

Initial Upload 5 September 2013

Michael Keane and Bridget Hanrahan

Michael was the fourth child and third boy of Michael Keane and Mary Guthrie. He was born about 1844 at Ruan, Ennis, County Clare Ireland. He was about 13 years old when he migrated to Australia with his sister and two brothers in mid 1857.

On 7 August 1879 Michael married **Bridget Hanrahan** at St Finbar's Brighton East. At that time St Finbar's was the parish church for Brighton and a number of other places to the south east of Melbourne. Bridget was the daughter of Michael Hanrahan and Mary Murray and she was born at Carrigaholt, County Clare in 1837. The marriage certificate indicates that Bridget was a domestic servant.

No. in Register	When and where married.	Name and Surname of the Parties.	Condition of the Parties.		Birthplace.	
			Bachelor or Spinster. If a Widower or Widow, Date of Decease of former Wife or Husband.	Children by such former Marriage.	Living.	Dead.
1	At St Finbar's R.C. Church August the Seventh 1879	Michael Keane Bridget Crotty	Bachelor Widow July 1863	1	nil	Co Clare Ireland Co Clare Ireland

I, Matthew May, being Roman Catholic Minister
do hereby certify, that I have this day, at St Finbar's Church Brighton duly
celebrated Marriage between Michael Keane of Brighton Gardener
and Bridget Crotty of Brighton Domestic after Notice
and Declaration duly made and published, as by law required (and with the written consent of
Dated this Seventh day of August 1879.
Signature of Minister, Registrar-General, or other Officer: Matthew May

Marriage Certificate Michael & Bridget Left Hand Side

Rank or Profession.	Age.	Residence.		Parents.	
		Present.	Usual.	NAMES. (Mother's Maiden Name.)	Father's Rank or Profession.
<u>Gardener</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>Brighton</u>	<u>Brighton</u>	<u>Michael Keane</u>	<u>Gardener</u>
<u>Domestic</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>Brighton</u>	<u>Brighton</u>	<u>Mary Keane. N.E. Guthrie</u> <u>Michael Hanrahan</u> <u>Mary M. Murray</u>	<u>Farmer</u>

Marriage, by licence, of the R.C. Church, was solemnized between us
according to the rites of the R.C. Church
Michael Keane
Bridget Crotty
Witnesses: James Gleeson
Mary Gleeson

Marriage Certificate Michael & Bridget Right Hand Side

Bridget was a widow who had previously married to Patrick Crotty in Melbourne in 1862. Patrick died in July 1863. They had a daughter, Mary Ellen, born in Collingwood in 1863. In 1903 when Bridget made her Will, Mary Ellen (then aged 40) was at the Good Shepherd Convent. The implication is that she was in the care of the nuns perhaps because she had an affliction. Mary

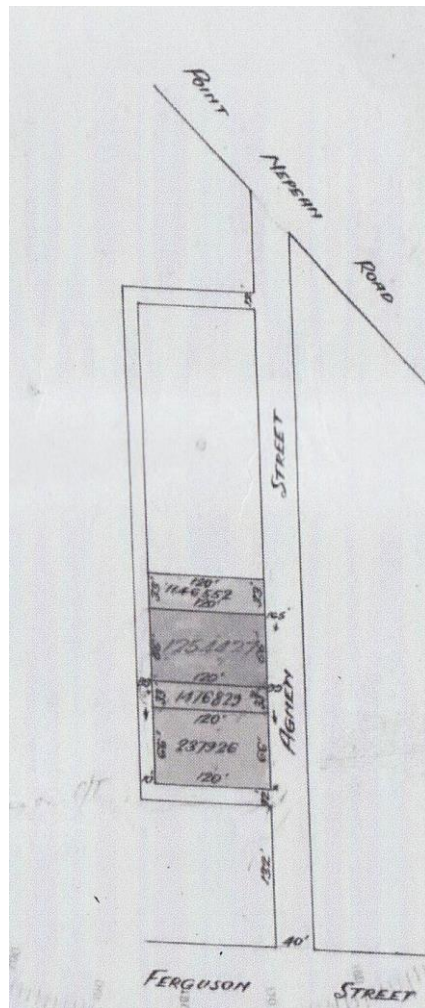
Ellen died in 1906 but we have not been able to locate a death record to determine the cause of her death.

Michael and Bridget had no children of their own.

Directories show that Michael was a market gardener at Gypsy Point (now Hampton) in the early 1880's although we have been told that he had an orchard. In 1888 his address was given as Gibson's Road Brighton South and in this year Bridget bought property at Agnew St. We know Michael attended St Finbar's Church in Centre Road and Lil Keane's notes indicate that he planted the cypress trees that once bordered St Finbar's Church.

Bridget's Property

On 4 July 1888 Bridget bought six properties in Agnew Street Brighton. These were previously owned by John Clarke who had held them since 8 August 1882. The overall dimensions of the land were 198 by 120 feet. The larger blocks shown below each contained two cottages and the smaller allotments one cottage each.



Plan showing Bridget's Agnew St Property

Bridget mortgaged the property to a David Abbott at the date of purchase but this was discharged very quickly on 17 August 1888. Bridget also sold the allotment closest to Ferguson Street to her brother in law, Andrew, on 20 November 1888. This property contained a timber cottage at 29 Agnew Street and a brick cottage at 31 Agnew Street.

The remainder of the allotments contained two timber cottages named “*Meath*” and “*Cavan*” and two brick cottages named “*St. Ives*” and “*Ruana*.” Michael and Bridget lived at “*Ruana*”.

St Ives cottage is at 33 Agnew St. and it is the only property still named today.



St Ives. Brick Cottage at 33 Agnew Street August 2013

The property at 35 is brick and hence is “*Ruana*”. In 1888 it was on the same title as 37 Agnew St, a timber cottage.



“Ruana” Brick Cottage 35 Agnew Street August 2013. Home of Michael & Bridget



Andrew Bridget & Michael outside Ruana 1890's



Andrew Bridget & Michael outside Ruana 1890's



37 Agnew Street Left and 39 Agnew Street Right "Meath" and "Cavan"¹

Bridget's Death and Will

Bridget died of heart disease on 17 August 1908 at "Ruana" Agnew Street Brighton. She left a Will dated 19 February 1903. Her Death Certificate indicates her age was 71 years implying a birth year of 1837. However, the headstone on the Keane grave indicates she was 73 years implying a birth year of 1835. This would have made her about nine years older than Michael.

17 th August 1908. Ruana Agnew Street Lower Brighton C. Bourke	Bridget Keane	Female 71 Years	Valentinian disease of the Heart - 11 years Foderick Addison 16 th August 1908	Michael Harrington Farmer Mary Harrington M. N. Murray
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Bridget's Death Certificate Left hand Side

Robert McDonnell Authorized Agent Bay Street Brighton	McLandy 19 th August 1908 Brighton	19 th August 1908 St. Kilda Cemetery Robert McDonnell	J. J. Carrigahole Catholic Clergyman Off Thomas	Clare McLandy 51 years State of Victoria	First Melbourne 25 years Patrick Crotty 22 nd Hibernian 42 years Michael Keane	By first marriage Allen dead No issue 2 nd
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Bridget's Death Certificate Right Hand Side

¹ WE are not aware of which name applied to each house.

KEANE.—On the 17th August, at her residence, "Ruand," Agnew-street, North Brighton, Bridget, the beloved wife of Michael Keane, aged 71 years. R.I.P.

Death Notice 18 August 1908

KEANE.—The Friends of Mr. MICHAEL KEANE are respectfully invited to follow the remains of his beloved wife, Bridget, to the place of interment, the St. Kilda Cemetery. The funeral will move from his residence, "Ruand," Agnew-street, Brighton, **THIS DAY** (Wednesday), at half past 2 o'clock. **MORLEY McDOWALL, Undertaker, Bay-street, Brighton.** Tel. 146.

Funeral Notice The Argus 19 August 1908

The Executor and Executrix were Christopher Lambert and his wife Bridget Agnes of Lawrence Street, Brighton. Bridget Agnes was a niece of Bridget Keane. The Probate process was not without its moments. Michael Keane made a case to obtain Probate and prove the Will and a Probate Order was given to him on 21 September 1908. Following actions by the Lamberts this order was revoked by the court on 22 April 1909 and the Lamberts received the Probate Order.

By 18 July 1909 the estate was valued at 1679/-/11 Pounds with real estate with a value of 1200 Pounds and personal estate valued at 479/-/11 Pounds. It was indicated that the assets were Bridget's separate property and were acquired with her money possessed prior to her marriage.

Michael contested two matters in the estate. Firstly, that he owed 265 Pounds for a mortgage on the property. He claimed that this had been discharged. He also claimed 30 Pounds which was the value of the furniture at "Ruana". In the end Michael paid 200 Pounds in full settlement of his claims. The final statement was produced on 16 November 1914.

Bridget's real estate consisted of four cottages in Agnew Street, Brighton, two wood and two brick all on the one title². As mentioned earlier the two wooden cottages were named "Meath" and "Cavan" and the two brick cottages "Ruana" and "St. Ives".

Bridget left "Meath" and "Cavan" in trust during her husband Michael's life for him to receive any rents and to use the cottages for his own benefit. After Michael's death "Meath" was to be transferred to Bridget's niece Margaret Hanrahan living in Moyarta, County Clare Ireland and "Cavan" was to be transferred to her niece Bridget Agnes Lambert.

"Ruana" was also left to Bridget Agnes Lambert.

² Vol. 1384 Fol. 276663

"St. Ives" was to be rented with the rent to go to the Good Shepherd Convent to be applied to the benefit of Mary Ellen Crotty but if she were to leave then the rent was to be paid to Bridget Agnes Lambert. In the event of Mary Ellen's death (which occurred in 1906), the cottage was to be sold and the proceeds paid to the children of Bridget's sister Kate Hanrahan at Kilcrona, County Clare, Ireland and her nephew Michael Hanrahan and in the event of his death to his children.

The residue of the real estate (if any) and the personal estate was to be paid to her husband Michael Keane.

Michael's Death and Will

Michael died on 16 November 1917 at Agnew Street at the age of 73. The cause of death was given as senile decay and heart failure.

16 th November 1917	Michael Keane	Male	Senile decay Heart failure	Michael Keane
Agnew Street		73	2 months	Farmer
Leven		years		
Brighton	No occupation		Roderick Aitchison	Mary Keane
Co. Bourke			14 th November 1917	M. H. Guthrie

Michael's Death Certificate Left Hand Side

1 st Frances E. Blackshaw	17 th November 1917	Michael Burran	Ireland	Brighton	No Issue
16 th November 1917	St. Hilda Cemetery	Catholic Priest	50 years in State	30 years	
Brighton	Boya A. Bright	James Lee	Victoria	Bridget Crotty	

Michael's Death Certificate Right Hand Side

KEANE.—On the 16th November, 1917, at his residence, 35 Agnew street, Brighton, Michael, the dearly beloved brother of Daniel Keane, ex-inspector of police, of Henrietta street, Hawthorn, aged 73 years. R.I.P. (Privately interred in the St. Kilda Cemetery on 17th inst.)

Death Notice The Argus 19 November 1917

Michael complicated and confused his post death testamentary processes by leaving two Wills, the first dated 9 November 1915 and the second dated 13 August 1916. There was also a Codicil to the first Will dated 31 October 1916. In the Probate hearing there was testimony given

that, in executing the Codicil, Michael did not advise the witnesses of the existence of the later Will.

In both Wills, Michael appointed his younger brother Daniel Keane of Mary Street Grace Park (Hawthorn) as his Executor.

In the first Will dated 9 November 1915 Michael left:

- 12 Pounds to St Vincent de Paul's Orphanage South Melbourne – for the benefit of the institution.
- 10 Pounds to Fr. Gough or the parish priest of St Finbar's for the celebration of Masses for the repose of his soul.
- 10 Pounds to the Mother Superior of the Good Shepherd Convent Abbotsford - for the benefit of the institution.
- Any of his furniture to go to Mrs. Frances Hannigan with whom he was residing for her own use and benefit.
- 8 Pounds for a marble slab over his grave
- The rest, residue and remainder of his real and personal estate to Fr. Gough or the parish priest of St Finbar's to be used by him as he thinks fit in the maintenance and support of St Finbar's East Brighton.

The Codicil to this Will of 31 October 1916 was not especially significant. Michael left 10 Pounds to Fr. Quinn of St. James Gardenvale for the celebration of Masses for the repose of his soul. He also left 20 Pounds to Frances Hannigan in addition to the bequest to her of any furniture in his house. Significantly, the Will stated *"In all other respects I confirm my said Will."*

At the Probate hearing a witness to the 13 August 1915 Will testified that:

"The reason why the deceased's signature is shaky and irregular is because he was suffering from bodily infirmity and old age."

Daniel Keane in his submission as Executor dated 18 November 1917 indicated that:

"The Will dated 13 August 1916 was prepared and written by ex Inspector Satchwell under instructions from the deceased."

We have assumed that this is to support his use of this Will rather than the earlier Will which was of substantial benefit to St. Finbar's while the later Will was to the substantial benefit of Michael's brother, Daniel. The later Will contained:

- 10 Pounds to Fr. Quinn Parish Priest of St Finbar's
- 10 Pounds to St Vincent de Paul's Orphanage, South Melbourne
- 10 Pounds to the Abbotsford Convent, Abbotsford
- 8 Pounds for a stone slab for his grave
- 10 Pounds to the Little Sister's of the Poor, Northcote
- To his nephew Martin Keane and niece Sarah Jane Holmes (children of Andrew and Bridget) his pictures, ornaments, furniture and household goods.

- To his brother Daniel Keane of Hawthorn “*my houses situate in Agnew Street Brighton.*”

Michael is buried with his wife in the Keane family grave at St Kilda Cemetery.



Keane Family Grave St Kilda Cemetery