

Speaking About Place



Brisbane | Bundaberg Region | Grafton | Muswellbrook
New South Wales | Toowoomba | Victoria | Woolli | Xmas Street



Speaking About Place

A selection of images and Facebook comments

Our arts practice is informed by our ongoing and evolving connection with Place. Our Place-Projects are influenced by the context and the consequences of living within a constantly changing landscape.

Through our Nocturne documentary photography and Facebook social media projects, we have explored connections with Place in urban and regional communities throughout Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

As the Nocturne project has evolved, we have discovered the importance of sharing place stories through images, words, in person and online. Through Speaking about Place we have extended the potential for this project to share the transformative nature of lived experience and everyday life in each community.

Victoria Cooper+Doug Spowart

The online Nocturne Projects can be accessed at <http://nocturnelink.com>



Muswellbrook



Grafton



Bundaberg Region



What the dancing school girls saw ...




Speaking About Place

 **Donna H**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014 at 6.33pm · Childers, Australia ·

The lodge. My grandad went there, and would never tell us what they did

 **Alison G**
commented on this photo
April 15, 2014 at 3.69pm · Childers, Australia ·


Masonic lodge my dad was a long time member and yes Donna he never told us anything either. I also went to dance lessons in the downstairs area for a few years

 **Peta H**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014, at 6.41pm · Childers, Australia ·

When I was a child I did dance classes there 1965...1973 with Larry Ryan Dance School (Larry came to Childers as an ANZ bank teller on country service) some wonderful memories of those days although to this day have not been around the back of the Masonic Lodge building, as young kids we had ourselves convinced there were died bodies out the back...

 **Peta H**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014, at 6.45pm · Childers, Australia ·


Oh and it wasn't that pretty blue building back then either it was a big scary brownie/ red building and from the front some nights it looked like it had teeth.... Lol funny now

 **Helen S**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014, at 8.17pm · Childers, Australia ·

we used to sneak up the steps ever so quietly, and lift the peep hole in the door, then someone would creak a board, and we would race down the step as we thought it was haunted.....during dance lessons.

 **Sarah D**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014, at 8.39pm · Childers, Australia ·

I'd forgotten the peephole/keyhole. We never could see anything much through it, but it was all so cool to sneak up there.

 **Wayne D**
commented on this photo
April 21, 2014, at 10.06pm · Childers, Australia ·

I remember my dad going to lodge with elwin did not see my dad for two days never told what they did there

 **Kylie M**
commented on this photo
April 22, 2014, at 7.54am · Childers, Australia ·

Yes! I remember the forbidden stairs and the creepy room above.



ISIS MASONIC LODGE #93
Childers



What was revealed behind this façade ...



Speaking About Place

Tricia C commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 8.11pm · Grafton, Australia ·

I loved Gerard's store, I still often dream of it... I couldn't figure out why I saw the front as I did, but seeing this pic, I realise it's because the shop front WAS exactly the way I dream it now ...

Vicki B commented on this photo
September 24, 2013 at 11.10pm · Grafton, Australia ·

Gerards took up the whole corner and was the place to shop for special gifts like engagement, wedding or extra special birthday presents. It was a great loss to the town when it was forced to close. I have never seen a one stop gift store as good as Gerards in all the years since its' closure, and I still have a beautiful textured glass serving bowl my husband bought for me from Gerards for my 18th birthday.

Kerrie B commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 4.59pm · Grafton, Australia ·

Yep - same building. From memory I think Gerards - which was a beautiful department store - also included the Bargains shop on the left of the photo. I can remember gazing at the goodies in the front windows as a little girl - it was very glamorous!! Wish it still looked like this.

Matthew L commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 4.53pm · Grafton, Australia ·

What happened to that beautiful old facade?

Liza B commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 11.45pm · Grafton, Australia ·

It would be great if the facade is still in place behind the iron. What an improvement for the main street. Can it be done?

Robert T commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 7.17pm · Grafton, Australia ·

What a tragedy. Could it be restored?

Deanne L commented on this photo
September 13, 2013 at 10.26pm · Grafton, Australia ·

You always knew when it was the start of winter when you walked in and could smell the donuts cooking, one of my favourite kid memories!

Judy W commented on this photo
September 17, 2013 at 6.36pm · Grafton, Australia ·

It was Gerards we used to have lunch in the eatery in the middle of the store when we were at tafe

Tricia C commented on this photo
September 17, 2013 at 8.12pm · Grafton, Australia ·

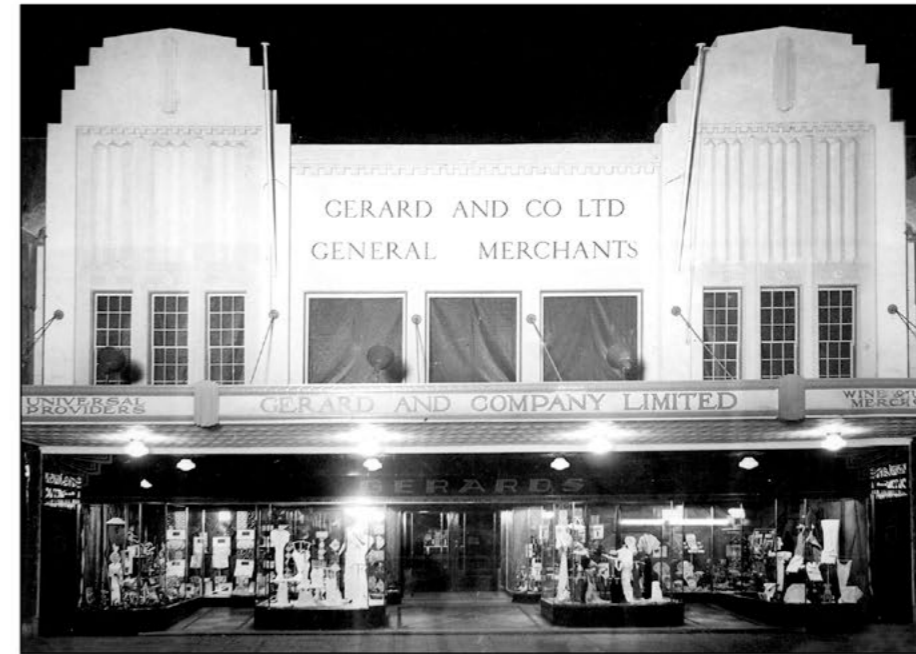
It means more now because I found out it was family that owned it ...

Kristy M commented on this photo
September 14, 2013 at 12.58pm · Grafton, Australia ·

I remember Gerards!! and it closing

John I commented on this photo
September 17, 2013 at 6.36pm · Grafton, Australia ·

Gerrards Pity the big supermarkets killed The Abrahams business



THEN PHOTO: circa 1950
Clarence River Historical Society



NOW PHOTO: NOCTURNE PROJECT 2013

GERARD AND CO LTD / CHEMIST WAREHOUSE
Grafton



Some 'fishy' stories about a creek ...



Speaking About Place



Brad H
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 11.31pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

It used to have mussels in it and I think I remember something about the first white explorers to the area finding piles of shells left by the indigenous inhabitants of the area.



Ty T
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 11.39pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Still does in some areas brad



Kristan M
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.10pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Me and my mate's use to fish this spot 25 years ago . Good times



Ty T
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.30pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Old fishing and hang out



Kristan M
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.36pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

I remember you never catching anything Adam M



Kristie O
commented on this photo
July 11, 2013 at 4.26pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

I worked with green corps about 8 years ago and we did restore it. We planted a lot of native trees down there and cleaned it all up... Then a flood came through and washed it all away. It was all just a waste of time, and a lot of effort



David E
commented on this photo
July 11, 2013 at 7.29pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

I was about to say I thought this was restored within the last decade, they also cleaned up the walkway and the little creek crossing bridge but then it all got destroyed by floods.



Dennis G
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.12pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Used this as a photoshoot on wedding day.



Christine D
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.12pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Would back up when the Hunter flooded-water would be almost up to Cheatles furniture shop. Also a poor fellow fell to his death in the 70's I think.



Backyard B
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.35pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

i kissed alot of beautiful women down there



Brad H
commented on this photo
July 25, 2013 at 3.53pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

Very moody and yes mysterious. Kind of exotic too, part of a jungle in Africa or South America perhaps. As for a story, it's a nice place to go for a walk (where there is suitable access) lots of interesting locals to catch up with. I often see lizards basking on a rock or log, or ducks going about their business and try to sing along with the Rosellas and Cockatoos in the trees, OK well maybe not lol.



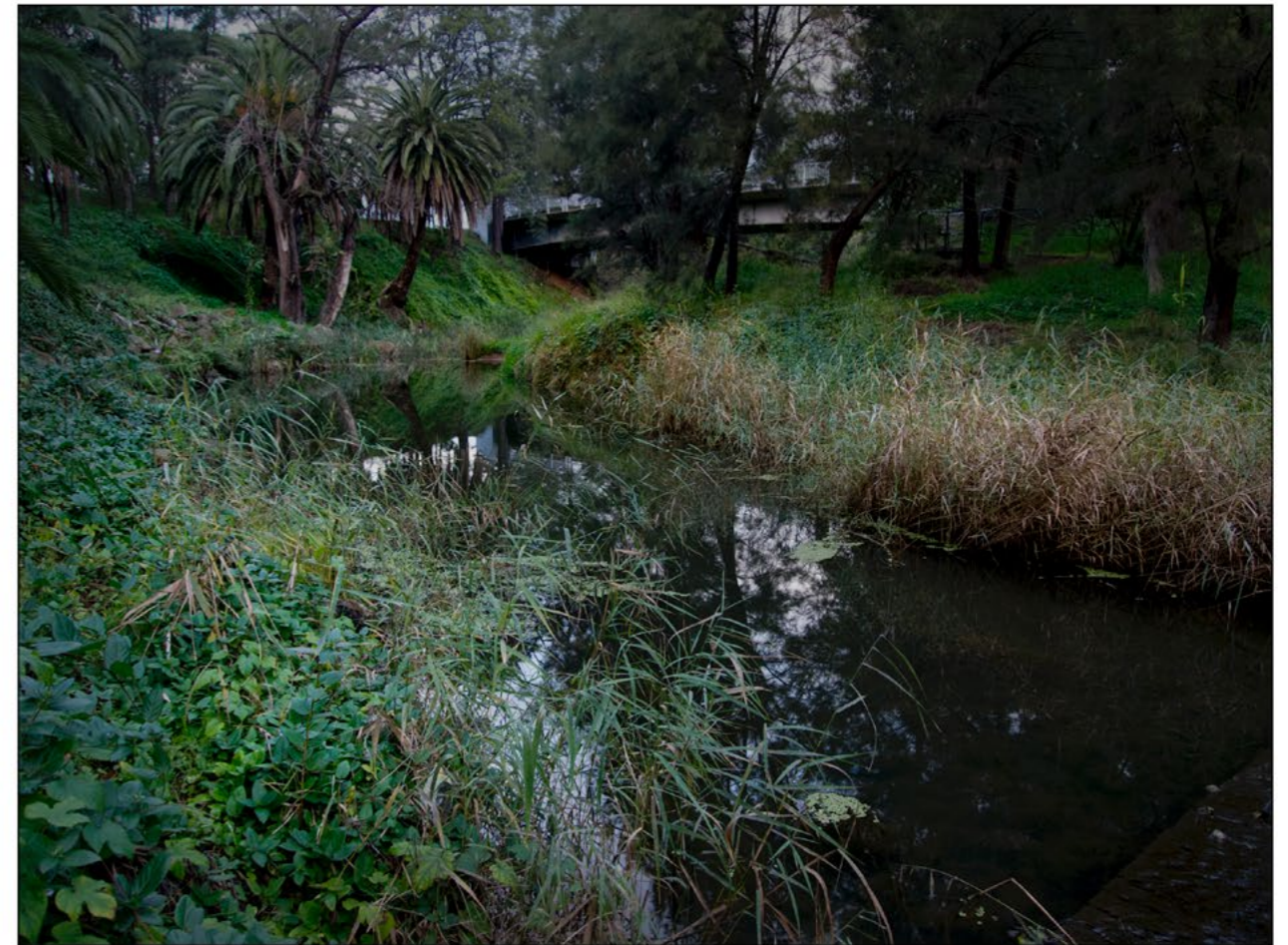
Adam M
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.51pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

I remember kicking the snake into u at pinneroo caravan park that time ...lolit was u wasn't it ...



Kristan M
commented on this photo
July 10, 2013 at 9.44pm · Muswellbrook, Australia ·

I remember that to LOL . We did have some bloody good times .



MUSCLE CREEK
Muswellbrook



SEE MORE OF THESE COMMENTS:

The online Nocturne Projects can be accessed at <http://nocturnelink.com>