

ELLEN SOLOMON, the fifth child of Mordecai and Elizabeth Solomon, was born on 20 July 1842 in Sydney.

On 18 March 1863, aged 20, she married Simon Lipstine from Auckland in the York St Synagogue.

They then moved to Auckland where over the next eight years six of their seven children were born.

During this time Simon ran a trading business, moving between Sydney and Auckland. He was bankrupted in 1870. He blamed a certain A E Cohen and later appeared as a witness at Cohen's trials. In between he attacked Cohen with the blunt end of a whip, for which crime he was fined 40 shillings.

The family left NZ in March 1874 and settled in Sydney, with Simon trying his luck in north Queensland mining. Reports have him well-known on the Hodgkinson River gold fields, in Cooktown 1875, and Thornborough 1877.

In December 1877 Lipstine was granted the license for the hotel at Pimpama, on the north end of the Gold Coast, where he was a prominent citizen and elector. It was here that their seventh and final child was born in 1879.

A fire at the Pimpama Hotel happened in 1880 and, after an appropriate hearing, the insurance company paid out fully on his claim. Lipstine also sued the local postmaster Watkins for defamation and won, although only a farthing was awarded. Watkins had said the fire was deliberately lit, because Lipstine was Jewish, and his daughter Sarah was in the family way. There is no record of any *ex nuptial* birth in 1880 or that Sarah was in fact pregnant.

Simon continued to enjoy the licence at Pimpama, before moving nearer mining fields at Rockhampton, where he ran the Dunmore Arms for 15 years. He moved to Brisbane and held the licence for the Empire Hotel and then the Alderley Arms in Enoggera, where he died in 1907.

Throughout his adult life, both in New Zealand and Australia, he had been an enthusiastic and highly respected member of the Masonic craft.

Ellen had earlier died in Rockhampton at the age of 51 on 27 March 1894.

Their children were:

Elizabeth Longford Lipstine (born 10 January 1864) was an assistant teacher in Mt Morgan and spelling champion before marrying Levi Blumberg in June 1890. They had two children, Stanley Oscar, who died in March 1915 (possibly self-inflicted), without issue, and Frances, who married Jacob Lewis in 1914. Levi died young in 1896. The Blumbergs had built The Australian Hotel, the first pub in Boonah (near Ipswich), now a heritage listed site in the High Street. After Levi's death, Elizabeth took over the running of the pub. Elizabeth later moved to Brisbane and thence to Sydney, where she passed at age 88 in 1942. Frances' kids were Marjorie, Allan and Ralph Lewis, and Allan's children include **Geoffrey (here today)**, and his brother Phil.

Sarah was born 6 May 1865. She married a hairdresser, Alfred Comer Dent, in August 1884, recorded as the first Jewish wedding in Rockhampton. Dent was born in 1853 in Plock, Poland, the son of Aaron Comer Dent (possibly originally Isidore Epstein) and Bertha Fox. Alfred and Sarah had five children. Henry Isidore Comer Dent, the oldest, was their only son, followed by four daughters. Sarah was widowed before she was 30, when Alfred died after a buggy accident in 1894. The widow Dent fell back on the family trade, with from October 1895 the licence of the Victoria Hotel in Mount Victoria, near Rockhampton. In 1897, this "fine hotel" was dismantled and reassembled as the Imperial Hotel in Mount Morgan. In 1907, she moved to Brisbane, and later to Sydney, with her two then-spinster daughters. Sarah remained well-known in Rockhampton, where her death in 1947 was noted in a lengthy obituary.

Henry was a pharmacist in Brisbane. He married Ada Isaacs, the daughter of respected Brisbane merchant E R Isaacs, general manager of the wholesalers Hoffnungs, and a direct matrilineal descendant of Judah Solomon of Hobart. They had two children Hal, born in 1921 in Brisbane, and Norma in 1926 in Sydney, whence they'd moved, when Henry was hired by large pharma company Parke Davis. Henry was, like Simon, a life-long Mason and also served as President of the Temple Emanuel and a member of the Board of Deputies. Hal was a champion sportsman at Sydney Boys High. He joined the RAAF early in the war. He was flying Sunderlands when he was reported KIA in early 1943. Norma was also a sportsman, the only girl in her public school's rugby team. She worked as a clerk during the war before marrying Harold Herman. They had three boys, Hal, who himself had two children, a daughter Michelle, with three now-teenage kids, and Robert, who died of cancer in the middle of last year; **Jack, married with no kids**; and Peter, who had one daughter, and who also passed away last year. Hal and Peter were both also elite sportsmen: state-level sprinters and Rugby wingers.

Ellen remained unmarried and died in Sydney in 1951.

Bertha married Archibald Nicholls and they lived in Brisbane before moving to Warrnambool in the early 1920s where he served as a Transport Manager. They had five children, Roy, who married Nada Wilkins, and had two boys, **Ian, who is here today**, and Sydney; Charles married Phyllis West and had a daughter Catherine and son **David, also here**; Joan, married to Henry Way, with a daughter Barbara; Allan, daughter Margaret; Ruth, married Ernest Johnson, a son Allan; and John (married Elizabeth, 4 kids, 3 still in Warrnambool)

Ruby was a concert pianist who toured the world as an accompanist before marrying Ewen Cameron Gillies, whom she met in India, and settling in Brisbane as a music teacher. They had one child, also called Ewen Cameron Gillies, a journalist, who married Nola Staines, another journalist, in the UK. They eventually moved to New York and Ruby left in 1961 to join them for the last decade or so of her life. Ewen Cameron Gillies helped found the PR firm of Gillies and Zaiser, still operating in NY, with Elliot Gillies, Ewen's son, in charge. Lindsay Gillies, the elder of Ewen's sons, also lives there.

Annie, the youngest of Sarah's children, finally escaped her mother's grasp, marrying late in life, in 1940, to her employer William Shepardson. They had no children.

Ellen's third child, her eldest son, was **Isaac Benjamin Lipstine**, born 31 October 1866. He was a long-time employee of the Queensland Railways where he acted as a station master. He married Florence Victorsen in 1898. They had four children. Eric, who served in WW1, with the 5th Light Horse, married Zipporah Reubin. He also worked on the railways, amongst other occupations before his death in 1957. They had no kids. Gertrude's marriage to Geoffrey Mackay was also without issue. He was an engineer and served in the second AIF. After his early death in 1947, Gertrude was prominent in the Queensland War Widows Guild. Victor, the third child, was an electrician who worked for

Hillman and Co, probably in Townsville and later Brisbane. He and his wife Olga, had two children Ruth and Colin. Colin's daughter Laurinda Jane is on the contact list but is not in attendance. The fourth child was Audrey, a nurse, "Sister Audrey", who served in the Australian Army Nursing Service during WW2. She married Albert Goward, another engineer, in 1948. They had no kids.

The fourth child was **Annie**, born in Auckland on 3 May 1868. She married an horologist Jacob Tow late in life in 1917. They had no kids.

The fifth child was **George**, born on 18 December 1869 and died on 14 August 1870. No cause of death was published.

Sixth was **Lewis**, born 13 June 1871. Lewis appears to have been a wild child. In 1882 Simon applied to have him sent to a reformatory. Two years later at just 13 years of age, Lewis left Rockhampton with a bullock team, and while in the west suffered a fever. He died on the way to Blackall for treatment and was buried by the roadside forty miles out. Two years later Simon applied for and received permission to exhume the body and bring it to Rockhampton for burial in consecrated grounds. The funeral cortege for the boy was reported in the local paper in 1886.

The youngest child was **Janie**, born in Pimpama 28 March 1879. She was, like her niece Ruby, a pianist of note. In her teen years in Rockhampton she was a very good and well-known amateur pianist and violinist, and she was also an accompanist with community productions. On 4 July 1900, she married Herbert Myers in Brisbane. He was, like her father, a merchant and commercial traveller. They had two children: Arthur Myers, also a commercial traveller, who married Hilda de Groen, and had two kids, Helen and George, both born in the early 1930s; and Meredith Simeon, who like his mother was a pianist, who performed at numerous *eisteddfodau* and functions in Brisbane. He married Zelda Abrahams. He worked as a bank clerk, and there do not appear to be any children from the marriage.