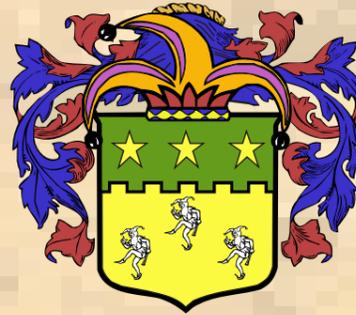
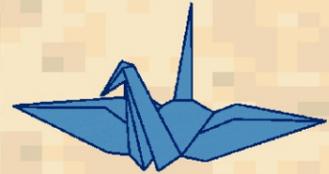


Origami



Family Tree



Great Grandfather

Claimed to have started the whole modern era of aviation. In 1903, during an intense design period in which Orville Wright was grappling with complex aerodynamic designs, he had to answer a call of nature. Whilst going about his business, a paper plane flew in through the bathroom window inspiring an 'eureka' moment. Grabbing the only thing he could find, he feverishly began to fold the toilet tissue into roughly the shape of the plane that eventually became the first successful powered heavier-than-air aeroplane in 1903. Because of the momentous event, the original bathroom window paper plane was kept for posterity and when carefully unfolded, was discovered to be a ripped out page from none other than Great Grandfather's old School Book.

Great Grandmother

Claimed to have introduced the famous Egyptologist Howard Carter into origami, that eventually enabled him to discover the Tomb of Tutankhamun. Whilst travelling in Egypt on one of his archaeological expeditions, he came across some local herdsmen, who upon hearing of the purpose of his visit and of his interest in origami decided to give him a riddle to solve, based around origami. The riddle went thus, "Surrounded by 'folds' of mountains, Within a great 'valley line', 'Sink' your shaft into the sand and, 'Crease' with excitement as the treasure 'unfolds' before thine". With his knowledge of origami, he was able to solve this tantalising riddle that eventually led to the great discovery of the Tomb of Tutankhamun in Egypt's Valley of the Kings in 1922.

Great Grandmother

Claimed to have inspired Einstein's 1905 Theory of Relativity. Great Grandmother was teaching a class of kids to crumple different sized paper into origami boulders, when Einstein popped in on a visit to see his former school teacher, ie. Great Grandmother. The surprise of an unexpected visitor made the kids so excitable that they started chucking their origami boulders at one another. At this point Einstein in his mind's eye began to see how an equation he was working on could be solved. He postulated that the Energy (E) the boulders were being chucked with was equal to the sum of the boulder's Mass (M) times by the square of the speed (c) at which they were being chucked at. Combining these factors together, he arrived at his now famous equation of $E=MC^2$.

Great Grandfather

Claimed to have been the first person to tell the world that the Titanic had sunk. In 1912 Great Grandfather, a newspaper editor, ran a series of articles on origami that used very large sheets of paper to make very large models. His first article, entitled 'Huge Mountain Folds' explained through very large diagrams what a mountain fold was, whilst the following day's article entitled 'Enormous Valley Folds', described a valley fold, again through very large diagrams. However, a day before the news broke about Titanic's demise, Great Grandfather had ran his third origami article describing sink folds. The article's heading, 'Titanic Sinks' thus became the only newspaper in the world to run with that now famous headline, a day before the ship had even sunk!

Great Grandfather

Claimed to have contributed to the making of Al Capone. Whilst in school Al Capone joined the school Origami Club, set up by Great Grandfather. His interest in the subject waxed and waned until Great Grandfather introduced him into the world of dollar bill folding. From that moment on he became a dollar bill fold fanatic, folding wherever, whenever and whatever he could from the paper money. Unfortunately his passion dwindled his supply of dollar bills rather rapidly to such an extent that he finally resorted to stealing the money to fuel the origami fire within him. This thus became the start of Al Capone's new direction in life and rather sadly, origami and Great Grandfather were responsible for the notorious criminal legend that Al Capone eventually became.

Great Grandmother

Claimed to have contributed towards locating the missing missionary, Dr Livingstone. As an advisor to Stanley, the expedition leader, she suggested that the best time to travel would be during Africa's National Origami Month, explaining that a village whose origami display contained no lions would mean they were within 100 miles of Dr Livingstone. Likewise, a village whose origami display contained no elephants would mean they were within 20 miles of him, but a village whose display had no gnus meant that Dr Livingstone was right there in that village. When asked to explain herself, she replied, well, no gnus is good gnus and the good news will be Dr Livingstone's location. History does indeed record of his 'discovery' by Stanley in Africa in 1871.

Great Grandmother

Claimed to have inspired John Logie Baird's 1925 TV invention. Great Grandmother organised an exhibition entitled 'Paper View' using origami models, displayed within and viewed from the front side of cardboard boxes, to depict various Shakespeare stories. Intrigued, Baird attended the exhibition and inspired by the scenes within the boxes concept, he immediately saw the money making potential of customers paying to watch a scene on a 'box' within their homes. Using a little word play derived from the 'Paper View' origami exhibit that spawned his idea, he called the concept 'Pay Per View'. Although his idea pushed him to invent the TV, it wasn't to be for another 70 odd years, with the advent of satellite TV that 'Pay Per View' became a reality.

Great Grandfather

Claimed to have inspired the name for Alexander Fleming's 1928 discovery of Penicillin. Great Grandfather, an angry late 1920's artist held an art exhibition entitled 'Rot of Ideas'. He depicted this rot by 'wet folding' many mouldy pieces of bread into female figures, each one being called Penny Chilling - the name deriving from an ex-girlfriend's christian name and the 'chilling' message he wished to portray. Coincidentally, his exhibition was opposite Alexander Fleming's laboratory and on the day Fleming discovered mould growing in a Petri dish, he also visited Great Grandfather's origami exhibition. Noticing the synchronicity of mould that day, Fleming named his discovery Penicillin, after Great Grandfather's exhibit called Penny Chilling.

Grandfather

Claimed to have started the whole US/Russian Space Race. In the 1950s, the US government obtained photos taken by secret agents of a Russian Officer's desk sprawled with blueprints for a space rocket. These photos made the Americans realize that they were lagging far behind the Russians in the quest to explore space. Armed with this knowledge they formed NASA and so begun what became known as the Space Race. However, history has now revealed that the original secret agent photos were actually not of blueprints but of diagrams for an origami space rocket that Grandfather, whose desk the so called 'blueprints' were on, was in the middle of diagraming up. Thus, origami can be proud of it's place in the history of space exploration.

Grandmother

Claimed to have kick started the modern computer era. Grandmother used to work in an office alongside Von Newman, the person who has become recognised for designing the method and reasoning behind modern day computer components. This arose because Grandmother and her fellow colleagues, cluttered their office with origami models to relieve the working day stresses. This infuriated Von Newman, who liked a scrupulously clean office to work in. He thus vowed to create the paperless office and during the 1950's, he mapped out the groundwork for the modern day computer. The paperless office is still a long way off but office bound origamists can still be thankful to Grandmother and origami for kick starting the whole modern computer era, though.

Grandmother

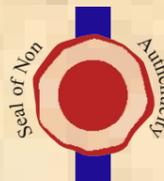
Claimed to have contributed to the 1953 expedition to conquer Mount Everest. During the early 1950's speculation as to when Everest would be conquered appeared in many, many magazine articles. So rampant was the discussion, that the focus of topic soon shifted over to the huge mountain of paper being used just to talk about it. In an effort to prevent this paper mountain of gossip rising any higher, Edmund Hilary decided to conquer the real mountain itself and plant something on it's summit to symbolize his concern. For ideas, he turned to Grandmother, one of his friends, who suggested an origami Mount Everest. So, when Hilary conquered Everest, he placed an origami paper mountain on it's summit and from that point on, the paper mountain of speculation rose no more.

Grandfather

Claimed to have coached Roger Bannister to run the world's first sub 4 minute mile. With his unorthodox training strategy inspired by his love of origami, Grandfather bet Bannister, that if he ran a mile in less time than it took him to fold 4 flapping birds, he would buy him a slap up meal every day for a week. Grandfather took almost precisely one minute to make a flapping bird and each training week that went by Bannister would finish at a progressively further stage on, on Grandfather's fifth flapping bird until, on 17th May 1954 Bannister finally crossed the finishing line before Grandfather had completed his fourth flapping bird, in a time of 3:59:58 seconds. To this day it is not widely known that origami had a helping hand in Bannister's sub 4 minute mile run.

Mother

Claimed that Hollywood stole a film idea of hers that inspired the 1978 musical Grease. Her idea, entitled 'Crease', featured origami folders Sandy 'Squash Fold' and Danny 'Diamond Base' who meet up on a beach and fall in love. When Summer ends, fate pulls them apart but they soon meet up again, this time at an origami group. But Danny at the origami group has a reputation to uphold as the T' Bird Bases leader, a notorious gang of origami folders. Sandy hangs out with the Pink Folders, a group of girls that use pink paper for origami models. Do they fall in love again or does it fold away into nothing? Mother claimed she also wrote the following songs, 'Creased Lightning', and 'You're the One that I Want (to fold with)'. Unfortunately history has never upheld Mother's claim.



Witnessed by
.....The Crew of the Marie Celeste.....

Father

Claimed to have known the 'real' reason behind the break up of the Beatles pop group. Father, a Beatles roadie, cited artistic reasons - origami artistic reasons. Two of the Fab Four were secret origamists, and their reasons for quitting both alluded to their love of origami. John Lennon left because he wanted "Peace, Man" a thinly veiled reference, so Father claimed, to his constant request for a 'piece' of paper from Paul McCartney who refused to share his share of the available origami paper. Paul McCartney quit because "everyone was arguing and getting into a right flap", a reference, so Father claimed, to John and Paul's discord over which flaps to fold on certain origami models. Sadly, origami took its toll on the Beatles and they eventually split up in 1970.

