

WESTLAKE RESIDENTS -1928& 1929 ELECTORAL ROLLS & STORIES

1928

58 ADAMSON, Francis nurseryman

ARMSTRONG, Catherine & Henry hd & pipelayer

AVERY, Albert bricklayer

46 BAKER, Alice & Percy hd & pipelayer

24 BARBER, Lance boilermaker - took up residence 15.3.1926

BEADMAN, Annie & Ernest hd & labourer - took up residence 18.7.1924

Annie Beadman was buried at Woden Cemetery on 20th July, 1968 and her husband, Ernest Albert was buried in the same Cemetery on 2nd February, 1946. Ernest Albert Beadman was 71 at the time of his death on 1st February and at that time he lived at 3 Elder Street Braddon.

25 BOX, Linda & Ernest hd & leading hand

Mrs Linda Lucy Box was buried in Woden Cemetery on 11th February, 1939. She died on the 10th aged 45 years. Ernest William was buried in the same grave and died on 8th July, 1950. For a time during the years after World War 2 Ronald Box (son) and his wife also shared the cottage. Their son Graeme was born during the time the couple lived at 25 Westlake. Gladys May Box, sister of Ron, wrote the following:

I - Gladys May Box - was born at Prahran Victoria on 23 February, 1923 and lived with my parents and brother, Ron, in Queanbeyan NSW. In the late 1920s we moved to 25 Westlake. I attended Telopea Park School and had many raps on the knuckles because I was left handed (still am).

Westlake houses were like peas in a pod outside but quite different inside. The pot bellied stove in the lounge was a great favourite during the cold winter months.

The Depression in the thirties with one week's work in six were hard times but we used our imagination and had happy times. I suspect Mum went without many times to keep us clothed and fed. Dad had a vege patch - especially pumpkins - how we loathed pumpkins.



They were never ending. Mum died in her early forties. She was in ill health. She burnt her hands badly when the kettle slipped over on the hot stove and died within weeks. Only in later years how hard it must have been for Dad. My brother, Ron, played the drums in a dance band until he went into the army and again after his discharge. My first job at fifteen was a florists. Later during the war years I worked at Mount Stromlo in munitions cleaning lenses for rangefinders, telescopic sights, periscopes etc. I was also a voluntary plane spotter on top of the roof of the National Library [old one in Kings Avenue] during the war years. I didn't spot

any enemy planes but we felt we were doing our bit. I had penfriends in England, New Zealand, Tasmania and Victoria. I still write to Rita in New Zealand...



Gladys Bailey, cousin of Ronald Bailey, met her future husband, Ronald Box via her cousin. Beryl was born in 1921 and the couple married in 1946. They returned to Canberra and moved in with Ron's father at 25 Westlake where two of their children, Graeme (1948) and Sandra (1950) were born. A third child, Wayne was born in 1951 just after the family moved into a war service government house in Narrabundah. *Before the war Ronald Box worked in the Parks & Gardens*

Department. He joined the AIF when war broke out and served in New Guinea. Following his return he took up a trainee apprenticeship as a painter and worked at this trade for the rest of his life. A number of returned men were trained in each of the trades following the war. The period of apprenticeship was shortened to two years because of the shortage of trained and skilled tradesmen...

Above: photograph at rear of 25 Westlake and on previous page Graeme Box at front gate of 25.

36 BRANDER, Amy & John hd & labourer – took up residence 14.6.1924

John Brander died on 30th June, 1932 and is buried in St John the Baptist Churchyard Cemetery. Reference *St John's Churchyard* by Jean Salisbury. His profession was given as gardener and his funeral was conducted by Rev JE Owen of St Columba's Presbyterian Church, Braddon.

FEDERAL TERRITORY POLICE.

REPORT OF MOTOR ACCIDENT



HEADING Motor car and push bicycle in collision, Canberra Avenue

Person Injured ...	Name <u>Roy Hitchenson</u>	Age <u>30</u>
	Address <u>95 Causeway, Canberra.</u>	
Time and Date of Accident	<u>about 5-30 pm. the thirty-first day of January 1929.</u>	
Place Accident Occurred ...	<u>Between Capitol Theatre and vehicular bridge, Manuka.</u>	
Motor Vehicle ...	No. <u>F.C.T. 235</u>	No. <u>Push bicycle.</u>
Owner ...	Name <u>W. Rankin</u>	Name <u>Roy Hitchenson,</u>
	Address <u>Canberra.</u>	Address <u>95 Causeway, Canberra.</u>
Driver or Rider ...	Name <u>John Brander,</u>	Name <u>Roy Hitchenson</u>
	Licence No. <u>F.C.T. 321</u>	Licence No. <u>95 Causeway,</u>
	Address <u>36 Westlake, Canberra.</u>	Address <u>95 Causeway, Canberra.</u>

Particulars of Accident*

Brander was driving motor car No' F.C.T. 235 along Canberra Avenue, in a Westerly direction, towards the Capitol Theatre at a speed of between twenty and twenty-five miles per hour. Hitchenson was riding a push bicycle and turned out of a side Street near the Theatre, into Canberra Avenue, apparently Hitchenson expected the car to proceed straight along Canberra Avenue, when it was the drivers intention to turn to the left into the side street, from which Hitchenson was riding. It would appear that Hitchenson lost his head and rode straight into the front of the car, as he was struck by the near side mudguard and headlamp, which were slightly bent. The force of the impact threw Hitchenson about four yards away from the car. The cycle was practically uninjured only the forks being bent. The sketch attached shows that the car was on the correct side of the road and the cycle on the wrong side. Hitchenson when interviewed at the Canberra and asked "Whose fault was it" Replied:- "Much of a muchness"

Action Taken or Proposed	<u>No action taken or proposed.</u>
Witnesses Names and Addresses	<u>Nil</u>
Nature of Injuries, or if Killed	<u>Hitchenson sustained abrasions to face and head, also right arm and probable fracture of left forearm.</u>
If taken to Hospital, state which; also if admitted or allowed to leave	<u>Hitchenson taken to Canberra Hospital by Brander and admitted.</u>

Forwarded to
Chief Officer of Police,
CANBERRA.

Federal Capital Commission

For Information

Sergeant 3/C.
Constable No 9.

Philip I. ...

Noted
2/10.
25B
12-2-29

22 BRILL, Gladys & Leslie postmistress & carpenter

The Brill family later moved to a cottage in Government House, Yarralumla. Gladys Ivy Brill died 7th April 1977 and is buried in the Woden Cemetery along with her husband Leslie William who died 10th August, 1964. A son, Leslie James is also buried at Weston- he died 23rd December, 1983. Stan Brill wrote a family history in *True Tales*. Stan was one of the first indentured apprentices at the Bus Depot in Kingston.

My name is Stanley Curtis Brill - a Westlake Boy from 1923 until 1938. My father was Leslie William Brill who was an original ANZAC. His regiment number was 40. He enlisted from Tasmania in the 12th Battalion. He won the Military Medal at Gallipoli and was mentioned in dispatches twice. After ANZAC and being wounded he was repatriated to England for surgery. He met my mother, Gladys Tappsell and on his return from action in Flanders they were married.

After the end of World War I my sister Marjorie was born in England. She was our only girl. When my mother arrived from England as a War Bride she travelled to Bombala where she and my sister were picked up by my father and then travelled to Delegate NSW by buggy and pair. My mother thought she was on the other side of the world going thirty miles from Delegate to Craigie where the family had a saw mill - a change from London!

My elder brother, Jim, was born in Delegate in 1920 and my birth certificate shows that Delegate was my first look around in 1922. The next born was Edward followed by Richard who were both born in Queanbeyan. I'm not sure what date we shifted to Westlake but it could be 1924 as Dad was employed on the construction of Parliament House. The reason for the move from Delegate to Canberra was my mother's wish that we should be educated.

My father was a carpenter and joiner and he told me he worked on the original Speaker's Chair. We lived in 22 Westlake and we were all educated at Telopea Park School. My mother was the first Postmistress in Westlake. In 1938 we shifted to a new house in Barralier Street Griffith and I was one of the first indentured apprentices at the Bus Depot at Kingston...

When the Second World War broke out my brother Jim and I enlisted. Jim was in the 3rd Anti Tank Regiment and I enlisted in the airforce as an Engine Fitter and later trained in the Empire Air Training Scheme as a pilot. Jim was taken prisoner in North Africa and was a POW in Germany in Stalag VIIIA for three years and returned after the war to work in the Public Service at the War Memorial. He died in 1970. My five years in the airforce were spent in the New Guinea campaign. Ted was also a soldier in the same area as myself but we never met up until after the war. Ted now lives in Foster. Richard, our youngest brother who now resides in Isaacs was not old enough to enlist for war and lived with our Mum and Dad at Yarralumla. Dad was the caretaker for Government House during the reign of Lord Gowrie, Duke of Gloucester and Sir William McKell.

My wife Beryl and I lived with our Mum and Dad at Yarralumla until we shifted to Turner in 1946 and we are still living in the same house having reared our family of two girls and three boys, who live in Canberra except John and Gary who live in Sydney and Milton NSW.

Mum was an educated woman and a great pianist. Whilst living at Yarralumla she was regularly called upon by the Westridge Social Club to play at balls and other events such as benefits for men in the armed forces.

Charlie Law in a letter to me added further information about members of the Brill family – Jimmy Brill was a champion Rugby League footballer and represented the ACT and the Australian Army and played against a team from the British Army in England. He won the ACT Ballroom Dancing Championship and was runner up in the NSW Championship. He was taken prisoner in the Sahara Desert by a German patrol. Richard, Stan's brother, represented the ACT in hockey and later NSW.

Ted became the chauffeur for the Governor General when the family moved to the Caretaker's House at Government House. His father, Les, was a fanatical Manuka supporter and was the secretary of the Carpenters & Joiners Union.

I forgot to mention Jimmy was the President of the POW's Association and met the Queen when she came to Canberra. Jimmy became a traveller for a whisky firm, As far as I know Jimmy never drank alcohol but had to have a drink of whisky at every hotel visited...



Left, Leslie Brinkman, Kay Okely and her mother. Photograph taken in Sydney. Mr Okely died during the time the family lived at Westlake. He is buried in St John's Churchyard at Reid. Jean Salisbury in her book, *St John's Churchyard Canberra - OKELY, Francis Thornton, son of Christopher and Lizette Okely, Francis Thornton Okely was born in South Australia. He married Veronica Constance Kell at Cobar NSW and they became the parents of three children...[He] was employed as a carpenter. He died on 21 April 1926 aged 39 years. His funeral was conducted by Canon FG Ward, rector of St John's...*

14 BRINKMAN, Arthur labourer - took up residence
22.2.1926

Lesley Clarke nee Brinkman wrote the following: Arthur and Alexandra Brinkman were born in Hobart, Tasmania. Their son Jim was also born in Hobart, while I, (Lesley), was born in Canberra at No 14 Westlake in 1927.

Arthur came to NSW to work on the excavation of the Burrenjack Dam site in 1923 leaving his family in Hobart, conditions not being suitable for family to join him. Later he proceeded to Canberra to work on the construction of the first sewerage system to service Canberra which was at Weston Creek. His wife Alexandra then joined him and they were provided with accommodation in the form of a corrugated iron hut situated on the banks of the Molonglo River on the flat down behind the Governor General's residence.

My parents both had horses, which they used to ride over to Corkhill's farm each day to buy their milk, the site of the dairy farm now under Lake Burley Griffin. They had to take their horse and sulky over to Queanbeyan on Saturday to buy their weekly provisions, as there was little to offer in Canberra.

In 1926 my parents were allotted one of the little houses in Westlake - number 14 and later moved to number 17. My earliest memories were of my neighbours, Pop Hawke who lived on one side of us and the Clowry family on the other. After the Clowry family moved out a very nice family with two older daughters moved in but I cannot remember their name.

By this time my father was working on the roads and drains as a supervisor. He worked at this job until he retired and was known and respected by a large number of the old residents of Canberra.

We eventually moved to Manuka in 1934, where my father was involved in the Manuka Australian Rules Football Club. He happily spent his Saturdays time-keeping for the club matches. He also used to time keep at the sheep-dog trials each year that were held at the Manuka Oval. My mother made many good friends and kept in touch with many of her old Westlake friends even after we moved from there and was affectionately called Alie or Brinky. One of her lifelong friends from Westlake was the Todd family who moved to Sydney. Our two families remained close friends all through the years and now their granddaughter and great-grandsons reside here in Canberra. Another Westlake resident was Mrs Erikson [Mess Caterer at Old Tradesmen's Camp] who also moved to Sydney and who remained a close friend of Mrs Todd and Mrs Brinkman all their lives.

The Oakely family who also lived in Westlake, moved to Sydney and they too were lifelong friends with the Todds and Brinkmans. I have fond memories of going to stay with these families in Sydney or having them coming to Canberra to stay with us on holidays...

34 BROWN, Christina & Sidney hd & camp caretaker

Sid Brown was nick-named *Monkey* and worked at Howie's or Tradesmen's Camps prior to their removal. Dorothy Maxwell recalled that he was responsible for collecting the night soil that was put into big drums – pans then hosed out before being put back.) Sid Brown lived at Howie's Cottages for a time? The previous tenant was J Arbuckle who took up residence 29.5.1924.

24 BROWN, James labourer

28 BUDD, Helen & George hd & gardener

24 BUTLER, Thomas painter

50 BUTCHER, Lucille & Aubrey hd & plasterer

Moved to Westlake from Howie's Cottages. Aubrey George Butcher was buried at Woden Cemetery on 9th October, 1960. Aubrey Butcher during his years at Westlake had an eye injury and had to be hospitalized. He had to travel to Sydney for treatment and was at that time unable to pay his rent because the compensation was too little.

9 BRYANT, George labourer

53 BYRNE, Margaret & Raymond hd & motor driver

Elizabeth Cawthorn of Braidwood married in Goulburn, Patrick Byrne. He was an Irishman born in County Cork. After their marriage the young couple moved to Ballabah Property near Braidwood where Patrick worked as a roustabout. During the next few years they moved to Booroombah Property followed by Tuggeranong where Patrick worked for Bean (around 1919). In 1920 William their first child was born. He was followed by Jack, Isobel, Allan and Frederick (1927). From Tuggeranong the family moved to Kambah Station run by Ronny Merryman and sometime in the late 1930s to 41 Westlake

All the children were educated by correspondence with the exception of Frederick who had ten months schooling at Telopea Park. He left school aged thirteen years to take up a position at Kambah under Phil Champion.

From Westlake all the children married. Fred had the shortest distance to travel - just around the corner to 48 Westlake. He and his wife, Topsy later moved to No 20 Twentyfirst Street, Narrabundah. Whilst living at Westlake, Isobel gave birth to a son, Jimmy who now lives in South Australia.

Patrick Byrne died at Westlake. His eldest son, William (Bill) died in 1997. He was in the Light Horse and had enlisted in the AIF in World War II. The next boy, Jack, who enlisted in the RAAF was killed over Japan towards the end of World War II. Allan and Fred live in Canberra and during a recent telephone conversation Fred recalled that he used to knock around with a number of Westlake lads including Kevin Sykes, Neville Menzies and Norman Patterson. His nickname was Basher Byrne and his brother, Allan - Slugger Byrne. Both used to get into a lot of fights over at the old Hotel Canberra...

Fred married Topsy (Therese Alice Brien). She died 15th March 1962 aged 37 years. John Thomas Byrne died 21st September 1947 aged 26 years. Patrick Byrne died 12th June 1948 aged 75 years.

13 CAMERON, Isabella & Walter hd & carpenter



40 CAMERON, James carpenter – he was involved in a car accident on 10th July 1928 when a car driven by him collided with one driver by Victor Bissaker.

35 CHAMP, Hannah, Joseph & Samuel hd, labourer & labourer

Hannah Champ died 8th April 1942 aged 73 years. She is buried in C/E section of Woden Cemetery.

For a time after her death her husband, Sam and son Joe lived with the Keir family of 31 Westlake and later they moved to one of the Hostels for single men.

45 CHATHAM, Elizabeth & William hd & labourer (previous tenant Oakley who took up residence 14.8.1924)

Above: Two photographs owned by Bill Convine who lived in 44 Westlake during the 1940s. Top left shows Roy Bellchambers on one of Bill's motor bike with cottages 47,46 and 45 in background. On the right is Bill

Convine on the flat land between Westlake and the Hotel Canberra (just out of picture frame on left). The building in the background is Westblock near Commonwealth Avenue.

31 CLEAVER, Alice & Horace hd & car driver (First Hire Car owner/driver in FCT) *Past Images, Present Voices* by Val Emerton contains the stories of many of the people who lived in the vicinity of the Power House -the suburbs of Barton, Kingston and Manuka. Meryl Hunter has written the Cleaver Story parts of which are quoted here - *In 1923 an enterprising eighteen-year-old with a love of cars began the first Hire Car business in Canberra from his parent's home in Westlake.* [Cleavers lived in No 30. Next door in 29 was George Sykes who owned with his brother Gay, the first taxi service in Canberra.] *A shiny red Buick car, registered in Queanbeyan because there were no facilities in Canberra at the time, carried licence plates NSW 6664. Horrie Cleaver was born in Major's Creek near Braidwood in 1905. He was one of the sons of the local blacksmith who later worked on the iron verandah railings on the original Parliament House. As a young man he was sent to Albury to live with his brother George, the detective who discovered the body of The Pyjama Girl under a road culvert near Albury...In 1928 Horrie married Alice Radcliffe in Christ Church in Queanbeyan.*

True Tales... *Cleaver family. They lived in No 31 and were one of the early families of Westlake. The son, Horrie Cleaver is now in his nineties. On the 2nd November, 1997 he along with Eric Menzies and Arthur Carn planted the apple gum tree on the site of George Sykes' house. During the day he told many stories about the old days. Unfortunately these were not recorded and it is to the memories of the Westlake residents and an article written in The Canberra Times by Graham Cook (7.11.1995) that we have to turn for the Cleaver Story. Following is part of the article. "Mr Cleaver and his wife, Alice, received the first Tourism Industry Service Award for outstanding work in tourism and the Canberra Community. For over half a century they operated one of the first taxi and hire car services in the territory.*

At ninety, Horace Cleaver's love of getting behind the wheel is undiminished. Less than three weeks after a hernia operation he was proud to roll out the car in the garage of his Barton home for a photograph. "It hasn't been started for a little while, but it is still sweet," he said."

As sweet as the moment when his father, a blacksmith working on the original parliament house project told him he could have a car... "So I went to Albury where I was an apprentice motor mechanic for about 18 months... I came back to Canberra, rode my bike to Queanbeyan and bought a Buick on twenty pounds deposit. It cost me two hundred and fifty four pounds, fourteen shillings and ten pence, but it was the car I wanted..." Horrie continued with stories about taking tourists to the ski fields and the three Prime Ministers who used his hire car. He was well remembered by the people of Westlake and in his car was born one of the Kinnane babies who couldn't wait until the car and mother to be arrived at the Queanbeyan Hospital.

31 CLEAVER, Mary Ann & George hd & labourer

16 CLOWRY, Edith & Francis hd & carpenter. His daughter, Pat Boyle wrote the following about her family:

Frank (Francis Joseph) CLOWRY born in 1876 came to work in Canberra in 1923 and lived in one of the Tradesmen's Camps, which was in the area approximately where the French Embassy now stands. He was a carpenter by trade having done his apprenticeship in the Braidwood area as a young man in the 1890s. Before coming to Canberra, the Clowry family lived at Reidsdale outside Braidwood, and Mrs Edith Clowry ran the Post Office there including the district telephone exchange, as well as looking after the family.

Until 1924, when he was allocated a house (16) at Westlake, Frank used to ride his bicycle home to Reidsdale each fortnight, leaving after work on Friday and returning on Sunday evening.

When Edith and the four children came to live at No 16, Frank, Edith and Paul (aged 3) travelled by horse and sulky - it is not known how Tom 14, Helen 11 and Felix 7 travelled - perhaps they travelled with a relative! In the following year another daughter, Patricia, joined the family at No 16 Westlake.

Frank worked as a foreman carpenter on the building of the Provisional Parliament House, and later, that is after the Depression, he was maintenance man for the government run Hotels and Hostels. Tom did an apprenticeship at the Government Printing Office. Helen worked at the Census Office. Felix left school during the Depression and after a short time working on Chas Russell's farm, worked at the Hotel Canberra Garage. Paul worked at the Statistics Office until World War II. Pat finished school in 1942.

Our next door neighbours at No 16 were the Brinkmans on one side and the Dinnervilles on the other. Other people remembered, but house numbers unknown were - the Leeches, McCanns, O'Reillys, Cleavers, Whites, O'Rourkes and Coreys. Cricket was played opposite the houses at weekends. The Clowrys had several pets - two horses, a magpie, a kookaburra, a cockatoo and some hives of bees and all moved with us to Griffith in May, 1931.

Dad always had a good vegetable garden and had a few chickens as well - so we ate well. In fact almost everyone grew their own vegetables in those times. In the 1930s a possum with a baby were added to the menagerie after they made their home in Dad's workshop at the back of the Hotel Canberra, adjacent to Bill Hunt's garage. Another addition was a black cat - rather large - which just decided to stay and we soon found it did not like dogs. If a dog came into the yard, Puss would stand his ground, arch his back and wait until the dog was near enough then he would jump on to the dog's back and ride it out to the road, come back and settle down - but not once did he go into the house.

During the Depression work for those with jobs - the lucky ones - was rationed and they worked one week for which they were paid and had two weeks off - for which they were not paid. Things were hard for everyone, and it was quite common for men to knock on doors asking for food. It was so sad to see hungry people so desperate for even bread - the staff of life...

Frank was probably more widely known than his best friend and helpmate and wonderful wife, Edith nee Ffrench, who once remarked I'm usually known as Frank Clowry's wife or Tom Clowry's mother... [She was a great] knitter and made lots of the family clothes using a

treadle Singer Sewing Machine. She also did a lot of crochet and embroidery and had the pleasure of teaching her daughters and sons some of her skills.

The Hallowed High Adventure By Alexander J McGilvray has part of a chapter on Frank Clowry part of which reads as follows: *On 11th July 1965 Mr Frank Clowry died at Canberra at the age of 89. From his early days in the Federal in 1923 he had been a most colourful capital...Mr Clowry was foreman carpenter and joiner on the building of Parliament House and he lived in one of the Trademen's Camps. His wife and children resided at Reidsdale over Braidwood way, where Mrs Clowry, formerly Edith Ffrench of Ballalaba near Braidwood was in charge of the Post Office. Every second weekend Frank cycled many miles to Reidsdale on roads that were far from good, and the journey must have taken hours. The late Frank Scott who married Kathleen Maher from Reidsdale ...often regaled his listeners with stories of "St Joseph" Clowry. It appears that one weekend, Frank Scott in his crowded T-Model Ford came across Frank Clowry making heavy going on the Canberra-Braidwood Road, and as a storm was threatening, he offered the cyclist a lift. "No thank you all the same, " the old man said, "I'm in a bit of hurry."...Like so many others of the Canberra residents in the decade before and after the formation of the first Catholic Parish, Frank Clowry was available to assist Father Haydon in a multitude of ways. In the pages of the "Angelus" over many years the name Clowry features in almost every issue. Being a competent tradesman with saw and hammer, he was always on hand to prepare in everything from stalls at bazaars and "sanctuaries" at the outdoor Masses of Pilgrimages on Cathedral Hill... Later on he brought his family to Canberra and rented a small cottage at "The Gap" at Westlake... There were five children in the family, Thomas, Felix, Helen, Paul and Patricia... Helen entered the Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary as Sister Mary Paul in July 1940... Felix a member of the RAAF in World War II was killed in July 1941...The article goes on to say Apart from the Clowrys, other pioneers of Westlake were the McCanns, The Ryses, the Butchers, the Langers, the J O'Reilly's, the Cotterills and Tom and Mrs White. Others came later on, amongst them the Ghiradellos, the Cannals, the Coreys and the McKays.*

30 COREY, Sarah & Ernest hd & labourer

Ernie is the *most highly decorated* man in World War 1. His medals are in the Australian War Memorial and he hailed from the Cooma district. Ernie - Ernest Albert died on Friday 25th August 1972 and was buried on the 29th. He is buried in the ex servicemen's section in the Woden Cemetery. He married Sarah Jane Fisher who later divorced him and remarried to a man by the name of Petty.

Sally died on 18th February 1978 and is buried in the RC section of the Woden Cemetery. Ernie and Sally remained good friends and both lived at Westlake. Details of Ernie's medals and citations are included at the end of the 1943 Electoral Roll for Westlake.

A Monaro Mosaic by WC Stegeman has a chapter on Ernie Corey. *Ernie Corey should have had a VC. It was a wicked shame that they didn't give him one. Unless you saw him you wouldn't believe what he did under fire. He was so brave and so cool. He was a marvel." These words were spoken by a World War 1 Digger, Bert McDonald of Cooma. Bert had known Ernie Corey in the trenches on the Western Front during the Great War. Today in Cooma's central park is a memorial to Ernie Corey, in recognition of this soldier's remarkable*

feat of being awarded a Military Medal and three bars for his conspicuous bravery in four separate actions as a stretcher-bearer during 1917-18. He was probably Australia's most highly decorated soldier for gallantry of World War 1. He is certainly one of the Monaro's most distinguished sons.

The wording of the citations, written in the field at Brigade Headquarters for each of Corey's four decorations, conveys in the best possible way the details of his actions, and indicates something of his self-sacrificing character. The first citation, dated 29 May 1917 reads, "During the enemy attack on the front line facing Queant on 15th May 1917, Private Corey whilst acting as a stretcher bearer showed great courage and devotion to duty. Although under direct enemy observation he carried out his duties continuously for 17 hours without rest, and in a manner worthy of the highest commendation. Although an untrained stretcher-bearer, he, together with the rest of the bearing party, saved by first aid the lives of seriously wounded men...[the document continues with details of the other awards and that Ernie was wounded. He was also recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal but for some reason this was reduced to bars.]



Ernie Corey returned to Cooma but was unable to find employment. For two years he supported himself by rabbiting and then in 1922 went to Canberra to live and work. From then on his life as a Monaro identity came to an end, for he did not return to live there again. During World War II Corey served for two years in the medical section of the 13th Garrison Battalion stationed in Port Kembla. He died in 1972, dying as he had

lived, quietly and in obscurity, never having attempted to exploit the honour which was rightfully his, that of national hero...

Above left Ernie Corey and right his adopted daughter, Patsy with Claude Day of Briar Farm.

CUNNINGHAM, Ida & Francis hd & nurseryman

Briar Farm DAY, Frances & Charles hd & labourer

Briar Farm was a brick farm cottage built in 1870 and pulled down by George Sykes in the early 1950s. Thomas Kinlyside was the last tenant farmer in the cottage and he left with his family in 1913. From that time it was used by employees of the Commonwealth the last being Charles Foster Day and his family who moved into the cottage in 1927. Frances Lillian Day (nee Gallagher) was born on 12th March 1902 and lived most of her early life around Bywong. She married Charles Foster Day at Queanbeyan on 16th February 1920. They lived for a time at Bungendore. During this time Charles stayed at White City Camp. The family later moved to a cottage at Molonglo and in 1927 to Briar Farm. Charles Foster Day was a chainman and assisted surveyors including the work on the Albert Hall. Charles died on 16th May, 1948 and Frances on 21st July, 1986. Reference *The Long Travail* by NJ Gallagher. Charles Foster Day was buried at Woden Cemetery 17th May, 1948. His son Albie (Alfred Charles) died of a heart attack on 5th March, 1977 aged 49 years. He is also buried at Woden Cemetery. His son Darryl Foster Day also died young - on 1st November, 1990.

He is buried at Gungahlin Cemetery. (Reference Canberra Cemetery Records). Beryl Day, wife of Claude Day died at 9.30 am on Sunday 8th April 2001. She was 74 years of age. Her funeral was the following Thursday (next day Easter Good Friday). Her sister Norma died three months earlier. Claude, the youngest child, died in November 2006. Phyllis Day married Harry Oldfield. She predeceased her husband by a number of years. He died 21st April 2007 aged 94 years.

59 DE SMET, Gladys & Eugene hd & chauffeur

The DeSmet family are one of the old families of the District and for many years lived in the Duntroon area.

15 DUFFUS, Mary & Alexander hd & labourer

Lucy Mary Duffus died on 22nd October 1927 aged 15 months. She is buried in St John the Baptist Churchyard Cemetery. Reference *St John's Churchyard* by Jean Salisbury. The Duffus family had one son, Wilfred Alexander (nick-name *Plum Duff*) who was born 18th February 1924. He joined the Public Service. On 10th May 1943 he was in the third division.

49 DWYER, Harry bus driver

44 EDWARDS, May & Alfred hd & labourer

Alice May Edwards died on 19th June, 1933 aged 43 years. Alfred, son of Joseph & Elizabeth Edwards of Adelong NSW was born in 1883. After the death of May he remarried to Edith Christine Gibbs. He died at his home at 66 Elimatta Street Braddon on 2nd December 1949. He and his first wife are buried in St John the Baptist Church Cemetery in Reid Canberra. Reference *St John's Churchyard* by Jean Salisbury.

54 EDWARDS, Mary & John hd & labourer

17 ERIKSON, Reta & Alfred hd & builder – moved from the Tradesmen's Camp Mess and took up residence at Westlake 4.3.1924. Following the closure of the Tradesmen's Mess she moved to the Mess at Northbourne Camp which was probably the one that was home to HLB Lasseter.

Mrs Erikson was Mess Caterer to Old Tradesmen's Mess in 1927. The family returned to Sydney.

c/o PO ESSON, Harry labourer

29 GATES, Jane & Robert hd & carpenter - Took up tenancy of the cottage 26.9.1925.

The granddaughter of Jane & Robert Gates who were the first tenants at 29 Westlake – George Sykes moved into this cottage in 1929 – made contact. Also living with the couple was Ena Gates (born c1910). Robert Gates was 61 in 1925 and prior to coming to Canberra had worked as a missionary with Aboriginal people in various parts of Australia including Terry Hie Hie. Robert Gates was a Tasmanian by birth and a very devout Christian. Ena Gates worked for a time as a seamstress with Effie Makin (lived in 47 and later moved to Acton) who was the mother of Maggie Shepherd. On leaving Canberra the family returned first to Launceston & Burnie and later to Melbourne where in April 1945 Robert Gates was

knocked over by a tram and died. Jane Gates died in April 1948 and Ena Gates moved back to Hobart where she died in the 1990s. [Information published in 2002 Westlake Newsletter]

GINN, Eileen hd

62 GREEN, Olive & Arthur hd & car driver

HAWKE, Florence, Andrew & Henry hd, engine driver & engine driver. They took up residence at Westlake 2.4.1926.

In the early 1920s two generations of the Araluen mining family of Hawke left their homes to seek work in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) where miners were required to work on the newly reopened sewer. Father and adult sons were taken on the payroll but instead of working underground they were employed to drive steam driven engines and work with horse and drays. A number of the boys joined the sewer football team much to the delight of the sewer foreman, Jeremiah Dillon who is still spoken about by many as the *Father of Football* in the FCT.

The patriarch of the family was Henry Hawke. His wife's name was Letitia. They had a family of ten - seven boys and three girls - all of whom were adults when the family left Araluen. Henry and Letitia Hawke and their married son Andy (Andrew) and his wife, Florence May (nee Ginn) lived for awhile at Molonglo before moving around 1926 to Westlake. Henry and Letitia moved into 18 and Andy and May into 41. The latter couple later moved to 36 where they remained until 1957. Another son, Bert Hawke for a time lived in 40 Westlake and during this time married Phil Higgins.

Letitia Hawke died during the time the family lived at Westlake and sometime later Henry met and married an English lady named Susie. Henry worked as a boilerman at the Hotel Canberra. In 1956 Henry and Suzie left Westlake. He outlived his son Andy by a few years and died aged over ninety.

May and Andy Hawke met and married in Araluen where their two eldest children, Bill (William 1922) and Keith (1925) were born. Bruce (1927), Marjie (Marjorie, 1929) and Valerie (1931) arrived during the time the family lived in Westlake.

One recent death of a member of the Hawke family was reported in the *Canberra Times* - Doreen May Kerrison (nee Hawke) died on 5th June 2006. She was born 14th March 1909 and came with her parents and eight siblings from Araluen to Canberra. Her father was Harry Hawke.

Val Clarke nee Hawke told her family story – part follows:

Val Hawke recalled that 36 Westlake was a small boxlike unlined timber cottage. It had two bedrooms, a kitchen and living area and at the back a combined laundry/bath/toilet and a sleep out. In the backyard there was a good veggie garden and fowls. Two fruit trees, apricot and apple along with a healthy grape vine supplied fresh fruit in season and the family cow - milked by Bruce was kept up in the area of Stirling Ridge where a concrete

floored milk bail building was constructed for use by Westlake people. The floor is still on the hillside near the sewer vent.

Near the site of back door of 36 is a large old gum tree. From it Andy Hawke strung wire[Val's daughter, Lorraine, said the wire put up by Bill before going to WW2] for use as an aerial for his wireless. Part of the wire still hangs from a branch as a silent reminder of the family who lived below.

All Andy and May Hawke's children attended Telopea Park School which catered for all levels from Kindergarten through to the Leaving Certificate (Fifth Year). From 1939 students attending Telopea Park School who wanted to continue their studies after the Intermediate level had to transfer to Canberra High School on the other side of town.

Westlake children had to walk from their homes up over the hill past the American Embassy (built in early 1940s) to State Circle where they caught the school bus. In later years a bus shelter protected children from the elements whilst waiting but as most had to walk anything up to a mile from home during wet weather many arrived soaked to the skin. The reason given for not bringing the bus into the settlement was the state of the road - track. It was bitumened in the 1950s and then the school bus did come into the settlement. One pickup point was in front of 27 Westlake.

The cost of the school bus fare each way was one penny. If a child missed the bus or wanted to save the penny then a bike ride or brisk walk over Capital Hill past the Capitol Hill Hostel (built in 1925) was the norm. Until the post war extension of this men's hostel it consisted of a few cubicles and mess room painted a dull fawn colour. Mrs Berry was the Mess Caterer in the late 1940s.

The girls' uniform during Valerie's years of attendance at Telopea Park was black serge tunic with three pleats back and front, white blouse, tie, panama hat with black band, white socks and black shoes. During winter the socks were replaced with black stockings which were held up by very uncomfortable elastic garters. At the time when Valerie attended high school at Telopea there were two academic levels - A & B. In the former in addition to Maths, English etc, Business Principles was taught. The girls in the B class learnt Home Science (Cooking and Sewing) and Physiology. This class did not sit for the Intermediate Certificate Examination held at the end of Third Year which was an external examination set as was the curriculum by the NSW Department of Education. Valerie remembered a few of the names of her high school teachers - Mr Fry, Mr Wynn and Miss McCrea who taught Sewing. In the early years there was no tuckshop in the school that Valerie could remember. Most children took sandwiches for lunch which had spreads such as marmite, cold meat and tomato. When questioned whether or not she had soft drink at home or school the answer was No. Water was the liquid drunk. This was the norm in most family households at this time. Sport was an important part of school life. Each week one afternoon was devoted to organised sport - usually team games or tennis. In Primary it was held on a Friday and in High School, a Wednesday. Valerie's sport was basketball and many of the competitive games held against other schools were played on the courts on the flats at Acton below the hospital.

The Hawke children were permitted to swim in the Manuka Pool but not in the river which was considered by her parents to be too dangerous - a number of people had drowned in it. Valerie's girl friends were Byrl Callen, Patsy Corie, Lauris West, Norma McIntyre and Margaret Campbell (sister of Lenny and daughter of Katie and Don Campbell who lived 54 Westlake before the departure of the West family). Valerie and her sister Marjie liked children and often looked after the youngsters Carmel Maxwell and Gary McFadzgen

Valerie recalled other facets of daily life in the settlement. Meat, bread and milk were delivered daily and vegetables, fruit, and groceries weekly. On a Thursday a man from JB Young called to take the grocery order which was then delivered on the Saturday. Every Friday a man - SO Taylor (?) called with suitcases full of clothes, linen etc and in case he did not have what was wanted or required mail order catalogues from David Jones, Mark Foy's, Grace Brothers, Marcus Clark, Wynns and Beverfall contained photographs and order forms for goods which ranged from clothing to hardware. The photographs could be recycled by cutting out to be pasted - using flour and water glue - on to the brown paper covers of school books. To keep food fresh the Hawke family had a Coolgardie hanging safe under the apricot tree and a cooler in the ground in the back verandah. It consisted of a concrete lined hole about three feet deep by one foot across. Over the top was a wooden cover. In it was kept the butter and milk. It was a very efficient. For those who had an ice chest ice was delivered twice a week. It was rare for anyone in the settlement to own a refrigerator in these early years.

The Westlake Hall was the centre of many of the activities of the community including the Euchre Evenings when people turned up to pay a small entrance fee, play for an evening and hope to win a small cash prize. Dances, church services, baby health centre etc were also held in the hall and when Valerie planned her wedding to Victor Edward Clarke in 1952 a Kitchen Tea was organized and held in the hall. No invitations were required - all came! Each guest brought a present, a plate and the will to have a good time dancing to the music supplied by Jack O'Brien on his squeeze box.

Val's wedding was held in St John the Baptist Church of England at Reid. Her bridal dress was the traditional long white gown made from satin with lace and her bridesmaids were her sister, Marjie and sister-in-law, Joan. Following their marriage Valerie and Victor lived for a short time with her parents until moving to Duntroon where they remained until 1975 before moving to their present home at Giralang.

Strong ties remained with Westlake and when her first child, Lorraine, was a few years old, husband Vic drove them twice a week over to Westlake Pre-School held in the Westlake Hall. Valerie visited her parents whilst her daughter played. By the time the next two children, Marcia and Raymond, were born the ties with Westlake were gone.

Marjie, Valerie's sister married from Westlake and had the usual Kitchen Tea in the hall prior to marriage to Frank Rundle. Marjie died in 1996 from cancer. Her husband, Frank Rundle predeceased her by a few years. He was born at Duntroon and through death lost his mother whilst quite young. During the period of World War II during the time when his father was in the army Frank Rundle lived with his aunt and uncle, Mary and Jack O'Brien of 51 Westlake. He and Marjie didn't go together then. They met later. They have four

children. Val's brothers all married. Bill to Eileen Gallagher of Queanbeyan and has two children, Keith to Fay Campbell of Westlake and has four children and Bruce to Joan McGowan of Canberra and has one child. All live in Canberra.



Above is a April 2007 photograph showing in the centre of the photograph the old gum tree outside the lavatory door of 36 Westlake. Careful examination of one of the branches shows a wire put there by Mr Hawke [Bill Hawke before he went off to WW2] as an aerial for the family radio. The plaque, photographs etc on the left are in the grounds of 29 Westlake. Background left is the hedge between 38 and 39 Westlake. The hall site is behind the photograph board.

Canberra Times 20th April 2007 – death notice of Valerie Letitia Clarke nee Hawke. She died at Hervey Bay on 19th April 2007 – late of Westlake, Duntroon, Girilang and Hervey Bay. Val was born on 19th February 1931 and married Victor Clarke who survives her. Her funeral was held on 26th April at the Crematorium in Canberra. The ashes of her sister, Marjorie and husband Frank Rundle are in the grounds of the Crematorium.

Val's son wrote the following poem that was published in the same paper:

*Drift away mother to a place from before
To the steps of your childhood along Molonglo shore
Up through the paddock to old Westlake where Andy and May still wait at the gate
There's Bill, Bruce and Keith, Marjorie too
Don't hurry mother, they wait for just for you
I'll ask one more time what sums up your life cares, protector, mother and wife
Something you said that made you stand tall
Friends and family are sacred, family is all
Take my hand mother to a place from before
Let your soul rest in peace along Molonglo shore
Your loving son, Ray*

Val's husband, Vic, also wrote a poignant poem to Val's memory.

24 IRONS, Louisa & Robert hd & bricklayer Mr Irons was moved to a hospital in Sydney for the incurable. Mrs Irons sold all her furniture to Mr Harold Tuson and family who then moved into this cottage for about six months until the cubicle accommodation at Pierce's Creek was ready for them. The Irons took up their tenancy 11.5.1924. He also kept greyhound dogs much to the displeasure of his neighbours.

Mr Baucroft. 28/8 *FROM SECRETARY* *1963*
United Operative Bricklayers' Trade Society

TRADES HALL, BRICKLAYERS' UNION.

CANBERRA BRANCH, NO. 8

SECRETARY: F. IRONS

TELEPHONE-CITY 2757

18/6 *25/8/29*
Aug / 4 / 1925

28 Westlake

Canberra

Secretary.

Federal Capital Commission.

Dear Sir,

Referring to the interview held on the 16th of July, in conjunction with other representatives of the various Building Trades, & also to your letter, No 625/582, of the 20th of July.

I am directed to inform you, that the Members of the above Society do not see their way clear, or the reason why, they should be asked to forego the 1/- per day travelling allowance, which is payable under Travelling Expenses & Time, appearing on Page 17 of the Federal Territory Award. And do not wish to be a party to any such agreement.

Yours faithfully

F. Irons

Secretary

For Bricklayers

Lucy Alexandra Johnson died 19th September, 1939 aged 59 years. She was mother of 5 children and is buried in St John the Baptist Church Cemetery. Reference *St John's Churchyard* by Jean Salisbury. Lucy married a man by the name of Rogan and another daughter was Mrs Mary Duffus of Westlake. A story told by Adrie Callan nee O'Neill who was born at Westlake is that Mrs Rogan and Mrs Duffus used to go to St John's once a week and sat near their mother's grave and had afternoon tea with her. Mrs Duffus's daughter Lucy is buried at St John's - she died in 1927 aged 15 months.



10 KELLY, Ada & William hd & bricklayer – Took up residency of the cottage 10.3.1924. This family had no children and took in boarders. Mrs Kelly was known to many as Auntie Kell. Ada Kelly died 20th September 1959 aged 77 years. Her husband, William died 16th July 1960 aged 76 years. Both are buried in Woden Cemetery. William Kelly was the driver/owner of a Chevrolet car that was involved in an accident at 9.15pm on 9th December 1928 on the Uriarra Road. The passengers in the car were Reta and Alfred Erikson and Herbert Sandilands.

Left: *Auntie Kell* (Kelly) and three Gibbs children – Yvonne on the right.

23 LAW, Esther & Robert hd & carpenter

Robert Law was the son of Thomas Law who came out to Australia with his family from Scotland in 1846 and settled in Benambra in Victoria. His son, Robert, married Esther Crow in 1892 at Strathbogie Victoria. They had a family of 11 children and in 1924 the family came to Westlake. Robert Law lived for a time at the Tradesmen's Camp at Westlake until 23 Westlake became available in 1924. Mrs Law was post mistress for a time. One of the daughters, Anne married George Baker. They lived for awhile at 5 Westlake. George was an engineer and worked on Provisional Parliament House. A daughter, Ruby, married a man by the name of Padrotta and lived for awhile at 18 Westlake with her parents. Another daughter, Olive married Jack Graham and for a time the family lived at 23. Son Charlie - the youngest was the 13th Scout sworn in on Capital Hill. Esther Law died 18th February 1950 and is buried in the Methodist Section of Woden Cemetery in Canberra. Her husband, Robert predeceased her and died on 20th June, 1945. He is also buried in the Woden Cemetery in the Methodist Section. A plaque on one of the graves refers to LL Hart (grandson) who was killed in action on 5th January 1949 aged 19 years.

48 LAW, Kathleen & Leslie hd & labourer

Leslie was a son of Robert and Esther and lived at 48 for a time. He worked on the construction of Commonwealth Avenue.

3 LANGER, Agnes & Francis hd & labourer

20 LEECH, Florence & Arthur hd & bricklayer

Arthur Neville, son of Florence & Arthur Leech died as the result of an accident - dived into the Acton Swimming hole and hit his head on the 15th March, 1930. He was 14 years of age and was born in Queensland. He is buried in St John the Baptist Church Cemetery. Reference *St John's Churchyard* by Jean Salisbury. Mrs Leech was buried at Woden Methodist Section on 2nd July, 1969. Her husband predeceased her by a number of years.

2 KINNANE, Betty & Patrick hd & labourer

The Kinnane family lived at No 2 Westlake and later moved to 32. Betty (Bridget) Mary Stephens was born on 29th May, 1905 in Tasmania and came to NSW at the age of 3. Her parents were John and Edith (nee Harris) Stephens. In 1925 Betty married in Queanbeyan Patrick Thomas Kinnane - born in Cobar on 24th March, 1905. For awhile the newly weds lived at Molonglo where William Henry was born. Their next son Thomas Patrick was born in Sydney where Betty was sent for medical treatment.. Patrick was followed by John Joseph who was born in Horrie Cleaver's taxi, then Gloria, Keith James and Barbara. On 11th February 1950 Patrick Jr married Pauline Dominick at St Christopher's Manuka. Patrick Jr died in the late 1990s.

Barbara Campbell nee Kinnane and her husband contacted me in 2006 and showed me a number of old photographs including the one shown below. The following text identifies the members of the Kinnane family.

There has been a member of the Kinnane family at Marist from its beginnings in 1968 and the tradition seems like continuing for some time.

Mr Pat Kinnane, the father of the family was a stalwart rugby player from the early days of the College and was made an honorary life member of the Marist Rugby Club in 1997 shortly before his death. His wife, Pauline, (pictured) worked for many years in the College staff room. The photograph shows (backrow), David Mead (grandson 1990), sons Brian (1982), David (1985), Stephen (1984), Terry (1975) and Gary (1975) and grandson Paul Mead (1994). Second Row: John Dickinson (grandson 1994), Jordan Mead (great grandson current Year 4), Mrs Pauline Kinnane, Jason Kinnane (current Year 10). Front row all grandsons: Chris Dickinson 2003, Patrick Kinnane (1995), Andrew Dickinson (2000), and James Kinnane (Year 10). Paul Mead joined the PE staff at Marist this year. Peter & Michael Kinnane not present.



Pat Kinnane Sn was one of the early Westlake SP bookies. There were others who included Yvonne Arnell's father (Gibbs) and Lofty Harrington.

1 KNIGHT, Alfred bricklayer.

He and his wife, Emily lived at Howie's Cottages before moving to Westlake. His wife Emily died on 14th July, 1928. The cause of death was TB. She was 41 years of age and had married in England. She is buried in St John the Baptist Church Cemetery. Reference St John's Churchyard by Jean Salisbury. Alfred died in Sydney in an army hospital. It was sometime after 1935.

Philomena Kilpatrick wrote the story of her in-laws – Alfred & Emily Knight.

When we came to Canberra in the early fifties friends and contemporaries of my husband Mick's grandfather, Alfred Knight would say if you wanted a good chimney built in his time, Alfred was the man to build it. He and his wife Emily married in Brampton, Leeds UK in 1909. They migrated to Australia and had their first child, George, known as Alfie in 1911. In 1914 in Goulburn their second child, Olive May - known as Peggy arrived and finally in 1915 at Moss Vale Mona - known as Betsy was born. Alfred saw service overseas in the First World War and returned with head wounds. Work was plentiful in the Federal Capital Territory in the early 1920s for tradesmen, so he came here to work as a bricklayer for John Howie [private contractor]. He lived for awhile at the Tradesmen's Camp at Blandfordia working on Howie's and Commonwealth projects - Hotel Canberra, Provisional Parliament House and West Block to mention a few.

Young Canberra was a real outpost and no place for wives and young families. So little to do in free time after a hard day's work but to go to Queanbeyan or obtain liquor by some

means or other. Canberra was supposed to be teetotal (or so we are led to believe). How many empty bottles went out on that train to Sydney in the twenties? [It was a train full – 170,000 dozen empties collected from the camps.] Alfred drank with the best of them.

When better housing was provided for tradesmen at Westlake, Alfred was given a fine B type cottage valued at 225 pounds - 207 pounds for the house plus 18 pounds for power and electric light, at No 1 Perth Avenue for a weekly rent of fourteen shillings and four pence - \$1.44 in today's currency. So in 1924 Emily, Alfie, Peggy and Betsy came to join him as a family. [The proposed road - Perth Avenue was moved and perhaps his address should have been 1 Empire Circuit.]

A charge sheet dated 17 November, 1925 saw Alfred and others borrowing fruit from Yarralumla Nursery. Sadly for Alfie his family was not to be together for long as his dear wife Emily succumbed to TB and died in July, 1928. She is buried in St John's Cemetery Reid. He was left to cope with his family aged 16, 14 and 13 years. Friends and neighbours, the Kinnanes and McLannetts to name two, rallied to help as they would in those days. Young Alfie moved to Acton so I am told. I believe he has a daughter living in Canberra somewhere. (I would love to meet her.)

Peggy married Colin Kilpatrick of Queanbeyan, a carpenter working in Canberra and cycling daily to work from there. Peggy's wedding from No 1 Westlake was a memorable day for neighbours of that era. Their son Colin, known as Mick was born whilst they still lived at Westlake. Dr Moya Blackall delivered him in the old wooden Canberra Community Hospital [Acton]. The family later moved to George Street Queanbeyan. Colin worked at many sites in the thirties. One was the two storey houses at Manuka. He is photographed wearing overalls, sitting in the front of the group to the right. Evidence of his work was found years later at the Transport Depot at Kingston where he and Earnie Cox signed the wall behind a cupboard on the 8 February, 1937. This was found in the early 1970s during refurbishment work. No need to say he was a keen cyclist of these pioneering days and participated well. Betsy loved sports of all kinds. She played cricket for Westlake in competition. She married Mick Kevans and had two fine and talented sons, Dennis now an author, poet and balladeer and Tony - known as Jacko - who teaches music, languages and is a folk musician.

Alfred later left Canberra for an Army Hospital in Sydney. Peggy and Betsy visited him when they could bringing him tobacco and other goodies. This is where he died.

When Mick and I came to Canberra after our marriage in Sydney we waited our turn on that housing list and eventually came to Yarralumla - the extension to Westridge. Opposite us was Corkhill's end paddock full of long grass, little creeks and springs and no doubt snakes, but we loved it - especially the moo cows in the late afternoons.

Grandfather Knight would be proud of his contribution to Canberra with his grandson Mick who also left his mark on the creation of this city as a carpenter builder, Technical Officer and Works Supervisor and father of six more Canberrans - three generations of Builders of Canberra.

Charlie Law recalled – *Betsy and Peggy Knight were nice girls and their mother was a quiet reserved person. One Christmas Day Mr Knight, Alf [son] were drining under the shade of a tree playing two-up. The language became coarse and arguments were frequent. During one of these arguments, Mrs Knight came to the front door and called out – ‘Gentlemen, Your Christmas Dinner is ready.’* Charlie also mentioned that Alf Knight was part of their gang but there was a falling out and Alfie was ostracized.

McCANN, Ann & John hd & labourer

McDONALD, Melinda & Spencer hd & labourer

In his later years Spencer moved into a shed in the backyard of No 7 and let the house out to New Australians one of whom was the Ivanovici family. The house was bought by Richard Jenkins who moved many of other Westlake Cottages on the back of trucks into Queanbeyan and other places. Jack Lette of Causeway was a driver. No 7 has been rearranged into a flat in the backyard of Richard Jenkins' house in Caley Crescent Narrabundah.

4 McKISSOCK, John bricklayer



Jock McKissock remarried after the death of his first wife Jessica in 1928. John McKissock died 22nd June 1942 aged 57 years and is buried in the Presbyterian section of Woden Cemetery. His second wife, Ethel Maud died on Thursday 21st February, 1983 and is buried in the Presbyterian section of the Woden Cemetery. Jock's sons Andrew and Archibald are also buried at Woden. Andrew died 25th March 1976 and Archibald [Archie] 11th June 1956.

Left is Mrs McKissock (first wife of Jock McKissock and Lynette's grandmother) with her daughter and sons. Below right are McKissock boys – Archy and Andy - during World War 2. A farewell was held for the boys in the Westlake Hall. Shortly after their departure their father died.



Ronnie O'Rourke wrote the following about Archie McKissock following his return from the second World War.

Archie McKissock [of Westlake] who ran the SP Book at the Hotel Canberra used to hold a lot of money when the races were on so if you wanted a bet - go and see Archie at the bar. There were other SP Bookmakers in all the other hotels due to fact that there was no TAB in those days. Archie had a good offsider looking after him. He held a high position in a government force. I could remember one day Archie telling his offsider to put

everything away because he saw the police outside the hotel. His offsider then told Archie that it was not his turn to get caught so it was alright to keep on taking bets as if nothing had happened. But the Police Force had a secret squad called 21 Division. They used to raid all SP Bookies in Canberra without telling anyone what they were doing and many did get caught when the division came up from Sydney. The ones that did get caught paid a very big fine.

Kathie Lee (nee Dunn) whose mother was Mollie nee McKissock wrote the following:

My mother, Mollie, was born into the McKissock family. She had four brothers - Archie, John, Jim and Andy - and one sister, Bell. My mother often talked of her days growing up in Westlake. Her mother died in 1925 (aged forty) when my mother was only nine years old so her sister Bell became the family Mum. Mollie and Bell remained great friends all their lives although Bell married (to Richard Dockerty) and lived in Newcastle. My mother lived at Kingston after her marriage to Walter Dunn. I am the eldest and have two brothers, John and Jim who have always lived in Canberra...

Below Jock McKissock, his second wife Maud, daughters Belle (left) and Molly (right) and grandchildren.



McNAMEE, Margaret & William hd & engine driver

The McNAMEE by Cheryl Gay (nee McNamee)

*McNamee family consisted of **Father:** William deceased; **Mother:** Margaret deceased; **Children:** Edward (Ted) deceased, Benedict (Ben) deceased, Mary deceased, Alice deceased, Richard (Dick) whereabouts unknown, William (Bill) living in O'Connor. Apart from Ted and Ben, the children were born at Queanbeyan, so the family have lived in the area for many years. This is a potted history of the family and the places they lived.*

William McNamee (sn) worked at the Power House, the old wooden Canberra Hospital and the new building after its completion [Royal Canberra Hospital, Acton]. It is also believed

that he worked at the Cotter Pumping Station. He was an engine driver and was, at one time, the youngest engine driver in NSW. He was closely associated with the union movement and was a member of the executive of the Canberra Branch of the FEDFA. Ben Chifley [former war time Prime Minister of Australia] was the fireman on one of the engines that William drove. Mr Chifley remained a friend of William's and kept in touch with him during the time McNamee family lived at Acton.

Ben McNamee recalled living in Jardine Street, Kingston in the Power House houses. He would have been about five years old when they first moved there. His father worked in the Power House. Ben attended the first Telopea Park School [Nerrabundah School] and then went to St Christophers when it was completed. Ben recalled when the shopping centre was built at Kingston [1925+]. It is understood that they lived for a short time at Westlake [1935]. I have been unable to find out any information about that time. Bill McNamee lived at Acton until September, 1956 when he and his wife, Norma, moved to Waratah Street in O'Connor where they still reside...

29 McNEIL, Andrew surveyor's foreman.

47 MAKIN, Annie & James hd & carpenter

This family also moved to Acton Cottages. Both are buried in St John the Baptist Church Cemetery in Reid ACT. St John's Churchyard by Jean Salisbury notes the following: Annie Aitken (nee Donaldson) born Fifeshire Scotland died 25th March, 1935 aged 55 years and her husband James died 7th February 1948 aged 65. He was born in Edinburgh Scotland. The services were conducted by Rev Hector Harrison (Presbyterian minister). I have been told that Maggie Shepherd is a daughter. Mrs Makin was a dressmaker.

26 MEYER, Emily & Peter hd & carpenter

6 MORRIS, Dora & Albert hd & motor driver A Harrison original tenant. For a time Doris and Albert Morris shared a house Causeway - two of nine people in the house. Following a bad omnibus accident after a picnic at the Cotter Mrs Morris had her hip broken. She had to lie still for around six months. The family was allocated 6 Westlake where she rested until the hip mended. Albert Morris was the first man employed by transport department as a bus driver.

27 MUIR, Jean & John hd & --- The original tenant was J Beattie who took up tenancy on 29.5.1924.

(10 MURRAY, George carpenter

38 O'REILLY, Ethel & James hd & labourer Jim O'Reilly was one of the original tenants at Westlake and took up his tenancy 1.9.1924. He was a great writer of poems.

56 PHILLIPS, Alberta & Walter hd & carpenter

Lesley Clarke wrote - *Walter and Alberta Phillips, their son Brian and Alberta's mother, Marian Ploughman came to Canberra from Hobart Tasmania. Walter was allocated number 56 Westlake. Walter and Alberta's neighbours were the Robinsons who lived on one side and the Johnsons on the other side. [No relation to Daphne & Cecil Johnston.] The Browns*

used to live across the road, and Georgina spent a lot of time with Brian and his cousin Lesley. Even in their teens they remained good friends. The Champs were another nice old couple who lived next door to the Browns.

Walter was a carpenter and joiner employed by the local government, where he worked all his life until he retired. One of his long time work mates and fishing companions was Les Brill who also lived at Westlake. They used to go down to the Murrumbidgee to fish and they caught some of the largest Murray Cod I've ever seen. Walter owned a 1929 Ford and I can remember the cod being so big that the heads hung out of one side of the back seat and their tails on the other side. I know this sounds like a big fish story but it was very true. Walter was a very well respected person and made many good friends in the years he spent in Canberra. Another one of his friends and workmates was Tom White who also lived in Westlake. [Tom was Hon Sec of the Canberra City Band for many years.]

Walter played Australian Rules for Manuka in the very early days and in later years kept up his interest in the game by being a goal post umpire. He was a charitable man who worked very hard for Legacy over the years. He was a first war veteran. Alberta was the sister of Alexandra Brinkman and Marion Ploughman was their mother. The two ladies grew to know many people and were highly respected. Marion Ploughman lived in Canberra until her death in her 97th year...

Alberta and Walter's passion was their garden. They spent nearly all of their spare time in it. I believe there was an apricot tree he planted in the garden which was still there many years after he moved out [still there 1998 but removed in a woody weed clearance around 2000]. Alberta had two pet kookaburras, Jack and Jill who sat on the back fence most days and always slept on the verandah at night. When they were being fed pieces of meat, the wild ones used to come in and sit on the fence and get their share of the meat letting Alberta hand feed them...

60 PURCELL, Florence & Milton hd & motor driver

c/o PO RITCHIE, Robert labourer

43 ROGAN, Lucy & Neil hd & labourer

32 SAMUELS, Irene & Victor hd & leading hand. (Vic Samuels later moved to Acton)
He took up tenancy of the cottage 20.7.1925. Victor Oswald SAMUELS 4 Knibbs Street
Turner died 8th July 1961 aged 72 years. He is buried in the Ex-Servicemen section of Woden Cemetery

10 SANDILANDS, Hobart carpenter

16th July 1960 H Sandilands 74 Scrivener Street O'Connor paid for the grave of William Henry Kelly of the same address died 16th July 1960 aged 76 years. C/E. Hobart Sandilands boarded with the Kelly family and moved with them when they had to leave Westlake

c/o PO SHANKS, Alexander labourer

The Gap SYMONDS, Trevanion assistant architect

19 SKINNER, Helen & Robert hd & carpenter

37 THOMPSON, Ellen & Willie hd & labourer

Thompson Family lived at 37 Westlake and during the war sub-leased this cottage to a number of tenants including members of the O'Rourke family.

9 TOOTELL, Olive & Jacob hd & engine driver – he took up residency 24.7.1926. Jacob Tootell formed the *first* bike racing club in Canberra in the 1920s. Prior to moving to Westlake he along with his family lived at Duntroon. The family left the district sometime in 1929.

52 WARREN, Eva & Robert hd & gardener (previous tenant R Skinner)

58 WHITE, Mary & Radick hd & ganger



57 WHITE, Maud & Thomas hd & carpenter – took up tenancy 4.9.1926. Tom White was the Hon Sec of the Vice Regal Band.

33 WILLIAMS, Susan, William jr & William hd painter & foreman

40 WOODMAN, Laura & Edward hd & foreman



Above top left: Darcy White at Westlake. Left – Ann Austin aged 12 in front yard of 27 Westlake (1949) and right Ann Austin feeding *Lambert*. In the background is 28 Westlake, home in the 1940s of the Menzies family. Photograph taken circa 1949. Today the site is the corner of Empire Circuit and Forester Crescent - in Stirling Park, Yarralumla.

THE GAP COTTAGES, WESTLAKE 1929

This election was for the Third Commissioner and only one person (the breadwinner and person who was the tenant who paid the rent) per cottage was allowed to register to vote.

	ARCHER, Ernest ganger, house
	ARMSTRONG, Henry labourer, house
46	BAKER, Percy pipelayer, house
43	BEADMAN, Ernest labourer, land
36	BRANDER, John machinist, house
22	BRILL, Leslie carpenter, house
34	BROWN, Sydney labourer, house
28	BUDD, George gardener, house
50	BUTCHER, Aubrey plasterer, house
53	BYRNE, Raymond driver, house
43	BEADMAN, Ernest labourer, land
(24)	BOX, Ernest leading hand, house
35	CHAMP, Samuel labourer, house
	CHATHAM, William labourer, house
31	CLEAVER, George blacksmith, house
	CLEAVER, Horace car proprietor, house
16	CLOWRY, Francis carpenter, house
(30)	COREY, Ernest labourer, house
	DE SMET, Eugene 'bus driver, house
	DINNERVILLE, Lawrence engine driver, house (Howie's cottages)
15	DUFFUS, Alexander labourer, house
	DWYER, Harry bus driver, cottage

54 EDWARDS, John labourer, land

44 EDWARDS, Stanley ---, house

62 GREEN, Arthur driver, house

HAWKE, Andrew engine driver, house

5 HOLMES, Harold watchman, house

24 IRONS, Louisa hd, house

JOHNSON, Henry carpenter, house

10 KELLY, William, house

(2) KINNANE, Patrick labourer, house

3 LANGER, Francis labourer, house

48 LAW, Leslie labourer, house

(23) LAW, Robert carpenter, house

20 LEECH, Arthur bricklayer, house

McCANN, John labourer, house

39 McCALLUM, John rigger, house – he was involved in an accident 12.9.1928 with a learner driver, John Notaras. At the time John McCallum worked at Black Mountain Quarry.

7 McDONALD, Spencer labourer, house

4 McKISSOCK, John bricklayer, house

McNAMEE, William engine driver, house

47 MAKIN, James bricklayer, house

26 MEYER, Peter carpenter, house

6 MORRIS, Albert driver, house

27 MUIR, John labourer, house

36 O'REILLY, James labourer, house

PURCELL, Milton driver, house

- 56 PHILLIPS, Walter carpenter, house
- ROGAN, Neil labourer, house
- 32 SAMUELS, Victor cleaner, house
- 29 SYKES, George labourer, house



Above Harold Gane at 29 Westlake. He is the son of Mrs Elizabeth (known as Alma) Gane and George Sykes. The billy carts made by George were well known and favourites of the children.

- 37 THOMPSON, Willie labourer, house
- THURGOOD, Frank postman, house
- 9 TOOTELL, Jacob driver, house
- WARREN, Robert gardener, house
- 58 WHITE, Roderick ---, house
- 57 WHITE, Thomas carpenter, house
- 33 WILLIAMS, William foreman, land