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- Muswellbrook Chronicle (*www.muswellbrookchronicle.com.au*)
- Upper Hunter Shire Council (*upperhunter.nsw.gov.au*)
- Memories of Muswellbrook Facebook Page
(*www.facebook.com/groups/695538197152051*)
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(*www.facebook.com/groups/214197288778030*)

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FOREWORD

The relationship between a child and their grandparent is a unique one. It's different. A child from a young age is ready to learn, to listen, and to be shown. Equally for grandparents it's their special time to pass down their wisdom, their love and their stories of a generation ago to a new generation.

Grandparents are typically asked to share the load of today's parenting. Busy parents don't have the luxury of being full time carers of their children. It's the grandparents who often have the role of child entertainment, either through some recreational activity or through their story telling.

It's the story telling which is unique and unlike any other relationship a child will experience in their life. A grandparent has a lifetime of experiences, have a library of their own stories in which to draw upon, for any occasion or situation. Once a story begins, the child is transformed into this quiet, attentive little person whom is in awe, truly mesmerised by it.

The grandparent has so much to tell and a child seems the perfect audience for those stories to be told. To Emily, Jacob, Mia, Lina, Sarah, April, Liam & Maeve this book is for you to enjoy as your parents have enjoyed these stories being told to them many times over.

INTRODUCTION

These writings are not an attempt of a statement of historical fact but more a reflection of how I, a school kid saw his position in the social structure in a small country town in the late 1940's – and the 1950's and also how the time was spent. I also want to look at the town as it was then, or as I remember it and how it appears today to both me and others, particularly those who may read this. I am aware that historical documents have been written and are of great interest but I am not aware of any attempt do anything such as I am attempting with this.

I have attempted to create a written picture of the town layout as it was in the 1950's and how we went our daily lives.

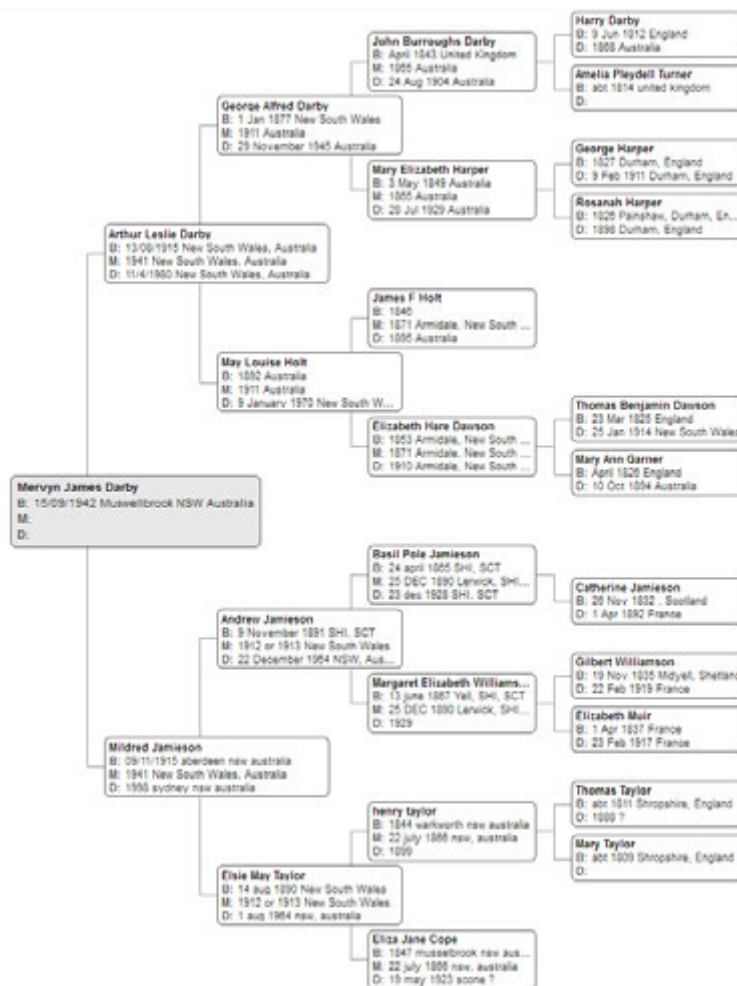
All of the content is from memory and other than a bit of technical information gathered from similarly aged relatives or a name of someone I wish to write about but whose name escapes me. The time frame covers the period from 1947 till 1958.

I expect to be making reflections, diversifying but generally maintaining a light-hearted approach and not a rightest attempt on anything. This is how, from my memory, I saw matters of the day, others may have seen things differently or have a contrary point of view. I am aware that every document written and read is judged by the reader and not the writer on its principal and fact. I am writing as a matter of interest to a few others, particularly Liam and Maeve and the other young ones who may one day ask someone about what life was like in those days. Up to this point, any writing I have released I have avoided using my name wherever possible, but this time it is totally different. This is my first attempt at anything like this. All previous writing efforts have been on technical matters such as occupational health and safety, industrial training systems, research and product development, and biosecurity in the food industry, all of which are most impersonal subjects.

It is impossible for me to place all entries in a progression of time. This is regrettable particularly to those who are in my age bracket. I do not intend to ask nominated people to verify any facts or for permission to use their name .I do have people available to me whose advice I will follow on technical matter.

FAMILY HISTORY SUMMARY

This chapter is intended to give the reader a perception of the families and relatives on both my mother and father's side particularly those who lived in and around the Aberdeen area who I had constant or occasional contact. Some had a particular influence in my growing up while others don't leave me of any particular impression. The degree of influence does not relate to my liking or otherwise of these individuals. This is not intended to be a family tree and I have asked relatives for their assistance in putting the chapter together.



My Family Tree