

HOLLAND

John Henry Howard Holland b. 1867

Alf Holland b. 1918 d.1997

m. Belle Waddleton

Margaret , Lorraine and Alan

Photos: D000206, 256, 259, 302, 331, 429, 496, 568, 570, 571, 576, 578, 1184, 1407, 1411, 1415, 1417, 1418, 1419, 1845, 2382, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555

Records: D000426, D001173

HOLLAND. FAMILY. OF. DINGLEY.

John Henry Howard Holland - was born in Bendigo in 1867. His parents had arrived from England in 1856. John Holland, after moving from Bendigo to Echuca, had a printing business in that town during the 1890's.

In 1904, he married Sarah Ruby Wunnell at Tallarook, and they lived there until 1908, when they bought land in Dingley. Here, John Holland took up market gardening, being assisted in later years by his sons Stan and George.

Sarah Holland died in 1924, leaving 5 sons and 2 daughters, of whom 3 were still school children. John Holland stayed on the property in Howard Rd (named for his 3rd name), and in 1941 sold it to his youngest son Alf who continued market gardening. John Holland died in 1953.

Alf Holland married Belle Waddleton, from next door, and bought more land from Mrs Waddleton. He market gardened until 1970, when the property was sold for subdivision. Alf + Belle Holland still live (in 1985) on part of the ground bought from Mrs Waddleton.

John Hollands 2 daughters, Mary (Mrs Kruger) and Gertrude (Mrs. Spence) both live at Grantville.

George Holland married Saisy Watson, also of Dingley, and market gardened a property on the corner of Boundary and Old Sandenong Rd; Heatherton until his death. Mrs. Saisy Holland now lives in Springvale South. John Holland, the son of George, has carried on the family tradition started by John Holland, Senior, in 1908, and is now market gardening a property in Craig Rd. Devon Meadows.

OBITUARY: ALFRED HOLLAND

Born: 7th April 1918
Died: 13th September 1997,
aged 79 years.

One by one we say "Farewell" to the men who played leading roles in shaping Dingley into what it is today. Alf Holland was one such man. He helped to lay the foundations for some of the things we take for granted as being part of Dingley Village.

When the Vogt family arrived in Dingley in 1962, it was possible to sit outside on a summer evening and hear the hiss-hiss-hiss of sprinklers watering the acres of market gardens which surrounded us. Alf Holland was a successful market gardener in the Howard Road area which was little more than a dirt road servicing a couple of houses.

Alf was born in Clifton Hill in 1918 - the youngest of seven children of whom two sisters, Gert and Mary, remain alive. The family moved to Dingley when Alf was only a boy, and so he spent most of his schooling and maturing years here learning the art of successful market gardening from his father.

When only five years of age, Belle Waddleton and her family moved to a house next door to the Hollands. As the result, Belle and Alf became childhood playmates and this obviously developed to romance, and later into marriage just prior to Alf being posted to New Guinea for War Service.

Later, the three children, Margaret, Lorraine and Alan, were born and despite

the hard work and long hours in the garden, he always found time to spend with the children whom he loved. He made most of the toys and play equipment as money was scarce during those years. The family shared many memorable times together on holidays, at the beach, watching motorbike scrambles and, of course, the Melbourne Show.

Alf was keen on pigeon racing and used to breed and train birds for this purpose. It seems that pigeons, pooches and Pontiac cars were some of his passions

as well as holidaying in a caravan which he built.

He was never short of mates as they worked together on School Councils, Recreation Ground Committees, etc. These sorts of community efforts were often without external financial support and revealed a character of citizen so seldom apparent today.

Those of us who are left to enjoy the School Facilities, Recreation Grounds, etc., would do well to acknowledge that much of this had its foundations laid through the foresight and efforts of men like Alfred Holland.

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