

# THOMAS HENRY BRANCHFLOWER & FAMILY

---

*These notes were prepared from information in the MDHS Collection and further research by Judith Vimpani.*

*Thomas Branchflower was a builder in Marysville in the early 1930s.*

Thomas Henry Branchflower was born in 1896 in London.

In 1922 he arrived in Australia with his wife, Alice Maude nee Humm and baby Peggy. Thomas listed his occupation as a carpenter.

Electoral Roll entries:

1924            Collingwood piano maker

1925, 26       Preston pianoforte maker

1931, 34       Marysville cabinetmaker

Thomas' son, Gerald recalls Thomas spent the early 1930s in Marysville as a builder in particular on Eric Dowdle's guesthouses and built his family a house on the Buxton road a short distance past the caravan park. He built The Log Cabin in the traditional way - no nails, probably with a local team.

With regards to the Mary Chain, Eric Dowdle started his Mary chain of guesthouses in 1928 and brought teams of builders and other trades to Marysville. Eric used the top floor of Mary Lyn, the second guesthouse, as a workshop to build the furniture for the guesthouses.

1936, 37 Thomas is in Coldstream as a farm manager. Thomas had left Marysville.

Thomas took his family back to England and the family is found in Jul 1938 on 'Largs Bay' travelling from England to Australia - Thomas Branchflower (42), grazier with wife Alice (42) and family - Peggy (17), Gerald (12) and Kenneth (8). At this time Thomas' father was still alive in London.

1944 Alice died and Thomas married Irene Sutherland in 1945. They had three children.

1943, 49 Thomas is living in Box Hill.

Thomas Henry died in Mont Albert in 1970. He was a building assessor.

MAP OF MARYSVILLE TOWNSHIP  
DRAWN BY GERALD BRANUFLOWER  
SHOWS THE POSITION OF THE  
BRANUFLOWER HOME.

