

Preserving Memories

A joint project of the City of West Torrens and the West Torrens Historical Society

OLIVE PEPPER, Richmond



Olive on her wedding day 1942



Citizen Award 2003

"Be happy, be natural. Just be kind to everybody."

Olive Pepper has been a resident of the West Torrens area since the late 1920's. She lives in the home in Richmond that she and husband, Ray, had built after he returned from World War 2.

Olive had a Drapery store in Hawson Avenue for over 30 years.

At 97 years of age, she still recalls many names, businesses and anecdotes of her life and growing up in West Torrens.

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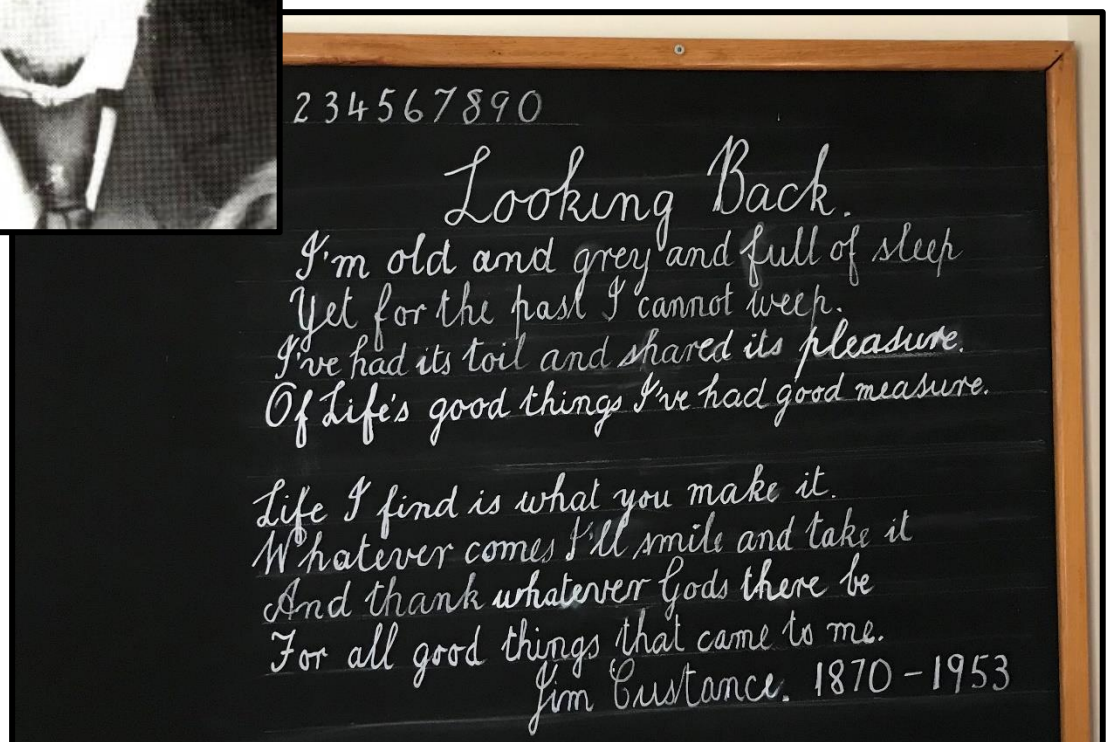
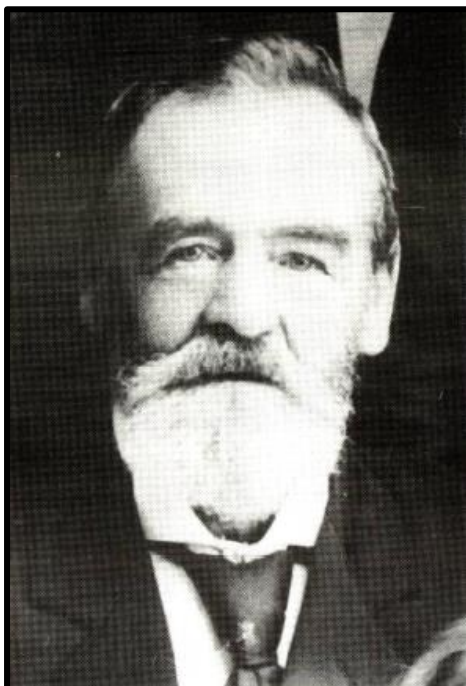
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Olive's family, including parents and grandparents on both sides, have a long affiliation with the northern area of South Australia near Port Augusta.

Her grandparents had been living in the Woolshed Flat area, and both of her grandfathers worked as track maintenance workers with the South Australian Railways.

Grandfather James (Jim) Custance

Olive's paternal Grandfather James (Jim) Custance (1870-1953) was known as Jim the Bushman and was known for his poetry.



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Family - Grandparents (Custance)

Olive's father was **William Albert Custance**, born near Port Augusta in 1893.

James Custance 1870-1953 (married in Hawker 8/1/1896)

Ellen (Nell) Julia Angelina nee Keynes 9/5/1871-20/3/1956

1. William Albert Robert Terill Custance 1893-1960

2. Lydia Sydenham Custance 1896-1993 (m Martin Hayes)

3. Clarice Barbara Custance 1899-1977 (m Frederick John KINNEAR 1920)

4. James Sydenham Custance 1901-1954

5. Bessie Freda Custance 1903-1903

6. Rupert Archie Custance 1904-1985

7. Maisie Helen Custance 1905-1933

8. Lance Lindsay Keynes Custance 1907-1977 (m Evangaline Lucy)

9. Thelma Bessie Custance 1910-2003

10. Mark Perrier Custance 1912-1981

11. Ellen Valerie Custance 1915- 1989 (m Clem Pyman)

12. Elva Nell Custance 1917-1990 (m Keith Ernest Gorey 1944)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/216379074/elva-nell-gorey>)



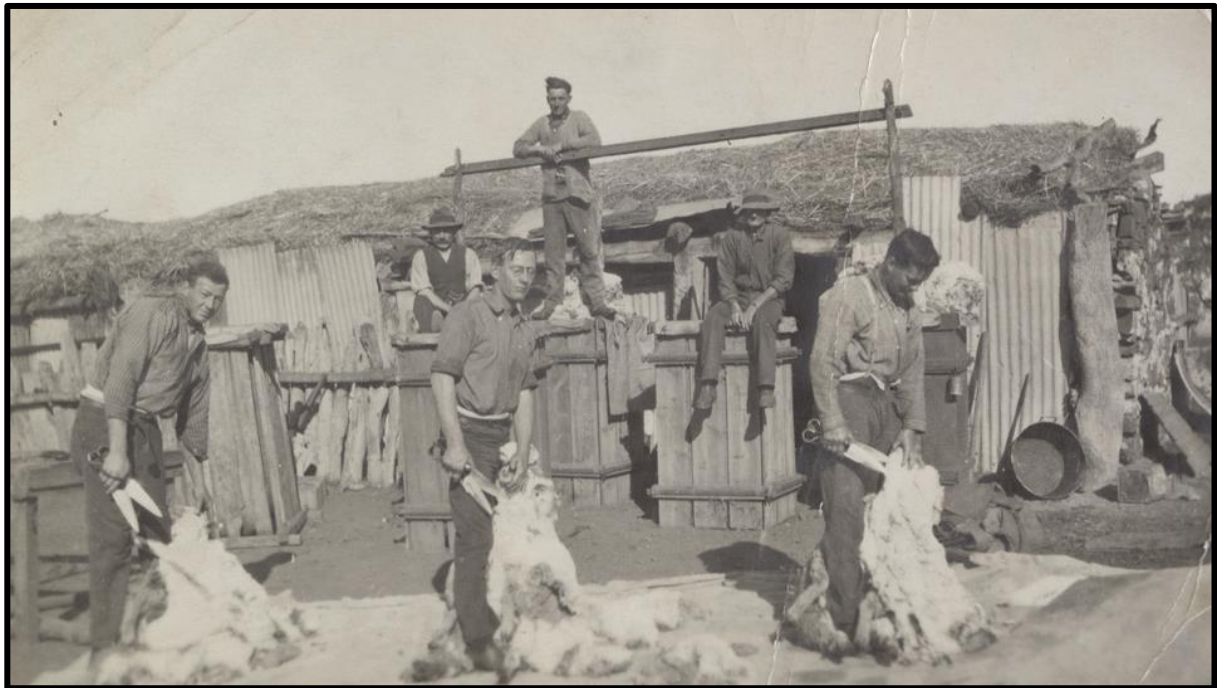
Jim Custance



Nell Custance

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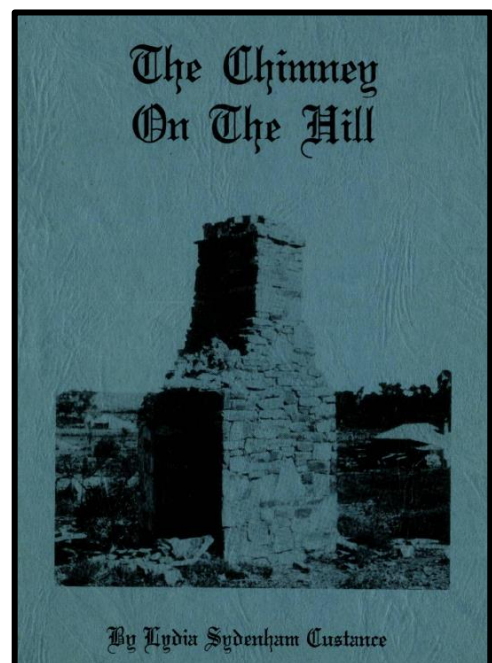
Jim Custance and sons, Shearing, Woolshed Flat 1923 - From Left: Jim Custance Jnr, Mr Lehman, Fred Gates, Lance Custance, Jim Custance Sr, Rupert Custance [SLSA B-49949]

- In 1939, James, Ellen, Elva and Mark were listed as living at 8 Seventh Street Bowden.
- In 1943, James and Ellen were listed as living at The Rectory, St Bernards Road, Magill, with Elva (nun) and Ellen (nun).

Lydia Sydneham Custance published a family history in 1967.

(The chimney on the hill ISBN 0731608275)

This story makes many mentions her older brother William.



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Family - Grandparents (Willis)

Olive's mother **Ivy Edith Gertrude Willis**, born Woolshed Flat 14 May 1896.

GF William Willis b 25/10/1854 d 23/07/1913 (married in Quorn 4/10/1882)

Alice Alicia nee Lockyer b.23/6/1863 d.25/07/1946

Richard Alfred Percival Willis b.10/02/1892 d. 27/12/1937 (m. Annie Maud Mary Smith)

Ivy Edith Gertrude Willis b.14/05/1896 d.31/1/1981

Ivy had four brothers Ted, Percy, Fred and Victor.



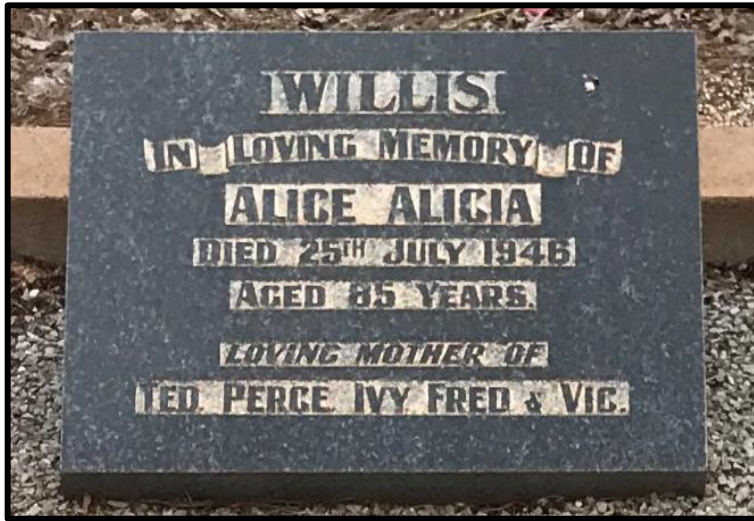
Woolshed Flat School 1909 [SLSA B49148]

*(Back row) Miss Daville (teacher), Herb Steer, **Will Custance**, Ridgway Newland, Peter Hayes, Albert Steer, **Lydia Custance**, Nora Hayes, **Ivy Willis***

*(Front row) Florence Rankin, Joe Steer, Pay Hayes, **Clarice Custance**, Dorothy Rankin, Fred Willis, Rita Rankin, **Jim Custance**, **Rupert Custance***

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Quorn cemetery



Home of Alice Willis, Woolshed Flat 2020



Woolshed flat 2021 [Facility used by Pichi Richi Railway <https://www.pichirichirailway.org.au/>]

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Family - Parents



William and Ivy married 26 December 1914 at James Custance home in Mern Merna (north of Quorn).

They had four children born in the Quorn area.

Kathleen Maud b c1916 d 18/12/1994
(m Leonard Thomas Hewiston, 18/9/1937)

Norman Albert b. 2.11/1920 d. 20/12/2009

Olive Deane b. 11/12/1923
(m Raymond Pepper, 26/12/1942)

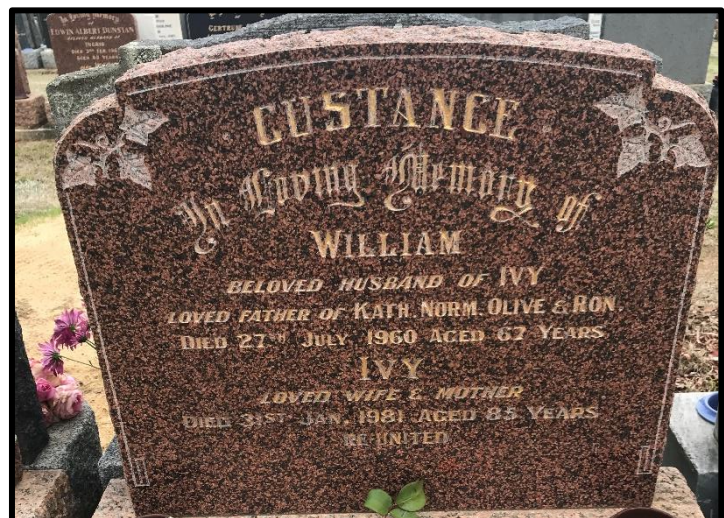
Ronald Milton b. 25/1/1926 d. 7/9/2009

When they married and moved to Richmond, they went on to live at this home 29 Bickford Street, North Richmond for the rest of their lives.

Neither parents drove.

'My dad never had a motorcar. He had a bike but he never had a motor car.'

William died 27 July 1960, aged 67 and Ivy died in 1981, aged 85.



Norman and Ronald both served in World War 2, returned to Australia, married and had children.

NORMAN ALBERT CUSTANCE

Service Number: NX93191
Enlisted: 21 March 1942,
Paddington, NSW
Last Rank: Sergeant
Discharged: 29 Jan 1946

RONALD MILTON CUSTANCE

Service Number: 443107
Enlisted: 17 June 1944,
Adelaide, SA
Discharged: 23 Jul 1945

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Olive's Story

Olive Deane Custance was born 11 December 1923, in Quorn and lived in nearby Woolshed Flat (now only a railway siding along the Pichi Richi Railway Route).

The family lived in Woolshed Flat until about aged six. There are a few remnants of the house still there.



Pichi Richi Pass, near Woolshed Flat SA [SLSA B-8401]

Olive fondly remembers her parents.

Her father, known as Bill, worked in the railways, and her mother Ivy stayed home with the children, *'in those days they [mums] didn't work.'*

Olive recalls that her mother was a good cook and preserved the fruit from their trees in the garden.

'We all had to look after our own clothes and clean our shoes... not wash them, but make sure that they were folded up properly and put away'.

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The family has returned to Woolshed Flat and captured how the homes have fared with the passing of time.



Kathleen Ivy and Olive



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Family home in Mile End

Ivy and William decided to move to Adelaide, mainly for the schooling opportunities available for their 4 children.

When they first moved to the Adelaide area, Olive says they could only get a house in Daringa Street, Mile End (the eastern end). *'it wasn't very nice. It was one of those where two houses were built together with an adjoining wall.'*

Olive remembers the postal delivery and the 'milky'...*'the Milky often did come early in the morning. When I say early, 8 o'clock, before we went to school. 'Cause I remember we used to often take a bucket out and he'd fill the bucket up.'*

Near their home in Mile End, they would get bits of tin and slide down the hill slope (near where Bunnings is now) with her brothers. *'Little did we know that my father was coming home from work that day, from the railways which was just around the corner. And who did he spot? His little girl Olive coming down the hill on her backside'*



Aerial view of Mile End with current street names 1935[West Maps Public]

They lived in Mile End until she was about 12.

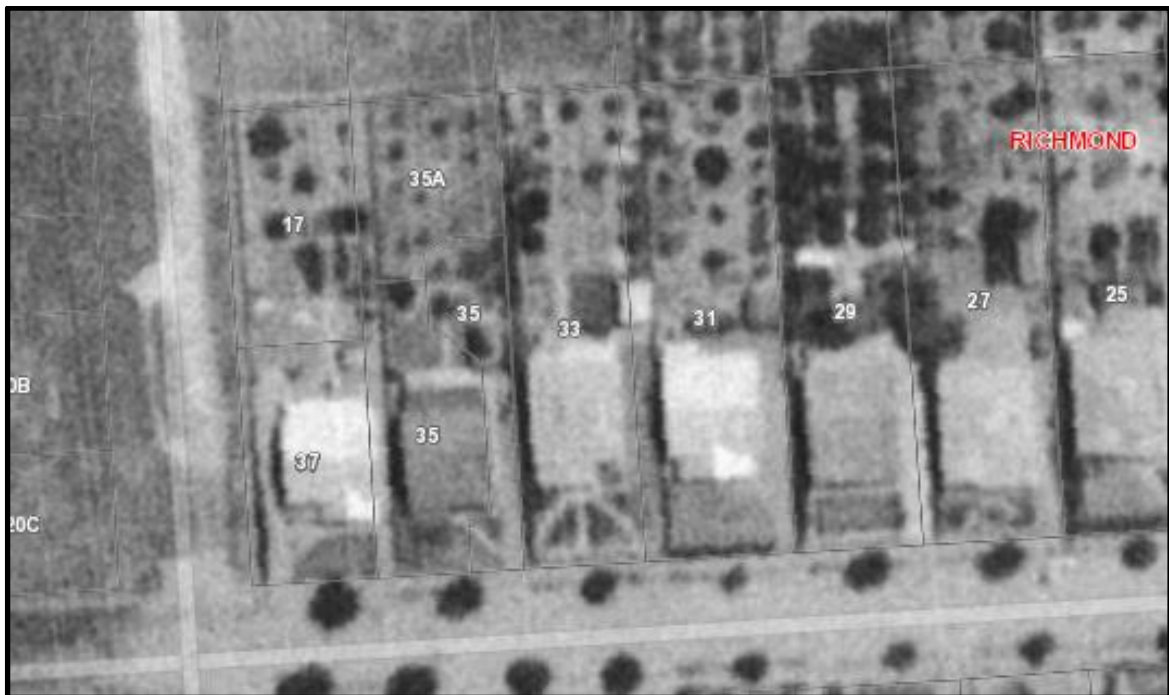
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Family home in Richmond

Around 1935, the family bought a house at 29 Bickford Street, Richmond.

Olive recalls that the home had a big verandah. There was a trellis around it and Olive and her friends would sleep there. Every room had a fireplace. Her mum cooked on a wood stove with the wood being delivered as stumps and her Dad chopped it for the stove and fires. Olive says the house also had a cellar and there were always chickens in the yard for eggs.



29 Bickford Street, Richmond [1949 West Maps Public]



Bickford Street Richmond, Back garden

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Christmas celebrations

Olive recalls one Christmas when she was about 8 or 9...

'I can remember a man two doors down from us. He came with a bucket of horse manure. And he said to me 'What did Father Christmas bring you?' And I told him a stocking and some other little thing I probably got, wasn't very much, but in those days you didn't get anything. And he said 'Well, he left me a horse', and he said 'Look what I've got. That's all I've got left', and that was horse manure. I can always remember this man.'

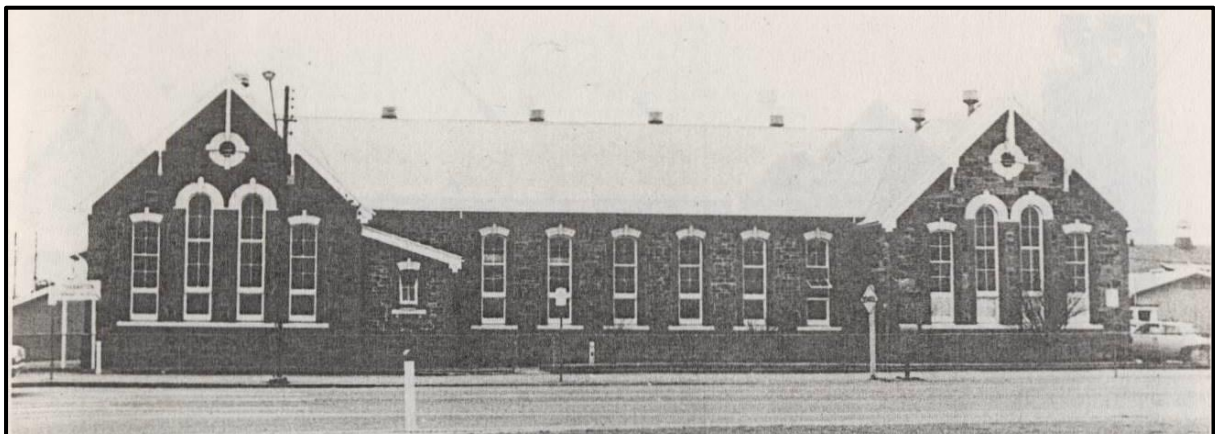
Health and hospitals

When asked about her health and going to doctors Olive remembers: *'Mum used to fix everything. I don't think I can remember going to a doctor when I was young. I can when I was older, but-. I don't know what I went for. Only minor things I suppose. [Mum] had that big medical book. Everybody's got those,[laughing] haven't they.'*

Olive remembers very clearly an accident she had when she was about 13 years old. *'One night, when there was a blackout, I was riding my bike. I don't know where I was going, it was when I was in Bickford Street and a fellow was riding his bike, and we met [crashed]. And he went into my head.'*

Schooling

After living in the country Olive went to Thebarton Primary school walking there from their home in Daringa Street, Mile End. *'It was strange to me being cooped up after being used to being so out in the open. It was very strange to sit and not be allowed to go out of the room and, to have to ask if you wanted to go to the toilet. Whereas, [before going to school], we would have just whizz around behind a bush and that was it, [laughs].'*



Thebarton Primary School [SA Archives]

'My brother came top of Thebarton school with a QC [Qualifying Certificate]. I thought I might come top, but I didn't. I was pretty close.'

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Farmers Union (Kathleen's job)

Olive says that Kathleen went straight to work at the age of 14, at the Farmers Union Egg Factory on London Road, Mile End South.



1922-1923 South Australian Farmers Union factory Mile End, S.A. [SLSA B 68755]

Television, Radio & Telephone

Olive remembers the listen to the radio shows and then the introduction of television although they did not have their own for a long time.

It was wonderful. Oh. We all sat on the floor around watching it. Yeah. I couldn't believe it.

The family also did not have a telephone for some time as it wasn't affordable.

Olive has an Astor radio that she bought in the 1950s which still works.



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Olive's working life

Olive was a clothing machinist for many years in a building that was across the road from the Central Market in Adelaide. During the war she made Army shirts with about 12 other machinists. Men would cut the fabric and Olive and the other machinists would sew the shirts.

Olive was quick machinist. 'I'd do 24 a day. And if people couldn't keep up to me, they got the sack. [laughing]. One of the girls, and you wouldn't read about it, one of the girls said to me, "Will you slow down a bit?" She said, "If I don't do 24 shirts, I'm going to get the sack." So I said "Alright then, I'll slow down." So I slowed down a bit and made out that I wasn't feeling very well.'

After the war Olive gained employment with a friend who was working for Hambours (four brothers who owned many fabric stores). She was a machinist at their shop at 255 Richmond Road.

In the early 1950's Olive's sister and brother-in-law urged her to open her own drapery business in premises at (48) Hawson Avenue North Plympton. She ran the General Draper from around the age of 30 years old, until she was 60 (early 1980's).



At one time she had 2 girls working for her. 'Three of us were serving at the same time, it used to remind me of Dykes. Actually I was very friendly with them because we formed an Association. ... there's about 8 or 10 different drapers round in South Australia who all belonged to this group, which we formed...you heard everybody's good ideas, when there's a good buy coming up or something.'

Supplies for her shop were from G & R Wills and Goode, Durrant and Murray.

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She sold 'everything in clothing. And if we didn't have it and people wanted it, we got it'. Fabric was sold by the yard, but not in great quantities as 'not many people were sewing at that time' [1960's]

When asked if she wore the fashion of that time, mini-skirts and boots, she replied 'Probably did. [laughing] I think I was a bit of a larrikin.'

Some of the other businesses in the area were a butcher, a delicatessen, a grocery store, a chemist and a doctor around the corner.

Olive recalls that the butcher lived across the road from her in Lane Street; and the doctor was a stranger to the district - from France.

In 1960, Olive was given an appointment to act as a Savings Bank of South Australia Agent at her business premises in Plympton.

TELEPHONE: LA 0371

THE SAVINGS BANK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
97-105 KING WILLIAM STREET
ADELAIDE

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO
"THE GENERAL MANAGER"
BOX 359 B, G.P.O. ADELAIDE

REFERENCE FOR REPLY: KJG:AJF
If telephoning or calling please ask
for

14th October 1960

Mrs. Olive D. Pepper,
46 Hawson Avenue,
PLYMPTON.

Dear Madam,

Your Appointment as Agent

We are pleased to advise that your appointment as Agent of this Bank at the new Agency to be established at Hawson Avenue Plympton, has been confirmed by the Trustees as from and including 13th October 1960.

The Agency will be attached to our Adelaide Office to which all returns and enquiries are to be forwarded.

Duplicate copy of the Agreement embodying the terms and conditions of your appointment is attached.

Yours faithfully,
K.J. Grant
pro Chief Inspector.

Agency Agreement

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this 13th day of October 1960 between the Savings Bank of South Australia (hereinafter called "the Bank") of the one part and (Mrs.) Olive Deane Pepper of 46 Hawson Avenue, Plympton (hereinafter called "the Agent") of the other part WITNESSETH that for the considerations hereinafter expressed the parties hereto do and each of them doth hereby mutually agree with each other as follows:-

1. The Bank shall and will employ the Agent as its Agent at HAWSON AVENUE, PLYMPTON from and including the 13th day of October 1960 and expiring on the 31st day of October 1960 and thereafter from time to time as may be determined by the Bank.

2. The Agent shall act as Agent to receive moneys from and make payment to Depositors of the Bank and shall in all things and at all times observe and act in accordance with the General and Other Orders and Rules which the Bank shall from time to time issue and which shall be the rule being so in force.

3. The Agent hereby agrees with the Bank that he will during the employment as aforesaid faithfully and diligently to the best of his ability carry out or cause to be carried out his duties as Agent of the Bank and shall not at any time during such employment employ any clerk, servant, wife, son, daughter, niece, nephew, or other person in any way connected with the Bank or of any person or persons having any interest or dealings with the Bank or of any depositor of the Bank or who shall be deposited in his hands or be entrusted to him or which shall come to his care custody or possession in the ordinary way of business or his said employment.

4. The Agent shall and will during his employment keep and cause to be kept the secrets of the Bank and of all transactions and things connected therewith.

5. The Bank hereby agrees with the Agent that the Bank will during the continuance of this Agreement pay to the Agent a commission of 5% of the net amount of all deposits received from the 1st day of the month of June and December during the continuance of this Agreement and that should the said amount be less than 5% the Agent shall receive 5% of the net amount of all deposits received from the 1st day of the month of June and December during the continuance of this Agreement and that should the said amount be less than 5% the Agent shall receive 5% of the net amount of all deposits received from the 1st day of the month of June and December during the continuance of this Agreement.

6. PROVIDED always and it is hereby mutually agreed and declared that the Bank or the General Manager or any duly authorized officer of the Bank or the Agent shall be at liberty on giving one calendar month's notice in writing to the other party hereto at any time to terminate this Agreement (PROVIDED also that if at any time during the said term the Agent shall not in a bona fide manner and keep his part of this Agreement from the Bank or the General Manager or any duly authorized officer of the Bank shall be at liberty without any previous notice to terminate this Agreement and that from thenceforth this Agreement shall cease and be void, save and except as to the rights and remedies which the Bank may then have against the Agent for any breach thereof) and the Agent shall not be entitled to any compensation therefor.

7. Any notice to be given by the Bank pursuant to these presents shall be sufficiently given if signed by the General Manager or any duly authorized officer and posted to the place of business or residence of the Agent and shall take effect from the date of such posting.

IN WITNESS whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands the day and year first above written.

SIGNED by a Trustee of The Savings Bank of South Australia for and on behalf of the said Savings Bank and countersigned by the General Manager of the said Bank and the seal of the said Bank is hereunto affixed.

Countersigned by: *M. K. Grant*
pro General Manager

SIGNED by the said Agent
Olive Deane Pepper

In the presence of: *John G. ...*
Witness

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Sport - Electric Light Cricket

All of her life Olive was involved playing or coaching sports including tennis, netball and basketball. She didn't elaborate, but medalled in a variety of fields. Later she loved ten-pin bowling at Cross Road.

Olive was in one of the first Electric Light Cricket teams at about aged 17. Credited as being 'invented' by Alf Stone at his Cowandilla home in 1930. The game evolved at the Hilton branch of the RSL and Alf Stone patented the idea. Olive had played cricket with her brothers and started playing once a week there in the women's Electric Light Cricket competitions with a group of about six of her friends.



[WTHS LH0377-28]

'I think we actually had to ask for permission. 'Could we play there?' Actually the building wasn't there then. There was only the one building and then there was a gap and another bit of a building. Later there used to be an insurance place there.'

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Sport - Tennis & meeting Ray

Given the amount of sport she played it was inevitable that she would meet her match Ray, playing tennis.

'that's where I met him, actually. He was playing tennis and he had a racing bike. And I never ridden a racing bike. I'd been on boy's bikes, so I pinched his bike and went for a race, [laughing] he got finished playing the tennis and his bike's gone so he had to wait for me to come back.'

They played tennis at the courts on the corner of Brooker Terrace and Davenport Terrace, where the Hamra Centre Library carpark is now.

*Davenport
Terrace Tennis
Courts 1935
[West Maps
Public]*



In the genes, all of Olive and Ray's children also went on to play various sports and gain medals in their field.

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Raymond Frederick Pepper

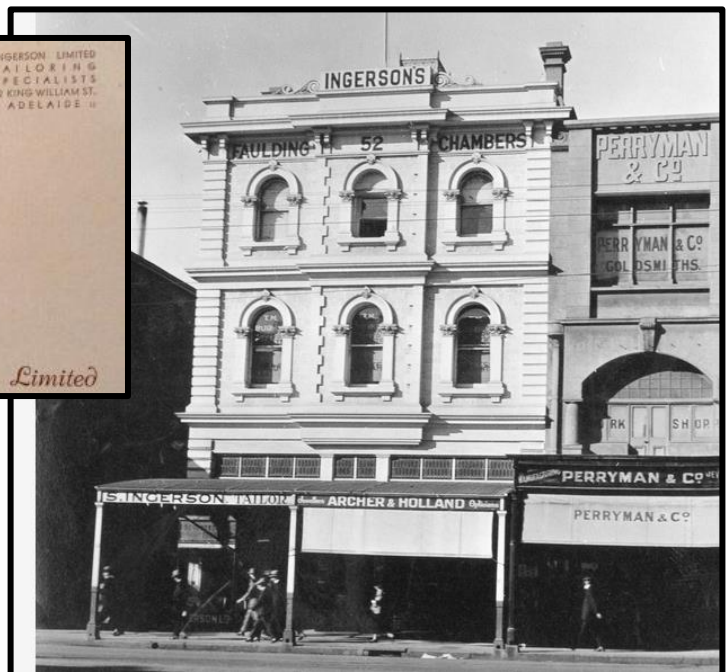
Ray's parents Cyril and Elsie were originally from Melbourne.

Cyril Frederick Pepper 22 May 1888 - 19 July 1949 (married 22/5/1909)

Elsie Matilda Spicer 23 June 1887 - 8 Nov 1978

1. Enda Mavis Pepper (b c1915 (m 15/6/1935 Stanley Whitwell (Lived next door in Lane St))
2. Vera Gladys Pepper (m Harry Woods (b1914))
3. **Ray Frederick Pepper** 4th July 1922 - 18th August 2010

Ray's father Cyril Pepper was a tailor with Ingersons, a leading tailor in Adelaide.



Faulding Chambers with tenants Ingerson's Tailors
52 King William Street, east side 1926 [SLSA B3436]

Ray also went to school at Thebarton Primary. Olive remembers him at school but didn't know him.

The family lived at 17 Filsell Street, Henley Park (now Thebarton).

Ray lived there until he and Olive married in 1945.



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Ray served in World War 2

Ray enlisted to serve in World War 2 on 2nd December 1941.

'I remember it was terrible... he was very lucky to be alive. The main thing he always remembered was, on the Mobi, which is a river, the other side of the river was the Japanese. And this particular day, one of the Australians that was out on duty, I don't know what doing, but he got caught by the Japanese they stripped him off the next day, one of them dressed up in the Australian uniform, across the river with a machine gun. [shooting noise] And my husband threw himself on the ground. They must've thought he was gone because they never come near him. And when they went, he crawled back over to where he could get help. ...That worried him for the rest of his life. And he was always dreaming about it.'

When the war ended, Ray came home, but had to go back to the Mobi River and clean everything out.

Olive recalls that Ray had to wear his uniform until formally discharged. She said that a lot of the returned soldiers wore it as they didn't have, and couldn't afford, other clothing.



Ray's last rank was Lance Corporal. (B883, Army, 2nd AIF).

He was formally discharged on 13 February 1946.

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Rays working life

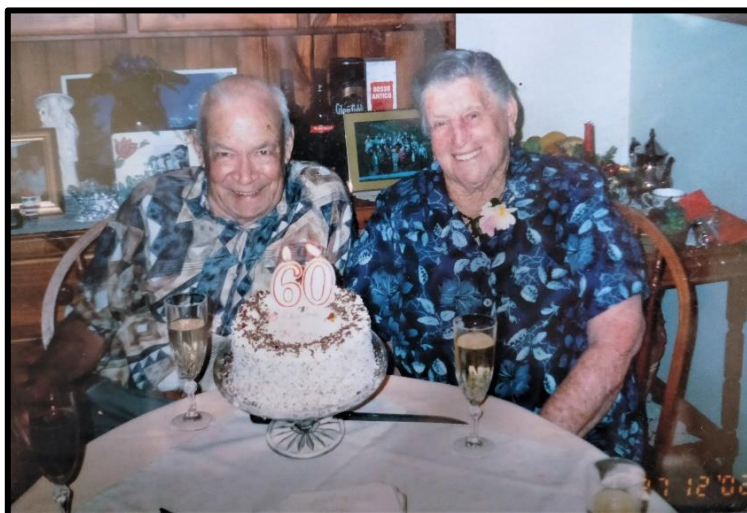
Ray worked all his life, before and after his service in the war, at National Paper industries.

Marriage



Whilst Ray was on war leave, Olive and Ray married on the 26th December 1942 at the Holy Trinity Church, North Terrace Adelaide.

Olive's dress was made by her sister-in-law.



Olive and Ray celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in December 2002.

Ray passed on 18th August 2010.

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Children and grandchildren

Olive and Ray had their first child, a son, Alan on 2nd February, 1946.

'When it was time for him to come back, [from war] my son was about a week away from being born so he only just got home in time. He came home one Saturday, and that Saturday night I was in the hospital.'

Alan Pepper, is now a retired school teacher. He taught at Marion High and a Catholic school.

Brian James Pepper was born 7th May 1948 now a retired an Air Traffic controller who worked at Darwin, Alice Springs and Adelaide

Debra Sue was born 5th October 1958, now a retired physiotherapist.

' But she's my manager at the moment. [laughing] She looks after me.'

Olive gratefully acknowledges the role her children play in her life now and she sees them often.

Olive has six grandchildren (two grandsons are doctors) and three great grandchildren, and now another great grandchild on the way.



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Home in Lane Street, Richmond

Around the area was a lot of market gardens with bamboo growing around them which they had to chop out.

'When we started to build. That house next door to us was the only house here. The house the other side was being built. Then we had the block of land that we bought before Ray went in the war and I used to pay so much a fortnight or week or whatever it was on the block of land. Well then we built as soon as he come home. But when we started it was a football match, a football ground there. And a cricket ground where they, used to have real matches there too.'

Ray and Olive built the house in Lane Street about six months after their first son Alan was born. Lane Street is the next street over (parallel) to Olive's family home in Bickford Street, where they lived when they were first married.



The home now is the same as when they built with the exception of removing a wall to change the kitchen /dining room into one big kitchen.

'You know how everybody had a dining room in those days. Well, we never ever used it, so I said 'Let's whip that out and make it the one big kitchen.'

Olive mentioned that the houses were all built differently.

'Different builders and different ideas, and some had big ideas and some had smaller ideas. [They would] only build a couple of rooms and then build a couple on later on. '

They also had vegetables and fruit trees and chickens for eggs.



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Treasures of her Mum's

Olive still has her mums dressing set proudly on display in her room.



Friendships

Olive made many friends through school, sport and from the holidays at the shack and kept in touch with them all her life, having girl's days out for lunch. She still keeps in touch with a couple of her cousins.

'Wednesday this week I'm going out with the girl that used to live next door and the girl that used to live next door again. They grew up with my kids, but we go out once a month so we keep in touch.'

She now meets people at the groups she attends at the Monday meal at Long Street Community Centre at Plympton and the Camden Community Centre group. Olive met up with Jean Searle who worked in the Post Office on Marion Road.

'down at Camden there's about, say there'd be fifteen people go every week. Six of those used to go into my shop and they say 'You're not Olive Pepper from the shop?'

Olive also met Shirley Trout and had known her for about 3 years before discovering Shirley was a tailor and worked with Ray's father, Cyril at Ingersons Tailors.

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Theatre, Hilton pictures, West Beach Drive-in

Olive says that they could not afford the theatre but went to the local pictures at Hilton. She recalls that another regular attendee who would save Ray and Olive a seat, and often buy her a drink as he knew that they were coming straight from playing tennis.

'He used to save Ray and I a seat, 'cause he knew we'd come straight after tennis and we'd be puffed out, and that all the goods seats were gone....I had to sit next to him and then Ray could sit the other side of me.'

Olive also remembers taking her children to the drive in at West Beach all bundled up in blankets.

West Beach Airport, Travel

Olive wasn't initially happy, when the land around them was acquired for the airport.

'we used to always ride our bikes down to West Beach through this back road, but we couldn't go there anymore after they put the airport there. That stopped that. We must have [then] gone down the main road I suppose, but we had to ride our bikes. We couldn't go to the beach, you know, any other way.'

However, having planes overhead became a novelty.

'As soon as you'd hear a noise you'd run out to see it, you know. Where is now, I sit out on my little seat there for hours, some days, watching the planes come in. I love them.'

Olive and Ray did a lot of plane travel but when asked her favourite place-

'Home. [laughing] Getting back home. Most important thing was that when our plane landed, that was wonderful.'

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Changes in the West Torrens area, Buildings and Transport

'I remember a few horses on the road, but not really working horses... next door owned trotters and they were down the paddock here.'

Fred Melville lived next door to Olive and Ray.

He founded and owned a pipe and tube bender factory, F.A. Melville on the corner of Lane Street, at 164a Marion Road.

He kept his trotting horses in the paddocks on the western side of Marion Road.

[WTHS LH0676-01]



Olive talked about how there was an increase in building of houses and shopping centres and the introduction of trams and buses.

Olive can remember the area being all paddocks, and lots of bushes around between Lane and Bickford Streets. She recalls being frightened having to walk through the area to go to the trams or bus stop on Hilton Road. [Where the council building is now on the corner of Brooker and Sir Donald Bradman Drive]

Olive remembers the first tram that left from the council to the 'Richmond corner'.

*Hilton Tram, Skinners Corner, 1921
(LH0066-02)*



'We all followed it on our bikes. It was oh, it was wonderful to see this tram going down. I remember it used to come around the corner of Henley Beach Road onto Brooker Terrace...And they used to have to go out and turn the switch or something or the ring on something or other. And course often the boys would get off before them and go and turn it, and so when they went and turned it, it was it was turned the wrong way...That was naughty but it was fun. I don't know what they'd done. It was never done any harm or anything, there was no accident.'

Most of the time Olive would ride her bike. She would occasionally catch a bus and learnt to drive when her children were in their teens. Their car was a Holden.

Preserving Memories

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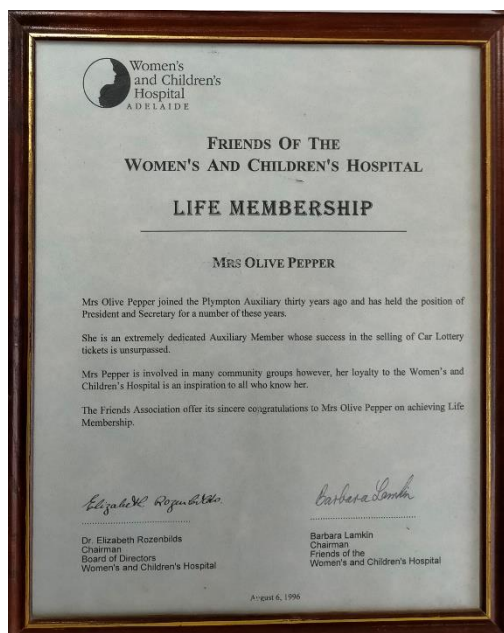
Community

Olive has a photograph from 2003 with the then mayor, Mr John Trainer, receiving a certificate for Citizen of the Year for 50 years fundraising for the Women's and Children's Hospital.



With 6-8 others, meeting each month, the Plympton Children's Hospital group organised concerts and sold raffle tickets, for prizes motor cars, at shopping centres. Olive was secretary and her friend the president for many years.

She received the honour of life member of the Friends of the Women's and Children's Hospital in 1996. She has a certificate to indicate that she was an '*extremely dedicated auxiliary member whose success in selling of car lottery tickets is unsurpassed*'. She says they raised thousands and thousands of dollars. From this, Olive has a proud connection with Lady Downer.



Preserving Memories

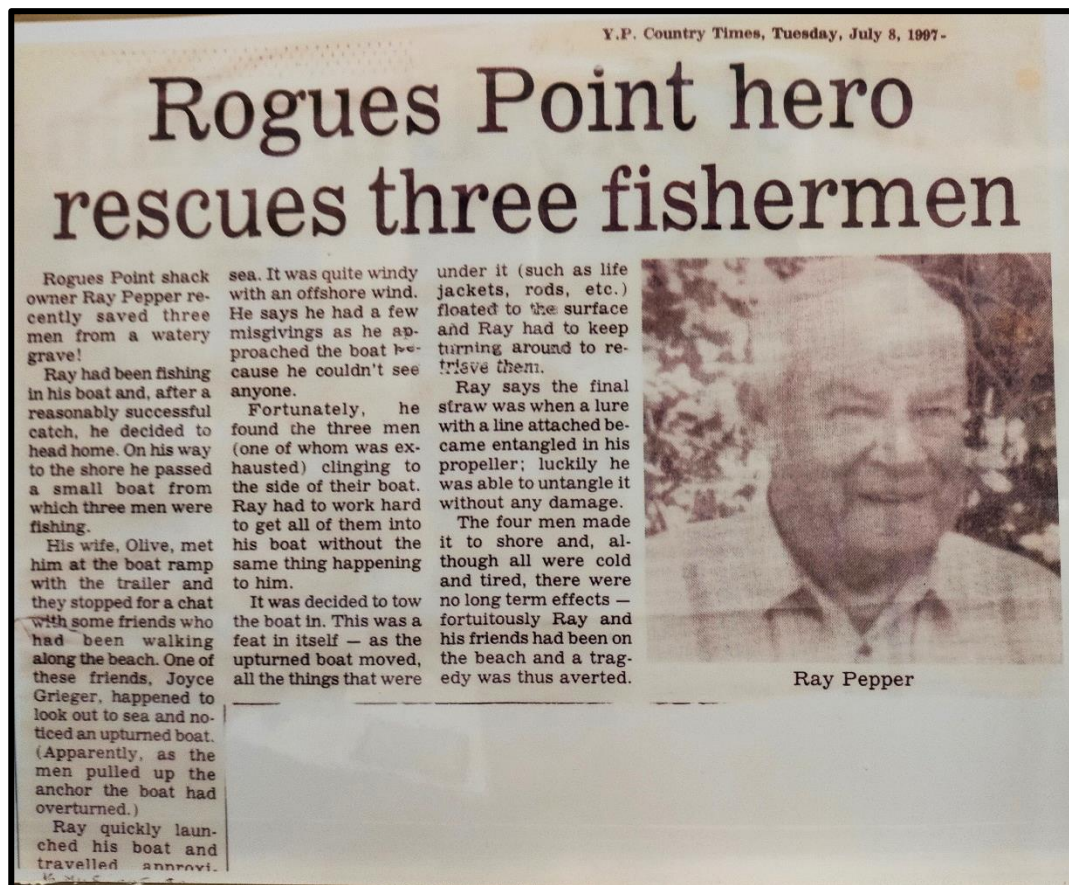
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Holidays at Rogues Point Shack

Olive and Ray bought a shack at Rogues Point on the Yorke Peninsula where many family holidays took place. The family still use it for holidays.

Ray had boats and enjoying going fishing. Olive has an article pinned to her cabinet from 1997 about a rescue Ray was involved in.

'He'd just bought the boat in. We were talking to some friends at the ramp and somebody said, 'There's somebody out there in trouble.' So he put the boat back in the water, went out and got them, bought them back. Otherwise- [they were] very lucky that he was there, actually.'



Preserving Memories

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Church

Olive attended the Richmond Methodist church, which was located on Marion Road at that time. It has since moved to Burbridge Road, now Sir Donald Bradman Drive, (before it was replaced by the Adelaide West Uniting Church).

She doesn't attend now even though they offered to collect her in the bus. She didn't want to put them out and said not to 'send a bus for me because there's a lot of old ladies on it' [laughing] The minister said, 'Olive, what do you think you are?' [He was a] lovely man, lovely. I was in hospital once for five months. I had a lot of things done inside my stomach and what not, and that minister and his wife came to visit me every weekend, for all that time, they were wonderful to me.'



West Richmond Methodist Church, Marion Road, 2002 (WTHS LH0290z-01)

Olive enjoys the Share-a-Table programme regularly at Plympton Community Centre and she is always positive and greets everyone with a smile. Her mind is sharp and she enjoys the brain teasers and chatting with her friends over lunch, she never complains (even when she has reason to do so) and her attitude to life is one that we can all only aspire to have always being grateful for each precious moment.

Debra Oliver **Community Development Officer - Active Ageing**

Date: 17th May, 2021

Location: Richmond SA