

Dad's Cream Run

Robert (Bob) Davies



Judith (Davies) McCrory lived with her parents at the top of the hill in Tulip St. Larney's were next door & Dickens below them. Her father was a cream carrier and mailman. The family left in 1956 & moved to Brisbane.

Judy recently wrote this memory of her Dad's cream run.

"My Dad, Robert Evan Davies was the third eldest son of Evan Jones and Elsie Maud Davies. They had 8 children, four boys, then four girls. Dad's 'Bertha' truck, the Curramore run was sold to Bert Brooker in 1956 and we moved to Brisbane. Bertha was a Bedford with dual wheels on the back and I learnt to drive her.

I often used to accompany Dad on his run and from memory this is how it went - Dad loaded up the late afternoon before with the empty cans and left home 6am. Out along the Conondale Road to the Cement Hill and that was the start. Knapps on right and Cox on left. Then along and I have forgotten a couple on left, Manitzky on right where the Conondale Road went down and round a corner to Donovans on right, along to Arthur Tesch and Norm Tesch and a Bergann and on to where the road from Witta joined on the right. Warnes was next and on to Nothlings. Ben had the Post Office but the cream went round the corner to Curramore and Len Nothlings and Ted Nothlings farms. We turned right down a little lane way and there were two farms. One I can't remember and one was Blackleys who brought up their cream with a horse and slide. Out of the lane and down to a farm I can't recall at the moment. There was a road that went down to Kidaman Creek known locally as 'The Suicide'. I remember we went up and down a couple of times in the Chevy to visit the Hendersons. There was no room to meet another car and it was bendy and steep. Next we went to Frank Burnetts and then through thick scrub to Newtons and up to Harrison's where there was a tennis court and the house was on one side and the bails on the other. Up a steepish hill to Jack Thorne's farm where

Lenny & June (Langton) Lowe half shared after they married. Then along to Ritters, Edmonstons and Blue Sherwells, then Youngbutts were the end.

Coming back the full cans were picked up and delivered to the Butter Factory and Dad had early lunch and was at the Post Office round 11am for the Mail run in the Chevy.

The mail run started just past the Hospital street and I think the first on right was Lynch, then a Porter on the left and a smallish hill with Lol Porters about half way. If you continued straight ahead you were on the Reesville Road and a laneway was left that went to Kings and Lawleys . We turned right and went to Irvines. A little way up the Cement Hill was a road to the right. This was the Witta Road and Diefenbacks were on the left, I've forgotten the right farm but there were boxes for Oehmichen and a couple of others, Collards on right and Joblings sharefarming for an absent landlord in the big white house on the left, and Berganns and on to the Witta School with I think three houses opposite it, one of which was Bert Brookers. There was the Sawmill entrance there too from the school. We had two Cooks and up to join the road again just before Warnes and on to Ben Nothlings Witta Post Office. There was no mail delivery for Curramore, they all had a pigeon hole for their mail. Ben opened the mail bag and sorted the Curramore mail, then he put the outgoing mail into the canvas bag and tied it using red wax. He melted some over the knot and pressed a seal into it. Dad took the bag and we made our way back to Maleny usually before 2pm to catch Watsons Bus to Landsborough, Then Dad and Mum went to tennis.

I remember quite a bit as I travelled the routes many, many times with Dad. There are a few I have forgotten, but it is reasonably accurate. I forgot the cemetery and church and I probably left out a farm or two. Spellings of the names will not be accurate as this is from memory over 70 years ago.”

