

## *TO AND FROM SCHOOL*

My brother Norman and I travelled by foot along Archbold Road. Mother stood at the Chelmsford Avenue end to see that we arrived safely. There were swaggies camped along the creek - harmless I'm sure.

*(Ruth Weeks (Rodd), 1917-19)*

I lived in Dudley Avenue and while I attended Roseville School, Archbold Road had not been completed from upper Lord Street to Middle Harbour Road. I clambered down rocks, zigzagged tracks, and walked across Moores Creek. If a storm broke with heavy rains it could be impassable and so I had to go the Lord Street, Martin Lane, Roseville Avenue trek to get home.

*(Joan Smith (Cazneaux), 1923-28)*



**Archbold Road near Chelmsford Avenue, 1920.**  
(Photograph courtesy of Ruth Weeks)

Archbold Road was fenced off at Lord Street with a twenty-foot drop into the creek and except in Duntroon Avenue and Addison Avenue there were not many houses east of Archbold Road. The bus fare from Roseville Station was one penny and by walking I could buy a packet of P.K. chewing gum or eight aniseed balls with the proceeds.

*(Laidley Pinnington, 1923-29)*

I used to walk one mile to the station then catch a bus. Going home sometimes I would walk all the way, saving my penny fare for a penny worth of hot chips wrapped in newspaper - yummy! What happy uncomplicated times were the good old days.

*(Margaret Clarke-Duff (Francis), 1928-31)*

There was a boy who rowed across Middle Harbour on his own every day from Killarney Point to the old Roseville Bridge area – probably Smithy’s Boatshed and then walked to and from school.

*(Gordon Farrell, 1928-34)*

We lived in Macquarie Street, Chatswood and always walked to school. In very wet weather we were allowed to pack shoes and socks plus a small towel in our satchels and walk barefoot to school, then dry our feet and put on shoes and socks. We probably paddled home again – a small pleasure.

*(Dahlas Cleland (Wagstaff), 1928-34)*

The joy of walking home along the gutters after a downpour.

*(Margaret Watson (McLaughlin), 1933-38)*

I remember walking to school from East Lindfield down and up Archbold Road, but being excited when our neighbour, who worked for General Motors Holden, offered us a ride in his car.

*(Frances Newling (Powell), 1941-47)*

I walked to school, quite a fair track, although a bus ran my mother made me walk rain or shine (it did not hurt me).

*(Marianne Allen (Marx), 1942-45)*

We had a road patrol sponsored by the NRMA. Fifth class manned it and they had a real command of the crossing across Archbold Road. A boy each side had a banner courtesy of the NRMA and when enough children had gathered they would walk out onto the side of the bitumen making sure no cars were coming. One would call “all clear” and the other “quick march”. They had the right to control the crossing. On one occasion a car slipped through just as the last child had scurried across. The patrol boy facing the retreating car noted the registration number and Mr Kehoe notified the police.

A particular drill was set up and school patrols from a wide area would take part in competitions on convenient ovals.

*(George Nethery, 1935-39)*



**Allan Limburg, as Safety First Patroller, 1938.**

... Arriving early and remaining after school and complete with armband and hand held flag we patrollers marched out onto the road and stopped all traffic so that the school children could cross.

*(Allan Limburg, 1936-39)*

... Leaving class five minutes early to perform road crossing patrol duty.

*(Philip Calvert, 1942-47)*

I can remember being on barrier duty on Archbold Road having to carry the heavy wooden booms, placing them on a post and at the direction of the duty master swinging them out from each side of the road to stop the cars, to let the children cross in safety.

*(Brian Selby, 1952-57)*

Living in Park Avenue for the duration of my schooling at Roseville, I recall that despite how busy Park Avenue and Archbold Road were, I always arrived at school safe and sound, together with my brother Dennis, who was one year beneath me. We were safely escorted at the crossing by a 'lollipop man'. It was a friendly, courteous and positive way to start the day at school. They were the good old days.

*(Thalia Georgiou, 1972-79)*



**Children crossing Addison Avenue, 1951.**



**Safety Drill, Archbold Road, 1951.**

About 1937 the NSW Police in conjunction with the school organised a road patrol opposite the Archbold Road entrance and two of us would hold up the traffic for children to cross. We attended a competition I think that same year at the Sydney Showground, which the Roseville Patrol won. We were presented with leather school cases. But as I discovered there was a drawback to a leather case. You could not sit on it whilst waiting for the bus as one could on a Globite case. The officer in charge of the training of our patrol was a Sergeant Barry, about six feet eight inches tall, ramrod straight and a lovely bloke. I often wonder how he ended up.

*(Angus Caporn, 1933-38)*



**Archbold Road, Roseville – 1920's – looking north.**

The workmen are building the bridge over Moore Creek. In the background is the cliff that cut across Archbold Road.

The private bus service was operated Royle Bros. The buses were big and comfortable and I think the fare was two pence each way. Sometimes they used a small bus that we called 'Speedo', and a ride home in 'Speedo' was a real sardine ride.

*(George Nethery, 1935-39)*

We went swimming at Roseville Baths with the grandfathers of today's Forest Coach Lines. Mr Royle used to drive us to school and back in his greasy brown overalls; a bit different to the way they dress now.

*(Peter Edwards, 1940-48)*



**Children boarding Royle Bros. bus (now Forest Coach Lines), 1951.**