

The Three Molnar Brothers



This picture was taken in my apartment in Sydney in 1965, but I couldn't tell you on what occasion. From left to right: my brother Peter, I, my brother Jancsi. When they came to Australia Peter was 16 years old. First he worked for six months on a plane at a big factory called Spurway, where he earned 23 pounds, with overtime 26 pounds. He was pretty well off with this for a while. Then in the environs where we lived, there was a milk bar, this is almost like an espresso, owned by a Jewish gentleman, called Mauthner, and my father joined. My mother took part in this, too: she cooked Hungarian food. In the milk bar there wasn't a kitchen, so my mother cooked the food at home, and Peter took it there in kettles. Later on Peter bought the milk bar. That Mauthner was a very nice guy, but they quarreled over a stupidity. The coffee machine was very old, and Peter said that they should buy a new one, and the guy got upset and said, 'you young people just throw the money around.' He offered to part, and said that Peter should buy the shop. Peter said that he would love to buy it, but didn't have money. Then Mauthner said that that wasn't a problem, and that he should only give him a certain amount of money, because he wanted to go to Munich. They wanted to lock him up, because he hadn't been paying the maintenance for his wife. The milk bar operated from 1957 until 1960, and then it went bankrupt, because Peter spent all the money on cards and horse races. Jancsi was eleven years old in 1956. He went to school here in Australia. He didn't really like school, he wasn't a good pupil, he wanted to work instead. He came to work for me at the clothing shop in Parramatta, he was there for a while, then he went to work at one of Kaufmann's shops. And when Peter bought his first shop he worked there for about two years. Then he left the shop and bought an independent jewelry shop. When the lease agreement expired, he bought another shop at a very busy place, where he became specialized in watches. This one still exists and it prospers. They live off this.