

Adelaide Margareta MOTT 19-11-1885 to 10-4-1972 & Roger William Hercules HAWKEN

Biography as published in 1985 & 1995

Adelaide Margretta was the fifth child, first daughter of Margaret and Charles Mott and was born in Victoria. That year four of her first cousins, Rachel Tucker in South Australia, Rachel Annie McDonald, Beatrice Louisa McDonald and Flora Raggatt, were born, all in Victoria. Her grandparents were Rachel and Ewen McDonald and great-grandparents were Christina and Donald McLean.

Overseas, Russia occupied a portion of Afghanistan, provoking a crisis in Anglo-Russian relations. and in England the author D. H. Lawrence was born. A New South Wales expeditionary force left Sydney for the Sudan.

Dell was educated by governess at home and then attended Black Mountain Public School until she was 17 years old. She then assisted her mother at home and later kept house for her brothers at *Glendon*.

In 1905 Dell accompanied her mother Margaret when she visited her parents Ewen and Rachel McDonald and other relations at Carchap near Horsham. Dell was still there when her grandfather Ewen died. Dell met the young district engineer from Warialda, Roger Hawken, and he became a frequent visitor, her brothers teasing them unmercifully. In 1910 Dell married Roger William Hercules Hawken at *Springmount*, the home of her parents. They spent their honeymoon on one of the northern rivers of New South Wales. Roger was the son of Nicholas and Mary Jane Hawken, nee Vance and was one of twelve children, some of them being Workman, Isabel, Jane, Lorne, Lena, Austin, Charles and Harold. Nicholas Hawken was born in Cornwall and had gone to New Zealand as a young man, with his brothers. Later he moved to NSW. He married Mary Jane at Kiama in 1860 and became a commission agent in the firm of Hawken and Vance in Sydney. At various times he was a member of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council of NSW, and an alderman and mayor of Newtown. The Hawken family lived at *The Gables*, City Road, Darlington, Sydney. Nicholas was born in 1836 and died in 1908. Mary was born in 1838 and died in 1909.

Roger Hawken was born on May 12, 1878 and attended Newington College and Sydney University where he graduated with first class honours in civil engineering in 1900 and as Bachelor of Arts in 1902. He was appointed lecturer in engineering at the newly-opened University of Queensland in 1912 and, in 1919, became Professor Hawken, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, a post he held until his death. Hawken Drive at the new university was named in his honour. Roger was tolerant of other people's beliefs and foibles and had a wide interest in subjects other than engineering. In later years he played bridge and taking up bowls, became an absolute fanatic.

When first in Queensland, Dell and Roger lived in Wellington Street, East Brisbane, but in 1916 they built a new home at 5 Kidston Street, Albion Heights. This site was chosen because one of Roger's colleagues had offered to share his home lighting plant with them. Two of their children still live in this house.

Dell and Roger and their five daughters always spent Christmas at *Springmount* and later at *Belmore* where sometimes thirty five people would sit down to dinner. On Charles' death they bought a house in Armidale which was rented to a university man during the year and used by the family during the Christmas holidays. The house *Belmore* became Dell's property and was rented. Eventually both houses were sold. Roger died in October 1947, aged 69 years, and was cremated at the Mt Thompson Crematorium, Brisbane.

Dell's niece Pat Coventry relates an incident which shows a little of her aunt's strong personality and sense of humour :-

“Aunt Dell was an absolute joy. I remember being picked up by her from the train in Brisbane and her driving at a pretty fast pace through the centre of town, only to meet lots of traffic. She reached across to the glove box, pulled out a very large policeman-like whistle and putting her head out of the window proceeded to blow it full blast. All the traffic stopped and pulled to one side. Aunt whizzed past, not batting an eyelid.”

Dell would attend to simple mending jobs on her car and try her hand at anything. At an advanced age she attended woodwork classes at a technical school and her proud achievement was a coffee table. Dell died on April 10, 1972 at the age of 87 years and was cremated at the Mt Thompson Crematorium.

Children of Dell and Roger :-

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| 1. <i>Marjory</i> Isobel Hawken | Born 16-7-1912 | Died 30-6-1982 |
| 2. <i>Phyllis</i> Adelaide Hawken | Born 24-7-1913 | |
| 3. <i>Joy</i> Marion Mott Hawken | Born 23-10-1914 | |
| 4. <i>Margaret</i> Rachel Hawken | Born 11-4-1922 | Died 1986 |
| 5. <i>Barbara</i> Gilbert Hawken | Born 5-11-1923 | |

- SOURCE : This biography was from page 124 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.