



Francis Murray Austin



Peter Murray Austin

Sir Francis Murray Austin, a retired Vice-Admiral, recalled as a Commodore RNR in charge of convoys (shown above, see also PAGE 38). Somehow the impression was gained that Peter spoke Italian, and he was given charge of taking three motor torpedo boats to Malta for internment. Bad weather caused one to sink, and he deduced from conversation between the sailors that a popular plan was to shoot him dead and return to a friendly Italian port. Ordering his petty officer to shoot anyone who tried to take over, Peter ensured a safe arrival at Malta.

He volunteered for flying duties and was trained in Canada, being awarded his wings in August 1946. He reached front-line service flying 807 Squadron's Sea Furies in 1947, going on a stimulating tour in the carrier *Theseus* to South Africa. He then commanded 736 Squadron in the Naval Air Fighter School at Caldrose in Cornwall. His next command in May 1953 was the Royal Australian Navy's 850 Squadron, flying Sea Furies from the light fleet carriers *Sydney* and *Vengeance*. After the Korean War armistice in July 1953, *Sydney* was deployed for six months in Korean and Japanese waters as part of the United Nations' military presence in the aftermath of negotiations with North Korea. He completed flying with the Australians in April 1954. After hot-weather trials of the Seahawk naval jet in Singapore, he returned home to be appointed Lieutenant-Commander (Flying) in the carrier *Bulwark* during her first commission. His promotion to Commander was followed by appointments in charge of flying operations at the naval air station at Brawdy in Wales, including a supersonic flight in an American Sabre jet, and on board the large fleet carrier *Eagle*. On promotion to Captain, he commanded the frigate *Lynx* and the 7th Frigate Squadron on a long world cruise.

In 1959 Peter married Josephine Rhoda Ann Shutte-Smith, who was born in 1929 and known affectionately as 'Sams.' From 1967-69 he was on the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic (SACLANT) at Norfolk, Virginia, serving as director of strategic policy.

This was followed by command of the *H.M.S. Hermes* on her last commission as a fixed wing aircraft carrier. On his promotion to Rear Admiral in 1971, Peter was appointed Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Operations and Air). His final tour in the rank of Vice-Admiral was Flag-Officer Naval Air Command, the Royal Navy's senior operational flying post. During this tour – unusual for someone of his rank – he piloted the fast jet Hunter aircraft and numerous communications flights. One of his passengers was Earl Mountbatten. Peter was knighted (K.C.B.) in 1976. When he retired in 1976, he had been flying for 30 years, amassing nearly 3,000 flying hours and more than 500 carrier deck landings at sea. Described by a contemporary as '*tough and resolute, happy to upset the applecart of convention, an excellent games player, in his youth a bit of a cowboy,*' he was, however, a most professional pilot. In retirement he qualified for a civil pilot's license and flew a Cessna. For four years he was Operations Director of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, his appointment meeting some resistance from militants: '*What the hell can a brass hat know about lumping cargo?*' He soon gained the respect of the workforce. In 1976 he also became a director of several defence systems companies. A fine skier, he became involved with the British Ski Club for the Disabled and took parties of disabled skiers to Europe, his patience and skill as an instructor being much admired. He was made a Freeman of the City of London in 1987 and a liveryman of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators. In later years, Peter took up cycling, and from 2000 to 2004, although in his eighties, he clocked up the astonishing total of 16,000 miles. Josephine died in 2001, while Peter died on 13 May 2005. They had four children:

- T514-811. SALLY ANN AUSTIN, *b. 1960*
- T514-812. ANTHONY JOHN WENTWORTH AUSTIN, *b. in 1962, he has his own legal business in Liverpool.*
- T514-813. WAYLAND PETER FRANCIS AUSTIN, *b. 1967, he works for the bankers Merrill Lynch in London. In 2000 he m. Sarah Skinner, also a London banker.*
- T514-814. PIERSON EDWARD MURRAY AUSTIN, *born in 1968, he owns and runs a company in London that deals in computers and software.*

T516-43. FRANCIS ROBERT ANTHONY⁶ AUSTIN (*Francis Sumner Ware*,⁵ *Richard*,⁴ *Wiltshire Stanton*,³ *Richard*,² *Thomas*¹) was born in 1898. He was first married in 1920 to Evelyn Barber, born in 1899 and died in 1940. Francis married second Maude Nellie —, born in 1910. She died in 1991 in Melbourne, Australia. Francis died there in 1993. He had three children by his first wife Evelyn:

- T516-431. LONA AUSTIN
- T516-432. FRANCIS WILLIAM AUSTIN, *d. 1926*
- T516-433. JOAN AUSTIN

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 175]

T342-A32. CLARISSA AUSTIN, b. 1939 in Barbados. On leaving school there, she studied in Connecticut. She married Timothy Notley, a Lieutenant-Commander in the Royal Navy, and they have three children: Vanessa Notley b. 1965, Philip Greve Notley b. 1967, and Justin Chase Notley b. 1970. Philip m. Sharon King and they have a daughter Ellis Adele Notley. Justin m. Alison Buntin and they have a son Evan Campbell Notley. Vanessa lives in France. Clarissa is now divorced.

T342-A4. AUDRIE DOROTHEA⁶ AUSTIN (*Francis Elwyn Wilday Gardiner*,⁵ *John Gardiner*,⁴ *John Gardiner*,³ *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born on 23 July 1916 in Bay Cottage, Barbados and lived there until World War II. She married Clifford John Carrington Manning on 12



September 1936. Born in 1913, John was a sugar planter and part owner (with his half brother Harold Marion Manning) of the Westmoreland and Mount Standfast Plantations in Barbados (both now part of a golf course). During the war John served in

England in the Royal Air Force, and in the United States as a flying instructor. He was in Bomber Command as a pilot, flying Halifaxes in the 77th Squadron. John died in England on 10 August 1978. Audrie remained in England until her death in Winslow, Buckinghamshire on 22 September 2006. She was cremated on 9 October 2006 in the Milton Keynes Crematorium. Audrie and John had four children:

T342-A41. CAROLINE ROSEMARY MANNING, b. 1937 in Barbados, she m. Vivian Edgar Cox there in 1956 and they have five ch: Nicola Audrie Cox b. 1957, Katherine Anna Cox b. 1958 d. 2000, Peter Edgar Cox b. 1961, and twins Mark John Cox & Charles Alan Cox b. 1962. Katherine m. Robert Hughes. Caroline and her husband have eight grandchildren.

T342-A42. RACHEL FRANCES MANNING, b. 1941 m. Lt. Col. Anthony John Scott, now retired from the 1st Staffordshire Regiment. He was awarded an M.B.E. in 1979 for services in Belize, and also served with NATO in Brussels. Three ch: Richard George Scott b. 1969, Joanna Frances Scott b. 1971, and Charles William David Scott. Joanna now lives in Japan.

T342-A43. DAVID BRUCE CARRINGTON MANNING, b. 1944 in England, and worked for Rolls Royce Aeronautics in Derby. He m. Hilary Barton in 1963 and has two ch: Julian Charles Carrington Manning b. 1964 and Anna Jane Manning b. 1968. Julian is now married and lives in Japan. Anna m. David Dalton and lives near Melbourne, Australia. David and Hilary retired to Australia in 2003 to live close to Anna.

T342-A44. TIMOTHY JOHN CARRINGTON MANNING, b. 1948, he earned a first class honours degree from Oxford, and is now a solicitor in London. He m.

Francesca Mayor, they have two children: Nicholas Manning and Lucy Manning.

T513-62. FRANCIS PRESTON BRUCE⁶ AUSTIN (*Gardiner Bruce*,⁵ *Preston Bruce*,⁴ *Wiltshire Stanton*,³ *Richard*,² *Thomas*¹) was born in 1899 in Tacarigua, Trinidad. At the outbreak of World War I, Frank was attending school in England and immediately signed up. He served first in the Royal Field Artillery and was commissioned as a Second-Lieutenant in 1915. In 1918 he was appointed to the Royal Flying Corps as an Observer. He was shot down several times, but managed to escape, seemingly unscathed. Frank received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal for his service. After the war he returned to Trinidad and worked as an insurance agent.

On 25 June 1923 Frank married Pearl Patricia Hutton, who was born in 1903. They had a daughter, June, born in 1924. Shortly thereafter, Frank migrated to Canada to make a better life for his family and June attended high school in Toronto. However, by the early 1930's the couple had separated.

When World War II started, Frank again signed up and was appointed Second-Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Artillery in 1943. However, he was discharged shortly afterwards on medical grounds (apparently he had injured his spine during World War I), and returned to civilian life in Toronto. In 1947 Frank married Mary Margaritha Deary (known as Deary, she was born in 1911) whom he had met before the war. Frank and Deary had no children. They lived in Toronto. Pearl died in 1973, while Frank died in 1974 and was buried in the Mountview Cemetery in Galt, Ontario. Frank had one child by his first wife Pearl:

T513-621. JUNE PATRICIA AUSTIN, b. 26 May 1924 +

T514-81. PETER MURRAY⁶ AUSTIN (*Francis Murray*,⁵ *Francis Webster*,⁴ *Wiltshire Stanton*,³ *Richard*,² *Thomas*¹) was born on 16 April 1921, he was educated at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. His early sea experience was a Midshipman on the cruiser *Cornwall* in the Far East. At the outbreak of World War II, *Cornwall* moved to the Atlantic to take part in Operation Menace, supporting Free French troops in the failed attempt to capture Dakar for Allied use. *Cornwall* had a tense stand-off with the French cruiser *Primague*, but no shots were exchanged.

In May 1941 he was appointed to the destroyer *Holderness*, an Atlantic convoy escort. He later took part in several arduous convoys to Murmansk on the destroyer *Lamerton*. In 1943 he was appointed to the monitor *Abercrombie*, whose twin 15-inch guns made an important contribution to the U.S. 1st Division's assault on Sicily in July 1943. After the Italian surrender at Taranto, Peter was surprisingly invited to dine with the Admiral. The reason soon became clear as another guest was his father,

Horace Edward Wickham. Horace was born in England, went to British Guiana as a layman, was later ordained a Deacon, and in 1851 was ordained an Anglican Priest. The ordinations were at St. George's Cathedral by the Rt Rev. William Piercy Austin. Dudley served some thirty-three years in the Colonial Civil Service, mostly in the Department of Local Government in British Guiana. He accepted the post of Federal Labour Officer for the Leeward Islands in 1943, living with his family in Antigua until 1945 when he accepted the post of District Commissioner for Berbice, British Guiana. In 1949 he was transferred to East Demerara. In 1951 he was promoted to Permanent Secretary and Commissioner of Local Government, a post he held until he retired in 1960. He was honoured with an O.B.E. in 1960. Dudley died in July 1966 in British Guiana, and was buried in Le Repentir Cemetery.

Pamela returned to England in 1972. On 20 December 1976 she married second to Cecil Frederick Farrar, the divorced husband of T342-52 Mabel Eileen Austin [see PAGE 108]. After five serenely happy years, and following a brief illness, Pamela died on 28 July 1981 at her home in Crowhurst, Sussex, and was buried there in St. George's cemetery. Fred died on 17 January 1982 in Eastbourne, and was also buried at St. George's. Pamela had one child by her first husband Dudley:

- T342-921. MARTIN BORRETT AUSTIN WICKHAM, *b. in 1942 in British Guiana, and was educated there at Queen's College. He was twice the Junior Champion of British Guiana at lawn tennis. In 1960 he went with his parents to England, where he was articled to Fitzpatrick Graham & Company in October 1960, qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 1966. He married Avis Jane Warne of Welton, Northamptonshire in 1966. They returned to British Guiana where Martin worked for Fitzpatrick Graham & Company, ultimately becoming a partner. Martin and Jane emigrated to Canada in 1973 where they lived for eight years in North Vancouver. Martin worked for Campbell Sharp Nash & Field, becoming a partner there in 1977. In 1981, following the death of their son Stephen and Martin's acceptance of a two-year secondment with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada, the family moved to Ottawa. In 1983 Martin resigned from Campbell Sharp Nash & Field, and took a permanent senior position with the Auditor General, a post he held until he retired in 2003. Three children: Joanna Claire Wickham b. 1972 in Northampton, Stephen James Austin Wickham b. 1976 in North Vancouver, and Kathryn Jane Wickham b. 1977 in North Vancouver.*

T342-A1. BRUCE WILDAY GARDINER⁶ AUSTIN (*Francis Elwyn Wilday Gardiner*,⁵ *John Gardiner*,⁴ *John Gardiner*,³ *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born 16 February 1910 in Bay Cottage, Barbados, and was educated at Charterhouse in England. He spent a short time as an overseer at a sugar

estate in British Guiana and then returned to Barbados, joining the firm of Gardiner Austin & Company, (now part of Barbados Shipping & Trading), later becoming the director of the shipping department. Shortly before his planned marriage to Marion Fletcher he fell off a thirty foot high wall at his uncle's (Harold Bruce Gardiner Austin) house and was severely injured. The marriage was delayed until 26 April 1941 in Barbados.

Marion was born on 8 June 1910 in Cockermonth, Cumberland, England. She went to Barbados in 1937 as a theatre sister in the General Hospital, after training in London. During World War II Bruce was a Captain in the West India Regiment, and although medically unfit for active service overseas, he was adjutant of the Barbados Regiment. He succeeded his uncle Harold and his grandfather as the Consul for Norway in Barbados, serving in this position for thirty-two years, and was similarly awarded the Order of St Olaf (1st Class) for his services. Bruce died in Barbados in December 1971. Marion died in 1989. Their two children were born in Barbados:

- T342-A11. JOHN BRUCE GARDINER AUSTIN, *b. 1945 +*
 T342-A12. BRIGID ELIZABETH WILDAY AUSTIN, *b. in 1949. Known as 'Biddy,' she m. Christopher Barber from Cornwall, England in 1972. Two children: Brett Barber b.1973 and Alexandra Barber b.1976. The family lives in Barbados, where Biddy owns a shop and her husband runs his own accounting business. Brett m. Michelle Lewis and Alexandra m. Paul Rees.*

T342-A3. GEOFFREY FRANCIS⁶ AUSTIN (*Francis Elwyn Wilday Gardiner*,⁵ *John Gardiner*,⁴ *John Gardiner*,³ *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born 14 May 1913 in Southsea, Hampshire. On 6 April 1935 he married in Barbados to Kathleen Chase from Boston, Massachusetts. She was born in 1908. Geoffrey Francis served in Italy as a Captain with the West India Regiment during World War II. Geoffrey died on 6 July 1963, Kathleen died in 1984. They had two children:

- T342-A31. STEPHEN GARDINER AUSTIN, *was b. 1937 in Barbados, but left in 1944 and spent five years in Connecticut. He went to England in 1949 and after school joined the Royal Navy as a naval cadet, becoming a Lieutenant-Commander. He was an M.B.E. for bravery in fighting a fire in the bilge of a boiler room of H.M.S. Eagle in 1967, while at sea. After leaving the Navy he worked for engineering firms and latterly as a financial consultant. He m. Brenda —, a widow with four children, they had no children together. Stephen is active in charitable work with the Order of St. Lazarus, obtaining medical equipment for health services of Eastern European countries. He enjoys early church music and is interested in church history. Stephen was one of the officers selected to provide a guard of honour at the lying in state of Sir Winston Churchill at Westminster Hall, prior to the state funeral at St. Paul's in 1965.*

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
THOMAS AUSTIN OF BARBADOS**

*by Roger Brian Austin
Timothy John Smellie
and Bruce Merivale-Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 110]

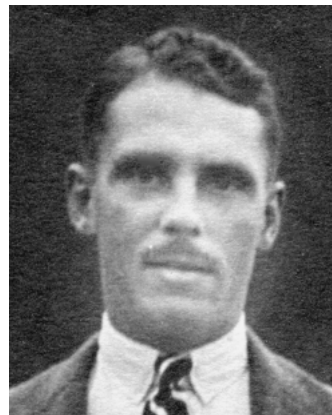
T342-72. CLODAGH MARIE⁶ AUSTIN (*Harold Bruce Gardiner,⁵ John Gardiner,⁴ John Gardiner,³ William,² Thomas¹*) was born on 3 November 1913 at the family's 'Enmore' plantation in Barbados. On 3 September 1936 she was married in the Brompton Oratory in London to Gilbert William White of the 60th Rifles, King's Royal Rifle Corps. He was born in 1912, and was in Palestine at the outbreak of World War II. He was sent to Cairo where he later joined the staff of Field Marshal Montgomery in the Western Desert. Meanwhile, Clodagh was serving in Cairo with VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment, a nursing organisation), but left for Cape Town and then sailed to Trinidad with her young son, Christopher. Gilbert became a Brigadier and was badly wounded during World War II at the D-day landings at Normandy in 1944. He was for a while Commandant of Eaton Hall, the National Service Officer Training Establishment in the U.K. (1912-1977). Clodagh and Gilbert retired to Dominica in 1965, and both died there in 1977. They had two sons:

T342-721. CHRISTOPHER NICHOLAS WHITE, *b. 1942 in Cairo, and became an airline captain. In 1965 he m. Ann Jennifer Sargentson. Four ch: Nicholas William White b.1967, Caroline Ann White b.1968, Sophie Jane White b.1970 and Julian Anthony Malcolm White b.1978. Nicholas, Caroline and Sophie are now married and have children.*

T342-722. ADRIAN HAROLD MICHAEL WHITE, *b. 1945 in London and became a Chartered Accountant and works in the City of London. In 1970 he m. Helen Frances McKay Cox, daughter of Sir Herbert Charles Fahie Cox of St. Kitts and Demerara. They have a son, Hugh Edward James White b.1978.*

T342-91. ERIC MALCOLM GARDINER⁶ AUSTIN (*Malcolm Burnett Gardiner,⁵ John Gardiner,⁴ John Gardiner,³ William,² Thomas¹*) was born on 3 June 1909 in British Guiana. and was subsequently educated in England at Repton School in Derbyshire. After leaving school he sought adventure in Australia in 1927 where he found work and much rugged enjoyment as a stockman on a sheep ranch. He visited the UK briefly in 1930, but returned to Australia for a further sojourn. By 1939, Eric had returned to the UK, and, following the outbreak of war, volunteered for active service in the Royal Navy. Eric held a commission in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve and served in the Middle East and in the Persian Gulf. He was married 25 February 1939 in Salfords, Surry

to Nancy Ruth Pickard. After the war they lived in Beckenham, Kent where, true to his Austin background, he played a great deal of club cricket. Later Eric and Nancy moved to Great Bourton near Banbury where Eric was employed by ALCAN (Aluminium Company of Canada), and became qualified as a Cost and Works Accountant.



In 1951 Eric returned to British Guiana to work for Bookers. After a short period with Bookers, he resigned to become chief financial officer, and later a director, of William Fogarty & Company, the department store in Georgetown. He formed and trained the Colony's first volunteer fireboat service in Georgetown, and brought his fellow volunteers up to a high degree of efficiency. As the waterfront buildings in Georgetown were mostly made of wood, the existence of this happy band of volunteers was extremely important. Eric retired in 1970, and he and Nancy returned to Robertsbridge in Sussex, England and ultimately to Hastings where Eric died in 1990. Nancy died in 2001. They had one child:

T342-911. CAROLINE RUTH AUSTIN, *b. 1950 in England, she m. 1970 Edward Anthony Wilson. Ch: Amanda Wilson and Lucy Wilson. Caroline is now divorced.*

T342-92. PAMELA MURIEL⁶ AUSTIN (*Malcolm Burnett Gardiner,⁵ John Gardiner,⁴ John Gardiner,³ William,² Thomas¹*) was born 16 January 1914 in British Guiana. She was educated in England at the Welsh Girls School in Ashford, Kent from 1926 to 1930. After a year at the



Cyrano finishing school in Lausanne, Switzerland, she returned to British Guiana in 1932, becoming involved in sporting activities. She represented British Guiana many times at field hockey and lawn tennis. Pamela met Dudley Lee Borrett Wickham between 1932-1936 while he was Clerk of the Legislative Council and, at various times in that

period, also served as aide-de-camp to two Governors. They married 27 August 1938 in British Guiana.

Dudley was born on 25 November 1909 in Georgetown, British Guiana, the eldest of the two sons of Eugene Lee Wickham (1856-1928), and grandson of the Reverend