

Cher Jean-Luc

(that's enough of my French which is a bit rusty!)

Thanks for your lovely email, I will pass it on to other members of the English branch who will be very interested in learning more about the Laloe

family club!

It was bizarre meeting Jacques-Olivier. I have never met another Laloe by chance. It's not a common surname especially not over here. It's ironic that we were giving blood and family is well, all about blood! Your son seems a very nice guy, by the way. He also looks a lot like the French Laloe's I have met.

OK, a bit about the English Laloos. This is what I can remember - it may be

slightly inaccurate.

I was told that my Great, Great, Great Grandfather (not sure about the name) injured someone duelling in France and fled to England to avoid punishment.

This sounds like a tall tale, but I'm assured it is true.

My Grandfather's father was called Frank who married an Australian woman and had my Grandfather (Francis Michael Butler Laloe) who was commonly known as

Mike and whom I'm named after. He was in a Japanese concentration camp during the war and later worked for British Intelligence in the far East. He died I think in 1991. He married Elizabeth Jane Kyffin who's mother was from the Wills family (as in Wills tobacco). They had three children. Michael Tobias (Toby), Vicky and my Father, Nicholas Francis.

Toby had three children Arthur 22, George, 20 and Henry 17 with a lovely lady called Charlie who sadly was killed in a car crash when the boys were very young. Toby, The boys and my Grandmother now live in Falmouth in Cornwall. Toby works in shipping. The boys are all still studying and love their rugby. (Don't mention France's recent victory over England at the Stade de France!)

Vicky had 4 children. Phillip 33, Douglas who was born 2-3 years after Phillip with a hole in his heart and died when I think he was 2. Simon is about 26 and lives in Plymouth, as does Simon. Vicky was the first female commercial diver to work in the North Sea. Her 2nd husband Eddie narrowly escaped from the Pipa Alpha disaster. (Oil rig that exploded). From this second marriage she had Susie who is now 17 and in Australia on a gap year.

My Father Nick has many children! He had my elder sister Patricia Jane

(34,

nurse, married with two young boys Joseph and Thomas living near Tunbridge Wells) and me Michael Richard Peter (31, writer, engaged to a Janey a Northern Irish girl. We live together in Hastings. After seperating from my mother (Sally) he changed his surname to 'de Laloe'. He claims that this is the original family name as there were two Laloe cousins that married thus creating the name 'Laloe de Laloe'. I don't know about this and suspect that he may have been avoiding child maintenance or tax!

With a woman called Janet, Nick then had Clare de Laloe 24, who has a daughter Lauren (2) before moving to the US. He then married a Native American lady named Martha and had Gwendolyn (now circa 20 yrs) before seperating and living with Carol in Idaho and raising Megan now circa 15 and Evan 9. After complicating the family tree he now runs murder mystery parties and writes film screenplays.

My Grandfather's cousin was either Pierre Laloe from Cherbourg or his son Jaques. I can never remember which. I remember visiting Pierre's widow but I cannot remember her name. You may know Jaques and Renee and Jaque's brother Michel. We've met them and their children Stephan, Eric, Xavier, Beatrice and Odielle (who sadly died about 4 years ago). When I was over there Stephane had a boy called Maxime but Eric, who lives in Acton and who I meet from time to time tells me he know has many more!

That's pretty much all I know. Toby knows more about the ancestry than I do. I didn't know that Laloe means 'The Law'. It makes sense though as I was told that our French ancestors were originally from Denmark (Norseman) before settling in Normandy and becoming involved in legal affairs. I also heard that they were tobacco smugglers. There is also a story about a Navy Ancestor who sunk several battleships in the Spanish Armada and kept on being captured and escaping repeatedly. Sounds a little fanciful, but you never know. Toby has a painting of him in his house. I think he is called the Red Admiral on account of his red hair and red coat.

I'll pass on any more info as and when and who knows, we may yet cross paths again. Send my regards to any Laloos you know, wherever they may be in the world!

Thanks again for your kind email,

Votre 'cousin' anglais

Mike Laloe. (2006)