

GORDON JEUNE WILLANS MBE (1895-04)

He was born on 23 April 1883 and was the eldest of 4 brothers to go to Framlingham, including [Sir Frederick Jeune Willans \(1894-00\)](#).

After an illustrious time at the College, which included being Head Boy and Captain of Cricket and Hockey, he went to St John's College, Cambridge in 1904, where he obtained a BA in 1907. Years later he obtained a MA in 1940.

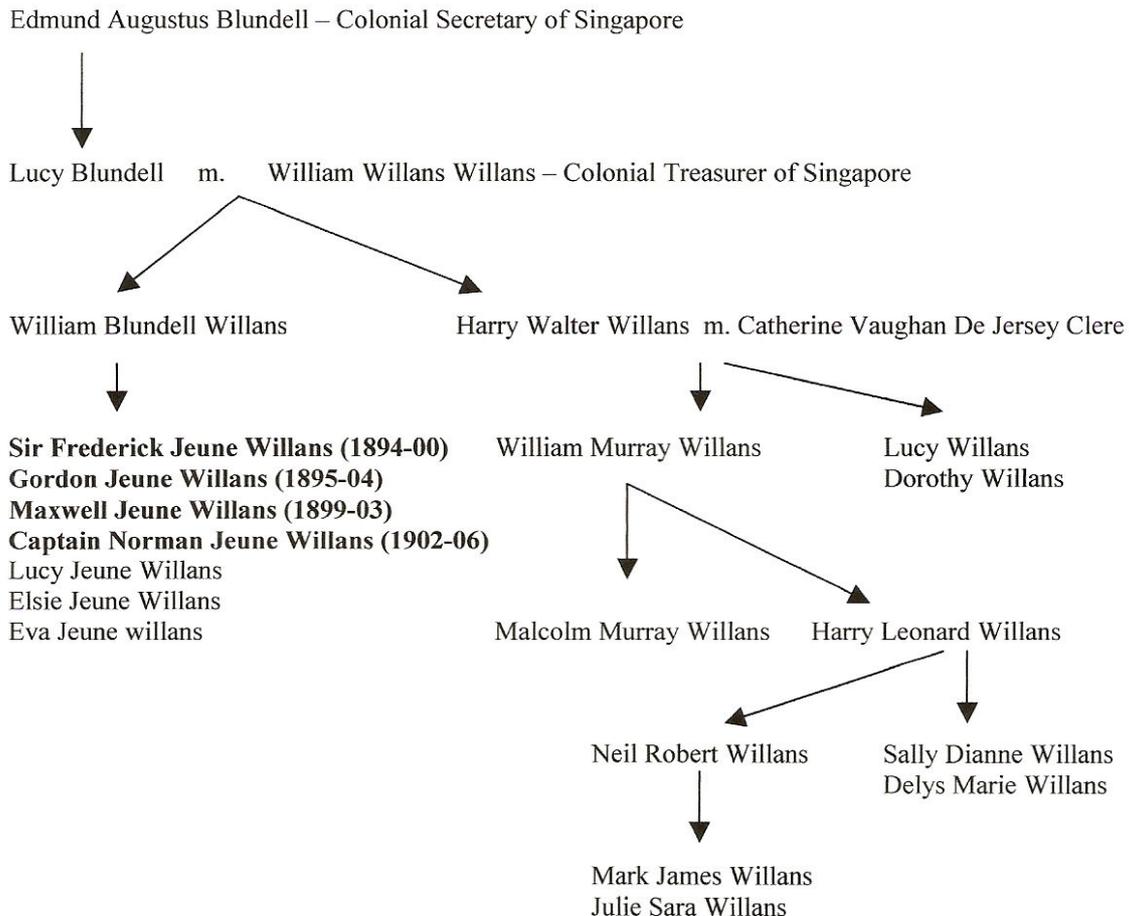
After leaving Cambridge, he returned to the College and was an assistant master there from 1908 to 1912. During this time he was Editor of "The Framlinghamian". He is also credited with writing the School Song!

Subsequently he joined the Civil Service and was Higher Division Clerk at the Admiralty from 1914 to 1916, followed by Acting Principal Clerk in the Officers Branch Division of the Ministry of Pension till 1923. He was awarded the MBE in 1920.

He was Secretary of St Bartholomew's Hospital in 1923.

He died on 24 September 1963.

We have subsequently been contacted by the family for information on Gordon and his brothers and they have sent the following additional information on the family :-



William Willans Willans (that really was his name, not a spelling error!) spent 35 years working for the British colonial office in India and then Singapore. In his time in Singapore he worked in every position in the colonial office from office junior to Colonial Treasurer. I undertook research whilst visiting Singapore where he was likened to Thackerays' Colonel Newsome. When William Willans Willans retired he moved to the Brighton area and drew his pension for 35 further years dying at a very ripe old age, this was noted as a record at the time. I believe that Lucy and William Willans Willans had several children but have not been able to get these records as Harry Walter Willans was born in Highgate in England but records shows his return to Singapore, yet William Blundell Willans was born in Singapore.

Harry Walter Willans ended up in New Zealand and was a "remittance man" having declared his occupation on his sons wedding certificate as "gentleman", he lived well into his 90s and died in the early 1950's in Wellington, New Zealand. His two daughters were sent to finishing school in Britain and we have seen photo's of family houses / relatives etc. Unfortunately, we are unable to locate these within the family....still trying. My grandfather William Murray Willans was a dairy farmer in the Taranaki region of New Zealand and my grandparent retired and lived with us in New Plymouth, New Zealand for many years before they died at the grand ages of 94 & 95.

As a young child my grandfather told me many stories of his family and he said his cousin was the doctor to King George V and announced his death, he had a cousin who was in South Africa, his uncle was Peter Willans the inventor of the Willans Steam Engine and his grandfather was the governor of Singapore. Over the years I have done research off and on and tried to come up with the exact connections between the stories and the records in the UK, Singapore and New Zealand.

At last we have the connection between Frederick Jeune Willans and my grandfather and the Singapore connection of the family. We thank you for your research and passing this information to my niece. If we are able to locate any photos we would be happy to forward these to you.

Delys Willans

In terms of our records we have the following on the other 3 brothers :-

His slightly younger brother Sir Frederick Jeune Willans is also include in the distinguished list- see piece on him at <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/SIRFREDERICKJEUNEWILLANSKCVOMRCSLRCP1894-00.pdf>

The 3rd brother was Maxwell Jeune Willans, who attended the College from 1899 to 1903. He was born on 2 July 1886, but sadly died at St John's, New Brunswick, Canada on 9 November 1906 at the age of just 20. We don't have any more details surrounding his death at such a young age.

The youngest brother was Captain Norman Jeune Willans, who attended the College from 1902 to 1906. He was born on 10 December 1892. During WW1 he served in the King's Royal Rifle Corps and later the Indian Army, from where he retired in 1924. He then went to the Middlesex Hospital where he gained his MRCS and LRCP in 1927 before working for the Colonial Medical Service in Uganda. He died in Pietermaritzberg, South Africa on 11 June 1948.