

Granny Anderson is 100 years old on Monday

C. H. & C. J. Carter
of the
Bottle Tree Inn
wish Mrs Anderson
A Happy
100th birthday

The Tweed family wish to extend very best wishes to Gran Anderson on reaching 100 years of age

CONGRATULATIONS
to Gran Anderson on your 100th birthday
N. G. & P. C. Gralow
Butchers
Theodore

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

To Gran Anderson on celebrating her 100th birthday from the Management and Staff of
ATFIELDS' SERVICE STATION

YOUNGERS SERVICE STATION

The Holden dealers for the Dawson Valley
Wish Gran Anderson all the best on the occasion of her 100th birthday

We wish Gran Anderson good health and happiness on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

From all at
MAY'S BAKERY
THEODORE

Congratulations Granny on a fine innings

from the staff of
ELDER SMITH GOLDSBOROUGH MORT
Theodore

RENROCK INDUSTRIES PTY. LTD.
MACHINERY DEALERS and
HARDWARE MERCHANTS

Thank the Anderson family for their local support and take this opportunity to wish Mrs. Anderson Snr., a Happy 100th birthday.

Very best wishes are extended to you, Gran Anderson on Monday.

All the people of Theodore and district will be thinking of you.

BARRY AND MARGARET NEILSON
THEODORE PHARMACY AND MAGGIES
THEODORE

CLARA VICTORIA ANDERSON, known to Theodore people as Vic, Aunty Vic or Granny, will be 100-years-old on Monday.

By Beryl
MACKAY

In her diary, "It is 11 days since I wrote anything in my diary but since then I have become a proud and happy mother."

"Oh, that my dear husband was here to see his little blue-eyed daughter. May she be spared to us and that she will grow up a comfort and blessing to us both in our old age. Dear Papa and Mamma are delighted with their first grandchild."

"It would be impossible to mention all the people who came to drink the health of Mr and Mrs and Miss Campbell. The old Warren Farm had never so many visitors before."

These were the feelings of Mrs. Campbell on the arrival of Clara Victoria Elizabeth Campbell, who was born on February 21, 1872, at her grandparents' home at Warren Farm, Swan Hill, on the Murray River, Victoria.

The young Vic Campbell, as she was called, married James Anderson, of Taroom, at Mitchell, Queensland.

In 1888, they moved to a farm near Theodore and it is here at "Avonmore" that Mrs. Anderson will celebrate her 100th birthday.

In the last few weeks, GRANNY has been recalling long forgotten links in the chain of a century of living, from her first childhood memories of life at "Mulga Valley," near Wilcannia, and "Glenside," on the Darling River, NSW to Theodore, a small irrigation town only half the age of Granny herself.

In 1884, she remembers that the Campbells left Wilcannia with buggy, dray wagon and horses to make the long trip to Queensland.

Gran smiled as she told how her brother, Oll, rode with her all the way.

Riding and dancing were the pleasures of her young life and it seemed a commonplace then to ride 40 miles to a homestead ball or a show dance.

She attended the Mitchell State School while her parents conducted a butcher shop in Mitchell but later, in 1890, the family moved to "Clara-Valley."

Vic did not live on this property however because, a few years previously, the very young Vic visited her aunt and uncle at the Leichhardt Hotel, in Taroom.

During this holiday visit, she met James Anderson and, after a year, they were married in a hall at Mitchell with the officiating minister, Reverend Walker, of the Church of England, coming from Roma to perform the ceremony.

From these celebrations, the young couple travelled to Roma and James took his bride back to "Kinnoull," near Taroom.

On July 24, 1890, the Queensland Women's Historical Association placed a plaque on the property.

It reads: "In 1891, the pioneers Robert Miller and John Turnbull took up Kinnoull and Dykes, each of which had 24,000 acres."

"In 1892, they added the adjoining run, 'Loch Scraig' of the same area."

"In 1894, James McLaren, when travelling with 6000 ewes on his way to take up a run he had named Waterloo, was given a courier of Kinnoull for their lambing."

"On August 4, he was killed by blacks, while alone and unprotected and he left a widow and eight children, 4 of whom being 15 days old."

"In 1892, Robert Miller took up another run,



The young Clara Anderson

Dunoon, of 25 square miles and, between 1897 and 1912, James Anderson came into possession of the lease of the four runs.

"With Hookings added, the five runs were consolidated in June, 1898, as Kinnoull Station under the Crown Lands Act."

"The Bank of Australia was then the lease, but in 1903, it was transferred to James Anderson."

This plaque gives some indication of the property's size when James brought Vic to live in the area.

Mrs. Anderson still recalls dancing and riding as her favorite past time but as she reminisces about her family, other interests enter the conversation.

She tells of the embroidery and crochet work.

Two of the eight Anderson children were born on the property with

midwife Mrs. S. Becker, in attendance.

Of three children born to Vic and James, three are now deceased.

The only daughter, Mrs. Roy Beudney, lives at Bundaberg, Harold's widow lives in Taroom; Colin's widow, Morna, lives at "Kinnoull".

Theodore; Gordon lives at Theodore; Guy is at "Woodleigh," between Theodore and Moura; Bill owns "Woolthorpe".

Theodore; Cecil, who is now dead, lived at Bundaberg; and Allan is at "Avonmore", Theodore.

Life for a mother of six (two were born later at Taroom) must have been rather hard at Kinnoull but Mrs. Anderson smilingly remembers the mustering and the condition of the meat without elaboration, the penalty of wandering black lobes and the Chinese and German shepherds, who tended the 16,000 sheep on the property.
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to Gran Anderson who has spent the last 36 of her 100 years in the Theodore District. Congratulations of your 100th birthday.

Holmes and Son
Theodore

Congratulations Mrs. Anderson on being Theodore's first centenarian

Very Best Wishes for a happy day
EARLE AND LIL CLEMENTS
Theodore Supplies

VIC AND PHYLLIS MYLER

extend to their friend of many years

GRAN ANDERSON

very best wishes on her 100th birthday

C. C. G. A.

Congratulations Mrs Anderson from the THEODORE BRANCH from Swanhill to Mitchell and then to Kinnoull as a bride. Seven sons and one daughter all on the land, 11 grandsons on the land and two closely associated. The fourth generation of schoolboys all land-minded.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY DAY THEODORE GRAZIERS

Congratulations

are extended to Gran Anderson on her 100th birthday. We will all be thinking of you on Monday

MOSS MOTORS AND BODY WORKS
THEODORE

Congratulations

Gran Anderson

and best wishes on your 100th birthday.

We will all be thinking of you on Monday when you begin your 101st year

THEODORE MOTORS
THEODORE

Your Valiant Agent for the Dawson Valley

THEODORE DRYCLEANERS

join with all other residents of the Theodore District in wishing Gran Anderson a Happy Birthday

GRAN ANDERSON

The lifespan of the shepherds was usually short because of the accuracy of native spears.

The homestead at Kinnoull was of alaba, hand-sawn but comfortable.

Not once did Mrs Anderson mention the drudgery of housework for always in the life of Vic, there had been household help.

Mrs Anderson employed a governess and a housemaid for the children as well as a gardener.

She played a lot of tennis and, although the nearest neighbor was 12 miles away, many social occasions revolved around the tennis court.

It seems fitting then that, 30 years later, the

Excitement for Theodore's pride

name of Mal Anderson was written into the annals of the Australian and world tennis Mal is the son of Guy and grandson of Vic.

James Anderson and his family left Kinnoull in 1908.

His wife and family lived in Taroom and he took up "Blighi."

In 1936, the family were on the move to Theodore and, at a time when most people were showing keen interest in motor cars, Vic and James arrived in a buggy, driven 50 miles from Taroom.

They settled at "Small Thorns" east of Theodore and it was here seven years later that James Anderson died.

In naming this property, the Andersons named back the clock many years.

Going back through Mrs Anderson's family tree, which can be traced through her mother's memoirs, revised and published by Vic's brother, Elton, her great grandfather was Sir William Harrod, a wealthy man who owned Brerworth Mansions in Gloucestershire.

He married Lady Amherst of Scottish birth and Charles Harrod, the eldest son of this marriage, inherited Small Thorns Estate.

Clara Ellen described her father as "handsome, a great social favorite a good singer, dancer and rider; he followed the hounds and gave large dinner parties each year; a spendthrift to the core."

His parents were overjoyed when he announced he would marry Elizabeth Stacey. The boy was short-lived, however, for within seven years he was in debt.

Five years later, the parents decided to send him to Australia and eventually his wife and family travelled with him on the Maro Polo.

They landed at Melbourne in the early 1850s.

Charles Harrod and his family lived very happily on a station in the Avoca in Victoria until Charles got the urge to sell up.

Following this, money was soon scarce; his wife refused to write home and explain the situation and so their livelihood became precarious.

Clara Ellen's elder sister then married a Mr Raines.

He was a man of influence and means having interests in Cobb and Co and the Melbourne Shipping Company.

In the memoirs, we find the young Clara Ellen at 16 in a group entertaining the explorers, Burke and Wilk. She writes, "The supper is to be held at Mr Raines' house."

"The table will extend from one end of the verandah to the other" and later, "after supper, when all the speeches had been said and the healths had been drunk, we danced till daylight."

"Mr Burke gave me his last dance and I have promised him the first walk on his return, which he thinks will be in 12 months time."

History records that Burke did not return from the epic trip across Australia.

A comparison between the romances of young people in the 1830s and later 1900s is shown only too clearly in Clara Ellen's memoirs.

Even at the age of 20 years, her guardian, Mr Raines, was unwilling to give his permission for Clara Ellen to marry James Campbell, whom she had known and loved since childhood.

They were married on May 11, 1871 and lived at "Langavira."

The first child Clara Victoria Elizabeth was born in February the following year.

Although Gran has such a wealth of memories to look back on, she lives not in the past but always in the present.

She is up to date on current affairs, remembers the names of people and loves to meet people although she moves slowly with the help of a cane.

Her family and their families are her delight. This year's tally of offspring has increased by three and now stands at eight children, 24 grandchildren, 31 great grandchildren and, before February is past, Gran's first great great grandchild will be born in Western Australia to Mr and Mrs Brian Prainey, former Sarakaha residents.

This will probably prevent the Prainey's from being present at the celebrations.

After the death of Mr James Anderson in 1942, Small Thorns was divided.

Gran then lived with her youngest son, Allan and his wife on their property "Avonmore."

Although this year the view is of brilliant green paddocks of young sorghum and cattle, which Gran loves, she is still more interested in people.

Gran was rather tired after spanning so many years in the one afternoon, from the stately mansion in Gloucestershire to "Avonmore."

This family has always lived in the country. Wherever one travels in the Dawson Valley and the conversation turns to grazing, grain or cotton, an Anderson name will be mentioned.

Gran has nothing against the haircuts sported by the men of today and a glance at her wedding photo and the length of the groom's hair will explain why.

However of women's clothes, she said that if they were worn in her day, the shock would be so great they wouldn't recover.

Of Mrs Anderson's family, only one sister is living, the youngest, Mrs Willie Becker, of Taroom, who is in her early eighties and lives with her daughter, Mrs Bill Rowe.

Family history does not record any tendency towards longevity but part of this secret could be in the fact that, in spanning a century of living, Gran spent little time in telling of the uncomfortable times.

In passing, she mentioned a drought in New South Wales while they were travelling to Queensland, a Dawson River flood in 1890 and she was a little more explicit about the 1962 drought.

The results of this disaster was the cause for the family to move to Kinnoull.

Of 15,000 sheep and 3000 cattle at the beginning of the drought, 8000 sheep and 50 cattle survived.

Gran was taken to Sandstone with the children during this time because there was no food to eat.

She smiled again and told about some of the ways they prepared the white cockatoo for the dinner table.

She was not joking and at the end she said even the cockatoos were not worth eating.

Stock was moved to Gladstone, where her husband rented a small island off the coast and laid a pipeline for water supplies, a wonderful feat with the equipment of 1902.

Wood from Kinnoull was baled and sent by bullock teams to Rockhampton.

Gran is not sure where her clothes came from, except that their mother made some of them.

Family pictures show some very beautiful

gowns and a charming dignity in her teens, on her wedding day and with her young family, and Gran has not lost that dignity.

On Sunday, Gran's sons and daughters-in-law will be hosts to a great crowd of well wishers at "Avonmore."

This year's celebrations will be on a grander scale but the visits of friends and relatives on the nearest Sunday to Gran's birthday has followed the same pattern for years.

In 1971, driving to "Avonmore" was a slippery feat and other years have shown the results of droughts.

But whatever the climate on Sunday, the district is very proud of this old lady, who will soon begin her 101st year of life.

Working bees at course

Working bees have brought the Theodore Golf course into good condition.

Last week's winners were Ray Tieggs with 234 net for the nine holes.

N. Page took the run-up place.