

**Devitt/Miller Life Events and Stories – a very drafty, ongoing working document!**

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
1822	<b>James Miller</b> born Kirkwall , Orkney, Scotland.		X
	Ann future wife of <b>John Edward Devitt</b> (possibly nee <b>Rourke</b> or O'Rourke born in Ireland.)	X	
1825	<b>Margaret McMillan</b> (used interchangeably up to 1855 with Mullin, Mullins, McMullin, McMillan), born in County Antrim, Northern Ireland.		X
1827/9	<b>Edward Patrick Devitt</b> born in Ireland (closest poss - County Clare – Ennistimon)	X	
1841 Census	<b>Devitt?</b>		
	<b>Miller?</b>		
1845	<b>James Miller and Margaret McMillan</b> (recent immigrants from Ireland?) marry at <b>Port Glasgow, Scotland</b> . (Margaret uses different versions of her name Mullin, Mullins, McMullin fairly interchangeably settling on McMillan with the new BMD collections in 1855.)		X
1847	7 July, <b>John Miller</b> , first child of James Miller and Margaret Mullin born at Dumbarton, Dumbartonshire (baby/infant John dies between this date and the 1851 census). John was baptized at St Patrick's, Dunbarton, sponsored by Margaret Boyle.		
1848	6 Sept <b>James Miller</b> born to James Miller and Margaret Mullin at Dumbarton, Dumbartonshire, Scotland. James was baptized at St Patrick's, sponsored by Bernard Boyle and Veronica Boyle .		
1849	The Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842-1954), Friday 15 June 1849, page 3 – context for possible decision by the Devitt family members to leave Ireland...		

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ENGLISH NEWS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IRELAND.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(From <i>Bell's Messenger</i>, March 8.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MELANCHOLY STATE OF THE COUNTRY.</p> <p>THE accounts from the country are deplorable. Cholera is extending in the north, hunger and destitution in the south and west, and death advancing everywhere. In the district of country known as Connemara, the deaths from insufficient and bad food amount to hundreds daily. It is almost an impossibility to find in a large village a healthy looking man, woman, or child. The whole rural population appear to be withering away. From the fertile county of Tipperary—nay, from the “golden vale of Ireland,” there are accounts of three deaths by starvation. There were inquests held on the bodies, and this chilling verdict returned:—“That Michael Devitt and Honora Devitt came by their deaths in consequence of extreme want, not being able to procure the common necessaries of life, at Curraghmore, on Thursday, the 23rd instant.” On the night of the 26th ultimo, a poor old man named Ryan, residing in a hut with his brother on the lands of Clonmackilladuff, county Tipperary, died of absolute starvation. It appears from accurate information that the unfortunate and wretched man had not eaten any food for three days; and that a few moments before his death he was asking for something to eat—but he could not get any food. The body presented a dreadfully emaciated appearance—it lay on some straw in a corner with no other covering on it but the filthy rags which the deceased wore on the previous day.</p>		
	James Miller and Margaret McMillan living in Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire, Scotland with .... James Miller aged 2 yrs.		X
1851 'Census' ?	Edward Patrick Devitt and his wife Ann (possibly Rourke or O'Rourke) may have already left Ireland – they had Margaret in 1854 and great grandfather John in 1858 in Manchester (ref 1871 census); and they appear to have had at least one other child earlier than this. The family story is that the Devitt's left Ireland for Liverpool, moving on to live in Newcastle on Tyne. A period in Manchester occurred prior to moving to Newcastle On Tyne.		
1851	22 February <b>Robert Miller</b> born to James Miller and Margaret Mullin at Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire. Robert was baptized at St Patrick's, Dunbarton, sponsored by <i>Thomas Cody</i> and <i>Hannah Boyle</i> .		X
1852	Dec 3, <b>Margaret Miller</b> born to James and Margaret Miller in Dunbarton, Dunbartonshire, Scotland. Margaret was baptized at St Patrick's Dunbarton, sponsored by Charles <i>Cunningham</i> and <i>Mary ann Boyle</i> .		X
1855	22 March, <b>John Miller</b> , the second baby John, born to James and Margaret Miller in Dunbartonshire, Scotland.		X

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
1856	20 February, baby <b>Margaret Miller</b> dies, aged 3, of inflammation of the brain (meningitis) , in Dunbarton, Dumbartonshire, Scotland.		X
Abt 1856	<b>Margaret Devitt</b> born to Edward Patrick and Ann Devitt in Manchester, Lancashire, England.	X	
1857	25 February, <b>Mary Ann Miller</b> born to James and Margaret in Dunbarton, Dumbartonshire, Scotland.		X
	<b>James Miller</b> and <b>Margaret McMillan</b> emigrate to Australia, vessel <i>Omega</i> , from Plymouth 13th August 1857, arriving at Port Adelaide, South Australia 14th November 1857 ( SA Assisted Immigrants Shipping Lists) with <b>James, Robert, John and Mary Ann</b> . Also accompanying them is their niece, Ann O'Neill (Ann, and her mother Ann O'Neill, sister of Margaret McMillan, were with the family on the night of the census in 1851)		X
1858	<b>John Edward Devitt</b> (who became known as 'Dink' or 'Dinky') born in Manchester, Lancashire, England to Edward Patrick Devitt and Ann Devitt (maiden name unclear –hypothesis: Ann O'Rourke or Rourke).	X	
1860	September 10, <b>Elizabeth Miller</b> born to <b>James Miller</b> and <b>Margaret McMillan</b> , in Birkenhead, South Australia.		X
1861 Census	<b>James Miller Sr</b> and <b>Margaret McMillan</b> living in Adelaide with children, James, Robert, John, Maryann, Rosianna b 1858 and baby Elizabeth Miller b 1860.		X
	<b>Edward and Ann Devitt</b> aren't locatable as a family in the English census of 1861 - Margaret, should be about 5 and John Edward aged 3. If the two children were born in Manchester in the mid 50's, then living in Newcastle on Tyne in the 71 census (refer 1871), it would seem they should be in England at the time of the census. I could find 30 yr old married labourer Edward Devitt from Ireland boarding in Manchester area – had Ann returned to eg. visit Ireland at the time of the census, taking the children with her? There is an Ann Devitt in prison for larceny... and another in London....	X	
1871 "Census"	<b>James Miller and Margaret Miller nee McMillan</b> living in Birkenhead, South Australia—Elizabeth Miller about 11 yrs old; her siblings ranging from James, aged 23, Robert aged 20, John aged 16, Mary Ann aged 14, Rosianna aged 13.		
	<b>Edward Patrick, 42, Ann 50, Margaret 15 and John Edward Devitt 13</b> living at Elswick, Newcastle on Tyne, England.	X	
1876	Thursday December 21, <b>John Edward Devitt</b> (Snr) aged 20, bricklayer, and his mother Ann Devitt, aged 54, arrive in Adelaide on 'The Clyde'.	X	
1879	15 June <b>John Edward Devitt</b> and <b>Elizabeth Miller</b> marry in South Australia. James Miller is listed as the father of Elizabeth; Edward Patrick Devitt the father of John Edward Devitt. Elizabeth's brother John Miller is listed as a witness.	X	X



Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
1880	<b>Vincent John Devitt</b> , first child of <b>John Edward Devitt Snr</b> and his wife <b>Elizabeth Devitt, nee Miller</b> , born Birkenhead, South Australia.	X	X
	A court case takes place affecting the Miller family – husband of <b>Mary Ann Spells nee Miller</b> is charged with..... while intoxicated; with some leniency because of previous good conduct, is sentenced to six months hard labour (refer notes in my heritage).		X
1881	24 March, <b>Lily Elizabeth Devitt</b> born to John Edward Devitt Snr and his wife Elizabeth Devitt nee Miller in Birkenhead, Adelaide, South Australia.	X	X
1881 " Census"	<b>John Edward Devitt</b> and <b>Elizabeth Miller</b> were living in Birkenhead, South Australia with Vincent John 'Vin' aged 1. Ann Devitt, John's mother was almost certainly living with them and may have been unwell.	X	X
1882	22 August, <b>Ann Devitt</b> , John Edward Sr's mother, aged about 60, dies of cardiac disease and dropsy in Birkenhead, South Australia. Ann is buried West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide, Catholic Old Ground.	X	
	25 August, Elizabeth's sister <b>Mary Ann Spells nee Miller</b> delivers a little girl, <b>Ethel Birmingham Spells</b> , in Adelaide, South Australia.		X
	26 September, <b>Beatrice Ann Devitt</b> born to John Edward and Elizabeth Devitt in South Australia.	X	
	3 November, Elizabeth's mother, <b>Margaret Miller nee McMillan</b> dies in South Australia.		X
1883	13 October, <b>Beatrice Ann Devitt dies in Adelaide at 12 months...</b> 'Death notice South Australian Advertiser Saturday 27th Oct 1883 Devitt...' On October 13, Beatrice Ann, the beloved daughter of J.E. and Elizabeth Devitt after a short and painful illness, aged 12 months." Beatrice buried West Terrace Cemetery, Catholic Old Ground.		
1884	<b>John Edward Devitt Jr</b> born to John Edward Devitt Sr and Elizabeth Miller in Birkenhead, South Australia.	X	
	4 Nov, <b>Stella Margaret Spells</b> born to <b>Mary Ann Spells nee Miller</b> in Birkenhead, South Australia.		X
1885	16 August baby <b>Margaret Beatrice Devitt</b> born to John Edward Devitt and Elizabeth Miller in Birkenhead, Port Adelaide, Adelaide. Page 78, Vol 357.	X	X
1885	24 November <b>Walter Clement Kiffin Miller</b> born to James Miller and Mary Elizabeth Theresa Miller nee Skipper	X	X
1886	15 January 1886 Elizabeth's eldest brother James' Miller's wife <b>Mary Elizabeth Theresa Miller nee Skipper</b> , aged 26 dies .		X

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
1886	27 January 1886 <b>Walter Clement Kiffin Miller</b> , child of James Miller and Mary Elizabeth Theresa Miller nee Skipper, aged two months.	X	X
1886	25 July Baby <b>Margaret Beatrice Devitt</b> dies in Birkenhead, Port Adelaide, South Australia aged 10 months Page 15, Vol 157	X	X
1886/7	<b>John Edward Devitt Senior</b> relocates family from Adelaide to Melbourne. (Source – John Edward Devitt Jr's birth registered in South Australia -Adelaide; Victoria's birth registered in Victoria). It appears that there was a severe economic depression in South Australia at the time, which may have been why they moved.	X	X
1887	<b>Victoria Grace Devitt</b> born to John Edward Devitt Sr and Elizabeth <i>Miller in Birkenhead, South Australia.</i>	X	
1888	Elizabeth Miller's nearest aged sister, <b>Rosianna Philcox nee Miller</b> , aged ... dies in Childbirth		X
1889	<b>Adelaide Sarah Devitt</b> born to John Edward Sr and Elizabeth Devitt. <i>The names of the three youngest Devitt children, Victoria, Adelaide and Sydney all place names!</i>	X	
1891	9 April, Elizabeth Miller's sister, <b>Mary Ann Spells nee Miller</b> , the sister who came across as a baby in the boat with James Sr and Margaret, now aged 32, dies at her residence in Fletcher Road, Birkenhead. From the Adelaide Advertiser... <b>SPELLS.—On the 9th April, at her residence, Fletcher-road, Birkenhead, Mary Ann, dearly beloved wife of W. J. Spells, and eldest daughter of James Miller, aged 32 years. R.I.P. 105'6</b> South Australian Register, Thurs 16 April, p4.		X
1891 'Census'	<b>John Edward Devitt</b> and <b>Elizabeth Miller</b> were living in Melbourne with Vincent aged 11, Lily aged 9, John Edward Jr aged 7, Victoria Grace, aged 4 and Adelaide Sarah aged 2 .	X	X
1892	<b>Sydney Patrick Devitt</b> born to John Edward Sr and Elizabeth Devitt.	X	
	<b>Lily Mabel Florence Hooper</b> born to George Charles Hooper and Emma Jane Taylor in Victoria, Australia. (Lily was to marry John Edward Devitt Jr in 1912.		
1896	<i>John Edward Devitt Jr— student at Christian Brother's College, St Kilda</i>	S	
1897	<i>John Edward Devitt Jr— student at Christian Brother's College, St Kilda</i>		
1898	<i>John Edward Devitt Jr— student at Christian Brother's College, St Kilda</i>		
1901 "Census"	<b>John Edward and Elizabeth Devitt nee Miller</b> living in .... ; children still likely to be living at home....		
	Elizabeth's father James Miller living in Adelaide; along with brothers John, Robert and families; widowers and children of Mary Anne and Roseina; brother widower		

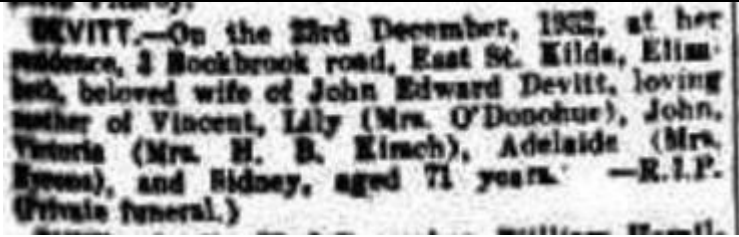

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	James may have alternating between Perth, where children all lived, and Adelaide.		
1901	Boer War in South Africa		
1902	Boer War in South Africa		
1903	26 Nov <b>James Miller Jr</b> , Elizabeth's eldest brother, dies in Fremantle, Western Australia. He is buried in Fremantle cemetery.		
1903?	<b>Vincent John Devitt, carpenter, departs from ..... for Capetown on the ....</b>		
1905	<b>John Edward Devitt, aged 47</b> , returns to Melbourne on the ..... we think from Capetown.		
1906	<b>Elizabeth's father James Miller</b> , born c 1823, dies at the residence of his son John, Walker Street, Birkenhead, South Australia (son John's residence). He is buried at the Woodville Cemetery, Adelaide.		X
1908	<b>Lilian Devitt</b> born to Vincent John Devitt and Gladys Devitt nee Walls in South Africa.	X	
1910	<b>Lilian Devitt aged 2</b> , daughter of Vincent and Gladys Devitt, dies in South Africa of pneumonia.	X	
	<b>John Edward Devitt, or 'Jack'</b> , born to Vincent and Gladys Devitt in South Africa.	X	
	<b>John Miller's wife Rose (Hoey)</b> passes away- "On 8 September, at Walker Street, Birkenhead, Rose, dearly beloved wife of John Miller, in her 46 <sup>th</sup> year. RIP" Adelaide Advertiser, Tuesday, 10 September 1910".		
1911	August... <b>Vincent Devitt</b> appears to have returned to Melbourne from Africa, with Gladys and son Jack (another John Edward) to follow in a few months.		
	<b>Gladys Devitt</b> nee Walls (listed as aged 28) and <b>John Edward Devitt</b> (1 and a half) arrive in Fremantle from Capetown...		
1912	<b>Marion Joan Devitt</b> born to Vincent and Gladys Devitt	X	
	<b>John Edward Devitt Jr and Lily Mabel Florence Hooper</b> marry at ..... .	X	
1913	23 March, <b>Paula Alice Devitt</b> born to John Edward Devitt Jr and Lily Devitt nee Hooper, Victoria Street, Malvern.	X	
	<b>Cecil Devitt</b> born to Vincent and Gladys Devitt	X	
1914/ 15	<b>Gladys Devitt nee Walls, wife of Vincent John Devitt</b> , becomes distressed and highly agitated at Sandringham Beach. Her family were able to take her to a nearby house owned by friends. Gladys is hospitalized because of concerns about safety of her children Jack, Joan and Cecil Devitt. Gladys is assessed and eventually transferred to Kew Institution where she remains until her death 53 years later. Gladys may have had post natal depression – she had Jack in South Africa and also a little girl Beatrice who died, migrated to Australia when Jack returned, then had	X	

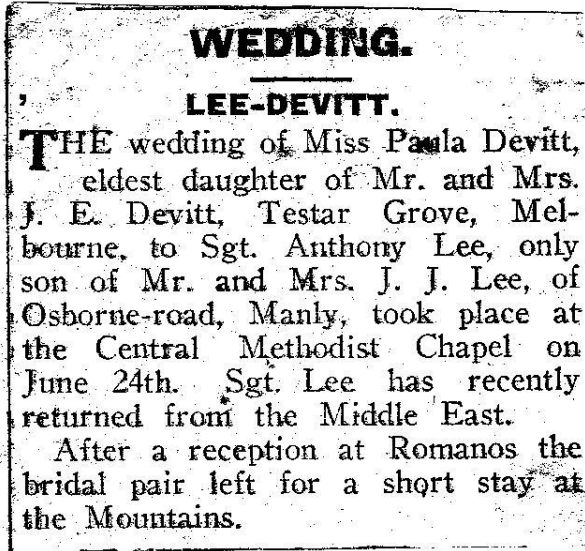

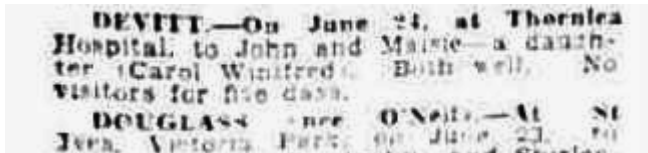
Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	Joan and Cecil—all before age 26. Her condition was described as an hallucinosis or psychosis, and appears to be one in which she may have had periods of being relatively well. Joyce Devitt remembers reading a nice letter from her; Marie Meagher has memories of her as appearing to be fine; however there is a sense that she could be unstable, that she would risk the welfare of her children, initially in terms of physical safety as well as psychological, later because of perceived psychological hurts. School teacher Lily Devitt, Vincent and Jack's sister, appears to have remained in contact and to have had her medical power of attorney in latter years. Marie Meagher has memories that Victoria Grace also had some contact with Gladys.		
1914	25 April, Gladys Devitt nee Walls was admitted to Receiving House, Royal Park, the entry point at the time into psychiatric care system.		
1914	Monday 2 November, at the Licensing Court in Melbourne, the licence for the Prince Alfred Hotel, Port Melbourne, was transferred from Vincent J Devitt to John Gubbins Shannon (Melbourne Argus, Wednesday 4 Nov, p 11 via Trove).		
1914	17 <sup>th</sup> November, <b>Gladys Devitt nee Walls</b> , aged 26, was transferred from the receiving centre, Royal Park and admitted to Kew Psychiatric Hospital.	X	
1916	31 <sup>st</sup> July, <b>Gordon Edward Devitt</b> , son of Jack and Lily Devitt nee Hooper, dies aged 4 weeks at 42 Victoria Street, Malvern, of 'congenital heart disease'. Jack and Lily always felt that it may have resulted from distress during circumcision process. 1916/#10911	X	X
1917	<b>Joyce Devitt</b> , second daughter of <b>John Edward Devitt Jr and Lily Mabel Florence Hooper</b> , born in Melbourne.	X	
1919	30 January, <b>Marie Bernice Kirsch</b> , born to Victoria Grace Devitt and her husband Herbert Kirsch, Allendale private hospital, Melbourne.	X	
1922	Marriage of <b>Stanislaus Walter Hyrons to Adelaide Sarah Devitt</b> . (Stan Hyrons great grandfather, Benjamin b before 1800 was transported to Tasmania from England in 1818) (Scroll right down the following page... <a href="http://innshumpagegoodegreenwell.familytreeguide.com/getperson.php?personID=I927&amp;tree=T1&amp;PHPSESSID=9be27a5a8fcbce22775f728e9ea92c8f">http://innshumpagegoodegreenwell.familytreeguide.com/getperson.php?personID=I927&amp;tree=T1&amp;PHPSESSID=9be27a5a8fcbce22775f728e9ea92c8f</a> ) (Note – Paula, aged 97, said people having convict connections was very common when she was young).	X	
2 Sept 1924	<b>Robert Miller</b> , Elizabeth's second eldest brother, dies in Heath Street, Birkenhead, -date source –in memorium notices....National Library Archive:		
1925	A picnic in the park.... We aren't sure who else might have been in a very large photo – this part was cut from one side and is a wonderful photo of Emma Jane Hooper (with her famed bonnet on); Lily Devitt nee Hooper and Ruby Moser nee Hooper, and Paula and Joyce Devitt in their Caulfield North Central school uniforms.	X	X



Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
			
1925	<b>Lex Devitt</b> born to John Edward Devitt and Lily Mabel Florence Hooper...		
	<b>Francis Hyrons</b> born to Adelaide Devitt and Stan Hyrons.		
C 1928	<p>Christmas day family portrait at Devitt's, Testar Grove, ... Hooper Clan...</p>  <p>Back...Testar Grove – abt 1928-<b>Paula Devitt, John Edward Devitt Jr;</b> Beatrice Hooper, Violet Carl nee Hooper, Minnie Rose nee Hooper, Jack Carl, <b>Lily Devitt nee Hooper</b>, Alva Moser, <b>Joyce Devitt</b>. Front: John Rose, Hatherley Cherry (?), Emma Jane Hooper (nee Taylor) <b>Lex Devitt</b>, Ruby Moser (nee Hooper)</p>	X	
C 1928	Noelle Hyrons born to Adelaide Devitt and Stan Hyrons		
1928	Death notice Elizabeth's brother John - <i>MILLER</i> . — <i>On the 15th June at his residence, Walker street, Birkenhead, John Miller, aged 73 years. Requiescat in pace</i> (The Register, SA, 16 <sup>th</sup> June 1928)		X
1932	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> December, Elizabeth Miller dies aged 74 ...</b>		X



Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	 <p>(Melbourne Argus, Saturday 24 December 1932,)</p>		
1932	<b>December 24</b> - Mr. V. J. Devitt, proprietor, of the Shenton Park Hotel, Subiaco, received word yesterday of the death in Melbourne of his mother, Mrs. J. E. Devitt, who had many friends in this State. The West Australian newspaper, Perth.		
1936	'MILLER.—on the 22nd March at her late residence 25 Heath street, Birkenhead. Mary Ellen relict of Robert Miller, leaving 5 sons and 6 daughters to mourn their sad loss. Aged 81 years. At rest.' Adelaide Advertiser, 26 March 1936. <a href="http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article35418642">http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article35418642</a>		X
1936	' <b>Jack</b> (John Edward) Devitt, eldest son of Vincent John Devitt and Gladys Walls, marries Maisie Alwynne Owen in Western Australia.	X	
1936	Friday 21 August - Mr. <b>V. J. Devitt</b> , of the Shenton Park Hotel, is at present in St. John of God Hospital suffering from a severe chill.		
1936	Tuesday 20 October – Vincent in hospital - ' <b>Mr V. J. Devitt</b> , of the Shenton Park Hotel, is a patient in the St John of God Hospital'. Daily News, Perth 'Personal' column.	X	
1937	<b>Mr. V. J. Devitt</b> , late of the Shenton Park Hotel, has improved sufficiently in health to take a trip to the Eastern States. He will leave by the Manoora tomorrow. The Daily News, Perth, Wednesday Oct 7 1937		
1941	<b>Vincent John Devitt</b> , John Edward Jr's eldest brother, dies aged 60 – buried at Karrakatta Cemetery in Perth. (Add in details of Victorian death notice; obituary, etc. )	X	
1942	<p>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> February, <b>Marion Joan Devitt and Les Slade</b> marry in Perth.</p>  <p>Source: 'Yesterday's weddings' Sunday Times (Perth WA) February 8 1942</p>	X	

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1942	Joyce Adelaide Devitt and William John Hooley marry in Sydney NSW	X	
1942	<p>Paula Devitt and Anthony Lee marry in Sydney NSW</p> <hr/>  <p><b>WEDDING.</b> <b>LEE-DEVITT.</b> <b>T</b>HE wedding of Miss Paula Devitt, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Devitt, Testar Grove, Melbourne, to Sgt. Anthony Lee, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Lee, of Osborne-road, Manly, took place at the Central Methodist Chapel on June 24th. Sgt. Lee has recently returned from the Middle East. After a reception at Romanos the bridal pair left for a short stay at the Mountains.</p>	X	
1943	<p>Cecil Vincent Devitt and Marjory Eva Hamblin marry in Sydney NSW</p> 	X	
1944	Raymond Devitt born to Cecil and Marjory Devitt nee Hamblin in .....	X	
1945	<p>24 June Carol Devitt born to John Edward Devitt and Maisie Alwynne in Perth, Western Australia.</p> 	X	
1946	<p>25 September John James Lee born to Anthony Lee and Paula Devitt at Jessie McPherson's Hospital in Melbourne.</p>	X	
	Judith Ann Devitt born to Cecil and Marjory Devitt nee Hamblin in Nedlands, Western Australia.	X	

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	<b>John Edward Devitt Sr (Dinky)</b> dies in Melbourne aged 88. John Edward had been living at 3 Rockbrook Rd, cared for in his later yrs by Adelaide and Stanislaus Hyrons, who lived in the family home.	X	
1947	14 October <b>Beverley Joy Lee</b> born to Anthony Lee and Paula Devitt at Jessie McPherson's Hospital in Melbourne.		
		X	
1948			
1949	<b>Susan Devitt</b> born to Cecil Devitt and Marjory Devitt nee Hamblin in		
1951	16 January <b>Janette Rosemary Lee</b> born to Anthony Lee and Paula Lee nee Devitt at Brighton Community Hospital in Melbourne.	X	
1955	<b>Margaret Simonds</b> born to Noelle Simonds nee Hyrons and John Lusby Simonds in Melbourne.		
1956	We all watch the Olympic games on television! 19 yr old Devitt cousin (family story) <b>John Devitt (b 1937)</b> was captain of the swimming team that won eight gold medals , a member of the gold medal winning relay time, a silver medallist as well. <a href="http://corporate.olympics.com.au/athlete/1662/John+Devitt">http://corporate.olympics.com.au/athlete/1662/John+Devitt</a> However in depth family research didn't reveal relationship – perhaps a distant cousin?		
1956	<b>Peter Devitt</b> born to Cecil Devitt and Marjory Hamblin in ....		
1957	<b>Cecil Devitt dies aged 44</b> in Walla Walla, NSW, where he and his wife Marjory owned the local newsagent. Cecil sustained life threatening injuries in a fall. He was in hospital 30 miles from home (Wagga?) when he died. Judith remembers visiting him and seeing him bandaged and in pain.	X	
	<b>Marjory Hamblin nee Devitt</b> , Cecil's wife is diagnosed with leukemia only eight weeks after Cecil Devitt's death. Marjory <b>dies</b> at the Peter McCallum hospital in Melbourne of leukemia, 8 months after Cecil's death. Four children, aged from 12 to 1 yrs. Raymond aged 12, Judith aged 10, Susan aged 8 and Peter aged 1 yr . Judith remembers her mother planning for their future while she was ill, wanting to make sure that her children weren't split up. Judith remembers that the children remained in Walla Walla, Marjory was in Melbourne eventually at the Peter McCallum hospital. Judith remembers visiting Marjory in hospital before Marjory died, staying with family friends who lived in what was then a beautiful old mansion style building near the beach in Melbourne. Judith reflects that the fact her mother was away in Melbourne when she died affected her dreams of her, that she would often dream that Marjory was still alive, but had a dream once where her mother had actually aged and had reassured her, but that after this she didn't have these dreams any more.	X	
1957	<b>Julie Simonds</b> born to Noelle Simonds nee Hyrons and John Lusby Simonds in Melbourne.		

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1957/8	<p>Cecil and Marjory's children, move to live with their mother's brother in Ganmain NSW. Alwyn is described by Judith as a bachelor who loved and grieved for his sister, Marjory. "After the war my parents bought a Newsagency at Walla Walla near Albury and that is where I grew up until they died. We went to live with my mother's brother Alwyn at Ganmain near Wagga".</p> <p>Judith's maternal grandmother had died years before; she appears to have committed suicide which may have been related to having breast cancer. Judith describes growing up with Alwyn as being in a loving environment which worked, perhaps because he didn't have any preconceptions about how to parent them. They grew up as independent young people who could farm, drive cars early and so on. There appears to be some disapproval of Cecil by Alwyn, Judith remembering that 'photos went to tip when Alwyn moved from property'. Alwyn appears to have had a lack of understanding of the importance of connectedness to the children. Judith described having extended family, especially Aunties in the community, remembering one in particular who kept her supplied with books, such as giving her Steinbeck's 'The Grapes of Wrath' when she was 13. While remembering her life with her uncle fondly, he did not seem to approve of Cecil and his family, and once when he was upset with her she remembers him saying she was 'Just like Joan Devitt!' .... Judith describes finding Christmas difficult – it was around the anniversary of her mother Marjory's death, also Alwyn did not follow Christmas traditions with the children and Judith remembers struggling to put up decorations... Judith describes difficulty negotiating her later childhood adolescence as if asked she always had to say she had no parents; that she lived with her uncle; all things which were outside people's preconceptions of the 'normal'. Judith even reflects that perhaps she married early as then having no parents became less of an issue. Judith describes a period of time when there was some contact with her first cousins Janet Slade and Carol Devitt by post. Judith concurred with Paula's comment that Carol's mother Maisie was a nice person, that in her correspondence with Carol she had always felt that Maisie was a nice influence/had a nice 'vibe'. Susan Devitt holidayed once with Les, Joan and Janet in Perth. Judith also describes having made contact with Adelaide Sarah, who wrote to her after her grandmother Gladys died. Adelaide indicated Gladys was born in Coventry, a lead which Judith has been able to follow to a limited degree unfortunately. The three page letter written by 'Aunty Ad' is a wonderful letter, Adelaide, although apparently affected by arthritis at the time, thoughtfully detailed a succinct chronicle from a concerned 'great aunt's' perspective.</p>	X	
1961 'Census			
1963	<p><b>Les Slade...</b> in 1963 Bill Jamieson. Government Viticulturist, was asked by Les Slade, assistant to Charles Court, Minister of Industrial Development, to suggest methods of helping the flagging grape industry in the Swan Valley. Jamieson pointed out Olmo's recommendation to make wine in cooler areas; also that demand for premium wine was increasing and that cuttings of suitable grape varieties were already established on the Swan Research Station. Charles Court then formed the Vine Fruit Advisory Committee which published recommendations in 1964. The</p>		

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	members of the Committee were G.K. Baron-Hay (chairman). L. Slade, J. Mann, David Roe, W. Jamieson and W.M. Taylor <a href="http://www.nicks.com.au/Index.aspx?link_id=76.956">http://www.nicks.com.au/Index.aspx?link_id=76.956</a>		
	April... <b>Paula Devitt's</b> husband Anthony Lee aged 58 dies during the night at 279 Clayton Rd Clayton of cardiac related issues later connected to war service. Youngest daughter Janette finds him next morning when she takes Paula and Tony a cup of tea in bed.		
1967	<b>John Edward Devitt Jr</b> aged 83 passes away of kidney failure in the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne. The funeral is held at St ..., Balaclava Road, Balaclava. He is buried at the Fentonby Lawn, Necropolis, Springvale, Victoria.		
196..	<b>Gladys Devitt nee Walls</b> dies aged ....– Gladys has been in institutionalized care, largely at Kew psychiatric hospital, since 1914.		
1969	<b>Joan Devitt</b> and <b>Les Slade's</b> daughter Janet Slade, aged 24, dies of an asthma attack in the Tokyo smog– ashes with Vincent, Joan and Les at Karrakatta Cemetery. Judith reflects that Joan and Les Slade remained in Tokyo for some years after Janet's death – there 'was nothing for them in Australia'. Les appears to have been a consular official, perhaps in the trade area. Judith reflected that her younger sister Susan stayed with Joan as a child and remember this time fondly. Judith remembers writing to Janet at one stage. Apparently Jack and Cecil described Joan as a bit 'uppity'.	X	
1970	Janette and Roger marry.		
1971	July 19 <b>Candie Michelle Grandell</b> born to Janette Lee and Roger Grandell.		
1976	May, <b>Beverley Lee</b> leaves Melbourne on an overseas trip which takes her to London, then Madrid, Spain, to teach English for a year.		
1976	October 14 <b>Janette Lee</b> , divorced from Roger Grandell, marries <b>John Knapper</b> with an informal reception at Paula's home, 279 Clayton Road, Clayton.		
1977	<b>Lily Mabel Florence Devitt nee Hooper</b> aged 85 dies at Caritas Christie Hospice, Kew, Victoria. Lily's ashes were buried with John Devitt at Fentonby Lawn, Necropolis, Springvale, Victoria, Australia.		
1994	<b>Joan Devitt</b> dies aged 82 – ashes with her father at Karrakatta Cemetery.	X	
1995	<b>Les Slade</b> dies aged 80 – ashes with Vincent John and Joan Devitt at Karrakatta Cemetery. (Query wine industry reference to Les Slade in Devitt folder)	X	
2008/9	<b>Lex Devitt</b> admitted to Wangaratta Hospital for acute care then rehabilitation following a serious fall. Unable to manage at home – admitted to Morrie Evans ward at Benalla Hospital.		
2010	<b>Paula Devitt</b> aged 97 admitted to Alkoomi Nursing Home in Benalla following two major operations, the last following two falls while in hospital which resulted in a broken hip/hip replacement. Extended delusions followed, esp during time at the		

Year	Life Event	Devitt	Miller
	geriatric assessment unit at St George's Hospital in Kew. Paula's unit in East Malvern rented.		
2010	<b>Lex Devitt</b> aged 84 dies in the Benalla hospital of heart failure. He is buried at the rural cemetery in Moorngag near Swanpool in Victoria.	X	
2012	<b>Joyce Devitt</b> aged 95 admitted to Nursing Home in Sydney following a serious fall and difficulties in managing when returning home.		
2013	<b>23 January, Peter Devitt, aged 55</b> , youngest son of Peter Devitt and Marjory Hamblin, passes away peacefully in hospice, Canberra after a long illness.		
2014	<b>Paula Alice Lee nee Devitt</b> dies aged 101.5 at Alkoomi Nursing Home near Benalla. She is buried next to Lex at the rural cemetery, Moorngag near Swanpool.		
2017	<b>Marie Allison Meagher nee Kirsch</b> passes away at Cabrini Care, Ashwood.		

### Milliners, millinery and Flinders Lane... (written as a story for ancestry.com)

The Devitt side had strong links to millinery related work and Flinders' Lane, for many years the heart of Melbourne's textile and clothing industries or rag trade. John Edward Devitt Jnr worked for many years for 'Latiners' in Flinders Lane, Melbourne. He became a commercial traveller, taking his wares to Brisbane (refer photo) and also to the United States. His sister Victoria was a milliner; his daughter Joyce a milliner; his sister Ad a secretary and brother in law Stan a clerk in Flinders Lane; his daughter Paula also a secretary/bookkeeper in Flinders Lane.

Here are some extracts from letters written recently from her nursing home in which 97 yr old Paula describes some of the links...

'My sister (in Sydney) and I keep in touch with each other. We have always been good friends. Years ago she had her own millinery business in Kooyong Road, Caulfield - I used to do her books as she didn't have much of a head for figures.' ... and in another letter ... 'I wish we were (geographically) closer, we always got on well together. She was a milliner and had her own business in Kooyong Road, Caulfield, many years ago. It was within walking distance of where we lived, in Testar Grove. I used to dress the shop window for her and do the banking, etc. She was a very good milliner - she had a gift. Dad used to work for a millinery firm in 'The Lane' (Flinders Lane), and I used to work (as a book keeper) in a woollens warehouse opposite so I could buy supplies for her.'

While on respite in an aged care facility, in 2009 96 yr old Paula described sitting in the sunshine crocheting when a woman passing by stopped to sit for a rest. They started chatting. As they shared stories, working in Flinders Lane came up as a shared connection, and the woman said to Paula that she had worked as a milliner on the floor of Latiners in Flinders Lane! Mum said 'did you work under



'Miss Penny' (apparently a fairly stern taskmaster). The woman replied that she did. They went on to share names, including Joyce's (who had learnt millinery there). When Paula asked if she knew John Devitt, the woman replied that she did! How amazing, at the age of 96, to be talking to a stranger who knew your father so many years ago!

Just yesterday Paula remembered that Latiners' were located in Tasman House, and that she had worked opposite at 314-316 Flinders Lane, just opposite.