



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Dorothy with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

DOROTHY FRANULOVICH

Banging saucepan lids to scare off wild brumbies, playing in air raid shelters as a youngster, the anguish and devastation of losing your young son in a car crash, being up to your eyeballs in debt - those are among the diverse memories of Pioneer Dorothy Franulovich.

Mrs Franulovich is a grandmother of four and a mother of four. Her first born child David was tragically hit by a car while crossing Wanneroo road as a seven year old in 1972.

To this day Mrs Franulovich never forgets that Maundy Thursday. She went on to have two more sons and a daughter Davinna, to honour David's memory.

Mrs Franulovich lived in Wanneroo from shortly after her birth in 1937. Her parents were woodcutters and vegetable growers who lived in the area and moved from one campsite to another. Her grandfather was Petar Parin, an early wine maker in Wanneroo.

Mrs Franulovich has been happily married for 53 years to Ivan, who is also a Pioneer.

Her mother gave her a lecture before she married and told her the "secret to a successful marriage was in the event of a fight, to always make up with your husband before the sun goes down".

In 1966, her family bought a market garden in Lancaster Road. That was the start of a long, hard life on the land growing lettuce, tomatoes and carrots.

Nights protecting their crops, with little sleep, spent scaring away kangaroos and wild brumbies with saucepan lids, all because they couldn't afford a gun, and were, as Dorothy puts it, "up to our eyeballs in debt".

Mrs Franulovich adores her grandchildren and spends as much time as possible with them.

She recalls not having much time for her own children, because of the many long hours working the land.

To keep them close, her children were put in lettuce crates which were pulled like a cart around the market garden as she worked.

She'd be up before sunrise and in summer out working until nine or 10 at night. She fondly remembers the long days because the family was together.

Mrs Franulovich loved the wide open spaces and the friendly people of Wanneroo.

These days she remains active and still cycles to Kingsway and swims at Aquamotion three times a week. She says while she officially retired in 1998, there's always something to do.

Mrs Franulovich is not a person for sitting in front of the TV. She loves fishing and spending time enjoying the beauty of Lake Goollelal.



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Ivan with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

IVAN FRANULOVICH

Born in Blato, an island of Kor ula in Yugoslavia, now known as Croatia, in 1936 to parents Maria and Petar, Ivan and his wife Dorothy settled in Wanneroo.

Dorothy was an original resident of Wanneroo, a descendent of the Parin family - living in the City from the time of her birth in 1937 to the early 1940s.

Ivan and Dorothy bought land in Lancaster Road in Wangara with the dream of becoming market gardeners.

They had four children, Davinna, Perry and Kevin - Perry still lives in the City today, residing in Sinagra.

Ivan has fond memories of his early years in Wanneroo, specifically having to clear their land in Wangara to plant their many vegetable crops. No sooner were the crops in when they were trampled by wild brumbies and large kangaroos.

Ivan also recalls Dorothy's grandfather Petar Parin retelling the old stories about his time growing up as one of the first residents of Wanneroo and what it was like as one of the area's earlier settlers.

In 2005, Ivan moved to Madeley where he currently resides.

As a long term resident of the City Ivan has seen the region grow and flourish, and has made his own contributions as one of the City's market growers.



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Rose with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

ROSE MARINOVICH

Rose Octavia Lizatovich was born September 1939 in Osborne Park. Rose met Joe Marinovich in Osborne Park and they married in 1958.

There they started a market garden before moving the business to Wanneroo. Together the pair joined the Wanneroo Country Club - now Wanneroo Sports and Social Club.

Rose said she “fell in love immediately” with Wanneroo - a “one horse town”. She and her husband were embraced by the community and Rosa often talks about turning the clock back to those times.

Joe and Rose had a son Malcolm, who passed away suddenly in 1990 aged 30. They had another child, a daughter named Rhonda, and now have a four-year-old granddaughter, Emma.

Rose remembers a home always full of children from around the neighbourhood, who would come to their market garden to ride go-karts built by Joe.

She said raising children in Wanneroo was ‘no hassle’ and the families around them were more like friends than neighbours.

Rose became a member of the Wanneroo Agricultural Society in 1969 and joined the

committee in 1975, serving 25 years.

She was heavily involved in the Miss Wanneroo Showgirl Quest, the animal nursery farm and as a steward in exhibition pavilion.

She said the Margaret Cockman pavilion was the window of Wanneroo and brought people into the community.

Her favourite part about the show was the Miss Wanneroo Showgirl Quest and was proud as punch when daughter Rhonda won the quest in 1986.

Rose stepped up to Joe’s place on the committee after he suffered a stroke earlier this year.

During her life in Wanneroo she also gave about seven years of voluntary service to the Wanneroo St John Ambulance Division.

During their years in Wanneroo, Rose said although they had their “ups and downs” they had “nothing but good memories” about Wanneroo and never felt lonely because of their involvement in the community.

She said Wanneroo was an ideal place and she and Joe had grown with the City and would stay “as long as life let them”.



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Joe with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

JOE MARINOVICH

Joe arrived in Western Australia with his mother in 1937, aged four.

His father had arrived from Croatia, then known as Yugoslavia, the year before to set up home in Osborne Park. Joe met Rose Octavia Lizatovich and together they married and moved to Wanneroo.

Joe became a big part of the Wanneroo Football Club as assistant coach and goal umpire. He also joined the Wanneroo Country Club - now Sports and Social Club - committee and together with Rose became a keen bowler.

Joe became part of the furniture for the next 48 years until a stroke in February halted his playing but Joe still has his friends from the club join him at home for a catch up.

Joe also gave many years to the Wanneroo Agricultural Society serving on the committee from 1969 to 2004 and 2006 to 2014, again only slowed down by illness.

During the years the Wanneroo Show has become Joe's baby. He oversaw the introduction of the Friday night show in addition to the Saturday show and said from then on it had continued to get 'bigger and brighter every year'. When asked about the passion of the Show committee Joe said,

"People who work on the committee are proud of their district, it's where we make our living that's where our closest friends are, we take pride in it."

Joe said the show had changed over time but that change was good and he was proud the Wanneroo show

still classed second to the Royal Show.

He served on all sub committees from finance, entertainment, grounds and even a 6-year term as president and was made a Life Member in 1979.

In the first two years after moving to Wanneroo Joe joined the Wanneroo Sports and Social Club, Wanneroo Football Club, Wanneroo Agricultural Society, and, as if that wasn't enough as well as running a market garden and raising two children, Joe also joined the Wanneroo St John Ambulance Division from 1969 to 1980.

When asked where he found the time to be a part of so many community groups and do his first aid certificate he said he just 'made time'.

When reflecting on life and raising children in Wanneroo Joe said everything started with family.

Although they did not have the same technologies as today's generation, Joe said his children didn't miss much, they played on the go-karts and out the back in cubby houses.

In 1988 Joe was awarded the City of Wanneroo Citizen of the Year and later the Senior Citizen of the Year awards.

He said he didn't expect either of the awards and did everything he did because he "loved the people in Wanneroo and the district all over".

"If I can do something for the district, if I can do something for my next door neighbour, I'll do it".



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Joe with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

GIUSEPPE (JOE) ROCCA

The street Rocca Way was named after Joe's father Ernesto, another of our City's great pioneers and where Joe's story starts.

Joe's father Ernesto had a hard start in Western Australia when he came to clear land in Moolyabini, Gin Gin, Quariading and Bindoon.

Ernesto left Italy in 1928 leaving behind his beloved wife Luigia and precious son Giuseppe. Sadly Giuseppe passed away from pneumonia aged 16-months.

It took six months for the news to reach Ernesto in WA as mail came by boat.

Luigia and Ernesto were reunited in 1933 after five years apart and moved into a small stone cottage on lot 10 Caporn Street, now known as Berriman House.

They raised a family of six, Rosa, Fiorina, Maria, Joe, Domenico and Tina on Caporn Street, down the road from where Joe and his wife Pam still live today.

Joe's father was very ill so Joe, being the eldest son, got his licence the day before he turned 14 so he could take goods to market.

He would leave home at 5.30 in the morning, take the vegetables to the market, then drive to North Perth Hotel to park the truck and catch the tram to Perth for school.

He bought a block of land in Mullaloo and married his wife Pam in St Anthony's Church.

Two years later they bought a house in Leederville but always came home to Wanneroo on weekends to help Joe's father in the garden. Joe said they "never went more than five days without visiting home".

In 1968 Joe and Pam bought Lot 11 Caporn Street from Joe's father and in 1971 transported a house to the property where they still live.

Although having jobs in and out of the area over his life, Joe said he was proud to be a part of Wanneroo's history and said he would hate to move away.

One of his earliest memories of the area was from when he was four or five.

He remembers soldiers would tie up their horses at the big tree right out the front of their house and he remembers talking with them often when they did.

Joe and Pam had four boys, Michael, David, Paul and Steven, who also attended St Anthony's School. They have 14 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

In 2007 Joe had open heart surgery to insert a heart pump. After eight years Joe is now the longest surviving person in the world with this pump, called a Left Ventricular Assisted Device.

Despite doctors telling him he couldn't work after his heart attacks he continued to work.



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Janice with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

JANICE ELMA SINAGRA

Born in Leederville Western Australia in 1942 to parents Arthur and Elma Bell, Janice was one of four children.

Following her marriage to Bert (Benito) Sinagra, Janice moved in with her in-laws on Pinjar Road, Wanneroo in 1965. They were of course part of the Sinagra family after whom the suburb is named.

She and Bert themselves then lived in a number of houses of their own within Wanneroo including on Shaw Road, Wanneroo and Sydney Road, Gnangara.

Since Bert passed away in 1989, Janice has continued to call Wanneroo home and is currently as a resident of Gnangara.

Janice has fond memories of the St Anthony's Day and Procession, where parishioners and visitors, marched down part of the Wanneroo township road,

with police in attendance to close the road of traffic in order that the procession could take place.

She also enjoyed the Debutante Ball, with her youngest daughter Leesa being one of the many young girls to make their debut into the social world. It was an evening that many Wanneroo families looked forward to.

Over the years she has also been involved in the Wanneroo Agricultural Show.

With many great memories Janice said she loves living in Wanneroo



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Teresa with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

TERESA STAZZONELLI

Teresa Stazzonelli is a mother of four and a grandmother of eight. She spent 50 years of her adult life in Wanneroo. She is married to fellow Pioneer Nino Stazzonelli.

Mrs Stazzonelli's family had half an acre of land at 265 Wanneroo Road where they worked the land growing vegetables. The family often exhibited at the Wanneroo Show.

When she first moved to Wanneroo in 1965, Teresa Stazzonelli recalls thinking that it was "so far away" from anything else.

In the early days there were no neighbours, but, that that did change with time, when a nursery and chicken farm were set up nearby.

The family home was once the only house you could see for 'miles'.

Mrs Stazzonelli remembers the school bus picking up her four daughters from the front of their house.

The family had a long association with St Anthony's - in fact it was a 23 year relationship, because of a big age gap between her oldest and youngest daughters.

Mrs Stazzonelli says she has enjoyed living in the same house in Wanneroo for 49 years because it was familiar, comfortable and home.



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Nino with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

NINO STAZZONELLI

Nino Stazzonelli fondly recalls the “good old days” - the days you never had to lock anything, the house, the shed, or the cars.

He has lived in Wanneroo for 50 years, since 1965.

His family had half an acre of land at 265 Wanneroo Road and back then he says things were much quieter - and he says people were “much more honest”.

Mr Stazzonelli remembers people stopping in to ask for water, petrol or to use the phone at night.

He was a market gardener for decades, spending long days working the land growing lettuce and tomatoes.

His family home was once the only house in the area. Luisini’s vineyard was next door.

Mr Stazzonelli recalls when the wildflower nursery and a poultry farm opened, bringing new business and people to the area.

Italian born Mr Stazzonelli is now 84 years old and an incredibly hardworking man. Would you believe it he retired only a few years ago.

Mr Stazzonelli has supported the Wanneroo Show on many occasions as an exhibitor.

He enjoys tending to his vegetable patch at home in his retirement without the pressure of having to run it as a market gardening business.

He is a father of four and a grandfather of eight and says he loves Wanneroo.



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Peta Bolts on behalf of Mary Schivardi with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

MARY SCHIVARDI

From birth, Mary Schivardi stood out. She's one of 10 children and she and her sisters Ida and Tina were WA's first triplets.

They were born in 1926 in Subiaco and caused quite a stir.

They were considered very special guests along with their mother, at the opening of a section of Wanneroo Road a year later, and were invited to the ribbon cutting ceremony, at their tender young age.

Wanneroo has been Mrs Schivardi's home since 1963.

Her parents were market gardeners and toiled on the land to provide for their family.

The times before electricity came to homes in 1954, were especially tough. The family had to rely on diesel and petrol generators and worked very long days.

She trained as a nurse's aide and recalls busy times spent away learning on the job at the Narrogin Hospital.

Mrs Schivardi is a mother of two. Her fond memories in the City include the sights and sounds of taking her children to Wanneroo Show, the annual St Anthony's Feast Day celebrations and relaxing picnics at Yanchep National Park with family and friends.

Her beloved husband Ettore died last year and Mrs Schivardi says it's been sad watching the old folks pass away over the years.

These days, at just shy of 90 years old, Mrs Schivardi's Parish Priest visits her at home, because she finds it hard to get out and about in the Wanneroo community she loves.



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Gail with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

GAIL LYNETTE SUSAC

Born Gail Lynette Murray to parents Robert and Daisy Murray in 1942, Lynette first moved to Wanneroo in 1965 following her marriage to Andrija Susac.

Andrija was born in 1939 and was a lifetime resident of the City.

Gail and Andrija settled in their marital home in Carabooda Road before then moving to the corner of Dundebur and Wanneroo Roads. Gail now lives in Manbari Crescent.

Gail and Andrija had two children, Narelle and Robert. Narelle is still a Wanneroo resident.

Gail's parents were also residents of the City from 1968 to 1986.

Gail was the Post Mistress at Wanneroo from 1966 to 1979. She has also been actively involved in the local community and has fond memories of training debutantes for St Anthony's and being integral in the commencement of the Joondalup Kindergarten.

A life member of the Wanneroo Sports and Social Club, Gail also served on judging panels for the Wanneroo Show.



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Chris with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

CHRIS TRAJANOVICH

The grounding of the Alkimos is a stand out memory in the mind of Chris Trajanovich. It was 1963 and he was 18 years old.

Mr Trajanovich says not much happened in those days, so the ship's trouble was significant for young and older folks in the district.

Mr Trajanovich recalls a four kilometre adventure with his brothers and friends, driving tractors through the bush to reach the spot where the Alkimos got into strife.

By the time they saw the ship it was starting to break up in the pounding waves.

Mr Trajanovich's market gardener parents lived in Wanneroo from 1937 and grew vegetables on their farm.

In high school he did his homework under the glow of a kerosene lamp, but when electricity arrived things changed for the better.

For years, as a youngster, his assigned chore was to turn off the diesel pump used to irrigate his mother and father's market garden.

His father made him go out in the dark, to switch the pump off at 7o'clock each night.

Electricity's arrival in the region in 1954 meant they were no longer allowed to use diesel power generators and that ended the night time chores.

Chris later found work away from the land, with computers.

The retired computer consultant is now 70 years old. He is married with three children. One of them lives in Wanneroo. He has one dear little grandchild.

Chris Trajanovich has lived in Wanneroo and the City of Wanneroo for all his life. He has been especially impressed by the incredible growth of suburbs along our beautiful coast line.

Mr Trajanovich spends his spare time building hobby machinery using "computer numeric control" or CNC, and is working on a remote control helicopter.



PIONEER PROFILE 2015

Les with Mayor Tracey Roberts.

LESLIE (LES) WILLIAM TURNER

Les was the youngest child of Harry and Mary Turner born in West Perth on August 1, 1927. He grew up on Mount Wittenoom Station in Yalgoo with his five older siblings Percy, John, Mary, Gracey and Harry.

He met Eileen Cockman (daughter of Wanneroo pioneers Cecil and Dolly Cockman) in 1950 and married in 1952.

Together they moved to Mullaloo Beach Road (now Ocean Reef Road) in 1961 to start a poultry farm.

Les said Wanneroo was a "strange place" where you could see your neighbours, quite different from the Wheatbelt where he and Eileen had spent the past eight years.

During the next 21 years in Wanneroo he was an inaugural member of the Wanneroo Country Club (now Wanneroo Sports and Social Club) and the Wanneroo Lions club, where, as president for one year, helped form several other Lions Clubs from Bullsbrook, Gingin and Two Rocks to Whitfords.

In that time he and Eileen hosted many fundraising events from his home for the Lions Save Sight Foundation.

Les said he and Eileen liked to keep busy in the evenings and enjoyed company away from the day's work and their "cackling chooks" at the farm.

He said he liked to know what was going on in the district and appreciated seeing the results of their

efforts in the community.

Les and Eileen had two Children, Ilene and David after which time Les joined the Wanneroo Volunteer St John Ambulance Brigade when Wanneroo got its first Ambulance.

At first Les joined St John to get his first aid certificate so he could better care for his children, but soon developed a passion for the service and was known to always be available anytime of the day and night to drive or be an attendant in the ambulance.

Over the next ten years he was promoted to the rank of Divisional Officer.

He has been a financial member of the Wanneroo Agricultural Society since joining in 1963. Although never on the committee he supported his wife, a life member of the Society, who served on the committee for 13 years.

He always returned to help out at the Show even after he and Eileen moved to Coolup to run a family business for a few years.

The couple returned to Wanneroo in 2001 to live at the Lake Joondalup Lifestyle Village in Ashby where they live today.

Les and Eileen joined the Wanneroo and Districts Historical Society in 1994 where they have been active members ever since.