

DEAN FAMILY

By Bob Dean

The Dean family lived in Heidelberg and Montmorency. Bob moved to Montmorency in 1952, he was a builder; he lived on the corner of Rattray and Para Roads. Mr and Mrs Dean Snr came to the area about 2 years after Bob, and lived in Para Road, Montmorency.

Bob's children attended Montmorency State School; he was involved with the local school, church, Montmorency Cricket Club, and the Baseball Club.

He had the job of stopping the "damp" rising in Marble Hall, which was a solid building of blue stone blocks; the floors were made of blue stone boulders covered with slate. It took a long time to complete this job, he had to remove only 3 or 4 blocks at a time, repair that area, move on to the next 3 or 4 blocks, and this process was repeated until the entire building had been repaired.

Over the years Marble Hall was used as function rooms, in 1800s a Milk Bar, Hotel, Billiard hall, Produce store and later as a residence, in the 1930s the Pringle family lived there. Later rooms were let to tenants, they were, Ian Hanson – Dentist, Mackie Ryan etc – Solicitors, Dr Lanyon - GP, Mr Bannister – Accountant and Mrs Dean - Florist/Nursery.

Mr. Dean Snr, who was a builder and his son Max opened the estate agents on the corner of Kerr and Grimshaw Streets, later Bob went into the business, they bought land and Bob would build the houses. They built and sold a number of houses in Greensborough, six houses in Stubley Court, four or five in Jessop Street, there was a gully running through the street which they had to have filled, it was filled in with gravel by Hutchinson's.

Max bought the first house they built in Jessop Street and lived there for a number of years.

Bob worked on the construction of the fire station in Church Street, later he ran the shop on the corner of Henry and Grimshaw Streets, which was owned by Mr Tozer a builder, later owned by Mr and Mrs Foard.

His sister moved to Greensborough and ran a shoe shop in Main Street; this shop was built by Bob, and was later occupied by Tom Vickers the pharmacist.

Bob now lives in Rosanna.

June Hall

July 2010