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Collinsville Memoirs 2

This project is a continuation of
Collinsville Memoirs which aimed to
utilize Information Technology as a
'Community Building Block',
bringing together the Youth and
Seniors of our town to actively explore
and collate the Memoirs and Narrative
history associated with the
Gold, Coal Mining and Pastoral History
of Collinsville & its District.

With the skills developed through this comprehensive and invaluable Historic CD and digital image collection, our aim has been to support our community to operate more effectively with technology and to have the skills they need in 21st Century.

We apologise in advance for any errors and or omissions.

This collection has been created in good faith using all materials available to us at the time of publication.

If you have any corrections or additions for future copies, please do not hesitate to let us know as we believe this to be the start of many volumes of Collinsville's History.

Stories of Growing Up in Collinsville



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Growing Up in Collinsville Desley Spargo (nee Scott)

I have many wonderful memories of growing up in Collinsville but the worst would be the nightly trip to the outside 'dunny'. Mum would arm herself with a torch and a broom to brush away the frogs and toads along the path. What a blessing when Collinsville was connected to the sewerage system.

Another blessing was when electricity came to the town and the miners could buy a fridge through the mine. At the same time we had a plunge bath installed. With a fridge, plunge bath, and electric lights installed I thought, "Not even the Queen could live better than this". What delicious ice cream mum made in those two small aluminum trays in the little square freezing compartment.

Remember the concerts at the Pioneer
Theatre – Kevin Hoolihan, a boy soprano
singing and Dave Watson playing the
spoons? Then there were the beautiful Irish
songs sung at the Catholic School concerts
on St Patrick's Day with Maisie Bushell
playing the piano. There were singing lessons
each Friday at the State School when Mr
Schultz was headmaster. We learned
beautiful old classic songs such as 'Santa
Lucia", "Who is Sylvia", "Beautiful Dreamer"
and "Trees" to name a few.

How wonderful were the May Day Parades

– all those beautifully decorated floats,
decorated prams and bikes. We'd go up
near the hospital where the parade started
and follow it to the Showgrounds, where
each child was given an ice cream as they
went through the gate, and sixpence to

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My brother John used to enter his goats in the races. Mum made him a set of racing silks and Dad made a gig for him to ride in.

What lovely pies Jerry made! When interval came at the pictures, what a rush to get one of Jerry's pies from his pie stall then a soft drink from the café and be back in our seat before the second picture started. I still haven't found a pie or pastie as good as Jerry used to make. We would have to put in our order on the way to school and Jerry and Mrs. Schmidt would pull up outside the school at lunchtime and we'd collect our order.

Greyhound races were held at the end of Pelican Street (at the Railway Road end of the Showgrounds). Jimmy Larry, a well-known old Aboriginal man used to attend and always wore a bright red shirt.

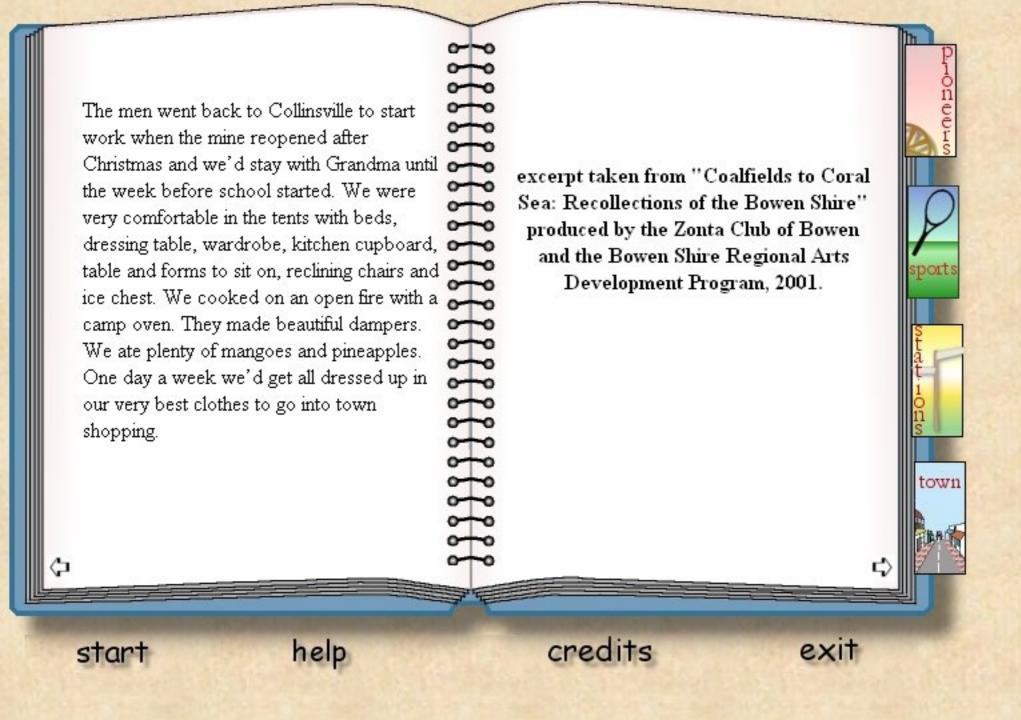
Holidays were spent in Wangaratta Camping Ground, Queens Beach, near Percy and Mrs. Rayward's shop. When school broke up our grandparents, parents and my brother John and I would all head off for Bowen. The trip took at least four hours by car. We'd boil the billy after crossing the range. The furniture would have been sent by rail a week beforehand. We'd set up two tents at the beach, then Mum, Dad and Grandpop would go back to Collinsville until the mine broke up for Christmas. We'd stay with Grandma in her tent. Lots of Grandmothers and kids from other families did this. There was usually one man there with a car who would go to Bowen each day to pick up fresh bread and ice for the families. We went in a group for a swim at 8a.m. and 4p.m. each day. The adults played cards a lot during the day and

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Collinsville Memories June (Logan) Spargo.

I remember when the Dentist used to come to town (very seldom) to the clinic near Magees' grocery shop. What a fearful wait in the crowded waiting room. Kids sat on the floor, terrified by the screams coming from the surgery. When someone was sick and needed to see the doctor, one of the family would call at the Ambulance depot in Blake Street to tell Mrs. Harvey. Stewie Harvey or Bill Howarth would come on their rounds in the Ambulance and take you to the Outpatients Clinic at the hospital. Sometimes it was so crowded there was only standing room on the steps. There was that awful hospital smell, a combination of either and disinfectant.

When going to school, as soon as the house was out of sight off would come our shoes and they'd be put in our school bags till after school. We never wore out a pair of shoes. During the war, a plane landed in the bush out past the Old Town. The school children were taken by trucks to see it.

We used to go climbing up the hill behind Sonoma Street to the reservoir. There were always lots of goats on that hill. We also did the big climb up Mount Devlin, or we'd walk to the swimming hole in Pelican Creek along the railway line at the side of Mount Devlin. There was also swimming at McHugh's Waterhole on Strathmore Road. Some nurses and I once rode our bikes to the Bowen River Hotel.

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There was a creek that came alongside the Anzac Hall, under the bridge that was in Conway Street, past Bobby Herbert's Garage, past the Convent School, across Railway Road and through the golf course. Now a lot of it is filled in and built on.

We went to see Pelican Creek in flood when the water reached the top where the road descended down to the Pumping Station.

On Sunday morning there were band recitals in the Rotunda where the swimming pool is now situated. The band would practice in a shed at the corner of the Showgrounds, down towards the railway. The band always did the May Day Procession.

When the war ended there was a commotion of car horns, banging tins, calling out, then the jubilation and dancing in the street that night at the intersection of Stanley and Conway Streets. What a wonderful joyous night!

excerpt taken from "Coalfields to Coral Sea: Recollections of the Bowen Shire" produced by the Zonta Club of Bowen and the Bowen Shire Regional Arts Development Program, 2001.

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Growing Up In Collinsville In The Forties and Fifties.

Elaine Mina (Allison)

Toys appeared in the shops just before Christmas. Word got around and crowds of kids would surround the windows picking out what they would like. There was a Christmas tree with a lucky dip at the Co-op. Abby Nott and Mr Lucus were so helpful in the hardware department when it came to Mother's and Father's Day.

Coupons were issued during the war years for butter and sugar. Even as a child I would go to the Co-op for Dad's allocation for tobacco which he would send to his father.

Mrs Pass in the news agency and drapery store was a no-nonsense shop-keeper. All monies passed through her hands in and out of the till. "Check, Mrs Pass" was heard over and over again in the shop. My family has a standing order for the Pix and English Women's Weekly and every week we'd be in to check out the latest comics. One day when a yard of elastic was found to be a short she just said, "It'll stretch".

As an aftermath of the depression, all the old newspapers were rolled up and tied with string and sold to the butcher for outside wrapping.

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Pictures were shown at the Pioneer Theatre on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday nights. Davey Harrison was the proprietor and Jimmy Fell the projectionist. First there would be comics. Movie-tone news and shorts, then usually a cowboy movie, interval and a feature movie after interval. After the movie the boys would clamber over the seats looking for empty soft-drink bottles, which brought a three-penny refund. The Argyle Café, Williams' Café, Steeles Café and Jerry Schmidt's pie shop did a roaring trade during interval. Jerry made great pies. After the movie crowds walked home together - in winter some would take a blanket along and wrap up in it for the walk home.

We had a wood stove so Mr Hansen would deliver loads of wood over the back fence. It was split, cut up and stored behind the backyard lavatory. My brothers' chores included collecting the "morning wood" each evening – kindling to start the fire and wood to keep the stove going all day.

In 1952 Dad bought our first car, a standard Vanguard utility. We had some lovely picnics out at the Bowen River, Coral or Oakey Creek or at the Three Mile with our relatives, fishing, swimming and playing in the rapids. The river was very popular and for a time the Scottville Bus would be seen there. After rain the road would be slippery and boggy so it wasn't unusual at all for all to have to get out and push.

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We went to Sunday school at St Peter's Anglican Church. We wore our best clothes and most important, our best hat. Gloria Baker (Fox), then Cynthia Rowe (Bailey) and Gwen Simpson (Fell) were our Sunday school teachers. Mr. Finch was our lay preacher. He rang the bell and Mr. Thorpe was the minister who appeared occasionally.

Gail Schrader and I were flower girls at the Deb Ball. We went to Mrs. Grey's to have our hair done in pin curls and sprayed very stiff. The girls joined the Rays and the boys the Okays held on Friday nights. There were sausage sizzles at Pelican Creek and breaking-up was a ride on a truck to Coral Creek where we played under the big shady Burdekin trees.

The wireless was our home entertainment. We listened to the Amateur Hour, Willie Fennell, Moe McCacky, request sessions, hit parades, sports. At one o'clock each weekday the familiar "Blue Hills" music echoed through the town as the serial began. On Sunday at one o'clock we'd listen to "The Racing Harcourts" or "The Rajah's Racer".

We played "Red Red Rover" and cricket up the road in the red dirt. Cricket was played with a box for the wickets and a plank of wood for the bat. Over anyone's fence was "out". If a car came (not many came down our road) we'd just move the box.

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The first show was held in 1956. Ted Cunningham organized his men to build the stockyards, which were completed just before the show. Our headmaster Mr. Armstrong organized the school children to paint the arena fence. Armed with a tin of paint and a brush we went to work. Until then a Carnival used to come to town to Gordons' Paddock where the Town and Country Hotel now stands. There were knock-ems and suction darts, a merry-go-round, maybe even an octopus.

Our Mother said it used to come to towns when she worked at the hotel across the road before she left work to marry in 1939.

If we had an injury or sores of any kind we usually went over to the Ambulance depot run by Stewie and Mrs. Harvey and Bill Howarth. They would bathe and dress our cuts and sores and send us home with some ointment. If anyone needed to go to the doctor they also picked us up and took us to the hospital then brought us home afterwards.

Mr. Schrader made beautiful bread – too tempting when one of us was sent for a loaf (no sliced bread in those days) and it wasn't unusual for it to arrive home with a few chunks taken out. A half loaf with no crust at the end was irresistible.

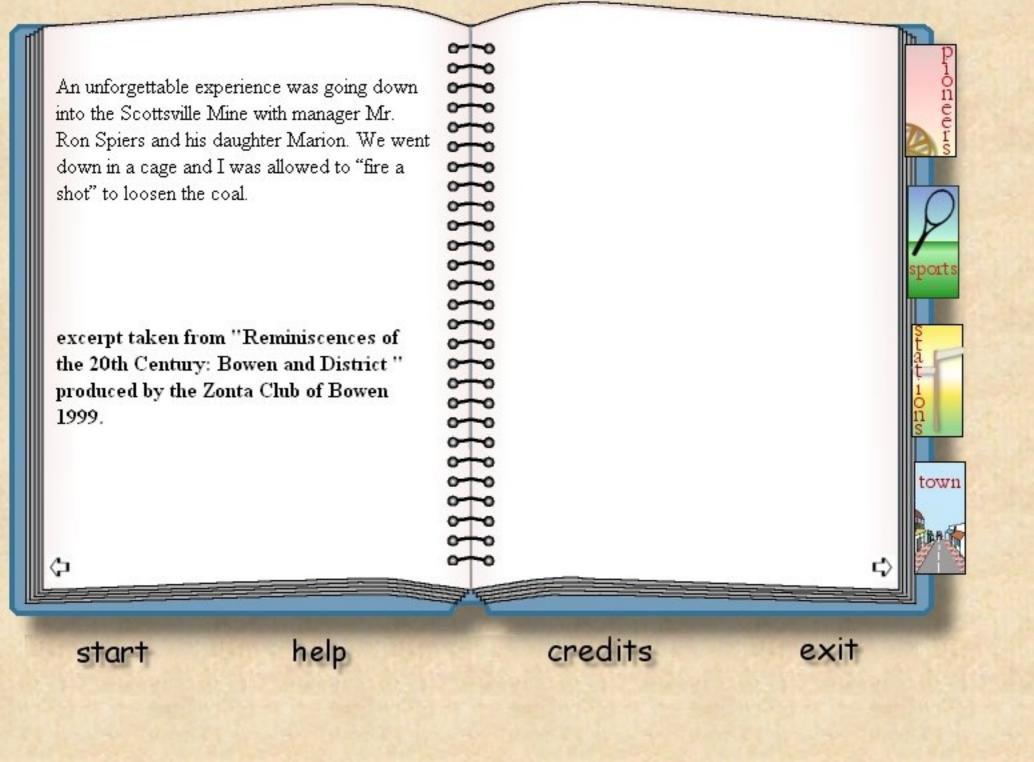
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The Collinsville I remember. WendyRuskin

My father, Gordon Cox worked at the butcher shop in Collinsville. Leaving home at 4am on his horse, he rode 6km to the local slaughter yards. I would wait for him to appear at the end of the street after his morning's work and he'd hoist me up for a ride on his horse. He then went to the butcher shop where he served behind the counter till 4pm.

Fetes were held in the spare allotment known as "Gordon's Paddock". My grandmother Mrs. Cox and Mrs. Hay the local policeman's wife made lolly baskets from crepe paper and cardboard. They were filled with home made toffee, jellies, jubes and marshmallows. Cakes made by the women sold quickly.

We played cricket with our cousins in the front of Scotts' house in Pelican Street. The ground was flatter, so we set up cardboard boxes and bats made from wooden planks. These games attracted all the neighborhood kids. My mother called me in if there were to many boys, much to my annoyance.

Every year Collinsville school pupils took the train to Bowen to compete in inter-school sports. There was a stop halfway at Binbee. The train would take water and we had tea and corned-beef sandwiches.

We learned to dance at learners dancers held at Collinsville's Anzac Hall. They were good nights. Tea and biscuits were served after the dance and we always looked forward to this.

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The nuns at the convent taught us to play the piano and Mrs. Williams taught me at home. She taught more popular music. Our Auntie Ev had a pianola and on lots of occasions my cousins and aunts would gather around the pianola and sing. We took turns at pushing the pedals up and down while singing along.

One night in October 1956 the mine whistle sounded unexpectedly. It blasted several times as an indication that there had been a serious accident at the mine. Seven men died that night. The town was in mourning. I was always thankful that my father was not working at the mine. Coal falls were common. The miners fought hard for better conditions. They got them in the end but it was a slow process that took the lives of several before conditions improved.

exerpt taken from "Reminiscences of the 20th Century: Bowen and District" produced by the Zonta Club of Bowen, 1999.

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Havilah Station.

We arrived to manage Havilah in August 1970, so have clocked up nearly 30 years in the Collinsville District. In our early days here, we did not have a reliable phone service, water supply, or even a half decent road. The little wooden bridge over the river was often "under" not over the water. Now we have a good phone, high level bridge, water is pumped from the river, and we can have a nice garden all year round.

The homestead here was built in 1927 for Mrs. Olive Isbell, who came here as a bride. It is a beautiful house, railed up here from "Broard and Brown" Brisbane as a pre-fab building. I would like to guess what it would cost to build today.

In this district we had many active friendly neighbours, who joined us in making this an exciting place to live, and raise children. We "played" hard on many weekends — luncheons, dinner parties, and picnics at the river, cricket, clay pigeon shoots, and croquet. I also had get-togethers for new arrivals in the district, along with New Years', Melbourne Cup and Mother's Day parties, with everyone joining in. It was no burden, friendships were made that will last for life.

Another joy was the St. Peters church choir. We worked hard to improve our voices. Then came the Hi-jinks with our best (no worst) offender being our darling Annelise Kemp (Pelican Creek). Those were the happy days.

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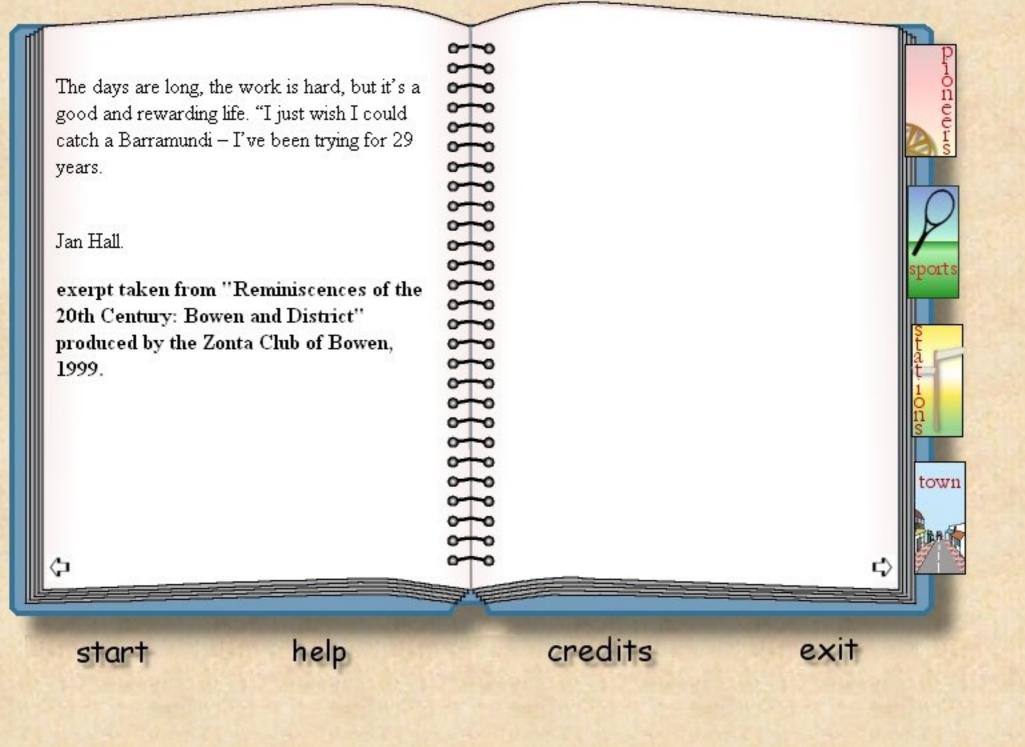
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Memories of Collinsville. Chick Searle

Having been born in Collinsville in 1928 my memories go back to the nineteen thirties and forties. Here are some of my recollections.

Joe and Jack McCann ran McCanns Store opposite the Catholic Church. They also had a store at Mt Coolon. Abbie Nott started out there as the store boy and later worked for many years at the Co-op. On Tuesdays it was his job to call on the customers to take their grocery orders. Bob Herbert was the delivery driver and would deliver to your house on Wednesday. Groceries were packed in brown paper bags carrying the words "Don't overload your husband. We deliver to the door" and featured a picture of an overloaded husband.

Biscuits were weighed and sold by the pound as was cake cut up and sold by weight.

Mr. Langdon was headmaster at the school and used to go over to old Mrs. Forsyth's to milk her cow for her. He always wore brown sandshoes and long brown trousers with baling twine instead of a belt.

There was no electricity until about 1948 so people had to rely on ice-chests or kerosene refrigerators. Gordon Bros. Butchers had large cooling towers beside their shop in the main street, which ran refrigeration and made ice for sale and delivery.

Their slogan was "Tender meat, tough ice". Ice was also made for sale at the cordial factory run by T. Webster & Sons in Conway Street near the Civic Centre.

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Coal mining was an essential industry during the war. The Star Theatre became an emergency ration depot for the town. Nine tons of flour would be carted from the rail to the depot with police escort and nine tons would be taken from the depot to W.R.B. Schrader's bakery in the main street beside the Co-operative store. At one time the price of bread rose by one farthing. The farthing coin had been phased out so Schraders had their own cardboard farthings printed - legal tender in the baker's shop only. Sanfies who ran the café on the corner where Bartec now operates also had baker's ovens behind the café.

Another essential industry was the mining of graphite. Tom and Molly Sanson owned the mine which still to be seen about thirty metres off the road to the weir. The graphite was sent away to be used in batteries. The next owner was Mr. Zentner who later ran a general store at Scottville.

In the middle of the road on the intersection of Stanley and Conway Streets there once stood a water fountain which had four posts and rails round it. It was later replaced by a "silent cop", a dome with reflectors on it, and later by a light pole.

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Behind Webb's picture theatre was a boarding house run by Mrs. Dunlop and her daughter Hazel Kruckow. In their window was a sign "If your wife can't cook keep her for a pet and eat here". Fidlers also ran the Post Office and a shop in the main street with a boarding house behind it. A Post Office was built next door where Nugents now have a fruit shop but later a new one was built on its present site in Conway Street.

A Chemist shop with residence next door was in Stanley Street beside the Covent School but was burnt down. The Black and White Café was over the road, beside the Caledonean Hall. Old Bill Grey was the barber and his sons Nuggie and Bill followed in his footsteps. His daughter Lorraine (Morrissey) has been a hairdresser in Collinsville for many years.

Granthans' Shop sold hardware in Conway Street near the Cordial Factory. It was later taken over by John Prohaska, a joint/carpenter who also ran a funeral service. Over the road was Jimmy Wong's shop. He ran a fruit cart, a Chev 4. George Lee had previously owned the shop. The next occupants were the Darwen family who published "The Collinsville Star" newspaper, which cost three pence a copy.

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Jimmy Wong's son Lester was a colourful character in Collinsville, a keen and very capable sportsman he was also a very witty and popular man. He had a well-used badminton court at the back of his home in Carpet Street and was a legend at the pool table as well as being compere at many of the concerts and other social events held in Collinsville.

Collinsville had no dentist so Mr. Beresford from Bowen used to come out in the train occasionally. A lady Domestic Science teacher.

Collinsville had no dentist so Mr. Beresford from Bowen used to come out in the train occasionally. A lady Domestic Science teacher and a male Manual Arts teacher used to come from Bowen by train to teach at the Collinsville State School on Fridays.

When we'd go to the pictures we used to buy a packet of State Express 333 cigarettes for nine pence from George Aroney's Black and

White Cafe.

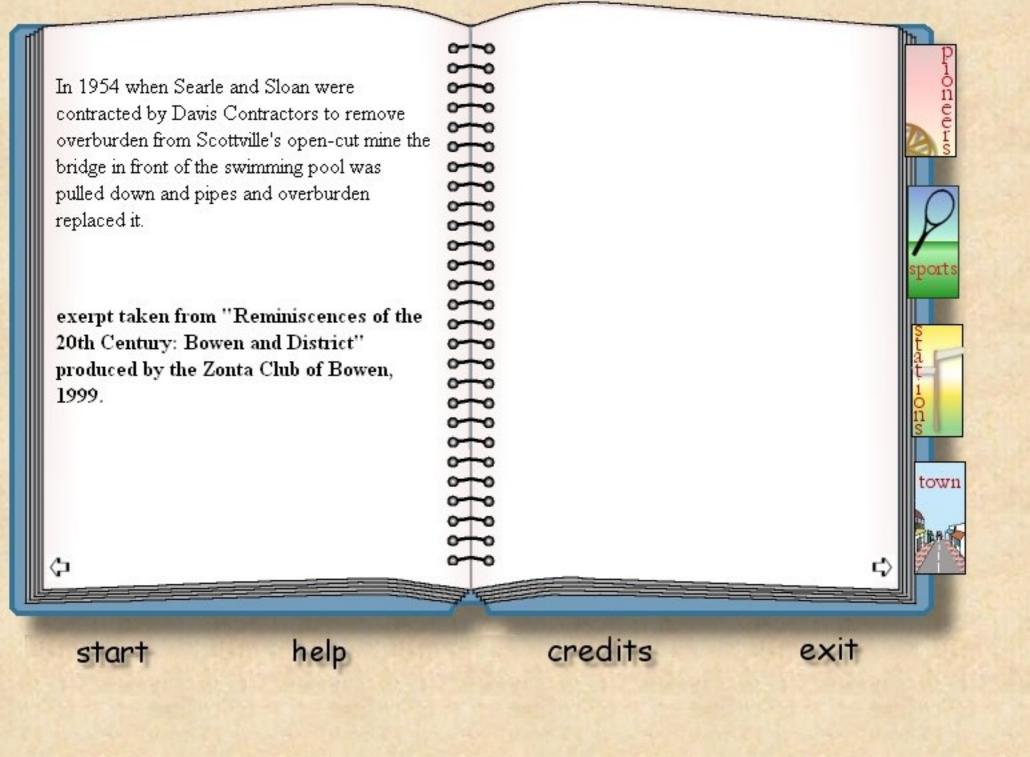
Nobody could forget Robert Hop Chong who lived alone in a small hut in Stanley Street along side McCanns Shop. He sold fruit and vegetables from a small shop beside the Black and White Café for a time and also from his fruit cart. As boys we used to sell crows to four Chinese men who lived behind his shop for sixpence each. After his death his hut was removed and is still used as a storeroom at our depot on Mt Coolan Road.

On side of the Buffalo Hall where the bottom pub stood until it burnt down, George McLean operated a garage. Saturday mornings there was an auction at Joe Craven's where Bosca's supermarket now operates. The Bank of New South Wales was next door. Judges had a shop in Sonoma Street behind where the power board has a

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More Memories of Collinsville
NoelGralton

Collinsville can claim a homegrown Rhodes
Scholar in Chester Parker who started school
in Collinsville and finished his education in
Townsville. He became a pilot in the Second
World War and sadly was killed in battle. In a
sad twist of fate the people who purchased the
Parkers' business, Arthur Ruge from
Proserpine also lost their son in the same tragic
manner. A tragic drowning accident occurred
in 1940 when the Bowen River flooded taking
the home of Jock and Madge Allen. Jock and
his son and daughter lost their lives.

In 1924 Mr. Talbot and son lived on the flat of
Pelican Creek and were the first settlers to
grow grapes.

grow grapes.

Paddy Durkin was an early settler along with the Armstrong, Furness and Searle families. "Aunty" Baker was a very early midwife.

Matt Wilson live with the Band Rotunda is now and used to look after stray animals.

Gundy Andrews ran a home for people in need arriving by train.

"Marrs" was a halfway house on the Sutter River between Mt. Coolon and Collinsville.

Nellie Gralton attended school in 1922 where the present Golf Club now stands.

There was an early lady settler in the twenties who would take her smoking pipe with her when she had to go to hospital.

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Fiddlers, in the early 1920's, had a boarding house at the Tennis Courts are a the railway station. The house was later shifted over to the corner opposite the railway station.

Mr. Wireworks arrived in Collinsville in a covered wagon and lived on the "Old Town".

There were brickworks in Collinsville around the time the mine was started. It lay idle for about fifteen years until Bill Gralton got it going and successfully had a trial run of making bricks. The bricks were confiscated for the war effort. The same thing happened to the Gold Mine at Mt. Coolon, the machinery being moving on the back of a Thorncroft Truck with solid rubber tyres, moving only a short distance each day.

Susie and George Smith kept up the water supply to Collinsville and it was a ritual for several people to play cards at their home on Sunday nights.

There used to be three butcher shops in Collinsville – Gordons, Gralton and Hansen, which was situated, where Websters Cordial Factory was later built, and Teitzels in Stanley Street later turned into other shops.

When the first lady died in Collinsville a collection of black cloth to cover the coffin. There are three graves on Pelican Creek in the Old Town area.

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In 1937 three young girls who attended the convent school passed away. Joan Lavercombe and June Nattress died form complications from appendicitis and Noelene Moore drowned in Pelican Creek.

Mrs. Dunlop opened the first shop in Collinsville next to the picture show. It was a general store and before this Magees from Bowen used to send up for the residents' orders once a month.

Collinsville had two chauffeur driven cars whose drivers, in their white coats, would meet people arriving by train from Rockhampton and Townsville and take them to the Bowen River Races. One car had an open canvas top which seated six people, three abreast and with a glass partition in between them. The other car was a Hudson

excerpt taken from "Reminiscences of the 20th Century: Bowen and District" produced by the Zonta Club of Bowen, 1999.

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Vera Allison.

We were a family of seven girls and one boy — Edna, Irene, Vera, Bill, Una, Alice and Doreen. We left Blair Athol to live in Collinsville in 1925, with our parents William and Elizabeth Marsson.

The house was pulled down and was transported by rail to Collinsville. It had Dirt floors except for one room, which had a wooden floor. And eventually finished another room and front verandah when our timber arrived from Blair Athol. He also built a high shed where he built tanks. I remember helping him carve iron and tanks.

We had a great social life with dances and parties nearly every Sunday night.

We had a nice crowd to go around with and a lot of us would go for picnics at the Bowen River and take food and boil the billy for a cup of tea. Mum bought a truck and we went fishing at the Bowen River.

Mt Coolon was a thriving little town at the time the gold mine working a lot of men. Every morning men came off the early train and went to work out there. They would come in on the weekend and go to the Scottville dances. When Mt Coolon mine was closed, most of them went to Western Australia.

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The Second World War started in 1939 and we had blackouts. Windows were darkened and no light were to show in the town. Men were patrolling the street to see that everyone kept to the rules. When the siren went we had to go and sit in a gully and when it blew again we could go back home, until we got tired or going and sat on the front steps to watch. You could hear voices plainly everywhere in the gully. Training in case of bombing was carried out.

Even if we didn't get bombed we expected the War to get worse after Darwin was bombed. There were plans for the men to stay behind to work in the mine and the women and children were taken south. It was called the Brisbane Line.

We had ration cards for butter, tea, clothes and sugar. The night the War ended people came out and you could hear them coming from the huts on the hill. The people in the huts were mostly from Ipswich who came to work in the mines.

Charlie had racing dogs. Corner Lad,
Skippy, Dark Glee and others. They used to
chase live hares but it wasn't a success as the
hare would go half way and run back into the
pack of dogs so they made up a mechanical
hare and it worked quite well. The racing
continued for sometime but men got tired of
walking dogs in the morning or after work.

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Before television everyone went to the movies and to dances, played cards or read books. At a party someone was always able to play the piano and the rest would sing the old songs. My Dad loved "The Sentimental Bloke" with Dad, Dave and Mum. Dad loved music and had a gramophone with cylinder records in boxes and a big horn. Dad and Uncle Frank both played instruments, Dad the accordion and Uncle Frank the violin. They played for dances.

The Catholic Church was holding a Queen competition in the hall and Melva Kruckow and Maxine were asked to be flower girls. The dresses were or dyed mosquito net and satin with the headdress of the same material and shoes covered with gold paint. They both looked lovely at the ball. Shirely Doherty was

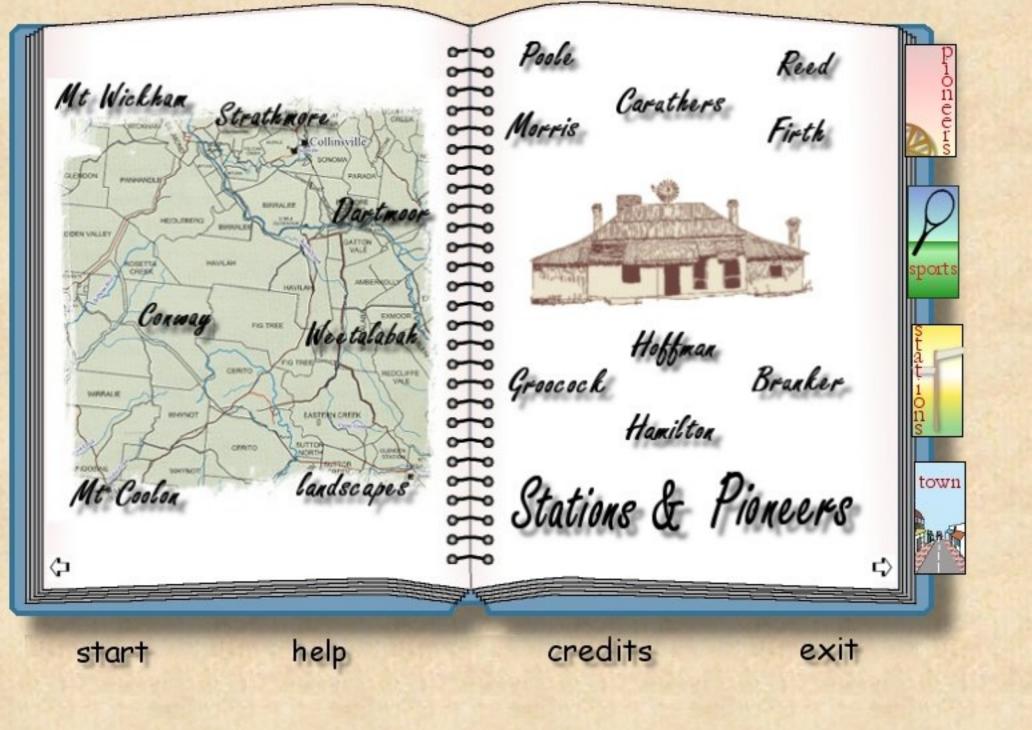
There were a lot of children's dances in those days. Elaine was a flower girl at an Anglican Deb Ball. I made her dress with lots of frills.

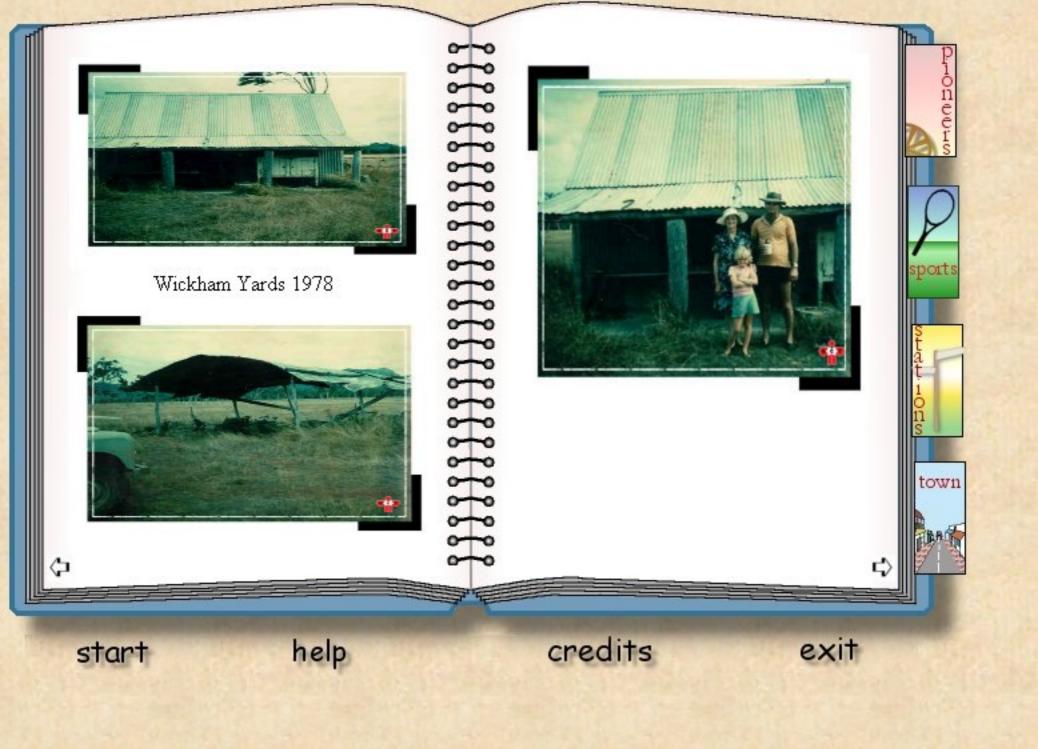
Maxine Todd.

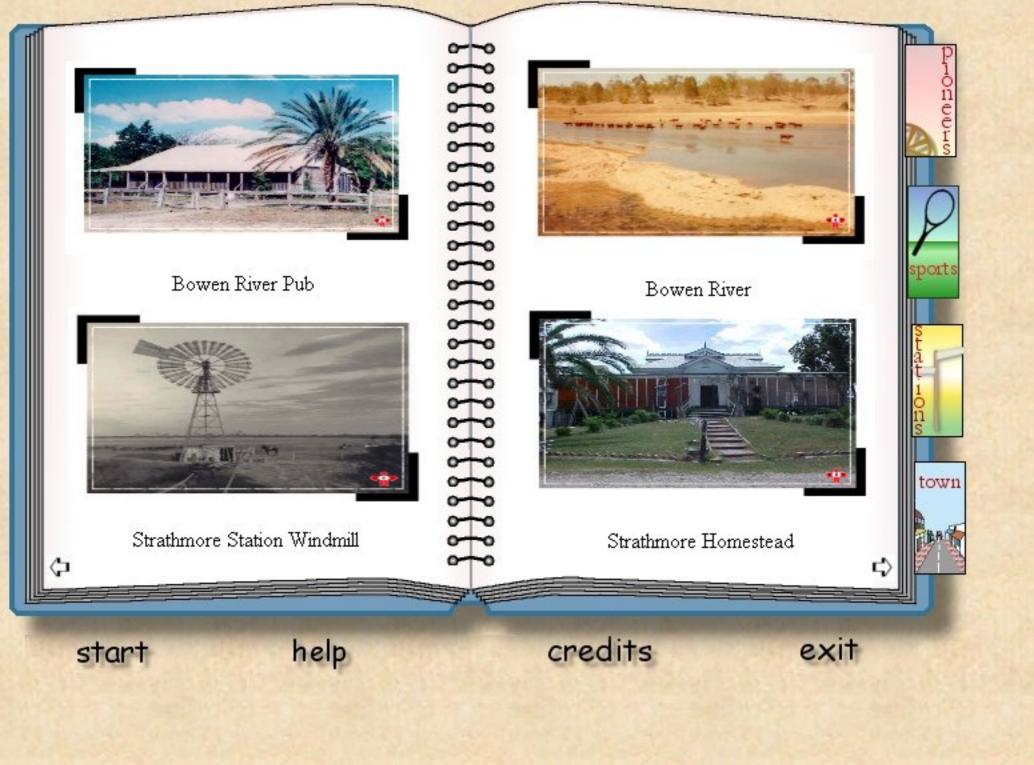
excerpt taken from "Reminiscences of the 20th Century: Bowen and District" produced by the Zonta Club of Bowen, 1999.

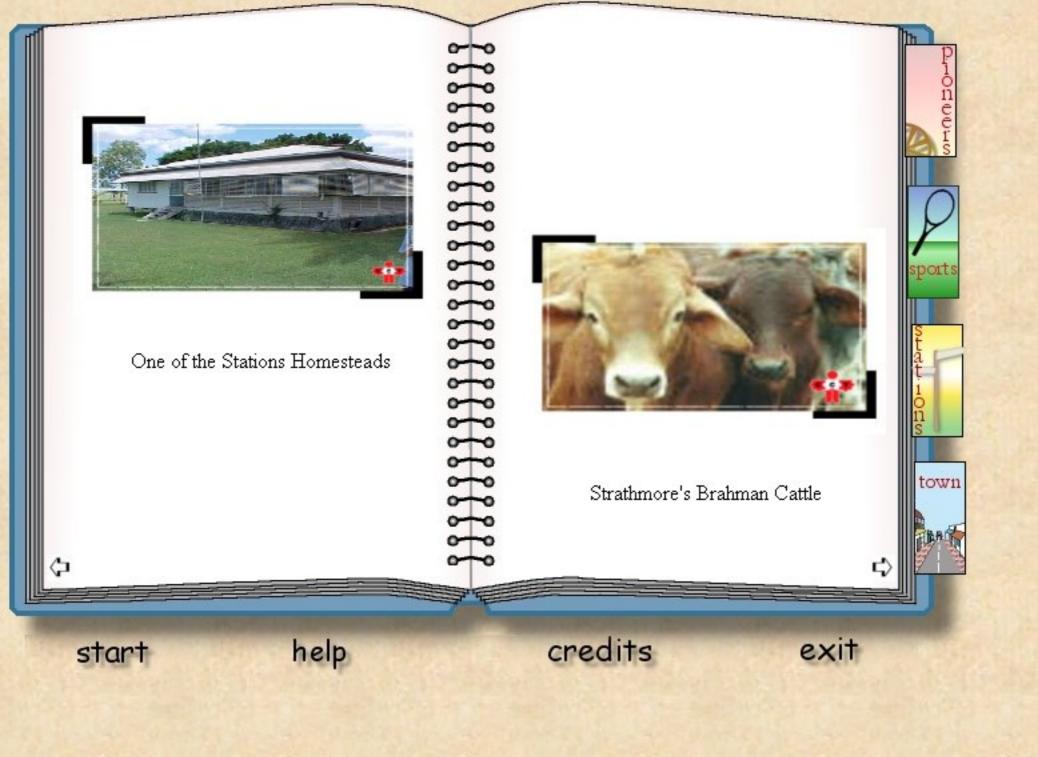
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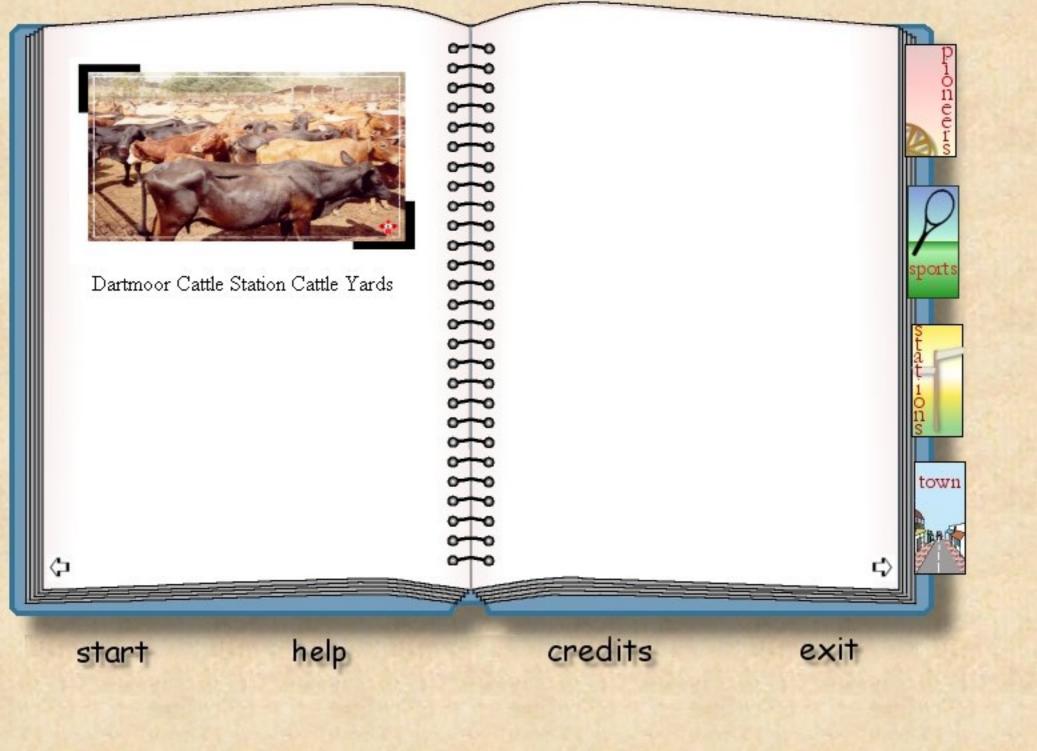
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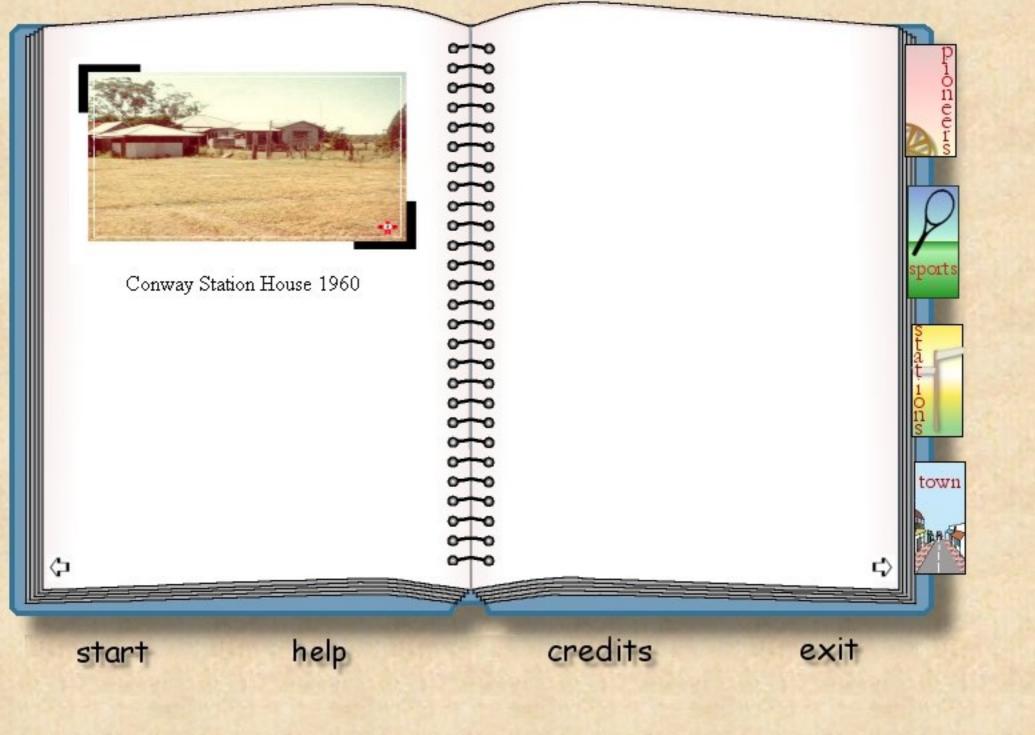


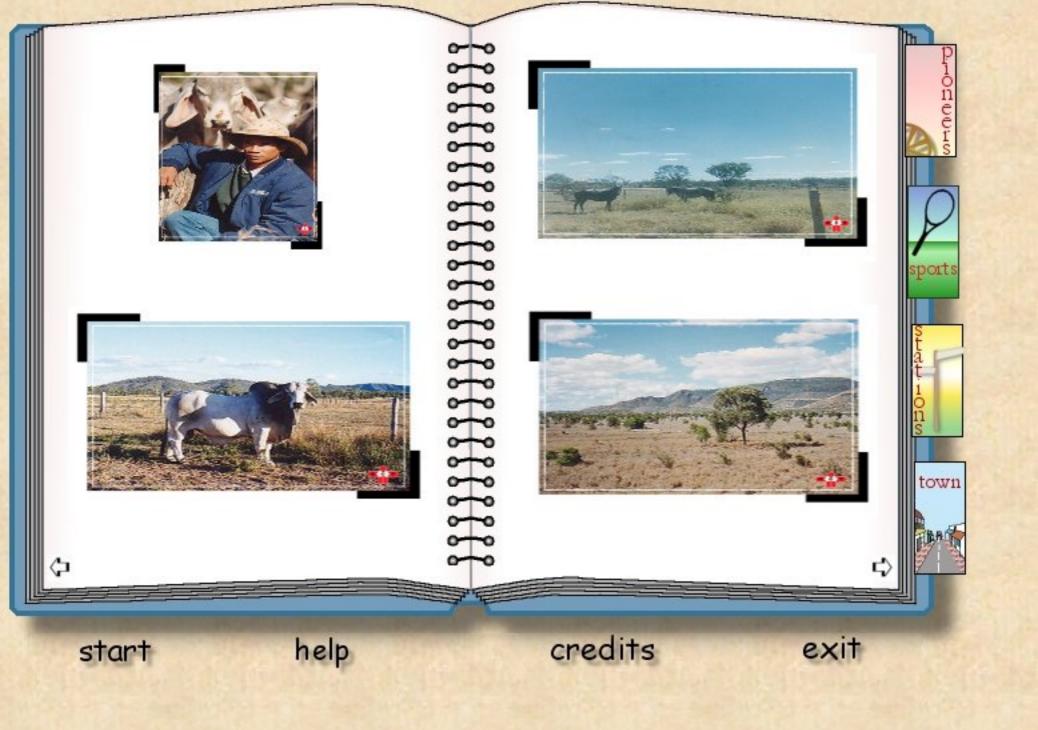


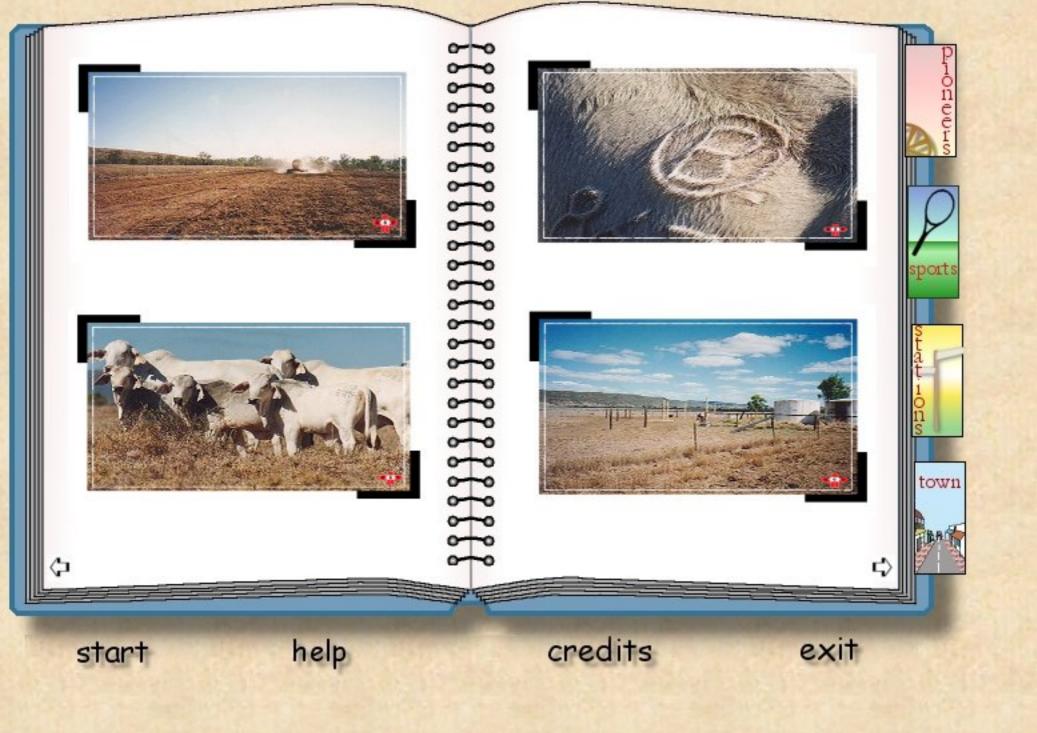


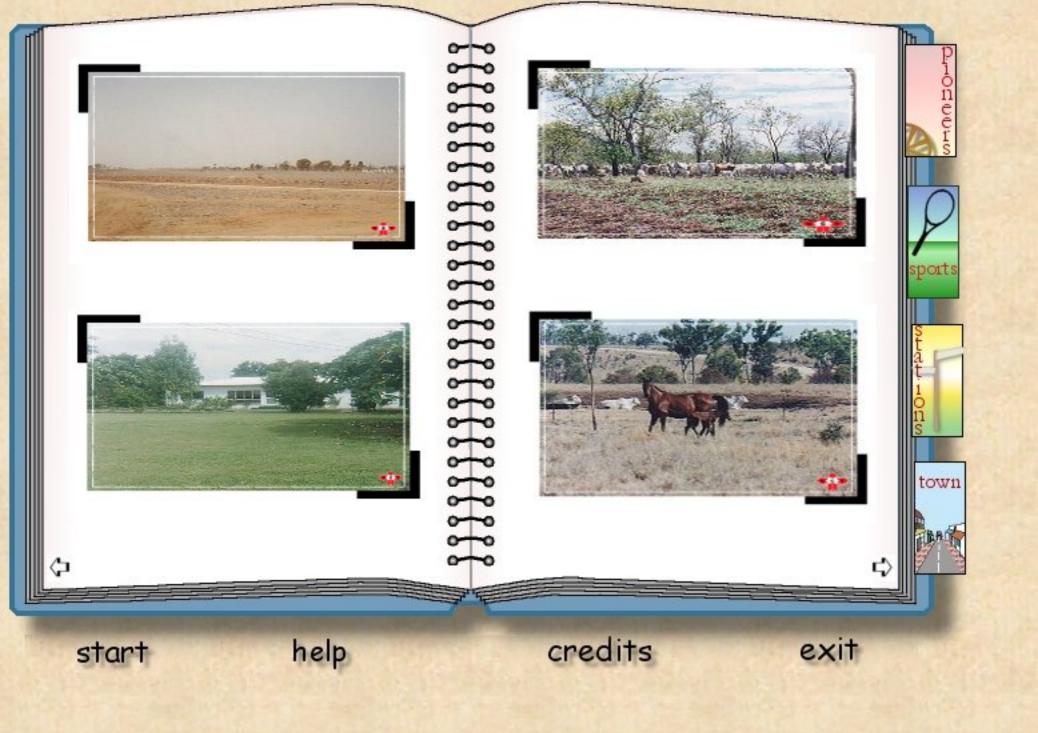


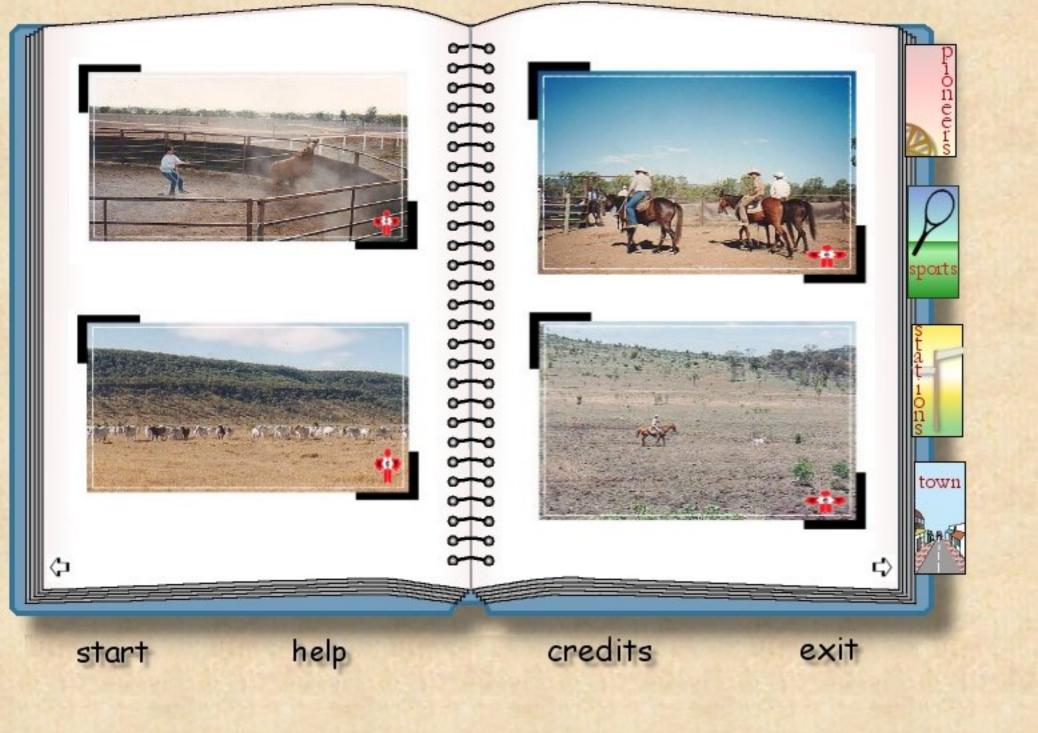


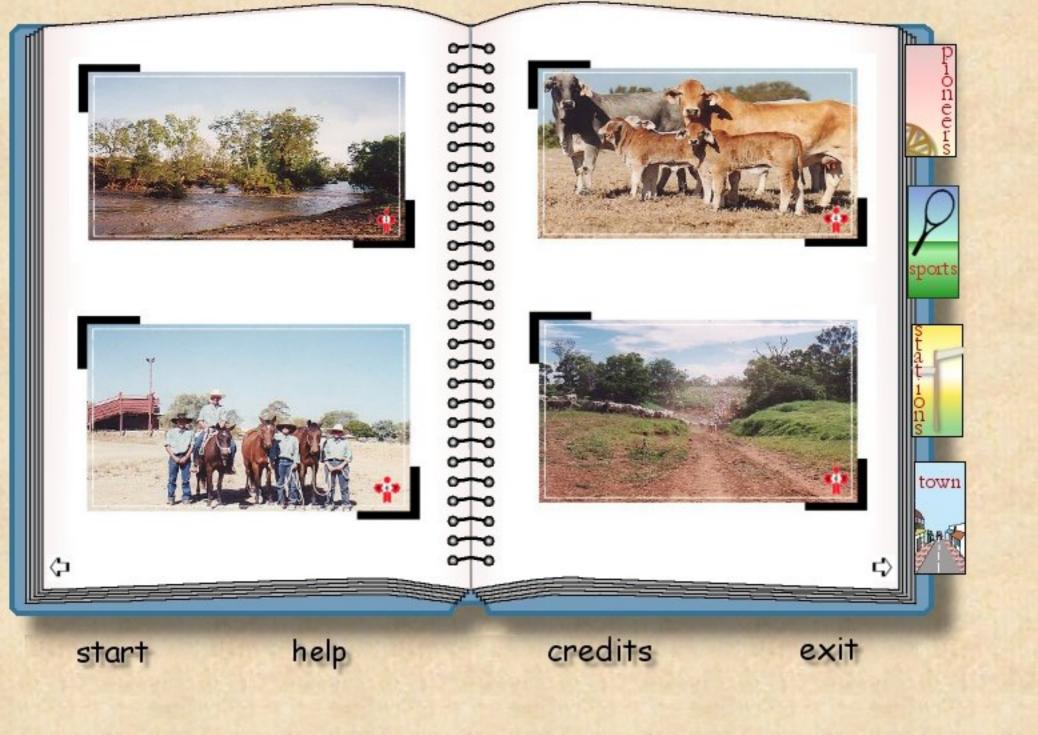


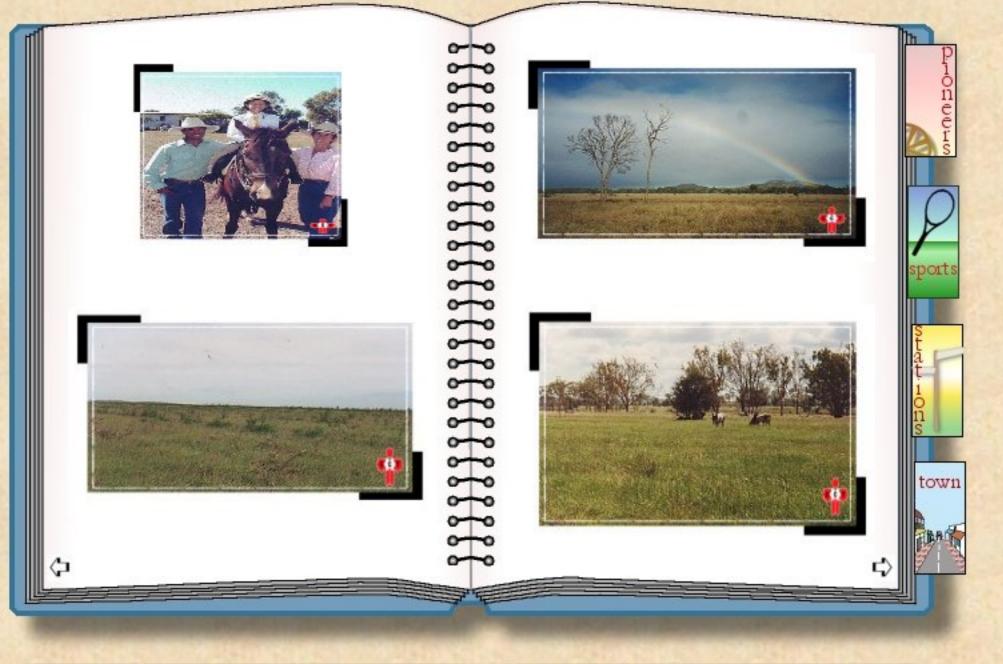




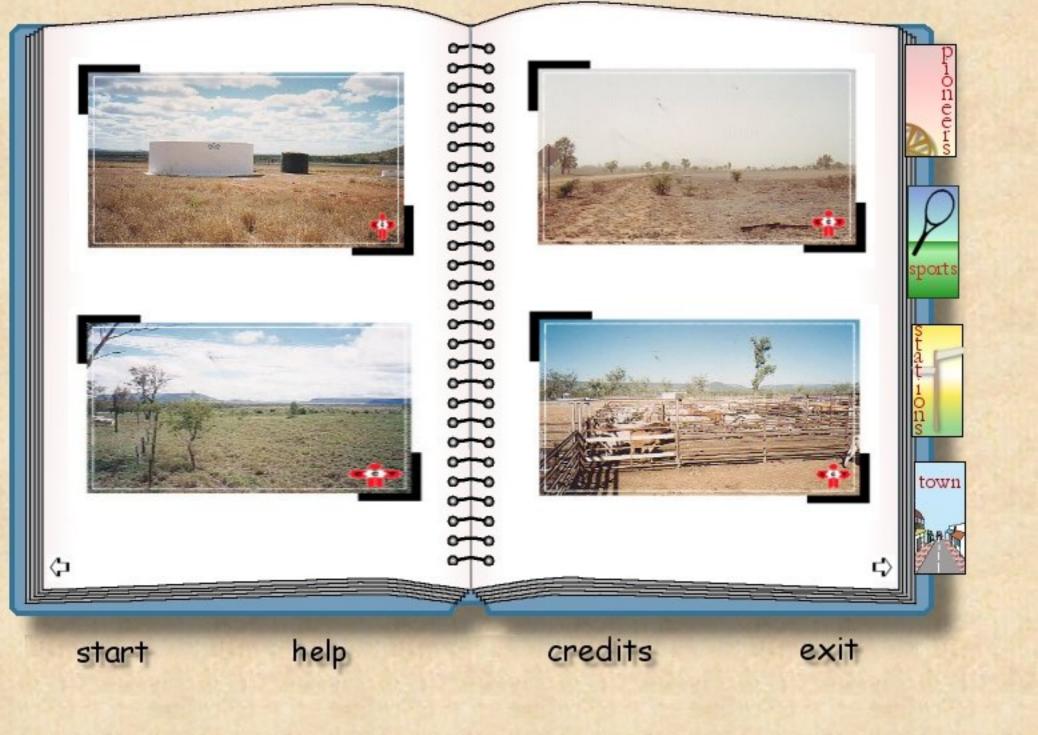


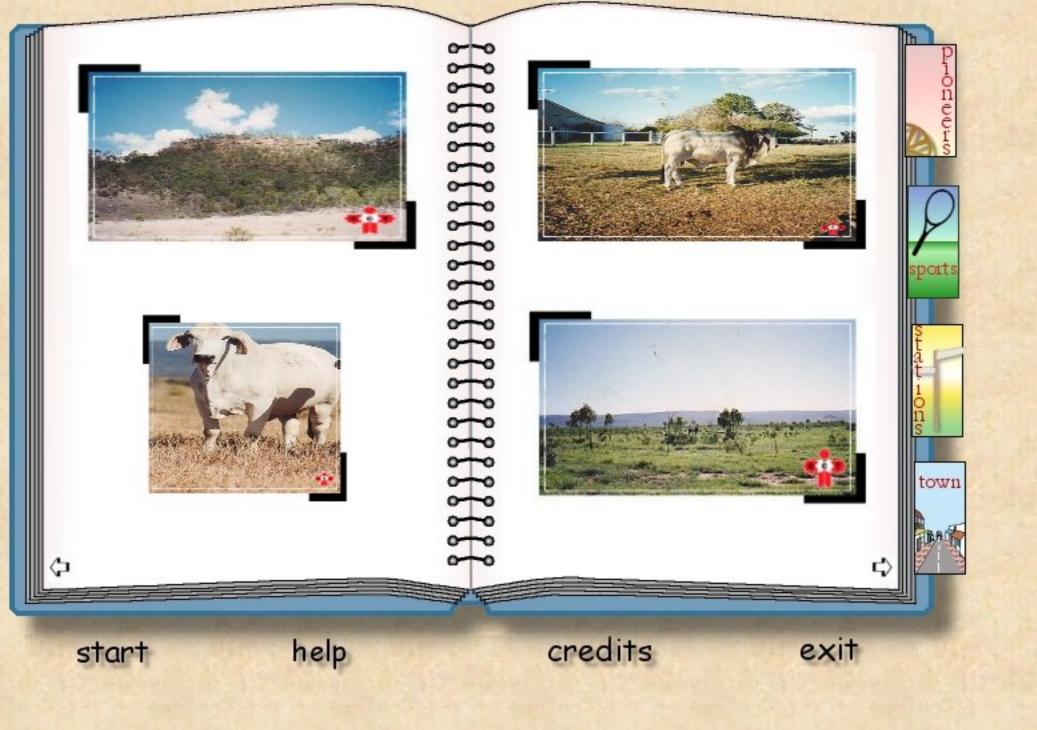


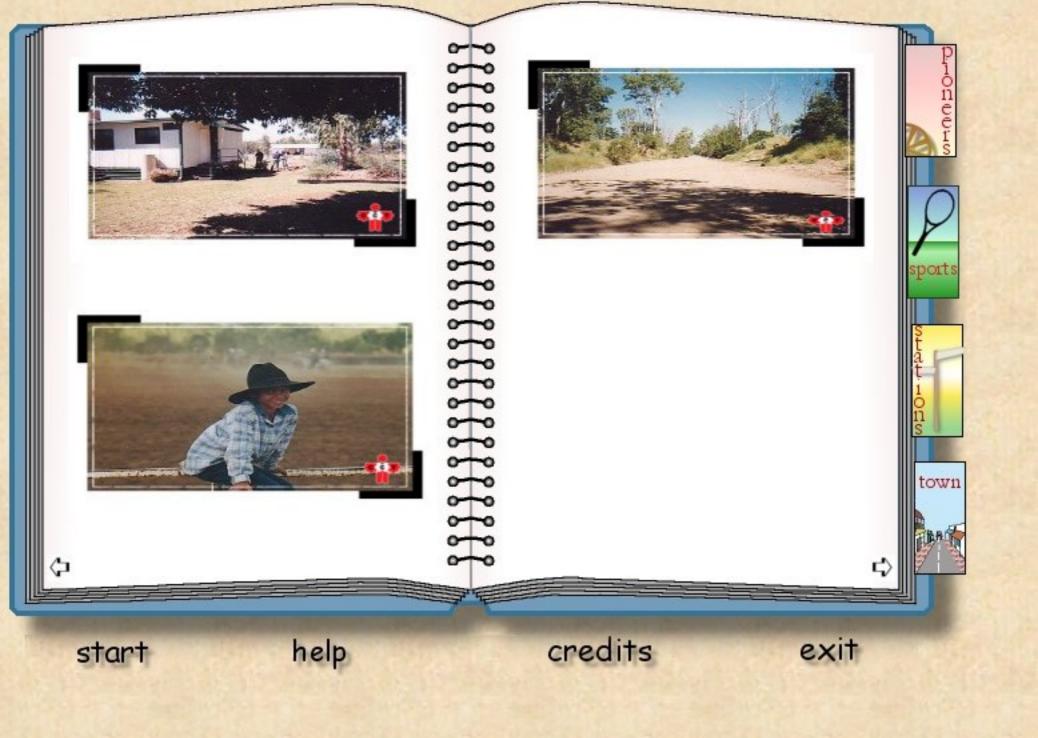




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A Bicentennial Celebration Laraine Smith.

When Australia celebrated its Bicentennial in 1988, there was no way that the small community of Mt Coolon was going to be left out. Not for us the celebration of tall ships sailing majestically up a harbour or a visit from a traveling 'Bicentennial Exhibition' or even a glimpse of an around Australia car rally. Unless we wanted to travel long distances, we would miss out on the specially organised Bicentennial events. But we would have our own celebrations and honour those who contributed to the development of this small part of Australia. Thus a small committee of locals decided to research the history - mining and pastoral - of the district so that an

historical monument could be erected and the Bicentennial therefore celebrated "Mt Coolon" style. Much effort by the committee was put into this project with a grant of \$1000 from the Federal Government Bicentennial funding to assist.

The committee also planned a day of celebration to coincide with the dedication of the monument on 10 September 1988. After the official speeches and the unveiling of the monument, the crowd thus gathered to the old Mt Coolon school grounds. Here tug-of-war, horseshoe throwing and other games of yesteryear were held before partaking of a bush picnic. The local ladies had thoroughly researched the fare included in their picnic baskets so that the laden tables mirrored the culinary delights of their sisters of the early 1900's. It was a successful day

enjoyed by all.

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All committees or individuals that had shown awareness and a commitment to the preservation of the Australian historic, cultural or natural environment' were invited to enter the Australian Bicentennial Heritage Award. We had done that, even if it was on a small scale. So we eagerly sent in our entry. Imagine our smiles when the committee received a letter from the judges which announced that the award was to be shared by Fairfax, Syme & Weldon Associates for the publication "Australians: A Historical Library" and ABC's Natural History Unit for the documentary "Nature of Australia". Our committee may not have had the resources or funding of the winners of the award, but we felt that we had shown a commitment to uphold the qualities of those we honoured that day.

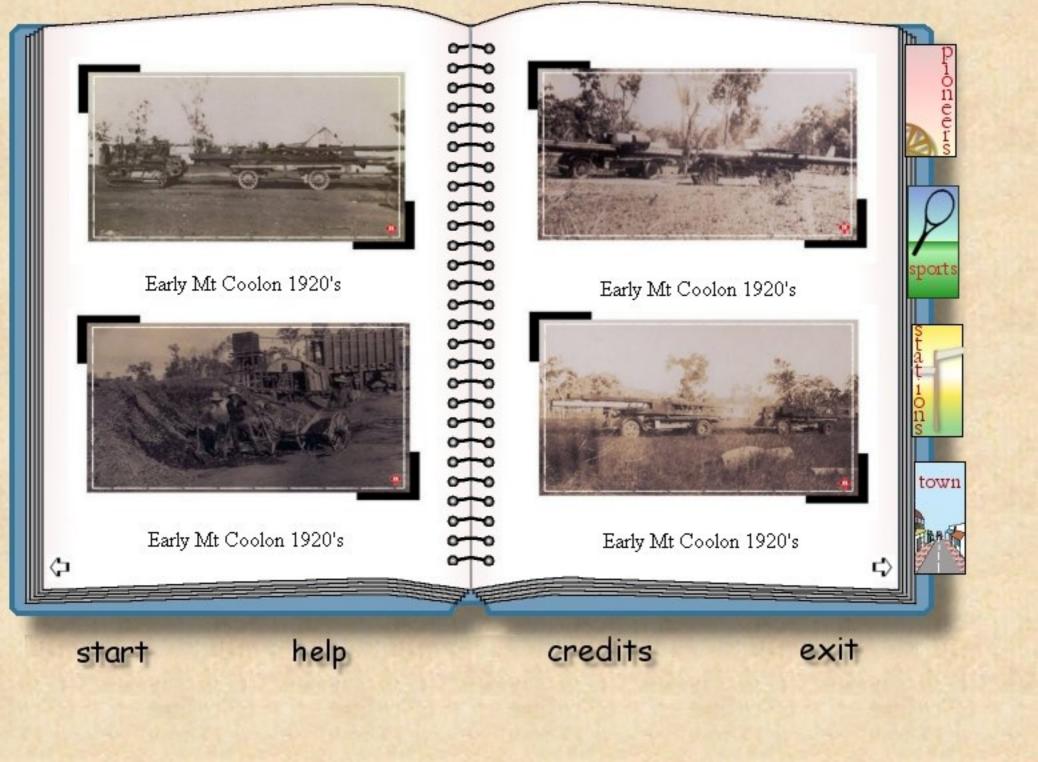
excerpt taken from "Coalfields to Coral Sea: Recollections of the Bowen Shire" produced by the Zonta Club of Bowen and the Bowen Shire Regional Arts Development Program, 2001.

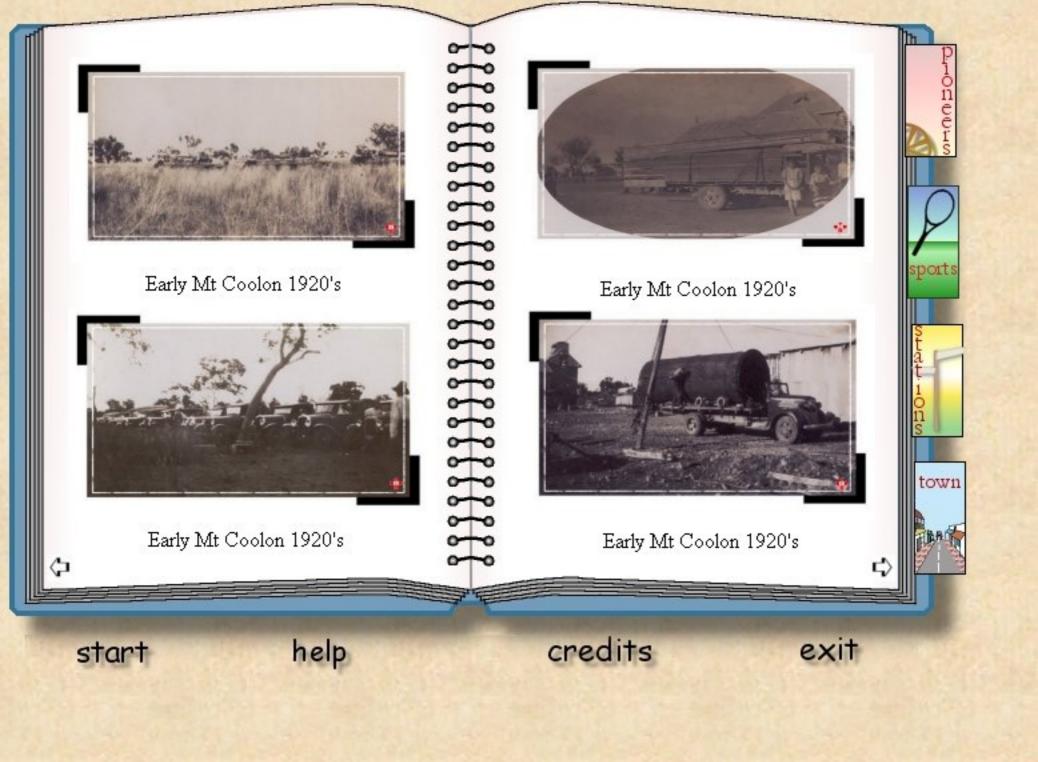
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Early Mt Coolon 1920's



Early Mt Coolon 1920's



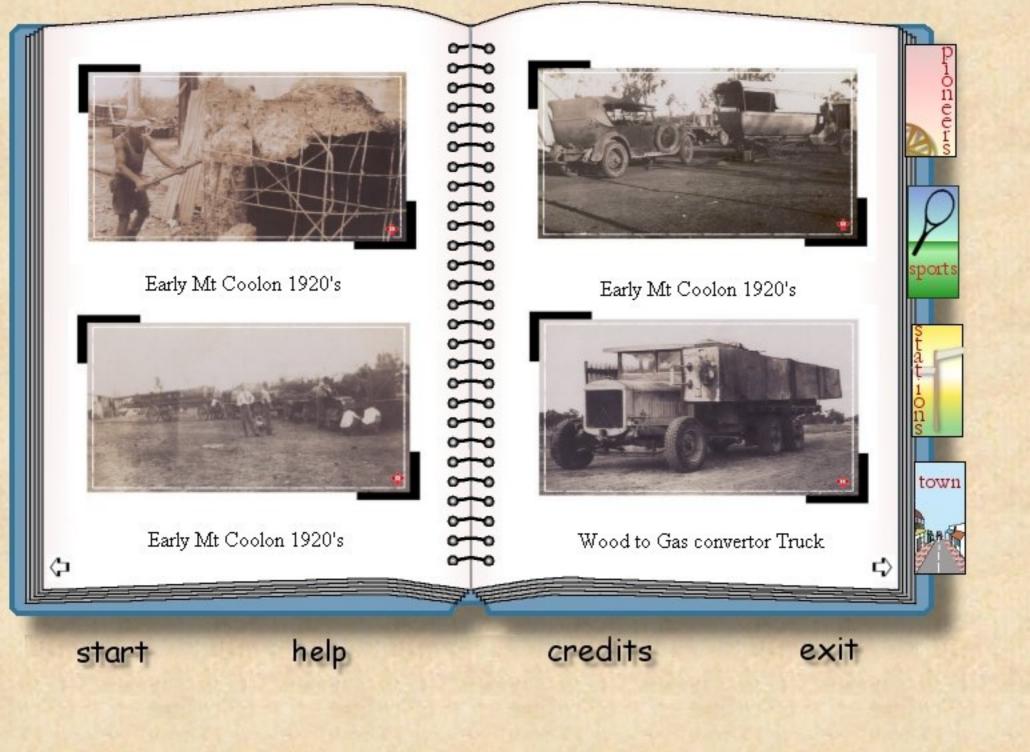
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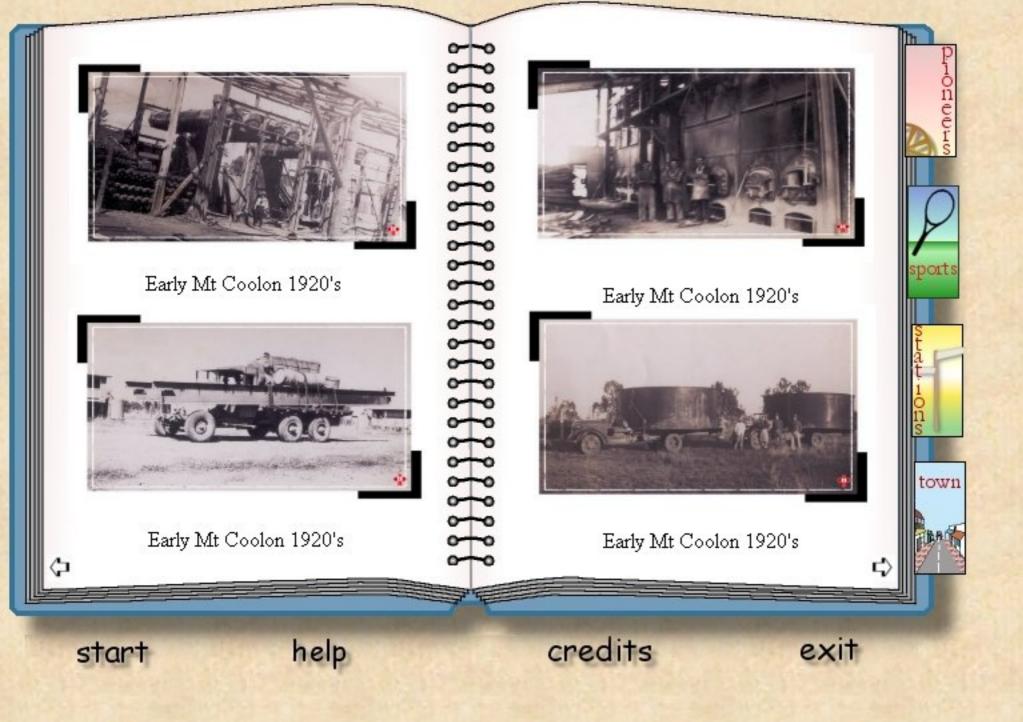


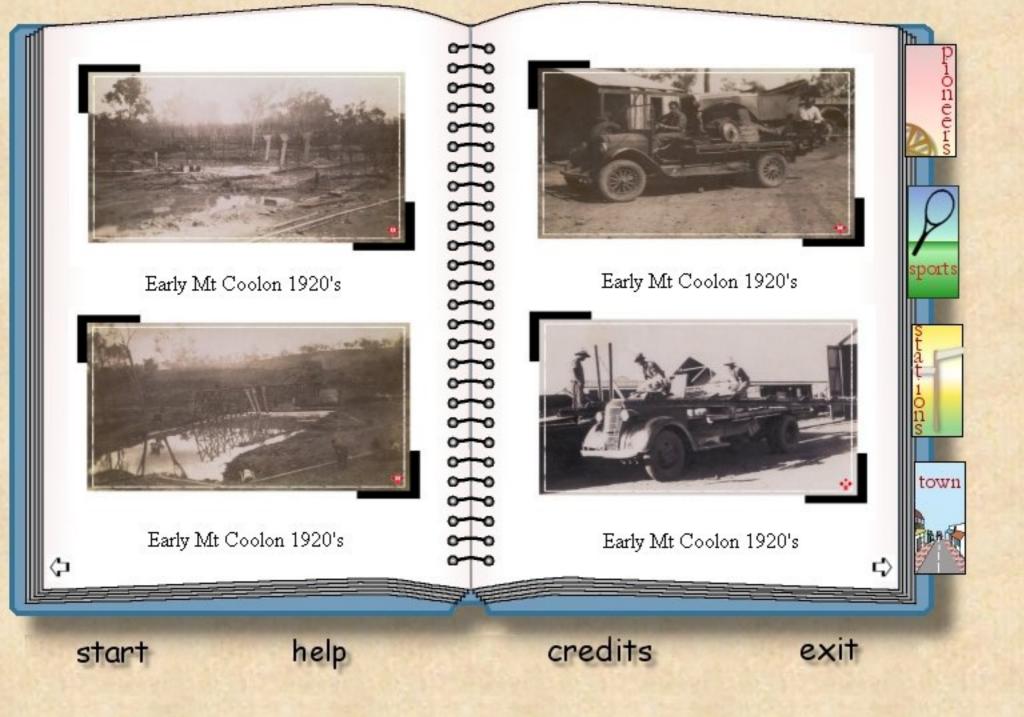
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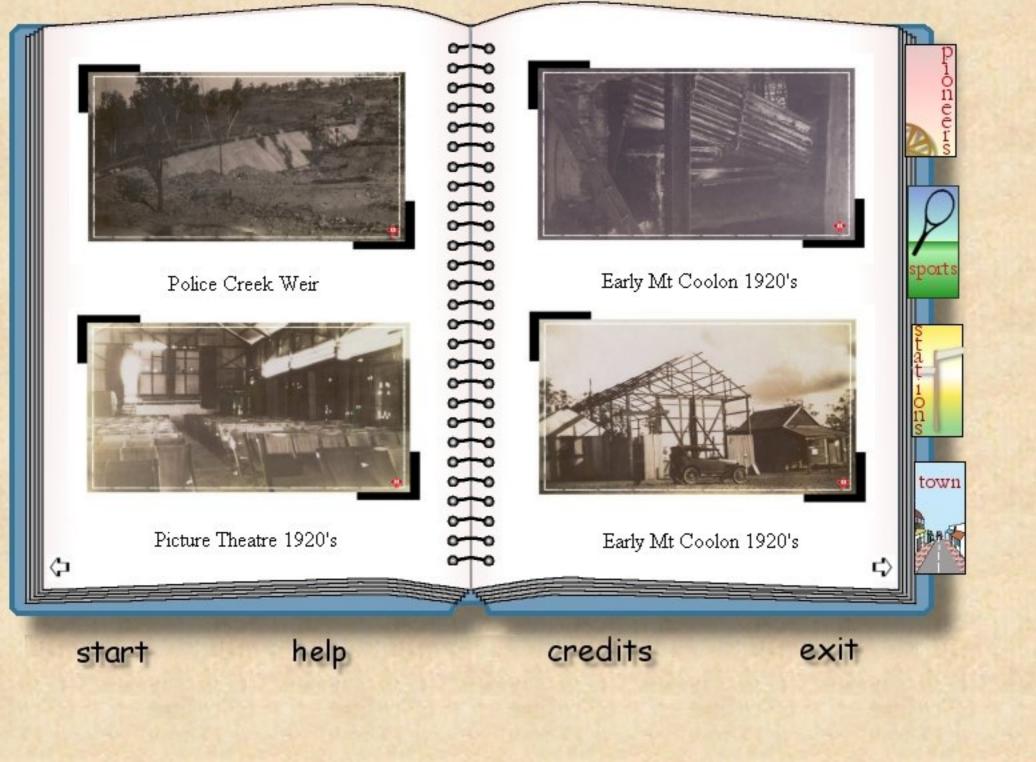
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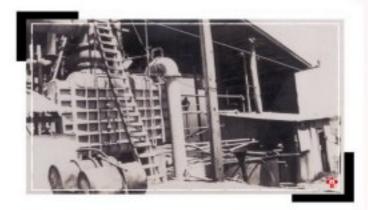




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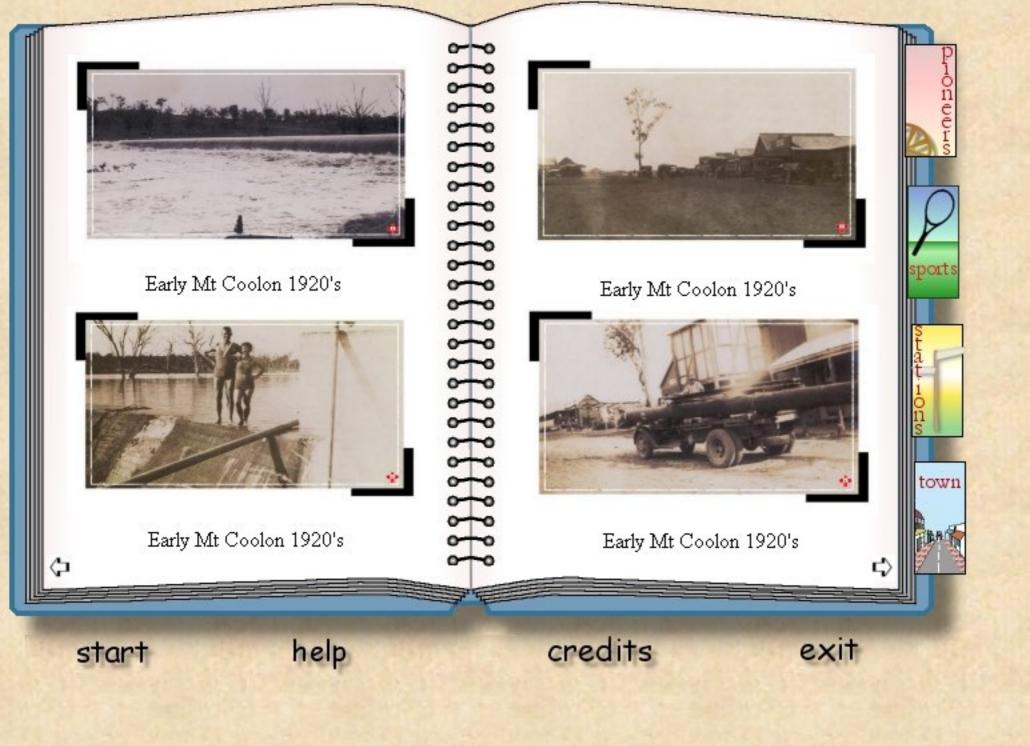
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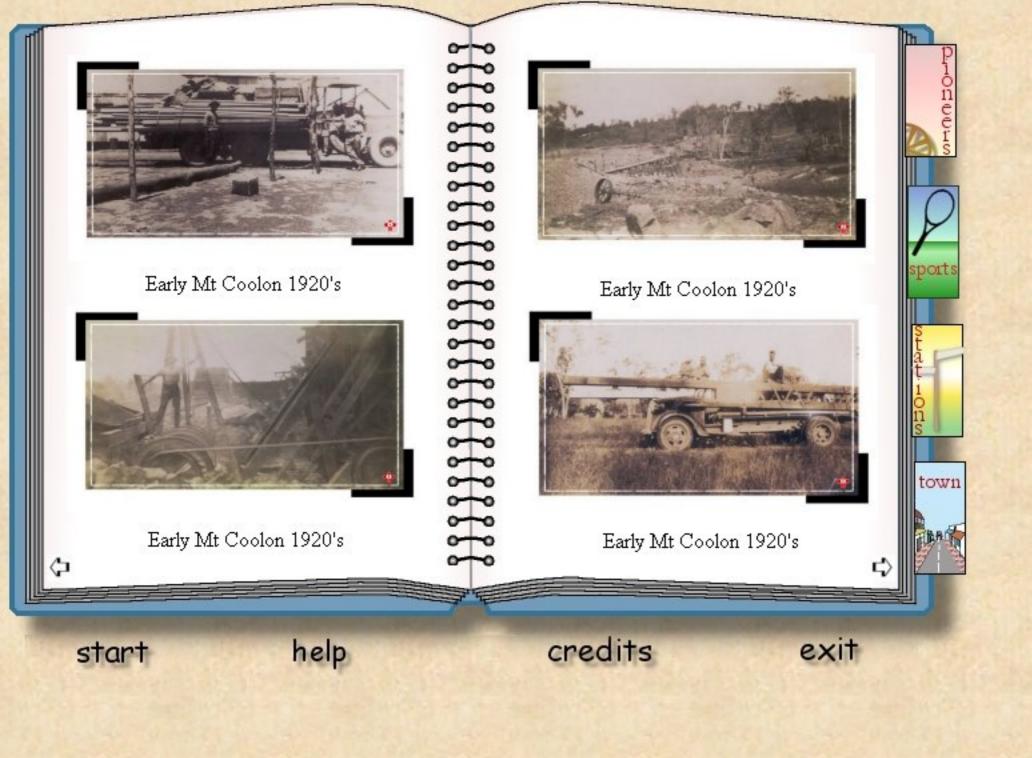


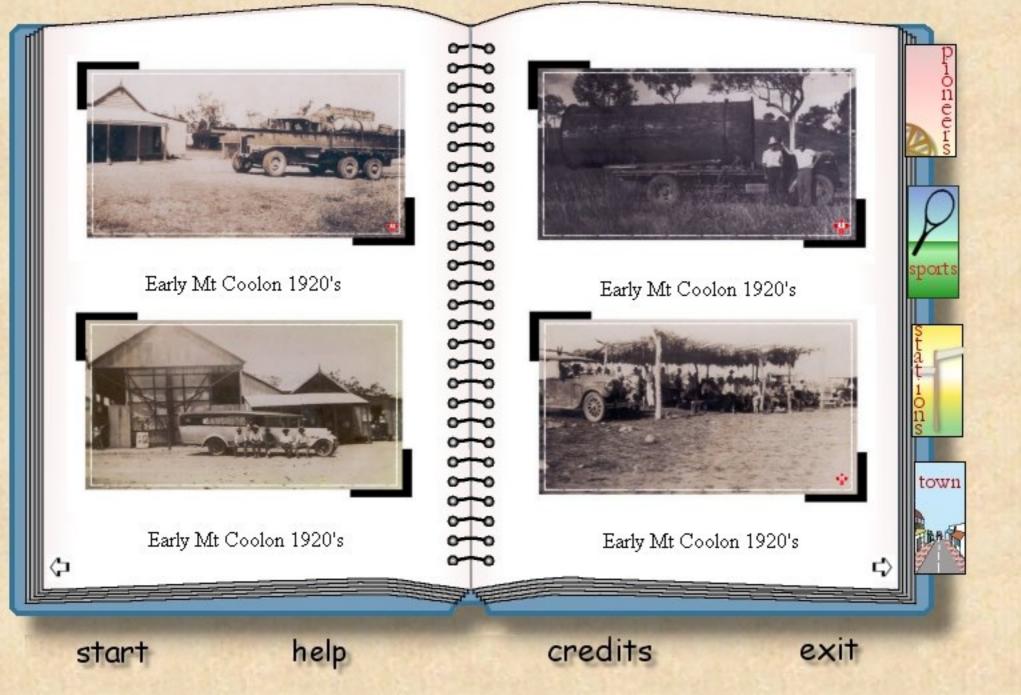
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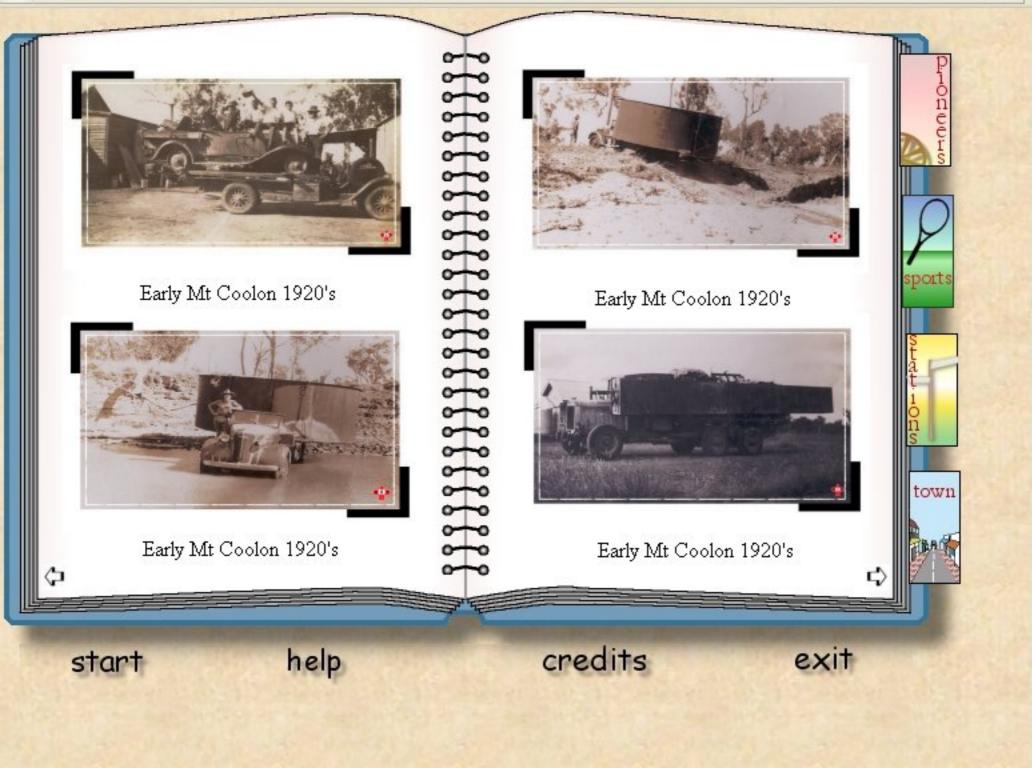
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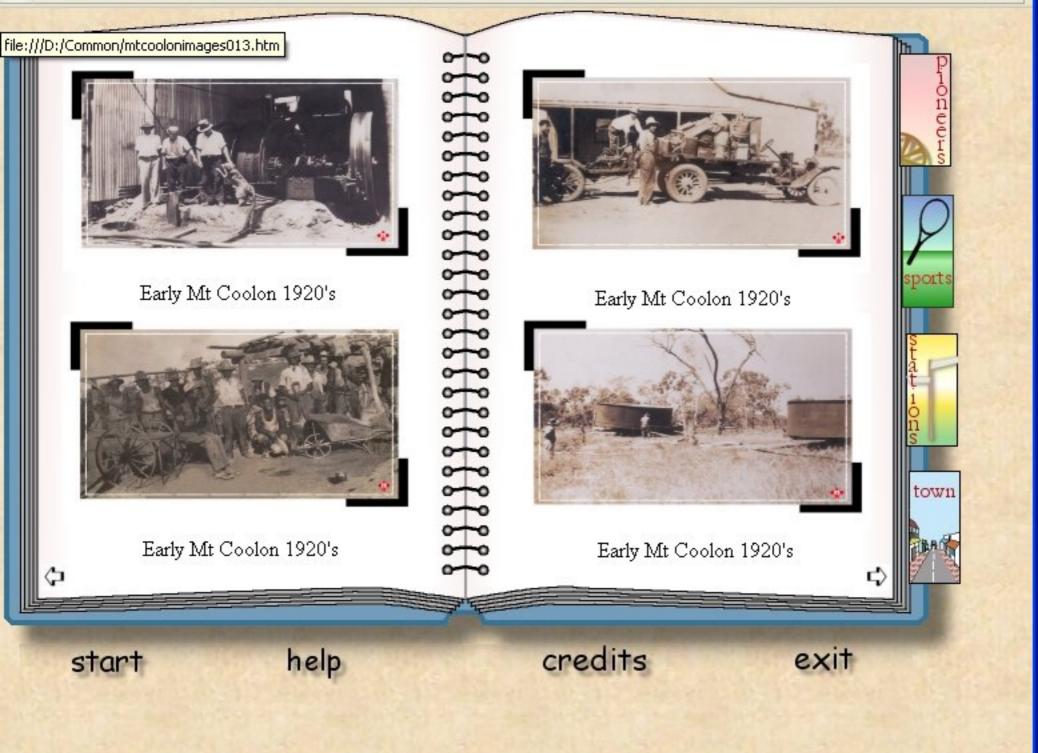
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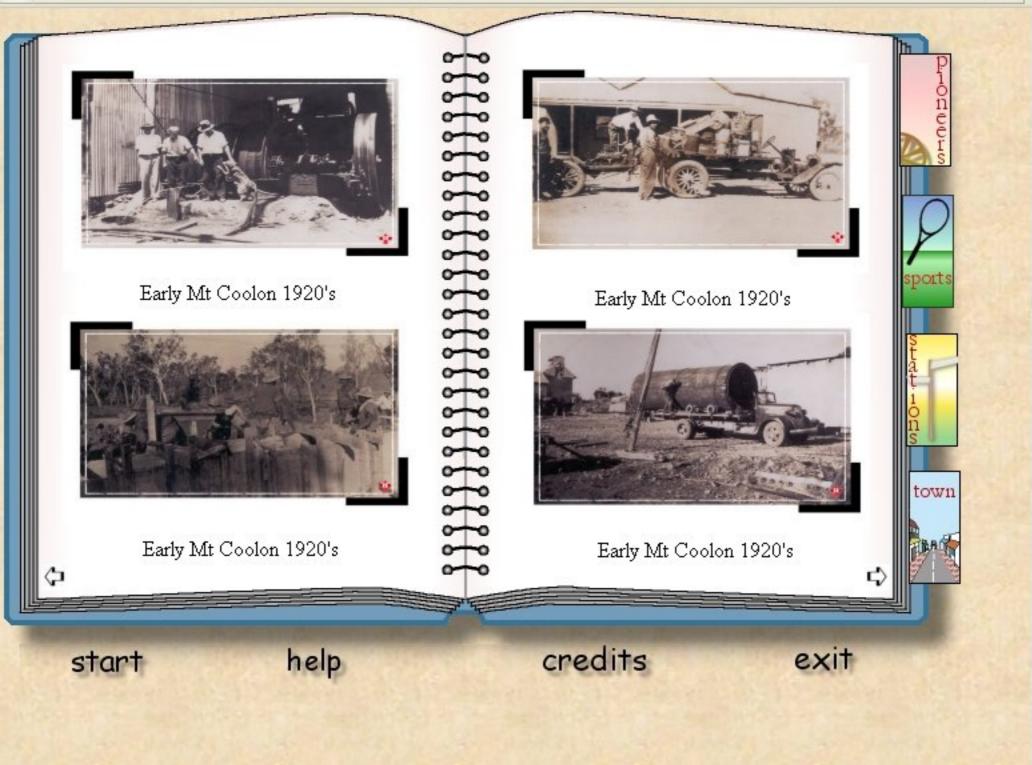


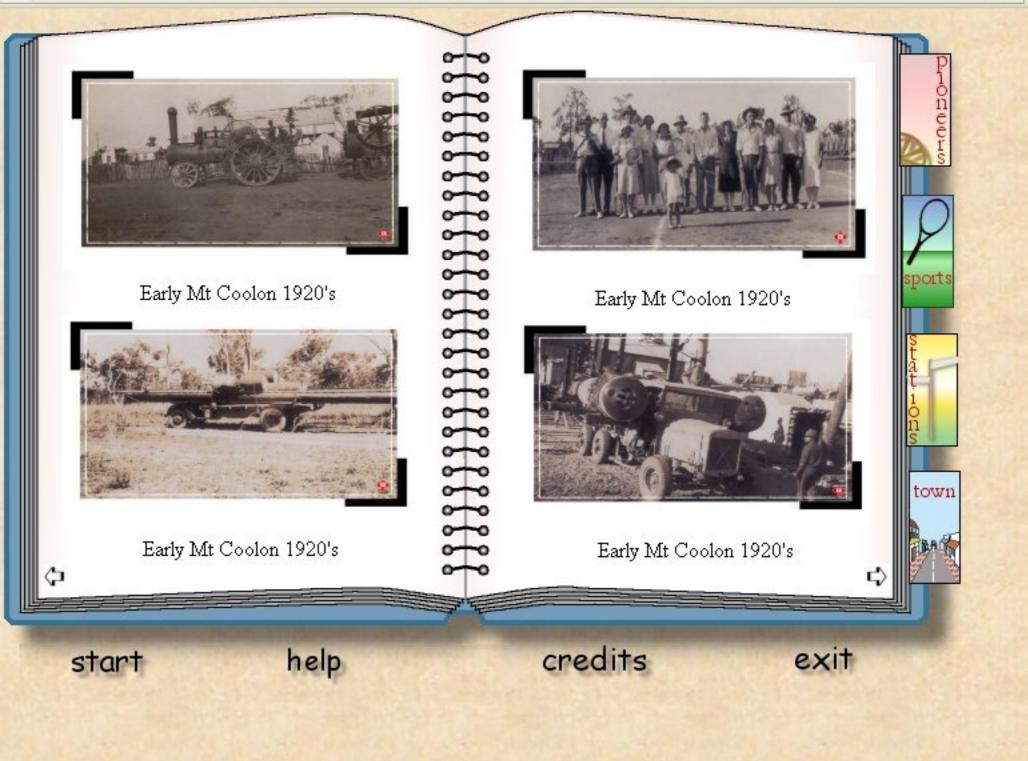


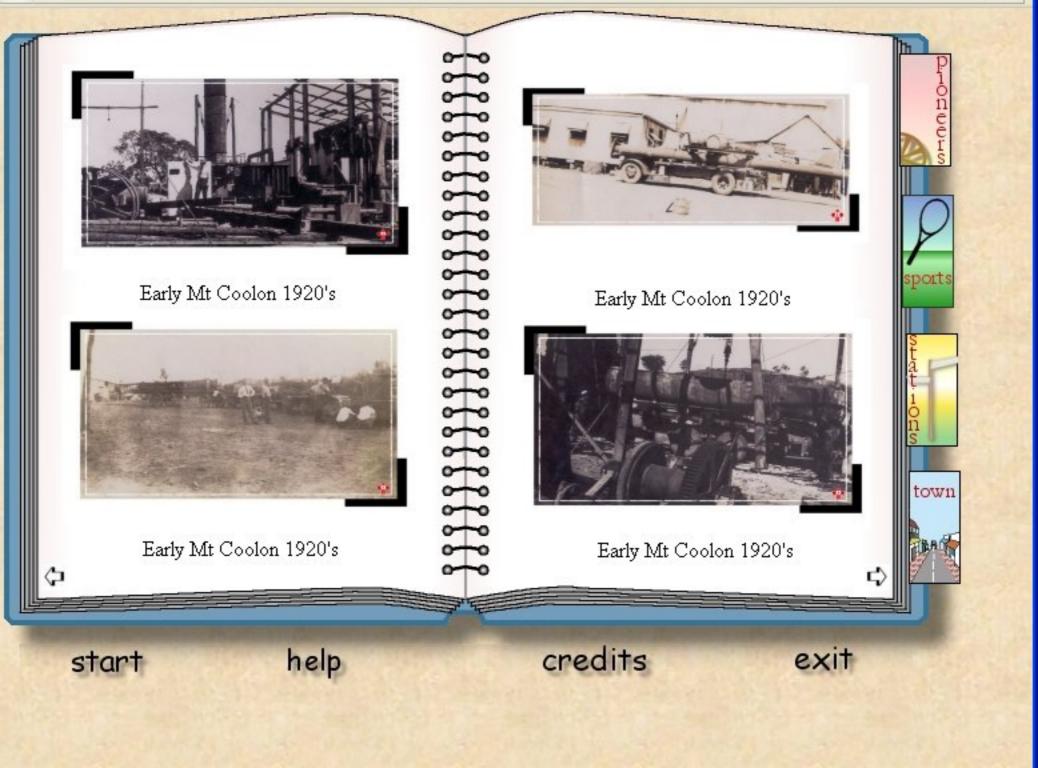


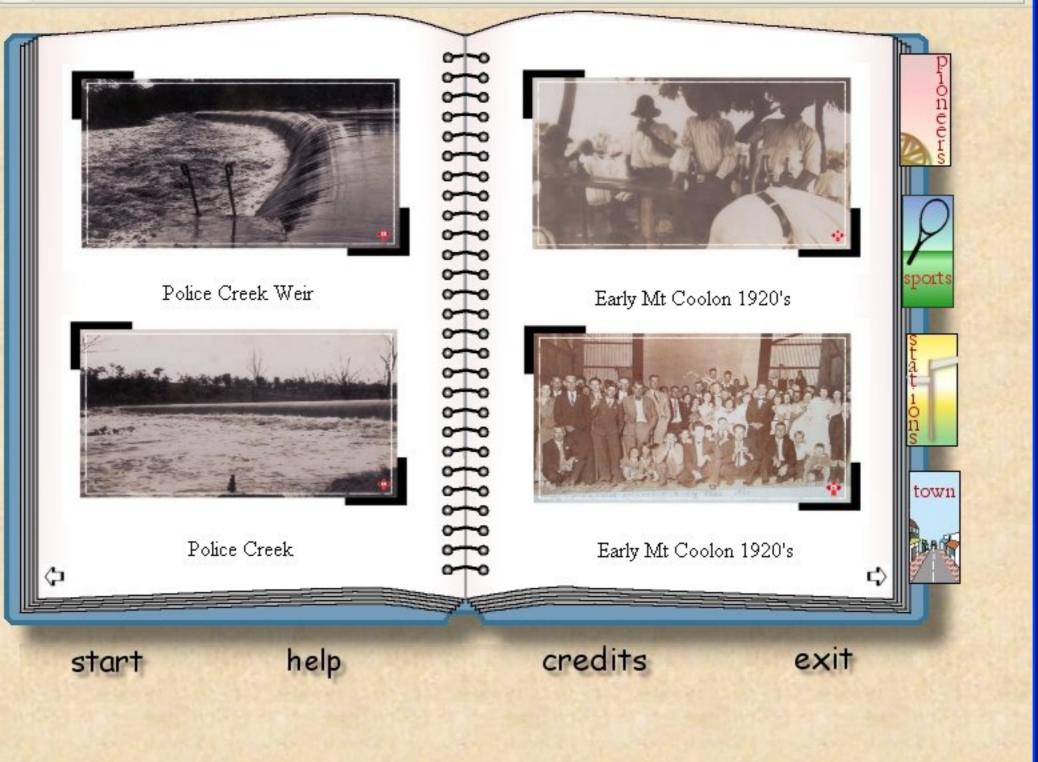


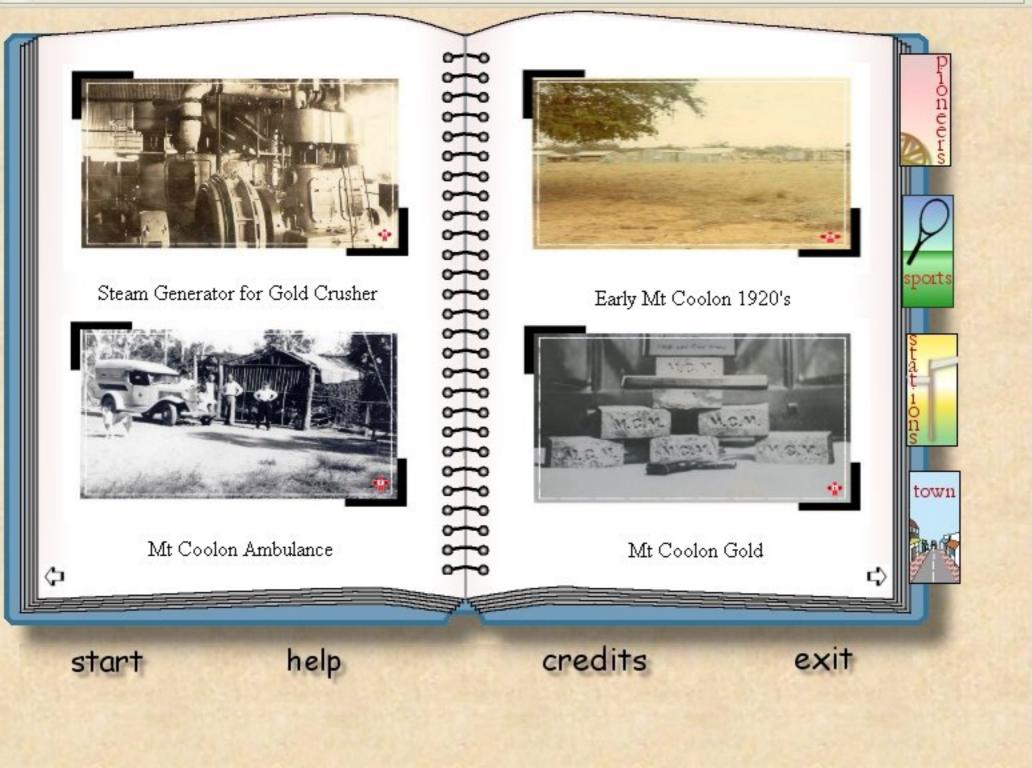


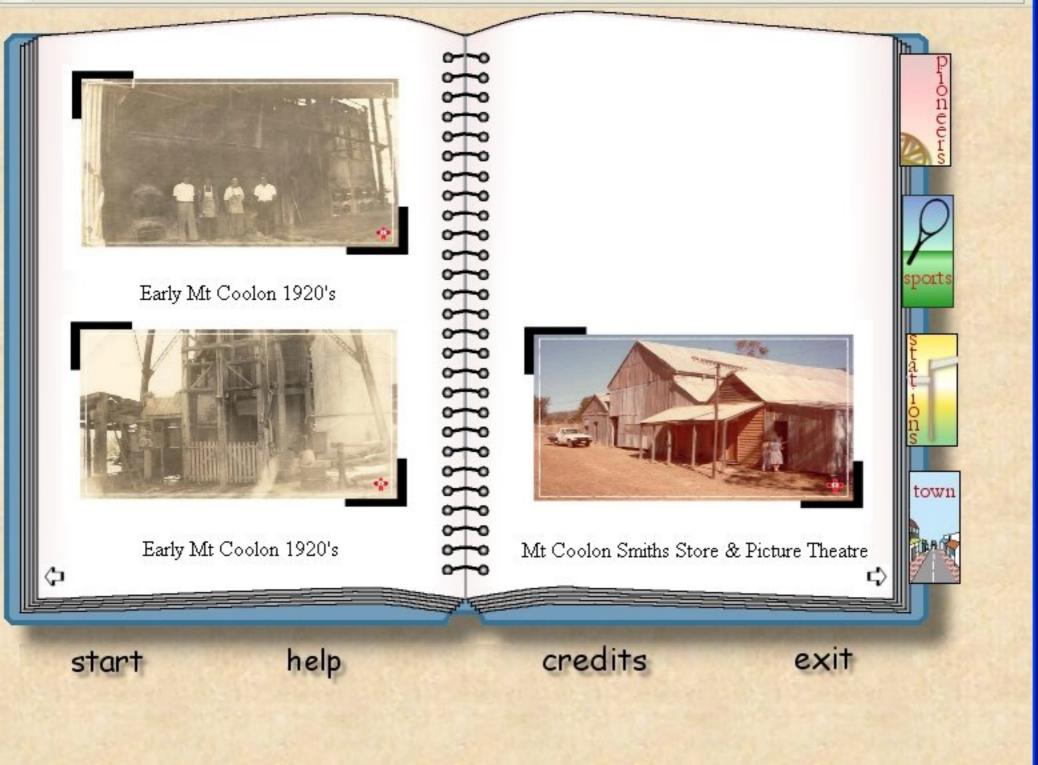


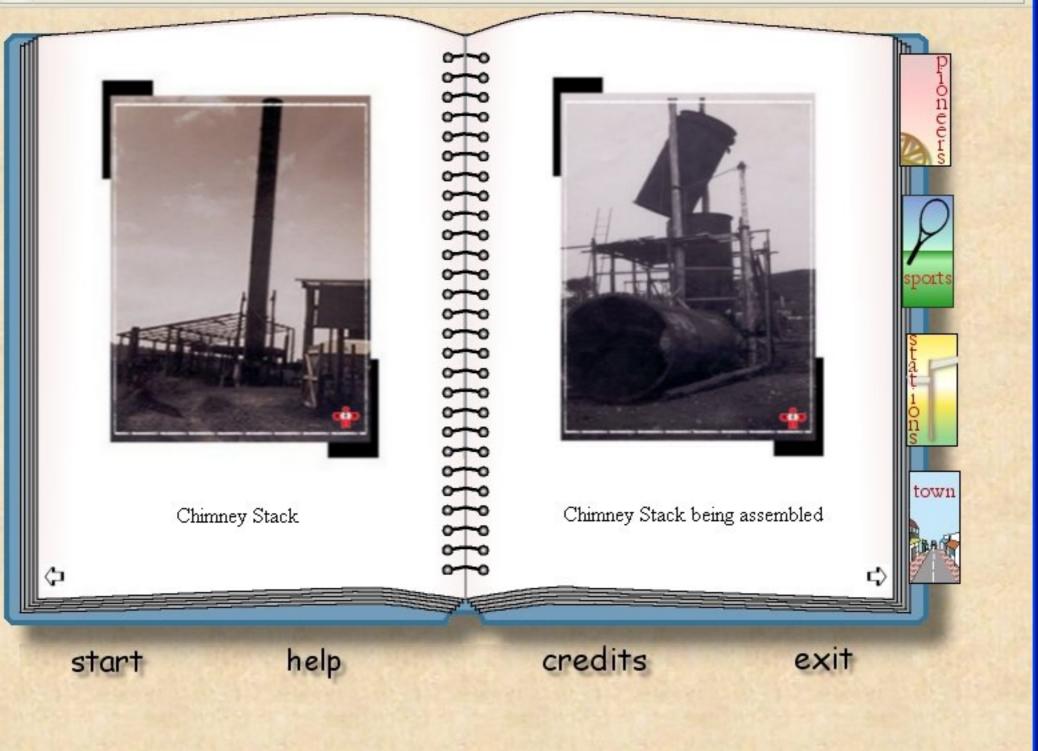


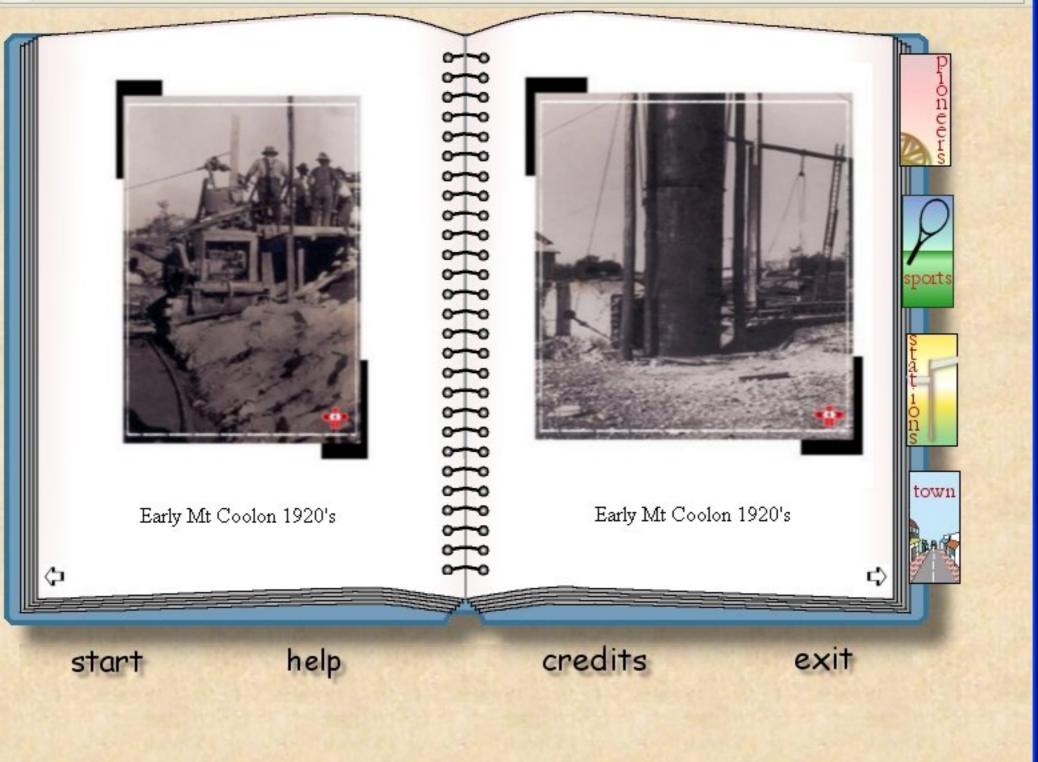


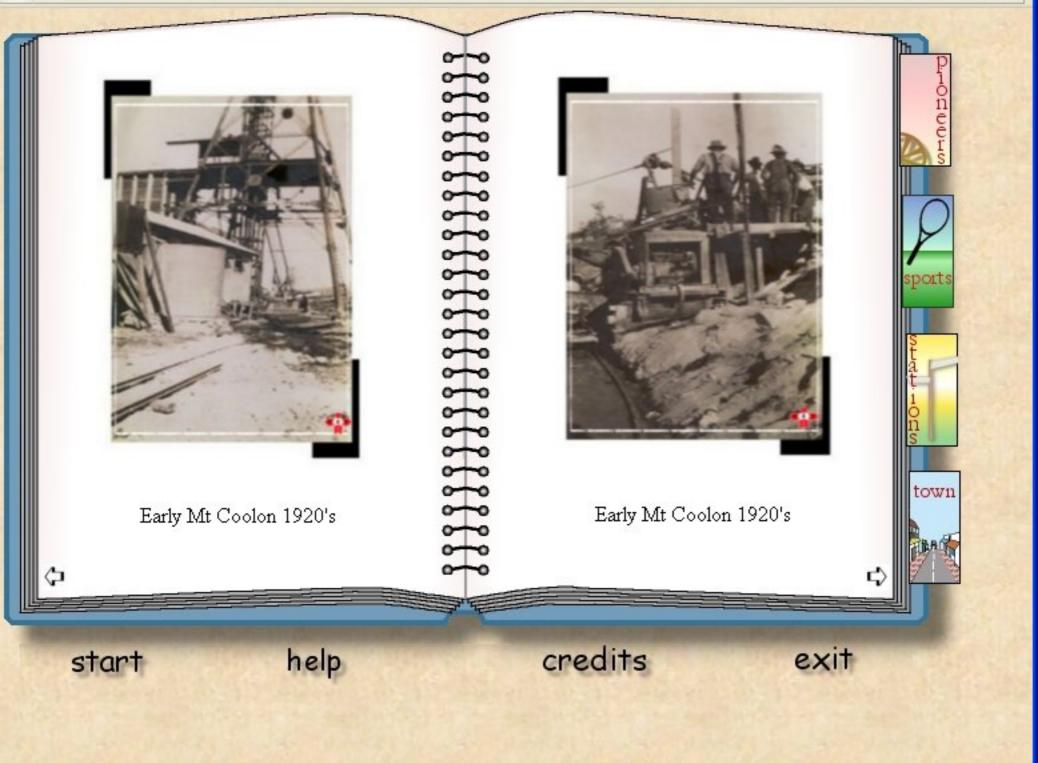


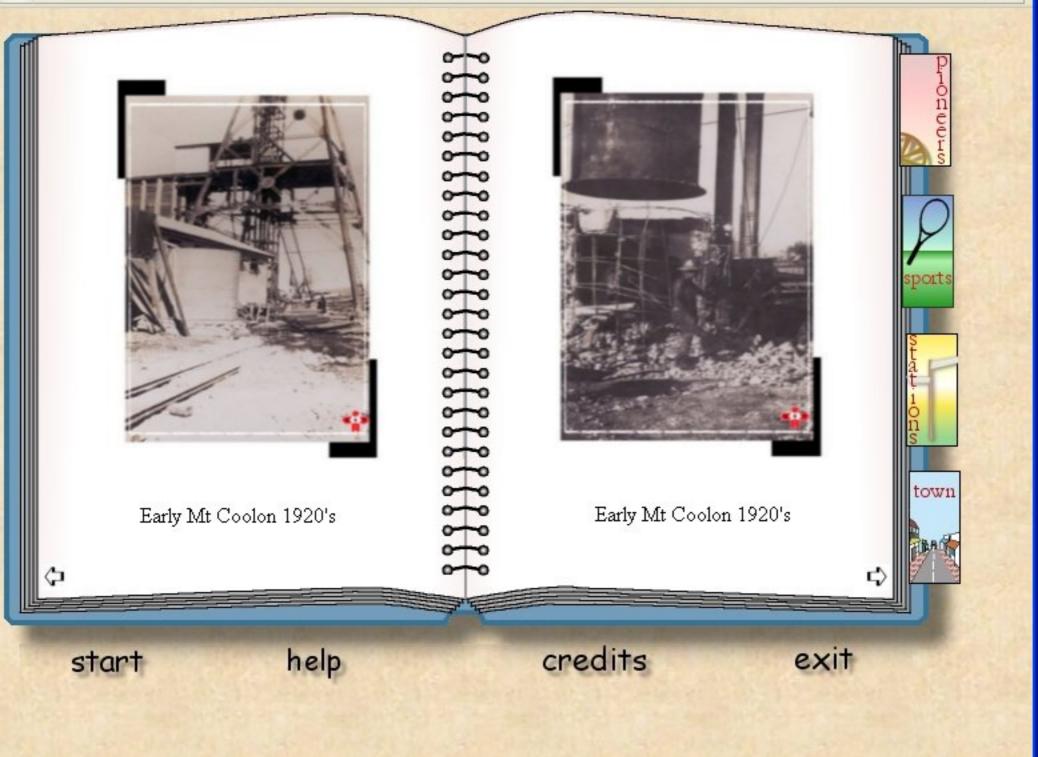


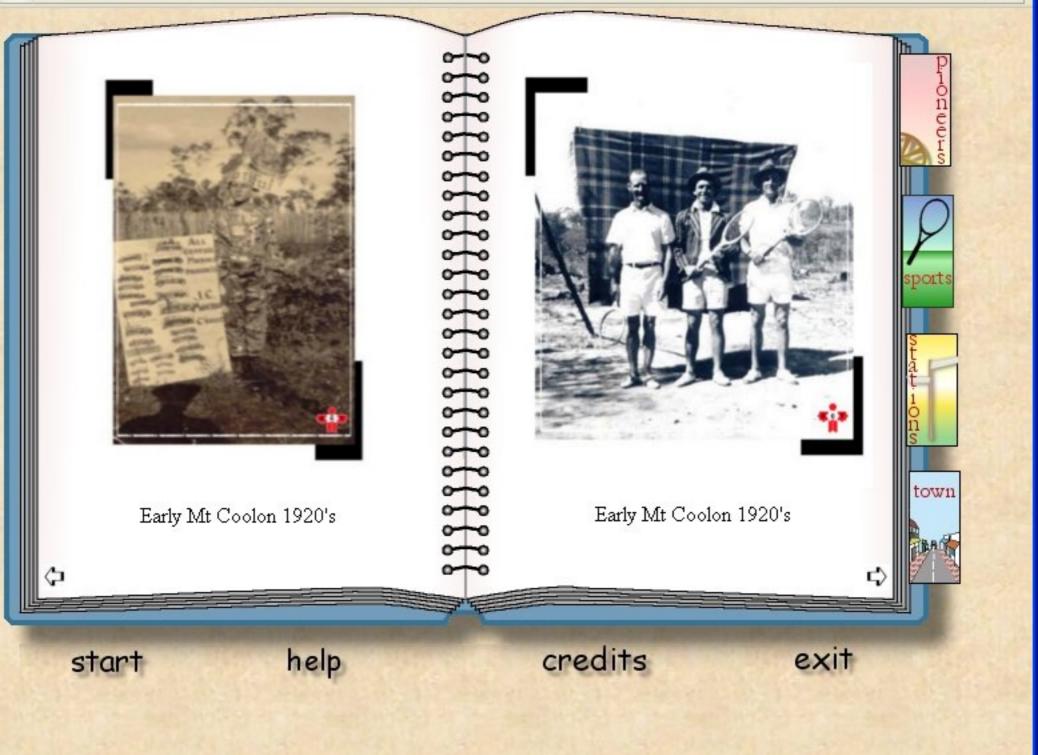


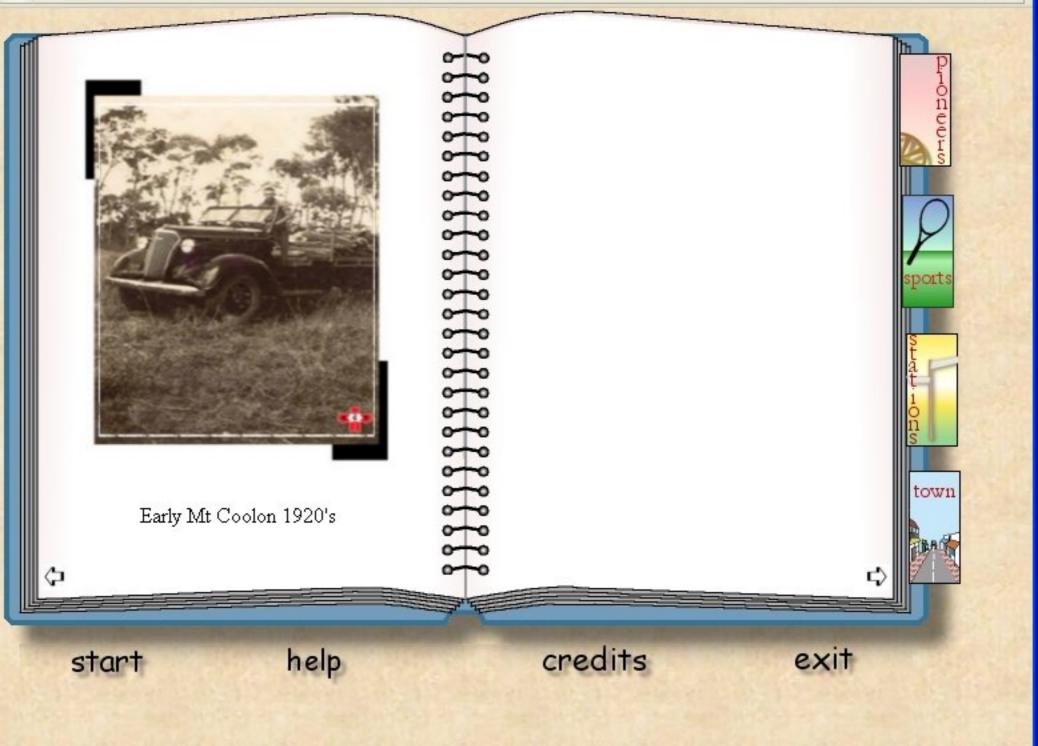


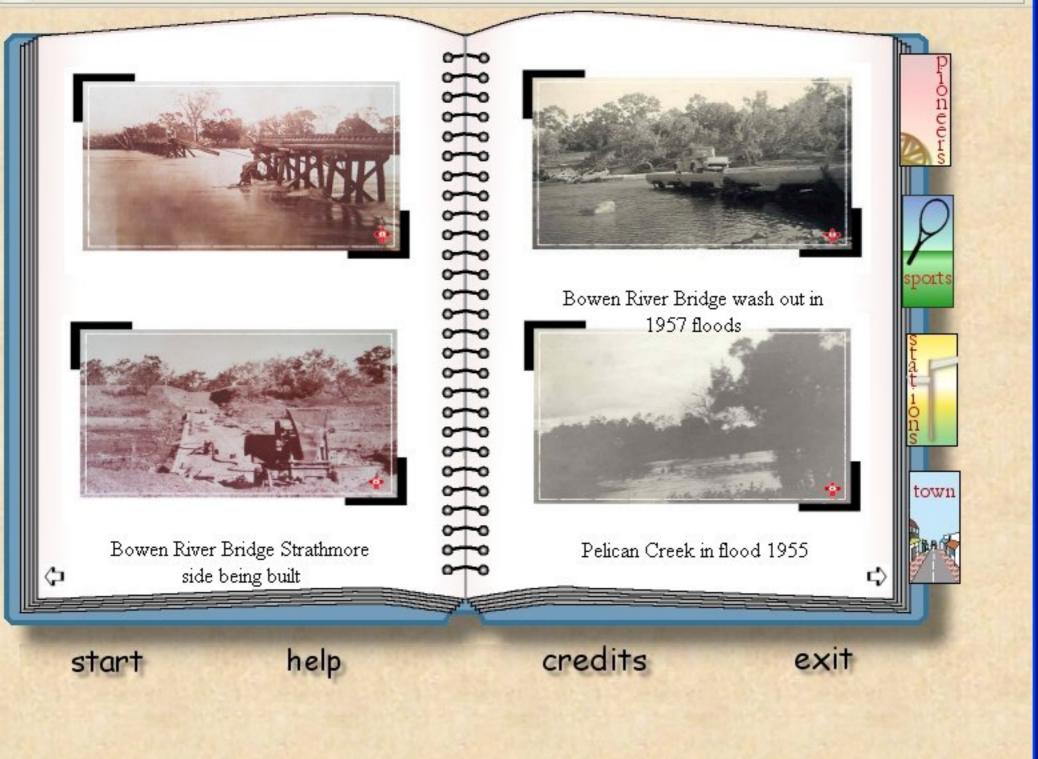


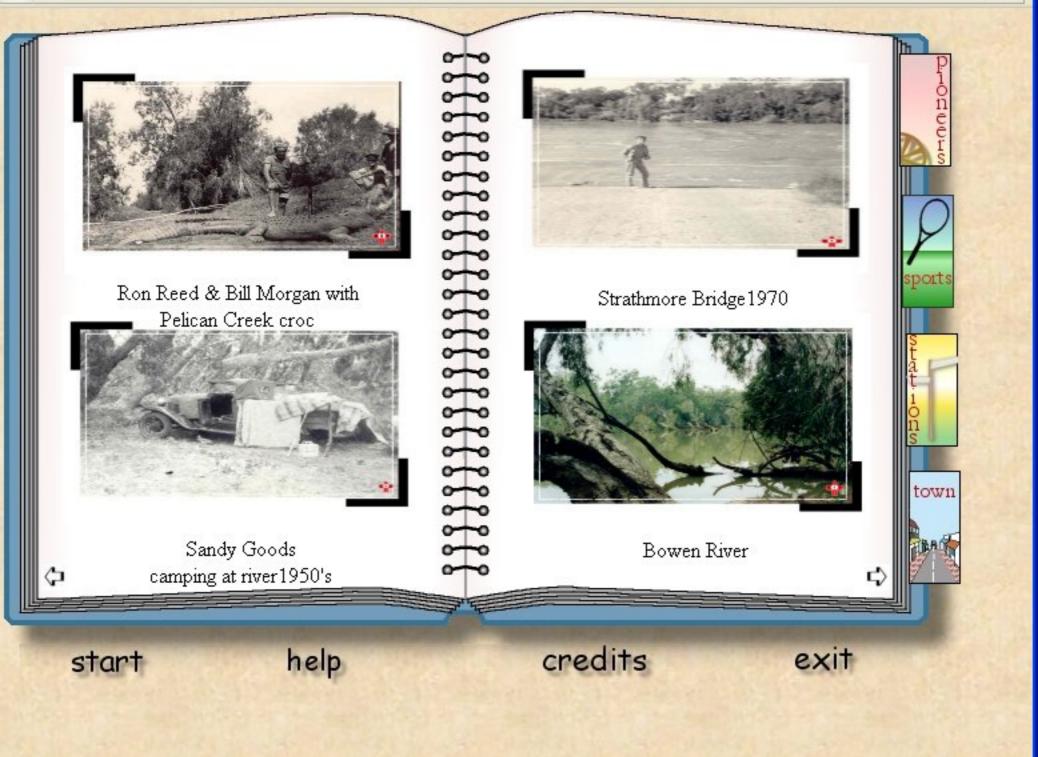


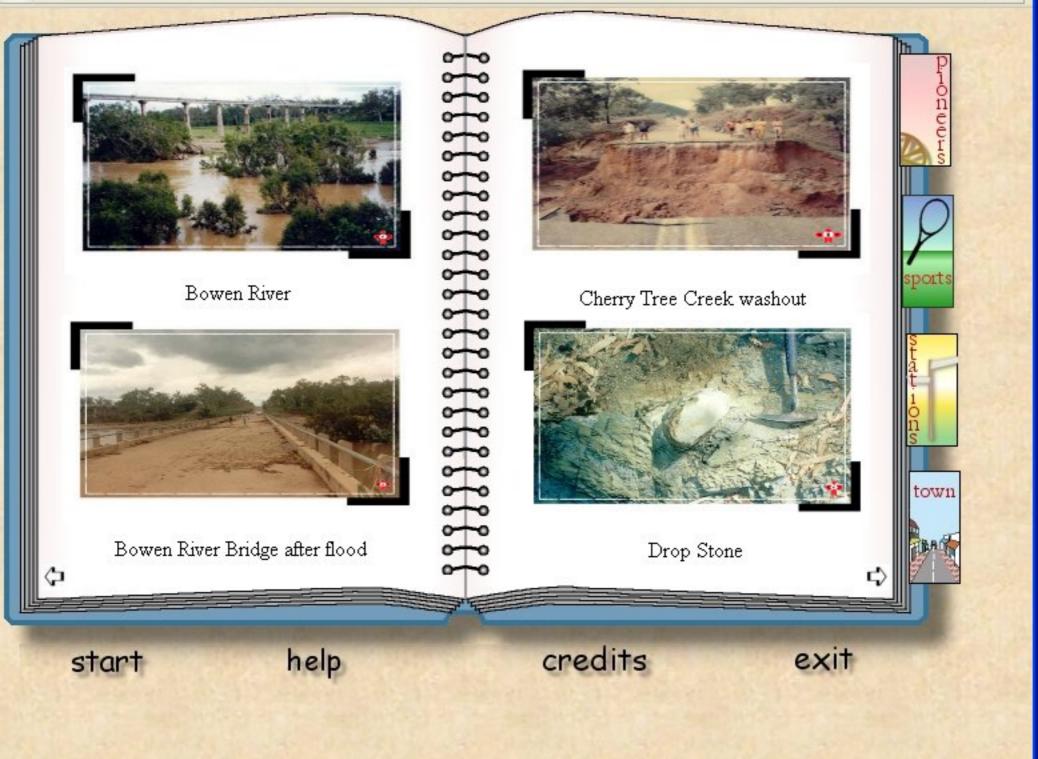


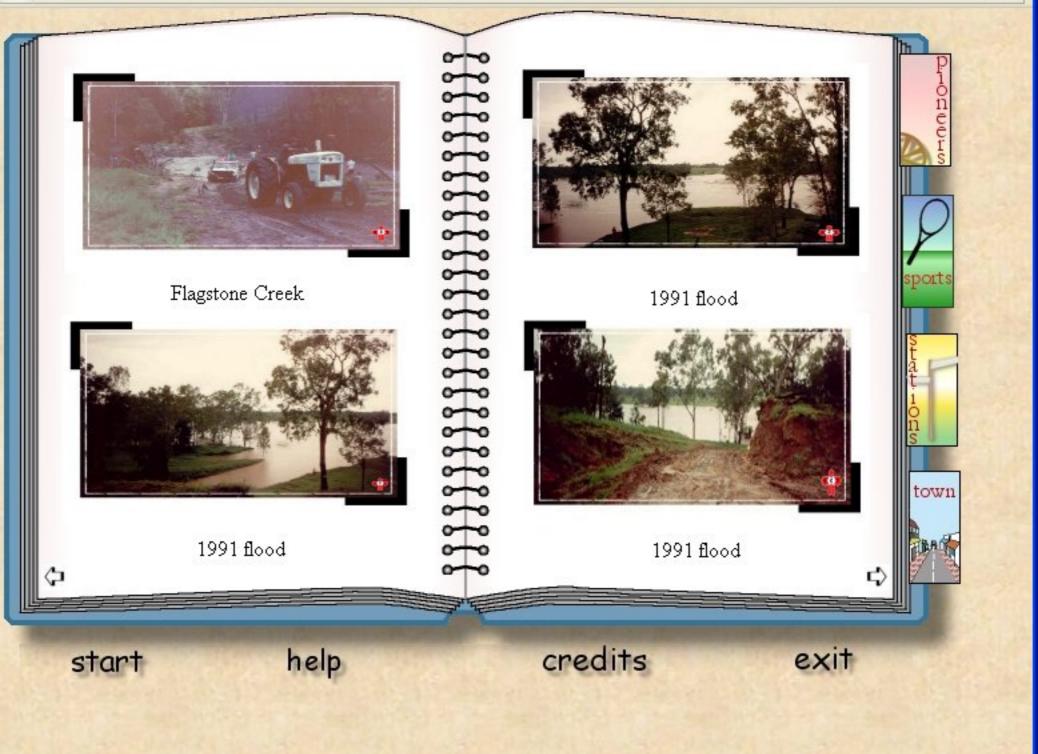


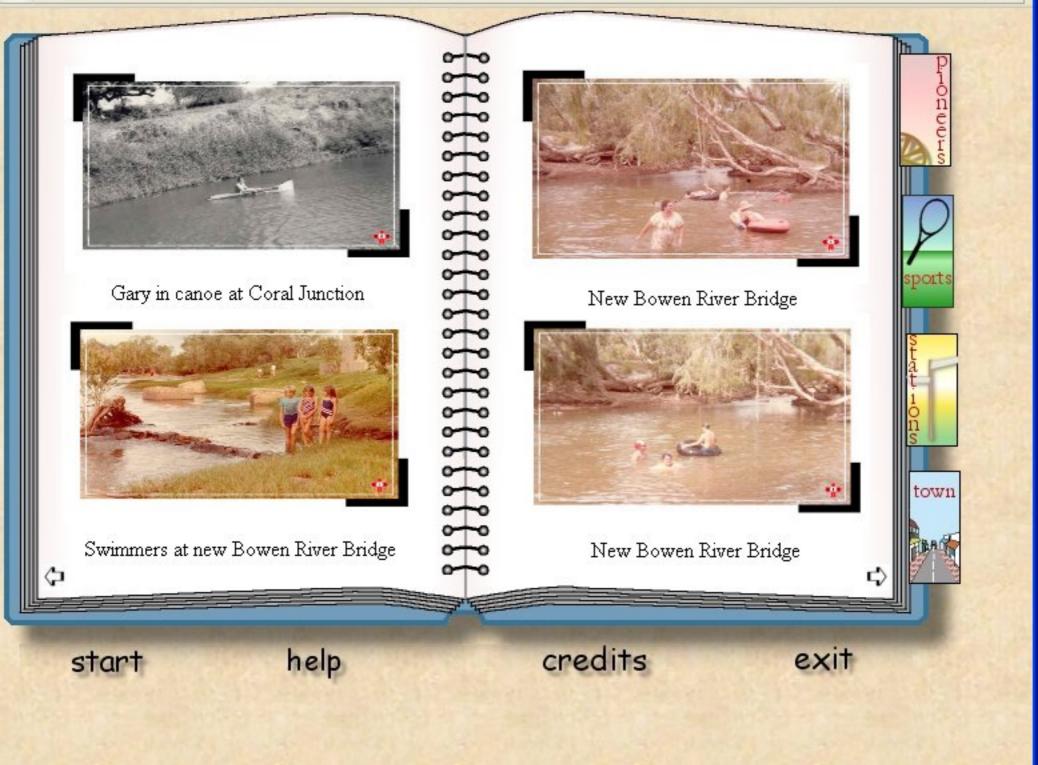


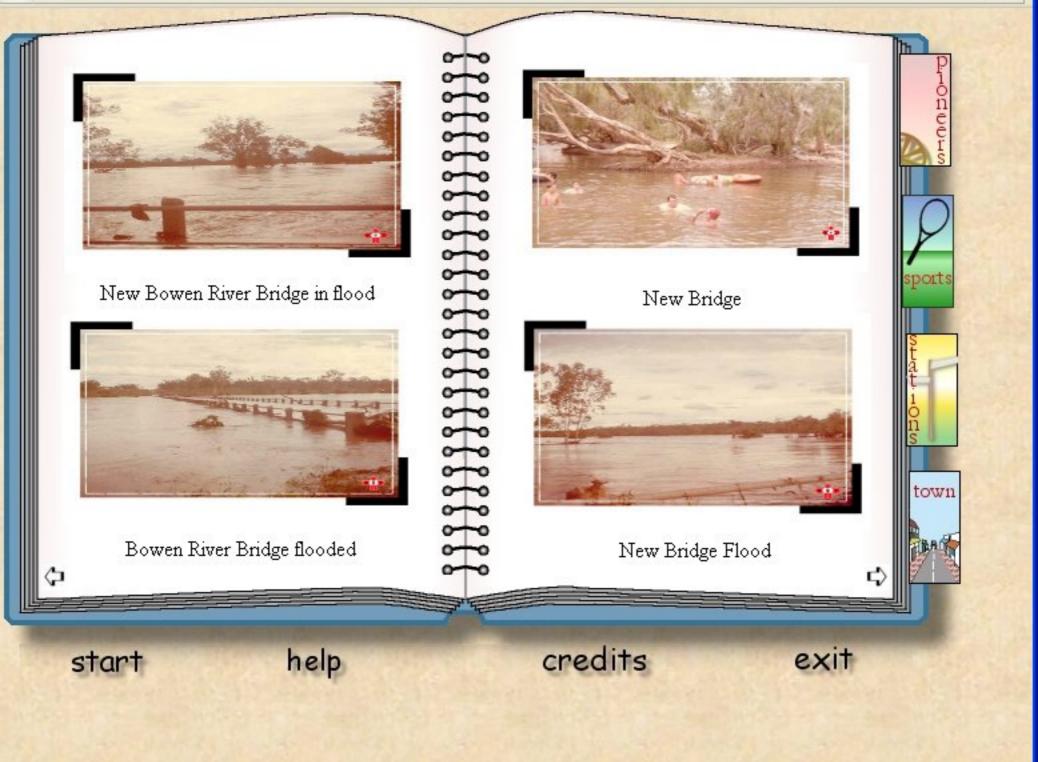


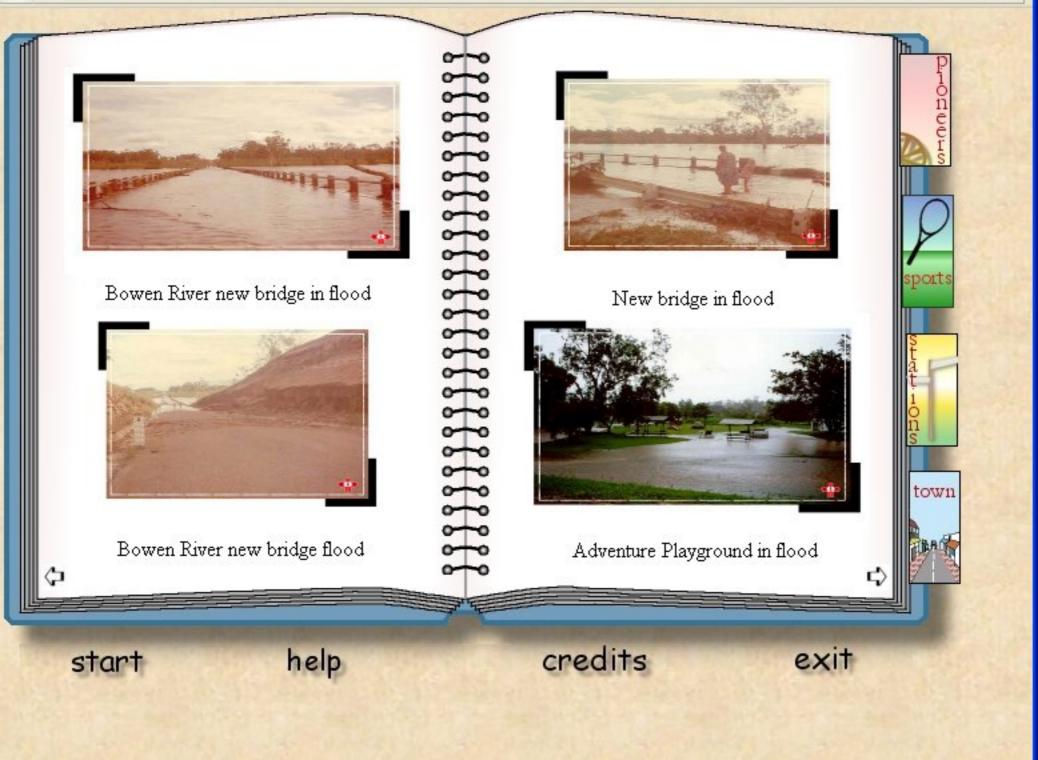


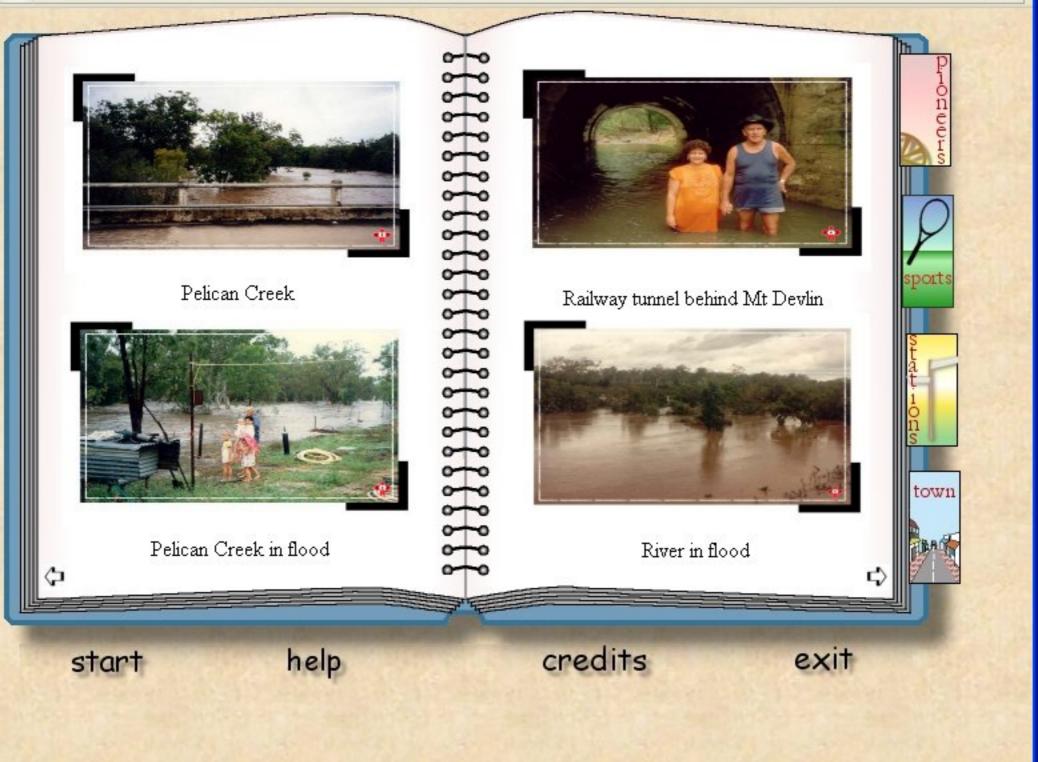


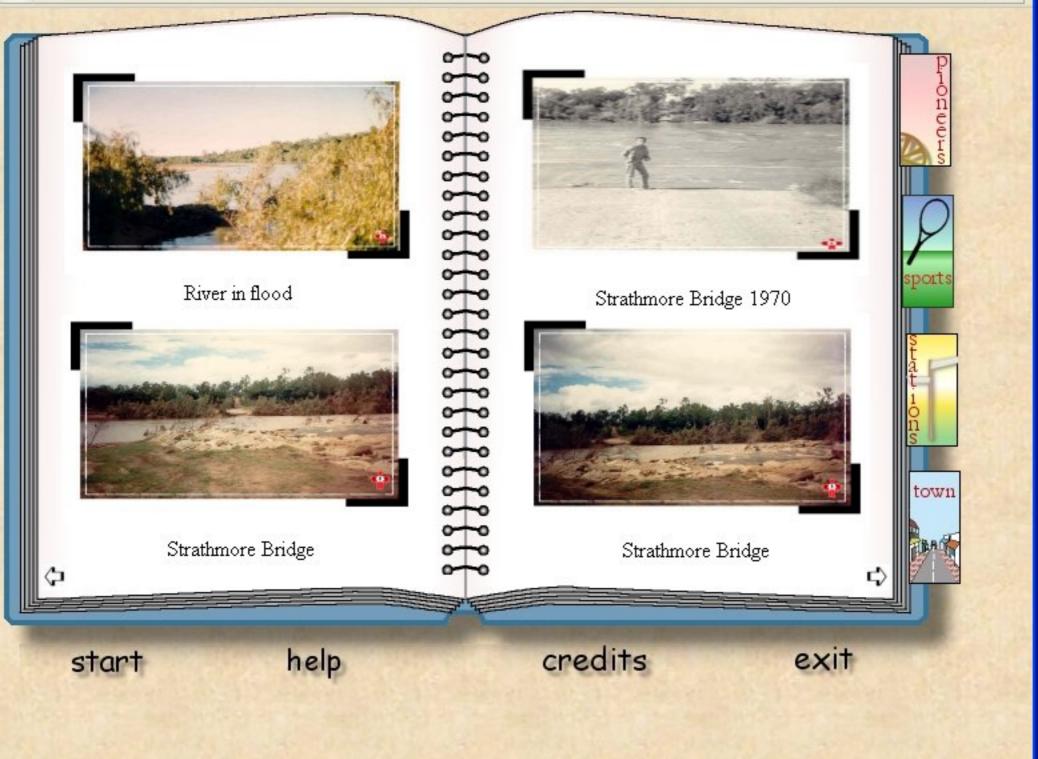


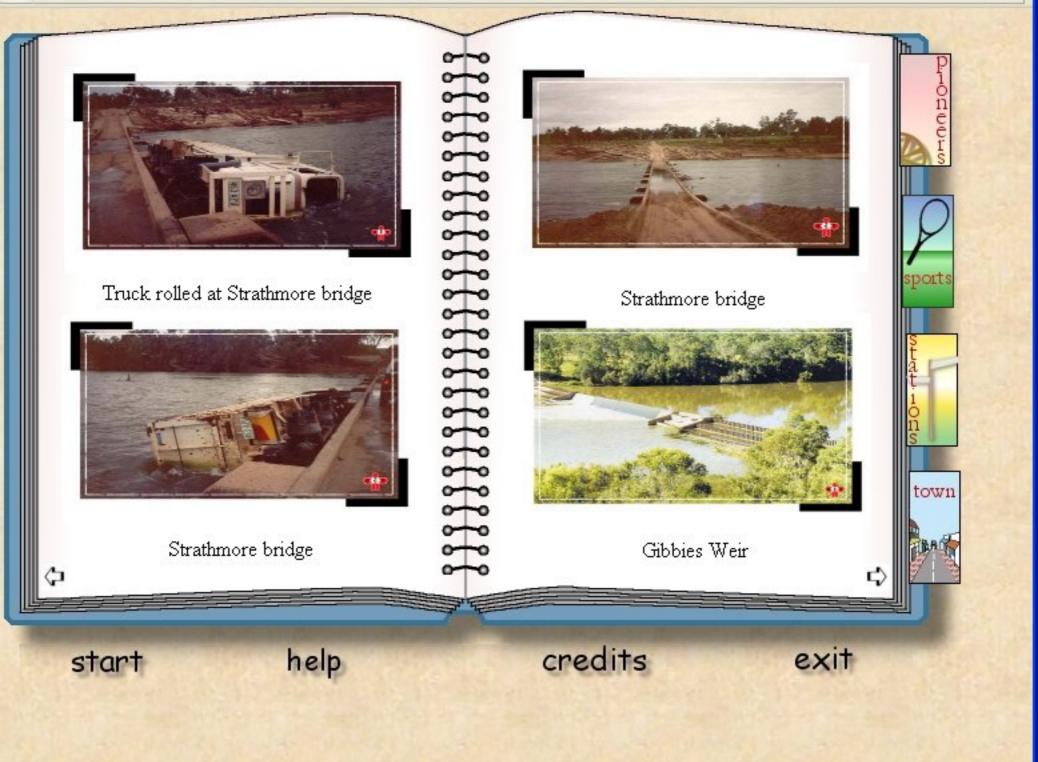


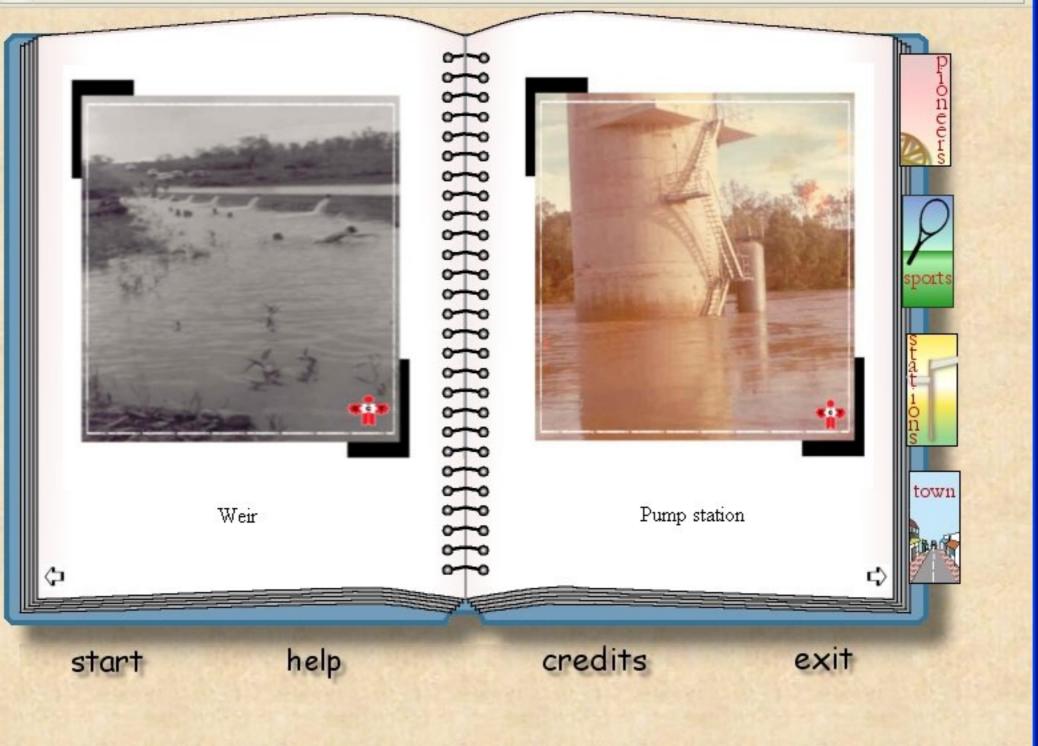


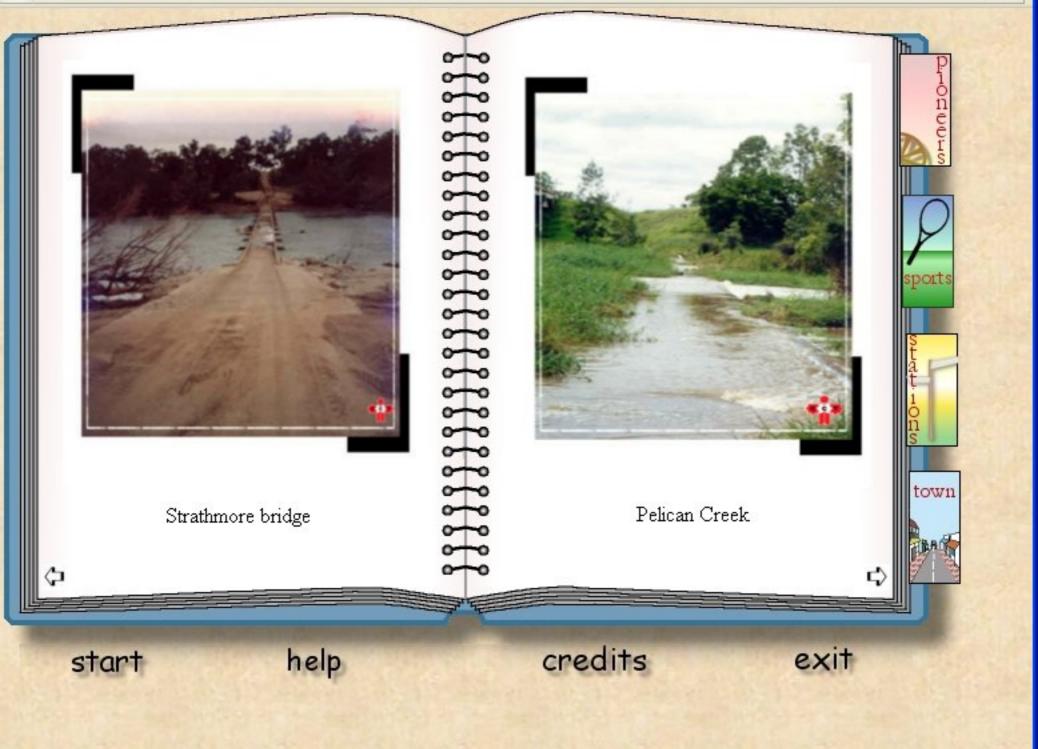


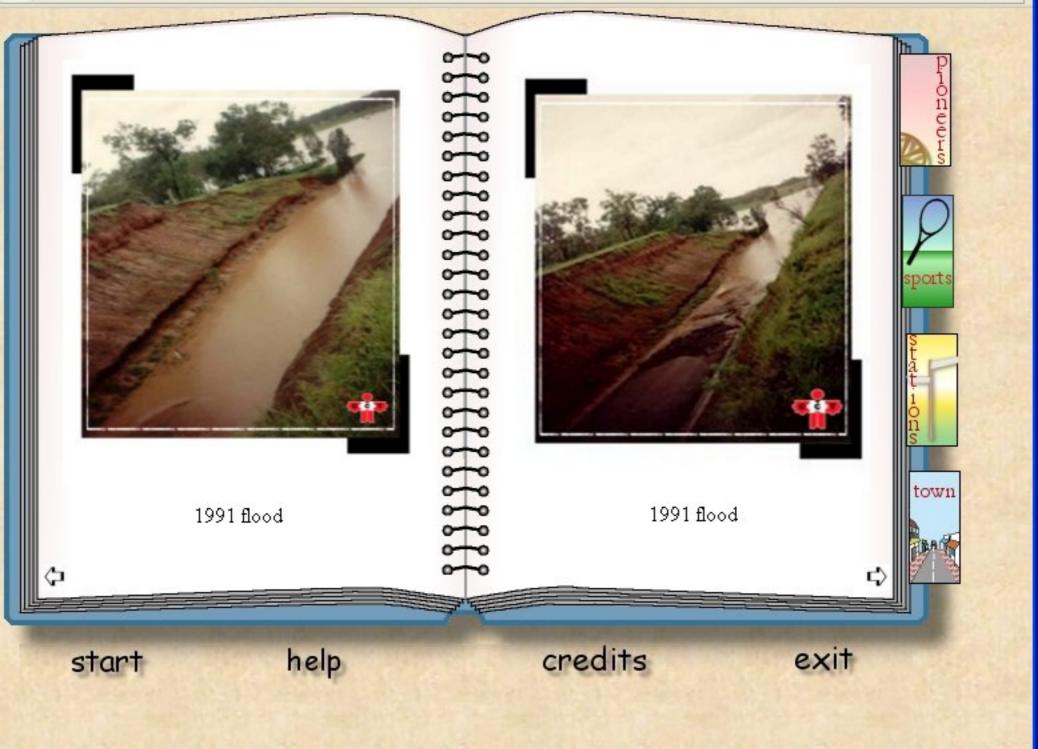


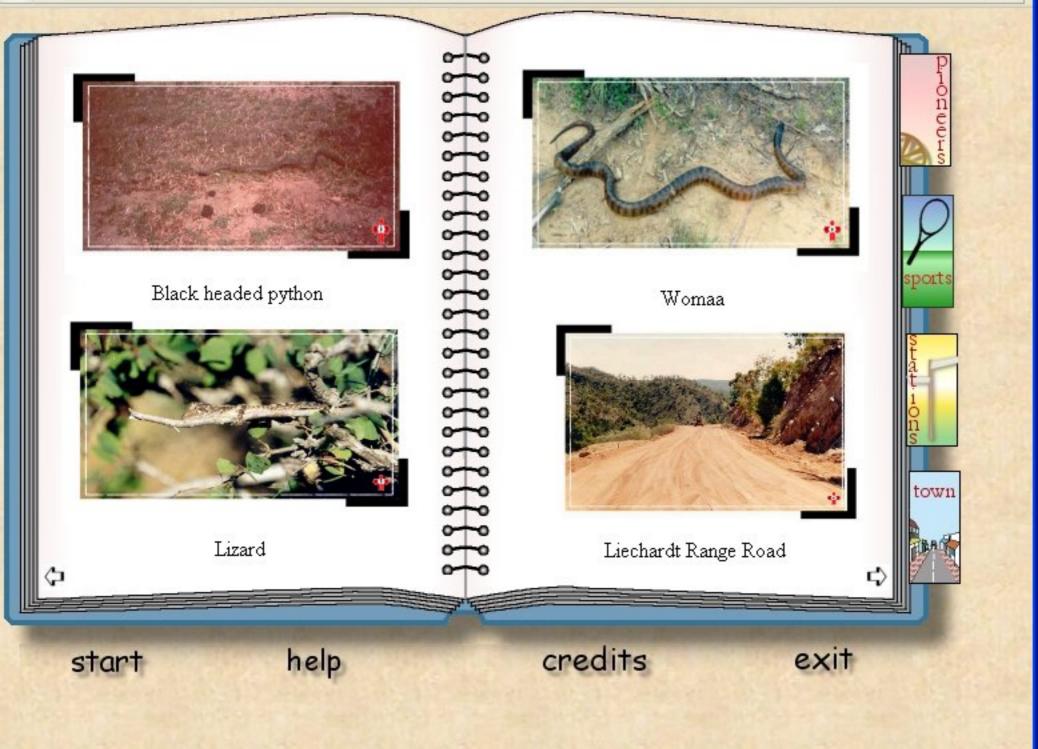






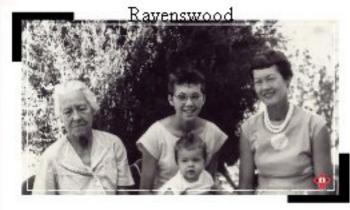








Wedding Of Thomas & Emma Poole nee. Bettridge, 29th December 1913 in



4 Gen. Poole Family 1963, Emma Poole, Elaine & Ricky Batchelor & Daphne Moir



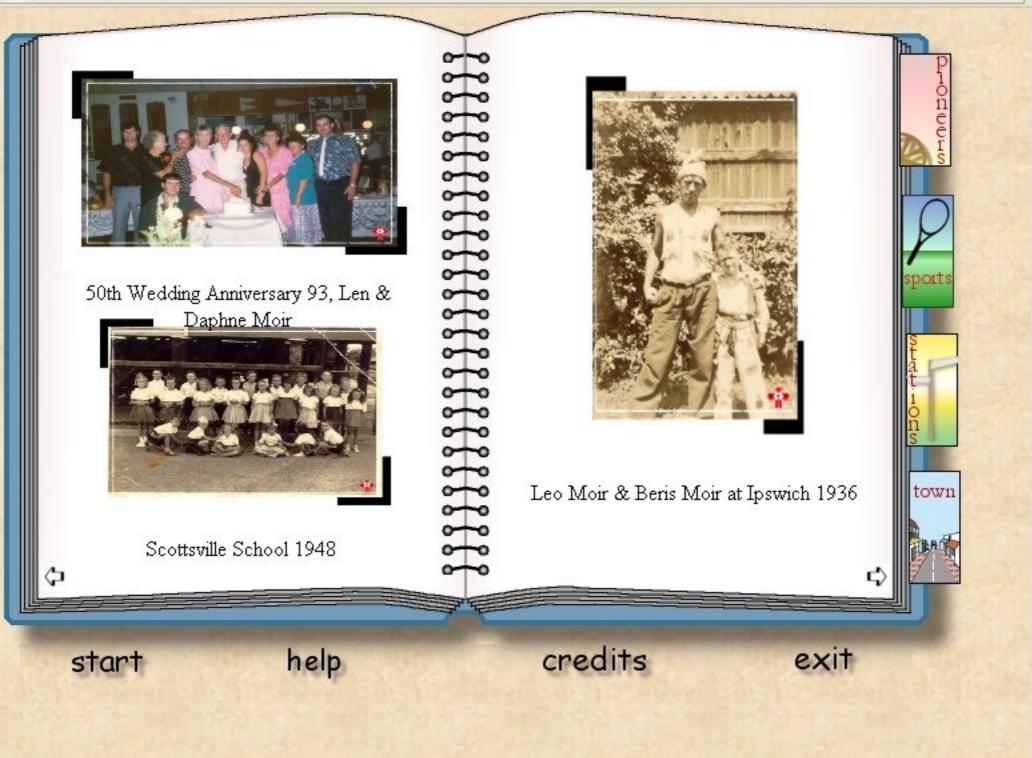
4 Gen. Tom & Emma Poole with Elaine & Ricky Batchelor & Daphne Moir

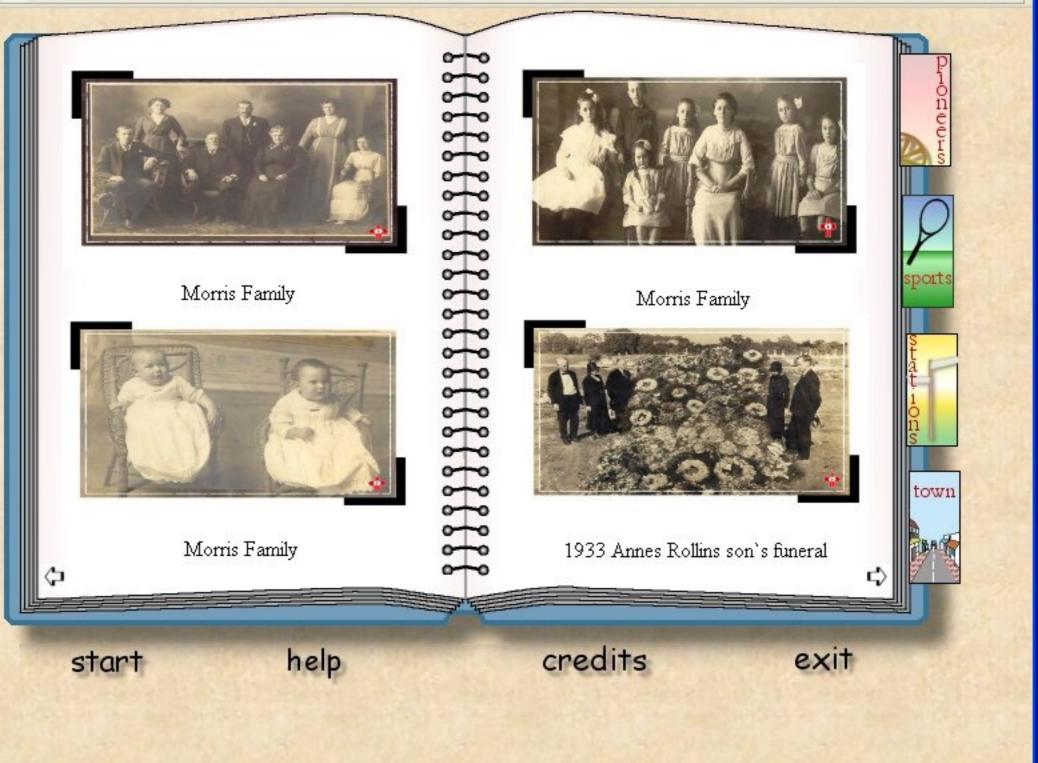


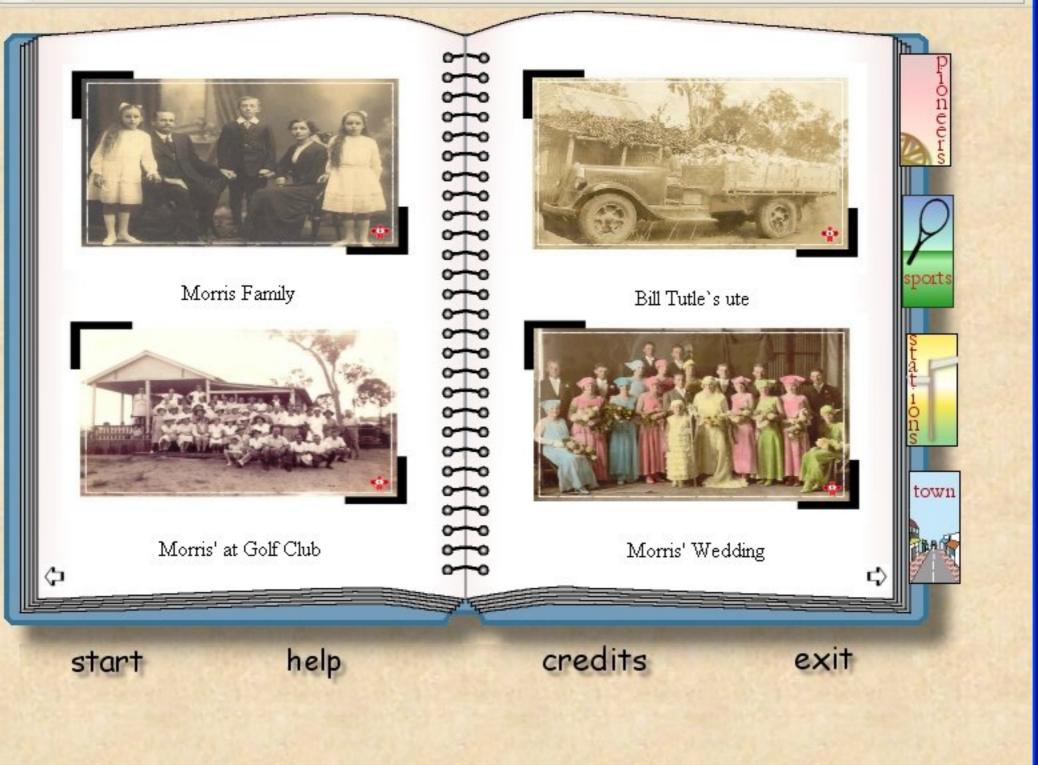
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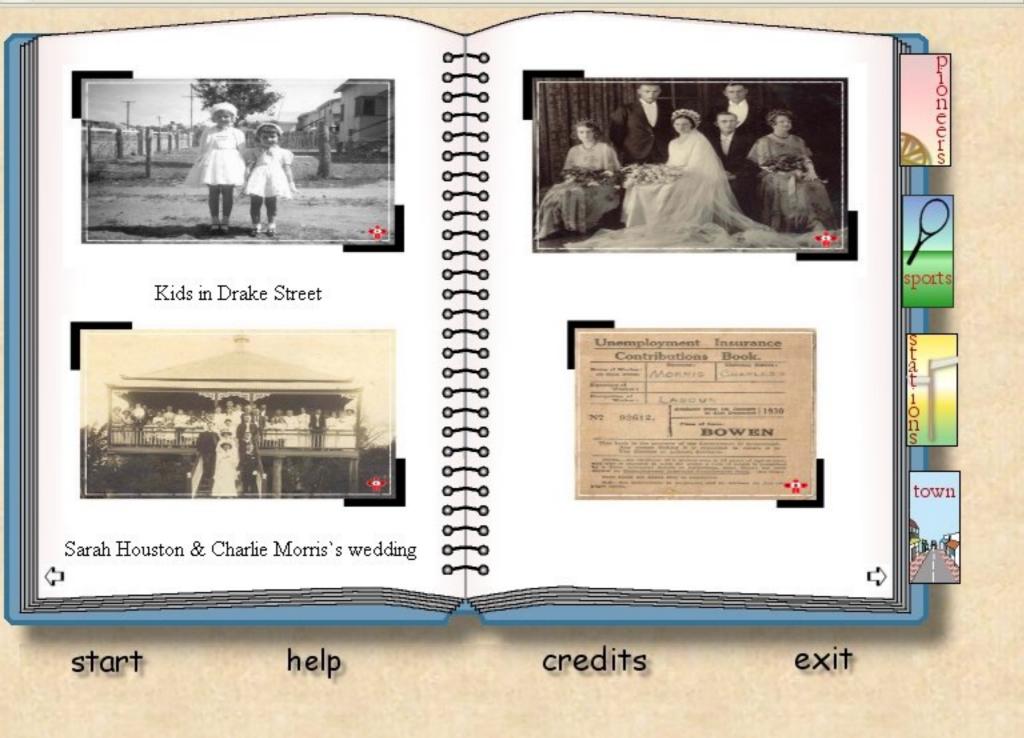
4 Gen. Moir Family 1944, Wolfred, James, Len And Elaine Moir

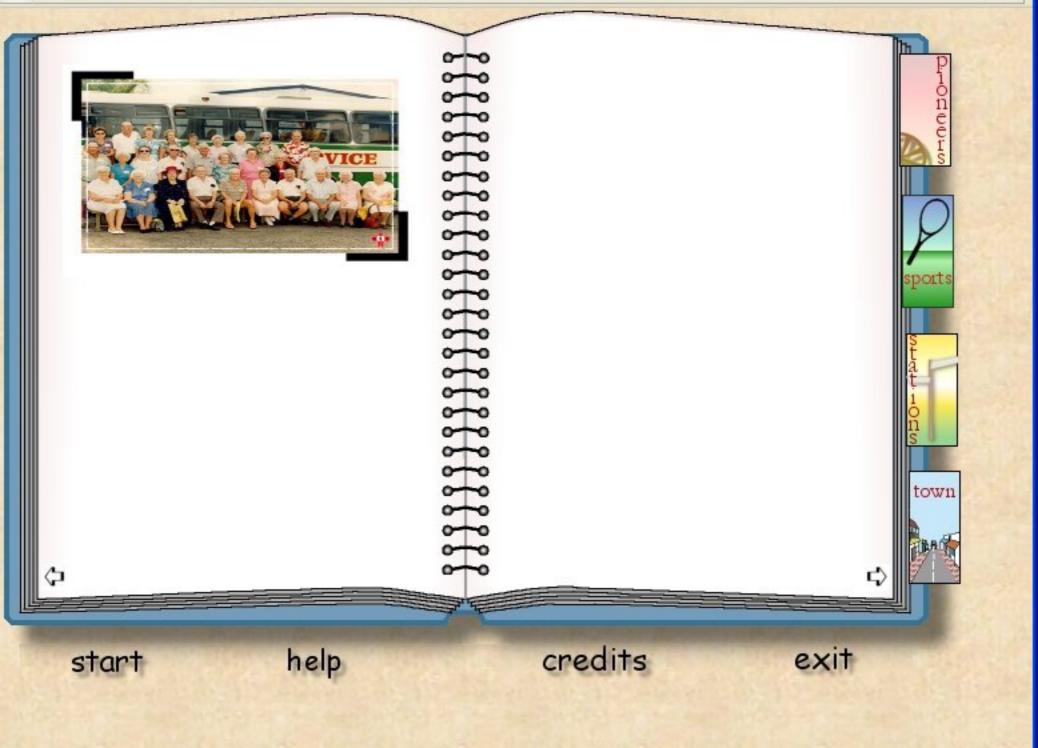
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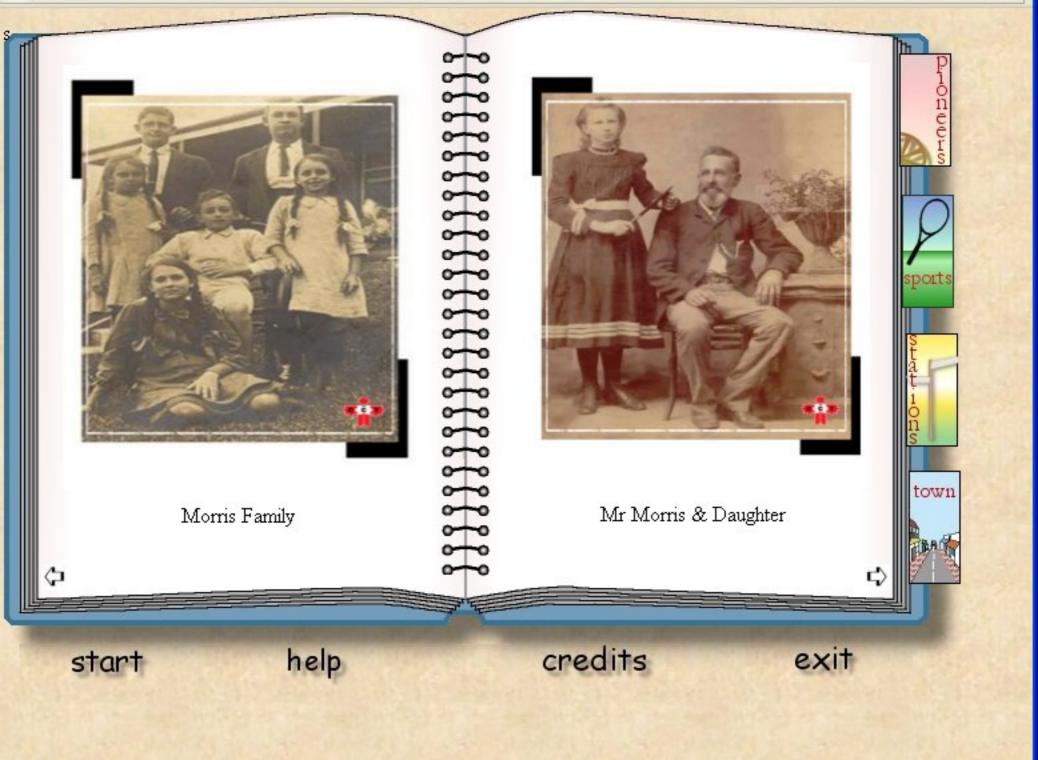


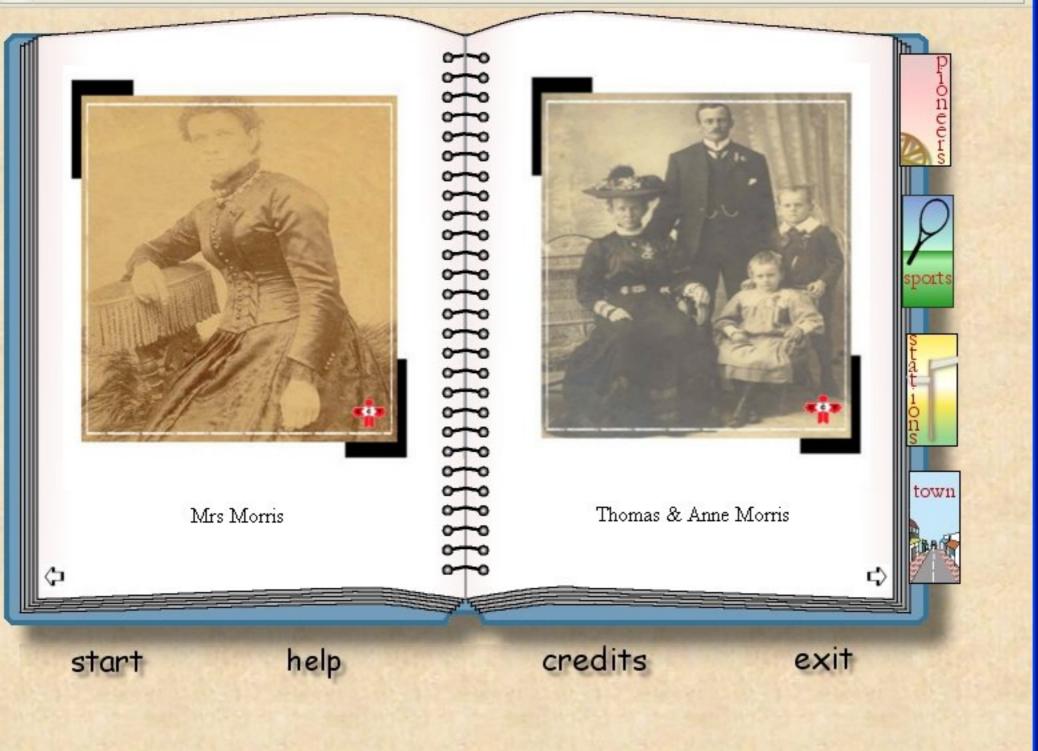


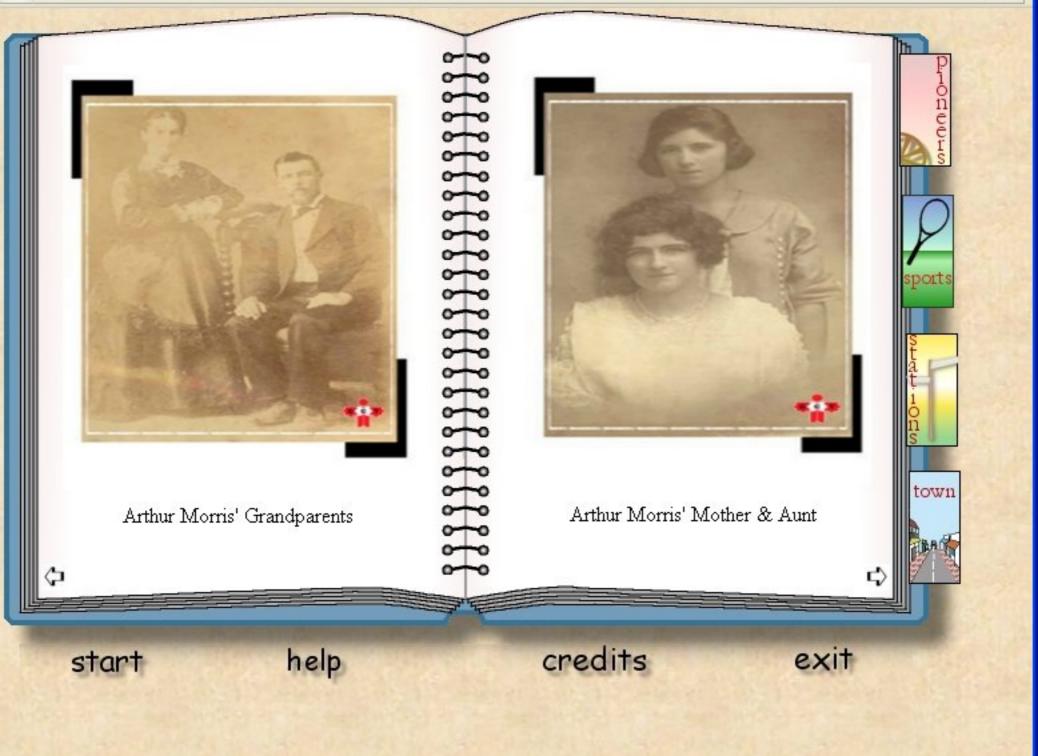


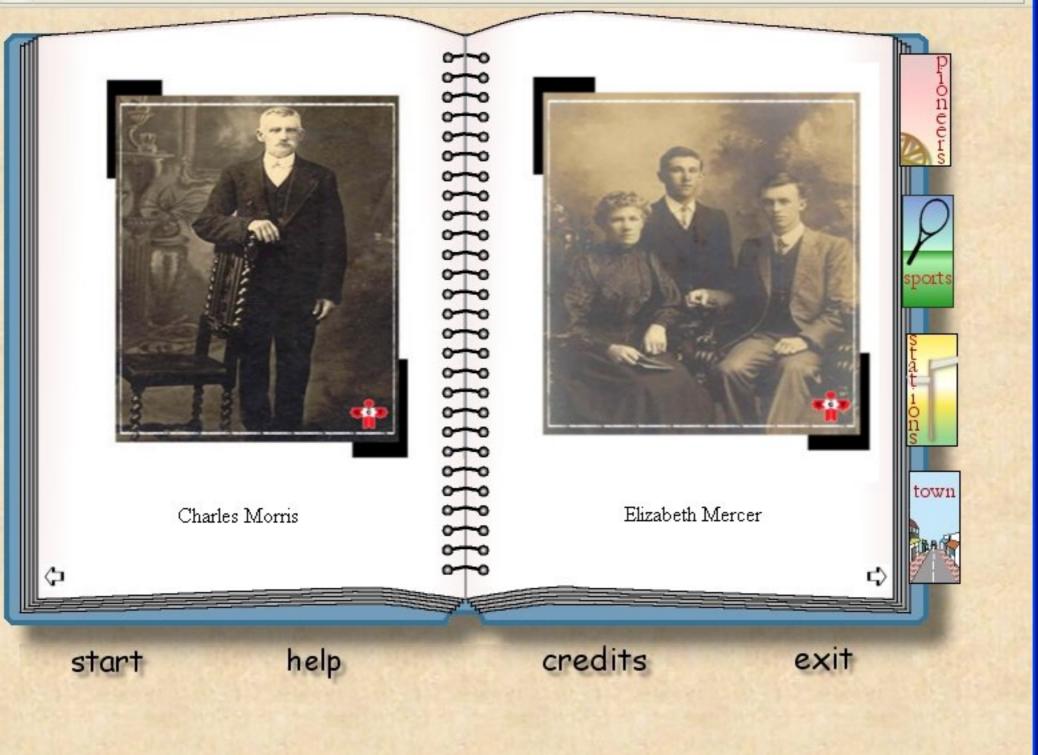


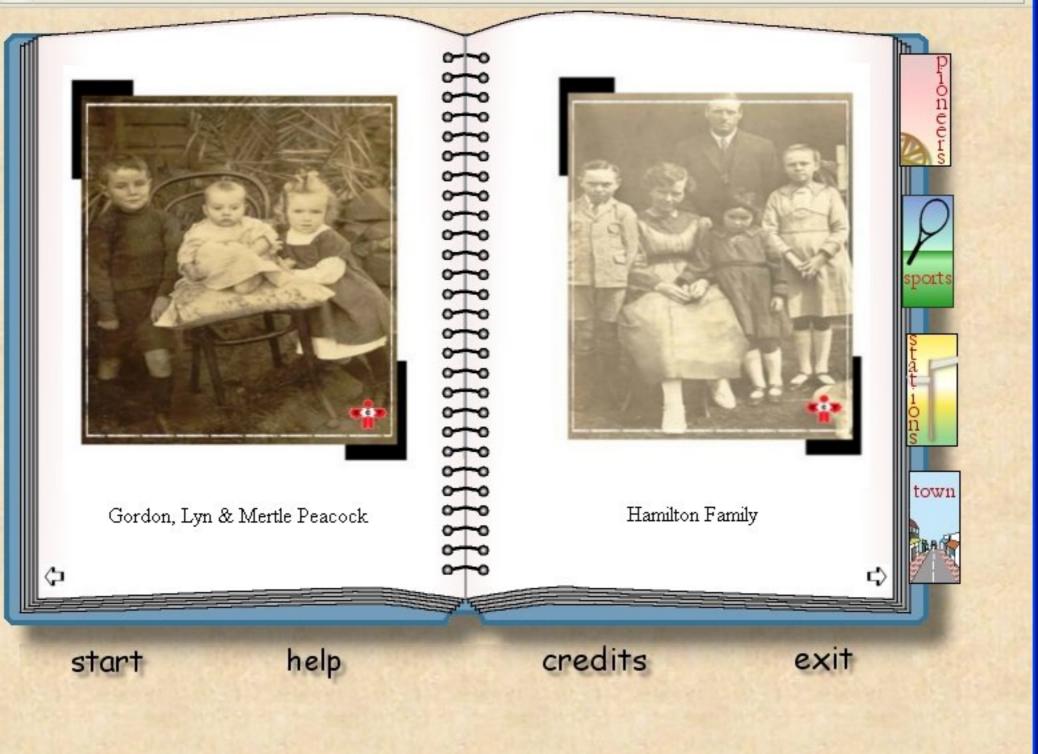


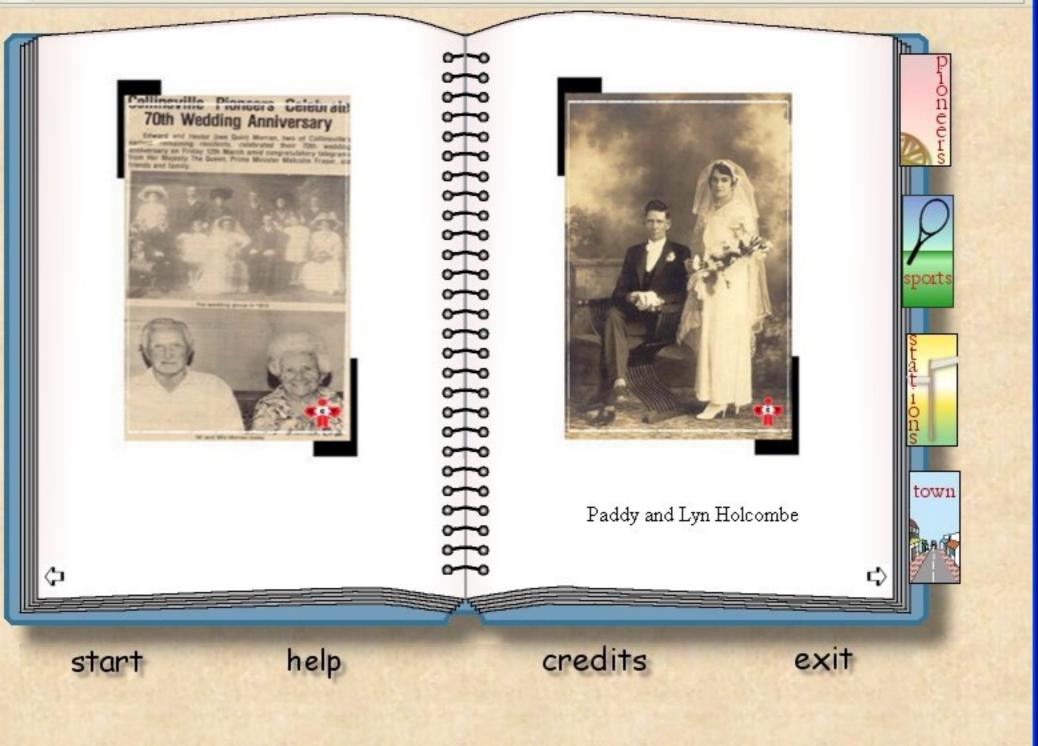


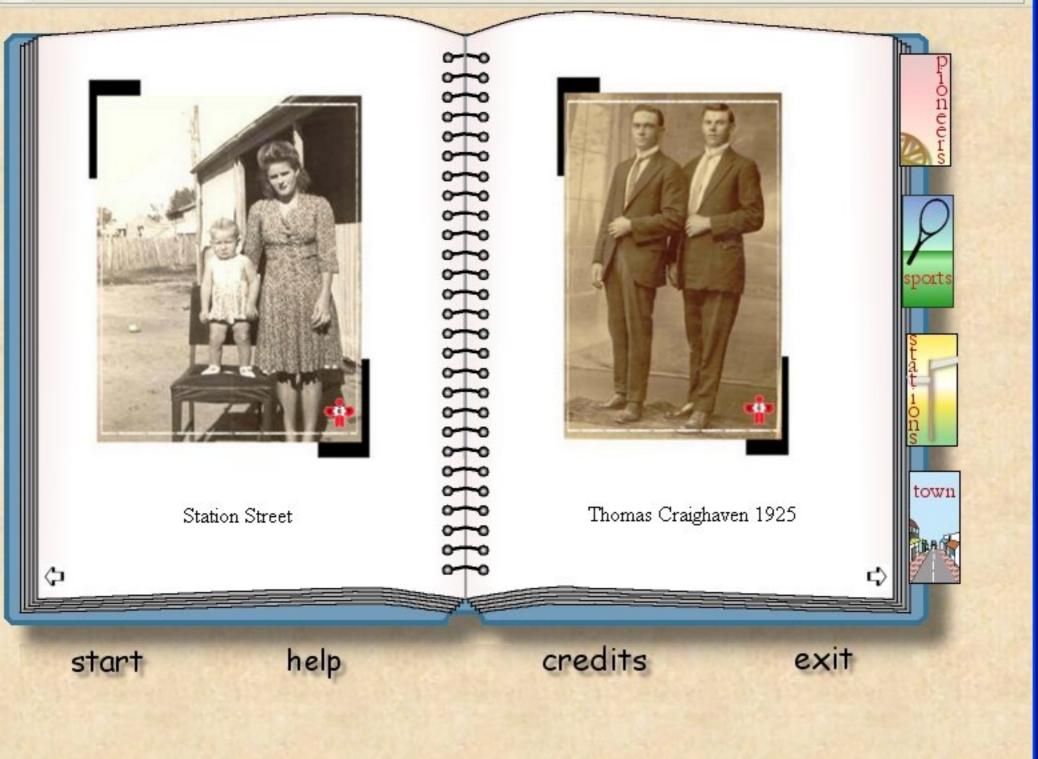


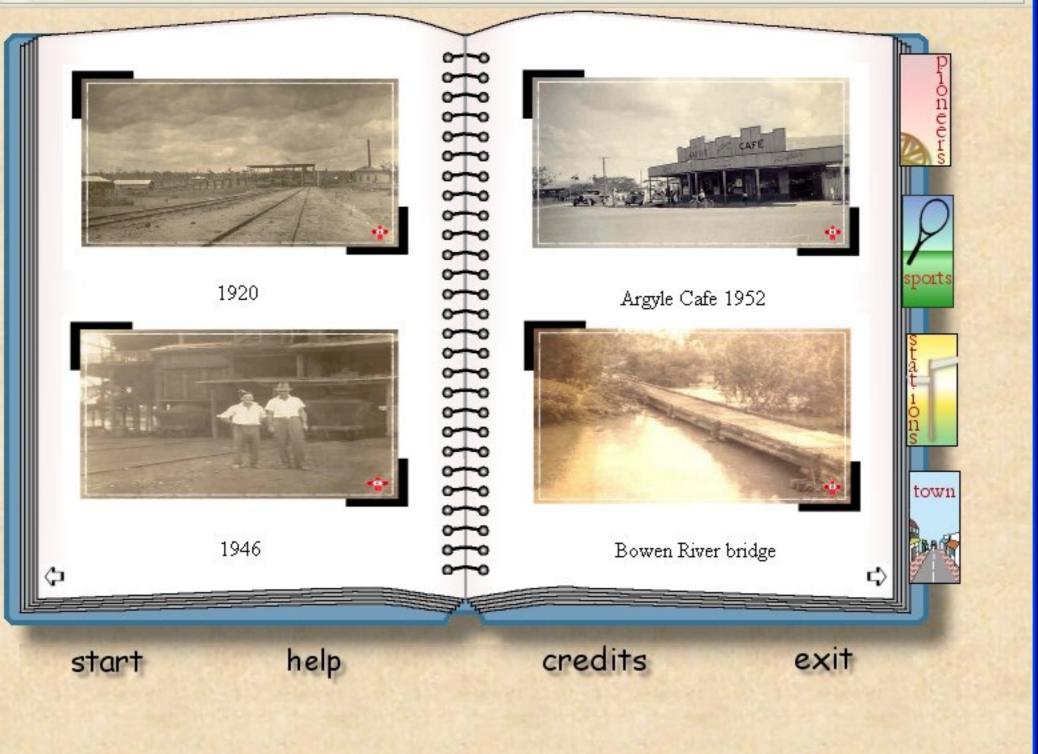


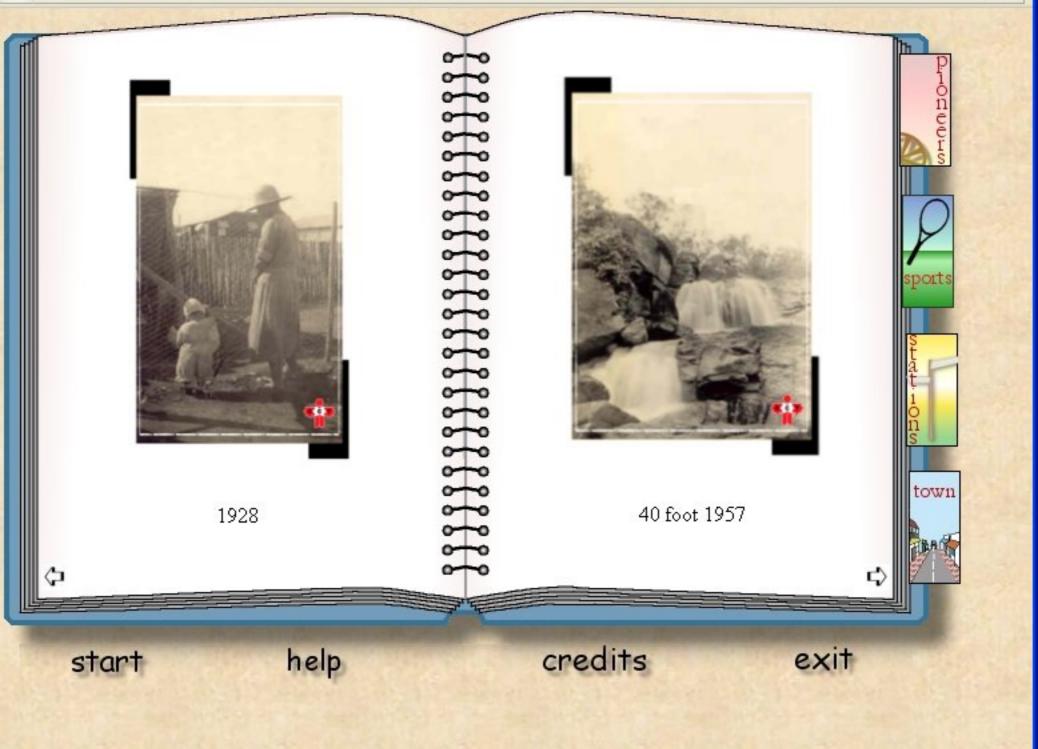


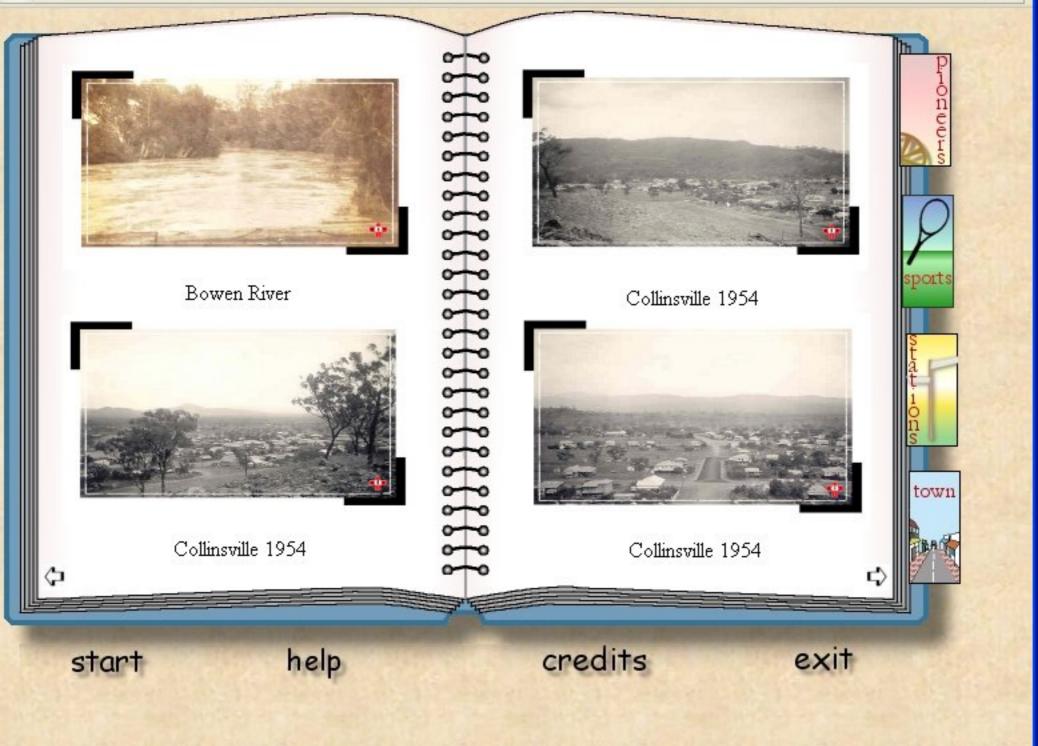


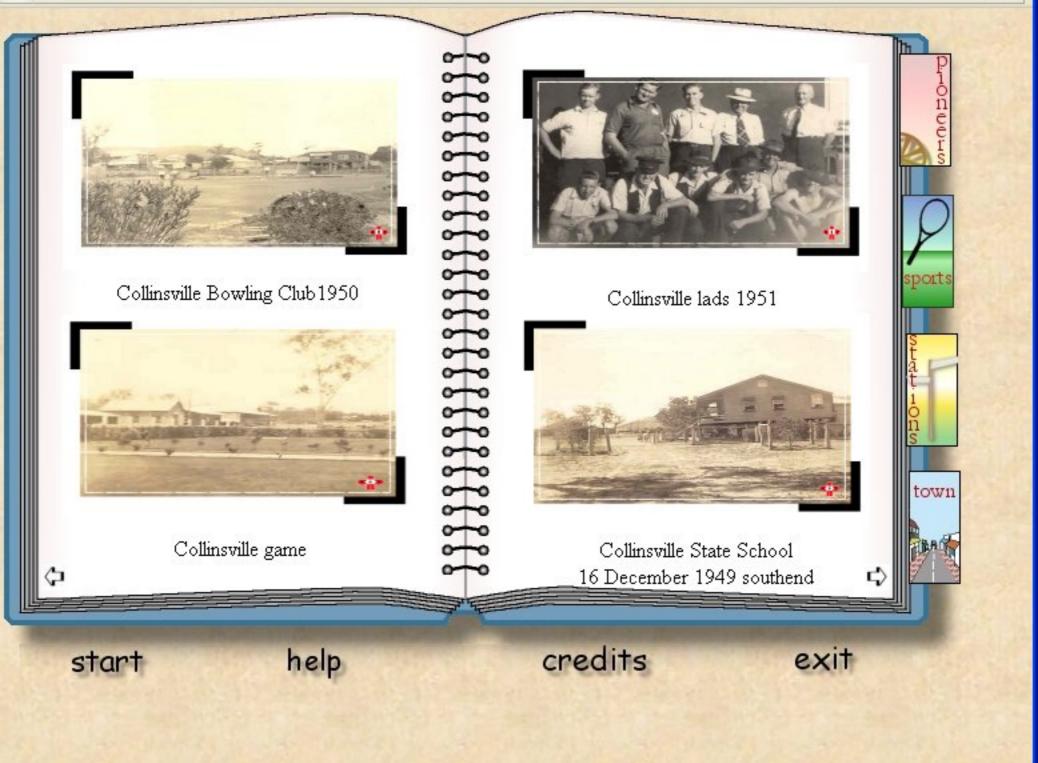


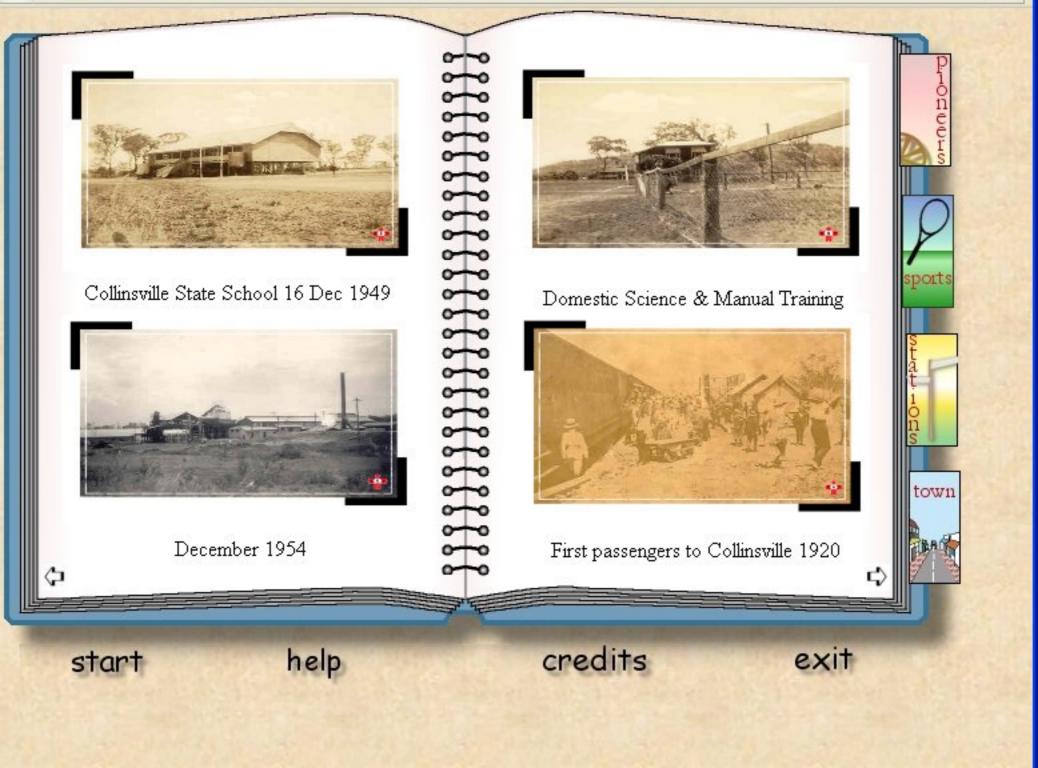


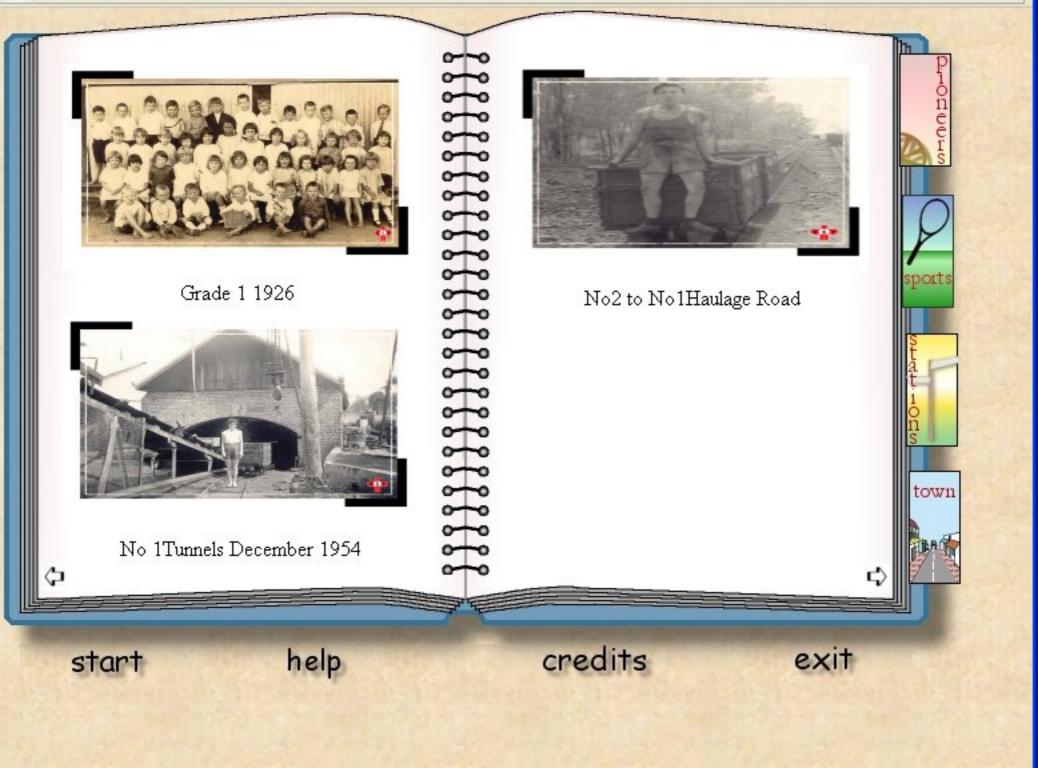


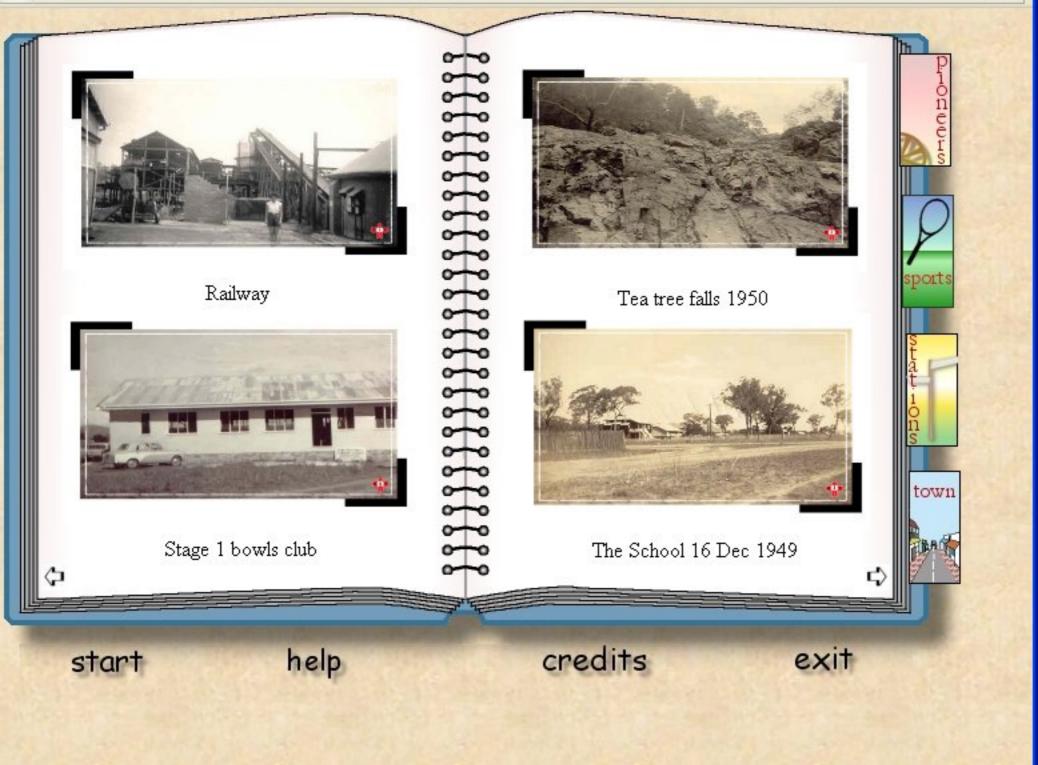


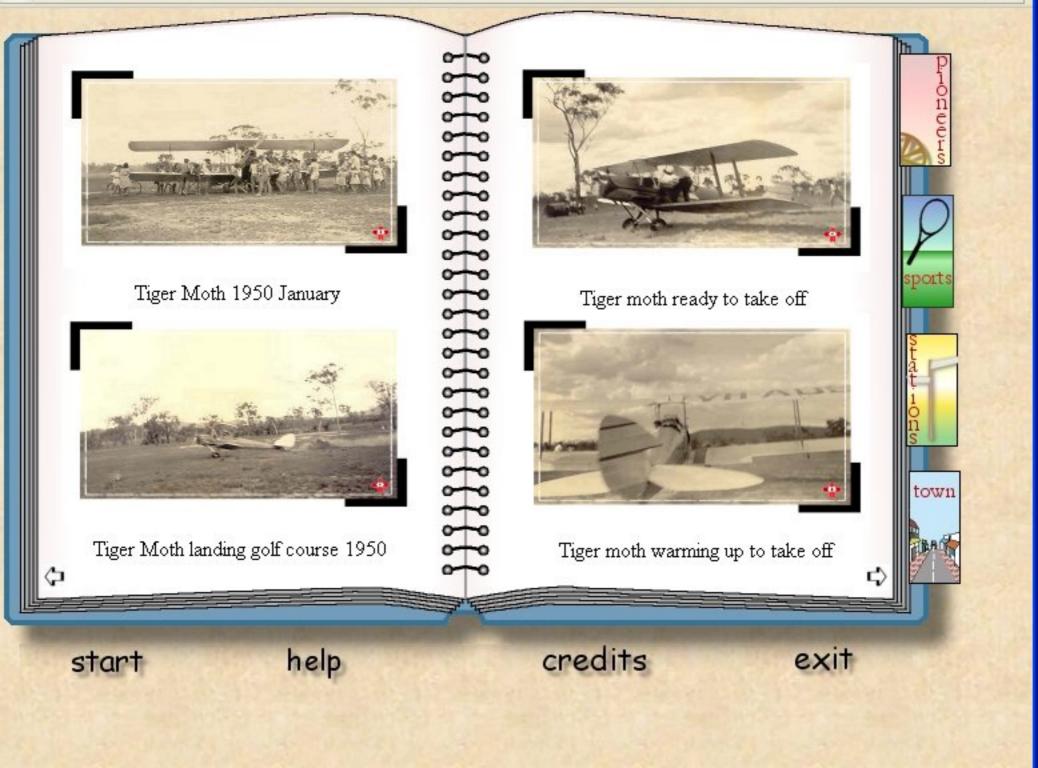


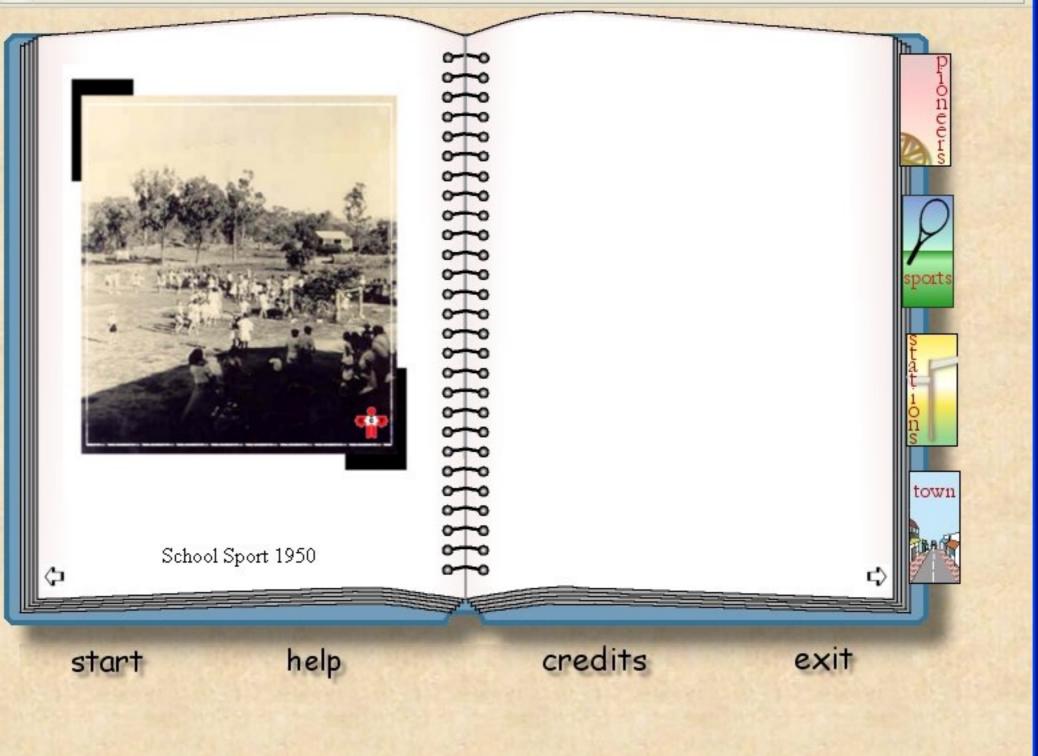


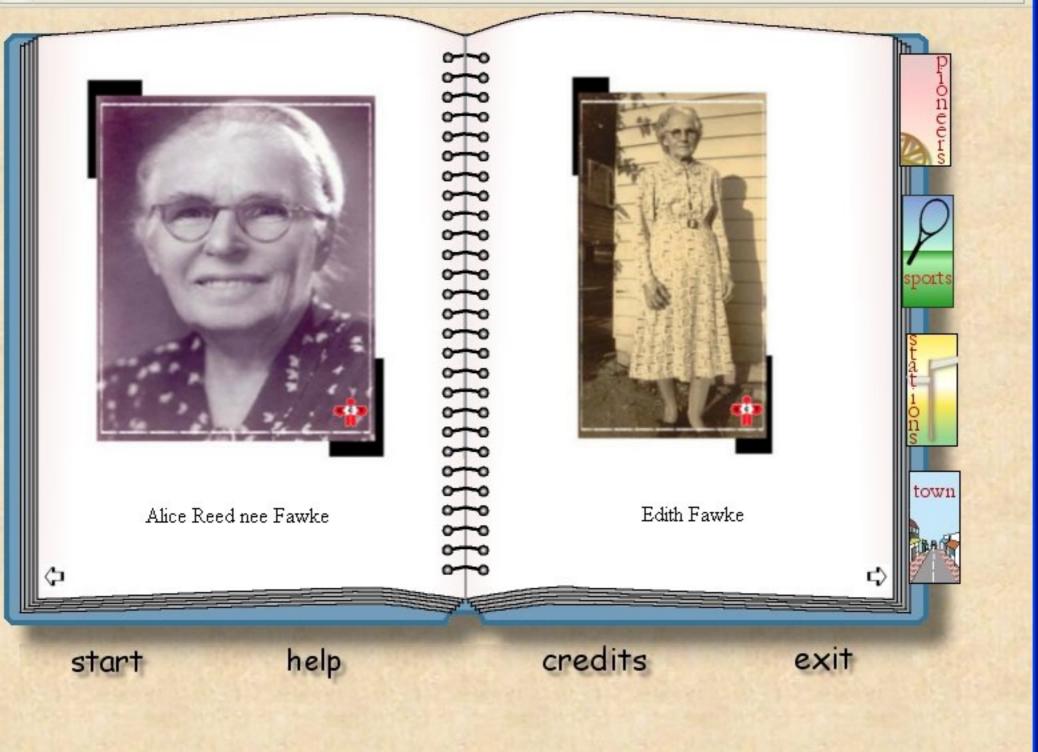


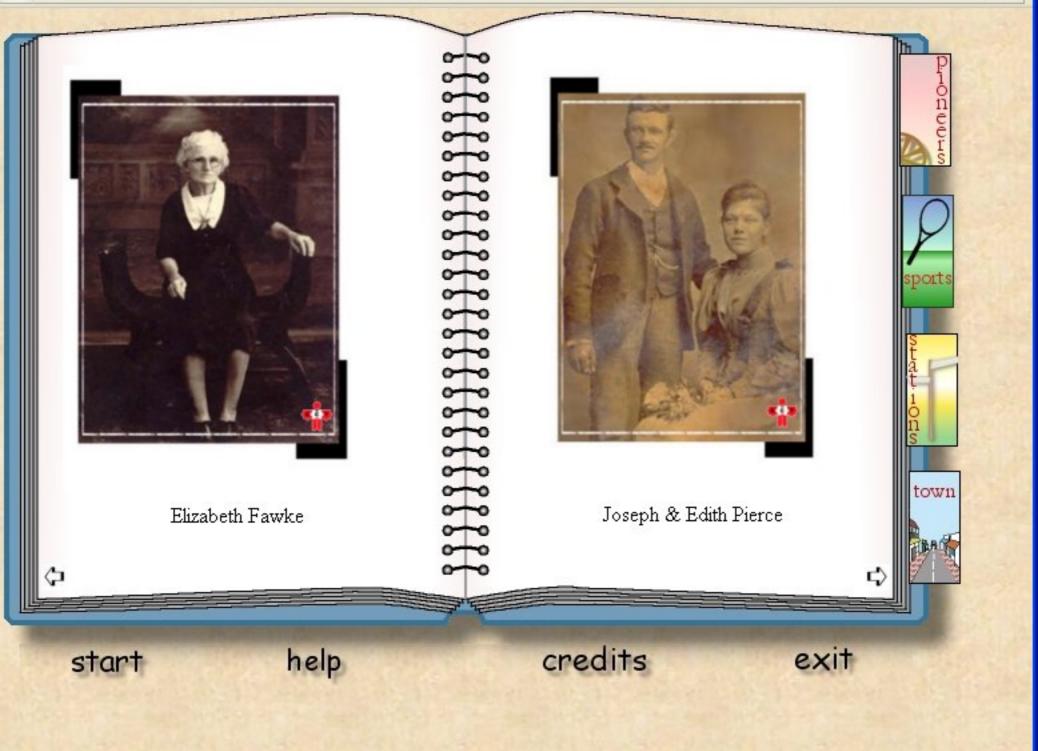


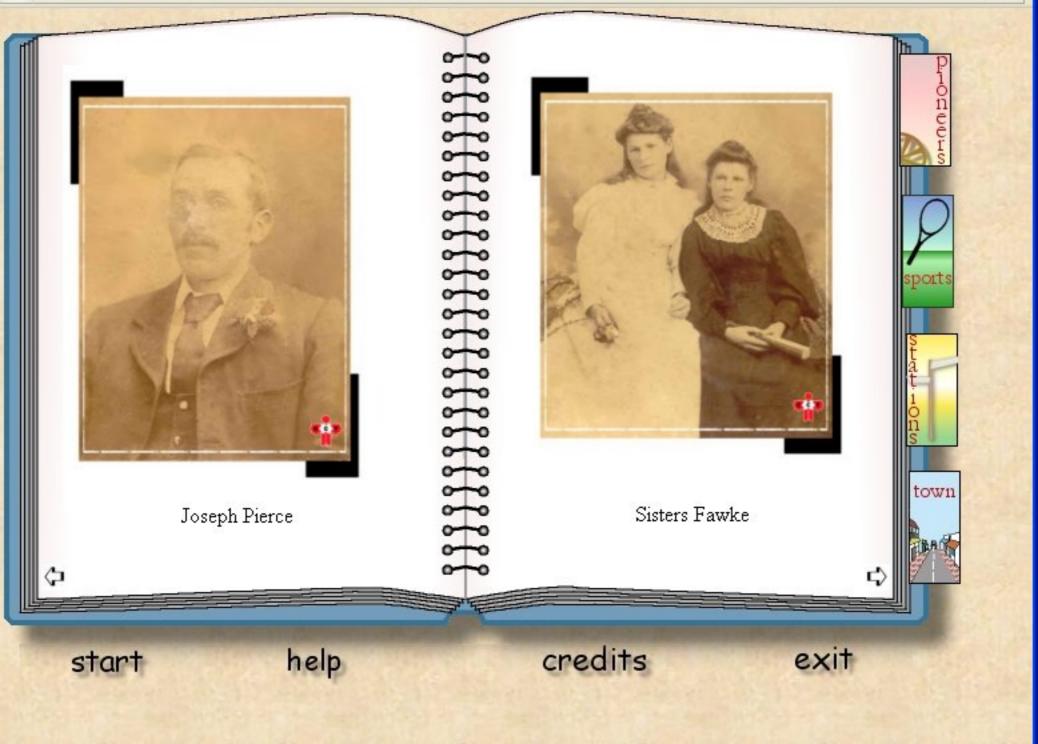


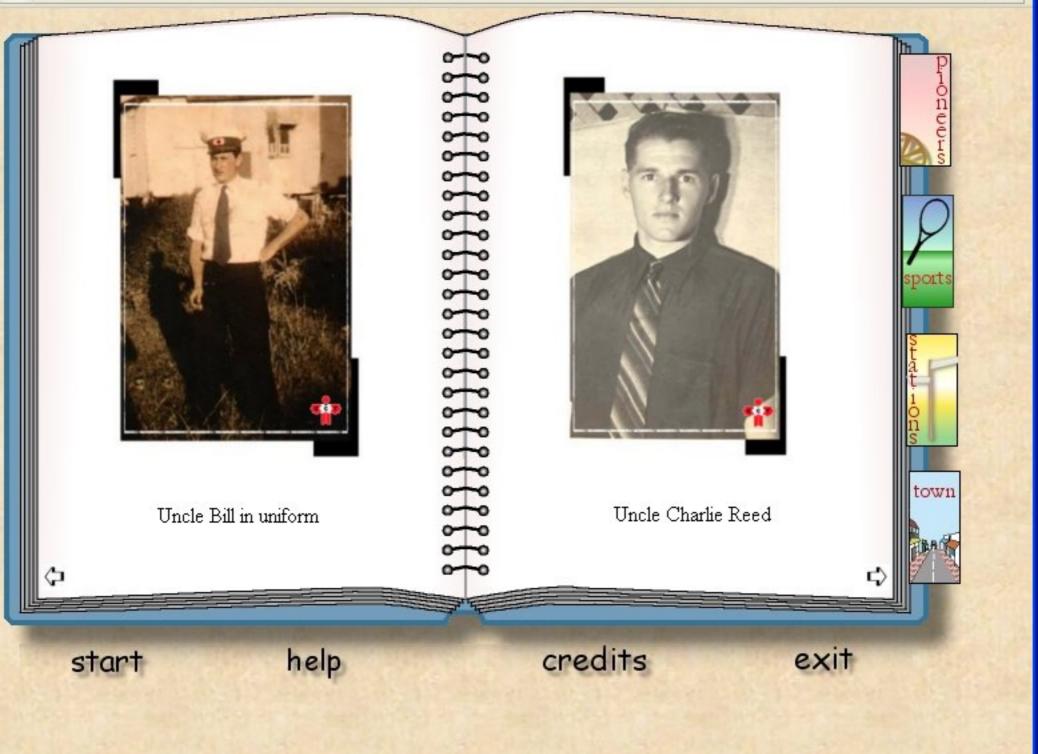


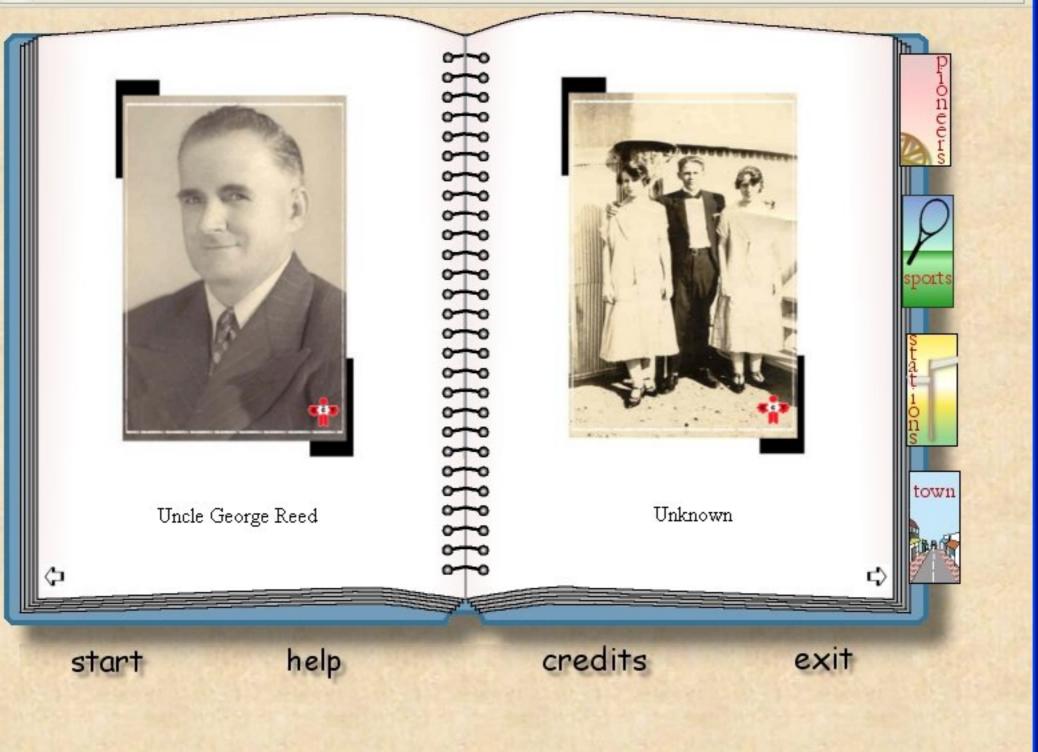


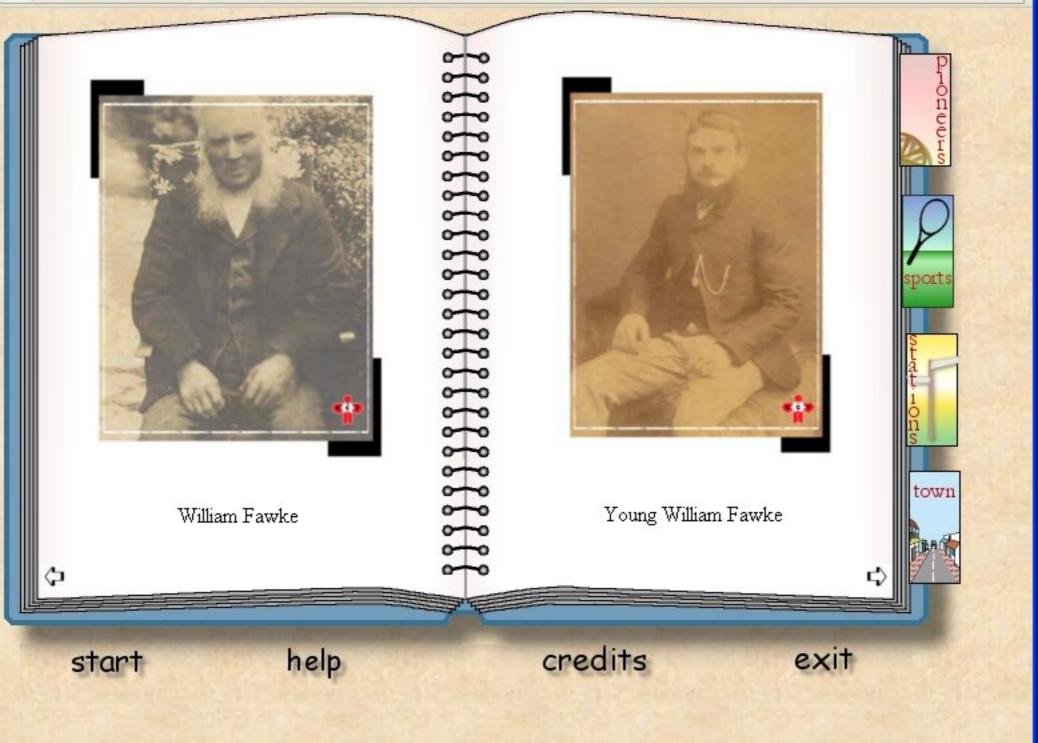


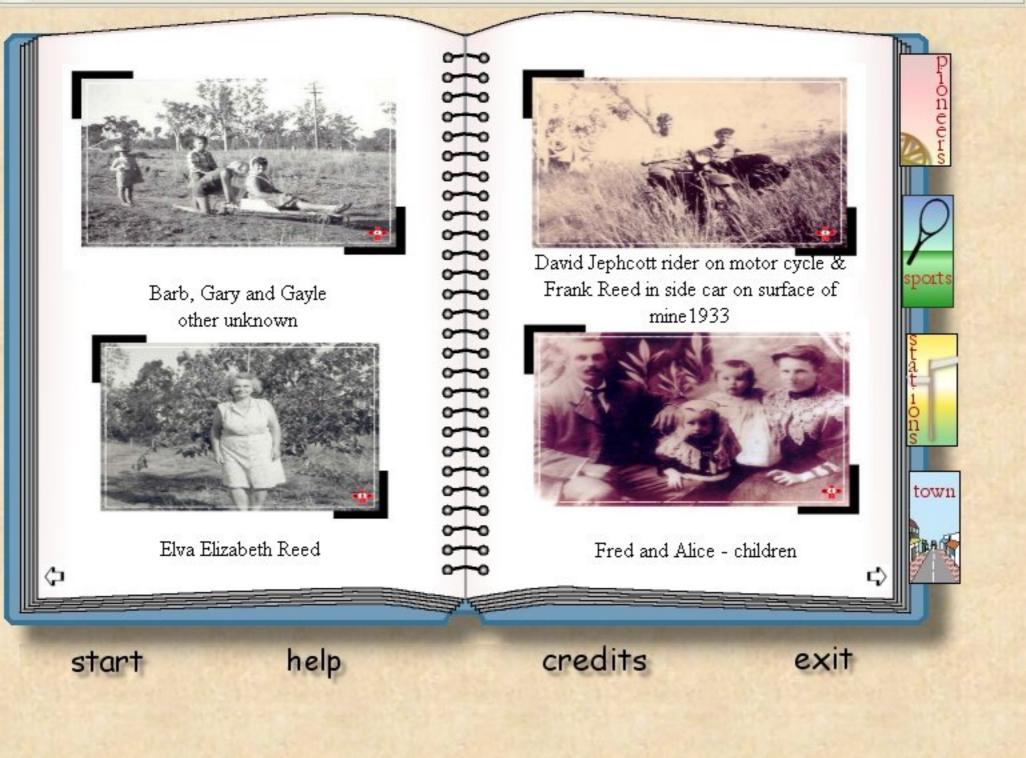


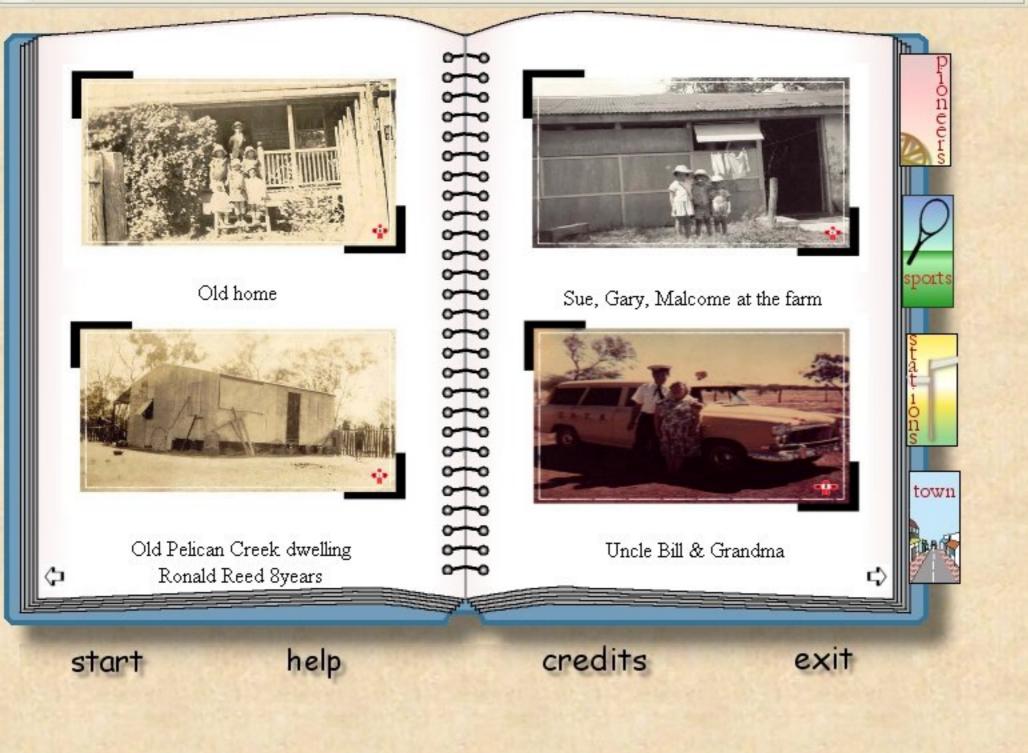


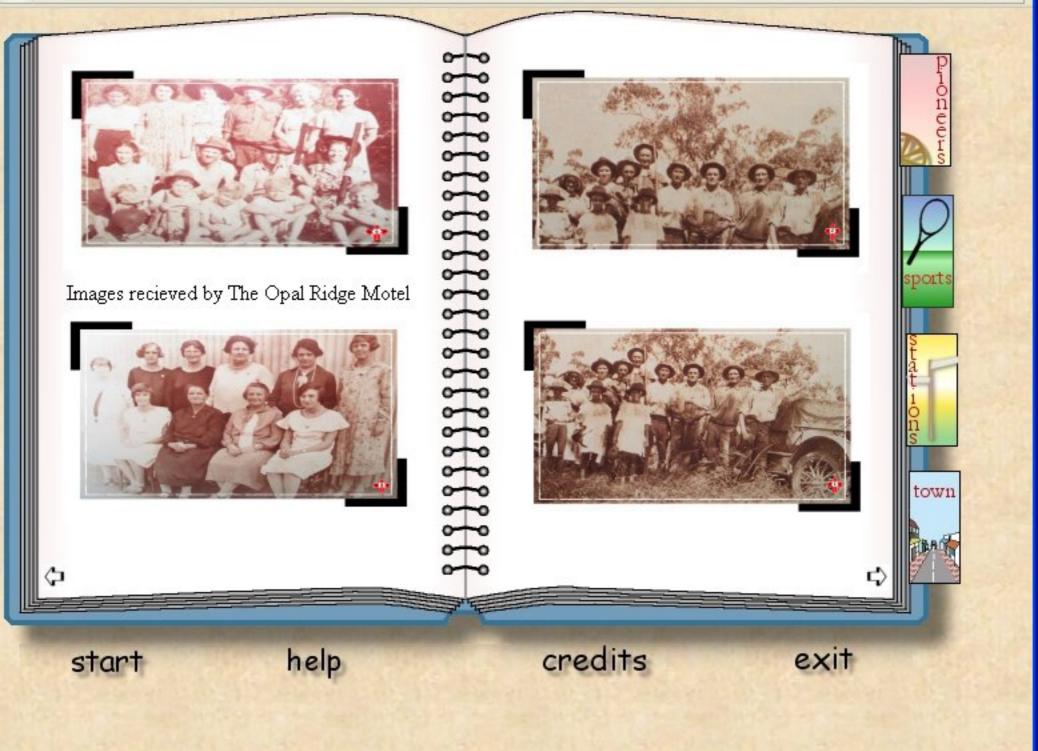


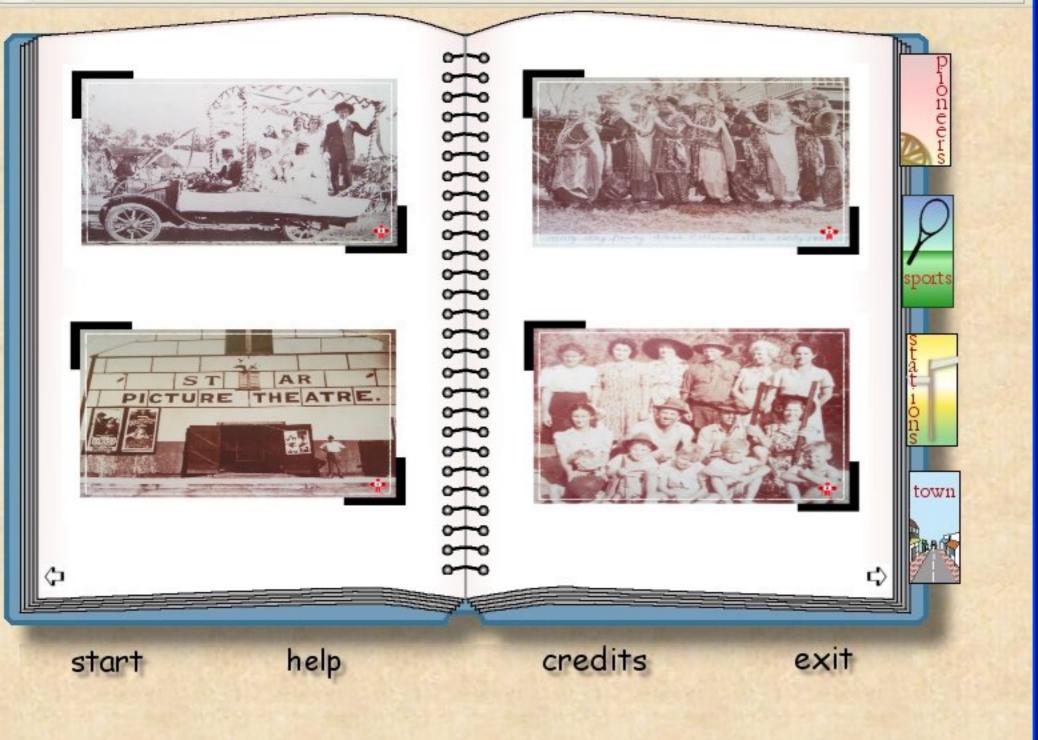


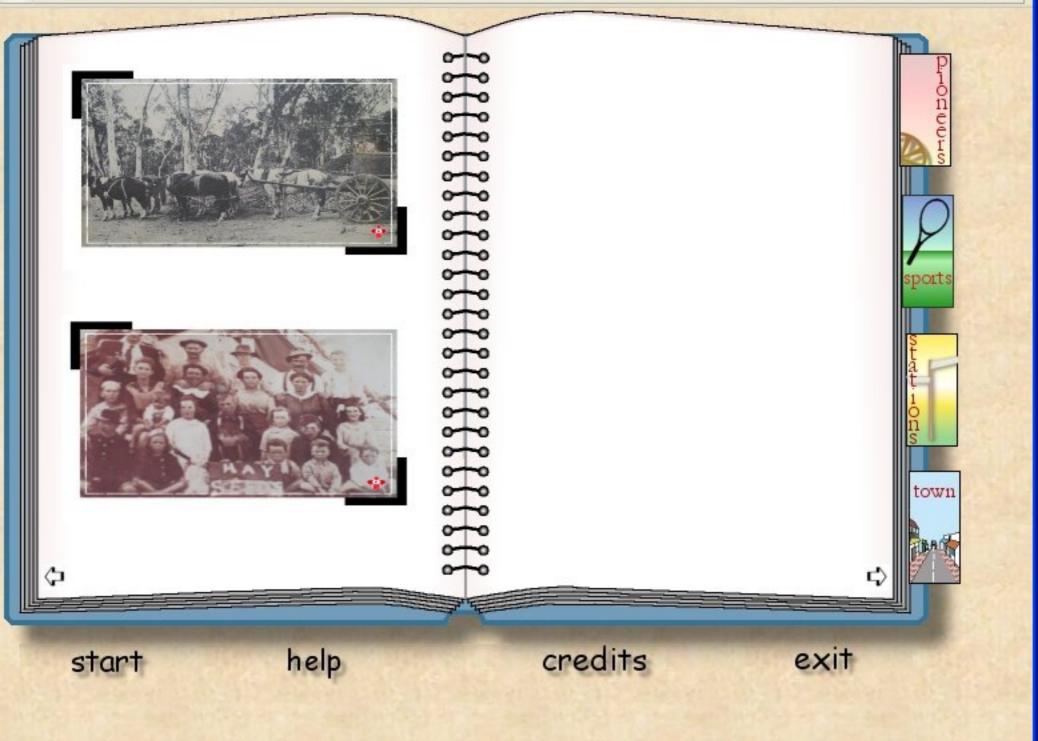


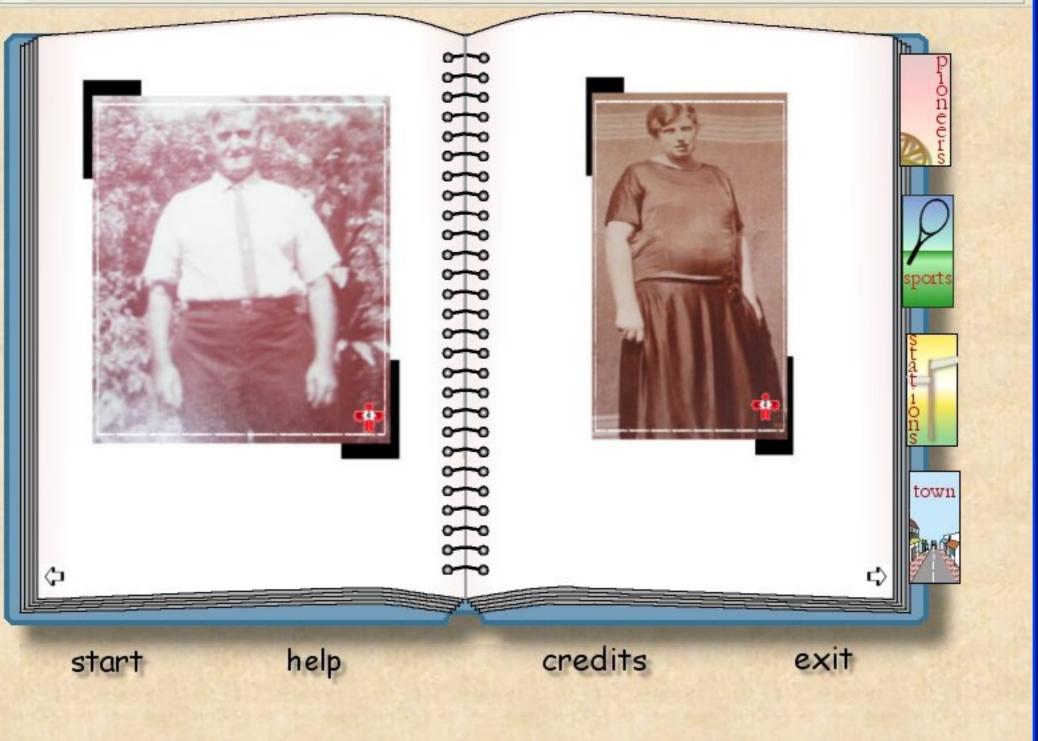


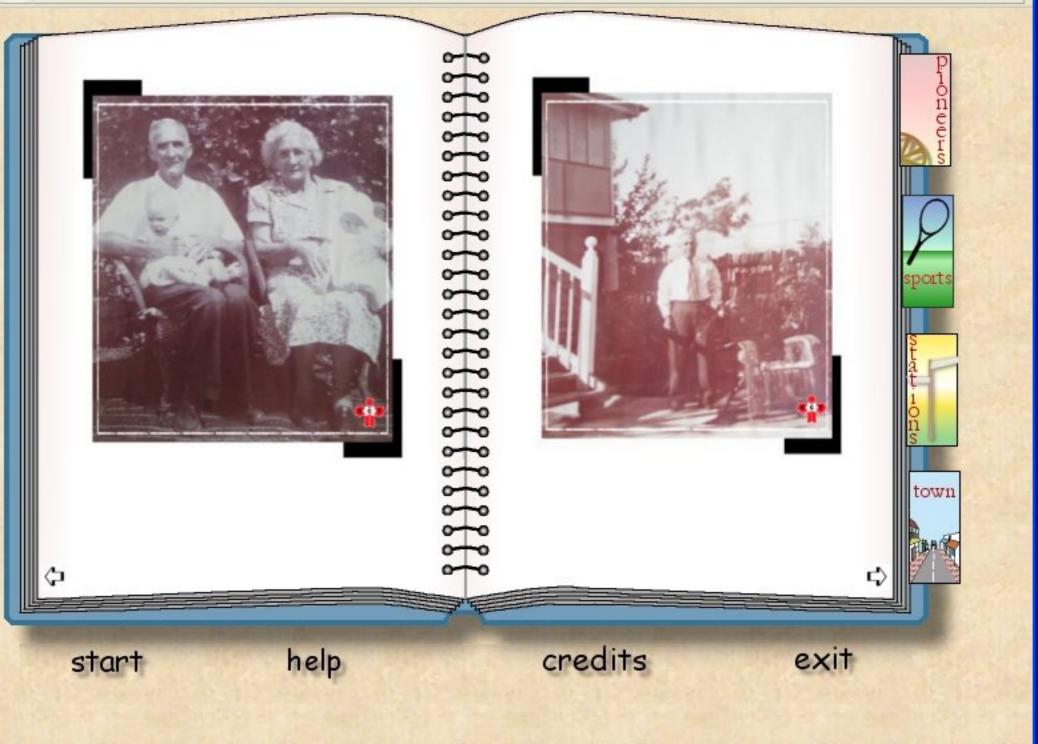


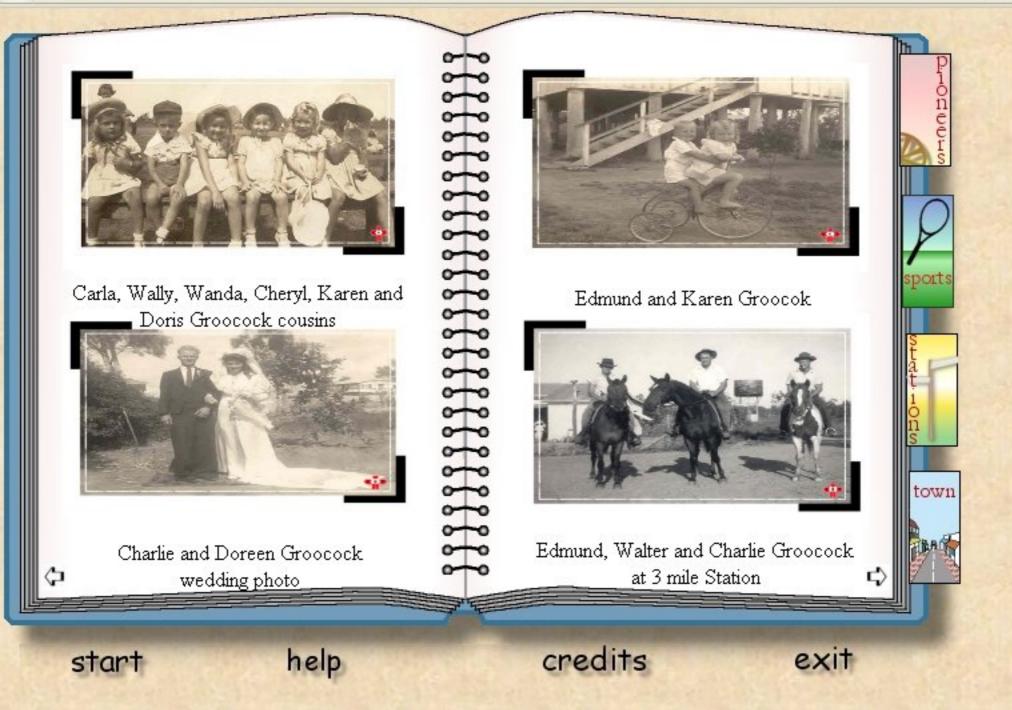


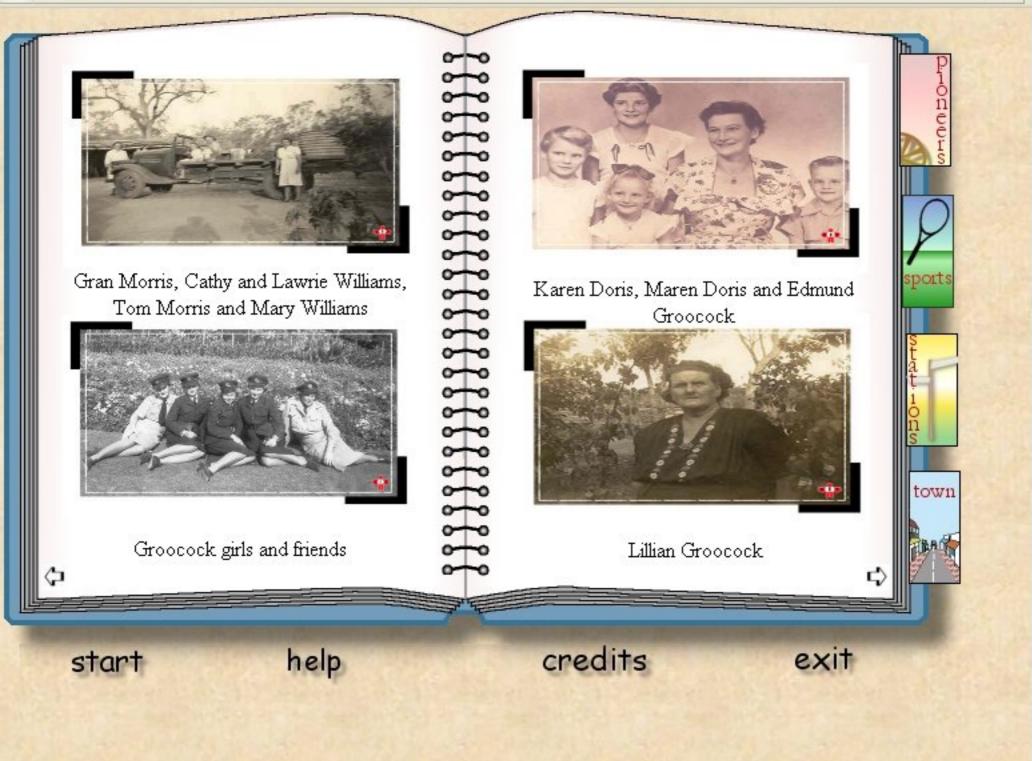


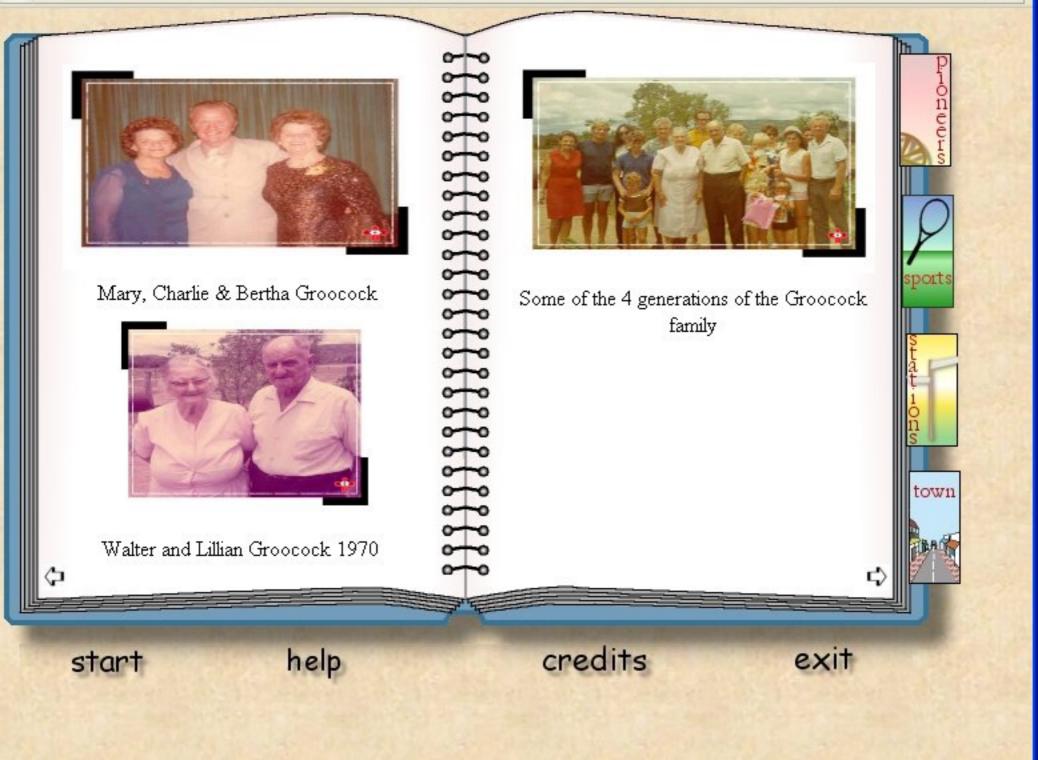


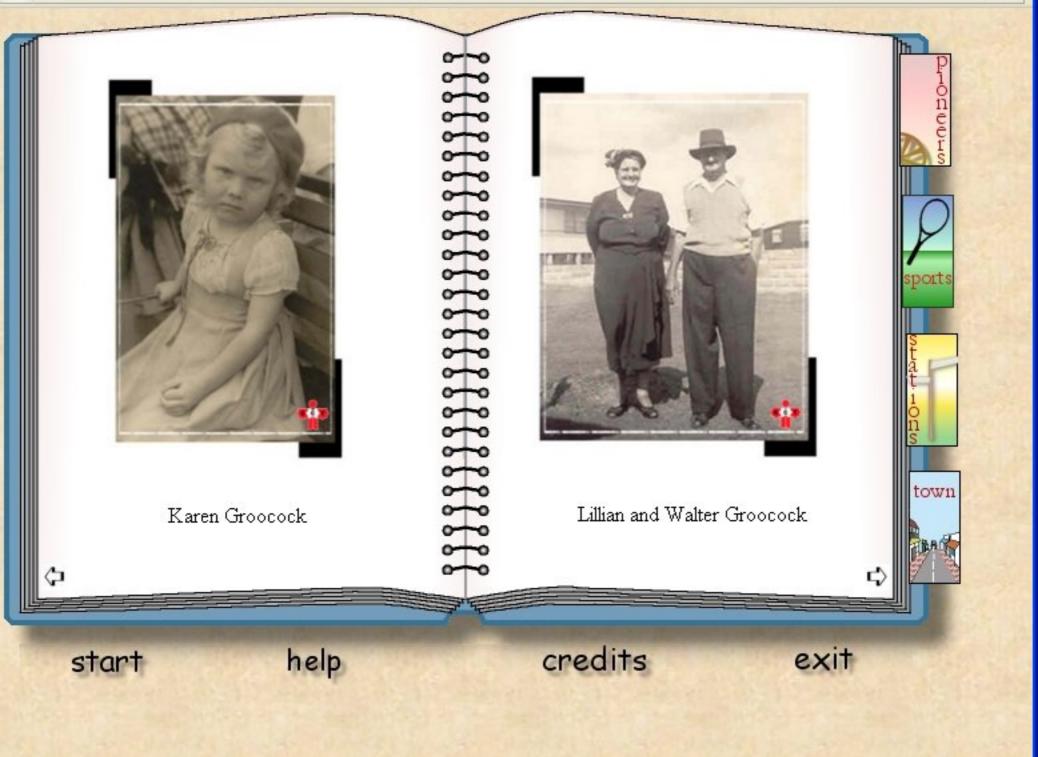


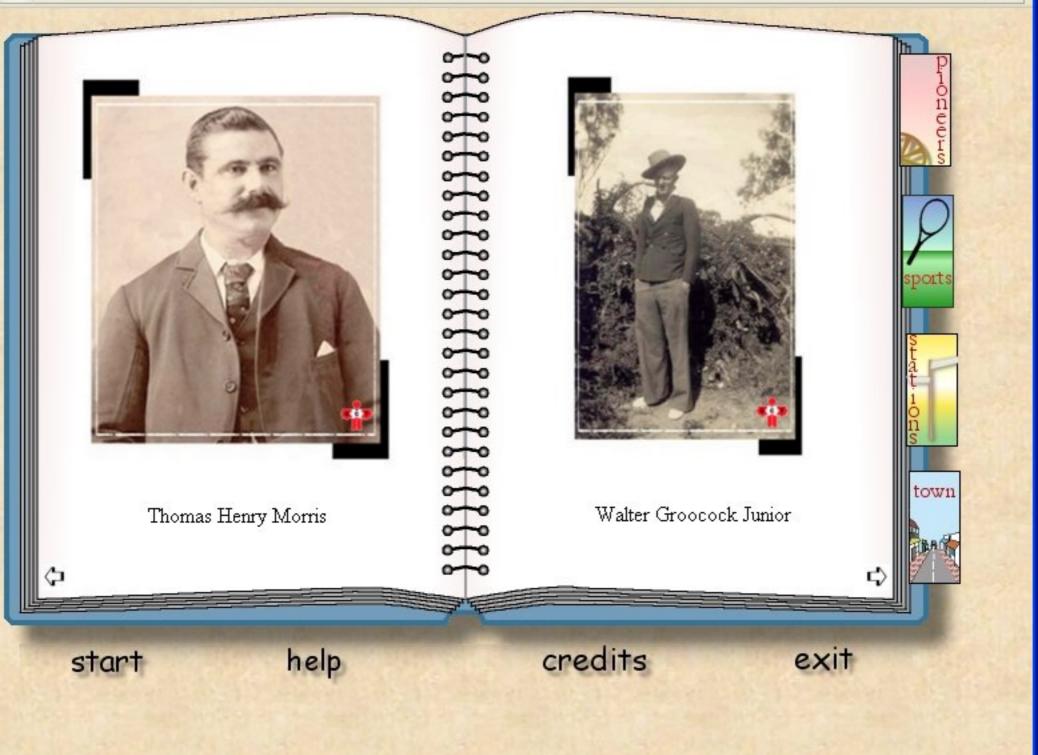


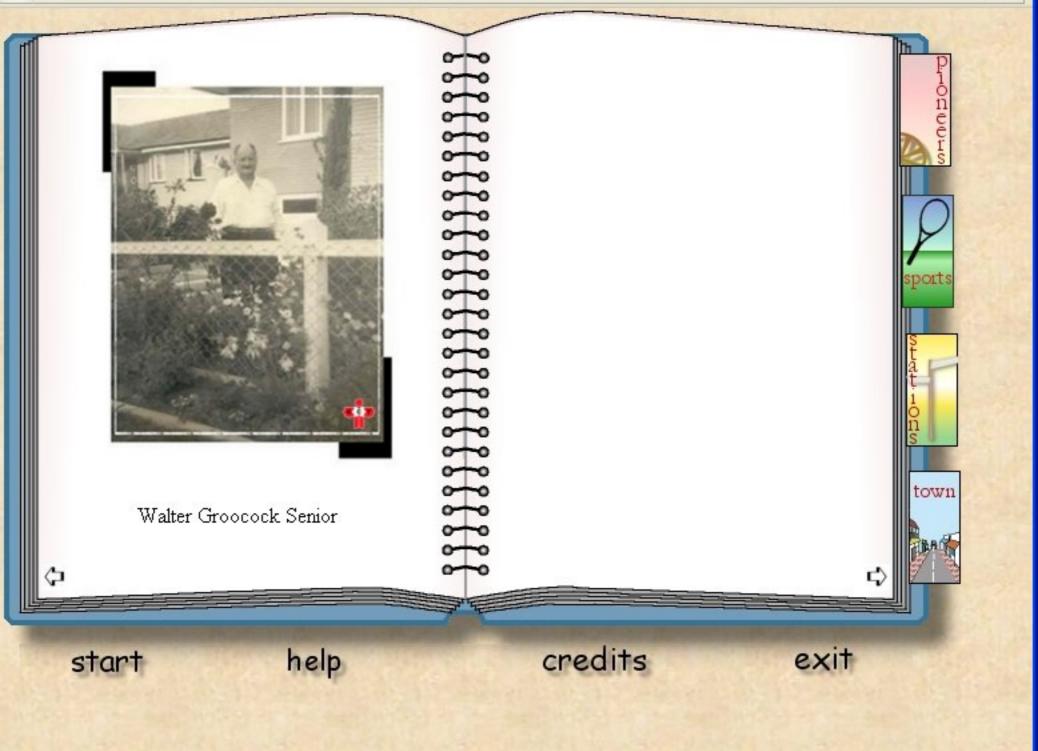


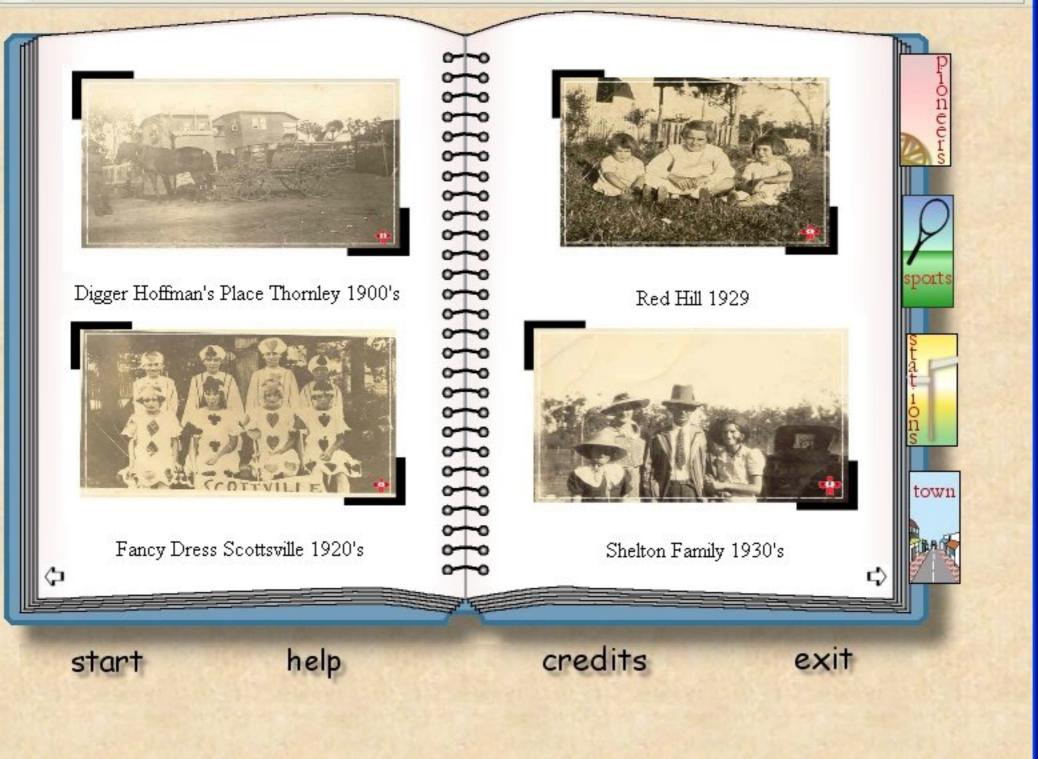


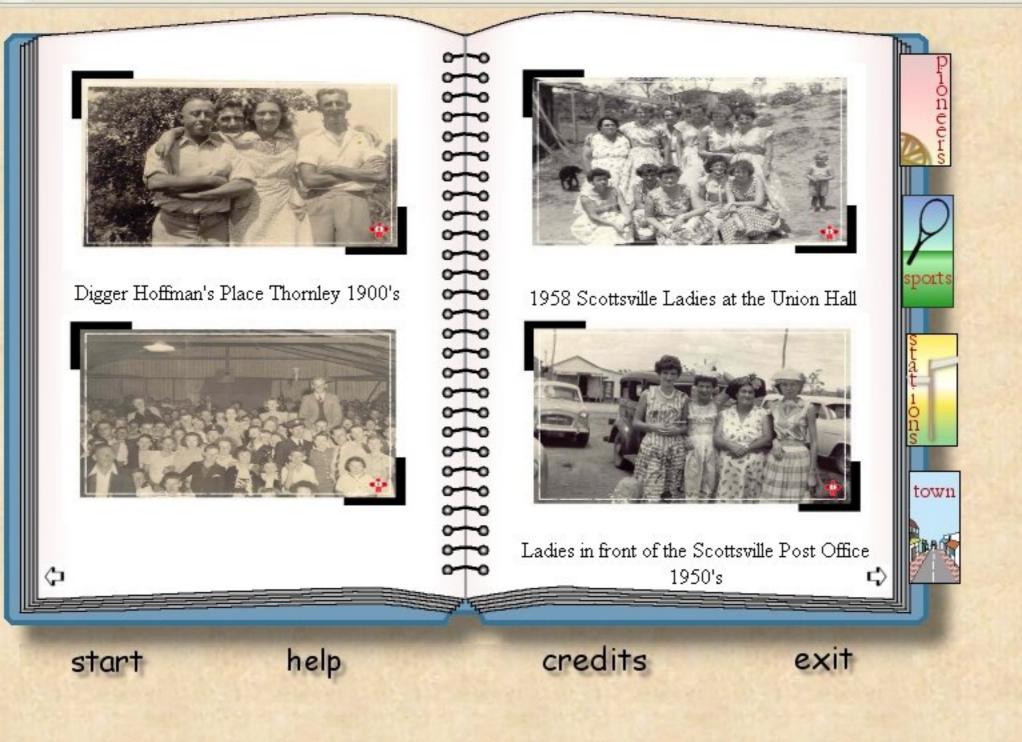


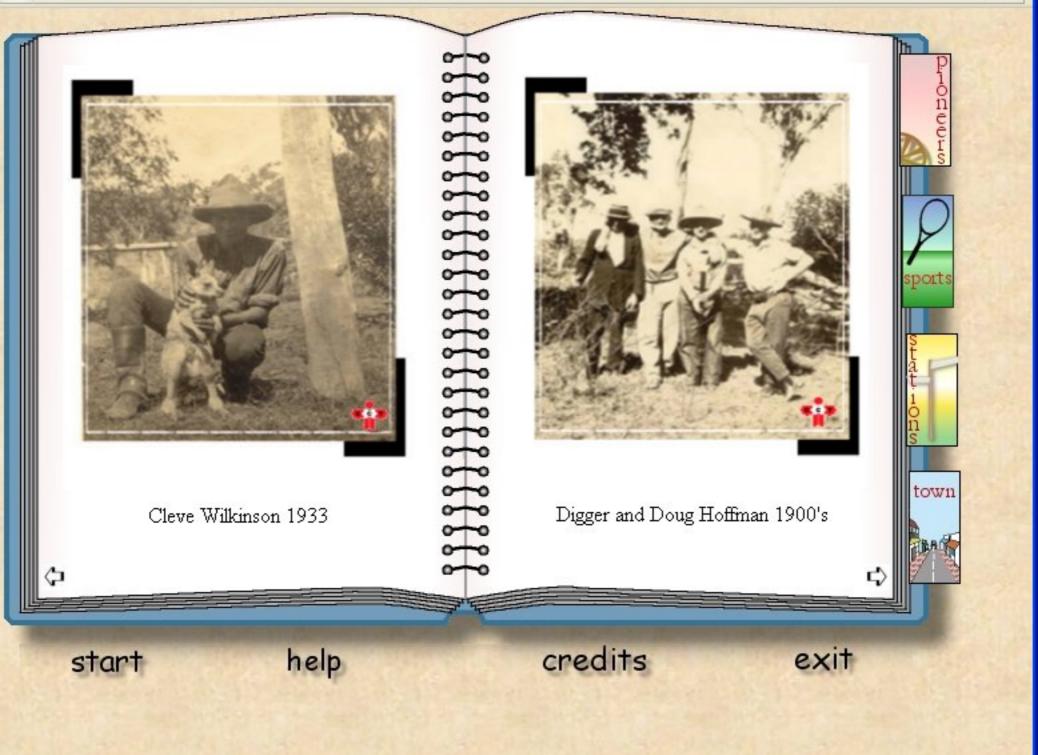


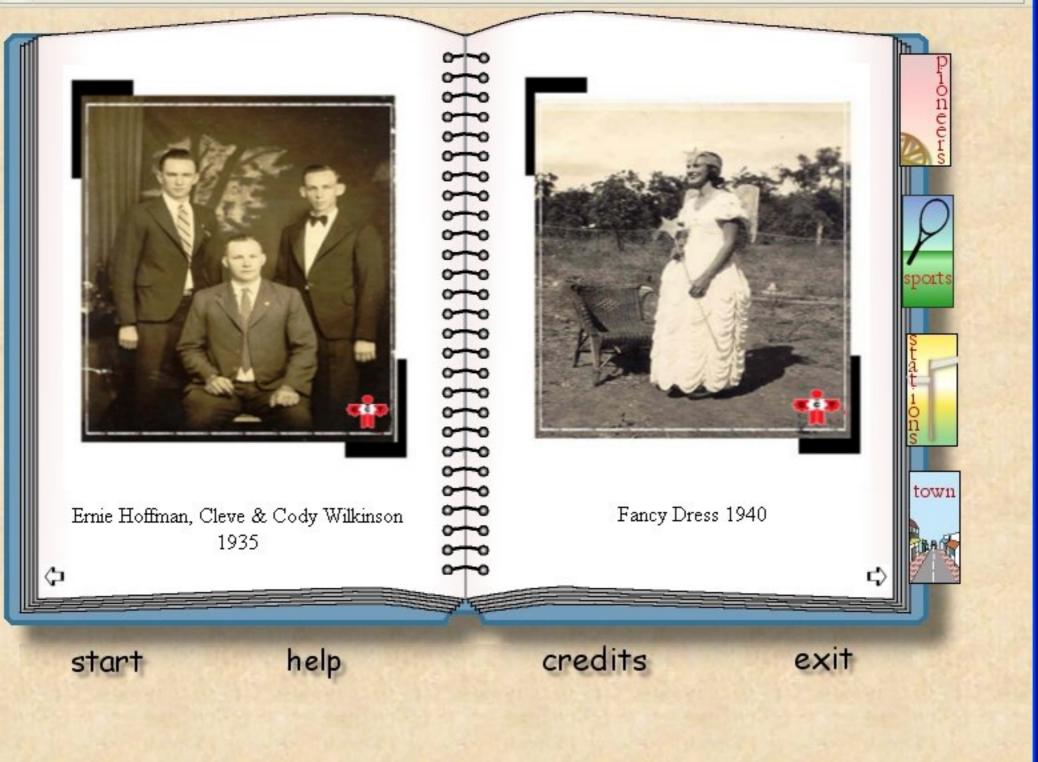














Paul and Mary Hamilton's House at McArthur Street



Paul and Mary Hamilton's House at McArthur Street



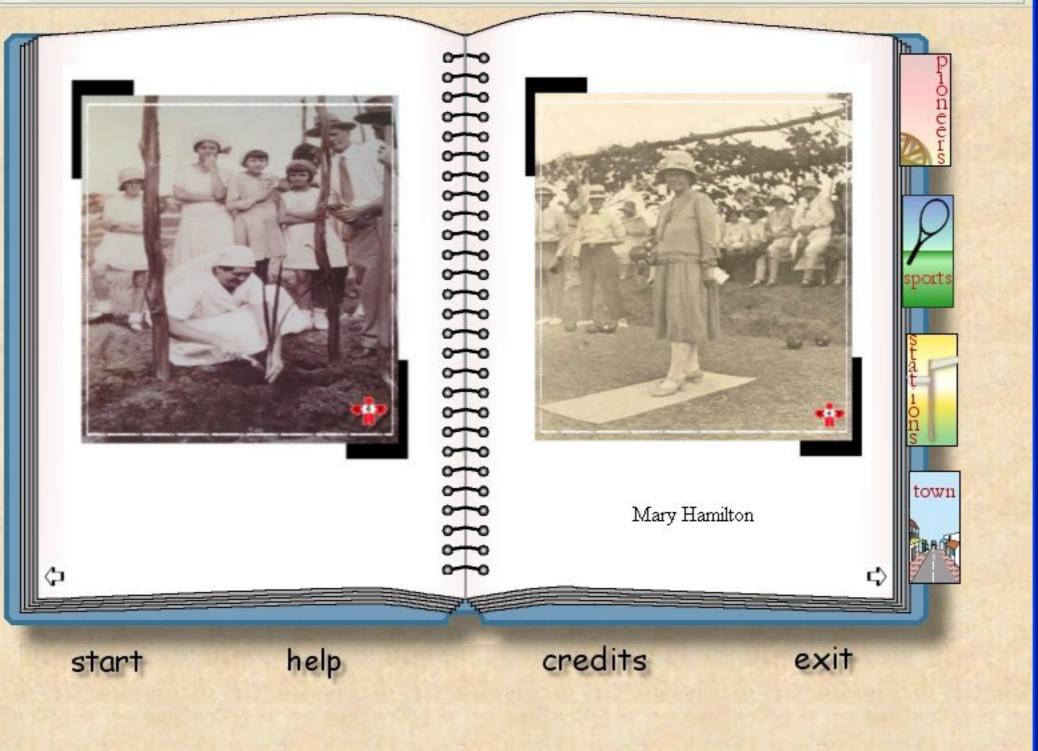
Paul and Mary Hamilton's House at
McArthur Street



Paul and Mary Hamilton's House at McArthur Street

town

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Tony, Roberta, Kit, Viv, Rob, Robert and Chatherine



Glenys, Melvyn, Ken, Bob and Joyce 1950's



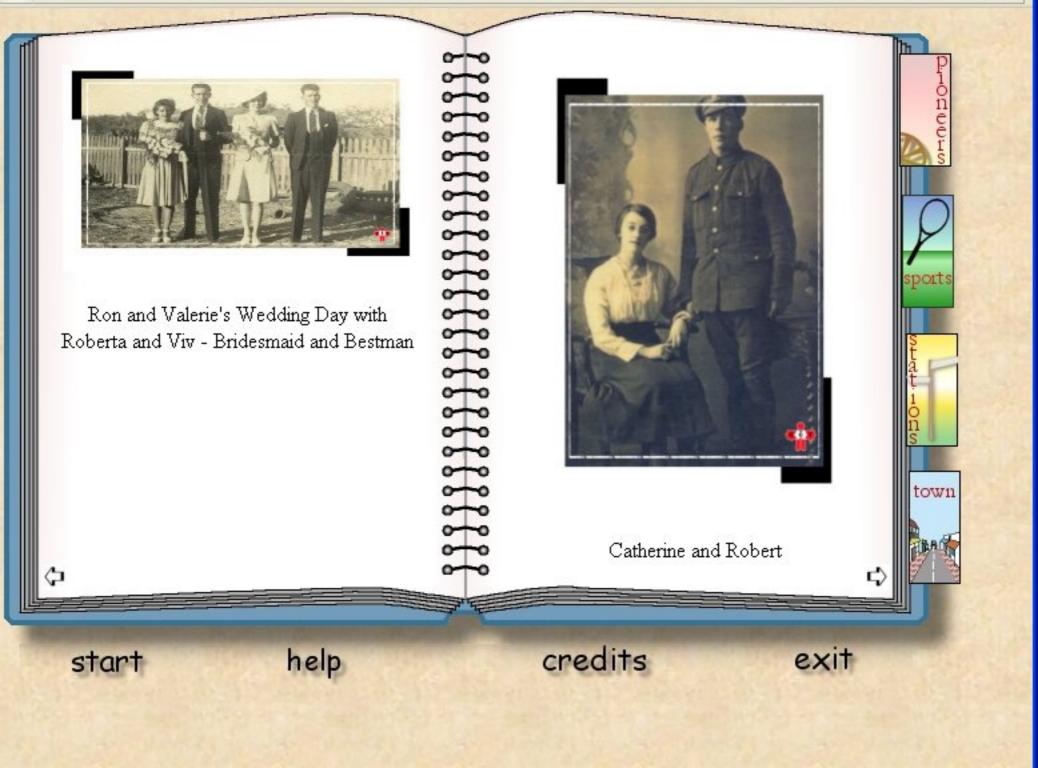
Rosemary, Melvyn, Terryanne and Glenville

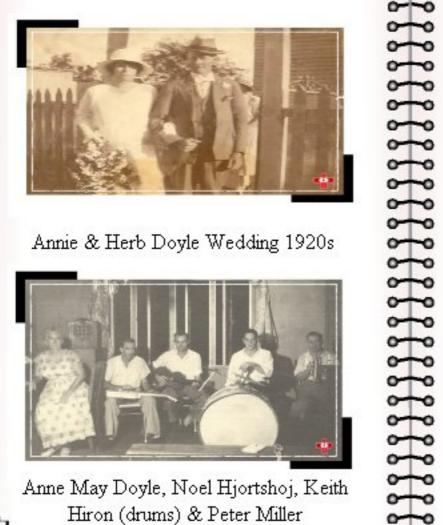


Glen and Roberta Drinkwater

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Annie & Herb Doyle Wedding 1920s



Anne May Doyle, Noel Hjortshoj, Keith Hiron (drums) & Peter Miller



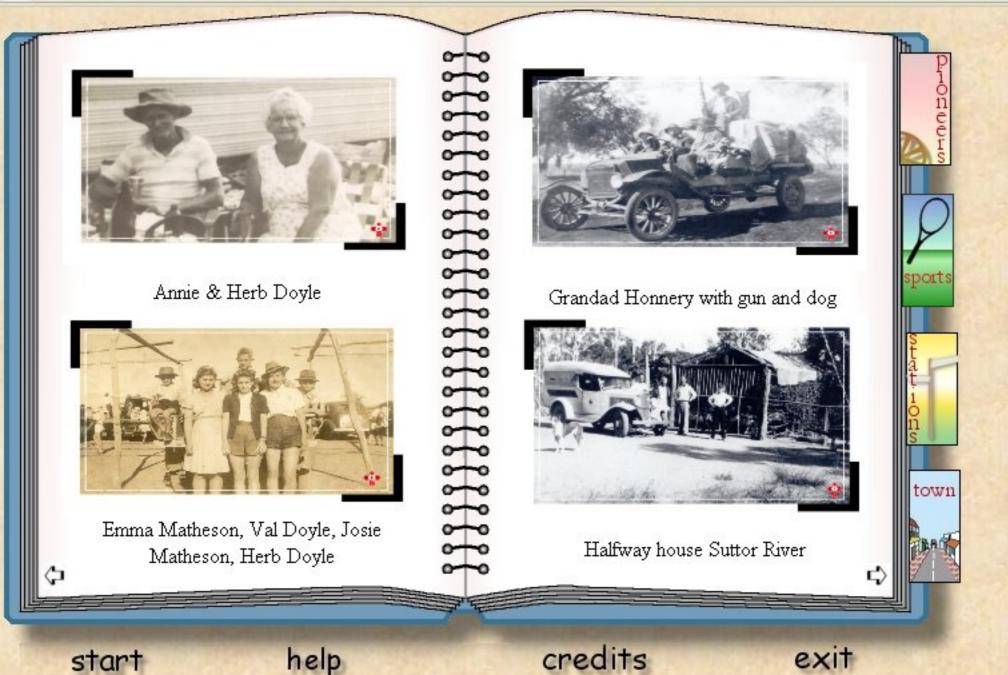
Annie Doyle, Kit Brunker, Mrs B Brunker, Val Brunker, Joan & Viv Brunker 1950s

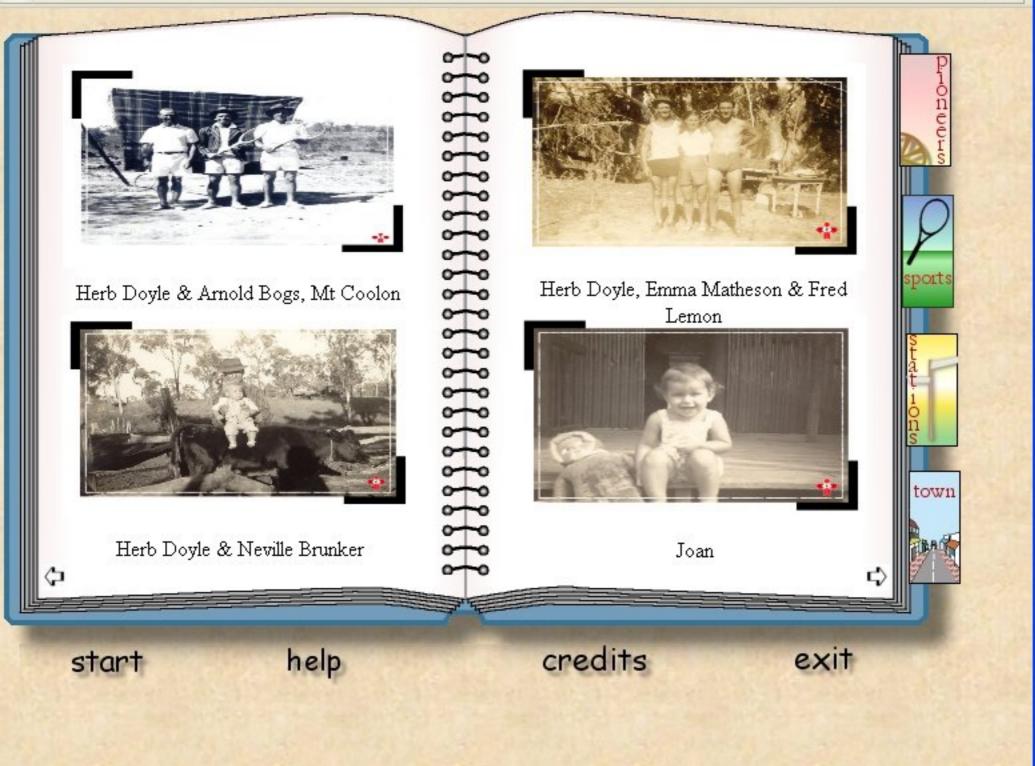


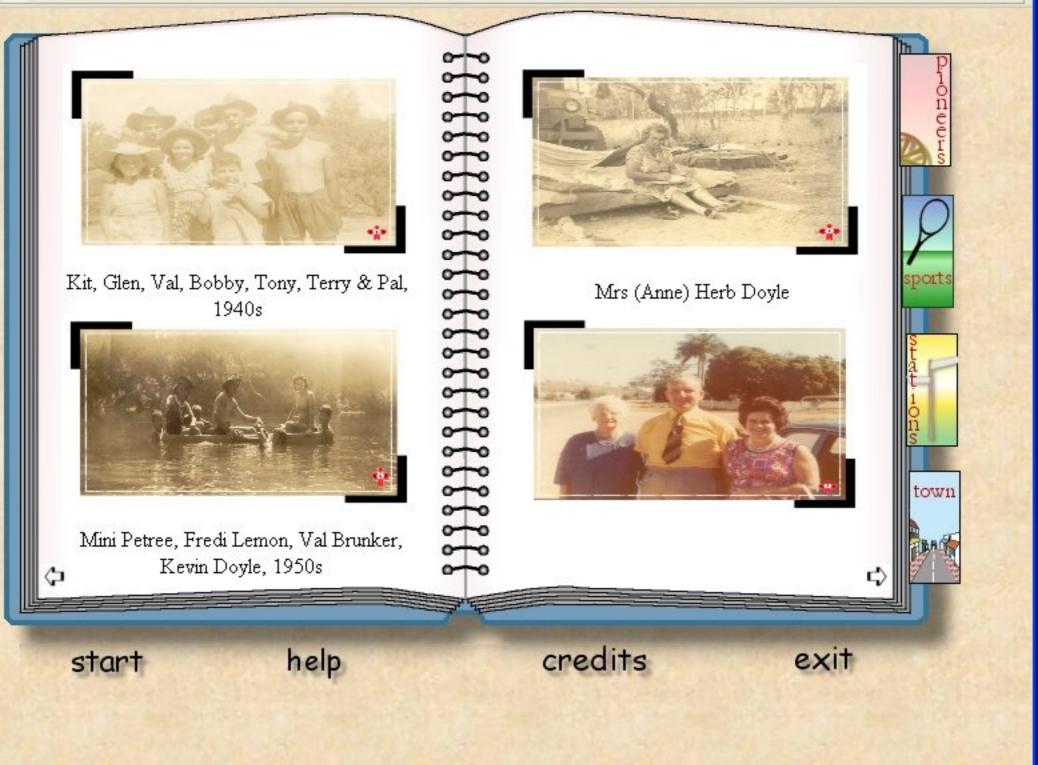
E. Bradford & Val Brunker

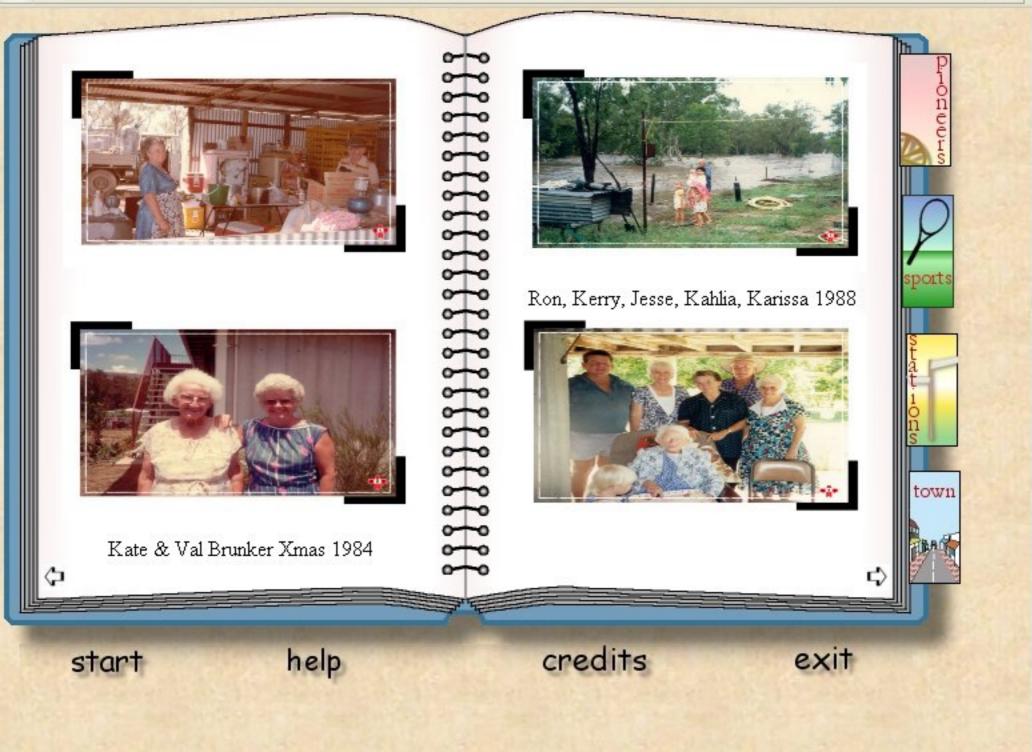
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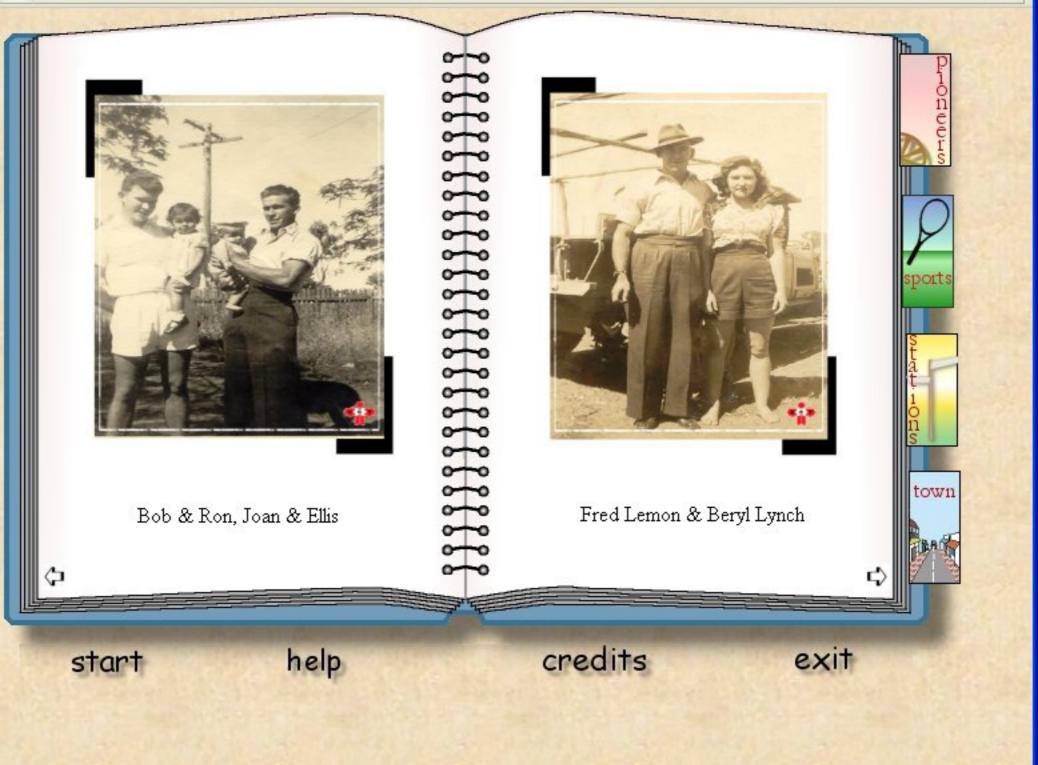
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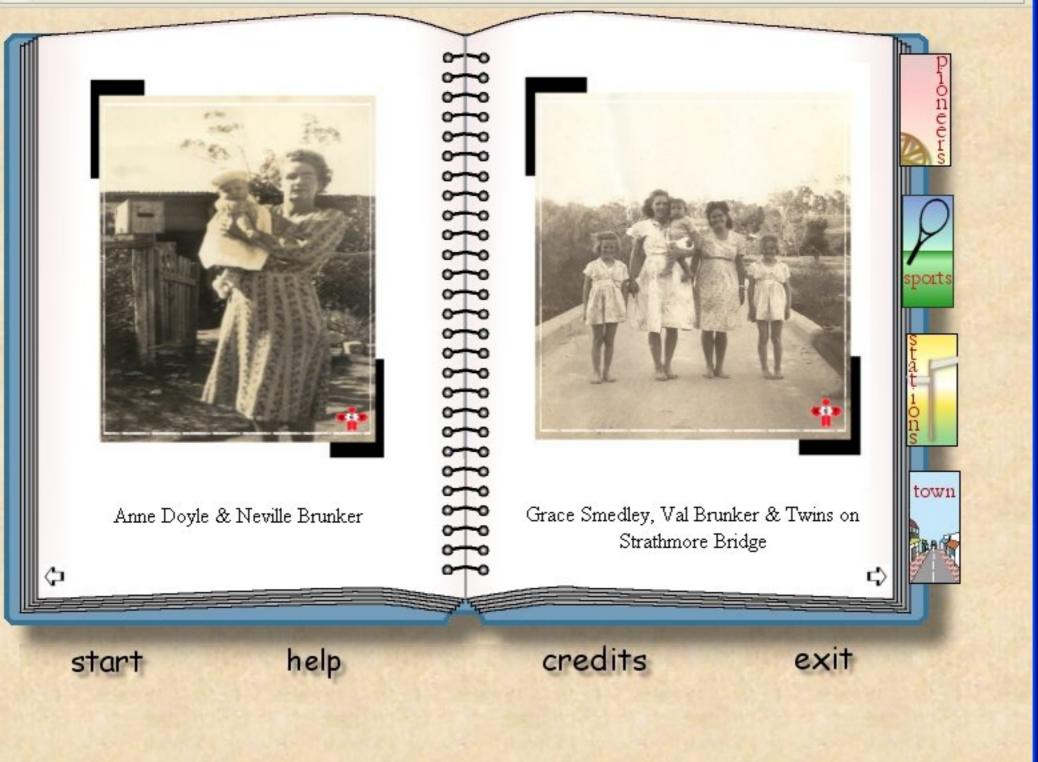


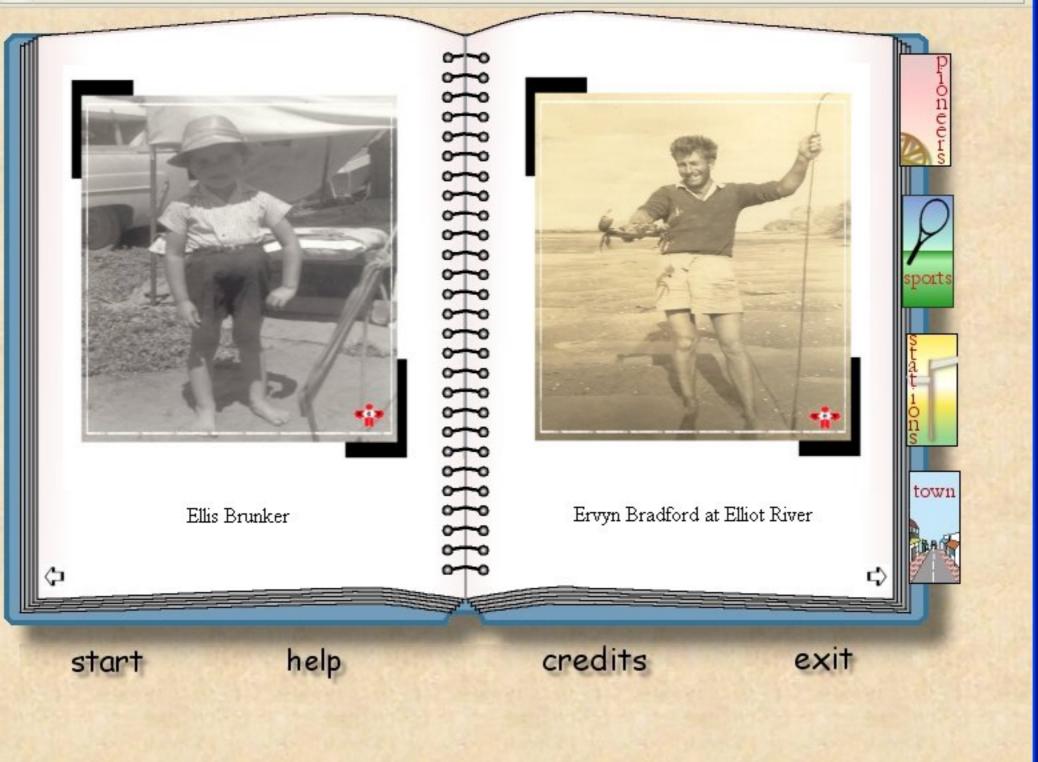


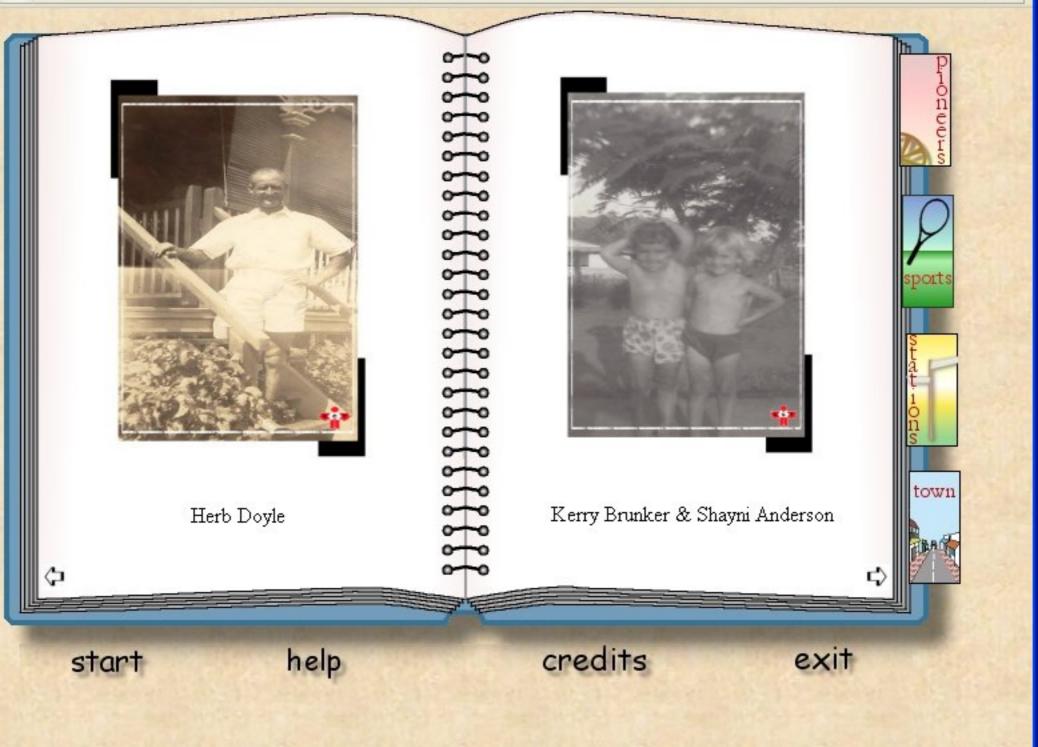


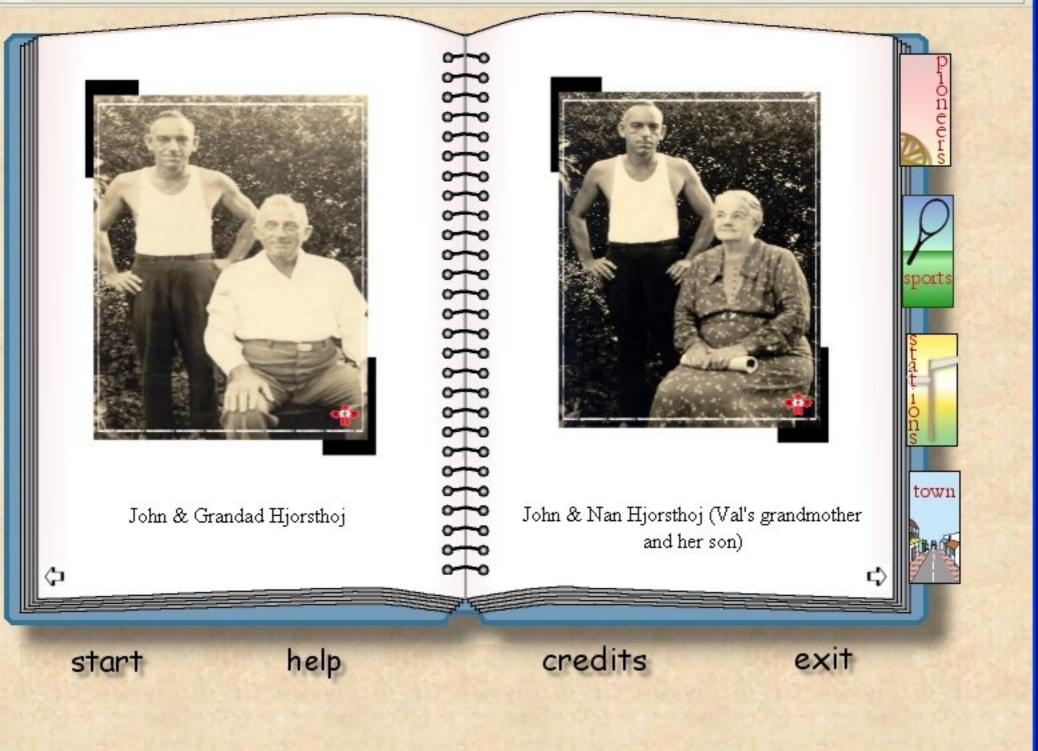


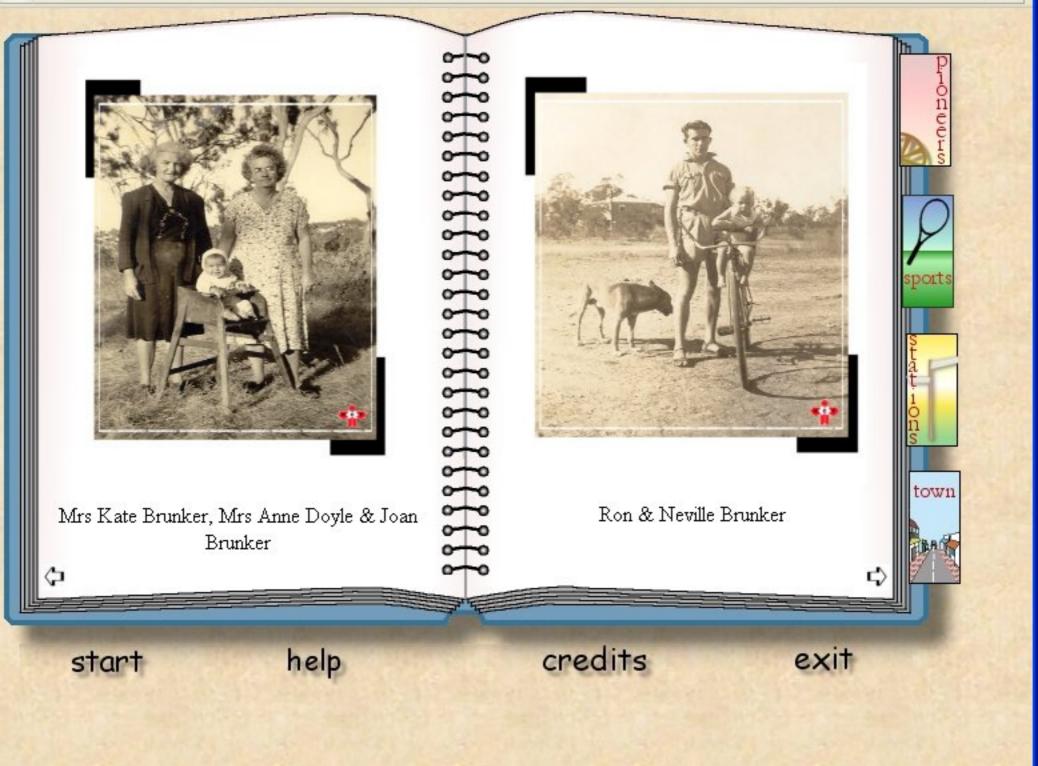


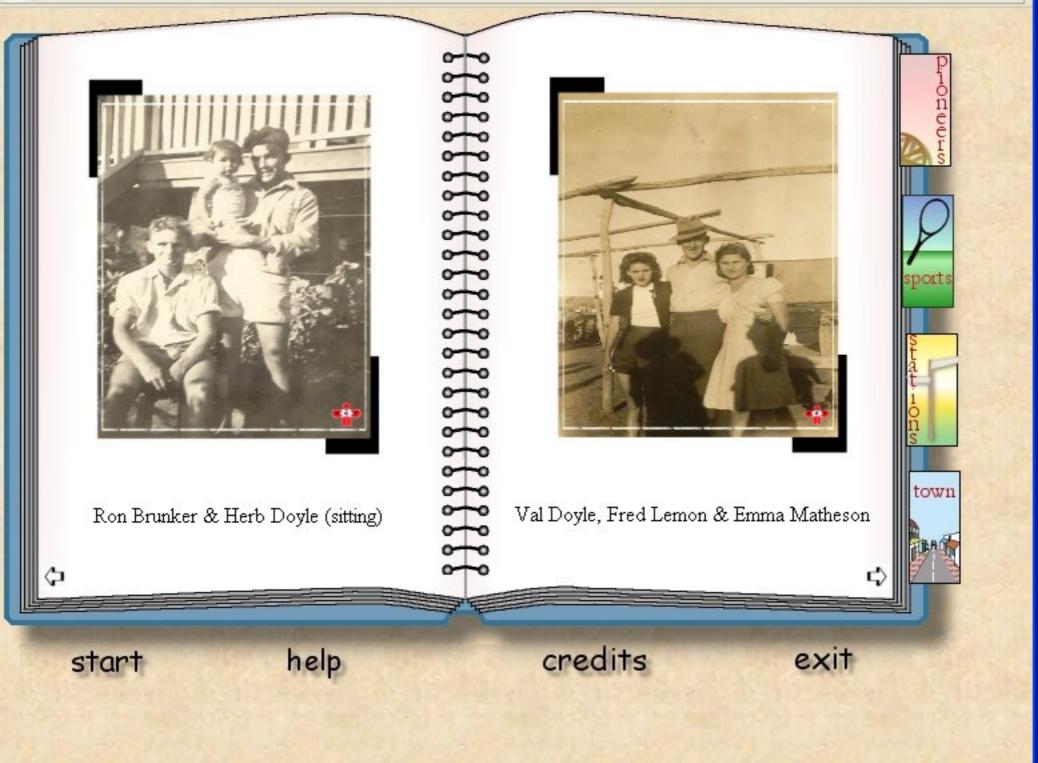


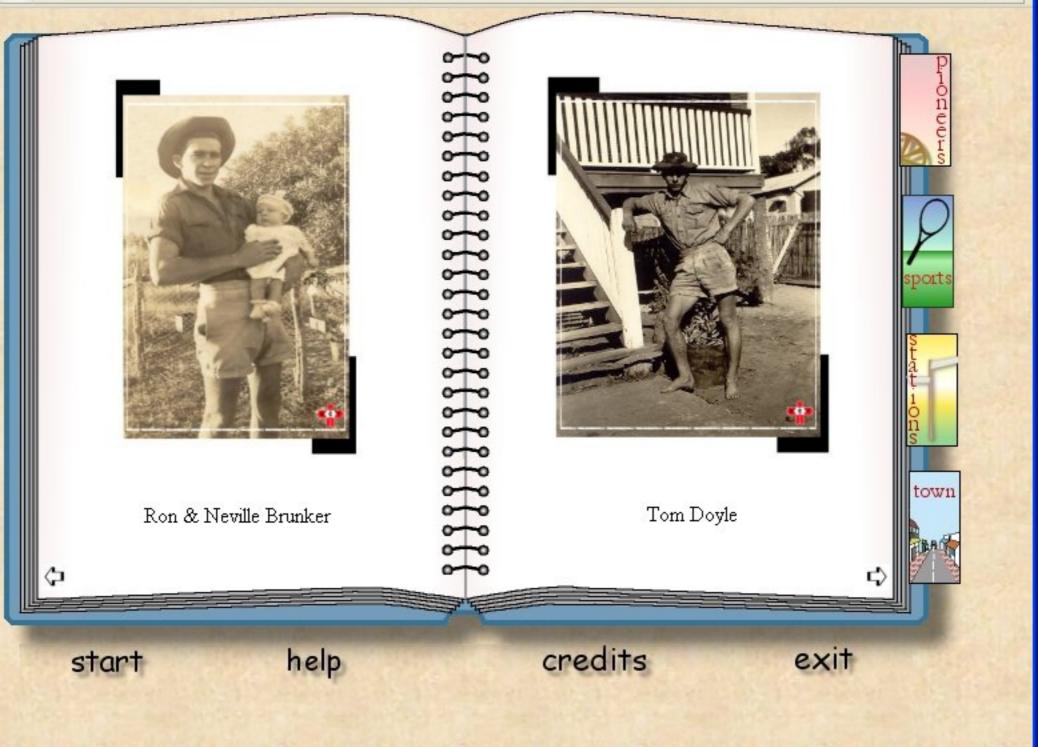


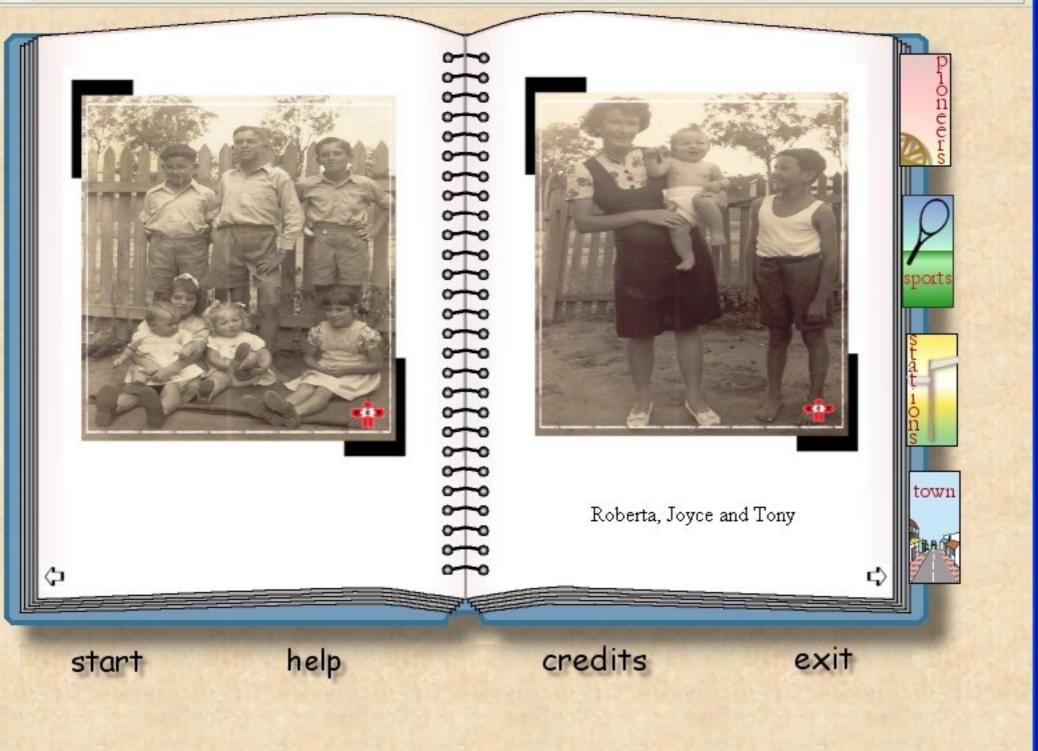


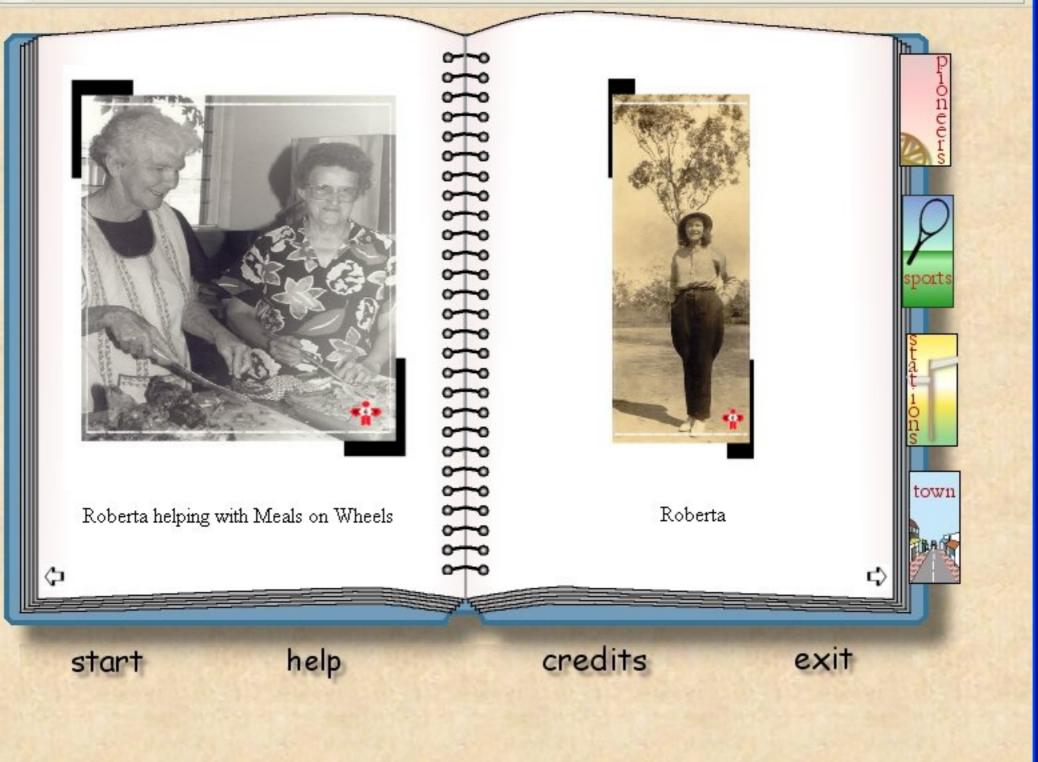


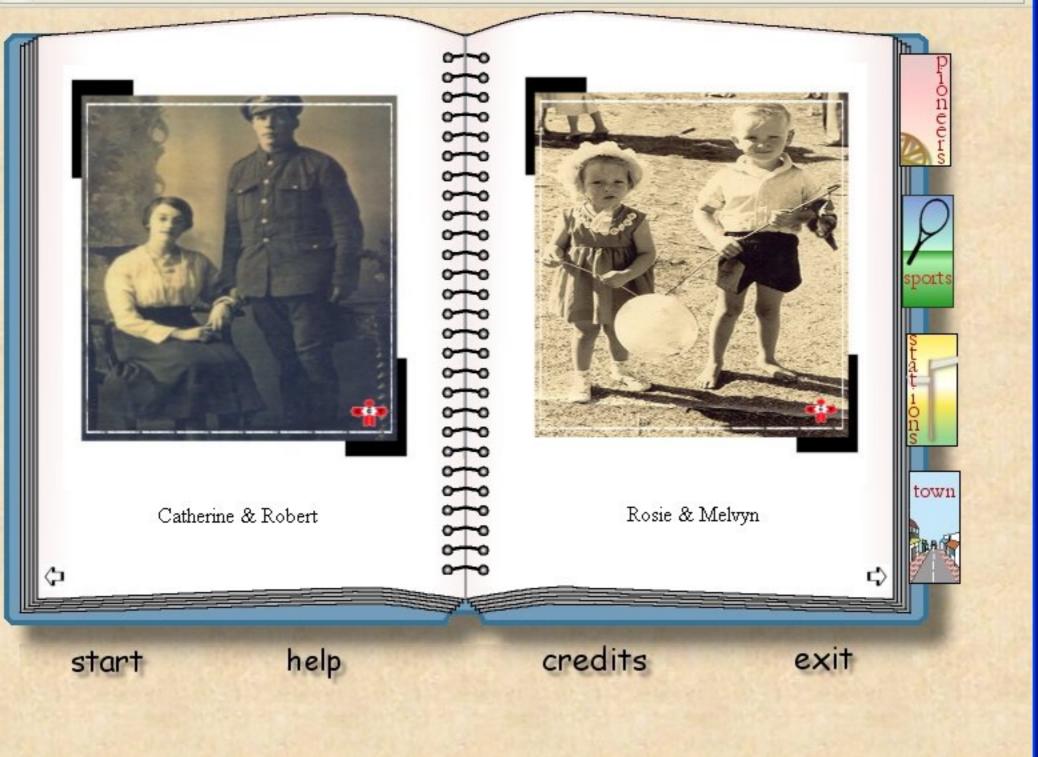
















Tony, Roberta, Kit, Viv, Rob, Robert & Catherine



Rosemary, Melvin, Terryann & Glenville



Nurses Quarters

town

credits exit help start



Naming Ceremony, Bob Brunker Bridge, Bogie River 1st September 1983 

Naming Ceremony Bob Brunker Bridge

start

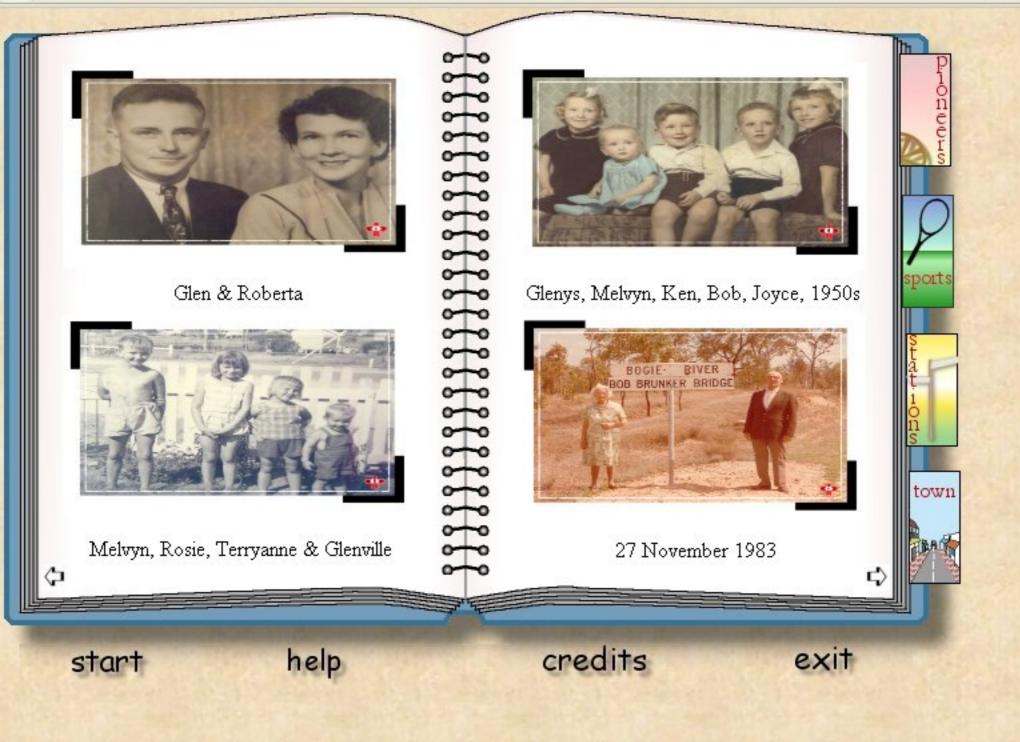
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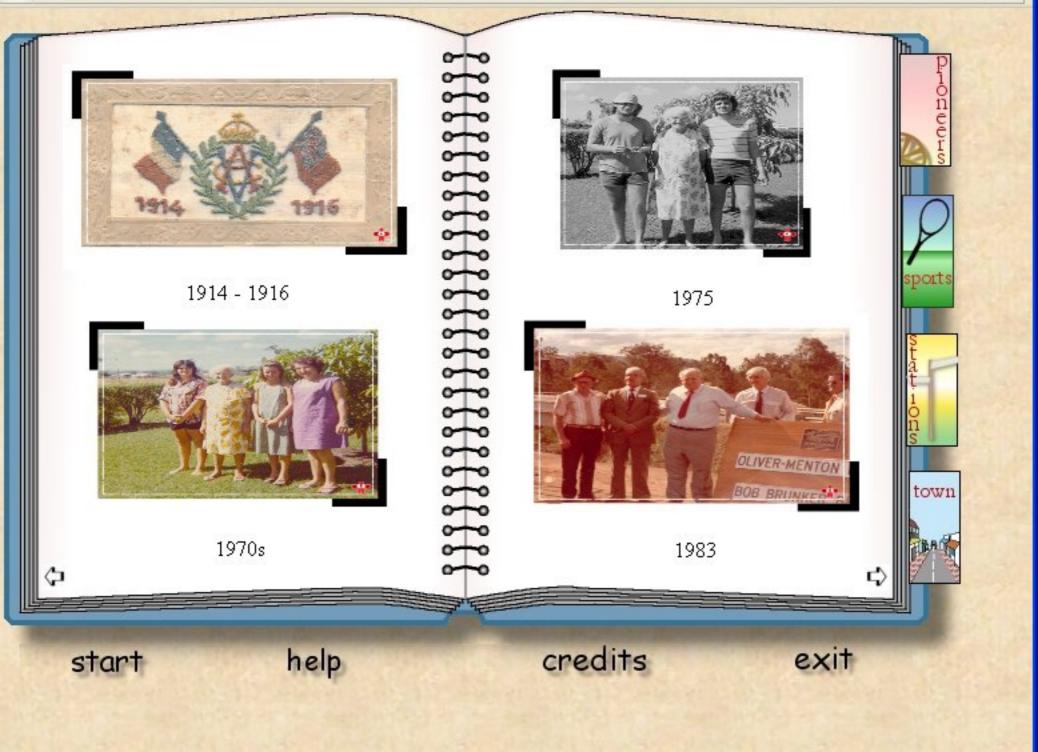


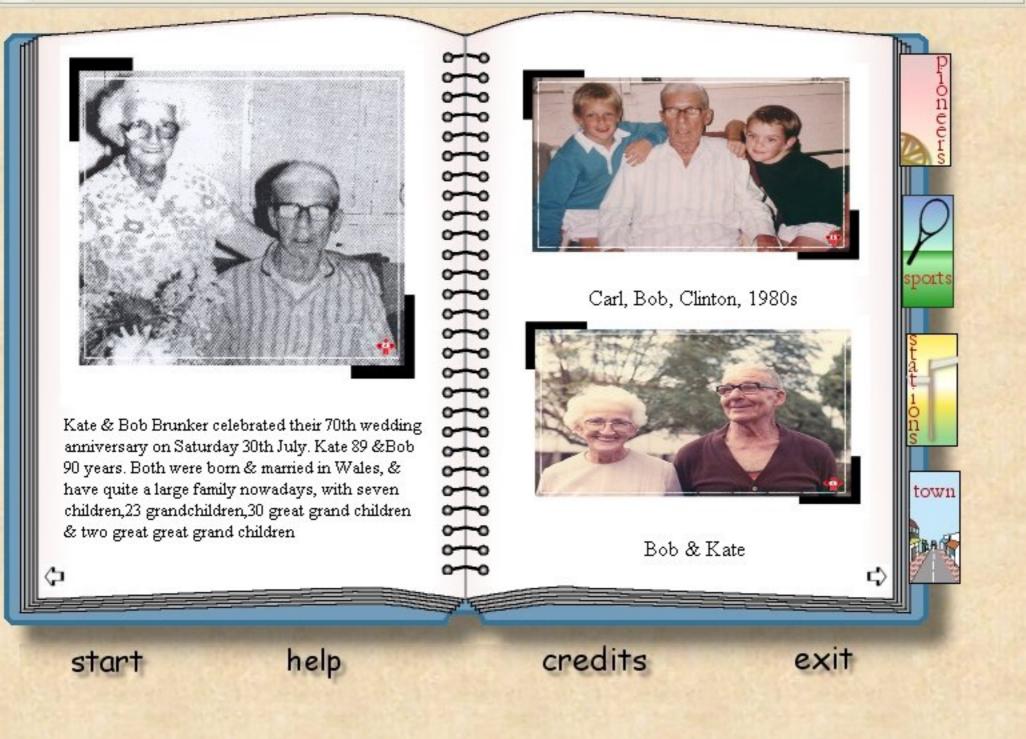
Harold Oliver, Bob Brunker & Russ Hinze at the Naming Ceremony of Bob Brunker Bridge

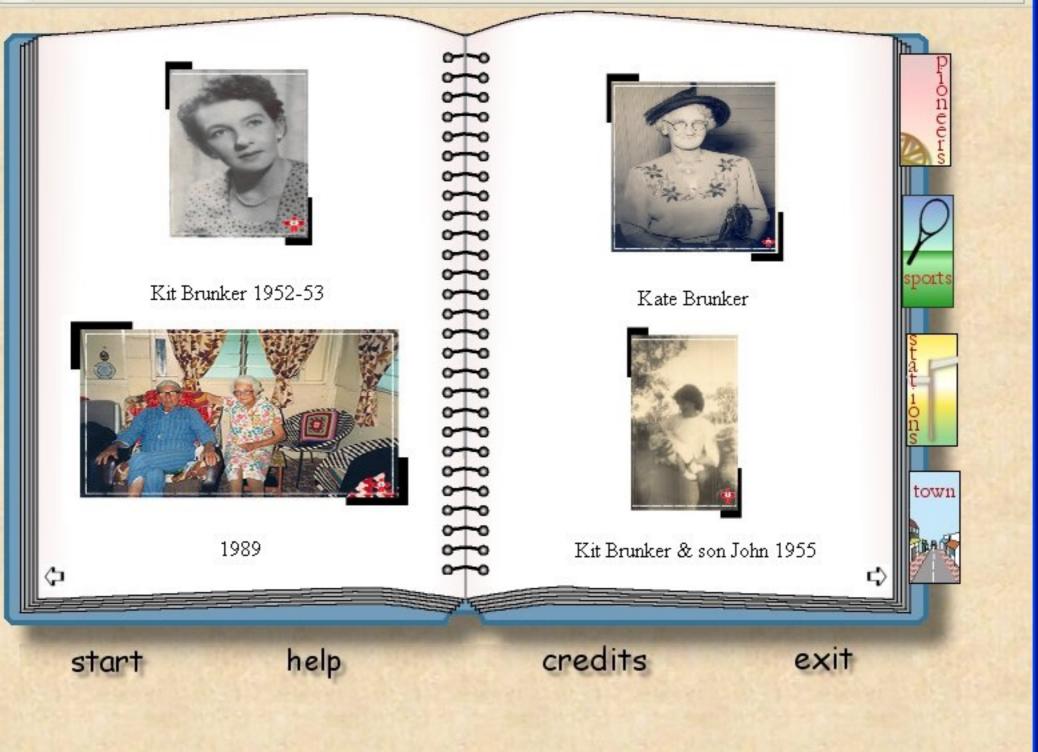
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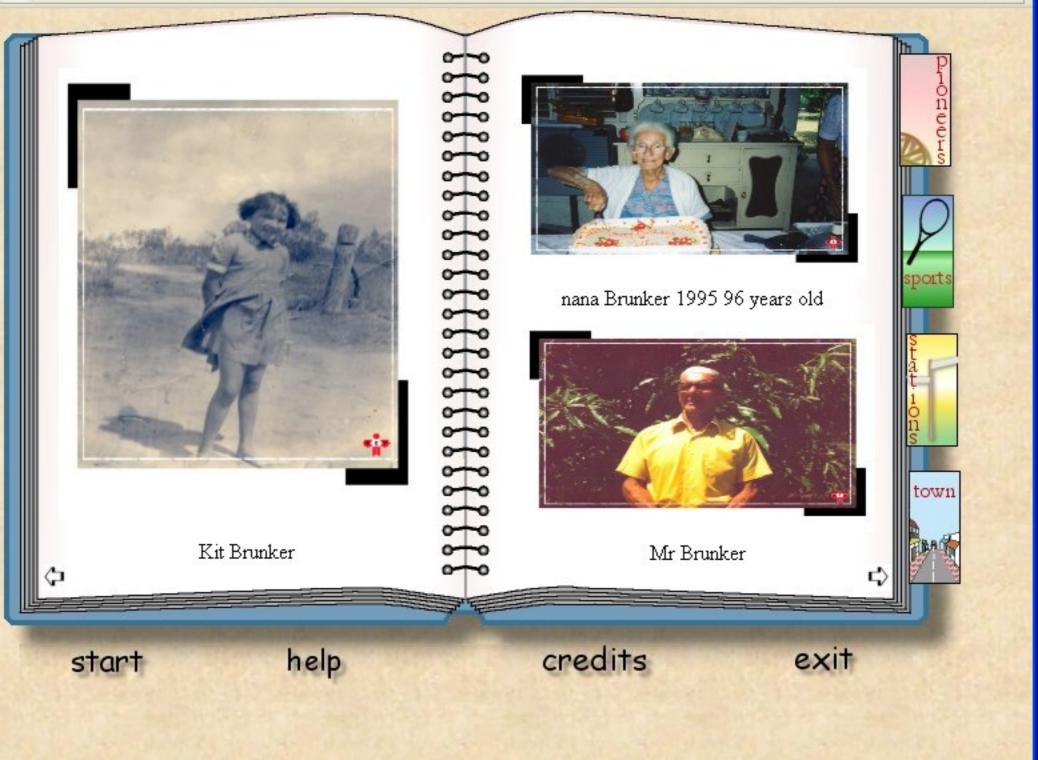


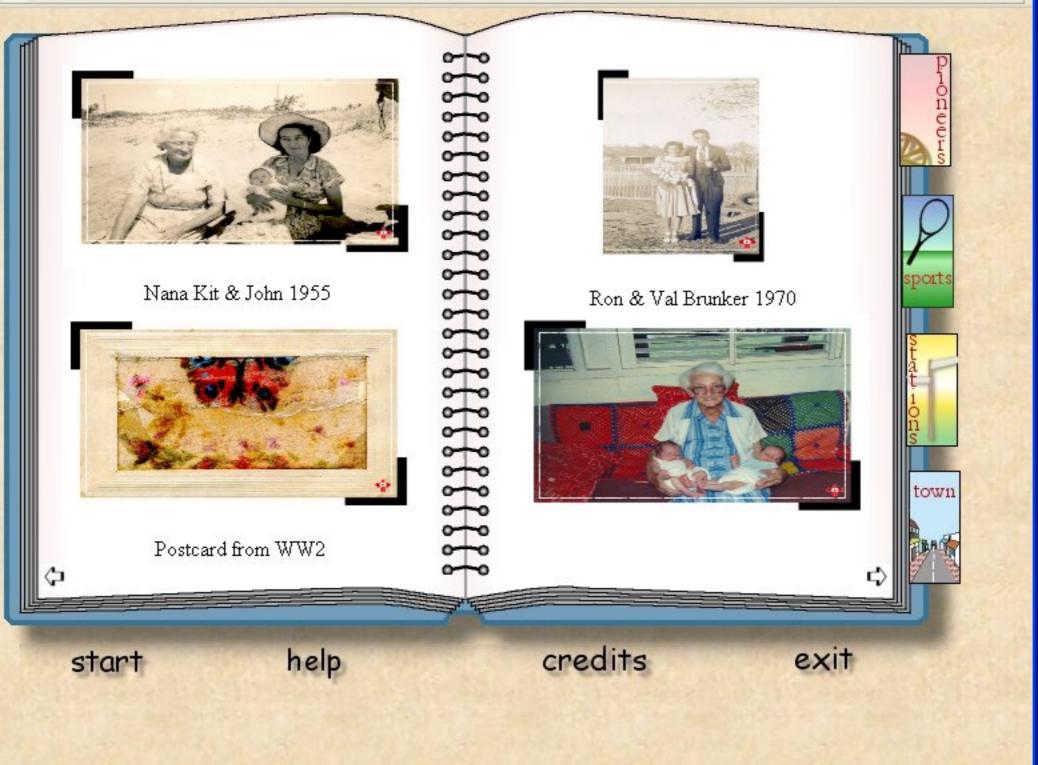


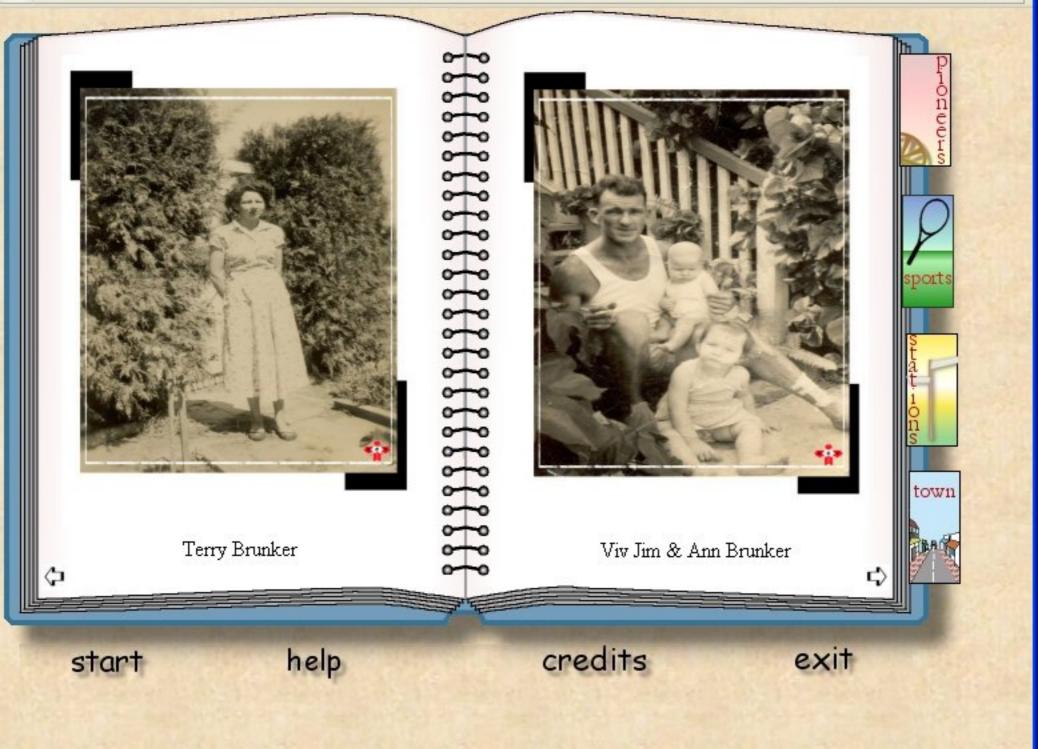


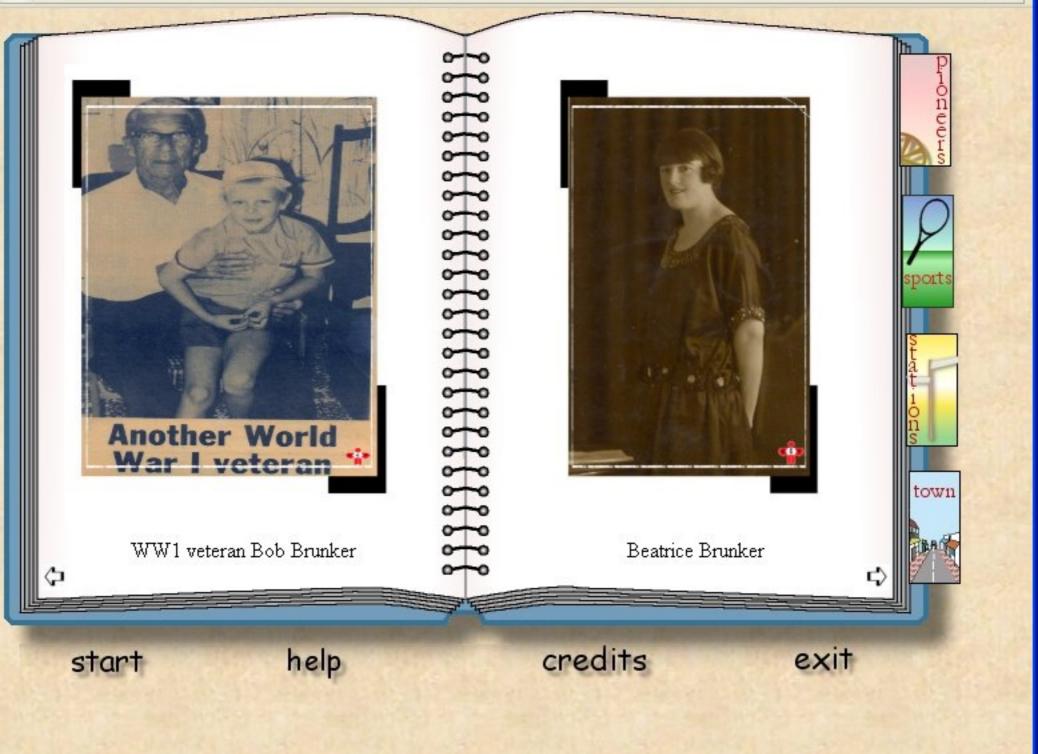


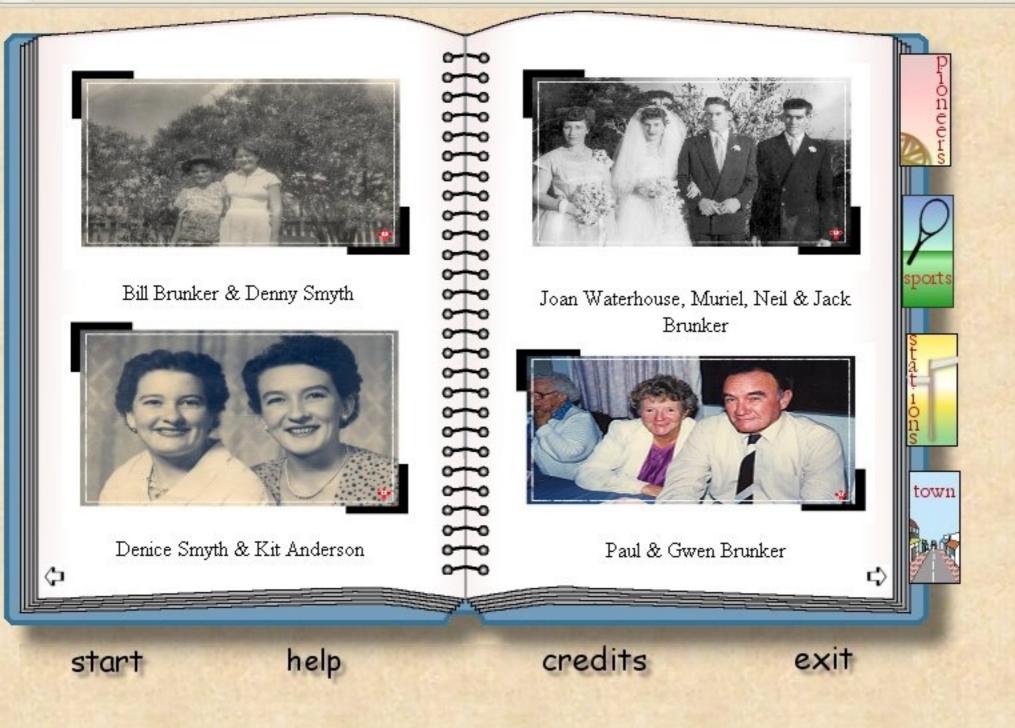


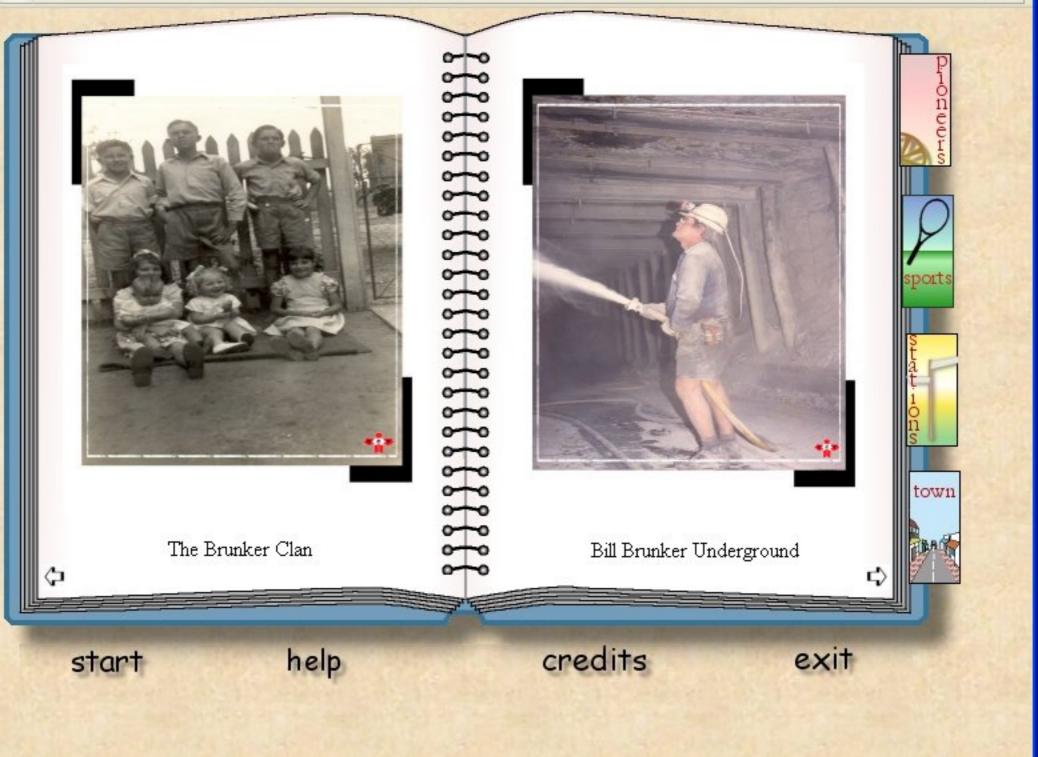


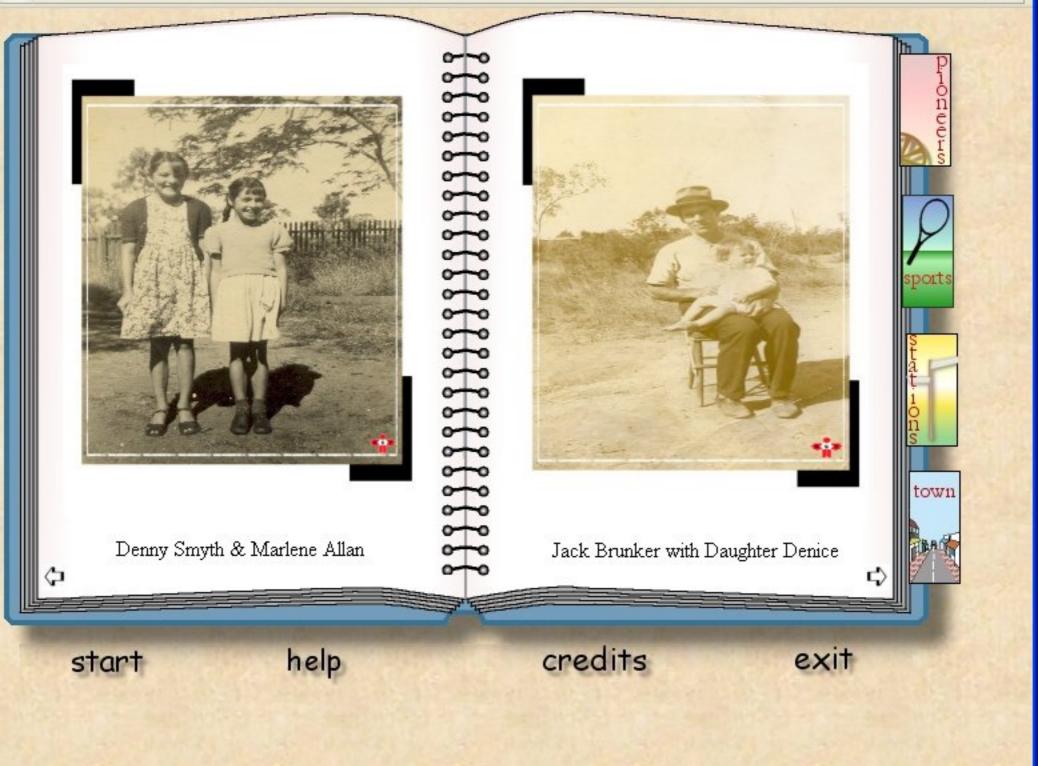


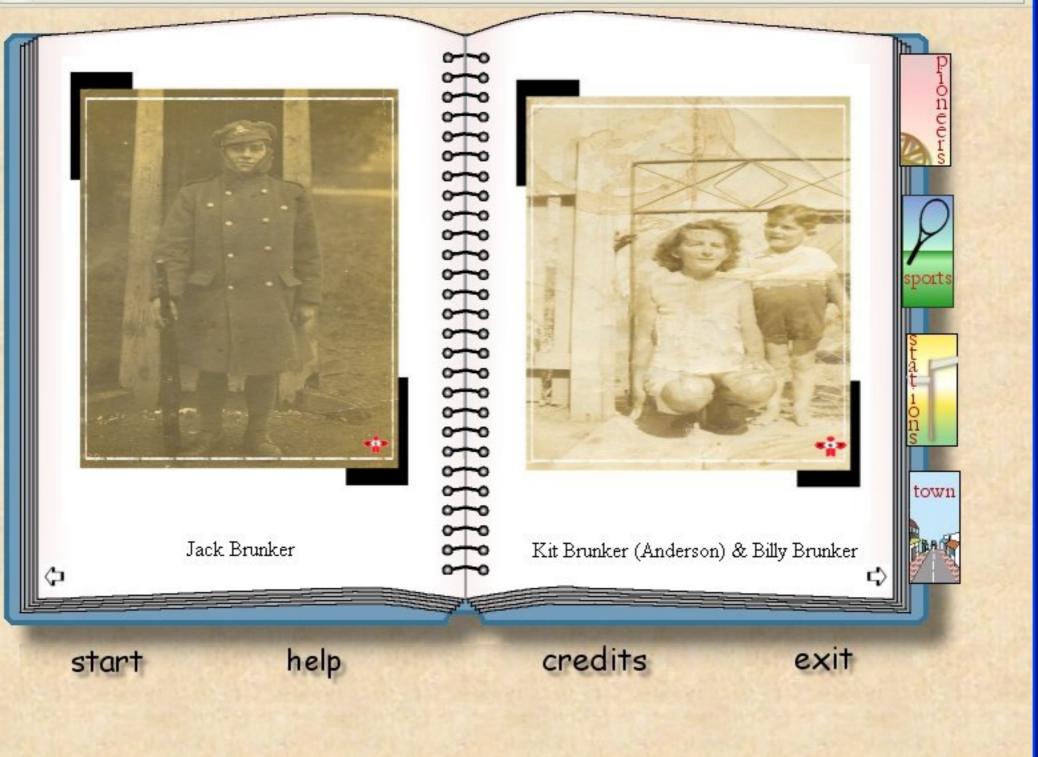


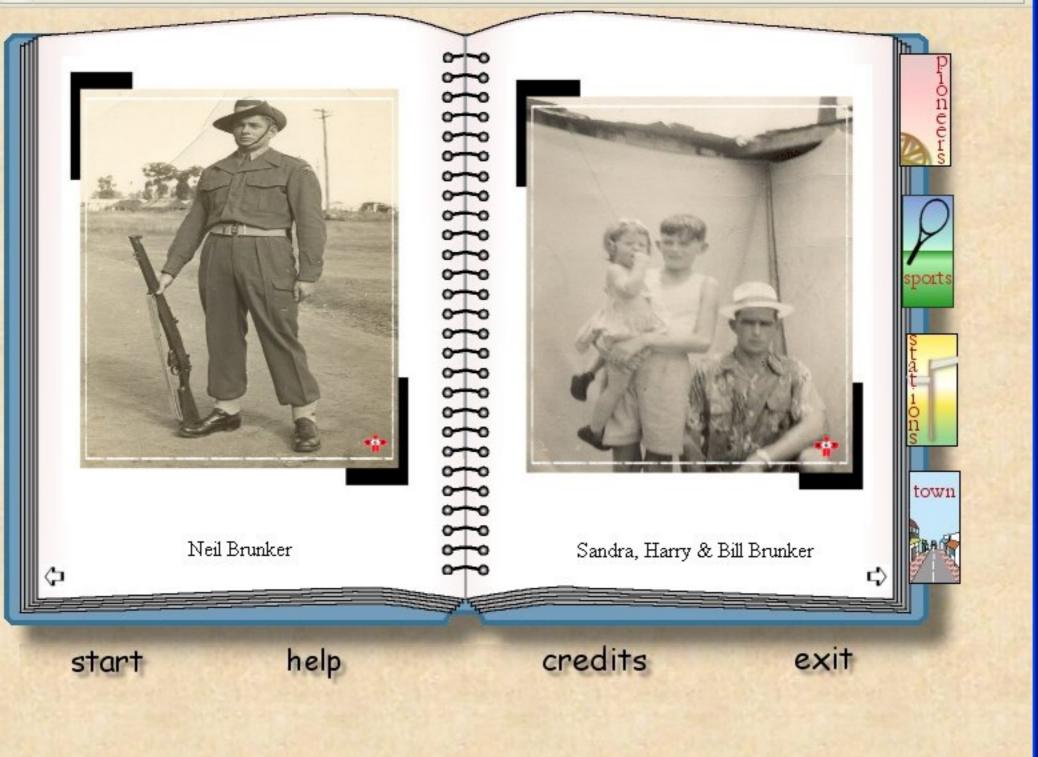


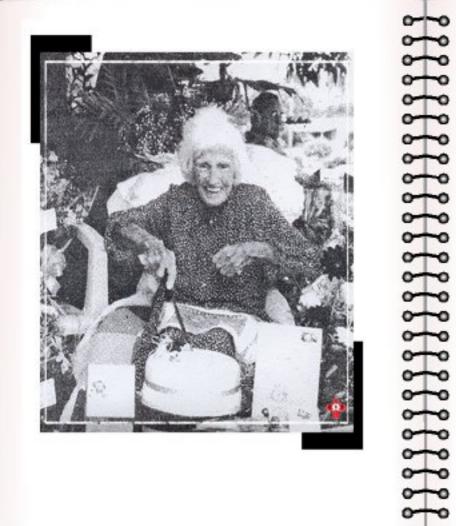












Kate Brunker celebrates 100 years

Bowen Independent, March 19, 1999.

A REMARKABLE mile-stone last
Wednesday 17th March for Kate Brunker
who celebrated her 100th birthday. Kate,
born on the 17th March 1899, was joined by
many family and friends for a celebration
throughout the morning. Kate, with her two
Welsh born children, son Viv and daughter
Terry (both who have passed away) along
with her sister migrated to Australia in 1925.

Brothers Bob and Jack Brunker preceded them in 1924 and settled in a place so different from home, the Styx River.

Conditions were primitive and bag humpies were their new homes.

town

start help credits exit

Despite the appalling conditions - no doctor, no hospital and no electricity - Kate managed to bring into this world five new Australians, namely Roberta, Ron (passed away), Bob, Kit and Tony.

Luckily, during the birth of her children there was an excellent midwife available, with the nearest medical facility in Rockhampton.

The Brunkers moved to Collinsville in 1942 and certainly did their share of increasing the population of Collinsville.

Kate has overcome many setbacks, including a hip replacement at age 94.

Although she may be frail now, she is still the head of the family, and is aware of all that goes on.

She is living proof that hard work does not shorten the life span.

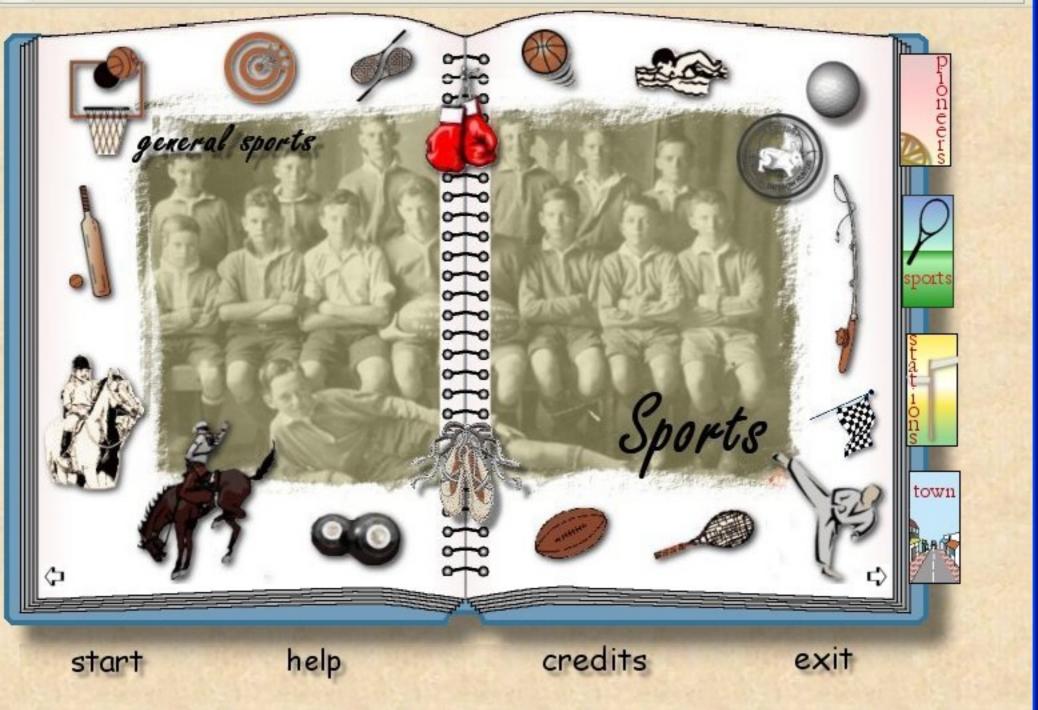
Kate's next goal is to see in the new millennium, so she can say she has lived in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

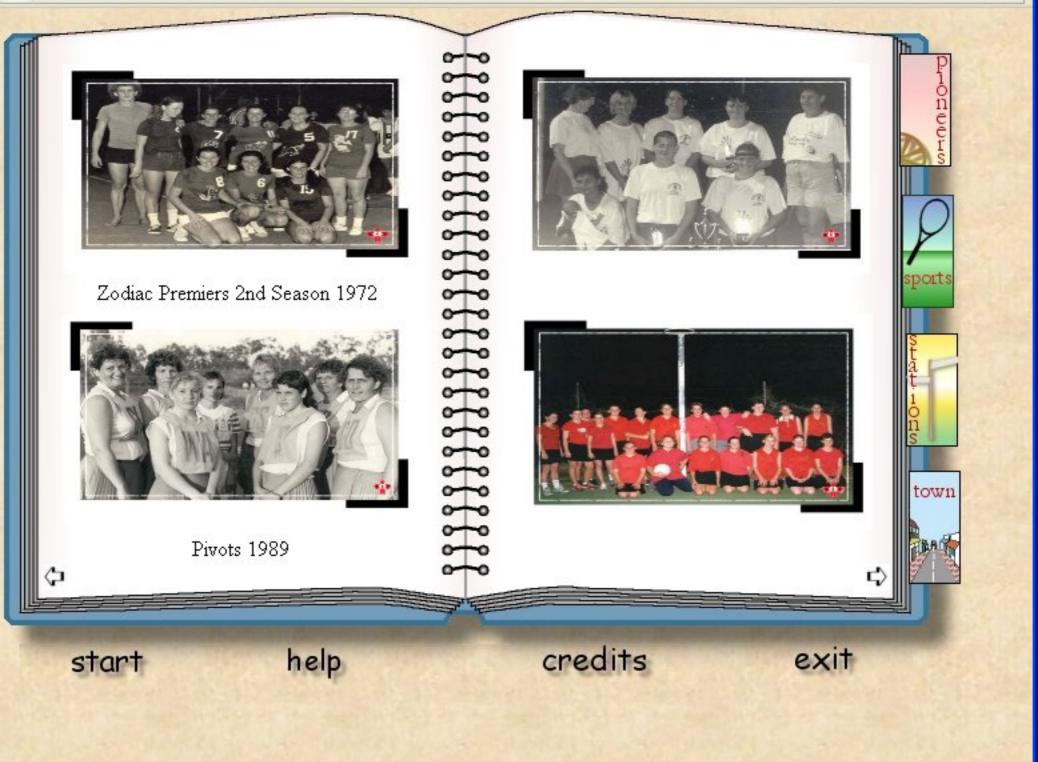
town

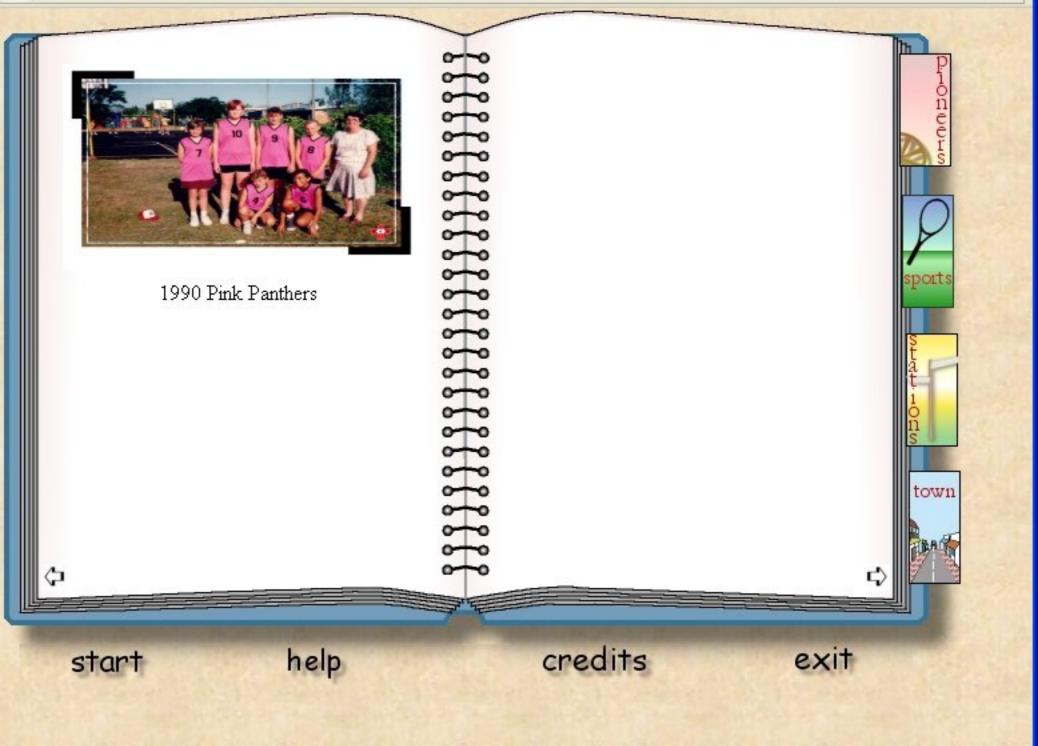
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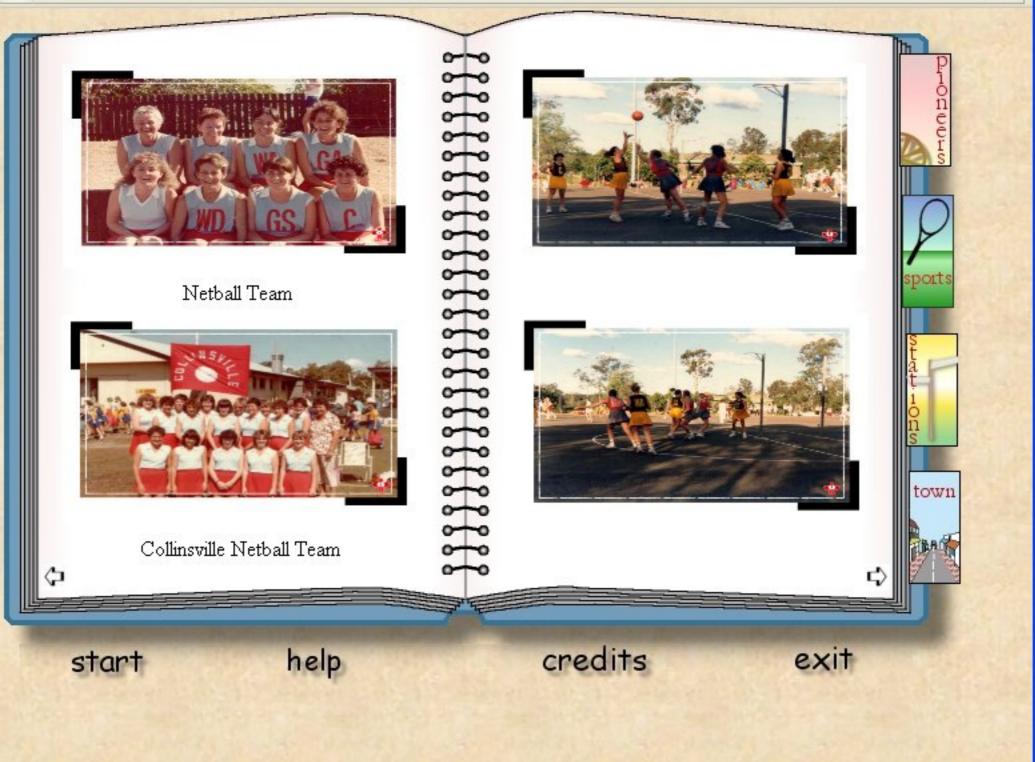
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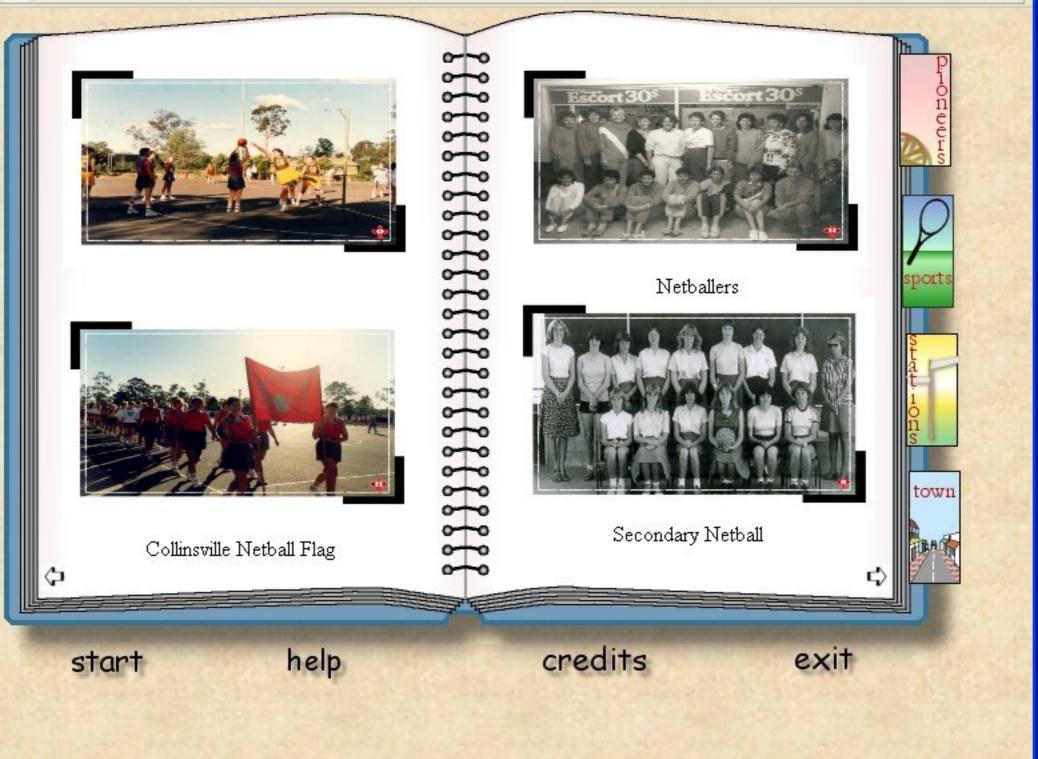
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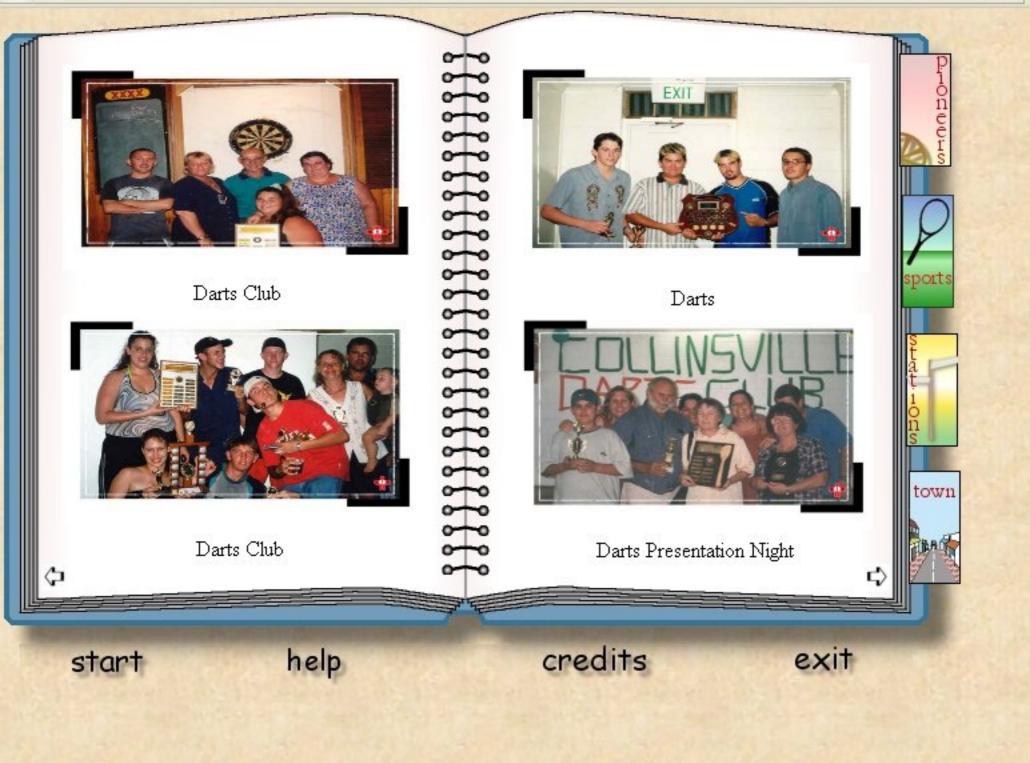


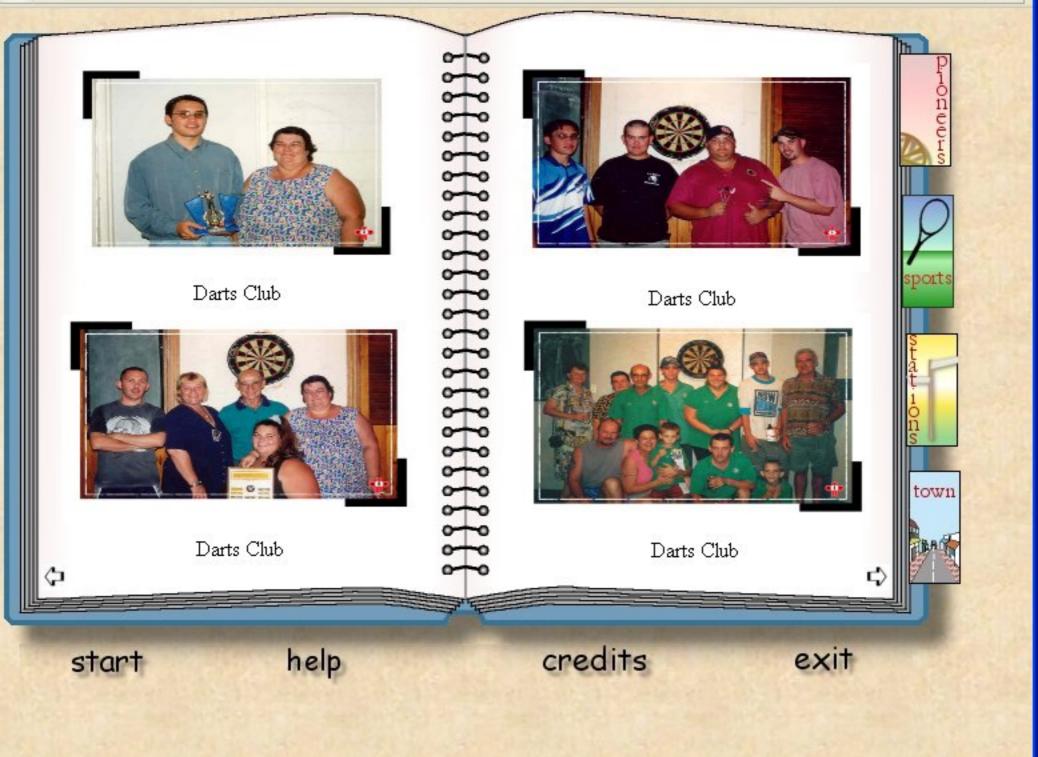


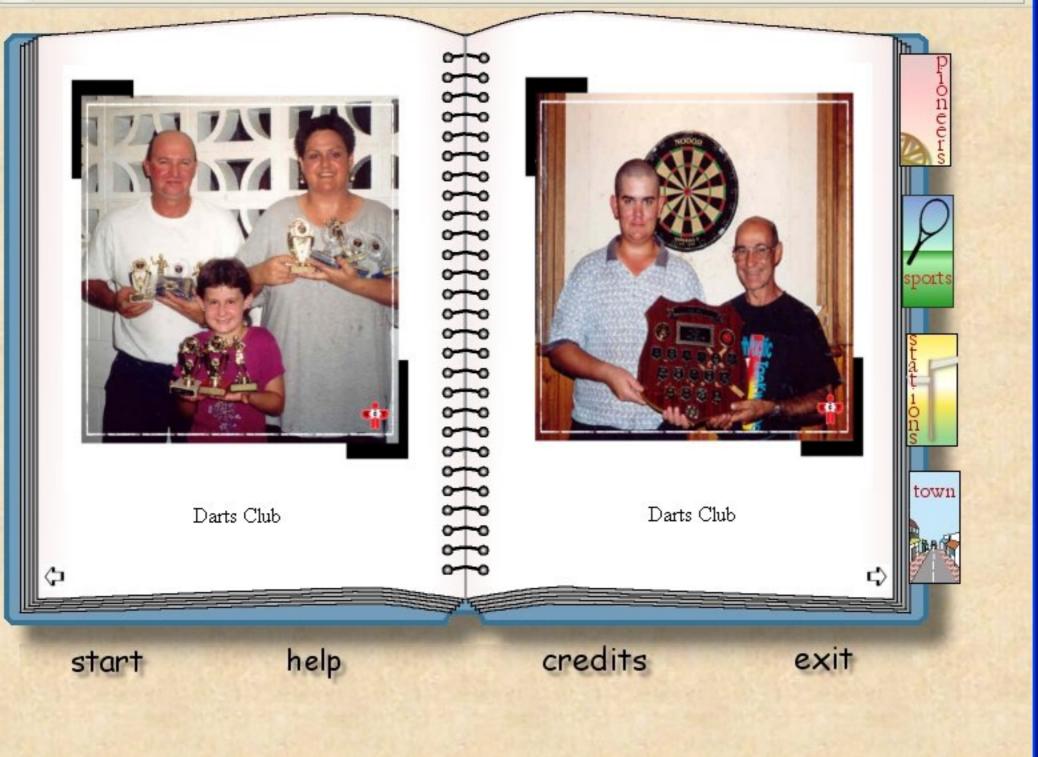














Brett Smith, Ian Lumpston, Marion Watson and Barry Smith



Camilla Ronnel, -----Jaques, -----, ----Mackie, -----, Angela Reitano



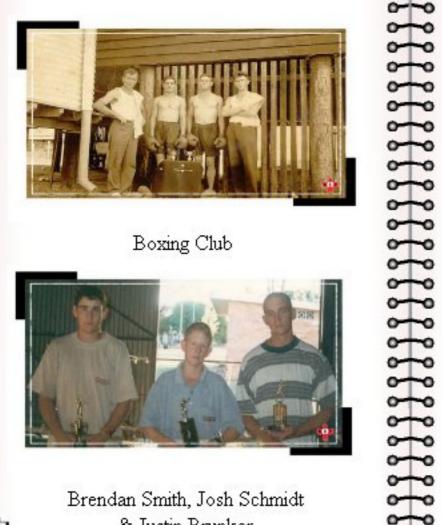
Barry Smith, Brett Smith, Lewis &



Glinn Jones, Camilla Ronnel, Barry Smith,
Luke Van Wyke and Brett Smith

town

start help credits exit



Boxing Club



Brendan Smith, Josh Schmidt & Justin Brunker



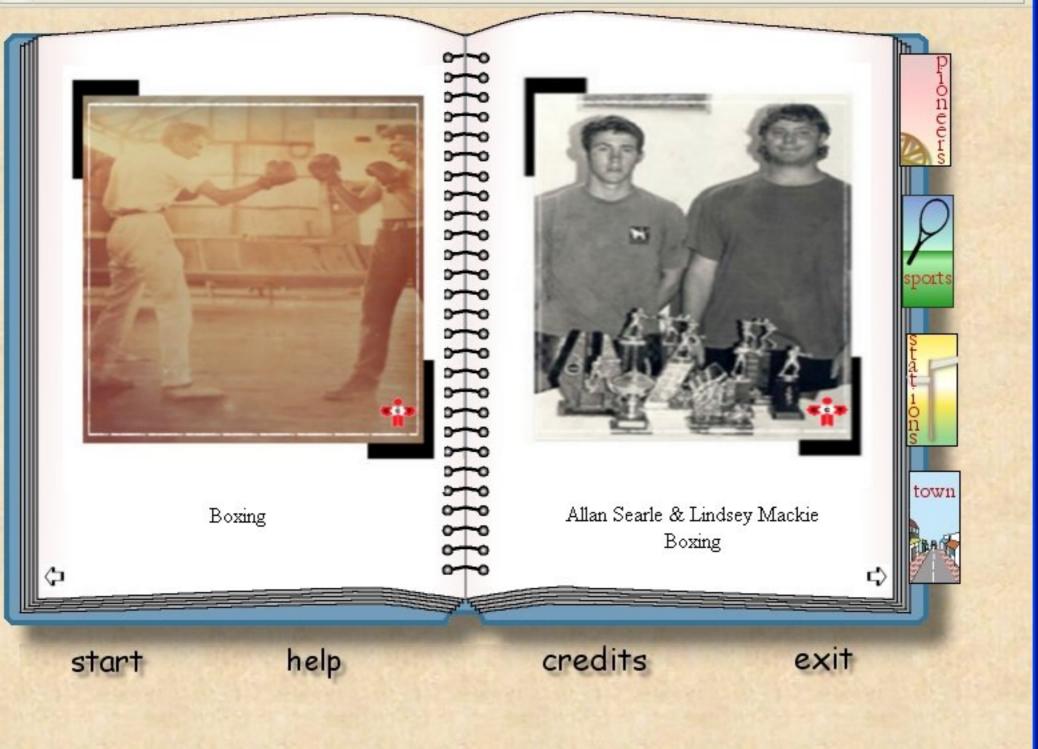
Brendan Smith, Josh Schmidt & Justin Brunker

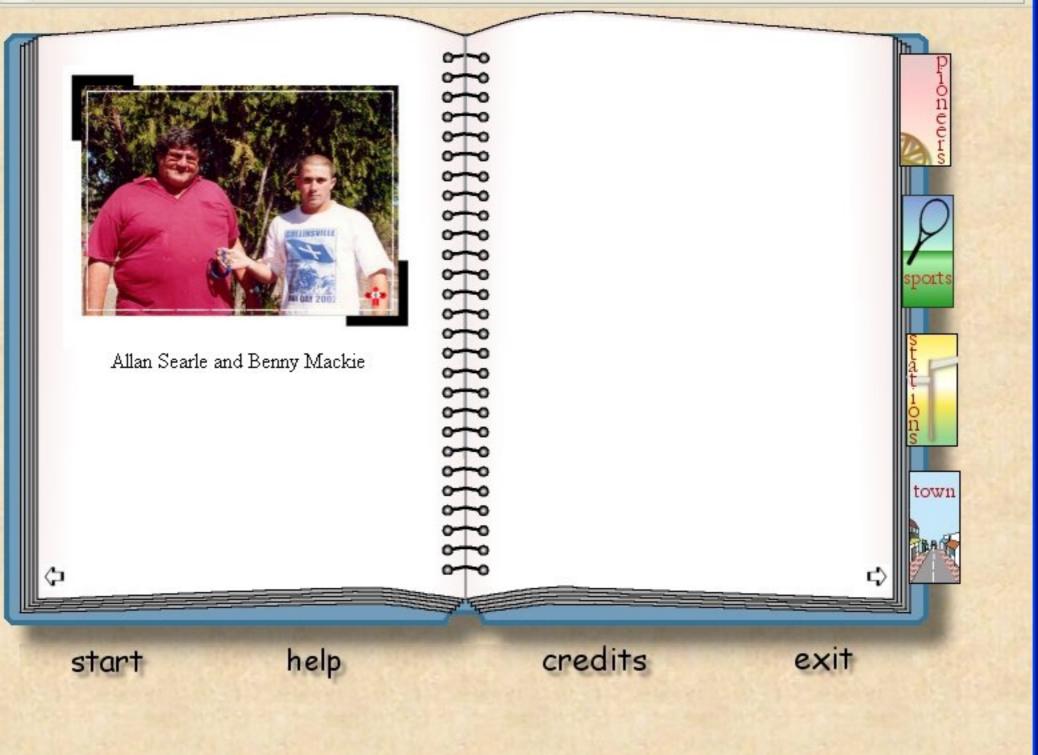


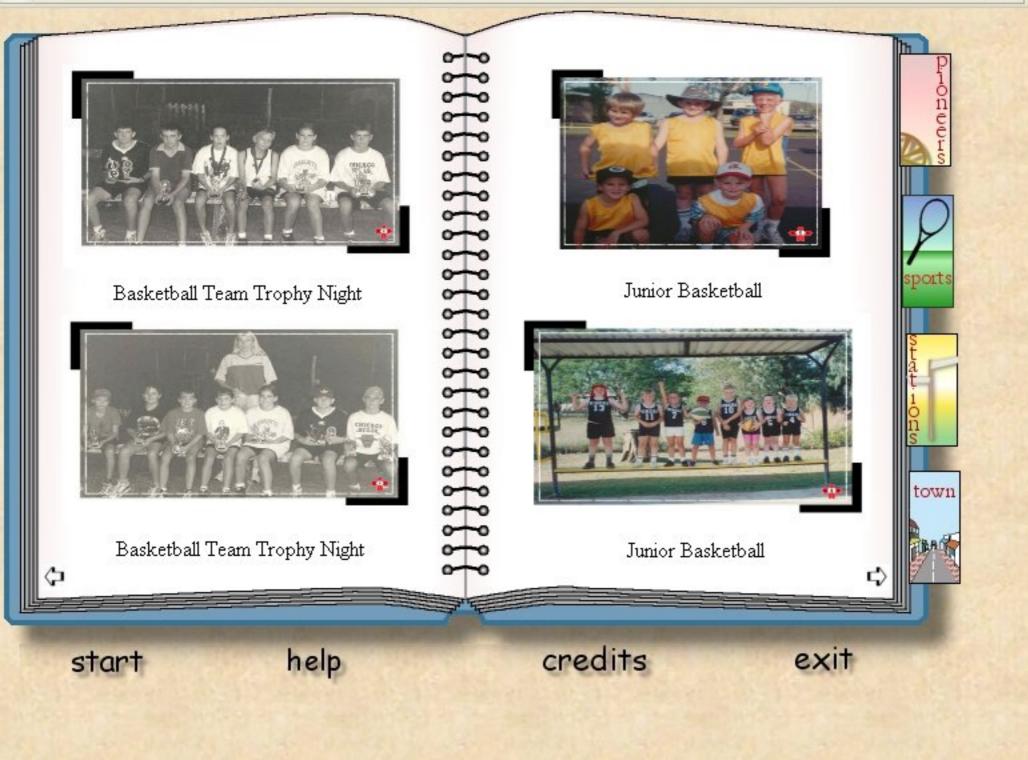
Richard Cole, Johnathon Williams & Josh Schmidt

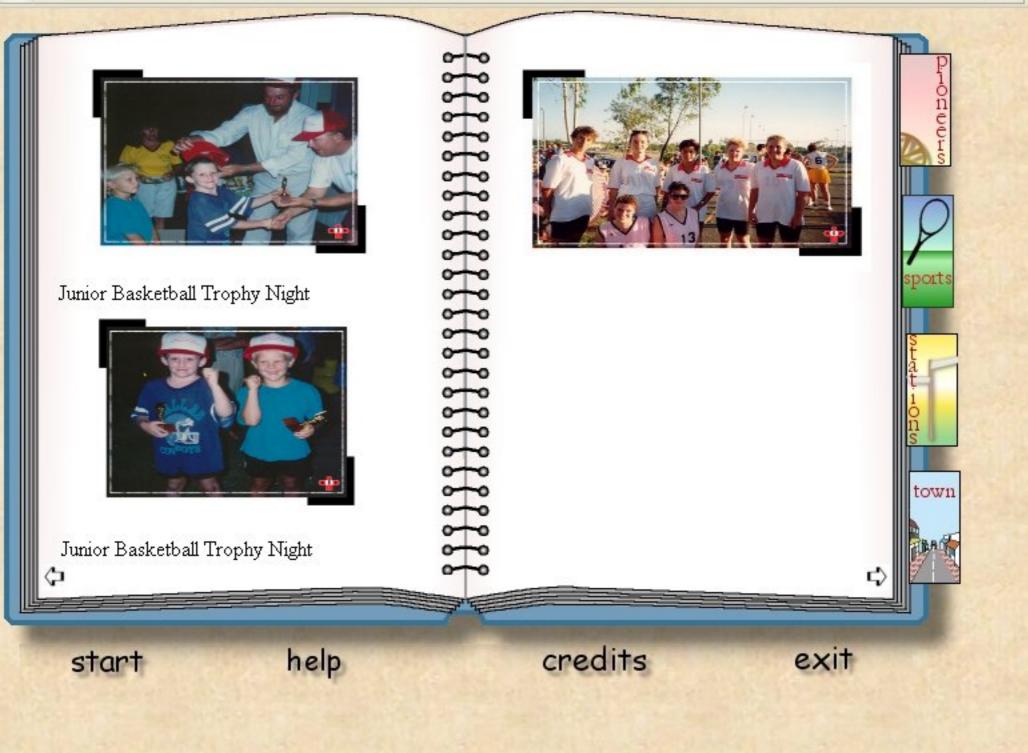
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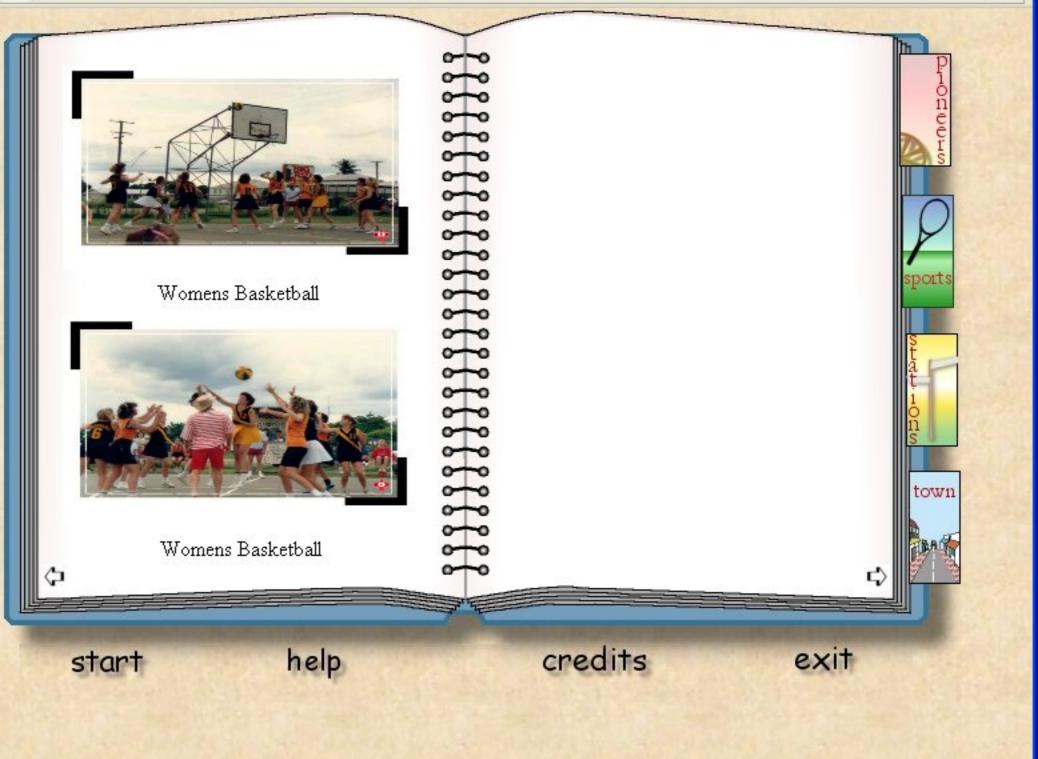
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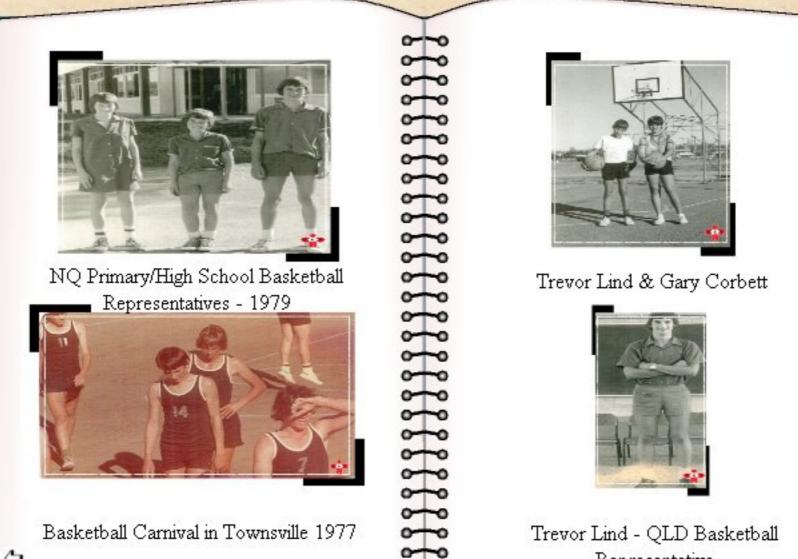










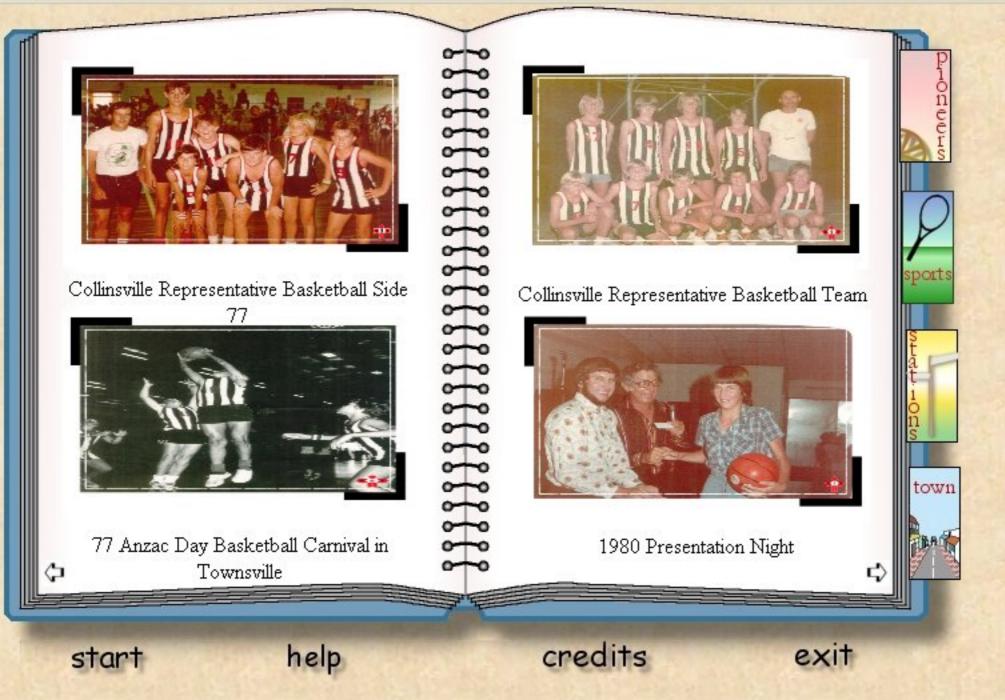


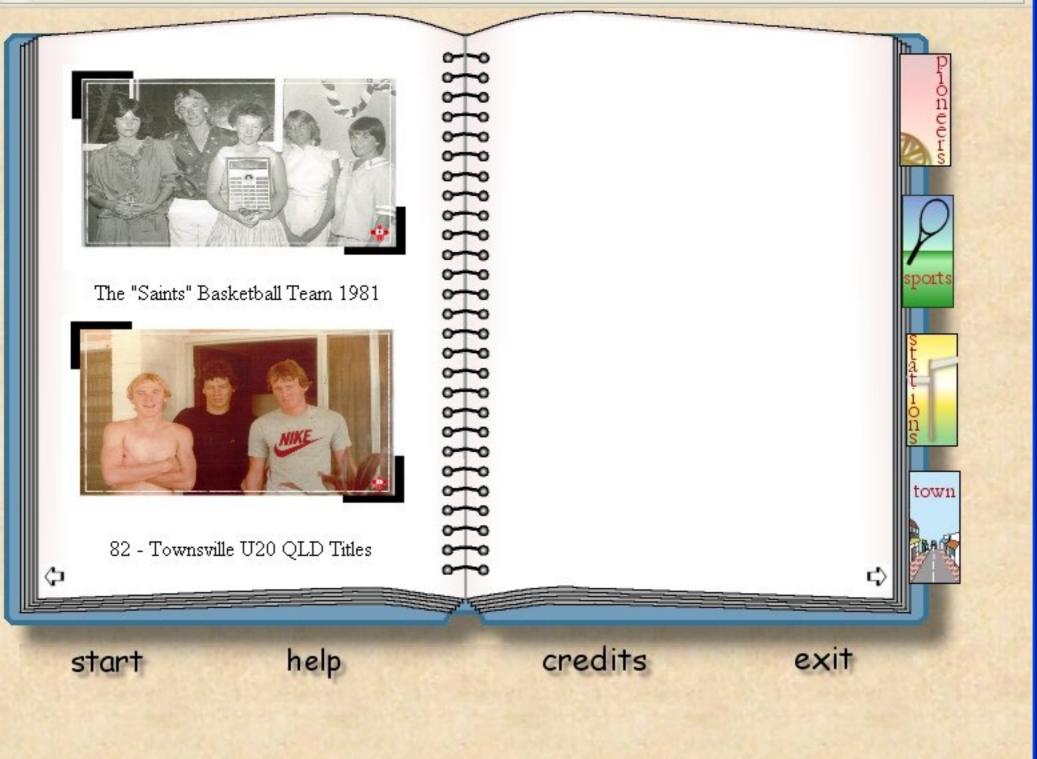
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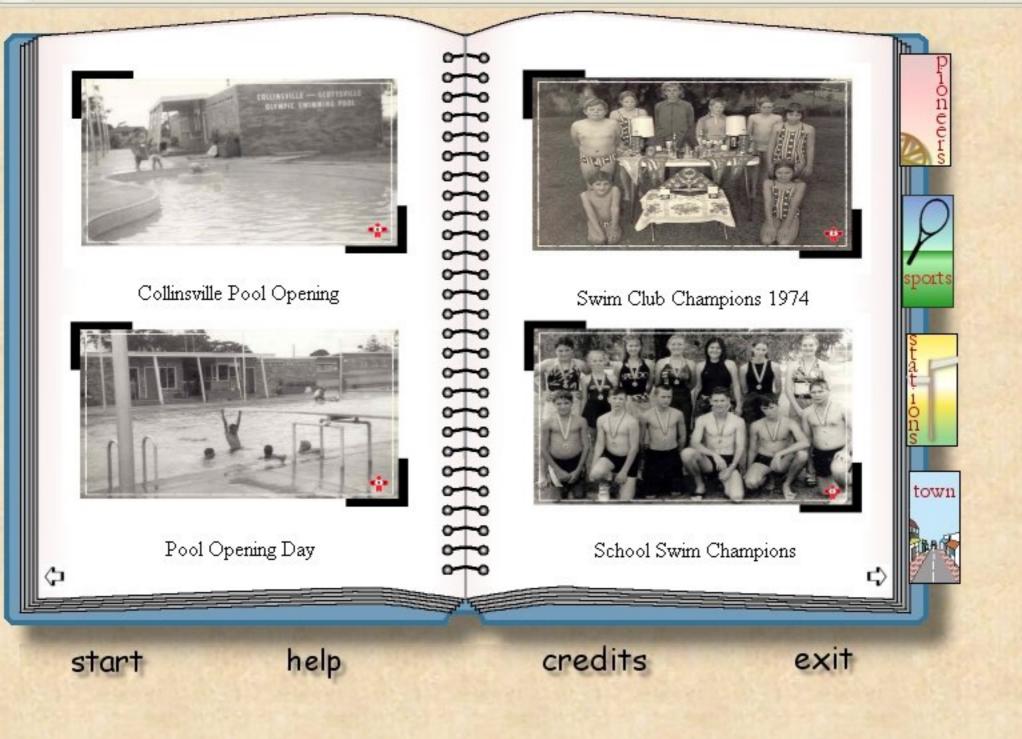
Basketball Carnival in Townsville 1977

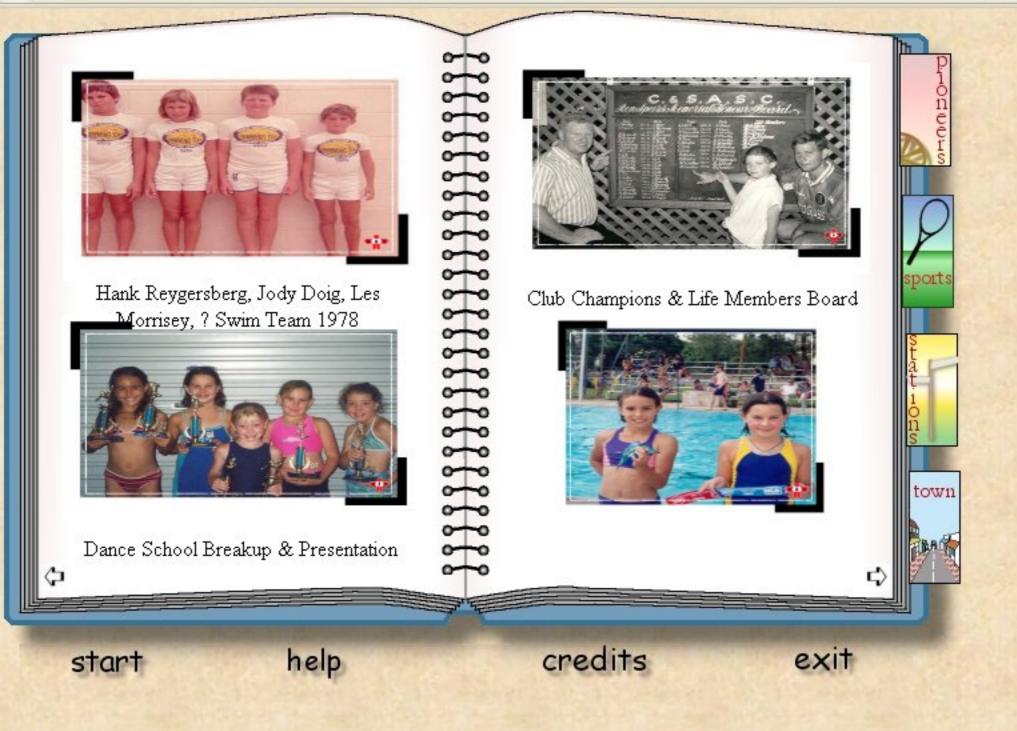
town

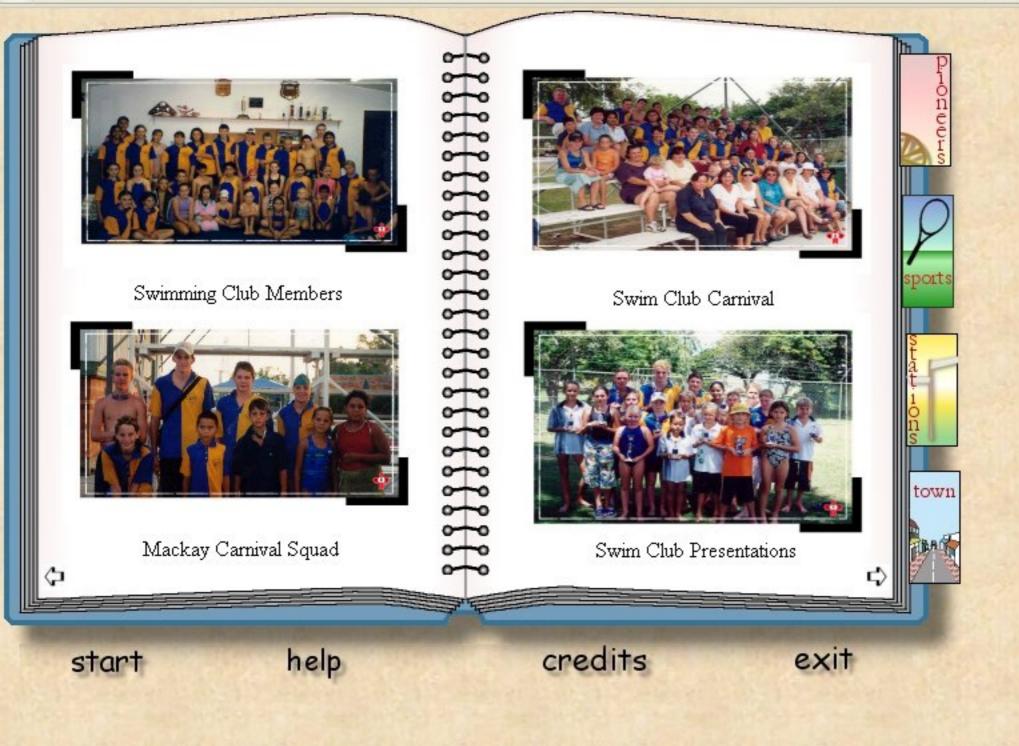
Trevor Lind - QLD Basketball Representative

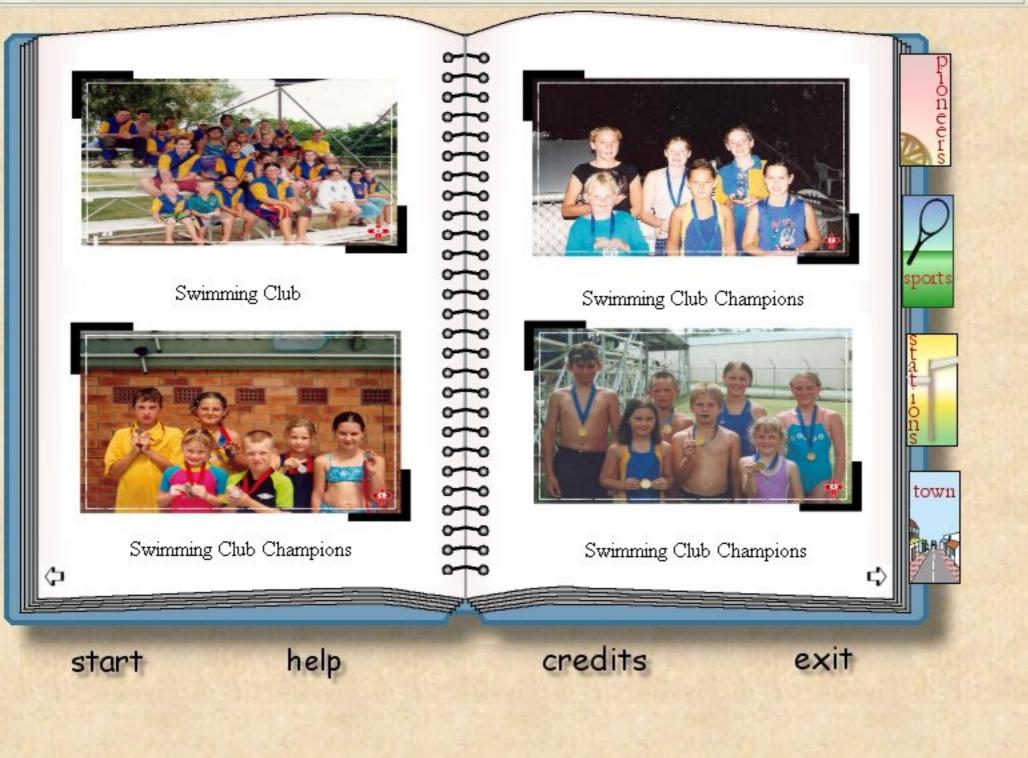


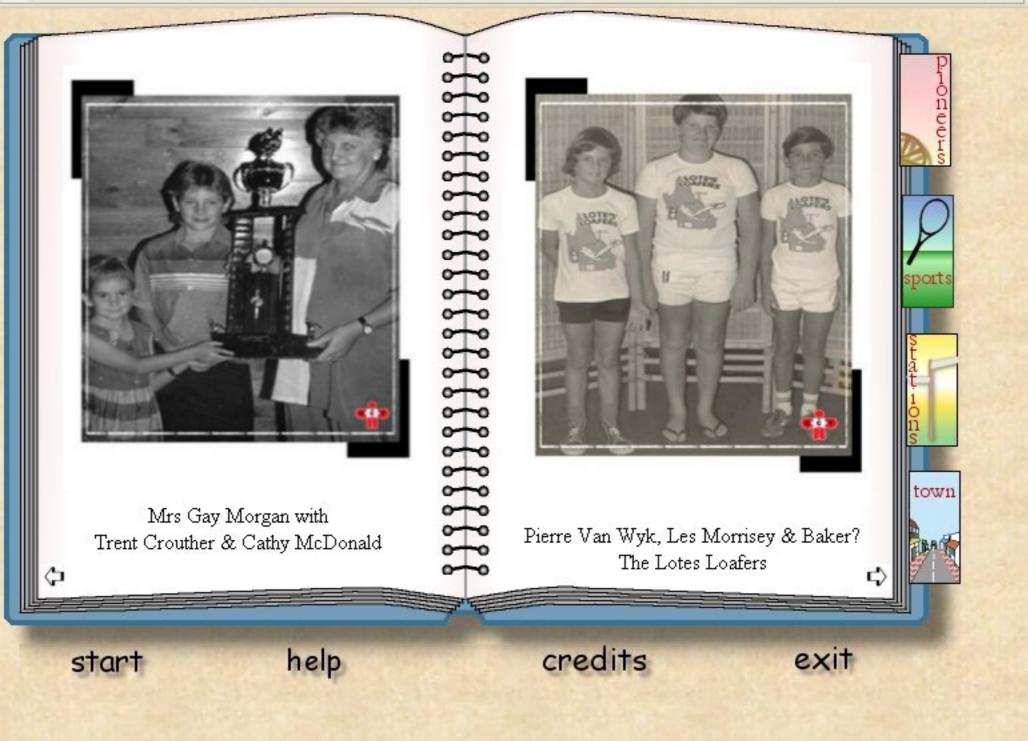


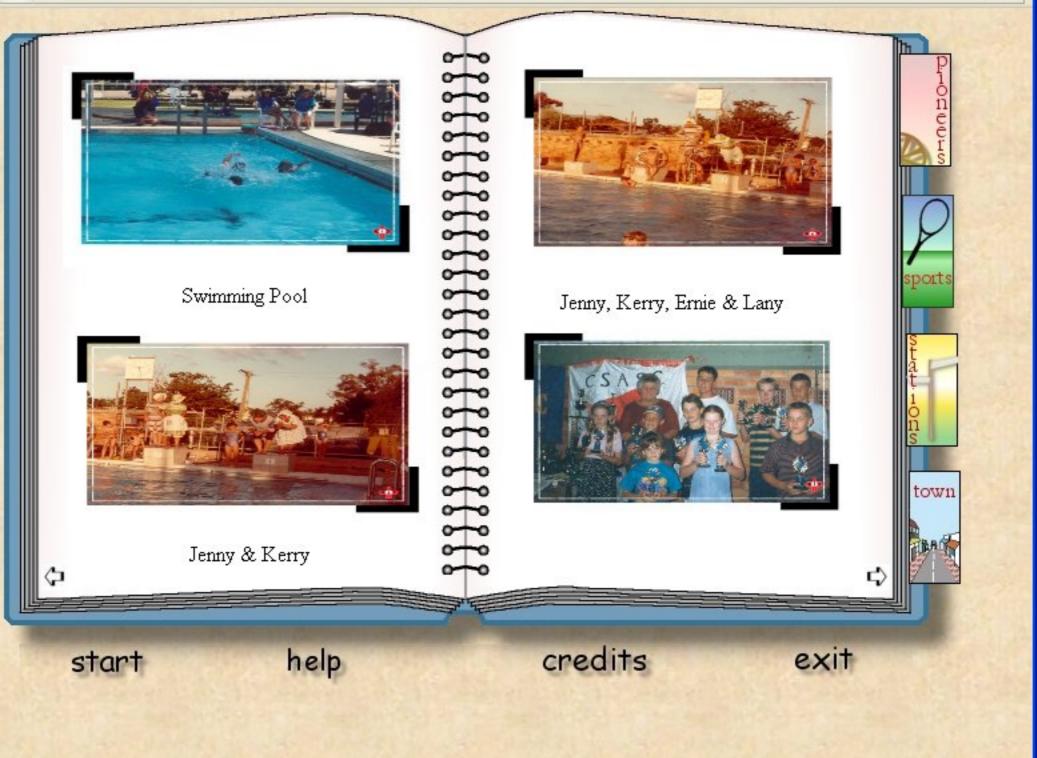


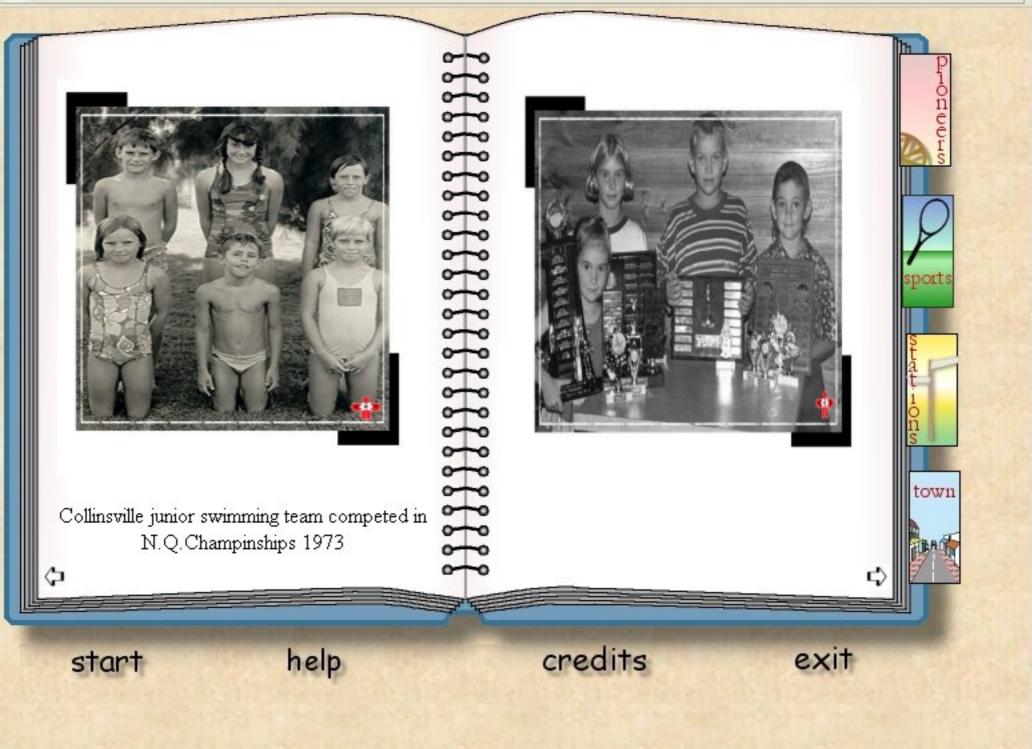


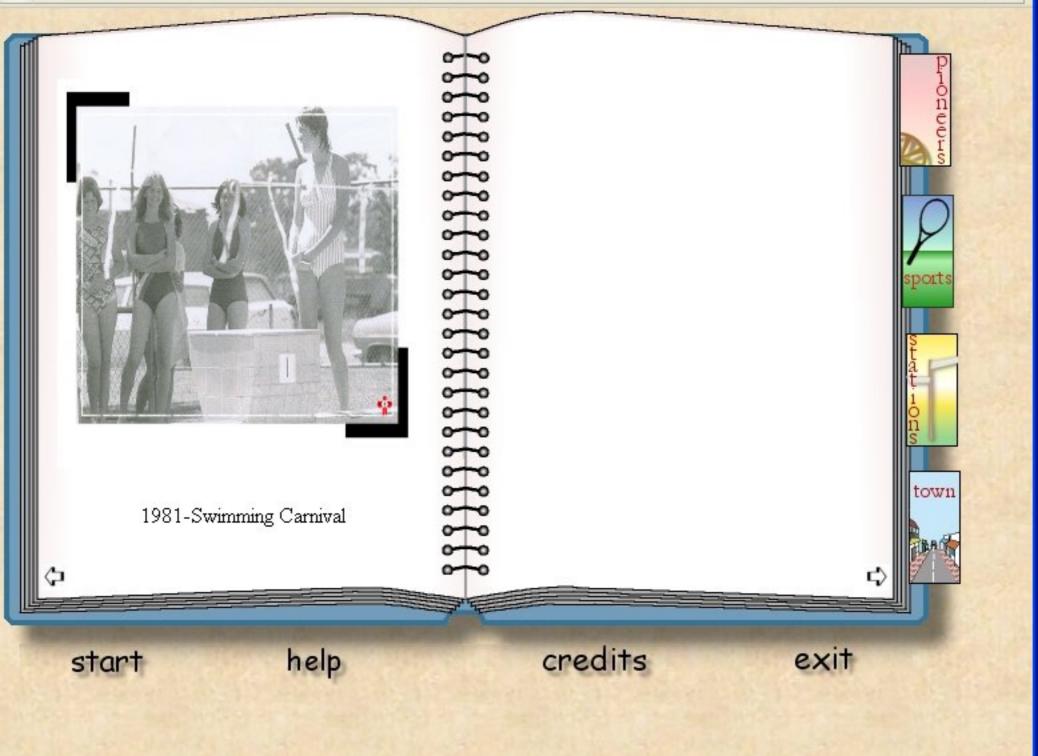


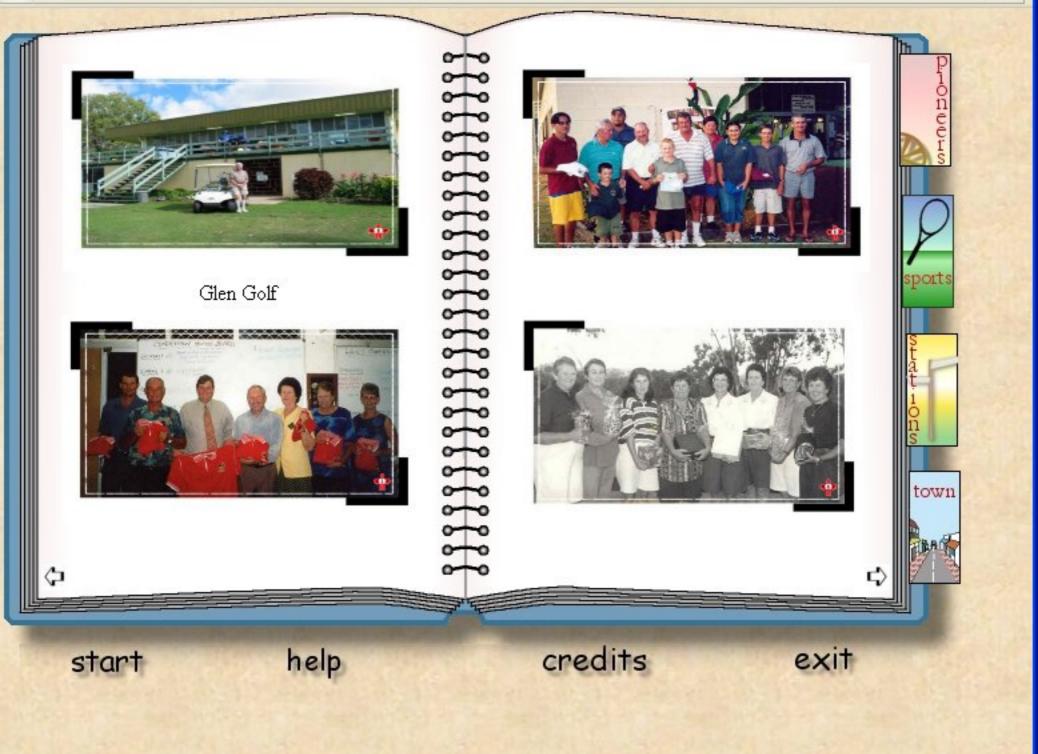


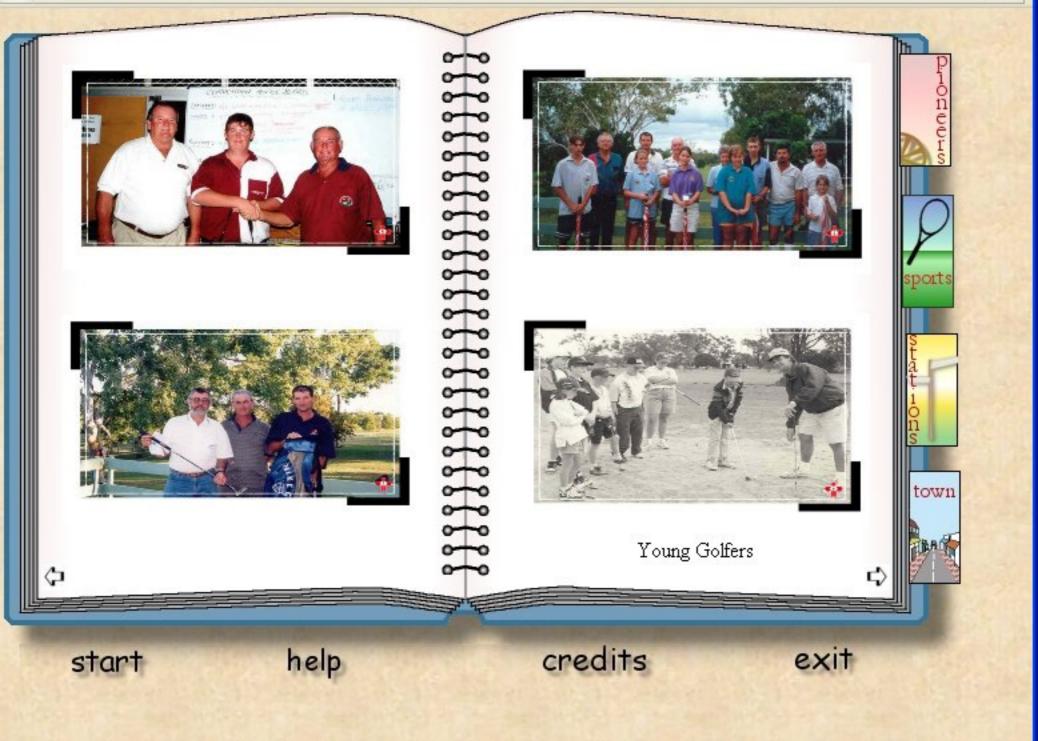


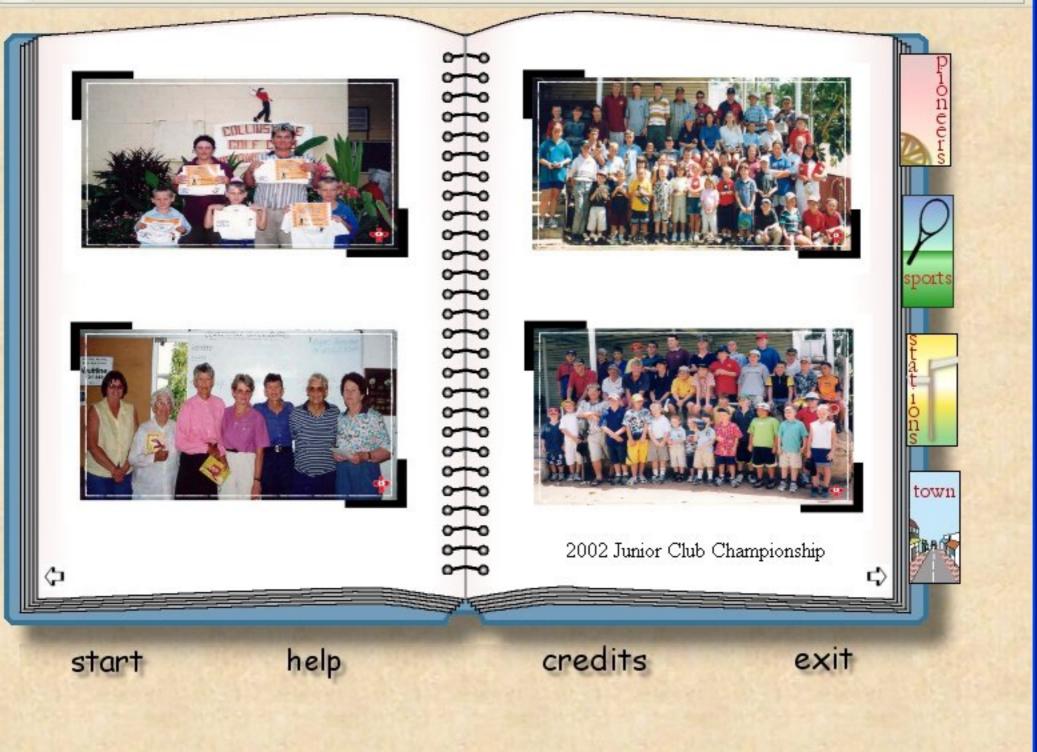


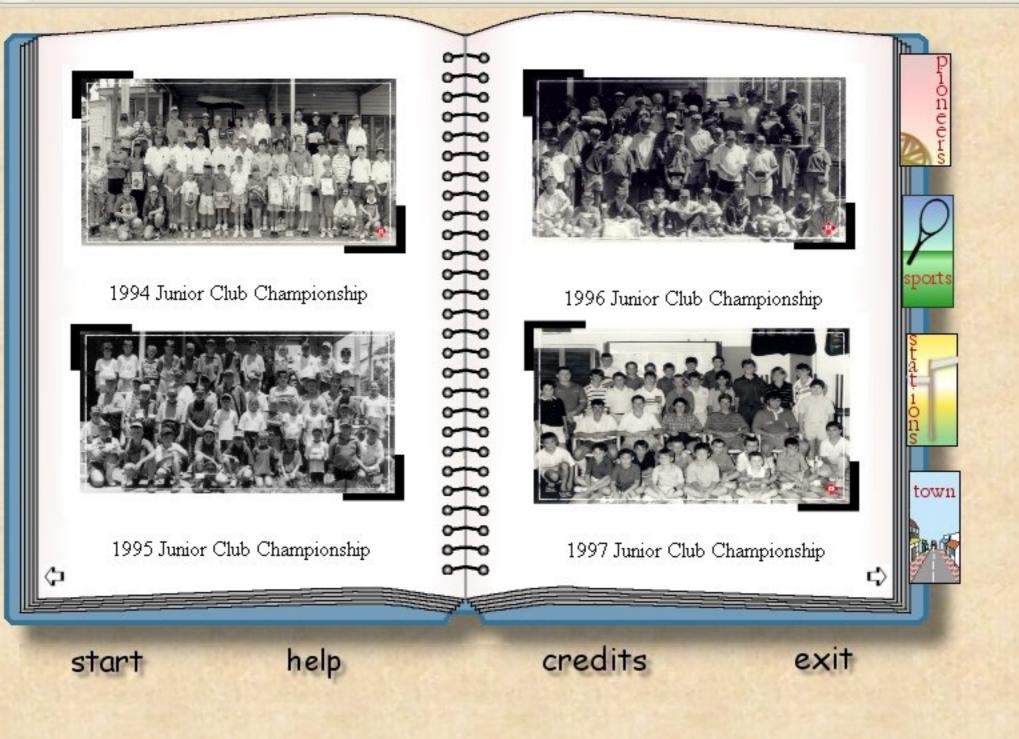


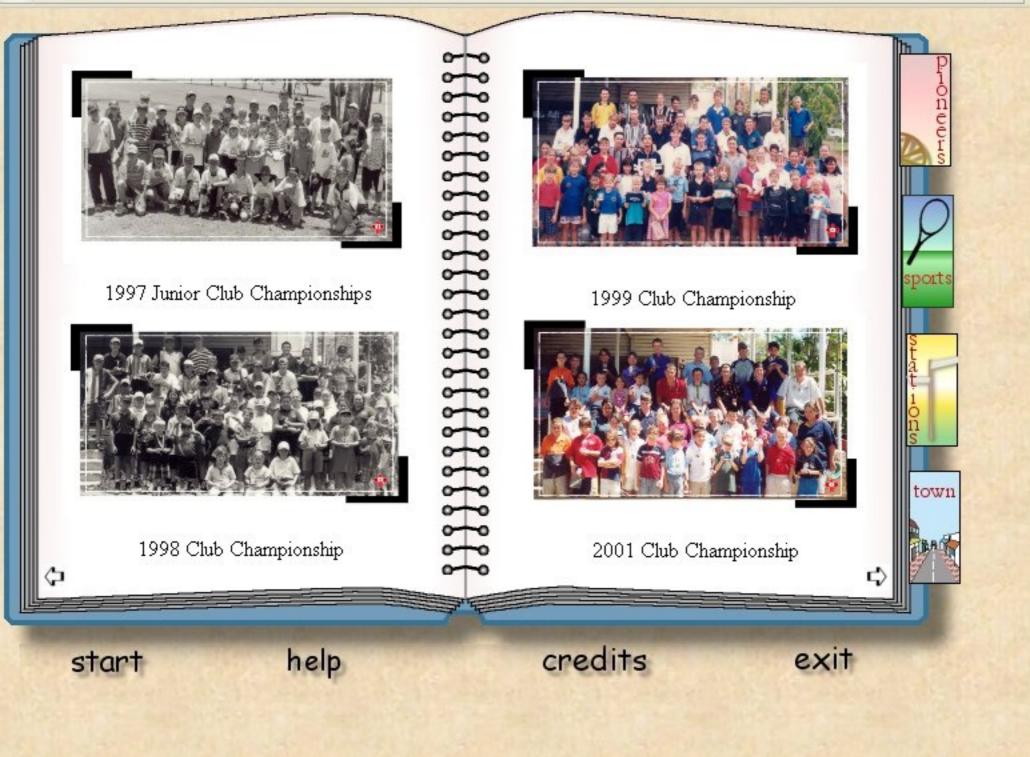


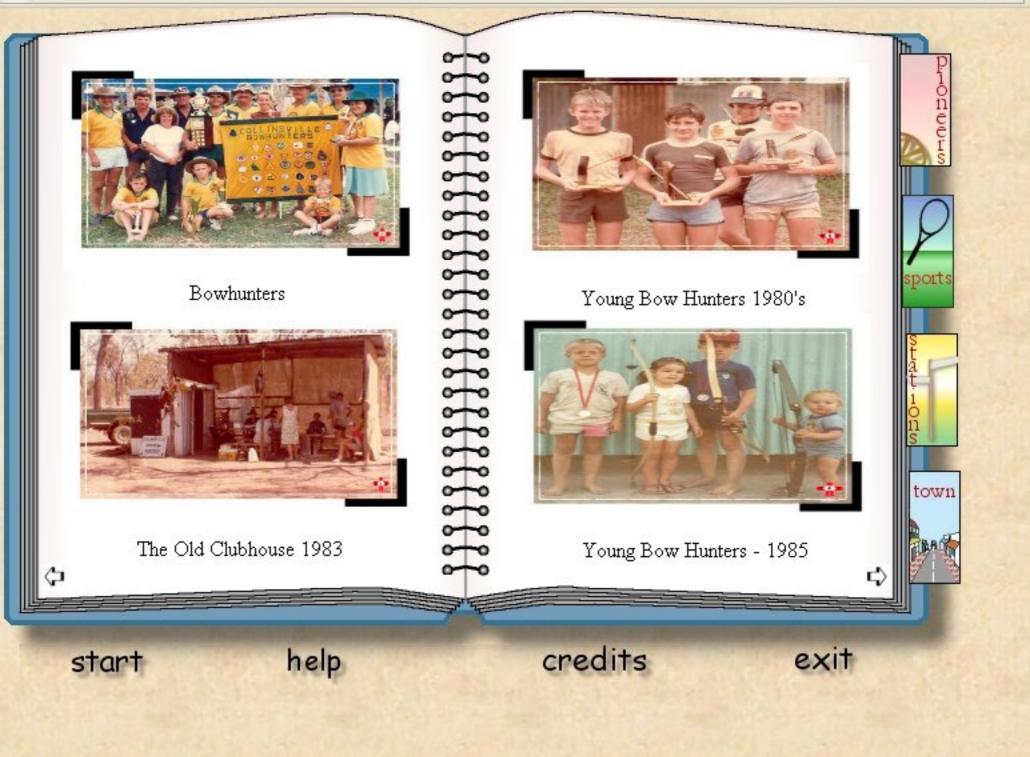


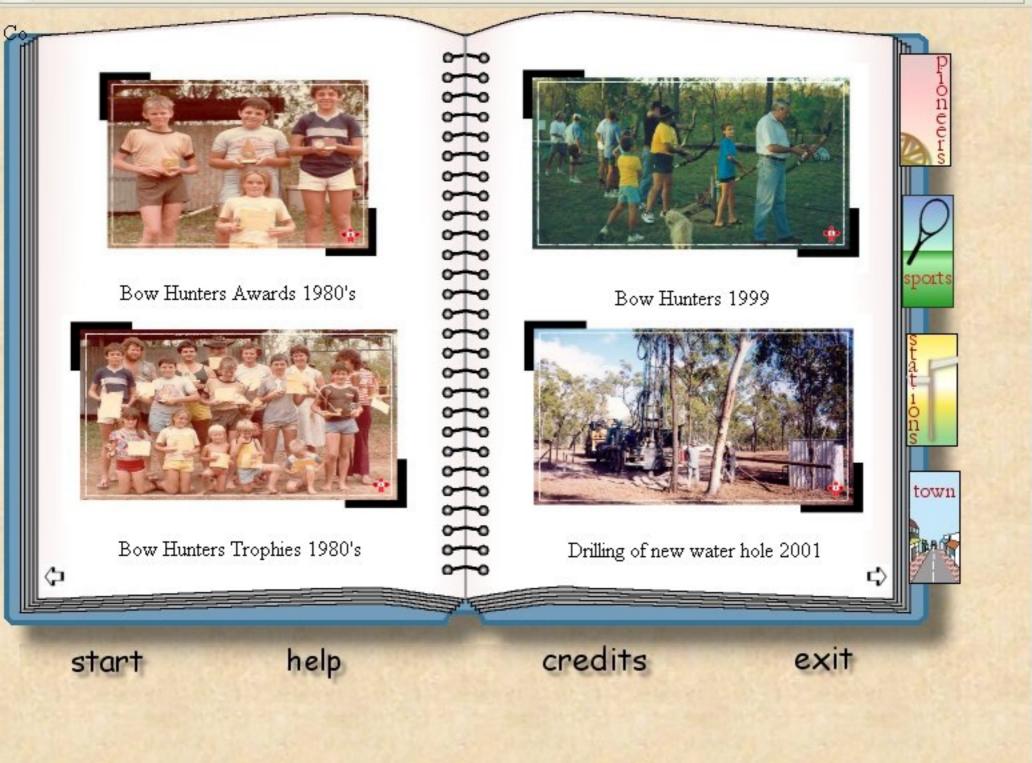


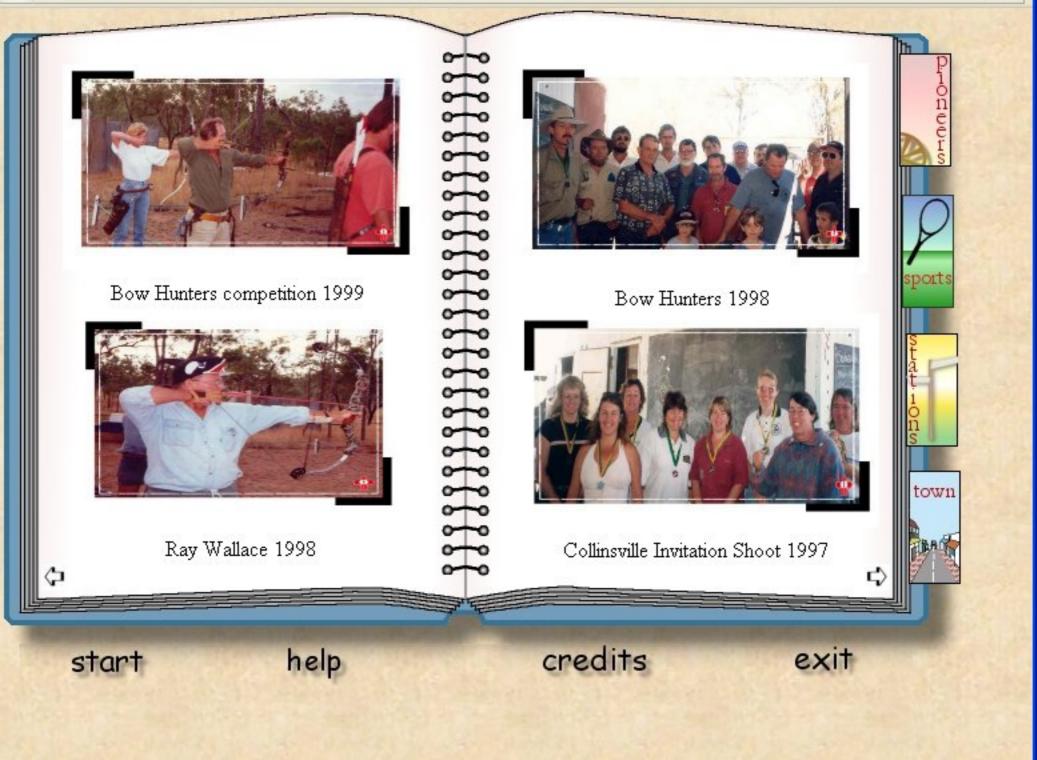


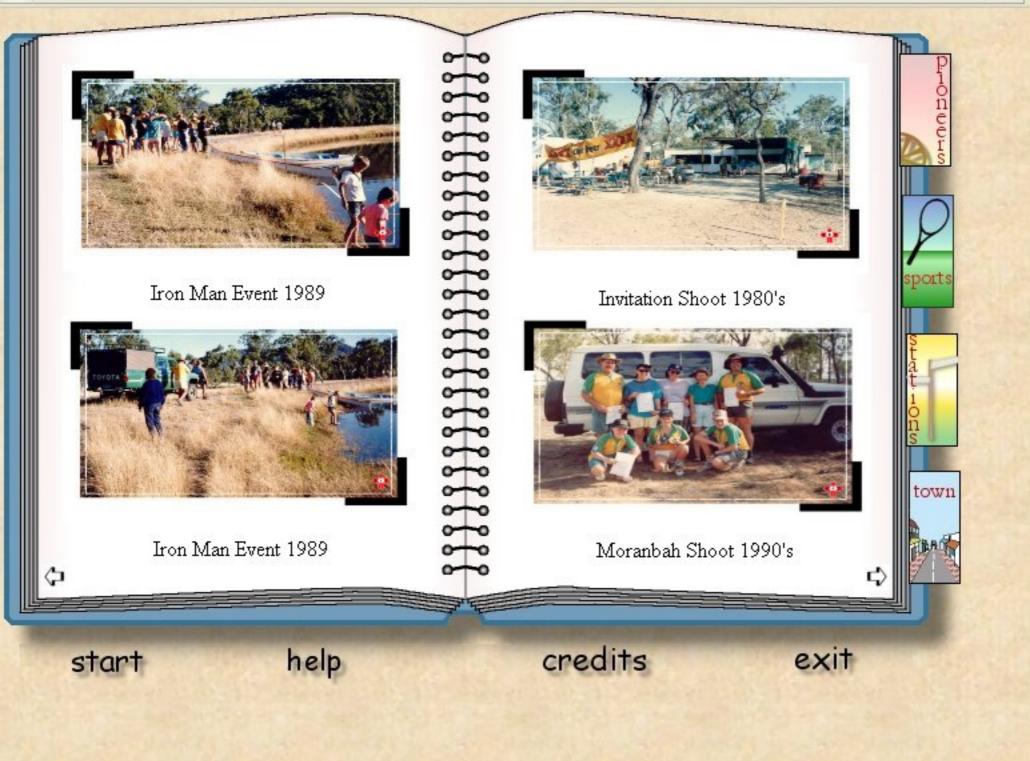


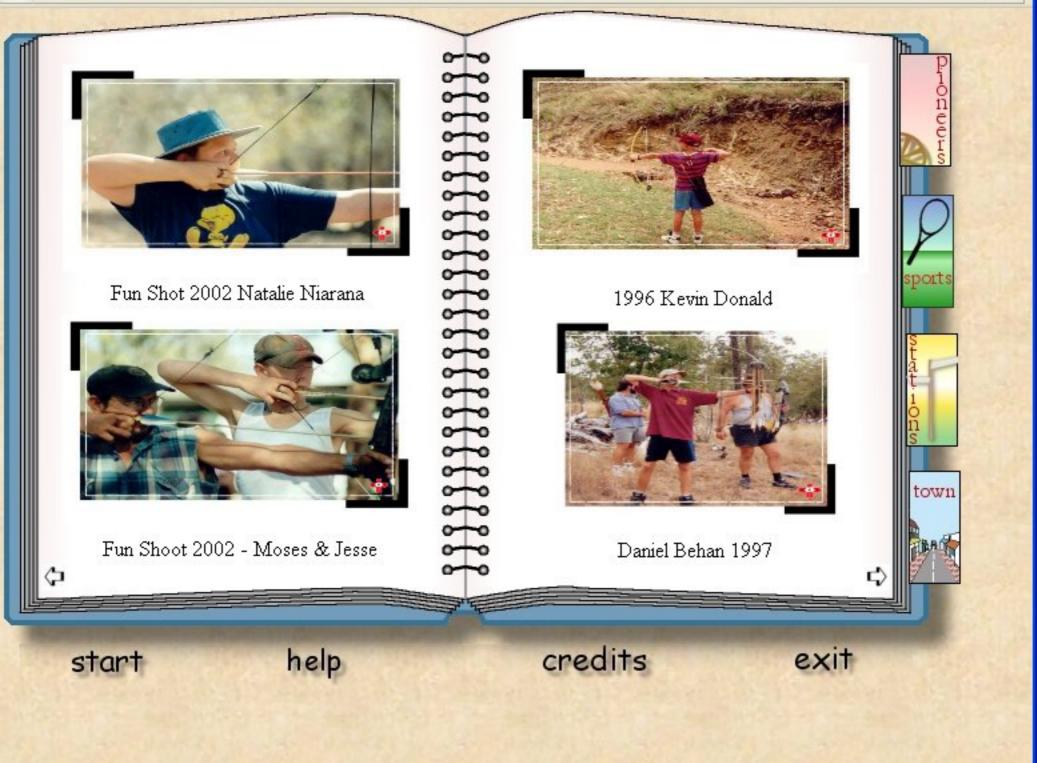


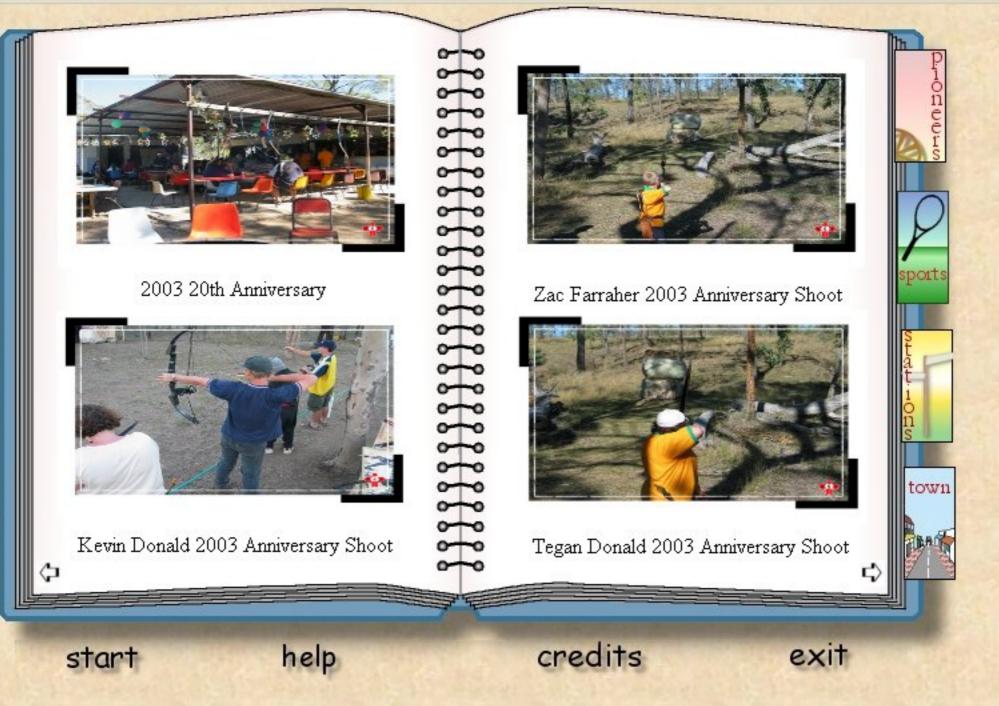


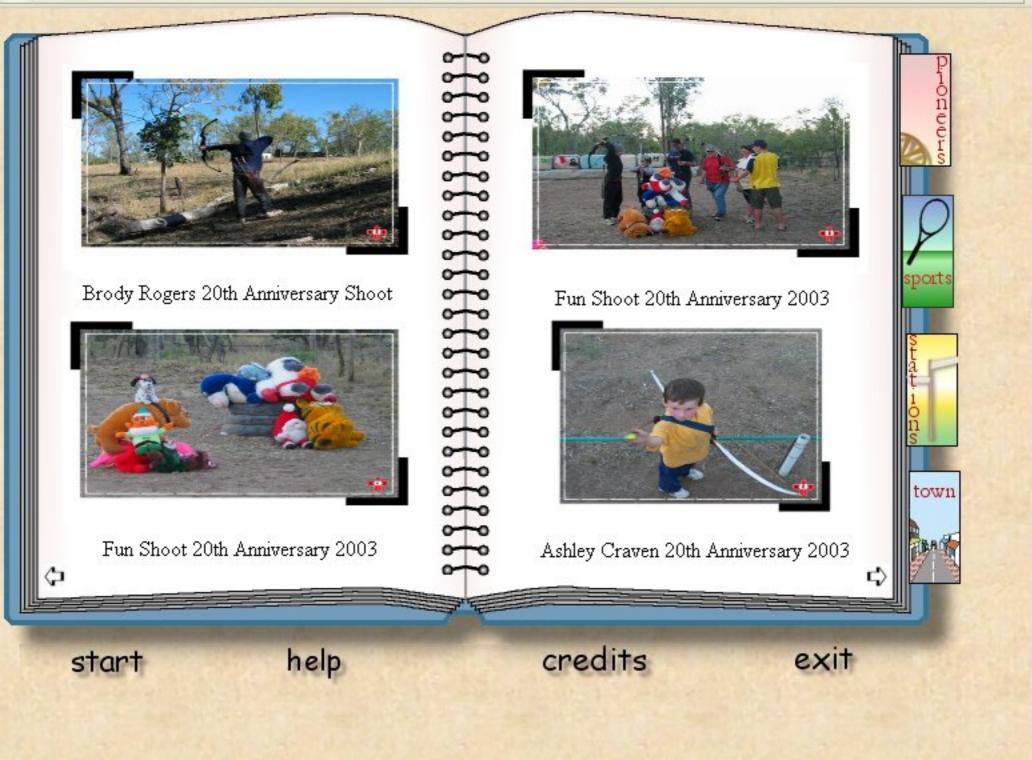


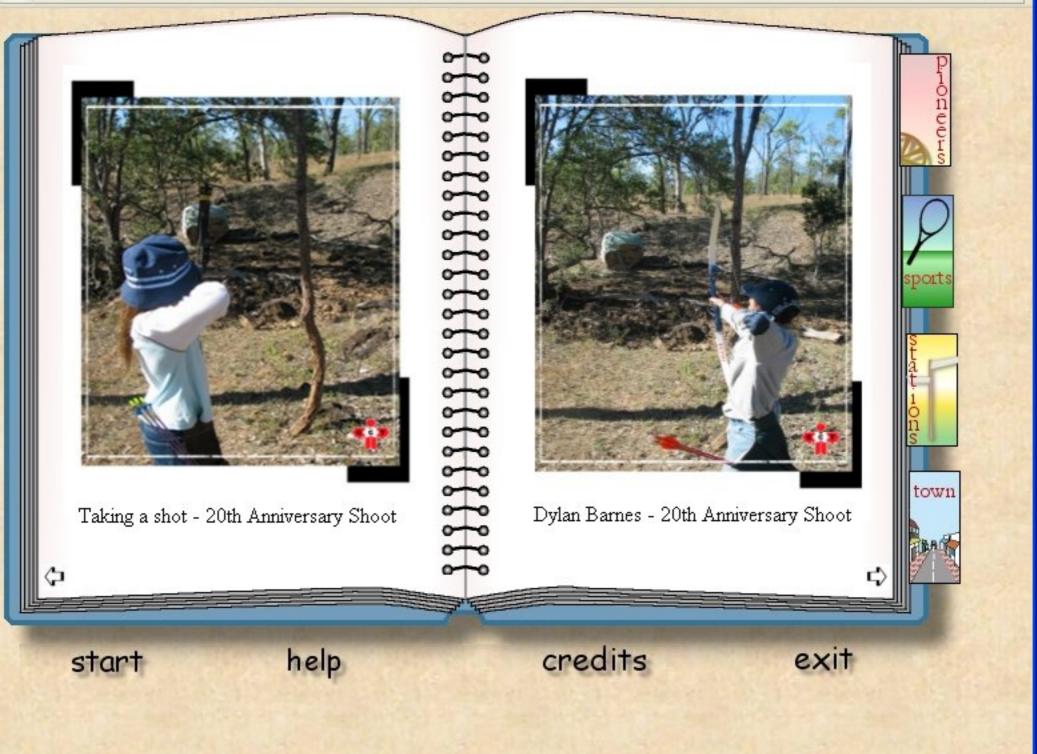


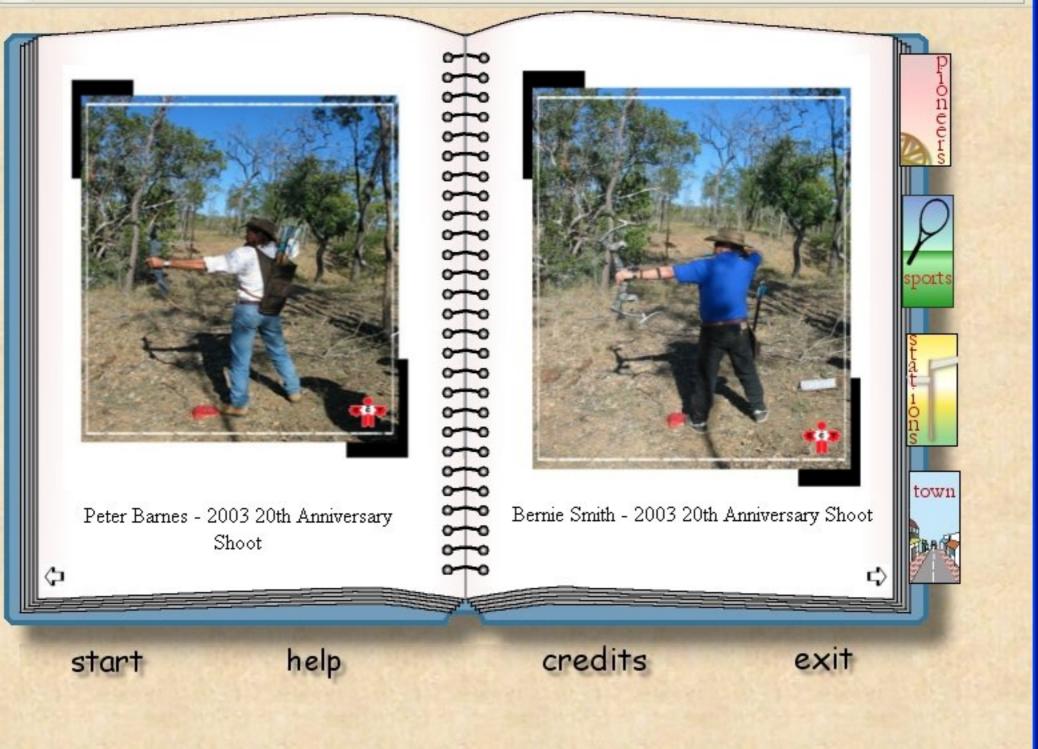


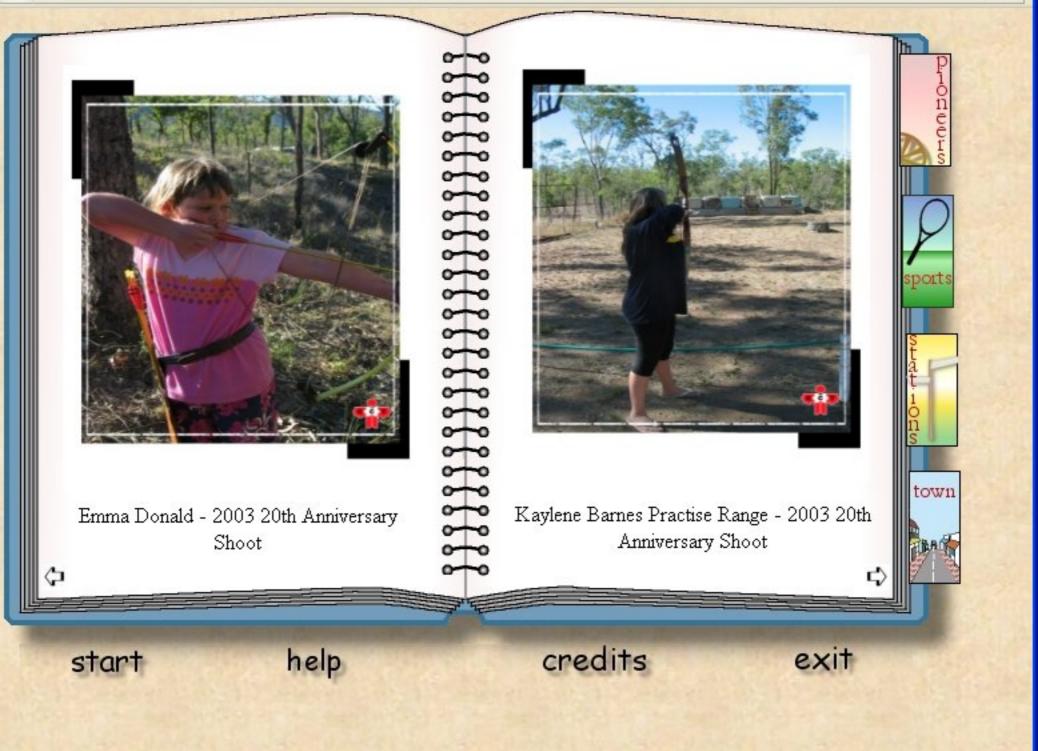


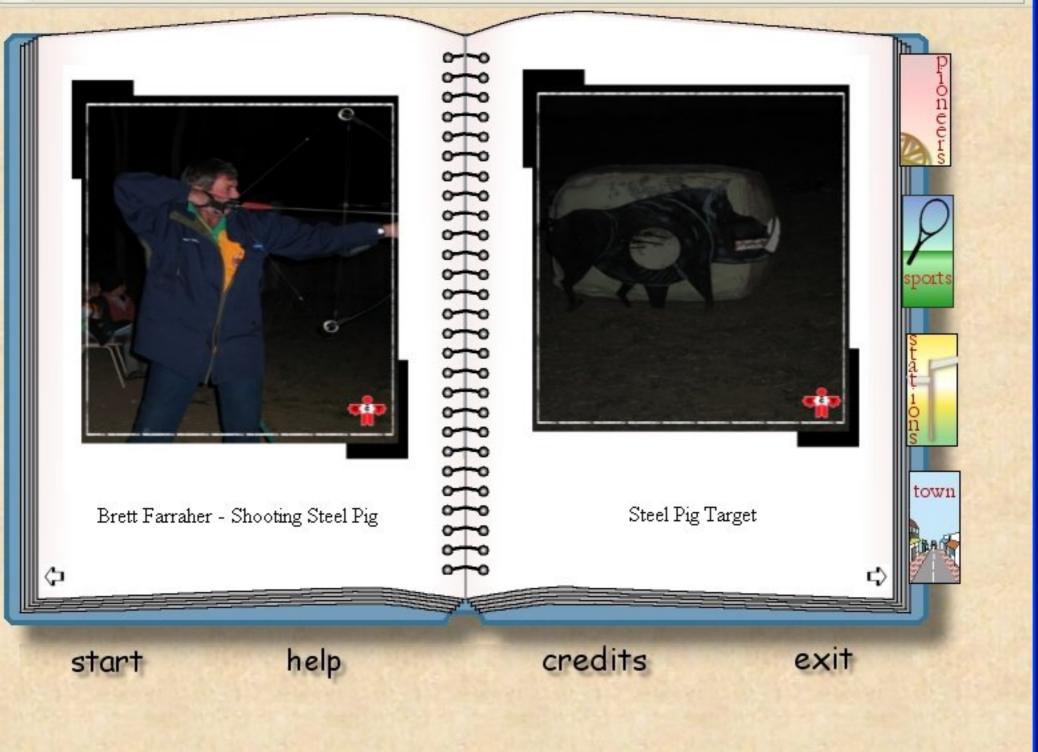


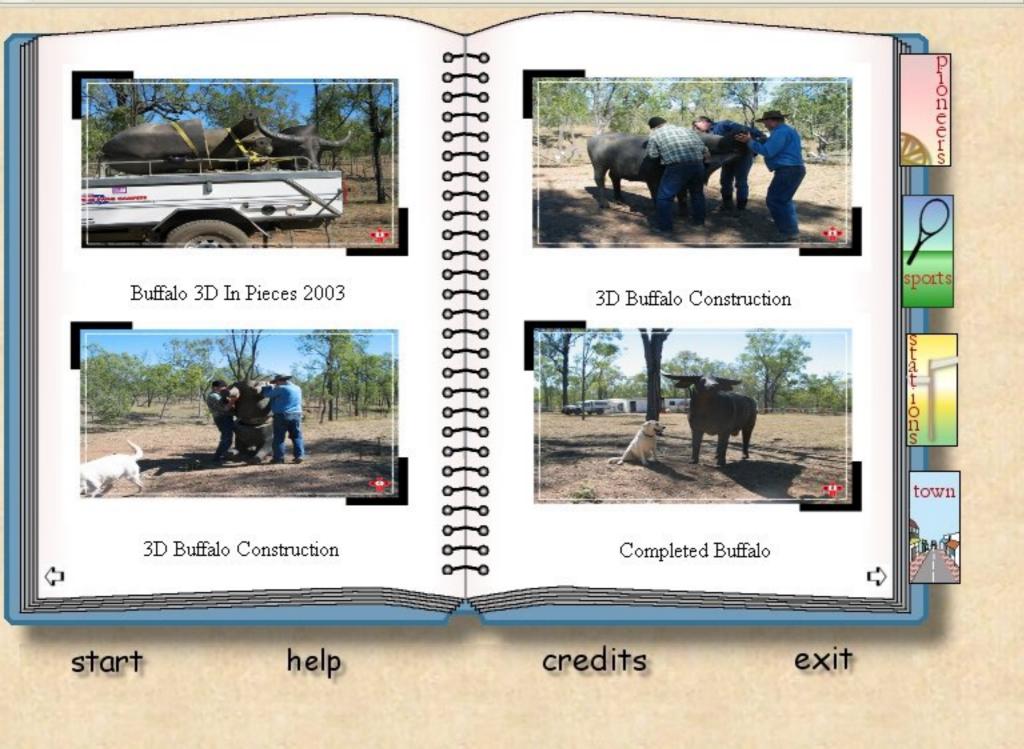


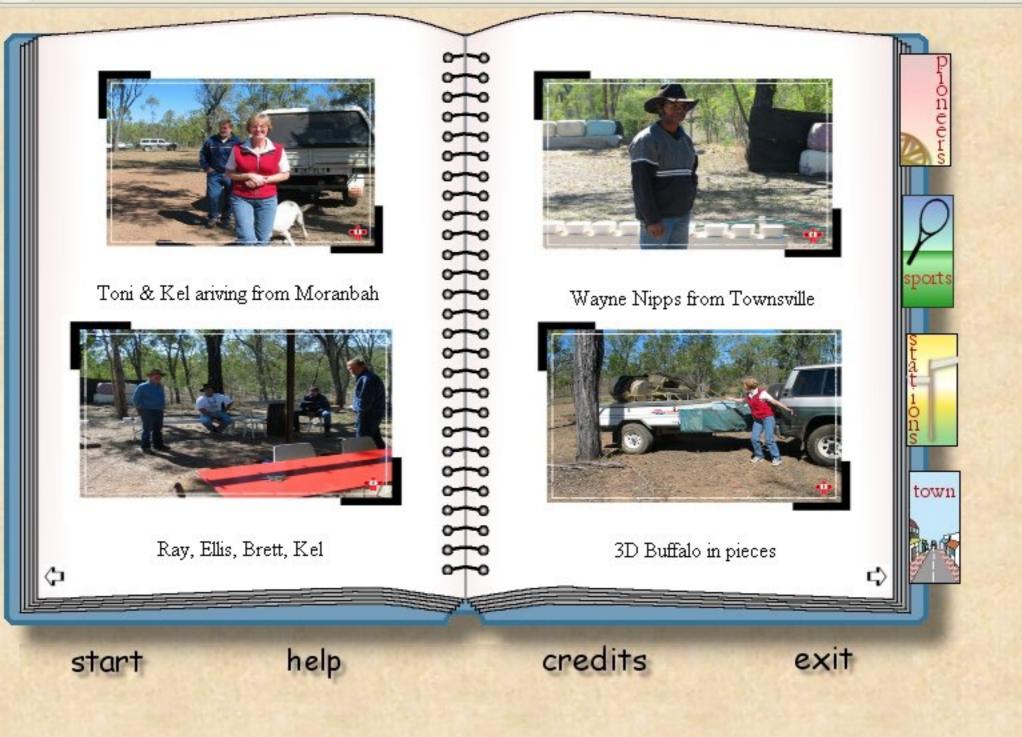


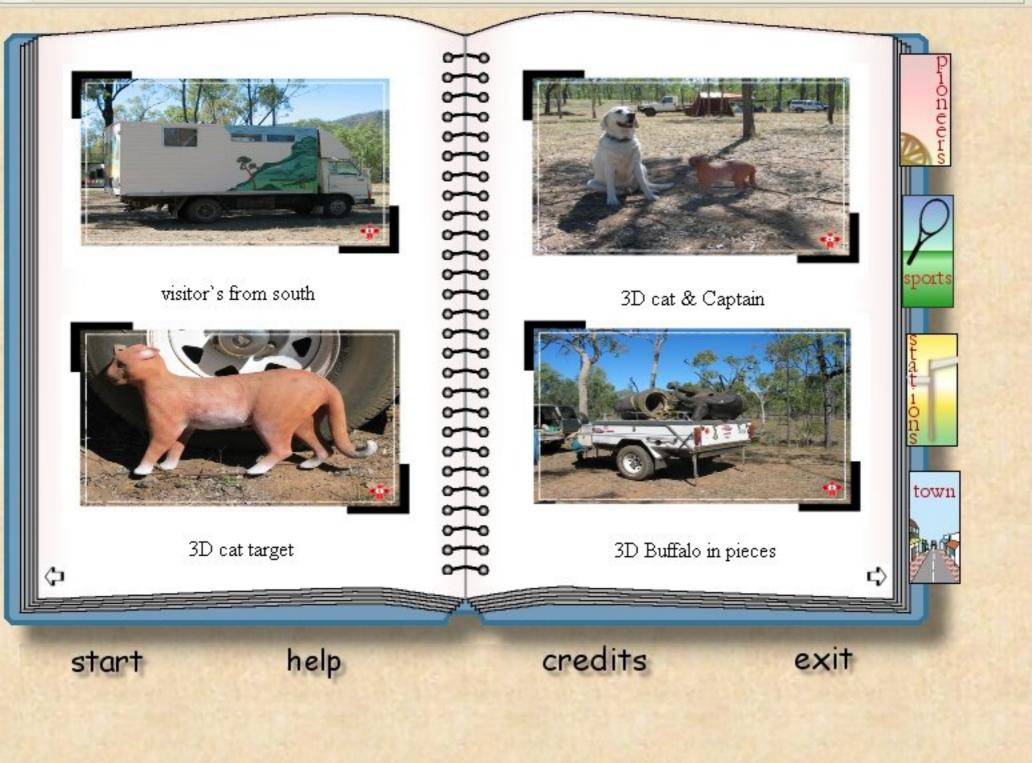


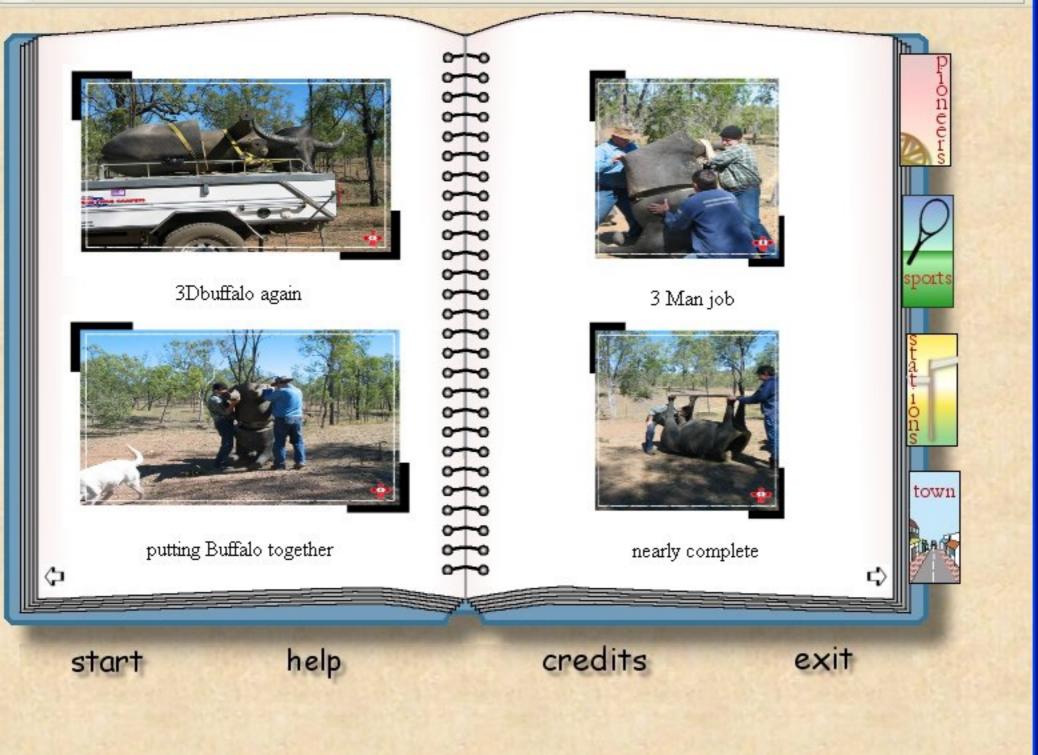


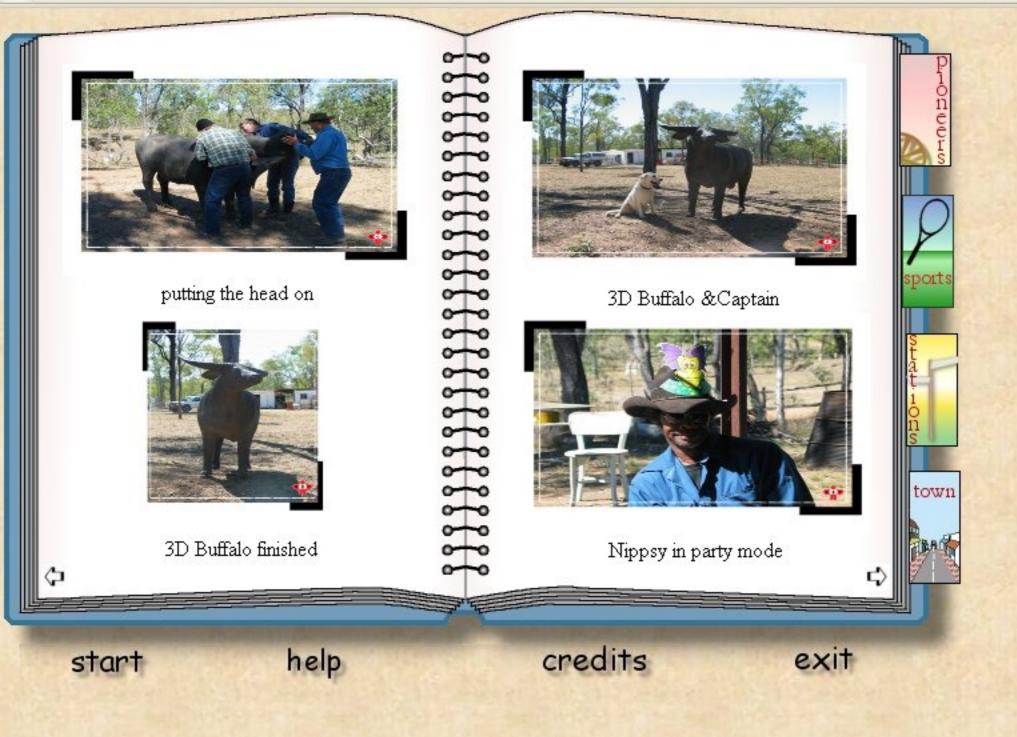


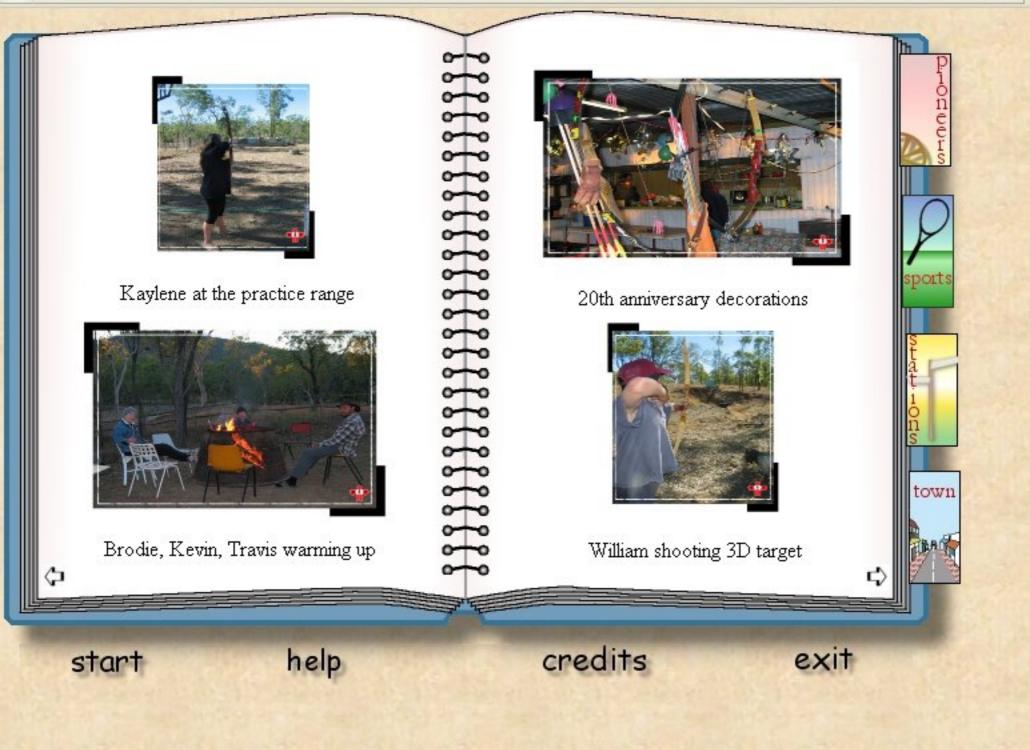


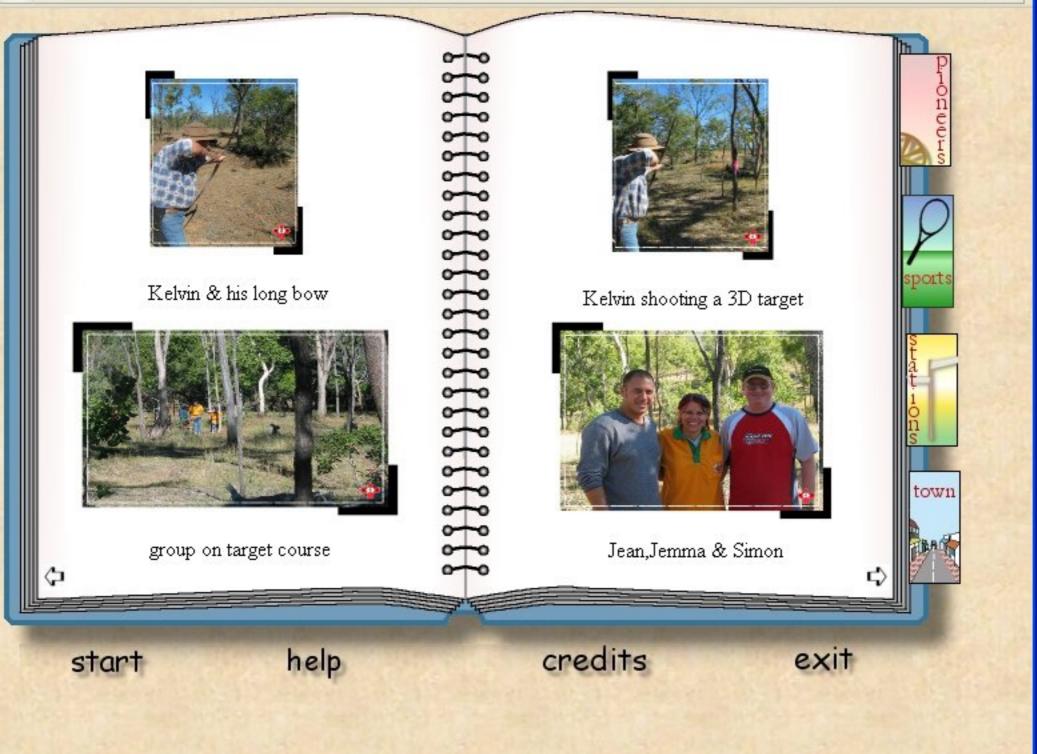


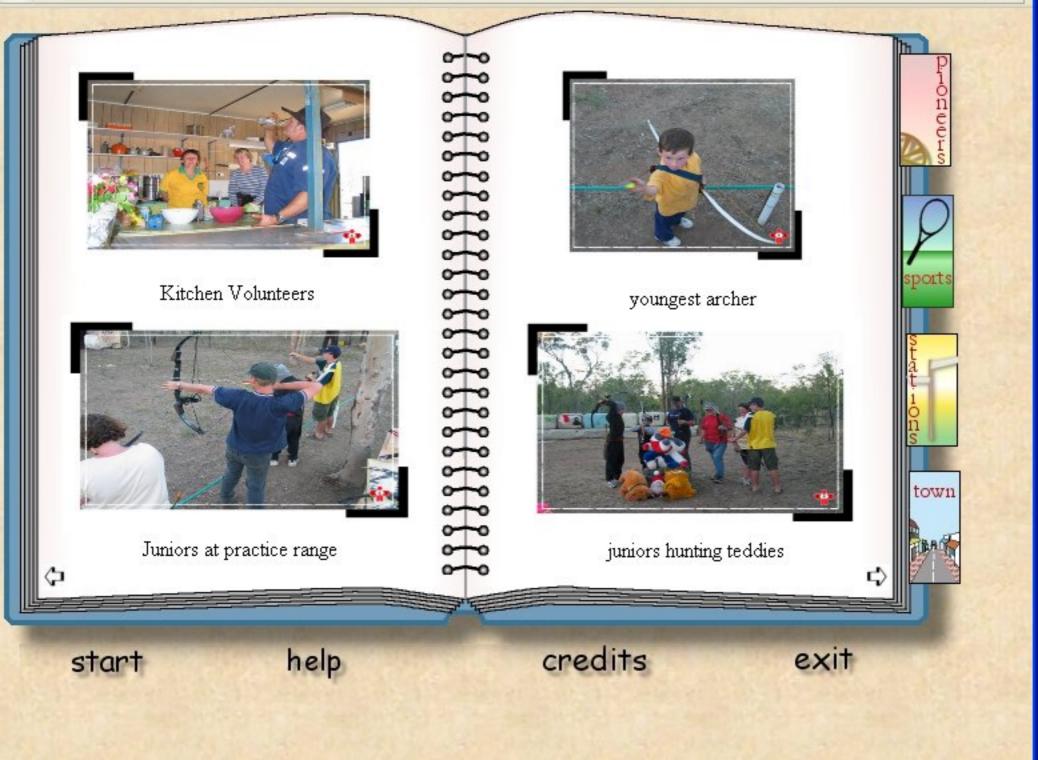


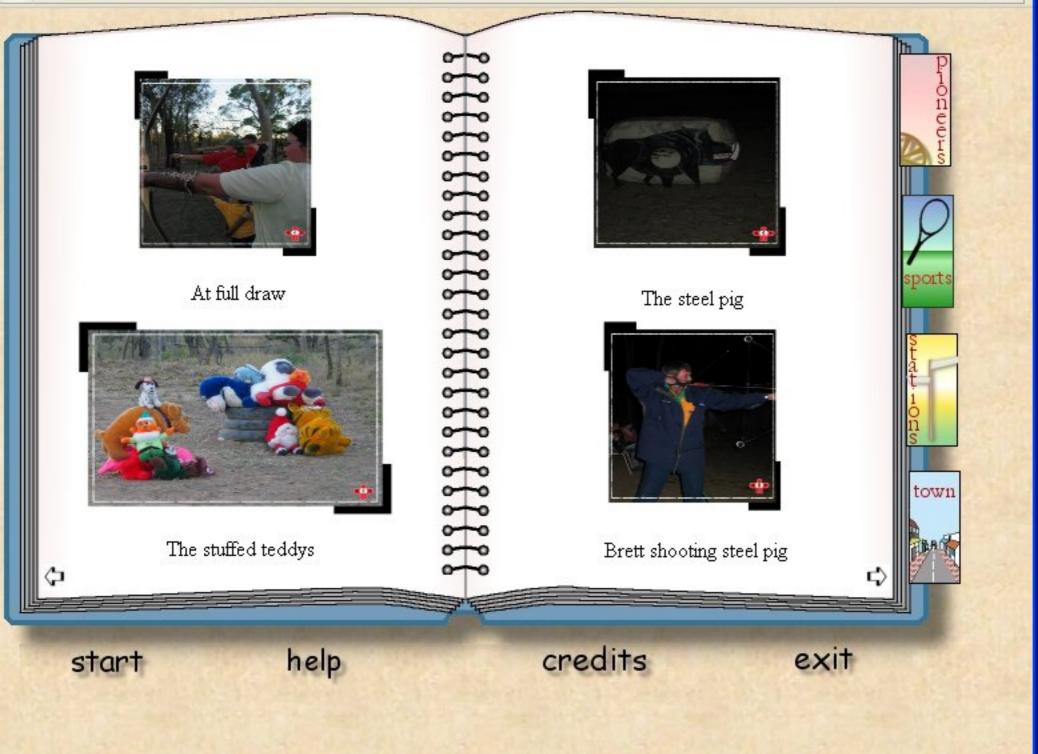


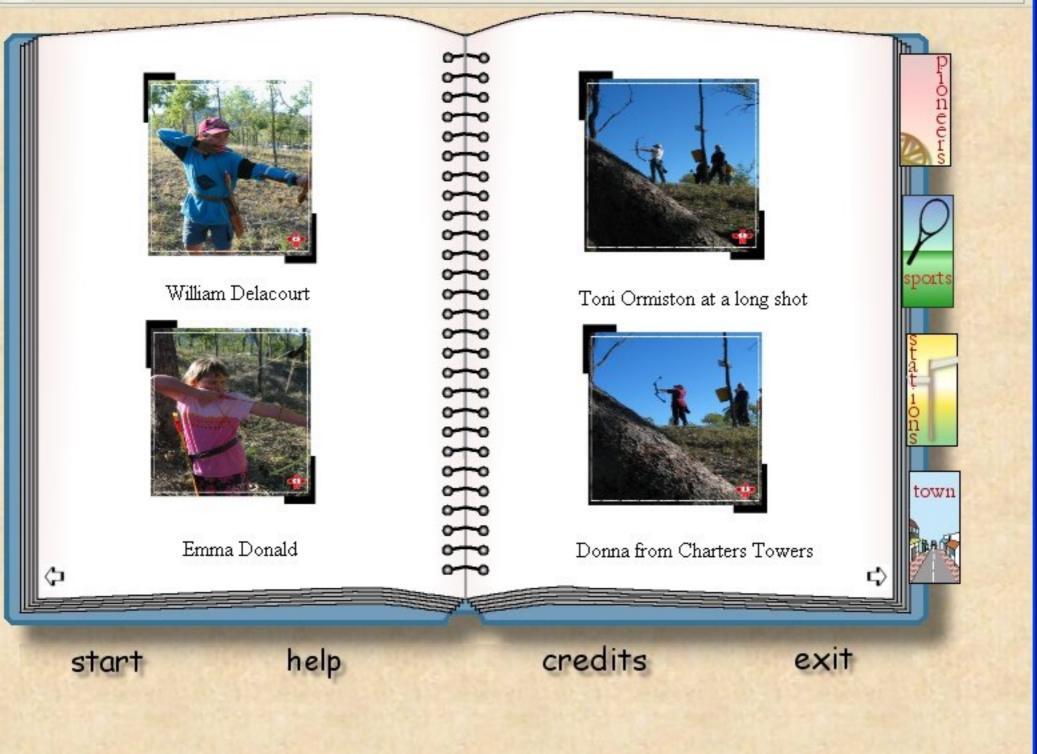


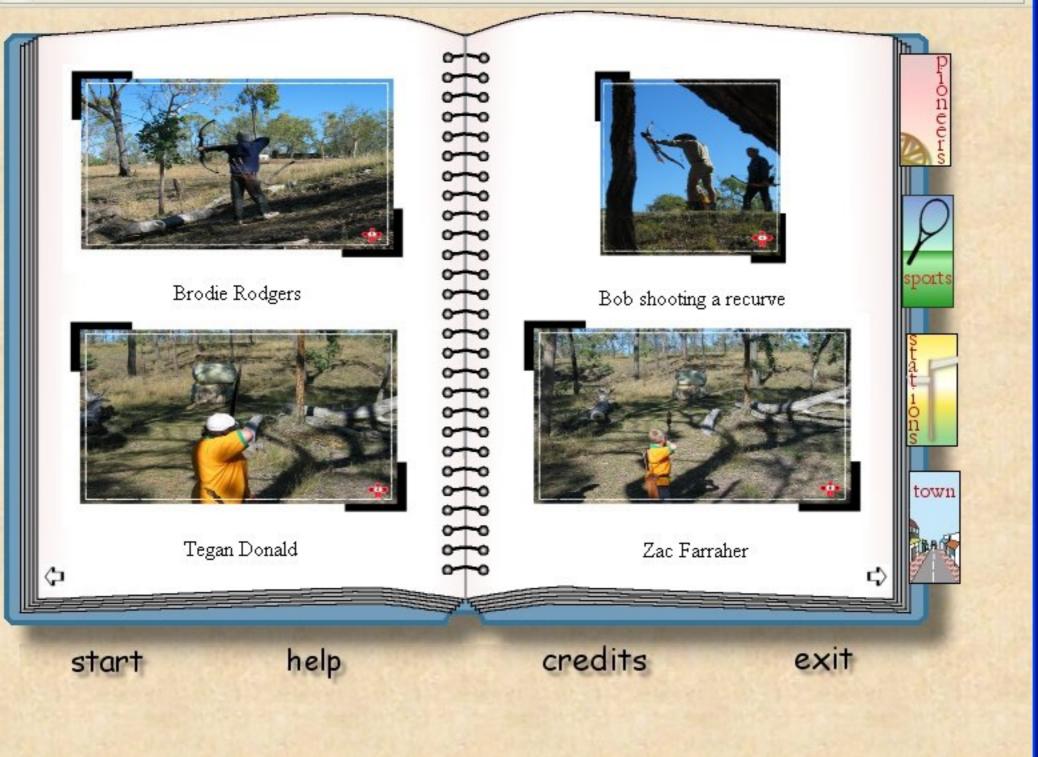


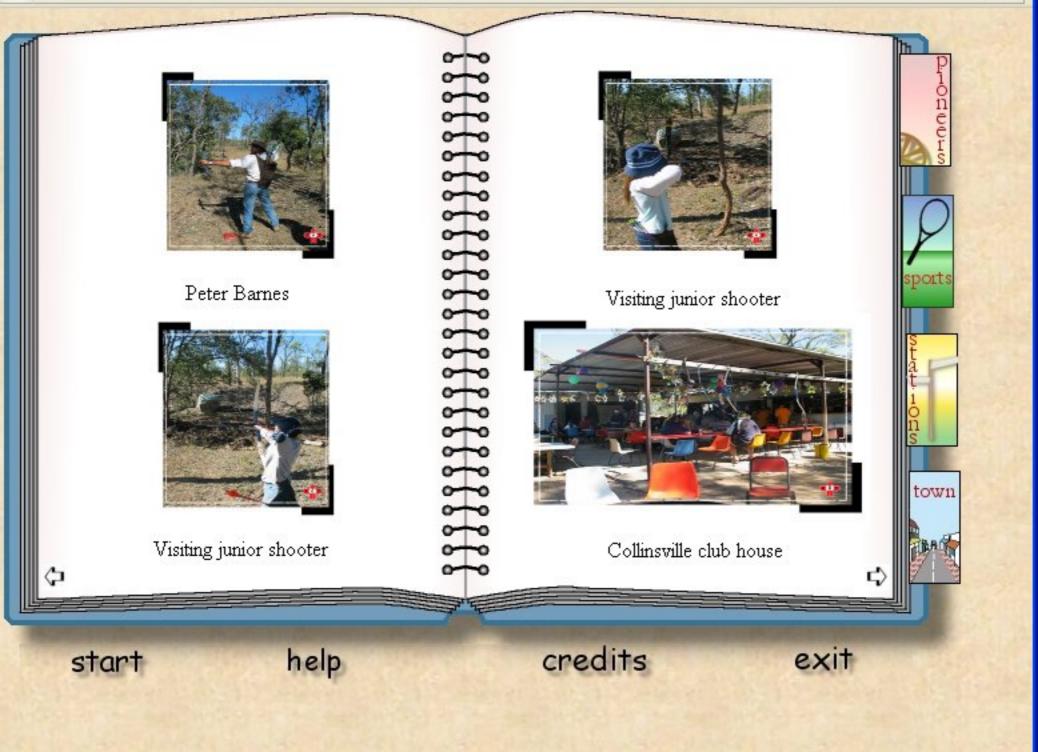


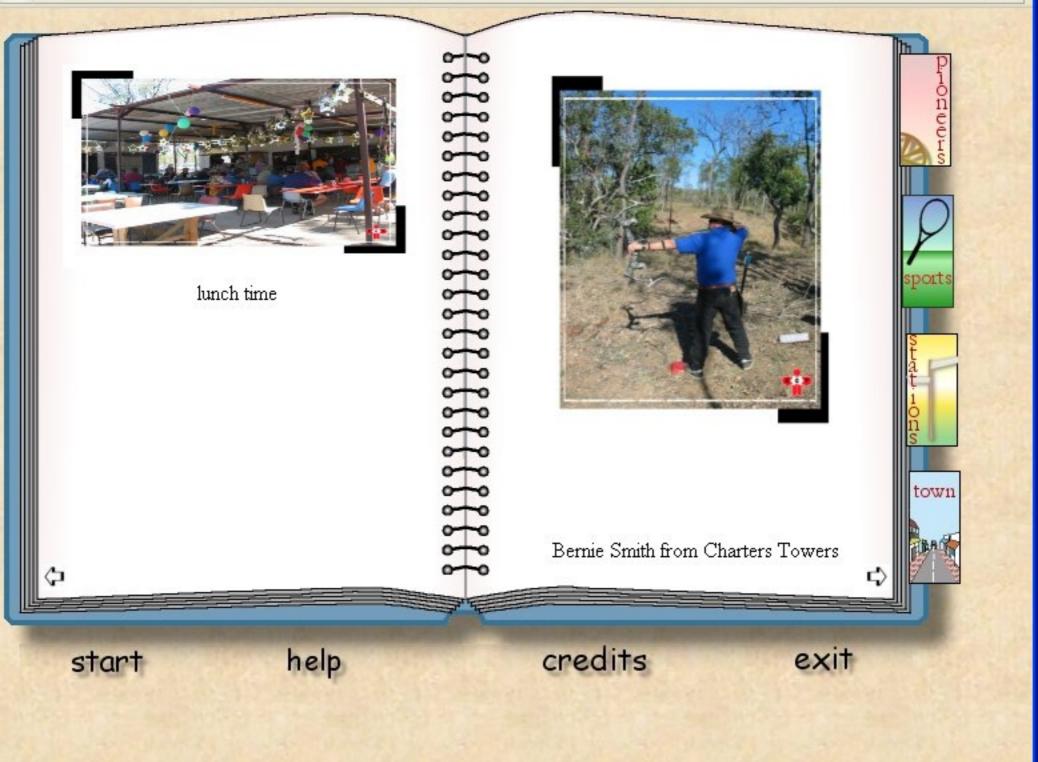


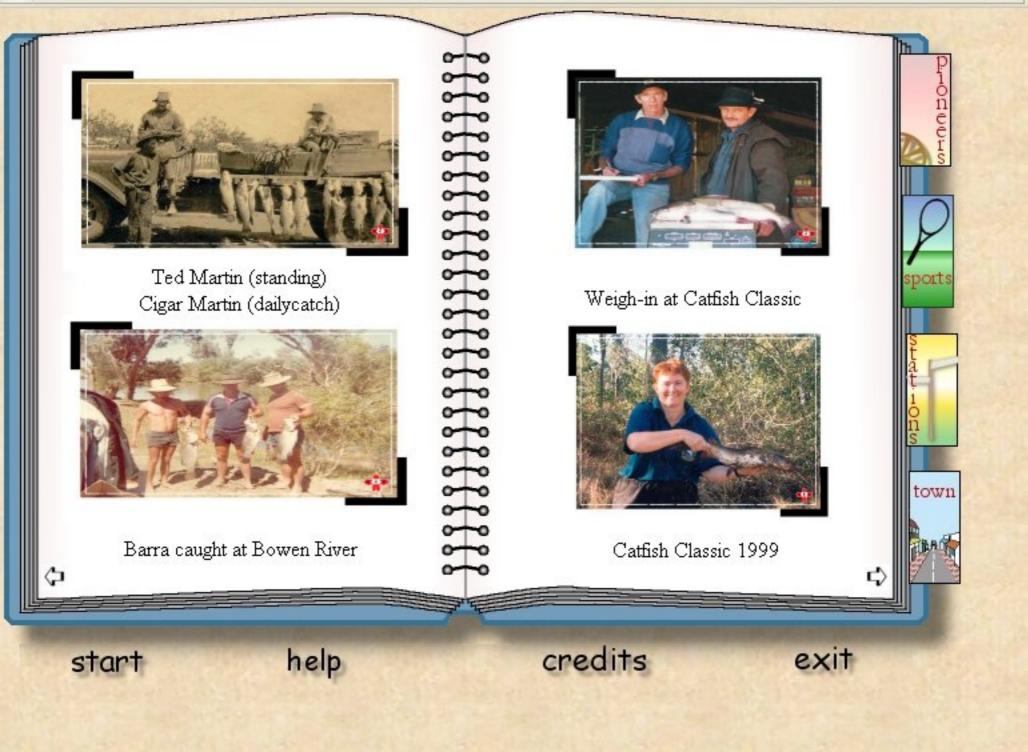


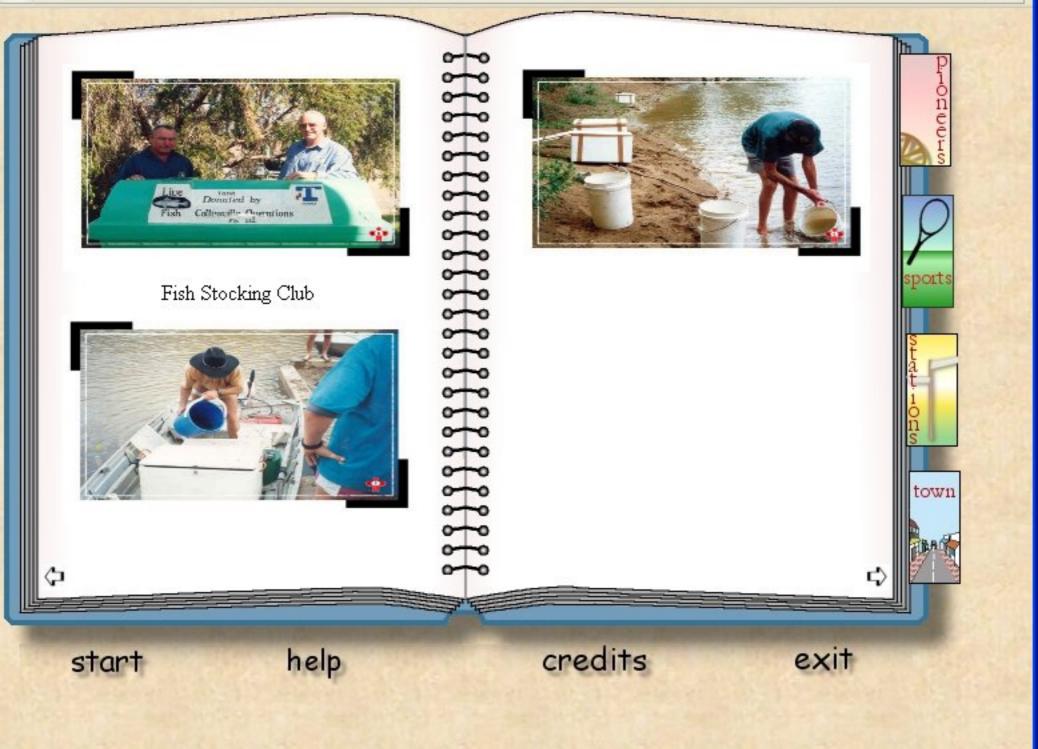


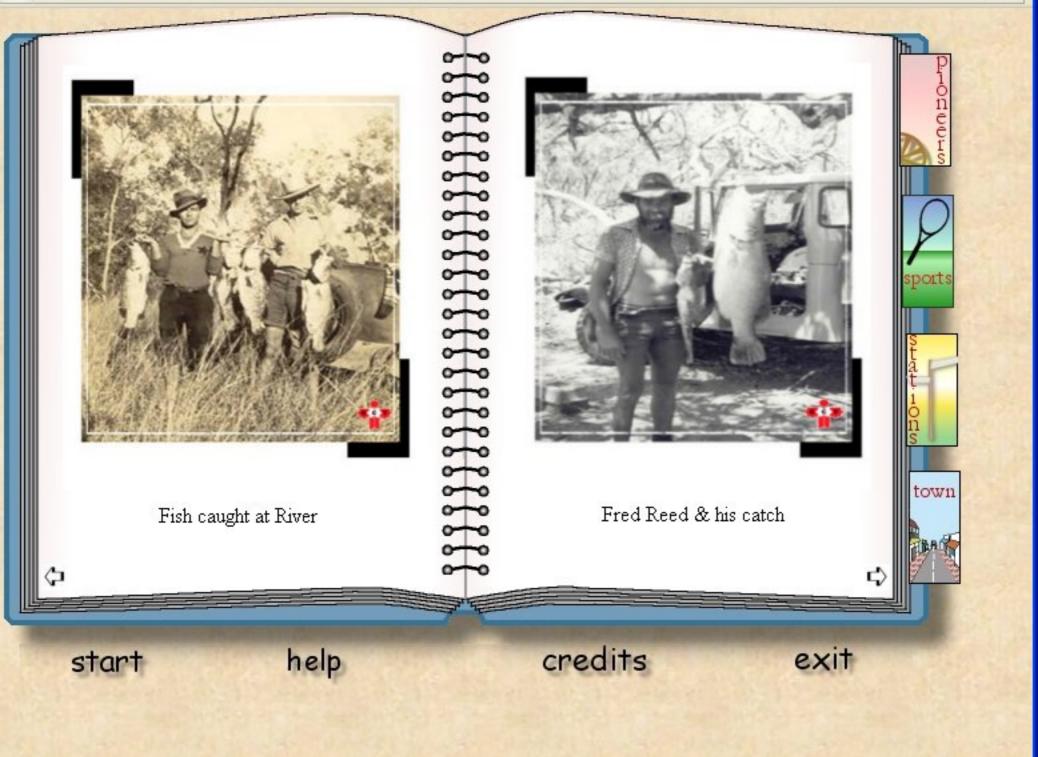


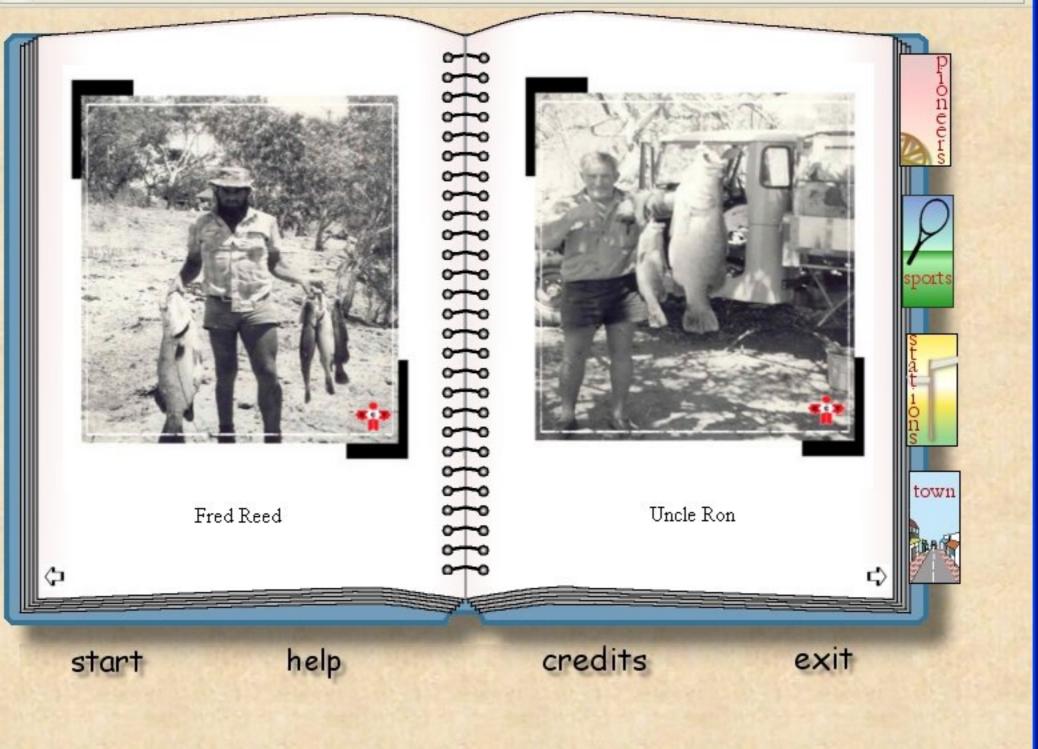


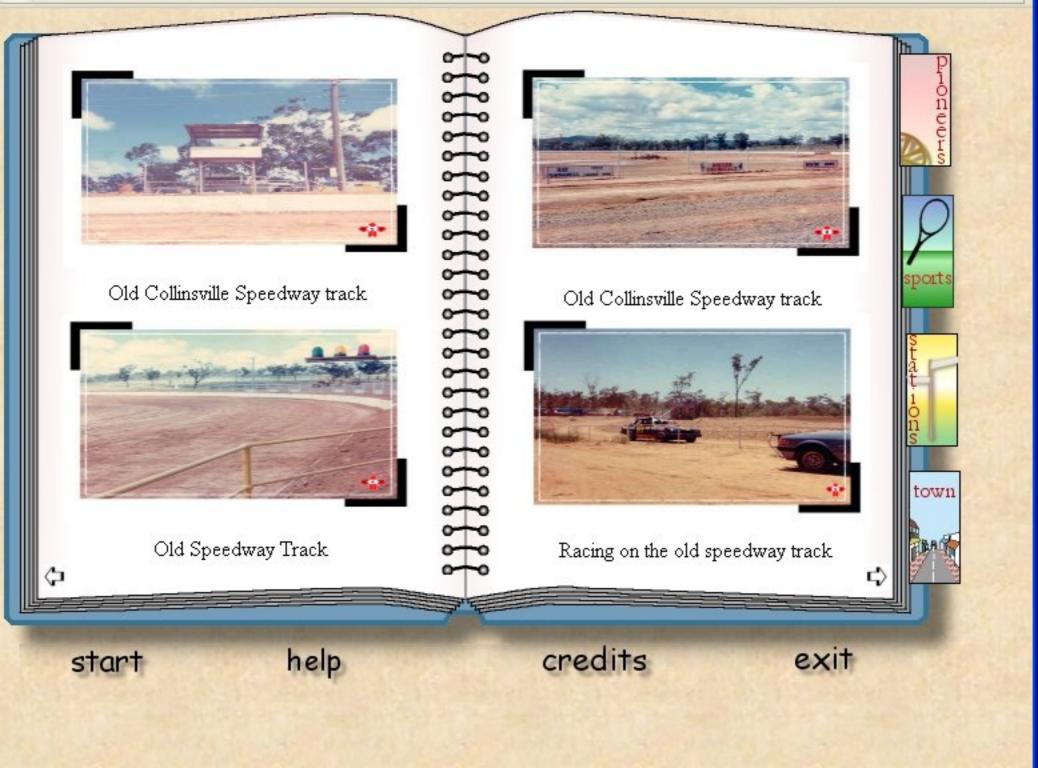


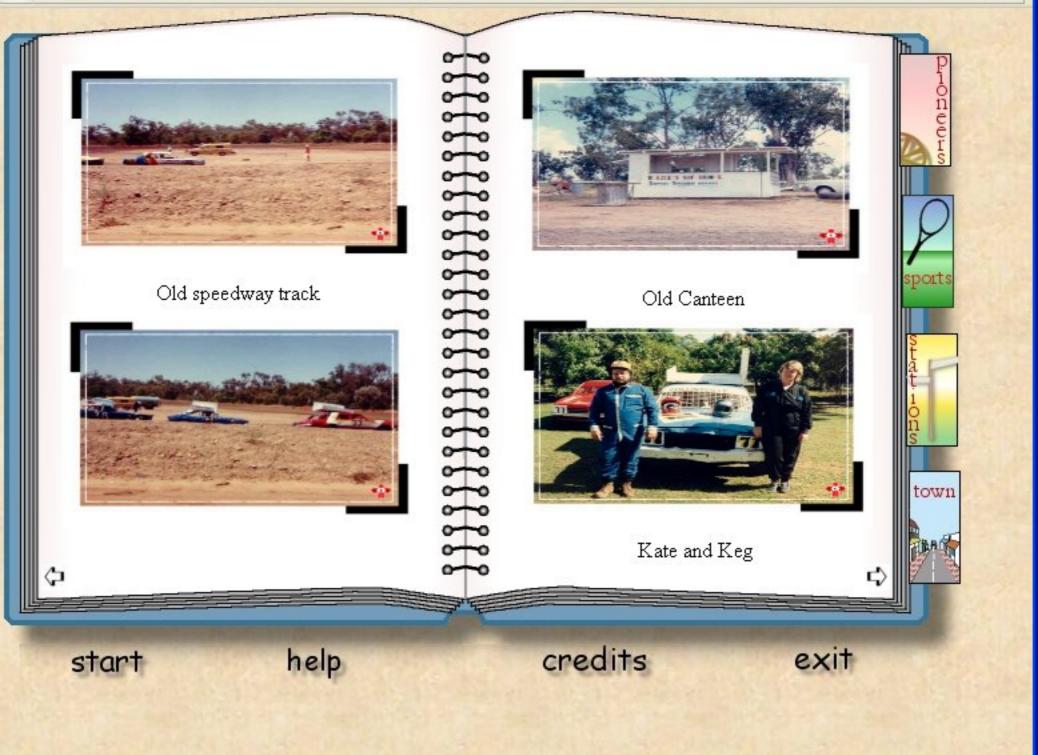


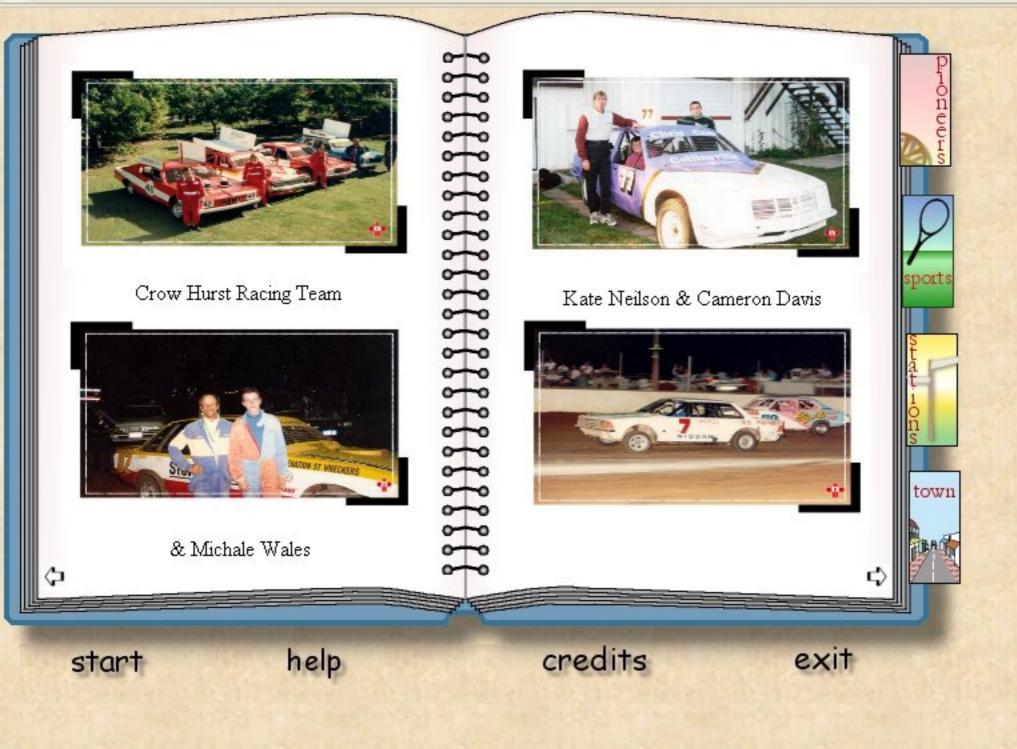


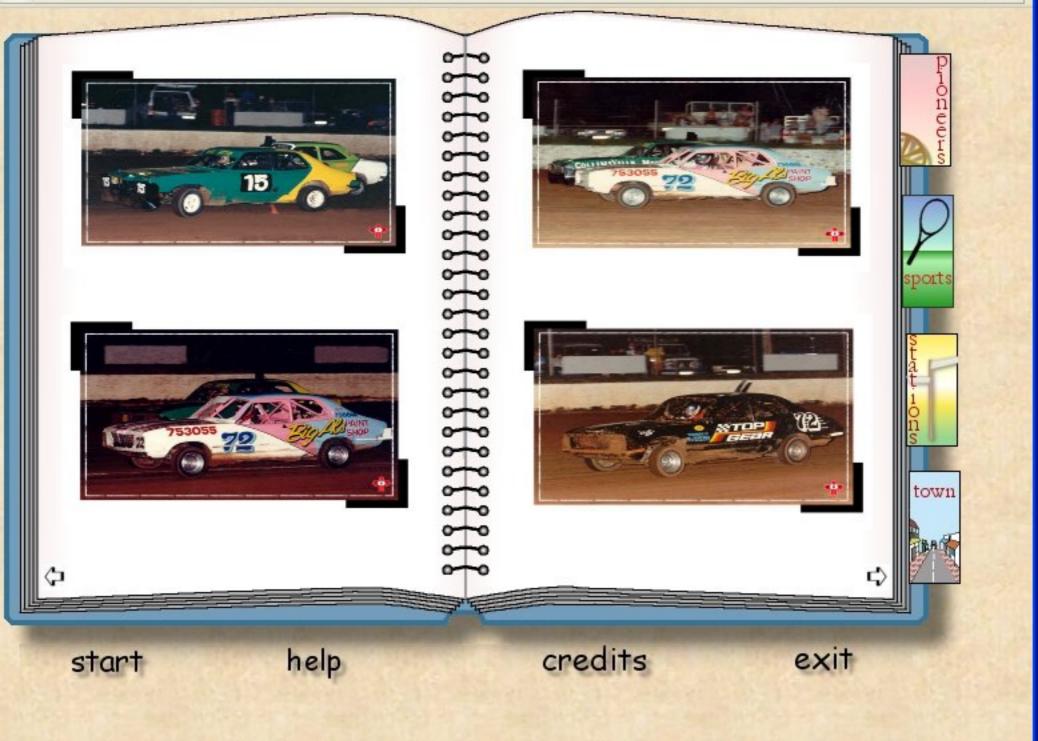


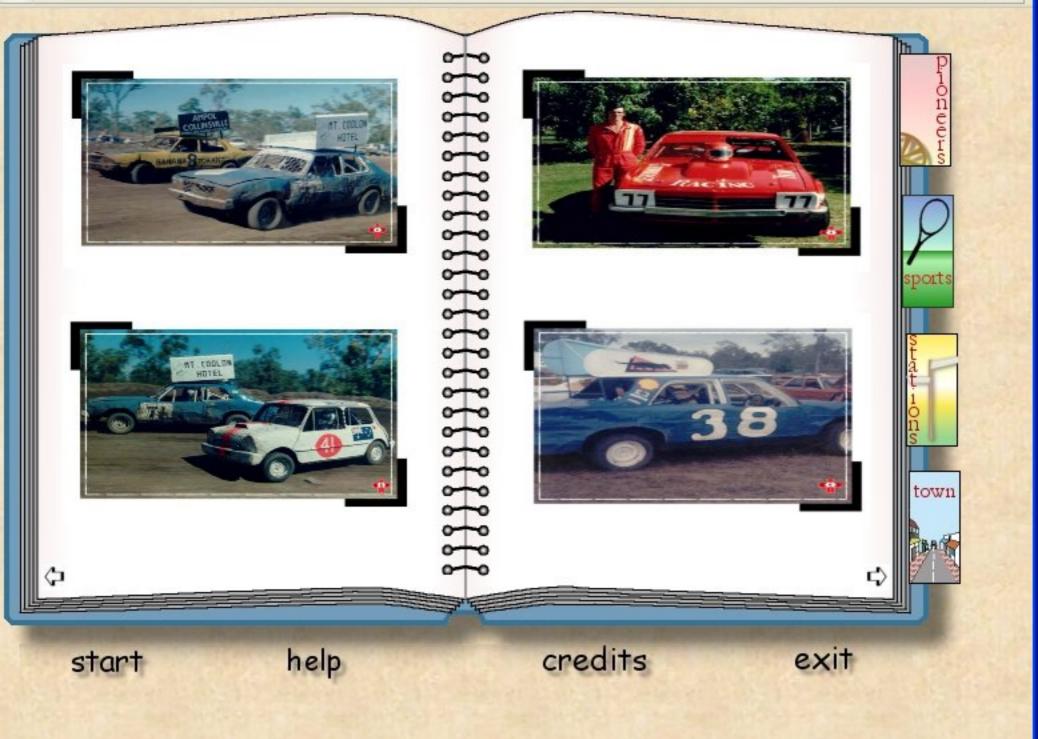


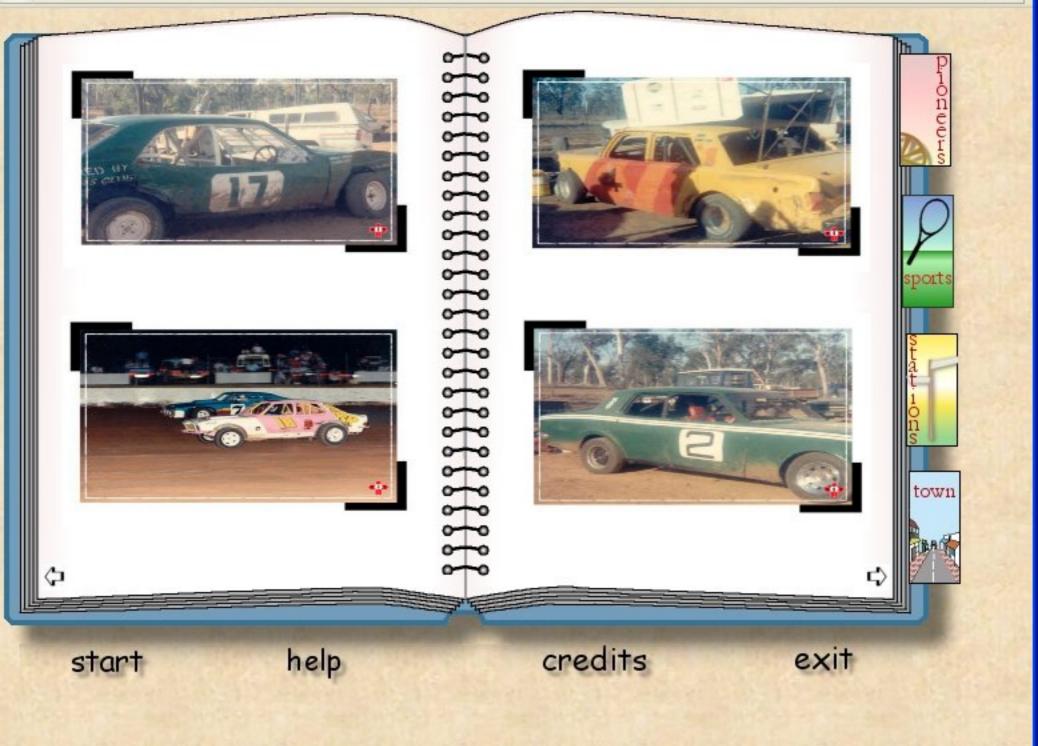


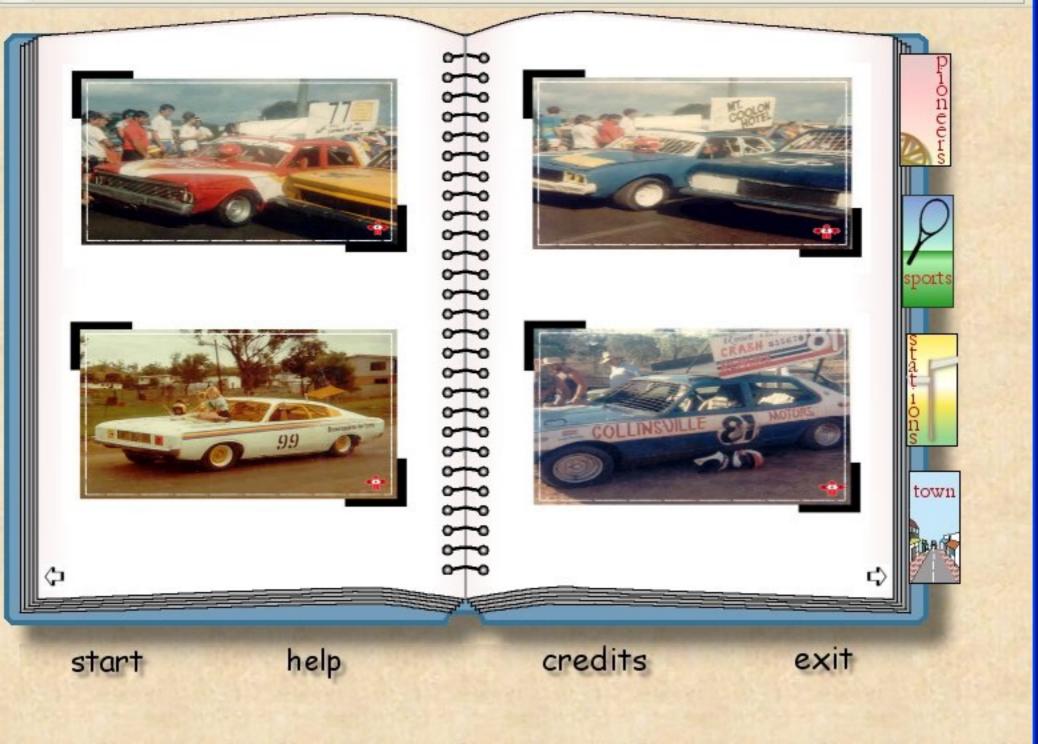


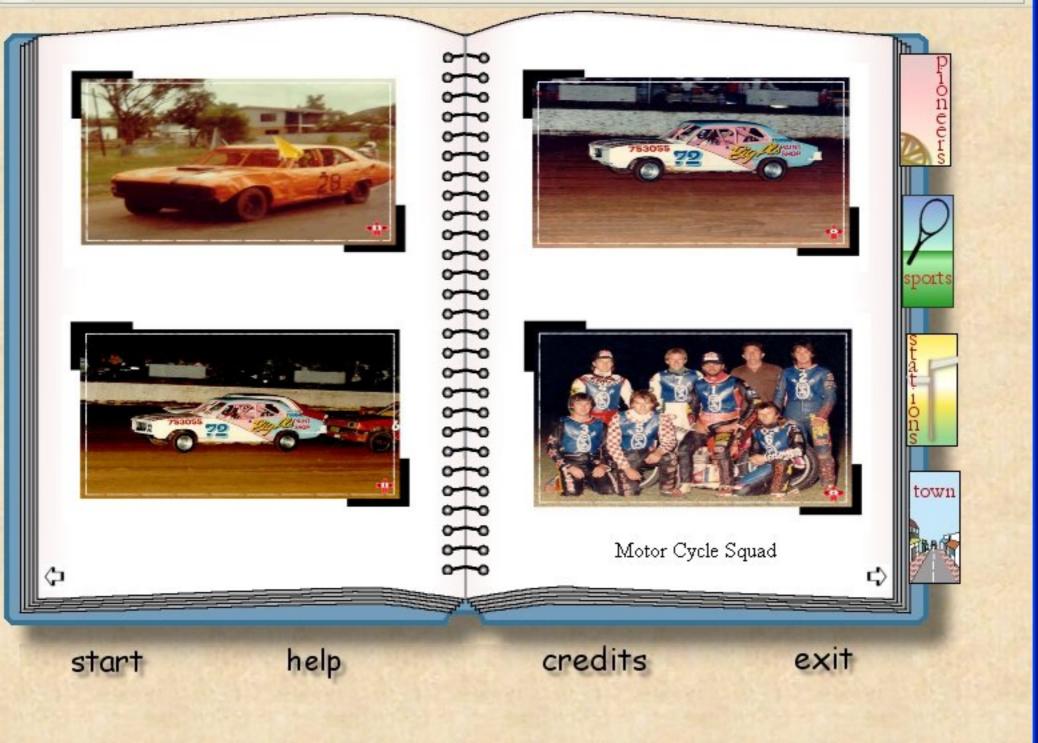


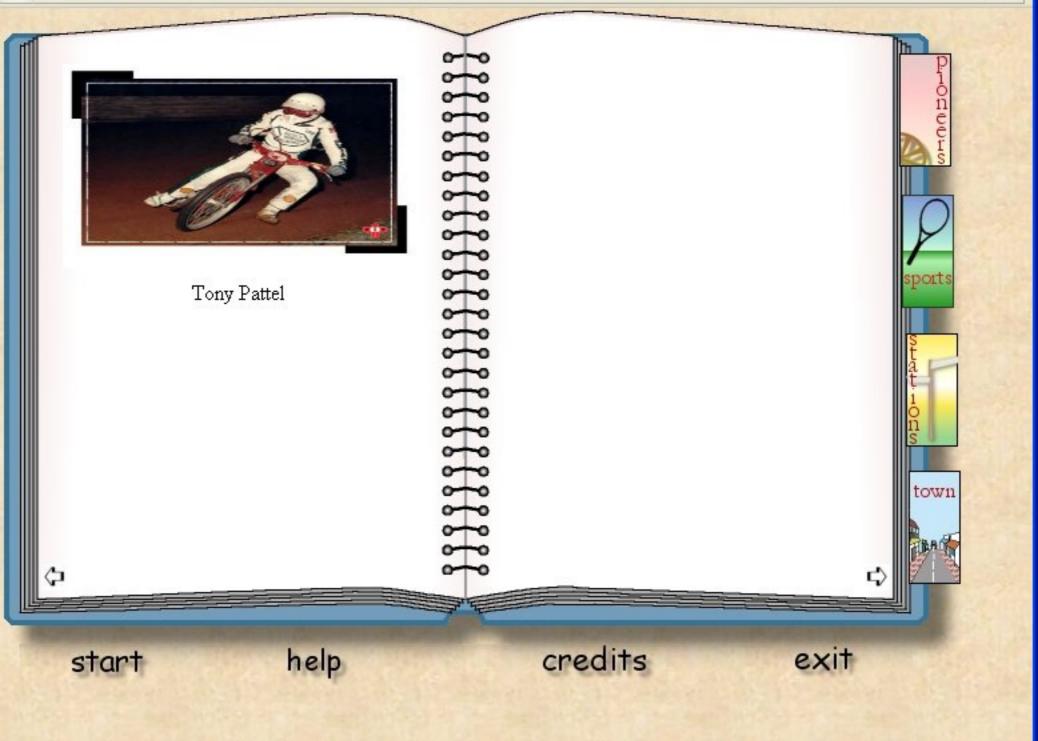


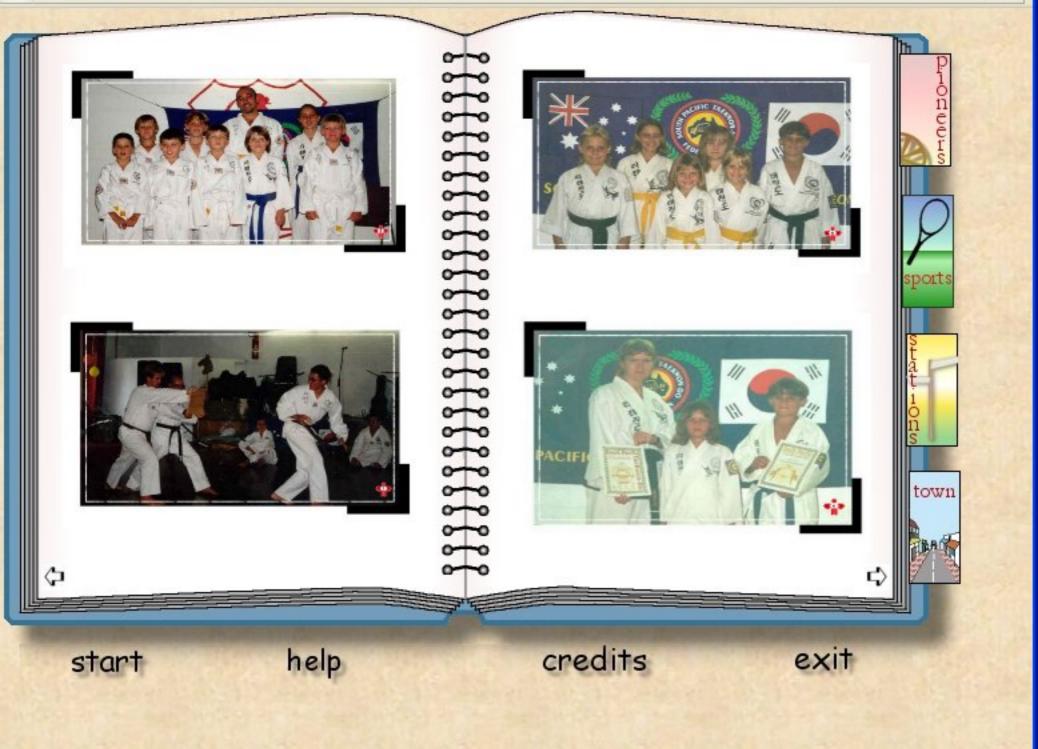


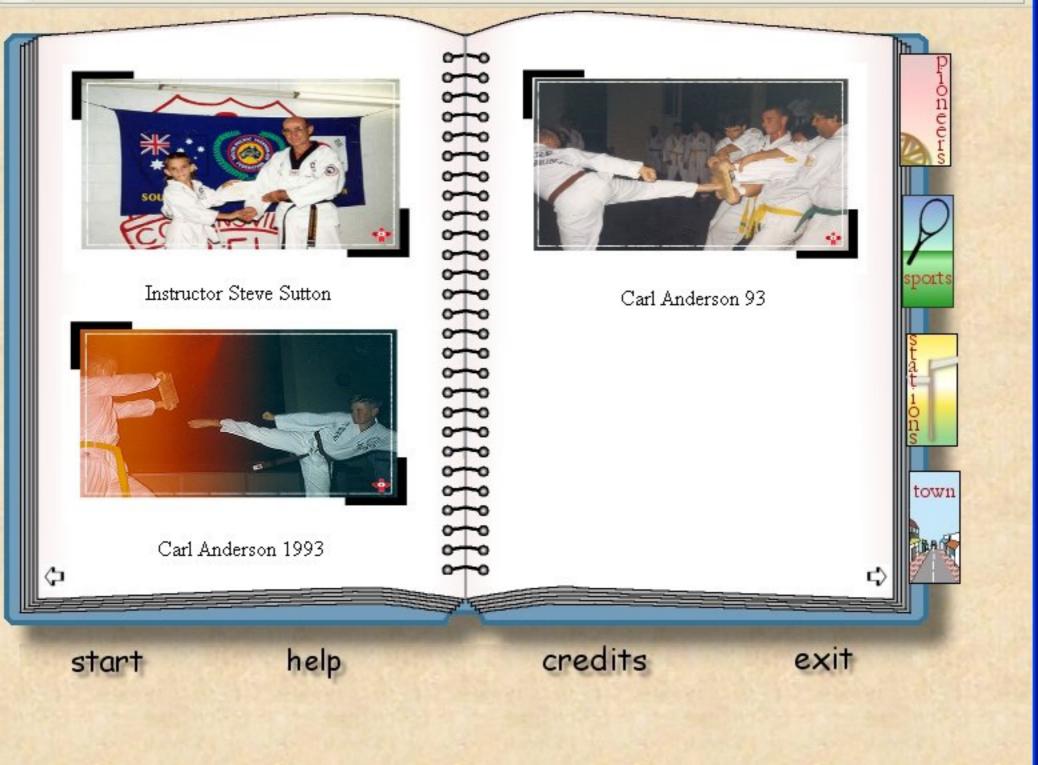


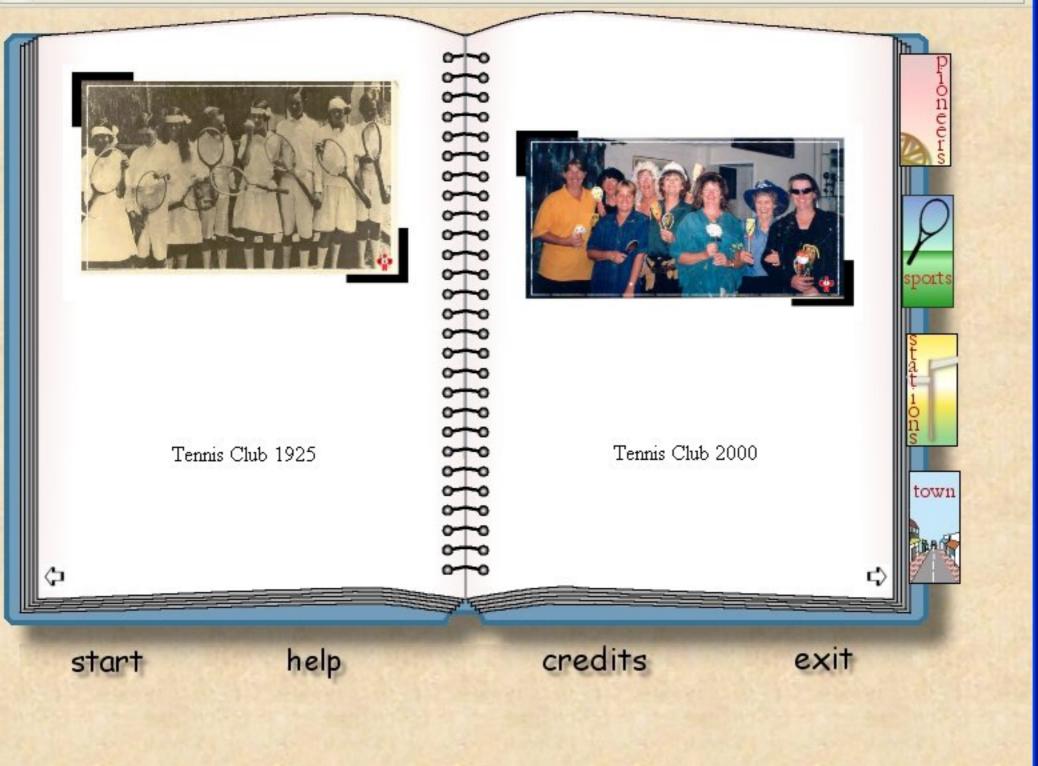












Copy of 1948 Football Program

Football!

Bowen V. Collinsville
Sunday, June 6th, 1948
Wilson Cup Fixture
Mine Ground: Commencing 12 Noon

THE TEAMS

12 Noon
Collinsville Schoolboys (Maroons)
Fullback J. Tudehope
34: J. Hoffman, A. Williams, N. Brunker, T.
McCarthy
5/8: C. Miller, Halfback: B. Payne
(Vice-Capt)
Forwards: V. Hinds, W. Payne E. Skellern

1PM

Juniors Referee: S. Mcleod.

BOWEN (Blue, White V)

Full-back: B. Malone

34:M. Walker, J. Walker, P. Meehan

(capt) C. Pearce

5/8's: G. Haimes

1/2: J Came

Forwards

T. Bensted, L. Maiers, R. Willis,

F. Proberts, J. Webster.

D. Green

Emerg.- D. Dobbins, W. Pearson,

D. Osbourne, L. Norman.

T. Hinds, R. Darwen,

K. Dunlop.

(Capt.)

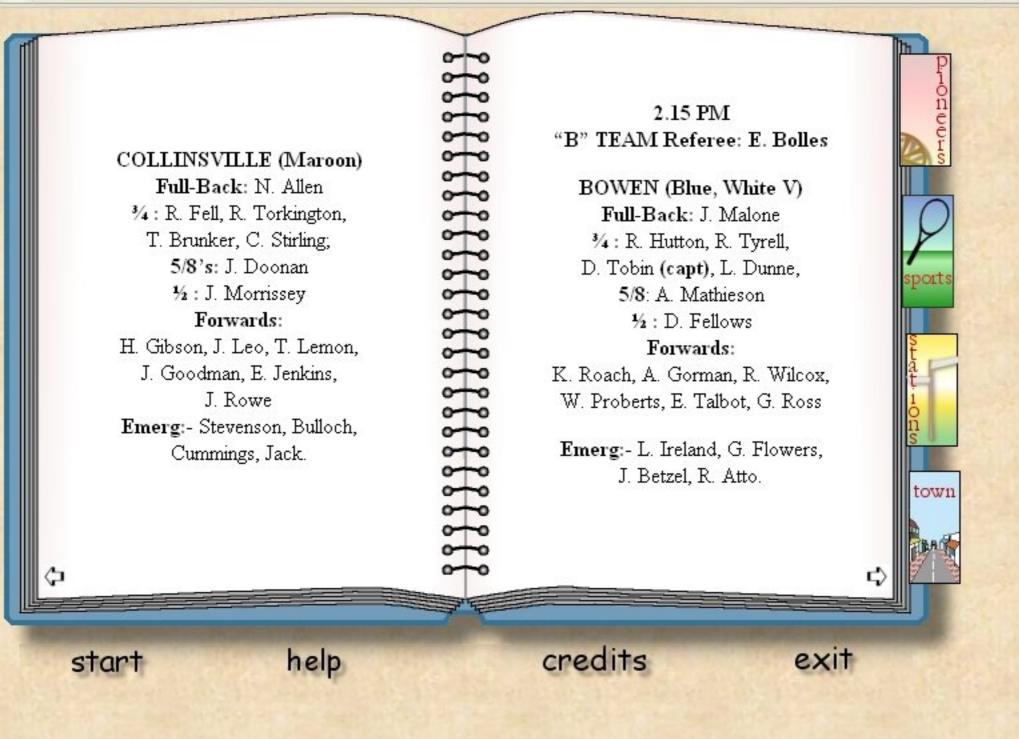
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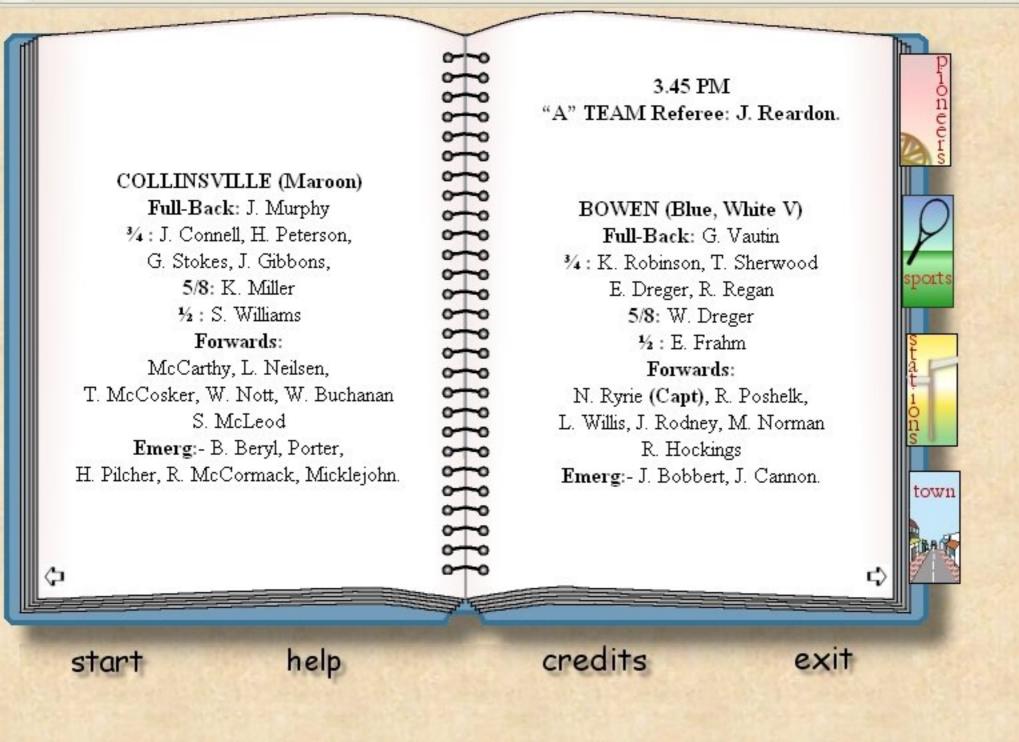
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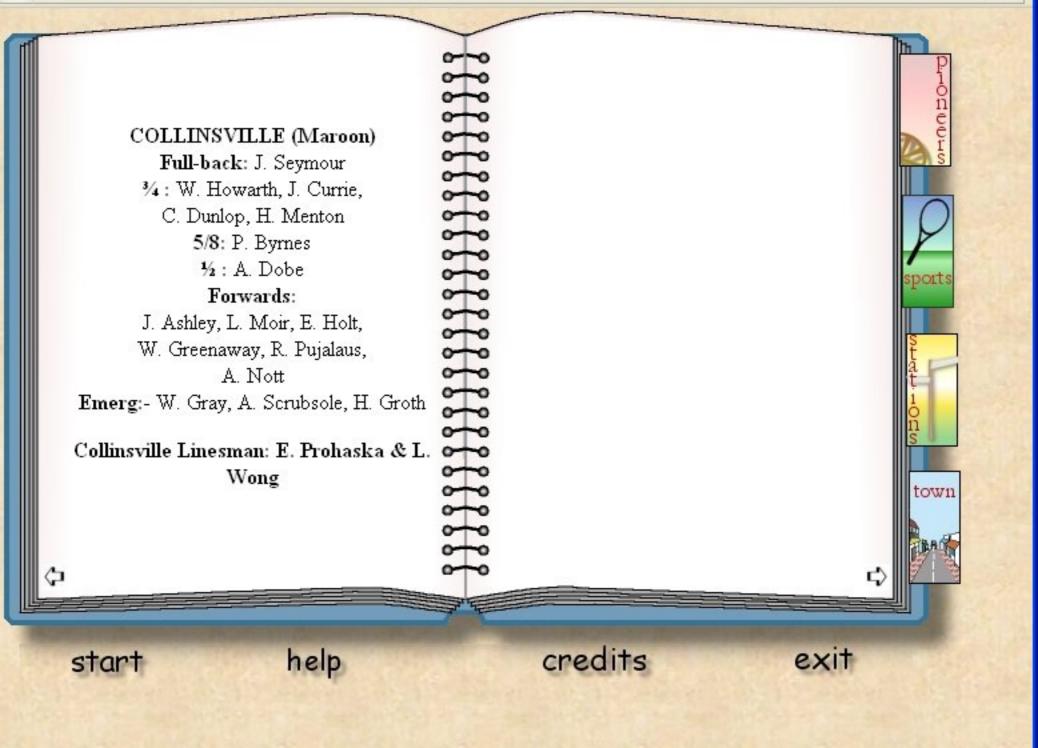
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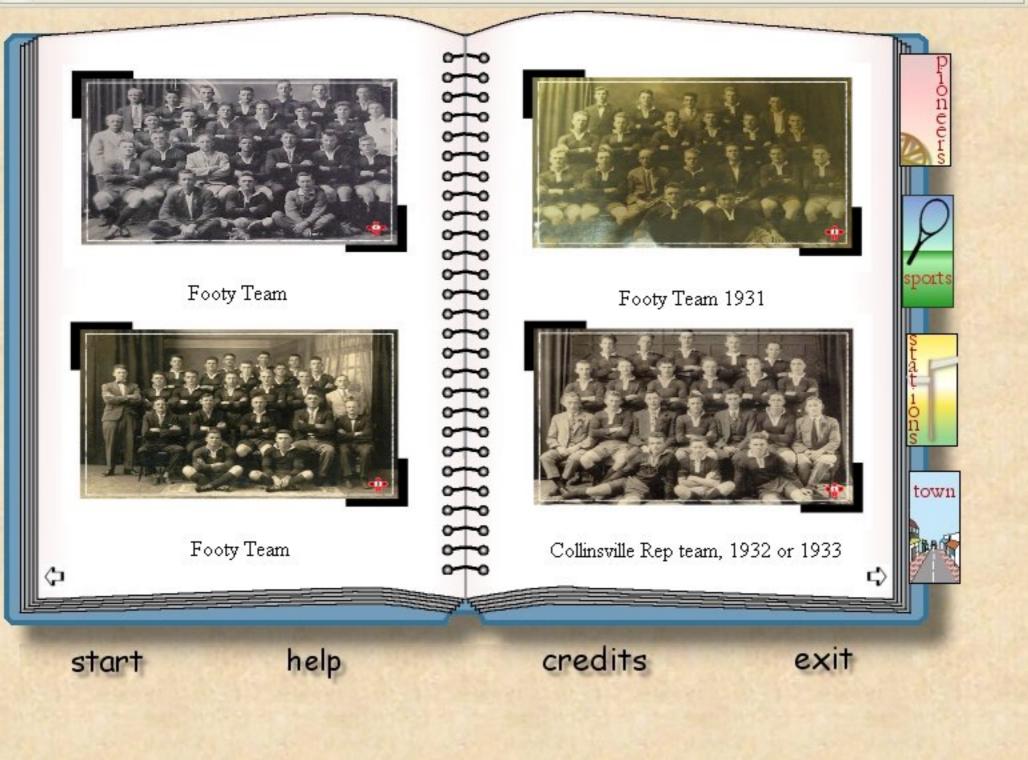


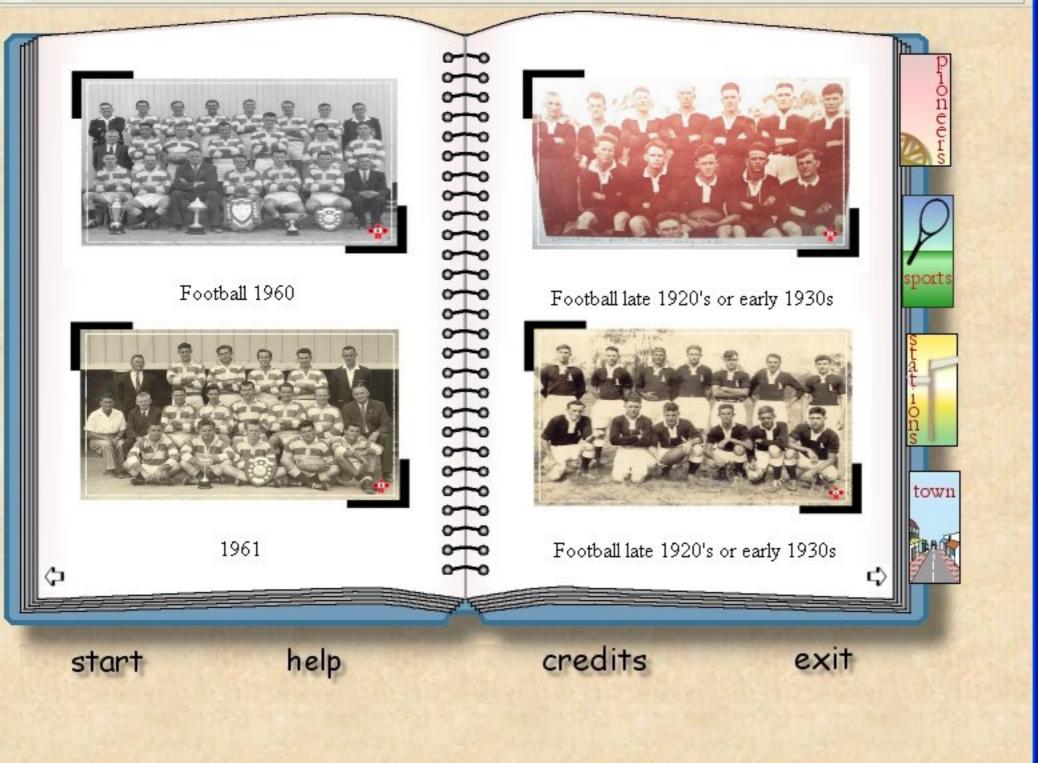
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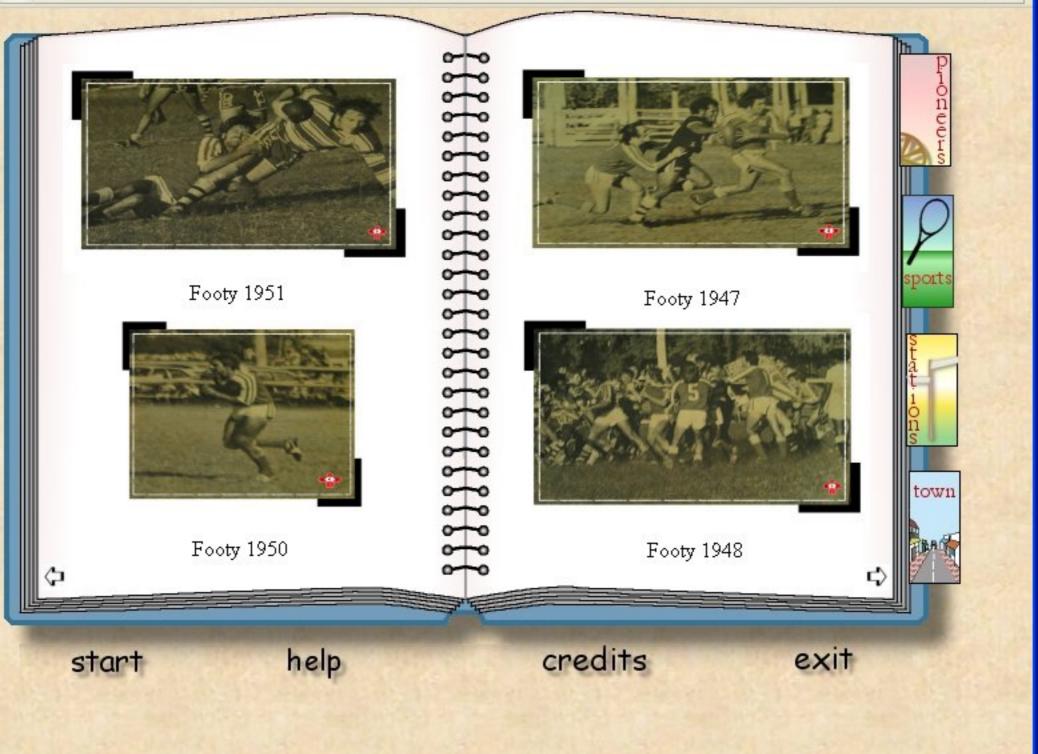


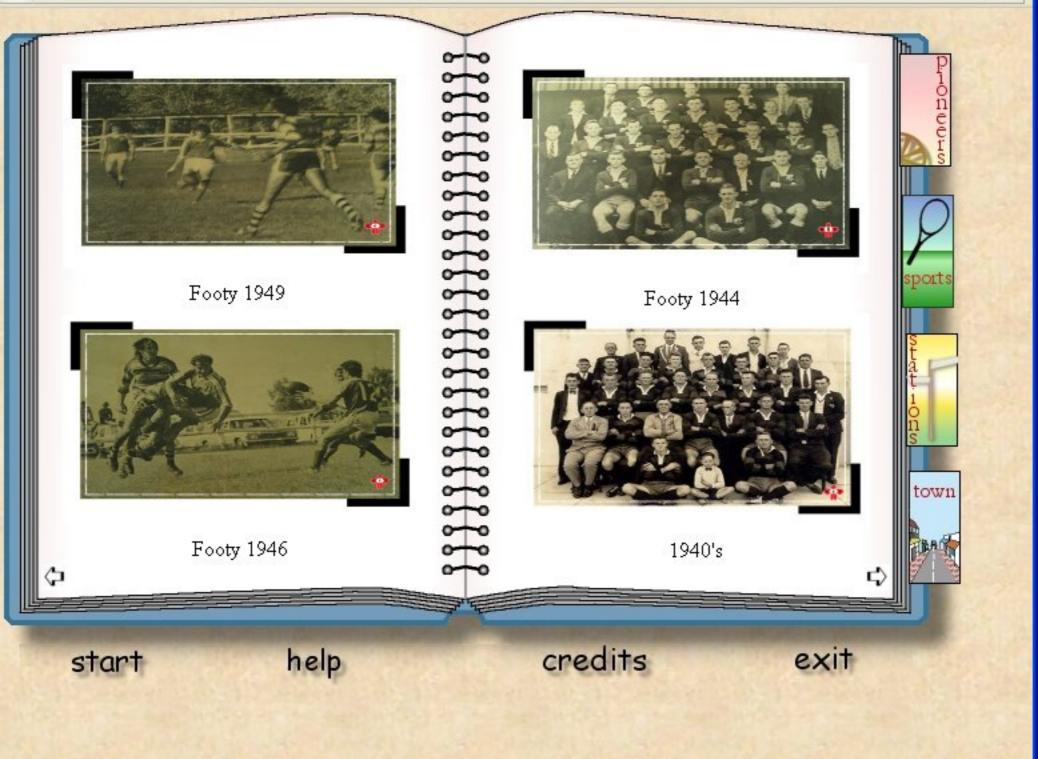


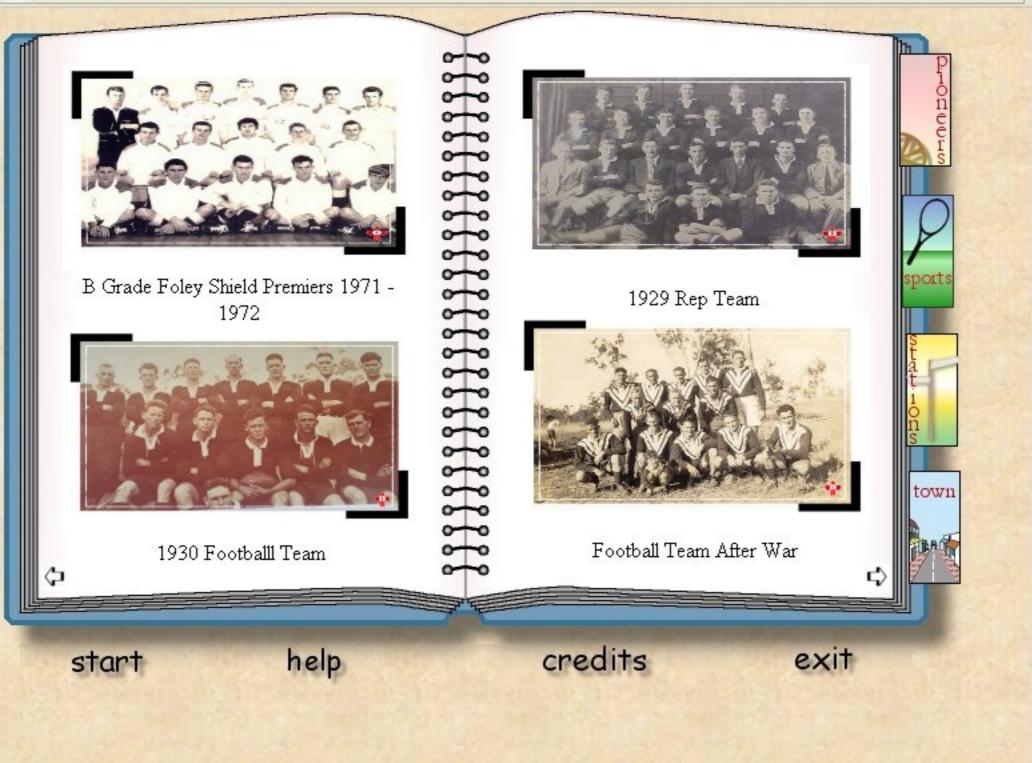


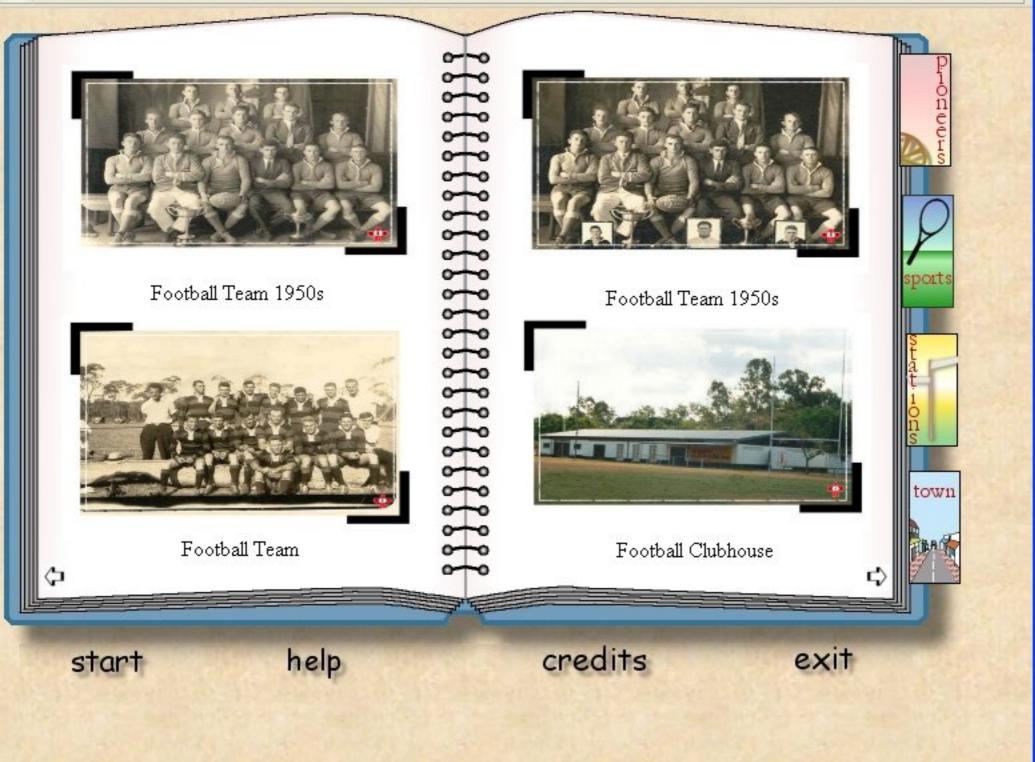


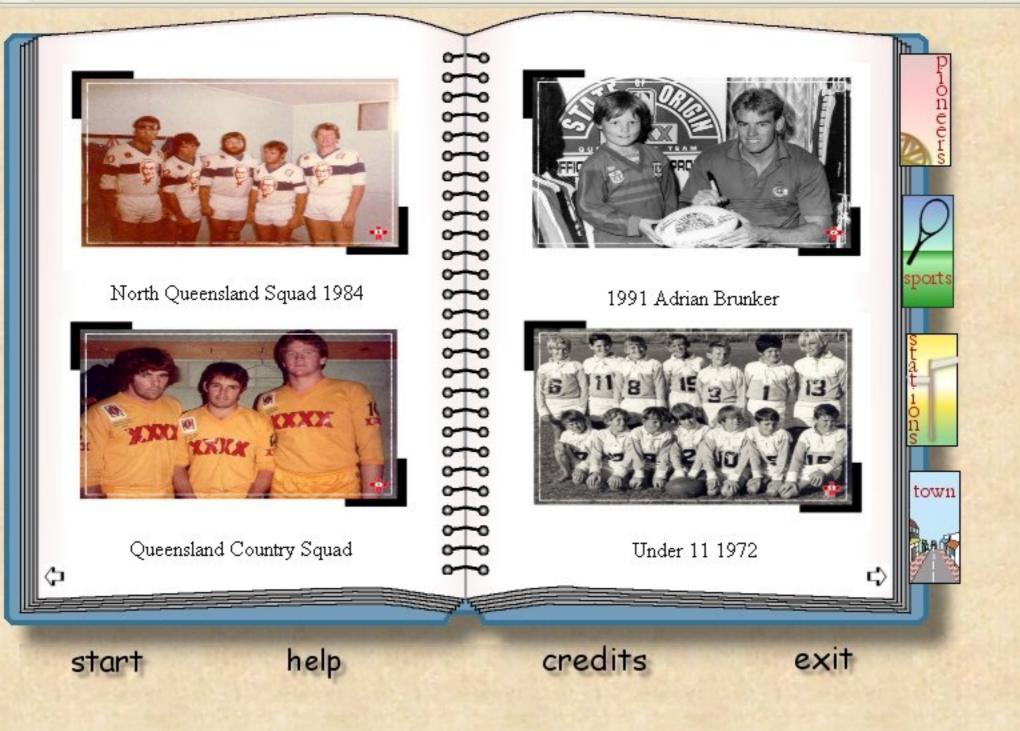


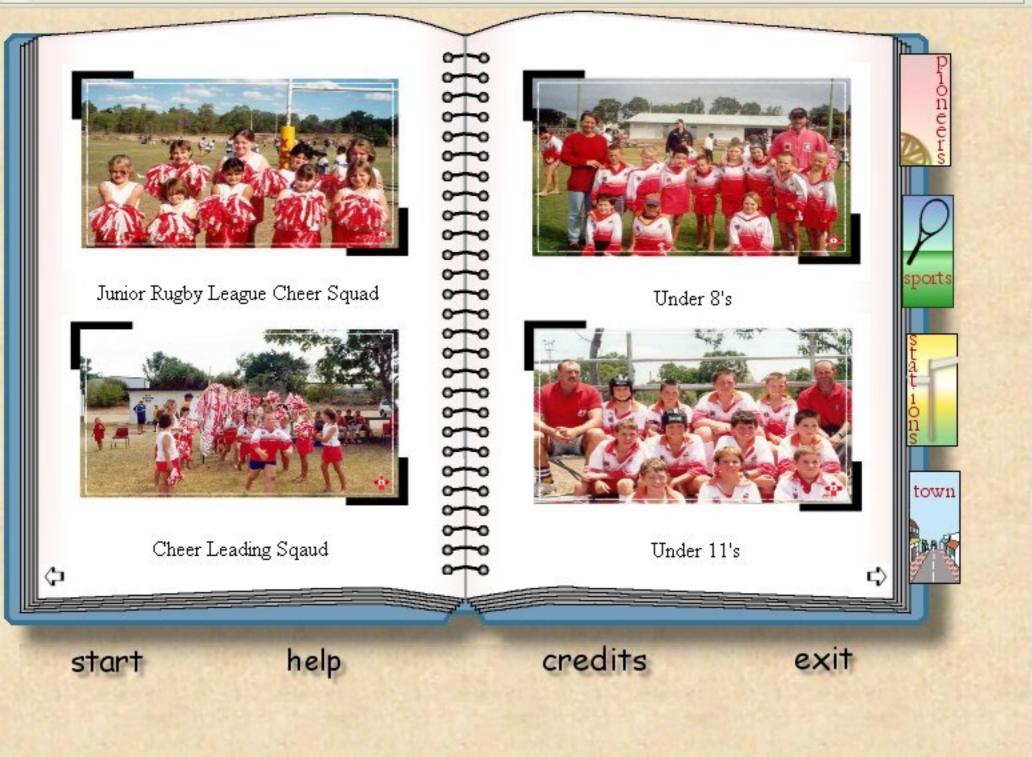


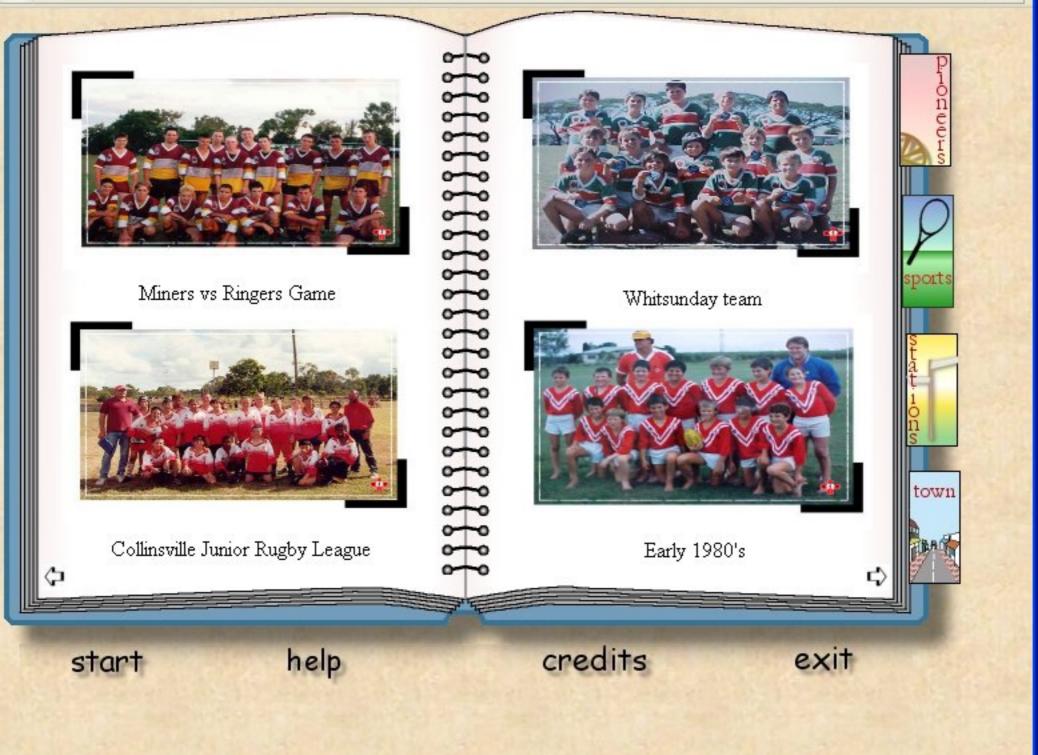


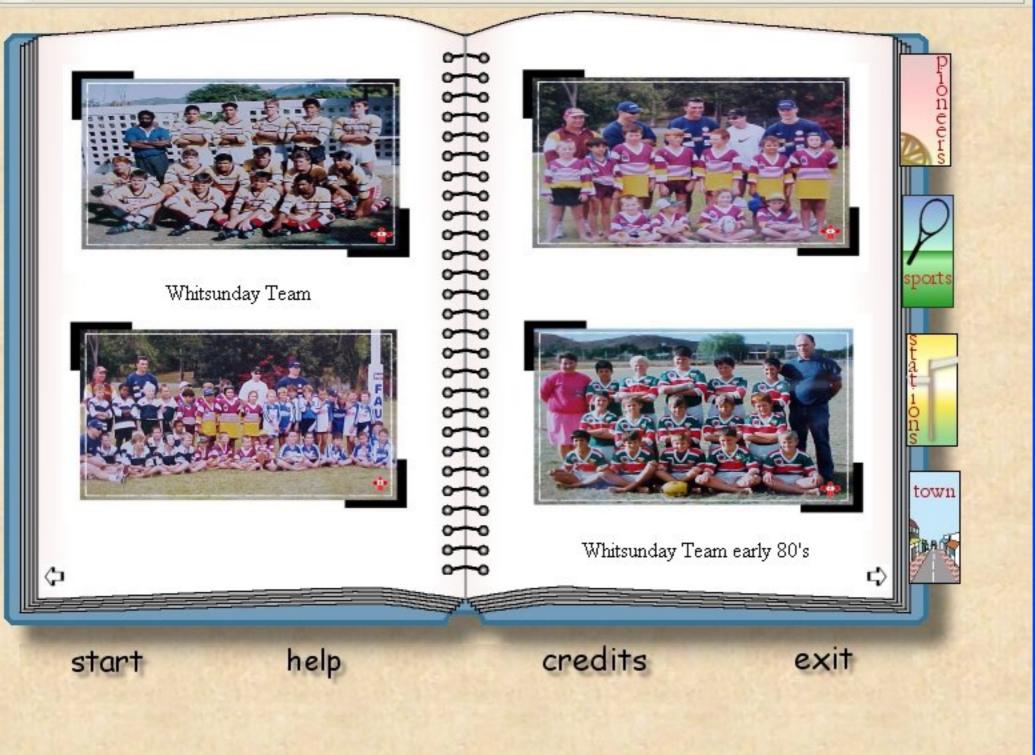


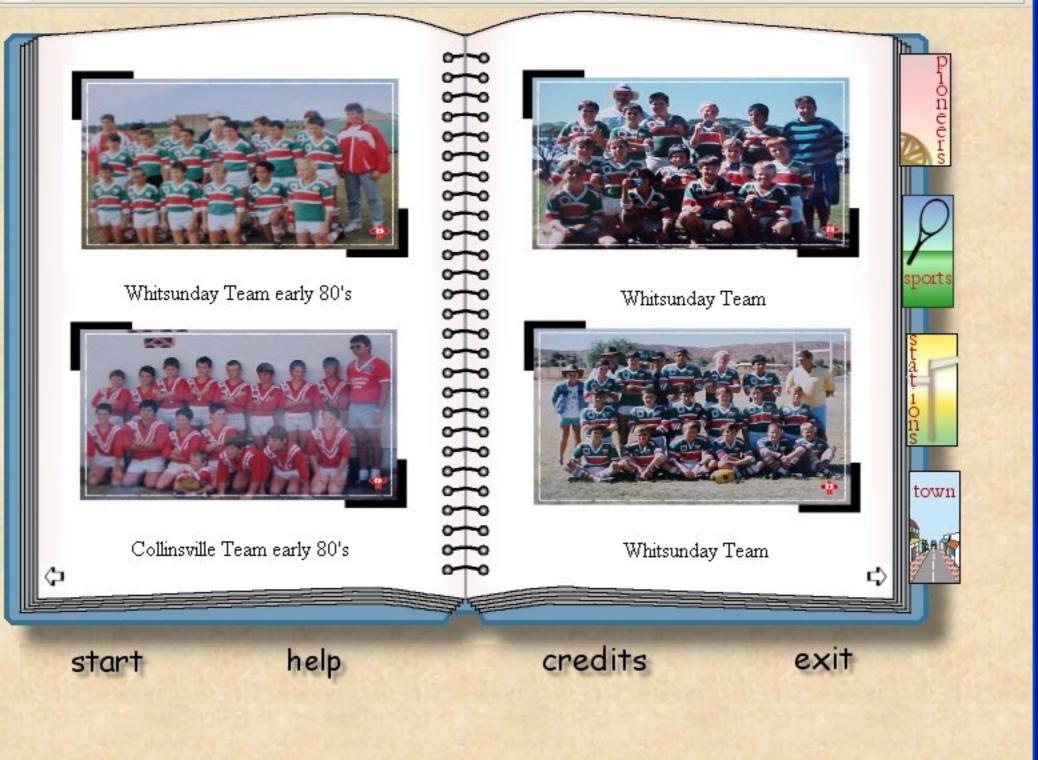


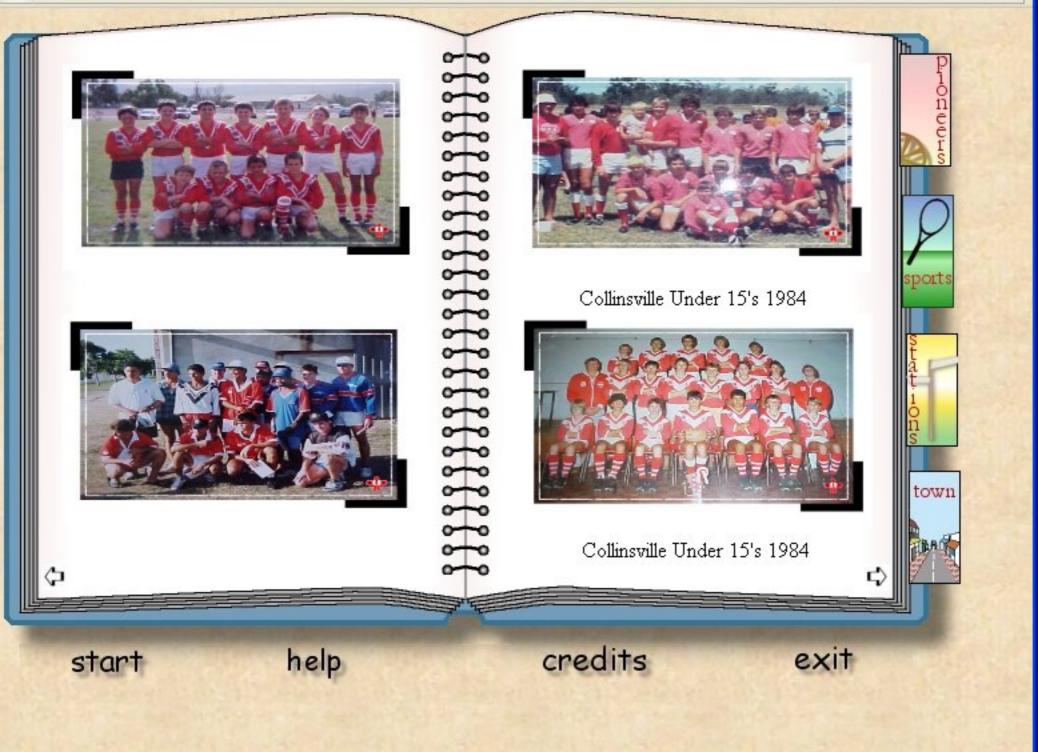


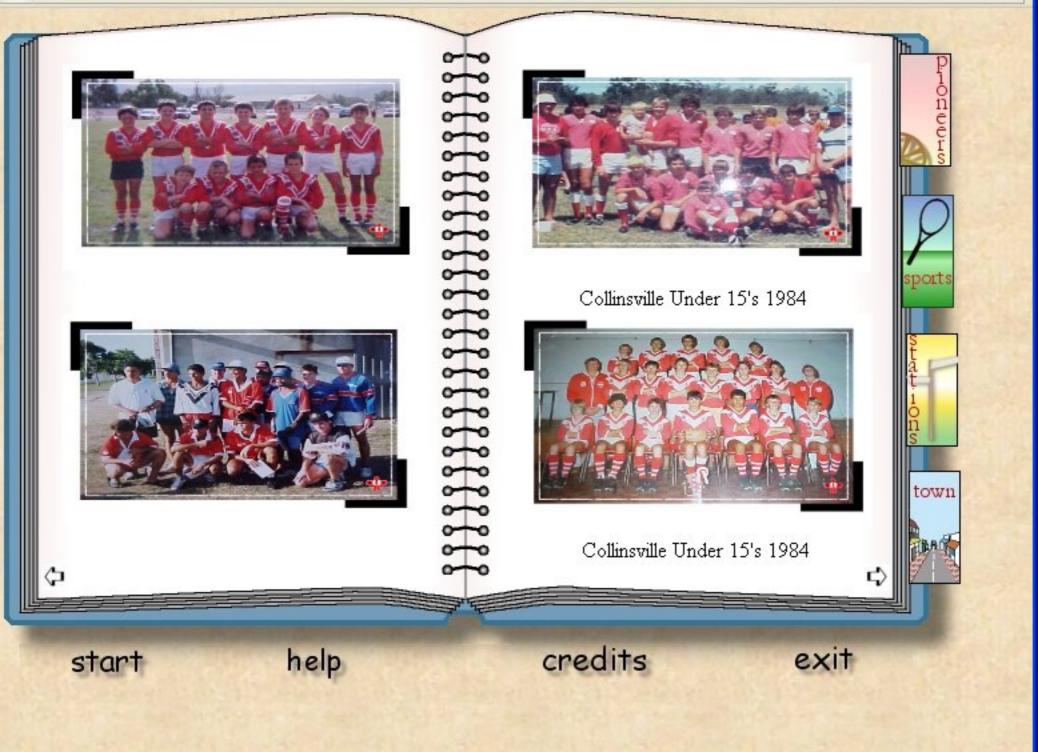


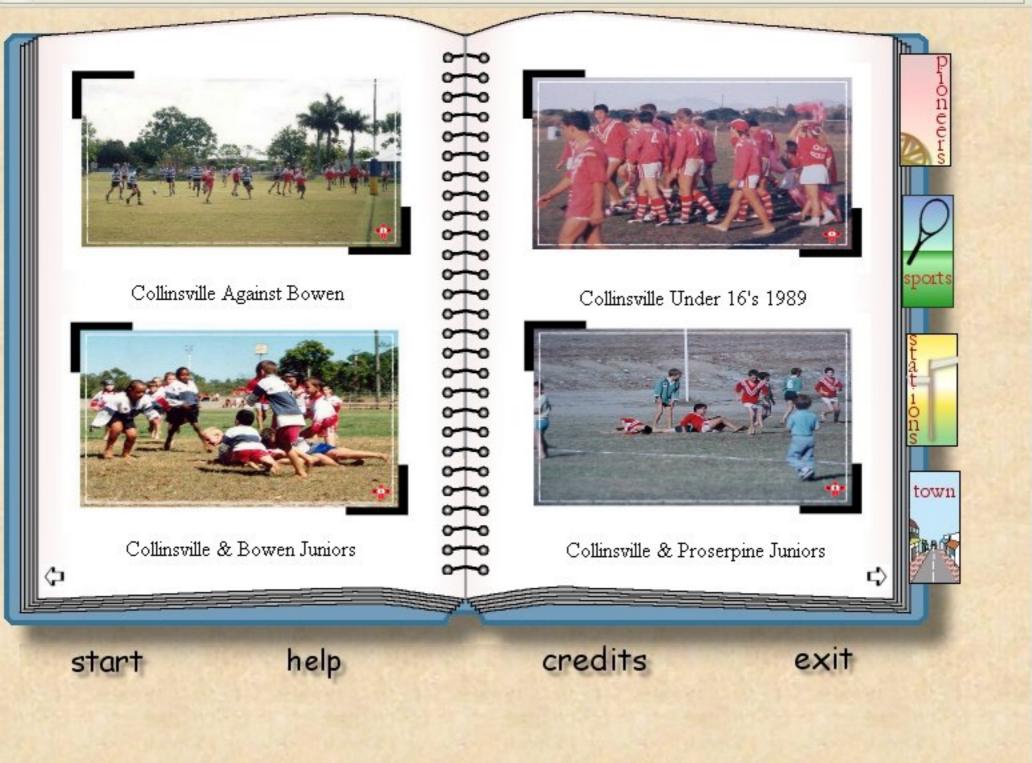


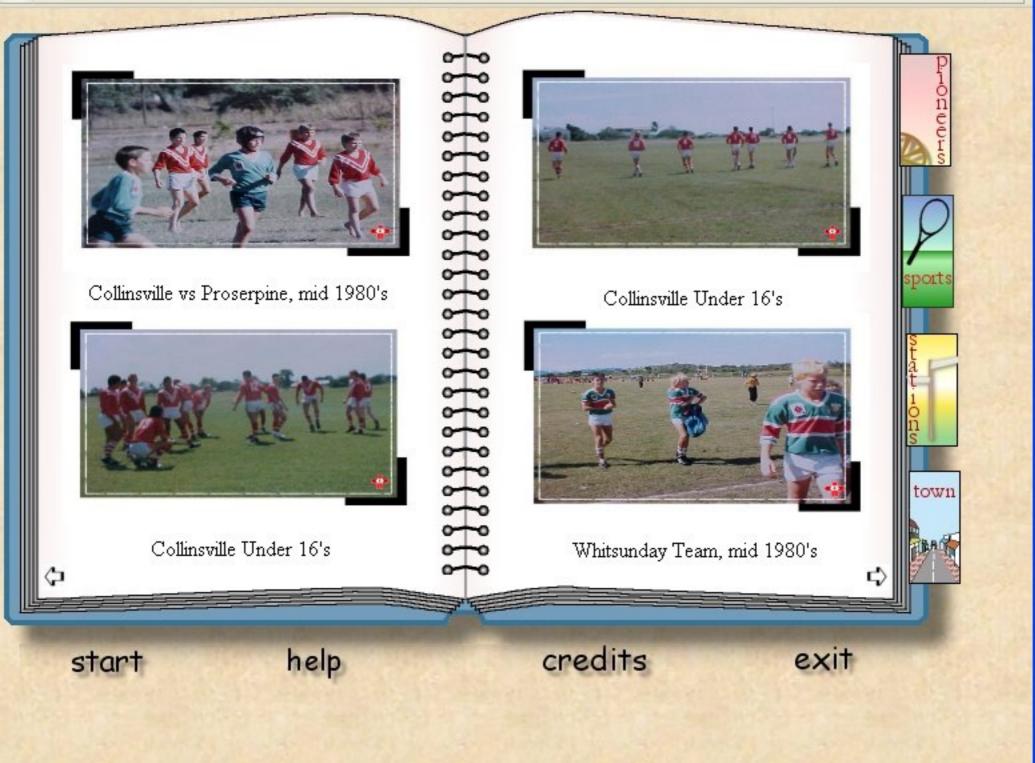


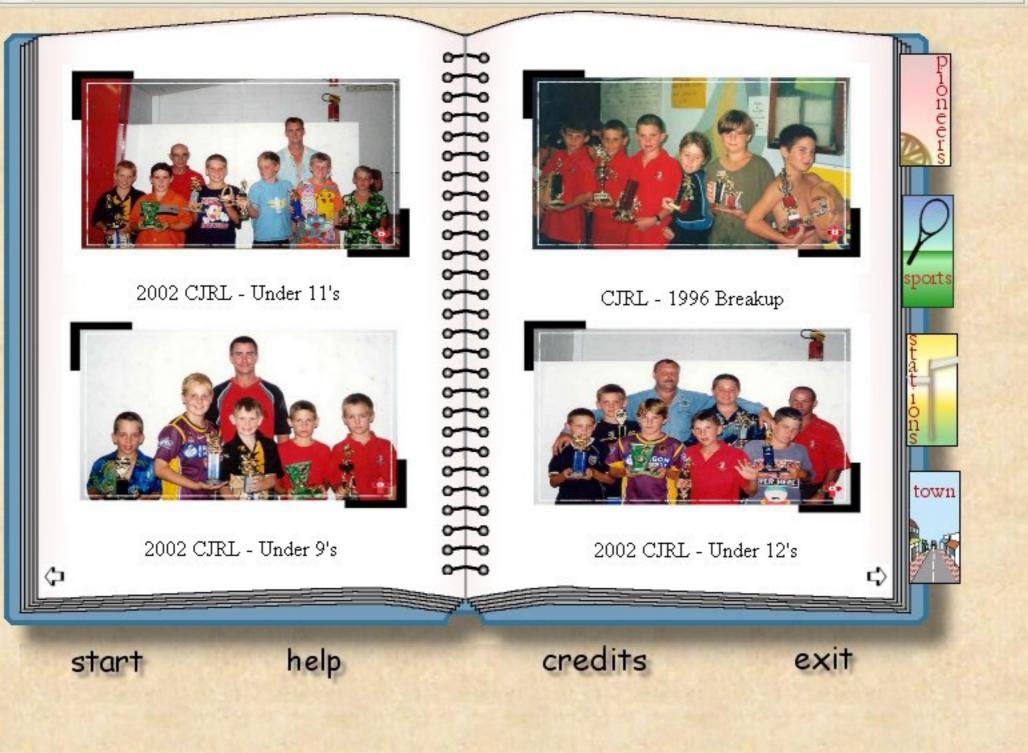


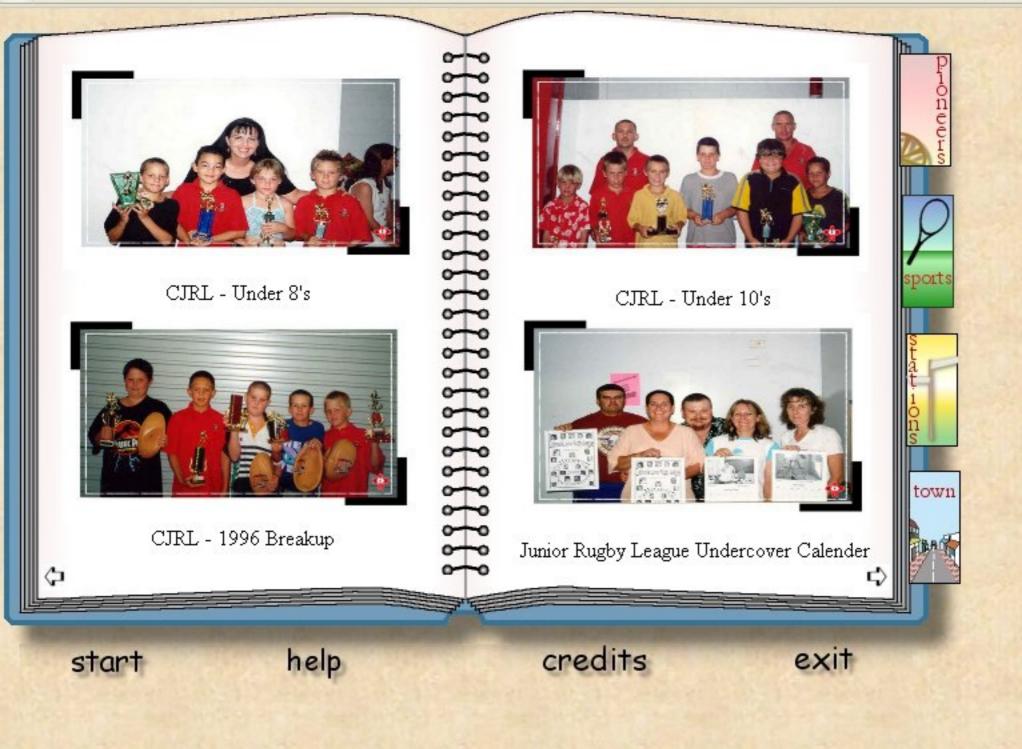


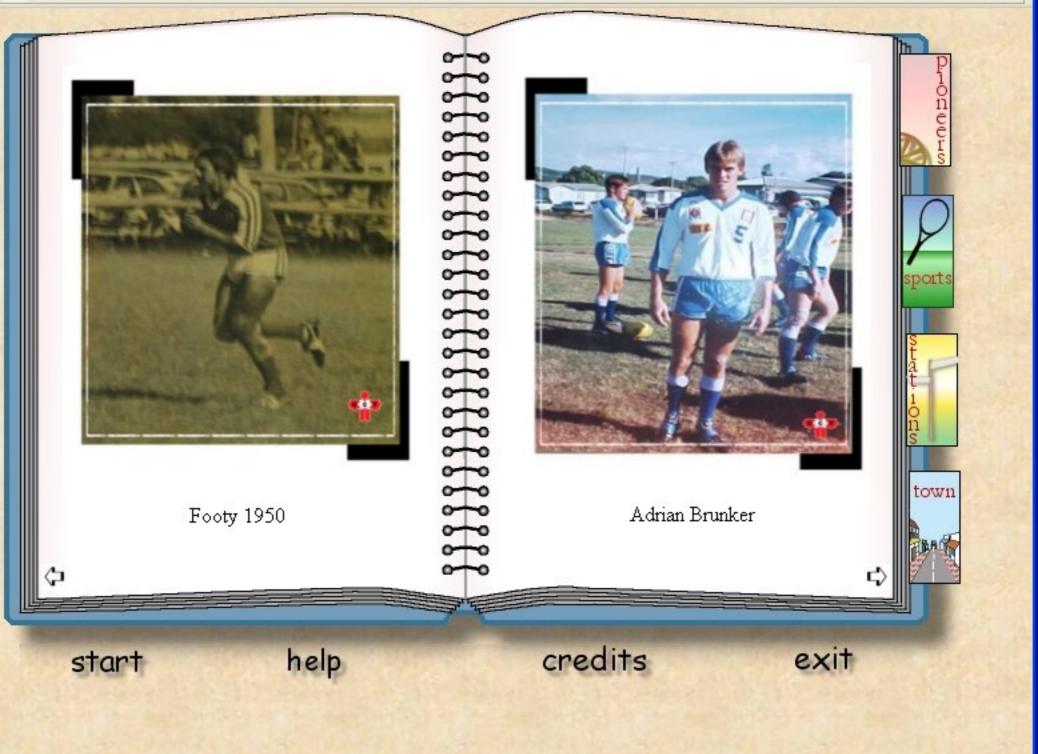


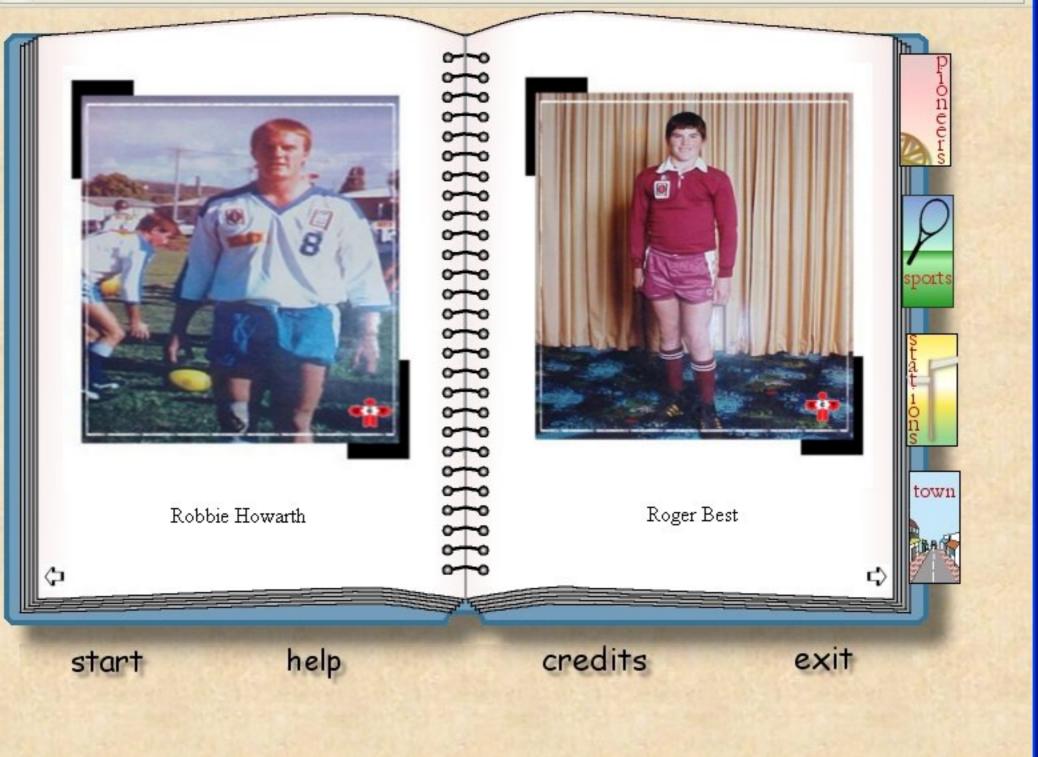


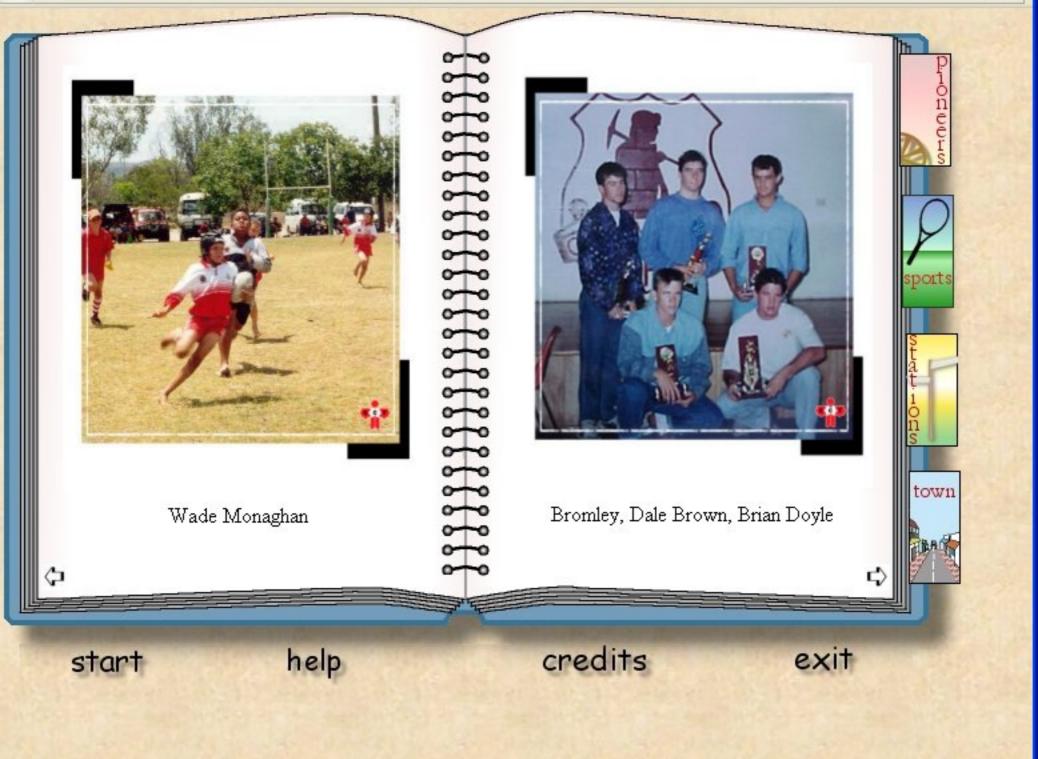


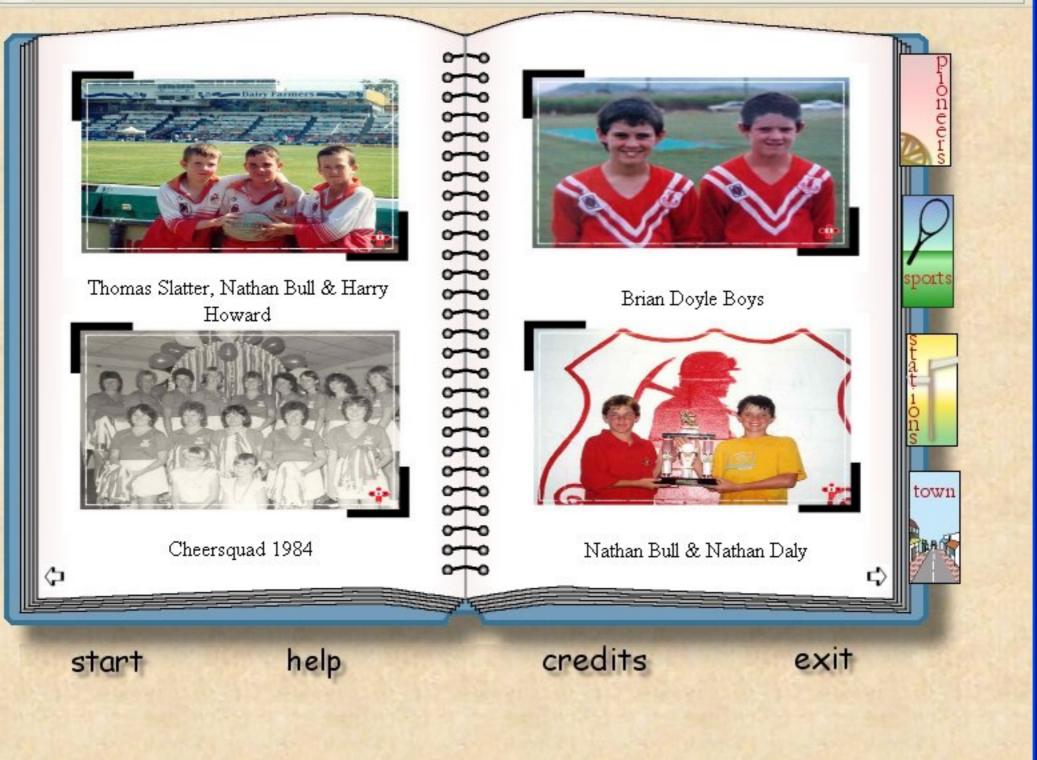


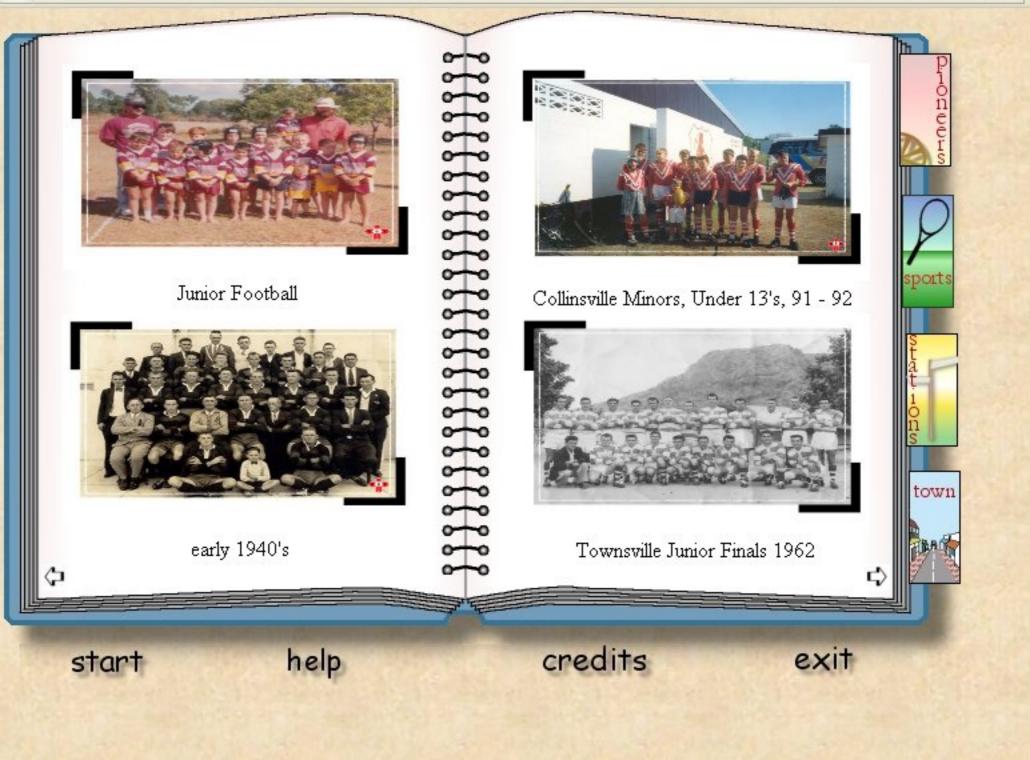


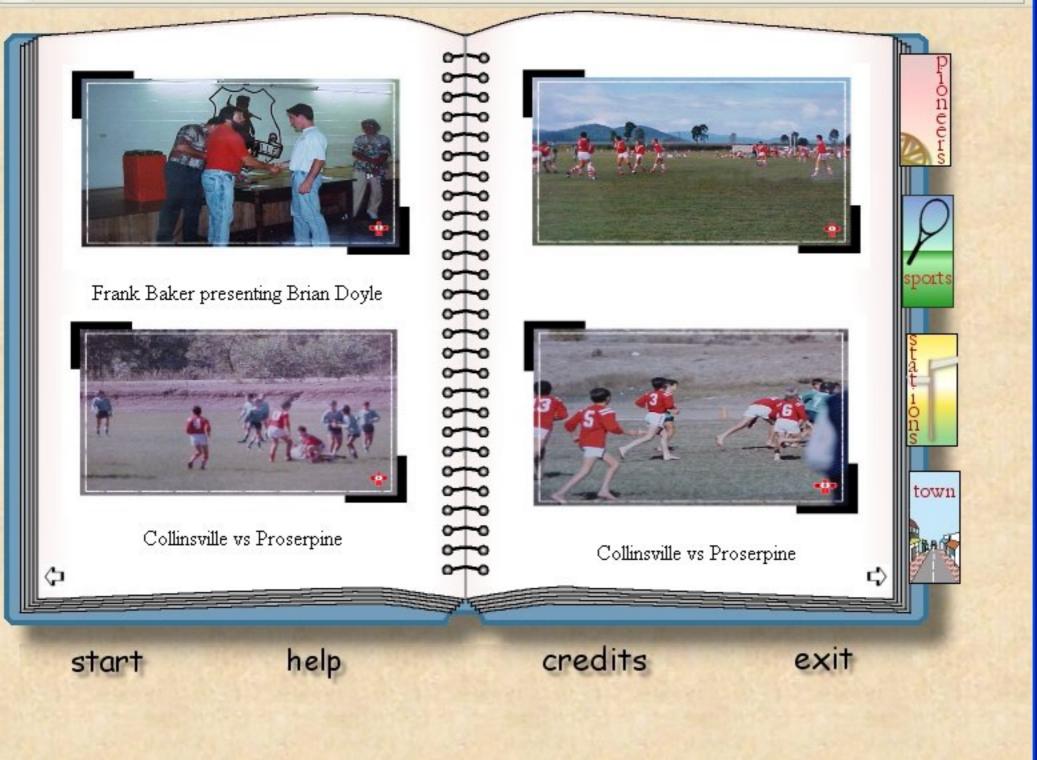


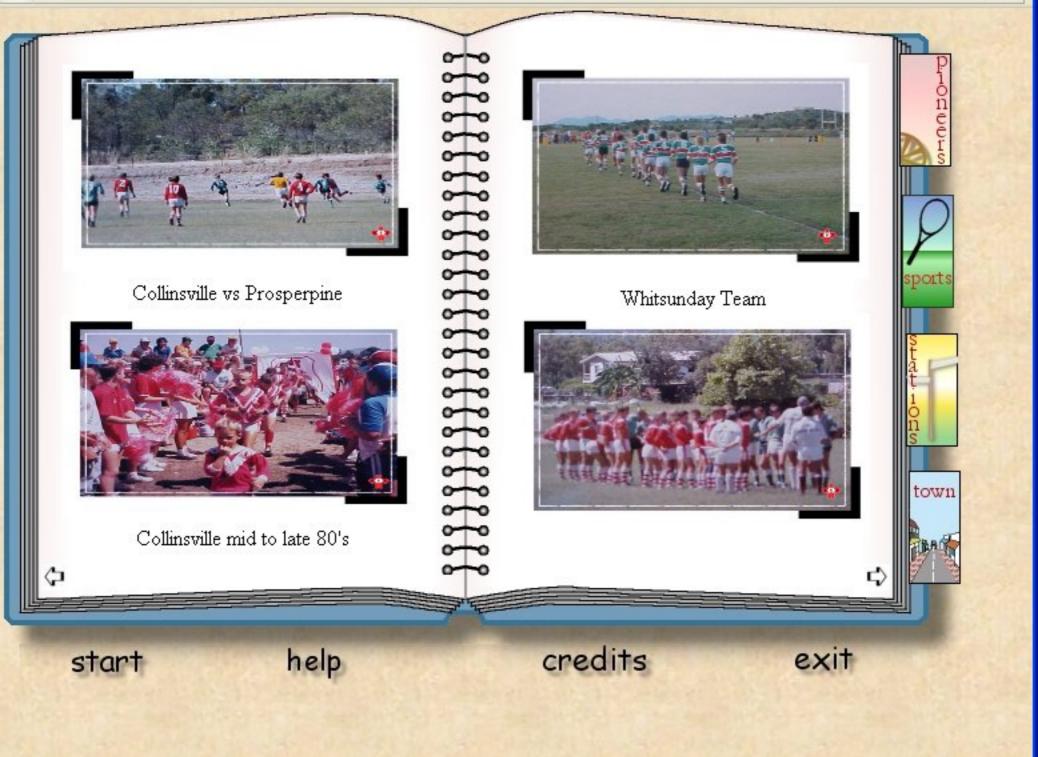


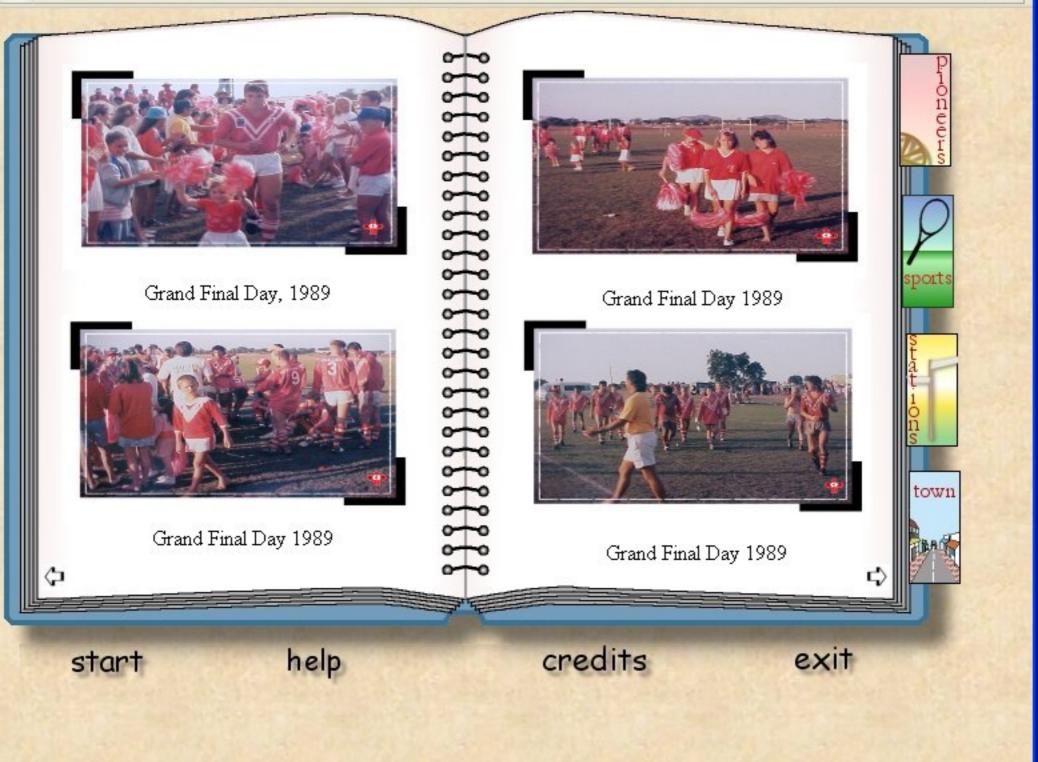


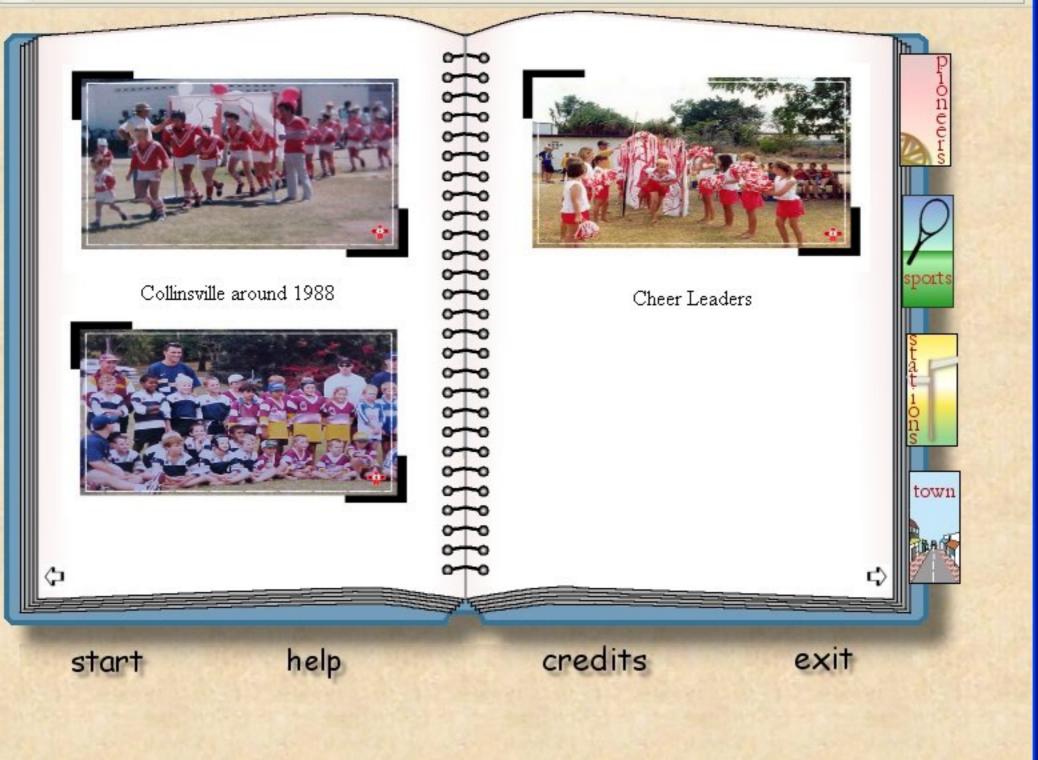














Gamblers Touch Footy Team 1998



Beasley Bombers Touch Footy Team 1990



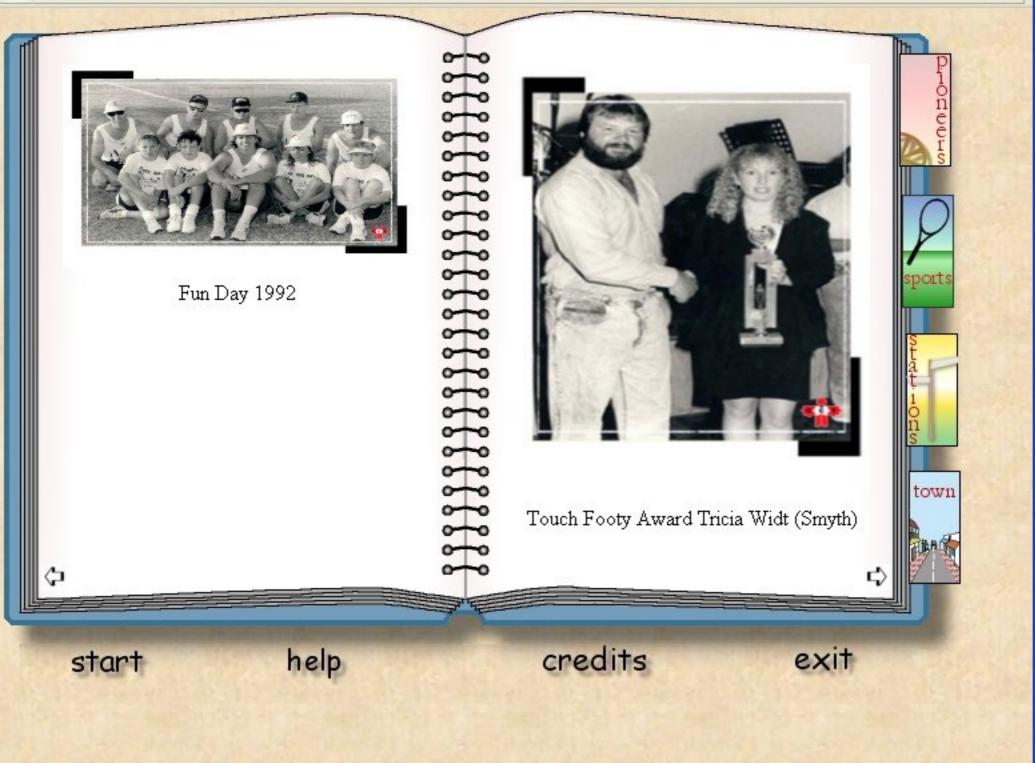
Beasley Bombers Touch Footy Team 1990

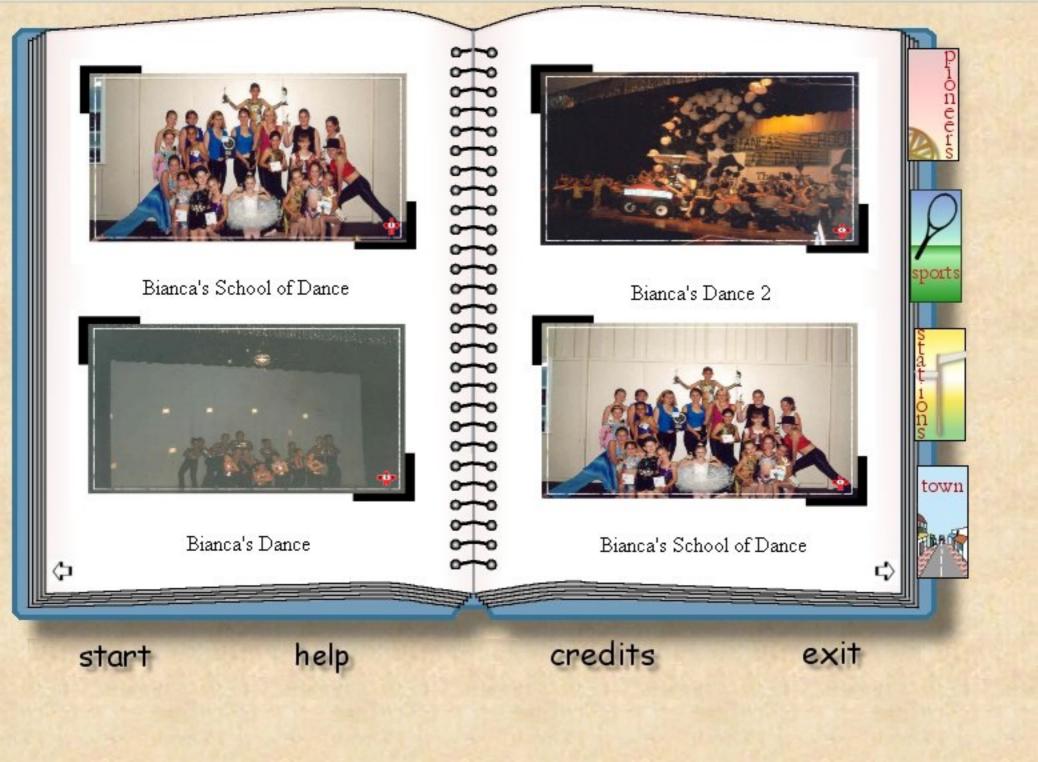


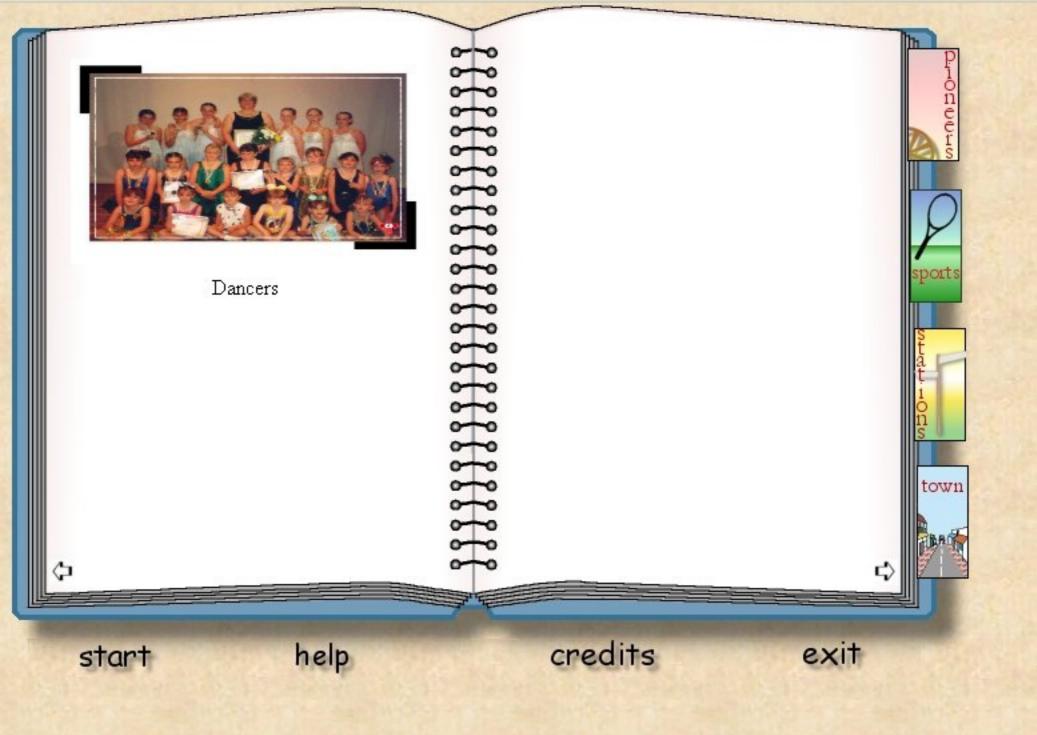
Beasley Bombers Award Winners 1991

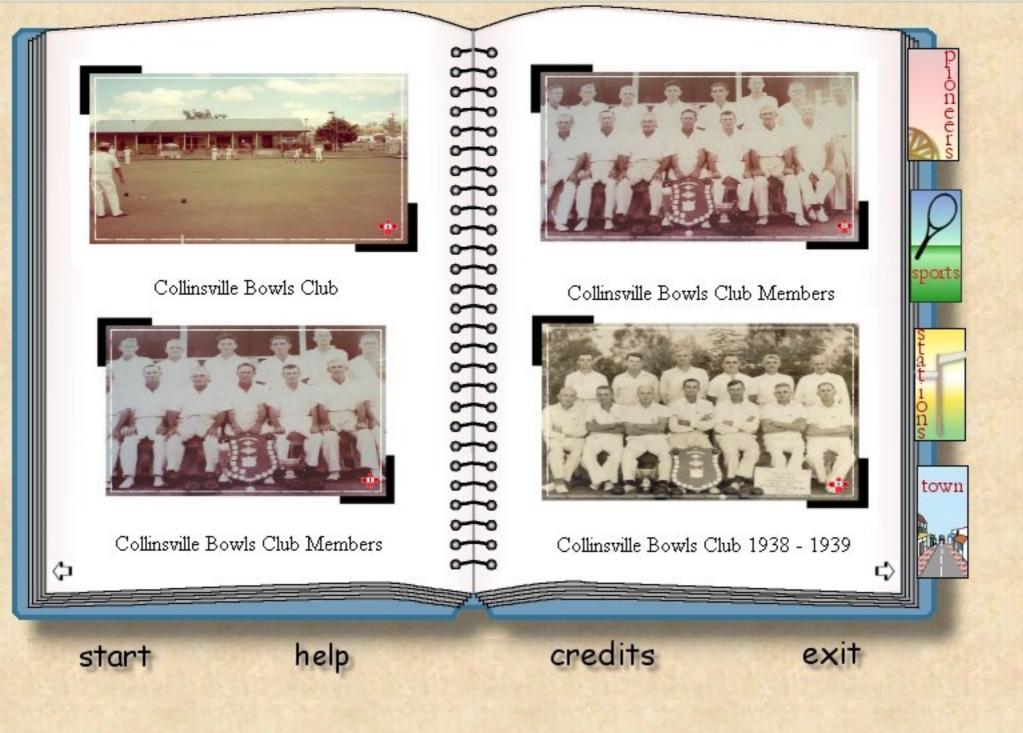
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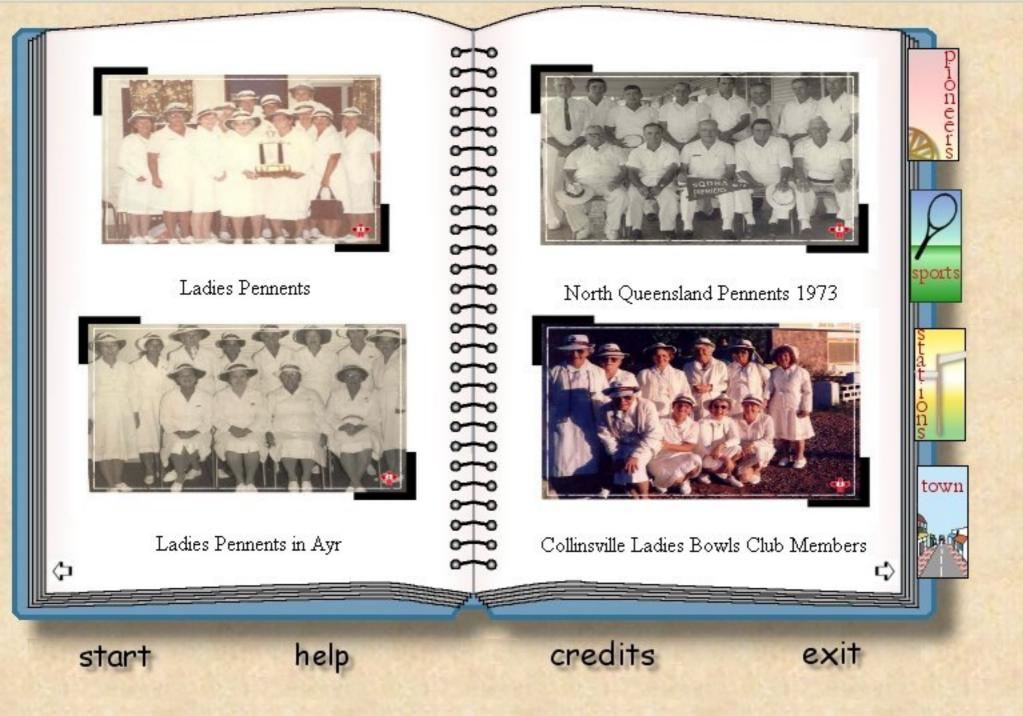
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Collinsville Ladies at Mt Isa



Collinsville Ladies at Mt Isa



Oneer

town

Collinsville Ladies Bowls Club Trophy



Collinsville Bowls Club Competition Day

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Belly Dwarf Bowlers



Fancy Dress at Bowls Club



Oneer

sport

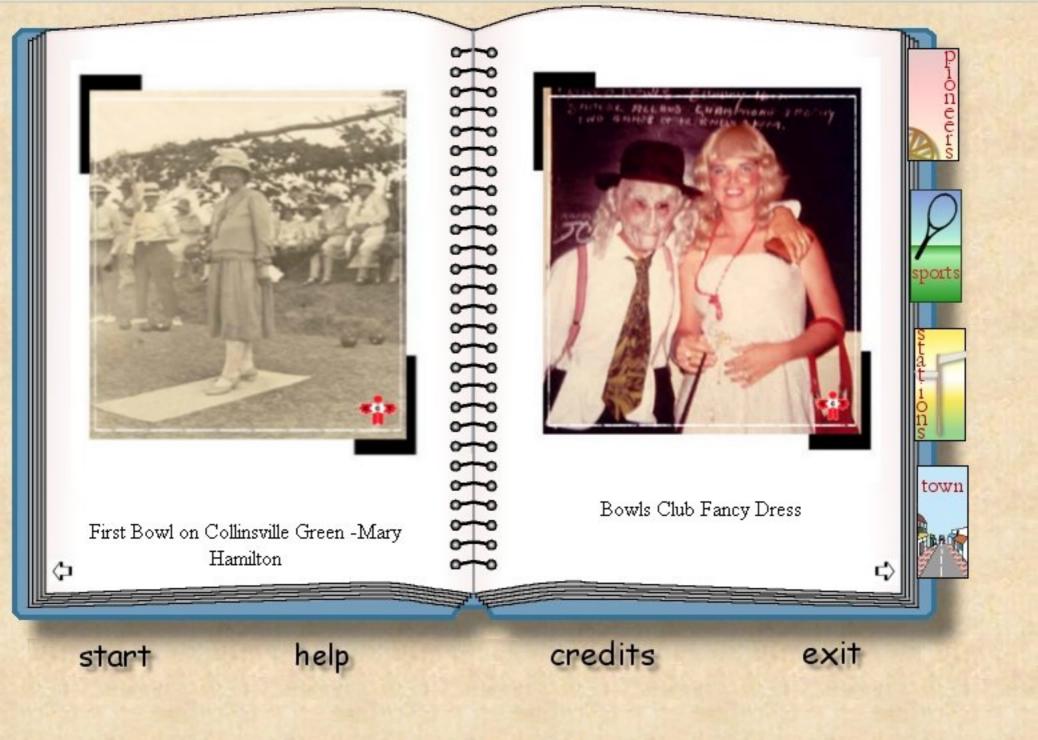
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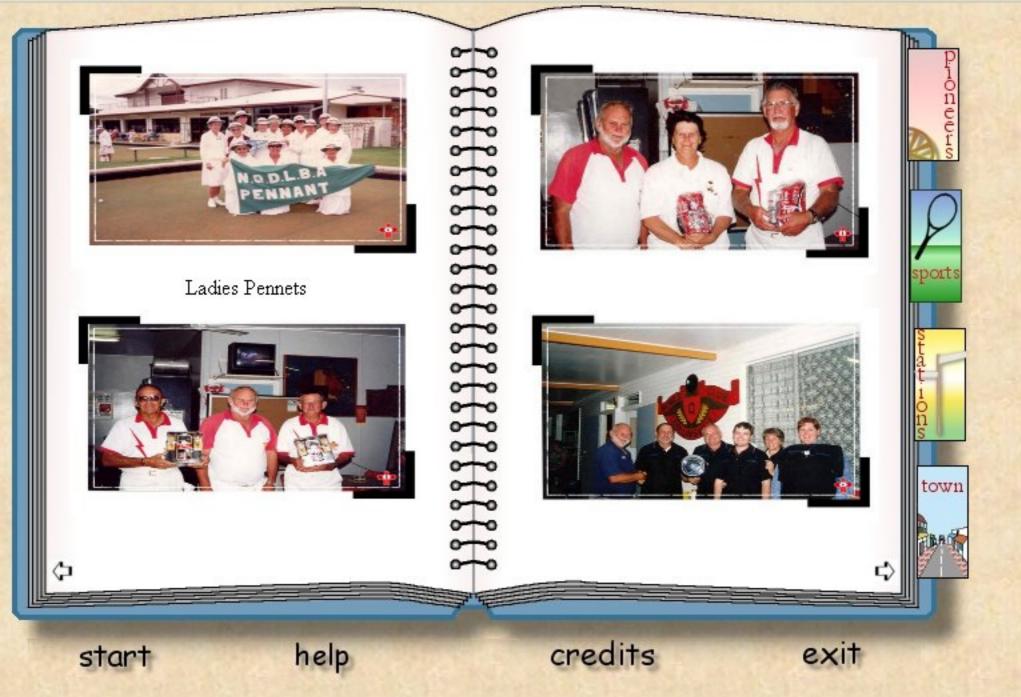
Fancy Dress at Bowls Club

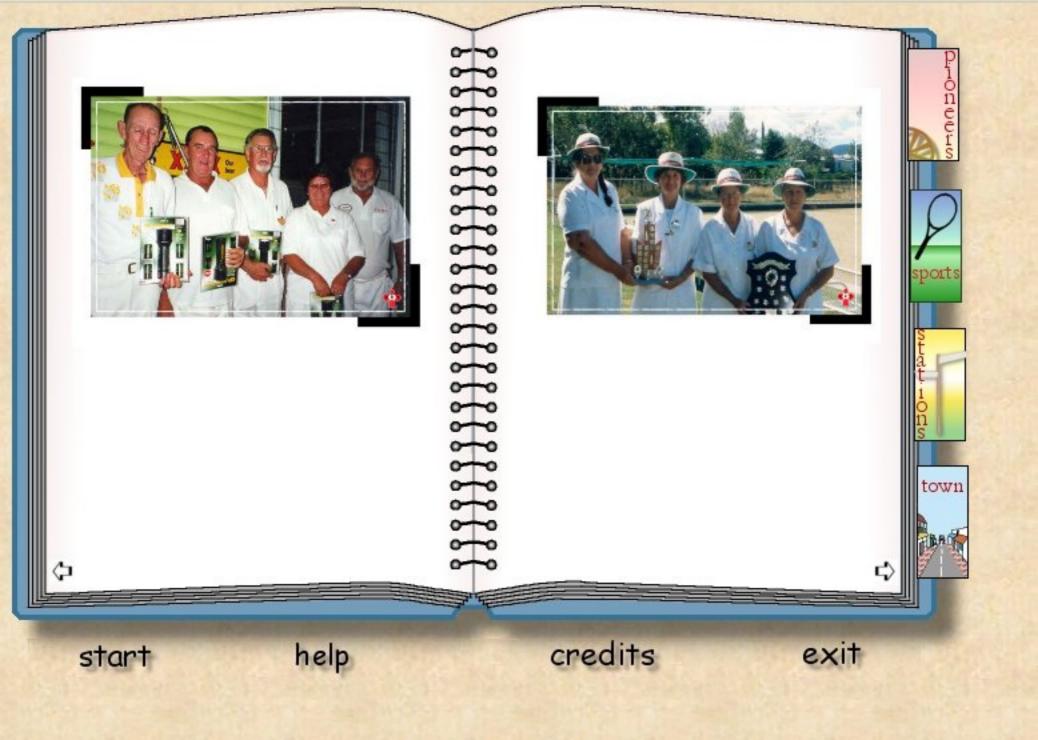


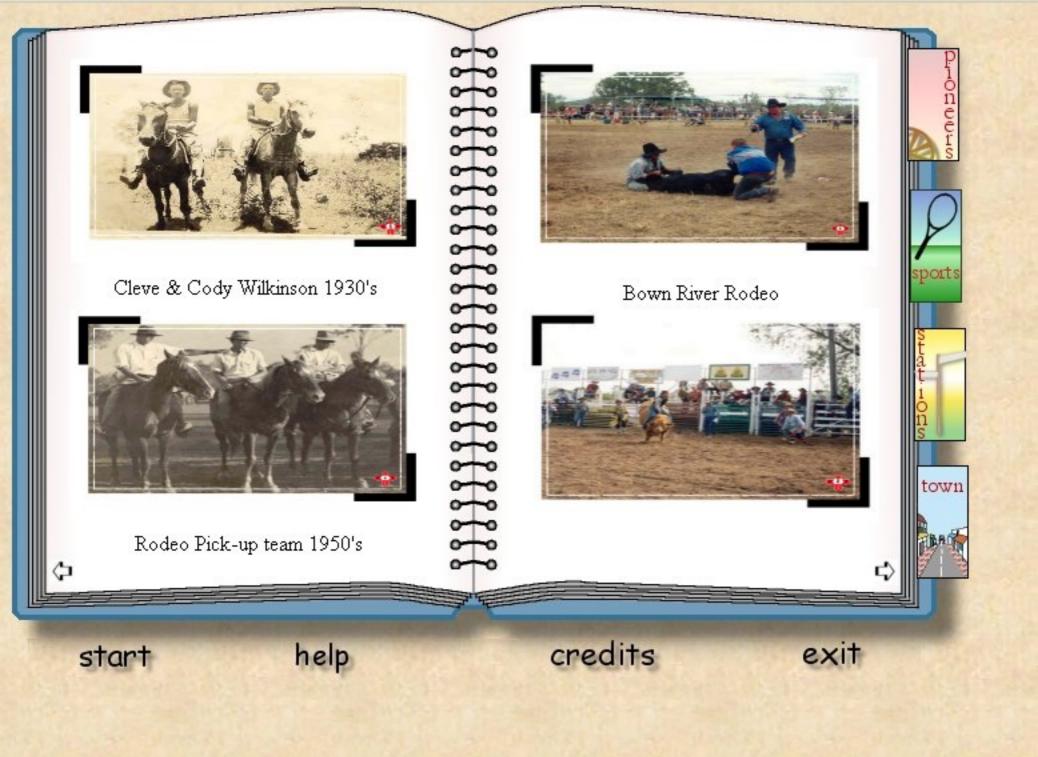
Bussiness Bowls Champions -OrangeVikings

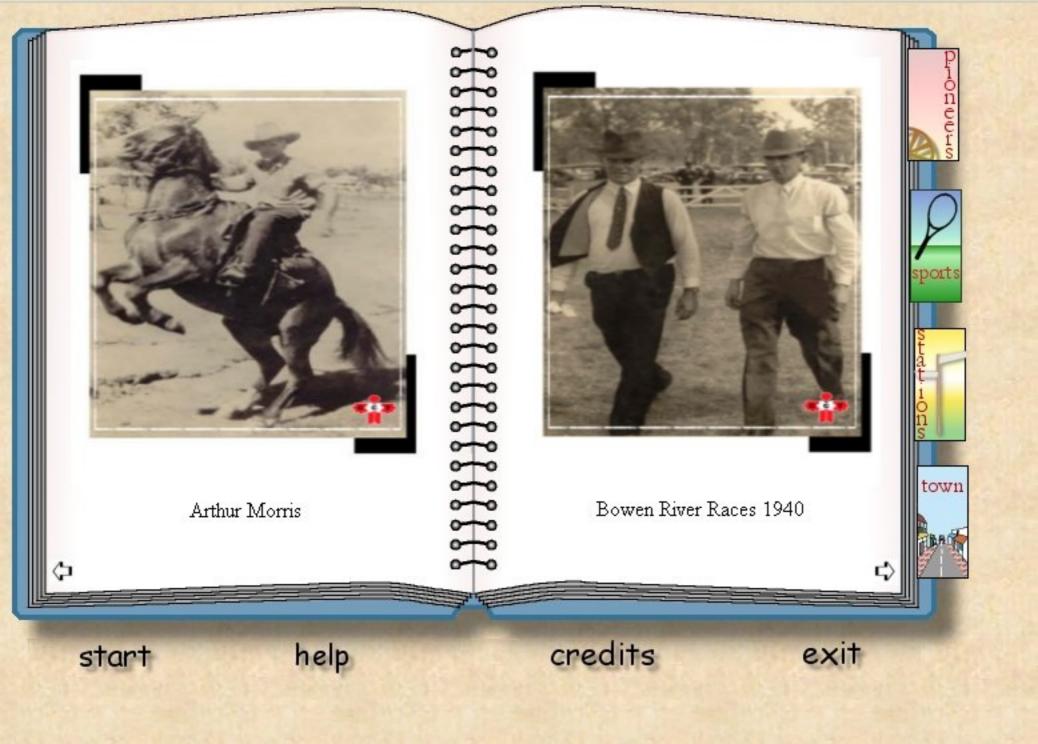
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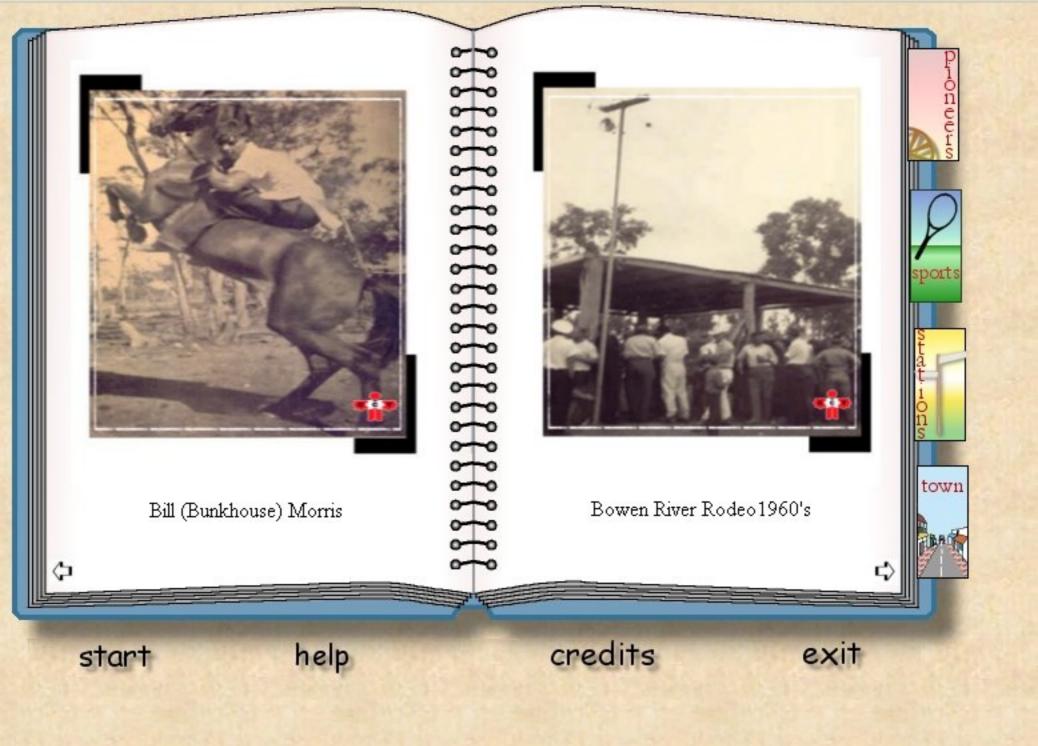


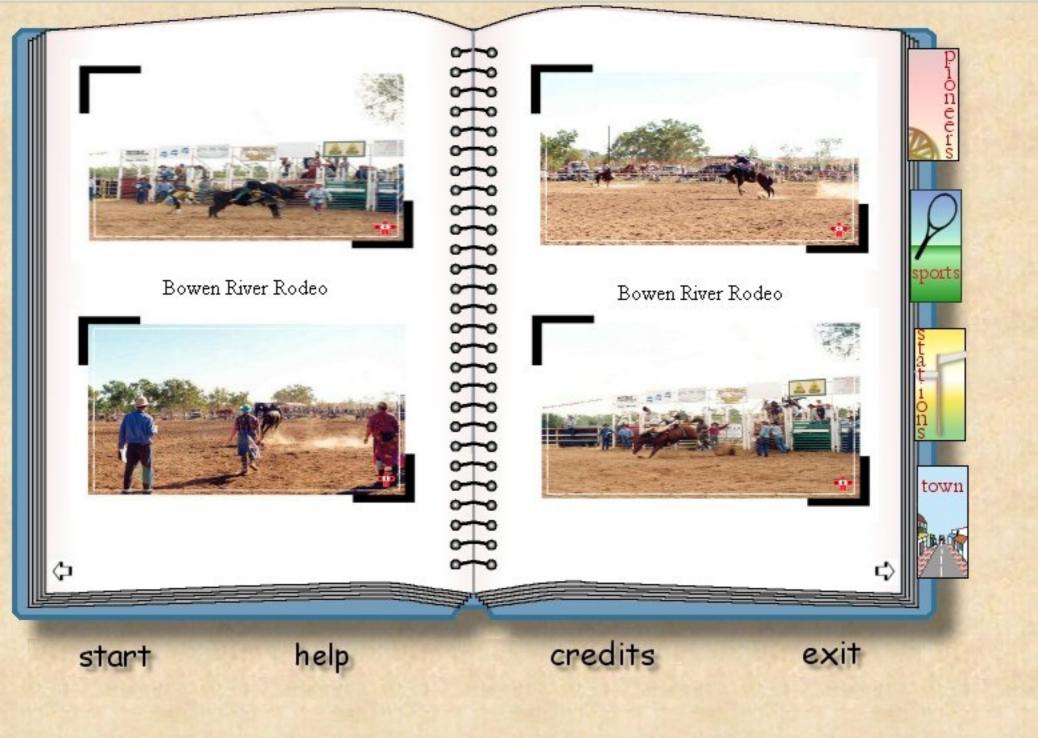


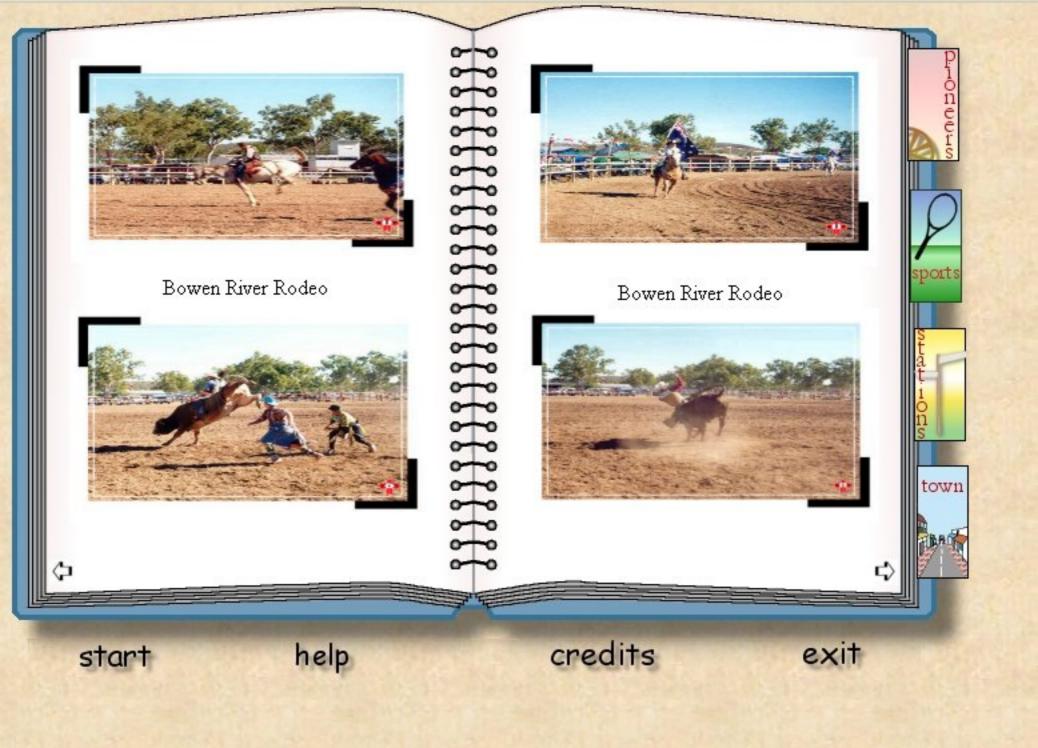


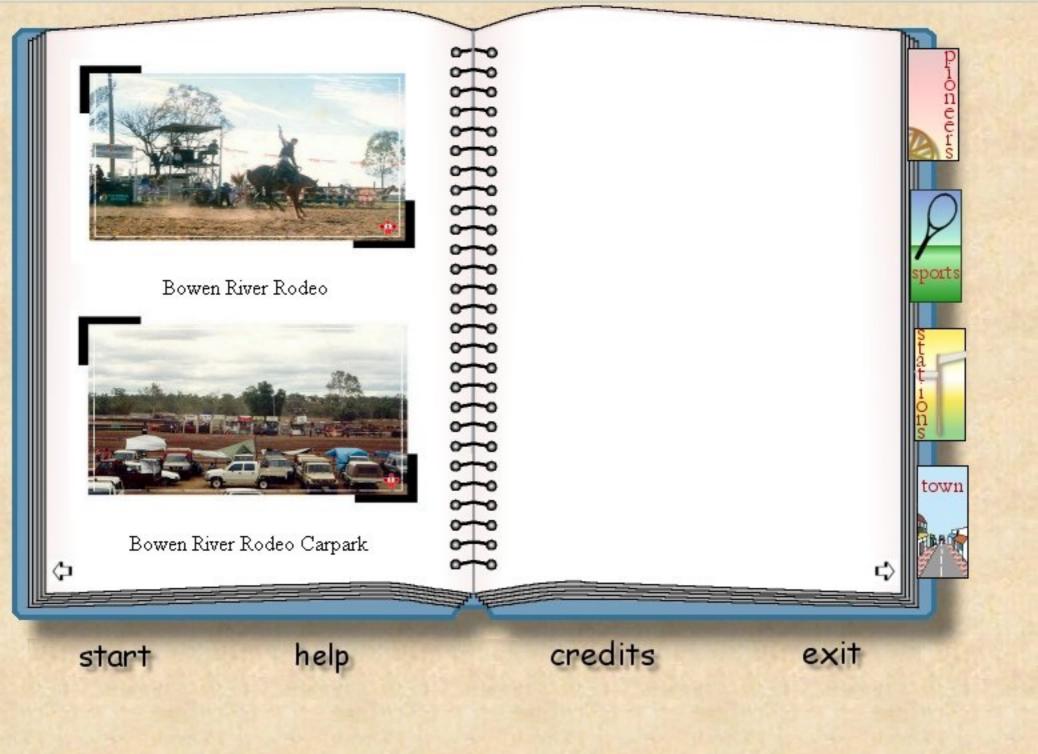


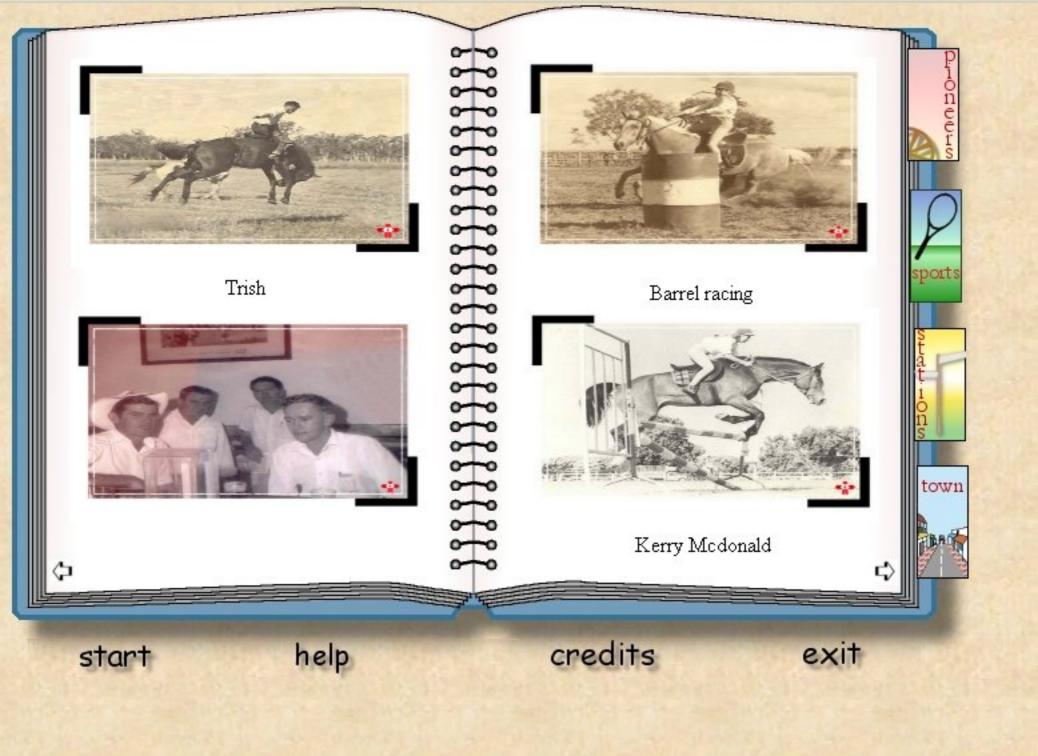


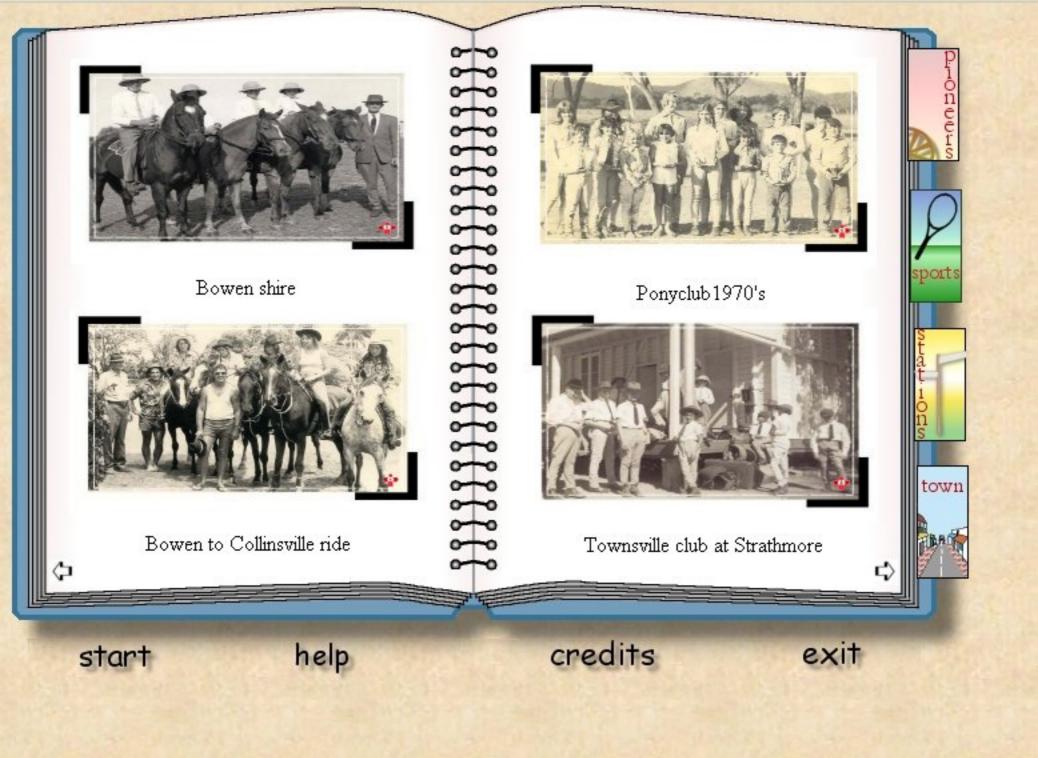


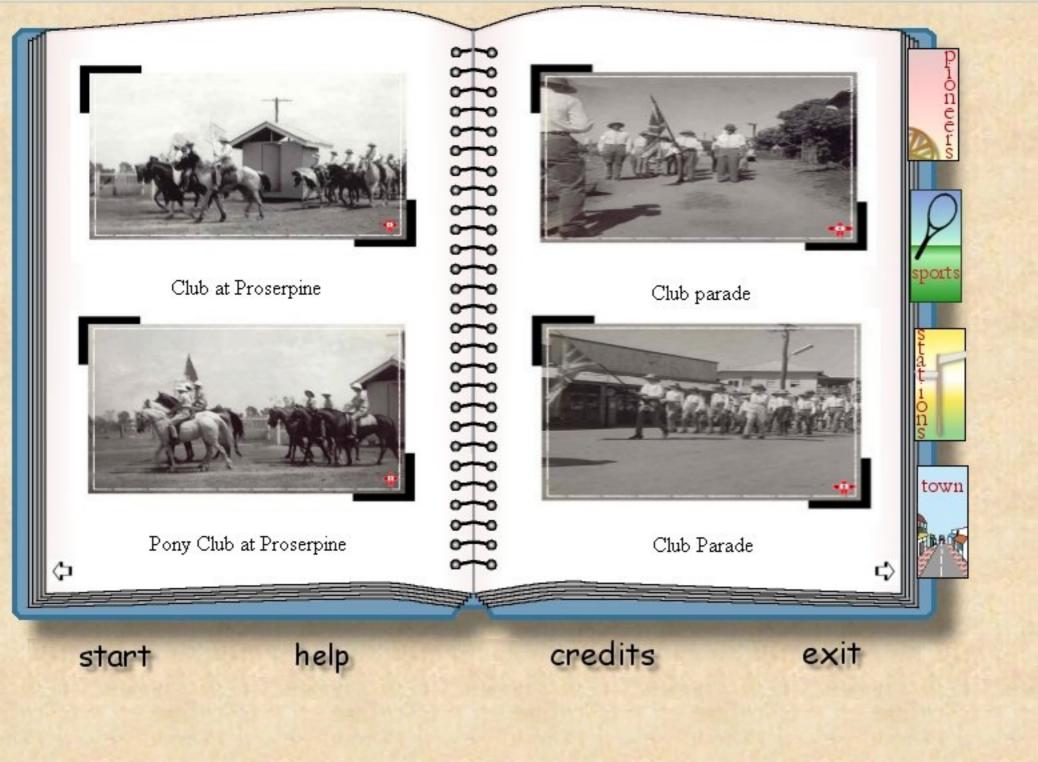


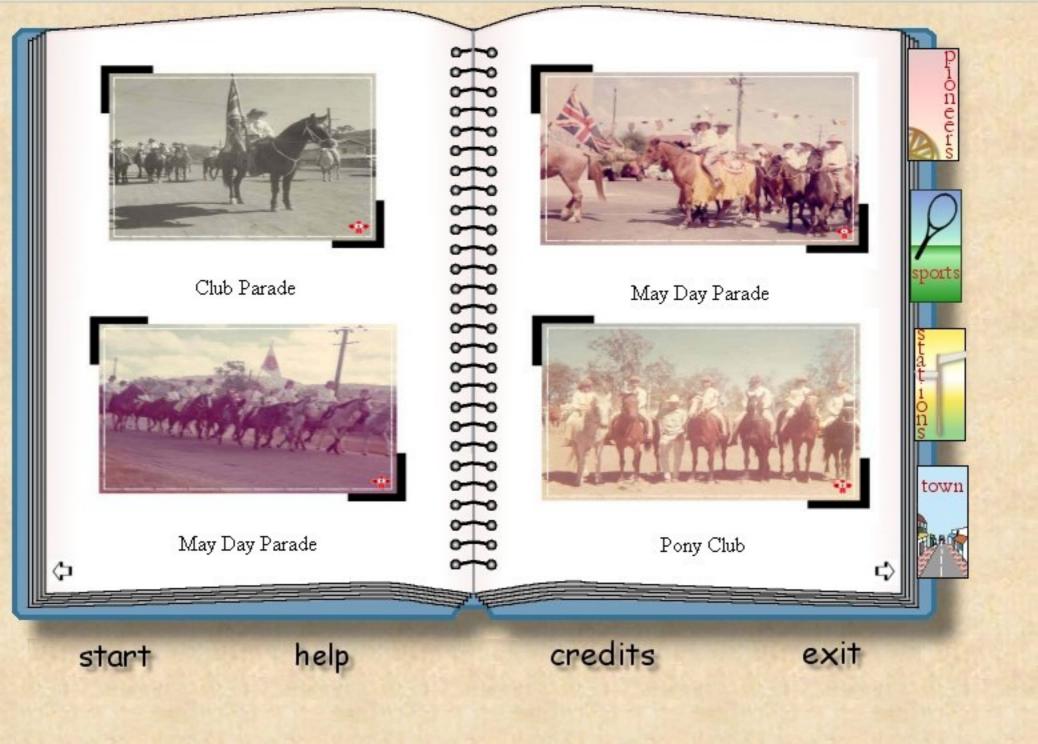


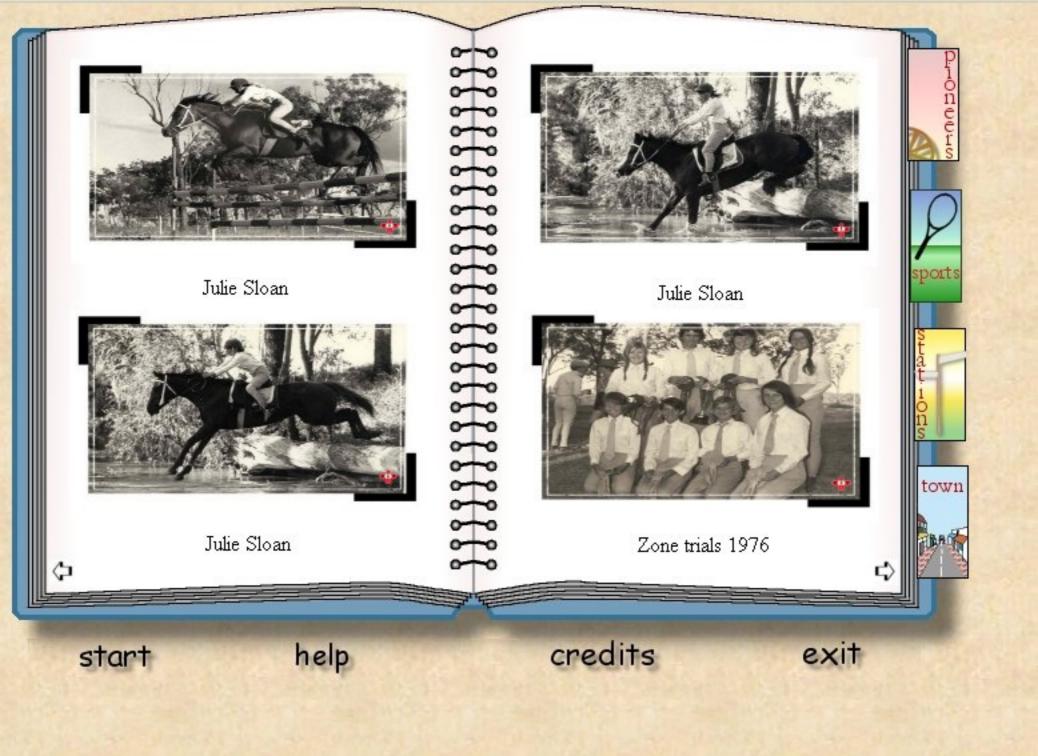


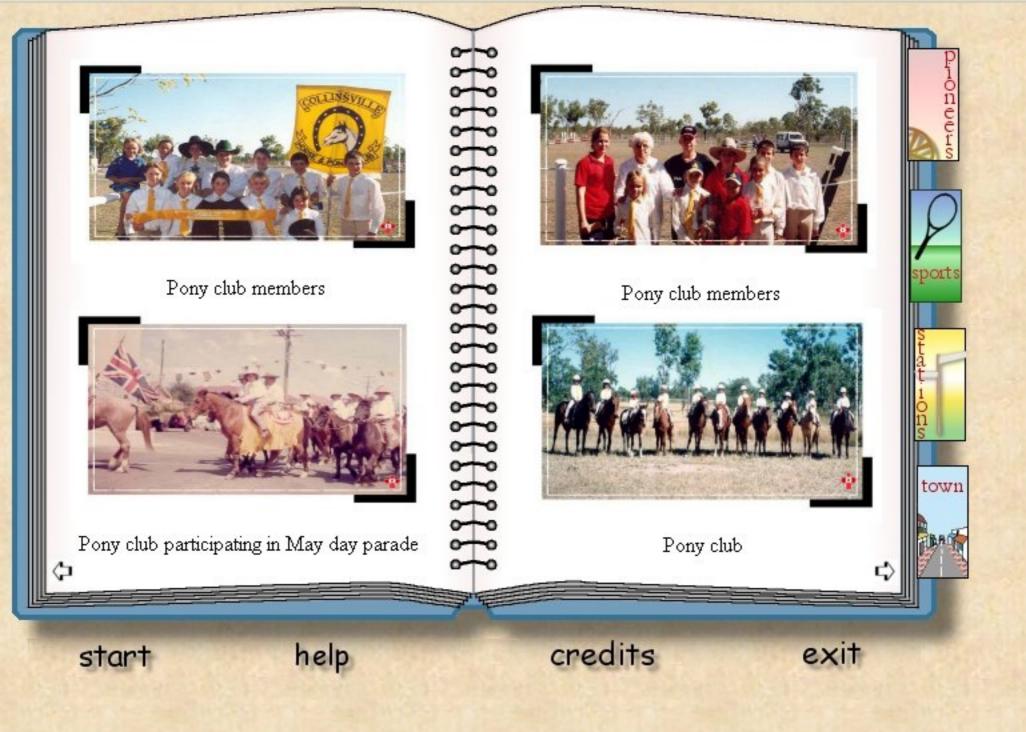


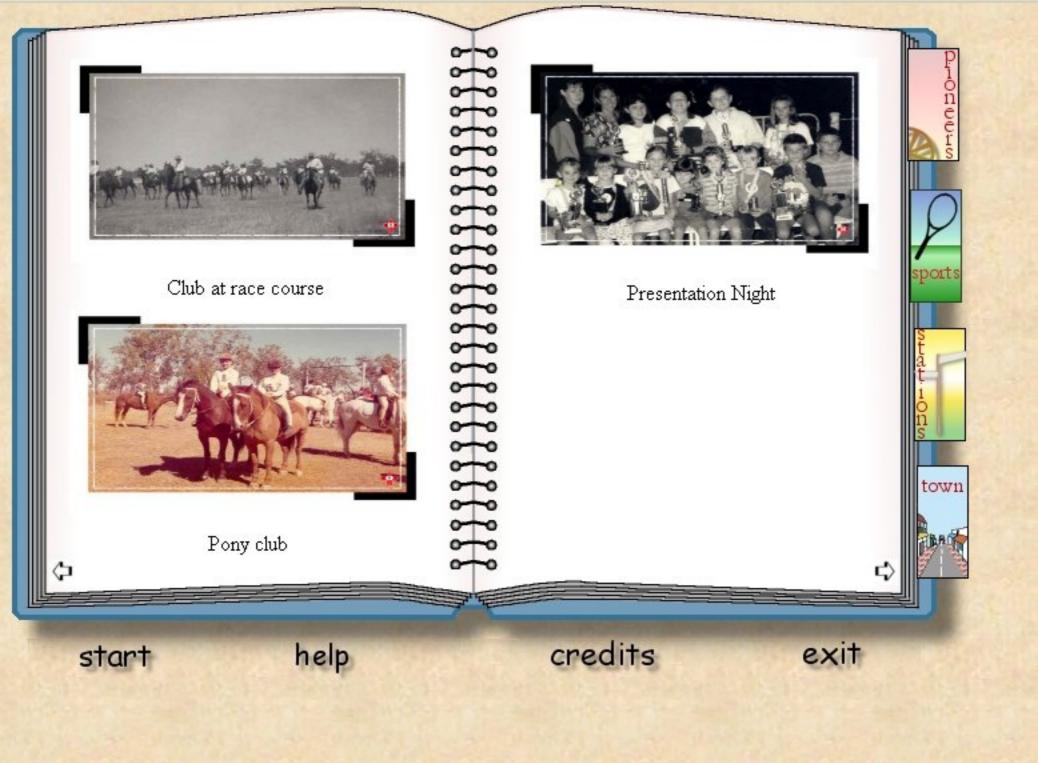


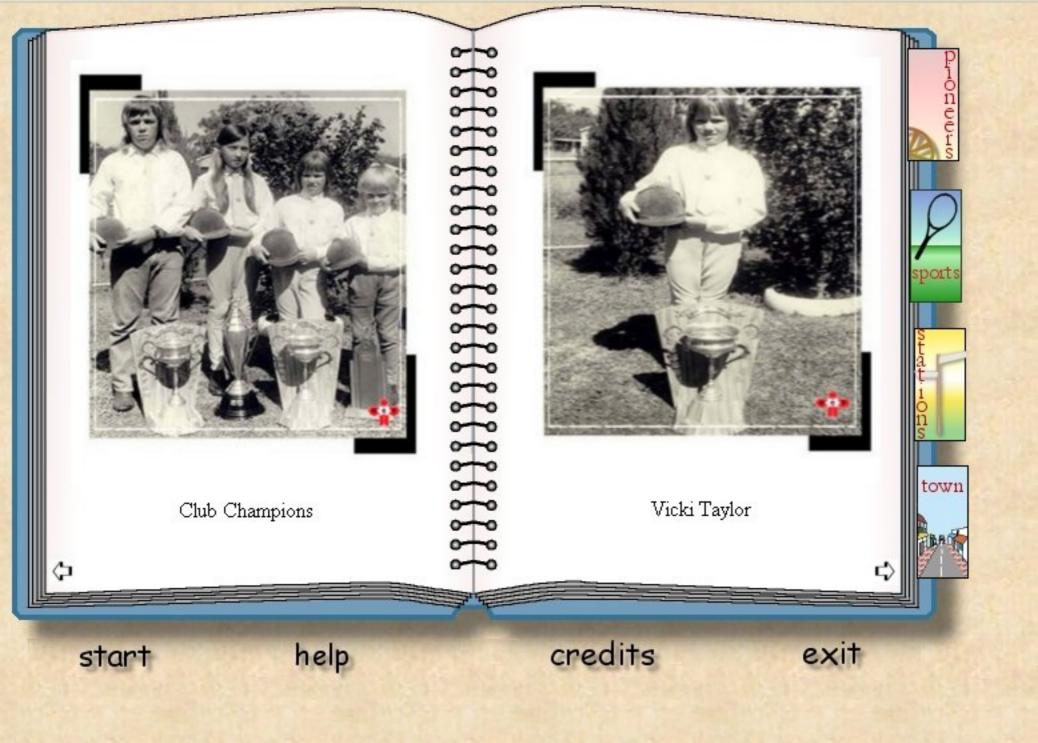


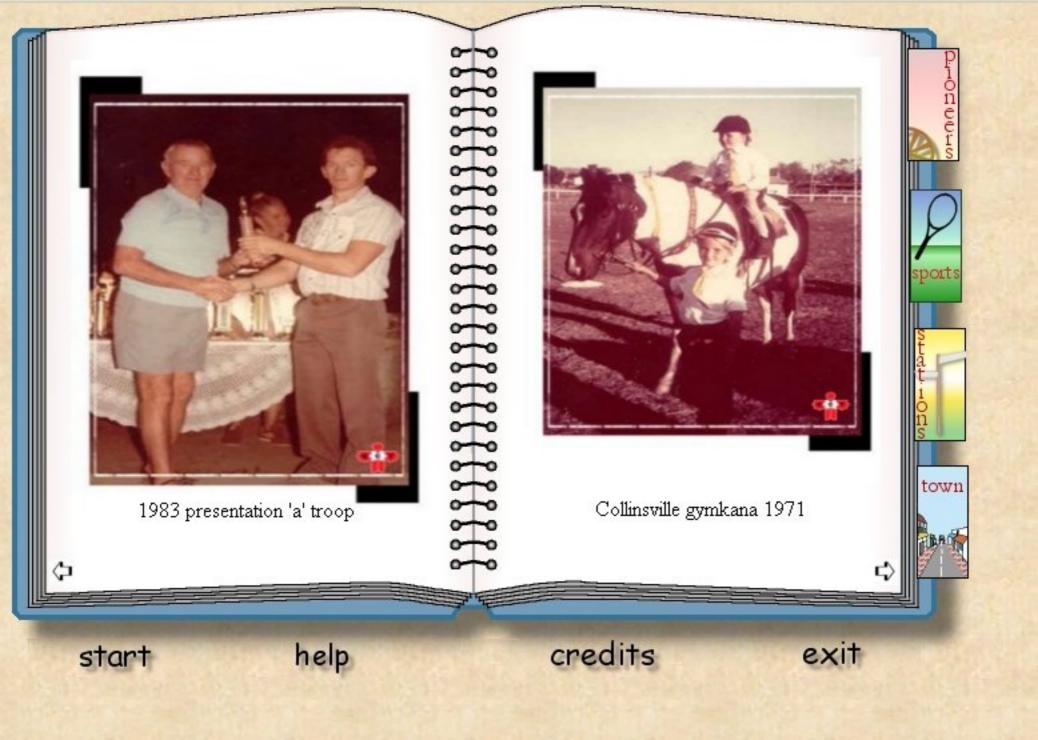


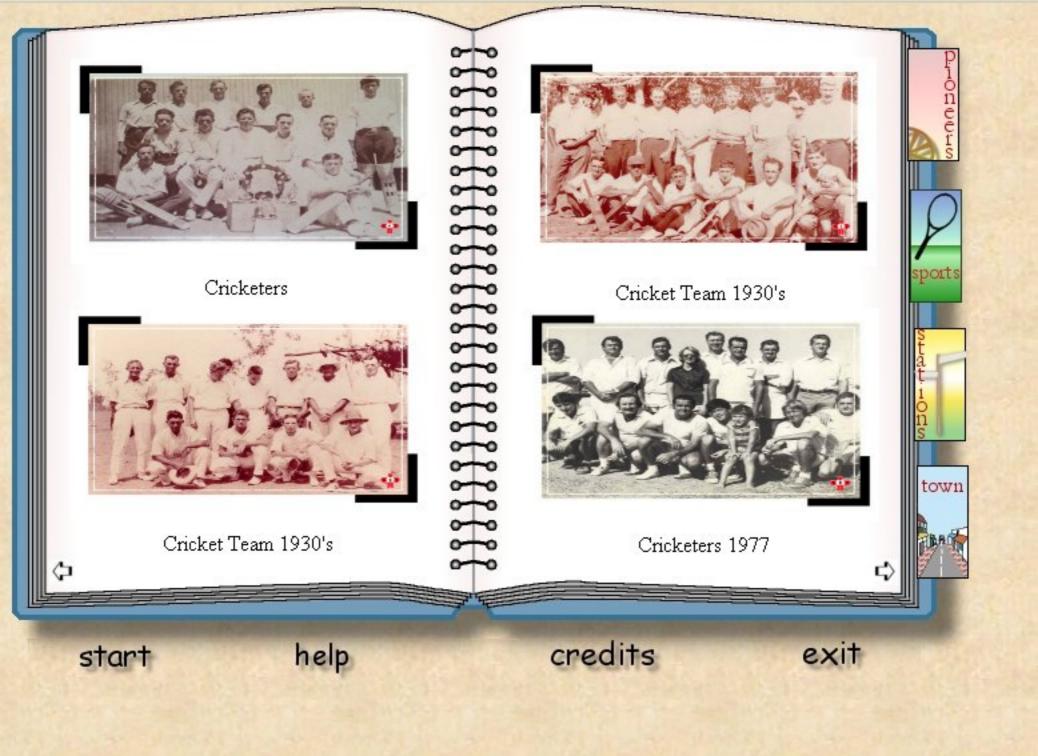


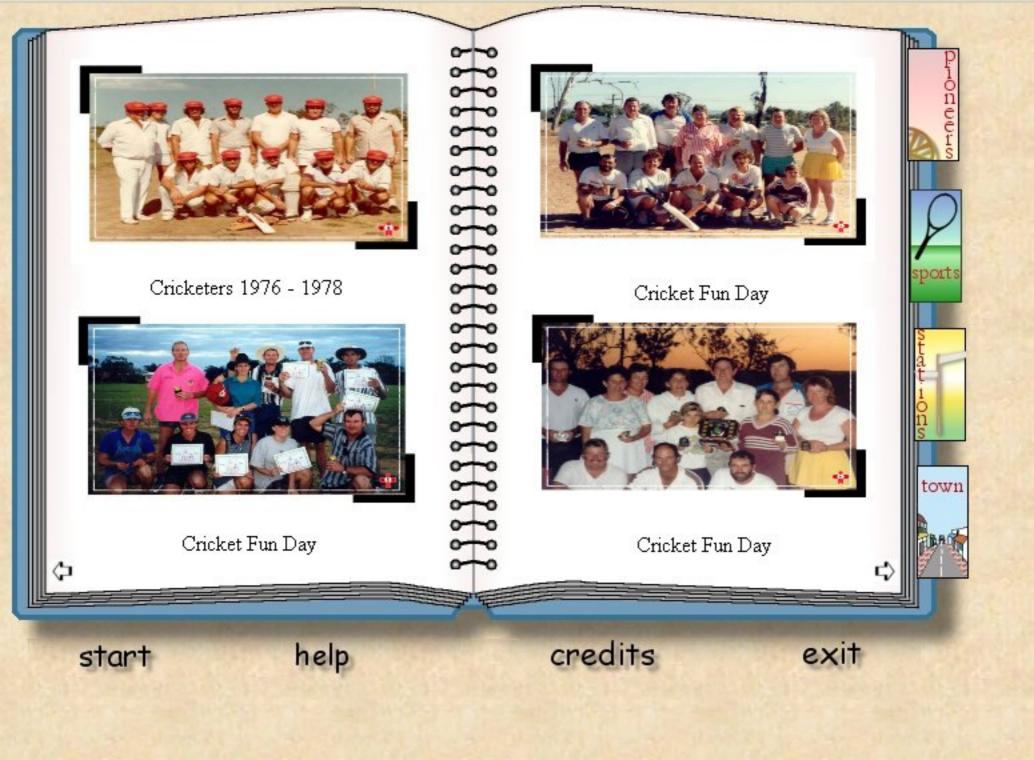


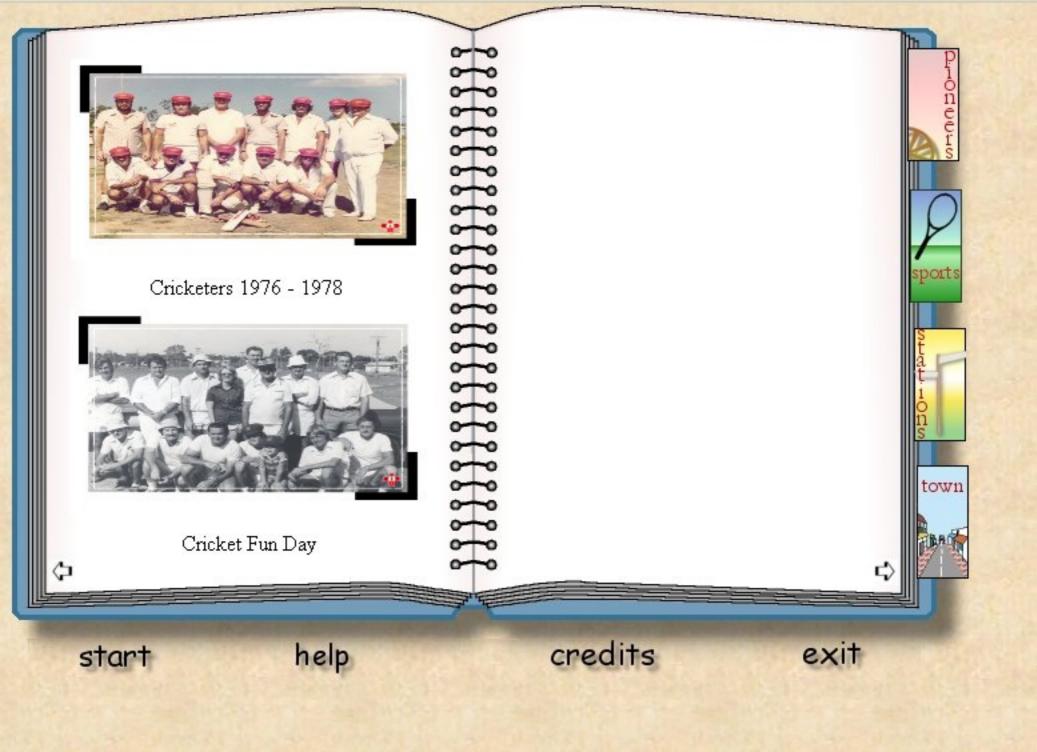


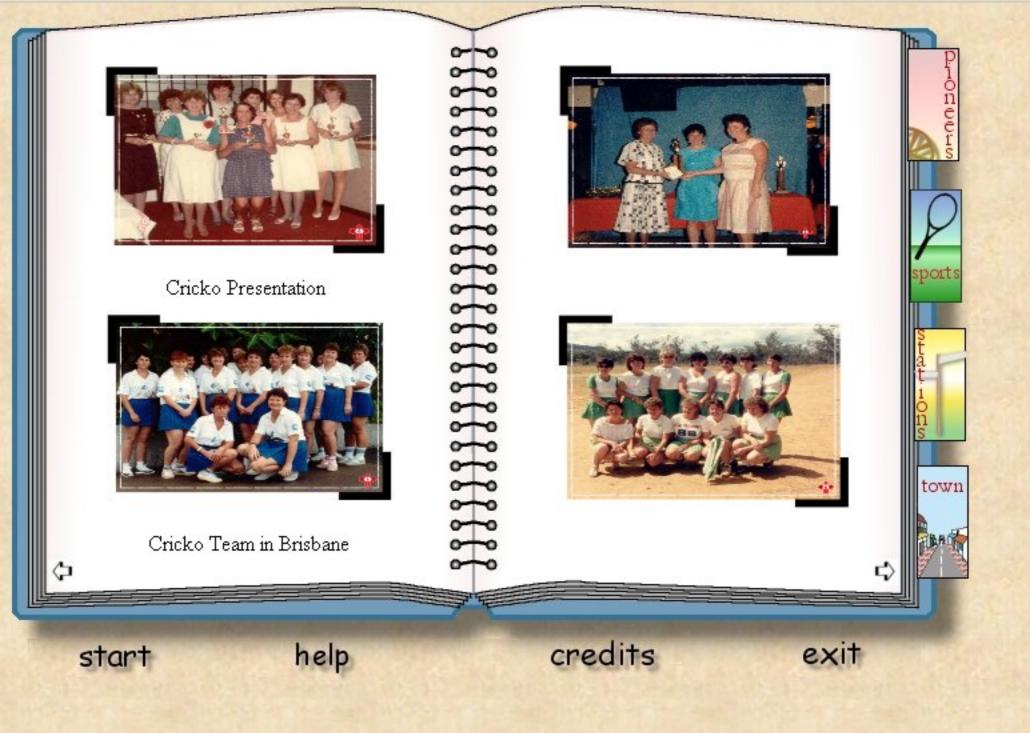


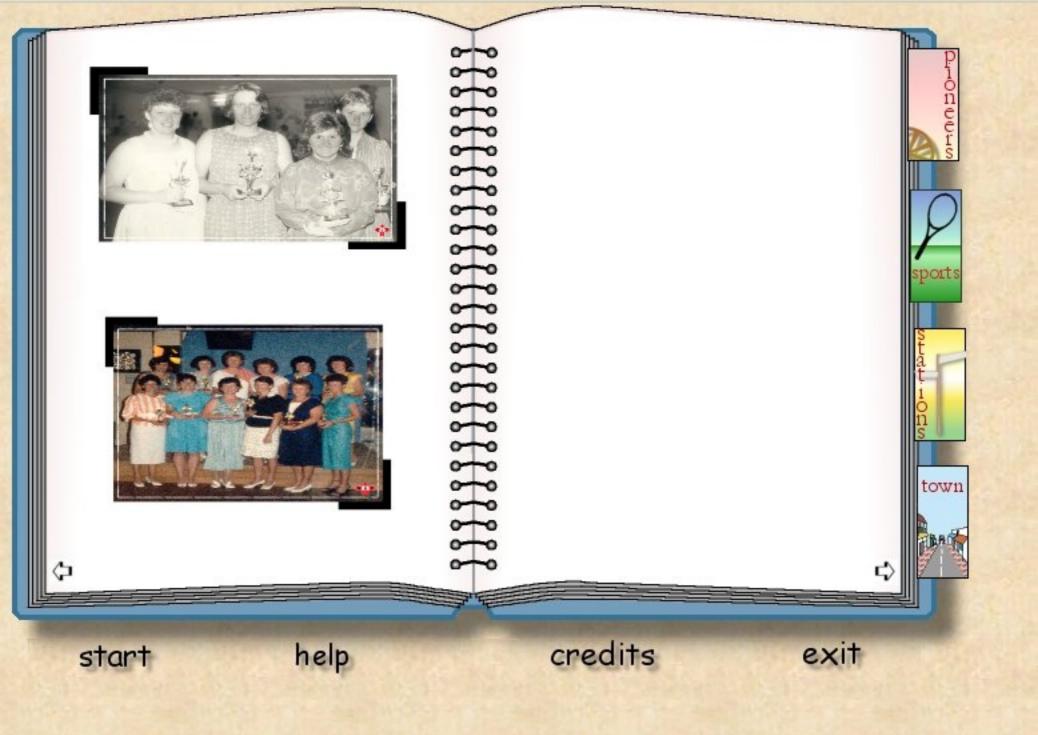


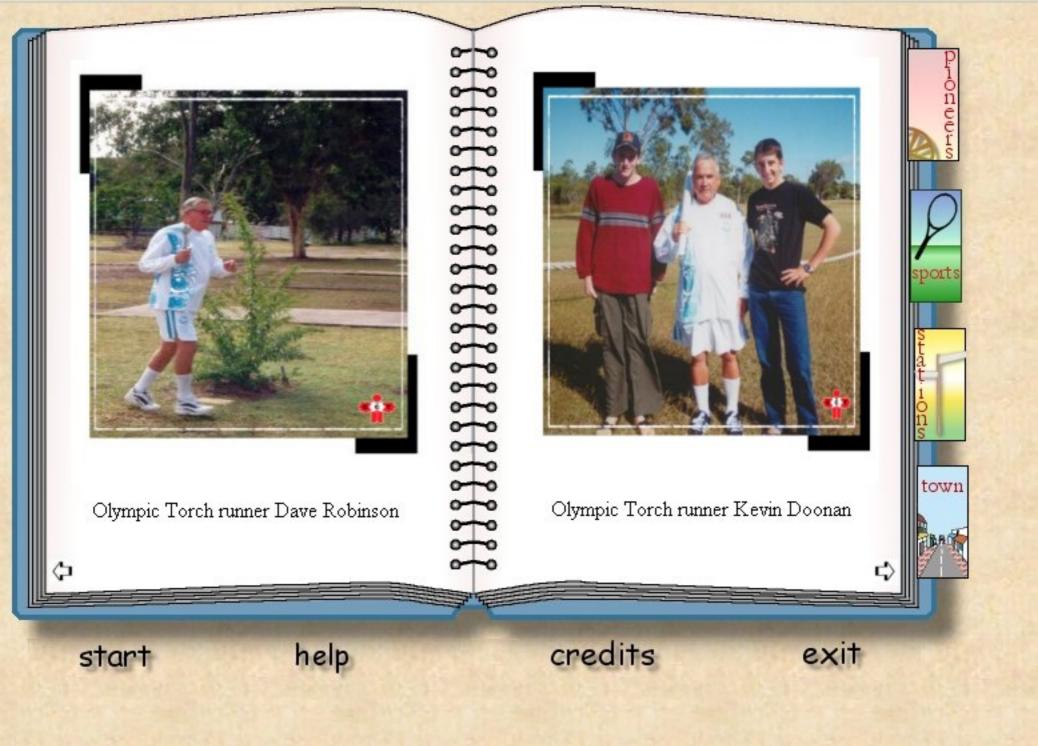


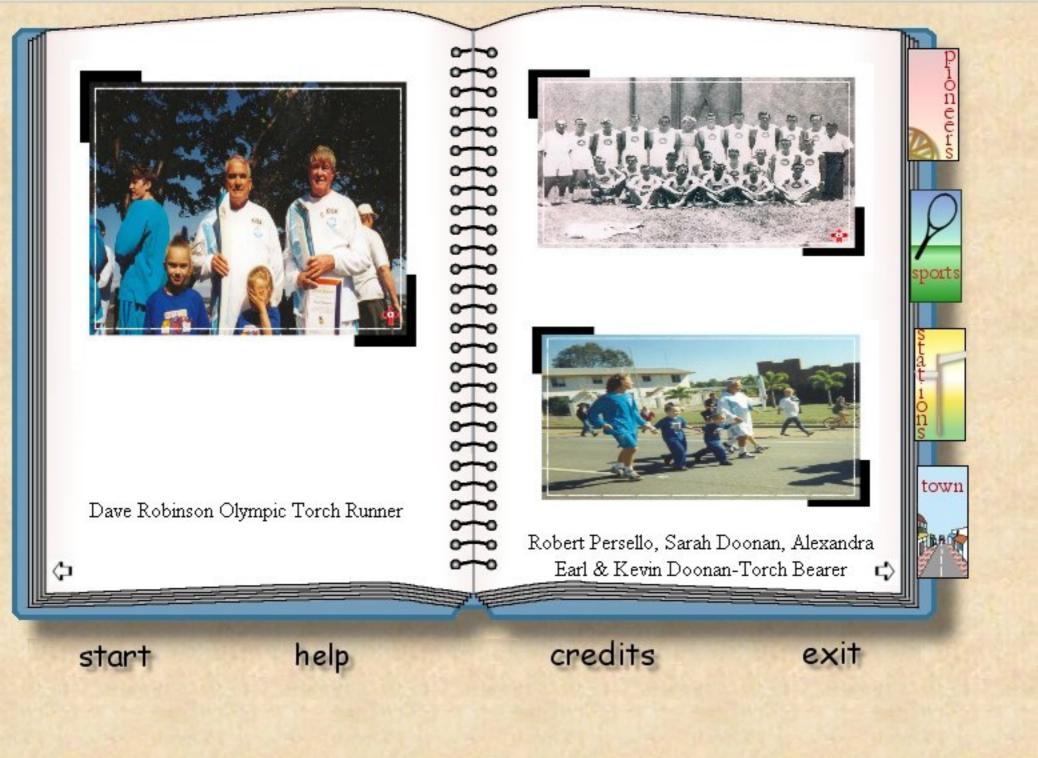


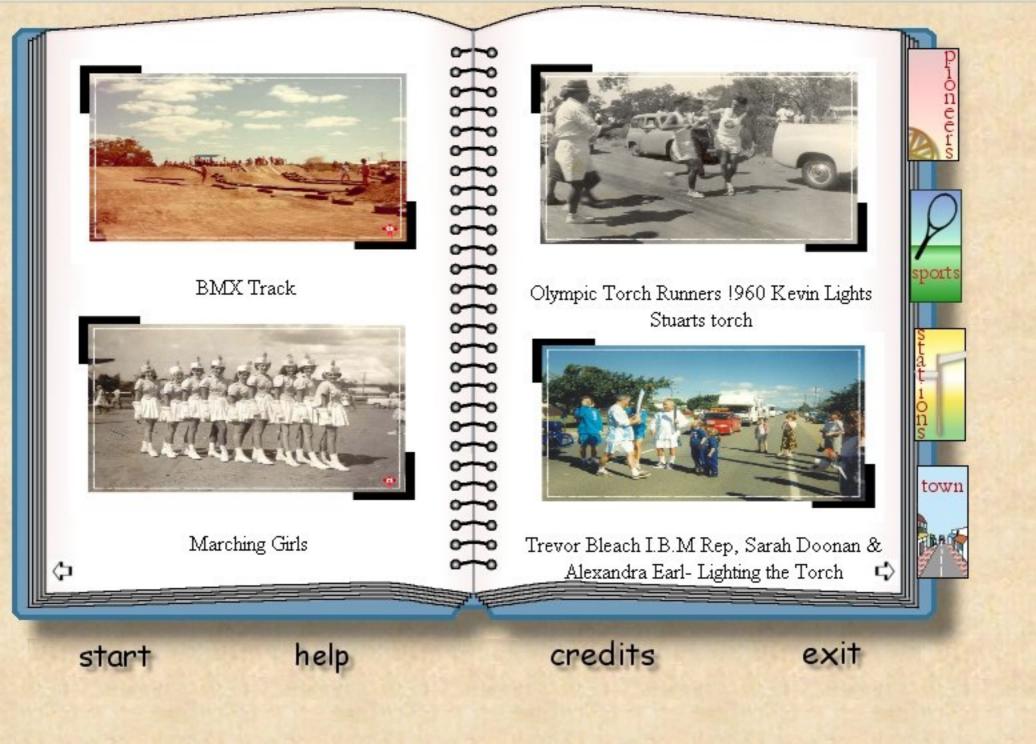


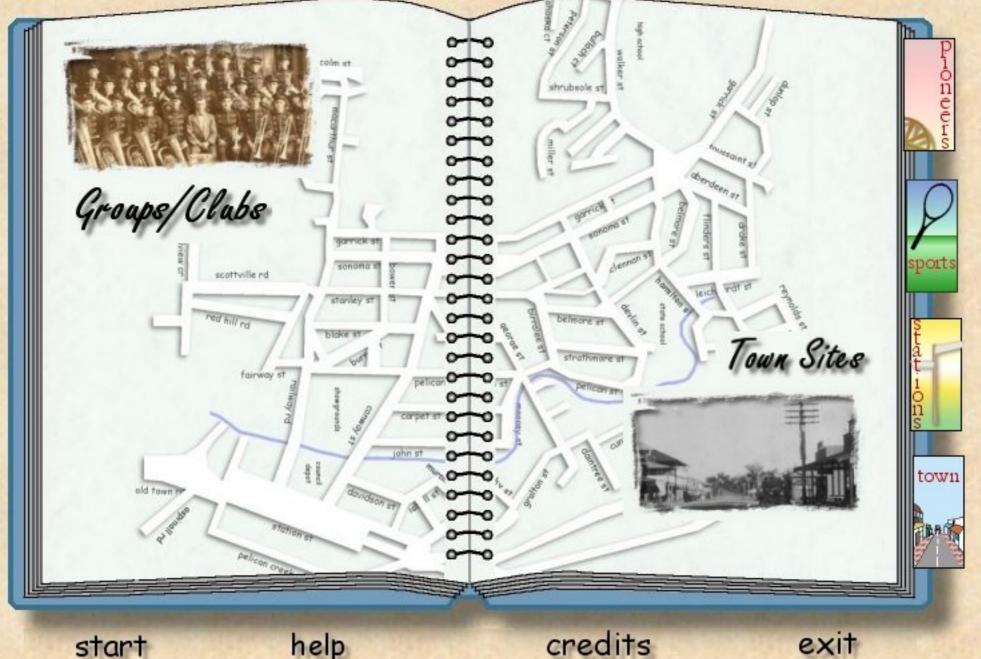






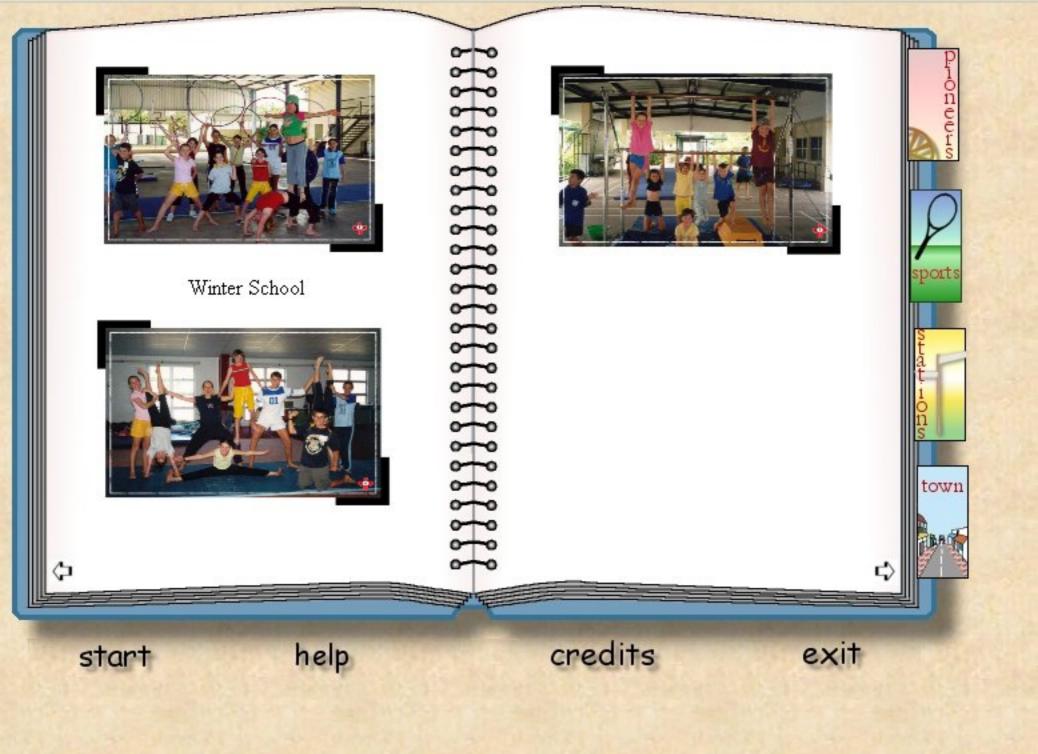


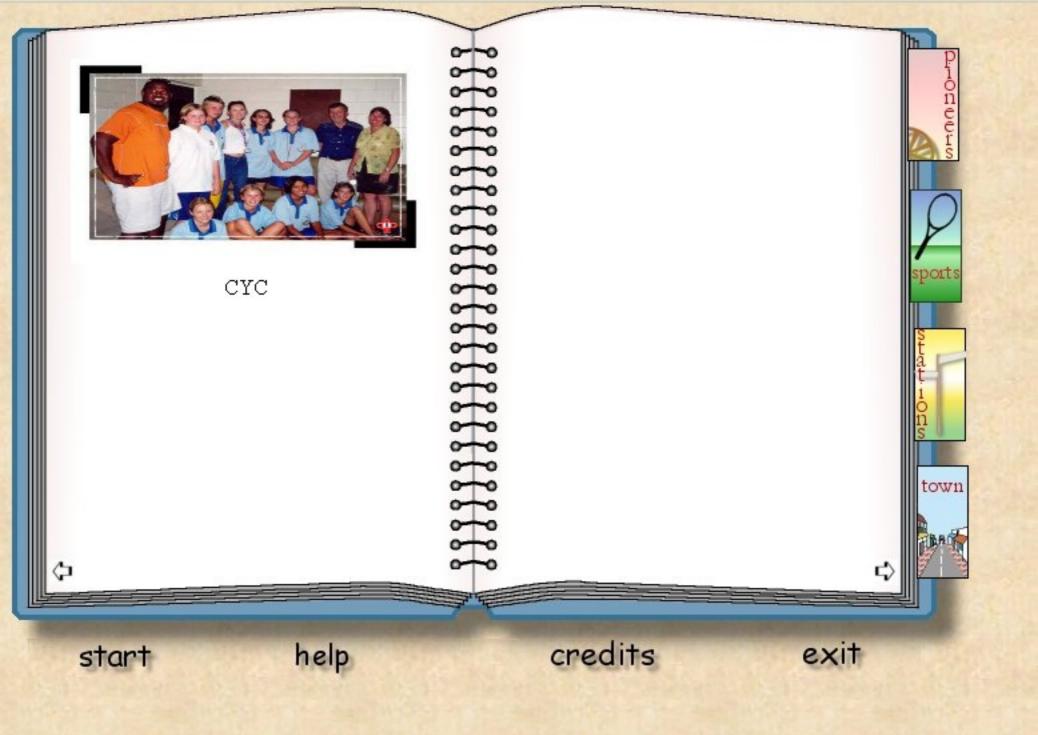


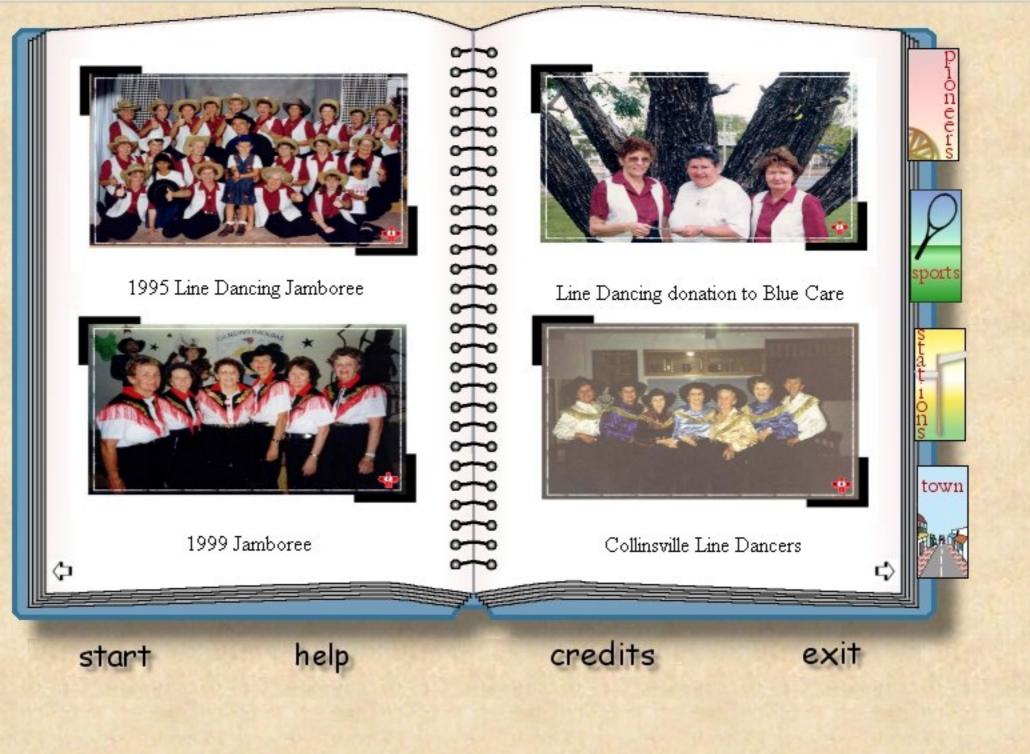


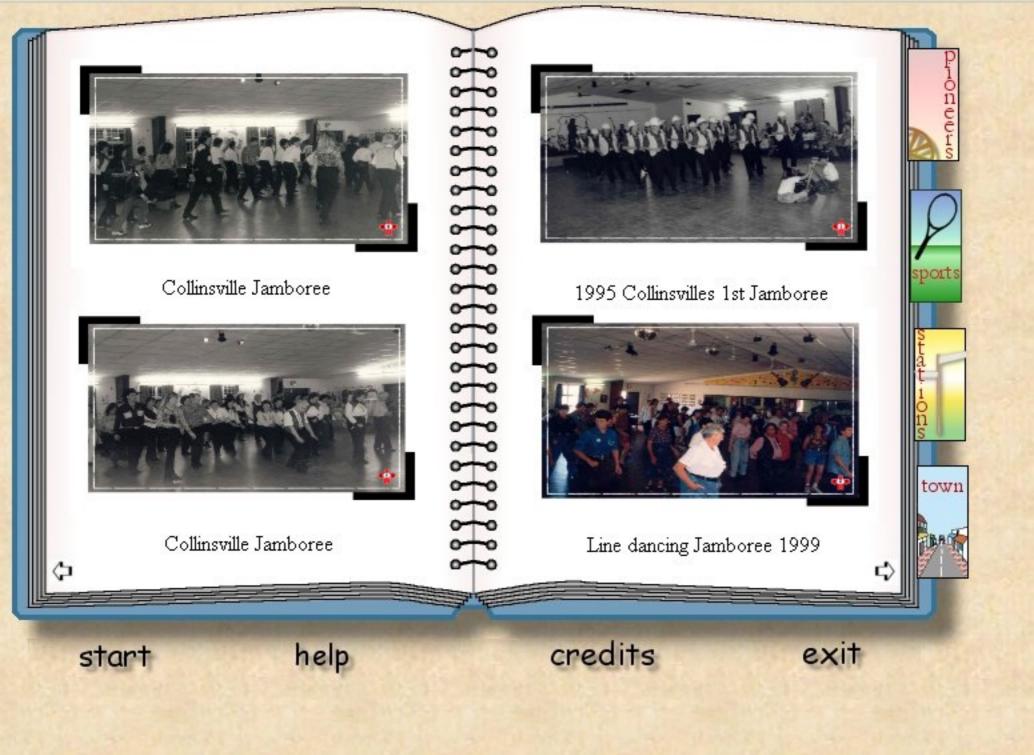
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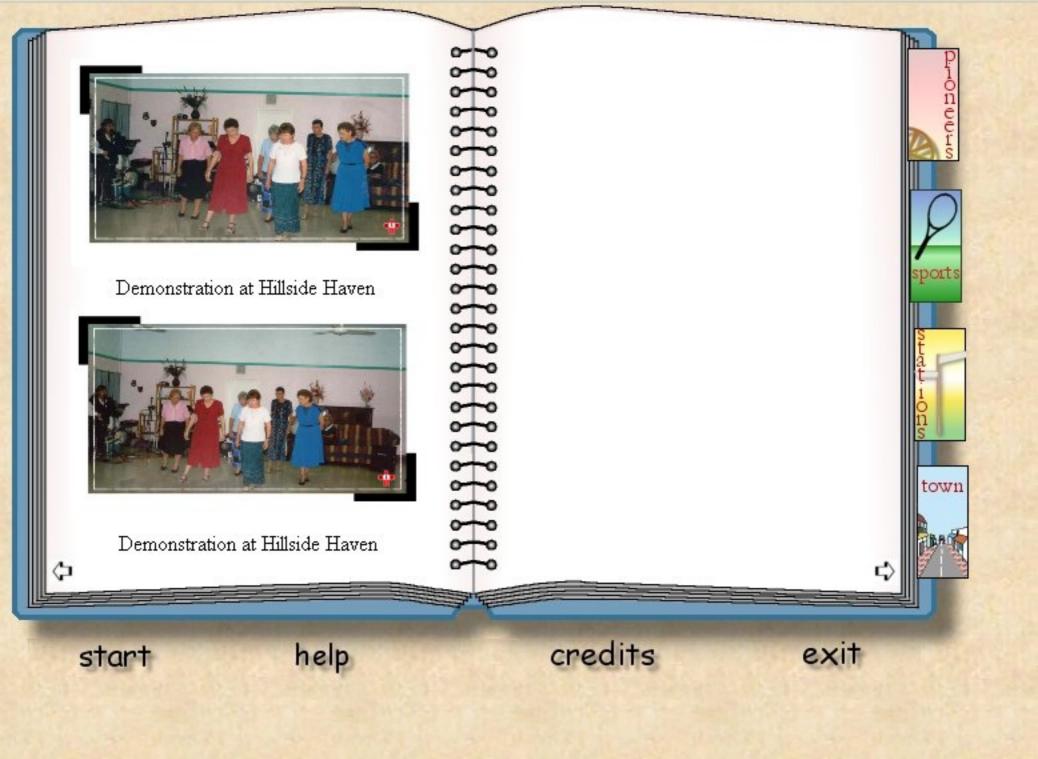


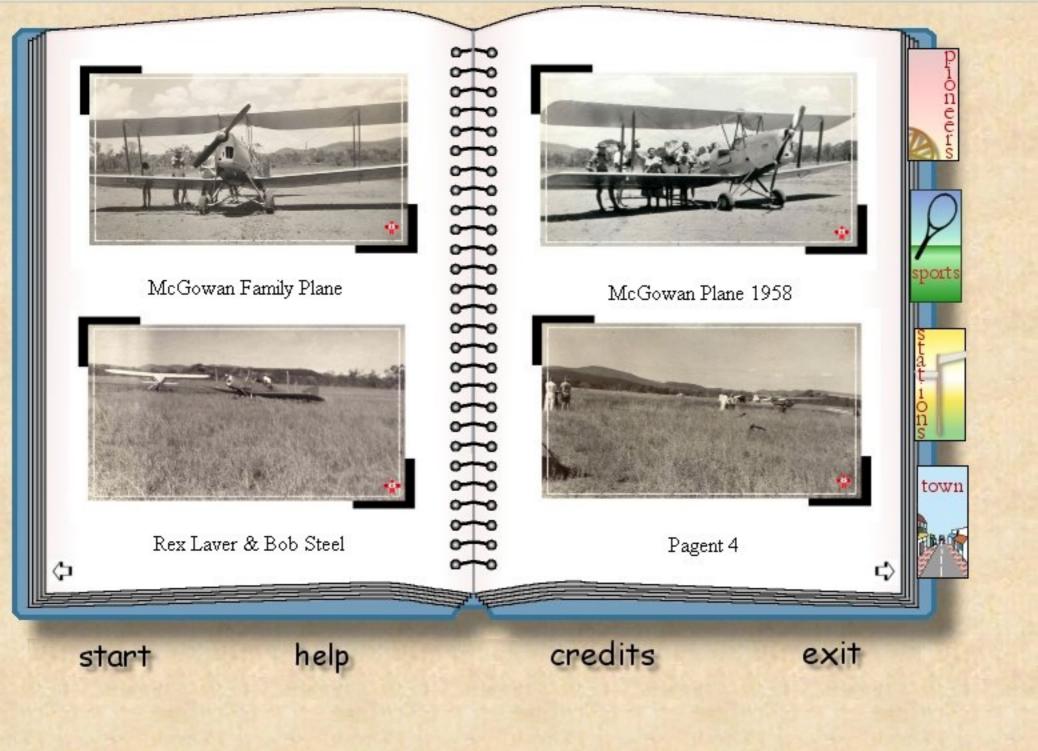


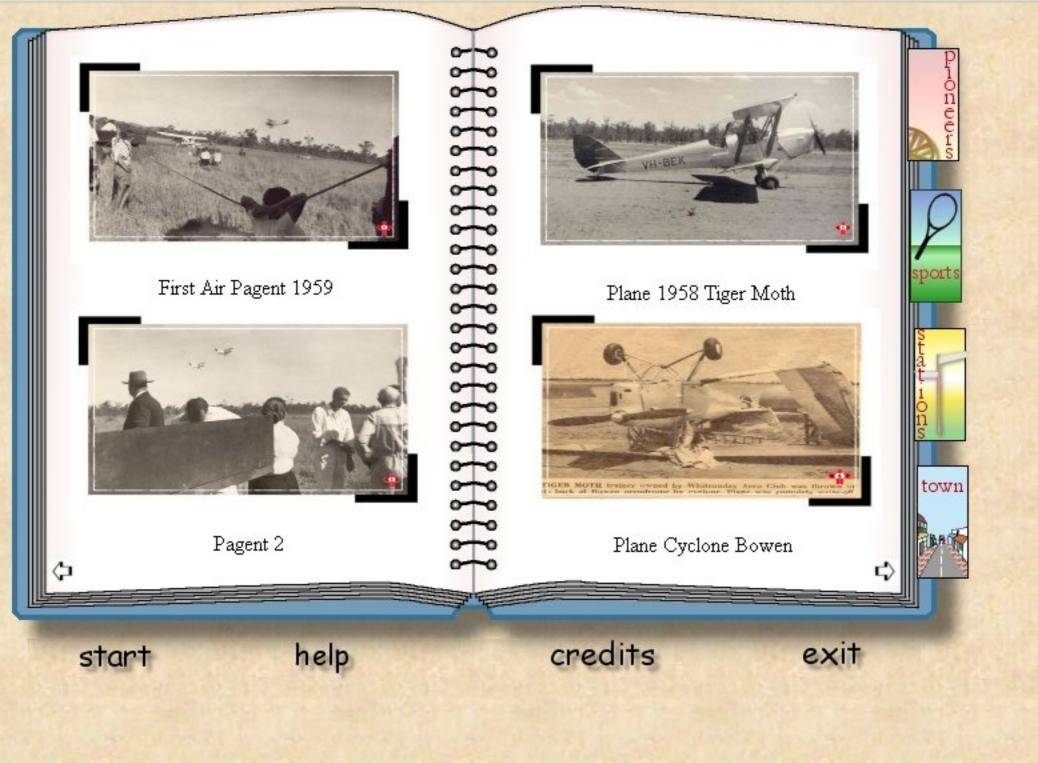


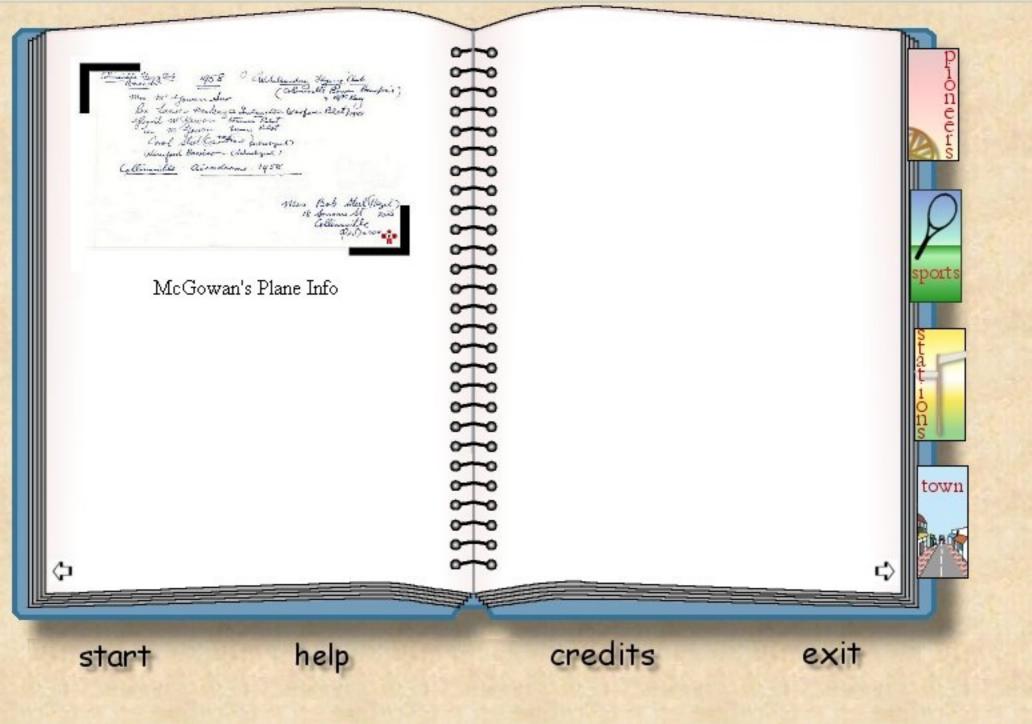














Original Miners Union Hall 1950's



Union Hall



oneens

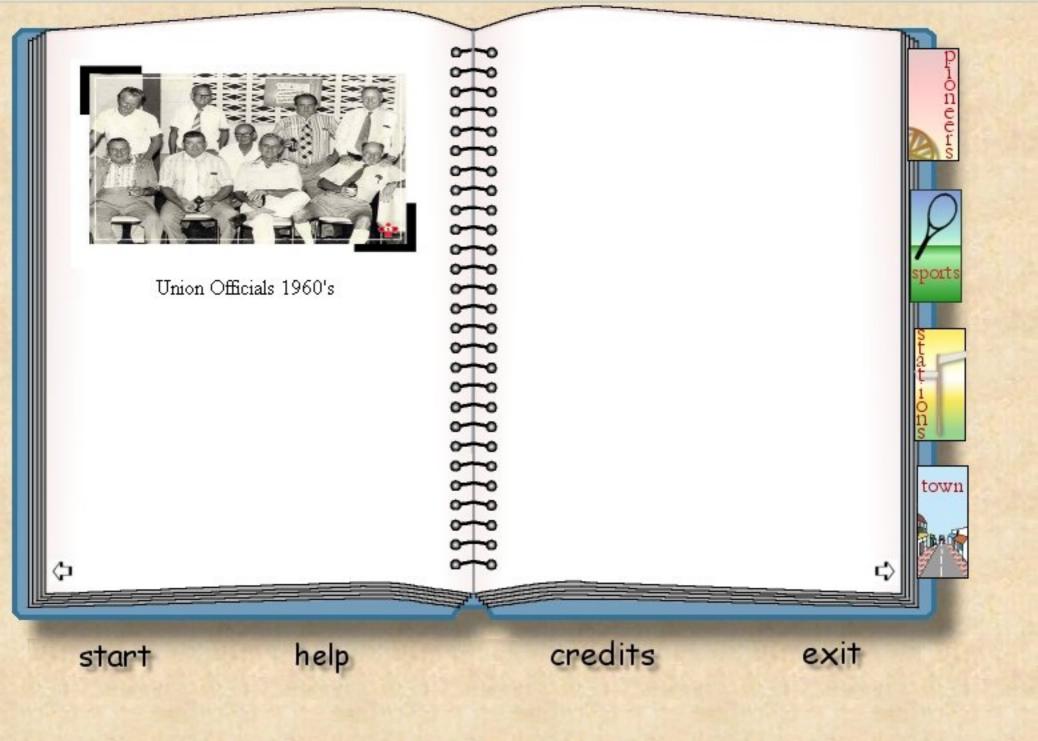
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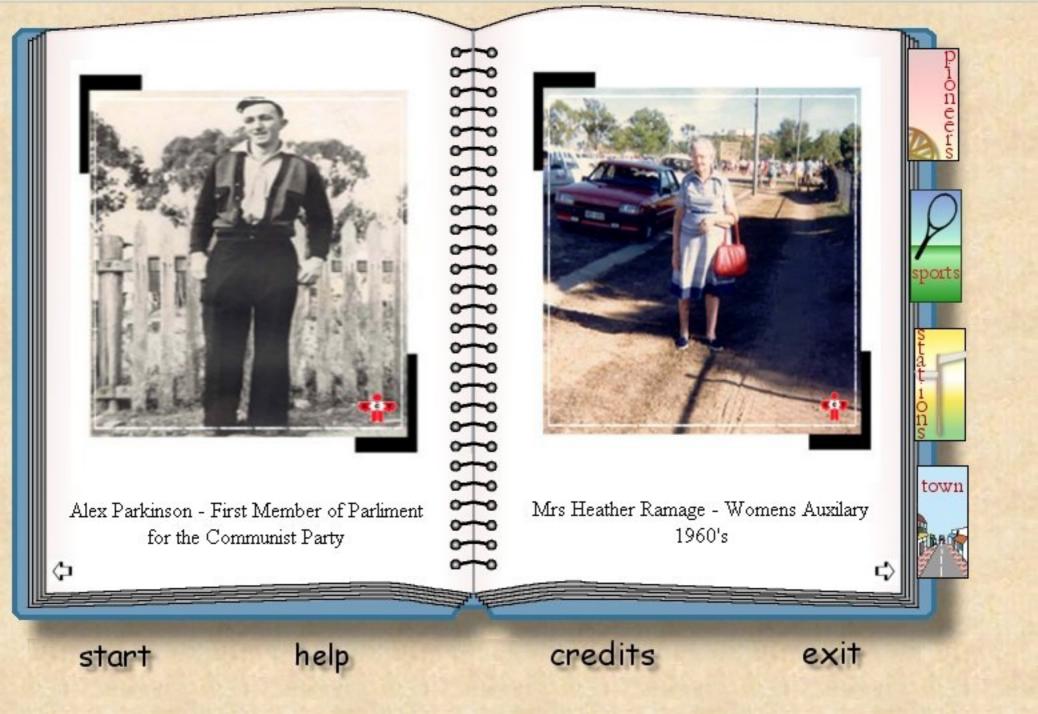
BCCM No: 2 Mine Staff

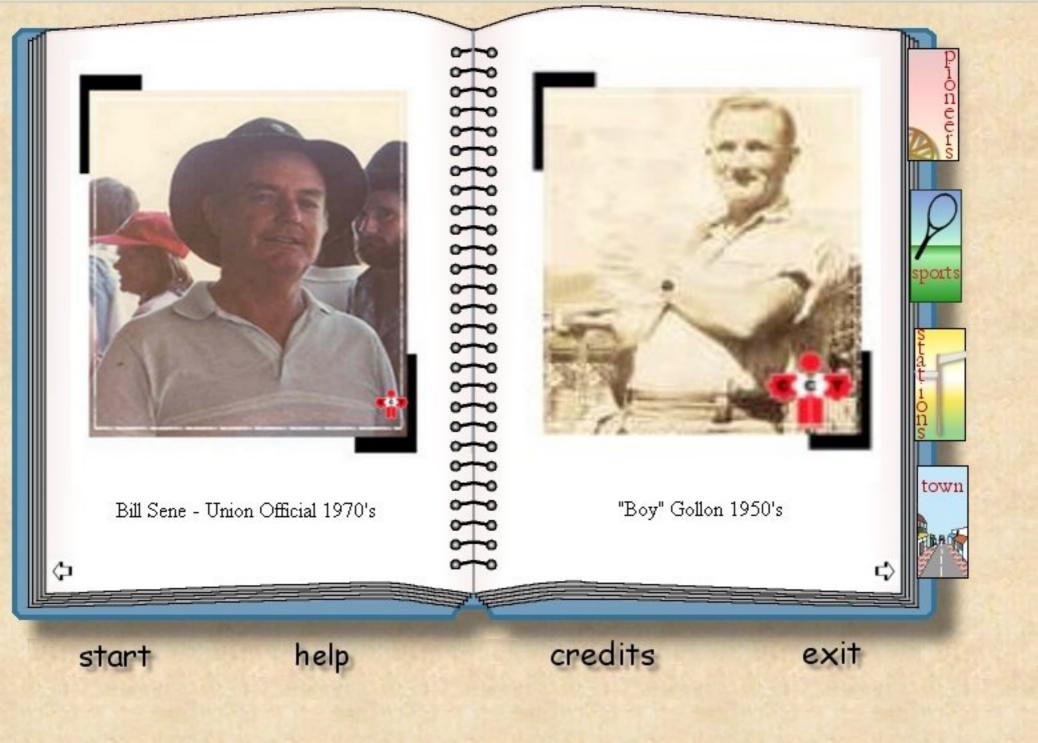


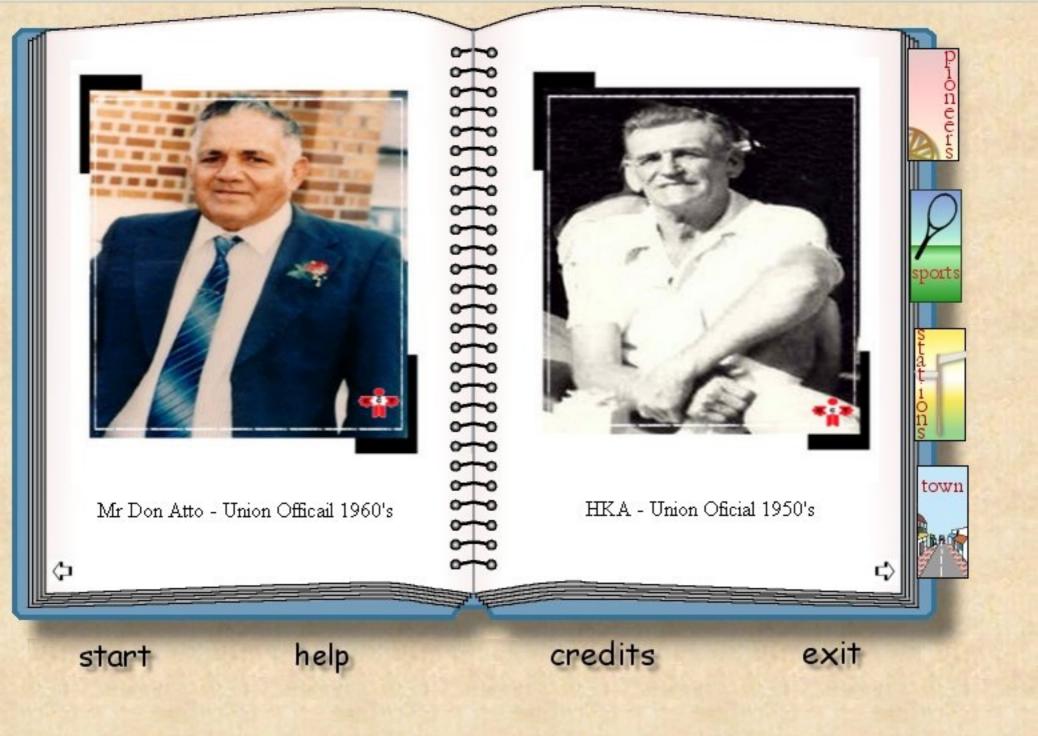
Union Officials 1980's

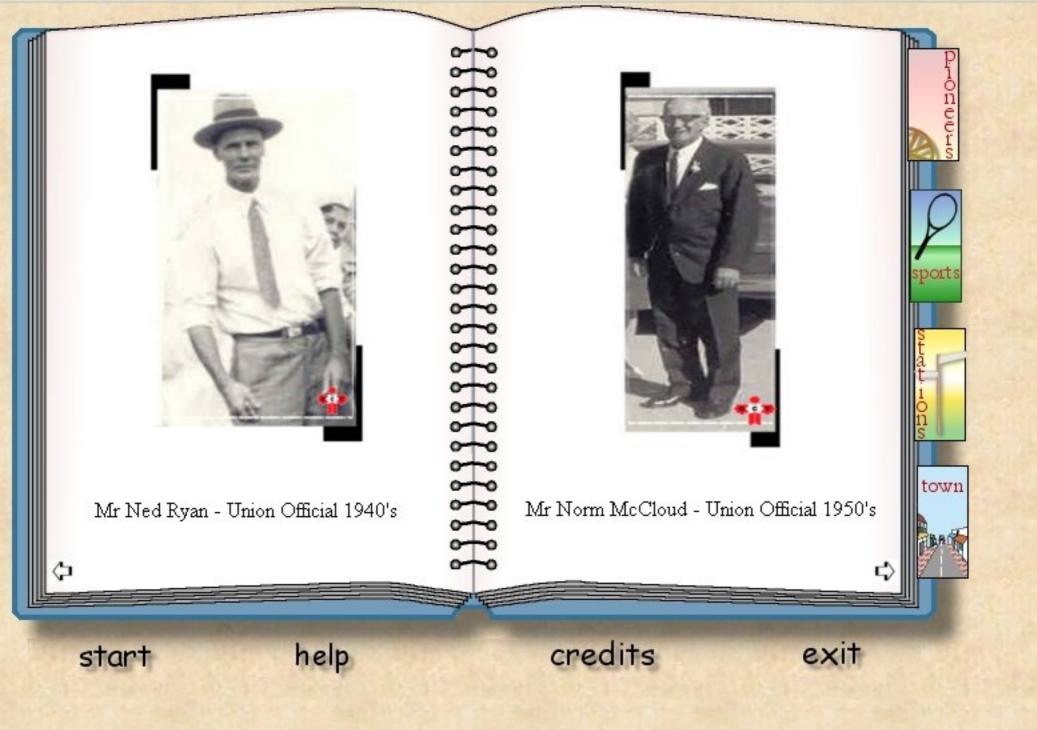
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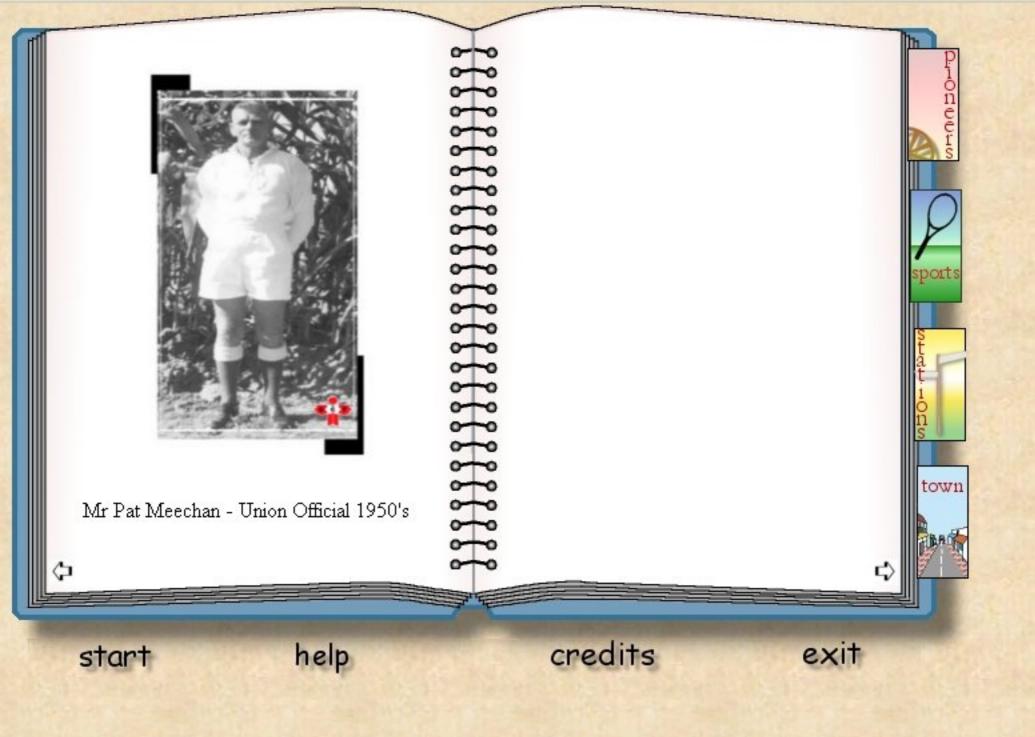












HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR PREVIOUS TEN YEARS

1965 - 1966

- * Charter presented by District Governor Mery Norman
- * Total Membership 25
- * Children's ward at hospital Painted and floors punched and polished.
- * Club Banner Donated by John Holland Constructions

1966 - 1967

* Lions Park planned and commenced.

- * Lions Ladies ran first street stall and presented us with our Interstallation Flag Set.
- * Careers Exhibition conducted for School Children.
- * First year prizes donated to School.
- * Sponsored performance of "Griffiths Marionettes". For the Arts Council of Australia.
- * Conducted a door-knock for World Refugee Appeal.

 * Membership 26
- 🖜 * Annual Glaucoma campaign for a Local Fire Brigade.

1967 - 1968



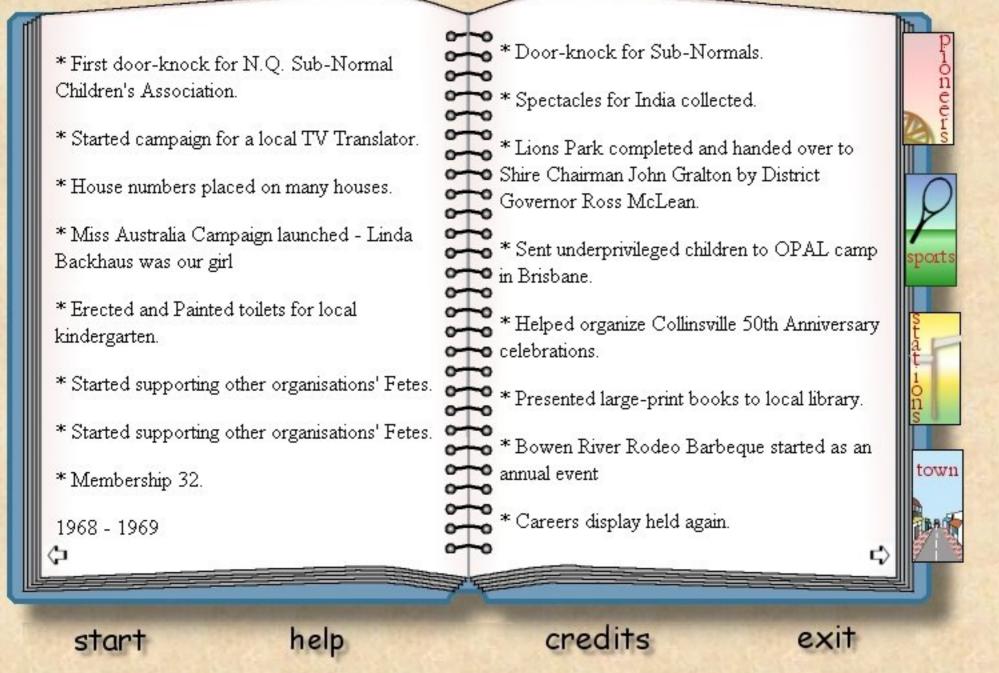
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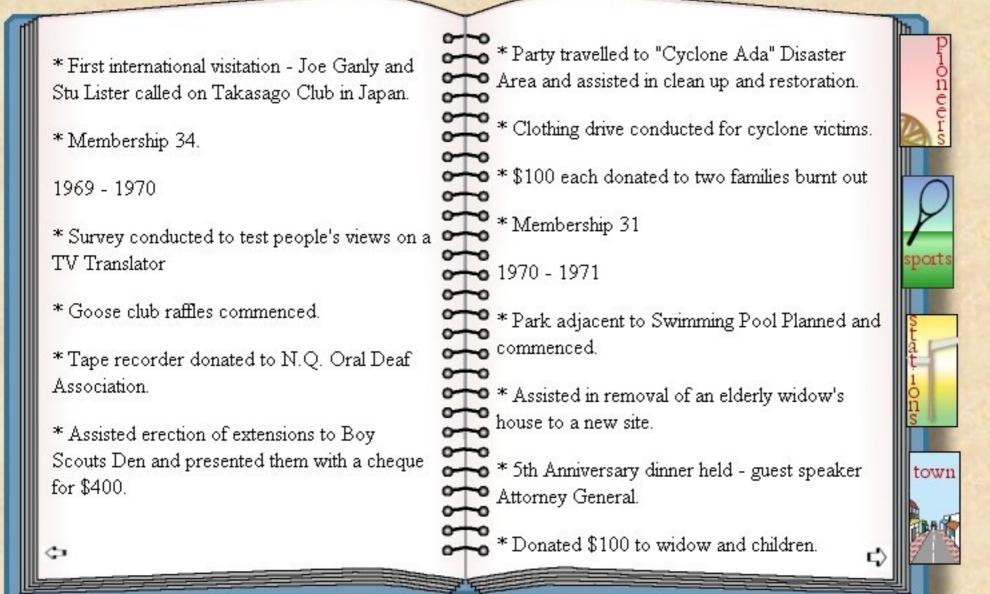
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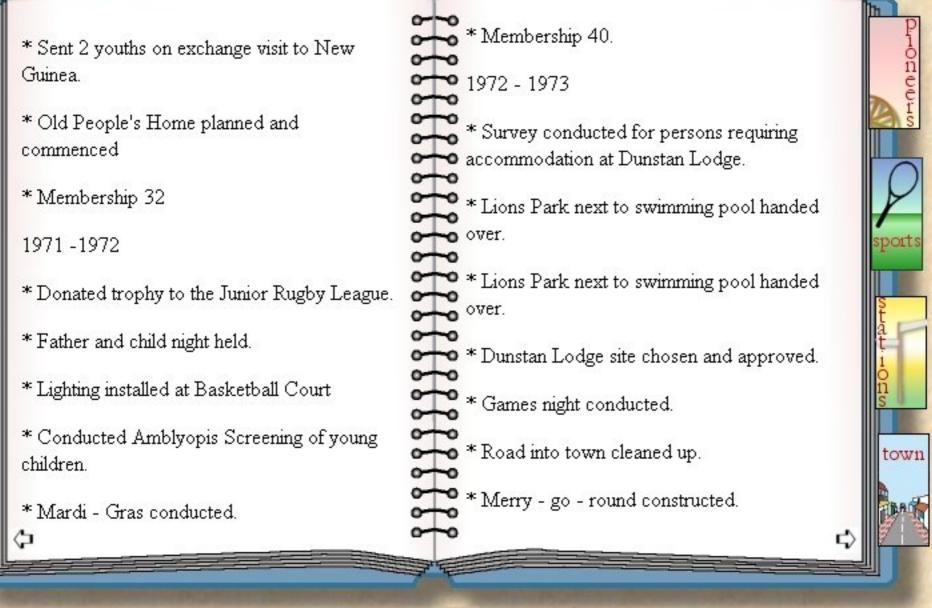




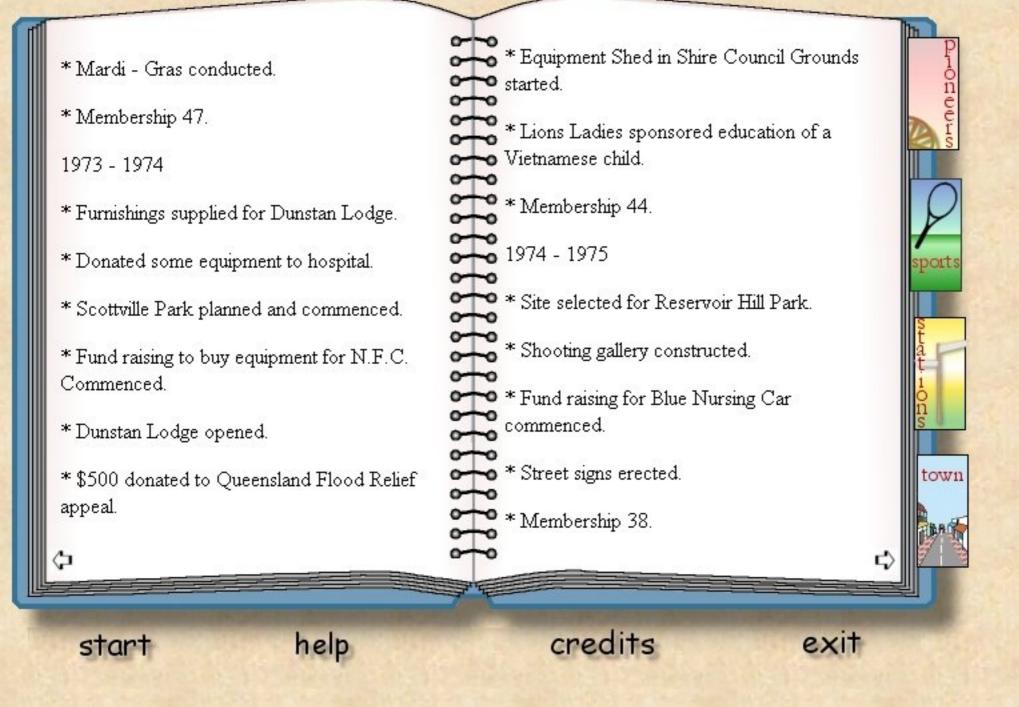


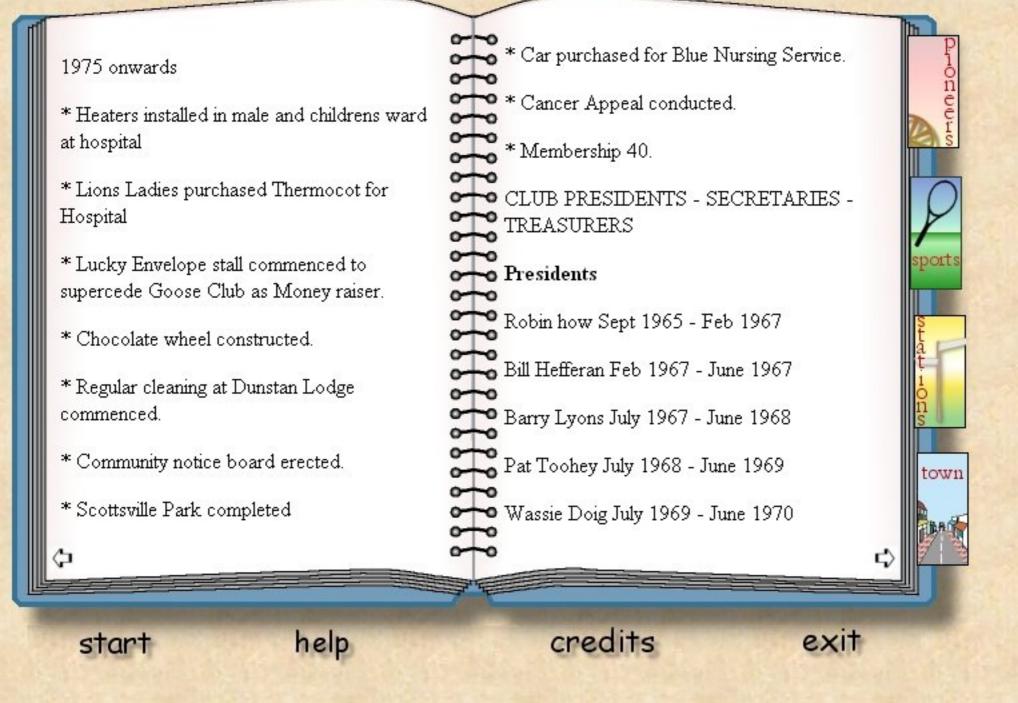


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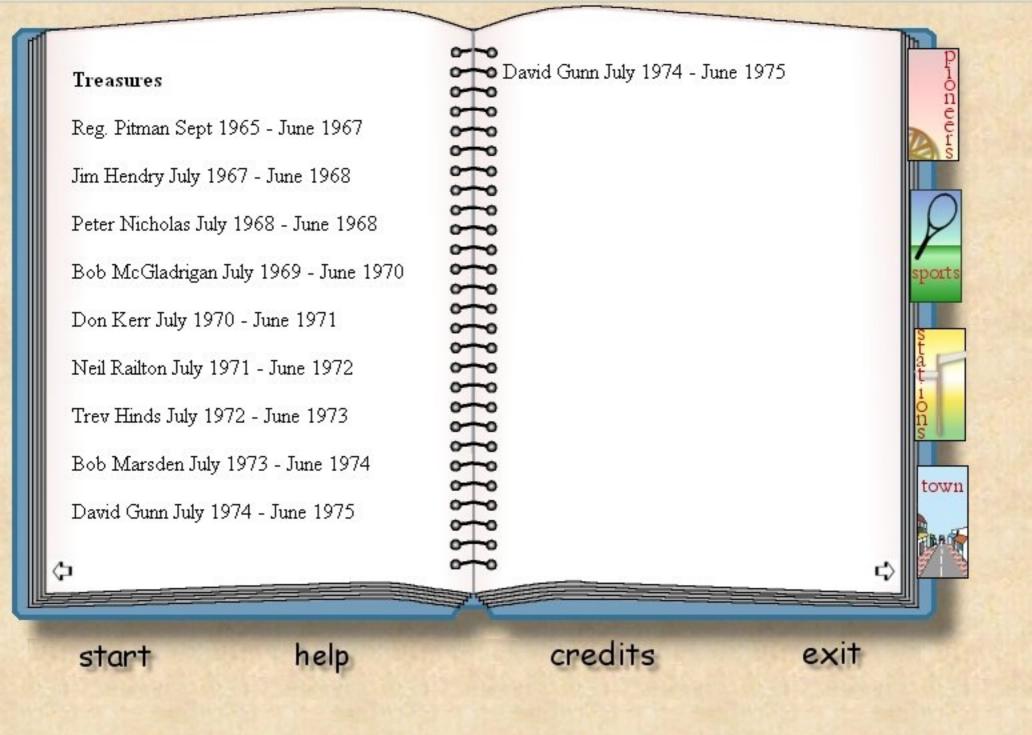
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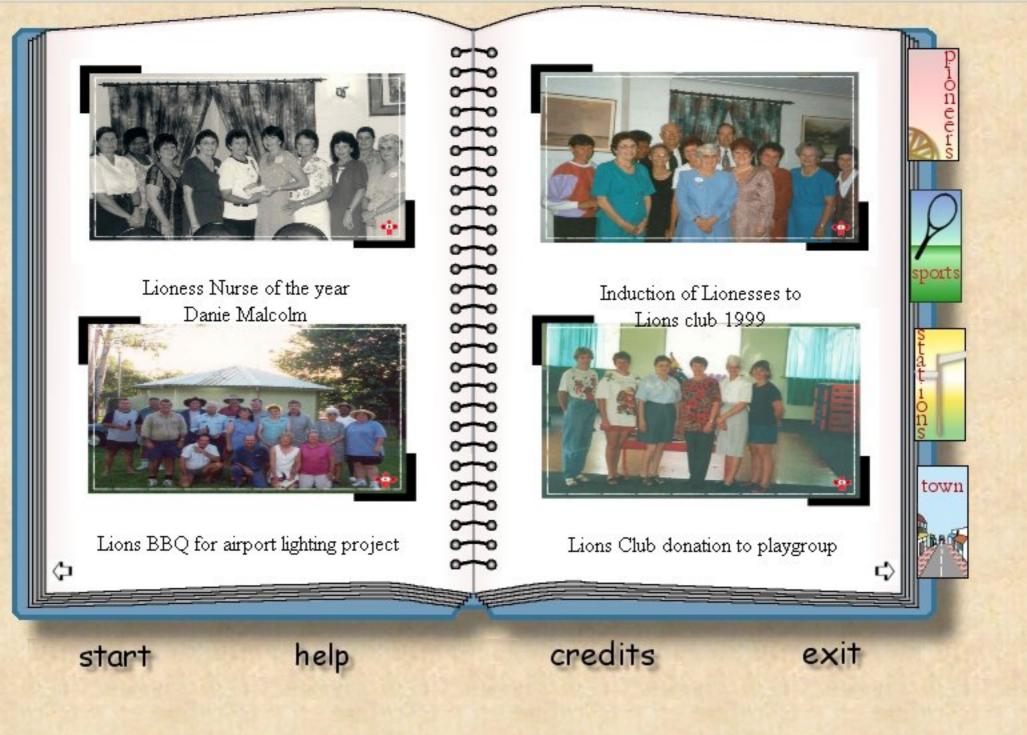


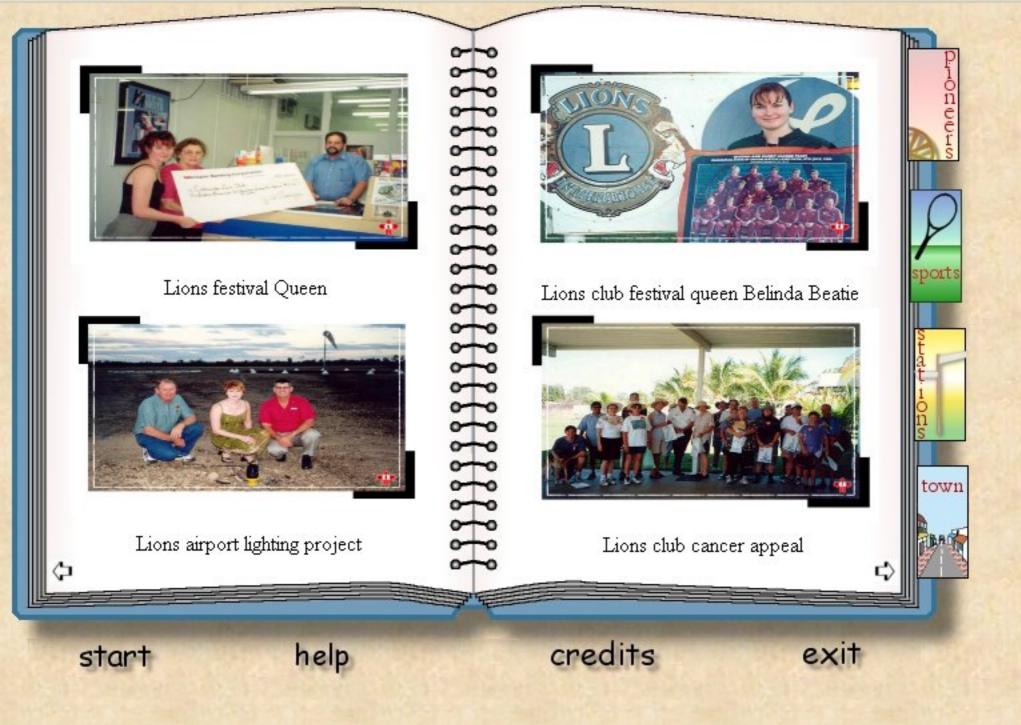


Lance Horwood Nov 1966 - June 1968 George Sanderson July 1970 - June 1971 oneers Jim Hendry July 1968 - Jan 1969 Joe Ganly July 1971 - June 1972 Mike Waldby Feb 1969 - June 1969 Ron Shepherd July 1972 - June 1973 Neil Railton July 1969 - June 1970 Don Kerr July 1973 - June 1974 Barry Lyons July 1970 - June 1971 Peter Petersen July 1974 - Nov 1974 sports Peter Petersen July 1971 - June 1972 Boris Sverdloff Nov 1974 - June 1975 Ron Pattel July 1972 - June 1973 Ron Pattel July 1975 -🖜 Bernie Partridge July 1973 - May 1974 Secretaries 🏴 Ken Cross June 1974 - August 1974 Barry Lyons Sept 1965 - Sept 1966 town Jim Treveton Sept 1974 - June 1975 Bill Lafferty Oct 1966 - Nov 1966 Alan Mogg July 1975 -

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Lions hospital donation



Lions induction



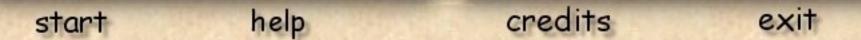
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Lions painting hospital



Lions club heart walker



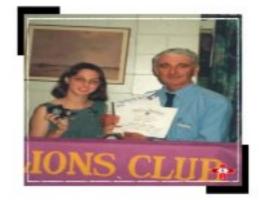


Lions Jr Youth of the Year 2001

Cynitta Wease



Jr Youth of the Year paticipants 2002



oneens

town

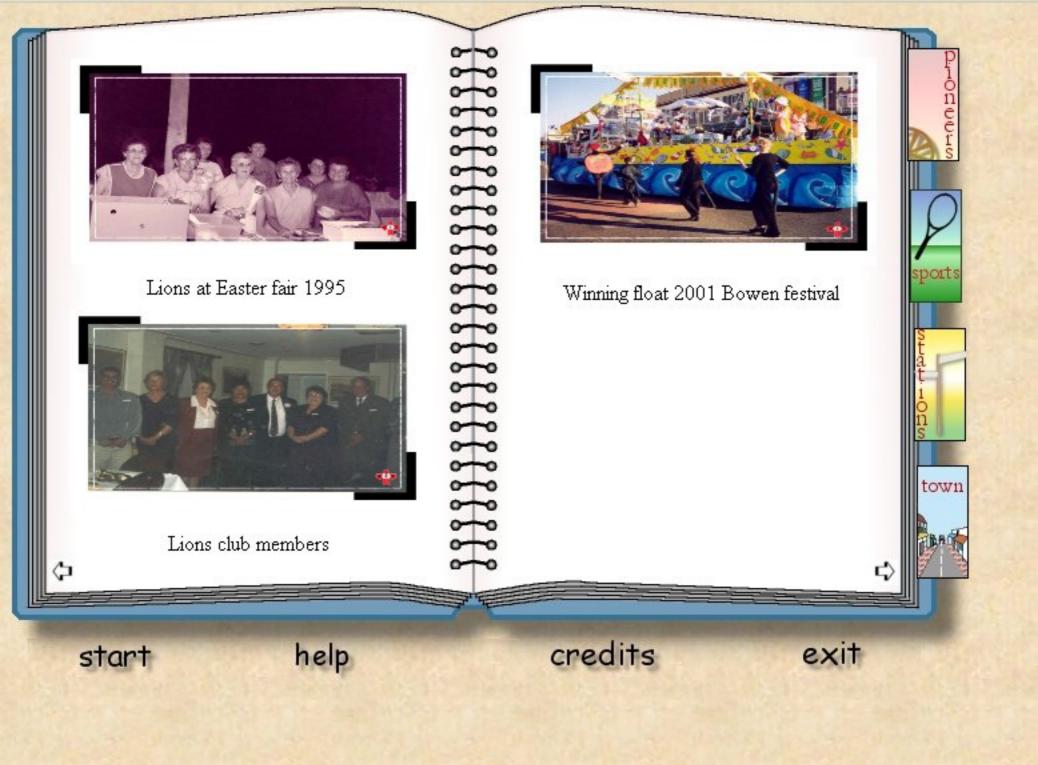
Lions Youth of the Year 2001

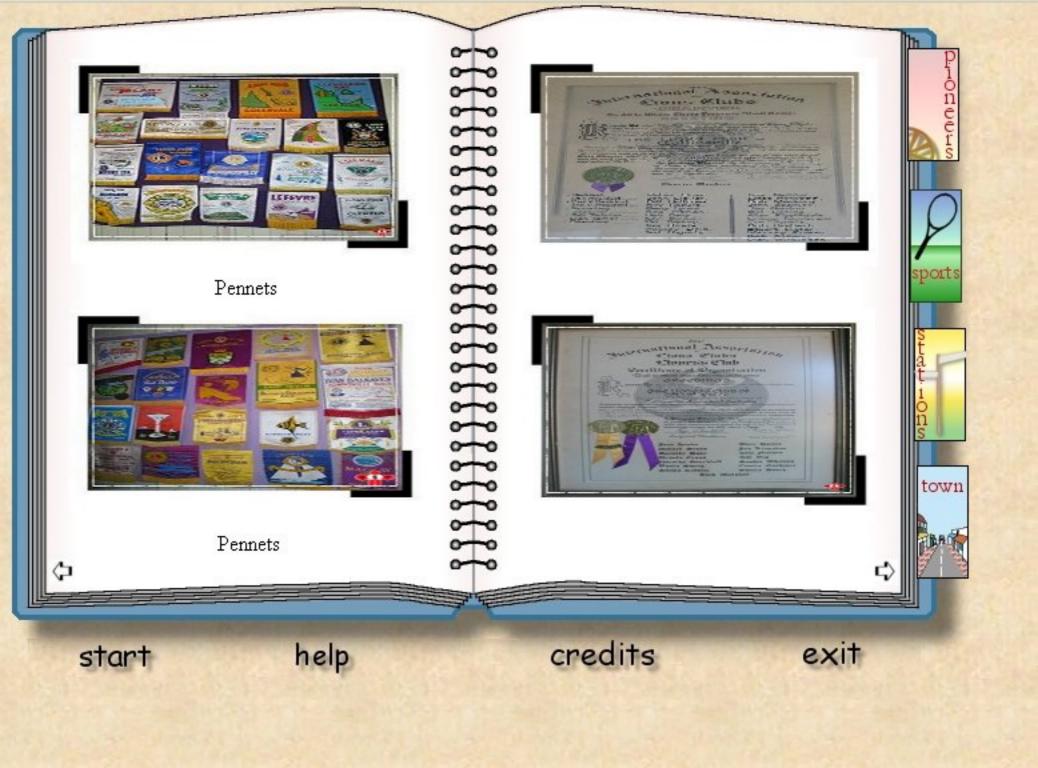
Natalie McFee

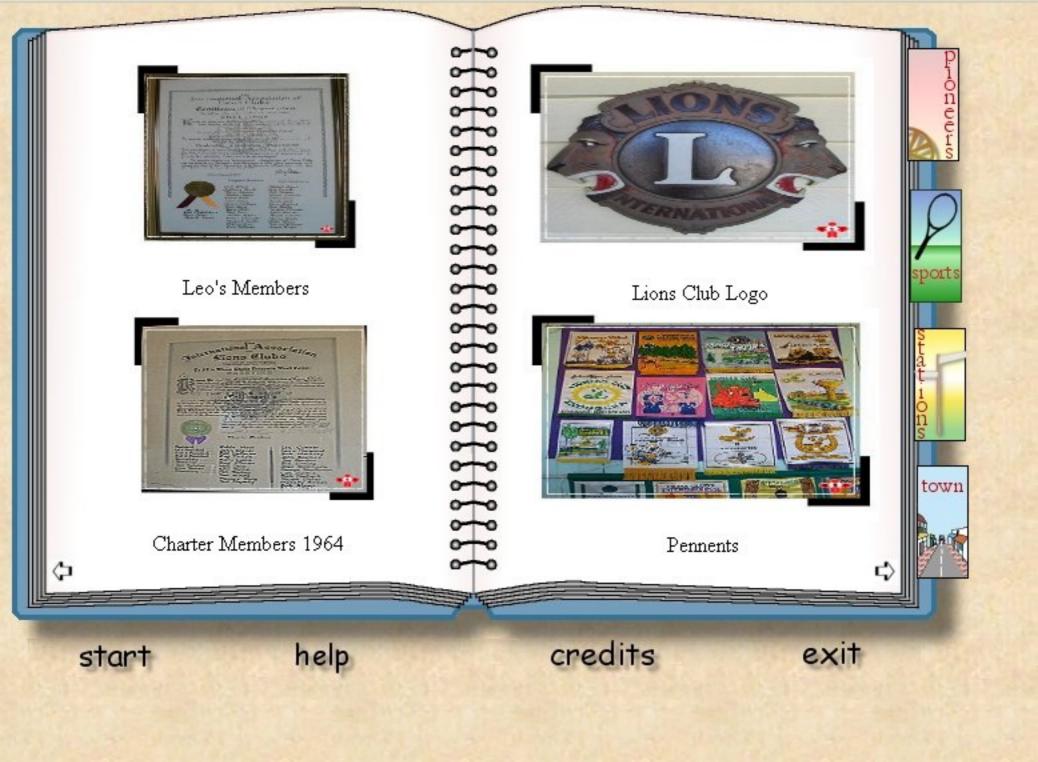


Lions Youth of the Year 2000 Adrian Bennett

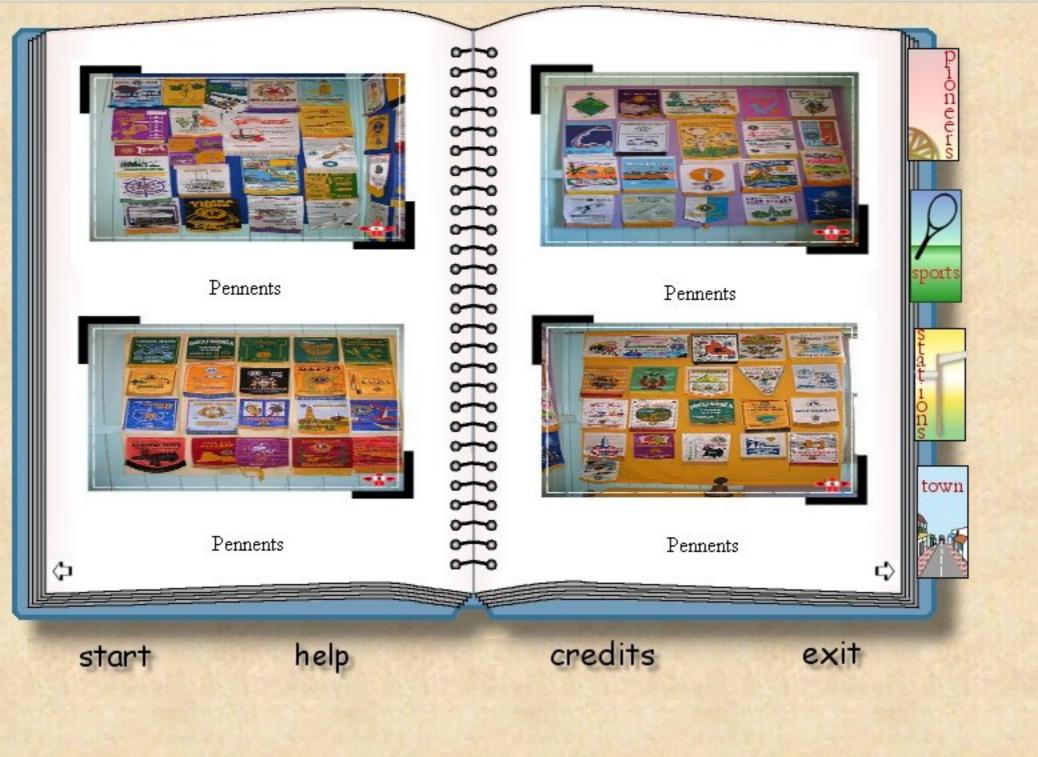
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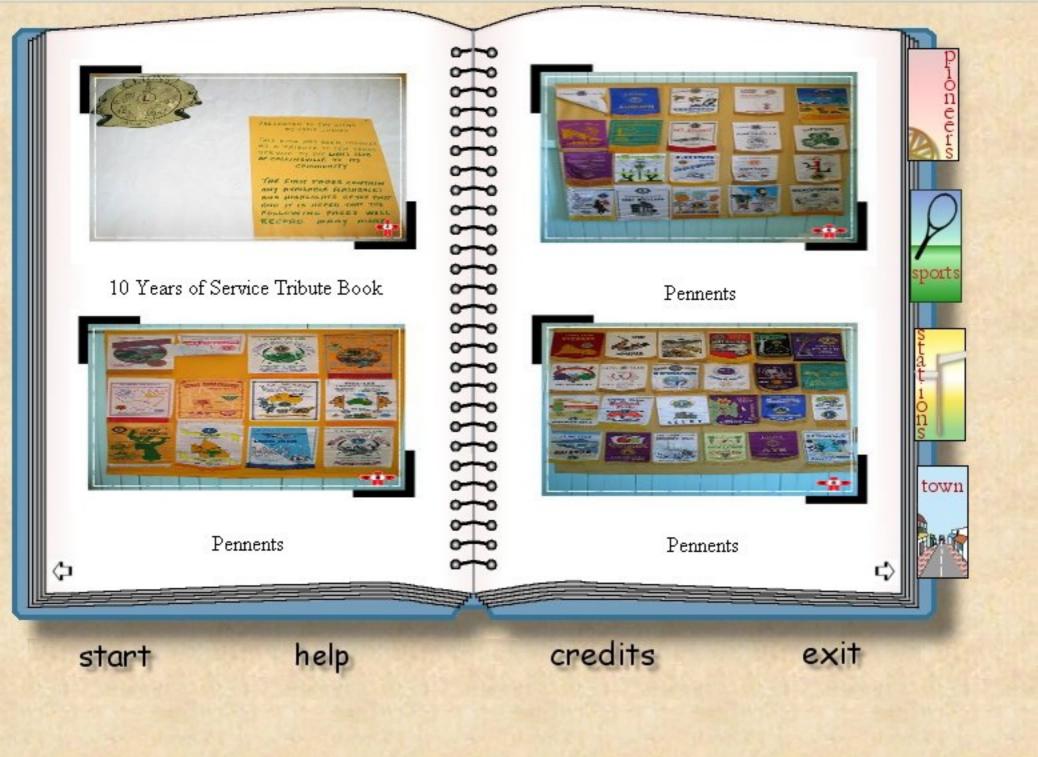


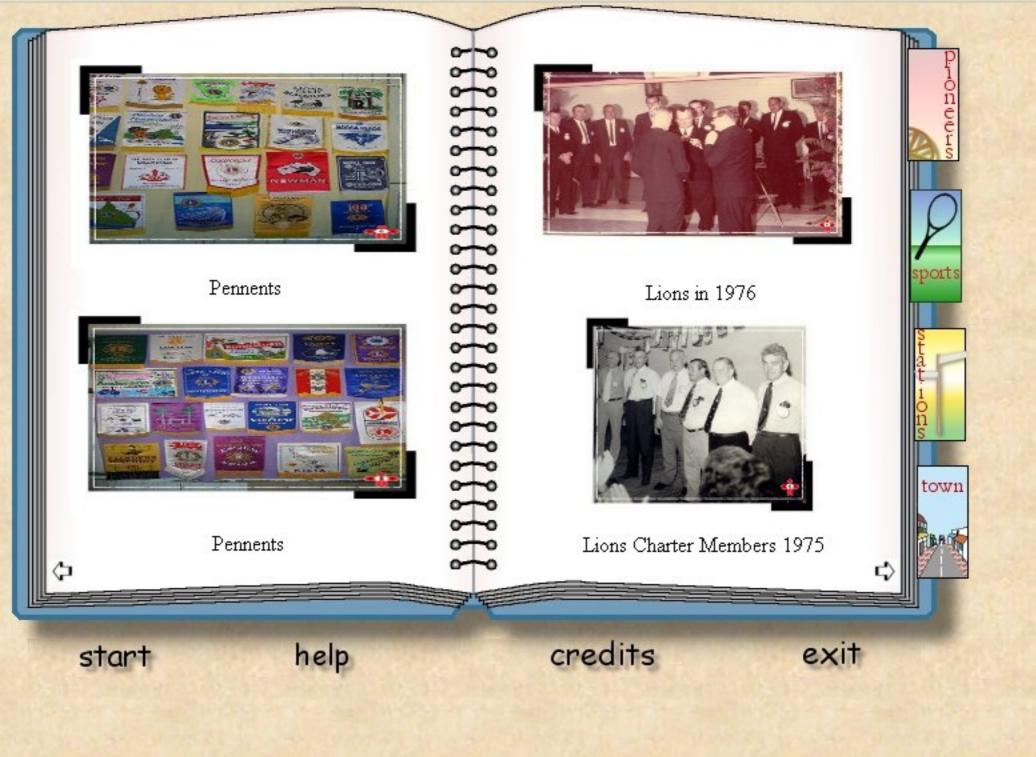


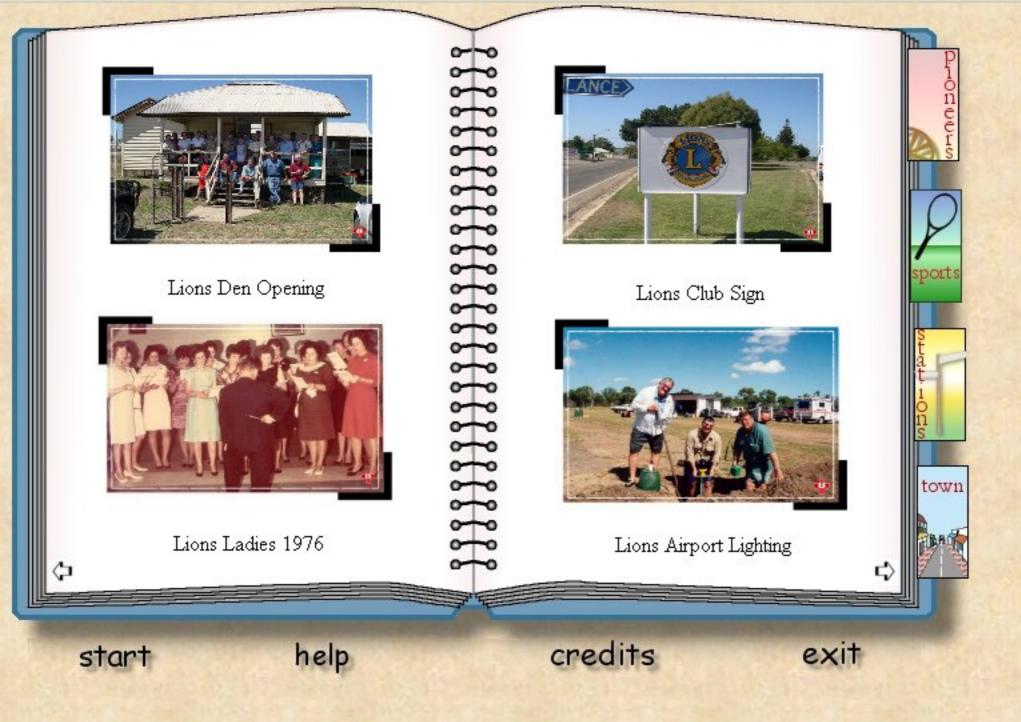


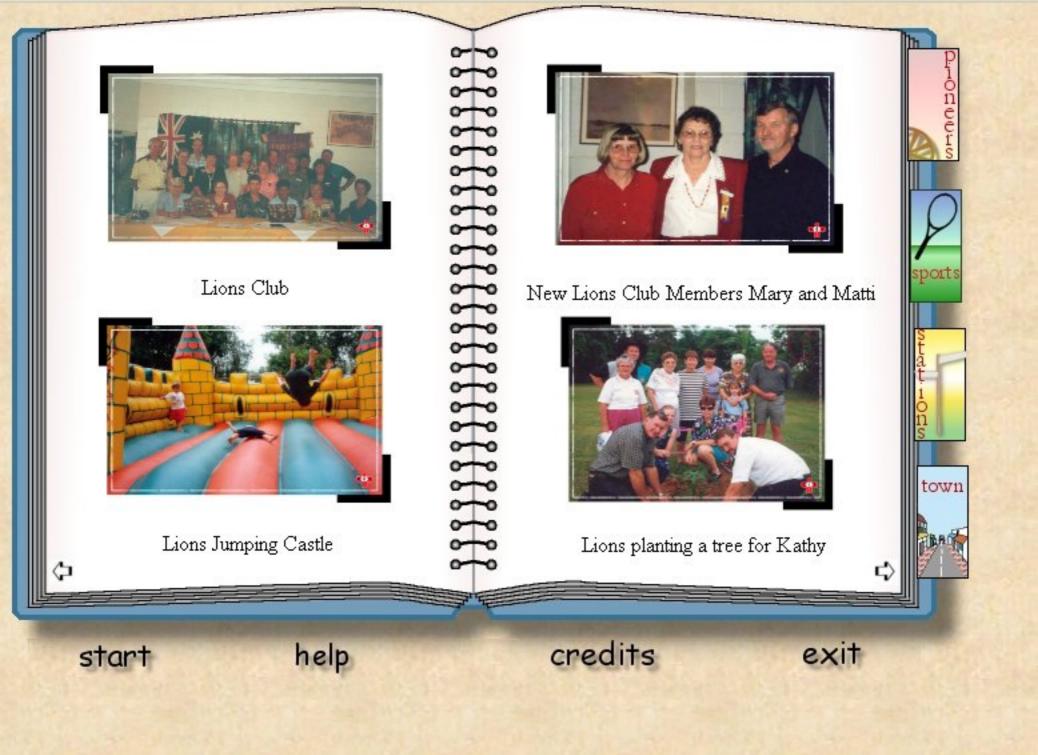


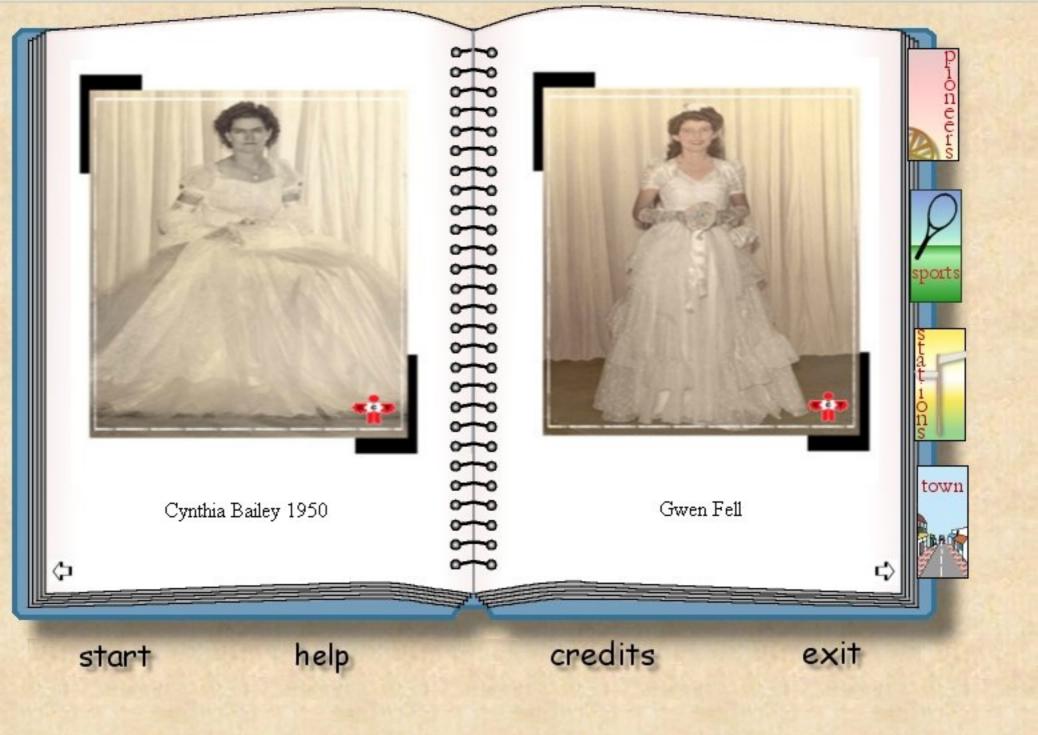


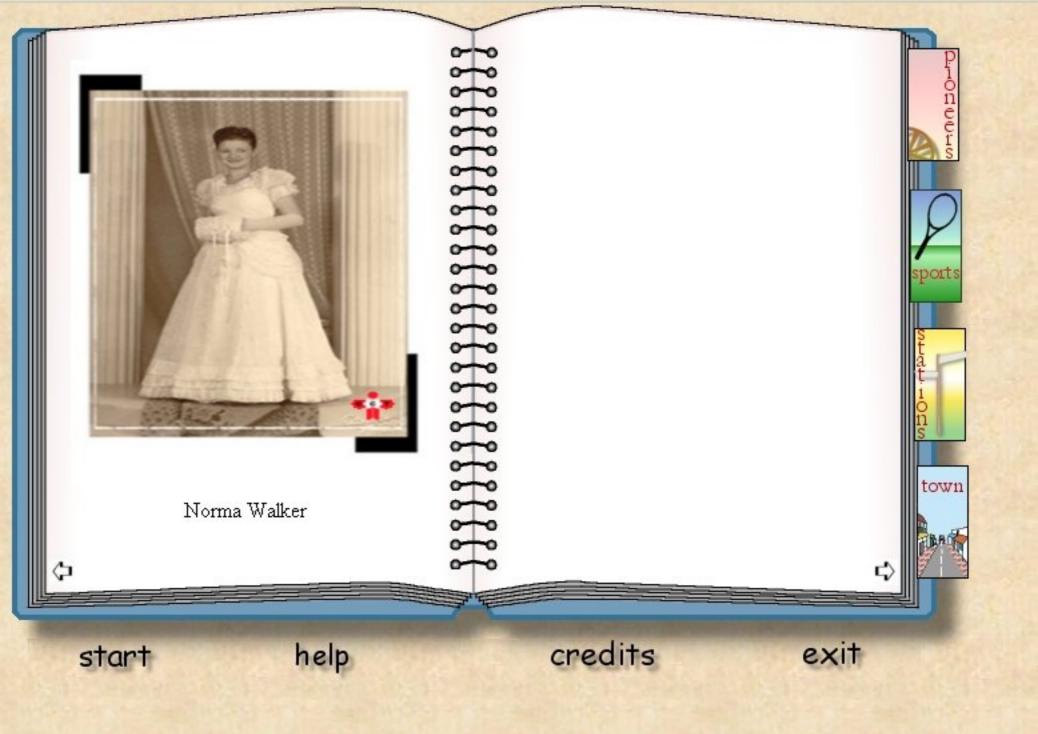


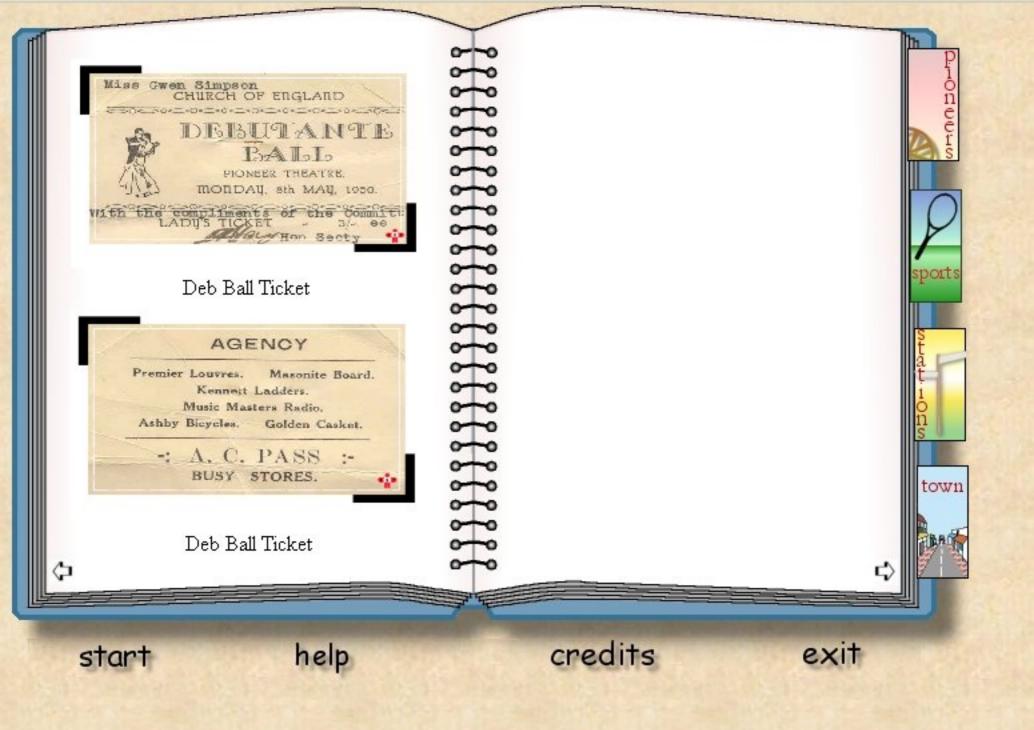


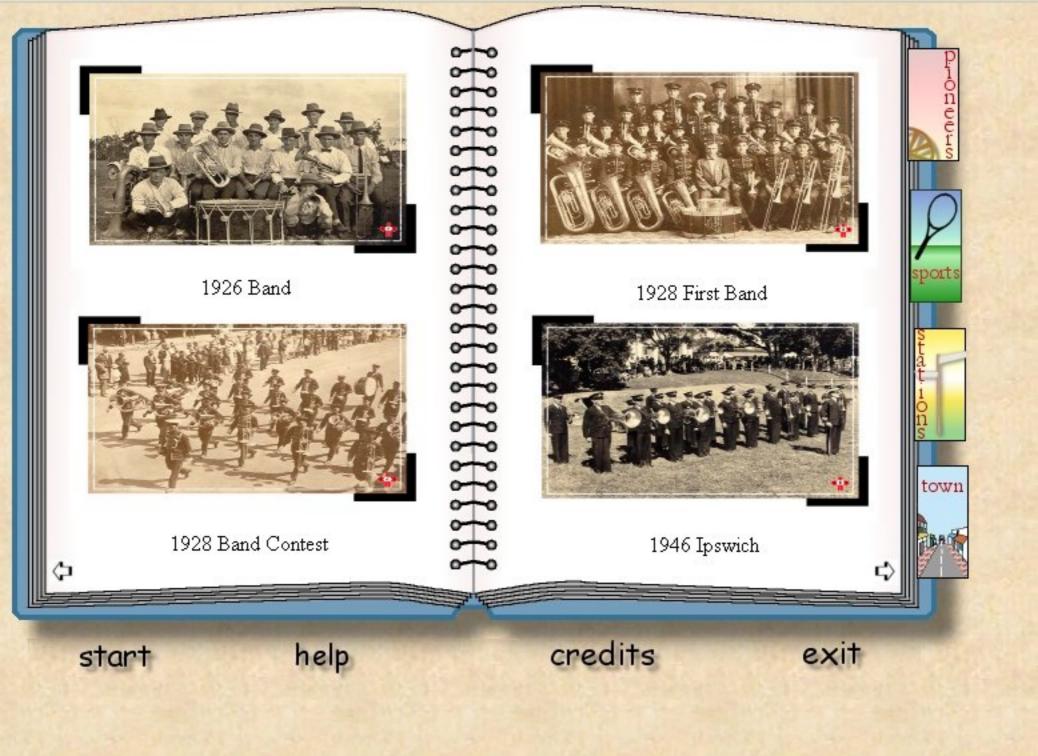


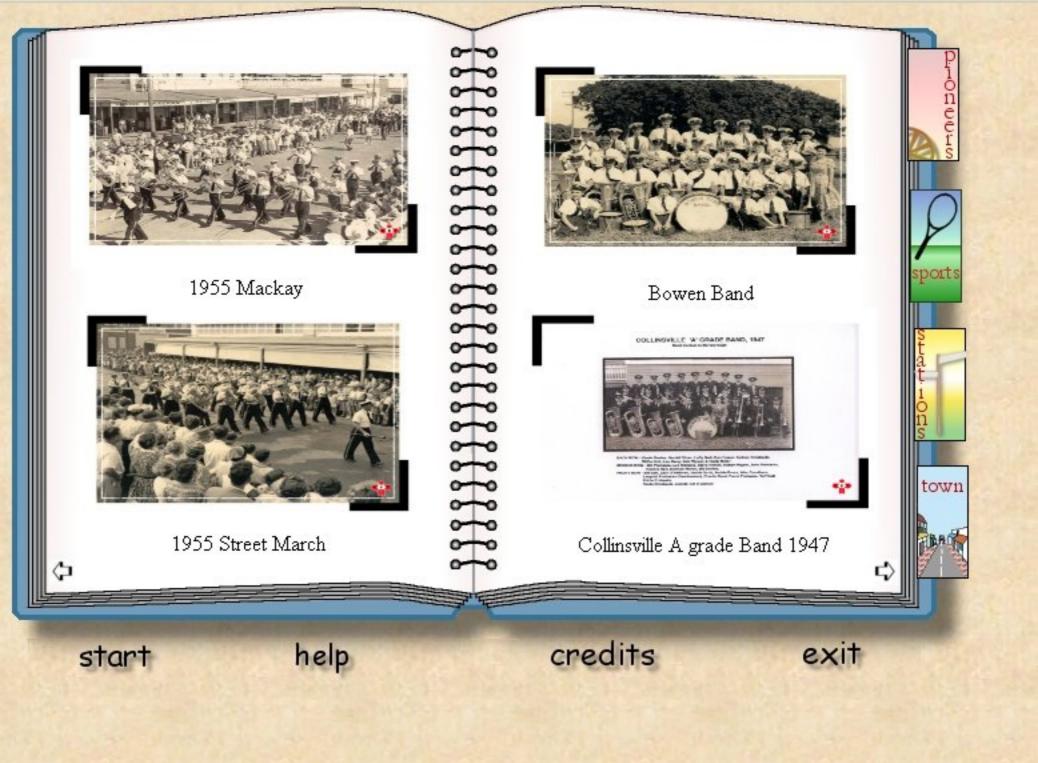


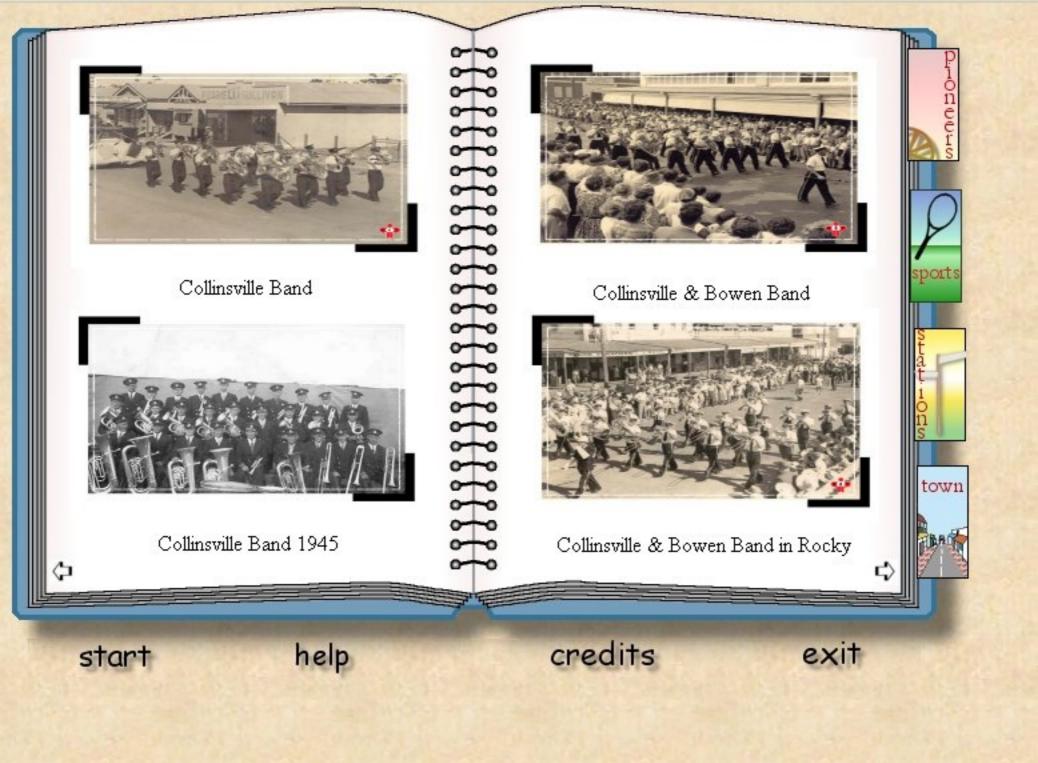


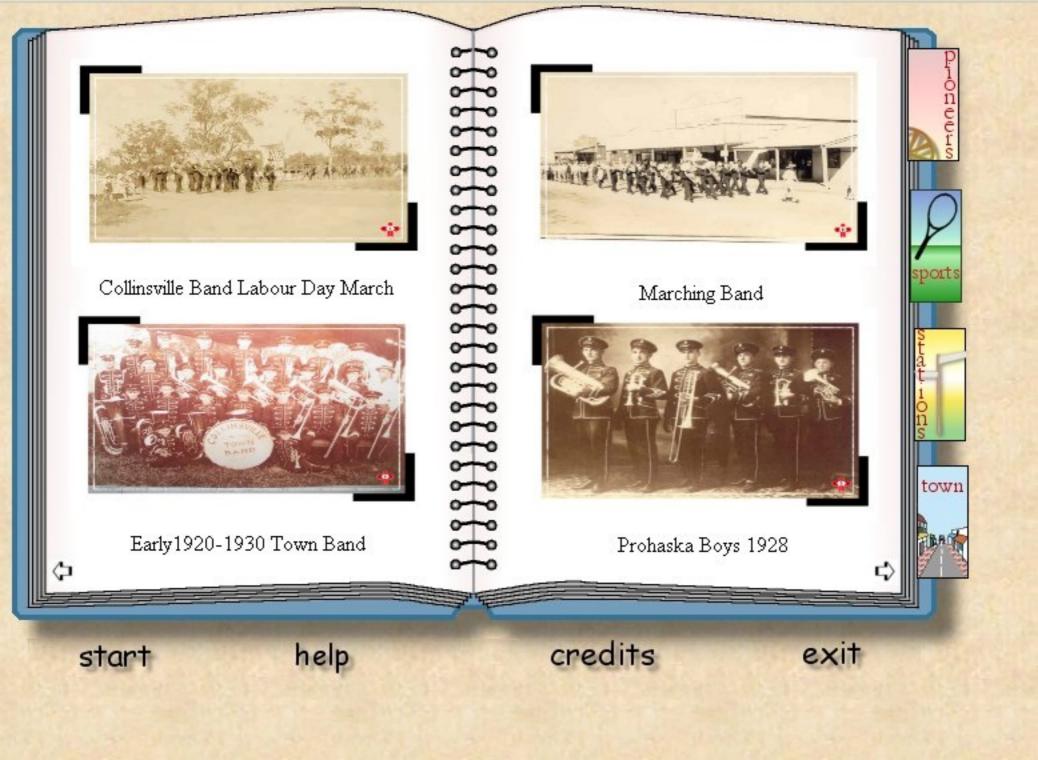


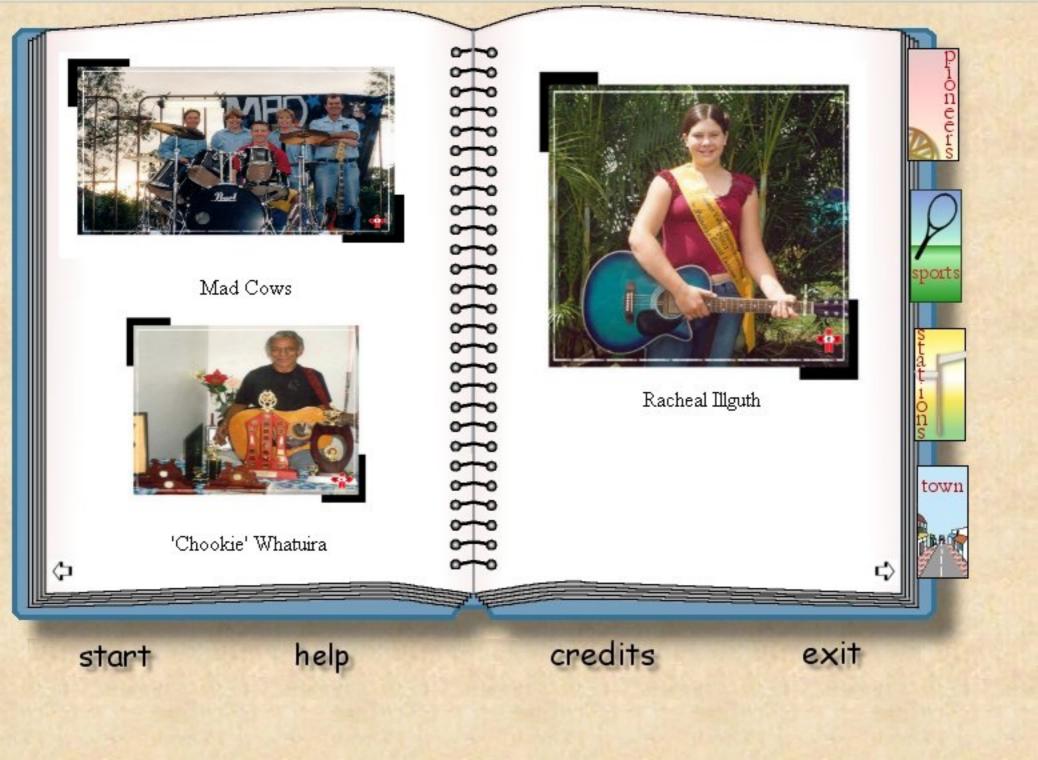


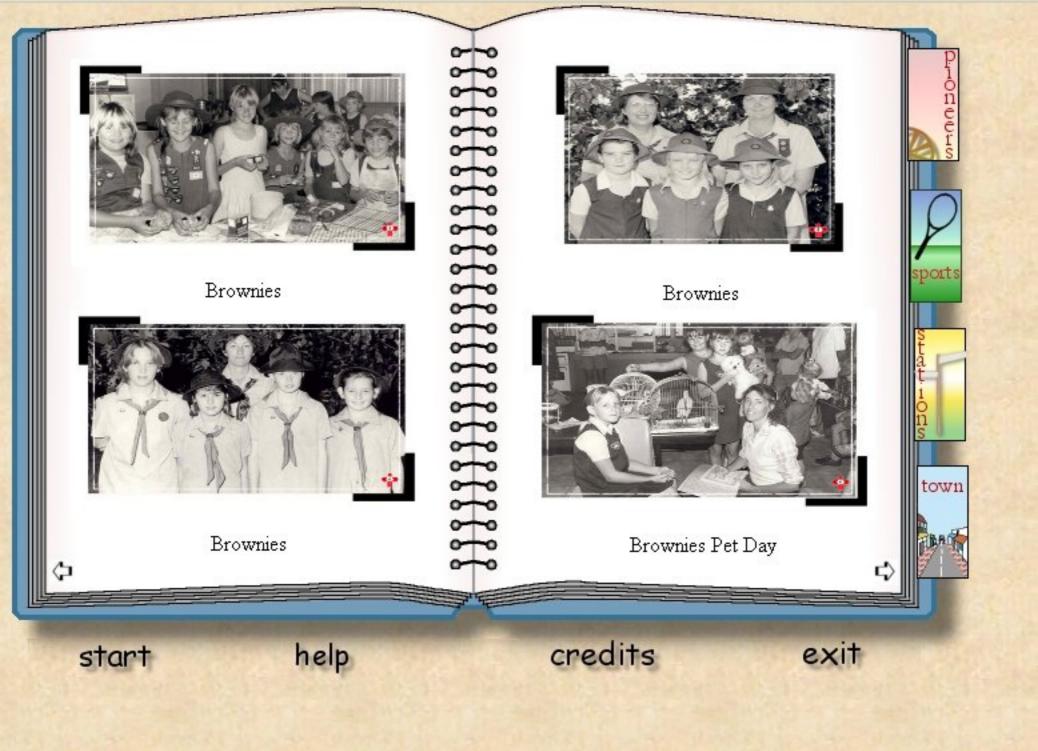


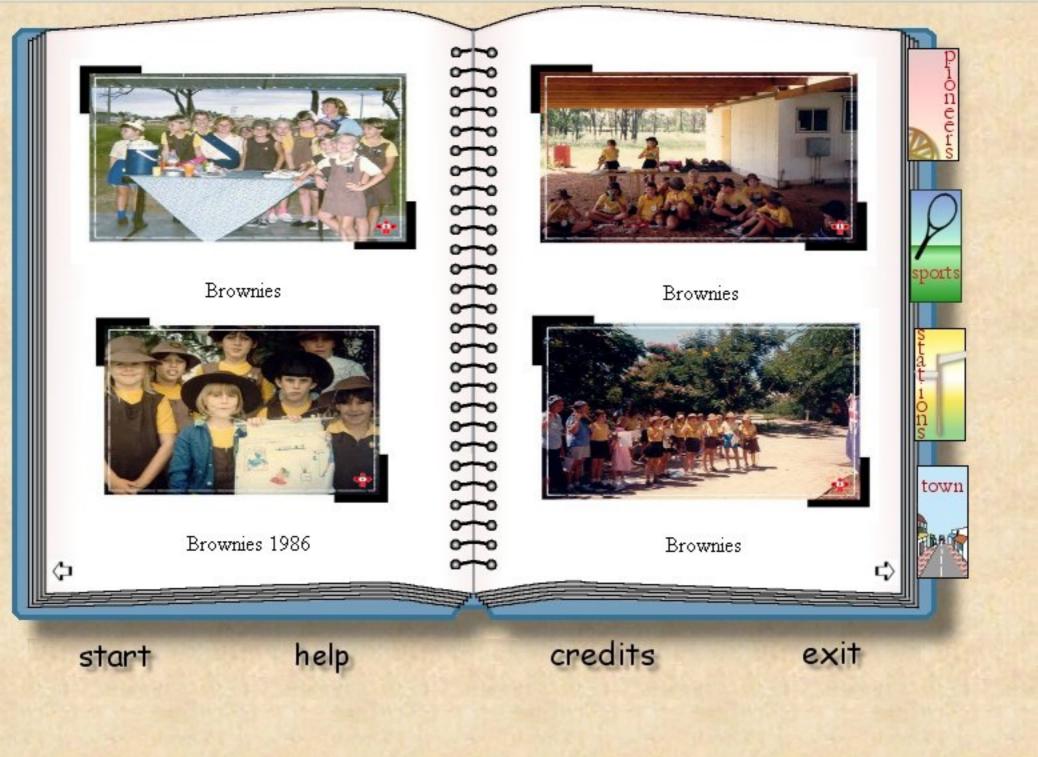


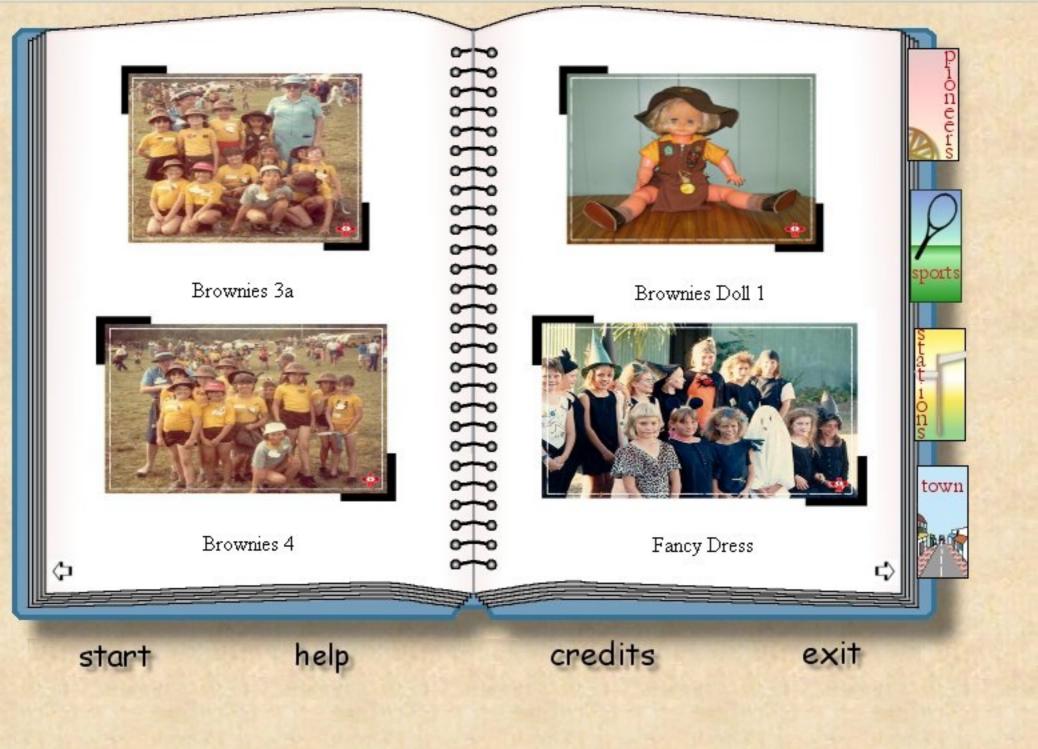


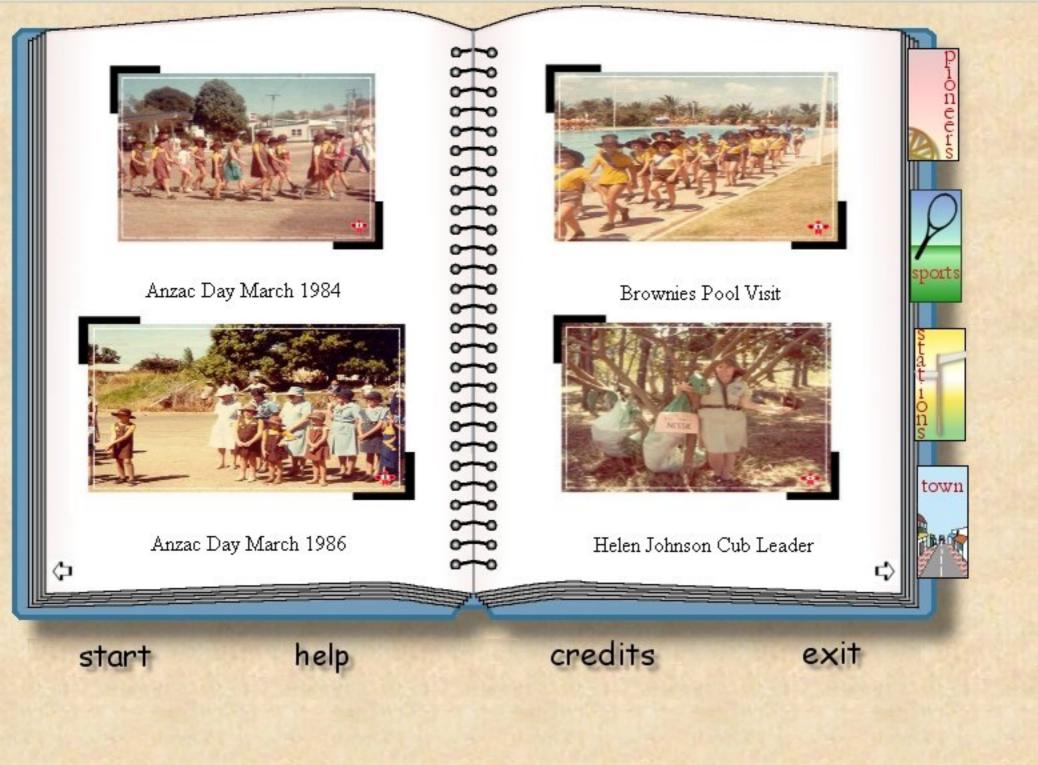


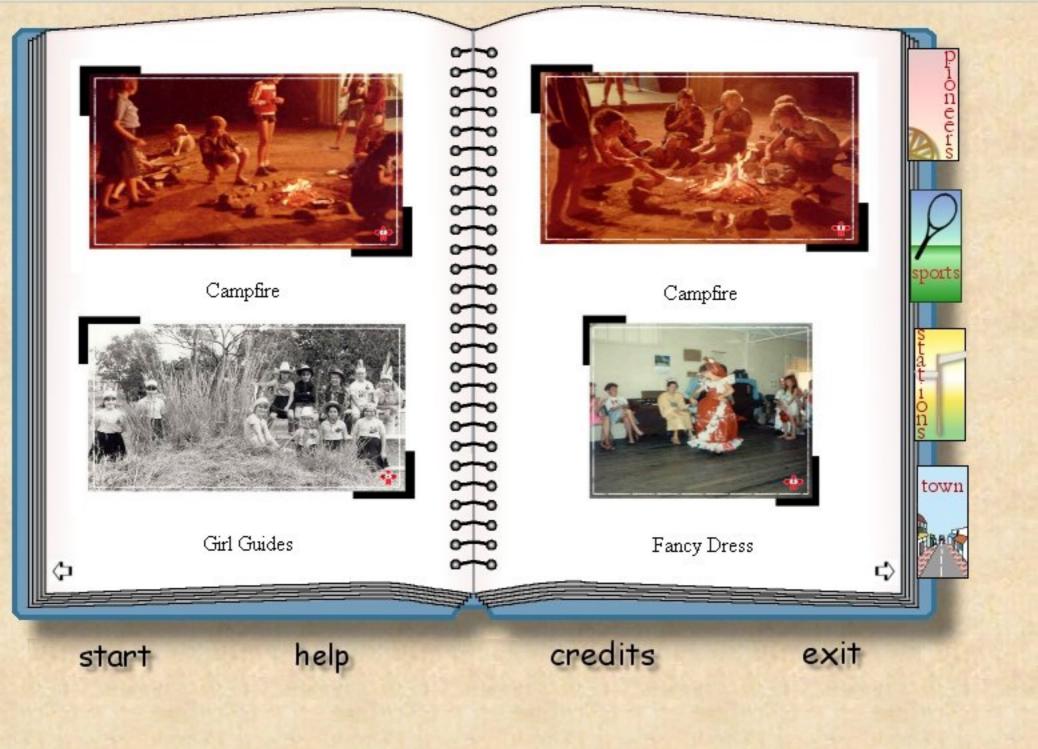


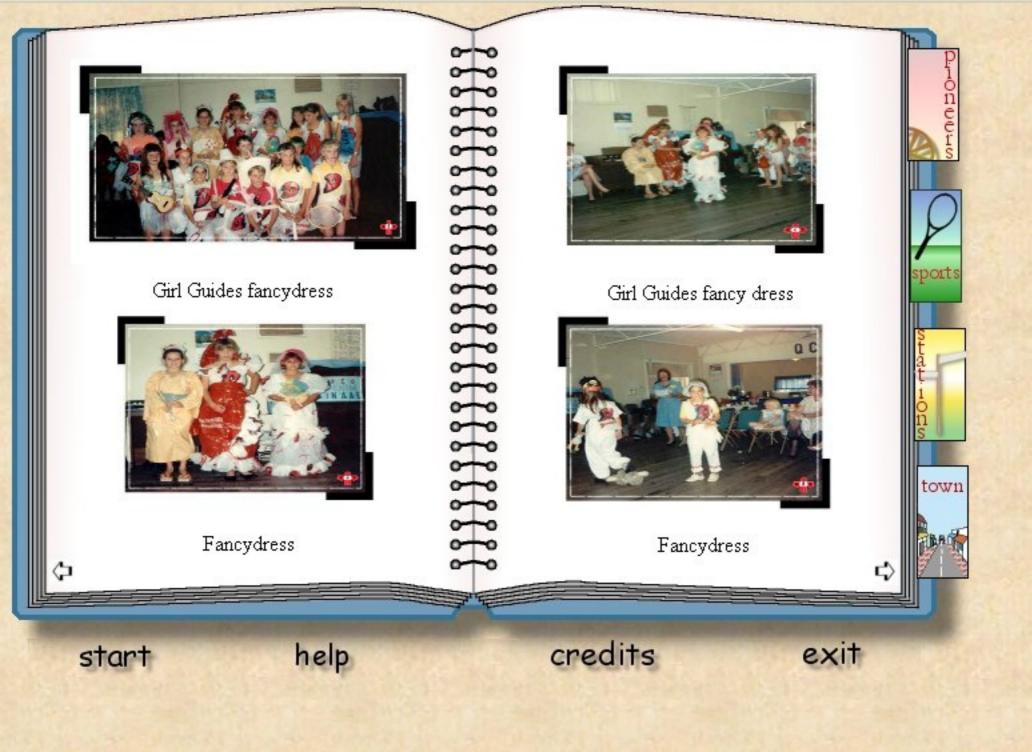


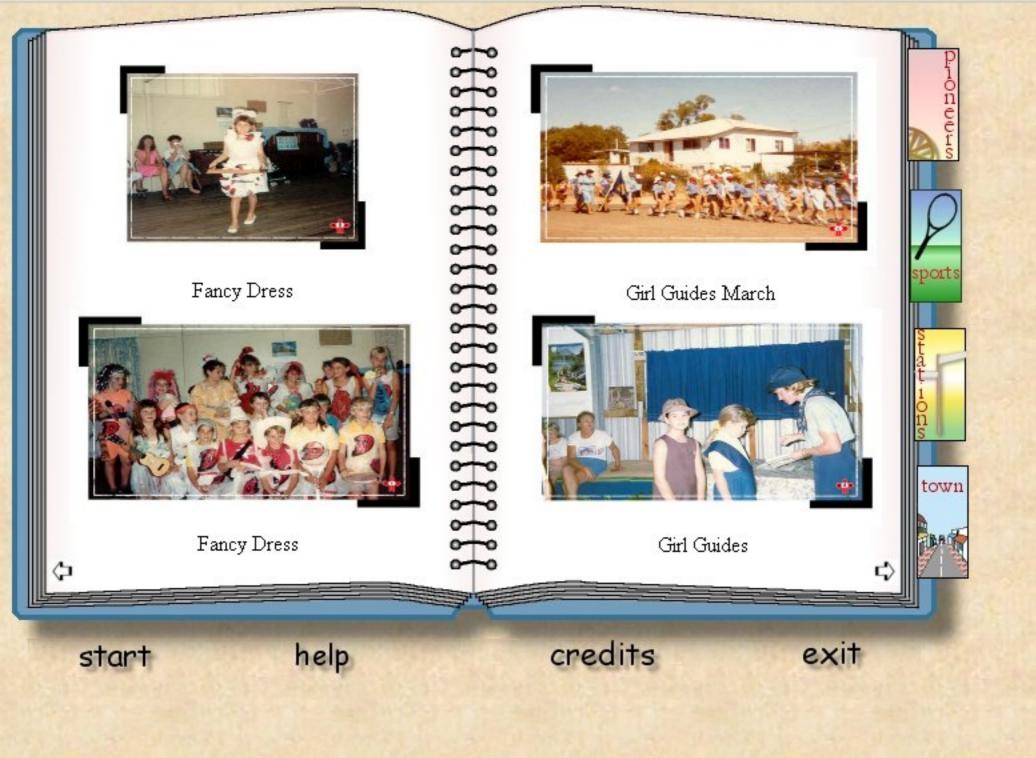


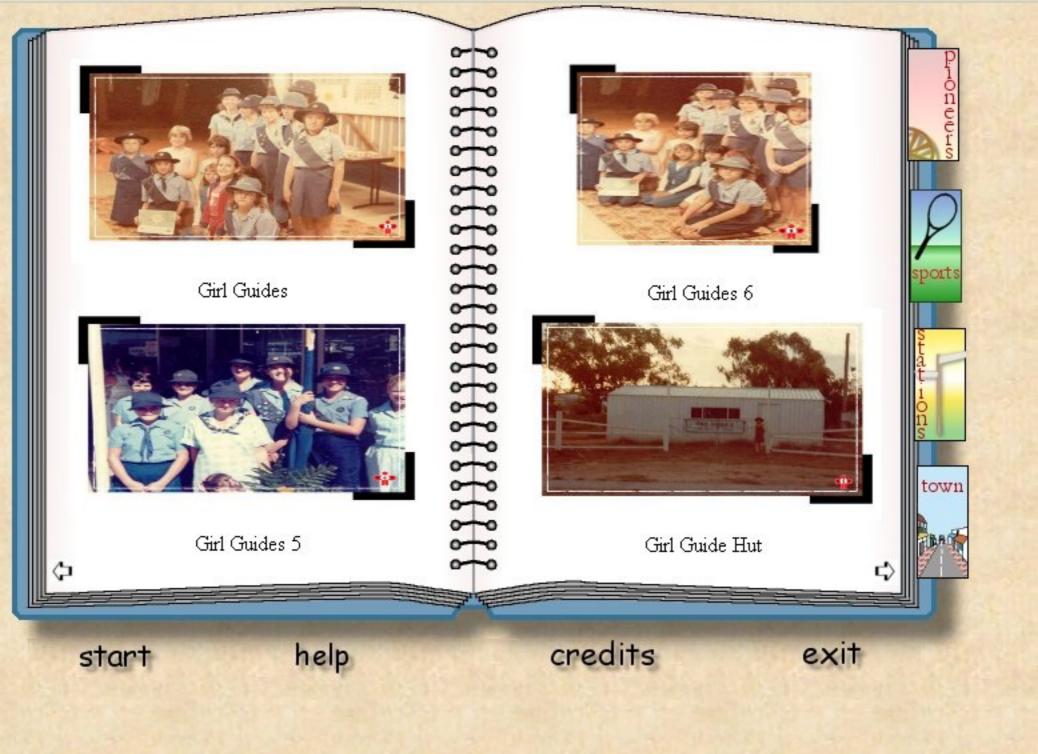


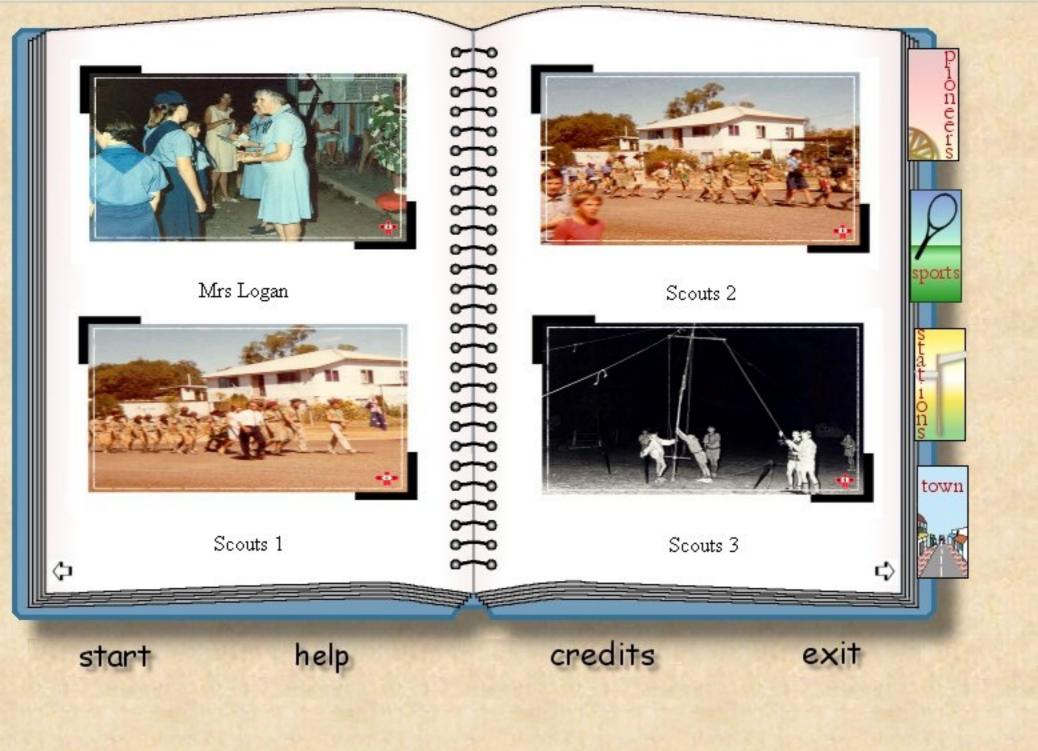


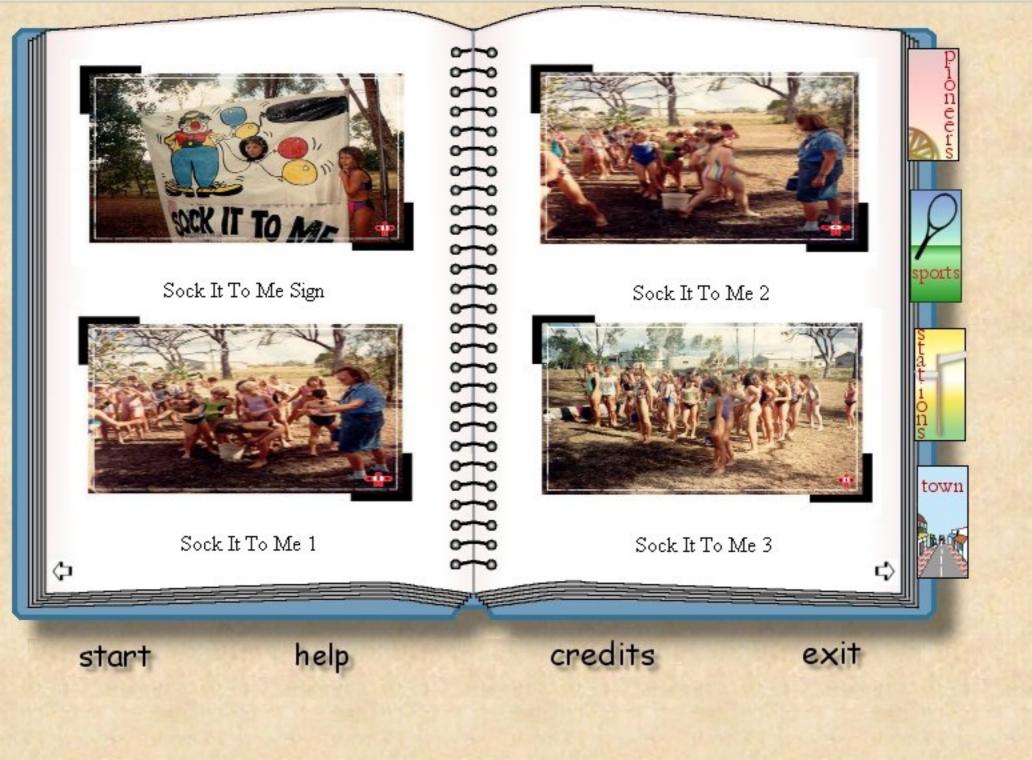


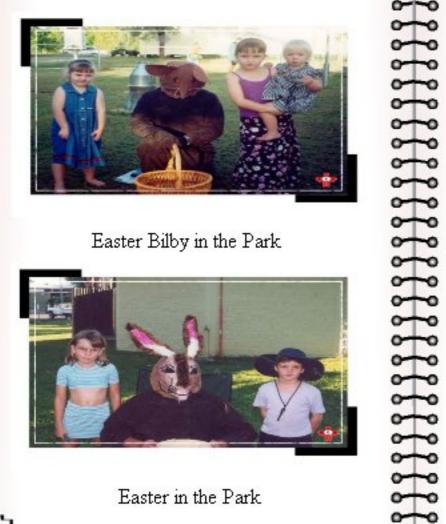












Easter Bilby in the Park



Easter in the Park



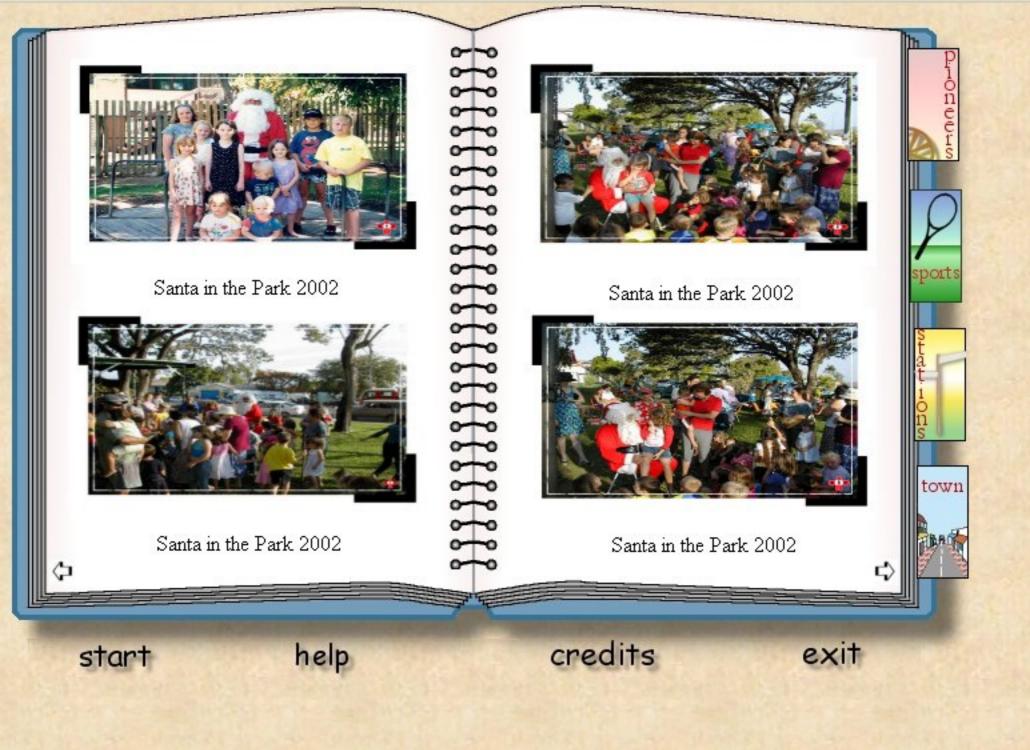
Playground Equipment

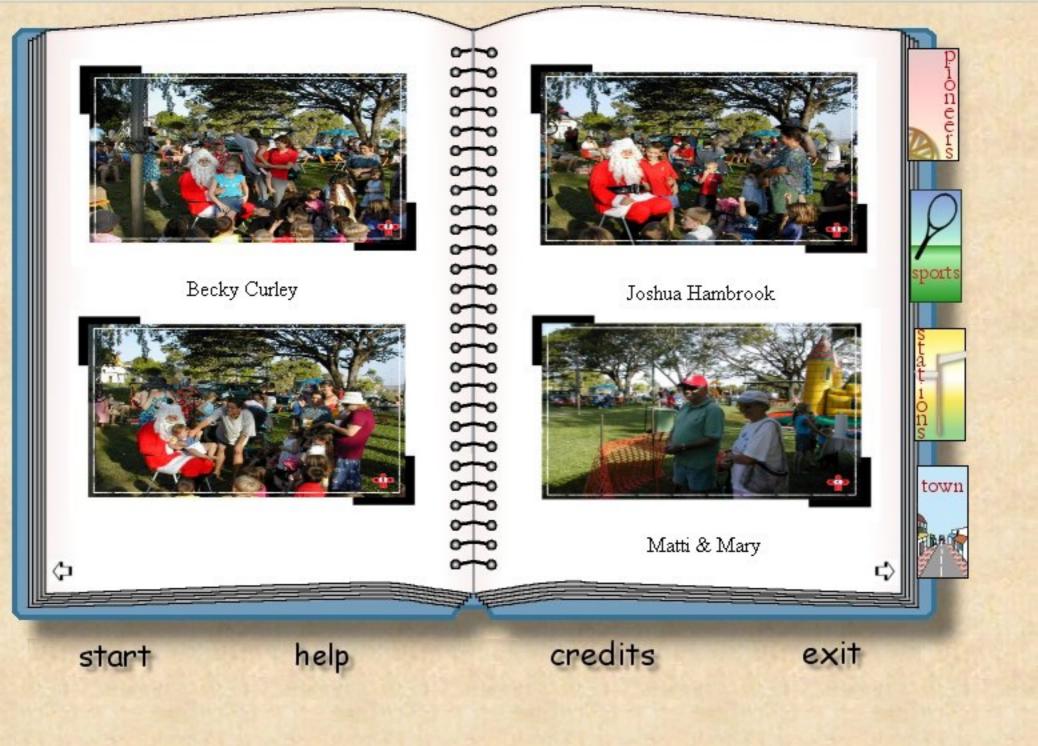


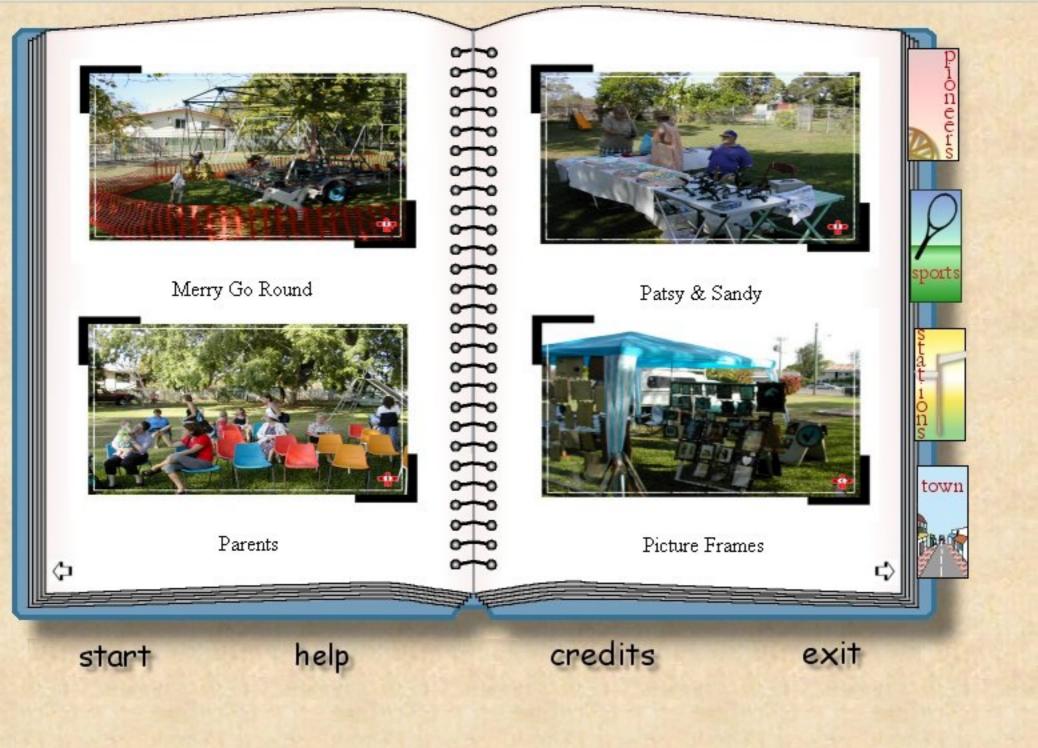
Jumping Castle at Santa in the Park

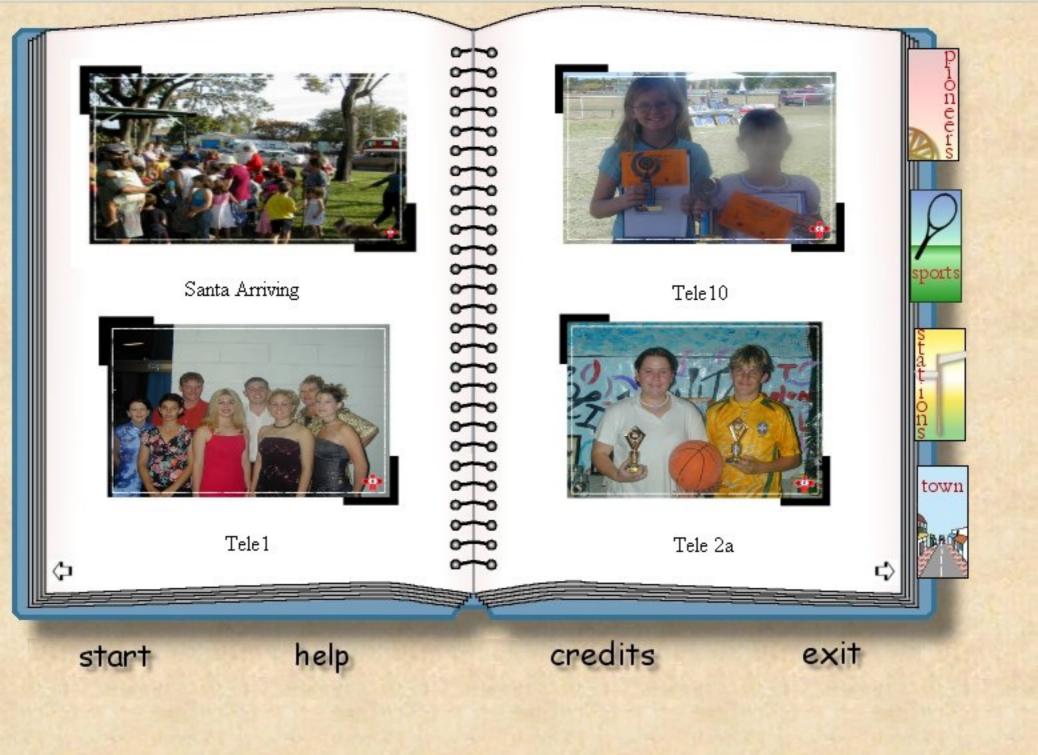
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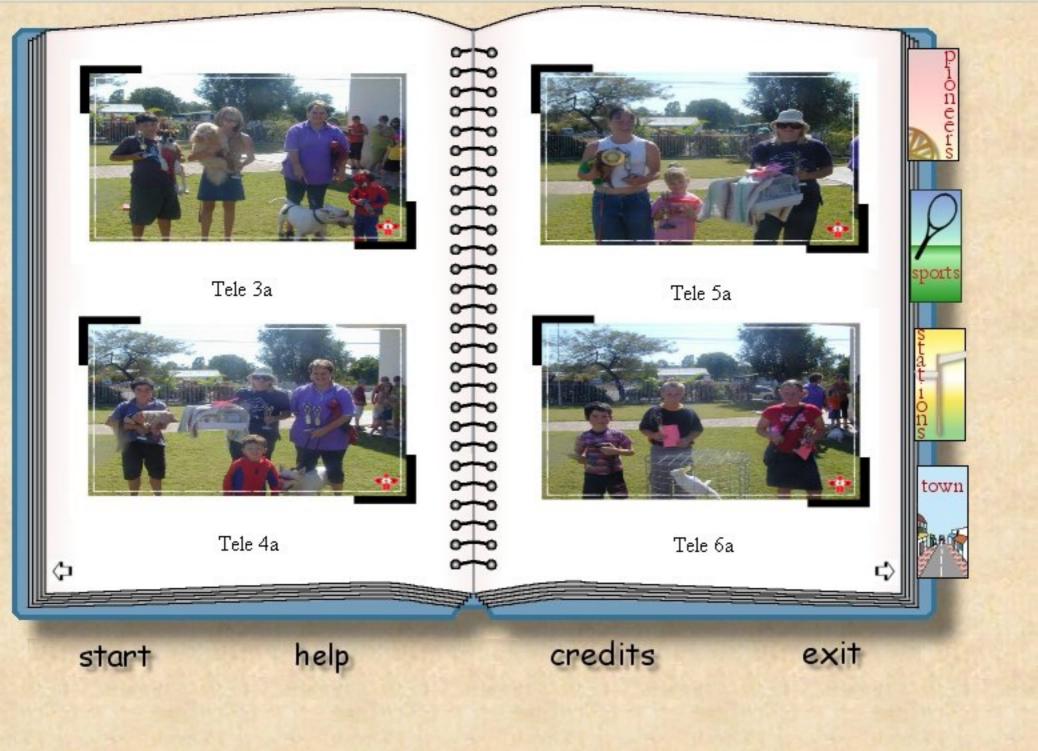
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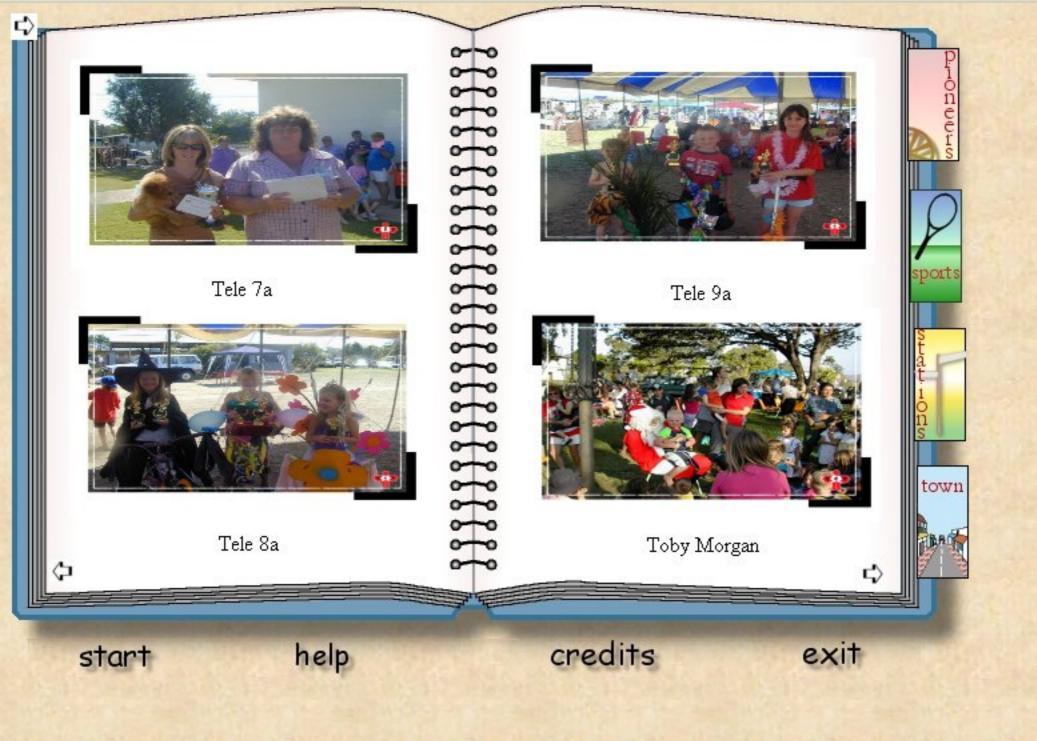


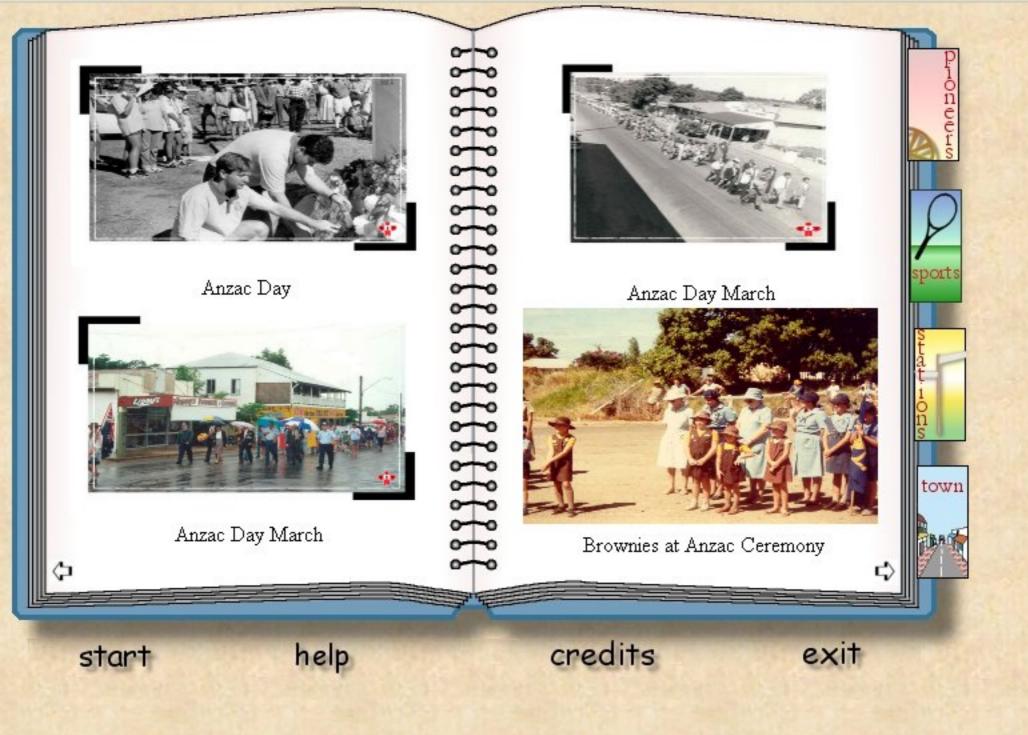


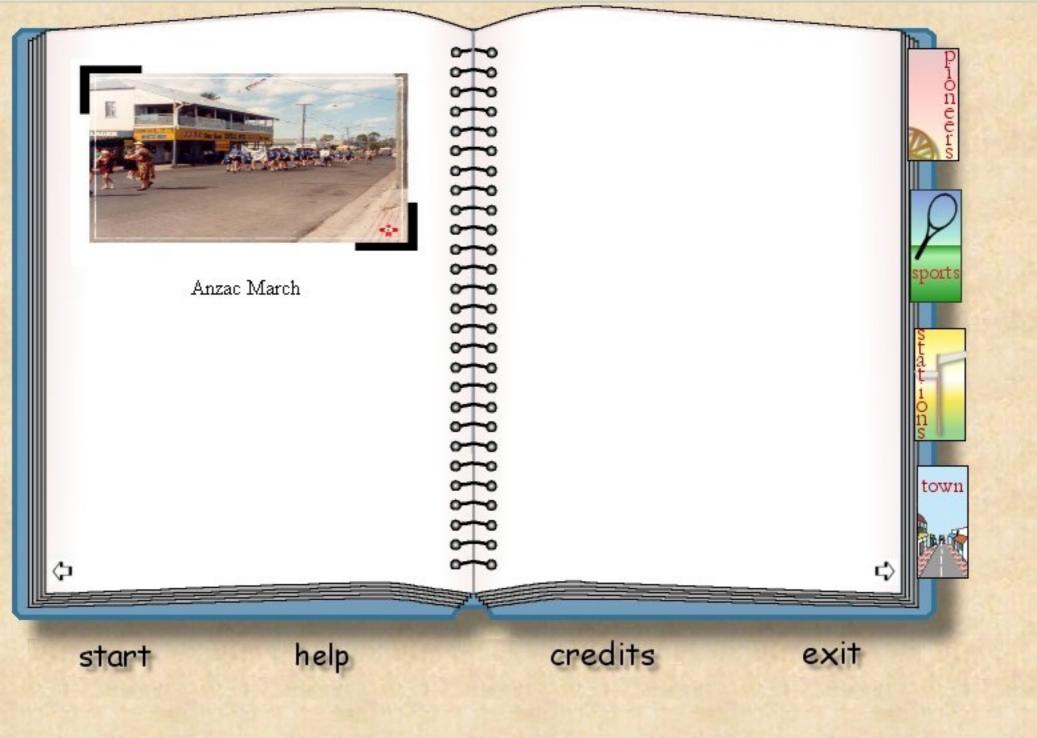


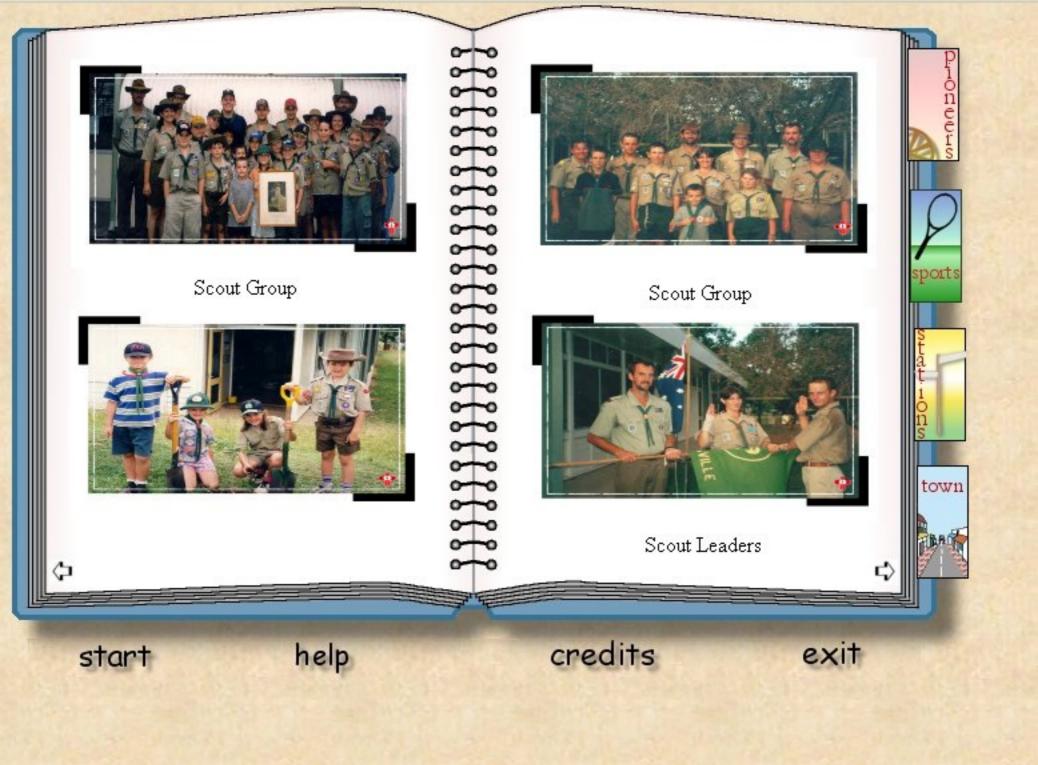


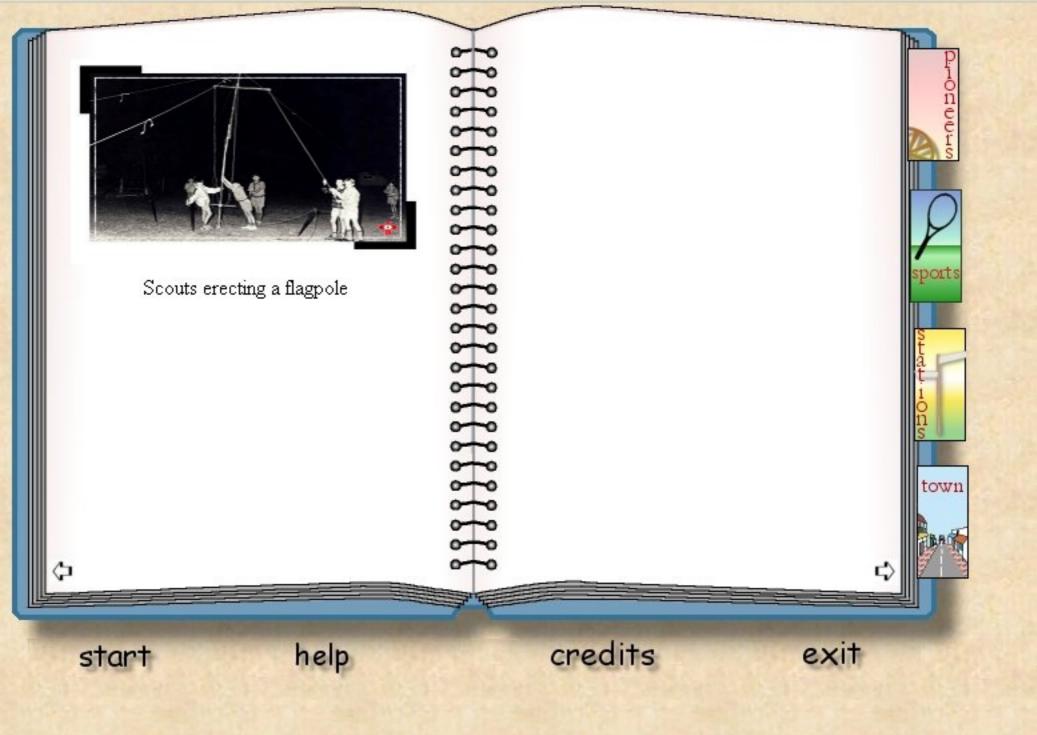














Meal Containers Donated by THEISS



Meals on Wheels First Meeting at Hillside Haven



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Meals on Wheels 20th Anniversary



Hillside Haven

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Meals on Wheels Car Donated by THEISS



100000th Meal Recipient Mrs Tudehope with Norrien Hinds and Bev Bulloch



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Container Lids Donated by THEISS



Cheque Donated by Cornett's IGA

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Hostel Clients



Jane Morris Volunteer



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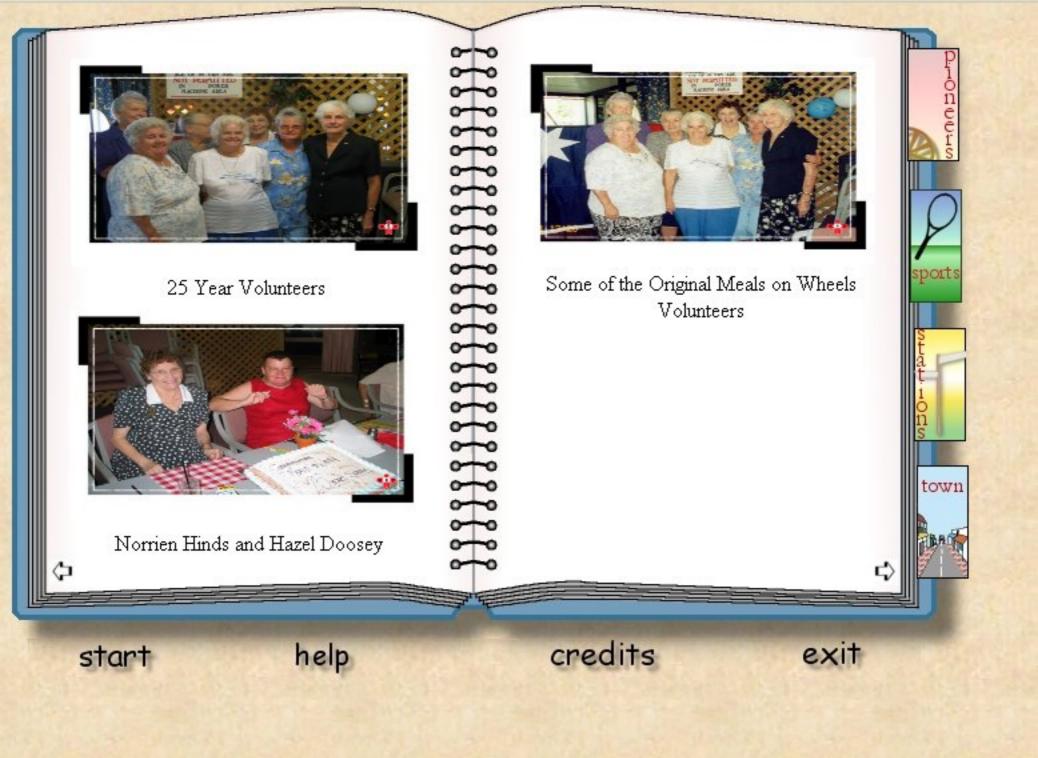
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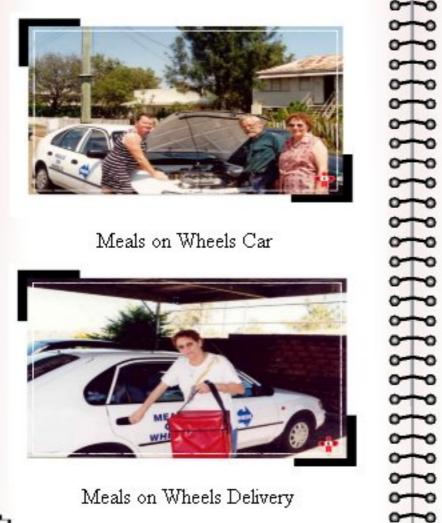
Meals on Wheels Kitchen Volunteers



New Stove in the Hostel Kitchen

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Meals on Wheels Car



Meals on Wheels Delivery



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Some Original Meals on Wheels Volunteers



Meal Containers donated by THIESS

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Collinsville Lioness Club instigated Meals on Wheels in Collinsville.

In February 1978 a committee consisting of Dorothy Sverdloff (president) Norrien Hinds (secretary) and Lindsey Sheppard (treasurer) was formed.

The RAOB offered their side verandah and, with the help of local businesses a kitchen was constructed.

The first meals were cooked 0n May 3rd 1978 from two private homes until the kitchen was completed.

In August 1988 the service moved to the Civic Centre kitchen where the were based until January 1992 when they moved to the Hillside Haven Multi Purpose Centre

The Meals on Wheels service started with three meals per week at a cost of \$1 per meal,

After moving to Hillside Haven the meals where delivered four days per week,

Today they are delivering five days per week at a cost of \$.4.50 per meal.

Clientele of the service receive a nutritious three course meal consisting of soup, main meal, dessert and juice,

Today Meals on Wheels are servicing around 20 meals per day, resulting in approx 100 meals per week.

Over the years the service has received great support from the local businesses in the form of donations for which they are extremely thankful as without this support the service could not operate as successfully as it does.

Special mention must go to Theiss who a few years back donated a car for the meal deliveries and still today are supporting the organization with the ongoing purchase of the containers in which the meals are delivered.

Now in 2003 they have just celebrated their 25th year anniversary and the delivery of their 100,000th meal.

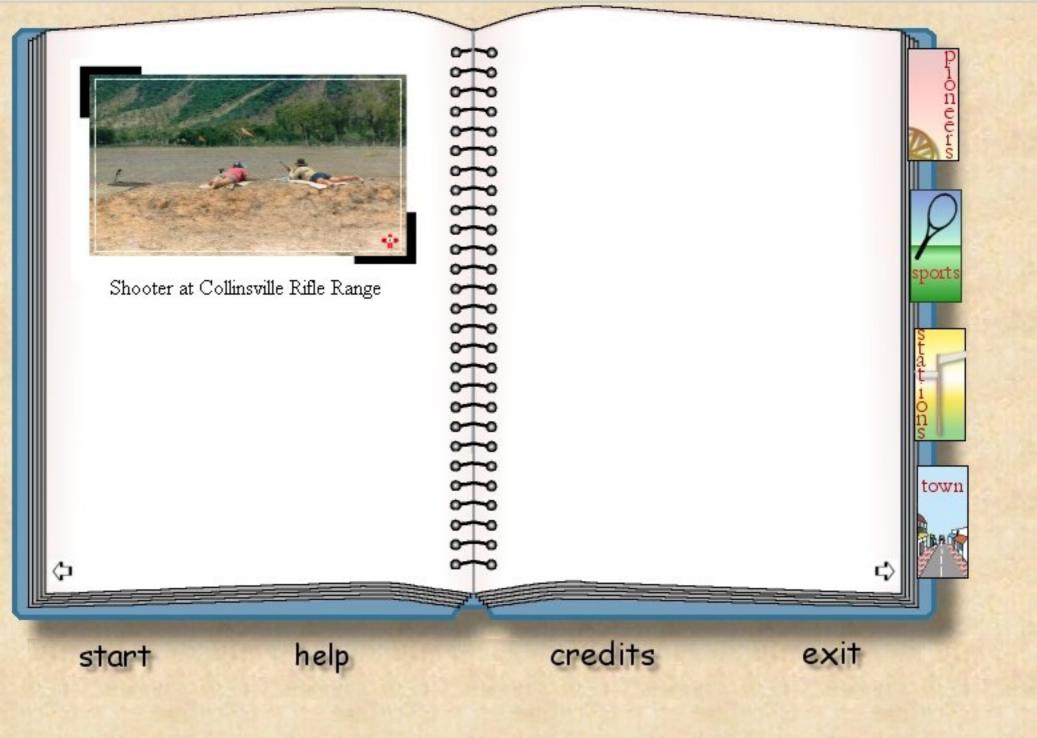
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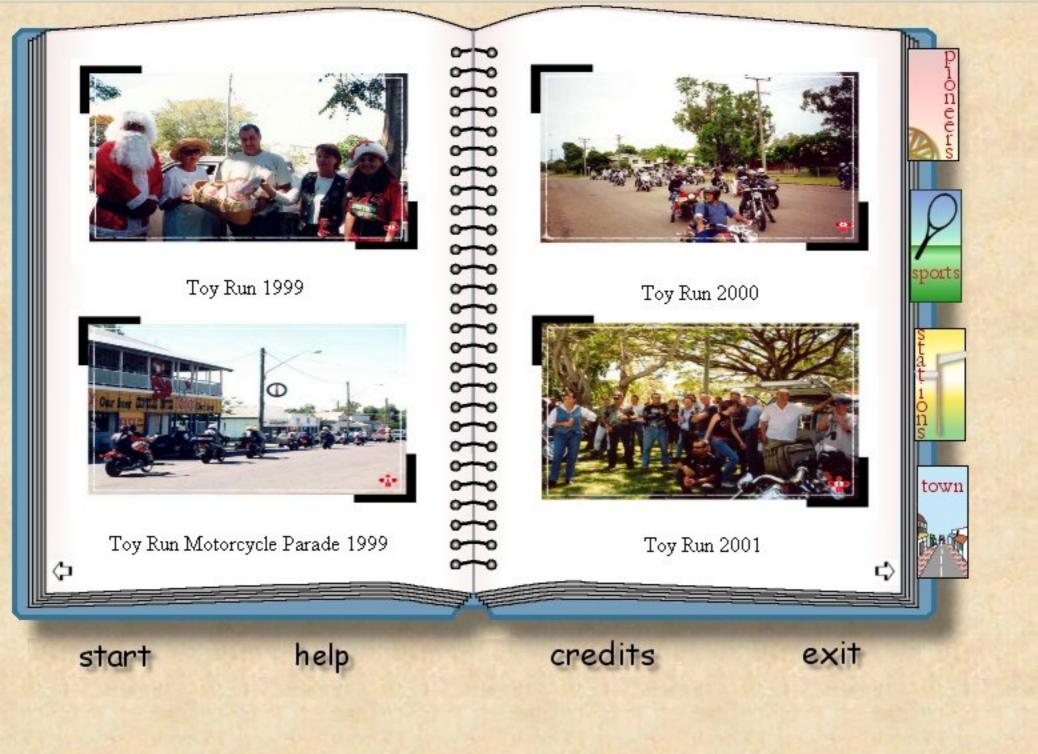
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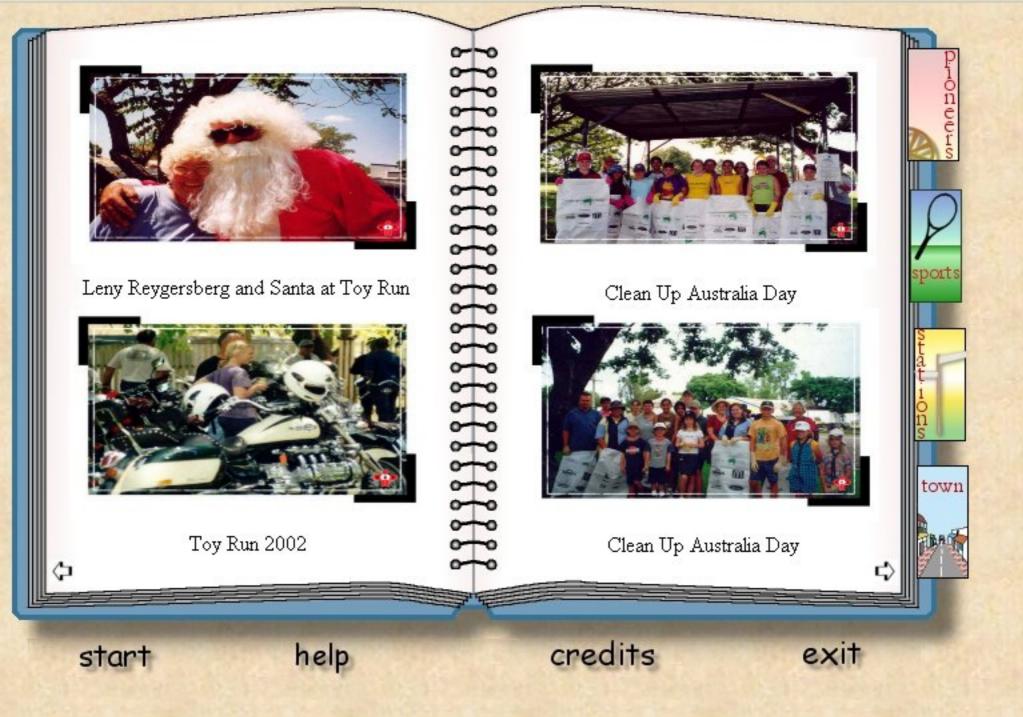
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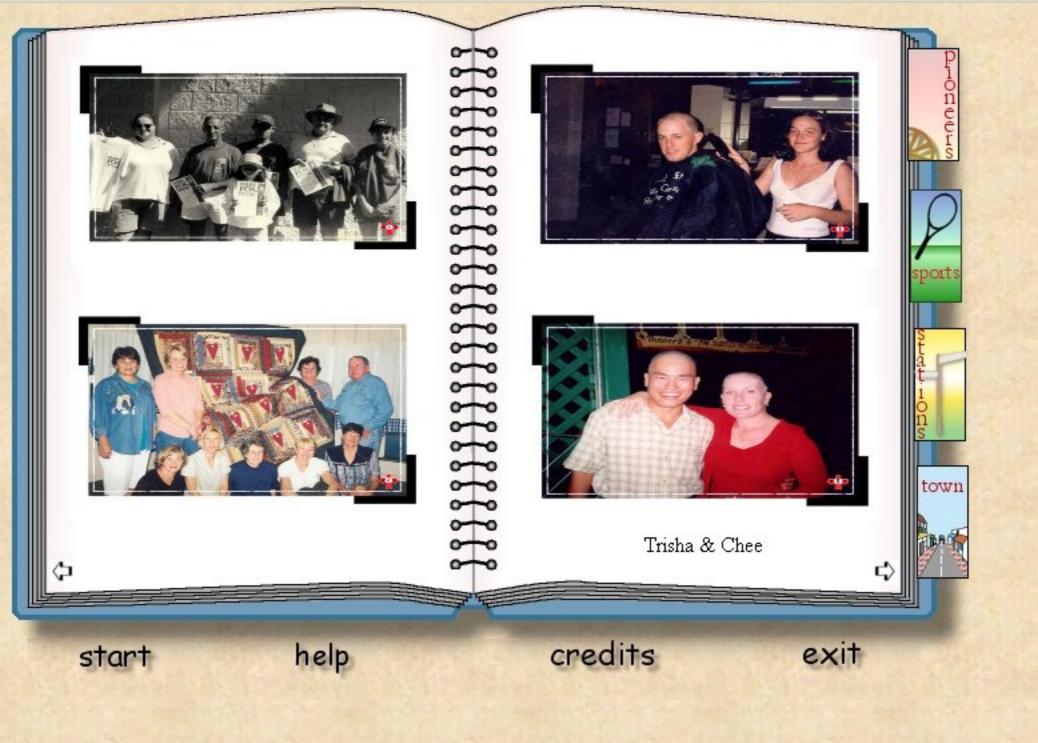
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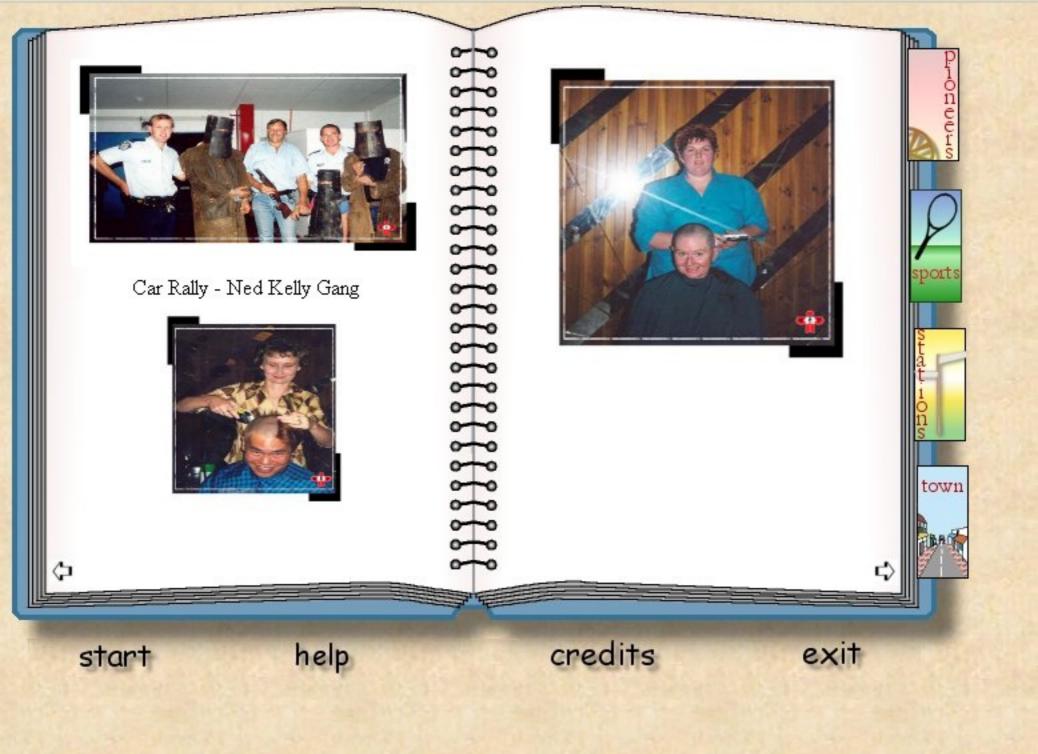
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A DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT OPERATIONS AT COLLINSVILLE.

Collinsville Coal Company supplies coal to both the export and domestic markets. Both steaming and coking quality coals are produced from a number of opencut mines and two underground mines. A total of five separate coal seams are exploited in what is a relatively complex mining operation.

In the opencut mines, overburden, which is the material overlying the coal seams, is drilled and blasted before being removed by large earthmoving equipment. Initially all topsoil is removed by means of bowl scrapers and bulldozers and this is then stored for eventual use in the rehabilitation of the mined areas.

The hard rock beneath is then blasted and removed either by shovel and 154 tonne trucks or by the mine's walking dragline.

The opencut mines work on strip by strip basis with a 50 metre width pit width commonly being used. Over 100 000 tonnes of overburden are handled daily. Operations span the full twenty four hours of each day and seven days a week.

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The coal that is uncovered is loaded by front end loaders into coal haulers and these transport it to the preparation plant. Here the coal is crushed and screened and, in the case of coking coal, it is washed in order to improve its quality by discarding reject material which occurs within the coal seams. The coal is then blended in the rail loop to meet the various customers' quality requirements and railed by Queensland Railways to Abbot Point, in the case of export coal, or to Mt Isa, Townsville or Bowen in the case of domestic production.

In addition to the opencut mines which produce the majority of the coal, some 650 000 tonnes per annum are also extracted from two underground mines. These are situated in the Bowen Seam which reaches thicknesses of up to 8 metres. The coal is mined by a method called bored and pillar working by the use of continuous miners and shuttle cars. It is transported from the working place to surface by means of co yer belts. Once delivered into the mine's rail loop it is blended according to customers quality requirements before being railed away.

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As the coal in the opencut mines gets progressively deeper, there comes a time at which the cost of removing the overburden material becomes too expensive for the coal to be sold at a profit. At this stage it is necessary to commence underground mining operations. This very situation has been reached in the Garrick West area of the mine where a new underground mine is planned to be developed. Initial work on this mine is scheduled to commence in early 1993. At the present time the last strip of opencut coal is being extracted. Access to the underground mine will be from the old highwall of the opencut excavation.

Coal sales from Collinsville amount to slightly over 2 million tonnes a year. A little more than half of the coal is export quality coking coal, most of which is exported via Abbot Point to Japan. A somewhat smaller quantity is shipped to India. On the domestic market the mine supplies Mount Isa with coal for power generation and copper smelting, Oueensland Nickel with coal for nickel ore drying and power generation, North Australian Cement with coal for cement manufacture and last, but not least, Bowen Coke Works with a coking coal from which high quality coke is made for eventual use in the lead smelting operations at Mt Isa.

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One ideal and natural market for Collinsville's coals is the local Power Station. Recently a presention was made to the Queensland State Government Minister responsible for mining and energy on the possibilities of re-opening of the local Power Station and is to be hoped that something positive may come of this initiative in the not too distant future. This would certainly be of considerable benefit to the local Collinsville community which has felt the recent effects of cutbacks in employment which have resulted from the company's efforts to remain a competitive producer of quality coals. At the present time some 550 people are employed on the mine and it is to be hoped that this level of employment will be able to be maintained for some years to come.

ENVIRONMENT.

The Collinsville Coal Company's lease areas are located to the west and south west of the town of Collinsville. The area extends approximately 15 km in an east-west direction and 8 km in a north-south direction. The coal mining operation lies at the northern tip of the Bowen Basin.

The region consists of subdued and gently undulating relief with occasional well developed ridges as remnants of resistant sandstone members. Relief varies from 2155m above seam level (a.s.l.) in the central north west to a minimum of 130 m a.s.l. also in the north-west areas where Plum Tree Creek leaves the boundry.

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Two ridges cross the lease areas in a roughly east north east—west south west orientation resulting in the development of four distinct drainage patterns.

- The Flat Rock, Plum Creek, Strathmore Creek system to the north west.
- The Three Mile Creek system draining the Central part of the leases to the south west.
- The Corduroy Creek system
- The Bella Vista Creek system.

Within the coal measure areas, the major drainage channels have essentially reached base levels, having easily worn down the relatively soft measure sediments. Stream gradients are generally less than 10, creek beds are typically sandy.

These drainage units ultimately discharge into the Bowen and Burdekin River systems.

The rainfall variability, temperature extremes, the presence of areas of steep slopes
And limited natural soil fertility combine to limit agricultural activity in the area. The Department of Primary Industries has estimated that the stocking rate, prior to mining would have been one beast per ten to twenty hectares. This conclusion can be verified by observation of land adjacent to

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The original vegetation of the lease area has been modified since settlement by clearing, selective timber cutting, grazing and repeated burning.

Commercial timber has been taken from the lease area for many years. Rosewood (Acacia rhodoxylon), a species associatated with occurrences of oxidized coal near the surface, has been harvested and used for fencing purposes. Surveys of vegitation have not indicated the presence of any rare flora.

The Company has established nine recording stations on the major water courses, each station has the capability of monitoring water flow on a rising flood basis, stations provide the facilities to obtain samples for water quality analyses.

ENVIRONMENT cont.

Results from monitoring water qualities in streams draining the western lease areas, prior to mine development, during the period 1977 to 1979, are shown below:

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WHAT COALMINING MEANS TO QUEENSLAND.

Coal mining is Queensland's largest export industry. Queensland has known coal reserves sufficient to sustain current rates of production on an economic basis through the 21st century. The State's principal coal mining areas are located in the Bowen Basin and the Moreton Basin. Operating mines are located in a belt beginning at Collinsville and Newlands. Bowen Basin mines include Goonyella, Peak Downs, Saraji, Norwich Park, Blair Athol, German Creek, Oakey Creek, Gregory, Gordonstone, Yarrabee, Jelinbah East, Curragh, Blackwater, South Blackwater, Cook, Callide, and Moura. In the Moreton Basin,mines are located it Ipswich and Bosewood. Rosewood.

An efficient rail transport and port system services these mines at Abbot Point. Dalrymple Bay, Hay Port, Gladstone and Brisbane, making Queensland the world's leading coal exporter.

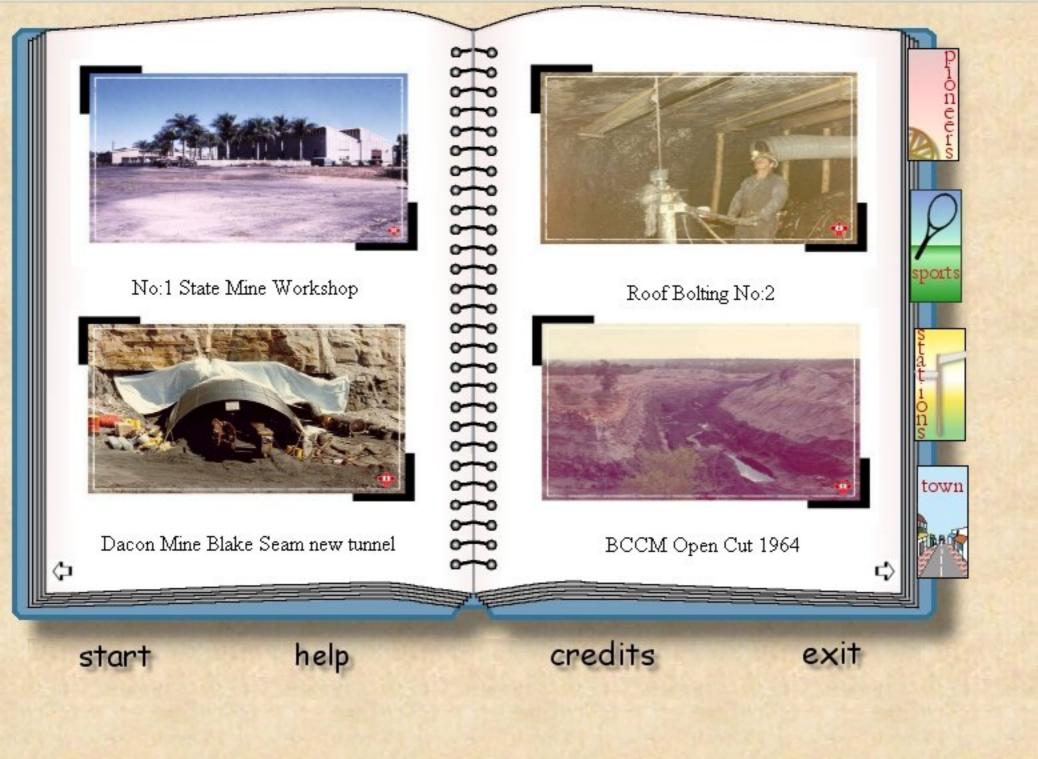
Currently, Queensland mineral and energy production is valued at 15.1 billion and represents around 57% of the total Queensland merchandise exports. In addition, mining industries provided direct employment for almost 22,000 people with indirect employment in supporting industries estimated at around a further 500 000 people.

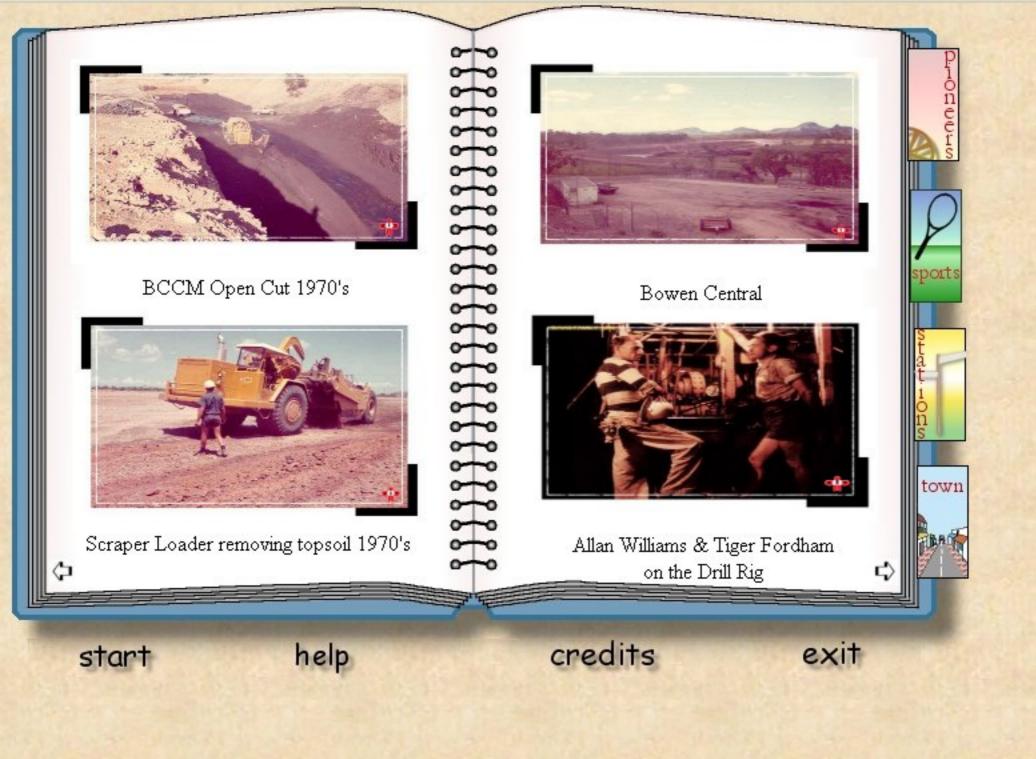
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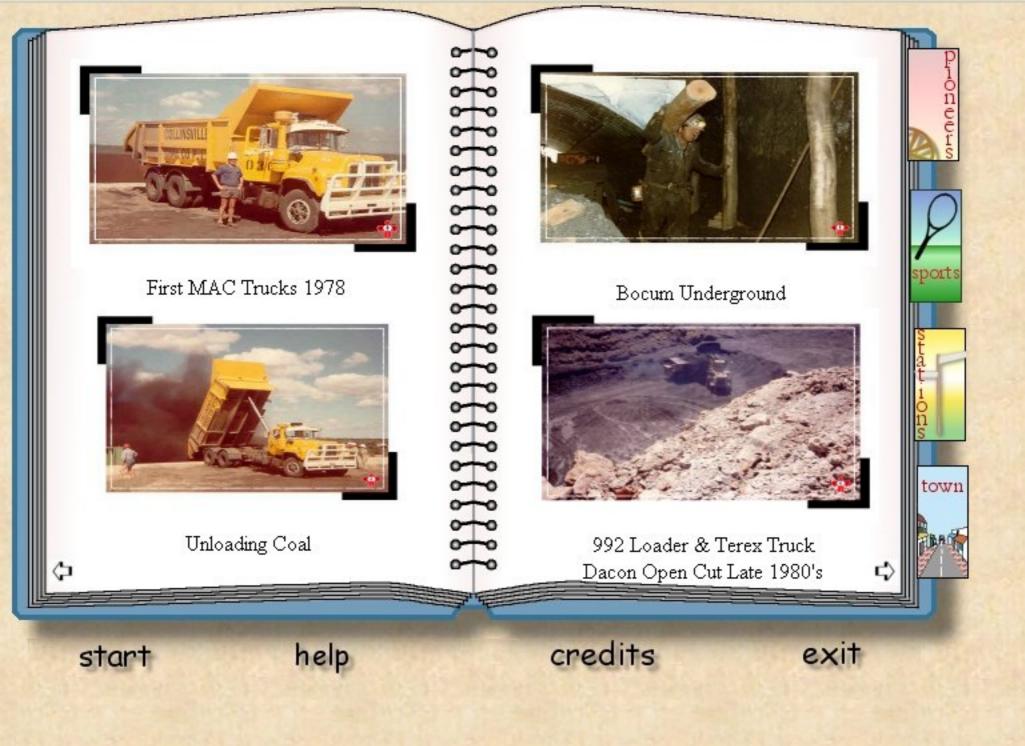
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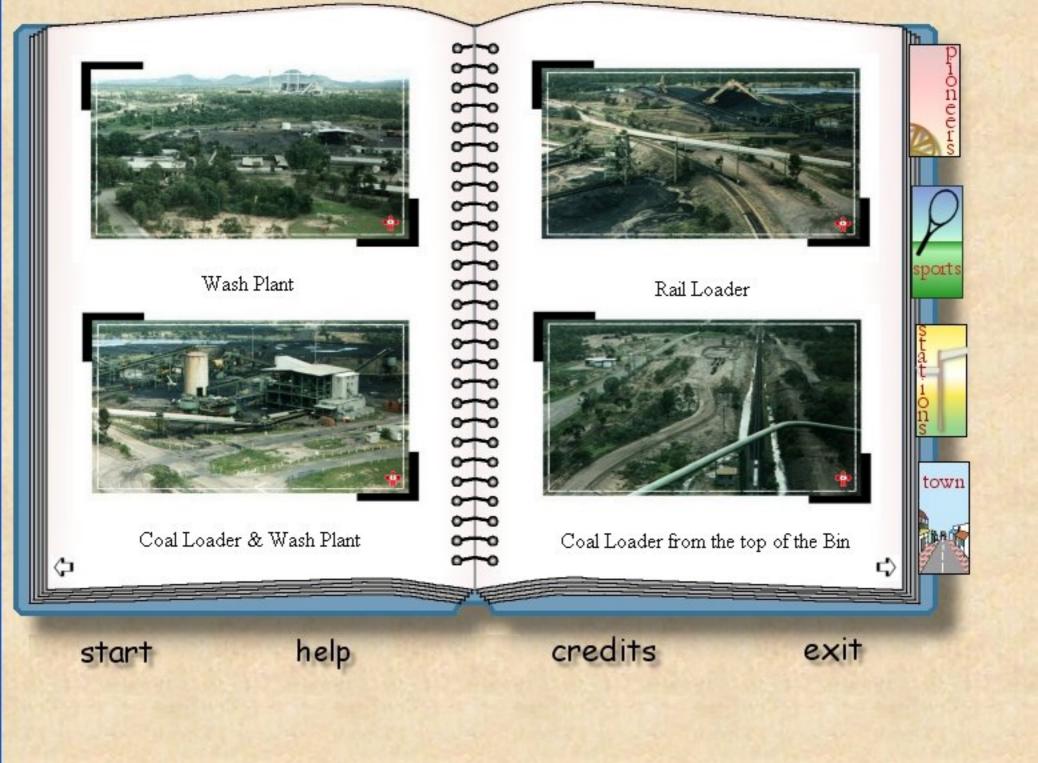
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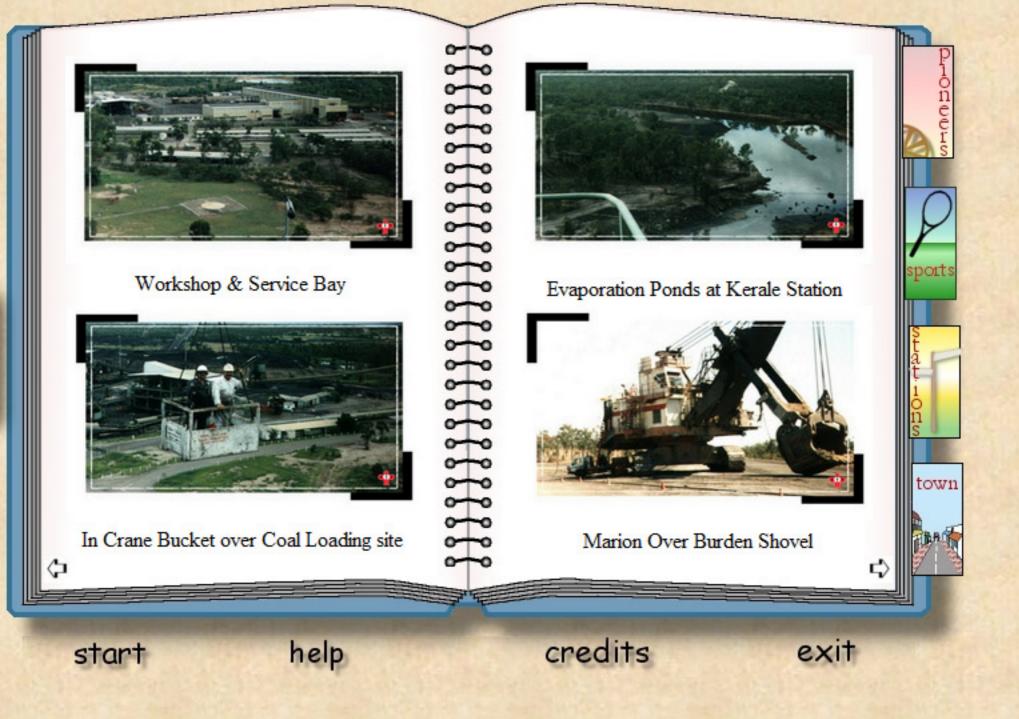
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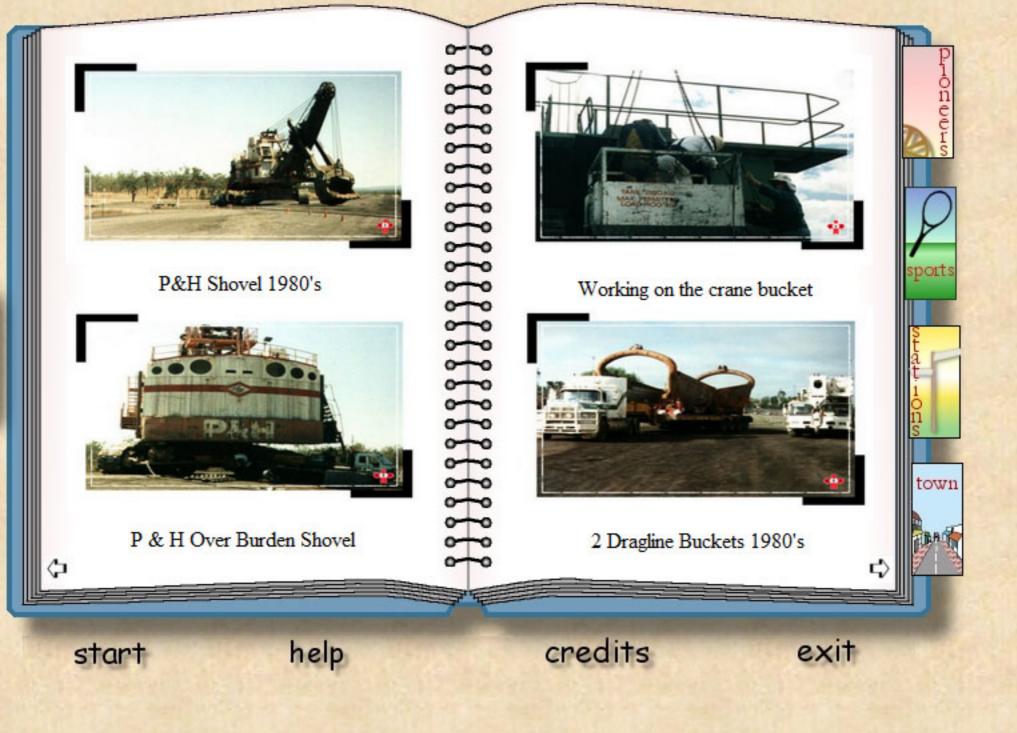


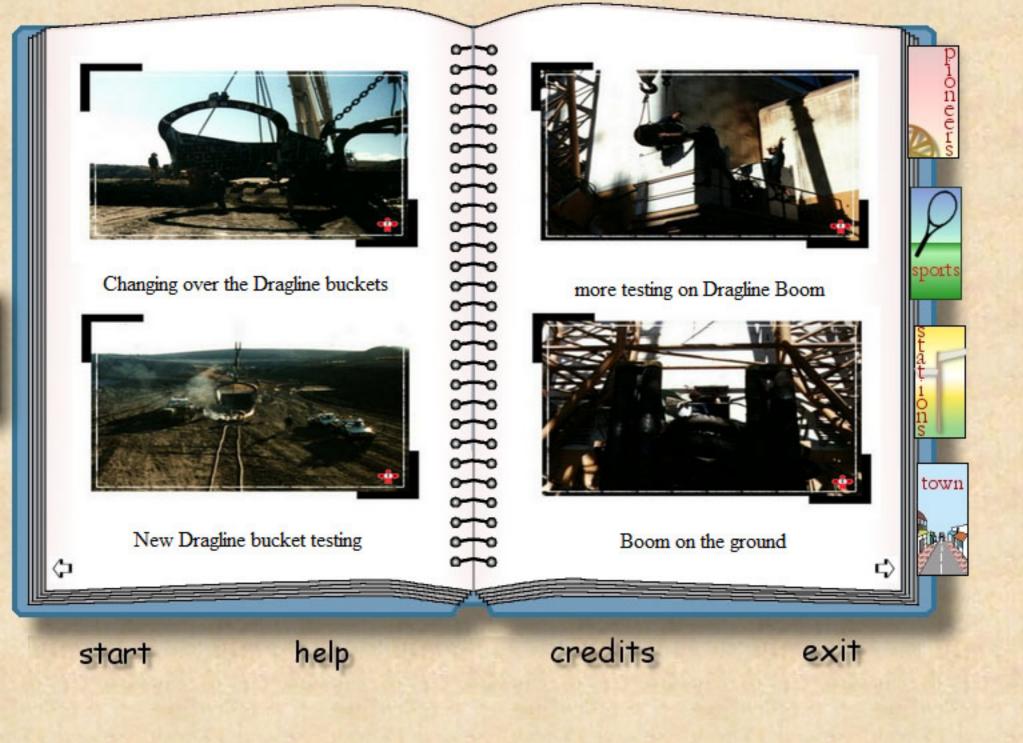


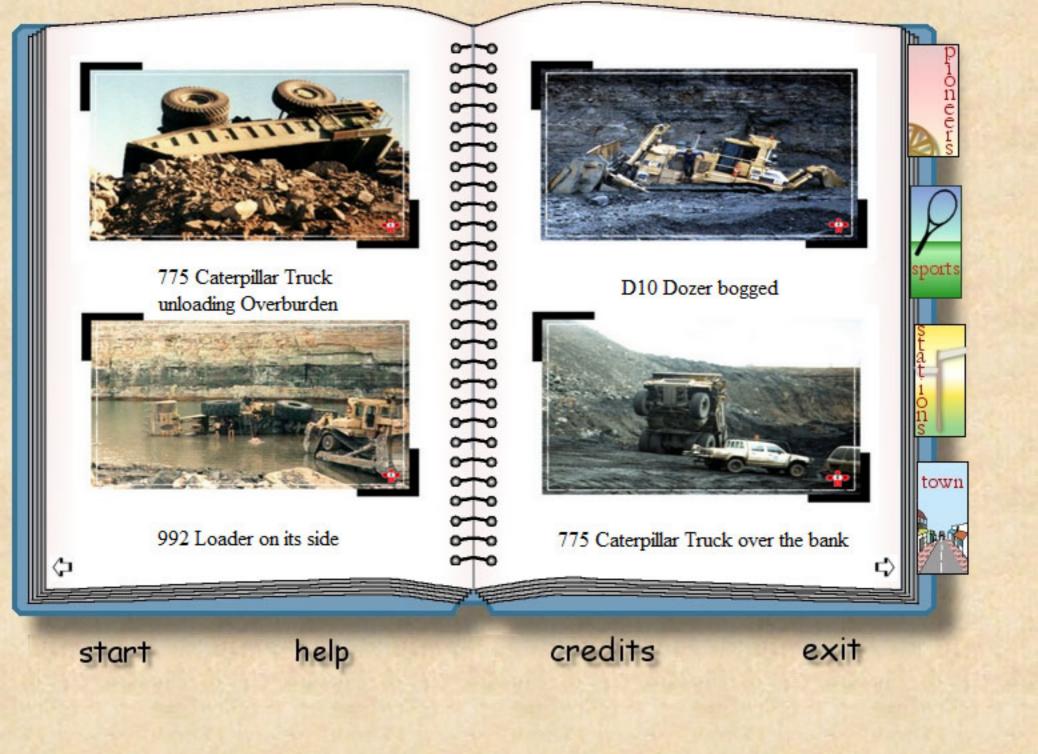


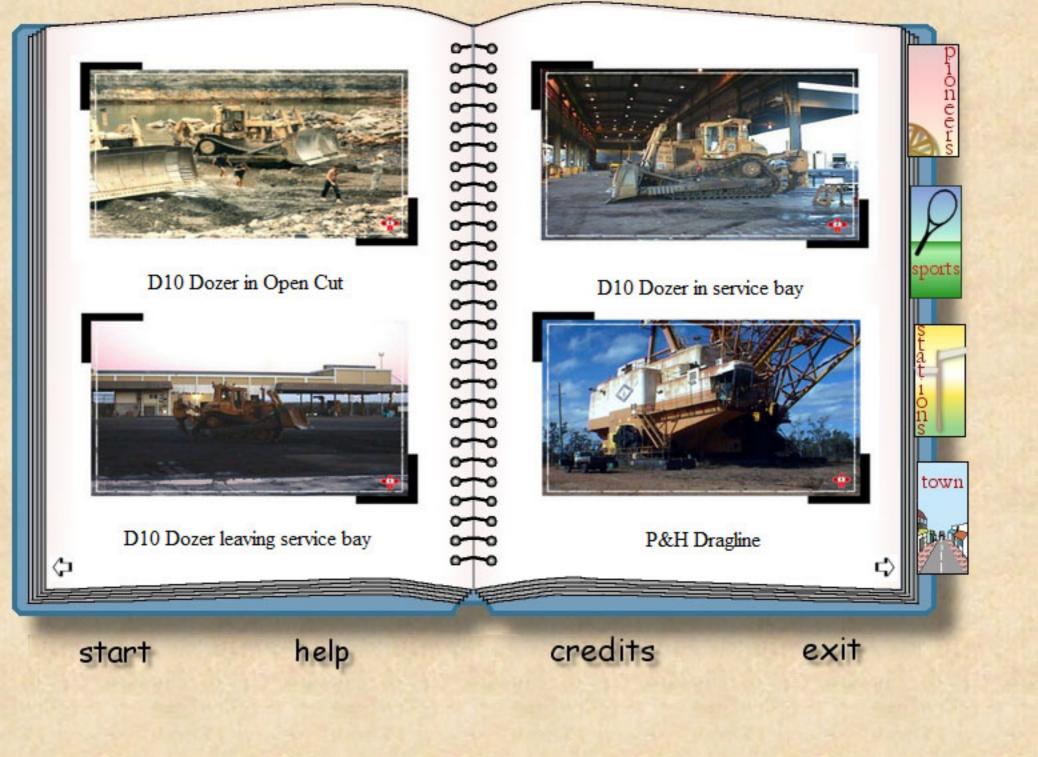


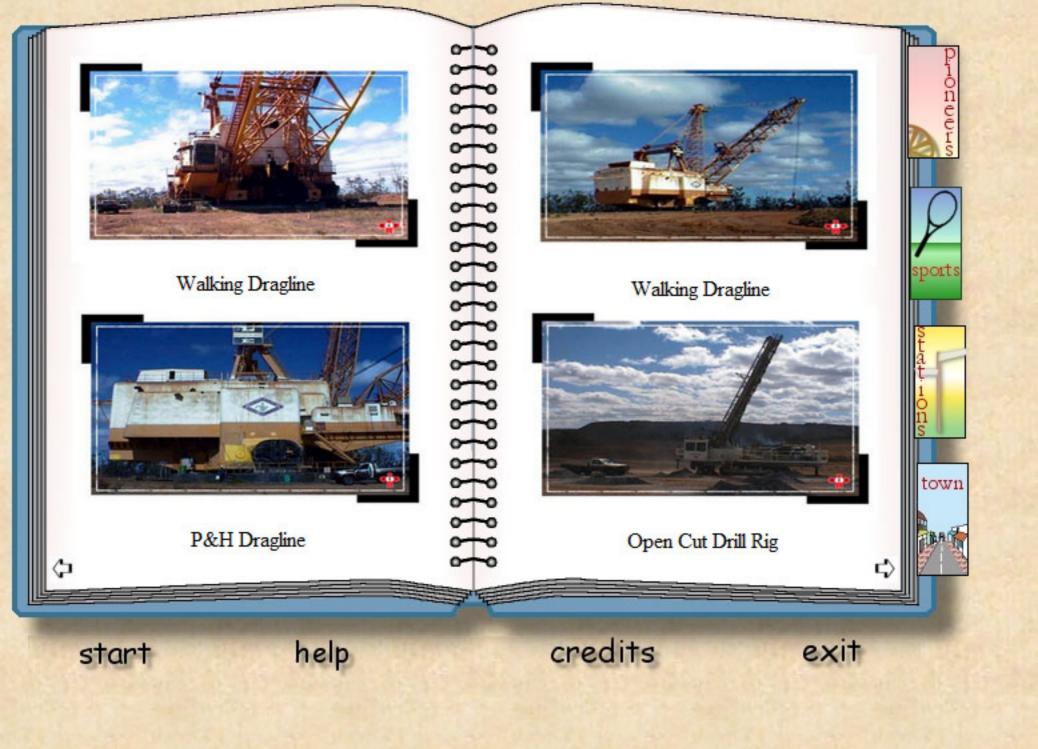


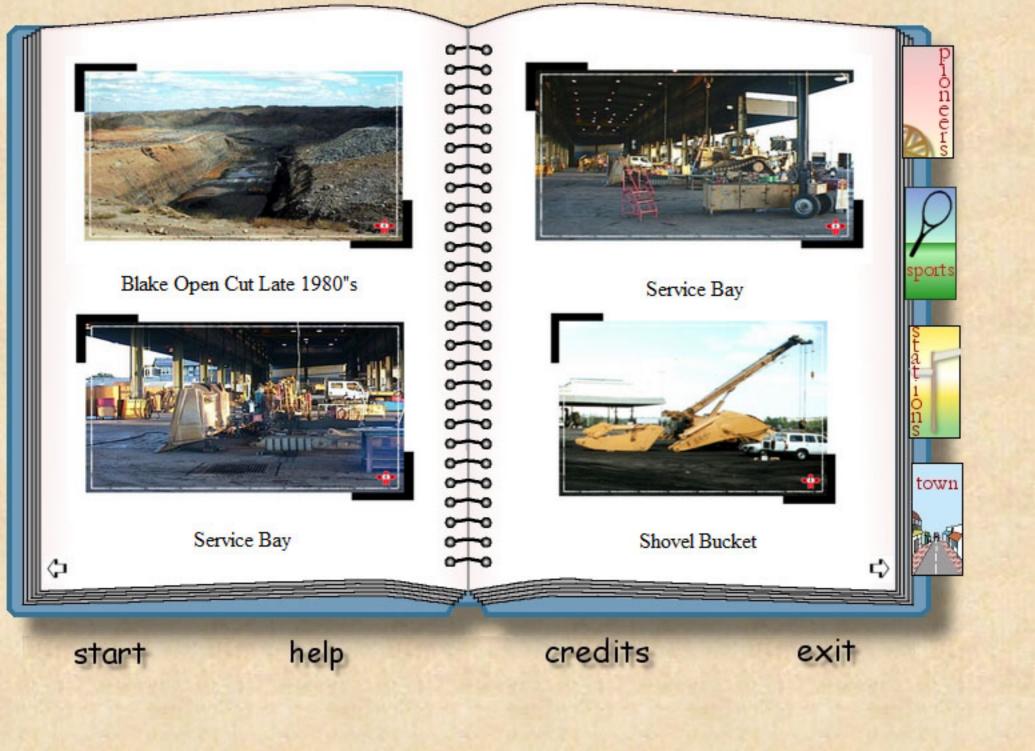


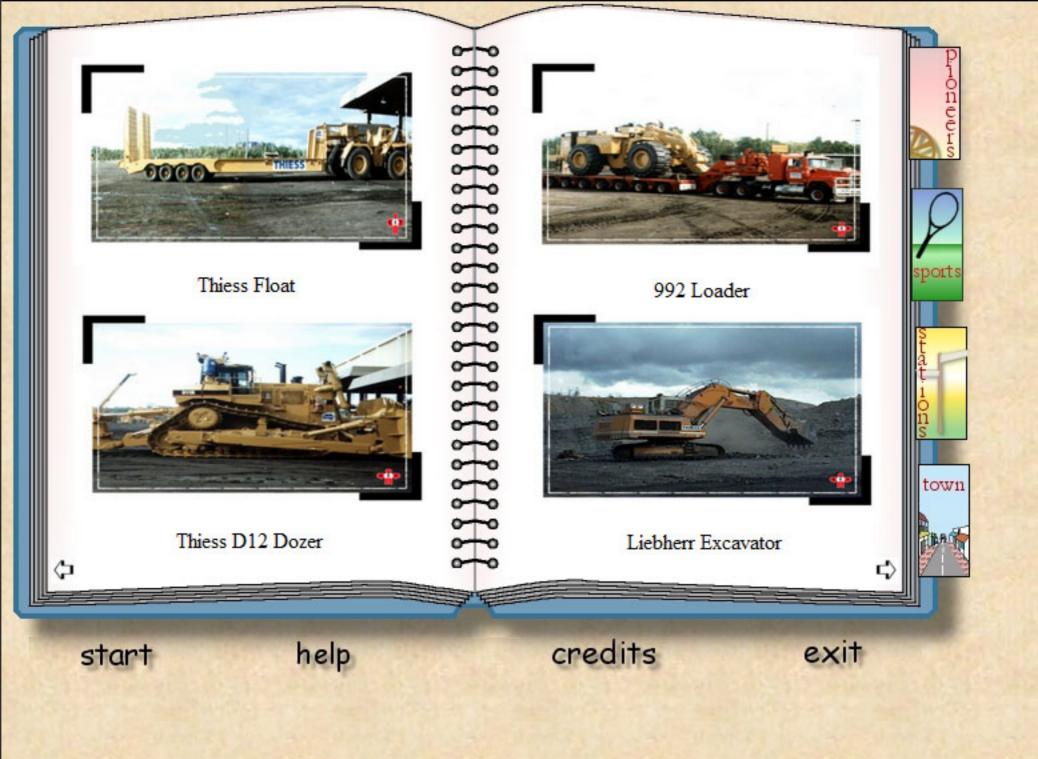


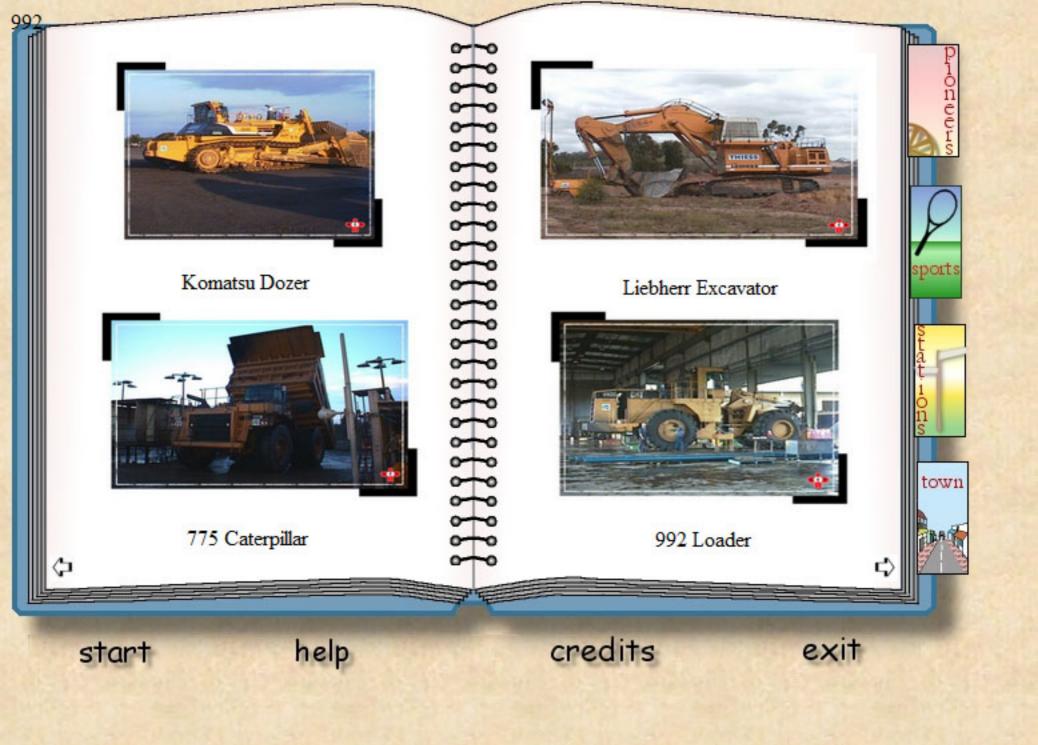


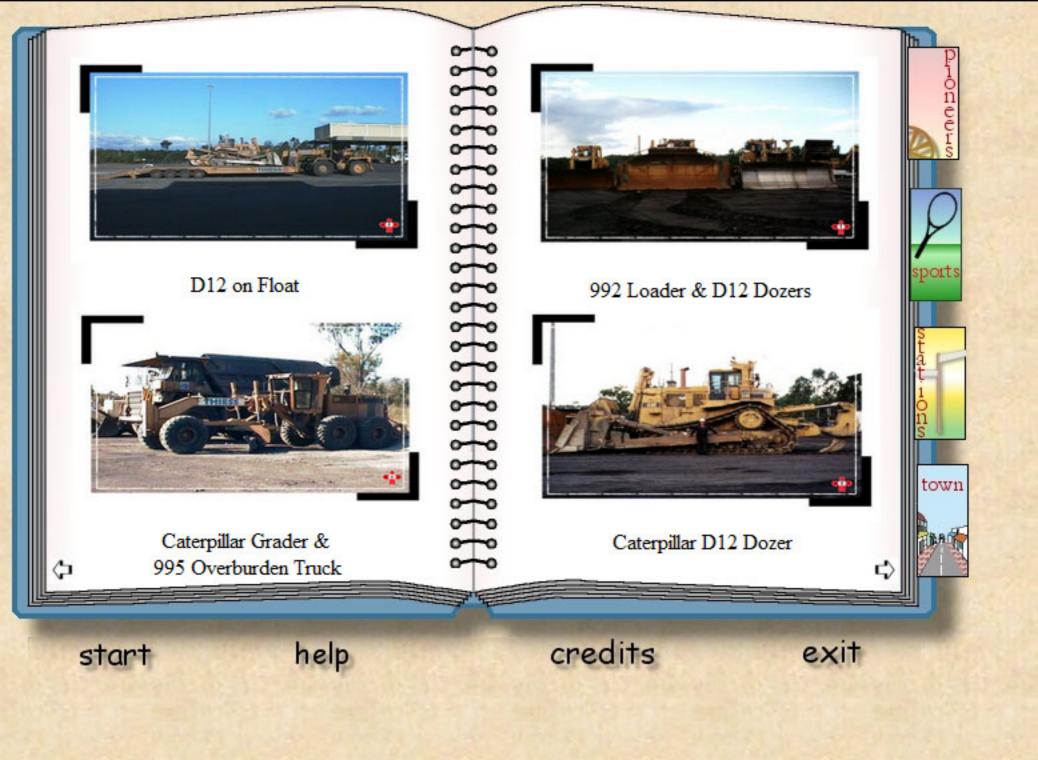


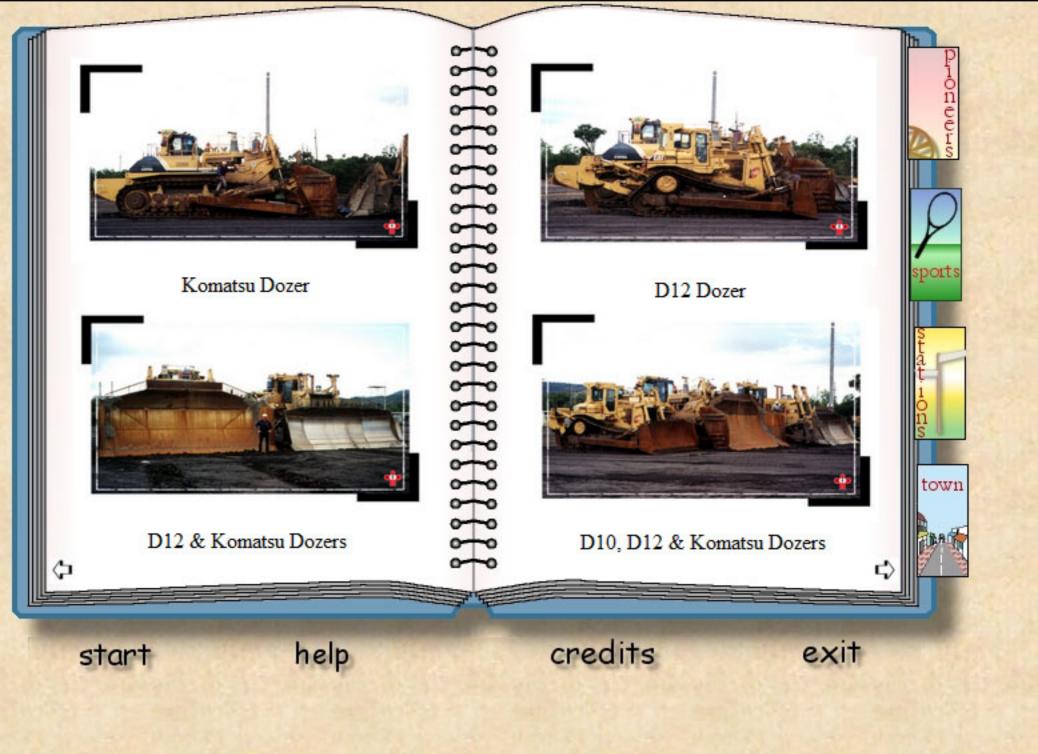


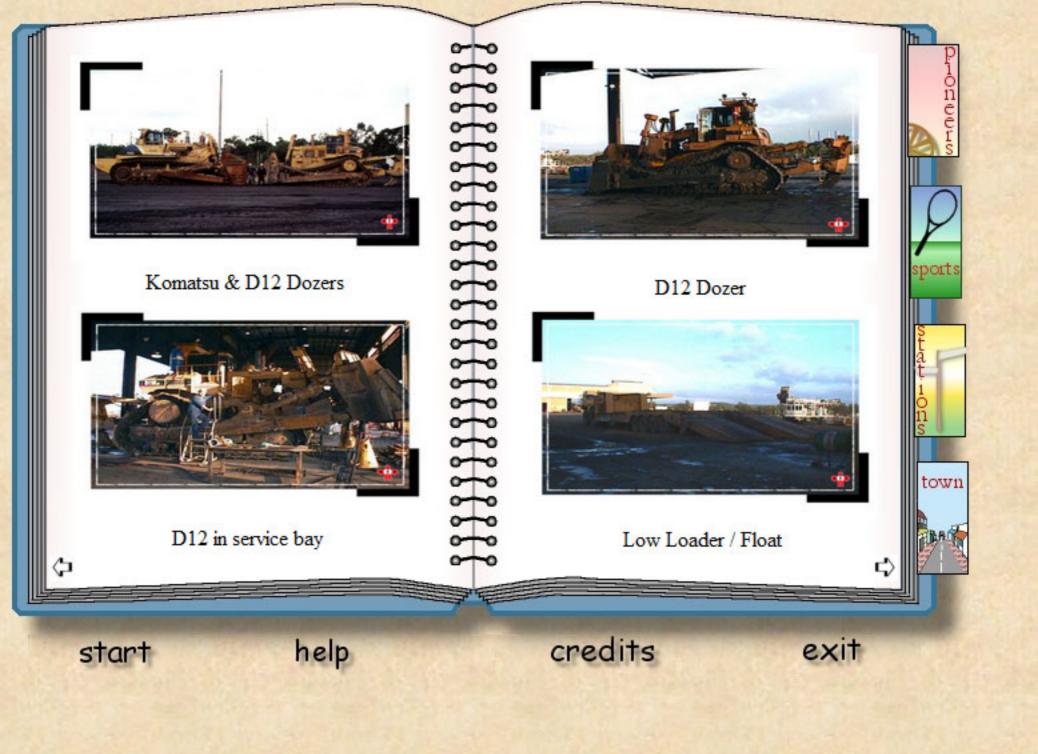


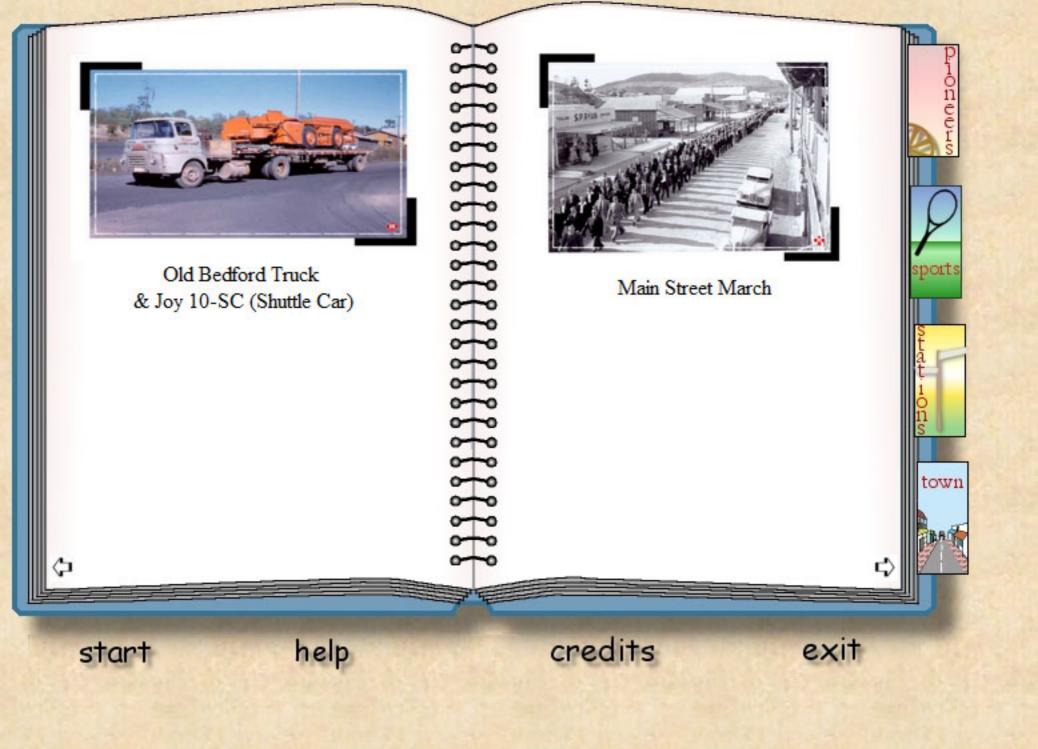


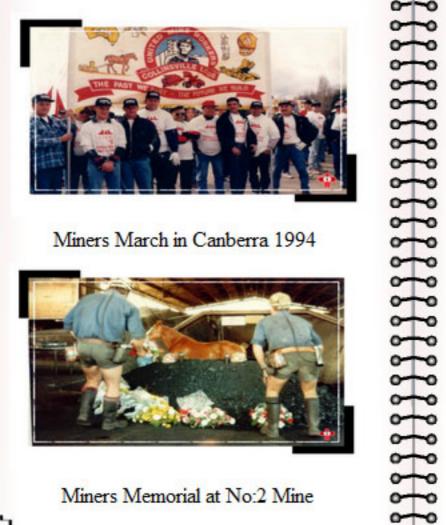












Miners March in Canberra 1994



Miners Memorial at No:2 Mine



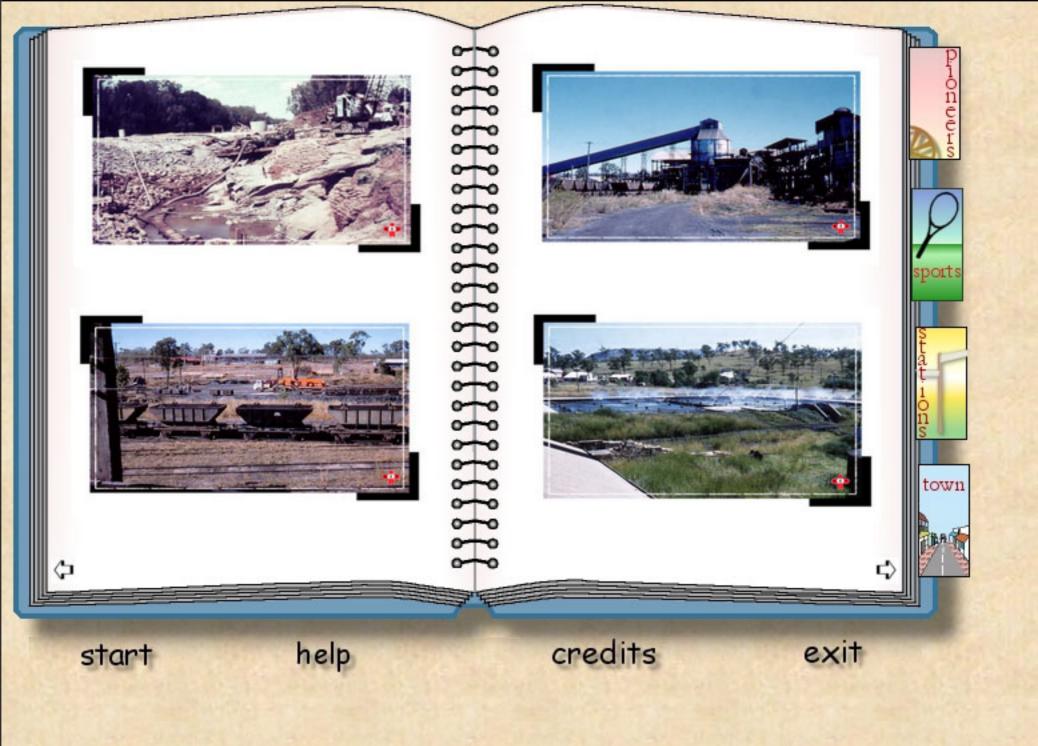
Last Horses to work in the mine

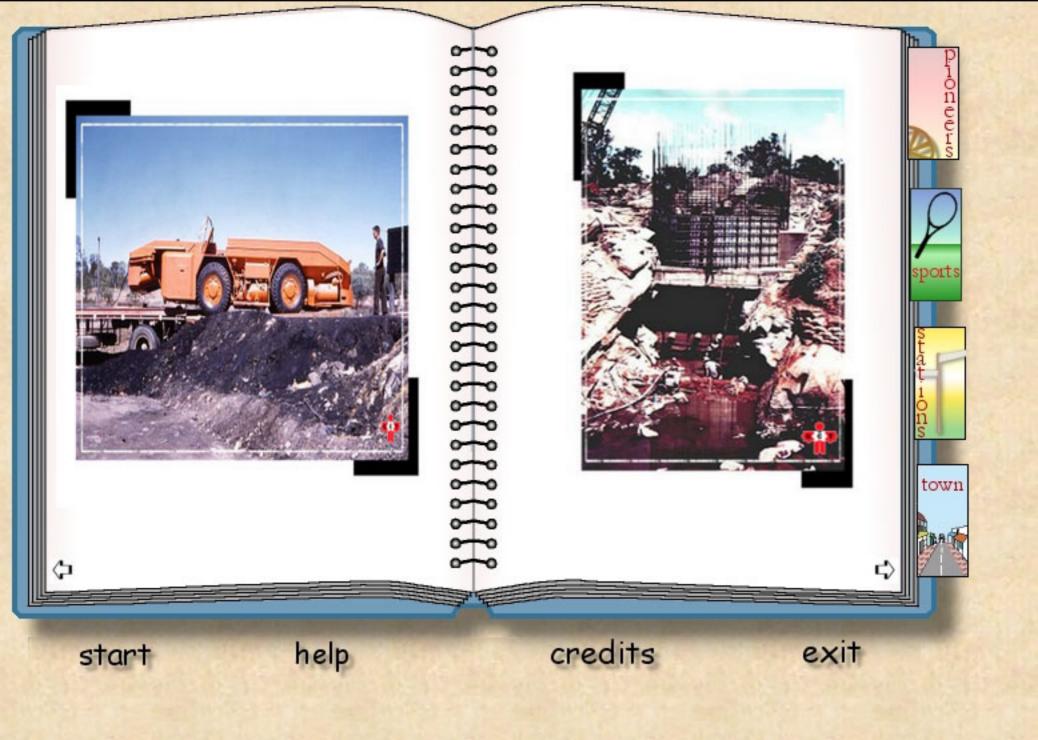


The Last Pit Pony at Collinsville

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History.

While mining of coal at Collinsville commenced in 1919, the presence of significant coal deposits in the area had been established some fifty-three years earlier. In 1866 State Government geologist Richard Bdaintree inspected what become known as the Bowen River Coalfield and reported that it was comparable with the rich Hunter Valley deposits in NSW. Test bores where sunk throughout the district over the next few years with largely disappointing results. Most of the drilling was carried out around Havilah and Birralee Stations to the south west of the present mining lease and the core deposits there were found to have extensive igneous intrusions.

Due to these disappointing results, interest in the Bowen River Coalfield waned until 1912 when government geologist Mr Dunstan carried out a programme of test drilling in the Garrick seam close to Pelican Creek. Dunstan convinced the government that the field should be opened by private enterprise and that a pound for pound subsidy of 300 pound should be offered.

Over the next few years a number of private companies were formed to prospect the Bowen River Coalfield, while the Mines Department reserved an area of about twelve square miles for State mining purposes. Several tons of coal were mined andsent to Bowen and Brisbane for testing- all with excellent results.

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Initial production was and cart to the advancing rail twenty horses would cart si twen be postponed until early 1919

Initial production was transported by horse and cart to the advancing rail head- teams of twenty horses would cart six tonnes at a time.

At this time the area was still known as Moongunya - the Aborignal word meaning coal - which had been given to the district by the Railways Department. In 1921 it was renamed Collinsville after the State Member for Bowen - Labour MLA Charles Collins. The same year saw the construction of Collinsville's first school - on what is now the site of the Collinsville Golf Club's first green. The first teacher arrived on this honeymoon and lasted three days before departing for good. His replacement, however, stayed until his transfer at the end of the year.

town

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The railway line finally reached the mine in 1922, six years after the first sleeper was laid at Merinda. During 1922 a new township was surveyed with the intention that it would replace the haphazard shanty town which had grown up close to Pelican Creek in the area known today as 'old town'. By the end of 1924 Collinsville had a population of about seven hundred while a further three hundred had settled in small township close to the BCCM mine. This settlement was named Scottville after one of BCCM's directors. By 1926 Collinsville boasted a bowling green. dance hall, picture theatre. shops. School. Two hotels, an ambulance center and a hospital.

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Factors such as the dieselisation of railways and the move away from coal as a fuel by other traditional customers meant a decline in fortunes of the State Mine, during the late fifties. By 1962 only two hundred and sixty men were employed at the mine. In April of that year the Nicklin government decided to close the mine and to call tenders for its purchase. The two hundred and sixty employees suddenly found themselves without work. In a town of approximately two thousand, the loss of this number of jobs was devastating. However, in spite of widespread protests, the government remained firm and the mine remained closed.

Six months after the closure it was announced that Davis Contractors had been the successful tenders for the State Mine lease. Preparation for the change from hand mining to mechanised production took a number of months and it was not until the second half of 1962 that production commenced at what was to be known as the Dacon Mine.

In 1965 Collinsville received a healthy boost with the construction of the Collinsville Power Station. The power station became a major employer with an eventual payroll of two hundred and fifty. It also provided an important market for what was then still a domestic producer.

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In 1965 Collinsville received a healthy boost with the construction of the Collinsville Power Station. The power station became a major employer with an eventual payroll of two hundred and fifty. It also provided an important market for what was then still a domestic producer.

By 1975 MIM had acquired all of BCCM and the company was renamed Collinsville Coal Company. Two years later Dacon Collieries were acquired and incorporated into Collinsville Coal Company. Collinsville was still a domestic producer but by the late seventies consideration was given to entering the lucrative export coking coamarket. In 1980 the company reached agreement in principle with Japonese Steel

Mills for a fifteen year coking coal to run from

The early eighties was a period of massive expansion at Collinsville Coal as the infrastructure was put into place to enable production of approximately a million tonnes per annum of export coking coal in addition to that being produced for the domestic market. The two hundred and fifty million dollar expansion at Collinsville included construction of a coal preparation plant, new warehouse, workshop, service bay and administration centre. Dozens of new houses were built in Collinsville for expanded workforce.

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An infrastructure package negotiated with the Bowen Shire Council provided for construction for construction of a water treatment plant, community centre, new reservoir, water and sewerage reticulation and road works. Sporting clubs also benefited from this package with \$100 000 being spent over five years — mainly on capital improvements. Full scale export production began in 1984 with that year seeing the first shipment of coking to Japan.

In 1986 Collinsville suffered a major blow when the Srate Government closed the Power Station. Two hundred and fifty jobs were lost to the town and Collinsville Coal Company lost an important customer. The QEC sold its houses and many were taken out of Collinsville and set up elsewhere.

Collinsville Coal marked production of its five millionth tonne of export coking coal in 1989. The same year saw giant Italian energy company AGIP aquire a 25% share of the company

By 1991 Collinsville Coal had been running at a loss for some time and it became obvious that major changes would need to take place if the company was to continue operating. To this end negotiations were entered into with the unions representing Collinsville's workforce and a major rationalisation exercise was undertaken. The workforce was reduced by one hundred and fifty – all by voluntary redundancy and major changes to work practices took place. The rationalisation exercise was successful in increasing productivity and reducing costs.

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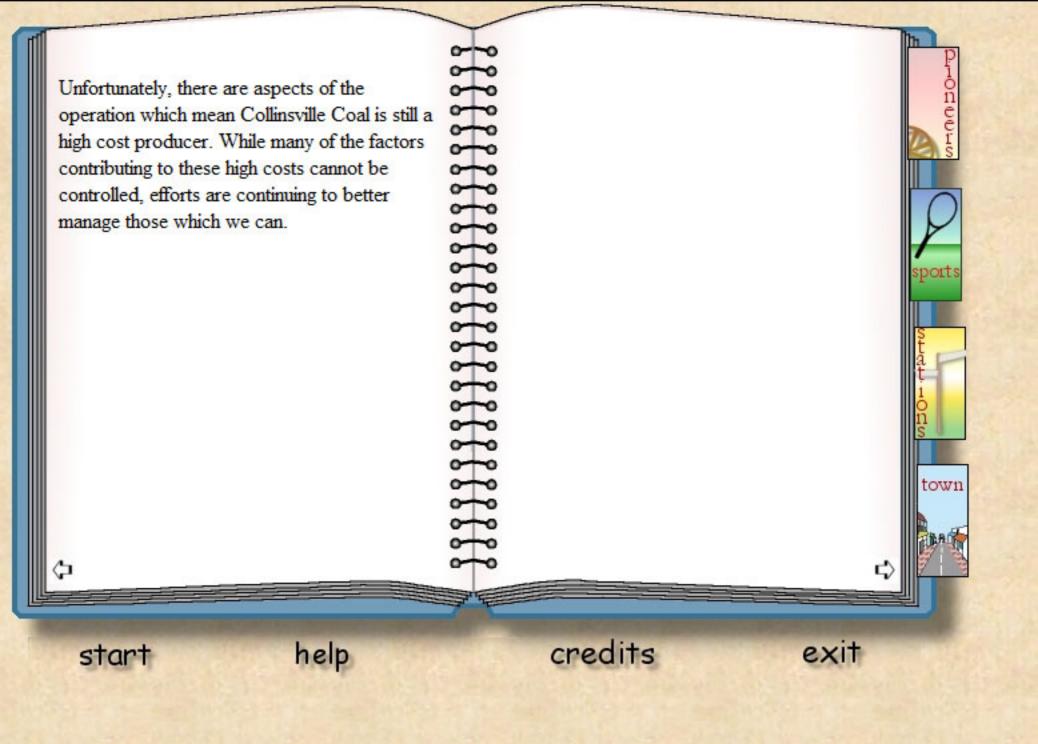
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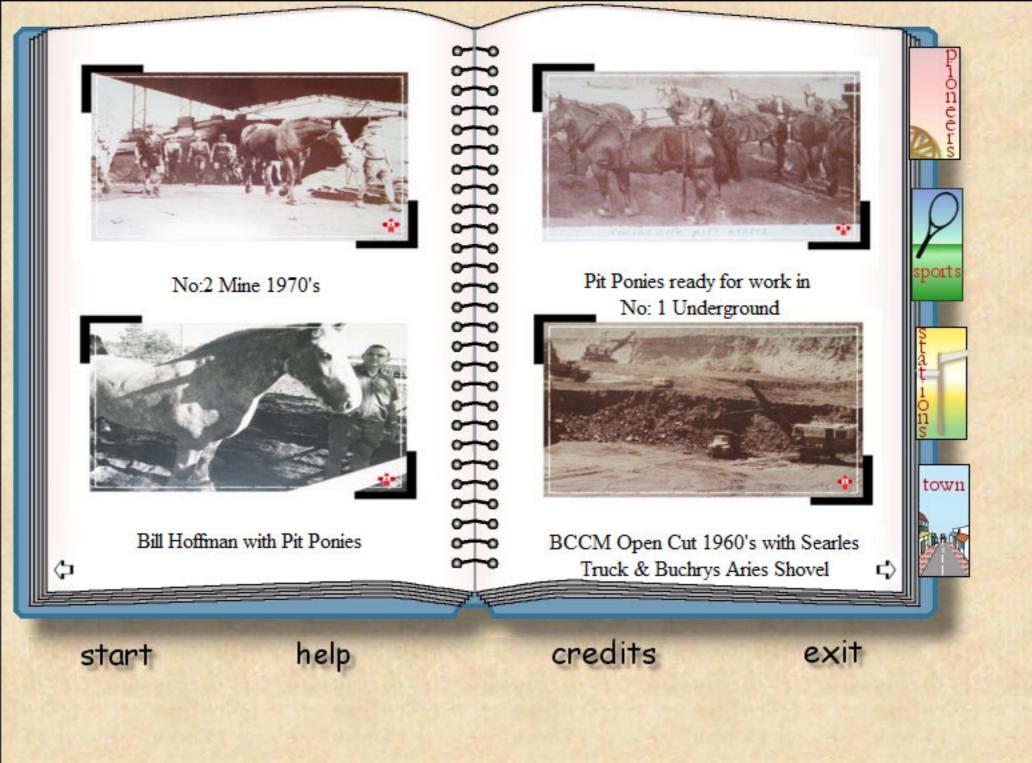
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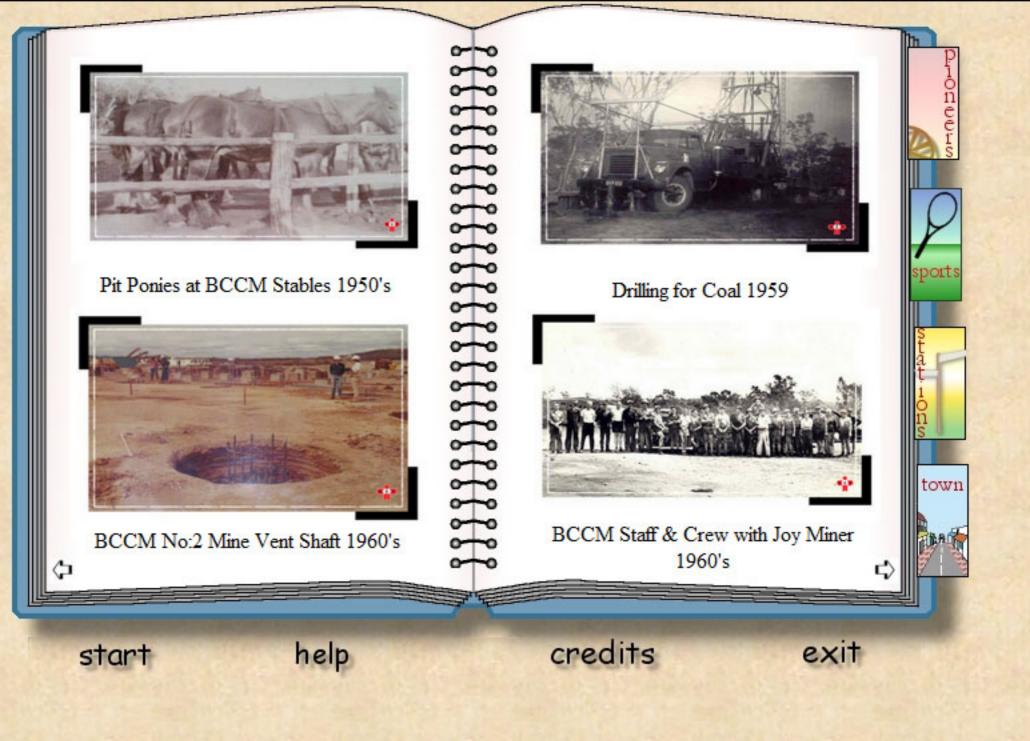
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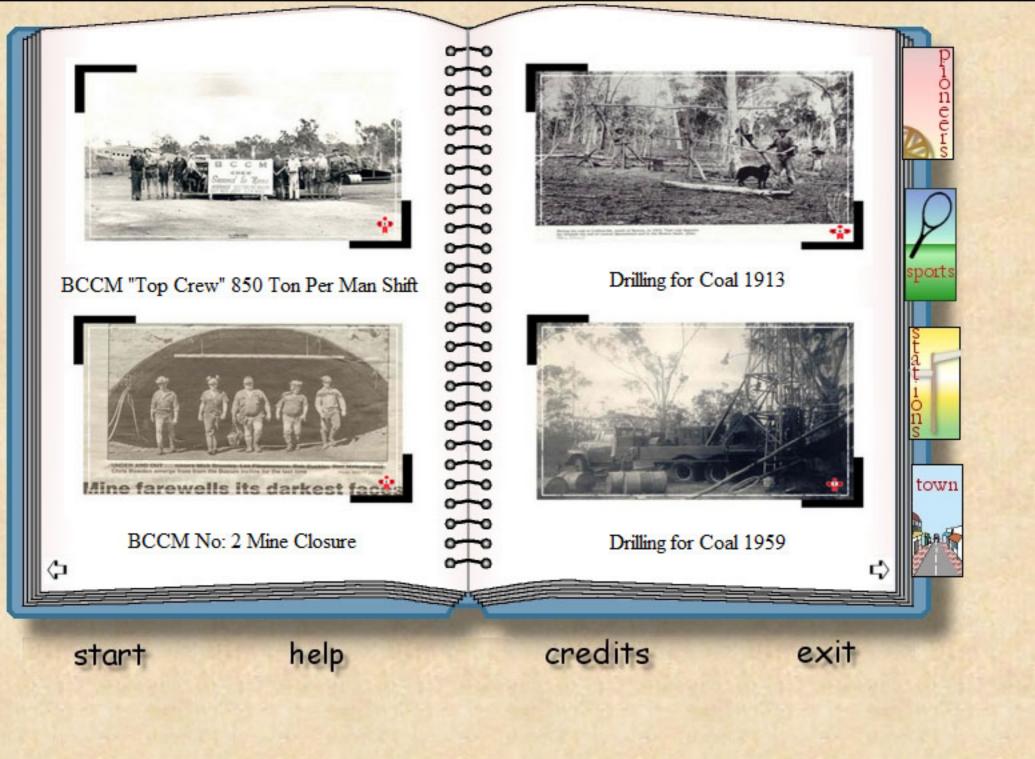
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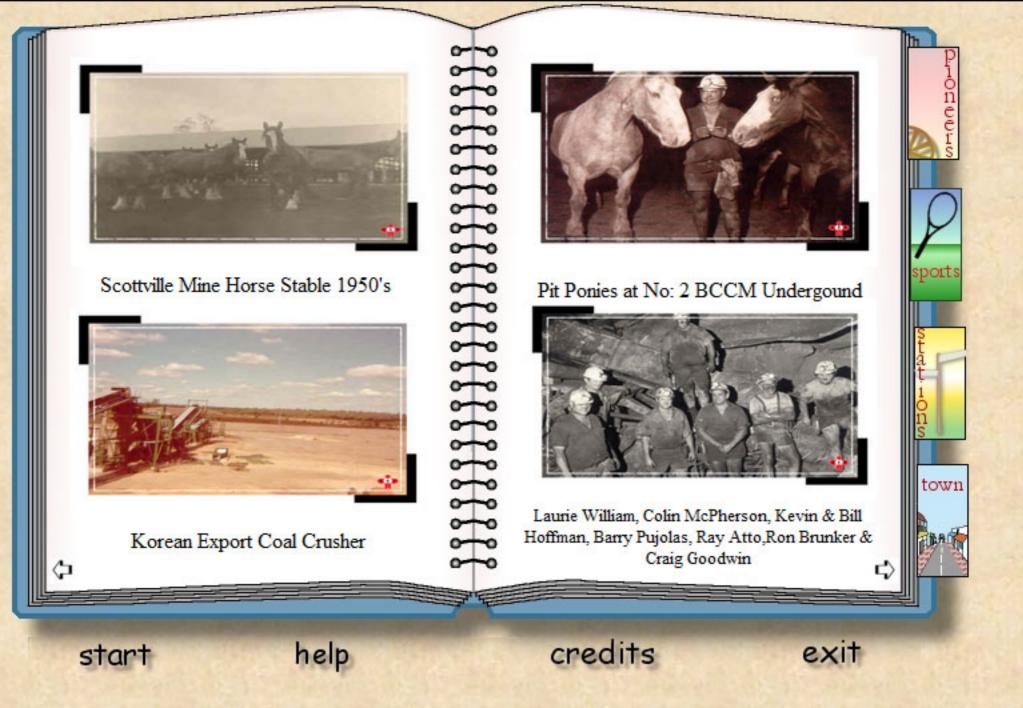
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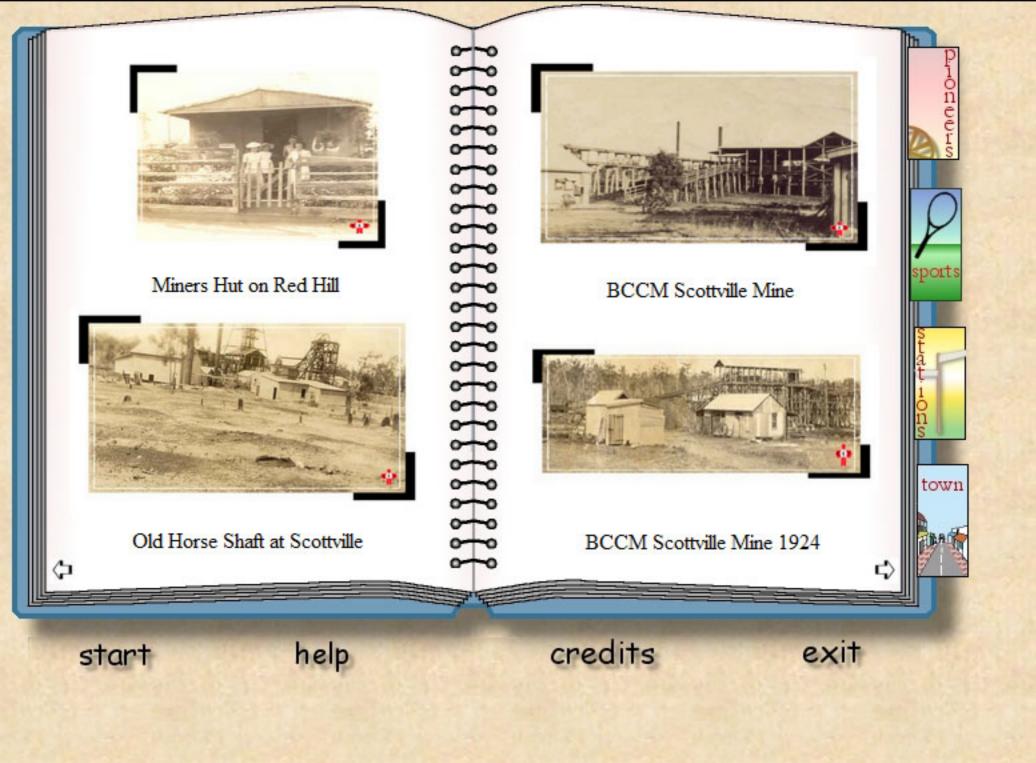


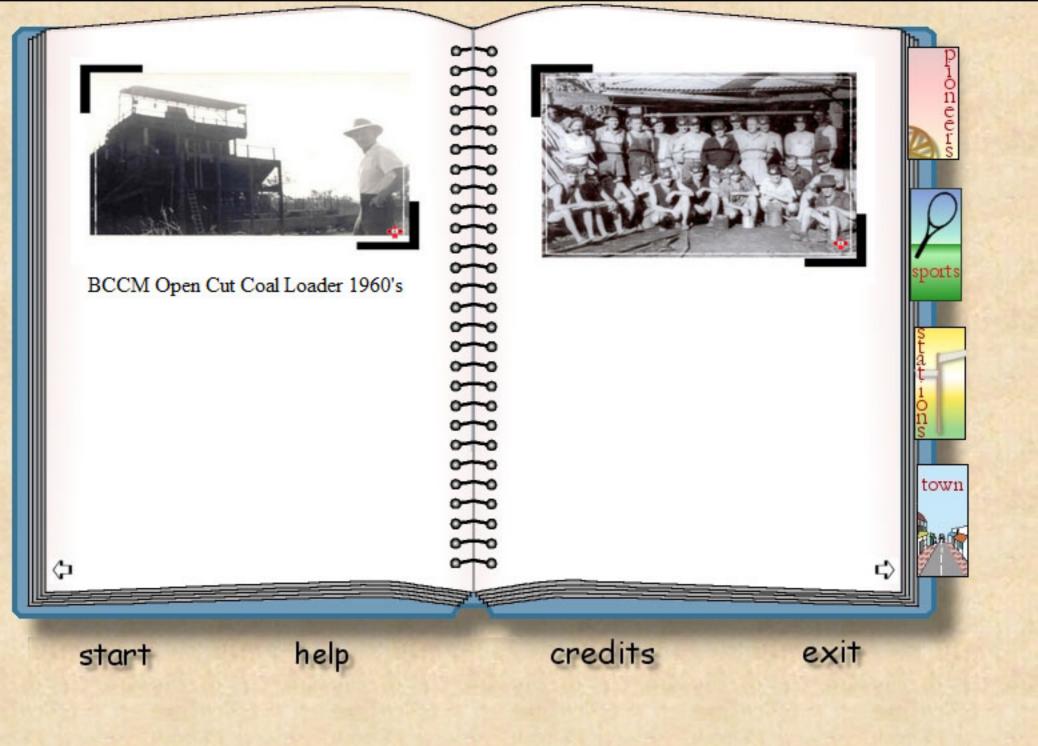


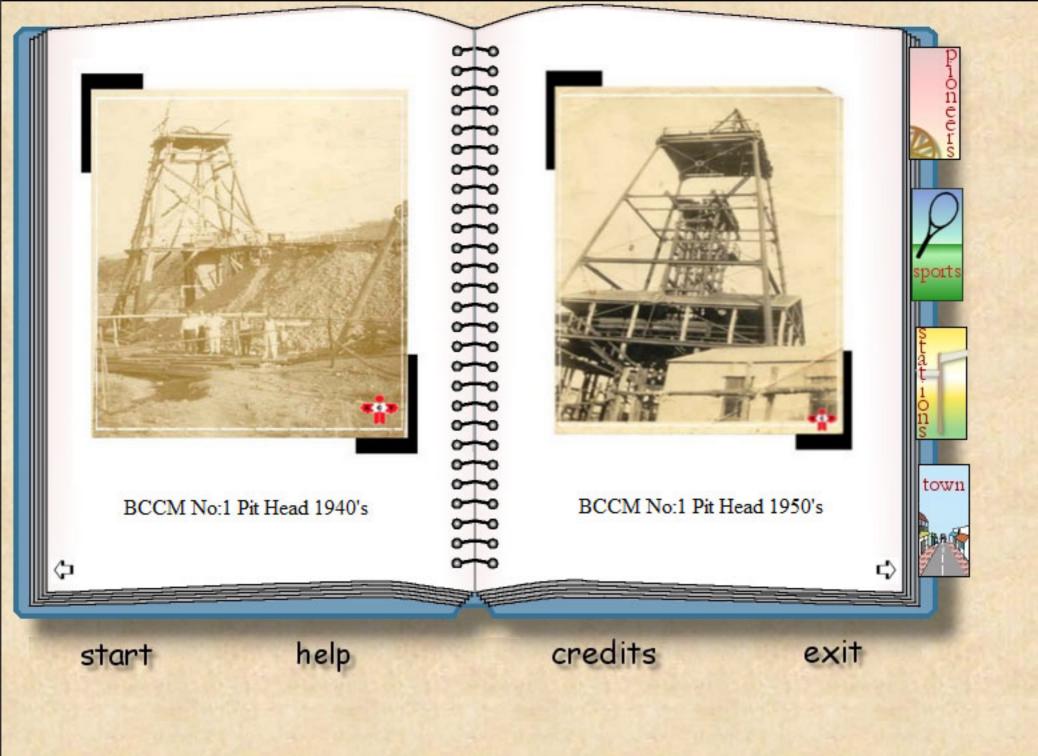


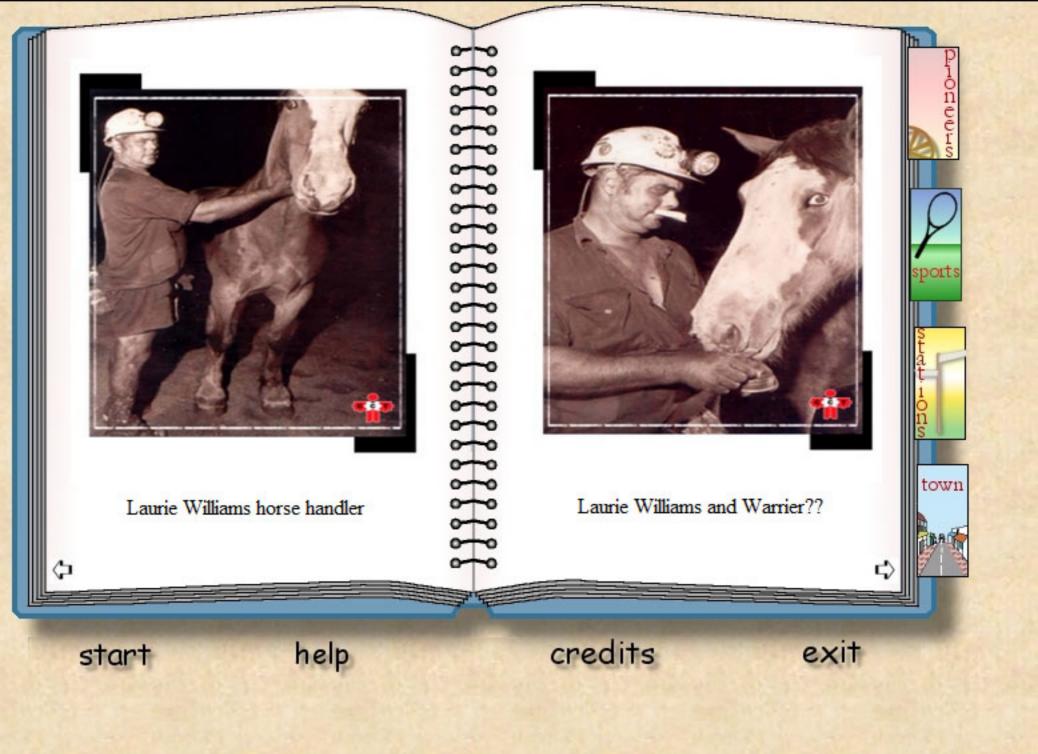


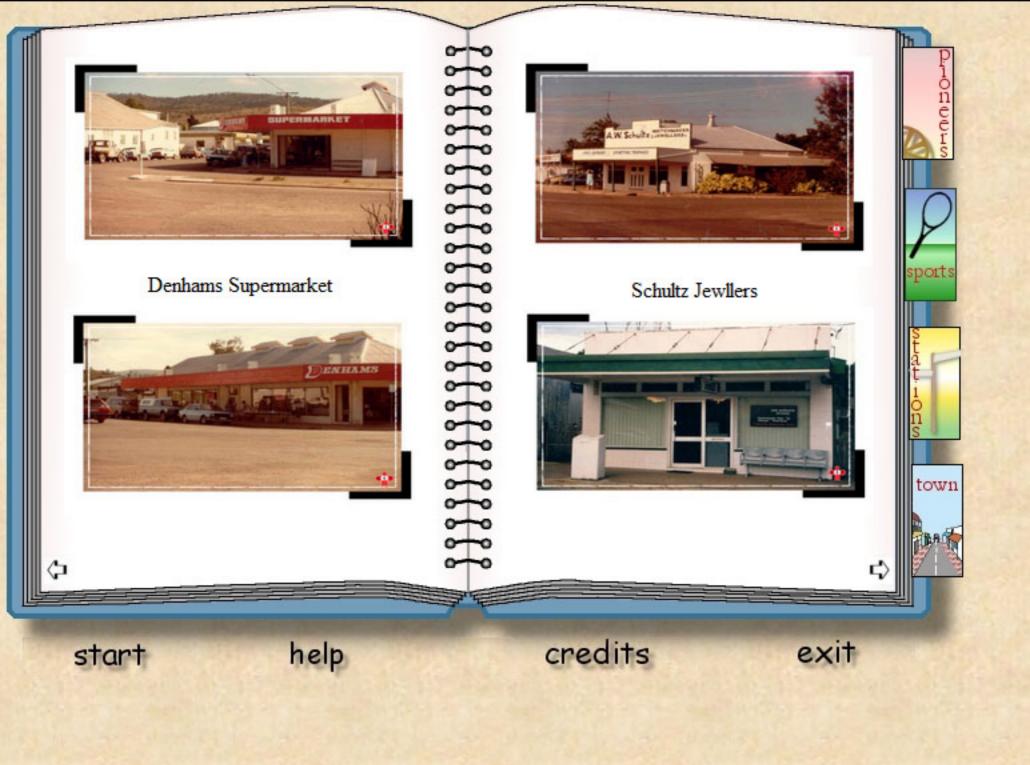


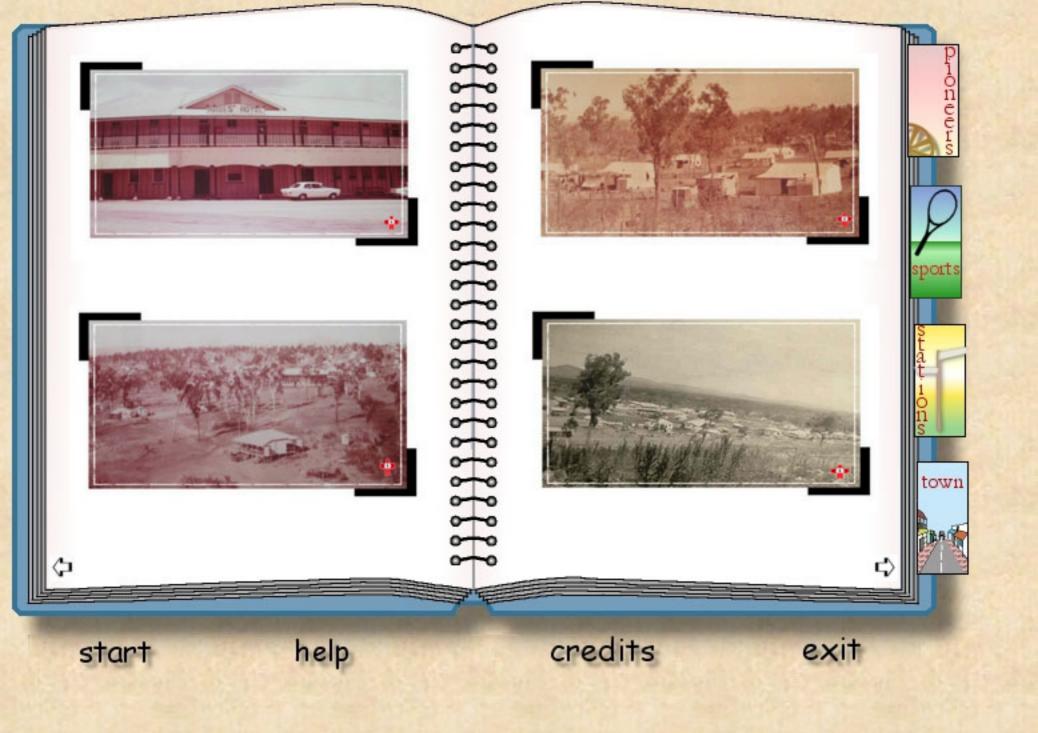


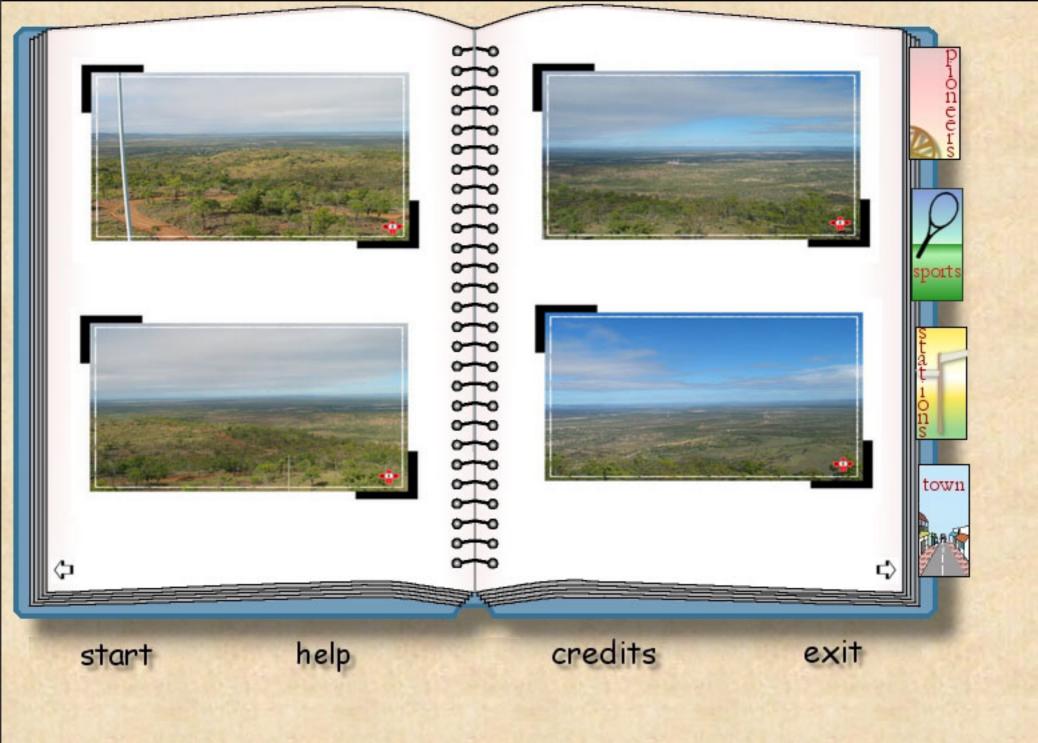


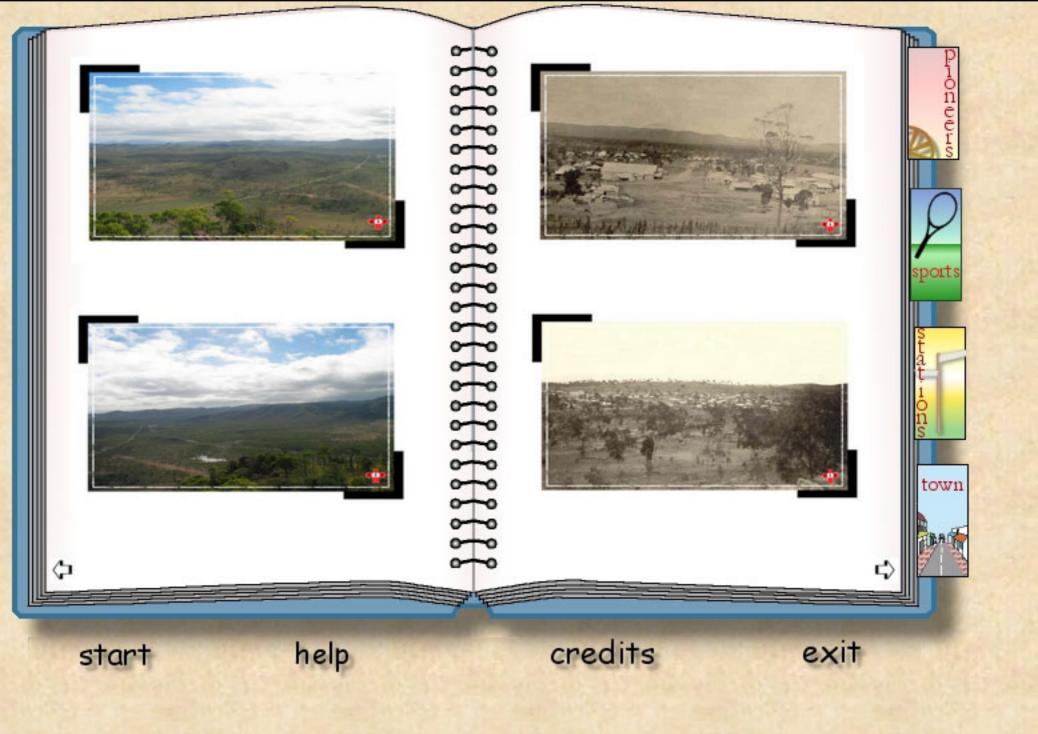


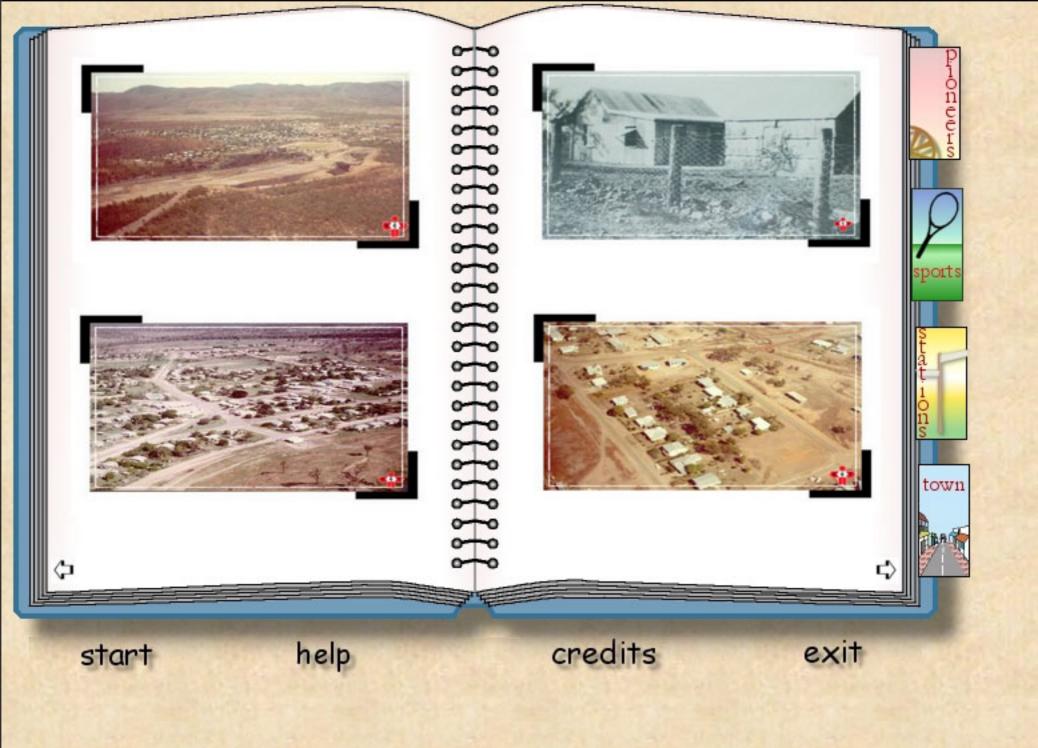


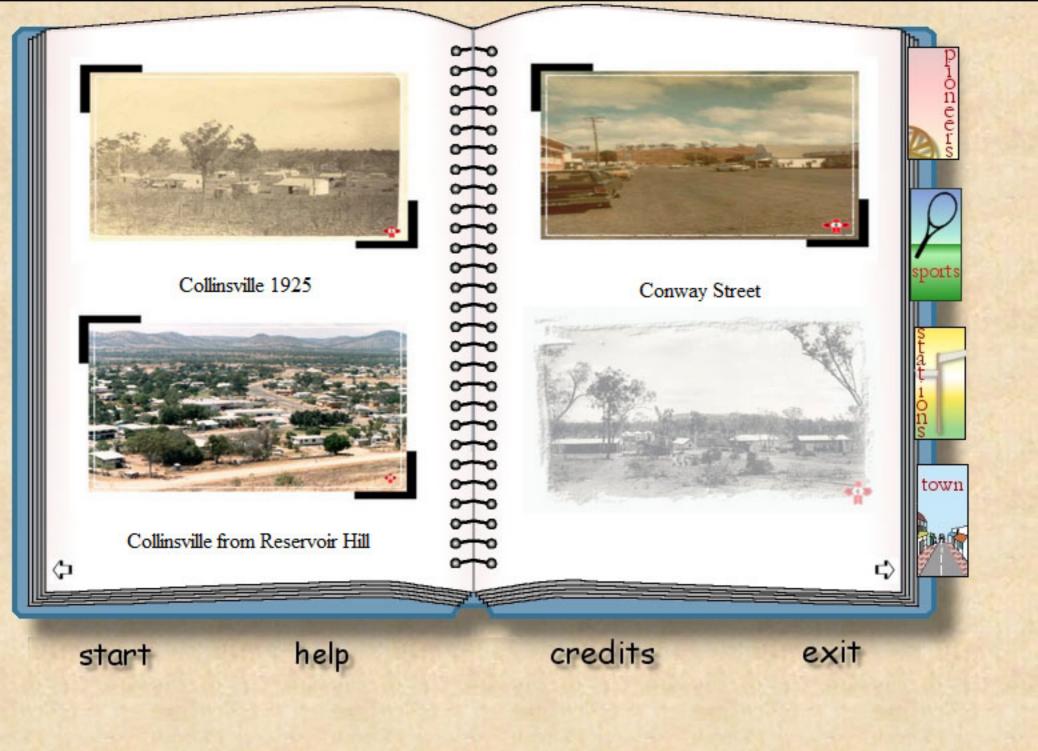


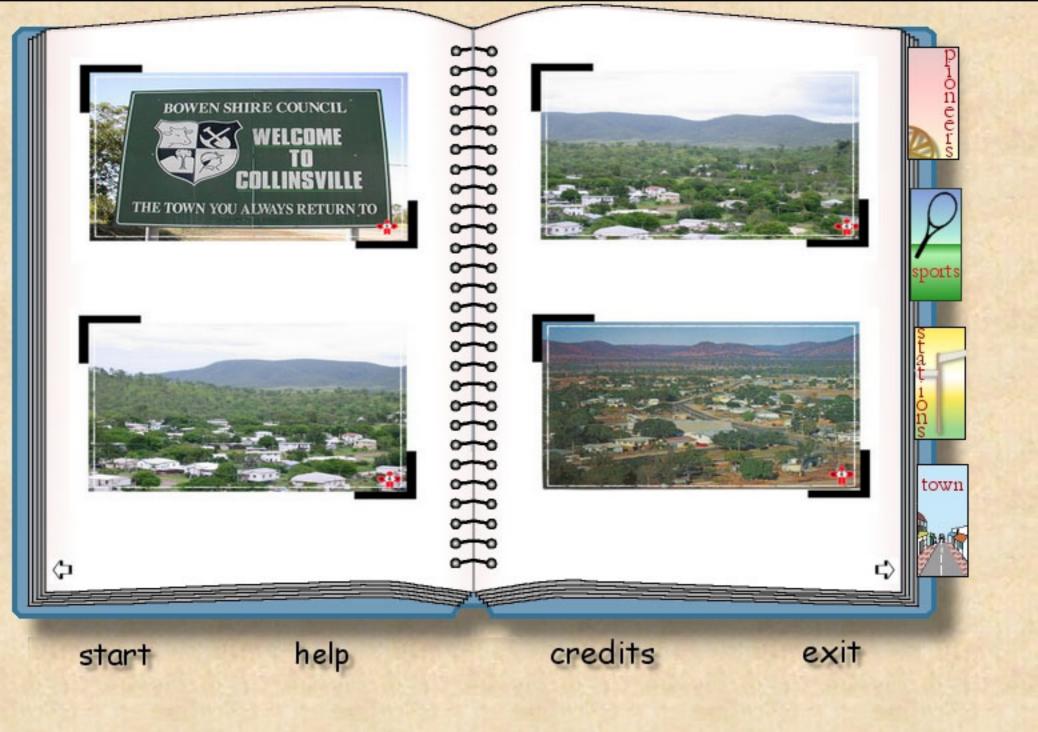


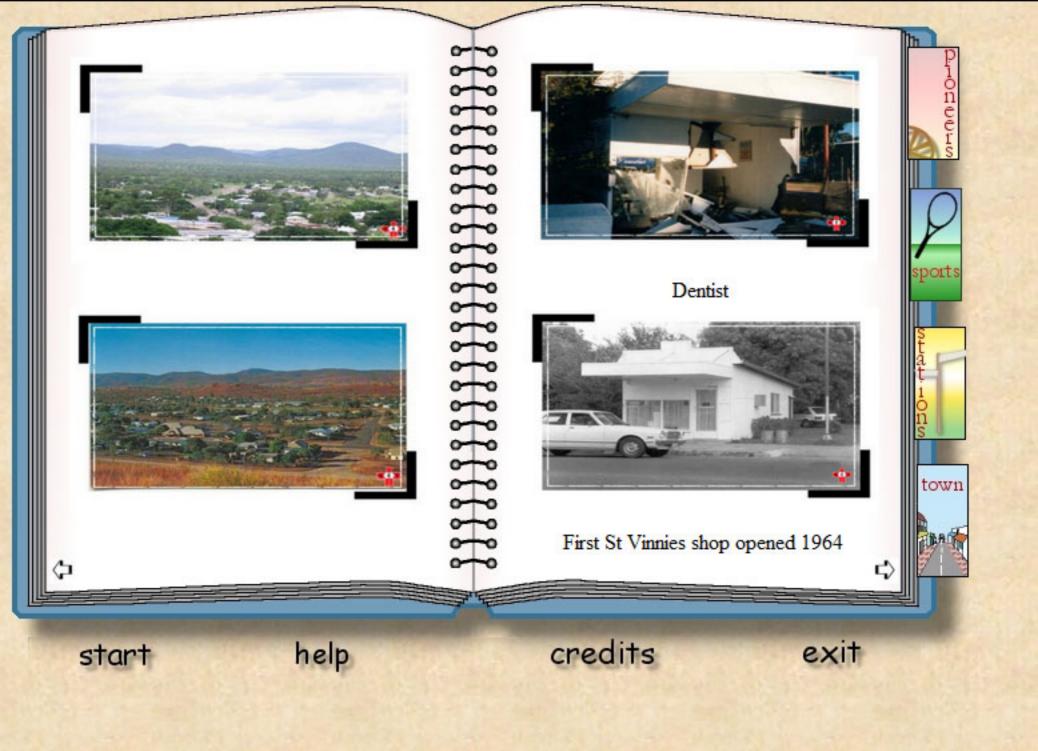


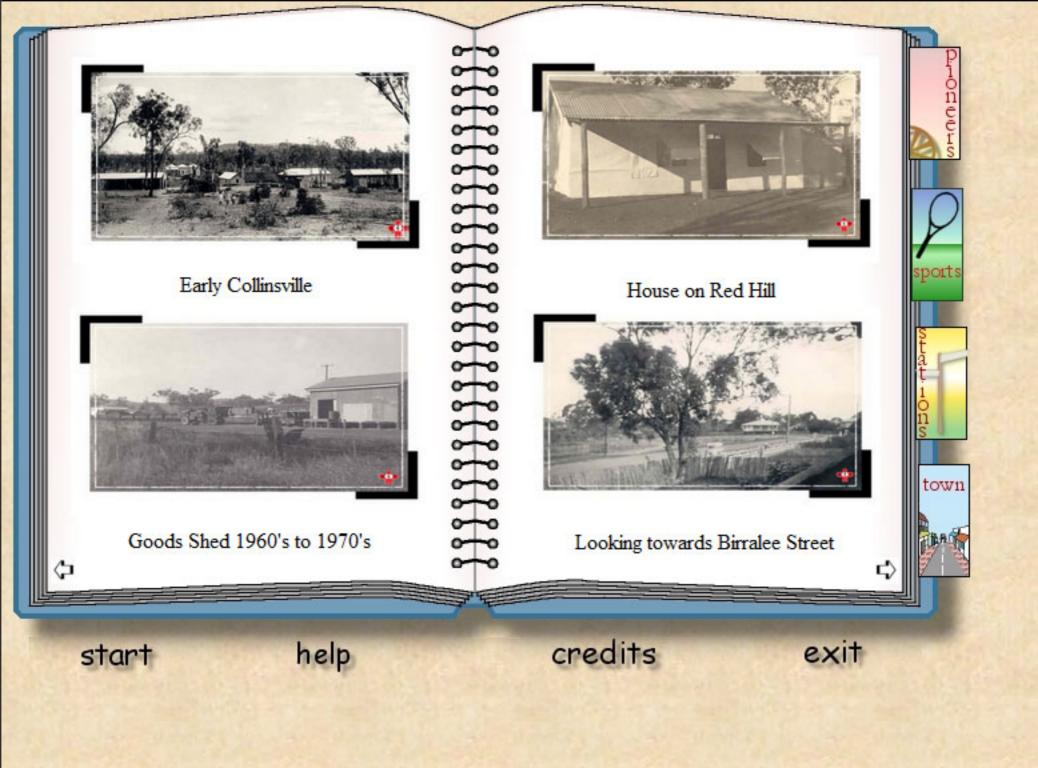


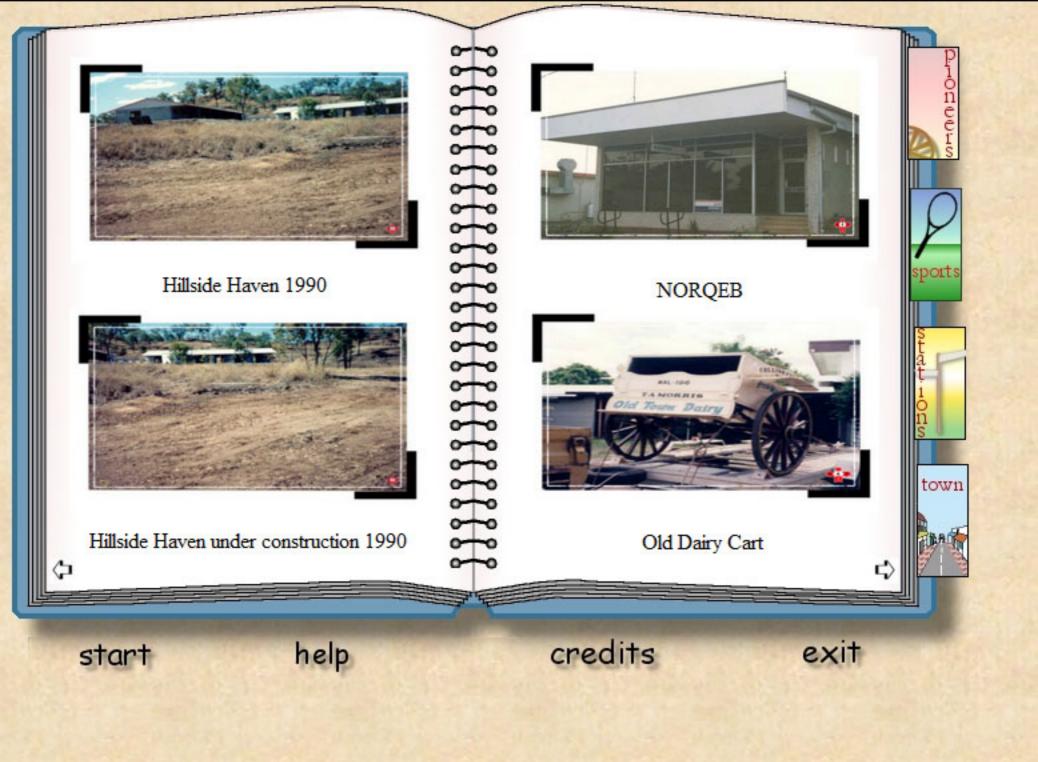


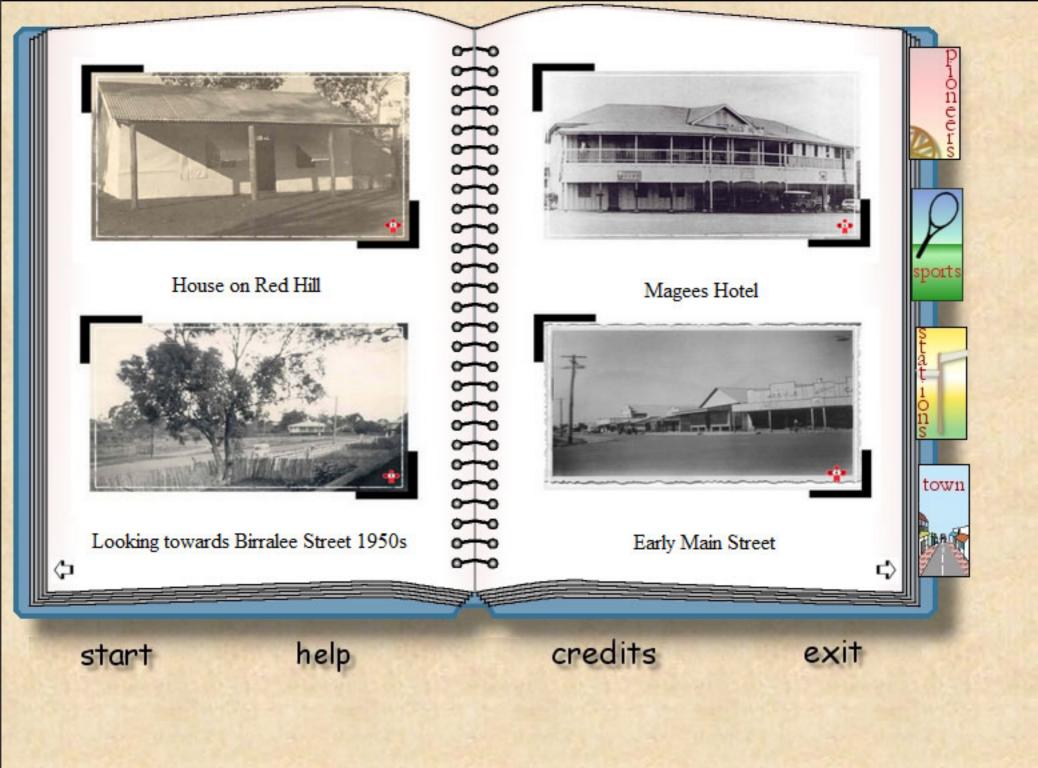


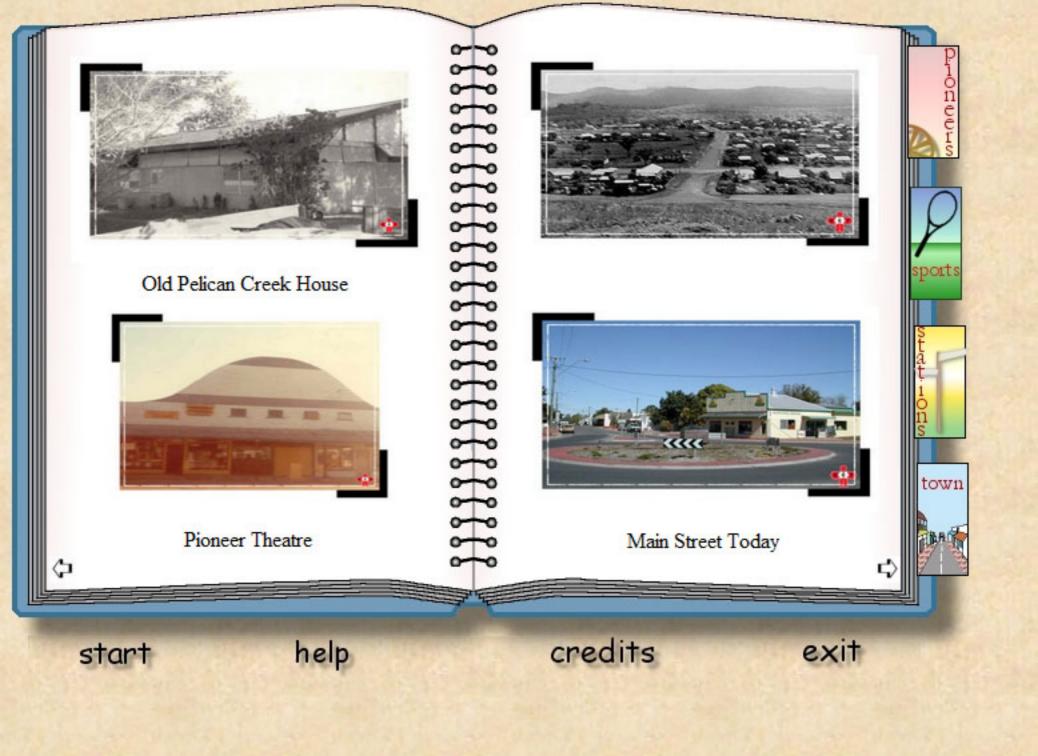


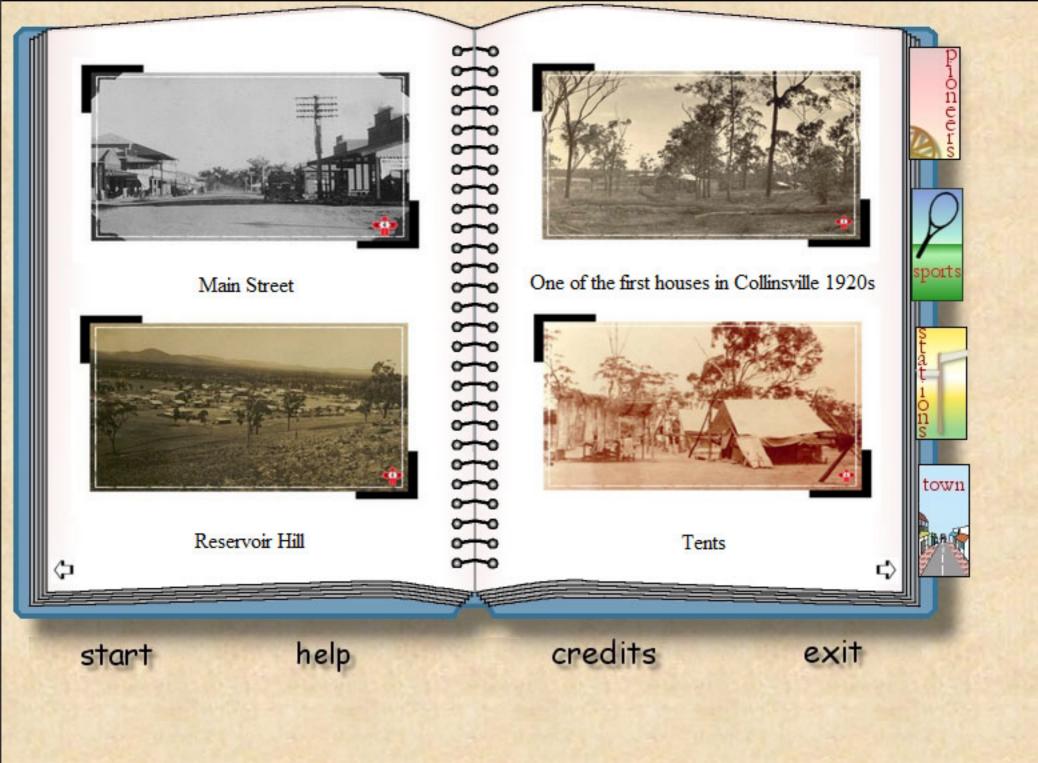


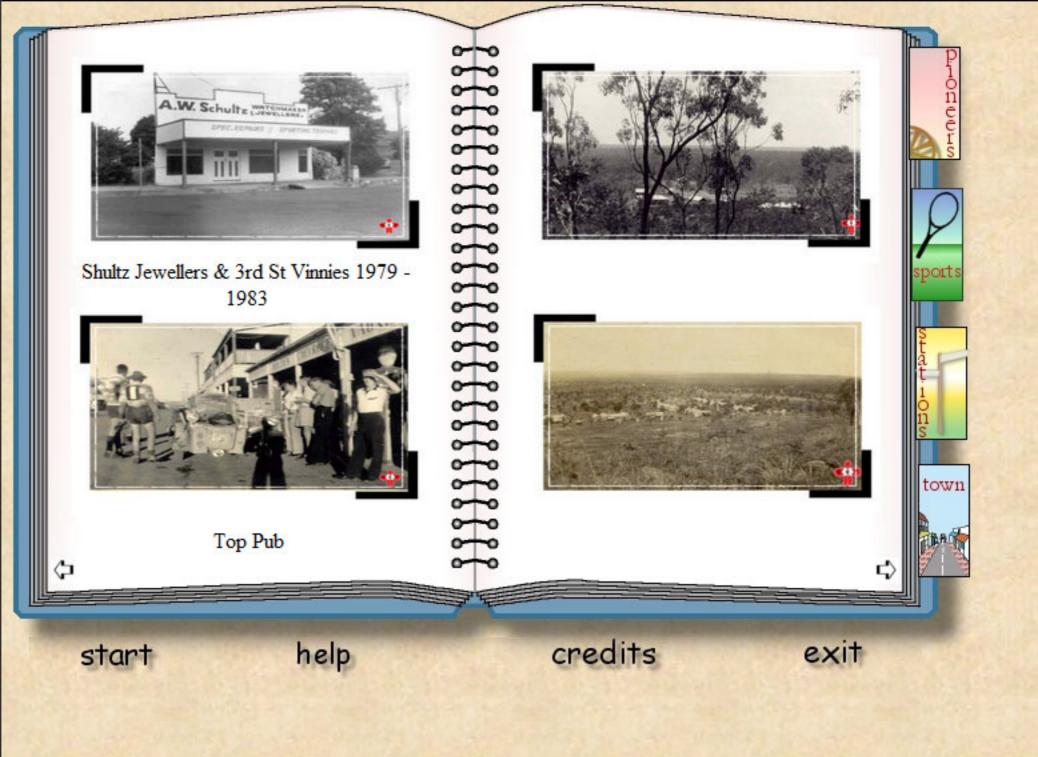


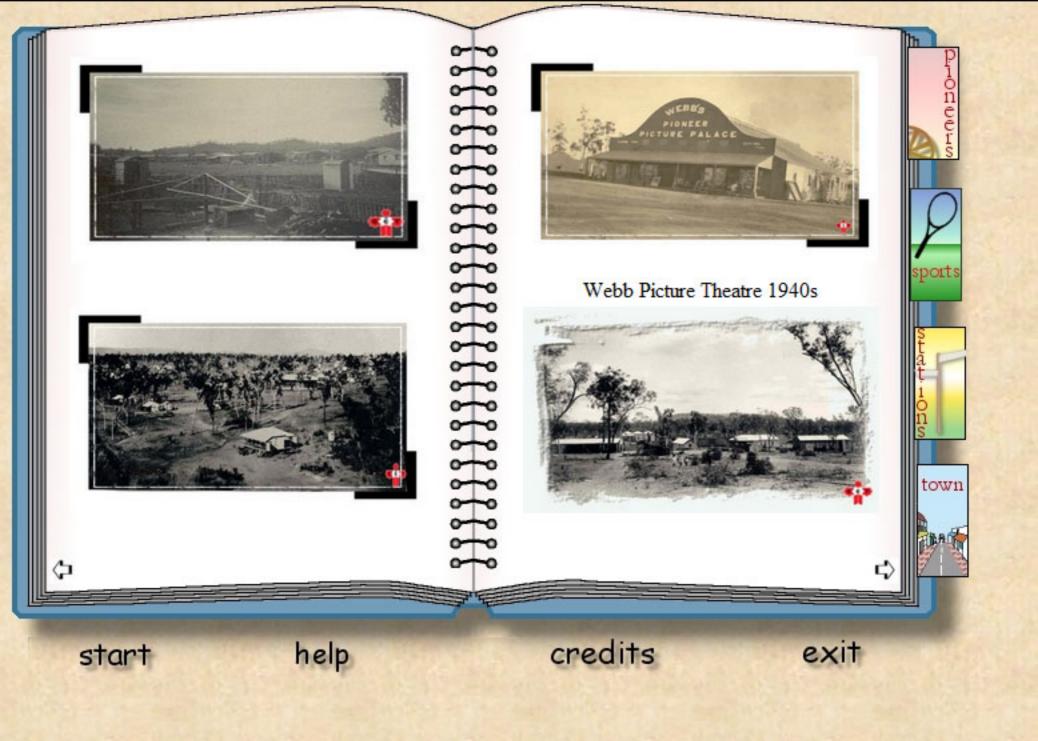


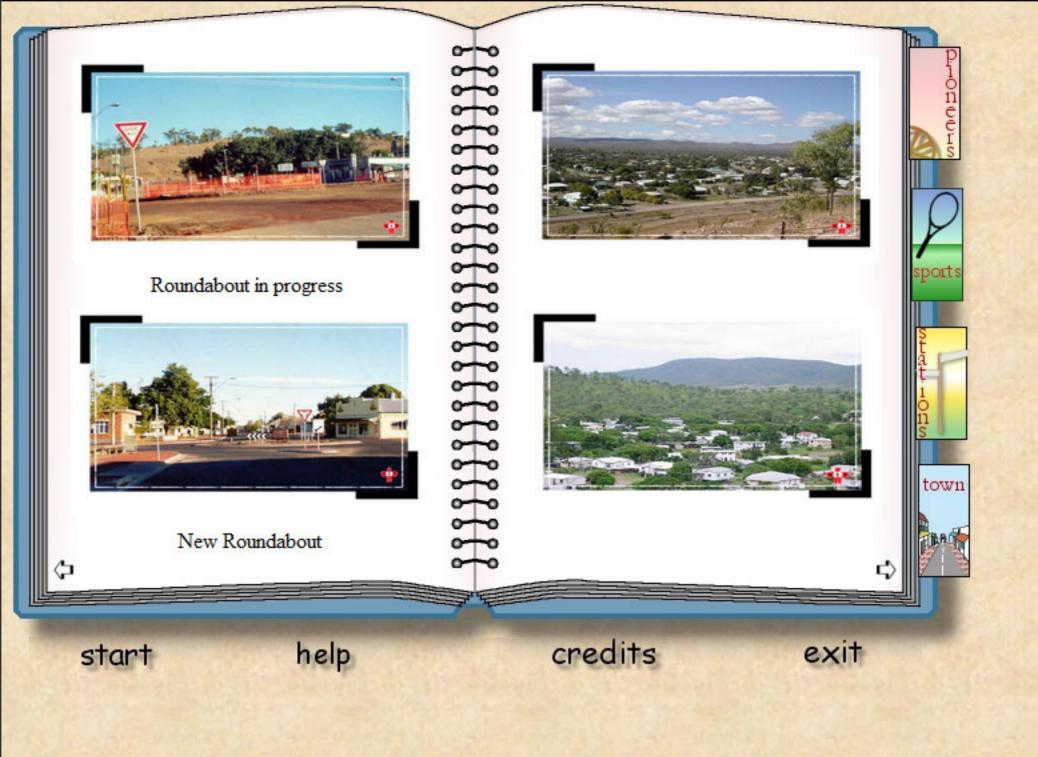


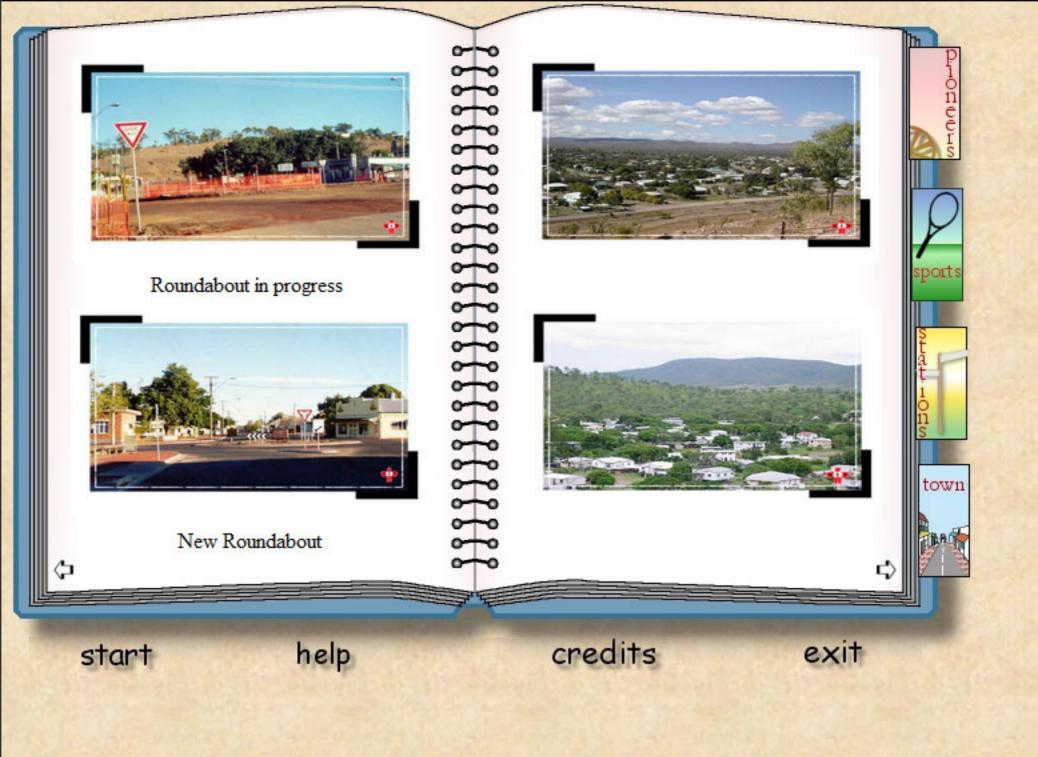


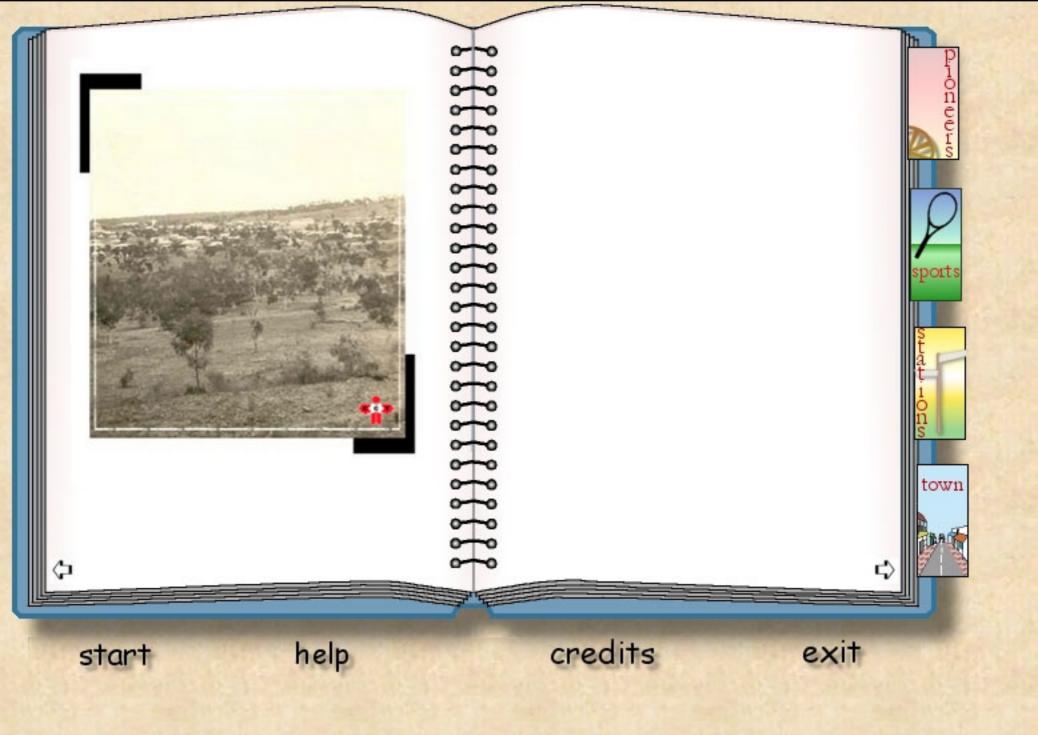


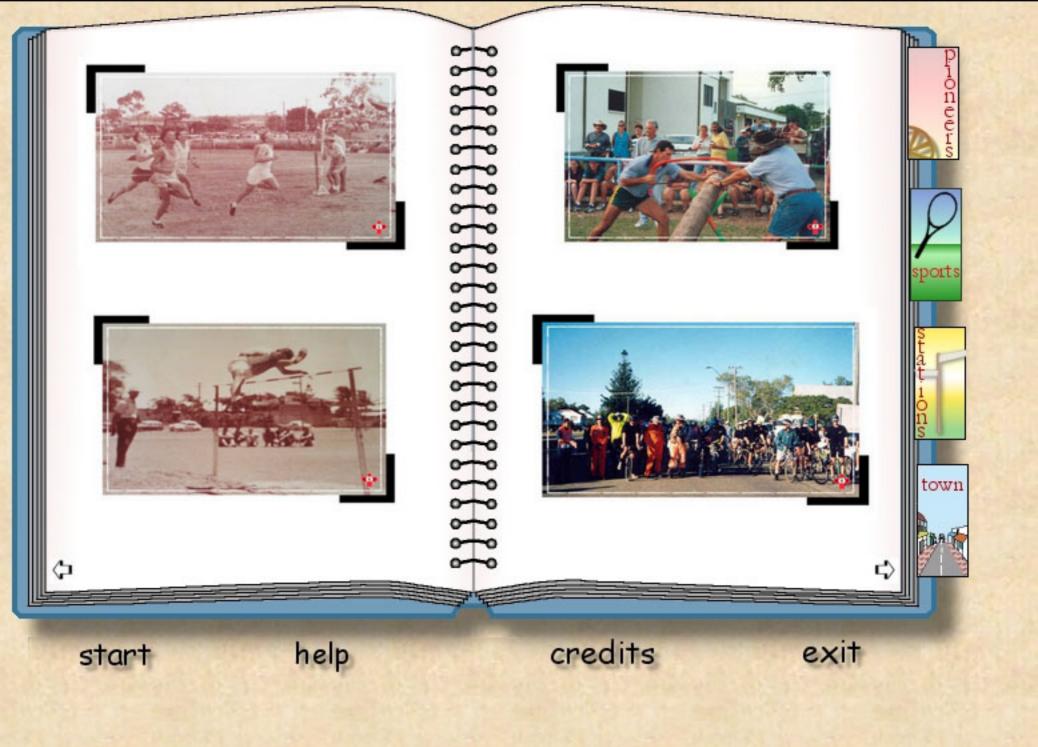


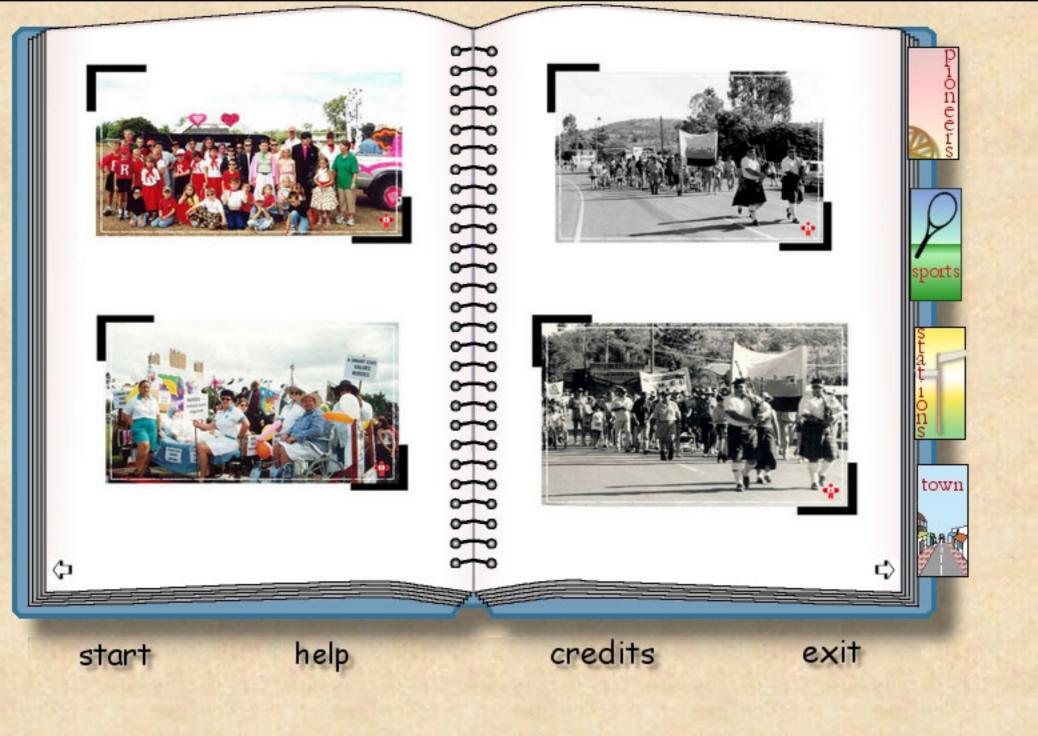


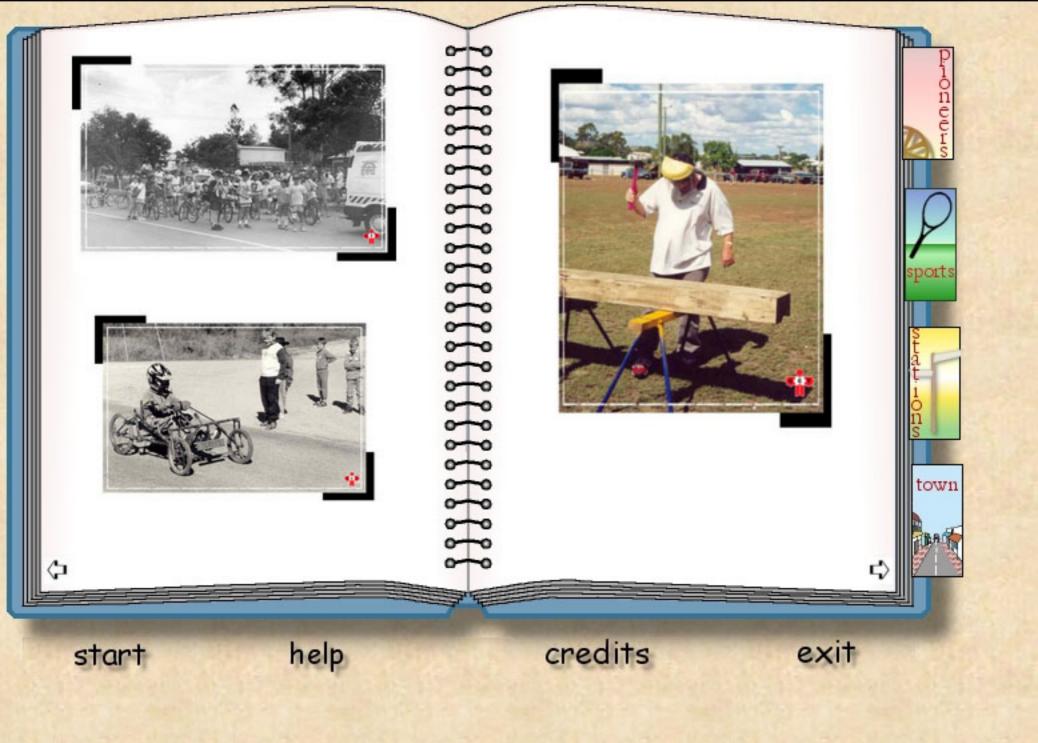


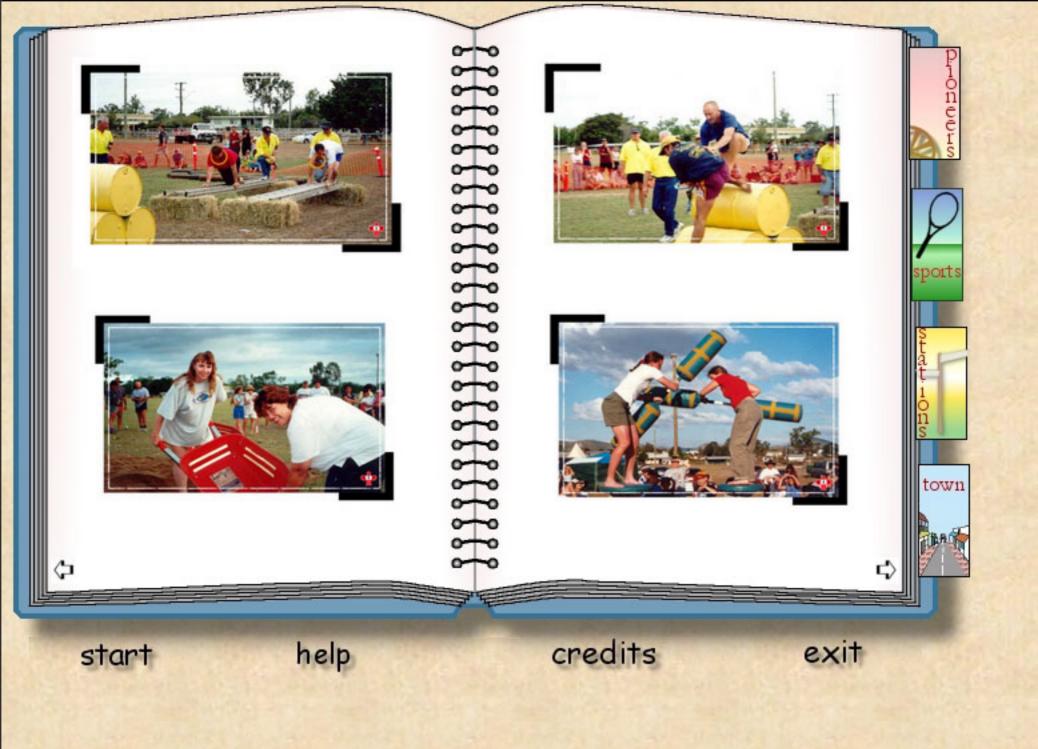


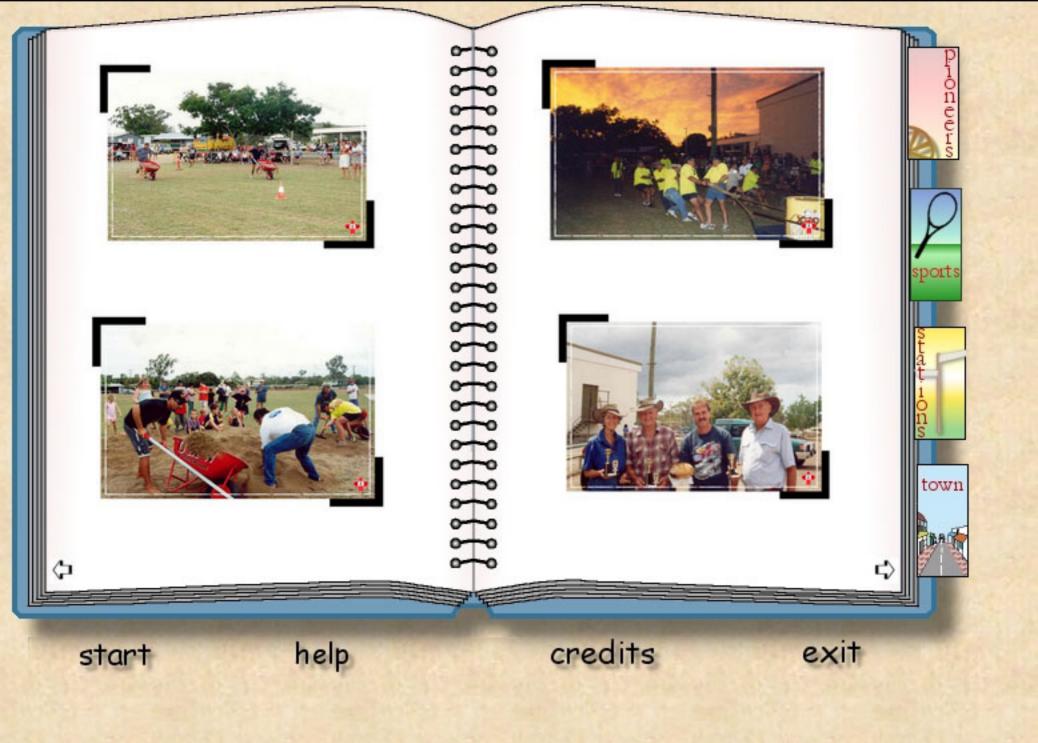


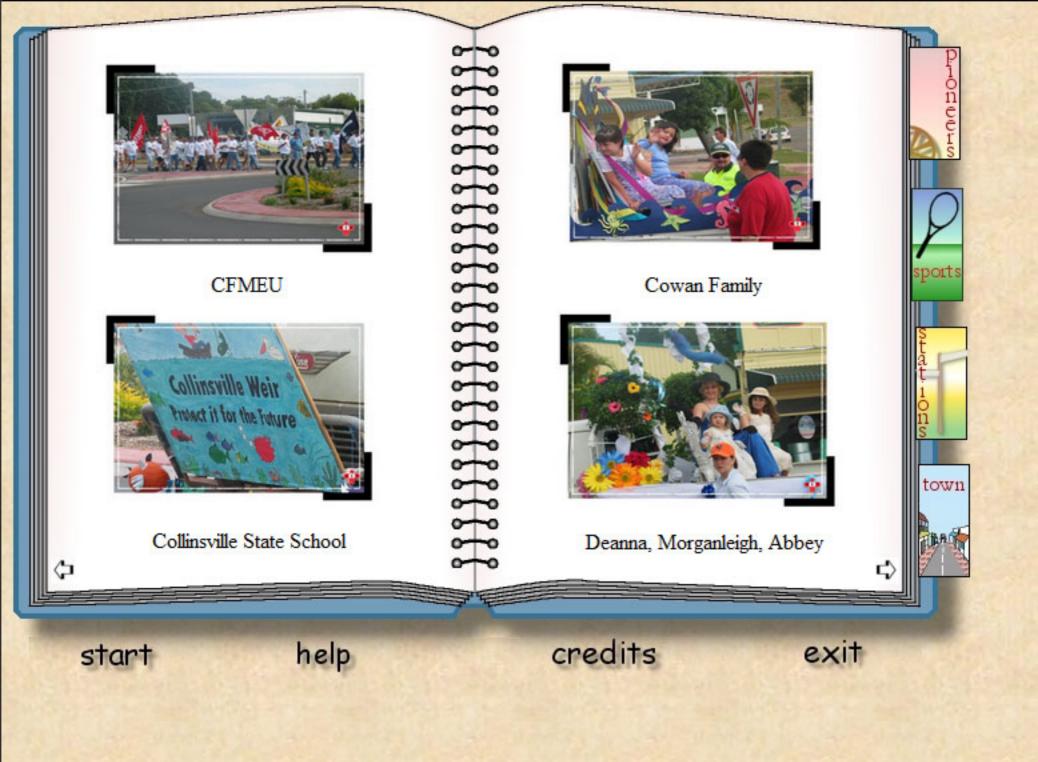


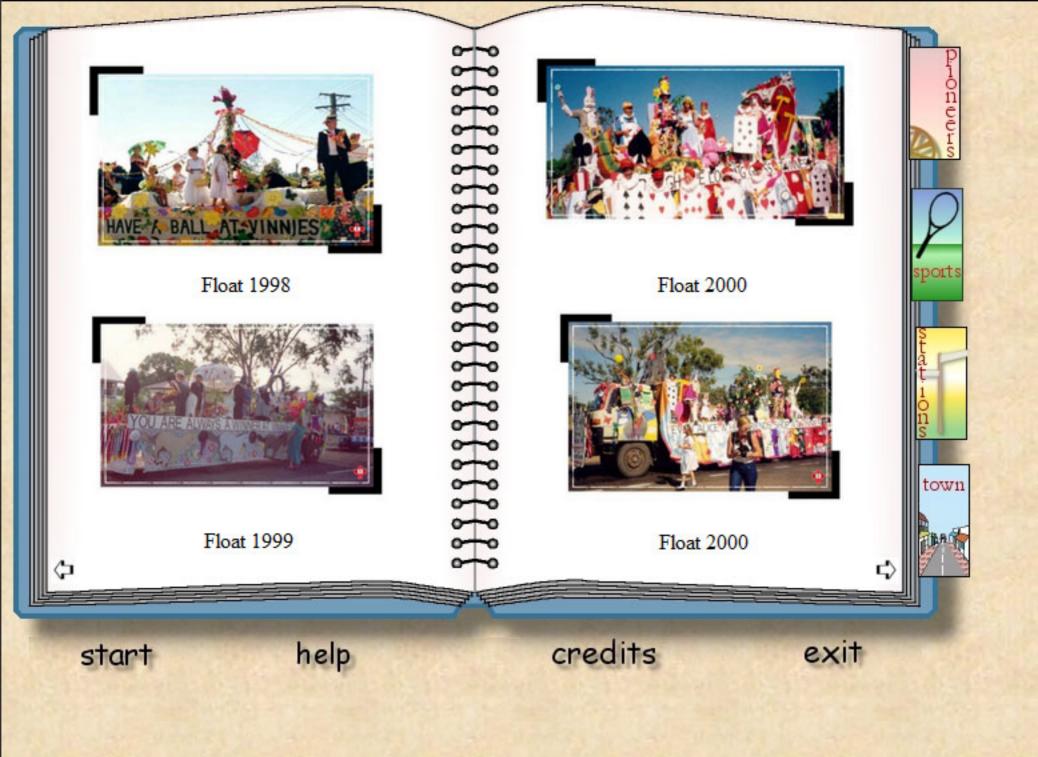


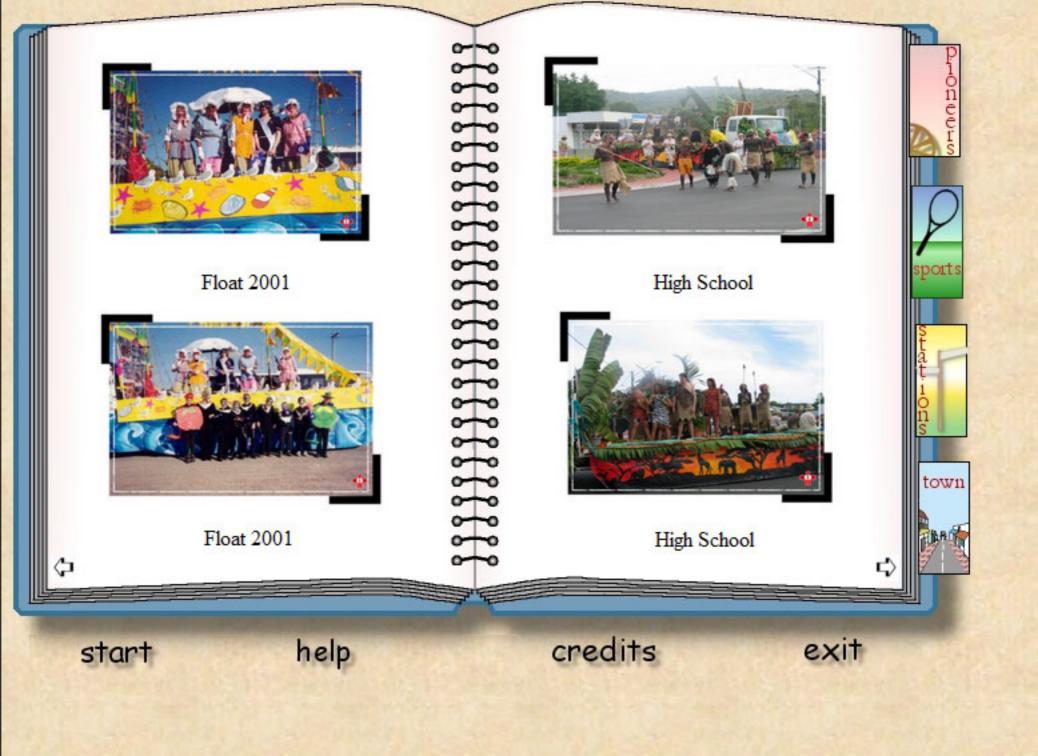














Collinsville Hospital



Collinsville Hospital



oneers

town

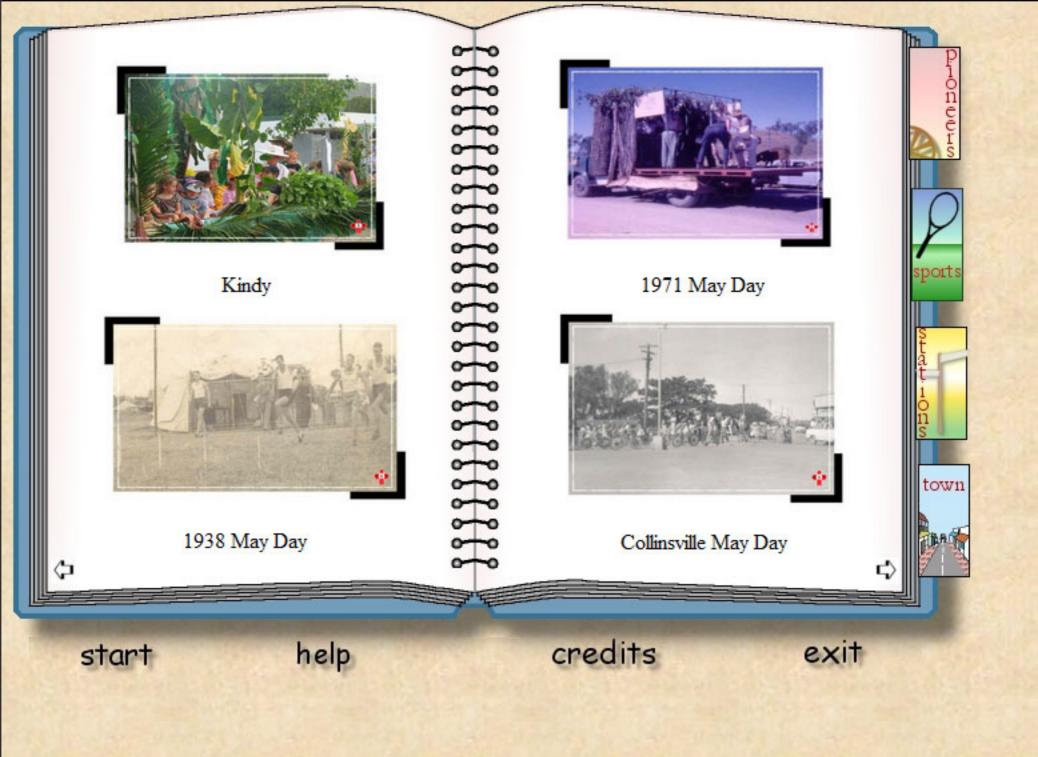
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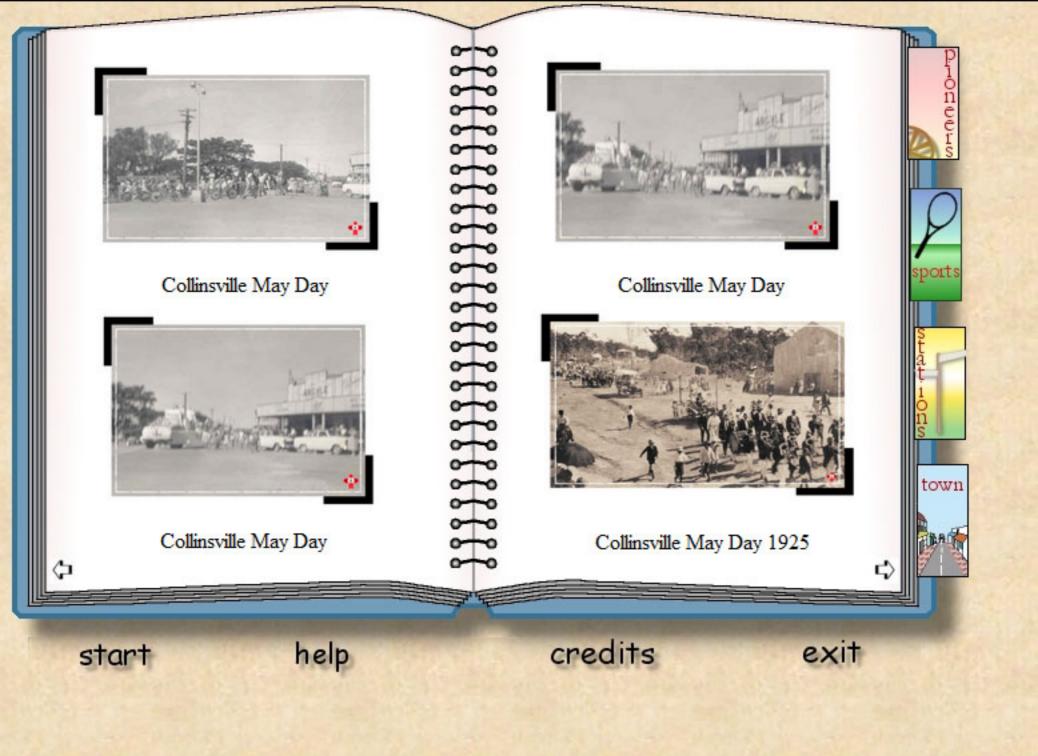


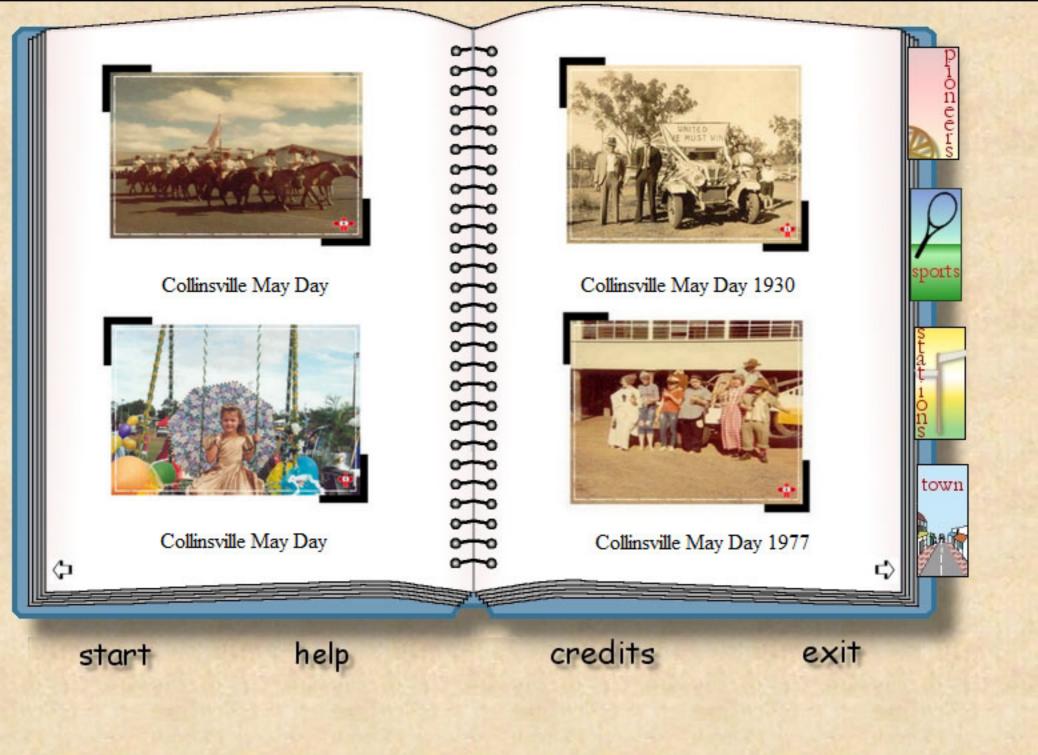
Kindy

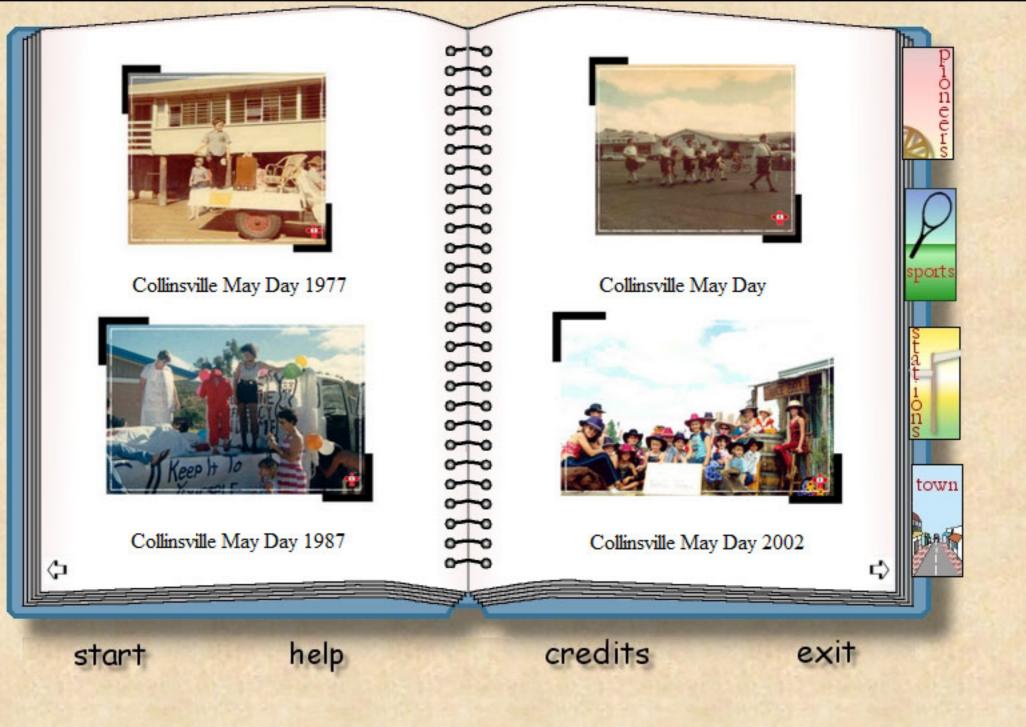
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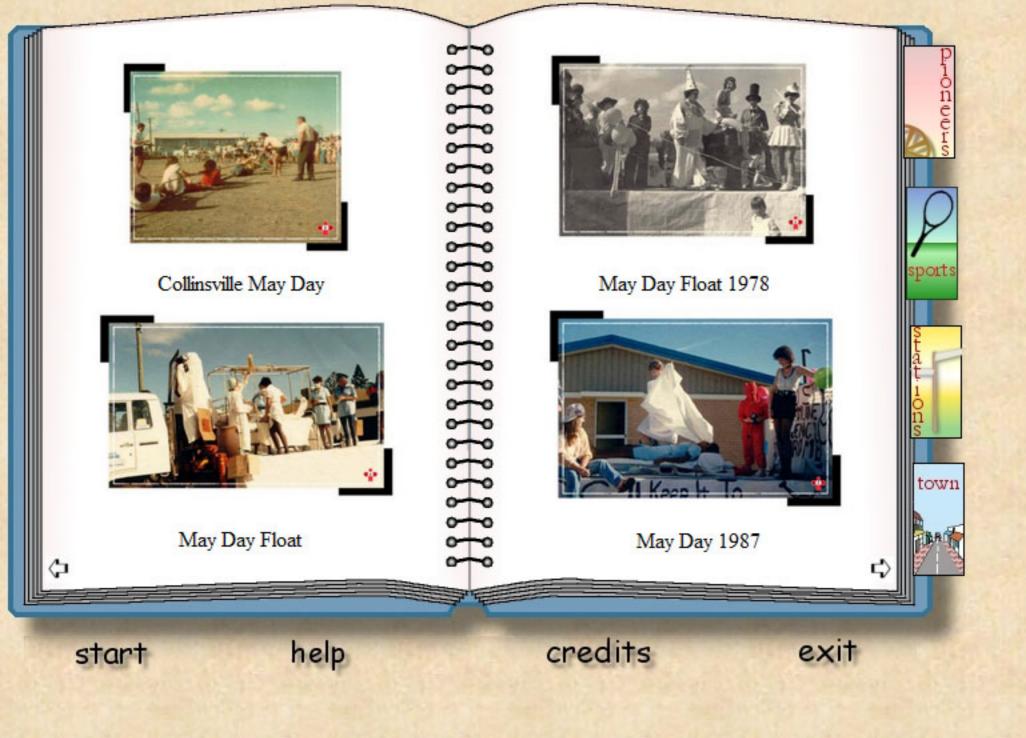
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May Day Float 1988



May Day Float 1988



oneers

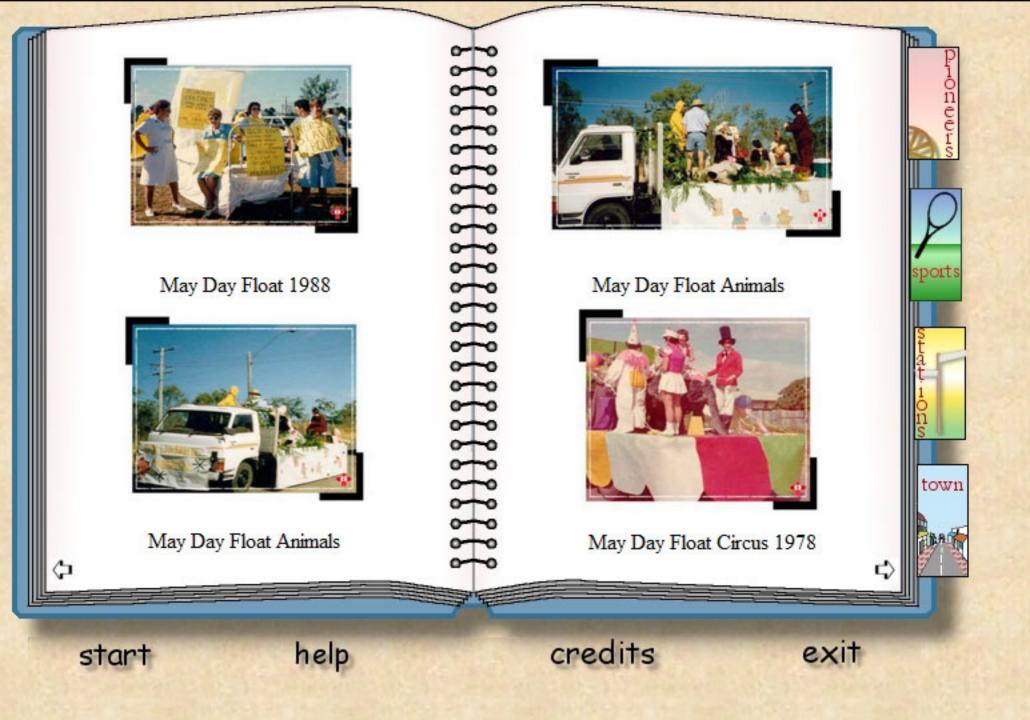
town

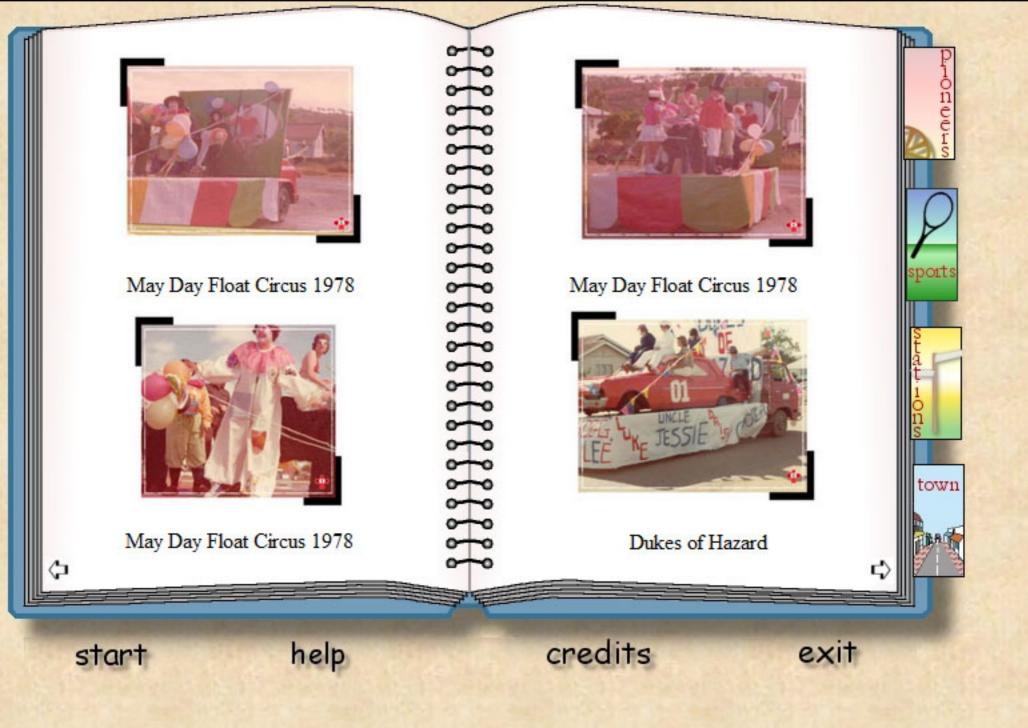
May Day Float



May Day Float 1988

start help credits exit







Dukes of Hazard



Give Blood Float



Give Blood Float



Nurses Float

start

help

credits

exit











Nurses Float



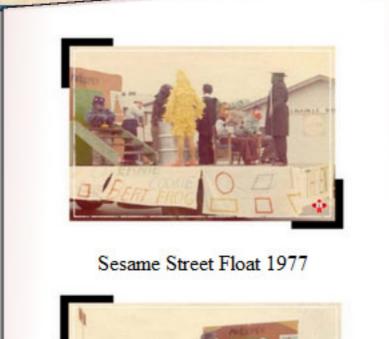
Operating Theatre Float



Operating Theatre Float

town

start help credits exit





Sesame Street Float 1977



Slip Slop Slap Float



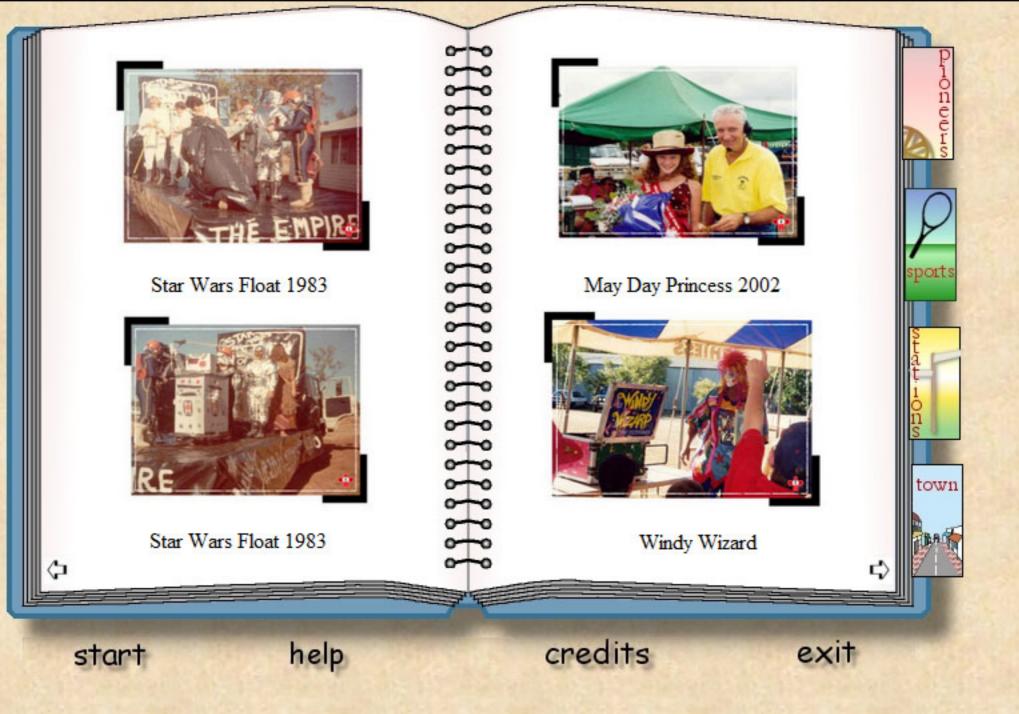
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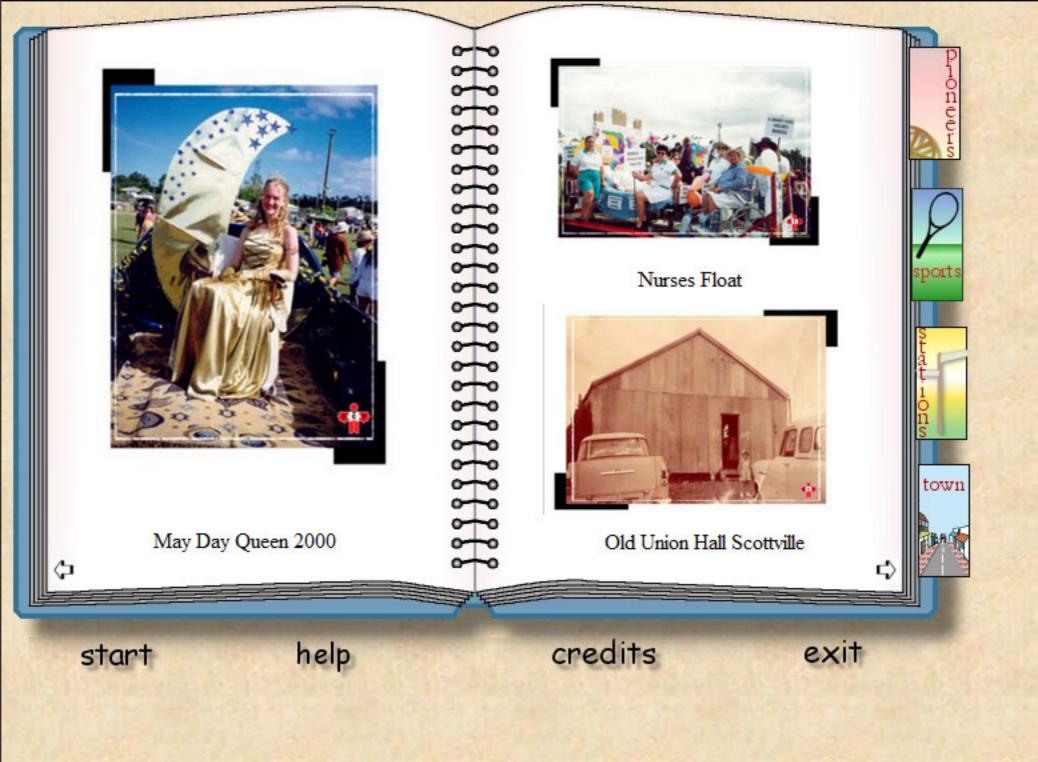
town

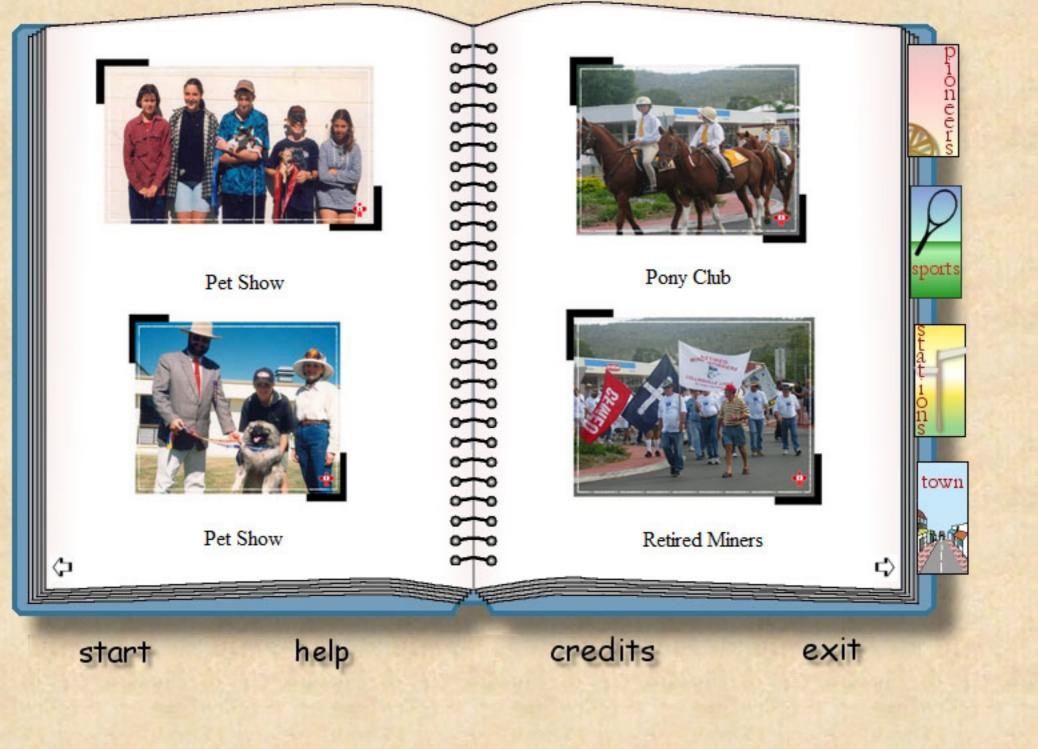
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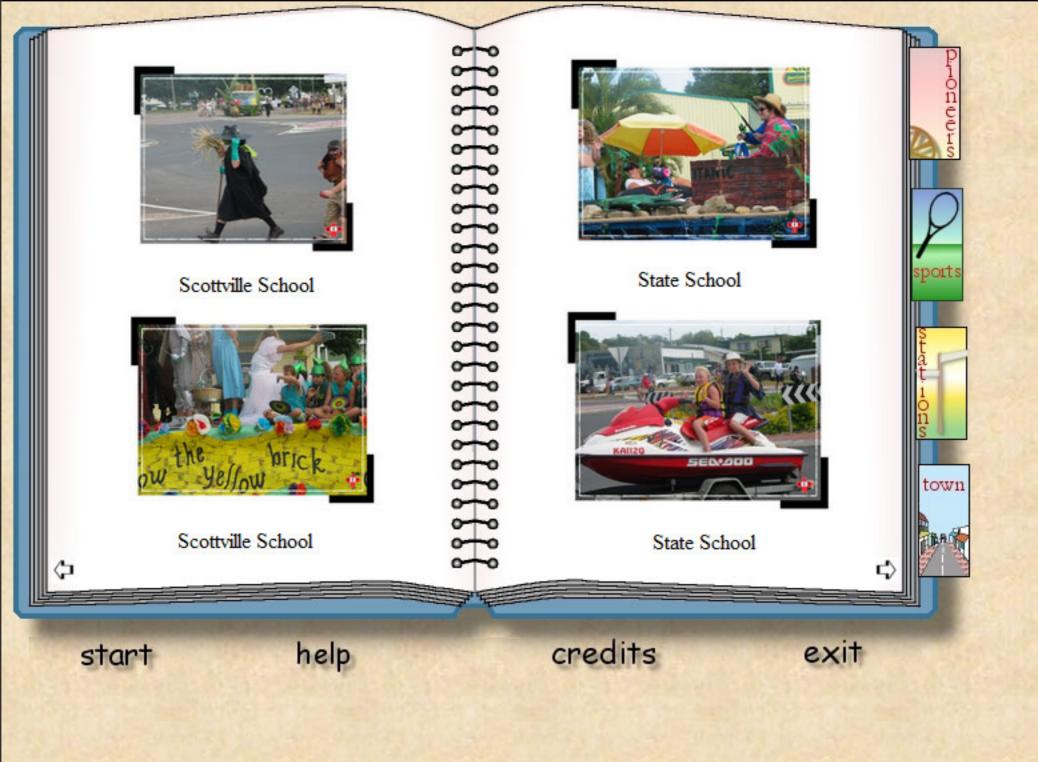
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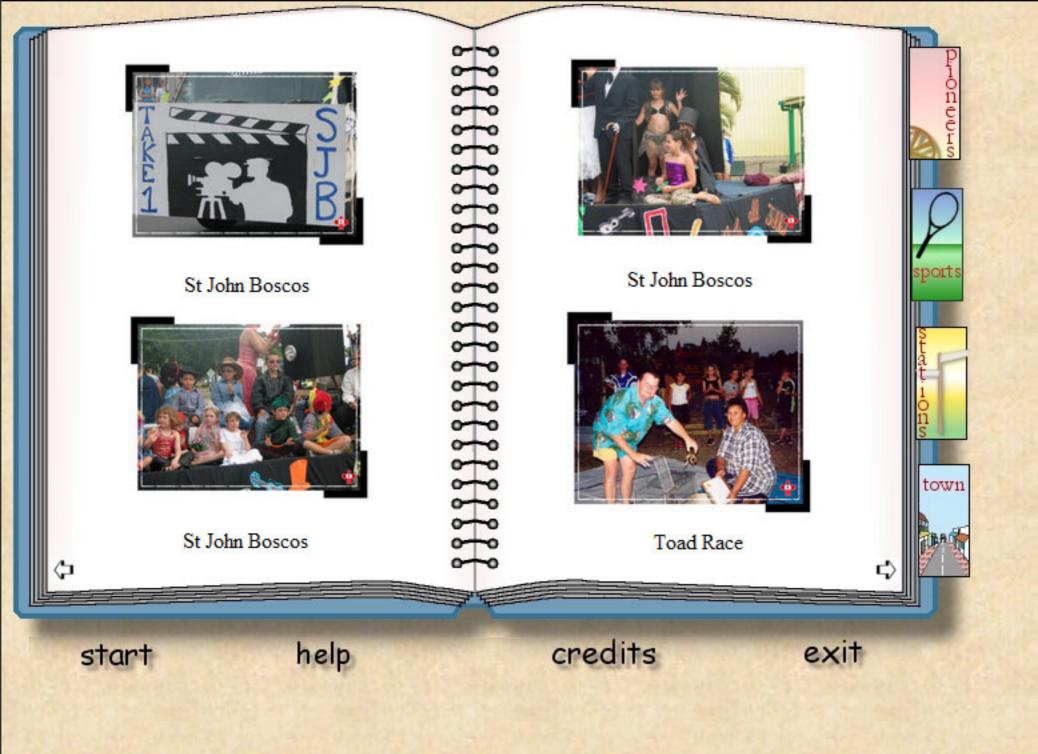
exit

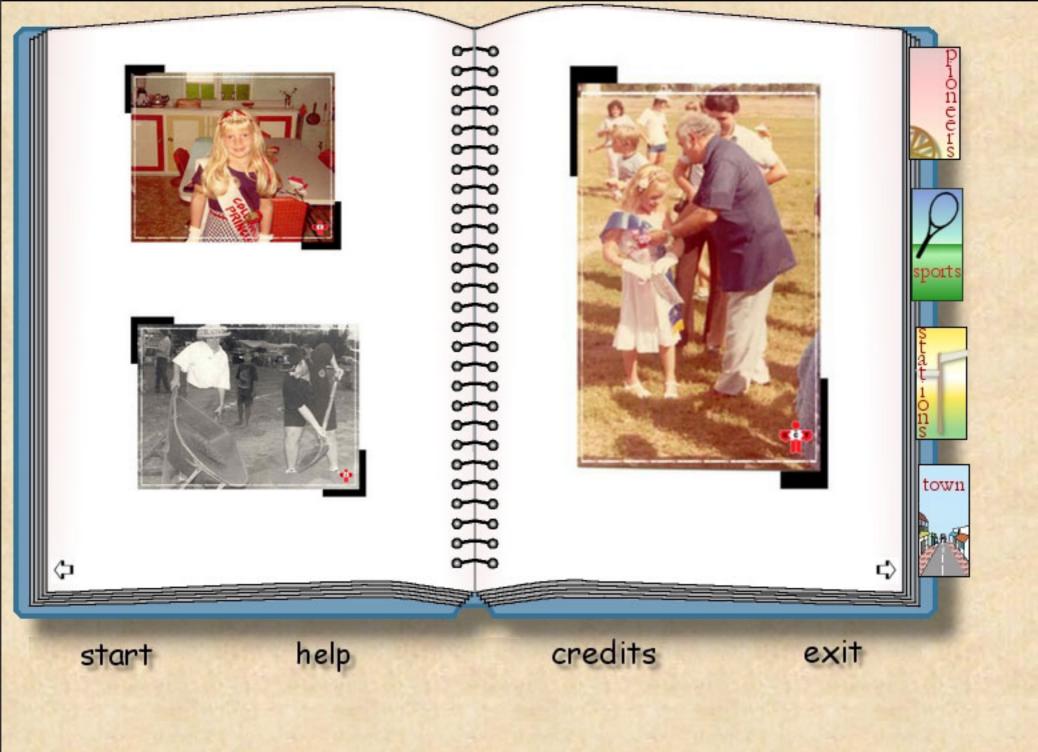


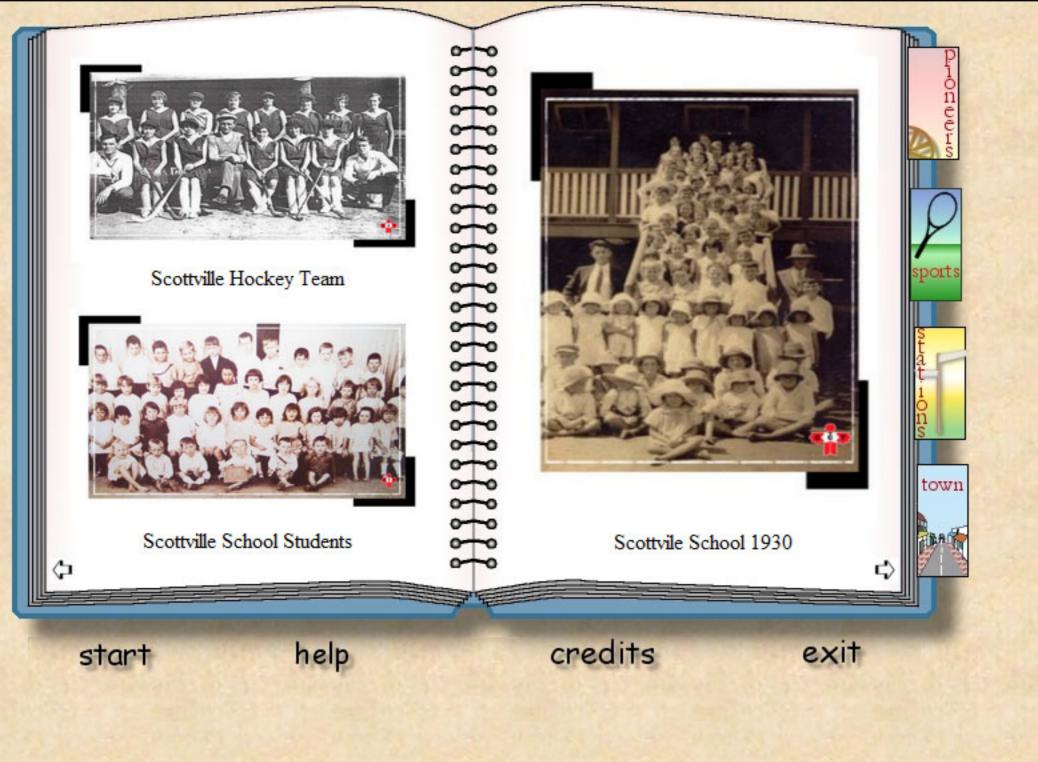


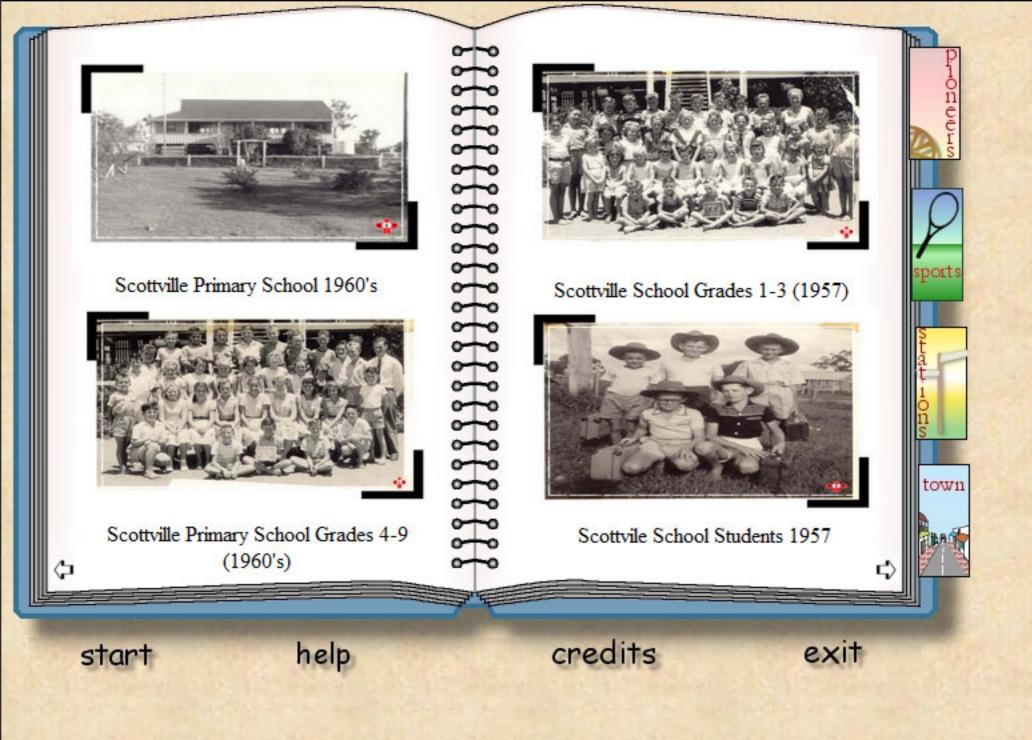






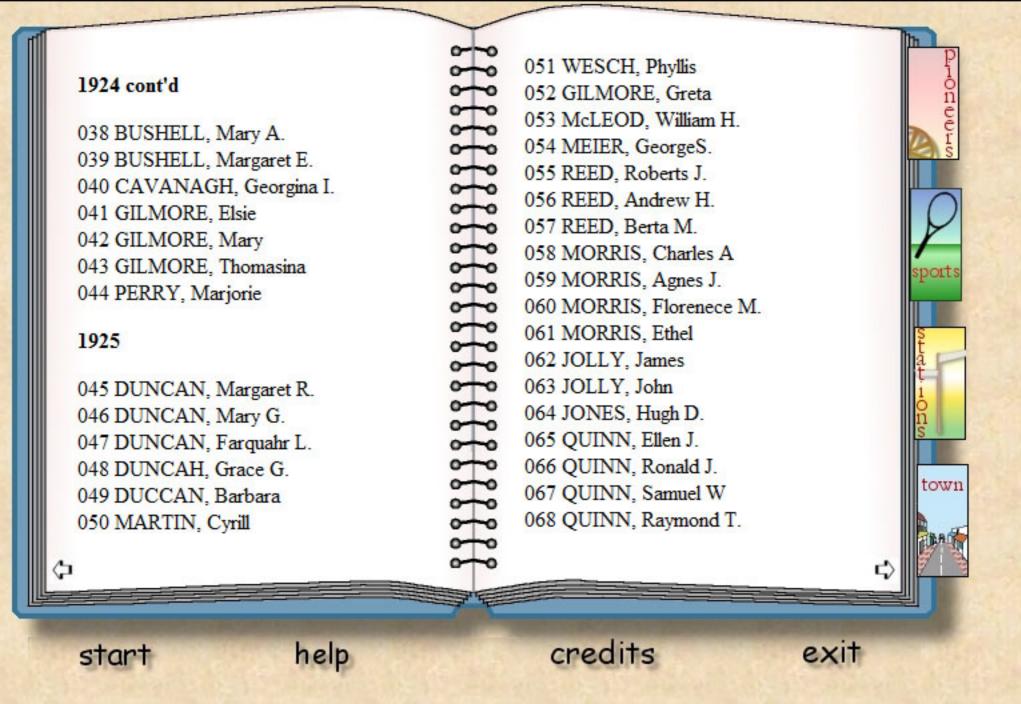


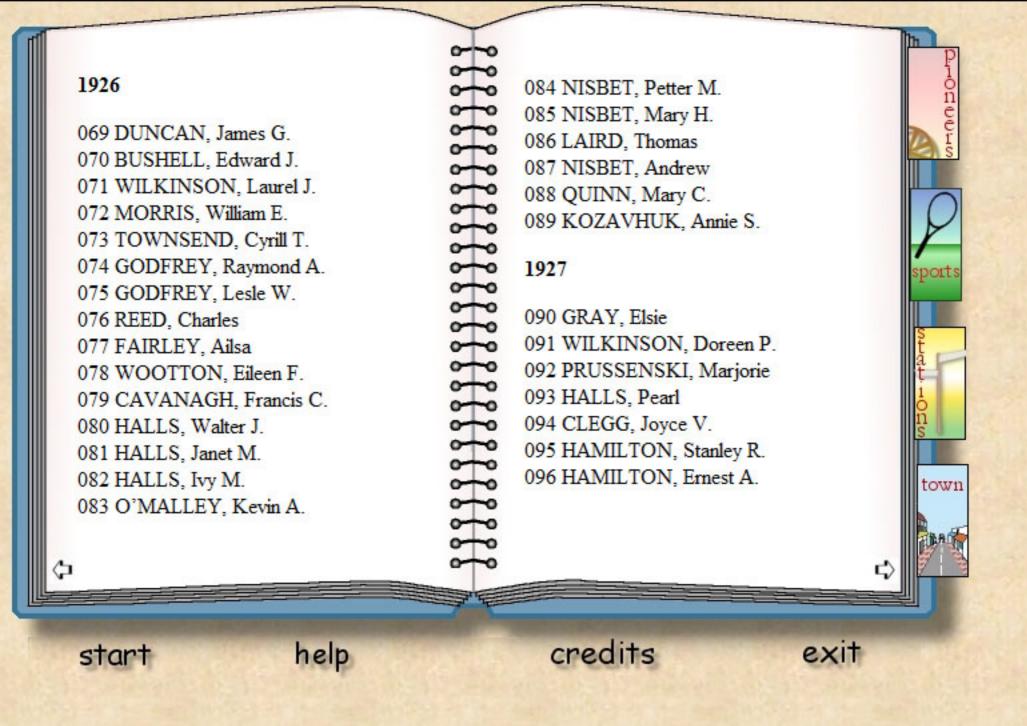


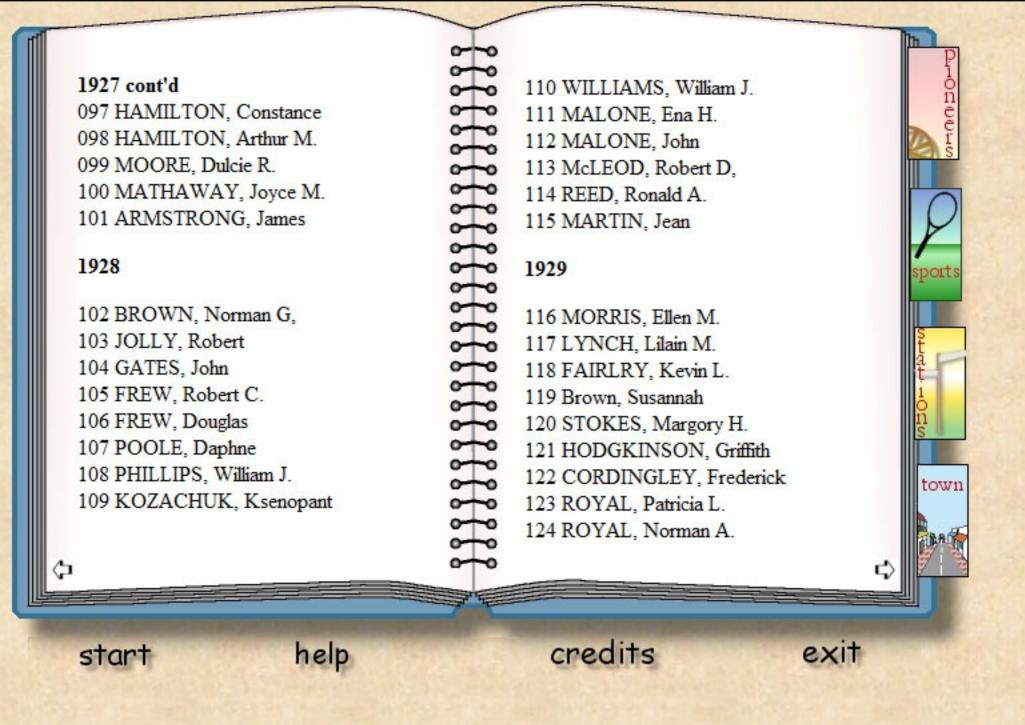


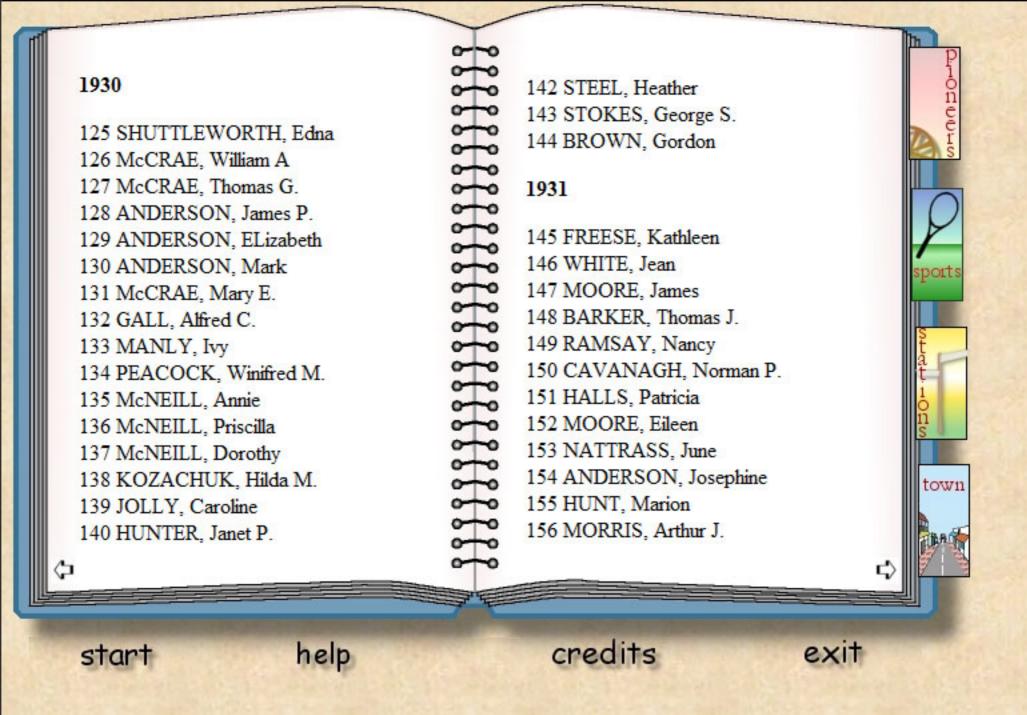
Scottville School Roll 018 WILKINSON, Edith 019 CAVANAGH, James P. 1924 020 LAIRD, Mary S. 001 JANSEN, Ivy F. 021 HATHAWAY, Gladys J. 002 TOON, Gladys F. 022 MARTIN, Francis J. 003 CAVANAGH, Philomena. 023 POOLE, Nita V. 004 LAIRD, Annie H. 024 JANSEN, Lousia 005 CAVANAGH, Annie E. 025 CAVANAGH, Agnes M. 006 HOFFMANN, Emlue E. 026 WILKISON, Alma G. 007 CAVANAGH, Paggy M. 027 POOLE, Nita V. 008 WILKINSON, Ernest H. 028 MARTIN, Reginald G. 009 MARTIN, Norman E. 029 O'DWYER, Vincent P. 010 JANSEB, Richard A. 030 LAIRD, James H. 011 LAIRD, Matthew 031 JONES, Richard O. 012 WILKINSON, Cleve 032 JONES, Merionwen 013 MARTIN, Clearence A. 033 JONES, Margaret E. 014 POOLE, Dorothy A. town 034 JONES, Gwen E. 015 HATHAWAY, Thelma R. 035 DAMKE, Edwin L. 016 JANSEN, Rita M. 036 BUSHELL, Thomas 017 HOFFMANN, Rechel F. 037 BUSHELL, Annie

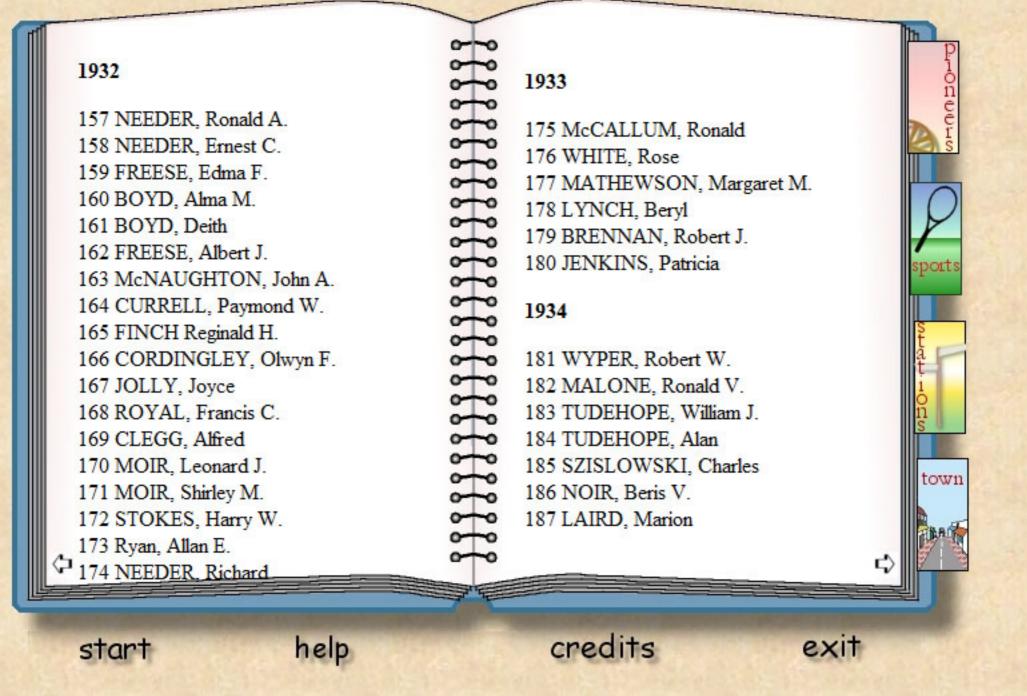
start help credits exit

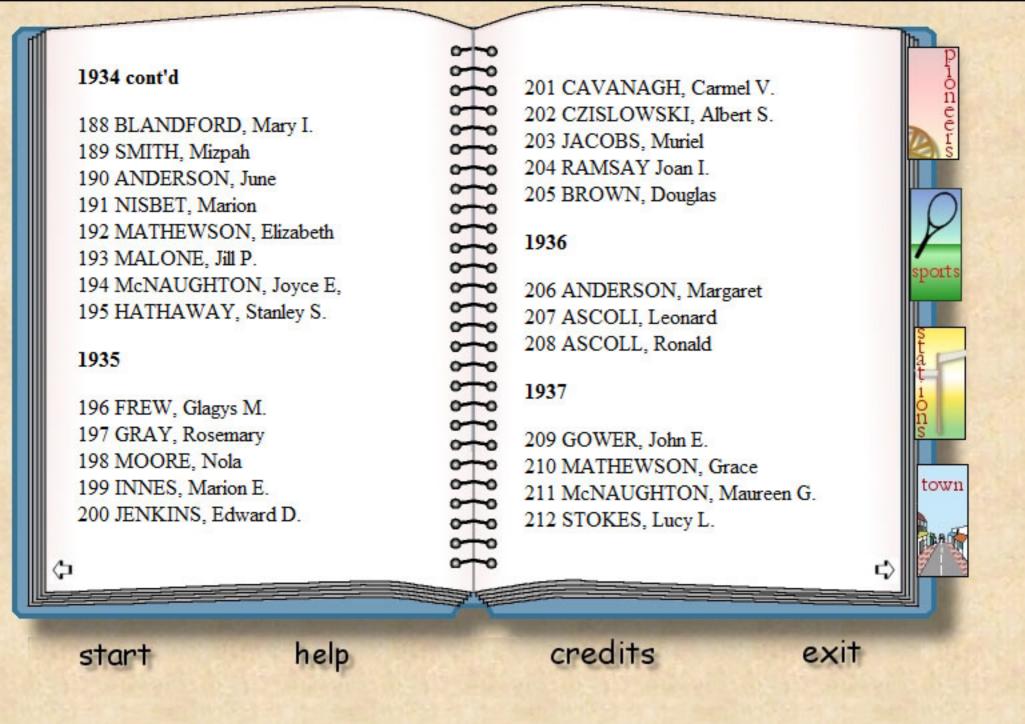


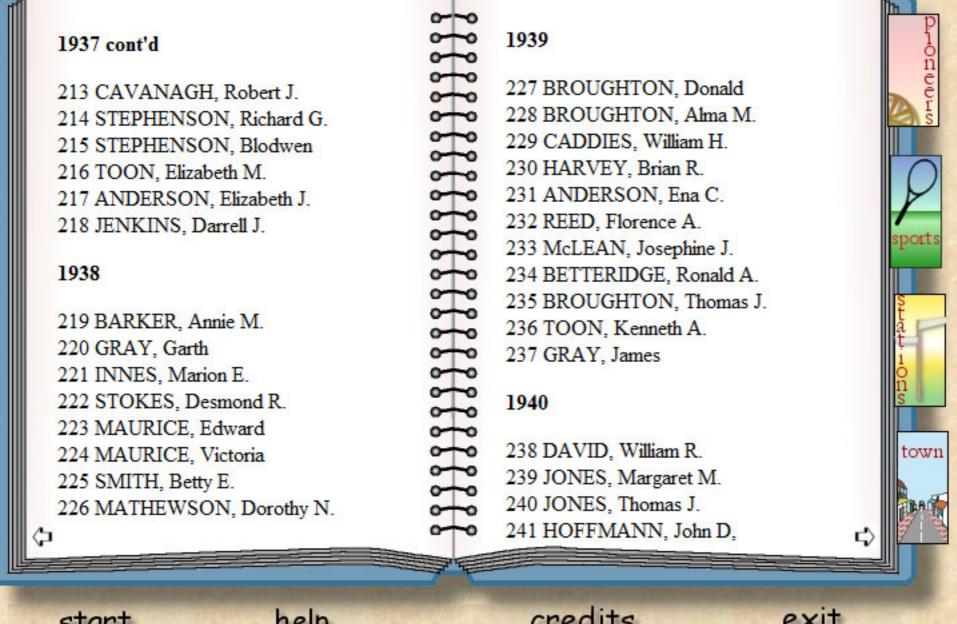




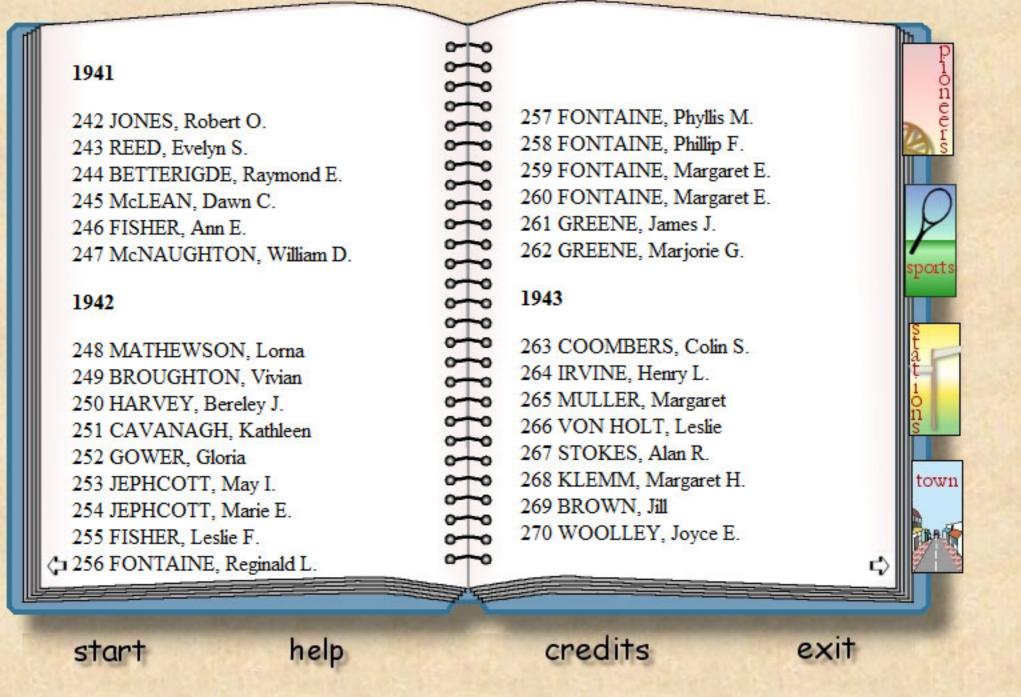


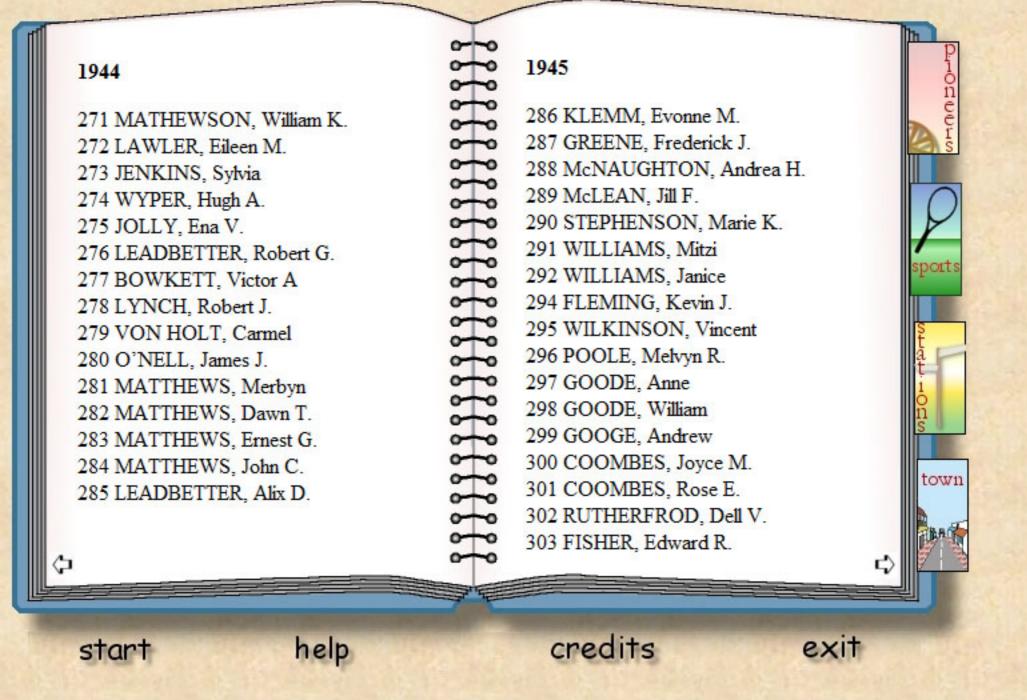


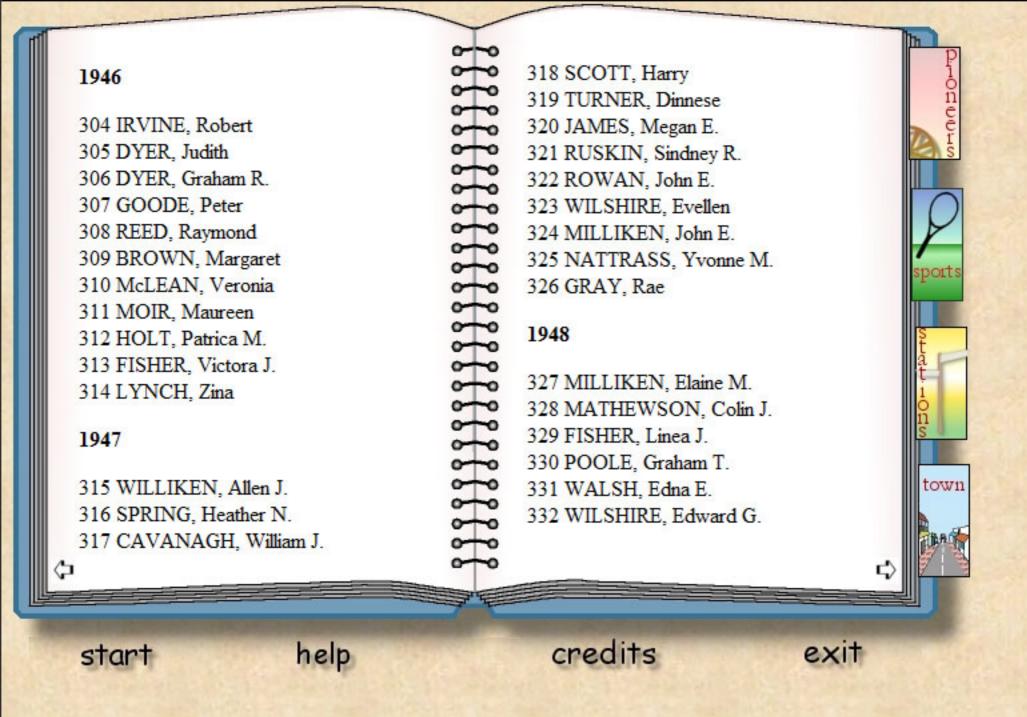


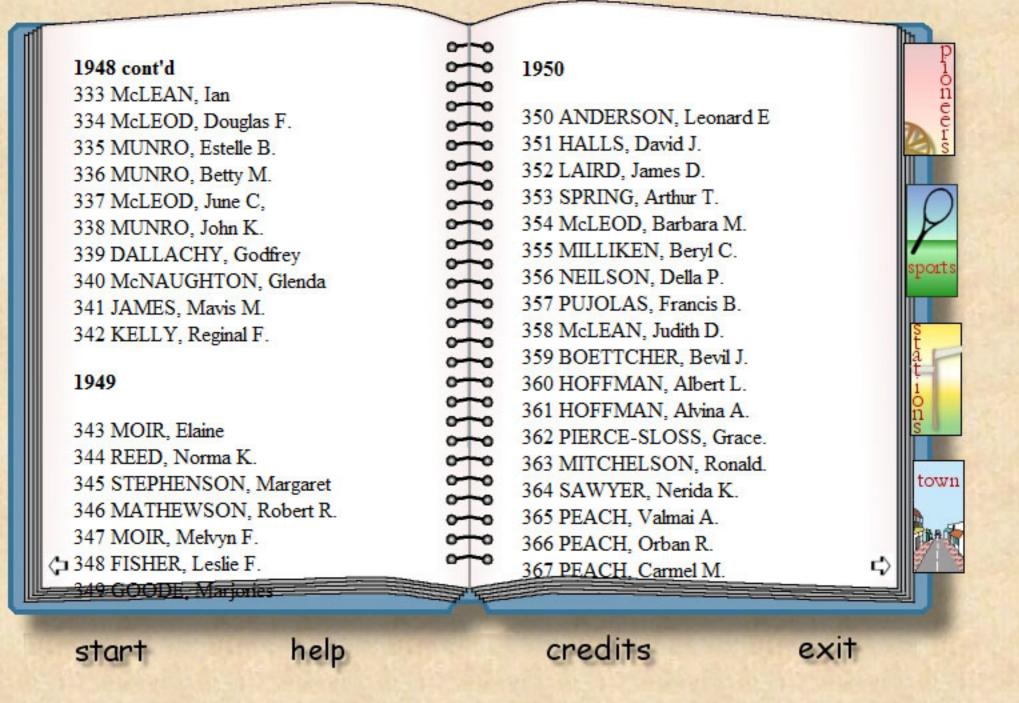


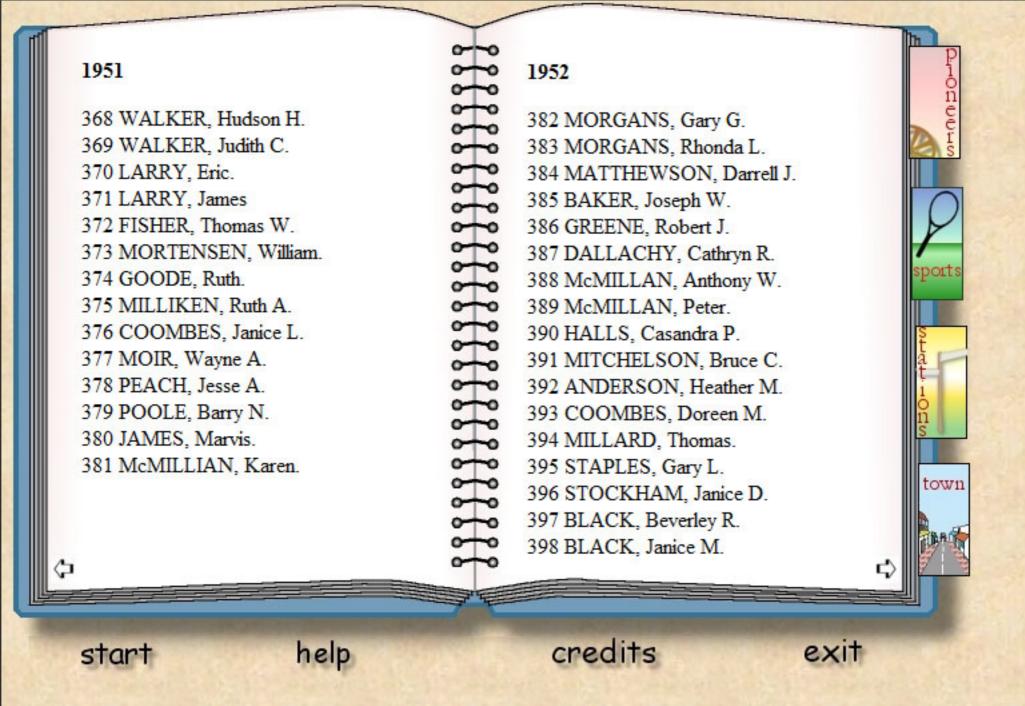
credits exit start help

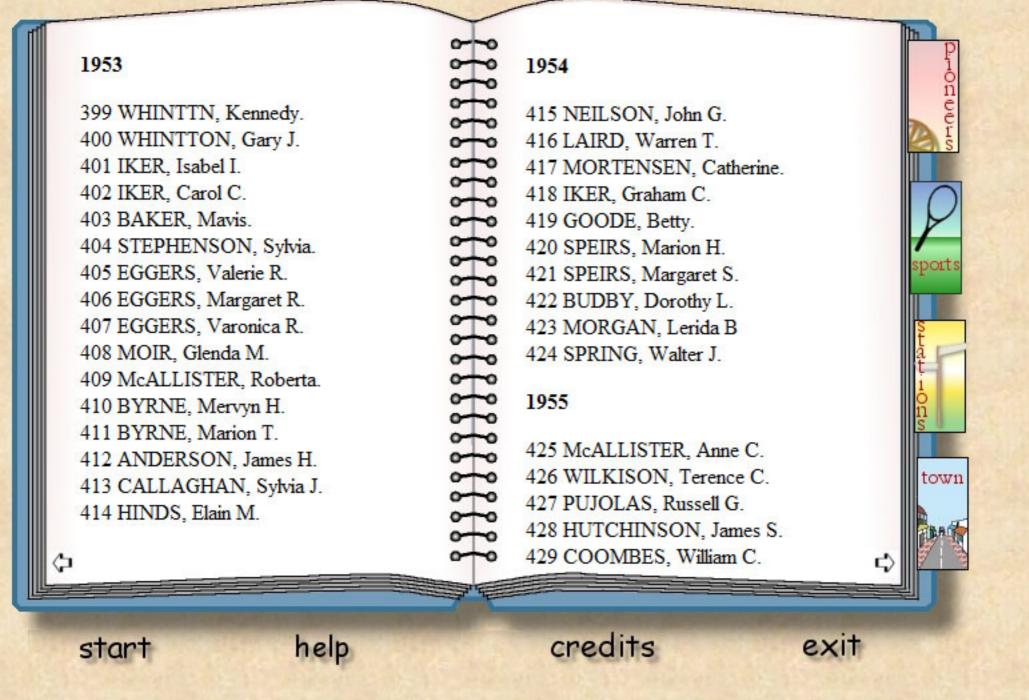


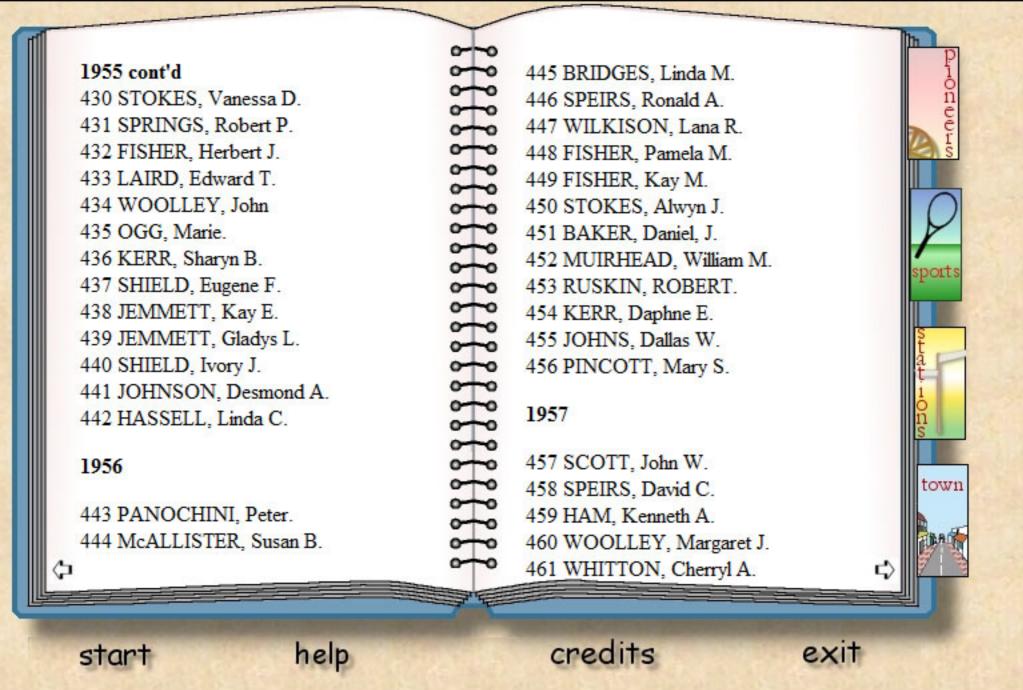


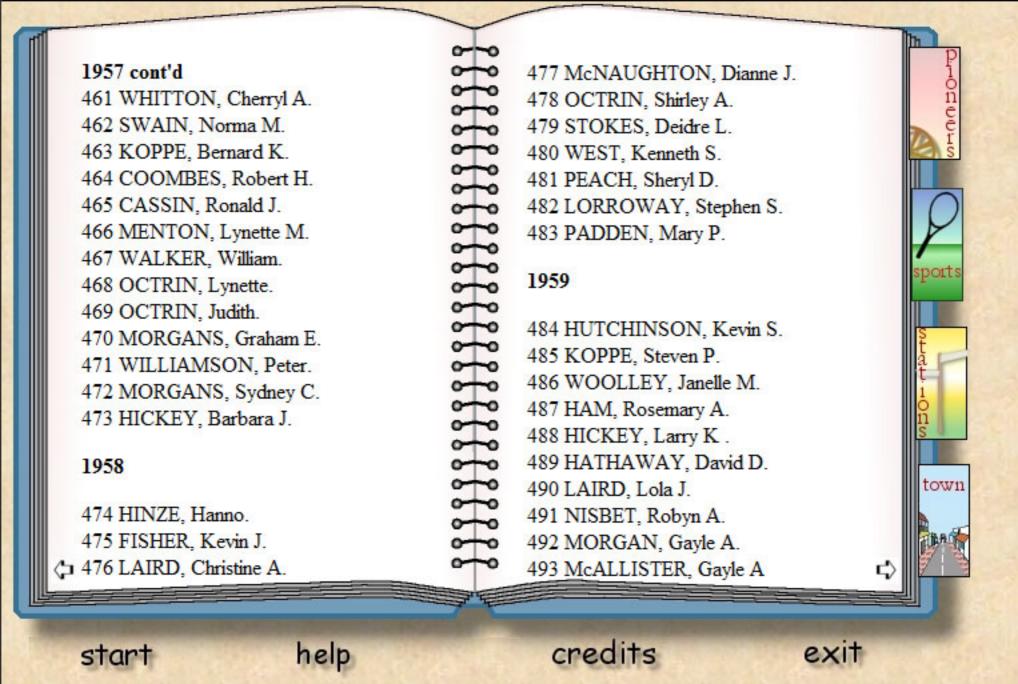


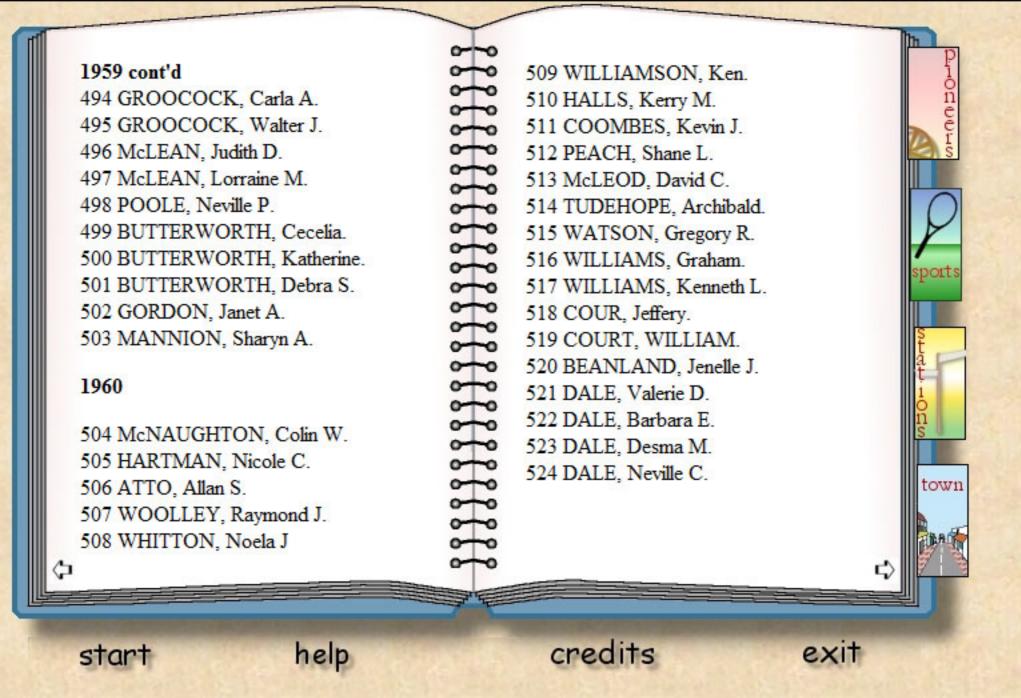


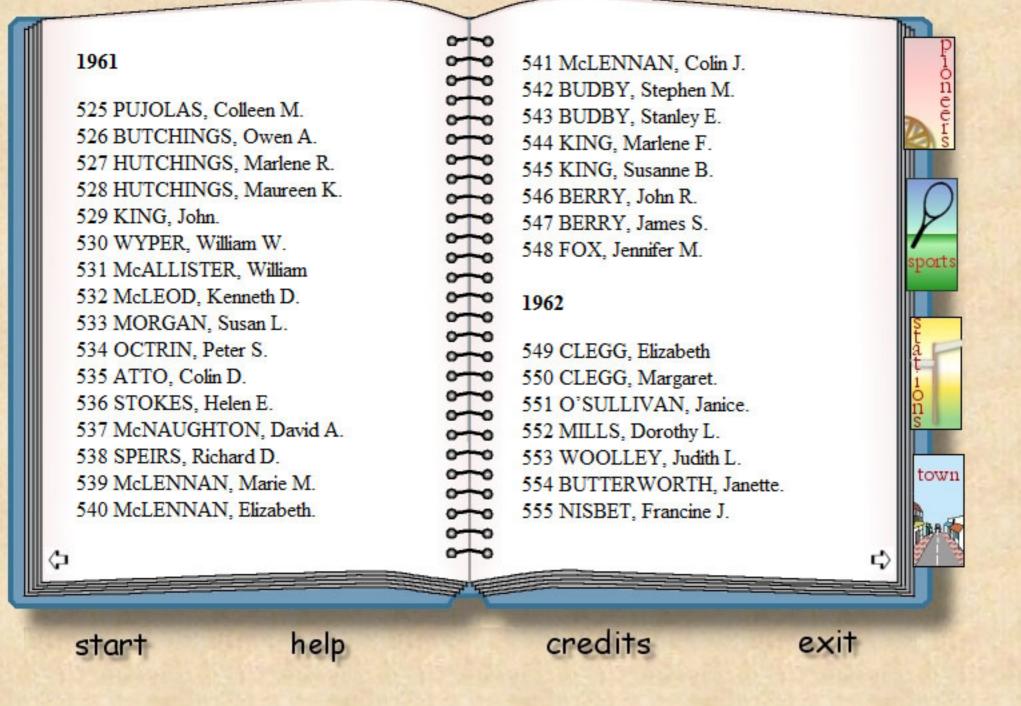


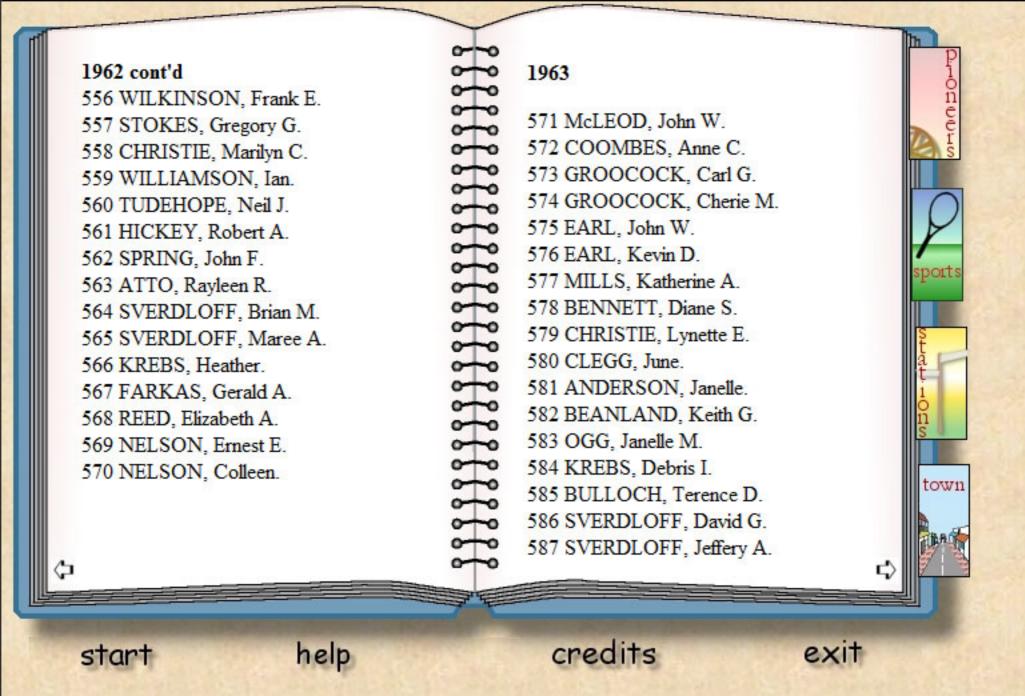


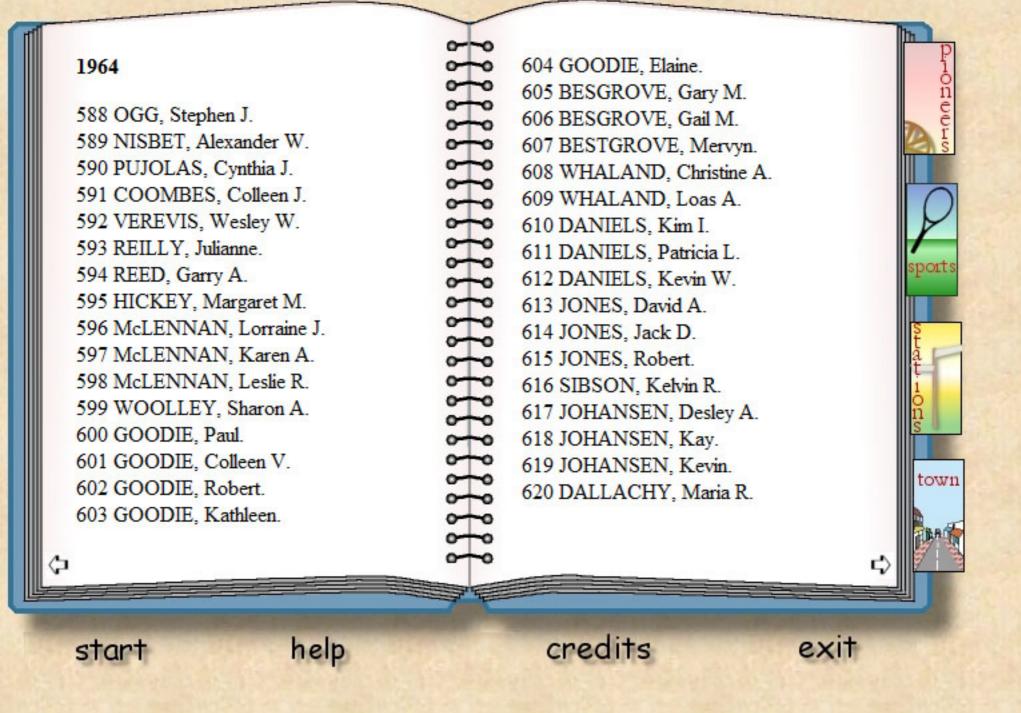


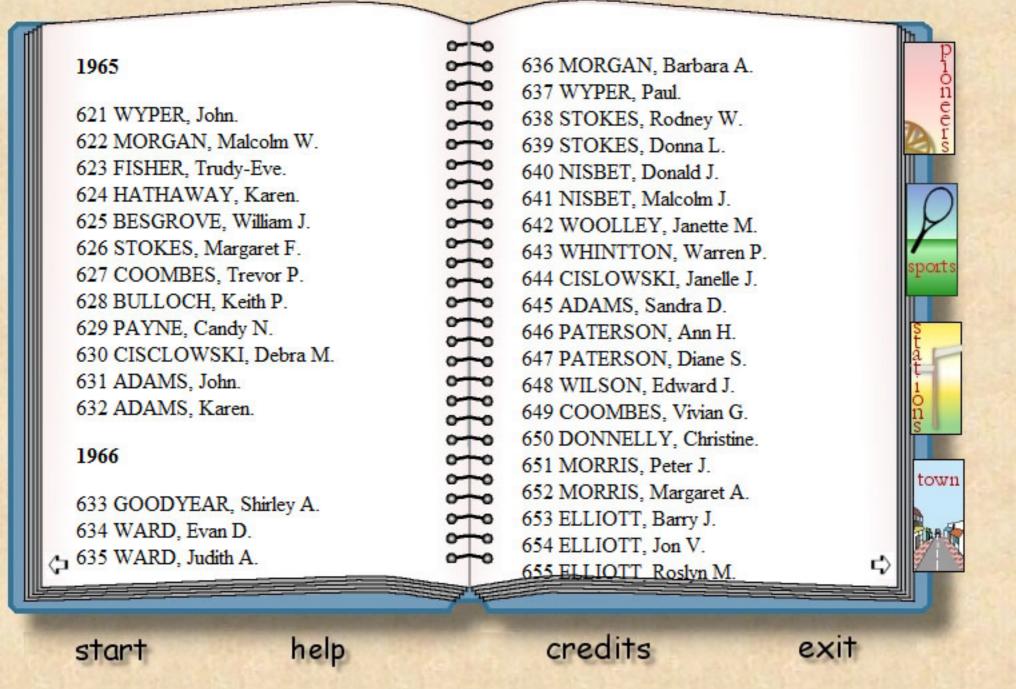


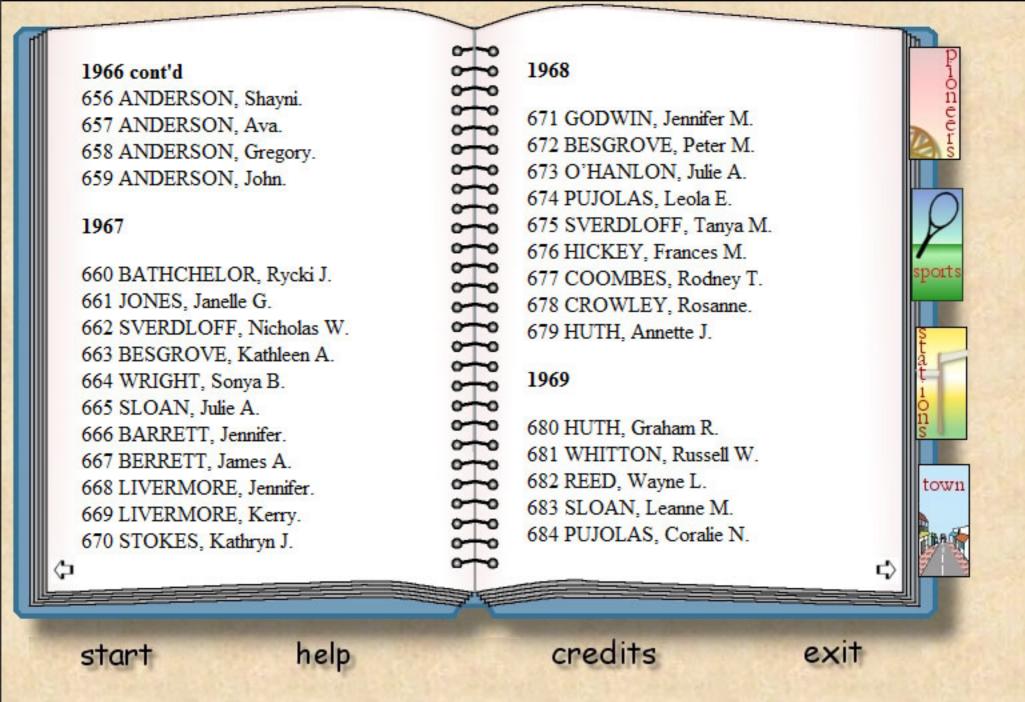


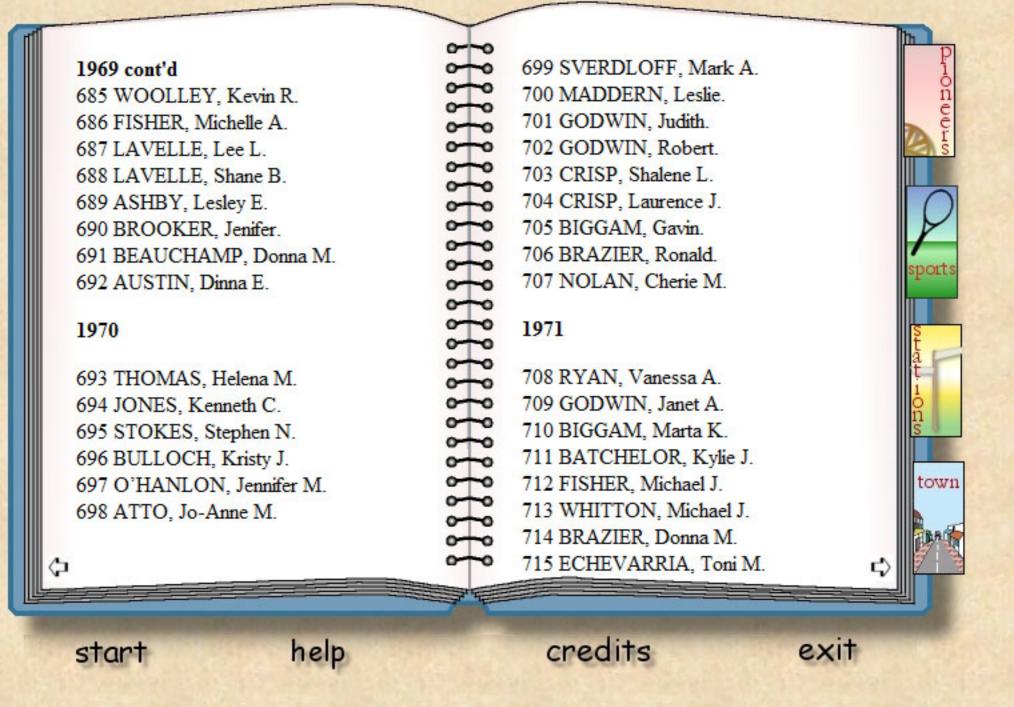


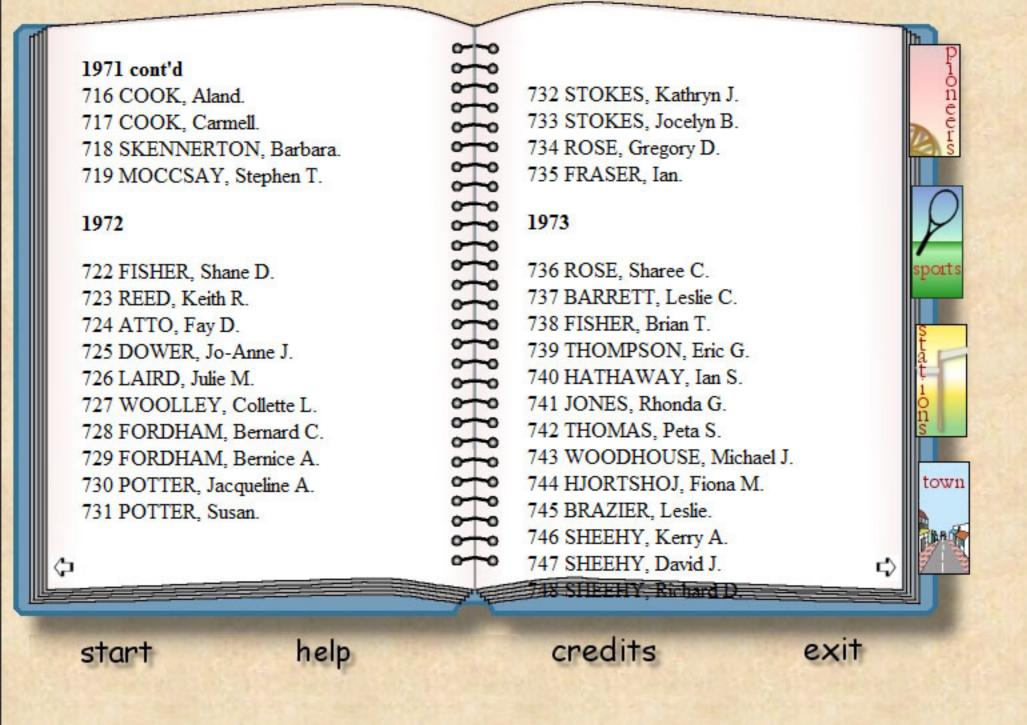


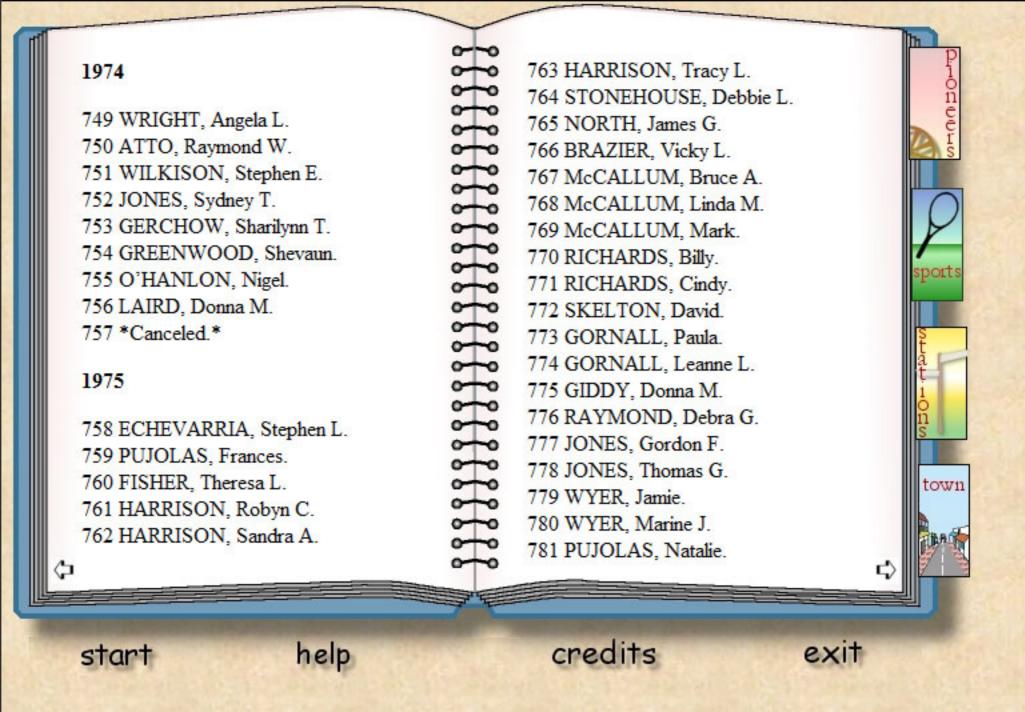


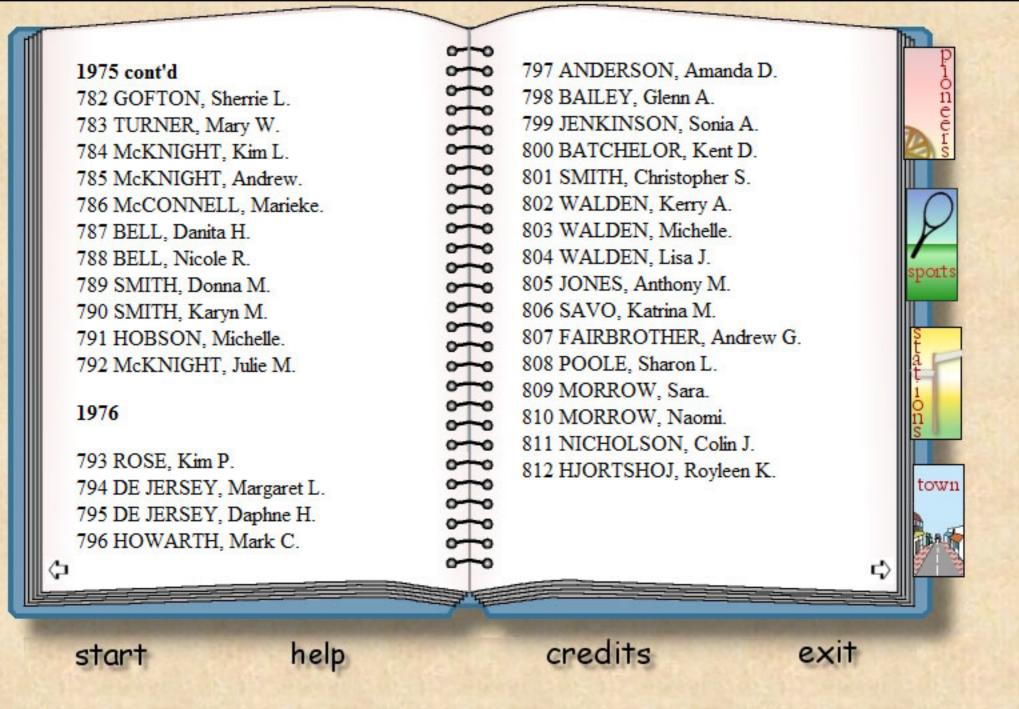


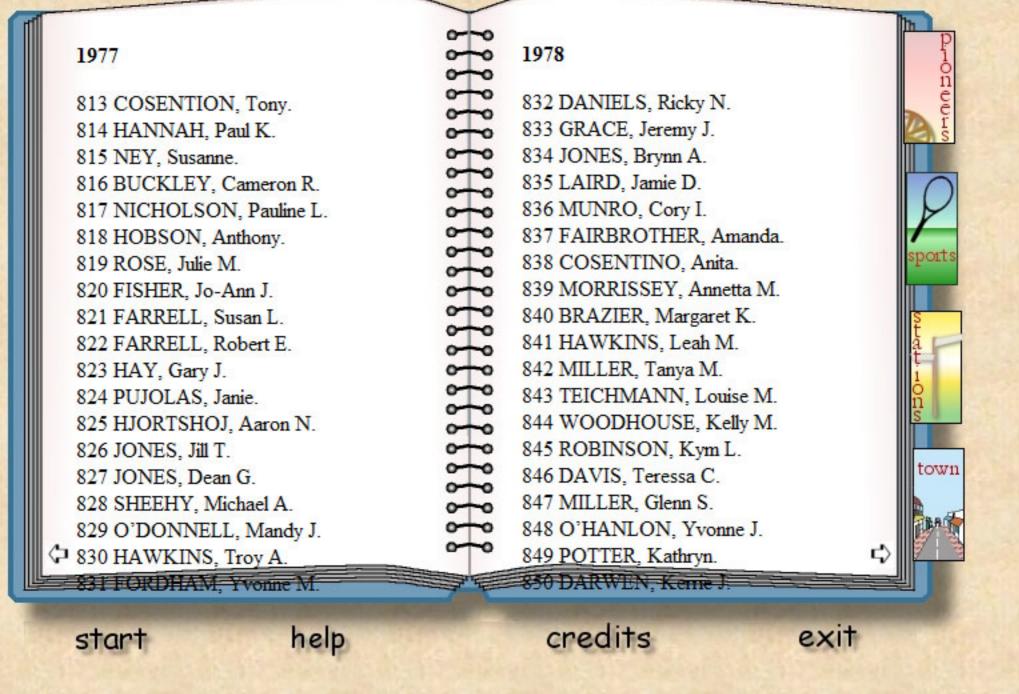


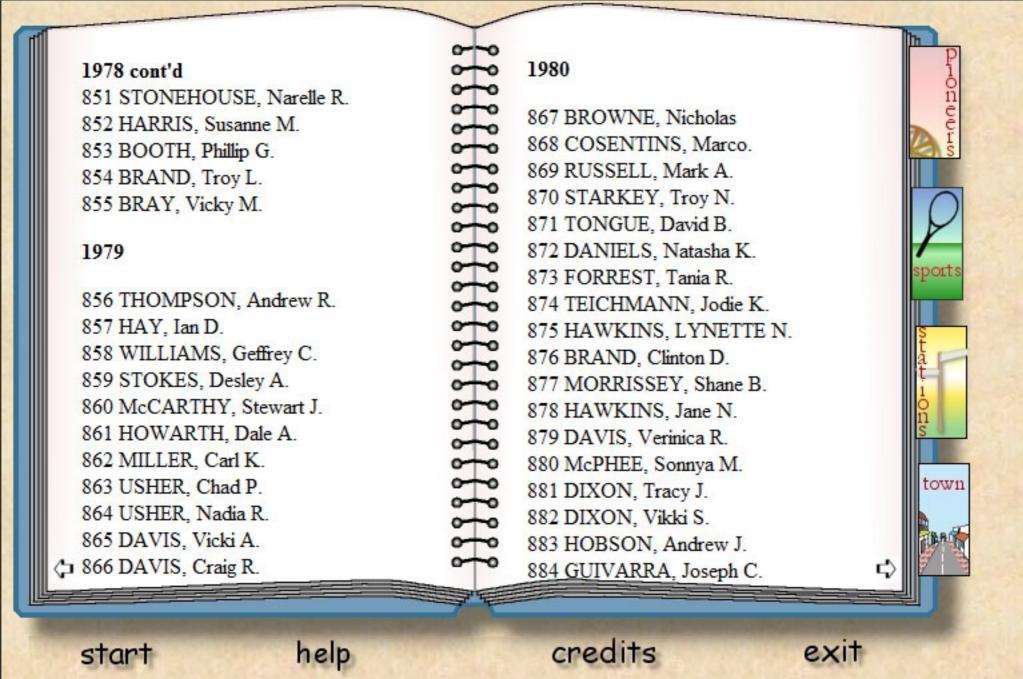


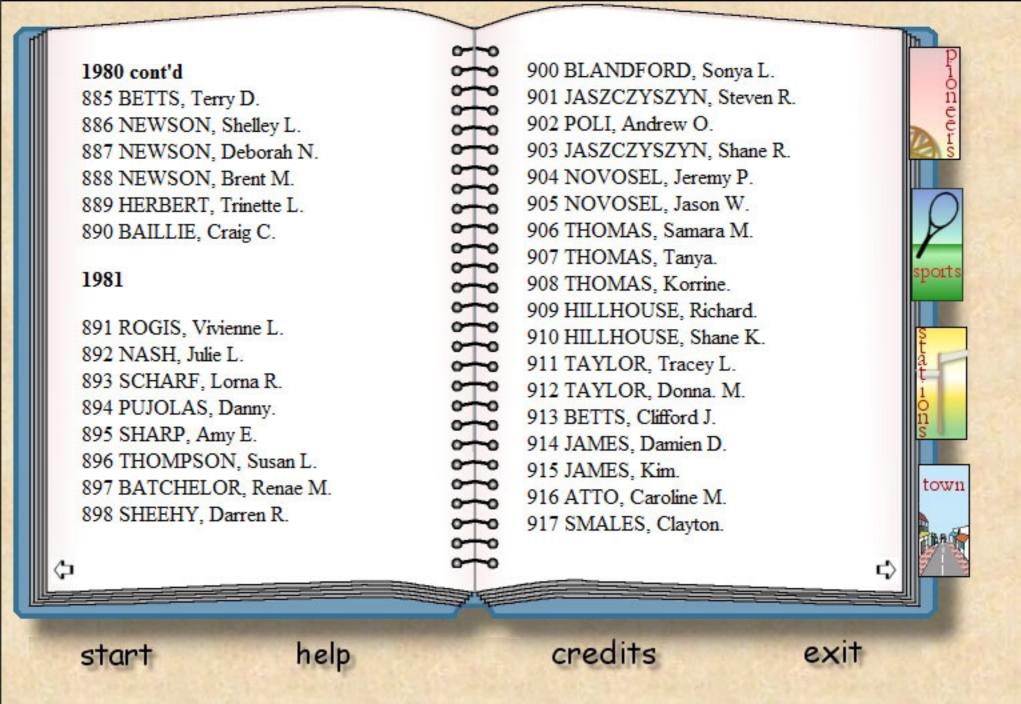


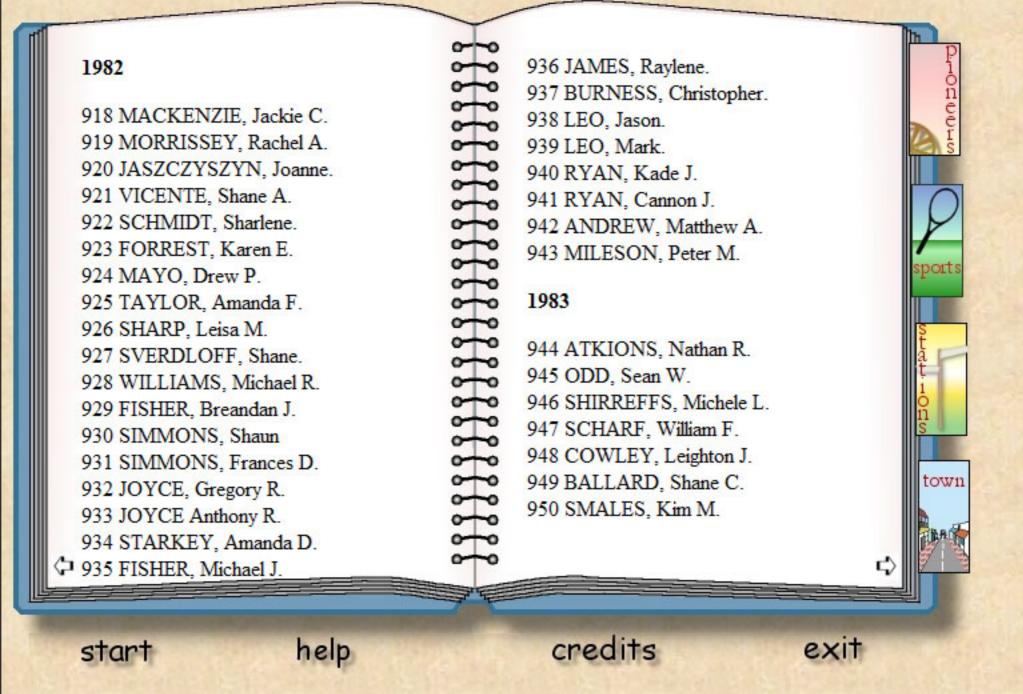


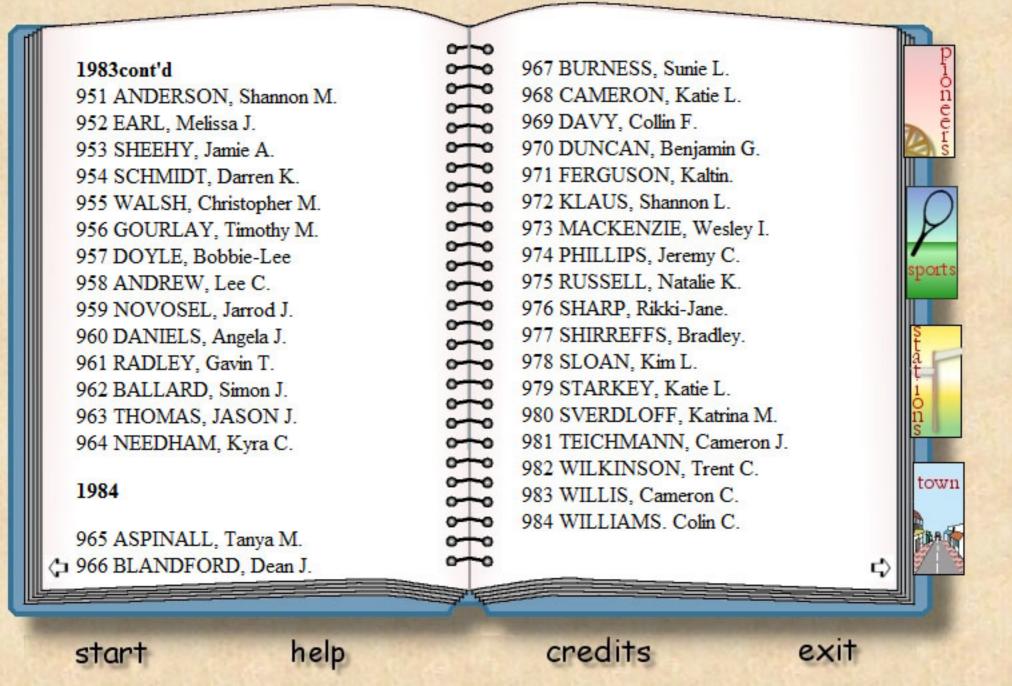












The Collinsville Turf Club Gwen Fell.

The first racetrack was at Scottville, around the then Scottville Hotel that was owned by Vince Malone. From there the track was moved to over the Scottville Hill, then to today's Golf Club Fairway. Later the track was moved to the Old Town With the donation of ground from Mr. Massy of Sonoma Station in the early 1930's, the present racetrack was set up. President at the time was H. Williams and Mick Walker was the secretary. Some who were racing horses at the time were G. Williamson, W. & C. Groocock, I. McFadzen, H. & C. Black, E. Cunningham, Bob Brennan, E. & M. Hannan, J. Hamilton, H. Edmunds, W. Jacques, Jim Gordon, Cody Wilkinson, W. Gall and E. Morray Snr

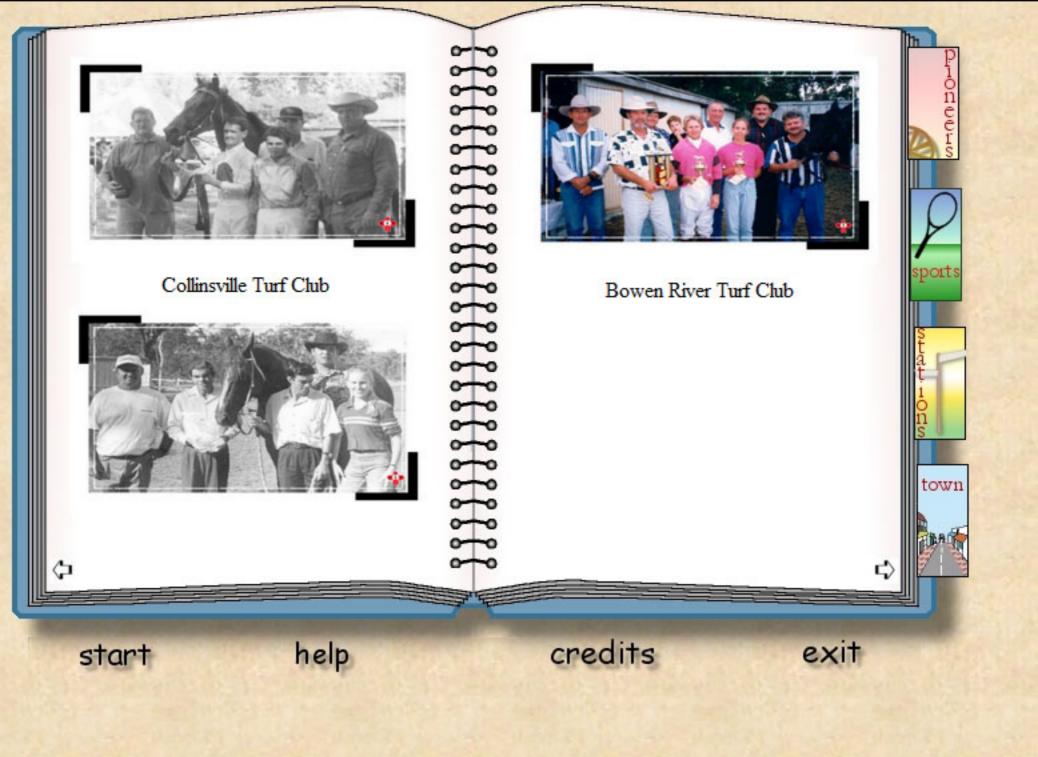
An amateur jockey recalls riding Dongan for W. Gall with the prize money being fifteen pounds. There have been no races held in Collinsville since 1998.

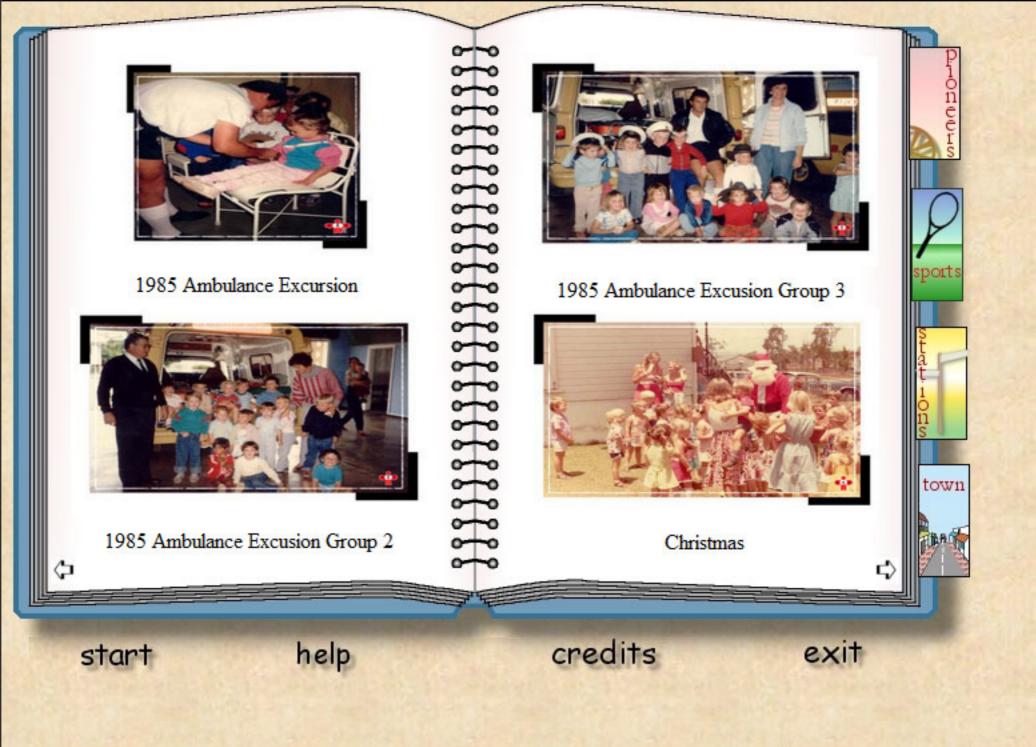
oneers

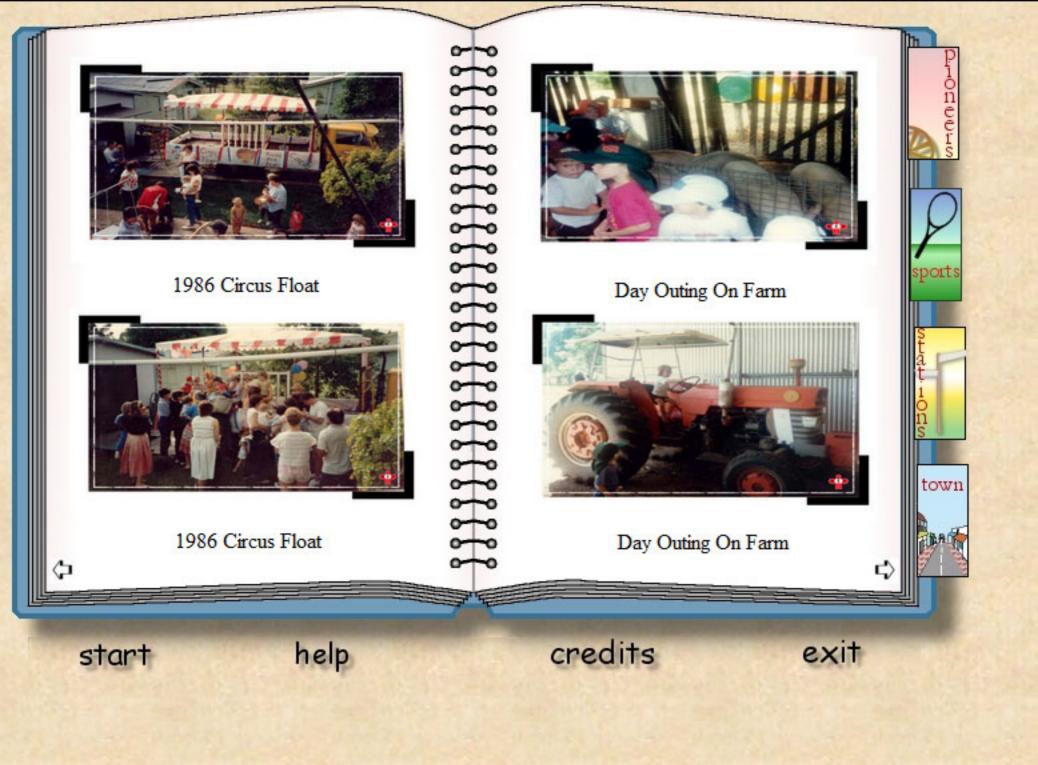
town

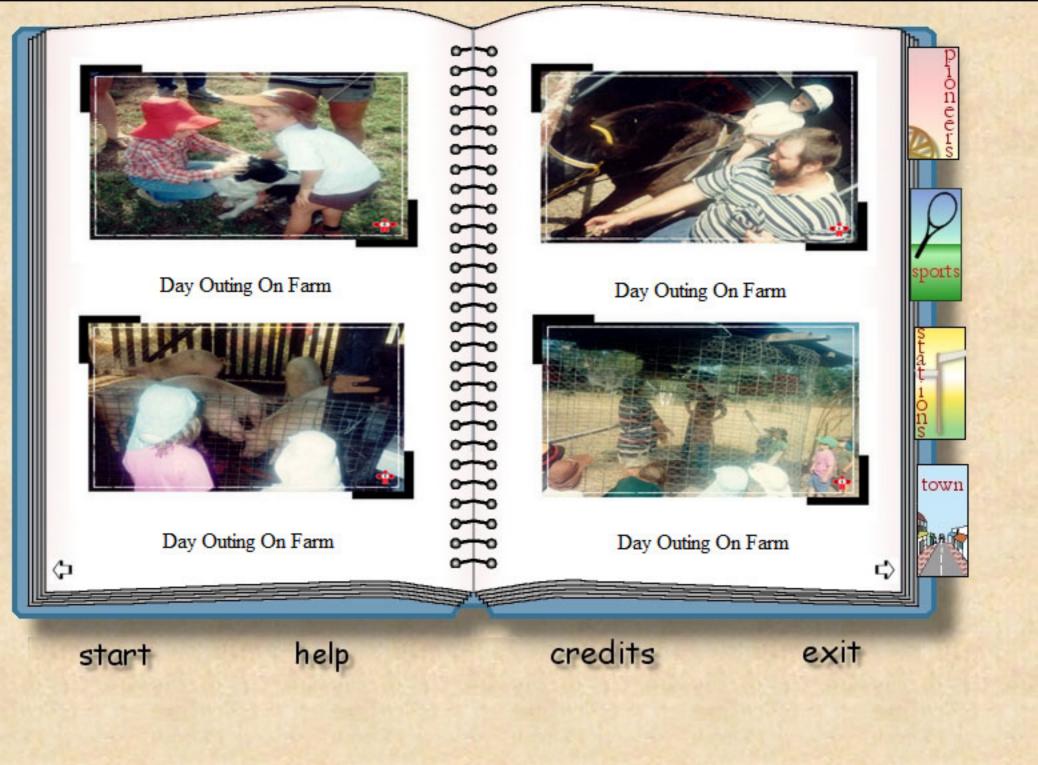
Charlie Groocock was a great supporter and patron of the Collinsville Turf Club. He owned and trained horses. His motto was "Feed and train them well. They will run on their merits. If they win, it's another bag of feed, if they lose, it's exercise.". Charlie's job at the mine was to attend to the pit ponies. He could hot shoe. At Christmas he washed the grey pit pony with Omo and on the evening of the miners' Christmas tree would arrive at the hall with Santa beside him, much to the delight of the children.

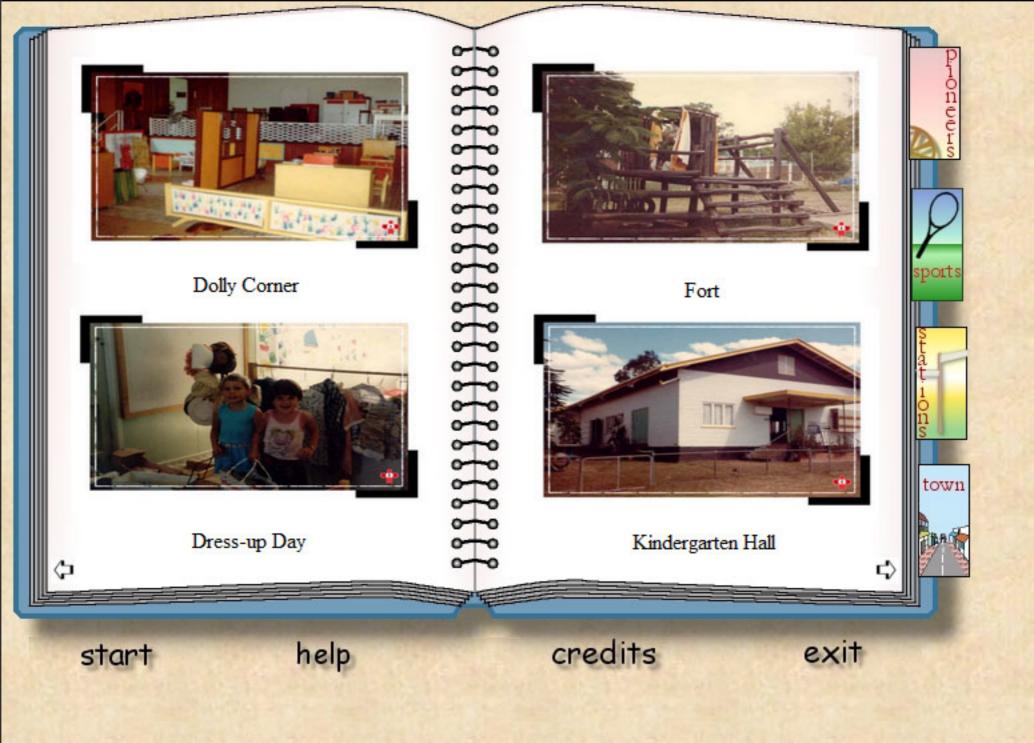
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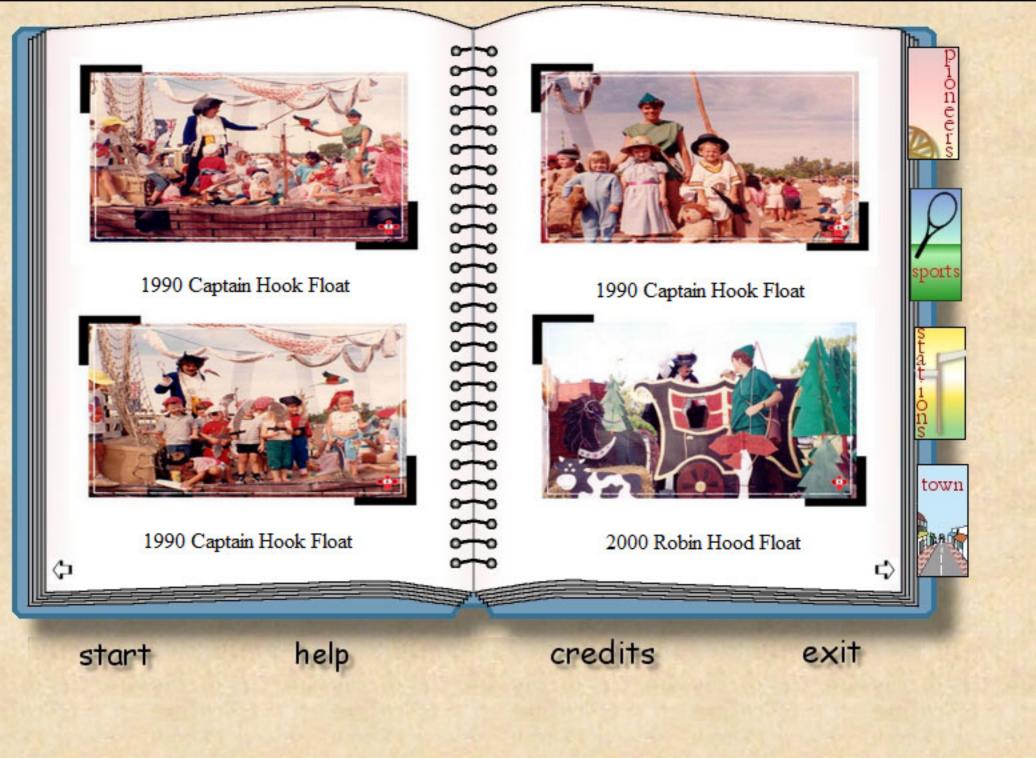


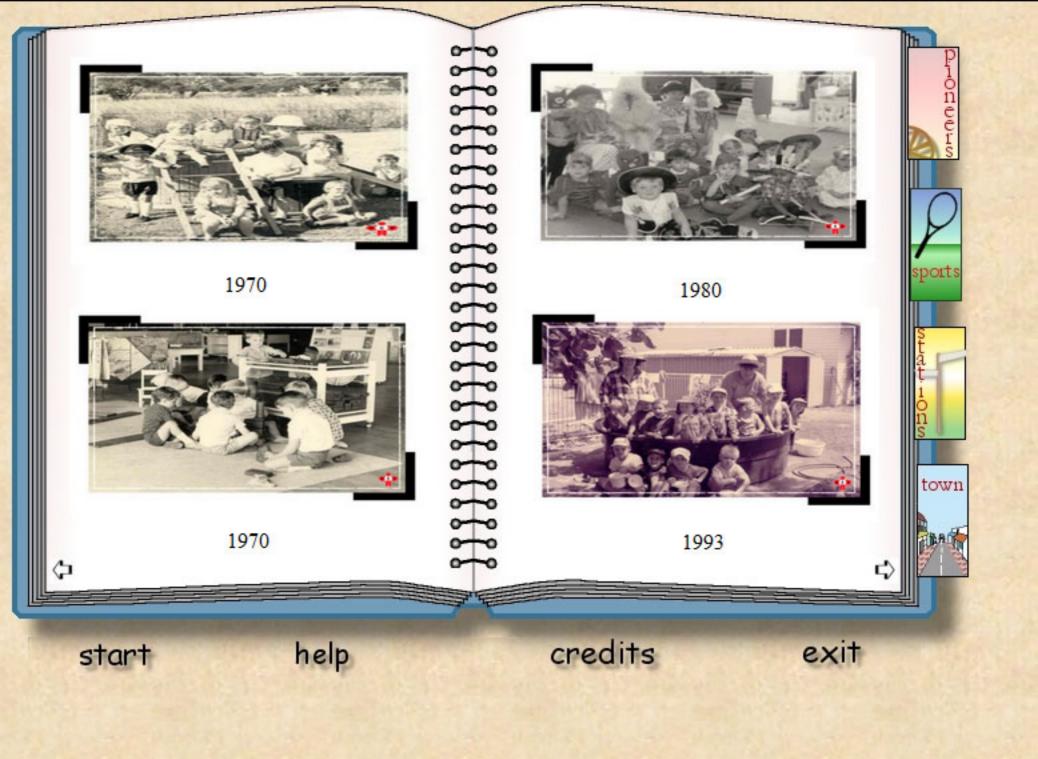


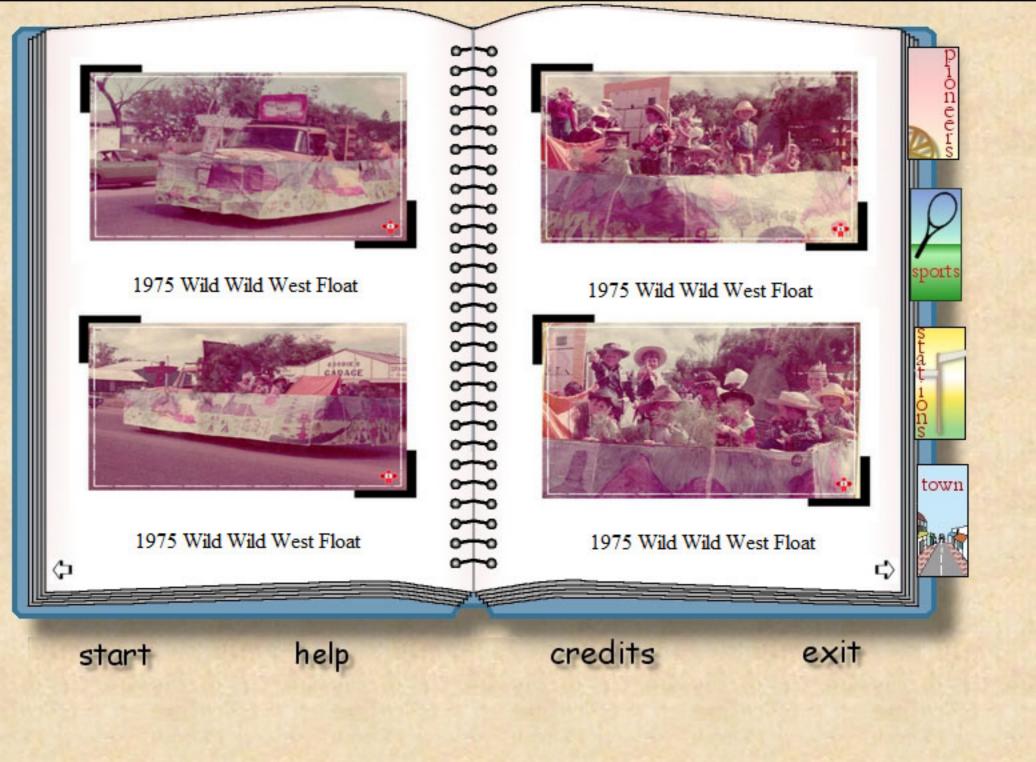


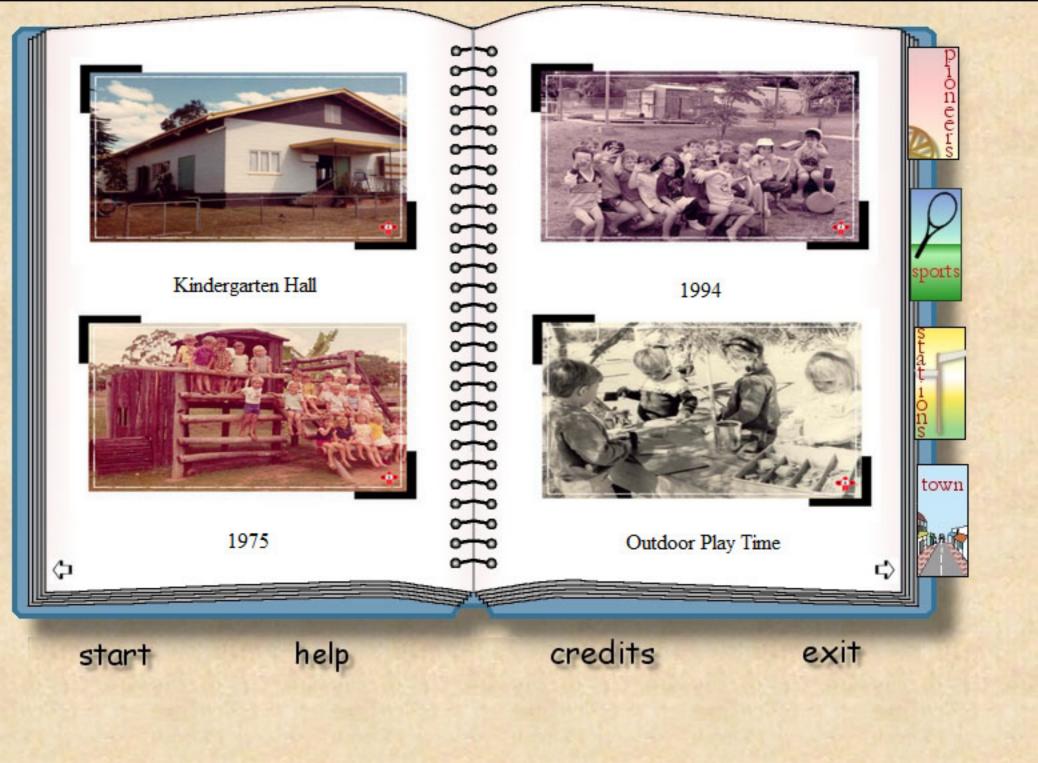


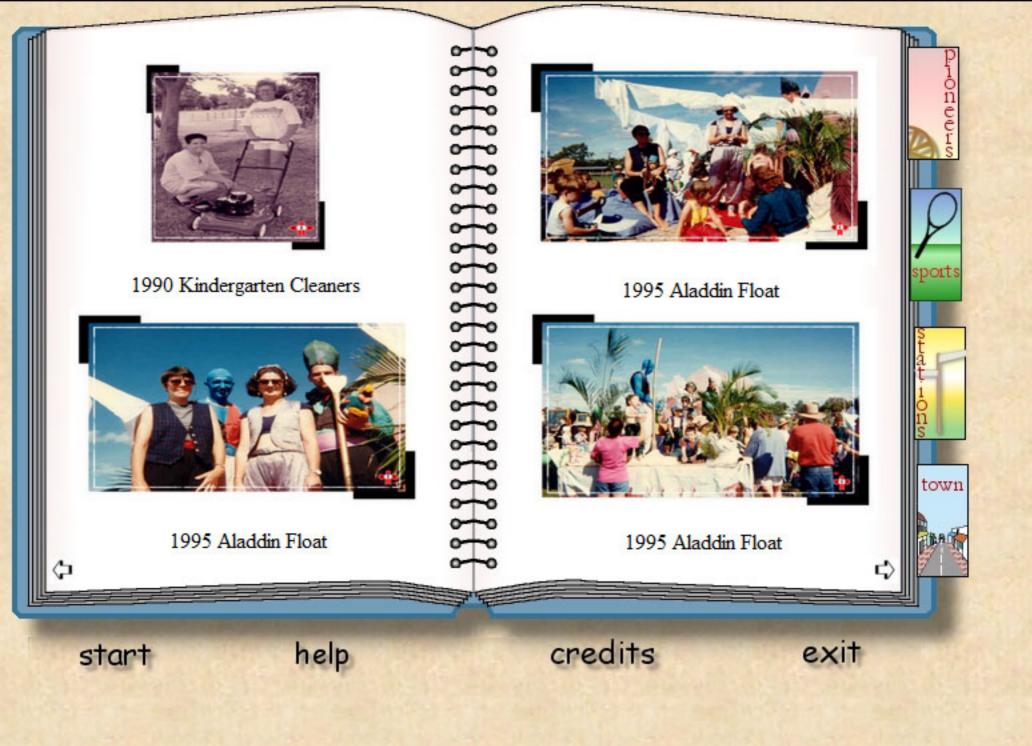


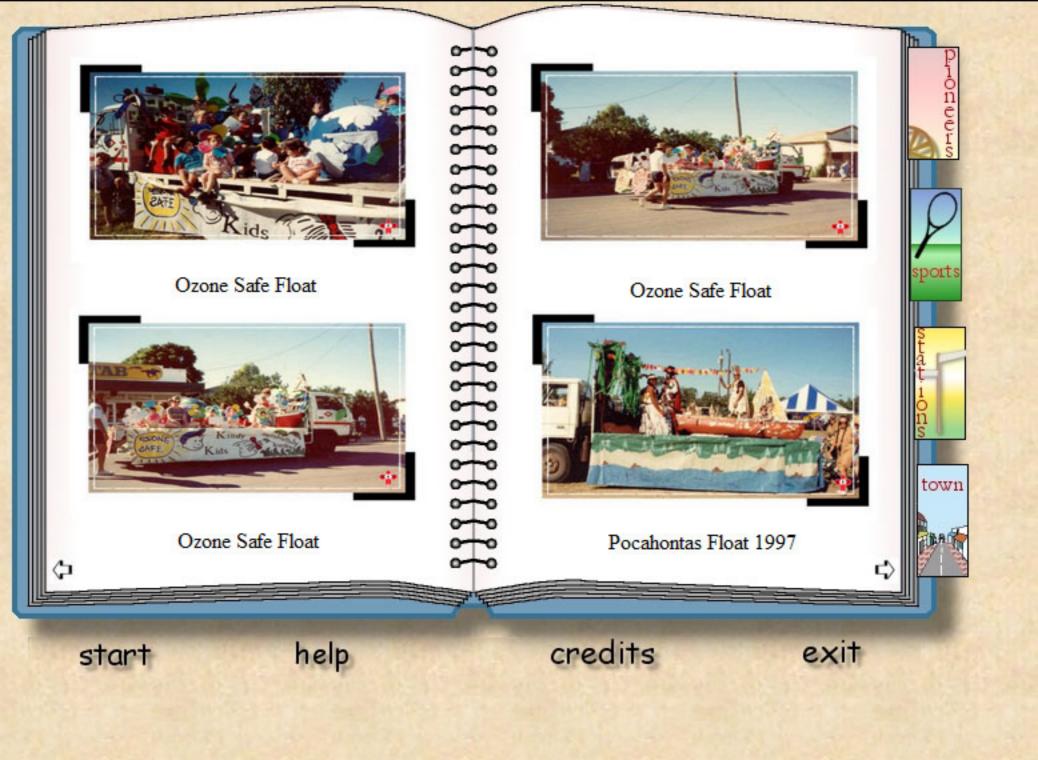


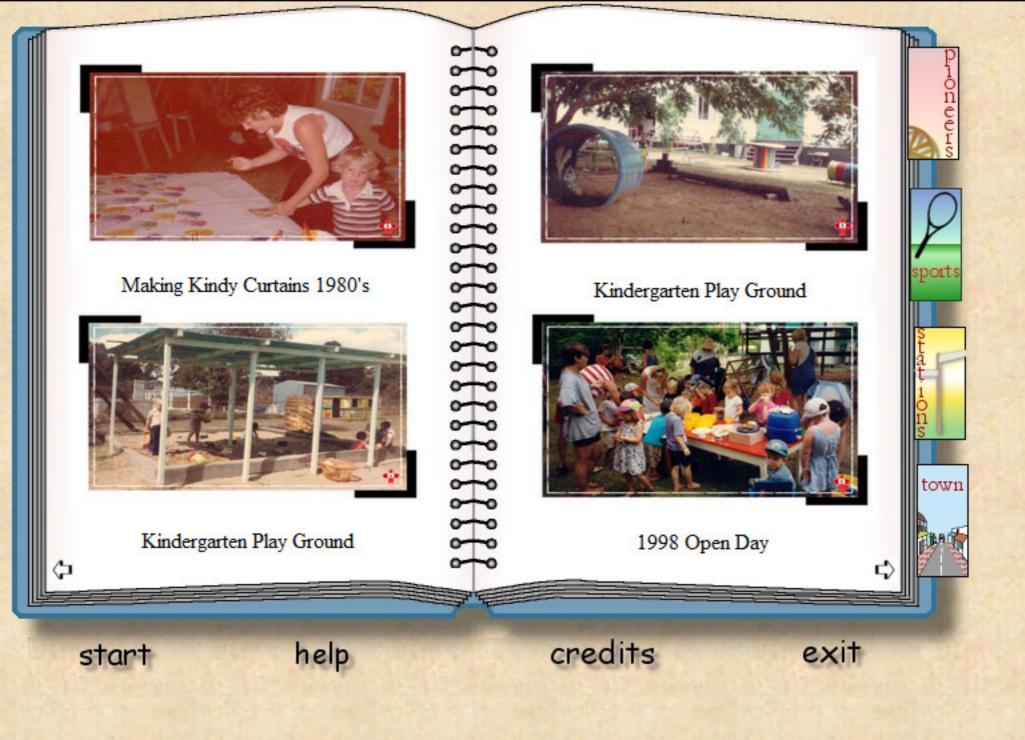














Puzzle Play Time



Water Play Time



1994 Wizard of Oz Float



Teacher Aide Annette Lyne

start

help

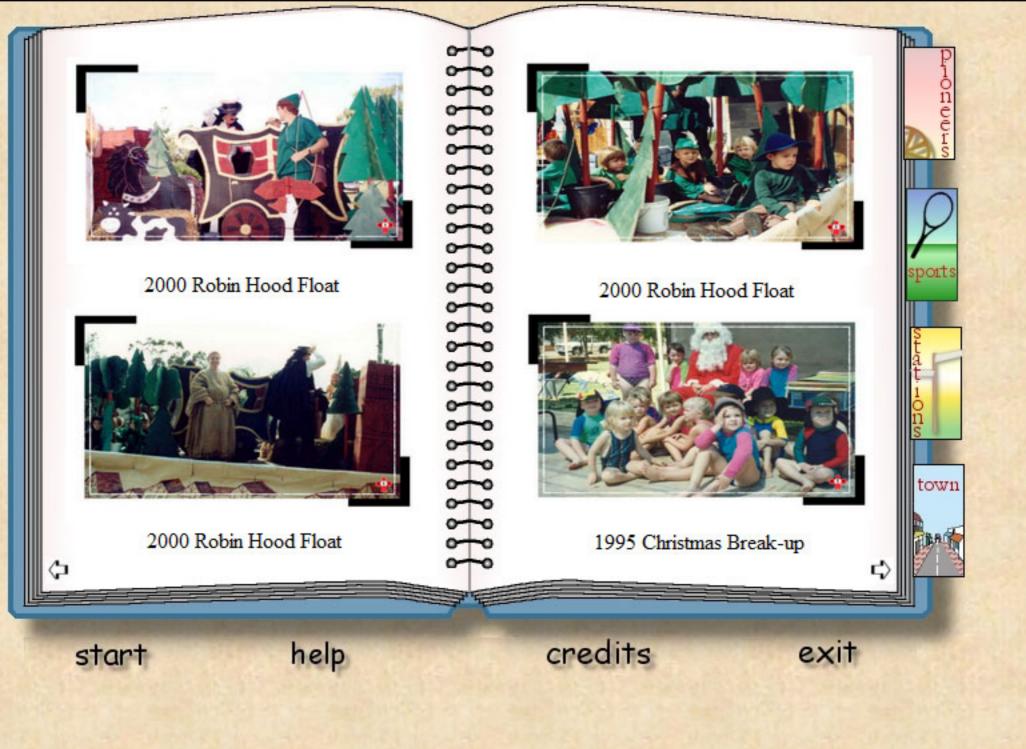
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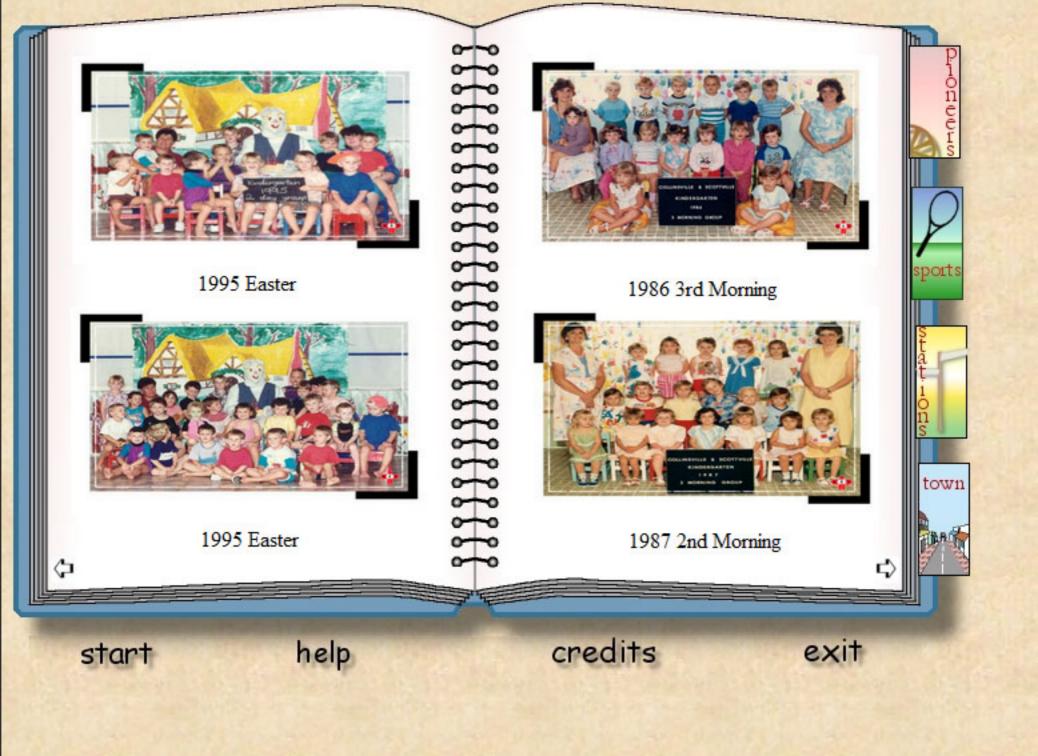


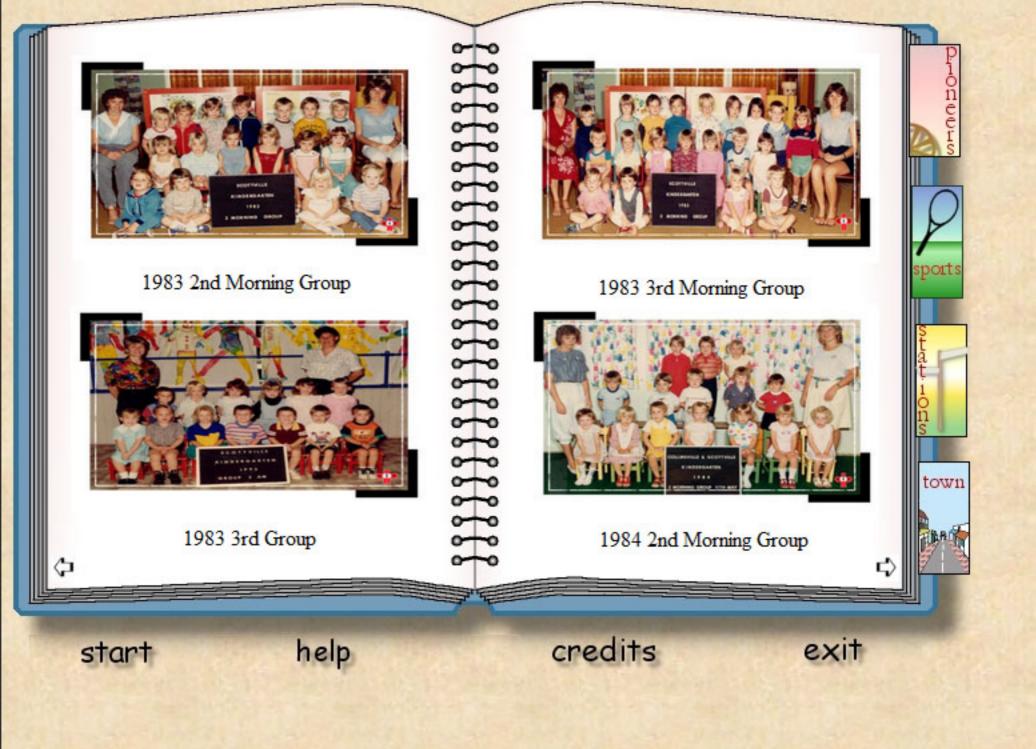


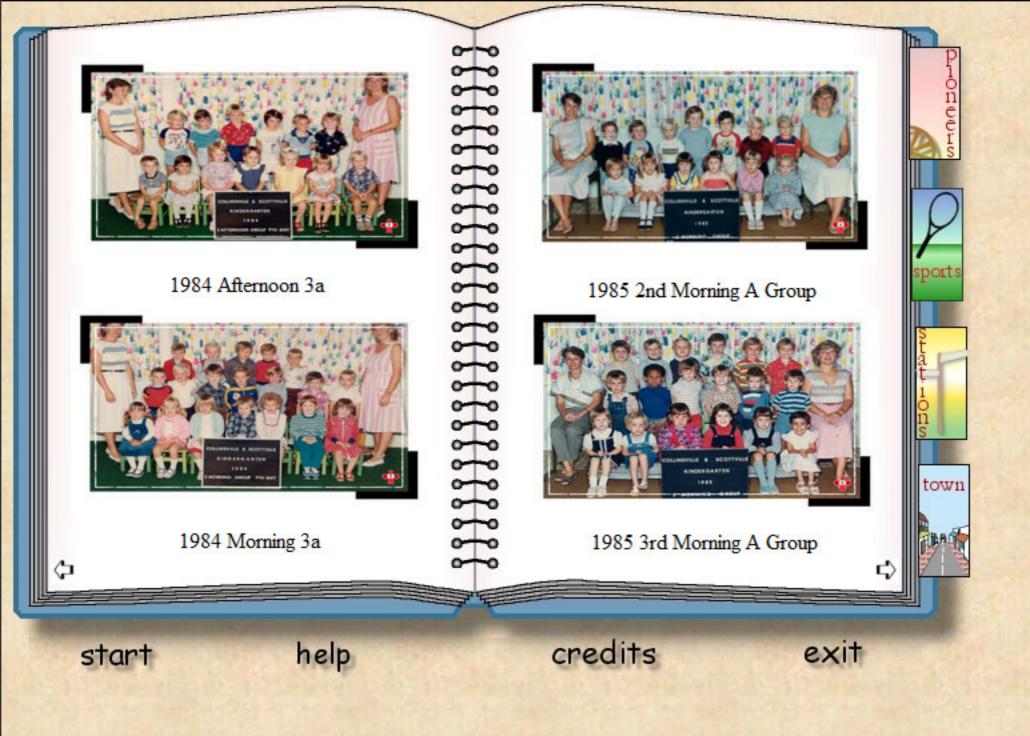


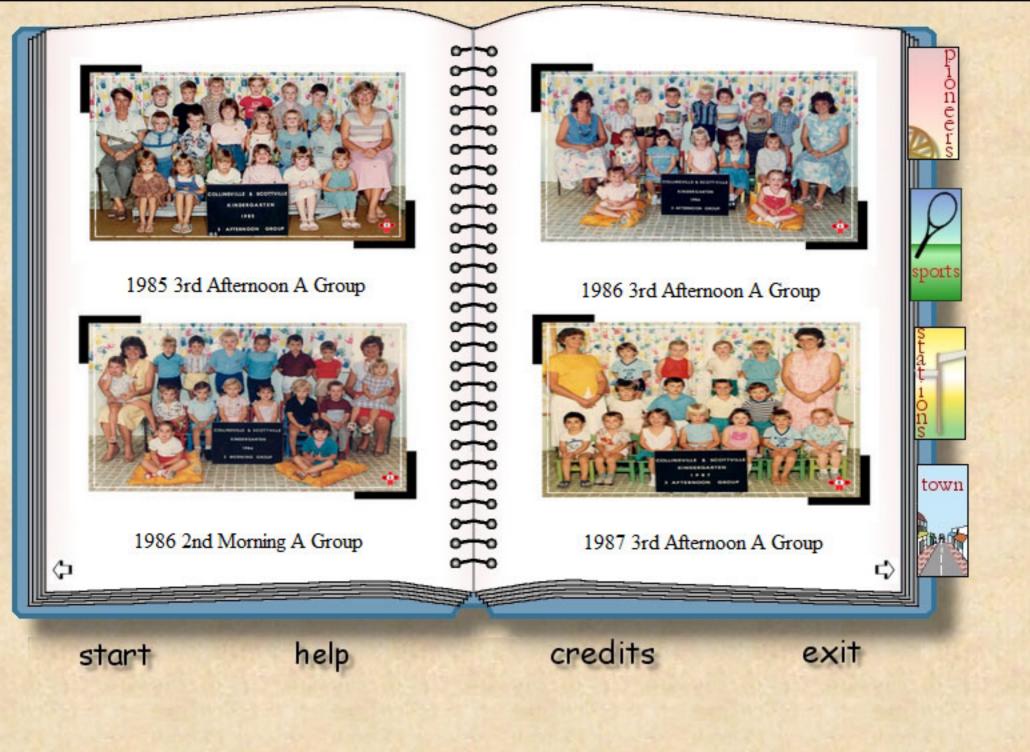


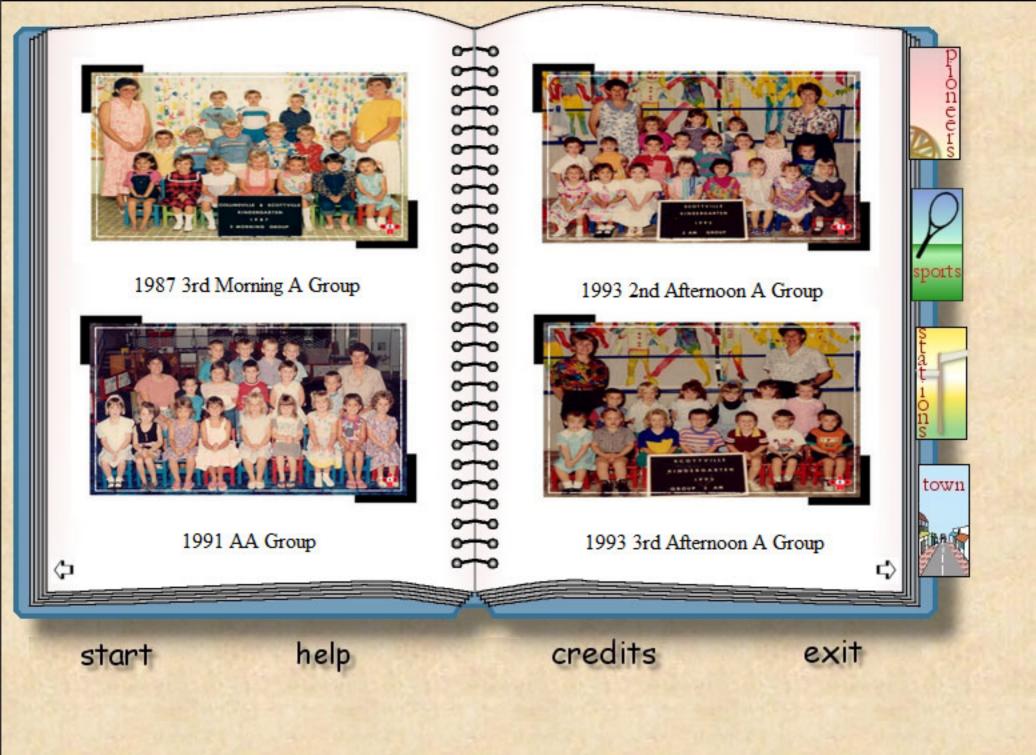


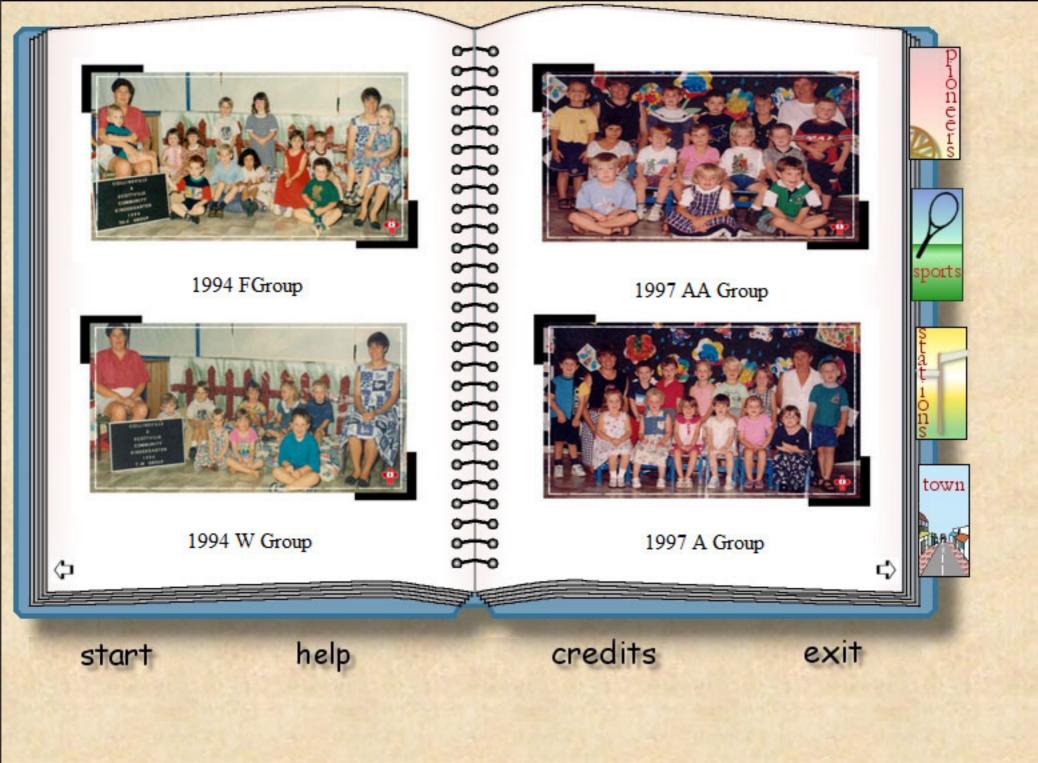


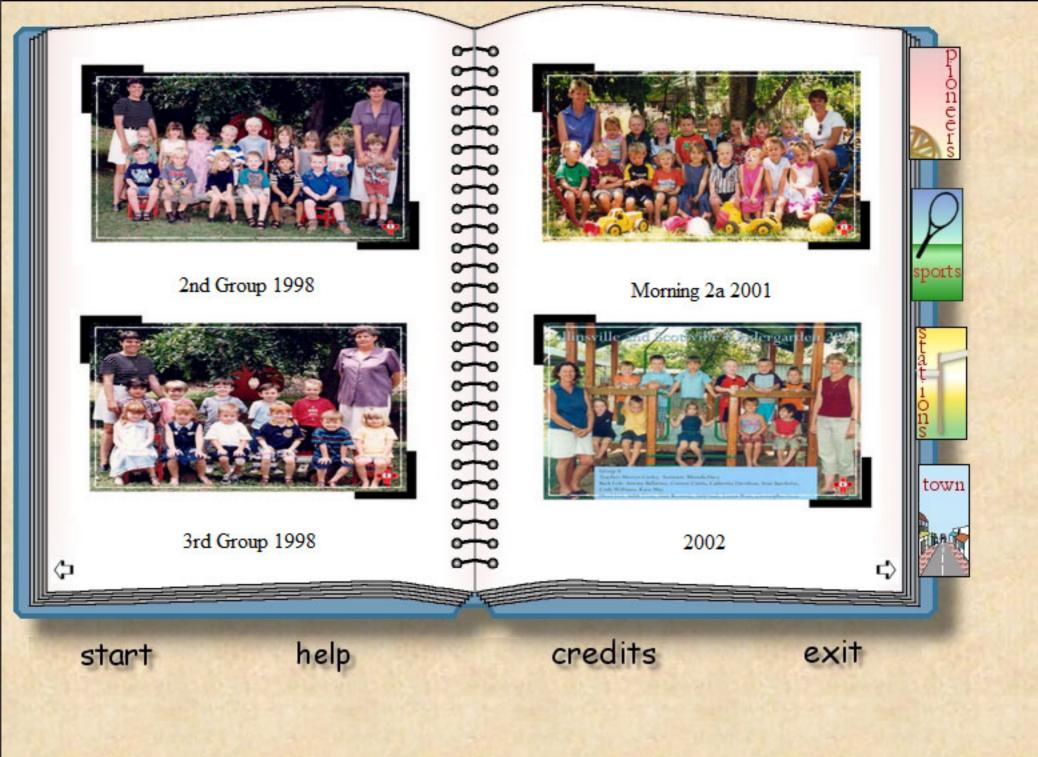


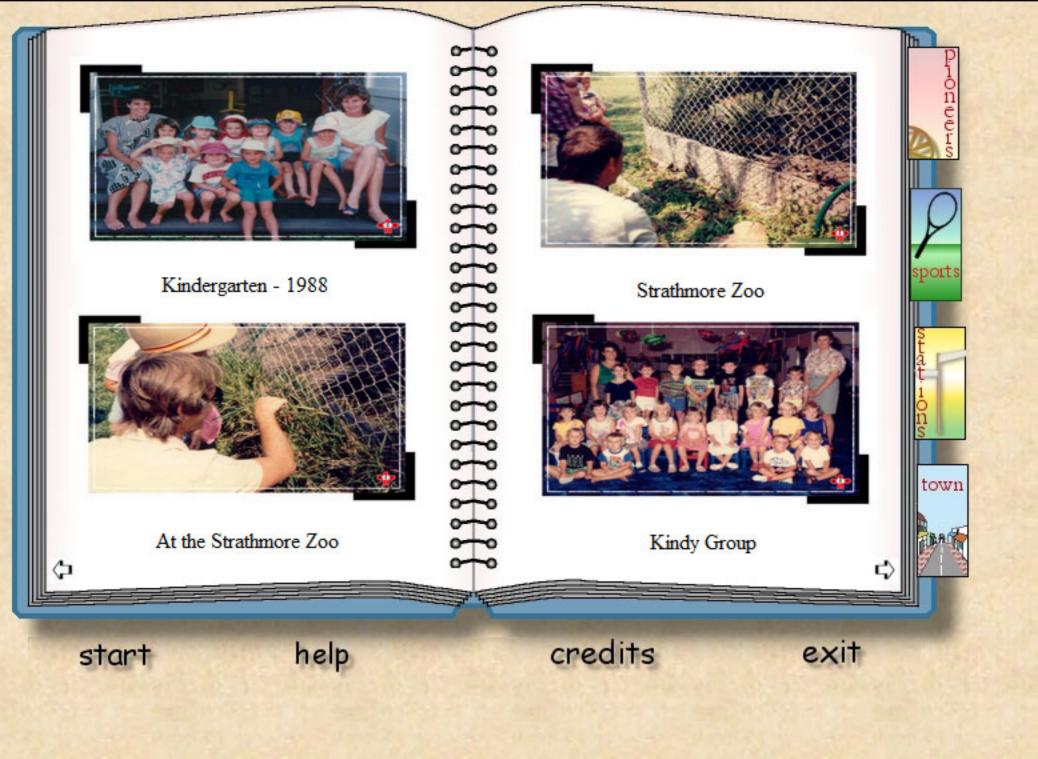


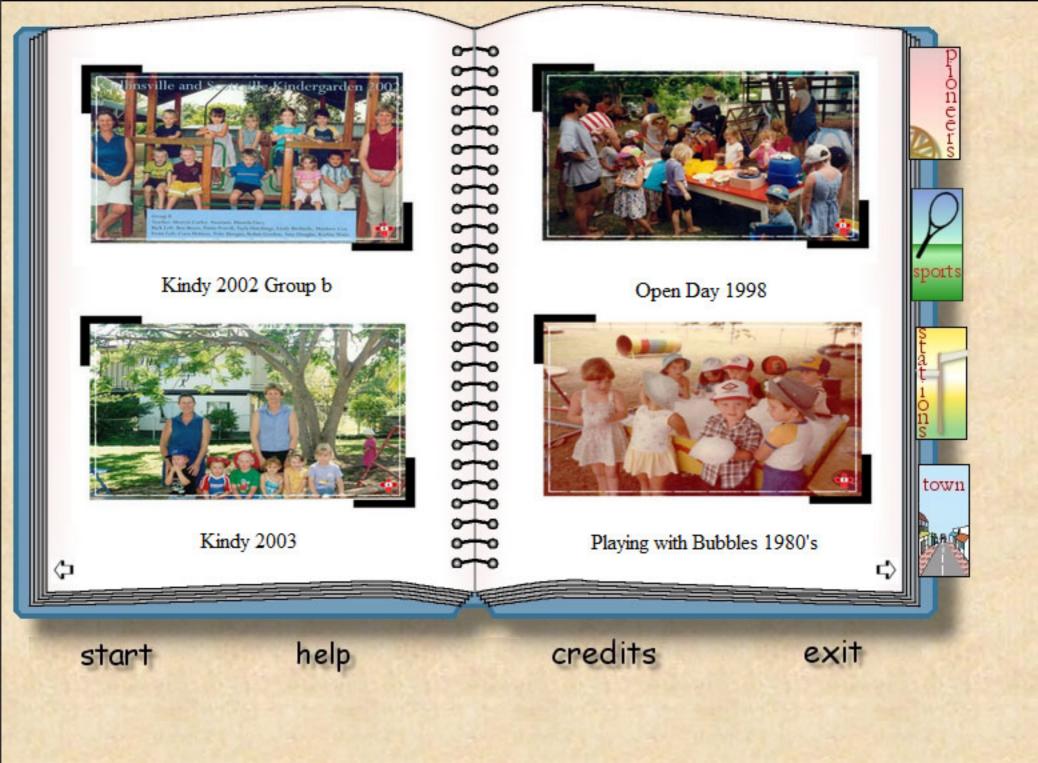






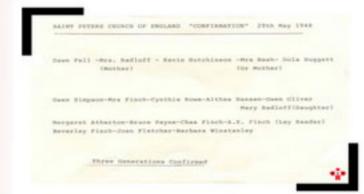








3 Generation First Confirmation



Confirmation Information



First Communion



First Communion

start

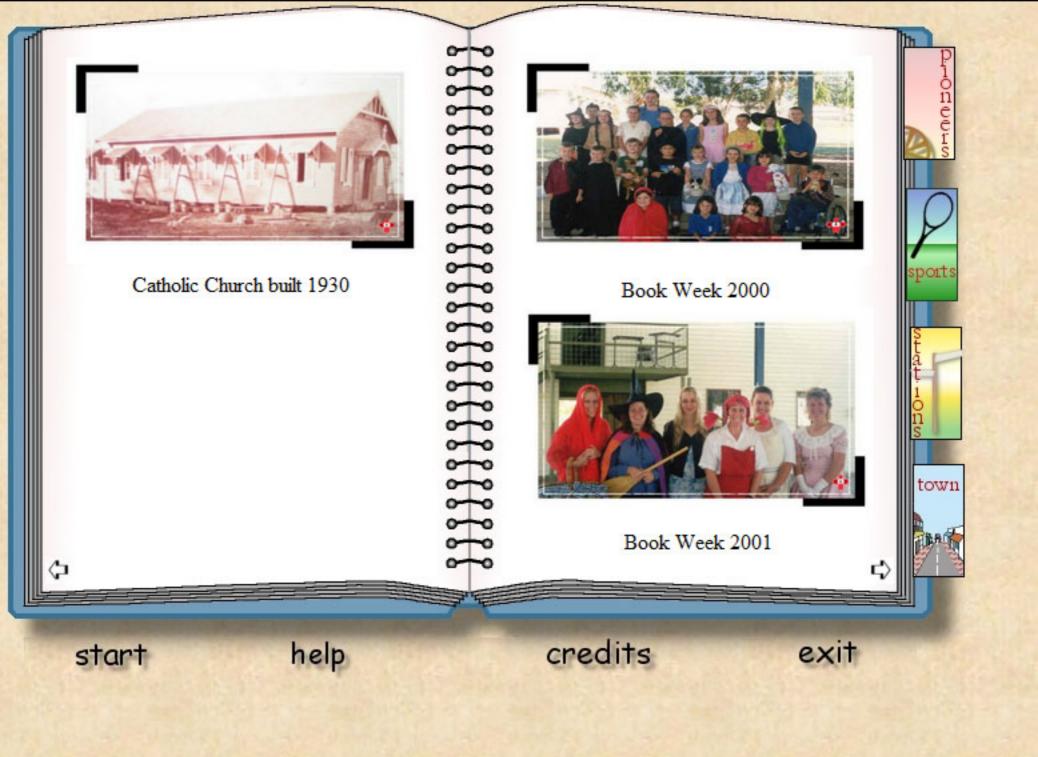
help

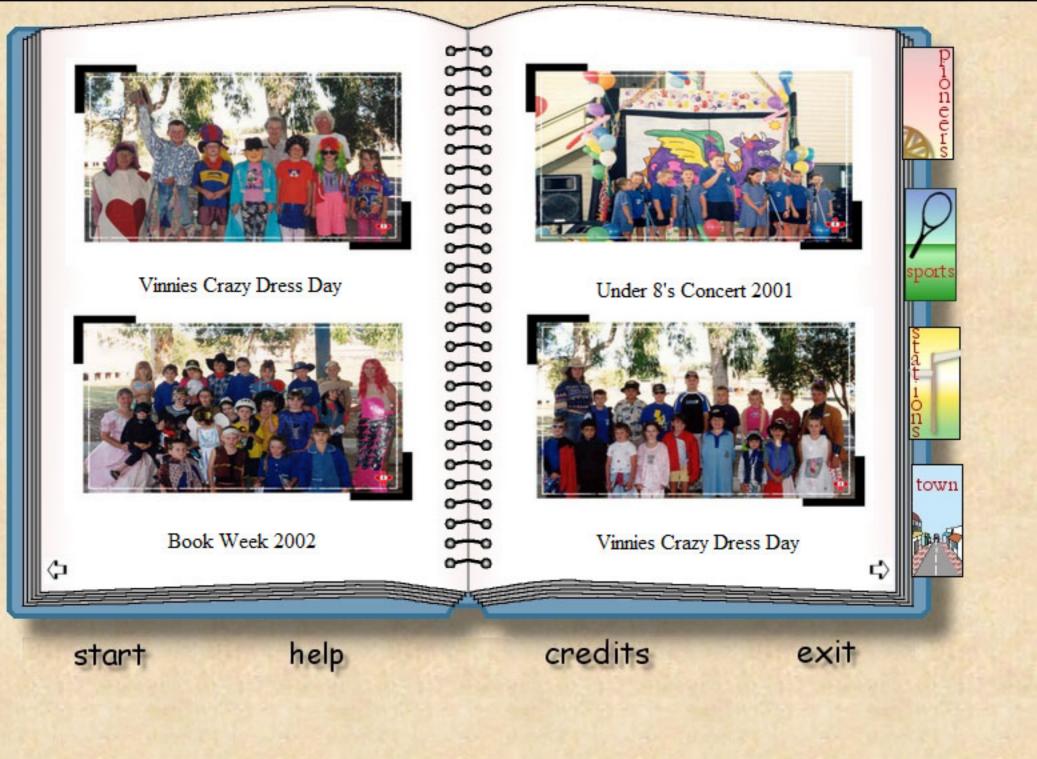
credits













Year 7 Students collecting information Collinsville Information CD Project



Bike Ed Week Preschool 2002



Preschool Class 2002



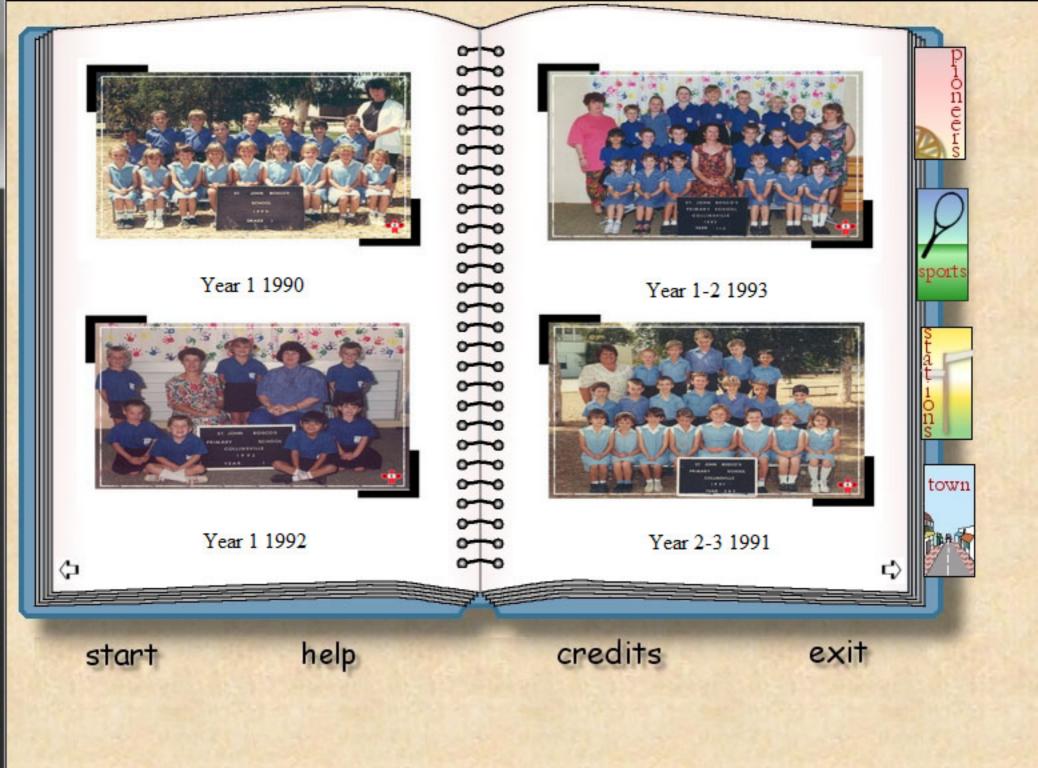
Mission Week 2001

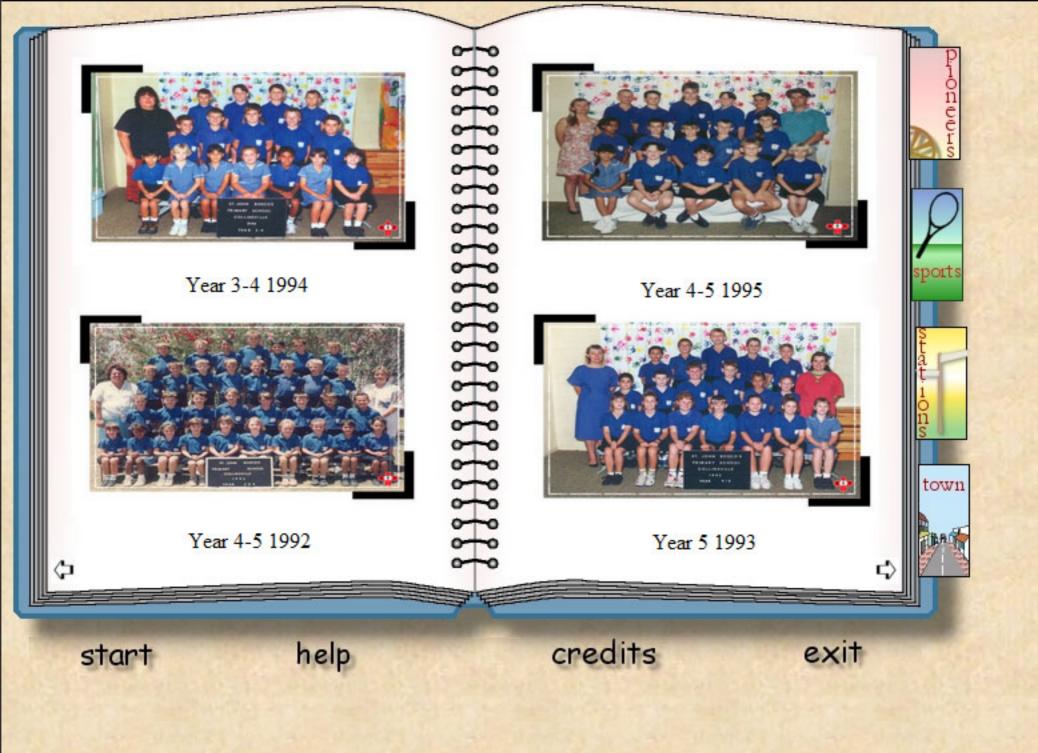
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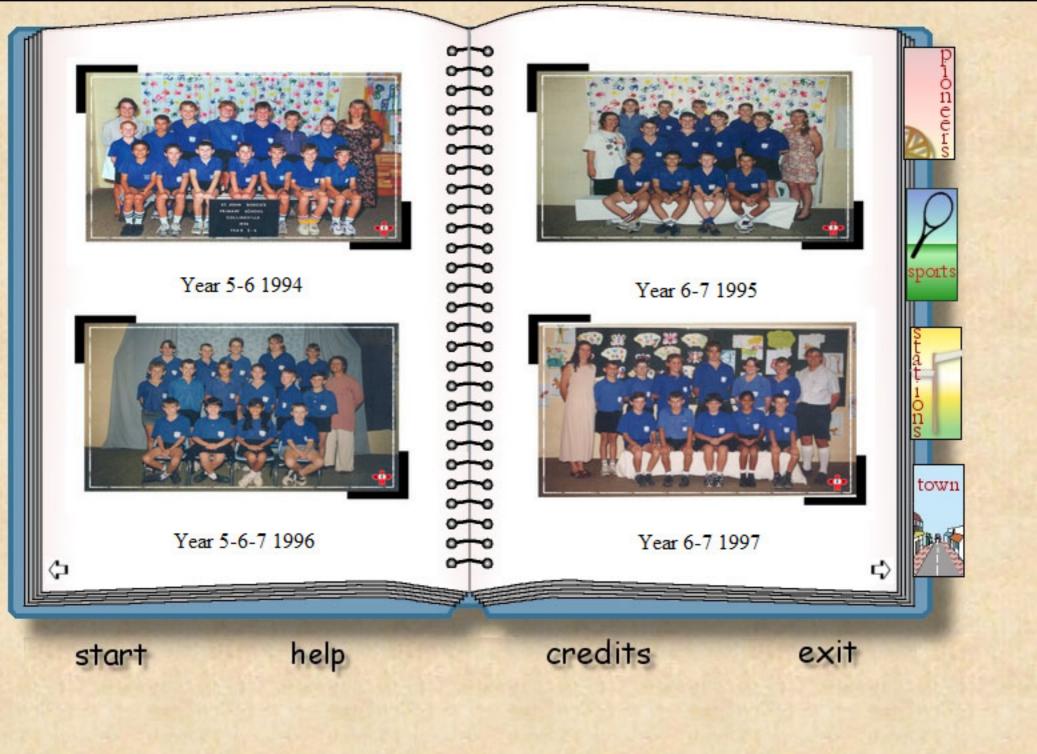
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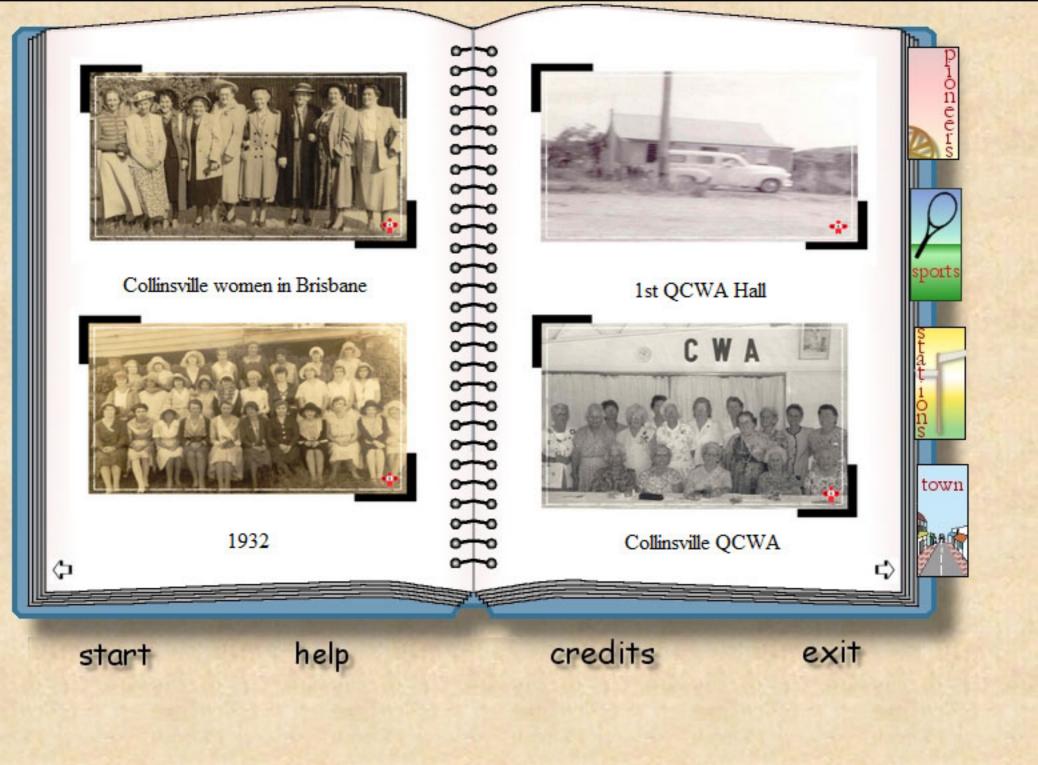
start help

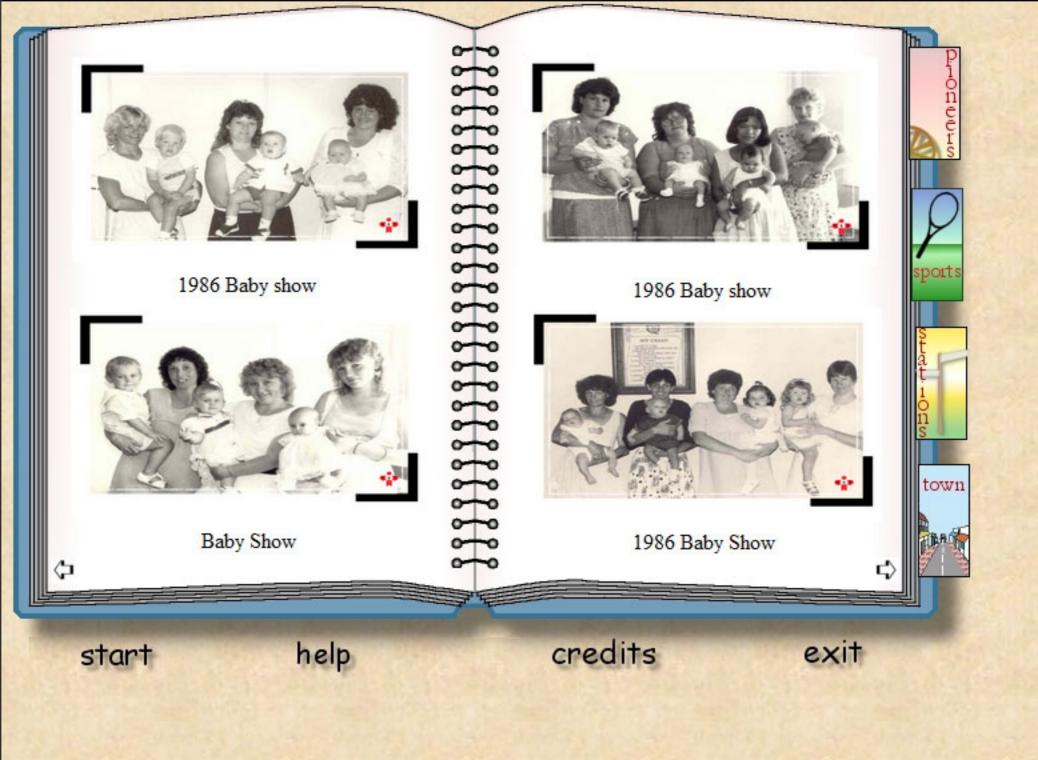
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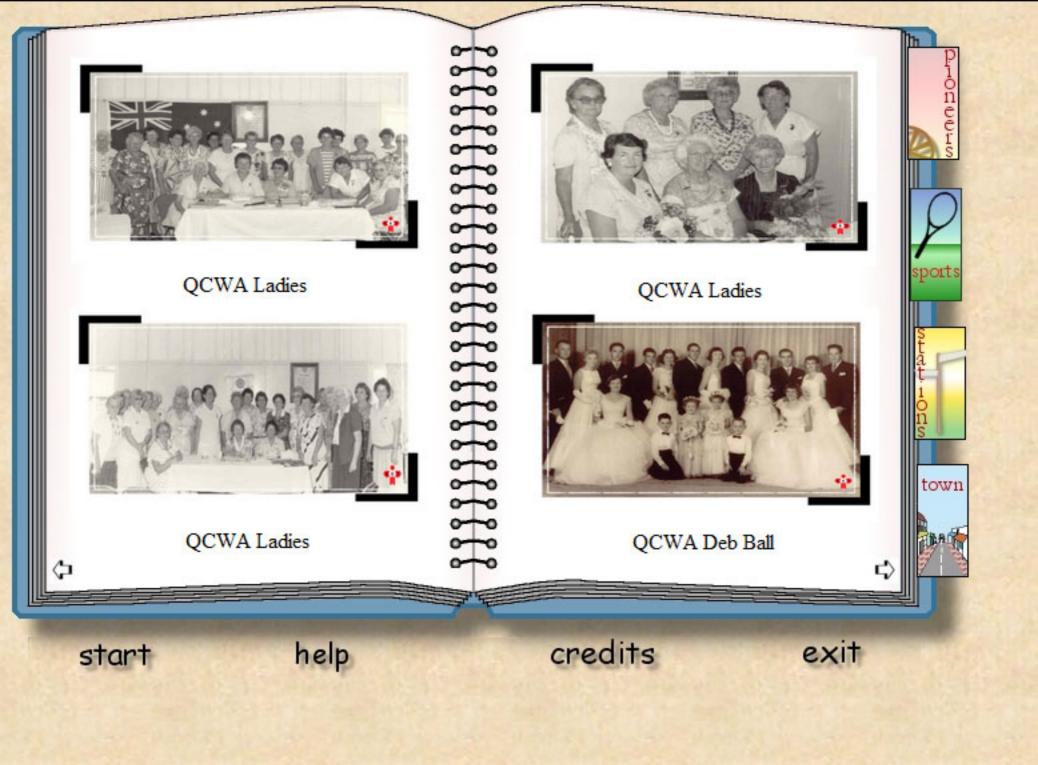


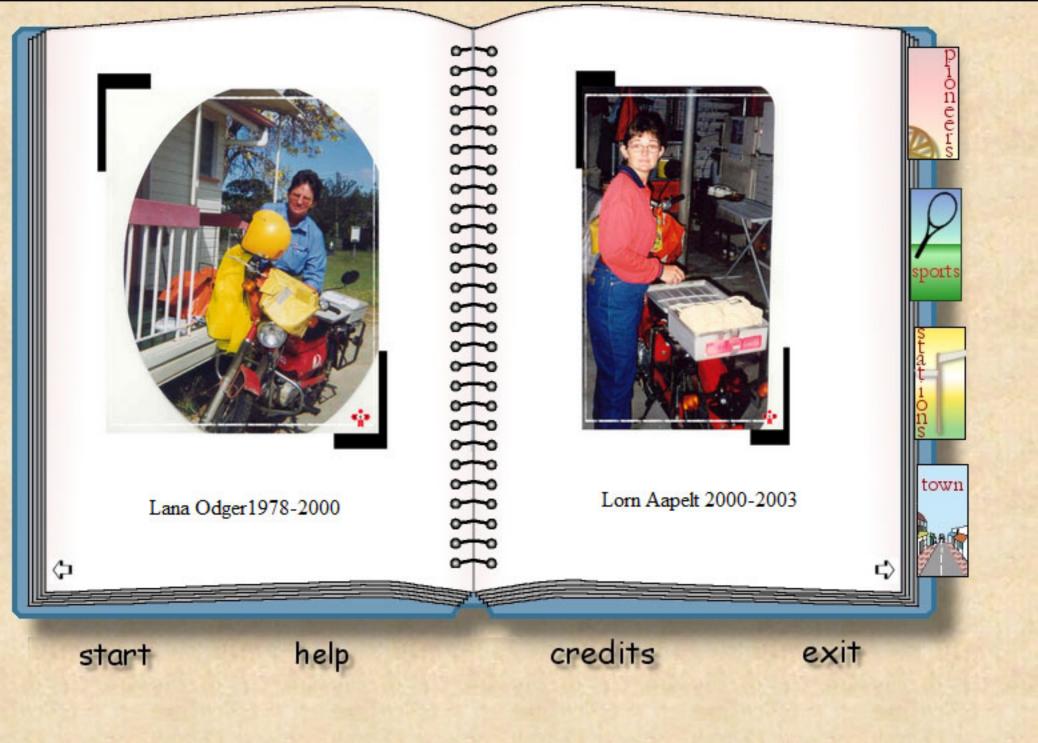


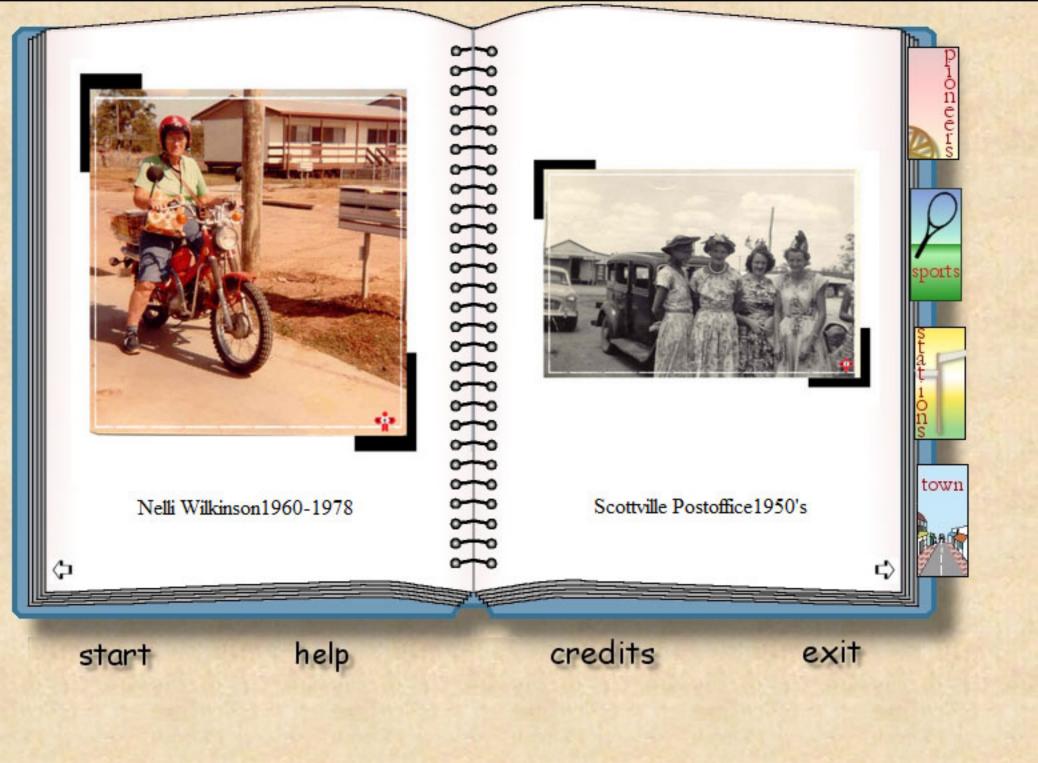














St Vincent De Paul Opening 1987



St Vincent De Paul Early Volunteers 1987



Vinnies - new addition 2002



town

start help credits exit



St Vincent De Paul Volunteers - 2001



St Vincent De Paul Volunteers 1999



St Vincent De Paul Volunteers - 2000

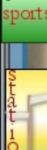


St Vincent De Paul Volunteers 2000

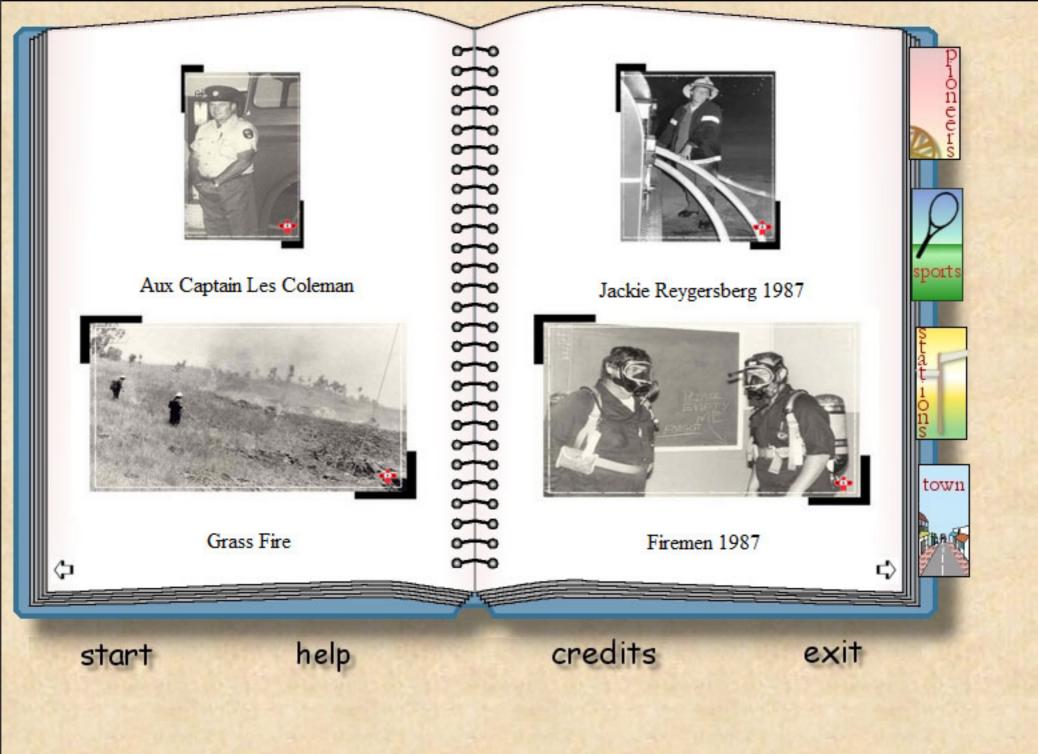
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Barber Chair After Fire 1991



Barber Chair Rejuvenated 1992



Bushells Newsageny After Fire 1991



Bushells Newsageny After Fire 1991

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oneers







Mr and Mrs Lawn After Fire at their House
24th August 1990



Pelican St Fire 1985



oneers

town

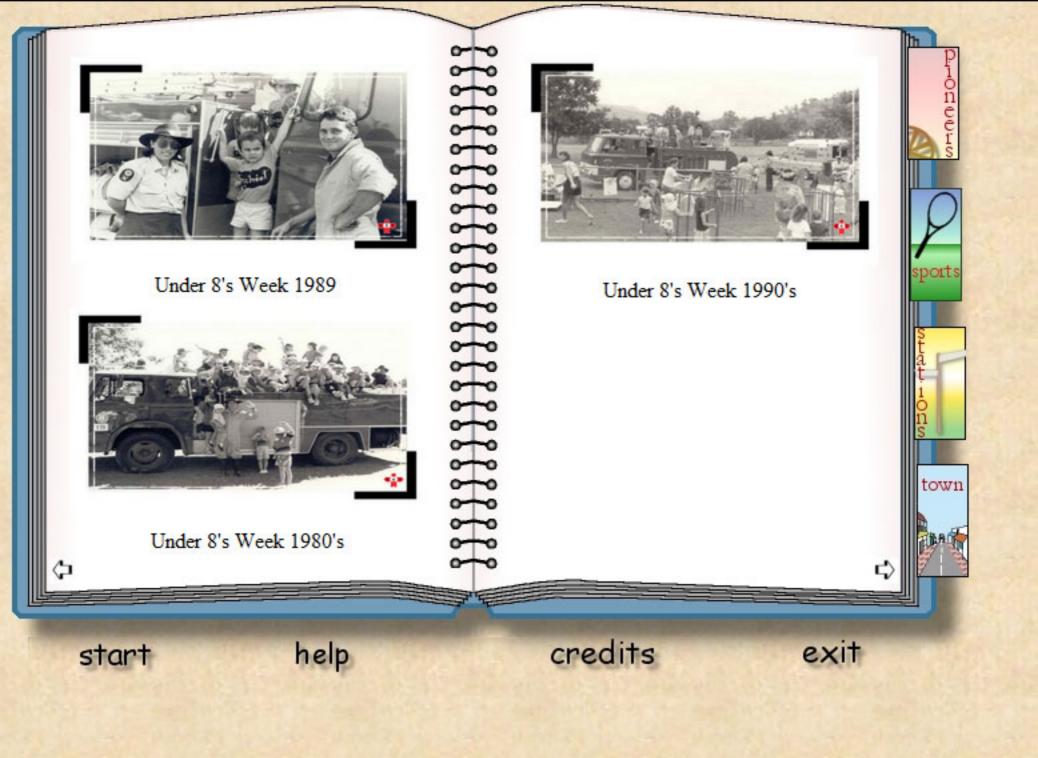
Lawns House After Fire 1990

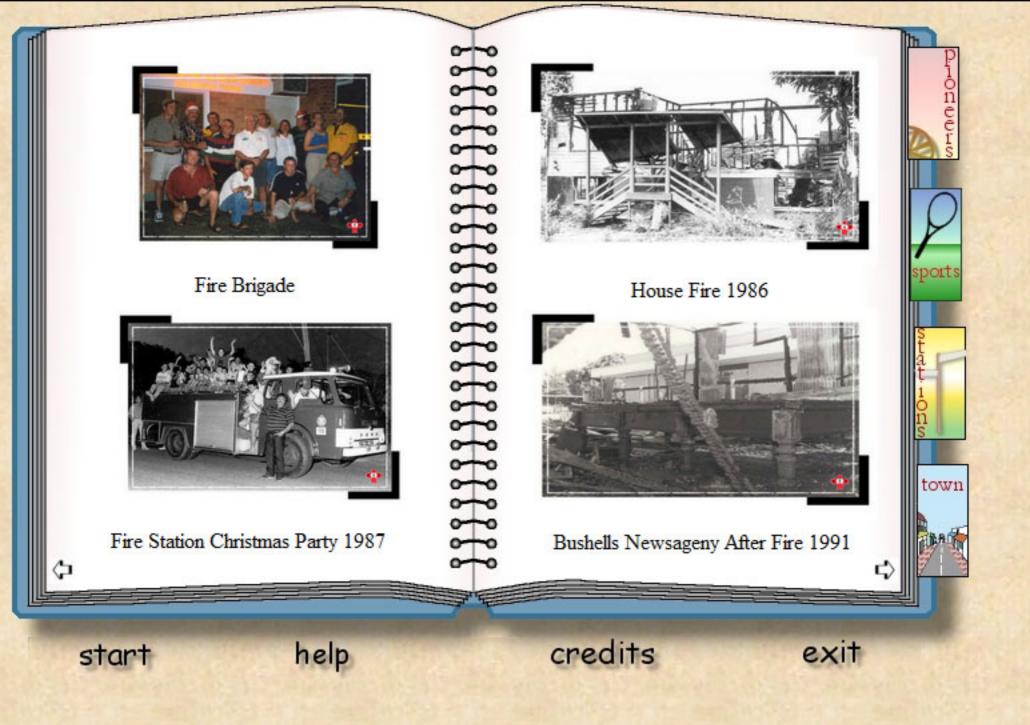


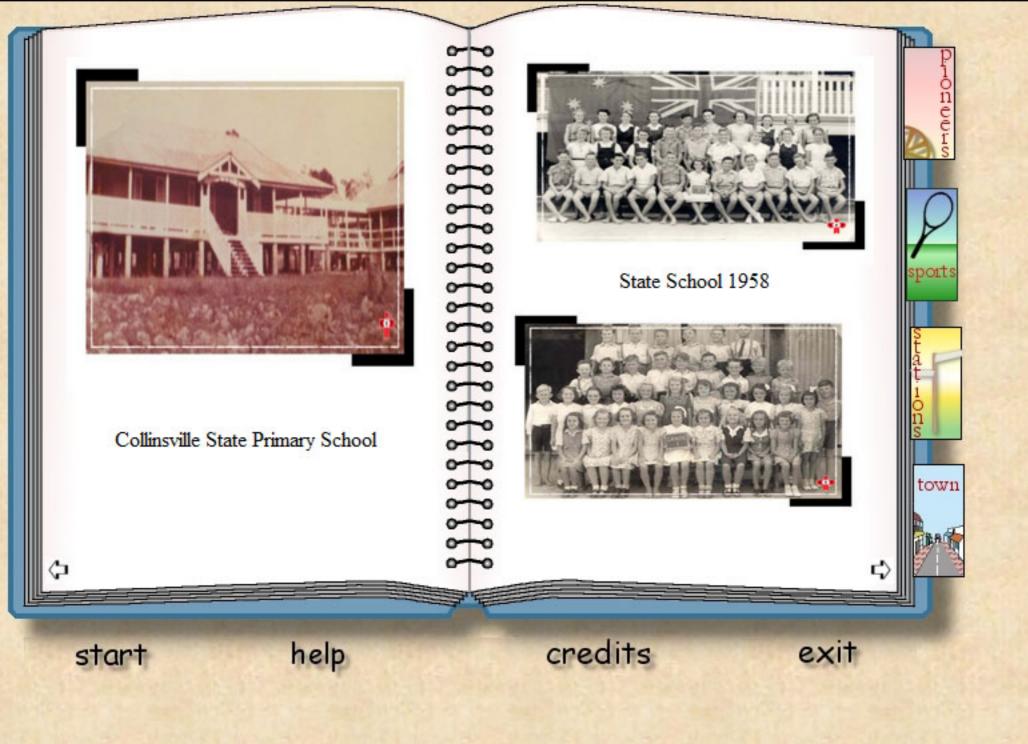
Pelican St Fire Day After 1985

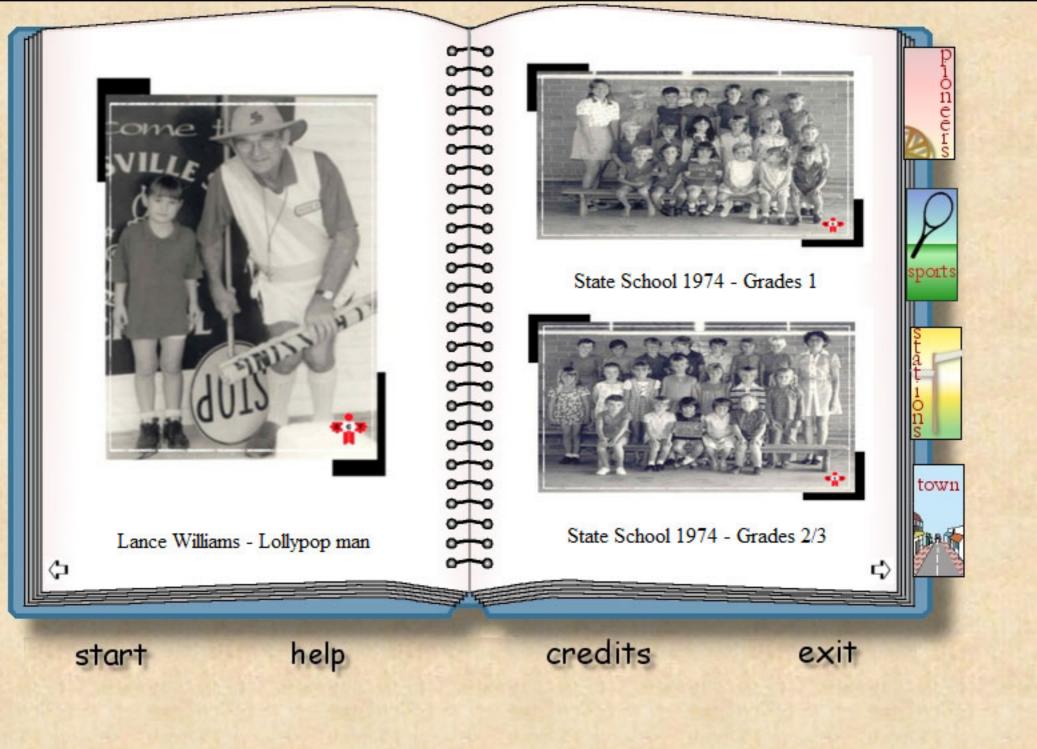
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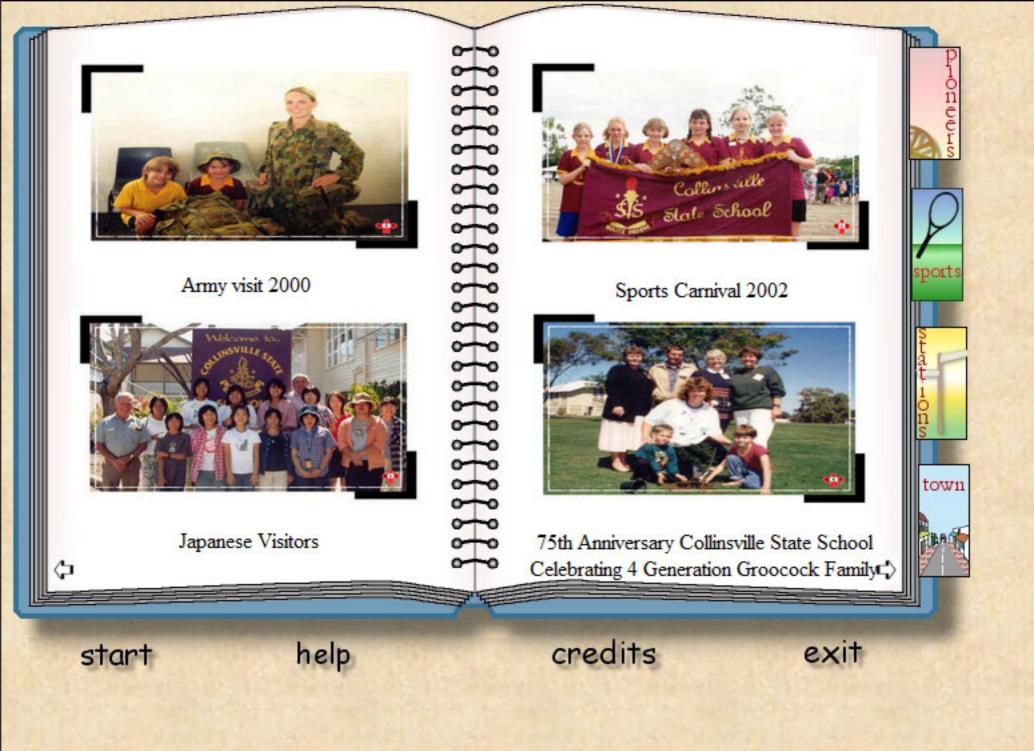
start help credits exit

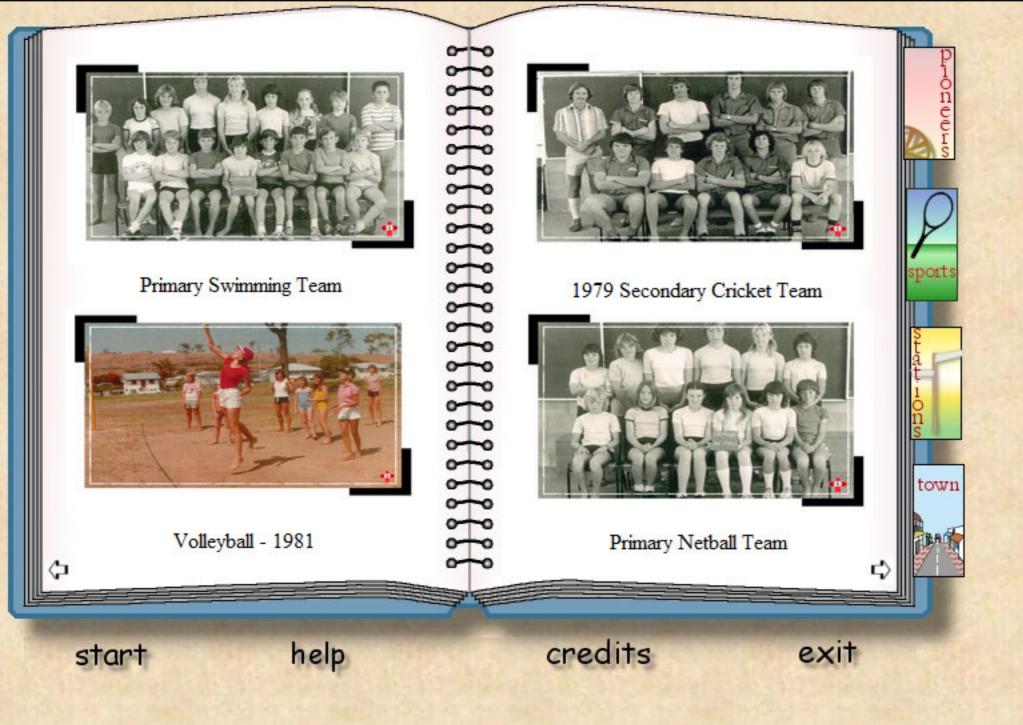


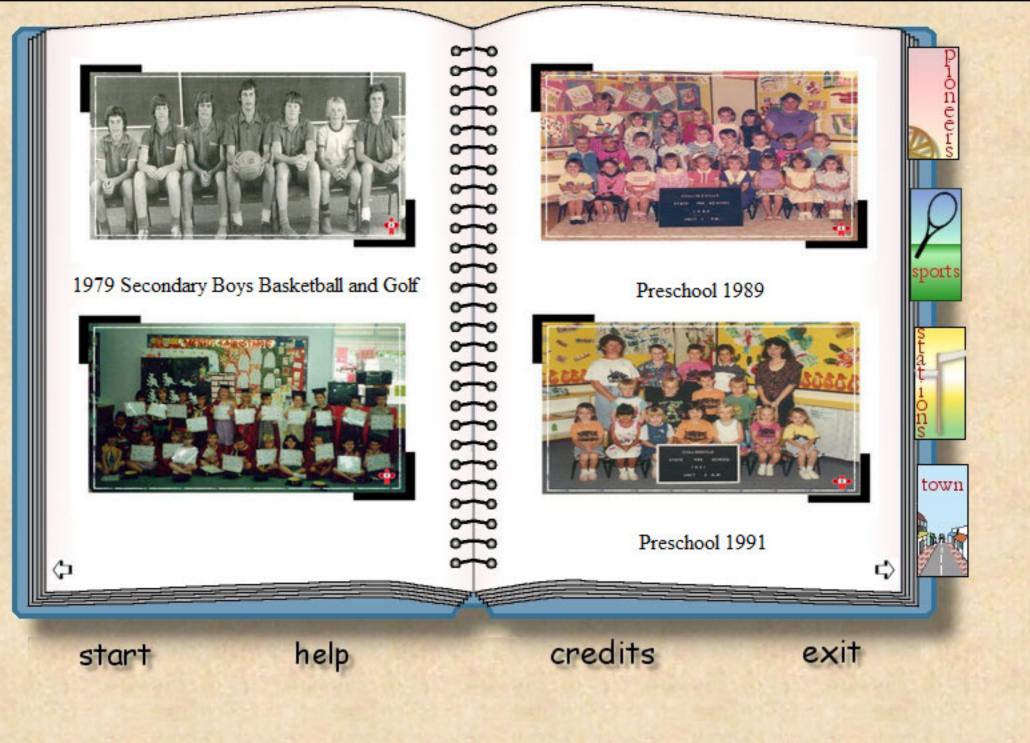


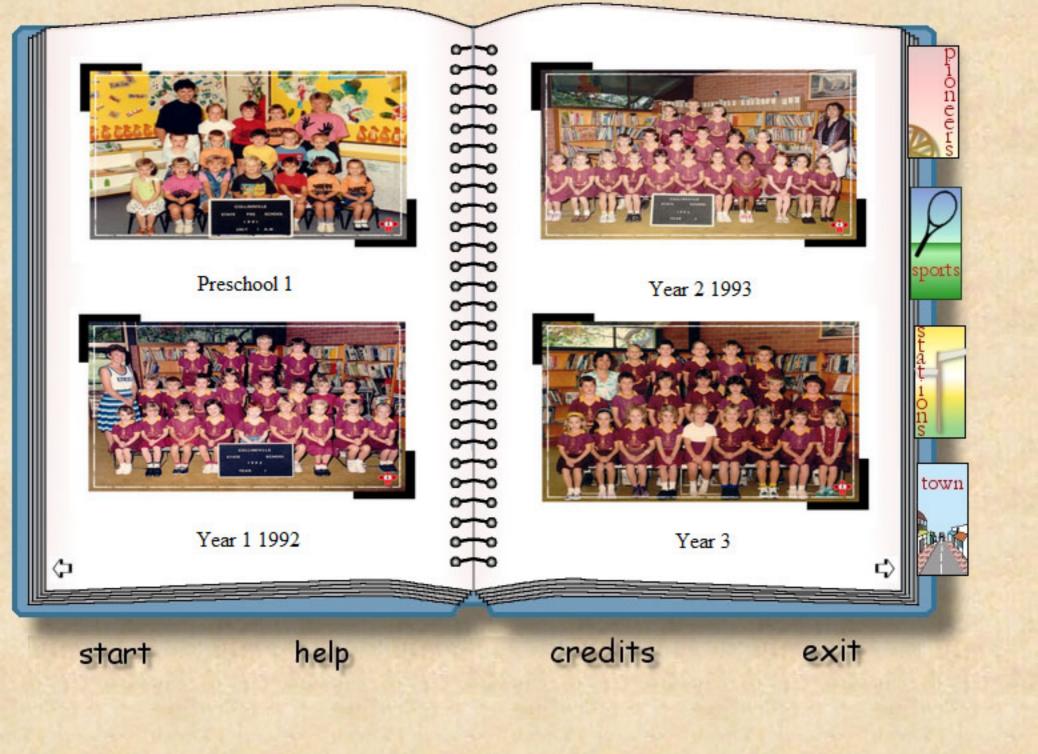


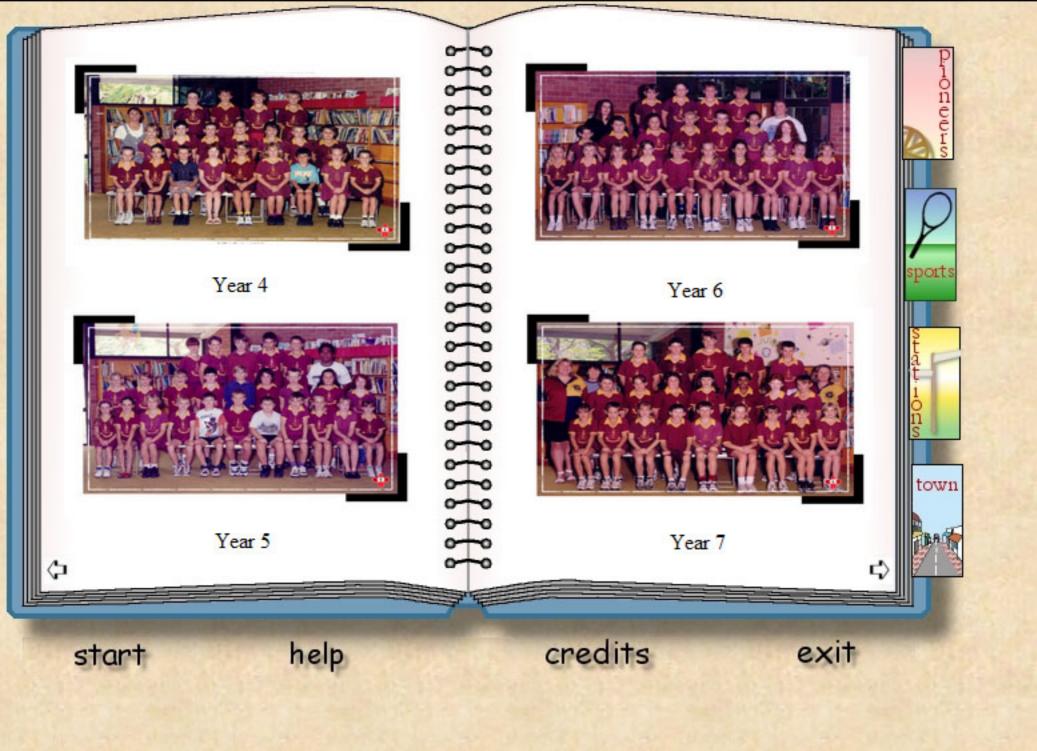


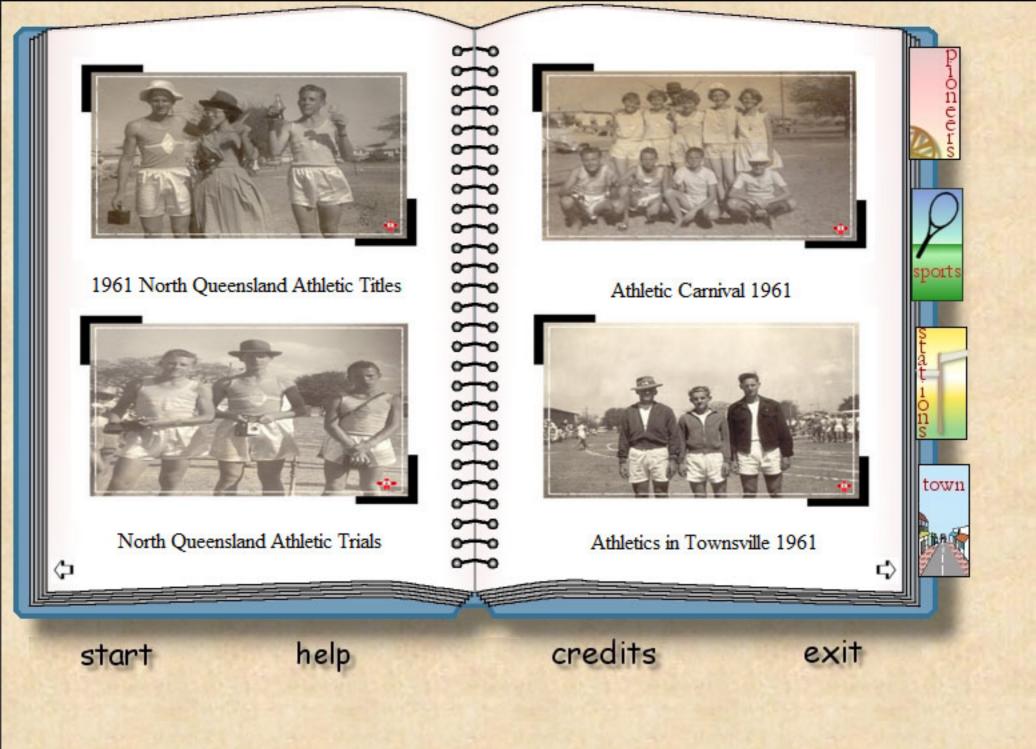


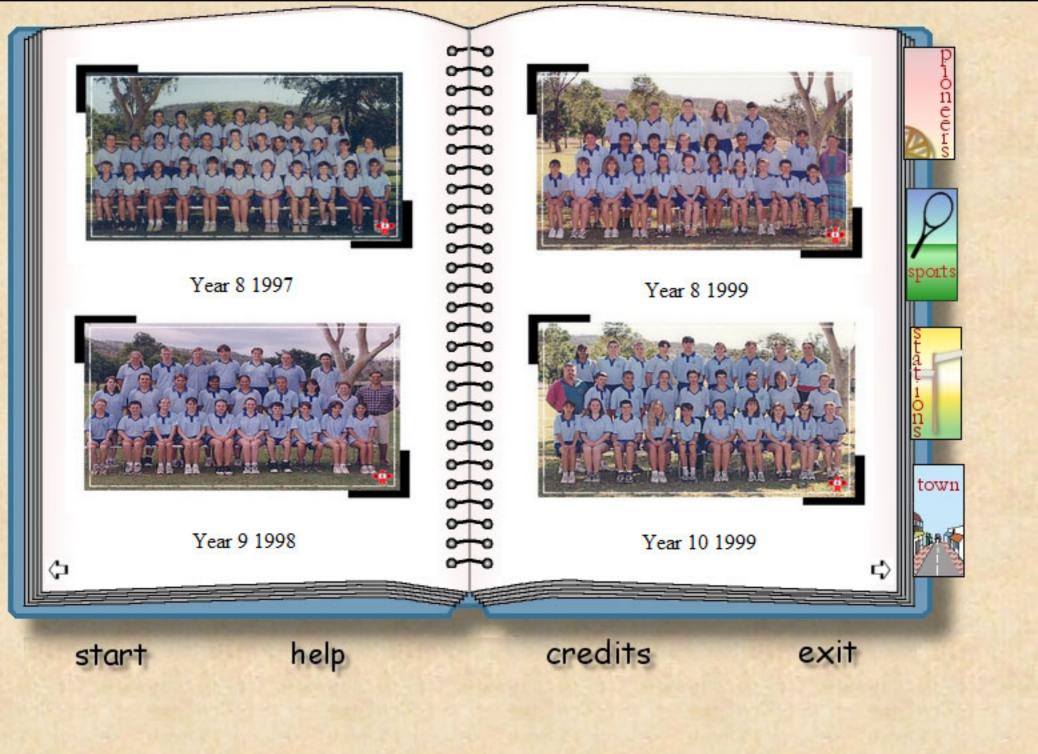


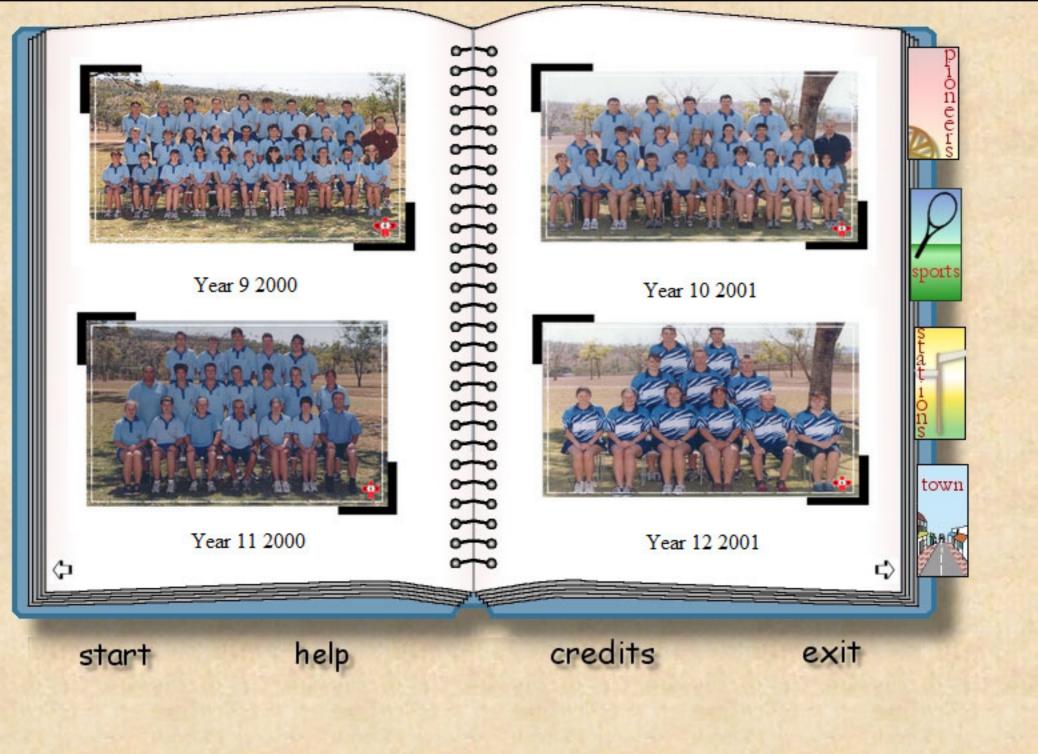


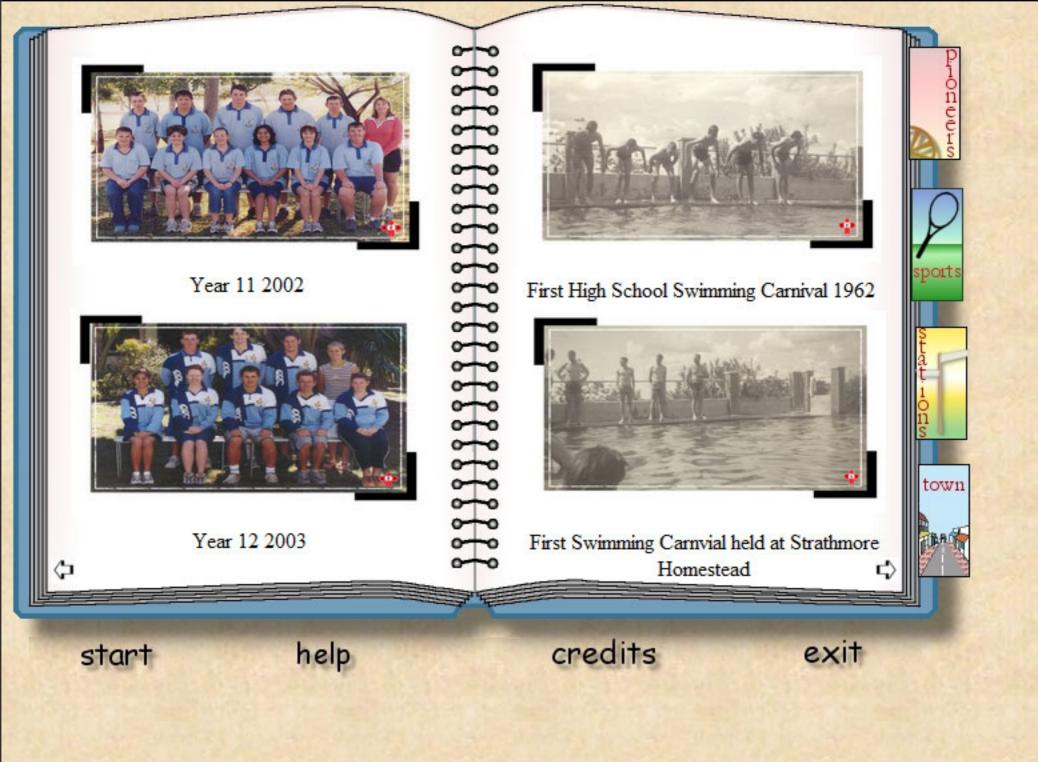


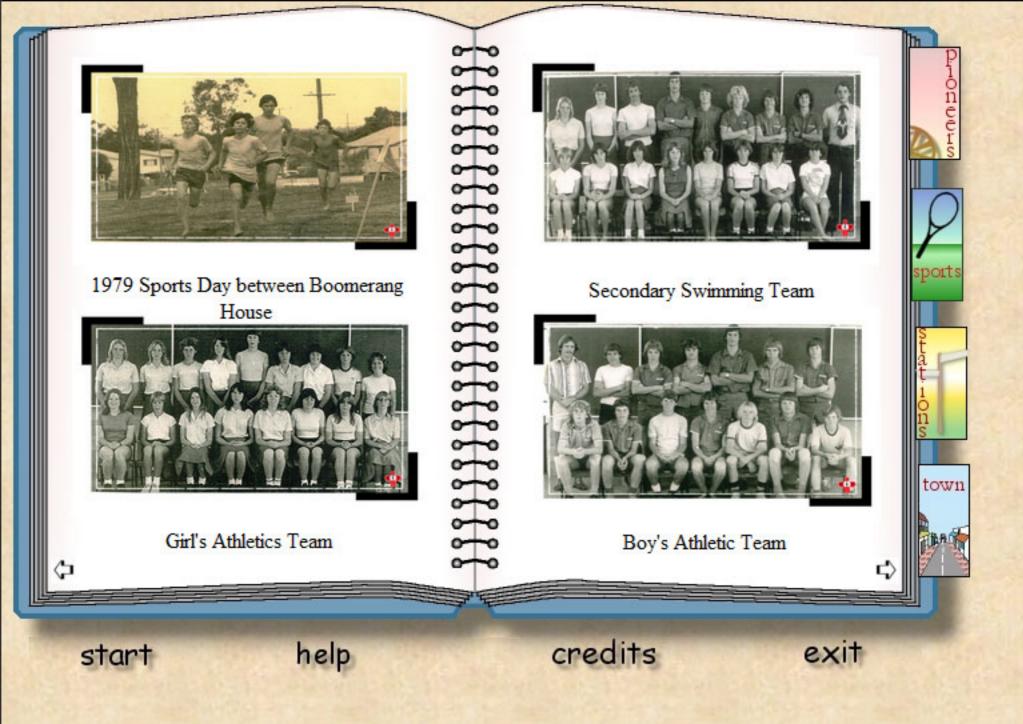


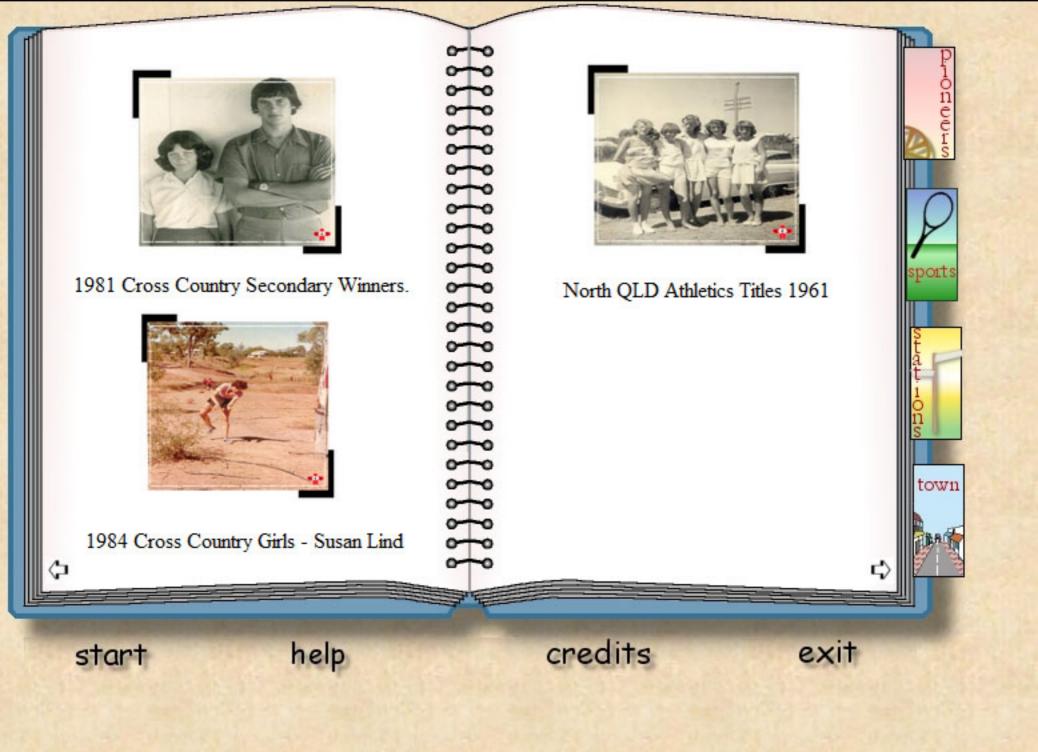


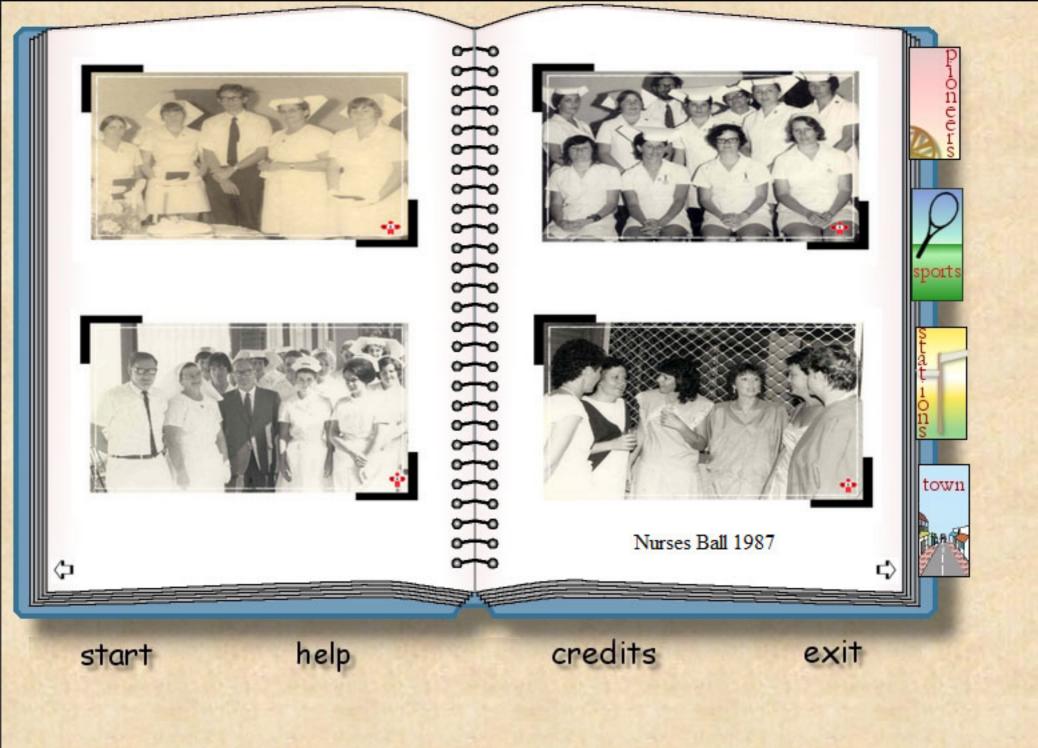


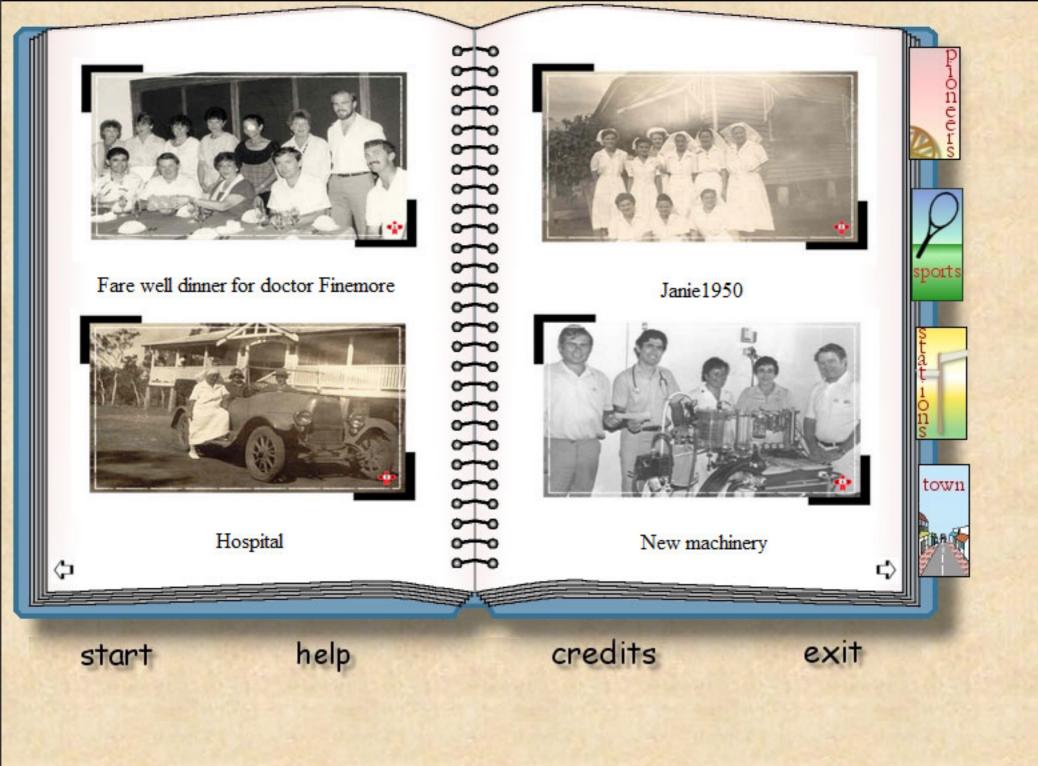


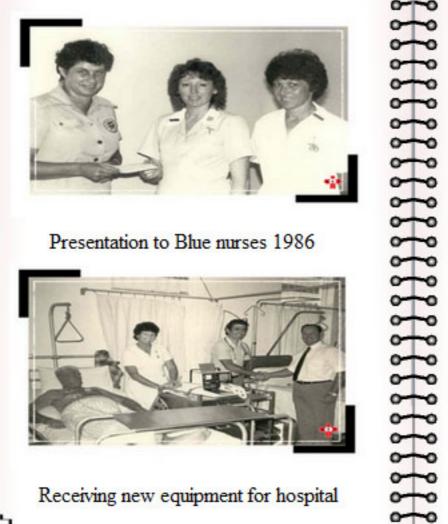












Presentation to Blue nurses 1986



Receiving new equipment for hospital



Nurses quarters collinsville hospital



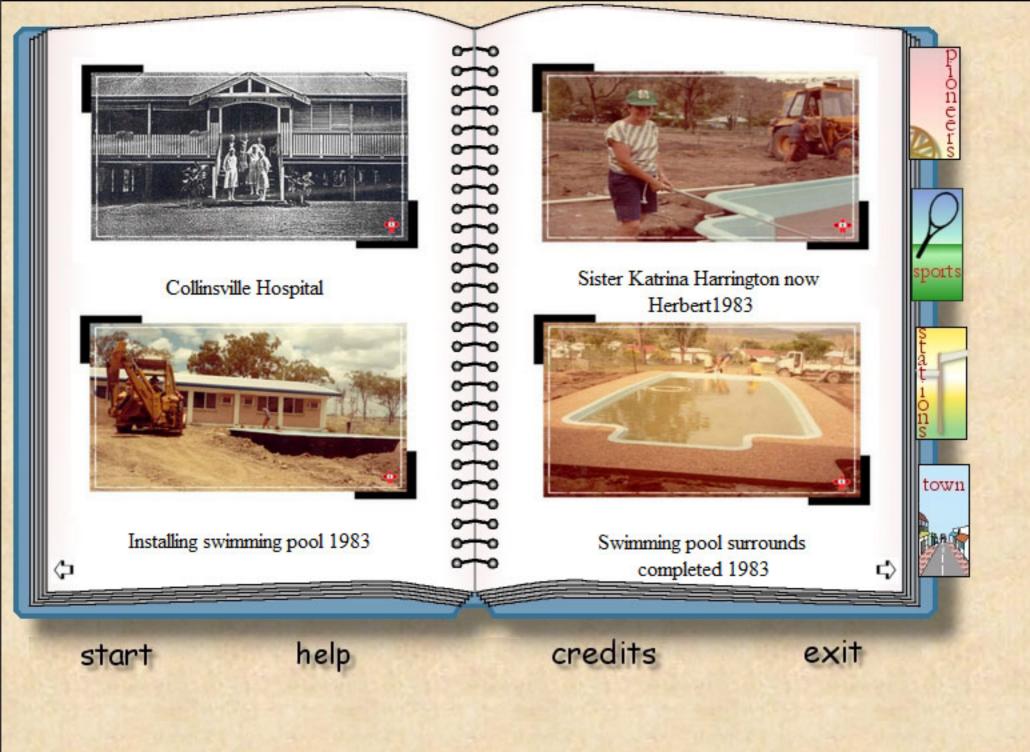
Sister Notta, first Sister

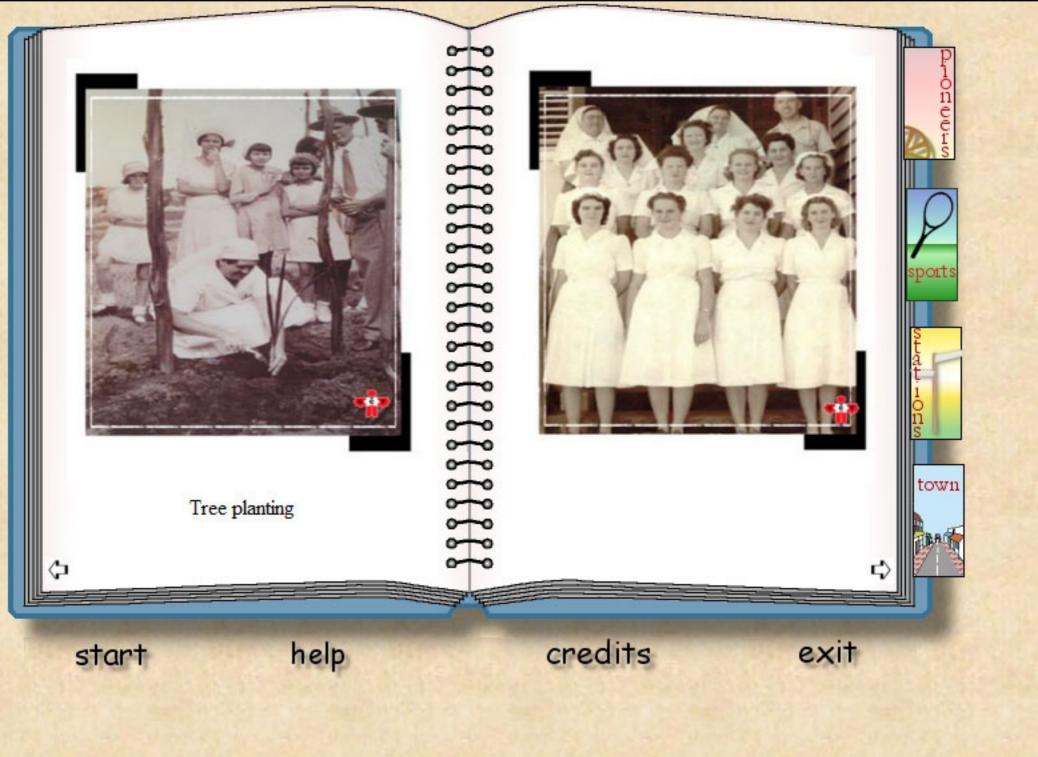
help start

credits

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town







First Matron, Matron Creedon

COLLINSVILLE CENTRE.

First Annual Report.

To the subscribers and general public of Collisaville and

Ladies and Centlemen

We have pleasure in submitting our first Annual Report of the opera-tions of the Collinaville Contra of the Brigade for the twelve months ending 39th Jane 19th.

The Brigade was first established in Collinsville in March INE after a visit is February of Mr. F. Roome, chairman, and Mr. C. Williams, Reperintendent of the Mackay Centre, who held a public meeting in Dun-lop's Hall, and it was then decided to form a sub-branch of the Mackay Queensiand Ambulance Transport Brigade Hospital in Collinaville, and a constitutive was elected to carry cut the duties of the sub-tentre, and Deputy Superintendent F. Cuiverbouw was transferred from Machay to

As the sub-centre was not in a position to sreet its own headquarters, the manager of the State Coal Mine kindly agreed to let the brigade have the use of one of the rooms at the mine office, and this room still remains the headquarters of the brigade.

In June 1932 the commotione decided that the financial position of the sub-centre warranted our taking over as a separate centre and this was done, Mackay brigade handing over the centrel of the sub-centre on 19th rane 1933.

Prior to taking over on the above date, all accounts and salaries due were paid by the Machay brigade on our behalf, as was also the cost of the Bucks motor analysiance or.

Our total indebtedness to Mackay brigade from the inception until the sub-centre took over control amounts to 121/121/4 which includes the sum, of £023/12/9 for the Ambolance Car. Against this a sum of £030 has been paid on account of the zer, and £000 towards the other expenditure, thus leaving the amount of £13/14/4 outstanding.

The question of the Collinaville Centre evering its own headquarters has become a matter of urgency, and is necessary in the interests of successful administration, and efficiency in the working of the brigade. A special effort will therefore be necessary to raise funds for this purpose, and we feet sure that the effort will have the heaving support of the public, who have already proved their generosity in the past.

STATISTICS.

The following record of calls received .--

Office Cases:

Alcidente Transports Deverse Billebe Total.

The distance travelled in connection with the above cases totalled 2.307 miles and is made up as follows:

Poot Ricycle Horse Wagon Public Conveyance Motor Total 264 1.413 8,307

First Ambulance Report

start

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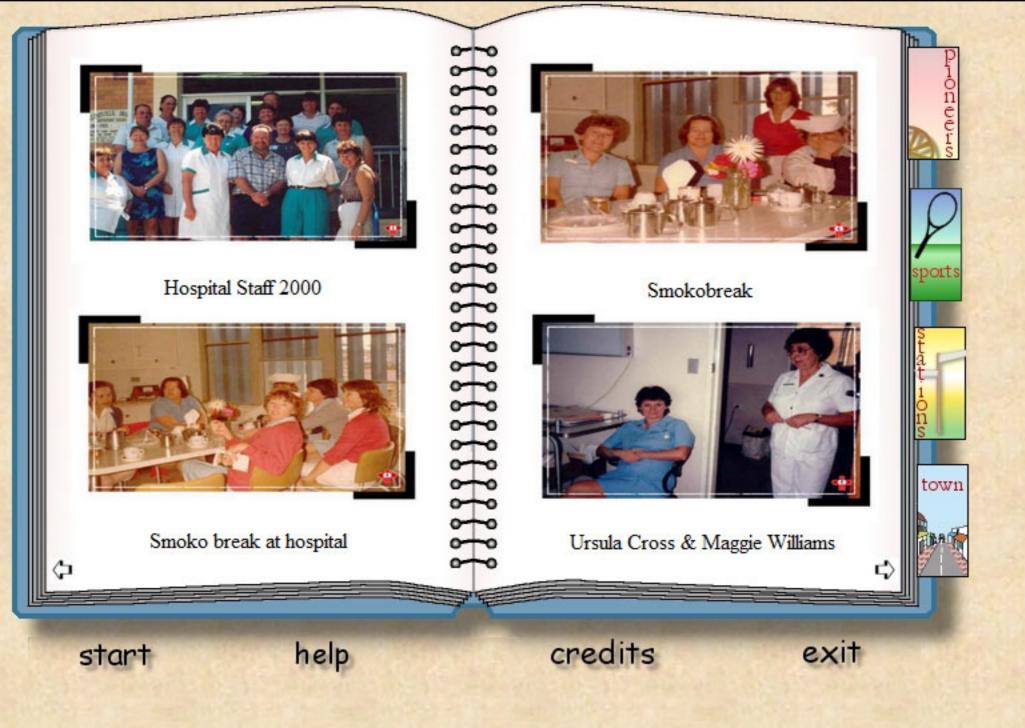
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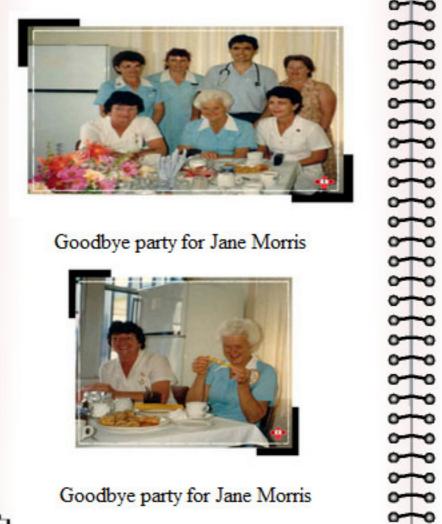


port









Goodbye party for Jane Morris



Goodbye party for Jane Morris

help



Jenny Aspinall



Putting up pool fence with help from Apex club1983

town

credits exit

start



Nurses training at mines rescue



Mines rescue training



Training at mines rescue



Sister Dot Earl and nurse Robin Wati at nurses ball 1986

town

start help credits exit



Nurse Peter Smith & Collette Woolley at nurses ball 1986



Paul Stockdale & Matron Cross at nurses bal 11986



Sister Donna Fraser & Ian Martin at nurses ball 1986

sports

town



Sister Dot Earl, Doctor Jack Dascalu & Sharon Clancy at nursesball 1986

start help credits exit



Ambulance Station



Ambulances



Ladies Ambulance Ball Ticket 1939



Gents Ambulance Ball Ticket 1939

start

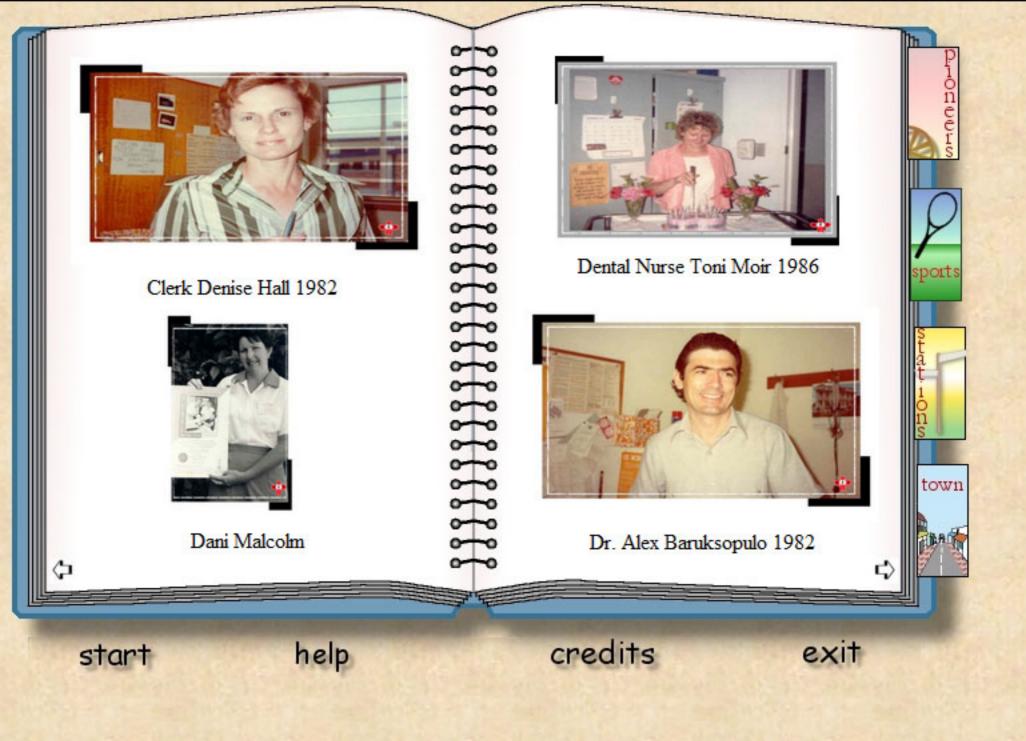
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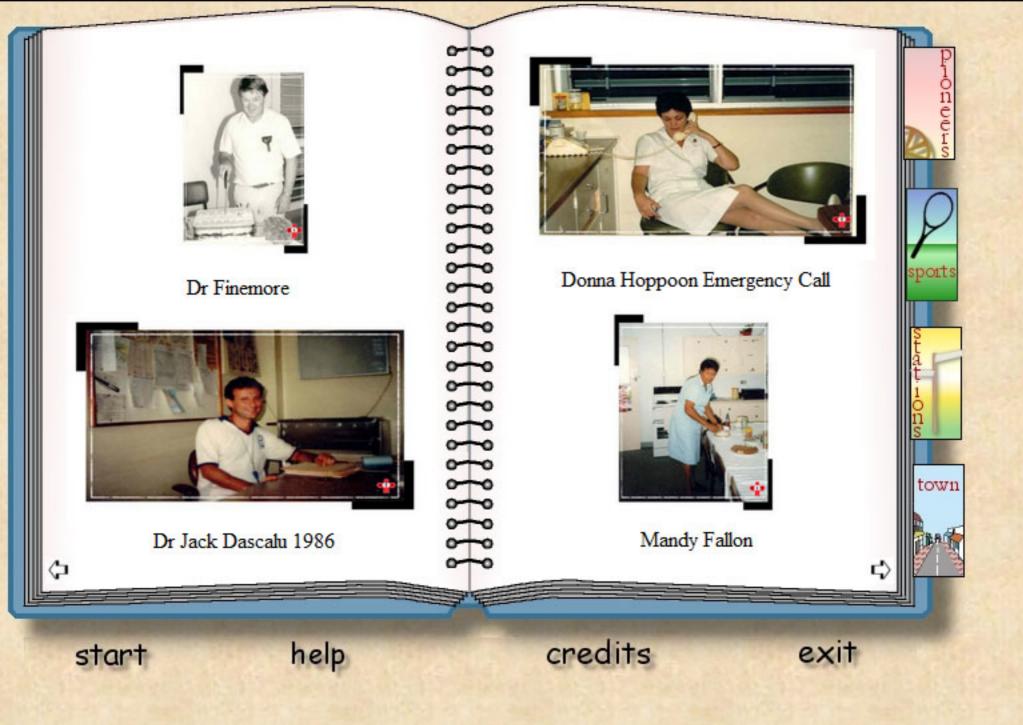
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town







Marlene Drinkwater & Colleen Sloan



Matron Ursula Cross 1982



Nurse Christine Whitehead



Nurse Deb Morrissey - now Perhouse 1982

start

help

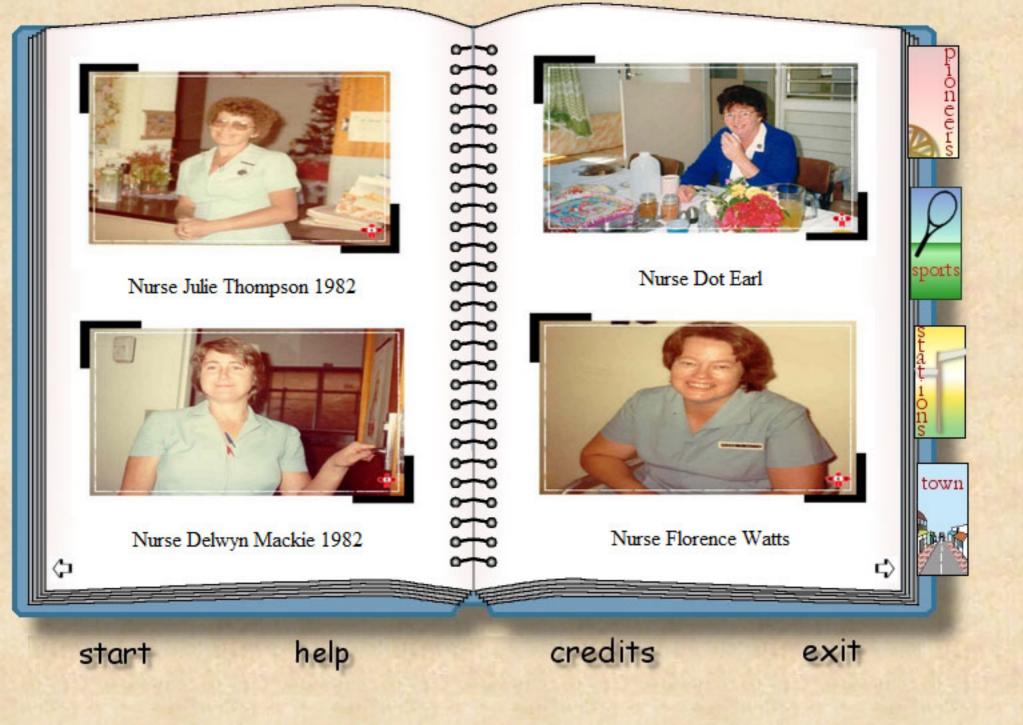
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Nurse Jane Morris 1982



Nurse Jenny Blakeney - nee Butterworth 1982

start

help



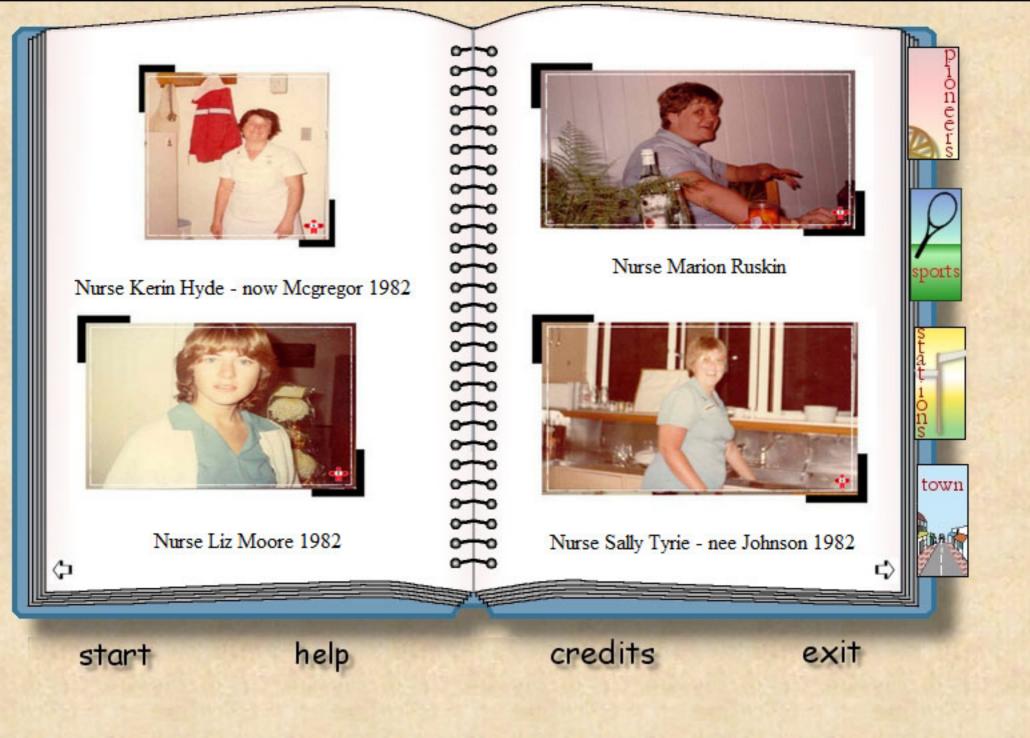
Nurse Judy Houlihan - nee Borrell 1982

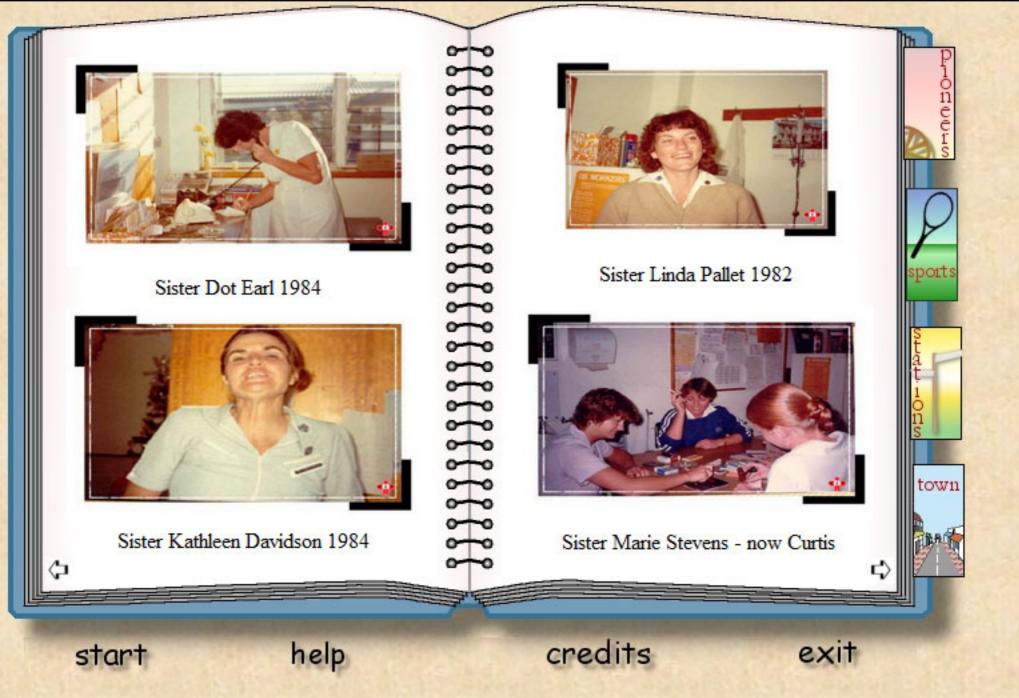


Nurse Julie Thompson 1982

town

credits exit







Sister Mavis Mcardle 1984



Sisters Pat Bevan & Pat Gilroy 1982



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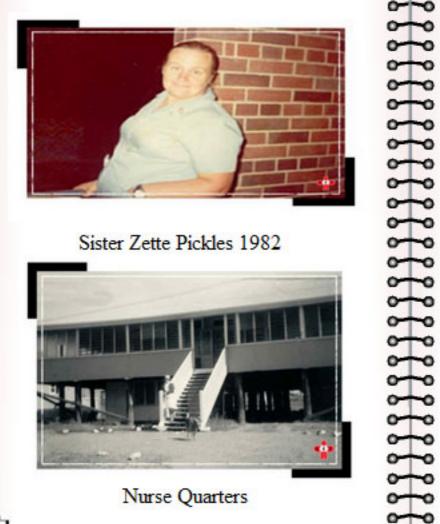
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Sister Wendy Bliss 1982



Sister Wendy Gaal 1982

start help credits exit



Sister Zette Pickles 1982



Nurse Quarters



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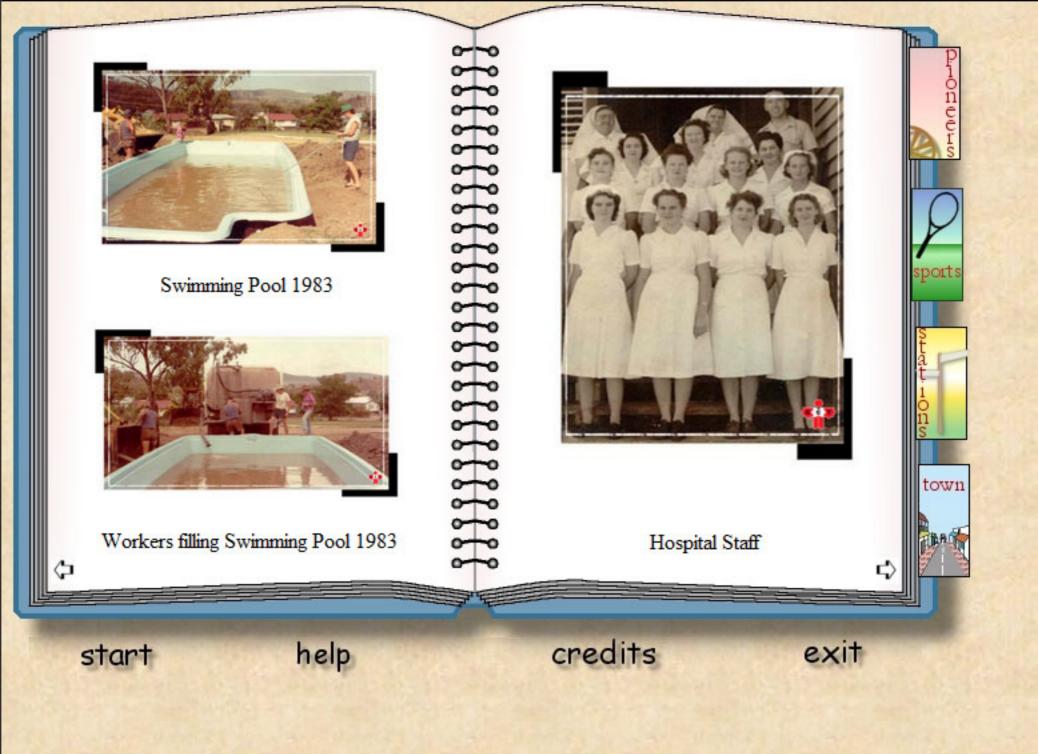
town

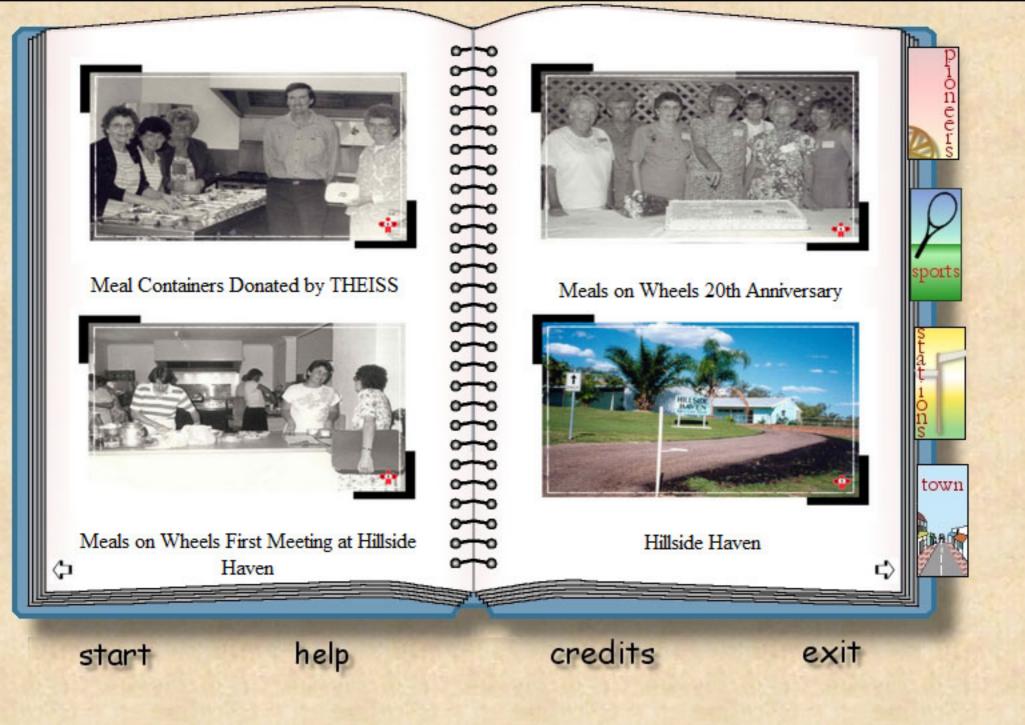
Doctor & Nursing Staff 1949



Sister Jenny Aspinall & Phillip Aspinall

credits exit start help







Meals on Wheels Car Donated by THEISS



100000th Meal Recipient Mrs Tudehope with Norrien Hinds and Bev Bulloch



oneers

town

Container Lids Donated by THEISS



Cheque Donated by Cornett's IGA

credits exit

start

help





Jane Morris Volunteer



Meals on Wheels Kitchen Volunteers



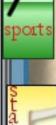
New Stove in the Hostel Kitchen

start

help

credits

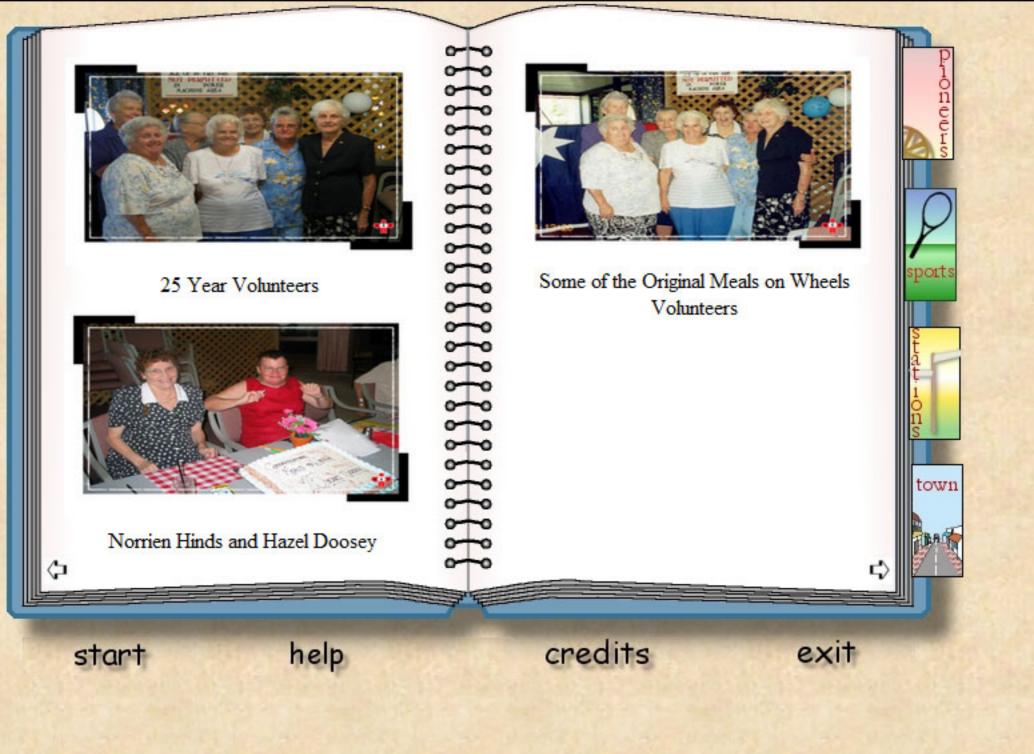
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oneers







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start help credits exit