

AUSTRALIAN WAUGH FAMILY SOCIETY

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Dear Fellow Members,

It is pleasing to note that our society remains intact with continuing communication and members actively doing research. I have provided contact details of members to a number of others so they can link up and I hope the network we have stays intact until there is enough momentum to organize another reunion.

Recently, in August, Noela Joyce and her husband Colin were passing (at an event nearby) Bangalow and they have been researching the John Oxley connection to the family. Noela is a great-great-grand daughter of "Aussie" William Waugh she is also the niece of Monica Sjudgen nee Waugh whose story follows in a later section of this newsletter.

In 2004 one of our family members, Alexander Waugh, wrote a book "Fathers and Sons: The Autobiography of a Family" and while it gives most readers an insight into the lives of those they know as literary authors it will give members of the extended family an insight into the gene pool we share, and let us wonder how much is reflected in the mirror. The characters in his book are our family members and some of their life story can also be found in the "History of the Waugh's" the book created for the 1996 reunions.

The review below comes from The Age newspaper written by Ian Cummins.

Charles Dickens' publisher, Arthur Waugh, of the venerable firm Chapman and Hall, used to maintain that "with a thorough knowledge of the Bible, Shakespeare and Wisden's Cricketing Almanac you cannot go far wrong".

At least two Australian Waughs merit their place in Wisden, but the very English Arthur and his male descendants are the chief subject of Alexander Waugh's splendid and often very funny memoir of at least four generations of a long-established literary dynasty.

As the author of three of the finest novels set in World War II, the Sword of Honour trilogy, and such masterpieces as A Handful of Dust and Scoop, Evelyn Waugh is probably the best-known member of this family. His older brother Alec (1898-1981), whom Evelyn overshadowed, is credited with having invented the cocktail party in 1924. After an early success, Alec's career as a novelist languished until he struck gold in 1956 with Island in the Sun, which, after a tepid initial reception in Britain, succeeded spectacularly in the US, being made into a film.

Brideshead Revisited, begun in the year after Arthur Waugh's death, emerged from what Evelyn described as "a bleak period of present privation and threatening disaster - the period of soya beans and Basic English".

Suffused with nostalgia for past beauty threatened by modern vandalism, the novel is written in a rich, tea-cake prose. His father's melancholia had been brief and soon relieved, but Evelyn's were deeper seated and longer lasting, reflected in The Ordeal of Gilbert Pinfold (1957). By this stage Septimus, the last of Evelyn's seven children had been born and, Alexander Waugh remarks, "was treated with the extravagant indulgence usually shown by rich old American women for their chihuahuas".

Such tolerance had not been extended to his first-born son, Auberon ("Bron"), whom he threatened to remove from boarding school and pack off to Australia with a one-way ticket. Though dismissed by his

father as "lazy but not very stupid", it was Bron who maintained the Waugh family's literary traditions, as novelist, journalist, founder of *The Literary Review* and frequent contributor to *Private Eye*.

Evelyn rejoiced in his son's literary success but he was hardly a benign paterfamilias. In 1954, he had written to Nancy Mitford: "Of children as of procreation - the pleasure is momentary, the posture ridiculous, the expense damnable."

Not only did he fail to visit Bron when he was seriously wounded in a machine-gun accident during his National Service in Cyprus in 1958 (Laura, Bron's mother, flew out immediately and greatly aided his recovery), but he also sought to avoid attending Bron's wedding to the blue-blooded Teresa Onslow in 1961.

He planned instead to go to a society wedding that same day between Viscount Enchcombe and the absurdly named Countess Claudine Maria Olga Columba Fidelis von Mountjoy-Vaufrey et de la Roche of Vienna.

In the event, he was prevailed upon by Laura to attend the marriage of Bron and Teresa on what turned out to be the hottest day of the year. He felt uncomfortable and embarked on a purgatorial diet immediately after.

This precipitated a long decline, accompanied by a deep depression (occasioned partly by his dismay over the new Catholic liturgy), which was to hound him to an early grave.

It is not surprising that Bron was to declare dieting to be "public health enemy No. 1", a view much of a piece with his contention that "politics is for social and emotional misfits. It may be lovely for bossy people who like deciding how the rest of us should live, but it is hell for those at the receiving end." His liberal anarchist stance on politics extended to his philosophy of fatherhood and his belief that good behaviour is best learnt by example rather than by orders and instructions.

As its title suggests, *Fathers and Sons* is concerned primarily with the male side of the Waugh family. Evelyn's mother would have preferred him to be a furniture designer, since "furniture is so useful".....

How are we all related? Evelyn is the first cousin twice removed of "Aussie Alexander Waugh and the first cousin thrice removed of "Aussie" William Waugh. And if that confuses you, and I expect it should, I have added a family history chart allowing you to work out the lineage to Evelyn and how the Australian Waugh's are related. I will try to put a more detailed list of the descendants of Thomas Waugh on the website at <http://www.cottonsoft.com.au/waugh/>

1. **Thomas Waugh, b. 1706** (son of Adam Waugh and Janet Tuntar), 1783. m. **Margaret Johnston.**

(This Thomas is the ancestor to all of the "family" that makes up the Australian Waugh Family Society.

The name is something of a misnomer because we have members and rather close relatives in both the UK and the USA. The list below is edited leaving out many lines of the family. The intention is to show how those mentioned in "Fathers and Sons: The Autobiography of a Family" relate to the rest of us and where they occur in the family tree).

Children:

2. i. Elizabeth Waugh b. 1740.
3. ii. **Thomas Waugh b. 1750.** (It is from this Thomas that we get the "Aussie" William Waugh line)
4. iii. **Alexander Waugh DD b. 1754.**

3. **Thomas Waugh, b. 1750** d. 1820 m Isabella Crosbie,

Children:

- i. Margaret Waugh, b. 179? in St Boswells,
- ii. Isabella Waugh, b. 1796 in St Boswells,
- iii. John Waugh, b. 1 Jan 1798 in St Boswells,
- iv. Janet Waugh, b. 15 Jun 1801 in St Boswells.
- v. Alexander Waugh, b. 25 Jan 1803 .
- vi. Elizabeth Waugh, b. 8 May 1806 .
- A vii. **William Waugh (Aussie)** b. 7 Feb 1808.
- viii. Alison Waugh, b. 16 Aug 1810 in St Boswells.

A. **William Waugh (Aussie)**, b. 7 Feb 1808, d. JAN 1854 in Newcastle. m. Frances Oxley Thorpe, (daughter of John Joseph William Molesworth Oxley and Charlotte Jane Thorpe),

- i. Jeannette Ann Waugh, b. 25 Jan 1838 in Nelson's Plains NSW, d. 4 Sep 1921 in Tenterfield.
- ii. Thomas Waugh b. 1841.
- iii. Isabella Johnstone Waugh b. 1844.
- iv. John Oxley Waugh b. 1847.
- v. Alexander William Waugh b. 1850.

4. **Alexander Waugh DD, b. 1754**, d. 1827 in London. m. Mary Neill,

- Children:*
- i. Thomas Waugh, b. 1787, d. 1864. m. Elizabeth Walker.
 - B ii. *William Waugh (Wealthy William)* b. 1788.
 - iii. John Waugh, b. 1789, d. 1833.
 - iv. Margaret Waugh, b. 1791, d. 1865. m. Robert Home.
 - v. Mary Easton Waugh, b. 1792, d. 1866. m. Thos Underwood.
 - vi. Alexander Waugh, b. 1795, d. 1824. m. Louisa Gordan
 - C vii. *James Hay Waugh* b. 1797.
 - viii. Jeanne Neil Waugh, b. 1799, d. 1830.
 - ix. George Waugh b. 1801.
 - x. Elisabeth Waugh ("Aunt Young") b. 1803.

B. *William Waugh (Wealthy William)*, b. 1788, d. 1866. m. Ann Harvey

Children:

- i. William Neill Waugh, b. 1813 in England, d. 1881.
- ii. **Alexander Waugh (Aussie)** b. 1814.
- iii to xvi. (Yes another 14 children that I have not listed here)

C. *James Hay Waugh, b. 1797 d. 1885.* m. Sarah S. Symes,

Children:

- i. Annie Symes Waugh, b. ABT 1830 in England. m. J T A Swan.
- ii. Mary Elizabeth Waugh, b. ABT 1831 England. m. Edmund May.
- iii. James Charles Waugh, b. 1832 in England, d. 1883.

D. *Dr Alexander Waugh MD* b. 1840.

Generation Four

Alexander Waugh (Aussie), b. 1814 in England, d. 1894. m (1) Isabella Grieve Smith, m (2) Elizabeth Gallone,

Children by Isabella Grieve Smith:

i. Elizabeth Annie I G Waugh, b. 1839 in England, d. 1919

Children by Elizabeth Gallone:

- ii. William Alex Harvey Waugh, b. 1849, d. 1901. m. Lucy Symonds Nicholas,
- iii. William Napier REEVE Waugh, b. 1853, d. 1945. m. Marie (MOLLIE) Caroline Schrader.
- iv. William (Will) Waugh, b. 1854, d. 1924. m. (1) Rosa Spencer, m. (2) Nellie Johnston,
- v. Mary (Manie) Waugh, b. 17 Feb 1857, d. 1943. m. Charles Spencer
- vi. John Neill Jamieson (JACK) Waugh, b. 1859, d. 1944 m. Louisa Schrader
- vii. Eva Alexandra Waugh, b. 1863, d. 1956. m. Fredrick (Frank) G Panton.
- viii. Laura Elizabeth Waugh, b. 23 Jun 1865, d. 1957. m. Frank Robinson
- ix. Alexander Gordon Waugh, b. 1867. He married Francis Nicholas.
- x. Francis Neill Waugh, b. 1878.

D. *Dr Alexander Waugh MD*, b. 1840 England, d. 1906 m. Annie Gosse Morgan, b. 1837 d. 1908

Children:

- * i. *Arthur Waugh*, b. 24 Aug 1866 d. 28 Jun 1943 in London. m. Catherine Charlotte Raban.
- ii. Constance Ethel Waugh, b. 1870 in Midsomer Norton.
- iii. John (Alick) Alexander Waugh, b. 1871, d. 1900. He married Florence Webster, d. 1932.
- iv. Beatrice Helen Waugh, b. 1872.
- v. Elspeth Alice Waugh, b. 1875, d. 1952 in Midsomer Norton.

* Arthur was the father of Evelyn and his brother Alec and Auberon (Bron) was Evelyn's son.

Nancy Fox has sent information about of the life of her sister Monica. Previously we have read the story of three of her brothers

Eric Thomas Waugh 20 4/1914 – 10/10/2007,

John Phillip Waugh 15/2/1917 – 25/11/2007

Albert Mackenzie Oxley Waugh 21/3/1927 – 5/8/2008

Each of the letters from Nancy has been a wonderful reminder of the changes that have taken place in the space of a lifetime.

"Aussie" William Waugh married Frances Oxley Thorpe (the daughter of John Oxley), one of their sons, John Oxley Waugh married Elizabeth Muir and their son Gordon Lindsay Waugh who married Matilda Hurt (after whom the song *Waltzing Matilda* is named) are the parents of Nancy, Monica and their three brothers mentions above.

Monica Kathleen Waugh 28/4/1924 – 3/11/2010

Monica Waugh was the 5th child of Gordon and Matilda Waugh, she was a great great granddaughter of John Joseph William Molesworth Oxley, surveyor-general of N.S.W. from 1812. Oxley's grandparents were the 4th. Viscount Molesworth and his wife Isobel.

Monica was born in Tenterfield on 28th April 1924. They lived at Mt. Mackenzie, Tenterfield. She was a chubby baby, nicknamed "Bub". I remember as a toddler she was often seen in the garden in the nude. She attended school in Tenterfield, firstly travelling in the sulky with her brothers and sister (3½ miles), then later by

bicycle. General education was not to her liking so her parents enrolled her in a shorthand/ typing course at St. Joseph's Convent in Tenterfield, until reaching the age of 14 years - the school leaving age. Her first employment was waitress at The Black and White Cafe owned by Jack Coombs, in Rouse Street, next to the National Bank. With a friendly disposition and an outgoing personality she soon became a respected member in the community.

About this time WW11 began - Monica was then employed by Audrey Shearston in her Coffee Inn in Rouse Street and later in her "Petals" florist shop - Monica eventually became the owner. She attended a short course in floral art in Glen Innes.

Monica joined the W.A.N.S. - a voluntary organization - as I did. We were on duty roster in a canteen at night to serve the soldiers with hamburgers, tea/coffee, when on leave to attend dances and theatre entertainments. Our daytime chores in a different shop involved odd jobs for soldiers such as providing cups of tea/coffee, mending clothes or just a friendly chat. Army personnel provided us with physical culture, drill, training in motor mechanics and driving lessons. We had signed to enter a war zone if necessary.

Thankfully this didn't eventuate. Monica earned the rank of sergeant.

After the war Monica assisted with work on the farm such as dairying, and ploughing the land for the men to sow crops. This was about the time when we had a very successful Mt. Mackenzie tennis club in which she played. She participated in other sport in town. Attending movies and dances were a pleasure. Later she was employed by friends at The Locomotive Hotel in West Tamworth. Her marriage to Frederick Arthur Sugden - a soldier - took place in Tenterfield. Their children were Julie, Vicki, John and Lynne, Fred worked at the Wallangarra Army Base and in various places, at one stage owning a garage for a few years, finally moving to Stanthorpe for a short stay and then on to

Sydney. Here Monica led a busy life. At her home she wired electric motors for Fred's brother Alan. She worked at the TAFT factory making life jackets. She cared for the elderly at Woodbury Village in Baulkham Hills, and on the kitchen staff at Westmead Hospital delivering meals to the patients. After all this it was time to retire.

Fred passed away in 1995 and Monica enjoyed the company of her loyal friends in Sydney until she moved back to Tenterfield in 1998, to join her family. Here she enjoyed life taking part in local affairs and caring for her pets and gardening. In later years she did not enjoy good health. A heart attack in 1978 had left her with heart and kidney problems thereafter. A broken hip prevented her from driving her car. Unable to live alone she decided to enter Millrace aged care hostel. This is where a second hip was broken - unable to be repaired. On entering Haddington Nursing Home she is nursed in a bed-ridden capacity, receiving physiotherapy exercises etc. from a friendly caring staff. Her personality and memory has never changed and is happy to converse with family & friends. Monica passed away 3rd November 2010.



If anyone has been to the National Library or is considering visiting Canberra there is a Waugh family folder with information the reference is "Bib ID 526245; Manuscript & the author is Waugh Family". I wonder if the contents are worth copying. If anyone knows about it can you let me know.

All the best for the coming festive season

Neville Maloney

Dec 2010

"The History of the Waugh's" CD is still available. It can all be printed out and it can all be edited by you so you can update your line information at anytime in the future. The full version is also available online at <http://www.cottonsoft.com.au/waugh/>

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Use this form or simply send a letter to order the "The History of the Waugh's" CD

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