

Ivy Ellen, nee McDONALD & George Maldon BARRETT & Austin NORMAN & George WRIGHT

Biography as published in 1985 & 1995

Ivy Ellen was the sixth child and fourth daughter of Charles and Ellen McDonald, and was born 19-9-1893 at Carchap. She was the only grand-child of Ewen and Rachel McDonald born that year. His great-grandparents were Christina and Donald McLean.

The Hawaiian islands were annexed by treaty to the United States of America, women in New Zealand gained the vote, the actress Mary Pickford was born and composer Peter Tchaikovsky died. In Australia gold was discovered in the West at Kalgoorlie.

Ivy attended Carchap State School and, after leaving, helped on the family farm. When her brother Charlie was married in 1915 she and her sister Lou accompanied their father to live in Horsham. On November 12, 1919 at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Horsham, Ivy was married to George Maldon Barrett, by the Reverend Thomas Gray. The attendants were Robert Maldon Barrett, brother of the groom and Norma Raggatt, cousin of the bride. George was the son of Christopher Harling and Anne Eliza Barrett nee Mills, newsagents of Ballarat. He was born at Maldon, Victoria.

Ivy and George made their home in Mildura where George was a draper at Black's Emporium. Their three children were born in Mildura. In 1929, Ivy and George separated and later obtained a divorce. Ivy and the children departed to live in Melbourne, first at St Kilda, then Black Rock and Sandringham where she supported herself and the family by dressmaking. George died in 1954 and is buried in Fawkner cemetery, Melbourne.

While living at Sandringham, Ivy met Austin Norman who was a garage proprietor in that suburb and they were married on February 22, 1938 at a registry office. Two years later the family moved to Maffra, in the Gippsland region of eastern Victoria, where Austin owned the Metropolitan Hotel. Here they became publicans. During World War Two, Ivy and Austin were two of the founders of the Maffra District Hospital. They raised large sums of money for the hospital and other charities. Maffra Red Cross nominated Ivy in a Victory Mother competition which she won by raising the highest sum of money in Victoria. In 1947, Austin bought the Rosedale Hotel at Rosedale, a town about thirty-five miles from Maffra. He and Ivy managed the new hotel, leaving Ivy's son Charles and his wife Mardi as licensees at Maffra. Charles eventually bought, and still owns, the Metropolitan Hotel.

Ivy and Austin retired to the Melbourne suburb of Mordialloc in 1953, leaving Ivy's daughter Norma and her husband Bill Gilbert to manage the Rosedale Hotel. Austin died in 1963 and is buried in Cheltenham cemetery. There were no children.

While a member of Mordialloc Senior Citizens Club, Ivy met George Wright, an Englishman. They were married on February 22, 1965, at her home by a Methodist minister. George had served in the British Army in World War One, had migrated to Australia between wars, and served in the 2nd AIF in the 2/2nd Pioneer Battalion in the Middle East. George died in 1977 and was buried in Cheltenham cemetery. Ivy spent the last two years of her life at Flynn near Rosedale, with her daughter Hilma and husband Allan Ross. She died on May 27, 1981 at the age of 87 and was buried in Rosedale cemetery.

Children of Ivy and George Barrett :-

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| 1. | Charles George Barrett | Born 26-8-1920 |
| 2. | Norma Olive Barrett | Born 14-10-1922 |
| 3. | Hilma May Barrett | Born 11-8-1925 |

• SOURCE : This biography was from page 165 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.