

## Eric Romilly Swanston

25 June 1892 - 24 December 1927

Eric Romilly was born on 25th June 1892 in Kensington, London, and baptised on 24th July at St. Andrew's in Fulham.

His father was Edward Sherland Swanston (1867-1940) and his mother Mabel Sarah Welch (1869-1945).

Eric's father is described as a Gentleman and he had independent means. In 1901 Eric was living with his parents and siblings, Douglas and Doris. Two more siblings, Marjorie and Sybil were born after that in 1902 and 1905 respectively. The family lived at 47, Fassett Road, Kingston-upon-Thames.

The 1911 census records Eric at 22, Ormond Road, Mortlake he is listed as at school, he later became a school master. During WW1 Eric served in the Royal Engineers his service number was 54324.

On 16th December 1920 Eric married Isabel Ethel Ward at St. Mary's in the City of London.

Sometime between 1920 and 1927 Eric and his new wife Isabel left England bound for Nigeria, as he appears on a passenger list arriving home from Lagos, Nigeria on 3rd November 1927. Isabel came back from Africa four months earlier arriving on 15th July at Plymouth. Both had travelled aboard the ship Apará which was of The British and African Steam Navigation Company.

Eric sadly died just over one month after arriving home, on 24th December 1927, aged 35. We do not know the cause of death but can only speculate that it may have been from a disease caught in Nigeria, but this is not confirmed. At the time of his death he was living at Orchardfields, Chelwood Gate. He left £182. 7s. 10d in his Will. He was buried at Danehill cemetery on 31st December 1927.

1893 July 24 No. 958	Eric Romilly	Edward Sherland & Mabel Sarah	Swanston	37. Barton Street	Gentleman	E. J. Baker June 25. 1892
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Above: Eric's baptismal record. Right:  
Eric's burial record

Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
Eric Romilly Swanston.	Orchardfield Chelwood Gate.	Dec 31 <sup>st</sup> 1927	35	Herold C. Spackman Ministry Priest.

No. 993



*Danehill Parish Historical Society*

## Eric Swanston's WW1 records

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
<b>SWANSTON</b>	<b>R E</b>	<b>Cpl</b>	<b>54314</b>
		<b>Sent</b>	
<b>E R.</b>			
<b>ERIC ROMNEY</b>			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	
VICTORY	<b>R.E / off / 144</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>on R &amp; F. B. A. V. W. H. M. L. R. E / 10. 1890 / 5295</b>
BRITISH			<b>Commy. 27. 7. 16</b>
<b>15 STAR</b>	<b>R E / 6 B y</b>	<b>3670</b>	<b>IX. 4475 / IV. 24. 2. 21. (H.W.) / 1246.</b>
			<b>IV. 3447 / O. 6-9-20. Luck NW / 8 / 1246.</b>
Theatre of War first served in	<b>3 Egypt</b>		
Date of entry therein	<b>18. 7. 15</b>		
			<b>{ 14 23 40 / 5 2 1 10 W 8 / 12 4 6</b>
			<b>K. 1330.</b>

lt E. R. Swanson returns EFQ.  
19.4.90

**Form H.W.V.**  
**R. 208**

**SHORT SERVICE.**  
(Three years with the Colours.)

**ATTESTATION OF**

No. 2086 Name Llewellyn E. Jones Corps 1st Bn. R.F.R.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

- What is your Name?..... Capt Llewellyn Jones
- In the Parish of..... in or near the Town of..... in the County of.....  
Gwynedd
- Are you a British Subject? .....
- What is your Age?.....  
22 Years
- What is your Trade or Calling? .....
- Have you resided out of your Father's house for three years, continuously in the same place, or occupied a house or land of the yearly value of £10 for one year, and paid rates for the same, and, in either case, if so, state where? .....

You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a wilfully false answer to any of the following seven questions, you will be liable to a punishment of two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

- Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where? to whom? for what period? and, when did, or will, the period of your apprenticeship expire? .....
- Are you Married? .....
- Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment by the Civil Power? .....
- Do you now belong to the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, or any Naval Reserve Force? If so, to what unit and Corps? .....
- Have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force? If so, state which unit and cause of discharge .....
- Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous Service? .....
- Have you ever been rejected as unfit for the Military or Naval Forces of the Crown? If so, on what grounds? .....
- Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? .....
- Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? .....
- Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? .....
- Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?

For a term of three years, unless War lasts  
will be retained until the War is over. If employed as Clerks, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. If however, the War is over in less than three years, you will be discharged with all convenient speed.

19368 of 52619

Case you

17.



19 20 . Marriage solemnized at S. Mary Woolnoth Loutham St. E.C. in the city of London  
of \_\_\_\_\_ in the County of London

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
5	December Sixteenth 1920	Eric Romilly Swanston	28	Bachelor	School Master	80 Loutham Street	Edward Sherland Swanston	Independent Means
		Isabel Ethel Ward	26	Spinster	—	12 Melrose Road S.W. 18	Frederick Henry Ward	Company Director

Married in the parish church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by \_\_\_\_\_ or after banes by me,  
 This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Eric Romilly Swanston } in the Presence of us, { Frederick Henry Ward }  
 { Isabel Ethel Ward } { Edward Sherland Swanston } H. Raynes  
Rectr

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1890. Marriage solemnized at St. James's Church in the parish of St. James's in the County of Middlesex

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
11	October 11th 1890	Frederick Henry Ward	22	Bachelor	Bookbinder	308 Regent Street	James Henry Ward	Bookbinder
		Minnie Cave Noble	23	Spinster	—	26 Oxford Road Gunnersbury	James Noble	Tailor

Married in the St. James's Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by \_\_\_\_\_ or after Banns by me,  
 This Marriage was solemnized between us, { Frederick Henry Ward } in the Presence of us, { George Barker Filer }  
 { Minnie Cave Noble } { Isabel Cave Noble } Charles Wilson Whitfield  
vicar.

64	SOMERVILLE	Robert Glen	✓		26		
		36 Upper Bedford Pl. W.C.1.					
✓	65	SWANSTON	Eric Romilly	✓	Civil Servant	35	✓
		27 MILDEN ST. LONDON					
✓	66	SAUNDERS	Charles	✓		51	✓
		The London	Blissie Fisher				
✓	67	SMITH	Henry Edward	✓	Bookbinder	35	✓
		Ladbroke Grove W. 11					
✓	68	TERRALL	Fred Lamont	✓	Hand Green	42	✓
		Waverley Lodge, Warrington					

Top: Eric and Isabel's marriage certificate. Middle: Frederick and Minnie's wedding certificate.  
 Bottom: Passenger list showing Eric travelling to Nigeria. It also shows Eric was recorded as travelling as a Civil Servant



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## Isabel Ethel Swanston (nee Ward)

23 April 1894 - 25 December 1992

Isabel Ethel Ward was born on 23rd April 1894 in Kilburn, London and baptised on 8th July at Holy Trinity, Kilburn.

Her father was Frederick Henry Ward a Company Director of a boot making company, born in 1867. Her mother was Minnie Cave Noble also born in 1867. Minnie was the sister of Ethel Cave Noble, who in 1891 was a domestic servant to Frederick Ward. Perhaps Minnie visited her sister and fell in love with Frederick, we shall never know! (see biography for Ethel Cave Noble).

Isabel lived at home with her parents and brother Dudley in 1901 and in 1911 the family were living at 12, Melrose Road, Southfields, Wandsworth. The house was a considerable size with 9 rooms.

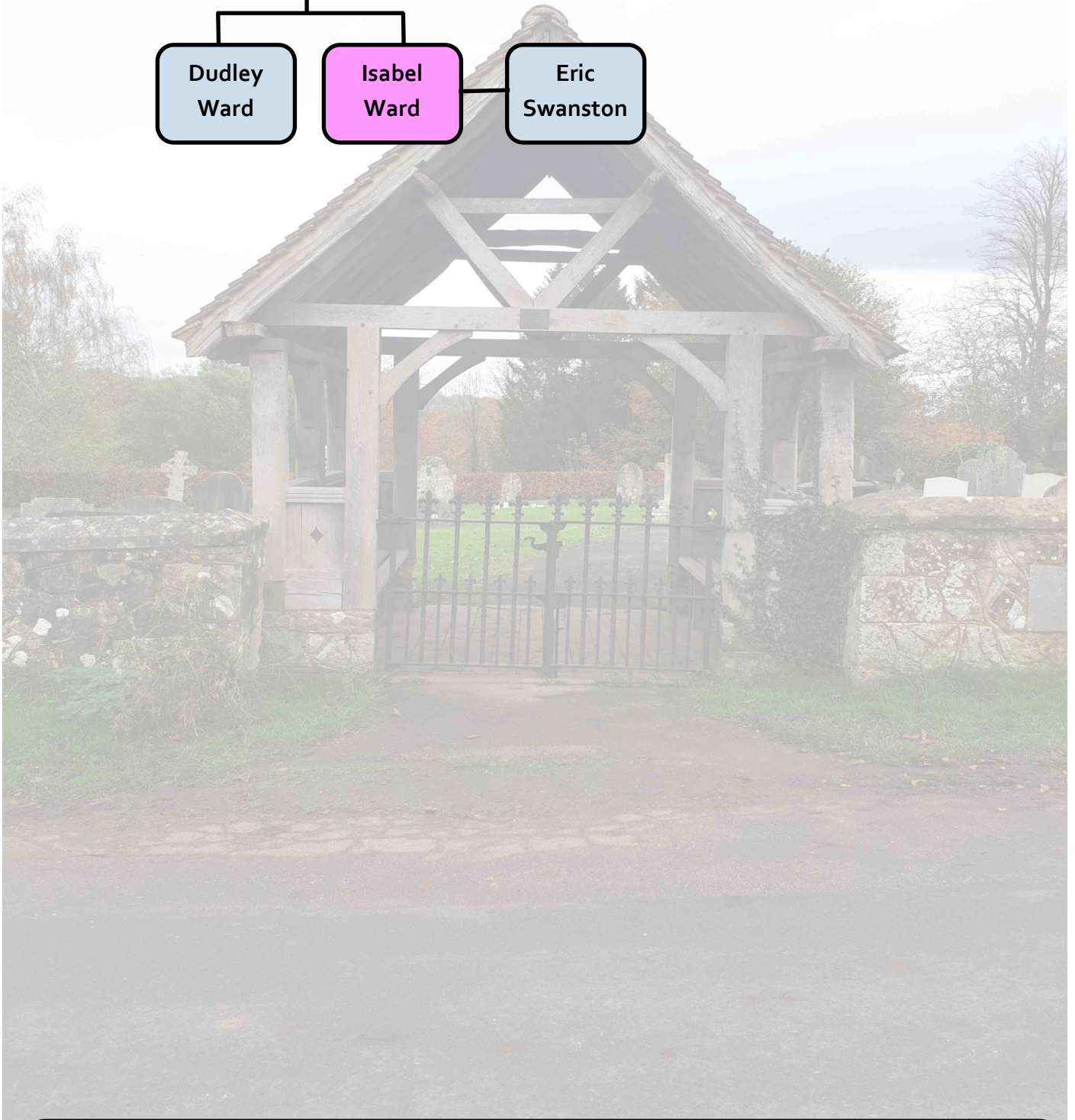
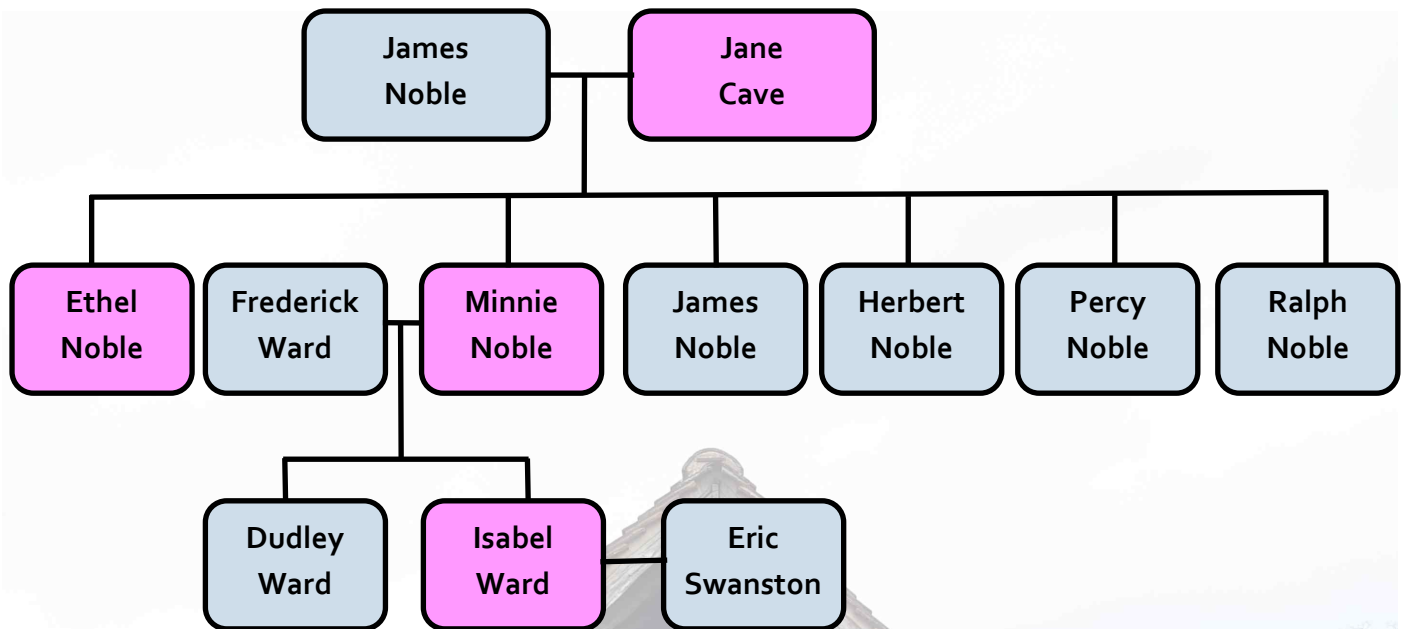
Isabel married Eric Romilly Swanston in 1920, and accompanied him to Nigeria. After Eric died in 1927 Isabel lived with her parents in 1934 in Royal Crescent, near Holland Park in London and in 1939 in a house called Gillowheath in Exmouth. She did not marry again after Eric's death and had no children.

She died on Christmas Day 1992 aged 98 at The Garden Rest Home in Portsea, Hampshire. She was buried with Eric in Danehill.

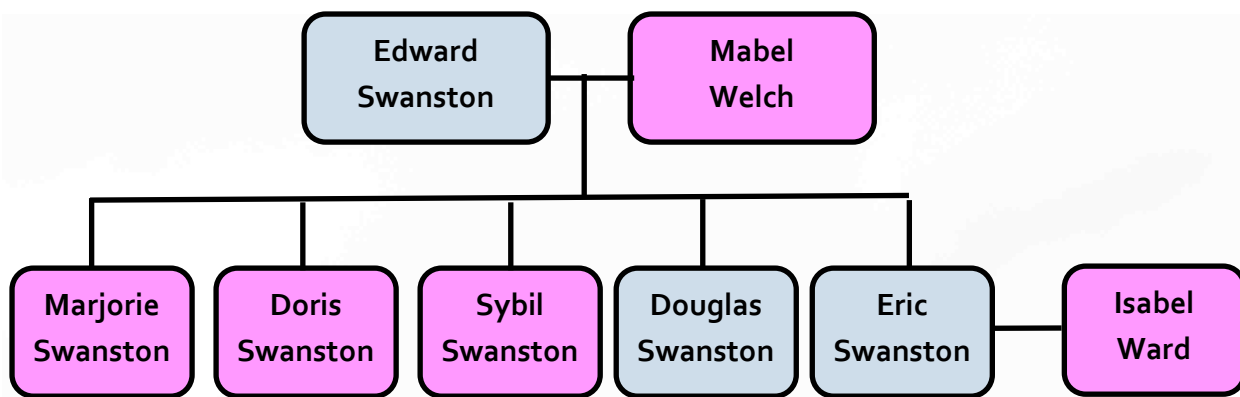
Eric and Isabel are buried at  
Danehill cemetery



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If you have any more information about this family that you believe would be of interest please contact the Danehill Parish Historical Society [dphs@outlook.com](mailto:dphs@outlook.com). We'd love to hear from you



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