

Ethel Jane (POLLY) McDONALD

4-9-1836 to 26-3-1958

Biography as published in 1985 & 1995

Ethel Jane, known as Polly, was the third child and third daughter of William and Christina McDonald and was born at Noradjuha. Four first cousins were also born that year: Arthur Harold Tucker in South Australia, the twins Archie and Alan McDonald at Nurrabiel, and Amy Helena Victoria McDonald at Noradjuha. Her grandparents were Rachel and Ewen McDonald and great-grandparents were Christina and Donald McLean.

In 1886 the Chaffey brothers signed an agreement with the Victorian Government to start an irrigation scheme at Mildura on the Murray River. In Europe the composer Franz Liszt died at Bayreuth.

Polly did not attend school. A medical report from the Queen Elizabeth Benevolent Home described her as retarded and suffering from congenital bilateral cataract of the eyes. Polly lived within the shelter of her family at *Blackwood* for 64 years, continuing with her sister Tean after the death of their mother in 1932. By 1950 she had become bedridden and in May that year was admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Benevolent Home at Ballarat where she died on March 26, 1958, aged 72 years. She is buried at Ballarat.

- SOURCE : This biography was from page 145 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.