



## News and Notes

### Elsie Roy is 90

**Elsie Roy** celebrated her 90th birthday with friends and family in advance of her 90th birthday in December at an event organised by her son John, held in Northampton (67m/108km NE of London) at the end of August.

Elsie was born on the 21st of December 1924 in East London. The only daughter of Jimmy and Elsie White she had two brothers, Jimmy who was older than her and George who was younger. Her father was a keen piano player who would occasionally forget to come home for his tea when he got a good singsong and knees-up going in a local hostelry - Elsie recalls as a child being sent by her mother, who was not amused, to scout out which local pub he was playing in and bring him home!

By the time the second world started in 1939 Elsie was working in an office in the city centre. In September 1940, the Blitz started and London was bombed for 57 consecutive nights. More than 40,000 civilians were killed and over a million houses destroyed or damaged. The East End was heavily affected because of its proximity to the docks. Elsie's parents decided it was too dangerous for the family to stay and so they moved to Hunsdon (34m/55km N of London) in Hertfordshire where they had relatives. For Elsie it was a very frightening time, with the loss of her job and a move to a very different environment.

Very soon after her arrival in Hunsdon however she met **Ormonde Roy** [2C of Maurie Roy],

**Relationship abbreviations** used in newsletters and the web site:

2C = 2nd cousin

2C1R = 2nd cousin once removed

3G ... = great great great ...

To aid in recognizing family connections, people's relationship to Maurie Roy or May Royes is noted.



Elsie Roy (née White) celebrated her 90th birthday in August with her son John Roy (b1944), his wife Marilyn, and various great-grandchildren.

a Belfast lad, at a local dance. He was three years older than her and based in the local RAF station where he worked on the maintenance of Hawker Hurricane aircraft, used to defend British cities against the German Blitz. Ormonde had been orphaned by the death of his parents within weeks of one another in 1935 when he was fourteen and he had gone to live with his aunt **Sarah Dalzell** (sister of Ormonde's father Albert) and her family. Although she was kind to him the arrangement was not ideal and so he joined the airforce as soon as he was old enough. He was a member of the unit commanded by Group Captain Peter Townsend, who later had a well publicised romantic link to Princess Margaret.

After a brief romance Ormonde and Elsie were married and moved into their own small cottage in Hunsdon. It was basic with no electricity or running water, but a palace to them nonetheless. Their only **son John** was born in 1944 and they lived happily for many years in Hertfordshire where after the war Ormonde worked for the aircraft manufacturer Hawker-Siddeley and Elsie had a job in a local office. They eventually moved

to Sussex to work with John in his leisure business and finally settled in Kent close to some of Elsie's relatives. Both she and Ormonde were very keen gardeners, and to this day Elsie has a wonderful display of plants and flowers around her house at all times of the year. She is also a talented needlewoman and still produces some beautiful embroidery.

Sadly Ormonde died in 2003, which was a great blow to Elsie after so many years of happy marriage. But she has a wonderful spirit and a great sense of humour and although she misses him still she is always cheerful and interested in all that is going on around her. She is greatly loved by her family and by all of us who have been privileged to know her.

- Ellie Roy (niece)

### In this issue

News and Notes	1
"Katherine Stewart Forbes"	3
Genealogy...	
an addictive pleasure	3
Two years in Ethiopia...	4
Research notes	6
A touch of humour	6

## More News and Notes...

### Snippets

October 2014



• **Charlotte ("Lottie") Wiley Gillespie** died, aged 96, in Larne, Northern Ireland. The Roys and

Wileys have common ancestors in Samuel and Margaret (Whiteford) Russell.

[2C of Maurie Roy.]

• **Karla Trimble** married **Lachlan Mason** at the Sea Temple Resort in Palm Cove, Cairns, QLD.

[2G niece of May Royes.]

September 2014

• **Cooper John Brady** born to Scott, Bev and Zoe in Mareeba, Qld. A McFarlane descendant.

[3G nephew of May Royes.]

August 2014

• **Colby David Gauld** was born to Kim and David Gauld - grandson for Rosaleen (Royes) Cetinich.

[2G nephew of May Royes.]



Nancy Hogan in the centre is the link between the Russells and the Hogans. She was born (1910, South Africa) Annie Teresa Russell, daughter of James Russell and Anne Magee. [The *Photo from the past* below includes some of their family and may include a 13-y-o Nancy.]

Nancy married Thomas Hogan and they moved to County Waterford, Ireland. She died in 1992. The photo shows her with her eldest son James Hogan and a granddaughter Sheena Behrens married to Patrick Bolger.

Both photos on this page relate to the Russell line, so here is a list of surnames in that line:

Russell >  
Myles  
Roy  
McFerran  
Livingstone  
Wiley > Taylor, Hanrahan  
Rainey > Wylie  
Russell > Fitzsimons, Hogan,  
Cooper, Homan  
Espie > Foley  
McClarnon

### Photo from the past



When Sam and Agnes Roy, with children Tom, Maurie, Gus and Beryl, and Sam's mother Jane, migrated from Larne, Northern Ireland, to Cairns, Australia, in 1923, they called in at Cape Town, South Africa to catch up with Jane's brother, James Russell, who had gone to South Africa in 1902 so that he and Annie Magee could marry away from the sectarian tensions within their families in Northern Ireland.

We're not sure who is who - *perhaps you can make suggestions* - but for the travellers, let me start: That looks like Maurie Roy (6) in the bottom left of the photo and is that his brother Tom (8) just behind him. I think that is Gus (almost 4) on the left of the girl in the middle. Their sister Beryl (about 18 months old) does not appear to be in the photo. There were eight Russell children aged from 19 to 4 at this time.



**G**raduation of Michaela Hogan (BA) from Trinity College Dublin (4 Nov. 2014). [Michaela is Maurie Roy's 2C2R]

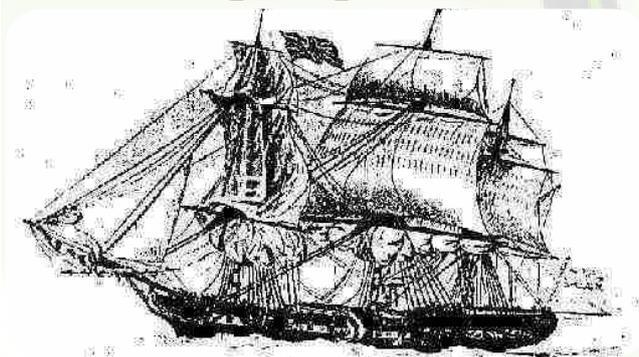
Behind Michaela, first row: Doris Hogan, Patricia Coville-Hogan, Kaliopi Meris, Anna Tebenhoff, Jasmin Hogan, Corinna Hogan; second row: Brendan Hogan, Mehdi Jaouad, Stéphane Hogan, Samuel Colville, Farzad Hamzepour. [See pp 4-5 about the Hogans in Ethiopia.]

## “Katherine Stewart Forbes”

**W**ant to know what it was like to migrate from England to the Antipodes in 1851? Robin Young (<http://hougham-huffam.org>) found a diary of the journey of the 750 ton “Katherine Stewart Forbes” from New Plymouth, England to Auckland, New Zealand. On board was his wife’s great grandfather, George Glew (though on the web site this is transliterated as George Glen).

Robin writes: “It occurred to me that many of the readers of the newsletter would have ancestors who would have similarly travelled. Anyway, in researching the Barque, I came across an account of that very journey which graphically describes the problems of travelling 12,000 miles which fascinated me and might interest readers.”

Go to [http://www.jillsjottings.orconhosting.net.nz/ksforbes/katherine\\_stewart\\_forbes1.htm](http://www.jillsjottings.orconhosting.net.nz/ksforbes/katherine_stewart_forbes1.htm)



## Genealogy... an addictive pleasure

**G**enealogy has been described as the study of the evolutionary development of people, a chart showing the descent of an individual or group. Since 2004 when the B.B.C. ( British Broadcasting Corporation) first aired its television program *Who Do You Think You Are*, genealogy became an addictive pleasure for many families world wide.

The show was seriously habit-forming with an irresistibly simple format. In each episode, a celebrity goes on a journey to trace the family tree. There are now television programs in Canada, Ireland, Sweden, South Africa, America and Australia.

Each half hour episode combines the intimacy, and sometimes voyeurism of observational documentary and the puzzles of the well told detective story. The old history teacher’s tale that the past is interesting in itself, has been replaced by the notion that the sometimes esoteric slices of people’s lives have some faint connection with their own.

- ‘My grandfather was there in the French trenches too’, we say as we watch, or
- ‘I know there’s wild Irish blood in this family, too’

The archival footage is priceless, but it’s the insight into how we can research our own histories that really intrigues.

**M**ultiple births are a part of family genealogy. The Royes/Crossley families recorded multiple births.

**William Arthur Crossley** and his sister **Mary**, born on 24 February 1849 at Windsor, New South Wales were the first recorded multiple births in the Royes/ Crossley lineage.

Two generations later, twins were born on 25 May 1919. **William Francis** and **James Joseph Crossley** were the sons of Ernest John Thomas Crossley and Mary Elizabeth Monaghan.

It was nearly 84 years later before any further multiple births were recorded.

On 20 June 2003, **Charli Sophia** and **Neeve Sousanna Gallagher** were born. Their parents were Tamara Anne Matthews and Calvin Edward Gallagher, a son of Nola June (nee Royes) and Michael Gallagher.

Nearly four years later on 13 June 2007, twins (**Genevieve Elowen** and **Matthew Philip Royes**) were born in Melbourne to Maryann and Steven Phillip Royes, a grandson of the late Mordaunt Herbert and Phoebe Royes. .

Written by Ron Royes  
Monday 29 September 2014

There is a report on the web site listing all multiple births - <http://royroyes.net/showreport.php?reportID=104>. We have 22 sets of twins, 1 set of triplets and one quadruplets!

## Two years in Ethiopia...

Stephane Hogan

August 2014: two years in Ethiopia, two to go...

It has now (already) two years since we moved to Ethiopia.

That is, Doris, Brendan and I only, as our two eldest daughter, Corinna and Jasmin, were already living independently in Brussels and the youngest, Michaela, was halfway through university in Dublin. A few months later Corinna moved to Vienna with her newly-acquired husband Farzad, so quite suddenly we were spread over four countries.

We are now half-way through our 4-year posting in Addis Ababa. Our move has been quite an adventure, mostly good, as we adapted to a very different lifestyle, with some colonial undertones, even though Ethiopia is very proud to have never been colonised (the Italians were just visiting).

At the beginning Doris and I were very enthusiastic (and we still are) while Brendan, understandably as a 14-year old (then), significantly less so. It took him a few months to come to terms with it and adjust. But he is in a great school and has made some great friends from all over the world, so we believe he is fine now. He also understands and appreciates that it is a very special opportunity and experience. In the first year he went on a school trip to the Bale Mountains National Park in Ethiopia, which is between 2,500m and 4,300m, to study the wildlife and ecology. In his second year he went to Ghana (!) for a student conference on global issues (growing in France my most exotic school trip was to the Loire Valley.) Nevertheless, we try to mitigate the downside by making sure he gets back on a regular basis to "his" civilisation, where internet is fast and supermarkets are well-stocked, and more importantly where he can see his Brussels-based friends.

Doris and I have really enjoyed the change, especially after spending over 16 years in Brussels, and Doris in particular has thrived, making new friends and getting involved in all sorts of projects, often combining her artistic talents and charity work. She has made a large mosaic in a restaurant in Lalibela - a world heritage site (for its rock-hewn churches, not for the mosaic), she made a 4m ship from recycled materials for a school event, a small photo exhibition which raised enough money to put a student through one year of university here, she has also worked with various local artisans to make

furniture, leather bags and ironwork objects. She also redecorated part of an orphanage with the help of our children when they visited us last Christmas.

I am also enjoying the change in my work, moving from a management position dealing with large, complex processes for awarding research grants in the health sector to a role of representation and diplomacy for all aspects of research and innovation - quite a transition. My role here is to develop collaboration in research between Europe and Africa, so it is much broader than what I am doing in Brussels with my team of specialists in health research. My work here also requires me to travel extensively in Africa. Since we moved, I have been to Uganda, Egypt, Ghana, Congo, Tanzania (incl. a trip to Zanzibar with Doris), Cameroon, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Rwanda, Botswana, Cape Verde, Senegal, some of these places twice and South Africa many times. I

am also working in a very different setting, as the EU Delegation to the African Union (which has its HQ in Addis) covers a wide range of issues which is dominated by Peace & Security, with involvement in all the major crises that you may hear of in the news (Mali, South-Sudan, Somalia, Central African Republic), as well as support for development in the region. It is fascinating to be in the midst of these real world issues. This has also given us some interesting opportunities. Soon after our arrival Brendan and I attended

a seminar organised by the military attachés club, where an American historian gave a talk on the battle of Adwa in 1896 where an Ethiopian army defeated the Italians who were trying to establish a colony and didn't come back (with a vengeance) until 1935 when Mussolini's forces finally got a foothold in what was then known as Abyssinia, forcing Heile Sellasie into exile until 1941 when the Italians were ousted from Ethiopia. So here we were, the only civilians sitting among colonels and generals, and I was very proud when my fourteen year old boy put his hand up to ask a couple of intelligent questions.

Daily life here has a few recurrent themes. Adapting to the climate and weather, with its long, cold, damp, muddy rainy season (June-Sept.) and, even in the dry season, big temperature fluctuations, requiring a layered approach to clothing. Dealing with the unreliable infrastructure: roads degrade at an impressive rate (as Brendan says: built by the Chinese, washed away by the rain), electricity cuts on a daily basis - fortunately we have large diesel generator, telecommunications that are often not functioning well (or at all), fuel shortages, water



shortages, drinking water shortages, food shortages and, on one very traumatic occasion, a shortage of beer! Food is a big issue for expats, with many things that we had taken for granted not readily available, such as fresh dairy or meat products (or wine) of reliable quality, and even sterilised milk is not always available. So that any trips to Europe or South Africa involve filling suitcases with all the goodies we miss and making us appreciate them all the more. This has recently become more challenging as Doris discovered that she had to restrict her diet for health reasons. This brings to mind that health risks are higher here (eg infections) and health services and facilities are VERY limited. There are very few specialists, hospitals and clinics are poorly equipped - a few months ago a colleague from the Spanish embassy suffered a heart attack and when he was brought to the hospital the defibrillators were not working, so he died. On a less dramatic note, some health problems cannot be properly diagnosed or treated here, so that Doris had to be repatriated twice earlier this year for health reasons which could only be dealt with when she went back to Austria. She is doing much better now although she is still struggling with those dietary problems. (My claim to fame was that I dislocated my thumb while skiing in Austria - which is quite embarrassing really, especially as I was barely moving when I fell.)

Bearing in mind that Ethiopia is a fast developing, but still very poor, country, a lot of things are still difficult for pampered westerners. In addition, the Ethiopian mind-set is very different to ours, with a logic (or absence thereof) that is often very difficult to fathom. People live very much in the present, with short-term solutions, no concept of customer relations and little anticipation for many things. That includes driving, which is also a major challenge and source of constant bewilderment. There also seems to be a near absence of the concept of danger, perhaps it is a result of religious (predominantly Christian Orthodox) fatalism. Another issue is the high levels of pollution in the streets of Addis Ababa as many of the cars are very old and in poor condition. In addition, fuel quality is poor and oxygen levels are low due to the altitude. Fortunately, we have good air filtration in our car.

On the positive side, the people are generally very nice and friendly, it is quite safe here. In fact we are much less exposed to petty crime and aggression than when we lived in Brussels. The climate is quite good (apart from the rainy season, which we partly miss anyway), with fairly temperate climate, because although we are just 9° north of the equator, the altitude of 2,300m means that it is seldom hotter than 30°C. Of course it gets much hotter in the low-lands in the south, but we have only been there once so

far. There is so much to see in this country of over 1.1 million square kilometres (that's twice the size of France). We have travelled within Ethiopia, and will continue to do so, mainly to see some of the major sites with visiting friends and with our children when they all came over for the 2013 Christmas holidays. With them we visited Lalibela for the churches and the amazing landscape in the north and Arba Minch in the south, where after a 7-hour drive, we saw hippos and crocodiles on Lake Abaya, beautiful scenery and visited local traditional villages. On a more routine basis, it's possible to play tennis and golf here, something I hadn't done for years.

Each Summer we all travel back to Europe, with Brendan and Doris going back as soon as school ends and me joining them 4 weeks later. This summer we had a great holiday. Brendan and Doris flew to Frankfurt and from there Brendan flew on to Brussels to stay with his sister Jasmin and catch up with his friends, while Doris flew to Vienna, visiting Corinna and Farzad and then onwards to her home town. Later Brendan joined Doris in Austria for the next two weeks, before I joined them. Brendan then went on to France for wake-boarding camp while Doris and I spent a week in Italy and another travelling through Italy and the south of France where we spent the last two weeks of our holidays at my father's place near Cahors as we do each summer. Jasmin & Kaliopi joined us there from Brussels and Corinna and Farzad from Vienna. At the end of the holiday we drove back to Brussels, stopping to visit friends in Paris on the way. We flew home to Addis on 11 August, as school resumed for Brendan the next day. He

now has to tackle a fairly demanding 2-year syllabus for the International Baccalaureate and, if all goes well, this should enable him to go to the university of his choice.

As we start this 3rd year in Ethiopia, not yet worrying about our probable return to Europe, we are looking forward to a trip to Ireland in early November for Michaela's graduation and then back to Austria in December with a short stay in Dubai on the way back to Addis.

So, in short, we are doing fine and really enjoying this amazing experience. And if you are interested do drop in. We will be happy to host you in Addis and give you some assistance to visit the country, but don't wait too long

ps: if you are concerned about Ebola in Africa, bear in mind that Conakry in Guinea is closer to Brussels (4,880km), Dublin (4,920km) or Vienna (5,130km) than to Addis Ababa (5,750km)... (This gives you a hint as to how big Africa is.)



Stephane and Doris Hogan

Stephane is 2C1R of Maurie Roy

## Research notes

I recently discovered that FamilySearch has extensive records for **Jamaican Royes'** births, deaths and marriages. I am in the process of updating the web site accordingly. Jamaican Royes are invited to check that I have linked the right person to the right family since in one or two cases it has been an educated guess!

I came across this article that points out that your **genetic ancestors** are fewer than your family tree ancestors: <http://burtleburtle.net/bob/future/ancestors.html>. I don't understand the statistics and I'll take his word for it.

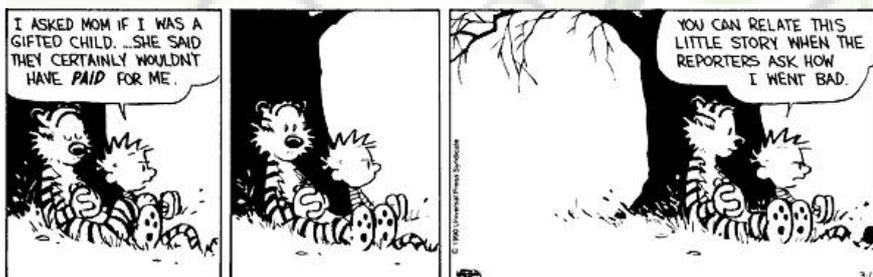
Here's a quote: "After about eight generations back, the number of

genetic ancestors only increases linearly with the number of generations, while the number of genealogical ancestors keeps increasing exponentially. Once you go back 20 generations, you have only 1300 or so genetic ancestors despite having over a million genealogical ancestors."

I am about to attend a seminar on finding cousins using DNA just so I can understand it better.

There was a problem with the **database** a little while back. One of the byproducts was that some weird family connections were made based on some logic peculiar to the database! I keep finding the odd one or two but I'm sure I must have missed some. If you find such an odd link, **please** let me know - don't assume that I have some sort of secret evidence for such connections!

## A touch of humour



### Telling Family History!

Judy Wallman, a professional genealogical researcher, discovered that Hillary Clinton's great-great uncle, Remus Rodham, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows.

On the back of the picture is this inscription: 'Remus Rodham; horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889.'

Judy e-mailed Hillary Clinton for information about her great-great uncle.

Hillary's staff sent back the following biographical sketch:

'Remus Rodham was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad.

In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency.

In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honour when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed.'



### Family Links

is produced in conjunction with **Roy~Royes Family Links** family tree and web site

**Editor:** Bruce Roy,  
45 King St,  
Wollstonecraft NSW 2065,  
Australia  
Email: [rrfl@royroyes.net](mailto:rrfl@royroyes.net)



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

 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!

Newsletters are available at <http://royroyes.net/newsletters.php> or scan this QR code: and select More>Newsletters

