

THE ROUGAILLE CONNEXION

Volume 03, Issue 7

September 2010

HUMAN ENDURANCE AND RESILIENCE

In this week's edition of Time Magazine, there is an article entitled "Trapped"

It asks the question: "Can the Chile miners cope?" These 33 miners are trapped in a maze of tunnels some 700 m deep in the bowels of the earth with no exit. At least until three bore holes which are being dug over a period of 4 months, can reach them and allow for these 33 miners to be sent up via a 700 m deep shaft. It is predicted that it will take each person within a claustrophobia-inducing cage little wider than their bodies, an estimated 2 hours to get hauled up. Meanwhile, two small boreholes were drilled to allow for communication equipment, food, clothing, medical supplies and other essentials to be delivered to them. How do you survive this situation of confinement over a 4 months period?

For most of us, that would be enough to kill us. Yet, these 33 trapped men have reacted by organizing themselves into an underground community. "One of the first things the men requested when a communication link was established was toothbrushes, and they've since then been sent clean clothes and razors. In the first of the videos they've sent to the surface, they were shirtless, dirty and unshaven. Now, they're cleaner, dressed in matching red shirts, and they've shaved. Tidiness translate into discipline, and that can be lifesaving." Leaders among the more experienced are emerging with a sense of respect for each other and civility being an essential ingredient. Whilst initially they allowed themselves into neglect with beards growing and chaos reigning, they have pulled together now and organized themselves into an underground community. They are now defying their trapped situation and planning for time to come when they will be extracted from their confined spaces 700 m underground. Some of them are reading books on "Tactics for Public Speaking" for when they will face the media. An artificial day and night environment has also been created with the help of NASA confined living specialists. These trapped men are even deciding as to what food is to be delivered to them.

The lesson from all this is "If these people can muster courage to survive such a dramatic situation, when we face adversity we should not just roll over and give up." As Martha Washington said: *"The greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions, and not on our circumstances. We carry the seeds of the one or the other about with us in our minds wherever we go."*

Editorial by Clancy Philippe

Inside this issue:

Join Rougaille Network	1
Mauritius Born in OZ	2
Air Mauritius Specials	3
Roussety Family	4
CGMR Genealogy	4
Sails of Discovery	5
3 ZZZ Mauritian Radio	6

Special points of interest:

- Air Mauritius specials
- Roussety Family
- Subscribe to Rougaille
- Sails of Discovery
- CGMR Genealogy
- Mauritius Born in OZ



KEEP IN TOUCH-SUBSCRIBE

What's the best way to keep up with the latest news and events within the Mauritian Community in Australia and in Mauritius?

Subscribe to the **Mauritius Australia Connection—Rougaille mailing list** at www.cjp.net. Click on the link and register your email address to start receiving the latest news, events and other information about the Mauritian Community in Australia. Mauritius Australia Connection mailing lists will give you access to in excess of 3000 subscribers. The lists are of course moderated to filter out spam and other unsuitable postings. You can also unsubscribe at any time. Do join us now at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rougaille/join>

Mauritius-Born in Australia

Mauritius-born Australian residents (*Extract from Community Information Summary-Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Australia*)

Mauritius has a long connection with Australia dating back to the establishment of a trading relationship after the Peace of Amiens (1802-3). Between 1820 and 1834, the Catholic Church in Australia was officially administered from Mauritius.

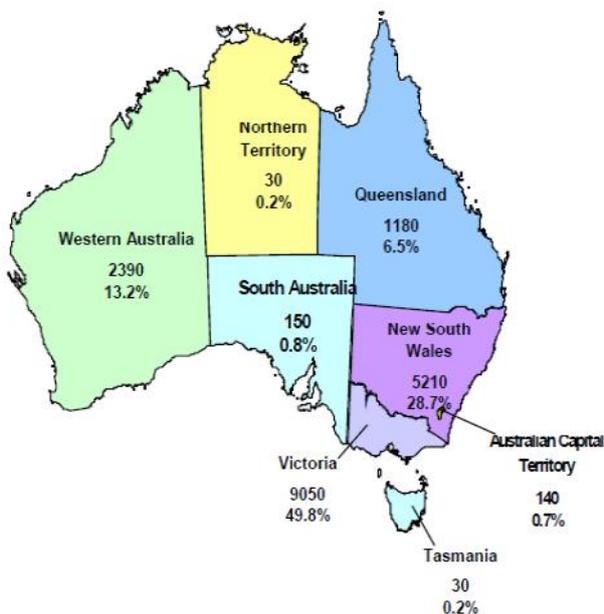
Early immigrants to Australia included Mauritian convicts, prospectors who came to the Victorian goldfields and skilled sugar workers who made a significant contribution to the development of the Queensland sugar industry. Sugar from Mauritius had been a major import to Australia in the 19th Century.

In the first half of the 20th Century, the number of Mauritius-born in Australia fell steadily from 740 at the 1901 Census to 240 at the 1947 Census. With the end of the Second World War, significant migration to Australia recommenced. Most of those migrated were Franco-Mauritians (Mauritians of European) extraction, as the Immigration Restriction Act 1901 introduced policies excluding non-Europeans from entry to Australia, required that prospective settlers be "at least 75 per cent European".

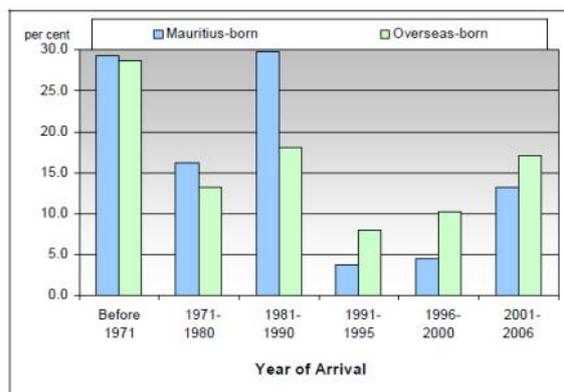
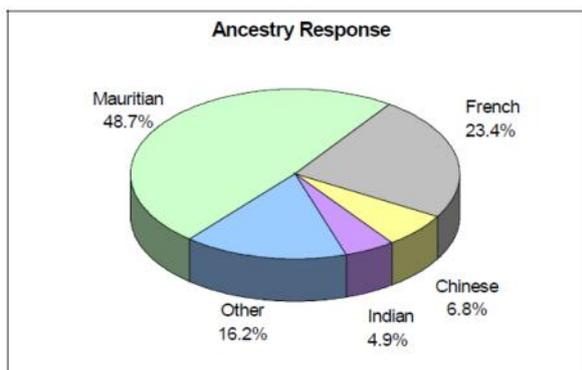
By the early 1960s, there were about 1580 Mauritians living in Australia. As Mauritius progressed towards universal suffrage, self-government and finally independence, some Mauritians found themselves in a less privileged position and were more inclined to emigrate. About 14 000 Mauritians left their homeland between 1966 and 1972, some migrating to Australia.

Given the size of Mauritius, the number of Mauritians in Australia is surprisingly substantial. Numbers have increased steadily over the past 30 years. The 1971 Census recorded 7630 Mauritius-born living in Australia; and by the 2001 Census their number had increased to 16 910 making up 0.4 per cent of the overseas-born population.

The latest Census in 2006 recorded 18 180 Mauritius-born people in Australia, an increase of 7.5 per cent from the 2001 Census. The 2006 distribution by state and territory showed Victoria had the largest number with 9050 followed by New South Wales (5210), Western Australia (2390) and Queensland (1180).



79.0 per cent of the Mauritius-born people in Australia arrived in Australia prior to 1996. Among the total Mauritius-born in Australia at the 2006 Census, 4.5 per cent arrived between 1996 and 2000 and 3.2 per cent arrived during 2001 and 2006.



In the 2006 Census, the top three ancestry responses* that Mauritius-born people reported were, Mauritian (10 450), French (5010) and Chinese (1450). In the 2006 Census, Australians reported more than 250 different Ancestries. From the total ancestry responses*, 0.1 per cent responded as having a Mauritian ancestry.

*At the 2006 Census up to two responses per person were allowed for the Ancestry question; therefore providing the total responses and not persons count.

Air Mauritius has special flights via Perth to Mauritius



Flights to Mauritius over the peak period of December and January are selling fast. Many flights are totally full. In order to help the Mauritian community get home to Mauritius and see family and friends, a special fare to fly via Perth has now been made available. Passengers will fly from Melbourne to Perth on Virgin Blue and connect with our Air Mauritius flight operating from Perth to Mauritius. Same applies for return journey. Fares start “from \$1,830 return”.

From Perth to Mauritius MK 941

Date	Departs	Arrives	Notes
Mon 06, 13, 20, 27 Dec Mon 03, 10, 17, 24, 31 Jan	0130	0605	Non Stop A330
Fri 17, 24 Dec Fri 07, 14, 21, 28 Jan	0130	0540	Non Stop A340

From Mauritius to Perth MK 940

Date	departs	Arrives	Notes
Sat 04, 11, 18, 25 Dec Sat 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 Jan	2245	1020 + 1	Non Stop A330
Thu 16, 23 Dec Thu 06, 13, 20, 27 Jan	1240	2330	Non Stop A340

From Mauritius to Melbourne and Sydney MK 942

Date	Departs MRU	Arrives MEL	Arrives SYD
Mon 06, 13, 20, 27 Dec Mon 03, 10, 17, 24, 31 Jan	1945	1240 + 1	1520 + 1
Fri 17 Dec Fri 07, 14, 21, 28 Jan	1255	0920 + 1	0620 + 1

Contact Air Mauritius on 1300 332 077 or your local travel agent.

Air Mauritius: www.airmauritius.com

Melbourne: Level 7, 246 Bourke Street, Vic 3000 03 9251 5047 Email: mkmelbourne@airmauritius.com

Sydney: Level 18, Suite 1805, Australia Square Tower, 246 George St., NSW 2000 Email: mksydney@airmauritius.com

Perth: Level 3, 178 St George Terrace, Perth, WA 6000 Email: mkperth@airmauritius.com



[Clubs & Associations](#)



[Newspapers from Mauritius](#)



[Recipes from Mauritius](#)

Genealogy: The Roussety Family of Rodrigues by Linley Elysee

The Roussety surname is one of the most common surnames on the Island of Rodrigues. The history of the Roussety surname is a very interesting one. I've spoken to a lot of the "older" generation in Australia and Rodrigues. I have also received quite a bit of information from others online. From the information received this is how the Roussety surname started.

The Roussety family was started by Gianna Rustichelli. Gianna Rustichelli was born in Corsica around the year 1772. The surname was changed from Rustichelli to Roussety. The best theory of why she did this was because Roussety sounded more French. Gianna Roussety settled in Rodrigues with her children around 1830. Her children were Matthieu, Joseph and Francois. At the time there were only a few dozen colonists on the island so one can only try imagine what life would have been like. Tracking back via my family tree Gianna Rustichelli would be my Great Great Great Great Grandmother.

Matthieu's daughter Elvina would have been the first generation of Roussety born on the Island (unfortunately not sure what year but best guess would have been either mid to late 1830s tracking backwards via my family lineage). Elvina's son Elysee Roussety (my Great Great Grandfather) changed his surname from Roussety to Elysee apparently due to "bad blood" with the rest of the family. Hence that's how the Elysee family line started.

Not all Roussety are blood relations of Gianna Rustichelli. There is a small branch which are descendants of her adopted son. Gianna adopted a boy in Rodrigues and he took the Roussety name. I don't have much details about him but will update the description of this group when or if I get further details.

Unfortunately I don't have any information about Jeanne's other children and their children. There seems to be more information from my dad's side of the family. If anybody has any further information let me know and I can add it to the description of the Roussety Clan group.

Elvina Roussety, my great great great Grandmother, married Louis Pierre Raffaut in Port Mathurin. They owned an 180 ton sailing ship call the "Joan bell" which traded between Rodrigues and Mauritius. Nice name for a ship, I wonder what happened to it? Pity there isn't a lot of info about this sailing ship.

Interesting information: A lot of Roussety (myself included) should actually have the surname Raffaut. Elvina Roussety had 8 children with Louis Pierre Hypolite Raffaut. A court ruling demanded the 8 children remove the name Raffaut and to take the name of their mother that being Roussety. This was due to Elvina Roussety and Louis Pierre Hypolite Raffaut not being married when the 8 children were born (yes laws were a bit different back then).

It states in the "Slave Registers of former British Colonial Dependencies, 1812-1834" that a Joseph Roussety owned 2 slaves in 1830. Their names were Mélanid Clarisse and Olivette Beng. Mélanid Clarisse was born in Madagascar and was 43 years old. Olivette Beng was born in Mauritius and was 15 years old.

NOTE: The reality is that any Mauritian or Rodriguan with any European blood, and that is just about the entire Creole population, will have ancestry linked to the slave trade. The first settlers of Rodrigues owned slaves (1804 census recorded 22 whites and 82 slaves living on the island). Researching some common Rodriguan family names (including Raffaut, Perrine, Meunier) reveals slave ownership in the early 1830s in Mauritius. Slavery is abhorrent and morally repugnant to us now but it's part of our Rodriguan history.

Reproduced with kind permission from Linley Elysee

CGMR, the first Mauritian Genealogical Association

A Genealogical Association whose services would be open to Mauritian of all origins, residing at home or abroad, of Mauritian descent or not, wishing to trace their roots or showing interest in the history of Mauritius.

An association promoting friendly assistance between its members to help in any way possible the preservation of archival documents through digital scanning, photography and processing of data obtained.

<http://www.cgmgenealogie.org>

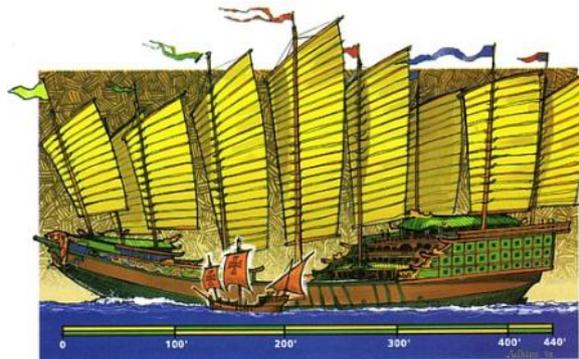
[IMAUGEN Discussion Group](#)



“Sails of Discovery” by Marcel Lindsay Noë

According to Greek Historian Herodotus, a Phoenician expedition sent down the Red Sea by Pharaoh Necho II of Egypt (c. 600 BC) succeeded in circumnavigating Africa before returning into the Mediterranean Sea through the Pillars of Hercules, in three years. Some historians think that they may have reached Mauritius but this is yet to be proven. {This expedition is being re-enacted in 2009/2010 by the Phoenicia Ship expedition using a traditionally built replica of a Phoenician trading vessel constructed in Syria. The “Phoenicia” will return there after entering the Mediterranean Sea, later in 2010. One can follow the expedition’s progress on www.phoenicia.org.uk}

Another great navigator has probably visited Mauritius in 1421, according to some historians. Zheng He, was the Chinese Admiral in control of a vast fleet of up to 300 ships sent by the Ming government to visit countries as far down as the Cape of Good Hope although records of his last two voyages were destroyed by the Ming emperor of the time. “...mainly the doing of the Confucianists in the imperial court who saw to it that Zheng’s ships were burnt and who made every effort to systematically destroy all official records of the voyages. Their motives were purely political. During much of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), the eunuchs exercised great power in the imperial court, at the expense of the Confucian civil bureaucracy. The expeditions of Zheng He, who was himself a eunuch, were strongly supported by eunuchs in the court and bitterly opposed by the Confucian scholar bureaucrats” (Jin Wu, Professor Emeritus of Marine Studies, University of Delaware, USA.) It is therefore never certain where he has sailed during these expeditions. The Treasure Ships were huge vessels housing up to 500 men each. They had up to nine masts and were roughly the size of a football field. “Zheng He’s ships were impressive examples of naval engineering...The supertankers of their day. The fleet also included specialized vessels, equine ships to carry horses, warships, supply ships and water tankers.”



The Arabs being desert people were late taking to the sea but when they did, it was with a vengeance. When they were ready to attempt naval exploits they borrowed their sails and maritime knowledge from the Persians (who were sufficiently nautical to send an expedition to Yemen in the 7th century AD).

As a matter of interest, recent evidence of mausoleum graffiti from Alexandria led a scholar to argue that the lateen sails were in use as far back as the third or second century BC. The Arabian Dhows were lateen rigged and carvel built (planking fitted edge to edge as distinct from Clinker built when planks are overlapping each other). Baghlahs were traditional deep-sea dhows of 300 to 500 tons, carrying three sails and more with a crew of approximately 30. Even to this day, such vessels trade between the Persian Gulf and East Africa with their sails as the only means of propulsion. The Omanis used these types of ships when they established a trading post in Mauritius. The Omani Foreign Minister and lately their ambassador have claimed that evidence exists in their archives about the fact that Mauritius was part of their kingdom in the 15th century.



Marcel Lindsay Noë, a Communications Strategist and Ideas Engineer, was born in Mauritius and spent a large part of his working life in Australia. Returning to his birthplace, he has decided to champion the cause of the preservation of its maritime heritage. He conceived the bicentenary celebrations of the Battle of Grand Port for the government. He is working on setting up a Historical Village and Period Shipyard as well as a Floating Museum of ships relative to the countries that have supplied Mauritius with its population of diverse origins.

MAURITIUS AUSTRALIA CONNECTION

Mauritius Australia Connection
PO Box 8605
Carrum Downs
Vic 3201
Australia

Phone: +61 3 8707 1946
E-mail: clancy@cjp.net
Published by Mauritius Australia Connection © 2010

*Linking the Mauritian Community in Australia www.cjp.net
This newsletter is published in good faith. Please bring
to our attention any inaccuracies and we will take due
note. Write to clancy@cjp.net with your feedback.*

CJP

Access our web site at
www.cjp.net



3ZZZ Mauritian Radio 92.3 FM Saturday 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm
transmitting from Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
Access website via <http://www.cjp.net> Click on 3ZZZ logo.

Recorded program also available online weekly through
<http://www.3zzz.com.au>



IASbet.com Fixed Odds Specialist
Better Prices, Bigger Payouts

For the horse racing enthusiasts, you can get the latemail for Melbourne & Sydney Racing at
<http://www.cjp.net/melb.htm>



Foods from Mauritius
Visit <http://ile-maurice.tripod.com>