People of the Yankalilla District



1925 on the occasion of George and Sarah's golden wedding anniversary. Family Photo. **Back:** George, Celia, Sam, Doreen, Alf, Doris

Front: Sarah, George and Sarah, Horace.

George MITCHELL (1852 -1938)

Married: Sarah Hoskin (1856 - 1938)

Arrived in Yankalilla district: 1852 Settled at: Torrens Vale, Bald Hills

Occupation: farmer

Buried: Yankalilla Cemetery

Children of George and Sarah:

Alfred James (1876-1876)

Emily Jane (1877-1877)

Sarah Louisa (1878-1960) m Walter HAWKE

Ellen Maria (1881-1908) m Charles FORBES

George (1883-1968) m Clara Howlett

Samuel Frederick (1885-1965) m Leticia Haines

Celia Hannah (1887-1969) m Len MILLARD

Alfred William (1890-1962) m Rose Stone

Horace (1892-1973) m Aldith Wright, Ethel Stacey

Doris Alice (1894-1976) m Robert PIMM

Doreen Charlotte (1897-1977) m Percy HILDER

George Mitchell lived his entire life of 86 years in the Yankalilla district, the first year at Section 1622 Torrens Vale, then the next year at Hay Flat where his father, Alfred, died in 1853 aged 29.

His mother, Maria married Samuel Letheby in 1854, and they moved to Section 1628, Torrens Vale where George grew up. After his marriage to Sarah Hoskin in 1875, the couple moved to Bald Hills, Section 371, where they lived for the next 50 years, raising a family of 9 children, adding to the home as more rooms were needed. George was farming the properties at Bald Hills, Torrens Vale and Hay Flat and was active in the community.

Of the children, Ellen, Celia, and Horace remained in the Yankalilla district, Sarah (Sis) moved to W.A., George the younger moved to Cummins, then Wudinna, Samuel to Cummins, then Croydon, Alfred to Mintaro, Doris to Perth, and Doreen to Quorn.

The family home at Bald Hills seems to have been a venue for many large celebrations, with newspaper reports of a celebration for Horace on his return from WW1, and a golden wedding celebration with 100 guests in 1925.

On their retirement, George and Sarah moved to 68 Main Street Yankalilla where they resided from 1925 till 1938 with a diamond wedding celebration for 350 guests in 1935.

Of the houses George lived in, Section 1622 Torrens Vale became known as the Hoskin House, and is still standing, The cottage at Hay Flat, empty since 1854 is a ruin, the house on Section 1628, known as the Gully House is undergoing restoration. At Bald Hills the large fireplace and oven remain, and 68 Main Street is still in use.

George and Sarah are buried in the Yankalilla cemetery.



2023 compiled by Trevor Chilman

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For more information on other notable people of the district contact yank.hist.soc@gmail.com

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