The Forsters of Warenford and Berwick

First Generation

1. Mark Forster
   
   The borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed from the sixteenth century down to the Reform Acts seems to have been ruled by an oligarchy, which shared its fat things, and, through the mediation of their two members of Parliament, procured for their son's appointments and commissions in Church and State, especially in the Army. In that oligarchy, during the late seventeenth and into the eighteenth century, a branch of the prolific family of Forster was prominent. Owing to circumstances to be mentioned later, nearly every member of that family can be accounted for until its representative, in the middle of the nineteenth century, abandoned the Old for the New World.

   The first of the family, so far as is known, was Mark Forster, who is stated to have taken a conveyance, 26 April, 1551, of lands in Warenford. He was dead before 1567, when his widow's second husband, Thomas Franche was in possession of the property during the "nonage of Cuthbert Forster his wif's sonne". (Hodgson)

   "Where you read a reference by Hodgson you will note it has been extracted from a paper "Berwick Burgal Families: Forster of Berwick and of Warenford", by J.C. Hodgson, M.A that was written at the instigation of a fellow-member, Mr T.B. Short, who supplied much of the material on which it is based from the law papers, in his possession, in the suit in which Captain Matthew Forster R.N., of Berwick, circa 1821, succeeded in establishing his claim to be the heir-at-law of the real Estate of Thomas Forster of Alnwick and Warenford as the third cousin once removed.

   Mark had the following children:

   2. M i. Cuthbert Forster was born in 1550 and died in 1621

Second Generation

2. Cuthbert Forster (Mark) was born in 1550 and died in 1621
   
   There can be little doubt that this Cuthbert Forster was he who, in 1592, purchased property at Beadnell which, by deed of gift dated 28 May, 1615, under the description of Cuthbert Forster, late of North Charlton but then of Warenford, granted to his Matthew Forster (1) of Charlton, eldest son of the grantors eldest son Thomas Forster of Charlton, "for his better maintenance, alimentation, education in learning, and preferment in marriage. (Hodgson)

   Cuthbert had the following children:

   3. M i. Thomas Forster was born in 1575 and died in 1623

Third Generation
3. **Thomas Forster** (Cuthbert, Mark) was born in 1575 and died in 1623

Thomas Forster, by deed dated 3 May, 1623, gave property in Warenford and Charlton to his son Matthew and grandson Cuthbert. The Christian name of Matthew’s wife was Isabella. (Hodgson)

In 1665, Thomas Forster built a house there (Warenford). His initials and those of his wife, Eleanor, are caved on the door head along "with a shield bearing the Forster Arms, a Chevron between three Bugles," the motto "Redde Diem" and the date, 1665. When the house was pulled down this door head was built into the wall of the old-fashioned garden. (Joe Forster)

Thomas married Eleanor Muschamp, daughter of Eleanor Heron (daughter of Margaret Forster [who, in turn, was the daughter of Sir Thomas Forster IV of Etherstone] and Sir George Heron of Chipchase Castle) and Oswald Muschamp.

**NOTE:** See 'The Forsters of Adderstone and Bamburgh', #74 in the Seventh Generation of that line.

Thomas and Eleanor had the following children:

4. **Matthew Forster**

Matthew Forster died in 1640

Matthew and Isabella Forster were the parents of Cuthbert Forster, ancestor of the Forsters of Warenford and of Alnwick, and of Ralph Forster the Berwick Apprentice. (Hodgson)

They had the following children:

5. **Cuthbert Forster** was born before 1623

6. **Ralph Forster** was born in 1624 and was buried on 6 March, 1667

**Fourth Generation**

4. **Matthew Forster** (Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) died in 1640

Matthew and Isabella Forster were the parents of Cuthbert Forster, ancestor of the Forsters of Warenford and of Alnwick, and of Ralph Forster the Berwick Apprentice. (Hodgson)

They had the following children:

5. **Cuthbert Forster** was born before 1623

6. **Ralph Forster** was born in 1624 in Warenford, Northumberland, England and was buried on 6 March 1667 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

**Fifth Generation**

5. **Cuthbert Forster** (Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born before 1623

He had the following children:

7. **Thomas Forster**

6. **Ralph Forster** (Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in 1624 in Warenford, Northumberland, England and was buried on 6 March 1667 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England
On the 4 Sep 1640 there came to Berwick, as an apprentice to Thomas Watson, burgess and merchant, a boy named Ralph Forster, described as the son of Matthew Forster (1) of Warenford, gentleman, deceased. He was apprenticed for seven years, and the indenture was enrolled in the books of the Guild on the 7 Sep 1640. On the expiration of his apprenticeship, he was admitted, 19 Jan 1648/49, to the freedom of the borough.

The sunny hamlet whence the boy issued is situated in the same parish as, and only a short distance from Adderstone, from which house all pedigree-loving Forsters claim to spring. The place takes its name from the Waren burn, rising in the township of Warenton on the confines of Chatton parish, and crossed at Warenford, by the Great North Road.

If Ralph Forster was sixteen years of age when he was apprenticed to Thomas Watson, he must have been born circa 1624. After establishing himself in business at Berwick, he married 26 June 1651, Anna, daughter of William Temple of Berwick. He never attained mayorality, and was buried 6 Mar 1667. (Hodgson)

Ralph married Anna Temple on 26 June, 1651

They had the following children:

8. M i. Matthew Forster was born in 1654 and died on 26 February, 1728

9. M ii. Ralph Forster was christened on 12 October, 1658 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

10. M iii. Charles Forster was christened on 16 March 1660/1661 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

Charles was living 1674. (Hodgson)

11. M iv. William Forster was christened on 16 February, 1663/1664 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

William was apprenticed 6 November, 1680 to his brother Matthew, and admitted a burgess 21 July, 1699. (Hodgson)

12. F v. Isabel Forster was christened on 23 July, 1652 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and was buried on 10 May, 1654 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

13. F vi. Anna Forster was christened on 6 November, 1656 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

14. F vii. Eleanor Forster was christened in July, 1666 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

Sixth Generation

7. Thomas Forster (Cuthbert, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Thomas married Jane Forster in 1705

Jane Forster was the daughter of Ralph Forster and also sister of Matthew Forster (baptised 1654 and buried 1729). Jane's grandfather, also named Ralph Forster, was the younger brother of Cuthbert Forster whose son Thomas Forster she married in 1705.
Thomas and Jane had the following children:

15. M  i. Thomas Forster was christened in July 1709 and was buried in 1769

8. Matthew Forster (Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 16 September, 1654 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and died on 26 February, 1728 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. He was buried on 2 March, 1728 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England.

Matthew Forster (2) was baptised, 16 September, 1654, as son of "Ralph Forster, burgis," and was admitted to the freedom of the borough, 22 October, 1680, as eldest son of the Ralph Forster, burgess. Under the will (dated 17 Jul 1674) of his maternal grandmother, Anna, widow of William Temple, who had married secondly, 6 August, 1642, Henry Ord, he took on his mothers death one-fourth part of "the fishery on Tweed called New Water," in tail male. He was Mayor in 1712 and 1714, being popularly called Justice Forster, and was buried 1728/9.

"24 Feb 1728. Will of Matthew Forster of Berwick, alderman. I give to my wife Stg30 per annum out of my lands in Humbleton and Wooler. My brother in law William Pratt. I give to my daughter, Ann wife of Mr. William Forster Stg100. My daughter Mary, wife of William Shell. My daughter Elizabeth. Their legacies to be paid out of my corn tithes of Spittle and Tweedmouth, my farms of Aymerside-law (sic), the Lee-closes, and the Intake in the parish of Chatton. I give to my only son Matthew Forster my fisheries of New Water or Annoside, Abstell, and the Boat-holes, my copyhold land in Tweedmouth, etc. My Mother-in-law, Mary Colles, widow. My wife Anne, and my said son executors. Seal armorial, a chevron between three bugles. Proved 4 April, 1730.

The record of his marriage has not been found. It may have taken place in Scotland. His wife's name was Anne, and both she and her mother Mary Colles are named in his will. (Hodgson)

Owner of a tannery business (Matthew Forster)

Matthew married Anne Colles

They had the following children:

16. F  i. Hannah Forster was christened on 1 October, 1699

17 M  ii. Matthew Forster was christened on 15 December, 1700 and died on 4 July, 1748

18. F  iii. Mary Forster was christened on 24 November 1702. Mary married William Shell on 21 April, 1725 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. William was born in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

19. F  iv. Elizabeth Forster was christened on 8 December, 1706

20. F  v. Anne Forster. Anne married William Forster

21. M  vi. John Forster was christened on 20 January, 1712 and was buried on 20 July, 1712

Seventh Generation
15. **Thomas Forster** (Thomas, Cuthbert, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened in July, 1709 and was buried in 1769

Thomas married Catherine Whitehead on 20 August, 1741. Catherine died in 1802.

They had the following children:

22. **M i.** Thomas Forster was born in October, 1742 and died in 1743

23. **M ii.** Thomas Forster was born in 1743/1746 and died on 13 October, 1813

Thomas Forster of Alnwick and Warenford died intestate and without issue on 13 Oct 1813. An eccentric often heard to say that he had no heirs, would leave no will, and that his property would go to the crown, or to 'the blacks' in Westminster Hall. It was his property comprising houses in Narrowgate, Alnwick, and lands at Warenford and at Beadnell, the hay tithe of the township of Lucker, a moiety of the corn tithes of Lyham in the parish of Chatton, which Capt. Matthew Forster succeeded in establishing his title as heir-at-law being the third cousin once removed. Admitted as a freeman of Berwick 1773

24. **M iii.** Ralph Forster was christened on 1 February 1744 and died without issue

25. **M iv.** Henry Forster was born in 1751.

26. **F v.** Jane Forster who died without issue and was mentioned in her father's will

17. **Matthew Forster** (Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 15 December, 1700 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and died on 4 July, 1748 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

Matthew Forster (3) baptised 15 Dec 1700, as son of Matthew Forster, burgess and merchant, was admitted to the freedom of the borough 16 Mar 1721, by patrimony. He was no doubt at the Grammar School of his native town, under John Scott and James Nelson, successive masters, and at the famous University of Leyden - where so many eminent surgeons have studied, - being admitted 27 Oct 1719.

He married, at Tweedmouth. 3 June 1729, Margery, daughter of William Cooper of Berwick, surgeon, and of East Ord; the articled before marriage being dated 13 May 1729. She was aunt of Sir Grey Cooper, barrister-at-law, a Privy Councillor, and prominent politician of his time, who revived in his person the dormant Nova Scotia baronetcy of Cooper of Gogor. She died a Berwick, 1 Apr 1787, in the house in which she had resided for fifty years.

Dr Forster, who was Mayor in 1742, died 4 Jul 1748, receiving the following eulogium in a local periodical:

"On the 4th inst (Jul 1748 died) at Berwick, universally lamented, Matthew Forster, Esq., M.D. In his profession he was eminent, having studied under the best masters of this or any other age, and his improvements were accordingly such as from the greatest natural abilities might be expected. By an early acquaintance with antiquity, he was perfectly knowing in the history and progress of the Arts of Physic, and thereby enabled to render experience of remotest ages subservient to his own. A great promoter and encourager also works of ingenuity and liberal studies; a lover of all good man and a detractor from no mans virtue but his own. In the love of his country 'a patriot heart'; and in other relations what became so nobly touched. Of a goodness indefatigable, and a charity to relieve the miserable yet more extensive than his abilities, under the influence of which his practice was constantly guided, rather than by interest of worldly honour. Of a Roman spirit, patient in the difficulties and sufferings himself underwent; yet of a women's softness in his compassion towards those of others. In his ordinary conversation affable and modest; in his more private, open and generous, lively and instructive. In a word, the poor in him have lost a kind helper and support, his acquaintance an..."
industrious benefactor, the society a worthy and useful member, and mankind a friend". Newcastle General Magazine for 1748, p 383.

"18 May 1747. Will of Matthew Forster of Berwick, MD. I give all my estates to William Cooper of Newcastle, MD and Joseph Watson of Berwick, Esq., to pay my debts, and for the benefit of my three sons, Matthew, William and George Forster, now under age. I give to my wife Margery my plate, etc. She executrix. Proved 1750. (Hodgson)

Matthew married Margery Cooper on 3 June, 1729 in Tweedmouth. Margery died on 1 April, 1787 and was buried in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England.

They had the following children:

27. M i. Matthew Forster was christened on 21 April, 1730 and died on 16 June, 1798
28. M ii. William Cooper Forster was born in 1731
29. F iii. Margery Forster was christened on 6 September, 1733
30. M iv. George Forster was christened on 27 November, 1735 and died on 15 June, 1798

Eighth Generation

27. Matthew Forster (Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 21 April, 1730 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. He died on 16 June, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. He was buried on 20 June, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England.

Matthew Forster (4), son and heir, was baptised 21 Apr 1730, and was admitted to the freedom of the borough 17 May 1751, by patrimony. Entering the army, he became a captain in General Townsend's Regiment of Foot. He was appointed Collector of H.M. Customs in Berwick in 1776; and having differed with his fellow-townsmen, Ralph Forster, merchant, on Corporation politics, in Sep 1773 he fought with him happily "without hurt in either side." He was mayor in 1767, 1771, 1774, 1777, 1787 and 1795; also an alderman. In 1780, he was appointed to be Commissary-General to the Forces in the West Indies, and thenceforth was known as Commissary Forster. He married, 9 Apr 1764, Sarah, daughter of Fenwick Stowe of Berwick, "an accomplished young lady with a handsome fortune," who is named in her husbands will, but died in his lifetime. He afterwards married Isabela Stowe (Sarah's sister), on whom, by marriage contract, he settled an annuity of Stg80 per annum, charged on New Water fishery. She survived him until Jan 1824, when she died at the age of 85. He died 16 June 1798, aged 68.


This Matthew made his career in the military. On Aug 4th 1762, he was a Captain in the 28th Regiment of Foot and in the following year and still with the 28th, he was in America. On Jul
20 1864, he was a Captain in the 47th Regiment of Foot and in 1765 while still with the same Regiment as a Captain, he served in Ireland. In 1867-80, he was an Alderman of Berwick and Mayor of Berwick 1767, 1771, 1774 and 1777. On half pay, he was appointed in 1786 as Commissary of Stores and Provisions for the Berwick Garrison. He became Mayor again in 1787. In 1794-98, he was appointed Commissioner of General Stores and Provisions to the Leeward Islands on half pay. He was 64 years of age when he went out to the Caribbean. In 1795, he was again Mayor of Berwick. On his death, he was described 'as the late Commissary of the West Indies'. (Matthew Forster)

Extract of letter sent from 226 Jacoby St, Norristown, PA, by CV Forster to GCD Forster, 4 May 1924. "To go back to the subject of ancestry. I went up to the trunk room just now, found the military chest I spoke of and found the lettering upon it reads 'Lieut-Colonel Forster, 24th Foot'. I suppose by application to the war office some information might be obtained." (Current research undertaken by Matthew Forster has not established this Matthew was in the 24th Foot.)

Matthew married Sarah Stow on 9 April, 1764 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. Sarah was christened on 16 January, 1735 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and was buried on 23 November, 1795 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

They had the following children:

31. Matthew Forster was born on 17 February, 1765 in Warenford, Northumberland, England and was christened on 27 March, 1765 in Warenford, Northumberland, England. He died on 12 January, 1824 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

Matthew Forster (5) baptised 27 Mar 1765, was admitted to the freedom of the borough 27 Feb 1786, by patrimony, as eldest son of Matthew Forster. He became a captain in the Royal Navy.

By suits at law he succeeded in establishing his title as heir-at-law to the real property of Thomas Forster of Alnwick and Warenford, who died intestate 13 Oct 1813, as a third cousin, once removed, and as descended from Matthew Forster of Charlton and Warenford, the common ancestor, who died before 1 Sep 1640. The property of Thomas Forster of Alnwick, so recovered by Captain Matthew Forster of Berwick, comprised houses in Narrowgate, Alnwick, lands at Warenford and at Beadnell, hay tithe of the township of Lucker, and moiety of the corn tithes of Lyham in the parish of Chatton.

He died unmarried 12 Jan 1824, and was buried at Bamburgh. Having already provided for his natural son, William Forster Trotter, by an annuity secured on his property at Beadnell, by deed dated 26 Dec 1821, he provided for another natural son Matthew Forster, born of another mother, by his will. Matthew Forster, the putative son, was subsequently (17 Jul 1824) made a ward of the court.

9 July 1824. Will of Matthew Forster, captain Royal Navy, I give all my real estate and residue of my personal estate to my brothers, Vaughan Forster and Thomas Forster, my sister, Margaret Watson Forster, and my adopted son, Matthew Forster (son of Elizabeth Forster the younger of Berwick) to hold as tenants in common. I give to my female servants Stg10 apiece and mourning. To my godson, Matthew Forster, son of Lieutenant-Colonel George Forster of the Artillery Stg50. Executors my said brothers and sister, Dr Alex Cahill, Dr William Hogg, and Robert Weddell, Solicitor. Proved at Durham 10 Apr and at Canterbury 11 March 1824. (Hodgson)

His career was in the Navy. On May 29 1779, he entered the navy (aged 14) and served on a ship until Jan 1783 as the Captain's servant, an A.B. and then Midshipman. In 1783 from Jan to Jun, he is listed as a Midshipman on HMS Pegase and then from March 1783 to March 1785 served as Midshipman on HMS Standard. In Feb 26 1786, he was admitted as a burgess of Berwick-upon-Tweed being the eldest son of Matthew Forster, aged 21 years. Continuing his naval service, he served as midshipman on HMS Jupiter between July and September.
1786. In Aug 1787, he was promoted to Acting. Lieutenant on HMS Racehorse until May 1790. On Nov 22, 1793 he was commissioned as a Lieutenant and served on HMS Bedford until Oct, 1794. He then served on HMS St. Albans from Mar 1795 to Jun 1795, and then from Jun 1795 to Jan 1796 aboard HMS Scipio followed by serving on HMS Chichester from Oct 1796 to Jun 1797, all-the-while, still as a Lieutenant. Again, from Jun 1797 to Mar 1798 he was a Lieut. on HMS Dortrecht. In 1780, from Jan to Jul, he served first as a Lieut and then as Commander of HMS Viper. In 1802 from May to September, he was the Commander of HMS Plover. In 1804 from Oct to Nov, he was the Commander of HMS Wellington and then in Nov of the same year to Jan 1805 he Commanded HMS Sulphur. In Jan 1805, he was Commander of HMS Calypso and was wounded and went ashore in July. In 22 Jan 1806, he was appointed Post Captain. In Sep 1808 to Jan 1809, he was Post Captain under Rear Admiral Russell on HMS Majestic and from 1809, Jul to Sep, he was Post Captain on HMS Unicorn. In Nov 1814, he was granted a pension of 240 pounds per annum because of being wounded in action. (Matthew Forster)

32. M ii. William Cooper Forster was christened on 11 June, 1766

William Cooper Forster, Captain 46th Regiment, who was admitted to the freedom of the borough in 1787, and died in his father's lifetime. (Hodgson)

33. F iii. Margaret Watson Forster was christened on 18 April, 1771 and died on 21 January, 1839

34. M iv. Vaughan Forster was born on 7 February, 1773 and died on 2 November, 1839

35. M v. Thomas Forster was born on 26 February, 1775

Thomas Forster, admitted to the freedom of the borough in 1796, by patrimony; for whom there was obtained an appointment in the offices of the Exchequer. Under his brother Matthews will, he took one-fourth share of his property. He was residing at Kensington in 1826 and 1842, when he voted at the election of Knights of the Shire for Northumberland; and in the parish of Charlton, Kent, where he made his will, 10 Oct 1840. (Proved at Canterbury, 1843) He left him surviving his wife Eliza, and a son named Matthew Forster, of the Excise. (Hodgson)

Matthew married (2) Isabella Stow on 12 October, 1797 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. Isabella was christened on 30 August, 1737 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

28. William Cooper Forster (Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in 1731

William Forster, second son of Matthew Forster (III), was apprenticed, 7 Jun 1751, to his eldest brother Matthew, but did not take up the freedom of the borough until 1765. He entered the army, and rose to the rank of major in the Royal Marines. He had (perhaps with other) issue 3 sons. (Hodgson)

William had the following children:

36. M i. George Forster

George Forster, Royal Marines, admitted to the freedom of the borough 3 Jan 1793, patrimony. (Hodgson)

37. M ii. William Forster
William Forster, admitted to the freedom of the borough in 1794, by patrimony.  
(Hodgson)

38. M iii. John Randal Forster was christened on 2 August, 1770 and died on 14 March 1814

30. **George Forster** (Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 27 November, 1735 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and died on 15 June, 1798 in Morris Hall, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

George Forster, baptised 27 Nov 1735; apprenticed 8 May 1752 to Thomas Watson; admitted a burgess 1863; successively Lieutenant in General Barringtons Regiment of 8th Foot, and rose to Lieut.-colonel; Mayor of Berwick 1788 and 1792. He resided at Morris Hall and died 15 Jun 1798 aged 63. His daughter Elizabeth, born in America, was married at Norham 23 Oct 1792, to Robert Grey of Shoreston in Bamburghshire. He had perhaps a son Matthew Forster, name in the will of Matthew Forster (V). (Hodgson)

George had the following children:

39. F i. Elizabeth Forster was born in America and married Robert Grey on 23 October, 1794 in Norham, England

**Ninth Generation**

33. **Margaret Watson Forster** (Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 18 April, 1771 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and died on 21 January, 1839

Margaret Watson Forster, who married 1 Dec 1794 to her cousin John Randal Forster, captain 60th Regiment. (Hodgson)

John was christened on 2 Aug 1770 in Rochester, Kent, England and died on 14 Mar 1814.

John Randal Forster, third and youngest son of Major William Forster, was born at Rochester, Kent; entered the army, and rose to the rank of major 22nd Regiment. He is otherwise described as 'major in one of the Provisional Battalions of Militia'. He was admitted to the freedom of the borough 25 Jul 1791, by patrimony and died 14 Mar 1814. By his wife Margaret Watson, daughter of his uncle, Matthew Forster (4) (she died 21 Jan 1839), he had issue five sons and two daughters.

At the time of their marriage, he was a Captain in the 60th Regiment. (Hodgson)

Margaret married John Randal Forster (her cousin) the son of William Cooper Forster on 1 December, 1794. John was christened on 2 August, 1770 in Rochester, Kent, England and died on 14 March, 1814.

John and Margaret had the following children:

40. F i. Sarah Forster was born on 15 October, 1795 and died on 26 October, 1795 (See #49)

41. M ii. Matthew Forster was born on 11 October, 1796. He was christened on 8 November, 1796 and died on 11 January, 1846. (See #50)
Mathew Forster, baptised 8 Nov 1796; admitted to the freedom of the borough 23 Jan 1818; of 85th Regiment; afterwards police magistrate at Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land. (Hodgson)

For Matthew's biography see: http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A010372b.htm?hilite=Forster%3BMMatthew

42. M iii. William Frederick Forster was born on 6 December, 1798. He was christened on 17 December, 1798 and died on 8 June, 1879. (See #51)

William Frederick Forster, baptised 17 Dec 1798, sometime Deputy-Adjutant-General to HM Forces; Military Secretary to HRH the Commander-in-Chief. (Hodgson)

43. F iv. Amelia Margaret Forster was born on 5 July, 1800 (See #52)

Generally called Emily; wife of John Pratt of Easter Melkington and of Adderstone Mains. (Hodgson)

44. M v. Thomas Bowes Forster was born on 14 February, 1803 and was christened on 8 March, 1803. He married Sarah Peregrine Maitland in 1837. (See #53)

Thomas Bowes Forster, baptised 8 Mar 1803; admitted to the freedom of the borough 16 Feb 1824, by patrimony; major 8th Madras Infantry, and paymaster of His Majesty's Forces in India; afterwards a major-general; married a daughter of General Sir Peregrine Maitland and had issue. (Hodgson)

"St. Andrew's Standard" issue of 6 July, 1837 - "Marriage - St. Georges Cathedral, Madras, 14 January, 1837 by The Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Madras, Captain Thomas Bowes Forster, Pay Master of the Presidency of Madras to Sarah, eldest daughter of Sir Peregrine and Lady Sarah Maitland"

45. M vi. Henry Francis Forster (See #54)

Henry Francis Forster, of the Foreign Office; admitted to the freedom of the borough by patrimony 24 Dec 1834. (Hodgson)

46. M vii. John Forster (See #55)

John Forster admitted to the freedom of the borough 4 Mar 1835, by patrimony; sometimes of Berwick attorney; afterwards assistant police magistrate, Hamilton, Van Diemen's Land. (Hodgson)

According to Joe Forster, he arrived in Van Diemen's land in 1854.

34. Vaughan Forster (Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 7 February, 1773 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and was christened on 4 March, 1773 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. He died on 2 November, 1839 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and was buried on 8 November, 1839 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England

Vaughan Forster, third son of Matthew Forster (4) by his wife Sarah Stowe, and brother and heir-at-law of Captain Matthew Forster, was named after his father's friend Sir John Vaughan, sometime Governor of Berwick. He was admitted to the freedom of the borough in 1794, by patrimony, and subsequently was made Town Mayor of Berwick, receiving in 1819 the additional office of Inspecting Officer of Army Pensioners.
Under his brother Matthews will he took one one-fourth of his real estate in Warenford, Alnwick, Beadnell, Lyham tithes, etc., and an interest in New Water Fishery.

He made his will 23 Apr 1827, and died at Berwick 2 Nov 1839. By his marriage with Anne Cameron (who died shortly before her husband), he had issue an only surviving child, Charles Vaughan Forster. (Hodgson)

His profession was in the Military. On October 1st, 1794, he is listed as a Lieutenant and Adjutant in the 46th Regiment of Foot and then was admitted as a burgess of Berwick-upon-Tweed in Feb 5th, 1796 as the 3rd son of Matthew Forster whose profession was Town Major of Berwick. Having attained the rank of Captain, he retired on full pay on Feb 5th 1799 but then re-enlisted and appears in 1801as a Captain in the 46th Regiment. Again, in 1802, Dec 25th he is listed as a Captain in the 66th (Royal North British) Veteran Battalion. In 1807 with the rank of Captain, he is listed as Fort Major, and Presidency of Fort St, George in the East Indies*. In 1808, he is listed as a Captain and Fort Major of Garrisons near Inverness. In 1812 &1820, he is listed as Garrisons Captain and Town Major of Berwick. (Matthew Forster)

*Obviously there were family links established which enabled his son Charles Vaughan to follow in his fathers footsteps in later years to St. George in the Caribbean.

Vaughan married Anne Cameron daughter of Charles Cameron (the XXI Chief of the Clan of Cameron of Lochiel) and Martha Marshall on 9 September, 1796 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. Anne was born on 18 April, 1773 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She was christened on 29 May, 1773 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She died on 20 January, 1839 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She was buried on 25 January, 1839 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She was living at Cobham Mount, Kent with her mother in 1791.

"New Brunswick Courier" issue of 21 December, 1839 - "Died at Brunswick-upon-Tweed early in present year, Anne, wife of Major Vaughan Foster and sister of late Donald Cameron Esq of Lochiel. Also died same place on 2 November, 1839 above named Major Vaughan Forster"

NOTE: See 'The Camerons of Lochiel' in the Family Tree Index for Anne Cameron

Vaughan and Anne had the following children:

47. F i. Anne Abercrombie Forster was born on 26 July, 1797 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She died on 25 May, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. She was buried on 28 May, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England.

48. M ii. Charles Vaughan Forster was born on 20 September, 1798 and died on 20 August, 1860

38. John Randal Forster (William Cooper, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was christened on 2 August, 1770 in Rochester, Kent, England and died on 14 March 1814

John Randal Forster, third and youngest son of Major William Forster, was born at Rochester, Kent; entered the army, and rose to the rank of major 22nd Regiment. He is otherwise described as 'major in one of the Provisional Battalions of Militia." He was admitted to the freedom of the borough 25 Jul 1791, by patrimony and died 14 Mar 1814. By his wife Margaret Watson, daughter of his uncle, Matthew Forster (IV) (she died 21 Jan 1839), he had issue five sons and two daughters. At the time of their marriage he was a Captain in the 60th Regiment. (Hodgson)
John married Margaret Watson Forster daughter of Matthew Forster and Sarah Stow on 1 December 1794. Margaret was christened on 18 April, 1771 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and died on 21 January, 1839

John and Margaret had the following children:

49. F i. Sarah Forster (See #40)

50. M ii. Matthew Forster (See #41)

51. M iii. William Frederick Forster (See #42)

52. F iv. Amelia Margaret Forster (See #43)

53. M v. Thomas Bowes Forster (See #44)

54. M vi. Henry Francis Forster (See #45)

55. M vii. John Forster (See #46)

Tenth Generation

41. **Matthew Forster** (Margaret Watson Forster, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 11 October, 1796 and was christened on 8 November, 1796. He died on 11 January 1846 in Tasmania, Australia and was buried in St John's, New Town, Tasmania

Matthew Forster, baptised 8 Nov 1796; admitted to the freedom of the borough 23 Jan 1818; of 85th Regiment; afterwards police magistrate at Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land.

Refer to the online Australian Dictionary of Biography for the biography of Matthew Forster at http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A010372b.htm

Matthew married St. Helena Jeannette Worsley

They had the following children:

56. F i. Name unknown

57. M ii. John Arthur Fox Forster was born on 16 December, 1837 in Tasmania, Australia

48. **Charles Vaughan Forster** (Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 20 September, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England and was christened on 27 September, 1798 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. He died on 20 August, 1860 at his residence in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada and was buried in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

Charles Vaughan Forster, born 20 Sep 1798, was admitted to the freedom of the borough in 1820. He emigrated to North America and in 1839 was residing in New Brunswick. By his wife Jane, daughter of Patrick Dickson, of Whitecross, Berwickshire and of Berwick, solicitor, he
had issue six sons and one daughter, some of whom have left descendants in North America.

(Hodgson)

Charles enlisted in the Navy and from 1819-20 he was the 6th Officer H.C. ship "Marquis of Wellington", under the command of John Wood, a ship of the East India Company which sailed from Bengal to England. While at sea Charles wrote the following prayer which he passed to his son Charles who kept it in a Book of Prayer given to him and inscribed 'Charles Cameron Forster from his Aunt Edmiston, 1835, Berwick-upon-Tweed', who was an elder sister of Charles Cameron's mother. (In the possession of Hugh Forster)

A Morning Prayer

Oh Almighty God who hath made all things in Heaven & Earth and has given thy son Jesus Christ to die upon the cross for me and mankind. Make me truly thankful for thy goodness towards me, sanctify me by thy Holy Spirit and enable me to do all things which thou has commanded. Glory be to Thee for having brought me to the beginning of this day, defend me in it from sin and danger, let me not take thy Holy Name in vain, nor speak any word that may offend Thee. Grant that I may honour my Father & Mother, keep me from lying and evil speaking, from thoughts of revenge and stubbornness, from strife and quarrelling, from envy and spiteful malice and all uncharitableness. Make me modest in my behaviour and conversation, cleanse the thoughts of my heart, keep me from pride and sloth, from gluttony and drunkenness, and grant me all such temper in life and death. Bless the Queen and Royal Family, and all our Governors, Pastors and Teachers. Bless my friends and relations particularly my father and mother for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord & Saviour - Amen. C.V. Forster, 6th Officer N.C. Ship, Marquis of Wellington. January 31st 1820. Lat. 6.40 North 80.00” (probably in the bay of Bengal of Sri Lanka).

On Sep 24, 1824 he arrived in the Caribbean where he was employed by H.M. Customs as a Searcher & Waiter at St. George, Bermuda and then promoted to Landing Waiter, Bermuda on Apr 14 1826. He must have returned home later that year to marry Jane Dickson on 17 Nov 1825 at Berwick-upon-Tweed and then sailing back again to the Caribbean with his wife. He was appointed Sub-Controller, Ports of St. George and Hamilton, Bermuda on 25 Sep 1826 at a salary of 250 pounds. The family resided at St. George where the first three of his children were born. In a letter dated 4th Dec 1939 from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton Cameron Dickson Forster, he tells of finding among the contents of many old family memorabilia a paste box which on its lid written in his mothers handwriting “Christening robe of T.A.D. Forster, presented by Sir Harry Smith”. He adds that Sir Harry Smith was at that time the Governor of the Bermuda Islands (year 1830) and grandfather was then Controller of Customs in the Port of St Georges, where my father was born on Oct 7th of that year. Sir Harry Smith acted as one of the godfathers and his wife Lady Smith as godmother. In this box was a little lace jacket or cape with a tiny hood of white satin. It was rather strange I should find it just 100 years later almost to the anniversary. Later Sir Harry Smith became Governor of Natal or Cape Colony and the two places which figured so largely during the Boer war were named Harrismith and Ladysmith, were named respectively after Sir Harry Smith and his wife. (Letter in possession of Hugh Forster)

Charles again with his family sailed to Canada to take up an appointment on Jan 18 1833 as Controller, Landing & Tide Surveyor, St. Andrews, New Brunswick. He was later promoted to the position of Comptroller of Customs at St Andrews. In the 1840's he took up another position in H. M. Customs at Saint John, New Brunswick and moved his family to that town where he remained until his death.

Memorial windows for Charles and his wife Jane were placed in the Church at Saint John, New Brunswick by their son William Dickson Forster. In a letter sent from a sibling to Charles Cameron it states the inscription reads as follows: "In loving memory of C.V. Forster, His wife Jane Forster, Died July 22nd 1860. Aged 62 years. Thy Father and I sought thee sorrowing. Dear Father, died August 20th 1860. Aged 62 years. Buried with Christ. Erected by his children." (Matthew Forster)

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan, Saint John N.B., 6th Sept 1859 in response to his son's Charles Cameron enquiry for information about the Forster ancestors: "You ask for our Pedigree on the Forster's side. I have no written one in my possession but we are connected with nearly all the Forster's of Northumberland also the Grays and some of the name of Watson the last moved into the Gray family. The Forsters of Alnwick, the Forsters of Bolton, the Forsters of Adderstone and Warenford are all our connections. On my mother's side of the House, the Clan of Cameron of whom Lochiel is the Chieftain springs my ancestors. The late Lochiel was my Mother's own brother, he is dead, but has been succeeded by his son who is the present Chief and my second cousin, his father is of course being my first cousin. The
The clans of Macdonald and Macpherson have intermarried which has created a large connection. Our family are connected with many families of distinction. Mary Anne Cameron my first cousin married Lord John Hay an Admiral in the British Navy who was the son to the Marquis of Tweedale whose daughter and sister to Lord John Hay is married to the present Duke of Wellington. You were called after the late Lochiel who was your Godfather.” (Letter in possession of Hugh Forster)

In addition to his work at the Customs House, Charles Forster served as an agent of the Associate Press and as proprietor of the News Room. He was active in the community as a member of the Masonic Lodge. At the time of his death, on 28 Aug 1876, he was treasurer of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Masonic order. (Internet)

"Died 20 August, 1860 at his residence in Saint John, Charles Vaughan Forster Esq. late Landing Surveyor, H.M. Customs, aged 62. Left wife and family."

Charles married Jane Dickson daughter of Patrick Dickson and Dorothy Alder on 17 November, 1825 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. Jane was born on 11 July, 1803 and died on 22 July, 1876 in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. She was buried in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

Charles and Jane had the following children:

58. F i. Dorothy Ann Forster was born on 17 Aug 1826 and died on 8 August, 1895

59. M ii. Vaughan Forster was born on 7 April, 1828 in St. George, Bermuda. Vaughan married Mary Thorne Shaw on 5 December 1856

"Morning News" issue of 28 December, 1855 - "Married at Gaspe on 5 December, 1855, Episcopal Church, Vaughan, eldest son of C. V. Forster Esq, lately of H. M. Customs, to Mary Thorne Shaw, third daughter of Joseph Shaw Esq"

In a letter sent by his brother, Patrick John William Forster, from New York dated 15 January, 1858 he relates to his bother Charles about the happenings with the family. "... Vaughan as you are aware has been married and is now pursuing a prosperous business with Mr. Shaw ..." (Presumably Vaughan was working for his father-in-law.)

60. M iii. Thomas Alder Dickson Forster was born on 7 October, 1830 and died in 1912

61. M iv. Charles Cameron Forster was born on 9 April, 1833 and died on 20 November, 1901

62. M v. Patrick John William Forster was born on 16 August, 1837 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died in 29 November, 1858

In a letter he sent from New York dated 15 January, 1858 he relates to his bother Charles about the happenings with the family and his own situation. "I last wrote to you from St. John, when at that time I was in the employ of Mr Garnett with whom I remained 3 years. At the end of that time I was determined to come to New York as there was little prospect of me doing much for myself in St. John. So I started and arrived here on the 28 Aug 1856 having good letters of recommendation and introduction. I obtained a situation after being here for 2 days which I kept until I saw an opportunity of procuring a better one, so I kept on until last Spring. I took up my present situation as bookkeeper in the firm of Wm. Ropes and Co on the 15th April last just nine months ago today, and still like it very much indeed. It is one of the First Standing Houses in the city, engaged largely in the Russian Business and Ship Owners. The principal House is in Boston. They also have a branch in London and one in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Yes when we last parted, I was hearing farming (?), Vaughan with us at home, Tom in Salem practising his profession. Dora at Harvey also and Will and Don at school, only contemplate the changes that have been wrought in the past few
years. You my dear brother in the first place removed many miles away with a full
determination to commence your career in the world and manfully have carried out
your views. But as I was observing of the changes that have taken place within the
few short years past. Vaughan as you are aware has been married and is now
pursuing a prosperous Business with Mr. Shaw, Dora and the Parson since then
removed to Springfield where they are comfortably settled. Tom also removed from
Salem to St. John. Willy now on the wide ocean on his way to Berwick-upon-Tweed
to visit our relatives there, Don still following his books.

I shall give what St. John news I have received by mail this morning. Mother's letter
bears date of January 10th, just 5 days ago. In the first place she gives a
description of New Years day. They had a very pleasant day receiving calls, to and
about the middle of the day. Dorothy and the Parson, and children arrived and she
is still in St. John with Mother. They expected the Parson down again this week to
take Dora and the children home. Mother also intended returning with them to
spend a week or so. Father and Tom went around on New Years Day making calls.

In the former part of my letter I mentioned that William was on his way to Berwick.
There was so little business doing in St. John that he had little or nothing in the
situation that he had, and has he expressed a strong desire to make a voyage to
sea Father consented to let him go, he sailed in November from St. John in the
Bark ‘Georgia’, bound for Barbados and thence to Liverpool I think. When he
arrived there I believe he was so start for Berwick.

I was exceedingly sorry to find that you (Charles) had met with an accident in
having a pick drove into the muscle of your arm. It must have been extremely
painful as well as laying you up for such a length of time, but it seemed providential
for as you say in all probability you would have been at work at the time the earth
caved in. What the consequences would have been I will not enter into, it is enough
to make a person shudder. I thank God you escaped it dear Charley, do be careful
of yourself as I am sure you are dearly beloved by your Parents as well as by your
sisters and all your brothers and any accident befalling you would be a sad sad
blow to us all.

"I always have my letters addressed to the care of Messrs Whitall, Tatum & Co
(Anna's father) as in case I should change my place of business or leave the City,
my letters would be forwarded to me."

I remain, Your affectionate Brother, P. John W. Forster.

When you write please direct to, P. John W. Forster, Care of Messrs Whitall, Tatum
& Co., 96 Beekam St, New York, U.S. of America."

"Died Tuesday 29 November, 1859, P. John W. Forster, aged 22, son of C. V.
Forster Esq, late H. M. Customs. Funeral from residence of his father, Cnr of
Queen and Germain Sts (St.. John). Friday, 2 December 2.30pm"

63. M vi. William Dickson Forster was born on 27 September, 1840 and died on 27 Nov
1907

64. M vii. Donald Cameron Forster was born on 8 Sep 1843. He died in 1867

Eleventh Generation

58. Dorothy Ann Forster (Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew,
Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 17 August, 1826 in St. George,
Bermuda and died on 8 August, 1895 in Wales, Ontario, Canada

Extract from a letter she sent to her brother Charles, Sussex Rectory, 29 February, 1863.
"You don't know how much we all want to see you and if you are going to remain there until
you make your fortune I fear we may despair of ever seeing you. I wish you had never left New Brunswick. Mother has been with me at Sussex for the last 2 months. She came up on the 3 January. I was confined on the 2 of January a little girl I have this time so we have 6 sons and one daughter, quite a family I can tell you to look after. I had her christened yesterday. Tom came up from St. John to be present. I have called her after my dear mother Jane Dickson Forster. She is a dear little thing and mother thinks so much of her. She will remain with me for some time yet without from Vaughan she is very miserable indeed should wish he to go down. I fear we shall not have him with us very long as he is getting so weak. What changes have taken place in our family since you my dear brother left us. My other children are quite well. George is very tall and stout for his age. He belongs to the volunteers he has his red coat gun and sword. Henry Bliss also belongs to them. He lives with us. They drill every week and there is a sergeant from St. John to drill them. George and Henry belong to Captain Saunders company. Edwin Bliss has also a company in Sussex so they must be strong. The Parson is quite well, he is kept on the go all the time, a great deal of duty to be done in this Parish. He sends his kind love to you. I hope I shall hear from you soon and I must say goodbye with love from all the boys to their uncle Charley whom they often hear me speak of and with kindest love to you my dear brother. Your affectionate sister, Dora A. Bliss.”

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 December, 1930. "Aunt Dorothy, your father’s only sister deceased, has a granddaughter formerly Ethel Bliss, now Ethel Thebaud, with her husband and two daughters live in Camden, New Jersey, just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia; her oldest daughter Betty is I believe married. I have always intended to go and call on them, but am ashamed to say, have not done so.”

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "Of course aunt Dorothy had a lot of sons and there are still innumerable Blisses scattered around, but I have lost track of them completely. Her daughter is still alive and with her husband F Clarke is a missionary out in the far west mostly to Indiana. Out of their 4 children one daughter, a teacher in an Indian school and one son, who has a family, are the survivors. She was married twice and consequently her children’s names are Mary and Parke Samwell. The boy is doing very well, a railroad position, I believe in Winnipeg, the last I heard.”

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster c1940’s. "There are quite a lot of Blisses left but the only ones I know anything about are Ethel Bliss & her brothers and sisters. She married a Frenchman, J S Thebaud & they have two daughters. The youngest Josephine has 4 girls and 2 boys. She married an American of Italian descent N. Torrell. The two boys Val and Charlie Bliss have families but mostly girls - & the other 8 girls all married & had a child or two.”

(Hugh Forster holds an original newspaper clipping of the marriage of her son Captain DCF Bliss to Bertha F Costigan - this appeared in a Canadian paper. Also another original clipping of the marriage of her youngest son Thomas Alder Dickson Bliss to Alice Maud Kirby c 1888 which appeared in the Stawell Times 24 Oct 1888, an Australian paper, courtesy of his Uncle Charles Cameron Forster. Additionally a hand written copy of a newspaper clipping appearing in ‘The Free Press’ 11 Apr 1888 sent to Charles Cameron Forster of the marriage between William Dickson Bliss and Margaret Bishop at Christ Church, Ottawa with the Rev. Forster Bliss assisting.)

Dorothy married Rev Charles Parke Bliss on 17 November, 1849 in Trinity Church, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. Charles was born on 25 July, 1825 in New Brunswick, Canada and died on 21 November, 1872 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

In a handwritten copy of a newspaper clipping in ‘The Free Press, Canada, dated 1888, sent to his uncle Charles Cameron Forster about the wedding of his daughters son, William Dickson Bliss wedding, 1888, he is referred to as Charles Percy Bliss. (Hugh Forster holds this original copy)

"New Brunswick Courier", issue 17 November, 1849 - “This morning (17 November, 1849) Trinity Church (St. John) by Lord Bishop Rev. Charles Parke Bliss, missionary of Hepewell and fourth son of the George P. Bliss Esq, Receiver General of New Brunswick to Dorothy Anne only daughter of C. V. Forster, Esq. H. M. Customs of St. John Port”

Charles and Dorothy had the following children:
65. M i. George Pidgeon Bliss was born on 21 September, 1850 in New Brunswick, Canada
66. M ii. Charles Vaughan Forster Bliss was born on 12 May, 1853
67. M iii. John Murray Bliss was born on 21 September, 1855 in Springfield, New Brunswick, Canada
68. M iv. Thomas Alder Dickson Bliss was born on 28 June, 1857 in Springfield, New Brunswick, Canada. Thomas married Alice Maud Kirby in 1888 in Prescott, Canada
69. M v. William Dickson Bliss was born on 1 June 1859 in Springfield, New Brunswick, Canada. William married Margaret Bishop on 11 April, 1888 in Christ Church, Ottawa, Canada
70. M vi. Capt. Donald Cameron Forster Bliss was born on 27 October, 1861 in Springfield, New Brunswick, Canada. Donald married Bertha F. Costigan
71. F vii. Jane Dickson Forster Bliss was born on 1 January, 1863

60. Thomas Alder Dickson Forster (Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 7 October, 1830 in St. George, Bermuda and died in 1912 in Philadelphia, USA

Letter sent to Grafton Forster from his Uncle TAD Forster, dated August 27, 1911 De Kalb St., Norristown, Penn., he writes. "I was much pleased to receive your letter of June 26th and take much pleasure in answering it. We all will be very glad to see and welcome your brother-in-law, Wm. G. Rae, and trust he will find it convenient to come to us, as we then could become better acquainted than by letter and can tell us all about you all, which we be very glad to learn. How nice for you to get your wife back and son Cameron back again, after so long an absence. We will be delighted to receive the photograph of your son and family group. My brother Williams death was quite a shock to me, who you know was the only one left in our family. He was such a nice fellow, and I was so fond of him, but we are all growing old, and must soon follow and join the great majority. I only hope I may be as much prepared as was your dear father and my past brother Will, when the time shall come for me to go. I shall be glad to hear again from Winnie, her few letters were all interesting. My wife and family join me in dearest love to all of you, your loving Uncle, T.A.D. Forster"

Thomas appears to have been a dentist as explained in this extract from a letter sent to Grafton Forster from his Uncle William, 20 May 1902, Saint Andrews N.B., The Locusts, he writes. "I was in St. John last week having my teeth attended to and had the extreme pleasure of seven crowned or capped I don't know which term is correct. I went to Dr. McAvenney who bought your Uncle Tom out, good will etc., when he left St. John some thirty years ago."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster c 1940’s. "Uncle Tom in Philadelphia was the only other Forster to leave grandchildren - Dorothy and Anna - they were rather odd, due to mother and father break up, especially Anna. Dorothy is rather interested in family matters, & has only one girl. So your family are the only ones carrying on the name - I thought you might be interested in this pedigree. (Dickson tree this is believed to be) I found it among my step mothers things after she died."

"Weekly Chronicle" issue of 27 April, 1855 - "Married New York 16 April, 1855 by Rev. Dr. Tyng, Thomas A. D. Forster Esq, surgeon dentist, Salem, Mass to Miss Anna M. Whitall, daughter of J. F. Whitall Esq, New York"
Thomas married Anna M. Whitall on 10 April, 1855 in New York, NY, USA. Anna was born in Philadelphia, USA

They had the following children:

72. Alice Whitall Forster was born on 21 March 1856 in Salem, Mass, USA and died on 3 April, 1856 in Salem, Mass, USA

73. Charles Vaughan Forster was born on 9 March 1857 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 24 May, 1931. He was buried in Norristown.

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, 226 Jacoby St, Norristown, 16 November, 1920. "My sister Anna and myself are getting well along in years and naturally live rather a quiet and retired life, and unfortunately there are no young people in our family, with the exception of my two nieces Dorothy and Anna aged 23 & 20 respectively, who are just completing their education at the University of Penns. in Philadelphia. William my youngest brother, tho' married since 1904, has no children. His wife, whose home was near Cincinnati, some thousand miles west from Philadelphia, has recently gone there to visit a married sister where she expects to remain for about a month and as they are quite inseparable, I think he is finding life at present a little dull and stupid."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster. Jacoby St, Norristown, 29 April, 1923. "I did not tell you at that time more especially as I had the ill-fortune to fall on the ice on Feb 22 and break my right arm close to the wrist, which incapacitated one for any use of it for many weeks. Altho' set by a competent surgeon it is still far from serviceable as you will see by the awkwardness of any handwriting, and it must be a long time before it will regain its normal strength."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster. Jacoby St, Norristown, 27 November, 1923. "On Thursday next we are expecting William and his wife Edith and probably Robert, accordingly, for Thanksgiving."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster. Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 May, 1924. "In your letter of 27 Nov you spoke of a 'Mrs. Prewitt', who was a Forster, and asked what branch you belonged to. That's the very question that I tried to find an answer to some years ago but without success. The only thing I can tell you is that grandfathers name was Charles Vaughan Forster, his father was Major Vaughan Forster who married Anne Cameron of Lochiel, and Major Vaughan Forster's father was Commissioner Forster, but do not know his christian name or what he was Commissioner of. This I had from your grandmother Jane Forster. In the 80's and up to 1891, I kept up a correspondence with great-aunt Grace Dickson, grandmother Forster's youngest sister, who never married and who lived in the family homestead in Berwick-on-Tweed. Much of the correspondence related to the family relationships and I tried to find out this very point, what branch of the Forster's we came from... Aunt Grace could not give me very definite information, but she believed we came from the Bamborough Branch of Elizabethan times, Wardens of the Northern Marches, but just how Commissioner Forster connected up I cannot tell you. A full description of the Bamborough Family will be found in the novel, Dorothy Forster by Walter Bresant, which you should find in any public library. Later than 1891 (when Aunt Grace died), through the kindness of a clergyman in Berwick-upon- Tweed, I was given the name & address of an aged couple in Berwick, in some way related to grandfather Forster and informed if I wrote them, I would probably receive the desired information. I wrote to them but never received a response. Aunt Grace mentioned in one of her letters an acquaintance, a Mrs Emily Pratt, whose maiden name was Emily Forster, and who was a cousin. more or less removed of our grandfather and I think was going to find out for me more of our ancestry from Mrs Pratt when unfortunately death intervened and cut off out correspondence. You asked for the family crest I now have in my possession of an old seal in which the crest and coat of arms is cut out in onyx and which belonged to Major Vaughan Forster (your great grandfather). I will make you an impression on sealing wax and enclose it in this letter along with a description of the coat of arms. The jargon of heraldry describes the coat of arms thus - shield argent with chevron vert between three bugle horns, stringed gules. I hope one or other of the seals will reach you in good condition. The crest is a stags
head. The shield itself is silver, the chevron green, bugles black & the bugle strings red. Plenty of colour don't you think? The Lord John Hay you speak of in your letter was the husband of Frances Cameron, a first cousin of grandfather Forster, daughter of Donald Cameron of Lochiel and died in 1849." (This wax impression is in the possession of Hugh Forster and the description of the crest, the coat of arms and motto are described on the home page)

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 24 November, 1924. "The attempt to trace our relationship back to the ancient home of the Forsters in Northumberland has never been successful. Thomas Forster of Atherton or Adderstone in Northumberland in the time of Queen Elizabeth occupied the ancient family seat. A collateral branch were the Forsters of Bamburgh Castle near Berwick-upon-Tweed and Lords Wardens of the Marches, time of Queen Elizabeth. Your great aunt Grace Dickson, youngest sister of Grandmother Jane Dickson Forster always insisted, in her correspondence with me during the eighties and up to her death about 1892 or 1893, that our grandfather was the nearest collateral relation and represented the Bamburgh branch of the family. Although aunt Grace Dickson was firm in her belief of our family being the present representatives of the Bamburgh Forsters she never was able to give me satisfactory evidence of this, nor have I ever succeeded in tracing our descent any further back than Commissioner Forster who accoring grandmother Jane Dickson Forster, was the Father of Major Vaughan Forster and the grandfather of our grandfather Charles Vaughan Forster. Furthermore I do not know the christian name of this Commissioner Forster, though I have a rather vague impression that his name was John. I think that the only way to discover the link that is missing would be by making a visit to England but this I hardly expect ever to be able to do now. Aunt Grace Dickson in 1890, I think you wrote me that Mrs Pratt (who was Emily Forster before her marriage) and who was either a first or second cousin of grandfather Forster would be able to give me the information and Aunt Grace promised to see her and find out for me the connecting link. But as she was at the time on the Continent travelling, as this was the last letter I received before her death, I never heard anything further. We have an old military travelling case among our trunks with the regimental number in white lettering on the half broken lid and either the name Lieutenant-Colonel or Major Forster before mailing this ... I went up to the trunk room just now, found the military chest I spoke of and found the lettering upon it reads 'Lieut-Colonel Forster 24 Foot' no given name so am little wiser."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 19 July, 1925. "I cannot tell you how sorry I felt to hear of the misfortune you met with in the destruction of your home. I can quite sympathize with you in your heavy loss knowing how impossible it is to replace some things which one gathers in the course of a lifetime. In the year 1919, in the early part of July we came near having a similar disaster through the carelessness of a workman from the gas office. A slight leak in a pipe near the meter was set on fire and left burning, evidently by a lighted match. It must have burned many hours as the solder melted and about 1a.m. the house was waked by the barking of a small black dog we have. My brother Robert (deceased Jan this year) had come in shortly before and gone to his room on the third floor. As the meter was on the front cellar wall and the second floor front room was unoccupied (I being away from home at the time) no one had noticed anything until our dog's incessant loud barking disturbed and started Anna and Robert investigating. Annie went downstairs and found the floor of the entering vestibule very hot and the smell of smoke coming from the cellar (which happens to be a very deep one). She then called Robert, who went to the cellar door and found it impossible to go down into the cellar from the choking smoke and strong odour of gas. The joists had taken fire and one was so badly burnt as to require re-enforcing. They phoned the police and fire department who promptly extinguished the burning woodwork and saved the house from serious damage. Had the family not been roused by the dog's barking; an hour or two longer would probably have settled the fate of the house and perhaps of the household."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 15 August, 1926. "Your uncle William Dickson Forster's only surviving son H. Percy Forster, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota some 1500 miles west of us, surprised us by dropping in upon as here at Norristown without warning, on his way to New York and the New England States."
Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 April, 1927. "I think you will be interested to hear of another English relative. Your grandmother Forster's maiden name was Jane Dickson and she had, besides 2 brothers & 5 sisters most of whom married - many other Dickson relatives. Among these was cousin Esther Ellis (nee Esther Dickson) widow of Lieut. Col. Ellis in the British Service. She was a first cousin of our grandmother, tho' being the youngest of a large family. She was more of an age of my father in 1887 when she came to New York on a visit to this country and Canada. At that time she had with her 3 daughters, Norah, Constance and Winifred. She had also 2 sons then living, William & Jack. Of all this large family the only member still living is Winifred who was a child of 11 or 12 in 1887. Mrs Ellis during her lifetime kept up a correspondence with us, but after her death we almost lost track of them. Winnie had grown up and married a man named Mellon in the British consular service in Egypt. He was stationed in Luxor on the Nile for some twelve years I believe. We had heard nothing of the family for many years until about two weeks ago a letter from the Continent came addressed to my brother Will. It proved to be from Winnie, saying that she and her husband were expecting to make a trip to the United States and Canada and were thinking of booking their passage about the end of April. Mr Mellon, owing to changes in Egyptian Government since the war, had lost his consular position and was retired some 5 years previously. In her letter she said her only near living relatives were her sister Constance's two children. She herself has no children."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 9 March, 1927. "Had a pleasant surprise in the Fall of 1927 (Oct-Nov) with the arrival of a Canadian cousin Alder Bliss and his wife. Alder is a son of Aunt Dorothy your father's only sister. He is now retired and lives at Hamilton, Ontario. They have several children with one married daughter with children of her own. Alder's wife is a jolly & lively person and her brother is Bishop Du Mouliu, now the rector of a flourishing Phila. parish. I do not recall whether I mentioned Esther Ellis in a former letter who was a first cousin of grandmother Forster, tho' much younger in age. She came to Canada with her 3, then unmarried daughters in 1887 to be present at the wedding of her eldest son to a Canadian girl from Toronto & before returning to England she visited father in Norristown. Only her youngest daughter Winifred is still living and was a child when they visited in 1887 and a playmate of Will's then and had lovely recollections of him. Winifred and Mr Mellon stayed with us for a week on their way to Vancouver, British Columbia to visit with one of Mr Mellon's brothers who was settled there."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 20 November, 1929. "The long continued illness of my sister Anna together with the death of my youngest and last surviving brother leaves me very alone. William who was within three weeks of fifty-one years of age was taken from us quite suddenly. He was looking forward to his annual vacation of two weeks in the summer when he and his wife Edith took their holiday trip when he was stricken with severe abdominal pain on 14th July. he was obliged to enter a hospital and an operation was considered imperative by his physicians. On Monday 15 July the operation took place and by the following Saturday he passed away. It was an awful Blow to us as naturally we looked to his long surviving us - Anna and myself have who have passed into our seventies. Anna herself has been steadily losing ground and the physician attending her does not think she can survive the winter now coming on. So it looks as if I shall be the last of our family, seven now gone. We are very fortunate in having with us an unmarried cousin of a most cheerful disposition who expects to stay with us indefinitely. I do not see how we could manage at all without her as Annie has been confined to bed now for some months. Roberts married daughter, Dorothy Plumb has been a great comfort; she and her husband Robert Plumb have driven over from their home to see us very often and brought their daughter, now five years old to see us. Annie long ago hit on a most appropriate name for her 'Plum Blossom'."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 12 March, 1930. "Thankyou for your kind expressions of sympathy as indeed the unexpected death of my dear brother Will was a very heavy blow to us; Annie and I being the only survivors of a family of nine. Robert's two daughters Dorothy Plumb and Anne, with Dorothy's little girl Edith the only one besides ourselves. Little Edith Plumb is a dear smiling little thing and the very light of her fathers eyes. On Sunday Mar 2 Robert Plumb drove over with Dorothy, Edith and Anna from their home in
Lansdowne a suburb of Philadelphia, and spent the afternoon with us. We were pleased to have them come as it was the birthday anniversary of my cousin Lina Lawrence, who has been with us now for about five years, ever since keeping house began to be too much of a strain on Annie's health, for it gave a somewhat lively air to the occasion which otherwise might have been dull for Lina. This is a month of Birthdays for us three. On March 9 just past I arrived at the respectable age of 73, though I can scarcely realise it myself, while my hair is completely white I am feeling very much younger than 73. Annie's birthday is the 20th of the month. I believe I wrote you that my sister-in-law Edith Baily Forster went over to Paris last September to stay for a year with a widowed sister, Mrs Henry Lawrence and her daughter Elizabeth, who is taking a course at the Sorbonne. Elizabeth has since become engaged to a college professor. He is also dean of one of the department at Yale University one of the two most important college institutions in this country. The wedding is expected to take place in Paris early June. Elizabeth is a first cousin once removed as her father Henry was my first cousin."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 21 May, 1930. "I have to tell you of the death of my dear sister Anna on May 5th last. It has been a long lingering illness and she suffered so much towards the end that we could not wish that she should have to endure it longer. One great comfort is that she left her cousin Lina Lawrence with her during her entire illness to the very end. Indeed I not know what we should have done without her as she has such a cheerful nature and has much experience with illness in her own immediate family. She is still with me but expects to sail for Paris on May 31 as her niece, the daughter of a deceased brother is to marry in that city in about a month, so after that I shall be alone for a time. The death of my brother Will, in July last, and now Anna leaves me the last surviving member of my family. It is true that Robert's two daughters are living but they are of a younger generation with all its modern ideas in any ways different from that of the previous generation to which I belong. Dorothy Plumb, Robert's older daughter is a very nice woman and she and her husband, Robert Plumb have both urged to have me come and make my home with them. They have a little girl of 5 years and a very attractive home in Lansdowne, one of Philadelphia's pleasant suburbs, but as I am a man of 73 feel most reluctant to do so. Dorothy is most sympathetic as she was with us in our father's and mother's lifetime up to the time of her marriage. For the present I shall in the house as the lease runs to Aug 1st, and after that I do not know just what I shall do, tho' it is likely that I shall keep this house until Oct 1st as my cousin is expected to return to this country in September and will then help me dispose of the furniture etc. As you probably know its no easy matter to clear out the accumulations of so many years. After father's death, when we moved in 1917 from our home on De Kalb St to the Jacoby St house we brought almost everything with us and all these things will have to be disposed of and cannot be done in a few days. There is one thing I have been thinking of writing you about for some time past and the present seems a suitable opportunity. I have in my possession a pair of diamond earrings which may be considered almost an heirloom. They belonged to our great grandmother Anne Cameron, and came to her from her father Donald Cameron, then their chief of the clan, who received them from Prince Charles Edward Stuart. They came to him from his ancestor, Mary Queen of Scots. They came to my father as the eldest living son of grandfather Charles Vaughan Forster, and then to me. As both my brothers died leaving no son to carry on the name, I think they should go to you at my death. They have always been kept in a small red morocco case, and on one inner rim of this case are the initials A. C. (Anne Cameron) in faded ink. Each earring is in two parts, the lower portion is pear shaped with a central pear shaped stone, surrounded by smaller stones and the upper part circular with a central stone surrounded by a ring of smaller stones. The two parts are linked together by small rings and the back is of old-fashioned red gold. I should like you to consider them as heirlooms to be handed down in the male line of the family."

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 December, 1930. "I expected to have given up the house and moved by the end of October but have not found it possible to do so, and I will probably remain here till the 1st of April 1931. In going through various papers, unearthed from old trunks long undisturbed, I found several interesting articles that I was quite unaware of. My cousin Lina Lawrence who was then with one found another old trunk of my father's a sheet of note paper, quite yellow with age, containing copies of birth certificates and burial certificates of grandfather Forster's ancestry running back to 1773,
certified by the vicar of the parish in Berwick-upon-Tweed on 21st July 1840, a copy of which I am enclosing with this. This is a great aid in tracing the ancestry back - there being the names of at least two generations preceding grandfather Forster. I doubt if my father knew of them as they were among his father's papers and possibly he never noticed them. It would appear from these records that grandfather Forster's parents Lt. Vaughan Forster & Anne Cameron, his wife had a daughter Anne Abercrombie Forster who died an infant of about eight months. Also that Martha Cameron was the mother of Anne Cameron, so grandfather's grandmother on the mother's side. And his grandparents on the Forster side were Matthew Forster & Sarah his wife and going back two generations to the year 1773. With these clues it should not be difficult to trace the lineage back to the time of Queen Elizabeth. It seems to me at any rate, I have secured more information from this one sheet of paper than from correspondence with the Heraldry office to which I wrote three years ago. I hear quite frequently from Aunt Kit Forster widow of your uncle William - also from his daughter Gladys, also a widow with two children, Ewan and Charlotte, who, Aunt Kit writes are 'all working hard at school and are such fine kids and devoted to their mother'. Aunt Kit was Uncle Will's second wife but brought up Gladys when still quite a child. Aunt Kit had no children of her own. Her home is in St John, New Brunswick where I was born. Gladys lives in Toronto, Ontario and her brother lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Aunt Dorothy, your father's only sister-deceased, has a granddaughter formerly Ethel Bliss, now Ethel Thebaud, with her husband and two daughters live in Camden, New Jersey, just across the Delaware River from Philadelphia; her oldest daughter Betty is I believe married. I have always intended to go and call on them, but am ashamed to say, have not done so. As regards the diamond earrings of which I wrote you in my letter last Spring, I did not intend to send them immediately or to part with them at the present time but to have them carefully designated to go to you after my death. They will be wrapped and addressed and my cousin or my Bank in Philadelphia will have explicit directions to see that they shipped to you safely."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931. "When cousin Carl come on to visit me, we talked a great deal about you and we were going to write a composite letter, but as you have doubtless have heard by now, before we got it off, he had to go to the hospital and died on 24th May, just a little more than a year I think since Nan died. He was a dear and we corresponded for a great number of years and were very fond of each other, though I had only really seen him three times and Nan only twice. Since then Lena Lawrence has sent me your letters which Carl had filed and numbered as she thought it would be interesting and also snaps you had sent him. I am certainly interested especially as you are the only branch of our family to carry on the name and I was so pleased to hear you have three sons." Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 29 November, 1931. "Carl spoke to me about your kind invitation to him to go to Australia, but said he was too old. When Carl came on here, he seemed very well tho' tired, and I’m afraid the journey up, and the little rest I could set him to take was too much from him. He was threatened with pneumonia and tho’ the nurses and doctors had managed to avert that. He just seemed to suffer a general breakdown of the system and gradually weakened and relapsed into a coma. I visited him every day in the hospital and he was buried in Norristown." (Note: The earrings were never received by Grafton Forster despite follow up efforts on his part to obtain them in the 1930’s.)

74. F iii. Anna Whitall Forster was born on 20 March 1859 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 5 May, 1930

75. M iv. Franklin Whitall Forster was born on 29 March, 1861 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 8 January, 1862 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada

"Died 6 January, 1862, Franklin Whitall Forster son of Dr. T. A. D. and Anna W. Forster. Aged 9 months"
76. M v. Thomas Frederick Forster was born on 27 October, 1862 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 5 January, 1883

77. M vi. Harry Percy Forster was born on 28 February, 1865 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 1 November, 1868 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada

78. M vii. Donald Ewan Cameron Forster was born on 19 January, 1867 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 6 November, 1877 in Norristown, Penn, USA

79. M viii. Robert Forster was born on 1 August, 1869 and died in January, 1925

80. M ix. William Dickson Forster was born on 13 August, 1877 in Plymouth and died on 20 July, 1929. William married Edith Bailey or Baily in 1904

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 16 November, 1920. "William my youngest brother, tho' married since 1904, has no children. His wife, whose home was near Cincinnati, some thousand miles west from Phila', has recently gone there to visit a married sister where she expects to remain for about a month and as they quite inseparable, I think he is finding life at present a little dull and stupid."

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 27 November, 1923. "Although Will's home is comparatively near us, being about three quarters of an hour by automobile, we do not see him very often, except at the holiday season, as he is kept very busy by the Bell Telephone Co. He is in the engineering department in charge of 'power' and makes frequent trips to New York, Pittsburgh and other cities in his district installing or enlarging plants at the various exchanges. For the past year the Telephone Co. has been equipping a number of the Phila. exchanges with an automatic system of making connections, and as the 'cut-over' has to be done at night or in the early morning hours, so that 'testing' may be done without interruption. Will has been having a rather strenuous time. However he seems to be standing up well under the strain and I hope he will soon have the work completed."

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 9 March, 1927. "My brother will 7 his wife Edith came to see us, he is still actively engaged as an electrical engineer with the Bell Telephone Co. of Penn. in Phila. My niece Dorothy - Robert's eldest daughter is married to Robert E Plumb who also is with Bell Telephone Co. as assistant Manager in the business section. They have a pretty little home in the vicinity of Phila. They have a bright little daughter Edith Forster Plumb now nearly four years old.

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 20 November, 1929. "The long continued illness of my sister Anna together with the death of my youngest and last surviving brother leaves me very alone. William who was within three weeks of fifty-one years of age was taken from us quite suddenly. He was looking forward to his annual vacation of two weeks in the summer when he and his wife Edith took their holiday trip when he was stricken with severe abdominal pain on 14th July. he was obliged to enter a hospital and an operation was considered imperative by his physicians. On Monday 15 July the operation took place and by the following Saturday he passed away. The blow was so unexpected as Will had made a business trip to New York only a few days before he was taken ill and one of his close business associates who had been with him in New York told me that he seemed in good spirits at that time. Will's widow Edith was prostrated by the sudden unexpectedness of the blow. As they were inseparable and had no children Edith could not endure living in their comfortably fitted home just out of Philadelphia and as she had a sister, a widow with an unmarried daughter who was in Paris for a year, she decided to cross the Atlantic and spend the year with her. Indeed her distress was indeed pitiable, I was glad that she so decided as the associations here were too painful."
Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 12 March, 1930. "I believe I wrote you that my sister-in-law Edith Baily Forster went over to Paris last September to stay for a year with a widowed sister, Mrs Henry Lawrence and her daughter Elizabeth, who is taking a course at the Sorbonne. Elizabeth has since become engaged to a college professor. He is also dean of one of the department at Yale University one of the two most important college institutions in this country. The wedding is expected to take place in Paris early June. Elizabeth is a first cousin once removed as her father Henry was my first cousin."

61. Charles Cameron Forster (Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 9 April, 1833 in St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 20 November, 1901 in Perth, West Australia. He was buried on 20 Nov 1901 in Perth, West Australia

NOTE: See 'The Campbell and Dickson Families', #50 in Fifth Generation of that line.

Charles Cameron Forster according to oral family history was born on the vessel that bought the family from the West Indies on the day it arrived in the bay where the township of St Andrews, New Brunswick stands. He resided there with his family until the 1940's when they moved to St John, New Brunswick. Again according to oral family history he is said to have begun a medical degree before he along with three other fellows decided to leave home for the goldfield of Victoria, Australia.

In 'The Courier' newspaper of Saint John New Brunswick, Saturday, July 31 the following article appeared "Australia - On Monday last a party of young men, belonging to this neighbourhood, took their departure in the steamer 'Eastern City', on their way to New York, where they intend to embark in the American ship 'Epaminondas', for Australia. We hope they will be successful in their exertions, and succeed in securing a fair share of 'the dust' in some shape. Four of them belong to No. 5 Fire Engine Company, and they were accompanied to the steamer by a number of their fellow enginemen. A salute was also fired at Reed's Point, by members of the Company, as the steamer passed down the Harbour.

The following are the names of the party:- Mr. Charles C. Forster, son of C. V. Forster Esq, of H. M. Customs; Mr. J. S. Boise DeVeber, son of L. H. DeVeber Esq; Mr. Wm. N. Smith, son of T. M. Smith Esq; and John T. Campbell, son of J. M Campbell, and Messrs. Robert and John Douglas, sons of Mr. Robert Douglas of Loch Lomond."

A similar description appeared in the Tuesday, 27 July, 1852 edition of the 'The Weekly Observer' of Saint John. It stated that "In full uniform the Company then proceeded to Reed's Point with two field pieces, and saluted their companions with several discharges there from."

... "We record this incident with regret. The loss of young men with such standing, respectably connected, well educated, of active habits and high moral character, is a great calamity to our community, and if means are not taken to afford sufficient inducement to retain such young men amongst us, the future of this Province would bear a gloomy aspect. We hope however by the time they have filled their pockets with the 'dust' such progress will have been made toward railway and reciprocal trade with the United States, that New Brunswick will tempt them. and many others of her scattered sons to return and assist in elevating their native land to that high position among countries to which her natural advantages fully entitle her."

(Original broad sheets of both papers held by Hugh Forster)

Departing from New York on 15 September, 1852 Charles arrived in Melbourne aboard the 'Epaminondas' on the 29 November, 1852. It is likely he did not immediately proceed to the diggings on arrival but rather remained in Melbourne for a year or two. From the family records of Mary Forster it appears he even made a visit to Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land to meet with a cousin, Matthew Forster, who had been appointed the Police Magistrate for the Colony in 1831. This meeting is unlikely to have occurred as Matthew Forster died in Tasmania in 1846 six years before Charles arrival in Australia. John Forster, Matthew's younger brother arrived in the VDL in 1854 to take up a position of Assistant Police Magistrate at Hamilton. It is possible that Charles and John did meet.
However, before February, 1855 he had arrived at the Old Cathcart diggings before a mine called John Chinaman was opened. This newspaper article provides insight into the way rules were introduced in handling and protecting miners’ claims amongst themselves. "An Interesting Relic - In reference to the earlier days of Ararat, ... the following Rules and Regulations were laid down by the original Vigilance Committee to be observed on the Mount Ararat diggings ... approved at Mount Ararat, Monday, 18 February, 1855 by the Committee ... Charles C. Forster is listed as a Committee member. Rule 1 - That two men constitute a party, and are allowed to hold thirty-three feet square with no wall between claims. Rule 2 - Four men in one party can hold two claims, but not in any way or manner connected or adjoining. Rule 3 - That one man can shepherd one claim, and it shall be necessary for him to appear and remain on it between the hours of nine and eleven in the forenoon, and two and four in the afternoon. Failing in his attendance at those hours he loses his claim, except in the event of sickness. Rule 4 - That any party or parties using violence over a disputed claim, before applying to the Committee shall forfeit all title to the claim. Rule 5 - That any person found washing or working any other ground forfeits his right to that to which he may be shepherding. Rule 6 - That no boy shall shepherd a shaft who is not able to do his part in the sinking. Rule 7 - That any party or parties driving on and knocking down the wash dirt from his neighbours ground shall be considered a felon, and handed over to the authorities to be dealt with accordingly. Rule 8 - That any party sinking a shaft four hundred yards ahead of the last golden hole, shall be entitled to a double claim, if marked our previous to sinking. Rule 9 - In the case of a disputed claim three of the Committee shall be called. The settlement of claims to take place between the hours of twelve and two o'clock, for which no charge will be applied. Rule 10 - That if any party feels aggrieved at the decision of three of the Committee, he has the right of appeal to the twelve, whose decision shall be final. Each party must in such case deposit one pound, the rightful owner of the claim to have his money returned. The diggers pledge themselves to support the Committee to carrying out the above Rules and Regulation."

Obviously life on the gold fields was difficult and not always rewarding and it appears Charles was looking at other prospects. In a letter to his parents, "Cathcart, 13 June, 1859 Australia ... You will be astonished after all my preaching about sticking to mining I have again forsaken the Pick & Shovel, put my Moleskins & Blue on the shelf and resumed a more genteel appearance, but at the same time I am still speculating in shares which I think will pay me well, the claims are bottomed and secured ... I have many reasons for giving up mining at the present time and the principal one is that I have taken an interest in a Hotel. The same where I am now writing to you from called Mount William Hotel, it is situated close to a mountain of the same name, the highest peak in Victoria from which it derives its name. I have only been a few weeks in possession and I must say I have no cause to complain. I have a half interest in the house and sales management and being so well known in this district has made a great difference in the receipts of the house. I only trust the affairs will continue as they have commenced and you will, I trust soon see me among you again ..."

What become of his interest in the Hotel is unknown however in a letter of reply from his father dated 6 September, 1859 "My Dear Charles, By last mail we received your letter dated 13 June and a hearty good laugh we had when we came to that part of it naming your new occupation. In my opinion it is of very little consequence what a vocation a man follows in Australia provided he is honest ..."

Research by Matthew Forster indicates that in the late 1850’s Charles had begun to establish himself as a pharmacist with his first advertisement appearing the Ararat Advertiser, 19 November, 1857. In beginning a medical degree he would certainly have had a rudimentary understanding of chemistry which is generally taught as one of the early subjects. From an article in The Pinnacle, edition Sep 1932, a Stawell School magazine included the following article "Ararat a picturesque little town situated in the north-west of Victoria ... and is distant 132 miles from Melbourne. The mother part of the town is really Cathcart, where the first gold rush took place; when good gold was found on the present site of Ararat the population grew bigger. The first hospital, placed on market square consisted of a tent in which two beds, and there was scarcely room for another person to enter. One of the first operations was performed by Mr. Charles Forster, there being no doctor. A man was bought into Ararat with a fractured arm. Mr. Forster went into an hotel and borrowed a carving knife. He then amputated the arm above the wrist, and a Mr. Flatterley, who was present, said it was the best amputation he had ever seen."

In another magazine "Red Man’s Review", 1903 - 1910 published at Jallukar nearby to Ararat in an article about the reminisces of early pioneers it states "The first circulating library was kept by Mr. Flatterley, whose tent was situated at the foot of the range above the white lead. He had purchased 300 volumes and had lent them at sixpence each per week. He also kept
Newspapers and Stationary in stock. Mr. Charles Forster lived with him and was the first chemist on the Ararat Goldfields. He afterwards lived in Moyston and later on in Ararat.

Matthew Forster continues that Charles then moved to nearby, in the early 1860's to Campbell's Goldfield later renamed Moyston where he continued with his pharmacy. He participated in the public affairs of the town such as acting a co-auditor for 'The Campbells Gold Field Common' which gained income from animals agisting on the Common. This income was used to support Community service and Charles seconded a motion for the fund to be used to establish a common school for all religions. Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser, Aug 25th 1868.

In the same newspaper dated 25 May 1869 an advertisement appeared "Moyston Dispensary, Mr. C. Cameron Forster, dispensing Chemist, Brook St Moyston, C.C.F has always on hand a well assorted Stock of Chemicals, Pharmaceutical Preparations, Drugs and Patient Medicines ... also Horse and Cattle Medications ... N.B. Physicians prescriptions accurately prepared, in strict accordance with the new British Pharmacopea ... Note - A choice assortment of Fancy Goods, Stationary, Tobacco, Snuff, Cigars, Meerschaum wood and Clay Pipes, Cutttery, Hair Tooth and Nail Brushes etc. C.C. Forster, Agents for Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser, House and Land Agent, Stock and Share Broker, and General Commission Agent. General Insurance Agencies: Fire and Life Insurance effected at the lowest rates with the following Offices - ... Office next door to the Moyston dispensary. Moyston, Bluestone Bluestone Bluestone, Seeds, Seeds, Seeds, Warranted fresh and true to name, The Undersigned has just received a large assortment of Kitchen, Garden and Other Seeds, from one of the best Melbourne Seed Warehouses and is prepared to supply them at greatly reduced prices - C. Cameron Forster."

Using the dispensary as his primary occupation Charles expanded into other areas, which might complement the pharmacy trade. He still continued to retain mining interests as I (Hugh Forster) hold two of his mining licences one issued in 1864 and the other in 1866 to Charles Cameron Forster of Moyston.

On the 17 January, 1866 at Mr. Flatterley's residence, Cathcart, the marriage of between Charles Cameron Forster, chemist and resident of Moyston, aged 33, and Mary Ann Grafton spinster and resident of Cathcart, aged 24 was solemnized under the Presbyterian laws.

Matthew Forster states that Charles moved from Moyston to Ararat in 1871 and started a Pharmacy there at the corner of Main and Ligar Streets. In the Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser, 17 May, 1871 an advertisement appeared - "Medical Hall, opposite Bull and Mouth Hotel, Barkly Street, Ararat, C. Cameron Forster, Family and Dispensing Chemist and General Reedeman ... Forster's Medical Hall, opposite the Bull and Mouth and Camp Hotels will be Open Sundays (for dispensing only) From 9 to 10 o'clock a.m. and from 5 to 6 o'clock p.m."

In 1875 Charles again moved, this time to Stawell (which in the early days was known as Pleasant Creek) and established a pharmacy at the corner of Main and Wimmera Streets where he traded as 'Forster & Co wholesale and retail Druggists, Family and Dispensing Chemists'. He also continued to establish new ventures such as appeared in the 6 Feb 1882 edition of the Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser - "Forster & Co, Chemists - Electro-Magnetic HAIR RESTORER - This preparation, as its name indicates, has a specific magnetic influence on the bulbs of the hair, producing a healthy circulation and giving fresh life to the weakened bulb, thereby producing a strong and healthy growth. It has a direct influence on the colouring matter of the hair, quickly changing grey hair to its natural colour. It effectually prevents the hair from falling off, it softens the hair when harsh and dry, it thoroughly eradicates dandruff and scuff, it promotes a vigorous and healthy growth, it removes all irritation of the scalp, and affords a rich and natural lustre. - Forster & Co, Stawell."

In the same paper but in the 1 March 1884 edition an advertisement appeared for - "The White Cross Company's Pure Cordials. - The Most Wholesome Summer Drinks that can be procured - Hotelkeepers and Private Families can now obtain these Celebrated Cordials and Liquors from any of the Wholesale Grocers and Storekeepers. Government Analyst Report. 15 Sep 1879 - 'I have examined a number of samples of Cordials etc., manufactured by the White Cross Company of Stawell. They are really very elegant preparations and have been put up in very attractive form. All have evidently (judging from the delicacy of the flavour), been prepared from the very best material procurable, and may be relied on as fully equaling the very best articles of their kind to be found. Clear as crystal; beautiful in colour; flavour perfect. The Fruit Tonic is a most delicious bitter, and contains the active properties of the Red Peruvian Bark, and will be found a most invigorating tonic for the summer season' (signed)

Although never having achieving advanced education credentials he received his Certificate of Registration as a Registered Pharmaceutical Chemist in August, 1877, No. 433, of the Pharmacy Act of Victoria 1876.

At some stage Charles took on a partner and the pharmacy business became known as Forster & Kennedy. In 1890 he decided to sell the business and relocate to Melbourne. In the Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser, 18 Nov 1890 this notice appeared - "A very important sale of household furniture and effects will be held today and tomorrow at the residence of Mr. C. C. Forster in Sloane Street. The collection is one of the most valuable ever offered by public auction in this locality, representing the accumulation, during a fifteen years' residence here, of choice furniture, glassware, ornaments, crockery, and every requisite for the purposes of the household. For the convenience of the intending purchasers a large marquee, over 45 feet by 40 feet, has been erected at the rear of the premises, in which the goods will be displayed for inspection; catalogues are also provided. The sale commences at 10.30 a.m."

The Stawell Times 12 Oct 1890 stated "It is with regret we learn of the purposed departure of an old and respected resident of the borough. Mr. C. Cameron Forster first came into the district in 1855, at which time he commenced to take a lively and practical interest in gold mining, or diggings as it was then termed, and which interest he has sustained from that time to the present. During the last 15 years he has been the principal in the firm Forster & Co., manufacturing chemists and druggists, Main Street Stawell. In all public matters Mr. Forster has always taken the liveliest interest, a consistent call player, and a man of remarkable enterprise and resource, he has done much to create and foster local industry. In all charitable movements he has been responsive when called upon to assist. Prior to his leaving Stawell, Mr. Foster has been at considerable pains to properly induct his successor into the business, Mr. Brent ..."

Matthew Forster states after moving to Melbourne in October, 1890, he purchased a Pharmacy at 115 Sydney Rd, Brunswick where he continued to conduct business until his death in 1901. Some time prior to his death he had introduced another partner Arthur Legge who in 1902 married Iva Aldar Lee Forster his seventh child. After the death of his wife earlier in 1901 he made a trip to visit his son Grafton in Perth where Charles suffered a heart attack there and died. He is buried in Perth.

Dec 1901, The Australian Journal of Pharmacy
"Obituary. - Chas. Cameron Forster. Our readers will hear with regret of the death of Mr. C.C. Forster, on November 20th in Perth, whither the deceased gentleman had gone on a visit to his son, Mr. G.C.D. Forster, dentist. Mr. Forster, sen., was a son of Chas. Vaughan Forster, Naval Officer, and later, comptroller of customs in Canada. The deceased arrived in Victoria from Canada in 1852, and was among the pioneers on the Ararat and Stawell goldfields. He rendered good public service as one of the vigilance committee at Ararat in a time of lawlessness, and took an active interest in the progress of both towns named. Mr. Forster started business as a chemist at Moyston (Wimmera), afterwards moving to Ararat, and then to Stawell. In 1892 he established himself in Sydney Road, Brunswick, which he still conducted at the time of his death. Mr. Forster severely felt the loss of his wife, which occurred about a year ago; and a few months back he had to undergo a serious operation. The deceased, who had passed the three score and ten, was for many years a member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, and was held in high esteem by brother pharmacists and by a large circle of friends"

Charles Cameron Forster who lived in St Johns, New Brunswick sailed from Canada, in 1851c. (I think I read somewhere that the ship left from Halifax) to look for gold in Victoria, after completing only one year of a medical course in Canada. Apparently he spent time in, or visited Forest Creek, Bendigo, Ballarat, Creswick and Avoca before arriving at Mount Williams in 1855 where it appears he spent the next six years. In 1871 he opened a chemist shop in Ararat and moved to Stawell where he bought a chemist shop in 1875. We can assume that he had made home at Moyston in the mid-60's because he married Mary Annie (or Annie Mary, records show both, although their family bible says Mary Annie). For their children I've taken the birth dates and places from the birth records received from the Stawell Historical Society. The Stawell records omit Amy Irene Proctor. However, the places of birth give some indication where the family might have been living.

1. Dora Louise b.1866, Moyston, d. 1877
2. Edith Jane b. 1868, Moyston, d. 1891
3. Grafton Cameron Dickson, b.1869, Moyston, d.1949
Charles married Mary Annie Grafton on 17 January, 1866 in Cathcart, Victoria, Australia. Mary was born on 3 September, 1844 in Dawley Green, Staffordshire, England. She died on 20 April, 1901 in Brunswick, Melbourne, Australia. She was buried on 20 April, 1901 in Melbourne General Cemetery.

In a letter from her husband to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that "my wife is not at all strong, but she has kept up wonderfully for her age, considering the many severe illnesses she has passed through".

There were three Grafton girls - Mary Annie who married Charles Cameron Forster, another Lucy Phoebe who married a Carter and Sophie who married a Cash. The Carters had sons and a daughter who married a Barr. The Barr's had 3 sons, the eldest became a doctor, the middle son took over the family Real Estate business. The youngest became a doctor and was a Rhodes Scholar. The Carters were in Stawell and later in W.A. Cameron McDougall Forster stayed with the Carters in 1916 when they lived at Kellerberrin W.A. The Cash's also had a son who was a Rhodes Scholar. (Recollections of Cameron McDougall Forster, December, 1978 interview with Hugh Forster)

Charles and Mary had the following children:

81. F i. Dora Louise Forster was born on 21 December, 1866 in Moyston, Victoria, Australia and died on 15 March, 1877 in Stawell, Victoria, Australia. She was buried in Stawell, Victoria, Australia.

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that Dora Louise was 11 years when she passed onto her spiritual home. A wonderful clever girl for her years, we used to call her the 'walking Encyclopaedia', she had a most wonderful memory, and one occasion just before her illness, entered for a school competition against 120 competitors nearly all older than herself, ranging as high as 18 years. She came out of the contest with second prize, a young lady 17 years taking 1st prize. She excelled wonderfully in music, a surprise to all who heard her. Had she been spared to us she would have made a name for herself in the world.

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931. "When I was quite small I remember I used to write to one of your sisters Dorothy (Dora), I think was her name. We had her photograph and she and I were supposed to resemble each other."

Their first child Dora was born at Moyston December 1866 and died eleven years of age in 1877. (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

82. F ii. Edith Jane Forster was born on 2 March, 1868 in Moyston, Victoria, Australia and died on 13 April, 1891 in Wilson St, Horsham, Victoria, Australia. She was buried on 14 April, 1891 in Horsham, Victoria, Australia. Edith married Francis Leopold Tymms on 1 February, 1891 in St Hellives, Abbotsford, Melbourne, Australia. Francis was born in 1870 in Bright, Victoria, Australia.

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that Edith, who was called home [heaven] about 8 years ago, had only been married four months, she was attacked with typhoid fever and succumbed to the disease. She was also a thorough musician, a lovely player on the organ and piano. Her blow was a great blow to her mother and myself as she was far away from us at the time and it came very unexpected as the telegram the day previous stated she was doing well.
The second daughter Edith married Francis Tymms in 1891 and died two months later at the age of twenty-three. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

83. M iii. Grafton Cameron Dickson Forster was born on 3 July, 1869 and died on 13 February, 1949

84. M iv. Donald Cameron Forster was born on 29 August, 1870 in Moyston Victoria and died on 29 August, 1870 in Moyston Victoria. He was buried in Moyston Victoria

85. F v. Winifred Voce Forster was born on 19 September, 1871

86. F vi. Effie May Bliss Forster was born on 21 December, 1875

87. F vii. Iva Alder Lee Forster was born on 28 November, 1877 in Stawell, Victoria, Australia. Iva married Arthur Owsley Legge in 1902 in Applecross, Western Australia. Arthur was born in 1882 in Swan, Victoria, Australia and died on 1 February, 1912 in Sydney Rd, Brunswick, Melbourne, Australia

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that Iva is following the occupation of schoolteacher and has just turned 21 years.

20 Oct 1893 - Mr A.O. Legge's friends in New Zealand will be glad to learn that he has successfully passed the examinations prescribed by part 3 of the Medical Act 1890. Mr. Legge was apprenticed to Mr. John Edson Auckland before the passing of the Victorian Amendment Pharmacy Act in 1886. Having finished his apprenticeship he came to Victoria (where apprenticeship in any of the Australasian colonies or New Zealand is accepted) and passed the preliminary examination; he then attended the ten month course at the Pharmacy College of Melbourne, and passed in chemistry, materia medica, and botany, and on the 1st September last presented himself for the final qualification, which he was also successful in passing. It is creditable to Mr. Legge that he has not failed in any one examination, and has in a comparatively short space of time, covered the whole curriculum prescribed by the Medical Act; and his success will no doubt be the means of bringing many other New Zealand students to the Melbourne College of Pharmacy.

20 Feb 1912 - Mr Arthur Owsley Legge died at his residence, Sydney Road Brunswick, on 1st February. Mr. Legge came to Victoria from New Zealand in 1896 after serving his apprenticeship with Mr. E Eason, chemist Auckland, he attended the course of lectures at the College of Pharmacy, and passed the intermediate examination in June 1897 and final in December 1898, and was registered in December 1898. For a number of years he was assistant to the late Mr. C.C. Forster, and on his death in 1901, took over the business, which he carried on under the name of Forster & Co., up until the time of his death. Mr. Legge was a quiet unassuming man, and was greatly respected in the district in which he had lived for so many years. (source - Matthew Forster)

Ivy married Arthur Legge. I did meet her when she was a widow. I was stationed in Sydney during the war and had Sunday tea with the family - cold meat, salad, bread and butter and cake with beer to drink. There were two daughters with their husbands or partners who were in their late twenties. The men were not servicemen and I got the impression they were tradesmen, mechanics or something in the blue-collar line. I was nineteen at the time so I felt I was in the company adults. The house was weatherboard and the wood worn. The interior was dark. The décor early 20th century; coloured fabric covered lamp shades, long narrow mirrors with hand-painted landscapes of flowers hung in the sitting room, and the pictures on the walls were family photos and 'Sat at Bay' type paintings in brown wooden frames. The highlight of the evening was when I was leaving, and dear old Ivy wanting to do something for her newly met nephew from the Navy, asked, "Do you need any French Letters?" The daughters both screamed, "Mother!" and the men had a good laugh. I was too embarrassed to say a thing! (With three Arthur’s in the family, I hope I haven’t got the aunts mixed up and it was the
Legge’s I met! Oh well it was a long time ago. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

88. F viii. Amy Irene Proctor Forster was born on 28 July, 1880

89. F ix. Cassy Cameron Forster was born on 28 November, 1881 in Stawell, Victoria and died on 4 April, 1882 in Stawell, Victoria. She was buried on 4 April, 1882 in Stawell, Victoria

63. **William Dickson Forster** (Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 27 September, 1840 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 27 November, 1907 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada

Letter sent to Grafton Forster from his uncle William dated April, 6 1902, St. Andrews he writes. "The sad news conveyed to us by your sisters letter of your dear fathers death was indeed a shock to me, as I was daily looking for a letter from him - not having heard from him directly since June 17 last year - although your sister wrote us about his accident and his going to hospital - it did not prepare me for the sad ending, to us, but an entering into the better higher life for him. His letter to your Uncle Tom written in Oct last which your uncle sent onto me was a very cheerful one & looking towards a good recovery of his usual robust health - he seemed to have enjoyed the sea voyage so much to Perth, & was so happy with you all, would make the parting so much harder for the children. I feel sorry that your sister Iva was denied the comfort of being with you all when the call came. I hope you will write me shortly - and tell me of yourself & family - and with kind love to your wife and self in which my wife and daughter join me. Your Affectionate Uncle, W D Forster"

In another letter sent to Grafton Forster from his uncle William, 20 May, 1902, Saint Andrews N.B., 'The Locusts', he writes. "I was in St. John last week having my teeth attended to and had the extreme pleasure of seven crowned or capped I don't know which term is correct. I went to Dr McAvenney who bought your Uncle Tom out, good will etc., when he left St. John some thirty years ago. By the way did your father say anything about a loan I made him in 1898. He was in great distress for 50 pounds and I immediately sent it to him. He never explained to me why nor did I ask him how he became so pinched for that amount of money - I have his letters asking for the amount and acknowledged receipt of same. How has his Estate wound up - was there much for the girls? How about 'Hirsutus' was he able to do anything with it in selling the patent? Your Aunt and Gladys join me on kind love to you all. Your affectionate Uncle. W D Forster"

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 Dec 1930. "I hear quite frequently from Aunt Kit Forster widow of your uncle William - also from his daughter Gladys, also a widow with two children, Ewan and Charlotte, who, Aunt Kit writes are 'all working hard at school and are such fine kids and devoted to their mother'. Aunt Kit was Uncle Will's second wife but brought up Gladys when still quite a child. Aunt Kit had no children of her own. Her home is in St John, New Brunswick where I was born. Gladys lives in Toronto, Ontario and her brother lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota V.S."

William married (1) Annie Cameron Green on 27 January, 1875 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada. Annie was born on 29 May, 1851 and died on 15 May, 1896 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada

They had the following children:

90. M i. Percy Harry Forster was born on 8 December, 1875 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 23 June, 1947 in Minneapolis, USA without issue

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 15 August, 1926. "Your uncle William Dickson Forster's only surviving son H. Percy Forster, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota some 1500 miles west of
us, surprised us by dropping in upon us here at Norristown without warning, on his way to New York and the New England States."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 29 November, 1931. "...my elder brother Percy had been in the North West Mounted Police for some years."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "Then Percy my brother is living in Minneapolis Minnesota USA. He is around 55 and unmarried, works on the Minn. & St Paul railroad."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 1 December, 1933. "My brother dropped in on me last Christmas also. He lives in Minneapolis you know."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, New Year, 1935. "My brother Percy dropped in on us for Christmas day. As at present we are in a furnished flat it was not an ? blessing - however he always will drop in on me in this way, generally when it is most inconvenient, so I just put him up on the sofa or the floor and let it go at that. He is about 59 now and very large and heavy like my father was, tho' he looks and takes after my mothers family."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 29 October, 1947. "I have two pieces of New, my brother Percy died in June - he was 6 feet tall and quite heavy - fell and broke his hip. They put on a cast and a surgical pin or some such and the hospital reported he was doing well. But when the cast came off he collapsed. I went out to Minnesota and took him back to St Andrews where he wished to be buried. It was a long trip."

91. M ii. Charles Ewan Cameron Forster was born on 31 August, 1877 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died on 4 October, 1898 in Rochester, New York, USA without issue

92. F iii. Dorothy Jane Isabella Gladys Forster was born on 21 August, 1889 and died in 1982

William married (2) Emily Kit Myers after 1896. Emily was born in 1857 and died in 1942

Twelfth Generation

66. Charles Vaughan Forster Bliss (Dorothy Ann Forster, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 12 May, 1853 in New Brunswick, Canada

He had the following children:

93. F i. Ethel Bliss

71. Jane Dickson Forster Bliss (Dorothy Ann Forster, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 1 January, 1863 in Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada
Extracts from a letter sent by her mother Dorothy to her brother Charles dated February 29 (no year), Sussex Rectory. "You don't know how much we all want to see you and if you are going to remain there until you make your fortune I fear we may despair of ever seeing you. I wish you had never left New Brunswick.

Mother has been with me at Sussex for the last 2 months. She came up on the 3 January. I was confined on the 2 of January a little girl I have this time so we have 6 sons and one daughter, quite a family I can tell you to look after. I had her christened yesterday. Tom came up from St. John to be present. I have called her after my dear mother Jane Dickson Forster. She is a dear little thing and mother thinks so much of her."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron McDougall Forster, Box 328 Vineland, 25 April, 1960. "Dorothy's only daughter Janey married an Englishman, Anglican minister Samwell by name, after he died another named Clarke, in middle age they went as missionaries to the North West, mostly Indians. Their one daughter Mary Samwell taught in Indian schools - their surviving son Parke Samwell was in the C.P.R Railway married and a family. I am trying to look them up as I have some photos I'd like to give them. Janey Bliss was really a stellar character & had quite a hard time financially raising 4 children between marriages - one son died in WWI & the eldest died quite young. I hope this will help you - if not ask me what particularly you wish to know"

Jane married Rev. Robert Walter Samwell on 12 June, 1890 in Petawawa, Canada

Jane and Robert had the following children:

94. F i. Grace Forster Samwell was born on 26 April, 1891 in Mattawa, Ontario, Canada and died on 22 December, 1891

95. M ii. Frederick Walter Dickson Samwell was born on 26 May, 1892 in Mattawa, Ontario, Canada and died in 1914

96. M iii. Charles Parke Samwell was born on 4 October, 1893 in Wales, Ontario, Canada

97. M iv. Maurice Owen Samwell was born on 10 September, 1895 in Wales, Ontario, Canada and was killed in action WWI

79. Robert Forster (Thomas Alder Dickson, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 1 August, 1869 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada and died in January, 1925

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 19 July, 1925. "Robert some years ago had a really good oil portrait of himself painted by a young and at that time struggling portrait painter (who has since become famous) Manud Molarski (query spelling). It was done in payment for dental work and some time afterwards I asked Robert about it. He told me he had not taken it, as no one seemed to care for it, in rather a disappointed way. I think I may be able to find some photo's of Robert's two daughters Dorothy and Anna. Dorothy, I think I have written you, was married about three years ago, and has a small daughter named Edith Forster Plumb. She started her earthly pilgrimage in May of this year."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "The only relatives we have left here now are Dorothy and Anna. They were Robert Forster's daughters. Bob was the next son to Carl and died about 5 years ago – he was a dentist."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster c1940's. "Uncle Tom in Philadelphia was the only other Forster to leave grandchildren - Dorothy and Anna - they were rather odd, due to mother and father break up, especially Anna. Dorothy is rather interested in family matters, & has only one girl. (Dorothy and Anna were Robert's daughters)
Robert married Edith Lynn Brown in 1894 in Philadelphia, USA

They had the following children:

98. F i. Dorothy Lynn Forster was born on 8 January, 1896

99. F ii. Anna Whitall Forster was born on 27 July, 1898 in Philadelphia, USA

83. Grafton Cameron Dickson Forster (Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 3 July, 1869 in Moyston Victoria and died on 13 February, 1949 in Perth, West Australia. He was buried on 13 February, 1949 in West Australia.

In a letter from his father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that "Grafton, my only son living, is married and has one son. He is following his profession of Surgeon Dentist in Perth WA. He is making a comfortable living. He is clever at his profession and is a general favourite."

Marriages, 1895. Forster - McDougall - on 22nd August, at the Brunswick residence of the bride's parents, Park Street Brunswick, by Rev. A McVean, Grafton C. D. Forster only son of C.C. Forster, chemist late of Stawell, to Mary Helen, youngest daughter of Chas McDougall, J.P.

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 24 November, 1924. "Thanks very much for the programme of your concert. I should think there must be a great deal of hard work for you in connection with the leadership of two choirs. I suppose from your last letter that this is about the time (24 November) that your next concert is due and I wish you as great success as accompanied your previous one."

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 19 July, 1925. "I am delighted to hear you have had such success with your concerts as you have expended so much time and energy in training and perfecting them."

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 15 August, 1926. "I am so glad that your concert of the Orpheus Society was such a success. Please give Kenneth Rout my congratulations on successful passing his final examinations, prior to entering in on his position. I feel quite curious to see a photo you sent of Morva (Davies) of whose voice you give such a glowing account."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931. "By the way I expect they will send you the earrings. I don’t know anything about them, but Carl mentioned them to me and Lena has your letter about them. I haven’t heard from Robert (Plumb) since they attacked the house. The last letter he said it would take sometime, as Carl had a good deal of stuff very dear to him, but I judge in quite a mess, as he was rather absent minded and would mislay things and upset others looking for them. So I expect if he has marked them as he said, they will find them eventually and send them off."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 29 November, 1931. "I sent on your enclosure to Lena. I understand she was sending you a paper about Carl, but they are rather dilatory anyway. I wrote Robert, who married Dorothy Forster (Carls brother Bob’s daughter – their last name is Plumb) and asked him some details the Register here wanted and haven’t heard back from him yet."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "I am awfully sorry about the earrings. I quite thought you would have got them by now. I wrote very strongly to Lena last year and she said that she had written to Dorothy and D had promised to send them also when she went down to Philadelphia she would see that they got off, if not forwarded before. They are terribly dilatory anyway and Lena told me Dorothy said they were not marked and seemed to want to keep them herself. I am enclosing Dorothy’s address and you might write to her yourself. I am writing to Lena also. All grandfather Forster’s other sons died without leaving any children. I am so glad you and your
sons are carrying on the name as otherwise, I am afraid it would die out, in our branch. It seems odd in such a prolific male family as grandfathers it should turn out that way."

Extract of letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 86 Falcon Road, Toronto, 19 April, 1934. "As to the earrings I haven’t heard a word one way or the other. Lena Lawrence seemed to think they would be sent and I don’t know, as Dorothy has never mentioned them to me. I should think your letter should have a result."

Extract of letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, 10 December, 1934. "How did you come out about the earrings? I haven’t heard anything from Norristown for some time."

Extract of letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, New Year, 1935. "It is too bad about the earrings. I wrote to Lena before Christmas and just had a reply. I asked her if she knew whether the earrings had gone and she said ‘No’ but hadn’t seen Dorothy for sometime."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 275 Holmwood Avenue, Ottawa, 2 December, 1935. "I haven’t heard a word about the earrings - did you get them or not? I am enclosing some snaps of the family."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Bristol, Quebec, 1 December, 1936. "What happened about the earrings; Lena and Edith do not seem to know anything further about them!"

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Box 794 Postal Station 7, Toronto, 1 December, 1937. "I haven’t heard anymore about the earrings, but hope to go to the States soon, and when I am down there will try and see Dorothy and Anna - and see what it’s all about."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine’s, Ontario, 8 August, 1943. "So your son Paton and Helen’s marriage are following in the Forster tradition all right. I think it is grand Cameron and Donald will both be doctors - there is no more interesting work and at least you feel you are helping humanity definitely - which should be a consolation for all the disagreeable and hard sides."

Graf, my father, at the age of twenty-six married Mary Helen McDougall and moved to Perth in the 1890’s (I don’t have the date). He had studied dentistry in Melbourne and the surgery where he practised was above “Ogg the Chemist” in the top end of Collins Street. There were two small terrace shops there until the early 60’s near the Assembly Hall. In Perth, he was the first dentist to start a practice in St Georges Terrace. A newspaper cutting (I don’t remember the date) was sent to me by a friend in WA. The article was written about the Applecross Hotel. The original building, near Canning Bridge and situated with a good view of the Swan River, was intended as a retreat for the Governor of WA, but he didn’t like it, so it was put up for sale. The article said that a young dentist from Melbourne, Mr Grafton Forster occupied the residence. But it doesn’t say for how long. (There was a story at home how Graf had bought the Applecross Hotel but it went broke and he lost a lot of money). Nor does the article say clearly when the building a hotel and who owned it, and it doesn’t mention Mrs Forster or their baby Cameron. Maybe at some stage the family might even have lived above the surgery on the corner of St Georges Terrace and King St, before moving to Maylands two miles north of the city to live in ‘Riverslea’ a large weatherboard house built along the lines of Queensland houses with a veranda on 3 sides and a passage down the centre of the house from front to back as a breezeway. There was also a back veranda cut off from the main veranda by the maid’s bedroom on one side and the long dining room and bathroom on the other side. I think it was on four acres of land - could have been more. The house was on a hill and overlooked the Swan River. The road on the riverside of the property has since been named Riverslea Avenue. ‘Riverslea’ had its own water supply; a windmill drew water from a deep well in the side garden where apricot trees grew. The stables, which housed the horses for drawing the family’s vehicles prior to automobiles, became a double garage when cars replaced the horses. Graf bred Collie dogs and these occupied another stable. (He also bred and showed with success Russian Wolf Hounds - Hugh Forster).

There was gardener living on the premises in a small hut near the cowshed. The first one I remember was George who taught me how to milk cow into a small billy which Sue had bought me. It was still Depression years and although he wasn’t paid much he had three meals a day with Iris in the kitchen and they ate the same as was cooked for the family. When the cow went, George went. Looking back I wonder if Graf and Sue were ‘protecting’ Iris
because George was young and good looking and she was in her early teens. Then came Alf who was over middle age and pottered around the garden and the chook yard and chopped the wood if Don or I were not about.

The milkman in a horse drawn cart delivered milk around 4am. An enamel two-pint billy with a lid was hung each night on the fence in front of the house. Pasteurisation hadn’t hit the market by then so you could imagine wasn’t as pure as it is today, but we survived. The milk from the cow and the delivered milk were invariably brought to the boil very slowly in large flat pans. At the first sign of boiling it was taken off the stove and allowed to cool. The thick clotted cream that was skimmed of the surface was delicious and the milk was used for drinking, tea and cooking. Pasteurised bottle milk didn’t arrive until somewhere around the mid-thirties, and that was not homogenised so the cream settles on the top. We had a lid on the box where the milk was left because the magpies broke the seal and drank the cream. The milk for the boarders at Scotch came from four cows belonging to the school.

The shops in 8th Avenue, Maylands, which were less than 5 minutes from ‘Riverslea’ by car, comprised a butcher, a baker, a green grocer and an ‘Egg and Butter’ shop which also sold milk and bacon. You bought butter from this shop and it was cut from a huge hunk that was kept in an ice chest to keep it firm. The shop smelt of cured bacon and that was sliced as required. This type of shop was in every suburb as they preceded the delicatessen of today.

We had our own poultry in a chook yard for eggs and chickens and ducks for Roasting. It was the gardener’s job to chop off the heads of chicken, which Iris plucked in the laundry. During the war years there was no gardener or maid so I chopped the heads off and Sue plucked the chicken. The baker delivered mid-morning, arriving at the back door with a basket of freshly baked bread. Sliced bread was unheard of.

There were two coolers on the back veranda, a Coolgardie Safe, which had preceded the ice chest. Twice a week, the iceman called with a new block of ice. The ice chest was sheltered from the sun but to have it inside would have meant water being tramped into the kitchen. The Coolgardie Safe needed a breeze to evaporate the damp hessian and it was surprising how cool it became. Around 1931 we acquired our first electric refrigerator. It worked very efficiently but consumed a lat of water, but that was piped off to the rose garden.

Graf was very keen on physical exercise. He played golf and tennis and regularly every morning did breathing exercises and stretch exercises with dumbbells. He wasn’t so successful encouraging Don and me to follow hid example. Apparently when he came to Perth he started a woman’s callisthenics class, (an early 20th century version of aerobics, bit not so noisy) I saw a photo of this but don’t know where it is now and I have no detail how long it lasted.

The cars I remember were Sue’s 1932 Plymouth Chrysler and Graf’s Graham-Paige coupe. There were previous cars to those two, which dated back to pre-WWI, which I was too young to remember, and also one of the first steam cars. The steam car blew up so I was told, but parts of its engine were still in the garage when I was a kid. The fourth stable became a ‘grain store’ for the cow, which supplied the milk up to the late 1920’s. The cow shared a large yard behind the stables with the turkeys. On the property there was paddock where fodder grew for the cow, and near the front gate, in those days, 112 Guildford Rd, sheltered by a very high cypress hedge, a tennis court.

The surgery was a pair of Terrace houses on the corner of King St and St Georges Terrace and it occupied the one away from the corner. I remember going to the surgery as a child. It was cool dark and the outside the waiting room at the back of the house there was a large clump of bamboo. That is all I can recall about the surgery, except that a nurse used to take me out to the front gate when she heard the postman coming because he blew a whistle at each house when he dropped off the mail. An elderly Russian by the name of Popov, who was a clock maker, occupied the residence above the surgery. His business didn’t flourish and on one occasion he paid his rent by giving Graf a mantel clock. It was a cube of beaten copper standing on four legs to allow a pendulum to swing beneath the clock. It had an open face. It didn’t keep good time and needed adjusting each week by raising or lowering the weight on the pendulum. Telling the time at ‘Riverslea’ was always a problem. You couldn’t rely on Popov’s clock, Graf insisted the mantel clock in the dining room must always be 5 minutes fast so that we would not daily over meals and be late for appointments (and I think that was for Dick’s benefit! I can remember him reprimanding her), and the kitchen clock - an old alarm clock with a bell on top - was different again and probably fast as it was used by the maid (Iris Longbottom) to wake her in the morning to light the wood-burning kitchen stove, which also
supplied hot water to the bathroom. Our wristwatches were more reliable. It was my job to
chop the wood for the kitchen stove. Later, Don took over that job.

Somewhere around 1931 a new three-storey was erected on the other corner of King Street
and St Georges Terrace, and Graf moved into half the ground floor for his surgery. By this
time he had a junior Partner, Ken Rout, his nephew. (More about the Routs later).

The nurse and the dental technician were sisters - Misses Blackwell. Graf trained them in
those days as there was no dental college in Perth. Grace, the nurse, and 'Blackie' the
technician stayed with him until he retired in the late 1940's. If Sue left me in their care while
she shopped in town 'Blackie' would read me Struwwelpeter, or give me paper and pencils to
draw. Plenty of morals for a young child in Struwwelpeter! 'Blackie had also made me a small
calico apron so I could 'help' her with her work. No doubt this all started when we were in the
old surgery, but frankly I cannot remember those days. 'Blackie' would have been in her 60's
when Grafton retired ill but she lived to 104.

Graf was hopeless with money. He should have died a wealthy man but he was gullible and a
sucker for a scam. His investments turned into losses and in the end he had to divide the
Maylands property and sell six building blocks, which rather hemmed in the old home; then to
be surrounded by back fences. The house was still under mortgage when he died and it was
Sue's income from the Paton Estate that helped educate Don and me.

Shortly after WWI finished Graf founded a male choir in Maylands. It was known as the
Maylands Orpheus Society and consisted of some thirty or voices from all over Perth. He was
musical director and conductor and occasional soloist. I don't know where he learnt his music.
I can remember Sue telling me that he learnt the violin. However there was no sign or hint of a
violin at 'Riverslea', but he could read music and he had an appreciation of the classics. They
performed choruses from operas and other coral works, and when they gave a concert they
were accompanied by a small string ensemble and guest female soloists joined the choir.
Concerts were held in the Maylands Presbyterian Church, which had the space and acoustics
for such a performance.

I remember as a very young child, hearing soloists rehearsing at home at night. The Society
folded around the mid -1920's, but I don't know why. In our lounge room at 'Riverslea' there
was a huge framed record of the entire choir - an individual photo of each member.

Graf was generous to the point of naiveté. I suspect a lot of patients during the Depression
received free dental service. The Western Australian watercolourist, Swintin Diston, off loaded
more than six watercolours for the treatment he received. And who else got free treatment we
will never know.

I was about five-years-old when 'Riverslea' was burnt down on Christmas Eve. The day before
Christmas we were driving down to Albany for the holidays in convoy with the Craiks who lived
next door, a Professor Fox, his wife and daughter my age and probably the Builder family
whose daughter Billy was Dick’s friend and quite likely some other families. In the twenties it
was customary to go on long trips in the company of friends. Cars were unreliable and
travelling to Albany was a strain on the engine to negotiate the main incline to get over the
Stirling ranges. (A coastal road had not been opened at that time). Each car would tackle the
incline alone and wait at the top with the radiator boiling until everyone had reached the top
where we parked while the engines cooled, and no doubt had a picnic breakfast. Ours was a
short holiday. We were home again within a day and stayed at the Routs until Sue, Dick, Don
(my brother aged about three) and I could get a train to Victoria. Graf stayed in WA to
organise the rebuilding of the work and for work at the surgery. Looking back I wonder if it was
the Routs we stayed with. The manager of the Perth Mint was Major Coabett. The Coabett
had two daughters Dick’s age. The Coabett went to Albany also and were friends of the
family also. I know I stayed at the Mint around this time and Sue and Don were there too. My
recollections were of a large late 19th century building with three floors. Street level was
dining and sitting room. Upstairs the bedrooms and top-floor was storage and maybe
servant's area. I can’t remember how long we were there.

No doubt Graf lived with the Routs. This was some five years before the rift. The house had
not been insured so that was financial disaster number two. Number one being the loss in the
sale of Applecross. Number three came a few years later when a salesman from New Zealand
Pinelands arrived one night after dinner and we kids were allowed to see a black and white
8mm movie of this wonderful plantation, which was going to bring in millions. The shares were
still worthless when Sue died in 1981 and Don and I inherited some bits of Valueless paper.
The cause of the fire was thought to be rats eating the wiring. The interior of the house was
gutted but the jarrah veranda surrounding the house still stood. It took six weeks to build a
new house.

In or around 1933 Graf built a beach house at Rockingham, about 28 miles south of
Fremantle. In those days, Rockingham, at the suburban end of Cockburn Sound, was a small
seaside town with a pub, a general store, a bakery and not much else. Maybe a couple of
hundred houses, if that. Cockburn sound is sheltered by Garden Island, some ten or more
miles long and about half a mile wide. The south end of the island is separated from Point
Peron on the mainland by reefs. A bridge has now been built which leaves the mainland
almost where our house was. Twenty minutes walk from Rockingham towards Point Peron
there was a sheltered strip of beach between tow points and ours was one of the six houses
along that foreshore. Five of the houses had young families ranging from 10 to 18 years of
age who spent their school holidays at Rockingham. We all had sailing boats of some
description. Ours was not in a particular class ad was no more than 11 foot dingy, gaff rigged
with a stepped mast and centre plate. The bay was excellent for sailing and before the war the
navy had not taken over Garden Island so we could sail over to it and roam around the shore
or swim in the surf on the seaward side. Point Peron was a rocky deserted point with no road,
but within walking distance for picnics. There were four boys my age from our group of houses
so there was always company for swimming or sailing. I haven’t seen that area since the road
was laid and the bridge built, but I believe it is now closed to the public.

Up to the beginning of the war most of us were working in Perth so Rockingham was only
visited at Christmas or the odd weekend to check on the house. Although small, the house
had two bedrooms, a sleep-out, a front and side veranda and a small bedroom for Iris who
always accompanied us to Rockingham. Over Christmas and New Year Ethel and Jack
occupied the second bedroom, Nancy used a side veranda and Don and I slept in the sleep-
out. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Grafton married (1) Mary Helen McDougall, daughter of Charles McDougall and Helen
Tough on 22 August, 1885 in Park St, Brunswick, Victoria, Australia. Mary was born on
23 August, 1871 in Brunswick, Victoria, Australia and died on 12 June, 1918 in Perth,
Western Australia

Cameron and Dick’s mother, Mary died during WWI while Graf was away in camp with the
Dental Corps. Can’t remember the camp’s name (maybe Guildford?) but it was within a few
hours travelling from ‘Riverslea’, I think I heard once that she died from pneumonia. But as I
never thought of asking Cameron or Dick what happened to their mother I’m at a loss, unless
anyone on Cameron’s side of the family knows what happened. Cameron and Dick’s history
you all know so let’s talk about the Routs. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Grafton and Mary had the following children:

100. M i. Dr. Cameron McDougall Forster was born on 16 April, 1896 and died on 2
March, 1980

101. F ii. Helene McDougall Forster was born on 18 May, 1909 and died on 3 October,
1999

Grafton married (2) Susan Elsie Paton daughter of Archibald Paton and Lucy Mary
Rout on 21 January, 1920 in Kew, Melbourne, Australia. Susan was born on 22
November, 1893 in Kew, Melbourne, Australia and died on 9 July, 1981 in Melbourne,
Australia.

Now we come to Graf’s second marriage. Sometime just before 1920, Susan Elsie Paton
came to Western Australia from Victoria to visit her Aunt Winifred and Uncle Arthur Rout, who
was the brother of Sue’s mother Mary Lucy Rout. Perhaps she might have met Graf in
Melbourne if he had been there after the war, but I have no record of that. It was only natural
she should meet Graf in Maylands while she was there at the Routs. I believe Kitty Kemp, a
school friend of hers, accompanied her. But first let’s go to Kew in Victoria where the Paton’s
lived at 96 Walpole Street. Sue’s father, Archibald Paton, had died when the family of five
were quite young. He was a woollen manufacturer (textiles I presume) in Flinders Lane and
fortunately left the family well off. The oldest son Archie eventually owned Ardonachie a
Western District cattle and sheep property. Winifred married John Northcott (later to become the Governor General of NSW), then Sue, followed by Amy who married Llewellyn Jones and Jack who married Rata Nixon a New Zealander. The tennis parties and social circle at Kew, which included the Patons, also comprised the three Kemp girls, Maidie, Kitty and Flora, sometimes Cameron Forster from Perth, studying medicine at Melbourne University and staying with his Aunt Jean in Brunswick, Keith Hallam, also studying medicine later became Don’s father-in-law, and the sisters Heather and Sheila Cameron, the later who was Sue’s friend. Patricia’s mother, Heather Cameron later married Keith Hallam (Keith’s first wife). It is quite possible that Graf on a visit to Melbourne might have played tennis with this group as he had been a keen tennis player. When Sue married Graf at Kew Presbyterian Church on 20 January 1920, the witnesses were Amy Paton and John (Jack) Paton. I had an idea that Sue told me Kitty was her bridesmaid. Anyway, I arrived twelve months later. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Grafton and Susan had the following children:

102. M iii. Paton Cameron Forster

103. M iv. Dr. Donald Cameron Forster was born on 27 January, 1924 and died on 12 June, 1993

85. Winifred Voce Forster (Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 19 September, 1871 in Ararat, Victoria, Australia

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that Win is presently staying with her brother in Perth.

Winifred married Arthur Rout whose family lived in Tasmania. Why and when they (The Rout Family) came Western Australia I don’t know but they (Win and Arthur) lived only five minutes walk away from ‘Riverslea’ in a street that ran alongside the railway line. The Routs didn’t own a car. These were Depression days and Arthur worked for the WA Water Board. As a very young child I was told he worked at the ‘water works’ (someone in the family had a sardonic sense of humour) and I imagined him going to town each day to turn on the taps so we could get water! Winnie was an attractive woman. Reasonably tall and her manner was quiet and motherly. Arthur was a little man, balding with a big moustache, face squared with flabby jowls and a blob of a nose. He smelt of perspiration and tobacco. With his black bowler hat, starched butterfly collar, black tie, waistcoat with chain and fob watch, and wearing a dark woollen heavy suit, he was a cartoonist’s dream of the typical public servant of that era. I didn’t like him because he was always telling me stories with a moral and patronising aspect. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Winifred married Arthur Edward Rout on 3 April, 1901 in Applecross, Western Australia. Arthur was born on 9 September, 1866

They had the following children:

104. M i. Kenneth Cameron Edward Rout was born in 1903 in Perth, West Australia

Somewhere around 1931 a new three-storey was erected on the other corner of King Street and St Georges Terrace, and Graf moved into half the ground floor for his surgery. By this time he had a junior Partner, Ken Rout, his nephew.

Win and Arthur had a son, Ken, who was about the same age as Dick, tall, fair and quite good-looking. He came around to ‘Riverslea’ often in his baby Austen to play tennis. He would have become a role model for me if there had not been a rift between the two families.

It happened when I was about ten or eleven. Graf was a bit of an autocrat and wanted complete control over the dental business so Ken only got the patients Graf
handed to him. Sometimes he got none at all, and I suspect he was only paid for the work he did, so he went out looking for business for his side of the partnership. When Graf discovered this there was one almighty row and whether Ken left or was pushed out, no one will never know. Anyway, the Rout family was no longer seen at 'Riverslea' nor at the local church and it was forbidden to mention their names. (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

86. **Effie May Bliss Forster** (Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 21 December, 1875 in Stawell, Victoria, Australia

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that Effie who is about 25 years, is at business in the City (Melbourne), she is with a large firm and is doing well.

Effie I never met. She married Arthur Moore and I think the Moore's lived in Sydney. (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

Effie married Arthur Moore

Arthur and Effie had the following children:

105. M i. Jim Moore was born in July, 1910

88. **Amy Irene Proctor Forster** (Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 28 July, 1880 in Stawell, Victoria, Australia

In a letter from her father to his brother Willie 26 June 1899, he tells him that our youngest, Irene, is housekeeper and companion to her mother and in that capacity is a great success.

My favourite Forster Aunt was Amy Irene Proctor but always known as Daisy. She was married to Cecil (Pat) Davies and I first met her and Pat when I was about 5 years old when 'Riverslea' burnt down on Christmas Eve. It took six weeks to build a new house and during that time we stayed in Melbourne with Daisy and Pat and also Dick's Aunt Jean in Brunswick. When I caught up with Daisy some twenty years later she was living in a comfortable flat in Marne Street, South Yarra.

Pat was the Bank Manager of the ES&A Bank - later the ANZ - on the corner of King and Lonsdale Streets. The residence for the manager was on the second floor and you entered the stairs by a door in Lonsdale Street. He was a professional boxer and also rowed in the King's Cup Crew and was a champion sculler. Daisy was by far the most attractive of Graf's sisters; she was eccentric. That eccentricity was passed onto her daughters Morva and Gwen. Their ages were between Cameron's and Dick's.

During the Depression Pat must have done something to upset the ES&A as he was retired early but financially they were well off. He died during WWII. (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

Amy married Cecil Davies.

They had the following children:

106. F i. Gwen Davies

Gwen married Sam Stewart and had a son John who became an ophthalmologist and had a practice in Dandenong, Gwen and Sam lived in Beaumaris in a large
house overlooking the bay. She was a frustrated actress who never made it too the stage. Visits to Gwen could be most amusing if a little tiring, as Sam discovered early in the marriage. He was a marine engineer but retired when I met him. By then he and Gwen has separated, although they lived under the same roof. The house was built with a large flat attached and that was his home. He wasn't user friendly and I never saw him smile. He never encouraged conversation. In fact he was bloody rude. Well that side of the family has all gone now. (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

107. F ii. Morva Davies

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 16 Aug 1926: "I feel quite curious to see a photo of Morva (Davies) of whose voice you give such a glowing account."

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 12 Mar 1930: "When you can spare time I should be very pleased to hear about your sisters, my cousins and their families, and especially how your niece, Miss Davies, who has the wonderful contralto is progressing and if she is still in Europe continuing her vocal training. It is a wonderful gift to have a really fine voice and I hope she will become a great singer."

Morva inherited her mother's looks. She was tall, very good looking and always well groomed; and quite a vibrant personality. She was the first Sun Arai winner and went to France to continue her singing studies. I met her again when the ship passed through Fremantle about ten years later. She married a M. Rollo in Paris and somehow her music became neglected. Married life to a Frenchman who was older than herself and who came only up to her shoulders, and was a bit tubby with a toothbrush moustache, from the photos I had seen, didn't last long. I can't remember if he died, which freed her or she got a divorce. Morva reckoned it was masturbation that killed him! She then found a New Zealander, Richard Evans, whom she married, but even though he was tall, handsome and fair, she left him to return to Melbourne. When I caught up with her again she was living in Elwood and working as a saleswoman in Myer's fur department. I was then working in Flinders Lane so we had something in common and I would sometimes spend my lunch hour in the fur department talking and laughing with her. I liked her sense of humour. She was vane about her appearance and when she became ill and was told she'd have to wear a colostomy bag, she said she'd rather die. She died! (Pat Forster's recollections of the family)

92. Dorothy Jane Isabella Gladys Forster (William Dickson, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 21 August, 1889 in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada and died in 1982 in Charlotte Town, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Extract of a letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, 29 April, 1923. "On the same date that I broke my wrist Feb 22, Uncle William Forster's (who died in 1907) only daughter Gladys lost her husband from double pneumonia, following an attack of the flu. His death was a singularly sad one, he having been ill only one week, and at the time poor Gladys was in a hospital in Toronto, Canada, in a serious condition having just given birth to her third child(sic living). Her husband was brought to the same hospital and tho' having the best medical advice and care died very shortly after. Gladys was not in a condition to be told of his illness and never saw him again. They were a very devoted couple and had only a short time previously got settled in their new home which they had built. I do not know if I had mentioned her married name in previous letters. Her husband was Norman Foster of St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada, near Toronto. Fortunately her husband's people are fond of her and are very good to her, helping her in everyway."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931. "Perhaps I had better say right now I am William Dickson Forster's daughter and we with my brother Percy appear to be the only surviving members of our generation of the Forsters. Your letters and Winnies were very interesting and I was glad to hear so much about
your families, as Dad always seemed very fond of your father and consequently I had a very clear memory of you all when younger.

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 29 November, 1931. "I was very pleased to get your answer and glad to hear you are all so flourishing and that you have 3 sons as we in Canada have no one to carry on the Forster name, and it is rather a pity to have it die out completely. I always thought it odd that out of all grandfathers sons only three had children, and though uncle Tom had three sons, only Bob had any children - two girls. We are all very busy Charlotte and Ewan with their schoolwork and weekend activities, and I with a part time position and church work etc. I don't bother much with social activities as I haven't the time, clothes or the money - but we enjoy life anyway."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "We have the depression with us here too and really this year I'm afraid is the worst yet. We have rather adopted a husky lad of 21 broke and riding the rails. He has been living with us since last May and in spite of all his and our efforts, cannot get a permanent job. He is a dandy chap and very clever and industrious, but it is the hardest thing to get anything to do now."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 1 December, 1933. "Just before last Christmas I slipped on the ice and broke both bones in my ankle. However, the kids came up to scratch. I had an unemployed boy with us, who was a good cook. Also I was only in bed for 10 days."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 127 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1934. "I married a widower with two boys of sixteen, twins, the last of January. He is partly French and partly Danish but a naturalized British subject. Andre Verdier is his name. We moved the 1st April and are very unsettled as he is expecting to go on a government job in May, but it will be outside Toronto anyway."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, New Year, 1935. "I am glad that Helene had such a nice visit to Europe particularly as things seem rather hectic there at present and one never knows when an explosion might occur. Sometime ago my husbands mother said, in Denmark where they are living at present, they had issued gas masks to all the civilian population. But cousin Grafton Carl never made a will, he intended to, but told me when he came down just before he died that he hadn't yet made one, but was going to leave me some money. However as I never expected any it was no disappointment to me that I didn't get any."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 275 Holmwood Avenue, Ottawa, 2 December, 1935. "Both the twins are very much interested in model plane building, they are doing well at the technical school; Henry is taking drafting and Paul commercial Art as their special subjects. Andre took Paul to Toronto this fall to try the Dominion contests for flying models; he won a huge challenge cup and was very pleased. I have some of your people that Carl had. I don't hear much from Dorothy or Anna, but Lena and Bill Forster widow Edith write me. My stepmother is still in St John; she has not been so strong since she fell and broke her wrists. Her memory seems unreliable but she is pretty husky for her age. The twins and I are taking conversational French at Technical school; 2 night a week. Last year I took 1st year dressmaking; it was very successful. I made a Russian long tunic blouse, smocked, for Charlotte and nobody would believe it was actually my work."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Bristol, Quebec, 1 December, 1936. "You will be surprised no doubt to see I am now in Bristol. It is a little town of about 29 houses, 3 churches, a school, dance hall, 2 stores etc. We are about 50 miles from Ottawa. Last June I left Ottawa, having been living separately from my husband for 2 months with my daughter Charlotte. We both took a job at a summer hotel near here, since then Charlotte has entered a hospital to train for a nurse and I have been looking after a sick friend and am now keeping her 3 small boys while she goes to France with her husband. Andre and I got on OK but he had been a long time in the secret service during the war and underwent many trying experiences which twisted his character to such an extent, that I doubt if he could tell the truth to anyone long. I struggled with him for over two years and then gave it up as hopeless. However, my time was not wasted as I left them in improved circumstances and health. I am very fond of my twin stepsons and they of me and I see them occasionally. Andre periodically gets furious because I won't return to him and was annoyed at my working; so I am not using his name (except legal matters). My step mother is still going strong, though her memory is very much affected by her age - it is too bad as physically she is hale and hearty."
Extract of letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "This is some of Charlotte's stationary I swiped (RACF), as we
have just moved and I am packed ready to leave for Surf City next week - so it is hard to find things. I am going to Surf City to look after Josephine Torrell. You remember Ethel Bliss who lived with us after mother died. We have always been like sisters and this is her daughter. She expects her 6th baby in November. I have nursed her with two others.

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "Under separate cover I am sending you a pedigree and also some Cameron history. I thought as you are the only Forsters left - of grandfathers family you might like them. The pedigree is of grandmother Forster's family - the Dicksons. I found the christian names very interesting and am including a paper of the Canadian descendants left as far as I know. Most of the old Blisses have died - I often wondered where the Alder and Abercrombie names came from but found them both there. My twin stepsons in the Navy are planning to finish their college courses at the Toronto Varsity. The boy who lived with us some years ago, Red Hamilton, has been up north in the land of the midnight sun, running uranium for the atomic bomb, all last year under a government contract. He came down to see us and he was so glad to get back to his family of 3 boys and a wife in Toronto. Forgot to say, I finally decided, and got a divorce from Mr. Verdier. So have resumed the Foster."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 10 July, 1946. "Under separate cover and insured, I am sending to you a Seal - & also a set of seed pearl jewellery. Also am sending Helene to her English address grandmother's diamond ring, a belated birthday present. The ring will probably be a bit big for her as my stepmother had it enlarged for herself, & I have just worn it with a guard. My children have a lot of other things from their Father and my Mothers side, & I thought it would be nice for these to go on in the Forster line. Aunt Dora left them to her daughter, who married a clergyman and had quite a family. She asked Dad to buy them as she would rather have the money. As you have so many sons an extra seal would probably not come amiss. I have been quite tied up by the war, & my daughter, but hope that soon travelling will be quite easier, and that she will be herself again. At present they are on their holidays, two weeks in the North, our summer vacation district in Ontario. She has had a time with Muscular Rheumatism, but now she knows what is the matter can control it. The little boys are fine and healthy. I just came back from working and also took a vacation trip to Boston, New York and New Jersey to see my cousin Ethel Thebaud and had a lovely time. Ewan has returned to Miami Florida, & gone into business with a brother-in-law."

Extract of draft letter from Grafton Forster to Gladys Foster, October, 1946. "I received your letter of 10 July and registered parcels, one containing a seal and the other a set of seed pearl jewellery that were grandmother Forster's. It was very thoughtful, kind and generous of you to send these family heirlooms onto me. They will be duly kept in the Forster family. Susie and I got a thrill when the parcels were opened and to know that the jewellery originally belonged to and worn by Grandmother Forster."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 29 October, 1947. "1947 had been a rather confused year for me - I rushed down to Surf City in January to nurse Jo Thebaud Torrell with her 7th child, a boy, and when I got back had a case on a farm looking after a senile old lady. I hope to visit Ewan in Miami Beach and drop in on Ethel Thebaud in New Jersey on the way. Ethel and Ted are getting on and I like to see them frequently. They are both quite peppy. Their seven grandchildren keep them young."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 22 November, 1948. "Enclosed is a card expressing my holiday sentiments. Also a picture somewhat like Charlotte and John's farm, 'Three Acres' - even to the rabbit - we cut our own Xmas trees. Charlotte, John and their 3 kids are fine & the farm which has been very much run down has had a good many improvements since they got it a year & half ago. I plan to spend the summer with them & will be here now till after the new year. There is quite a lot to do on the farm in summer, & they have quite a bit of fruit. I enclose one of my own taken on the boat going to Havana last Spring.

I went down to down to Florida to visit Ewan and his wife - she has just written and published a mystery story & got well paid for it too by Dial Press. We were all quite thrilled! 'Jan Foster' is the name she uses. They lead a very busy life in the winter season and spend two months of the summer on a trip. Last May and June they motored to the West Coast and had a wonderful time.

Stayed with Charlotte till July then Jo Torrell (Ethel Thebaud's daughter) needed me to look after her 8th child. Now she has 4 boys & 4 girls. So stayed with them till middle of Oct. Ethel
and Ted Thebaud are going strong. He is still Post Master - gives him an occupation and Ethel helps him a lot. They get very tired in the season, but in winter just nice hours 10 - 5 p.m.

On my way home in Oct I spent a couple of days in Montreal to visit my stepsons, Henrik and his wife Pam I had never met her before. She was a Vancouver B.C. girl. Very clever, lovely disposition. I was glad to see them so happy."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Box 328 Vineland, 25 April, 1960.

"You asked me about the Forster's here. My grandfather Charles Forster, & his wife Jane Dickson, seem to have moved a great deal in the Navy, till he contracted asthma, & was given a customs job at St. Andrews and later at St. John - they had quite a few sons, & one daughter Dorothy, she married a clergyman Rev'd Charles Bliss, & there are numerous descendants from them, scattered around. When my mother died - one of them Ethel Bliss came to live with us - & married from our house. She is Mrs. J S Thebaud, lives in New Jersey, & we feel like sisters. Her husband died two years ago. Only Uncle Tom Forster, Dad & your Grandfather had families - Uncles Tom's dwindled down to two girls, & they have one daughter as Anna is unmarried. I am the last of Dad's children, & have 4 grandchildren, but of course they are Sandhams. So you all are the only Forsters left from that line. When I was in Scotland I saw the tomb of William Dickson, who Dad was named after, but didn't have time to go into any research. I may be going to New Jersey in May to stay with E Thebaud, while her daughter goes on a trip - Jo's fourth daughter has just been married so she won't have enough friends left to go. So of the family history as I know of it: 'Anne Cameron married 1796 to Major Vaughan Forster. They both died in the same year 1839 and had Anne Abercrombie, only lived a year, and Charles Vaughan (our Grandfather) and your great grandfather - he married 1825 at Berwick to Jane Dickson of White Crofs (or Crops) Berwick, their issue Dorothy Anne Forster born at St George, Bermuda, Vaughan Forster born St George, Bermuda, Thomas Alder Dickson Forster born at St George, Bermuda, Charles Cameron Forster born St Andrews, New Brunswick, Patrick John William Forster born at St Andrew, New Brunswick, William Dickson Forster, born at St Andrews, New Brunswick, Donald Cameron born at St Andrews, New Brunswick. They are all dead now. Dorothy the eldest married an Anglican Parson (as the old people called him in those letters 100 years ago) - Charles or George Bliss I think. There were innumerable Blisses at one time, a Ethel Thebaud was a daughter of one of the sons ( she helped to bring me up after her mother & hers died). I think there are some still knocking around of the younger generations. Dorothy's only daughter Janey married an Englishman, an Anglican minister Samwell by name, after he died another named Clarke, in middle age they went as missionaries to the North West, mostly Indians. Their one daughter Mary Samwell taught in Indian schools - their surviving son Parke Samwell was in the C.P.R Railway married and a family. I am trying to look them up as I have some photos I'd like to give them. Janey Bliss was really a sterling character & had quite a hard time financially raising 4 children between marriages - one son died in WWI & the eldest died quite young. I hope this will help you - if not ask me what particularly you wish to know"

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Vineland, Ontario, 13 November, 1960. "This year I have been away on short trips- mostly to the family. My sister-in-law had a successful cancer operation, & I went there to lend moral support mostly. I am planning to take off for the Thebauds soon, as Ethel has not been too well lately she is round 83 I think - very active mind but not so physically.

Enclose a letter from your pioneer Forster to his parents. I found among some others in attic at home. It was enclosed in one to my Dad when he worked in New York - the Forster boys scattered quite a bit."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Vineland, Ontario, 14 November, 1961. "Seeing as our branch & also the other Forster sons have petered out - I am glad you sons & grandsons yet I think Forster is a pretty name. And wish I knew more about the original Major - so far all I know is that he and Anne Cameron ran away and were married at Coldstream, where the 'Black Watch' was stationed then. All must have been forgiven however, as they were re- married in Berwick - I presume he was a dashing officer in his uniform."

Dorothy married Norman Foster on 25 Oct 1910. Norman was born in 1895 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada. He died on 3 Feb 1923 in Toronto, Canada

They had the following children:
108. M i. Percival Norman Foster was born on 3 December, 1911 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada and died on 22 December, 1911 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada.

109. M ii. Ewan Cameron Foster was born on 1 December, 1912 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada. Ewan married Janet Eleanor Ruebin on 17 February, 1938 in New York, NY, USA.

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931. "I am a widow with a son Ewan Cameron Foster (just dropped the middle R when I married) he is 18 and very big for his age, in his last year at High School. Charlotte Emily Foster is just 16 and rather medium in size in her second year at High School. They are the only in my husbands family and we have a small house and are living in Toronto to be near my husbands people, who have always been very good to me. I have never been back to New Brunswick since I have been married, but hope to take the children down sometime in the near future."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 29 November, 1931. "My sons name is Ewan Cameron after my brother on my mother's side - the family has died out."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "Ewan was not at all well in Spring, and I had to leave my job and take him out of school, which put rather a crimp in our finances, but we are managing to scrimp along somehow - and I am glad to say he is much better and back at school."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 1 December, 1933. "Ewan, my son, is 21 today. It seems impossible in some ways, Charlotte is 18 ½. How these young things do grow! I begin to feel quite elderly. Last year we took in all the symphonic concerts by our Toronto orchestra, but this year couldn’t afford it. Ewan is very fond of music though he has no talent for it – Charlotte has a splendid touch and good hands also, but just at present is not taking lessons."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, 10 December, 1934. "Ewan and Charlotte are in Toronto. They have a flat together and I expect to see them in the holidays."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 275 Helmwood Avenue, Ottawa, 2 December, 1935. "Ewan was down also, he is in Toronto now though staying with his Aunt and Uncle."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 21 Pinckney Street, Boston, Mass, USA, 10 November, 1938. "Charlotte graduates in May but will still be in the hospital for a few months as she started in the Autumn. I spent a couple of weeks with her before coming to Boston, and a month in Toronto with Ewan. (Letter includes extensive coverage of the sites/scenes of Boston.)"

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 3-10 King Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 6 November, 1942. "My son Ewan is teaching airplane mechanics in an aviation school (military) in USA."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 8 August, 1943. "Ewan took out his USA citizenship, as his wife is American and he intends to settle there. His draft No. being low, he is in Brazil with Pan American Airways, as an airplane mechanic specialist. He would have preferred to go to Australia, China etc, but this was the only place he could take Ella with him - ironically - the planes seats were frozen just before she got her Visa, so now priority rules, and her is so low that goodness knows when she will..."
get down, and he doesn't like it very much on account of the heat. He is studying Portuguese, the language there, and intends to stick it out for a while on account of there being a war on. His ambition is 'to get to go' with the clippers on overseas strips, so maybe you will see him drop in some day. He is a Forster slightly contaminated by my mother's family, but very tall like Dad. I always thought Dad looked very like his father facially."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "Ewan had just got back from Africa where he was attached to the ATC and I hope to see him as I pass through NY City. His wife was glad to have him back as he is a poor correspondent."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "Ewan and his wife are now in New York. He is still with an air company. I expect to go down and see them as soon as I can get away from here."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 10 July, 1946. "Ewan has returned to Miami Florida, & gone into business with a brother-in-law."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 22 November, 1948. "I went down to down to Florida to visit Ewan and his wife - she has just written and published a mystery story & got well paid for it too by Dial Press. We were all quite thrilled! 'Jan Foster' is the name she uses. They lead a very busy life in the winter season and spend two months of the summer on a trip. Last May and June they motored to the West Coast and had a wonderful time."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Box 328 Vineland, 25 April, 1960. "Ewan & his wife are well - still in Florida, though they are trying to sell the business. It is hard to get the price they want - lots of competition - now in the photo finishing line."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Vineland, Ontario, 13 November, 1960. "This year I have been away on short trips- mostly to the family. My sister-in-law had a successful cancer operation, & I went there to lend moral support mostly. Then to my son in Florida, who needed me, & was there a month, very hot, we flew back together on his holidays. They have sold the business at last but have to wait for the full amount until a year or so. I don't know exactly what Ewan will do now, as he is rather young to retire. The other partners are older & rather relieved, but I think Ewan is sorry, however I think its a mistake to get to bound down, & all out in business."

110. F iii. Charlotte Emily Foster

111. M iv. Patrick Philip Foster was born in February, 1920 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada and died in April, 1920 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

112. M v. Norman Harold Foster was born on 27 January, 1923 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada and died on 4 December, 1926 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

### Thirteenth Generation

93. **Ethel Bliss** (Charles Vaughan Forster Bliss, Dorothy Ann Forster, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Extract of letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 4 December, 1930. "Aunt Dorothy, your father's only sister deceased, has a granddaughter formerly Ethel Bliss, now Ethel Thebaud, with her husband and two daughters live in Camden, New Jersey, just
across the Delaware River from Philadelphia; her oldest daughter Betty is I believe married. I have always intended to go and call on them, but am ashamed to say, have not done so."

Extract of letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Box 328, Vineland, 25 April, 1960. "You asked me about the Forster's here. My grandfather Charles Forster, & his wife Jane Dickson, seem to have moved a great deal in the Navy, till he contracted asthma, & was given a customs job at St. Andrews and later at St. John - they had quite a few sons, & one daughter Dorothy, she married a clergyman Rev'd Charles Bliss, & there are numerous descendants from them, scattered around. When my mother died - one of them Ethel Bliss came to live with us - & married from our house. She is Mrs. J S Thebaud, lives in New Jersey, & we feel like sisters. Her husband died two years ago. I may be going to New Jersey in May to stay with E Thebaud, while her daughter goes on a trip - Jo's fourth daughter has just been married so she won't have enough friends left to go. Dorothy the eldest married an Anglican Parson (as the old people called him in those letters 100 years ago) - Charles or George Bliss I think. There were innumerable Blisses at one time, a Ethel Thebaud was a daughter of one of the sons (she helped to bring me up after her mother & hers died). I think there are some still knocking around of the younger generations. Dorothy's only daughter Janey married an Englishman , Anglican minister Samwell by name, after he died another named Clarke, in middle age they went as missionaries to the North West, mostly Indians. Their one daughter Mary Samwell taught in Indian schools - their surviving son Parke Samwell was in the C.P.R Railway married and a family. I am trying to look them up as I have some photos I'd like to give them. Janey Bliss was really a sterling character & had quite a hard time financially raising 4 children between marriages - one son died in WWI & the eldest died quite young. I hope this will help you - if not ask me what particularly you wish to know."

Note: It is unclear if Ethel's father was Charles Vaughan Forster Bliss. Further genealogy research will establish which of the six sons of her Grandmother Dorothy Bliss nee Forster was her father.

Ethel married J S Thebaud

They had the following children:

113. F i. Unknown Thebaud

114. F ii. Josephine Thebaud

98. Dorothy Lynn Forster (Robert, Thomas Alder Dickson, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 8 January, 1896 in Philadelphia, USA

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 19 July,1925. "I think I may be able to find some photo's of Robert's two daughters Dorothy and Anna. Dorothy, I think I have written you, was married about three years ago, and has a small daughter named Edith Forster Plumb. She started her earthly pilgrimage in May of this year."

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 9 March, 1927. "My niece Dorothy - Robert's eldest daughter is married to Robert E Plumb who also is with Bell Telephone Co. as assistant Manager in the business section. They have a pretty little home in the vicinity of Phila. They have a bright little daughter Edith Forster Plumb now nearly four years old."

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 20 November, 1929. "Robert's married daughter, Dorothy Plumb have driven over from their home to see us very often and brought their daughter, now five years old to see us. Annie long ago hit on a most appropriate name for her 'Plum Blossom'."

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 12 March 1930. "On Sunday Mar 2 Robert Plumb drove over with Dorothy, Edith and Anne from their home in Lansdowne a suburb of Philadelphia, and spent the afternoon with us. We were pleased to
have them come as it was the birthday anniversary of my cousin Lina Lawrence, who has been with us now for about five years, ever since keeping house began to be too much of a strain on Annie's health, for it gave a somewhat lively air to the occasion which otherwise might have been dull for Lina."

Extract of a letter from Charles to Grafton Forster, Jacoby St, Norristown, 12 March 1930. "It is true that Robert's two daughter's are living but they are of a younger generation with all its modern ideas in any ways different from that of the previous generation to which I belong. Dorothy Plumb, Robert's older daughter is a very nice woman and she and her husband, Robert Plumb have both urged to have me come and make my home with them. They have a little girl of 5 years and a very attractive home in Lansdowne, one of Philadelphia's pleasant suburbs, but as I am a man of 73 feel most reluctant to do so, Dorothy is most sympathetic as she was with us in our father's and mother's lifetime up to the time of her marriage."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932. "Dorothy is married to a nice chap Robert Plumb and they have a little daughter Edith. Anna is not married yet."

Dorothy married Robert Lee Plumb on 15 June 1922 in Philadelphia, USA

Robert and Dorothy had the following children:

115. F i. Edith Forster Plumb

Extract of letter from Charles Vaughan Forster to his cousin Grafton, Jacoby St, Norristown, 19 July, 1925. "I think I may be able to find some photo's of Robert's two daughters Dorothy and Anna. Dorothy, I think I have written you, was married about three years ago, and has a small daughter named Edith Forster Plumb. She started her earthly pilgrimage in May of this year."

100. Dr. Cameron McDougall Forster (Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 16 April, 1896 in Parkville, Victoria, Australia and died on 2 March, 1980 in Melbourne, Australia. The cause of death was Heart Attack. He was buried in Fawkner Cemetery

Cameron was educated at Scotch College Perth, Melbourne University & University of Sydney graduating from there 1926. His occupation was Doctor of Medicine and he practised as a GP from rooms in Ormond Road, Elwood, Victoria, Australia.

It was down at Rockingham that I first met Cameron McDougall Forster. I must have been about 15 when he made his first trip as a ship's doctor to England. Graf picked him up from Fremantle and drove him down to us for the day. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Cameron married (1) Jean Catherine Officer in 1919 in Melbourne, Australia. The marriage ended in divorce. Jean was born on 12 June, 1895 in Toorak, Victoria, Australia and died on 11 April, 1959 in Melbourne, Australia. Her ashes are at St Andrews, Brighton, Victoria, Australia.

Jean was educated at Toorak College and University of Melbourne where she graduated B.A., Dip Ed. in 1918, majoring in psychology. She was employed at the groundbreaking remedial clinic established by psychiatrist, Dr John Williams, at the Children's Hospital. Her ability to teach handicapped and backward children and the moral support she provided to families through her home visits was recognised by paediatricians such as Dr Elizabeth Turner of the Queen Victoria Hospital who referred patients to her.

NOTE: See 'The Umphelby Family', #75 in the Seventh Generation of that line.
NOTE: See 'The Marzetti Family', #230 in the Fifth Generation of that line.

NOTE: See 'The Officer Family', #124 in the Eighth Generation of that line.

They had the following children:

116. M i. Cameron Hugh Forster was born on 9 September, 1920 and died on 26 February, 2001

117. M ii. Dr. Frank Menzies Cameron Forster was born on 21 September, 1923 and died on 18 March, 1995

118. F iii. Mary Jean Officer Forster was born on 3 February, 1927 in Sydney, Australia and died on 31 July, 1963 in England. Her ashes are at St Andrews, Brighton, Victoria Australia.

Mary was educated at Firbank, Brighton, Victoria and was a School Bursar, Toorak College and worked for the British Council in London. She had spent time with her uncle, Sir Keith Officer, and had acted as his hostess in the Hague, where his aged but active mother did likewise, and later in Paris.

Cameron married (2) Katherine Spears Stobo daughter of Alexander Stobo and Helen Hood in 1944 in Melbourne, Australia. Katherine was born in 1907 in Sydney, Australia. She died on 2 October, 1982 in Melbourne Australia and her ashes are at Springvale Crematorium.

101. Helene McDougall Forster (Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 18 May, 1909 in Maylands, Western Australia and died on 3 October, 1999 in Perth, Western Australia. She was buried on 3 October, 1999 in Perth, Western Australia

Helene was educated at Presbyterian Ladies College and practiced as a Physiotherapist.

In a copy of a letter from Grafton to his cousin Charles Vaughan Forster in Pennsylvania, he writes: "About two months back my daughter Helene received a letter from Lady Campion the wife of the Governor of West Australia (knowing she was at home at leisure) asking her if she would consider going to Government House and help he with her grandson - aged eight - and also assist her in her social work etc. Lady Campion said the late principal of P L College suggested Helene to be the very one to help as she was her head prefect at College 7 could recommend her as a thoroughly reliable, conscientious & educated girl. Lady Campion said she would have her own suite of rooms. We thought it would be great experience for Helene and did not like to stand in her way, so now she is installed at Government House and very happy, she is a great help to Lady Campion who is very fond of her. They take her to nearly all the functions, dances, at Homes, theatre parties etc. and she is always meeting notable people at lunch or dinner or coming from or passing through to England, of course Helene is very talented and bright and I think Lady Campion is very fortunate in having her."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, 10 December, 1934. "It was nice to get a letter from your daughter Helene. She must have had a lovely time in Europe. I envy her. We were sorry she didn’t make her return via Canada, but perhaps some other time."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 3-10 King Street, St. Catherine's Ontario, 6 November, 1942. "I see Helene was in Egypt and wonder if she is still there, if so will have been a very exciting time just now and also extra busy."
Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 8 August, 1943. "I was awfully interested about Helene’s marriage and think her husband has a lovely name - our own name is quite nice, but Seaward is not only nice sounding and looking but interesting too - and very appropriate to the navy. What are they calling the baby?"

Helene (Dick) born in 1909 - why was she called Dick? The Seaward side of the family might have an explanation but I understood it happened when Helene was at Presbyterian Ladies College. Two of her friends were Edith Builder and Peter Craik. This was the early 1920’s, the Depression and the Charleston era when young women wore men’s fashions and took men’s names and danced the Charleston. Edith became Billy, Helene became Dick and Peter adopted that name but I don’t know what her first name really was.

Shortly after I was born, Dick who was twelve years my senior swallowed a pin. If I haven’t got my facts quite correct, Susan Young (nee Seaward, Dick’s daughter) might be able to help. It appears that the Perth doctors weren’t able to extract the pin with the medical equipment available or maybe they didn’t have an X-ray machine in Perth so Graf was advised to send her to Melbourne. Dick with Sue looking after her and no doubt me in her, arms travelled by ship to Melbourne. The train line across the desert had not opened by then, which in some ways was fortunate. During the trip Dick was seasick and lost the pin. At least that is what everyone thought because they couldn’t find a pin in her when she reached Melbourne. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Helene married Robert Conway Seaward on 24 February, 1942 in Egypt. Robert was born on 10 September, 1913 in Norbury, England and died on 29 June, 1980 in Ardross, Western Australia.

Robert and Helene had the following children:

119. M i. Malcolm Robert Thomas Seaward
120. F ii. Susan Mary Seaward
121. M iii. John Grafton Seaward was born in Mt. Lawley, Western Australia and married Jean Reiser in 1979
122. M iv. Richard Frank Seaward

102. **Paton Cameron Forster** (Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Maylands, Western Australia

A BRIEF AND DISJOINTED HISTORY OF THR FORSTER AS IT TOUCHED ME. You’ll have to excuse rambling discussions, and the order of events, as I’m as it comes to mind. After introducing each person I will then refer to them by first names. I’ve taken the birth dates and places from the birth records I’ve received from the Stawell Historical Society. The Stawell records omit Amy Irene Proctor. However, the places of birth give some indication where the family might have been living. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Paton married Joan Mary Easterbrook daughter of Claude Cadman Easterbrook and Vivienne Muriel Nicholson in All Souls Anglican Church, East St Kilda, Melbourne, Australia. Joan was born on 6 June, 1920 in Newcastle, NSW, Australia and died on 3 April, 1990 in Melbourne, Victoria

**NOTE:** See 'The Easterbrook Family', #328 in the Fifth Generation of that line.

They had the following children:
123. M i. Ian Easterbrook Cameron Forster

124. F ii. Edwina Nicole Forster

103. **Dr. Donald Cameron Forster** (Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 27 January, 1924 in Perth, Western Australia and died on 12 June, 1993 in Melbourne, Australia.

Donald married Patricia Mardi Hallam daughter of Dr. Keith Holly Hallam and Heather Harriet Cameron on 11 February, 1950 in Deepdeene, Victoria, Australia. Patricia was born on 27 December, 1923 in Melbourne, Australia and died on 5 February, 1989 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. She was buried in Box Hill Cemetery.

**NOTE:** See 'The Camerons of Lochiel' in the Family Tree Index for Heather Harriet Cameron

**NOTE:** See 'The Hallam Family' in the Family Tree Index for Patricia Mardi Hallam

They had the following children:

125. F i. Sally Elizabeth Forster

126. F ii. Jennifer Miriam Forster

127. M iii. Matthew Cameron Forster

110. **Charlotte Emily Foster** (Dorothy Jane Isabella Gladys Forster, William Dickson, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in St. Catherine’s, Ontario, Canada

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 31 July, 1931.  "Charlotte Emily Foster is just 16 and rather medium in size in her second year at High School."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 13 December, 1932.  "Charlotte is very sturdy and quite normal for her age."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 129 Heath Street, E. Toronto, 1 December, 1933.  "Ewan, my son, is 21 today. It seems impossible in some ways, Charlotte is 18 ½. How these young things do grow! I begin to feel quite elderly. Last year we took in all the symphonic concerts by our Toronto orchestra, but this year couldn’t afford it. Ewan is very fond of music though he has no talent for it – Charlotte has a splendid touch and good hands also, but just at present is not taking lessons."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Ottawa, Ontario, 10 December, 1934.  "Ewan and Charlotte are in Toronto. They have a flat together and I expect to see them in the holidays."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 275 Holmwood Avenue, Ottawa, 2 December, 1935.  "We are now settled in an upper duplex - very comfortable, Charlotte is with us for this winter; next fall she expects to start training for a nurse in a Toronto hospital. I am so glad to have her with me this year. She was with us for visits in the summer, but like your daughter, popular and always spends a good part of the vacation trotting round staying with her friends."
Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, Bristol, Quebec, 1 December, 1936. "Charlotte has entered a hospital to train for a nurse."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 21 Pinckney Street, Boston, Mass. USA, 10 November, 1938. "Charlotte graduates in May but will still be in the hospital for a few months as she started in the Autumn. I spent a couple of weeks with her before coming to Boston, and a month in Toronto with Ewan. (Letter includes extensive coverage of the sites/scenes of Boston.)"

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 21 Pinckney Street, Boston, Mass. USA, 10 November, 1938. "Charlotte graduates in May but will still be in the hospital for a few months as she started in the Autumn. I spent a couple of weeks with her before coming to Boston, and a month in Toronto with Ewan. (Letter includes extensive coverage of the sites/scenes of Boston.)"

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Boston Mass. 13 September, 1941. "Just returned to USA from Canada - enclose an account of Charlotte's wedding, and a snap of John and Charlotte. They are now out west in Saskatchewan with the RCAF. He is finishing off his course as observer with the RCAF. They will be there till December & then 6 more weeks at another training - & wait till called with his draft for overseas. They are very well suited, & we are all pleased with her choice. However their future lies on the lap of the gods of war. Am now on my way to New Jersey State paying visits as I go. Saw my stepsons in Montreal, they are engineers, drafting, in munitions factory, taking officers training at nights."

Newspaper clipping - Sandham-Forster, Memorial United Church was the scene of a very quiet wedding at 2.30 o'clock on Saturday afternoon when Miss Charlotte Emily Foster, daughter of Mrs. G. Verdier and the late Mr. Norman Foster was married to L.A.C. John Melville Sandham, Manning Pool, Toronto, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Sandham. The bride, who was given in marriage by her uncle, Mr. Harold Wilkinson of Toronto, ... Mrs. William Kirby and Sgt. Albert Sandham, R.C.A.F. Headquarters, Ottawa, brother of the groom, were the attendants ... The bride is a graduate of the Mack Training School for Nurses. Harold Wilkinson was the husband of Ida Foster a sister of Norman Foster and Charlotte's Aunt.

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 10 July, 1946. "I have been quite tied up by the war, & my daughter, but hope that soon travelling will be quite easier, and that she will be herself again. At present they are on their holidays, two weeks in the North, our summer vacation district in Ontario. She has had a time with Muscular Rheumatism, but now she knows what is the matter can control it. The little boys are fine and healthy. I just came back from working and also took a vacation trip to Boston, New York and New Jersey to see my cousin Ethel Trebaud and had a lovely time. Ewan has returned to Miami Florida, & gone into business with a brother-in-law."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's Ontario, 6 November, 1942. "... as I come over to be with Charlotte quite often. After she married she was out west with John while he trained and in Jan 42 he went overseas and has been in England ever since. We hear from him frequently but of course there is little he can say about his work, he is an observer pilot officer. So far he is all right, though in hospital at present. It is an anxious time for all the families now but Charlotte has a little son born six months ago. I was with her for 3 or 4 months then, and went again to the USA. My stepmother died this July and I came back on business in Sept and am now with Charlotte for the winter months. She is well and little John Norman Sandham, a very jolly healthy little boy - we send his Dad snaps of him every month. In your letter you say Paton is in the Navy I hope all is well with him. My twin stepsons are in the navy. My son Ewan is teaching airplane mechanics in an aviation school (military) in USA. While I am here Charlotte will doing some nursing. John's family live in St Kitts and are very fond of her."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's Ontario, 8 August, 1942. "Charlotte gave up her flat and I came over from Buffalo and with the baby I motored down with them in March. She has a small Ford coupe - we stayed one night on the way - as it was a long trip for Norman. He is a tough little nut and used to change - very friendly and jolly. Thinks the world is a swell place and as Charlotte said "poor poochie" he thinks the world is his nut to crack - little he knows he'll be the one who gets cracked" - Charlotte being one of those "Idealistic realists" if you can use or imagine such a paradox."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "Charlotte and her husband after a year at Arnprior? airport were moved. The port has closed down now. John went to Montreal temporarily and Charlotte and I took a summer cottage at St Kitts till after her 2nd boy was born. Barry William, the new baby is a good wee thing. Charlotte is quite well now. "Normie" as he calls himself is now 2 ½ and quite a lad, talks a blue streak and is great company. As soon as John gets a settled post they will join him."
Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "Charlotte has the 2 boys now. Norman is brunette like his Dad but Barrie William is blonde like his mother – a regular turk too but jolly. He is just starting to try to walk. The bank rented a house before we got here. We motored down and I came along to help them settle in and we are not there yet. It is a huge house with 11 rooms - all but 3 are big and with nice grounds. We all like it and is lovely for the children. They hope to be here for 2 or 3 years anyway."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 29 October, 1947. "I worked all August and then Charlotte's little girl, Charlotte Ann was born in Sept. Everyone fine. I shall be here till after the new year anyway. By then Charlotte ought to be able get on alone."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 22 November, 1948. "Enclosed is a card expressing my holiday sentiments. Also a picture somewhat like Charlotte and John's farm, 'Three Acres' - even to the rabbit - we cut our own Xmas trees. Charlotte, John and their 3 kids are fine & the farm which has been very much run down has had a good many improvements since they got it a year & half ago. I plan to spend the summer with them & will be here now till after the new year. There is quite a lot to do on the farm in summer, & they have quite a bit of fruit."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Cameron Forster, Vineland, Ontario, 14 November, 1961. They now have 3 dogs, 1 cat & around 12 rabbits - Char Anne is raising a calf (her 3rd) She really wants a horse, & was quite envious of your grandchildren in the snap shot. We have no adequate quarters & riding horses are expensive to acquire. The Girl Guides have a holiday camp out back. They loaned them the ground for $1 rent - makes it lovely in summer. My daughter likes Guide work & is now head of a Vineland Ranger group - started last year. They are now busy raising money for an Easter trip to New Jersey invited there by a USA group - who crossed the border & met this Canadian group last year. John is active in the laity movement & has a large Sunday school class - the oldest ages in the school. Just one of the boys is still in grade school. The three older ones in High S - from there you go onto University or quit. Norm wants to go for a business course. He is 13 now, a sort of pre varsity year and we don't know if he will pass - consider it a miracle of determination that he has got so far - as he finds it very hard to concentrate on study - a pure extrovert. However he plans to work a year before entering, so can maybe make it up at night school, if he needs to on any subject not of high enough marks. Barrie much more academic but dislikes to be an 'egghead', now is thinking of Forestry, Char Anne wants to be a nurse like her mother. Ewan the youngest, though he has ..."

Charlotte married John Melville Sandham son of William Sandham and Alice Ann Beard on 12 July, 1941 in Canada. John was born on 5 August, 1918 in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 3-10 King Street, St. Catherine's Ontario, 6 November, 1942. "... as I come over to be with Charlotte quite often. After she married she was out west with John while he trained and in Jan 42 he went overseas and has been in England ever since. We hear from him frequently but of course there is little he can say about his work, he is an observer pilot officer. So far he is all right, though in hospital at present. It is an anxious time for all the families now but Charlotte has a little son born six months ago. I was with her for 3 or 4 months then, and went again to the USA. My stepmother died this July and I came back on business in Sept and am now with Charlotte for the winter months. She is well and little John Norman Sandham, a very jolly healthy little boy - we send his Dad snaps of him every month. In your letter you say Paton is in the Navy I hope all is well with him. My twin stepsons are in the navy. My son Ewan is teaching airplane mechanics in an aviation school (military) in USA. While I am here Charlotte will doing some nursing. She has a very nice small flat and is quite comfortable. John's family live in St Kitts and are very fond of her."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 8 August, 1943. "My son-in-law was in hospital with a couple of Czech pilots and has a great admiration for them - 'tough he says very tough' he brought back one of their pins for Charlotte it is a small circle of leaves with crowned wings on the top, very delicate and pretty. Since I wrote you things have changed with us. My son-in-law John after some bad crashes with his bomber crew, was repatriated from hospital in England - fortunately he escaped without any bad bodily injury - but was very shocked when they came down in flames and he
and the pilot had quite a time rescuing the crew who were badly burnt. His blood count was very low and weight also. When they were married he was recovering from a very bad bout of glandular fever and his spleen was not its normal size when he left for overseas. I really think the year he was over there, he mostly ran on his nerves, as he was air sick after that, though never before the fever. He saw all his English relatives and enjoyed looking round England, and had the satisfaction of flying with the RAF. He is very devoted to his bomber crew - they were all grounded. John is gradually recovering - came back very fast after a month in his native air and is stationed as one of the control officers at a small airport and gives lectures in navigation now. The open air and sun of the control tower were a great help - he is a flying officer."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "Charlotte and her husband after a year at Arnprior? airport were moved. The port has closed down now. John went to Montreal temporarily and Charlotte and I took a summer cottage at St Kitts till after her 2nd boy was born. Barry William, the new baby is a good wee thing. Charlotte is quite well now. "Normie" as he calls himself is now 2 ½ and quite a lad, talks a blue streak and is great company. As soon as John gets a settled post they will join him."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "You will be wondering why Newcastle - well John finally got discharged from the RCAF and went back to the job waiting for him in the bank and was sent here - a small place (he asked for such a bank) as assistant accountant. The Bank of Commerce has really been very good to the service men employed, and Canada profited by the last war and gives education if wanted according to amount of time spent. John hears from his crew quite often. The pilot was the only one who was able to continue flying after the crash and he is now flying Spitfires in Egypt and Palestine. It is remarkable what a strong tie is formed by a bombing crew."

They had the following children:

128. M i. John Norman Sandham was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 6 November, 1942. "It is an anxious time for all the families now but Charlotte has a little son born six months ago. I was with her for 3 or 4 months then, and went again to the USA. My stepmother died this July and I came back on business in Sept and am now with Charlotte for the winter months. She is well and little John Norman Sandham, a very jolly healthy little boy - we send his Dad snaps of him every month."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Verdier to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 8 August, 1942. "Charlotte gave up her flat and I came over from Buffalo and with the baby I motored down with them in March. She has a small Ford coupe - we stayed one night on the way - as it was a long trip for Norman. He is a tough little nut and used to change - very friendly and jolly. Thinks the world is a swell place and as Charlotte said "poor poochie" he thinks the world is his nut to crack - little he knows he'll be the one who gets cracked" - Charlotte being one of those "Idealistic realists" if you can use or imagine such a paradox."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "Normie as he calls himself is now 2 ½ and quite a lad, talks a blue streak and is great company."

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "Charlotte has the 2 boys now. Norman is brunette like his Dad but Barrie William is blonde like his mother - a regular turk too but jolly. He is just starting to try to walk."

129. M ii. Barrie William Sandham was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, 99 Page Street, St. Catherine's, Ontario, 29 October, 1944. "Charlotte and I took a summer cottage at St Kitts till after her 2nd boy was born. Barry William, the new baby is a good wee thing."
Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Newcastle, Ontario, 11 November, 1945. "Charlotte has the 2 boys now. Norman is brunette like his Dad but Barrie William is blonde like his mother - a regular turk too but jolly. He is just starting to try to walk."

130. F iii. Charlotte Anne Sandham was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

Extract of a letter from Gladys Foster to Grafton Forster, Box 528, Vineland, Ontario, 29 October, 1947. "I worked all August and then Charlotte's little girl, Charlotte Ann was born in Sept. Everyone fine. I shall be here till after the new year anyway. By then Charlotte ought to be able get on alone."

131. M iv. Ewan Cameron Sandham was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada

Fourteenth Generation

114. Josephine Thebaud (Ethel Bliss, Charles Vaughan Forster Bliss, Dorothy Ann Forster, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Josephine married N Torrell

They had the following children:

132. M i. Val Torrell

133. M ii. Charles Torrell

134. F iii. daughter one Torrell

135. F iv. daughter two Torrell

136. F v. daughter three Torrell

137. F vi. daughter four Torrell

116. Cameron Hugh Forster (Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 9 September, 1920 in Sydney, Australia and died on 26 February, 2001 in Melbourne, Australia. His ashes are at St Andrews, Brighton, Victoria, Australia

EULOGY TO CAMERON HUGH FORSTER

Friday, 2nd March, 2001

T S Elliott wrote:

"We shall not cease from exploration
and the end of all our exploring
will be to arrive where we started
and know the place for the first time."
This captures the essence of the life of my father and today I’d like to share with you some of my sister Jane’s and my own recollections of him.

Our father had many qualities but for me however, these distil down to his sense of relationship and community.

Dad, born in Woollahra, Sydney, 1920 was the first of 3 children, followed by Mary and Frank. His father, Dr. Cameron McDougall Forster established his GP practice in Elwood while Jean Catherine Officer, his mother developed a child psychology unit in the city.

Dad started school at Bellview Heights, Sydney and, when the family returned to Melbourne, he attended Melbourne Grammar School, finishing with Leaving Honours.

Dad's love of the land was nurtured during his school days when he spent weekends and holidays at the Officer's family properties of 'Zintara' and 'Wana' just north of Melbourne. On leaving school in 1937, he started in earnest the business of learning to be a farmer. He became a Jackeroo at 'Bontharambo', near Wangaratta under the tutelage of Hubert Docker and his wife, Lorraine nee Officer. Another branch of the family.

It was, from this time, that Dad began a long and enduring friendship with their son Stan and wife Pat. He was the best man at their wedding and frequently over the years, this wedding group have gathered together in friendship.

With the outbreak of war he enlisted in 1941 at the age of 20, after having recovered from a long convalescence from major back surgery resulting from a horsing accident. Gordon Richards, his friend and fellow officer, will speak to you about those War times and recount some memories of other friends of that era…

However, it was during this period he met and married Nancy Geary in 1944 in Claremont, WA. Dad and my mother remained together until she passed away in 1997.

At the end of the war Dad and Mum took up residence in Cochrane Street, Brighton with his mother. He attended the Melbourne College of Textiles to acquire his Wool Classing Certificate. Topping his class, he held one of the earliest and longest running Certificate Numbers. His foresight to learn this skill and excel in it served him well throughout his farming and subsequent career in the rural industry.

In 1946 the Tara Valley property was acquired and so began the first of the ‘Lochiels’ named after his Clan Cameron heritage. It was part river flats and part steeply cleared hills. Wags at the local pub in Yarram reckoned it was during this time that he developed his limp which became part of his signature thereafter. You always knew when he arrived by his pronounced stamping.

Back then Ragwort was a prolific noxious weed in the hills around the farm and Dad spent considerable time going off in the morning by foot into the hills to cut out ragwort by hand and only returning at dusk. Because the hills were so steep and because of his dogged persistence to rid his land of this pest … and it was this they put down as the cause for his affliction … one leg was always being higher than the other.

Of course I knew better, as I saw him constantly battle with the never-ending pain associated with his disk problems, along with the numerous operations on his back and the continuing deterioration of his leg. He endured all this and never let it become a hindrance nor an excuse to not follow through with the next objective he was pursuing at that time.

In 1947, I entered the world, and am told not without some consternation. Their first car, a little black Hillman, was to transport Mum to the maternity hospital in Yarram. It had developed battery problems and it was Dad’s job each evening to back it up the hill so it could have a running start in case Mum’s labour began at night. On the day in question, both had been out blackberry picking and for some reason Dad had overlooked parking the Hillman up the hill. Later that night, with Mum in labour, it found both of them pushing the car up the hill with much cursing being directed Dad’s way. We all made it to Yarram in time.

Dad learned a valuable lesson, as I can always recall, his farm machinery being kept in superb working order. Yet another of his qualities.

In 1951, Tara Valley was sold to Jim and Elizabeth Bell, who like Mum and Dad were newcomers to the area. Out of a commercial transaction grew a close and deeply cherished
friendship. Jim and Elizabeth, who now reside on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, only a few weeks ago, during a visit to Melbourne spent time with Dad. He and I subsequently spoke of their visit with a smile. Sandra, one their three children, is here today to maintain that connection with our families.

Also in 1951, the second ‘Lochiel’, this being at Woodside, was purchased. As the old homestead was in such disrepair, they decided to buy a house in Union Street, Yarram in advance of rebuilding at the farm. During this period there developed many lasting friendships. such as the Tullys, Clarkes, Cochranes and Kingchurches to name a few.

Another important event happened in that year. Jane, Dad’s little girl, whom he nicknamed Maggie, arrived. He used to take her everywhere with him, including riding on his lap as he drove the grey Massey Fergusson tractor. Jane recalls one such trip involved bringing home the brand new super spreader from Yarram. As they were rounding Hupert’s Corner, about the halfway point, with the spreader in tow, she said to Dad, "look Daddy, there goes a super spreader just like ours!" He looked to where she was pointing, sure enough, there was the spreader overtaking them, but to his great dismay, there was nothing in front towing it. As he saw this newest addition careen into the scrub at the side of the road, he never again doubted anything Jane said in earnest.

When Jane worked with Dad, at Forshall Management, a consultancy he established with Beth Hall in 1982, I saw many times, not only a father/daughter relationship, but also that of a mentor and student, as he instructed her in the ways of business through example, and which progressed where no decisions were reached without Dad first consulting Jane. This reflected the mutual respect their relationship had matured into.

While careful in reaching decisions, he was not afraid to be innovative and adopt new ideas. Traditionally Woodside was a fine wool and dairy area. Dad promptly introduced fat lamb production into the farm. His decision was vindicated with awards for his produce in Fat-Lamb carcass competitions at the Royal Melbourne Show and Smithfield in the UK. He also topped the market with his crossbred wool, branded CHF/LOCHIEL.

He was also an astute judge of livestock and his animal husbandry skills were of the top order. He was always assured of achieving full value when selling his livestock and produce. He was also the head wool-classer for a number of sheds in the district.

To compliment his Woodside enterprise, Dad traded and agisted stock involving many thousands that never passed through the gates of ‘Lochiel’. He added to his holdings with the purchase of another property ‘Texas’ some years later.

During all this period, Dad also extended his interests outside farming … becoming an active member of the community. He served on the board of the Yarram Agricultural Society and in 1963 became its President.

He dearly loved his Saturday football, and for years was a member of the Woodside Football Club. Under his Presidency, they even won a Premiership and I’m told there are some tales on how that was achieved.

He also introduced sheepdog trials into the district, that later became a key activity at the local show. He even participated with his own working dogs – but only achieved mediocre success. Perhaps being named, Whisky, Brandy, Scotch and Soda, this had a bearing on their results. None-the-less, his affection for his dogs, is exemplified by this anecdote. After one sheep dog trial, he put the two dogs in the boot of the newly acquired FJ Holden before scooting off to the pub by closing time. Then onto the men’s club for a few more. Being a little worse for wear on the way home in the dark, he ran off the side of the bridge into the creek. He trekked home and into bed … the next morning Nancy woke and went out to see the new car. Not being there, she woke Dad with a “Please Explain Expression”. "In the Creek!"…he informed her … "but I saved the dogs."

This reflected where his priorities lay, and what was important in the scheme of things on the farm.

Dad was also very resourceful and instilled the need for self-sufficiency. Much of our food was grown on the farm. Dad always had an extensive garden patch, despite being periodically inundated when the creek seriously flooded but he quickly returned it to its place of importance. He also butchered a cow or, more often, a lamb for fresh meat.
During lambing season, which was in the winter months, there were always some lambs without mothers. Dad would never leave them to the foxes or the elements. They always came home and were raised at poddies. Jane recalls, after one severe storm, there were 15 lambs in the kitchen. To keep them warm, they were circulated through the open door of the oven of the large wood fired stove. Little did they realise, they would be recycled several months later through the same oven. By reason of self-sufficiency, the poddie lambs were always the first source for our fresh meat.

For recreation, Dad’s greatest love was fishing. No doubt his mate, Merv Taylor, can recall the thrill Dad had in hooking a very large snapper on Port Phillip Bay. Fishing provided many pleasurable memories in his later years.

In late 1964, after significant deterioration in his back, Dad acknowledged he could no longer continue farming. He sold the property to John and Karin McDonald. As with Tara Valley, this relationship developed into a lasting friendship.

With the move to Melbourne in 1965, Dad commenced a second career in the commercial world and this I will leave to Malcolm Vawser to speak about.

Despite the adversity of his physical problems, Dad tackled this new challenge with a positive spirit and applied the full capacity of his energies. I never heard him despair over what might have been; he just got on with it.

There was also a caring side to his nature. Dad always made time to communicate with people with whom he worked or were his friends when they were facing adversity in their lives. He did this selflessly and I know it always gave that person, the sense of understanding that he cared for them.

In the last years, Dad had begun to ail with a number of health complications. This involved him moving to Bentley Grange where he could get assisted care. Despite his continued decline, he accepted the change and participated as best he could in the activities associated with his fellow residents. Although there for only a short time, his strength of character I’m told, had a positive effect on those around him.

On the behalf of my sister Jane, Betsy my wife and our two daughters Catherine and Suzanne, who is not here today being overseas, it has been a privilege to share with you some of these recollections and reflections about the Life of my Father.

Dad … Goodbye … Farewell … We all love you.

Hugh Forster

The following was then read by his grand daughter, Catherine

For my Grandfather…
Pa Pa, you are the
Strength of my family
We carry your name proud.

I have memories of you
That will be close to my heart…

The smell of your pipe,
The tickle of your moustache
When you kiss me…

Your fairness in life,
And to people…
You inspire me to be the
Best I can be…

You accomplished so much
In your life, so much to be
Proud of and be remembered by

Now you are on a new
Phase, and a new place, and
Wherever you go, know
My love goes with you…
By Catherine Forster

Cameron married Nancy Kathleen Geary daughter of John Elton Geary and Charlotte Ethel Reid on 3 July, 1944 in Christ Church, Claremont, Western Australia. Nancy was born on 5 March, 1920 in Perth, Western Australia and died on 28 October, 1997 in Melbourne, Australia. Her ashes are at St Andrews, Brighton, Victoria, Australia

When I was twelve I was sent to Scotch as a boarder. But in the holidays I would come home to 'Riverslea', and that year Nancy Geary who was a boarder at St Hilda’s College also stayed with us. Jack and Ethel, her parents, spent a lot of time travelling in the country. He was known as Warden Geary and was a circuit magistrate. Earlier on, Nancy would travel with them and be changing schools along the way. Ethel had been Mary’s bridesmaid at Graf’s first wedding. I’m sure that would have taken place in Melbourne so I don’t know why Ethel and her husband should turn up in Perth. (As a magistrate most of his working life was spent in the WA goldfields - hence visits to Perth.) Nancy was adopted, so as there is know Geary blood running through our family I can be quite critical of Jack and Ethel. Jack was tall and gaunt and moved with a slow long stride. He was humourless, self-righteous, a serious law abiding gentleman with a beak-nose and square jaw. I pitied the poor crims who had to face him in court. He liked giving lectures on moral issues. My impression of Ethel was that of a weak woman.

Nancy and I became close friends. The Geary’s often spent Christmas with us but I saw Nancy during our school days at dancing lessons each week at Scotch because the St Hilda boarders used to come over to partner the Scotch boys. By the time we left school the Geary’s were living at Como, a Perth suburb. I think Jack had retired by this time. Nancy was a sports mistress at one of the girls school in Perth and the two of us went out together to the theatre and parties and we held dances in ‘Riverslea’s’ large dining room. The carpet would be rolled and a wide sliding door between the dining room and drawing room opened up to give more space. When we went to parties or dances elsewhere I was allowed to call for Nancy in Sue’s car and no questioned were asked. But when the war started she had a friend in the Air Force, Tommy Torr, who was a few years older than me. Nancy wasn’t game to introduce Tommy to Jack and Ethel, because he would have got the third degree, so I would collect her, take her to a party where Tommy was waiting. I would go off with someone else and Tommy would take Nancy home. Next morning I’d have to phone her early or she’d phone me to find out what time I got home. Graf and Sue would hear the car and then Nancy would take 20 minutes off that time and tell Ethel what time she was dropped off. Subterfuge, but it worked. Then I joined the Navy and that broke up our partnership. I was at sea when I heard that Cameron Hugh had been transferred to Western Australia in the Army, and naturally had visited his grandfather. Because of the domestic set-up he met Nancy. At first, the news of their marriage was a bit of a shock for me; but why should I worry, I was courting Jo Easterbrook!

The senior Forster’s and Geary’s broke up during the war also! Why? I never found out or if I was told I’ve forgotten, but the Geary’s came to live at ‘Riverslea’. There was room because Don was doing medicine in Melbourne; Dick was overseas with the AIF in the first corps of Masseuses to be sent to the Middle East. Better change that to physiotherapists as since the war a masseuse has got a different meaning! Sue only mentioned about the Geary’s to me once when I had returned home after the war. Apparently they paid very little for their ‘board’ and did nothing to help in the house and Sue was expected to wait on them. Not a happy situation also because of Ethel’s association with Graf’s first wife. (Pat Forster’s recollections of the family)

Cameron and Nancy had the following children:

138. M i. Cameron Elton Hugh Forster

139. F ii. Jane Ethel Forster was born in Yarram, Victoria, Australia.

117. Dr. Frank Menzies Cameron Forster (Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew,
Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born on 21 September, 1923 in Sydney, Australia and died on 18 March, 1995 in East Melbourne, Australia. His ashes are at St Andrews, Brighton, Victoria, Australia

Frank was educated at Ashfield Grammar School, Sydney and Melbourne Grammar. He graduated University of Melbourne MBBS in 1948 and specialised in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, FRCOG, FRACOG. During his medical course, he developed a paraplegia due to an eventually curable spinal tumour. He had an international reputation for his work in liver disease and pregnancy, and was that rare sort of obstetrician consulted in difficult cases by other gynaecologists. Obituaries in the 'Herald Sun' and 'The Age' both speak of his compassion and meticulous care. He was my personal friend for many years, starting when he was my teacher at the Women's Hospital in 1954. He was also a noted medical historian, and for his work in establishing (together with donations of artefacts, books and pamphlets) the RANZCOG Library (which bears his name) he was awarded a Gold Medal of the College. (Colin Officer's account of the Officer family).

See also Frank's biography at: http://www.thewomenshistory.org.au:80/biogs/e000089b.htm

Frank married Prudence Isabel Swan Edgar daughter of Otho Swan Edgar and Kathleen Irene Allan in Melbourne Grammar Chapel, Australia. Prudence was born in Swan Hill, Victoria, Australia

They had the following children:

140. M i. Richard Frank Forster
141. M ii. John Allan Forster
142. F iii. Kathleen Jean Forster was born in Melbourne, Australia
143. M iv. Gordon Keith Forster

119. Malcolm Robert Thomas Seaward (Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Egypt

Malcolm married Kaye Rayner in Perth, Western Australia. Kaye was born in 1944 and died in 1998

They had the following children:

144. F i. Susan Helene Seaward
145. F ii. Jennifer Ann Seaward
146. F iii. Elizabeth Jane Seaward

120. Susan Mary Seaward (Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Egypt

Susan married John Young who was born in Tasmania
They had the following children:

147. M i. John Conway Young

148. F ii. Amanda Madelaine Young

122. Richard Frank Seaward (Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Mt Lawley, Western Australia

Richard married Beverley Diane Silverlock

They had the following children:

149. F i. Fiona Beverley Seaward was born in Kununurra, Western Australia

150. F ii. Claire Elizabeth Seaward was born in Wogan Hills, Western Australia

151. M iii. Timothy Robert Seaward was born in Wogan Hills, Western Australia

152. F iv. Kate Diana Seaward was born in Esperance, Western Australia

123. Ian Easterbrook Cameron Forster (Paton Cameron, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Richmond, Victoria, Australia

Ian married Trudi Alexin Richards daughter of Alexander Francis Richards and Hazel Audrey Irving in Melbourne, Australia. Trudi was born in East Melbourne, Australia

They had the following child:

153. F i. Natasha Alexin Forster was born in Melbourne, Australia

124. Edwina Nicole Forster (Paton Cameron, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Melbourne, Australia

Edwina married David Anthony son of Godwin Anthony and Ouida Vuillemee in Melbourne, Australia. David was born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

They had the following children:

154. F i. Elise Rose Anthony was born in London, UK

155. M ii. Cameron Michael Anthony was born in Houston, Texas, USA
125. **Sally Elizabeth Forster** (Donald Cameron, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Sally married (1) Lesley Walker who died in 1986

They had the following children:

156. M i. Matthew Charles Walker-Brown

157. M ii. Iain Cameron Walker-Brown

Sally married (2) Russell Brown. The marriage ended in divorce.

They had the following child:

158. M iii. Douglas Graeme Brown

Sally married (3) Graham Gurney

126. **Jennifer Miriam Forster** (Donald Cameron, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Jennifer married Peter Leggett

They had the following children:

159. M i. Neil Cameron Leggett

160. M ii. Anthony Leggett

161. M iii. John Leggett

127. **Matthew Cameron Forster** (Donald Cameron, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Matthew married Joanne Prichett daughter of Michael Victor Prichett and Jean Fraser

They had the following children:

162. F i. Hanna Mardi Forster

163. F ii. Alexandra Jean Forster

164. F iii. Laura Kate Forster
Fifteenth Generation

138. **Cameron Elton Hugh Forster** (Cameron Hugh, Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Yarram, Victoria, Australia

Cameron married Elizabeth Van Antwerp Boykin in Alabama, USA

They had the following children:

165. F i. Catherine Van Antwerp Forster was born in Melbourne, Australia

166. F ii. Suzanne Lesesne Cameron Forster was born in Melbourne, Australia

140. **Richard Frank Forster** (Frank Menzies Cameron, Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Chiswick College Hospital, England

Richard married Margaret Sonia Weinstock, daughter of Abraham Weinstock and Esther Phoebe Lew in Melbourne, Australia

They had the following children:

167. M i. Benjamin Swan Forster

168. M ii. Isaac Parlan Forster was born in Lismore, NSW, Australia

141. **John Allan Forster** (Frank Menzies Cameron, Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Melbourne, Australia

John married Sheryl Irene Bates daughter of Owen John Bates and Edna Madelaine Hare in Ferny Creek, Victoria, Australia. Sheryl was born in Yallourn, Victoria, Australia

They had the following children:

169. F i. Kara Jane Bates Forster was born in Dandenong, Victoria, Australia

170. M ii. Samuel John Forster was born in Clayton, Victoria, Australia

171. M iii. Nicholas Cameron Bates Forster
144. **Susan Helene Seaward** (Malcolm Robert Thomas Seaward, Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

She had the following children:

172. **M i. Daniel Cransberg**

145. **Jennifer Ann Seaward** (Malcolm Robert Thomas Seaward, Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Jennifer married Mark Farrell

They had the following children:

173. **F i. Hayley Farrell**

146. **Elizabeth Jane Seaward** (Malcolm Robert Thomas Seaward, Helene McDougall Forster, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark)

Elizabeth married Tim Hinder

They had the following children:

174. **M i. Jack Hinder**

175. **F ii. Sophie Hinder**

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**Sixteenth Generation**

165. **Catherine Van Antwerp Forster** (Cameron Elton Hugh, Cameron Hugh, Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Melbourne, Australia

She had the following child:

176. **M i. Matthew Llewellyn Forster** was born in Melbourne, Australia

167. **Benjamin Swan Forster** (Richard Frank, Frank Menzies Cameron, Cameron McDougall, Grafton Cameron Dickson, Charles Cameron, Charles Vaughan, Vaughan, Matthew, Matthew, Matthew, Ralph, Matthew, Thomas, Cuthbert, Mark) was born in Melbourne, Australia
Benjamin's partner, Alia Nicholls, was born in Melbourne, Australia

Benjamin and Alia had the following child:

177. M i. Esteban Paton Forster was born in Wellington, New Zealand