## **HARTWELL, Robert Dunlop**

Robert Dunlop Hartwell was born on 21st November 1870 at Newtown, the son of Thomas Dunlop & Mary Jane Hartwell.

On the 26th January 1870, at the Wesleyan Church, Newtown, Thomas Dunlop Hartwell, (late of New Zealand), had married Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Dunlop, Newtown.**1**

In April 1873 Thomas’ wife gave birth to a daughter, Marian Harriet Hartwell.

In December 1873 Thomas Dunlop Hartwell, died, aged 33 years, his late residence being Lavender Cottage, Newtown.**2**

On 3rd July 1895 Robert Dunlop Hartwell, of Ashfield, was married to Isabel McDonald, youngest daughter of Mr. George & Wilhelmina McDonald, of Trunkey, celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, Trunkey, N.S.W. **3**

[NOTE: The NSW Births Deaths & Marriages registers the marriage at Tuena, a small gold settlement, in the Central Tablelands, close to Trunkey]

Children of the marriage were:

1896 - Mena McDonald, Granville (died 1967)

1898 – Flora McDonald, Paddington

1900 – Bel McDonald, Kogarah (died 1964)

1902 – Alan McDonald, Mosman (born Neutral Bay; died 1918)

22nd August 1909 – Katie Rosslyn, ‘at Nurse Walker-Wilson’s, Mount-street, North Sydney, the wife of R. D. Hartwell, “Glengarry,” Beecroft.’**4**

In March 1918 Robert was elected President of the Beecroft Progress Association.**5**

On 11th November 1918 ‘A regrettable accident happened during the festivities at Beecroft [celebrating the end of WWI]. David [Alan] McDonald Hartwell (16½), son of Mr. R. D. Hartwell, of Beecroft, was taking part in a procession when a sulky, driven by a man named Ernest Jellet [Matthew Herbert Gillett], knocked him down and inflicted fatal injuries. The driver was arrested.’ [He was later charged with manslaughter]

‘The events cast quite a gloom over the whole district. The lad's funeral, which was one of the largest ever seen in Beecroft, moved from his father's residence on Wednesday morning, to the railway station, thence going to the Necropolis, in the Presbyterian section of which the interment took place. The coffin was covered with lovely wreaths.’

‘Robert Dunlop Hartwell, chartered secretary, residing in Welham-street, Beecroft, deposed that deceased was his son, and was aged 16 years and seven months. He was a strong, healthy boy, of 6 feet in height, and was employed by Burns, Philp and Co. as a junior clerk.**’6**

On 22nd September 1921 Robert’s daughter, Flora McDonald Hartwell, of “Glengarry,” Beecroft, was married at St. Stephen's Church, Phillip-street, Sydney, to Donovan C. Young, of Botany.**7**

In 1936 the Hartwell family were living at 10 Welham-street, Beecroft, namely:

Robert Dunlop, accountant; Isabel, home duties; Mena McDonald, teacher of music; Bel, clerk; Katie Rosslyn, home duties.

By 1937 they had moved to Wallaroy Crescent, Edgecliff.**8**

On 27th June, 1939, Robert Dunlop Hartwell died at [his residence], No. 1 Devon Gardens, Wallaroy Crescent, Edgecliff, ‘beloved husband of Isabel Hartwell and dear father of Mena, Flora (Mrs. D. C. Young), Bel, Alan (deceased), and [Katie] Rosslyn.’

‘Mr. R. D. Hartwell, a member of the Sydney Stock Exchange, [died] at the age of 68 years. His former partner (Mr. F. O. Furner) died on Sunday [two days prior].’

‘Elected in 1922, Mr. Hartwell had since been a partner of the firm, F. O. Furner and Co.’

‘Mr. Hartwell lived for many years at Beecroft, where he took a prominent part in local activities. He was an active member of the bowling club, and keenly interested in sporting activities.’

He was buried in the Presbyterian section, Rookwood Cemetery.**9**

Robert Hartwell’s wife, Isabella, died in 1960, in the district of Chatswood.**10**

**Bibliography**

1 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Saturday 26 November 1870, page 1; Empire (Sydney, NSW: 1850 - 1875), Monday 31 January 1870, page 1

2 Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser (NSW: 1871 - 1912), Saturday 3 May 1873, page 572; Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Saturday 13 December 1873, page 12; Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney, NSW: 1870 - 1919), Saturday 20 December 1873, page 28; NSW Births Deaths and Marriages

3 Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Saturday 6 July 1895, page 14; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages

4 Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Saturday 4 September 1909, page 8; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages; Ancestry.com

5 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 23 March 1918, page 8

6 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Tuesday 12 November 1918, page 2; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 30 November 1918, page 8; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 21 December 1918, page 11

7 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Monday 31 October 1921, page 4

8 1936 Electoral Roll; 1937 Electoral Roll

9 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 28 June 1939, page 14; Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1931 - 1954), Thursday 29 June 1939, page 5; Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Thursday 29 June 1939, page 10

10 NSW Births Deaths & Marriages