

4 WEEKS WAY
BULL CREEK
WA 6109

Dear Bob & Judy,

Thank you so much for your interesting letter. Sorry I cannot help you with anything about your grandfather. When we reached Suva about 30+ yrs ago there was a letter waiting for me on our return from one of Pat's daughters - the eldest. I think asking if I could help her with any information - I have not heard from her again.

How lucky for you Bob to have visited Turkey, I also would have like to do the same, my father was one of the original Aussies landing 25 April & was one of the first ashore.

How much do you know of the Edwards side of the family? I do not know a lot.

Grandmother Ellen Drayson was born in Maidstone Kent 1850 (I think). Her name was KNEWLER. Her father died when he was 49 yrs of age in Strand nr Chatham Kent. After all debts or bills had been paid after the funeral his wife had 30 bob left. She took in washing to make a living & ended up with a laundry. She built 2 cottages & called them 'Drayson Cottages'. All the children had been given the second name of Drayson.

I will not bother you with more because
you may already know it all. Tell me
what you know & I will add what I can.
Mum sent things from the old home when
we moved to Cumberland (now called Cumbria)
to Winifred in early 1930 including
2 framed portraits of their mother & father.
When I called on them in Nov 1946 I saw
them hanging on the lounge wall so was
able to tell Mum they had arrived safely
because they had had no acknowledgement ^{ment} of
them. Do you know what has happened to
them?

I go into an Aged Care Nursing Home on the
28th April while Joe has a well earned rest
from looking after me 24 hrs a day for the
last 3 1/2 yrs. He flies to England on 1st May
to stay with his mother & sister-in-law. His
brother is going with him to Holland where
Joe's Army mates are having a re-union &
maybe they will go onto Germany & visit
the place where Joe worked when on forced
labour during W.W. II.

Your mother says in her letter that she has
not had a good year. What happened to her?
She did not break any bones I hope!!!

Good luck with your book Bob
Love & Best Wishes to you both
Joe & Pat

Bob

Had better write down what I can remember of the family while I can. Grandfather Francis (Frank) & Edward. They lived in Betham where he was. I do not know. I believe he was a year or two younger than Grandmother. They lived rather grandly. His mother had her 'at the days' Granddad did not go to school or work - but was sent to college in Beloit. He died August (26th I believe) 1925. It was because of his death that Mum & I went to England.

Edith Rose Catherine born as far as I can work out 26th Nov 1880 (Mum always said Rose was 8 1/2 yrs older than herself) She married a soldier (name unknown to me) whom she divorced & took on her maiden name Edwards. Madeline her daughter went by the name of Edwards. When we went to Eng Rose had married a chap named Percie (he was known as 'Punchie' in the family because of his physical deformity)

Harry died at 17 1/2 yrs of diphtheria
Sydney & Edgar I don't know who was the eldest

Then came her (Mildred Mary Drayson Edwards) she married William Binley Murray in 1916. I am the only child (Patricia Mary Drayson Murray) 14-10-1917.

Mum died 26 May 1959 and Dad was killed
in a road accident 9 months later.

Winifred was next
the finest breakfast 199? He was married
in England before he came out to M. in
& Dad in the early 1930's. The last trace
of him was from Chief of Police Pentt through
a friend. He left Pentt with his wife by
train for the Eastern States. [How could
he be already married
Edgar's wife was May Burns. where
they married I do not know I thought it
was England. Edgar went to S. Africa
with British Troops bought himself
out of British Army & joined the S. African
Forces

I was told the family scattered within
14 months.

- Sydney left for Jamaica
- Edgar for S. Africa
- Winifred for New Zealand
- Mum (Mildred) for Australia (April 1947)

There was a lot of scandal when Sydney
married in East Africa. I destroyed the paper
& cuttings about it when I cleaned things
after my parents passed on, as I told Linda
Edgar only innocent people (namely Ed & children)
could be hurt by it. There were 2 boys - Francis
& Anthony. According to Edgar one was in S. Africa

which he did not say. After Edgar passed on I had a letter or two from their daughter but then nothing so presumed she too passed on she was about 5 yrs older than me & had the name Agnes.

Grandma Edwards was a very strict Victorian & Mum said she never talked with her children but at them. For example she made the statement "If any girl in the house gets herself in the family way, she is no daughter of mine" & she lived by it although it caused her many sleepless nights with worry.

They bought up Madeline from an early age to about 13 yrs when they could not control her (she stayed out all night with men I was told) They then gave her into Rose's keeping. I was told all sorts of stories from both sides when I was young.

Hope you can make some sense of what I have written Bob.

Love Pat