

## CAMDEN CHILDREN'S HOME

Robert was born on 15 November 1921. He had three older siblings (William, Charles and Vera) and one younger sibling (Joyce Turner nee West).



A young Robert (about 2 yo) with mum Vera Jessie

Around the time Robert was born, his mother (Vera Jessie McConnell nee Ryan) fell on hard times when her husband of 12 years (William James McConnell) absconded leaving her destitute. As a result, Robert was placed into care at the Camden Children's Home.



A young Robert and dog with mum Vera Jessie

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A young Robert with chook in yard

Mum Vera Jessie would regularly visit Robert until the birth of her daughter Joyce in 1927.



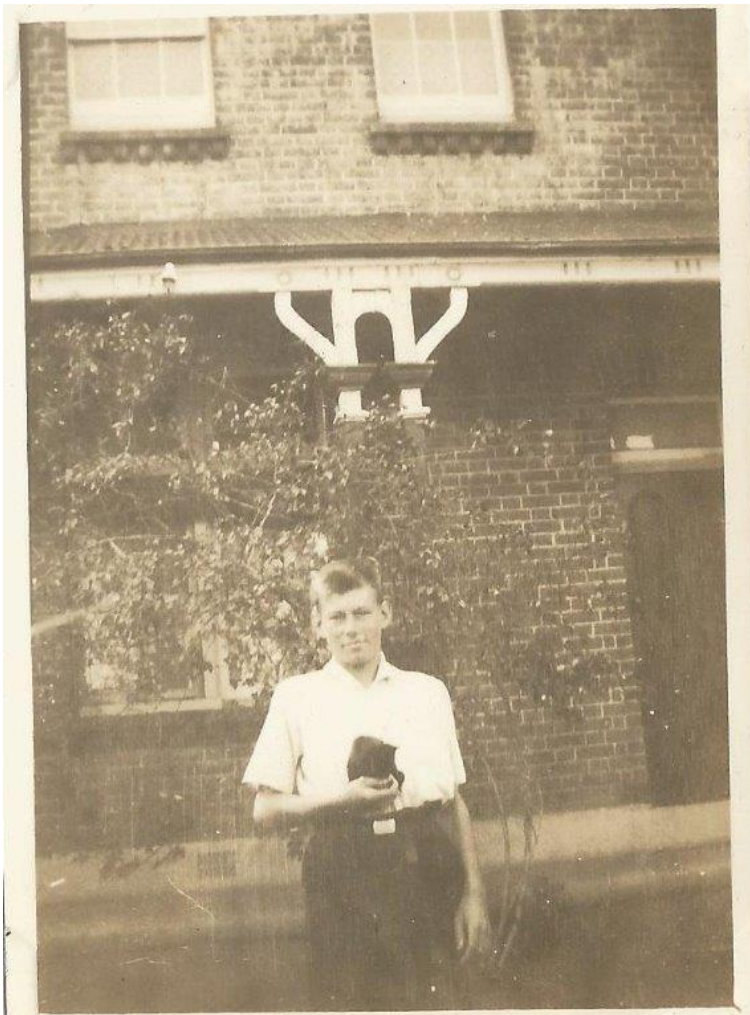
Robert in the home uniform at about 4 with Harry West (friend of Vera Jessie)

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Robert (end right in back row?) with fellow residents of the Home

Robert's younger sister Joyce remembers visiting Robert at the home regularly during the 1930s with her mum (Vera Jessie) and father (Harry West).



An older (about 12?) Robert with cat Snuggles outside front of Home.

Sadly, Joyce and Vera Jessie lost contact with Robert around the start of WWII. Joyce once said that she believed he was lost in the War. There is also mention of the "Binnaway Kid" in connection to Robert.

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The following photo is the last taken of a much older but obviously happy Robert. The registration on the vehicle was issued in April 1938 which puts Robert at least 17 yo. However, if Robert is the licenced driver then his age would have to be at least 21.



Joyce has just turned 93 and is still going strong. However, she has tried to track down Robert since commencing her family history search over 35 years ago. Unfortunately, she can no longer undertake this due to her health.

If you have anything to add to the life of Robert, it would be appreciated if you could contact Brian Turner, son of Joyce and therefore Roberts nephew, at [bgtturner101@gmail.com](mailto:bgtturner101@gmail.com) .