

The Editor, Lower King Progress Association.

In your recent News Letter, you asked for some history of the Association. I may be able to assist you.

My Parents moved to Lower King, and built their home in 1958. (William Arthur Andrews Baxter, and Cecelia Mary Andrews-Baxter), My Uncle, Mick McGeary built his home at the same time, next door to 659 Lower King Road. He was the Local Police Inspector for Albany.

The first Lower King Progress Hall, Meeting took place around this time, and Mick McGeary was the President and my mother was the Secretary. It was quite a busy progress association.

At that time, the Lower King Petrol Station was there, and limited houses both on the Esplanade and Lower King Road.

The Bitumen stopped at the Cemetery, and dirt road over the Bridge, which had a one lane wooden bridge. It was not until a few years later when the present day bridge was built. The pilons for the bridge were cut and tendered to on the ½ of our block of land, nearest to the bridge.

Prior to the new bridge there were 6 Channels of water at the rear of our home. They would run freely with the tide, and you could walk across the river going up and down through these channels. They were quite deep (hip level) – and it is criminal to see how much the river has silted up in recent years.

The causeway had channels under the road, and this would flush the water through into Oyster Harbour. (No quick sand in those days)!

Since Returning to Albany in 2002, I have been amazed at how this area is only about 30cm deep at high tide, ie no longer do we get the Swans gracing the water, and the ducks would return when it was duck shooting time.

I am so glad to know that some of the history of Yester-year will be captured and recorded. Should there be other memories that come to mind, I will contact you again.