

Descendants  
of  
**Capt Francis Irvine,**  
1786-1855  
son of  
Alexander Irvine 18<sup>th</sup> Laird of Drum,  
Aberdeenshire, Scotland

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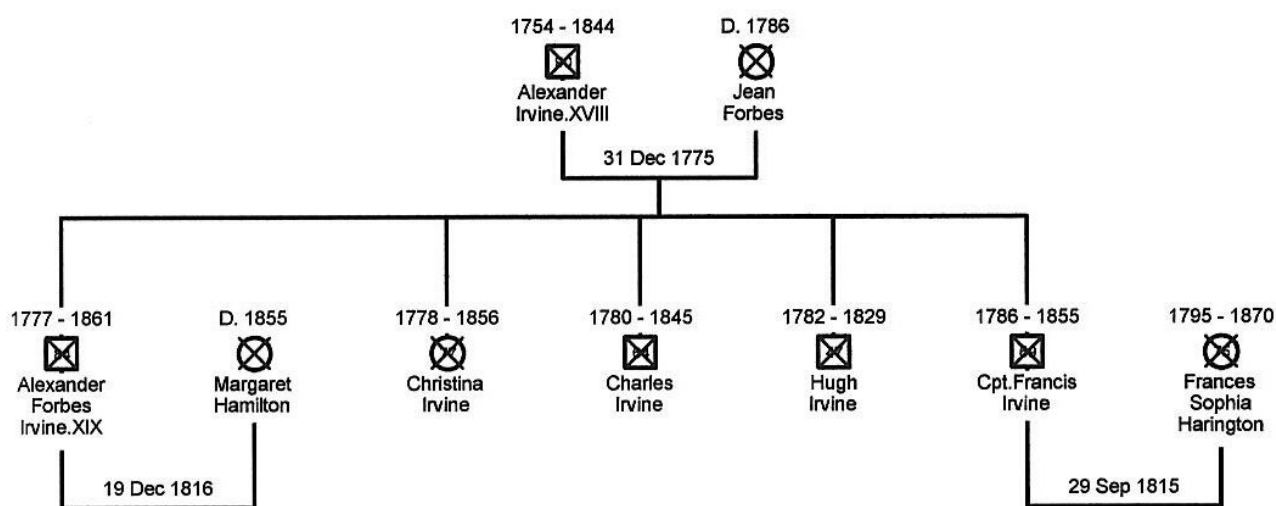
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## Chapter 1 – Introduction

From a child I had always heard stories from my mother, her brothers and sister that our family were descended from the IRVINES of DRUM in Scotland. There was a castle in Scotland; an Irvine had served with the HEICS (Honourable East India Company Service); he came to Australia and was granted 500 acres of land in Martin Place, Sydney, but sold it cheaply to the church. I decided to research these stories along with many others I had heard, and attempt to sort the facts from the fiction. In the course of this research a wealth of information was gathered, confirming some stories and disproving others. Whatever the story, there was always some element of truth.

I was able to establish the link to the castles and forests of Drum, where our family branches from the published pedigrees that go back to the original grants of 1323 to William de IRWIN, and many more interesting facts that I felt should be shared with others interested in the family.

This booklet seeks to follow the branch of the renowned family of IRVINE of DRUM in the country of Aberdeen, which leaves the main genealogy from the 18<sup>th</sup> Laird.



Burke's *Landed Gentry* details the pedigree of FORBES-IRVINE of DRUM and mentions that Alexander IRVINE, born 1754, was only seven years old when his father died and he inherited the lands and title of 18<sup>th</sup> Laird of Drum.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1775, he married Jean, the only daughter of Hugh FORBES of Schivas, and had issue of four sons and one daughter. Jean died 12<sup>th</sup> March 1786, one month after her youngest child, Francis was born, leaving the laird a widower at the age of 32. He was Laird for 83 years and died in 1844 at Drum. Their children were;

**Alexander Forbes IRVINE**, born at Drum 10<sup>th</sup> January 1777, progenitor of the line of succession.<sup>1</sup>

**Christian or Christina IRVINE**, born at Drum 29<sup>th</sup> September 1778, died 1<sup>st</sup> June 1856, unmarried.

**Charles IRVINE**, born in Aberdeen, 11<sup>th</sup> July 1780, died 7<sup>th</sup> March 1845, unmarried

**Hugh IRVINE**, born in Aberdeen, 1<sup>st</sup> August 1782, died 11<sup>th</sup> October 1829, unmarried, an artist.

**Francis IRVINE**, born at Drum, 8<sup>th</sup> February 1786, married Frances Sophia HARINGTON and left issue. [This is the line we will follow in this booklet.](#)

<sup>1</sup> "Burke's *Landed Gentry*, 1947 Edition."

As we see, only two branches survived;

**Alexander**, the 19<sup>th</sup> Laird and ancestor of later Lairds. Having succeeded to the estate of Schivas in 1857, in right of his mother, he was required to assume the surname of FORBES-IRVINE.<sup>2</sup>

**Francis**, the subject of this booklet, and progenitor of two hundred descendants in Australia and New Zealand<sup>3</sup> by the year 2000.

**Francis IRVINE**, was baptised at Drumoak, Co. Aberdeen 8<sup>th</sup> February 1786, 4<sup>th</sup> and youngest son of Alexander IRVINE 18th Laird and Jean his wife, daughter of Hugh FORBES of Schivas<sup>4</sup>.

We know very little of Francis' early life except his mother died barely a month after he was born. In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century it was very common for gentlemen, not in line to inherit the family estate and title, to follow a career as an Officer in the Army, particular in India. This was certainly the case with the Irvine clan.

The East India Company was founded in 1601 as a trading company and expanded into one of the largest administrative units the world has known. This civil service, as in effect it was, was divided into grades such as merchants, factors, writers and cadets. To protect their interests in India, the Company had an Army and a Navy as well as the Merchant Navy manning their trading ships. During the period from 1790 to 1860, some 20,000 young gentlemen entered the company's Army service.

Francis IRVINE joined the Army as a Cadet in 1804, following his uncle, Major-General Charles IRVINE 1756-1809, 57<sup>th</sup> Foot, and at least six Irvine cousins in taking a commission. He arrived in India on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1805 with the 1/11<sup>th</sup> Native Infantry of the Honourable East India Company Service, and was promoted through various ranks;

28 <sup>th</sup> September 1805	Ensign,
17 <sup>th</sup> October 1805	Lieutenant,
12 <sup>th</sup> July 1820	Captain,
May 1824	Transferred to 15 <sup>th</sup> Native Infantry (Late 1/11 <sup>th</sup> )
4 <sup>th</sup> August 1824	Resigned in England, ante-dated to 25 <sup>th</sup> November 1822 <sup>5</sup> .

On the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1815<sup>6</sup>, he married in Calcutta, Frances Sophia HARINGTON, daughter of John Herbert HARINGTON, Magistrate of Supreme Court of Bengal and a 'Lady of Colour'<sup>7</sup> and while in India had two daughters, Elizabeth Christina, baptised in 1818, and Mary Catherine<sup>8</sup>, baptised 25<sup>th</sup> March 1819. They also lost a son Alexander Harington, baptised 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 1818 and buried 14 Feb 1818, South Park Burial Ground, Calcutta.<sup>9</sup>

*A "Lady of Colour" was a polite term used in the 19<sup>th</sup> century for a woman native to the country, a lady of Indian descent. It was not uncommon for English gentlemen when in India or Africa to take a mistress from the local population.*

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<sup>2</sup> "A Short Account of the Family of Irvine of Drum in the County of Aberdeen", Capt. Douglas Wimberley, 1893, p55 and "The Irvines of Drum & Collateral Branches", Lt-Col Jonathon Forbes Leslie, 1909, p 144.

<sup>3</sup> Family Tree – on page 35

<sup>4</sup> "The Irvines of Drum & Collateral Branches", Lt-Col Jonathon Forbes Leslie, 1909 and

"A Short Account of the Family of Irvine of Drum in the County of Aberdeen", Capt. Douglas Wimberley, 1893

<sup>5</sup> "Officers of the Bengal Army – 1758-1834", Major V.C.P. Hodson, 1834

<sup>6</sup> ibid

<sup>7</sup> "Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica" New Series Vol IV 90-378 Pedigrees of Harington of Corston Manor

<sup>8</sup> International Genealogical Index- Ecclesiastical returns – India - HEICS

<sup>9</sup> British Library – India Office Records N/1/10 ff.570, 668

In the 1920s in Auckland, New Zealand, Alice Annie BALDOCK would wash her hair and wrap a towel around it like a turban and on looking in the mirror was heard to remark, “Ah ... it’s the colour coming out!”. As a child, her daughter Linda overheard her but did not understand what her mother had meant until some fifty years later when the connection with Indian blood was revealed.

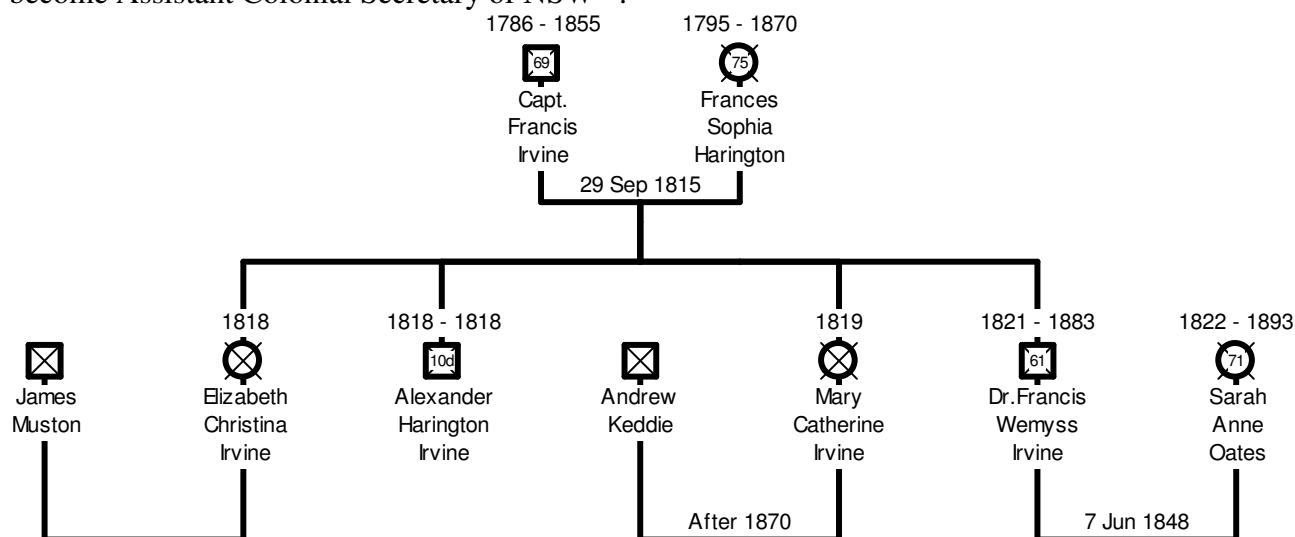
## Chapter 2 – Life in Early Australia

After America become independent in 1793, Britain needed to find a fresh place to which convicts might be deported, for deportation was then a frequent method of relieving the country of the burden of maintaining criminals in its gaols.

The first batch of 717 convicts arrived under Captain Phillip in January 1788 setting up camp at Port Jackson (Sydney harbour). No provision had been made for their arrival, they arrived in an unknown land, relying on the provisions they had brought with them and the products of their own hands. The Governor had to build houses, cultivate crops, raise cattle, make roads, and do all this by the labour, either of prisoners who did not want to work, or of marines who had quite enough to do looking after the prisoners. They had brought no plough so all the work of tilling the rough soil had to be done with spade and hoe. The first crops of wheat and barley failed as the seed had become overheated on its way out from England. The next supplies did not arrive for 2½ years together with a further 972 convicts. Conditions were terrible, and by 1800, liquor was being consumed at the rate of 5 gallons 3 quarts of spirits for every man, woman and child.

The chief trouble of the colony was the absence of free settlers. The best that could be done was to settle on the land, convicts whose period of punishment was ended; but these were poor substitutes for voluntary settlers. By 1821 the population of New South Wales had swollen to 29,783 of whom 19,126 were convicts.

It was in this climate that in June 1820 Francis sailed from Calcutta on the Brig “Lynx” with his wife and two daughters, Elizabeth Christina and Mary Catherine, arriving in Sydney Australia with funds of £8000.00<sup>10</sup>. On the same ship was Frances’s brother, Thomas Cudbert HARRINGTON, later to become Assistant Colonial Secretary of NSW<sup>11</sup>.



<sup>10</sup> Capt Irvine - Letter to Commissioner Bigge, 1 February 1821

<sup>11</sup> “Australian Dictionary of Biographies 1788 – 1850, Vol I” – Thomas Cudbert Harington.  
 “Historical Records of Australia, Series I, Vol 12”

Their fourth child, a son, Francis Wemyss IRVINE was born in Sydney on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1821 and was baptised at St Phillips Church of England, Sydney East<sup>12</sup>. The family were living in O'Connell St adjoining Martin Place in Sydney, now part of the central business district. On 8<sup>th</sup> December 1821 Capt Irvine advertised the house, 'To Let'<sup>13</sup>. Perhaps this is the basis of the story of having had land at Martin Place.

Before February 1821, the family had purchased land at Elderslee, Camden, 26 miles south-west of Sydney and were building a farmhouse<sup>14</sup>. Capt Irvine writes, "*The bridge to be thrown over the Nepean (river) (which is constructing at the north-western corner of this farm)...*"<sup>15</sup>. By March 1822 they had moved there as Capt Irvine had placed a notice in the paper re a lost letter addressed to Capt Irvine, Elderslee, Upper Minto<sup>16</sup>. Capt and Mrs Irvine took an active part in social events in Sydney, Capt Irvine being a foundation member of the *Philisophical Society of NSW* and Mrs Irvine, a foundation member of the Female Committee of the *New South Wales Benevolent Society*, for the aid of Poor Married Women, during their confinement<sup>17</sup>. Capt Irvine wrote on; his ideas for a School Book Society<sup>18</sup>; the proposed distillation of rum in the colony, he preferring trade with the West Indies<sup>19</sup>; and on matters of Political Economy<sup>20</sup>.

Capt Irvine wrote several letters seeking a grant of land<sup>21</sup>, the last dated December 1822, but to date, there is **no** evidence that any land was ever granted, in fact his prior purchase of land appears to have been prejudicial to him receiving a grant. There is evidence that Capt Irvine was outspoken at times, holding as he did, high moral and ethical standards. He appears to have upset others who may not have shared his standards, and was critical of Rev Samuel MARSDEN<sup>22</sup> and his friends.

The rule of the Governor was necessarily absolute and autocratic: until 1823 he was unfettered even by a Council. Communications back to the Colonial Office in London took many months so the elite who held power in the fledgling colony could make life difficult for those whose did not agree and accept their point of view and they were certainly in a position to grant or deny favors at their discretion. Justice was administered by military officers and trial by jury was not introduced until 1823.

By 1824 Capt Irvine had fallen out with the ruling classes in Sydney and decided to return to Scotland with his family. Their farm was sold to Elizabeth MACARTHUR becoming part of "*Elizabeth Farm*", John and Elizabeth Macarthur's famous merino sheep stud. By 1821 there were 290,000 sheep and 103,000 cattle in the colony. NSW was exporting 90,000 lbs of wool annually.

The Irvines boarded the ship "*Ocean*" on 26<sup>th</sup> February 1824<sup>23</sup>, no doubt with mixed feelings, and set sail with their young family for 'Home'.

Captain Francis IRVINE died in Edinburgh on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1855<sup>24</sup> and Frances Sophia IRVINE in Portobello, Edinburgh on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1870<sup>25</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> NSW Baptism Certificate – Francis Wemyss Irvine, 25 August 1821

<sup>13</sup> "Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser", 8 December 1821

<sup>14</sup> Letter, Irvine to Commissioner Bigge, 1 February 1821

<sup>15</sup> Letter, Irvine to Major Goulburn, 22 April 1822

<sup>16</sup> "Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser", 1 March 1822

<sup>17</sup> "Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser", 30 December 1820

<sup>18</sup> Letter, Irvine to Commissioner Bigge 17 January 1821

<sup>19</sup> Letters, Irvine to Commissioner Bigge 25 and 28 January 1821

<sup>20</sup> Letter, Irvine to Sir Thomas Brisbane, 2 December 1822 - State Records NSW (Reel 6052; 4/1753 pp.218-220a)

<sup>21</sup> Memorials - State Records NSW (Fiche 3048; 4/1830 Nos. 185-187)

<sup>22</sup> Letter, T Morris to Rev Samuel Marsden, 28 February 1823 – Marsden Papers, Vol 4 pp 137-8 A 1995

<sup>23</sup> Sydney Gazette, 26 February 1824

<sup>24</sup> "The Scotsman", 19 December 1855.

<sup>25</sup> Scottish BDM Registers, Edinburgh, Scotland

No. of Application: B49184/75 WD



NEW SOUTH WALES


BAPTISMS  
1821

No. ... ..	5573. Vol: 1
<b>CHILD-</b>	
Christian name ... ..	Francis Weymns
When born ... ..	25th August, 1821
Date of ceremony ...	22nd September, 1821
Where ceremony per- formed ... ..	-
Where registered ...	St. P., Sydney, E.
<b>NAMES OF PARENTS-</b>	
Father ... ..	Francis Irvine
Mother ... ..	Frances Sophia Irvine
Clergyman officiating ...	-

I, Jack Hayward Watson, Registrar General for the State of New South Wales, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the particulars in an entry in a Register of Church of England, Baptisms kept at the Registrar General's Office.

Dated 23rd July, 1975.

Sydney, N.S.W. Australia

*Jack Hayward Watson*  
Registrar General.  *MW*

NSW Baptism Certificate - Frances Wemyss IRVINE

## Chapter 3 – Returning to the ‘Old’ Country

Back in Scotland, the family grew up;

Elizabeth Christina IRVINE married her cousin, Harington James MUSTON and has issue.

Mary Catherine IRVINE married Andrew KEDDIE<sup>26</sup> in 1874 in Aberdeen.

**M.C. IRVINE**, daughter, was noted as the informant in the register of Frances Sophia IRVINE's death dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1870. Frances Sophia was living at 2 New Buildings, Melville Street, Portobello, Edinburgh. Mary Catherine was still not married, aged 51, having been born in India 25 Mar 1819, before the family travelled to Sydney in 1820. She married at Aberdeen in 1874 and aged 53, she probably did not have children. She died in Sutherland, Scotland in 1901 aged 82.

**Elizabeth Christina IRVINE**, was born 16 April 1814 in Calcutta and had returned to Scotland with her family from Australia, aged 10. She returned to India and on 17 January 1844, she married her cousin, Harington James MUSTON, son of William Pitt MUSTON and Hester Maria HARINGTON, daughter of John Herbert HARINGTON. The family lived in Midnapore and Calcutta, West Bengal and had nine children there.

Elizabeth died at Solihull, Warwickshire, England in Sept 1902 while her husband died at Aston, Birmingham, Warwickshire, England in June 1894. Their descendents are detailed in the Descendants.pdf report.

**Francis Wemyss IRVINE**, who was only three when the family returned to Scotland, later studied at the University of Edinburgh, the premier medical institution at the time, graduating on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 1842, at the age of 21 as a doctor and surgeon, MD.<sup>27</sup> He was living at 15 India Street, Edinburgh and received the College Licentiatehip on 4 August 1842, LRCSEd<sup>28</sup>. The subject of his Thesis was “Solutions”. The young Dr IRVINE set up practice in Leeds, Yorkshire where he practiced Homeopathy. Homeopathy is founded on an axiom or *postulate* known as the "Law of Similars" and involves administering weak solutions or homeopathic dilutions of the agent or the product of the disease in question.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1848 in Chapel Allerton, Leeds, Francis married Sarah Anne OATES, daughter of Joseph Henry OATES, a wealthy merchant, and his wife Mary DICKSON who lived in a manor called Carr House, Meanwood.

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<sup>26</sup> “A Short Account of the Family of Irvine of Drum in the County of Aberdeen”, Capt. Douglas Wimberley, 1893

<sup>27</sup> “The Scotsman”, 6 August 1842.

<sup>28</sup> Email from Stephen Kerr - Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, 27 Oct 2008.





Application Number 4840 A

Registration District *Hunslet*

1848 Marriage solemnized at *Chapel Allerton* in the Parish of *Leeds* in the County of *York*

No.	When married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or profession	Residence at the time of marriage	Father's name and surname	Rank or profession of father
35.	1848 June 7.	Francis Wemyss Irvine	21	Bachelor	Dr. of Medicine	Leeds	Francis Irvine	Captain in the E. I. Co's Service
		Sarah Anne Oates	21	Spinster	—	Meanwood	Joseph H. Oates	Esquire

MARRIED in the *Church of Chapel Allerton* according to the *Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church* by me *Joseph Henry Oates, Fanny Sophia Irvine, John Hoguhart*  
 This marriage was solemnized between us, *Sarah Anne Oates* in the presence of us, *Mary Buckton, F. Irvine, M. O. Irvine, A. Forbes Irvine Jnr, M. A. Oates.* *burate*

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Marriages in the District above mentioned.  
 Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 5th day of *November* 1979.

MB 218865

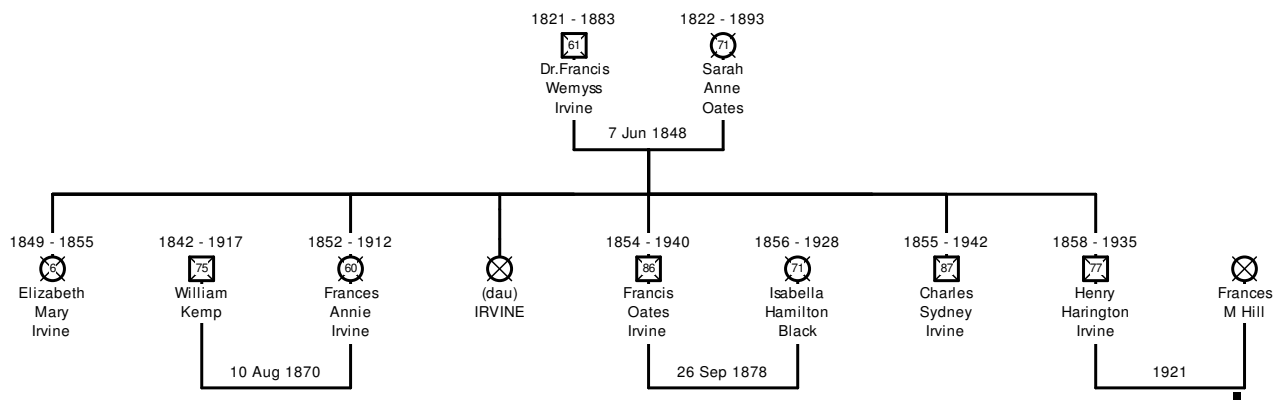
This certificate is issued in pursuance of section 65 of the Marriage Act 1953. Sub-section (3) of that section provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the marriage to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.  
 CAUTION:—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true knowing it to be false, is liable to prosecution.



This was the second marriage Joseph Henry OATES had hosted in nine months as his younger daughter Mary had married Joshua BUCKTON on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1847. Joshua and Mary became the parents of Caroline Annie BUCKTON, who married Joseph Henry OATES' nephew, Edward Grace OATES. They were parents of Lawrence Edward Grace OATES of South Polar fame.<sup>29</sup>

Witnesses to Francis and Sarah's wedding were:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Joseph Henry OATES    | Bride's father  |
| F IRVINE              | Groom's father  |
| Fanny Sophia IRVINE   | Groom's mother  |
| Mary BUCKTON          | Bride's sister, Mary, who had married Joshua BUCKTON  |
| A. FORBES- IRVINE Jnr | Groom's cousin, who became 20 <sup>th</sup> Laird of Drum on the death of his father in 1861. |
| M. O. IRVINE          | Possibly Grooms' sister, Mary Catherine IRVINE ??? with 'C' being transcribed as 'O'.         |
| M. A. OATES           | Bride's ??? Cannot be Bride's mother Mary OATES as she died in 1827.                          |



Dr Francis and Sarah IRVINE were living at 6 South Parade, Leeds, Yorkshire in 1854<sup>30</sup> and had six children, three sons and three daughters, two of whom died in childhood.

<sup>29</sup> "The Landed Gentry - Oates formerly of Gestingthorpe Hall", Burke. also  
 See Appendix C- Oates Connections  
<sup>30</sup> UK Birth Certificate, Francis Oates Irvine, 27 April 1854

<b>Elizabeth Mary IRVINE,</b>	born Jun ¼ 1849, Leeds, died Jun ¼ 1855, Leeds.
<b>Frances Annie IRVINE,</b>	born about Dec 1850, married 10 <sup>th</sup> August 1870, William KEMP, died 21 Oct 1912, Burwood, NSW
<b>(dau) IRVINE</b>	born probably 1851-53, possibly stillborn, but died before 1860.
<b>Francis Oates IRVINE,</b>	born 27 <sup>th</sup> April 1854, Leeds, died Howick NZ 1940
<b>Charles Sydney IRVINE,</b>	born 1855, died 10 <sup>th</sup> July 1942 <sup>31</sup> , unmarried
<b>Henry Harington IRVINE,</b>	born 8 <sup>th</sup> July 1858, Edinburgh <sup>32</sup> , married 1921 Frances HILL, died 8 <sup>th</sup> May 1935 <sup>33</sup> , no children.

Dr Irvine was presented with an engraved Desk set, which is now in the possession of a family member in Australia<sup>34</sup> which reads:-

*“Presented to F. W. Irvine Esq MD on his leaving Leeds by the Subscribers to the Homeopathic Dispensary in token of their high appreciation of his efficient Services as Honorary Physician to that Institution during a period of twelve years , Leeds August 1857.”*

It appears the family then moved to Edinburgh where the youngest son was born in 1858.

Sarah Anne IRVINE'S death certificate states that she had two daughters, deceased. Youngest son, Henry Harington IRVINE, was the informant.<sup>35</sup> One of the deceased daughters has been identified but the other has not. She was probably born and died prior to 1860, but may have been born in New Zealand after 1860 and died before their mother in May 1893.

Only the surviving four children are named in Dr Irvine's will dated April 1883, but by 1860, an Irvine family was again on the move.

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<sup>31</sup> NSW Death Certificate, Charles Sydney Irvine, 10 July 1942

<sup>32</sup> International Genealogical Index

<sup>33</sup> NSW Death Certificate, Henry Harington Irvine, 8 May 1935

<sup>34</sup> Malcolm Robinson, Ellerslie, NSW, Australia

<sup>35</sup> NSW Death Certificate, Sarah Anne Irvine, 21 May 1893.

## Chapter 4 – Emigration to New Zealand

Captain Francis IRVINE's brother-in-law, Thomas Cudbert HARRINGTON, had, by 1842, also left the Colony of NSW returning to England in March of that year taking up a position as London Office Secretary of the *New Zealand Company*, a position he held until the company's dissolution in 1852<sup>36</sup>. The *New Zealand Company* was responsible for encouraging emigration to the Colony of New Zealand and perhaps it was his influence that decided Dr Irvine to emigrate to Nelson, NZ.

In 1860, Dr IRVINE and his family sailed for New Zealand on the ship "*Persia*" 1684 tons, J.H. Smith master, the ship arriving in Auckland on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1860.



Steamship "*Persia*"

The passenger list reveals; F. W., Sarah A., Francis O., Charles S., Henry H., and Frances A. IRVING (Irvine) were on board.<sup>37</sup> The "*Persia*" sailed on to Port Lyttelton arriving on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1860.<sup>38</sup> They brought servants, carpenters and a tutor for the children with them.

As the family settled in Nelson and are believed to have brought a prefabricated house with them<sup>39</sup>, which was not uncommon for emigrants to India, Australia and New Zealand at the time, did they disembark the ship in Auckland or Lyttelton?

Dr Irvine and his family lived at Claremont House in Nile Street East, Nelson and practiced medicine there. He is noted on the NZ register of medical practitioners in 1868, 1870 and 1882<sup>40</sup>. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Presbyterian Church<sup>41</sup> and held the following offices:

A Governor of Nelson College, 1866 to 1873<sup>42</sup>.

Member of Nelson Provincial Council, November 1868 – September 1869

Committee member of Nelson Institute; 1866, 1869, secretary and resigned 1882, trustee 1883<sup>43</sup>.

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<sup>36</sup> Australian Dictionary of Biographies 1788 – 1850

<sup>37</sup> "The Daily Southern Cross", 21 August 1860

<sup>38</sup> "White Wings – Vol I", Sir Henry Brett, 1928

<sup>39</sup> Letter, Dorothy Bower to Linda Wright, 7 February 2003

<sup>40</sup> NZ Gazette: Register of Medical Practitioners, various years

<sup>41</sup> "The Colonist", 7 May 1883

<sup>42</sup> Letter, Headmaster of Nelson College to Dennis Wright, 9 April 1974

<sup>43</sup> Letter from Nelson Public Library, 7 January 1976.

When Dr IRVINE died at the age of 62 in 1883, his death certificate states Cirrhosis of the Liver was cause of death<sup>44</sup>. This can often be the result of excessive alcohol and was not unusual with members of the medical profession. For whatever reason, relations with his wife had suffered over the years.

With their marriage breaking down, Sarah IRVINE took the children to Sydney in 1869 or early 1870. It is not known if all the children went with her and it is possible the eldest son, Francis Oates IRVINE, who was 16, may have stayed with his father although he related stories to his granddaughter Dorothy BOWER, of being educated at “*The Gentlemen’s Academy*” in Sydney and delivering the Royal Mail to the outback of NSW.

Francis W IRVINE (MD) is shown in Sands Directories as having addresses in Sydney as follows;

1873 Fitzroy St, St Leonards East

1875-76 St Johns Road, Glebe

It is not known whether he lived there or had provided a house for his wife and children.

Later Sands Post Office Directories for Sydney show Mrs Sarah A. IRVINE living as follows;

1879 Bland St Ashfield, Sydney

1882 Belmore St, Burwood, Sydney

1884-1889 Fitzroy St, Burwood, Sydney

1891 George St, Burwood, Sydney

In the following year, 1892, Mrs KEMP (Frances Annie IRVINE had married William KEMP in 1870, shortly after arriving from NZ), was noted as living at the George St address.

Sarah Anne died on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1893<sup>45</sup> and is buried in the Church of England section of Enfield Cemetery, Sydney NSW, stated as having lived 10 years in New Zealand and 24 in NSW.

Dr IRVINE made at least one visit to Sydney appearing on the shipping list of the “*Hero*” returning from Sydney to Auckland on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1874.

Linda Wright tells the story that on one such trip, Dr Irvine while requesting a cut of meat in a butchers shop, used a term not known to the butcher. The butcher suggested “... *he was not from these parts*”, to which Dr Irvine said in fact actually he had been born in Sydney. An elderly lady who overheard the conversation drew Dr Irvine aside and asked if he was freeborn. When he replied that he was, she said, “ *Your name must be Francis Irvine then, as I can account for all the rest.*” She had been his mother’s nurse and the number of freeborn children in Sydney in 1821 would not have been large.

Dr Francis Wemyss IRVINE continued to live at Claremont House in Nile Street East, Nelson up until his death on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1883<sup>46</sup>.

He practiced a form of medicine called homœopathy where extremely small doses of what are normally regarded as poisons or toxic substances are administered to cure various maladies.

He was held in high regard by the community as shown in the following account of his funeral. He is buried in the Church of England section of the Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson<sup>47</sup>.

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<sup>44</sup> NZ Death Certificate – 5 May 1883

<sup>45</sup> NSW Death Certificate – 21 May 1893

<sup>46</sup> Electoral Roll – Nelson, 1865 and 1870

<sup>47</sup> Nelson City Council – Cemeteries Database

## *Account of the Funeral of Francis Wemyss Irvine* <sup>48</sup>

*The remains of the late Dr Irvine were conveyed to their last resting place yesterday and if evidence were wanting of the general esteem in which the deceased was held the great numbers who assembled yesterday to pay a last tribute of respect to the memory of one who was honoured by all was conclusive.*

*The funeral procession left Claremont House about half past two and with the large number of carriages and horsemen following as well as some forty members of the Masonic craft of which the deceased was a member, the cortage was an imposing one. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. P. Calder Dr Irvine having been a member of the Presbyterian Church, although his assistance to other churches had been so well known that many were ignorant of the fact.*

*The funeral service being over, the Masons present, in accordance with their custom, dropped a sprig of Acacia on the last earthly tenement of their departed brother on which a beautiful wreath and other flowers had previously been placed, but the full Masonic service was not performed.*

*The news of Dr Irvine's death caused a general feeling of sorrow in our midst for he was a man universally esteemed and who did not possess a single enemy.*

*At Christ Church last night, the Bishop of the diocese in the course of his sermon paid a high tribute to the memory of the departed and his Lordship's remarks found an echo in the breasts of all who heard them.*

Dr IRVINE signed a will dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 1883<sup>49</sup>, 9 days prior to his death. In it he bequeathed all his pictures except those of Drum Castle to his wife for her life and after her death to his daughter Frances Anne KEMP absolutely. The Drum Castle watercolours and all his home furniture was bequeathed to his eldest son Francis Oates IRVINE, £50.0.0 each to sons Charles Sydney IRVINE and Henry Harington IRVINE and his gold watch and chain to his grandson Francis son of my said eldest son. (Francis Andrew Henry IRVINE, son of Francis Oates IRVINE). He appointed his friends Henry Cooper DANIELL and James Thomas CATLEY as executors to sell all his estate including his home, 'Claremont House' and the cottage presently occupied by Elise PICKETT, and divide the same equally amongst his said four children.

Descendants of Frances Anne Kemp have several of the paintings and a lovely silver desk set engraved;

*"Presented to F. W. Irvine Esq MD on his leaving Leeds by the Subscribers to the Homoeopathic Dispensary in token of their high appreciation of his efficient services as Honorary Physician to that Institution during a period of twelve years ..... Leeds. August 1857".<sup>50</sup>*

In 1979, Francis Douglas IRVINE, son of Francis Andrew, had the IRVINE seal and a painting of Drum Castle.<sup>51</sup>

Do the watercolours of Drum Castle and Dr Irvine's gold watch remain with the family today?

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<sup>48</sup> "The Colonist", 7 May 1883

<sup>49</sup> Will of Francis Wemyss Irvine, 26 April 1883

<sup>50</sup> Letter from M.C. Robinson, March 2004.

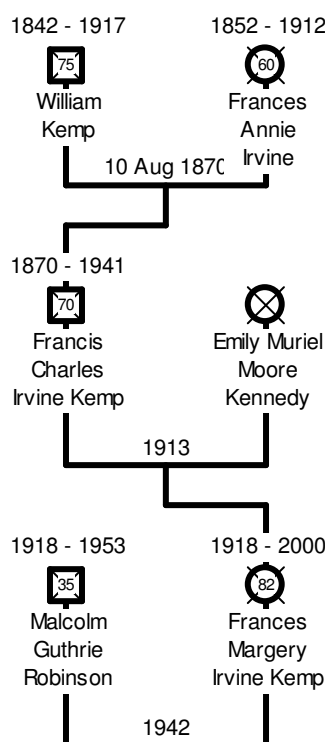
<sup>51</sup> Letter from Reuben Wright, 17 June 1979.

## Chapter 5 – Dr and Mrs IRVINE’s Children

### Frances Annie IRVINE

Shortly after having arrived from New Zealand, Frances Annie married William KEMP, a Miner, on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 1870<sup>52</sup> in the Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth Street Sydney. Frances gave her age as 21 but I believe she was only 18. She also gave her place of birth as New Zealand which was clearly incorrect. She is mentioned in her father’s will in 1883 and was living with her mother in 1892<sup>53</sup> as Mrs KEMP.

Frances Annie KEMP’s Death Certificate confirms she was 18 when she married William KEMP and that they had only one child<sup>54</sup>. Their child, **Francis Charles Irvine KEMP** was born on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1870 in Hobart, Tasmania<sup>55</sup>, three months after their marriage. He was baptised in 1879, aged nine, in Sydney in the Glebe circuit Parish of the Wesleyan/Methodist church, NSW<sup>56</sup>.



**Frances Annie KEMP** died on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1912 at Burwood, NSW and is buried at St Thomas Church of England Cemetery, Enfield<sup>46</sup>.

Possibly, the William KEMP who died in 1918 at Burwood, NSW, parents George and Emma is Frances Annie’s husband.

Francis Charles Irvine KEMP was living with his mother in Wyatt Avenue, Burwood at the time of her death in 1912 and a few months later at the age of 43 he married Emily Muriel Moore KENNEDY in Burwood in 1913. The KENNEDY family came from the North Shore of Sydney. Francis and Muriel continued to live in Wyatt Avenue with Muriel still at this address in 1954<sup>57</sup>, noted as Mrs F C I KEMP in that year’s telephone directory. Linda WRIGHT believes her mother

<sup>52</sup> NSW Marriage Certificate - Francis Annie Irvine / William Kemp, 10 August 1870

<sup>53</sup> 1892 NSW Post Office Directory

<sup>54</sup> NSW Death Certificate – Francis Annie Kemp, 21 Oct 1912.

<sup>55</sup> Tasmanian Index of Pioneers – Births – Francis Charles Irvine Kemp, 08 November 1870

<sup>56</sup> NSW Baptism Certificate – Francis Charles Irvine Kemp, 09 October 1879.

<sup>57</sup> Sydney NSW Telephone Book – 1954.

Alice Annie BALDOCK stayed with Muriel when she first arrived in Australia about 1950 before settling in Melbourne.<sup>58</sup>

**Francis Charles Irvine KEMP**, parents William and Frances Annie KEMP died at Ashfield on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1941<sup>59</sup>, occupation, Retired Shipping Clerk, usual residence Burwood and was cremated at Rookwood Crematorium.

Francis and Muriel KEMP had only one child, a daughter, Frances M I KEMP, born in Burwood in 1918. Frances Marjory Irvine KEMP married Malcolm Guthrie ROBINSON in Bellingen in 1942 and died, late of Beacon Hill and formerly of Fairlight and Bourke on 12 Mar 2000<sup>60</sup>. Malcolm G ROBINSON, was born in Bourke in 1918, the son of Guthrie ROBINSON and died before his wife. They had three sons, Malcolm Charles, David Matthew Irvine and Graham Keith.

## **Charles Sydney IRVINE**

The following Post Office directory entries possibly follow Charles Sydney IRVINE.

1884	Charles IRVINE, carpenter, Cameron St, Paddington, Sydney.
1892 - 1893	Charles IRVINE, 13 Middle St, Sydney
1895	Charles IRVINE, 57 Francis St, Glebe, Sydney.
1910	Chas IRVINE, 138 Alfred St North Sydney
1911	Chas IRVINE, 83 Heyberry St North Sydney
1919 – 1930	Chas S IRVINE, farmer, Erina (near Gosford).
1942	Charles Sydney IRVINE 146 Albany St Gosford

Charles Sydney IRVINE died in Gosford on 10 July 1942 unmarried, and is buried in the Methodist Cemetery at Point Clare<sup>61</sup>, which is just south of Gosford.

## **Henry Harington IRVINE**

Henry was living at Brooklyn St Burwood at the time of his mother's death in 1893. Hector BALDOCK, while in the Merchant Navy in the early 1930's, recalls visiting Henry, a bachelor he thought, on a poultry farm some 15 or so miles from Sydney. An H H IRVINE is listed in NSW directories from 1924 to 1930, as poultry farmer, Rays Rd, Carlingford. Carlingford is adjacent to Epping where Henry died and is 15 miles from Sydney. The informant at his death gives his address as Rays Road Epping.

Late in life in 1921 at the age of 63, Henry married Frances M HILL in Hornsby. They did not have any children and Henry died at Hillcrest Avenue, Epping NSW on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1935. He is buried in the Northern Suburbs Independent Cemetery, North Ryde, NSW<sup>62</sup>.

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<sup>58</sup> Oral Linda Wright, 20 February 2004.

<sup>59</sup> NSW Death Certificate – Francis Charles Irvine Kemp, 18 September 1941.

<sup>60</sup> Death Notice - Sydney Morning Herald 15 March 2000.

<sup>61</sup> NSW Death Certificate – Charles Sydney Irvine, 10 July 1942.

<sup>62</sup> NSW Death Certificate – Henry Harington Irvine, 8 May 1935.

## Francis Oates IRVINE

We do not know for certain if Francis remained in Nelson from age 16 to 24 or whether he had been in Sydney with his mother during those years. If the stories Francis Oates IRVINE told Dorothy BOWER, his granddaughter, are correct; he attended "*The Gentlemen's Academy*" in Sydney and delivered mail in the outback of Australia during that time<sup>63</sup>. (Any area west of Bathurst was "outback" then).

Francis married Isabella Hamilton BLACK of Nelson when he was 24, giving his occupation as 'Farmer'. While it is obvious that they had met in Nelson, the reason they elected to marry at the Wesleyan Parsonage, Onehunga, Auckland on 26 September 1878<sup>64</sup> is not so clear. It has been suggested that Isabella's family disapproved of the marriage and that they eloped.

The building in which they were married has quite a history. It had been the original Wesleyan Methodist Mission Station house built at Mangungu on the Hokianga Harbour in 1838 by Rev John Hobbs. The second major gathering of chiefs for the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on 12 February 1840 was held here. As time passed and population declined in Hokianga, Mangungu became a backwater of the mission field. When the Hobbs family moved to Auckland in 1855, the house was transported by barge in one piece down to Onehunga, now a suburb of Auckland, to be erected there and used as a Methodist parsonage for many years<sup>65</sup>. Francis and Isabella's granddaughter Felica Myra Jean IRVINE was involved with the successful project in 1972 to have it transported back by road and re-erected close to its old site<sup>66</sup>.



Francis Oates IRVINE



Isabella Hamilton IRVINE nee BLACK

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<sup>63</sup> Letter, Dorothy Bower to Linda Wright, 9 February 2003

<sup>64</sup> NZ Marriage Certificate, 26 September 1878

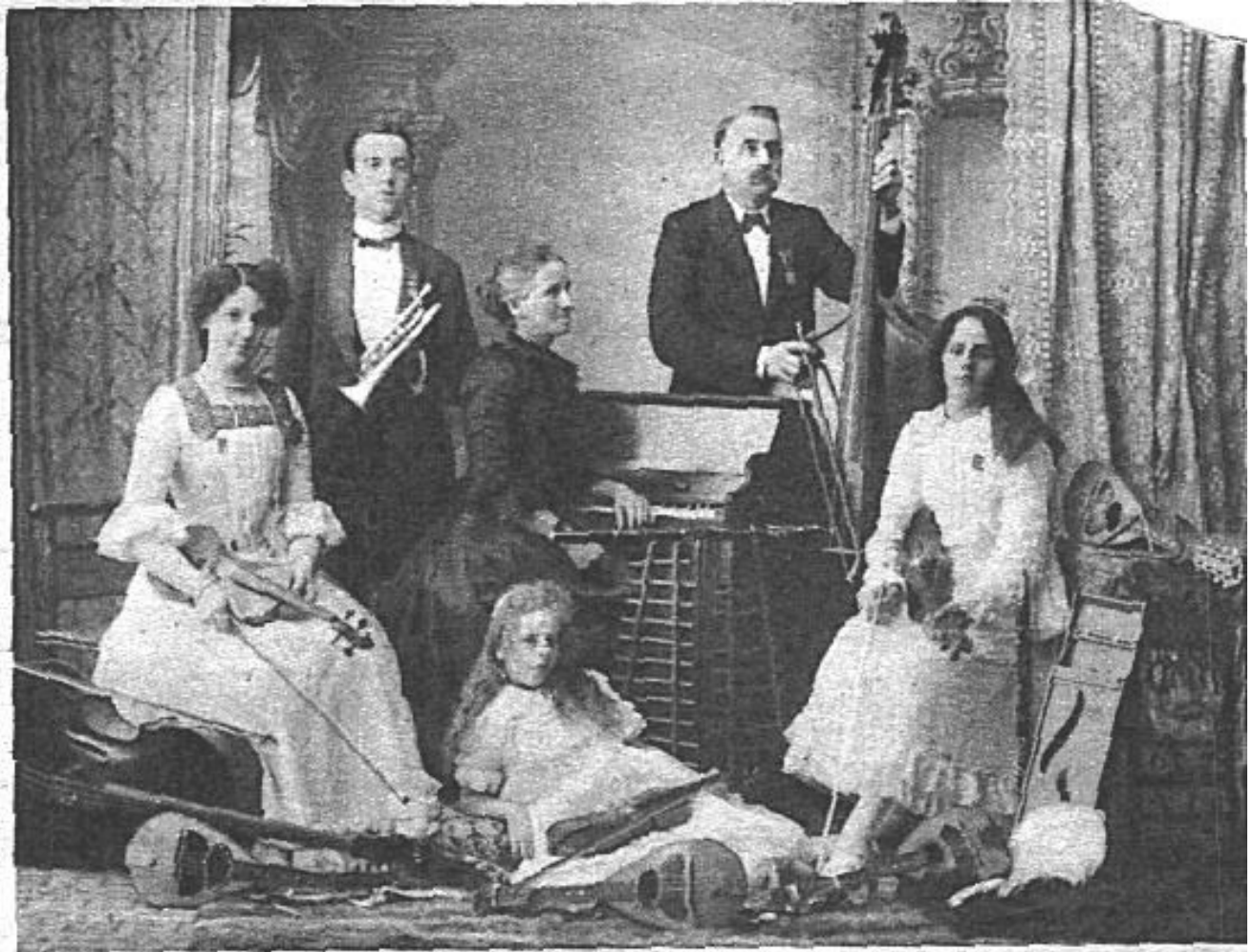
<sup>65</sup> Mangungu Mission House Pamphlet, New Zealand Historic Places Trust, 1977

<sup>66</sup> "Northern Advocate", 22 May 1972



Isabella came from an extremely musical family. Her father Andrew and her brother John formed the *Black Family of Musicians* in the 1890s, with John later touring Australia and New Zealand with his wife Polly, and children Nell, Bert, Elsie and Doris performing as “*The All Blacks of Maoriland*” from about 1895 to perhaps 1910.

John was later involved in the Picture Theatre business in Australia and died in Sydney in 1927. Two of his daughters also settled in Sydney, Nellie marrying becoming Mrs Prentice and Elsie becoming Mrs Garrett. The other two children having died before 1961.<sup>67</sup>



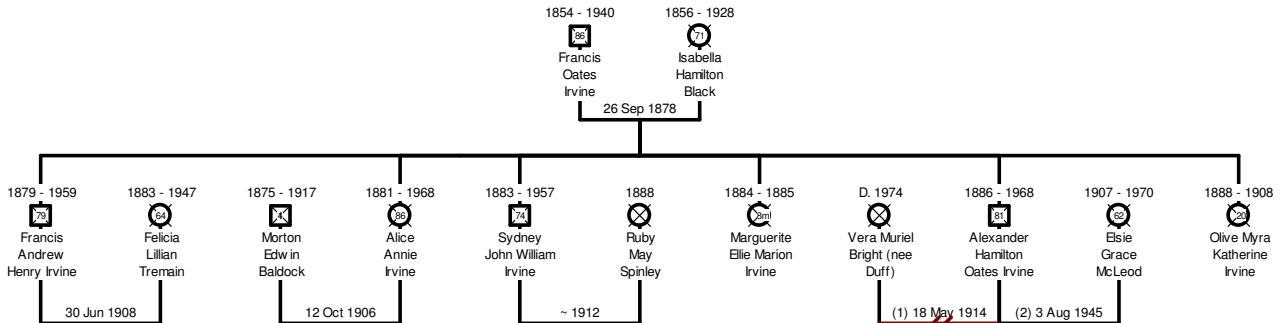
**The All Blacks of Maoriland – about 1900**  
**Nellie Black, Bert Black, Polly Black, Doris Black, John Black and Elsie Black**

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<sup>67</sup> Letter, A N Field to Alexander Hamilton Oates Irvine, 22 July 1961

## Chapter 6 - Auckland City

While Nelson was the initial point of residence for IRVINEs in New Zealand, Auckland was where the family tree prospered, with many of Francis Oates and Isabella IRVINE's presently living descendants still residing within 100kms of this bustling city.



Francis and Isabella had married at Onehunga in 1878 where he had given his occupation as 'Farmer'. Early in his married life Frank, established a poultry farm on the Lake Road, Northcote.

They had three sons and three daughters as follows;

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Francis Andrew Henry IRVINE,</b>     | born 6 <sup>th</sup> December 1879, married 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1908<br>Felicia Lillian TREMAIN   |
| <b>Alice Annie Isabel IRVINE,</b>       | born 9 <sup>th</sup> November 1881, married 12 <sup>th</sup> October 1906<br>Morton Edwin BALDOCK   |
| <b>Sydney John William IRVINE,</b>      | born 23 May 1883, married Ruby May SPINLEY  |
| <b>Marguerite Ellie Marion IRVINE,</b>  | born 8 <sup>th</sup> July 1884, died 1885.  |
| <b>Alexander Hamilton Oates IRVINE,</b> | born 29 <sup>th</sup> August 1886, married (1) 18 <sup>th</sup> May 1914<br>Vera Muriel BRIGHT (nee DUFF) and (2)<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> August 1945 Elsie Grace McLEOD |
| <b>Olive Myra Katherine IRVINE,</b>     | born 1888, died in 1908 from Tuberculosis.  |

During his lifetime, Frank received inheritances on at least three occasions, believed to have been from his wealthy OATES relatives, which it seems he had no trouble spending.

The following photograph taken in 1907-8, shows Francis Oates and Isabella Hamilton IRVINE with their three sons, and two surviving daughters.

Alice had married in October 1906 and Francis married in Jun 1908. Their grandchildren were to eventually total nineteen.



**The Irvine Family – 1907-8**

Olive Myra Katherine I      Francis Andrew Henry I      Alice Annie Baldock (Irvine)      Alexander Hamilton Oates I  
 Sydney John William I      Francis Oates Irvine      Isabella Hamilton Irvine (Black)

About 1893 Frank bought land at 454 Manakau Road Epsom, setting up an engineering works where he made drays and wagons with his residence at the rear. Linda WRIGHT (nee BALDOCK) remembers her grandfather giving she and her sister Mona, ‘rides’ on his large lathe at the factory. She also remembers a Fibrous Plasterer occupying another of Frank’s factories on this large property. The owners would let the girls play with the plaster while they made ceiling roses from glass moulds and give them some hemp to make ‘wigs’ from.

Frank would often visit his widowed daughter Alice BALDOCK in Devonport. He would give his grandchildren some money if they asked him for it, where his wife was unsuccessful. Linda had fond memories of both of her IRVINE grandparents<sup>68</sup>.

Isabella Hamilton IRVINE died on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1928<sup>69</sup>.

Dorothy BOWER has written<sup>70</sup>;

In later years after Isabella had died, Frank used to travel around Auckland in buses and trams. He did not pay his fare but signed the ticket ‘IOU F.O.I.’ When the drivers or conductors had quite a bundle of tickets they would stop his son, Francis Andrew Henry IRVINE, who had to pay up! Frances Oates IRVINE would also hold up his stick to stop traffic when he wanted to cross the road. In the last two years of his life, he went to live with his son, Francis in Howick. They thought Frank would be well looked after in an Old Peoples’ Home but he pleaded not to be sent there.

<sup>68</sup> Oral, Linda Wright, 1 February 2003

<sup>69</sup> NZ Death Certificate, 19 June 1928

<sup>70</sup> Letter, Dorothy Bower to Linda Wright, 9 February 2003

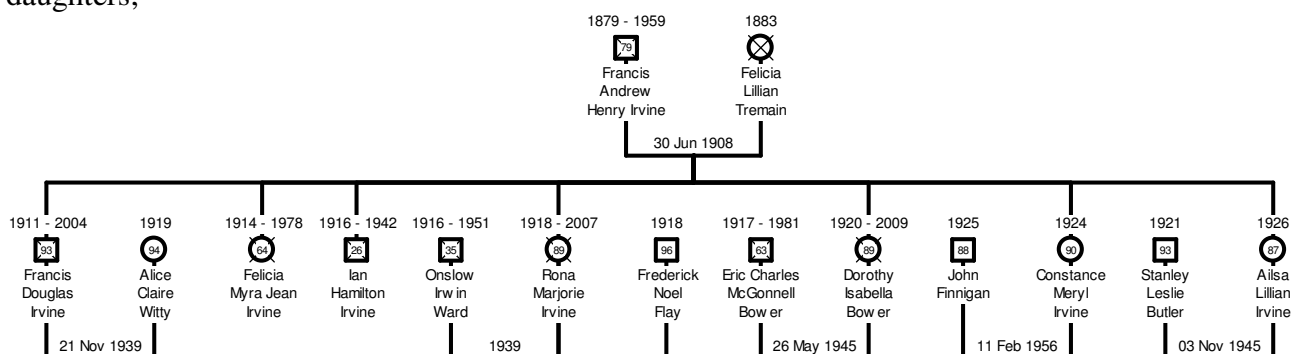
Every weekday for two years he would catch the ten to nine bus at the corner, travel in to Miss Melville, his solicitor, whom he would ask for his rent. She would answer that the rents were not coming in to which he would say that he must have something to go on with. She would give him half a crown (a NZ coin of value, 2 shillings and 6 pence – 25¢). He would walk down Queens Street, Auckland City to a shop at 'The Farmers' where he would buy a cup of tea and a cake which cost one shilling and six pence and a shilling's worth of lollies. On the way back on the ten to two bus he would eat the lollies. He would not eat the lunch his daughter-in-law had prepared for him so Miss Melville was asked to cut 'the rents' down to one shilling and six pence.

In the afternoons he would walk around the roads of Howick calling in at cottages asking for the rent. On one occasion, a generous man gave him five shillings so his daughter-in-law returned it telling the man in future to say he could not afford the rent and Frank would not press him for it.

Francis Oates IRVINE passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1940 at Howick.

## Chapter 7 – Family of Francis Andrew Henry (Frank) Irvine

Frank married Felicia Lillian TREMAIN on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1908 and they had two sons and five daughters;



**Francis Douglas IRVINE** born 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1911, married 21<sup>st</sup> November 1939, Alice Claire WITTY, died 31 October 2004.

**Felicia Myra Jean IRVINE** born 13<sup>th</sup> June 1914, died 1<sup>st</sup> November 1978 single person.

**Ian Hamilton IRVINE DFM** born 6<sup>th</sup> April 1916, Pilot Officer 486 Squadron NZRAF, Service No. 402191 killed 15 July 1942. Buried Wittering (All Saints) Churchyard England, Row B Grave 1.

**Rona Marjorie IRVINE** born 14<sup>th</sup> April 1918, married (1) 1939, Onslow Irwin WARD; married (2) Frederick Noel FLAY, died May 2007.

**Dorothy Isabella IRVINE** born 12<sup>th</sup> April 1920, married 26<sup>th</sup> May 1945, Eric Charles McGonnell BOWER, died 24 November 2009.

**Constance Meryl IRVINE** born 12<sup>th</sup> April 1924, married 11<sup>th</sup> February 1956, John FINNIGAN

**Ailsa Lillian IRVINE** born 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1926, married 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1945, Stanley Leslie BUTLER

His daughter, Dorothy BOWER, has written<sup>71</sup>;

Frank originally did missionary work in New Guinea and later worked for his brother-in-law, Morton Edwin BALDOCK as his apprentice learning the craft of building. He became a builder in his own right moving to Whakatane in 1915 where, on the opening of a dairy factory, a great deal of building work had been created. Roads being what they were in those times and cars being in their infancy, Frank would travel between Auckland and Whakatane by Union Steam Ships vessels. He enjoyed ships and loved to join the Captain in the wheelhouse admiring their navigational skills. He took great pleasure in catching sight of the lighthouse.

After WWI Frank bought a Model T Ford to drive between Whakatane and Auckland however the roads were very poorly formed. On some of these expeditions his family of seven would accompany him. So, dressed in dust coats as a protection against the fine pumice dust, they set out from Whakatane with chains, an axe, a spade and coal sacks.

First there was a bridge over the Whakatane River and on they would go to cross the swift Rangitaiki River by ferry, which operated near the Te Teko pub. Next they would

<sup>71</sup> Letter, Dorothy Bower to Linda Wright, 9 February 2003

ford the slow-moving Tarawera River. It was an adventure to cross the first range and drive through the bush to Rotorua.

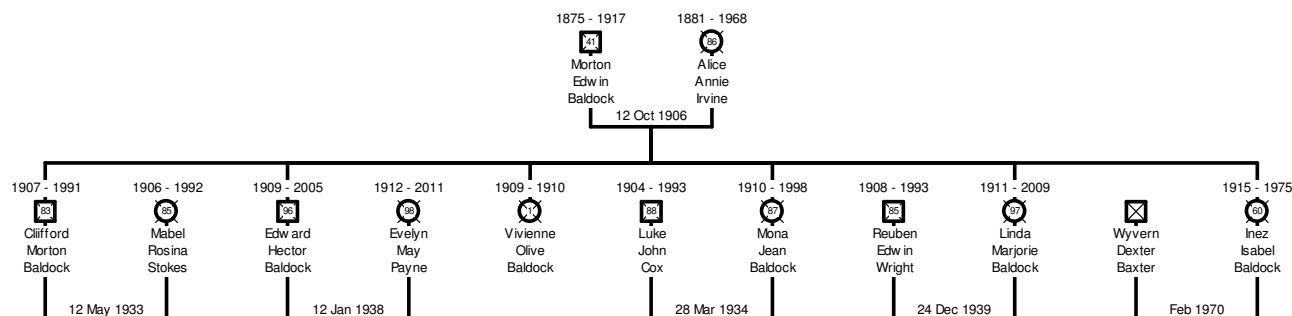
Then if they got stuck in the mud he would cut down some manuka to put with coal sacks under the wheels. With chains and pushing and much fiddling with the hand spark and throttle levers, they would succeed in continuing their journey. Sometimes his wife would take the steering wheel while one of the children held the baby.

From Rotorua they would journey across the plains until they reached the Rangiriris where a farmer regularly watered the road and then would charge motorists to pull them out with his horses!

Francis Andrew Henry IRVINE died on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1959.

## Chapter 8 – Family of Alice Annie Isabel Margaret (Alice) Irvine

Alice was the first child of this generation to marry when she wed Morton Edwin BALDOCK, a builder on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1906. They had two sons and four daughters, three of whom survived;



**Clifford Morton (Cliff) BALDOCK**

born 29<sup>th</sup> December 1907, married 12<sup>th</sup> May 1933  
Mabel Rosina STOKES, died 1<sup>st</sup> November 1991

**Edward Hector (Hec) BALDOCK**

born 14<sup>th</sup> January 1909, married 12<sup>th</sup> January 1938,  
Evelyn May PAYNE, died 20 August 2005.

**Vivienne Olive BALDOCK**

born 14<sup>th</sup> January 1909, died 18<sup>th</sup> March 1910

**Mona Jean BALDOCK**

born 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1910, married 28<sup>th</sup> March 1934, Luke  
John (Jack) COX, died 19<sup>th</sup> February 1998

**Linda Marjorie BALDOCK**

born 5<sup>th</sup> May 1911, married 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1939,  
Reuben Edwin WRIGHT, died 18<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

**Inez Isabel (Barbara) BALDOCK**

born 25<sup>th</sup> January 1915, married February 1970,  
Wyvern Dexter BAXTER, died 10<sup>th</sup> August 1975.

Edward Hector's twin, Vivienne died at 14 months of age.

Morton Edwin BALDOCK was a builder in Auckland and on completing a house the family would live in it for a time while Morton built another. He would then sell the first home and move the family into the newly completed house. Remuera was his chosen suburb, building in Norana Ave, Armadale St, and later Station Terrace (which has been renamed Ohinerau St).

Morton died on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 1917 aged 41 while the family were living in Station Terrace.

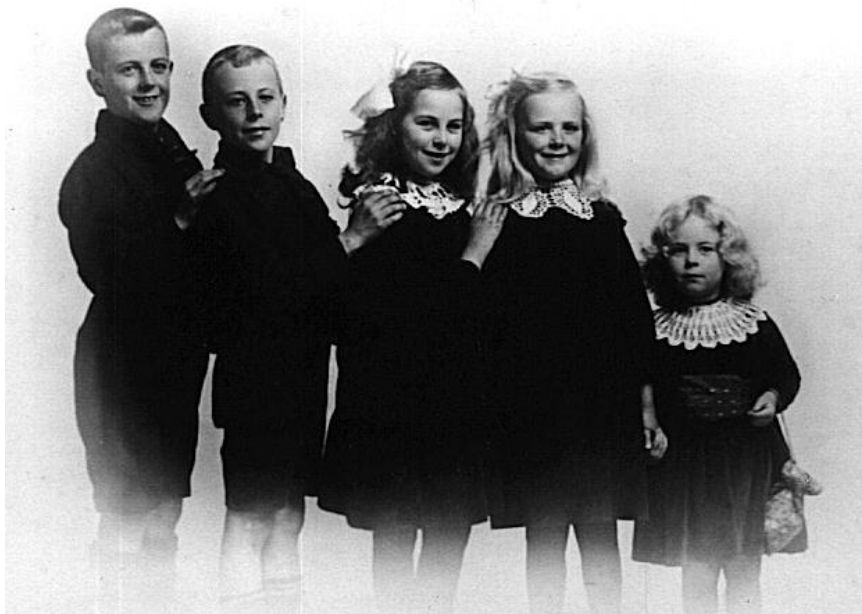
Alice brought up the five surviving children alone, living in rented properties in Takapuna, firstly in Hurstmere Road, and then in Sanders Avenue. Finally she was able to buy a home in Princes St., Devonport, (later renamed Kawerau Avenue), where the family lived until each left home, and in the 1950s Alice moved to Melbourne, Australia with her youngest daughter, where her two sons had settled in the 1930s.

She died on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 1968 having been a widow for 51 years and is buried in the Springvale Crematorium Cemetery, Melbourne.



**Alice Baldock's (nee Irvine) Family – early 1914**

**Edward Hector B, Linda Marjorie B, Morton Edwin B, Clifford Morton B, Mona Jean B, Alice Annie B.**



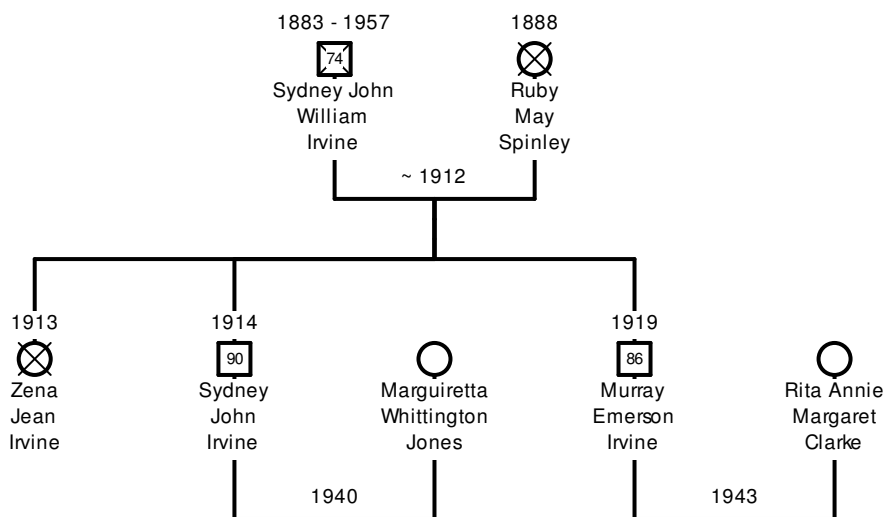
**Baldock Children about 1919 – Cliff, Hec, Mona, Linda and Barbara**



## Chapter 9 - Sydney John William (Bill) IRVINE

Sydney John William IRVINE was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1883, 2<sup>nd</sup> son and 3<sup>rd</sup> child of Francis Oates IRVINE and Isabella Hamilton BLACK.

Bill was ordained as a Minister in the Presbyterian Church working as a Home Missioner. He married Ruby May SPINLEY around 1912-13 and they had two sons and a daughter.



**Zena Jean IRVINE**

born 1913, died unmarried

**Sydney John IRVINE**

born 28<sup>th</sup> December 1914, married 1940, Marguiretta Whittington JONES

**Murray E IRVINE**

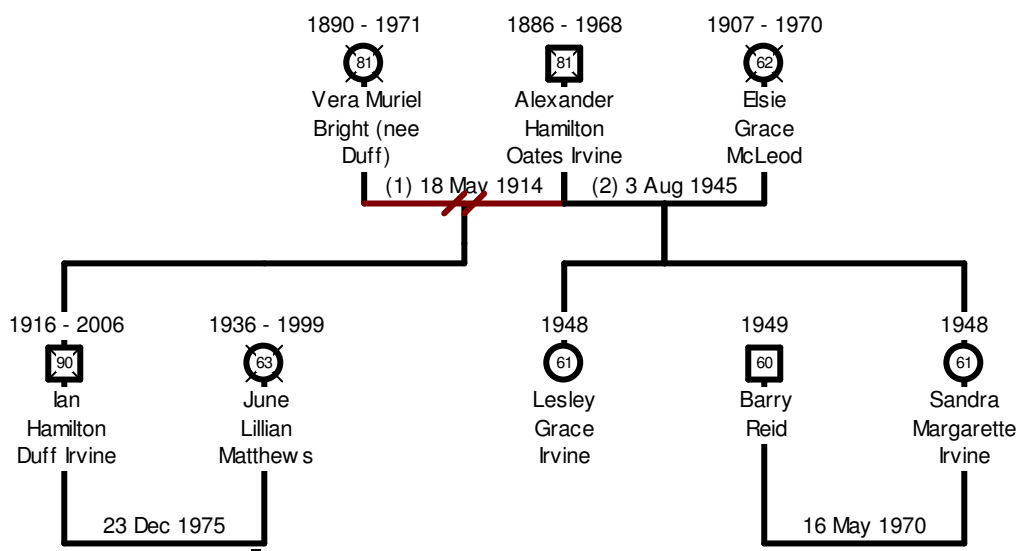
born 1919, married 1943, Rita Annie Margaret CLARKE

Sydney John William IRVINE died 21<sup>st</sup> June 1957.

## Chapter 10 - Alexander Hamilton Oates (Alex) IRVINE

Alexander Hamilton Oates IRVINE was born 29<sup>th</sup> August 1886, 3<sup>rd</sup> son and 5<sup>th</sup> child of Francis Oates IRVINE and Isabella Hamilton BLACK. It is obvious where his second and third Christian names came from, in remembrance, as they are, of his Oates and Hamilton forebears.

Like his brother, Frank, Alex was a builder and in his younger days worked on the 973ft Grafton Bridge thrown across Grafton Gully. When it was opened on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1910 it gave much better access to Auckland City to those living in the Eastern Suburbs as it replaced the footbridge that had spanned the gully from 1885.



Alex married Vera Muriel BRIGHT on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1914. They had one child, a son, Ian Hamilton Duff IRVINE born on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1916 and who lived with his mother until her death on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1971, and on 23 December 1975 married June Lillian MATTHEWS and while they adopted June's two sons from a previous marriage and later adopted a baby girl, Fiona Marie, they had no children together.

In later years Alex lived and worked at Martinborough in the Wairarapa region of the North Island of New Zealand.

He married secondly, Elsie Grace McLEOD of Hinekura, near Martinborough, on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1945. They had twin daughters Lesley Grace and Sandra Margarett on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1948 when Alex was 61. Alex was tall, wiry and very fit and worked as a builder until his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. I remember him on several occasions visiting our family in Hastings, New Zealand in his 1930s Essex Six, when he came to inspect his racehorses he had stabled in the locality.

Alex died 17<sup>th</sup> June 1968 and Elsie, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1970.

## Chapter 11 – Margarite Ellen Marian (Rita), and Olive Myra Kathleen IRVINE

Two of Francis Oates and Isabella IRVINE's daughters did not grow up and marry.

**Margarite Ellie Marion IRVINE** was born in 1884 and was known as Rita. When she was just a baby, her mother, Isabella, was carrying her while getting onto the Auckland ferry. The ferry moved and they fell into the water. Isabella held her at arms length above the water and rescuers had to bang the mother's fists to release the baby, but Isabella had been grasping the baby so tightly she had crushed Rita's hips. Her mother carried around Rita on a pillow for 12 months but she never recovered and died in 1885<sup>72</sup>.

**Olive Myra Kathleen IRVINE** was born in 1888 and died in 1908 at the age of 20. She had been visiting a cousin, Adelaide BLACK, a daughter of Robert or Henry BLACK. Adelaide had married Leslie STEWART and lived in Ponsonby, Auckland and while returning from visiting, Olive got wet developing a cold finally leading to her contracting Tuberculous from which she died<sup>73</sup>.

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<sup>72</sup> Oral, Linda Wright, 1 February 2003

<sup>73</sup> Oral, Linda Wright, 1 February 2003

## Appendix A – Irvine of Drum

The family of Irwin, Irvin or Irvine, or Erevine, is of very long standing in the South and South West of Scotland, as well as in Aberdeenshire. According to *Nisbet's Heraldry*, the Erevines came from a colony of Gauls from the West Coasts of Spain, who settled in the East Coast of Erin, and in the West of Albyn. Some of them acquired lands in the Cunningham district of Ayrshire, and gave their name to the river and town of Irvine; some in Dumfries-shire and settled on the Esk, acquiring by marriage the lands of Bonshaw; and some must have settled in the North of Ireland, where there are still many proprietors of the name, especially in the counties of Fermanagh, Tyrone, Sligo and Roscommon<sup>74</sup>.

The estate of Drum, which extends to nearly one-half of the parish of Drumoak, in Aberdeenshire, was in early times part of the hunting forest of the Scottish kings and came into possession of the Irvine family nine years after the battle of Bannockburn.

The generally accepted story of the origin of family ownership is that Robert the Bruce, in the early days of his struggle for Scottish independence, found temporary shelter with William de Irwin or Irvine, of Bonshaw in Annandale; that, struck by the manly bearing and general character of the laird's son, also named William, he selected him as his armour-bearer and secretary; and that, after Bannockburn, he rewarded this faithful follower with a grant of the land and forest of Drum. The conveyance was made in a royal charter, dated at Berwick, 1<sup>st</sup> February 1323, which is still in the charter room at Drum Castle<sup>75</sup>.



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<sup>74</sup> "A Short Account of the Family of Irvine of Drum in the County of Aberdeen", Capt. Douglas Wimberley, 1893

<sup>75</sup> "The Irvines of Drum", Robert Anderson, 1919

The lands so conveyed have continued in the possession of the Irvine family ever since, until, as with many grand estates, the costs of maintenance became prohibitive, and the ownership of Drum Castle was transferred to the state around 1980. It is now controlled by the National Trust and is open to the public.

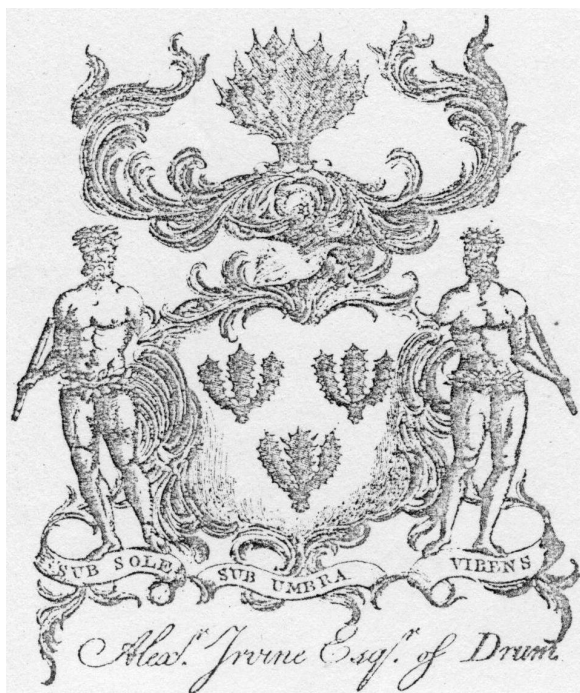
The family had always been loyal to the Monarch and Charles I held Sir Alexander Irvine 10<sup>th</sup> of Drum, Sheriff Principal of Aberdeenshire in high esteem. A patent was made out ca 1636 to create him Earl of Aberdeen but the outbreak of the Great Rebellion prevented it from passing the Great Seal. His son, the 11<sup>th</sup> Laird was also a staunch royalist and was at one time held under sentence of death in Edinburgh Castle but his execution was stopped by the defeat of the Covenanters at Kilsyth in 1654 triggering his release. The peerage was offered to this Laird by Charles II but was refused as "11<sup>th</sup> of Drum" sounded grander than "1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Aberdeen". The 17<sup>th</sup> Laird joined Prince Charles Edward in his attempt to gain the Crown in 1745 and was fortunate to escape from the rout at Culloden and forfeiture of his estates as the grand jury twice threw out bills of treason sent to it.

The Tower of Drum Castle is of hard granite masonry of uncommon strength and unusually devoid of ornament; its prototypes are certainly the square keeps of Norman castles built in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries. The form and construction of the tower, its materials, its situation, and its local and historical associations all point to an early period, and support the tradition that it was erected by King William the Lion (King of Scots) 1165-1214, in the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> century or beginning of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, after the return of that monarch from his captivity in England and Normandy, and when he had a place at Aberdeen.

In form the Tower is oblong, with rounded corners being 50' 6" long by 38' 6" wide. It is without turrets, but is surmounted by high battlements of 68' 4" in height. The walls are 11' thick at the first floor level where the entrance was placed, an earth ramp being removed in times of conflict and the walls are even thicker at their base.

The more modern part of the House of Drum was finished in 1619 and forms two sides of a square, the other two sides of the courtyard being enclosed by a wall, and a low building adjoining the Tower.

The armorial bearings of the family of Irvine of Drum are:



*Argent three holly branches, each consisting of as many leaves proper, banded together gules. The supporters are two savages wreathed about head and loins with hollies, bearing batons in their hands.* The motto “*Sub sole sub umbra virens*” translates as “Strong in sun and shadow”, meaning, “Loyal in good times and bad”, which recognised the loyalty displayed by William de Irwin to Robert the Bruce during his struggle for Scottish independence.

The power, wealth and influence on the Irvines of Drum waxed and waned over the centuries and marriages of several Irvines, including the 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Lairds, to descendants of Scottish and English royalty certainly showed the esteem with which the family was held.

Descendants of Capt Francis IRVINE can, as a result of these marriages, claim descent from all the great men of Europe<sup>76</sup> including;

- King James I of Scotland, 1394-1437;
- King Edward III of England, 1312-1377;
- Robert the Bruce, 1274-1329;
- Llewellyn ap Iorworth, Prince of North Wales, 1173-1240;
- King John (Lackland) of England, 1166-1216;
- William the Conqueror, 1027-1087;
- Hugh Capet, King of France, 940-996;
- Brian Boru, High King of Ireland, 931-1014;
- Alfred the Great, 849-901;
- Charlemagne, Holy Roman Emperor, 747-813

There were 15 generations from the first Laird of Drum to Alexander Irvine 18<sup>th</sup> Laird, with ten being named “Alexander”.

Alexander IRVINE, born 1754, was only seven years old when his father died and he inherited the lands and title of 18<sup>th</sup> Laird of Drum.

During his minority his guardians thought proper to investigate the previous judicial sale of the estates. This protracted case consisted of a long litigation and two appeals to the House of Lords, known as *The Drum Case* and lasted from 1766 to 1777. The expense of this litigation must have been enormous and resulted in the selling of much land reducing the estates to that around Drum Castle, where once it had been said at the time of the 10<sup>th</sup> Laird, “*The Laird could ride on his own lands from Drum to Dundee*”,<sup>77</sup> a distance of about 100kms.

Alexander married Jean, only daughter of Hugh FORBES of Schivas, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1775 and had issue of four sons and one daughter. Jean died 12<sup>th</sup> March 1786, only a month after her son Francis was born. Alexander was Laird for 83 years and died in 1844 at Drum.

All male IRVINES from our family living in New Zealand today can trace their direct male line back some 20 generations to William de IRWIN or IRVINE, of Bonshaw in Annandale born in 1260 and have his yDNA haplotype.

Presently a male IRVINE descendant of Dr Francis Weymss IRVINE has had his yDNA tested and closely matches the present Laird.

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<sup>76</sup> “Ancestral Roots of Sixty Colonists - who came to New England between 1623 and 1650, Fifth Edition”, Frederick Lewis Weis, 1979

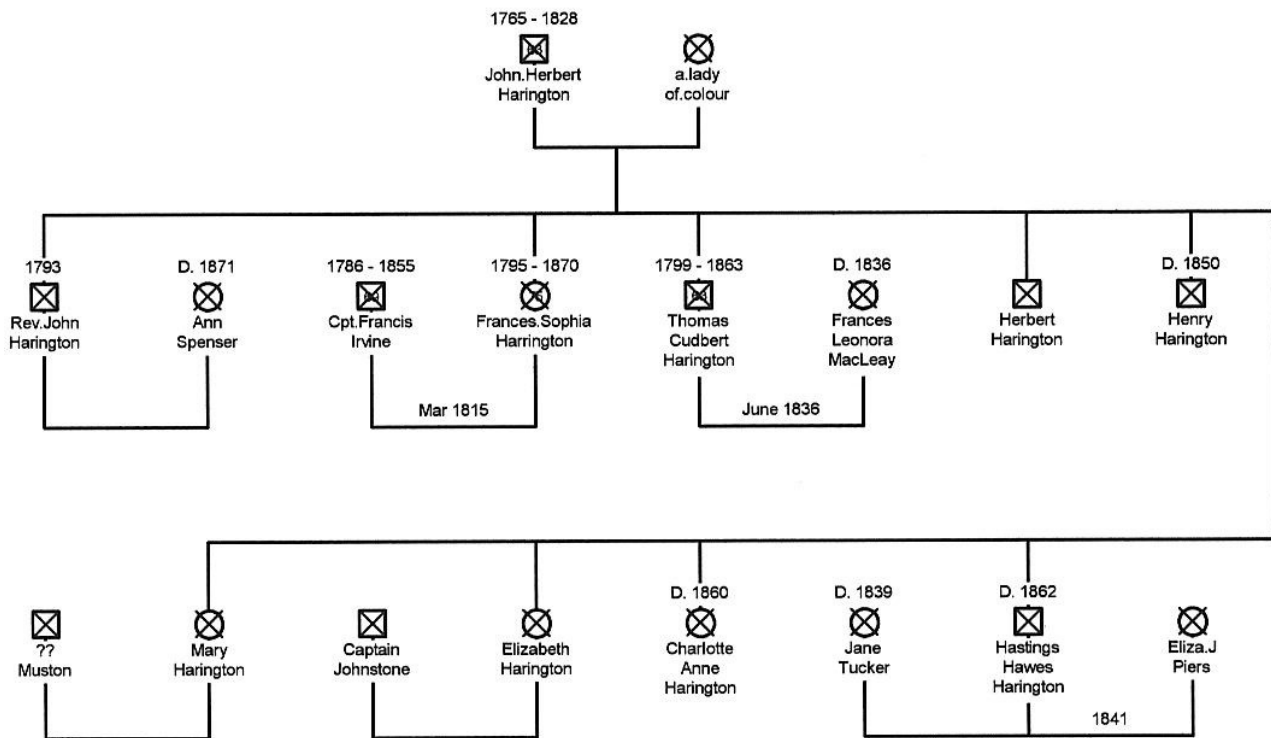
<sup>77</sup> “A Short Account of the Family of Irvine of Drum in the County of Aberdeen”, Capt. Douglas Wimberley, 1893

## Appendix B – The Harington Connection

HARINGTON was an old English family who can trace their ancestry back to the middle 16<sup>th</sup> century to one Alexander HARYNGTON of Stepney named in a 1568 grant of arms, and though a little cloudy on back into the 13<sup>th</sup> Century to a John HARINGTON who lived from 1281 to 1347<sup>78</sup>.

**Frances Sophia HARINGTON** was an illegitimate daughter of John Herbert HARINGTON, who was a Member of the Supreme Court of Bengal. It was not uncommon in the 18<sup>th</sup> century for an English gentleman to take a local girl as a mistress.

John Herbert HARINGTON had issue by “a lady of colour” that is an Indian Mistress, five sons and four daughters, probably all before 1808.



Children from this liason were:

**Rev John HARINGTON**, born 13<sup>th</sup> April 1793, BA Queens College Cambridge 1823; MA 1828; Rector of Little Hinton Wiltshire, 1838. Married Ann SPENCER and has issue.

**Thomas Cudbert HARINGTON**, born 19<sup>th</sup> March 1799, Asst Colonial Secretary of NSW 1829, died London, 1<sup>st</sup> February 1863.

**Herbert HARINGTON**, died early.

**Henry HARINGTON**, born in India, MD Edinburgh 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1824, died Pisa 10<sup>th</sup> April 1850.

**Hastings Hawes HARINGTON**, Curate of Chalbury, died Bengal about 1862. Married firstly Jane TUCKER and secondly Eliza J PIERS and left issue.

**Mary HARINGTON**, married ?? MUSTON and left five children, one of whom, James Charles MUSTON, married his cousin Elizabeth IRVINE.

<sup>78</sup> “The Harington Family”, Ian Grimble, Cape, 1957

**Frances Sophia HARRINGTON**, born 8<sup>th</sup> August 1795, married 29<sup>th</sup> September 1815, Capt Francis IRVINE in Calcutta and they had three children:

**Elizabeth Christina IRVINE**, born 1818 in India, married her cousin, James Charles MUSTON and has issue.

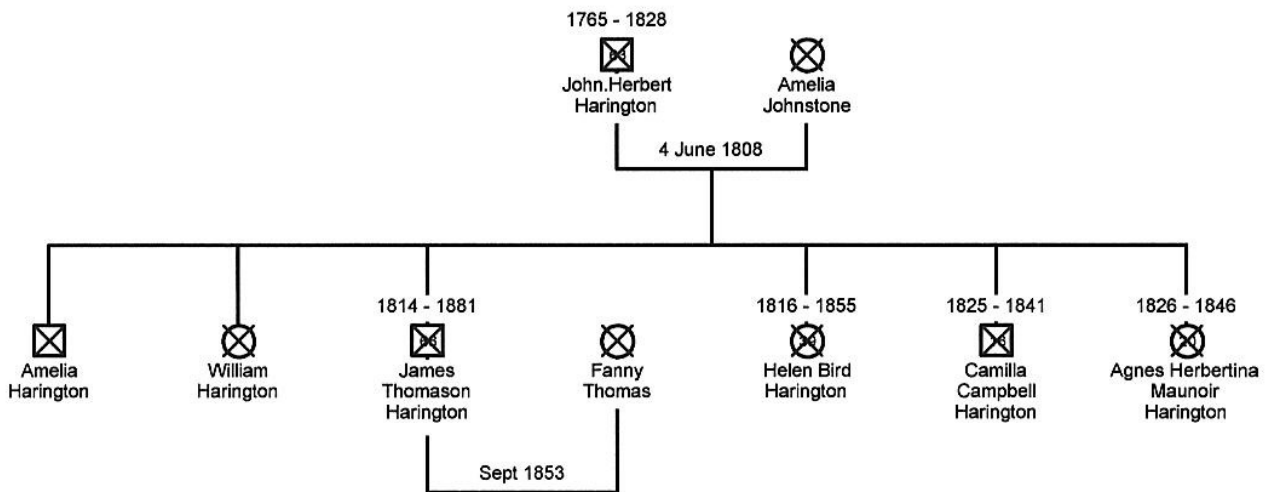
**Mary Catherine IRVINE**, born 25<sup>th</sup> March 1819 in India, married Andrew KEDDIE, apparently after 1870, issue unlikely.

**Francis Wemyss IRVINE**, born 21<sup>st</sup> June 1821 Sydney, and baptised at St Phillips Church of England, Sydney East.

**Elizabeth HARRINGTON**, married Capt JOHNSTONE, brother to her father's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife.

**Charlotte Anne HARRINGTON**, died Middlesex England, 8<sup>th</sup> August 1860, spinster.<sup>79</sup>

John Herbert HARRINGTON later married 4<sup>th</sup> June 1808, Amelia, daughter of Henry JOHNSTONE, by Miss CAMPBELL and had further issue two sons and four daughters:



**Amelia HARRINGTON**, died young

**William HARRINGTON**, died young

**James Thomason HARRINGTON**, born 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1814, married Fanny THOMAS left issue.

**Helen Bird HARRINGTON**, born 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1816, died 1855

**Camilla Campbell HARRINGTON**, born 26<sup>th</sup> February 1825

**Agnes Hermertina Maunoir HARRINGTON**, born 14<sup>th</sup> September 1826, died 1846<sup>80</sup>

<sup>79</sup> Probate, Letters of Administration, 15 Jan 1861

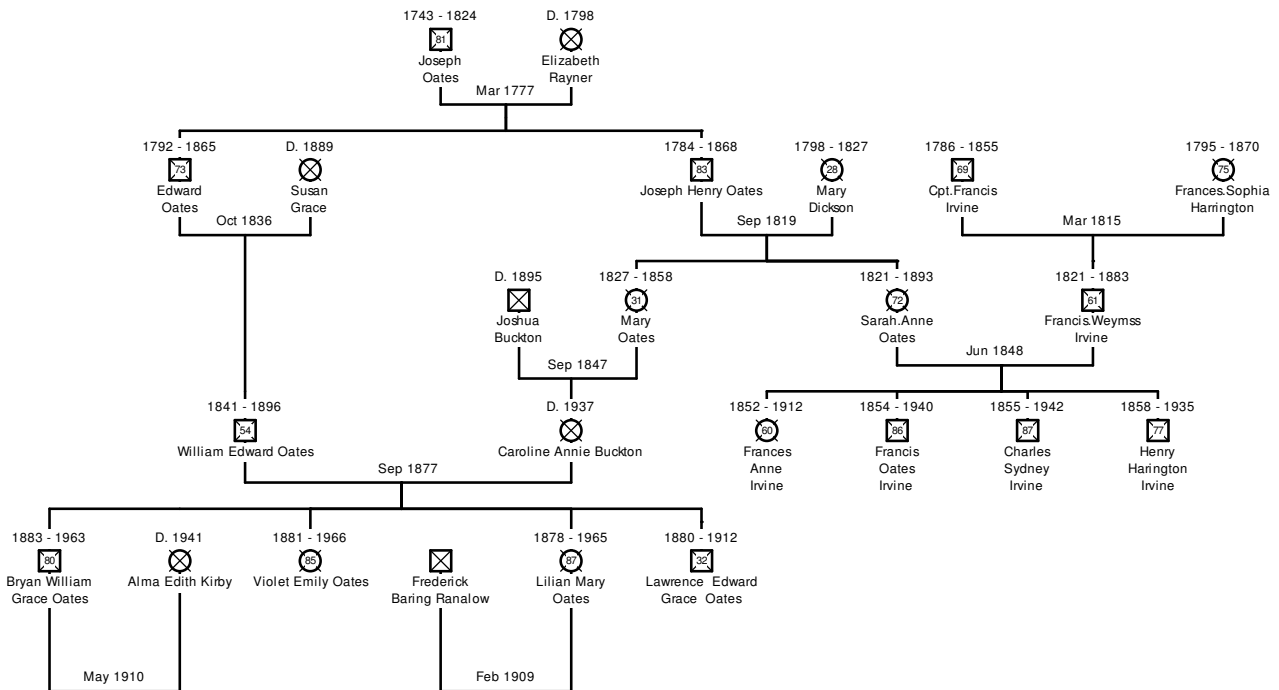
<sup>80</sup> "Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica" New Series Vol IV 90-378 Pedigrees of Harington of Corston Manor



## Appendix C – Oates Connections

Like the Irvine and Harington families, the Oates can trace their origins back many centuries with Thomas OTES living in the County of York in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Their pedigrees are detailed in Burke's *Landed Gentry* and *Familiae Minorum Gentium*. They tended to work in the law or as merchants.

It is well known within the Irvine family that there is a connection to Captain Lawrence OATES who died with Captain Robert SCOTT returning from the South Pole in March 1912. The following chart shows this relationship:



Sarah Anne OATES was related to both of Captain Lawrence OATES' parents. His mother was her niece while his father was her first cousin.

Lawrence Edward Grace OATES became a cavalry officer with the Inniskilling Dragoons playing polo, racing horses and riding the hunt with hounds he bred himself. He was extremely knowledgeable of both horses and hounds. He served with his regiment in the Boer War, where he was wounded, in Egypt and India before joining Scott's expedition to Antarctica, responsible for the Siberian ponies that were taken south. Suffering from frostbite so severe that amputation of his feet would have been necessary had he survived, he walked out into a blizzard on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1912, his 32<sup>nd</sup> birthday, hoping to give his comrades a chance of survival.

For those wishing to learn more of this famous relative, an excellent biography is, *"I Am Just Going Outside"* by Michael Smith, Spellmount, 2003. ISBN 186227178X

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