

# Collinsville



## *Memoirs*



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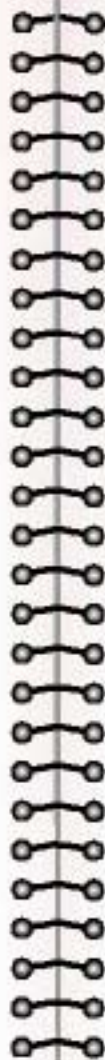
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# Collinsville Memoirs

The aim of this project has been to utilize Information Technology as a **'Community Building Block'**, bringing together the Youth and Seniors of our town to actively explore and collate the Memoirs and Narrative history associated with the Gold, Coal Mining and Pastoral History of Collinsville & its District.

With the skills developed through this comprehensive and invaluable Historic CD and digital image collection, our aim has been to support our community to operate more effectively with technology and to have the skills they need in 21st Century.



We apologise in advance for any errors and or omissions.

This collection has been created in good faith using all materials available to us at the time of publication.

If you have any corrections or additions for future copies, please do not hesitate to let us know as we believe this to be the start of many volumes of Collinsville's History.

Collinsville  
Timeline



in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



# Timeline

1770 - 2002

## 1770

Captain James Cook named a number of principal coastal land features of Bowen.

## 1845

James Sinclair discovers the natural harbour of Port Denison.

The first European's to traverse the interior were Ludwig Leichhardt who reached the Suttor & Burdekin Rivers in April. They named the area the Kennedy District.

## 1859

Explorer George Elphinstone Dalrymple investigated Port Denison.

Queensland was established as a separate colony in December.

## 1861

Port Denison was declared a Port of Entry and the town of Bowen established.

The Kennedy District area was officially opened up for pastoral occupation.

Strathmore was the first grazing run to be taken up by the Cunningham family.

A mail run was soon set-up.

Late September saw Exmoor, Heidelberg also taken up.

## 1863

Thomas Byrnes died and was buried beside the Bowen River.

## 1864

First settlement in Townsville.

First coal find made by Mr. Henry Hatcher.

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit

**1866**

European settlements lead to the discovery of significant deposits of Gold, Silver, Lead, Bismuth, Gemstones including Agate & Amethyst, and of course Coal.

Richard Daintree, government geologist for North Qld inspected Bowen River Coalfields.

**1867**

Gold was mined at Mount Wyatt.

**1870**

Richard Daintree inspected the coal bearing sections along Pelican Creek & the Bowen River Fields.

**1871**

Gold was also mined at Normanby.

**1872**

Richard Daintree issued the first map, he published descriptions of Coal bearing sections along Pelican Creek & Bowen River.

Discovery of gold at Charters Towers.

**1875**

The Bowen Provincial Association opened a subscription list for contributions toward the expenses of obtaining samples of Bowen River coal for analysis in England.

**1878**

Jacks Creek on Bowen River below the weir named after Robert Jack, Government Geologist.

**1880**

Mining of Silver, Lead and Bismuth took place at Ukalunda.

**1883**

Gottlieb Hornung bought Heidleberg land and property at auction for £480. (Property is now known as the Bowen River Hotel)

**1886**

Property was transferred to William Fane De Salis, part owner of Strathmore Station.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



**1889**

Liquor licence issued to William George Hornung & the premises went into legalised liquor trading under the name of 'The Heidleberg Inn'.

Property still owned by De Salis.

**1894**

Land and property became the property of Hornung until 1904 when the licence lapsed due to the death of Hornung.

**1905**

Land became the property of Mary Hornung, widow.

**1906**

Dan Harris leased the Heidleberg Inn & changed its name to Bowen River Hotel. Race track was fenced on the flats behind the hotel for the club to stage its annual Bowen River Races there. Bowen River Races were previously held at Telemon Plains Station on the bank of the Bowen River just downstream from Glenbowen. The first race meeting was staged at the present site that year.

**1907**

A.W.H. Cunningham of Strathmore Station purchased Bowen River Hotel and land owned by Mrs Hornung for the sum of £100.

**1910**

29th July - William John Bailey's horse Orthello won the Cup at Bowen River Races and the jockey was Bob Miller. Bailey saw his horse win and he died later that afternoon in his tent. He is buried near Hornung at the back of the racetrack.

**1913**

Bowen - Townsville rail link completed. Bowen River Coal Prospecting Syndicate formed

Successful tests conducted on samples of coal by Bowen - Proserpine Tramway & Merinda Meatworks

Gold discovered at Mt Coolon.

Tom Coolon registered a claim at Clermont.

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



### 1917

The first official mining party left Bowen under the leadership of Mr. Peter Hill. First official settlement of Moongunya (Collinsville) a name that had been given by the Railway Dept was the aboriginal word for Coal.

Bowen Consolidated Coal Mine Ltd formed and began mining in Scottville.

Construction began on rail line from Merinda to Moongunya.

Mrs Fred Bartlett who came to nurse the sick eventually stayed and became the first women to live on the coalfield.

### 1918

State Department of Mines ordered Tom Coolon to forfeit his gold lease. Coolon was away from the area too much and had not worked sufficient days in the month to continue his lease. Tom Coolon shot 4 men dead.

Site of No: 1 State Coal Mine selected.

### 1919

Bowen Consolidated Coal Mines Limited (BCCM) was formed.

Work on State Mine was also started.

The mine Manager was Peter Hill. The development team consisted of Miners Joe Pearce, F. Crew, W. Pengelly, F. Bartlett, D. Jones and C. Morris. The Blacksmith was A. Hill, Drayman was Jack King, Coolie was J. Rennison and Carpenter was D. Chesney.

Mines Minister Mr. J. Jones was quoted saying that the 'Bowen Coalfields had a great future and the coal was of high quality'.

Families started to arrive at the Bowen River Coalfields.

First store established was the Dunlop Grocery and Post Office with Dunlop's Hall and Dance Floor next door. It also included room for boarders.

Magee's Store opened up soon after.

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



## 1920

First known Coal Miner to come to town was Mr. Bill White.

The first car to come to Collinsville and to be used to supplement the horse teams on the Coal Field was a Model T Ford. Gold was mined at Mt Coolon and through to 1938.

## 1921

On the 20th September, Moongunya was officially renamed Collinsville after MLA Charles Collins who was Labour M.L.A for Bowen from 1915 until 1963.

The first Collinsville School opened on the site of what is now No.1 Green of the Collinsville Golf Course. It was a weatherboard building about 16' x 16' with a board floor and a tent fly for a roof. The first teacher was Mr. Black who arrived in town in a small wagon with his new bride; he started on May 3rd and left after only 3 days.

On June 27th Mr. Cullum arrived and the school was reopened.

Later in the year a "new" classroom was bought in sections from Pentland and was erected on the present school site.

## 1922

20 homes for miners & their families were erected in the 'New Town', The Old Town was where people lived first in Bag humpies, before moving up to the New Town.

The first land sales of town lots, 93 of the 155 offered were sold for a total of £15,607.00 and all were sold under Miner's Homestead Perpetual Leases.

First birth on 22nd November of a girl to the Parkinson family.

First death was that of Mrs Stanfield.

First fatal accident at the mine was Mr Fred Reed.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



### 1922 cont.

The State School was moved to present site in Devlin Street from Golf links on Scottville Road.

Survey of New Town area was taken.

Rail link from Merinda to the State Mine was completed in September.

Scottville Hotel was built.

There were 2 bakers and 2 butchers in town.

Picture theatre was set up in Mrs Dunlops Hall, with a back wall removed and ran the projector from a T Model Ford.

The Police Quarters had been established.

### 1923

Miners held a concert to raise money for the first Ambulance they made £200.

The first ambulance was a Model 45 Buick.

First Catholic Church was built.

Chinese market gardeners arrived the first being Mr. George Lee and later followed by Mr. Ah Wah.

Town theatres included Webb's Pioneer Picture Palace and Star Theatre, seating for 400 to 500. Started as open-air then was converted to a hardtop.

Mr Webb bought Mr Bill Henry out of the Star and closed it down.

A Post Office was built and Mr Fidler was appointed Postmaster, Collinsville was linked by phone to Bowen.

Trains began running August 1st, the line being officially opened after 6 ½ years.

Magee's set up their grocery store beside the Magee's Corner Hotel; Mr. Charlie McDonald was the manager.

There were 150 children enrolled at school.

A meeting was held to discuss the establishment of a general hospital.

Fundraising started immediately with employees of the state mine regularly donating 4 pence in the £ of their wages. Water was pumped from Pelican Creek and stored in two 600-gallon tanks on a hill behind the town.

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



## 1924

The 'New Town' was established. Scottdale (Scottville) Provisional School opened on 4th February and had 35 pupils, a temporary building constructed wholly by voluntary labour. The name was changed to Scottville Provisional School in September that year. Mr Albert Czislawski was the first Headmaster, the first teacher was Miss Sybil Vise. Mr Czislawski stayed until 1937, Miss Vise left in 1928. First School committee consisted of: Chairman- Edward Martin, Secretary- John Dinsdale, Treasurer- James Cavanagh, Committee Members- Thomas Poole & Thomas Laird. Work began on the Collinsville Hospital. A liquor licence was granted. First hotel opened was Wilson's Central Hotel, with Mr Wilson's being the licensee. Scottville was originally called Scottdale, after H J Hall Scott and J Dinsdale, but was changed to Scottville by the Postal Department.

At the end of this year Collinsville had a population of about 700 and Scottville between 200 to 300.

Work started on the Bowling Green in Scottville.

A new Ambulance vehicle arrived.

## 1925

New Scottville School built.

Scottville Primary School official opened with 35 pupils attending.

Magee's & Co built the second hotel in Collinsville, which was called Magee's Hotel.

## 1926

Ted Ashley planted a tree at the official opening of the Hospital.

Dr O'Sullivan the first doctor, Matron Creedy was the first Matron.

Mr Reg Cochrane became the first headmaster of the Collinsville State School; his assistant was Miss M Shaw.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit

### 1926 cont.

A second room for the Scottville School was built.

Mr. Peter Edward Mayo was the first person buried at Collinsville Cemetery on 24th May. He was aged 48 years.

A Bowling Club was opened with Mrs Hamilton rolling the first bowl on the green.

Mr. D S Malcolm built their first home in Conway Street. It is now the old Catholic Presbytery.

Vera Jolly was a telephonist at the Post Office.

### 1928

Collinsville Band won State Competitions; Pollie Prohaska was the conductor and was paid £2 a week.

### 1930

Commonwealth Bank opened.

Collinsville & Scottville had reticulated water.

Scottville Hotel built by Mr. Jack Quinn.

Collinsville Band won State Competition.

### 1932

Scottville Hotel on 5th Ave burnt down. Golf Club opened, with Mr Parks as President.

### 1934

Collinsville Hospital was officially approved as nurse's training school; it was a 5-year training course. The first girls to begin the course were Mavis Barry, Ann Henderson, Madge Gralton and Paula Hughes. Mavis Barry was the first to graduate. The matron was Mrs McIntosh and the sister was Mrs Crofton nee McHughes.

Lowth's Chemist Shop burnt down.

### 1936

Catholic School opened.

### 1938

Mrs A McDonald was the owner / lessee of Webb's Theatre.

### 1939

Mr Monte Gordon was the owner / lessee of Webb's Theatre.

The Mt Coolon mine closed.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



**1940**

It was a four-hour drive from Collinsville to Bowen.

**1941**

Collinsville Pie Shop & Bakery opened and owned by Mr Jerry Schmidt.

**1942**

Mrs A McDonald was the owner / lessee of Webb's Theatre.

**1943**

Female workers at the Post Office were 'Spotters' for planes going over and had to call Townsville for identification. Mrs Flo Hansen (daughter of Vera Jolly) was a telephonist at the Post Office.

**1944**

American plane crash-landed near Sonoma Station.  
Postmaster was Mr. Joe Colleran.

**1945**

Mr Monte Gordon was the owner / lessee of the Pioneer Theatre.  
Postmaster was Mr. Ted Howe.

**1946**

The Davidson report was presented, which said that three coal trains with a passenger car attached ran to Collinsville each day from Bowen, this was only 57 or 60 miles distance. It's extremely slow and uncomfortable and had no sanitary conveniences. It took seven hours to do the journey. The road exists in name only and it is practically unfit for use by vehicles.

Snow Templeton and Charlie Harrison established and maintained Collinsville's first daily delivery of fresh milk, by horse and cart.

Collinsville saw torrential rains.  
Collinsville Band won State Competition.  
A three month miners strike coincided with the wet season when the Burdekin Bridge was flooded and no trains were able to get through.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit

**1947**

Electricity was connected to Collinsville in March.

Women's Auxiliary was looking after the community needs, including a child minding centre, some Kindergarten equipment and milk for school children.

**1948**

The Methodist Church opened.

A football field was completed on the mine lease.

Floods were so bad that Collinsville and Scottville were isolated and no supplies could be brought in.

**1950**

Electricity was provided in Scottville.

**1952**

Coalminers had a "Stay-down strike" which lasted 10 days. [\(See Story\)](#)

**1953**

Mechanisation in the mining industry took place.

**1954**

A tragic Mine disaster with 7 miners and 2 horses killed on Wednesday 13th October at 5.50 p.m. [\(See Story\)](#)

**1956**

The Parents and Citizens Association started at the Collinsville State School. The first Collinsville Show was held and was a two-day event.

**1957**

Miners from Mt. Mulligan moved to Collinsville after it's mine closed. Queensland's first Worker's Club licence granted to Collinsville Worker's Club. The Bowen-Collinsville road, the rough bush track with it's history of trial, terror and traffic hold ups, was declared as a Main Road and major improvements would follow to turn it into a first class road.

**1958**

Mr. Lloyd Roberts M.L.A opened the state high school on the 28th November. The head master was Mr. Reg Cochrane.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



## 1960

State Government took the decision to sell Collinsville Coal Mine to private enterprise, 260 miners employed at the time were paid off.

The miners Collinsville to Brisbane Convoy consisted of 8 cars, 27 men and 5 women. [\(See Story\)](#)

In March a full time dentist started in Collinsville, there had only been intermittent visits from Bowen dentists.

## 1961

The mine was purchased by Davis Contractors.

## 1963

Collinsville Road was part of a development road grant, after considerable work by the Bowen Shire Council.

Council office opened at new site corner of Stanley & Conway St.

## 1964

An attractive and modern swimming pool opened in October. Mr. Jim Malcolm was one of the first to use the pool.

Foundation members included R Lawn, G Clamp, A & J Williams, D Batchelor, D Cooper, R Christenson & Mr Davis. Max Walker was the first manager.

## 1965

Work started on the building of the Powerhouse.

The town's work force swells by 370 meaning new houses, in new streets.

## 1966

Miss Lyn Barrett was a telephonist at the Post office. (Vera Jolly's granddaughter)

## 1967

A new hospital building was opened. A 13-week strike at the Power House commenced. [\(See Story\)](#)

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



## 1968

Collinsville Power Station commenced supplying power to the grid. Mr. Jim Malcolm one of the first Mechanical Tradesman's Assistants.

P H & E M Chiconi were the owners/lessee's of the Pioneer Theatre.

## 1969

The road to Bowen was completed, including alignment, bitumen sealing and 5 bridges. Shire Engineer Mr. G Davidson and his men declared it as complete on 6th February.

Collinsville & Scottville had their Jubilee Celebrations on March 19th.

Collinsville Co-operative Store closed. Full permeant water supply became available with the advent of the Collinsville powerhouse.

First sewerage connections with the original sewerage scheme for the town completed in 1971.

Collinsville Historical Society was formed.

## 1970

The Collinsville to Bowen road was named the Peter Delamothe Road after a request from the council.

## 1971

The population in Collinsville was 2147.

## 1972

The Fire Station building was built. Meetings were held in the C.O.G. Hall. On the 30th June the Fire phone line was connected to the Fire Station.

The first Fire call was on 7th July and it was a grass fire near the Shell Fuel Depot on the corner Station St and Mt Coolon Rd.

Senior Auxiliary Firemen were:

Syd Richards, Terry Wilkinson, Eddie Starkey, Allan May, G Batchelor, Doug Ferguson, Les Coleman, Frank Monaghan, Harry Watts & Geoff Buckley.

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



### 1975

MIM acquired Bowen Consolidated Coal Mine and renamed it Collinsville Coal Company.

### 1977

Dacon, the original state mine, was acquired by MIM.

Mine workers went on a 4 week strike to increase their bonus payments.

### 1978

Ten million dollars was spent by MIM to give Collinsville mining operation the capacity to export coking coal from the deepwater shipping port at Abbot Point.

### 1980's

The NCA Project began with the expansion of Collinsville, the development of Newlands mine and rail connection to Abbott Point deep-water port facility.

### 1981

The population in Collinsville was 2756, with more than 50% of the workforce engaged in coal mining & the electricity industry.

### 1983

The Mines expanded for the export markets.

The Pelican Creek Bridge (Oliver Menton) was opened.

### 1984

Webb's Pioneer picture theatre was demolished.

Town & Country Hotel was built.

A major expansion of coal mining in the Collinsville District occurred, with the signing of contracts by MIM to supply one million tonnes of coking coal per annum to Japanese steel mills.

### 1985

The Railway was modernised.

Collinsville Plaza and Bowen Evans stores opened.

### 1986

Collinsville's new High School was opened. The Bowling Club celebrated their Diamond Jubilee.

Collinsville Aged Assistance Association was formed on the 12th December

The population in Collinsville was 3173.

in  
town



at  
the  
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on  
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land



start

help

credits

exit

**1988**

Fundraising started for the building of the Hillside Haven Hostel.

The Power Station closed.

**1990**

"Wharrier & Mr Ed", the last ever-working Pit Ponies in Australia were retired.

The Hon. Gareth Evans opened the Community Centre on Sept 12th.

**1991**

The population was 2250. Of these the majority were in the 30 to 34 year age group, and there were 3 people over the age of 90.

Annie McDonald's & Paul Hamilton's Murals were completed.

**1992**

With the assistance of the Blue Nurses, a Day Respite Centre opens.

The Hillside Haven Hostel opens on the 27th January.

Senator Margaret Reynolds officially opens Hillside Haven Hostel on the 23rd October.



**1993**

MIM made a decision to reduce the size of the operation to concentrate on meeting domestic and export markets.

**1994**

The population of Collinsville was 2447. The mine had a loss of another 104 jobs.

**1995**

Power Station is re-opened.

**1996**

No. 2 Underground Mine is closed by MIM.

**1998**

The Bocum Mine was the last Underground mine to be closed by MIM.

**2001**

Collinsville Connect Telecentre opened to provided access by the community to computers and the Internet.

**Information and Communication!**



in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



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in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit

# Collinsville



*Township*

in  
town



at  
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mine



on  
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land



start

help

credits

exit



## *The Bye-Goners*

You'll find them where they congregate  
Out front of Bushy's shop,  
Or maybe on the bank side  
The stool outside the Top,  
Historians - the wise men  
The silver heads - the greys,  
Storytellers of Collinsville -  
The boys of the bye-gone days.

They can tell you of the early days  
That seem so long ago  
The pioneers - their way of life  
The friends they used to know

Passey, Docherty, Wongy, George Aroney,  
Joe McCann, Malcolms, Tudehopes, Martins,  
Charley Morris, Ted Morran, Pooles,  
Mackies, Gordons, Annie Duncan, Alfie Gall,  
And many, many others - but ask, and they'll  
recall.

Back in those bye-gone days.  
And many, many others - but ask, and they'll  
recall.

A footballer called Moose  
Greatest ever one wise man says  
Rules supreme the footy field  
Back in those bye-gone days.

They mention noted horsemen  
Marvelous feats they'd done,  
The barra in the big holes  
When the river used to run,  
The beauty of an unspoiled land  
No fences barred the ways,  
Where life was hard - yet carefree  
In those early bye-gone days.

There's stories of the war years  
The huts upon the hill,  
The Mulliganites, the Styx River folk  
The ones who remain here still  
Names - who intermarried,  
Lends but to cause to amaze  
Now most are inter-related  
Because of those bye-gone days.

So if you have a moment  
Walk up and say "Gday"  
Entertainment is there for the taking  
If you would but care to stay.  
The tales - the facts they're recalling  
As down memory's land they gaze,  
Our respected elders - GOD BLESS THEM  
The boys of the bye-gone days.

*By Stan Hathaway*

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



*Clubs*



*Events*



malcolm st

henderson st

macdonald st

hillview st

scottville rd

red hill rd

fairway st

millway rd

sheepcraze

conway st

stewart

depot

station st

pelican creek

garrick st

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dauidson st

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5th st

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town



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the  
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start

help

credits

exit





in  
town

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the  
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land

start

help

credits

exit



Early Football Team



1924 Collinsville Football Premiers



Wanderer's Football Club 1927



Collinsville School Football Team  
1931

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





1932 Nth Qld B Grade Winners



1940 Southern Zone B Grade Champions



1941 Collinsville Football Team



1957 Collinsville Football Team

in  
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mine



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start

help

credits

exit



1957 Junior Football Team



Marching Girls



Marching Girls on football field



1961 Football Team

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

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the  
land

start

help

credits

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Footballers 1968



Nth Qld B Grade Premiers 1972

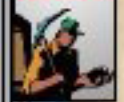


Nth Qld B Grade Premiers 1973

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit



## Some Collinsville 1980's Football Teams



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Some Collinsville 1980's  
Football Teams



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





B Grade Premiers 1983



Nth Qld B Grade Premiers 1984



Trophy Night 1984/85 Season

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Undefeated Premiers 1987



1988 Footballers

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Cheergirls cheer on  
Collinsville Football Teams in 1985



Collinsville Football Cheergirls  
1986

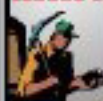


Cheergirls travel to support  
Collinsville Football Team

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



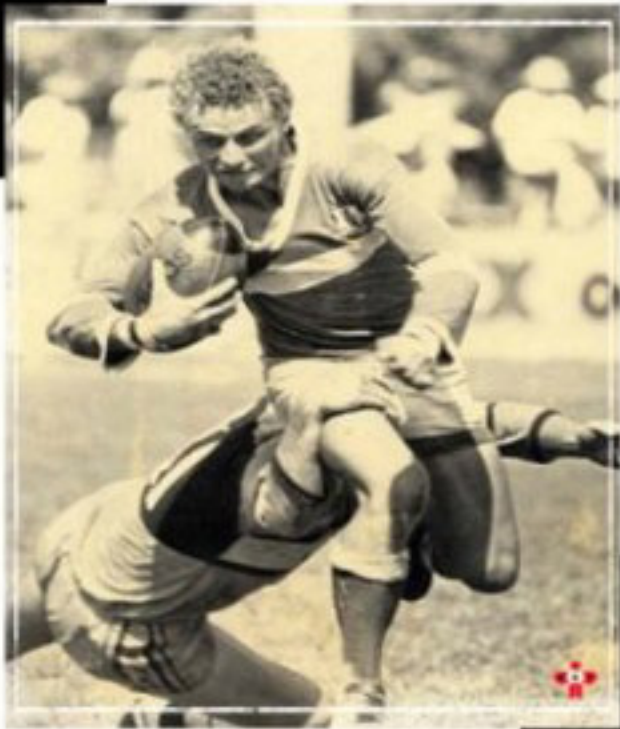
start

help

credits

exit





Collinsville Footballer Barry Elliott



Following in dad's footsteps.  
Brian Elliott plays for Redcliff 1998

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville Footballers



Collinsville Footballer  
Alex Wyper

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Collinsville Footballer  
Frank Baker



Lindsey Phillips makes a tackle

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville Footballer  
Kevin Earl



Collinsville vs Proserpine

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

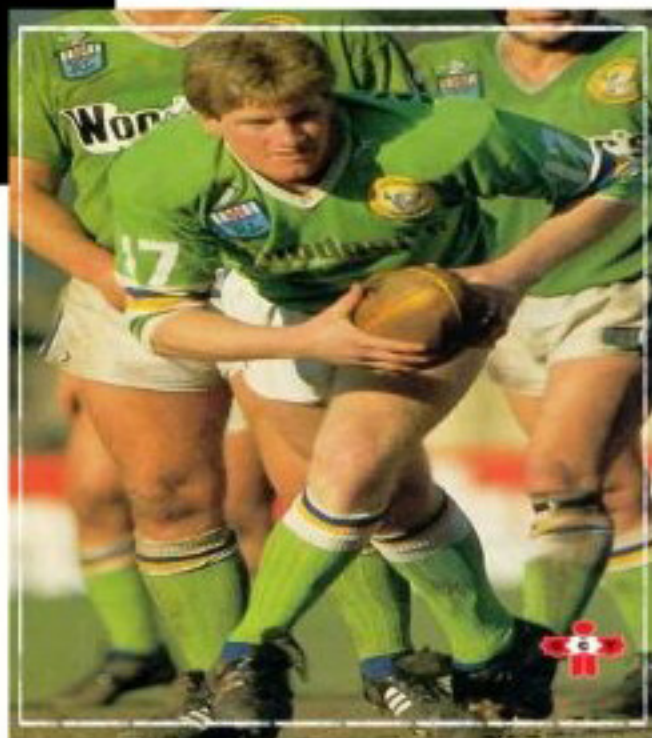
start

help

credits

exit





Local fottballer Les Morrissey  
plays for Canberra



Collinsville Football Club & Grounds  
2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville Lodge Members



Masonic Lodge - Clyde Royal Arch.



Returned Servicemen  
1940



Collinsville Ladies HomeLeague  
1927

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





1963 Marching Girls



Cub's & Scout's Marching



Back to Collinsville Committee  
1996

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville Ambulance Centre  
in Blake Street 1927



Nurses in the back of Ambulance



Collinsville's First Ambulance



Collinsville's Second Ambulance

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Collinsville Ambulance & Bearers  
2002



Collinsville Ambulance Station  
2002

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Mary Hamilton bowls the first bowl 1924



Collinsville Bowling Team



Mrs. C. E. Bellach First Lady President, 1940

First Lady President  
Bowls Club 1940



Mrs. Jim Conway calls the first bowl to officially open the Club.

Opening of Club 1924

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





### Pennants Championship 1938-39



Paul Hamilton



### Winning Ladies & Men Bowling Team



### Winning Ladies Pennants Team

in town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Old Bowls Clubhouse 1965



Bowls Clubhouse



Bowling Green at the Bowls Club



Collinsville Bowls Clubhouse 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Mens Purple Pennant Winning Team 1972



Mens Red Pennant Winning Team 1973



MIM Mens Pennant Winners 1990

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Mirtle Christenson - Foundation Member



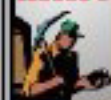
Nth Qld Rinks Winners



in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Ladies Jubille Pennant Winners 1949



Ladies Pennants 1956



Winning Ladies Team

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Ladies Pennant Winners 1988



Nth Qld Ladies Blue Pennant Winners  
1988



Ladies Nth Qld Pennant Winners 1990



Ladies Nth Qld Pennant Winners 2002



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





First Collinsville  
Golf Clubhouse 1933



Golf Club members pose outside  
the first Clubhouse



Plane landed on  
Collinsville Golf Course.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Golf Clubhouse  
1989



Veteran Golfers 1970



Golf Clubhouse  
2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





CWA Pre 1941



CWA 1941



CWA Debutante Ball 1952



CWA Debutante Ball

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Present day CWA Building

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Opening Day of the Collinsville &  
Scottville Swimming Pool 1964



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Club Champions  
1973



Swimming Club Presentations 1983



NQ Squad 1985



NQ Squad  
Cairns 1985

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Club Champions 1986



Girl Club Champions 1986



Swimming Club Swimmers 1999

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit

Collinsville & Scottville Swimming Pool  
opening 1964



Collinsville & Scottville Swimming  
Pool 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

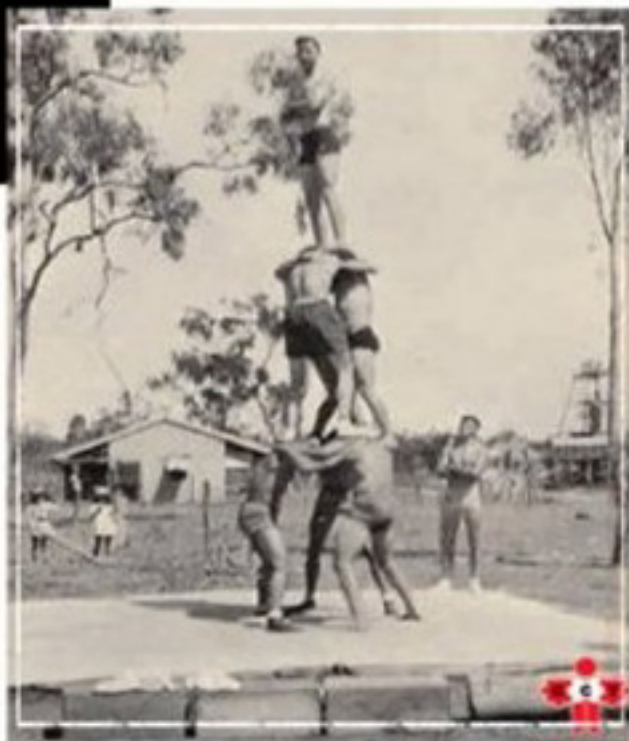
start

help

credits

exit





Wrestling Team  
1930's



Wrestling Team  
1930's

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Team of Wrestlers  
1930's



Wrestling Pyramid  
1930's

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Scottville Hockey Team



Collinsville Olympic Torch Carriers  
1956



Early Bike Races



Elephant Races in Collinsville

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Pony Club Rider at Show 1966



1988 Pony Club riders

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Collinsville Pony Club Sign  
painted by Wendy Bischoff



Pony Club Grounds



Pony Club Grounds

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

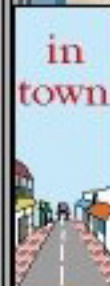
start

help

credits

exit





# Town Events



start

help

credits

exit





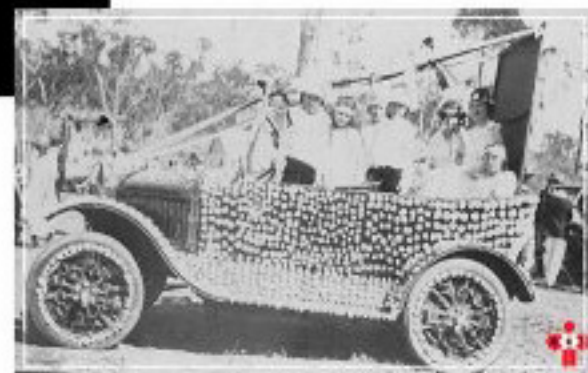
First Mayday Parade



First Mayday Float



First Mayday Decorated Bike



Mayday Queen 1924

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit

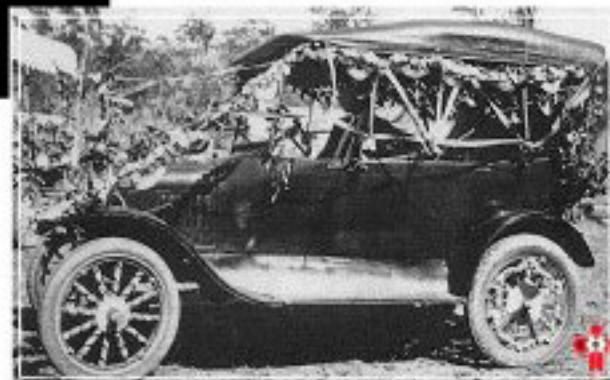




First Labour Day Procession 1923



First Miner's Queen 1925



Decorated Car Mayday



Mayday Queen Entrants

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Float 1946



Peace Float 1946



1946 Mayday Float



Mayday Bike

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Batton Twirlers



Bagpipes Leading Mayday



1980 Mayday Procession

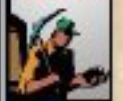


Mayday Queens

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

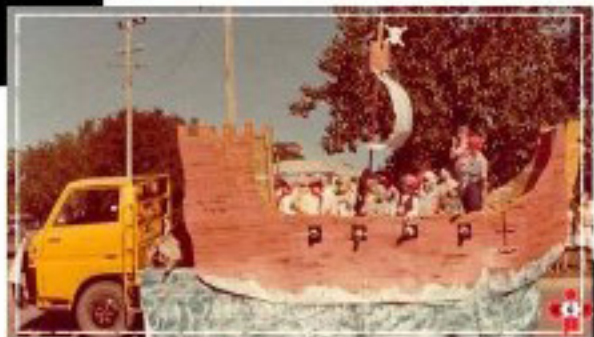
credits

exit





Mayday float 1980



1980 Float



1985 Mayday Flaot



1985 Decorated Bikes

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Last time the Pit Ponies lead the  
Mayday Procession 1989



Mayday Procession 1989



Mayday Procession 1989



Mayday Procession early 1990's

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





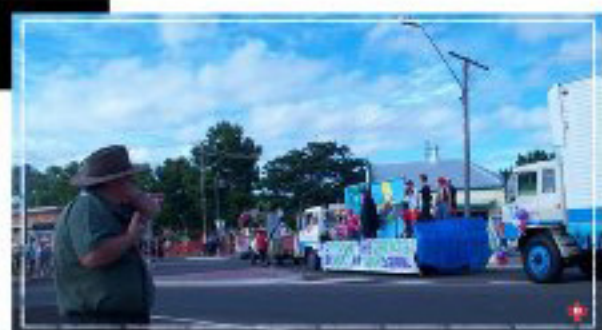
Mayday Procession 2002



CFMEU Collinsville Lodge 2002



Mayday Procession 2002



2002 Mayday Procession

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Motorbikes 2002



Decorated Bikes 2002



Junior Rugby League Float 2002



Hospital Float 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





St John Bosco School Float 2002



State School Float 2002



Scottville School Float 2002



High School Float 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Mayday Queen Entrant 2002



Mayday Tiny Tot Entrant 2002



Mayday Queen, Princess, Tiny Tot  
2002



Mayday Fireworks



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Sack Races at Mayday



3 Legged Race at Mayday



Catch the Rooster



Catch the Greasy Pig

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Mens Fill the Skip



Mens High Jump



Mens Saw the Prop



Mens Races

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Womens Fill the Skip



Womens Kick the Football

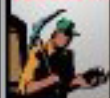


Womens Hammer the Nail

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Mens Tug of War at Mayday



Clown Entertainment  
keeping the children amused

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Band leading Mayday Procession



Brass Band



Collinsville District Band A-Grade  
1947



Ladies performing at the Theatre

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Fancy Dress for hospital 1920's



Fancy Dress Ball 1920's



Fundraising Ball for Hospital held in  
first new town Theatre 1920's

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

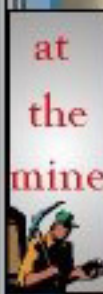
start

help

credits

exit





Town Sites

start

help

credits

exit





The Uniting Church  
in the early 1980's



The Uniting Church today 2002



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





The first Scottville School had bag walls and dirt floor 1924



Second Scottville school was erected in 1925



Scottville School Pupils 1930



Extentions were made to the original building in 1984

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Scottville School



Scottville School as it stands today



Scottville School 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





The second hotel in Collinsville was built by Magee & Company in 1925 and was called Magee's Hotel also known in later years as the Bottom Pub.



Magee's Hotel after it was burnt down in 1982.



Scottville Hotel built in 1930.  
J. Quinn was proprietor.  
Unfortunately this hotel burnt to the ground in 1932.

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Present day Central Hotel



Town and Country Hotel / Motel



United Mines Workers Club 2002



Opal Ridge Motel 1963

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Queensland Country Credit Union  
Building in 1993



Staff of the Credit Union 1993



Queensland Country Credit Union  
Building in 2002



Staff of the Credit Union 2002



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Original Catholic Church  
built in late 1923



Catholic Church  
as it stands today 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





First Union Hall  
The second building was later donated to  
Collinsville & Scottville Kindergarten



The second Union building  
& present day Kindergarten at Scottville



Kindy Hall 1991

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Present day Anglican Church

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Old St John Bosco School



1936 School Photo  
St John Bosco School



Teaching Staff  
St John Bosco School 1980

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



St John Bosco School



St John Bosco School 2002



Demountable Building at the back  
Adventure Playground at the front



Preschool & Year 1 Building

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Cricket Pitch near the  
Preschool Playarea

St John Bosco's Oval



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Star Picture Theatre 1920's



Webb's Pioneer Picture Palace 1920's



Pioneer Theatre



Pulling down of the Pioneer Theatre  
1985

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Jehovahs Witness Hall  
Scottville 2002

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville High School 1958



Opening of Collinsville High School  
1958

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





First High School Class 1958



High School Sports Team  
1958



Building site of present day  
High School built in 1985



New High School being built  
1985

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

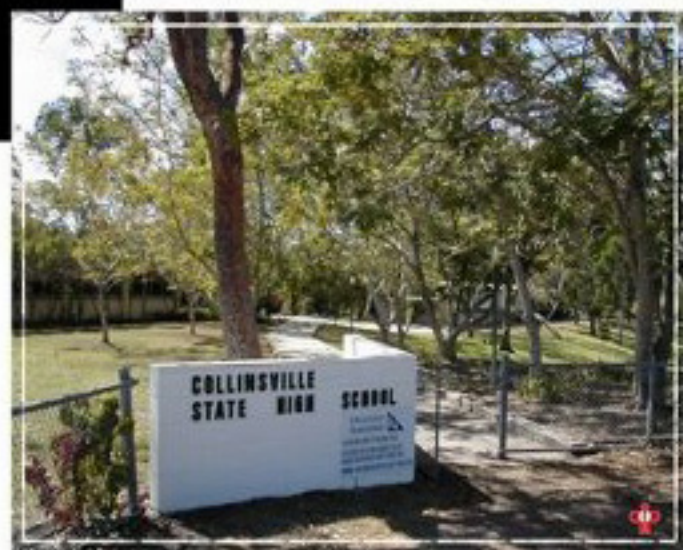
start

help

credits

exit





Collinsville State High School  
2002



Collinsville State High School Oval

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Hillside Haven



Hillside Haven  
Aged Care Facility 2002



Hillside Haven Aged Care Facility  
opened in 1992

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

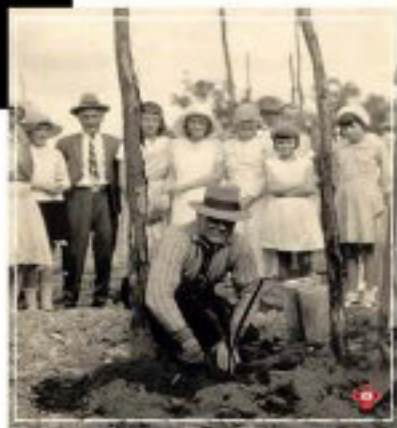
on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Ted Ashley at tree planting ceremony  
Collinsville Hospital opening 1926



Opening of New Wing at Hospital  
1926



Collinsville Hospital 1926



Collinsville Hospital 1926

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Maternity Wing of the Hospital



Nurses Quarters



Aerial view of the Hospital 2000

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Morris Motor Garage



Collinsville & Scottville Bus Service  
1931



Car Show at the Collinsville Show



Searle's Original Truck

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Searle & Sloan Holden Agency



Searle & Sloan Mobilgas



Searle & Sloan Holden Agency

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



G. Reed Bootmaker situated in the  
Main Street of Collinsville &  
Catholic Church on left



Scottville Co-op



Argyle Cafe 1952



Argyle Cafe

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





First Pie shop owned by  
Jerry Schmidt in 1940 to 1962



George Wallace later took over in  
1962 and had new sign's made



New pie shop that was built in 1966  
before extensions were added in 1968



Building as it stands today 2002

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

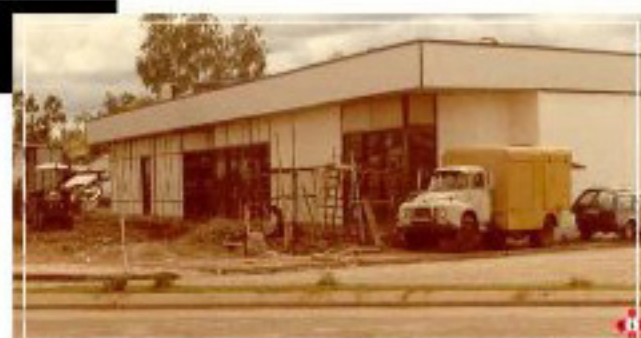
on  
the  
land



First Collinsville & Scottville  
Co-operative Society



First Denhams Building 1985



Building new Denhams Building



Collinsville Plaza present building

start

help

credits

exit





1948 Gathering at site of  
todays Community Center



Present Community Center 2002



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Searle & Sloan Garage  
1964



Searle & Sloan Garage  
1966



Angus McPherson - Scottville

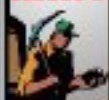


Old Buffs Hall

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Early mining settlement



House at Scottville 1920



Humpy built in 1923



Toussaint Street house 1929

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville Post Office today



1934 Commonwealth  
Bank of Australia



Bosca's Hardware Supermarket  
The original part of the store was  
brought in by truck from Mt Coolon

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





First Collinsville State School in 1921  
was situated on  
No. 1 Green of the Golf Course.  
It was moved in 1922 to Devlin Street.



Collinsville State School Pupils 1922



1st Grade Class  
Collinsville State School 1928



State School Photo 1934

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Early Collinsville State School



Collinsville State School



Collinsville State School 2002



Collinsville State Preschool

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





State School Library

Sports Day 1985



in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

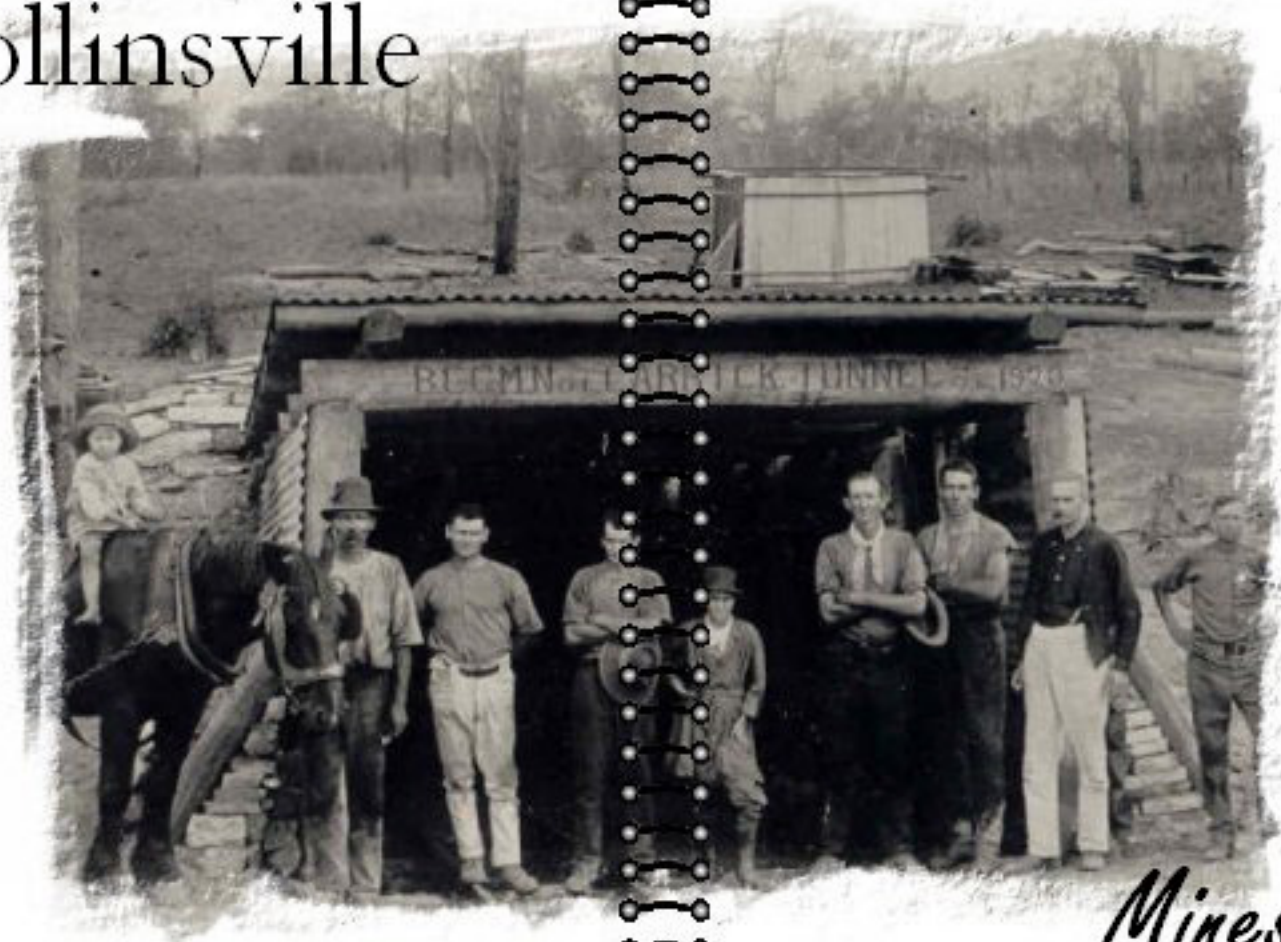
start

help

credits

exit

# Collinsville

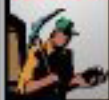


*Mines*

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



## *Pit Ponies*

No more will they haul the loads,  
to our country's miners underground.  
no more will they need a driver,  
as they've retired just like you and I.

Theirs has been a continuation  
of work within the coal mines,  
and now as the new decade is herald,  
the Pit Ponies no longer will be.

They've been Collinsville's darlings,  
even the ones who gave a bite or two,  
and they'd have been the only  
four legged members,  
of the once great Q.C.E.U.

Now that brings a story of its own,  
and one that caused a few remarks,  
on how they paid their union dues,  
and how they voted their leaders in.

Though gone from the mines forever,  
they will not be forgotten by our town,  
for the stories will be retold,  
of the Pit Ponies of the Underground,  
who worked at No: 2 Mine.

Many have gone before them,  
two even lost their lives in a gas  
outburst of year '54.  
just like their seven workmates  
that fatal day,  
they never again saw sunshine,  
you and I enjoy each day.

So as the years slip by us,  
let's not leave their memory to die,  
let us retell each story,  
of Collinsville's pride and joy.

***By Margaret Morrissey***

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





## Mines Rescue



## Railway



## Powerhouse

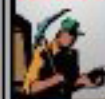


Stagdown strike  
Mine Disaster  
Brisbane Convoy  
Powerhouse Strike

in  
town



at  
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mine



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land

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exit





Early Mines Rescue Team



Mines Rescue Competition



Mines Rescue 1970

in  
town



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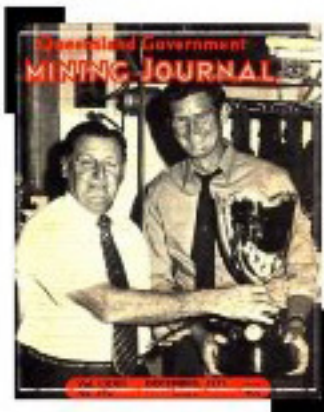
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Mines Rescue 1971



Mines Rescue 1971



Mural on Mines Rescue Building

in  
town

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the  
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start

help

credits

exit





Early Railway  
Workers



Railway Loadout



Loadout  
Area



Railway Gantry 1962

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

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First chimney being built at the  
Powerhouse



Rear view of Powerhouse



1968 Powerhouse

in  
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at  
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Building of Powerhouse  
Cooling Towers



Powerhouse 1968



First Stage of Powerhouse  
1968

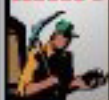


Constructuion of the Powerhouse

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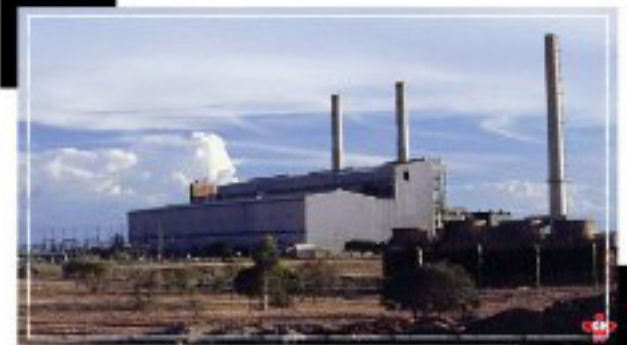
Powerhouse Aerial view



Powerhouse 1970's



Aerial view of Powerhouse



Side view of Powerhouse

in  
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at  
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Aerial view of Powerhouse



View of Powerhouse



Powerhouse at night

in  
town

at  
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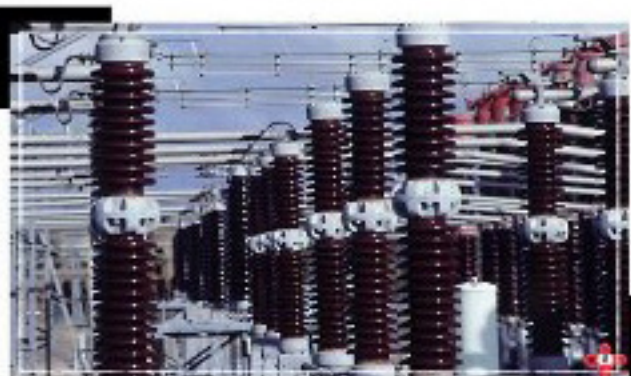
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Powerhouse 132kv Switchyard



Night at the Powerhouse



Powerhouse Strike in 1968



in  
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Powerhouse being built in 1966



Powerhouse 1968

in  
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start

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# Stay Down Strike - 1952

## Immediate cause:

A dispute over pay - on the first day back at work after Easter, a winch driver was absent from work and management tried to get someone from another union to do the work. This move was resisted - management ordered contract miners out of the pit and refused to pay the men for the time they had been working.

## Longstanding grievances:

Mr Gallagher of the Coal Industry Tribunal had visited Collinsville in 1950. Discussions centred on:  
The bathroom at the State's largest coal mine did not meet the standard demanded by the Government of private employers. It was a tin shed in which 5 or 6 men had to share the one nozzle.

The poor state of the Collinsville-Bowen road - a graded dirt track that could take from 2 hours to 2 days to travel. Inadequate and expensive water supply and the inadequate housing situation.

Then Management had issued an ultimatum that miner's produce maximum output per man per day. Miners responded that they would produce 12 skips per man until their claims were met.

At a branch meeting after Easter and after the winch driver problem, Alex Parkinson (later killed in the 1954 Disaster) moved for a stay down strike.

**The Staydown** began on May Day, 1st May 1952. 122 men entered Tunnels No. 1 and 2 for a record-breaking 9 days. Most of the men were in No. 2 Tunnel, including Branch Chairman John Currie, Secretary Jim Nisbet, and Assistant Secretary Mick Walker.

in  
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at  
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help

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exit



Tunnel Scrutineer Alex Parkinson and Check Inspector Jim Duncan were in charge in No. 1. The men were about half a mile from the tunnel mouth, at a depth of 400 ft.

Management ordered the men out of the mine and sacked them when they did not comply. They then turned off the fans. Power was also turned off, but the men on the surface turned it on when they could. 'Snow' Templeton was in charge on the surface with Ray 'Sugar' Bruncker assisting.

#### Measures taken:

Horses sent up to the surface.

Older men and those not in good health were told to go up.

Hessian bunks organised.

Hygiene squads set up.

Guards placed at tunnel mouths.

On the surface, women immediately organised three meals (later two) per day, warm clothing, cards and papers.

#### Conditions underground:

Acute physical discomfort, many caught colds.

Increasing quantity of Black Damp.

Each day, the air became fouler and the pit became wetter.

Rescue operations of sick men were hampered by lack of light and lack of power. Sick men included - 19 year old Cec Torkington (suspected heart ailment), Bill Daley, Jock Bruce, Taffy Nott and Norm Martin. Doug 'Dasher' McPherson, suffering from a cold, took a swig from a bottle of cough mixture that had been sent down, only to find it was Phenyl. Mick Walker fell and fractured his ribs and bruised a shoulder. After treatment at the hospital, he returned underground and stayed till the end.

Harold Olsen suffered a toothache for days - refused to go up - finally he extracted the tooth himself.

Batteries were re-charged in the lamp room unknown to Management.

in  
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### **Above ground:**

Women supported their men - they cooked food, brought warm clothes, demonstrated in marches, had deputations to the manager and attended band concerts at the mouth of the tunnel.

### **Support:**

Delegates from Collinsville-Scottville addressed meetings throughout North Queensland: waterside workers, meat workers, seamen, railway men, and received pledges of support. Support also came from miners on the fields and business people.

After a week, a delegation from Queensland Trades and Labour Council saw Minister for Mines, Mr Riordan, who refused to start the fans without a set of prior assurances from miners. Miners Executive recommended a State Wide strike. Miners union representatives were then required by subpoena to attend a Coal Reference Board Hearing immediately.

### **Immediate result:**

Ventilation and light would be restored underground - men would come up within 24 hours of that being done.

Arrangements for a resumption of work would be negotiated and original issues of dispute would be heard by the Reference Board.

On 10th May 1952, Albert Winstanley, Electrician and son of the Manager, turned on the electricity. On the tenth day, the stay-down men emerged and marched to a meeting on the football field.

The experience did much to consolidate and strengthen union feeling, and to enhance an already strong community spirit.

**The new bathroom was built in 1953.**

in  
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at  
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## *Miners Stag Down Strike*

120 men for 9 days, was an Australian record.

The 'Darg' for two mates was approx 20 skips a day, and for this the average wage was between 35 & 40 pounds a fortnight.

Mine Manager was Mr. A Winstanley.

There were 340 miners on the books that time.



**1952 Stag Down Strike**



in  
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# Mine Explosion - 1954

Wednesday 13th October 1954  
State Mine Collinsville

Afternoon shift, Mechanical coal cutter bogged, 16 men in dip in tunnel, Outburst of gas rolled 300 ft down tunnel Men ran for their lives, 450 tons of coal wrenched from face.

## 7 Men Dead - Overcome by Gas

Alexander Parkinson(34)married,2 children  
Arthur Shrubsole (28) married, 1 child  
Herbert Ruff (47) married, 5 children  
Henry Peterson (29) married, 2 children  
Peter Miller (34) married, 3 children  
Fred Walker (53) married, 3 children  
James Logan (30) single  
Pit horse's Kelly & Bill  
40 men had been on shift. Survivors including Mr Winstanley, Ron Spiers, Dr McEniery, Tom Allan started rescue attempts.

## They were hampered by:

Poor communication system - phones not working. The first knowledge of disaster on surface when survivor arrived.

Only two sets of rescue equipment were in working order and even then worked only in the hands of experienced men. The last rescue training day had been in the middle of previous year.

Examination for gas inefficient and inadequate. Ventilation inadequate.

The seven men were buried the next day. All local miners stopped work and 2000 people attended the funeral and procession.

The mourners, led by General President Idris Williams and 'Bluey' Millar, marched almost 3 km from the Anzac Hall to the cemetery.

in  
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### The Royal Commission:

Appointed to 'Inquire into certain matters appertaining to the State Coal Mine Collinsville 13th October 1954', found that the 'Conduct of the Owner, the Management, or any Employee was not a contributing cause of the Disaster'.

**7 miners were killed in mine disaster  
on Wednesday the 13th October  
at the State Mine No1  
about 5.30pm.**



in  
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## *Convoy to Brisbane- 1961*

On the morning of Thursday 11th May 1961, a convoy of eight cars carrying 27 men and five women, left Collinsville for Brisbane to protest against the closure of the State Mine. They hoped to save the jobs of 260 men who were retrenched.

Before they were allowed out of Collinsville on their 1700 km trek, police were there to check all cars and licences. Many on the convoy had never been to Brisbane.

Ahead of the convoy were B. Wyper, H. Ashley and W. Buchanan. They were to arrange meetings and accommodation for the group. Chick Peterson and Ron Watson travelled the countryside addressing public meetings and collecting funds.

### **Those who went to Brisbane were:**

Women: Mesdames Currie, Nisbet, Tudehope, Watson and Watters.  
Men: A. Allen, P. Ashton, J. Ashton, J. Baker, Bob Brunker, Ray Brunker, A. Buchanan, N. Bulloch, S. Bulloch, J. Currie, R. Harrison, Ray Hoban, G. Widt, Ron Hoban, C. Krebs, A. List, R. McFarlane, P. Millar, T. Millar, J. Nisbet, J. Robertson, Edgar Ross, R. Sanderson, E. Stein, R. Stille, E. Strickland, and J. Tudehope.

The Press made all types of claims about Collinsville and members of the convoy; one being that the convoy was comprised of 'gangsters', another was that it was a 'communist stunt'.

### **Newspaper headlines read:**

'Premier and Evans threatened with Death' (Maryborough Chronicle) and 'Premier off to Cairns Despite Death Threats' (Courier Mail).

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**Members of the convoy** were met with sympathy, encouragement and assistance including billets and donations from the general public.

Upon reaching their destination in Brisbane, a public meeting was held in the Brisbane Trades Hall. Addressed by Miners Federation leaders Parkinson and Mahon, Queensland Trades & Labour Council representatives Alex Macdonald, Jack Hanson, Jack Devereux and Alf Arnell, and convoy members Jim Nisbet, Ross Harrison and Biddie Nisbet.

**Government Ministers** evaded all efforts by members of the convoy to meet them. Reports from newspapers said: 'Both the Premier (Mr Nicklin) and the Minister for Development & Mines (Mr Evans) made it clear today that they will not see members of the Collinsville convoy when they reach Brisbane ..... Mr Evans said that the convoy was a futile move organised by communists.....'

Jim Nisbet told the Brisbane Trades Hall public meeting: "At last we have reached the end of our journey - only to find that the birds have flown."

The Qld Government closed the State Mine. 260 men were out of work.



Some of the cars  
in the  
Brisbane Convoy

Some of the people  
in the  
Brisbane Convoy



in  
town



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## Power Hoase Strike - 1968

For 13 weeks, more than 200 workers from the \$12 million Collinsville powerhouse construction project were outside the gates.

They had been locked out by the construction firm, contracted to the Northern Electricity Authority.

The lock-out could not have taken place without the concurrence of the Queensland Government.

The State Industrial Commission made no move for orders or penalties against the employer.

In 1965, before work had even started on the Collinsville Powerhouse, the unions tried every means to secure a negotiated agreement with the contractor.

On 3rd September 1965, the Queensland Trades & Labour Council wrote to the contractor suggesting a conference to discuss conditions of employment on the Collinsville project. They were fobbed off with words such as 'further consideration' and 'at the appropriate time'.

At a conference, suggested by the Industrial Commission and held on 27th April 1967, Mr James of the Employers Federation stated that 'the employers had no offer to make to the unions and would not agree to increases in wages or allowances'.

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There was no negotiation, no talks, just an uncompromising rebuff.

In May there had been a stop over safety, and then from a number of stops on 30th May there came a call to Hollands to negotiate on pay and allowances.

**On 1st June**, a mass meeting called for allowances of \$20. The company reacted to this news with the announcement that it would cut out overtime and could be compelled to consider closing down until such time as the employees are prepared to work normally....."

After a series of "rolling" stoppages, the men were sacked. The years of skirmishing for decent pay and conditions at the powerhouse had now erupted into open conflict.

**The situation was this:**

For a year and a half, Hollands had been refusing to negotiate a settlement of workers' claims. It had had the collaboration in this of the Government and its State Electricity Commission and had been allowed by the State Industrial Commission to persist in its uncompromising refusals.

Left with no alternative, workers had carried strike ballots, as prescribed by the law, and had then acted on these. Despite the fact that the workers were acting in accordance with these strike ballots, Hollands sacked the men - without protest or restraint from the Government or the Industrial Commission.

Workers had done everything possible to avoid the need for a strike and then ensured that any strike was launched in the ways prescribed by the Act for a "legal" strike. Their patience and observance of the law had only got them the sack.

in  
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exit

The contractors were then forced to the last resorts and recruit scab labor. The feeling was that these were unprincipled individuals to take the jobs of men who were waging an industrial dispute and bravely enduring the hardship that this entails for themselves and their families. General consensus was that workers everywhere shared the abhorrence for these scabs and for those who recruit them.

Workers in Collinsville reacted quickly to the contractors action and began picketing at the turnoff to the powerhouse site. For a time, the picketing was virtually 24 hours a day.

People approaching by car were halted and told the facts of the dispute. The numbers on the picket line at the powerhouse varied from about 100 to a peak of about 450.



The Commission awarded a \$15 allowance at Collinsville, not a flat rate, but an all-purpose allowance. Though the workers congratulated themselves on the decision, it did not settle the dispute. There remained the burning issue of scab labor on the job.

On 4th August 1967, members of the union met with the contractor and his representatives along with members of the State Electricity Commission and Northern Electricity Authority to clear the air. At a further conference, settlement terms were achieved.

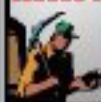
Terms provided to sort things out, were: the job would close on 25th August for a week and that labor then be re-engaged in daily stages, with those who were employed at the time of the June lockout having the right to re-engagement. The men were guaranteed against victimization.



in  
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**On Monday 4th September 1967,**  
work resumed.

It was 13 weeks since the contractor had  
launched their lockout offensive.

Most of the scabs resigned daily, until  
there were only two left.

There were retrenchments in November  
and among the first batch to go were the  
two sole remaining scabs, scorned by  
fellow workers and now unwanted by the  
boss.



in  
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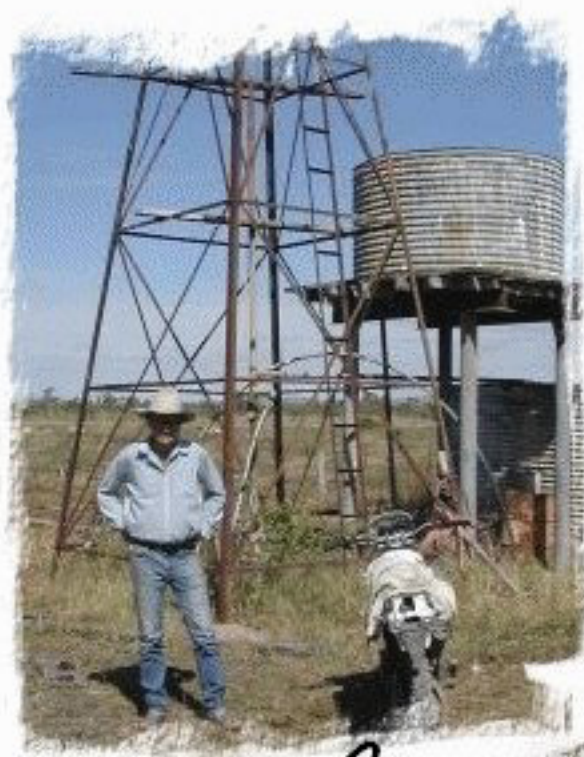
start

help

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exit

# Collinsville



*Country*

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
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start

help

credits

exit



## *Our Home*

Outback from Bowen  
but still close to the coast  
lies a small township unknown to most

Where the hills greet and meet you  
as long lost friends  
patient and timeless is Toussaint,  
Tabletop and Stately Devlin

Hillside Haven so aptly named  
lays snuggled securely  
against progress and pain.

Yes...there's nothing  
more true than a Collinsville blue sky  
of miners and swags  
and cruisers laden high

The silhouette of the trees  
cool afternoon breeze  
steaming cups of hot tea  
are home to me

The old mongrel crows  
streets we all know,  
familiar faces peering from windowsills  
bindies, memories & backyard mango

Inland from Bowen  
not too far from the coast  
lays our slice of the outback  
valued by most  
who have been there  
and those who can see  
the importance of friendship,  
peaceful ancestors  
and childhood's memory.

*By Megan Williams Holt*

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
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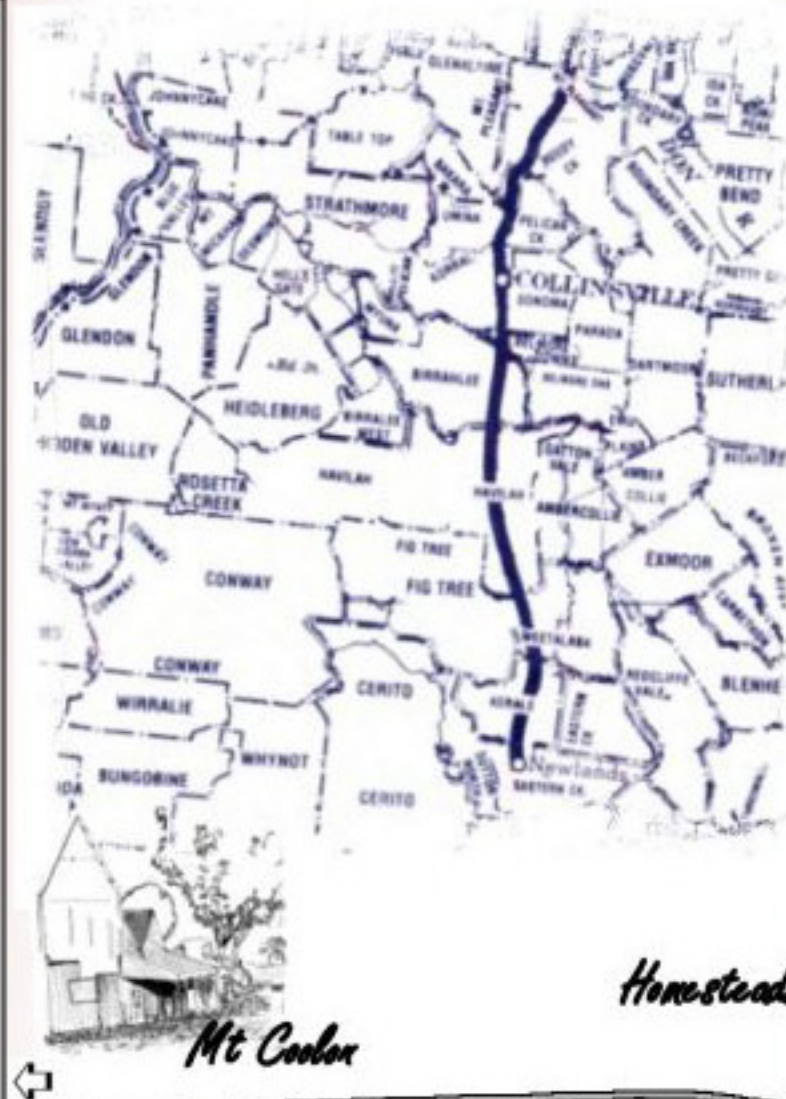


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Mt Coolon

Homesteads

Bower River Weir



Bower River



Livestock



Races



Rodeo



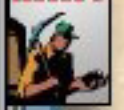
Bridges



in town



at the mine



on the land



start

help

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exit





Weir under construction



Weir construction  
at Gibbies Waterhole 1982



Pump station at the Weir

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
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start

help

credits

exit





Bowen River Weir



Cave near Weir



Gibbies Weir



Weir Hut

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
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start

help

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exit





Graphite Mine on Weir road



Bowen River



Pump station



Weir

in  
town

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start

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Bowen River



Bowen River in Flood

in  
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Bowen River Crossing  
from Rodeo Grounds



Bowen River in Flood



Bowen River Bridge in Flood



Bowen River

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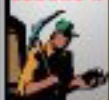
exit



in  
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at  
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Bowen River Gravestone



The Old Bowen River Bridge 1967



start

help

credits

exit





## Livestock



in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
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start

help

credits

exit





Traditional Mustering



Modern Mustering



Drought

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
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start

help

credits

exit



Collinsville's known as the  
" Pig Dog Captial of World"



Pig Dog's at Home



Pig chasing 2002 style



Wild Boar



Sign entering  
Strathmore Station

in  
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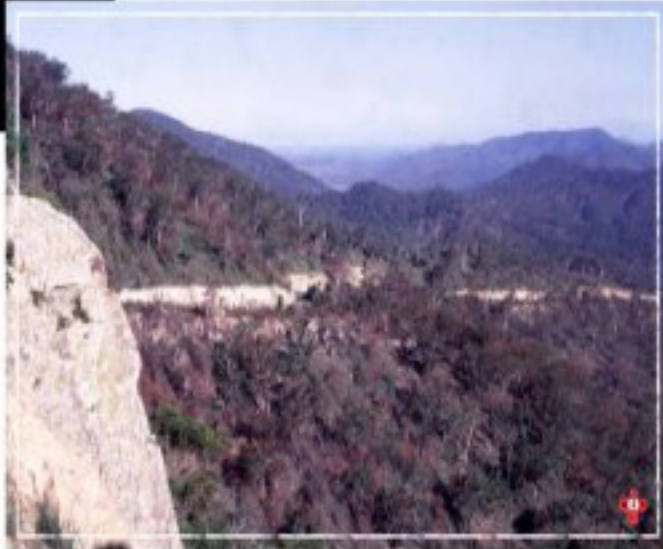
help

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exit



Leichhardt Range 1966



Cattle Cartage in Collinsville



Searle's Transport



in  
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Cattle Cartage in Collinsville



Pattel's Transport



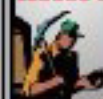
Cattle Country



in  
town



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## Livestock



in  
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Collinsville Race Track



Collinsville Races 1966



Local Bookie's



Punter's

in  
town

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Bob Miller & Orthello  
Bowen River Races 1910



Races



Scottville's Racetrack

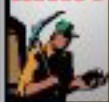


Bowen River Cup Winner 1910

in  
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Collinsville Race Track

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Jim Curren 1986



Owen Dunn 1991



Bowen River Rodeo Grounds



Side Saddle at Strathmore Museum

in  
town



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start

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credits

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Saddle Bronc



Jason Coveny



Peter Moffat

in  
town



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start

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Showgrounds 1964



Saddle Bronc 1964



1971 Rodeo at the Showgrounds



Rodeo in 1971

in  
town

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Old Bowen River Bridge



New Bowen River Bridge



Railway Crossing at  
Bowen River

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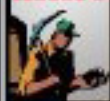
Building the Railway Crossing  
at Bowen River



in  
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credits

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Cherrytree Creek



Deadman's Creek 1959

in  
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at  
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the  
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start

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credits

exit



Fun at 3 Mile Bridge 1963



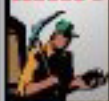
McHugh's Crossing 1967



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Pelican Creek 1964



Pelican Creek



Pelican Creek in Flood

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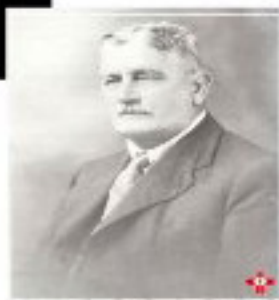
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Strathmore Station



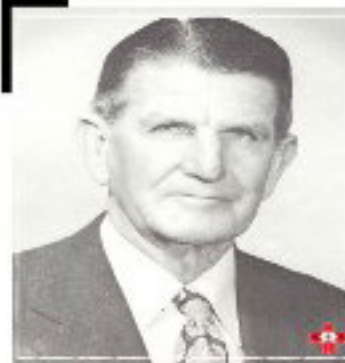
AWH Cunningham



AWH Cunningham on  
Mustering Horse



Peter Delamothe &  
Ted Cunningham



EC Cunningham Managing Director of  
Scartwater 1942

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Barclay Homestead  
- now Mt Coolon Hotel



Sketch of Mt Coolon Hotel



Byerwin Homestead



Conway Station 1986

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Eastern Creek 1982



Eastern Creek 1986



Old Hidden Valley 1988



Flagstone - Shannonvale 1999

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Strathmore



Strathmore



Charles Ernest Honnery



Old Homestead

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Grabbing Supplies



Large Snake



Old Wagon



Scartwater Lagoon

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Horsing around in 1964



Boy & Horse 1964



Pit Pony at 1967  
Mine Christmas Tree

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land

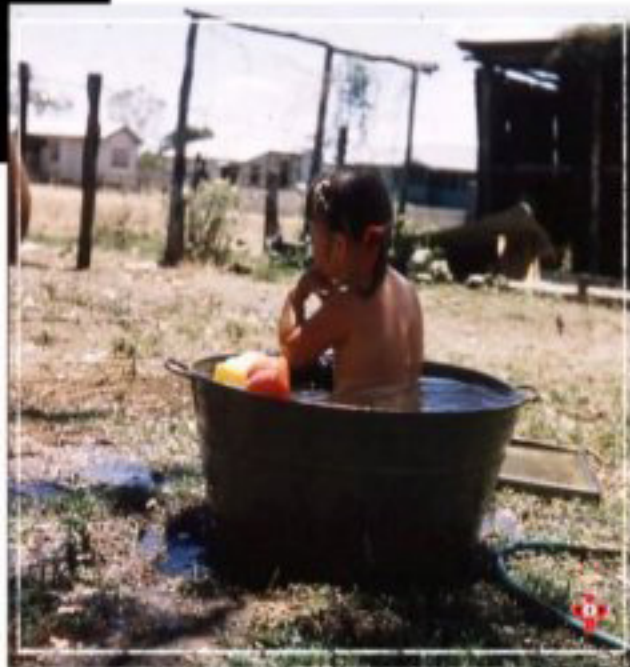


start

help

credits

exit



Bub in a tub



Roughhousing in Scottville

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Bowen River Pub 1967

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
t  
h  
e  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Chimney Stack 1986



View From Mt Coolon Hotel



Rifle used in Mt Coolon Murders

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
t  
h  
e  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Mt Coolon Hotel Sketch



The Original Assay Office

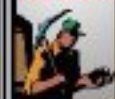


Early Mt Coolon

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Mt Coolon Main Street



Early Mt Coolon Family & Hut



Line up of Old Vehicles

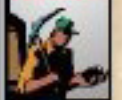


Horse Teams bring logs to Sawmill

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit



Mt Coolon Miners



Mt Coolon Miners



Early Studebaker

in  
town



at  
the  
mine



on  
the  
land



start

help

credits

exit





Building Mt Coolon Weir



Mt Coolon Assay Office



Car Carrier



Gold Transport Vehicle

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit





Sketch of Mt Coolon Picture Theatre



Building Mt Coolon Theatre



Mt Coolon Main Street & Picture Theatre



Mt Coolon Main Street

in  
town

at  
the  
mine

on  
the  
land

start

help

credits

exit

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start

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