

INTRODUCTION TO THE DESCENDANTS OF MYER SOLOMON
27 APRIL 2018

Myer Solomon (1837-1906)

Myer was the second child, and eldest son, of Mordecai and Elizabeth Solomon. He was one of three of Mordecai's children born at Solomon's Creek, Dapto, NSW.

By 1855 Myer owned several properties in Bourke Street and Dowling Street, in Sydney. It is interesting that, by the age of 18, he had been able to amass property however they may have been gifts from Mordecai.

He married Julia Rebecca Barnett at the York Street Synagogue on 20 August 1856. Julia was the third of four daughters of Samuel and Rebecca Barnett.

On 4th May, 1857, Julia and Myer travelled to London. Their oldest child, Montague, was born in England in 1857 before the three travelled back to Sydney, where Myer established a trading business.

It was here that Elizabeth was born in 1859.

Word that gold had been discovered in the Young district of NSW enticed Myer and Julia from Sydney in 1861. They established a general store at Wombat later that year, with Myer also gaining several gold leases.

It was here at Wombat their other children were born:

- Samuel in 1863
- Isaac in 1867
- Mordecai in 1866
- Abraham in 1871
- Lewis in 1873
- Henry in 1875, and
- Jane in 1877

In 1863 Myer's general store was held up by Ben Hall's bushrangers.

This was widely reported throughout the colony.

Myer gained a license for the general store, which had also sold wine and spirits, in December 1876.

It became known as the Royal and a hotel has remained on that site to this day.

He sold the pub and returned to Sydney in 1880, where he lived in Surry Hills and continued a successful trading business.

Myer died aged 68 at his residence in Bourke Street Surry Hills in September 1906.

Julia, who taste tested the gin before sale, would have had entertaining dinner stories to tell London's elite when she returned to England to live out her remaining years after her Myer's death. She died there aged 71 in 1911.

Myer's children lived for varying periods:

- Montague died 1931 aged 74
- Elizabeth died in the year of her birth, 1859,
- Samuel died 1918 aged 55
- Isaac died 1926 aged 59

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- Abraham died 1923 aged 52
- Henry died 1919 aged 44
- Jane died 1955 aged 78
- Mordecai died 1931 aged 65
- Lewis died 1945 aged 71

As was not unusual at the time Myer's two youngest children, Henry and Jane, married a brother and sister who were born in Wellington, New Zealand. They were respectively Maria and Hyam Scott.

I am the grandson of Henry and Maria.

Other descendants of Henry and Maria who are here today as well as me are:

- My cousin, Geoffrey Gibson, his daughter Sophie and his grandchildren Stephanie, Madeline and Will.
- The two of the children of my late cousin and Geoff's sister, Pamela Goldsworthy, Jude Parsons and Pete Goldsworthy, and
- My cousin, David Solomon, the son of their oldest son, Carl.

Also, here today is Anthony Scott Norman, the grandson of Jane, Myer's youngest daughter, and Hyam Scott.

We are also joined by Rhonda Osterlund, the great great granddaughter of Mordecai, Myer's third son, and her daughter Lauren.....

And also by Angela Wootton, the great great granddaughter of Samuel, Myer's oldest son.

To those of you I know it is great to see you again and to those I haven't met before it is great to do so at last.

Geoffrey Solomon
(Myer's great grandson and Henry's grandson)