

WOULD YOU BELIEVE, I COULDN'T  
SPELL YOUR NAME!

ZHEWTON . JULY 2002

DEAR ELEANOR AND ALAN

THE ATTACHED SCREED IS THE RESULT OF REQUESTS FROM VARIOUS MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY, ASKING ME TO WRITE SOME 'MEMOIRS' ON SOME OF OUR EARLIER FAMILY MEMBERS.

IT PUTS ME IN MIND OF ONE OF LAWSON'S POEMS - "WILL YER WRITE IT DOWN FOR ME?"

WELL, I'VE WRITTEN IT DOWN FOR YERS!

WHILE THE ODD DATE MAY NOT BE EXACT, I THINK I GOT THEM RIGHT ENOUGH TO FIT THE STORY - NO ONE NEED WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT ONE YEAR IN A HUNDRED!

ALSO, SOME DETAILS MAY BE A BIT BLURRY, BUT THE GIST OF THE MATTER IS THE IMPORTANT THING.

ALL OF THE THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS ARE MINE - SOME ARE LONG-HELD, WHILE OTHERS OCCURRED TO ME AS I LAID OUT THE STORY.

I APOLOGISE IF ANYONE FEELS MISREPRESENTED BY ANY DETAILS, BUT DON'T SUE ME - AS THE SKELETON SAID TO THE EPSOM SALTS - "YOU'LL GET NOTHING OUT OF ME!"

THIS IS FAIRLY LENGTHY, BUT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIT 80 YEARS OF ONE PERSON'S LIFETIME INTO A FEW PAGES, AND I FOUND IT USEFUL TO INCLUDE MANY DETAILS OF OUR FAMILY LIFE AS THEY AFFECTED MUM, OR AS SHE AFFECTED THEM.

THERE WERE STILL MANY DETAILS THAT I COULD HAVE INCLUDED - SUCH AS MUM'S HOSPITALITY IN HAVING DIFFERENT RELATIVES TO STAY AT TIMES, AND VISITS OF AUNTIE NELL FROM BALLARAT FOR MANY EASTERS, COMPLETE WITH EASTER EGGS!

ALSO, MUM'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH VARIOUS NEIGHBORS - MOSTLY VERY CORDIAL, BUT WITH THE ODD 'SNAG'. AND I HAVE OMITTED SOME FAMILY EVENTS THAT DON'T AFFECT THE MAIN STORY.

I HOPE THIS WILL COMPLEMENT THE VAST AMOUNT OF DETAIL ON OUR FAMILY TREE THAT JANET AND ALLEN HAVE BUILT UP OVER RECENT YEARS, WHICH FILLED IN GAPS THAT EVEN WE "OLDIES" DIDN'T KNOW. BUT, I'M SURE THEY WILL AGREE, A FAMILY TREE SHOWS ONLY NAMES, DATES AND PLACES, WITH NO PERSONALITY ATTACHED TO THE NAMES.

SO, ALTHOUGH THIS SCREED ON MUM IS ONLY THE FIRST, I'LL TRY TO ADD TO IT IF I CAN - GIVEN TIME, AND IF I DON'T RUN OUT OF CIGARETTES!

( ALL THE FAMILY ARE GETTING A  
COPY FOR POSTERITY.

(10 COPIES).

LOVE, AND REGARDS TO ALL,

Brian/Dad.