

# CHESHIRE ANCESTOR



*The Journal of the*  
**Family History Society of Cheshire**



*In this edition...*

**My Family Hero: Ursula Phillips, Midwife**  
***A Farm Through Time (Pt 2) ❖ Writing a Biography***  
***Cheshire's Crimean Heroes ❖ Coronation Memories***  
***Who was Eliza Crowe? ❖ 1872 News and more...***

**Volume 53    September 2022    Issue No.1**

ISSN 1460-0277

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*Cover picture: Church of St John the Baptist, Knutsford.*

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*See Cheshire's Crimean Heroes, by Tony Sant, page 43.*



# CHESHIRE ANCESTOR

Registered Charity: 515168

Society website: [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk)

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Cheshire Ancestor is published in March, June, September and December.

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*Our society was founded in 1969 – one of the first family history societies*

## ITEMS FOR THE CHESHIRE ANCESTOR

FINAL copy dates are the 10th day of January, April, July or October.

*The earlier material is submitted, the more help it is to the editor.*

Publication is at the discretion of the editor and is subject to space being available; unused items may be carried over to a later issue. Authors retain the copyright of their own articles after publication but if an article is reprinted please mention that it was previously published in the CHESHIRE ANCESTOR.

Articles are accepted by email (in Microsoft Word, Open Office Writer, or plain text format, using any font type or size), or by post as a manuscript.

Suggested length 300-2000 words. Please write all surnames in CAPITALS.

**If you have typed your article on a computer, please consider the Editor's workload and submit it by email to avoid the article having to be re-typed.**

Illustrations must be **your own, copyright-free images and NOT copies of images or photos found online or in a book**, unless you have written permission from the copyright holder, a copy of which must be included.

Please **email** images (two or three max.) as separate files in JPG format, scanned at minimum 300dpi (higher resolution is required for small photos to allow for enlargement). Please **do not post images printed on normal paper** as they will not reproduce well; and **never post original photos**.

Please include your name, membership number (if a member), and postal or email address. **Please state if you DO want** either or both of your postal or email addresses to be published, otherwise they will be omitted, to comply with GDPR regulations - which means potential 'cousins' cannot contact you.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Advertisements are accepted for publication at the following rates per issue, with a discount when the same copy is run in four consecutive issues:

Full page:	£47 per issue; £170 for 4 issues
Half-page:	£25 per issue; £90 for 4 issues
Quarter-page:	£14 per issue; £50 for 4 issues

Please send a cheque payable to **FHS of Cheshire** to the Treasurer, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope if a receipt is required. Advertising copy to be emailed to the Editor, preferably as a PDF file (addresses inside cover). *Final copy dates for advertisements are TWO MONTHS prior to publication date, i.e. 1st January for the March issue, and so on.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## Editor's Page

*by Rosie Rowley*



Well, producing this issue of the ANCESTOR has been a real test of stamina. I was just preparing to start, in early July, when my husband tested positive for Covid. As you can imagine, I inevitably followed suit a few days later. We spent the next couple of weeks with the front door firmly locked and a sign asking for any deliveries to be left on the doorstep. I spent a good deal of the time either sleeping or resting, not having the energy to do anything productive, but we both seem to have recovered well, without any serious after-effects, thank goodness.

In the last issue I asked members to send me their memories of the 1953 coronation. I would like to thank the four members who wrote to me; their contributions have been printed in this issue, starting on page 30.

On page 49 is an article by David Phillips about his family hero, his 2xgreat-grandmother Ursula Phillips née Humphrey, who was a midwife. I wonder if anyone else has a favourite person in their family? Please do write and share your story about your own special family member. Whilst I love to receive longer articles like David's, a few paragraphs telling us the name of your ancestor, when and where they lived and what makes them special to you would be equally acceptable. Perhaps Paul Chiddick's article about writing a family tree biography on page 40 will help you to get started?

Alternatively, perhaps you have a special item in which has been handed down to you by your ancestors? A piece of furniture, jewellery or even great-granny's old recipe book? Do write and tell us about it, ideally with a photograph.

An unusual gravestone is the subject of the article on page 56. Perhaps you have come across an unusual gravestone yourself, or you may have seen a strange name on a gravestone or in the records while you were researching your family? Please write and share your finds with us!

My thanks go to everyone who sent letters and articles, but I appeal to members to please keep them coming. I have only a few articles in hand and need many more to fill future issues.

## Society News and Notices

**NOTE: At the time of going to press, meetings are subject to alteration or cancellation due to Covid-19.**

### For the Society's Latest News

Keep up-to-date between the quarterly journals by reading the society's emailed newsletters, or follow the FHSC on Facebook or Twitter. Provided that you have given us your correct email address and permission to contact you, you should receive society news by email.

You can subscribe to emails from any group; go to the group's page on the FHSC website and click on the button *Add ... to My Groups*. Check which email newsletters you are subscribed to by clicking on *Newsletters*, then *My Newsletter Subscriptions*. Contact details for all groups are inside the back cover.

### Society Diary Dates

Below is a list of meetings planned at the time of going to press; for full details of seminars and group meetings, please see the Group News pages towards the end of this issue, or check the FHSC website.

Date	Description	Subject
3-Sep-22	Executive Committee	Zoom
8-Sep-22	Bramhall Group	TBA
12-Sep-22	Northwich Group	AGM, followed by An Altrincham Murder in 1868
13-Sep-22	Crewe & Nantwich Grps	Zoom - Society of Genealogists' Digital Collection
14-Sep-22	Sale Group	When I Grow Up I Want to be a Train Driver
17-Sep-22	Alsager Group	Nineteenth Century Maps, followed by AGM
20-Sep-22	Congleton Group	Short AGM, followed by a workshop
20-Sep-22	Wallasey Group	Vikings in Wirral and the North-west
21-Sep-22	FHSC Zoom Seminar	Zoom - Birth and Death: The Hidden Secrets of Registration
22-Sep-22	Tameside Group	AGM, followed by a talk TBA
26-Sep-22	Bebington Group	Long to Reign Over Us

27-Sep-22	Macclesfield Group	AGM
29-Sep-22	Chester Group	A Night at the Pictures: The Story of Chester's Cinemas
10-Oct-22	Northwich Group	TBA
12-Oct-22	Sale Group	Wills and How to Research Them
13-Oct-22	Bramhall Group	TBA
17-Oct-22	Alsager Group	TBA
18-Oct-22	Congleton Group	Place Names and Field Names
18-Oct-22	Crewe & Nantwich Grps	Zoom - National Farm Survey 1940 to 1945
18-Oct-22	Wallasey Group	Zoom - The Ones Nobody Knew About
19-Oct-22	FHSC Zoom Seminar	Zoom - A Mining Disaster: The Story of the 1881 Explosion at Chatterley Whitfield Colliery
24-Oct-22	Bebington Group	Oxton Women's struggle for the vote
25-Oct-22	Macclesfield Group	Charles Tunnicliffe
27-Oct-22	Chester Group	Estate and Manorial Records
27-Oct-22	Tameside Group	Workshop: Finding Burials and MIs in Tameside
5-Nov-22	FHSC AGM	Zoom - Talk: What's That Job? Followed by AGM
8-Nov-22	Crewe & Nantwich Grps	Zoom - Railway Staff Accidents & Family History
9-Nov-22	Sale Group	From Farmland to Flight and Fight
10-Nov-22	Bramhall Group	TBA
14-Nov-22	Northwich Group	TBA
15-Nov-22	Congleton Group	TBA
15-Nov-22	Wallasey Group	Zoom - Barking up the Wrong Tree
21-Nov-22	Alsager Group	TBA
21-Nov-22	FHSC Zoom Seminar	Zoom - History of CWGC
22-Nov-22	Macclesfield Group	Tabley House and the Clever Boy Next Door
24-Nov-22	Chester Group	A Seasonal Miscellany
24-Nov-22	Tameside Group	TBA
28-Nov-22	Bebington Group	Claire House Children's Hospital
6-Dec-22	Crewe & Nantwich Grps	Zoom - Life in a Devon Village
8-Dec-22	Bramhall Group	TBA
12-Dec-22	Alsager Group	Christmas Lunch
12-Dec-22	Bebington Group	Members' Christmas Social
12-Dec-22	Northwich Group	TBA
14-Dec-22	Sale Group	TBA
21-Dec-22	FHSC Zoom Seminar	Zoom - Christmas Food and Drink Through the Ages
10-Jan-23	Crewe & Nantwich Grps	Zoom - My Grandmother's Disreputable Forebears
18-Jan-23	FHSC Zoom Seminar	Zoom - Searching for Adoption Records
21-Jan-23	Executive Committee	Zoom

## Notice of the FHSC 53rd Annual General Meeting

At their meeting held on the 7th May 2022 the Executive Committee agreed that because of the success of the 2021 Online AGM which was attended by more members than the Golden Anniversary AGM of 2019 and because of possible uncertainties in the autumn around Covid 19 the 53rd AGM of FHSC will take place electronically using Zoom on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 3.00pm**. The business meeting will be preceded by a talk by **Dr Sophie Kay** entitled *What's That Job?* The talk will begin **at 2.00pm with login from 1.45pm**.

Members with a valid email address will be sent an AGM Newsletter to coincide with the publication of this notice in the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR** and on the website. This will contain registration details for both the talk and the AGM. Members only intending to attend the Annual General Meeting should not start the login process until **2.55pm**.

Members who do not have internet access, or do not wish to use Zoom, are invited to attend a meeting linked into the AGM via Zoom at one of the following locations:

- The FHSC Research Centre at Mobberley, hosted by David Smetham
- A venue in Tameside (to be confirmed), hosted by Gay Oliver

Members wishing to attend one of these events should contact David at [treasurer@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@fhsc.org.uk) or Gay at [tameside@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:tameside@fhsc.org.uk), in advance of the AGM. Members may also telephone to confirm their attendance using the appropriate telephone number from inside the front or back cover of this publication.

To ensure that the meeting runs smoothly:

- The Secretary's Report, the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report will be available on the website two weeks prior to the meeting. The Reports will be published in December's **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR**.
- It would be helpful if members who have questions about the Reports or the Accounts submit them to the secretary at [secretary@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@fhsc.org.uk) prior to the meeting so that they can be passed to the relevant officers for a response.
- The agenda appears in this edition of the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR**.
- The agenda and the minutes of the 2021 AGM will also be posted on the website.



**Dr Sophie Kay** is a professional genealogist and an AGRA Associate with over seventeen years of experience. She is a qualified research scientist with an Oxford DPhil; she was awarded her doctorate in Systems Biology in 2015. Dr Kay is trained in DNA extraction and genetic analysis as well as being qualified in Latin translation, working with documents in both classical and medieval Latin. Her specialisms include genetics and DNA, death records, historical occupations and genealogical mapping methods. Members who follow the Society's Facebook feed will have enjoyed her *Occupation of the Day* link. Some Cheshire-related occupations will be included in the talk.

## **AGM AGENDA**

The formal business of the Annual General Meeting will be preceded by a talk.

1.45pm: Login for the AGM opens

2.00pm: Talk by Dr Sophie Kay – *What's that Job?*

2.55pm: Login opens for members not attending the talk.

3.00pm: Annual General Meeting

### **Agenda for the 53rd FHSC AGM commencing at 3.00pm**

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

#### **2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 AGM**

#### **3. Chairman's Remarks**

#### **4. Hon. Treasurer's Report and Accounts**

#### **5. Hon Secretary's Annual Report**

#### **6. Elections**

Both the Treasurer's and the Secretary's five-year terms of office have been completed. Nominations for both roles are sought and should be lodged with the Secretary at [secretary@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@fhsc.org.uk) before the meeting.

The Chairman has expressed his willingness to continue in post.

#### **7. Appointment of Independent Examiner**

#### **8. Proposals**

Under its Constitution the Family History of Cheshire invites proposals from its members. The Constitution states that the membership present at the AGM has the opportunity:

To decide by simple majority upon any resolution which may be duly submitted to the meeting for consideration. No resolution, other than those relating to the adoption of reports and accounts, shall be moved at the Annual General Meeting unless a notice in writing, signed by the members who proposes to move it and stating its terms has been received by the Hon Secretary at least forty-two days before the date appointed for the holding of such Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman of the meeting shall, at his or her discretion, and with the consent of the majority of the members present and voting, have the power to admit resolutions of which notice has not been given, if such resolution shall not involve any alterations of the Constitution. Such resolution shall be decided upon by a simple majority of members present and voting.

## 9. Any other business relevant to the AGM.

### **1872 News (1) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872**

#### KNUTSFORD PETTY SESSIONS

ASSAULT – **Francis Hackett** was fined 5s and costs for assaulting **Timothy Kenna** at Knutsford on the 3rd August.

A GLOOMY BEGINNING – **Sarah Littler** was summoned for unlawfully absenting herself from the service of her employer, **Thomas Beswick**, farmer, Toft. Complainant said he engaged defendant to stop until Christmas at the rate of £1 per month. She left on the 8th August, saying she was going home, in Wincham, but he was told that she went to the races. She had not since returned. The defendant said she was married on Sunday last at Lostock church to a man who was employed as a farm servant under complainant's brother. She said she was not willing to return to her situation, and rather than do so she would forfeit the salary which was due to her.

OBSTRUCTING THE FOOTPATH – **Sergeant Morgan** summoned **Bridget Whaley** for obstructing the footpath in King Street, Knutsford, by wheeling on it a barrow load of coals on the 24th ultimo. She was fined 1s and costs, or 7 days.

DRUNKENNESS – **Ann Taylor** and **Thomas Taylor**, mother and son, the latter of whom only appeared, were summoned for being drunk and guilty of riotous behaviour in Mobberley Road, early on the morning of the 18th August.

MAINTENANCE OF PARENTS – **John Hammond** was summoned at the instance of the Guardians of the Altrincham Union, was ordered to pay forthwith the sum of £5 1s 3d arrears under an order made upon him for the support of his mother, who is chargeable to the Union. **James Platt**, in arrears to the amount of £2 17s under similar circumstances, was ordered to pay in a month.

# Volunteer News

## Society Vacancies

The society is seeking new volunteers for the following posts:

### **Wanted: Honorary Secretary**

Howard Martin has now exceeded the secretary's usual five-year term of office and the society is seeking a replacement. **For information, please contact the current postholder, Howard Martin ([secretary@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@fhsc.org.uk))**

### **Wanted: Honorary Editor**

Rosie Rowley has now served as editor for over six years and wishes to stand down due to a change in family circumstances. You do not need to live in Cheshire to carry out this role as everything is done by email or by post.

**For information, please contact the current postholder, Rosie Rowley ([editor@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:editor@fhsc.org.uk))**

### **Wanted: Editor's Assistant**

A volunteer is required to assist the editor. You do not need to live in Cheshire to carry out this role as everything is done by email. Access to email and MS Word and Excel, or equivalent, is needed. Ideally, the volunteer should also be able to resize images submitted for publication and convert them to greyscale format. Attention to detail is vital. Training can be given. Main tasks include:

- Review articles submitted for publication, liaising with authors to ensure articles meet submission guidelines.
- Type up articles submitted by post.
- Carry out preliminary editing, checking for spelling and grammar errors, highlighting names, and so on.
- Ideally, resize images and save copies in greyscale format.
- Create a list of society meeting dates in a spreadsheet.
- Proof-read the completed journal.

**For information, please contact the editor, Rosie Rowley ([editor@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:editor@fhsc.org.uk))**

### **Wanted: Book/CD Sales Officer**

We are looking for a volunteer to manage our book and CD sales. David Smetham is fulfilling sales until we find a replacement volunteer.

**For information, please contact the current (temporary) postholder, David Smetham ([book.sales@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:book.sales@fhsc.org.uk))**

## **Wanted: Exchange Journals Officer**

We are looking for a volunteer to manage our exchange journals activity. We currently exchange digital family history journals with thirty-five other societies and these are made available in the members area of our website. We would like to increase the number of societies with which we exchange journals.

The officer will ensure that the digital version of our journal, the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR**, is sent to participating societies and will receive and distribute digital journals from these societies to our website officer for uploading to the members' area of our website. There are opportunities to streamline this process and the officer will make sure that the system runs smoothly.

**For information, please contact the current postholder, David Smetham**  
([exchangejournals@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:exchangejournals@fhsc.org.uk))

## **Wanted: Mobberley Research Centre Volunteers**

Volunteers are needed to help at Mobberley Research Centre between 10am and 4pm on alternate Fridays, either all day or just mornings or afternoons. No experience necessary, just an interest in helping others with their research.

**For information, please contact the librarian, Joan Irving**  
([librarian@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:librarian@fhsc.org.uk))

## **Membership Renewals**

Since about 90% of FHSC memberships expire at the end of June, this is a good time to remind members to check that they have paid the annual fee. Members who have shared an email address with us receive reminder email messages, but this is the only reminder for members not using email.

You can check the expiry date of your membership on the FHSC website: log in to the website, click on *My Profile* (on the right) and then look at *My Membership Status* (bottom left).

The centre pages of the June **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR** explain how to renew but, if you are not sure whether you have done so and you are unable to check via the website, please contact the Renewals Officer, Kevin Dean.

Kevin's contact details are:

- Email: [renewals@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:renewals@fhsc.org.uk)
- Landline: 01270 765529
- Text Message: 07929 599026

## Margaret's Media Musings - Out and About with the FHSC

by Margaret Roberts  
Publicity & Social Media Officer  
[publicity@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:publicity@fhsc.org.uk)



It's certainly been a very busy few months for FHSC with many groups now in full flow with in-person meetings. Tameside and Crewe have been piloting hybrid events which proved that with the right technology you can successfully combine a face-to-face meeting with a Zoom talk. The Genealogy Show, held online in April, was another excellent day with over 100 visitors to the FHSC virtual booth from across the world; we had some very interesting conversations with attendees on our open Zoom link regarding their Cheshire ancestry. Although there are many fairs and shows now taking place in person, many of the big genealogical companies will be carrying on with some kind of online show to complement the face-to-face events, as these have proved to be very popular with those who are unable to travel to events.

Cheshire East Council has finally given the Crewe Family History Unit permission to reopen at the Municipal Buildings. After an initial period whereby members had to book an appointment to visit, the FHU is now fully open and we have seen visitors returning in good numbers, as well as a full complement of volunteers.

May was Local and Community History month. Macclesfield, Alsager, Nantwich and Crewe libraries were among many where FHSC volunteers were present, either running help desks or arranging displays. Many of our help desks at libraries around the county are also returning to pre-covid arrangements so be sure to check out the group pages on the website for up-to-date news.

The Seminar series, now a staple event for many FHSC members, had a diverse programme this quarter, starting off with a talk on the TV series *DNA Journey* by Manchester-based and Bramhall-born historian and professional genealogist Dr Michala Hulme. More locally, Kathryn Burtinshaw was the guest in May with her very informative talk *The Second County Asylum for Cheshire:*

*Macclesfield*, more commonly referred to as Parkside Hospital and built in the 1870s. Kathryn and her late partner, Dr John Burt, have written two books: *Lunatics, Imbeciles and Idiots* and *Madness, Murder and Mayhem*. Kathryn not only gave a lot of information on life in the workhouse generally, but also explained how to trace Parkside patients using the Cheshire Archives database. It was a fabulous talk, very much enjoyed by all who attended - I think everyone learnt something new. Finally, Dave Annal, former Principal Family History Specialist for the National Archives, presented his talk *My Ancestor was a Liar*. The information left by our ancestors is all too frequently misleading, inaccurate, or just plain wrong, but not always a deliberate lie. Dave demonstrated how to sift through the evidence to try and wheedle out the truth, or what passes for the truth, which is definitely a useful skill to have. Dave was very generous with his time and stayed online for almost an hour of lively debate, answering questions and offering advice; this was a great evening and an impetus, if you needed one, to revisit your own research with fresh eyes.

Turning to the group meetings, with many returning after a long lay-off due to Covid restrictions, many members had the opportunity for a catch-up social evening as well as workshops which included the 1921 census and brick wall busting sessions. Groups are generally reporting good numbers with several new or prospective new members attending. Zoom talks also continued - it's important that we maintain online talks so out of area members can carry on enjoying the benefits of their FHSC membership. All in all, a great few months with a wide variety of talks and presentations. Sale Group enjoyed a guided walk and talk around Walkden Gardens and I know that a few groups are planning an away day this summer.

Finally, please remember that as an FHSC member you can attend any of the Zoom talks or events hosted by any group - you do not have to restrict yourself to the group you are attached to. Check the *Events* page of the Society website [www.fhsc.org.uk/new-events](http://www.fhsc.org.uk/new-events) - if anything grabs your attention then contact the Group Leader for more information.

Information on FHSC activities is publicised via:

- the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk)
- our monthly email newsletter (subscribe on the website)
- **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR**
- Facebook [www.facebook.com/CheshireFamilyHistory](https://www.facebook.com/CheshireFamilyHistory)
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/FHSoofCheshire>

## Congratulations to Ann Simcock

by Margaret Roberts  
Publicity & Social Media Officer  
social.media@fhsc.org.uk

FHSC member Ann SIMCOCK was recently announced as the winner in the Family History Moments competition run by *Family Tree Magazine* and *Rakonto*, the story sharing website. Readers were asked to record their favourite family history moment and submit it to the *Rakonto* website as a two-minute video.

Ann chose to tell the story of how she combined the information on the original marriage certificate for John UPTON and Ann SHINGLER with the history of the 18th Light Dragoons. The fact that John was a Corporal in the regiment is only recorded on the marriage certificate, but that fact solved the mystery of a son being born outside the UK when the couple had ostensibly lived in Burton-on-Trent. Ann found out more about how the couple lived from the book *Catherine Exley's Diary*, edited by Rebecca Probert, which gives a very detailed description of what life was like for the wives who accompanied their husbands to war. *A very satisfying piece of research, Ann told me, and all because I looked at the original marriage certificate – there's a lesson there, I'm sure!*

You can watch Ann's video (and the other competition entries) at *Rakonto* but you need to sign up for a free *Rakonto* account first. However, at the time of going to press it appears that the link on the *Family Tree Magazine* website to the competition entries on *Rakonto* is not working. The link is at [www.family-tree.co.uk/news/rakonto-family-history-moments-competition-winner-announced](http://www.family-tree.co.uk/news/rakonto-family-history-moments-competition-winner-announced). **Warning: the editor registered on the *Rakonto* website and has been plagued by unwanted emails, despite asking to be removed from the mailing list.**

### ***1872 News (2) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872***

JUVENILE WEDDING AT NANTWICH – *At the Parish Church, Nantwich, on the 4th instant, by the Rev F G Blackburne, the rector, Mr John Lidyett was married to Annie Porter, both of Nantwich. The respective ages of the happy pair were 16 and 15. The juvenile party kept up the marriage feast at the residence of Mrs Lidyett. A large company attended. The table was covered with every delicacy of the season, and after the usual complimentary toasts had been drunk, the wedding pair left to spend their honeymoon.*

## Members' FREE Research Lookup Service

Now that the Mobberley Research Centre has reopened, we are able to resume this service. Note that the service is subject to any changes to the Covid-19 regulations and time available to volunteers.

**This is a free service for members only.**

We will search our research resources (see the list on the FHSC website) for specific information about one named person. For example: a search for a marriage, baptism or burial record or a search for a memorial inscription. We will also check other indexes that we hold. We will respond as quickly as possible but please remember that the Research Centre is staffed by volunteers who also have other duties.

**Please note** we cannot undertake in-depth family history research. Members wanting that sort of service should engage a professional genealogist.

### Requests can be submitted:

- **Online at [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk)**

Log in to the website, then navigate to  
SHOP > PRODUCTS > SERVICES > RESEARCH SERVICE.

- **By post**

Please include your name, membership number, contact details and a correctly stamped, addressed envelope (at least C5 size). Send to:

*Family History Society of Cheshire Lookup Service, Mobberley Research Centre, Rajar Building, Town Lane, Mobberley, Cheshire, WA16 7ER.*

### ***1872 News (3) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872***

*SCARBOROUGH TRIP – We would again remind our readers of the trip which is advertised to take place from Northwich, Knutsford, Ashley, and intermediate stations on Monday next. A special train will leave Northwich at 6am, and arrive at Scarborough between ten and eleven, starting on the return journey at 6pm. Pleasure-seekers will thus be favoured with the rare opportunity of enjoying for seven hours the bracing sea air, besides feasting their eyes upon the various picturesque scenes which abound in and around this fashionable watering-place. The fare for the double [return] journey is 5s. 7d.*

*ACCIDENT AT OLLERTON – A son of **Mr P Stephens**, of Ollerton, was mowing with a machine in his father's field, when the horse took fright from some cause and threw him onto the knife. The consequence was a thumb was cut off.*



## Research Centre News

*Information about our research centres can be found at the end of the journal.*

### Mobberley Research Centre

*by Joan Irving  
librarian@fhsc.org.uk*



Please note that Mobberley Research Centre has changed its Friday opening for the present and is now only open on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 10am-4pm. If you would like to volunteer on the 1st and 3rd weeks please get in touch with me.

Do you remember the series on C4 called *The Mill*? It was based on the true stories of the workers and apprentices at Quarry Bank Mill at Styal. The researcher for that programme, and a book about the series, was David Hanson and he praised the help he was given by Keith Plant and other volunteers working at Quarry Bank Mill.

Keith Plant was a member of the FHSC and volunteer at Mobberley for many years. After his death we received many of his transcriptions and handwritten notes on the apprentices, mill workers and conditions at Quarry Bank Mill. These are now available to view and include information on both apprentices and workers. Records include:

- Age Certificate Book for those aged 8-12 (from 1844-54) and those aged 13-18 (from 1844-52) required after the Factory Act of 1844.
- School Certificate list 1847-55
- Runaway Apprentices 1799-1844
- Baptisms at Styal, Wilmslow and Dean Row Chapels
- Wages Books 1790-1874
- Register of Workers 1843-1849
- Rent Book 1844-1853
- Stoppage Ledgers 1828-1847
- Medical, doctors, Sick Club, treatments
- Managers, clockmakers, bookmakers at Quarry Bank
- 1860 **Thomas Tonge's** memories of Styal Village & its inhabitants.
- Population of Styal with named inhabitants 1781, 1791, 1801, 1811, 1821 & 1831.

- Information on what happened to the apprentices in later life.
- Information on families moving to Quarry Bank from other areas.
- Miscellaneous notes and transcripts on the workers and apprentices.

The Quarry Bank Mill transcripts and notes are kept in the bottom drawer of the red filing cabinet in our library room. They are a useful and interesting addition to our library for those interested in family, local or social history.

## Crewe Family History Unit

*by Margaret Spate*  
*crewe@fhsc.org.uk*

I am pleased to report that we have had a very successful return to our research rooms, and we look forward to welcoming new as well as previous visitors. The *Holdings* list on our website page has been updated, although new donations are still being catalogued.

If you do not have a personal subscription to the main pay to view websites then you may not be aware of the changes and additions that have been made to their collections. Have you sorted out, cleaned up or added to your research files so you are now ready to investigate your list of family history queries? Visit us, we may be able to help.

The FHU standard opening times are Monday and Tuesday between 10am and 4pm; but we do not advise arriving later than 3pm.

The FHU will be open one Saturday morning per month - please check the date for each month on the society website (under menu item *Research Centres*).

*Why not ADVERTISE your  
Cheshire or Genealogy BUSINESS or PRODUCT  
in this quarter-page space?  
Just £14 per issue, or £50 for four consecutive issues  
(see page 2 for full details)*

## Letters to the Editor

*If you have any comments about any of the articles in the **ANCESTOR**, or any aspect of the society, please share them – I'd love to hear from you! Just send an email to [editor@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:editor@fhsc.org.uk) or post a letter to the address inside the front cover, including your name and membership number, and tell me if you also want your email/postal address to be printed so other researchers can contact you.*

### Baptised Twice

In the June issue the above article ends asking why a child might be baptised twice. One reason is if the baby is ill and not expected to live. My mother informed me that when I was born I was unwell and the doctor felt I would not survive. The vicar came and I was baptised over the kitchen sink, but survived and was baptised in church at a later date.

There are probably other reasons, this just being one I know personally.

**Morris Rowlands**  
**Membership no. 9977**

### More Descendants of William the Conqueror

I am writing in reply to the article in the March 2022 **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR** to claim a distant relationship to Peter Denny, membership no 7278, because of a mutual descent from William the Conqueror.

One point that Peter may have already discovered is not so much how many people alive today are descended, legitimately or not, from William the Conqueror (who, as we all know, was himself illegitimate), but for some people, myself included, how many lines of descent they may have from him in total?

I reached the point some years ago when I gave up counting the number of actual lines of descent from someone like William the Conqueror because, ancestrally speaking, I am lucky enough to have two particular lines of ancestry, one through the English peerage, and one through the Scottish peerage, both of which go back to, and well before, William the Conqueror, and I can include

him as an ancestor many times over. Thus I now spend my time filling out my family tree to include as many individual ancestors as possible, which I find much more interesting.

Peter also mentions Charlemagne as an ancestor; to be quite honest, I would much rather claim him as an ancestor than William the Conqueror!

Families in the English and Scottish peerages, and the landed gentry, tended to keep very much to themselves, and it is therefore not very surprising that there were a considerable number of first and second cousin marriages, which would, of course, increase the number of lines of descent from a particular ancestor.

Both my wife Diana and I have been interested in family history for very many years, and, as it happens, we are both founder members of the Family History Society of Cheshire, which I believe is the first family history society to have been founded as such. I think that the Manchester and Lancashire, and the Birmingham and Midland societies both started life as genealogical societies.

As I mentioned above, we are founder members of this society, so why, I can hear you say, is our membership number 514? The answer is actually quite simple. In the early days of the society's existence – before computers – the membership secretary would give each member a new number every year, allocated in the order in which the member renewed their subscription. It was only in the mid-1980s, when my wife became membership secretary, that the process changed. Members were listed in surname order and given a permanent membership number. At the time, there were about 900 members so, with a surname starting about halfway through the alphabet, we were allocated a membership number about halfway down the list, and not a one or two-digit number as you might expect for founder members of the society.

**Andrew and Diana Moilliet**  
**Membership no. 514**

*A Murder in Audlem*

With thanks to Dave Annal (@Dave\_Lifelines on Twitter) for finding this in the parish register for Audlem, Cheshire, dated 23 January 1779:

23 X *Hannah* wife of *George Aldersey* buried X

.....

X *Murder'd* by her Husband

*The following letter was misplaced as a result of my house move; apologies for the delay in printing it.*

## Re. June 2021 Issue 4: Upstairs Downstairs by Brian Lea

I have the same picture postcard in my collection. My card was signed by *Addie*, dated August 4th 1904 and was sent to **Miss Wright**, Chorley Hall Lane, Alderley Edge. **Miss Wright** was a relative by marriage to my father, **James Rathbone Broadhurst**, and worked for many years in the Alderley Edge Post Office when it was situated at the bottom of Macclesfield Road.

I have another postcard showing Oxford Street, Manchester, also sent to **Miss Wright** from *Addie*, Christmas 1904. It reads *This is just to wish you a Happy Christmas and I hope you are coming to spend it with us. Come early 'Oatlands'*. It is postmarked 10.15am Tue Dec 24. I wonder, did it get there second delivery on Christmas Eve, as there was no post on Christmas Day?

I also have postcards sent to Shropshire from Wilmslow and Alderley Edge and they were delivered the next day. These cards usually said something like, *on the train tomorrow*, so granny would expect the arrival of one of her daughters who were in service in Cheshire. What a postal service!

It was quite usual in those days for the Housekeeper or Cook to be allowed to invite friends to the big house while the Master and Mistress were away. My sister and I have had tea on several such occasions in Alderley Edge, Wilmslow and Quarry Bank, Styal. How things have changed.

Elizabeth A Osborne  
Membership no. 7963

### ***1872 News (4) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872***

*NANTWICH FAIR – This fair was held on Wednesday, and was moderately attended. There was not a large show of cattle and horses, but pigs and sheep were numerous. The blocking up of the streets with pig carts and the crowding of sheep into all sorts of out of the way corners – in the back yards and gardens of cottages and against cottage doors – was ample demonstration that a Smithfield was badly needed. The streets were in a disagreeable state of filth.*

*BOY DROWNED – On Monday, at the Woolpack Inn, Cheadle-Bulkeley, Mr Dunstan held an inquest on the body of George Hulme, nine years of age, son of Thos Hulme, cotton spinner, Cheadle-Bulkeley, who fell into the river Mersey at Heaton Mersey whilst gathering blackberries. Verdict – Accidentally drowned.*

## Help Wanted

*The following letters were misplaced as a result of my house move; apologies to the authors for the delay.*

### John EVANS

This photograph of John EVANS, my great uncle, was stolen when my grandmother Milly MILLER was burgled. She was an antiques dealer and kept her stock at home. If anyone has it in their collection, I would love it to be returned to me. There may also be medals belonging to him and my great-grandfather, Thomas 'Fiddler' EVANS. My niece is in possession of John's "Dead Man's Penny."



Five years ago I didn't know these relations existed. I began my search by looking for my grandmother's grave. My grandmother's name was Ethel, but as I knew her as Milly MILLER it took some finding!

**Janet Evans**

**Membership no. 9908**

*jano-e@talktalk.net*

### GELL/GILL, Isle of Man

Can anyone in the society help me? I have for years been looking for the deaths of my 2x great-grandparents. I have their birth and marriage certificates and have looked in the Manx Family History but cannot find them. Their names are EVAN and ELIZABETH GELL/GILL, nee QAYLE. Both born Peel, Isle of Man in 1840s, married 1860s. Had two children, JOHN THOMAS GELL and LILLY GELL/GILL. John b. 1860s, Lilly 1871. Evan was a fisherman/seaman. He died around 1880s, but before 1905. If anyone can help me break down the brick wall I would be extremely grateful.

**Miss M M Davies**

**Membership no. 3537**

*Ed.: If you can help, please send information to me and I will pass it on by post.*

## Book Review

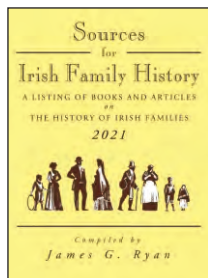
*Newly published items on Genealogical or Cheshire subjects in print or digital formats are welcomed for review. Please send to the editor (contact details inside front cover). After review, printed books are given to a society library. Information correct at the time of going to press.*

### **Sources for Irish Family History**

**A Listing of Books and Articles on the History of Irish Families**

**Compiled by Jake G Ryan**

Reviewed by Gay J Oliver



I have been researching Irish family history for twenty-five years now and only found out last year who the father of my great-grandma's child is, which gives an indication of the difficulty in finding the correct strategies and sources. There was a time when our local archivist, who had previously worked at Dublin Record Office, gave little hope to eager researchers who approached him for his specialist knowledge.

Comprising of books, articles, periodicals, this Ebook should be regarded as more of a reference book. The number of sources quoted have more than doubled since the first edition in 2001, and at 682 pages it is densely packed with information about 2,500 families, much from academic sources. The accounts deal with particular family lines but none attempt to cover all holders of that particular surname; however, if you do find a gem it could add much more colour to your family's story than simple dates.

Try not to skip the introductory pages showing which surname sources were consulted. Most of the periodicals listed are specialist genealogical or local history journals, with a section explaining how to access the originals, many of which are academic with peer reviews.

At €18 I feel this would be more suitable for library purchase.

Flyleaf Press, 2021. Ebook, 282 pages, €18, ISBN 978-1-907990-39-7

[www.ancestornetwork.ie/shop](http://www.ancestornetwork.ie/shop)

## Family History Events

For news of family history events, see these online calendars

<http://geneva.weald.org.uk/doku.php>  
[www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events](http://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events)  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/online/genealogy/](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/online/genealogy/)  
<https://conferencekeeper.org/>

### 10th U3A Peak District Family History Conference

Saturday 17th September at the Palace Hotel, Buxton

Speakers: Dr Janet Few, Debbie Kennett, Dr Nick Barratt, Helen Tovey

Family History Society stands etc \* **FHSC will be present** \*

Tickets £30 incl goody bag, talks, refreshments & two-course buffet lunch

For information contact Ian Taylor [taylor.ian9@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.ian9@gmail.com)

Online booking form at <https://forms.gle/UbSD4YzNVKUcvoZas6>

### The Family History Show (London)

10.00am - 4.30pm Saturday 24th September

at Kempton Park Racecourse, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 5A

Less than a mile from the M3; ample free parking

200 yards from Kempton Park station (40 mins from London Waterloo)

Ask the Experts - Talks - Family History Societies

Tickets £7; early bird ticket offer - two tickets for £10

Each ticket includes a free goody bag worth £8

<https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/london/>

### Cheshire History Day

9.45am - 4.30pm Saturday 29th October

at The Grange Theatre, Bradburns Lane, Hartford CW8 1LU

Theme: *Strongholds of Cheshire*

Speakers: Erin Lloyd Jones, Rachel Swallow, David Hearn and Lucy Siebert

For more information and to book see [www.cheshirehistory.org.uk](http://www.cheshirehistory.org.uk)

### THE Genealogy Show Winter Event (Online)

Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th December \* **FHSC will be present** \*

[www.thegenealogyshowlive.com](http://www.thegenealogyshowlive.com)



**The Family History Federation (FHF)  
Really Useful Show (Online)**

6pm - 10pm Fri. 11th and 10am - 5pm Sat. 12th November  
Workshops - Talks - Ask the Expert - Exhibition Hall with  
Family History Societies etc \* **FHSC will be present** \*

**Tickets for FHSC Members £10 using code SOCIETY** (normal price £12)

*www.fhf-reallyuseful.com*

## Surname Interests

Are you researching any of these names? If so, log in to the FHSC website and click on *Research* to contact the person or people who registered the name as one of their surname interests.

If you haven't already registered your surname interests on the FHSC website, why not do it today? You may make contact with someone who holds the key to your brick wall!

The following names were added between 27 April and 1 August 2022:

ARNOLD

BASKERVILLE/BASKERVILE/BASKERFIELD, BRACEGIRDLE/

BRASSGIRDLE

CANNELL, CHAKES

DALE, DAVIES, DELVES

FODEN, GRIMSHAW

HAYES, KENNERLEY

LUCAS, LEES

MCGRATH, MOTTERSHEAD

ORME

PEACOCKE, PERCIVALL/PERCIVAL, POWDRELL, POWELL, PRITCHARD,

PROUDLOVE

RAVENSROFT, READ, RUFFLEY

SHELDON, SMITH, SPRAGG, STAFFORD née KINSEY, STRONGITHARM,

STUBBS

TYAS

WACEY

## Family History News

A selection of recent updates to websites, and other family history news. Remember, if you don't have a subscription to *Ancestry*, *Find My Past* or *The Genealogist*, our Research Centres have free access to these sites. You may also be able to access *Ancestry* or *Find My Past* through your public library, and look out for offers of free access on special occasions such as Remembrance Day.

**Bear in mind that record collections on the Internet may be incomplete.**

### Ancestry

To see a list of all record sets, go to <http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/cardcatalog.aspx>  
Click on *Sort by > Date Updated* to see the latest additions.

To find out what's new at *Ancestry*, see [www.ancestry.co.uk/cs/recent-collections](http://www.ancestry.co.uk/cs/recent-collections)

#### UK, Worcestershire, Church of England Records

Baptisms, Banns, Marriages and Burials for varying dates between 1600 and 1935.

#### UK, West and East Sussex Church of England Records

Baptisms, Confirmations, Banns, Marriages and Burials for varying dates between 1538 and 1995.

#### UK, Women's WWI Service Records

UK, Women's Royal Naval Officers' Service Records, 1917-1919

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=62354>

UK, Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Service Records, 1917-1920

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=62281>

UK, Women's Royal Air Force Service Records, 1918-1920

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=62346>

### Society of Genealogists

[www.sog.org.uk/our-collections/memorial-cards](http://www.sog.org.uk/our-collections/memorial-cards)

The Society of Genealogists has released online scanned images from their collection of several thousand Memorial Cards. The cards usually contain the name of the deceased and the date of death, and often include much more information. Searching or browsing the collection is free of charge, and a limited amount of information, including viewing the front of the card, may be obtained without registering. An interesting collection to browse through.

## Find My Past (FMP)

To see a list of all record sets included on the *FindMyPast* website, go to <http://search.findmypast.co.uk/historical-records>.

To see what's new at *FindMyPast*, go to [www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new)

### **British Army, Military Honours and Awards 1935-1990**

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new/military-honours-awards>

A brand new collection, these honour recommendations comprise over 79,000 records and cover 55 years from the Second World War onwards, including British Army, some dominions armies' personnel, and some records for the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and Royal Marines.

### **Britain, Merchant Seamen, 1918-1941**

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/britain-merchant-seamen-1918-1941>

Nearly 5,000 new records have been added to this collection renowned for its biographical detail, physical descriptions, and some photos.

### **Ireland Newspaper Birth, Marriage and Death Notices Index**

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new/ireland-newspaper-notices>

### **British India Births, Baptisms and Marriages**

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/british-india-office-births-and-baptisms>

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/british-india-office-marriages>

Covering those living and working in India while it was under British rule, and records for other regions connected to the India Office such as Aden, Burma, Kuwait, Princely States, St Helena etc.

## Railway Accident Database updated

[www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk](http://www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk)

The Railway Work, Life and Death project, run by the University of Portsmouth and the National Railway Museum, has updated its database, containing details of railway worker accidents investigated by the state (1900-1915 and 1921-1939), applications to the Great Eastern Railway Benevolent Fund (1913-23) for assistance after an accident, and legal cases handled by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants trade union (1901-1905).

This web page [www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk/the-accidents](http://www.railwayaccidents.port.ac.uk/the-accidents) explains more about the database and which records are excluded; the database is available as a downloadable Excel spreadsheet at the bottom of the page.

## Cheshire Archives News

*[www.cheshirearchives.org.uk/latest-news-and-events](http://www.cheshirearchives.org.uk/latest-news-and-events)*

### Online database updates

*[www.cheshirearchives.org.uk/what-we-hold/what-we-hold.aspx](http://www.cheshirearchives.org.uk/what-we-hold/what-we-hold.aspx)*

Did you know that we have several online databases on our website that are free to search? These include indexes to:

- Cheshire's First World War Servicemen (Absent Voters, 1919)
- Overleigh Cemetery in Chester
- Registers of City of Chester Freemen
- Railway Staff Registers
- Crewe Railway Works Staff
- Chester City Gaol Registers
- Port of Runcorn Crew Lists

The Overleigh, railway staff and freemen databases have just had a makeover to keep them working with the latest technology - all the data is still there, but please do contact us if you need help with how the sites work now.

## Wirral Archives Service

*[www.wirral.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/wirral-archives-service](http://www.wirral.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/wirral-archives-service)*

Heritage Open Days "Behind the Scenes at Wirral Archives" tours will take place on Thursday 15th September at 2.00pm and 3.00pm.

There will be an introductory talk about Wirral Archives in the Search Room, and then a guided tour of the Strong Room. Booking is essential.

See <https://sites.google.com/site/wirralhha/whod-events-t-z/wirral-archives-behind-the-scenes>

To book a place, contact William Meredith, Archivist, [archives@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:archives@wirral.gov.uk)  
Tel. 0151 606 2929

## Battle of Britain: The People's Project

*[www.battleofbritainpeoplesproject.com](http://www.battleofbritainpeoplesproject.com)*

Much has been written about the RAF pilots who defeated the Nazi forces in the aerial battle that raged from 10 July to 31 October 1940. The Battle of Britain story, though, is much wider than the air battles and those who fought them. While many stories have been told, there are other tales that have remained untold – until now. Author and historian Dilip Sarkar's mission is to track down and reveal those stories. If you have an artefact from the battle, or a story to share, perhaps about an ancestor, see the project website.

## Selected Archives of the Week

by Margaret Roberts  
Publicity & Social Media Officer  
[social.media@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:social.media@fhsc.org.uk)

The *Archive of the Week* section on the society's social media platforms remains a popular item. As in previous editions of the ANCESTOR, I am listing a selection of these archives so members who do not use social media don't miss out. Each of these archives is free to access and covers a range of genealogical, family and social history subjects; not all are Cheshire or even UK-based but all will be of interest to family historians. To take full advantage and keep abreast of the updates to genealogical websites, follow the society on Twitter (@FHSoFCheshire) or Facebook ([www.facebook.com/CheshireFamilyHistory](http://www.facebook.com/CheshireFamilyHistory)).

### **The Women's Library @LSE**

<https://digital.library.lse.ac.uk/collections/thewomenslibrary>

The Women's Library collection tells the story of the campaign for women's rights and women's equality from the beginnings of the suffrage movement to the present day. The collection includes UNESCO-recognised documents, rare books, and objects such as original suffrage banners. Most of the material dates from the late 19th century to present day and the focus is mainly UK. More than 300 items, including 35 rare books, from The Women's Library and LSE Library are available to read on the Digital Library.

### **National Library of Scotland: Sporting Publications**

<https://digital.nls.uk/sports-publications/archive/227318305>

This is one for the sports fans; the NLS has digitised over 200 historic sporting books which are fully searchable; you can also download individual pages or a full volume – enjoy!

### **Manchester Archives+ Flickr Account**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/manchesterarchiveplus/albums>

A wealth of free-to-view images of Manchester and surrounds - everything from Peterloo to WWI visiting books, local street views and a whole lot more. Archives+ aims to create an archive centre of excellence in Manchester Central Library, a one-stop resource centre providing a regional, national, and international focus for community activities and learning from archive, library and other sources.

## **Former Children's Homes**

<http://www.formerchildrenshomes.org.uk/>

The first dedicated encyclopaedia of life in former children's homes and orphanages. Over the years, thousands of children spent time in these homes - and yet we know very little about what life was like for them. The idea of the site is to share memories and family history research to build up a picture of what life was really like in children's homes - so you are very welcome to contribute any information and photographs to the site.

## **The Railway Review**

[https://warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/archives\\_online/digital/unionjournals/railway\\_review](https://warwick.ac.uk/services/library/mrc/archives_online/digital/unionjournals/railway_review)

Great news for railway enthusiasts - this 'weekly newspaper for railwaymen' was produced by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and its successor the National Union of Railwaymen. All First World War editions of the NUR journal (1914-1918) now online and contain a good mix of railway-specific items and broader social history. The issues are free to search and download and have original images as well as a text transcript.

## **Herefordshire History**

<https://herefordshirehistory.org.uk/archive>

This archive is a local history project launched by Herefordshire County Library Service in 2014. The aim is to create a unique local history archive by digitising and sharing material that reflects the history and character of Herefordshire, preserving visual history for future generations and making it freely accessible to researchers, students, and the general public. Most of the material comes from the Herefordshire Libraries local history collection, but items have also been contributed by many partners, including Herefordshire Archive Service, Herefordshire Museum, local history societies, and donations from the public. The collection contains over 40,000 items - photographs, postcards, posters, newspapers, maps, letters, and books - with more being added all the time.

## **California Digital Newspaper Collection**

<https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc>

The California Digital Newspaper Collection is a growing repository of historical California newspapers published from 1846-present, including the first California newspaper, the Californian, and the first daily California newspaper, the Daily Alta California. It also contains issues of current California newspapers, collected as PDFs, that are part of a project to preserve and provide access to contemporary papers. Free to access and fully searchable. You can take a screen-shot of a clip or article but must create a free account to download issues in PDF format.

## **1872 News (5) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872**

TREAT TO THE AGED PEOPLE OF CREWE AND COPPENHALL – Saturday last saw something new in Crewe as the most remarkable and interesting gathering ever assembled within the Town Hall, the aged people's tea party. During the years Crewe has been in existence, free tea parties have never before been thought of; to **Messrs Rigg and Beech** belong the honour and credit of caring for the aged and poor. These gentlemen are too well-known in Crewe to merit any commendation.

The idea of an aged people's tea party having entered their minds, it was no sooner thought of than executed and **Messrs Rigg and Beech** issued invitations to every old man and woman in the neighbourhood. To draw the line when people could be called aged was a difficult task, for very often some people get quite crusty when designated "aged," so after due consideration it was decided that 70 should be the age. The number of invitations issued was 119, of which 48 persons were 70 years of age.... [The eldest were] one at 90 and two aged 91. Other aged persons were discovered after the issuing of invitations so that about 140 were there, making the total amount of their ages over 10,000 years.

Age is no sign of a decrease of appetite, and **Mr Wilding's** best efforts were chartered for the occasion. Huge rounds of beef were speedily converted into sandwiches, and the tables were crowded with sandwiches, currant bread, buns, and everything requisite to make a good tea. **Mr Rigg** said that to have a good tea meant to have a drop of rum in it, and in order that each person might have a good tea, a jug of rum had been placed with each urn.

Many of the guests were hearty looking persons, none more so than one fresh old friend, **Mr Molyneux** who has wintered 76 years, and **Peter Green**, a fresh looking man of 70 who not long ago exhibited his strength by winning a race. One old man named **Thomas Kirk** was 88 years of age, and to honour the occasion wore the coat he was married in 67 years ago. **Sally Newton** aged 91 said she had enjoyed herself and had sufficient money to bury her with, that was all she wanted. She said she was the mother of 16 children, twelve of whom she reared and four she buried. Her neighbour Betty was 87 and the burden of her heart was that her son had gone to Australia and she was afraid she would never see him again.

The fashions displayed by our venerable friends comprised, particularly in the bonnet line, every style of dress that has been introduced into society during the last century, from the long tunnel-like antiquated black silk bonnet to the latest innovation – viz., Dolly Varden, worn by the younger portion of the company who assisted their mammas and friends in serving the tea.

## Coronation Memories

In the last issue, prompted by the recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations, I asked whether anyone had any recollections of the Queen's Coronation in 1953.

### **Memories of 1953** by Phil Uttley

I was born on Thursday 1st June 1950 and my earliest memory was of returning from hospital after a minor operation just before my third birthday and seeing decorations on houses by the bus stop, depicting what I didn't know then, but was told later was our new Queen.

Later that week, on the day of the coronation, the celebrations for me took the form of children's races in the street that we lived in - with my parents debating whether it was wise for me to take part, given my recent surgery. I did, of course.

Then the rain came down and all the food and drink laid out on tables in the street had to be moved hurriedly into the large garage of a family who ran a taxi firm from their house on the street corner. We all crammed into the space and tucked in. Happy days!!

### **Coronation Memories** by Neville Ledsome (6353)

My future wife, best man and I, all three of us civil servants working in central London, were determined to see something of the Coronation. At six o'clock the night before we staked our claim to a space in the Mall. With food and blankets, we settled down for a wait of sixteen hours or so before the procession. During the night there was some rain but with the trees in the Mall and the shelter of a tarpaulin belonging to one of our neighbours we did not get very wet; in fact, we managed to get some sleep. By six o'clock the next morning things started to happen. The soldiers, sailors and airmen to line the route were marched into position and then the report that Everest had been conquered by the New Zealander Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay spread like wildfire through the crowd. The bands and participants in the parade were magnificent. We watched the parade to Westminster Abbey and then, after some time, its return.



There was much to see and remember but one of the lasting memories was a carriage occupied by Queen Salote of Tonga and Haile Selassie, the Emperor of Ethiopia. The Queen was a large woman who endeared herself to the crowd with her captivating smile and her readiness to sit in her open coach without protection from the rain which fell from time to time. In contrast to Queen Salote, the Emperor was a tiny man. They were an incongruous couple. We left the Mall at around 6 o'clock after 24 hours, tired and a little damp but happy that we had witnessed the remarkable pageant which was the Coronation.

## **Memories of a Change of Monarch by Roger Sutton**

On 6 February 1952 King George VI died. I was nine years old and attended a primary school in Worthing, West Sussex. But on that day I was at home with a cold. I learned of the King's death on the radio: *This is London. The King is dead. God save the Queen.* All radio programmes for the day were cancelled; instead, we were treated to dirge-like music.

Today we live in a world where nearly everybody has a television and so we regularly see pictures of the Royal Family. We are able to form some sort of impression of their characters and personalities. Back in 1952, the SUTTON family did not have a television, so the King was largely unknown to me, as was the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill; although I knew what the King looked like because his profile was on the coins in my pocket and on the postage stamps which I had recently started to collect.

George VI's daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, would be crowned the following year, on 2 June 1953. Early in 1953 I had passed the eleven-plus exam and I would be going to Worthing High School for Boys in September. My best friend, David BAYLEY, had also passed; he lived in a large house in Worthing with his mother and her parents, Mr and Mrs JENKINS. The family was related to Walter GARDINER, a well-known photographer in Worthing.

Mrs BAYLEY was a sociable lady and invited many friends and acquaintances to watch the coronation on television, including the SUTTON family. I cannot pretend I was enthused by the occasion because I don't like formal events like church services. The image on the screen was small and, of course, in black and white. It was also pouring with rain. A big star of the day was Queen Salote of Tonga, who took part in the procession, seated in an open carriage – despite the rain - out of respect for the Queen and the waiting crowds. She was a large lady, 6' 3" tall, and had ascended to the throne of Tonga in 1918 at the age of eighteen.

The Islands of Tonga are known as the Friendly Islands and this name was reflected in Queen Salote's personality, winning over the large crowds watching the procession.

So, Queen Salote is my main memory from the coronation. Back home afterwards, my mother Eileen was almost in tears. *She's so young*, she exclaimed. On the radio, the main news was about the conquest of Mount Everest a few days before, on 29th May – the news had only just reached the UK that morning.

I have discovered that the Duchess of Cornwall is a distant cousin; we are both descended from the TUFTON family of East Sussex, who became the Earls of Thanet, the richest family in Kent. It is strange to think that at the next coronation my distant cousin will have an important role. I understand she is not looking forward to being Queen.

## Wartime and Coronation Memories of George Frederick Johnson

*by Geoff Johnson*  
*Membership no. 5781*

*Knowing of my research into the family, my late father George Frederick JOHNSON wrote an account of his life, describing his childhood and working life. The original was all handwritten and evidently was restarted several times. Having typed the text into a computer, I have attempted to consolidate it into a more readable format.*

*Samuel JOHNSON, George's grandfather, was born in 1845; he married Eliza COWLEY in 1866. They went on to raise seven children. Sam and Eliza both died aged 84 in 1930.*

*Their fifth child James JOHNSON was born in 1878; he married Margaret BAKER in 1906, and they raised five children. My father, George Frederick JOHNSON, was their fourth child, born in London in 1912; he died in September 2004 aged 92.*

*Below is an abridged extract from George JOHNSON's life story, covering events from the 1930s to the 1950s.*

In 1932 I returned to working for the construction company John Mowlem. My first job gave me the opportunity to study large-scale working drawings. I worked under a general foreman who was constantly drunk, so I ran all his contracts and kept him out of trouble with the firm. I even did all his office

work, timesheets etc, but this was a great benefit to me as I had almost full control of the labour and I was learning all the time. I spent eighteen months on days and eighteen months on night work, reconstructing Leicester Square Tube Station.

On completion of the tube station, I was sent to Kensington Square on the construction of a huge block of expensive flats, where I became foreman carpenter. Again, I did the setting-out of the foundations and general setting-out for the whole of the building. I was the last tradesman to leave after completing extra works for the posh clients. Other work I did around this time included: reconstruction of Knightsbridge East tube station, Knightsbridge West tube station, and reconstruction of part of the front St. Stephen's entrance to the Houses of Parliament.

I was then transferred to Buckingham Palace to repair lounge windows to the west wing of Buckingham Palace, and the old tennis court on the right-hand rear wing of the palace. Later I was foreman carpenter and placed completely in charge of the construction of the swimming pool and squash courts in that same wing. There I met and spoke to the Queen Mother and the princesses. On completion of the pool I was transferred to the Houses of Parliament to refit the Ministers' dining room, which took seven months. I was then on a holding job whilst the company waited for a new contract at 11 Downing Street.

Working there one Saturday morning in June 1938, I was told to go to Horse Guards Parade - at once! There, in the middle of this huge area, was an 8' x 6' John Mowlem hut - it even had a telephone! Inside, I met Mr WHITTAKER, who was general manager of Mowlem and had been in charge of the construction of the Lloyds building in the City, and Mr REID, clerk of works. Mr WHITTAKER gruffly said, *Can you set out?* I said, *Yes*. He then asked, *Can you take charge of men?* *Yes*, I replied. I was told *This is war work, Johnson; go with Mr Reid, to the basement of the Board of Trade opposite St. James's Park. Measure up the large room for all the timber you will need to support the floors overhead. Come back in two hours and I will show you how to order.* This was actually within the basement of the building facing St. James's Park. We went below to what is now known as the Cabinet War Rooms: it was all highly secret work. The room had many desks and contained all the huge maps covering all the possible areas of warfare, should war break out. There were hundreds of telephones everywhere. Indeed, we would have to work within a very confined space.

The job was to support the ceilings of the basement with heavy timbers, i.e. 14"x 14", 12"x 4", 9"x 3", masses of it! The idea was to carry the weight of the above building should it be bombed; much later they put a reinforced concrete floor

on top of the ground floor. I had to calculate the precise length of the supports and the supporting beams, plus the ceiling timbers to be placed two inches apart. At the end of two hours we returned to the hut and gave Mr WHITTAKER the massive list of timber required. He telephoned Gabriel Wade & English Ltd., gave the order to a chap who, delighted to take such a huge order, responded, *Your first delivery will be in one week.* Mr WHITTAKER said, *No, it's 8am tomorrow morning* and bang went the phone; this happened several times, until the chappie agreed. He complained that tomorrow is Sunday and Mr W. replied, *But this is War.*

We did commence at 8am on the Sunday morning, having placed vast orders for various plant from the depot, and started recruiting labour. Within two days I had several foremen, bricklayers, carpenters, labourers: plus clerks of works, timekeepers, etc. Within the week I had a staff of twenty, a 40' x 20' office, and two telephones through the Ministry of Health switchboard, and eventually I employed 560 men of all trades. This set in motion the actual preparations for National Security, which triggered off the air-raid shelters etc. which I had to order as part of my job. We worked seven days a week from 8am to 10pm, and we had a night shift working from 10pm to 8am. There were four No. 6 hammer-compressors working day and night: this was real pressure! We were really fortunate, as I had been able to find the best tradesmen that I have ever employed: they were wonderful.

After we had almost completed the Crisis Corridor, we had to extend the work to other areas, switching over to installing 20" x 6½" steel girders spanning the rooms, with 3" x 9" timbers supported on the steel work at 2" spacing. All the ceiling timbers were painted with a coat of syrapite plaster to fireproof them. Around this time I also had the job of organising air raid shelters for the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace and other places.

After about eighteen months I resigned and reported to the National Service Officer, knowing that by doing so I could be called up for war service. He asked me if I would take a training course at Hounslow Heath, as *we are desperately short of fitters. Pass the fitters course and I will place you somewhere.* This I did: the course was ten weeks, and I passed out having completed all the tests, including the use of micrometers, vernier calipers, etc. The NSO then placed me with the AEC Southall, servicing Valentine Tank engines. I quickly became very efficient on cylinder heads, rocker sets, exhausters and cam shafts, etc.

In late 1944, I was re-directed back to John Mowlem. On returning, my first job was setting up Central Hall, Westminster for the first meeting of the United Nations. Early in 1948 I was asked by Head Office to go to Huddersfield for

eight weeks to take the place of the agent who was ill. In the end I was there for four years and five months, building office blocks, factory buildings, roads, services, metal piling etc. etc. for ICI Ltd. at Leeds Road, Huddersfield. This is where I picked up my first company car.

I was then called back to London to take charge of the Coronation work at Westminster Abbey. Although I ran the whole works, a Mr FOUNTAIN oversaw the whole thing, but never turned a hand to help with anything. On completion, the insult was that he received the OBE - i.e. *Other Bu\*\*rs' Efforts!* I felt cheated, after having had complete charge of setting up Westminster Abbey, the Colonial Office site, Whitehall, the bridge connecting Parliament and the Abbey, Parliament Square stands, etc.

Whilst setting up the annex at the west door of the Abbey, I had difficulty in setting up the two toilets in the Queen's section, so we called in HRH the Duke of Edinburgh and explained our problem. He turned to the chief clerk of works and said, and I quote, *We're bl\*\*dy married, you know. We both piss in the same pot!* What a character, I love him.

The other star-turn was Randolph CHURCHILL who was outside demanding entry to the Abbey – pi\*\*ed as a new! He had even given one of our labourers £50 for a donkey jacket. He stormed at me but I would not give way, so I took him to the cloisters to see Mr KEMP the chief clerk of works who upheld my ruling and forced him out. Boy, could he swear!!

## Notes

**Mowlem:** founded by John MOWLEM in 1822, Mowlem's was one of the largest construction and civil engineering companies in the United Kingdom. Carillion bought the firm in 2006.

**Cabinet War Rooms:** also known as the Churchill War Rooms, is now a museum administered by the Imperial War Museum. [www.iwm.org.uk/visits/churchill-war-rooms](http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/churchill-war-rooms)

**AEC:** Associated Equipment Company was a leader in the highly competitive field of commercial and passenger vehicle manufacture, notably the Routemaster bus (right).

*Photo: Chris Sampson CC-BY-2.0, from Wikimedia Commons*



## Born Where?

*by Gren Dix  
Membership no. 4174*

It is difficult to find the members of families that move around a lot. The obvious ones are boat people (bargees), mariners and the military - I have one who disappeared between his youth and his retirement. We forget others such as travellers and circus people. Another difficult ancestor was a drover. He started life in Middlesex and finished up as a livestock trader in mid-Wales. Other ancestors stay fairly local but some make a once-in-a-lifetime major move of hundreds of miles or more - e.g. emigration. The industrial revolution caused mass movement of people.

The baptism below, found on the Lancashire online parish clerk website ([www.lan-opc.org.uk](http://www.lan-opc.org.uk)) and also in parish registers on Ancestry, is one of the strangest that I have seen.

Joseph RAMPLING was born 15 October 1846, baptised 31 January 1847 at St Thomas, Ashton-in-Makerfield. He was the first child of Anne and James RAMPLING, labourer, abode stated as *Steam Engine in Ashton*. I wondered if it was a static steam engine, or one on wheels?

Although Joseph was baptised in Lancashire, the 1851 census has him born in Somerset and the 1861 census states he was born in Shepton Mallet; his father was married in Shepton Mallet. I was then able to find Joseph's birth registration, as Joseph RAMPLIN, registered December quarter 1846 in Shepton Mallet.

The perambulations of his father, James RAMPLING, are also of interest:

<b>Census</b>	<b>Stated Birthplace</b>
1851	Scotland
1861	Lawnton, Northumberland
1871	London
1881	Lancashire
1891	Somerset

Needless to say, I haven't found his birth!

## A Farm Through Time (Part 2)

*by Derek Pott  
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After the death of Joseph FAULKNER in 1878, the BARLOWS were the next family to reside at Orme's Farm in Offerton. I don't know exactly when they took over the farm but the 1881 census, which was the first time the property was referred to as Orme's Farm, showed the head of the family to be Joseph BARLOW, 28, farmer of 70 acres. He was with his wife, Ellen, also 28, and two sons John, 5, and William, 3.

I have been unable to find a record of the birth of Joseph. Back in 1871, he was living at Kits Moss Siddall House Farm in Bramhall with his parents, John and Sarah. John was born in Worsley, Lancashire, while Sarah was born in Ashton-on-Mersey, Cheshire. Joseph was 18, then also said to be born in Worsley, as well as his brother, Henry, 20. He had a sister, Ann, 14, born in Bramhall.

In 1875, Joseph married Hellen BARDSLEY, the daughter of John BARDSLEY, also a farmer, in Stockport. In the register, her name is clearly signed as Hellen. What is very strange is that in the 1871 census, her name was Ellen, where she was living in a farm of 20 acres in Cheadle Moseley with her parents, and her elder brother Jeremiah. In 1881 and 1891, again with the address referred to as Orme's farm, she was Ellen.

Ellen died in 1899 and was buried in Cheadle Hulme cemetery. In 1901, Joseph was living on the farm with his two sons, who were still single. The three of them were again all there in 1911.

According to the Alderley and Wilmslow Advertiser of 7 June 1912, Joseph died on 2 June after apparently a very short illness. The article referred to Joseph as being well-known in Cheshire farming circles. Among the mourners were his sons, John and William, brother Henry, sister Mrs Joseph HOLLAND (Ann), Jeremiah BARDSLEY and other members of the BARLOW, BARDSLEY and HOLLAND families as well as many others.

William BARLOW married Edith Maud LOMAX in Wolstanton, Staffordshire, in 1912, and they had one son, Harold, who was born in 1919. William was head

of the household in the 1921 census, where the address was again Orme's Farm. While he described himself as a farmer, his elder brother John, still single, was described as a farm worker.

I don't know when or why the farm subsequently changed hands, but William and his family were on the electoral register at Orme's Farm until 1926. It is possible that they returned to Edith's home county of Staffordshire as her death was registered at Stoke in 1934, while in the 1939 register, William, John and Harold were resident in Barlaston, Staffordshire. Both William and Harold were by then recorded as general farm labourer, while John was sadly described as blind pensioner.

The names of Harold ASHTON and his wife, Annis, first appear at Orme's Farm in the 1930 electoral register. Harold was from Wem, Shropshire, but in the 1911 census, he was living with his parents at Woodbank Farm, Stockport. Four inhabitants were listed in the 1939 register at Ormes Farm : Harold, described as a dairy & agricultural farmer, Annis, their daughter Hannah, and another entry - blacked out as the person may still be living. However, I identified this person from the birth records as a son, born in 1928.

Tracing the marriage of Harold and Annis was a difficult but interesting exercise. Their daughter Hannah's birth registration showed her mother's maiden name was LINNEY, but I couldn't find a record of a marriage between Harold and anybody of that name. The closest I found was a marriage in Manchester in 1925 between Harold ASHTON and Annie WRIGLEY.

Subsequently, I discovered an announcement in the Manchester Evening News of 24 March 1939, saying that on 3 March 1939, at the residence of her daughter, Ormes Farm, Offerton, Stockport, Charlotte, widow of Daniel LINNEY, late of Reddish, died in her 83rd year Daniel had married Charlotte SIDEBOTHAM on 30 August 1883 in Stockport. In 1901, they were living in Reddish, with the addition of another daughter, Jessie, 9, born in Didsbury, Lancashire. In 1911, Daniel, Charlotte and Jessie were living in Knutsford, Cheshire. There was no sign of Annis.

Further research of the 1911 census revealed Annis to be a boarder at the house of Lydia WRIGLEY at 172 Hall Street, Stockport. Lydia was a widow, 62, newsagent and stationer. The only other person in the household was Walter Walton WRIGLEY, her son, aged 25, an insurance commission agent, also born in Hyde. The inevitable of course then happened. Annis and Walter were married at the Unitarian Church, Stockport, on 4 September 1911.



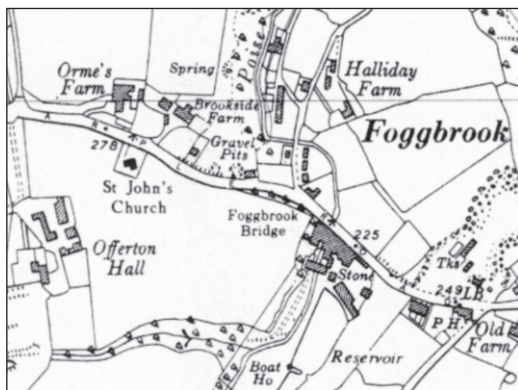
My next question was, was how did the couple come to be separated? Since the following years covered the first world war, it did not take long to learn of the unfortunate event. Walter enrolled in the Royal Regiment of Artillery on 30 October 1916. After presumably spending months of training in UK, he arrived in Le Havre in April 1917. In October of that year, he sailed from Taranto, a port in Southern Italy, for Alexandria, Egypt. In May 1918, he left Alexandria for Salonika in Greece. Later, on 8 November he was hospitalised there, diagnosed with pneumonia from which he passed away on 22 November, just 11 days after the end of the war. His body was buried at the Mikra British Cemetery, about five miles south of Salonika (known as Thessaloniki today) on the east shore of the Gulf of Salonika.

Annis would certainly have been devastated by the news. The next few years must have been very difficult for her. Nevertheless, my initial finding of the marriage between Harold ASHTON and Annis (not Annie) WRIGLEY in Manchester in the 2nd quarter of 1925 turned out to be correct after all. For sure, the registration of the birth of Hannah in 1926 had Annis' maiden surname, and not that of her first husband, of course.

The only information I have of Orme's Farm beyond 1939 is that Harold continued to farm the land until his death on 30 November 1958. As noted by Ray Preston, the house was demolished in 1964 for the construction of the Brookside Estate.

There are a couple of outstanding questions worthy of further research if the opportunity were to arise, as they are still a mystery to me. One is: who occupied the farm before the 1780s? The other is: why did it become well-known as Orme's Farm? Why was that name so special? Samuel ORME did not appear to have lived there for very long (based on the records I have seen). It did not appear as an address in the census until 1881, yet the name was still there in 1939.

**Ed.:** Interestingly, on checking the maps on the National Library of Scotland (NLS) mapping website <https://maps.nls.uk>, on only one, the 1949-71 map (right), is the farm named Orme's Farm; it is named Gilded Hollies on others. Map reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland.



## Writing a Family Tree Biography

*by Paul Chiddicks*  
*Membership no. 10347*

So where do you go from here? You have a pile of certificates and a pile of notes - how do you turn all your hard work into something more tangible and something that your friends and family would love to read?

Writing a family history biography, or your family's story, isn't for everyone and I always say to anyone that I speak to, it's your family history, how you choose to present your work is your own personal choice. It could take the form of a visual representation, pictures, collages, framed images, or it could take the form of a book, or you could choose, like I did, to create your own online blog. (A blog - a truncation of web log - is a website consisting of discrete, often informal diary-style text entries known as posts.) Whatever you decide to do, it must be right for you. You have to feel comfortable with what you are doing, otherwise you will fall at the first hurdle and give up too easily - the key thing in all this is that you have to enjoy it!

I never set out with any intentions of writing a blog myself, I kind of stumbled into blog writing! I had all my folders and certificates and notes neatly stacked up on the shelves and my family tree software on the laptop, but that was it; there was nothing for my extended family to see. Blogging didn't come easy to start with as I am not a natural writer, but - as the saying goes - the hardest step is the first step. I had forever put off writing my family history story; it wasn't finished, was it? But if you think of it like that, your family history will never be finished, so if you are waiting until it is, you will never start writing. My early work left a lot to be desired, but I didn't give up, I kept going and over time, I managed to work out my own style and format.

So, how do you start writing, and where do you start?

My advice to anyone sitting on the fence is to read as many blogs and family history biographies as you can. When you think you have read enough, go away and read some more! It's not about copying any one particular style, it's more about deciding what you like in terms of layout and format. How things are visually presented on a web page and what appeals to each and every one of us will be totally different. So make a note of what you like, but just as

important, make a note of what you don't like. There's not enough space here to go into the details of what blog sites and themes to choose from: that's a whole different article in itself. I am going to highlight the process that I go through for each of my family history biographies. This is only a guide and hopefully will be of some help; it's not a rigid format for you to replicate, but hopefully it will act as a prompt for your own ideas.

There are several different ways to produce an individual's family history biography. You don't have to stick with a straight-forward timeline, which is what I do, running from the cradle to the grave. It's a standard format, but I would urge you to consider mixing it up a bit and look at different options before you decide on your own approach. You could, for example, go backwards from an ancestor's death and burial, telling his story in reverse; it's the same process but from a different perspective. You could focus on a life-changing event in the family - maybe an ancestor's child or spouse died in tragic circumstances. You could start with the life-changing event and build their life from that point outwards. Alternatively, you could start from a pivotal moment in history that would have had a dramatic effect on your ancestor and their family, WW1 or WW2 for example, and you could again frame the story either side of a major event in history. These are just a few suggestions, and I am sure that you will have some ideas of your own. All I would say is, don't be too rigid in your decision-making; be flexible in your approach.

Once you have decided on how to build your ancestor's story, the next part is collating what you have. When I worked on my ancestors I found it a great exercise in finding out what parts of their story were missing. For example, the odd census return, or maybe a baptism, or a burial location. This gave me some focus on the gaps that needed filling in, before I even began to write. Don't worry if you don't have every piece of the jigsaw. I certainly never had all the information for some of my stories. If you wait until you have every last detail your story will never reach the publication stage!

After filling in the missing pieces, the next step is to assemble the order of events - either chronologically, or whichever way you have decided. Then comes the narrative itself. Some of my early blogs were just chapter and verse, born here, census there, died here, there was no story, it was just a cold set of data.

The hardest part of the whole concept of writing is the narrative. I am not going to pretend that's easy - I have grown into it, shall we say! The key element is to add social and historical context to your ancestor's story. You can use the FAN (Friends and Neighbours) process to help with this; I used that a lot with my story-telling. An example of this would be to look at the census return for your

ancestor and look at the neighbouring households. What occupations did the neighbours have? This could indicate a local industry; for example, I have ancestors who were involved with the cement industry along the River Thames. This encouraged me to research this industry in detail and I was able to add some depth to my ancestor's story by detailing what it would have been like to have worked in this industry at the turn of the century. What things were happening locally, or even globally, at the time? I have already mentioned the two World Wars, but what about the Spanish flu pandemic? The national strike, dockers strike for example, what was the mood in the country at the time, what decisions were the government taking that would have had a direct effect on your ancestors' lives? There are lots of different ways to add context to the facts. Try looking at local newspapers to see what was going on in the area.

Like I said at the very start, it's your family story and you can take it in whatever direction you want. Don't be put off by trying to be the greatest storyteller ever but try to tell your family's story in the best way possible; after all, whatever you write is more than you had before you started, and the most important part of all is: try to enjoy it!

**Ed.:** Paul's blog can be found at <https://chiddicksfamilytree.com>

Paul is also the author of the *Dear Paul* page in *Family Tree Magazine* (UK).

### ***1872 News (6) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872***

*FASHIONABLE WEDDING AT RUNCORN – On Tuesday last the town of Runcorn presented a gay and animated appearance, in honour of the marriage of Mr **William Edgar Lea**, eldest son of **Richard Lea**, Esq., post-master of Runcorn, and **Jessie Maud**, younger daughter of **W F Salkeld**, Esq., Pool House, Halton.... The bride wore a dress of white silk trimmed with tulle and blond lace, tulle veil, wreath and trail of orange blossom, white Canterbury bells and white heather. The bridesmaids were **Miss Salkeld**, **Miss Hall**, cousin of the bride, and **Miss Lea**, sister of the bridegroom. They were attired in blue silk dresses with blue tarlatan Polonaises, enriched with satin; wreaths and trails of convolvulus and clematis, and tulle veils.*

*At its close the newly married pair received the congratulations of their friends, then returned to the vestry, where they signed the register. As the happy pair left the church, Mendelssohn's Wedding March was performed. The bridal party and guests repaired to Pool House, where they partook of a most recherché déjeuner. The wedding presents were numerous, elegant, and costly. Shortly before three o'clock, the happy pair left Pool House, amidst a shower of slippers and good wishes, for Runcorn station, en route for London, to spend the honeymoon.*

## Cheshire's Crimean Heroes

*by Tony Sant  
Membership no. 9314*

Ever since I was young I have been aware of a rumour in the family that an ancestor served in the Crimean War – hence my mother was christened Alma. Research over the years into various branches of the family has proved this was more than true.

My mother was from Essex. On looking back through her tree, I found she was the grand-daughter of Harriet Phillips RAINBIRD. Other relations were Samuel, of the Suffolk Regiment; William, who joined the Welch Regiment; and Thomas, who was Private 3416 East Devon Regiment, who was taken prisoner at Inkerman after being wounded. They were part of the eighty-nine RAINBIRDS who served in various ways.

One of my other under-researched Cheshire families is the IKIN family of Winsford, who moved north from Nantwich to work in the salt mines when the shoe trade began to die. Ann SANT nee IKIN was the daughter of John IKIN, who also served in the Crimea. He died shortly after his return from the war. Ann's mother was a PALIN and sister of John PALIN, one of the most well-known of the Balaklava heroes, being the last mounted man back from that disastrous charge. A few years ago, I was privileged to attend a ceremony unveiling a blue plaque by his grave in Hale cemetery.

Now an interesting coincidence has come to light. In Manchester Art Gallery hangs a portrait by Lady Elizabeth Butler, entitled *Balaclava*, in the centre of which is a cavalryman of the 17th Lancers named JAMES IKIN NUNNERLEY. He is portrayed cradling the wounded WILLIAM SMITH who was later buried in St John's churchyard, Knutsford; James NUNNERLEY, meanwhile, is buried at Ormskirk. My research suggested that my IKINs and James IKIN NUNNERLEY were related. It transpired that James IKIN NUNNERLEY, John IKIN, and John PALIN are all related via various lines to one William IKIN, a wood merchant from North Staffordshire.

In the meantime, a descendant of James NUNNERLEY has an interesting family story:

The High Command were at the head of the Balaklava valley in discussion on how and what to attack. Lord Raglan and his officers (with NUNNERLEY nearby) decided to clear the guns from the heights to their right. NUNNERLEY, as Sergeant, gave the order *Threes right*, at which a column peeled off, ready to ascend the heights. At this point, Lt. NOLAN rode up, all of a lather and high on adrenaline. He could not see the guns from where he was, facing Lord Raglan and his officers. Without turning round to see, he swept his arm right and behind him with that famous utterance, *There are the guns, my Lord. There is your enemy.* – at which point he turned and galloped off to his doom. NUNNERLEY, being a junior rank, then ordered *Walk, Trot, Canter, Charge!* The rest, as they say, is history. NUNNERLEY and PALIN both survived unharmed but their uniforms and equipment were riddled with musket balls.

Conditions for the troops were appalling. Enteric fever, lack of hygiene, proper clothing and hospital facilities took an awful toll on them. There are stories of soldiers taking off their boots and socks at night to enter their tents and, at the same time, removing the frozen, dead flesh from their toes, leaving just the bones behind.

What family history we do discover! I find that Cheshire is particularly rich in Crimean heroes.

During our research several more Crimean veterans have turned up, many of them in the annals of Stockport Workhouse Hospital - not, it should be stressed, the workhouse itself.

**BOOTH, William**, aged 81, died 23 Jan 1915, born Stockport, Cheshire. - Obit printed 7 Jan 1916, *Stockport Advertiser* group newspapers.

**BROADHURST, Benjamin**, died 11 Jul 1881, of the 6 Dragoon Guards, served in the Crimea and India wars. - M.I., Prestbury, Cheshire.

**CLARKE, Samuel**, died 19 August 1917, Crimean Veteran, aged 85, of Charlecote, Moss Lane, Timperley. When he died, Samuel was described as *the oldest surviving Crimean veteran*. His death was reported in the *Biggleswade Chronicle* on 31 August 1917:

*DEATH OF SANDY'S CRIMEAN VETERAN – We regret to announce the death of Mr Samuel Clarke, which occurred peacefully on August 19 after a very brief illness at the residence of his son, Mr F Clarke, of Timperley. The deceased was widely known and highly esteemed. For a number of years he resided at Sandy, but since the death of his wife in 1906 has lived with a son at Luton, and later removed to Timperley. Mr*

*Clarke was a Crimean veteran. He formed one of the Brigade of Guards who stormed the heights of Alma in 1854, and was severely wounded. He had the honour of being nursed by the noble Florence Nightingale at Scutari. He was invalided to Netley, and was one of the first contingents of wounded to be visited by the late Queen Victoria. He received his discharge in 1855 and during the following 40 years of active life he followed the occupation of gamekeeper. The remains were conveyed by road on Friday last from Timperley to Sandy Cemetery for interment in the family vault. Mr Clarke is survived by six sons and three daughters. Both deceased and his wife were natives of Sandy.*

**CUNLIFFE, Ellis Brooke**, died 1915, Captain, served in the Crimea. A report of his death was printed in the Gloucestershire Echo on 10 March 1915:

*Capt. Ellis Brooke Cunliffe, of Petton Park, Shrewsbury, has died there in his 83rd year. He was the eldest son of the late Mr Ellis Watkin Cunliffe, and a grandson of Sir Foster Cunliffe, 3rd baronet; was born in 1832, educated at Eton, and held a commission in the 6th Dragoon Guards, serving in the Crimea and in the Indian Mutiny.*

**FLETCHER, John**, Quartermaster-Sergeant, died 16 July 1915, aged 87, of Greenhill, Edgeley, Stockport, buried plot J.8883, Macclesfield Cemetery. His death was reported in the *Stockport Advertiser* newspapers on 23 July 1915:

*CRIMEA VETERAN – Death of Quarter-Master Sergeant Fletcher – SERVED AT SEBASTOPOL AND INKERMAN – The death took place on Friday, at Greenhill, Edgeley, of QMS John Fletcher, who was Stockport’s oldest Crimean and Indian Mutiny veteran. He was born at Shannon Vale, near Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, on the 18th of August, 1828. He joined the 88th Connaught Rangers on the 9th December 1847 and served in the Regiment until discharged to pension on the 9th March 1869.... Mrs Fletcher, who survives, and is 84 years of age, accompanied her husband all through the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny.... Father Cleary, of St Alban’s Church, conducted the rites in Macclesfield Cemetery...*

**HENSHAW, John**, Corporal, Crimean veteran of the 56th regiment. Died October 1916.

**IKIN, John**, soldier in the Crimea No. 4270 (Regiment not known). Ref. dated 7 Apr 1857.

**JONES, Thomas H**, Private 3838, of St John’s Chester, killed in action in the Crimea in 1855.

**KELLY, James**, Private 962, 17th Lancers, of Chester, served 1848-56.

**MULLIN, Thomas**, Captain, born Ireland, died October 1889, aged 71 years, buried St John's Churchyard, Knutsford.

**NUNN, Richard**, Sgt-Major, a Crimean veteran, aged 78 years, died 4 Jan 1915 – death reported in the *Stockport Advertiser* group newspapers on 8 January 1915, accompanied in the *Alderley & Wilmslow Advertiser* by a photograph:

*DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN IN STOCKPORT – We regret to announce the death of Sergeant-Major Richard Nunn, one of the few surviving Crimean veterans, which took place at his residence, 411 Buxton Road, Great Moor, Stockport, on Monday. He was apparently in good health on Saturday, but was taken ill on Sunday and died the following day. Born 78 years ago, Mr Nunn enlisted at Woolwich on January 5th 1855 in the Corps of Sappers and Miners, now the Royal Engineers. After serving in China and the Crimea, and having been 21 years in the Army, he took his discharge at Dublin in February 1876... On leaving he took service with the Cheshire Lines Railway as coal check weighman at Portwood Coal Sidings, and for 34 years was a faithful servant.... The funeral took place on Wednesday at Norbury Church, Hazel Grove...*

**PALIN, John**, born 1825 in Malpas, died 12 September 1901 in Altrincham, buried with his second wife in the Hammond family grave, ref. E. 268, at Hale cemetery. Private 1381, 4th (Queen's Own) Light Dragoons, believed to be the last mounted man to return from the infamous charge. A twenty-six page article about John's life can be found on the Ashton and Sale History Society website at [www.ashistorysociety.co.uk/short-stories](http://www.ashistorysociety.co.uk/short-stories)

**SMITH, William**, born 1822, possibly the son of William SMITH who joined the Earl of Chester's Yeoman Cavalry in 1804 and served with the Tabley Troop.

A Regimental Order of 15 May 1869 states *Trumpeter William Smith of the Tabley Troop to be Trumpet-Major*. He had already seen much active service. Smith enlisted in the 3rd Light Dragoons in 1839 at about seventeen years of age and served in the Afghan War of 1842, and the First and Second Sikh Wars (1845-46 and 1848-49).

In 1854 he volunteered with the 11th Hussars as a Trumpeter and went through the Crimea Campaign with that regiment. He was appointed Field-Trumpeter to Lord Cardigan and is reputed to have sounded that fateful charge at Balaclava.\* During this action, SMITH's horse was shot from under him but he escaped harm, although in one instance he was reported to be mortally wounded, and he does not appear in the list of survivors. However, he returned home, lived in Knutsford from 1862 onwards, attended the Regimental dinner in 1875 and died in November 1879.



William SMITH was buried in St John's Churchyard, Knutsford; the location of the grave is not known but he is memorialised by use of a stone which appears at first glance to be a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. However, this is not the case, as CWGC headstones are only supplied to commemorate those who lost their lives in WWI or later conflicts; the memorial design is simply based on the design of a CWGC headstone.

**\*Note:** other sources suggest that the charge was sounded by any one of several other candidates, e.g. William "Billy" BRITTAIN, James O'DONOGHUE, or Martin LANDFRIED/LANDFREY, among others. The latter is the last survivor whose voice can still be heard; a recording of him speaking and playing the *charge* on a trumpet was made in 1890 on an Edison Wax Cylinder and distributed by the Light Brigade Relief Fund to benefit the remaining veterans. It can be heard at <https://archive.org/details/EDIS-SWDP-01-04>

**WADSWORTH, John**, a Crimean veteran, aged 75, of 47 Barnsley Street, Stockport, died 2 June 1915, - Obit printed 7 Jan 1916, *Stockport Advertiser* group newspapers.

### ***1872 News (7) From the Northwich Guardian, 7 September 1872***

*FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION AT WINSFORD – A serious boiler explosion occurred at Winsford, on Monday morning last, whereby one man lost his life and the lives of three others are placed in jeopardy. The scene of the accident was at the works of Mr J T Wood, better known as "Jump's Works," situated on the riverside in the township of Wharton. On the premises are three circular salt pans, which are worked by a small engine. Adjoining the fireplace there is, or rather was, a little hut, and in it Jos Hilditch and Thos Blower, saltboilers, sat to get their breakfast on Monday morning, and three other men, John Hitchen, Joseph Moulton, saltboilers, and George Vernon, the engine tender, partook of their meal immediately outside.*

*About quarter to nine o'clock these men were preparing to resume their work when suddenly they heard a "fiz" followed almost instantly by a terrific explosion, the boiler connected with the engine having burst, and materials were thrown about in all directions. Hitchen ran, and fortunately escaped uninjured. Hilditch was almost buried in one corner of the hut and when extricated was found to have sustained severe scalds on the body and bruises about the head. Moulton, besides being badly scalded, was blown for a distance of several yards. The other two men were scalded and bruised, and all were without delay removed to their respective homes – Hilditch to Crooked-lane, Wharton; Moulton to Over-lane, Winsford; and Vernon and Blower to Moulton. Messrs Okell and Dudley, surgeons, were speedily in attendance upon the injured man. Hilditch, who was nearly 63 years of age, lingered until between four and five o'clock the same afternoon, when he expired.*

## Outdated Sayings

From the *Daily Telegraph*, 25 January 2022: Britain's fifty most “endangered” sayings, by percentage of respondents who never use the phrase.

How many phrases do you know? Do you still use them?

Are there any phrases that you use regularly that others don't use, and they're not on this list?

Perhaps you know some local Cheshire sayings? If so, please share them.

Pearls before swine	78%	Popped her clogs	54%
Nail your colours to the mast	71%	Drop them a line	53%
Colder than a witch's t--	71%	Steal my thunder	53%
Pip pip	70%	A few sandwiches short of a picnic	
Know your onions	68%		53%
A nod is as good as a wink	66%	A legend in his own lifetime	52%
A stitch in time saves nine	64%	Be there or be square	52%
Ready for the knackers yard	62%	Fell off the back of a lorry	52%
I've dropped a clanger	60%	A bodge job	52%
A fly in the ointment	59%	Eat humble pie	52%
As keen as mustard	58%	Have a chinwag	52%
A flash in the pan	57%	Put a sock in it	52%
Tickety boo	57%	Mad as a hatter	51%
A load of old codswallop	56%	Spend a penny	51%
A curtain twitcher	56%	Cool as a cucumber	51%
Don't get your knickers in a twist		It's gone pear-shaped	51%
	56%	It cost a bomb	51%
As dead as a doornail	55%	Raining cats and dogs	51%
A dog's dinner	55%	Gone to see a man about a dog	51%
It's chock a block	55%	It takes the biscuit	50%
Storm in a teacup	55%	He's a good egg	50%
Couldn't organise a p--- up in a brewery	54%	Snug as a bug in a rug	49%
Not enough room to swing a cat		Chuffed to bits	49%
	54%	Have a gander	49%
Flogging a dead horse	54%	Selling like hot cakes	49%
Toe the line	54%	Pardon my French	48%
		A turn up for the books	45%

## My Family Hero: Ursula Phillips, Midwife

*by David Phillips*  
*Membership no. 9253*



My great-great-grandmother, Ursula HUMPHREY, was born on 7th August 1827 in Clerkenwell, Middlesex, the eldest of seven children born to William and Elizabeth HUMPHREY. Ursula's father was an agricultural labourer (yes, an *ag. lab.* - most of us have at least one lurking in the background) working on the many farms that were just north of the Clerkenwell/Islington area at that time. We know very little about Ursula's early life, but we do know that the fields around the edges of London were being rapidly consumed by desperately-needed housing, and that early in the nineteenth century William and his family moved south of the Thames, where he managed to work for himself, initially selling fruit and vegetables and eventually becoming a market gardener at Ewell in Surrey.

We can be more certain of Ursula's story following her marriage to William Richard PHILLIPS on 13th December 1847 at the newly-built St Mark's Church, Myddleton Square, Clerkenwell, Middlesex. Clerkenwell in the first half of the nineteenth century was at the epicentre of the rapid expansion of London beyond the old city walls and the Myddleton Estate was built around Myddleton Square between 1820 and 1850 with St. Mary's Church at the centre of the most desirable part of the estate. The marriage of Ursula HUMPHREY to William Richard PHILLIPS in 1847 was one of a group of marriages involving the PHILLIPS family in the City of London and nearby.

William Richard PHILLIPS was the eldest son of Richard PHILLIPS, wheelwright, from Barnes in Surrey (approximately nine miles from Ewell where Ursula lived from 1829 onwards). From 1847 to 1851 Ursula and William lived on Fulham High Street, moving in 1852 to a cottage in St. John's Grove in Barnes, then to Priest (also named Peace or Piece) Bridge, Barnes, in 1858.

Between 1849 and 1863 Ursula gave birth to nine children; however, four children died within the space of three years, two from scarlatina (within five days of each other), one from measles and one from pneumonia. Unfortunately, that terrible time of illness was not yet over as Ursula's mother, Elizabeth, died at Ursula's home in 1859, and her sister, also named Elizabeth, died at Ursula's home in 1860 – a terrible decade for the family. Perhaps it was her experiences during that terrible time that led Ursula to undertake training as a midwife in the early 1860s at the Ladies Medical College in London. It was certainly her subsequent work as a midwife (also known then as an *accoucheuse*) that had a most significant effect on the family.

In our early research, we were aware that the family had moved away from Surrey as the 1871 census noted the family living at 47 Icknield Street, Birmingham, giving Ursula's occupation as *accoucheuse*, but we could only speculate as to the reasons for the move and were uncertain about when precisely the move had taken place. In addition, Ursula's eldest son William Richard Jnr. had remained in Surrey. Ursula's husband, William Richard Snr. apparently retired and became a *Gentleman* while the three younger boys were all enrolled at King Edward VI Grammar School in Edgbaston. The youngest child, and the only surviving girl, Ada, is listed as a scholar in the census.

The breakthrough came when an Internet search for *Ursula Phillips Midwife* brought up a doctoral thesis on comparisons between childbirth in Birmingham, UK and Sydney, Australia that mentioned Ursula by name in connection with The Birmingham Lying-in Charity. This in turn led to being able to track down several sources of information that provided background to a family mystery in Barnes and Mortlake, and to a great deal of information about Ursula and her role at the Birmingham Lying-In Charity.

In 1842, the Birmingham Lying-In Charity was opened as a hospital, with mothers being admitted to give birth, and male doctors providing the medical expertise. However, it became clear that by bringing all the mothers-to-be together, the charity was instrumental in spreading disease and illness, such as puerperal fever. It was also very expensive. The answer was to close down the in-patient facilities and set up a system that enabled expectant mothers to be supported by midwives in their own homes. This change had already taken place in London, and the Birmingham charity approached the London charity for support in the setting up of their new system. One of the advisors was Florence NIGHTINGALE.

It was the introduction of this new system that caused Ursula to be invited (head-hunted!) to move to Birmingham in 1868 to enable the birth-at-home

service to begin in Birmingham. She had been well recommended by the Secretary of the London Charity and also by Florence NIGHTINGALE, who had been involved with Ursula's training at the Ladies Medical College. It is clear that the move to Birmingham was a major upheaval in the lives of the family as William Richard PHILLIPS gave up his business in Barnes and as far as we can tell he took no other job. It could be that he was unwell or unfit to carry on his trade as wheelwright, which was a heavy, physical job, in which case the offer of employment in Birmingham to Ursula may have been most opportune. The family moved into accommodation on what was then Icknield Street - renamed Monument Road in 1881 - approximately one mile to the west of Birmingham City Centre in the area known as Ladywood. Number 47 Monument Road would be Ursula's home until 1900, when she died.

By 1868 the Lying-in Charity was ready to begin the new home-based system with three midwives. In the minute book, the Secretary, James C GELL, notes that the third midwife (Ursula PHILLIPS) had successfully completed training and had *gone through the examinations of the London Medical College*. He also noted that *all three [midwives] were thoroughly competent persons and not of the ordinary*. James C GELL had been with the Birmingham Lying-In Hospital Charity as administrator and secretary for some years prior to the changes made in 1868, and remained as Secretary of the Charity until the late 1890s. He was effectively the General Manager, responsible for the day-to-day running of the midwifery service including the hiring, firing and deployment of staff.

The charity's minute books catalogue the work of the midwives, with each meeting receiving verbal reports from the midwives about their workload, any particular problems or successes, and changes in staff and/or organisation. Ursula's contributions to the work of the charity are noted on nearly every page. We know how much she earned each month, when she had time off work due to illness or holidays, how she related to the other midwives, the trustees of the charity and the professional doctors who provided additional support to mothers who were experiencing difficulties with the birth. The majority of the notes in the minutes are routine: numbers of births and payments received. However, over the years there were a number of instances where the notes were clearly about more than the normal routine. The following are brief extracts from the minutes that provide a flavour of Ursula's work and the challenges she faced in her long career with the Birmingham Lying-In Charity.

**1 December 1870:** Board Meeting noted the remuneration of the midwives as £6 per month and of the Secretary (James Gell) as a salary of £7.10.0. There were 109 births recorded in November 1870.

**5 January 1871:** Mrs. PHILLIPS reported neglect in the case of Mary Ann DOBSON by the Dispensing Surgeon. A statement from Mrs. PHILLIPS was forwarded to the Chairman of the Dispensary asking for an investigation.

Mrs. PHILLIPS' remuneration £7.10.0 (a five-week month)

**2 February 1871:** The Chairman of the Dispensary stated: *an investigation into the case of Mary Ann DOBSON will take place on Mr. RENNY's return.*

**31 March 1871:** The Chairman of the Birmingham General Dispensary, Mr. J H NETTLEFOLD, had written to say that the complaint against Mr. RENNY had been upheld. There was no further mention of Mr RENNY in the minutes.

Mr J H NETTLEFOLD was one of a number of local worthies who were the trustees of the Charity. He was an engineer, and went on to join with a Mr. GUEST and a Mr. KEEN to form Guest, Keen and Nettlefold, engineers, now the multinational company GKN. Other trustees included a Mr LLOYD (banking) and a Mr CADBURY (chocolate).

**30 September 1871:** Mr. Robert LAWSON-TAIT appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Birmingham Lying-In Charity.

Mrs. VICKERY (midwife) found intoxicated on 11<sup>th</sup> January at the home of Mrs. JENKINS (midwife). The Secretary (Mr. GELL) called in on Mrs. JENKINS again on 18th January and again found Mrs VICKERY there. She was *in a terrible state, very bad language, kicking, screaming etc.* Taken home by her husband. Mrs. VICKERY wanted to resign, but was dismissed.

**4 December 1872:** Mrs. PHILLIPS continues to be ill. Steps taken to cover her work in the Ladywood District. Marian HUMPHREY (no relation) was appointed temporarily. *Long illness – constitutional debility.* (It would appear that Ursula was exhausted).

**4 February 1875:** Mrs. PHILLIPS asked that a report be given to the Board concerning *the advisability of surgeons who attend private patients with peritonitis and other infections then going on to their midwifery patients therefor causing cross infection.* Although it is not clear from the minutes, it would appear that the report was written by Ursula and she wished to present it to the Board for their consideration.

**4th March 1875:** A letter was received by the Board from Mr LAWSON-TAIT regarding Ursula Phillips' report. LAWSON -TAIT has *instructed solicitors to take Ursula PHILLIPS to court as being responsible* (for the cross-infection?). LAWSON-TAIT also holds the Board to be responsible. It appears that no further action was taken at this time.

**5 April 1877:** Ursula PHILLIPS complained to the Board about LAWSON-TAIT, specifically *want of courtesy and neglect of duty*. There was also a complaint by Mrs. WHITTOCK (midwife) against LAWSON-TAIT at the same meeting. It was resolved that: *The Committee are of the opinion that the behaviour of Mr. TAIT towards Mrs. PHILLIPS was not consistent with what is due to one of the qualified midwives of the Charity, especially towards one who for upwards of eight years has performed her duties most assiduously and with eminent success.*

The above is an amazing endorsement by the Board of Trustees, many of whom were eminent men in and around the City of Birmingham. At the time of his battles with Ursula, LAWSON-TAIT was already a well-known and well-regarded surgeon. Robert LAWSON-TAIT (1845 – 1899), born in Edinburgh, Scotland, became a pioneer in pelvic and abdominal surgery and developed new techniques and procedures. He emphasized asepsis and reduced surgical mortality significantly. He is well-known for introducing salpingectomy in 1883 as the treatment for ectopic pregnancy, a procedure that has saved countless lives since then. He is considered to be one of the fathers of gynaecology.

**1 November 1883:** *Mrs. E. HALLS to be trained as a pupil midwife in Mrs. PHILLIPS' home.*

**2 October 1884:** The Board received a request from Miss Ada PHILLIPS to train as a pupil midwife in her mother's district. This is granted. On 1st January Ada PHILLIPS is granted her Certificate.

**5 January 1891:** Ursula absent from work due to bronchitis. She returned to work on 2nd March.

**5 November 1891:** Ursula again absent. It is agreed that Ada can cover her work *subject to a doctor's certificate*. Ursula returned to work in April 1892. It is around this time that the midwives are allowed to place brass plates by their front doors.

**3 August 1893:** The Secretary of the Charity, Mr. J. GELL, wished to tender his resignation. It was resolved that he could *make use of the assistance of Miss A. PHILLIPS, the daughter of our midwife*. She would *collect the subscriptions and when required attend to the registration of the patients*. She would be *remunerated by the Secretary the sum of £2 per month during the Secretary's illness*.

**7 June 1894:** Miss HUMPHREY (midwife; no relation to Ursula) dismissed for taking  $\frac{3}{4}$  glass of brandy following a letter of complaint from a Miss CADBURY. Despite 25 years good service she was given six months' notice as this was the third complaint of a similar nature.

**5 October 1899:** *An application having been received from Miss Ada PHILLIPS for the appointment of Secretary of the Charity, Mr. J. GELL stated that she had satisfactorily discharged her duties for the past 5 years. It was resolved that Miss Ada PHILLIPS be appointed Secretary at a salary of £60 per annum. One month notice on either side.*

Ursula PHILLIPS, widow of William Richard PHILLIPS, a blacksmith, died 16th April 1900 at 47 Monument Road, Birmingham aged 73 from hemiplegia (five years) and apoplexy. It is clear from the minute book that Ursula was still working and receiving her salary (still £6 per month, £7.10.0 in a five week month) right up to her death in April 1900. Since starting in 1868 she was paid every month, including when absent from work due to illness, when on leave of absence and when on holiday.

Ursula was a very strong woman, and her steadfast defence of her skills and reputation highlight her professionalism and her dedication to the women under her care. The high regard in which she was held is underlined by the strong support she received from the Board of Trustees of the Charity - all men of importance in the history of Birmingham.

Ursula's daughter Ada continued as Secretary of the Birmingham Lying-In Charity up to at least 1904. On 16th August 1904 the handwriting in the Charity's Minute book changed. By 1911 Ada had moved to 396 Monument Road and was listed as a Boarding House Keeper in the 1911 census, with two boarders - one a midwife and the other a maternity nurse. She subsequently moved to Worthing where she lodged with her older brother, Harry PHILLIPS.

One of the fascinations of family history research is not the finding of answers to questions about our ancestors, but the number of further questions it gives us. The 1881 Census shows Ursula (and William Richard) having another daughter called Charlotte Rosina PHILLIPS resident at 47 Monument Road! There has never been a mention of Charlotte in any of the information, written or verbal, handed down through the PHILLIPS family. The only references are the 1881 census, above, and William Richard PHILLIPS named as father on Charlotte's wedding certificate - she is not mentioned in Ursula's will.

## Sources

The Minute Book of the Birmingham Lying-In Charity is available at the Wolfson Research Centre at the Birmingham Library. At the time of writing, the Centre is closed, and there have been drastic reductions in staff due to the severe financial state of Birmingham City Council. Having said that, the records and archives there, and the facilities when open, are excellent.



# An Unusual Birth Certificate

by Gren Dix  
Membership no. 4174

On the right is the birth certificate for a BENNETT. On initial registration - and appearing in various indexes - she was Agnes BENNETT.

However, there were family ructions. Her name was changed to the forenames of her two grandmothers, Eliza and Ellen. This is the only case that I have seen where column 10 is used - *Name entered after registration*.

**CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF BIRTH Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953**

Registration District **Wigan** in the **County of Lancaster**

Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
320	September April 1891 123 Slarley Lane Low Green Wandley U.S.D.	Agnes Gird	Girl	BENNETT		Racing Signboard	Father 123 Slarley Lane Low Green Wandley	Twelfth May 1891	GG Dunn Ellen	Eliza Ellen

*Registrar.*

## Who was Eliza Crowe?

by Dave Williams  
Membership no. 7539

There is an intriguing memorial in Macclesfield Cemetery; you can find it under a tree close to the Westminster Road entrance. It is topped by an illustration of a reclining lady in rather revealing apparel. The inscription, which spells the surnames CROWE and WHARTON incorrectly, reads:

*Sacred to the memory of Eliza CROW. Her professional name Madam WARTON who died Jan 27th 1854 aged 27 years. This tablet raised to her memory by a dear and sincere friend Arthur NELSON.*



The illustration is not the only intriguing thing about the memorial. The lady concerned was originally buried in the churchyard of St Paul's, Macclesfield, but apparently part of the churchyard wall alongside Green Street collapsed (in the 1950s?) and several graves spilled into that street. Some memorials, and presumably the associated remains, were relocated to Macclesfield cemetery. This may cause

some confusion, as some graves contain the remains of people who died before the cemetery opened in 1866! The original entry in St Paul's burial register reads: #965 Eliza CROWE of Exchange Street buried 28 January 1854 age 27.

Eliza's death certificate tells us that her profession was *Equestrian*. She died on 27 January 1854 at Exchange Street, Macclesfield; the informant was Elizabeth WOOD, *present at the death*. Cause of death was *fever (9 days), jaundice and haemorrhage*. The onset of the fever would have been Wednesday 18 January.

On Saturday 21 January 1854, the *Manchester Examiner and Times* reported: *The Circus. – The tent circus erected on Mr. Lee's bowling-green, and belonging to Messrs. Hernandez and Stone, from Drury Lane, received but slender support on Monday and Tuesday evenings last, although the performance was of the first class. On Wednesday evening, the performances were under the patronage of the mayor, John Smith, Esq.; and the tent was crowded to excess. Also, on Thursday night, for the benefit of Nelson, the "Clown King," the house was again crowded. Madame Wharton appeared*

as "Lady Godiva," and Nelson as "Peeping Tom." These two nights amply make up for the deficiency in attendance the first two nights in the week. The performances are of the highest order of horsemanship, &c. and the company is the best of the kind that has appeared here for a length of time.

By the time the circus got a full house, the damage had probably already been done. A near-empty marquee in mid-January might well have been a rather chilly location for a recreation of Lady Godiva! But at least the Clown King stumped up for an appropriate memorial.

The *Monmouthshire Beacon* reported on 18 February 1854:

*DEATH OF MADAME WHARTON - By our correspondence from Macclesfield, Cheshire, we regret to find announced the decease of Madame Wharton, the once celebrated originator of the Walhalla, Leicester Square. The unfortunate lady had been long suffering from ill health... She expired at the above town on Friday, the 27th ult., of typhus fever. The deceased lady ended her somewhat novel career at the early age of twenty-seven. No fitter prototype in the imitative classic department she so long assumed could possibly be found, from the fact of Madame Wharton having been frequently selected to sit as a model at the Royal Academy. It will be recollected that she undertook the character of Lady Godiva at the Coventry Show Fair a few years back, where she rode on horseback in the procession through the city.*

An (undated) advert for the Walhalla, Leicester Square, is illustrated by an artistically-arranged tableau of people dressed in Roman costume accompanied by the words *Madame Warton's Unequalled Tableaux Vivans and Poses Plastiques! Morning Performance at 3, Evening at 8. Admission 1s.* Charles Sturt University, Australia, explains: *Artistes of a performance style known as poses plastiques adopted postures to resemble so-called living statues, usually in the garb of Greek and Roman deities, and a number of its female technicians titillated Victorian audiences with costumes giving the appearance of almost complete nudity.*

Edwin Landseer produced a painting entitled *Lady Godiva's Prayer* which now hangs in the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry and can be seen online at <https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/lady-godivas-prayer-55030>. According to the Herbert Art Gallery, *The model was Eliza Crowe, whose stage name was Madame Wharton. She played Godiva in the 1848 Godiva procession in Coventry.*

Many years later, on 11 August 1883, *The Graphic* reported:

*... It was a certain "Madame Wharton," if we remember rightly, who first performed the part [of Lady Godiva] in a skin-tight suit of pink fleshings, but so great was the hubbub that modifications were subsequently introduced. Apart from any question of impropriety, this limited costume is not adapted to our variable climate.*

# Net That Serf

## The Computer Section

*Compiled by Geoff Johnson*

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### **From the Desktop**



Caringly created in the July 2022 heatwave! A rather thin issue this time - I really need more substantial articles please.

We start off by recognition of the vastly increased membership activity as a result of having virtual meetings using Zoom. I believe Jan's article can be replicated by others, so let's be hearing from you. Computer Club was a very early Zoom adopter, with Zoom meetings starting in May 2020.

Many of us are working to move forward with our research using DNA. Personally, I'm finding the ever-growing practices now being created by the major test suppliers very interesting, but they all raise the bar on the amount of time I need to spend carrying out the research. Writing journals, running an FHSC group, and managing a big garden really get in the way! Anyway, there's help here to identify which of the DNA testing suppliers provides better information.

The 1921 census costs are encouraging members to continue developing methods of manipulating search results to obtain some information free of charge, with great success.

## What Would I Do Without Zoom?

By Jan Keane - *Computer Club member from Birkenhead*

Before Zoom came into my life, there was Net That Serf and an idea that one day I might go to a Computer Club meeting. Roll forward to a couple of years before Covid, and I made the first of many journeys from Birkenhead to deepest Cheshire, to the church hall in Hartford. Good to meet the people behind the articles and the knowledge base in person!

The arrival of Covid stopped so many things, but gradually the use of Zoom started to turn things around for me and there were some fun family meetings. I started to use it for my local book group and it was very successful, continuing through to last December.

Using Zoom for our Cheshire Family History meetings has brought so many advantages. I'll start with the County-wide Seminar Series which is excellent. It would be impossible to run this without an online program. Members from all areas of the County and beyond can enjoy them. Using the Chat feature allows comments and questions, enabling the meeting hosts to cover further aspects with the speaker on the night.

I took advantage of Zoom to attend Oxfordshire FHS meetings, which I would not have been able to go to in person. One of these was a talk on the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission which led me to find pictures on the website of my uncle's grave on Arran from 1941. I had some old photographs from the military funeral at the time, but the CWGC site had far more information.

Our Computer Club moved to online meetings using Zoom and continues to meet that way. The meetings range widely in content, with short talks by Geoff and other members on different programs or uses of IT. Question and answer sessions each time make good use of both the Chat and the Raise Hand features. Quite a lot of questions have been on the use of Zoom and the different features, such as a Blurred or Virtual Zoom Background. However, not many of us have a plain green wall behind us to make this entirely successful!

At one of our meetings, Margaret Roberts gave a talk about searching old newspapers. She had used some examples from a Banbury paper with a list of school prizes awarded to students. I was amazed to see a Marion Hyde listed for an art prize. Could this be my great aunt Marion, who had painted the two small flower pictures I had on my wall? It was - and yes, I had only heard her name and assumed the spelling incorrectly.

As the Computer Club continued to meet, there were several topics which were of particular interest and which smaller groups wanted to explore in more depth. These subgroups now meet regularly. They are open to all Computer Club members as shown in *Computer Club Documents* on the Society website. Once again, Zoom has enabled this to happen. Increasingly members of subgroups have joined and attend from distances such as Nova Scotia and the South of France. I belong to the Family Historian and the Writing Groups and wish I had more time for another one or two. The groups are quite small and we talk things through, gaining from others' experience; which gives both information and encouragement. Do join a subgroup if you have the time.

Zoom has certainly enriched my family history life and I hope it does the same for you.

## Ethnicity Percentage Estimates

By Mike Hodgkinson

*Further to Mike's piece in the June issue on using Ancestry DNA:*

Area	Ancestry	Ancestry (mother)	Ancestry (father)	Living DNA	My Heritage
England/NW Europe	51 (Mainly English Midlands)	13	38	60.5	3.8
Scotland (Includes Northumberland, Durham & eastern area of Ulster)	37	34	3	26.3	61.6 (Includes Wales & Ireland)
Northern Ireland South-west Scotland	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.7	(Included above)
Sweden/Denmark	7	0	7	2.5	25
Wales	5	3	2	4	(Included with Scotland)
Ireland				2	(Included with Scotland)
Iberia					9.6
<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

This provides an analysis of my DNA results from three companies. They are all based on an original DNA sample sent to Ancestry. I only noticed today (25<sup>th</sup> April) that Ancestry has separated the ethnicity estimates of my parents. It was easy to identify each parent. I looked at my wife's ethnicity results and could easily identify her parents' results.

My conclusion is that Ancestry gives a realistic estimate provided that you accept they include Northumberland, Durham and Cumberland in Scotland!

The border reivers ignored the boundary line. Living DNA is similar, but the My Heritage results are a mystery.

### **Comment**

My mother's known ancestors come mainly from Northumberland and Durham with known 2x great-grandparents from Norfolk and Glasgow. Earlier known ancestors came from the English Midlands and Ulster and many have Scottish names (including SCOTT twice).

My father's ancestors come mainly from Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire and Shropshire (in that order). Some of these ancestors came from areas with large Danish settlements before the Norman Conquest.

### **Ancestry**

The Ancestry estimates would correspond to areas my ancestors were living about a thousand years ago.

### **Living DNA**

These estimates give more English Ancestry and less Scottish (as defined by these companies). There is also less Scandinavian, which suggests the timeline may be later than Ancestry.

### **My Heritage**

This information bears little relation to my known ancestry. I am reputedly only 3.8% English North-west European - but only two of my known ancestors were born outside England. I accept that their definition of Scotland to include the English Border counties, Wales and Ireland would account for much of the 61.6% from their definition of Scotland. The 25% Scandinavian and 9.6% Iberian are a mystery.

## **Comments on Previous Issues**

### **Getting a bit more free info out of the 1921 Census**

St Albans member Michael White hopes that the following might help members to interpret the grouping of results when the numbers don't add up!  
He observed:

Thanks for the detailed instructions for getting more out of the 1921 Census. However, I have found a few problems that you might be interested in. The *First* and *Last* names in the *Other household member* field are not linked together, so you can get households where one person has the first name and another person has the last name. So, when grouping the search results, you

find that there is a household with two people not named rather than one. This can be seen in the following two examples:

### **Example 1**

*Thomas White* in the Parish of High Wycombe

Grouping the 28 results showed that there are six households, but one of them, the Prickett family, has seven members, with only five listed. A new search on another member of this household, John Prickett, shows that the other two people are an un-named White, and Thomas Prickett - there is no Thomas White in this household!

### **Example 2**

*Albert Keen* in the Parish of Bledlow

Grouping of the 12 results showed that there are two households, and both of them have two names missing from their household rather than one. Repeating the search using another name, Elizabeth May Whilan, from the first household shows that there are in fact two Albert Whites in this household. Repeating the search using another name, Winnie Smith, from the second household shows that there is a Phillis Keen and an Albert Smith but no Albert Keen.

The solution therefore is to repeat the search using another member of the household as the *Other household member*.

Another problem is that the use of an initial for the second name in the *First Name* search box does not appear to work.

### **Example 3**

In my family tree Lawrence Harold Williams married Hilda Zoah White. A search for Lawrence Harold Williams born 1892 gives five results and one of these, Laurence H Williams born 1892 in Manchester and living in the parish of Lambeth, has Hilda Z and Clifford D as the other household members. However, a search for Laurence H Williams as *Other household member* in the parish of Lambeth gives no results, whereas a search for Laurence Williams in the Parish of Lambeth gives the expected two results for Hilda Z Williams and Clifford D Williams; and each includes Laurence H as one of the other household members.

*Ian Worthington and I responded, thanking Mike for tipping us off:*

*We acknowledge that yes, it is true that for some searches you need to be creative to get to the results you're after. Your examples show that, and there are bound to be others (like my multi family groups at one address in a big building). Because we are searching using non-standard methods, it's always going to need imaginative thinking! - GJ*



# 1921 Census: Finding by Address - 1

## Two worked examples

Shrewsbury member Michael Hulme observes:

Following on from recent discussions I have managed to find two properties without knowing the names of the occupiers, and wondered if the method might interest someone else.

### 1. Find a house in a village

Select *Find an address in the 1921 Census* (the right tab of the opening page).

Because I was looking for a house in a village, putting in the modern street name didn't work and I discovered in the village I was looking at, street names hadn't been used in 1921; it was necessary to put the name of the village in the box for street name. In the location box I put the nearest town. This brought up 'View 7 results' but when I clicked it there were just four entries, containing 2, 7, 15 and 43 households.

The four entries included the name of the parish and from this I knew it was the group of 43 households which would include the house I was looking for. Clicking that button listed all 43 households with their house name and the *Schedule* number. Make a note of the *Parish* and *Schedule* number.

Clear everything from the screen, then select the *Find an ancestor* tab - not *Find address* - then *Advanced Search*. Scroll down to *Parish* and enter that, then scroll down again to *Schedule number* and enter that, then click *View results*. At this point you will be presented with a list of the people in the house, together with their date and place of birth.

### 2. Find a farm in a rural location

Start a new search to find an address. In this case I was able to enter the name of the hamlet in the street name box and the name of the parish in the location box which brought up one entry with two households, when I would have expected a total of three or four.

In my case, the address I wanted was listed with the added information of its postal address which was different to the parish, so I noted this plus the name of the parish, and the schedule number as mentioned above. In this particular case there were two schedule numbers to note.

Use the *Clear All* option (upper left), then start a new search using the *Find an ancestor* tab and the *Advanced search* option. Scroll down to *Parish* and enter that, then further down enter the *Folio number*. In *Optional keywords* near the

bottom, I put the name of the hamlet which resulted in seven names. One name was familiar to me so I was on the right track, but I had no way of knowing who, out of the other six, were family and who were live-in workers. I shall save that for another day.

Looking at the other schedule number, this was definitely the farm across the road, with one person named who I can remember from when I was a child.

An interesting exercise which I hope might help other members.

## 1921 Census: Finding by Address – 2

By our Publicity Guru Margaret Roberts

### Some tips for finding an elusive address in the 1921 census

It is easy to find an address in the 1921 Census if you already know what you are looking for, but there are difficulties even then. For example, a change of house name or number, transcription errors, renaming of streets - and the perennial challenge of road names in rural locations, when the whole village seemed to live on *The Green!*

Have you tried using the information from the 1911 Census or 1939 Register? Online collections of old maps may also help to narrow down an address. What about looking in telephone directories or checking the addresses on a birth, marriage or death certificate from around the time of the census? WWI service records and Absent Voters' Lists also contain an address, so they could prove an excellent research aid. The British Newspaper Archive is another invaluable tool; try limiting your search to the early 1920s and you could find adverts for rooms to let, items for sale or domestic vacancies all connected to your ancestor or the house you are looking for. School records, trade directories, gazetteers, asylum and hospital records are a few more ideas - in fact the list of where addresses were recorded, when you think about it, are endless.

The collection that I have found that has been most helpful, due to its relevance in time, is the Electoral Registers 1910-1932 which handily are also on Findmypast:

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-records/england-and-wales-electoral-registers-1910-1932>

The chances of your relative living in the same house in the 1920-21 Electoral Register and the 1921 Census are quite high. A word of caution here, especially if you are looking for a female ancestor: while some women were enfranchised

prior to the 1918 Representation of the People Act, universal suffrage was not gained until 1928 and so you may not find your female relative in the electoral rolls at the time of the census - or some men either, for that matter. But if you're fortunate, you can use this information in the address field of the 1921 search and hopefully you'll come up trumps.

However, your best friend in any search scenario is the *Optional Keywords* box on the *Advanced search* screen. This searches the whole database - every single field except for the numbers - which means that if anything has been missed in the transcription of, say, the address field, the optional keyword search should pick it up. You can use quotation marks or a wildcard search to limit, broaden and define your results within the optional keywords box and if you know the parish or registration district then you can narrow down your search even further. Give all this a go and let me know if any of it helps.

## From the Inbox

**Useful Chrome Hint** by Peter Smith in Newport

The following could be a useful new feature in latest version of Chrome, where you can highlight some text in a web page, and then send the link on with the text still highlighted:

[www.howtogeek.com/726473/how-to-create-a-link-to-selected-text-in-chrome](http://www.howtogeek.com/726473/how-to-create-a-link-to-selected-text-in-chrome)

**MyBase** – a recommendation from John Haslehurst of Westcliff on Sea

I have been a member of FHSC for a number of years now, and in my early years of family history research I wanted to store my data in a hierarchy format before moving it into a specialised family history database/program. I searched far and wide across the internet and eventually came across a program called *MyBase*. Below is a link to the program and you will see that many forms of data can be saved in it. Also, with add-ins to web browsers you can save information directly into the database you create. [www.wjsoft.com/mybase.html](http://www.wjsoft.com/mybase.html)

Just thought others might be interested in the product, especially as the Internet is now so full of information that may be of use for research into family history, but not always suitable for the likes of FTM etc.

*You can download an evaluation version, try it, and move on to the full version for \$79 (£67). John tells me that in normal use the database is stored in your own computer to a location of your choice. This could, if you'd prefer, be in a Cloud account – GJ*

## GRO Birth & Death Index Updated

We understand that the GRO have updated their indexes by adding 2020 births and deaths. Can anybody verify please? *Ed.: Yes, this is correct; easily verified by searching with the year 2020 and a common surname such as Smith.*

## A Reminder: FamilySearch Library Lookup Service

FamilySearch are offering a Library Lookup Service which will provide greater access to their records – please note this is NOT a research service. With a free FamilySearch account, you can search through their large database of records online. The search often provides a text index of the record along with a complete image, but some books and other materials only have the index; the full images of which can only be accessed at the Family History Library, history centres or affiliate libraries. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, visiting one of these facilities has not been possible and so, to offset these conditions, and as part of an effort to serve the global FamilySearch audience, this lookup service has been created.

On request, staff and volunteers at the library will look up specific records in their collections that cannot be viewed online. Since Library Lookup is NOT a research service, you will need to identify the specific record from FamilySearch.org that you wish to see.

For more details see: [www.familysearch.org/blog/en/library-lookup-service-fhl](http://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/library-lookup-service-fhl)  
The online request form is here: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/family-history-library/record-lookup-service>

**As I said above, I need more pieces for next time - I really had to rake around to pull this issue together. That makes the job far too time-consuming – GJ**

## Closing Snippet

The final word is on elephant genealogy.

First elephant:

*I hear you've been trying to trace your ancestors.*

Second elephant:

*Yes, and it's a mammoth task.*



## Group News

**For changes and up-to-date news check the website**  
*www.fhsc.org.uk*

**Note:** most future group meetings will now take place as actual meetings in person, unless specifically stated to be online Zoom meetings.

Please be aware that circumstances may change; if in doubt, please check the website before travelling to a meeting.

Members may attend or participate in the meetings of any group.

To receive email news of future group meetings, log in to the FHSC website, go to the group's page and click on the button *Add ... to My Groups*.

You can receive emails from as many groups as you wish.

If you need to find out more or get help with Zoom meetings, please contact your group leader. If you are not affiliated to a group, please contact David Smetham by email: *congleton@fhsc.org.uk*

### FHSC Seminars

*By Margaret Spate, Jean Laidlaw and Margaret Roberts*

These talks, presented via Zoom and open to all members, take place on the 3rd Wednesday evening of each month. The waiting room will open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. A newsletter will be sent out on the first day of each month with details of the talk. You can then register for that month's talk only - you cannot block book all the talks.

To register, simply sign into the FHSC website, navigate to *Events* and scroll down until you find that month's talk. Click on the title, then click on the *Join* button, followed by *Save*. You will receive an automated email confirming your registration. Zoom links and meeting protocols will be sent out in another newsletter two days before the talk.

These Zoom talks have the option of closed captions (subtitles) if required - click on *CC* at the bottom of the screen to enable this function. Please note that the question-and-answer session at the end of each talk is by the Zoom *Chat* facility - if you are unsure of how this works then please email us on *seminar@fhsc.org.uk* and we will be happy to help you.

## *Future meetings:*

21st Sept ***Birth and Death: The Hidden Secrets of Registration***  
***- Anthony Marr***

Anthony is a retired police officer with many years of training experience, and a former deputy registrar of births, deaths and marriages. He is now a professional genealogist and Chair of AGRA (Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives). This talk will look at the complex rules of registering birth and death events, uncovering the complexities and hidden information these essential records of civil registration can contain, such as why a birth can be registered more than once in different years or why a single death registration could involve three different certificates.

19th Oct ***The Second Annual Dorothy Flude Memorial Lecture:  
A Mining Disaster: The Story of the 1881 Explosion at Chatterley  
Whitfield Colliery - Ann Simcock***

This month marks a full year since the launch of the seminar series, which has gone from strength to strength. Dorothy Flude was a great champion for local history and local historians and this month we have one of our very own – the knowledgeable Ann Simcock - delivering this year's Dorothy Flude Memorial Lecture. Ann is a former history and drama teacher, even home-schooling her own son Gwilym, a professional musician. Ann later combined her life-long love of history, family, and local history with a love of drama to study for a degree in Theatre Studies. Over recent years Ann has begun to write articles and give talks. The story of the Chatterley Whitfield disaster is one that Ann has researched extensively, her work being included in the museum that has opened on the former site. Ann's talk looks at the background and causes of the explosion, which resulted in the deaths of twenty-four men and boys on a cold winter night back in 1881. Manslaughter charges were later levelled at the manager of the pit.

21st Nov ***History of CWGC, the Architecture and its Conservation***  
***- CWGC Rep. Sarah Moody***

Sarah Moody is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission regional coordinator for the West Central region, which includes Cheshire. This talk looks at the history of the CWGC and the early challenges the Commission faced, as well as a discussion on the unique architecture and conservation work carried out across the world by the CWGC and its staff.

21st Dec

***Christmas Food and Drink Through the Ages - Simon Fowler***

Simon Fowler is one of Britain's most experienced family history teachers, writers, and researchers. He worked for The National Archives on and off for over thirty years. He also edited *Family History Monthly* and *Ancestors* magazines. These days he makes his living from professional research, mainly on military topics and the records of central government. He has also written for *Family Tree Magazine* and *Who Do You Think You Are?* magazine, and has authored over a dozen books, mainly genealogical help guides. Simon sits on the council of the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives. He is also an Associate Teaching Fellow at Dundee University, a tutor for Pharos Tutors, and a regular lecturer at the Society of Genealogists. So - enjoy some eighteenth-century mince pies during this entertaining talk, which will prove that everything you knew about seasonal food and drink is probably wrong!

18th Jan

***Searching for Adoption Records - Dr Penny Walters***

Penny has been a university lecturer for thirty years, teaching Psychology and Business Studies. She lectures internationally in-person, writes articles, and has authored the books *Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy* and *The Psychology of Searching*. Some women feel unable to look after their baby or feel forced to give the baby up. Some babies were given to relatives to look after, others were fostered, adopted, or abandoned. Subsequently, people have gaps in their personal history and may want to find out about their biological family.

This session will discuss the practical realities, and the excitement and pain of researching a 'new' family. Some relatives don't want to be found; others have been desperately searching for years. Most people can ask family for information about their relatives, but adopted people often can't. We will look at the information that can be revealed through DNA testing, and the resultant matches and ethnicity estimates which supplement a paper trail. Reunions may not go as well as expected, so some adopted people can find a lot of satisfaction in finding other relatives or constructing an ancestral tree, all of which can help with identity and a personal narrative. Penny will reflect briefly on her own adoption story, and discuss the variety of ethical dilemmas that can arise when searching for relatives or ancestors and how researchers can sensitively help adopted people with their search.

## **Alsager Group**

*by Hazel Rugman*

### *Future meetings:*

- 17th Sep *Nineteenth Century Maps - Jonathan Pepler*  
This will be followed by a short AGM.
- 17th Oct *TBA*
- 21st Nov *TBA - probably a Zoom meeting*
- 12th Dec *Christmas Lunch*

**The last three meetings are subject to the group continuing following the September AGM.**

Unless otherwise stated, the Alsager Group meets at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month (except August and December) at Wesley Place Methodist Church, Lawton Road, Alsager, ST7 2AF. Admission is £1 for members and £2 for non-members. Refreshments are served after the talk, when there is an opportunity to discuss family history with other members. There is a large car park (free) opposite the church. Visitors are most welcome.

## **Bebington Group**

*by Bob Wright*

### *Future meetings:*

- 26th Sept *Long to Reign Over Us - Elizabeth Davey*
- 24th Oct *Oxton Women's struggle for the vote - Jo Hipps*
- 28th Nov *Claire House Children's Hospital - Speaker TBA*
- 12th Dec *Members Christmas Social*

Under normal circumstances, meetings take place on the 4th Monday of the month (excluding Bank Holidays) at Bebington Civic Centre, Civic Way, CH63 7PN, commencing at 7.30 pm. Entrance £1.50 for members, £2 for visitors, including refreshments. NOTE - we no longer run helpdesks.

## **Bramhall Group**

*by Janet Phillips*

As soon as we can confirm when and where our meetings will be held, we will notify members by email. Please continue to check the FHSC website under the Groups tab for Bramhall for the latest information. Hoping to welcome back members in the near future as soon as we are able - thank you for your patience.



***Future meetings:***

8th Sept    *TBA*  
13th Oct    *TBA*  
10th Nov    *TBA*  
8th Dec     *TBA*

Under normal circumstances, meetings are held at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month in the United Reformed Church Hall, Bramhall, SK7 2PE (corner of Robins Lane and Bramhall Lane South). Admission charge £2.

## **Chester Group**

*by Helen Elliott*

***Future meetings:***

29th Sept    *A Night at the Pictures: The Story of Chester's Cinemas*  
                  *- Peter Davies*  
27th Oct     *Estate and Manorial Records - Gill Campbell*  
24th Nov     *A Seasonal Miscellany*  
December    *No Meeting*

Group meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Thursday of the month at The Pavilion, Wealstone Lane, Upton, Chester CH2 1HD. Doors open at 7pm and there is plenty of parking space. All visitors and members welcome - there is a small admission charge of £1.50 for members and £2 for visitors.

## **Computer Group – The Society's Computer Club**

*by Geoff Johnson*

**All meetings are online using Zoom.**

Members who have requested emails from the Computer Group will receive notification of all meetings. Meetings and topics are seldom pre-arranged. Our preferred practice is to discuss new websites, members' own current problems, or generally educating members on getting the best from their computers. We are here to help and learn! The subject of each meeting is usually announced the week before, by email or on the Club's *Events* page on the FHSC website.

Meetings start at 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, and are open to all FHSC members. Contact [computerclub@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:computerclub@fhsc.org.uk) for online access details.

Notes on topics from past meetings are available on the FHSC website - go to *Groups > Computer Group > Computer Group Documents* and look for *Past Meetings*; or use the link [www.fhsc.org.uk/computer-group-documents/past-meetings](http://www.fhsc.org.uk/computer-group-documents/past-meetings)

## Congleton Group

by David Smetham

Monthly face-to-face meetings continued up to our June meeting. No meetings are held in July and August.

Updates and reminders about meetings are emailed to subscribers on our newsletter list. To be kept up to date with future meetings please sign up to the newsletters of the Congleton and/or Macclesfield group, or check the Congleton group pages, on the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk)

### *Future meetings:*

20th Sept *Short AGM, followed by a workshop, topic TBA.*

18th Oct *Place Names and Field Names - Tony Bostock*

15th Nov *TBA*

December *No Meeting*

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Congleton Library. Doors open at 7.15pm and meetings start at 7.30pm. Entry is through the lower door facing the bus station.

## Crewe Group

by Margaret Spate

As you will see we have a mix of Zoom (jointly with Nantwich) and face-to-face meetings, Zoom meetings during the winter with a return to a mix of styles of meetings in the spring. I will send a Crewe Group newsletter and alter the event listing on the website if there is any change to these planned meetings.

Please note that the contact email for the Zoom meetings is [crewe@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:crewe@fhsc.org.uk); please add **Zoom** with the **date of the meeting** to the subject line of your email when you register your interest in attending. Thanks.

### *Future meetings (all Joint Crewe and Nantwich Zoom meetings):*

13th Sept *Society of Genealogists' Digital Collection - Else Churchill*

Else Churchill is the Genealogist at the Society of Genealogists (SoG) in London, and a member of the Lords Chancellor's Advisory Council on National Records and Archives. She has over thirty years of experience as a genealogist. Formerly a professional genealogical librarian and researcher, Else has worked for the SoG since 1994. In addition to providing a library and research facility for family history, the society holds some unique records and

archives; the SoG is often an archive of last resort, providing a home for records that might otherwise be destroyed. Else will discuss the online digital collections of the SoG library, many of which are produced as a result of volunteer projects, which have been powering away at home during lockdown.

- 18th Oct *National Farm Survey 1940 to 1945 - Gill Blanchard*  
What are these records, where can they be found, what do they contain and how can they be used in your family history research?
- 8th Nov *'Run no Unnecessary Risk of Injury': Railway Staff Accidents & Family History in Cheshire. - Mike Esbester*  
Mike is a Senior Lecturer in History at Portsmouth University and co-leader of the *Railway, Work, Life & Death* Project, which focuses on railway staff accidents. This talk will look at such accidents with Cheshire in mind and is not to be missed if you have railway ancestry or an interest in the subject.
- 6th Dec *Auntie Kate's Sticklepath: Life in a Devon Village - Helen Shield*  
Although based in Devon, Helen gives a wonderful talk on her One Place Study, with a bit of a twist as she demonstrates an interesting and amusing way to present a family photograph album.
- 10th Jan *My Grandmother's Disreputable Forebears - Ann Simcock*  
Our ancestors lived in different times, under very difficult conditions. Despite this, some people would condemn them because of the way they lived just in order to survive. The life story of Ann's grandmother, Julia YALE, contains more than its fair share of these less than desirable ancestors. Ann, like the rest of us with such ancestry, would have loved to have met them and heard the stories 'straight from the horse's mouth' rather than just through bland records.

Note that the above meetings are all joint Crewe & Nantwich Zoom meetings. Under normal circumstances, meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Jubilee House, St Paul's St, Crewe CW1 2QA. Suggested parking at the adjacent Victoria Centre Car Park, CW1 2PT where there is free parking after 6.00pm. Please check the Crewe pages on the FHSC website for further information on meetings.

### ***Crewe Family History Unit***

Please see pages 79 - 80 and elsewhere in this issue for details of the Society's research centres.

## London/Middlesex Group

by David Smetham (FHSC Treasurer)

The joint London branch of the Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society and the Cumbria Family History Society has invited members of societies belonging to the North West Group of Family History Societies to participate in their talks. This includes Family History Society of Cheshire members.

Currently there is a programme of Zoom talks which are free to our members who live in London and the Home Counties.

When the branch is relaunched for face-to-face meetings they are likely to be held on Saturdays at 2.00pm at Saint Stephens Church Hall, 48 Emperor's Gate, Kensington, London SW7 4RL.

For more information, please email David Smetham at [info@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:info@fhsc.org.uk).

## Macclesfield Group

by Jean Laidlaw

For the latest news, please see the Macclesfield pages on the FHSC website.

### *Future meetings:*

27th Sept AGM

25th Oct *Charles Tunnickliffe - David Tolliday*

The story of Charles Tunnickliffe's early life in Macclesfield, where he lived in later years, the type of artwork he created and where it was used.

22nd Nov *Tabley House and the Clever Boy Next Door - Sarah Webb*

The redecoration of the Victorian dining room and the stories discovered while reinterpreting the room.

December *No Meeting*

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at The Salvation Army Hall, Roe Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6UT. Doors open at 7.15pm and meetings start at 7.30pm. Entry is through the main door facing the Churchill Way car park, and we meet in the ground floor room. Admission is £2 for members and £3 for visitors, including refreshments; members are also eligible to take part in a draw for a small gift.

To be kept up to date with future meetings please sign up to Macclesfield group newsletters on the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk) - go to the Macclesfield page of the website [www.fhsc.org.uk/about-the-group-macclesfield-2](http://www.fhsc.org.uk/about-the-group-macclesfield-2) and click on *Add Macclesfield to My Groups*; or send a request to [macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk).

## Nantwich Group

by Sheila Mitchell

In May we had our first face-to-face meeting, which went very well. Many thanks to those who attended. Please note that most of our face-to-face meetings will be in spring and summer next year.

We may hold a face-to-face meeting in September - as soon as I can confirm I will let all of our group members know. More details to come.

For the time being we are holding online Zoom meetings jointly with the Crewe Group.

**For full details of Zoom meetings please see the Crewe Group entry.**

If you wish to join one of the Zoom meetings, please register with Margaret Spate at [crewe@fnsc.org.uk](mailto:crewe@fnsc.org.uk), and include **Zoom** with the **date of the meeting** in the subject line of your email.

*Future meetings (all Joint Crewe and Nantwich Zoom meetings):*

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 13th Sept | <i>Society of Genealogists' Digital Collection - Else Churchill</i>   |
| 18th Oct  | <i>National Farm Survey 1940 to 1945 - Gill Blanchard</i>   |
| 8th Nov   | <i>Run no Unnecessary Risk of Injury: Railway Staff Accidents &amp; Family History in Cheshire. - Mike Esbester</i> |
| 6th Dec   | <i>Auntie Kate's Sticklepath: Life in a Devon Village - Helen Shield</i>  |
| 10th Jan  | <i>My Grandmother's Disreputable Forebears - Ann Simcock</i>  |

Under normal circumstances, meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Nantwich Methodist Church Centre, Hospital Street, Nantwich CW5 5RP. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission £2 for members and £3 for non-members, including refreshments. Ample parking nearby.

### *Nantwich Family History Workshops*

Workshops are held once a month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Mondays in the Local Studies and Family History Room on the first floor of Nantwich Library. A lift is available. Please come along if you need help to start your family history, have hit a brick wall, or need any advice. The library holds records including local newspapers, parish registers and many local history reference books, as well as free access to FindMyPast and Ancestry.

Future workshop dates are Mondays 19th September, 24th October, 28th November and 23rd January.

## Northwich Group

by *Dave Thomas*

Meetings are now held face-to-face in the church hall unless otherwise stated.

### *Future meetings:*

12th Sept *AGM, followed by*

*An Altrincham Murder in 1868 - Angela Jenkinson*

The truth behind the family's oral tradition that an ancestor was murdered when he went out mushroom picking.

10th Oct *TBA*

14th Nov *TBA*

12th Dec *TBA*

Under normal circumstances, meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at Hartford Methodist Church Hall, Beach Road, Hartford, Northwich CW8 3AB. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission is £1, and non-members are most welcome. Car park available.

## Runcorn Group

by *Peter Rowley*

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at our new venue, St Edward's Church Hall, Ivy Street, Runcorn. An announcement of the topic will be made on the website and by email newsletter near to the date of each meeting.

STOP PRESS: At the AGM on 3rd August Peter Rowley retired as group leader, and Peter Johnson was elected as the new group leader.

## Sale Group

by *Marion Hall*

### *Future meetings:*

14th Sept *When I Grow Up I Want to be a Train Driver - Andrew Smith*

Both before and after WWII, one of the gifts hoped for at birthdays and Christmas was a train set. The presenter will talk about the more affordable trains of these times. The talk will be partly based on a slide presentation and will also include a demonstration of trains running on a layout. There will be audience participation!

12th Oct *Wills and How to Research Them - Margaret Roberts*

9th Nov *From Farmland to Flight and Fight - Angela Jenkinson*

The early history of the site at Broughton, near Chester, where the

Lancaster bomber was built - one was built in just 23 hours!

14th Dec *TBA*

Under normal circumstances, meetings are held at 7.30pm, for the talk at 7.45pm, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Trinity Methodist Church, Trinity Road, Sale M33 3ED. Visitors are always welcome. Admission is £2 for members and £2.50 for non-members.

## **Tameside Group**

*by Gay Oliver*

We had our first hybrid online/face-to-face meeting in May; everything worked out really well and I was pleased with how it went. Margaret Roberts kindly gave a talk about *Barking up the Wrong Tree* and the various mistakes we all make at times. Margaret was also there to review how hybrid meetings could work.

We held a workshop in June about divorce, at the request of one of our members, followed by a speaker in July and another workshop in August, this time about wills.

We now meet in the afternoons between 1.00pm and 3.00pm at the 4C Community Centre, which is fully accessible, all on the ground floor. There is a lovely cafe where you could have lunch before our meeting or a coffee and cake afterwards. Eight of us had lunch there before our June meeting.

### *Future meetings:*

22nd Sept *AGM, followed by a speaker, topic TBA*

27th Oct *Workshop: Finding Burials and MIs in Tameside*

24th Nov *Speaker, topic TBA*

December *No Meeting*

Meetings are held at 1.00pm on the 4th Thursday of the month at the 4C Community Centre, Ashton-under-Lyne. [www.4cashton.org.uk/find\\_us](http://www.4cashton.org.uk/find_us)

## **Wallasey Group**

*by Dave Beck*

We returned to LIVE face-to-face meetings in May and will return to Zoom meetings for the winter, beginning in October .

### *Future meetings:*

20th Sept *Vikings in Wirral and the North-west - Professor Steve Harding*

Wirral is the only place in mainland Britain with documented

evidence of Norwegian Viking settlers. They arrived in 902AD and established a community with a clearly defined border (near Raby), its own language and customs, its own parliament at Thingwall, and its own seaport at Meols, where an impressive array of Viking age finds have been made, including a ship under the car park of the Railway Inn, Meols. A DNA project showed that up to fifty per cent of the DNA of men from old Wirral and West Lancashire families appeared to be Scandinavian in origin. The Wirral area was possibly witness to one of the greatest battles in the British Isles.

- 18th Oct ***The Ones Nobody Knew About - Geoff Johnson (Zoom)***  
It's about finding relatives, they might even still be alive! It could involve researching the 1921 census and 1939 register as well as wills, RootsChat and electoral registers. Geoff prefers to free-range; responding to member questions about specific ancestors of theirs.
- 15th Nov ***Barking up the Wrong Tree - Margaret Roberts (Zoom)***  
How family folklore, myths and even official records can confuse and send you barking up the wrong tree!
- December ***No Meeting***

Under normal circumstances, meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month except December at Claremount Methodist Church, Claremount Road, Wallasey CH45 6UE. Access is via the car park in Taunton Road. Visitors are always welcome.

At the time of going to press, helpdesks are cancelled due to the pandemic.

## Location of Groups





## The Society's Family History Research Centres

Manned by experienced volunteers, visitors can obtain help and advice on family and local history research. Do you have your own microfiche but no reader? Bring them to us and view them using our fiche readers!

### CREWE FAMILY HISTORY UNIT - OPEN PLEASE PHONE OR CHECK WEBSITE FOR CHANGES



2nd Floor, Municipal Building,  
Earle Street, Crewe, CW1 2BJ  
Tel 01270 685699

The Municipal Building is situated near the market and opposite Memorial Square and the old library. Crewe Register Office is in the same building. All visitors must sign in and out at reception. You will be directed to the second floor; a lift is available.

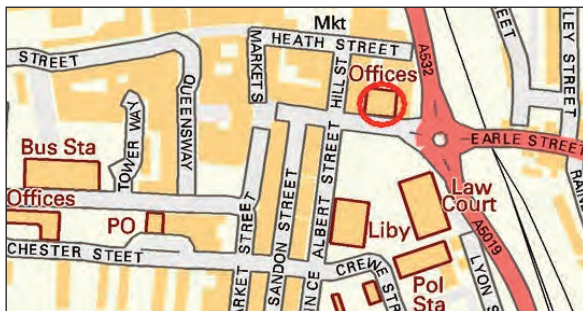
FREE access to *FindMyPast*, *Ancestry* and *The Genealogist*  
Local parish registers on film - extensive library of books  
Crewe and District and South East Cheshire local history archives  
See the Crewe FHU Library Holdings lists on the FHSC website

**Usual opening hours: 10am-4pm Monday and Tuesday  
plus one Saturday morning each month (TBC)**

*Note - Saturday opening not yet confirmed.*

For Saturday dates (TBC), and changes to usual opening hours, please see this issue's *Research Centre News* or the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk).

Non-members visiting for the first time will be offered (for a small donation) time with a volunteer to explain the facilities available and advice on family history research. Membership of the Society is encouraged for further visits.



**MOBBERLEY FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH CENTRE - OPEN  
PLEASE PHONE OR CHECK WEBSITE FOR CHANGES**



**Rajar Building, Town Lane,  
Mobberley, WA16 7ER  
Tel: 01565 872210**

The Rajar Building is situated on the corner of Town Lane (A5085) and Ilford Way. The entrance is at the front of the building on Town Lane, and the Research Centre is on the first floor (access by stairs - no lift).

FREE help and advice from our experienced duty volunteers  
FREE access to *FindMyPast (World)*, *Ancestry* and *The Genealogist*  
Local parish registers on film (some of which are not available online)  
Extensive library of books on all topics, covering many areas of the UK  
(See the Mobberley Library Holdings lists on the FHSC website)  
Searchable digital archive of family history magazine back-issues and data  
Nominal charge for printing and photocopying  
Fiche/film and A2 scanning available – please enquire.

**Usual opening hours: 10am-4pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
and 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month.**

**Closed on bank holidays and over the Christmas-New Year period.**

For changes to usual opening hours, please check this issue's *Research Centre News* or the FHSC website. **Please ring to check we are open before travelling if the weather is bad; volunteers may be unable to get there.**

Daily admission charge (per person) £3 for members, £5 for non-members (refundable on joining the Society on day of visit). Non-members please phone in advance. FREE tea and coffee provided - sandwiches etc may be purchased at nearby shops.

Suggested on-street parking on Ilford Way, Marion Drive, and on Pavement Lane, across the road from the Rajar Building. Bus stop (Bucklow Ave) nearby for the *D&G Bus 88* from Knutsford, Wilmslow, Macclesfield and Altrincham. See [www.dgbus.co.uk](http://www.dgbus.co.uk).



## GROUP CONTACTS

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### NOTE:

**GL:** Group Leader  
**GC:** Group Contact

**Back cover picture:** Do you have a high quality photo of your ancestors? If so, to be considered for publication please scan a copy (**at least 300dpi**), submit it **by email only** to the editor with the names, location and date (if known), stating whether you agree to the publication of your name, membership number and email address.

# The Family History Society of Cheshire

www.fhsc.org.uk

## MEMBER'S PHOTO



### The Promenade, New Brighton

This postcard was sent on 13 July, 1915, to  
*Mrs H Lawson, The Brooms, Higher Sutton, Macclesfield.*

The message reads:

*Dear Mary, Having an ideal time here with an old college chum. Spent most of our time so far at New Brighton. I hope to see you some time next week. Much love, Ethel.*

Research on Find My Past has revealed that in 1911, twenty-year-old schoolteacher **Ethel Lawson** lived at Broad Oak, Higher Sutton with her family including her father, Robert, a farmer, and a brother, Herbert, aged twenty-one, who also worked on the farm. In the first quarter of 1915 **Herbert Lawson** married **Mary Cooper** at St Stephen's Church, Macclesfield Forest. Herbert was listed in the 1919 electoral register living at Broom's Farm, Higher Sutton.

**From the postcard collection of Rosie Rowley, Editor.**