
“The Breakspear Family”

The first Breakspear family to live in Glenbrook was that of Joseph Breakspear and his wife Elizabeth, who, with their children, William (Robin), Gordon, Adrian and John (Jack), moved from Petersham to Glenbrook in 1913.

William (Robin) was employed by the Blue Mountains Council and was the local Real Estate and Insurance Agent. Together, William and Gordon reared a few cows and Gordon later became the local milkman for the Glenbrook area, buying his milk, butter, cheese, cream and ice from Emu Plains and Penrith.

Gordon had three fingers severed while helping to cut block ice at the Ice Factory and after the introduction of bottled milk he took a driving position with the American Forces until an accident forced him to retire.

Gordon and his wife Anne had two sons, Stanley and William (Bill). Anne conducted a millinery and haberdashery business for some years in the shop on the front of their home on the corner of Cross and Ross Streets in Glenbrook. Gordon lived in Glenbrook from the time he was eight until his death in 1970.

William (Robin) and his wife Violet had six children – Robin, Ken, Mervyn, Beatrice (Betty), Neil and John. Violet was the local post-woman, clearing the mail box each day and taking the letters – rain, hail or shine – to the local Post Office. William (Robin) and Violet moved from Glenbrook to Manly in 1939. After the end of the War, William was appointed a Manager for the Commonwealth Hostels for Displaced Persons.

Adrian trained as a Chef and worked for the Cahill Restaurant Group. He and his wife Katherine (Kit) had four children, Margaret, Rose, Mary and Paul and lived at Bexley North.

John (Jack) studied and became a Primary School Principal and spent a lot of his teaching years in Orange. John and his wife Geordie raised three children – Patricia, Jeanette and Allan.

The children of Joseph and Elizabeth, William (Robin) and Violet and Gordon and Anne were all raised in Glenbrook and educated at the local Primary School. The Breakspear families were surely a large part of the Glenbrook community for these 57 years.

continued overleaf