

SIR JOHN SULMAN

TEL. N.S. 698 (HOUSE)
N.S. 876 (OFFICE)
LAWSON 2 (HOUSE)

BURRANGONG,

WARRUNG STREET,

MCMAHON'S POINT,

9

Sydney, 21. 1. 1925

My dear Cousin,

Your note of Dec. 14th is just to hand. So far as I am aware the Sulman family has no coat of arms or crest, and I believe I am the first member of it on whom a title has been conferred - Our ancestors in the direct line appear to have been farmers in Suffolk, and another Cousin, Harry Livingstone Sulman (a metallurgist & mining engineer in London Wall - London) promised me he would try & trace the family as far back as he could, as we had a friendly difference of opinion as to our origin - He has a rather complete family tree which together with information from the Leytonstone Cousins carries us back to early in the 18th century or even into the 17th. The father of the Leytonstone Cousins was Charles one of your father's brothers & Mr. Benson was a sister - H. C. Sulman's father was Thomas Sulman a well known

black & white artist in the middle of the last century.

It is a curious fact the name Sulman is well known amongst the Arabs & is quite distinct from Solomon or any variation thereof - Another Cousinⁱⁿ Canada who with his wife are great travellers was out here several years ago & I stayed with them at Chatham, Ontario for a few days in September last. He had met Sulman's in various parts of the East, & his winter trip this year will be to Damascus & Bagdad to visit the tomb of Sulman Tâk (Sulman the pure) a Mohammedan Saint & a friend of the prophet - Hence there is a possibility that our origin may possibly be Eastern - H. L. Sulman scouts the idea & says Sulman means Soilmán - & has the authority of Professor Skeats of Cambridge for it.

I have been approached by people who want to supply me with a Coat of arms & of course I could get one at the Herald's College, London if I wished by paying for it, but in this democratic country it would hardly

be understood. Besides an ordinary
knighthood is not hereditary so I do
not think I shall trouble about it—

As regards the stained glass window
Coats of arms are very effective & I can
understand your wish to make use of
them if they exist. May I suggest that
you follow the advice of Sir Charles
Nicholson who is a very capable &
eminent architect & the son of a
Chancellor of our University here,
as to the treatment of the side lights
of the window. I have no doubt he
can suggest something to prevent the
trouble you anticipate.

Please excuse my writing, as I
have slightly injured my second finger,
and my Secretary is ill & typist away
on holiday

Yours sincerely
John Lubbock

SIR JOHN SULMAN

TEL. X 1698 (HOUSE)
X 1876 (OFFICE)
LAWSON 2 (HOUSE)

BURRANGONG,

WARRUNG STREET,

MCMAHON'S POINT.

Sydney, 22.1.1934

My dear Cousins,

Your Xmas card & good wishes is just to hand & as I fear I omitted to send you any memento, allow me now though belated to wish you a Happy & prosperous Year -

So far as I am aware we have never met & I venture to send you a photo of myself taken 2 or 3 years ago - I am now in my 85th ^{year} & still active & able to do a fair days work - With every good wish

Yours sincerely
John Sulman

To Misses E & M. Sulman

SIR JOHN SULMAN

TEL. X 1698 (HOUSE)
X 1876 (OFFICE)
LAWSON 2 (HOUSE)

BURRANGONG,

WARRUNG STREET,

MCMAHON'S POINT.

Sydney, 17. 7. 1934

Dear Cousin

Your kind letter of March. 14th has been lying on my desk for months awaiting time to acknowledge - For a few weeks I was very busy on urgent matters, then I fell a victim to a virulent influenza germ which made me stone deaf & I was in bed for nearly two months. Now I am partially recovered & hear clear voices if spoken close to my right ear, but the left ear the doctor says will take a long time to recover & till then I shall be half deaf. So please excuse the delay.

The first item in your letter is about our name. The yarn my father told you was concocted by my younger brother (who died years ago) but curiously enough our name as we spell it is current in the East from Constantinople to Persia, so my cousin George of Chatham, Ontario, Canada tells me. On the other hand Cousin Harry Livingstone Sulman, a retired ^{living at Croydon} mining engineer, says the name is Anglo-Saxon derived from Soilman & that our immediate ancestors for several generations were Suffolk farmers & he has traced them back & interviewed several of those now farming. So you can take your choice.

No I did not design a family crest after I was knighted, they are not very much appreciated

out here, & conferring a Knighthood for Civil Service is somewhat of an anachronism in the present ^{day} but it is so far the only way in which the authorities can recognize special work. Congratulations however on the recognition of evidently notable service during the war & after by your sister & yourself. Also on your being universal aunts to the children in your brothers school.

No I had not heard of W^m Benson's death but have been out of touch with them for so many years, involuntarily, that I am not surprised as H. L. Sulman & George Sulman at Bromley are practically my only English Correspondents of our clan.

As for my own family there are Florence the eldest (unmarried) & Arthur, (Edith died) by my first marriage, & by the present Geoffrey who was killed in the war. Joan now a doctors wife, Tom a motor Engineer, & Jack a grazier in the N. of the State as is also Arthur has one ^{Leslie} son aged 17, Tom a ^{Diana} daughter of 7, ~~and Jack a son~~ Joan a ^{Barbara} daughter of 5 & Jack a baby boy just over a year in age

My wife has just come down & tapped me on the shoulder to remind me it is time to leave off. 6.p.m. - so with every good wish for you & your section of the Clan believe me

Yours sincerely
John Sulman

Burraongong
September 13 1934

My dear Cousin

Your wire was the first one to reach us from England & evidently you must have seen an announcement in your papers — My dear husband was ill from early in April — An Influenza germ attacked his ears, & he had 2 operations from the 2nd one he never recovered — I am very lonely, as we have had 41 years of loving comradeship — I have by me, as I write, your letter to him dated 14.3.34 & I see you ask the number of his children and grand children — You evidently knew of Florrie & Edith & Arthur, children by John's first marriage — Florrie and I are here together — Edith was a nurse & died about 25 years ago — Arthur is married with one fine nice lad, Leslie 18 — Shortly to leave school & help his father on the station — We are very

proud of the boy, he is good looking, and over
6ft — My children were 4 — Geoffrey a lieutenant
in the air force, who was killed at ~~Leicester~~ ^{Leicester}, then
taken up by a friend, who crashed —

Joan married to Dr Seallard, with one little
girl Barbara 5½ — Tom married, with
one daughter Diana 7 — Jack also married
with one little boy nearly 2 — Jack is on the
land — Arthur and I are joint executors
with a Trusta Co — All the young people
are a great help & comfort to me —

Your cousin was very simple in his tastes
& did not wish for a crest — His ideal in life
was work for the Community in the Country,
of his adoption — I have always been
interested to hear of Geoffrey Sulman in Palestine
on account of the name — You see we had a
family of 7 & we have 4 grandchildren so you
can picture us better can you? I am glad
you liked John's photo — He always took well.

With kindest wishes & regards

Yours very sincerely

Aunty E. Sulman

Burrangong
November 28th
1935

My dear Cousin

Wont you please drop that
formal "Lady Sulman" - I spoke
to Arthur about your nephew, and
he says he really Cant advise you
to send him out here at present
it is most difficult to place them
on stations, as they are all economizing
and diminishing there staffs -

Arthur himself works very hard
with the assistance of his son
Leslie - he does all the important
work himself - and also with Jack
the youngest, not so well off, who
is almost single handed except
when Shearman is on - then he is
really only starting - Arthur has
been a Squatter for years - at first
up in Queensland where he had

a big cattle run, but came nearer home for his wife's sake & now had sheep — All you told me of "Sandown" School was most interesting & I have your letter & the photos always ready in case I hear of children being sent or taken home — We have always been interested in Geoffrey Sulman out in Jerusalem, but have never been able to find out what the relationship is — The son we lost at Lincoln during the War was Geoffrey — Our home here is close to the harbour, and we see all the ocean liners as they pass in and out — Florrie and I keep busy as we have many interests, but of late I have not been too well as in August I had a severe attack of influenza — Still this month I am improving — We send you warm Greetings for Xmas & New Year —
 your affectionate Cousin
 Annie Sulman

Burrangong.
Inchuan's Point
Sydney -
September 19th 1938.

Dear Cousin Ella,

I know that you both go
up to London on little visits, so I am
enclosing this card to notify you that
we have sent an Exhibit over + you
might be interested to see!

There is some good jewelry, weaving,
hand block printing, tapestry + linoleum
mostly of Australian design -
Mother + I have just had flu + don't
want any more of it at present, but
the rest of the family circle are all
well -

It has been a very dry year but
welcome rains came last month +
saved the sheep + wheat, also the
city water supply which had been
restricted.

Mother is taking a great interest
in our garden & is very keen on
Carnations at present.

My time is well filled with
many Kindergarten Committees &
arts & crafts exhibitions & meetings -

Every day we wonder what we
shall see in the newspaper & can
only hope that common sense will
prevail in the end -

We hope that your Mother's school is
flourishing & that the nieces & nephews
are all well -

Mother will send a pal-to-kushy

I'm sure & much love to you

both in which I am,

Yours affecy

Flouise Sullivan

Burrington
March 1st
1942

Dear Cousin Helene

I think I have been owing you
a letter for quite a long time and this
has been brought to my mind as I have
been busy sorting my husband's papers
and letters - among these, was I think
your first to him about a coat of arms -

You know he was a most unassuming
man, and did not like anything that
he thought savoured the least little bit
of "swank" - It is a long, rather sad business
destroying letters, ^{but} considering the present
state of the world it has become very necessary

they represent the harvest of a long and
very busy life, and are so numerous, that
one wonders how one person could have
so many and such varied interests -

all tabulated, and carefully kept, in
case they were ever needed - We have
had a great sorrow recently in the loss
of Arthur's one son, dearly loved by us all -

He was one of the A.I.F. in Malaya, and
reported "missing" believed killed "we are

Remembrance here to you both
your affectionate Cousin

David G. Spencer

trying to hope he has escaped somehow &
 somewhere, but there is little ground for
 such a hope - There have been a few
 most remarkable escapes but mostly
 among Air Force men - Arthur & his wife
Aun, have been staying with us for a few
 days, and they are marvellously brave -
 16. "Leslie was a fine lad & quite undisciplined -
 I am very busy closing up the house, as the
 Maids are leaving, this is a rather unsafe
 spot - Shortly, I am going up to Arthur
 Farm, & the Perpetual Trustee Co will
 place a caretaker here - Florrie is going
 to board in a house where she has a
 green friend, as she is too busy to leave
 at the moment - Joan & her children &
Joan's daughter Diana may come later -
 "Kurrumbidgee" is a large house as you
 can imagine, at Geelong - but this
 address will find us always, as the P.O.
 at h. Sydney will forward them - Is your
 niece still away? if so you must be anxious
 about her - We hear that Geoffrey Sulman in
 Jerusalem, has lost his son Geoffrey in the Air Force
 We are grieved to hear this - Have to close now and
 so to turn at once -

April 21st 1940
Great Northern Hotel
Newcastle —

My dear Cousins

The new year is flying, bringing horror and disaster in its train, but we's thoughts fly off to friends across the sea, letters to some extent bridge over the distance and bring us closer — We are advised not to use the air mails, as there is so much urgent matter to be sent by them, that private letters are kept back & sent by sea — It was very kind of you to send the papers, telling of the passing hence of Cousin Harry — It is the only intimation we have had, I enabled me to send a cable to Cousin Alice who must be sadly lonely now — My last letter was dated the end of November & reached me early in January — He was so good in writing some long interesting letters just as he did to my husband —

They were so full of interest that all the family liked to read them — At Xmas time we received your pretty useful gifts, which we appreciated very much, especially for the kind remembrance of us —

But here we feel bewildered by all that is happening overseas, and greatly troubled —

The Treachery within Norway itself is almost unbelievable — We have friends at Larvik just at the entrance of Oslo Fjord — and I have spent 2 such happy autumns there — Sailing, and having parties up in the pine woods before my

marriage, when I lived in England for 2 years
 We are all well here, Horrie is very busy and
 interested in Kindergarten work of all kinds -

Both boys have had trying times on the
 land, as there has been a prolonged drought
 which we hope is now broken - Arthur's
Son Leslie is in training he is 22 - Jack's
boy is only 8 - Joan is away in U.S.A. with
 her 2 children (girls) where her husband has
 gone for some post graduate courses in Boston.

We hope to have them back in June -
 I cannot do the Red Cross work I did in the
 last war, but am knitting socks - a friend
 and I, are leaving a little change, as the very
 hot summer has tried us both - We are rather
 near all the coal fields, I think it better to leave
 so - morrow I go up the Blue Mts - Mr Meagies
 was here to dinner last night, after speaking to
 4,000 miners at Kurri Kurri, he is a disappointed
 man, as they have determined to continue the
 strike - It was a plucky thing for him to
 do - The coal shortage is how acute the
 trains from Sydney to Newcastle & vice versa are
 to be run with Diesel engines, & 4 daily instead
 of the usual 20 - Horrie & I often talk of you
 while we were not so far away - You are safer at
 Eastbourne than on the East Coast I should think -
 Much love to you both, & pals for Rustie -
 Your affectionate Cousin, Annie Sulway

Dear Cousin Nellie

I am staying here for 10 days with the Matron. Floor being away at Canberra for a kind. Conference - This was the hospital your cousin built & made a name for himself, being his biggest work here - I am being late - it is so quiet you never could guess that are 34 patients quite close - My room is next Matron upstairs in the administration building - There are 2 pavilions for patients but only one in use at present as it is so difficult to obtain staffs nursing & domestic -

The gardens are lovely full of lovely & shade trees, & Matron being a very busy woman I spend much time there, reading & working & rather too much of the former for my eyes -

My hearing is so bad now that I always use a deaf aid - very useful but tiresome and humiliating - We are all well & often think

J.W. Convalescent Hosp
Concord N. Sydney
September 2nd 1949

And talk of you as you must now be very lonely - Arthur & I are in Florrie's cottage at Collaroy while building one of their own near 10kers - They have a glorious view & can be built out - This home at Gunnedale is being taken over & closed soon - I am leaving them with my home, a big bungalow & garden & a few acres which they will try & sell - Jack & I am going selling them at Warialda & hope to take a trip round Australia before they settle down elsewhere - Anna is very happy in her little house - Her husband doing well - At Danang him they hope to make me a great grand mother - Her father (Tom) was born on 1st May 1849 I told her she should not be following my bad example - Joan has just made

To open cut at top

BY AIR MAIL

SYDNEY
1949
AIR LETTER
1949
NEWCASTLE

COMMITTEE ELECTING
AIR LETTER
COMPULSORY
AUSTRALIA

My's Sulman
No 1 - Park Close
Eastbourne
Sussex - England

Third fold here

14 JUL 1949

SECOND DONORS
ARE STILL
URGENTLY NEEDED

Seably
A. S. Sulman
11 Warring St -
McMasters St -
N. Sydney

Postage
Delayed

If anything is enclosed, letter will be sent by ordinary mail.

First fold here

A 2 months visit - from Canada she
flew straight, two loved having her
view the view from my window here as they
looking on to the Parana River -
Please write soon & give me news of you
- Ben & the little dog if he is still living
and your brother & the young folk -
It is a great relief to know the King is
progressing well, there is a recent photo
of overseas May - with a recent photo
of him and he looks so well and
happy - on the whole we are very
loyal people out here - I at any rate
am intensely so - with much love dear
cousin - Yours - Annie E. Sulman -