up louder for me to hear, and Helen likes it lower.

AA You would have known Norm Campbell then. He's about your age.

CE Yes, yes, oh yes.

AA He would be about your age.

CE He was, the two ladies that reared him, didn't they, Kevin?

KR Yeah

CE Um, they had that opposite the mall up here. They had a milk bar.

AA Yeah, yeah,

CE I forget their name.

AA Chinnocks

JC They were the Chinnocks.

AA George Chinnocks.

CE Yes, I think they were the people that reared him, no he's always a lovely fellow Norm Campbell.

AA Hi is a lovely fellow.

CE And a very good photographer too. Even, young chap that came down to my place when I had this slice that was in the paper, he said it was through Norm Campbell that he got the position at the Chronicle.

KR Robert Poser? He's been there about forty years now.

CE It could have been, Yeah, but he's a lovely young man. No, he was a very good person Norm Campbell, very well respected in the area.

KR He used to drive the fire truck when I was a kid. The fire brigade, yeah.

CE The old fire brigade, you never heard, oh Reg Hayes was in that wasn't he.

H What did you say the other day that Reg Hayes used to fix, the wireless was it?

CE Oh about the cordial, when we come on remember our radio wouldn't work, and I said to someone where would I go, and there was no-one in Campbelltown that could fix a radio, only Reg Hayes, and I went around to the cordial factory and he got it sorted out for me, but that's what Campbelltown was like then, there was just nothing, nothing here. Not like, well Alf Gee, I think was one of the first ones wasn't he and he went from here to Quirindi, and his wife had ...

KR Carolyn's Frock Shop

CE Carolyn's Frock Shop, and that was where the first news agency used to be near Lacks, coming out from Lacks Hotel, but as for Teddy McPherson, that was an accident out along Appin Road.

AA Ah, I was wondering that.

CE Yes, it was a motor accident.

AA Oh, was it?

CE I think he was taken down to the old hospital down here at the bottom end of town.

H Andrew may not have known about that, that little old hospital.

AA You mean Milby's hospital?

H Milby Lane

CE Yes, yes. Um, Paul O'Loughlin, he was born in that hospital, and these Tripps that were on the corner of Queen and Dumaresq Street, they also, the twins, they were born there.

KR Yeah, they were born at the other end of town at the old Fisher's Ghost Restaurant, that was the hospital

CE Yeah

KR Now, the one that moved into Coogan's Lane, I'm not sure if it was Milby, because the first hospital closed down in '42, and that's why Lindsay Tripp and I were both born at Camden, because they closed the hospital, we were born at the Sunshine...

H At the Sunshine Hospital!

AA Oh okay, okay.

CE Yeah, well there was a little maternity hospital there where the post office is in Campbelltown, you knew that.

MR It was called the Avro??

CE Avro.

(Indistinct)

CE Matron Maguire, and she wouldn't have children near the hospital, or babies, you couldn't take a baby near the hospital.

AA So Macpherson, not Macpherson, what was his name, the butcher,

H Teddy,

AA So it was a car accident

CE It was a car accident out along Appin Road.

KR A truck, was he driving a truck.

CE I don't know what he was,

KR I can vaguely remember one of the uncles telling Mum and Dad about it. That was years ago, he had his arm out the window of the truck and a truck coming the other way hit him.

CE And caught the arm, yes. But any rate, he managed and he was still defiant, and, you know, kept going, and he was still a butcher. And he was a nice feller. And he had a sister, Heather, I don't know whether she's still alive but she was married to a chap, Swan. Lived at Dapto, they moved from here to Dapto. But Dud Hayden we speak of, his wife was a Swan. In those days people didn't travel, so it was a case of marrying brother and sister. So Dud was married to Molly Swan, and Heather Macpherson married her brother. You know as I said with the Macphersons and that they were lovely people, and Teddy did well to be able to keep working, today he'd be going for a big compensation and blow it all.

AA He also played football too, 'cause we've got a photo of him in his football team.

CE Oh, have you really?

AA So he did very well.

2 hours

CE Yes, he would have been playing when Ray was playing. There was an episode, one time, talking about accidents out on Appin Road, this particular night Ray and I, Les Sullivan and Lillian only lived around in Warby Street, so course Saturday night you had nothing to do so either visited one another, and we were around there and someone come for Les to say that the boy that was going with his sister had had an accident out along Appin Road. So anyway, Les and Lillian didn't have a car, we did, anyhow Les said to Ray will you run him out to where Kevin had the accident, and Ray said yes, it was there at the end where all the trees, that section, so anyway out they went, and anyway, of course Ray was no mechanic at all, so Les was doing all the mechanical work, gave him the battery out of it, someone told Les to get out there before someone stripped the car, so anyway, they're there, and Ray's got the headlights of the car working, that's all he was doing for Les, and a pile of the spare parts were in the car, so this car pulled up and this big chap got out and he came over and he said "what are you two blokes doing?" and Les said, "oh, stripping this car before somebody else gets a chance to". "oh", he said, "good idea", so anyway he got in his car and away he went. So anyway, they were still working there and Les was getting the parts out, and anyway, it wasn't long and back this car came, and out got the local cop with this fellow, and he came over and he said "what are you two blokes doing?" and Les said "stripping this car before anyone else gets a chance to", so he said "What's your name?" and he said "Les Sullivan", and he said "Where do you live" and he said "3 Warby Street Campbelltown". "Okay" he said, "What's your name? You got a license?" "Yes", Les had a license but he didn't have a car. "What's your name?" "Ray Eggleton". "Where do you live?" "73 Sydney Road". "You got a license?" "Yeah but it's at home. I haven't got it with me". So anyway Les finally got around to explaining to them that the car belonged to his sister's boyfriend, and that he'd been sent out to strip the car before anyone else did. So the policeman that was here at the time, one night a horse had been hit down near the old showground, er, old football ground, and we'd come out our gate and we went down to see what the commotion was, so the policeman came over and he said to Ray, will you run me back to the police station, they didn't have a car or anything at the police station, "will you take me back to the police station", and Ray said "oh yes, I'll run you back." So anyway he said, "you know the other week when you were out at the car at Appin, he said, "that fellow that got me to go out was an ex-cop" and this policeman was walking along just where Bursill's house was and there was a butcher's shop

there, the Nepean I think it was, it got to be the Nepean later on, anyway, this fella, as I said there was a mound in the street, and he swung down into the gutter, and he said come quick, he said, you can catch two blokes out along Appin Road stripping a car, so he said "I got in the car with him" and he said "it was you and Les" so anyway, Ray said "yes, that's just how it happened", he said he was an ex-cop and he came along at the time he's walking along the street, because the police had to walk in those days, they had no transport. And he didn't even have transport to get back from the old football ground back to the police station. Someone had picked him up, so it's a big change when you see all those cars down there in the parking area at the police station now.

KR I remember about 1954, 55 they got the first police car in Campbelltown and got rid of the old Harley. The Constable was John Boyle, was driving it back from Minto, and there was an accident outside Payten's place down near the old mill, and he got out of the car to go across the road to see about this accident, and the car coming the other way dodged John 'cause he didn't see him, and run into the car, and wiped the car off the road, they'd only had it about six weeks.

(Laughter)

John Boyle was alright, he was lucky he wasn't still in the car, but yeah, he'd just walked away from the car and this other car come the other way.

CE There've been through some changes alright, on the whole, what was this big building, big shopping area they were going to build out here at Wilton, bigger than Port Macquarie.

AA Yeah I saw that.

KR A new town. I just remembered if you want to look it up, it was Tony Hatton, that motor cyclist. Ring a bell?

MR Oh, only Phillipa was in my year at school.

CE Andrew's about had us all now.

AA We've covered a fair bit though, didn't we. A fair few topics and a fair few people, so that was good.

CE Yes, well that Mrs Lysaght, she was to do with the Lysaghts down the steel works at Wollongong.

AA Yeah, Andrew Lysaght I think.

CE Yes, I thought they said that one of those Mr Lysaghts was buried on some football ground or something down there. Well it's the same as Antill out here at Picton. That's the same thing isn't it, there's someone's buried on that...

KR Yeah, Antill was the Lieutenant for Governor Macquarie, and he came out from India, and he is buried on top of the hill as you go into Picton, and he's buried....

CE He's buried standing up, isn't he.

KR ???? Because that's how they buried them in India. So they done it the same way, yeah.

H Well you'd save space wouldn't you!

JC Jack Ellich always wanted that to happen, Jack always wanted that to happen, he thought that was much,

H Jack Ellich?

JC He thought that was much more cost effective.

H It would be!

MR You'd fit more in.

CE Might save a bit of ground.

MR So did you go to Saint John's?

H Oh, yes, I went to Saint John's and then to Saint Pat's.

AA Okay then, do you want to.....

MR 'Cause I used to be friendly with Kay Starkey but Robyn was two years older.

H Yes, Robyn was in my class, yes, and then I think Robyn went to the High School, I went to Saint Pat's, and Margaret went to Santa Sabina.

MR As did Shane.

H Yeah, Shane, and then Caroline went later on, because I remember,

MR Lynne Carroll

H Yeah, Lynne Carroll and Margaret Whetton, and Matt, Cecelia Matt.

AA Do you remember anything about Tripp's Garage, Colleen?

CE Tripps Garage? My episode with Tripps Garage was that....

H It was very short!

CE My dad had got to know Mr Tripp through going to Mass up at St John's. Anyway there was something wrong with the car and Mr Tripp said to Dad, take it down and my son will look at the car, so anyway I drove down, and Dad got out, and he and Mr Tripp Snr were having a conversation, and Mr Tripp said to me, "my son's out in the workshop", it was Leo, so I went out and I started to explain to him you know, what the reason was that I wanted him, he said "I haven't got time to look at the car" and he said "furthermore" he said, "I haven't got time to talk to you!"

KR That was Leo, yeah.

CE That was Leo, he died about eighteen months or two years later of a coronary attack, I didn't wish it on him, don't think that at all, He just, all I can think of is he may not have felt well, and that's why, he might of just said to me well he didn't have time, he mightn't have felt well, so I

went across from there to Mr Pope on the other corner, so that's what I always, and Frank O'Loughlin's wife, she worked there in the office and that's how I got to know her and through her I got to know Ray. So anyway, that was how things all worked out, Leo probably done me a good turn by telling me he didn't have time to talk to me.

Laughter.

CE Yes, so arriving in Campbelltown, and you know, coming from an area where the people in the garages, they sort of knew you for years, and things like that, it was a different story.

AA Yep, okay.

ME Not one for the book?

AA No, can't include that one can I!

CE But that Mr and Mrs Lower, they were lovely people, and so was Miss McPherson, Mrs Fairburn, all of those, you could go along the lot of them and you wouldn't have found nicer people. No, I had no regrets. And in those days though, if you wanted to get a fast train to Sydney you had to get on one at 7.33 of a morning, or 5 past 10. In the afternoon if you were leaving Sydney you caught one at 10 to 4, and the next one was quarter past 5.

MR Thursday nights you could catch the Cooma Mail.

JC At 9 something or other.

CE And there was a man, he lived up in Sturt Street, can't think of his name, but he used to stand near the Royal Hotel, and check his watch every morning to see whether the train went out a minute later or a minute earlier!

H Oh yes, Paul O'Loughlin's told us that story.

CE Did he? Yeah.

MR Yes, and people getting dressed as they were running down to the train, that's a Paul story.

2 hours 10 minutes

CE And there was another girl lived up the settlement, and they reckon she'd arrive down, and jump of her bike at the old entrance to go across and she'd leave the bike and run across the line and jump on the train.

KR Oh yes, they used to walk down Broughton Street, I won't mention any names, then they'd walk along the railway track, and walk up on the end of the platform, instead of coming around and going over the top they'd hop across the line, there was probably about six or eight of them used to do it but you'd see them every morning, that was the 7.30 train they were on and if they were a bit late, the train driver used to wait for them, but Dad said there one day, said they were all a bit late and it was raining, and the train driver apparently took off, he said they weren't late any more!

Laughter

KR Yeah, quite a few, I can still see their faces.

H One of the train stories that I had, I was working in the city and we would have five First class passengers that we would pick up at Ingleburn, and there was this woman who had this big beehive, anyway, this morning the train pulled in and it was all shudder, shudder, shudder, so anyway, off we chuff, we went past Ingleburn Station and the next minute we stopped, we were nearly to Macquarie Fields and they forgot to pick up these five First Class passengers, and with First Class, you had the green seats and there were only six to a cabin, with the doors and that that they'd close, so anyway we picked up the five or six First Class passengers and off we went again, so we got down around, and at Liverpool you could step down but not pick up, so we did another lot of banging around there and we were just joking you know, must be a new driver, and all this, then we get down to Lidcombe and we went shudder shudder through Lidcombe Station, and then we got past it, and next minute we were going back again, and when we got to Central we said to the people, or maybe the next day, what happened? Why were we going back at Lidcombe because it wasn't a set down or pick up, and with him banging around so much it had, the last three carriages were like out of a cowboy picture, you know, they were just sort of little table and two seats, two people either side, four people to the table, had come unlocked from the rest of the train and all the school kids were on Lidcombe Station laughing and pointing at the carriages, and I don't know how they got in contact with the train driver but we had to then reverse back and pick them up and off we went, but, oh God it was a rough ride, I never forgot that, that would have been about, I suppose about '69 or '70. One or the other, I know I was in the city at the time so probably '70.

CE It's a big difference today to think of, you know, the airport link and everything is very good. Makes a big difference doesn't it.

AA Yep.

CE Yes, so Kevin, I've got a, Paul O'Loughlin had one taken of Ray just before, and it's a lovely photo so, any of you, you're all welcome down at my place any time.

KR I can remember Ray telling Dad about this photo.

CE Yes.

KR You know, fifty years ago. That is Dad's father, Dave Rixon.

CE Yes, I'm sure that's who they said it was, there's no-one else around I don't think that we can ask is there Kevin?

KR Probably not (laughing)

Laughter

KR Oh, there's probably a couple around still sort of thing, yeah, yeah.

CR Yes, well see, down near that bottom end of town that was, that used to be part of the old hotel or what it was, but they used to have that as units because people didn't have houses here in Campbelltown.

AA You mean that building there, the one in the photo?

CE Ah, no I'll just think of where we are now. No, down here, you know as you go if you come in that bottom end from the roundabout, down near the Catholic Club, you know that area,

AA Yeah

CE There was some old buildings there and they were, it'd be near where that hotel was.

AA Oh okay.

CE And they used to have the people in a little bedroom and a kitchen.

AA Yeah, so near where Red Rooster is now? Near that area you mean?

CE Yes on the opposite side side of the street to Red Rooster.

KR Oh yeah.

CE See down...

AA Across the street

CE Yeah, across the street. See some of Kevin's people, they lived down there, as you went down from...

H Whereabouts would this be? Like what stands there today?

KR I think it was up the top of the hill where the Good Intent was.

H Oh right, up there.

AA Was it? Near Miss Raymond's cottage you mean? Near Miss Raymond's house?

KR **(indistinct)** Auto

KR Dad's older sister, Ivy

H Can you remember who was in those cottages that came up from Milby where McDonalds is now, there were several other cottages there next to Milby. And then on the other side of the road where Red Rooster is your Dad used to live there at one stage, oh, was born there,

KR No Dad was born in the old hospital there, and one of the houses up there too was, ah, geez I can't remember, see, we didn't go to that end of town, we belonged to this end.

H The butcher that you went to was that end, that's where you went. And the chemist.

MR And if you lived at that end you went there, 'cause I don't know the north end.

KR I knew some people down there. Like that little old house that used to be up between the, the bit that goes up near the mall, you know, the Coach House and that, there used to be a little house in between that there, well Dad's uncle, Mo Rixon, used to live there. Bert Rixon.

AA Oh right did he? Okay, okay.

KR Dad lived in Sewer Lane, and the road was always higher than the houses on the left hand side, 'cause when they dug the sewer, they didn't cut the dirt away, they just made the road higher. You could step off the road into the house!

CE There was someone lived in one of those houses too there was, I don't know whether it was when Foti's had the cracker place out at Menangle, and there was a boy killed, out at the cracker, and the people lived in those cottages where the, was it your uncle, he was a butcher?

KR Yeah, Dad's uncle.

CE Yes, yes, and see along there where Marie Kelly's was on the corner, the next to that was News the butchers,

AA Yeah, I've heard of that.

CE They were next, and then there was the chemist down further, a Mr....

AA Tyerman

CE Yeah, yes.

AA And then the tea rooms were next to that were they?

KR Tripp's tea rooms?

AA Tripp's tea rooms.

KR They weren't up there when I was a kid, no. The only ones I remember were tea rooms on the other side of Queen Street.

CE No, ah,

CE Middleton's finally came there, the sports people,

MR McQueens, McQueen's tearooms.

H So then that became Warby's bakery did it?

MR No, Warby's Bakery was on the other side of Dumaresq Street, and Macqueens

AA And there was also the Monte Carlo, but that was later on wasn't it? The café, Monte Carlo?

H Yes, yes, that would have been in the 60s when that Monte Carlo was, because otherwise we had just the Romalis' didn't we.

MR And the Balalaika.

AA And the Balalaika.

KR It used to be funny, we used to go to the, when we lived at Camden at the time, in the early sixties, and of course we all had plenty of money so you'd drive from Camden to George Street

and go to the pictures, and park in the back streets round the main part of Sydney there, then drive all the way back out to Campbelltown, have a cup of coffee, then drive home to Camden!

(laughter)

KR But you know, we were all young blokes you know, driving didn't matter like, you know, we'd all pile into a car.

MR So was the (Indistinct) fish and chip shop down near Allman Street? Is that where that one was? Which one was that?

JC Macqueens was about, let me see, where Radio Rentals is now I think? Macqueens?

MR So where was Monte Carlo?

JC Monte Carlo

AA Like, you know where, they had an Indonesian restaurant there, is that, you know,

JC Oh Mina's?

?? Johnsons?

KR Johnson's

AA Because if you look up high in, that shop there there's still an old sign saying 'Café'. I think that's....

?? And a fish and chip shop as well.

KR Café then a fish and chip shop next door.

KR They were Greek but they changed their name to Johnson. They were related to Ralph.

H Oh the chemist?

KR He married one of their daughters or something like that. They had a big house out on the Concrete Road, the Camden Valley Way, opposite El Caballo Blanco, the Johnsons, oh two houses, both the boys, built two houses up there. We used to call it Concrete Road, and there was Washingboard Hill because it was like that (demonstrates).

2 hours 10

CE But that Fitzgibbons Lane, out here at,

MR Up at Rosemeadow

CE Out Rosemeadow, or that area, well the man who was postmaster at Campbelltown, he was Fitzgibbons, well he started off there as a messenger boy, and eventually in years later he came back and he was the Postmaster. But when he was there, that was a vacant piece of land between there, and there was Macdonalds the butcher, ah, who was the next one, there was

three shops there, a lady from up in Bradbury Avenue, she had a children's wear shop there, and then you came along and Ron Moore, you've heard of Ron, he started a little hardware shop next door to the bakery.

KR That was the original Nock and Kirby's.

CE And then when he went out people by the name of Stenner run it as a library. And they had it as a library for quite a....

AA As a library?

MR I was going to ask about...

AA And I was too

MR Mrs Lloyd, and the library, the lending library.

MR Libraries. Because the School of Arts had a library which I heard was not particularly welcoming or....

KR That was run by Mr Moore.

JC Mr Moore, and he came back from the war with what my mother called war neurosis. And he wasn't always inviting, no.

MR Yes, 'cause Mrs Evans has the story of when they first arrived she thought she'd go and borrow a book, and went up and waited and found the key, and finally let her in, and then all the books were just dark with white pen, like the indian ink white pen on the sides, and she said it was all musty and dusty and nobody ever went in, but my mother used to go to Mrs Lloyd down in that side of the main street, and she had a little lending library where you used to pay sixpence or something.

CE Well there was no library at Campbelltown in those days.

H No there wasn't!

AA Wasn't there some sort of library service in the Balalaika? Didn't the Balalaika have a.....

KR Yeah they had a lending service there many, many years ago, yeah.

AA Right.

JC It was big time when we got a library!

MR Mrs Lloyd's shop, was it Mrs Lloyd's shop, it was only about this wide, she used to sit at the back.

JC I was lucky enough to have a really good neighbor, Gertrude Moffatt, who had a fabulous collection of books, including all the J.M. Barrie plays and all that kind of thing, and if we hadn't of had Miss Moffatt in the same street I don't know what we'd have, you know, before the library came, because I devoured everything that she had, and she was a really good neighbor.

KR The Harringtons had a good library up at Mount Annan, er, Mount Erin too, a big bookcase about that wide and that high, and full of all these Australian classics. Grandfather...

MR He was a great reader

KR Yeah, he was a great reader. He used to go on the same ferry as Henry Lawson. He said Henry Lawson was the rudest man you'd ever seen

AA Yeah??

KR On the tram he was terrible, because you couldn't get away from him, on the ferry he was okay 'cause you could get away from him on the ferry. My grandfather was an electrician for the PMG, for North Sydney and Redfern telephone exchanges, and he lived at Bronte.

H I've got to look up my great grandfather 'cause he went in the Campbelltown to Goulburn bike race, I'll have to go to your research area

KR What year was that?

H It would have been about maybe 1910? Or...

AA That far back, okay.

KR I've got some of the photos from that race, in 1906.

H Oh have you!!

KR But I don't know about names. You know I gave you a heap of old papers many years ago.

AA Yeah. Okay, okay. That's out the back.

KR 1906 bike ride. And you've got these half a dozen scruffy looking blokes standing alongside these old bikes.

H But you don't have their names?

KR Oh, the names are on them I think. Yeah, yeah. What was his name?

H Joseph, Joseph Eggleton.

KR Joseph Eggleton. I would have known Eggleton, yeah.

H Oh right, so would that be in you research area?

AA Yeah, it would be.

H Well, I'll come up one day and have a look through that, 'cause I'm doing a book on the Eggleton to hand on to, well, once you become a grandmother you feel you've got to get in all this, I've already done the long life story of

CE Long life, I think they'll put it on my casket the day I die.

- H** Ernie May took so many photos, it was his hobby, and then put in a radio pole up out at Glendonbrook, not Glenbrook, but Glendonbrook out of Singleton and all this sort of history stuff, but that's the only thing we can come up with on the Eggletons, is Joseph doing his bike ride.
- CE** There is a, Bill Wilkinson that lived in Queen Street, they had photos, and there was one they had of Ray's father in a football match but that was one day we were down at the library, but I don't know who, both Bill and his wife, they've passed away, so I wouldn't know where the photos got to. You know, it's something that you do look back for, is to get whatever photos you can of family and everything, to try and trace the family.
- AA** Speaking of bikes, do you know where was Hephher's bike shop, was that kind of...?
- KR** There was Mrs Fairburn, next to that was the shop which was the first of Carolyn's Frock salons, and next to the shop was the shop where Jack Hephher was, it was owned by John Murray bike shop, yeah.
- CE** Yeah, along there between where Mr Lower was,
- JC** ... and Alf Gee was there about the same time in that same little group of shops.
- KR** Speaking of photos, there is a photo of Jack Hephher outside his shop, and he was just a couple up from Mrs Fairburn and one or two down...
- CE** Miss Macpherson.
- KR** And Miss Macpherson, yeah. There was a funny little front end, the glass went in like that, and there was two doors, that was Carolyn's and that was Jack's bike shop.
- AA** Okay.
- JC** And Alice Gee and Jack were brother and sister. And they had a poultry farm up in the settlement.
- H** And then she made it into a pottery. Didn't she do that pottery?
- KR** Yeah, yeah.
- MR** That was when they lived at Cransley. She ran classes for spinning and pottery and all sorts of things.
- AA** Oh, okay, right.
- KR** She became Mrs Minut.
- JC** She became Alice Minut.
- CE** Then the Hephers used to do that ad for St George on the television with Jack with his penny-farthing bike. That used to be on television. That was after they moved to Bundanoon.
- AA** Oh okay.

CE Yes, he was a very witty chap.

KR Oh yeah.

AA Was he?

KR Sharp as a tack. Yeah, he sold a bike that John Riley had an accident on going down Bulli Pass and Jack apparently said to someone afterward, I should have sold him one with better brakes. That's apparently true, what Jack said, I should have been more careful and sold him one with better brakes, yeah!

H If you're going to bike down Bulli Pass....

KR Got away from him and killed him.

AA I actually met Jack Hephher, but he was so old, and sick. I interviewed Louie at Bundanoon, oh actually she was at Mittagong, she was about 94 when I spoke to her and Jack was there then but he was coughing and he was really sick.

KR I can remember Jack coming to the home and he was selling Swipe, you know this cleaning product, and he got his rags, and his bottle of Swipe and he puts stuff on it and he goes over to the fireplace, it was all those nice little textured bricks and he rubs it up, and away he goes, and for years after Grandma was going crook "look at that dirty bastard", because it had a nice black coating on it, there was just one bit that was bright red where he'd cleaned all the scum off, if he'd done the whole thing it'd have been alright. But he didn't (**laughter**) just half a brick.

2 hours 30 minutes

JC And there was a big family of those kids and Mr Hephher senior who did anything to extend the family income, he was always running something extra wasn't he, he bought a job lot of shoes, and thought he was going to sell those off as well, you know he was a bit of a trader, but they were assorted sizes, but they were all for the same foot! Joyce Handley, one of the other children, Jack's sister, one of Jack's other sisters, "was for years walking around in circles" she said!!!

(Laughter)

Til they all grew out of the shoes!

MR I wonder who had all of the others?

H Because they lived on the corner of your street, didn't they? Hephers?

JC Hephers did, yeah.

H Yes, until John Scattergood moved in.

JC Yes, they preceded John Scattergood.

CE But the Hephers themselves lived up there on Macquarie Avenue.

JC That's right, they had a poultry farm.

JC And they were great scouting people, they were all involved in scouts.

H So all the scouts were walking around in circles!

JC I don't know that those shoes lasted....

H That's right, she was a little, stout, wasn't she,

KR Val...

JC That was Val,

JC Val never married,

H No.

CE She used to go on what they call "The Voice" and everything today but she could imitate the birds, yes, and she'd be on radio in those days.

AA Where was the Scout Hall?

H St Johns wasn't it? In between.

KR Yeah, up in Lindesay Street where St Johns School is, between the whole block, well the school owned where the school was, there was the Scout Hall, then there was a big block of land which the Church owned, and they ended up taking the Scout Hall as well.

AA Okay.

MR And Hurley Park ended up with the

JC the one that they bought, that the Church bought in Lindesay Street, that's where the first meetings about what they were going to do about building a Catholic Club.

AA Okay.

CE Maclean – you probably all know him.

MR Just pause, this is my next book!

(laughter)

CE Well, you know of Rosalind Crescent up near Chamberlain Street.

AA Yes.

CE Well that's called after his wife I think it is, and there's a couple of streets up there that are called after the family. But anyway, when that area was built that was called Snob Hill, and, because it was all brick homes, and anyway, then he decided to offer the ex-servicemen, if they paid, I think 60 pounds was the, for the block of land, am I right?

MR Yes.

CE And in those days if you had the deeds to the block of land, the ex serviceman could go and get his war service loan of 2755 pounds I think it was. So this Mr McLean, any man that put their 60 pounds down, he'd, oh they were paying them off, if they didn't have the 60 pound they put a deposit, he gave them the deeds to that block of land, and they could go, and that's why Bradbury Avenue, Mereil Street, all that area, is the man that started Campbelltown off, and he's never, you never hear him mentioned.

KR No that's right. Yeah.

CE Am I right Kevin?

KR Yes, and Ron Harris was his apprentice.

CE Yes, yeah, so that just, so if there's ever a time Andrew that his name can come up

MR I'm writing

CE Oh good,

MR a book for the Historical Society about it now

CE Oh good.

CE He had a son and a daughter I think

KR Yeah, Ronald and

MR Ros

CE Rosalind is the one

? His wife was Mereil

CE And there's Mereil Street and that down there, I often feel sorry that that man never got

MR He didn't end up rich and famous either

KR No, well he went broke because in the early sixties

CE Yeah, early fifties it was,

KR Yeah, but when he went broke in the early sixties, yeah.

H How did he go broke?

KR He bought more land and everything collapsed and then nothing was sold

MR The market collapsed.

KR The market collapsed, and he wasn't the only one in that period, who was that chap who Peter used to work for? Ingles? He had 500 acres or something like that out at

JC Raby Road

KR Raby Road, where Epping Forest is on that,

CE Near Clarkes.

KR Yeah, on the other side, and of course, he was hoping to sell it and make a fortune and pay for it but it never happened. And all the money he borrowed, he lost his socks.

JC That's the old Caroline Chisholm home where their place would have been out at Minto, that Ingles had. Yeah.

H Do you mean along Raby Road there? And there's that little old house on top of a hill?

CE No that's French's property. A Mrs Terry lived in that little old cottage. That's going up to St Greg's.

H So where is, no, I'm over on Raby Road,

CE You're over on Raby Road, no well that's Badgally.

H And did you say Caroline Chisholm lived....

JC There was a Chisholm connection, Caroline Chisholm connection.

H Oh right.

AA I haven't heard that one.

KR You learn something every day!

AA Yeah, well I've learnt quite a bit.

H I always wondered how we got Chisholm Crescent, but that was probably because there was a connection around.

H Ingles at Cabramatta

JC Ingles at

H Oh at Ingleburn

JC No, no, Ingles Menswear Store

KR Where Fred Lower used to be

JC Don't you remember, on the corner, yeah where Fred Lower used to be

H Oh, on the corner of Milgate Lane thing there,

KR And they had one over at Camden as well

CE There was a little story of the Solomons, you mention Mr Solomon, so there was a family, it's an old family in the area, Frost, and Lew Frost, his niece was Betty McCarthy so everybody

knows Betty McCarthy I think, anyway it was wintertime and Lew Frost delivered the bread. Anyway, Mr Solomon, who was only a small built man, Jewish, anyway he came out and he said "Big frost this morning Lou", he said "yes and a small dew on the ground",

(laughter)

CE Yeah so anyway, it was a common joke around Campbelltown. So we'll take our little bits and pieces home.