

5 May 1992

Dear Eva,

So pleased to get your letter but must apologise for being so tardy in answering. Sorry to read you were so ill but pleased you are making a recovery. The progress gets slower as we get older. We & our family are all well as far as I know. The two eldest & the youngest are now in Australia. The youngest, Louise, is in Sydney with her husband & 2 children. Anne, the eldest is in Queensland at a place called Bouldercombe, not far from Rockhampton. Her husband works for effitro in Mt. Morgan. Their 4 children are in Australia too. Their second daughter gets married next June. Richard, the second eldest is in Queensland too & works for a building contractor at Mt. Morgan. Marion is a Nursing Tutor at the Polytec in Invercargill. She & her husband Jeff have 2 children aged 17 & 20.

Stephen is on the farm at Mossburn & he & Daphne have 4 children, the eldest started school this year. Jean & her husband are dairy farmers near Thames & have 2 children aged 10 & 8. Her husband Bruce was one of 4 dairy farmers from the Thames area to buy a farm in Southland for dairying & they are in partners & will put on a share milker. That's our family in a nutshell.

Now for what I know about the Russells
William Russell was born in Dorsetshire, Scotland in 1845 & came to N.Z. in the ship "Zealandia" in 1872 with his 2 brothers George & John. He farmed at Sapes Valley near Geraldine & married Isabella Proctor at Maheno, & had 5 sons & 3 daughters.

William, George, & John, arranged for their father George Russell to come to N.Z.

Their sister Margaret married Benjamin Lochran & came to N.Z. in 1874. & eventually farmed at Seadown. They adopted 2 of Williams children - Ben & Isobel - when

Williams wife Isabella died in childbirth.
Isobel died when she was 11. I don't know when Ben
died, but I think you have made contact with
his son Ken's wife.

I don't know when William remarried, you
might be able to tell me that bit.

Of Williams first family there were
George, who married Margaret Rose, & had 2 boys
Jack & Maurice.

Jim, died aged about 27.

Agnes, married Charlie Graham & had 1 son Alan
Ben, who was adopted by B. & M. Dochow. married & had 1 son Ken
& 2 daughters

William, married Annie Wharton & had one.

Douglas, married Elsie Jeffries & had 4 sons & 2 daughters
only 2 living Wynne in a home in Lemuka &
Marilyn Olsen in Waipekuran

Jean, married Jack Clark & had 3 boys & 2 girls
Isobel, died aged 11.

William the original, had another sister Agnes

who married Robert Thompson ^{in 1875} & farmed at Ophir.
They had 3 sons & seven daughters. Retired to
Dunedin. I remember seeing them in Dunedin when I
was a child.

Williams brother John & his wife Jane had 1 daughter
Georgina who married Sam Hampton & had 3 boys &
2 daughters. One of the boys Dave married & farmed
in the Lilburn Valley in Southland & had 10 ^{of} a
family. Dave & his wife have retired to Invercargill.

Williams other brother George married & had
2 girls. Margaret & Mary. Margaret married Jack
Loomes & Mary married a Smith.

That is all I remember. If your grandson
wants to know more about the later generations, he
could write to me & I could give him an update
on what I know of them.

Hope all this is understandable.

Cheerio for now

Love

Isobel.