



**TRANSCRIPT OF AN EXERCISE BOOK ON THE TASMANIAN FARQUHAR
HISTORY COMPILED BY ROBERT ALEXANDER FARQUHAR (RAF)
COMMENCED IN 1949 AND COMPLETED IN 1953.**

The original book is in the safe keeping of Ian Ronald Farquhar, eldest son of Ronald Robert Farquhar, son of Robert Alexander Farquhar

Part 1 and 2 are transcripts on the Farquhar/Farquharson origins in Scotland, which RAF has copied into the exercise book.

Part 3 is notes contributed by his brother John.

Part 4 is RAF's memories of his childhood and later life

Part 5 are from a hand written (not in RAF's hand) copy of the Obituary to Dave Farquhar

Part 6 is notes added by his eldest son Ron in 1957 after the book was handed onto him in 1953.

Part 7 Obituary to Ronald Robert Farquhar, 1966



The Farquhar Family

"Bannockburn"

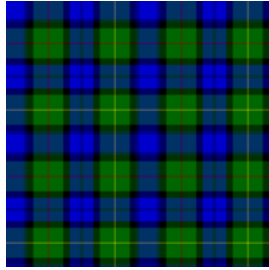
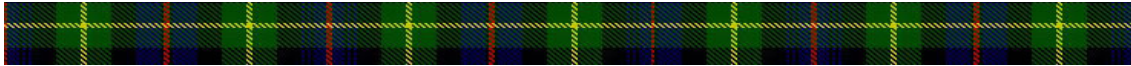
Jetsonville

Tasmania

NB: This transcript is copied as close to the original document as possible – there are sections which are difficult to read and interpret and some names may be misspelt as a result. Some poetic licence has been used to include sentence and paragraph breaks. Bracketed italics are my conversions and explanations.

Bruce Farquhar

2010



Part 1

An article written by

Innes of Learney

Of The Tartans of the Clans and Families of Scotland

The Farquhar history is written on the back of this book, (Copied)

Farquharson

Slogan (*war cry*): "Carn a cuimhne" (Cairn of Remembrance)

(*Motto: Fide Et Fortitudine (With Faithy and fortitude).*)

Badge, Cranberry, Scots Fir (*n.b. as per RAF's written script however according to the wed the crest is: Farquharson Clan Crest: On a chapeau, a demi lion holding a sword in the dexter paw and the Clan plant is Seedling Scots fir or Red Whortle berry*)

The Clan Farquharson, derived from Farquhar fourth son of Alexander Ciar, the third Shaw of Rothiemerchus, a branch the Clan Chattan. Taking their residence in Aberdeenshire, the descendents of this Farquhar where called Farquharson. Farquhar's son Donald, married Isobel Stewart, heiress of Invercauld and their son was Finlay Mor, 1st of the house of Farquharson of Invercauld. In their early history the name of this Finlay Mór, royal standard bearer at Pinkie, where he



fell 1547, stands prominent and from and after him the Farquharson are termed Clann Fhionnlaidh or decedents of Findlay.

In the Rising of 1715 John Farquharson of Invercauld, with four officers and 140 men, joined the Clann Chattan Regiment, in which he was Lieutenant Colonel, and accompanying it to England, was taken prisoner at Preston where he remained for ten months. At Culloden, the Farquharsons were led by Francis Farquharson of Monalting, the "Baron Ban". They mustered 300 men and were in the centre of the front line.

James Farquharson of Invercauld died in 1750 and was succeeded by his son also named James, who appears to have been, in 1745 a Captain of Foot in the Hanoverian Army. He died in 1806 after having been in possession of the estate for fifty-six years. He left no male issue and was succeeded in the estate and chief-ship by his only surviving child Catherine Farquharson of Invercauld, she married Captain James Ross RN second son of Sir John Lockhart-Ross of Balnagowan, who took the name of Farquharson of Invercauld and died in 1810. She was succeeded by her son, James who died in 1862 who was succeeded by his eldest son, James Ross Farquharson, 13th of Invercauld who died in 1888. He was succeeded by his son Alexander Haldane Farquharson of Invercauld who, in virtue the Lyon Court Deeree, 1815, assigned the chief arms and supporter, was head of the central or "stem family" of Farquharson of Invercauld, and so chief of the clan. On his death in 1936 the crest, arms and supporters were by Lyon Court Deeree, 3rd December 1936, confirmed his daughter Mrs Myrtle Farquharson of Invercauld, who was killed in an air-raid 1940. Her seat was Invercauld House, Deeside, Aberdeenshire and Old Mar Castle, Braemar.

The principal branches of the name and clan Farquharson have been Monaltrie, Whitehouse, and Haughton, Allargue, Bresdale and Finnean (*may be Finlean or Finelean*). In Aberdeenshire, Joseph Farquharson of Finnean, R.A. the celebrated artist, was chieftain of the Finnean branch until his death in 1935 and Colonel Wilson Farquharson of Allargue in Strathdon is the present chieftain of the Allargue branch.

The Farquharsons of Inverey were a celebrated Jacobite branch of whom the "Black Colonel" (John 3rd Laird of Inverey) lives in Deeside legend and ballads.

(The word Jacobite is political, not religious RAF)

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Part 2

The Farquhars, written by W & AK Johnston

War Cry – Carnna cuimbrie (Cairn of Remembrance)

Badge – grains (Little Sunflower) or Lus-naimbainsith Foxglove.

The Farquharsons are regarded as one of the leading branches of Clan Chattan. They branched off from Alexander Ciar, the third Shaw of Rothumenchus, who had married one of the Stuarts of Kinderin, their progenitor being Farquhar the fourth son. Taking up their residence in Aberdeenshire, the descendants of this Farquhar (Gallic Ferchar) were called Farquharson "Clan Fhearchair" now MacKercher or MacKerchar.

In their early history, the name Farquhar descendant, Finlay Mor, Standard-bearer of Pinkie, where he fell 1547, stands prominent and from and after him the Farquharsons were termed "Clann Fhionnlaith" or decedents of Finlay. The Farquharsons acknowledged MacIntosh as their chief in a bond of 1594. (sec Minor Septs of Clann Chattan)

In 1641 Farquharson of Invercauld (who bore a prominent part in the Scottish civil wars of the period) was ordered by the Parliament to levy a body of armed men to serve August the Mearns, etc. (Balf Annals) and four years after he was serving at the head of his clan in the battles of Montrose. His Kinsman James of Inversey, in 1649, for having failed to attend a summons of the Committee of Estates, 1647 was fined £4,000¹ (Scot) and in his 73rd year was thrown into the Tolbooth of Edinburgh, where he was kept "till afraid to perish in so horrible a den, he at length succeeded in attracting some charitable attention from the Estate"

In the rising of 1715 John Farquharson of Invercauld, with four officers and 140 men, joined the Clann Chattan Regiment, in which he was Lieutenant Colonel and accompanied it to England, was taken prisoner at Preston. Refring to the affair at Preston, Lady MacIntosh writes: "MacIntosh and Invercauld having the most dangerous post, behaved most manfully, with a great character to strangers as acting their part with victory and courage." They were both released to same day (Aug 9th 1716) having been in prison for ten months.

In the year 1741 Anne Farquharson, daughter of Invercauld, married Eneas, twenty second MacTintosh and during the rising of 1745 she took such a leading part for the Stuarts, so to be called "Colonel Ann".

At Culloden the Farquharsons mustered 300 men and were in the centre of the frontline.

¹ Estimated to be about £2,500,000 in 2009



In 1748 the Laird of Invercauld gave the Government a ninety nine year lease of the Castle of Braemar, a military station, but it has long since ceased to be occupied by troops.

James Farquharson died in 1750 and was succeeded by his son, also named James who appears to have been, in 1745 a Captain of Foot in the Hanoverian army. He died in 1806, after having been in possession of the Estate for fifty six years. He left no male issue and was succeeded under the destination of the entail by his only surviving child, Catherine, who married Captain James Ross, RN (second son of Sir John Lockart-Ross Bart of Balnaggowan) who took the name of Farquharson and died in 1810. He was succeeded by his son James Ross Farquharson.

"No place that I have seen in Scotland" says Dr Stoddart, "is more characteristically adopted to the residence of a Highland Chief than Invercauld. It stands on a rising ground not far removed from the bank of the Dee, which glides silently and majestically through the valley, all around are vast birch woods and firs, of which Mr Farquharson has planted incredible numbers."

Among the other leading families of the name are the Farquharsons of Monaltrie, Whitehouse, Haughton, Allargue, Breddu, Finlean, all in Aberdeenshire.

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Part 3

My Grandfather's Parents in Scotland were farmers but both parents died young and an old bachelor Uncle took the two children, Alexander and Robert (Bob), he raised and educated them, he was a rich man owning two large ships, besides others. He died when Grandfather Alexander and Grand Uncle Bob were quite young men, they naturally thought that their Uncle would leave them his estate, £15,000 in cash besides other assets, but a young girl who was particularly good to him during his last illness, left her all his wealth, the two boys were disappointed and made arrangements to sail to Australia, the girl, when she heard of the boys leaving for Australia, offered the boys an equal share with her of the fortune, but being Scotch and independent, would not take charity from a girl, so they sailed for Australia, Grandfather coming to Launceston Tasmania and Bob his brother went to New Zealand and have heard there are quite a lot of decedents in Christchurch.

Grandmother, nee Dougall (Jane) was born in Bannockburn, whose parents were independent and had no particular calling as far as our Uncles know. Uncle Albert the only surviving child of the late Alex Farquhar who is 86 years of age, his intellect is quite alert and is very interesting to talk to.

(Signed) RAF

Sep 20th 1953

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Part 4

Father came from Glasgow, Mother from Bannockburn.

Father and Mother sailed from Scotland in a sailing vessel the Brimalas landing in Launceston in the year 1857. The "Brimalas" made three trips from Scotland to Australia on the third trip going back to Scotland it was wrecked and went to the bottom of the sea.

My parents lived for two years in Launceston. My eldest brother Alic was born in Launceston then they came to Scottsdale in the year 1859, they made their journey with pack-horses. John Cunningham and his wife came through with them and after getting to what is Jetsonville now, camped there for a few days, then wandered into the heavy scrub, went down what is now Burnt Side Road there they built a large camp. After a short time they found the thick scrub was too heavy to get through so they went back to Jetsonville and decided to take up the land there, which they did.

Father took his pack-horses back to Bridport, turned them out on what Stevens Marsh , but never saw them again. My second brother Tom was the first child born in Scottsdale in 1859.

Early in 1860 there were some more came to Scottsdale ; Thomas Campbell, James Campbell, Douglas Mc Gilp, Mr Cherry and Family, W. Johnston and Family. Mr McCarthy, he went to Myrtle Bank, Mrs Brands a single girl. Later on from 1862 to 1865 there was a good number came to Scottsdale including; Mr Thomas Hazelwood, Mr Thomas Diprose, Mr Boner, Mr Smith, Mr T Tucker, Mr Edwards, Mr J McBrain, Mr Benner, Mr Bald, Mr T Hutchinson – I cannot think of all the names.

After settling in Jetsonville they had to go to Bowwood for their supplies. I am not sure of the mileage but it was a long way. Mother and Mrs Cunningham used to start before daylight of a morning for Bowwood for their goods for the home – always done the journey in one day. After Father done his days work would go along the road to meet them often as far as Muddy Creek, they would take their boots off and stockings off and wash their feet in the creek as they would be bleeding walking in through the heavy sand and carrying a heavy load would get home in the evening about 10pm ready for a good rest.

One of their sons

John Farquhar

(undated)

-oOo-



Part 5

1949

I Robert Alexander Farquhar, eldest grandson of the late Alexander and Jane Farquhar will try to relate, as far as I know the history of the early days of our Grandparents.

Grandfather, who with Grandmother left Scotland 1857, in the sailing vessel called the "Brimlaw" landed in Launceston the same year.

Grandfather came from Glasgow and Grandmother came from Bannockburn, Scotland. Grandmothers name was Jane Dougall, when single.

They resided in Launceston for two years. My father the late Alexander David Farquhar was the eldest of *(their)* family of ten. Then Thomas Dougall *(Farquhar)*, next (who was the first baby born in Scottsdale). Then Robert, who died at 21, then John *(note Part 4 this is written in John's hand)*, Albert, Ellen, Isabel, Charlie, Dave and Alice.

The Farquhar's along with the late Mr and Mrs John Cunningham came to Scottsdale in 1859, the district then just a wilderness, no tracks or roads and the district was very heavily timbered.

The Farquhars and Cunnighams built themselves a camp, on the property of "Woodstock" now owned by Mr J A Sumerville, facing Bridport and Burnside Roads, then each took up land at Jetsonville, the Farquhars calling their home "Bannockburn" and is still held by a descendent, Jean, only daughter of the late Charles Farquhar.

They cleared a patch of land and built a home on it, all crops were chipped in with the hoe, harvest taken off reap hooks, as longs and standing timber were too numerous for the plough.

Grandfather had several teams of horses, no railways to North East those days and all produce for the settlers and miners further up the Coast had to be shipped to Bridport a distance of ten miles *(16 km)* from Jetsonville, main carting was tin and palings, tin coming from Ringarooma (16 miles) Branhholm and Ruby Flat (16 miles) and Derby 22 *(35.4 km)* miles to Scottsdale then 15 *(24 km)* to Bridport. The road in places was so boggy that it took three good horses to haul half ton load. Bridport was the shipping centre of the North East Coast, with Boobyalla for the far North Coast.

Grandfather was a powerful man and done a lot of heavy work, but overdone his strength and died in 1885.

In the early days before roads were made, Mrs Cunningham and Grandmother used to leave their camp before daylight to walk to "Bowood" 14 miles *(22.5*



km) for their goods, the men folk would go to meet them after work and would get home about 10 o'clock, a round trip of 28 miles (45 km). Mrs Cunningham has carried a baby and on her return trip carried 50 lbs (22.7 kg) flour and a little pig, besides her baby, "Oh girls of today what are you missing".

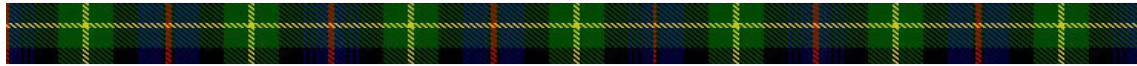
My father A D Farquhar lived with his parents at Jetsonville during his early days, driving a team at the age of 12, on roads in a deplorable conditions, he selected land on Burnside Road three miles (1.86 km) from the township of Scottsdale, he built a home of four rooms, hand split timber, except flooring, which is still in use after 67 years, he married my mother, Amelia Jane Hardy, second daughter of the late Gustavus Hardy in the year 1884, he worked on his selection until his death May 7th 1900.

Our father like his father was a hard worker, there was five of us in our family, Ethel the eldest, self (Bob), Albert (Ab), Headley and Douglas. When Father died Ethel was 15, self 14, Ab 12, Hedley 9 and Douglas 2. Father was 42 when he died, Mother and we children carried on the farm of 114 acres (46.13 ha), our Mother who was very tactful left us boys to work the place to the best advantage, as we thought, she would, at times give us advice which was always sound. We had a battle, as times were hard, prices of produce very low some seasons, we have sold potatoes (4 bushel bags) (145.47 litre) two shillings (40 cents) per bag and chaff at times very difficult to place.

I remember when 16 years of age we carted chaff to Derby at distance from our old home of 25 miles (40.25 km) for the sum of £2-19-0 (\$5.90) per ton (0.9 tonne), would leave home before five am, would be through the township (Scottsdale) before daylight, we had our plough team, Bonny and Blossom, we only loaded one ton (0.9 tonne) per load, as our contract with the Brieses Co. For 10 tons (9 tonne), delivered one ton per week, would take two days. I stayed with our Uncle Jack, who had a store at Derby then, so cost us nothing for board.

When our father died all the implements we had was, one single furrow swing plough, set of harrows, dray with harness for same, and traces for trace work, scythe, reap hook, and necessary tools for fencing, scrubbing, clearing, etc. He would mow, tie and stook all his harvest by hand, he was an expert mower, we milked about 10 to 12 cows, carted the milk each morning to the cream factory, which was situated where Mr R D (Toy) Ranson lived, junction Burnside and Bridport roads. The price of milk was threepence (3) (2 cents) per gallon (4.546 litre), the cream only was wanted by the factory so each farmer took his share of skim milk home. The evenings milk we would carry to the creek to keep cool and sweet.

The season of 1900, we decided to buy a hand separator, a Alfa Laval, 28 gallons (106 litres) per hour capacity, besides our own skimming two neighbours used the separator, all told would skim for 36 to 40 cows per day, which kept the machine grinding for hours of a morning, for three years that small



separator , separated for three farmers, then for two farmers for eight years, all told went for 14 years, a good advertisement for Alfa's.

As we could afford other machinery, we purchased them, mostly on time-payment system, but we always met the instalments when due, implements such as reaper and binder "McCormick", ploughs, wagons, disc, etc.

Our brother Ab (killed in War World 1 France July 1916) was rather delicate, done a lot of heavy work, we cleared and ploughed a new paddock each year, we had our own team of eight bullocks, we started with 4 and Campbell's of Jetsonville had 4, we used borrow one another team, till each had a team of eight.

When Father died we had a mortgage on the farm, paid 8% interest, I was 23 years of age before we were able wipe it off. Some years were so bad that we were unable to pay any mortgage off, only could spare the interest. We saved and scraped for several years and I think that is the reason why neither Ab or myself took on smoking or drinking, we knew the value of money only too well.

Uncle Tom

He never married, he selected land adjoining our old home, on Burnside Road, he farmed it all his life till too old to work it, then sold the place to his brother Albert, who let Uncle Tom stay on the farm as long as he liked, he lived to be 85. Two or three years before he died, he lived at a cottage in his brother's place, George Street, Scottsdale (Albert). He died May 4th 1947, the place has changed hands twice since, Albert sold to Murray Hutchinson he then sold to Mr (Mick) Elphinstone.

Uncle Tom was a great help when father died, he would growl at us kids, he was a good old sort for all that.

Uncle Bob

Then Uncle Bob, who we had never seen, died young, 21 years of age, at the old home of Bannockburn.

Uncle John

He lived with his parents in his early years, he also drove teams for his father at a very early age, he was a wonderful hand with a team of horses and almost a vet with a sick horse.

He married Elizabeth Jones, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Robert Jones of Scottsdale. They had a family of six:

Albert John (Bert), who was a returned soldier from World War 1, was badly gassed, was in poor health till his death four years ago. He married Gladys Haas daughter of the late Phillip and Jane Haas.



Lenard, second son, married Miss Minchins of Branhholm, now residing in Victoria.

Gladys who died at the age of 21 and was single.

Bob, third son married Miss Ethel Greaves of Branhholm, they have two children Ken and Marg, live in Howich Street Launceston. Bob has a wood and coal business and trotting horses which are always a doubtful proposition.

Edna who is Mrs Alfred Goldsworthy two of family, her mother (Aunty Lizzie) lives with her in Launceston.

Alice, baby of John's family, is Mrs George De Jersey of Deloraine, has two or three of family.

Uncle John was in business on the West Coast, when the West Coast was booming, mining those days was very active, he sold out and bought a general business at Derby from the late Mr W Tucker, then he was farming for a few years and later went mining mainly Osmiridium digging, he has seen many ups and downs with osmiridium. He sold the metal from 42 pounds² (\$84) per ounce (28.35grams) to ten pounds (\$20) per ounce, he struck a good patch at Adamsfield. He lived in retirement for several years with his brother Tom, in a cottage on their brother Alberts place George St Scottsdale. About two years ago, he lived with his son Bob in Howick St Launceston. He was taken seriously ill at the age of 84, was taken to the General Hospital, Launceston, where he died on Aug 14th 1947, his widow Elizabeth is still living.

Uncle Albert

Albert, who married Elizabeth Haas eldest daughter of the late Mr & Mrs Cris? Haas, farmers of the Scottsdale district. Albert had a family of two daughters Dulcie (Mrs Fred Martin) whose husband Fred has been a bank manger all his married life, mainly in Victoria. They have one boy Ken. The other daughter Phylus married Mr Hal Dundee and Phylus lives at home with her father, she has kept house for her father since he lost his wife about seven years ago. His late wife was a very capable person.

Alberts interests , all through his life was mining, he is one of the best alluvial miners in Tasmania. He has managed several mines and has worked grounds for himself very successfully. He has lived in retirement for a number of years, he is the only one left of the "Bannockburn" family of ten, he is 82 at the time of writing (1948). Financially he has done better than any of the family. He worked a local mine called The Stromach, which yielded a lot of tin. Prices those days was about four pounds (\$8.00) per bag (*a bag of tin weighs 1 cwt. or 112 pounds = 50.80 kg*) today's price around about twenty (\$40.00).

² According to the Reserve Bank of Australia Inflation Calculator (<http://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualPreDecimal.html>) £100 in 1953 is worth \$2,918.70 in 2009



Aunty Ellen (Nell)

Ellen (Nell) who married Fred Sharman from Huon, who one time was a champion axeman, who followed up timber work mainly through life, he was an expert busman, therefore his services were sought for by timber millers. They had a family of three Laura, Mrs C Lange of Sydney and Fred somewhere in New Zealand and a baby who died very young.

Aunty Isobell

Isobell, who married Fred Grant who all his married life was an engine driver on the railways. They had two daughters, Connie, Mrs Walsh and Sylvia who died at the age of 22 and was single.

Uncle Charlie

Charlie who carried on the old home at "Bannockburn" married Isabel McKerrow, second daughter of the late Mr & Mrs McKerrow of Jetsonville and they had only one child Tony. Charles followed farming all his life, he died at the age of 54, his widow in 1946.

Uncle Dave

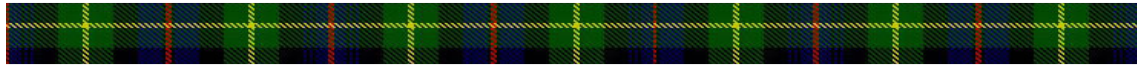
Dave the youngest boy left Scottsdale at the age of 20 to go to the West Coast of Tasmania, he was with the late Mr Selby Wilson, Surveyor, for over twenty years. They were both expert busmen and both over six feet tall, at times they worked under most trying experiences as the weather on the West Coast is very rough and some of the heaviest timbered country in the Commonwealth. One thing about these two men worth mentioning is that all the time they worked and camped together, one has never seen the other out of temper, which is unusual for in Farquhars for most of us has rather a hasty temper.

Dave knew the West Coast better than any other man in Tasmania, as surveying took him to all parts of the coast and the latter part of his life was Ranger for the Forestry Department.

He married Elizabeth the second daughter of Mr & Mrs Millwood of Patersonia. Dave's wife at Leehan when their three children were very young, Mary 7, Teddy 5 Stanley 2. An Aunt, Miss Millwood took the children to Launceston and reared them, she was wonderful to them.

Mary is a Mrs Smith, Launceston. Ted a furniture manufacturer in Elizabeth Street is a builder by trade

Dave remarried a widow, Mrs Timms, a sister of Mr Author Holman, a well known Scottsdale man. By the second marriage Dave had one son Jack, haven't heard of him for over 20 years, last was in Victoria. Dave died at the age of 48.



Ted is married also Stan and their Aunt who reared them is living with Stan and his wife.

Aunty Alice

Alice, the youngest of the family married Jim Lyons a railway employee. Alice died young leaving one daughter Lucy, who is living in Melbourne, I don't know her married name.

Our own Family

Ethel

Ethel, the eldest married Gus, C A Newelt, Gus mainly followed up trapping he was an expert trapper at times making big money while the season. They live in Bridport and have three children. Molly the eldest married Allan Coate, a returned man from World War 2, they have four children Edna, Kevin, Judy and Toby.

Then Tom also a returned man from World War 2, who is single. Then Douglas the youngest who was one of the first to enlist was right through the World War 2, he also is single.

Robert (Bob)

Yours truly is next, will leave myself till last.

Albert (Ab)

Our brother (Ab) Albert Gustavus F never married, when Hedley took over the old homestead, Ab took to roaming about spent six months at Lilydale, working in the late Mr Fred Proctors blacksmithing and wheel-wright shop, then he spent twelve months at Ringarooma, on "Mineral Banks" then spent some time in NSW and Queensland from where he enlisted for World War 1. He was turned down on several occasions on account of having only two fingers on his left hand. He lost two fingers when a small child, Ethel and I was giving him a ride on a horse which drove a chaffcutter, he went to sleep let his hand go over the side and was caught between the cogs and crushed his fingers to jelly. Two was saved but were always stiff. About 15 months after enlisting he was killed in France at a place called Posires, he was 28 when killed, July 16th 1916. Ab was clever at any wood or iron work, had he been taught a trade, would have made a splendid tradesman.



Another Start – Aug 30th 1953

Hedley

Hedley Phomus Farquhar, who lived at the old home on Burnside Road, mostly except when young, worked out for a couple of years, when our mother died, age 56, the farm was to be sold at her death and all money equally divided between we five. Hedley bought the farm, but previous to that he had leased the farm and Mother had lived in retirement with her sister, the late Mrs Anne Bonner where she died.

Hedley married Catherine (Cassy) Newelt daughter of the late Charles and Margaret Newelt of Stony Creek, North Scottsdale. Cassy has done a lot of hard work on the farm, she has milked cows, fed the pigs and done a lot of work while Hedley used to take contracts with his wagon and three horses.

They have three daughters, Sylvia the eldest married Horace Hingston they live in Nambour Queensland and are very comfortably off. They have a family of three boys Alvyn, Don and Bennie, all exceptionally well behaved boys. My wife and I spent a fortnight with them in May of this year, they gave us a wonderful time.

Doris the second girl married Max Nation, who was recognised as one of the straightest men in our district. He contracted pneumatic fever when young which left him with a weak heart, he died a young man had no children, and Doris remarried Gordon Ranson, son of Roy D and the late Lily Ranson (nee Tinnies), they have a nice home, one boy about 4 Terry.

And Olive the baby of the family married Kevin Simmons and are renting the old farm from Hedley who has the carrying business at Scottsdale township for many years and also Agent for the Shell Coy Oil, which is quite a profitable agency. He lives in Doris's first home, which Max left her without any encumbrances. Olive and Kevin have one son Michael.

This is worth mentioning, Kevin bought a cow and a calf for £15-10-00³ (\$31.10), his father, who was killing calves to rear pigs, gave him a calf, the cow reared two calves, one at 9 months old, a vealer bought £37-10-00 (\$74.10), the other at 10 months, bought £35-00-00 (\$70.00) and the cow £32-00-00 (\$64.00) all in twelve months, that takes a blot of beating. While on prices, sows with litters are bringing from 30 to 78 pounds (\$60 to \$150), potatoes bringing 64 pounds (\$128) per ton (0.9 tonne) in Sydney, eggs 5/6⁴ (55 cents) per dozen bacon 5/-⁵ (50 cents) per lb. (0.45 kg). So those who are having eggs and bacon for breakfast are wealthy, we have been having some thanks to our son Ron who sent us down two chunks of bacon.

³ According to the Reserve Bank of Australia Inflation Calculator
<http://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualPreDecimal.html> £100 in 1953 is worth \$2,918.70 in 2009

⁴ \$8.03 equivalent in 2009

⁵ \$7.30 equivalent in 2009



Douglas

Douglas Malcolm James Farquhar the youngest of our family of five was only 2 when Father died and 16 when Mother died, he went across to NSW, worked in a foundry at Lithgow for some time. He was on the overhead electric crane that spilt the molten iron into moulds, very hot work has had eyebrows scorched with the heat. He left there and went to Newcastle NSW and worked at the same sort of job, then took tram work for a while.

He married Hilda Grace Williams of Scottsdale daughter of the late George and Isobel Williams, farmers. They bought a paper run in Sydney and had a grocery store which they ran for 17 years, they done well while there, then they went out to Lidcombe and rented 14 acres of land (34.59 ha) for a golf course, spent all they had in building a brick home and getting course in order, going nicely when War World 2 started the Government commandeered the land to build a big aeroplane works, which put them out of the golf business.

Dug took on carting with a couple of lorries and about 6 years ago he was taking the other fellows lorry one Saturday afternoon and was carting coal and tipping over a fifty foot drop and somehow or other the truck tipped over the big drop and he was killed instantly. His wife has lived in retirement in the brick home , they had only one child Hilda, who is married to Don Hall and they have two little boys Graeme and Mosman. They live with Hilda's mum at 72 Gallipoli Street, Lidcombe, which is a very lively industrial suburb of Sydney.

Bob

I hardly know how to start talking about myself, I was born and reared with my sister Ethel and brothers Ab, Headley and Doug at Invermay Farm, Burnside Road, we were educated (such as it was) at North Scottsdale, the teacher teaching North Scottsdale and West Scottsdale , half time. We would have three days this week and two the next and West Scottsdale the same. We had to help with all reasonable work, such as potato planting and harvesting, which was all done by hand, hand mowing and tying up.

I remember on one occasion I was tying up behind who was sheafing, and tying up a three foot tiger snake. I tied the sheaf and threw it down and father saw the snake wriggling out of the butt of the sheaf , he soon made short work of the snake with Abs rake. Also helping with hoeing of potatoes and picking up which meant we didn't get much schooling. All farmers children were in the same box.

After fathers death I worked at home till 20 and thought I would earn more for the home by working wages, as Headley had left school and two could do the work. My first job out the North Eastern tin mining now called Banca. My uncle Albert was manager, he built a big dam which is being used to this day over 40 years ago and cut several miles of races, behind Mount Horror.



After working a while there, with another Uncle, John, who had a store (general) at Derby. He had several horses and prior to us he done a lot of packing to tin shows – was with him for two years. Went back home for a while, we took a contract of clearing 7 acres (17.3 ha) of land for the late Claud Joseph Heazlewood, now owned by Mr Arthur nation. The logs were up to six foot (1.83 m) through, ferns and blackberries was very heavily timbered. We cleared all down timber, pulled all stumps and filled in holes, ready for ploughing for £4-10-00 (\$9.00) per acre, today's price would be £30-00-00 (\$60.00)⁶

At this stage I got very interested in a girl named Janie McLennan, third daughter of the late Donald (Uncle Don) and Susan McLennan of "Cairn Brae" Scottsdale. I was 23 years of age then and we finished paying off the mortgage on the farm at home. Thought about going out on for myself, of course at the back of my mind was getting a home for this girl Janie.

I went to the West Coast and at that time work was very slack all over the State, particularly mining, after following up for two weeks, between two mines, the Mt Bishoff tin mine and the Magnet silver lead mine at Magnet. Started on the Magnet, underground work, didn't like it a bit, on one occasion the pumps went wrong and we had to climb the ladder out of the mine 700 feet (213 m), a big climb with crib tin can, bluey, and spider with candles. On two occasions missed being knocked by inches with falling rock from above levels, so decided to get out.

Went to Zeehan, nearly all mines closed, but at Renson Bell a new mine (tin) started, a five head battery, worked there two years, saved hard, no gambling, drinking or smoking, but could only save one pound (\$2.00) per week for the two years, living was dearer on West Coast than any part of Tasmania.

Having the huge sum of 100 pounds (\$200) went to work on a railway job extension from Burnie to Wynyard and at the same time on the look out for a farm, that I may be able to lease with option of purchase. Went to several land agents and all said the same thing couldn't do anything with only 100 pounds and no credit.

While there I met a chap who used to travel the late Mr W Tucker's threshing and chaffcutting plant, I had two years experience with the late Mr Peter Jensen, feeding and driving turn about. This chap Jack Elliott had a Buffalo Pitt traction engine ordered and I very foolishly partnered up with him, I to buy a thrashing drum which I did from Wes Von Bibra. Our intention was to go to the Ringarooma district, cut and thrash in season and cut timber with our Buffalo engine. There was a beautiful bush behind Ringarooma, we were going to drag the logs by tractor and cart to the station by the tractor and cut. Tractor was to do away with bullocks and horses – three were going to work it while one away carting to Legerwood Station, the other two would fall and cut logs. The idea was

⁶ \$876 in 2009



alright, but when we arrived in Launceston to take delivery of the tractor engine, the agent had sold it, my would be partner was a couple of days behind taking delivery of same. Proper mess up, eventually hiring a portable engine and doing a seasons work, lost 6months work besides hard cash and was very upset owing to wanting to get a place and settle down, still very interested in Janie.

My Aunt Anne Bonner had a property at Cuckoo with a herd of cows about 25, she put up a proposition to me to work the place for half. I put in twelve months on the share system, I and Jane were married on the 6th May 1914. We decided we would rent the place and buy the cows, my Aunt gave us four years to pay for the cows which was wonderful terms, but we paid before the arranged time. We milked 23 cows on our own first year and stayed four years, at one time we were the largest supplier of cream to the Scottsdale Butter Factory.

In 1914 three months after we were married War World 1 broke out 14 August 1914. My health broke down through being cut in the top of head causing a clot of blood to settle in the head, was 8 when it happened, but didn't affect me till almost 27, used to go down without warning, went to four different doctors at last Dr Parker of Launceston found the trouble and said would take two to three years to cure. When sick, we couldn't carry on the Cuckoo place, so sold our stock and came to Scottsdale (Cuckoo is 7 miles out) (11.25 km) and bought a property of 96 acres (38.85 ha) off John Murphy, part of Murphy's estate.

At the time of leaving, we had one child living Ron, our first baby Alexander Donald only lived 5 days. We were hard put for money at that time, if my wife hadn't been of a saving nature and hard work, we would have lost the place, but stuck manfully and after a couple of years there was able to do work. The farm was uncleared with only one 4 acre (1.6 ha) paddock that could be ploughed, the rest of the place all in one paddock. We bought sheep when we shifted from Cuckoo and wasn't enough in them those days to make a living. Butter fat went up to 2/6 (25 cents) per lb (0.45 kg), but we missed out on that during the war.

My brother Ab went to the war and was killed 18 months after enlisting.

I made arrangements with the late Jim Jensen to go halves in his sawmill. I to do all the outside of the mill work and he to cut and find the mill, he was set out on Jensens Road. We cut that out and sat down on James Somerville's property, Burnside Road, then we shifted out to the Forester Settlement 14 miles (22.5 km) out, a beautiful bush. The party broke up by Jim going broke and that ended sawmilling after about four years.

About six months after shifting in to Scottsdale our third boy was born, Bertram Albert, then Reginald Noel and then Alvyn Douglas our baby boy.

In 1925 a new mining field was found at Adams River, of Osmiridium, was very anxious to get there and a chance came to go and make up a party of five. Went on wages first 25/- (\$4.50) a day, was a serve depression on then all over the



State till 1932, so was lucky mum stayed on the farm and reared the boys for 6 years.

I looked after a business for Mr A J Jefferies of Fitzgerald , the other two and a half years was mining with only a fair measure of luck, the shop paid me £6⁷(\$12.00) per week and found board and lodgings, which was at that time was big money. We stocked everything, killing our own meat on the job and baked our own bread. The oven, which cost 7/6⁸ per brick, must have been the dearest built oven in the Commonwealth at the time, nearest town 22 miles (35.4 km), all goods, etc had to be packed in by horse, at time of carting bricks could only go as far as the Florentine River 16 miles (25.75 km), other six carried over the "Thumbs" by man power. Horse packing sixpence⁹ (5cents) per pound and man power 1/- ¹⁰(15 cents) per pound (450 grams) total 1/6¹¹ per lb landed on Adamsfield. Needless to say after a few loads of bricks, the job was left till the track was cleared right through, packing 6d / lb.

I could write a book about the experiences one gets on a job like that but space and perhaps want of interest by the reader makes one pull up.

While away on the Field, Ron met with a very bad accident; he was coming down a long hill on a bike at night, no lights and Mr Jim Campbell going up in a car with a loose door swinging and caught Ron on the head, was rushed to the hospital and Dr Boargman who done the operation was at Campbell Town, he came through (Sat night) and operated on Ron's head, which had the skull broken above the eyes, on the edge of his hair. He was unconscious – the Dr took away two tablespoons of brains and Ron being a strong boy pulled through and is a strong hard working man now. The Dr says the brain lost was the least important we have, the subconscious brain and now he has more brain than the majority of us.

We cleared the farm a lot with the help of Ron and Bert, who both are born farmers. Ron and Bert at the age of 19 and 17 had £50.0.0¹² (\$100) between them, put in 8 acres (3.24 ha) of potatoes, made over £300 (\$600)¹³ , next year put in 24 acres (9.7 ha) not so good came out about square. Next year put in 37 acres (14.97 ha), made over 2000 (\$4,000)¹⁴ , so they bought property at West Scottsdale and worked as Farquhar Bros for a few years, then the place too small for the two of them.

⁷ According to the RBA Inflation calculator this would be \$411.52 per week in 2009

⁸ According to the RBA Inflation calculator this would be \$25.72 per brick in 2009

⁹ According to the RBA Inflation calculator this would be \$1.71 per pound in 2009

¹⁰ According to the RBA Inflation calculator this would be \$3.43 per pound in 2009

¹¹ According to the RBA Inflation calculator this would be \$5.14 per pound in 2009

¹² According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1935 £ this would be \$8,063.66 in 2009

¹³ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1935 £ this would be \$24,191 in 2009

¹⁴ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1937 £ this would be \$153,002.85 in 2009



Bert bought Ron's share for £1,600¹⁵ (\$3,200), and Ron bought property at Winnaleah, 200 acres (80.9 ha) at £23¹⁶ (\$46) per acre, no buildings and has made a lot of money on seeds, vegetables and potatoes¹⁷ and has spent about £3,000 (\$6,000) on buildings, and has bought another property of 200 acres (80.9 ha), all with the exception of about 20 acres (8.09 ha), rich chocolate ground and as Ron is a first class farmer he is doing well.

He married Nell (Nina) McKenzie of Winnaleah, Mr & Mrs Reg McKenzie's third daughter and she makes as near to 100% wife as it is possible. They have six children, 3 boys and 3 girls. By reports we hear from up Winnaleah way, Ron is a splendid neighbour, one of the first there if any one is in trouble or too poor to help themselves, very unselfish.

Way his Mum and I feel proud of him and all the boys.

Bert who married Peggy Spotswood, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Spotswood sold his West Scottsdale property and lives in the township of Scottsdale. Pegg is a quite lady like girl, who is a splendid scholar and they have 4 girls. Bert is a wizard at making money, he is at 34 Managing Director of "Dewcrisp" Factory, in fact if it had not been for Bert we would not have had the factory here, he has £16,000¹⁸ (\$32,000) involved in it and has a property worth at least £20,000¹⁹ (\$40,000) with stock. A beautiful brick house and a £1,600²⁰ (\$3,200) Customline car, I must cut down on the boys doings or I will fill the book. He has 160 acres (64.75 ha) of best land in Scottsdale.

Reg who worked at home with us, left at 17 to join up in the Second World War, he enlisted and was taken prisoner in Timor Island and the storey of his treatment along with others is far too sordid it to tell about. He was right through the Burma railway, which killed 25,000 of our men, but our prayers were listened to and he came back to us, but anything but a robust man. He too is a wonderful boy, like the rest has splendid characteristics.

He spent five years studying for Agricultural Officer; he passed and was stationed down south under another D.A.O, (*District Agricultural Office*), then was transferred to Burnie as D.A.O., which is a very important Agricultural District, shows what the Heads think of him to put him in charge after only 12 months service.

He married Betty Smith of Barrington North West Coast, third daughter of Syd and Mrs Smith. Mr Smith died shortly after Bet and Reg married, they have two

¹⁵ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1940 £ this would be \$112,322 in 2009

¹⁶ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1940 £ this would be \$1,614.63 in 2009

¹⁷ Our Dad's bank manager would dispute this as he never had any spare money and had some very lean times! Bruce

¹⁸ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1953 £ this would be \$466,991 in 2009

¹⁹ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1953 £ this would be \$583,739 in 2009

²⁰ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1953 £ this would be \$46,699 in 2009



boys, and live at present in Montello a suburb of Burnie. Betty, like Nell and Peg is an ex-school teacher. Reg was a Sgt in the army.

Alvyn Douglas left home at 14, he stood for an examination for a Post Office job at Hobart, was successful and stayed there for three or four years and transferred to the Customs Dept.

He too enlisted for the Second World War, was in the air force, ended up a Pilot Officer, his was a dangerous job with other too, he was very strained when he was discharged.

He is in charge of the Devonport Customs Office, he has been there 6 years. He married Nance Dicker of Devonport, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Alf Dicker. Nancy is not an ex-teacher, but a splendid girl, they too have two boys, the eldest named after yours truly Robert Alexander. Nance and Alv have just built themselves a new brick home in Devonport.

We, that is Mum and I are proud to say all the boys are good living, clean minded and straight (*which in 1953 meant honest*)

Now at 67 years of age I'll leave the rest to Ron.

Mum has a business going growing and selling plants and yours truly looking after an electrical shop for Stan Tucker, run under the name of G V Tucker & Son, 33 King Street, Scottsdale. Owing to ill health we sold the farm and came to the township 19 Charles St. My heart sort of fizzled out and had to lay up and again War World Two , butter fat jumped up and we had to sell our cows, a young herd and good, cows were then very cheap, we sold for £6.10.0²¹ (\$13.00) per head.

We came here in 1946 and have a nice comfortable home, thanks to Mum's laying out. We were unfortunate to miss out on the good prices for butter fat in both World Wars, but were fortunate to get both our boys back.

Before closing I would like to mention my old mate Gordon Cunningham, our Grandfathers came out together from the old country, Scotland, lived together, then took up land adjoining one another, Cunningham on what is now Doug Beatties, Jetsonville. Their sons took up land joining on Burnside Road, Gordon is a descendent of Robert Cunningham, we have never known a day when we didn't know one another, played together as children, went to day and Sunday school together and have been fast friends all our lives, we see each other nearly every day. Gordon has a very retentive memory and often we talk of old times. He is born dealer and no one knows this district better, also what stock, financial standing etc. than he. He married Maida , "Sawdust" Campbell's daughter, they have one son Don who is stock inspector at Devonport.

²¹ According to the RBA Inflation calculator based on 1939 £ this would be \$189.72 in 2009



In stating we had two boys in War World 2, both Ron and Bert. Ron refused owing to his head accident and Bert refused on account of being a of vegetables.

We are very fortunate in having four lovely daughter-in-laws, all good clean living girls and all boys picked good looking girls for wives. We have 14 Grand children.

Ron & Nell: Ian, Janice, Bruce, Gwenda, Roslyn and Rodney.

Peg & Bert: Sue, Helen, Mary and Jeanie (*John was born later*)

Reg & Bet: Graham and David (*Scott was born later*)

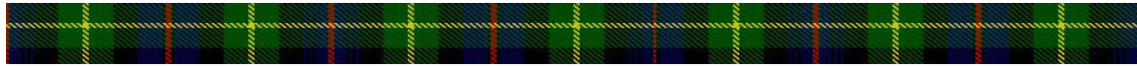
Alv & Nance: Bobby and Jimmy (*Douglas was born later*)

(Signed) RAF

This record of the Farquhars I will pass over to Ronald Robert Farquhar on his 37th Birthday

R A Farquhar

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Section 5

Copy of The Zeehan & Dundas Herald

Re: Dave Farquhar's death (*RAF's Uncle – the youngest of the original Scottsdale family*)

"Dave died most suddenly tonight" Such was the sad intelligence in a telegram despatched on Saturday night from Melbourne to Zeehan. It told all that was to be told of the death of Mr "Dave" Farquhar who had been ill for months and had battled with indomitable pluck against the seed of Death within him.

When a lad he entered the service of Mr Selby Wilson the district surveyor of Montague with whom he remained 22 years in the capacity of chainman. It was a great association. The "boss" and the man knew and understood each other in every way. They worked in splendid harmony and during the 22 years they ran between 7,000 and 8,000 miles (11,265 & 12,875 km) of survey lines through mineral selections, almost impenetrable bush and township allotments, 'Dave' was a 'tiger' for work.

With him it was an ideal, it reinforced him and the man on the professional end of the theodolite appreciated it and rewarded him accordingly. In this work 'Dave' gained knowledge of the West Coast possessed by perhaps only one other man – Mr Wilson.

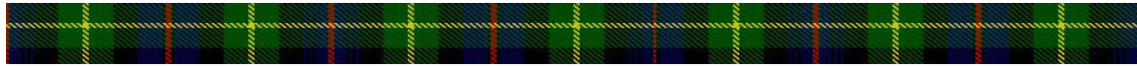
When surveying became slack Mr Farquhar went over to the Government services as Crown Lands Bailiff and subsequently he was appointed to the new Forestry Department as assistant district forester, in which capacity he also performed meritorious services and won the highest appreciation. But the long days of work is over and the tall man of the bush, this lover of the wild freedom of it, the smiling, happy, buoyant 'Dave' who drank in the sweetness and strength of nature with the ecstasy of a boy, is no more.

His last link has run out – the staff is laid aside for ever. He will live in the kindly recollections of those who knew him best, for he was a bright nature, a helpful spirit, a cheery heart. If happiness and calmness prolonged life, he should have lived to a century.

But his 47 or 48 years were full of the merits of a sincere soul, a charitable heart, a simple mind and when Death came, he laid low a man who, under a luckier star might have been a giant of achievements, indeed in the whirling affairs of life and endeavour.

(Undated)

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Part 6

(Notes added by Ron (Ronald Robert Farquhar))

October 1957

My father and mother are now living in retirement at 19 Charles St Scottsdale.

We are all pleased that this year my brother Bert and his wife Peg are the proud parents of a son John Douglas. An addition to Alvy's family, since my father wrote the proceeding, has another son Douglas.

This year is quite important historically as the Russian satellite is now circling the earth and causing great interest.

I consider that I have been most fortunate in that I have lived at a time when rapid changes have taken place. I remember the first aeroplane to pass over Scottsdale when I was a youngster and the first one to land was the small one which Bert Hinkler built and flew from England in. A great many people came to see Mr Hinkler and his little double winged plane.

Of those who came to see the arrival and landing, about two thirds came in cars T Model Fords, Overlands, Chevrolets, etc. many of them with 24 inch wheels and horns of rubber balloons and trumpet type.

The others came in jinkers, buggies, **pagnell** and some chaise-carts. The jinkers and sulkies were the best means of travel till the advent of the motor-cars and were two wheeled carts of light built with light wheels of steel rims with a narrow rim of rubber let into the steel on some luxurious models. The buggies and **pagnells** were four wheeled – the back wheels being much bigger than the front and two seats. The buggies seats faces forward while the **pagnell** seats faced each other. The chaise carts were light drays with a board across the middle to sit on. My father and mother had their first ride in a motor car on their wedding day.

Most of the original scrubbing of the farming land completed before my day and quite large areas had been cleared with bullock teams that were very slow by today's standards but powerful and were the only means of clearing until about 1940. We had the pleasure of employing the first bulldozer on land clearing in Winnaleah when we had 12 acres (4.86 ha) cleared with a Transport Dept 120 hp Alis Charmers.

All cultivation has been done with horses until just previous to ther Second World War. Add tractors had been in existence throughout the state for many years before that but they were not efficient and did little work. The war and consequent shortages of manpower caused rapid mechanisation. We used to keep seven draught horses at one time and a great number were bred for



replacement working stock but now practically all work is done with motor power and I have not seen a draught horse foal for about 10 years.

This year, 1957, aerial top dressing took place in this area for the first time when the otherwise inaccessible areas of the "little plain" country at Welborough has been done for Mr Barnett of Hobart who now owns that run.

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Part 7

North Eastern Advertiser, January 11, 1966

OBITUARY-

Mr R. R. Farquhar

The funerals of Mr Ronald Robert Farquhar, of Winnaleah, who was drowned during the holidays, took place at the Moorina cemetery.

Services at the Winnaleah Presbyterian Church and at the graveside were conducted by the Rev. J. Anderson, of Scottsdale.

Chief mourners were his wife, Mrs Nina Ellen (Nell) Farquhar, daughters Janice (Mrs D Morris), Gwenda and Roslyn, sons Ian, Bruce and Rodney, mother Mrs Jane Farquhar, brothers Bertram, Reginald and Alvyn and son-in-law David Morris.

Pall bearers were brothers Reginald and Alvyn brother-in-laws Lewis Muirhead and Allan Turner.

The Winnaleah Church was filled to capacity and more than 100 people stood outside and listened to the relayed and moving service. After the service about 150 cars proceeded to the cemetery.

Mr Farquhar was born at Scottsdale in 1916 and was the eldest son of Mrs Jane Farquhar and the late Mr Robert Alexander Farquhar, whose parents were amongst the first to pioneer the North-East.

After leaving school he entered into a successful partnership with his brother Bert, growing vegetables and seed at Scottsdale.

In 1940 he married Miss Nina Ellen McKenzie.

He then moved to Winnaleah and bought a part of Mr Frank Edwards' property. Later he bought more property from Mr B Rattray, and his home "Valhalla" from Mrs M Tucker.

Mr Farquhar was a steward Justice of the Peace superintendent of the Sunday school, circuit steward of the Methodist Church, past President of the Parents and Friends' Association, president of the local hydatids committee, secretary of the Commodity Board of the Tasmanian Farmers' Federation and a member of the Junior Farmers Board of Advice. He also took a very keen interest in the local progress association and Scout movement.

He was not only well known and well liked in Winnaleah and the North – East, but throughout the whole of Tasmania and many parts of the mainland.



He was a man with a warm heart, quick to help any in need. He was a devout and liberal Christian and he led a life which was an inspiration to all who knew him. A man of progressive ideas, he used them unselfishly for the betterment of others.

He was a true family man and many will remember him for his deep love and devotion which he showed to his wife and family and for the atmosphere of love which pervaded his home.

No-one can assess the irreparable loss sustained by the community at the death of one who devoted his life to serving others.

Funeral arrangements were carried out by C Parker, of Scottsdale.

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