

# **William Leslie and Emily Elizabeth Martin**



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A big thankyou 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.

## William Leslie and Emily Elizabeth Martin



*William and Emily's wedding day.*

William (Bill) Leslie Martin was born on 7 February 1899 in Birdsville, Queensland.

William'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.

Emily Elizabeth Chapman was born on 9 December 1906 in Blinman, South Australia. Emily was the daughter of Charles Kemble Chapman and Elizabeth Ann Gill. Charles was born on 27 December 1868 in Croydon, South Australia and died on 5 October 1942 in Farina. Elizabeth was born on 14 December 1879 in Blinman, South Australia and died on 25 November 1960 in Hawker, South Australia.

William's family had been in Farina since his father William Joseph Martin had taken on the job as Mail Driver in January 1912.

## FARINA

### School Picnic.

August 30.—The annual picnic of the Farina public school was held on Wednesday, August 28, at the local race-course, and was favored with splendid weather. A big programme of races and sports was carried out under the supervision of the head teacher, aided by an energetic committee. The girls' championship was won by O. Rollins, while the boys' fell to W. Martin. In addition to being regaled with lunch and tea, lollies and fruit, each child on the ground received a present of a toy or ornament. Following is the prize list:—Boys, infants.—K. Barnes. Under Nine.—L. Stanford. Under 12.—John Stanford. Over 12.—Joe Stanford. Championship (prize, silver medal, presented by the head teacher).—W. Martin. High Jump.—W. Martin, E. Eurr (equal). Sack Races.—J. Kite, J. Stanford. Three-leg-leg race.—J. and T. Kite. Catching rooster.—E. Burr. Girls.—Infants—L. Budge. Under 9.—E. Barnes. Under 12.—N. Barnes. Over 12.—H. Bird. Championship (prize, silver bangle, presented by Mr. R. C. Barnes).—O. Rollins. Skipping Contests.—A. Martin, N. Barnes. Egg and Spoon Race.—E. Martin. Thread the Needle.—O. Rollins. Potato Race.—E. Martin. Catching Rooster.—W. Budge.

William attended school at Birdsville and Farina. In 1912, William won the boys sports championship and the high jump medal while attending the Farina School.

At this time little is known about William's activities. However, William was recorded as working as a stockman at Farina for 1926 and 1927. There is a family story that he also drove mail coaches in the region.

Newspaper articles of the time indicate that residents of Farina and the surrounding area had a good social life. The Martin's were active members of the Farina Community.



## Farina.

A successful American Tea in aid of renovations to the Anglican Church was held on Wednesday, October 24. The recent heavy storms had shifted the church from its foundations, and a busy bee, organised and carried out by Mr. H. C. Ridgway, the district foreman, assisted by the railway men and the schoolmaster, was held on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 20. The necessary repairs were effected to the satisfaction of the minister, Rev. J. J. Emery. The Rev. Emery declared the fest open, and an enjoyable time was spent by all who attended. The stalls included—Jumble, Mrs. T. Clayton; sweets, Misses Martin, Danielsen, and Davis; refreshments, Mesdames R. Bell and Jeffreys; cool drinks, Mrs. J. H. Norgard; shooting gallery, Mr. J. H. Norgard; fairy well, Messrs. Payne and Clayton. Musical items were rendered by Mrs. Justin, Misses Danielsen, Davis, Dolly and Edie Finn, M. Davis, and Messrs. Ridgway, Trust, Webb and Payne. An exhibition dance was given by Miss A. Martin and Mr. N. Davy. A lazy man competition was held, Mr. Payne being declared laziest man with Messrs. Bill Martin and Dick Bell a little more energetic. This competition brought in over £16. Musical items were interspersed with dancing, ably conducted by Mrs. Justin at the piano and Mr. Tommy Martin as M.C. Mrs. Danielsen, the organiser, was pleased to announce that the proceeds amounted to over £50.

In 1923 at a fundraising event to repair the damage to the Anglican Church, Bill was declared the second laziest man in a Lazy Man competition.

In 1924 at the New Years Eve sports day Bill Martin won the standing high jump. Clearly his high jumping expertise from school paid off.

## 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 cars, and

## 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:—Mesdames 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, Brigaud; 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.

At the Farina Fancy Dress ball on 28 January 1924, William went dressed as an Oriental and won the balloon dance by successfully keeping his balloon away from the ladies' dainty feet.

Quorn Mercury (SA: 1895 - 1954)

Fri 9 May 1924 / Page 1

## Farina Races

On Wednesday, April 30, the Farina Racing Club held a registered meeting, and although the fields were small some good racing was witnessed. As it was a nice day, everybody was well satisfied with the afternoon's sport, which was well carried out in an able manner by the club officials, who were:—President, W. Collins, Esq.; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. Bell, R. Laidlaw, J. Francis, and T. Cullinan; committee, Messrs. R. Laidlaw, T. Trust, J. Bell, A. Johnston, M. Johnston, D. Webb, A. Justin, W. Martin, and J. McConville; stewards, Messrs. F. Wells, G. Lewis, and A. Laurenti; judges, Messrs. V. Hirsch and D. P. Gordon; clerk of course, Mr. N. Finn; clerk of scales, Mr. J. Bell; starter, Mr. A. Simmons; handicapper, Mr. W. Gordon; hon. secretary, Mr. Dick Bell. Results:—

### TRIAL STAKES.

Five furlongs.

Mr J. Simmons Elastic (J. Finlay), 10 st	...	...	...	1
Mr A. Johnston's Miss Lardner (W. Finlay), 10 st	...	...	...	2
Time, 1 min 4 4-5 secs.				
Dividend for 15/ 7/6.				

Elastic and Miss Lardner were the only starters, and a half length separated them as they passed the judges.

### FLYING HANDICAP.

Six furlongs.

Mr H. Schmidt's Pastoral, 9 st 10 lb (J. Finlay)	...	...	...	1
Mr R. Laidlaw's Wiarre, 8 st 6 lb (J. Mooney)	...	...	...	2
Mr F. Crombie's Dinstep, 8 st (T. Finlay)	...	...	...	3
Time, 1 min 17 2-5 secs.				
Dividend for 5/ 7/.				

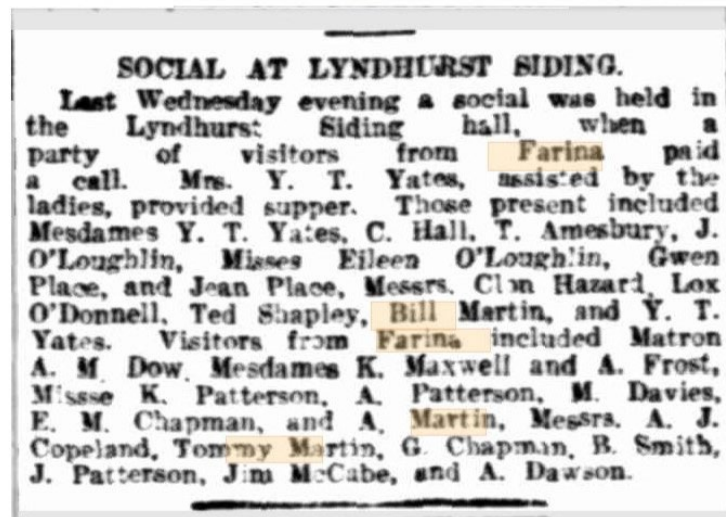
Only three horses faced the starter, and Pastoral won comfortably by a length from Wiarre, with Dinstep last.

William was also a Committee member for the Farina Racing Club in 1924.



An article about a social gathering at Lyndhurst Siding in 1927 lists Bill Martin being from Lyndhurst Siding rather than being a guest from Farina. It is interesting to note that Miss E M Chapman from Farina attended the social. While the second initial is different possibly a typo. William was to marry a Miss E E Chapman less than 18 months later. Perhaps this is how they first met.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1889 - 1931) / Wed 27 Jul 1927 / Page 6 / SOCIAL AT LYNDHURST SIDING.



William married Emily Elizabeth Chapman on 19 November 1928 in the All Saints Church in Farina, South Australia.

Emily was the daughter of Charles Kemble Chapman and Elizabeth Ann Gill. Emily was born on 9 December 1906 in Blinman, South Australia. Charles was born on 27 December 1868 in Croydon, South Australia and died on 5 October 1942 in Farina. Charles was the storekeeper for Bell Bros. in Farina. Elizabeth was born on 14 December 1879 in Blinman, South Australia and died on 25 November 1960 in Hawker, South Australia. Both of her parents are buried at Farina.

They had the following children:

1. William John Martin was born on 22 August 1929 in Quorn, South Australia. He died as a result of drowning in flood waters on 6 February 1944 at Blanchewater Station, Strzelecki Track, South Australia at the age of 14 years and was buried at the site his body was found on Blanchwater.
2. Muriel Irene Sylvia Martin was born on 26 September 1931 in Farina, South Australia. She died on 12 December 2015 in Wondai, Queensland at the age of 84 years. Muriel married Darcy Albert Jarvis on 14 September 1957 in Hawker, South Australia. They are both buried at the Wondai Cemetery.
3. Ronda Elizabeth Martin was born on 23 December 1933 in Farina, South Australia. She died on 16 October 1962 in Hawker, South Australia at the age of 28 years. Ronda was buried in the Hawker Cemetery.

4. Valma Rosemary Martin was born on 4 April 1942 in Port Augusta, South Australia. She died on 11 October 2013 in Hawker, South Australia at the age of 71 years. Valma married Norman Edward Wood on 28 February 1963 in Hawker. Norman was born on 17 April 1940 in Moonta, South Australia and died on 2 March 1996 in Moomba, South Australia at the age of 55 years.
5. Last child, a daughter, still living, was born in 1946 in Port Augusta, South Australia.

After his marriage he continued to work in Farina. However, he gave up being a stockman and worked as a fettler on the South Australian Railways from 1928 to 1943 according to the Electoral rolls.



*William (Bill) Martin (centre) with Fred Wills (L) and Andrew Johnston (R).*

Tragedy struck the family in 1944 when their son, William John, known as Jack, was drowned in flood waters on 6 February 1944 at Blanchewater Station, Strzelecki Track, South Australia at the age of 14 years, not 12 as mentioned in the newspaper.



## Boy Drowned At Farina

During the big rains in the North about February 8, a boy of 12 years, Jack Martin, son of Mr and Mrs W. Martin, of Farina, was drowned and it was necessary to wait several days before a search could be made for the body, which was eventually discovered some miles from the place, where, it was thought, he had disappeared. The enquiry was conducted by the Police at Farina.

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William died on 3 June 1973 in Hawker, South Australia.

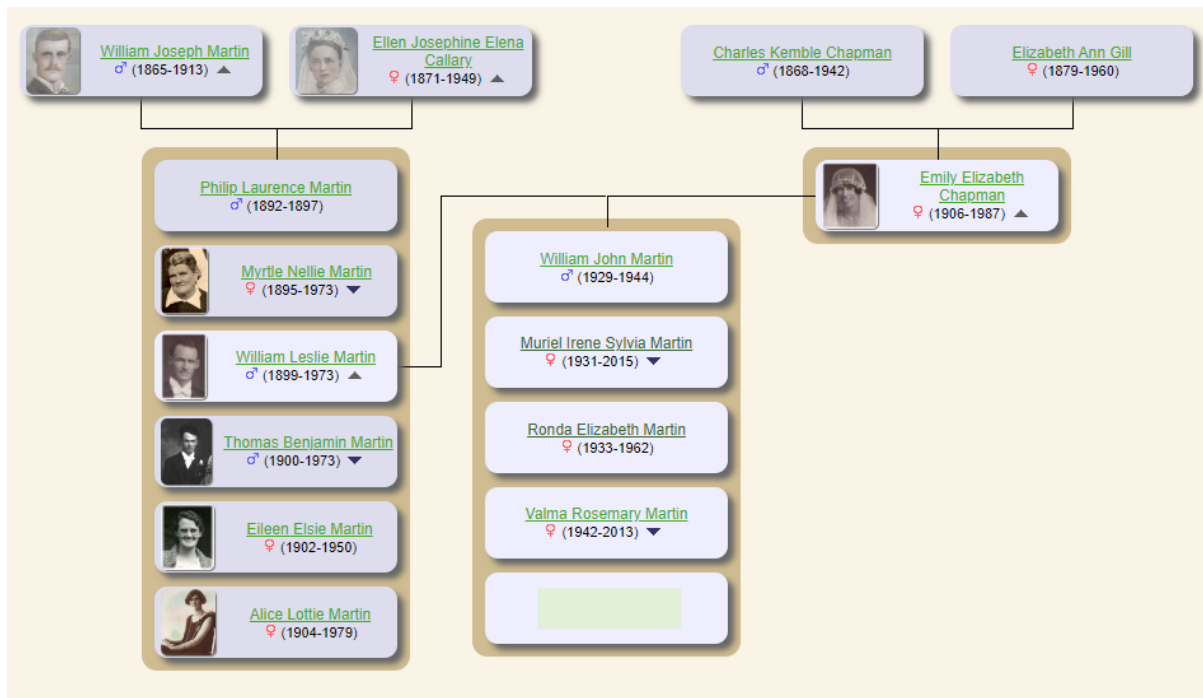
Emily died on 19 February 1987 in Hawker, South Australia. They are both buried in the Hawker Cemetery.



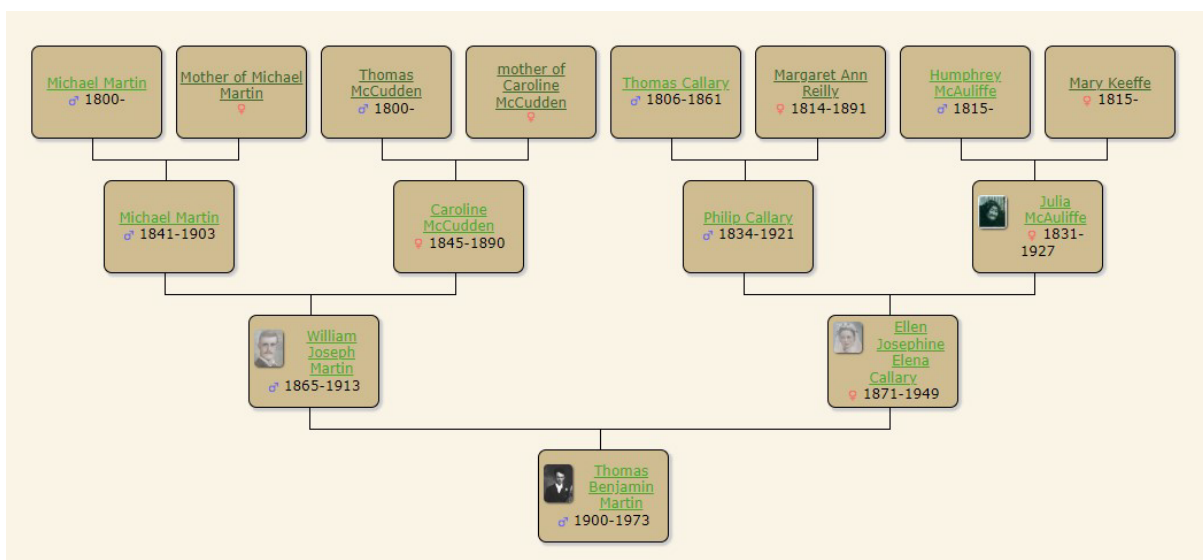
*Martin headstone at Hawker Cemetery.*



## Family Trees



*William and Emily family and parents.*



*William's ancestors.*