Lionel was the son of Clement Silas and Amelia Agnes Mulcahy – see "Clement Silas Anscombe 1858 - 1898.pdf" for more details.

Clement Silas was a Quarter Master Sergeant 9th Lancers when Lionel Egremont was born on 8th January 1888 at Fulford Barracks in York.

	Registrar's S	Sub-District	Mal	ingale		*8 K - 15	<u>•</u>			0 83
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No.	When and Where Born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Rogistrar.	Baptismal ? if added a: Registration of Birth
83	Sughthe Justicary Barnacks Jueford	Leonel Egremon	Boy	Clement Gelas Anscombe	Inscombe	Luarter Master Surgeant	Andia A Anscembe Mother Barracks York	Swenty second February 1888.		

Lionel Egremont Anscombe Birth

Egremont is an unusual if not unique name to give a child. I have been unable to find any evidence that it was a name used previously in the family or the name of a famous person. It is the name of a small village in the Lake District and I wonder if it was where Clement and Amelia spent some time on leave there. Certainly at this time the Lake District was a popular destination.

We can assume that Lionel moved to India with his parents and brothers, Harold and Gilbert in 1888 or 1889 and lived first in Sialkot and then Rawalpindi.

The next record we have of Lionel is on 21st August 1913 when he married his first wife Doris Ward in Simla, now known as Shimla in the state of Himachal Pradesh in the foothills of the Himalayas. It was a well-known retreat from the sweltering heat in the summer months down in the plains of India.

Name:	Doris Ward	
Gender:	Female	
Marriage Date:	21 Aug 1913	
Marriage Place:	Simla, Bengal, India	
Father:	Horace S. Ward	
Spouse:	Leinel Edward Auscombe	
FHL Film Number:	527902	
Source Information Incestry.com. India, Select Marriages, 1792-1948 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, Iriginal data: India, Marriages, 1792-1948. Salt Lake City, Utah: FamilySearch, 2 Description		

There is actually very little information about Lionel for most of his life. All we really know is that he was in the hotel industry. In the baptism record of their first child, Gilbert Eric, his trade is given as Hotel Assistant Manager. In the probate record of his first wife she is recorded as living at Parry's Hotel in Ambala. Then when he finally left India in 1946 his occupation is given as Hotel Keeper. However, apart from the reference to Parry's Hotel it's not clear where his and his family's base was.

We know from notes left by his son, Gilbert Eric, that when their other two sons were born, Doris went to Calcutta for the period before, during and after the birth. "Never met my Anscombe grandfather & by the time I was 4 or 5 my grandmother had remarried a Calcutta businessman, I think called Baldwin. I used to accompany my mother to Calcutta each time she had her other sons, Peter and Fred." The grandmother referred to here is Lionel's mother Amelia Agnes Anscombe (nee Mulcahy) who remarried after Lionel's father's death in 1898. More detail can be found in 'Clement Silas Anscombe 1858 - 1898.pdf'. From this we can assume that Doris and her son would stay with Lionel's mother when in Calcutta.

So it's not meaningful to use the location of their children's birth as an indication of where they were living. Although it does give an indication of where they were not living. In other words we can assume they were not living in or near Calcutta.

I think the best we can assume is that, during the period from about 1905 to about 1930 Lionel and his family lived in accommodation provided by hotels in the Ambala/Shimla area. Perhaps working during the winter months in Ambala and in the summer in Shimla.

In fact there is much more evidence of his wife's activities because not only did she travel to Calcutta for the birth of two of her children, she also returned home to England at least three times, each time for a significant period of time.

Doris was christened Madeline Doris Ward and was the daughter of Horace Spencer Ward and Rose Dendy. She was born on 15th May 1889 at 173 Westminster Bridge Road in London.

	BAPT in t	ISMS sole he County o	mnized in f	the Parish of	Sha	y Laurhe in the	Year 18 S
	When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent	s Name. Surname.	Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
23.	18 8.7 Tuly 21	Emmul Arthur	Henry	Rosell	ngare Battersen	Painle 3	ARICKULOH Carali
Max	No. 1017.	11. \ 11	Mary Horace		Dalles Sta	Hosier	d.0.'n

Madeline Doris Ward Birth Baptism

We can be reasonably sure that this is the same person that married Lionel because her father's name on their marriage record is given as Horace S Ward. Not only that but Doris had a brother Lionel Eric Ward who is the executor of her will and is referred to as Lionel's attorney on Doris's probate record.

In the 1911 Census on 2nd April Doris is living with her parents, three sisters and three brothers in Westminster Bridge Road, London. In the census she is recorded as being a ledger clerk in a draper's business.

	Gast Earthday) and SEX.	图 80. 生活的统治	CULARS as to MARRIAGE.	MARKET AND	of Persons age	ON or OCCUPATION d ten years and upwards.		of every person.	of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMIT
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Horace Ward 1911 Census

Then in August 1913 she is living in India and married. At that time it was not uncommon for single women to travel to India in search of a husband. Social conditions in Britain at the time meant that women had few rights and most professions were denied to them. So marriage was seen as the only goal in life. Women outnumbered marriageable young men in Britain, so a girl not blessed with beauty, money or pedigree had little hope of marrying well. But in India, British men heavily outnumbered women. This pool of enterprising young men offered a much better chance of getting a good husband. They were rather derogatorily referred to as the "Fishing Fleet"! Should they be unsuccessful and return to Britain they were referred to as "Returned Empties".

Even so it is unlikely that she would just up sticks and travel on her own to India. When she arrived she would have needed a chaperone to go fishing with and ideally she would either know someone who lived in India already or be able to travel with someone who "knew the ropes".

On the other hand we can see from the 1939 Register that two out of three of Doris's sisters ended up being 'old maids', living in Torquay with their widowed mother. So Doris undoubtedly demonstrated some courage and drive in taking the decision to travel to India.

It would be really interesting to know how and why she travelled to India and ended up marrying Lionel. Unfortunately, so far, I have not been able to find how she travelled and who she travelled with. What we do know is that Doris was probably pregnant with her first child when she married Lionel as the wedding took place on 21st August 1913 and Gilbert Eric was born on 2nd March 1914. In fact Doris must have left India not long after her marriage because Gilbert was born at his grandparents' house in Brixton.

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When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Paren Christian.	ts' Names. Surname.	Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
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Gibert Eric Anscombe Birth & Baptism

Although Lionel's name is on the baptism record as the father I don't believe he actually left India. Doris makes at least two more trips to England and back on her own, so she must have been comfortable with making the long journey by sea.

I have not been able to find details of when Doris and Gilbert returned to India but they presumably did because in April 1919 Lionel and Doris's second son, Alfred Peter was born. The only record I could find is for his christening which took place at Shimla.

Name:	Lionel Edward Anscombe	Record Collection:	
Sex:	Male	India Births and Baptisn	ns, 1786-1947
Wife:	Doris Madeline	Document Informati	on:
Son:	Alfred Peter Anscombe	GS Film Number	527558
Other information Peter Anscombe	in the record of Alfred	Digital Folder Number	005138310
from India Births and Bap	otisms, 1786-1947	Indexing Project	C75049-5
Name:	Alfred Peter Anscombe	(Batch) Number	
Event Type:	Christening	System Origin	EASY
Event Date:	13 Jun 1919	Record Number	489
Event Place:	Simla-Calcutta, West Bengal, India	Citing this Record "India Births and Baptis	ms, 1786-1947",
Event Place (Original):	Simla, Bengal, India	database, FamilySearch	
Gender:	Male	(https://familysearch.or 3Z3Z : 5 February 2020	
Birth Date:	3 Apr 1919	Anscombe in entry for A	
Father's Name:	Lionel Edward Anscombe	Anscombe, 1919.	
Mother's Name:	Doris Madeline		
		Similar Historical I	Records

The record is a bit confusing but from what we know from George's notes he would have been born in Calcutta.

We can see that not long after Peter's christening Doris, Eric and Peter were back in Calcutta to board the SS City of London to visit her parents in London again.

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Doris Anscombe & sons Calcutta - London 1919

Incidentally it's interesting to note that the family seem to have a tradition of using their second Christian name rather than the first. Madeline Doris refers to herself as Doris in all but the most formal situations and Alfred Peter is recorded as Peter. Gilbert Eric is referred to here as Eric although in later life, according to a direct descendant, Robert Humphries, he was only ever known as George. From now on in this note I will use those names to refer to these individuals. Robert also informed me that the Gilbert in George's name was after his uncle, Gilbert Allen Henry Anscombe, who died in Mesopotamia (Iraq) in the First World War (see 'Gilbert Allen Henry Anscombe - 1886 - 1917.pdf' for more details).

From George's note we also know that visiting her parents was not the only objective of the trip. "Gwen, who was a nurse in the 1st War married a Dr Clayton-Allen about 1919. My first memory of a ship and of returning to England, where I was born; my mother and I accompanied and chaperoned Gwen on her return to get married." Gwen is Lionel's sister Gwendoline Winifred Elaine Anscombe. In fact in the passenger list we can see that she had taken her step-father's surname and is listed as Miss Gwendoline Win Baldwin.

Richard Clayton Allen was, amongst many other things a GP in Belper, Derbyshire. From his obituary in the British Medical Journal we learn that, "During the first world war he served in the R.A.M.C. in India." So this must have been when and how Gwendoline and Richard met.

It's interesting to note that on the 'homeward' journey in 1919 the family travelled first class. Returning to India they travelled second class. Also they travelled from Liverpool to Bombay, leaving Liverpool on 27th August 1920.

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Doris Anscombe & sons Liverpool - Bombay 1920

Presumably the family attended the Gwendoline and Richard's wedding in Belper, but in total the spent nearly a year in England. Presumably they spent most of the rest of their time at the home of Doris's parents at 56 Brailsford Road in Brixton. That is the address given on George's baptism record, which Doris gave when travelling to England again in 1925 and her father died there in 1933. So it's reasonable to assume they were still there in 1920.



56 Brailsford Road, Brixton

The house still exists and although it appears to be a rather strange design it does look as though it could accommodate quite a large, extended family. George mentions the house in his notes, "They lived on the edge of Brockwell Park on Tulse Hill. Tall 4 storey house." He was obviously struck by the unusual design of the house and, although the address is Brixton it is very close to Tulse Hill and Brockwell Park.

Lionel and Doris's third son, Frederick Alan was born on 29th June 1922 and christened there on 29th July.

Name:	Lionel Egremont Anscombe	Record Collection:	
Sex:	Male	India Births and Baptisn	ns, 1786-1947
Wife:	Madeline Doris	Document Informati	on:
Son:	Frederick Alan Anscombe	GS Film Number	527561
Other information		Digital Folder Number	005138313
from India Births and Ba	ptisms, 1786-1947	Indexing Project	C75051-6
Name:	Frederick Alan Anscombe	(Batch) Number	
Event Type:	Christening	System Origin	EASY
Event Date:	29 Jul 1922	Record Number	364
Event Place:	Bengal, India	Citing this Record	
Event Place (Original):	Calcutta, Bengal, India	"India Births and Baptis	
Gender:	Male	database, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.or	
Birth Date:	29 Jun 1922	2NZM : 5 February 202	
Father's Name:	Lionel Egremont Anscombe	Egremont Anscombe in	
Mother's Name:	Madeline Doris	Frederick Alan Anscomb	e, 1922.
		Similar Historical I	Records

Frederick Alan was the exception that proved the rule as he seems to have been known as Fred.

Doris made a further trip to England, travelling from Bombay to Plymouth in 1925 and returning in 1926.

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Doris Anscombe & sons Bombay - Plymouth 1925

Once again she was planning to stay with her parents in Brixton. However, there was a significant difference between the homebound and the outbound trips; in 1925 Doris had three sons with her, on the 1926 she only had two sons. Presumably this means that one of the objectives of the trip was for George to go to school in England. This is confirmed in George's notes when he says, "My mother, with whom I had the perfect relationship, brought me home from India in 1926 to go to boarding school; then she returned to India..."

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Doris Anscombe & sons Liverpool - Calcutta 1926

Interestingly once again Doris travels 1st class on the way 'home' and 2nd class on the return to India.

By the time of their return it's probable that the family were living at Parry's Hotel in Ambala because in April 1927 Doris must have been taken ill and was admitted to the British Family Hospital in Kasauli. This information is given in her probate record following her death in the hospital on 29th April. Kasauli is in the foothills of the Himalayas about 60 miles north of Ambala.

ANSCOMBE Madeline Doris of Parrys Hotel Ambala Cantonment India (wife of Lionel Egremont Anscombe) died 29 April 1927 at the British Family Hospital Kasauli India Administration (limited) London 8 November to Lionel Eric Ward architect and surveyor attorney of the said Lionel Egremont Anscombe. Effects £148 19s. 10d. in England.

This left Lionel with two young sons to look after. There is no information as to what happened to them in this period and we must assume that they weren't sent to school in England but stayed in India with their father.

Five years after his first wife's death Lionel remarried a spinster, Jessie Grant Reid at Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh on 13th October 1932. As Allahabad is some 550 miles from Ambala it is likely that Lionel is managing a hotel there by this time, but there is no evidence of this.



Although she is only referred to as Jessie Reid in their marriage record on the shipping list when they leave India for good in 1946 she has the initial 'G' as well. This led me to discover that she was almost certainly Jessie Grant Reid, the daughter of William Topping Reid and Elizabeth Surenne Reid. This is partially confirmed by the fact that her father's name on the marriage record is given as William. More specifically though there is a probate record for a Jessie Grant Anscombe who died in 1972.



William Topping Reid was in the merchant navy and qualified as a First Mate in 1870. He married Elizabeth in Calcutta in 1881 and Jessie's brother and two sisters were all born in India. Elizabeth must have come back to Scotland her daughters for Jessie's birth in 1891. So when Jessie was only 3 months old her mother, sisters and ayah returned to Calcutta on the Clan Buchanan which was a relatively small steel hulled freighter that carried a few passengers, in this case 8.

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Elizabeth Reid & daughters Birkenhead - Calcutta 1892

There appears to be little information about Jessie's life in India as a girl, but when she left school she must have trained as a nurse. She appears to have travelled back to England in 1913. There must be some doubt as to whether the Miss Reid who travelled on the Matiana from Calcutta to London in April 1913 because no Christian names or initials are given. However, we do know that Jessie was working as an orderly for the French Red Cross in France towards the end of the First World War. So it is quite plausible.

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Jessie Reid Calcutta - London 1913

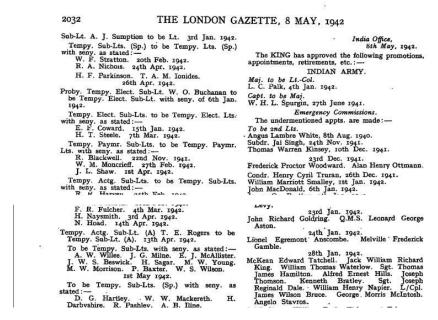
She definitely came back to Europe some time before 1918 because she was eligible for the Victory and British War medals for her service as an Orderly with the French Red Cross. The medal roll indicates that she served as an orderly from May to October 1918.



Jessie Grant Reid Victory and British War Medal

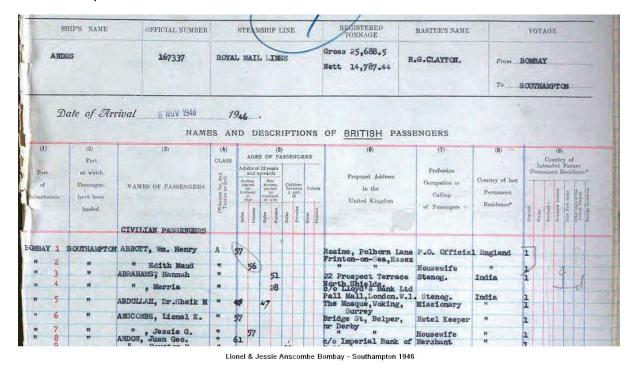
I can find no information about what happened to Jessie between 1918 and 1932 when she married Lionel. Presumably she returned to India, possibly to stay or live with another family member. We know for example that her brother, William, remained in India all his life.

Rather surprisingly perhaps the next record in Lionel's life is that he joined the Indian Army during the Second World War. According to the London Gazette he was appointed as Second Lieutenant in the Indian Army on 24th January 1942 but by 17th March of that year he is an Acting Captain.



His role throughout the war was in Military Intelligence and his name appears in the 1943 and 1944 British Army Lists with the rank of Acting Captain. During this time he was based in the Headquarters of the Army in India in New Delhi.

Following the end of war things began to change very rapidly in India as the independence movement grew stronger. In late 1946 Lionel and Jessie obviously decided to leave for good and arrived in Southampton from Bombay on 8th November 1946.



The address given in the shipping list is that of Lionel's sister Gwendoline. His profession is given as Hotel Keeper which indicates that, apart from the Second World War, he spent the whole of his working life in the hotel trade.

What Lionel and Jessie did when they got back to England is a bit of a mystery. George does mention in his notes that "My father remarried later and returned to England at the great India exodus in 1947. They stayed with us in Camberley for a while and he died a few years later in Gainsborough, Lincs."

What we can be sure of is that Lionel died on 19th June 1949 in Doncaster Royal Infirmary of heart failure and bronchiectasis.

1944. DEATHS in the Sub-District of SHEFFIELD NORTH WEST in the County Borough of SHEFFIELD												
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No. : When and Where Died.	Name and Sumame. Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.					
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At the time he was living at 21 George Street in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire and was buried in Gainsborough on 23rd June. Interestingly his wife gives his profession as Engineer's Carpenter which seems quite different to the hotel keeper he describes himself as in 1946.



21 George Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Quite why he was living in Gainsborough is not clear but his son Frederick Alan was also living there for a long period. Whether Fred went to live with Lionel or Lionel went to live with Fred is not clear. Either way Fred married Gwendoline Golland there in 1952 and he died there in 1977.

It would appear that after Lionel's death Jessie went back to her native Scotland where she died on 29th September 1972.

ANSCOMBE Jessie Grant of 43 Princes St Edinburgh died 29 September 1972 Probate Nottingham 16 November. £120063.

This presents another mystery. The house that Jessie and Lionel were living in in Gainsborough is a relatively small terraced house, probably 'two up two down'. Yet Jessie dies 23 years later and leaves £120,000 which is equivalent to £1.6 million pounds today.