

I came to Findivick in 1952.

It was then a small friendly place.
Lath's house & shed, ex garage, Soldiers Memorial,
Peels house & shed, school residence, school,
Mawsons next to school. On other side church
of England, store & post office & residence,
hall, tennis courts & Presbyterian church.

That was Findivick.

Tennis was very popular, courts used regularly
day & night. A netball club was formed & teams
played on tennis courts in winter for some years.
Badminton was played in the hall in winter.

The flower show was a big social event for district
& money for school, ran by mothers club & school
committee. Findivick is now a well kept village
a credit to all who live there. Plenty to see &
enjoy. Bryarte, Pursey, artworks, Harvest Kitchen,
Findi store & kaf, tennis, cricket & beautifully
kept community garden, exercise equipment &
childrens play grounds & barbeque for all to use.

Eileen Potman.

I have lived in Tindivick all my life since 1922.
I grew up with Mum, Dad, George, Wal & twin sister Leah,
with no electricity, radio, phone, TV, computers etc. We made our
own fun. Back yard, cricket, football, high jumps. Indoors it
was music, table tennis, playing cards (euchre). We walked
2½ miles to school through the paddocks, crossing the
Ironstone creek, which was a haven for snakes, dodging
Ramsdens bulls was another issue. In my years at school
only one pupil was taken by car.

Change. —

Electricity was installed in 1938 & that was an enormous step
forward. Dairy farming saw big changes. In 1920's Drouin
factory collected cream in a covered wagon pulled by two
horses. Mr Brown was the driver. Things were very rugged.
Drowned rats was a problem. The best I heard was a
driver arriving at the shed as the farmers wife was
pulling a kitten out of the cream, she ran her hands ~~the~~
down the dead kitten to get all the cream, put the lid on &
away it went. Most farmers fed the skim milk to pigs &
calves & most housewives made their own butter. Farmers then
switched to milk in cans & now its refrigerated vats. In the
1920's & 1930's there were 18 dairy farms on West Tindivick Rd
now there is one. Telephones only open Monday to Friday 9am-6pm
Sport. Football, Tennis & Cricket all commenced in early 1900's
Football finished in 1948. The tennis club has excellent facilities
but no competition since night tennis series between 1987-1998.
The cricket club is booming with 6 or more teams a beautiful
oval, with views to dream of, great club house, practise nets
barbque, playgrounds, gymnasium equipment & community
garden.

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Bill Lawry (ex Australian Captain) was heard on TV saying its the best cricket ground in Country Victoria.

The Mens Club started in 1936 playing table tennis, snooker, quoits & carpet bowls, badminton started in 1948 & was very popular for many years, with a great deal of success. Netball began in 1961.

The Store, is a place I have always enjoyed going to. I can remember the store back to 1926 when Mr & Mrs Flynn, Jacko, & Olga were there. Lots of changes since then. The first big change how it operated was in 1934 when Mr Gillett came. Prior to his coming the storekeepers had their supplies sent to Rokeby rail station & picked them up with horse & spring cart. Mr Gillett bought a truck & drove to Melbourne each Wednesday going to warehouses for his goods. He would leave Tindivick at 6.30 am get home 7.30 pm. Passengers could go for 5/- or (50 cents) He would unload & next day take cattle & pigs to Warragul market, hose out truck & take footballers to away matches. He then came to an arrangement with Warragul theatre to reserve about 40 seats for the Tindivick people he took in on Saturday nights. When Mr Pretty took over the store he continued this for some time. The Pretty's operated a good store for a long time. The fourth owner since Pretty's is local boy Brian & Sue Goodwin & hopefully they will get enough support to keep the business open. Closure would be a sad day for Tindivick Stories mid 1930's.

A young Tindivick fellow had a lovely grey horse. He was courting a girl on the West Tindivick Rd. He left his horse in a small paddock near her house, when he went to go home there was only a black horse in the paddock. While he was enjoying his courting.

The girls brothers had gone to store & bought all the black nugget they had & hence the black horse. His parents were annoyed — romance ended. At a function at Tindivick Hall when supper time came there was no milk for tea. One of Mr Goodwin's cows was in hall ground so four young fellows all dressed in best clothes caught & milked the cow. Problem solved.

The first robbery I heard of in Tindivick was in 1931, when Jack Thomas owned the store, petrol was stored in a steel drum with a tap & padlock, Mr Thomas found all his petrol gone. Mr Goodwin had a cream stand near store & couldn't understand where his empty cream cans were. About six weeks later the cans were found at ~~North~~ Tindivick corner in the blackberries smelling of petrol.

Strangers or visitors questions.

I would say it like it is. Beautiful scenery a wonderful community. I would tell them to visit & take a look at old Church of England, War Memorial, Bzarte & the store, have lunch or coffee at Tindi Caf or pay a visit to Harvest Kitchen & nursery & of course the cricket grounds & community garden. Admire well kept school surrounds & after all this & they don't want to leave book in for B & B at Tindivick Gardens.

Jack Watman

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