

George Henry McLEAN & Sarah Ann McLEAN, nee MILGATE

Biography as published in 1995

GEORGE HENRY McLEAN born 15/8/1853 at Strathalbyn, S.A.

Parents : Ann Soward McLean (nee Janeway) & Archibald McLean

Grandparents : Christina McLean (nee McPhee) & Donald McLean

George worked at his father's farm "Melrose". Angus Plains and with his brothers accompanied father Archie to Naracoorte in the south east of S.A. to commence at a property at The Gap, 16 miles from the town. At the age of 21 he left for Victoria and applied for a land lease in the Shire of Dunmunkle on 11/3/1874. The lease was granted on 26/8/1875, 320'acres of Section 94. In 1877 he was joined by his brother Archibald Sinclair until the latter gained his own licence. George (sometimes referred to as "Henry") remained in the area and enlarged his holding at Minyip.

They lived initially in a house of three rooms 30 feet by 15 feet and a stable and stockyard constructed from local materials. For water supply there was a well 12 by 12 by 6 feet and for the stock a dam 66 by 33 by 9 feet. On May 31 1875 he was one of the petitioners for a school at Dunmunkle and there his children were educated in due course. He must have already decided to marry.

MARRIAGE: to **Sarah Ann Milgate** (b. 8/10/1854 at Rowland Flat, S.A.) the 2nd child of James Milgate (1817-1896) and his 2nd wife Emily Harriet (nee Martin 1816-1909). The Milgates had moved from S.A. to near Minyip in 1874. That early house was of mud bricks and thatched roof. In 1880/81 severe drought caused an acute water shortage and some of the settlers left the district but George Henry battled on and carted water 6 miles, in casks, from Yarriambiack Creek, Kewell. They made good progress and there were 8 children. In 1896 with the Boolight Brass Band.

DEATHS:

George Henry McLean in his 66th year on 28/11/1918 at Minyip.

Sarah Ann McLean aged 63 years on 27/8/1919 at Minyip. Both interred at Minyip.

CHILDREN (8):

1. Hugh (Hughie) McLean born 1880 at Minyip, Vic. Farmer of Minyip. Married: Esther Gilbert Burton (b. Sept. 1888, Minyip). Deaths: Hughie died at Minyip aged 50 years on 9/11/1930. Interred at Minyip. Esther died in November 1969. interred also at Melbourne, leaving an only son - Lindsay (b. 7/3/1912 at Minyip).
2. Mary McLean born 10/3/1881, Minyip, Vic Unmarried. Died: at Preston. Vic. aged 56 years on 10/10/1937.
3. Rose Ann McLean born 1882, Minyip, Vic. Married: William Scott. No children. Residence: Donald, Vic. Died: aged 67 years on 12/11/1949, at St. Amands Hospital. Interred at Donald, Vic.
4. Jessie Maude McLean b. 25/11/1883 at Minyip, Vic. Married: William Davis. See biographies 5093.4
5. Allan George McLean born 20/12/1884 at Minyip, Vic. Married: at Minyip, Flora Mary McLean (apparently unrelated). She was born 23/10/1885 at Minyip. Residences: Ouyen and Beulah, Vic Deaths: Allan on 25/7/1952 aged 68 years at Fawkner, Vic. Flora on 29/3/1965 aged 80 years at Melbourne. They had 3 children – Mavis (b. 10/7/1913 at Ouyen, Vic), Greta (b. 20/10/1915, at Minyip, Vic) & Ronald (b. 4/8/1917, Beulah, Vic).
6. Margaret Christina McLean born 17/1/1886, Minyip, Vic. 6th child of George Henry and his wife Sarah (nee Milgate) McLean of Minyip. Married: Thomas Montague Burton (b 20/5/1887. Minyip, Vic.). Deaths:

Thomas at Minyip on 13/7/1956 aged 69 years. Margaret his wife at Minyip on 28/5/1960 aged 75. There were 6 Burton children - Margaret (b. 7/5/1911, Minyip), Eunice (b. 31/5/1912), Ivy (b. 12/11/1914, Minyip), Dulcie (b. 22/2/1916, Minyip, Vic), Roy (b. 7/9/1917, Warracknabeal, Vic) & Marjorie (b. 8/7/1921, Warracknabeal, Vic).

7. Lachlan Gordon McLean born 8/5/1889 at Minyip, Vic. Married Olive Gore Thorne. See separate biographies.
8. Alexander James McLean, born 1/5/1891 at Minyip, Victoria. Married: Fanny Box (b. 1/9/1886, St. Arnaud, Vic.). Residence: Minyip, Vic. 3392. Their 3 children were born at Warracknabeal. Deaths: Alexander on 18/8/1942 at Minyip, aged 51 years. Fanny died in her 84th year at Springvale, Victoria on 31/8/1970. Their children - Honor (b. 11/7/1922, Warracknabeal, Vic.), Keith (b. 25/7/1924) & Marjorie (b. 24/10/1925) – all born in Warracknabeal, Vic.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 419 to 426.
- 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.