



**Bedfordshire  
Family History Society  
Journal**

**Vol 24 No 8 Dec 2024**



A Cople corner

**BEDFORDSHIRE**  
**FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**  
A member of the Family History Federation  
Founded 1977  
Registered Charity No. 281677

**Patron:** Dr Colin R Chapman, MA, CEng, CSci, CChem, FEI, FNucl, FRSC, FRSH, FSG  
**President:** Pamela Birch - County Archivist  
**Vice Presidents:** Norman Holding, Colin West, Gerry Allen, Noel Evans.  
**Honorary Members:** Chris Pickford, Janet Lawrence, Robert Solly.

***Executive Committee***

Chairman	Mark Tresidder
Vice-Chairman	<i>Vacant</i>
Honorary Secretary	Jo Richardson
Honorary Treasurer	Peter Sharp

Cathy Friend	Paul Woodcraft	Joanna Lang
Kevin Friend	Mary Wooldridge	Brian Payne
Kerr Clement	Claire Sowah	Kathy Fraser

**Appointments**

Bookstall Managers .....	Charlie Norman and Kerr Clement
Independent Examiner.....	John Hulance
GDPR Information Manager .....	Cathy Friend
Internet Co-ordinator.....	Brian Payne
Journal Co-ordinator .....	Jan Darts
Journal Distribution Managers .....	Christine Horsler and Paul Woodcraft
Librarian.....	Kathy Fraser
Members' Interests .....	Cathy Friend
Membership Secretary.....	Cathy & Kevin Friend
Minute Secretary .....	Kerr Clement
Monumental Inscriptions.....	Vacant
Publications & CD Sales (Postal) .....	Noel Evans
Programme Secretary .....	Claire Sowah
Publicity Officer .....	Jo Richardson
Research.....	Mary Wooldridge
Social Media Co-ordinator .....	Joanna Lang

**BEDFORDSHIRE  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
JOURNAL**



**VOL 24 NO 8 DEC 2024  
CONTENTS**

Surname Index for this <i>Journal</i> .....	2
Membership Subscriptions .....	2
BFHS Volunteer Vacancies .....	3
80th Anniversary of the end of World War 2 .....	5
Research Centre .....	6
Finds from the Research Centre .....	8
Talk Programme .....	10
The Manor of Campton cum Shefford in the 18th Century .....	13
Searching for a World War 1 Machine Gun Corp Officer.....	19
Who do you think you are? Who do you think your ancestors were?.....	22
Safeguarding .....	24
Really Useful Podcast.....	24
Recent Talks - Tracing the history of your house .....	25
Front Cover Illustration and as it is today .....	33
Bedfordshire Heritage Tea Towels .....	35
Why not write something for the <i>Journal</i> ? .....	37
Do we have your current email address? .....	37
Bedfordshire Parish Registers.....	38
BFHS Email Addresses .....	inside back cover

© BEDFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY 2024

This *Journal* is the official publication of the BEDFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY and is produced quarterly: March, June, September, and December. Articles appearing in the *Journal* must not be reproduced either in whole or part without written permission. The Society does not accept any responsibility for the views expressed in any of the articles published in the *Journal*. The Society cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to material submitted for publication. No recommendation is implied by the inclusion of an advertisement in this *Journal*. ISSN 0141 - 240X

## JOURNAL SURNAME INDEX

Below is the Surname Index for this *Journal*, providing you with a rapid way of finding a Surname within this *Journal*. Note that Members' Surname Interests are not indexed. The Surname Index for *Journals* on the BFHS website will be updated in due course.

Name	Page	Name	Page	Name	Page
Allen	18	Goodchepe	8	Palmer	8
Astry	9	Green	17	Parratt	18
Bailey	14	Harris	14	Pecke	8
Bland	14	Hawkins	18	Perrott	18
Bromsall	18	Higgison	17	Perry	11
Bruce	13	Hill	19-20	Phipp	14
Cairns	14	Hollis	17	Poulton	18
Church	8	Humberstone	17	Rolond	33
Cirket	8	Hustehen	8	Russell	13-14
Clearson	14, 17	Ibbott	14, 17-18	Seely	17
Edwards	14	Joan	8	Shaw	11
Ellard	14	Launcelyn	33	Squire	18
Endersby	14	Lorymer	8	Stitt	9
Fennel	14	Lylye	8	Ulsbe	8
Flowers	8	Margt	8	Ventris	14
Fryer	19	Noddings	18	Whitbread	14
				Wright	14

### Membership Subscriptions

If you are intending to pay your **2025** membership by Standing Order or Bank Transfer, please drop an email to [treasurer@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bfhs.org.uk) to advise your name, post code, payment method and membership type. Your help would be appreciated.

Our new account with Barclays will enable us to operate an account with dual authorisation online banking. This will simplify paying many of our society expenses. In the meantime, we will continue to maintain our NatWest bank account.

Please use the new Barclays bank details for bank transfers to Bedfordshire Family History Society, using sort code 20-05-73 and account number 93516105. When convenient, please change any standing order from NatWest to Barclays and please remember to cancel your standing order to our NatWest account.

## BFHS VOLUNTEER VACANCIES

Our society cannot exist without its committee members who volunteer their time to support the functions of the society. Paul Woodcraft has indicated that he would like to step down from his roles as Journal Distribution Manager, and Funeral Directors Project Leader, and we are also seeking a Monumental Inscription Publications Coordinator.

The committee usually meets on the third Friday of each month via Zoom at 7 pm. Meetings usually last less than two hours and involve the dealing of business to run the society. Please feel free to observe the zoom meeting, under no obligation, and see how the committee works. For log-in details for a zoom committee meeting, please contact Peter Sharp at [treasurer@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@bfhs.org.uk). Copies of Microsoft 365 will be provided to committee members if required.

Below is a list of areas where we need help. If you have any queries regarding any of these roles, or wish to offer help, please contact the Chairman, Mark Tresidder, or Secretary, Jo Richardson, via email at [chairman@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:chairman@bfhs.org.uk) or [secretary@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bfhs.org.uk), alternatively you can talk to us at meetings.

### Journal Distribution Manager



Due to the pending retirement of the incumbent, the above position will be coming vacant shortly and we are therefore looking for a person or persons to take on this duty.

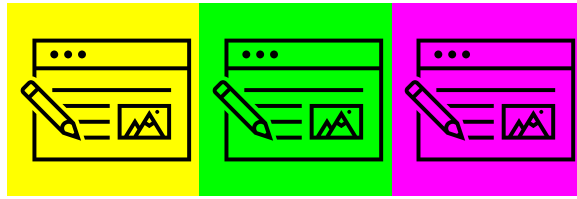
A full role description is available, but the basic duties are as follows:

- Collect or receive the journals from the printers.
- Print labels to send journals to members.
- Send emails with PDF copy of journal to those who have elected to receive them by PDF.
- Send emails with PDF copy to Swap Societies.
- Receive and record Swap journals and send on to Webmaster.
- Receive, check, and record requests for Access to our Members Portal then send on to Webmaster to issue a password.

At present, assembly of labels, journals, stamps, and envelopes for postal distribution is done by a second person.

You will require a computer/laptop with a printer and an internet connection. Time involved is a few hours each month.

## **Funeral Directors' Records Project Leader**



We are also looking for someone to lead our small team working on Funeral Directors' Records. The project involves research into the Funeral Directors of Bedfordshire both past and present, and arranging digitisation, transcription, and indexing of their records to put on our Members Only part of our website.

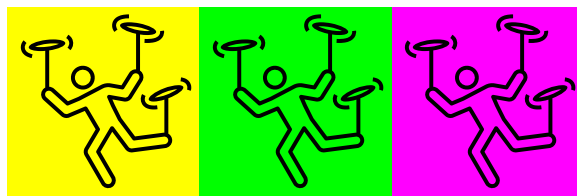
You will require a computer/laptop and an internet connection. Scanning equipment will be provided by the Society. Time required can be as little or as much as you can give with no set targets.

## **Monumental Inscription Publications Coordinator**



We are looking for someone who can lead a team to co-ordinate the publication of Monumental Inscription transcripts that the Society has taken. The role involves management of our MS Access database of Monumental Inscriptions, co-ordination of volunteers to input and check transcriptions to the database and preparation of booklets for publication for the completed transcriptions.

## **Vice Chairman**



This role is currently vacant and is required to support the Chairman's activities in running the society.

## **80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR 2**

Next year will see the 80th anniversary of the end of World War 2, with Victory in Europe (VE Day) marked on 8 May and Victory over Japan (VJ Day) marked on 15 August (UK dates).

In recognition of this significant anniversary, we invite you to share your family history during WW2. This could be simply by telling us of the family members who served during the war, including those on the home front, and those who were among the fallen. Or perhaps you have a more detailed story to tell of your family and of those who served during this period of our history?

This is an opportunity to have a part of your family story published and we are here to help you get it into print.

All contributions are welcome and will be published in the June, September, and December issues of the *Journal*. Photographs of events and people are particularly welcome.

Send your contributions to [\*\*journal@bfhs.org.uk\*\*](mailto:journal@bfhs.org.uk). The closing dates for the June, September, and December issues of the *Journal* are 30 April, 31 July and 31 October respectively.

**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**



## BFHS RESEARCH CENTRE



### LOCATION AND PARKING

Bedfordshire Family History Society's Research Centre is now open and located at the Community Voluntary Service offices at 43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA<sup>1</sup>.

There is limited parking in the CVS car park at the rear of the building in Trevor Street. Alternative parking is available nearby at Greyfriars Surface Carpark and Allhallows Multi-Storey Car Park (4 hours free parking)



<sup>1</sup> Map copyright [openstreetmap.org](https://openstreetmap.org), [openstreetmap.org/copyright](https://openstreetmap.org/copyright).



## RESOURCES

An extensive library that will appeal to family and social historians.

Parish Register transcripts for all historic parishes in Bedfordshire.

Monumental Inscriptions.

Free internet access to genealogical resources including *The Genealogist*.

Microfiche collection including The International Genealogical Index, 1881 Census and Telephone Directories.



## FACILITIES

The Research Centre is located on the first floor of the CVS building and can be accessed by a lift.

Kitchen and toilet facilities are available. The kitchen may be used for preparing drinks during your visit.

## OPENING HOURS

Our research centre is open to members and non-members by appointment only.

We will be open at the following times:

Tuesday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Saturday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

## HOW TO BOOK A VISIT

Please use our Research Centre calendar on the society web page, [bfhs.org.uk/researchctr.html](http://bfhs.org.uk/researchctr.html), to see details of available appointment times and use the links provided to request an appointment.

Alternative times may be available subject to the availability of volunteers to staff the research centre. Please email **Research.Centre@bfhs.org.uk** for enquiries.

For members without internet access, bookings can be made by phoning the research centre on 01234 867216 during opening hours. Please note the phone will not be manned outside these times.

## FINDS FROM THE RESEARCH CENTRE

The Research Centre holds copies of the publications of the *Bedfordshire Historical Records Society*. The following extracts are taken from Volume 37<sup>1</sup>.

### English Wills, 1498-1526 edited by A F CIRKET

Nicholas CHURCH [Stotfold]. 12 Feb. 1509/10, pr 5 March. (64d)

For his lortuary his bets hores; to the high altar 2 bush. Barley; to the high altar of Wilstead 2 bush.; to the sepulchre light of Wilstead 2 bush; to the high altar of Wilstead an altar cloth price 20d.; to the bells of Stotfold 2 bush.

To w. MARGT. All his movable goods; exors. To sell house and land in Wilstead; £5 of the money to be divided equally between his 5 children, the residue for the health of his and his wife's souls.

Exors. W. Margt. And Rich. LORYMER. Witn. Robt. ULSBE, vicar of Stotfold, Jn. LYLYE, Edw. ?FLOWERS

-----

Jn PALMER, Wilstead. 12 Mar 1506/7, pr. 15 April 1507. (163d)

For his mortuary "that is lawfull to be had"; to the high altar for tithes negligently forgotten 40d. ; to the church of Lincoln 4d. to the torches 20d.; to the bells 20d.

To w, JOAN 12 a. land for life, his son to till the land yearly as he does his own; sge can sell or do as she pleases with 8 a of it; if she does sell s, to have first choice of buying; remaining 4 a. to go to son on her death. Son and wife to have half use of house each while w. lives, unless she marries, when she is "to take her goods and depart".

Exors, Jn PECKE, ?w. Joan. Witn. Wm HUSTEHEN, Thos. GOODCHEPE.

---

<sup>1</sup> The transcription is verbatim, except capitalisation of the first occurrence of a surname in accordance with the usual style of the *Journal*.

## **Diana ASTRY's Recipie Book c1700 Edited by Bette STITT**

### To make a almond pudding

Take 1qt. good cream & pit it on the fire & let it boyle a little. Then take the yolks of 12 eggs, the whites of 6, beat them well with a little cream & sugar enough to sweeten it. Then thicken your cream with it as for a custard. Then take 1 lb. grated diet bread or white bread & put into the cream with beaten cinnamon, mace & nutmeg & a little salt. Then have beat very small & fine 1 lb. best Jordan almonds, & when the cream is almost cold, putt in the almonds & mix it well together. Then poure it into your dish with some citron & candied orange pill, with some puff past under it & put the marrow of 2 or 3 bones on the top & bake it.

### To make raspberry wine

Take 4 qts. spring water boyled  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr., when it is cold put in 6 qts. ripe rasperrys & let it stand close covered in a glassed earthen vessel 3 dayes, then straine it through a thick cloath very hard. Put this to liquer 4 lb. powder sugar, let it stand close covered 3 dayes & run it through a jelly bagg into a barrell which is jest big enough to hold the wine, & stop it close for 2 mths. Put into every bottle a few lumps of loafe sugar, then draw your wine into them & cork your bottles close. Put then in a coll seller. It will keep 5 or 6 year & be stronger for keeping.

### To bake a turkey

Take a turkey & bone it, season it well with pepper, salt, cinemon, nutmeg, cloves & mace, of each like a quantity of spice, sow him up, bake it in a pan with as much water & white wine vinegar as will cover it. It must relish well of the vinager. Put in a small quantity of grose butter on the top, the bignest of an egg, then stop it up close & bake it with a back of bread, & when it is cold take of the butter & keep the turkey in the same licker till you have spent it. It will keep for a month.



## TALK PROGRAMME

*All talks are at the new venue of St Mary's Church Hall, Goldington, and virtually via Zoom unless otherwise advised.*

*Doors open at 7 pm with the talks starting at 7.30 pm.*

Our monthly Friday night meetings offer members instructive, interesting, and often amusing talks on subjects that fascinate all interested in history and genealogy in general and are usually particularly relevant to those with a Bedfordshire heritage. We look forward to seeing you in person.

Where possible, talks will be live streamed (Zoom log-in details are shown in the members' portal) or made available later as a video recording on the website in the members' portal, subject to approval by the speaker.



The address of the venue is St Mary's Church Hall, Church Lane, Goldington, Bedford (MK41 0AN for satnavs).<sup>1</sup>

From Bedford town centre, head East towards Cambridge on the A4280 (was A428) Goldington Rd.

At the mini-roundabout at Goldington green, turn left towards Renhold into Goldington Green Road

Just after the pedestrian crossing the road becomes Church Lane. Take the second on the right, sign-posted Church Hall, then turn immediately left up to the Church car park where you will find the Church Hall.

<sup>1</sup> Map copyright [openstreetmap.org](https://openstreetmap.org), [openstreetmap.org/copyright](https://openstreetmap.org/copyright)



## TALK PROGRAMME (cont'd)

**NOTE VENUE IS  
NOW ST MARY'S**

**Gypsy Bride  
Martin Rose**

**Friday 6 December 2024**



I am delighted to speak about Sarah Anne SHAW, a gypsy from Stotfold. Hers is an extraordinary story, well worth the telling. I have recently published a small book about her marriage and its consequences called '*Nehemiah PERRY & His Gypsy Bride*' which I launched recently at Saffron Waldon Historical Society. The story is interesting in itself, but also in demonstrating the use of sources. I was extraordinarily lucky in that there are several archival sources (including the complete divorce file with all its evidence verbatim), none of which had previously been used. Every time I thought 'There can't be any more to find', there was, so that makes for quite an interesting journey of discovery. Gypsy genealogy is itself interesting

because I had no idea how much I could discover, but it turned out to be quite a lot. Sarah came from one of the most distinguished 'black-blooded' Gypsy families of Eastern England, fiddlers to a man and woman, who played at every village feast in the region, and I think I have managed to construct a pretty good family tree.

## **Bedford's Transport Heritage**

**David Fowler**

**Friday 3 January 2025**



Bedford is a town of lost transport opportunities, from cars to tractors, cycles, cranes and even airships. Learn a little of their history. Saunderson Universal Tractor, c1912 pictured.

## **TALK PROGRAMME (cont'd)**

### **When the Landships Came to Town!**

**Helen Frost**

**Friday 7 Feb 2025**



This talk is about the incredible story of the ‘Tank Banks’ which aimed to raise as much money for the war effort through investments in War Bonds and War Savings Certificates. This talk will take you on a whirlwind journey as you find out about the excitement the tanks whipped up as they visited towns and cities all over the country. The atmosphere of ‘tank fever’ will be recreated with the assistance of vivid contemporary accounts and music. What were the final totals raised? Can the audience match the towns and cities to the totals that were raised? There are sure to be

some surprises as you test yourselves! You will have the chance to pit your wits in the true or false quiz, learning weird and wonderful things about Tank Weeks. What else happened during Tank Week and who took part in them? What was the money spent on? What was the return of interest for investors? You will see the fascinating spin-offs and merchandising that was sold to promote Tank Weeks too. There are SO many quirky and unusual stories connected to this initiative and plenty of opportunities for you to engage in the subject. You will be hooked by the stories of Drake, Egbert, Iron Ration, Julian, Nelson and Ole Bill!

### **The story of Old Warden Abbey**

**Friday 7 March 2025**

**Margaret Roberts**

An introduction to the Cistercian monastery, its history, and place in the Bedfordshire countryside. Warden Abbey was founded in 1135, but on the orders of Henry VIII, the buildings were flattened in the mid-16th century, leaving behind nothing more than a few bumps in the ground and a story begging to be told.

After graduating in Library Studies, Margaret Roberts spent her career with the Ministry of Defence, followed by management roles with The Royal British Legion and the NHS. Now retired, she spends her time volunteering at Warden Abbey Vineyard, a community project in Bedfordshire.



# THE MANOR OF CAMPTON CUM SHEFFORD IN THE 18TH CENTURY

*Colin Davison*

Manorial records, where they survive, are a much-underused source for family historians. They have the potential to refer to our ancestors and also provide us with details of where they lived and how they lived. In this article I have used examples drawn from the records of the Manor of Campton cum Shefford<sup>1</sup> to illustrate this.

This manor was the largest of the two manorial estates within the parish of Campton cum Shefford recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. There is evidence that a weekly market and an annual fair were attached to the manor from as early as 1225. The manor was acquired by King Henry VIII in 1528 and was incorporated into the Honour of Ampthill. It remained in the hands of the Crown until at least the middle of the 19th century. However, the stewardship of the Honour and all the manors within it were leased by the crown first to the BRUCE family, Earls of Elgin & Ailesbury from 1613-1738 and then to the RUSSELL family, Dukes of Bedford from 1738-1839.

The three main forms of manorial tenancy were freehold, leasehold and copyhold. Most freeholders held their property from the manor in return for a money rent. They were also often required to do fealty (an oral oath of allegiance) to the monarch. Most leaseholders held their property from the manor for a term of years but sometimes it could be held for the term of three lives, the individual lives in question being named in the lease agreement. Copyholders held their property by copy of court roll. On the admission of a new tenant a payment to the Lord of the manor was required and sometimes a death duty (called a heriot) was paid on the death of a tenant. Tenure of a copyhold property could only be transferred by its surrender to the Lord and by the admission by him or her of a new tenant, who might well be a relative of the old tenant.

The sources indicate that by 1600 there were only freeholders and leaseholders within the Manor of Campton cum Shefford and no copyholders. The customs of the manor required a freeholder to pay to the Lord a Quit rent and also a Relief, which was a sum of money due on the death of a freehold tenant or when a freehold tenant sold the property. A Quit rent was a small fixed annual sum paid in lieu of other services which had historically been provided to the Lord. In Campton cum Shefford the Quit rent and Relief paid to the Lord was usually the same sum of money.

The most comprehensive records for the Manor of Campton cum Shefford that now survive relate to the 18th century and in particular a series of court rolls and a court book covering the period 1734-1785. During this period manorial courts were held once a year usually in October at Shefford. The court proceedings were divided between Campton and Shefford and jurors (who were all manorial tenants) were appointed for each place. They were responsible for presiding over the affairs of the court and the proceedings were recorded in several documents especially court rolls and court books.

---

<sup>1</sup> See Bedfordshire Archives, Community Histories, Campton and Shefford:  
[bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityHistories](https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityHistories).

The inheritance and sale of manorial freehold property was one of the primary concerns of the manor court. Thus in 1734 it was presented to the court that Charles VENTRIS, who held a tenement in Campton and certain other lands at a rent of 1s 6d per annum had died since the last court. This property was inherited by his eldest son John Ventris who had also subsequently died leaving no children. The property was then inherited by John's younger brother Francis Ventris who at the next court in 1735 paid several reliefs (sums of money) to the Lord of the Manor which was due on the deaths of his father and brother. He also paid all the rent arrears due at the same time.<sup>2</sup>

Meanwhile in 1751 William ELLARD of Baldock, Hertfordshire, a surgeon who held freely a tenement or inn in Shefford called The George for the yearly rent of 1s 4d sold this property to Thomas PHIPP of Shefford, who is described as a barber and peruke maker (wig maker). Thomas then appearing in court paid the relief due of 1s 4d, acknowledged before the jury his tenure and did his fealty to the King. The following year's court in 1752 records that Thomas Phipp then sold a barn in the yard of The George Inn to George FENNEL. The jury then decided that George Fennel should pay the Lord an annual Quit rent of 1s for his barn.<sup>3</sup> See pages overleaf for two examples of the source.<sup>4</sup>

Some of the Russell Estate Ledgers provide details of leaseholders and also indicate how frequently some freehold manorial properties changed hands. For instance, John ENDERSBY and later his son William Endersby leased a farm in Campton with a garden and stables together with 6 acres of land in Campton Field, some meadow land as well as other property between 1760-1786. John Endersby also leased what is described as the Bailiwick of Shefford, so he received the tolls of the weekly market and annual fair in the town. The total rent for all of this property and the Bailiwick was £69 4s 0d per annum.<sup>5</sup>

Meanwhile in Shefford we learn that Andscombe (Handsome) IBBOTT was the tenant of a tenement and garden for the annual rent of £3 5s 0d between 1760-1767. He then quitted the premises which remained unoccupied until 1770 when it was let to Richard HARRIS at the same rent. He lived there until 1772 when it was let to Henry CAIRNS again at the same rent. He held it until 1777 when it was let to William WRIGHT. He in turn remained there until 1781 at which time it was let to Benjamin BLAND at the same rent. He was still in possession of it in 1786. Considerable sums of money were spent on the Ibbot tenement between 1760-1778 including 18s 10d paid to Stephen WHITBREAD for iron work, 14s 0d to John BAILEY for thatching work, £6 18s 0d to George EDWARDS for bricks, tiles, and lime and £2 18s 0d to James CLEARSON for glazers work.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Bedfordshire Archives, Ref R Box 92, Court Rolls.

<sup>3</sup> Bedfordshire Archives, Ref X89/1, Manor of Shefford with Campton: court minute-book, including list of inhabitants, 1786.

<sup>4</sup> By kind permission of Bedfordshire Archives.

<sup>5</sup> Bedfordshire Archives, Ref R5/372, Rental Ledger: Honour of Ampthill, Sep 1760 - Sep 1786

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, Ref R5/372

**The Manor of Shefford with Sovereign Lord the King with the Court Baron of the manor. Noble & honorable Knights of Bedfordshire**

of the manor. Noble & honorable Knights of Bedfordshire  
 of the manor. Noble & honorable Knights of Bedfordshire  
 of the manor. Noble & honorable Knights of Bedfordshire  
 of the manor. Noble & honorable Knights of Bedfordshire

**Suits**

- The Jury for our Lord the King and the Manors for Shefford**
- Thomas Druce
  - William Wiggins
  - William Whitbread
  - Robert Square
  - John Gifford
  - Thomas Rose
- The Jury for our Lord the King and the Manors for Shefford**
- John Glavin
  - Thomas Druce
  - Thomas Druce
  - Thomas Druce
  - Thomas Druce
  - Thomas Druce

**At this Court** is presented by the Manors that Elizabeth, Northfolk, who should have held freely to her and her heirs of the Manor and Lord of the Manor by yearly rent of land and the yearly rent of one shilling and a penny and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure

and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure

**Also at this Court**

is presented by the Manors that Elizabeth, Northfolk, who should have held freely to her and her heirs of the Manor and Lord of the Manor by yearly rent of land and the yearly rent of one shilling and a penny and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure and that she should have held the same by the same tenure

X89/1 Pages 162 to 163



the said George Hemyng came not to this Court to acknowledge or shew for

### Shefford Hye Lawes

At this Court the King for the King and the Homage for Shefford to continue yearly and conform the several Hye Lawes made and ordeined beinge fifteen in Number the first of which made at the twentieth Day of October at a Court held for the Manor the twentieth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven to be in force until the next Court to be held for the Manor and until the same shall be altered by a King for the King and the Homage for Shefford to be thereafter daily sworn

### Section of Officers for Shefford

Also at this Court Robert Symonds and several Sumners were named elected and sworn constituted for the Hye Lawes and until discharged by Law

Also at this Court John Symonds was named elected and sworn Constable for the Hye Lawes and until discharged by Law

### Campton Hye Lawes confirmed

Also at this Court the King for the King and the Homage for Campton to continue yearly and conform the several Hye Lawes Ordere made and ordeined beinge twenty six in Number made and ordeined at a Court held for the Manor the twentieth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven to be in force until the next Court and until the same shall be altered by a King for the King and the Homage for Campton to be thereafter daily sworn

C. 16

154

Cap. 16

### Also at this Court

the Homage for Shefford to continue yearly and conform the several Hye Lawes made and ordeined beinge fifteen in Number the first of which made at the twentieth Day of October at a Court held for the Manor the twentieth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven to be in force until the next Court to be held for the Manor and until the same shall be altered by a King for the King and the Homage for Shefford to be thereafter daily sworn

### Also at this Court

the Homage for Shefford to continue yearly and conform the several Hye Lawes made and ordeined beinge fifteen in Number the first of which made at the twentieth Day of October at a Court held for the Manor the twentieth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven to be in force until the next Court to be held for the Manor and until the same shall be altered by a King for the King and the Homage for Shefford to be thereafter daily sworn

### Campton Hye Lawes confirmed

Also at this Court the King for the King and the Homage for Campton to continue yearly and conform the several Hye Lawes Ordere made and ordeined beinge twenty six in Number made and ordeined at a Court held for the Manor the twentieth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven to be in force until the next Court and until the same shall be altered by a King for the King and the Homage for Campton to be thereafter daily sworn

Cap. 16  
by Deed  
L. 16  
154

154

154

154

154

X89/1 Pages 164 to 165

Sometimes it was not clear who was to inherit a manorial property. At a court in 1782 it is recorded that William HIGGISON had died. He held from the manor a messuage or inn in Shefford called the Black Swan at a yearly rent of 1s 10d and a relief was therefore due to the Lord, but the jury did not know who was his heir. A proclamation was therefore made for the rightful heirs to come forward. In the following year, the court held in 1783 recorded that the heirs of William Higgison were his five daughters who were represented in court by John SEELY who was married to one of the daughters. He paid the relief due and acknowledged the tenure of the premises on behalf of the daughters.<sup>7</sup>

The manor was also responsible for the maintenance of its property. In 1734 the jury presented that the Common (Cattle) Pound in Campton which served both Campton and Shefford was in disrepair and should be repaired by the Lord.<sup>8</sup> Meanwhile in 1751 Thomas Ibbott the licensee at the White Hart in Shefford wrote to the Duke of Bedford's estate agent complaining about the condition of the building:

*I have lived 16 years at the White Hart in Shefford belonging to his Grace of Bedford & rent is paid every Court Day, but for an inn it is presumed that there is not one in England that is tenanted, that is so ruinous a condition, being underneath supported by props & the tiling is no shelter to myself nor goods, if therefore Sir, you please to give orders to redress my Grievances, I shall think myself infinitely obliged to you, or if you shall dispute the truth of the above if you please to call I endeavour to have an entertainment suitable for your Gratis, and manifest the truth hereof.<sup>9</sup>*

In 1755 when Thomas GREEN was the new tenant at the White Hart the building is described as being 'very Ruinous condition and in great danger of falling' down despite repairs carried out in 1753 'at very great expense'.<sup>10</sup> Further sums of money were spent on the White Hart between 1761-1775 including painting work by James Clearson (11s 6d), carpentry work by John HOLLIS (12s 0d) and the supply of tiles and lime by Thomas HUMBERSTONE (9s 9d).<sup>11</sup>

The manorial court was also responsible for creating and implementing byelaws for both Campton and Shefford for amongst other things 'the stinting and ordering of the Commons'. This was essential to regulate the use of the common land before it was swept away by the enclosure of the parish later in the 18th century. In 1743 the jury decided upon ten byelaws for Shefford and twenty byelaws for Campton. In Shefford for instance it was ordered that 'no person shall suffer or permit their hogs to go into any of the Commons on pain to pay the Lord for every offence 2s 0d'. It was also ordered that 'every person living in that part of Shefford called Water End shall in time

---

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*, Ref X89/1.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*, R Box 92.

<sup>9</sup> Bedfordshire Archives, Ref R35/5, Duke of Bedford's estate archive.

<sup>10</sup> Bedfordshire Archives, Ref R5/253, Rental & particular; giving details of premises, 1755.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*, R5/372

of highwater lay at his gate a plank of at least a foot wide on pain to pay the Lord for every offence 5s.0d'. Meanwhile in Campton 'no person belonging to Shefford shall put upon the Cow Commons of Campton any horse, mare or gelding on pain of £1 0s 0'. It was also instructed that 'no farmer shall keep more than twelve cows on the Cow Common on pain of paying for the first offence 2s 6d and for every offence afterwards double'.<sup>12</sup>

These byelaws were vigorously enforced. In a court in 1762 it is recorded that Handscombe Ibbott had broken the 11th byelaw made at a previous court in 1759 by setting several carts or wagons across the High Street in Shefford and therefore he was fined 2s 6d and he was ordered to remove his wagons within 24 hours or he would be fined another 5s 0d. Handscombe Ibbott was a repeat offender because he was fined another 2s 6d for the same offence in 1764.<sup>13</sup>

At each court manorial officers were elected by the jury. In Campton, these officials usually consisted of two constables and three or four field drivers. In Shefford the number of officials elected was more extensive. In addition to the constables and field drivers there were also leather sealers, bread weighers and ale tasters as well as a bellman and (town) crier.<sup>14</sup> These additional officers at Shefford reflect the responsibility of the manor for the market trade in the town.

Some of these officials were the trading standards officers of their day. In 1748 for instance four Shefford bakers (Thomas SQUIRE, Joseph Squire, John BROMSALL and Alexander HAWKINS) were each fined 1s 6d for selling undersized bread while three butchers (John NODDINGS, John PERROTT and Edward Perrott) were fined 4d each for selling veal that had been 'blown and puffed up'.<sup>15</sup> The Bellman was responsible for ringing the market bell each week which brought the market to a close while the town crier made public announcements and was therefore an important source of information at a time when many were still illiterate. Thomas Ibbott the younger was the bellman and town crier for several years. He was succeeded by Samuel ALLEN and Nathaniel POULTON. However, not everyone was happy to serve as a manorial officer. In 1735 John PARRATT refused to serve as a field driver for Shefford and was duly fined.<sup>16</sup>

This is just a brief taste of the significance of the manor in 18th century society which serves I hope to illustrate its importance as a valuable source for family historians.

---

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid*, Ref X89/1.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid*, Ref X89/1.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid*, Ref X89/1.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid*, Ref X89/1.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid*, R Box 92.



## SEARCHING FOR A WORLD WAR 1 MACHINE GUN CORPS OFFICER

*Clare Bostle*

One of my maternal step-uncles was John Buttfield HILL (1888-1960) who was born and brought up at Hill Farm in Potsgrove (Pottesgrove), my family rented the farm from the Woburn Estate for over 100 years until just after the end of WW1. He was the son of Joseph Hill and Lizzie Harriet (nee FRYER), the 4th of their eight children. The only photograph I have of him is when he was a boy.



During World War 1 he served first in the East Kent Regiment and subsequently transferred to the Machine Gun Corps in 1917, becoming a 2nd Lieutenant. I had been aware from family information that he had been captured during the war and had had a tough time as a prisoner of war in Germany. His Medal Card was digitised on The National Archives (TNA) website [tna.gov.uk](http://tna.gov.uk) and I was able to download it free of charge.

I also found further information about his time as a POW at Karlsruhe from an Index Card on the International Red Cross website [grandeguerre.icrc.org](http://grandeguerre.icrc.org). This told me the date of his capture, his transfers between several POW camps and included the comment from his family 'Will send parcels, food and socks.'

Recently I re-ran my Discovery Catalogue search on the TNA website and was delighted to discover that a new resource had been added, namely The Machine Gun Corps (MGC) Database Collection. This is a digital database held by the Vickers Machine Gun Collection & Research Association but, importantly, it has been made freely accessible and searchable through the Discovery Catalogue. The catalogue descriptions are very detailed, and, in the case of John Buttfild Hill, this included details of his injuries when captured and his personal statement about how his capture came about. This statement is the closest I have come to hearing John's own 'voice' as he died when I was a child, and I do not recall ever meeting him.

John's Discovery Catalogue description<sup>1</sup> reads as follows<sup>2</sup>:

Reference: SKR/DAT/IP/30922

Surname: HILL;

Forename(s): John Buttfild;

Initials: JB;

Rank: 2/Lt;

Born in: Pottesgrove;

Enlistment Date: 09-Dec-1915;

Resided in: Aspley Guise;

Previous Number: 4107;

Previous Battalion: 2/5 of;

Previous Regiment: E Kent Regt;

MGC Branch: Infantry;

MGC Unit: 227 Coy;

Date abroad: 15-Oct-1917;

Theatre of War: 1;

Discharge Date: 27-Oct-1919;

Other Data: born 2/6/1888 see 104783 MGC - disch to Commsn 1/9/1917 POW:

Missing 30/11/1917 (Masnieres) , - GSW shoulder, with compound fracture of

---

<sup>1</sup> Discovery Catalogue description courtesy of Vickers MG Collection & Research Association and The National Archives, [nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://nationalarchives.gov.uk).

<sup>2</sup> The transcription is verbatim.

jaw. Held at Karlsruhe - Repat 17/12/1918ICRC Ref: PA  
17480/18414WO339/89437 :

Statement re capture:

‘All the night of the 29th November we were digging barrage emplacements on the outskirts of Masnieres and things were quite quiet. The next morning about 8.30, an infantry corporal came rushing up saying that Masnieres was surrounded by the Germans. We brought our guns up to new positions and had very good targets. During the day we and some odds and ends of infantry, including Guernseys, held our positions but were much worried by the enemy and their aircraft. Friday night, 30th November we had a message from Brigade saying that most probably we should have orders to cover the retirement of the infantry. Later, another message came through saying that, if we could only hold on until day-break, we should be reinforced. We managed to hold on but no help arrived. Saturday afternoon after a very heavy hostile barrage, we were overcome by the great strength of the Bosch attack and lack of ammunition. Three of the four guns had been rendered useless and I had two men killed, about twelve wounded and fate of three unknown. I myself was shot through the shoulder and face early on the Friday morning and was also suffering from shock so cannot remember as full details as I could wish. I would like to put on record the good work and splendid courage shown by L/Cpl Sutcliffe 227 MGC in continuously bringing up ammunition under heavy fire.’

Relinquished Commsn of account of ill health caused by wounds - King's Certificate - eligible for Silver War Badge;

The MGC Database Collection is a terrific resource, and I do recommend it to anyone looking to find out more about their ancestors who served in the MGC. It is largely the work of one man, Graham Sacker, who has spent over 20 years accumulating information from manual and computerised sources. His aim was to identify as many as possible of both enlisted men and officers who served in the MGC. The database is not complete but work on it continues and, as I discovered, there is a massive amount of information to be found in it already.

Details of the sources used to build the database and how to search it effectively are available at [vickersmg.blog/about/research/mgcdatabase](http://vickersmg.blog/about/research/mgcdatabase). This includes links to *YouTube* videos.

## WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? WHO DO YOU THINK YOUR ANCESTORS WERE?

(Tracing the historical emergence of self!)

*Doug Slade*

So, 'Who do you think you are?'

In answer to this question, you would probably come up with a statement along the lines of: I am me.... I am a person, I am an individual, I am an autonomous individual self. Modern family historians often aim to reconstruct a record of their forebears to achieve a more profound understanding of them, which includes how they thought.

My intention is to explore the historiographic literature about our ancestors, and the perceptions of self and themselves and how that differs from our perceptions of 'self', and in doing so, I hope will give a greater insight and awareness of them as people, and particularly their mindset; the way they thought. (Historiography is the study and analysis of the interpretation of a specific topic written by past historians.)

The notion of the 'person', 'identity', 'autonomous self', 'I', are often taken for granted, and if we trace them historically, we can discover them as being historically recent, they did not exist as we now understand them prior to the Age of Enlightenment. Although individualism has been a characteristic feature of western culture since the time of the Ancient Greeks, it is only in the last two centuries that it has come to dominate all aspects and all sections of that culture. The emergence of this modern emphasis on the individual is traditionally presented as a progressive development. It is taken to be a sign of the gradual liberation of the individual from communal practices and beliefs, a liberalisation that allows individuals to be 'themselves'.

To the ancient Greeks there is no word to describe 'I', the first-person singular, and emotions were described as not having their origins within the person, but outside the person - emotions 'visit.' The Greek mind nearly 3,000 years ago did not conceive of 'person' as a separate entity in the 'world.' The Persian Empire culture under Darius 1 (521-486 BC) was also characterised by the subjugation of the individual, similarly the Buddha (c563 - 498 BC) sees the person as a response to sacrifice to an external authority and the dissolution of selfhood in that authority. Confucius (c351-473 BC) saw the emphasis upon the need to sacrifice the individual to social law and an exact moral code. Out of this period of history came the notion of personal introspection, which is not a cultivation of self or celebration of self; it is a religious, moral political revelation, which is verified when we look at the reality of democracy.

There was no sense of equating personhood in 5th century Athens with emancipation, liberation, freedom. Indeed, the Greek *idios*, meaning individual, was always subordinate to the *demos*, or community, city-state, politics. From *idios* we get 'idiot', 'idiosy' and 'idiosyncratic'.

The Medieval period saw a new conception of selfhood emerge; this is the idea of 'falling in love,' of personal love (as opposed to arranged love, dutiful love, religious love). In the story of Tristan and Isolde, King Mark of Cornwall sends his nephew,

Tristan, to Ireland to safely escort his wife -to-be by arranged marriage. Tristan and Isolde, however, drink a love potion on the sea journey, and fall in love, disrupting the conventions of the arranged marriage, and placing them both in personal morally difficult relationships with King Mark.

The Renaissance saw the emergence of self-exploration; reflective exploration as can be seen in Shakespeare and Rene Descartes (1590-1650) and this transformed thinking into the Enlightenment project of rationalism, intellectual inquiry with the discontinuity between self and other, and the view that the only certainty I can have is of my own thoughts, which demonstrates, in a rational way my existence, which may all be in my thoughts – ‘I think, therefore I am!’ The ‘I’ that thinks is privatised, causing a split between subjectivity and the object. So, Descartes laid the groundwork for the scientific method of experimentation and so laid the foundation of individualism. The Enlightenment ushered in a period of history characterised by the belief that reason would take the place of that previously occupied by authority, with the notion of an autonomous, stable, rational self-emergence. This version of self was constructed over a relatively short historical period.

Up until the 18th century ‘subject’ meant to be subjected to, or to be under the domination of a sovereign. Subject as ‘thinking agent’ did not enter the language until the 18th century. Thus, in using historiography to analyse and study what has been written in the interpretation of a topic such as the emergence of self, it is possible to identify the changing interpretations of self in the words of individual historians, and in so doing gain a greater understanding of our ancestors and their mindset.

For many people in our culture, the body probably stands as the most important marker of ‘me’. We have seen how the body is represented differently across cultures and across historical periods; the body seen as a mechanism; in Romantic thinking, it is a process or an organism. In Enlightenment the body was taken as something to be explored and laid bare; to be measured, dissected, mapped, catalogued, ordered.

So, we can see historically different discourses on self-emerging, each discourse constructing a particular slant. This reminds us that the status of ‘person’ is subject to cultural and historical conditions, as we saw in 5th century Athens, the Classical world defining democracy and nation state was not extended to women and slaves. In effect denying a critical element of selfhood - political autonomy.

Discourses always construct, and it is interesting (and often amusing) to identify, trace and analyse the origins of a given discourse as all have a history. One such discourse supports the emergence of the individual. Ivan Illich (1985) tracing the history of the WC in Britain, does not tell us how the components of the toilet came together, but why they may have appeared in the way they did. His answer is that the emergence of the WC was not a product of a discourse on hygiene as might be expected at first glance, but of the emerging upper- and middle-class discourse of ‘privacy’ and the private individual (individualism) in the eighteenth century. The object (water closet) and its affiliated practices are then ‘produced’ from a number of discourses related to the need for persons to be ‘private’ or display individuality and making certain spaces in the house ‘private’ or individualised, which produced new ‘private’ identities (traced in

eighteenth century Britain by Barker - Benfield, 1996). The emergence of a discourse establishes social practice, the establishment and construction of the concept of self, individual, privacy.

If we return to the question ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ We can now perhaps see we have a different perception of self than our ancestors did, which may give us more insight and understanding of them and less likely to impose the assumptions of the present day on the past.

### Really Useful Podcast

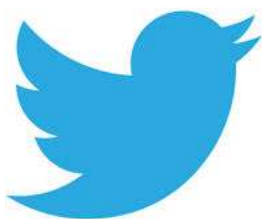
If podcasts are your preferred media, then you can learn about Family History research techniques for free by visiting [exploreyourgenealogy.co.uk/podcast](http://exploreyourgenealogy.co.uk/podcast), brought to you by the Family History Federation. Topics include:

Researching Women	Introduction to archives
Yorkshire ancestors	Beyond the 19th century
Proof is essential	Getting started with DNA

### Safeguarding

The BFHS Safeguarding policy can be found on our website, or a hard copy may be requested by writing to the BFHS Secretary whose contact details can be found inside the back cover.

If a BFHS member becomes aware of any safeguarding issue, they should ensure that the safety and comfort of the person at risk is secured as a first priority.



We're on Twitter!

Come and say hello.

We take part in #ancestryhour each

Tuesday evening, 7-8pm

[www.twitter.com/BedsFHS](http://www.twitter.com/BedsFHS)





## RECENT TALKS

*Were you unable to attend the talk given by Nick Barratt to the Society on 4 October at Mark Rutherford school, or use Zoom to join the live audience, or catch up by viewing Nick's talk through the Members' Portal of our website? If you missed out, Nick has kindly allowed us to reproduce the essence of his leaflet 'Tracing the history of your house' below to assist your research. Note that web addresses for the resources quoted are liable to change with time and can end up being archived.*

### TRACING THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE

*Nick Barrat*

#### INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered how old your house is, or perhaps who lived there before you? Whilst an official 'listing' for an old property (Grade II, Grade II\* or Grade I) might provide you with a rough construction date, you can undertake your own research online, and in historic records in libraries and archives, to uncover the rich social history of your property. This guide introduces you to the main sources that are available, complete with top tips. It primarily covers England and Wales, though unique Scottish sources are noted.

#### GETTING STARTED

##### *Step One: Gathering Clues*

Bring together everything you know about your house and start to plot key dates on a timeline. You may want to see if there is a local historical society<sup>1</sup> - they may already have conducted research on your house, street, or village - and chat to older residents in the area who may have stories, documents, or photographs.

##### *Step Two: Locating Your House Through Time*

Identify the key administrative areas in which your house stands, or once stood - these will change over time. The key ones are electoral ward, parish, poor law union, manor, or estate. This information should be available online,<sup>2</sup> but you may need to go to your local study centre or main library to research this. Archives often arrange material by administrative district, rather than by the name of the house or street.

##### *Step Three: Maps*

You can trace how the local area changed over time by looking at historic maps.<sup>3</sup> You can download old Ordnance Survey maps from various commercial sites, though print copies are usually available at your nearest local study centre or archive (where you

---

<sup>1</sup> British Association for Local History (BALH) can help you find a local history organisation under Useful Links, [balh.org.uk](http://balh.org.uk).

<sup>2</sup> GENUKI provides links to archives as well as historic administrative areas [genuki.org.uk/big](http://genuki.org.uk/big).

<sup>3</sup> Modern aerial views [earth.google.co.uk](http://earth.google.co.uk) with historic maps including [old-maps.co.uk](http://old-maps.co.uk) or [oldmapsonline.org](http://oldmapsonline.org) or [myhistoricmap.co.uk](http://myhistoricmap.co.uk).

might also find old photographs). If your house appears on one map but not on an earlier version, this suggests it was built in the intervening years.

### *Top Tips*

Keep prints of historic maps with you when you go into the archives, noting relevant administrative districts on each to help you navigate the records more easily. It will also enable staff there to guide you towards key records.

Compare a modern aerial view of your property with older maps to help you spot it quickly, ensuring that you have some key reference points in the local area to assist identification.

## ARCHITECTURAL CLUES

The way your house was constructed, and the materials used during the building process, can give you some invaluable clues to its age and status. Analysing the exterior and interior of your house should be your next research phase.

### *Regional Building Styles<sup>4</sup>*

Prior to the seventeenth century, builders would construct houses on a local, regional basis according to tradition and the materials they had to hand. Hence, you will find stone-built houses across the north of the country - sandstone in the northwest, limestone in the northeast and central regions, slate and flint in Wales. Brick started to emerge in the midlands from an early period, whilst wood - a sign of wealth - became a feature of timber-framed houses in the east. A mixture of mud, grit and straw was the hallmark of long houses across the southwest.

### *Polite Architecture<sup>5</sup>*

From the early eighteenth century onwards, national building styles started to appear, with common features defining each period. Georgian houses were constructed using symmetrical windows and doors, emulating classical architecture from Roman times; more exotic influences started to appear by the start of the nineteenth century during the Regency period. Terracing emerged throughout the nineteenth century to cater for an expanding population, with the middle classes embracing a range of styles - Neo-Gothic, Arts and Crafts, Vernacular Revival. Another style you may recognise is Art Deco from the 1920s and 1930s.

### *Top Tips*

Compare the style of your house with others in the same area to see if it is similar or dramatically different. The location is also a clue - older houses are often nestled near

---

<sup>4</sup> R W Brunskill's '*Vernacular Architecture: An Illustrated Handbook*' is the best publication to explore local build styles.

<sup>5</sup> Countryside books have produced a range of titles that help you identify different periods of polite architecture.

the centre of a town or village, with subsequent phases of development radiating outwards.

Properties evolved over time and may be harder to ‘analyse’. The core of a house will be the foundations, so check for handmade bricks - a sign of age. However, watch out for building materials that were recycled in later refurbishments, as well as retrospective or mock building styles mimicking an earlier period.

Check to see if you can find any discarded items in your garden - ‘backyard archaeology’ can reveal clues about how people lived. You can research how your house might have been decorated inside, analysing old wallpaper or paint samples that you find.

## BUILDING A TIMELINE

There are a range of sources that will help you construct a timeline for your house from the middle of the nineteenth century onwards, providing details of the owners and occupiers. When researching, work from the present day back to the past to ensure that you are tracking the right house; house numbers or even street names will change over time. You should therefore tackle these resources in the order in which they have been listed.

### *Step One: Modern Occupancy Records*

These resources allow you to track modern property occupancy from the present day back to the start of the twentieth century, and sometimes earlier.

Electoral lists:<sup>6</sup> you can consult them at main or central libraries, with a national set at the British Library, London. The records are arranged by Parliamentary constituency (which may have changed its boundaries over time, hence the importance of checking this in advance!), and then usually by electoral ward and thereafter by street. There will be a gap between 1939-1945 due to the Second World War when no lists were compiled, and the records become sparser the further back you go, due to a limited franchise.

Trade and street directories: official publications listing commercial and residential occupants of a town or area, dating back to the late eighteenth century but covering a greater percentage of the population from the late nineteenth century onwards. These can be found in local study collections or archives, with a greater amount appearing online. The main titles include Kelly’s, Pigot’s and Post Office directories.

Rate books and valuation rolls: local taxation was often levied on owners and or occupiers, so the records were arranged by street and property and are held in local archives. There are good records for London, given the need to fund a new sewer network from the 1860s onwards, and other metropolitan and urban areas. Valuation rolls for Scotland survive primarily from 1855.<sup>7</sup>

### *Step Two: The Second World War*

---

<sup>6</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/electoral-registration](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/electoral-registration).

<sup>7</sup> [nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/valuation-rolls](https://nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/valuation-rolls).

There are two sources available to plug the gap caused by the absence of electoral lists during the Second World War.

1939 Register:<sup>8</sup> this was compiled at the outbreak of the Second World War to provide a snapshot of the civilian population in England and Wales, covering around 40 million people. The records are now available from commercial websites.

National Farm Survey:<sup>9</sup> the government conducted a national survey of farms between 1941 and 1943 to assess yield and productivity to help the war effort. The documents note the name of the owner and occupier, as well as information about the farm, with the extent of the property noted on accompanying maps. This is a good source for rural or agricultural properties.

### *Step Three: The 1910 Valuation Office Survey*

The 1910 Finance Act aimed to raise taxation from property and land. A survey was made of every property in the country, with its boundaries marked on an Ordnance Survey sheet and assigned a unique 'hereditament number'. An accompanying field book contained relevant information including the name of the owner and occupier for each house; dates of recent sales; whether the property is leasehold, freehold or copyhold (its tenure); and often a short description of the rooms. This is a major source<sup>10</sup> for house history, and it is worth noting the names of occupants for the entire street, not just your house. You can then use this data to compare with other records such as census returns (see below), noting any prominent landmarks such as pubs that can serve as points of reference in relation to your property if there are no house numbers recorded in the census.

### *Step Four: Census Returns*

From 1801, a population headcount or census was taken every ten years, with the names of the occupants of each household noted from 1841 and detailed biographical information recorded from 1851 onwards. The records up to 1911 are available to search online,<sup>11</sup> and by combining the information with the 1910 valuation office survey you can spot patterns of occupancy even if house numbers are missing. You will also get a sense of the people who lived in your house, including their occupations.

### *Step Five: Tithe Apportionments*

Since medieval times, tithes had been paid by parishioners to support the local rector or vicar - one tenth of all crops grown on specific land within the parish. In 1836,

---

<sup>8</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/1939-register](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/1939-register).

<sup>9</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/national-farm-survey-england-wales-1941-1943](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/national-farm-survey-england-wales-1941-1943).

<sup>10</sup> Information via The National Archives, where the records are held, [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/valuation-office-survey-land-value-ownership-1910-1915](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/valuation-office-survey-land-value-ownership-1910-1915).

<sup>11</sup> Information, and access to records via commercial sites, via The National Archives, [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/census-records](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/census-records).

payments in kind were abolished, and commuted to a fixed monetary rentcharge. All titheable land in the parish was assessed, with plots noted on maps and details of owners and occupiers recorded in an apportionment schedule.<sup>12</sup> This is a great resource for house historians, as many properties were recorded - but it can also tell you who owned the land if your house had not been built yet. If you can't find a tithe apportionment for your parish, look for an earlier enclosure award which may be at The National Archives or county archives.<sup>13</sup>

## OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS

Having constructed your timeline of owners and occupiers, you now have information that will enable you to search earlier periods, as well as add detail about the lives of former residents and expand your knowledge of the local area. However, you may encounter records written in Latin before 1732.

### *Conveyancing And Title Deeds*

Conveyancing describes the processes used by people over time to transfer property between each other, with all transactions framed by laws regulating the sale and ownership of land. This is a complicated area, so the focus here is on the sources of information you can look for.

Title deeds, sometimes referred to as muniments of title, are the accumulated records generated by these transactions. These are private documents and are passed to the owner of the house at the point of sale.

Many title deeds have been lost, so may not survive for your house. Some have been collected by archives and libraries, or amongst the papers of larger estates and land agents. Title deeds for property linked to Crown land can be found at The National Archives.

## REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY SALES

The Land Registry was established in 1862 to record all property transactions in England and Wales. You can download details of the most recent conveyance of a property, as well as a map depicting its boundaries.<sup>14</sup> Historic title deeds and transactions may be elsewhere.

A similar system existed for Scotland, with the register of sasines<sup>15</sup> and accompanying abridgements dating back to 1617.<sup>16</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> Information via The National Archives, where records are stored jointly with county archives [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/tithes](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/tithes).

<sup>13</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/enclosure-awards](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/enclosure-awards).

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/land-registry>.

<sup>15</sup> The granting of legal possession of feudal property

<sup>16</sup> [nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/sasines](https://nrscotland.gov.uk/research/research-guides/research-guides-a-z/sasines).

Before the national Land Registry, various local deed registries existed in Middlesex, Yorkshire and the Bedford Level with records accessed via the respective county archives.

Many royal courts were used to enrol deeds and transactions as proof of ownership<sup>17</sup>.

You might also find notices of sale advertised in newspapers, or sale particulars and estate agent papers in local archives.

## LAND TENURE

The way land was in England and Wales depended on its tenure - freehold, leasehold or copyhold – determined by the manorial system, established in the 11th century. Details about how manors were organised, and the records that relate to their administration, can be found via The National Archives.<sup>18</sup>

Freehold land - held free of the customs of the manor - could be bought or sold without prior permission from the lord of the manor. You need to look for conveyancing records and title deeds as outlined above, and you may spot later freehold property in land tax returns before 1832, held in county archives amongst Quarter Session records. However, copyhold land - held according to the customs of the manor - had to be surrendered to the manorial court so that the next owner could be admitted as tenant, with the transaction recorded in court rolls. These documents are a great resource for house historians and can be located via the Manorial Documents Register.<sup>19</sup>

Other manorial and estate records exist, including rentals, surveys, maps, and accounts.

### *Property Inheritance*

You may find that houses, property, and land were bequeathed as inheritance – although normally the main property descended by right to the heir at law, often the oldest male. You can access wills and probate documents, where this information may be contained.

Registration of wills in England and Wales was complicated before 1858, with two higher courts at Canterbury and York, and a series of local diocesan registries depending on where the deceased lived, and the value of their estate. Canterbury records for southern wills are at The National Archives.<sup>20</sup> The Borthwick Institute, University of York holds northern wills.<sup>21</sup> Welsh diocesan wills can be found at the National Library of Wales<sup>22</sup>. You can order modern wills after 1858 online.<sup>23</sup> You can access Scottish

---

<sup>17</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/enrolment-of-deeds-registration-of-titles-land](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/enrolment-of-deeds-registration-of-titles-land).

<sup>18</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/manors-further-research](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/manors-further-research).

<sup>19</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/manorial-documents-lordships-how-to-use-manorial-document-register](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/manorial-documents-lordships-how-to-use-manorial-document-register).

<sup>20</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/wills-and-probate-before-1858-further-research](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/wills-and-probate-before-1858-further-research).

<sup>21</sup> [york.ac.uk/borthwick/holdings/research-guides/probate-courts](https://york.ac.uk/borthwick/holdings/research-guides/probate-courts).

<sup>22</sup> [library.wales/catalogues-searching/catalogues/specialist-catalogues/wills/wills](https://library.wales/catalogues-searching/catalogues/specialist-catalogues/wills/wills).



wills via the National Records of Scotland.<sup>24</sup>

## LEGAL RECORDS

Property disputes, sometimes linked to inheritance, often ended up in court –usually one that followed the process of ‘equity’ pleadings. This is another complicated area, but provided you know the name of the plaintiff or defendant, you should be able to search the records held at The National Archives. The National Archives has written a series of research guides to help you navigate the records.<sup>24, 25, 26</sup>

## GOING FURTHER

### *National Events*

Several national events generated land sales and property transactions across the country. The dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII saw church land pass into lay hands, overseen by the Court of Augmentations.<sup>27</sup>

Equally, the English civil war saw Royalist property sequestered and sold off, with others ‘compounding’ to retain their lands. Committee records are a good source for tracking property.<sup>28</sup>

German bombing raids targeted parts of Britain during the Second World War, known as the Blitz. Maps were drawn up noting where bombs fell, indicating the scale of the damage around the blast radius; these were often accompanied by reports of casualties.<sup>29</sup>

## LOCAL HISTORY

You should also investigate the impact of local events that may have affected the construction of property, such as the industrial revolution and accompanying urbanisation - check which industries emerged to see if there are records.

Equally, the coming of the railways saw new properties and streets built. Throughout the nineteenth century, new utilities were introduced - often managed by private companies that kept records of the properties they served.

---

<sup>23</sup> [gov.uk/search-will-probate](https://gov.uk/search-will-probate).

<sup>24</sup> [nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/wills-and-testaments](https://nrscotland.gov.uk/research/guides/wills-and-testaments).

<sup>25</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/chancery-equity-suits-after-1558](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/chancery-equity-suits-after-1558).

<sup>26</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/civil-court-cases-chancery-division-since-1875](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/civil-court-cases-chancery-division-since-1875).

<sup>27</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/dissolution-monasteries-1536-1540/#5-consequences-of-the-dissolution-key-records](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/dissolution-monasteries-1536-1540/#5-consequences-of-the-dissolution-key-records)

<sup>28</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/crown-church-royalist-lands-1642-1660](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/crown-church-royalist-lands-1642-1660)

<sup>29</sup> [nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/bomb-census-survey-records-1940-1945](https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/bomb-census-survey-records-1940-1945)

As areas changed over time, planning permission was required to build houses, with maps and plans generated for slum clearance programmes and new estates; many of these records can be found both locally and at The National Archives amongst the papers created by new departments formed to look after housing and local government.

## OTHER SOURCES

This guide has covered most of the main sources that you will need to trace the history of your house, but each property will have a unique research trail and there are plenty of other documents!

You can try fire insurance records, organised by private companies that sold policies to individuals and valued the contents - many of these registers survive for companies such as Phoenix, Royal Exchange, or Sun, linked to 'fire marks' placed on properties that note the policy number.

Various property taxes over time focused on specific features, such as the seventeenth century hearth tax and later window and house taxes. There are also various local rates to investigate.

You can also look for a wider range of personal records that may contain details of what life was like in a property, such as personal correspondence or diaries. You may need to undertake some genealogical research to find out more about particular families who owned your house.

As you become more experienced, you will explore a wide range of archives and libraries and discover your own records.

## HAPPY HUNTING

Becoming your own house detective will leave you feeling as though you are the curator of a piece of history, rather than just a homeowner; and you will soon feel a connection with the people who lived within its walls before you.

## GETTING HELP

Established in 1993, The Listed Property Owners' Club<sup>30</sup> is the authoritative source of information and advice on the maintenance, responsibilities, and obligations of ownership of Britain's protected buildings. Additionally, it provides a voice in Parliament to represent the views of its members. Members benefit from the Club's bi-monthly magazine *Listed Heritage*, a dedicated telephone helpline where you can speak to experts on conservation, VAT, law, planning, and insurance, plus the Suppliers Directory of professionals, builders and tradesmen, which is the first port of call for many listed building owners across the country.

---

<sup>30</sup> [lpoc.co.uk](http://lpoc.co.uk)

## THE FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION

Cople is a sturdy village and keeps its character. The sketch shows the familiar corner by the church and the smithy. All Saints Church has a remarkable gallery of brass portraits, that of Walter ROLOND, in his Agincourt armour, being the oldest in Bedfordshire. On another brass is Anne LAUNCELYN, who was a nurse to the boy who grew up to be 'bluff King Hal'<sup>1</sup>. The village smithy has had a long career and is in great demand again.

This illustration and text are taken from *Our Heritage: A Bedfordshire Sketch Book* drawings by G Alan Fortescue, FRIBA, notes by *Touchstone*, published 1943.

## THE FRONT COVER ILLUSTRATION AS IT IS TODAY

*Paul Woodcraft*



In this issue we find ourselves in Cople a small village East of Bedford. As you see from the photo the house is very much as it was in the drawing. A number of trees have grown, and you can only just see the old smithy. This is now a car sales outlet. The fine church and its tower can be seen in the background.

---

<sup>1</sup> Henry VIII. One meaning of 'bluff' is big, hearty, larger than life. 'Hal' is a contraction of Henry.



## Bedfordshire Genealogy, Family and House History

Specialists in genealogy, family and house history research in  
Bedfordshire.

Our lead researcher is Vicki Manners a qualified genealogist who is a member of the Register of Qualified Genealogists and an associate member of **AGRA**.

Her qualifications include:

M.A. in Local History

P.G. Cert. in Family and Local History

P.G. Dip. in Archive Management

Vicki has worked for Bedfordshire Archives, The Panacea Museum, and several other heritage organisations in Bedfordshire thus giving her a unique and specialist knowledge of genealogy, family and house history records relating to Bedfordshire.

Vicki also specialises in genetic genealogy. She can therefore advise you on which tests are most suitable for your research aims, as well as help you interpret to your DNA results and matches.

We offer a free, no obligation initial consultation. To find out more telephone: 07976 718624.

**[bedfordshireresearch.co.uk](http://bedfordshireresearch.co.uk)**

## **BEDFORDSHIRE**

### **Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire**

Family and Local History Research (including Probate Transcriptions)  
undertaken by

#### **COLIN DAVISON**

66 Sudeley Walk, BEDFORD

Bedfordshire MK41 8JH

England

Tel: (01234) 364956

Email: [colinndavison@gmail.com](mailto:colinndavison@gmail.com)

*Member of the  
Association of Genealogists & Researchers in Archives*

Professional Service Offered. All Enquiries Welcome

## **BEDFORDSHIRE HERITAGE TEA TOWELS**

The Society has had a supply of Bedfordshire Heritage tea towels printed and these are now being sold to raise funds. These tea towels are really too nice to use for drying up; they are beautifully colour printed with some famous Bedfordshire landmarks forming a border for the County map. Even if you do not have any Bedfordshire ancestors, they make ideal gifts.

They are 100% cotton and at £4.50 each can be obtained from the bookstall at members' meetings, by email to [secretary@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bfhs.org.uk), or by post to Lynn Manning at 38 Risborough Road, Bedford, MK41 9QW, Tel. 01234 306482. For UK orders please add **postage and packing** as follows:

Up to 2 tea towels add	£2.00
3 to 6 tea towels add	£3.00

For orders from outside the UK please enquire before ordering. Cheques should be made payable to Bedfordshire Family History Society.



# Bedfordshire Heritage

**John Bunyan**  
born Elstow 1628  
Preacher and author of  
*'The Pilgrim's Progress'*  
—The John Bunyan Trail—

**Roanoke of North Bedfordshire**

**Strevington Mill**

**Banks of Yidden**  
Romanic Iron Age

**Moot Hall Elstow**

**Bedfordshire County Council**

**Rushden**

**Yidden**

**Sunneshad**

**Riseley**

**Keysoe**

**Bushmead Priory**

**Eaton Socon**

**'Black Tom'**  
Thomas Whitman  
Highwaysman  
born Bedford 1723

**Wymington**

**Amotins Green**

**Bedington**

**Sharnbrook**

**Harrold**

**Bromham Mill**

**Stonington**

**Turkey**

**Bromham**

**Willington**

**Pottom**

**Willington Dovecote**

**Clapham**

**Bedford**

**Great Barkford**

**Tempesford**

**Sandy**

**Wingsworth**

**Biggleswade**

**Dunton**

**Dan Albone**

**Champion cyclist & inventor**  
born Biggleswade 1860

**Wilstead**  
Wilstead, Wilstead, you  
wilead people, sold the bells  
to build the steeple!

**Cardington**

**Old Warden**

**Broom**

**Stewartsby**

**Wilstead**

**Haynes**

**Chicksands Priory**

**Shefford**

**Henlow**

**Stotfold**

**Crunchfield**

**Seaworthy Damaged**

**Salford**

**Aspley Guise**

**Husbome Crawley**

**Woburn**

**Woburn Abbey**

**Wrest Park**

**Shillington**

**Forham Almshouses Broom**

**Shuttleworth Collection Old Warden**

**Chicksands Priory**

**Amphill**

**Maulden**

**Claphill**

**Flitwick**

**Pulloxhill**

**Barton-le-Clay**

**Westoning**

**Harlington**

**Toddington**

**Wrest Park**

**The Bunyan Oak**  
Harlington

**Houghton Regis**

**Leagrave**

**'The Batters'**

**Luton**

**Luton Zoo**

**Luton Hoo**

**Bedfordshire hand-made lace**

**Cecil Higgins Art Gallery**  
Bedford

**Luton Hoo**

**Glenn Miller's AEF Band**  
was stationed at Bedford  
July 1944. His fatal  
flight left from  
Milton Ernest Dec. 1944.

**Leighton Buzzard**

**Leighton Buzzard**

**Henry VIII**  
divorced  
Catherine of Aragon  
at Dunstable 1533.  
She had been captive  
at Ampthill.

**Chilton**

Miles

© 2007 Bedford Borough Council

Drawn by Bob Sherman 0158 960 7028

## WHY NOT WRITE SOMETHING FOR THE JOURNAL?

We are always on the lookout for contributions to the *Journal*, any size, short or long. To give you some idea, a *Journal* page takes around 450 words to fill. We would also welcome items shorter than a page. You might feel more comfortable writing a letter or email on a topic, and this would be included in a '**Letters**' page in the *Journal*.

No need to worry if you are not used to writing, we are here to help. Seeing your own work in print can feel like a real achievement and others will appreciate your effort. Simply writing down your 'brick wall' can help you see the problem more clearly and, you never know, someone reading it may be able to help you move forward.

A great way to start is to take a small part of your family tree and describe the main characters, where and when they lived and died, and any stumbling blocks you encountered in researching their history, such as name changes or document transcription errors. Photographs of those in your family history add colour to the story as do copies of documents that acted as your source material.

If you need ideas to get you going or would like to discuss your ideas, please send an email to **journal@bfhs.org.uk**.

### DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS?

We notify our members via email about any zoom/hybrid meetings; however, some get bounced back and for some members we do not have an email address. If you have not been receiving these emails from us it means that we do not have your email address, or the email address we have is incorrect or your mailbox is full.

If you have an email address but are not getting our emails but would like to do so, please send your current email address to **treasurer@bfhs.org.uk**.

### REMINDER

The CLOSING DATE for articles to be published in the  
March 2025 *Journal* is **31 January 2025**.

(Articles submitted near the closing date may not  
be published until the following *Journal*)



Bedfordshire Family History Society has a presence on Facebook for news and discussions:

[facebook.com/BedfordshireFamilyHistorySociety](https://facebook.com/BedfordshireFamilyHistorySociety)

## BEDFORDSHIRE PARISH REGISTERS

Many new computers do not have CD drives, so we are pleased to announce that all our CDs are now available for sale as downloads from Parish Chest and Genfair.

The available downloads include all 128 Bedfordshire Parish Registers, Bedfordshire Nonconformist Registers, Marriage Licences, Poor Law papers, BFHS back Journals Vol 1-19 with an index to surnames and subjects, and the four Bedfordshire Will books. BFHS Journals volumes 20-24 are available free in the Members' Portal of the BFHS website.

To access the stores directly please visit [parishchest.com](http://parishchest.com) or [genfair.co.uk](http://genfair.co.uk), although the simplest way of accessing a BFHS download is to visit our website [bfhs.org.uk](http://bfhs.org.uk) then select 'Online Stores'. If you then select Parish Chest the majority of the downloads are to be found in the 'Downloads' folder, but Poor Law, Journals and Wills book are listed under the appropriate folder located down the left-hand side of the screen. If you select Genfair, the downloads are listed alongside the CDs in the relevant section. Both stores have a search feature, and the content of each product is given. Downloads are the same price as the CDs.

BFHS has produced a resource to help in finding your missing relations. If they were baptised or buried before 1852 or married before 1837 (and in some cases later) in Bedfordshire and appear in the Parish Registers, then they will appear on our Surnames CD, available as a free download on the home page of [bfhs.org.uk](http://bfhs.org.uk). Alternatively, the CD is available for only £10 including UK P&P, from Sales, Bedfordshire Family History Society, PO Box 214, Bedford MK41 8WB, enquiries to [bookstall@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@bfhs.org.uk).

CDs for all 128 ancient Bedfordshire parishes listed below are available from:

Sales, Bedfordshire Family History Society, PO Box 214, Bedford MK41 8WB, or [bookstall@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:bookstall@bfhs.org.uk)

Each CD or download contains, for one parish:

All Parish Register transcripts up to 1812 and searchable Indexes to the Parish Registers for:

Baptisms at least 1813-1851 (some parishes all up to 1851)

Marriages up to 1885; and all Burials to 1851

The relevant 1851 Census Index for Bedfordshire

CDs marked † also contain Monumental Inscriptions (MIs) from a graveyard in the



parish (church, chapel, or cemetery). Those marked \* contain records from the registers or graveyards of Nonconformist chapels in the parish, photographs, and other records are included as available.

‡ Holwell: MIs and Burials only, not Registers (now in Herts).

Prices include UK or overseas post and packing. The cost of a full set of Parish CDs is £1,250.

Any recently revised CDs are indicated by the issue number in bold. **Please note that CDs will no longer be updated** whereas downloads will be updated when more indexes and any new MI listings become available.

Parish	Price	Issue	Parish	Price	Issue
Amphill † *	£15	2	Dunton †	£15	2
Arlesey	£20	2	Eaton Bray	£20	2
Aspley Guise †	£15	4	Eaton Socon † *	£25	2
Astwick †	£10	2	Edworth †	£10	2
Barton	£15	3	Elstow †	£15	2
Battlesden	£10	2	Eversholt †	£15	2
Bedford St Cuthbert †*	£15	2	Everton	£10	2
Bedford St John *	£15	2	Eyeworth	£10	2
Bedford St Mary † *	£15	2	Farndish †	£10	1
Bedford St Paul † *	£25	2	Felmersham † *	£10	2
Bedford St Peter *	£10	2	Flitton *	£15	4
Biddenham †	£10	2	Flitwick	£10	2
Biggleswade † *	£15	2	Goldington	£10	2
Billington †	£10	2	Great Barford †	£15	3
Bletsoe	£10	2	Harlington †	£10	2
Blunham † *	£15	3	Harrold *	£10	2
Bolnhurst	£10	2	Haynes †	£20	2
Bromham †	£10	3	Henlow †	£10	2
Caddington †	£15	2	Higham Gobion	£10	2
Campton & Shefford † *	£20	2	Hockliffe † *	£10	3
Cardington † *	£15	2	Holwell † ‡	£5	1
Carlton † *	£10	2	Houghton Conquest † *	£15	2
Chalgrave	£15	2	Houghton Regis *	£15	2
Chellington	£15	2	Hulcote †	£10	2
Clapham †	£10	3	Husborne Crawley †	£20	2
Clifton	£20	3	Kempston	£15	3
Clophill †	£15	3	Kensworth †	£15	2
Cockayne Hatley	£10	2	Keysoe † *	£15	2
Colmworth †	£10	2	Knotting	£10	2
Cople †	£10	2	Langford	£15	2
Cranfield † *	£15	2	Leighton Buzzard † *	£20	6
Dean † *	£15	1	Lidlington †	£10	2
Dunstable † *	£15	2	Little Barford †	£10	1

Parish	Price	Issue	Parish	Price	Issue
Little Staughton † *	£10	2	Southill † *	£20	2
Lower Gravenhurst †	£10	2	Stagsden †	£15	2
Luton † *	£30	3	Stanbridge *	£10	2
Marston Moretaine †	£15	3	Steppingley †	£10	2
Maulden † *	£15	2	Stevington † *	£10	2
Melchbourne †	£10	2	Stotfold † *	£10	2
Meppershall †	£10	1	Streatley †	£10	2
Millbrook	£15	2	Studham	£15	2
Milton Bryan †	£10	2	Sundon †	£10	1
Milton Ernest †	£10	2	Sutton	£15	2
Northill †	£15	2	Swineshead †	£10	2
Oakley †	£10	2	Tempsford †	£10	2
Odell †	£10	2	Thurleigh	£10	2
Old Warden †	£15	2	Tilbrook	£10	2
Pavenham	£10	3	Tilsworth † *	£10	2
Pertenhall	£15	1	Tingrith †	£10	2
Podington	£15	1	Toddington † *	£15	2
Potsgrove †	£10	2	Totternhoe *	£15	2
Potton † *	£20	3	Turvey † *	£20	2
Pulloxhill	£10	2	Upper Gravenhurst	£10	2
Ravensden †	£10	2	Upper Stondon	£10	2
Renhold	£10	2	Westoning †	£10	3
Ridgmont † *	£15	2	Whipsnade †	£10	2
Riseley	£10	2	Wilden †	£15	2
Roxton † *	£10	2	Willington †	£10	2
Salford †	£10	2	Wilstead †	£20	2
Sandy † *	£15	1	Woburn † *	£20	2
Sharnbrook	£10	2	Wootton	£15	2
Shelton †	£10	2	Wrestlingworth †	£15	3
Shillington †	£15	2	Wymington	£10	1
Souldrop †	£10	2	Yelden †	£10	2

Your committee is continually looking for ways to improve what is offered to members. So, to encourage more feedback from members at meetings we now have a suggestion

box. For members who are not able to use the suggestion box we invite you to email us at **bfhs@bfhs.org.uk**.



Your committee appreciates any help, ideas, or suggestions that you may have regarding any aspect of the BFHS organisation.

## WHERE TO FIND US

Correspondence for the Executive Committee should be addressed to the appropriate person and sent to:

### Bedfordshire Family History Society

<b>PO Box 214 BEDFORD MK41 8WB</b>	<b>Internet:</b> <a href="http://bfhs.org.uk">bfhs.org.uk</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:bfhs@bfhs.org.uk">bfhs@bfhs.org.uk</a>  <b>Web Sales:</b> <a href="http://parishchest.com">parishchest.com</a> <a href="http://genfair.co.uk">genfair.co.uk</a>
--	---

The following email addresses are also available:

<b>chairman@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>secretary@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>treasurer@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>journal@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>librarian@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>membership@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>progsec@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>bookstall@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>publicity@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>research@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>searches@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>gdpr@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>minsec@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>webmaster@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>distribution@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>surname.interests@bfhs.org.uk</b> <b>Research.Centre@bfhs.org.uk</b>	Society Chairman Society Secretary Society Treasurer Journal Co-ordinator Society Librarian Membership Secretary Programme Secretary BFHS Publications Sales Enquiries (CDs, etc) Publicity Officer Research Co-ordinator Search Co-ordinator Information Manager Minutes Secretary Society Webmaster Journal Distribution Surname Interests Research Centre Enquiries
---	--

### ADVERTISEMENT RATES (per issue)

	Vertical	Horizontal	Rate
Full page	160 mm x 250 mm	250 mm x 160 mm	£40.00
Half page	80 mm x 250 mm	125 mm x 160 mm	£20.00
¼ page	80 mm x 125 mm	60 mm x 160 mm	£10.00

Sizes above are for an A4 sheet which will be reduced by printing to A5. Copy should be sent to: [journal@bfhs.org.uk](mailto:journal@bfhs.org.uk) or The Journal Co-ordinator, PO Box 214, Bedford MK41 8WB. Payment by cheque and bank transfer should be made payable to Bedfordshire Family History Society. For bank transfer the sort code is 20-05-73 and account number is 93516105. There is a 10% discount for orders for four consecutive issues of the *Journal*. Past orders at the previous rates will be honoured.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

(1 January - 31 December)

Joining Fee	£2.00
<b>UK/Worldwide Membership taking the Journal by email in pdf format</b>	<b>£8.00 pa</b>
UK Membership with one copy per issue of the printed Journal	£10.00 pa
European Membership with one copy per issue of the printed Journal	£14.00 pa
Worldwide Membership with one copy per issue of the printed Journal	£18.00 pa
Family Membership per each additional member at the same address, but no additional Journal	£1.00 pa

**General Data Protection Regulation:** Please note that the Society uses computer and manual systems to record membership information. The information you give on your application for membership will only be used for conducting Society business and will not be supplied to anyone else in any form except:-

1. Where it is needed by the independent examiner in his inspection of our financial records.
2. Where it must be supplied to HMRC, e.g. in connection with gift aid submissions.
3. Where we are required to do so by law.

If you have any questions or concerns over the data held, please contact the Information Manager.

*Printed by* The Colour Shop, 111 Castle Road, Bedford, MK40 3QX

If undelivered please return to: Bedfordshire Family History Soc. PO Box 214, BEDFORD, MK41 8WB.