

# John Herbert (Herbit) Thomas Sinclair CHAPLIN & Blanche Clarissa May CHAPLIN, nee COOK

Biography as published in 1995

**John Herbert Thomas Sinclair Chaplin** known as "Herbit" b. 11/6/1877 at "Waterloo", Angas Plains, was incorrectly named in the Will of his grandfather John McLean as "Albert" and left 50 pounds (\$100) in 1903.

Parents : Agnes Jane Chaplin (nee McLean) & Thomas Chaplin

Grandparents : Mary McLean (nee Stacey) & John McLean

G-Grandparents : Christine McLean (nee McPhee & Donald McLean

MARRIAGE: "Herbit" married Blanche Clarissa May Cook (born c. 1883) at St. Paul's, Port Adelaide. The witnesses were J. J. Frost, labourer of Glanville and R. E. McLean of Semaphore, SA.

HISTORY: from the Encyclopedia of S.A. 1909 - Vol. 2. Page 897.

"Councillor John Herbert Chaplin, Member of the Goolwa Town Council, was born at Angas Plains near Milang, S.A. on June 10th, 1877 (registration 11th) being a son of Mr Thomas Chaplin and grandson of Mr John McLean of Angas Plains, one of the early pioneers of the Province, the subject of this notice was brought up to farming pursuits, but subsequently became identified with the river trade for nearly twelve months in partnership with Captain John Ritchie. He then established himself (in 1902) at Goolwa as a general storekeeper and carrier and now does the principle carrying trade between Goolwa and Adelaide. In 1904 Mr Chaplin was elected a Member of the 'Goolwa Town Council and has served the interests of the rate payers in that capacity ever since He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity (his mother Lodge being the Corinthian No. 34).

He was married on 25/8/1903 to a daughter of the late Mr William Cook, carpenter of Port Adelaide - Blanche Clarissa May Cook. They had a family of 3 boys and 3 girls."

DEATH: "Herbit" Chaplin contracted typhoid fever while constructing the Victor Harbor Reservoir. He died at the Royal Adelaide Hospital on 27/2/1917 aged 39 years leaving a young family. His wife Blanche moved to Port Adelaide and brought up her family there and supported them by having the job of cleaner of the Harbour's Board offices.

DEATH: of Blanche Chaplin on 25/9/1964 aged 81 years.

#### CHILDREN:

1. Edward Herbit Thomas Chaplin b. 16/10/1904. Died: aged 79 years on 9/4/1984. Unmarried. Residence: not stated.
2. Hazel Olive Chaplin b. 1906. Residence: not stated. Married: Cyril Stephens. In 1993 she was a resident of the Merle Martin Nursing Home. Birkenhead, S.A. Hazel had one child, Grace who was born before the marriage and none after the marriage.
  - Grace Chaplin b. 2/9/1928. Married: John M. Bond (b. 20/6/1929). Residence: Richmond, S.A. Children – Stephen, Helen & Raeline
3. Bernice Chaplin b. 1909 in Goolwa. Married twice - 1st: Darcy Hancock. 2nd: Ralph Danivin. Residence: not stated. No children. Death: aged 82 years on 20/11/1991.
4. Alexander Finniss Chaplin born 23/8/1912, Goolwa, S.A. Married: Marjorie Jean Stone (b. 1914). Death: of Alexander Chaplin aged 74 years in Dec. 1986. Occupation and residence: Dairy farmer at Yundi, S.A. from 1937.  
Children-

- Stuart Alexander Chaplin b. 14/4/1940. Married: Bettie Ann Rothe (she was b: 17/10/1937). Residence and occupation: Farmer of Yundi, S.A. Children – Roger, Theresa & Craig.
  - Russell John Chaplin b. 22/11/1941. Married: Yvonne Winnifred Brown (tn. 21/6/1944) - divorced.  
Her residence: Milang, S.A. His residence: Lake Plains, S.A. They had 5 children – Ian, David, Kenneth, Paul & Colin.
  - Lance Ivan Chaplin b. 31/10/1945 at Unley, S.A. Married: Rosalie Joy Haywood (b. 2/11/1949). Residence: Lake Plains. Occupation: Potato grower. History: His parents had taken up a dairy farm in 1937 at Yundi and Lance attended the Yundi Primary School and the Willunga High School. Owing to his interest in agriculture his first potato crops were grown at Yundi in the 1960s. These were irrigated from the Finniss River. In 1963 at the age of 18 he came to the Milang area (his brothers knew the area through shearing there). He leased land owned by the two Misses Findlater, sisters of Lake Plains and commenced growing potatoes. Over the years he has bought numerous land sections at Lake Plains for lucerne and potato growing. Lance is now one of the largest potato growers in South Australia. His wife and son Allan run a small yabby farm as a sideline. Lance spent four and a half years as a councillor at Strathalbyn District Council. Children – Allan & Daniel. Research supplied by Jack McLean, Milang, S.A. - In 1993 Lance Chaplin and family sold a large portion of their property (600 acres) to MILDARA BLASS WINERY. The Chaplins have now bought a large property at Woods Well, 42 kilometres south of Meningie, S.A.
  - Kathryn Marjorie Chaplin b. 16/3/1952. Married: Adrian Scott - divorced. Children - Carolyn & Vanessa.
5. Blanche Mary Agnes Chaplin b. 14/11/1914 at Goolwa, S.A. 5th child of "Herbit" and Blanche Chaplin. Married: Richard Matthews. Residence: not traced. Children – Ellis, Trevor & Cheryl. Nothing further traced.
  6. Arthur William Kitchener Chaplin b. 4/8/1916 at Goolwa, S.A. the youngest son of "Herbit" and Blanche Chaplin. Married: Patricia Chadwick. Residence; Victor Harbor (1993). Children – Sandra & Dianne.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 287 to 290.
- 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.