

## **A quick history on the development of Koala Park from a family who has lived here from the 50's**

My father built the family house in the area in 1954-55 and my mother has lived here since late 1958. The area now known as Koala Park was low lying land and was part of the Tallebudgera Creek catchment, and the only entrance onto Tabilban Street was via West Burleigh road with Tabilban Street going through only to the bottom of the hill on the south side, it was a no through road, with all streets in the area being dirt streets.

In late 1958 when my mother came to live here, the Koala Park area was being built up above sea level and the land area made significantly larger for development by reducing the catchment size of Tallebudgera Creek. Attached are two photos, one before, another during the building up of the area) **\*\*Coincidentally the owner of the dredging operation that built up the land was to be the second owner of 14 Reserve Street\*\***

In the early 1960's after the build up of the land for development, the road connection was made to the existing part of Tabilban Street. It was a through road and motorists had no reason to turn into Reserve Street or Ocean Parade, the only reason was for the people who had homes along those streets, which were still dirt streets.

**\*\*In the late 1960's-1970 when the last of the asphalt was being laid Council made the decision? to not bitumen a section of Tabilban Street and to **compel** motorists to divert through Ocean Parade and Reserve Street only to continue back onto Tabilban Street.\*\*** For many years motorists still used the unsealed part of Tabilban Street, as did I, until Council put in an inappropriate log bollard barrier **forcing** motorists to divert onto Reserve Street and Ocean Parade creating a problem that should not ever have existed.