

2 GEORGE DIXON born 10th June, 1853 in Fremantle, was a cab proprietor of horses and carts was unmarried and died on 29th July 1900, suddenly from a cerebral apoplexy or stroke at his home in 46 Bellevue Terrace where Amalia also lived. The burial was ordered by the Coroner Ernest Black as was routine procedure for persons dying at their homes.

3ROBERT DIXON-born 22nd July, 1856 at Cabinup, Harvey River, which was the cottage of the Governor, Sir James Stirling, and George and Amalia were delivering some goods, wines, etc to the Stirlings when the birth took place. Trips from Fremantle to the country would have been on rough one wheeled tracks and taken many hours by horse drawn carriages

4.CHARLES DIXON born 17th January, 18 59 in Fremantle married Mary Jane Butler in Perth on 22nd December 1883.

5.GODFREY DIXON-born 19th January,1863 at Fremantle

Godfrey Dixon , my great grandfather on my mother's side, was a genial man, reportedly knocking on the front door when his last child was born, and telling the astonished family who opened the door that the milkman had bought something unusual in his milk pail. It was the baby Gladys. Another time when the second child Barbara came home from hospital after suffering marasmus as a result of a small pox vaccination, he was preparing to feed her with a shovel! So he had a keen sense of humour. The only photo which may be of Godfrey came from the Battye Library and was marked Mr G.Dixon 1900. So we may assume it is of Godfrey as the only other G Dixons in 1900 were Godfrey John born 1888 (12 years of age), George born 10th June 1853 aged 47 years who died of a stroke on 29th July, 1900, and Godfrey born January 1863, aged 37 years. Sadly he was to die in the following June 1901 from pneumonia after falling blind drunk from his horse and lying on the track for two days in the middle of winter. Both his father George and Godfrey as well as the other sons were partial to alcohol and this proved to be their downfall as George had alcohol induced liver disease causing his death in 1876 at the age of 62 years. The youngest of George and Amalia's five children Godfrey worked as a carpenter and married Elizabeth Shemeld (Creamer) on the 1st February, 1885 in Fremantle. Elizabeth was born in Newfoundland Canada in 1863. Her mother Maria nee Giltrop (Gilthorp) was born in 1835 to farmers Thomas Giltrop and Elizabeth Taylor. Maria was working in Dublin where she met and married James John Creamer, a private in the 39th Regiment of Foot based in Dublin, which was also known as Sankey's Horse and the Greet Linnets. There is some confusion as to James' father with some records stating that he was in Croom Limerick as a gardener but nothing is known of his wife or other children if any. Another record has James' father living at Grenane Caherconlish in Limerick as a gardener on a small plot owned by the landlord. The Irish naming pattern is as follows– 1st son named after father's father (grandfather). 2nd son named after mother's father. 3rd son named after father and 4th son named after father's eldest brother. 1st daughter named after mother's mother. 2nd daughter named after father's mother. 3rd daughter named after mother. 4th daughter named after mother's eldest sister.

So it may be deduced from this that James was named after his father also a James and was therefore the 3rd son with his birth being between 1824 and 1832?

The British Army Service records W097/1706/19 state that a James Creamer attested at the age of 24 years on 10th March 1847 and was discharged as a private in the Royal Canadian Regiment of Rifles. But apart from his death being in 1869 there is no record of where it was or the cause of it. It is known that he married Maria Giltrops, a servant, in Dublin on the 24th June, 1852 according to the rites and ceremonies of the United Church of England and Ireland with his father named as James Creamer gardener and Maria's as John Giltrops labourer. His residence was given as the Richmond Barracks, Dublin where he was stationed as a private in the 39th Regiment of Foot.

It is assumed James died in 1869 place unknown. Maria with her 5 children, three of whom were little boys born between 1865 and 1869, now returned to England and lived at Chatham where she married Benjamin Shemels aged 38 years who was a retired Corporal in the 73rd Regiment of Foot which had seen service in the Indian Mutiny. Maria was 36 years old and the marriage was solemnised according to the rites and ceremonies of the Established Church on the 28th February, 1870. Benjamin's father was shown on his marriage certificate to be Thomas Shemeld and his mother Hannah Driver with his occupation given as a soldier. Benjamin lived in Western Australia for 35 years. He was born circa 1832 at Enniskillen in Fermanagh, Ireland, and enlisted in the military on 18th of May, 1846 aged 14 years. He served in India and was awarded an Indian Mutiny Medal starting off as a Private and later on a Corporal, also serving as a Drummer in the 73rd Regiment of Foot. In 1873 Benjamin paid for the passage to Australia of himself, Maria and the five children on the Brique The Naval Brigade, and together with a crew and passenger list of 11 people emigrated, arriving at Fremantle on 19th February, 1874. From 1880-1887 he was an Enrolled pensioner Guard in the colony and as such was entitled to a grant of land so he applied for a Crown Grant of 20 acres on 14th April, 1884 which was duly granted on 16th June, 1884. It was part of Lot 689 Cockburn Sound, later to be known as nos 39 and 41 Attfield Street, Fremantle. Before 1880 a house was built here on Lot no 39, and later on in 1889 another one of weatherboard was also built, the first owner-occupier being listed as Benjamin Shemeld and family which was Maria his wife, and Elizabeth and Maria the two children from Maria's previous marriage to James Creamer. The three little boys apparently died on the voyage out in 1874 and my great aunt Barbara Dixon used to tell me this often. The rate book for the year 1880 shows the property to be a 4 roomed cottage. The title to lot 229 Willagee Swamp was transferred in 1887. So Benjamin lived in 39 Attfield Street and Godfrey Dixon owned and lived in 41 Attfield Street in 1889. In 1889 Benjamin leased no 39 to John McNeece, a carpenter, whilst Godfrey still lived in no 41.

The children of Godfrey and Elizabeth Dixon were-

1. **AUDRIE MONA VERE**-born 27th November, 1884. As she was born some 3 months before her parents married there is some doubt as to whether Godfrey was her father as the informant was Benjamin Shemeld her stepfather. He was 52 years old and Elizabeth was 21 years old at this time.

In the LDS register it states Audrie's name as-Audrie Mona Vere Dixon Shemeld whilst another register has her name as Audrienonetal. At the age of 25 years Audrie married Leslie Alexander Mudge on 14th January, 1909, who was aged 29 years and was born in Kew Victoria on 31st May, 1880 to parents Thomas Mudge and Sarah Ann Parker.

2. **BARBARA AMELIA DIXON**-

After a routine small pox vaccination in 1883, Barbara, Ivy's eldest sister, suffered a severe reaction, with infantile diarrhoea, and she developed a condition similar to marasmus which

was a form of severe malnutrition. She spent a couple of years in hospital and upon return home her father Godfrey was requested to feed her and he replied by saying should he go outside and get the shovel? Barbara was cared for by her German grandmother, Amalia Dixon nee Thimme, who was a very large person and who owned shops in Fremantle. Barb lived with her until her death in 1901, doing domestic work and going to the shop for Amalia to buy her a bag of cakes, pastries and grapes with the sovereign given to her by the old lady. When she returned, she was told "You cannot have such things, my child! They are bad for you!" So Barb had to eat boiled parsnip, and clean up after all her cousins had been to the house eating bread and treacle and there was such a mess. Her grandmother died in 1901 and Barb went to Sydney to spend some time with her aunt Barbara Greaves before returning to Fremantle to live with her sister Audrie Mudge where she did domestic chores for other people. Then when Ivy had her third child John in 1928 she went to Cherry Tree Pool halfway between Kojonup and Katanning, to help Ivy where she remained until Doreen married. She was like a mother to Doreen.

In the mid 1930's Ivy's mother, Elizabeth Dixon came to stay and they would go into town in the car and have afternoon tea and while Betty and Ivy had a cup of tea with a hot pie and ham sandwiches, Elizabeth used to take out her false teeth and wrap them in her handkerchief so she could only have a cup of hot Bovril. Little Doreen must have inherited some of her father's fiery spirit because when her grandmother said to her one day after she had been a little boisterous, "You little faggot! If I had you I'd tan your hide!" to which Doreen, who was only 2 years old, replied, "Me hit you. Her nasty! Her tells fibs!" Her granny and Barb slept one each side of the bed and little Doreen slept at the foot of the bed, clutching her only toy, a little "Baa-Baa", a lamb.

Barb never married and stayed with my grandmother ,Ivy, her younger sister, then when Doreen married went to live with the Watts, and was a tower of strength to them as they battled with a small farm and Trevor's illness which was PKU. My Uncle Harry Watts was always jovial and liked to play tricks on us, particularly on Great Aunty Barb (Dixon) who took them quite badly, telling him to" get off with yer!" When I was a child staying with my grandparents at FairMonte, Barb was so kind and would cook us boiled eggs with toasted soldiers to dip into them and tell us stories every night as we lay in bed. She came to stay at Etipup when my mother had her third child, my brother Bevan,, in 1945. I always thought she would have made a wonderful mother as she was very patient and never raised her voice to any of us when we did anything untoward. (Alison Underwood- grand niece)

3.IRENE MARY DIXON— christened 7th October, 1888 at Fremantle. Married Alfred Brooks 1922 in Katanning and lived on farm a few miles from where Ivy Hettner , her sister lived, at Cherry Tree Pool. Was a diabetic from a young age and after suffering the loss of a baby at birth, in later years was committed to an asylum.

4.FRANK PALMERSTON DIXON— christened 6th July, 1890 at Fremantle .Seemed to be somewhat of shady and rather dubious character.

5. IVY MAUD DIXON-born 19th December, 1893 Fremantle married Emiel Bernhard Hettner in 1921 in Perth.

6.DORIS EILEEN CREAMER DIXON-born 1898 died 1st Nov 1923-septic toe.

7.EDNA MARIE GLADYS DIXON-born 1900 married Capt Frank Elliot.