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Tony enjoys life on the run

CHRIS GEORGAKOPOULOS

DELIVERY of milk was thought to be a service of the past but not for Aussie Farmers Direct franchisee Tony Dukes.

The Cambridge Park resident bought into the franchise eight months ago and home delivers milk, bread, dairy products, restaurant-quality meats and fruit and vegetables.

Mr Dukes, 45, remembers the days of home milk delivery.

"If you look at statistics, 80 per cent of the milk in households back in the 1980s were from your milkman," Mr Dukes said.

"The supermarkets jumped on that concept and pushed back the milkman then."

Mr Dukes delivers to Cranebrook, Water-side, Castlereagh, Llandilo, Penrith, Kings-wood and, in future, Jordan Springs.

The main reason Mr Dukes became involved in the growing company was for its fresh produce and to support Australian farmers.

"I am a consumer as well, so I just want to get the freshest products," he said.

"With our processes, our fruit and vegetables are directly from the farmer. The next day we pack it and the day after we deliver. That way it is not kept in cold storage for six weeks like a lot of others are, and is the freshest it can be."

Despite home delivery being a concept of the past, Mr Dukes says it is not just the elderly who order their food.

"We've got a lot of young people who have tried the product," he said.

"We also deliver into some businesses now, not just households.

"I am proud to be delivering milk as well."

The question remains as to whether delivery of food is high in demand.

"I think in general there is a definite demand for home deliveries," Mr Dukes said.

"Because of our concept of freshness we've been able to become Australia's leading franchisee this year, and last year were Australia's fastest-growing company. We service 80,000 houses across Australia.

"In the future we're just going to improve and get more products in our range."

Orders can be placed online at aussiefarmers.com.au.

"It's online shopping - people can just go on to our website and place or change their orders," Mr Dukes said.



Do you like the new style of home delivery or do you miss the old-fashioned service?

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