

Edward Lionel TUCKER 30-1-1875 to 1-10-1955 & Ethel May WEIR

Biography as published in 1985 & 1995

Edward Lionel was the third child, third son of Annie and John and was born in South Australia. His grandparents were Rachel and Ewen McDonald and great-grandparents were Christina and Donald McLean. His first cousin, Mary Elizabeth Raggatt, was born five months later in Horsham, Victoria.

The famed medical missionary and musician, Albert Schweitzer, whose humanitarian work won him the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize, was also born in January 1875. And it was in that year that primary schooling was made compulsory in South Australia.

Lionel grew up on the family farm and to finish his education was sent to Way College in Adelaide. During the 1890s he went to Western Australia as a member of a surveying team whose job it was to determine the boundary of the wild dog, or dingo, fence for that state.

In 1896 the Strathalbyn Polo Club played its first match against an Adelaide team. The players were J. L. Stirling captain, E. Lionel and Hubert L. Tucker, and H. Smith. Adelaide won, three goals to two. Over the years, the Tucker family provided many players. Two of Lionel's favourite horses at this time were Bronco and a chestnut mare Zetta. His friend Dr H. Formby had a black gelding named Don. Lionel's niece Nan Rogers married a member of the Formby family, John Formby Carne.

On April 11, 1900, at the College Park Congregational Church, Adelaide, Lionel married Ethel May Weir. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Harrison H. Weir of *Ada Villa*, George Street, St Peters, South Australia. The Weir family came from Birmingham, England.

Ethel was educated privately and at the John R. Ashton Art School. She was an accomplished artist and a number of her large oil paintings are still in the possession of her children. The young couple made their home at *Corra Lynn* near *Lake View*. Lionel ran a mixed farm of sheep and wheat, and grew a great deal of cereal hay to feed the many horses. They had a family of two daughters and three sons.

During the 1914-15 drought, the South Australian Government provided relief work for farmers on the construction of the Hindmarsh Valley Reservoir near Victor Harbor. Lionel had taken a dray and two horses and joined the work-force and was still away from home when Ethel's last child was born in 1915.

In the days before motor vehicles it was not uncommon for Ethel to drive from Strathalbyn to Adelaide and back with two of the polo ponies harnessed in a buggy.

Ethel died in January 1945, the year in which her grandson Cyril Stuart Tucker was born. Lionel died at Edenhope, Victoria, in October 1955. They are both buried in Strathalbyn cemetery.

The *Cyclopaedia of South Australia*, 1909, has an entry for Lionel.

Edward Lionel Tucker — 'Corra Lynn' Sandergrove, about five miles from Strathalbyn, is the 3rd son of Mr. W. J. Tucker and was born on his father's property in 1875. At the close of his educational training at Way College, Adelaide, he was brought up to farming and agricultural pursuits under his father and in 1909 became the owner of 'Corra Lynn' estate which comprises between 700 and 800 acres. In addition, Mr. Tucker has leasehold property on which he carries out general farming operations, wheat growing and fattening lambs, etc. He is a constant exhibitor at various agricultural shows held in the district and has

been the successful winner of prizes for draught horses, polo and jumping ponies and the best heifer under two years old. Mr. Tucker is an enthusiastic polo player, being a member of the Strathalbyn team, and has met with much success in the various contests which have taken place, carrying off many prizes. He is a member of the Loyal Angas Lodge of Oddfellows. Married in 1900 to Ethel May, daughter of McD. H. H. Weir of St. Peter's, his family consists of two sons.

Children of Lionel and Ethel

1. Lionel Rex Tucker	Born 10-11-1901	Died 11-12-89
2. Keith McDonald Tucker	Born 28-1-1905	Died 13-1-1988
3. Cyril Gordon Tucker	Born 11-8-1907	Died 21-4-1983
4. Audrey Leonore Tucker	Born 2-4-1911	
5. Sylvia May Tucker	Born 29-7-1915	Died 3-9-1980

- SOURCE : This biography was from page 70 of "History of Ewen & Rachel McDonald & Descendants" by Jill McDonald which was originally published in 1985. It was republished as part of "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" in 1995.
- COLONIALISTS : Christina and Donald McLean and their ten children migrated from Argyllshire to South Australia in 1837. This was in the earliest years of the colony. The McLeans initially settled near Adelaide where they grew the first wheat crop in SA. Then in about 1840 they pioneered the Strathalbyn area. There are now well over 20,000 descendants spread across Australia and elsewhere.
- CHANGES : Please contact us with additions, corrections or suggestions about any part of this family tree.
- CONTACT : Visit our website www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.