

John James Frazer McLEAN

Biography as published in 1995

JOHN JAMES (FRAZER) McLEAN born 1/8/1868 at Strathalbyn.

Parents : Margaret McLean (nee Tannahill) & Hugh (the younger) McLean

Grandparents : Christina McLean (nee McPhee) & Donald McLean

Unmarried.

Moved to Western Australia during the gold rush of the 1890s. There is a photocopy of a photograph of him taken in middle age, amongst the McLean collection and also a print of the picture of his grave at Merredin, W.A.

DEATH: at hospital, Merredin on 23/2/1938 aged 69 years.

HISTORY: Frazer, also called John or Jack corresponded with his sister Mrs Keough & her family at Strathalbyn.

A post card from Stanley Keough survives: "Dear Uncle Jack - I received your pretty card and like it very much. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - with love from Stanley." The card is undated but a 12 shows in the faint post mark, indicating 1912.

A West Australian relative has written the following without giving her name:

"John (Frazer) is remembered by his visits to his sister's (Elizabeth Ann Johnston) family. He searched for gold during the gold rush, finally settling in Merredin district where he worked as a farm hand until his death.

On one of his visits to his family he gave Clover & Heather celluloid dolls. These were then passed down to their own daughters. My parents were transferred to Merredin when I was twelve and I knew that John was buried in the old Merredin cemetery so I enquired at the shire about his grave but as it had no headstone didn't feel that I had found it.

As I worked at the Merredin Hospital before my marriage (as a clerk), I had the opportunity to check the records of both John & my grandmother who had both died there. I was surprised to find that they had both died in exactly the same room, some ten years apart. Last year I returned to Merredin and found his unmarked grave and have placed a ceramic tile that I had painted for him."

Incidentally the Stanley Keough post card is addressed to Mr J. F. McLean, Lancefield, Wood Line, W.A. where he must have been working in 1912.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 549.
- 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.