# From the Oral History collection: Myrna Grose OAM Audio transcript

Myrna: There was a lot of freedom about being a child in Canberra in the 1930s.

Diana: Your father, Harry Dodd, he was Sergeant at Arms. What are your first recollections of your father's career?

Myrna: I remember being very thrilled, and very excited when my father was appointed Sergeant at Arms. My mother was delighted, and it was a very big step. The Speaker of the House… No, the Clerk of the House of Reps was at that time Frank Green, and my father spoke very fondly of him. My father was very happy to serve with him and Justice Sid Chubb, and Alan Turner.

I remember there was a carpool, and my father used to come home for lunch. My mother cooked us a hot luncheon and my father always came home for lunch. We heard stories of what had happened in the morning at the House. We were very proud of him as Sergeant at Arms. He brought us, often, to the House. I remember the smell in the corridors, the beautiful smell of polished wood and waxed floors. We always felt very special coming to Parliament House.

Diana: Would you be here for the openings and things like that?

Myrna: I think we came once or twice, but we came... Daddy brought us to hear some of the debates. We sat behind the corded ropes. That was a very special time. I remember particularly watching him dress in the regalia of the Sergeant at Arms and how beautifully polished his shoes were and how proud he was to carry the mace and accompany the speaker of the house.