

John Stuart Duncan McLEAN & Susannah Mary McLEAN, nee BEABER) & Lilian McLEAN, nee CAHILL

Biography as published in 1995

JOHN STUART DUNCAN McLEAN - the 10th child of Allan and Catherine McLean was born at "Meadow Bank", Strathalbyn on 12/7/1865.

Parents : Catherine (nee Dawson) & Allan McLean

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

He was described in a letter of 1946 written by Edwin McLean of Angus Plains as a "dark young man" and referred to him as "Jack". The following information (plus some further research by E.M.S.) was supplied by his grand daughter – Mary Benton of Booborowie SA.

MARRIAGE: at St. John's Anglican Church, Adelaide, aged 22, to Susannah Mary Beaber (How) of Balaklava (b. 8/11/1867 at Willaston, S.A.) the eldest daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Beaber (How).

Background of Susannah Mary: Her father was born Samuel How in England, but at the age of 33 he jumped ship at Port Adelaide from the "Ernestine" in 1867 and assumed his mother's maiden name of Beaber. He married Elizabeth White, a passenger on the same ship and they had 4 daughters. Samuel in ill health wrote home to his brother in the U.K. in 1875 that he was living on 140 acres of scrub land at Balaklava, S.A.

Samuel died when the youngest girl was an infant and his widow Elizabeth, remarried Oswald Potter, and had 2 Potter sons and a daughter. The Potters farmed at Meadows, S.A. Elizabeth lived on to be 96, dying on 7/7/1934 and was buried at the Little Mitcham Cemetery.

J.S.D. and Susannah Mary had an only son, Alen, born in 1892 and do not seem to have remained together very long as young Alen lived with his maternal grandmother, Mrs Potter, at Meadows Now comes the mystery that has so far failed to be untangled, as both Susannah Mary and J.S.D. remarried during the lifetime of each other. Divorce was difficult to obtain last century and quite rare yet there must have been one as Susannah Mary remarried at Holy Trinity rectory, nAdelaide in May 1903, Alfred Morrison, aged 23 or so some years her junior. There were 3 Morrison children, Harold, Cyril and Lionel, half-brothers to Alen McLean.

J.S.D. (Jack) also remarried on 10/12/1908 to Lily Cahill at the residence of Mrs Owen, Bind St. Norwood. They were both residing at Kapunda at the time of the wedding according to the marriage certificate.

Mary Benton of Booborowie S.A. has the marriage certificate referred to in her possession.

DEATHS: "Advertiser" notice for J.S.D. McLean, paper of Tuesday 9/11/1926. On the 7th of Nov John Stuart McLean, late of Kapunda, beloved husband of Lily Stuart (note: the Stuart an error) aged 68 years. R.I.P. He was actually aged 61. There was a funeral notice saying he was privately interred in the old Catholic section of West Terrace Cemetery on the 8th. The first knowledge that he had married a second time came from the records of Frank Sieberl, Funeral Director. These are held by the Genealogical Society now and a copy by his grand-daughter Mary Benton.

The occupation of J.S.D. was given as "drover", his most recent address as the Home For Incurables (now the Julia Farr Centre). He died at the Parkside mental hospital. Birth place - Strathalbyn. There were some details of the

coffin. Cause of death "colitis", but there was also a Coroners order, so the death must have been sudden. The number of children: 1 male – 1 female but neither was named. The male was obviously Alen but the daughters name is not known unless it was Alice as the a/c was to be sent to "Miss Alice McLean" when his wife was named Lily. It also said he had "married at 50" but as his age was given incorrectly so may the 50 have been wrong.

DEATH: of the 2nd wife, from the "Advertised dated 10/8/1928:

"McLean, on 9th August at Glenelg, Lilian (Lily) wife of the late John Stuart McLean late of Kapunda and Freeling. R.I.P. She was also buried in the Catholic section at West Terrace.

The "Alice McLean" was care of Mr J. Neville, Railway Hotel, Freeling, when JSD died in 1926. Lily McLean, his wife, had been in partnership with a Thomas Neville from 1921 onwards as licencees of various hotels. The hotels, the "North Kapunda Arms" 1921 - 1923 – the "Black Lion", 19 Richmond Road, Hindmarsh (near Adelaide) - that was a few months of 1923 - Freeling Hotel 1924 - 1925 - also 1926 - 1927, and in each case with Thomas Neville, the "J" was yet another error.

DEATH: of Susannah Mary Morrison - formerly wife of J.S.D. McLean at Adelaide or 2/3/1939 and was buried at Little Mitcham Cemetery. She had lived at Meadows, Balaklava and the Adelaide suburb of Hawthorn. In 1958 all three of her Morrison sons and their families were living in the Hawthorn and Mitcham areas.

CHILDREN

- (1) Alen McLean : He was born on 6/8/1892, believed at his maternal grandmother's (Mrs Potter) farm at Meadows, S.A. His daughter Mary Benton has a photograph of Alen and his mother and one of J.S.D. and also has the latter's silver Christening mug engraved with his name. Alen was educated at Meadows, possibly at the Knotts Hill School for which his Aunt Anne's (nee Beaber) husband George Oakley donated the land. Alen received a small King James Bible from the Knott's Hill Methodist Sunday School in November 1902 and another award on 15/2/1903. From Meadows he went to Adelaide to drive horse drawn trams but left this to go north, gold mining, then to Port Pirie to work at Forgan's Foundry. His interests when 'young were cricket, football and cycle racing. Port Pirie was to remain his place of residence. He did not marry until the age of 41. Marriage: at the Catholic Church Spalding, SA. to Margaret Cecilia Browne. Allen & Margaret had 3 children – Mary (see separate biography), Clare & John. Deaths: Alen in his 52nd year on 26/7/1945 at Port Pirie. Margaret Cecilia McLean on 25/8/1985 at Burra, S.A. Both interred at Pt Pirie.

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 119 & 120.
- 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.