

# Christina (Tina) McPhee STARK & KELLY, nee McLEAN & Edward Stirling STARK & Peter KELLY

Biography as published in 1995

CHRISTINA MCPHEE McLEAN ("Tina") - the 3rd child of Allen and Catherine (nee Dawson) McLean was born at "Meadow Bank", Strathalbyn on 11/7/1849.

Parents : Catherine (nee Dawson) & Allan McLean

Grandparents : Jane (nee Hamilton) & James Dawson and Christina (nee McPhee) and Donald McLean.

**MARRIAGE:** (at the age of 19) to **Edward Stirling Stark** D. 1840 in the U.K. (and therefore a coincidence only, that one of the early pioneers was Edward Stirling, and was not his namesake).

The Starks reached S.A. when Edward was aged 7 years. His father Alexander purchased land from the McLeans, part section 2601 on the banks of the River Angas, and later 23 lots at adjoining New Hamburg (now Willyaroo from 1917). John McLean is said to have originally farmed "Angas Bank" before moving on to Angas Plains. The marriage took place at "Meadow Bank" on 25/8/1868. There was a newspaper announcement in the Adelaide "Register" as there was shortly after for the McLean/Inglis wedding.

Edward and his brother John, a bachelor (1833 - 1902), worked at "Angas Bank". There is a photograph of the house in Nancy Gemmell's book (page 68). The brothers were enthusiastic over rifle shooting and ploughing matches and both were members of the Volunteer Corps, referred to as the Red Coats. The brothers had either a cousin or illegitimate half-brother (descendants are at Millicent) who was born 1844 and mentioned in their father's Will as Alexander Stark "a faithful servant".

**DEATH:** of Edward Stirling Stark aged 35, suddenly, at Dry Plains near Milang, and burial at Strathalbyn on 27/8/1875, leaving widowed Christina with three small children. The eldest died in 1877. There has been mention of friction at "Angas Bank" between the brothers, or with Christina and John, because she moved to Albyn Terrace in the town. When Allan her father sold up in 1878 to begin again at Collinsfield near Redhill in the north, she too had a sale and left the town. Her father-in-law Alexander Stark also left, with his second wife (nee Margaret Fickling). His first, Isabella had died in 1867. He went to Morphett Vale, being one of the congregation of St. Andrew's who objected so strongly to the purchase of a harmonium. Alexander died 24/9/1883 at Morphett Vale.

**REMARRIAGE** of Christina - shown as Christina "Shark" incorrectly in the S.A. Biographical Index, at Clare, S.A. to Peter Kelly on 25/2/1880. Her sister Mrs Inglis had a sister-in-law nee Agnes Inglis (Mrs Jocelyn Kelly) of Mt Templeton where the Haldanes were also farming, so there seems the likelihood of a connection between the two Kelly men. Peter (b. 1844) farmed at Koolunga.

**DEATH:** of Peter Kelly on 12/11/1883 aged 39 at his Koolunga farm on the River Broughton, south of Crystal Brook. Christina was aged 35 and again left with small children as she had two daughters by this marriage and her two Stark sons were aged 10 and 8. She may have continued the Koolunga farm with hired help but it is not known how she coped. When her Stark sons were adult they moved to Western Australia and Christina and her daughters followed.

The notes of Jean Royal, a descendant, give an outline of what became of this family. In W.A. Christina lived for a longtime with daughter Bella, first at Perth, then at Katanning. After that she moved from one child to the other.

**DEATH:** of Christina Stark/Kelly was at the age of 86 on 23/6/1936 while slaying at son Andrew Stark's house, Perth. interred Karakatta, Perth.

Children of Christina and Edward Stark :-

- (1) Jane Stark born 19/3/1869 at Strathalbyn. Buried aged 7 years in the family plot at the Strathlbyn Cemetery on 27/2/1877.
- (2) Andrew Edward Stark born 3/6/1873 at Strathalbyn. Referred to as "Edward" by a nephew but otherwise as Andrew. At Albany Western Australia he married May Norman and then they moved onto Perth. They had 8 children.
- (3) Angas James Stark born 10/6/1875 at Strathalbyn. The only information of him came from a letter of 1977 when all but one of his family were deceased. These had been of Perth. He had 4 children.

Children of Christina & Peter Kelly :-

- (4) Margaret Jane Kelly born 9/6/1880 at Koolunga, S.A. At the wedding of her half-brother Andrew Stark to May Norman at Albany, W.A. she met May's brother William Norman and married him at Albany. (William James Norman of Albany was born 4/4/1883, son of Josiah and Thamson (nee Thomas) Norman.) He died 21/9/1962, Perth. Margaret Jane Norman died at Adelaide aged 87 years on 2/8/1967. They had 3 daughters - Jean, May and Margaret (Peggy) all born at Albany, W.A. The Normans subsequently moved from Albany to Geraldton, W.A. A photograph with the daughters was taken of William and Margaret in 1947 at Safety Bay, W.A. Of their 11 grandchildren and many great grandchildren 12 had University degrees (one at Oxford on scholarship) – arts, dentistry, medicine, theology, engineering and music.
- (5) Isabella Kelly (Bella) born 15/3/1881 at Koolunga, S.A. After the removal to W.A. Christina lived mainly with this daughter Bella, at Perth and later at Katanning. The sisters did not keep in touch so that very few details of Bella's life have survived. She had two children Bonnie and Barry Dawson. Her second marriage was to a farmer, whose surname was German and there were further children.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 60 to 63.
- 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](http://www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com) or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.