

Preserving Memories

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

CARLEEN THOMAS, Lockleys

"OUR PROPERTY FENCE WAS NEXT TO KIDMAN PARK STUD, I WANTED THIS HORSE SO DAD BOUGHT IT FOR ME. JUST ABOUT EVERY DAY I'D RIDE MY HORSE KIM UP HENLEY BEACH ROAD."

Carleen and Rosemary with boyfriend Robert Guerin (the Lockleys school headmasters' son), circa 1944



1938



2022

Carleen's family, the Collins', were market gardeners in the Lockleys/St James Park (Kidman Park) area.

She learned to drive a truck by the age of 10, experienced life during World War 2, and watched the West Torrens area and environment change and develop.

From Market Gardens to Orphanages in China, Carleen has shared stories of her life and given an insight into life in West Torrens, during and after the Second World War to her life now.

Preserving Memories

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

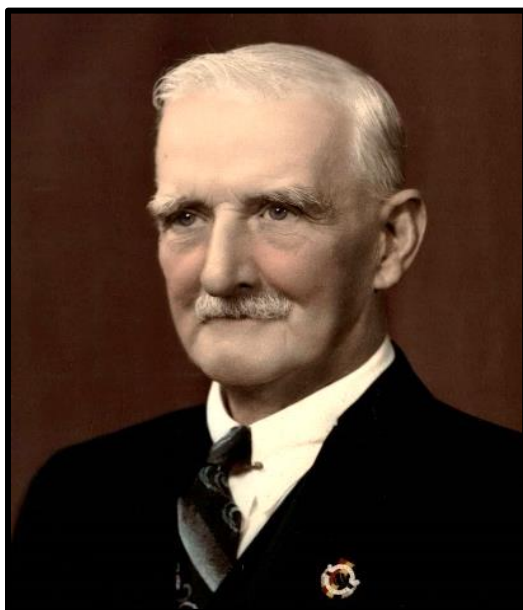
Collins family (Paternal side)



Carleen's grandfather Ernest John Collins was born at Cox's Creek on 13 August 1871.

He married Florence May Sutton on 29 May 1895 in Norton Summit.

Florence was born 29 December 1873 to Ralph Collins Sutton 1849-1927 and Ellen Barnett 1851-1938, who had married in 1870.



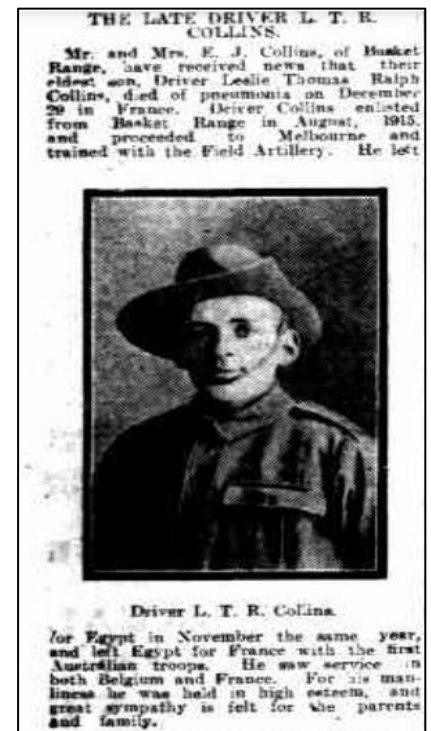
Ernest John Collins



Florence May Sutton

Children of Ernest and Florence Collins

- Leslie Thomas Ralph Collins (19 Mar 1896 - 29 Dec 1916)
died Somme France, World War 1
- Ernest William Collins (8 Feb 1898 - 1 Jan 1914)
died age 15
- Ethel Gladys Collins (7 Nov 1899 - 21 Feb 1984)
 1. married Methodist Church, Lockleys, 4 May 1921,
Laurence Stanley Palmer Phillips (10 Apr 1899 – 24 Mar 1949)
1939 lived in Kent Terrace, Lockleys
 2. married Mile End, 20 Dec 1952, Archibald Horace Melville
- Emma Elizabeth Collins (28 Apr 1901 - 29 January 1974)
married 17 Jan 1922, Frederick Louis Klar (1892-1960)
lived Seaton Park
- Florence Edith Collins (13 Oct 1902 - 2 Mar 1940)
married 18 Sep 1926, Lockleys, Reginald Mortimer (c1900 -1976)
- Alfred Stanley Collins (10 Jan 1904 - 3 Aug 1984)
married 15 Jan 1927, Lockleys Baptist, Roma Doreen Stephens
(21 Jan 1906 - 28 Aug 1968)
Son, Don Collins, West Torrens basketball player, 1951 & 52 Woollacott Medal
1943 lived Main Street, Lockleys
- Hurtle Sutton Collins (18 Mar 1906 - 7 Jul 1976)
married 20 Apr 1929, Lockleys Baptist, Edna Mavis Victoria Stanford ALCM (30 Aug 1906 - 23 Jan 1998) [of Edwin Stanford and Elizabeth (Ingham)]
brother Kenneth Edwin, Rosedale, 325 Henley Beach Road, Meldreth (Brooklyn) Park
Children – Ted, Ray, Ken and Peter
1943 lived 38 Malurus Avenue, Lockleys, with Edna Olive Collins
- Beatrice Ellen Collins (23 Sep 1907 – 14 Feb 1988)
married Lockleys, 14 March 1931, Norman Alwyn Probert (15 April 1909 – 17 November 1985)
Children, Alwyn, Trevor, Darryl and Rodney
lived Mount Gambier area
- Laurie Lavis Collins (14 Mar 1910 - 5 Oct 1977) married 18 March 1933, Adelaide
Clarissa Mavis Jean Cassidy (12 Mar 1913 - 7 Jun 1996)
Children – Carleen and Rosemary
- Roy Frederick Collins (30 May 1914 - 13 October 1987)
married 23 Jul 1938 Henley Beach, Jeanette Dorothy Tume, Henley Beach (1918 - 20 Oct 2005)
Children – Ian, Marilyn, Susanne
1939 lived 43 Tapley's Hill Road, Seaton Park
1943 lived 34 North Street Henley Beach



Advertiser, 26 January 1917, page 9

Preserving Memories

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

Some of the children married, stayed in the area, and continued to carry on market gardening businesses.

Their 7th child, Carleen's Uncle Hurtle married Edna Stanford.

The Stanford's were also a prominent gardening family of the Fulham and Lockleys area.

Mail 20 April 1929, p5

<h2 style="margin: 0;">WEDDINGS</h2> <hr style="width: 10%; margin: 5px auto;"/> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Collins—Stanford</h3>	
<p>The marriage of Mr. Hurtle Sutton Collins, fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Collins, of Lockleys, to Miss Edna Mavis Stanford, A.L.C.M., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stanford, of Rosedale, Henley Beach road, Meldrith Park, was celebrated at Lockleys Baptist Church. Rev. S. Bowering officiated. Mr. A. Powell presided at the organ.</p> <p>The church was decorated by the teachers of the Sunday School. The bride, who entered the church with her father, was preceded by Rex Harris, who carried a shell pink cushion. The bride was frocked in ivory georgette over shell pink satin, trimmed with handkerchief points, caught at the side with a diamante buckle. The veil, which formed a train, was of tulle and silver lace, arranged Russian style, and surmounted with sprays of orange blossom. She wore brocaded silver shoes and shell-pink stockings, and carried a sheaf of Easter lilies and pink dahlias. The first bridesmaid, Miss Dot Rose-warne, was dressed in pale green georgette. The second, Miss Scivia Wilson, was frocked in apricot. The third, Miss Flo Inkster, wore blue georgette. Each carried a posy of autumn tints.</p>	<p>Mr. Laurie Collins, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. Mr. Reg. Burnett and Mr. Kenneth Stanford (brother of the bride) were groomsmen.</p> <p>The gift of the bridegroom to the bride was a rhynestone necklet. The bride gave to the bridegroom a solid leather travelling case. The bridegroom's gifts to the bridesmaids were cut crystal neckties.</p> <p>During the signing of the register Miss Lucy Rowell sang "Because." As the bride and bridegroom were leaving the church Fay Stanford and Ray Harris hung lucky horseshoes on her arm.</p> <p>The mother of the bride wore a black crepe satin frock draped at the side, and caught with a diamante buckle. The mother of the bridegroom wore black satin with gold lace trimmings. Each carried a posy of autumn tints.</p> <p>The bride's travelling frock was of navy crepe satin, with a fawn velvet felt hat. The honeymoon was spent at Mount Gambier.</p> <p>The reception was held in the Lockleys Memorial Hall, and the usual toasts were honored. Vocal items were contributed by Mrs. M. and Flo. Inkster, Miss Edna Edwards, Mrs. C. H. Harris was master of ceremonies.</p> <p>Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stanford, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Collins, Mrs. Stanford (grandmother), and Mr. J. Ingham (grandfather of the bride), Mr. and Mrs. L. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. F. Klar, Mr. and Mrs. R. Mortimer, Mr. and Mrs. A. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. C. Stanford, Mr. and Mrs. H. Marsson, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Ingham, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. A. Day, Mr. and Mrs. E. Day, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. S. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stow, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Powell, Mrs. Cory.</p>

Edna Stanford's family home was 327 Henley Beach Road, Brooklyn Park, Carleen remembers it was a beautiful house. She also recalls that Hurtle and Edna lived in a large house at 38 Malurus Avenue, Lockleys.



Edna and Hurtle Collins



38 Malurus Avenue, 2005 [www.propertyvalue.com.au]

After Florence died 30 December 1939, Ernest went to live, three months at a time, with his sons and one of the daughters. Ernest died 30 June 1947.

Laurie Lavis Collins (Carleen's father)

Carleen's father **Laurie Lavis Collins** was born 14 March 1910 at Ashton. He was the 9th of Ernest and Florence Collins children.

After school, Laurie worked at the family market garden.



Preserving Memories

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

Cassidy family (Maternal side)

Clarissa's parents were Thomas Harold Drummond Cassidy (13 October 1890 – 2 December 1950) and Elizabeth Alice (Dolly) Kennaway (1892 – 29 August 1964).



Nanna Cassidy with a young Carleen at her home in Henley Beach

For many years the family lived at 8 Durham Street in Henley Beach.

Thomas was a Sideshow man where he ran a stand on the Esplanade at Henley Beach until 1950 when he died suddenly. Dolly went to live with Laurie and Cliss at Fulham Gardens in 1962. She died in 1964.



The Mail, 2 December 1950, page 56



Henley Beach foreshore 1935, [SLSA B26207]



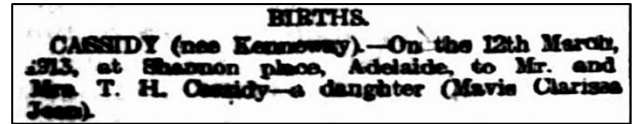
Henley Beach foreshore, 1924 [SLSA B2369]

Preserving Memories

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

Clarissa Mavis Jean Cassidy (Carleen's mother)

Clarissa Mavis Jean Cassidy (known as Cliss) was born 12 March 1913 in Adelaide. Cliss was an only child.



Daily Herald, 4 April 1913 page 4 (name incorrect)

Carleen recalls that Cliss was initially working at a tobacconist which was in Adelaide across the road from the central market. Charles Tunney & Sons was at 36 Grote Street from 1910 to 2004.



Cliss (left) was working for a time as a Nurse Assistant at the Julia Farr Centre.

Carleen, Dolly Cassidy and Cliss, 1933



Preserving Memories

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

Parents' Marriage

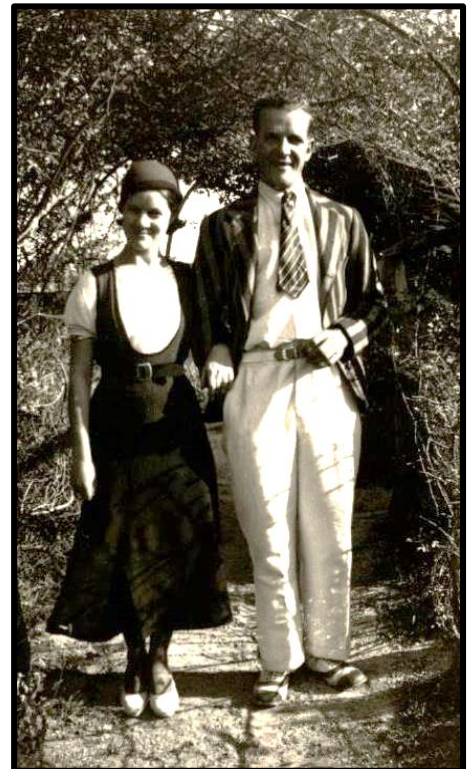


Laurie Collins and Cliss Cassidy were married at St Paul's Church, Pultney Street, Adelaide on 18 March 1933.

Collins—Cassidy

The marriage was celebrated in St. Paul's Church, Pultney street, of Clarissa Jean, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Cassidy, of Durham street, Henley Beach, to Lawrie L., third son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Collins, of Henley Beach. Canon Bleeby officiated. The bride was gowned in white crepe satin, Empire style, with a honitan lace veil held in place by a wreath of orange blossom. The bridesmaids, Misses Daisy Tams, Cath Cassidy, and Ann Clark, were each dressed in pink organdie frocks, with pink picture hat to match. Mrs. Cassidy, mother of the bride, was in a black and white marocain ensemble, and wore a black velvet toque and eye veil. The bride's travelling dress was brown chiffon velvet. She wore a string of amber beads, a gift from the bridegroom.

Advertiser 24 March 1933 page14



Cliss and Laurie on their honeymoon, Victor Harbor, 1933

Preserving Memories

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



Cliss on left, with Laurie's brother Alf and his wife Roma, and friends Dudley and Zella Rosewarne, 1940s

Taken on the river at Victor Harbor. The Rosewarne's lived in Brooklyn Park on Lewis Street.)

Preserving Memories

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

Children

Carleen Ruth was born 8 December 1933 at the Memorial Hospital. *I was supposed to be the boy of the family to carry on the family name, but it didn't happen.*

COLLINS (nee C. Cassidy).—On the 8th December, at Memorial Hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Collins, of Henley Beach—a daughter (premature) (Carleen Ruth). Special thanks to Dr. G. Hone and nursing staff. No visitors for seven days.

Chronicle, 14 December 1933, page 39

Rosemary Jean was born 31 May 1944 at the Henley Private Hospital.

COLLINS (nee Cassidy).—On May 31, at Henley Private Hospital, to Cliss and Laurie—a daughter (Rosemary). Thanking Dr. Moody and hospital staff.



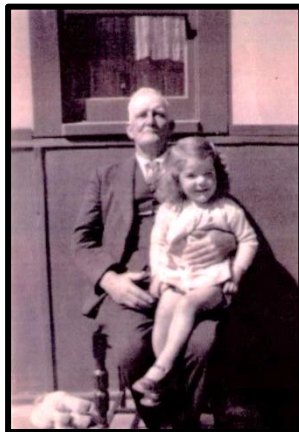
Cliss with Rosemary at Henley Beach, circa 1944



Carleen, baby sister Rosemary and Laurie, circa 1945



Rosemary Circa 1945, with Grandpa Ernest



Rosemary Circa 1947

Prior to becoming a journalist with Messenger newspapers, followed by six years as Personal Assistant to the Managing Director of Kinhill in Adelaide, then ten years in Melbourne as Personal Assistant to the Penguin Books CEO, Rosemary was a teacher at the Seaton Park Infant School.

Preserving Memories

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

Rosemary and her husband John, who she married in 1964, now live in Brisbane.



Jennifer Were (John's sister), John Gething, Carleen (matron of honour), Rodney Elliott (best man), John, Rosemary and flower girl Kathy (Carleen's daughter), 1964



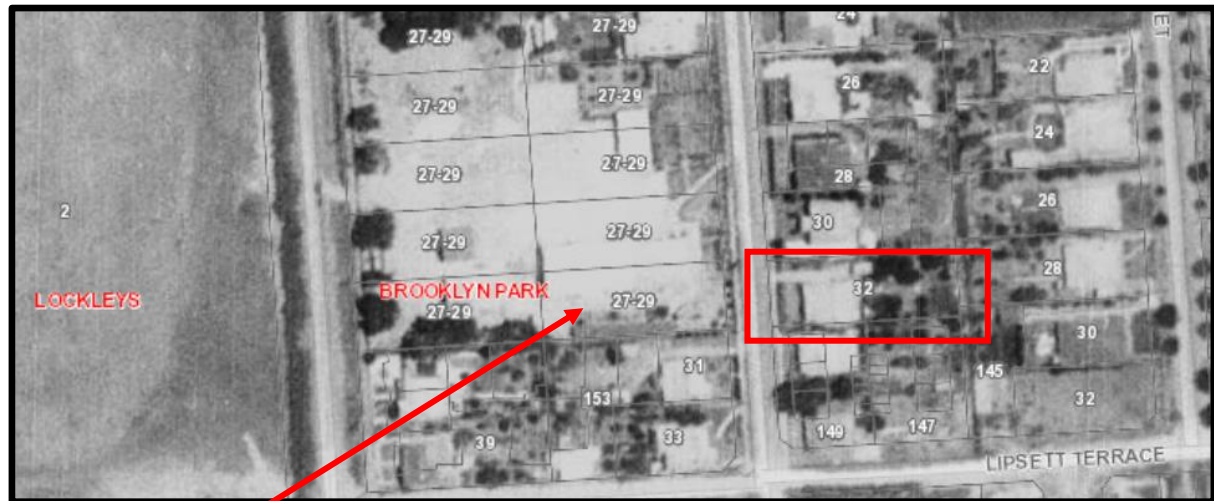
Carleen, John and Rosemary enjoying an outing to Eat Street in Brisbane 2018

Preserving Memories

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

Homes

The family initially lived at 32 Elston Street, Lockleys (now Brooklyn Park).



Lockleys School

West Maps Public 1949

Around 1940 they moved to an old house, on an 8-acre property, across the river in Frogmore Road in St James Park, (changed to Kidman Park in the 1950s). The property became Laurie's family market garden.

War Service

Laurie enlisted in Hindmarsh for WW2 service on 23 December 1941 in the Army Citizen Military Forces. His records show he was a Lance Corporal (Service Number S67573) with the 1st (SA) Battalion VDC (Volunteer Defence Corps).

He was discharged 30 November 1945. During this time, he conducted the duties of a Bicycle Warden in the Lockleys area.

Following the outbreak of the Pacific War, the Government expanded the VDC in February 1942. Membership was open to men aged between 18 and 60, including those working in reserved occupations. As a result, the VDC reached a peak strength of almost 100,000 in units across Australia.

Preserving Memories

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

Sport

Laurie and his brothers Alf and Roy played lawn bowls at the Grange Bowling Club. Carleen recalls that they both went on to be State Champions. Alf's son, Don, was also a champion bowler and was inducted into the Bowling SA Hall of Fame in 2012. Cliss was a member of the Lockleys Bowling Club.

Bowls family after another milestone

By Skipper

In bowls the Collins family has won just about everything. Tomorrow (Sunday) at the Payneham Bowling Club Laurie Collins will try to win a State title that so far has eluded the family—the State pairs championship.

With Ron Culley as his partner and representing the Grange club, Collins will meet Thebarton pair Phil Edwards and Jim Smyth in the final of the State pairs. The match will start at 2 p.m.

The Collins brothers, Alf, 96; Hurtle, 64; Lawrie, 99; and Roy, 56, and Alf's son, Don, have been in the forefront of SA bowls for years.

Alf, Lawrie, and Roy play for Grange, Hurtle for Lockleys, and—Don, formerly of Grange, plays for Salisbury.

Between them they have won four State titles. Don and Roy have each won the State singles and State fours titles.

Don has been runner-



LAWRIE COLLINS... brushing up for tomorrow.

Sunday Mail 2 January 1971

GRANGE PAIR WIN STATE BOWLS TITLE

For the second year in succession Grange Bowling Club last weekend took honours in the State bowls pairs championship.

In the final, played last Sunday at Payneham, before a crowd of more than 500 people, Ron Culley and Laurie Collins (Grange)

defeated Phil Edwards and Jim Smyth (Thebarton) 22-19.

In a real crowd-pleaser Edwards and Smyth got

away to an early lead and led 9-0 before the Grange pair scored for the first time on the seventh end.

From then on Culley and Collins made a remarkable recovery and eventually led 16-11 after the 13th end.

In an exciting climax the two pairs were even 19-19 on the 18th and final end an extra end had to be played.

TENSE 19TH

In the tense 19th end neither leader came within six feet of the kitty.

Smyth then drew to within a yard and Collins drew two close bowls.

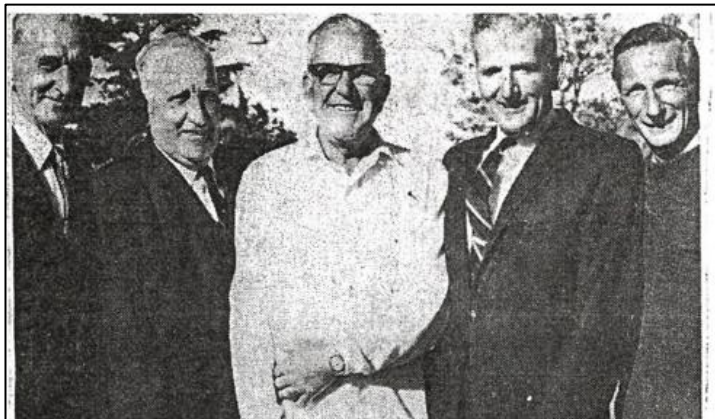
Smyth's last bowl left the head undisturbed and enabled Culley and Collins to finish three up without Collins having to put down his last bowl.

Sunday's match was the end to a successful week for Culley and Collins as they also won the triples tournament together with Ted Reeves, at their home club Grange on New Year's Day, for the third year in succession.



Placed with their success are (left) Ron Culley and Laurie Collins who they beat to win the State bowls pairs championship at Payneham last Sunday.

Westside Messenger 6 January 1972



THE COLLINS family has almost a monopoly on bowls titles — pictured (from left) are brothers Alf, Hurtle, Laurie and Roy and Alf's son Don.

Ninth classic for Collins family

The win of Ron Culley and Laurie Collins in the State pairs final on Sunday represented the ninth success in a bowls classic for the Collins family.

In the long list of Collins bowls wins the major successes have been —

- Two State singles championships.
- Two State fours championships.
- One State pairs championship.
- Two Adelaide masters' singles championships.
- Gold medal in the triples of the first world bowls series.
- Silver medal in the fours.

Roy won the State singles in 1948 and was runner-up in 1956, and the State fours in 1960 and 1963 (once as skipper and once as No. 3 for Don).

He has twice been Grange champion, and was runner-up in the Australian pairs with the late Jim Tomlinson in 1947.

Don won the State singles in 1968, and was runner-up for the third time the following year.

He won the Adelaide masters' singles in 1966 and 1967, and was runner-up in the State fours in 1968, after transferring from Grange to Salisbury.

He has won the Salisbury singles title three times, and the pairs twice.

As a leader in the victorious Australian side in the first world series in Sydney in 1968 Don won a gold medal in the triples and a silver medal in the fours.

Alf, who with Roy represented the State for more than 10 years, has won the Grange pairs championship for the past two years with Bryce Shipway and with Don once reached the semi-finals of the State pairs.

Laurie, who has not yet played for the State, has won the Grange pairs, and with Culley, and Ted Reeves as leader, has won the Grange New Year's Day open triples for the past three years.

Hurtle, who was at one time a social member of Grange, is a skipper with Lockleys. In the club's second side—II Red.

There was a time when all four teams in the Grange Division 1 side had skippers named Collins: Alf, Laurie, Roy and Don.

BOWLS



ARCH GROSVENOR

The family's contribution to bowls is not only as players.

Roy has been green-keeper at Lockleys for three years, and Don took over the same role with Salisbury last year.

Advertiser 5 January 1971

Eagles' history-maker dies, 82

The Advertiser 1/7/10



DUAL Eagles Woollacott Medallist Don Collins (left) died on Saturday, aged 82.

The first player to win multiple medals, Collins took SA basketball's highest individual honour in 1951 and again in 1952 playing for Torrens, which has evolved into today's Forestville club.

That started an Eagles' trend with its only subsequent locally-born medal-

ists Mark Lampshire (1979-80) and Jason Dix (2001-02) also repeat winners. The Eagles will wear black arm bands in Saturday's round.

Also a star lawn bowler Collins was selected for the first world bowls in 1964 where he won a gold medal in the fours and a silver in singles. He is a member of Grange Bowling Club's "Team of the Century".

Advertiser 1 July 2010

Personalities of the Month

THE COLLINS FAMILY

The Grange pennant card for the day told the unique story of one of South Australia's great bowling families.

Skipper for each of the four pennant teams was Collins ... brothers Alf, Lawrie and Roy and Alf's son Don.

The pennant day was one for the record books. So is the Collins family.

The bowling brothers, the three mentioned above and Hurtle, and second generation Don are among the great names in the sport in this state.

ALF

Alf, now 76 and recuperating after an operation to his voice box, is the senior member of the 'clan'.

A top pennant player for Grange for many years he was still active in the season just gone bye.

He played successfully in Second Division for his club on Saturdays and was a top division player mid-week.

Major individual honors have eluded Alf throughout his bowling life but he is renowned as a team bowler.

With son Don he won the Grange Pairs and has figured highly in events at club and interstate level.

Alf represented SA extensively for a lengthy period.

He is a good thinker of the game and is keenly sought for tuition by the ladies of the Grange club.

ROY

Brother, Roy, ten years his junior, was a marvellous exponent of the game until his decision to take up a greenkeeping job at Lockleys brought his bowls to an untimely end.

"It just wasn't possible to mix the two," said Roy, "so I gave away playing. I'm pretty wrapped up in fishing nowadays, but, you never know, I might go back to bowls one of these days. It's a fine game."

Roy started bowls at Grange just after the Second World War and played there for some 20 years before his retirement to take over the greens duties at Lockleys.

He kept the Lockleys greens for 12 years until his retirement last year.

Roy was a handsomely skilled bowler.

He won a state singles title in the mid-50's and was runner-up two years later.

With nephew Don, he twice won the State Fours. Roy skippered on one winning occasion, with Don his No. 3. The roles were reversed in the other success.

Twice a club singles champion at Grange and also a holder of the championship pairs crown, Roy played several times for South Australia.

The lack of regular interstate competition and Roy's unavailability to travel for bowls on occasions curtailed his appearances.

The highlight of his bowling career came at Middle Park, Melbourne when he was runner-up for the Australian Pairs titles with the great Jimmy Tomlinson.

HURTL-LAWRIE

Unfortunately two of the famous Collins brothers passed away within 15 months of each other a few years back.

Lawrie, who would have been 70 and Hurtle, four years his elder, were both popular, energetic bowlers. Lawrie played at Grange and Hurtle was a Lockleys member.

Hurtle played consistently in Division Two pennants.

Lawrie was a top ranking Division One pennant player. He was a popular, happy go lucky bowler and winner of many club and open events.

His main bowling achievement was winning the state pairs with Ron Culley.

DON

Second generation Collins, Don, is a former world champion.

He was leader in the triumphant Australian triples team in the world championships in Sydney in 1966.

Don was also a silver medallist as leader in the Australian fours combination.

Australia won the W.M. Leonard Trophy that year.

Don started his bowling career having a roll-up with his dad.

After experiencing night bowls, he joined the Grange club and played there for 17 years before transferring to Salisbury.

He has been at Salisbury for 13 years, the last 11 as greenkeeper.

Don was the first Salisbury bowler to appear in a state final.

He won the 1968 title at Parkside, beating Darkie Sanders 32-8.

Don has been runner-up for the crown on four occasions.

He is also a dual state fours champion and twice victor in the Adelaide Master Singles.

The bowling evergreen never won a singles titles at Grange, the pairs win with his dad being his only championship success.

Six times he has been Salisbury singles king. He has also won the

pairs on seven occasions with Andy Byrnes.

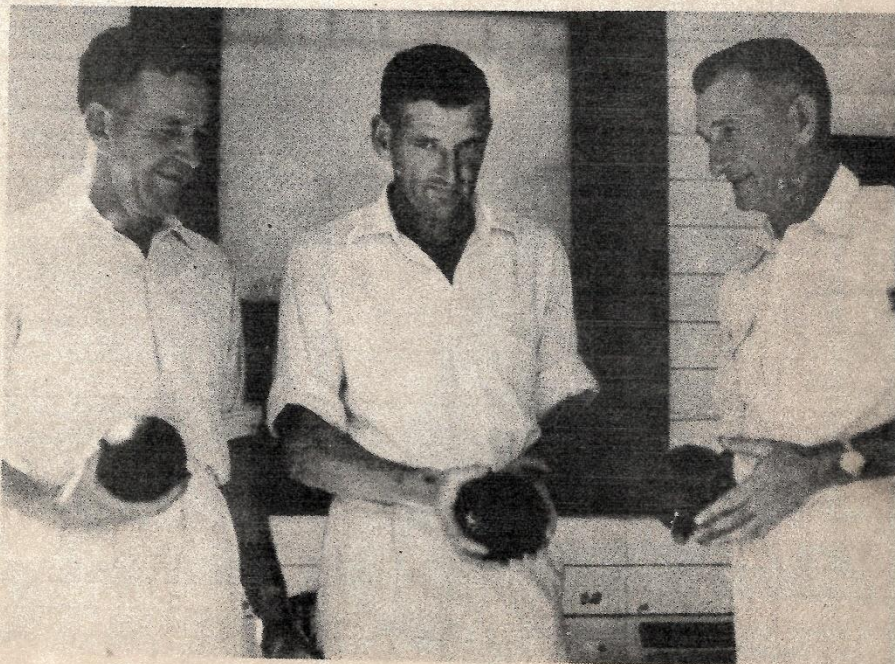
A regular top grade pennant player with Salisbury Don represented SA several times in a 16-year interstate career.

He admits life is hectic playing bowls and keeping greens but at 52 he looks to have a glowing future ahead of him.

The famous Collins name will be to the fore for many years yet.



• Don Collins, now the Salisbury greenkeeper and a top pennant player.



• Three of the Collins brothers at Grange (from left): Lawrie, Roy and Alf.

Lawrie SA BOWLER, MAY, 1980 — 5

Preserving Memories

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

Occupations

After selling the market garden in 1966, Laurie went to work for the SA Waterworks as a handyman. His office was at Mile End alongside the railway line by the bridge.

Dad looked after all the equipment, so everything that he had, he painted blue. My kids have inherited some blue rakes, blue spades and everything else with a blue handle because dad wouldn't let anyone pinch his stuff.

Cliss's Occupations

Carleen remembers that Cliss always worked. Among many other jobs she had, she worked at Tom the Grocer, on Burbridge Road at West Beach.

She was a manager. She knew what she was doing, don't you worry about that!

Retirement

Laurie retired from the SA Waterworks in the 1960s.

He and Cliss sold the garden property, and the land became a residential housing area.

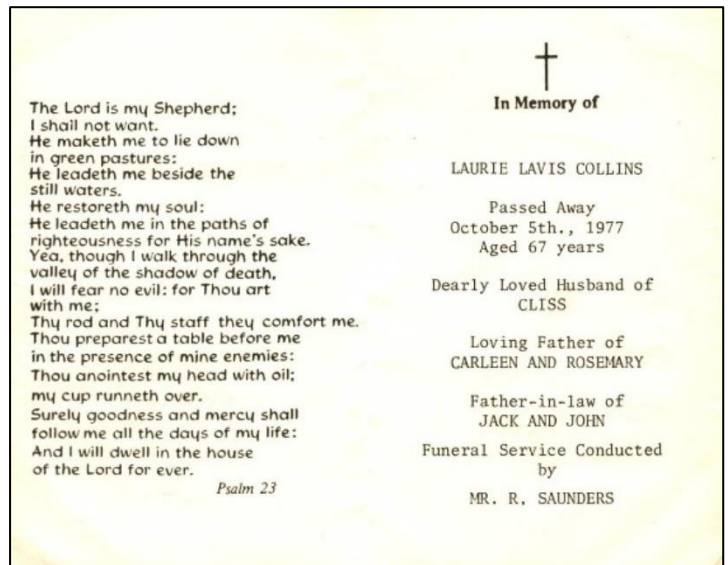
They bought and lived at 15 Oliver Avenue, Fulham Gardens for a few years and then bought the former manager's apartment at Whitehall Apartments in West Beach where Rosemary had been a part-time receptionist.



18 Seaview Road, West Beach, Streetview 2009

Preserving Memories

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



Carleen, Cliss and Rosemary, 1995

Laurie died 5 October 1977 and Clarissa died almost 20 years later on 7 June 1996.

Preserving Memories

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

Market Gardens along the Torrens

The Collins family have a long history in the market garden industry in the fertile soils around the Torrens River.

The old Collins family property, (owned by Laurie's parents Ernest and Florence), was a market garden on Valetta Road, St. James Park, in the area between the Frogmore and Findon Roads and the River Torrens. When the property was sold in the 1960s, the area was known as Kidman Park. The land continued to be used as market gardens before the Kidman Park High School (currently used by the Office for Sport and Recreation) was built.

Carleen recalls that her grandparents and their children *lived in there for quite a few years. It was a really old building, and I can remember going down into an outside cellar where my Nana used to store her jams and stuff.*

To run the garden Carleen remembers *my uncles all used to meet together in a big shed, and they allotted jobs to each other.*



WestMaps Public 1949

Hurtle, was known as a water diviner. Carleen can remember him getting a stick that he would split at the top, wander the property until he found water and then a bore was sunk in that location.

She says there were a lot of bores on the property. She recalls that when the River Torrens dried out, they always had access to water.

Preserving Memories

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



Workers at the Collins market garden, Circa 1950s

The market gardeners predominantly grew cauliflowers, onions, tomatoes, beans and celery. Carleen remembers that Cliss pulled and bunched the onions.

Some of the Adelaide growers would pack their celery crops in crates to send to the Melbourne markets. Carleen remembers that Laurie once packed and sent some but by the time it got to Melbourne on the train, it was discovered it had carried a hidden rust disease. This was a huge disappointment as this was the only time this happened to his usually perfect celery.

Dad also had an orange orchard at the back of the market garden. He had a machine that used to sort the fruit into sizes. It was state of the art for the time. There was also a big loquat tree.

Rosemary with Laurie showing the giant stick of celery he grew, 1959



Preserving Memories

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

The Collins market gardening brothers, Hurtle, Alf, Laurie and Roy together with Alf's son Don, established glasshouses on Valetta Road.



Weekly Times 6 May 1981

The City of Charles Sturt purchased the land for a Reserve.

It was named Collins Reserve, acknowledging the families and was opened in May 1951.



Alf and Roy at the opening

Preserving Memories

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

East End markets

In the school holidays Carleen would go with her dad once a week to the East End market. It was an early four o'clock in the morning start heading to the city in the loaded truck.

Carleen remembers that all the sellers and buyers would meet in a circle and once the bell had been rung the sellers would approach the buyers and as produce was sold it was marked off their lists. *Then you would go back and sit in your truck. When the bell went again, the buyers would come with their steel wheel trolleys and collect their goods and give dad the money.*

The highlight for Carleen was going to breakfast, in a cafe off Rundle Street. Years later, young Rosemary also looked forward to the same morning outing to the market with their dad. She shared this in her response to a 'Do you remember?' column in the Advertiser in 1997.

Through the silent suburbs to the bustling market

TO bed with excitement, toss and turn, finally asleep. Soon Dad's whispering voice waking us. Time to go. Two small boys wash excitedly. We are going to market. Out into the intimidating dark shadows and the cold of the night, a world never experienced before. In the truck, cuddle for warmth and comfort.

Such an adventure into the unknown. Dad's face shows this is nothing new. Just necessary to provide.

Arrive at the market. Suddenly the silent night is broken by fierce activity. Trucks, men, greetings, other noises piercing the air. Through the majestic archway into this formerly unknown world of the night. Up a ramp into the roof.

On to the handtruck for the ride of our life. Noise, greetings, insults, bartering, inspecting, clinching the deal. Load the handcart and on to the next. Needy people fossicking for spoils. Load the truck. Hot breakfast in the cafe with the "men".

Daylight broken, city slowly coming alive as we depart. Home to the shop and unload.

Rare and precious time with our Dad who had no holidays or days off. This precious man died aged 57 in 1972. Thanks East End. I'll never forget.

PETER J. ROBERTS,
Port Pirie.

REGARDING the photo of the entrance to the old East End Fruit and Vegetable Market with the words "The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof" around the top of the archway ("Do you remember?... The Advertiser, 4/10/97).

It has always been believed in our family that that quotation from scripture was put there at the instigation of my grandfather, Thomas Henry Brooker, who was the first secretary of the Market Board, and Mr W. Charlack was the chairman.

It is an unusual thing to be at the



The East End Market archway.

entrance to a commercial environment, albeit a fitting one and one which sat easily with the beliefs of my grandfather who was a dedicated Christian.

I can clearly remember Grandpa coming home from the market with the biggest red apple from a Lenswood orchardist, or a handful of choicest asparagus, or a handful of lush ripe cherries. He loved and appreciated all the many things produced from the earth.

I was not yet 10 years old when he died in 1927 but I was very proud to be among those present when a bronze plaque on the outside wall of his office was unveiled in his memory. Now that only a facade of the market remains, that plaque, I think, is held in the Mortlock Library. His memory has also been honored by a group of the new housing on the old site being named the Brooker Apartments.

BARBARA BROOKER FITZGERALD,
Everard Park.

MY memories of the East End Market go back to the end of the horse-and-trolley era to the time of the motor truck. I recall driving in from Klemzig where

our family worked 15-20 acres and we marketed up to 150 dozen cauliflowers a week, plus potatoes, lettuce and other lines. We would drive our trolley through the silent suburbs, passing the hawkers' vans and shopkeepers' trucks on the East End parking area, and enter the brightly lit market and its long rows of produce.

The Hills men with their apples and bunch lines, the European men with their tomatoes and then there was the occasional flower-seller. The Plains growers with cauliflowers and celery, plus growers from many other districts with various lines of produce and just one or two Chinese men with their spinach and parsley.

The growers tried to fill their order books, the buyers checked their orders but no one started to unload until the bell sounded at 7am, when hand-trucks started moving everywhere.

With the load sold, it was time to go to breakfast - a steak at Ruby Jones's restaurant, then home to prepare for the next market day.

LANCE WEBSTER,
Aldgate.

SITTING at the kitchen table drinking steaming hot tea from our saucers (there wasn't enough time to allow it to cool in the cups) before setting off with Dad to the East End Market in the dark hours of the early morning is one of my fondest childhood memories.

I recall the market being a dimly lit, bustling, happy, noisy place as buyers moved from truck to truck selecting their produce from the growers. Dad was so proud of his top quality caulis, cabbages, onions, potatoes, beans, celery, tomatoes and lettuces, and I can never remember him going home to our Kidman Park property with anything left on the truck.

I felt so important on the couple of occasions I was allowed to accompany

Dad to the market - I didn't even mind being left in the truck for what seemed ages while he nipped over to the pub, across the road from the market, for a drink before we returned home!

Our market garden in Frogmore Rd was sold 35 years ago as housing estates sprang up and Dad has been dead for about 20 years now, but his memory lives on - Laurie St, Kidman Park, which runs through our old property, was named in his honor.

Our family is proud that Collins Reserve in Kidman Park also commemorates my Dad and his three brothers Hurtle, Alf and Roy, who also owned market gardens nearby after being raised on the family market garden roughly where the Kidman Park High School now stands in Valetta Rd.

ROSEMARY WERE,
Lota, Qld.

MY first memory of the East End Market goes back to 1927, when my father was using a Ford T to take fruit from his orchard in Coromandel Valley; my last in 1988, was going myself in an international truck with fruit from the same orchard, in the last week the market operated.

I have many memories from the times when most produce came by horse-drawn vehicles and was handled by hundreds of truckers with handcarts. There were many characters, "Roaring Harry" who was often drunk, "Old Black Joe" as we called him, an Indian hawker, who lived in the old market, Mr Copeland who ran the truck alley and the "Nit Keeper" who was so kind to my mother, who was sick when she was helping my father run their retail stall, in the Old Market on the north side of Rundle St, one Saturday afternoon.

ROGER MAGAREY,
Coromandel Valley.

The Advertiser October 11 1997

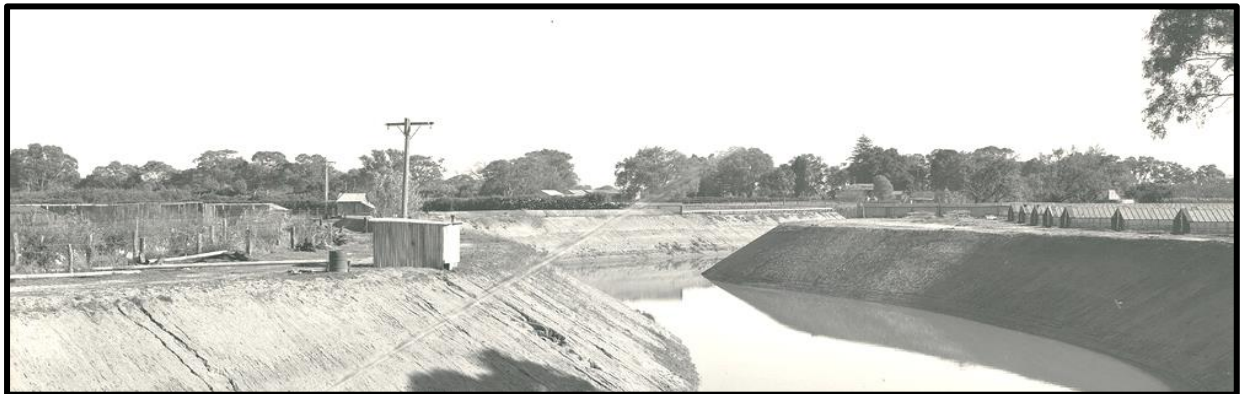
Preserving Memories

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

Glasshouses

Many of the market gardeners adjacent to the Torrens River had glasshouses.

Dad had glasshouses and sometimes when we had storms, the glass was knocked out. This destroyed the vegetables and was devastating and heartbreaking. In those days, we didn't have an insurance, but Dad never gave up. He repaired the damage, rebuilt and replanted again.



SLSA B11681 – Torrens River and pumphouse, Looking west from Torrens Avenue Bridge, 1939

Our property fence was next to Kidman Park Stud, I wanted this horse, so dad bought it for me. Just about every day I'd ride my horse Kim up Henley Beach Road.

Now, three streets down from where the Frogmore Road/Torrens Avenue bridge, is Laurie Street, named after my dad, because that was our market garden.

The Dyson family lived in the small building to the south of the Collins home and the Canino's lived opposite. Carleen recalls the Esposito's and Griguol's were nearby too. [Many streets in the area were allocated names of the previous market gardeners, Canino Drive, Corso Avenue, Hank Street.]



<Kidman Park Stud

glasshouses

^family home

[WestMaps Public 1949]

^ location of current Laurie Street, Kidman Park

^Torrens Avenue Bridge

Preserving Memories

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

In the 1940s services like milk deliveries and rubbish collection were still by horse and cart.



Brooklyn Park Dairy milk float, 1960 (WTHS LH0526-03)

My Grandpa Cassidy in Henley Beach made a special cart, and we'd wait for the baker's horse and cart and he and Nana would shovel up all the poop for the garden.

Jack and I inherited the cart! Our kids would go out in the street, in Lucas Street, Richmond with the cart and go round and round our block. The man across the road from us in Lucas Street, Mr Demichelis, used to get very, very annoyed with the kids because they'd make too much noise with the iron wheels of the cart. He would tell them off and so they'd stop but get some saucepans and spoons and they marched around and banged them. The Thomas kids!

Other Market Gardeners

Carleen remembers the Sedgewicks having a market garden in Lockleys, near Rowells Road. The Hockley's market garden was on Valetta Road.

Robert Hockley was my first boyfriend ever. We were in school at Lockleys. On a Saturday afternoon we would go to the Lockleys Theatre, sit down the front and hold hands.

Preserving Memories

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

Carleen's Younger Years

Cliss often took Carleen to the Mayfair Studios for an annual photograph. Carleen remembers her photos were put on display in the front windows of their Rundle Street shop. The dresses she wore were handmade including the intricate smocking features.



Large Crowd At Henley Grooms New Year

A large crowd attended the New Year's Eve celebrations at Henley last night. A treasure hunt for children was held at 6.30 p.m., and was followed by a balloon bursting competition and fancy dress and bathing beauty parades for children under 14. From 9.30 p.m. yesterday until 1 a.m. today the Hindmarsh Municipal Band played selections.

The Mayor (Mr. E. W. Mitton) entertained the band, members of the Henley and Grange Council and their wives, and citizens at supper in the Henley Kiosk.

The Mayoress (Mrs. E. W. Mitton) and a former Mayoress (Mrs. Walter Barrey) awarded prizes, which were presented by the Mayor, to the following:—

Bathing beauties—Under 8, June Babbidge, Carleen Collins; under 10, Judith Martindale, Patty Tower; under 12, Shirley Hewett, Marjorie Petman. Best head of long hair, Lola Ruff, Joyce Shuttleworth. Best head of short hair, Marjorie Petman, Carleen Collins. Fancy costumes (humorous), Mary Williams, Beryl Bartrop. Original costumes, Ruth Downey, Mavis Goodwin. Fancy costumes, Betty Francis, Ian Alexander. Humorous (under 14), Walter Kelly, Mavis Duffield. Original, Mavis Hogg, Winnie Bullock. Fancy, Norma Scott, Ralph Scott.

Advertiser, 1 January 1937

Students' Dance Recital

A variety programme of 43 items was presented by pupils of Miss Gwen Mackey in a dance recital at The Australia, Angas street, last night. Performers were:—Valmai Jones, Audrey Wilson, Lynette McGregor, Carleen Collins, Brenda Dawson, Joy Williams, Margaret Rosewarne, Keith Axford, Heather Williams, Mary Paech, Valma Donny, Shirley Jarret, Barbara Murley, Shirley Egan, Merle Williams, Val Wohling, Vivian Thompson, Irene and Gwen Mackey, Pat Newman, Bill Rowe, Pamela Wood, Thelma Beck, Shirley Egan, Valmai Murley, Eileen Monterola, Maureen Donnelan, Lesley Hall, Lorraine Sykes, Edna and Lorna Furler, Joyce McNeil, Ray Charlton, Betty Wilson, Una Taylor, Glen Williams, Alan Cook, Bern Penny, Harold Benton, Loris Parker, Norma Robinson, Constance Rowney, Pat and Bob Heffron, and Peg Edwards.

A classical ballet by the juniors, an operatic ballet by the seniors, and physical exercises by the senior girls were also given.

Advertiser 7 December 1938, page 9

Preserving Memories

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



Carleen at the Adelaide Koala farm (which was behind the Zoo). Children were taken around on this cart pulled by a tractor for their birthday. Circa 1950



Cliss, Laurie and Carleen at the Showman's Ball, held at the Osmond Hall in Gouger Street Adelaide, Circa 1946



Cliss with Carleen at her debut, aged 15

Preserving Memories

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

Lockleys School

Initially the family lived across the road from the Lockleys School in Elston Street. Carleen attended this school though to Grade Six (even after they moved to Kidman Park).

We'd all be in our classroom before the day started. Then we'd all line up and we'd march out onto the quadrangle, and we'd salute the flag. And we'd have to recite a verse to salute the flag. 'I am an Australian. I love my country. I salute her flag. I honour her Queen. I promise to obey her laws.'



Lockleys Primary School 1938, Carleen (circled) bottom row 3rd from left; Dot Rowney 2nd from left

Carleen and Dot Rowney, now Smith, (above) were best friends at school. Life has come full circle and Dot and her husband Keith now live directly opposite Carleen in the retirement village. A true demonstration of a life-long friendship.

Carleen remembers that the school held special days, like a gymkhana day with a parade.

The children would decorate bikes and prams and with flowers and streamers, and you'd get a prize if you got the best one. I won a prize, but I can't remember what it was. There was a game where we could make money, we had a card and you pricked a square, and when you filled the card up, you get a reward like a three-pence.

Preserving Memories

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



Lockleys Primary School 1939, Carleen circled

31-1-39	Hank, Mary Janice	25-10-33	Hank, Norman John	Market Gardener	Torrens Avenue Lockleys	CrfE	1	Nil
31-1-39	Rushworth, Gwenda Lorraine	16-8-33	Rushworth, Frederick Earl Percy	Clerk	May Terrace Lockleys	Meth	1	Nil
31-1-39	Fry, Myrtle Irene	1-10-33	Fry, Frederick Charles	Labourer	Sandy Lane Lockleys	Meth	1	Nil
31-1-39	Collins, Carleen Ruth	8-12-33	Collins, Laurie Lavis	Market Gardener	Elston Street Lockleys	Meth	1	Nil
31-1-39	Rosewarne, Betty Doreen	1-2-33	Rosewarne, Maurice	Gardener	17 Howard Street Underdale	Meth	2	Nil
31-1-39	Frisby-Smith, Valerie	2-12-33	Frisby-Smith, Gordon	Gardener	Tapleys Hill Road Fulham	Bapt	2	Nil
31-1-39	Todd, Elaine Nancy	1-8-33	Todd, Harold James	Lucerne Grower	River Road St. James Park	CrfE	2	Nil
31-1-39	Baron, Peter Frederick	31-10-33	Baron, Frederick Charles	Carpenter	Henley Beach Road Meldreth Park	Meth	2	Nil
31-1-39	Hockley, Trevor Gene	3-6-32	Hockley, James French Henry	Gardener	Valetta Road St. James Park	Bapt	2	Nil
31-1-39	West, Reginald Arthur	2-5-33	West, Richard Reginald	Gardener	Valetta Road St. James Park	Meth	2	Nil
31-1-39	Ballantyne, Rae Kyle	7-1-33	Ballantyne, James	Gardener	River Road St. James Park	CrfE	2	Nil
31-1-39	Mc Dowall, Bruce Ian	29-9-33	Mc Dowall, Samuel	Steward	Kooyonga May Terrace Lockleys	CrfE	1	Nil

Carleen can still remember some of the teachers.

Mr Bown was a grade seven teacher. There was one teacher, Miss McAskill, who taught my dad Laurie and also taught me and then Rosemary. When Dad went to school, he went to the Lockleys School when it was on Tapley's Hill Road, then the school on May Terrace.

Mr Guerin was the school headmaster whose house was adjoined to the school on Elston Street. His son Robert was my boyfriend.

Preserving Memories

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

When we had to have injections, as a class they'd walk us up from the Lockleys School to where the West Torrens council chambers are, and we'd have an injection, poliomyelitis and all those we needed to have.

Carleen remembers exactly where the air raid shelters on May Terrace behind the school.



^May Terrace

^Shelters

^Main school building

^Elston Street

[WestMaps Public 1949]

^Collins home

If it was really bad, we'd have to go out into the Oval, and you'd listen and there'd be certain bells that they'd ring that we knew. Then they'd always give us an exercise.

Before that big building was built at the back, we used to play hopscotch out there and the boys used to play this game and jump around on one leg and bump into each other. I can't remember what it was called.

We also played things like knuckle bones or marbles. I used to play basketball, (this is now known as netball), I loved that. Netball games were played as School competitions during the week, there wasn't weekend sport.

Around 1940, when Carleen was about six, the family moved to Frogmore Road (Kidman Park) on the other side of the Torrens River. Carleen would ride her bike from Frogmore Road and put her bike on the racks behind the school.

In grade 5 the girls would go to Thebarton Technical School for Domestic Arts. Carleen recalls that it was in a building facing Henley Beach Road and this is where they would learn how to cook.

Preserving Memories

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

MLC - Methodist Ladies College

From Year 7 onwards Carleen attended the Methodist Ladies College (MLC) at Wayville.

I wanted to go to Thebby tech.

Carleen would 'donkey' her sister on her bike down Torrens Avenue to the local garage, which was by the shops by Elston Street. Rosemary would go to the Lockleys School and Carleen would leave her bike against the wall there and take the drop centre tram which went along Henley Beach Road to King William Street in the city. She would then take another tram to get from the city to the college.

In January 1947, some of the classrooms at MLC were burnt in a fire.

The first year that I went there, that classroom burned down, so they had to rebuild it. While it was being rebuilt classes were held in the hall.



*Methodist Ladies College, Circa 1930
[SLSA B68008]*

Carleen remembers that when she was getting all her uniform for college, from Charles Birks in the city using coupons.

Rundle Street, Adelaide [SLSA B 14310]

Driving

Growing up on the market garden also meant learning to drive a truck from an early age.

By the time Carleen was 16 she could get her licence and drive her dad's Pontiac.



Preserving Memories

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

Holidays

Laurie annually participated in a bowls carnival at Victor Harbor staying initially with another family and when Carleen was older, at the Victor or Grosvenor Hotel or Carleen was allowed to take her friend Dot with her for company. *We'd go and hunt for boys oh, I had a few boyfriends down there.*

Her dad's sister, Beatrice (Beat) lived in Mount Gambier. Her husband Norm Probert owned a sawmill. Carleen and her friend would travel on the train staying with them for a couple of weeks and her cousin Alwyn would show them around.



Beatrice Probert

War Years

Laurie was exempt from enlisting to serve during World War 2 as his occupation was a primary producer. He did become a warden which meant that he'd ride on a bike up and down the streets and make sure that all the curtains were pulled across so there wouldn't be any light showing. *That was his job, and he felt as if he was part of the war effort.* [Those who aided the home guard were certainly recognised as important members of the service.]

Laurie and Cliss were an instrumental part in running the Lockleys Fighting Forces Comfort Fund dances held at the Lockleys Soldiers Memorial Hall, near Mellor Park. *It was once a month and if any of the servicemen were on holidays, they'd come, and we had a band and they'd come, and they would dance with the ladies.*

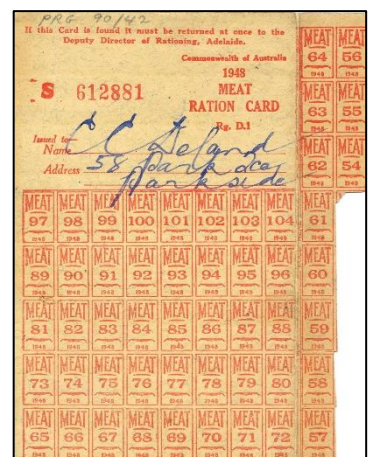


Advertiser 1 September 1941, page 9

When the peace announcement was made, Carleen and her friend Dot (Dorothy Margaret Rowney who also lived in Elston Street, and now lives in the same group of units as Carleen), went into Rundle Street to join the celebrations. *We were teenagers, but of course, we were having a ball because we were kissing all the army people, the returned soldiers.*

Carleen remembers that the homes had to have heavy curtains, and people would save the ration coupons to enable them to buy food and clothing.

You just got on with each day as it came. That's what it was all about.



[SLSA PRG 90/42/1]

Preserving Memories

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

Kooyonga Golf Course

Carleen remembers on the western side of May Terrace (Morphett Road at the time), just across the road from the Methodist church, part of the Golf Course land was used as a military camp after the war ended. She recalls that the Americans stayed there on the Complex.

[WTHS LH0164]



Preserving Memories

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

Memories of Lockleys

Carleen can clearly remember the Lockleys area and recalled some of the shops and businesses near her childhood home.



West Maps Public, 1949

Shops on Henley Beach Road (Elston Street to Gertrude Street)

425 Henley Beach Road, Mibus Store

The Mibus family came to the Lockleys area in 1926. The store was also a drapery and sold hardware, wood, and grains in bags. They had the first Savings Bank Agency in Lockleys. Mr Mibus delivered using a horse and dray. Opposite was a sand hill and tomato houses. One of Carleen's friends worked for them.



421 - 425 Henley Beach Road, circa 1960

421 Henley Beach Road, Mr Jolly, Butcher

Carleen remembers that her mum saved up the ration coupon to buy a rabbit on the weekend to roast. She remembers that Mr Jolly, had a daughter and son at Lockleys School too.

Preserving Memories

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

417 Henley Beach Road, Stationery Shop

Carleen recalls this being run as a stationery shop. In the 1950s this was recorded as R. Rosewall, a men's hairdresser.

413 Henley Beach Road, Post Office

Miss Coulter, a single lady was the post mistress and she lived at the back of the post office in Elston Street. Carleen remembers that Miss Coulter would babysit her, and there was an empty block behind the post office and that they would walk across this to get to her house.

LOCKLEYS:

Henley Beach Road – South Side from Gertrude Street

O.V. Kelf – mixed business

C.J. Ellard – boot repairer.

Miss P.M. Coulter – post office.

R. Rosewall – mens hairdresser

A.R. Jolly – butcher.

B.C. Mibus – storekeeper.

- Elston Street

P. Greene – hardware store

R.F. Gwynne – chemist

E.A. Donnelly – mixed business

Miss Gowanlock – fancy goods.

Gwen Ashton – hairdresser.

Midway Service Station – F. Voysey

There was a lane and there was a shoe repair shop, (you used to have all your shoes repaired in those days) then there were about three or four houses and then there was a greengrocer named Ossie Kelf. Ossie would ride his horse to the store, he was one of my dad's best friends.

Also in the area was a hairdresser named Gwen Ashton. I started an apprenticeship there but hated it!

Drop Centre Tram

Carleen remembers the electric drop-centre tram turned around at Lockleys near May Terrace, opposite the golf links and then go back to the city.

They had to take the electric hook around and put it on the front, then they went towards the city again on the other line.



Drop Centre Tram [SLSA B-69717]

Carleen remembers visiting her Nanna, (Dolly Cassidy) at Durham Street Henley Beach. Because of the River Torrens flooding the tram crossed over the swampy marshland of the Reedbeds at Henley Beach South on a viaduct. This was made mainly of timber and went from what is now Burnley Street through to Military Road. The flooding issues were removed with the diversion of the River Torrens to Breakout Creek.

Preserving Memories

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



*The tram viaduct across the swampy area of the Reedbeds followed what is now part of HMAS Australia Road.
[WestMaps public 1949]*

After the tram left the viaduct Carleen remembers it went past the back of Mr Fry's butcher shop. It went over the sand hill and then turned north to go to what was called Henley Extension.

Torrens Avenue Bridge

When I was little, you could drive across from Torrens Avenue to Frogmore Road over the wooden bridge. My dad used to take me to work at his family's market garden on the northern side of the river. I can remember, I was on the front of his bike sitting on the bar being donkeyed and they were building the bridge. We had to go along one plank to get to the other side. That bridge was demolished many years later and it is now only a footbridge.

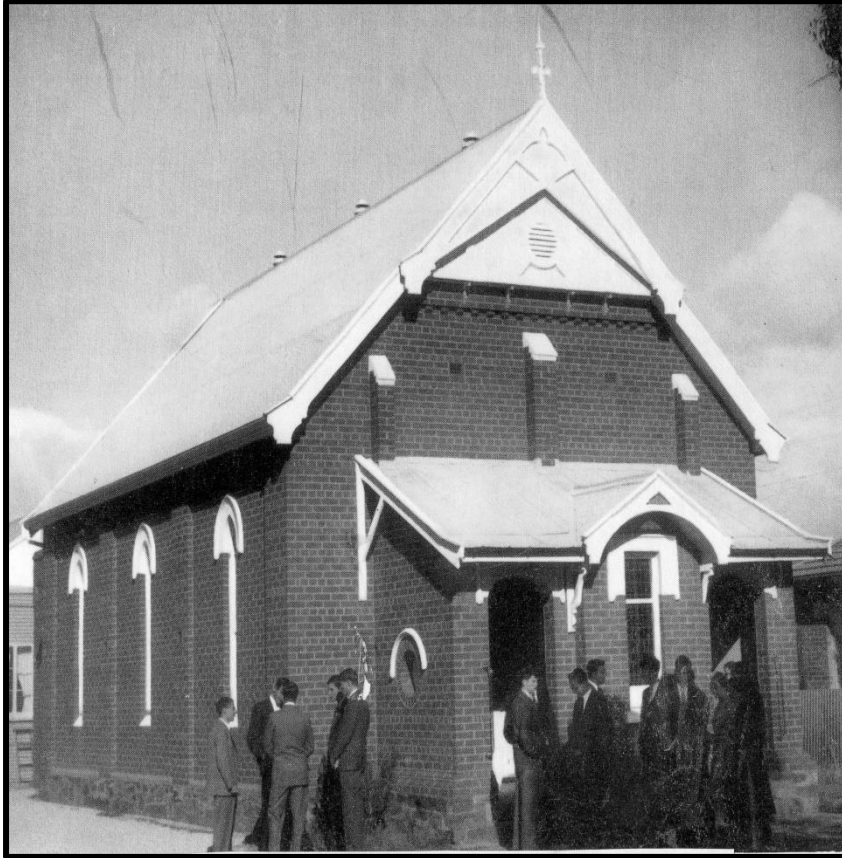


Wooden bridge, Lockleys (LH0561-01)

Preserving Memories

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

Methodist Church, May Terrace



Brooklyn Park Methodist Church, May Terrace [WTHS LH0585-21]

From Kindergarten to Methodist Girls Comrades, Carleen went to the Methodist Church, on May Terrace. The Brooklyn Park Methodist Girls Comrades was formed in 1945, to provide devotional, intellectual, physical and social, religious based programs.

The old church is a red brick building and at the back was an iron shed, we raised money to brick that in. We had to raise money at one stage so we could get a plaque up the back of the hall building, it's now owned by the Trees for Life. If the building is still at the back, you'll see little plaques with their names on them.

Church picnic, camps and anniversaries

We used to go on a Sunday School picnic and dad used to come with his lorry and put planks across. And we used to sit on the back of the truck on the planks and he'd take us to Hazelwood Park or somewhere like that. And then we'd have fun at our Sunday school picnic.

We did church camps to Loftier Park in the Adelaide Hills. In those days you didn't have a sleeping bag, you would take your own bed linen and sleep in dormitories. We would do things like short sheet the other kids' beds.

Whereas Catholic and Anglicans mostly commemorate their saints on the dates of their death or other significant events in their lives, Methodists tended to celebrate anniversaries in a different way, remembering when a chapel was opened or when the Sunday School started.

We all dressed in white on Sunday School anniversary day, and we lined up and had to march up on the tiered platform. Each class would practice and present a different song and the younger you were, the higher you had to sit.

Preserving Memories

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

Wireless and Television

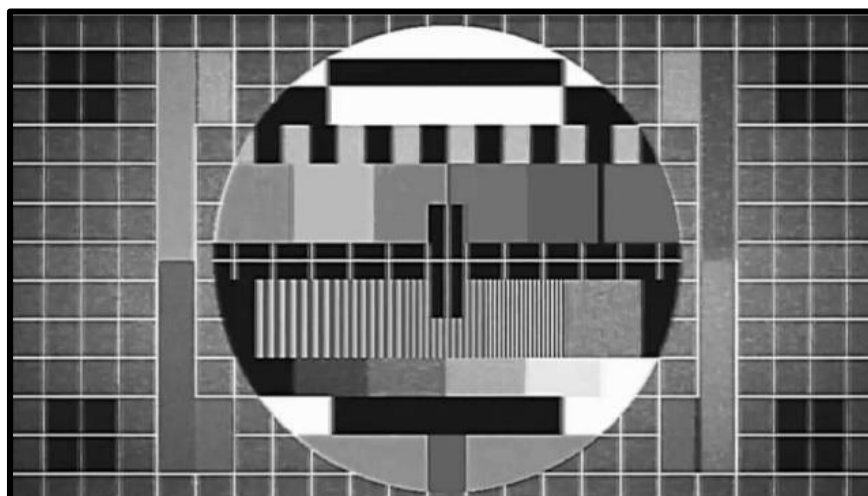
Carleen's family would listen to serials like Martin's Corner on the wireless radio set. Martin's Corner ran from 1939 through to 1951.



[adelaidere memberwhen.com.au]



In 1958, after Carleen was married, her parents were one of the first to have a television set in their home. When Jack and Carleen lived in Lucas Street, they would go with their neighbours to her parents' house to watch the test patterns because their children had never watched television.



National Film and Sound Archive of Australia www.nfsa.gov.au/collection

Preserving Memories

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

The Pines, Marion Road

Currently run by Southern Cross Care, The Pines Lodge is part of an aged care facility.

Built in 1882, “The Pines” was a beautiful home consisting of a large drawing room, library, dining room, four bedrooms, kitchen and kitchenette as well as the maids’ quarters – two bedrooms and another bathroom. The family’s bathroom had beautified brass fittings. There was a cellar down two flights of stairs – there was another room downstairs as well. A spiral staircase led to two rooms upstairs. The home was furnished with beautiful antique furniture.

In 1941 the property was sold to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. The aim of the Sisters was *to provide shelter for under privileged girls and women, to offer protection and care for those entrusted to them, and to develop as fully as possible the human and spiritual potential of the individual in order that she might eventually live a normal, healthy life within the Society.*

To Carleen this place was known as ‘the naughty girl’s home’. This was where young girls went if they were unmarried and pregnant, and the nuns would look after them.



Convent of the Good Shepherd 1950s [State Records of South Australia GRG29/136 - Picture 305]

Adelaide Airport

Prior to the Adelaide Airport being built in the late 1940s, the area was swamps and sand hills. Carleen remembers *we would ride our bikes up and down the sand hills.*



Adelaide Airport, early earthworks removing sand hills, Advertiser 18 March 1948

In the 1960s Jack and their boys’ highlight of the week would be to go to the West Beach Road, (before it became Richmond Road), end of the airport and watch the three planes take off. On a Sunday afternoon Jack would donkey one of the boys and the other two would be on their own bikes.

Preserving Memories

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

Mellor Park

When Carleen was young the Christmas tradition of placing lights on the large pine tree in the park and holding carol singing began.

We'd watch the tree every year to make sure that it's going to be alright to put the Christmas lights on.

One year it started to die from the top down and every year there'd be another bough that was dead.

Everyone gathered together, it wasn't just one denomination, they'd take a blanket to sit on, no chairs.



Lockleys Christmas tree, Mellor Park (WTHS LH0501-02)

Lockleys Show Society

Once a year the Lockleys Show would be held at Mellor Park (1948-1953).

Carleen remembers camel rides, and stalls for homemade cakes, crafts and flowers.

It was great excitement to look forward to. You could go on a horse ride.

[The West Torrens Historical Society has copies of most of the publications made for the Society on their website.]

**LOCKLEYS SHOW SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW**
in aid of
LOCAL WORTHY CAUSES
To be Held at
LOCKLEYS SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HALL
and
LOCKLEYS RESERVE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 1951

1. ENTRIES FREE.
2. Exhibits to become the property of the Show Society, and to be sold later, unless otherwise specified.
3. Exhibits must be at the Marquee by 10.30 on the day of show. Late entries not accepted.
4. Three entries, or no second prize.
5. Certificates of Merit to be awarded for any entry deemed worthy by the Judge.

DR. R. G. BURNARD, President.
W. A. SATTERLEY, Hon. Secretary.
R. P. SEDGWICK, Asst. Hon. Sec.
W. E. HARRIS, Hon. Treasurer.

**1—HOMECRAFT
COOKING**

		Prizes
(a) Sausage Rolls (6)	2/6	1/6
(b) Jam Tart (6)	2/6	1/6
(c) Pasties (3)	2/6	1/6
(d) Cream Puffs (6)	2/6	1/6

westtorrenshistory.org/publications/lockleys-budget

Preserving Memories

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

Lockleys Memorial Hall Cellar

Carleen remembers that the Lockleys Memorial Hall had a cellar with the RSL War Memorabilia in it. *When we were in school, we used to go down into the cellar and wait for our turn to go up on the platform to sing our songs.* It had been forgotten about until it was found just prior to the building demolition in 2020.



October 2020 [WTHS (LH0460)]

Lockleys Cinema

Carleen would go to the cinema with her parents every Wednesday night to watch the next episode of a serial. *You had to be there early so that you didn't miss the next episode of the serial.*

Mothers' and Babies' Health Association Child Health Centre

Local Child Health Centres were established in the early 1900s for young mothers to take their infants for regular weighing, test feeds, advice and guidance on breast feeding, 'artificial' feeding, weaning, toilet training and sleeping, for immunisation against childhood diseases, and reassurance that their children were growing and developing 'normally' as measured by the reaching of certain milestones.

When my kids were little, a friend and I would walk down from Lucas Street every week with our prams and get our babies weighed. We had a seat that we used to put on the old cane pram and make an outing for the day by walking along Henley Beach Road towards the city to the bridge and home again.



Hilton Baby Health Centre 1953 [WTHS LH0698-02]

She remembers watching the cars going by and believing that one day they'd have a car!

Preserving Memories

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

Milkman – Mr Milledge

There used to be a milky called Mr Milledge who used to deliver our milk with a horse and cart every morning and you'd have to put a pot out with the money underneath the pot.

The Milledge family owned and leased land in the vicinity of what is now the Kooyonga Golf Course. Additional land they leased was compulsorily acquired for building the Adelaide Airport.



Rosefield Dairy



William (Bill) Milledge with Grey boy [WTHS (LH0197)]

Other Deliveries

Every day a postman on a bicycle would bring the mail from the local post office and a rolled-up newspaper would be thrown into the front yard.

Draper

Mr Dyke and his sisters had a drapery store on Rowland Road, which became Burbridge Road and now called Sir Donald Bradman Drive.



E Dyke & Son, 135 Burbridge Road, Hilton [WTHS (LH0346-02)]

Cliss and Carleen sewed their own clothes and knitted and crocheted. Carleen remembers it was very personalised, if you wanted something special, they would get it in.

Can you save me some blue wool, or can you save me some type of material? They would look out for it when they got it in, they'd save it for you for next time you went in.

Preserving Memories

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

First Car / West Beach Drive in

Carleen recalls that the first car she and Jack owned was a Studebaker, as they needed a big car for five children. Since she had been driving trucks, she was fine driving a big Studebaker. *It was good to be able to go and pick up the kids wherever they had to go because they were all involved in sport.*



Stock image – Studebaker Car Club

For our entertainment, we used to go down to the Blueline West Beach Drive in.

She remembers that there weren't many service stations around, but they were a 'full service' service station. *The server would come and fill up the petrol and you wouldn't have to get out of the car. While it was filling, they would clean the windscreen.*

Lockleys Nurseries – Smarts, Stanfords and Lasscocks

Smart's and Stanford's nurseries were on Gertrude Street, which was the next street to the east of Elston Street. Many of the children would attend school and play together. Carleen and Dougie Smart were in the same class at school.

Carleen also remembers the large Lasscock's nursery on Henley Beach Road.



Smarts Nursery, Lockleys, 1979 [WTHS (LH0156-02)]

DO YOU WANT GOOD HEALTH?
We can Supply Nature's Remedies
FRUITS — NUTS — RAISINS
Oranges, Lemons, Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Quinces, Nectarines,
Figs, Almonds, Grapes, Apples, Pe:rs, Loquats
Make your home surroundings brighter with
OUR GLORIOUS ROSES, SHRUBS,
HEDGE PLANTS, ORNAMENTALS
150,000 Plants to choose from
LASSCOCK'S
HENLEY BEACH ROAD, LOCKLEYS
Phone: L 4149

Preserving Memories

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

Jack Thomas

At the age of seventeen, Carleen met Jack Thomas at a basketball match at the OBI. (The OBI - Our Boys Institute building at 221 Wakefield Street, Adelaide opened in 1936).

My cousin Don played basketball for West Torrens, and I'd go to the match. One day I sat next to Jack, we ended up talking, he held my hand and then that started our romance.

Jack's parents Cyril Edward Lincoln (Linc) Thomas (11 August 1906 – 1 September 1983) and Emily Rose Langridge (2 May 1910 – 20 July 1997) were married Norwood 9 June 1928.

Malcolm Jack (known as Jack) Thomas was born 21 December 1928. He started schooling in 1934 at Norwood Infant School, and then went to Norwood Central School. The family lived in Norwood and moved in 1940 to a house they had built at 41 Jenkins Street in Cowandilla. Jack then went to the nearby Cowandilla School.



41 Jenkins Street, Cowandilla, Street View, 2009

Known as C. E. L. Thomas, Jack's father was State President of the Tramways Employees Association (union) in the early 1950s and fought for pay and condition improvements for Tramways Staff.

WEDDING.

THOMAS—LANGRIDGE.

The marriage of Emily Rose, third daughter of the late Mr. W. E. Langridge and Mrs. Langridge, to Cyril Lincoln, third son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, of Kent Town, was celebrated at the Baptist Church, Norwood Parade, on Saturday evening, June 9. The Rev. A. Gowans officiated. The church was decorated with white flowers, asparagus fern, and bridal creeper by the sisters and girl friends of the bride. The "Wedding March" and other appropriate music was played by the organist (Mr. Chamberlain).

The bride, who was given away by her brother-in-law (Mr. T. Holden) wore a frock of white crepe de chine with panels of radium lace. A train of silver tulle, lined with shell-pink silk, trimmed with orange blossom posies, silver horseshoes, and lovers' knots fell from the shoulders. The tulle veil was worn cap fashion, with head dress of silver brocade fastened with pearl and brilliant bandeau. A white shower bouquet was carried.

The three bridesmaids—Misses Francis Langridge, Nellie Lambie, and Lucy Wilden—wore frocks of powder blue, heliotrope, and shrimp-pink crepe de chine, trimmed alike with coffee lace and georgette sleeves. Their caps were of tulle, with brilliant bandeaus, and they carried posies of flowers and streamers to match the frocks. The trainbearers, Phyllis Sloper (sister of bride), wore pale blue silk trimmed with lace, and Master Thomas Holden black velvet knickerbockers and white silk tunic. The flower girl—Mabel Eldridge—was in heliotrope silk, trimmed with lace. Mr. R. Houslow was best man, and Mr. Gordon Thomas groomsmen.

The bridegroom's gifts to the bridesmaids were silver-mounted honey jars and sets of silver spoons. To the flower girl and trainbearers gold bangles and cup and saucer. The reception was held at the residence of the bride's mother, 31 King street, Norwood. The tables were decorated with blue, pink, and heliotrope sweet peas and fern, arranged by Mrs. Eldridge (sister of the bride). The breakfast room, decorated with coloured streamers, was used for dancing and singing. Miss Violet Harry played accompaniments and dance music. The bride travelled in a smart tulle-repp tailored suit with felt hat to match.

Invited guests were Mrs. Brown (bride's grandmother), Mr. C. F. Langridge (grandfather), Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. L. Roseird, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. F. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. S. Gibbison, Mr. and Mrs. A. Wilden, Messrs J. Taylor, Fyfe, E. Eastwood, B. Sloper, B. Holden, W. Eldridge, S. Thomas, Misses D. Loader, W. Chapman, R. Housburgh, Alison Brimble, V. Barry, M. Tucker, J. Tidwell, J. Eastwood, B. Wilden, M. Eldridge, P. Sloper, Messrs E. Brown, B. Moyle, H. Osborne, G. Messner, Dick Townerow, J. Brown, R. Oliver, F. Brown, R. McArthur, R. Taylor, T. Holden, Jun., C. Woolford, M. Thomas, T. Langridge.

Register 13 June 1928 p15

Preserving Memories

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

In the 1950s Jack was an A grade basketball player playing for West Adelaide. *His team won a Jubilee medal playing at the Thebarton Town Hall. It was West Adelaide vs North Adelaide.*

Jack played at the Apollo Stadium, Kingston Avenue, Richmond. (This was demolished in 2002).



Apollo Stadium [WTHS LH0420z-08]

Jack also played tennis at the Kingston Tennis Club and later golf at the Riverside Golf Club, West Lakes.

West Adelaide Wins Men's Basketball
By P.R.B.

The Jubilee men's basketball final last night was won by West Adelaide by one point from North Adelaide.

Scores were equal at half-time, then see-sawed until the final bell.

North Adelaide was unlucky when McLucas, its tall forward, missed three times seconds before the bell.

Result:—West Adelaide 40 (Keith Miller 12, L. Bain 7, J. Miller, R. Hoban and R. Stewart each 5, J. Thomas 4, D. Bruning 2), d. North Adelaide 39 (M. Harris 19, N. MacLucas 11, J. McCarthy 3, R. Harris 3, Sanger-

Advertiser, 14 August 1951



Preserving Memories

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

Marriage

We used to go to the pictures at the Thebarton Picture Theatre. *They had double seats upstairs and we used to hold hands and all those kinds of things.*

Carleen was 18 when she and Jack were married 29 November 1952. Their wedding was held at the Pirie Street Methodist Church in Adelaide. This is the Church that the MLC school girls would attend for their celebrations.



Ron Noble, Ron Delderfield, Jack, Carleen, Dorothy Rowney (Dot), Connie Noble, Flower girl's Jack's sister Jill and Rosemary, Taken in the Lounge Room of the Frogmore Road home

COLLINS-THOMAS The marriage of Carleen Ruth, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Collins of Frogmore Road, St James Park, to Malcolm Jack, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. L. Thomas of Jenkins Street, Cowandilla, will be solemnised at Pirie Street Methodist Church on November 29 at 6.30pm

Advertiser, 25 November 1952, page 18



*Pirie Street Methodist Church, demolished 1972
[adelaiderememberwhen.com.au]*

Preserving Memories

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

Jack's Occupations

Jack earned his trade as a sheet metal worker. He worked for R.W. Fielders and Stratco.

Jack then went on to open his own business in their backyard, 5 Lucas Street at Richmond, making household tanks and gutter miters. *He had his own designs. They installed rooves and gutters and tanks. He was a good tradesman. He always left the site neat.*

Carleen remembers that she helped out by holding the “dolly” whilst Jack built the tank around her *then he'd have to roll it over because I didn't have enough strength to get out of it.*



Rainwater tank [h2orainwatertanks.com.au]

Later his boys would help him in the business, with Ian taking on the trade.

Carleen says Jack had the most beautiful singing voice with no training. He would sing when he was working in the shed. They would always ask him to sing when they went to cabarets. *He'd sing an Italian song and make up the words and they'd think that he could speak Italian.*

5 Lucas Street, Richmond

Jack and Carleen used subcontractors to build a home at 5 Lucas Street in Richmond. It was difficult as there were still material shortages after the war.

In the 1990s we sold the place at number 5 because it was on a very big block. These developers were building down the road at number 16, and they were building two homettes at the back of No. 16. They made a deal with us. If they bought our property, then we could have one of the units. They built 4 units on number 5.

Carleen recalls that when the house was demolished the materials (bricks and floorboards), anything that was any good to reuse, were offered to the Boy Scouts for using at the Jack Roberts Camp for Youth with Disabilities in the Adelaide Hills.

Of a nighttime you'd drive past, and they had bright lights set up. There were the kids and their parents, all pulling it apart brick by brick, and using all the wood from the floor. That to us was very heartwarming, that it didn't go to waste.

Preserving Memories

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

Children

Robert Jack, now known as Jack, (22 February 1954)

THOMAS.—On February 22, at Memorial Hospital, to Carleen and Jack—a son. Thanking all in attendance.



Carleen remembers that when Robert was born Adelaide had its biggest earthquake of 5.6 magnitude at 3.40am.

At the time they were living with Jack's parents in Cowandilla while waiting for their house to be built. *Jack was sleeping in the lounge room, with his pillow on the hearth of the fireplace, and he thought the dog was trying to get in the window.*

In the hospital, Carleen remembers being downstairs and seeing the cabinets rocking and the bottles of Agarol (makes you go to the toilet!) were falling over. *The nurses came in and said, grab your baby we've had an earthquake. We thought they were shifting the furniture upstairs.*

Like his father, Jack was a good basketballer and went on to coach a country kids' team that won a A-grade championship in Australia.

He became a police officer in South Australia, and whilst doing his training he lived at the Fort Largs Academy during the week for twelve months. *He had a haircut before he went in, but then they took them all out and had to have another haircut. Not short enough. When they moved into the big building, they had their own rooms, and a bloke would come in with his white gloves on and make sure they wasn't dust anywhere, and that the sheets were perfect. That was all discipline stuff.* He worked in Port Lincoln and Whyalla for a while and was on the police force basketball team.

Jack was offered a job in Victoria to coach the women's Victorian Basketball Association. He now lives in Bendigo.

Preserving Memories

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

Ian Laurie (1956)

Ian went to Urrbrae Agricultural High School and then took on a trade working with Alwin Fisher Pty Ltd at Mile End. He also for a time worked with the family business.

Ian learnt how to make leadlight art and has completed some major works including those in the ceiling of the Hilton RSL.

MAKING ART FROM PAIN

AFTER a disease in his arteries left him with one leg, 'sheer boredom' inspired Ian Thomas to become an artist. "I don't know where I would be without this to occupy my time," Mr Thomas said.

In 2007, Mr Thomas was diagnosed with a condition called polyarteritis nodosa, a blood vessel disease that damages and swells the arteries. The condition forced Mr Thomas to have 12 operations in three months to remove most of his left leg. "I was depressed and frustrated, I didn't know what to do with myself," he said. "I didn't expect something like this to happen overnight which it basically did."

Since the amputation, Mr Thomas has devoted his spare time to making leadlight artwork based on his friend Stanley Bilbrough's designs. "I used to be a roofer, so I had to find something else to do and I already knew how to solder," he said. "It's been a total turnaround." He said he wanted to inspire people in a bad situation not to give up. "When something like this happens, you think the world is going to end and it doesn't."

Mr Thomas and Mr Bilbrough exhibit their artwork at the Hilton RSL from March 6 to April 6. February 23, 2011 Messenger - Weekly Times (Adelaide, Australia) Page: 020



Katherine Dawn (1958)

Kathy is a senior public servant at SA Health. After leaving school at the age of 15, she worked in administration and then studied nursing at St Andrew's hospital and worked as a nurse for about 12 years.

She raised three magnificent sons and was the first in the family to graduate university with honours. At Uni she was awarded a scholarship, two academic prizes and a post graduate stipend. Kathy then won a job at SA Health as a mature age graduate and within 10 years was an adviser to the Minister for Health. She treasures time spent with her family, especially her sons, their families and her 5 precious grandchildren.

Preserving Memories

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

Peter and Susan (1960)

In 1960 Carleen was pregnant and recalls *back in those days you didn't have scans or anything, the doctor put me on fluid tablets and the husband didn't hang around they went back to work. Jack went back to work, and when the doctor rang him and said, 'I just have to announce you've got a little boy, plus you've got a little girl as well'. His workmates reckon he went pea green when he got off the phone, and by the time he got to his bench, he was putting on his stuff saying I'm off for the day.*

Having three little children and then newborn twins was a challenge. Carleen's mother Cliss was in the hospital following an operation and was unable to help for six weeks. Luckily a close friend, Eileen Penall came every Friday, and she would mend clothes and socks and help where she could.

Susan now lives in Queensland and Peter is still in Adelaide.



Jack's parents Linc and Emily with all the children, Kathy, Ian, Robert and twins Peter and Susan, 1960

Over the years the family were all very much involved in sport. Carleen umpired netball games. All three boys won basketball titles in the same year and were in the local paper.



Carleen's Children (L to R): Robert, Ian, Kathy, Susan and Peter, early 1980s

Preserving Memories

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

Carleen's Occupations

Carleen says that she hated school so at age sixteen after a brief stint as an apprentice hairdresser (which she hated!), she found work with Colin King, a dentist in Torrensville (187a Henley Beach Road, New Mile End).

There were three practices. *It was my job to open up and get everything ready. Another practice was managed by Mr South in Ferryden Park. There were two nurses in the room with the dentist and we had people at the back that would make dentures.* Colin King served in the Wayville Dental Unit AIF in 1943.

Carleen worked there until she became pregnant. *I was so, so big. I said to my boss, 'I'm going to have to leave'. He said, 'Why?'. I said, 'Well, look at me'.*

After having five children, Carleen went back to work. She wanted them to have the access to what other children had.

When the children were in late primary school, Carleen would do office cleaning at night, *when Jack walked in, I'd walk out.*

She worked cleaning the airport for many years working from 9:30 at night, after the last flight had arrived, until 1.30 in the morning.



At the old airport we used to strip the floors every Easter with the big machine and then put two coats of polish on with the mop. That's when TAA and Ansett was there.

Adelaide Airport terminal [adelaiderememberwhen.com.au]

Preserving Memories

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

In the 1970s Carleen went to work at Glens Homemade Cakes at the Henley Beach South end of viaduct. *Glen Fry was a personal friend, so I used to get up at four o'clock in the morning and go and do all the orders. His brothers Don and Barry Fry were butchers and were in the next-door shop, which has been established by their father.*



13 Henley Beach Road

StreetView 2009

9 Henley Beach Road, Kevin Fry's

Around 1990 Carleen saw an advertisement in the local paper for new opportunities for women. She undertook a free three-month TAFE course in aged care. This enabled her to find work at a facility in Glenelg. She worked there for many years.

When Carleen retired, she was looking for something else to do and found the local paper advertising for a community program in the City of West Torrens. She went along to find out more about it and when they asked about her background, she told them she had experience in aged care and organising social activities. Instead of attending the program she ended up running it!



West Torrens Australia Day Citizen of the Year
Carleen Thomas (right) accepts her award from
Mayor John Trainer.

Carleen was honoured as the City of West Torrens 2008 Citizen of the Year for being the volunteer coordinator for the Thebarton Seniors Group.

"Carleen's involvement in the Thebarton Seniors Group has resulted in a 33 per cent increase in attendance," Council CEO, Mr Starr said. "That is a fantastic feat by any standards. Volunteers like Carleen are vital to the wellbeing of our local community and it's people like her that really show true community spirit."

But I didn't do it for that, I did it because I enjoy it. I wanted to do it for the community.

She was also a chaplain at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Personal Assistant to one of the managers at the Aged Care and Housing in Glenelg.

Preserving Memories

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

Church and Charity

Carleen has always been very involved with church and community programs. Carleen and Rosemary attended the Lockleys Methodist Church as children.

When her children were young, the boys were involved with the Boys Brigade and Carleen was a group leader with the Church of Christ at Cowandilla.

Carleen is now embracing the ethos of the City Influencers Church and recently working with 2- to 4-year-old children teaching some sign language.



www.australia.influencers.church

I went to a conference for Women up in Brisbane as part of the Aglow International Christian group. After, my brother-in-law John said to me, 'Now, what do you want to do? What's your heart's desire. What would you really, really want to do?'

'I'd like to be a donkey for Jesus'.

He said, 'Really? Well, go for it'.

So, at the conference, they asked the volunteers to join a group to go to China to work in an orphanage with kids, this was my opportunity.

In 1997 Carleen went to China as part of a group of people from all different church denominations to assist in an orphanage which was a home for abandoned disabled children.

Carleen remembers one lady looking after 16 babies. They had boxes for beds and rags for nappies. The money from the church was used to buy things for them. Carleen would help feed, nurse and sing to them.

In 1999, the Chinese Communist Government invited the group to send more Western visitors as they had given much needed help to the children in these facilities.

The experience makes Carleen look at life differently now.

It makes you look at people and treat people differently. Like Down syndrome people, they're beautiful people. They've got so much in them to give out, and some of them are absolutely brilliant.

Preserving Memories

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

Holidays



In 1989 Carleen and her sister Rosemary travelled to America, Canada and England. A highlight for Carleen was attending the Glory of Easter musical stage production at the Crystal Cathedral, California.

Crystal Cathedral [nypost.com]

Carleen remembers that on the plane from Sydney, Rosemary got food poisoning and they were then forced to stop over in Hawaii. Rosemary stayed in bed, so Carleen took the opportunity to go shopping. After taking Rosemary to the doctors, the receptionist at the clinic had the afternoon off and generously took her around the island.



Carleen and Rosemary enjoying a fondue dinner at Banff Springs Hotel in Canada 1989.

Their trip incorporated Canada, Carleen's favorite place in the entire world. They took a train to Banff from Vancouver and saw snow for the first time.

They stayed at the biggest hotel, Banff Springs hotel, for several days before heading to Toronto.

Preserving Memories

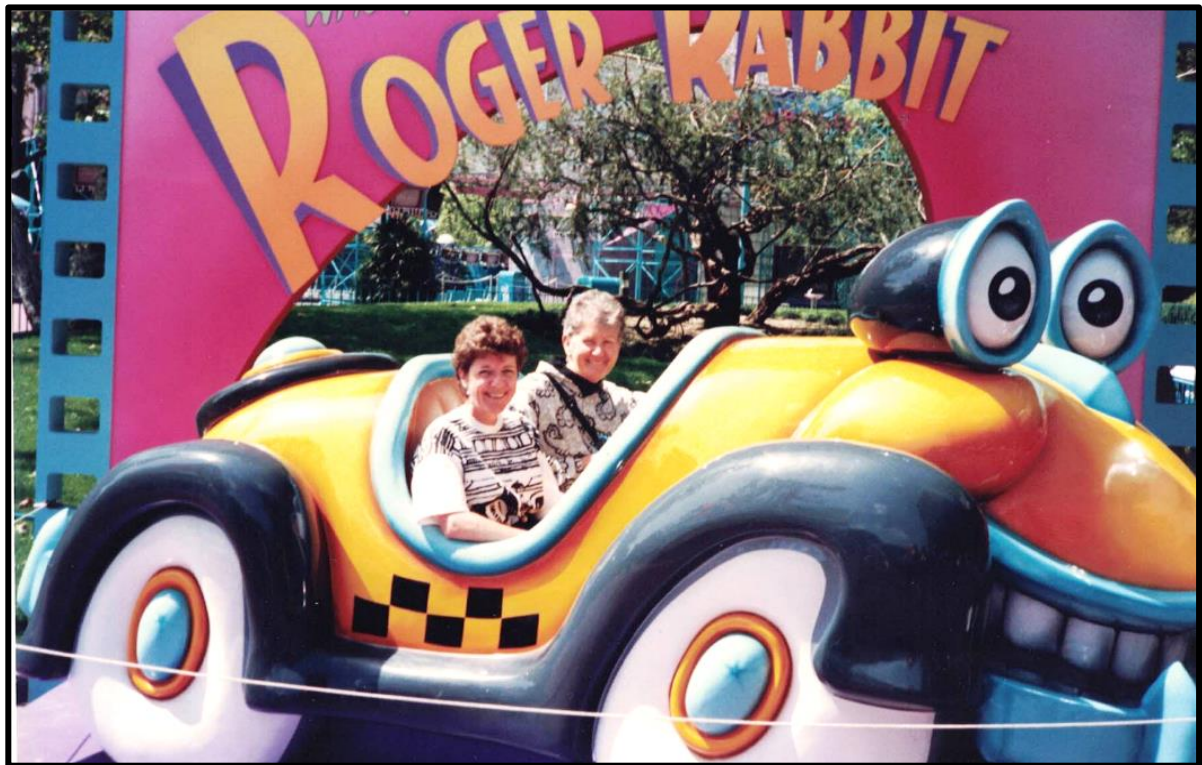
A joint project of the City of West Torrens and the West Torrens Historical Society



The highlight here was a helicopter ride of the ice laden Niagara Falls.

Niagara Falls [traveltriangle.com]

After travelling across America, staying in New York and Washington, they flew to England. They stayed in London for several days.



Carleen and Rosemary having fun at Universal Studios, Los Angeles during their overseas trip 1989.

Later Carleen went to Europe with another friend.

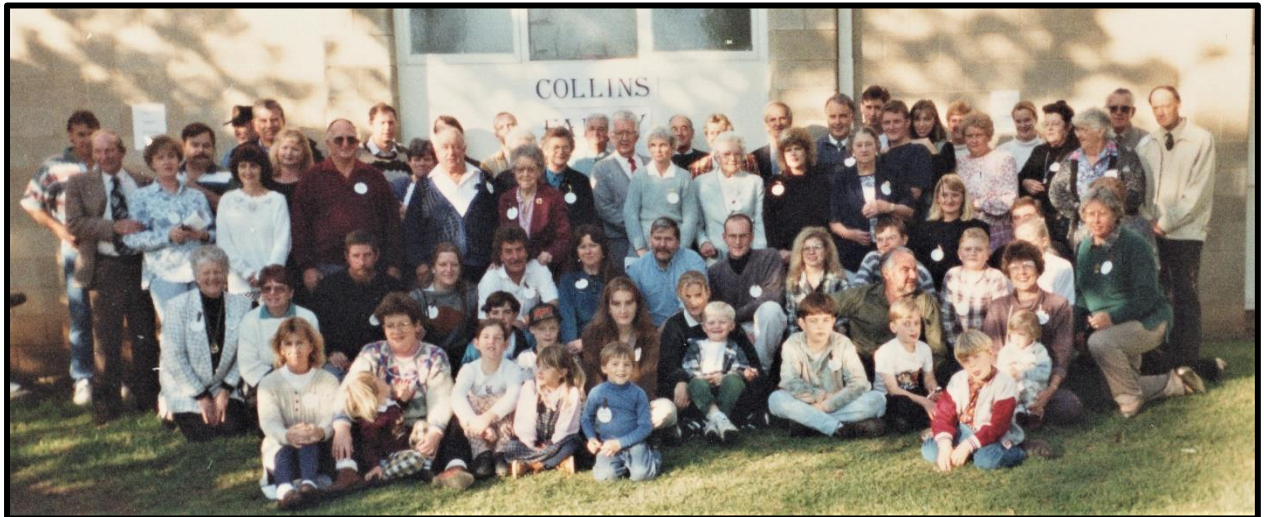
Preserving Memories

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

1995 family reunion

Hurtle's son, Carleen's cousin Peter, and her sister Rosemary organised a family reunion.

A booklet was produced with a family tree and photographs of the family of Ernest and Florence Collins.



Carleen in the white checked coat, Cliss in burgundy jacket, Rosemary (far right) with Carleen's children, their partners, and Carleen's grandchildren.

Preserving Memories

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

2013, Carleen's 80th birthday

Carleen celebrated her 80th birthday in 2013. This was a chance to catch up with many family members and friends to reminisce and share many photographs collected by them over the years.



*Great-granddaughter Caitlin,
sister Rosemary,
cousin Peter,
Carleen,
cousin Peggy Gravestocks (nee
Mortimer)*

COVID-19 / 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic caused some global chaos, but Carleen says: *You know it's part of living. We've been through a lot of things in our life that, the war caused limitations on what you could do, how you got around and where you could go.*

I say just wear the mask or stay at home, look after your family.

I've now got 5 children, 13 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren, and I wouldn't like anything to happen to them.

In late 2022, Carleen welcomed a new and cherished companion, Peaches.



Preserving Memories

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

The *Preserving Memories* project aim is to interview people who have either grown up in or had extensive connections to the West Torrens area and to invite them to share their memories and tell us about the events and experiences which helped to make up their life's history. It allows us the chance to reflect on the past and to preserve those memories into the future.

Thank you, Carleen, and your family, for participating in the project.