

The Editor,  
The Young Witness

20th Feb 2007

Re: The late Brian Maxwell.

The larger community of the Young district were saddened recently with the passing of local resident Brian Maxwell. His service of thanksgiving and celebration of life was conducted on Tuesday 25th January 2007 in the church he was married in almost fifty years ago, St, Johns Anglican Church before a large crowd of well-wishers that included family, friends, sporting colleagues, work associates and their families.

Brian was born in Manchester, England on the 7th June 1933 to Norman and Winifred Maxwell being the first of three sons, his brothers David and Stuart survive him with their families.

Brian was a young boy of just seventeen when he decided to search for a new life in Australia, he was able to do this through the Big Brother Movement who placed young men in employment, Brian travelling to Young. He was to work on the dairy owned by the late Jack Roles at Clearview for three years · before finding employment within the town and from that point his feat was undoubtedly sealed. He loved the area and in 1955 persuaded his parents and two brothers to emigrate to the land of sunshine and join him in Young.

Brian was to marry the love of his life, Moya Goodlock, on Saturday 8th June 1957 and together they set about establishing a home for themselves and for the forthcoming three boys, Stephen, Greg and Brett. Like most young families through those early years, times were sometimes tough but throughout this they both stood by each other relying on each other's strengths to see them through.

Without doubt Brian loved life, he worked hard, he loved his involvement in sports and he was a dedicated family man. Throughout those years he unfortunately, like most, had his share of health problems but he was able to maintain his will to succeed and continue to provide for his growing family.

Sport was paramount with Brian, he was heavily involved with harness racing both as a participant, breeder, trainer and driver, his greatest thrill being when Camden Blaze won his first race at Harold Park and then with Armaringa again winning on the same track.

In 1976 he was appointed a stipendiary steward with the Harness Racing Authority, a position he held until recently. This position was to see him travel throughout southern NSW and during this time he made many long-lasting friends.

Brian was awarded life membership of the Young Harness Racing Club in 2005 for his services to the sport including those early years associated with the Young gymkhana committee along with many others enthusiasts.

His other love was rugby league, he was to serve on both senior and junior committees and he got no greater delight than to jump in the car and see his sons and their sons pull on the red, white and blue. The summer months also gave Brian the opportunity to see the boys play the game they play in heaven and to quietly cheer for his beloved "Poms" in any ashes test that might be on.

His three sons were to take the baton and continue where Brian left off in the sport of harness racing when he was appointed as a steward, racing some good horses including Barefoot Hanover, Aussie Atom, Grubby Shannon, Grandin and many others.

Those people who were fortunate enough to know Brian understood and appreciated his love and deep understanding he had for his family, bis grandchildren, his beloved horses and all those around him. His quiet and unassuming manner will always be remembered by us all,

He was weary and God gave him rest.