

Oral History Interview with Dennis (Flo) Fuller

Interviewer: John Witte

Date: 15th November 2006

Place of interview: Leura

Reason for interview: Early social groups

Corrections by Dennis Fuller on 5/12/06



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| 0030 | Born on 22 nd October 1935 in Stanmore. | Stanmore |
| 0040 | Mother was a domestic and his father a moulder. He was the eldest brother. Others were younger by 9 years. | |
| 0060 | A normal 1930s childhood. There were problems with his father's alcoholism. Lived in Croydon Park until he was 18. He spent a lot of time with his grandparents due to problems at home. They were important influence on his life. He couldn't do anything wrong. Grandmother took him to the theatre and football. Dennis's father represented Australia in Rugby League but D wasn't keen on football. | Croydon Park |
| 0250 | Left school when he was 14½ due to financial troubles and then came back to complete his intermediate certificate. | |
| 0305 | Vocational guidance people said he had to be a window dresser and did displays for Grace Bros, Curzons, Bardsleys and WD and HO Wills. | Grace Bros, Curzons, Bardsleys and WD and HO Wills |
| 0325 | After National Service went to NZ when he was 20. | National Service |
| 0350 | Only met 2 camps in window dressing and said that social life at the time was "bloody awful". Had to live at home and sneak out and go to the theatre and go to Kings Cross and sit in the Kashmir Coffee Lounge being so elegant. There was cruising at the Kashmir. Later in the 60s there was also the Rendezvous. Rosaleen Norton was in the Kashmir. It was a dark cavern. The highlight on the menu was Chutney Cheese and Cocoa. Later went to Rainards. So sophisticated having pea soup and sauterne wine. D was shy but not that shy to go from Croydon to the Cross. | Kings Cross Kashmir Rendezvous Rosaleen Norton Rainards |
| 0650 | His first serious relationship was in NZ. This person (Kenneth) gave D his 21 st birthday party in Auckland in 1956. He was a hairdresser and they came back to Sydney in 1956 and stayed with D's family then got a flat together. | Auckland |
| 0748 | Rental accommodation was tight and they wouldn't to male couples. The lady at Clovelly liked the look of them and it was half a house. | Covelly |
| 0817 | They then move to Crows Nest, then to Beauty Point in 1958. | Crows Nest Beauty Point |
| 0843 | He now moved in a wider social circle because his partner was a hairdresser and met more people. | |
| 0905 | He drifted from job to job then got a job with the Housing Commission. He went back to Teacher's College to become a | Housing Commission |

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| | social worker by correspondence. | Teachers College |
| 0928 | Kenneth and he discovered there was Usher's Hotel and the Rex. Met people from David Jones and in the cosmetic field. You would have a couple of gin and tonics at Usher's. There was a chain of restaurants called Cahills – one opposite the old Theatre Royal. The manager was gay and he would go every Friday night. | Usher's Hotel Rex Hotel David Jones Cahills, Theatre Royal |
| 1015 | After 10pm closing then everyone went home after work. The meeting place was Pfahlerts "If you left Pfahlerts on Friday nights with no where to go on Saturday, you went to the movies. Sometimes you'd score a party at the Rex". | 10pm closing Pfahlerts Rex |
| 1051 | "The back bar of the Rex was notorious. It was high camp. Trendies – what we used to call the poofs. There was distinction among us." Squares wouldn't go to the back bar. "When the Chevron opened it was segregated to" At other gay friendly pubs gays would be segregated but there weren't red necks, they lived in bohemia. They (the squares) didn't go to the upstairs bar at Pfahlerts on a Friday night. "They would go up the stairs and turn back". | Chevron |
| 1237 | Ushers died after 10pm closing came in. The whole scene changed. Rainards Restaurant was run by 2 gay women, downstairs in the Queens Club. "Lots of people would hold court at regular tables. You were really "in" if you were invited to a particular table" particularly Paul Clark who managed Searles the florist in King Street. He was also in charge of displays at Curzons when D worked there. At Rainard's, "if you went there on a Friday night you'd have to be blind person not to know there were a lot of gays there" Allan Sharpe from Revlon, Paul Clark, Frankie Mitchell, Hall Ludlow. Roger used to float in and out as well. | Rainards Rest Queens Club Paul Clark Searles Curzons Allan Sharpe Frankie Mitchell Paul Ludlow Roger Claude |
| 1450 | The bar maids were fag hags. Used to get presents. A famous bar maid from Pfharlerts left for the Rex and took half the clientele with her. They had a following. | Bar maids |
| 1600 | Only came in contact with girls when he met Julia and Dawn in 58. | Julia and Dawn |
| 1657 | 58 went to the Housing Commission and stayed there until 65. | Housing Comm. |
| 1719 | The North Shore Ball Committee - met them in 1958. It was started by Brenton Williams from Adelaide. He was then the designer for Jantzen swimwear. He and Davida. Came home one day and Kenneth with Brenton and Davida deciding whether their house was suitable to hold a function. They were catering for a certain type of snobbery. | North Shore Ball Committee Brenton Williams Jantzen Swimwear Davida Kenneth |
| 1817 | That's how the Chameleons started."we needed something for everybody, not only just boys – get the girls involved. The first meeting of the Chameleons was at Brenton's place at Woodlands Road, Pymble in 1962" | Pymble |
| 1842 | The Nth Shore Ball Committee had parties at peoples houses and was very selective. | |
| 1933 | The Chameleons was set up on a Sunday. He was married at the | Chameleons |

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| | time. "Dawn and Julie were there, myself, his wife, Connie Johnson, Lennie Williams, Sonny Ash... we decided we should look for something. Dawn had a finger in every pie. And there was a hall in Glebe Point Road, belonged to the Salvation Army and we had our first function there. Brenton was into shows. At one stage he part-owned the Purple Onion...the Diggers Club it was called...that went on for quite a while. We used to have outdoor functions" | Dawn and Julia Connie Johnson Lennie Williams Sonny Ash Glebe Pt Road Purple Onion Digger's Club |
| | Noel Beckett (suggests the name Chameleons), Brian Nicova, Earnie Johnson and more | |
| 2052 | It was set up "so there was somewhere different to go other than pubs. ... for people to meet more ...we had outdoor functions, car rallies, all very low key ... and we went on like this until 66, and in 66 we decided to go legal and we took up the lease of 432 Parramatta Road. It was the Masonic Hall." | 432 Parramatta Road Petersham Masonic Hall |
| 2133 | They had to close down and Donnie Smith started the Knights of the Chameleons. "it was completely illegal". They had all the big balls at the Hilton and the Keiron. | Donnie Smith Knights of the Chameleons Hilton Hotel Keiron Hall |
| 2154 | Before they were legal, they had balls at the Sky Lounge which faced the Cenotaph in Hyde Park – where the Remington Building is. They held 2 balls – an Artists Ball and a Formal Ball. These were smaller and they were gay when compared to the Trocodero Balls. It was a chance to frock up, but there were no drag shows at these venues. Entertainers included Johnny Farnham and Toni Lamond, Lana Cantrell – they came to all the places and Jools later on. There was an orchestra playing at the Skylounge. | Sky Lounge Artists Ball Formal Ball Trocodero Johnny Farnham Toni Lamond Lana Cantrell Jools |
| 2332 | Dances got into trouble with the local hoons. D says that the kids brought it on themselves. "They (the local hoons) found out where we were. Well the police used to come of course and watched the floor show. Then they more or less suggested - we got into trouble because we were selling grog ... We used to get the kegs from the pub and make this punch in babies baths. And they more or less suggested that we maybe sort of get out – so we did. Well Donnie and another person they took it on for a while. They had a fight and he put him into Qantas at the time and they didn't want to know about him". | 432 |
| 2509 | D was involved with the Knights. When it closed D wrote to all the people involved and they bought a grand piano for the orchestral rooms at Christ Church St Lawrence. | Knights of the Ch. |
| 2602 | It was D's gay solicitor who drew up the Articles of Association. No problem setting it up – more trouble getting out of the lease. | Articles of Assoc. |
| 2622 | The police didn't say get out "but said they couldn't be held responsible for what may happen" Petersham Inn was on one corner and one on another corner – not a good area to be in. "They | Petersham Inn |

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| | brought it on themselves to a degree” In 1968 got out of the hall but still held functions until it broke up. | |
| 2709 | 1964 worked during the day at the Housing Commission and at the Purple Onion 6 nights a week. | |
| 2742 | Got job at PO through a talent quest. Brenton had bought in to the PO. Jimmy Fishburn had set up 8 Belles and took the best drag queens – Rose, Nola, Corinne, Darreal, perhaps Red Leslie. | Brenton Jimmy Fishburn Rose, Nola, Corinne, Darreal, Red Leslie |
| 2826 | Robert Helpman was the judge at the audition and he picked him because he had good legs and could do comedy. | Robert Helpmann |
| 2901 | Before this Dennis mentions a competition for drag performers for a Heritage Car Museum in Watsons Bay. Robert Helpman was also the judge and auditions were held at the Jewel Box. Dawn drove D to the old Cross and he had to make his way for the rest of the way (in drag?) for the rest of the way. | Heritage Car Museum Robert Helpman Jewel Box |
| 2937 | Got the job but knocked it back because he had a day job and could see what it was like for the other kids (job security/pay) | |
| 3008 | Next job was working at the Trolley Car in drag in 1966. It was Dawn’s. She sold it to the University Union (together with the staff) because people in drag was a great attraction. It didn’t last too long because too many people were interfering. | Trolley Car Bar University Union |
| 3109 | It was a long terrace house. When it closed at 10, they move upstairs. They were raided twice. So Dawn rented a hall in Chinatown and they had a minibus that took them down there – Julia would set up the Bar down there. | Chinatown Dawn Julia |
| 3134 | Roger Claude used to make Pernod in the bath upstairs.. | Roger Claude |
| 3340 | Upstairs had a great girl patronage. This was the first time there was intermingling. And the girls came to 432 too. “The only fights we had were with the girls” “Dawn used to control them very well altogether”. “They used to come from the Sussex to the Trolley Car after 10”. | 432 Sussex Street Trolley Car |
| 3431 | The Sussex Hotel was a lesbian venue in the 60s and it went all the way through – they used to come up to Ruby’s in the 70s. At the Sussex the girls had one bar. | Sussex Hotel Ruby’s |
| 3553 | Feathers Restaurant was Jorge’s first job in Australia. It was managed by Jimmy Fishburn and his mother. The D explained the 8 Belles. They originally went out to Newport Beach, then he brought them back to the Phillip Street Theatre. It didn’t have the appeal/atmosphere so when they came back to the PO the fill ins were sacked. | Feathers Jimmy Fishburn 8 Belles Newport Beach Phillip Street Theatre Purple Onion |
| 3721 | Mentions the name “Oyster Bills” at Sylvania where they had drag acts. | Oyster Bills Sylvania |
| 3922 | He rented the PO off David Williams with Connie Johnson, when David went to Morocco.(??) | David Williams Connie Johnson |

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| 3953 | Talks about counselling job for the Housing Commission and he stays there until Capriccio's in 1970. | Capriccios |
| 4200 | He was the first Manager of Caps. "it was a great achievement. It was the first licenced gay bar and restaurant. Jimmy played piano and on Friday and Saturday nights Jackie Monier sang in French. Upstairs they the shows and Sunday night was talent night. | Capriccios |
| 4230 | Dawn was the owner and Marjorie. Serafim owned the building. Bruno had the lease and the licence. Dawn and Marjorie put their money in and did it up. Upstairs was originally a wedding reception place. When they got their money back they split it three ways. | Dawn Marjorie Serafim Bruno |
| 4310 | Karens Castle was when D was away. Also owned with Marjorie and it was before the Trolley Car. | Karen's Castle |
| 4434 | He worked at Bondi Junction Health Studio as a casual on Friday and Saturday. Dawn went into partnership with a boy and his partner. But they got frightened and she bought them out. He had brought the idea back from the U.S.A. | Bondi Junction Health Studio |
| 4558 | The steam bath was small to start with. Then she got the lease of the Indian Curry House upstairs. | |
| 4711 | It was secretive and frightening. It had been a gymnasium before. There were no problems with the police. | |
| 4815 | Worked 18 months at Caps and went to Spain. Dawn sells Caps to Allan and Tommy who had worked as casuals at Caps. Tommy had a Button Shop in the Hilton Arcade. Allen was a carpenter. | Allan Tommy |
| 4933 | Caps downstairs was previously an Italian Restaurant. | |
| 4942 | D thinks Tommy and Allen kept the licence in Bruno's name. | Bruno |
| 5012 | Jimmy Fishburn did the show at Caps. Thinks Tommy and Allan also used Jimmy. | Jimmy Fishburn |
| 5030 | Mentions Brenton Williams doing the shows at PO when Jimmy left. Then Brenton sold to Dormie Mclvor and another person and D left. He was being transferred to the Queanbeyan Office anyway. | Brenton Williams Dormie Mclvor Queanbeyan |
| 5120 | The shows at Capriccios were excellent. There was more musical theatre around then to – like Applause you could build shows around and he was a producer in his own right e.g. La Cage aux Folles. He did the original Oliver at the Theatre Royal with Sheila Bradley. Jimmy was big time. | Applause La Cage aux Folles Oliver Theatre Royal Sheila Bradley |
| 5204 | The performers at Caps were originally Rose, (Karen came later with Allen and Tommy), Corinne, Red Leslie, Black Leslie, Vivianne, Sue Le Gay . | Rose, Corinne, Red Leslie, Black Leslie, Vivianne |
| 5234 | Got picketed one night by Kath Walker. Jimmy sacked both Black Leslie and Vivianne. Caps was picketed on a Sunday night. Resolved the problem and got them back on. They deserved to be sacked because they wouldn't do what Jimmy wanted them to do. It was over those silly Greek masks. They didn't think they should have been props on either side of the stage while one person did a number centre stage. They were well paid and well looked after – | Kath Walker Black Leslie Vivianne Ivan the Bouncer |

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| | lent money. He sent Ivan the bouncer down to sort it out so doesn't know who else was on the picket. | |
| 5501 | Remembers Melanie who turned the revolving stage. | Melanie |
| 5530 | Recalls Rose doing the number when she gets sloshed on the stage by herself. Jimmy was clever and temperamental of course. And remembers Robyn who worked with D at the PO. She did their hair – she was an apprentice hair dresser. | Rose Robyn |
| 5624 | Came back from Spain and worked full time for Dawn for quite a while. There were the other businesses – the 2 car parks, the Deli in Waverton, Pet Shop in Milsons Point, another car park. | Dawn's businesses |
| 5711 | Then Jorge and D go to Spain to live. He had been Dawn's manager. Did the books – collected the rents paid everybody and worked out of Dawn's house in Waverton. Went to Spain in 73. | Jorge Waverton |
| 5742 | Granted Spanish citizenship in 73 and returned in 74. The worked at Bell and Howell until 77. Then went back to Ruby's, Jools and Flos. | Bell and Howell Ruby's, Jools, Flos |
| G3 003 | | |
| 0006 | They got the offer of Ruby's because it had gone kaput as a steakhouse – it was called Ruby Red's Steakhouse. 2 girls had taken it over – Jossie and Sue and they gave out more drinks and than they sold he thinks, then offered to Dawn and Roger. It was above Crown Liquor. Abe had an interest in Crown Liquor and D thinks Abe owned the building. Rent was paid to Crown Liquor downstairs. | Ruby's Ruby Red's Steakhouse Jossie Dawn and Roger Abe Crown Liquor |
| 0056 | The kitchen became the back bar, which was Jorge's bar. "We had the front bar." "In fact it was a licensed restaurant and I took the license over from Jocelyn." It took off. | Jorge's bar |
| 0141 | D believes Ruby's started in 76. "You entered by going up a flight of stairs. It was a long narrow building, brick, brown quarry tiles, dark bar, gloomy" | Ruby's |
| 0232 | It was a licensed restaurant, but all the tables and chairs had been removed. The bunkettes were still there. Put in a dance floor, a disk jockey. There were no problems with the licensing police or complying with the regulations. "They had to have their nightly drink." | Consorting |
| 0315 | The restaurant was still there. On Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays Jorge would open the bottom bar. The servery from the kitchen became the bar. | |
| 0347 | Jorge had the truck drivers and D had the lipsticks. "A lot of the feminine lesbians would stay – they came in earlier – they'd stay until half past 10, then when the bus arrived from the Sussex, they'd – it just wasn't their scene, lovely people. A lot of them were models and that sort of thing. They just didn't like the rougher elements" | Sussex Hotel |
| 0501 | A lot of the women "were public figures and they didn't want to be caught in a brawl at 2:30 in the morning at an illegal drinking house | Crown Street |

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| | in Crown Street.” | |
| 0640 | D recalls how he got rid of all the girls except the DJ at the beginning because they were giving out too much free grog. Dawn backed D up on it. Then they wanted to know why they had boys in there. There was a ruling that boys had to be accompanied by a girl. There was a problem with people getting their rocks off watching lesbians dancing. There were also lots of fights. Fights were over domestic problems. Someone would look at someone else and they'd be wearing a beer. | |
| 0745 | D recalls an incident where he was saved from a bashing by Soula (?) who threw them down the stairs. | Soula |
| 0832 | They would hate full moon Friday nights. There was always trouble. They would go to a pub after work and then go on to Ruby's. D then talks about Jorge losing his cool when he caught someone spiking all the drinks. | Jorge |
| 0921 | There was also a drug problem there. His perception was that the girls seemed to be more involved in the drug scene then. Quite often had to get an ambulance. The pushers used to work out in Crown Street. | Crown Street |
| G4 | | |
| 021 | Jorge stayed at Ruby's until NYE 1979. D was working at Jools when it opened after the fire as the manager. When Jools closed went back to Ruby's until La Popotte was refurbished (to become Flos). Dennis left and Jorge stayed at Ruby's. | Jools La Popotte |
| 051 | Jools was designed at a Casino by Ponty. When Ponty went broke, Dawn and Roger took over as another arm of Australian Tavernas. There were then 3 arms of Aust Tavernas. They put in shows like "Girls Night Out" which went for a while. About 300 per night. When the blue rinse set left for Double Bay, then the top bar became a gay bar and dance floor downstairs. | Ponty Dawn and Roger Australian Tavernas Girls Night Out |
| 0155 | There was a competition between the bars. They got a bonus if they got \$1,000 in a night. Drinks were \$1 and \$1.50. | |
| 0211 | There was a fire when Simone and the Playgirls were there. Through and intercom fault. | Simone and the Playgirls |
| 0225 | Insurance wouldn't pay for full costs and this delayed the re-opening. It opened as a Theatre Restaurant again but gays never came back. The theatre restaurant worked OK. Dawn and Roger did not lose much because Sue Davidson put on a package show with Judy Connelli ("Judy at Jools"). So they lost. Roger picked up the takings from the food and drink. Upstairs did not work. D thinks a comedy company took it over and paid rent to Dawn and Roger then sold it on to an American hamburger chain. | Dawn and Roger Sue Davidson Judy Connelli |
| 0422 | August 79 opened Flos. Originally a French restaurant and Roger leased it out. The last person was Rickshaw Rita (Alex). But it wasn't successful. They decided to open another disco. D thinks Roger and Dawn had got rid of Patches. It became another arm of | Flo's Rickshaw Rita (Alex) Patches |

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| | Australian Tavernas – Abe, Dawn, Roger and Alex and Alex was the licensee. Tavernas No. 1 was Jools, No. 2 was Rubies, No. 4 was Flos (?) | Australian Tavernas |
| 0559 | Dawn had her own private companies. The other businesses like the Car Parks were under different company names. Capriccios was under Cameron Motors. | Cameron Motors |
| 0641 | They gutted the restaurant. Split level with Arabian décor on top deck. Kitchen out the back with decent fridges. On the top deck a whole new bar replaced the small cocktail bar and left all the Moroccan stuff. Down the side another two rooms in which people could get away from the music. The little bar stayed down where the original restaurant was and they put in a Perspex floor – the first with coloured lights under it. Troubles with Council but got away with it because there were tables and chairs in the other rooms. Problems with the name – there was a Flo’s Florist in Hurstville. The correct trading name was “Flo’s Moroccan Palace”. | Flo’s Moroccan Palace |
| 0826 | Aimed at the older customer in their 40s and 50s and the after theatre crowd who complained about loud music. Older people without partners. | |
| 0937 | Left in NYE 79 because Roger reneged on a deal that he would have full reign. Opened in August and in October Roger and Alex began charging people to come in and people did not come. | Roger Alex |
| 1019 | Young people came looking for older ones. | |
| 1038 | Went to Lake Munmorah and he and Jorge bought a General Store. Stayed there for 18 months and it was successful. However, unable to get a liquor license. Abe and his contacts did not do their homework and there was another liquor license within a mile radius. Crown Liquor was going to be the supplier. | Lake Munmorah Crown Liquor |
| 1144 | Family helped out and he cooked meals for the local Rutile mine. But lost the rutile mine. | |
| 1221 | Came back to Sydney. Built a house at Hornsby and decided to work at Telstra as an international operator. | Hornsby Telstra (Telecom) |
| 1304 | 90% of the people were gay. Stayed for 18 months, transferred to Telex and then to the union and stayed for 14 years with the telephonists union. | |
| 1344 | Was involved in the union’s response to the AIDS scare – technicians wouldn’t repair headsets. He was an AIDS liaison officier. It was about putting on training courses for everyone in Telecom. | AIDS |
| 1435 | Set up in Roden Cutler House. | Roden Cutler House |
| 1450 | The union response fizzled out quickly because the hysteria subsided. | |
| 1541 | Series of union amalgamations. The girls lost a lot of power when they were united with the techs. | |
| 1600 | Loved working at the union. Used to set up OH & S courses | TUTA |

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| | through the Trade Union Trading Authority, for Telecom. | Telecom |
| 1630 | When he went to the Australian Telephone and Postal Officers Association (ATPOA) he didn't have a problem with the Techs. | ATPOA |
| 1733 | D talks about discrimination cases his union dealt with. The union was the only one who had the strength to do anything. | |
| 1802 | He saw members in the Hospice, helped if families came in and took all their possessions. | Hospice |
| 1830 | The techs supported them and if there was a gay related issue the techs would hand it over to the telephonists to handle. Louise Tarrant wouldn't stand any nonsense. | Louise Tarrant |
| 1918 | Work was done through TUTA . The Labor Government was supportive through funding through TUTA. | TUTA Labor Govt |
| 2000 | D retired a year after he was diagnosed with leukemia in 94. Came up to live in Leura in 96. | |
| 2028 | Works for the Neighbourhood Centre and has clients he looks after, his garden and the Three Sisters Social Club, of which he was president. | Neighbourhood Centre Three Sister Social Club |
| 2137 | Three Sisters was formed from the Garden and Gourmet Group and goes back 20 years. The group's history is documented. It has wound down over the years, due young gays going elsewhere. They hold the monthly dinners, a fund raising disco (500 attend) and the ball on Sunday night. | Garden and Gourmet Group |
| 2319 | Knights of the Chameleons. Donnie formed them because nobody was doing anything like the Arts Ball or the Formal Ball every year. Donnie was manager of Roadshow in George Street. He held fundraisers for the charities like the Smith Family and ACON in its early days. 400-500 would attend at the Hilton Hotel. When Donnie died it fell to pieces and was wound up in 91. | Knights of the Chameleons Arts Ball Formal Ball Donnie Smith Hilton Smith Family ACON |
| 2436 | Two functions – the Arts Ball and the Formal. The Ball fizzled out and people preferred a drag show at a hotel. | |
| 2447 | The best ones were at the Keiron in Carrington Street Waverley. | Keiron Hall |
| 2552 | Empress of Sydney was awarded at the Ball. Jimmy Fishburn was the first. | Empress of Sydney |
| 2621 | The structure of the Knights was a Committee. Dennis, Kevin Fuller, Dawn and Aniek. All they had to do was sell tickets. | Knights – Dawn, Aniek, Kevin Fuller, Dennis F. |
| 2722 | On Boxing Day they had a yacht on the harbour. "Knights" had no special significance. | Boxing day yacht trip |
| 2922 | Other social groups were the Karingals, the Tiffanys, the Boomerangs, Pollys. Chameleons offered a permanent place – 432. They thought that once they were legal, they would be the bee's knees – a legal gay association on paper. D thinks it was maybe too ambitious and was before its time. Had good people | Karingals, Tiffanys, Boomerangs, Pollys, Committee of Chameleons |

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| | and it had girls for the first time on the committee – Ray, Barbara, Joan, her friend, Julia, Dawn. Men were Dennis, the solicitor, Brian Nicholai, Graham, Wally Dowling. | |
| 3234 | Tiffanys did production shows. They would hire a hall – Leichhardt, Coronation. | Tiffanys |
| 3341 | A lot of the product for the Chameleons came from the Trolley Car. | Trolley Car |
| 3352 | Chelsea Players put on plays like the Genesians. Drag but slightly up market. | Chelsea Players |
| 3447 | Tiffanys were very close to the Chameleons. Flora Robson. He is 87. Ray/Stan Goodwin, Neville Caton and Ray his sister. They held smaller functions. | Flora Robson, Ray/Stan Goodwin, Neville Caton, Ray Caton |
| 3541 | Chameleons had in mind a permanent club – that’s why they had the lease on 432 Parramatta Road and were building up a bank account. Once the Chameleons ceased that’s why they wanted their own place – hence Capriccios. | Chameleons Capriccios |
| 3646 | Purely social no ideas about social projects “you just shut up and got on with your life” 3653. They (social projects) should have been available “but people just stuck their heads in an oven in those days”. D remembers the other Chameleons John Sheehan and Doug Liddle. | Social projects Don Sheehan Doug Little |
| 3802 | He sees himself as an organiser, a “busy bum”, helped a lot of people. Never regrets anything and was very fortunate. He was lucky when he was 25 to have people around who helped him and that was what the Chameleons was. It helped each other out. People had problems “people just stuck together – you had nobody else. There was no one to turn to.” | |
| 5/12/06 | Conversation with Dennis Noel (Nola) Beckett gave the name of Chameleons. It was because of their ability to change colour to fit into their backgrounds. John Sheehan gave Dawn and Julia the money needed to start the Trolley Car The opening of Capriccios was after July 1970, the date that Dennis was appointed manager of Capriccios. John Hunter produced (?) the shows at the Onion when Jimmy left. Dennis is sure that Marj Hathaway was an original owner of the Onion. Brenton bought Marj’s share. | |