



#growingupgriffith

My parents and I arrived in Griffith when I was ten years old. My expectation of Griffith was that I was coming to a City with many shops and attractions. I was really disappointed, Griffith was very much a country town! We lived with my brother and his family on his farm at Tharbogang. It was the opposite of what I was used to, there was no corner store to go and buy lollies or ice cream or movie matinees at the cinemas on a Sunday morning after church. I cried for days because I wanted to go back home to my school and I missed my friends.

I soon changed my mind when I started school at Griffith Primary, the teachers and students were wonderful to me and went beyond their call of duties to make me feel welcomed and also to teach me English. I made many friends and loved to play sport on a Friday afternoon.

Many years ago when I first arrived here, I could never have imagined that this little girl that could not speak English one day would be contributing to the development of this great City of Griffith.

- Cr Anne Napoli

At one stage I lived for a short period at the Griffith Hotel in Kooyoo Street. The former hotel was of good and stylish structure with well chosen exterior tiles and glass framed beer advertisements depicting strong and sporty men .

Diagonally opposite was a battered tin shed housing an "old school" blacksmith . He was never short of helpers as he shod horses and from time to time made a wheel from wood and metal and special order iron gadgets . Various people wandered in from time to time to see a master tradesman at work or to have a chat . As for the furnace , fires ,sparks , horses and very hot metal one had to look after oneself as there was nothing even resembling WHS in those days .

- Cr Leon Thorpe

I am obviously new to the City so my memory can only go back a blink of the eye i.e. 4 years, but I recall being struck by the warmest of welcomes we received when coming to Griffith. I have never encountered a place that is so inclusive, anyone and everyone is welcome in Griffith provided they respect others. A showcase of what can be achieved in a short history when a community works together.

- Brett Stonestreet, General Manager

Spending Sunday afternoons watching the Griffith Swans Seniors play in the old South West Football League at the Exies Oval before it was redeveloped, lovely family atmosphere with a great standard of footy played.

- Max Turner, Director Business, Cultural & Financial Services.

Getting sun burnt learning to swim at the outdoor pool and eventually being brave enough to jump off the big diving board and then eating redskins on the way home - legs burning and sticking to the hot vinyl seats in the car.

- Shireen Donaldson

Have you got a memory or story you would like to share?
Email us at 2016@griffith.nsw.gov.au or call 6962 8100

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