

The biographical facts below concerning Alan Keen, the author of *The Annotator*, were compiled by the author of this website.

The 1901 Irish census and Irish birth and marriage records which are available online indicate that Alan Keen was born Gordon Alen Keen on 26 October 1899 in Dublin to George Alfred Keen (born in Forebridge, Staffordshire on 5 August 1860 and described variously in Dublin records as an 'outfitter', 'manager to a merchant', and 'hosier'), and Emily Mary Edwards, the daughter of George Absalom Edwards of Dublin, described as a 'commercial traveller', and Annie Eccles. Alan Keen had two older sisters, both born in Dublin, Mabel Annie Keen (born 12 April 1895) and Dorothy Victoria Keen (born 7 December 1896).

Alan Keen's paternal grandparents were Charles Thomas Keen (b.1823, d. 22 March 1912), a Baptist minister, and Harriet Hardy (b.1830, d. 13 April 1908), who were married in 1850. They are buried at Mill Road Cemetery in Cambridge. See:

<http://millroadcemetery.org.uk/keen-charles-thomas/>

Alan Keen's father appears to have left Dublin before the 1911 Irish census was taken. He was buried at Chorlton-cum-Hardy on 7 February 1924.

It is not yet known for certain where and when Alan Keen himself died. A Gordon A Keen who died at St Asaph in 1959 appears to be the only person with a similar name who was of the right age.

In 1968, Alan Keen's widow, Frances, sold some of his papers to University College London. Alan Keen's wife was born Frances Winifred Kloet on 26 November 1900 in Stockport. She was the daughter of James Herbert Kloet and Alice Mary Slater, who were married at Prestwich in 1898.

Alan Keen and Frances Winifred Kloet were married at Manchester in June 1927.

Alan Keen, his wife, Frances, and two children appear in the 1939 Register of all persons in England as residents of 97 Peshurst Gardens, Hendon.

One of their children was Freda M Keen (born 5 March 1931). A later note added to the entry in the 1939 Register indicates that Freda M Keen married a husband surnamed Booth on 24 December 1956. Her husband appears to have been Gordon H Booth, whom she married at Hampstead. The fact that the entry for her in the 1939 Register entry is open to view indicates that Freda Booth is now deceased. She may be Freda Mary Booth, who died 13 September 1997, leaving a will, Probate Number 9751916811.

Alan Keen's other child may have been a daughter, Elaine F Keen (possibly Elaine Frances Keen), born in 1928 in Stockport.

The entry in the 1939 Register for Alan Keen's other child is closed to view, indicating either that he/she is still living, or that this child's death has not yet been recorded in the 1939 Register.

Alan Keen's wife, Frances, died at Lambeth in March 1983. She appears not to have left a will.

Alan Keen also appears not to have left a will, nor does there appear to be a record of a grant of administration of his estate. It is thus difficult to determine the identity of Alan Keen's heir. It could have been his wife, Frances, or either of their two children, or their children's children. On the other hand, if Alan Keen and his wife Frances have no surviving descendants, Alan Keen's heir could be a descendant of his sisters, Mabel Keen and Dorothy Keen.