

In Search of My Ancestors

John Fall

Technical Data

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The final text was converted to PDF format and processed
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Acknowledgements

Much of the material for this volume was drawn from two previous volumes that I wrote some time ago:

The Rumble Family Register, 1994
The Pot of Gold - The Autobiography of John Fall, 1998

Other major sources for my Chinese ancestry have been:

Guy Duncan: The Lives of John Hochee and John Fullerton Elphinstone, 2003
Peter Morris Jones: Family History, 2000

Both Guy and Peter are my third cousins.

Other members within the family who have assisted me are my second cousin Henry Knight and his daughter, Alexandra.

Andrew Williams - my second cousin removed by one generation was involved in discovering some family members, as outlined at the beginning of the book.

Within the Rumble family I was assisted by Mark Rumble and Michael Rumble and by Joyce, Joseph and Frances Rumble. Their relationship to me is shown in the chart on page 85.

Brenda Rohl, my first cousin removed by one generation, made a substantial research contribution when I was collecting material for the Rumble Family Register

I am also indebted to the Long Buckby Local History Society - and especially to Phil Davis - for early maps and photographs of Long Buckby village and for general background. This helped me enormously with putting together a more complete outline of the life of George Fall, my father's father.

As always, my wife Kay has been of constant help in checking and proof-reading the material.

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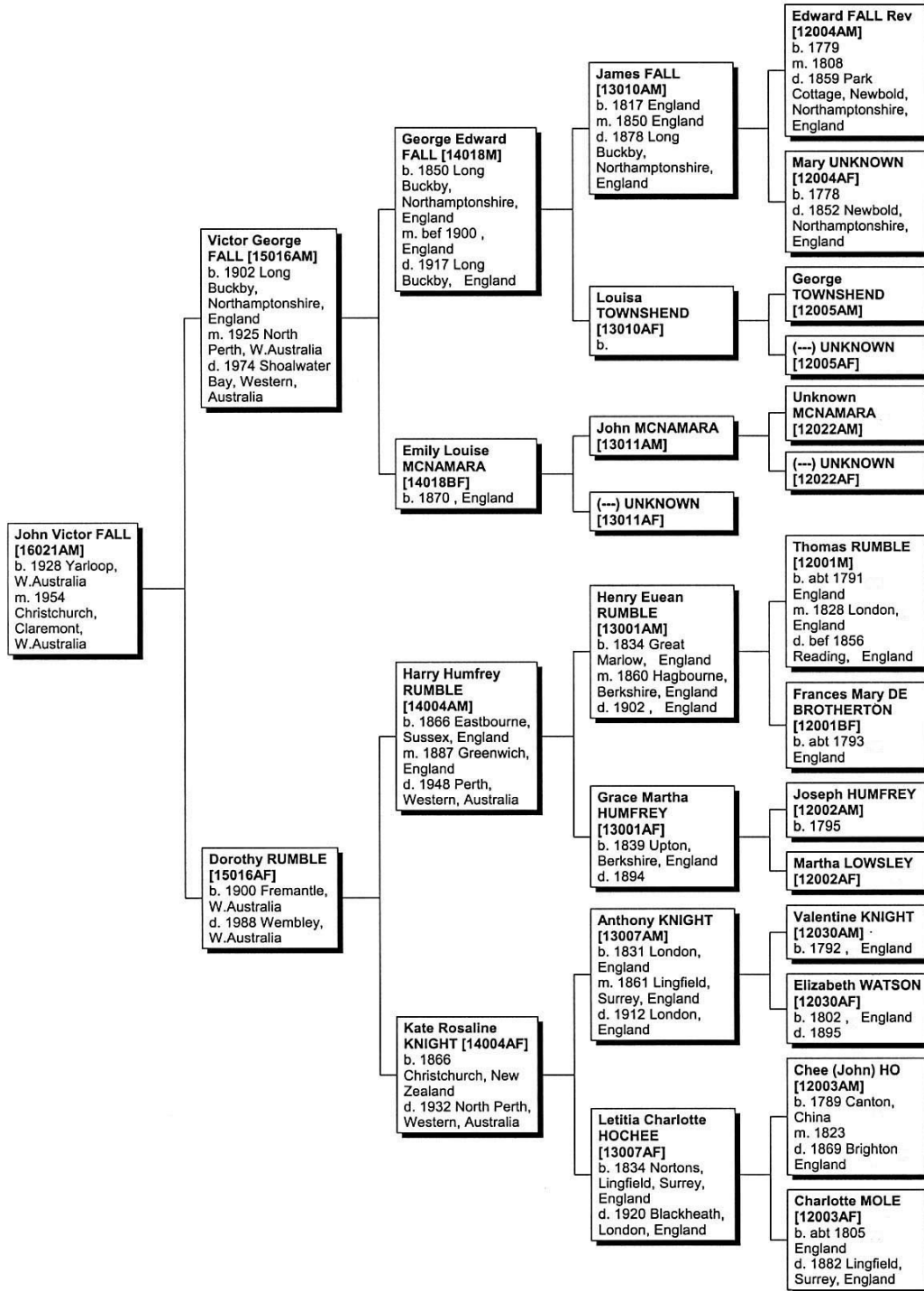
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*In Search
of
My Ancestors*

John Fall

Ancestors of John Victor FALL



There are many reasons why I decided to search for my ancestors. Between 1958 and 1960 I spent some time in Britain, and sought out the gravestones of a few of my forebears; I have portraits and photos of grandfathers, great-grandfathers and even of a great-great grandfather. My mother spoke of my Chinese ancestry, while my father told me of a great-great grandfather, the Reverend Edward Fall, a Baptist minister in Rugby, who was known as the “Silver tongued.”

Of course, with a minimum of information it is possible to draw a chart of one’s ancestors, as I have done on the preceding page - but this tells us nothing about the people apart from where they fit in the family.

On the left in the chart, we start with myself and then my parents, Victor Fall and Dorothy Rumble, while on the right we have my great-great grandparents. In a few cases - for the Knights and the Humfreys - I can trace back to earlier generations. Excluding myself, this chart could include thirty ancestors but, unfortunately, we do not have details for them all.

But as orderly and as attractive as this chart may be, it is not how we actually find our ancestors. It is too logical, and too neatly laid out. In reality we find them by following leads from various sources - from family records, letters, old photos, census records and even from family folklore passed on by word of mouth.

We find items of “truth”, record them, and then our search changes course; or we find new leads which sometimes lead to contradictions and the need to revise our “truth”.

The search I am about to present, is not orderly but will twist and turn. Although I started half-heartedly in the 1950s, and then tackled it earnestly from 1989 onward, there is no better way to illustrate the random path of progress than to start with Andy Williams, a second cousin of mine, removed by one generation, and whom I did not discover until 2002.



Found in Andy Williams' Attic: Left to right - Elizabeth Watson 12030AF (b1802) who married Valentine Knight 12030AM, her son Anthony Knight 13007AM (b1831), his daughter Mary Knight 14001AF (b~1872) who married Herbert Rumble 14001AM, and their daughter Lottie Rumble 15001AF (b1893). My grandmother Kate Knight was Mary's sister, while Kate's husband was Harry Humfrey Rumble, brother of Herbert Rumble

FOUR GENERATIONS

