

Delia Rochfort

Delia Rochfort the second child of Marcus Gustavus Rochfort and Mary Ann (née Hodges) was born about 1829 at Chinsurah and sixteen years later was married there on 18th October 1845 as recorded by the Bombay Times.¹

At Chinsurah by Special Licence on the 18th October by the Reverend H Fisher Thomas Smith Esq to Delia Rochfort second daughter of Professor Rochfort.

It would have been a double marriage as both Delia and her elder sister Eliza were married on the same day and at the same place. There may have been some urgency in marrying off Delia if the baptism record for her first child is correct. Janet Stuart Smith was born on 26th April 1846 and baptised on 8th November of that year at Chinsurah. Two other daughters followed – Mary Anne Rochfort Smith who was born on 27th September 1847 and baptised at Kishnaghur on 28th November 1847, and Anne Eliza Smith, born on 2nd August 1849 and baptised the same year at Chinsurah on 14th October.²

There is scant information for husband and father, Thomas Smith. From the marriage record we learn that his father was William Smith, from a later census record we learn that he was a sugar manufacturer, and from a marriage record for one of his daughters, he was described as the late Thomas Smith of Goruckpore. There are a number of possible India death records on Family Search for the name Thomas Smith, but none give sufficient information to be able to assign one to 'our' Thomas Smith. We can only be sure that he died sometime between November 1848 and 7th April 1861 when the census was conducted for the Isle of Man, and where widowed Delia Smith was living at the time at Coburg Road in the parish of Lezayre.³

Mary Ann Rochfort	Head	W	51	Fund Holder	Malibarg, India
Delia Smith	Daur	W	31	Fundholder	Calcutta
Geraldine Rochfort	Daur	U	16	Fundholder	Chinshura
Maria Cath Rochfort	Daur	U	12	Fundholder	Kishnaghur, India
Janet Stuart Smith	Gd Daur	U	14		Goruckpore, Hooghly
Mary Ann Smith	Gd Daur		13		Hooghly River
Anne Eliza Smith	Gd Daur		11		Kishnaghur
Ann Kelley	Serv	U	21	Housemaid	Isle of Man
Mary Ann Mylan	Serv	U	25	Cook	Isle of Man

So here we have two widows, both fundholders, and both with family responsibilities. Apart, no doubt, from providing support to her widowed daughter Delia, Mary Ann has her two youngest children with her. The three other girls are the children born to Delia and Thomas Smith. Before the next census all three of Delia's daughters had married, two in India – Janet and Anne Eliza - and Mary Anne in London. In fact for the 1871 census Delia was numbered in the household of her son-in-law, Robert Sears, in Taunton, which, incidentally was close to where her brother-in-law Henry Nathaniel Elton, and some of his children by his first marriage to Delia's sister Eliza Everina, were living in 1881 when he returned home after the death of Eliza. And when the April 1881 census was conducted Delia was staying with her younger sister Margaret at 7 Lansdown Crescent, Cheltenham. Delia's grandson, Arthur Sears, was the only male in this overwhelmingly female household, and no doubt he was quite the centre of attention. I was not sure, at this stage, how Agnes A Smith fitted into the family.⁴

Margaret E Smith	Head	M	40	Wife of Patrick Smith, Landowner and Indigo Planter, Bengal	Calcutta, British Subject
Mary L K Smith	Daur	U	19	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Marie G K Smith	Daur		15	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Agnes A Smith	Niece	U	27		Kishnaghur, Bengal
Delia Smith	Sister	W	51		Calcutta, British Subject
Arthur H Sears	Nephew		5		Taunton, Somerset
Edith M Hoyle	Niece		12	Scholar	Calcutta, British Subject
Eliza Escott	Serv	U	27	Cook Domestic	Worle, Somerset
Sarah J Horne	Serv	U	22	House Maid	Cullompton, Devon

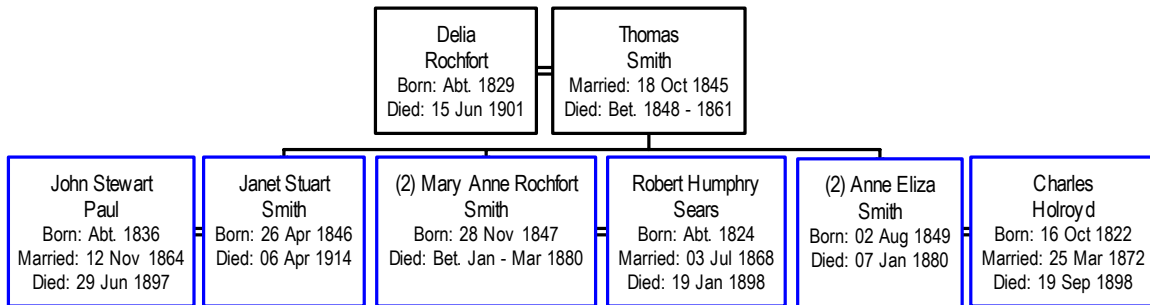
The next sighting of Delia Smith was when she was back with her son-in-law, widowed for the second time, at The Priory, Taunton for the 1891 census.⁵

Robert H Sears	Head	W	66	Magistrate & Retired C & M Engineer	Kennington, Surrey
Frederick Sears	Son	S	20	Scholar	Taunton, Somerset

The Hoyle Connections

Arthur H Sears	Son	M	15	Scholar	Taunton, Somerset
Delia Smith	M-i-L	W	62	Living on own means	East Indies, Bengal
Marie C Hoyle	Aunt	W	42	Living on own means	East Indies, Bengal
Sarah A Treby	Serv	W	47	Cook Domestic	Wilton, Somerset
Annie A Ouben	Serv	S	25	House and Parlour Maid	Pitminster, Somerset

Another of Delia's daughters was hosting her for the 1901 census. Delia had travelled to Scotland and was staying with her eldest daughter Janet, now widowed, and who was living at 12 Carrington Street, Glasgow Park, Lanarkshire. Within a couple of months of the census Delia was dead. The Scottish records provide much more detail than the English ones. The record for Delia's death states that Delia Smith died at the age of 72 in the morning of 15th June 1901 at her daughter's house. She was the widow of Thomas Smith, sugar manufacturer, and the daughter of Marcus Gustavus Rochfort and Mary Ann Rochfort maiden name Hodge. The cause of death was general debility following an abscess that had troubled her for about three months. The informant was her grandson, also resident at 12 Carrington Street, [Charles] Holroyd Paul.⁶



Janet Stuart Smith

Janet Stuart (or Stewart) Smith, born on 26th November 1846 and baptised on 8th November 1846 at Chinsurah, had accompanied her mother to England after her father died and was resident on the Isle of Man for the 1861 census. Within a short time she had returned to India where, at the age of 18, she and John Stewart Paul were married at Calcutta on 12th November 1864. The following notice appeared in *The Times of India*.⁷

Nov 12 at St John's Cathedral by the Rev A B Spry, John Stewart Paul Esq to Janet Stewart eldest daughter of the late Thomas Smith Esq of Gorukpore.

There is some inconsistency in the records for Janet's middle name. If it was 'Stewart' as opposed to 'Stuart' there may have been some familial connection between the Smith and Paul families. John Stewart Paul had been born in Glasgow about 1836, the son of William Paul, merchant, and Helen Paul, née Stewart.

A daughter, Mary Ellen Humphry Paul, was born to John and Janet on 3rd March 1866 and baptised on 25th March 1866, no doubt in the knowledge that the baby was unlikely to survive. She died and was buried the next day at Calcutta.⁸

Very shortly after this sad event John and Janet Paul left India and settled in Glasgow where they had three more children. The 1871 census shows them living at 11 Westbank Terrace, in the parish of Govan, John's occupation being an East Indian merchant, and by which time a daughter Helena and a son Robert had been born. Ten years later, for the 1881 census, the Paul family had moved to 571 Sauchiehall Street, in the Glasgow Barony. John's occupation was now recorded as shipbroker and his income was sufficient to support the employment of two domestic servants. The following is a listing of the family members, but a sketchy one as the Scotland census transcripts are not available for online viewing.⁹

John S Paul	45	born Glasgow, about 1836
Janet S Paul	34	born India about 1847
Helena J Paul	13	born Glasgow about 1868
Robert S Paul	12	born Glasgow about 1869
Charles H Paul	4	born Glasgow about 1877

More detail about the births of the Glasgow born children is found in the Scotland Statutory Births. Not only do the

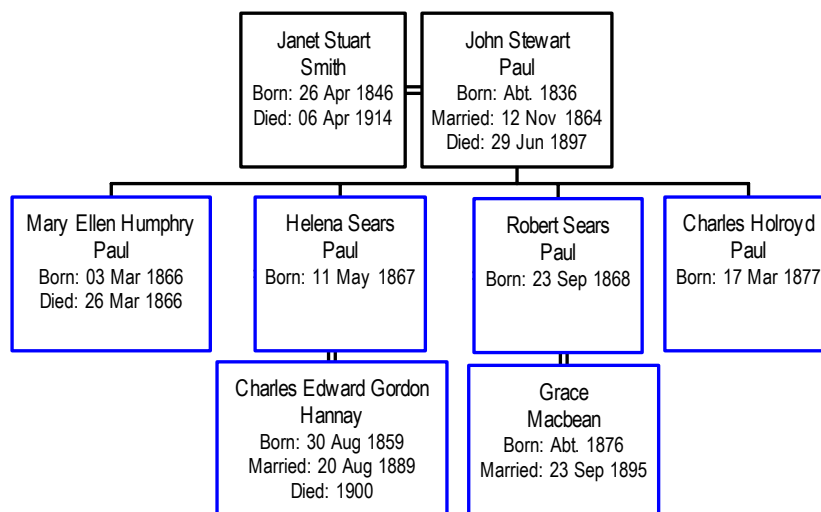
records deal with the birth date and place, they also provide the time of day, and the marriage date and place of the parents. The first two were born at home and their births registered in the District of Milton. Helena Sears Paul arrived at 3.00am on the 11th May 1867 at 16 Arlington Street, and Robert Sears Paul was born just after 10.00am on 18th September 1868 at 52 Windsor Street. There was quite a gap before the youngest child was born by which time there seems to have been a district boundary redistribution. Charles Holroyd was welcomed into the world just after 9.00am on 17th March 1877 at 29 Arlington Street and his birth was registered in the District of Kelvin. I think their mother was responsible for conferring the middle names – her sister Mary Anne married (as his second wife) Robert Humphry Sears, and her other sister Anne Eliza married Charles Holroyd.¹⁰

The 1891 census found a slightly reduced Paul household, living at 571 Sauchichall Street, and consisting of John and Janet and their two sons Robert, now a civil engineer, and Charles a scholar. Helena Paul was now Mrs Hannay. The marriage between Helena Sears Paul and Charles Edward Gordon Hannay had been held at St Silas' Episcopal Church, Glasgow on 20th August 1889. The groom was a 29 year old bachelor and a tea planter by profession, who had been born in Assam on 30th August 1859. His parents were Simon Fraser Hannay and his second wife, Mary Florence. Simon had first married Margaret Campbell Graham in 1827 but she had died at the age of 35 at Gowhattee on the 4th July 1841 following the birth of their son Henry Eric Sutherland Hannay two days earlier. Simon Hannay and Mary Florence Campbell were married on 10th January 1844. The record shows that both of Charles's parents were deceased, but also tells us that Simon Hannay had been a Colonel in the 42nd Assam Native Infantry. The two witnesses were Robert Humphry Sears, junior, Helena's cousin and a Mary Mortimer Shand.¹¹

There were only three Paul family members and a domestic servant at 12 Carrington Street, when the census collector called on 31st March 1901 – Janet, her son Charles and her mother Delia Smith. Janet was by this time a widow and it is perhaps telling that she is now the breadwinner, as a piano teacher, and the family income would have been boosted with the earnings of Charles as a violin teacher. With the April 2011 release of the 1911 Scotland census we can follow the lives of Janet and Charles for a further ten years. On 2nd April Janet was still the head of the household at 12 Carrington Street and Charles was still a self-employed violinist. The Pauls employed Mary Brown to help with the chores in a house that had six rooms with more than two windows.¹²

I have found nothing further for Charles Paul in the Scottish records. However I have found a registration of marriage between a Charles Holroyd Paul and an Edith McKechnie (or Edith Bell) which took place at Vancouver on 25th July 1916 and I am currently following up on this record.¹³

The death of John Stewart Paul had been registered in the District of Kelvin. He had died in the early morning of 29th June 1897 at home at 571 Sauchichall Street. The informant was his younger son Charles H Paul. His wife was appointed the 'sole Executrix and Universal Legatory' of his estate valued at £1006 15s 1d, the greater part of which comprised two life insurance policies. From the will and testament we learn that John Stewart Paul was the Glasgow agent for Escombe Brothers and Company, Ship and Insurance Brokers of London and Glasgow.¹⁴



His widow Janet outlived him by nearly thirteen years. She died shortly after midnight at Lindores, Lundin Links, in

Fife, but her usual address was, 229 North Street, Glasgow. Just shy of her 68th birthday, Janet died from a combination of causes, including arteriosclerosis and a cerebral haemorrhage. The informant was her elder son Robert S Paul who gave his address as C/- Thomas Cook & Son, Ludgate Circus, London.¹⁵

And it is with Robert Sears Paul that this section concludes. Sometime after the 1891 census Robert went to India where he joined the Indian Staff Corps. I have found two references in the London Gazette that track his military career. Backdated to 23rd June 1891, Robert Sears Paul from the Border Regiment was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Having at some stage been promoted to Major, he was further promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel with the 126th Baluchistan Infantry, and this is confirmed by his medal card which shows that, with the Baluchistan Infantry, he saw active service in the Middle East during WWI. Within a few years of his arrival in India Robert married. His wife was Grace Macbean, a 19 year old daughter of Duncan Macbean. They were married at Quetta on 23rd September 1895.¹⁶



Mary Anne Rochfort Smith

Mary Anne Rochfort Smith was the second of three daughters born to Thomas Smith and Delia (née Rochfort). She was born at Kishnaghur on 28th November 1847 and baptised two months later on 28th November. She was with her widowed mother and other relatives when a contingent of Rochforts was resident on the Isle of Man where they were counted in the April 1861 census. Just before her 21st birthday Mary Anne wed. The marriage between Mary Anne Rochfort Smith and Robert Humphry Sears was solemnized at the Parish Church of St George, Bloomsbury, on 3rd July 1868. Robert was described as of full age, a widower and a gentleman, and his bride as a spinster and a minor. They both gave their address as 17 Bedford Place, and their respective fathers were recorded as Robert Sears and Thomas Smith, gentlemen. There were a number witnesses – A Williams, Eva Williams, Fanny Williams, S J Upcott(?), and Charles Johnson none of whose names ring any bells. Four sons were born to the couple in quick succession, all born at Taunton – Robert Humphry, 1869, Frederick William, 1870, Alfred Ernest, 1872 and Arthur Holroyd, 1875.¹⁷

And it was at Taunton that the death of Mary Anne Sears was registered for the Jan-Mar quarter of 1880. At 32, she was one year older than her aunt, and Robert's first wife, had been when she died. Robert Sears continued to live at The Priory he died there in 1898. Probate was granted to a solicitor and two of Robert's sons.¹⁸

SEARS Robert Humphry of "the Priory" Taunton esquire died 19 January 1898 Probate Taunton 11 February to John Edward William Wakefield, Frederick William Sears, and Alfred Ernest Sears esquires. Effects £18722 4s 7d Resworn September 1898 £19086 10s.

All four sons married, and did very well for themselves in their chosen professions.

Robert Humphry Sears

A further illustration of how close-knit were the Rochfort and Sears families, is the oldest son's choice of bride - one of the daughters of Marcus Burgh Rochfort, brother of Delia and Mary Ann Rochfort and uncle of Robert's mother Mary Anne Rochfort Sears (née Smith). Registered at Lewisham for the Oct-Dec quarter 1895, the marriage took place between Robert Humphry Sears and Nellie Kathleen Rochfort. Robert, an engineer, spent most of his working life in India and Nellie accompanied him on at least three voyages to Calcutta – in November 1902 and November 1907 and one return trip, arriving at Tilbury on 19th May 1918. I am not sure if Robert and Nellie had any children. The death of Nellie K Sears, at the age of 67, was registered at New Forest in 1939. Robert survived her by some considerable time. We know that he became the Honorary Secretary of the New Forest Division of the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, for which work he was mentioned in the 1956 Queen's Birthday Honours. He was 96 when his death was registered at New Forest ten years later.¹⁹

Frederick William Sears

Crockford's Clerical Directory of 1934 provides a potted account of Frederick William Sears' career. He attended Keble College Oxford where he obtained his BA in 1893 and his MA in 1896 after which he attended Wells Theological College. His first appointment as an ordained clergyman was to Ryhope, Durham, where he was from 1898-1908. Very shortly after taking up his post he married Mary Parker Smith. She had been born in 1870 at Marthall, Cheshire, a daughter of Johnson Parker Smith, a woollen merchant and manufacturer, and his wife Isabella, and her marriage to Frederick was registered at Chorlton, Lancashire for the 1899 Jul-Sep quarter.²⁰

Frederick was at home at Ryhope with their 10 month old daughter Dorothy Mary in March 1901, assisted by two domestics. Mary Sears was visiting her in-laws, Alfred and Dorothy Sears, in Lewisham for the same census. The following year William was appointed to St Ignatius in Sunderland, where he served until 1908. It was there that two sons were born – John Humphry in 1902 and Harold Parker in 1903. A move south then finds the family at Gloucestershire where Frederick was appointed vicar of Nailsworth with Inchbrook and Shortwood, a position he held until 1915. The three children were at home with their parents, at High Beeches, Nailsworth, for the 1911 census. Crockford's records that Frederick was the rector at Minchinhampton from 1915-1928 and then at Leckhampton from 1928. He also held the positions of rural dean of Stonehouse from 1910-1928 and an honorary canon of Gloucestershire from 1924.²¹

Frederick and Mary both lived to the age of 85, and both deaths were registered at New Forest – Frederick's in 1955 and his widow, Mary's, in 1956. The following notice appeared in The Times to mark Frederick's passing.²²

SEARS – On Nov 9, 1955, at Milford-on-Sea, Hants, FREDERICK WILLIAM SEARS, Priest, M.A., Canon Emeritus of Gloucester Cathedral, and sometime Archdeacon of Cheltenham, beloved husband of Mary. Funeral at All Saints, Milford-on-Sea, Saturday, Nov. 12, at 10.30 a.m. Please, no flowers.

Alfred Ernest Sears

Alfred Ernest Sears was married a few months after his brother Frederick. His future wife was Dorothy Jane Hughes, born in 1873 at Macclesfield, Cheshire, a daughter of James Brierley Hughes, General Practitioner, MRCS, and Elizabeth Hughes. The wedding was held at Macclesfield some time between Oct-Dec 1899 and the couple set up house at 33 Lee Terrace, Lewisham, where the census enumerator caught up with them in 1901 by which time their first son, Robert Brierley, had been born.²³

Alfred Sears	Head	M	28	Surgeon	Taunton, Somerset
Dorothy Sears	Wife	M	27		Macclesfield, Cheshire
Robert Sears	Son		8 mos		Lee, Kent
Mary Sears	S-in-L	M	30		Marthall, Cheshire
Alice Ruddick	Serv	S	30	Nurse (Hospital)	Somerset
Selina Burnett	Serv	S	21	Domestic Nurse	Somerset
Jane Coles	Serv	S	19	Domestic Cook	Devon
Lily Carter	Serv	S	16	Housemaid	Cornwall

I wonder if Dorothy and Mary were acquainted before they married. They were both born within ten miles of each other in Cheshire. Mary's visit may just have been social, but the presence of two nurses in the household might suggest that there was some medical emergency, and that Mary, who herself had left her husband and her own baby at home in Ryhope, had come to provide some support and assistance.

So Alfred, like his father-in-law, was a medical practitioner. The listing for him in the 1911 Medical Register reveals that he was registered on 15th November 1895, and that from that year he was also a Member of the Royal College of Surgery, England, and a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, London.²⁴

The home address for the 1911 census was 52 Lee Terrace, Lee, Lewisham, so either the Sears family had moved further along the road or the houses had been renumbered since 1910. A second son, Robert Hammond Sears had made his appearance in April 1903. The household comprised Alfred, Dorothy, Robert and Ernest and two domestic servants - a cook and a housemaid. I am not sure if I have found the correct death registration for Alfred – the one I have located is for an Alfred E Sears for 1951 at the age of 80, which does not quite tally with his birth year of 1872. However, the record identified for his wife is on firmer ground – Dorothy J Sears' death at the age of 86 was registered at New Forest in 1960.²⁵

Arthur Holroyd Sears

At home with his father for the 1891 census, the youngest son, Arthur Holroyd Sears, was in Wales for the 1901 census, the head, and sole member, of the household at 1 Temple Terrace, Llandrindod, Radnorshire, and earning his living as an electrical engineer, having completed his engineering education at Finsbury Technical College. Also at Llandrindod at the same time was a 20 year old young lady by the name of Dorothy Swettenham, daughter of William and Emily Jane Swettenham. William Swettenham happened to be a civil engineer and land agent (on his own account) and it is interesting to speculate whether young Arthur was employed by William.²⁶

The marriage between Arthur Holroyd Sears and Dorothy Charlotte Swettenham was registered at Rhyader for the

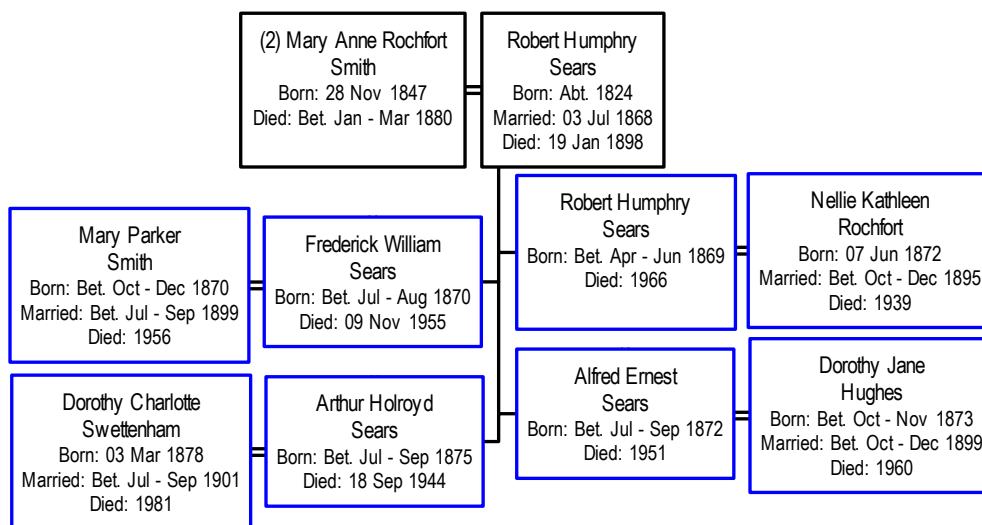
Jul-Sep quarter of 1901. Boys seem to have run in the Sears family because within a few years Arthur and Dorothy were blessed with two sons – Arthur James and Herbert William. The first census for this family was that conducted in June 1911. They were living at 57 Lee Terrace, practically next door neighbours of Alfred and Dorothy Sears.²⁷

Sears, Arthur Holroyd	Head	Mar	M	36	Electrical Engineer,	Taunton, Somerset
Sears, Dorothy	Wife	Mar	9	F	32	Newton, Montgomeryshire
Sears, Arthur James	Son			F	8	Llandrindod Well, Radnor
Sears, Herbert William	Son			F	7	London
Marshall, Sarah Ann	Serv	Sing		F	24	General Servant Domestic Devonshire

In 1917 Arthur was appointed as a temporary Inspector of Ordnance 3rd Class, with the honorary rank of Lieutenant (on probation). He was a member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, and his passing was noted in Institute's journal and in The Times. His death at the age of 69 was registered at New Forest.²⁸

SEARS – On Sept. 18, 1944, ARTHUR HOLROYD SEARS. M.I.E.E., of Gunfield, Milford-on-Sea, Hants., beloved husband of Dorothy Charlotte. No letters or flowers, please.

If I have identified the correct record for Dorothy Charlotte Sears, she was the longest lived of a long-living family. She would have been 102 or 103 when she died, and the registration for 1981 was yet another at New Forest. The significance of the New Forest registrations is that it reinforces the closeness of the Sears brothers and their wives. For a large part of their lives they all lived within a few miles of each other, and this is further confirmed by a look at the listings in the online British telephone directories.²⁹



SCS

Anne Eliza Smith

The last of the three children of Thomas and Delia Smith (née Rochfort), Anne Eliza Smith was born at Chinsurah on 2nd August 1849 and baptised there on the 14th August. She was a an 11 year old girl when found with her mother, her grandmother, two sisters, an aunt and a cousin at Coburg Street, Lezayre, on the Isle of Man for the 1861 England census. Not long after this, and possibly in company with her eldest sister Janet, Anne Eliza returned to India. There she was wooed by Charles Holroyd, and on 25th March 1872 they married at Calcutta. The Times of India announced this event to the world.³⁰

March 25th at St Paul's Cathedral Calcutta by the Rev S Dyer, Colonel Charles Holroyd, Bengal Staff Corps, to Anne Eliza, third daughter of the late Thomas Smith Esq.

In yet another twist in this family's complicated relationships this was Charles Holroyd's second marriage. His first marriage took place in Yorkshire, and the event was registered at Great Ouseburn for the Oct-Dec quarter of 1862. His bride was none other than the now widowed Mary Florence Hannay, the mother of Charles Edward Gordon Hannay who married Anne's niece Helena Sears Paul. Following their wedding Charles Holroyd and his wife Mary Florence returned to India, but within a year of their marriage Mary Florence had died on 31st August 1863.³¹

August 31st at Sebsaugor Mary Florence wife of Major Charles Holroyd BSC aged 42 years.

Charles Holroyd had been born in India on 16th October 1822, one of at least six children of George Chaplin Holroyd and his first wife, Mary Virginie Mottet de la Fontaine, who were married at Hyderabad, on 28th April 1818. Charles senior served with some distinction in the British East India military service. Mary Virginie died in 1845 after which Charles married, at Exeter, Frances Hatton Harington, on 14 August 1848. Charles Chaplin Holroyd died at the age of 81 at Exeter and his widow Frances died shortly after, also at Exeter, on 25th March 1874 aged 70.³²

Charles and Anne Eliza Holroyd had three children, two born in India and the last at Eastbourne. Their first son, Charles Patrick Holroyd, was born on 4th June 1874 at Barrackpore and baptised there on the 20th June. Edward Fraser Rochfort Holroyd was born on 20th November 1875 and baptised at Fort William on 6th January 1876. Shortly after Edward's birth the family returned to England where the birth of Norah Palmer Holroyd was registered at Eastbourne for the Jan-Mar quarter of 1877. When the 1881 census was conducted the Holroyd family was living at The Links, Eastbourne – with one notable absence.³³

Charles Holroyd	Head	W	58	Major Genl HM Indian Army Retired	India
Charles P Holroyd	Son		6	Scholar	India
Edward F Holroyd	Son		5	Scholar	India
Norah P Holroyd	Daur		4	Scholar	Eastbourne, Sussex
Henrietta Holroyd	Niece	U	17	Scholar	Paddington, Middlesex
Anna M Sutcliffe	Serv	U	40	Governess (Dom Serv)	Russell Square, Middlesex
Mary E Butler	Serv	U	32	Cook	Upton, Berkshire
Eliza Main	Serv	U	29	Parlour Maid	Cheddar, Somerset
Sarah North	Serv	U	28	Nurse	Walthamstow, Essex
Emily Cooke	Serv	U	21	Housemaid	Taunton, Somerset

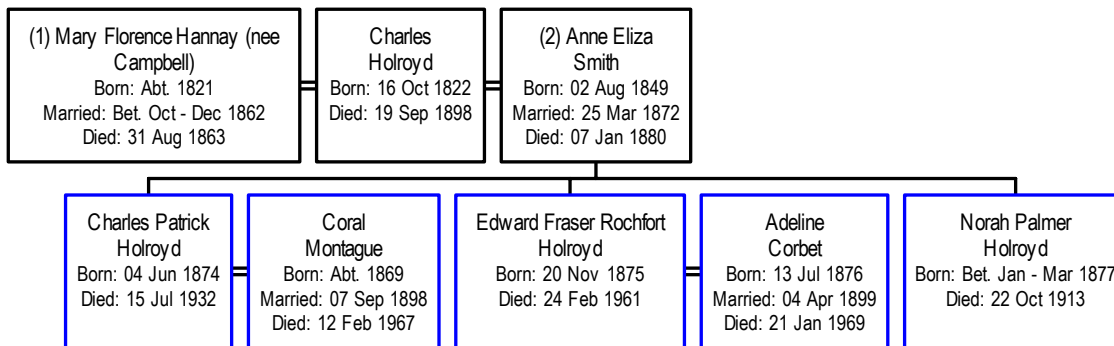
While the census return tells us that Anne Eliza Holroyd died sometime between giving birth to Norah and 3rd April 1881, I could find no England death registration for the event. Knowing that Anne's sister was living in Scotland I ran a search on the Scotland BMD, with success. It seems that in early 1880 Anne Holroyd, and perhaps also Charles, was visiting relatives - Anne's sister and brother-in-law, Janet and John Paul, and/or her uncle William, at 29 Arlington Street, Glasgow, because it was there, at ten past seven on the morning of the 7th January 1880, that Anne committed suicide by swallowing carbolic acid. It was Charles Holroyd, now a widower again, who undertook the duties of Informant. Carbolic acid, so readily available as a household cleaning agent, was the suicide method of choice among women of the time (and subsequently). What led Anne to kill herself in such a painful manner is not known, but the tragic event must have come as a terrible shock to her family.³⁴

The Holroyd family biographer, Michael Holroyd, in researching his family history, speculates on Anne's state of mind when she travelled to Scotland. In his account he states that 29 Arlington Street was the home of her uncle William Smith (and possibly brother to Anne's father Thomas Smith). It may also have been home to Janet and John Paul at some stage (perhaps sharing with William Smith) because one of their children was born there. The author mistakenly identifies John Stewart Paul as Anne's uncle and Janet Stewart Paul as her aunt. While I have suggested that Anne and Charles may have travelled together to Scotland, Michael Holroyd speculates that Charles only went to Glasgow on hearing of his wife's death. He does, however, confirm that all three – Anne Holroyd, John and Janet Paul - were buried in Lair 59 of the Glasgow Necropolis, along with Delia Smith, mother of Anne and Janet.³⁵

Both of the Holroyd boys were boarders at Uppingham School, Rutland, for the 1891 census, while their sister Norah, now 14, was at home with their father at Eastbourne. This was to be Charles Holroyd's last census – he died in 1898 at the age of 75. Rather than nominate either or both of his sons to administer his estate, this responsibility was partly given to his stepson, one of the sons of his first wife Mary Florence by her first husband. Simon Hannay.³⁶

HOLROYD Charles of "the Links" Meads Eastbourne Sussex retired major-general in the Indian-army died 19 September 1898 Probate London 21 October to Ormelie Campbell Hannay lieutenant-colonel in the Argyle and Sutherland-highlanders and Richard Blamey Magor merchant and tea-agent. Effects £79473 8s 10d.

The Hoyle Connections



Charles Patrick Holroyd

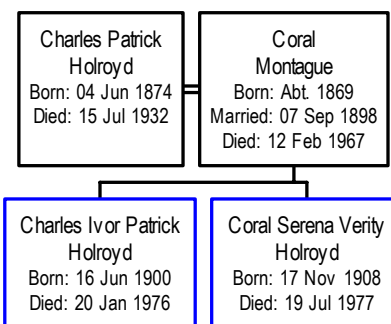
I have not located Charles Patrick Holroyd in the 1901 census, but he had married by this time, as recorded by the registration at Bath for the Jul-Sep quarter of 1898. Charles and Coral Montague were married on 7th September at St Mary's Church. Coral was in 1869 in London, younger daughter of William E Montague, retired Major General, General Infantry, and his wife Alice Lumsden Mitchell who had married at Plymouth in the summer of 1865. William spent some time in India and their elder daughter Beryl was born at Umballah on 15th August 1866. Coral and Beryl were both enrolled at the Ladies School at Wild Oak House, Taunton, for the 1881 census, and for the next census in 1891 Coral, then a 21 year old young woman, was at home with her parents at Cliffe House, Clevedon.³⁷

Charles and Coral had two children – Charles Ivor Patrick Holroyd born in 1900 and Coral Serena Verity Holroyd born in 1908. Charles Holroyd died at Blandford in July 1962 and his wife was appointed co-executor of his estate.³⁸

HOLROYD Charles Patrick of Langton House Blandford Dorsetshire died 15 July 1932 at the Nursing Home Salisbury Probate Bristol 1 September to Coral Holroyd widow and sir George Duncan Gray knight. Effects £57075 15s 11d.

His widow lived to the age of 97. A notice was placed in The Times of 14 February 1967.³⁹

HOLROYD – On Feb. 12th 1967 at High Bank, Lymington, Mrs CORAL HOLROYD, widow of the late Major C. P. Holroyd, Royal Welch Fusiliers, and mother of Ivor and Verity. Cremation Bournemouth Crematorium, February 18, 10.45 a.m. Family flowers only.



Edward Fraser Rochfort Holroyd

Edward Fraser Rochfort, having completed his secondary education, went up to Kings College, Cambridge and graduated with a BA in 1897. Two years later he married Adeline Corbet, an Anglo-Irish women, with the event being registered at Bristol for the Apr-Jun quarter of 1899. They were married from the house of one of Adeline's sisters on 4th April 1889.⁴⁰

Adeline had been born at 6 Lower Janemount, Cork on 13th July 1876, the youngest of eleven Corbet sisters, and a brother. Her father, who like her mother had died before Adeline's marriage, was Michael Augustus Corbet, who on Adeline's birth certificate was recorded as a traveller, that is a commercial traveller, but on her marriage certificate as a gentleman. The couple was found at The Red House, Datchet, Buckinghamshire, for the 1891 census.⁴¹

Edward F R Holroyd	Head	M	25	Living on own Means	Calcutta, India
Adeline Holroyd	Wife	M	24		Cork, Ireland
Theresa Reilly	Serv	S	21	Housemaid (domestic)	Athboy, Ireland

The Hoyle Connections

Robert Savage	Serv	M	31	Gardener (domestic)	Bristol, Somerset
Mary Savage	Serv	M	31	Cook (Domestic)	Bristol, Somerset
Gertrude Savage	Serv Daur		6		Bristol, Somerset
Beatrice Savage	Serv Daur		3		Bristol, Somerset

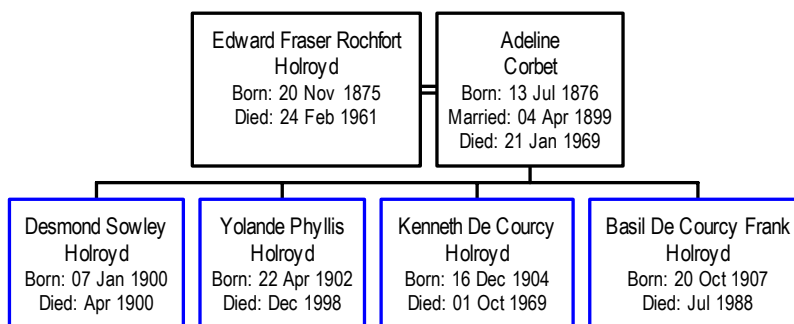
Ten years later they were parents to three children – Yolande born in 1902, Kenneth born in 1904, and Basil born in 1907 - and the 1911 census records that the family was living at Meadowcroft, Bolton Avenue, Windsor. There is a slight discrepancy in Adeline's age. In fact their first child had been a son, Desmond Sowley Holroyd, who was born on 7th January 1900 but who died four months later.⁴²

Holroyd, Edward Frank						
Rochfort	Head	Mar	M	35	Correspondence Department	Calcutta, India
Holroyd, Adeline	Wife	Mar	11	F	31	Cork, Ireland
Holroyd, Kenneth de Courcy	Son		M	7		Datchet, Bucks
Holroyd, Basil de Courcy						
Frank	Son		M	3		Windsor
Holroyd, Yolande Phyllis	Serv	Sing	F	9		Clifton, Glos
Griffin, Kate	Serv	Sing	F	33	Nurse Domestic	Little Badminton
Flanagan, Anne Norah	Serv	Sing	F	32	Cook Domestic	Co Meath, Ireland
Hegbon, Aanne Margerita	Serv	Sing	F	24	Housemaid Domestic	Norway
Quarterman, Mabel Freeland	Serv	Sing	F	22	Under Nurse Domestic	Windsor

The Holroyd family tended to longevity, and Edward and Adeline prove the point. At the age of 85, Edward died at Maidenhead in 1961. Eight years later Adeline Holroyd died at the age of 92 in 1969. The family placed the following notices in The Times.⁴³

HOLROYD – On February 24th, 1961, EDWARD FRASER ROCHFORD HOLROYD, aged 85 years of Norhurst, Westmorland Road, Maidenhead, beloved husband of Adeline and father of Yolande, Kenneth and Basil. Funeral private on Wednesday, March 1st. Flowers to G. Hooper and Son, 27 King Street, Maidenhead.

HOLROYD – On Jan 21st, 1969, at Maidenhead Hospital, Adeline, aged 92 years, or Norhurst, Westmorland Road Maidenhead, widow of Edward Fraser Rochfort Holroyd and mother of Yolande, Kenneth and Basil. Cremation private. Flowers only, please, to G. Hooper & Son, 27 King Street, Maidenhead, Berks, tel. Maidenhead 28273.



Norah Palmer Holroyd

Norah, the youngest of the Holroyd children, who would have been only about three when her mother committed suicide, was at home with her father for both the 1881 and the 1891 census. Both her brothers had married by the time of the 1901 census, and for this event, by which time the family home at Eastbourne had been sold, Norah was a visitor of the family of William S Craig, a retired physician, and his family at Beaufort House, Ham Street, Kingston. Norah never married, but after the death of her father seems to have regarded Beaufort House as her home. She died in 1913 in France at Vernet-les-Bains, a spa town in the south west of France, a popular resort of British travellers in the late nineteenth century, where she may have gone for health reasons. One of the members of the Craig family was a daughter Frances Mary Craig, a few years older than Norah, and obviously a close friend. Norah appointed her (by this time Mrs Macnamara) as the executor of her estate.⁴⁴

HOLROYD Norah Palmer of Beaufort House Ham Surrey spinster died 22 October 1913 at Vernet Les Bains in France Administration (with Will) London 24 June to Frances Mary Macnamara (wife of Eric Danvers Macnamara). Effects £11992 6s.

Michael Holroyd, a great-grandson of Anne Eliza Holroyd (née Smith), a grandson of Edward Fraser Rochfort Holroyd, and son of Basil De Courcy Frank Holroyd, is the author of the book 'Basil Street Blues'. The following is an extract of a review in The New York Times, March 26th 2000.⁴⁵

“...Holroyd has written perhaps his best book yet. By turns damning and delightful, frothing with hilarity but always pulled by a strong undertow of sadness ... it evokes a postwar English world of genteel decay, tea in good china and repressed emotion.”

The book is recommended, indeed compulsory (and compelling), reading for anyone with an interest in this Holroyd family.



Notes

- ¹ FIBIS Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce Marriages 1845 1 Nov edition; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1848.
- ² Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; RG11/2474/53/p11.
- ³ RG9/4422/83/p15.
- ⁴ RG10/2373/51/p9; RG11/2369/36/p33.
- ⁵ RG12/1877/52/p6.
- ⁶ 1901 Scotland Census Parish:Glasgow Park ED59 p23; Statutory Deaths 644/09 0808.
- ⁷ FIBIS The Times of India Marriages 1864 23 Nov edition; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948.
- ⁸ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947, India Deaths and Burials 1719-1948.
- ⁹ 1871 Scotland Census Parish:Gowan ED19 p3; 1881 Scotland Census Parish:Glasgow Barony ED26 p7.
- ¹⁰ Statutory Births 644/07 0754, 644/07 1390, 644/09 0454; note however, that the birth place of at least Charles Paul may actually have been the home of Janet's uncle William Smith – see the section relating to Janet's sister, Anne Eliza Smith.
- ¹¹ 1891 Scotland Census Parish:Glasgow Sandyford ED27 p16; Statutory Marriages 644/09 0343; Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; according to the website The Peerage, Charles Hannay's parents had both died when he was a small boy – Simon Hannay in 1861 and Mary Florence Hannay in 1862, and Charles died in 1900 (<http://thepeerage.com>); see also the section on Eliza Anne Smith; the Bombay Times Domestic Occurrences 28 July 1841.
- ¹² 1901 Scotland Census Parish:Glasgow Park ED59 p23; Scotland Census 1911 644/12 016/00/020; the number of windows per room was one of the census questions.
- ¹³ British Columbia Marriage Index 1872 to 1924.
- ¹⁴ Statutory Death 644/09 0783; SC36/48/159 Glasgow Sheriff Court Inventories and SC536/51/117 Glasgow Sheriff Court Wills.
- ¹⁵ Statutory Death 443/00 0009; as the informant Robert Paul would have provided the information for completing the death certificate – he thought his maternal grandfather, Thomas Smith, had been a tea planter.
- ¹⁶ The London Gazette February 24 1893, 12 March 1915; British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920; Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948.
- ¹⁷ London England Marriages and Banns 1754-1921; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915.
- ¹⁸ FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941.
- ¹⁹ FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; FMP Passenger lists leaving UK 1890-1960; UK Incoming Passenger Lists 1878-1960; England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; Supplement to the London Gazette 31 May 1956.
- ²⁰ Crockford's Clerical Directory 1932; FreeBMD Marriage and Birth Indexes 1837-1915; RG11/3499/46/p8.
- ²¹ RG13/4717/36/p2; RG13/546/9/p9; RG14PN15403 RG78PN935 RD327 SD7 ED8 SN72.
- ²² England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; The Times Thursday Nov 10 1955.
- ²³ RG11/3494/64/p1; FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; RG13/546/9/p9.
- ²⁴ The Medical Register for 1911, p 1411.
- ²⁵ RG14PN2738 RG78PN94 RD29 SD2 ED9 SN100; England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005.
- ²⁶ RG13/5186/17/p25; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; RG13/5163/7/p5.
- ²⁷ FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; RG142738 RG78PN94 RD 29 SD2 ED9 SN97.
- ²⁸ Supplement to the London Gazette 13 January 1917; ieeexplore.ieee.org; The Times Wednesday Sep 20 1944; England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005.
- ²⁹ England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; Ancestry British Phone Books.
- ³⁰ Family Search India Marriages 1792-1948; FIBIS The Times of India Marriages 1872.
- ³¹ FreeBMD Marriages 1837-1915; FIBIS The Times of India Deaths 1863 26 Sep Edition.
- ³² <http://members.cox.net/ggthomp/georgechalinholroyd.html>; do we have a clue here regarding the name Har(r)ington?
- ³³ Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; RG11/1037/134/p1; The Links was sold by Charles Patrick Holroyd after his father's death and became, for a time, a fashionable school for young ladies.
- ³⁴ Statutory Deaths 644/09 0026.
- ³⁵ Basil Street Blues, Michael Holroyd, Little, Brown, 1999, pp25-27.
- ³⁶ RG12/2549/45/p11; RG12/771/118/p1; FreeBMD Death Index 1837-1915; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941.
- ³⁷ FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; Family Search India Births and Baptisms 1786-1947; RG11/2364/58/p29 RG12/1954/11/p4.
- ³⁸ FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941.
- ³⁹ England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; The Times Tuesday Feb 14 1967.
- ⁴⁰ Cambridge University Alumni 1261-1900; FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915.

⁴¹ Basil Street Blues, Michael Holroyd, Little, Brown, 1999 pp42-43; RG13/1341/6/p4.

⁴² FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1915; RG14PN6711 RG78PN334 RD125 SD2 ED6 SN125.

⁴³ England & Wales Death Index 1916-2005; The Times Saturday Feb 25 1961, Saturday Jan 25 1969.

⁴⁴ RG13/665/175/p31; FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1915; England & Wales National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administration) 1861-1941; Basil Street Blues, Michael Holroyd, Little, Brown, 1999, pp38-40.

⁴⁵ Basil Street Blues, Michael Holroyd, Little, Brown, 1999.