

# **DAVID VINCENT STRANGE**

## **FAMILY TREE (Male Line) NOTES**

I have been authorised to use this by Dave Strange [davest@lfcmail.co.uk](mailto:davest@lfcmail.co.uk)

The Pedigree charts associated with this family can be found at the end of this file

Dave said, "Grateful thanks to Ina Strange, Dennis Strange, Mike Strange, Paul Strange, Marg Keable and Ted Noonan for much of the information provided."

### **Generation 1 (found to-date) – 1500's in Suffolk**

- Unknown (William?) married MARY LAWTER(died 1620?) somewhere in Suffolk (Elmham – Rumburgh area?)

### **Generation 2**

- WILLIAM STRANGE who married ANN FISK in 1618 in Rumburgh, Suffolk. Their children were FRANCIS STRANGE, who died in Wissett, Suffolk on 26 May 1695, and Amy Strange who was born in 1630 at All Saints, South Elmham, Suffolk.

### **Generation 3**

- FRANCIS married LYDIA. Their children were:
- FRANCIS STRANGE(2), who died in 1726 at Spexhall, Suffolk
- John
- William
- Lydia, who married Edm Roberts on 4 April 1694 at Spexhall in Suffolk

### **Generation 4**

- FRANCIS(2) married MARTHA. He later married Mary Garrod in Spexhall 1694 and Ann Tailor in 1696. Children of Francis and Martha were:
- Elizabeth
- Robert
- Anna, born 01 December 1690 at St Margaret, South Elmham and married William Spall in 1714 at Westhall
- FRANCIS(3), born 21 January 1690/91 at All Saints, South Elmham. Died 31 May 1774 – same place.
- Martha, born 03 March 1691/92 at All Saints, South Elmham
- Roger, born 15 September 1694 at All Saints, South Elmham
- Mary, born 03 December 1703 at Wissett.
- In the elections of 1703, Francis(2) was only one of two men qualified to vote in the parish of All Saints South Elmham, in that he had freehold lands or tenements whose net value was 40s or more and was aged over 21. He voted for Sir Dudley Cullum and Sir Samuel Barnardiston to represent him in parliament.

## Generation 5

- FRANCIS(3) married ANN HUSBURGH in 1718. He died 31 May 1774 in All Saints, South Elmham, Suffolk. There is a memorial inscription record there, but no gravestone can be found. The children of Frances(3) and Ann were:
- FRANCIS(4), born 1728. Died 08 November 1790 at Southwold, Suffolk.
- Isaac, born 04 January 1731/32 at Chediston, Suffolk
- John, born 03 June 1731 at Chediston; died 25 February 1810 at Denton, Norfolk
- Rebecca – married Oliver Bridgeman and later Samuel Huflet (27 March, 1761 All Saints)
- Elizabeth – married William King 1741 All Saints
- Rebecca, born 04 January 1732 at Chediston – twin of Isaac; died 07 June 1733
- Martha, born 29 May 1729 at Chediston
- Hannah, died January 1741/42 at Westhall
- Ann, married Berney Beane.
- Note that Francis(3)'s Will was proven in the Norwich Consistory Court. Content of Will:

*I Francis Strange of the Parish of All Saints Southelmham in the County of Suffolk Yeoman being sich and weak in Body but of sound and disposing mind and memory and understanding praised be to Almighty God for the same but considering the shortness and Uncertainty of this mortal life do declare and make this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say*

*First I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God my Creator and my body I committ to the Earth to be buried at the discretion of my Executor hereinafter named and as to my Worldly Estate wherewith God hath been pleased to give me*

*I divide the rest as follows.*

*I tem I give and bequeath unto Ann my loving wife all and every my goods chattells cattle household stuff plate linen ready money moneys due and owing to me upon mortgages bonds notes simple contract or otherwise howsoever and also all other my personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what kind or nature soever the same shall be or consist of which I shall be possessed of interested in or intitles unto at the time of my decease. To hold same to her the said Ann my wife for and during the Term of her natural life and from and after her decease I give and bequeath unto Francis Strange my son the sum of fifty pounds unto John Strange my son the sum of fifty pounds. Unto Elizabeth the wife of William King the sum of fifty pounds unto Ann the wife of Berney Beane the sum of seventy pounds unto Hannah the wife of William Sporle the sum of one hundred pounds and unto Martha Strange of the City of London spinster (my four daughters) the sum of ninety pounds to be paid*

*to them severally within six months next after the decease of the said Ann my wife and all the rest residue and remainder of my said personal estate my mind and will is shall be divided amongst Francis John and Isaac Strange my sons Elizabeth King Anne Beane Hannah Sporle Rebecca Bridgeman my five daughters or such of them as shall be living at the death of my said wife and if but one of them shall be then living then all to that one.*

*Lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint Oliver Bridgeman of Saint Peters Southelmham in the County of Suffolk farmer executor of this my last will and testament to whom I do give five guineas for his care and trouble to be had thereabout desiring my just debts and funeral expenses to be paid hereby revoking all former wills and testaments by me at any time heretofore make published or declared.*

*In witness whereof I the said Francis Strange the testator have this my last will and testament in writing set my hand and seal the twenty eight day of May in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy four.*

*The mark of Francis Strange*

*Signed sealed proclaimed and declared by the said Francis Strange the testator as the last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence.....have inscribed our names Jonathon Holmes and ?*

*All Saints South Elmham June ? 1774*

*the executor within named was sworn in the form of law before me...Pradon?*

*Examined by us: John Tubby Samuel Cole*

## **Generation 6**

- FRANCES(4) , born 1728 and died 08 November 1790 in Southwold, Suffolk. Married RACHEL KNIGHTS. Their children were:
- Rachel, born 13 August 1758
- FRANCIS(5), born 08 January 1760 All Saints, Southelmham. Died 26 April 1840 St Lukes Old St, Finsbury, London
- James, born 22 February 1761 All Saints, Southelmham; died 1845
- John, born 23 April 1764 All Saints, Southelmham; died 1845
- Mary, born 10 August 1768 All Saints, Southelmham; died 05 December 1845, Great Yarmouth
- Samuel, born 09 October 1768 All Saints, Southelmham; died 05 August 1838 Southwold, Suffolk

- Martha, born 13 May 1770 All Saints, Southelmham; married John Danby 22 October 1793 at St Margarets, Southelmham ([NOTE: Marg Keable is descended from this marriage](#)); died St Margaret, Southelmham in 1838
- Isaac, born 13 September 1772 All Saints, Southelmham, died 1855
- Susanna, born 18 June 1775, All Saints, Southelmham
- In the Southwold St Edward Cemetery (no. 349 in block D) there is an MI for Francis(5) and Rachel:

*To the Memory of Francis Strange who died Nov 8th 1790 Aged 62*

*Also Rachel his wife who died June 1st 1809 Aged 76*

*Their souls returned to God / Their bodies here doth lie / A faithful monitor to prove  
/ That all who live shall die / The awful trumpet shall sound / and our Redeemer give  
/ An everlasting glorious proof / That all who die shall live*

- The Will of Francis(5):

*In the name of God Amen. I Francis Strange of Saint Nicholas Southelmham, in the County of Suffolk, Farmer, being weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God, Do make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul, into the hand of Almighty God that gave it, and my body I recommend to the Earth, to be buried in decent Christian burial, at the discretion of my Executrix and executor and hereafter named, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection, I shall receive the same again, by the Might Power of God, and as touching such worldly estate and dispose of the same, in the following manner, and form,*

*First, I give and bequeath unto Rachel, my dearly beloved wife, all my personal estate now lately purchased at Southwold in the County of Suffolk.*

*Together with all and singular all my whole stock of all kinds whatsoever within doors, and without doors, ready money, book debts and all my whole worth, and effects whatever belongeth unto me, to be verily possessed and enjoyed by her only for the whole term of her natural life, and after her decease to be divided amongst my daughters, and sons, as she pleases, and also my will and order is to have all my just debts and funeral charges paid and discharged by my executrix, and I do make and ordain Rachel my loving wife executrix, and my son John Strange of Southwold executor, being allowed reasonable charges for the same, and I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke, and ? all and every other former testaments, ratifying and confirming this, and no other to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have here unto*

*signed my hand and fixed my seal , this twenty fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety.*

*Signed, sealed published, pronounced, and declared, by the said Francis Strange, as his last will, and testament in the presence of us, who in his presence, and in the presence of each other, have hereunto transcribed our names.*

*Francis Strange wrote his name*

*Witnesses: James Carley, William Cockerel, John Kent..*

### **Generation 7**

- FRANCES(5) married FRANCES STOCKENS(born 1763, died 08 August 1825) on 14 August 1783 in Mendham, Suffolk; some spellings of her name refer to 'Stockings'. They were Non-conformists. They moved to London shortly after marriage and lived at St Lukes Old Street, Middlesex. Frances(5) was a cooper and was buried in 1840 in Bunhill Fields, London – the grave sustained a direct hit in WW2. The children of Frances(5) and Frances, many of whom died in infancy and only 6 survived youth, were:
- WILLIAM, born 21 August 1786 St Lukes Old Street; died 20 March 1851, Jersey
- Frances, born 14 October 1788.
- Rachel, born 15 December 1789.
- Francis, born 6 September 1791, Finsbury, Tabernacle Ind. St Luke, London, England.
- Jonathon, born 4 November 1794.
- Jabez , born 2 August 1796, St Lukes Old Street, Middlesex, England; died 1849.
- Francis, born 22 December 1797, St Lukes Old Street, Middlesex, England.
- Mary , born 1 April 1800.
- Francis, born 14 May 1800, Finsbury, Tabernacle Ind. St Luke, London, England.
- James, born 1 December 1801, Finsbury, Tabernacle Ind. St Luke, London, England.
- John, born 6 September 1803, Finsbury, Tabernacle Ind. St Luke, London, England.
- Martha, born 2 June 1807, Finsbury, Tabernacle Ind. St Luke, London, England.
- William, born. 25 December 1819.

### **Generation 8**

- WILLIAM – 1786 to 1851 - became a Wine & Sprit Merchant and moved to Abingdon, Berkshire where he lived for most of his life. He married 3 times ([Note: Paul Strange is a descendant from the second marriage to Ann Waite in 1818](#)). and between 1841 and 1851 moved to Jersey, where he died leaving no Will. He first married CHRISTIANA ANN TOMKINS (born 09 February 1790) in 1812. Christiana was from an established and worthy family, her father being a Banker, and her mother was the granddaughter of one John Alder; he was celebrated for winning a national lottery and became a town celebrity. William and Christiana had the following children:
- WILLIAM ALDER STRANGE, born 23 June 1813, St Nicholas, Abingdon, Berkshire; died 1874.
- Harriett, born 09 September 1814 St Nicholas, Abingdon, Berkshire

- Charles, born 04 July 1816 St Nicholas, Abingdon, Berkshire
- Francis, born 15 August 1819 St Nicholas, Abingdon, Berkshire
- Ann, born 08 August 1821

### Generation 9

- WILLIAM ALDER STRANGE married Mary Elizabeth Davies 02 July 1836 in Liverpool. I have a photocopy of both his Will, dated 23 May 1874, and her Will, dated 08 July 1857 (both supplied by Paul Strange). Their children were:
  - Elizabeth, born 31 May 1841
  - Cresswell, born 09 September 1842; died 30 January 1905. Married Martha Hughes (died 10 January 1926). His unusual name came from a favourite uncle on his mother's side. He was a scholar of Pembroke College Oxford from 1862-1866 and obtained a BA in 1866, MA in 1868. Ordained in Winchester, followed the following career: Deacon 1866, Priest 1867, Curate of Hale in Surrey (1866-1868), Curate of Farnham (1868-1871), Priest in Charge Hales, Shropshire (1871-1872), Vicar Holy Trinity, Southampton (1872-1884), Vicar of Edgbaston (1884-?), Canon of Worcester. He was also the first President of the Reformed Old Abingdonian Club in 1893 (elected 30 June 1893). Whilst he was President it was proposed that a Science Laboratory be equipped at the school in memory of his father William Alder Strange.
  - Laurence Augustine, born 28 June 1844. He became a Bank Manager and lived in several towns before returning to Abingdon where he died. I have a photocopy of his Will dated 23 December 1905 (supplied by Paul Strange).
    - Note: His third son was CRESSWELL STRANGE, born 18 January 1885 at Edgbaston, educated at Uppingham School. He attended Trinity College Oxford and attained a 3<sup>rd</sup> Lass Mods degree in 1905, a Bain 1906 and an MA in 1910. He was ordained in 1906 in Manchester. His career took him to Curate of St Michael Kirkham (1908-1910), Assistant Master at Kirkham G.S. (1908-1911), Vicar of Great Singleton (1912-1919), Inns of Court (1916), Royal North Lancashire Regiment (1917-1919), Headmaster Kirkham G.S. (1919-1945) after which he retired to Warwickshire.
- Frances Adelmide, born 13 January 1850. Known as Fanny.
- VINCENT WILLIAM STRANGE, born 14 January 1846; died April-June 1900
- Mary, born 1839, Liverpool.
- Caroline, born 1840 in Liverpool.
- William Alder was first educated at Christ's Hospital in London and then at Abingdon (1827-1829). He won a scholarship to Pembroke College, Oxford University to read Sanskrit. He then became Second Master at the Royal Liverpool Institution (1833-1839), but returned to his old school – Roysees in Abingdon, becoming Headmaster (1840-1868). The school is now part of Abingdon School, an established public school. A painting of WA Strange still hangs in the hall there. Following resignation in 1868 he then went on to become a parish vicar at St Michaels Church in Bishop Middleham, Durham and died there on 17 April 1874. He was buried in Shippon, Abingdon, Berkshire. His death is registered at Stockton District (vol 10a, page 94).
- Extract from the Abingdon School history:

*William Alder Strange was one of the scholars presented for promotion to Pembroke on Hewlett's dies mirabilis in 1829. The son of a wine merchant and bearer of a name which was famous in the town – his great uncle had won a fortune in a lottery – he represented something like a return to earlier traditions. His portraits show him splendid in the robes of a doctor of divinity, but do not suggest a powerfully*

*academic temperament. Rather, there is a suggestion of almost rustic heartiness, a hint of unimaginative self-confidence. Strange appears to have had something in common with his eighteenth-century predecessor Woods – including a penchant for inflicting corporal punishment – but whereas Woods had beaten future archbishops and peers of the realm, Strange had to make do with the sons of tradesmen. His style is suggested in the following account, given in later years by his nephew:*

*"As to the exact year of the occurrence I am referring to, I am not certain, but it was however in the sixties of the present century. The old Grammar School was then experiencing a 'full term' and the sleeping accommodation was so taxed that the Headmaster asked me to spare him a large bedroom in my house, that three or four of the young gentlemen who were amongst his boarders could sleep in. He felt, he said, he could leave them in my charge with confidence. My house was close to the School and overlooked the old playground. The boys came in regularly each evening after supper had been partaken of and evening prayer attended, and I had no trouble with them 'all going merry as a marriage bell'. Soon after six in the morning they used to bestir themselves for early school, and I would not see them again until the evening, as they had their meals in the dining hall. It was a beautiful clear fresh morning in early summer when I was roused from my slumbers by a loud knocking at my front door and on going downstairs and opening the same, was confronted by the Headmaster, who, with anxious face, asked me if my boys were all safe. I said that I believed so, and at once proceeded with him to their bedrooms. My birds were startled at this early visit but answered when the muster roll was called, and then I learnt that three or four were missing from the School and had undoubtedly run away. Steps were taken at once to capture the delinquents, and, as it was deemed not unlikely that they would make for their homes in the direction of Didcot and Blewbury this track was followed up, and so successfully, that it was not too many hours since the alarm of their disappearance was sounded, before the young escapees were back and lodged within the walls of the school. The splendid character of their Headmaster Strange could not be better exemplified than the announcement written to me: 'Dear John. The fugitives are recovered and have been castigated. They foolishly left their beds I can gather that they did it for a lark! Your affectionate Uncle WAS.'"*

- Extracts from an article from Christ's Hospital:

*"Though known doubtless to many of his School contemporaries and to some of the Hospital authorities of the period, the fact has apparently not been recorded hitherto, and is certainly unremembered now, that we possess a connecting link through a Blue worthy, with an ancient and famous school some seven miles from Oxford. We refer to Abingdon School, founded in 1563 and to the Rev. Dr. Strange, Headmaster of that school from 1840-1868, who, we are proud to record, received his education in Christ's Hospital. William Alder Strange, born 6<sup>th</sup> February 1813, son of William Strange of the Island of Jersey, was admitted to C.H. on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1821 from St. Helen's Abingdon upon the presentation of John Easthope Esq. The Hospital register records under the date 14<sup>th</sup> August 1827 that his father, residing in Abingdon, had an opportunity of placing him on the Foundation of the Free School of*

*Abingdon, with a prospect of a scholarship to Pembroke College, Oxford. He left C.H. accordingly. From Abingdon School he was elected to a scholarship at Pembroke College on the Wightwick Foundation on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1829. He retained his scholarship until 1837, taking his B.A. degree in 1833 and that of M.A. in 1836. In 1833 he gained the Boden Scholarship of Sanskrit, then newly established and he heads the list of distinguished Boden Scholars. From 1833 – 1839 he was Second Master at the Royal Institution School of Liverpool. He was elected to Headmaster of Abingdon School on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1840, proceeded to a B.D. in 1843 and a D.D. in 1847. He resigned in 1868 from the Headmastership and became Vicar of Bishop Middleham, Durham. His eldest son, Rev. Cresswell Strange, also a scholar of Pembroke College, became Vicar of Edgbaston and Hon. Canon of Worcester. W. A. Strange had a half-brother Paul Strange, born 4<sup>th</sup> October 1835, who was admitted to C.H. on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1844 from Kintbury, Berkshire, on the presentation of Edward Tull Esq. and discharged on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1850 by his mother (signing Mary Anne Strange), then residing at Walcot House near Hungerford."*

*"On the occasion of the Tercentenary there was published in pamphlet form 'A brief Memorial of Abingdon School' by the late Mr. Beyer-Blundell FSA and in it he speaks of Dr. W.A. Strange – 'Dr. Strange would shrink from exaggerated or undeserved encomiums. We respect him too much to offer such. Still, his labours during the twenty-three arduous and busy years of Headmastership merit due praise. He has done the State good service. He knows this and his fellow townsmen know it. Many who read these pages will recollect what Abingdon School was in 1840, and each and all such, seeing what it now is, might write the present Headmaster's eulogy in one word – Circumspice'".*

### **Generation 10: Grandparents:**

Vincent William STRANGE (my Grandfather)

- Born in Abingdon 14 January 1846.
- Bible held by my mother shows his name and the date 08 June 1863.
- Worked in Australia (South?) as manager (?) of a diamond and opal mine.
- Photograph was taken in Reading, Berkshire.
- Returned to England to reside in Pewsey, Wiltshire sometime in mid-April 1894.
- Date of death April – June 1900 (death certificate at Ealing, ref Vol 3a, p57). Thought to have attended Grand National Race Meeting, assumed April, contracted flu and died soon after.
- Registered on various certificates as 'Independent Means', therefore had plenty of wealth and was not working.

### **Marriage to Mary Elizabeth NOONAN**

- Recorded as 13 April 1881 at Adelaide Registry Office, South Australia [S18], marriage index number 127\_78. Note: [S18] is the South Australia Births and Marriages Index. Mary's father is recorded as being Patrick Noonan.

### **Mary Elizabeth NOONAN (my Grandmother)**

- Born 1860(?) as she registered herself as aged 41 in 1901 Census. Born in Limerick, Ireland. Died between 1924 and 1927 in Ealing (Fordhook Road?).
- In 1901 Census, lived at 51 Warwick Road, Ealing, London, Middlesex (parish of St. Marys) and was registered as the Head of the Household 'living on own means'. All 8 children also resided at this address at that time, only Vincent (aged 17) having registered employment as an Insurance Clerk.
- **Date and place of death? Thought by my mother to be between 1924 and 1927, possibly at home in Ealing (Fordhook Ave).**

### **Generation 11 (Vincent and Mary's children):**

#### **Edith May STRANGE (my Aunt)**

- Born 28 July 1881 at Maylands, Adelaide, South Australia [S18]; recorded in Book 266, Page 94.
- **Any marriage or family? Date and place of death?**

#### **Vincent STRANGE (my Uncle)**

- Born 07 May 1883 at Norwood, South Australia [S18]; recorded in Book 303, Page 33.
- Married (**to whom, when and where?**)
- Issue of son ROY (**when, where?**), and twins of 1 boy and 1 girl, thought to be named Josie (**who, when, where?**)

#### **Roy STRANGE (my Cousin)**

- Married INEZ (**nee, when, where?**) in Kenya (?) as she was the daughter of a Brazilian coffee planter in Kenya.
- Issue of sons MICHAEL and DEREK (**when, where, what family do they now have, if any?**)
- Family moved to Kenya before 1950s.

#### **William Alder STRANGE (my Uncle)**

- Born 10 March 1885 at Malvern, Adelaide, South Australia [S18]; recorded in Book 350, Page 1.
- Have a 1914-15 Campaign medal inscribed '2 Lieutenant W.A. STRANGE, 8 Irish Fusiliers'.
- **Any marriage or family? Date/Place of Death? No mention in Commonwealth War Graves site, so either not recorded or did not die in FWW.**

#### **Helen Mary STRANGE (my Aunt)**

- Born 29 August 1886 at Malvern, Adelaide, South Australia [S18]; recorded in Book 380, Page 381.
- Was a SRN after qualifying from the Royal College of Nursing and possibly became a qualified G.P. and was one of the only female GPs in this country at that time (1920s).

- Remained Single. Lived in Knaphill, Woking with nursing college friend Elizabeth Slade (who died 31 October 1969). Died in July 1950 during an operation for tonsillitis or similar.

### Laurence Linklater STRANGE (my Uncle)

- Born 1889 (**when, where?**) as registered as aged 12 in 1901 Census.
- 1901 Census states born in Sussex, Australia.
- Married (**when, where?**) to EFFIE MARY GRUNDY and recorded at time of his death as residing at 23 Alcester Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham.
- Had two sons:
  - Laurence Anthony (1914), who married Edith Gray, and they had a son Peter Hugh (born 1946). Peter Hugh married Elizabeth Ann McNess (or Macness).
  - Hugh Cresswell (1916) who died in 1967.
- Served as Private (No 33253) in 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry.
- Died on 22 July 1917 (Aged 28?) of wounds received at Battle of Arras and buried at Duisans British Cemetary, Etrun, Pas de Calais, France (grave V.A. 23). Probably held at 8<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station prior to death. Recorded as being the 'Son of the late W.V. Strange of Ealing, London'.
- Paul Strange's father has a note linked to LL Strange of a Anthony Strange, Dean Edge, Stonesfield, Oxford – may be his son, but not known; reference was from 1987.

### Lionel Cresswell STRANGE (my Uncle)

- Born 1892/1893 (**when, where?**) but wrongly transcribed on 1901 Census as 'Limel Gerswell'! Aged 8 on Census and states born in Wiltshire.
- Served as Second Lieutenant (**Service No?**) in 9th Battalion of the Essex Regiment.
- Died on 22 July 1917 (Aged 24?) of wounds received at Battle of Arras and buried at Duisans British Cemetary, Etrun, Pas de Calais, France (grave VII.A. 36). Probably held at 8<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station prior to death. Recorded as being the 'Son of the Mrs Strange of 90A Fordhook Avenue, Ealing Common, London'. This address is just across the common from Warwick Road, *so assume Mary Noonan and any remaining family at home moved to there from Warwick Road.*

### Rowland Gabriel STRANGE (my Father)

- 'England and Wales Civil Registration List 1837-1900' shows him to have been born 08 May 1894 ( see Volume 5a, Page 1[56]0); birthplace – Pewsey, Wiltshire. Registered as Rowland Edward Strange, but christened as Rowland Gabriel Strange.
- Attended Blue Coat School as a day pupil and lived with Uncle Peter Creswell. Was a chorister at Worcester Cathedral.
- Started FWW as Corporal (No 1918) in 'B' Company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> City of London Rifle Brigade. Fought in France and returned wounded on 15 December 1915. Discharged as R.F.M (Rifleman) Rowland Gabriel Strange on 08 July 1916 – certificate states 'Served with Honour and was disabled in the Great War. Honourably Discharged'. SEE APPENDIX 1 for his war diary etc.
- Served in City of London Police Reserve (badge number 5991). Rowed for them and has large medal for 'Metropolitan Junior Eight Oared Challenge Cup'.
- Also has 2 oak leaf badges and a badge stating 'For King & Empire – Services Rendered'.

- Worked in City of London, then for Ministry of Labour at Kew and then the Ministry of Transport (later known as Ministry of Shipping).
- First marriage (1916, London **where?**) to May SANDS, who died 10.05.1945 and was cremated at Croydon Cemetary. May was blind.
- Issue DENNIS, born 30 June 1917 at grandparents house at 11 Solon New Road, Clapham, London. Rowland, May and Dennis lived opposite at Number 6.
- Family moved, mainly due to Rowland's work, to 'Hadlow', 25 Ravenor Park Road, Greenford, Middlesex in 1925, later to 32 Perne Road, Cambridge (RGS at Ministry of Transport), and Rowland and May moved to Sanderstead just south of Croydon in 1939, Dennis being in the RAF at that time.

### **Dennis STRANGE (my Half-Brother) – for details, see his typed Autobiography**

- Married to Jean Constance TIMPERLEY on 12.12.1946 at Stockport Registry Office, Cheshire. Jean was born 14.10.1920 at Lymm in Cheshire and died 05.02.1998 in Compton, Hampshire.
- Issue of daughters BARBARA (born 10 May 1948, died September 1969 and cremated on 17.09.1969 at Blackburn, Lancashire) and FRANCES RUTH (born 29 June 1950). Frances still lives with her father and works at Age Concern in Winchester.
- Rowland's second marriage was on 24 March 1947 at All Saints Church, East Sheen, London (Certificate No. 859048; witnesses Dennis Strange, Mabel McNeill – my grandmother on my mother's side - and Helen Brayley) to my mother INA EMMA McNEILL (born 23 April 1920, Fort William, Ontario, Canada; birth certificate E265421).
- Civil Servant (H.E.O., Ministry of National Insurance), living at 64 East Sheen Ave, London SW14 at time of my birth (1948).
- Moved to Newcastle upon Tyne in 1947 to work as a S.E.O. at Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance complex in Longbenton.
- Died at home on 29 January 1957. Death certificate IU169416 Newcastle upon Tyne states' Cerebral Haemorrhage, Arterio Sclerosis, Hypertension and Coronary Thrombosis (June 1956) as causes.

### **Hugh Gordon STRANGE (my Uncle)**

- Born Jan – Mar. 1899 (Cert. held at Brentford, Volume 3a page 98) and registered as aged 2 in 1901 Census.
- 1901 Census states born in Ealing, Middlesex.
- Believed not to have married. Died 1917 (**when, where?**)

### **Generation 11: MY FAMILY:**

#### **David Vincent STRANGE (Myself)**

- Born 05 April 1948 at Richmond, Surrey (Onslow Nursing Home). Birth Cert: DE573455, Richmond & Barnes district, Surrey.

- Married 04 August 1973 at St Francis Church, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne (Certificate 527910) to MARGARET MEARS (born 08 January 1952, Ashleigh Nursing Home, Elmfield Park, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. Birth Cert: CL602507, Gosforth district, South Northumberland). Still married.
- Attended Cragside Primary School (1953-1957), Newcastle Royal Grammar School (1957-1967) and College of St Mark & St Johns, Chelsea London (1967-1970).
- Worked as Schoolteacher (1970-1975 Raby St Junior School, Byker, Newcastle), Civil Servant (1975-1981 D.H.S.S. Longbenton as E.O. in ICT Dept.) and in ICT (1981 – current date for South Tyneside M.B.C., South Shields, current position after a number of promotions being an ICT Principal Consultant).
- Lived at parental home until marriage, then at 27 Wych Elm Crescent, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne from 1973 until 1976. Finally, moved to current address of 28 Hiddleston Avenue, Benton Lodge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7NJ in September 1976.
- Issue of marriage are sons ROBERT and EDWARD.

### **Generation 12: Robert David STRANGE (my Son)**

- Born 14 August 1977 at General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Birth Cert: GF956309, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Educated at Benton Park Primary and Heaton Manor Comprehensive Schools, Newcastle College and North Tyneside College.
- Currently single and residing at home.
- Employed in retail management for a Mobile Phone Company in Newcastle upon Tyne city centre.

### **Generation 12: Edward Michael STRANGE (my Son)**

- Born 12 November 1983 at General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Birth Cert: GJ628194, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Educated at Benton Park Primary and Heaton Manor Comprehensive Schools.
- Currently single and residing at home.
- Still in education (Upper 6<sup>th</sup> Form of Heaton Manor School, High Heaton) studying 'A' Levels. Expected to leave there in May 2003 and enter employment for a career in ICT Networking, Web Design and Technical Support.

### **Julia Helen STRANGE (my Sister)**

- Born 02 October 1950 at Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne (Certificate YA962388).
- Educated at Cragside Primary School and Heaton High School for Girls (later merged with Heaton Grammar School for Boys to form Heaton Manor Comprehensive School).
- Married 17 November 1969 at St Francis Church, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne to JAMES ALEXANDER ROBINSON (born 11 January 1950, Newcastle upon Tyne).
- Issue of marriage are daughter CLAIRE and twin sons JAMES and ANDREW.
- Lived in Dudley, Cramlington, Northumberland.
- Worked at D.H.S.S. Longbenton, Newcastle as Civil Servant.

- Died 30 April 2001 at North Tyneside General Hospital.

**Claire Louise ROBINSON (my Neice)**

- Born 07 May 1970 at Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Currently single, living in Hazelrigg, Tyne & Wear.

**James Michael ROBINSON (my Nephew)**

- Born 12 April 1972 at Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Married ALISON LOUISE BARNES on 26 May 2001 at English Martyrs RC Church, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Currently living in Cramlington, Northumberland.
- Issue of a son ALEX JAMES, born 11 July 2002 at Newcastle General Hospital.

**Andrew David ROBINSON (my Nephew)**

- Born 12 April 1972 at Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Married DEBRA STURROCK on 05 August 2000 at West End United Reformed Church, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Currently living in Newcastle upon Tyne.

NOTES: There is a family connection, not necessarily direct, to the Duke of Atholl (Baron Strange) – note lion rampant of family crest and my signet wedding ring.

Sir Roger L'Estrange (17 December 1616-1704) was a cavalier born in Hunstanton, Norfolk. Appointed Licenser of the Press and believed started the 'Public Intelligences' and the 'News' newspapers.

Family has once been checked in the past and believed traced back to 1207, with the inference that they arrived here with William the Conqueror; at that time the name was believed to have been Le Strange or L'Estrange.

Have a Military Cross medal belonging to one of my father or his brothers – not known whose, but not shown on my father's discharge papers as being his.

According to Dennis, Ealing War Memorial has 3 'Stranges' recorded on it. Presumably Laurence and Lionel are two of them – who is the 3<sup>rd</sup>? William, Vincent or Hugh?

There is/was a cousin of the brothers – a DONALD STRANGE, who fought in the Border Regiment and in 1930 lived in Haywards Heath.

(Above – and Appendix – correct to my knowledge as at 11 April 2003)

**My Contact Details:**

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## **Appendix 1: The Family at War (First World War)**

### **Letter to the London 'Evening News' (printed 25 November 1930)**

#### **Side by Side**

An officer in my battalion in France in 1917 was severely wounded in the head by a rifle grenade, and was hurried to the nearest casualty clearing station, which was extremely busy owing to an attack that was in progress.

He was laid on a stretcher unconscious. Shortly afterwards there was brought in and placed next to him a private of the Canadians with almost identical wounds, and he was also unconscious.

It was found later that they were brothers who had been in France for some time but had never met.

Most extraordinary of all was their name. It was STRANGE.

*A. H. Woolford (late Essex Regt.), 24 Park Road, Chelmsford.*

### **Letter to the London 'Evening News' (printed 01 December 1930)**

#### **The Brothers Strange**

Sir, - On November 25 you printed my Queer War Story: 'Side by Side'; it told of two brothers being taken at the same time to a C.C.S. in 1917, unconscious on stretchers and of their accidentally being placed side by side. They had almost identical wounds and both died without regaining consciousness. Their name was Strange.

On November 26 I received a letter from a Mr. Donald Strange of Haywards Heath, late of the Border Regiment. He said he was a cousin of the brothers and told of visiting the cemetery where they were buried in the same grave. He enclosed a photograph of the cross on the grave, showing the two names.

On November 27 from a gentleman living in Hendon, I received a letter also telling of seeing their joint grave at Duisans, he having gone there to visit the grave of his brother-in-law.

Then on November 28, came a letter from Rowland G Strange of Greenford, Middlesex, a brother of the brothers. He corrected me in one fact: the 'private of the Canadians', L.L. Strange was really in a Somerset Regiment. Two more of his brothers he added paid with their lives and he (Mr Rowland Strange) was wounded at Ypres in 1915.

*A. H. Woolford (late Essex Regt.), 24 Park Road, Chelmsford.*

**Discharge Papers of Rowland G. Strange**  
**Discharge Certificate, Army Form E511:**

‘This is to certify that No. 1918 Rifleman Rowland Gabriel Strange of the 5<sup>th</sup> (City of London Battalion) The London Regiment, The London Rifle Brigade who was enlisted to serve in the Territorial Force of the City of London on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1915 is discharged in consequence of being no longer physically fit for wear service, para 392 XVI Kings Regulations and that his claims have been properly settled.

His total service in the Territorial Force is 1 year and 94 days, including 1 year and 94 days embodied service.

Service abroad, viz., in France of nil years and 66 days.

Signed L H Charlton, Colonel, Territorial Force Records, London 8 July 1916.’

**Character Certificate, Army Form B2067:**

For No. 1918 Rifleman Rowland Gabriel Strange of the 5<sup>th</sup> (City of London Battalion) The London Regiment, The London Rifle Brigade.

Trade as stated on enlistment: Clerk

Description on leaving the colours: Height – 5ft 10", Eyes – Grey, Hair – Black, Identification Marks – loss of Right Eye.

Character: ‘Sober, steady and well conducted’.

Signed L H Charlton, Colonel, Territorial Force Records, London 8 July 1916.’

Campaigns etc: Home 06.04.1915 to 13.10.1915, Expeditionary Force to France 14.10.15 to 18.12.1915, Home 19.12.1915 to 08.07.1916.

**War Diary of Rowland G. Strange (written in own hand)**

‘Diary of events on active service 1915’:

Sunday 12 Oct 1915

Left Tadworth @ 9.30am for Epsom and thence at 11am for Waterloo and thence to Southampton. Went into huts and spent two days there, also drawing rifles there.

Thurs 14 October

Left Southampton Camp at 2pm and sailed by ‘Atlanta’ at 6pm for Havre. Had a pleasant crossing protected by a destroyer. Drew 120 rounds ammunition, on-board rations and marched to Havre camp.

Friday 15 October

Had orders and left Havre at 8pm for Rouen. Awful journey in train. Arrived Rouen at 6.30am Saturday and settled under canvas.

Sunday 17 October

Paraded before General and were passed with compliments. Afterwards paraded for church.

Monday 18 October

Still at Rouen. Had our course and all passed. Cleaned rifle. Afternoon trench digging.

Tuesday 19 October

Orders to move up the line. Drew respirators, gloves, undervests, body belts and rations. No parades. Played 'Black Watch' at football and won 2-1. (Team at back of book as: Farrell, Rodway, Farmer, Hood, Strange(Capt.), Baker, Purdey, Meakin, Davies, Hood, Bennett). Move from Rouen camp at 9am and train @ 10.30am.

Wednesday 20 October

Arrive St. Omer 2pm. Marched to Blendecques, went into billet, saw all old friends and settled down.

Thursday 21 October

Commence parades at Blendecques. Attached to No. 1 Platoon of 'C' Company. Did usual parades.

Friday 22 October

Marched to St. Omer and did firing. Had an hour off there.

Saturday 23 October

Went for run. Afterwards usual parades. To revert to Rifleman again and I am very thankful.

Sunday 24 October.

Took off (Corporal's) stripes. Paraded sick with a sprained thumb – fainted at dressing station. Rested nearly all day and made preparations for departure on morrow.

Monday 25 October

Proceeded by bus from Blendecques at 9am. Awful journey. Arrived at 2pm and were put into the most awful billet imaginable. All's fair in love and war! Billeted at Steenvoorde about 14 miles from the firing line.

Tuesday 26 October

After a very cold night up at 7am. Route march in morning. Heard guns very distinctly. Wrote home.

Wednesday 27 October

Had parcel from home.

Thursday 28 October

Went to fill sandbags at Steenvoorde. Hard day. Got soaked through.

Saturday 30 October

Steenvoorde again, trench digging. Afternoon walked by self to Cassel and had tea there.

Sunday 31 October

Colours Strange had stripes taken from him. I dropped rifle and had two days orderly to do in consequence.

Tuesday 2 November  
Trench digging again. Got wet through second time.

Thursday 4 November  
Fairly slack day. Today an eventful day as found to be lousy from sleeping in lousy barn (*ie louse ridden*).

Friday 5 November  
Paraded sick with right shoulder aching. Light duty.

Saturday 6 October  
Day off. Cassel for the afternoon with Mills. Wrote letter to Lionel to be posted in England by Rowe. Parcel from M (*Mother?*).

Sunday 7 November  
Church Parade on field. Cassel for afternoon with Aberdeen. Decent tea there.

Monday 8 November  
Trenches for digging. Raining. Evening wrote 5 letters.

Tuesday 9 November  
Drill morning. Afternoon had hot bath in open fields. Rained hard all evening.

Wednesday 10 November  
Digging and wiring in trenches. Parcel from M (*Mother or May?*). Cards evening.

Thursday 11 November  
Slack day. Wrote home to M (*Mother or May?*). Stayed in for evening.

Friday 12 November  
Wet day. Went trenches for observation. Afternoon off.

Saturday 13 November  
Went to Steenvoorde with Mills and Aberdeen. Nothing doing. Cigarettes from Whunt (?).

Sunday 14 November  
Church Parade morning. Afternoon went to football match.

Monday 15 November  
Battalion route march. Very pleasant. Pay afternoon. Cards evening.

Tuesday 16 November  
Battalion Drill in morning. No afternoon parade. Evening parade at 5pm. Awful evening parade to Cassel and back.

Wednesday 17 November  
Battalion March Past before General Plummer. On march back got soaked. Afternoon off.

Thursday 18 November  
Battalion Parade and inspection by General Haldane. Afternoon off.

Friday 19 November

Told off for *Sa.... (?)* making. Afternoon off.

Saturday 20 November

Cassel for afternoon with Mills, Searle and Mac. Bon time.

Sunday 21 November

No parades. Warned to prepare to move up.

Monday 22 November

Short march in morning. No parades afternoon.

Tuesday 23 November

Moved by marching to Poperinge. Very hard march but decent billet on arrival.

Wednesday 24 November

No parades. Afternoon went to cinema. Evening two parcels from M(*Mother or May*) and Helen. (*sister?*).

Thursday 25 November

Route march in morning. Afternoon no parade.

Saturday 27 November

Short march. Afternoon in cinema.

Sunday 28 November

Holy Communion morning. Afternoon walk.

Monday 29 November

Left Poperinge for Reninghelst (?) marching there. Went on fatigue duty. Afterwards into tents. 'A', 'B' and 'D' Companies and 'HQ' Staff sent to trenches.

Tuesday 30 November

No parades. Evening – Divisional Band at YMCA.

Thursday 2 December

On fatigues filling sandbags. Orders to proceed to trenches.

Friday 3 December

At 2.30 left Reninghelst for trenches at Voormezele (*Just outside Ypres on south western side*) and went into bivouac at 9pm. Plenty of firing going on. No fatigues tonight. Spent a pleasant night's sleep, but for rats.

Saturday 4 December

On sentry post at 7.30am. Fired at by sniper. Fatigue in morning. Raining. Bad night's sleep. Shelling at Ypres very hard.

Sunday 5 December

Sentry post at 4.30am. Rations running short. Quiet morning and drier. Plenty of shelling overhead last night. Afternoon we were shelled by shrapnel. Had to get into 'bivvy'.

Evening ordered up to fire trench. After rotten journey, settled in and dug out, and, inches deep in mud I slept.

Monday 6 December

Sentry post morning. Observed small working party of Germans and reported. Was sniped at again. Our trench then shelled, but little damage. No rations left. At 7pm were relieved by Liverpool & Scottish and journeyed back. All way back were shelled by 'Jack Johnsons' (*Heavy German shells, nicknamed after famous boxer of the time*). No result. Most awful journey of my existence. Tired out and unable to stand up; arrived at Poperinge. Rations of rum, then turned in. Total casualties to date – 2 killed and 5 wounded. NB: spoke to Saxons over the trenches at 35 yards distance!

Tuesday 7 December

Up at 10am tired out. Nothing to do today. Cleaned myself up.

Wednesday 8 December

In morning in line again. Wounded in eye. Was taken by ambulance to Remy and in evening from there to Arnes by stretchered ambulance.

Thursday 9 December

Ambulance to Boulogne Stationary Hospital and straight to bed.

Saturday 10 December

Afternoon was operated on and had eye excised.

Wednesday 15 December

Got up and became convalescent. Wrote letters home.

Friday 17 December

Ordered home tomorrow. Great excitement.

Saturday 18 December

Left Boulogne 10am by S.S. Brighton, arrived Dover 12 noon. From there by hospital train to Ingham, Suffolk. I went into Ampton Hall Hospital at 9pm.

Sunday 19 December

Wrote home.

Friday 24 December

Taken ill with tonsillitis.

Saturday 25 December

Temperature of 104 degrees.

Tuesday 28 December

Convalescent.

From Ampton Hall Hospital I went to convalescent home at Brettenham Park in Suffolk. In the care of Lady Warner. Food superb, but life somewhat monotonous there as it is somewhat lonely.

The home itself is a lovely old English country residence and the inside is beautifully panelled and carved in oak. Splendid oil paintings and massive fireplaces with coats of arms over the mantelpieces. The house looks over beautiful grounds and parks; the front garden is done in an Italian style. Grounds are 7 miles around.

Tuesday 25 January 1916

9 men come into hospital from Ampton.

Wednesday 26 January

Went to Bury St Edmunds – breaks the monotony of hospital life. Spent a pleasant time there and met some old Ampton friends.

Saturday 29 January

Went with Bert and Frank to Mellis's for dinner and tea. Had a good time and returned at 7.15pm

Sunday 30 January

To church at Thorpe in morning. Afternoon for walk.

Sunday 11 April

Still in hospital.

#### **OTHER NOTES IN DIARY:**

Plan of trench at Voormezele showing where (a) RGS was positioned, (b) he was buried alive for 35 minutes, and, (c) later wounded (advance position only 15 yards from German Line).

#### **Notes on Voormezele Trench:**

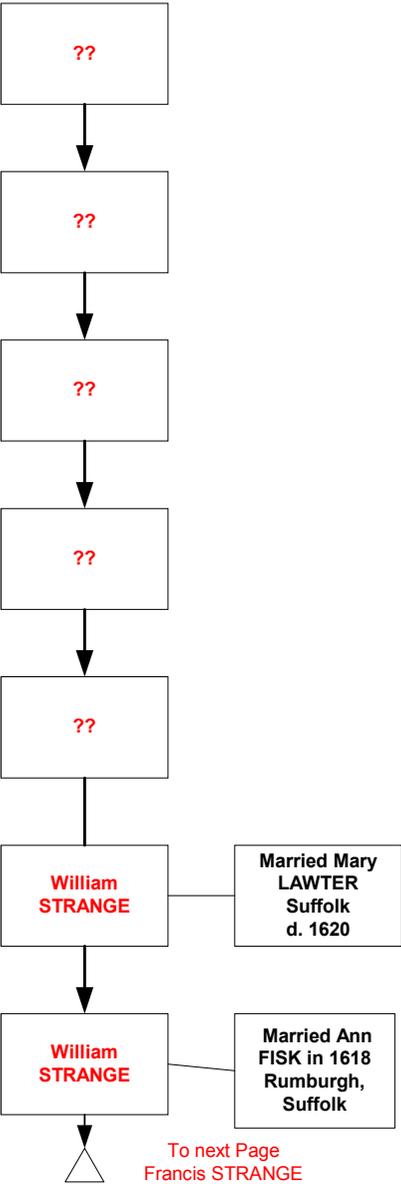
No wire was used as trenches too close to German Lines. Night sentries were unable to stand with head above the parapet because trenches were at the head of a salient and flares went up behind us. All day sentry work had to be done by periscope. No communications trench back. All fatigue and relief parties had to climb over the back of the trench and go over two open fields, the distance being some 1000 yards. Journey took nearly 3 hours! Headquarters was at house in Voormezele next to the shelled church.

**Portrait drawing of a woman** Could be his mother (resemblance to her photograph), sweetheart/fiancee or a nurse. Who knows?

What appear to be betting tallies from card games

Orderly rosters for Corporal Strange, No 1918 'B' Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> LRB, Tadworth Camp, Surrey.

**Family Tree (Male Line) of David Vincent STRANGE (Page 1)**



Previous ancestry will have to be traced back from Suffolk in the 1500s, area of South Elmham, Rumburgh and Wisset. Option is possibly a name change at this time from Le Strange (or derivation), since some in east of England at the time.

To next Page  
Francis STRANGE

**Family Tree (Male Line) of David Vincent STRANGE (Page 2, cont from William Strange)**

