

JOSEPH WILCOCKS – 1790c

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcocks-42&public=1>

One of the descendants of the 'Villons' was a Joseph Willcocks, who was asserted to have married the only daughter of William Jennens (Jennings), a family of some note, by his second wife. Apparently he was 'a bit of a lad' as he had run away with the girl.

William Jennens was reputed to be a very wealthy Coal Merchant of Manchester and was dubbed 'Solomon the Magnificent' for his ostentation. The eldest girl of his first wife married the Lord Howe of Howe Castle, Norwich. On the death of 'Solomon the Magnificent' Lord Howe seized all his Estate – and it is from that, that the famous Case of the Jennings in Chancery (made much of by Dickens) came to fame – but there was never any Jennens Estate that got into Chancery. What little there was the Lord Howe got and put away quickly!

Joseph Willcocks granddaughter, Susannah, was a great believer in this Chancery Estate and spent a lot of money on it. Her nephew, Sidney, when in London in 1902-3, met a Jennings of Norwich, together with Susannah's younger brother, John and a nephew, Reg, and had a good look at the Estate. They then persuaded the 'old soul' to chuck the whole job and burn all the paper rubbish she had collected.

Joseph Willcocks was a Tailor by trade and a smart looking chap and spent some time with Wellington in Spain. Tradition says old Wellington adopted him as personal 'Batman' – though he had to carry his gun when needed. It is said that he 'well dolled 'Well.' up for the day of Waterloo'.

In those days women followed 'Camp', ie Common Soldiers' wives followed them and more or less did the cooking and camp work. Mrs Joe Willcocks gave birth to her third child, William Wilcox in the Camp on the actual field of Waterloo either the night before, or the night after the battle in 1815!

The Christian name of Mrs Joe Willcocks is not known.

WILCOX ANCESTRAL HISTORY

Wilcox Family's belief of their Ancestral History - The Huguenots. The tradition of the family is that they were 'Huguenots' of the name 'Villon', silk weavers from Lyons in France.

The Huguenots were the Protestants of France. The word 'Huguenot' was coined in about 1560 by the French Royal Court when holidaying in Tours. Nightly they would hear the illegal Reformees (ie advocating reform in the Church of Rome) chanting their prayers at the city gate of St Hugh.

The Huguenots were regarded as heretics by the Church and the French Government, and as was the custom of the time were in some instances sent to the galleys or tortured to death and their estates confiscated.

From 1680-1700 around 200,00 Huguenots left France to avoid religious persecution. Refugees made their new lives in England, Ireland, the Channel Islands and America.1 Among these refugees was the 'Villon' family who settled at Spitalfields in London where the 'Silkies' congregated.

The name 'Villon' gradually became corrupted and Anglicised to 'Wilcox' or 'Willcocks'

Villons were a tribe – could have been a handful of families. -French society -Love of flowers and songbirds

-By 1860 over 2/3 weavers were out of work, so abandoned the trade. Many went to the docks? or ended in the poorhouse. They gained money from looting. Set up as milliners in St Neots. ?

? JENNENS or JENNINGS – 1790c

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Jennens-24&public=1>

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JOSEPH WILCOX - 1811 – 1894

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcox-3989&public=1>

Joseph was the son of Joseph Wilcocks (or Wilcox) born in England date unknown and of Jennens (o) Jennings born in England date unknown.

Notes taken from story told by Sidney Wilcox to Alan Wilcox, May 1938

Joseph Wilcox, 1811¹

Joseph Wilcox, first born of Joseph and the Jennens girl, also became a Tailor and was the leader of his tribe in St. Neots managing to get all the Gentry jobs. He specialised mainly in uniforms, livery for the Dukes of Manchester and Rutland. He was a speculator in Argentine and Brazil Stocks, doing very well from some good spins.

Joseph married Sarah Emery. Sally (Sarah Emery) was a right down good old sort and sport. Her father was in the Howard Britannia Implement Factory as a Fitter. One of the family kept the Blue-Cow-Inn on the London-Bedford-Huntingdon-Post Road to Leicester and Manchester. It was of quite some importance in pre-rail days, then faded, and has come back with motoring, being only about 60 miles from London City. They were said to have kept 12-14 post horses around 1833.

Up to mid-life Joseph was a real wowser, of the first vintage in the Congregational Chapel. “What!!! Cards, the Theatre, a Spot” – on your life you daren’t mention them! Till one time about 1880 when a new parson came to the Chapel. This man was very liberal minded and bucked up the Chapel. One day he said to old Joe “There’s a fine Shakespeare play on at Theatre tomorrow night. The return rail fare is 2/6 (60 miles each way). Pit seats are 2/6. Take me to it!!!” Old Joe bucked, but Sally his wife came in saying “you old fool, it’s time you did something and Parson says it’s good. Go, you have got to go!” Joe did, and it was about a monthly job afterwards. Then Card Parties, then a Spot!

Joseph and Sarah had 12 children. ‘This was a mob, and they came pretty quickly one after the other and had to be provided for.’

¹ Notes taken from story told by Sidney Wilcox to Alan Wilcox, May 1938

The eldest son, Thomas, was apprenticed to a Linen Draper and Costumier, Geard's at St Neots and later married one of the girl apprentices Priscilla Heydon. He was the first of this family to come to Australia, probably about 1856, with a William Barker also believed to have come from St Neots. Apparently old Joseph gave Thomas 500 pounds to go into business with Barker. They went to Gawler, possibly because Barker had friends there.

(What was the business? Wholesale butchers? Skins and Hides?)

Evidently it was not long till they got into trouble. Old Joseph sent the third son, Emery, to Gawler to clean up matters. However, Emery was a drunk and made things worse.

By about 1858 Joseph heard of this further trouble, and gave the second son, George, a free hand to go to Gawler and 'properly clean up the job, fire Thomas and Emery, and Barker, and sell up.'

From St Neot's Chronicle

Joseph Wilcox 1816 - 1894 (More likely 1811 - 1894)

In Memoriam – It is with the greatest possible regret that we announce the death of our old and respected townsman, Mr Joseph Wilcox, which took place at his residence in New Street on Wednesday evening.

The place he so long and honourably occupied in our town life will not be easily filled. All that concerned the welfare of the town and his fellow townsmen had always a strong claim upon him and agreeably with his oft expressed desire, he has ended his days amongst us. A staunch Non-conformist and Liberal, and to the last an active member of the Local Board, he will be missed from our public life – no man more so.

One of his last acts was the erection of the New Congregational Church here which must entirely be attributed to his initiative and generous donation to the building fund. It stands as a public record of the man whose self-denial, unassuming disposition and thoroughly sterling qualities entirely won the esteem and respect of all privileged to know him.

He leaves an example that may well be followed and an influence that will not readily die.

Extract from the Gazeteer section of 'St Neots' by C.F. Tebbutt, published by Phillimore & Co. 1978

Details of the ownership and occupation of a property at No 13 High Street, St Neots.

In 1775 this property was owned by French Flanders, and early last century by W. Barker, tailor and clothier, who emigrated to Australia. The business was then taken over by his great friend, Joseph Wilcox (1816-1894) through whom he joined the Independent (Congregational) chapel, and gained an interest in and link with Australia. Wilcox was born at Boxhill, Surrey to a Church of England family originating from St Neots, where his grandfather had been a Carrier.

His early life was one of great struggle through lack of capital, even with the help of his friend W. Barker. His subsequent career and rise to fortune was remarkable in view of the fact that he had 13 children of which 10 survived him. He was particularly generous towards the Congregational Chapel and the present building was only able to be built because he defrayed much of the cost.

It is likely that the greater part of his fortune was gained in his business connections with Australia, through the co-operation of his equally remarkable second son George. From story as told to Alan

Mary Wilcox, 1813,

Mary was the second child of Mr and Mrs Joseph Willcocks. According to the notes from Sidney Wilcox, 'Mary was a woman of some character. She heard that the owner of the Swan Inn at Leighton Buzzard Lines, John Bushell, had lost his wife, and was wanting a House-keeper. She went to meet him, got the job and married him quickly.

The Swan Inn was a big place that had been drifting, and she lifted the business. It was situated on the old posting Road, London-Lincoln-York, and they had a mob of Post Horses, coaches and boys. However, with the advent of the railway, the Inn drifted again.

When John Bushell died, Mary was left the failing business, which in turn passed to her only child, John Bushell Jr.. He then had only one child, John Bushell again, who became a drunk and died Young. What remained of the business was left to the daughters of the original John Bushell, who were both elderly at the time.

William Wilcox, 1815 (Waterloo Day)

As mentioned above William was born to Joseph and his wife in the Camp at the Battle of Waterloo.

William married but his wife's name is not known. They had no family but adopted her niece. Sadly this girl got badly disfigured by the bursting of a Kero Lamp, so William left all his little fortune to a trust to give her one pound weekly. Old John Wilcox, Reg's father², was Trustee. John thought it a nuisance, and as she was weakly and might die at any time, got her to agree that he should take the Capital and give her one pound per week for life. She bucked up, and lived many years³ and John lost many hundreds over her.

William came to Adelaide and worked in the Railway Service, losing an arm while working with them. He then worked as a 'Porter' and conducted George Wilcox and his family from the train at Port Adelaide to the ship 'City of Adelaide' in 1872. He went to England about 1873-74.

From story told to Alan Wilcox, eldest son of George Seaborn Wilcox, great great grandson of Mary's father, Joseph Wilcocks

GEORGE WILCOX - 1838 – 1917 (Father of George Seaborn)

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcox-3896&public=1>

George Wilcox, born 1838, was first employed at James Paine's office on the Market Square at the age of 12, and afterwards served a five-year apprenticeship with S Bedells, grocers, of 9 High Street, and a year with a Leicester grocer.

In 1857, at the age of 19, he sailed in the 'Royal Charter' to Australia and, possibly under the wing of W. Barker, got a job as a clerk at one pound a week. In 1858 he joined a small grocery business which a year later amalgamated with an old established drapery shop. This in partnership with his father, he took over under the name of J & W Wilcox, although his father never visited Australia.

In 1863 he returned to England and married Ann Fuller of Manor Farm, St Neots.

² ??? Where do this John and Reg belong on the tree?

³ Sidney Wilcox learnt the story when he visited England in 1903, and the niece was still living then.

Altogether he made 13 voyages between England and Australia and was joined at Adelaide by his brother Joseph.

His knowledge of the goods needed in the new colony enabled him, with the assistance of his father, to build up a large import business as well as to arrange the export of wool, hides and frozen meat to England.

In 1899 he was the largest exporter of frozen lamb in Australia. He also practised farming and in 1908 owned the Koonamore sheep station with 40,000 sheep.

Joseph Wilcox at his death left a fortune of 39,000 pounds.¹ He had retired from his shop in 1887 and it was taken by W Seward.

The older Joseph Wilcox was very much involved in local affairs. He was a Deacon of the Congregational Church for 30 years, a member of the Committee of St Neots Gas, Light and Coke Company, founded in 1845, a member of the Local Board from 1876 onwards, and a Director of St Neots Paper Mills Company in 1888.

When George was only 12 years old he was apprenticed to Bedells, a big Grocers Store at Leicester. He stayed there for 7 years, but by about 1858 George had decided to come to Australia. His first idea was to go to Sydney where he had Leicester friends (Keeps, Geards, Schlenkers, Parsons). On his father's request he went to South Australia instead.

The eldest son of Joseph, Thomas, was apprenticed to a Linen Draper and Costumier, Geard's at St Neots and later married one of the girl apprentices Priscilla Heydon. He was the first of this family to come to Australia, probably about 1856, with a William Barker also believed to have come from St Neots. Apparently old Joseph gave Thomas 500 pounds to go into business with Barker. They went to Gawler, possibly because Barker had friends there.

Evidently it was not long till they got into trouble. Old Joseph sent the third son, Emery, to Gawler to clean up matters. However, Emery was a drunk and made things worse.

By about 1858 Joseph heard of this further trouble, and gave the second son, George, a free hand to go to Gawler and 'properly clean up the job, fire Thomas and Emery, and Barker, and sell up.'

George arrived in Melbourne late in 1858 ex Auxiliary Steam 'Great Britain', then travelled on to Adelaide in March 1859 ex the coastal steamer 'Admella'. (The Admella was wrecked on the next voyage, near Mt Gambier and most of the people lost.) As told by his father, he fired his brothers and Barker, and the business.

Gawler was the nearest big town to the City and to Port Adelaide, and all the traffic of the big copper mines from Burra-Burra and Kapunda had to pass through Gawler. At this time there had been talk of building a railway from Port Adelaide to Gawler to catch the Copper Mine traffic. George believed that the establishment of a General Store could be a most successful business.

Having money of his own, he proposed to go into full partnership with his father, old Joseph. The firm to be J and G Wilcox Merchants.

George returned to England to find a wife in 1863. (see George Wilcox, 1838, below).

Emery had disappeared, but later was heard of in Sydney where he had married. Nothing much is known about him, but he possibly followed his father as a Tailor. He had 4 daughters, two of which

married brothers named Douglas, both in the machine Dept of the Sydney Morning Herald, and a son. The son went into the NSW Survey Dept and was articled to a Mr Koeford⁴ then in charge of the Wagga district. Koeford spoke very well of the youngster, but he did not use the name of Wilcox then, though Koeford knew of it.

Whilst Emery's children were quite young, he disappeared again, this time for good. He was believed to have gone to South Africa and lost there.

It is not known why Mrs 'Emery' and the family did not continue under the Wilcox name, nor what name they used.

Joseph, at age 12, was sent to George in Gawler. He travelled with Priscilla Heydon who went to Australia to marry Thomas. George had to provide for young Joe and took him into the shop. Joe became very experienced working in this job for 12 years from 1860-1872.

John followed his father in St Neots as a Tailor until 1880 when he was appointed London Agent for George who was working for Wm Mofflin & Co. In 1889 John moved from St Neots to London.

Not much is known of the younger children, except of the sons qualifications, as below:

| | |
|---------|--|
| Harry | B.M. of Dublin (Doctor of Medicine) |
| Ernest | B.M. of Edinburgh (Doctor of Medicine) |
| William | Licentiate of Pharmacy Lincoln with William (?) Peppercorn Sue's (Sussanah) husband. |

Extract from The Adelaide Observer 9 July 1927 on the retirement of Sidney Wilcox, eldest son of George and Annie Wilcox, on Sidney's retirement from the firm of Wilcox Moflin.

Firm's Romantic History.

The firm of Wilcox, Moflin, Limited, has become an important factor in the industrial life of Australia, due to the energy and foresight of the founders. The late Mr. George Wilcox (Mr. Sidney Wilcox's father) was born in 1838, and came to South Australia in the Admella in 1858. He proceeded to Gawler and opened a grocery business, merging in 1860 with his father's general store keeping business under the title of J. and G. Wilcox. In 1860 Mr. George Wilcox was buying wool, skins, gum bark, wheat, four and gold, or rather taking, these products in barter for stores and shipping them for sale to his father Joseph Wilcox, in England, where the proceeds were used to buy English goods for the store keeping business. Mr. George Wilcox was also interested in a small wool washing plant on the Para River, and in the sixties and early seventies in a boiling down plant, combined with soap and candle works. In 1872 Mr. George Wilcox sold out at Gawler and took his family back to England with the intention of living there, but returned to Adelaide in 1874, as he found the English climate too rigorous for him. From 1874 he intermittently bought wool, skins, and so on for shipment to England, and while actively engaged in handling these products he first came into contact in Melbourne with Mr. William Mofflin in 1876. From an historical point of view this meeting was a momentous one. Mr. William Mofflin had proceeded to Melbourne to take charge of a wool and produce brokering business, and after some acquaintance with Mr. George Wilcox he suggested a partnership, with the idea of entering into the export of wool, skins, and produce. The partnership was entered into, and the firm of William Mofflin and Co. established, and

⁴ ***Koeford – what was the family connection???

carried on until June, 1889. In 1888 a branch was opened in Sydney, and this was the beginning of a chain of offices and branches through out Australia. A few months later a branch was opened in Melbourne. In 1887 Mr. Sidney Wilcox entered the Adelaide branch.

JOSEPH (Joe) WILCOX - 1844 - 1917 (George senior's brother, son of Joseph & Sarah)

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcox-4025&public=1>

Married Biza Jane Mayfield

Joseph, at age 12, was sent to George in Gawler. He travelled with Priscilla Heydon who went to Australia to marry Thomas Wilcox. George had to provide for young Joe and took him into the shop. Joe became very experienced working in this job for 12 years from 1860-1872.

SIDNEY WILCOX – 1869 – 1942 (George Seaborn's brother)

From Adelaide Observer Newspaper 9 July 1927

Mr. Sidney Wilcox's Retirement. On June 30, 1927, Mr. Sidney Wilcox (Chairman of the Adelaide Board of Directors of Wilcox, Mofflin, Limited), the well known Australian firm of wool, skin, and hide merchants retired from the active life of the firm after 40 years association with it. "It has been a very happy, time," he remarked to a representative of The Register. "It was fairly hard work in the early days, but as we got our staff round us the load lightened; to-day we have-a remarkably good staff throughout Australia."

Mr. Wilcox who has resigned from the firm of Wilcox, Mofflin, Limited in 1927 He has had an interesting career. He is a son of the late Mr. George Wilcox, and towards the end of 1880 he obtained his first employment with a firm of grocers for a few months, after which he entered the services of the old Commercial-Bank of South Australia, in which he remained until 1887. He then went into the office of Messrs. George Wilcox & Co., and was the only clerk employed there at the time. In 1893 he went to Sydney, and was managing partner there for about 12 years. After an absence abroad for two years Mr. Wilcox returned to Adelaide, and occupied, an office; alongside of Mr. Glen Legoe, and they proceeded to develop the big business from this end. Mr. Wilcox has pastoral interests, and owns Brenda Park, a beautiful property on the River Murray near Morgan, upon which he has expended a large amount of money. He is also a member of the firm of Hamilton & Wilcox, Limited, owners of Koonamore Station, and in future he will be located in the Adelaide office, of that company. Fond of mechanics as a hobby, Mr, Wilcox spends many pleasant hours in his elaborate workshop at his home at North Adelaide. His disposition to do good by stealth, has caused many people to be grateful to him for their advancement in life. With Mr. A. E. Hamilton he and his sister have rendered great practical assistance to the University of Adelaide in the establishment of a reserve at Koonamore Station to enable research in the preservation of native flora to be carried out.

Sources

- Adelaide Observer Newspaper Saturday 9 July 1927

GEORGE SEABORN WILCOX - 1873 – 1915 (Son of George)

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcox-3877&public=1>

1873 George Seaborn was born in Cabin 2, just off Scilly Isles on the sailing ship "City of Adelaide" to George and Annie Wilcox who were returning to England from Australia. (*"City of Adelaide" a 3 masted composite ship with iron frame and wooden planking, 178' long sailed from London to Adelaide for 23 years taking passengers, but also high valued cargo such as wool. The trip usually took 90-100 days, but for some time she held the record for the fastest trip, being 65 days.*)

Georges birth was registered at Stepney, England, as all British children born at sea had to be registered there. It happened at sea because the ship was delayed, having to call at a different port on the way.

George Seaborn returned to Adelaide, Australia on the same ship, aged one, with his elder brother, Sidney George and two older sisters, Edith and Nelly.

The ship was stranded off Adelaide and all Passengers were floated ashore with their father, George, watching.

As a boy he went to school in Adelaide, where they lived at "Eynesbury" in Lower Mitcham. "Eynesbury" was a big old house with a tower and 2 stories and with a lovely garden and orchard.

1889 George Seaborn, at age 16, was put into the company, then George Wilcox & Co. In his 20's he was sent to the office in Sydney. *He boarded at "Chollerton" (Malcolm's Folly) at Darling Point.*

1894 The Wilcoxes established a Sydney office, and traded as George Wilcox and Co. previously William Mofflin & Co. In the same year Mr. George Wilcox retired, and gave his share of the business equally to his two sons, George Seaborn and Murray Wilcox, who had joined the Sydney staff.

1898 "Okinya" was built. This was the family Sydney Harbour waterfront home in Darling Point, Sydney, where George's 5 children were born. (*Okinya, then owned by George's youngest son Jack, was burned down in 1953*)

1899 George, age 27, married Constance Navena Welman (Venie) of Wagga (then living with her grandmother, Martha Susannah Scriven, at Potts Point, Sydney). (*Martha Scriven had been formally married to a Mr. Bourke and a Mr. Thompson, both deceased.*) They went to America for their honeymoon.

George and his younger brother, Murray, were both in George Wilcox & Co. They ventured into a brick works at Bondi which was a failure because of the salty sand.

1907-8 They, George & Murray, also ventured into a rural property called "Bogalana" not far from Yass near Wallendbeen which was not a success and they lost money when they sold it about 1914.

1912 "Okinya" was extended.

The company George Wilcox & Co. bought wool, skins & hides. Rabbit skins, possum skins, and Koala skins. (*For mor detail about the company & Wilcox Moflin see the biography of George Wilcox, George Seaborn's father*)

George was known in the trade as "King of buyers."

1913 Business was getting difficult and George had a nervous breakdown. He and Venie went to England to see relatives. On the way back war broke out. They returned in the ship "Beltana", (or "Mooltan"?) via Cape Horn, South Africa in a blacked out ship because of the war.

1914 George's condition got worse on his return and he was in and out of hospital (Venie had to have a nurse to be always with him). Apparently the continuous depression & worry of the business and the war was too much for him and he felt himself too big a burden to the family.

1915 George Seaborn shot himself and was found in the bedroom by Alan. His ashes were placed in the family vault at Waverley Cemetery, Watsons Bay. His youngest of 5 children, Jack, was 4 years old.

Some memories by Rita Cudmore (nee Wilcox), eldest child of George Seaborn.

George was a splendid father and dearly loved by his wife Venie and all the children. He used to romp with us and have us to work at woodwork & photography with him.

He built the "Cubby House" and swing in the lower back garden.

About 1904 he bought a Renault car (reg. no. 257). His best friend was John Bainton who kept his launch next door at "Yatalunga" and they used to have great parties on the harbour and take us children.

It was John Bainton who went to the U.S. and took George and Venie on their honeymoon. John Bainton was instrumental in bringing out the Bell telephones and Standard Waygood Elevators. He was the first man to install a moving stairway at Mark Foys.

George Seaborn was very fond of birds and had a round Avery in the back yard full of canaries and native finches.

JACK SEABORN WILCOX -1911 – 1956

<http://www.wikitree.com/index.php?title=Wilcox-3876&public=1>

1911 June 15 Jack born to Constance (Venie) & George Seaborn Wilcox, at "Okinya", Yarranabbe Rd., Darling Point, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

1912 "Okinya", the family home built for his father George Seaborn Wilcox in 1898, was extended.

1915 July 15 George Seaborn died. He shot himself and was found in the bedroom by Alan, Jack's elder brother. Jack was 4 years old.

1917 Sept 5 George senior, Jack's grand father, died in great pain. (Phlebitis in both legs.)

1920 Jack's Sister Rita went to China returned in 1921 and did medicine at Sydney Uni.

1926 Rita Wilcox awarded Bachelor of Medicine & Master of Surgery, 24th April, from Sydney University.

1916c Jack attended Edgecliff Primary School

When he realised that the Roman Catholic children got Wednesday afternoons off he said that he was Liberal Catholic and was given the Wednesday afternoons off too. His mother, Venie, was a Theosophist and their church was called "Liberal Catholic".

1919c Jack attended primary school as a boarder at Tudor House, Moss Vale.

1925c Jack attended high school as a boarder at The Kings School, Parramatta.

1929c Jack did 3 years of Engineering at Sydney University.

1932 July 17 Constance "Venie" Wilcox died in England.

"Okinya" was let.

1932 Dec 6 Jack & Betty married.

Jack bought land in Gordon on the Sydney North Shore and had a house built there.

Venie (1934) and Sidney (Sid) (1936) were born there.

1937c Jack bought out "Okinya" from his brother and and 3 sisters at 1,000 pounds each.

Jack & Bet moved to "Okinya".

1937 ACELEC (Alan Crook Electrical Company) formed. Jack formed a partnership with Alan Crook and later Greg Kater. The company later became Electrical Equipment of Australia.

1938 James (Jim) Seaborn was born at Okinya

1939 War in Europe

1941 War in the Pacific

1941 George Edward born at Okinya.

Jack bought 2 houses in Leura, NSW in the Blue Mountains.

Jack's family moved to Leura into the Gladstone Rd. house. Jack's sister Poppy used the Gordon Falls house for a short time. Jack sold a portion of the Gladstone Rd. property, which was more than 1 acre, to his close friend Greg Kater, who built a cottage there.

Jack joined the army as a private and trained to be a lieutenant. First at Puckapunyal.

Jack served in the Royal Australian Engineers and was a training officer at Penrith, NSW, and then served in New Guinea.

While stationed at Penrith when Jack got leave he would go by train and at Wentworth Falls, the station before Leura. He would get in with the engine driver who would slow down at Gladstone Road, which ran down to the railway line, and Jack would jump off and walk up to the Leura home. Sid & Jim went to school at Leura Preparatory boys school and Venie went to Branksome girls school in Leura.

1945 End war in Europe May 1945 then in Pacific

? Jack's family moved back to "Okinya", Darling Point, Sydney.

1946 Sid and Jim remained at boarding school at Leura until the end of the year.

1946 Sept 24 Twins, Mymie Alice (later Isti) and Elizabeth Gai (Gai) born

1947 Sid and Jim were boarders at Tudor House school, Moss Vale. Venie was boarding at Frensham, Mittagong.

1947 Jack bought Beresford Electrics a small clock retail shop, specialising in electric & battery electric clock sales, clock repairs and clock imports.

Jack imported the Macellan battery electric clock from England, one of the first lower priced battery electric clocks. At that time the quality of imported goods, soon after the war, was so poor that every single one of these clocks had to be tested before it could be sold. Jack did this at home at "Okinya" in a workshop he set up there.

1952 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, from Feb. 6

Bet & Jack invited guests to watch the coronation celebrations on Sydney Harbour from Okinya.

1953 Sept 4 "Okinya" burned down.

It was school holidays and all the children were at home. Jack was burning off garden rubbish in the lower back garden when a spark lodged in a dry redwood shingle awning catching on fire and quickly spreading into the 50 year old dust filled roof. The heated dust exploded and the fire spread into the whole house at the same time. Although the fire brigade arrived promptly they had difficulty finding the water hydrant and were unable to save the house.

The garage and old stables that were not attached to the house were not burnt.

Jack and the boys camped in a tent in the garden and Bet and the girls stayed with relatives until Jack was able to rent a large house nearby to Okinya.

Jack then converted the garage and stables into temporary accommodation for himself, Bet and Mymie & Gai. Sid & Jim used the former workshop at the back of Okinya as a bedroom. Venie boarded nearby.

Jack then commenced rebuilding the Okinya house himself. The windows, doors and the roof were installed by contractors. The house was at lock up stage when Jack went to hospital.

1956 Jack was experiencing stomach pains and went for exploratory surgery. The advanced cancer in his stomach was inoperable and he died not long after. He died on August 9 1956 at age 45.