



## News and Notes



Jack Wyatt graduated from Mareeba High School on the 15th November last and will tackle civil engineering at James Cook University in Townsville. He is pictured here with his mum Lenore (right) and grandmother Carol Gear.



Gillian Royes with the galleys of her third Shad series novel *The Sea Grape Tree* to be published in July. Celebrated with sea grape!



Meila Cusack was baptised in St James Church, Malanda, Qld on 23 Nov 2013 with her three great grandparents! Tom Giudic, Chelma Cusack and Bill Grumley

### Herbert George Royes 1940-2013

Bert Royes was enjoying a South Pacific cruise with his wife Philippa when he had a heart attack and died, just one month short of his 73rd birthday. Father of Hilary, Fleur, Steven and Keith. He was interred at Bunorong Memorial Park, Dandenong, Victoria.

Bert is a fourth generation Australian Royes, being a grandson of Thomas Mordaunt Royes (1879-1958), who was a grandson of Edward Hougham Royes sr (1816-1878).



This photo (taken in 1967?) is of Bert, his mum Phoebe, his wife Philippa, and his father Mordaunt.

### Thomas Mordaunt Royes 1947-2013

Thomas Mordaunt Royes died 23 November 2013 just two days short of his 66th birthday. He was the great grandson of Charles Mordaunt Royes and his father and grandfather also had Mordaunt as their second name. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, two children, Rebecca (married to Jamie Hoyes) and David.

There will be an article by Ron Royes in the next newsletter about the occurrence of the name Mordaunt in our family tree and especially the Royes family in Australia.

## Snippets

November 2013



Alana Roy born to Adam and Linda (of Mareeba) in Cairns Private Hospital, granddaughter for Peter and Irene.

October 2013

Lucy Cassin born in Dublin, Ireland at 2.20 a.m. and weighing 8lb 20z - second child for Mark and Kate, sister for Paul.



Lauren Roy (Oxley, Qld) is a member of Queensland University of Technology Cliffhangers Rock Climbing Club. She's welcome!

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## More News and Notes...



Eena Roy, widow of Apex Life Member [George Roy](#) was on hand to recognise the work her late husband had put in to the original Cabanda Crossing bridge in Rosewood (Queensland), when the new one was officially named. The original footbridge was put in place about 20 years ago with council supplying the materials while members of the local Apex and Lions Clubs built it.

It is located in Johnstone Park in Rosewood. [Cabanda](#) is the name of the aged care centre established in the area in 1987.

*adapted from the [Moreton Border News](#) 22 November 2013*

[As many of you will know, George Roy was the main contributor to getting the Roy~Royes family tree under weigh and did a lot of networking around Queensland and Ireland to build a sense of a wider family community.]



A Roy family gathering in Northern Ireland 2007  
(courtesy of Pat Roy)

Back row from left to right: Brenda (Roy) Powers, Olwen Roy, Jim Powers, Pat (Roy) Harris.

Front row: Stuart Roy, Max McNeill, Alison (Roy) Dyke, Lydia Morgan (step daughter of Pat), Carole Roy.

This photograph was taken in August 2007 at Browns Bay in Northern Ireland.

See (with links to people in the photo) at:

<http://royroyes.net/showmedia.php?medialD=1659>



Wild storms lashed Ireland in early January. This photo is from Tramore on Ireland's southern coast where several Russell descendants, Hogans and Phelans, live. The photo was taken by Áine Ní Fhaoláin, granddaughter of Annie ("Nancy") Teresa Hogan née Russell [in the photo below] - 2nd cousin of Maurie Roy.

In the meantime, in mid January, Australia experienced severe bushfires across four states right across the south of the continent - I am not aware of any family members being seriously affected.

### Photo from the past

James (Jimmy) Russell (Presbyterian) and Annie Magee (Catholic) escaped religious tension in their families in Ireland by marrying in Cape Town on 31st December 1902 and raising a family there.

This photo looks like it was taken about 1921.

From left: John, Seamus, Jimmy, Nancy, Marg, Rosaleen, Desmond, Annie, Kay, Dot

See at: <http://royroyes.net/showmedia.php?medialD=268>



## First Royes migrant to Australia

Did you know there were four Royes siblings who migrated to the colony of New South Wales between 1829 and 1838?

About **1829** [Samuel Tyssen Royes](#) (1804-?) arrived seeking to make his fortune.

[Edward Hougham Royes](#) (1816-1878) was in Sydney in 1831 as a cabin boy on the *Surry* and again in **1834**. We're not sure when he actually settled in Australia - it may have been 1834 or when his two sisters migrated. He moved to central Queensland before 1873 and died in Rockhampton.

January **1838** [Emily](#) (1817-1875) migrated in order to marry Hutchison Bell, but after he died in 1847 she returned with her four surviving children to London via the Isle of Jersey. She subsequently married surgeon Henry Smith.

Emily was chaperoned by her older sister [Maria](#) (1808-1874) who subsequently married wine maker Frederic Christian Luther in Sydney in 1842. Maria's descendants (mostly surnamed Luther or Dunn) come from the area just south west of Sydney (Picton, Hartley and Oberon).

As you may have noticed we know quite a bit about Maria, Edward and Emily, but it is the mysterious Samuel Tyssen Royes that is the focus of this article.

Apart from his birth and baptism records the only other reference to Sam comes from records within [State Records - New South Wales](#). [A transcript of these can be found at <http://royroyes.net/showmedia.php?mediaID=1590&medialinkID=2868>.]

A "Sam. Tyson Royes" is listed in the Index to Quarter Sessions cases, Sydney, Oct 1831. He was charged with stealing 11/1 [11 shillings one penny or A\$1.11 - possibly about £85 or A\$170 in today's money] from his employer, Capper Pass, Baker in George Street. He presented to his trial two references:

(1) from Thomas Dobson of London dated 5 Aug 1829 to Robert Lambert of "Bathurst, Sydney" to "introduce... Mr Samuel Tyssen Royes - he purposes visiting New South Wales in hopes of making his fortune. I have had the pleasure to know his father for upwards of thirty years - a

very respectable upright honest man..."

(2) from ? Lachlan of 22 Great Alie Street [Whitechapel, London] dated 3 Aug 1829 to J. Coghill of Sydney: "I take the liberty by this of introducing to you Mr Royes (son of a highly respectable gentleman) who visits Australia in search of employment. If you want a Clerk or Superintendent on your farm you will oblige me by taking Mr Royes. He has ever conducted himself with the strictest sobriety, integrity, industry and ability..."

It seems his Sydney employer initially claimed that Sam had stolen £8.15.0 [A\$17.50 - possibly about £425 or A\$850 in today's money] but it appears that he challenged this for there are subsequent statements from his employer stating inter alia that "I cannot swear whether the prisoner informed me before he went into the hospital about 3 weeks ago [from 13 Sep 1831] that he had received the said moneys or not." Samuel pleaded guilty on the 20th to the 11/1 charge and was sentenced on the 25th "to be imprisoned in His Majesty's Gaol of Sydney for and during the of [sic] three calendar months".

And that is the last we know of Samuel.

Did he go to Jamaica where his brother Charles had migrated? **NB: this is pure speculation** based on the possibility that there were two Royes brothers in Jamaica. And that is based on two pieces of "evidence":

(1) The mystery of the baptism (October 1849) of a Charles Thomas Royes (born January 1849) within a month of two other Royes, Matilda (born August 1846) and Edward (born September 1848), plus the fact that [Charles John Royes sr](#) already had a son Charles, born about 1832 and still alive at the time of the baptisms. Although the two Charles are listed as Charles sr's children in our database, it needs an explanation.

(2) At least one Jamaican Royes branch has an oral family story that includes two Royes brothers coming to Jamaica. 

On the names Tyssen, Hougham and Royes: One of the Tyssen family had Hougham as a second name and there are several Samuel Tyssens, one of whom married a Hougham. Samuel Tyssen Royes is a cousin. I believe it is safe to assume that this Samuel Tyssen Royes is the same as the son of Solomon Royes and Mary Hougham, and that he arrived in Sydney towards the end of 1829 (based on his letters of reference).

# Thomas Stewart Moody

Thomas was born in Omagh, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland in 1861. Although he was listed as aged 21 on his immigration entry into Queensland, Thomas was believed to be aged 16. The reference also listed that he came to Queensland on the ship *Nairnshire*, which left Greenock, Scotland on the 24 Nov 1876 and arrived in Brisbane on the 7 Mar 1877. He was listed as an assisted passenger on the immigration index card, but the ship's passenger list had Thomas listed in the Free passengers section. The *Nairnshire* was captained by Walter Nevin, the ships surgeon was Dr William Gregory and its matron was Miss Mary Steel. The ship carried 261 passengers, with three deaths while at sea.



## Thomas and Mary

Thomas married Mary Higginson, in Townsville on 28 Feb 1883. and they overlanded to the Atherton Tablelands in far North Queensland, to make a living. A copy of a survey map of 22 Aug 1887, by Alfred Starcke, Surveyor, of the town of Granite Creek, shows blocks of land on the northern side of Granite Creek owned by T Moody and his son G Moody. The Moody homestead was the first home constructed over the Granite Creek and

was situated on the northern side of what is now known as Starcke Street and faced towards Granite Creek. There was a well beside the house for drinking water with a large mango tree covered with bougainvillea near it. The family owned land situated at the back of the current golf course extending across One, Two, Three and Four Mile Creeks which feed into the Mitchell River. They had stockyards and ran cattle.

With horse teams they carted timber from the Atherton Tablelands to the sawmill in Mareeba. The sawmill owned by the Jamieson family, was situated on the northern side of Keeble Street where Queensland Rail now has a rail siding (this has since gone too). During the time Tom Moody snr was a teamster, a timber worker

From *The Cairns Post*: 15 Sep 1926

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

By "Tramp" (Atherton Memories Continued)

[Excerpt:]

As I leave Dunmore Farm, I pass a well-known carrier, Tom Moody, with a cedar log for the Railway, over 7 feet in girth, which, standing, realised 10 shillings per hundred feet. Tom Moody, a well-known timber getter, is coming through the scrub with a 4 ton pinelog aboard. Long before he comes into sight the crack of the whip and "Get up, Silver" can be heard urging the powerful team of 16 horses through the soft scrub soil, and at times the waggon rolls and tosses like a ship at sea, and the overturning of a waggon, or its unloading to extract it from the bog, is no uncommon occurrence. Chatting, with Mr. Moody, he informs me that last year he sent away over 500,000 feet of timber, and this year has already handled 200,000 feet of cedar, and 100,000 feet of pine. A short distance through the scrub and on the banks of the Barron River we came across a sawmill, the property of Thomas & Bock. The mill, which was erected by Mr. Bock, is a picture of ingenuity. The river has been dammed below the mill site, and a turbine of 55-horse power built in the river.

From the river bed, two cables of 500 feet connect the turbine with the sawmill, and a further arrangement of light cables control the power.

A novel feature of the arrangement is the use of a large fig tree growing near the water's edge as a frame work for a portion of the machinery.

accidentally cut himself with an axe and, due to his workmates having little knowledge of first aid, bled to death. As a result of the incident Tom pressed the timber workers and locals to learn the rudiments of first aid and, as an incentive to learn, donated the timber for an ambulance building at Atherton. A plaque to his memory is embedded in the cement wall of the (old) Atherton Ambulance building (now a shop).

Thomas was killed (fractured skull) in a fall from a horse whilst taking part in a race near Herberton. Tom was listed as a horse carrier for the Tablelands, from Herberton to Mareeba, in Glenville Pikes' book *Pioneers Country*.

Descendents of this family, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th generations still live in Mareeba. The children of the marriage were Mary Jane (Royes) [photo], Barbara (Dawson), Thomas, William, George, Sam and Bert. 🇺🇸



See more at: <http://royroyes.net/showmedia.php?mediaID=1542>

## The washing of the feet

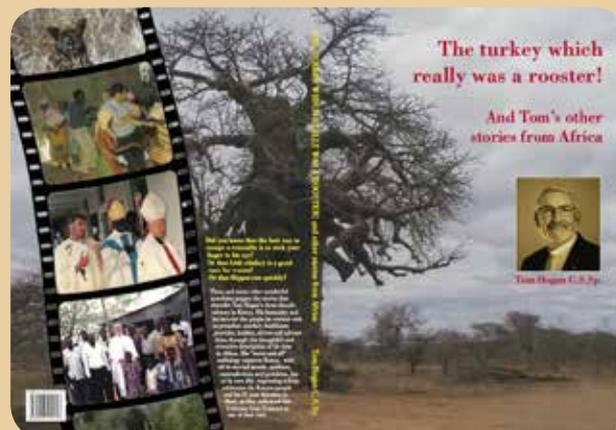
I made some progress in learning Kiswahili by Easter time – my first in Africa. Sisal, which is used to make ropes and seating, is grown in huge plantations in the area around Mwatate. We held the Holy Thursday ceremonies in the church situated in the Sisal estate. Linguistically, it was a challenge but I would be able to manage with the help of catechist Feliciano Mwendena. Feliciano was a refugee from Mozambique. Together with his wife and children, he had fled the Frelimo conflict. He was to be my first close refugee contact.

We prepared for the Holy Thursday ceremony to be held at the Church and the faithful arrived. During this ceremony, twelve members of the congregation have their feet washed by the priest, in memory of the example given by Jesus when he washed his disciple's feet.

Twelve of the congregation were chosen and they were to sit on a bench in front of the altar and have their feet washed. I was to start washing the feet of the people at one end of the bench and then continue up the line. It was all very straightforward – or so I thought!

The back breaking work of cutting sisal was over for the day, people came from the camps all around the sisal estate for the ceremony which was held in the late afternoon. The church was packed and the ceremony began. It was going well enough and I had finished my homily. It was time to do the washing of the feet. I got the water, towel and basin from the altar boys who were helping in the ceremony. I started from the left, knelt

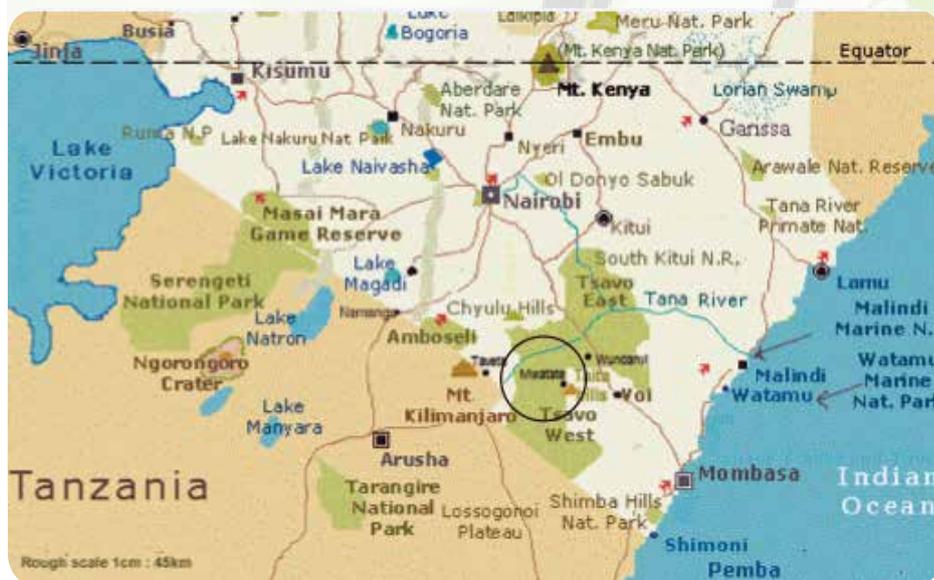
Another Fr Tom Hogan's story from his time as a priest with the Congregation of the Holy Spirit ("the Spiritans". [Tom is 2nd cousin to Maurie Roy.]



*The Turkey Which Really Was a Rooster* is available from several sources but it is easier to direct you to the author Fr Tom Hogan, 66 Rockfield Avenue, Kimmage, Dublin 12, Ireland

down and began washing and then drying the feet of the chosen people. I was nearly finished my duties when I noticed that I seemed to have forgotten one or two who were still sitting at the other end of the bench. I returned and washed and dried the feet of the forgotten. Suddenly the bench was full again! Maybe I had misunderstood and twenty four people had been selected? Perhaps it was twelve men and twelve women; anyway I continued. Nevertheless, there were more and more people coming forward. I knew I was in for a long evening when I heard Feliciano saying: "Father Tom is washing everyone's feet – this is a very big blessing, come forward row-by-row and be sure to bring all the children."

Row-by-row they came, adults and children. By this time, the water was nicely coloured with the red dust of the area. The towel too became a bright coloured red. Maybe using a snow white towel wasn't such a good idea after all! So, every one had their feet washed, except myself. All were blessed. It was a long ceremony but the people did not mind and felt that they had made a good start to the Easter festivities. 

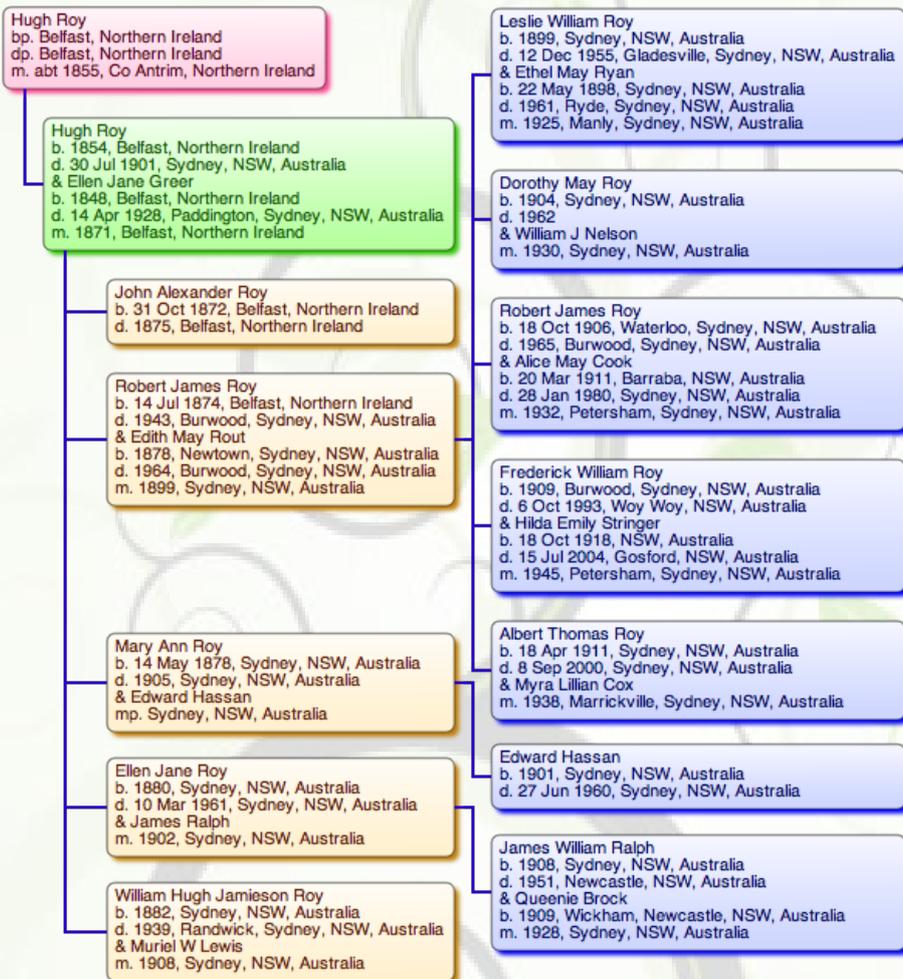


## Research notes

It has been a time for making more Roy contacts, including two new sources - Ellie Roy (my third cousin) in London and Phil Roy (is he a cousin?) in NSW.

Another Australian Roy family has been revealed courtesy of Phil Roy. There is a chance that they might link into our Roy tree. The occurrence of names like James, Albert and perhaps Jamieson plus the Belfast base suggests that there may be a link and

the earliest Hugh (probably born about 1830-35) could conceivably (pardon the pun!) be a sibling or cousin of "our James" born in the late 1820s. Hugh and family are currently in the Roy miscellaneous collection but will be moved to the main tree if a link is established - see the chart below and go to <http://royroyes.net/getperson.php?personID=1244&tree=roymisc> and follow the links. "Our James Roy" can be found at [http://royroyes.net/getperson.php?personID=1831&tree=rr\\_tree](http://royroyes.net/getperson.php?personID=1831&tree=rr_tree). Many of this Roy family settled in Sydney.



Ellie Roy Wheatley contacted me in December with information about her side of the family plus some further information about people already in our tree. Go to <http://royroyes.net/descend>.

[http://royroyes.net/getperson.php?personID=16536&tree=rr\\_tree](http://royroyes.net/getperson.php?personID=16536&tree=rr_tree).

Ellie and cousins Pat and Carole have sent us quite a few historic photos of the Northern Ireland Roys, now on the web site (and one is on p2)



Family Links is produced by Roy-Royes Family Links

This family tree has its roots in the marriage of **Maurie Roy and May Royes** in Cairns, Queensland, in 1940. It has grown to over 6000 people. Apart from Royes and Roy, the most common surnames in our data are Hougham/Huffam, Hogan, Weatherburn, Girvan, Bailey, Robinson and Smith.

On the web site are help pages: "Using this site" (there is a link in the footer of every page). These pages also explain our privacy policy and the scope of our research.

There is a Facebook group associated with our family tree - [Roy-Royes Family Links](#). This is designed to be a community forum - so join in! Share some stories!

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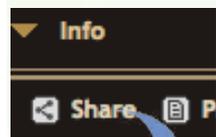
This newsletter is available on the web at <http://royroyes.net/newsletters.php>



<http://royroyes.net/>

## Web site notes

Did you know that you can automatically share our web pages through FaceBook, Twitter, Pinterest or Google+? On most of our web pages there is a "Share" link below the drop down menus on the right. When you click on it, it expands to the four platforms mentioned.



 A Hawaiian woman was denied a driver's licence because her last name was too long to fit on the driver's licence - and just fits in this column! Janice Keihanaikukauakahihuliheekahaunaale (KAY'-ee-hah-nah-EE'-coo-COW'-ah-KAH'-hee-HOO'-lee-heh-eh-KAH'-how-NAH-eh-leh) received her licence after her campaign to change how many characters can appear on a driver's licence.

