

HARRIET McDONALD, Daughter

Birth: 11 Sep 1840 Place: Norfolk Plains
Baptism: 12 Oct 1840 Place: Longford, C.E.
Death: 15 Sep 1929 Place: Moore's Plain Road, Wynyard Age: 89
Burial: 18 Sep 1929 Place: New Ground, St George's C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Farmer's wife; Domestic Duties (1912 1914)
Residence: River Leven; New Ground; Sassafras (1912 1914)
Father: GEORGE McDONALD (~1801-1878)
Mother: DELIA FURNER [ALIAS GILLAM] (~1815-1900)

Birth registered as a baptism only. See RGD 1198/40 and C.E. 511.

"On the 10th instant, [sic] by the Rev E.P. Adams, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr George Turnbull, of Glenore, to Harriet, third daughter of Mr George McDonald, of the River Leven." [Cornwall Chronicle Wednesday 20 February 1861]

Witnesses to marriage were George McDonald junr. [brother] and Maria McDonald [sister]. [CE 58] No golden wedding details found in Advocate, North West Post, or Weekly Courier.

See Advocate Friday 20 September 1929 for funeral.

Spouse: GEORGE TURNBULL

Birth: 25 Jan 1840 Place: Campbell Town district, Tasmania
Baptism: 14 Feb 1840 Place: Kirklands, Campbell Town [Presbyterian]
Death: 20 Jul 1929 Place: Torquay Road, Latrobe Age: 89
Burial: 22 Jul 1929 Place: New Ground, St George's C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Farmer (1912 1914)
Father: WILLIAM TURNBULL (~1813-1877)
Mother: MARY RICHARDSON (~1819-1887)
Marriage: 12 Feb 1861 Place: House of Mr McDonald, River Leven, C.E., by Lic.

Birth not in Tasmanian Pioneer Index. See Register of Births, Kirklands, Campbell Town [Presbyterian Baptisms CXXXVIII]

Hobart Town Gazette 05 MAR 1867 P501

Harford: George Turnbull on property. Farm, New Ground. Owner Wm. Turnbull, Hermitage. 50 acres.

Hobart Town Gazette 10 MAR 1868 P405

Harford: George Turnbull on property. Farm, New Ground. Owner Wm Turnbull, Hermitage. 50 acres.

Chairman East Mersey Road Trust 1899 [Walch's Almanac] See History of Latrobe, Karl Von Stieglitz.

See Through Tasmania Series No. 23 [Tasmanian Mail 26 January 1884]

Chairman of East Mersey Road Trust (1899)

Died of senile decay. See Examiner 26 July 1929 and Latrobe Parish C.E. 212.

Probate of will at £3405. Son Henry George Turnbull executor of will. [AD 960/53 P761 No. 17477]

Children: HENRY GEORGE (1861-1950)
WILLIAM RICHARDSON (1863-1952)
ALBERT JOHN (1865-1957)
ADA ANNIE (Did not marry) (1868-1958)

Harriet McDonald was born on the *Wickford estate*, Norfolk Plains on 11 September 1840 and her baptism is recorded in the Longford Church of England register on 12 October, one month after her birth. By about 1858 the family had moved to the Leven and it was here that she married George Turnbull at her father's house on 12 February 1861. Her eldest brother, George McDonald, and her sister Maria, later Mrs Fogg, witnessed the marriage). The Cornwall Chronicle¹ reported:

In this unusually quiet and monotonous district we have had rather a merry affair lately which tended to rouse the spirits of the lads and lasses of the neighborhood in the marriage of Mr George Turnbull to Miss Harriet M'Donald on Tuesday week last the 12th instant.



Harriet (nee McDonald) and George Turnbull.

Photo courtesy late Mrs J. Elphinstone

The wedding was held at the residence of the bride's father, Mr Geo M'Donald, River Leven. A number of the young people of the neighborhood, and the friends and relatives of the bride and bridegroom were invited to witness the ceremony and assist in the amusements incidental to a wedding. Dancing was kept up to a late hour (not that night, but the next morning) and every one appeared to be enjoying themselves in the highest degree, and parted wishing the happy couple every happiness they can enjoy.

Harriet's husband, George Turnbull, was the third son of William Turnbull and his wife Mary Richardson. William Turnbull was a native of Berwick-on-Tweed, Scotland and on coming to the

¹ Cornwall Chronicle: Wednesday 20 February 1861 pg 5.

colony settled firstly at Campbell Town and later at *Glenore*, Hagley where young George spent his early days.²

Harriet and George may well have known each other before both families moved from the Westbury district: the McDonalds to the Leven; the Turnbells to the Leven and then on to New Ground where they were among the earliest of the settlers, arriving there in 1866 and settling on the *Hermitage* estate.³

The New Ground was originally granted to Captain B.B. Thomas who was killed by aboriginals at Parker's Ford in 1831. James Fenton, in his book *Bush Life in Tasmania* mentions how he himself had explored the district in 1838, and described it as a 'forbidding, wet, swampy-looking place' with a mob of William Field's wildest cattle running over the margin of the marsh.

William Gardner Sams purchased six hundred and forty acres, part of which was the *Hermitage* in 1839, and this property was later leased by Edward Curr Shaw in the 1850s and then by William Turnbull in the mid 1860s.

Young George Turnbull had a 96-acre farm (*Mountford*) on the margin of Sassafras and New Ground where, with the help of his sons, he carried on general farming.⁴ Prior to this he farmed his father's 200 acre bush selection at Gawler, and his three sons Henry, William, and Albert were born in that district.

Only Ada was born at New Ground pin-pointing the removal from the Leven to New Ground to sometime between 1865 and 1868. This can be further reduced by reference to the Valuation Rolls which list George at New Ground by March 1867. He was farming 50 acres owned by his father William Turnbull of *Hermitage*.⁵

All of William Turnbull's children inherited property from their father who appears to have provided George with his farm, *Mountford*, in July 1874, three years prior to his (William's) death. In turn, *Mountford* appears to have provided George and his family with a good living.

He was in his ninetieth year at the time of his death on 20 July 1929. He and Harriet had been married 68 years. From his obituary we learn:

*The late Mr. George Turnbull whose death occurred recently, was an old and respected resident of the district, and was in his 90th year. The late Mr. Turnbull spent his early days at Glenora, [sic] and settled over 60 years ago at Sassafras, where he commenced farming. He recently retired and went to live at Latrobe, where he took a keen interest in the welfare of the district. He acted as chairman and trustee of the Mersey Road Trust for many years, and was a judge at many Coastal shows. His genial disposition won him many friends. There was a large attendance at the funeral, which took place at St. George's Church, New Ground, where he worshipped for many years...*⁶

Harriet died at her son Henry's home, Moore's Plains Road, Wynyard, less than two months later on 15 September 1929.⁷ Both Harriet and George are buried in the St George's Church burial ground at New Ground. Her obituary states:⁸

The death occurred at Wynyard yesterday of Mrs Harriet Turnbull at the age of 90 years, wife of the late Mr. George Turnbull, formerly of Newground. Deceased had right up to such a

² Von Stieglitz, K.R. 1947, *A Short History of Latrobe with notes on Port Sorell and Sassafras*, pg 46.

³ Ibid.

⁴ *Tasmanian Mail*: 26 January 1884 pg 27 *Through Tasmania* No. 23.

⁵ HTG: 5 March 1867 p501 and 10 March 1868 pg 405.

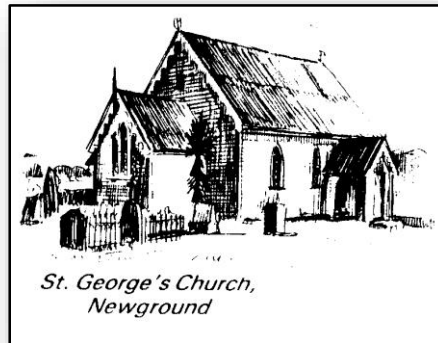
⁶ *Advocate*: Tuesday 30 July 1929 pg 4.

⁷ *Examiner*: 17 September 1929 pg 2.

⁸ *Advocate*: Tuesday 17 September 1929 pg 4.

grand old age enjoyed good health, and the end was sudden. General regret is expressed by a large circle of friends and relatives in the district. She was born at "Wickford," Longford and at the age of about 20 married and went to Ulverstone to reside with her husband. The family came to the Latrobe district some 64 years ago and resided here up till the time of the death of Mr. Turnbull about two months ago. Following her husband's death, which broke a lifelong partnership, the old lady went to reside with her son at Wynyard, intending to return again to Latrobe. She celebrated her 90th birthday last Wednesday, and her husband had also reached that ripe age on his demise...

Fogg and Leith cousins spent their holidays with the Turnbells and corresponded with each other over the years, and the young Turnbells were also close to their *Sea View* cousins.⁹ The Turnbull boys were enthusiastic horsemen and in 1884 had a 'capital Filibuster-Venus yearling, which in good hands, should show her heels to some of the field as a 3 year old'.¹⁰



⁹ Hearsay: Harry Sands.

¹⁰ *Tasmanian Mail: Through Tasmania* No. 23 *Sassafras*.

HENRY GEORGE TURNBULL, Grandson

Birth: 9 Aug 1861 Place: River Leven
Death: 23 Apr 1950 Place: Residence, 7 Flora Street, West Ulverstone Age: 88
Burial: 24 Apr 1950 Place: New Ground, St George's C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Farmer
Residence:
1914-1917 Farmer, Mount Hicks
1919-1921 No occupation, Wynyard, East
1922-1939 No occupation, Moore's Plains Road
1941 No occupation Kelvin Grove, Wynyard
1943 No occupation, Latrobe
1946 No occupation, 43 Oldaker street, East Devonport
1948-1949 No occupation Flora street, Ulverstone
Father: GEORGE TURNBULL (1840-1929)
Mother: HARRIET McDONALD (1840-1929)

Informant of birth was David Manson, River Leven.[RGD 1929]
Witnesses to marriage were L.M. Whitchurch, Latrobe and?, Latrobe. C.E. 96.
See Advocate 24 April 1950 for death and funeral notice.

No known issue.

Spouse: MAUDE AMELIA WHITCHURCH
Birth: 11 Aug 1863 Place: Clairville, Morven
Baptism: 30 Mar 1865 Place: Perth, C.E. Age: 1
Death: 11 Aug 1944 Place: Private Hospital, Hobart Age: 81
Burial: 12 Aug 1944 Place: Cornelian Bay Cemetery, Hobart
Occupation: Household Duties
Father: DAVID JOHN WHITCHURCH
Mother: ELIZABETH LAMPH
Marriage: 7 Feb 1930 Place: St Luke's, C.E., Latrobe, by Lic.

Informant of birth was father, David John Whitchurch, farmer, Clairville, Morven. Mother Elizabeth Whitchurch, formerly Lamph. [RGD 1204]
Widow, formerly Mrs Addison (widowed 1928), of Raeburn, Moriarty.
See Advocate 12 August 1944 and Mercury Saturday 12 August 1944 for death and funeral notice.

T heir eldest son, Henry George, who was born at River Leven in 1861, remained unmarried until his late sixties when he married Maud Addison, nee Whitchurch at St Luke's Church, Latrobe in 1930. They had no children as Maud was also in her sixties. Maud had previously been married to Henry's cousin, William John Addison. For part of his life Henry farmed at Wynyard. Between the years 1914-1917 he was farming at Mount Hicks. By 1917 he had retired to Wynyard where he stayed a few years and then located to Moore's Plains Road. In 1943 he was in Latrobe, and in 1946 lived at 43 Oldaker Street, East

Devonport. By 1949 he had moved to Flora Street, West Ulverstone where he lived with his sister Ada.¹¹ He was named as beneficiary in his Aunt Hannah Curran's will of 1924. He died at his residence, 7 Flora Street, on 23 April 1950.¹²

WILLIAM RICHARDSON TURNBULL, Grandson

Birth: 7 Jan 1863 Place: River Leven
Death: 3 Nov 1952 Place: Mountford, New Ground Age: 89
Burial: 4 Nov 1952 Place: New Ground, St George's C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Farmer (1912 1914)
Residence: Sassafras; New Ground (1912 1914 1948)
Father: GEORGE TURNBULL (1840-1929)
Mother: HARRIET McDONALD (1840-1929)

Informant of birth was father, George Turnbull, farmer, River Leven. [RGD 1253]
Witnesses to marriage were Ada A. Turnbull, Sassafras and John Turnbull, Sassafras. [C.E. 124]
See Advocate 04/05 November 1952 p9 for death and funeral and obituary notices.
Probate sworn at under £5321. [AD 960/85 p 410 No. 37390]

Spouse: ISABELLA TURNBULL
Birth: 31 Aug 1875 Place: New Ground
Baptism: 4 May 1880 Place: Port Sorell Parish, C.E. Age: 4
Death: 18 Oct 1948 Place: Devon Public Hospital, Latrobe Age: 73
Burial: 19 Oct 1948 Place: New Ground, St George's C.E. [Headstone]
Occupation: Domestic Duties (1912 1914)
Father: JOHN RICHARDSON TURNBULL (~1845-1923)
Mother: ELIZA DUKE (~1853-1891)
Marriage: 15 Feb 1905 Place: New Ground, C.E., by Lic.

Informant of birth was J. Turnbull, farmer, New Ground. [RGD 1488]

Children: LEONARD WILLIAM (1905-1976)

The second son, William Richardson, who was born at River Leven on 7 January 1863, married (at the age of forty two) his cousin Isabella Turnbull at New Ground. They had one son, Leonard.

William was of courteous and gentlemanly bearing, combined with a kindly disposition which won for him lifetime popularity as an excellent citizen and a good neighbor.¹³

Isabella was the daughter of John Richardson Turnbull and Eliza nee Duke.

She died 18 October 1948 and William died at *Mountford*, New Ground 3 November 1952. They are both buried at St George's Church, New Ground.

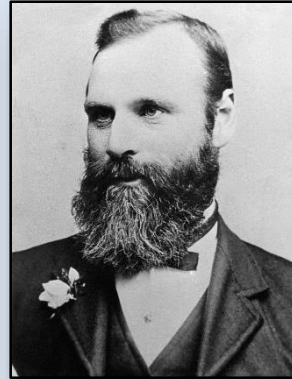
¹¹ Electoral Rolls.

¹² Advocate: 24 April 1950 pg 12.

¹³ Advocate: Wednesday 5 November 1952 pg 4.

ALBERT JOHN TURNBULL, Grandson

Birth: 17 Feb 1865 Place: River Leven
Death: 10 Oct 1957 Place: Alandale,
New Ground, Age: 92
Burial: 11 Oct 1957 Place: St George's
C.E., New Ground
Occupation: Farmer (1912 1914)
Residence: New Ground; Sassafras (1900 1912 1914)
Residence: Tulla Mona, Latrobe (1901)
Father: GEORGE TURNBULL (1840-1929)
Mother: HARRIET McDONALD (1840-1929)



Informant of birth was George Turnbull, farmer, River Leven.
[RGD 1309] See marriage notice Examiner 23 June 1900.
Witnesses to marriage were Herbert Washington Addison and Mary Selina Grigg. [Deloraine C.E. Marriage Register]
Secretary of East Mersey Road Trust (1901) Probate sworn at under £130889 [AD 960/87 p365 No. 38703]

Spouse: CAROLINE MARY ANN GILBERT
Birth: 11 Oct 1862 Place: Forth
Baptism: 30 Nov 1862 Place: Mersey Circuit,
Methodist
Death: 23 Feb 1947 Place: Devon Hospital,
Latrobe , Age: 84
Burial: 24 Feb 1947 Place: St George's
C.E.,
New Ground
Occupation: Domestic Duties (1912 1914)
Father: PHILLIP GILBERT (~1833-)
Mother: LYDIA CAROLINE EDGE CUMBE (1832-)
Marriage: 25 Apr 1900 Place: Sylvan Villa,
C.E., Deloraine
Children: ALLAN GILBERT (1901-1981)



Albert John, was born at River Leven in 1865 and was the youngest son of George and Harriet Turnbull. He married Caroline Annie (Lina) Gilbert of *Castle Hill*, Deloraine at *Sylvan Villa*, Deloraine on 25 April 1900. He was 35 years of age and his bride two years older. The *Advocate* included this paragraph under Deloraine News:

On Wednesday afternoon Miss Lina Gilbert was united in matrimony to Mr A. Turnbull, of Sassafras. Rev A.G. Lingley conducted the ceremony. The bride was dressed in white muslin over buttercup and carried a fan bouquet. Miss Turnbull, a sister of the bride [groom] was

*bridesmaid while Mr Addison of New Ground was groomsman. After the ceremony about 80 friends partook of a wedding breakfast. There were a large number of presents.*¹⁴

In that year he was secretary of the East Mersey Road Trust. Their son Allan was born at Deloraine in 1901.

Lina was born (as Caroline Mary Ann) at Leith near Forth in 1862, and died at the Devon Hospital, Latrobe on 23 February 1947 at the age of 84:

*The death of Mrs. Caroline Annie Turnbull occurred in the Devon Hospital Latrobe on February 23 at the age of 83 [sic]. She was born at Leith, and when quite young moved with her parents Mr & Mrs Philip Gilbert, to the Deloraine district. In 1900 she married Mr. Albert John Turnbull, who has been engaged in farming pursuits ever since. Through her kindly actions she gained many friends. She was a loyal supporter of St Albans Church, Harford. She is survived by the widower and one son, Alan. The funeral took place last Monday in St. George's cemetery, New Ground. Rev. S.C. Brammall officiated at the church and graveside, and spoke in glowing terms of Mrs. Turnbull's Christian life. Chief mourners were the widower, Mr Albert John Turnbull, Alan, son; Mrs A. Turnbull, daughter-in-law; Bruce and Malcolm, grandsons; Philip and Henry Gilbert, brothers; Philip, Nicholas and Miles Gilbert and Len Turnbull, nephews; Will and Henry Turnbull, brothers-in-law. Carriers were C. Hartley, L. Walker, I. Douglas and K. Atkins. Among the wreaths were those from St. Alban's Church and Stenhouse & Co.*¹⁵

When old enough Albert branched out on his own, acquiring part of his grandfather William Turnbull's old property from his aunts. This property, at New Ground, was called *Alandale*.

Albert took a great interest in the old Green's Creek Racing Club and the Latrobe Agricultural Show. He was an enthusiastic horseman as were his brothers Henry and William.¹⁶

He died at *Alandale* on 10 October 1957 at the age of 92.

¹⁴ Advocate: Saturday 28 April 1900 pg 2.

¹⁵ Advocate: 4 March 1947 pg 2; Examiner: 24 February 1947 pg 6.

¹⁶ Tasmanian Mail: 26 January 1884 pg 27 c1; Advocate: 11 October 1957.

ADA ANNIE TURNBULL, Granddaughter

Birth:	15 Feb 1868	Place: New Ground
Baptism:	30 Nov 1868	Place: Port Sorell Parish, C.E.
Death:	5 Oct 1958	Place: Hobart
Burial:	7 Oct 1958	Place: New Ground
Occupation:	Domestic Duties (1912 1914) Home Duties (1948 1951 1955 1958)	
Residence:	Sassafras (1912 1914) Flora Street, Ulverstone (1948 1951)	
Residence:	Heka (1955) 1 Helen Street, Ulverstone (1958)	
Father:	GEORGE TURNBULL (1840-1929)	
Mother:	HARRIET McDONALD (1840-1929)	



Informant of birth was father, George Turnbull, farmer, New Ground.[RGD 1277]

Was living with her brother, Henry George Turnbull, at Flora street, Ulverstone in 1948.

Ada was bequeathed £1000 and the furniture in the will of her father George Turnbull in 1929. [AD 960/53 p761 No. 17477]

Did not marry. No known issue.

Ada was the youngest child and only daughter of Harriet and George Turnbull. She was born at New Ground in 1868 and died unmarried. No doubt it is futile to speculate as to why she never married! But I hardly think it was lack of good looks. I wonder if she stayed at home to look after her brothers who all married rather late in life. Later in her life Ada lived at *Sea View*, the home of her McDonald cousins at Ulverstone.¹⁷ She lived with her brother Henry when he moved to Ulverstone and after his death she moved about, living at Heka in 1955 and at 1 Helen Street, Ulverstone in 1958. Ada died in Hobart in 1958 and was buried in St George's Churchyard, New Ground where other members of the family were also interred.

¹⁷ Hearsay: Late Judy Elphinstone (nee Turnbull).