

Catherine Graham BRADLEY, nee McLEAN Alfred BRADLEY

Biography as published in 1995

Catherine was born 9/4/1860 at Meadow Bank“, Strathalbyn. She was registered as "Katherine" and known as Kitty.

Parents : Catherine (nee Dawson) & Allan McLean

Grandparents : Jane (nee Hamilton) & James Dawson and Christina (nee McPhee) and Donald McLean.

MARRIED: Alfred Bradley on 24/9/1879. (He was b. 16/3/1853 at Pt Elliot, SA.)

HISTORY: Kitty was known for her singing and her good looks, neither of which were mentioned in her long obituary published in the "Naracoorte Times" dated 18/5/1915. Friends were notified that her funeral would leave her residence, Kybybolite on Saturday 15th and that her death took place at "Coo-ee" farm. "Coo-ee" farm was later renamed "Battunga Park" by A. H. Bradley.

"The friends of Mrs Bradley will regret to hear that she passed away on Thursday last 'after an illness which lasted some time until about two years ago when she was laid aside with a severe cold. She took a trip to W.A. in the hope that the sea voyage would do her good and stayed with her daughter Mrs Douglas Scott, but she did not at all mend and after her return she became much worse. until she at last became confined to her bed and it became evident that there was little hope of her recovery.

Everything possible was done by assiduous nursing but she gradually grew weaker Mrs Bradley was the 5th daughter of Mr Allan McLean, one of S.A.'s pioneer colonists who came to the state in 1837 and resided in the Strathalbyn district carrying on farming and grazing pursuits for a number of years. As a daughter in a pioneering home she did her share of the work the early colonists had to do in subduing the bush and developing the country to make it fit for habitation and to make a living from it.

Subsequently Mrs Bradley's home was in the north of the state at Collinsfield and afterwards went to reside in Adelaide for 18 years, engaging in business pursuits. She and Mr Bradley became tired of city life and when the Kybybolite estate was opened up for closer settlement about 9 years ago, Mr Bradley took up a block not far from the railway station where he carried on farming and grazing. In addition he opened up a general store and Post Office, chiefly carried on by Mrs Bradley and her daughters. This became the business centre of the district and Mrs Bradley's cheerful and obliging manner gained the esteem of the residents.

She early saw the need for a meeting place for holding church services, for school purposes, and for social gatherings and took the lead in the effort to raise money for the hall With a good deal of tenacity of purpose it was erected and equipped and it has been found a great boon to the public. Mrs Bradley's efforts will be held in grateful remembrance. She, also, with her family took a leading part in establishing services in connection with the Presbyterian Church which have been held regularly by the minister of Naracoorte at St. Andrew's. She will be greatly missed throughout the district and Mr Bradley and his family have the sympathy of the whole of Kybybolite Community and a large number of friends in the sad loss. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon and was largely attended. if the day had not been so rough there would have been an even larger attendance The remains of the deceased lady were interred in the Naracoorte Cemetery, The Rev. R. W. McLean attended and conducted the grave side service."

As the Allan McLeans with the unmarried members moved to the north in 1878 and Kitty married Alfred Bradley in 1879 she would of course have met him when he worked at Collinsfield. She was then aged 19. Her sister Rachel's

husband W. P. Hornby also worked for a time at Collinsfield The Bradleys would have been in business at Adelaide by 1888 and at Kybybolite in 1906.

The small township of Kybybolite, in the Hundred of Binnum, is situated on what was originally known as Townsend's Run. Prior to July 1st 1851, pastoral lands were held in the South East under "Occupational Leases". These cost £5 per annum. Pastoral leases after 1851 were charged according to the classification of the land. Being second class land, Townsend's Run was assessed at 15/- per square mile. For his lease no. 163 for 64 miles of waste lands Townsend was charged an annual rental of £48. The land was sold 4 times until 1905 when it was repurchased by the Government for £63,498 for closer settlement. It was cut into 49 blocks of approximately 700 acres and allotted in June 1905. Alfred Bradley and Gustav Hahn took up holdings and were followed by (among others) D. G. Scott, who married Catherine (Kate) Bradley, E. C. H. Schinckel (brother of Eily, who married Alfred Hamilton Bradley) and W. Johnson, whose property was purchased by D. H and M. F. Bradley in 1963 and is now owned by John and Dianne Bradley.

DEATHS:

Kitty died on 15/5/1915 aged 55 years.

Alfred died at Kybybolite on 20/9/1930 aged 77.

Both interred at Naracoorte Cemetery.

CHILDREN:

1. Elsie May Bradley - Born 31/5/1881. Unmarried. Died: on 27/12/1909 aged about 28 years. Interred Naracoorte Cemetery
2. Catherine (Kate) Forster Bradley - Born 28/5/1884. Married: Douglas Gordon Scott. See biographies 5027.
3. Janet Bradley born c. 1887. Died 1888 in infancy.
4. Ella Graham Bradley b. 27/11/1890. Married: Edward Leishman (b 11/11/1889, Port Adelaide d. 1976 at Adelaide) at Kybybolite. They had 3 children – John, Barbara & Edward. Resided: at Blackwood, S.A Ella died 1972 aged 82 years.
5. Alfred Hamilton Bradley born 20/5/1896 - M.B.E. and JP. of Kybybolite, S.A. Married Eily Magdalene Caroline Schinkel. See biographies 5029

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 95 to 99.
- 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.