

# Malcom Wallace McLEAN & Mary McLEAN, nee TAYLOR & Irene Esther, nee GASKIN

Biography as published in 1995

**Malcolm Wallace McLean** born 30/5/1898 at Sheep Hills, Victoria.

Parents : Maria Elizabeth McLean (nee Kruger) & Charles Soward McLean

Grandparents : Anna Soward McLean (nee Janeway) & Archibald McLean

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

Occupation: Farmer of Mt Schank, S.A. Retired to Mt Gambier.

Married 1st: Mary Taylor (b. 12/5/1898) - 6 children.

Death: Mary of tuberculosis aged 36 years on 20/7/1934.

Married 2nd: Irene Esther Gaskin (b. 25/6/1904) his housekeeper - 3 daughters

Deaths:

Irene McLean aged 64 years at Mt Gambier.

Malcolm died aged 82 years on 12/10/1980 at Mt Gambier.

All were interred there.

History: Malcolm joined the 1st A.I.F. toward the end of W.W.1 but did not see any action. He was able to get a soldier settlement farm at Mt Schank and farmed sheep and dairy cows and grew oats and potatoes as well as working at clearing drains. He was a quiet, good natured man who liked to tease the children and enjoyed a battle of wits.

Mary's ill health caused the children to be fostered out. During the 1930s Malcolm won gold medals for best and fairest footballer in the district. His housekeeper, then second wife, destroyed all photos and documents to do with his first wife Mary. He was hard working and as well as the farming he did road work with a scoop and a team of horses. He sold the farm in 1948-49 and moved to Mt Gambier where he owned two houses, numbers 33 and 35 Doughty Street, and there Peter, Jeff, Vera and Pat lived with him.

Malcolm was a regular drinker at the "Bellum" Hotel and then took up illegal bookmaking at Gifford's Hotel (now Mt Gambler Hotel) and earned the name of "The Punter's Pal". When aged in his 60s and at Gifford's Hotel the police came in so he hastily hid the betting slips in the toilet cistern and walked home and retrieved them later. Once, he had to appear in court and as "a poor old pensioner" was fined \$100 to his amusement as he made much more than that and kept his hoard under the mattress. Whenever he needed to talk on the telephone he put his glasses on "to hear better".

He was a councillor at Port MacDonnell and there was a road at Mt Schank named after him. In old age he suffered from diabetes, gout and arthritis and had one foot and several toes amputated but he never lost his sense of fun.

(Robyn Messenger supplied the above short history of Malcolm McLean)

#### Six children of Malcolm and Mary

1. Doreen Mary McLean b. 18/10/1923, at Mt Schank, SA Served in the WAAAF. Married: Francis Patrick Hegarty (b. 28/8/1910). His occupation: Engineer. Residence: Mt Gambler. No children. Death: Francis died on 8/10/1980 aged 70 years. interred at Mt Gambler. Doreen recently moved to Queensland.
2. Gwenneth Wallace McLean b. 20/7/1924 at Mt Schank S.A. When her mother was so ill Gwen was taken by Walter and Bridget Taylor. Mary's brother and his wife. They were childless and wished to adopt her but Malcolm did not give his permission. When Gwen fell off the windmill and broke her hip and had to go to Adelaide and the Children's Hospital for treatment, Walter and Bridget went with her. Gwen stayed on with her uncle and aunt and never returned to Mt Gambler although Malcolm always hoped to see her once more before he died. Gwen attended Adelaide University and during W.W.2 served with the A.W.A.S. (Army). By chance in 1951 her brother Peter and Lexie, his wife encountered Gwen at Hoyts Theatre and after that none of the family saw or heard of her again. She went to live overseas and is believed to be unmarried.
3. Malcolm Charles (Peter) McLean - b. 26/9/1926, at Mt Schank. Marriage to Lexie Nola Pycroft. See biographies 5112
4. Jeffrey Roy McLean b. 19/8/1929, at Mt Schank. S.A. Occupation: Truck driver of Mt Gambler. Married: Alma (Estelle) Patzel b. 21/10/1937. Occupation: Textile worker. 4 children – 1960, 1963, 1966 & 1968.
5. Vera Margaret McLean b. 10/3/1931 at Mt Schank. Married: James Allen Jones (b. 6/1/1928). His occupation: Farmer of Cathcart. N.S.W. 2 children – 1952 & 1958.
6. Patricia Betty McLean b. 11/7/1933 at Mt Schank. Occupation: Registered nurse. Married Peder Hove. Occupation. Agronomist. Residence Norway. 2 children – 1973 & 1975.

#### Three children of Malcolm and Irene :-

7. Mavis Irene McLean b. 4/3/1939 at Mt Schank. Occupation: Telephonist. Married: Drewes Henry Posthuma (b. 12/3/1940) - divorced. Residence Leederville. W.A. 2 children – 1964 & 1967.
8. Nancy Jean McLean b. 15/7/1940 at Mt Schank. Married: Noel Ledner (b. 3/3/1927). Occupation Technical Officer Residence Glengowrie. SA. 2 children – 1962 & 1963.
9. Barbara Joy McLean b. 2/2/1943 at Mt Schank. Occupation. Secondary school teacher. Married: Ronald Edward Bash.  
His occupation: Special Purpose Toolmaker. Residence : 31 Glastonbury Dr. Encounter Bay, c/o P.O. Box 968, Victor Harbor, S.A. 5211. One child – 1974.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SOURCE : This biography is an extract from "The History of Donald &amp; Christina McLean and Their Descendants" which was published in 1995 – page 447 to 450.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• CHANGES : Please contact us with additions, corrections or suggestions about any part of this family tree.</li><li>• CONTACT : Visit our website <a href="http://www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com">www.christinaanddonaldmclean.com</a> or Strathalbyn Museum phone 08 8536 2656 to discover more about your family – and about privacy and copyright.</li></ul> |
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