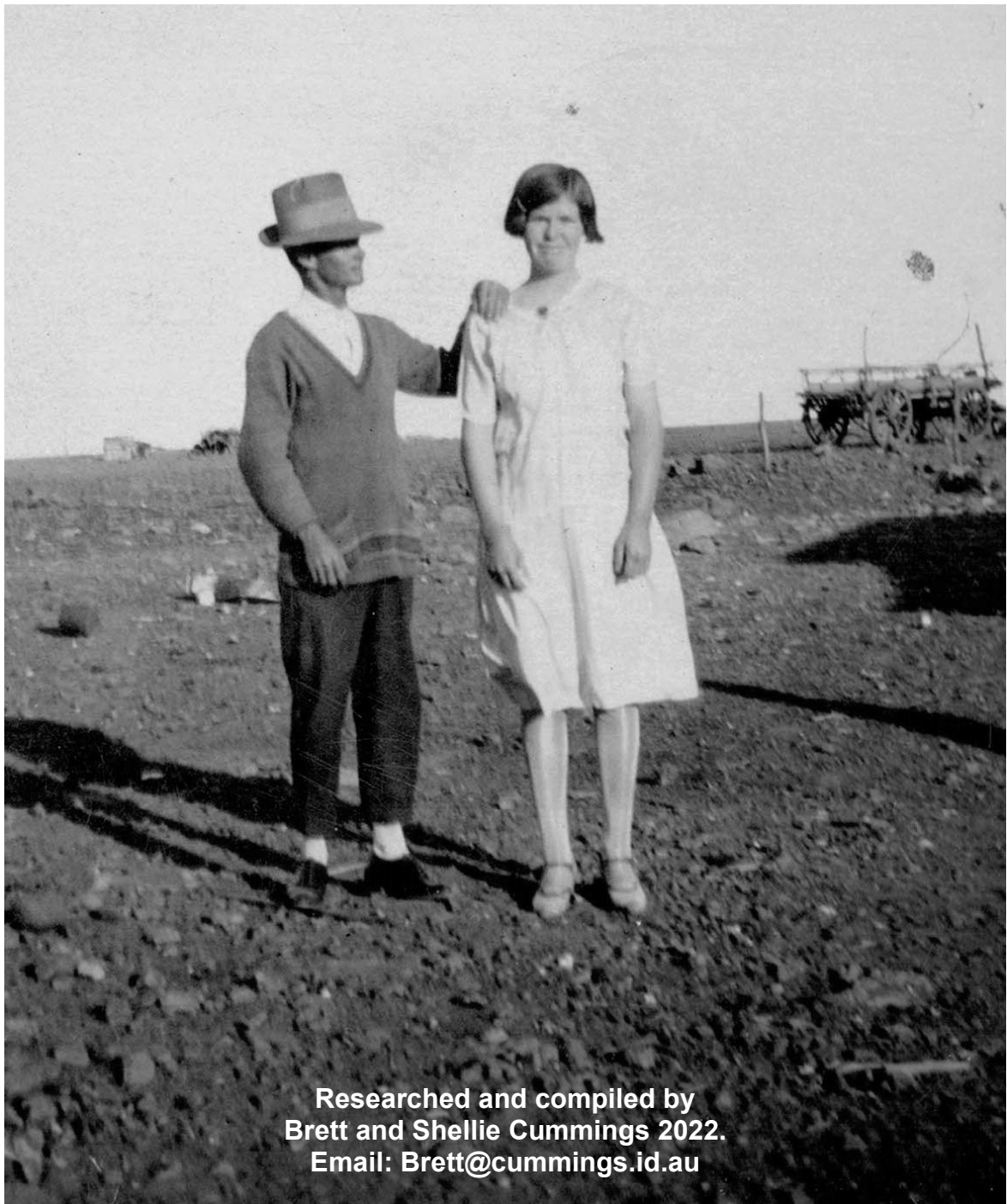


Thomas Benjamin and Evelyn Mabel Martin



Researched and compiled by
Brett and Shellie Cummings 2022.
Email: Brett@cummings.id.au

A big thank you goes out to all the family who have helped by sharing photographs and stories to enable us to put together their life story.

While every effort has been taken to accurately record our family's history from oral and factual sources, the passage of time has left many gaps in their life story that may forever remain unknown to their descendants.

Brett Cummings (Grandson).

Thomas Benjamin and Evelyn Mabel Martin



Thomas and Evelyn Martin wedding photograph 1929.

Thomas Benjamin Martin as he was known was born on 19 April 1900 in Birdsville, Queensland. However, his birth registration states he was named Thomas Angus Martin. It is not clear why he adopted Thomas Benjamin or when he dropped Angus. Thomas also used Benjamin as his first name on his marriage certificate. He was fourth child of six children.

Thomas's parents were William Joseph Martin and Ellen Josephine Elena Callary. William was born on 1 December 1865 at Coonatto, South Australia and died on 4 March 1913 on Murnpeowie Station on the Strzelecki Track in South Australia. Ellen was born on 8 November 1871 in Gilbert, South Australia and died on 13 August 1949 in Jamestown, South Australia. Ellen was the daughter of Philip Callary and Julia McAuliffe. She married William Joseph Martin on 18 February 1892 in Quorn, South Australia. William was the son of Michael Martin and Caroline McCudden.

Evelyn Mabel Reid was born on 1 October 1911 in Hawker, South Australia. She was the daughter of Michael Reid and Sarah Russell. Michael Reid was born on 24 August 1863, in Wirrabara, South Australia. He died on 5 April 1924 in Innamincka, South Australia. He married Sarah Russell on 29 June 1885 in Milparinka, New South Wales. She was the daughter of John Jacob Russell and Martha Whitmarsh. Sarah Russell was born on 13 March 1868 at Culgoa River, New South Wales and died on 18 December 1943 in Whyalla, South Australia.

Australia Birth Index, 1788-1922 about Thomas Angus Martin

Name:	Thomas Angus Martin
Birth Date:	19 Apr 1900
Father's Name:	William Joseph Martin
Mother's name:	Ellen Josephine Callary
Birth Place:	Queensland
Registration Year:	1900
Registration Place:	Queensland
Page Number:	16375
Registration Number:	003327

Record of Thomas's Birth.

23

1912		District of <i>Horne</i>										175
Place Born, and Where.	Name (if any).	Sex.	Name, Surname, Age, and Birthplace of Father.	Name, Surname, Maiden Surname, Age, and Birthplace of Mother.	Year of Marriage of Parents.	Number of Previous Issues.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Free-School, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.	Notes, if added after registration of Birth.	
<i>1st</i> <i>Child</i> <i>1912</i> <i>at</i> <i>Nurse</i> <i>Ward's</i> <i>Hawker</i>	<i>Evelyn</i> <i>Mabel</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Michael</i> <i>Reid</i> <i>47 years</i> <i>white</i> <i>Park</i> <i>South</i> <i>Australia</i>	<i>Sarah</i> <i>Reid</i> <i>Formerly</i> <i>Russell</i> <i>44 years</i> <i>Calpoor</i> <i>Rider</i> <i>New South</i> <i>Wales</i>	<i>1885</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Labourer</i> <i>Leigott</i> <i>Spring</i>	<i>E. Ward</i> <i>2nd</i> <i>Hawker</i>	<i>11th</i> <i>January</i> <i>1912</i>	<i>E. Deane</i>		

Entered at the District Registry Office, this *thirteenth* day of *January* 19 *12*. *A. L. Giles*
District Registrar.

I, ERIC DOUGLAS HYERLEE, Deputy Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the State of South Australia, in the Commonwealth of Australia, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an entry in a register kept in this Office. Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of June, 1969.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR,
ADELAIDE S.A.

E. Hyerlee
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

No 3673

Evelyn's birth certificate.

Evelyn went to school in Innamincka for a short time. Her father worked on many stations in northern South Australia and central Queensland, from Hawker, Farina, Murnpeowie, Nappa Merrie and Thargomindah. He sent his family to live in Farina, possibly from Innamincka, while he worked on Nappa Merrie station early 1920's.



Back row: Gwen Healey, Mr. A. Gniel, Ted Robertson, Sarah and Evelyn Reid
 Second row: ^{Mavis} Jean and Keith Healey, [redacted] and Roy Kelly
 Front row: (in white) Eugene and Lemanos Kelly, Mavis and Madge Healey

Evelyn and sister Sarah school photo circa 1920-22 from "The town with two lives" by Helen Tolcher.

Evelyn grew up in Farina. Opportunities for work in Farina at the time were probably limited as Farina was in decline. The railway had been relocated and the lack of rainfall forced many farmers to leave. Evelyn, however found work as a nursemaid at the local nursing cottage.

Farina was too small to support a hospital, so the District and Bush Nursing Society of South Australia established a "Cottage Hostel" in the Old Transcontinental Hotel. The Hotel was gifted to Farina by Sydney Kidman after he purchased the original hospital called "The Bungalow" in 1925 to be used as the Wilpoorina shearer's quarters.

His daughter, recalls being told by her Dad, Thomas, that he attended a Convent school in Birdsville. His stay was short as he was expelled for climbing a tree to get eggs from a bird nest. A nun caught him up the tree and he threw the eggs at her. Needless to say, she was not impressed.

Thomas also attended school at Farina. He was recognised as the most successful child in the second class of 1912. His sister, Eileen, was awarded the needlework prize.

Daily Herald (Adelaide, SA : 1910 - 1924) / Mon 19 Aug 1912 /

FARINA

Board of Advice.

August 10.—The members of the Farina School Board of Advice paid their annual visit of inspection to the school on Friday last. The chairman (Rev. F. J. Huey) gave a short address, after which he presented the prizes gained at the recent examination. The following children gained the prizes presented by Mrs. Budge, to the most successful child in each class:—First class, John Chapman, Charles Chapman; second, Thomas Martin; third, Edward Burr; fourth, Olive Rollins; fifth, Eileen Budge. In addition the following prizes were presented:—Attendance prizes, Edward Burr, Fred Budge; needlework prize, Eileen Martin; general merit, Roy Wills. The usual half holiday was granted by the board.

Thomas's family had been in Farina since his father William Joseph Martin had taken on the job as Mail Driver in January 1912. It was said that by the time he was 14, Thomas was working as a station hand for Sir Sydney Kidman. He continued to work as a station hand up to the late 1930's.

Australia, City Directories, 1845-1948 for Thomas Martin
South Australia > South Australian Directory (Sands) 1930

Martin Thos., stnhnd, Farina

Australia, City Directories, 1845-1948 for Thomas Martin
South Australia > South Australian Directory (Sands) 1934

Martin Thos., stnhnd, Farina

Australia, City Directories, 1845-1948 for Thomas Martin
South Australia > South Australian Directory (Sands) 1936

Martin Thos., stnhnd, Farina

Extract from the South Australian Directories 1930, 1934 and 1936.



For some time, Thomas and Evelyn lived in a small building attached to the Hostel, on the right hand side



Thomas Martin, Bush camp while station hand circa 1930s.



Another view of Thomas Martin's bush camp.



However, it was not all hard work at Farina. Newspaper articles of the time indicate that residents of Farina and the surrounding area had a good social life.

Thomas was right in the middle of it. Thomas was part of the organising committee for a Fancy Dress Ball held in Farina on 28 January 1924. He was also the MC for the evening. Thomas went as a Jester, his sister as Harem and his brother as an Oriental and mother as Night. Alice won the best fancy costume.

Thomas dressed as a Jester.

Farina.

Fancy Dress Ball.

On Monday evening, Jan. 28, a fancy dress ball was organised by a few of the local lads, namely, Messrs Justin, Payne, Davy, T. Martin, Francis, and Dennison, and the arrangements were successfully carried out.

The floor was reserved for dancers in fancy costume until 10 p.m., and it was quite a gay scene to see so many fancy costumes on the floor, especially in the novelty dances, which included streamer dance, moonlight waltz, confetti fight and balloon dance.

Much amusement was caused by the little party which consisted of J. Justin as the "Parson," Miss L. Jeffreys the "Bride," Curley Francis the "Bridegroom," Mr. and Mrs. W. Collins as "Dad and Mum" and Tom Trust as the "Bridesmaid," and dancing ceased while the wedding ceremony took place.

Those in fancy dress were:—Messdames Collins, Mum; Seidel, Starlight; Martin, Night; Caldwell, Japanese; and Misses A. Martin, Harem; T. Danielson, Folly; E. Chapman, Bells of Peace; M. Davis, The Bride of the Nation; Molly Davis, Yes, We have No Bananas; L. Jeffreys, the Bride; I. Coulthard, Half-man Half-woman; R. Johnston, Lampshade; A. Caldwell, Bo Peep; E. Barnes, Black Cat; Messrs Collins as Dad; N. Davy, Old Nick; L. Payne, Charlie Chaplin; W. Martin, Oriental; T. Martin, Jester; O. Danielson, Red Indian; R. Bell, Half-man Half-woman; C. Davis, Brigand; G. Caldwell, Chinaman; Joe Justin, the Parson; C. Francis, the Bridegroom; Tom Trust, Bridesmaid; and Master J. McCabe, Nigger.

A prize was awarded for lady's and gent's best fancy costume, most humorous, and best sustained character. Mrs. R. Bell and Sister Dorrington were the judges for the lady's costume, and they decided—Best fancy costume, Miss A. Martin, (harem); humorous, Mrs. Collins as Mum; and best sustained, Miss L. Jeffreys as the bride.

Messrs. Laidlaw and Hastings were entrusted with the judging of the gents, and their verdict was—Best fancy costume, Norm Davy (Old Nick); most humorous, Joe Justin (The Parson); best sustained Laurie Payne (Charlie Chaplin).

In the balloon dance Will Martin was successful in keeping the ladies' dainty feet off his balloon, and so was declared the winner, and Miss M. Davis, having three strings from balloons, was awarded the ladies' prize.

Miss Justin officiated at the piano, and Tom Martin as M.C., and the lighting effects in Moonlight Dance was carried out by Laurie Payne, who got the electricity from a motor car kindly lent by Mr. Hastings.

During the evening a presentation was made by the Hospital Committee to Mrs. Frost, who is leaving Farina. Mrs. Frost has done wonderful work in helping the hospital, and will be greatly missed. Mrs. Danielson, in making the presentation, spoke in glowing terms of her efforts for the hospital, and said what a loss Mrs. Frost would be to the town.

Farina.

January 2.

On New Year's Day a sports meeting was held, and the results were:—Hurdles—Joey Justin's Bitalli, Dick Bell's St. Speed. Trials, 100 yards—Tom McCabe, Mark Johnson. Breaking bottle on horseback—Andrew Johnston on Ginger Pop, J. Patterson on Prickly Prince. Hop, step and jump—Tom McCabe. Standing high jump—Bill Martin. Throwing the ball—C. Ball—C. Francis. Ladies' three-legged race—Misses R. Johnson and O. Kite, Misses M. Davis and P. Martin. The day was concluded with a very successful though warm dance, during which a waltzing competition was held, the judges naming Miss E. Martin and Mr. Partridge the winners.

On the evening of January 2 a moonlight picnic, minus the moon, was held on the racecourse, and the ladies took the supper and the gentlemen took the ladies. The racecourse was reached by car, and with the aid of a gramophone and an accordion, music was served out by several local musicians. A diversion was caused by the antics of Messrs. Justin, Coombes, and Dennison. Joey Justin gave an exhibition of acrobatic stunts, and asked for a volunteer to assist him in some tumbling. Norm Davy obliged, and was rewarded with applause and a stiff neck for two or three days. Tommy Martin excelled as a musician, giving several items on the gramophone. At midnight everybody made for home and bed, and in some cases another supper.

On Friday rain fell to the extent of .35 points, and on Saturday a duststorm preceded a shower of half an inch, which brought Leigh Creek down and filled all the dams around.

Thomas played the gramophonic at a Moonlight picnic in Farina in 1924 and is mentioned as the MC for functions. A DJ ahead of his time.

The Martin's were active members of the Farina Community.

They also travelled to surrounding properties.

Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954) / Sat 6 Aug 1927 / Page 71 / SOCIAL /

SOCIAL AT LYNTHURST SIDING.

Last Wednesday evening a social was held in the Lynthurst Siding hall, when a party of visitors from Farina paid a call. Mrs. Y. T. Yates, assisted by the ladies, provided supper. Those present included Mesdames Y. T. Yates, C. Hall, T. Amesbury, J. O'Loughlin, Misses Eileen O'Loughlin, Gwen Place, and Jean Place, Messrs. Clon Hazard, Lox O'Donnell, Ted Shapley, Bill Martin, and Y. T. Yates. Visitors from Farina included Matron A. M. Dow, Mesdames K. Maxwell and A. Frost, Misses K. Patterson, A. Patterson, M. Davies, E. M. Chapman, and A. Martin, Messrs. A. J. Copeland, Tommy Martin, G. Chapman, B. Smith, J. Patterson, Jim McCauley, and A. Dawson.

Thomas seems to be involved in many social activities in Farina and the local district.

The newspaper articles that mention Thomas, create an image of a man who loved his family, his life and his community. He would be classed as an outgoing, humorous man who worked hard and knew how to play as well. By all accounts you could say he had the work life balance under control.



Thomas on Madge at Farina.

Thomas was also into horse racing. He was a good horseman and participated in the Farina race meetings.

His horse *Murnpeowie* won a number of races in 1932 and 1933. It is assumed the horse was named in memory of where his father died at Murnpeowie Station.

Thomas's horse *Murnpeowie*.



Chronicle (Adelaide, SA : 1895 - 1954) / Thu 24 Nov 1932 / Page 17 / Successful Gymkhana

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954) / Wed 8 Feb 1933 / Page 18 / Farina Bene

Farina Benefit Meeting

A meeting in aid of the D.T.N.S. Hospital at Farina resulted:—

Stockowners' Purse.—Mr. L. Nicholls's PALATINE, 1; Mr. G. Patterson's Joan, 2.

Flying Handicap.—Mrs. L. S. D. Scott's WILDFLOWER, 1; Mrs. J. Dunn's Kurdaddle, 2.

First Handicap Hack Race.—Miss G. Brooks's SKIPPER, 1; Mr. T. Martin's Murnpeowie, 2.

T.S.T. Handicap.—Mr. A. Jhonstone's KANOWNA FLOWER, 1; Mrs. J. Dunn's Kurdaddle, 2.

Second Handicap Hack Race.—Mr. G. Patterson's JOAN, 1; Mr. T. Martin's Murnpeowie, 2.

Successful Gymkhana At Farina

FARINA, November 16.

There was a large attendance at the gymkhana conducted by the Northern Troop of the Legion of Frontiersmen on Saturday. Much of the success of the gathering was due to the secretary (Mr. J. T. Yates) and his assistant (Mr. A. R. Chapman). In the evening a highly successful ball was held in Patterson's Hall. The results of the sports were:—

Frontiersmen's Hack Race.—T. Martin's Murnpeowie; L. Kerr's Recoil.

Tilting at the Ring.—A. Johnston, G. Chapman.

Hack Race.—G. Patterson's Ivan, J. Barnes's Tin Hare.

Roger Pocock Handicap.—J. A. Francis and T. Collins's Singenens, S. Mahomet's Signot.

Thread the Needle Race.—M. R. Arnold, S. Mahomet.

Tent Pegging.—T. P. Gurlay, M. Reid.

Bag of Straw Race.—J. Mooney, M. R. Arnold.

Stockman's Purse.—T. Martin's Murnpeowie, G. Chapman's Opera Queen.

Flag Race.—M. R. Arnold, S. A. Mahomet.



Finishing line at Farina Races 1924.



A young Thomas and Evelyn at Farina.

Thomas Martin and Evelyn met in Farina.

After courting for some period, Thomas proposed marriage to Evelyn and announced it to the world on 18 April 1929.

ENGAGEMENTS.

LONDON—MARTIN.—The engagement is announced of Zeta E., eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. London, of Magill-road, Maylands, to Ernest J., only son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Martin, of Liphook, Hampshire, England.

REID—MARTIN.—The engagement is announced of Evelyn Reid, youngest daughter of Mrs. S. and late M. Reid, to Thomas Martin, youngest son of Mrs. E. J. and late William Martin, of Farina.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) / Thu 18 Apr 1929

Thomas and Evelyn's engagement notice.

They were married five months later on 19 September 1929 in Patterson's Hall at Farina, South Australia. Thomas was 29 and Evelyn was 18 years old.

1929. Married in the District of <i>Farina</i>						in the State of South Australia.			
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname to be written in full.	Age.	Place and Country of Birth.	Condition.	Trade or Calling.	Residence at time of Marriage.	Names and Surnames of Fathers of both Parties.	Place in which Celebrated.
	<i>September 19th</i>	<i>Benjamin Thomas Martin</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>Birdsville Queensland</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Station Hand</i>	<i>Farina</i>	<i>William Joseph Martin</i>	<i>No 1 Pattersons Hall Farina</i>
	<i>1929.</i>	<i>Evelyn Mabel Reid</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Hauteville South Aust</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>Domestic Duties</i>	<i>Farina</i>	<i>Michael Reid</i>	

This Marriage was celebrated between us	<i>Benjamin Thomas Martin</i>	In the presence of us	<i>J M Davis</i>	<i>Labourer</i>	<i>Farina</i>
	<i>Evelyn Mabel Reid</i>		<i>Alice Martin</i>	<i>Domestic Duties</i>	<i>Farina</i>

The above-named *Benjamin Thomas Martin* and *Evelyn Mabel Reid* were duly Married by or before me, at the time and place above named, and in the presence of the witnesses whose signatures are above written.

Witness my hand this *19th* day of *September* 1929 *S. Campbell*
Methodist Minister

18M-157 1929

Thomas and Evelyn's marriage certificate.

Thomas and Evelyn honeymooned in Adelaide. They caught the train from Farina and while in Adelaide had wedding photos taken. They visited the zoo and caught up with his sister Eileen. When they returned from Adelaide they lived in Farina.



Thomas and Evelyn honeymoon photo in Adelaide.

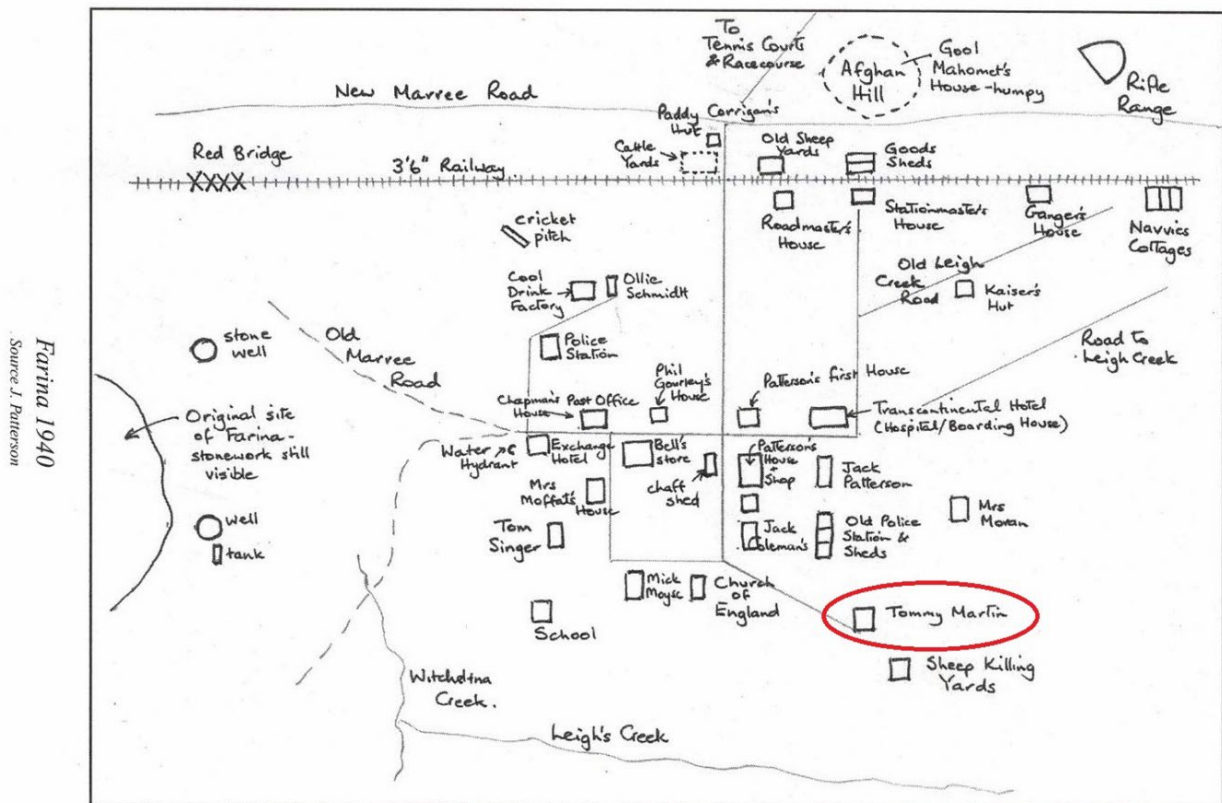
They raised the following six children:

1. James (Jim) Reginald Martin was born on 11 June 1927 in Hawker, South Australia. Thomas was not James's father but raised him as his own. James first married Letitia Hatherley Rawlins and later he married Louise Gosden. James died on 26 September 2009 and was buried on 1 October 2009 in Adelaide.
2. Geoffrey Benjamin (Biffy) Martin was born on 10 February 1930 in Farina, South Australia. He died on 13 April 1989, in Whyalla, South Australia. He married Betty Christianson in Murray Town, South Australia. She was the daughter of George Christianson and Katherine Harriet Tulloch. Betty was born on 10 January 1928 in Booleroo Centre, South Australia and died on 25 July 2001 in Whyalla, South Australia. They are both buried in the Whyalla Cemetery.
3. Daphne Fay Martin was born on 9 March 1932 in Farina, South Australia and died on 4 August 2016 in Jamestown. She married John William Brereton on 14 November 1953 in Jamestown, South Australia. He was the son of William Thomas Brereton and Eva Letitia Skurray. John was born on 7 January 1926 in Jamestown, South Australia and died on 27 May 1991 in Jamestown, South Australia. They are both buried in the Jamestown Cemetery.
4. Second daughter, still living, was born in 1934 in Farina, South Australia.
5. Third daughter, still living, was born in 1939 in Jamestown, South Australia.
6. Fourth daughter, still living, was born in 1944 in Jamestown, South Australia.



Evelyn.

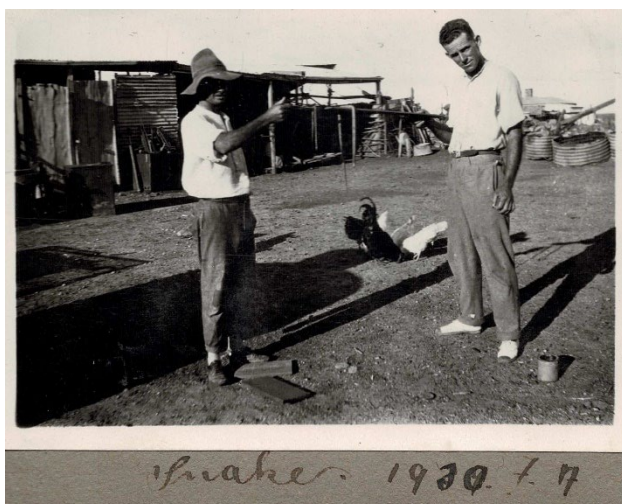
After they were married Thomas and Evelyn moved into a house on the edge of Farina as marked on the map below. Not far away from his mother's house.



Map sourced from *Farina from Gibbers to Ghost Town* by R Olston.



Possible Martin house in Farina.



Thomas and his brother William (Bill) with a dead snakes at Farina.

They then moved from Farina to Jamestown in 1938.

First, they lived in a small tin house on Gloucester Road, Jamestown for a number of years. This was capture by the Electoral rolls for 1939 to 1943. Then they moved into a stone house on Cronin Street near the pig yard opposite John and Fay Brereton's chaff shed. The house was owned by Merryfield's who also owned the Butcher Shop where Ellen and Alice lived. The connection to Merryfield's is not known. It appears this house was demolished in 2010.



Remains of house at Cronin St, Jamestown.

Thomas and Evelyn then moved into the house on Cockburn Road, Jamestown in 1941 after the house was inherited by Thomas's mother Ellen. The house was a small, very old and dark house but it was to become the Martin family home for the next 40 years.

Their daughters remember riding on a horse dray when they moved into Cockburn Road.



Martin House, Cockburn Road, Jamestown.



Side of Martin House, Cockburn Road, Jamestown.

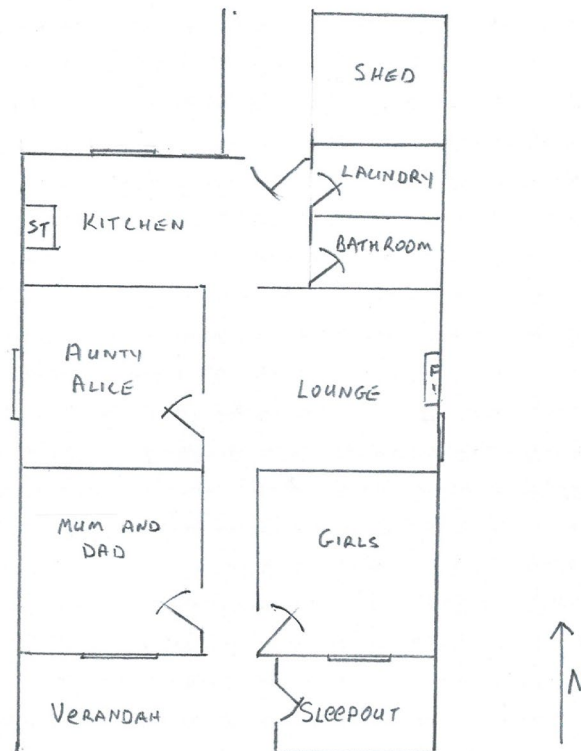


Cockburn Road backyard.



Evelyn (third from right seated) and Thomas Martin (second from right) with family at Cockburn Road.

MARTIN HOUSE JAMESTOWN



COCKBURN ROAD

Drawn from memory by Brett Cummings.

Thomas and Evelyn never owned the Cockburn house they lived in for 40 years.

In 15 June 1928, it was owned by siblings, Mary (Margaret), Catherine and Charles Callary. They were Philip Callary's siblings or Ellen's uncle and aunts or Thomas's great aunts and uncle. When Mary died on 24 November 1933 the property was transferred to her sister and brother. Then Charles died on 7 November 1940 and the property was put into Catherine Callary's name.

When Catherine died on 27 May 1941, the property was transferred to Ellen Josephine Martin (nee Callary) (Catherine's niece) (Thomas's mother) on the 5 November 1942. When Ellen died on 13 August 1949 the property was transferred to Alice Lottie Martin (Ellen's daughter) on the 23 January 1950. Alice owned the property until she sold it on 20 November 1978.

One point of interest to note, the toilet never made it into the house. It was a drop toilet way up the backyard with no power. In later years, it gradually got closer and closer to the house. When a new bucket toilet was built it was still in the backyard.

In Jamestown, Thomas went well sinking for Alan Thomas and worked for a Mr Chegwiddden on his farm. He also worked on various other labouring jobs. His last job was on the Road Gang for the Jamestown Council. He retired from this position when he was 65 in 1965.

He had a gladstone bag that he always carried with him. It contained his black tea, in a cool drink bottle and his lunch wrapped in a towel.

Name:	Thomas Benjamin Martin
Gender:	Male
Electoral Year:	1948
Subdistrict:	Whyalla
State:	South Australia
District:	Grey
Country:	Australia
Residence Address:	62 Lacey st
Occupation:	Laborer

During WW2, Thomas was sent to Whyalla by the Government in 1941 to work in the iron smelter. He was recorded on the Australian Electoral Roll as living in Whyalla in 1948. However, he was back in Jamestown before the end of the war. He was in his mid-forties at this stage.

Extract from South Australian Electoral Roll.

The electoral roll has Thomas living at 62 Lacey Street in Whyalla. This was the home of May Johnston (nee Reid), his sister in law. Later it became the home of Lorna Shearer, daughter of May.



Evelyn at rear of Cockburn Road house.



Evelyn with youngest daughter.



Thomas with daughter Fay 1953.

Thomas was the gardener. He grew veggies for the family, such as potatoes, carrots, cabbage, rhubarb and silver beet. He had a number of fruit trees and kept chickens and ducks up the backyard. He had an old bath that was located next to a shed in the yard next to the house. It was full of water and rotting horse manure, which he used as a liquid fertiliser for his fruit trees.



Thomas and Evelyn at daughter's wedding in 1957.

Getting around was not easy for the Martin family in Jamestown, as they never owned a horse and dray nor owned or drove a car. Thomas always rode a bike or walked to wherever he was going. The family also never had a phone at home. Thomas slept in the sleepout with a sheet over his head.

Thomas had an eagle eye and could find things lying on the road or footpath. His grandson Brett recalls how his Poppa Martin was always finding things and giving them to him. Small things like marbles, a bike pump or spanners. He also remembers there were large peppermint trees at rear of the Cockburn road block. Brett recalls he used to collect tennis balls that were hit over the fence from the church tennis courts that were next door after they had finished playing. Even though there was a gate where they could retrieve their balls there was never any shortage of tennis balls.

There were always almonds to eat at Poppa's from a big tree in the backyard. They were kept in a basket in the shed adjoining the house. There were always little hammers around to crack the shells. The grandchildren often soaked the nuts in water and peeled the skin before eating them.

Thomas was not a religious man. He is remembered as a kind and gentle man. Small in stature, big in heart but very strong. Some interesting facts about Thomas was shared with me, Thomas had a set of false teeth that he only ever wore on Christmas day. He only ever drank black tea, no milk, cream or sugar. Cream was for sweets deserts only. It was always scolded cream.

He loved music and his favourite artist was Slim Whitman, a country and western performer who also was a yodeller. He got his first wrist watch the year he died, given to him by all of his family. After he died, Evelyn used to wear it every day. Neither had ever had a wrist watch before.

Thomas was very handy at fixing things. He could turn his hand to many things, from repairing shoes to fixing bikes.

Evelyn was a very organised lady and a good housekeeper. She was the driving force behind most activities. She ran the household well. Evelyn controlled the money and made sure all her family was fed and clothed to the best of her ability. Evelyn was a kind lady, small statue but of a rather large build.

Evelyn was a good basic cook. She did a fantastic roast chicken for Sunday lunch. She started early by going to the chook pen, selecting a chook, chopped off its head, plucked its feathers, gutted it, stuffed it and then cooked it. She had roast veggies, mainly potatoes, peas and carrots. A far cry from going to the supermarket and buying a cooked chook.



Evelyn in Jamestown 1970.

She made lovely sweets and cakes such as jam roly-poly, dumplings in syrup, rice pudding and stewed apples.

She made pasties every Thursday night and on Saturday nights, after watching Biffy play football, it was always soup and crumpets. The rest of the week she cooked meat and veggies, a lot of stews. Cabbage was a common supplement to a lot of meals. A steak was never on the menu as there were too many mouths to feed.

Evelyn never worked outside of her home, she always cared for her family.

She was a good knitter, mainly jumpers and socks. Once she received the pension, she had her hair washed and set every week. An interesting fact, after Evelyn lost all her teeth, she refused to get false teeth. She could be a very stubborn person.

The Martin family never had a beach holiday. Their holidays consisted of occasional visits to Thomas's sister, Myrtle, in Gladstone by train.

Their family of eight all lived in the three bedroom house. In the beginning the girls had to share three to a double bed. The boys were luckier, they had a single bed each.

Things got more complicated in 1949 when Alice moved into the house as well. Alice remained with them until 1972 when she had to be moved into a nursing home in Port Pirie.



Evelyn and sister in law Alice Martin.

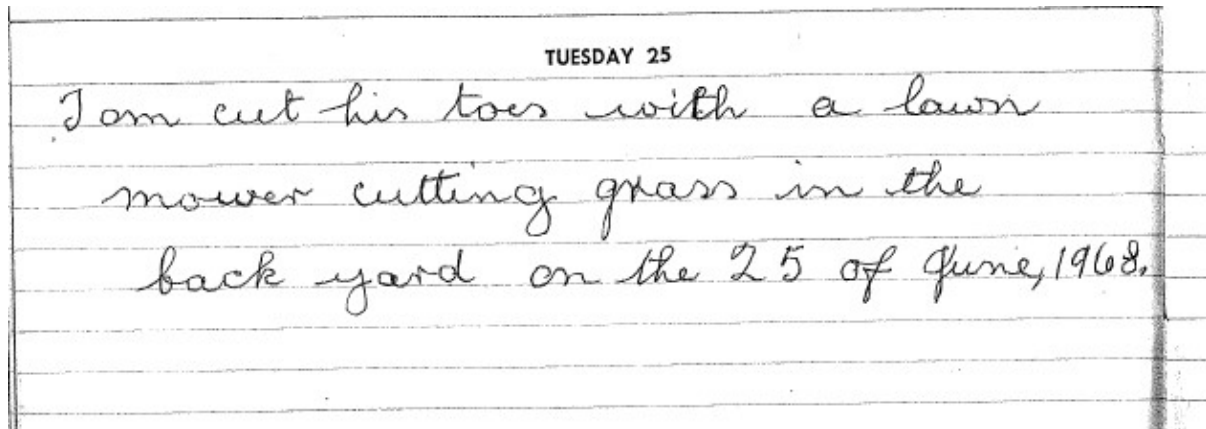


Evelyn (LHS) with sister Annie.

In her later years Evelyn kept a diary of major events that occurred in her life. It has proved at great source of information about her life and how she was thinking. The diary was for 1968 but she used it again and again to record events that occurred over the next 10 years. A perpetual diary so to speak.

The following extracts from her diary give, in some cases, a very personal insight to Evelyn. She often refers to herself as Mum when she writes.

Like the time Thomas cut of his toe off in 1968.



Extract from Evelyn's diary recording the toe chopping.



Thomas Martin 1969.

Thomas was diagnosed with cancer of the oesophagus. He went to Adelaide Hospital for treatment on 22 February 1973 then came home to Jamestown on 14 March 1973. He returned to Jamestown Hospital on 19 March for a fortnight. Thomas passed away at 3.15 am on Friday, 27 April 1973 in the Jamestown Hospital from cancer of the oesophagus.

Evelyn captured all of this in her diary.

MARCH 1968

THURSDAY 7
First Quarter

Tom went down to Adelaide Hospital on the 22nd February. ~~to March~~ ^{came out of hospital} on the 14th of March to Ann Mariey, then came home to Crystal Brook. ^{home} 11/3/73. *
 Came home to Jamestown on the 14th of March. Went in to Jamestown Hospital on the 19th of March, Sunday first of April one fortnight, died 3.15 AM Friday 27th April 1973
 Buried 11 AM Sat 28th April. 1973

FRIDAY 8

* Took him to Crystal Brook hospital Sunday 11th after dining from Adelaide stayed in CB Hospital till Tuesday 13th

I got (58) Sympathy bands when Tom passed away

Extract from Evelyn's diary relating to Thomas's death.

know her was to love her.
MARTIN, Thomas Benjamin. — On April 27, at Jamestown Hospital, dearly loved husband of Evelyn, loving father of Jim, Geoff, Fay, Betty, Joy and Joan, father-in-law of Louise, Betty, John, Russell, Ben and Wesley, and bonna of 19 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Aged 73 years.
MARTIN, Thomas Benjamin. — On April 27, at Jamestown Hospital, loving brother of Myrtle, Bill, Eileen (deceased) and Alice.

MARTIN. THE FRIENDS of the late **MR. THOMAS BENJAMIN MARTIN** of Jamestown, are advised that his Funeral will leave for the Church of England, THIS DAY, Saturday, April 28, after a service commencing at 11 a.m., for the Jamestown Cemetery.
ROBERTSON SONS,
 JAMES ST. 64 1024.

Thomas's death and funeral notice.

Thomas was buried on Saturday, 28 April 1974 at 11.00 am in the Jamestown Cemetery in Section DP, Plot 12.

Evelyn was 62 when her Thomas died.

As she didn't have a car, she always relied heavily on her daughter, Fay, to drive her around for appointments, to shops, to the bridge club and any for other reason. She joined the local Senior Citizens and played cards with friends on a regular basis. Bridge was her card game of choice and her love.

On 7 January 1976, Evelyn was admitted to hospital with a heart attack and because of an ulcer on her leg that would not heal.

TUESDAY 6
January 7, 1976 First Quarter I went into to Jamestown Hospital with a slight heart attack. And stayed there 5 weeks to get my leg healed with a ulcer. Came home on the 13 of February, 1976.

WEDNESDAY 7
Goy and her family came down to Jamestown for X Mas on the 18 of December 1975. And went back to Narragin on the 12 th of January 1976. Had a holiday with her mother and Sisters.

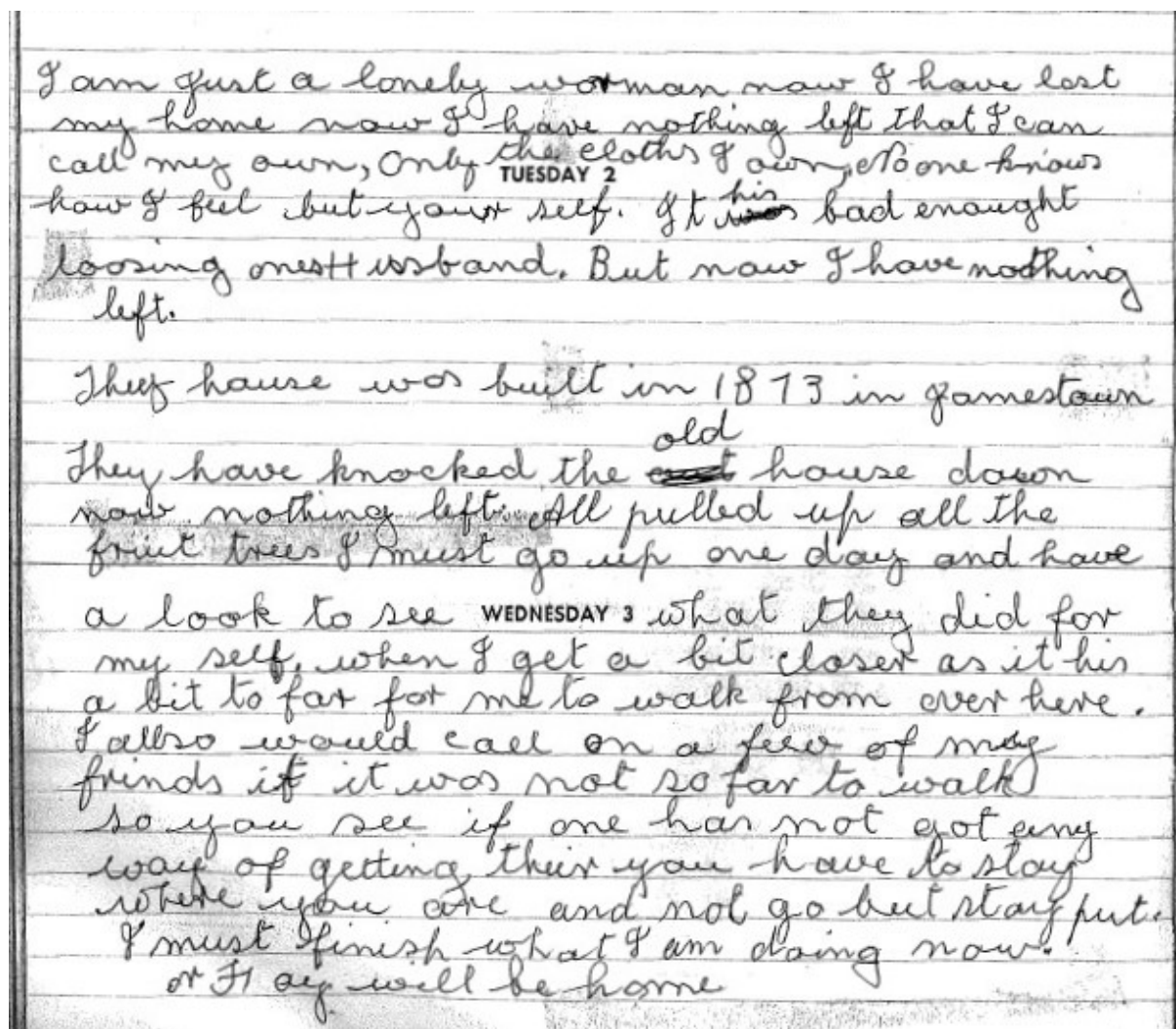
The following year on the 10 October 1977, her daughter gave her a dog she purchased in Adelaide. Evelyn called the pup Tinnie.

1978 became a very difficult year for Evelyn as she was forced to move out of her home of 40 years. Alice, her sister in-law, needed to sell Cockburn Road to pay for her care in Port Pirie. In 1978, after the house was sold, Evelyn found herself homeless for the first time her life.

It was a very upsetting period in her life as she was still able to take care of herself.

At the time there were limited housing or care options in Jamestown. Belalie Lodge was the only aged care option available.

Her mood was captured in the following extract from her diary where she wrote:



Over the next five months she lived with her daughters while waiting for a room at the Belalie Lodge. Evelyn spent a couple months from December 1978 to January 1979 in Western Australia with family before returning to Jamestown.

She finally had a proper holiday. It was the furthest she had travelled and the first time in an aeroplane.

While in Western Australia, Evelyn visited many of the tourist spots in the South West and Great Southern.



Evelyn at the Cape Leeuwin Water Wheel at Augusta.



At the Gloucester Tree in Pemberton.

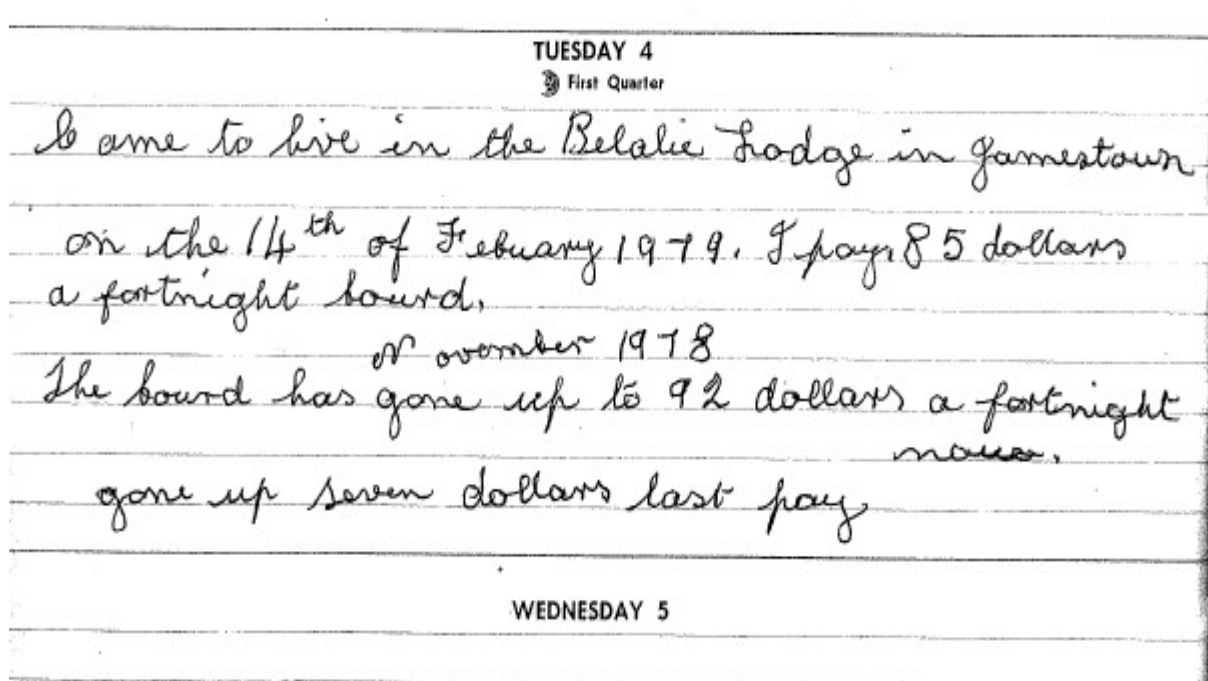


At Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, Augusta.



Christmas Day 1978.

Evelyn was allocated a room in Belalie Lodge in Jamestown on 14 February 1979. She flew back with her daughter to settle her into her new home. She paid \$85 a fortnight for board.



Extract from Evelyn's diary.

Evelyn did not like the life at Belalie Lodge and felt alone. Her daughter, Fay, spent many hours with her and looking after her.

As fate would happen, she only resided there for 12 months before her death.

Evelyn's health had declined and she was sent to the Royal Adelaide Hospital for some time to recover and was sent back to Jamestown Hospital where she died on the 13 November 1980.



Evelyn and Thomas's headstone.

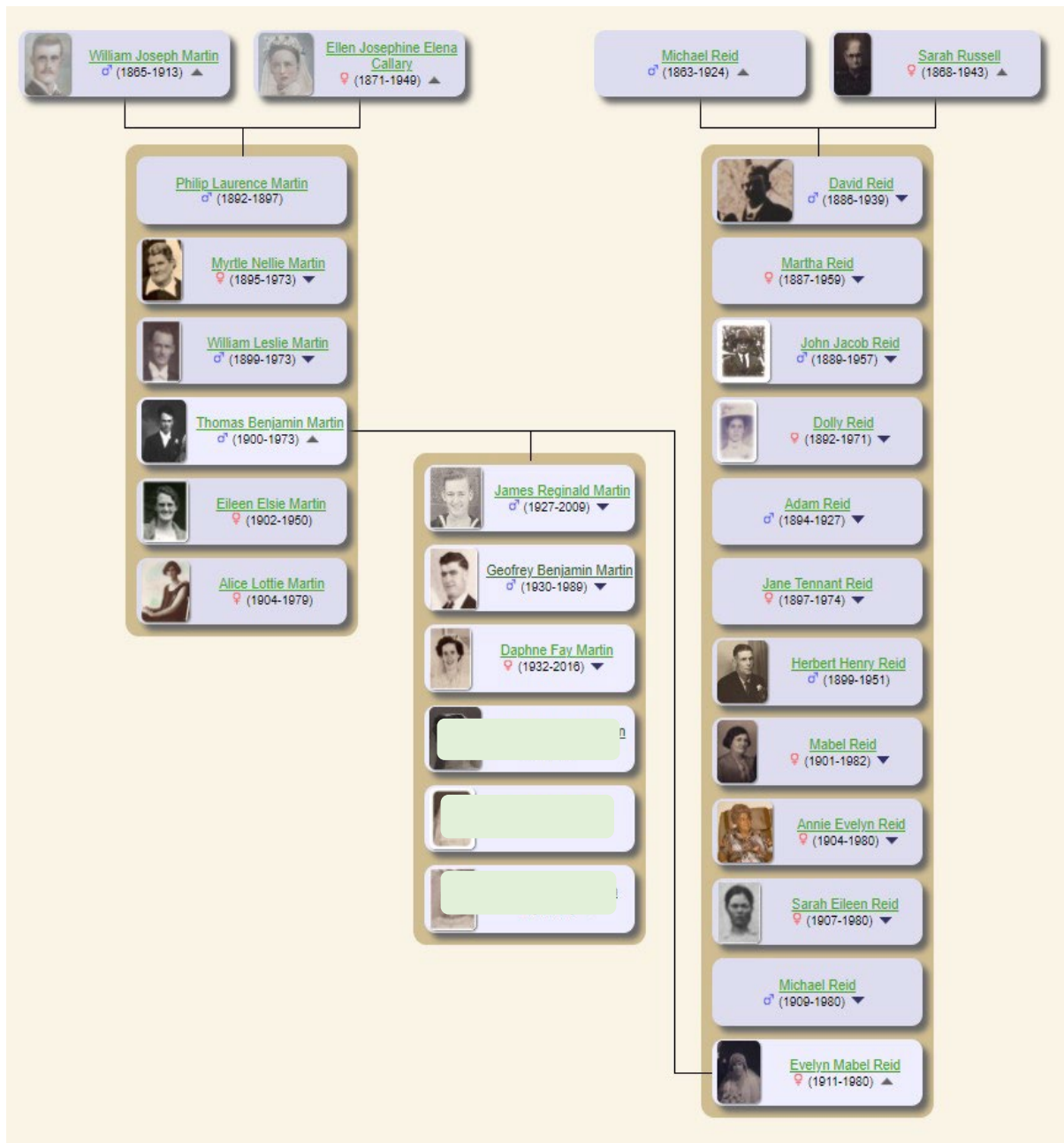


Evelyn and Thomas's grave after Evelyn's funeral.

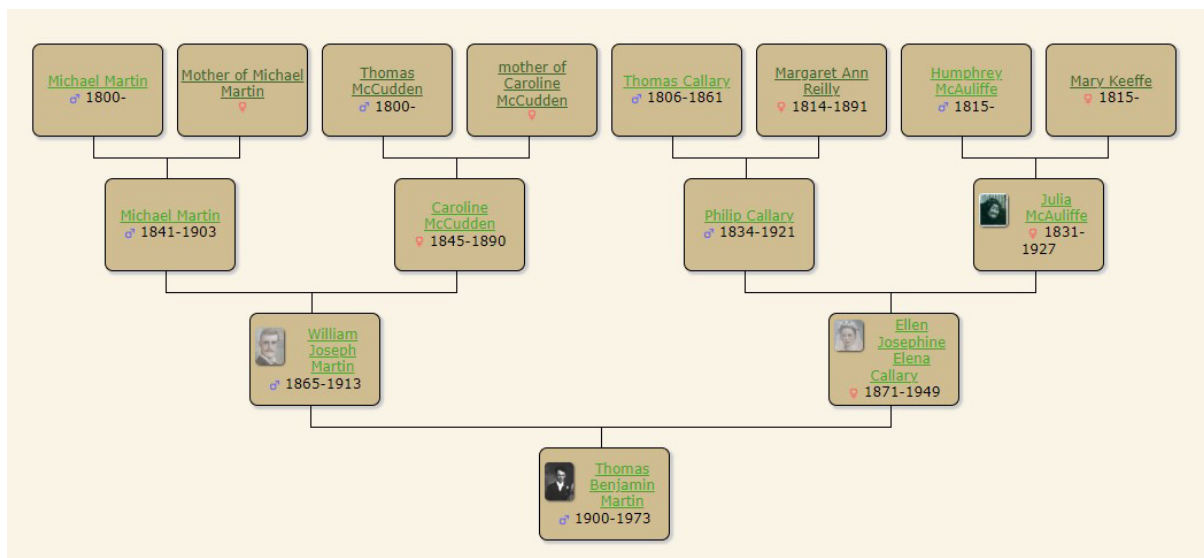
Thomas and Evelyn Martin were true pioneers of South Australia, who worked hard to provide and care for their family. They were very much loved.



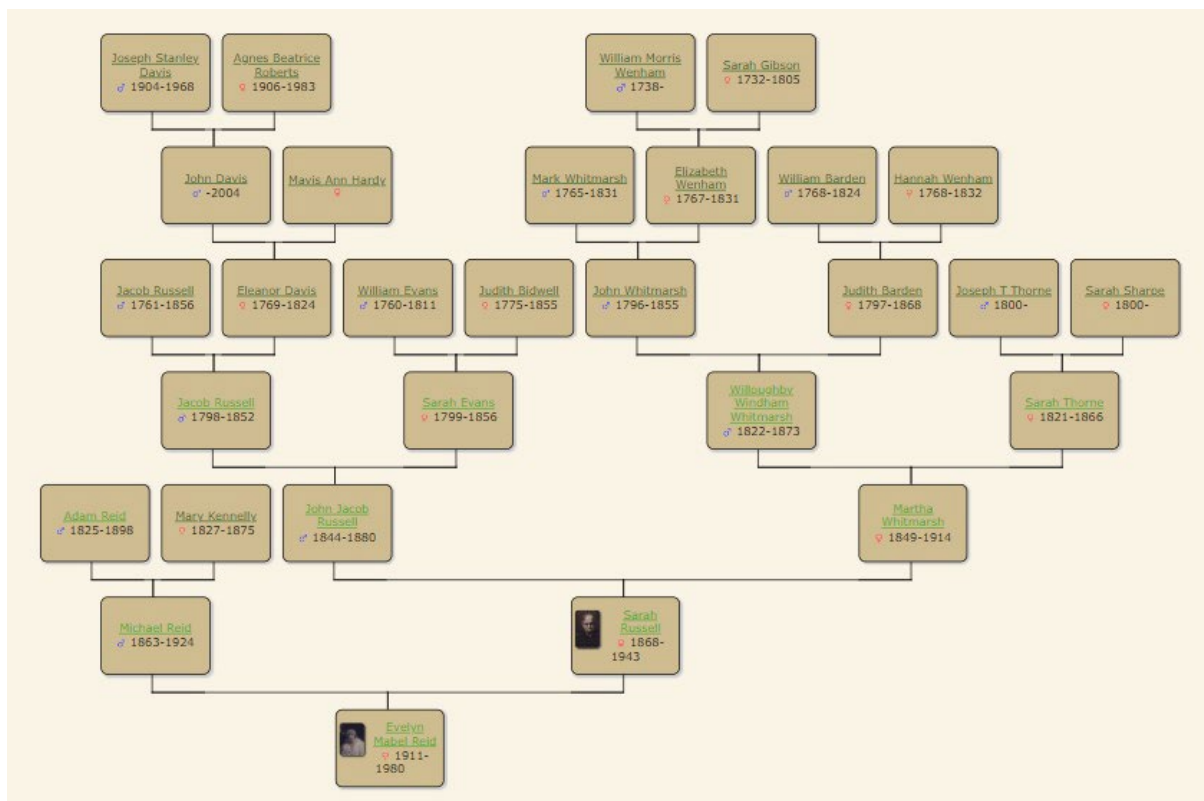
Family Trees



Thomas and Evelyn family and parents.



Thomas's ancestors.



Evelyn's ancestors.