



Curtis family group taken in the garden of Fitznell Farm in Ewell, probably about 1909-10.

*(See next page for identifications)*

The original photograph [Curtis family archives] was annotated by Dorothy Joan (née Curtis) Selley, who identified the persons depicted as follows.

*Back row, standing, from left:*

William Thomas Curtis ; Janet Susannah (“Susan”) (née) Odell ; Clara Lilian (“Lily”) (née) Curtis ; George Herbert Curtis ; Florence E. (née) Murphy.

*Next row, seated on chairs, from left:*

Florence Lizzie (née Potterton) Curtis ; unknown woman ; Clara Isabella (née Lemon) Curtis ; Edith (née) Potterton.

*Seated on ground:* Charles John Curtis, holding his daughter Dorothy Joan.

### **Interpretation:**

The child appears here to be no older than 2, perhaps 3 at the most. Dorothy Joan was born in mid-1907, and so if she was correct in identifying the child as herself then the photo must have been taken about 1909-10. The woman at far left, Florence, was her mother. Clara Isabella was her grandmother, the mother of Charles John.

The woman at the centre of the back row, if “Lily”, was the sister of Charles John and was born in 1893; her age in this photo would therefore have to be about 17.

The couple at the back to the left of Lily are identified above as Charles John’s brother William Thomas and “Susan”. These two married each other about a decade later, in early 1920.

The couple at the back to the right of Lily are identified above as Charles John’s brother George Herbert and Florence E. (née) Murphy. These two married each other in late 1911.

The only significant question mark hanging over these identifications is how plausible it is that “Susan” should have been in the same photo as the man whom she would not marry until ten years later. It may simply be that she was working at the time in the Curtis dairy business and that her relationship with William took a long time to develop.