

George Henry (Geo) JACOBS

b. 11 Dec 1878, nr. Nairne (Dawesley)

His parents were Henry JACOBS & Jane WILLIAMSON

Susan Annie WATTS

Susan Annie (Annie) b. 15 December 1878 at Native Valley

Susan's parents Henry James WATTS & Elizabeth CROSSMAN

Geo (20yrs) married Annie (20yrs) 29 Mar 1899 at Res. of E Downing, Dawesley.

George Henry JACOBS was the eldest of eleven children and he with his brothers Walter, Ernest and sister Ada would attend the Dawesley private school in their younger days. The family moved away for a short time but returned to the district. This is where George made firm acquaintance with Annie Watts, his school mate and later, wife.



*Dawesley School, with some members of various Watts kin which includes, Alfred John Watts, Alice Maud Watts, **George Jacobs**, **Annie Watts**, Bert Watts, Edith May Watts, Alice Lillian Watts.*

Three known children From left 2nd girl standing Annie Watts, 7th small blonde girl Edith Watts, 3rd boy seated Charles Herbert Watts. Other possible names Davies, Watts, Crossman, Howland, Mullins, Commyns. The school was opposite the old Dawesley Post Office.

George had been working for William J. Davies at Dawesley. Davies was running a Bacon curing business believed to be the first proper ham and bacon factory in South Australia. Several of the WATTS and JACOBS boys learn their trade here. As years went on, many of them became butchers themselves.

In 1909, George applied for a slaughtering licence at Nairne. Around 1910, Walter (George's brother) started a bacon factory at Nairne. It is thought to have been in the Timmin's Tannery building, which is now a private house.

In 1903, George took Davies to court seeking to recover wages owing to him after he was dismissed without a week's notice, but the case was dismissed. It may or may not be a coincidence, but the timing of his dismissal was reasonably similar to when his brother Walter started to win show prizes for his ham and bacon. George most likely worked with his brother at Nairne.

In 1906, George and family (Annie and the children Gladys, Rene & Allan) moved to Yahl in the South-East (for about three years) where George was a Factory Manager. The Yahl Cooperative Cheese and Butter Factory was started in 1900 and by 1906, it was considered to be a very up-to-date factory. In the yard adjoining the Cheese and Butter Factory was a well appointed piggery, and across the field was a commodious bacon curing factory, where Mr. George JACOBS was in charge.

From: Border Watch, Mt. Gambier – Sat 1 Dec 1906:

After going through the factory thoroughly (the Cheese Factory) and seeing everything, the party had a look at the well appointed piggery, and at some fine Yorkshire, Berkshire, and Tamworth pigs running in the yard adjoining. The company does not at present breed pigs, preferring to buy the stock when fairly well grown, and top them up for bacon. Afterwards the visitors went across a field to the commodious bacon curing establishment which the company have recently added to their business, and where Mr. George Jacobs was found in charge. These premises are substantially built and fitted up with every adjunct necessary for the conduct of a bacon curing business, and the completeness and convenience of everything proved quite a revelation to many of the party. All the processes of bacon and ham curing were lucidly explained by Mr. Berkefeld. Just at present from 30 to 40 pigs are dealt with at a killing, and as this takes place on an average once a week, the output of the factory is very considerable. After looking through the killing room and the large drying shed, and into the smoke house, the visitors were taken into the storage room where a large quantity of bacon and hams, and a miniature mountain composed of bladders of lard were on view. One special feature of the premises, which was very favorably commented upon, was the splendid system of drainage. All the floors in the killing, drying, salting rooms, &c., are of cement concrete, and are sloped so that all the water and other waste material can drain away to a deep covered-in hole outside.

Around 1909, George moved back to Nairne.

In 1912, George was appointed as Auditor for the Nairne Council.

On 19 September 1913, Walter Jacobs (Geo's younger brother) took over the old Mt. Barker Butter Factory. Before long, his brothers George, Ernest and Arthur were working with him at Mount Barker. Early in 1916, an anonymous complaint was made to Mount Barker Council about the state of the Jacobs slaughterhouse at Mount Barker. An inspector visited the premises and he reported that there was nothing to complain about, there was no smell and everything was very clean. Councilor Monks said the objectionable smell was coming from the tannery and was worse at the Railway Station than Mr. Jacob's place. In 1926, W. Jacobs Ltd. was registered as a limited company. Shareholders were Walter JACOBS, George JACOBS, Ernest JACOBS, Susan Annie JACOBS (George's wife), Florence Ellen JACOBS (Walter's wife) and Arthur Charles JACOBS. The first directors were Walter, Geo and Ernest.

George was active in community life in Mount Barker. In 1920, Geo was presiding over a meeting of the committee of the Mount Barker Soldiers Memorial Hospital. In 1924, Geo was a councilor for the South Ward (of the council). In 1927, Geo was chairman of the school committee. In 1928, Geo was appointed as a delegate to represent Mount Barker as a delegate to decide where the next Schools Exhibition would be held. In 1931, Geo was presiding over a meeting of the Hills Lawn Tennis Association. Also 1924 1925 1928. In 1933, Geo travelled to 'The East' with a trade delegation on the '*Nieuw Holland*' in the hope of 'finding new markets'. In 1936, Geo was an officer of The Mount Barker Methodist Tennis Club. In 1937, the Tannery at Mount Barker was registered as a company. George Henry JACOBS was listed as one of the company directors.

Annie d. 31 Mar 1957 (78yrs) at Mount Barker. After Annie died, George went to Byford W.A. to be with his daughter Rene and her husband Jack DOLEY. George died 20 Oct 1960 at Mt. Barker W.A. and his ashes are interred at Karrakatta Cemetery, Perth, W.A. Mt Barker W.A. is about 340km from Byford (which is now a suburb of Perth).



George (Geo) and Annie



George JACOBS



c:1908.Walking down Donald street past Uncle Will Davies house/factory, on left. Annie Jacobs & daughter Gladys ready to turn, (reader's right) into the yard of Elizabeth & Harry Watts' home, Dawesley, Adelaide Hills. This, Annie's childhood home.

Children of George & Annie

1. Gladys Annie JACOBS

Born 1 Jun 1899 in Dawesley S.A.

Gladys d. 16 Dec 1996

m. Gladys (23yrs) to Stanley Lewis CHILDS (24yrs) 9 Sep 1922

at the Methodist Church Mt. Barker.

His parents James Alfred CHILDS & Amy LEWIS

Stan b. 19 Feb 1898

d. 21 Nov 1966

Both at Centennial Park, Pasadena

Colin Stanley CHILDS

b. 29 September 1923 Littlehampton.

m. Audrey Stapleton LUCK.

Audrey b. 10 April 1927

3 children

Ronald James CHILDS (twin)

Born 19 September 1925

Married Betty Margaret LAWRENCE

Ron d: 7 April 1983

2 children

3. Reginald George CHILDS (twin)
Born 19 September 1925
Married Barbara Graham MATTNER
Died 15 Jan 1967 at Victor Harbour
Barbara Born 31 March 1926
4 children

2. Allen Henry (Henry) JACOBS

b. 11 Jun 1902 Dawesley

When the family had returned from Yahl in the South East of South Australia they moved into a home in the main street of Nairne. Allan was about six years old and it was then that he fell onto his head from a low parapet wall in the back garden of their house.

Nurse Thomas was fetched by Gladys to help the frantic Annie as she could not stop Allan convulsing. They placed him in cold baths and worked desperately with the child but could not prevent or repair the damage done to his brain and for the remainder of his life he was in need of care. He lived at home until he needed extra care as an adult and died in institutional care at Eastwood, age 58 years on the 18th June, 1960.

3. Dorothy Irene (Rene) JACOBS

b. 19 Jan 1905 Nairne S.A.

Rene d. 28 Nov 1976 (71yrs) Applecross WA (Karrakatta Cemetery WA)

m. John Victor (Jack) DOLEY

Jack b. 21 Jan 1901 Riverton

Jack d. 12 Sep 1991 (90yrs) Bentley WA (Karrakatta Cemetery WA)

They lived in Byford, W.A.

In WW2, Jack was in the 2nd Fremantle VDC Battalion Reg. No. 68030

John DOLEY

b. 16 Nov 1937

m. Alison RUDDUCK

Lived in Coorow W.A.

David DOLEY

b. 7 Jul 1939

m Jill CRADDOCK

Lived in Brisbane

John Lawrence DOLEY

b. 7 Jan 1977

Fiona Patricia DOLEY

b: 1979

Margaret May DOLEY

m. Graham GREENHILL

Margaret d. April 1993 in a car accident in W.A.

3 children

Gweneth May (Gwen) JACOBS

b. 7 Feb 1918 at Mt. Barker

d. 8 Jun 2014

m. Arthur Ronald (Ron) TRENGROVE 15 Mar 1943

at Dunn Memorial Church Mt. Barker.

Ron b. 2 Mar 1914

Known as Ron, he was the son of a Bush Minister who would ride his bike to stations and outposts within his radius out of Cockburn, thirty miles from Broken Hill. One station he would visit was Mutooroo just in from the NSW border. This was the station that Gwen Jacobs' grandfather, Harry Watts would sometimes travel north to join a shearing team and would be away for weeks in the season. Mutooroo was the station run by the SMITH family.

3 children



Allan, Gladys & Rene Jacobs.