

Family Group Sheet

Husband **Dr John Eric "Ricky" McGlashan BS, MB**

Born: 31 Aug 1888 at: Orroroo, South Australia
Christened: at:
Died: 16 Oct 1942 at: Mount Hospital, Perth, Western Australia
Buried: 1942 at: Karrakatta, Niche Wall, Norfolk Chapel, Cre

Father: John W McGlashan (1863-1932)
Mother: Emma Maria Whitford (1862-1958)

Married: 16 Feb 1915 Place: St Peter's College Chapel, Adelaide, S

Wife **Mary Beatrice "Bon" Gardner**

Born: 30 May 1887 at: Adelaide, South Australia
Christened: at:
Died: 24 Apr 1979 at: Perth, Western Australia
Buried: 26 Apr 1979 at: Karrakatta, Niche Wall, Norfolk Chapel, Cre

Father: Gavin Forrest Gardner (1848-1919)
Mother: Mary Josephine Brown (1859-1923)

Children

1 M **Dr John Gardner McGlashan**

Born: 12 Nov 1916 at: Adelaide, South Australia
Christened: at:
Died: 4 Mar 1980 at: Perth, Western Australia
Buried: at:

Spouse: Margaret Elizabeth Brown (1920-1994) Marr: 13 Oct 1953, Registrar General's Office, Sydney, New South Wales

Spouse: Kathleen Landseer Martin (-) Marr: 1943

2 M **Gavin McGlashan**

Born: 21 Jul 1921	at: Adelaide, South Australia
Christened:	at:
Died:	at:
Buried:	at:

Spouse: Lorna "Diana" Ferguson Gardner (1925-1983) Marr: 8 Nov 1947, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia

Spouse: Patricia McKiggen (-)

Husband's Research Notes

Ricky is recorded as a Junior Circuit Steward at Salisbury Methodist Church in 1914. He was born at Orroroo and had moved with his family to Carrieton, then Salisbury. John E McGlashan obtained a BS, MB in 1909 and Mary Beatrice Gardner obtained a BA in 1909. Both names are mentioned in the list of Graduates in the University of Adelaide Calendar. In the University's Mitchell Building, J E McGlashan is printed on the 1914-1918 War Memorial.

From the time of his graduation, he spent considerable period in post graduate work in the skin departments of hospitals in Australia, including Adelaide Hospital. He acted for a short while as Honorary Physician at St John's Hospital, London before the war. Ricky undertook postgraduate work in London in skin diseases and after the armistice had another course of work in skin diseases. A testimonial on this work in London follows:

84 Park Street, Grosvenor Square, W.
August 31st 1914

I have much pleasure in saying how highly I have appreciated Dr J E McGlashan's assistance during the past few months and what a high opinion I have formed of his knowledge of Skin Diseases and his ability to treat them.

For the last three months he has been my Clinical Assistant at the Queen's Hospital for Children and has there treated a large number of children suffering from diseases of the skin, and for the past month he has been in sole charge of my department at the Hospital for diseases of the Skin - Leicester Square.

His experience of the diagnosis and treatment of Skin Diseases is very considerable, and he has an excellent knowledge of the Pathology of these diseases.

I have the greatest confidence in recommending him for any post in which Dermatological experience is of chief importance, and I am sure that he will make a most agreeable colleague.

(Signed) J L Bunch, M. D., D. S. & c
Physician to St John's Hospital for Skin Diseases.
Physician for Skin Diseases to the Queen's Hospital for Children, London.

During World War I, Ricky enlisted in the Australian Army Medical Corps and was given

the rank of Captain. He was awarded the Military Cross for bravery in evacuating wounded at Mericourt, France under heavy machine gun fire. Ricky received the following letter from Gen. Birdwood from the Australian Headquarters, France, dated July 24:

"I am very pleased indeed to see that you have been awarded the Military Cross, which you have fully earned by your conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of the evacuation of the wounded near Mericourt on July 4, and I heartily congratulate you on this distinction. I know that you displayed untiring energy and total disregard for your personal safety in visiting the various posts in a long line of evacuation in the face of heavy shell and machine gun fire. Much of this work had to be done in the open under the observation of the enemy, and required not only great courage but sound judgment, in directing the evacuations. These were carried out very successfully, and I realize how much the success was due to your fine work, for which I sincerely thank you. With good wishes. (Sgd) W.N. Birdwood".

"One Hundred Years of Council Affairs in the Gum Creek Country" by S F Heaslip, notes that Ricky had been Medical Officer for the destitute, sick and aborigines in the District Council of Carrieton, South Australia. He was appointed founding Director of the hospital at Orroroo, which opened on 26th January, 1920. Prior to the hospital being built, the sick were cared for in nursing homes. Electric light didn't come to Orroroo until 24th August, 1923.

Ricky was elected Patron of the swimming club and President of the Orroroo Golf Club. The couple left Orroroo in 1924 and about 1926 moved to Perth where he practiced as a dermatologist after training in Vienna. Dr W D (Bill) Muston (retired) answered a "Can You Help" enquiry I posted in "The West Australian Newspaper" in May 1999. Interestingly, the first Western Australian dermatologist was Dr John Cuthbert in 1913. Adelaide's first dermatologist commenced practice in 1903 and the earliest Australian dermatologist practiced in Melbourne in 1885. Ricky was well known in medical circles.

Ricky applied for the position of Hon Physician for Diseases of the Skin at Perth Hospital (now Royal Perth Hospital) in March 1926. At that time, he was acting as Physician for Diseases of the Skin at the Perth Children's Hospital and his address was then Leake Street, Cottesloe. His continued serving at both hospitals until his death in 1942.

In December 1928 his professional address was "Walmer House", 242 St George's Terrace, Perth. Ricky made application for six months leave of absence from January 1st 1929 to "proceed to the continent and England to engage in post graduate work". The Walmer House address was used until November, 1932 and the following year, Ricky was at his new offices at "Shell House", 205 St George's Terrace, Perth. In March 1935 he applied once again applied for study leave, this time for five months.

In February 1941 he tendered his resignation as Honorary Dermatologist, Perth Hospital, due to ill health. It was received with regret, and Ricky was appointed Consultant Dermatologist.

The Children's Hospital (now Princess Margaret Hospital for Children) has an Archives Committee, and Dr Dilworth kindly forwarded information from the board minutes and annual reports. The minutes of 29th November 1927 record the appointment of Dr J E McGlashan as Physician for Skin Disease for a three year period (he could have commenced his service between 1925 and 1927 but it is not recorded). He was reappointed for three year terms at the Board Meetings of 25th November 1930, 28th November 1933, 24th November 1936, and 15th January 1940 (appointment to 30th November 1942). The Board Meeting minutes of 30th June 1942 record that he resigned due to ill health and a

letter of appreciation was forwarded to Ricky for his work at the Hospital and also appointing him as Consulting Dermatologist. The minutes of 28th July, 1942 record Ricky's response dated 10th July, 1942 expressing his pleasure in accepting the position. However, just three months later, the minutes dated 27th October referred to the sad death of one of "our Honorary Medical Staff, in Dr J E McGlashan and it was resolved that a minute be recorded of the wonderful work performed by the late Dr McGlashan, for a very long period". A letter of condolence was forwarded to the doctor's relatives. The Annual Report 1943 for year ended 30th June, notes "It is with great regret that we record the passing of the late Dr J E McGlashan who had occupied the position of Honorary Dermatologist at the Hospital for many years. To the sorrowing relative the Board expresses its sincere sympathy".

Ricky had joined the British Medical Association in 1925. Dr Muston contributed information on Ricky to a recent publication, "From Clique to College - A History of the Foundation of the Australasian College of Dermatologists" by Tessa Milne, ISBN 086-793 0187. He mentioned that Ricky also served at Fremantle Hospital and that Dr McMillan (deceased) was in practice with Ricky at Shell House, St George's Terrace, Perth. Dr McMillan continued the practice until 1973 when Dr Jim Rohr took over.

Ricky was a founding member of the Karrinyup Golf Club. "Lake Karrinyup Country Club 1928 - 1988," written by Michael White notes that "the lasting tradition that the club was founded by Perth doctors is largely confirmed; indeed any doctor not belonging to Karrinyup must have felt singularly deprived, since a substantial proportion of those on the state's medical register and practising in Perth was clearly involved". Foundation members purchased land to be resold or donated to the Club as it became financial. Ricky paid £50 in 1927 for a block. He was also a member of Cottesloe Golf Club (Inc).

Ricky loved fishing from a small dinghy and his niece told me he was "great fun" and full of party spirit. Ricky and Bon lived at 17 Thomson Road, Claremont in an Australian colonial-style home with extensive lawn area, grape arbours and tennis court - a fascinating playground for a small child. When Ricky was alive, Mary employed a servant to help with dinner parties.

Their home was very graciously appointed. Artwork adorned the walls. There was a large dining table in a formal dining room and a buffet on which a collection of silver was displayed. Sometimes I would earn pocket money by polishing the silver - a huge task. The home had three sitting rooms - a warm, winter lounge; a summer lounge; and a long vestibule with polished jarrah floor. The floor was wonderful to slide up and down on in my socks!

I have inherited several paintings and some beautiful china from my grandparents. I also have the "coffin plate" (brass name badge) from Ricky's office, which I understand was situated at the corner of Milligan and St George's Terrace, where the QVI building now stands.

Ricky, described as a "skin specialist" died in 1942 at The Mount Hospital, Perth aged 54, 12 years before I was born.

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of me JOHN ERIC McGLASHAN of 17 Thomson Road, Claremont in the State of Western Australia Doctor of Medicine.

1. I REVOKE all former and testamentary dispositions at any time heretofore made by me.
2. I GIVE DEVISE AND BEQUEATH the whole of my estate both real and personal

whatsoever and wheresoever situate unto my Wife MARY BEATRICE McGLASHAN and I APPOINT the said Mary Beatrice McGlashan as the sole Executrix and Trustee hereof.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of December in the year One thousand nine hundred and forty-one.

Signed by the Testator John Eric McGlashan, etc. 5th November, 1942.

The gross value of Eric's estate came to £15013-9-8.

Husband's Medical Notes

Cause of Death: Abdominal Aortic Aneurism 2½ years; Rupture of Aneurism

Funeral Director: D.J. Chipper & Son.

Wife's Research Notes

Mary attended Dryburgh House School, one of the most influential private girls' schools in early South Australia. She was awarded "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare" as a prize for the highest average marks for the year in English, French, Mathematics and Science in Form V 1902 by E.O. Kelsey, the Principal. "Age of Transition - A Study of Four South Australian Private Girls Schools 1855 - 1926" by Helen Reid notes that each year Miss Kelsey lost one or two intelligent students to the Advanced School, which may have signalled a measure of dissatisfaction with Dryburgh: 17 left between 1894 and 1906. She would not have been pleased when two of the five Gardner sisters left to further their studies there in 1903, especially as Mary Gardner came near the top of the matriculation English examination, without a mention of her foundation at Dryburgh".

The Advanced School for Girls, which opened in Adelaide in 1879, was the first government high school for girls in South Australia. "This influential school offered direct competition to the privileged position enjoyed by private venture schools. By holding scholastic achievement paramount, the Advanced School offered "a serious academic education with the possibility of university education and entry into the professions", manifesting aims not dissimilar to those of North London Collegiate School on which it was possibly modelled".

"The Families ... Where there were many daughters, good education was particularly important as parents realised that they either needed to be exposed to the accomplishments and training in the proprieties to enhance their marriage chances, or to an academic education which could lead to training and employment should they fail to marry. The Gardner family of five girls at Dryburgh is an example of the first category"....

How Mary spent the five years before marriage is unknown. It is thought by some family members, that she taught, but there is no record of her at Dryburgh or as a teacher in the public school system, or the Adelaide University.

According to "Gardner Family History" by Keith Viner Smith, Mary had bright red hair and wore hats and a veil. The hats were secured by long hat-pins which appeared to pass

through her skull!

Mary and Ricky married in the chapel of St Peters College, Adelaide in 1915. She was 27 (domestic duties residing at St Peters) and he was 26 (a medical practitioner, residing at Booleroo Centre). The witnesses were Ethel Gardner, domestic duties, Adelaide and J Scott Roberkon, grazier, Wilmington.

Mary was very bossy! I remember holding her in awe. She kept her home immaculate and always wore navy or black dresses, stockings and high heels. In my memory, her then long, white hair was wound into a bun.

I recall always having to be careful of what we divulged to "Nanna" as she would seize on "tit-bits" and start an interrogation! Nanna wore lovely jewellery. Once in a fit of temper, she wrapped the lot in newspaper and burned it in her incinerator.

Also eccentric and perhaps always having longed for a daughter, she kept a doll she named Ruth on a doll's chair in her lounge. Ruth had lots of clothes and was regularly dressed according to the season.

She passed away in Lucknow Hospital, Claremont at the great age of 91.

Wife's Medical Notes

Cause of Death: Arteriosclerotic heart disease (6 months)

Funeral Director: Arthur E Davies, Fremantle.

Last Modified: 3 Nov 2000