

Life before Pymont and what I currently do

Carol Limmer

I was born at Waverley in Sydney and have spent my entire life in Sydney. I have travelled extensively for business and pleasure, allowing me to experience life and culture in many environments.

I enjoyed my early life and schooling in Belmore, Bankstown and Oatley before going to High School at St George and Hornsby Girls High (after moving with my family from Oatley to Lindfield).

My loving parents blessed my siblings and me with a wonderful childhood and opportunities galore. From an early age they encouraged me to take on responsibilities: aside from looking after my siblings I did child minding from age 11 for neighbours. At 12 I was even entrusted with the care of a new-born child and took children on outings to Luna Park and the Zoo. Child minding was lucrative! At high school I took a child care course with Red Cross and volunteered at a children's home. I continue to volunteer with Red Cross in many volunteer roles.

I loved sports and competition: and I enjoy pilates, tennis, yoga and tai chi. I also enjoy Words with Friends (online), Crosswords, Bridge (on Line), Scrabble and Reading.

Instead of university and teacher training, I joined the Commonwealth Bank where I had a wonderful career in many areas of banking and finance including Human Resources, Retail Banking, Time & Methods, Mergers & Acquisitions and Change Management. The Bank supported tertiary studies in Business at TAFE and Uni and many development programs and challenging roles. I became the first Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Executive in the Bank and I worked for 12 months in public relations on secondment to the Decimal Currency Board (my first exposure in the media). I retired from the Bank as a Senior Executive.

I met Paul through mutual friends: we have enjoyed over 50 years together. After the wedding (at Garrison Church in The Rocks) we lived briefly at Birchgrove, then renovated a terrace house at Camperdown. Many friends from the North Shore followed us there. Nine years later we moved to Killara and lived there for many years until our move to Pymont in 2012 – the best move we ever made! Interestingly a few friends are now making the move to Pymont!

For about 12 years we also had a 90 acre hobby farm on the mid North Coast to experience country life on long weekends and holidays.

Since retiring, I have continued my association with Red Cross, Zonta (advancing the status of women and girls) and becoming involved in Board and Committees in Aged Care. I am a Board member and serve on committees of the Australian Shareholders Association and monitor the performance of publicly listed companies, a role that offers more media opportunities. I also belong to a coalition of organisations keeping women out of prison.

In Pymont I belong to Friends of the Pymont Community Centre, Pymont Action, Pymont Supports, Pymont History Group and Christmas in Pymont. Paul and I regularly attend

monthly Community Dinners too. We have made so many wonderful, caring friends in Pyrmont – it is lovely to walk out on the streets and recognise so many smiling faces.

Before we came to live in Pyrmont we had two experiences here. We inspected a terrace house in Harris Street many years ago and nearly bought it. The other was a serious accident in 1972 on the corner of Harris and Miller Streets. Paul's grandmother died, his mother was hospitalised for 6 weeks and Paul for one week. I was deeply impressed by the kindness of bystanders – and I still am today!

I aspire to live out my days in Pyrmont.

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