## **LITTLE, Henry John**

Henry John Little was born in 1862, at Balmain, Sydney, the son of John (1835-1885) & Louise (nee Phillips; 1842-1922) Little.

His father, John, died on 3rd April 1885 at Sutton Forest, N.S.W. He is buried at Rookwood General Cemetery, with other members of his family – Louisa Little, Henry John Little, Louisa Mary Morice and Margaret Church.**1**

On 21st December 1889, at Hawksburn Presbyterian Church in Victoria, Henry J. Little, of Sydney, eldest son of the late John Little, was married to Ellen Jemima Beattie, eldest daughter of Robert Beattie, of "Dunster House," Hawksburn. They then moved to Sydney.**2**

Children of the marriage were:

1891 John H., at Marrickville (probably died in infancy)

1892 Robert Dalrymple, at Sydney

1896 Bruce W. M. (also referred to as ‘Bruce Ure’), at Marrickville**3**

On 29th July 1901 Henry’s wife, Ellen Jemima (‘Mima’), died at the age of 33 years.**4**

In January 1907 Beecroft residents wanted a park and so a meeting was held:

‘[It was] moved, “That this meeting considers it advisable to obtain a cricket and sports ground for the district.” The motion was seconded by Mr. A. Slingsby, and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Alcock moved, “That this meeting pledges itself to support the proposal, and that a committee of 12 residents be appointed to give it effect.” This was seconded by Mr. Wachsmann, and carried. A committee was then appointed, viz., Mr. W. Nixon, president; Mr. C. C. Tucker, vice-president and treasurer; Mr. A. Wachsmann, secretary (all ex officio members of the committee, Messrs **Henry Little**, H. Sargent, Wilde, Andrews, Chorley, Alcock, Slingsby, O. Seale. S. Barnby, jun., Shorter, Quodling, and McCoy.’**5**

In March 1907 Mrs. Little was having erected an up-to-date villa residence, opposite the Beecroft railway station.**6**

In December 1907, at the Ryde Licensing Court, general auctioneer’s licenses were granted to Henry John Little and William Arthur Little, of Beecroft.**7**

In 1908 Beecroft auctions took place for the estates of Mrs. Fergusson & Henry B. Chapman, conducted by Messrs. James R. Lawson and Little.**8**

[Note: William Arthur Little was associated with the firm of James R. Lawson but not sure if Henry John Little was also associated with this firm.]

In April 1909 Mr. F. H. Sargent was leaving Beecroft and taking up the management of a branch of his business in Melbourne. The valuable furniture at his residence, Hannah-street, Beecroft, was auctioned by Messrs. James R. Lawson and Little.**9**

In 1911 Henry married Clara Helen Blanche Chenhall, in Sydney.

In September 1910 Clara had been divorced from David Chenhall, on the grounds of desertion. On 5th June 1895, at Chiltern, Victoria, David Chenhall, of Sydney, was married to Clara, youngest daughter of James Bambrick, of Wodonga, Victoria.**10**

Children of the marriage were:

Born 11th November, 1911 – Wilfred D., at *Glenbower*, Beecroft.

1918 - Marjorie, Randwick (died 1918 Randwick) **11**

In April 1913 Henry’s mother’s [Louisa] furniture at Beecroft was sold, presumably for her to stay with other relatives.**12**

In June 1914 the engagement was announced of Miss Kitty Falkiner, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Falkiner, of Wahgunyah, Singleton, to Mr. Henry [actually Robert] Little, oldest son of Mr. Henry J. Little, of “Glenbower,” Beecroft, however no marriage took place.**13**

In September 1914 Henry’s son Bruce, of *Glenbower*, Beecroft, would enlist for WW1. He worked as a joiner. He returned to Australia in June 1919, and died in 1982.**14**

In November 1914 Henry’s son Robert Dalrymple, of *Glenbower*, Beecroft, would enlist for WW1. He worked as a station overseer. He returned to Australia in June 1919, and died in 1927.**15**

In June 1915 Henry John Little was appointed a trustee of the Beecroft School of Arts, vice Mr. D. R. McCall.**16**

By March 1918 Mr. Little’s house *Glenbower* was occupied by the Forrest family, where Percival Acteran Forrest, aged 21 years, died.**17**

In June 1922, Mrs. Louisa Little (mother of Henry John Little) died at Wallendbeen N.S.W. (near Cootamundra), where her son James and a daughter lived. She lived with various relatives over the years, since the death of her husband in 1885. She was interred at Rookwood Cemetery.

At the time Henry John Little was living in Sydney. Louisa’s daughter, Mrs. A. Morice lived in Beecroft.

A memorial service was conducted at Wallendbeen, at which it was said that:

‘Her people came from Bristol, England, and were originally of French extraction. She lived at Buradoo [Bowral] and Beecroft. Her husband [John] predeceased her by 37 years, leaving a family of nine children, six of whom are alive to-day. She took a trip to Europe, after her husband's decease, accompanied by six members of her family. There she spent some time with her relations in Bristol, where her only brother was then a Church of England clergyman. Mrs. Little, was constant in her attendance upon the ordinances of the church.’**18**

On 18th August 1936, Henry John Little, formerly a managing director of Richardson and Wrench, Ltd., land agents, died, aged 73 years, in the district of Chatswood. He retired in March, 1927, after more than 50 years' continuous service, and went for a health trip abroad.

‘He is survived by Mrs. Little and two sons, Messrs. Bruce Ure [Bruce W. M.] and Wilfred Little. The funeral took place at Rookwood Cemetery.’**19**

**Little family headstone at Rookwood**



On 20th July 1952 Clara Helen Blanche Little, widow of Henry John Little, of Lord-street, Roseville, died.**20**

**Bibliography**

1 Ancestry.com; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages

2 Table Talk (Melbourne, Vic.: 1885 - 1939), Thursday 26 December 1889, page 9

3 Ancestry.com; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages

4 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Tuesday 30 July 1901, page 1

5 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 26 January 1907, page 10

6 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Sat 16 Mar 1907

7 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 7 December 1907, page 8

8 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 12 September 1908, page 10; Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 26 September 1908, page 10

9 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 April 1909, page 10

10 NSW Births Deaths & Marriages; Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Tuesday 20 September 1910, page 10; Australian Star (Sydney, NSW: 1887 - 1909), Saturday 13 July 1895, page 1

11 NSW Births Deaths & Marriages; Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Thursday 14 December 1911, page 8

12 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 5 April 1913, page 6

13 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 6 June 1914, page 6

14 AWM records

15 AWM records

16 Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Wednesday 30 June 1915, page 3

17 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Monday 1 April 1918, page 6

18 Cootamundra Herald (NSW: 1877 - 1954), Monday 19 June 1922, page 2; Cootamundra Herald (NSW: 1877 - 1954), Wednesday 9 August 1922, page 3

19 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 19 August 1936, page 12

20 Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Thursday 24 July 1952, page 16