

# Yvonne Dawn DEVANNY, nee McINTOSH & Bruce Wilfred DEVANNY

Biography as published in 1995

**Yvonne Dawn McIntosh**, 4th child of Beryl Salome Wamer, b. 30/11/1930 at Euroa, Vic.

Parents : Beryl Salome McIntosh (nee Warner) & Milton Robert McIntosh

Grandparents : Beatrice Mary Warner (nee Sturgeon) & Thomas Warner

G-Grandparents : Christina Sturgeon (nee McLean) & George Harvey Sturgeon

G-G-Grandparents : Mary McLean (nee Stacey) & John McLean

G-G-G-Grandparents : Christine McLean (nee McPhee) & Donald McLean

Married: Bruce Wilfred Devanny, b. 1/6/1917, Euroa, in the Euroa Methodist Church.

HISTORY: (Condensed from a long account)

Yvonne attended school at Castle Creek, until Grade VI then rode her bicycle to Higher Elementary School, at Euroa, until the school bus was introduced. She was keen on sport, developing a love for country life and farming; drafting sheep and helping in the shearing shed. Her mother, Beryl, was often absent caring for sick members of the family. She learned to ride a horse before her years at Benalla High School. She had to board away, and spend weekends at home. It was in 1947, and working at home, when the house was burnt down. Yvonne, searching through the debris and ruins, found her mother's 5 stone diamond "London Bridge" engagement ring, quite unharmed by the intense heat.

The family lived in a bungalow and the shearing shed until March, 1948. They then took up residence at their main block at Euroa, where she became involved with Cubs, Day Kindergarten, Christian Endeavour and even preached at the local Methodist Church. A temporary clerical job with a local solicitor became a permanent one, until her marriage in 1951 to Bruce Devanny, who on his return from World War II had to spend 9 months in Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital. She lived then at his Euroa farm and did much of the work while he worked at neighbouring properties to help ease the cash flow.

Due to war injuries, Bruce suffered much ill health so Yvonne did a wool classing and sheep management course, and was a worker in shearing sheds when women were seldom seen there. She continued to aid Bruce at their own farm also, as well as bringing up 4 children.

They gradually increased the size of their farm, but sold 1000 acres in 1973, retaining 700 acres to continue taming in a less demanding way, building a new house on this land where they still reside. Yvonne has continued her outside interest (numerous), her hobbies, her gardening, sewing, etc and considers herself greatly blessed.

CHILDREN : Neil, David, Dawn-Maree & Fay

- SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald & Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 278.
- 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](http://www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com) or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.