

## The Line from Frances Warburton to Ian Meredith

Frances Warburton (1778 - 26th Feb 1823) daughter of Rev Richard Warburton and Anne Elliott married Charles Coote Meredith (1770 d 1852) Tax Collector.

Their son Charles Meredith was born circa 1800 at Dooragan, Queens Co., and died 12th Jun 1876 in Australia. He married Ann Amelia Bradley, born circa 1809, and died 29th Apr 1857 at Hobart, Tasmania. Charles served in the Army , in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Reg of Foot. He set sail on The Royal George accompanying the transportation of convicts. He was discharged at his own request under terms by the Kings Warrant on 14th Nov 1829 at Hobart Town, Tasmania, Australia. He was granted 100 acres at NorthWest Bay, Kingston and became an Orchardist. The family business is still called 'Merediths Orchards'.

Charles and Ann Amelia had 10 children including Richard, John, Edward, Robert, Catherine, Anne, Eliza, Charles and their first child who died young.

Richard (2nd Jul 1829 - 15th Apr 1900) was a boatman who married Sarah McDowell of South Ayrshire in 1854. Sarah was born circa 1832 and died 9th Sept 1905 at Oyster Cove, Tasmania. Their children were Henry, Ann, Ebenezer Charles, Richard, Robert, Sarah, Phoebe and a second Sarah.

Sarah their youngest daughter, was to have inherited the property but her brothers Robert and Richard persuaded their mother to change the will in their favour just before she died. They mortgaged the property but failed to keep up the payments and it was sold before anyone could save it.

Richard Meredith (1st Sep 1862 - 8th Feb 1924) died after an accident on the Melbourne Docks where he had worked for 30 years. He married Anne Stoner on 2nd Oct 1894 in Melbourne. Anne was born circa 1864 in Sussex, England, and died in 1926. They had four children. The eldest Ernest died in infancy. The others were Sydney, Alfred and Florence.

Alfred Richard Meredith (25th Apr 1899 - 1984) married Margaret McDougall (circa 1904 - 1986) on 31st May 1923. He left Australia in 1919 as a seaman heading for the UK. He eventually worked on a dairy farm on the Isle of Bute where he met Margaret McDougall. They had a family of five: Elizabeth, John, Alfred jnr, Richard (all deceased), and Margaret who is still living. There are seven grandchildren, plus great grandchildren.

Elizabeth (Betty) belonged to the Auxiliary Territorial Service and her main position was to send and receive code, she carried on working after the war and was posted to Germany where she met her husband Robert (Bob) and left the Army as a Corporal and Acting Sergeant. She later became a teacher.

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Bob was a journalist with the News Chronicle. He then joined the army, ending up as a Major, before becoming a civil servant the Ministry of Defence, and eventually Deputy Director of Public Relations for the Army.

John Richard Meredith was born in 1925 in Dunoon, and died in 2014. He married Elizabeth McFarlane. He worked at a dairy farm that was over the road from Hawkhead Psychiatric Hospital. This instilled in him a desire to work with the patients so he became a student nurse. He later joined the army aged 17 and was taught mechanics by veterans, he was in the RASC and responsible for the maintenance of tanks etc. He took part in the invasion of Normandy although not part of the first landing. He was motorcycle despatch rider in Caen, and also delivered tanks to the Battlefield, repairing and removing the damaged ones.

After discharge he returned to nursing, firstly at Quarrier Homes, becoming fully qualified in 1951, and then in General Nursing, but he preferred the former. He worked at Dykebar and Foxbar, and worked part time at Dykebar later in life.

He was a member of the Normandy Veterans Association (NVA 1981-2014) and every summer the NVA returned to the same French beaches to honour their fallen comrades and John took part in these events. Upon moving to Stranraer with his partner Ann of 40 years he joined the Stranraer Royal British Legion and was Chairman and sometimes treasurer.

He and Betty had 2 sons:

Rev Ian Meredith B.A (Hons) Theology, M.A from Kings College and his second M.A in Edinburgh. He took a year off from his vocation to gain his PhD. He is married to Marilyn.

Rev David Meredith has a daughter and 3 sons with wife Nina. He is also a Minister and has a B.A English and Politics and Diploma in Theology.

Note : It was discovering **Keith Winters and his Irish-Meredith DNA project in 2016**, and a sabbatical from work in 2017, which gave Ian the impetus to complete this.

In the 'Family Finder' DNA project on Irish Merediths, by Keith Winters; He says I submitted my DNA which was found to have matches with three members whose ancestry is from Queens County, the closest match being to descendants of Charles Meredith and his wife Frances nee Warburton (i.e. Marilyn, who coincidentally became a Warburton by marrying in to another branch of the Warburton family from Ireland).