

James Hanham TUCKER 19-1-1882 to 30-7-1950
& Mary VIGAR
Fanny Evelyn WYLIE, nee WOOLFITT

Biography as published in 1985 & 1995

James Hanham was the eighth child and seventh son of Annie and John Tucker and was born at *Lake View*. His first cousin, Edith Florence McDonald, was born later that year at Nurrabiel, Victoria. Jim was the first child of the family to bear his grandmother Lucy's surname, Hanham. His grandparents were Rachel and Ewen McDonald and great-grandparents were Christina and Donald McLean.

The year 1882 was also the year of birth of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, a future president of the United States of America, and the death of Charles Darwin, author of *The Origin of Species*. In Australia gold was found at Mt Morgan, Queensland, the Antarctic explorer Douglas Mawson was born, and the poet Henry Kendall died.

Jim attended school at Sandergrove and Strathalbyn. Like all the Tucker boys he became an excellent horseman and polo player, and was a first-class rifle shot.

During the Boer War, Jim with his brother George volunteered and became a trooper in the cavalry. The Australian contingents, the Lancers, the Mounted Infantry, the 1st Australian Horse, the Light Horse, the Commonwealth Horse, the Mounted Rifles, the Imperial Bushmen, never fought as one Australian division. With the New Zealand and Canadian contingents they were divided and attached to British regiments.

In October 1905, Jim undertook farming at Henty in New South Wales, returning home to be married six years later. On November 1, 1911, Jim was married to Mary Vigar at the Methodist Church, Warooka, South Australia by the Reverend J. Hughes. Mary was the daughter of Joseph Ernest and Elizabeth Vigar, nee Thompson, and was born on October 28, 1879. Her father was a farmer at Warooka on Yorke Peninsula and a lay preacher at the local Methodist church. He and his wife retired to Adelaide in 1918. Mary attended Warooka Primary School and then had private tuition for three years. Before her marriage she was a school-teacher at Warooka. Following their marriage Jim and Mary travelled to his property *Fitzroy Farm* at Henty and it was here that their first two children were born.

After the death of Arthur Tucker in the First World War, and a subsequent family conference, Jim was requested to return and take over the running of *Lake View*. This he did in 1919 and his father John and his wife retired to *Riverside* in Strathalbyn. Jim was the first farmer in the district to own a header for wheat and field peas, and in 1923 had the first tractor. He continued to play polo, and drove a Model T Ford car. Mary died of lung cancer, aged 58 years on December 13, 1937 and was buried in the family cemetery at Sandergrove.

Children of Jim and Mary :-

1	<i>Muriel</i> Hanham Tucker	Born 1-2-1915	
2	<i>Kenneth</i> James Tucker	Born 25-1-1916	
3	<i>Elizabeth</i> McDonald Tucker	Born 30-7-1919	Died 14-1-1980
4	Hubert <i>Arthur</i> Tucker	Born 30-6-1921	Died 1-11-1951

In 1946 Jim married Fanny Evelyn Wylie, nee Woolfitt, widow of Charles Wylie. She was known to the family as Auntie Tot. Jim died on July 30, 1950, of a heart attack and stroke, and was buried in the family cemetery at Sandergrove with his first wife, Mary. The day of his death was a particularly sad occasion for his daughter Elizabeth; it was her thirty-first birthday. After Jim's death his son Arthur carried on the farm at *Lake View* and

today it is run by Arthur's son David. Jim's second wife, Fanny, died in 1968 and is buried with her first husband at Strathalbyn cemetery in the Woolfitt family plot. Jim's death was reported in a local newspaper obituary.

The death occurred with tragic suddenness at his home at Strathalbyn on Sunday afternoon of Mr. James Hanham Tucker, seventh son of Mr. W. J. Tucker of Lake View, Strathalbyn, who was one of the early pioneers of the district. The deceased was born at Lake View 67 years ago. On the outbreak of the South African War he enlisted, and returned home in 1901. He then engaged in farming at Henty, N.S.W. In 1911 he married Mary Vigar of Warooka. On the death of his father W. J. Tucker, he took on Lake View which he controlled until his death.

- SOURCE : This biography was from page 86 of "History of Ewen & Rachel McDonald & Descendants" by Jill McDonald which was originally published in 1985. It was republished as part of "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" in 1995.
- 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.