

CHARACTERS IN LOVE IN THE COUNTERCULTURE

WILLIAMSON FAMILY

JACK WILLIAMSON – Mike Williamson’s older brother, b. 1913 – Australian commando killed in attack on Walcheren, Holland, October 1944 – married English woman Julia Williamson, nee Ainsworth, b. 1918.

JOSEPH WILLIAMSON b. June 1941 – son of Jack Williamson – migrated to Australia and lives in Glenbrook, Blue Mountains, west of Sydney – married an Australian girl, Daisy Lacey – 2 children – real estate and property management.

JAMES WILLIAMSON, – son of Jack Williamson, born in London, April 1943 – lives in the London suburb of Chiswick – is completing his master’s degree in English literature – works in his mother’s bed-and-breakfast business – is planning to visit his Australian family.

DANNY WILLIAMSON, son of Mike Williamson, b. June 1945 – lives at Chatsworth, a north shore suburb of Sydney – tall, handsome and rugged – a gifted sportsman, especially in Rugby – begins university 1963 – comes into contact with counterculture leader Ronnie Newell, who befriends him – begins a relationship with Cathy Dunn – has trouble resisting the enticements of Laila Fairburn, one of counterculture leader Ronnie Newell’s girlfriends – later teams up with Freya Peterson.

ANGELA WILLIAMSON b. Sept 1947 – Danny’s sister – clever, whimsical, beautiful, playful, makes a joke and satire of everything – becomes engaged to Max Gallagher – warns Danny about his contact with Ronnie Newell and his girlfriends, Laila and Freya – completes her first novel.

STEPHANIE b. Aug. 1949 – Danny’s sister, sweet, innocent, adores her older brother, Danny.

ROBERT Williamson, b. 1943 – Danny’s older brother, staid, religious, and critical of Danny and his behaviour – works as an electrician and regards Danny and his university friends with scorn – marries Barbara Barrington in 1966.

BARBARA BARRINGTON – Robert’s girlfriend b. 1942, a senior teacher at Angela and Stephanie’s school, St Michael the Archangel college – like Robert, staid, overbearing, lecturing, especially where Angela is concerned – Robert and Barbara announce engagement, Christmas 1965 – marries Robert in 1966.

MIKE WILLIAMSON – Danny’s father (b. 1915) married June Compton (b. 1921) in 1942, while on leave from the war during which he fought with the Australian Army (AIF), his last posting in New Guinea – hard-working, serious and dour in character – preoccupied with the leftist influence on Australian society and the changes in the Catholic Church brought about by the Second Vatican Council.

CARL WILLIAMSON – brother of Mike Williamson, b. 1917 – married Mary Stafford – lives in Borough Lane, a suburb adjacent to Chatsworth – fought in the Australian navy – the most voluble and outspoken of his brothers and sisters – rages against the communists.

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL COLLEGE

NORTH HARBOUR

Sister Julian – reverts to LAURA MULLIGAN – History teacher – Deputy Principal St Michael the Archangel College

Sister Agatha – reverts to NORA CALWELL – science teacher – Principal St Michael the Archangel, College

Sister Julian (Laura Mulligan) and Sister Agatha (Nora Calwell) were postulants with Sister Catherine (Margaret McGuigan) and the same age. They were not as close to Catherine as Sisters Hildegard and Benedicta, formerly Elizabeth Parker and Kate Armstrong, but solidly under Catherine’s influence. Mother Jerome broke up their confederacy by sending Catherine to university with Agnes, Sisters Julian and Agatha to St Michael the Archangel Ladies’ College in NORTH HARBOUR, Sydney, and Hildegard and Benedicta to suburban schools in Melbourne.

JANNIE DE KAM b. 1939 – supermodel Jannie Stapelton, tall, willowy, unblemished ivory complexion, long brown hair, 5’ 11”, appeared as a failed postulant in the Sisters of the Suffering Saviour in In This Vales of Tears, Book 2, with Sister Margaret McGuigan.

SISTER MARGARET MCGUIGAN b. 1939 – tall, solid, neatly dressed in well-cut, modern religious garb, 5’ 9”, overbearing, imperious, now deputy director of the Sisters of the Suffering Saviour, appeared in In This Vale of Tears with Jannie de Kam.

GERDA VAN DEN DONKER

1945 – Gerda, born January 1945, daughter of Cees and Truus van den Donker (Times of Distress, Book 1), solid, butch, bohemian style, 5’ 5”, fanatical about the goddess and ancient mythology, hates Anneke van Engelen with a passion.

Mother Jerome – b. 1900 Sydney – Lucia Beauregard

Virginia Pearson – Sister Agnes b. 1934, antagonist of Sister Margaret

Office secretary – Mrs Cooper

CATHY DUNN, b. March 1945, Danny's girlfriend – the relationship developed after Cathy asked Danny to accompany her to her school formal – she is moderate-looking but with an attractive, sympathetic manner that belies strong opinions on moral and social matters – she begins university with Danny in 1963, but at a different university, Arthur Phillip University. After breaking up with Danny, she becomes coupled with James Williamson.

BENNETT FAMILY

MIGRATED FROM UK 1953

ASHLEY and IRIS – parents – Ashley is an international lawyer, and Iris is a law clerk.

ADRIAN b. 1947 – Riverside Jesuit College, second-year university student, studying medicine.

ELINOR b. 1949, tall, 5' 9", elegant, poised, quietly spoken, but confident – striking, long auburn hair with green eyes – ambitious for an academic career – calmly leads her class faction.

Marianne b. 1951

Justin b. 1953

BENNETT CHILDREN'S FRIENDS

Davo – Matthew (Matt) Davidson, medical student

Willo – Arts student

Slugger – Arts student Ian Powell

Nicholas Powell – year 12, Ian's younger brother

FAHY FAMILY

Borough Lane

BRENDAN b. 1918 – father, senior lecturer in economics at Arthur Phillip University.

MAEVE b. 1920 – mother – teacher history at state school.

Children

Mona b. 1947

BRENDA b. 1949, bold, outgoing, outspoken, supremely confident, average height, dark hair, beautiful, and a shameless coquette – dominates her class faction.

ST. MICHAEL'S CLASS

BRENDA FACTION

Brenda Fahy – her sister Mona, clashed with Angela
 Bridget Kelly
 Caitlin Byrne
 Pauline Walsh
 Georgina Hayes

ELEANOR FACTION

Eleanor Bennett
 Emily Moore
 Lisa Evans
 Olivia Price
 Melanie Anderson
 Madeline McLachlan – head girl
 Sally Wood timid student

 Scott Chapman – Elinor's formal partner
 Penelope Chapman – Scott's mother

WOOD FAMILY

Willoughby

Parents

GREGORY b. 1920 – a businessman, often away from home.

THELMA b. 1922 – housewife, close connection with St Michael's

Children

Gavin b. 1945

SALLY b. 1949, small, timid, attractive with little-girl features, has trouble speaking up in class.

FR FINLEY DONOHOE b. 1939 – 28 years in 1967 – new assistant priest at St Andrews parish – replaces Fr Doyle as assistant priest – tall, sporty, masculine, and strongly in support of the Second Vatican Council.

GALLAGHER FAMILY

NIALL GALLAGHER – owner of Gallagher’s Book and Magazine Company – a positive character who encourages Danny as much as his son, Max – encourages Danny to join the company.

MAX GALLAGHER, son of Niall Gallagher, b. May 1945, tall, good-looking, ebullient, positive like his father – has great expectations in his father’s company – a skilled footballer – lives on the south side of Sydney and attended a Rice Brothers’ school, as Danny did – meets Danny after a school football match – they become best friends – becomes engaged to Angela – attends the same university as Danny, Mitchell University – is called up for service in the national call-up scheme.

RONNIE NEWELL b.1943 – counterculture radical and leader – lives in Cremorne – editor of Jaz – finished university end of 1964, graduated April 1965 – started Jaz magazine 1965 – left for London 1966 – befriends Danny and exercises much influence on him.

DAVID FAIRBURN, businessman, friend of the Bennetts, and father of Laila.

Linda Fairburn, housewife, friend of the Bennetts, and mother of Laila.

Laila Fairburn b. 1944 – Ronnie Newell’s girlfriend – finished university at the end of 1964, graduated in April 1965 – entices Danny Williamson away from Cathy Dunn – father is a successful businessman.

FREYA PETERSEN – daughter of a Swedish diplomat in Sydney – Matt Pierce’s girlfriend – Danny also comes under her spell.

Miss Nola Sharpe – publisher’s editor – provides editorial tuition to Danny and Angela at Mr Gallagher’s request.