



BASIL MYLREA

1791-1865

**Mariner
&
Publican**

Peel

Isle of Man

<http://www.mylrea.com.au>

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Diana Banks is a Mylrea through her mother's family. Several years ago, she began writing the biography of her great great grandfather, John Mylrea, who was born on the Isle of Man in 1823¹, and in the course of researching John's story, she became an accidental authority on the various Mylrea strands. The result is a series of short histories about these Mylrea families/clans, partly to celebrate their lives but also to look for the links that might bind them together. These histories are showcased on the website <http://www.mylrea.com.au>

The online collection (all works-in-progress) is regularly updated when new information comes to light. Today, the following histories can be found there:

- Early Mylreas in KK Michael 1500-1700
- William Merylrea (Ballaugh) 1627-1692
- The Fatally Flawed Family of *Fildraw* (Malew) 1600-1800
- The Mylreas of Douglas & district 1600-1900
- Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan (Lonan) 1653-1900
- Edward Mylrea snr (Lonan) 1743-1784
- Nicholas Mylrea jnr, Farmer (Ballaugh) 1747-1823
- Three Daniels & a Thomas 1761-1934
- Thomas Mylrea, Farmer & Preacher (Braddan) 1788-1860
- Basil Mylrea, Mariner & Publican (Peel) 1791-1865
- Philip Mylrea, Stone Mason (Douglas) 1793-1861
- Frederick Thomas Mylrea, Military Man (London) 1803-1862
- John Mylrea 1852-1921
- The Brushmen of Bethnal Green (1791-)
- Mylreas in 19th Century Lancashire
- The Mylreas of Canada (1900 -)

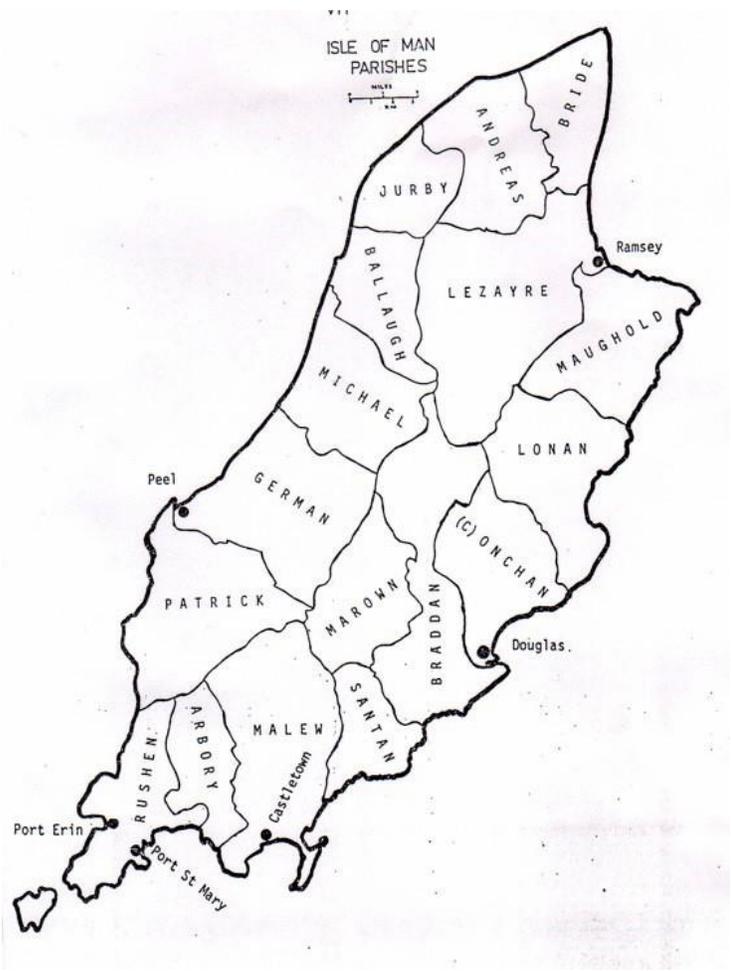
The name Edward, one that tends to identify Basil's family through the generations from the early 1700s, sprang into popularity with other Mylreas in the mid-1800s. This has led in several instances to a confusion in family trees where the two unrelated strands have become a melange of both families, no more so than in Canada². The following story about Basil and his descendants has drawn upon the work of one of Basil's direct descendants, Dr Stan Hudson, who lives in the United States. Without reservation, Dr Hudson offered both his book, *The Mylreas of Man: Five Centuries of Family History*, and the associated digitised material. His generosity made this task so much easier. Information was drawn also from *Only a Woman* by the late Patricia Riddel, another of Basil's descendants and an Australian. Mary Stone, not a direct descendant, generously shared her research as well.

Diana began her professional life as a teacher in central Queensland, went on to become a scholar at several Australian universities, and later a senior bureaucrat in Federal government circles. She has postgraduate qualifications from both Melbourne University in Australia and Harvard in the United States and is an experienced writer although the Mylrea narratives are her first foray into biography.

¹ Published by Lulu: **On Some Lonely Shore: John Mylrea in Australia**

² The Mylreas of Canada - <http://www.mylrea.com.au/stories/Mylrea%20in%20Canada.pdf>





Source: <http://woodsatlas1867.webs.com>

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In the beginning

Basil Mylrea lived in the town of Peel, in the parish of Kirk German, on the Isle of Man during the first half of the 19th century. He was a man of versatility, nominating at various times that he was a mariner³, a fisherman⁴, a shoemaker⁵, a publican. And he produced three very different and interesting sons who spread their wings beyond the Isle of Man. Basil and his family probably lived comfortably, but not so his extended family where instances of abject poverty can be found.

The precise heritage of Basil is uncertain but the evidence points to his being from a branch of the influential Mylrea family of Ballaugh. Based on little evidence (but none to the contrary), it is probably the case that his great great grandfather was William born in 1667, the third son of William Mylrea and Ann Christian, of the *Dollough* estate. Even though Basil's heritage might be traced back to the northern parish of Ballaugh, it is doubtful that he or his immediate forebears were ever in that parish. Rather they lived in the southern parishes of Malew and later German. Another small piece of evidence pointing to a connection back through the generations to the *Dollough* lies in Basil's name itself. Only one other Mylrea was so named, and he was the son of Rev William Mylrea, a great grandson of William and Ann. That other Basil was born in 1771 and died at sea in the 1790s.

Basil of Peel demonstrated a high degree of resourcefulness, yet there is no testimony whatsoever as to what occupation his father Edward pursued. His grandfather also named Edward was a tenant farmer in Malew but those lands were sold by Basil's father when the grandfather died, and no land records ever show Basil's father as a farmer – more likely he was a mariner or a miller.

In all, one might deduce that Basil was a fine, upstanding citizen and family member. He did not incur unmanageable debt; he did not alienate his children. He might have been the youngest amongst his siblings but he was probably the family's patriarch because over the years, he gave shelter to several members of his extended family.

Peel

The sea was the lifeblood of Peel, a town on the west coast of the Isle of Man, facing into the wild Irish sea. It is well described in the following passage:

³ Manx Sun, 18/11/1828

⁴ <https://crewlist.org.uk/>

⁵ The marriage registers for his son Edward, and daughter Elizabeth Price Mylrea

It is a small ancient town and seaport, occupying a pleasant situation on the western coast of the island, at the mouth of the river Neb. It is in the parish of German, and is distant from Douglas, 11 miles N. W.; from Castletown, 12 miles N.; and from Ramsey, 16 miles W. by S. The town is irregularly built, the streets narrow and inconvenient, and the houses crowded together in a very inelegant manner. When the smuggling trade was prosperous, Peel was a station of great importance, but the inhabitants are now chiefly employed in the fisheries. The bay is said generally to abound with fish, but the employment is precarious. During the fishing season, Peel is the principal place of resort of the herring fleets from the sister isles. Here, is an extensive ship-yard, besides which, there are several other trades of minor importance. The Harbour is a good dry one, and at spring tides will admit vessels of 100 tons burthen. The pier is a good substantial stone structure, measuring 400 yards in length, and from seven to ten yards in width. At the end is a lighthouse, the light of which is stationary, and may be seen in clear weather at a distance of eight miles. The town was formerly called Halland, Holene, and Holm Town. In Manx, Pirt-ny-Hinshey, signifying the Harbour of the Island. The chief attraction of Peel is its ancient castle. It stands on a small rocky islet, known by the name of St. Patrick's Isle, and said to be the place on which the celebrated St. Patrick landed, when overtaken by a storm, on his voyage to Ireland. The island, which is about five acres in extent, is separated from the town by the Peel river, which, at low water, is scarcely one foot deep⁶.

Peel and its harbor flourish to this day. The town is a pretty one, the harbor small and the castle still very much in evidence. A relatively recent addition to the harbourscape is a long wharf stretching into the sea and housing a factory (which is also a living museum these days) that processes the famous Manx kippers.



PEEL HARBOUR
2011

⁶ Modified from the entry Thwaites Isle of Man Guide & Directory, 1863, in A Manx NoteBook



Basil's family tree

GEN 1	GEN 2	GEN 3	GEN 4
(?William) Mylrea			Edward
Eleanor Quayle			William 1775
	Edward 1711-1786		Jane 1777
	m Alice Quayle	Edward 1743-1825	Thomas 1780
		m Susannah Cashen	Daniel 1782
			Philip 1785
			Margaret 1788
			Basil 1791

Basil's great grandparents

The name Edward was uncommon amongst the Mylrea clans of the day. Only one family was recorded in the parish registers with a so named son on the Isle of Man between 1700 and 1720 and that was the family with a father named William. They were from Ballaugh.

Edward Mcylrea son of William vulgo (Willy Churry) baptised Nov 10, 1711

Some time later, in 1733, Eleanor Mylrea als Quayle died in Ballaugh, leaving a will that listed six children - William, John, Thomas, Edward, Margaret & Mary⁷. Five had Ballaugh baptism records (Mary did not) with a father named William and furthermore, the entries in the register for William (1701), John (1706), and Daniel (1713) as well as Edward (1711) all make reference to Willy Churry (or a variant), so it's clear that this is the family to which Edward belonged. Daniel died in 1714, with the notation *infant son of Wm Mc ylrea (Curry)*

Confirming the family that Edward came from was the 1759 will of Mary Clague als Mylrea who died in Malew. She nominated her four brothers as supervisors of her children – the brothers were William, John, Thomas, and Edward⁸.

The identity of Eleanor Quayle's husband cannot be established unequivocally. Nevertheless a reasonable hypothesis is that he was named William, given the baptismal records of the early 1700s, and he could have been the third son of William Mylrea and Ann Christian. William and Ann founded a dynasty that exercised a great deal of influence on the Isle of Man over successive generations of Deemsters, Archdeacons, MHKs and holders of other high office. They tended to be identified by their naming of the first son, Daniel.

Of the six surviving children of Eleanor Mylrea als Quayle, Edward was the youngest son. With only one Edward Mylrea baptised on the Isle of Man during the early 1700s, it seems very reasonable that this man was the individual who married Alice Quayle in 1741, at the age of about 30 years.

⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ellinor-quayle-1733.html>

⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/mary-1759.html>

Basil's grandparents

In 1741, Edward Mylrea married Alice Quayle in the parish of Arbory, a small southern parish on the Isle of Man. It adjoins the southern border of the parish of Malew where the couple lived for most of their lives.

Edward was probably a visitor to Arbory when he married Alice. It was not a parish in which members of the Mylrea clans were found in the 1700s (or ever, for that matter), and a search of the manorial rolls from the early 1700s reveals no Mylrea families there at all.

Alice was the daughter of Hugh Quayle and Cath Clark. Barely two months after her father's death in 1740, her mother made a settlement on Alice of "houses and lands" in exchange for a lifetime of care, which turned out to be less than a year⁹. Cath Quayle died in August 1741 and Alice married Edward three months later. Alice also had a brother named John who inherited the Quayle estate in 1740, yet Alice's mother was still able to settle property on her daughter.

Edward and Alice had two sons: Edward jnr (1744) and John (1753). John died in 1754. By the time the boys were born, Edward and Alice were living in Malew. Unlike Arbory, Malew was a parish in which several Mylrea families (McIllleriah/McYlrea) could be found. These were members of the *Fildraw* clan although there is no evidence of any connection between Edward and these particular Mylreas. A review of the Abbeyland rent roll for Malew in 1740 shows that Edward was not a tenant in that parish either, even though he was nearly 30 years of age.

The surviving land records probably don't tell the whole story of Edward and his holdings in Malew. The first recorded transaction was in 1764 - over twenty years after he and Alice married - when Edward purchased the tenancy of some Abbey lands from John Quayle¹⁰ (not his brother in law however) Ten years later, Edward purchased the Quayle's family estate (ie. Alice's family) in Arbory for £16 and mentioned in the purchase document was that the land was adjoining those of "*the said Edward Mylrea's ... on the north and south*". Then there was a flurry of (mostly) sales in 1778-1779¹¹ during which they had sold off most of their tenancies, and realised £265, a substantial amount at the time.

The six surviving Purchase and Sale documents tell that the tenancies Edward bought and then sold were for pastures in the Great Meadow, outside Castletown. The documents suggest that Edward's purchases might have been contiguous land rather than scattered pastures, and that the Arbory lands bordered those of Edward's lands in Malew

⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/cathquayle-settlement-1740.html>

¹⁰ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-purchase-1764.html>

¹¹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1778.html> ; [http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1778\(2\).html](http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1778(2).html) ; <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1779.html> ; [http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1779\(2\).html](http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/edward-sale-1779(2).html)



PURCHASED			SOLD	
1764	Malew	£ 30	1779	£ 25
1774	Arbory	£ 16	1778	£ 48/8/-
1778	Malew	£152	1779	£142 £ 25

Edward and Alice both died in 1786 in Malew and after their deaths, their son Edward jnr, sold off the remaining tenancy for £25.

Basil's parents

Edward jnr, the only surviving son of Edward Mylrea and Alice Quayle, married Susannah Cashen on 16th February 1768 in Malew. He was about 24 years old.

Susannah was the daughter of William Cashen and Susannah Creere, although no record of baptism for her survives. Her mother died in Patrick in 1774 and her will identifies not only her husband Will but also her daughter Susannah and her son in law Edward. If Edward's wife was from this family, then the growing Cashen family can be found in the parish records for Malew, Arbory, Patrick and German over time, with the first child born in Braddan. William Cashen might have been a miller which would explain their peripatetic lifestyle in a largely static Manx population:

- 1734 baptism for William Cashen, son of William (and Susannah Creer) – Braddan – notation “from Balldwin Miln” (Braddan)
- 1782 burial for William Cashen – notation “miller” (Patrick)

By the time their son William was baptised in 1775, Edward and Susannah had migrated north-west from Malew to Peel. Prior to that, they had had at least one child, a boy named Edward, who was mentioned in his grandfather's will of 1786¹². No record of baptism for any children born to Edward and Susannah between 1768 to 1775 can be found, yet they had been married for nearly nine years by the time Edward's father died. It seems highly unusual that no children were born during that time, and then for a flurry of births after 1775. The first of their children to have a surviving record of baptism was William, followed at regular intervals by six more, the youngest Basil in 1791:

- William (baptised 6th January, 1775)
- Jane (baptised 2nd November, 1777)
- Thomas (baptised 11th June, 1780)
- Daniel (baptised 25th December, 1782)
- Margaret (baptised 26th June, 1785)
- Philip (baptised 12th October, 1788)
- Basil (baptised 26th June, 1791)

¹² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/edward-1786.html>

Basil's siblings

Not a great deal is known with certainty about the fate of these children. Neither Edward nor Susannah left a will, documents which would have been very useful in divining the continued existence or otherwise of their children. The table below gives a brief overview of what *might* have been their destiny, with a longer elaboration provided in the attachments. Two of the children have left no discernible trace (Daniel and Margaret).

One of the complicating factors in tracking down Basil's siblings is that another Mylrea family with similarly named children lived in Rushen. Their father was Daniel and mother Ann (Keiggeen). There were 8 children in all, born across a span of 13 years from 1767 to 1780. Most of the family can be found later in German, probably after Ann died in 1790 and Daniel's will is extremely helpful in distinguishing the fate of his children as opposed to Edward's.

Edward, bef. 1775	He is more than likely the individual who married Catherine Gore in Liverpool in 1793. This man was a shipwright.	Attachment 1
William, b 1775	He married Jane Plaice in 1803, remained in Peel, and worked there as a farm labourer.	Attachment 2
Jane, b 1777	Did she marry William McCormack in 1803? He might have been a fisherman, and possibly Scottish.	<p>This is the only marriage of a Jane Mylrea recorded in German. She would have been about 29 years of age. Jane Mylrea & William McCormack had a son William in 1804 in German and then disappeared.</p> <p>A Jane Mylrea had an illegitimate child with William Moore in 1816 but the daughter of Edward and Alice would have been nearly 40, so unlikely to be her.</p> <p>The Jane Mylrea who married William Kennaugh in 1816 was the daughter of Daniel Mylrea & Ann Keiggeen, and was born in Rushen in 1777. Jane remained with her father until he died in German in 1815.</p>



Thomas ¹³ , b 1780	Did he marry, migrate to Scotland and then at the age of about 50, in 1832, go to the United States?	Attachment 3
Daniel ¹⁴ , b 1782	Did he marry Catherine Sayle in 1801? Almost certainly not.	Two children named Daniel Mylrea were baptised within two years of each other, one in German, the other in neighbouring Rushen – one to Edward snr & Susannah (Cashen) and the other to Daniel & Ann (Keiggeen). By 1851, the only Daniel Mylrea in the census was in German, and reported being a slate quarrier and born in Rushen so he was conclusively not the son of Edward & Susannah. This same man was living in German in the 1841 census, and died in German in 1853, aged 76.
Margaret, b 1785	Did she marry John Kissack in 1801? Certainly not	As with Jane and Daniel, Margaret was also a name that spanned Basil's family and Daniel's. Fortunately Daniel's 1815 ¹⁵ will says that his daughter Margaret was married John Kissack (in 1801). Margaret, the daughter of Edward Mylrea jnr and Susannah Cashen, was only 16 years of age in 1801 whereas the daughter of Daniel and Ann was about 30.
Philip, b 1788	It is highly likely that he is the individual who married Ann Chadwick in 1812 in Liverpool, and worked as a shipwright.	Attachment 4

Words of caution

Two of the following attachments outline the lives of Edward Mylrea and Philip Mylrea who lived in Liverpool in the early 1800s, and were shipwrights. The hypothesis being put forward is that they were the sons of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashin, of Peel, and the older brothers of Basil.

¹³ UEGLIEA

¹⁴ MYLRSE

¹⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/daniel-1815.html>

It must be acknowledged however, that there were several “Mylrea” families living in Liverpool at the time that Edward and Philip were there. Migration from the Isle of Man to Liverpool and Ireland was already commonplace, as families sought better opportunities for themselves and their children. The multiple variations of spelling of the surname notwithstanding, several of the Mylrea men were shipwrights as Edward and Philip were. For example

- A John MULREAY married Jane Howel in Liverpool in 1815 and died in 1831, at the age of about 62 years. He was a carpenter/shipwright, and had sons Joseph and Stephen who carried on their father’s profession.

So it is possible that Edward and Philip were not the sons of Edward and Susannah, but came instead from another Mylrea family already living in Liverpool. They might not have even been brothers. A Catherine MYLREA married in Liverpool in 1783, so presumably she was born in the 1760s. In fact, marriage records of the latter part of the eighteenth century in Liverpool show several Mylrea men who would have been born around the same time as Catherine, and Edward and Philip “fit” that profile.

However, two factors keep the “*sons of Edward and Susannah*” hypothesis alive:

1. no reported births of either an Edward or a Philip in Liverpool in the 1770s and 1780s
2. no records for these two sons of Edward and Susannah on the Isle of Man marrying or dying, which is a very strong indication that they had left the island

Similarly, the scraps of information about Thomas Mylrea in Attachment 3 might not add up to the individual being Basil’s brother. As one of the most common first names in the Mylrea clan, confidently associating a Thomas Mylrea with a particular family always relies on additional available.

Other Mylreas in German

Not demonstrably related to the original Edward Mylrea, but potentially his distant cousins were the descendants of the influential Mylrea clan that originated in Ballaugh. Three men from that family had at some stage lived in Peel - Thomas, William and Daniel – the first two brothers and the sons of the Deemster Daniel Mylrea (the second Deemster named Daniel) and Lucy Parry, and thus great grandson of William and Ann (Christian), while the third is another generation of descendants of Daniel and Lucy:

1. Thomas (b 1717), merchant and public official, married to Rose Savage
2. William (b 1722), Archdeacon of Man, married to Eleanor Gell
3. Daniel (b 1757) also Archdeacon of Man, married to Susannah Curghey



Various records note:

- Thomas Mylrea & Rose Savage had eight children between 1746-1758¹⁶
 - Thomas Mylrea acquired tenancies in early Peel from 1748 to 1759¹⁷
 - Thomas Mylrea was the supervisor of Peel Harbour in 1759
 - Rev William Mylrea purchased a Peel Cottage 1776
 - Rev William Mylrea and wife Eleanor Gell were living in Peel in 1786
 - Rev Daniel Mylrea was living in Peel in 1796
4. Also in the mid- to late-1700s was an individual named Thomas Mylrea whose sole surviving records were land dealings in Braddan until his only child, a daughter named Isabel, married William Cain in 1757. After that, Thomas and his wife Jane Karren took up residence in German until their deaths. It is likely that Thomas was an older brother of the original Edward.
5. The Rushen Mylreas were also present in Peel, although the children were born in Rushen. Daughters Margaret, Elizabeth and Jane, and son Daniel all married in German, and Daniel snr died there in 1815. Daniel snr was in all likelihood a son of John Mylrea and Joney Kinread, and John probably another child of Eleanor Quayle and thus another older brother of the original Edward. John was also the Sumner of Ballaugh.

A census of Peel conducted in 1814 listed four Mylrea families. The descendants of the influential Ballaugh Mylreas had died out or moved on.

	Adult Male	Minor Male	Adult Female	Minor female	
Edward	2		1		Basil's father, mother & Basil
William	1	2	1	1	Basil's brother, sister-in-law Jane, and cousins Margaret, John & Thomas
Daniel	1		1	1	Daniel snr from Rushen with daughter Jane and a female grand-daughter?
Cath		1	1		Widow of John Mylrea who died in 1812 in German ¹⁸ ; no information as to John's origins. The only reasonable baptism is for a John Mylrea, born to John Mylrea & Ellinor Caine in Michael in 1774.

¹⁶ One of these children, Daniel, would group up to be the hero of the *Harpooner disaster* in 1816, and the father of an interesting dynasty headed by his son Frederick Thomas Mylrea. See Frederick Thomas Mylrea, *A Military Man (1803-1859)*. <http://www.mylrea.com.au>

¹⁷ Liber Vast entries

¹⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/john-1812.html>

					<p>John & Cath (Quilliam) married in Patrick in 1801, John noted on the marriage register that he was from German.</p> <p>Even though the first name John was very common in the Mylrea clans, the only John Mylrea with a baptismal record in a suitable time window was the son of William Mylrea & Elizabeth Christian on Ramsey, and that child almost certainly died a few years later.</p>
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Also living in Peel was Ann Oates als Mylrea who married Matthias Oates in 1782 in Ballaugh. Ann was a member of the *Ballacorraig*e Mylreas, the daughter of Nicholas Mylrea jnr and Joney Craine.

BASIL

1791-1865

Basil Mylrea was the youngest son of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashen. He had been baptised on 26th June 1791 in Peel, in the Manx parish of German. On 16th November 1828, he married Jane Garrett, in Peel¹⁹ when he was 37 years old, and Jane about 10 years younger. Basil's occupation in the notice of their marriage was "mariner"²⁰ yet within two years of his marriage, he held the licence to sell liquor at the White Lion tavern in Peel.



THE WHITE LION
(2011, a private residence)

He held shares in the fishing smack, *Speedwell*¹, at the same time as he was a mariner so he could have been a fisherman when the weather was kind and a publican when the weather was hostile. Alternatively, Jane might have run the White Lion while Basil was at sea.

Jane Garrett's parentage can only be guessed at, although a few helpful clues emerge from the three census collections that occurred during her lifetime. She was born in Peel around 1800²² and with that information, the following prospective candidates emerge:

- Philip Garrett and Ellinor Clucas – Jane baptised 1794

¹⁹ LDS has entry 6th November 1826 for Jane's marriage; Manx Museum microfiche 16th November 1828

²⁰ Manx Sun, 18th November 1828

²¹ <https://www.crewlist.org.uk/>

²² At her death in 1872, she was recorded as being 72, pointing to a birth year of 1800

- Thomas Garrett and Catharine Black – Jane baptised 1800
- John Garrett and Christian Corjeage - Jane baptised 1804

The obvious choice for parents is Thomas and Catharine because their daughter was born in 1800, but in fact none of these three couples is “ideal”. What tends to discount the latter couples is their first names. It is reasonable to think that Basil and Jane would have named at least one of their children after Jane’s parents but there is no Thomas or Catherine or John or Christian in their family. Instead there is only Philip, which tends to point towards Philip Garrett (and Ellinor Clucas), but in the process adds quite a few years to Jane’s declared age and flies in the face of information provided on Jane’s Memorial Inscription. An Inscription for a **James Turner Garrett** was included on the memorial stone for some members of Basil’s family which would suggest that James Turner Garrett might have been Jane’s brother, and born around 1798.

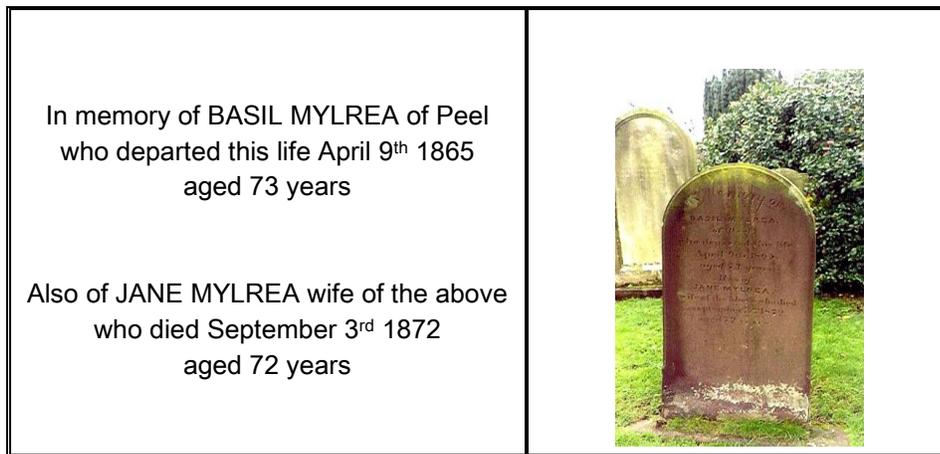
Sacred to the memory of JOHN MYLREA of the town of Peel who departed this life August 1st 1861 aged 55 years also to the memory of Philip Thomas Muncaster son of Philip and Eliza MYLREA otherwise MUNCASTER who died July 26th 1863 aged 2 years and 8 months
Ere sin could blight or sorry fade
Death came with friendly care
The opening bud to heaven conveyed
And bade it blossom there
Also in memory of JAMES TURNER GARRETT of Foxdale who died Monday March .. 1867 aged 69 years²³

This man was the son of George Garrett and Alice Mylchreest of Rushen, and so the parentage of Jane Garrett remains problematic. No other Garrett children were baptised in Rushen 1790-1810, although spreading the net more widely produces several Garrett families who named a daughter Jane in the 1790-1810 window in other parts of the Isle of Man.

Basil and Jane were buried in the Peel Cemetery where their memorial stone reads:

²³ Memorial Inscriptions. Peel Cemetery. IOMFHS. Peel





The children

They had five children, the great grandchildren of Edward Mylrea and Alice Quayle who married in Arbory in 1741:

- ↪ Edward (baptised 17th June, 1832)
- ↪ Basil (baptised 29th December, 1833)
- ↪ Susannah Alice (baptised 7th May, 1836)
- ↪ Elizabeth Price²⁴ (baptised 30th September, 1838)
- ↪ Philip (baptised 19th March, 1840)

As was commonplace in the population of the time, neither Basil nor Jane could sign their name. Their children on the other hand had the benefit of schooling by the mid-1800s. One by one they eventually left the island. Philip went in 1860, and Elizabeth Price, the last to leave, in about 1890. England was the destination for Edward and Basil as well as for Elizabeth Price, although for Philip, the wider world beckoned. Of Susannah, not more information is forthcoming.

The White Lion

Basil first applied for a publican's license in 1830²⁵. Later Peel Directories and census collections for the Isle of Man show that Basil and Jane lived in the tavern in Bridge Street as their family ebbed and flowed through the residence over the years.

In 1841, the White Lion was home to Basil and Jane and their five children. They also had a visitor Ann Mylrea who was 15 years of age and not born on the Isle of Man, according to the census record. This youngster remained with the family for a decade or so. Elizabeth Cowley aged 20 was also living with the family but her connection with them is unclear, although over 20 years later widower William Mylrea (son of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Gell)²⁶, Basil's nephew, married widow Elizabeth Cowley in 1868 – a coincidence of names?

²⁴ Margaret Mylrea, Basil's niece, married Philip Moore jnr in 1829. Philip was a member of the great 18th century Manx trading clan and the name Jane Price Moore featured as both Philip's mother, and Philip's daughter b1835. Presumably that is the source of the second name Price for Elizabeth

²⁵ A Manx NoteBook, Peel Public Licenses, 1821-1858

²⁶ See Attachment 2

In 1849, Basil acquired the official tenancy of the ground on which the White Lion stood. The tenancy was in the possession of James & Elizabeth Woods²⁷, and sold to Basil on 4th April 1849.

Unfortunately the sale contract has not survived although it is referred to in a subsequent mortgage document between Basil and Henry Graves²⁸. Inexplicably however, Basil offered the tavern and yard for sale in February 1849, and how this ties with his subsequent purchase two weeks later from the Woods is unclear.

In 1851, the White Lion still housed Basil and Jane and their five children, now ranging in age from 19 to 11. Also there were Thomas Mylrea born about 1805 and a hostler (listed as nephew, he was one of the sons of William Mylrea and Jane Plaice)²⁹, and Ann Mylrea, born in about 1827, (niece). Both Thomas and Ann declared that they had been born in Peel, contrary to Ann's earlier information in the 1841 census.

In 1861, the White Lion housed Basil and Jane, and their two daughters Susannah Alice and Elizabeth Price. Also at the tavern were John Mylrea b1807 a butler (recorded as a cousin but he was another of Basil's nephews, the second son of William Mylrea & Jane Plaice), Eliza Mylrea (their daughter-in-law and wife of their youngest son Philip), and her infant son Philip T. Mylrea³⁰, and (Mary) Jane Kelly aged 2 (daughter of Susannah Alice).

Of the relatives in the household over the decades:

- **Ann Mylrea** (niece) married John Fayle in Peel in 1853³¹. At the marriage, she declared that her father's name was Thomas, and the 1861 census, she stated that she had been born in Scotland. Given that she was described as a niece in the 1851 census, her father must have been Basil's brother, Thomas, born in 1780. Ann (Mylrea) Fayle died in 1863.

Sacred to the memory of Ann Fayle (alias MYLREA) who departed this life June 20th 1863 aged 37 years³²

She had five children: Martha, Edward, Ann, Susannah & Jacob. Her youngest son was baptised in April 1863 so her death two months later was probably associated with the birth of this little boy³³.

- **Thomas Mylrea** (nephew) died of smallpox in 1860. By then, he had married for a second time and was the father to nine children

²⁷ LV Oct 1847

²⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/basil-mortgage-1849.html>

²⁹ See Attachment 2

³⁰ His full name was Philip Thomas Muncaster Mylrea

³¹ John Fayle might have been a neighbour in 1841, son of William Fayle a shoemaker

³² Memorial Inscriptions. Peel Cemetery. IOMFHS. Peel

³³ John remarried in 1868 to Mary Pattison



- **John Mylrea** (nephew, son of William & Jane) died soon after the census was taken in 1861
- **Philip Thomas Muncaster Mylrea** (grandson) died in 1863
- **(Mary) Jane Kelly** (grand daughter) presents the family historian with a mystery
Susannah & Thomas Kelly baptised two daughters with the name Mary Jane, one in 1858 who must have been the child in the 1861 census, and another born soon after the 1861 census. The former Mary Jane has no burial record, and given that John and little Philip Thomas were mentioned on the family's Memorial stone, the whereabouts of the first Mary Jane is a matter of some curiosity. Further, two Mary Jane Kelly girls married men, Robert Henry Garrett in 1878, and Philip Henry Killey in 1883, both in Peel, and both girls with a father named Thomas Kelly:
 - Mary Jane b April 1858 married Robert Henry Garrett in 1878 and almost immediately migrated to the United States. They went to Silver Plume in Colorado where many other Manxmen had gone³⁴, to work in the silver mines. This couple had six children. Robert Henry died in 1904 and Mary Jane lived well into the 1930s.
 - Mary Jane b September 1861 married Philip Henry Killey in 1883 and remained on the Isle of Man. This couple had five children. Philip Henry died in 1895 and Mary Jane then married Daniel Cleator. They had two more children. Daniel was a mariner, as Philip Henry had been.

Family developments

By 1861, the three sons of Basil and Jane had struck out on their own:

- Edward – married Maria Harriet Kirk in 1855 in England - was an organ builder.
- Basil – married Mary Hannah Brown Cowley in 1854 in Peel - was a watch and clock maker.
- Philip – married Eliza Muncaster in 1860 in Douglas. He would have been about 21, and although his wife and infant son were living with his parents, when the 1861 census was conducted, there was no sign of Philip. He had gone to Australia to try his luck on the Victorian gold fields³⁵, and not for the first time.

Of their daughters:

- Susannah Alice married Thomas Kelly, a mariner, in 1854 but still lived with her parents at the White Lion, perhaps because Thomas was away at sea.
- Elizabeth Price married John Quayle in 1863 in Liverpool, although they returned to live on the Isle of Man for nearly 30 years. He was a baker.

³⁴ Several of the Lonan Mylroies were recorded in Silver Plume in the 1880s

³⁵ *Letters from Australia*. IOMFHS Journal Vol 10/No 4 November 1988

1863. Marriage solemnized at <i>St. Saviour's Church</i> in the <i>Parish of Liverpool</i> in the County of <i>Lancaster</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
224	Jan 9 25th 1863	<i>John Quayle</i>	<i>Full</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Baker</i>	<i>59 Lothian St.</i>	<i>John Quayle</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
		<i>Elizabeth Price Mylrea</i>	<i>Full</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>59 Lothian St.</i>	<i>Basil Mylrea</i>	<i>Shoemaker</i>
Married in the <i>Church of St. Saviour</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <i>Banns</i> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>John Quayle</i> <i>Elizabeth Price Mylrea</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>David Peardie</i> <i>Katherine Stowell</i> <i>J.S. Pickles</i>		

- Daughter-in-law, Eliza, also living at the White Lion in 1861, was a confectioner. She was the daughter of William Muncaster, a master watch and clockmaker in Castletown (Malew). William Muncaster's brother, John, lived in Douglas and was the craftsman watchmaker with whom Philip's older brother Basil jnr had served his apprenticeship. Perhaps this is how Philip and Eliza met.

Family occupations

The principal employment for the men of Peel was in the fishing industry. Indeed, Basil himself was a fisherman. However, the sea either held no attraction for his sons or Basil was ambitious enough to steer them into other (safer) occupations. There is some evidence that suggests that several of Basil's older brothers had employment in the sea-going industries – Edward and Philip were wheelwrights in Liverpool, and William's sons both became mariners. Perhaps this family link with the sea points to Edward Mylrea, Basil's father, being a fisherman. Daughter Susannah Alice married Thomas Kelly a mariner.

The other occupation that featured in Basil's family was baker/confectioner. His youngest son Philip was a baker while Philip's wife Eliza was a confectioner. The two occupations were frequently conducted by the one individual as a 'baker & confectioner'. The husband of daughter Elizabeth Price (John Quayle) was a baker, and Edward's grandson, James Martin Cowley Mylrea, took up the confectioner's trade late in life, when he was in his 70s.

However, if there is such a thing as a dexterity gene, then Basil's two oldest sons – Edward and Basil jnr – were blessed with a generous helping. They became master craftsmen, one as an organ and piano builder, the other as a clock and watchmaker.

Basil's finances

Basil was sufficiently prosperous to eventually purchase the tenancy to the White Lion tavern, and the ground on which it stood. The purchase came to light, not because of the Purchase document itself but because Basil borrowed funds just three days after he made his purchase and the Mortgage document alludes:



..... I the said Basil Mylrea acquired by purchase from James Woods and Elizabeth his wife by Deed of Sale dated the 4th day of April 1849³⁶

While Manx land records are a rich source of information about the lives of the inhabitants, they are not infallible and in the case of this particular purchase, two weaknesses were evident – the document itself has not survived and because there was no compulsion to register a change in ownership, Basil does not seem to have done so in his lifetime. Fortunately, the Woods sold the tenancy for second piece of land (and a cottage) on the same day, and this land abutted Basil's:

..... that field and premises lying to the east of (Basil's) said house and yard³⁷

The purchaser was Thomas Chomondeley, and in this case the 1852 Liber Vastarum has been more forthcoming as to the sequence of events. It can be safely assumed that the same sequence applied to Basil's acquisition:

1844: Elizabeth Woods als Cregeen inherited the lands from Jane Cregeen, who died in 1844 (she had inherited the same from her mother in 1831)

1849: The Woods sold part of the Cregeen inheritance to Chomondeley

What probably provoked Chomondeley to register these changes was that in 1852, he sold his Woods purchases to Reginald Chomondeley and went off to New Zealand to become one of the early settlers in the Christchurch area.

By the time Basil and Jane had died, there was a significant number of descendants from this Mylrea family. The two oldest sons, Edward and Basil, had 23 children between them while the only son of their youngest son, Philip, died in infancy³⁸. There were as well, the children of their two daughters with surnames Kelly and Quayle.

Basil died in 1865 and bequeathed the tavern *inter alia* to his wife. It would not have been unusual for Jane to leave its running to her son-in-law and so in the 1871 census collection, John Quayle was listed as the publican of the White Lion tavern. Also living there were his wife Elizabeth and their three children, his mother-in-law Jane, Jane's grand daughter Mary Jane Kelly (now 12 years of age) and another child, Elizabeth Mylrea, the 10 year old daughter of Jane's son Basil jnr and his wife Maria Hannah Cowley. When Jane died in 1872, she left the White Lion to Elizabeth. Elizabeth and her family remained in the tavern for a time but by 1891 they had gone to the UK and the White Lion passed out of Mylrea hands forever.

³⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/basil-mortgage-1849.html>

³⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/basil-moa-1850.html>

³⁸ An individual who knew Eliza in her old age recalls Eliza saying she had another child in America, where she and Philip had gone after Philip's Australian adventures came to an end. That child died at much the same time as his father. Unfortunately, there is no official record of the child

Presumably the Mylreas also had spare funds as they entered their later years. When Jane died, she had loaned money to the church, a legacy she passed to the grand daughter who had lived with the family for so long

I leave and bequeath to my granddaughter Jane Kelly the sum of thirteen pounds sterling which is secured by me by a promissory note from the trustees of the Primitive Chapel at Knocksharry in the parish of German as a legacy³⁹

Jane's 1872 will makes for interesting reading because she left just one shilling to her daughter Susannah Alice (Mylrea) Kelly, but £13 to her granddaughter, (Mary) Jane Kelly, the child who lived at the White Lion with her grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. The disparity between the legacies for mother and daughter was enormous for the time, as was the disparity between Susannah's inheritance and that of her siblings who were dealt with equally by Jane, each receiving £10. Was there an untold story behind Jane's will about Susannah Alice and did it bring about her mother's displeasure?

In sum, Basil achieved a level of financial security that was not evident amongst other members of his family. Perhaps he was a hard worker, perhaps he was entrepreneurial, perhaps becoming a publican was a clever economic move. One way or the other, he and his family enjoyed security and opportunity in their lives.

³⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/jane-garrett-1872.html>



Basil's Timeline

- 1791 baptised in Peel, KK German, Isle of Man
- 1827 parents Edward jnr & Susannah died in Peel
- 1828 married Jane Garrett in Peel; he was a mariner
- 1830 gained a publican's license
- 1832
 - Edward born
- 1833
 - Basil jnr born
- 1836
 - Susannah born
- 1838
 - Elizabeth born
- 1840
 - Philip born
- 1843 owned 8 shares in the *Speedwell*, and recorded as a fisherman on ship's register
- 1849 purchased the tenancy of the land on which the White Lion stodd
- 1854 Increased ownership in the *Speedwell* to 16 shares and still recorded as a fisherman
 - Basil jnr married
 - Susannah married
- 1855
 - Edward married
- 1860
 - Philip married; sailed to Australia
 - Elizabeth married
- 1863
- 1865 Basil died
- 1872 Jane died
- 1876
 - Philip died in the USA

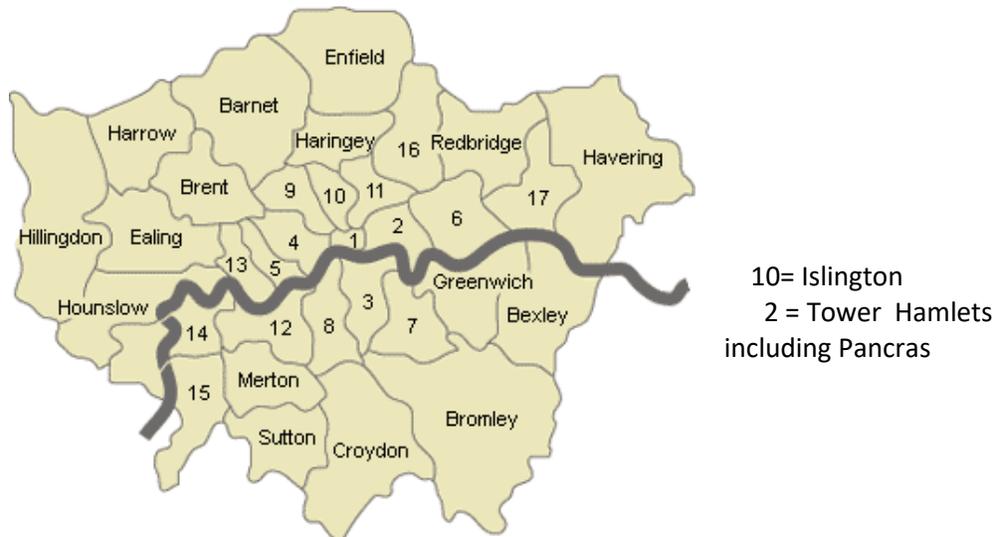
EDWARD

1832-1902

∞The Organ Builder∞

Basil's first-born son, Edward, was named no doubt after his great grandfather (who married Alice Quayle in Arbory in 1741), his grandfather (who married Susannah Cashen in Malew in 1768), and his uncle (Basil's older brother). He became a joiner or carpenter in Peel before moving away to England some time between 1851 and 1855, where in Manchester he married Maria Harriet Kirk when he was about 23 years of age.

Two children soon came into the family but five years after their marriage, Edward and Harriet (as she preferred to be known) moved to London, living first in Barclay Lane, Pancras and later at 12 Spalding Terrace in Islington where they remained into old age. Neither they nor their children ever returned to the Isle of Man.



The children

After the family moved to London, eight more children, including a set of twins, were born into the family so the offspring of Edward and Harriet now numbered 10:

1. Edward (baptised 1st June 1857, Manchester)
2. Louisa Amelia (baptised 31st August 1858, Manchester)



3. Philip William (baptised 11 March 1860, Pancras)
4. Frederick (baptised 18th February 1862, Pancras)
5. Walter (baptised 17th December 1863, Pancras)
6. Emily (baptised 20th December 1865, Pancras)
7. Catherine (baptised 29th July 1868, Pancras)
8. Daniel (baptised 29th July 1868, Pancras)
9. William Edward (baptised 9th October 1870, Pancras)
10. Harriet Kirk (baptised 25th April 1874, Islington)

Daniel, the twin brother of Catherine, did not survive infancy.

About 10 years after living in Pancras, patriarch Edward leased 12 Spalding Terrace, in Islington for his large family⁴⁰. Their last child Harriet Kirk Mylrea was born in the new abode.

By 1881, their eldest daughter **Louisa Amelia (b1858)** was a 22 year old widow with a 2 year old daughter, Agnes Windsor Cornell⁴¹, and again living with her parents. She had married Henry Windsor Cornell, a hairdresser, in 1877⁴² but he died soon after.

Their four oldest sons were all working; Edward and Philip as organ builders, Fred as a carpenter and Walter as a goldsmith. These young men still lived in the family home while the other four children were at school.

By 1891, Edward and Harriet had only their youngest child, 17 year old Harriet, living with them at Tufnell Park Road (which was Spalding Terrace renamed⁴³). During the preceding decade, six of their nine children had married:

- **Edward (b1857)** wed Jessie Margaret Eastwell in 1881, and they had four children over the ensuing decade. He was now an organ tuner, and the family was living at Poynings Road, Islington. The use of the term *tuner* points strongly to Edward having made the transition from constructing the organ case, a task which itself would have been delicate and exacting, to tuning the pipes themselves. From somewhere, Edward had developed musicality as well as dexterity.
- **Louisa Amelia (b1858)** remarried, in 1882. Her new husband was Benjamin Henry Skinner, a carpenter. They had two children⁴⁴ in addition to Louisa's daughter, Agnes Windsor Cornell.

⁴⁰ London Metropolitan Archives, Assignment of Lease A/CSC/3005/6 5 Dec. 1879

⁴¹ Agnes married Thomas Turner in 1905

⁴² London England Marriage and Banns 1754-1921 (ancestry)

⁴³ (a) British National Archives hold the 1879 lease document in which the change in name is recorded A/CSC/3005/6. (b) In the 1899 Kelly's Street Directory, the family was at 234 Warrender Road and given the same house number as previously, it is highly likely that the road had been re-named yet again

⁴⁴ William Henry Skinner & Helen Martha Skinner

- **Philip William (b1860)** married Eliza Jane Clarkson in 1885⁴⁵, they had four children, and the family lived at Grafton Road, Islington. On the marriage register, Philip gave his occupation as an organ *builder*.
- **Walter (b1863)** married Louise Jago in 1888, and there were no children yet. They were living at St Georges Avenue, Islington and Walter was a jeweller.
- **Emily (b1865)** married Austrian, Edmund Oscar Berthold, in 1887. He was an importer of linen and furs. By then, they had two little boys, and they lived at Beaversbrook Road, Islington.
- **Catherine (b1868)** had only recently married Edward Downes Dupre⁴⁶, a civil engineer who, despite his name, was born in Gloucester. They lived in Evelyn Road, Richmond (near Islington) and two children soon came into the world – Cyril Edward Dupre and Olive Kate Mylrea Dupre.

It would not be too long before the remaining children also married: **William Edward** to Helena Harriet Clarkson, younger sister of Philip's wife Eliza Jane, in 1895; **Fred** to a considerably younger Harriet Woodley in 1897; and **Harriet Kirk** to Robert James Marshall in 1900.

The organ builders

The first description of Edward's profession was as a joiner, another term for *carpenter*. This was in 1851 when he was 19 years old and still living on the Isle of Man. During his lifetime, he described himself variously as an organ builder, an organ tuner, a carpenter, a joiner. For instance, on daughter Harriet's wedding register of 1900⁴⁷, his profession was listed as *organ builder* but was *carpenter* in the 1901 census. What those different entries might signify is unclear.

Islington was clearly this Mylrea family's "patch" now. Edward established the firm Mylrea and Cartwright there in 1874, the year that corresponds with their move to Spalding Street. Fred and Philip would eventually take over while Edward jnr went to work for William Hill & Sons, a much older organ building firm in London. By 1901, three of Edward's five sons were organ builders and Edward snr and these three sons founded a remarkable legacy, often referred to as the "Musical Mylreas" that spread its influence across the globe. Attachments 5 and 6 describe a little of their circumstances.

Walter the jeweller and William Edward the warehouseman were evidently impervious to the attractions of organ building/tuning, and none of the daughters of Edward and Harriet married men involved in that very special craft.

⁴⁵ 9/11/1885

⁴⁶ 1890

⁴⁷ London England Marriage and Banns 1754-1921





KELVEDON church, Essex



Mylrea & Cartwright, booklet

Edward jnr became a master organ builder for Hill & Sons, “Royal Organ Builders to the Queen Victoria”. He was Westminster Abbey’s chief organ tuner for 20 years as well as servicing the instruments in Buckingham Palace’s St. James. He was present for Victoria’s funeral in 1901 and the coronation of her son, Edward VII⁴⁸. Edward jnr was also credited with installing the Grand Organ in the Sydney Town Hall in 1889.

His achievements in such a specialised area makes Edward’s next move a remarkable (incomprehensible?) one.



The new century

As the new century ticked over, life was changing forever for this Mylrea family. Matriarch Harriet had died in 1897, and Walter, the fifth Mylrea child, died in 1900. The Great War would be declared in 1914, and the men and women of the family would pay a heavy price. Migration of some of the family also changed the dynasty that was created by Edward, the first born son of Basil Mylrea of Peel. Edward the patriarch would also soon pass away. Oldest son Edward and wife Jessie, with all their

⁴⁸ The Mylreas of Man: Five Centuries of Family History by Dr Stan Hudson. Privately published.

children (there were 11 surviving), were about to migrate to Canada and youngest son William Edward and wife Helena would head off to Australia with their adult children. Daughter Emily (Berthold) would die during WW1 and her two children would leave for Canada, where one would die in tragic circumstances.

Edward jnr & Jessie Margaret –Edward jnr became an established organ builder and tuner of note in London. At the age of 47, he took his wife and family of 11 children on the *SS Oceanic* to Canada in 1904, where he first attempted to make a living as a farmer. They were essentially pioneers in the central region of rural Saskatchewan, a significant change from their life in London. Eventually he returned to organ building, and in 1918 migrated south to the United States. He was 61 years of age and still adventuring! Some of his children remained in Canada and established their own families while others went with their parents to California where their dynasty lives on today.

Louisa Amelia & Henry Windsor, Benjamin – A widow with a daughter at 22, Louisa Amelia remarried and had two more children. Some time after her father died, Louisa with her husband and children left London for Essex where her younger sister Catherine Berthold lived.

Philip William & Eliza Jane – He was an organ maker who completed his apprenticeship with Hill & Sons of London, and became a partner in the firm, Mylrea & Cartwright (Organ Builders)⁴⁹. He and Eliza Jane had seven children. During WW1, the government insisted that Mylrea & Cartwright suspend making organs and begin producing munitions. In protest, Philip sold his share of the business⁵⁰ and took up the art of ice-cream making in Dunstable⁵¹.

Frederick & Harriet – He and Harriet had two little girls, the first living for only a short time. Fred made the transition from carpenter to organ builder as his father and brothers had done before him. He lived to the ripe old age of 96 (and Harriet to 89⁵²), and their daughter Rosamond Clifton remained with them, never marrying. He and Philip were the sons who remained in England and were presumably partners in the famed organ building business, begun by their father in 1874. He might also have left the business when brother Philip sold out, because a 1914 Telephone Postal Directory lists “Cartwright, Right & Son”.

Walter & Louise – He had been jeweller, but died at 36, leaving his wife Louise and two small children to fend for themselves. Louise first worked as a confectioner but by 1911 she was a housekeeper at 15 Manoar Road in Coventry while son Henry Walter aged 14 was a boarder with

⁴⁹ Mylrea & Cartwright: Church Organ works – a catalogue (book currently out of print (Amazon))

⁵⁰ Cartwright’s Organ Works, Park Road, Haringay

⁵¹ Adapted from a piece by Philip Mylrea’s grand daughter in the DDLKS Newsletter, No 30

⁵² Harriet, Rosamond Woodley, and Rosamond Clifton are buried at Clifton Hampton churchyard.



(perhaps) his employer in Coventry and daughter Ethel, just 11, was boarding with an elderly woman, also in Coventry, but not at the same address as her mother or brother.

Emily & Edmund - They had three children, two of whom died in 1911 and 1912 respectively. Their surviving son changed his name in 1918 to August Sidney Barlow. Emily died in 1916 at the age of 50, which must have made life even more difficult for Edmund, an acknowledged German living in England during WW1. He remarried in 1918 and died in 1924.

Catherine & Edward – They moved away from London with their two children in about 1900, to live in Essex. Both of the children migrated to Canada as young adults. Catherine and Edward might have lived somewhere near Louisa Amelia Skinner, Catherine's older sister, because Edward died in Hitchin, where Louisa's husband had also died.

William Edward & Helena – They had six children although sadly, two died at an early age from tuberculosis. Oldest daughters Helena and Grace had gone exploring to Australia, and returned to convince their parents that Australia was the place to live. Perhaps it was the sunshine, and the memories of the two children dying of TB that helped them make up their minds. The family arrived in 1927 and took up residence in Southport, on the Gold Coast.

Harriet & Robert – When they married, niece Agnes Windsor Cornell was one of the witnesses. Robert worked as a railway clerk, and he and Harriet did not have children. Harriet died in 1923 in London at the age of 49.

It is amazing how far Edward and his children had travelled, geographically as well as occupationally, from the family's origins on the Isle of Man. Peel to London to San Francisco via Canada; fisherman to organ tuner in just two generations.

Edward's timeline

1832	born in Peel	
c 1853	went to Manchester	
1855	married Maria Harriet Kirk	
1857	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward jnr born 	
1858	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louisa Amelia born 	
1859	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moved to London (Pancras) 	
1860	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philip William born 	
1862	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick born 	
1863	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walter born 	
1865	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily born 	
1868	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine & Daniel born; Daniel died 	
1870	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Edward born 	
1874	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harriet Kirk born 	
	established Mylrea & Cartright and moved to Islington	
1877		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louisa Amelia married⁵³
1881		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward jnr married
1882		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louisa Amelia remarried
1885		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philip William married
1887		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily married
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catherine married
1888		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walter married
1895		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Edward married
1897	Maria Harriet Kirk Mylrea died	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frederick married
1900		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walter died
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harriet Kirk married
1901		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosamund Woodley Mylrea died
1902	Edward Mylrea died	
1904		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward jnr migrated to Canada
1910		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cecil Mylrea Berthold died
1911		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violet Emily Berthold died
1916		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily Berthold als Mylrea died
1918		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henry Walter Mylrea died WW1
1926		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Edward migrated to Australia

⁵³ Three ancestry family trees claim that Henry Windsor Cornell died January 1861. No record on UK BMD.



BASIL jnr

1833-1896

⌘ Clock & Watchmaker ⌘

Basil Mylrea, the second son of Basil snr and Jane Garrett, was born in Peel in 1833. As a teenager, he was apprenticed to John Muncaster at #13 Factory Lane in Douglas, on the other side of the island. Muncaster was a master watch and clock maker⁵⁴.

[As an aside, this apprenticeship illustrates how easily family circles collide on the Isle of Man:

- John Muncaster's brother, William, was also a watch and clock maker. He lived in Castletown on the Isle of Man, and was destined to become the father-in-law of Basil's younger brother, Philip; and
- Living close to the John Muncasters, in Factory Lane in Douglas, were Thomas and Elizabeth Mylrea who were at #19. Thomas was a retired tailor from the parish of Lonan, with no immediate connection to Basil's Mylrea clan.]

When Basil jnr was 21, he married Mary Hannah Brown Cowley in Peel on 22nd April 1854.

An early sign of Basil's urge to break away from his homeland was his departure to Warrington (Lancashire), perhaps in 1856, with his wife and infant son. The couple returned to Peel in about 1860 and remained there for 15 years even though he was declared insolvent by 1871. By the time he and his family left the Isle of Man for a second time, both of his parents had died and the White Lion had passed into the hands of his sister Elizabeth Price Mylrea and her husband John Quayle. There was nothing to keep Basil and family on the island now.

The Children

In all, Basil jnr and Mary Hannah had ten children, three born in the UK, and seven in Peel:

- Thomas Edward (baptised 13th April 1855, Peel)
- Basil III 34 (baptised June 1856, Warrington)
- Mary Jane (baptised December 1859, Warrington)
- Elizabeth Eliza (baptised 20th September 1861, Peel)
- Edward Albert (baptised 7th August 1863, Peel)
- James Martin Cowley (baptised 3rd November 1865, Peel)

⁵⁴ 1851 IOM Census

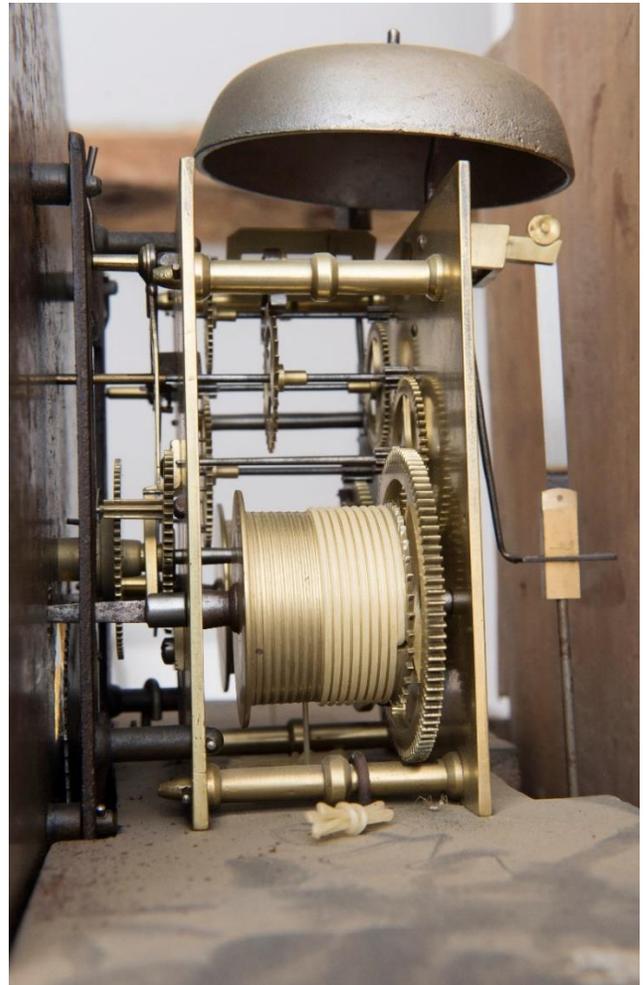
- Margaret (baptised 31st January 1868, Peel)
- Eleanor Eva (baptised 7th October 1870, Peel)
- Agnes Louisa (baptised 8th May 1874, Peel)
- Emmeline Beatrice (baptised 1876, Manchester)

Master Watch & Clock Maker

After serving his apprenticeship with John Muncaster, Basil jnr remained a watch and clock maker his entire life. It was a vocation that he pursued until his death in 1896, at the age of 63. The tradition continued when Basil jnr took his oldest son, teenager Thomas Edward, as his apprentice in about 1870 while they were still living in Peel. Eventually, three of his four sons (Thomas Edward, Basil III, and Edward Albert) became watch and clock makers. These men displayed the same lifelong commitment to their craft as Basil's brother Edward and his sons had shown to their profession of organ building in London. The delicacy of the inner working of the clock might find a comparison with the delicacy of the organ.



Grandfather clock by Basil Mylrea
(privately held in Peel)



Inner workings of the Mylrea clock

Today, Basil's clocks and watches find their way into antique auctions. Lot 71 at a 2010 auction in Douglas, on the Isle of Man, was **Victorian silver key-wind pocket watch. Maker: Basil Mylrea**⁵⁵. As well, at least one grandfather clock survives, in Peel on the Isle of Man.

The next generation

In 1881, Basil jnr is almost 50 years of age. His family was living at York Street in Hulme (Manchester). Basil was a watchmaker, as was now his oldest son Thomas Edward; second son Basil was a jeweller, Edward Albert was a warehouseman, and James a carpenter. The older girls were in the clothing trade.

By 1891, three of their seven children remained with their parents Basil jnr and Mary Hannah in Durham Street, Hulme - **Edward, Agnes & Emmiline**

- **Mary Jane** and **Elizabeth Eliza** had married the Taylor brothers, Clement and Arthur, in 1882 and 1884 respectively. Arthur Taylor was a warehouseman in 1881, as was the girls' brother Edward Albert Mylrea, so perhaps this is how the Mylrea sisters met the Taylor brothers?
- **Basil** married Carmin Turner in 1888;
- **Eleanor Eva** had recently married James Buckley, a printer and stationer.
- **Edward**, no longer a warehouseman, had become a watchmaker like his father.

By 1901, more changes had occurred in the Mylrea family. Mary Hannah lived with her two unmarried sons, Thomas Edward and Edward Albert, both watchmakers at George Street (Moss Side, Hulme).

- **Basil** had died in 1896
- **Agnes** migrated in 1897 to Cleveland, Ohio where she married Joseph Johnson⁵⁶; Johnson was an insurance agent, and by 1900 that had a daughter Ruth followed by another daughter (Josephine?) in 1902
- **James** had married Rosa Hopkins in 1898 in Liverpool; and
- **Emmeline Beatrice** married Willis Clayton in 1900.

Mary Hannah Brown Cowley Mylrea died in 1903, aged 66.

By 1911, the family's shape changed yet again as its members dispersed: **Edward** had married in 1904 (he was over 40), Carmin, the wife of Basil jnr, had died in 1907 and two of the sons of Basil and Mary had given away their early training in clock and watch making.

Thomas Edward Mylrea never married and died at the age of 70 in Manchester.

James Martin Cowley Mylrea gave up being a cabinet maker at some stage, and was listed as a confectioner in the 1939 at 1 Valetta Place (Riverside) in Bridgewater, Somerset. He would have been 74 years of age.

⁵⁵ <http://www.antiquemann.im/downloads/20100730.pdf>

⁵⁶ *Waestland* manifest (ancestry)

Basil's family eventually made a complete break with the Isle of Man. However they experienced a considerable amount of turbulence before they settled in Hulm. For some reason, the early training afforded the sons of Basil jnr did not stand the test of time, as they abandoned their profession and went in other directions.

Basil's Timeline

1833	born in Peel	
1853	married Mary Hannah Brown Cowley in Peel	
1855	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Edward born in Peel 	
c 1856	Left Peel	
1857	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basil III born in Warrington 	
1858	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Jane born in Warrington 	
c 1860	Returned to Peel	
1861	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth Eliza born in Peel 	
1863	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Albert born in Peel 	
1865	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Martin Cowley born in Peel 	
1868	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret born in Peel 	
1870	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Eva born in Peel 	
1874	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agnes Louisa born in Peel 	
c1875	Left Peel	
1876	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmaline Beatrice born in Manchester 	
1882		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Jane married
1884		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth Eliza married
1888		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basil III married
1891		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Eva married
1896	Basil jnr died	
1898		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Martin Cowley married
1900		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmaline Beatrice married
1903	Mary Hannah Brown (Cowley) Mylrea died	
1904		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Albert married
1905		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basil III remarried

Margaret??



Philip

1840-1876

✪ Baker ✪

Establishing the pathway of Philip, youngest son of Basil and Jane, has been an exercise in “joining the dots”, and there is no guarantee that the correct answer has been arrived at, although it has been definitely established that he died in the United States in 1876⁵⁷.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MYLREA—July 17, at Indianapolis, America, Mr Philip Andrew Mylrea, youngest son of the late Basil Mylrea, Peel, aged 36 years.

The problem with the notice in the Manx newspaper is that Philip did not have the second name ANDREW, he was not aged 36, and he did not die in Indianapolis. He was baptised with a single name PHILIP, and he died at the age of 35 in Memphis, Tennessee – nearly 500 miles south of Indianapolis. The date of his death however, is correct. He can't have been in Tennessee long because an Indianapolis City Directory lists him as a baker living in Davidson St in 1876.

By the time Philip died, both of his parents had died in Peel. He was mentioned in both of their wills so presumably he stayed in touch with the family. Basil left him £5 and a clock in 1863; his mother Jane left him £10 in 1872.

Philip Mylrea married Eliza Muncaster on April 16 1860 in Douglas⁵⁸.

On Sunday, April 16, at Kirk Braddan, Mr. Philip Mylrea, of Peel, to Miss Eliza Muncaster, of Douglas.

Philip's son, Philip Thomas Muncaster Mylrea, was born in November 1860 but Philip was not there for the infant's arrival. Instead, the little fellow lived with his grand parents, Basil and Jane, at the Red Lion tavern in Peel, along with an assortment of aunts, uncles and cousins.

⁵⁷ Mona's Herald Newspaper, 9th August 1876

⁵⁸ Manx Sun Newspaper, 21st April 1860

Australia

Four months after his marriage, Philip boarded the *Commodore Perry* in Liverpool and arrived in Melbourne (Victoria, Australia) in August. Thomas Quayle was with him. His presence there was recorded in two letters written from the Victorian gold fields to John Waterson Mason in Peel⁵⁹. The letter dated July 11, 1860 was from John Quayle, and it said (incomprehensibly) in part:

Philip Mylrea, did a cranky job before leaving home, he ought to have got a little one, and stowed her away among his duds, or else have done his time out here, and then made a splice of it.

And then in another one from Thomas Radcliffe dated 21st August 1860:

Tommy Quayle and Phill Mylera arrived, hear the night before last, they look first rate on it. John Quayle was in Melbourne when the ship arrived.



To make such a long voyage when there were countries much closer (Canada, America, South Africa for instance) suggests that Philip regarded Australia as his “land of opportunity”. He had been in the Victorian goldfields [Eaglehawk Gully near Bendigo] in 1856⁶⁰ when he was only 16 so he had already demonstrated that he was the adventurer in the family. Doubtless, he’d gone off with other young men from the Isle of Man, all having heard the stories about the riches to be extracted from the Victorian gold fields. These stories fuelled dreams and brought waves of immigrants from all over the world in the 1850s.

⁵⁹ *Letters from Australia*. IOMFHS Journal Vol 10/No 4 November 1988

⁶⁰ Bendigo Advertiser, 3rd January, 1856



The gold rushes had slowed in Victoria by the time Philip returned for a second time in 1860 which might be why he subsequently ended up in the United States. How long he remained in Australia on this second visit is not known but his next recorded sighting was in the USA. An entry for a Philip Myllrey on a passenger list on the *Escort* in May 1866, travelling from Liverpool to New York, might be Philip Mylrea although his country of origin, along with everyone else on the list, is recorded as Ireland. This person was also noted as a labourer, while Philip Mylrea was a baker (or perhaps he was yet to learn his trade in the USA?).

United States of America

By 1868, Philip was in Cleveland, Ohio when the City Directory listed him as a boarder at 28 Boliver St, and the following year he was a grocer at 24 Boliver St, and living at the same address.

He moved on to Indianapolis soon after and the City Directories there charted his progress around the city:

- 1871-72 – baker – boarding 117 W Washington st
- 1872 – baker – boarding 117 W Washington st
- 1873 – baker – 88 Fort Wayne Ave, living on site
- 1874 – baker – living at 119 W Washington st
- 1875 – baker – Taggart Brothers, living 191 N Noble st
- 1876 – baker – living 169 Davidson St

Philip advertised his wares:

WANTED - IT KNOWN THAT P. MYLREA has started a bakery at 88 Fort Wayne avenue. and will supply fresh bread in any part of the city by leaving orders at the bakery. (3rd September, 1872)

BREAD AS GOOD AS HOME MADE AT MYLREA'S, No 88 W Fort Wayne Avenue. Wedding parties and festivals furnished with cake at short notice. We use none but the best flour and other ingredients at our bakery. (January, 1873)

Not a lot can be drawn from the six city directories prior to his death in 1876. They show that he launched himself into an enthusiastic promotion of his bakery business, and that by 1875 he was working for Taggart Brothers, rather than his own bakery. He moved his place of residence on several occasions during those 5 years. Two news reports during that time mentioned that he had been found drunk:

June 1873 – charged with drunkenness⁶¹

April 1874 - committed yesterday for sobering-off purposes by Judge Test⁶².

⁶¹ Indianapolis News June 9, 1873

⁶² Indianapolis News April 1, 1874

In January 1869, a letter addressed to Philip Mylrea, Ohio, America was “detained for postage” in the Chief Post Office in Nelson on the South Island of New Zealand⁶³. This correspondence was either *from* Eliza (who might have been visiting her siblings now living in Nelson) to her husband or *to* Eliza from one of her NZ siblings. The most that can be said is that Eliza’s migration to America occurred after their child (Philip Thomas Muncaster Mylrea) had died aged 2 years and 8 months in 1863. He lived his short life with his grandparents, Basil and Jane, at the White Lion in Peel.

When the US Federal census was conducted on 2nd June 1870, a Philip Millray⁶⁴, aged 32, lived with Eliza Millray aged 31, in Cleveland (Ohio). They had both come from the Isle of Man and Philip was a baker. City directories also listed a Philip Millray, in Ohio in 1870, who must surely have been the Philip Mylrea, baker, listed in Indianapolis 1872 to 1876⁶⁵.

After a visit home, Eliza arrived in the United States in April, 1873 on the *City of New York*. With her were Ph Mylrea (Farmer) aged 33 and her sister, Fanny Muncaster (Spinster) aged 20.



This entry on the manifest for the *City of New York* shows, like the newspaper report of Philip’s death in 1876, how the family historian can be misled, or at least confused. Was Philip the baker from Indianapolis also a farmer? Was Eliza aged 24 years? While the names and ages of Philip Mylrea and Fanny Muncaster are correct, Eliza’s information was grossly inaccurate – she was 34 - and she was not a spinster – she was the wife of Philip. However, the trio was grouped together on the ship’s passenger list and there are no other logical candidates, so it’s more likely that this is a simple (and very common) case of poor record-keeping by the shipping line. Certainly, the coincidence of Philip & Eliza travelling with a Muncaster makes it difficult to believe that this is not the son of Basil Mylrea with his wife and her younger sister Frances, known as Fanny.

At the age of 20, Fanny Muncaster went to the USA and remained in Indianapolis, married Elijah Pitt, and had her children there. There is no record of when Philip travelled to the USA prior to his appearance in the Cleveland Directory, nor any evidence of Eliza travelling to the USA prior to the 1870 census collection when they were both in that city.

⁶³ Nelson Evening Mail, 29th January 1869

⁶⁴ MILLIAY

⁶⁵ Indianapolis Directories. Footnote.com



New Zealand – Eliza's Story

Philip Mylrea died in 1876, and Eliza Mylrea (als Muncaster) had not reached 40 years of age yet she had experienced some major life events: she had probably spent a large amount of her 16 years of married life apart from her husband who was in Australia and later America; she had lost her infant son in 1863 on the Isle of Man; she had crossed the Atlantic to be with her husband, and while there, a long way from home, she became a widow.

After Philip's death, Eliza returned to the UK, and possibly to the Isle of Man – but not for long. Her twin brother Thomas Muncaster had been living in Nelson since 1864, her brothers George and John also made their way there, and her sister Catherine (Lorimer) arrived in Nelson from the Isle of Man in 1879⁶⁶. It seems likely that her siblings encouraged her to start a new life with them in New Zealand.

Eliza too arrived in Nelson but not without a real-life escapade. It started out quite benignly, as she set sail on the *Piako* out of Plymouth bound for New Zealand on 10th October 1878. One month's sailing in however, and the *Piako* had a significant fire on the lower deck which presented a grave danger to those on board, as the ship was 180 miles from the nearest land, Brazil. Luckily, in response to the release of rockets, the *Loch Doon* hove into view on its way from San Francisco to Queenstown in Ireland and immediately took the *Piako* passengers and some animals from their stricken vessel. The *Piako's* captain Boyd proceeded to partly scuttle his ship, successfully extinguishing the fire and the vessel limped into Pernambuco (Brazil) arriving at much the same time as the *Loch Doon*.



The Piako, fully rigged⁶⁷

⁶⁶ Nelson Directory 1879-1880; *Colonist* Lorimer vs Lorimer, Tuesday 27th January 1880

⁶⁷https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C5CHFA_enNZ58oNZ581&q=image+piako+ship&tbm=isch&source=univ&a=X&ved=2ahUKewjisuL4_ZLhAhVEfnoKHQk1BZAQsAR6BAGlEAE&biw=1513&bih=834#imgrc=H8UcJ-HfoNpD5M

Eliza herself takes up the story in a letter (undated) to her Muncaster family in New Zealand

At the present time of writing this, it is spring here, I am sitting under a cocoa nut tree, in a tropical climate, with a large straw hat as large as an umbrella, also a dress and shoes of native make (Portuguese). No doubt you have seen through the papers of the unfortunate ship Piako, which I sailed in from Plymouth; 29 of us were transferred from the Fernglen to the Piako, which ship was waiting out in harbor ready to sail. We left on the 11th October, and all went splendidly till we got in the Bay of Biscay, when we had some bad tossing about, but that is always expected, as it is a fearful rough sea. One sailor fell from the mast and was badly hurt. Well, sometime, when, if God spares me to land safely, I will tell you more. After we got over the Bay of Biscay, we had some hot weather. We got in the tropics, and so hot for about 10 days we could hardly bear any clothes on. Well, on Sunday, the 10th of November, all were happy, expecting to cross the Cape of Good Hope soon, and the captain said he thought we should have our Christmas dinner in New Zealand; but next morning, about 10 o'clock, after breakfast, and all nicely on deck, some sewing, and doing all manner of things, the fire bell rang; then the alarm 'fire' sounded. Such a time and such a rush I hope never to see again. I have often read of fires at sea, but was never on a burning ship before. The passengers were all ordered to the cabin end, all rushing; shouting and praying; sailors worked as they never worked before, taking down all sail to stop her from going; as the wind would make the fire all blaze up, dashing water over everything; others getting lifeboats out for us, and such a rush for life. The captain had a pistol in each hand, the two mates, one with a hatchet to chop off the men's hands, the other with a dagger, as the captain gave orders for all the women and children to be saved first. It was an awful time, the captain shouting and roaring so hard that he was frothing at the mouth, calling to the people to be quiet, and that we would all be saved. It was a fine morning – that was in our favor – such a time, sending up sky rockets and firing off; in fact, no one could hear anything, such confusion. The captain sent men up to the top-mast to see if a ship was in sight, the men shouting "no, sir." Then the captain was shouting all the time to the people, sailors, and the men at the mast if there was a sail in sight. "No, no," was still the answer, but in about half-an-hour there was the glad news of a sail, a ship in sight. Then the captain shouted "Thank God, we will all be saved," and then most of the passengers cried with joy. By this time almost all the married women and children were in the boats, then we single women were put in next; each boat held about 40. I was in the last one to leave the side of the ship. I will tell you why. I had presence of mind and saw how they crowded, more than was right, and the sailors in the boats shouting and swearing that the boats would sink. The ship came in sight just before the last boat left. We were all lowered over the side by ropes round our waists, and all as wet as could be from head to foot; we had water cans, and biscuits, blankets, and provisions in case we had to be out for days. It was of God's great mercy we were saved. We were hauled up with ropes in the other ship; they were throwing the young children in by the legs and arms. After we were saved they sent us (from the burning vessel) eight of our poor sheep on board the Loch Doon, the name of the ship that rescued us, as, of course, they were not provided for us; and lots of the fowls, sheep, geese, and



*all were floating in the water. I think we leave here next week for New Zealand I must now say good bye and love to all, hoping God will see me safe through. Send this to the rest of the family, as I have not had the chance of writing more. – Your affectionate sister (signed), E.M.*⁶⁸

On arrival in Pernambuco, another threat presented itself. Captain Boyd, fearing an outbreak of small pox that was sweeping through Pernambuco, had arranged for his passengers to be housed on an isolated island, aptly named Coconut Island⁶⁹.

have got down below. Immediately on arrival at Pernambuco, Captain Boyd waited on the H.B.M. Consul (Mr. Coff), and conferred with him and the President of the State as to arrangements for the care and comfort of the emigrants. Everything possible was done to ameliorate their unfortunate position. They were all landed on Coconut Island (Ilha De Mokueria), where a large house and out-buildings were available. The Consul was unwilling to supply clothing, but Captain Boyd at once ordered it for the emigrants at the company's expense, and arranged for their being provisioned suitably, and at the date of the advices, all were in excellent health and spirits, and most comfortably housed. To revert to the

After a layover of just over six weeks, the passengers left their Brazilian island paradise on 29th December. The Piako, with Eliza on board, arrived in Lyttleton, New Zealand on 6th March 1879, five months after leaving Plymouth.

By January 1880, Eliza was in business with her sister Catherine (Lorimer). She was a confectioner over the next 30 years, occupying several different premises, mostly in Hardy Street.

⁶⁸ Transcript of Eliza Mylrea's letter as printed in the Nelson Evening Mail, Volume XIV, Issue 64, 15 March 1879 provided by Mylrea Bell, a Muncaster descendant

⁶⁹ NEW ZEALAND HERALD, VOLUME XVI, ISSUE 5360, 21 JANUARY 1879



Eliza Mylrea in front of her Confectionary shop in Hardy St, Nelson
(Nelson Provincial Museum Collection, photograph 46300)





Another of Eliza's confectionary shops
New Zealand Provincial Museum Collection (C1205)

On the New Zealand electoral rolls, Eliza referred to herself as “married” until 1920, when she changed her status to “widow” even though Philip had been dead for over 40 years. She had registered to vote on the Nelson roll in 1893, so she was most likely among the first group of women to vote in NZ (and consequently one of the first women in the world with unconstrained franchise). In many respects, her enrolment to become one of the first women to vote in New Zealand was entirely fitting for she was Manx, and the Isle of Man had been the first country in the world to grant women the right to vote. They did so in 1881 although it was not full suffrage – they needed to be wealthy female home-owners⁷⁰.

Eliza Mylrea born Muncaster, the Manx adventuress, died in Nelson in 1932 at the age of 93 and is buried beside her brother George, and near to her twin brother in the Wakapauka Cemetery, Nelson. Several of her brothers incorporated *Mylrea* into the names of their children, eg. Emily Milrea Muncaster (born 1880) and Mylrea Elizabeth Muncaster (born 1883) which was no doubt out of respect for their remarkable sister and late brother-in-law. The name endures today.

⁷⁰ <https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/articles/the-isle-of-man-was-the-first-country-to-give-women-the-vote/>

Philip's Timeline

- 1840 born in Peel
- 1856 JAN - recorded on the Australian gold fields
-
- 1860 APR - married Eliza Muncaster
 AUG - listed among *Commodore Perry* passengers, arriving in Melbourne
 NOV - Philip Thomas Muncaster Mylrea born in Peel
- 1863 Philip Thomas Muncaster died in Peel
- 1868- Recorded in Cleveland, Ohio – City Directories
- 1869 Recorded on Ohio tax list for 1869
- 1870 Census collection: Philip and Eliza in Cleveland
- 1873 Listed as passenger *City of New York*, bound for the US with Eliza (and Eliza's sister)
- 1871/2- Recorded in Indianapolis, Indiana – City Directories
- 1876
- 1876 Died in Memphis, Tennessee, USA
-
- 1878 Eliza migrates to New Zealand from the UK
- 1879- Eliza was a confectioner in Nelson, New Zealand
- c1920
- 1932 Eliza died and was buried in Nelson, New Zealand



EXODUS

Many of the descendants of Edward Mylrea snr and Alice Quayle, the couple who married in Arbory in 1741, left the Isle of Man, some perhaps by the late 1700s. A century later, and more had ventured forth, in some instances to newly colonised countries - USA, Canada, and Australia – journeys that Edward snr and Alice could never have dreamed of making to countries they never have heard of.

Their grandsons Edward (baptised before 1775), Thomas (baptised in 1780) and Philip (1788) *might* have been the first to migrate from the family. Other than scraps of information hint at the possibility but there is nothing substantial to confirm this hypothesis. The table below shows the departure of adults, with their children if they had any, from the island.

<i>Grand children</i>	<i>great grand children</i>	<i>2x grand children</i>	<i>3x great grandchildren</i>
Edward (Liverpool?) Thomas (Scotland, USA?) Philip (Liverpool?)	Edward (UK) Basil (UK) Elizabeth Price (UK) Philip (Australia, USA)	Edward (Canada) William Edward (Australia) George Thomas (UK) Edward Basil (UK) Silas Philip (Shetland, Aust) Margaret Ann (USA) Eleanor Jane (USA) Lewis Cowley Florence (USA)	
			Cyril Edward Dupre (Canada) Olive Kate Mylrea Dupre (Canada)

Basil's children

Momentum for migration gained traction with the offspring of Basil Mylrea, the youngest grand son of Edward snr and Alice, when four of his five children left their Manx homeland:

- Edward and Basil jnr both established themselves in England early in their adulthood, Basil jnr returning for some considerable time but ultimately resettling in England.
- Philip, although he was the youngest in the family, was the first to leave. He went to Australia first in 1856 and returned in 1860, before heading to the United States where he worked as a baker in Ohio then Indiana then Memphis, Tennessee. Two decades later, his widow, Eliza Muncaster, was living in Nelson (New Zealand) where her business named Mylrea and Co, confectioners, was operating in Hardy Street.
- Elizabeth Price (Mylrea) Quayle also left the island with her husband and family in the 1890s and made their home in Lancashire.

Basil's grandchildren

The momentum for adventure increased with the next generation of the descendants of Edward and Alice (Quayle).

- Edward, with his wife Jessie and their 11 children, migrated from England to Canada. What an enormous challenge to leave England and an illustrious career at the age of 50. They travelled on the *Lake Erie*, bound for St John, New Brunswick⁷¹. From there, they went to Saskatchewan where astonishingly, Edward became a farmer and the family took Canadian citizenship. His daughter Doris married in about 1913, and made her home in Saskatchewan where her descendants can be found today. By 1916, Edward and Jessie had only their three youngest children with them – Carrie, Ivy and Fred – and they were living in Calgary. Edward had returned to piano tuning. Perhaps farming on the Canadian prairies was no longer the adventure it had been when they first arrived in Canada.

In December 1918, Edward and Jessie went to the United States. Edward was 61 years of age when they sailed from Victoria (British Columbia) to Seattle and soon made their way to San Francisco with Corrie and Ivy, where they kept a boarding house⁷². Daughter Jessie followed her parents, arriving in California in 1919. She had married a Canadian, Carl Stanley McFarlane, and they had a daughter Jessie and a son Clifford.

- In his 50s, William Edward Mylrea, with his wife Helena, daughter Helena and son William, set off for Australia on 11th December 1926⁷³. They were aboard the *Orsova* and bound for Brisbane. Helena with her sister Grace had already been to Australia, when in 1923 they boarded the *Jervis Bay* and headed for Launceston in Tasmania⁷⁴. Helena went home in 1925, again on the *Jervis Bay*, no doubt to convince her parents to go to Australia. It is noteworthy that this family seemed plagued with TB. Two of William's children had died from the disease in England before the migration of the rest of the family. A third child, Helena, died of the disease in 19**.

⁷¹ Canadian passenger Lists 1865-1935

⁷² 1920 US census

⁷³ *Orsova* manifest. Findmypast.co.uk

⁷⁴ *Jervis Bay* manifest. Findmypast.co.uk





WILLIAM EDWARD MYLREA
c 1926



KATHLEEN CLARKSON MYLREA
1928

And so on to the next generation, when the two children of Catherine (Mylrea) Dupre also went to Canada. Cyril Edward Dupre went to live in in Battleford where his uncle Edward and family were living. He embarked on the *Lake Erie*, for Montreal in 1911. In 1919, his sister Olive Kate Mylrea Dupre went to Canada, as a war bride, for she stated on the *Pretorian* passenger list, TO BE MARRIED to A.B.Ewing. Tragically, she died in Vancouver just over 12 months later⁷⁵.

WW

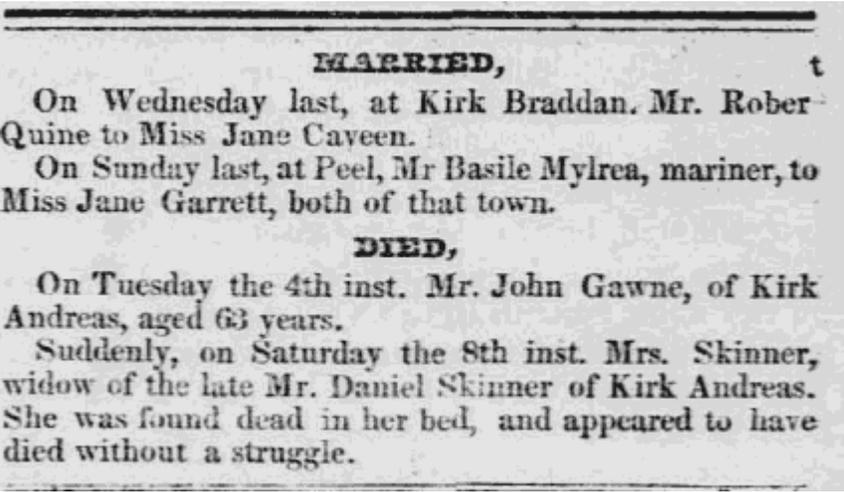
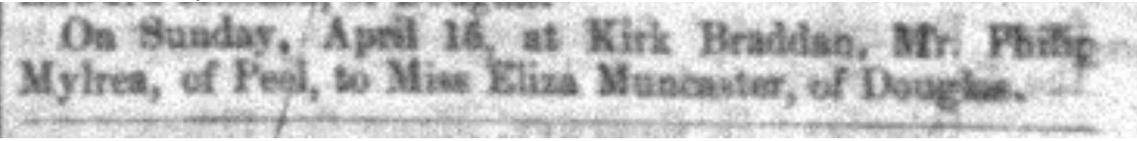
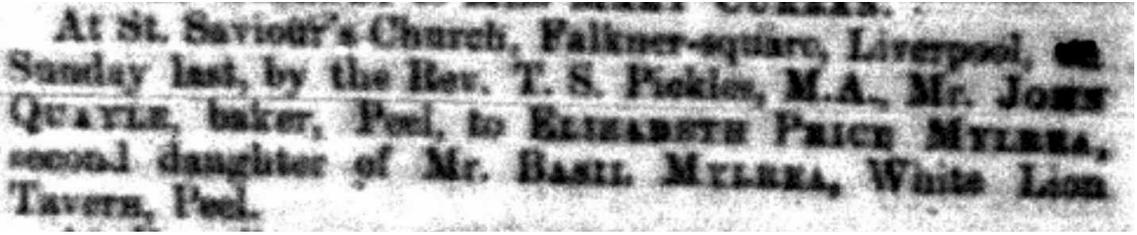
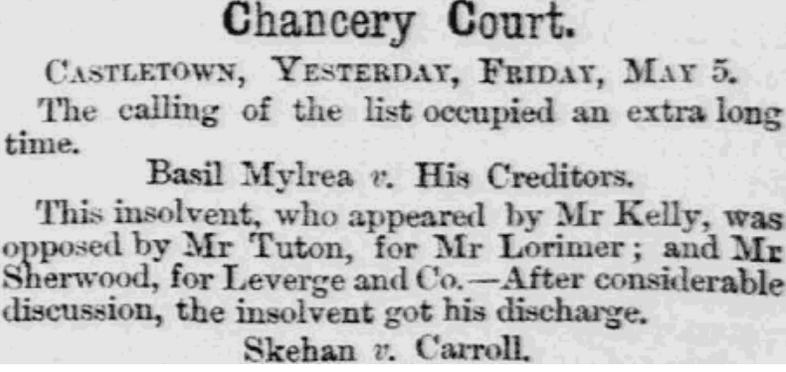
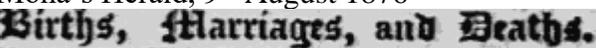
The Great War took its toll on this Mylrea clan, the descendants of Edward & Alice, who married in Arbory in 1841. It was particularly harsh on those who lived in London.

For Emily the daughter of Edward the master organ builder, a cloud of suspicion surrounded the family presumably because she had married an Austrian. Their son changed his name, and migrated to Canada. Emily herself died in 1916, aged barely 50; Edward's Philip & ... sold the family's organ building business rather than bow to the government's demands to make armaments; grandson Henry Walter was killed in France.

As well, in the extended family, several served and were lucky enough to survive: Edward Clarkson, James Martin Cowley. In Canada, Philip, the son of Philip William the organ builder turned ice cream maker, joined up in 1918, Daniel Reginald oldest son of Edward and Jessie did too, in 1913.

⁷⁵ Died 15th November 1920 and buried at Mountain View Cemetery, Vancouver.
<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/nonmarketoperations/mountainview/burials/e.htm>

FROM THE PAPERS

Basil's marriage	1828	Manx Sun, 18 th November 1828 
Philip's marriage	1860	Manx Sun, 21 st April, 1860 
Elizabeth Price's marriage	1863	
Basil jnr, the insolvent	1871	Isle of Man Times, 6 th May 1871 
Philip's death	1876	Mona's Herald, 9 th August 1876 



		<p>MYLREA—July 17, at Indianapolis, America, Mr Philip Andrew Mylrea, youngest son of the late Basil Mylrea, Peel, aged 36 years.</p>
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Attachment 1. Edward Mylrea b. bef 1775

Edward Mylrea, the son of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashen, was mentioned in the will of his grandfather, Edward Mylrea, who died in 1786:

*Secondly he left and bequeathed to his grandson Edward Mylrea two shillings(?)*⁷⁶

He must have been the oldest surviving child of Edward and Susannah to have received this bequest since there were five other grandchildren by the time Edward snr died. It was not unusual in those days to leave something to the oldest grandson to the exclusion of the others.

This child named Edward had no parish record on the Isle of Man – baptism, marriage or death. To have one record missing is common enough since some of the Manx registers are over 300 years old now but it is unfortunate that there are none for Edward. The will confirms he was alive in 1786, so the absence of marriage or burial information tends to suggest that he left his island home at a reasonably young age, certainly before marriage. By 1791 when Basil was born, Edward would probably have been in his early teens and an apprenticeship would not have been at all unusual; in Liverpool instead of the Isle of Man would also not have been at all unusual either.

A shipwright named Edward Mylrea lived in Liverpool in the early 1800s, and is a suitable candidate to be this absent oldest son of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashen. This man married Catherine Gore in 1796 in Liverpool (Edward and Susannah's son would have been at least 21 years old). Edward and Catherine had eight children, and over time they lived in several different streets, including Frederick Street where a Philip Mylrea would also live in the coming years. Attachment 4 puts forward a case for Philip being the fifth recorded child of Edward and Susannah and thus Philip's younger brother. The only other family on the Isle of Man that had sons named Edward and Philip was that of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Cowin in Douglas, but their sons were a generation earlier than those of Edward and Susannah – these were two entirely different Mylrea families.

In 1835, Edward would have been about 60 years of age and he was listed as a shipwright in the Poll Book for that year. The following table sets out the information that can be verified about the family of Edward Mylrea the shipwright. At the very least, it demonstrates a generational commitment to the name Edward, although by the mid 1800s, two other Mylrea families had begun to use the name frequently – the descendants of James Fisher Mylrea of Bethnal Green, and those of William Mylrea of Ramsey on the Isle of Man.

⁷⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/edward-1786.html>



A great deal of the information in the table comes from the Lancashire Parish Clerk Online project⁷⁷ where a search for “Mylrea” yields nearly 500 “hits” and captures the variety of surnames associated with MYLREA, although not all are actually Mylreas⁷⁸. Searches for some of the common variations yield even more candidates.

Of the 8 children of Edward and Catherine, only 3 have confirmed marriage records.

	occupation	born	lived	children
Edward & Catherine (Gore) M 1796 Both signed with X on marriage certificate	Carpenter, shipwright	1770s-1840	Mersey St + Shaw's Alley+ Frederick St ⁷⁹ St Peter Liverpool 1818 Frederick St: Poll Book & Voter Register	1. Edward 1797 2. Mary 1800 (Milray) 3. Margaret 1802-1803 ⁸⁰ 4. Margaret 1805 (Milrea) 5. John 1808 6. Thomas 1811 (Millray) - 1812 7. Amelia 1815 8. William 1818
Edward	shipwright		Kitchen St [1818 Poll Book] S&D/BGS/FMN	

EDWARD – SON b 1797

	occupation	born	lived	children
2.1 Edward & Esther Thomas M 1818	shipwright	1797-1873 ⁸¹	St Pauls Square Liverpool Forest St + Cropper St + Kitchen St + Chadwick St 1841 (MYLVIA) 1827, 1830, 1832, 1835, 1837, 1841, 1857 Poll Book & Electoral Register St Peter Liverpool	1. Mary Ann 1823 2. Ellinor 1825 3. Edward 1828 4. Ann Jane 1831-1834 5. William 1832
3.1 Mary Ann & John Crane M 1841 [widow & widower] <i>[she's 18 years of age!]</i> Witness Henry Mecock	shipwright	1823	d/o Edward Kitchen St St Peter Liverpool	

⁷⁷ <http://www.lan-opc.org.uk>

⁷⁸ MUBRAY might be another version of Mylrea (Harriet MUBRAY buried 1844); MULREAY was a common spelling

⁷⁹ Now Canning Place

⁸⁰ Buried St James's, Toxteth Park: http://www.fordcemetery.co.uk/stjames/burials_1800to1808.htm [transcript available]

⁸¹ A death record for an Edward Mylrea who died 1873 aged 74 looks like the right one for this Edward, except for minor difference between estimated birth date (1799) and Edward's actual birth date (1797)

AMELIA – DAUGHTER b 1815

	occupation	born	lived	children
2.7 Amelia Milrea & Henry Me(a)cock M 1836 (MILREA) Mary Ann Milrea witness (Amelia's 13 year old niece?).	Paper hanger	1815	St Paul's Square Liverpool 85 Frederick St (1851 census)	1. Caroline 1840 2. Catherine 1842
Amelia Meacock & Richard Jones M1854	joiner	1815	Liverpool St David	

WILLIAM – SON b 1818

	occupation	born	lived	children
2.8 William & Sarah Latham M 1848	Ironmonger & shipwright, Carpenter	1818	Toxteth Park, West Derby Walton on the Hill	

EDWARD – GRANDSON b 1828

	occupation	born	lived	children
3.4 Edward & Mary Kidson M 1853 Widowed Mary becomes laundress	shipwright	1828- 1865?	20 Chadwick St St Matthias Liverpool	1. Ann Jane 23/9/1855 (MYBREA)-1856 2. Esther Ann 1859-1862 3. Edward 1861 4. Margaret 1863--1864

EDWARD – GREAT GRANDSON b 1861

	occupation	born	lived	children
4.3 Edward & Agnes Lund M 1882	Boilermaker Hammersm an Blacksmith- striker Labourer	1861- 1933	s/o Edward Rag St+ 60 Netherfield Rd Sth St Peter Liverpool	1. Richard 1882 2. Agnes Ann Lund 1885 3. Edward Lund 1889-1891 4. Lydia Mary 1891 5. Elsie May 1893 6. John Lund 1896 7. Victor 1899 8. William Edward 1904
5.1 Richard & Clara Lehan M 1905	Engine fitter	1882- 1837		1. Richard 1906-? 2. William R 1908 3. Francis Leslie 1909



5.2 Agnes Ann Lund & William Alexander Pinnington M 1904		1885		1. Agnes Mylrea Pinnington 2. William Alexander 3. Elsie May
5.4 Lydia Mary & Richard N. Parry M 1929		1891	They went to Canada as soon as they were married	
5.5 Elsie May & John Tipping M 1914	Assistant cashier	1893	Liverpool St Peter	

Burial records show a Catherine MOLLEROIE died in 1839 who might have been Edward's wife or the child born to Thomas Molleroie in 1838.

Edward MILREAY died early in 1840.

Attachment 2. William Mylrea b1775

One challenge that always faces the Mylrea researcher is the infinite number of ways in which the name has been both spelled and transcribed over the centuries. Another challenge here is that the name William is one of the most common amongst the Manx Mylrea clans, leading on occasion to confusion amongst family historians, when two children are baptised in the same year with the same name.

In the case of the Mylreas in German, the only baptism of a William son of Edward MYBREA recorded in the latter part of the 1700s was the child born in 1775. Moving on, the only record of a William Mylrea marrying in German at about the right time (ie. when he would have been 20-30 years of age) was the William who married Jane Plaice in 1803. This couple had five children:

- Margaret (1803)
- John (1806)
- Esther (1808)
- Thomas (1809)
- William (1815)

The names of these children do not correspond particularly well with those of William's putative predecessors nor to his putative siblings. Such an anomaly makes it difficult to claim with absolute certainty that the William Mylrea who married Jane Plaice was indeed the son of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashen. However, the name Basil appears in subsequent generations of William's family which corroborates the hypothesised links, for Basil was the youngest son of Edward and Susannah, and on occasions, he gave shelter to several of his brothers or their families. The names of some of William's grandsons were: Basil Edward, George Basil, William Basil, and Thomas Basil.

More links between William's family and Basil himself are:

- when the will of William's daughter Margaret was probated in 1852, Basil was one of the pledgers⁸²
- when William's son John died in 1861, the young man left all he had to Jane Mylrea, Basil's widow⁸³

Sometimes, what is recorded in the early census collections needs to be taken with a grain of salt. For example, in the 1841 census, a couple named William and Jane Mylrea reported ages that made it was impossible for William to have been the son of Edward and Susannah. William and Jane lived in Sand Street, Peel, and gave 50 and 51 as their respective ages, indicating birth years of 1791 and 1790.

However, William and Jane Mylrea (MYLUA in the 1841 census) had two more individuals living with

⁸² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-1852.html>

⁸³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/john-1861.html>



them – Thomas Mylrea (aged 27, so born in about 1814) and John Mylrea (aged 2) – seemingly a father and son, although that census did not collect relationship information.

In the 1851 census, a William MYHEA (widower) of Athol St in Peel gave his age as 77, thus born in 1774. Presumably he is the man who died in Peel in 1857 aged 84, and surely the son of Edward and Susannah. One simple (simplistic?) explanation for the apparently anomalous census data might be that birthdays were not the point of celebration they are today and except for legal matters such as marriage, knowledge of one's actual birthday (even one's actual age) was not necessary. Thus when the census collector came knocking in 1841, it might not have been unreasonable for someone (precisely who did the census collector ask?) to report an estimated age rather than a fact.

The same explanation probably applies to Thomas, the young man living with William and Jane in 1841. That is, 27 was “about right” when the census collector inquired, and this individual was indeed the son of William Mylrea and Jane Plaice, born in 1809 so should have reported an age of 32.

William's family

The William Mylrea who lived in Peel during Basil's time, and presumably Basil's older brother, was an agricultural labourer. Over the coming decades, William's family would become extensive, complex and tinged with sadness and loss.

Daughter **Margaret** married Philip Moore, a member of the great Manx trading family headed in the 1700s by Sir George Moore. Philip was his great grandson, and at the time of his marriage to Margaret, Philip was a young widower. Margaret had several children with Philip but she was widowed after just seven years of marriage.

Daughter **Esther** has no further confirmed sightings. The 1814 census of Peel showed only one daughter living with the family, yet Esther would have been only six years old, and her sister Margaret eleven, neither old enough to be living away from home. There is no burial record for Esther.

→ An Esther Mylrea had an illegitimate child named Edward with William Kennaugh⁸⁴ in 1815 in German. Naming the infant Edward might suggest a connection with Edward and Susannah but (a) there is no record of the birth of a daughter named Esther to this Edward and Susannah, and (b) Esther the daughter of William and Jane was too young to be the mother of the child. The only known potential candidates to be the mother of little Edward are (1) the daughter of John Mylrea & Elinor Caine, b 1784 in Michael, and (1) the daughter of William Mylrea & Isabel Teare, b1785 in Ramsey, the former a more likely contender since Michael lies along the northern side of German.

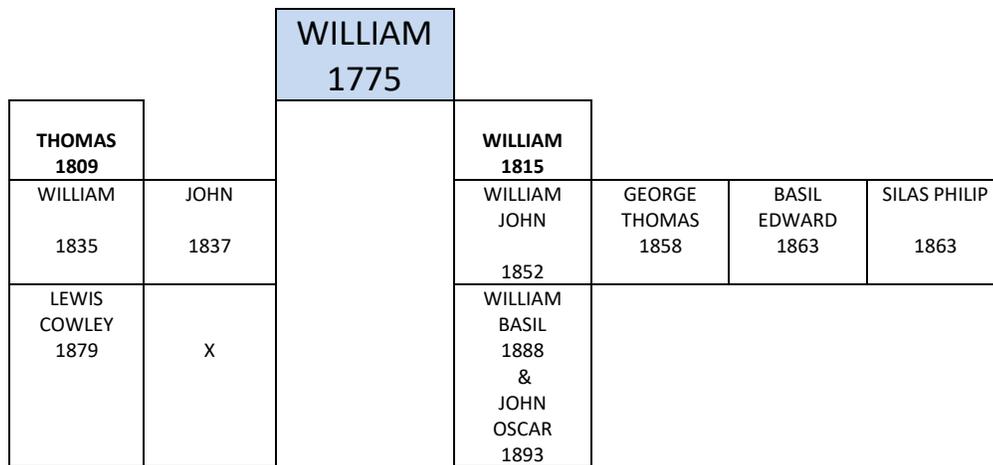
⁸⁴ 26th February 1815, German

John, William's oldest son, was living with Basil Mylrea's family at the White Lion hotel and working as a butler in 1861. This man's birth year was 1806, and he was recorded as "a cousin" and unmarried (as opposed to widowed) in the 1861 census although when he died, he referred to Jane Mylrea as his aunt (who completed the census that year?). His will would also suggest that he had no surviving wife or children. But where he was in 1851 has not been established.

William's other two sons, like most of the male population in Peel, were involved with the sea.

Thomas baptised in 1809 and **William** in 1815 became fishermen and fathers to large families in Peel. Thomas had ten children with three different mothers, and William had seven children.

The two brothers established a mariner tradition in their branches of the Mylrea family. The crafts on which they worked were named *Susan* (Basil Edward), *Ida* (Silas Philip), *Water Lily* & *Britannia* (Thomas Basil), and *Commodore*, William Thomas and Lewis Cowley.



Piecing together the life of William's oldest son, Thomas:

→ He had a daughter **Charlotte** in 1834 but did not marry the child's mother. Charlotte BOYD was baptized on 3rd August 1834 in German, her mother noted as Margaret Boyd and her father Thomas Mylrea. Margaret Boyd was the daughter of John and Jane Boyd(e) nee Costain(?).

Charlotte married Thomas Hasler, a police officer, in Liverpool on 15th April 1858 at St. Chrystom's Church, Walton (Liverpool). Charlotte's father was named on the marriage certificate as Thomas Mylrea, a mariner. Charlotte and Thomas Hasler had 6 children⁸⁵: Thomas Glascott, William Frederick, Lucinda Mary, Olivia, George and Arthur. Thomas Hasler died on 23rd February 1879 aged 56. Charlotte died on 17th February 1883 aged 49 of pneumonia at 10 Sampson Street, Everton (Liverpool).

⁸⁵ Private correspondence with a descendant of Charlotte's



→ Thomas married Margaret Gell in 1837, and had three sons - **William** (1835), **John** (1837) and **Thomas jnr** (1839). Margaret died in Patrick in 1839 and the infant Thomas jnr died six months later in July 1840. In the 1841 census, William Mylrea, aged 5, was living with Ellinor Gell (his grandmother?), while John aged two was with his father William MYLUA and grandparents William and Jane.

Thomas Mylrea, now a widower for eight years, married Eleanor Halsall in 1847 in Braddan. In the 1851 census, Eleanor MYLIEA and her daughter were living in Bridge Street, Peel with an unrelated family while Thomas was living with his uncle Basil at the White Lion tavern in another part of Bridge Street. By 1861, Eleanor was a widow with daughters **Margaret Ann** and **Eleanor Jane**. Thomas, the husband of Eleanor, died in September 1860 in Patrick of smallpox.

In all Thomas and Eleanor had had six children, two born in the decade between the two census had died – **Susannah** in 1851 at 2 months, and **Thomas Benjamin** (no burial record). Another son – **Thomas Basil** – was born into the family and baptised in September 1861. He also died.

- Thomas's older son, William, became a mariner like his father. He married twice, first to Jane Cringle in 1856 and after Jane's death in 1866, to Elizabeth Cowley. In all, there were nine children from these two marriages, two dying in infancy. William was master of the craft *Commodore* and his only surviving son, Lewis Cowley Mylrea (b 1880), also worked on the *Commodore* as a youth although he eventually joined the merchant navy. Four of the five children of William and Elizabeth migrated to the United States including Lewis who never settled, instead wandering the Pacific on various vessels. He never married. William Mylrea died in 1920, having passed his 80th birthday.
- Thomas's second son, John was also a mariner. He married Louisa Shimmin and they had eight children, six reaching adulthood. At some point, the mariner mould was broken because neither of John's sons went to sea. John jnr born in 1871 became a print compositor and William Edward (1879) became a ship and house painter. These two young men migrated to England, where John made his home in Birkenhead and where his parents also came to live. Old John Mylrea, the mariner, died in Birkenhead in 1908 at the age of 71 and Louisa his wife of 40 years (now referred to as Lucy) died there in 1923 at the age of 84.

In sum, of the 10 children born to Thomas Mylrea, a mariner in Peel, five survived to adulthood – 2 boys William and John from his first marriage, and 3 girls - the illegitimate Charlotte, and Margaret Ann and Eleanor Jane. No further insights into the fate of Margaret Ann have been uncovered but Eleanor Jane probably married John Edward Butlin, a tailor, in Huddersfield (Yorkshire), in 1878 where they had two children, Arthur and Edith. Sadly, John died in 1887 at the age of 32.

The story of William, the second son of William Mylrea & Jane Plaice b1815, was a tragedy, perhaps brought about by profound poverty:

- He married Anne Killey and this family also made its living from the sea. They had nine children, including two sets of twins. Three of their four sons went to sea, although only one – William John - remained on the Isle of Man.
- William John (b1852), the oldest son of William and Anne, continued the family's traditional path of fishing, from his boat, *Lydia*. He was made Admiral of the Herring Fleet in 1878⁸⁶, an office that dated back to the middle of the 15th century and related to the organisation of the fishing by the Lords of Man. It carried a salary of £5 per annum and the Admirals were responsible for the regulating and discipline of those engaged in the fishing. They gave the orders for the shooting and the hauling in of the nets⁸⁷.
- William's other three sons left the Isle of Man: George Thomas (b1858) and twins born in 1863 Basil Edward for Liverpool, and Silas Philip for the Shetland Islands. Basil Edward and Silas Philip continued their lives as mariners in other places while George became a baker. George Thomas married Jane Cubbon in Liverpool and had three children, including a son George H. in 1887. Basil Edward was an able seaman.
- Silas Philip married Margaret Henderson in 1885 in the Shetland Islands:
At Grantfield, Lerwick, on the 29th ultimo, by the Rev. A. R. Saunders, M.A., PHILIP MYLREA, fisherman, late of Peel, to JANE, daughter of the late, MAGNUS HENDERSON, seaman, Cullivoe. (Shetland Times 3/10/1885)

Jane (Henderson) Mylrea was living with her mother Martha on Shetland in the 1891 census while Philip was in the British merchant navy. He can be found in the navy until 1899⁸⁸. Jane's fate is unknown but Philip died in Australia in Tamworth in 1929, a long way from the sea, from Shetland and from the Isle of Man. His death certificate stated that he had been in the country for about 30 years, so he must have arrived in the Antipodes in about 1900 and worked as a labourer.

Philip was charged in Adelaide with ill-treating a horse, and being drunk in charge of a horse & dray in 1900. In 1913 this time in Tamworth, over a thousand kilometres from Adelaide, he was in Court and fined (or 7 days jail) for obscene language.

⁸⁶ Manx Sun, 28th December 1878

⁸⁷ Webber, D. T. (1997). An Illustrated Encyclopaedia of the Isle of Man. Oxford. The Alden Press.

⁸⁸ There's a P Mylrea on a 1895 passenger list for the Mararoa, sailing from Auckland to Sydney but whether this was Silas Philip is uncertain. Given he was a seaman, it seems more likely he would be crew rather than passenger.



- The story of the oldest daughter of William and Ann, Catherine Jane, was one of utter heartbreak. She married a mariner, James Kelly, in 1869 who like so many fishermen of the day was drowned, leaving his wife and five surviving children to fend for themselves (one had already died in infancy). By 1881, their oldest daughter Margaret Ann, was living with her Mylrea grandparents, presumably leaving son John James jnr and two/three little girls – Sarah, Susan and Jane – with their mother Catherine Jane who was by then working as a charwoman.

In quick succession, Catherine Jane's father William died (1885), her son John James jnr drowned (1886) and her mother Ann died (1889). These losses spelled the end of any support network for the three little girls because Catherine Jane herself died in 1885. She might have been too ill to care for her children and records show two of the girls (Sarah and Jane) had been put into an orphanage/industrial school in 1884. Sarah was transported to Canada when she was about 18, and Jane was adopted by a couple named Illingworth from Leeds, either in the UK or in NW Canada. Undoubtedly both lost all touch with their Manx heritage. The other two girls have no confirmed record – Margaret Ann was about 14 when her sisters were put into the orphanage/workhouse so she was probably already service. Of Susan, there is no information whatsoever.

While there was no sign of Margaret Ann in the 1891 Isle of Man Census, a 19 year old Margaret Kelly, born in Peel, was recorded as a servant in Great Crosby, Lancashire, in the UK collection. Also in 1993, a Margaret Kelly married John Mc Glennon, her father named as John Kelly. Margaret Ann's story lies undiscovered – perhaps she married someone else (there were more than 10 marriages for a Margaret Ann Kelly in the UK between 1892 and 1896), perhaps she migrated to the US, Australia or South Africa.

A great deal has been written about the transportation of Manx (and English) children to Canada⁸⁹. In the early days, the rhetoric was positive, extolling the virtues of a new life for children who had nothing. More recently the tide of sentiment has changed and it is very difficult to access the material that had originally been collected when the children were admitted to the various homes. For two of the Kelly girls, the following synthesis has been obtained from a secondary source:

Sarah **Kelly**, Quarrier, 31 May 1895, b 24 Feb or July 1877 Peel, IOM, Placed in the Isle of Man Home for Orphan and Destitute Children on 3rd Dec 1884 with younger sister Jane (b 6th Mar 1879) after father James (mother was Jane Mylrea of Peel) drowned while fishing stayed 10 years on IOM sent direct to Quarrier's Bridge of Weir and onto Fairknowe Home, Brockville, Canada, May 1895

⁸⁹ Cringle, Dorothy "The Emigration of Manx Children to Canada: 1884-1928". Proceedings of the IOM Natural History & Antiquarian Society. 10/1/1; Magnusson, Anna. "Quarriers Story: One Man's Vision that gave 7,000 Children a New Life in Canada". 2006

dismissed/indentured. Never say family again Sister Jane was adopted 15th October 1886 by Mr & Mrs Illingworth 194 Low Fold, Farnley, Leeds (or possibly in NW Canada). Information provided by IOM Children's Centre.

Jane Kelly, Quarrier, 15th October 1886 Placed in the Isle of Man Home for Orphan and Destitute Children on 3rd Dec 1884 with older sister Sarah (b 24th Feb or July 1877) after father James (mother was Jane Mylrea of Peel) drowned while fishing ... was **adopted** (dismissed 15th Oct **1886**) by Mr. & Mrs. **Illingworth**, 194 Low Fold, Farnley, Leeds (or possibly NW Canada). Information provided by IOM Children 's Centre.

An entry held in the Quarrier archives in the UK tells that young Jane went to Canada rather than the UK:

172
1895. Kelly Sarah: Corlett Josephine
May 21 Sarah aged 18 years past 24 Feb
Been 10 years in Isle of Man Industrial Ho
Parents dead
She has a sister in the North West of Canada,
went with a family from Isle of Man
years ago
" " direct to Bridge of Weir from Isle of Man
" 31 To Canada.

Contact has been made with a descendant of Sarah's in the USA. She married James Carney in (Hamilton, Ontario) Canada in 1901. He was 14 years her senior, and was recorded as a laborer on the marriage register⁹⁰. The couple moved to Chicago where they had six children. James died in 1920 and Sarah in 1959.

⁹⁰ Sarah's mother's name was recorded as Jane MILLWRAY



Attachment 3. Thomas Mylrea b1780

Census collections provide the only indication of the possible fate of Thomas, another of Basil's brothers.

Ann Mylrea

In the 1841 and 1851 census collections for the Isle of Man, a young woman named Ann Mylrea was living with Basil Mylrea at the White Lion tavern in Peel. She was described as a niece and her birth year would have been about 1826/1827. She was reported as being born outside the island. When she married in 1853, the marriage record showed that her father's name was Thomas. In the 1861 census collection, she stated that she had been born in born in Scotland.

USA

Taken together, Ann's information suggests that she was the daughter of the Thomas MILREA who had gone to America in 1832. Ann would have been 5 or 6 years of age at the time, and sent to live with her uncle Basil while her parents tried their luck in the land of opportunity. This Thomas Mylrea was recorded on a ship's passenger list, arriving in Baltimore, Maryland. He was listed as 50 years of age and accompanied by Ann Milrea, aged 48.

Thomas MILLRAY was recorded in the 1840 Census in Richland, Ohio with an adult female of a similar age (50-60 years of age) but whether that was Thomas and Ann cannot be established. Richland was about 100 kilometers south of Bennington where they subsequently appeared so it seems likely that this was Thomas and Ann.

Some years later, a Thomas Milrea and Ann MILREA were recorded in the 1850 US Census, living in Bennington, Morrow, Ohio. Thomas was a shoemaker and gave his age as 70, making his birth year 1780, and Ann two years older (these differences in ages are common across collections). They both reported being born in the Isle of Man.

No other records have been found that narrate the lives of Thomas and Ann.

Did they have more children in the United States? Given that they were already about 50 when they arrived, and that no children were listed with them in 1850, it seems unlikely.

Where did they die? In those days, Ohio deaths were not registered in a central repository such as they were in Australia and the UK in the same era, so their deaths cannot be established although it seems likely that they died between 1850 and 1860 when they were both in their 70s.

The curious fact that no more records for this couple have been uncovered, it seems that the spelling of their surname has become an unsurmountable obstacle and that only serendipity can help. The only given is that they lived in Bennington, Ohio in 1850.



Attachment 4. Philip Mylrea b1788

Philip was the fifth child of Edward Mylrea jnr and Susannah Cashen to be born in German. The name Philip was not common amongst the Mylrea clans, other than in the descendants of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Cowin of Douglas. In that case, Margaret's father was Philip Cowin and the first name continued on through the generations; however, there was no connection whatsoever between the Douglas Mylrea family & the German Mylrea family.

The key to (perhaps) finding Philip, the son of Edward and Susannah, is the 1851 UK Census. In that collection, a Philip **Malray**, widower, was living in Liverpool with his daughters Susan Russtage and Charlotte Mulray. This individual stated that he had been born on the Isle of Man, and that he was 65 years of age, giving him a birth year of 1786/7. The information tends to confirm that this individual was indeed the son of Edward and Susannah.

In 1812, Philip **Millrea** married Anne Chadwick in Liverpool. This couple had four children - three daughters Susannah (1815, Blundell St)⁹¹, Eliza (1816, Watkinson St), Charlotte Maria (1819, Norfolk St)⁹², and a son, Henry (1823-1827)⁹³. **Eliza** Mulray was probably the infant buried October 1817, listed as 11 months old although the daughter of Philip and Anne would have actually been 16 months of age. A **Henry** Mylrea, four years old, was buried in Liverpool on 15th July 1827, and his home was listed as Norfolk St, the family's location at Charlotte Mylrea's 1819 baptism⁹⁴, so it is a reasonable assumption that the Henry who died in 1827 was the youngest child and only son of Philip and Ann.

In the Poll Books for Liverpool, Philip was always recorded as a shipwright, and with no one else having that name at the time, it is possible to follow the family's peripatetic domestic arrangement:

1812 (Millrea) Lawton St
1818 South Union St
1827 Cooper St
1832 Frederick St
1830 Cooper St
1835 Park Rd
1841 Combermere St

The homes where the children of Philip and Ann were born were close to the docks, but as Toxteth Park became established, further from the water, this new development was where the family moved, and where their daughters and descendants continued to live.

⁹¹ Mylrae/Milial

⁹² Norfolk St, Mulray

⁹³ Norfolk St, Milrea

⁹⁴ LOPC Project

→ Their daughter **Susannah** (Susan) Mylrea married John Roughsedge, a wheelwright as his father and father in law were, in 1837⁹⁵. Like Mylrea, the name Roughsedge and its multiplicity of spellings makes tracking Susannah's family a challenge⁹⁶. Susannah and John⁹⁷ lived in Sarah Court in Toxteth Park with their oldest two children in 1841, and during the first ten years of their marriage, they brought six children into the world, four boys and two girls - Thomas, John, Ann, Elizabeth, Philip⁹⁸ and Henry. Oldest son Thomas continued the family tradition of being a wheelwright, Philip was severely disabled, Ann and Elizabeth both married. The lives of John and Henry are largely unknown.

Tragedy struck the family early. In 1851, the three youngest children were living with their aunt and uncle (named Baker), while Susannah lived with her father Philip, her infant son Henry and sister, Charlotte. Anne Chadwick had died, the annotation against Susannah's entry is frustratingly "*Wheelwright's wife husband in*".⁹⁹ Perhaps the word is *country*. The 1861 census shows Thomas and John, by now in their 20s, living with their cousin Alice Roughsedge in Roper Street, together with her brothers but that is not where the boys were in 1851. Like their father, the two boys are nowhere to be seen in the 1851 census.

By the 1860s, Susan was a charwoman, and over the next two decades was admitted to a Liverpool Workhouse, the same one her disabled son Philip resided. Examination of the Workhouse Registers shows that Philip was admitted in 1864.

Susannah apparently had another child, Charlotte. The girl (ROUGHSTAGE) can be found living with her aunt and namesake, Charlotte Cotter in 1871. She is listed as a servant, aged 17 so born about 1854 (in fact, 1853). She died in 1878.

→ **Charlotte Maria MILREA** worked as a domestic servant before she married, and found in the 1841 census living in Berkerly St, Toxteth Park. She was with her father (MULRAY) and sister in 1851

Soon after the 1851 census, her personal life became complicated. Her first son William Mylrea was born in 1854, followed by four more children. In the 1861 census, Charlotte said she was a widow with four children William, Philip, Charlotte Emily and Richard. Another child, John was born in 1862. In 1867 she married **William** Cotter, recording that she was living in Chatsworth Street, but she claimed she was a spinster even though William Cotter also resided in Chatsworth Street and might have noticed the children.

⁹⁵ Lancashire Online Parish Clerks Project: <http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/>

⁹⁶ LOPC Project

⁹⁷ Rustage

⁹⁸ Saltney St,

⁹⁹ Was he the John Roughsedge who died 1854 in Walton on the Hill aged 42?



The children's surname became Cotter in the 1881 census and beyond. Charlotte Emily's marriage certificate lists William Cotter as her father and this arrangement presumably pertained to all three of Charlotte's sons, William, Philip and John. It seems highly likely that there was no first husband and that all of the children were born without the benefit of a legal father, who might well have been **William** Cotter nevertheless. The death certificate of her son Richard Mylrea who died in 1867 listed **Thomas** Cotter, even though he (and his siblings) were all registered as Mylrea at their birth. Charlotte Maria lived her final years with her son Philip and his family.

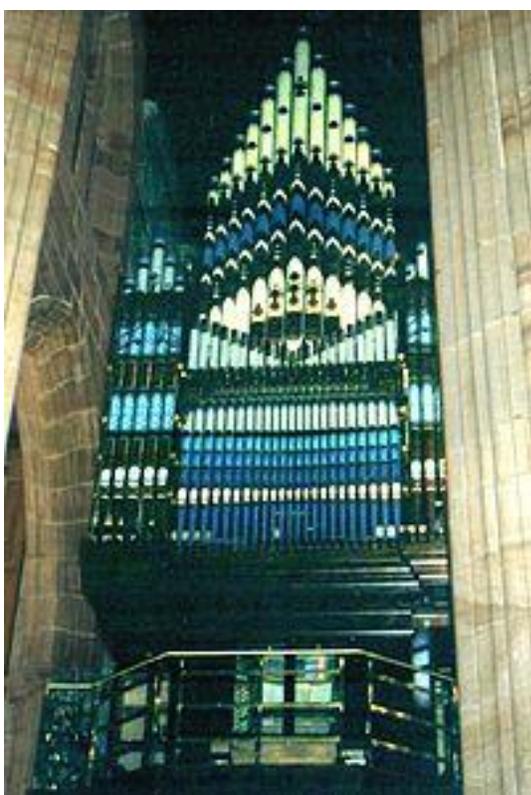
Philip Mylrea died in Liverpool in 1856 at the Brownlow Hill Workhouse, an institution that cared for the poor and infirm¹⁰⁰. By then, his wife had died, probably the Ann MACLEROY buried at St Helen's Cemetery in September 1849, his older daughter Susannah was in crisis and his younger daughter Charlotte was the mother of two small children. Philip might have developed dementia or simply suffered from the vicissitudes of old age when placed in this institution.

The presence of an Edward Mylrea in Liverpool, also a shipwright, gives extra weight to the argument that they were both sons of Edward Mylrea and Susannah Cashen, as does the name of his daughter, Susannah.

¹⁰⁰ http://www.lmi.org.uk/Data/10/Docs/workhouse/Poor_King.pdf

Attachment 5. Hill & Son, Organ Builders

William Hill & Son of London were pipe organ builders of great repute. The pioneering organ of the Birmingham Town Hall was built between 1833 and 1837 and was the first to have a high pressure solo reed stop, the Grand Ophicleide - not a free reed of course. Hills were well known internationally, building the Grand Organ for the Sydney Town Hall (Centennial Hall), Australia, which was the largest organ in the world in 1889 with 126 stops including what is still the largest reed stop, a full length 64' Pedal Contra Trombone (one of only two full length 64ft stops anywhere). There is also a 32ft Pedal Open Diapason! The title of largest organ passed to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Organ. These photographs testify to the magnificence of their organs and their distinctive casework.



St Andrews Cathedral, Sydney (1866)



St Augustine's Penarth (1895)

William (1789-1871)

William Hill was born in 1789 at Spilsby in Lincolnshire. He went to work for the organ builder Elliot in 1815, then married Elliot's daughter Mary. William became a partner with his father in law in 1825, but Elliot died in 1832 and unfortunately Mary had also died by that time. Hill subsequently re-married and set up as an independent organ builder.

The firm of William Hill and Son, as it was to become known, had premises on York Road, Camden Town, London up to at least 1918. Earlier, they had possibly been in Euston Road. The premises were thus in close proximity to many of the reed organ makers. From his family workshops were delivered many fine organs. Examples of original Hill Organs (or rebuilt organs) exist in Westminster Abbey, Manchester Cathedral, Chester Cathedral, Selby Abbey, and the organs in The Ulster Hall and St. Thomas Church, Belfast.

William Hill was still active in his successful London based organ building business when he was eighty years of age.

Thomas (1822-1893)

Thomas Hill was the head of the company after William's death in 1871.

Arthur Hill (1857-1932)

On 12th November 1857, Arthur was born to Thomas Hill and Mary Sophie, who was the daughter of Rev. Charles Thorold, Rector of Ludborough, Lincolnshire. When his father died in 1893, Arthur took over. He was an unusual man. He was educated at the Westminster School and subsequently went to take a degree in the Natural Science Tripos at Jesus College, Cambridge. He took an interest in archaeology and architecture and published several books about Cambridgeshire. At the age of 25, in 1882, he became a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He married Amy Williams in 1886 with whom he would have two daughters. When he left Cambridge, he went to work for his father, and later led the firm into a merger with Norman & Beard in 1916.



ARTHUR GEORGE HILL

Australia

William Hill & Sons of London built three Grand Pipe Organs for Australian town halls. The first was in Adelaide¹⁰¹, a 3MP installed in 1877, and the oldest concert organ in Australia. It was moved to the T Tanunda Soldiers' Memorial Hall in the Barossa Valley in 1998.

¹⁰¹ <https://www.adelaidetownhall.com.au/archived-pages/blog/the-organ>

- Sydney Town Hall Grand Organ 1889

Designs for town halls in the 19th century generally included large public halls where citizens of towns and cities could gather for a wide variety of events. Many were equipped with imposing organs which had the capacity to fill large spaces with sound and the flexibility to adapt to suit all tastes and musical genres. Sydney's aldermen were determined to ensure Sydney had not only the best, but the grandest money could buy.

Arthur Hill, already regarded as a leading authority on historic organs at the time, designed the decorative casing for the organ, basing it on a mid-17th century Baroque style organ case in the Church of St James, Stralsund (Northern Germany). Work on the construction of the organ commenced in London in 1886 and was completed in June 1889. Expert performers soon agreed on its superiority, declaring it respectively 'the finest organ ever built by an English organ builder' and 'a marvel of excellence in both tone and mechanism'.

To transfer the organ to Sydney, the entire instrument was dismantled and packed into 94 crates, stowed aboard the Gulf of Venice, arriving in Sydney just days before the opening of Centennial Hall in November 1889. It took seven months to erect it, during which time local organ builders were called in to assist Hill's staff. The passenger list for the Gulf of Venice, on which the 94 crates travelled, reveals no Edward Mylrea but a couple named Tod, and two gentlemen named Aylott.

- Melbourne Town Hall Grand Organ 1929

Hill, Norman & Beard won the contract, with a tender price of £31,483/19/7, to build the Grand Organ for the Melbourne Town Hall. Work began in the builder's York Road factory in London and in their new factory at Clifton Hill, Melbourne opened in 1927 as a subsidiary of Hill Norman & Beard to assist in the building of the Melbourne Town Hall Organ. The elaborately carved casework, in Queensland maple, and incorporating huge bronze grilles and zinc pipes veneered in spotted metal, was designed by the architects of the hall. The opening recital was given on 3 July 1929.

The Clifton Hill subsidiary over the next 47 years completed more than 800 contracts, including St Andrews Cathedral Sydney, St Johns Cathedral Brisbane and St Johns Camberwell in Melbourne.

In all, it is said that 39 Hill organs were commissioned for Australia and 11 for New Zealand¹⁰².

¹⁰² <https://ohta.org.au/opus-lists-order-books/hill-son-records-organs-australia-new-zealand/>



Attachment 6. Philip William Mylrea – Ice Cream Maker

MYLREA'S ICE CREAM



Perhaps you remember the little confectionery shop in High Street North. It was situated between Knight's dairy on the corner of Albion Street, and Fred Monk's draper's shop.

You mounted a couple of steps, with small bay windows on either side, to enter the shop. The home made ice cream counter was at the far end of the shop facing the door. News that a new batch of ice cream had been made quickly got round the town. It was so popular that it sold out very quickly, and was locally famous as being 'the best'.

The shop, originally a greengrocers, was bought during the First World War, by Philip Mylrea. He was an organ builder, having completed his apprenticeship with Hills & Co. in London. The business of Mylrea and Cartwright, Organbuilders, was in Green Lanes, South Tottenham. As part of the war effort, the Government stated that Philip had to stop building organs and start making ammunition boxes. He refused, being a stubborn Manxman. He sold his share of the business, rather than degrade his skills. With his share, he bought the greengrocers shop and moved himself, his wife and the younger children (my mother Florence being one) into the 'country' town of Dunstable. The shop was gradually changed into a sweet and tobacconists, and later on his son Edward (Ted) Mylrea and his family took over the running of the shop.

I am not sure when the home-made ice cream started to be made, but it was certainly sold during the Second World War, despite rationing restrictions. I remember it as a great treat, to go and get one as a small child. The recipe was always kept a secret!

Edward Mylrea eventually sold the shop during the late forties, possibly 1949, and he and his wife retired to Broadstairs in Kent. After her husband Ted's death, Mrs. Mylrea remarried, and still lives locally. God willing, she will be 100 next birthday. Perhaps that's due to eating the home-made ice cream.

Christine Dunn, Granddaughter of Philip Mylrea.



Note: According to the town Directories, this building was originally No. 21 High Street North. After the 1920 re-numbering it became No. 35. Philip Mylrea is listed at this address from 1919 and his son, Edward Clarkson Mylrea until 1949. No. 35 is currently a Nail Bar.

SUMMER OUTINGS 1 AND 2

On Tuesday June 17th, 40 members of the society visited the Palace of Westminster.

Clearing security, the tour began in Westminster Hall, the only surviving building of the great fire. On the steps leading out of the hall towards both Houses of Parliament, are commemorative plaques where William Wallace, King Charles 1st and the exhumed body of Oliver Cromwell stood trial for treason.

The House of Lords was very impressive and totally dwarfed by the Throne, which is covered in gold leaf. To reach the House of Commons we went through the voting lobbies and entered from behind the Speakers Chair. This also was equally impressive. The guide pointed out that the distance between the two front rows was equal to two sword lengths so members on opposite sides could not attack each other.

After lunch the visit culminated in a 40-minute question and answer session with Andrew Selous, our Member of Parliament. Topics such as the proposed Northern By-Pass, the new Health Centre and the traffic problems associated with the Town Centre etc; were discussed. This may well have continued even longer had he not been called to attend the Commons.

Having watched State and other occasions, I was surprised how small both chambers were. Due to the camera lenses used by television this is not portrayed.

Gordon Iverson



On Saturday July 19th members and friends visited Ingestone Hall, a 16th century mansion in Essex. The Administrator who gave us a potted history of the house greeted the party.

The mansion is built and still lived in by the Petre family. They restored the house to its original Tudor splendour in 1937, which is evident by the magnificent outside brickwork. For those who watched Bleak House on television, this was the location.

Inside the house, the Sitting Room with its superb fireplace and the adjoining Dining Room with silver tableware were inspiring. The Kitchen is being used as a learning centre for children, with only the massive cooking range area on view. Upstairs there are two bedrooms with dressing rooms fully furnished in the period. In the picture gallery are hung some thirty portraits of the family, from the first Baron Petre to the present owner.

Outside is a walled garden containing many plants we would grow ourselves, and a dewpond with various lilies on display. The visit ended in the café with a cream tea.

Gordon Iverson