

FEATHERING THE NEST

Frank and Marlene Lovell were searching for a town in which to retire, but they didn't need to go far to find their new home.

Growing up in the Riverina, Frank and Marlene were very familiar with Temora. Frank, an experienced pilot and aviation enthusiast, had been flying in and out of the town for over 30 years.

"Aviation has always been a big part of my life and I've owned 11 different planes over the years," Frank says.

The couple were living in Wagga Wagga, an hour south of Temora, and driving out to Wagga's Airport to fly. When they started planning for their retirement, they decided they wanted a house and hangar package so they could have the freedom of flying when they wanted.

"We looked at other Airparks and nearly purchased a block elsewhere, but we finally realised that Temora felt most like home," says Frank.

The couple say it was the fellowship within the aviation community that finally brought them to Temora.

"Aviation brings everyone together and we already had a lot of connections at the Airpark.

"We have found it very easy to make some great friends since we moved to live in the Airpark," Frank states.

They purchased a double block in 2010, with the vision of creating a backyard so Marlene could pursue her love of gardening. The planning and building of their house and hangar was a big project, but they had the support of local tradespeople.

"We used all local builders and tradespeople when we built our place and they were just fantastic; we can't fault them," says Marlene.

Now they have settled into their new home in Temora and absolutely love it.

"We love the town, the shops are lovely and the coffee is fantastic! There is just so much to see and do in Temora, including the museums and Lake Centenary," Marlene says.

Frank has since been responsible for convincing other families to move to the Airpark and has even been dubbed the 'Mayor of the Airpark'.

"We've had people move here from other Airparks, because they just haven't been as well-planned as Temora's.

"It is obvious the local council wanted to make this Airpark work and they were willing to help in any way they could," Frank says.

Frank is a member of the Aerodrome User's Committee that meet regularly with the Council to give feedback and says that the Council has been great to work with.

The couple urge other people looking to make a move to make the trip to Temora first and see what the town has to offer.

"They need to have a good look at Temora's Airpark before they make a decision elsewhere.

"I don't think they'll find anything better than Temora's Airpark," Frank adds.

