

## Our Standfield Family

The Standfields and the Dons came together when Ted and Lil were married at St Columb's Church in Hawthorn on November 1<sup>st</sup> 1941. Their courtship had begun in Kooweerup where both their families had lived prior to the war.

Ted worked at Burton's Garage; Lil worked in a cafe nearby. Ted had a motor bike and many trips were made to Phillip Island. Lil had a camera and her pictures show their courtship. In fact Lil's picture collection has been the main source of photographs for this family history. The extent of Lil's photograph collection is shown more fully on the CD. She not only took photos she collected them along with newspaper clippings involving the family.



When they married Ted was in the army. The marriage being a month after Ted was called up for fulltime army duties. Ted had been in the Militia since December 1938.

After the war Ted went into business with another

mechanic Alan Colvin. The Colvins were an old Kooweerup family and Alan and Ted had served together in the army.

Ted and Lil bought a house in Gardiner Street Kooweerup. It was a plain house from the outside but the inside was very



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gracious. Lil also maintained a great garden.

Joy was born at St George's Hospital in Kew in 1943. This was during the war and Lil lived in various places around Melbourne while Ted was away in the army. Tim was born at Kooweerup in 1947. Joy started school at Kooweerup Primary.



These photos were taken at Christmas 1950. Joy's hair in curlers, the work of Lil's sister Ruby pictured with Lil at right.



## Move to Nyora

Around 1951 Ted sold his share of the Kooweerup Garage business and bought the Nyora garage. The family rented a house in Nyora while their house was being built next to the garage. First to be built was the 'bungalow', then the house itself. This first building was always referred to as the 'bungalow' and had one bedroom, a kitchen, a bathroom and a laundry. Once the bungalow was built the family lived there while the house was being built.



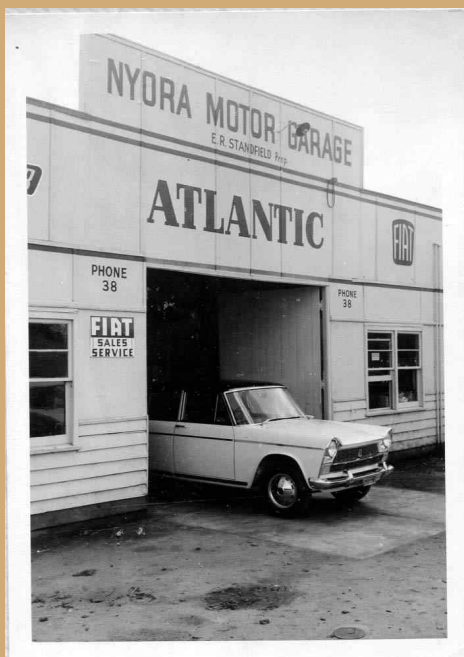
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The bungalow was at the end of the drive. The original plan was to convert the bungalow into a domestic garage once the house was finished. The wall on the right at the end was to be replaced with the garage door. This didn't eventuate and the bedroom remained a spare room, a refuge for Ted sometimes to have a nap. Lil always cooked Ted's fish catch in the bungalow. She didn't want a fish's cooking smell inside the house. Lil was a dedicated house keeper. Her house was always tidy and scrupulously clean. She was also a skilled and dedicated cook. Most days there would be two hot meals cooked and there were also cakes and biscuits for morning and afternoon tea. When they moved into their new house



Ted and Lil stocked it with new appliances and equipment, all of high quality. So much so that we, the Hollows, still use Lil's roasting dishes and mix master. The cooking range was a slow combustion stove the latest at the time and Lil was the complete master of it.

Like the bungalow the house was a cement sheet clad building. It was built on the front of the block and Ted's Nyora Motor Garage was just next door. The house was called "Carinya", thought to be an aboriginal word for "happy home" although people who study name origins have been unable to verify the meaning.



Lil and Ted also developed the garden and took great pride in it. Across the front was a row of standard roses a source of great pride to them both.

The garage was a successful business, at its peak Ted had three employees working with him, two other mechanics and someone looking after the office. He became a FIAT dealer, one of only a few in country Victoria.

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Photographed at right: Fiat's service van outside the Nyora motor garage. Also in the picture are Frank Keiba (representing Victorian distributors), Lucio Di Mascio (Fiat Australia) and Ted Standfield.

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### Family Life

Family life involved pets, dogs and cats, and Ted's love of fishing. The dogs over the period included two Cocker Spaniels, Spanky 1 and Spanky 2, a German Shepherd (Major) and finally two Australian Terriers, Pete and Cindy. Ted and Lil used to show their terriers.

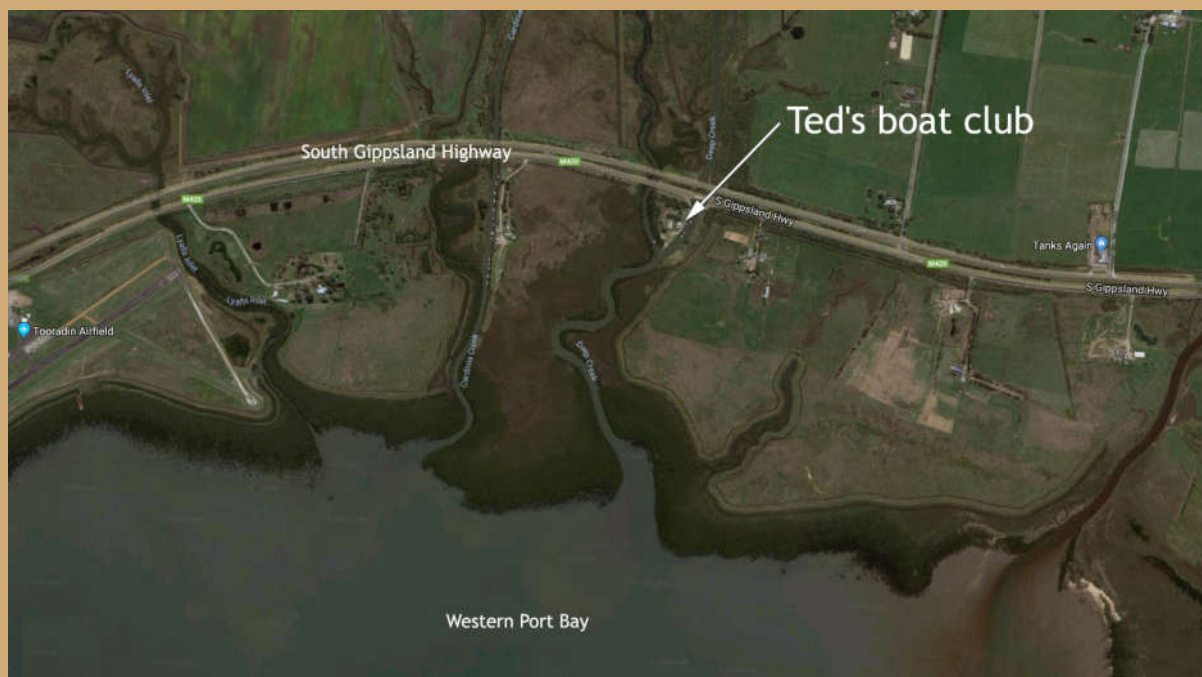
Ted and Lil owned caravans and holidays were often taken by the beach or other places where Ted could fish. Between



Ruby and Doug Monteith with Tim, Joy and Lil Standfield

holidays Ted went fishing on Western Port Bay. He had his own boat, the good ship 'Ruby', and often took family and friends out to fish. The 'Ruby' was named after Nana Ruby Don.

Ted fished mainly at the northern end of the bay. The boat was moored at an inlet, Deep Creek, between Tooradin and Lang Lang. Ted was a member of the boat club there, the Cardinia Creek Boat



Club although Cardinia Creek itself was the next inlet along. There were about a dozen boats moored near Ted and more in Cardinia Creek itself.

Fishing expeditions started with a short trip down the creek through mangroves and were governed by the tides. At high tide the boat could go in any direction once it got past the mangroves. If the high tide occurred at night he went fishing at night. At low tides the area became exposed. It was like a drowned river system and the boat could only move through the channels between the

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exposed mud banks. If he went out at night he had to anchor the boat over a channel so that when the tide went out the boat was not marooned on the mud bank. Ted was so familiar with the area he could find favoured fishing spots by lining up the boat with visible landmarks. At night this meant using the street lights and house lights of Tooradin and Lang Lang and many landmarks, hills, towers and so on.

Ted's experience meant that he could go fishing most weekends but it could be a day trip or night trip. I went on many trips with him, many at night. I think he used it as a way to get to know this chap who his daughter had hitched up with. We would travel out at high tide and Ted would pick his spot and anchor the boat. We would fish for a while over high tide then settle for a few hours sleep in the cabin. No bunks, just the floor with us wrapped in blankets. When daylight arrived Ted's positioning skill became apparent. The banks would be exposed and the boat would be nestled in one of the drowned streams, often at the junction of two of these streams, Ted called them gutters. Not only did Ted have to find the position but he had to anchor in the right position so that any breeze blowing would not mean we drifted over the bank and leave us stranded there at low tide.

We did move along the gutters at low tide but usually we fished until there was enough water in the incoming tide to cover the banks and we could travel directly across the banks to the mooring point at the boat club.



Ted, with family and brother-in-law Les, about to set out on a fishing trip from his mooring in the inlet.



Another fishing trip on the good ship Ruby with Tim, George Don and his son Brian. This is where you saw Ted at his happiest.

The family always had pets. Dogs and cats but dogs were the most popular. I have mentioned the dogs previously but there were many cats too, X, Y and Z. Joy was a doge person, Tim more a cat person. Cats were always part of Tim's household, Joy would have dogs.



Joy claims her love of walking began with taking Major for walks in the bush around their house in Nyora.

Tim was very keen on animals, not only cats, he also loved birds and other animals. He spent a lot of time in the bush around their house too.

The pictures show Major and Pete.



Joy and Tim went to primary school at Nyora and then high school at Korumburra High. After high school Joy went to Bendigo Teacher's College. At the end of her course, Joy came under relentless pressure from her parents to come back home and take up a teaching position at her old primary school at Nyora. She did come home and teach at Nyora but soon realised she had to break free of Nyora and living at home again. She spent most weekends away in Melbourne and after a year she transferred to a Melbourne school, Newport Primary.



 High School  
KORUMBURRA 1960



 High School  
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Tim also moved to Melbourne after high school and studied Interior Design at RMIT. He was never tempted to go back to Nyora to live although he did come back to make a mark. In 1967 the old weatherboard town hall at Nyora burnt down. The locals fund raised to get the money for a new hall. The committee in charge, headed by Ted and Lil's neighbour Jim Hewson, asked Tim to design the new hall. The new, Standfield designed hall was opened in 1974 at a special mini Back-to ceremony in front of a very proud Standfield family. Lil of course kept the clippings from the local Paper.

# Out of th

**Out of the ashes of Nyora's old timber hall, destroyed by fire seven years ago, has risen a modern brick building which has cost \$46,000 and countless hours of fund-raising labor by the local community.**

Inside it everything. An L-shaped building ideal for receptions, meetings and balls or dances, it has a modern kitchen, a barbecue area, and an outside dance section.

From the wooden parquetry floor to the lighting system the new hall is the last thing in luxury for the community it will serve.

On Friday the hall will be officially opened by the Minister for Local Government, Mr. Alan Hunt MLC.

The Nyora people have raised more than \$25,000 towards the cost of their new hall over the past seven years, and the State Government contributed \$9,000.

The majority of the money has been raised with calf-raising programs and catering every second month for the local car races.

The hall was designed by former local, Tim Standfield, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Standfield, Nyora garage proprietors.

### MINI BACK-TO

The opening of the new hall will be a gala event for Nyora. A mini back-to has been organised to coincide with it.

200 invitations have been forwarded to former residents to return.

There will be a ball on Friday night. On Saturday the hall will be open to the public for inspection and on Saturday night an informal function will be held in the hall.

Seven years is a long time to maintain interest in a working committee. During that period it has been the drive and dedication of men like Jim Hewson (president) and Alby Dowel (secretary) which has kept the ultimate aim in sight.

They have been able to rally the people of Nyora and district to the cause.

**NYORA  
MOTOR GARAGE**  
(TED STANDFIELD PROP)  
**FIAT — LANCIA**

*TED STANDFIELD WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE  
THE PEOPLE OF NYORA ON THE BUILDING AND  
OPENING OF THE NEW NYORA HALL*

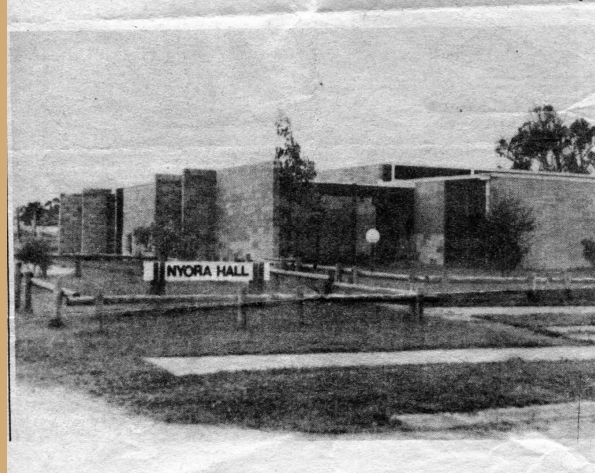



1914
1974

THE SOUTH GIPPSLAND SENTINEL-TIMES, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1974 — PAGE ELEVEN



**NYORA HALL**      BEFORE ↑  
AFTER ↓



## Retirement

In the late 1970s Ted and Lil decided to sell the garage and go into retirement. The business was now reduced to just two people, Ted and his mechanic Maurice Walters. Maurice had completed his apprenticeship with Ted and had worked with him for a number of years. The business was sold to Maurice and Ted and Lil bought a block of land at Rhyll on Phillip Island. It was a beach front block and the good ship Ruby was to be moored in full view outside the house. Tim designed his parent's new home. Ted and Lil rented a house nearby during construction so Ted was on hand each day and did quite a lot of the work, particularly painting and tiling etc. The design process was probably quite difficult with three different personalities involved. In the end Lil got her traditional layout, Tim was able to orientate the house to take full use of the seaside location and to also provide some modern features for his parents and Ted had a home in a dream location beside to the sea.

Life together at Rhyll was all too short. Two years after moving into their new house Ted suffered a massive stroke on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 1981 as he worked on his beloved boat Ruby. He had just turned 63 two weeks earlier.

Lil was determined to continue her life at Rhyll and she did so for a few years. Although she hadn't driven for years she had retained her driver's licence. She bought herself a new car, a Honda Civic, and started to drive again. In a reversal of roles Joy used to take her mum for driving practice. Lil was able to move around Phillip Island. Longer trips were a challenge though. She would come to Melbourne and stay with us in Croydon. She would travel in the quiet part of the day. She didn't ever get her full confidence back though.

Eventually she made the decision to leave Rhyll and she bought a villa unit close to us at 44 Ronald Road in Croydon. It was perfect for her. Not too big but with two bedrooms so she could have people to stay.





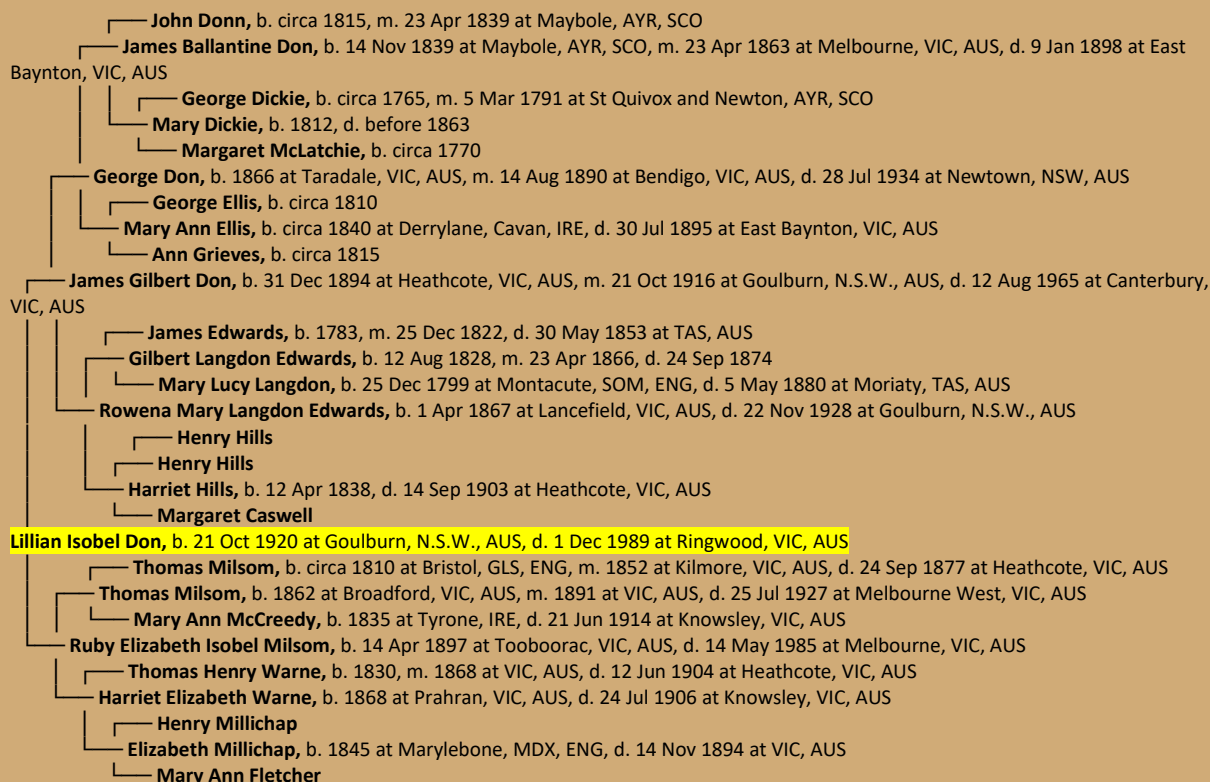
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Lillian Isobel Standfield nee Don



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## The Ancestors of Lillian Isobel Don



## The Ancestors of Edwin Robert Standfield

