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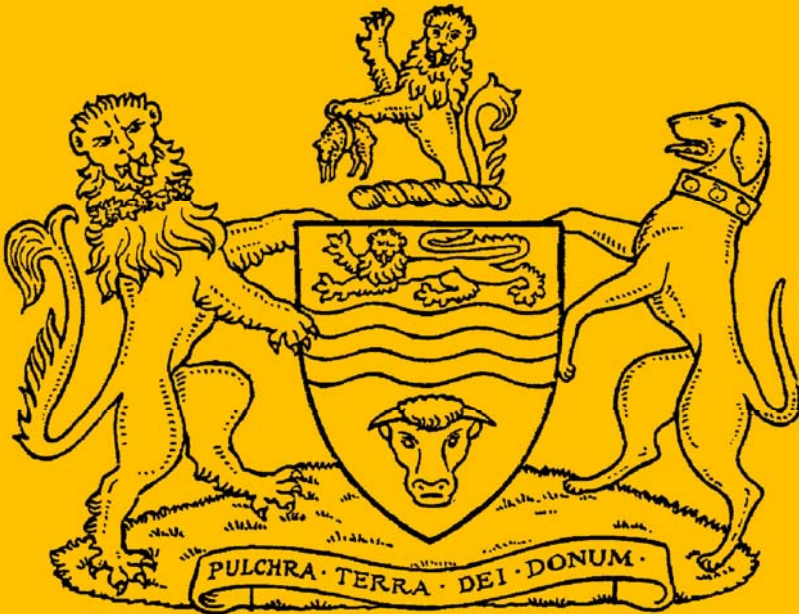
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www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk

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**2022 Meetings - why not join our growing attendance at
Zoom meetings? Find the link on our Meetings page.**

See page 30 for 2022 Zoom meeting programme

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Editor's Report

In this edition I have included 2 articles from the same person Charlotte Mitchell, on the Wormbridge Tombs. She is trying to trace the descendants of these Memorials, purely as a way of connecting the memorials to the family.

All the funding has already been acquired, so she is not after your money.

You will notice that the Births, Marriages and Deaths from the local newspapers listing done by Alan Charles is back, but we are still slightly behind with the dates, hopefully by the July Herefordiensis we will be back in sync.

As we are at the end of the XIV Volume there is an Index to the volume which will be found in the Members Area of the website. Again diligently compiled by our Acting Chairman Alan Charles. A big thanks to him for this on-going task.

Unfortunately the lockdown flow of articles has now completely dried up, any new submissions of your own family history adventures would be welcome.

Phil Bufton

**Editor
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Membership Secretary's Report

There are no members interests this time.
We were very sorry to hear that Dr W. R. Deem had died in June 2021.
His membership number was 1665.
He had been a member for many years, joining in 1999.

**Jane Cox
Membership Secretary**

Chairman Report April 2022

Finally, spring is here after a lot of wet weather – Herefordshire does not do snow! Easter is fast approaching, followed in May by the A.G.M. of this society. As usual the committee needs some new talent, young, old or in between and with the future next twelve months being online with Zoom, distance is no problem. So, if you would like to ensure that this society continues to exist why not apply to join the committee.

Due to the lack of the local members involvement in the monthly meetings the committee have decided to continue the rest of this year with the online ZOOM option. A full program is being set up by our Secretary, Norman Price. If any of you members know of good speakers – distance is no problem – then we would like to hear from you with the details.

A downside of the online meetings is that we have had to move our extensive library of books from storage at the Kindle centre, and the HARC has been gracious enough to provide some temporary storage space for them.

Phil has submitted our pre 1837 Marriage Index to Find My Past for inclusion in their extensive catalogue of research material. Hopefully this will generate some income and some memberships.

The National Burial Index (NBI) transcribing and checking is progressing well, but extra local help is always needed. If you can give a couple of hours, once a month then contact the co-ordinator, Linda Lloyd on linda_lloyd@btinternet.com.

Finally, our Membership Secretary, Jane Cox has reminded us that membership renewal is due. People can join or renew by post or online through our WEB shop at www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk.

Alan Charles
Acting Chairman Herefordshire FHS

Membership No. 268

The Wormbridge Tomb Restoration Project.

The Wormbridge box tombs, with a list of known descendants: the Dean family, descendants of Thomas Dean (1759/60-1831), of Newhouse Farm, Wormbridge.

This is a continuation of a piece about the descendants of the occupants of some box tombs in the graveyard of St. Peter and St. Thomas's Church, Wormbridge, published in the November 2021 issue of *Herefordiensis*. The tombs belong to two families, the PARRYS and the DEANS, and this second article deals with the tombs of Thomas Dean, his wife Lydia and their children Andrew and Mary Dean. Any family members who would like to be involved in the tomb restoration project should get in touch with the Wormbridge churchwarden, Fiona Garfield (**fiona.garfield@gmail.com**).

Thomas Dean (1732-1780), baptised at Wolstanton, Staffs., son of Andrew and Margaret Dean, was married to Lydia Nicholls in St. Margaret's Wolstanton in 1754; their signatures in the register can be seen at www.findmypast.co.uk. They seem to have moved to Herefordshire before 1773, when their youngest child was baptised there. The other children were born in the region of the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme, in an area which is now swallowed up by the new city of Stoke-on-Trent.

An explanation for this move is provided by a tenancy agreement dated 10 August 1772, a copy of which survives at Whitfield, between Thomas Dean and Judith, Lady Clive (1730-1796), widow of Sir Edward Clive and the life tenant of the Wormbridge estate, whereby he takes a 21 year lease of her farms at Wormbridge and Withington. Lady Clive's account book shows rent payments for these farms from Widow Dean in 1789, 1790, and 1791, suggesting that Lydia Dean continued to run them after her husband's death, perhaps with the help of her sons. Lady Clive had herself been brought up not far from Newcastle-under-Lyme, and she still had many connections in the area.

Thomas Dean did not leave a will, but the will of Lydia Dean, of Kilpeck (where Withington is), was proved in the Hereford diocesan court, 16 December 1808, and mentions her sons Thomas and John and her granddaughters Lydia Badham and Lydia Ball. I have worked on the assumption that her sons Thomas and John Dean are the two men of those names who also became tenant farmers on the Whitfield estate

An Agreement made and agreed upon this ^{fourth} day
of August 1772 Between Dame Judith Clive of Wombourne
in the County of Hereford Widow of the late Sir Richard Clive
Knight Bart of the one part and Thomas Dean of the
parish of St. Andrew and County of Hereford of the
other part

The said Dame Judith Clive agrees to let the barn and down to the
Wombourne at now made out the also the last piece of land late
the moor of St. Andrew Church with all the appurtenances the four
acres the six acres the down bank Lanes and the
New Street in down the parish of St. Andrew to the said
Thomas Dean his Executors and Administrators from and during the
term of the yearly rent of Forty pounds payable half yearly that is
to say on the first of January and first of July of every year except
the first year for the term of three years if the said long lease hereunto
to the said Dame Judith Clive this lease begins the first of the said
October 1772 and shall continue for the term of three years terminable
now hereunto agreeing to a new lease to be made with the said
her and her servants and assigns and to be made in the said
and carry away the same in all reasonable times in the year
to be made with the said Thomas Dean his Executors and Administrators

The said Dame Judith Clive doth hereby agree to give
the said Thomas Dean his Executors and Administrators to all the for what time
he or they shall put on the said land during the said term after the
rate of Ten Shillings per acre if he takes the said premises into his
own Hands or lets the same to any other person at the expiration of the
said Term of three years and also agrees the said Thomas Dean his
and Administrators shall be allowed sheaf clover or Trefoil as he or they
shall sow upon the moor, PROVIDED he or they lay down the same
for pasture and she takes the same from him or them immediately
upon the expiration of the said Term of three years

The said Thomas Dean doth hereby for himself his Executors
Administrators agree to and with the said Dame Judith Clive her Executors
and assigns to pay the said yearly rent of forty pounds at the
said times and in manner above mentioned of all such

Agreement between Dame Judith Clive and Thomas Dean

Of Thomas and Lydia DEAN's children the following appear to have no descendants today:

Thomas DEAN (bap. Wolstanton, Staffs. 31 Aug 1755.

Buried. Wolstanton 16 October 1755)

Alice DEAN (bap. Cheddleton, Staffs. 13 May 1759) married (Kilpeck 1 August 1784) William Ball (d. 1809), of Birmingham, victualler.

Andrew DEAN (bap. Burslem, Staffs 26 July 1761-9 May 1790 Wormbridge), married (3 August 1786), St. Michael's Stone, Staffs., Jane Nicholls.

Mary DEAN (bap. Wormbridge 26 Dec 1773-bur. Wormbridge 1784).

Thomas, John and their sister Lydia seem, on the other hand, to have many descendants, too many to fit into one article in Herefordiensis. Here is what has been found about Thomas's progeny, and John's and Lydia's must wait for another month.

Thomas DEAN (1759/60-1831 Wormbridge), tenant of Newhouse Farm, Wormbridge, from 1787. He married, c. 1778 , Ann, born c.1760.

In Wormbridge churchyard is a grave inscribed:

Sacred to the memory of Thomas Dean late of the New house in this parish who departed this life the 2nd of Feby 1831 aged 75 years. Also to the memory of Ann wife of Thomas Dean who died the 1st of June 1841 aged 80 years also of Thomas Dean son of the above who died the 29 of Novr 1851 aged 70 years.

Thomas and Ann had at least eleven children:

Mary DEAN (1779/80-1796) Her Sister Grace's tomb has 'also Mary their dau'r died Feby y 16 1796 aged 16 years.

Thomas DEAN ([Much] Birch 1780/1-1851).

In the 1851 census with sister Ann at Brookfield, agricultural labourer.

Ann DEAN (Kentchurch 1784/5-after 1871) In the 1841 census with her sister in Treville, in 1851 census with brother Thomas in Brookfield, Kingstone, in 1861 with nephew at Tram Inn. Boarding at Llanfihangel Crucorney in 1871 with niece. Possibly the Nancy Dean, daughter of Thomas and Ann Dean, baptised Much Birch 16 January 1785.

Lydia DEAN (bap. Wormbridge 27 Jan 1787-1847) married William Fisher, labourer. The tomb of her sister Grace is inscribed 'also of Lydia Fisher who died the 1 of Decr 1847 aged 60 years'. Lydia had many children, but it looks as if most of them died young

Charles FISHER (bap. Thrupton 1817).

William FISHER (bap. Thrupton 1818)

Eliza FISHER (bap. Kingstone 1820)

Thomas James FISHER (bap. Kingstone 1821-1866) has a tomb in Wormbridge churchyard near his mother 'Sacred to the memory of Thomas Fisher late of the Tram Inn he died Novr 20th 1866 aged 46 years.

In 1851 census with sister Ann in Llanfihangel Crucorney, 'lady's shoe maker'.

In 1861 census at Tram Inn with wife Sarah Fisher (Abbey Dore 1818/9-), son, and aunt Ann DEAN.

Tom Fisher (Much Dewchurch 1857/8-) married (1881) Janet BOGHURST.

In 1891, 1911 lodginghouse keeper in Portsea.

Mabel Fisher (Horndean 1882/3)

John Fisher (Southsea 1884/5), bookkeeper in 1911

Tom Fisher (Southsea 1887/8)

James Fisher (bap. Thrupton 1825-)

Ann Fisher (bap Kingstone 1823- after 1881) married (1851) John WINTON.

In 1841 with her mother and aunt in Treville, in 1851 with her brother at

Llanfihangel Crucorney, keeping the toll gate.

In 1861 the Wintons are in Brookfield, Kingstone and he is a branch helm dresser

(?) - in 1881 haulier, in 1891 helve maker. Ann Dean was boarding in

Llanfihangel Crucorney in 1871 with the Wintons and their daughter.

Charles Winton (Llanfihangel 1852-after 1914), fitter in 1914

Lydia Winton (Llangua 1854-1914) married (1886) Arthur STOCK.

In 1891, 1901 housekeeping for her father in Abergavenny

Eleanor Fisher (bap. Thrupton 1828).

Grace Dean (bap. Wormbridge 1 June, bur. 11 June 1789) Next to her parents' grave is one 'To the memory of Grace ye daughter of Thomas Dean by Ann his wife who died June ye 9th 1789 aged 6 months.

Cornelius Dean (bur. Wormbridge 28 Nov 1790)

Charles Dean (bap. Wormbridge 1792)

Joseph Dean (bap. Wormbridge 6 Sept 1795)

Elizabeth Dean (bap. Wormbridge 15 Mar 1798)

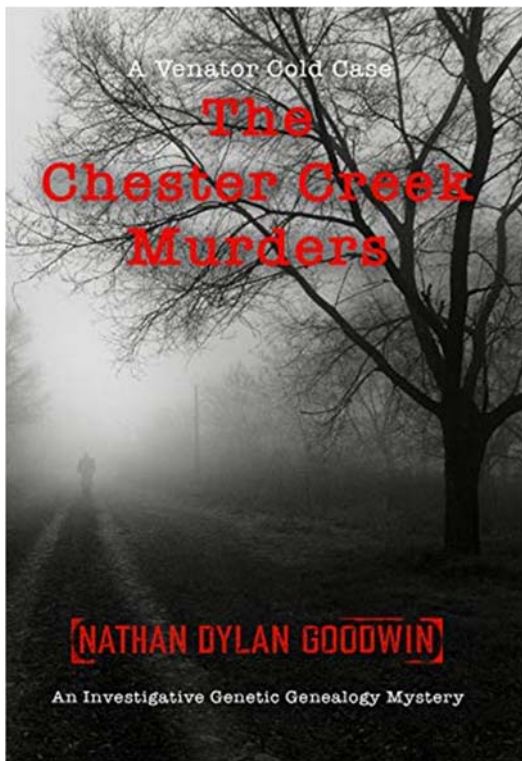
John Dean (bap. Wormbridge 13 April 1800)

Eliza Dean (bap. Wormbridge 21 Mar 1805)) married? Hereford Journal (29 June 1831) reported that Mr PEAK of Sheen had lately married at St. George's Hanover Square. Elizabeth, youngest surviving daughter of the late Mr Thomas DEAN formerly of Wormbridge. A puzzling notice, since no such entry is found in the register, although a John PACK married Elizabeth JENVEY in St. George's on 28 August 1831.

Probably there are errors and omissions in this pedigree, and all information will be gratefully received.

Charlotte Mitchell.

THE CHESTER CREEK MURDERS by NATHAN DYLAN GOODWIN



When Detective Clayton Taylor declares that a DNA match has blown his mind, family historians reading this novel will understand why. DNA opens up a whole new world of genetic genealogical research which is clearly revealed in an American murder investigation.

The author, a genealogist, illustrates how diligent and exact use of the internet's genealogy sites, can speed up the tracking of family history. When Detective Taylor reviewed a cold case in which three murdered girls had been found in Chester Creek, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, nearly 40 years earlier, his one hope of finding the murderer rested solely on identical DNA taken from each girl.

He sought the assistance of Maddie Scott - Barnhart in Salt Lake City, Utah, the owner of Venator, a company using only DNA evidence to trace criminals. Maddie, a hands-on enthusiast, and her young able and equally keen team of three, were prepared, within a fortnight, to find the perpetrator of the murders committed in the early 1980s.

In the US, access to DNA is strictly regulated. The police detective delivered the numbered DNA kit to Maddie, who used a password to access details on the online DNA site. Nearly 2,000 names came up, all sharing varying amounts of DNA with the murderer. For two weeks the team painstakingly trawled through the unknown criminal's uncles, half-siblings, grandparents and cousins using online genealogy sites, including census records, US Social Security Claims Index, newspaper extracts, Church Records and FamilySearch.

They encountered the same hurdles, blind alleys and wild goose chases which are familiar to all family historians.

Routine DNA tracing depends on the use of surnames. This is a straightforward procedure when biological fathers and their offspring share the same surname. Problems arise when children are born out of wedlock and have their mothers' surnames, especially when their mothers marry later and change their surname. The investigating team found that censuses do not necessarily show the intricacies of many family relationships.

Differences exist between genealogical research in the UK and the US. Access to family records can differ between US states, and more recent censuses are available there. Family trees were also sourced online when surnames matched those sharing the DNA of the criminal.

This is an engaging novel as the four members of the team work at home in the evenings and at weekends so their home lives were also woven into the story. Each one was dealing with a personal problem which could overlap with their genealogy investigation, so moral and ethical issues were also dealt with.

After a fortnight's focused research, all the results could be related to one name. The murderer had been identified. Once Detective Clayton had found the isolated home of the criminal, he was able to match DNA from a discarded cigarette stub to that procured at the time of the murders, and an arrest was quickly made.

Nathan Dylan Jones is a British writer who has written a convincing American story after visiting locations in Utah and Pennsylvania. Throughout this 'investigative genetic genealogy mystery' he has not only included the criminal's activity in the 1980s, and the use of DNA 40 years later to make an arrest, but he also gives a contemporary narrative of the 2020 arrival and spread of Coronavirus in the US.

Beatrice Wellings
Membership No 2154

DISCOVERING MY BENGREE FAMILY

I have a great-grandmother Susanna BENGREE, baptised at Docklow on 25 March 1832. I first discovered her name from my grandmother's birth certificate and had never heard that surname mentioned by any family member. This article is about one big BENGREE brick wall in my family tree which remains stubbornly standing, but also one big brick wall which I have just demolished. I am hoping that the discovery of a DNA match or an elusive record may knock down the first, so that I can find my (5 x great) - grandparents. Meanwhile, the demolition of the second has already brought me new contacts.

BENGREE is a very unusual name whose origins are unknown. There were only 61 BENGREE birth registrations in England between 1837 and 1915. Of those, 35 were in Herefordshire, almost all registered at Leominster; 16 were in Shropshire, almost all at Church Stretton. However, as seasoned family researchers will know, an unusual name does not necessarily mean ancestors can be easily tracked. Alternative spellings, mis transcriptions and wild guesses at spelling also come into play. Besides the BENGREE births already mentioned, 74 BENGRY births were registered in England between 1837 and 1915. These are mostly from the 1890s onwards and, again, mainly local to Herefordshire and Shropshire. But, during my research, I have also found ancestors recorded, for example, as BUNGREE, BANGREY, BENGREY, BANGOR, BANGER while the many mis transcriptions (i.e. where the original record does say BENGREE) include BANGREE, BEUGREE, BENZREE, BANZZREE, BINGEN, BANGERRY, BANGAROO, BENYREL and PINGREE (the latter happens to be an unusual surname in its own right). You can understand why I use wildcards a lot when searching!

For the purposes of this article, I am using the spelling BENGREE for my family members, even though they may sometimes have used variants and the BENGRY spelling now dominates. Both BENGREE and BENGRY still exist in Herefordshire and many people will be familiar with past and present businesses such as Bengry buses, motor services and coal merchants in Hereford, Leominster and Kingsland. Anyone local with one of these names is certain to be a distant cousin to me.

My great-grandmother Susanna was the eldest child of William BENGREE (1807-1879) and Mary Ann HUGHES (1817-1881). Although Mary Ann was born at Kingsland, it was at Moreton-on-Lugg that the marriage took place on 22 August 1831. Presumably one or both parties worked and lived in that parish. I was very interested to discover that William was born in Manchester, a fact he insisted on in every census. The reason for this is that his father John, born at Eyton, Herefordshire in 1776, had gone to Manchester as quite a young man in order to earn his living as a papermaker. I believe John may have learned this trade at Mortimer's Cross, Herefordshire (only 3 or 4 miles from Eyton) where a paper

mill was operating in his youth. John BENGREE was 25 when he married Sarah SMITH in Manchester on 7 Dec 1801. The name was recorded as BANGER but I have no doubt it was my (3 x great) - grandfather as baptisms with a closer spelling followed and, in due course, Sarah BENGREE is described as 'widow of papermaker' aged 67, on her death certificate (1852). Her birthplace was given as Manchester in the 1851 census when she was in the Leominster Workhouse, and where she died of apoplexy, a pauper, in December 1852 (surname spelt BENGRY). The death was, incidentally, registered by one Elizabeth BENGREE, a nurse at the Workhouse; she is doubtless a relative but I have not established the connection. I had not thought I would be able to find anything else about Sarah SMITH, but there is a baptism at Manchester Cathedral in 1785, which year corresponds exactly to her age on her death certificate. The parents were William and Alice SMITH. They may be my (4 x grand) parents but at the moment I have put several question marks by their names as there are other possible Sarah SMITH baptisms at Manchester Cathedral alone.

John and Sarah BENGREE had three sons in Manchester; for two of these, I have baptisms, but sadly not for the middle son, my great, great-grandfather William. The wedding and baptisms took place at Manchester Cathedral, which was also the parish church, but no grandeur is implied by that: it was notoriously the place of mass weddings and baptisms. The population of Manchester doubled in 20 years from 1801 and it is not really surprising that some 'events' have been lost to history. However, at some point after the baptism on 30 April 1809, along with 42 others, of William's younger brother Thomas, the family returned to Herefordshire, where John and Sarah had further children at Aymestrey. John died in 1833 and was buried at Eyton with a Monumental Inscription (MI) on his father Thomas's gravestone.

This Thomas BENGREE, my 4 x great-grandfather, who died on 7 September 1832 aged 87, is the furthest back I can go at present. His memorial inscription reads: 'After a long and painful illness. We were so long with pain opprest that wore our strength away. It made us long for endless rest which never can decay.' Poor chap. His age at death puts his birth year at 1745 and I think this is likely to be fairly accurate, as his wife Ann LLOYD, whom he married at Eyton in 1775 and who died 18 months before him, was baptised in the same village in 1845. The only other record I have found for Thomas is a Land Tax Redemption of 1798, showing he was the tenant at Luston of a Mr Crummer.

I cannot find a baptism for Thomas, and that remains an irritatingly high brick wall. Many trees on Ancestry have given him as parents Richard BENGRIGH / BENGREY (1710-91) and his wife Margaret (1710-86) of Bedstone, Shropshire. I do not find this couple convincing: not on grounds of location, but rather that there is not only no baptism, but little later reuse of family names by Thomas, including the less usual Jasper and Samuel and, indeed, Richard and Margaret. So I am still searching for Thomas's parents. The fact that his wife Ann LLOYD's

parents were Thomas and Mary, and that Thomas BENGREE's first four children were named John, Thomas, Mary and Ann, suggests that his own father might have been a John. They also had an Elizabeth and a William. Can anyone help?

Forwards now to my great-great-grandfather William BENGREE (1807-79). When researching him, it was always necessary not to confuse him with his first cousin of the same name (1811-80) and very similar lifespan. The latter was the son of John BENGREE's brother Thomas and he ended up richer than my William BENGREE. Somehow, we always seem to be the poorer relations ...

I don't know what my William did after leaving Manchester with his parents as quite a young child until he married my great-great-grandmother Mary Ann HUGHES at the age of 24. Probably, he was an agricultural labourer, as that is what he was doing in 1841. By that time, he and Mary Ann had five children and had also struck lucky with Mary Ann being the turnpike keeper at Docklow Gate (Hampton Wafer) on the Leominster to Bromyard road. Not only would her job have provided a useful income whilst being able to look after the children, but the family was also able to live in the turnpike house. This still stands (albeit modified) and is named Pyke Cottage.

All was still going well for the family in 1844 when William won the prize at the Leominster Agricultural Show for the best pig kept by a labourer with at least three legitimate children under the age of 12 (i.e. dependent on their parents). William and Mary Ann had five children at that stage; three more would follow. The pig prize was £2 – a substantial sum, when daily wage rates were about 1s 5d or 7p in current money – and additionally the family had the pig to eat in due course. William was then in the employ of John JOHNSON of Hampton Wafer.

Mary was mentioned in newspaper accounts of January 1845 as being the keeper of the turnpike when she appeared in court as a witness in a case of poisoning. By 1851, however, the family had moved. They were living in Risbury Fields in the parish of Humber, where Mary was at home with three younger children while William – together with his 17-year-old son, also named William – was working as a roadman. They would have been employed by the parish with responsibility for maintaining a particular length of road, including its ditches and roadside hedges, pacing their patch with shovels and hooks.

It sounds like a humble but cosy family. Long before 1861, however, things had changed. In that census, William, age a little underestimated at 52, was still in his cottage at Risbury Fields, but the only other person there is a 'servant', an unmarried woman named Mary BAYNHAM aged 44 whose occupation was 'housekeeper'. William was listed as married and he was still a roadman. The children had all left home, with even the youngest, John, aged 11, working for the farmer at Humber Court. Daughter Mary had died seven years previously in Hereford, aged 18, with 'disease of hip joint'. William junior died the previous

year, aged only 27. But where was Mary Ann?

For twenty years, I searched for Mary Ann, dead or alive. Even given all the possible variations of the name BENGREE, I could not find a death registration or burial for her anywhere. Several tree-owners on Ancestry have adopted 1854 as her death, but that was the death of her daughter Mary, as I discovered by buying the certificate. Some even used the death of a Mary Ann HUGHES (her maiden name) in London! I feel readers will recognise the feeling of annoyance when tree-owners will not change their erroneous information after a polite and clear explanation of why it is wrong.

It was not until the very beginning of 2022 that, after yet another search, I discovered what happened to Mary Ann. I thought I must have already tried long before the tack that actually worked: it was searching the 1861 census for a Mary of her age, born in Kingsland, Herefordshire. Perhaps I had indeed tried, but not seen the significance of one record that appeared. This was a married woman, Mary B RUSSELL, visiting the household of Joseph and Emma MATTHEWS in Wolverhampton. There were also two little boy visitors – Thomas B RUSSELL and Henry B RUSSELL, aged 7 and 5. Light suddenly dawned. Emma MATTHEWS turned out to be the former Emma BENGREE, whom I had also 'lost' after 1851. Why had I lost her? Because of an alternative spelling of BENGREE. I had not found the marriage in Wolverhampton on 25 Dec 1856 of 17 year old Emma BANGARY (sic) to Joseph MATTHEWES. So suddenly I killed two birds with one stone. It was not difficult to track forwards and find Mary Ann living with Herefordshire-born Thomas RUSSELL in Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire, 1871. Both were listed as married, Mary Ann using the surname RUSSELL and being described as 'wife'; their two sons were working as miners. I checked the GRO index and found that both boys had HUGHES as their mother's maiden name. The 'B' in the 1861 record presumably stood for BENGREE and Emma or her husband must have provided that information to the enumerator.

Discovering Mary Ann just before I got bogged down in the 1921 census was a fantastic start to my family history year. It did not take long to find Thomas RUSSELL in the 1851 census on the same page as the BENGREES in Risbury Fields, listed as a married man and with a 14-year-old son but no wife present, so no need to dwell on how he and Mary Ann met. I am still trying to find out exactly who Thomas was. The 1871 census has his birthplace as Bromyard, but there are other men named Thomas RUSSELL of similar age in that place, not least a linen draper of rather greater wealth and repute. As people move away from their birthplace in both years and miles, they often supply rather looser place names. The 1861 record for Thomas in Saredon, Staffordshire says Wacton, Herefordshire and I think that is more accurate. It is only three or four miles from Bromyard. I found him in the parish of Bredenbury in the 1841 census but am still looking for a convincing baptism.

Like William BENGREE, Thomas RUSSELL's wife was still alive when Thomas and Mary Ann ran off to Staffordshire. So that begs the question, who or what provoked the marriage break-up in each case? Mary Ann's first baby with Thomas was born in the first quarter of 1853 in Wednesfield. She very probably left William some time before my great-grandmother Susannah BENGREE's marriage to John NUTT at Humber Church on 25 September 1852. One of the witnesses to the marriage was Mary BENGREE. I now believe this was Susannah's 16-year-old sister Mary (she was not a Mary Ann) and not her mother. Mary Ann could have left the family home in the spring of 1852 or even earlier. She may have been unhappy there and, having fallen for Thomas, felt able to leave once her youngest son was in work. Where the RUSSELLs are concerned, in 1851 Hannah (née WHITE), Thomas's wife of 24 years, was living in her father's house in Grendon Bishop with some of her children. She was not listed as a visitor and, fairly unusually for a woman at that date, is described as an 'Ag Lab'. This strongly implies a definite separation from her husband.

In the mid-nineteenth century, divorce was very rare at all levels of society and almost impossible for the working classes. Bigamy was however quite common, and simply 'living in sin' was not rare at all. These two couples, the BENGREES and the RUSSELLs, could not have been happily married by 1851 or so and seem to have taken the only route open to them. But at what cost? I am left wondering whether Mary Ann maintained any contact with her Herefordshire family, other than Emma (MATTHEWS) who also remained in Staffordshire.

In the 1881 census Mary Ann was living alone in Cheslyn Hay. Her elder son Thomas RUSSELL had died in 1874 aged only 21; I wonder whether this was due to a mining accident but have not found one yet. I shall probably order the death certificate in due course. The younger son Henry RUSSELL, however, was also living in Cheslyn Hay and had married in 1876, so Mary soon had a couple of grandchildren. This discovery, like that of the family of Emma and Joseph MATTHEWS has left me with a stack of relatives to research and DNA matches to investigate.

Mary Ann died in Cheslyn Hay and was buried as Mary Ann RUSSELL on 1 November 1881: she was a 'widow' as Thomas had died in 1877 – but also as William BENGREE had died in 1879.

From her BENGREE marriage, Mary Ann already had many grandchildren: Susannah completed her family of 15 living children in 1876; these included my own grandmother Jessie, born in 1869 ; her sister Sarah (HILL) had about ten; Hannah, who emigrated to the USA in 1873, had seven by 1881. There were also several great-grandchildren. Whether Mary Ann knew anything of these descendants, let alone met them, is unlikely ever to be known. I am particularly left wondering whether my grandmother Jessie knew anything at all about her BENGREE grandmother.

Liz Summerson

HFHS Membership number 2435

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SIMPLIFIED FAMILY TREE

Thomas Bengree 1745-1832 m **Ann Lloyd** 1745-1831
6 known children including

John Bengree 1776-1833 m **Sarah Smith** 1785-1852
6 known children including

William Bengree 1807-1879 m **Mary Ann Hughes** 1813-1881
7 known children including

Susannah Bengree 1832-1905 m **John Nutt** 1824-1893
16 children including

Jessie Susannah Nutt 1869 m **Thomas William Garrett** 1870
these being my grandparents.

=====

Mary Ann Hughes cohabited with **Thomas Russell** 1812-1877
from about 1852 and had 2 children

Thomas Russell 1853-1874
Henry Russell 1856-1934

Pyke Cottage, Hampton Wafer: the BENGREE home in the 1840s
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Presentations at TNA
<http://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

<https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/webinar-missing-census-2/>

<https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/whats-on-line-shut-up-quarantine-and-social-distancing-during-tudor-epidemics/>



<https://media.nationalarchives.gov.uk/index.php/introduction-to-discovery-the-national-archives-catalogue/>



Introduction to Discovery – The National Archives catalogue

Hereford VE Day Street Party

This photograph has been donated by one of our local member John Ridgway, the photo was believed to have been taken at Portfield Street, Hereford on VE Day, Tuesday 08 May 1945.

John is the 'good looking one' at the front. So he claims.

Does anyone recognise anybody else in the photograph.

The 2 boys sat opposite John are believed to be Davieses



John Ridgway.

Births, Marriages & Deaths Aug – December 1920 Hereford Journal

10 August 1920. The marriage at Allensmore Church of William Henry KINSEY of Hay to Annie Elizabeth Rebecca HARRIS of Woodstreet Farm, Allensmore.

11 August 1920. The death of Jack PHILLIPS of Arkstone Court, Kingstone by shotgun. Aged 25 years. Coroner Verdict- Accidental death. The death of Caroline GWATKINS of 34 Portfield Street, Hereford. Aged 81 years. The marriage at St Mary's Church, Cusop of Walter J WILLIAMS of Llangynidr to Alice LLOYD of Church Farm, Cusop. The marriage at the Baptist Church Llandrindod of W E JORDAN of Mayfield to Ethel HUDSON of the Mynd, Bucknell.

15 August 1920. The death of Thomas KENNETT at Moor Street, Hereford. Aged 88 years.

16 August 1920. The marriage at St Peters Church Hereford of Capt. Robert Edward Hartwell BAILY of Limpsfield to Brenda LEA, widow of the late Capt. Gerald Lea of Breinton Court, Hereford.

The death of Alfred SYMONDS of The Castles, Yarkhill. Aged 74 years.

18 August 1920. The marriage at St Peters Church, Hereford of Allen George ROGERS of Withington to Louisa BAKER of 54 Bath Street, Hereford.

20 August 1920. The death of Alice Gertrude STEPHENS of 32 Bryngwyn Terrace, Barrs Court. Hereford. Hanged herself. Aged 38 years. Coroner Verdict – Suicide while Temporarily Insane.

The death of Richard Biggs GWYNNE of Verland Cottage, Llangarron. Cut his own throat. Aged 63 years. Coroner Verdict – Committed suicide whilst of unsound mind. The death of Richard Henry DORRINGTON at Stonebow Road, Hereford. Aged 8 years. The death of Walter Samuel LLEWELLYN at 70 Stanhope Street, Hereford. Aged 71 years.

21 August 1920. The death of Mary Ann NEWMAN at 11 Barrs Court Terrace, Hereford. Aged 51 years. The death of Leslie Osman WILLIAMS at Hop Pole Passage, Hereford. Aged infant.

22 August 1920. The death of Hon Frances M SMITH at South Bank, Hereford. Aged 92 years. The death of Florence Winifred MEREDITH of Ross Hill, Kington. Aged 74 years.

The death of Florence Ellen PARSONS at 22 Victoria Street, Hereford. Aged 50 years.

23 August 1920. The death of Benjamin EVANS of 51 Mill Street, Hereford. Aged 35 years. The death of Arthur Joseph MORGAN at Ferndale Road, Hereford. Aged. Infant. The death of Annie VAUGHAN at 5 Green Street, Hereford. Aged infant

24 August 1920. The death of Mary Ann LUCAS at Carden Cottage, Credenhill. Aged 43 years. Coroner Verdict – Death from heart failure consequent on long standing lung trouble. (TB).

26 August 1920. The marriage at Wigmore Church of Kenneth Hugh DIXEY of Woodgate, Malvern to Jessie Mary BAMFORD of Wigmore.

27 August 1920. The death of Ellen WEAVER at 5 St Martin Street, Hereford. Aged 59 years.

The death of Emily YEMM at 2 Church Court, Bewell Street, Hereford. Aged 51 years.

28 August 1920. The death of Bessie FARR at 16 Richmond Street, Hereford. Aged 38 years.

30 August 1920. The marriage at Weobley Church of Joseph PEWTRESS of Mansel Gamage to Elizabeth Niblett DAVIES of Church Road, Weobley. The death of Daniel WATKINS of 11 New Street, Leominster. Grange Keeper. Aged 84 years.

September 1920. The death of Arthur WARD of Yatton Court, Aymestrey who died at Ganger Salt Spring Island, British Columbia. Aged 50 years.

3 September 1920. The death of Annie Sarah WILLIAMS at 83a Park Street, Hereford. Aged 69 years.

4 September 1920. The death of Leslie William GARSTONE at St John's Cardiff. Aged 8 years.

5 September 1920. The death of Alfred WENT at 25 Friar Street, Hereford. Aged 53 years.

6 September 1920. The marriage at the Ladye Chapel, Hereford Cathedral of Hubert Richard John BLOMER of Newport to Alice Vera COWLEY of Bridge Street, Hereford.

The death of James HOLL at Sarnesfield of pneumonia. Aged 54 years.

7 September 1920. The death of Elizabeth HOLL, wife of James HOLL, at Sarnesfield of pneumonia. Aged 46 years.

8 September 1920. The death of John WILLIAMS at Ledbury Cottage Hospital. Found unconscious at work. Aged 41 years.

9 September 1920. The marriage at the Ladye Chapel, Hereford Cathedral of Lt. -Col. GALE of 10th Gurkhas to Molly GREEN of Cheltenham. The brides grandmother was Hon. Francis SMITH who died 22 August 1920. The marriage at All Saints Church, Hereford of Robert Kendrick SHARP of Castle Lodge, Ludlow to Julia Mary TURPIN of Fernleigh, Hereford.

14 September 1920. The marriage at St Peters Church, Hereford of James Harold WADSWORTH of Northwich to Phyllis Freeman MORRIS of "The Gaer", Broomy Hill, Hereford. The death of Frank Albert CLAYTON Drowned at Leintwardine. Aged 42 years. Verdict – Found drowned.

15 September 1920. The death of William BEZANT of 1 Portland Villas, Edgar Street, Hereford. Aged 75 years. The death of William VALE at The Luce, Steensbridge. Heart failure and dropsy. Aged 71 years. The death of William Edward PHIPPS at Berrington Street, Hereford. Aged infant.

16 September 1920. The death of Charles CORBETT of the Knapp, Bromyard. Killed after falling under a train at Bromyard station. Aged 65 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental death. The death of John Henry HALL of Ross. Aged 57 years.

17 September 1920. The death of May FULLER of Mordiford. Drowned in the Brecon Newport canal at Govilon. Aged 22 years.
Coroner Verdict – Suicide whilst temporarily insane.

20 September 1920. The death of Laura RUSTON at Hereford. Aged 72 years.

25 September 1920. The death of Phoebe PREECE at 3 Windsor Street, Hereford. Aged 77 years.

26 September 1920. The death of David TILL at Cold Green Farm, Bosbury. Fell from an apple tree. Aged 66 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental death. The death of Ann SMILLE at Ryeland Street, Hereford. Aged 84 years. The death of Robert John MACDONALD of Shots Cottage, Aston Ingham. Fell from steps after cardiac attack. Aged 65 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental Death.

The death of William DAVIES of Clifford, postman. Aged 49 years.

27 September 1920. The death of Florence EDWARDS at Flights Farm, Ledbury. Aged 42 years. Coroner Verdict – Natural death from acute pneumonia. The death of Ernest Arthur ARNOLD at 3 Barrs Court Terrace, Hereford. Aged 24 years. The death of Percy Britten SEARLE at 95 Baysham Street, Hereford. Aged 7 years.

28 September 1920. The death of Elizabeth Olive FOSTER at the General Hospital, Hereford. Aged 25 years.

29 September 1920. The marriage at St Pauls, Covent Garden, W C of Wilfred Henry SUMSION to Ethel May DAVIS of St Weonards. The death of Mary LAWRENCE at Leintwardine. Aged 38 years.

30 September 1920. The death of William CORBETT at Old Country, Bosbury. Accident with horses. Aged 48 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental death.

The marriage at St James Church, Hereford of Ernest A LEAMON of Barnstaple to Annie Evelyn HERBERT of Nelson Street, Hereford.

1 October 1920. The death of Helen Margaret JONES at 18 Guildford Street, Hereford. Aged infant.

2 October 1920. The marriage at Holy Trinity Church, Llandrindod Wells of J DAVIES of Oaklands to Ellen Caroline GRUBB of Bargates, Leominster. The death of Elizabeth GARLAND at North View, Grandstand Road, Hereford. Aged infant.

3 October 1920. The death of George WHELE at Clifford. Aged 67 years. The death of Richard JAMES at the Store House, Staunton-on-Wye. Aged 85 years

4 October 1920. The death of Charles WILLIAMS of Rose Cottage, Upper Hill, Breinton. Leg broken by a pig. Died after operation to set the bone. Aged 49 years. Coroner Verdict – Death due to heart failure following the operation. The death of Eleanor LAWRENCE at 22 Holmer Street, Hereford. Died during childbirth. Aged 32 years. Coroner Verdict – Heart failure after the administration of anaesthetic.

8 October 1920. The death of Mary Alice RYAN at Eign Cottages, Hereford. Aged infant.

9 October 1920. The marriage at Baptist Chapel, Coleford of William MORGAN of Forest View, Ninewells to Rose DUTSON of Aylestone Hill, Hereford. The death of William LEWIS at Barton Street, Hereford. Aged 77 years

10 October 1920. The death of Charles WOODHOUSE of Ledgemoor Common. Aged 84 years. The death of Emily GAINES at Eign Street, Hereford. Aged 69 years.

12 October 1920. The death of William TAYLOR at St Peters Street, Hereford. Aged 46 years.

14 October 1920. The death of Major Edward William PREVOST of Sandyway, Weston - under - Penyard. Aged 69 years.

16 October 1920. The death of Margaret Joan EVERETT at 101 Widemarsh Street, Hereford. Aged infant. The death of Albert FIRM at 33 Cornwall Street, Hereford. Aged infant.

17 October 1920. The death of George SIMPSON of 2 Bargates, Leominster at South Street, Leominster. Fell under a timber wagon. Aged 42 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental death. The death of John Robert Isaac RAYWOOD at Ashfield House, Griffithstown. Aged 58 years.

18 October 1920. The death of William INNES of Putley. Aged 50 years. The death of Ida Emlyn BURNETT at 38 Cotterell Street, Hereford. Aged 31 years.

19 October 1920. The death of Minnie Florence WRIGHT at Swindon. Aged 58 years.

21 October 1920. The marriage at Ross Parish Church of Dr Archibald John CAMPBELL of Chepstow House, Ross to Viva YATES of Berkley House, Ross. The death of Bernard Douglas HUGHES at Moor Street, Hereford. Aged 6 years.

24 October 1920. The death of Thomas H ADAMS of 26 Clive Street Hereford. Aged 61 years. The death of Isabella PHILLIPES of Abbey Dore. Aged 80 years.

26 October 1920. The death of Joseph Henry PROSSER at 22 Perseverance Road, Hereford. An infant.

31 October 1920. The death of Jane LORD at 15 St Nicholas Street, Hereford. Aged 63 years. The death of Jane Catherine MYER at 10 Ryelands Street, Hereford. Aged 63 years.

2 November 1920. The death of James GRIFFITHS at St Catherines Hospital, Ledbury. Aged 76 years. The death of Francis Taunton SQUIRE at West Dew, Whitecross Road, Hereford. Aged 83 years.

3 November 1920. The marriage at Upton St Leonards' Parish Church of Frederick George WATKINS of Clifford to Lottie Selina POOLE of Upton St Leonard. The death of William DELAHAY of Ledgemere at Weobley Workhouse. Aged 47 years. The death of Jane WILLIAMS at 210 Whitecross Road, Hereford. Aged 66 years.

5 November 1920. The death of Anne E. BURN at 6 Elm Road, Hereford. Aged 76 years. The death of Ann PATTERSON at Grandstand Road, Hereford. Aged 13 years.

7 November 1920. The death of William Robert GEORGE at 4 Moorfield Place, Hereford. Aged 88 years.

9 November 1920. The birth of a son to William Harry WRIGHT at Ridgebourne, Penngrove, Hereford.

10 November 1920. The death of Hayden Arthur John Williams OLDBURY at 2 Spring Gardens, Holmer Road, Hereford. Aged 8 weeks. Coroner Verdict – Death due to Congenital heart disease.

11 November 1920. The marriage at Brompton Oratory of Brevet-Major Raplph G S COX of Broxwood Court, Herefordshire to Edith Colville of Arngomery, Kippen.

12 November 1920. The death of Mary Elizabeth POWELL at 10 Whitehorse Street, Hereford. Aged 83 years.

18 November 1920. The death of Mr R T GRIFFITHS of Trowern, Cusop. Aged 63 years.

20 November 1920. The death of Mary GOUGH at Berrington Street, Hereford. Aged 75 years.

21 November 1920. The death of John Wallace LILLEY at Llangarren. Cut his own throat. Aged 37 years. Coroner Verdict – Suicide during a fit of temporary insanity. The death of Alice JEFFCOATE at Kilforge House, Kilforge. Knocked down the stairs. Aged 40 years. Coroner Verdict – Accidental death.

22 November 1920. The death of Sarah COOK at 21 Maylord Street, Hereford. Set her clothes on fire. Aged 54 years. Coroner Verdict – Suicide during a fit of temporary insanity.

23 November 1920. The death of Albert WRIGHT at Prior House, Prior Street, Hereford. Aged 44 years.

26 November 1920. The death of Dora BROWNING at Worcester, daughter of Thomas NAYLER of Hereford. The death of Ald. James CORNER of Holmer. Aged 79 years.

27 November 1920. The death of Richard FARR of Much Dewchurch. Aged 70 years. The death of John JAMES at Glencoe, Stanhope Street, Hereford. Aged 53 years. The death of Sarah STEAD at 8 Castle Street, Hereford. Aged 81 years.

28 November 1920. The death of Florence Spozzi Townshend CARLESS at Lynwood, Tower Road, Hereford. Aged 71 years.

The death of John Henry James DAVIES at 12 Spring Gardens, Holmer Road, Hereford. Aged 2 years. The death of Mary Jane EVANS at Blue School Street, Hereford. Aged 80 years. The death of Henry OLIVER at White Horse Street, Hereford. Aged 80 years. The death of Catherine WILLIAMS of Wellington. Aged 40 years.

2 December 1920. The death of William Richard WILCOX at 2 Greenfield Villas, Portfields, Hereford. Aged 77 years.

6 December 1920. The death of Major Edward Hay Mackenzie ELLIOTT, late of Hereford. Aged 70 years. The death of Elizabeth COOKE of Monkton, Broomy Hill, Hereford. Aged 80 years. The death of Evelyn Margery EVANS at 27 Moorfield Street, Hereford. Aged 11 years.

8 December 1920. The death of baby ELSLEY at 23 Coningsby Street, Hereford. Aged 4 weeks. Coroner Verdict – Death due to convulsions. The death of Benjamin COMBES at the General Hospital, Hereford. Aged 14.

9 December 1920. The marriage at Tarrington Parish Church of Lieut. Richard Frances John ONSLOW of Stoke Edith to Sylvia Rachel Green PRICE of Tarrington.

11 December 1920. The death of Edward Bright DAVIS at Widemarsh Street, Hereford. Aged 55 years.

12 December 1920. The death of Ellen Elizabeth Jane RICHARDS at Cornwall Street, Hereford. Aged 1 year.

13 December 1920. The death of Elizabeth GLADWIN at Whitecross Street, Hereford. Aged 80 years. The death of Harriet LAMPUTT formerly of Leominster. The death of James REECE at 5 Vaga Street, Hereford. Aged 64 years. The death of Sarah WRIGHT at Prior House, Prior Street, Hereford. Aged 73 years.

14 December 1920. The death of William PREECE at Portsam Sanatorium, Merthyr Tydfil. Formerly of Hereford. Aged 55 years.

16 December 1920. The birth of a daughter to T. A. MATTHEWS at Ferndale, Hereford.

18 December 1920. The death of Tom HULL of Old Eign Hill, Hereford. A Crimean war veteran. Aged 92 years. The death of Isabella Charlotte FALCONER at 15 Baggaley Street, Hereford. Aged 76 years. The death of Dorothy May WORKMAN at 16 Coningsby Street, Hereford. An infant.

19 December 1920. The death of Mary Ann ALLEN at Eign Road, Hereford. Aged 66 years.

20 December 1920. The death of Emma LILWALL at 1 Millbrook Street, Hereford. Aged 71 years.

21 December 1920. The death of Clara Olivia BARRETT at 6 Wyecliffe Villas, Bath Street, Hereford. Aged 60 years. The death of John George TOMLINSON at Baysham Street, Hereford. Aged 76 years.

MEMORIAM

18th June 1917. The death of George DAW, died of wounds at Arras.

9th July 1916. The death of Aaron James LAWRENCE.

13 July 1915. The death of Ernest Field TERRETT of Foley Street, Hereford

25 July 1917. The death of Pte. William DAW, Kings, Liverpool. KIA.

16 August 1915. The death of Thomas John OSBORNE. Killed at Sulva Bay.

31 August 1917. The death of Sidney Charles EVANS.

11 Sept 1918. The death of Ted LEACH. Killed in action.

Alan Charles. Membership No: 2268

**The Wormbridge box tombs, with a list of known descendants: the Dean family, descendants of John Dean (1768-1839), of Thrupton Court Farm.
Part IV**

This is the fourth in a series about the descendants of the occupants of some box tombs in the graveyard in Wormbridge, published in the *Herefordensis* from November 2021. This article deals with some of the descendants of Thomas DEAN and his wife Lydia NICHOLS, who are buried there.

John Dean (1768-1839) mentioned in his mother's will 1808, is presumably the John Dean son of Thomas Dean, bap. Bednall, Staffs 16 August 1768 (his elder sister Lydia was bap. Bednall 1767). He is presumably the John Dean (1768/9-1839) who was the tenant of Thrupton Court Farm until his death (Thrupton churchyard tomb, burial register, PCC will 1839). His wife was Elizabeth ___ (1773/4-1853) (*Hereford Journal*, 6 March 1839, 9 Nov 1853).

John and Elizabeth had the following children:

Thomas Dean (bap. Wormbridge 1793- Lower Jury, Dore 1854), kept the Coach & Horses Pub, Stoke Newington, there in 1851. He married (March 1837) Mary Barnett, daughter of farmer of Lower Jury; will PCC 1854, and HARC E/34.

Mary Dean (bap. Wormbridge 1795-1875 Crowhurst) married (Kilpeck 17 April 1817) Charles Fox Lechmere (1784-1843) [has Hereford will], in Paddington 1871, with the Verreys and granddaughter Emily Emery. Interestingly, although C. F. Lechmere was a descendant of a prosperous Fownhope family, several of his and Mary's descendants fell on hard times and are found in great poverty in the East End of London.

Jane Elizabeth Lechmere (Kenchester 1818-1857) married 1839 George Emery, carpenter 1881

Emily Lechmere Emery (Westminster 1840-1921)

Capel Robert Emery (Westminster 25 Dec 1844-13 April 1928),
emigrated to Canada and married Decima E Stevens

(d. 1947)

May Emery married (1919) Arthur Carlisle, Bishop of Montreal

Arthur Elliott Carlisle (Montreal 1926-2017 Leeds Mass.), professor of business at the University of Massachusetts, married (1949) Betsy and has living descendants in Canada.

Patricia Carlisle States

John Allen Lechmere (Kenchester 1820-1879 Daventry) married (1846) Maria Louisa Roulson (Hereford 1825/6-1902), daughter of the Whitfield agent. Mrs Caroline Clive recorded:

(14 April 1847) The husband of Roulson's dtr. Lechmere turns out a scamping fellow . . . he has to pay gt. bills for his Mother & Sister also, & is quite ruined, he has taken to drinking, her poor baby was born prematurely & is dying; & all the family is in gt. distress.

He deserted his family and lived in Daventry, Northants. as a shoemaker. Maria married bigamously (1858), Thomas Cross, police constable, and, thirdly (1872) Joseph Forsdike, shoemaker. However before the marriage broke down they had two children.

Emily Charlotte Lechmere (1847-?1869) father's name wrong on death cert if this is so.

Charles Allen Lechmere (1849-1920), witness in the Jack the Ripper case, see www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Allen_Lechmere. Some of the more speculative Ripperologists have suggested he might have been the murderer himself. He married (1870) Elizabeth Bostock and had twelve children, who have many living descendants.

John Allen Lechmere had six more children between 1853 and 1870 in Northamptonshire with a woman named Ann (Catesby 1834-?1915) who remarried another shoemaker named John Barber.

Whitmore Lechmere (Orcop 1821-1881 Hackney), bootmaker, married (1852) Elizabeth Dixon, and may have living descendants.

Mary Ann Lechmere (Bullingham 1824-) married 1851 Robert Amess (Sutton Norfolk 1823-) cab driver 1861, crippled 1871; she is a seamstress. In 1863 the whole family was admitted to the Marylebone workhouse. Mary Ann (Lechmere) Amess has living descendants.

Harriet Maria Lechmere (Pipe and Lyde 1826) married (St. James Westminster 24 March 1846) Charles Hall, silk mercer.

Edwin Charles Lechmere (Withington 1829-1834)

Emma Catherine Lechmere (Withington 1831-1885 London), married first ?Dale, widowed by 1861, keeping lodgings Great Portland St, married, secondly (1871), Charles VERREY (Lausanne 1816/7-1876 Naples), confectioner. His estate was £14,000, and she put up a memorial window in Crowhurst church. The Verreys also put up a monument to her parents in Fownhope church, and perhaps (children named after him after his death) she was generous to her relations.

John Dean (bap. Kilpeck 1797), not mentioned in father's will

Elizabeth Dean (bap. Kilpeck 1799-dead by 1882), married (Thrupton 1840) Richard Watkins, Dunswater Farm.

Eliza Hannah Watkins (1844-1883) married (1870), as his first wife, Charles Thomas Ockey (1840/1-1906 Castle Frome), mentioned in the will of uncle Elijah, 1882, as only child of her mother. *Worcestershire Chronicle* (23 June 1883)

Josiah Dean (Kilpeck 1806/20 Nov 1859 see *Hereford Times* 26 Nov 1859) married first (Dore November 1832) Louisa Cooke [*Hereford Journal*, 28 Nov 1832] and, secondly (Foy 1838) Jane Mary Newton (Middlesex 1810/11-1893), he farmer Jury Farm 1841, 1851, she was keeping the Three Horseshoes, Winnal, in 1871, 1881, 1891. See Dean monument in Thruxton.

Mary Jane Dean (Dore 1841-1926), in 1861 teacher, with cousin Thomas Davies, at Ladymeadow, Yarpole, married first (Eaton Bishop 1864) Jeremiah Griffiths (d.1865, or ?1 Oct 1864) , and, secondly (Thruxton 1866), Richard James, see *Hereford Journal* (31 Mar 1866). Emigrated to Kansas in 1870 and has descendants there.

John Newton Dean (bap. Dore 1843-1910 Birkenhead workhouse), gardener.

Harriet Louisa Dean (bap. Dore 1844-1884 Thruxton) At Three Horseshoes in 1871, 1881.

Alice Elizabeth Dean (bap. Dore 1847-1919) married, first (Thruxton 1870), Henry Tipton, of Easton Farm, Middleton-on-the-Hill. In 1881 at New House Farm, Berrington, Tenbury. Left a cottage in 1882 by her uncle Elijah Dean, in 1891 she was with her mother and daughter at the Three Horseshoes. In 1895 she remarried Samuel Smith, at Three Horseshoes with him, 1901, with her deaf son Bertie.

Esther Tipton (Leominster 1872/3-), at Three Horseshoes 1891, ? barmaid Leamington Priors in 1901. But see below for Catherine's gravestone - perhaps not Alice's daughter..

Henry Dean Tipton (Hatfield 1871/2)

George Thomas Tipton (Hereford 1873-1960 St Francis, Cheyenne, Kansas). Emigrated to the USA, 1895, and married (Sherman, Kansas 1913) Anna E. Frerichs; has living descendants.

Newton George Tipton (Hatfield 1875-) perhaps the N. G. Tipton who went to the USA in 1902

Charles Verrey Tipton (Tenbury 1877-) at school Watford London Orphan Asylum 1891, draper's assistant Nottingham in 1901 and Blaenavon 1911.

Herbert James Tipton (Tenbury 1879-1947) deaf from birth, in 1939 incapacitated in the Institution in Ross-on-Wye

Catherine Tipton (1881-1887 Thruxton) 'In loving Memory of Kitty Tipton only daughter of late Henry and Alice Elizabeth Tipton granddau of Josiah Dean died 14 Aug 1887 aged 6 yrs 4 mths'.

Harriet Dean (d. before 1882) married (Thruxton 1831) Charles Watkins, grocer in Hereford,

Harriet Elizabeth Mary Watkins (Hereford 1834-)

Charles Dean Watkins (Hereford 1836/7-1909 Paddington), grocer's apprentice in 1851, grocer's manager in 1891, married Sarah

Ellen Dean Watkins (Hereford 1838/9-1903 Muskoka Ontario) married (St. Olave Bermondsey 1867) Job Smith (1838-1883), schoolteachers together in Llangibby, 1871. Emigrated in 1871 to Muskoka, Ontario, where they have living descendants [ancestry.co.uk]

John Dean Watkins (Hereford 1839/40-1868) railwayman, married (Lambeth 1867) Amelia Louisa Billes, and died the following year (she was a sister of Edward Billes who married his sister Harriet).

Albert William Watkins (Hereford 1841-) ?married Harriet G.

Thomas Dean Watkins (Hereford 1844-) in 1871 barman at the White Lion, Farringdon, kept by his brother Henry

Harriet Eliza Watkins (Hereford 1846-) In 1861 staying with uncle Richard Watkins at Dunswater Farm, Kingstone. She married 1 Dec 1870 Edward Robert Billes, commercial traveller, and has living descendants.

Henry Lamartine Watkins (Hereford 1847/8-1899 Hackney) Licensed victualler in Fleet Lane in 1861, later insurance agent, married (Somers Town 1874) Susannah Fisher, secondly (1882), ?Caroline and thirdly (1882) Sarah Maria Binns.

Ellen Margaret Watkins (Hackney 1887/8)

Ethel L Watkins (Hackney 1891-)

Andrew Dean (bap. Kilpeck 1807-1862), of the White Lion, Cripplegate, married first (St George's Hanover Square 1833), Mary Dawson

Ellen Dean (1835/6-30 June 1845) *Hereford Journal* (2 July 1845).

and, secondly, (St Giles without Cripplegate 1847) Judith Jackson (Birmingham 1815-), silver plater in 1861; see *Hereford Times* (15 Feb 1862).

Elijah Henry Dean (1813-1881), of Thruxton Court and then Winnal Hall, married (Hereford 1846) Ann Farmer.

To save space this pedigree has been much shortened; I am happy to share information and to receive corrections.

Charlotte Mitchell.

The Infamous Solicitor of Ross

David J. Skyrme

I've been doing a One-Name Study of the SKYRMES of Herefordshire for about 10 years and have found some interesting individuals, as I have reported in past issues of *Herefordiensis*. This story is that of John Henry Skyrme (1836-1873). Although John was born at Splott House in Roath, now a suburb of Cardiff, both his parents were from Herefordshire. His father was John, a respected farmer from Dewsall and his mother Elizabeth née Jones from Baysham. After his father's death in Roath in 1843, John with his mother and sister moved back to Baysham. By 1859 at the age of 23 John had established himself as a solicitor in the High Street at Ross and had become a freemason. Several leases and indentures at Herefordshire Archives and Records bear his signature. Throughout the 1860s he was a prominent figure amongst the Ross elite. Among offices held were secretary of the cricket club, a member of the Board of the Ross Town Commissioners, a committee member of the Ross Literary Society and Clerk to the Trustees of the Ross Turnpike Trust. He was also active in the 2nd Herefordshire Volunteer Rifle Corps where he was appointed Ensign in 1865 and Lieutenant in 1871.

He married local girl Elizabeth Watkins in 1866. She was the daughter of Benjamin WATKINS gentleman, of Baysham Farm. In the same year John is also described as a gentleman when he was the executor of the will of his uncle William JONES, a farmer. He obviously prospered since by 1871 John and Elizabeth were living at Merton House, Trenchard Street with three servants. This is now the Merton House Hotel at Edde Cross Street "a holiday hotel for the elderly frail and people with disabilities".



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Merton House, Ross-on-Wye by Stephen Richards - geograph.org.uk/p/5498200

So far, all is above board and John seems to be a pillar of the local establishment. Even his death notice in early May 1873 gave no indication of what was to be discovered later:

"SKYRME. April 27, at Merton House, Ross, after a short illness, aged 36, John Henry Skyrme, Esq., solicitor"

But shortly afterwards we find newspaper headlines such as

"WHOLESALE FORGERY AND EMBEZZLEMENT BY A SOLICITOR"

"EXTRAORDINARY FRAUDS AT ROSS"

"SUICIDE AND FRAUDS BY A SOLICITOR"

The various newspaper reports over the ensuing weeks and months run to many column inches. Here is a flavour from the *Western Mail* of 8th May 1873:

"The death of John Henry Skyrme, a solicitor in extensive practice at Ross, in Herefordshire, has caused great excitement in that locality... In two days he was buried, and the town, out of respect, partly closed all its shops."

It says that he was apparently rich owning property around the town, as well as a landed estate near Ross and another, Court St. Lawrence, near Usk. The newspaper report continues:

"Scarcely had the grave been closed, however, before a strong revulsion of feeling ran through the town. People began to find that they were victims of fraud. Forgeries turned up at once of an astounding character - sham mortgages, suppression of deeds, sales of property previously mortgaged, involving ruin to numerous families."

He had an overdrawn bank account of £20,000. The many tradesmen of the town who had extended him credit were also cheated. Almost every day later that May and into June a new victim of fraud came forward. For example, a gentleman in Monmouth was defrauded of £4,000 and the Ross Town Commissioners £1,060.

The trail led to several court cases. One of the most complex ones was over ownership of a property on the Merrivale estate "a fine property outside Ross" that had come into John's possession a few years earlier. He divided some its land at Ashfield into building plots one of which was sold to local builder J. B. KEMP for £200 on which he built "a fine villa". He mortgaged this to John WARREN for £700. But John Skyrme also sold it as his own property to Miss BEESTON of Ross for £1,500.

There was conjecture that he might have poisoned himself since he made a will the day before his death and he had had a fraught meeting with some creditors in Gloucester earlier in the day. After his death rumours grew that he might not really be dead, that the burial might have been a sham and even that he may have gone to America. These rumours were put to rest when his wife died two years later and the opportunity was taken to open and inspect his coffin. His body had only partially decomposed and his face was very recognisable.

When researching your family history one sometimes comes across a 'skeleton in the cupboard'. But few can match this abrupt transition from a person held in high esteem to a fraudster. So far John Skyrme's skeleton is not in my cupboard. Along with several other researchers we have yet to find a definitive link between the Skyrmes of Herefordshire and Pembrokeshire, although there is obviously one yet to be discovered.

David J Skyrme Membership No 3192 www.skyrme.info

Herefordshire FHS Zoom Meetings Programme for 2021

For the time being we are organising the Zoom events in the place of monthly meetings, on the same date and time.

As soon as we are able to re-establish the face-to-face meetings, they will be publicised in the Journal, on the website and social media.

28 Cypress Road, Walton Cardiff, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 7RB
Tel: 07836 560511 or 01684 295746 E-Mail: normanp.price@live.co.uk

Future Zoom Meeting Dates.

Date	Speaker Details
Fri 22nd April 2022	Dr Colin Chapman Heraldry CAN be understood
Fri 20th May 2022	Annual General Meeting Family History Quiz via Zoom
Fri 17th June	Graham Sutherland Selected inn signs and the stories they tell

All of the 2022 Zoom speakers are now publicised on the website and also the link will be sent out as part of the Monthly Newsletter sent out by the website.

To get this notification register on the site here:
<https://www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk/>

Bromyard & District Local History Society

Meetings are held at the Conquest Theatre, Tenbury Road, Bromyard.

Membership Secretary: Mr Alex Hoyle

B&DLHS, 5 Sherford Street, Bromyard, Herefordshire. HR7 4DL

E-mail: bromyardhistory@btconnect.com www.bromyardhistorysociety.org.uk

Cradley Heritage Group

Formed in 2004, the group is an active, hands-on group of people who undertake projects in co-operation with Malvern FHS.

Fownhope Local History Group

Contact: Christopher Lansberry. Telephone no: 01432 860733.

Kington History Society

c/o Kington Museum, Mill Street, Kington HR5 3AL The Kington library room is manned every Tuesday & Friday from 10am-4pm

Leintwardine History Society

Contact: Mrs. Pam Hatherly, Roman Rise, High Street, Leintwardine, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 OLB Telephone 01547 540306

Linton & District Local History Society

Contact: Mrs Lee Hines. Ford House, Ford Lane, Kilcot, Gloucs. GL18 1NW

All meetings at Linton Village Hall

Longtown Historical Society.

Contact: Rev. Nicholas Lowton. by e-mail at lowton.nicholas@virgin.net - NEW

Weobley & District Local History Society

Weobley Museum, Back Lane, Weobley, Herefordshire. HR4 8SG.

Contact: Mr B. Holly. Little Orchard, Hereford Road, Weobley HR4 8SW

Open April, May Jun: Mon & Tues 10 - 1;

July, Aug, Sept: Mon, Tues, Weds 10-1; Bank Holidays 10 - 4

Woolhope Club

Contact: Mr D. Whitehead. 60, Hafod Road, Hereford. HR1 1SQ

david.whitehead.hafod@care4free.net.

Founded in 1851, The Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, covers the archaeology, history and the natural history of Herefordshire.

Also Archaeological Research Section & Natural History Section Membership £13-00 per year, Joint £15-00, Student £2-00

Contact Addresses of Family History Societies surrounding Herefordshire

Midland Ancestor (formerly BMSGH) (West Midland Group Member)

Sec: Mrs Jackie Cotterill, 5 Sanderling Court, Kidderminster, DY10 4TS

<https://midland-ancestors.uk/>

Gloucestershire FHS

Sec: Trish Gage, Family History Center, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester. GL1

3AH. Secretary@gfhs.org.uk

www.gfhs.org.uk

Gwent FHS

Sec: Mrs N. Thomas, 11, Rosser Street, Waunfelin, Pontypool. NP4 6EA

www.gwentfhs.info

Montgomeryshire GS

Sec: Mrs Monica Woosnam, 24 Dysart Terrace, Canal Road, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2JL

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

Powys FHS

www.powysfhs.org.uk

Meetings held at Brecon BRE, Llanddewi Ystradenny RAD and Abermule MGY

Contact: philbufton@hotmail.com

Shropshire FHS (West Midland Group member)

Sec: Mr Dave Morris, 48 Oakley Street, Bellevue, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 7JY

Email: secretary@sfhs.org.uk

www.sfhs.org.uk

Malvern Family History Society (West Midland Group member)

Sec: Mrs Jean Evans

secretary@mfhs.org.uk

All meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of each month, except August. Open at 7pm for a 7-30 start at Eden Church, Grovewood Road, Malvern which is next to the Malvern Spa Hotel. Post code WR14 1GD

www.mfhs.org.uk/

FHF (Formerly called FFHS) is an international organisation, established in the UK as a non-profit making charitable company. It represents, advises and supports over 200 family history societies and other genealogical organizations world-wide, with a combined membership of over 300,000.

www.familyhistoryfederation.com

See www.fhswales.org.uk/ for information on societies in Wales

Herefordshire Registrars Indexes

The Herefordshire FHS has now had permission to publish all 3 of the Registrars indexes compiled by members of the society from the registers held by the Herefordshire Registrars of Births, Marriages & Deaths.

Births : 1837 - 1920 £15

Births: Name, Date of Birth, Mother's Maiden Name & Registrar Reference.

Marriages: 1837 - 1957 £25

Marriages: Name of both parties, Place and Date of Marriage, Register, Entry No

Deaths: 1837 - 1970 £10

Deaths: Surname, Forename, Date of Death, Age & Registrar Reference.

The agreement also includes permission for an extra year to be added to the indexes each January.

Available via our website shop and through our Postal publication service.

Heather Bufton, 3 Cagebrook Avenue, Hunderton, Hereford HR2 7AS

<https://www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk/>

<https://www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk/shop/>

Correspondence

Any correspondence concerning the Journal should be addressed to the Editor. All other correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary. If you require a reply, please include a S.A.E.

Leominster Home Guard

The Leominster Folk Museum has the original record of the World War II Home Guard membership for Leominster and surrounding villages.

The index can be consulted in the Herefordshire FHS library, available at the general meetings at the Kindle Centre, Hereford.

Herefordshire FHS Burials Index

Society members have been indexing the burials from the registers and Bishop's Transcripts for some years.

The period 1813-1839 is now complete and available on CD.

Requests for look-up of specific surnames, including Pre-1813 burials, with first names and / or parish if the name is very popular to:

NBI Co-ordinator - Linda Lloyd linda_lloyd@btinternet.com

Help Wanted

Researchers may publish enquiries in the "Help Wanted" section within the Journal. This service is free to members of the Society, but non-members are asked to make a donation to the Society with their enquiry.

Herefordshire Strays Index

The Society holds a Strays Index, which is available for look-ups and which we invite additions to.

So what is a Stray ?

A stray is someone found in archives or documents out of their county of birth, in our case Herefordshire. This index is available via e-mail and by post from the Editor, searched by Surname.

The Strays Index is available on the Members Area of the website along with other resources.

www.herefordshirefhs.org.uk