

# Margaret KEATING & JOHNS, nee McLEAN & James KEATING & Richard JOHNS

Biography as published in 1995

Margaret McLEAN was the 8th child of Donald and Christina (nee McPhee) McLean. She was born in Argyllshire near Fort William. There is no record of her being baptised at Kilmallie where all her siblings were baptised.

She came with her family to South Australia in 1837 when she was aged 10 years.

Margaret was married twice.

Her first husband was James KEATING who was a licensed victualler of Melbourne. The wedding was on 8th August 1950 at the Freeman Street Manse in Adelaide, according to the rites of the Church of Scotland. The witnesses were William Keating and the bride's sister Ann Leslie (nee McLean).

There was one daughter of this first marriage - Elizabeth.

Margaret's second husband was Richard JOHNS. The wedding was in Queensland about 1876, when she was 49 years old. There were no children of this marriage.

Margaret was known as Aunt Johns to the children of her sister Rachel McDonald at Noradjuha in Victoria. Aunt Johns appears in the wedding photo of her nephew D. W. McDonald of Noradjuha, when he married Christina Cameron at the Horsham Presbyterian Manse in 1880.

In 1974, Christina Parker, daughter of A.J. McDonald, spoke about her great-aunt Margaret. "I can remember visiting Uncle Dick and Aunt Johns in Geelong. They were old then. One day Aunt Johns gave me a bible inscribed - *'given to Christina May McDonald by Aunt Johns 1910'*. The bible had the name Elizabeth Keating already written in it."

Death : At the time of her death on 30th July 1912, Margaret was an 85 year old widow and aged pensioner of Pakington Street, Newtown, Geelong. She was buried the next day at the Eastern Cemetery, Geelong, after a funeral service conducted by the Presbyterian minister, the Reverend J. Sinclair. Her daughter was 64 years old at the time.

For further reference see p 232 of the 'History of Ewen & Rachel McDonald and Descendants' by Jill McDonald, 1985.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 513 to 515.
- 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.