


Collie

Albert Collie

b.1926

Cecil Collie

Photo: D000016



Interview with Albert Collie
20th April 2010
Interviewed by Penny Flannery

Albert when did you first move to Dingley?

If you look at the old historical things of the area me father came to Springvale 1912-14. He lived in McClure road. [He lived in Springvale not Dingley?] It would be Dingley because the boundaries of Dingley – like you've got as far as Lower Dandenong Road and then you come across and you've got Cheltenham Road and that's where the Dingley school is. And Garthside's factory used to be down a little bit further and they were early people that come to the area- Garthside's cannery. And you come through to where my parents lived in McClure Road. I dunno if people realise the area of Dingley. I suppose if you lived in Clarke Road you could count yourself as South Springvale. My Dad used to have horse and carts. [Your Dad was the Iceman?] Me dad when he first came to live in the area he used to be in the leather trade- he worked in Richmond. They used to make leather cases and all that sort of thing- he worked in Richmond and then later on the leather trade started to fall away because of bringing other things in and cardboard did a lot of damage to the leather trade so he and then the depression started and things were tough so he got a Marine dealers licence and he used to go around collecting bottles and of course the area around was farmers like poultry farm and things like that. He used to go around buying chaff bags and things like that, he would take them up to the Dandenong market and he'd sell them. He might only make thruppence but if you made 10 shillings that was money in the depression days. He did that right up and he used to race pigeons- he had a lot of good pigeons and through the years he did things to better himself- he made up crates- people going around to poultry farms who had chooks he'd take them up to the Dandenong market and he'd get so much commission. That's how he did his life and later on in '38/39 when the worst war started (previous to that me dad used to get wood and he used to deliver a bit of that. A lot of stuff come from up Queensland it was Ironbark, like steel it was and if you didn't have a good saw to cut it up- the axe wouldn't cut it. He used to get a bit of that. He was in things were- perhaps if he could