



News & Notes

John Hogan 1930-2009

Two years ago ([Family Links 5](#)) we presented the story of how [John Hogan](#) of Bendigo VIC found his father's ancestors via our family links web site. Sadly, John died suddenly but peacefully on 12 Feb. His father had been estranged from the wider Hogan family and John



was able to re-establish the connection when he found his father on our web site. We, on the other hand, knew virtually nothing about his father. John

had even made a special trip to Ireland searching for connections but had been unsuccessful.

In the photo, John is on the right, with his dad, mum and brother Jimmy.

If not for John I might not have made my trip to visit UK and Irish cousins and places that I wrote about in the last Family Links. I had visited John in Bendigo and told

him that "some day" I would like to visit Ireland and the UK to look up family. John said firmly, "Do it while you can!" And he said it more than once. He was a former Army Warrant Officer Class 1 (the most senior NCO rank) - so I did as I was told!

It is great to think that he made contact with the wider Hogan family before he died - and because of our web site. His wife Myrtle died in 1981. They are survived by nine children, 29 grandchildren and an unknown (to me, that is!) number of great grandchildren.

ROYES of ROCKHAMPTON:

The Thomas Mordaunt and Ellen (Crossley) Royes reunion in Townsville May 2008 was a great success. Gladys Elcoate is prepared to gather expressions of interest in a reunion in May 2010 in Rockhampton perhaps including other Royes branches. **Just about all Australian Royes descendants have their Australian origins here.** If you have her details you can contact her direct, or contact me (see the back page) and I will forward your message on to her.

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Marianne Viola Royes



Marianne died during the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918, aged 42. She is a significant ancestor in

the Jamaican Royes family. (Her husband Samuel is a second cousin to the Royes of the Herbert Charles/Thomas Mordaunt Royes generation in Australia.) Her granddaughter Heather sent the photo in, and I thought I would put in a plug for your photos of your own ancestors. They really do enhance a person's page display! Marianne's photo is taken from a document produced for a family memorial gathering on the 50th anniversary of Marianne's death.

People events

- § May: Gladys (Slatyer) Elcoate celebrated her 80th birthday in Darwin while she and brother Vincent toured the Northern Territory.
- § April: Molly Swift born on Holy Thursday, first great granddaughter for Anne (Hogan) and Tom Phelan. Molly is the daughter of Cathy Burns and her partner Larry Swift. They live in Tramore and Cathy is a primary teacher in the Mercy Convent School in Waterford.
- § March: Riley Carla Roy born to Stephen and Tracey, half-sister for

Georgia, seventh grandchild for Ena Roy

- § March: Agnes (Royes) Weiss (last surviving child of Thomas Mordaunt and Ellen (Crossley) Royes) was admitted to Wesley Hospital, Brisbane due to serious illness. She returned home fully recovered but has been back in hospital. Her daughter Laurel has been in Wesley Hospital for a knee reconstruction.
- § 12 February: John Hogan passed away suddenly but peacefully at home in Bendigo, VIC. He had only in the last two or three years (via this web-site) re-established links with the wider Hogan family that

had previously not gone beyond his father.

- § February: Isabel McKenzie Gear born in Cairns QLD to Stephen and Kristin, their first child and Carol and Len's first granddaughter [Royes]
- § February: Jenna May Gallagher born to Ashley and Shannon in Cairns, QLD. They are from a property outside of Normanton in 'the gulf country' of Queensland. Jenna is a fourth daughter - and a seventh granddaughter for Mick and Nola (Royes).
- § November: Max Brian Behrens Bolger born to Patrick and Sheena in Dublin, Ireland [Hogan-Russell]

Most Wanted: Solomon Royes

Most wanted is a section on the web site that seeks to identify areas of family tree research where it would be nice to have more information. One of them surrounds Solomon Royes, silversmith of Aldersgate Street, London, located opposite what is now the famous Barbican development. Solomon is a direct ancestor of the Royes in Australia and Jamaica, being father of Charles John and Edward Hougham Royes. emigrants to Jamaica and Australia respectively. Some Luthers in Australia are also descendants.



Let's divide our discussion into what we know, what we can conjecture and what would be helpful to find out. Be alert! There's a Solomon Hougham, a Solomon Royes and a Solomon Hougham Royes in all this!

The Facts

1. In Solomon Hougham's will (1818):

Solomon Royes the elder (SRsr) is nephew and partner of Solomon Hougham and is THE major beneficiary [he is clearly "adopted" by Solomon Hougham from early childhood when his father died while he was young (according to Gillian West's article) and while Solomon Hougham had no children - certainly sons - of his own]

Solomon Royes junior (SRjr) has a sister Lydia Sanigear - they are relatively minor beneficiaries.

Solomon Hougham's sister is Sarah Royes in Canterbury - SRsr's mother.

Mary Royes is a minor beneficiary.

[NOTE: Apart from Solomon Royes jr's relationship to Lydia Sanigear (sister) and Solomon Royes sr's to Solomon Hougham (nephew), the Royes's relationships are not specified]

2. Gillian West's article

Gillian West's article "[Huffam and Son](#)" (see in the Histories

section of the web site) refers to two Solomon Royes's cousins ("father and son") who also were goldsmith apprentices.

Solomon Royes married Solomon Hougham's daughter Mary.

[**BUT** Solomon Royes is referred to as nephew and not son-in-law - surely he would have identified his daughter, if he had one. Gillian West is wrong on at least this point. See also the use of the name Mordaunt at item 4.]

3. International Genealogical Index

Solomon Royes' children seem to be well documented in the IGI (the sources for which are St Botolph's and St Sepulchre's parish records) - an * indicates those mentioned in Solomon Royes' will of 25 June 1842:



St Botolph's Church

mother Ann Hannah

1802 William

mother Mary or Mary Hougham:

1804 Samuel Tyssen - in Australia about 1829-30

1806 George Hougham - died as child

1808 Maria* (Luther) - in Australia from 1838

1811 Caroline

1812 Sophia Mary

1813 Charles John - migrated to Jamaica

1814 George Hougham

1817 Emily* (Bell) - in Australia 1838-50

1818 Edward Hougham - in Australia from 1838

St Sepulchre's Church

mother Mary or Mary Hougham

1819 Francis Hougham

1821 Adelaide Julia Radcliffe*

1822 Henry Hougham - died as infant

Tooting Graveney, Surrey and from Solomon Royes's will

1824 Mary Hougham*

from other evidence

???? Solomon Hougham - died 1837 in India

possibly

1801 Lydia (Sanigear) (sister of the above)

4. The Royes use of the name Mordaunt

It seems curious to me that Mordaunt begins to be used as a middle name among the Royes four generations after Sarah Mordaunt married a Hougham. Just curious! However, the use of the name indicates that Solomon's wife comes through a connection to Sarah Mordaunt rather than as a daughter of Solomon Hougham.

5. The Royes use of the name Hougham

St Botolph's register confirms that Solomon uses the middle name Hougham for most of his sons and his daughter Mary.

6. The marriage of Lydia Royes to William Sanigear, the latter

being mentioned twice in relation to Solomon Royes senior's will as a legal person. Remember that Lydia Sanigear is identified as Solom Royes jr's sister in Solomon Hougham's will.

Conjecture

Lydia

There must be at least two Lydia's. We had only one Lydia Royes - sister of Solomon senior - but the reference in Solomon's will demands a different solution because she is the wife of William Sanigear and the 1841 Census identifies her as being born about 1801. Since we already know that Solomon Royes's first wife was Ann Hannah and that he had a son William in 1802, and that he married Mary Hougham in 1804, it seems likely that Lydia Royes Sanigear was born into the first marriage.

This means that the Solomon Royes junior in Solomon Hougham's will was of the same marriage since Lydia is identified as his sister.

Solomon Hougham Royes

It is clear that Solomon Hougham Royes is the son of Solomon Royes - see his notes which identify three sources to back this up. It seems that we must also consider that he is the Solomon Royes who is Lydia's

brother and therefore his mother was Ann Hannah and not Mary.

Solomon Royes's marriage to Ann Hannah

The only evidence for this marriage is the baptism of William in St Botolph's-without-Aldersgate. It is this association with this church that encourages us to assume that this was the first of two marriages of Solomon Royes. You might want to object that maybe there could be two Solomon Royes of about the same generation, and that is a possibility. But Royes is not a common name in London and the link with St Botolph's and the convenient dates (if one allows Solomon Hougham Royes to be born before Lydia - about 1799) seems more likely to be the same Solomon.

Solomon Royes was born in 1774 and we can presume that he married Ann Hannah about 1798, that they had Solomon Hougham (1799??), Lydia (1801??) and William (1802) before Ann Hannah died.

Mary Royes

Mary Hougham Royes cannot be the Mary Royes in Solomon Hougham's will since she was not born until 6 years after his death. Is this Solomon Royes's wife? It seems strange that he does not say this if this is so.

Cousins

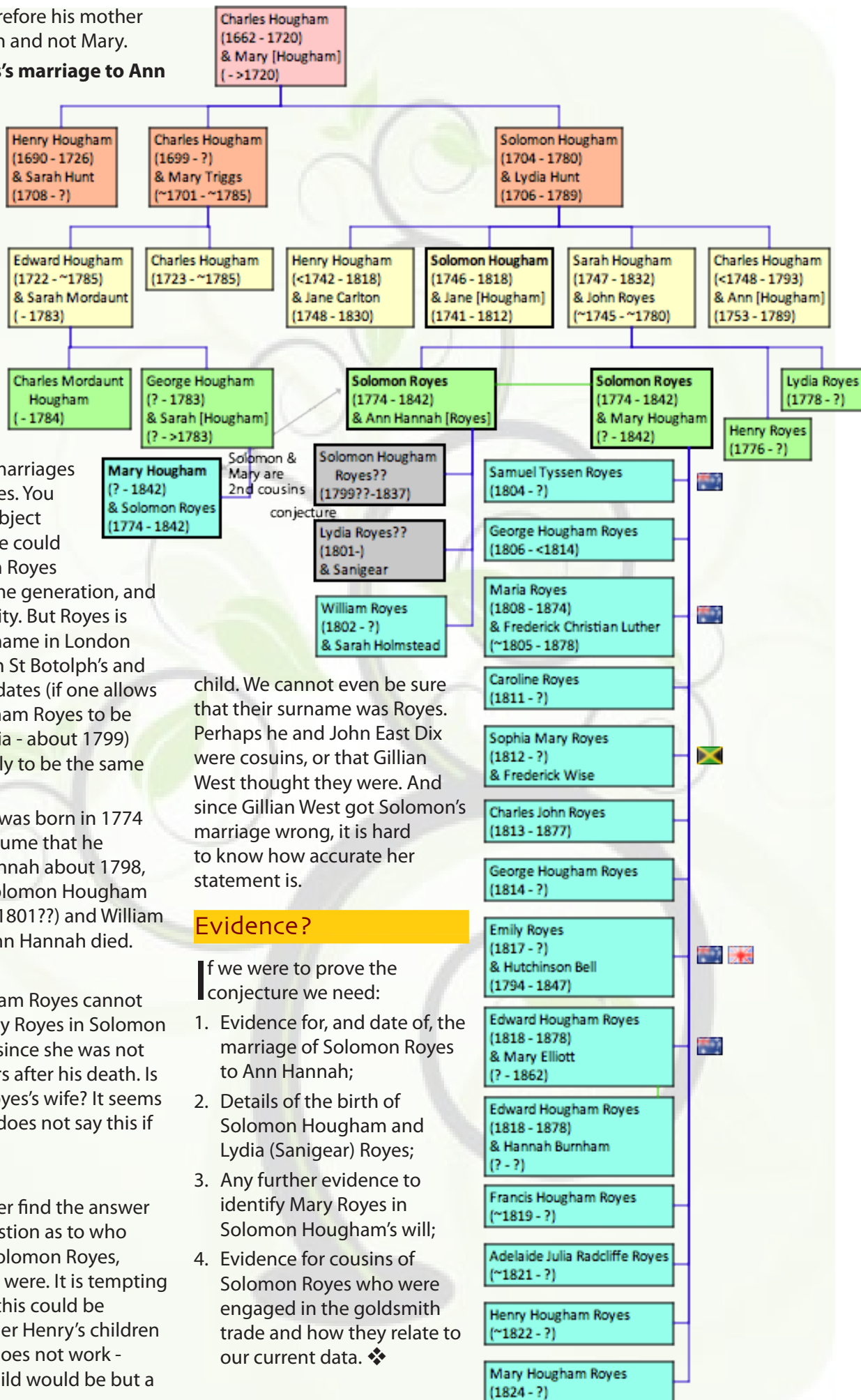
We may never find the answer to the question as to who the cousins of Solomon Royes, "father and son", were. It is tempting to suggest that this could be Solomon's brother Henry's children but the timing does not work - Henry's grandchild would be but a

child. We cannot even be sure that their surname was Royes. Perhaps he and John East Dix were cousins, or that Gillian West thought they were. And since Gillian West got Solomon's marriage wrong, it is hard to know how accurate her statement is.

Evidence?

If we were to prove the conjecture we need:

1. Evidence for, and date of, the marriage of Solomon Royes to Ann Hannah;
2. Details of the birth of Solomon Hougham and Lydia (Sanigear) Royes;
3. Any further evidence to identify Mary Royes in Solomon Hougham's will;
4. Evidence for cousins of Solomon Royes who were engaged in the goldsmith trade and how they relate to our current data. ❖



DNA reveals story of dad's disappearance



abbreviated from Ruth Sheehan, *The News & Observer* 23 Mar, 2009

John Smithers of Raleigh had spent more than six decades looking for clues about the father who abandoned him, his sister and their mother when he was just a baby.

At 82, he had about given up on ever learning what happened to James William Smithers. He had long suspected his father got in trouble with the law and fled abroad.

On the other side of the world, Lucinda Gray had always wondered what her father's life was like before he moved mysteriously from the United States to Australia. She had spent years just trying to find out his real name.

In mid-December, Smithers and Gray learned their elusive fathers were one and the same.

After years of poring over records online and in person, across continents and oceans, it took only a DNA sample from a simple cheek scrape to bring the two branches of the family together.

The case shows what a "new frontier" DNA has become in genealogical research, said Debbi Blake, a North Carolina state archivist.

DNA has been in genealogical use

since 2000, according to Thomas Shawker, a radiologist with the National Institutes of Health who has become a nationally renowned expert on the use of the latest science in genealogy. Its use since then among professional genealogists and family historians has mushroomed.

But the impact of DNA hasn't been as significant as the Internet, which transformed genealogical research by making records from distant places available at the click of a mouse.

findmypast.com
family history in the making

DNA testing has a fairly hefty price tag -- from \$99 to well over \$700, depending on the type of DNA and the level of research. Until recently, its application has been limited, said Terry Moore, a professional genealogist in Raleigh. Typically, it's used to identify which branch of the family tree to climb -- or which region or nation to zero in on.

As more people who share a surname start their own registries, DNA's role is expanding into the modern age -- uniting living relatives. The Smithers-Gray case is a perfect example. ❖

To learn more:

What can you learn from a DNA test? (audio) <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/podcasts/36041.htm>

dna - genealem's genetic genealogy (blog) <http://genealem-geneticgenealogy.blogspot.com/>



Web site news

A **scrolling news box** has replaced the column on the front page, allowing for more news items to be included.

I am progressively revising the **overview charts** to make them more like overviews and less like what you can already get from an individual's charts. Privacy will be better managed.

The site software has been updated and you will notice:

- § **Ancestor and descendant charts** have been improved and made more attractive.
- § The ability to produce **PDF** pages from individual's pages has improved.



Roy~Royes Family Links has its beginnings in the marriage of **Maurie Roy and May Royes** in Cairns, Queensland, in 1940. It has grown to over 6000 people including those from parallel branches such as the **Russells, Hogans, Logans, Girvans** and **Wileys** on the Roy side, and the **Houghams** (or Huffams and several other variants), **Youngs** and **Theoffs** on the Royes side. It is not possible to list all branches here but you can check on all surnames at <http://royroyes.net/genealogy/surnames.php>

The scope of the data is based on research into the Roy and Royes pedigrees. It also includes several areas of interest such as the Normandy dukes; English royalty; the Roy and Royes names in Australia.

If you are interested in the **Houghams**, you should be aware that the largest Hougham/Huffam data base (23,000 people) is by Robin Young: <http://hougham.royroyes.net/>

Editor: Bruce Roy • 45 King Street, Wollstonecraft NSW 2065, Australia • Email: admin@royroyes.net

This newsletter is available on the web in both pdf and jpg formats at <http://royroyes.net/genealogy/newsletters/newsletters.php>