
Audrey Wood

My parents Dave and Rose Huish came to Australia on the troop ship Port Lincoln on September 19, 1919 after my Dad was demobilised from the war. He was a butcher by trade but decided to try his hand at dairy farming. He bought a 20 acre property at Malaga Park on Trugunning Road in the very heart of the virgin bush, no roads, electricity water or house. Built a bush humpy made of cement washed brown bags. After coming from a lovely home in London it was very much a cultural shock for my mother. I was born on July 7th 1922, the second of a family of four, 3 girls and 1 boy.

My mother was instrumental in having the first little Morley Park School built in 1934. One room for all classes, Infants to Standard 6. Her letters are in the Battye Library and I have managed to obtain copies of them. The school was situated in the then Government Road, now Walter Road. When I attended the 50th anniversary I found that the little school had been shifted to the existing school in Wellington Road and serves as a canteen.

We left the district when I was 15 ½ and started work at the Government Printing Office on the corner of Murray and Pier streets where I worked for 6 years. My Dad had to give up the dairy when my older sister and I started work because without us to do the milking he couldn't carry on.

I met Jack Wood in 1939, kept company for four years and married. Married women weren't employed by the Government in those days and I then took a job at MMA in the Terrace accounts office, where I stayed until I had my first daughter. We eventually had 5 daughters, 13 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

When my children were older I cooked for and ran the Midland Meals on Wheels from its inception for 14 ½ years.