Balstrup Family history

Collated and edited by Virginia Gare
July 2012
Revised April 2021
Foreword

Dear Aunty Nance

I have collated this information for you for your 90th birthday on 21st July 2012. As you know I have been researching our family history for about 15 years now (more off than on).

Much emphasis has been placed on our Balstrup ancestors, but what about the others – your mother’s ancestors: the Nancarrows, Edwards, Williams? I’ve managed to go back 14 generations in some instances, right back to a John Nancarrow born in 1633 in St Keverne Cornwall. And do we have Spanish ancestry with a name like Colenso lurking in there?*

I’ve also explored as much as I can at this stage, your father’s mother and her ancestors – the George’s, Quantocks and Valentines. What about the Welsh connection (Charles George)?**

However, seeing as B for Balstrup comes first, that’s who I’ll start with.

With much love, and I hope you enjoy finding out more about where you came from, I am relying on you to correct any errors and let me know, so we can pass on a more accurate record to our children and others.

With much love

Virginia (Gare nee Rogers)

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This is a picture of your children and me and my siblings (I’m the cherubic one being held by Angela) on the day my siblings and I were christened. We are in front of our home in Croydon, Victoria.

Back: Jen Dowling

Middle Row: Diana Dowling, Angela Dowling holding Virginia Rogers, Susi Rogers, Anthony Rogers

Front Row: Andrew Rogers, Deborah Rogers, Jeremy Rogers, Peter Rogers
Beth Rogers and Nance Dowling
Buderim, Queensland 1990

Back: Nance Dowling, Virginia Gare, Angela Biggin, Deborah Wilton
Front: Jen Forbes, Diana Officer, Susi Johnston
At Beth Rogers funeral, July 2001, Strathalbyn SA

Virginia holding Anton, Susi and Paul Johnston and Nance Dowling
December 1993, Mt Barker SA

Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge Fedora for her memoirs (transcribed by her daughter Billie), Michelle Larsen (who researched the Balstrup family on commission as a gift for Viv’s daughter Lynette Balstrup, and several of my mother’s cousins – who provided information and photos.

I must also mention my mother-in-law Glenice who has mentored me through researching family history and spent many hours fossicking with me in the State Library, LDS Family History Centres and SA Genealogy Society.

Of course, much of this information is available online now, so I should also acknowledge Trove (digitised newspapers), Ancestry.com, and many others.
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Pedigree Chart for
Nancy Marguerite BALSTRUP

Parents

Peter Michal BALSTRUP
b: 18 Jun 1846 in Vester Marie parish, Bornholm Amt, Denmark
m: 24 May 1883 in Launceston, Tasmania, Australia
d: 08 Dec 1905 in Wellington Road, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

Emily Christine GEORGE
b: 28 May 1860 in Launceston, Tasmania, Australia
d: 25 Aug 1926 in Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

Grandparents

Charles Montgomery (Mont) BALSTRUP
b: 05 Jan 1886 in Launceston, Tasmania, Australia
m: 23 Dec 1919 in Ross Memorial Church (Presbyterian), Perth, Western Australia, Australia
d: 13 Feb 1945 in Hospital, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Magdalene Judithie Petersdatter Wuth
b: 22 Feb 1816 in Vester Marie parish, Bornholm Amt, Denmark
d: 1880 in Vester Marie parish, Bornholm Amt, Denmark

Great-Grandparents

Nancy Marguerite BALSTRUP
b: 21 Jul 1922 in Perth, Western Australia, Australia
m: 05 Oct 1946 in Geelong, Victoria, Australia
d:

John Thomas NANCARROW
b: Abt 1865 in Truro, Cornwall, England
m: 19 Feb 1889 in Christchurch, New Zealand
d: 23 Jul 1900 in Armagh Street, Linwood, New Zealand

Sarah Jane Coleoso WILLIAMS
b: 08 Nov 1886 in Helston, Cornwall, England
d: 24 Oct 1950 in Queenscliff, Victoria (Nursing Home)

Charles GEORGE
b: 14 Nov 1812 in Radcliffe...
m: 09 Aug 1850 in Independen...
d: 14 Feb 1896 in Launceston,...

Ann Elizabeth QUANTOCK
b: Abt 1829 in unknown
d: 25 Aug 1882 in Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

James NANCARROW
b: 1860 in Newlyn East, Cornwall, England
m: Bel. 1894
d: 26 Jun 1924 in Christchurch, New Zealand

Ellen Martyn
b: 1843 in Truro, Cornwall, England
d: 02 Feb 1942 in Bunwood, New Zealand

Edward James WILLIAMS
b: 1837 in Helston, Cornwall, England
m: 19 Jul 1863 in Helston, Cornwall, England
d: 03 May 1908 in Christchurch Holy Trinity Avonside, New Zealand

Sarah Ann COLENSO
b: 1844 in Helston, Cornwall, England
d: 10 Feb 1907 in 9 Avonside Street, Linwood, New Zealand
Your father - Balstrup

Charles Montgomery Balstrup

Charles Montgomery Balstrup was born on 5 January 1886 in Launceston, Tasmania. He was the second son of Peter Michal Balstrup and Emily Christina (nee George), and was named after his parents' friend - the Archbishop of Tasmania (possibly Charles Henry Bromby, Peter later fell out with this friend, so names reverted to Danish names!). He was known as Mont or Uncle Monty.

Mont studied law at the University in Hobart, but by 1903 he is listed as an Assistant Teacher in the Hobart Region, earning 50 pounds a year, and at the time of his father’s death in December 1905 he was a teacher in the north west of Tasmania. In 1907 (aged 21 years) he was the Principal at Kempton State School, 45 km north of Hobart.
By 1915, he was living and working as a teacher in Western Australia in the remote community of Cue (north east of Geraldton), - what a difference from Tasmania! He later moved to Bunbury (staying in Gordon’s Hotel) where he worked in 1916. At this time he was struggling financially, paying board, and sending home £5 a month to assist his widowed mother (I have copies of letters sent to his brother Viv from Bunbury). His daughter Beth recalls “He (Peter) died when my father was 21, my father was at University at the time and he left University half way through a course in Law, and he took over the running of the family cattle property at Davenport.” (However I have records which show that he was already teaching in Tasmania before moving to WA, perhaps he gave up teaching in Tasmania to run the farm, and later returned to that occupation when it was sold.)

“They had a dairy there and cheese making and all sorts of associated things with cattle and he ran that for quite some time, and it became unviable because of salt coming up through the ground (salination I suppose it’s called now) and they sold it to the authorities, and that’s where Pardoe Airport is now (Pardoe was the name of the property). So when that was all finalised, my father then decided to go to Western Australia, from a health point of view he decided on the dry warm west.......... By then he had done half of his, I suppose it was Arts/Law (at University in Hobart), and using the Arts part of it he converted into going to Teachers College, and he got his Teaching Diploma or whatever they called it in those days, and went off as a Monitor down to Pickton, down near Bunbury in Western Australia and that’s where he met my mother.”

(What was she doing there?) “Well she worked in a Bank (Union Bank Perth), and presumably she was on holidays. She had some friends the Johnstons ...... Anyway they met and fell in love.”

He became engaged to Marguerite (Rita) Irene Nancarrow on 31 December 1918, at the time he was living in Beria, (due east of Geraldton). They married one year later on 23 December 1919 at Ross Memorial Church in Perth, and later moved to Mount Magnet for about four years, during which time their daughters Yvonne Betty (b 23 October 1920) and Nancy Marguerite (b 21 July 1922) were born. Beth recalls “My father then went to the northern Goldfields, miles from Perth and desolate country, and then when he came down my mother and father were married in Scots Church in Perth (Ross Memorial Church). Then they went up to Mt Magnet and that was the end of the earth as far as my mother was concerned, because she was a city girl and anything less attractive I don’t think she’d ever seen in her life. The stories she used to tell me about these ants, and of course they had the Coolgardie safes and put the baby’s milk and food in these contraptions, which had the lengths of flannel as it was called, then, and you poured water on the top and the flannel acted as a conductant for the water and the water flowed very slowly - a trickle really to a tray at the bottom and the air going through created a cooling system. That’s where all the butter and the meat was kept, it was fairly primitive living in every respect.”
Later the family moved to Tambellup in SW Western Australia. My mother had fond memories of their time in Tambellup. "We had a cow (Pet) and a calf, and chooks, yes it was a lovely time, of course a very rural atmosphere. We had lots of friends in the country, and my father and my mother would play golf. We had a swimming pool in the township, so we had lots of fun there, and my parents played tennis, and bridge and did all the leisurely sorts of things ". Anton [Virginia’s son, aged 5] asked Mum if she had any pets when she was little..."I had four chickens - Edward, George, Sammy and Little Blinker, he was called that because he used to blink like this (followed by much blinking and hilarity about the birds and the bees and how boy chickens don’t normally lay eggs). We also had a cow called Pet who only had half a tail, one day my father was milking her, he used to tie her tail onto a fence so she didn't switch him with it, when he’d finished milking her he gave her a big whack on the rear end to send her off, but had forgotten that her tail was tied on!"

This photo of Rita, Betty and Nancy was taken in Tambellup (the TA in the numberplate refers to Tambellup).

Nance recalls that "In 1928 Daddy had long service leave and we all came to The East on board the 'Westralia' - its maiden voyage and we were the only children on board. I still remember what a wonderful time we had. At the beginning of 1929 after a year of travelling seeing the rels in Tasmania, Uncle Peder in Melbourne and Uncle Viv in Queensland we returned to WA and Daddy was transferred to Geraldton as the Vice Principal of the Geraldton District High School.

Housing was very scarce so we lived in the Victoria Hotel in the main street for six months (I was only 6 and a half so time is a bit strange) and then we moved to Burges St which seemed to me to be MILES from the school and Daddy, Bett and I used to walk to school. After maybe a year we moved to 98
Fitzgerald St which was only a few hundred yards from the school. After about two years Daddy was transferred to Bluff Point School as the Headmaster.

At the end of 1935 he was transferred to Cunderdin - but we continued to live in Perth - and he would come home for weekends. Not a happy arrangement for either of them. We had a rented house in Subiaco from where I caught the train to PLC in Cottesloe. Later - maybe only one year - Daddy was moved to Osborne Park and by this time they had built the house (36 Marlow St, Wembley – pictured) where we all lived until Mother moved to Victoria in 1945..... You probably know all this but Daddy was her whole life. They had friends and other interests but totally wrapped in each other and us. Terribly sad - she was only 48 when he died.”

This house was built by a friend Len Henderson, who said "it won't be built out for years", in fact there was a dairy at the end of the road.

Mont’s niece Margaret recalls that when Mont’s family visited her family (Peder) in Brighton East, that Peder would take them for drives which they loved. On one occasion Mont said to Peder “Is that a chocolate tree?”, Peder stopped the car and Mont fussed about around the tree and came back to the car with some chocolates for the children (no doubt hidden in his pocket). Margaret said that for a long time after they would pester their father about whether he could see a Chocolate Tree.

Betty and Nancy Christmas 1937
Mum described Mont as even tempered and very popular, he helped people greatly. He was a member of the Osborne Park Masonic Lodge. He and his wife Rita were very good golf players.

Mont had heart issues - he was unable to enlist for World War 1 due to his heart (referred to in a letter to his brother Viv, March 1916), and in later letters refers to being unable to mow the lawns, with Rita "doing the best she could".

Mont in 1941.

Just after Mont won the position as Headmaster at Bluff Point, he had a slight stroke and was partially paralysed for some months.

Mont died on Tuesday 13 February 1945 in hospital (where he had been for some days) at West Perth, with these notices appearing in The West Australian the following day.

These In Memoriam notices appeared in The West Australian on 13th February 1946 (1 year later).

(Stewart is Stewart Bovell, a lifelong friend of my mothers, who was taken under Mont and Rita’s wing as a young man.)

Mont’s ashes are buried at Karrakatta Cemetery (Perth) with a memorial for his ashes in Bed 26 Crematorium Rose Garden Plaque 18.
Your paternal grandfather and his parents

Peter Michal Balstrup

Ah, so much has been written about Peter – where do I start? This is the Balstrup that everyone thinks of – the seafaring sealer, the mining magnate (explorer and investor) the Dashing Dane and the father of fourteen.

Peter was born in Vester Marie, on the island of Bornholm, Denmark on 18 June 1846 to Niels Christensen Balstrup and Magdalene Judith Peddersdatter Westh. He had a twin sister Karne Malene (short for Magdalene) Balstrup and Kristene Elene Balstrup (born in 1849). Both sisters moved to the USA, with Karne marrying Hans Pihl and Kristene marrying Andreas Sode. Kristene’s grandson Finn was a pilot based in Sydney and visited Lesley and Lynette in Brisbane in the 1960s (Finn and Lynette pictured).
Peter was christened on 11 July 1846 at the Vester Marie church, pictured below.

After seafaring and sealing and having many adventures, he arrived in Australia in 1871 (aged 25), "allured by the gold rush in Victoria, he decided to try his luck in the colonies" and arrived in Victoria. "He went into the Bendigo district, and then to New South Wales, being successful in his prospecting operations. About eight years after reaching Australia (ie 1879) he was at a mining camp near Temora, NSW, and met Mr W S Monks. In 1881 the two came to Tasmania, and took up prospecting work, being engaged at Mount Victoria, on the East Coast..." (source "The Northern Scene", 8 December, 1982). He worked at the Mt Victoria gold mine on the East Coast for four years before he prospected in the Zeehan area.

He arrived in Tasmania aboard the SS Flinders on 25 November 1881 (with his occupation being listed as a miner). He applied for his naturalisation certificate in February 1885 – possibly so he could list companies on the Stock Exchange.
To His Excellency Sir George Currie Stanah, Knight Commander
of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony
of Tasmania and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The Memorial of Peter Michael Balstein
of Queenston in the
of Tasmania.

Showneth:

1. That your Memorialist was born at Bornholm, Demarcard,
in the Kingdom of Denmark
on the eighteenth day of June, one thousand eight
hundred and forty eight and is of the age of thirty six years.

2. That the said Kingdom of Denmark is at present in
friendly relationship with Great Britain.

3. That your Memorialist arrived at Queenston, in the Ship
"Hindes" E.S.
in Tasmania, in the ship "Hindes" E.S.
on the twenty fifth day of November,
one thousand eight hundred and eighty eight and has ever since been
following his occupation as a miner in Tasmania.

4. That your Memorialist intends to reside permanently in Tasmania, (and is loyally
affected towards Her Majesty the Queen as also the Government and Institutions of this
Country.)

5. That your Memorialist is desirous of acquiring the rights and capacities of a
natural-born British Subject under the Act of the Parliament of Tasmania, intituled
"The Alien Act."

15
6. That your Memorialist is ready and willing to take and subscribe the Oath of Allegiance required by the said Act, and "The Promissory Oaths Act, 1809."

Your Memorialist therefore humbly prays that Your Excellency will be pleased to grant him such Certificate as is required by "The Alien Act," to confer on your Memorialist the rights and capacities of a natural-born British Subject (except as by the said Act is excepted).

And your Memorialist will ever pray, &c.

Dated this 23rd day of February 1884.

(Signature) [Signature]

Mr. William, in a most suitable person, to receive letters of naturalization, I have the pleasure in recommending him,

Thomas Jefferys

[Signature]
On 24 May 1883 he married Emily Christina George in Launceston, by which time Emily already had a daughter Anne Elizabeth (born 16 January 1881, i.e. before Peter had arrived in Tasmania), and their son Peder Michael was born on 18 October 1883.

12 more children appeared over the following 22 years:

- Charles Montgomery (Mont 1886-1945)
- Christina Elena (1887-1896)
- Una Isobel (1889-1927)
- Gordon Herald Waldemarl (1890-1917)
- Emily Fryda (Fryda 1892-1988)
- Thrya Francsca (1894-1985) and Elvina May (Elvie 1894-1953)
- Horace Vivian (Viv 1895-1983)
- Eva Ingaborg (1897-1984)
- Jessie Fedora (Fedora 1899-1991)
- Olga Edna (1902-1987)
- Urba Amanda (1905-1980)

In 1887, Peter is listed as living in French Street, Launceston, but by the time this picture was taken (outside their home) in 1897 they were living on Wellington Road, Launceston. The home is no longer there, being replaced by units.

*Approx. 1897*

Back row: Mont and Peder
Middle row: Una, Peter holding Thyra, Emily holding Viv, Annie holding Elvina, and Christina
Front row: Gordon and Fryda

(Eva, Fedora, Olga and Urba were yet to be born)
In 1892-93 in the Tasmanian Wise's Directory, the Balstrups Mangasene Hill, Zeehan mine was listed as a Silver Mining Company and was worth £50,000. Peter was with the prospecting party that made big silver-lead discoveries in the Zeehan field, and there are many mentions of him as an investor in various mining companies, including the Balstrup-Manganese Hill, the Austral, the Central and South Balstrup, Mariposa, also New Pyramid Silver Mining Company, Hunt Tin Mining Company, the Dalmayne Coal Association, and the North Flora Gold Mining Company.

Maps of Zeehan Mining Leases

Township of Zeehan
The article below gives a summary of his activities, and it is good to note that it says that as well as being "an ardent investor in the mining industry", Peter was "of a genial and very kindly disposition, and was never found wanting where he could lend a hand."

Peter died on Friday 8 December 1905, and this article appeared in "The Examiner" (Launceston) on Saturday 9 December 1905 (p6 & 7), his grave was originally on the site of where Launceston Hospital is now, but his memorial is with Emily's in the Carr Villa Cemetery, Launceston.
The picture below was taken on the day of Peter's funeral in December 1905, presumably at "Westbank" on Wellington Road, Sandhill (Launceston), where they lived at the time.

Back row: Mont (Charles Montgomery), Peder (Peder Michael), Gordon (Gordon Herald Waldemarl)

Middle row: Thyra (Thrya Francisca, Fryda (Emily Fryda), Annie (Anne Elizabeth), Viv (Horace Vivian), Emily (Emily Christina), Eva (Eva Ingaborg), Una (Una Isobel), Elvie (Elvina May)

Front row: Fedora (Jessie Fedora), Urba (Urba Amanda), Olga (Olga Edna) (NB Christina had died by this time)

I have information on Peter's ancestors back to the early 1700s
In loving memory

Emily C
wife of P M Balstrup
died 25th August 1926  Aged 65 years

Peder M Balstrup
died 8th December 1905  Aged 59 years

Christina E Balstrup
Died 6th February 1896  Aged 8½ years

Gordon H W Balstrup
killed in action in France
22nd September 1917  Aged 26 years

Goodbye

my dear brother

from your sister

Salute from Denmark

(this was probably his sister Kristene who married a stonemason Andreas Sode)
Mont's siblings

Anne Elizabeth (Annie) was born in Ringarooma, Tasmania on 16 January 1881, her father is not listed. Annie married Henry Quon (a plumber) and had three children: Selma (b 1915, m Ralph Canning, d 1992), Elvie (b 1917, m Harold Steere, d 1953) and Victor (b 1919, m Emily, d 1988).

From Fedora's tape (1991): "Annie was the eldest in the family and she married Henry Quon. She had three children, Selma, Elvie and Victor - Victor and Selma are gone now. Henry, he was really a nice fellow, he had a good business in Wellington Street, but unfortunately, he was on the "Miss Hobart" that crashed into the sea (1935), and they never really knew what happened, but they thought that Victor Holyman had gone with not enough petrol."

Annie died in Preston, Victoria (she was living with Elvie and Harold) in March 1955, and has a monument in Carr Villa Cemetery, Launceston.

This article appeared in The Examiner (Launceston newspaper) on Saturday 20 October 1934

LANDING IN UNINHABITED REGION BELIEVED TO BE PROBABLE

Mystery surrounds the disappearance late yesterday morning of the Holyman's Airways liner, Miss Hobart, carrying nine passengers and two officers of the company. The machine left Western Junction aerodrome at 9 o'clock for Launceston, Victoria, and reported at 10.30 that it was approaching the Victorian coast. The message was—"Over Rodondo Island; all well." There are indications that it passed over Wilson's Promontory, but from that point there is mystery about its movements. The passengers:

Mrs. Colin Jones and child, of Launceston. Mrs. D. Drummond, of Hobart.
Miss K. Mercer, of the Midlands. Mr. R. Caldwell, of Launceston.
Mr. Colin Jones, of Launceston. Mr. B. Drummond, of Hobart.
Mr. G. Goulty, of Hobart. Mr. H. Quon, of Launceston.

Rev. H. E. Warren, of St. Mary's

The machine, which is a four-engined, twelve-passenger De Havilland 86, is piloted by Mr. Gilbert Jenkins, accompanied by Captain V. C. Holyman, traffic manager of Holyman's Airways. A search of the coast by aeroplane yesterday afternoon proved fruitless, and this morning an Air Force flying boat and two other aeroplanes will continue the search.

From Wilson's Promontory there is approximately 50 miles of coast line, with practically no habitation, and it is thought probable that the machine has had to descend in this section, and that the occupants have not yet been able to reach a telephone line.
**Peder Michael**

was born on 18 October 1883 in Launceston.

Photo: Peder outside his home (Nepean Road, Brighton East) in 1941 (taken by Betty Balstrup).

Gordon Waldemar Balstrup (Peder's son) wrote in his memoirs June 1996:

"Peder Michael (Gordon's father) was born in Launceston on 18/10/1883. He was the second child of 14 and died on June 7, 1951 aged 67 of a perforated ulcer. As a youth, he was keen on sailing on the Tamar River. He became an apprentice engineer at an iron foundry and worked on the old Cataract Gorge Bridge which had to be floated into place and was regarded as a great engineering feat. It is heritage listed and is still there alongside the new bridge, near the Penny Royal Motel, Launceston.

Peder became a marine engineer and was chief engineer of several steam ships. One was named the KAPUNDA because as a child I can remember a capstan wheel framed picture of the vessel on a wall at East Brighton, VIC, where we lived.

The family lived at Gardenvale during 1928 and moved to East Brighton in 1928. Peder later was Chief Engineer on several dredges in Port Phillip Bay then became Mines Department Boiler Inspector for the eastern Victorian district of Gippsland. Viv's nickname for Peder was "Brine" because of his seafaring.

436 Point Nepean Road, Brighton East

Peder’s daughter Margaret recalls that her father loved children and was a wonderful Dad. He as a marine engineer, and used to get right inside the boilers, on the weekend he would take the children to the sawmills (where he would check the boilers). He was a great story teller. "Dad would take us (Margaret and Gordon) camping at Rosebud (on the Mornington Peninsula), and we would go fishing in a friend's boat."

From Fedora's tape (1991): "Peder was an engineer. He was on an overseas liner and he was in England when Dad died. When he came back to Melbourne after retiring from the sea he was made Government Boiler Inspector for Victoria. We always used to like to go over to stay with him as we had
some lovely trips - down to Sorrento and out into the bush. When he was doing his training at Salisbury's Foundry he helped build the bridge across the Gorge and he also went down to Zeehan and put the machinery into the mine. Dad lent them 17,000 pounds to do that. He married Dot and they had a family of four, Keith, Lola, Margaret and Gordon."

Peder married Elizabeth (Dot) Middlemiss in 1913, and they had 4 children: Margaret Leita (b 1925, m Keith Roper and Don Marner), Lola (b 1919, m Alec Wales), Gordon Waldemar (1926-2011, m Joan Ware) and Keith Archibald (1913-1979, m Irma Matthews). He died in Brighton, Victoria on 7 June 1951. This photo is of Irma (Keith's wife), Dot, Gordon, Lola, Margaret and Keith.

During the war, Beverley (Thyra's daughter) stayed with the family.
**Charles Montgomery (Mont)**

was the third child

**Christina Elena**

only lived for 8½ years; she was born on 13 August 1887 in Launceston, and died from typhoid fever on 6 February 1896. Her younger sister Fedora said in 1991 "Chrisie was only 8 ½ when she died of typhoid fever. A lady wanted her to go and stay with her while her husband was at work one night. She didn’t want to go but the woman promised her a doll. She went and she contracted typhoid fever. There was an open drain and they think she probably got it from that. Even the Sunday School teacher said what a lovely little girl she was - too good to live." She is buried in the family grave at Carr Villa Cemetery.
Una Isobel

was born on 5 May 1889 in Launceston, and as a young woman she moved to Zeehan to support her older brother Peder. When she was 18 years old she married James Joseph Hill, who was a Catholic. This caused her to be cut off from her family. They lived in Zeehan, and had seven children: Bernard Francis (1910-1979), Una Elvina (b 1911), Mary Josephine (b 1913), James Roland (1915-1976), Noel John (1919-1971), Joan Winifred (b 1921), Phyllis Kathleen (b 1923).

From Fedora’s tape (1991): “Then came Una. Mother sent her down to Zeehan to look after Peder while he was there, and she met a fellow down there whom she married, but he didn’t turn out to be the best. They had seven children, but we didn’t see much of her and she died when she was only 38, of cancer. Her married name was Hill. She was cut off from the Balstrup family, as she had married a Catholic. The Balstrup children were told not even to acknowledge her presence if they saw her.”

Una had carcinoma of the breast and secondary cancer of the liver, and died of cancer when she was 38 (23 June 1927). She is buried in the old cemetery at Zeehan, which has been burnt out a few times and a lot of the headstones are gone or damaged.

I think it’s interesting that Una’s brother Viv named one of his daughters after her (Lesley Una Balstrup), despite the family rift.

"Rowland Marcellus Hill's brothers Richard Bernadine (Dick) and James Joseph (Jim) had their own "claim" just outside Zeehan on the Trial Harbour Road. I can remember going there as a very young child (5 or 6). James’ wife, Una Isobel Balstrup, was the daughter of Peter Balstrup, one of our early explorers and engineers." (source: Maureen Keygan - Hill family researcher).
Gordon Herald Waldermarl
(14 September 1890 - 22 September 1917) was known as “Cled” in the Balstrup family. He was apprenticed to Salisbury’s Foundry, and then worked on Pardoe (the family farm) for five years.

After he moved to NSW, he enlisted on 18 June 1916 for WW1 and was a Private in the 17th Battalion Australian Infantry, enlistment number 5784. He travelled to France on the SS Invicta, and fought in Etaples on 19 February 1917.

Gordon was wounded in the field on 19 Sept 1917 at Menin Road battle in Belgium and died of his wounds in the Belgium military hospital on 22 Sept 1917. His Cemetery/Memorial details are Belgium 11 Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery Belgium (from Australian War Memorial Database), and he is also listed on the Balstrup family grave at Carr Villa Cemetery.

The telegram, three medals (The Star Medal, a British War Service Medal and a Victory Medal) and his Memorial Plaque and Memorial Scroll were delivered to Emily in Launceston.
**Emily Fryda**

(Fryda 24 February 1892 – 6 July 1988) married Edgar Salmon in Launceston in 1916, they lived at "Acton" – a large farm at Cambridge. Edgar died in 1921 when their daughter Edna was 18 months old, and Fryda remarried Will Curtis in 1938.

From Fedora’s tape (1991): "Fryda was next. She was a telephonist and she was a wonderful pianist. She won the Trinity College Gold Medal at a very young age. She played beautifully. Mother used to give the girls dances at home once a month and she used to play all the music for that, and she was a delight to listen to. She was the first organist at St Mark-on-the-Hill Church and she played there for some years. She started when the Church was in the hall next door and she used to have someone to blow the organ while she played. When the new Church opened she had never played a pipe organ before, and she learnt to play that when she was 70 years old." Fryda died in Launceston, and her ashes are in Carr Villa Cemetery.

Edna (b July 1920) married Denis Holmes and currently they live in Launceston.

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_Eva, Peter Andersen (family friend), Fryda, Olga, Fedora with Edna in front_
Rita Bolstrup with Fryda

1941 taken at Longford, Tasmania

L-R Jack Ledingham, John Ledingham, Fryda, Betty Bolstrup, Fedora and Olga
Thyra Francisca
(17 January 1894 – 18 April 1985),

From Fedora’s tape (1991): “Elvie and Thyra were the twins and they went to Hobart to live after a while, but before they went Elvie worked at the Exchange and Thyra worked at Patons & Baldwins Woollen Mills, and it was after that they both went off to Hobart where they were both married.

Thyra was living with Elvie at 87 Main Road, New Town (Hobart) in the 1919 Electoral Rolls, and both are listed as dressmakers. She married Billy Williams (Fedora and Eva were bridesmaids) in February 1925 and they had two children, Beverley (b 1925, m Charles Johnstone) and Bruce (b 1929, m June, d 1992) who worked at the Zinc Works.

From Rita Balstrup’s address book 1971, Thyra lived at 91 Carlton Street, Newtown, Hobart, and later she lived at Flat 3, 34 Marreville Esplanade, Sandy Bay Hobart. Thyra died in Hobart in April 1985. Her daughter Beverley currently lives in Hobart.
Elvina May
(Elvie 17 January 1894- 20 January 1953)

Elvina and Thyra were twins, as young women they moved to Hobart together.

Elvie married Ted Domeney in August 1921, but they later divorced. Elvie and Ted had 3 daughters – Erica (b 1922), m Tony Nielson, d 1990), Margaret (b 1923), and Barbara (b 1925, m John Manning).

It is believed that Ted had been having an affair for some years and remarried soon after Elvina’s death in 1953 (she died from complications from emphysema).

(source: granddaughter Christine Morey (nee Nielson) in 2000).
**Horace Vivian**

(Viv 11 July 1895- 16 August 1983), was only 9 years old when his father died. He was known as "Bing" in the Balstrup family.

From Fedora's tape 1991: "Then there was Viv. He was the devil of the family. He used to play the piano too and he used to play by ear. He could play anything he heard, he was wonderful. Viv eventually went to Queensland to live and he married Ivy over there. They had two daughters, Lesley and Lynette. He grew bananas and he had pineapples on the last farm."

Viv worked for the PMG (Post Master General, now Australia Post), grew bananas and pineapples at Nambour, the area is now subdivided.

He died in Albany Creek, Queensland in August 1983.

Address (in Rita Balstrup's address book 1971) 31 Aland Street, Wavell Heights QLD 4012

Lesley Una (b 1928, m John McKeone 1922, d January 2012) and Lynette (b 1932) lived in Queensland their whole lives.

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This is page 1 of a letter written by Mont Balstrup to his brother Viv in March 1916 (transcript is on the next page).
My dearest Viv

Your very welcome letter came duly to hand. I was very glad you decided to break the ice for your address was unknown to me else I should have written. After the receipt of your last letter of that railway cutting place I wrote to you but apparently you did not receive or you have forgotten. However I am glad to see you have a job that is somewhat permanent and as far as I can judge it would be advisable for you to stick and study and finally become a driver. There is no doubt you must make up your mind to follow some line like that and make yourself proficient.

Although we have been separated some time now still I have never forgotten you and still have a great love for you. In fact you were ever dear to me right from your babyhood and I feel it very much to be so far away and not see you. When all is said and done there is not much in life for me, I am working hard all the time and just manage to keep myself and the home going. I don’t seem to get ahead of things at all each month. I get my pay, settle up my board send £5 home and little is left on which to save and ruminate. It is my intention to strive and save enough for a trip home next Xmas and if you cannot manage to get home I will come to Sydney to see you. I amgrieved beyond measure over the lot of you two boys and would give the rest of my life if I could take you back to the days before we left Launceston.

No doubt you are happy enough but your prospects for the future need much attention. Having passed through many phases of life I find it very wise to go carefully and not spend indiscriminately. In times of plenty one is liable to forget the necessity of laying by some little store for the future. At the present time I am in the ridiculous position of just having the sum of 2/- in my pocket for the rest of the month. Before Xmas I lent a chap £45 and so far he has not come up to the mark no doubt he will before the end of the year. When I come to think of Cled it just about breaks my heart, even when in adversity it is not hard to show the slightest kindness to another’s feelings and often have I enquired after Cled and beseeched him to write but he has sent never a word. If he would only send word of what he is doing and supply his address it would satisfy me then I should be in a position to communicate with him. When you receive this extend to him my brotherly love and if he does not write let me know his address.

Do you ever see my friend J. Day who used to be at Day Downs, if so I would ask that you cultivate his friendship for he is a thorough man and gentleman and should you see him remember me most kindly. Peder is very fine, each time we get separated he always waits for me to write first hence I have not heard from him for a year.

On the matter of your enlisting I have it wholly and soully to yourself to decide. Had I been able to pass I should have gone some time ago but my heart is affected and I cannot pass. It seems just probable that this year will see the war out at any rate let us hope so.

The family at home seem to be getting along nicely. Fedora passed very well in shorthand and in the whole they all seem gifted with a fair share of brains. It is very pleasing to see this.

Now I must close with best wishes to yourself and Cled and don’t forget to reply to this shortly.

Your affectionate Brother   Mont
Eva Ingaborg
(11 October 1897 – 6 January 1984)

Eva was born in Launceston and attended Launceston High School (the older girls had attended Methodist Ladies College until their father died and the family fortune was lost). She moved to Melbourne (Yallourn) after her broken engagement to Scott Mills (who eventually married Fedora), where she met and married Ian Steele.

She was a keen bowler, hockey player, croquet, was a member of the Ladies choir and community service.

From Fedora's tape 1991: "Then there was Eva. She worked at Murrays with me. First of all she worked at Gunn's, then she came around and worked at Murray's. She went to Melbourne and was married over there. She lived at Yallourn where she married Ian Steele. They had two daughters, Sue and Helen. I was sorry when she went over to Melbourne because we were great pals, Eva and I. We made up our minds we were always going to live together, but I got married and she went over to Melbourne."

Gordon W Balstrup wrote in June 1996: “Eva married Ian Steele. Their children were Sue and Helen. Ian was a prisoner of war in Changi and I remember how thin he was when he returned. He was about 12 stone and was only 6 stone when he came back. He used to tell us how he split paper to make cigarette paper, etc. He was very resourceful and cunning. That is how he was able to survive I think. He died about 10 years later.” (Actually in 1960)
Sue Ramm (nee Steel) wrote: “Mother and Fedora started work at D W Murrays as Secretary/Accounting machine operators. Mother moved to Victoria and Yallourn after her broken engagement to Scot Mills. And of course it was in Yallourn that Mother met Dad.” They lived in Shepparton, Essendon and eventually Forster in NSW.

Eva and Ian’s children were Margaret (Sue) (b 1933, m Ron Ramm 1967) and Helen Urba (b 1938, m Brian Ennis 1963), and also twin boys who were premature and died soon after birth. During the War, Sue was sent to live with her Aunt Olga in Tasmania, and Helen stayed with Aunt Urba in Warrigal.

Evo, Dot, Peder, Sue and Helen (1941).

*Billie Mills, Sue Steel, Judy Mills and John Ledingham at the Gorge approx 1940*
**Jessie Fedora (Fedora)**
(14 August 1899 – 9 July 1991)

Like her older siblings, Fedora was born in Launceston on 14 August 1899. She attended Launceston State High School, achieving passes and credits for her Junior Public Exams in 1915 in English, French, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Physiography and Shorthand. She then worked at Murrays in Launceston. She was in the Tasmilian State Team for hockey (which won the Premiership in WA).

From her tape which was recorded in 1991: "I worked at Murray's and that's where I met Scott. I worked there for ten years, then we married. Whilst I was there I played hockey. I played in the Tasmanian State Team and went to Western Australia and we won the Australian Premiership, and that was the first time they'd won the Premiership (because I was in it I suppose). Scott and I went together for about five years before we were married. He'd only just come back from the War. We had two children, Billie and Judy."

The photo below if of Fedora and Scott’s wedding, with Olga and Jock Ledingham, in front of “Westbank” on Wellington Road (now Street) South Launceston. The other photo is of Fedora and Scott in 1927 (they married on 5 August 1926).

Judy recalls "In her later years she played Solo with her good friends until three weeks before she died at the age of 91. She spent a lot of time with Fryda and Olga and also Urba when she returned to Tasmania to live after Joe died.”

Gordon W Balstrup wrote in June 1996:

"Fedora married Scott Mills. He was the ABC race broadcaster in Tasmania for many years and was well liked and respected by everyone." Their daughter Judy wrote “Scott was a swimming and diving champion of Tasmania for the four or five years leading up to World War 1, when he left for Egypt and France. He was awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal. He was the Sporting Commentator for the A.B.C. in Launceston for 35 years, broadcasting the football, horse racing and other sports. He was also secretary of the R.S.L during the Second World War, which was not a very pleasant job as he was dealing with all the women who lost their husbands at the War."
When he came home at night he would always whistle two notes as he came in the front door and on pay days we always received sweets and comics.”

Billie was born on 27 May 1928 in Launceston, married R Jack Eastoe and she currently lives in Veronica Crescent, Norwood (adjacent to The Punchbowl). Judy was born 26 December 1932, married Brian Hedley, she also lives in Launceston.

The photo below is of John Ledingham (their cousin), Billie and Judith in Launceston November 1941. Judy explained that as Judy was born during the Depression, there are very few photos of her.

In 1971 Fedora lived at 67 Normanston Road, South Launceston, later moving to Flat 7, 1A Brisbane Street, Launceston.
**Olga Edna**  
(21 May 1902 – 20 April 1987)

From Fedora’s tape 1991: "Next to me came Olga. She worked at Harraps and she married Jock Ledingham. He was a Scotsman and they had one boy, John." Olga married Jock (Louis Grubb Ledingham) in 1928, and their son John was born in September 1931.

Gordon W Balstrup wrote in June 1996: “Jock Ledingham, who married Olga, was an insurance man and I saw him whenever he came to Melbourne.”

Their son John married Jill Waldron and they live in Newstead, Launceston.

Olga died in April 1988 and her ashes (and those of Jock who died in May 1948) are in Rose Garden B, no 24 at Carr Villa Cemetery.
Olga and Jock's wedding, with Urba as bridesmaid at Westbank, Sandhill

"Olga and I, Victoria" (I assume one of the sisters).
Urba Amanda
(19 May 1905 – 21 February 1977)

Urba was born in May 1905, just 7 months before her father’s death. Edna Holmes said in 2000 “My mother (Fryda) once told me she remembered her mother bathing the baby with tears running down her face.”

From Fedora’s tape 1991:

“The last one was Urba. She worked at the Marine Board. She married Joe Robilliard from Melbourne and of course she lived over in Melbourne and unfortunately Urba couldn’t have children, so they had one adopted boy, Leigh.”

Letter from Helen Ennis (daughter of Eva) in 2000:

“Urba was a tease, evidently one night Fedora was coming home and as she got off the Tram near their home there was a man (in a raincoat and hat) standing at the stop, he followed her home, even came through the front gate, she of course was terrified and ran up the long front pathway, pounding on the door to have it opened by Eva and Olga, much to her pique, laughing, because the MAN was Urba. Another occasion when one of the older girls was taking a bath Urba and Olga put a man’s hat on a mop and put it in a position so that the bather thought a man was looking through the window!”

Urba married Joe in November 1930 and they lived in Horsham, Victoria for a while, and in the 1970s Urba lived in 35 Parkers Road, Parkdale. She died in January 1977 and was cremated at Carr Villa Cemetery, Launceston.

Gordon W Balstrup wrote in June 1996: “Joe Robilliard ... was a bank manager. I remember visiting them at the bank building and residence at Yarram, Victoria.”

Urba and Joe

Joe and Betty Balstrup, taken in 1941.
Niels Christensen Balstrup

Peter's father Niels was born on 31 December 1814 at home in Ringsted, Soro Amt in Denmark, (on the island of Zealand). He was baptised in the Ringsted church on 12 February 1815, and then confirmed in the church at 1829. His father Christen Ulrichsen was a farmer, and his mother was Birthe Nielsdatter of Balstrup. Here's a bit of trivia - he was vaccinated for smallpox the 4 September 1818 by district surgeon Grabell in Ringsted.

Michelle Larsen (a distant relative through Magdalene Westh) has done extensive research during 2011 and has found the following about Niels:

In 1845 and 1850 the census shows he was living in the street Nørregade in København (Copenhagen), working as a servant for an innkeeper, Hans Jochumsen. Nørregade is in the parish of Vor Frue. He had left this address by 1855.

NAMING: The village name of 'Balstrup' was added to Niels' name by the Vestermarie parish minister when recording the births of Niels' children in the parish register. His village of origin would have been recorded after his name to identify him from any other Niels Christensens around the area and to state where he was from. The name, 'Niels Christensen Balstrup' basically means 'Niels, son of Christen, of Balstrup'. The name has stuck to his children and become a surname.

The name 'Kristensen/Christensen' is a patronymic name, not a surname, at least not at the time of Niels' birth. In 1828 the King decreed children should be given a family name (surname) at the time of their christening. Before this, most Danes had only christian names and a patronymic, such as 'Christensen/Christensdatter' meaning son of Christen/daughter of Christen. The parents could choose to make this new family name from the child's patronymic, his or her father's patronymic, the father's occupation, village of birth, farmname etc. This rule was very slow on the uptake in regional areas. In 1856 the King again declared that the chosen 'family name' was obligatory and was to be passed down through the generations.

Even before 1828 there were many Danish families who had inheritable family names. In the Balstrup family tree, examples of these are 'Keite', 'Westh/West/Vest', 'Piber' and 'Juel/Juul', although not everyone in the family may have these names recorded in official documents, particularly daughters, who were often just recorded with their patronymic. These kind of names can come from European heritage, or be farmnames, village names, descriptions of physical appearance, nicknames, occupation names etc that were relevant to the original bearer. The name 'Juel' is Christmas in Danish, the name 'West/Westh' (meaning 'West') seems to start with Peder Pedersen West, who may have needed to be distinguished from a Peder Pedersen who lived east of him (there was another Peder Pedersen in Vestermarie parish having children the same time as our Peder). West/Westh/Vest was a reasonably common name on Bornholm, much more so than the rest of Denmark, so either it was commonly used as
an identifier, or maybe there was a large clan of ancestrally related family on the island who used this name.

Finding a death or marriage in København is a massive task due to the amount of inner city parishes to search through. There is no index to these events, you have to search the actual parish registers (which are scanned and online).

It is quite possible Niels married and had other children. This might explain Peder Michael Balstrup's claims of having two brothers. If Niels did marry, it may have been in his local Vor Frue parish, and it would be worth checking the parish register for this, but if his wife was from a different parish, the marriage would more likely have been there.

Niels does not appear in the 1860 census for Ringsted township or the surrounding rural parish. This is a completely transcribed census, I believe.

Magdalene Judith Peddersdatter Westh

Magdalene (can be shortened to Malene) was born 22 Feb 1816 and in the baptised 10 March 1816 in the church at Vester Marie parish, Bornholm. Her parents were Peder Pedersen West (a tenant farmer) and Karen Larsdatter.

She is listed in the Census of 1840 in Vestermarie with her parents, brother Peder Olsen, and foster sister Kirstine Magrete. In the 1845 Census she is listed as a Weaver and is unmarried, living with her brother and his family (and her parents are also there) again in Vester Marie.

Michelle Larsen writes: The second census, also for 1850, shows Magdalene Judith Peddersdatter Westh, living in Vestermarie parish on Bornholm, with her 3 illegitimate children, Peder, Karen and Kristine and she also has her sister's son, Carl, with her. They are living with a day-labourer and his wife and son. Magdalene is making a living from sewing.

So you can see, Niels and Magdalene were not married, and they lived quite a long way from each other in different parts of Denmark. I wonder how they ever met? Magdalene must have gone on a couple of holidays to Copenhagen I think. Most women would have had to give up their children for fostering, so it shows me that Magdalene was a strong woman, capable of providing for herself and her children, she probably had strong support from her family and neighbours, and the expectation that Niels would marry her one day. And her first two children were twins! She was amazing!" (Email from Michelle 24/7/2011)

CENSUS: Bornholm, Vester, Vestermarie, Nordre Skole, , et Huus, 41, FT-1850

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Occupation in household:</th>
<th>Occupation:</th>
<th>Birthplace:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peder Larsen</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Gift</td>
<td>Huussfader, daglejer (head of house, day-labourer)</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gjertrud Kirstine Nielsdatter</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Gift</td>
<td>Hans kone</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Peder Larsen</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td>Deres søn</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
</tr>
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<td>Malene Judith Westh</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td>Iver af syning (living off sewing)</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peder Michael Balstrup</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td>Hendes uøgte søn (her illegitimate son)</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Malene Balstrup</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td>Hendes uøgte datter (her illegitimate dtr)</td>
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<td>Vestermarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristine Helene Balstrup</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td>Hendes spøsters søn som er i pleje hos hende (her sister's son who is in her care)</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
<td>Vestermarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Peter Westh</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ugift</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In the Census of 1860 Magdalene (now aged 44) continued to live in Vester Marie with her three children, and now another illegitimate daughter Laura has appeared. By the census of 1870, only Kristine and Laura remain, so Peder may already have started his travels by then as he would have been 19 years old (and his twin Karne/Karen may have already been married).
Your paternal grandmother and her parents

Emily Christina George

Pedigree Chart for
Emily Christina GEORGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Grandparents</th>
<th>Great-Grandparents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles George</td>
<td>George GEORGE</td>
<td>George GEORGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b: 14 Nov 1812 in Ratcliffe</td>
<td>b: 1769 in St George in The East, Stepney, Middlesex, England</td>
<td>b: Abl. 1740</td>
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<td>Highway, Stepney,</td>
<td>m: 20 Jan 1806 in St Thomas Church of England,</td>
<td>m:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middlesex, England</td>
<td>Portsmouth, Hampshire, England</td>
<td>d:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m: 09 Aug 1850 in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Chapel,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane St, Hobart,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania, Australia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d: 14 Feb 1808 in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launceston, Tasmania,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia; At his daughter's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Balstrup home,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Westbank&quot; Wellington Road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Christina GEORGE</td>
<td>Charlotte VALENTINE</td>
<td>Ann GEORGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b: 28 May 1860 in</td>
<td>b: United Kingdom</td>
<td>b: Abl. 1740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launceston, Tasmania,</td>
<td>d:</td>
<td>m:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td></td>
<td>d:</td>
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<tr>
<td>m: 24 May 1883 in</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d: 25 Aug 1926 in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launceston, Tasmania,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>James QUANTOCK</td>
<td>Ann Elizabeth QUANTOCK</td>
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<tr>
<td>b: 1794</td>
<td>b: Abl. 1829 in unknown</td>
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<tr>
<td>m:</td>
<td>d: 1866 in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>d: 25 Aug 1862 in</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Launceston, Tasmania,</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emily was born in Launceston on 28 May 1861 to Charles George and Ann Elizabeth (nee Quantock).

She had her first daughter Annie (Ann Elizabeth in January 1881) in Ringarooma (north east Tasmania) as an unmarried mother aged 19 years. At the time there were several other George’s living there (Thomas and Elizabeth and their children), so she may have gone there to have the baby (it is unknown if these were relatives though).

Billie Eastoe (Fedora’s daughter) records:

"One of the saddest stories was about the time after their father’s death (in 1905), when their mother decided that a farm would be an ideal place for her to bring up so many children on her own. Owing to an unscrupulous bank manager and an equally unscrupulous landowner, she went into partnership on the property "Pardoe" at East Devonport. The family seems to have had some happy times whilst living there, with a beach bordering the property, and the younger children attending the Wesley Vale school, but financially it was a disaster, as the property was heavily in debt to the bank before they even moved there. It was because of that the boys, Gordon and Viv, went interstate looking for employment. The family eventually returned to Launceston, after spending some time in East Devonport, having lost everything. Mr Peter Anderson, who had been helped financially by Peder Balstrup, to start his furniture business in Paterson Street, purchased "Westbank" so that their Mother could spend the rest of her days there. He was also a Dane and a great friend of the family. Mont and Fryda helped to keep the family during the hard times, and their mother received a very small pension of two pounds in compensation for the death of Gordon during the War."

Her sister Isabella (Mrs Pearson) also lived in Launceston, and had a corner shop in Wellington Street.
By September 1917 she was living at 113 Canning Rd, Launceston then but moved to “Westbank” 328 Wellington Rd, Sandhill by September 1922 (the house bought for her by Peter Anderson).

Information from Fedora Mills: possible relation may be Anne George, cousin of Lloyd George, PM of Britain (although I haven’t found any evidence of this).

Emily had diabetes and died from complications after injuring her leg whilst gardening (with a garden stake) (it was amputated). Fedora (her daughter) wrote that she was the first person in Launceston to try the newly discovered insulin injections.

She died on 25 August 1926, and is buried at Carr Villa Memorial Park, Launceston, Tasmania.
Charles George

From Fedora Mills' tape: "Mother's father was Welsh*. He was a soldier sent out to escort the gold from Ballarat and Bendigo to Melbourne. On the way out one of the convicts (there were convicts on the ship, of course) was caught boring a hole in the side of the ship. Luckily they got him in time. After that he came to Launceston to live and he came to live with Mother at the Sandhill where they then lived. The boys used to call him Wum, I don't know why."

* Charles' death registration actually states he was born in England (not Wales), and my research shows that Charles was born on the Ratcliff Highway (I assume adjacent to it anyway), Stepney (central London) in England in November 1812., and he was christened at St George in The East, Stepney, London.

He married Ann (in 1850) when he was 37 in the Independent Chapel, Brisbane Street, Hobart. On his marriage certificate his occupation is listed as "Mariner".

Fedora's information about his being a gold escort is a bit confusing as he married Ann Quantock in 1850 in Hobart, and the Ballarat/Bendigo gold rushes were from 1851 - 1860. So it is possible that he actually did this after he married, as their first child (Francis) wasn't born until 1856. I have found a Charles George born in London who volunteered for the Royal Navy in October 1867.

Gold Escort, Ballarat 1853  Courtesy of the La Trobe Collection, State Library of Victoria
In 1882 he is listed as a “Cabman” (on his wife Ann’s death certificate), and on his own death registration he is listed as a “Letter Carrier”.

As yet I haven’t found any records of him anywhere in Australia around these times (census records or electoral rolls).

Charles and Ann had five children, their only son Francis (1856-1860), Isabella (b 1859, m Thomas Pearson, d 1927), Emily Christina, Ann Elizabeth (b 1863, m James Summers) and Alice Mary (b 1869).

Charles spent his last years living with his daughter Emily and Peter Balstrup, and died in February 1898 at their home in Wellington Road, Launceston.

Charles’ parents were George George (Butcher) and Charlotte Valentine. At the time of their marriage in January 1806, George was listed as a widower (his first wife Ann had died in 1805), they had a daughter Mary b 1809 and another son George George (it DOES get a little confusing!) b 1810. All were christened at St Georges in the East, Stepney, London. George (Snr) was listed at the time of his first marriage as a bachelor of the Portsmouth Division of Marines.
Ann Elizabeth Quantock

You can see from Charlie’s and Ann’s marriage registration that a William Quantock and Elizabeth Quantock were witnesses. I can only presume that these are relatives: either Ann’s parents, siblings, or a brother and his wife.

All I know about Ann is that she died from stomach cancer in August 1882 (at her home in Balaklava Street, Newtown, Launceston). Unfortunately neither her marriage nor death certificates state her place of birth, nor her age. The only clue is that at the time of her marriage in 1850, she was “of full age” ie at least 21 years old, so she was born by 1829.

The only other Quantock in Tasmania at the time was James Quantock – a convict, but there is no evidence to say that he is Ann’s father, in fact he was transported for 15 years in 1844. There are Quantocks listed in Victoria, but the dates don’t line up with Ann.