

## **What Happened to Them? Where are They Now?**

### **Molly Kelly**

Molly was trained and employed as a domestic help on Balfour Downs Station where she married Toby Kelly, a stockman. She had two daughters Doris (the author) and Annabelle. On 18 November 1940, after Molly's discharge from the Royal Perth Hospital where she had undergone surgery for appendicitis, she was transported once again under ministerial warrant to Moore River Native Settlement.

Nine months later, Molly received a letter from home advising her of the deaths of members of her family at Jigalong. A niece had died from self-inflicted wounds to the head, a customary action of the distressed and the anguished and a common expression of grief and despair. In this case the lacerations were inflicted when Molly and her children had departed months earlier. Others died from whooping cough. Permission to return to Balfour Downs was refused. Unable to settle down, Molly absconded on 1 January 1941, taking eighteen-month-old Annabelle (Anna) with her and leaving Doris behind at the settlement.

She and her baby daughter arrived safely at Jigalong months later, following the same route she had taken nine years earlier. She moved back to Balfour Downs Station with her husband Toby and baby Annabelle. Three years later Annabelle was removed and sent south to the Sister Kate's Children's Home in Queens Park. Molly has not seen her since.

Molly and Toby worked on various stations in the Meekatharra and Newman districts until their retirement in 1972. Toby passed away in October 1973. Molly now lives quietly at Jigalong, although she is still actively involved in community affairs. Under traditional Aboriginal

kinship Molly has eighteen grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

### **Gracie Cross**

Gracie was captured at Wiluna and was transported back to Moore River Settlement where she was given the surname of Jigalong, later shortened to Long. She completed her education and was sent out to work as domestic help on various farms in the wheatbelt, in institutions in the metropolitan area and on stations in the Murchinson region.

While working on a station in the Shark Bay district she married a young station hand named Harry Cross. They had six children: Lucina, Therese, Margaret, Marcia, Celine and Clarence. After their separation, Gracie moved to Geraldton. She passed away in July 1983. Gracie never returned to Jigalong.

### **Daisy Kadibil**

After being reunited with her family, Daisy moved with them to the Jimalbar goldfields then to a camp near Lake Naberu, along the rabbit-proof fence south of Jigalong. She trained as a house maid and was later employed on various stations in the district. She married Kadibil, a station hand, and had four children: Noreena, Elizabeth, Jenny and Margaret.

After her husband's death, Daisy moved to Kalundi Seventh Day Adventist Mission, 25 kilometres north of Meekatharra, where she worked as a cook– housekeeper. She remained there until the mission closed in the 1970s. Daisy is a wonderful storyteller. This book may not have been written had it not been for her skill and love for storytelling, her vivid memory and her zest for life. Daisy now lives with her son and daughters and their families at Jigalong.