

DOROTHY & KATHLEEN'S TURKISH CONNECTIONS

Elizabeth BARKER better known as "NENEKA" was born in 1830 in Turkey. Her Father was the British Consul General. She married in 1849 William WILLIAMSON who had gone out to Turkey in the 1840's as a Civil Engineer to build the Railways from Smyrna (now known as Izmir) to Ushack in Central Anatolia. They had 16 children. 4 died of Diphtheria. 'NENEKA' was Dorothy's and Kathleen's great Grandmother our children's great great Grandmother and Dorothy's grandchildren's, the ones who are here to-day, great, great GREAT Grandmother. Dorothy's Grandmother was LEILA, 'NENEKA'S' eldest daughter, Kathleen's Grandmother was Neneka's 6th child, REBECCA. Dorothy's Grandmother married Willism LEWIS and had 11 children in Sokia, up country from Smyrna. Her Grandfather had a Licoriceroot factory from which the juice is extracted for the processing of Tobacco.

Kathleen's Grandmother REBECCA WILLIAMSON married Rowley PENGELLEY who worked and lived in Smyrna as the Accountant for the Railway that his Father-in-law was building. They had five children.

Dorothy's Mother, Helen LEWIS (3rd generation born in Turkey) met Caleb LAWRENCE, a young Missionary Teacher at the INTERNATIONAL College in Smyrna and had seven children, all born in Turkey. (6 boys and 1 girl).

Kathleen's Mother, Jessie PENGELLEY married Leslie STEPHENSON who had spent 4 years of the 1st World War in the trenches with one Walter PENGELLEY (Jessie's brother). Walter had strongly advised Leslie to ask his firm in London to send him to Turkey to develop the Turkish carpet trade between England and Turkey.

Leslie STEPHENSON got to Smyrna in 1919 and married Walter's sister Jessie in 1920 and Kathleen was born in 1921 and they subsequently had 2 more children in Turkey.

Dorothy and Kathleen as 2nd Cousins were the best of friends from a very early age. They can remember birthday parties, going to Church, picnics into the hills, going to those picnics in baskets carried on either side of Donkey's backs, rides in bullnose Ford cars with solid tyres, driving on terrible roads, going to the seaside together, where they swam like fishes, and even smoking in a tree house which they burnt down, much to Kathleen's Father's consternation! It was a lovely carefree life, servants, Mamoiselle's and

Governesses, never having to go to School, enjoying a lovely outdoor life.

We all left Turkey in 1932 due to Kemal ATATURK declaring

"Turkey for the Turks" and wanting all foreigners OUT of the Country.