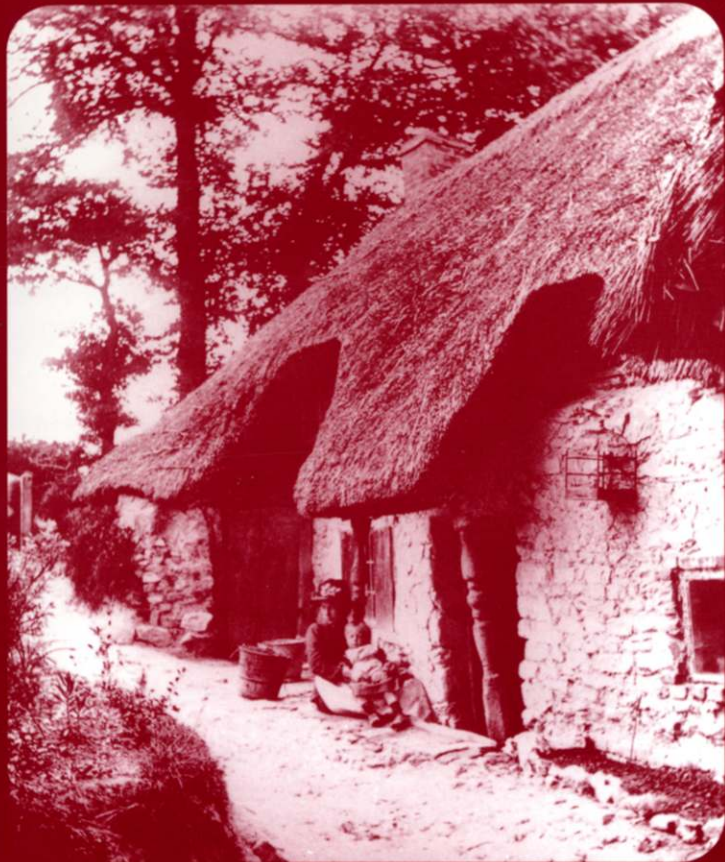


# Berkshire Family Historian

'Most people got married in June because they took their annual bath in May, and were still smelling pretty good by June'



BERKSHIRE  
**BFHS** FAMILY  
HISTORY  
SOCIETY

# Programme calendar 2001

## Bracknell Branch

*Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell,*

*7.15pm for 7.45pm*

- 21 Sep *Coroner's inquests.* Kathy Chater
- 19 Oct *Ghosts and traditions of the Thames Valley.* Michael Bayley
- 16 Nov *Lloyd George's tax survey of 1911.* John Gurnett
- 21 Dec *Christmas meeting with Christmas fare*

## Newbury Branch

*St. Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, 7.30pm*

- 12 Sep *Canal people.* Newbury Canal Trust
- 10 Oct *Military records.* Marjorie Moore
- 11 Nov *tbc*
- 12 Dec *tbc*

## Reading Branch

*Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading, 7.15pm for 7.45pm*

- 19 Sep *Alien immigration to England.* Paul Blake (third Wednesday in the month)
- 31 Oct *Militia yeomanry and volunteers.* Dr. Peter B. Boyle
- 28 Nov *The Wiltshire wills project.* Lucy Jefferis
- 12 Dec *Seasonal ceremonies.* Jim Golland

## White Horse Branch

*Tomkins Room, Baptist Church, Ock Street, Abingdon, 7.30pm*

- 10 Sep *'Will power'.* Meryl Catty and Audrey Gillett
- 15 Oct *Making further use of the census.* Susan Lumas
- 12 Nov *An introduction to Secretary Hand.* Mark Priddy (a workshop)
- 10 Dec *Christmas social evening with quiz/games and Christmas fare*

## Windsor Branch

*Christ Church, United Reformed Church, William Street, Windsor, 7.30pm for*

*7.45pm*

- 25 Sep *'London the metropolitan nightmare'.* tbc
- 30 Oct *'Lloyd George's Domesday: the 1911 Census.* tbc
- 27 Nov *The Commonwealth War Graves Commission.* tbc
- 11 Dec *Annual dinner at a venue to be confirmed.*

# Berkshire Family Historian

For family historians in the Royal County of Berkshire

Volume 24 Number 4 • June 2001

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John Gurnett  
Editor

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ISSN: 1468 1080

*The illustration on the front cover is a photograph of a cottage at Upton taken in 1865*

**Copy deadline for the September issue is July 6**

## Counting the population

This year marks the two hundredth anniversary of the first census held in England. Many countries took censuses before Britain. Quebec completed one as early as 1666; Iceland in 1703, Sweden in 1749 and Germany soon followed. In the United States census taking was delayed until 1790 because of religious opposition. People feared that a census might incur the wrath of God because a census of the Israelites ordered by King David was followed by a plague that killed 70,000 people.

This view was used as an argument against census taking in Britain when a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons in 1753. The people of Newcastle-upon-Tyne 'looked upon the proposal as ominous and feared....an epidemical distemper should follow the numbering', according to Matthew Ridley, their MP. When a second Bill came before Parliament in 1800 there was widespread concern that the growing population might be outstripping the country's ability to grow sufficient food. The debate was fuelled by Thomas Malthus's 'Essay on the Principle of Population' published in 1798 and bad harvests in 1800 ensured that the Bill was passed. The census was held on March 10, 1801.

Many early returns or lists of populations do survive. For example the parish of Binfield has returns before the national census began and the official census for 1801 includes all the names of those living in the parish with family relationships, although not birthplace. For most of the country the censuses from 1801 to 1831 merely recorded the number of people in each parish, the number of houses, some information on occupations and other statistics.

It was only in 1841 that a force of enumerators was employed specifically to take the census. Before then 'overseers of the poor' and other leading members of the parish took the census. The 1841 census was also the first one to use self-completed forms. 35,000 male enumerators – who were supplied with pencils – recorded almost 16 million people in this census. Women census takers first took up posts in 1891. The requirements for a good census taker have not changed much in over 150 years: 'he must not be infirm; he must be temperate, orderly and respectable, and such a person has to conduct himself with strict propriety'. In many cases the lady of the house must have taken responsibility

for the census form. There are some colourful examples of women taking advantage of their position as census form fillers. In 1881, one woman gave her title as 'Maid of Allwork', her occupation as 'slave' and a handicap as 'scarcity of money'. In 1851 newspapers reported that a Portsmouth woman gave her occupation as 'mangleworker' and listed the occupation of her husband as 'turns my mangle'.



**SCENE AT A RAILWAY STATION.**

*(Sunday Evening, April 3, 1881.)*

**PEOPLE OF A CERTAIN AGE, WHO HAVE RESOLVED TO ESCAPE THE CENSUS PAPER BY SPENDING THE NIGHT IN TRAVELLING.**

Enumerators were often extraordinarily diligent. There is even an instance of a zealous enumerator recording people sitting on a train in a station. There was no escape. And enumerators also liked to comment on what they found. One in Preston was shocked by the poverty of a neighbourhood in his patch and was at pains to point out one particular aspect of privation he found there: 'namely the serious insufficiency of conveniences for the easement of nature'. The Registrars General in the 1800s also commented enthusiastically on the social affairs of the day. In 1851, for example, the Registrar General, George Graham, justified a decision to count women engaged in domestic duties as part of the working population and not as inactive. He said: 'It

requires no argument to prove that the wife, mother, mistress of the English family discharges duties of no ordinary importance’.

‘It is a fact worth notice....’ declared *The Times* in 1851, ‘that generally among the labouring classes it was by the care of the women that the required information was secured’ in the census. Enumerators were not always welcome, one in Yorkshire noted: ‘some very nice language was indulged in at my expense. In asking some questions I run the risk of being kicked out’. The early censuses asked if people were ‘lunatics’ and ‘imbeciles’ or ‘idiots’. In 1881 the Registrar General commented: ‘It is against human nature to expect a mother to admit her young child to be an idiot, however much she may fear this to be true. To acknowledge the fact is to abandon all hope’. Enquiries into infirmities ceased after 1911.

Dave Annal works at the Family Records Centre and in his spare time he tracks down the famous, and infamous, recorded in the nineteenth century census returns. He knows where to find all the big names: Winston Churchill, Florence Nightingale, W.G. Grace, Karl Marx, Edward Elgar, and Charles Darwin. ‘The strange thing about Queen Victoria’, says Dave, ‘is that in 1851 her occupation is recorded as The Queen and she is the Sovereign of much of the world, but for all that she doesn’t rule her own household as far as the census is concerned. Albert, her husband, who takes the title head of household at Buckingham Palace, runs that little corner of England. Ten years later, the Queen relegated Albert and he was described as husband’.

Many other women who are household names today were also sidelined in the census forms. George Eliot (her real name was Marian Evans) is recorded simply as the wife of her ‘partner’ George Henry Lewes in 1861 and 1871 (although she never actually married him).

There really was a Coronation Street in Manchester in 1861 and a Rovers Return in 1881. There was also a Mrs. E. Sharples living on the Street, at No. 2, and she is listed as widowed. As for Eastenders there was an Albert Square. Occupations of those living on the Square are given as brothel-keepers, sailors, pimps and prostitutes – there’s even Victoria Lodge. Soaps indeed are true to life.

# A Bluffer's guide to converting your family tree into a family history – part two

*Barry Jerome*

## **Part III — Publishing and printing**

### **Formatting**

Now that I have all my text and illustrations assembled the next task to think about is the layout. I normally use an A4 page, and if you do the same you will need to consider the number of columns, the size of text, the margin size and the headers and footers. There are a lot of other things you can also think about but I like to keep it as simple as possible. Of course these are mainly of use if you are using a computer or word processor, but even for a hand written document you will probably want a page number at the bottom and a chapter title at the top.

If you are handwriting your story, or using a typewriter, you can skip the next few paragraphs and continue reading at 'Quality Control'.

Options available for the number of columns include one, two, three or four columns per page - I suggest looking at a magazine to see what format you prefer. I find a single column tends to be too wide to read comfortably in A4, whereas using four columns results in a lot of broken or hyphenated words. The format I prefer is two columns with a fairly wide margin on the left hand side. Illustrations can then be placed in a column or run across columns, or even overlap into the white space of the margin. It is worth experimenting to discover which format you like best.

Another consideration is what font (type of lettering) and the size of the text to use. A serif font is usually more pleasant to read for a lot of text (a serif font is one where each letter has little lines on the top and bottom). Times New Roman is a frequently used serif font that is available on most computers and 12 point is quite a good size for general reading. 10 or 11 point allows more text on each page and tends to be better where 3 or 4 columns are being used. 14 point is less of a strain for older members of your family who may read your family history. I like to use a non-serif font for

headings and subheadings as the letters stand out more. Arial and Helvetica are two commonly used non-serif fonts which I use at larger text sizes than for the normal text.

I have found from experience that it is best to start with something simple and to experiment once confidence has been gained. PCs have thousands of fonts to choose from but it can be quite time-consuming experimenting with different combinations until you find the ones you like best.

I now define 'styles' for chapter, section and sub headings and for normal text in the word processor and use these styles when writing. By using this approach if I decide to use a different font at some time in the future I only have to change style and the chapter is changed automatically.

For example:

<b>CHAPTER HEADING:</b>	Arial 16 or 18 point, capitals, bold
<b>Section Heading:</b>	Arial 14 or 16 point, first letter of each word capitalised, bold
<b>Paragraph heading:</b>	Arial 12 or 14, first letter capitalised, bold text: Times New Roman 12, normal

However, this is probably one complication too many if you are only just starting out and you may prefer to make your heading by using the 'Bold' button on your normal text.

### **Quality control**

I am now ready to assemble my first section. During this stage there is a need to convert it from a set of standard paragraphs to a readable narrative. This is where a friend or relative can help. I start by taking the 2 or 3 pages of standard paragraphs and descriptions produced earlier and print them or write them out double line spaced. I then read through it myself and mark up changes to make it sound more like a story, adding additional sentences if necessary to make it flow. I make the changes and print it or write it out again double line spacing and ask a friend or relative to critique it, emphasising that I am looking to them for quality control. When selecting someone it must be somebody you know well enough who will feel they can make objective comments without upsetting you, and you need to be open-minded about any comments received. The last thing you want is someone who will read it and pass it back saying, "that was nice"



with just a couple of spelling errors corrected. My wife does my quality control for me which I find invaluable. (She will have critiqued this article too by the time you see it).

### **Final assembly**

You are now ready to assemble the section into its final format. I decide where on the page I want my illustrations to go. If writing by hand or typewriter I suggest drawing a pencil rectangle in the place the illustration will go, so that you can write or type around it.

If using a word processor or desktop publishing program on a computer then the first step is to define your master page with the number of columns and headings. The controls to do it will vary depending on the program you are using but they are all much the same. You will need to specify the number of columns and then type in the header (e.g. chapter heading) and the footer (e.g. page number) that you decided on earlier.

Next copy your corrected text into the pages and position each illustration so that it appears close to the text to which it relates. This may be in the adjacent column rather than before or after the text. Always start with the first illustration and go through in sequence, as the text will flow around the pictures as you move them. If you do not yet have one or more of your illustrations then put a rectangle in the page of the same size as the eventual illustration. This will usually be achieved by creating a new 'frame' on the page with a black line as a border. Once your illustration is available you can 'drop' it onto the frame to include it in the text.

You can now print your "final" version of the section.

### **Part IV Collating and binding**

Repeat parts II and III for other selected ancestors in your family tree, creating a new section for each one. Once you have a few sections it is worth collating them into one or more chapters. You can then bind them together and send to relatives and friends.

### **Preparing the cover page and introduction**

I like to create a chapter front page containing information such as the date printed, references and sources used in creating the chapter. This is usually in three pages but can be

longer depending on references and sources used. The first page has the chapter name on it in large letters and possibly a picture or two. The second page has a one paragraph summary of what the chapter is about plus the date of printing this version. For example one of my chapters has the following summary: "This chapter describes the history of the Parrott family descended from Joseph Parrott, baptised in Ringwood Hampshire in 1824". The third page is a numerical list of references and sources of information (using the same format used in books).

If using a word processor I have found it best to now copy the front pages and each section into a single document to ensure that the page numbering is sequential. (You can achieve the same effect by specifying the starting page number for each section). Print off your Chapter cover on thin (preferably coloured) card and print the rest of the chapter on good quality paper. A good quality paper may cost a pound or two more per ream but the difference in appearance is worth it.

If writing by hand or using a typewriter then write or type your front pages, including your cover page on card. Put your sections together and once you are sure they are in the right order go through and number each page by hand.

### **Binding the pages**

The next stage is to bind the loose pages together into a book format for the chapter. An easy form of binding is the long plastic clips which slide down the long edge of the sheets of paper to form a spine for the book. These usually cost 10p or less from a stationery shop. Comb binding and thermal binding are two other relatively straightforward forms of binding. (Of the two, I prefer the way comb binding allows the book to open flat at any page, and extra pages can also be added fairly easily). Both of these forms of binding can be carried out by a 'copy shop' fairly inexpensively. If you are going to be writing and binding many chapters and associated revisions it can be worth investing in your own binding machine. I bought a comb binder in a mail order stationery catalogue sale for about £100. Since buying it I have also used it to bind together many odd sheets of paper which might otherwise get lost (for instance the information sheets from the PRO).

You now have the first chapter of your book which you can distribute to friends and relatives or others researching the same

name. I like to keep a list of recipients and which version I sent them. This means that when I make a major revision to the book e.g. add a new section, or make significant changes to a section, then I can send them a revised version.

### **Conclusion**

I hope that by describing the approach I have taken it will help a few more people to realise their own ambitions to put their family in print. In this article it has only been possible to summarise many of the techniques I use. For any further information feel free to contact me via the editor.

**READING & DISTRICT CIGARETTE CARD & POSTCARD CLUB**

## **GIANT POSTCARD & CIGARETTE CARD FAIR**

**Sunday, July 1st**

**At RIVERMEAD LEISURE CENTRE**

**RICHFIELD AVENUE, READING**

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**80 Dealers, 135 Tables**

*The dealers will have for sale tens of thousands of topographical postcards from 1900 onwards, showing churches, buildings, street scenes in towns and villages throughout the UK., and Social History cards, and many other themes*

*There will also be masses of cigarette cards as well, if you are a collector.*

**A wonderful way to enhance interest in your own Family History !**

**IF YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN TO A BIG POSTCARD FAIR BEFORE,  
PLEASE COME ALONG, YOU WILL BE AMAZED !!**

Admission : 10.00 am – 4.30 pm.      £1.00      Ample free car parking

**For further details ring The Secretary on 0118-9784499**

## The way we were.....the origin of well-known sayings

Most people got married in June because they took their annual bath in May, and were still smelling pretty good by June – although they were starting to smell – so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Baths equalled a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men then the women, and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying



“Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water”.

Houses had thatched roofs. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the pets, dogs, cats and other small animals, mice, rats and bugs lived in, or on the roof. When it rained, it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, “It’s raining cats and dogs”. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed; so they found that if they made beds with big posts and hung a sheet over the top, it addressed that problem. Hence those beautiful, big four-poster beds with canopies.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying “dirt poor”. The wealthy had slate floors

which in the winter would get slippery when wet. So they spread thresh on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed at the entry way, which formed a “thresh hold.” They cooked in the kitchen in a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They mostly ate vegetables and didn’t get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had



been in there for a month. Hence the rhyme: ‘Pease-porridge hot, pease-porridge cold, pease-porridge in the pot nine days old.’

Sometimes they could obtain pork and would feel really special when that happened. When company came they would bring out some bacon and hang it to show it off. It was a sign of wealth that a man “could really bring home the bacon.” They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and “chew the fat.” Most people didn’t have pewter plates, but had trenchers - a

piece of wood with the middle scooped out like a bowl. Trenchers were never washed and worms often got into the wood. After eating off wormy trenchers, they would get “trench mouth.”

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the “upper crust.” Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait to see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a “wake.”

England is small, and they started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take their bones to a house and reuse the grave. In reopening these coffins, one out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realised they had been burying people alive. So they thought they would tie a string on their wrist and lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night to listen for the bell. Hence, on the “graveyard shift,” they would know that someone was “saved by the bell” or he was a “dead ringer.”

## **Family History Research**

### **New Brunswick, Canada**

Census Records, Vital Records, Municipal Records, Land and Probate Records,  
Marriage Bonds, Loyalists of NB, Parish Records Cemetery transcriptions,  
newspapers and directories

Militia and Military Records (pre-1900)  
Published and Unpublished Family Histories

**Enquiries, including an SAE and first class postage to:  
Carolyn Harris, BA, MEd. PO Box 20226 Fredericton,  
NB Canada E3B 7A2**

**Tel: 506-454-4965, e-mail: [hilderly@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:hilderly@nbnet.nb.ca)**

## Book reviews

**'Unlocking the Past': The Story of a Benwell family from Berkshire by Carol Angus, published by the author, 3 Southfield Road, Sutton Courtenay, Berkshire. Email: carol.angus@tinyworld.co.uk: tel: 01235 848635. price incl. p&p inland £6.90p, Europe, £8, Australia £11**

This book was produced primarily for the author's mother's 80th birthday, and is an excellent idea for other family historians to emulate.

The story is set firstly in Beenham, Berkshire, in 1748 and takes us to various parts of the country before ending in Reading and Bristol around the 1940s. It begins with the marriage of Charles Benwell to Elizabeth Ayres and continues down the years, unfolding the family's history.

The book of 138 pages of text with photographs has approximately seven family trees, but sadly in the interests of space, occupations and place names have been omitted.

Each chapter contains essential historical background of the period and discussion of occupations. It was here that I wanted to return to the main story, where the author shows a good sense of living through the tragedies and happy times of her family.

It is a book with particular interest for those having Berkshire ancestors and with an interest in the surnames covered.

Generally, it has a warm, family feel running throughout the book, and an excellent first attempt at putting one's research into print. A good read for the cover price of £6.00.

Jill Muir

**DNA for Family Historians by Alan Savin, published by the author £3.40 (incl. p&p UK, £4.00 overseas)**

As well as securing the conviction of criminals DNA is fast becoming a new way of proving relationships for the family historian. One of the author's primary aims is to explain a complex area of genetics in language that can be understood by laymen. The book explores the potential use of DNA especially when a dead end has been reached due to the lack of traditional

documentary evidence. The author uses real case studies like the skeletons that were finally identified as the last Czar of Russia and his family only after Prince Philip gave a blood sample. A useful introduction to an area of research that may be used much more in the years to come.

John Gurnett

**A History of Gordon Road School, 1907-1974 by Walter Rose, published by the author. £12.00 (incl. p&p UK, £12.50 overseas)**

Maidenhead already had a number of schools at the beginning of the twentieth century, but with the great expansion of secondary education there was clearly a need for a new school. Gordon Road was opened on April 8, 1907 with 229 boys. This year-by-year diary tells the story of the school from its beginnings until its closure in 1974. It reveals the high and low points, the effect of both World Wars, and how the school became the automatic place for pupils who failed to gain a place at the County Schools.

John Gurnett

All these books are available from the BFHS Bookstall. To place an order send a cheque to Mail Order, BFHS Bookstall, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading RG1 7TJ. There are also many new Berkshire books in the Research Centre, so if you are passing drop in and look through the bookstall. Or if you prefer send an A5 SSAE for a new booklist to the address above.



## Berkshire newspapers — a guide

John Gurnett

Very few of us go through our lives without a mention in a newspaper. It may only be a short announcement of a birth, marriage or death, but we may have done something noteworthy, which may have been noticed in the local press — winning a cup at the local horticultural show, a sporting event at school, or a report on the local WI meeting.

It wasn't until the 1870s and 1880s that local news included everything, from Sunday school outings and garden fetes, to local concerts and horticultural shows. These can be a real treasure trove. Coroner's inquests can be another useful source of information, as the inquest is always noted on the death certificate, and inquests were usually reported in the local press. Once you have established the date of death of an ancestor it is always worthwhile to consider a search in local newspapers. However, searching old newspapers can be very frustrating and time consuming as the majority remain unindexed.

Not surprisingly there was a vast increase in the number of local newspapers during the nineteenth century, as stamp duty was lifted and literacy improved. So finding which newspaper covered any particular area of the County can be difficult: it is easy to assume that a Reading newspaper only covers Reading, when in fact it may report news for a large surrounding area. Some titles were only published for short periods of time and it is only too easy to ignore a newspaper that may be vital in your search.

### GOVERNOR AND MATRON.

*Comfortable Home for a Married Couple.*

**W**ANTED, a middle-aged, active, and respectable **COUPLE**, to fill the situation of **GOVERNOR** and **MATRON** of the Poor House of Faringdon, Berks.—Very comfortable apartments in the house, together with a moderate salary, board, washing, and household furniture, are provided—Unexceptionable references to character and ability will be required, and security for £100.—The Governor must write a good hand, and understand keeping accounts.

Persons wishing for these Appointments, are desired to send their applications, accompanied with the necessary testimonials and references, and free of postage, addressed to the Committee of Management, Post Office, Faringdon, Berks.

As the situations will be filled up on Easter Monday, early applications must be made.

The three principal locations of local newspaper sources are the British Library Newspaper Library (Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE tele: 020 7412 7353); the County Local Studies Library and associated reference libraries (both Reading and Oxford libraries have substantial collections of Berkshire newspapers); and backfiles in the offices of surviving papers.

At Colindale and other libraries be prepared to use microfilm copies. Colindale can be reached on the Northern Line and it is open from Monday to Saturday 10am to 4.45pm. A reader's pass is necessary, but it can be obtained on the day if you can show some kind of identification: a driver's licence or passport is acceptable. Copies of individual pages or articles may be ordered at a reasonable rate. Earlier this year the Colindale catalogue went on line so now it is possible to log on to [prodigi.bl.uk/nlcat/](http://prodigi.bl.uk/nlcat/) to find details of newspapers held by the Library. You may search by title, place, or date. Each hit then links via the title of the publication to a page giving the catalogue reference numbers and dates held. Details are also given where a publication continues under another title. When typing in place or county watch out for the local government changes in 1974. The other main collections in England are with the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and the University Library, Cambridge.

As well as local newspapers most libraries have copies of *The Times* on microfilm and Palmer's Index and the Official Index to *The Times* can be used to identify local stories that may have reached the national press. Both Palmer's and the Official Index are available on CD-ROM.

One final point; do not forget the many magazines devoted to life in Berkshire, from football to the more learned *Reading Review*. Also some local studies libraries have compiled indexes and keep cuttings collections of people and places. Reading Local Studies Library has an excellent collection of newspaper cuttings some of which are more than 60 years old.

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## Starting a one-name study – from a Little Red Book to a 7,000-name computer database

*David Wornham*

What follows is an account of how I organised a one-name study. It certainly is not the only way, but it's a system I used and it continues to be successful.

I was exceptionally fortunate to find that my family had kept a 'little red book' with family events recorded from the baptism of my Great-Great-Grandfather, Jonathan Wornham, son of Thomas and Sarah, on 8th December 1805 in Bishopstone in north Wiltshire. This record was started by his sister Mary (baptised 8th November 1807) whose original photograph I have on glass.



*Mary Wornham 1807-1857*

Twenty years ago I began to collect every reference to my name I could find. My records now include over 7,000 names with dates from 1374 (Richard Warnham, Prior of Reigate Priory) and 1537 (a christening of Robert Wornam in Kingston on Thames) to the present day. They range from the armorial Wyrndnam/Wirdnam agricultural families from Grove, Wantage, in the 1450s to the seventeenth century London Wornum family who include the inventor of the upright piano mechanism and the Keeper of the National Gallery. Another Wernham branch includes two retired professors of philosophy and a Canadian High Court Judge.

My mother sparked my interest by producing a typed family tree from the 'little red book'. I then recorded all Wornhams from British telephone directories and, heartened by the small number of around 30, I wrote to them inviting them to send their family details. I was surprised and pleased to receive about 30% replies, especially as the first letter was from a former colleague, Roger Wornham, proving that he was a third cousin, although we had earlier concluded we were not related.

Those not replying were telephoned, and I have received only one rebuff of 'sorry, but I don't want to be involved'. Others I visited personally, and despite the misgivings of my wife and mother, I found everyone not only welcoming but apologetic for not answering my earlier letter.

I discovered the gravestone of my G-G-G father, Jonathan, which also commemorates his wife Ann and his sister Mary, located in the cemetery in Wantage. Jonathan was a baker and the licensee of The Kings Arms public house in Wantage, which remains there today.

I have since broadened my search to include similar sounding surnames and have now made contact with, and included details of, W\*R\*N\*M\*s in many English counties and also Scotland, Wales, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand and the United States of America. My initial letter included the following:

'I have, since 1980, been researching all known variations of Warnham, Wernham, Wernom, Wirnam, Wirnham, Wirdenham, Wirdnam, Woornam, Wornham, Wurnham, Wyrdenham, etc., whenever or wherever occurring. Whether or not people have an interest in family history, I believe that everyone should record names, dates and places of birth, marriage and death of those

members of the family we do know, together with any family stories, traditions, and photographs, so they are not lost to future generations. As an amateur family historian specialising in my family surname, I am pleased to record, compare and analyse all variations of the surname whenever and wherever found and serve as a reference for queries from others. I welcome and encourage anyone with a W\*R\*N\*M connection to send their family details for inclusion, whether or not they are interested in researching themselves.'

All details gained were initially transferred onto hand-drawn charts, one for each parish or one for each family with proved connections, with each individual having an entry on a card index.

### **Computer records**

Gradually as my interest in computers grew I considered that a computer application for my records was a logical step. I first used a standard database, laboriously using reference numbers to link parents and siblings then, with a printout, scissors and glue constructed a family tree. On 'promotion' to PC compatible computers I purchased the 'Pedigree' family records software package which I have since used.

Our research has taken us often to the Berkshire and Wiltshire County Record Offices to examine parish registers, census records, wills, land deeds, maps, the International Genealogical Index (IGI) and other Mormon records. I currently have an extensive database collection of over 50 branches of disconnected families.

### **Disclaimer**

All my correspondents are warned that the accuracy of the information I give them is not guaranteed as much of it has not been checked against original sources. As with all family history research, many links have to be assumed and often cannot be proved. On this basis, entries are believed to be accurate, or probable, unless a 'c.'(circa) or a '?' indicates an estimation. Official registers should be checked for confirmation of any details.

### **Direct family links**

With variations in name spellings my direct family has links with

Hertfordshire, Edmonton, Lewisham and Woolwich in London Duston in Northamptonshire, Wantage in Berkshire and Bishopstone (six miles East of Swindon) in Wiltshire in the eighteenth century. There are possibly two earlier generations in Welford and Wickham in Berkshire, determined by the same names disappearing from those parishes and appearing in Bishopstone at the same time with no trace of them to date elsewhere. By recording all W\*R\*N\*M connections I have traced many distant cousins and have produced a massive record with provable connections to my family.

### **Residence records**

We have been fortunate to discover the following records from the Wiltshire County Record Office for Wiltshire for my direct ancestors:

1. A map dated 1758 of the 'family plot' [now just a lonely copse outside the remaining village in Bishopstone, Wiltshire], with John Wornham [my G-G-G-G-G father] shown as tenant on 14th June 1737, for a cottage and garden, quantity 0.0.25 [perch?], Quit rent 0.0.6 (sixpence).
2. A lease dated 1772, Bishopstone, Wiltshire. 'John Wornham, no.120, All that Cottage or Tenement Outhousing and Garden - Ground thereunto belonging cont. 25 perch. Yearly value £2.0.0' (signed Thomas Wirnham)
3. A beautifully written Indenture [Lease] 'Counterpart of a cottage late Grays, to Thomas Wirnham Labourer ..... Lives: Thomas Wirnham aged 44, James Wirnham aged 6 and William Wirnham aged 10. Fine £3.3.0, Rent £0.0.6" (signed Thomas Wernom) dated 14th April 1782.

### **Origin of the family name**

The origin of the surname is not known but there are a number of interesting possibilities. The Warni (or Varni), sister nation of the Englii (later Angles) in Holstein continue to inhabit the region, later called Mecklenburgh. The Warnon River and town of Warnemunde preserve these ancient tribal names. It is known historically that the fertile Thames Valley was a natural attraction for invading tribes. ('Races of Mankind, Their Origin and Migration': Calvin Kephart PhD) (Ref. WJW: W.J.Wernham, b.1893).

I have been sent the following (translations are invited from our scholarly colleagues): ‘Diversa terrae homasia servitia diversorum in Horsham Wernham at alibi consess epo cisestren in escambio pro avocatione ecctiae de rustinton per epum concess abbati de sagio et priorl prioratus de Arundel quae est celia eiuso abbatthiae’ (Ref. WJW:PRO)

‘Ham’ means place, so Warn Ham or Warnham, etc. may have meant the residence of a person called Warn. There is a village in Sussex, England, called Warnham. Whilst there currently appears to be no member of a W\*R\*N\*M family resident there is a Warner and some Wenham families. Whilst these names have not been included in the research to date there is perhaps some justification for their inclusion in future. Surnames were often acquired from the place of origin. So, if a person named Adam moved away from Warnham, he would have been initially known as ‘Adam from Warnham’, eventually becoming ‘Adam Warnham’.

### **Surname spelling variations**

Although it may be natural to assume that a surname spelt differently from ours infers no relation, it should be remembered that standard spelling is a fairly recent development. When few people could read or write, their baptisms, marriages and burials were recorded by local clergy or parish clerks who wrote what they heard and variations in the spelling of surnames have been found in baptisms of children from the same family. If you imagine varying accents or pronunciations it may be understood how Warnham can become Wernham, Woornam, Wornam, Wornham, Wirnham, Wirdnam and Wyrdenham, which have all been found in family research. I have found some records with the entry spelt one way and the signature in another.

At one time the lower case letter ‘e’ would be written as an ‘o’ with the ‘tail’ going through its centre, whereas an ‘o’ would have its centre unobstructed. The letter ‘e’ could, therefore, be later misread as an ‘o’. One family story states that, on emigrating to America, a Wernham family were informed that ‘we spell it as Wornham here’ so were registered with, and kept, that spelling!

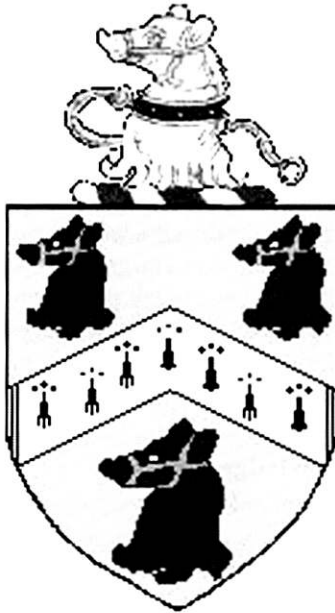


### Armorial bearings

The Wirdnams who were Lords of the Manor of Charlton and Priors Hold in Grove near Wantage in the fifteenth century held a coat of arms:

The Arms of Wyrdnam / Wirdnam of Charlton, Wantage, Berkshire, England from before 1455 to 1555 from page 59 of the 'Heralds' Visitations of 1566', By William Harvey

The Heralds' records state that this Wirdnam family became extinct but, with the name and location near Wantage we cannot dismiss the possibility of some connection with present day families, whether or not through marriage or, as so quaintly put in



*Wyrdnam/Wirdnam of Charlton, Wantage, arms c1455-1555*

former years 'whichever side of the blanket'. I have on record a current Wirdnam family who, with one tentative (unprovable) link to Thomas, b. circa 1505, can trace their line back to them.

### Trouble at the manor

Not all was well with these 'Lords of the Manor'. William Wirdnam, born circa 1525, 'from Farnborough' who married

Maria Boswell, was made Steward by the Dean and Cannon (sic) of Windsor in 1558. (see 'Reflected in Wantage' pp.133. 137). He became a Governor of the Town Lands but, in 1596, a deputation indicted him for being a 'common barretor' (misuser of public funds). The Manor Court Rolls 1609 - 1624 reveal many transactions of land and there appears to be a vain attempt to audit the tenancies before handing them over to new Wilmot tenants. An Act of Parliament of 1597, believed to have been engendered by William Wirdnam's misuse of the Charity lands of Wantage, named him as 'notorious', and established the Town Governors.

### **The Internet**

With the advent of the Internet I have been fortunate to find a friend willing to input my details and we are now the proud owners of a web page at [www.flexibase.freemove.co.uk/wrnm](http://www.flexibase.freemove.co.uk/wrnm) . Although our direct line 'outside' research now appears to have come to a natural stop in the eighteenth century as records then are sparse, a circular to previous correspondents requesting email contact has produced a welcome crop of new contacts. The most unusual of these is a large family of Wornums in the USA who are descended from a black slave named Ben who probably took his surname from his master. We also expect to spend many hours searching the 1881 Census, American, Australian & New Zealand and British Vital Records CD-ROMs.

### **Acknowledgements**

I wish to thank many people who have assisted with sending family details, certificates and photographs. They are too numerous to mention, but special thanks are due to Polly Lawrence, B.Sc., of Wantage and Elisabeth Garnish of Wantage (who later moved to Belgium) for sharing the detailed research they undertook when discovering the chequered history of the Wirdnam Lords of the Manor of Priors Hold, Charlton, near Wantage. Finally, to my wife, Brenda, who has not only shared my interest, but has taken an active part in the research by delving through manuscripts in record offices whilst I was off enjoying myself on outings with our two sons.

## Letters to the Editor

*Guy Nevill, 40 Beaulieu Avenue, London SE26 6PP*

### **Nevills of Hampshire and Berkshire**

As part of my family history research, I have traced my male line of Nevills back to Edward Neavel who was married to Elizabeth Allright at Mapledurwell, Hampshire, on 15 November 1725. As yet I have found no baptism or his likely parents.

My search has covered (or should I say is covering because one never stops) likely parishes in Hampshire and Berkshire. During the research, many references to Nevill (all spellings) 'events' have been identified and a name index of 6,000+ created. While many are in Hampshire a growing number are in Berkshire and therefore may interest your members.

In addition to the proven Nevill family tree centred on Odiham, Hampshire, I have a series of conjectured trees based on parishes in northeast Hampshire and southeast Berkshire. Some have been verified by other family historians, in particular much of the Stratfield Turgis tree by Pat Sloan and Jill Lincoln, both of whom I am indebted to for additional information.

If your members are seeking a Nevill and think I may be able to help then I would be pleased to assist. Similarly if anyone can throw light on the missing Edward I would be pleased to hear from them.

*K.O. Beck, 7 Siskin Close, Wimblehurst Park, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 5YR*

Research into my own family shows that they were established in Devon until early in the nineteenth century when three brothers and a half brother moved to Cardiff. The half brother became a baker at Merthyr Tydfil. It was the discovery of the marriage of Henry Froom Beck at Merthyr that gave rise to one of those occasions where one is encouraged onto a false trail as I later discovered that this Beck had nothing to do with my part of the family. He led me to Reading and Newbury where I found that his grandfather, of exactly the same name, had a rather embarrassing experience on his intended wedding day.

His marriage was due to take place at the church of St. Nicholas, Newbury, on March 6, 1825. The banns had been called, all the preparations had been made and you can imagine Henry nervously waiting in the church for the arrival of his young bride, Elizabeth Winter. When the ceremony was completed the couple moved into the vestry to sign the marriage certificate. Henry signed his full name: Henry Froom Beck, but the Rector, James Roe stopped the proceedings and wrote across the document 'NB this incomplete through incorrectness of name as published in the Banns'. It seems that Henry had given his name as Henry Beck when asked for details for calling of the banns. Elizabeth forgave her husband-to-be for on May 10 the ceremony was performed again with the same bride and groom at the same church with the same clergyman officiating.

I have many details of various Beck families and would be very happy to communicate with anyone researching this name.

*Ralph Sanderson, 16 Jamieson Crescent, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia*

### **William 'Willie' Wimmera**

I am conducting research in preparation for a book on ships named 'Wimmera'. As part of that research I have found a reference to an Australian aboriginal boy who was christened 'William Wimmera' at Reading in 1851. On Wednesday March 10, 1852, William 'Willie' Wimmera died from tuberculosis and peritonitis. He was buried in the London Road Cemetery and a headstone was erected over his grave. I doubt if many aboriginal people were living in Reading at the time and I am trying to find out more about him and the reasons why he lived in the town. Your help would be most appreciated.

## Some IGI confusions untangled

*Jean Debney*

Over the past ten years there has been increasing doubt over the policy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons) on future updates of the International Genealogical Index (IGI). This analysis attempts to clarify some of the issues.

A computerised index of information received from members of the Church began in 1973. These original entries were known as 'patron submissions' and consisted of each individual's name, place of event (birth, baptism or marriage) and the name of the parents or spouse. Only those ancestors who had been born at least a hundred years earlier could be included. Against each entry was added the date and place when the Mormon Temple Ordinances of Baptism, Enrolment and Sealing had been performed.

Later to this original index were added details of births, baptisms and marriages transcribed from filmed copies of church registers as part of a controlled extraction programme. The index, the first issued in 1978, was on microfiche and known as the Computer File Index (CFI). Subsequent editions in 1982 and 1988 contained an increasing number of parish and other register entries as well as further patron submissions received for Temple Ordinances.

Sometime between 1988 and 1992, a decision was made to revert to the original purpose of the IGI which was to create an index to patron submissions and subsequent Temple Ordinances. As a result, entries on the 1988 microfiche edition that had not been through the Ordinances of Sealing, Baptism and Enrolment were deleted from the 1992 fiche edition and were not reinstated. This means, therefore, that many entries are unique to the 1988 edition. Information in the 1992 edition on fiche of the IGI and the subsequent editions on CD-ROM and the Internet ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)) now contain an increasing number of pre-1970 patron submissions, as well as those received more recently. Some of these early submissions date back to the nineteenth century and may contain unreliable information. Much of it did not come from the extraction programme and cannot be relied upon for its accuracy.

In effect, the extraction of births, baptisms and marriages from parish and other registers ceased to be added to the IGI from about 1990. To remedy this situation, the Church introduced the Vital Records Index (VRI) on CD-ROM. This includes references from the ongoing abstraction from parish and other registers. The first edition of the VRI for the British Isles consists of five CD-ROMs and contains about five million entries of births, christenings and marriages. It includes entries from England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Some counties have good coverage while others have very few references. The Irish abstracts include the Civil Registration Indexes 1847-1874. Further editions of the VRI will be issued as part of a worldwide programme. The CD-ROM for Western Europe was published towards the end of last year and contains 12.5 million entries (see page 215).

So, in order to make a thorough search of all entries abstracted by the LDS Church you must look in all of the following:

- The 1988 edition of the IGI on microfiche
- The latest CD-ROM version and updates
- 'FamilySearch' on the Internet which includes a different edition of the CD-ROM
- The Vital Records Index (VRI) on CD-ROM

Family data submitted to the Church by non-patrons (i.e. people like you and me) is made available on Ancestral File. Entries are not submitted for Temple Ordinances — unless, of course, a Church member finds a reference to his own family and incorporates it into his research — as all of us do from information found in the IGI and elsewhere.

*This article was sent to LDS Family History Support, for their comments and Paul Nauta made the following points. Many of the extraction records that were removed in between the 1988 and 1992 fiche editions have been added back into the IGI after the records were sent to the Temples. Entries on the 1988 microfiche edition not appearing in the Ordinance Index are gradually being made available in Vital Record Index releases and their respective updates over time.*

*Ancestral File and the Pedigree Resource File: The Church will combine the two in an attempt to implement the best features of both databases. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who has found entries on the 1988 IGI on microfiche and missing from the subsequent editions — and also whether or not they have found them re-instated on the VRI.*

## New Publications

Further Berkshire Overseers Papers have been put onto fiche for sale. As mentioned in the last magazine we have Brian Hunt and Peter Durrant together with their dedicated team of transcribers to thank for procuring these invaluable indexes. They have been arranged by post-1834 Poor Law Unions and we plan to publish more of these papers shortly.

The survival rate of these records varies markedly across the county. Several parishes have no original records, whilst others have several hundreds and two have over a thousand. The following have been published in the last two months:

		£ inc. p&p	
		UK	Abroad
Vol.5	Bradfield Union: Bucklebury, Burghfield, Sulham, Stanford Dingley, Sulhamstead Abbots, Sulhamstead Bannister, Theale	£2.50	£3.00
Vol.6	Bradfield Union: Tilehurst, Padworth	£3.50	£4.00
Vol.7	Maidenhead Union: Bray, Cookham, Waltham St. Lawrence	£2.50	£3.00
Vol.8	Faringdon Union: Ashbury, Coleshill, Gt. Coxwell, Kingston Lisle, Longworth, Shellingford, Stanford in the Vale, Uffington	£2.50	£3.00
Vol.9	Wallingford Union: Brightwell, Crowmarsh Gifford, Newnam Murren, Wallingford St. Mary & St Peter, Long Wittenham	£2.50	£3.00
Vol. 10	Easthampstead Union: Easthampstead, Warfield, Winkfield	£3.50	£4.00
Vol. 11	Wokingham Union (part of): Shinfield, Sonning, Swallowfield, Wokingham	£2.50	£3.00

£ inc. p&p  
UK Abroad

1851 Berkshire Census Full Index and Transcript  
(on microfiche)

Vol. 7 Bradfield	£7.50	£8.00
Vol. 10 Cookham	£7.50	£8.00

These and many other publications can be found on our Website

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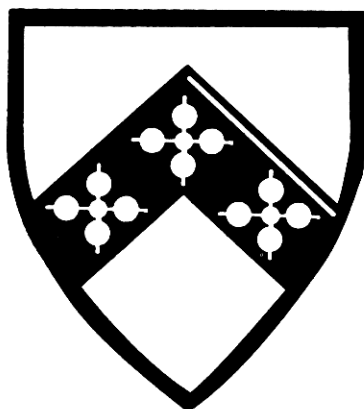
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# National Burial Index

The delay until April 2001 in the publication of the National Burial Index on CD-ROM meant that it was possible to increase Berkshire FHS's contribution to just over 75,700 records. The parishes and periods included in Berkshire FHS's burials file are shown below; the periods in bold type are included in the April 2001 issue of the NBI while those not in bold type have been added to the Berkshire FHS's file subsequently and are being submitted for inclusion in future NBI updates; an asterisk denotes those periods which have been added since the position was last reported in the *Berkshire Family Historian*.

Ashampstead St Clement 1686 - 1756\* and **1757 - 1837**

Avington **1727 - 1994**

Barkham St James **1741 - 1812**

Basildon St Bartholomew **1667 - 1856**

Beedon St Nicholas **1733 - 1969**

Beenham St Mary **1813 - 1907**

Boxford St Andrew **1758 - 1876**

Bradfield St Andrew **1695 - 1754**

Bray St Michael **1826 - 1837**

Brightwalton All Saints **1805 - 1922**

Brimpton St Peter **1756 - 1901**

Bucklebury St Mary the Virgin **1692 - 1910**

Burghfield St Mary **1559 - 1870**

Catmore St Margaret **1814 - 1985**

Chaddleworth St Andrew **1798 - 1851**

Chieveley St Mary the Virgin **1874 - 1895**

Cold Ash St Mark **1865 - 1947**

Combe St Swithin **1729 - 1812**

Compton SS Mary & Nicholas **1813 - 1901**

Cookham Holy Trinity **1830 - 1844\***

East Garston All Saints **1813 - 1876**

Easthampstead SS Michael & Mary Magdalene **1768 - 1812** and  
**1873-1915**

East Ilsley St Mary **1649 - 1868** and 1868 - 2000\*

East Shefford **1604 to 1734** and **1774 to 1917**

Enborne St Michael & All Angels **1726 - 1837**

Fawley St Mary **1550 - 1987**

Frilsham St Frideswide **1711 - 1768**

Greenham St Mary **1799 - 1914**

Hungerford Independent **1819 - 1830**

Hungerford St Lawrence **1724 - 1749\*** and **1749 - 1796**

Inkpen St Michael & All Angels **1878 - 1986**

Kintbury St Mary **1718 - 1761** and **1813 - 1925**

Lambourn St Michael & All Angels **1767 - 1837**

Maidenhead Congregational **1791 - 1837** and **1845 - 1908\***

Maidenhead High Street Wesleyan Methodist **1858 - 1903**

Maidenhead New Chapel (Countess of Huntingdon) **1843 - 1858**

Midgham St Matthew **1638 - 1733\*** and **1813 - 1980**

Newbury Baptist Church **1773 - 1823**

Newbury Lower Meeting House Independent **1784 - 1837**

Newbury St John the Evangelist **1878 - 1900**

Newbury St Nicolas **1746 to 1757** and **1798 - 1890**

Newbury Upper Meeting House Presbyterian **1783 - 1836**

Padworth St John the Baptist **1724 - 1837** and 1838 - 1981\*

Pangbourne Independent Chapel **1836 only**

Peasemore St Barnabas **1753 - 1879**

Purley St Mary the Virgin **1813 - 1900**

Reading Castle Street Congregational **1857 - 1862**

Reading King's Road Baptist Church **1785 - 1835**

Reading London Road Cemetery **1843 - 1852**

Reading St Laurence **1779 - 1788\***, 1788 - 1796\* and **1813 - 1828**

Ruscombe St James the Great **1705 - 1812**

Shaw cum Donnington St Mary the Virgin **1813 - 1932**

Shottesbrooke St John the Baptist **1690 - 1811**

Speen St Mary the Virgin **1750 - 1904**

Speenhamland St Mary **1831 - 1881**

Sulham St Nicholas **1724 - 1850**

Sunninghill St Michael & All Angels **1776 - 1795\*** and **1796 - 1812**

Thatcham/Bucklebury Congregational/Independent Chapel **1819 - 1871**

Thatcham St Mary **1813 - 1819**

Tilehurst St George **1886 - 1954**

Ufton Nervet St Peter **1636 - 1737\*** and **1737 - 1834**

Wasing St Nicholas **1763 - 1853**

Welford St Gregory **1813 - 1852** and 1852 - 1900\*

West Shefford St Mary **1779 - 1897**

West Woodhay St Laurence **1656 - 1724** and **1813 - 1985**

Winterbourne St James the Less **1750 - 1850**

Wokingham Baptist Church **1841 - 1906**

Woodley Congregational (Woodley Chapel) **1858 - 1905**

Woolhampton St Peter **1761 - 1926**

Details of the postal service for researching burials in the Berkshire parishes listed above are given on page 244.

Burials in the following parishes in the historic county of Berkshire have been submitted by Oxfordshire FHS to the first issue of the NBI, mainly in respect of certain parishes in that part of Berkshire which was transferred to Oxfordshire in 1974: Abingdon Independent; Aston Tirrold St Michael; Aston Tirrold Independent; Blewbury St Michael; Brightwell St Bartholomew; Chilton All Saints; Cholsey St Mary; Drayton St Peter; Hagbourne St Andrew; Hatford Holy Trinity; Hinton Waldrist St Margaret; Longworth St Mary; Marcham All Saints; North Moreton All Saints; Sonning St Andrew; Sotwell St James; South Moreton St John the Baptist; Stanford in the Vale St Denys; Steventon St Michael & All Angels; Sutton Courtenay All Saints; Upton St Mary.

## From genealogy to family history

Until the beginning of last century the term genealogy meant the tracing of family lineage; it wasn't until well after the Second World War, when it became a popular pastime, that genealogy became family history. Most of those researching their past were more interested in discovering the precise details of family and social history, rather than the dry recitation of a pedigree, so family history took over as the populist term. But the basic difference between the two concepts is that genealogy remains the listing of a decent of individuals, while family history is the social history of a family through time. Making the leap from genealogy to family history can be difficult, especially when we are researching the great undeserving poor – the agricultural labourers, or those working in the industrial heartlands of Britain during the nineteenth century.

To gather information we use a variety of records from parish registers, censuses, poor law records, but rarely can we obtain more than a partial picture of the social history of our ancestors. We may use scraps of information from a wide variety of sources but we are indeed fortunate if we can form a clear understanding of their place in their community and its history.

If they fought in the Boer War at Spion Kop then a history of their regiment and accounts of the battle can give us an understanding of the vicissitudes of life during the South African War and we may find drawings of the battle in the *Illustrated London News*, or other pictorial newspapers of the time. But we can only find that kind of information if they were caught up in great events. For the ordinary man or woman working on the land or in nineteenth century factories the possibilities of extracting anything but the merest detail of life is remote. Naturally if we could talk to them we would understand how they lived and worked, but unfortunately time travel has not been invented yet; however there is another way. There are numerous books that help us understand the social background of our ancestors – from Dickens' novels of life in nineteenth century London to Flora Thompson's 'Lark Rise'<sup>1</sup>, the history of a local community in Oxfordshire, and the oral histories produced by George Ewart Evans<sup>2</sup>, and the portrait of an English village, 'Akenfield'<sup>3</sup>. There is, of course, the magnificent 'The Victorian Countryside'<sup>4</sup>.

Our ancestors rarely speak to us in their own words. If they were writers or members of the middle class we may be fortunate in finding accounts of their life and times, but the chances of finding similar written material by agricultural labourers or mine workers is exceptional, and even if such books do exist, where to find them?

Fortunately two books may help<sup>5</sup>. As the author writes in the preface to one 'the vox populi is not the best trained or sweetest of voices', but their opinions about people and events are important nonetheless. I came across both books in a library many years ago and they have been constant companions since then, filling in gaps in my understanding of life at different periods and in various occupations.

They take the form of a biographical list by author giving the full title and date of publication together with a short description of the book itself and its contents. Typical of the entries concerns Joseph Arch, 'The Story of his Life', published in 1898. He was a Warwickshire farm labourer and was one of the founders of the agricultural workers' union. His autobiography tells of his early life as a labourer and how eventually he became an MP. Another is the classic George Bourne's 'Memoir of a Surrey Labourer' (1907) that takes the form of conversations with an old farm labourer with incidents in his life and scenes of nineteenth century country life. It's here you will find James Hardy Vaux's 'Memoirs of the last 32 years' (1819), the life of a pickpocket and swindler who was transported to New South Wales.

However, 'British Autobiographies' is much more useful than 'British Diaries' in that it includes an extensive subject index, so that although not without its vagaries, finding a particular book from the thousands listed is comparatively easy. The indexes include entries for vagabonds, tramps, thieves and policemen to actresses, archbishops, millers, poachers and miners. Hardly an occupation is missed, and there are many cross-references. There are wide-ranging entries for individual counties of the British Isles. But it is the entries for working life that form the supreme test for the bibliographies. Hardly a subject is ignored: from the ordinary to the esoteric.

As well as those two there is a listing of British manuscript diaries of the nineteenth century<sup>6</sup>, although indexed, it does not meet the high standard set by 'British Autobiographies'.

## Bibliography

1. Flora Thompson, *Lark Rise*, Oxford University Press, 1939
2. George Ewart Evans, *Pattern under the Plough*, Faber and Faber, 1959
3. Ronald Blythe, *Akenfield: portrait of an English village*, Allen Lane, 1969
4. G.E. Mingay, *The Victorian Countryside*, 2 Vols. Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1981
5. William Matthews (compiler). *British Autobiographies: an annotated bibliography of British autobiographies written before 1951*, University of California Press, 1955; *British Diaries: An annotated Bibliography of British Diaries Written between 1442 and 1942*, University of California Press, 1950.
6. John Stuart Batts, *British manuscript diaries of the 19th century: an annotated listing*, Centaur Press, 1976

## **Roll-up, roll-up for the big book sale**

There'll be a 'Table-Top' sale of family history books and other material at the Research Centre, Yeomanry House, Reading, on Sunday July 8, 11am to 4pm.

The Library has accumulated a number of surplus books that will be on sale. Members will also be invited to take space and bring along their unwanted books. A small donation will be required if you do take part. Anybody interested in family and local history can come along and buy a book, or two, and take a tour of the research facilities at the Centre.

If you would like to sell your own books it is important that you book space as we need to know how many tables are required.

**For more information telephone Ivan Dickason  
on (0118) 978 6785.**

# **Computer Surgeries & Workshops for Family Historians at The Research Centre, Yeomanry House**

## **Computing Surgeries**

Do you have a question about ... the 1881 Census or other CD data ... a family history program ... or using your computer?

**Bring your questions to the 'Q&A and Discussion Surgery'  
on Wed, June 20th 2001 (from 7:30pm)**

**No need to book - just turn up.**

## **Computing Workshops**

The workshops for those at beginner level held last winter on: *Computing for the Beginner - Using Family History Programs - Scanning and Graphics - Research using the Internet - Creating your own Website* proved popular - most were over-subscribed. Repeats are being organised to meet demand.

Suggestions are invited for new topics for 2001/2 which will include Using CD Data Sets (such as the 1881 census, VRI, Soldiers who died in WWI etc).

We will also run an evening workshop on using the NBI (National Burial Index).

**To reserve places, to provide suggestions for Workshops or for further information contact: Gillian Stevens**

**Phone 0118 947 8743 or by e-mail: [workshops@berksfhs.org.uk](mailto:workshops@berksfhs.org.uk)  
or by mail at the**

**Berkshire Family History Research Centre  
Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill  
Reading RG1 7TJ**

# The Chairman's report for the year ending 30th April, 2001

This is my fourth and last year as Chairman and it is my pleasure to tell you, the members, what we think we have achieved and in some cases where we have failed.

## **The Executive Committee**

Your Executive Committee has met on six occasions during the year. An initiative started by our previous secretary Robert Houseman and continued by John Gurnett was to introduce a system of written reporting as a way of reducing the amount of time spent by the Committee in meetings. I think that we have been only partly successful since we have had some trouble meeting deadlines.

I think that your new Chairman will need to think about this problem. As the Society gets larger and busier each year we need to put in place an improved management structure. For example, the Executive Committee spends much of its time discussing projects and publications. Perhaps a 'Projects and Publications Committee' would be a good idea thus releasing the Executive Committee to concentrate on bigger issues. Perhaps we also need something like a planning group that can look ahead two, three or even four years to forecast where the Society might be at that time and to set out goals for the Society. Such a group would also help the Treasurer in producing budgets for the years ahead.

At the present time, there is only one formal sub-committee of the Executive Committee and that is the Research Centre Committee. That group has been meeting monthly since about January, 2000, to plan and establish the new Research Centre.

## **Membership**

The total membership at the time of writing this report was exactly 1,800. The total at the end of last year was 1,685 so we have seen an increase of 115 or about 7%. Each year some 150–200 members do not renew their membership. This means that we have enrolled between 250 and 300 new members. We must be doing something right. It is the case that an increasing number of new members are introduced to the Society via the website and the Research Centre.



## **Subscriptions**

The Executive Committee has carefully reviewed the financial position of the Society and, as forecast in the March journal, I regret to say that subscriptions will increase for the membership year 1st July, 2001 to 30th June, 2002. The increase for all classes of membership is £2.

I am aware that members will greet this news with some dismay. However, we do need to ensure the Society is on a sound financial footing. The main areas of additional costs arise from printing and posting the journal and the costs of running the Research Centre. We have also been faced with a 50% increase in the subscriptions we pay to the Federation of Family History Societies.

I understand that this is the first increase in subscriptions since 1996. Perhaps we should have looked at subscription rates earlier and proposed smaller but more frequent increases.

## **Gift Aid**

As you will be aware the government's Gift Aid Scheme allows us to reclaim the Income Tax you pay on your subscriptions. For every £1 you pay in subscription we receive 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. This helps us to pay for the many services we offer to members as well as financing projects and publications. So if you are a UK taxpayer don't forget to fill in the Gift Aid Declaration attached to the membership renewal form.

## **Payments from overseas members**

The Society has previously stated that payments of subscriptions and bookstall orders could only be paid in sterling and we know that this causes many problems for overseas members. I am pleased to say that with immediate effect members will be able to pay for subscriptions and bookstall orders with dollar cheques drawn from their own bank account from Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada.

## **Publications**

During the year we have produced several new publications. We are now publishing the full transcripts of the 1851 Census of Berkshire and we have so far produced six volumes. An increased number of memorial inscriptions has been published together with two or three parishes in our ongoing parish register transcript project. We have released the first few sections of indexes and transcripts of the Berkshire Overseers Papers. All the

War Memorials in Berkshire have been surveyed and a name and location index has been published.

None of these publications would have seen the light of day were it not for the sterling work of members who carry out the actual research and we must thank them all for the work they have done and, hopefully, will continue to do. Jocie McBride is our Publications Manager and we must thank her for so ably managing the conversions from data to publications.

All these publications are on microfiche. It is the medium liked by a large number of members. However, we are aware that some members think that this is a somewhat old fashioned system for publications. For this reason, we are looking out for a publication that would be suitable for release on CD-ROM. However, we need to be sure that we correctly resolve the issues of format and security.

### **Bookstall**

The Society Bookstall is a very important part of the Society's work since it contributes significant sums to Society funds. The Bookstall is located in the Research Centre and the Postal Bookstall Sales Service is run from there.

We have taken the Bookstall to several Open Days at other Societies and to family history fairs. The sales made at such events are of course useful fundraisers, but they also raise the profile of the Society among other societies and the public. We thank all those who gave up their Saturdays—and some Sundays—to staff the Bookstall at these events.

Jocie McBride is presently acting as Bookstall Manager and we thank her for that. However, we do need to recruit a Bookstall Manager if we are to expand our activities in this area.

### **Projects**

There are a number of on-going projects. I have already mentioned some of them. A group based at the Vale of White Horse Branch in Abingdon is working towards a new Berkshire Marriage Index. A group led by David Wright has produced about 75,700 entries for insertion in the recently published first edition of the Federation's National Burial Index on CD-ROM. Work continues on this project and the results are expected to appear in the Federation's second edition, although if the rapid progress we have already seen in abstracting burials in Berkshire continues we may produce a separate CD-ROM

covering the whole county. We hope to complete publication of our 1851 Census project this year. Work on the Overseer's Papers continues but this will take a further two years or so to complete. We must thank all the members involved with projects for all their hard work. Daphne Spurling has recently taken on the task of Projects Manager. If you would like to help with projects already under way, or new ones, then contact her at the Research Centre.

### **Berkshire Family Historian**

This is produced four times a year by our Editor John Gurnett. I think that this is an excellent journal and a tremendous advertisement for the Society and we thank John for all his skill and effort. Any society journal is only as good as the contributions received, so do continue to submit articles to the Editor.

### **Meetings**

The Society has met in five centres each month during the last year. The lecture programmes put together by the various branch committees are a credit to the Society and we thank them all.

### **Research Centre**

The new Research Centre in Yeomanry House opened for business on 10th May, 2000 so that brings all its operations into the year under review. There was a very slow start in the visitor numbers at first. However, I am pleased to report that we are finding the visitor numbers so far in the year 2001 are comparable with those recorded when we were at Prospect College.

The total number of visitors from the opening on 10th May, 2000 until 31st March, 2001 was 1,340, or, put another way, about three-quarters of the membership have visited the centre once. I am pleased to say that about 50 of the new members I have previously referred to were recruited through the Research Centre.

The Research Centre has become the base for many society activities including the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Computer Steering Group and, lately, the Reading Branch Committee. The Computer Steering Group has held a series of very successful weekend courses at the centre and during the coming summer they are holding computer 'surgeries'. We are intending to hold short weekend 'Summer Schools' for absolute beginners to family history. These examples are given to show that we are gradually increasing the use of the Centre for educational purposes.

We hold regular monthly library tours at which members and the general public are shown around the centre and all the various family history sources briefly explained to them. Typically, there are eight to ten visitors to these events and this is a further source of new members.

At present, the centre is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during the day, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and on the second Sunday of the month. The opening hours are limited solely by the number of volunteer Library Assistants we are able to recruit.

### **Website**

During the year the Society's website has been completely revamped by Eddie Spackman. I think that the web site is now a very attractive advertisement for the Society and all its activities. It is the case that many of the new members I have previously mentioned have applied for membership on forms downloaded from the website.

Before closing I feel I should thank all those who administer the Society's affairs. Barbara Swiatek is our current Treasurer. We thank her for keeping a close eye on our funds and for ensuring that we get the best returns on our investments.

The person who answers all the Society's interesting mail is of course our Secretary John Gurnett. He cheerfully deals with so much correspondence from many parts of the world either by post or increasingly by email.

A number of stalwarts of the Society have resigned or retired from their posts or are about to. **Barbara Swiatek** has now served five years on the Executive Committee and cannot now be re-elected to the Executive Committee under the Society's Constitution. Barbara was the Slough/Windsor Branch representative until she took on the onerous task of Treasurer at last year's AGM. **Catherine Harrington** was our Editor for a number of years and has served recently on the Executive Committee. Catherine has already resigned from the Executive Committee for domestic reasons. **Margaret Pyle** has been one of the Membership Secretaries for eight or nine years and she has decided it is now time to hang up her typewriter. **Sally Pellow** was our Bookstall Manager for a couple of years and has already resigned for business reasons. **Liz Longhurst** who has also served on the Executive for five years will also be retiring

although she will continue to act as a Membership Secretary. I would like to thank all of them for their service to the Society.

I am very conscious of the fact that I have not thanked many others who do so much for the smooth running of this Society. Without them, we just would not function.

Finally, I must express my concern that members are reluctant to come forward to stand for places on the Executive Committee or to become involved in work that would lead to them taking over as an officer of the Society. Some of us have been officers for a number of years and it is worrying that we have no progression of members to take over when we wish to—or must—retire. Will each of you please consider this and think about volunteering to ensure the progress and growth of the Society continues unhindered.

**I J Dickason**, Chairman

### **WILTSHIRE'S NIMROD INDEX**

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£2 search fee per surname, per index, plus 20p each entry provided

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## Members' Interests

Compiled by Bob Plumridge [Bob.Plumridge@virgin.net](mailto:Bob.Plumridge@virgin.net)

### Members submitting their interests

- 728 Mr & Mrs W **Letchford** Amberley Vicarage Close Cookham Berkshire SL6 9SE  
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2963 Mr B & Mrs W **Niven** 10 Sir Pellias Terrace Markham Ontario L3P 2Z8 CANADA  
3776 Mr & Mrs A **Hind** 110 Whitley Wood Road Reading Berks RG2 8JG  
3844 Mr RC **Jones** 31 Surley Row Emmer Green Reading Berks RG4 8ND  
3898 Mr & Mrs RE **Fenn** 179a Coulsdon Road Caterham Surrey CR3 5NU  
3934 Mrs BB **Handy** 12042 Sand Point Way NE Seattle Washington 98125-5839 U S A  
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4143 Mrs L **Smith** 4 Goodliffe Garden Tilehurst Reading Berks RG31 6FZ  
4155 Miss PE **Powell** 55 Amberley Road Portsmouth Hants PO2 0TQ  
4279 Miss JA **Mitchell** 7 Beaconsfield Road Epsom Downs Epsom Surrey KT18 6HA  
4294 Mr DI **Branchett** 211 Shelley Road Wellingborough Northants NN8 3EN  
4313 Mrs YP **Pope** 7 Pyne Point Clevedon North Somerset BS21 7RL  
4367 Mr EW **Perris** 8 Spring Lane Mortimer Reading Berks RG7 3RT  
4371 Mr CF & Mrs JA **Morris** 10 Frampton Close Woodley Reading Berks RG5 3BS  
4376 Mr W **Evans** 11 Lawn Close Datchet Berks SL3 9JZ  
4406 Mr G & Mrs S **Betts** 3 Reading Road Burghfield Common Reading Berks RG7 3PY  
4407 Mrs H **Yorke** 44 Blythe Road Maidstone Kent ME15 7TS  
4421 Ms J **Silvester** 32 Teakwood Avenue Woodlands WA 6018 AUSTRALIA  
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4474 Mr P **Almand** 7 St. Georges Green Wallingford Oxon OX10 8JQ  
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4492 Mrs JM **Chinnery** 12 Nelson Court Worle Weston-Super-Mare North Somerset BS22 9QF  
4512 Mr AJK **Goode** 12 Dundas Close Abingdon Oxon OX14 3UZ  
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4533 Mr RN **Shuff** The Manse Fullers Hill Westerham Kent TN16 1AB  
4535 Mrs BC **Wright** 5 Bridge Close Horam Heathfield East Sussex TN21 0HJ  
4536 Mr DG **Dearlove** 12 Limecragg Avenue Gilesgate Moor Durham DH1 1DF  
4537 Miss C **Pearcey** 32 Bradley Smithy Macclesfield Cheshire SK11 0HD  
4540 Mr EJ **Danbury** 3 Walnut Orchard Portesham Weymouth Dorset DT3 4LH  
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4560 Mrs SC **Attrill** 9 The Chines Delamere Park Cuddington Northwich Cheshire CW8 2XA  
4564 Mr RW & Mrs A **Franklin** 16 Knowle Drive Exwick Exeter Devon EX4 2DF  
4566 WJ **Fryer** 5 Alder Drive Tilehurst Reading Berks RG31 4EP  
4569 Mrs MG **Till** 20 Keates Gardens Farmhill Stroud Glos GL5 4DJ  
4582 Mrs J **Bettridge** 50 Milton Rd Eastbourne BN21 1SR  
4583 Mr & Mrs WA **Watkivs** 15 Fullbrook Crescent Tilehurst Reading Berks RG31 6RX  
4584 Mrs P **Crawford** 3 Rennie Walk Darlington Co Durham DL1 1DU  
4586 Mr R **Giles** 31 Greystones Drive Sheffield S11 7JQ  
4595 Mr RL **Stacey** 33 Brooklands Road Congleton Cheshire CW12 4LU  
4597 Mrs YO **Orgill** 32 Upland Avenue Chesham Buckinghamshire HP5 2EB  
4609 Mr R **Lucas** 17 Sheridan Way Woosehill Wokingham Berks RG41 3AP  
4613 Mrs J **Spence** 82 Hillside Grove Chelmsford Essex CM2 9DB  
4621 Mrs J **Williams** 72 Foley Road Claygate Esher Surrey KT10 0NB  
4625 C **Price** 12 Bedford Close Maidenhead Berks SL6 3UP  
4639 Mr D & Mrs P **Sherwood** 7 Witchford Road Ely Cambs CB6 3DP

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No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
4524	ABEL	Chertsey	SRV	1700-1825	4560	ATTRILL	Burley/Ringwood	HAM	1830+
4143	ADCOCK	Portsmouth	HAM	1830-1881	4560	ATTRILL	Isle of Wight	IOW	pre 1830
4584	AGER	Reading	BRK	1860-2000	4564	AYERS	Whitchurch	OXF	1700-2000
4584	AGER	Aston	WAR	1860-2000	4279	BAILEY	Rickingham	SFK	1800-1970
4584	AGER	Barking	ESS	1700-1850	4376	BAKER	Frampton	GLS	1800-1950
4407	AINSWORTH	Bridlington	ERY	1800-1950	2911	BALLINGER	Shalbourne	WIL	1800+
4586	ALDER	Wantage	BRK	1500-1701	4584	BALLS	Wormingford	ESS	1700-1850
4559	ALFORD	Any	SRV	1700-1800	2963	BANKS	Nazeing	ESS	1800-1850
4559	ALFORD	Any	BRK	1700-1800	2963	BANKS	Enfield	MDX	1850-1910
4559	ALFORD	Any	MDX	1700-1800	4492	BARNES	Brentford	MDX	1700-2001
4407	ALLAWAY	Forest of Dean	GLS	1800-1900	4535	BARRACK	Great Dunmow	ESS	1600-1900
4407	ALLOWAY	Forest of Dean	GLS	1800-1900	4535	BARRACK	High Easter	ESS	1700-1900
4474	ALMAND	Any	BRK	1270-1750	3898	BATCHELOR	Speen	BRK	1700-1800
4474	ALMAND	Garthorpe	RUT	1700-1900	4535	BAUGH	Winterslow	WIL	1600-1900
4559	ALRESFORD	Any	SRV	1700-1800	4535	BAUGH	Fulham	MDX	1880-1950
4559	ALSFORD	Any	SRV	1700-1800	4639	BELCHER	Witney	OXF	1700-1851
4559	ALSFORD	Any	BRK	1700-1800	4669	BELCHER	Bramley	HAM	1066-2001
4559	ALSFORD	Any	MDX	1700-1800	4313	BELLOWS	Any	HAM	1850-1930
2963	ANNETT	Sunbury	MDX	1750-1850	4548	BENNING	Any	BRK	1700-2000
4407	APPS	Hastings	SSX	1800-1900	4524	BEST	Brighton	SSX	1600-2001
4548	APSEY	Windsor	BRK	1600-2000	4582	BETTERIDGE	Any	BRK	1600-2000
4548	APSEY	Bracknell	BRK	1600-2000	4582	BETTRIDGE	Any	BRK	1600-2000
4559	ARLESFORD	Any	SRV	1700-1800	4406	BETTS	Fulham	MDX	1800-2000
4559	ARLESFORD	Any	BRK	1700-1800	4406	BETTS	Any	BRK	1600-2000
4559	ARLESFORD	Any	MDX	1700-1800	4406	BETTS	Sheffield	YKS	1700-2000
4407	ARMSTRONG	Wallingford	BRK	1800-1900	4583	BIDDLE	Lewisham	GTIL	1930-2000
4407	ARMSTRONG	Islington	MDX	1800-1900	4514	BIRTWISTLE	Preston	LAN	1920-1950
4595	ATTO	Reading	BRK	1800-1920	4555	BISSET	Inverness	HLD	1700-1750



No	Name	Place	Code Dates	No	Name	Place	Code Dates
4555	BISSET	Dunfermline	FIF 1750-2000	2963	BRUNSDEN	Reading	BRK 1800-1920
4613	BIXLEY	Gt Bookham	SRY 1764-1791	728	BRUNSDON	Any	BRK 1600-1850
4533	BLAGRAVE	West Berks	BRK 1000-1750	4279	BURLINGHAM	Wattisfield	SFK 1800-1970
4421	BLANDERS	Sunningwell	BRK pre 1800	2963	BUSH	Arkesden	ESS 1725-1775
4407	BLEWETT	Camberwell	SRY 1800-1900	4569	BUTLER	Reading	BRK ? - 1830
4371	BLISS	Oxford	OXF 1600-1810	4586	BUTLER	Chesterton	OXF 1400-1825
4407	BLYTH	Any	Any c1800	728	BUTLER	Any	BRK 1700-1900
4625	BOATMAN	Any	ESS 1600-1950	4613	BUXTON	Debenham	SFK 1680-1844
4569	BOLGER	Dublin	IRL 1066-2001	4625	BYGRAVE	Edinburgh	SCT 1800-1900
4407	BOND	Islington	MDX 1800-1900	4535	CABLE	Winterslow	WIL 1700-1830
4407	BOND	Combe Florey	SOM 1800-1850	4155	CAMPBELL	High Wycombe	BKM 1800-1900
4421	BOOKES	Sunningwell	BRK pre 1800	4597	CANNON	Hurley	BRK 1800-1806
4524	BOON	Salisbury	WIL 1600-1813	4597	CANNON	Holyport/Bray	BRK 1750-1876
4613	BOOTH	Nottingham	NTT 1820-1850	4597	CANNON	Maidenhead	BRK 1870-1900
4407	BOURNE	Any	SSX 1800-1900	4639	CARTER	Reading	BRK 1700-1871
2911	BOWLEY	Shalbourne	WIL 1800-1850	4639	CARTER	Longstock	HAM 1700-1871
4555	BOYES	Norwich	NFK 1860-2000	4421	CARTER	Sunningwell	BRK pre 1800
3844	BRADBURNE	Bradbourne	DBY 1200-1650	4613	CARTER	Blandford Forum	DOR 1770-1850
3844	BRADBURNE	Worfield	SAL 1500-1850	4524	CARTER	Okeford Fitzpaine	DOR 1600-1852
3844	BRADBURNE	Birmingham	WAR 1650-1750	4524	CASTON	Any	NFK 1600-1866
3844	BRADBURNE	Lichfield	STS 1700-1900	4488	CHALLIS	Newbury	BRK 1660-1950
4294	BRANCHETT	Risely	BRK 1930-1970	4155	CHAMBERS	Long Wittenham	BRK 1860-1960
4609	BRAY	Clee St Margaret	SAL 1650-1750	4155	CHAMBERS	Dorchester	OXF 1860-1960
4609	BRAY	Chirbury	SAL 1500-1800	4155	CHAMBERS	City (Without)	LND 1700-1860
4609	BRAY	Abdon	SAL 1650-1900	3844	CHAWNER	Boylestone	DBY 1600-1800
4609	BRAY	Stoke St Milborough	SAL 1650-1800	3844	CHAWNER	Lichfield	STS 1800-1900
4609	BRAY	Castlemorton	WOR 1400-1750	3844	CHAWNER	Cheadle	STS 1780-1850
4407	BROOKS	Forest of Dean	GLS 1800-1900	3844	CHAWNER	Burton	DBY 1790-1850
4639	BROWN	Reading	BRK 1700-1841	4492	CHICK	Brentford	MDX 1700-2001

No	Name	Place	Code Dates	No	Name	Place	Code Dates
2963	CHURCH	Beaconsfield	BKM 1800-1900	4407	DAVIS	Hastings	SSX 1800-1900
4065	CHURCH	Chieveley	BRK 1700-1900	4514	DAVIS	Southend	ESS 1800-1950
4065	CHURCH	Hanwell/Acton	MDX 1800-1900	4371	DAY	Culpho	SFK 1600-1820
4279	CLARK	Ealing	MDX 1900-1970	4488	DAY	Wantage	BRK 1660-1836
4279	CLARK	Easthamstead	BRK 1700-1900	4597	DEAN	Amersham	BKM 1876-1904
4279	CLARK	Long Horsley	NBL 1845-1857	4597	DEAN	Kingshill	BKM 1800-1876
4279	CLARK	London	MDX 1840-1900	4536	DEARLOVE	Any	BRK 1066-1912
4279	CLARK	Warfield	BRK 1700-1900	4371	DICKENS	Mursley	BKM 1600-1800
4065	CLEVERLEY	Dartford	KEN 1800-1900	3898	DOLTON	Thatcham	BRK 1700-1800
4065	CLEVERLEY	Hanwell/Acton	MDX 1850-1910	4556	DOVER	Maidenhead	BRK 1800-1950
4524	COLES	Batcombe	SOM 1600-1840	4279	DUPOLOCK	Any	SSX 1700-1950
4609	COLLIER	Abdon	SAL 1650-1800	4639	DYER	Reading	BRK 1700-1861
4609	COLLIER	Walsall	STS 1600-1750	4583	DYMOND	Brentford	MDX 1830-1900
4582	CORDERY	Any	BRK 1600-2000	4548	EAST	Bracknell	BRK 1700-2000
4524	CORE	Southampton	HAM 1700-1840	4548	EAST	Windsor	BRK 1700-2000
4621	COULDREY	Any	LND 1850-2000	4639	EAST	Reading	BRK 1700-1841
4621	COULDREY	Any	BRK 1850-2000	4421	EAST	Uffington	BRK pre-1800
4155	COX	Buckingham	BKM 1800-1900	4625	EDWARDS	North London	GTL 1800-1900
4492	CRAWFORD	Dublin	IRL 1700-1800	4621	ELLEN	Any	WIL 1700-1850
2963	CRIPPS	Bayswater	MDX 1895-1900	4407	ELLEN	Crowle	LIN 1800-1900
2963	CRIPPS	Farnham Royal	BKS 1850-1950	4407	ELLIN	Crowle	LIN 1800-1900
4560	CRITCHER	Reading	BRK pre 1881	4555	ELLIOTT	St Marys Hoo	KEN 1800-2000
4407	CUNNINGTON	Clerkenwell	MDX 1800-1900	4449	ELLIOTT	Shoreditch	LND 1794-1880
4540	DANBURY	Bladon	OXF 1575-1870	4407	ELLIS	Bridlington	ERY 1800-1900
3844	DAVENPORT	Claverley	SAL 1700-1800	4421	EMBLIN	Faringdon	BRK pre-1800
3844	DAVENPORT	Sedgley	STS 1800-1850	4586	ENSTONE	Appleton	BRK 1400-1865
4625	DAVIES	Westminster	GTL 1850-1900	4376	EVANS	Stroud	GLS 1840-2000
4407	DAVIS	Salehurst	SSX 1800-1900	2963	FAIR	Enfield	MDX 1775-1850

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
4609	FARMER	Yardley	WAR	1800-1900	4597	GARDINER	Bisley	GLS	1800-1930
4609	FARMER	Quinton	WAR	1700-1900	4556	GIBBONS	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1950
4530	FEATHERSTONE	Bermondsey	SRY	1700-1850	4535	GIBBONS	Whitechapel	MDX	1700-1800
3898	FENN	Any	Any	Any	4569	GIDLEY	Rattery/Dean	DEV	1066-2001
4371	FENNING	Otley	SFK	1600-1840	4621	GILBERT	Any	KEN	1750-1900
4143	FERRIGAN	Portsmouth	HAM	1880-1920	4514	GILES	East Coker	SOM	1800-1930
3844	FIDGEON	Tamworth	WAR	1700-1850	4586	GILES	Chilcompton	SOM	1400-1835
4407	FINCH	Any	SRY	1800-1850	2963	GILL	Leeds	YKS	1750-2000
4407	FINCH	Clerkenwell	MDX	1800-1900	4669	GILL	Ugborough	DEV	1066-2001
4613	FLIGHT	Stroud	GLS	1682-1794	4449	GLAYSHER	Wandsworth	SRY	1810-1950
4540	FLOWER	Windsor (Clever)	BRK	1750-1860	4569	GLENISTER	London/MDX	LND	1066-2001
4530	FLOWERDEW	Norfolk	NFK	1700-1800	4376	GODDARD	Reading	BRK	1700-1900
4492	FOALSTER	Brentford	MDX	1800-2001	4530	GOLDING	Bermondsey	SRY	1800-1900
4597	FOOT(E)	Reading	BRK	1860-1914	4613	GOOD	Chelsea	MDX	1820-1830
4597	FOOT(E)	Shaftesbury	DOR	1700-1900	4512	GOODE	Any	HEF	1700-1850
4421	FORD	Faringdon	BRK	pre 1800	4555	GOODENOUGH	Okehampton	DEV	1750-2000
4474	FORD	Reading	BRK	1800-2000	4407	GOODMAN	Camberwell	SRY	1850-1900
2963	FOWLER	Reading	BRK	1850-1950	4530	GRAY	Bucklebury	BRK	1600-1900
2963	FOWLER	St Pancras Highgate	MDX	1830-2000	4530	GREEN	Bucklebury	BRK	1700-1850
4564	FRANKLIN	Abington	BRK	1600-2000	4535	GREEN	Winterslow	WIL	1700-1840
4514	FRESCO	Any	LND	1870-1970	4421	GREENING	Sandford-on-Thames	OXF	pre 1850
4371	FRISTON	Otley	SFK	1600-1840	4555	GREIG	Any	FIF	1700-1900
3844	FROST	Sedgley	STS	1750-1850	4488	GUISE	Liverpool	LAN	1660-1950
4488	FROUDE	Chaddlesworth	BRK	1660-1900	4560	GULLIVER	Burley/Ringwood	HAM	1830 on
4566	FRYER	Birmingham	WAR	1800-2000	4371	HADLEY	Culpho	SFK	1600-1820
4566	FRYER	Kinver	STS	1600-1900	4564	HALL	Banbury	OXF	1700-2000
4407	GALLOP	Hastings	SSX	1800-1900	3844	HAMSON	Hammerwich	STS	1700-1800
4535	GARDENER	Marcham	BRK	1700-1840	3844	HANBURY	Norton Canes	STS	1600-1850
4597	GARDINER	Reading	BRK	1905-1950	4557	HANCOCK	Any	BRK	1600-1900

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
4613	HANSON	Pangbourne	BRK	1827-1881	4555	HOPKINS	London	LND	1600-1782
4555	HARDIE	Trant	HAD	1800-2000	4449	HOWE	Bermondsey	LND	1820-1881
4376	HARDING	Glos	GLS	1800-1950	4560	HOWLAND	Thame	OXF	pre-1812
4530	HARLOW	Poplar/Stepney	MDX	1820-1900	4597	HUNT	Reading	BRK	1750-1932
4371	HARRY	Kingston	SRV	1600-1830	4492	HURDLE	Cronall	HAM	1700-1800
4376	HARVEY	Reading	BRK	1700-1800	4492	HURDWELL	Wokingham	BRK	1800-2001
4555	HARWIN	Upton cum Chalvey	BKM	1600-1820	4625	HURN	North London	GTL	1800-1860
4555	HARWIN	New Windsor	BRK	1820-2000	4584	ILOTT	Hungerford	BRK	1700-2000
4376	HARWOOD	Hartley Witney	HAM	1800-2000	4613	INSALL	Bristol	GLS	1790-1830
4155	HAYCOCK	Dover	KEN	1800-1900	4613	INSALL	Blandford Forum	DOR	1823-1860
4155	HAYCOCK	Woolwich	MDX	1800-1900	4613	INSALL	Iver	BKM	1860-1889
4155	HAYWARD	West Hagbourne	BRK	1700-1900	4371	IRELAND	Winchester	HAM	1600-1820
4155	HAYWARD	Long Wittenham	BRK	1700-1900	4449	JACKMAN	Woking	SRV	1782-1881
4556	HAYWARD	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1950	3934	JACKSON	Any	BRK	1700-1900
4492	HEATH	Chalfonts	BKM	1700-1800	3934	JACKSON	Bishop Cheeve	GLO	1700-1900
2963	HEATH	Wantage	BRK	1800-1900	4530	JACOBS	Thatcham	BRK	1600-1900
4492	HEATH	Brentford	MDX	1800-2001	4530	JACOBS	Kingston U Thames	SRV	1900-1940
4569	HELLIS	Alton	HAM	1066-2001	4530	JACOBS	Woolwich	KEN	1860-1920
4557	HENLEY	Any	SSX	1600-1900	4514	JAMES	Weston Super Mare	SOM	1800-1900
4625	HICKS	Islington	GTL	1800-1880	4586	JAMES	Wantage	BRK	1400-1630
4530	HIOM	St Albans/Ridge	HRT	1700-1850	2911	JANAWAY	Shalbourne	WIL	1700-1720
4530	HIOM	Hockliffe/Luton	BDF	1800-1850	4492	JOHNSON	Isleworth	MDX	1700-2001
4559	HISCOCK	Shinfield	BRK	1700-1850	4492	JOHNSON	Brentford	MDX	1700-2001
4557	HITCH	Any	SSX	1600-1900	4492	JOHNSON	Ealing	LDN	1700-2001
4407	HOLLOWAY	Forest of Dean	GLS	1850-1900	4492	JOHNSTON(E)	Ealing	LDN	1800-2001
4407	HOLLOWAY	Any	OXF	1800-1900	4535	JOYCE	High Easter	ESS	1860-1950
4514	HOOPER	East Coker	SOM	1750-1900	4535	JOYCE	Great Dunmow	ESS	1500-1860
4555	HOPKINS	Bray	BRK	1782-2000	2963	JUSTICE	Pangbourne	BRK	1750-1850

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
3934	KELLOW	Totnes	DEV	1700-1900	2911	LYE	Shalbourne	WIL	1700-1800
4143	KENNEDY	Portsmouth	HAM	1870-1910	4639	MACE	Reading	BRK	1700-1910
4406	KILLMASTER	Brighton	SSX	1800-2000	4524	MACKEREL	Fugglestone St. Peter	WIL	1600-1775
4639	KING	Reading	BRK	1700-1910	4564	MADGE	Bow	DEV	1700-2000
4512	KINLOCH	Any	FIF	1700-1850	4569	MANLEY	Buckfastleigh	DEV	1066-2001
4488	KIRBY	St Pancras	MDX	1831-2000	4555	MARGETTS	Any	KEN	1800-2000
4488	KIRBY	Wantage	BRK	1660-1831	4583	MARGRETTIS	Swindon Area	WIL	1800-1850
4406	KIRBY	Pusey	WIL	1700-1900	4586	MARSH	Avebury	WIL	1400-1859
4555	LANGBRIDGE	Totnes	DEV	1800-2000	4586	MARTIN	Lockinge	BRK	1500-1690
4367	LANGFORD	Henley	OXF	1800-1930	4586	MARTIN	Wantage	BRK	1400-1792
4406	LANGFORD	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-2000	4524	MASKELL	Caversham	OXF	1700-1845
4639	LAWRENCE	Reading	BRK	1700-1861	2963	MATHIESON	Greenock	RFW	1775-1875
4376	Le LION	Any	Any	Any	4595	MAYNARD	Reading	BRK	1800-1915
4556	LEACH	Goring	OXF	1750-1950	4569	McANASPIE	Co. Tyrone	IRL	1066-2001
4065	LEESON	Any	WOR	1700-1900	2963	McGILL	Strachur	ARL	1790-1880
4406	LEGG	Reading	BRK	1700-2000	2963	MEAD	Westoning	BDF	1800-1890
4279	LENTON	Kimbolton	HUN	1800-1900	2963	MEAD	Highgate	MDX	1820-1900
4449	LEOPHEARD	Bermondsey	SRY	1822-1881	4555	MEADEN	Kilmington	SOM	1500-2000
4371	LEWIS	Milton	BRK	1600-1840	4406	MEAKINS	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-2000
4488	LIDDIARD	Newbury	BRK	1660-1870	3776	MEARS	Any	Any	All
4609	LIGHTWOOD	Aston	WAR	1700-1850	4584	MEDCRAF	Oxford	OXF	1700-1950
4609	LIGHTWOOD	Birmingham	WAR	1700-1850	4407	MELTON	Scarborough	YKS	1800-1900
4625	LITTLE	Edinburgh	SCT	1800-1900	4488	MESENGER	Chaddlesworth	BRK	1660-1900
4621	LOWDAY	Dartmouth	DEV	1700-1900	4537	MEWES	Any	MDX	1700-1900
4371	LOWE	Cholsey	BRK	1600-1850	4533	MIDDLETON	Any	Any	1000-1600
4609	LUCAS	Tuck Hill	SAL	1850-2000	4559	MILES/MYLES	Any	BRK	1750-1850
4609	LUCAS	Abdon	SAL	1700-1900	4569	MILLIGAN	London	LND	1066-2001
4371	LULHAM	Kingston	SRY	1600-1830	4279	MINNS	Any	BRK	1600-1800
4583	LURRIDGE	Hammersmith	MDX	1830-1900	4279	MINNS	Any	SSX	1800-2000

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
4279	MINNS	Any	HAM	1600-1800	4313	PARR	Bucklebury	BRK	1700-1950
4279	MITCHELL	Ashburnham	SSX	1600-1800	4474	PATRIC	Burely	HAM	1800-2000
4524	MITCHELL	White Waltham	BRK	1600-1820	4474	PATRIC-SAYER	Burely	HAM	1800-2000
4524	MITCHELL	Bray	BRK	1817-2001	4621	PATTISON	Greenwich	LND	1700-1900
4279	MITCHELL	Heathfield	SSX	1800-1960	3934	PEARCE	Any	BRK	1700-1900
4279	MITCHELL	Dallington	SSX	1600-1800	3934	PEARCE	Camelford	COR	1700-1900
4279	MITCHELL	Rotherfield	SSX	1800-1960	4537	PEARCEY	Wargrave	BRK	1700-1850
4371	MORRIS	Burton on Trent	STS	1600-1820	4537	PEARCEY	Any	BRK	1700-1900
4569	MORRISEY	East Indies	EIN	1066-2001	4143	PEEVER	London	MDX	1880-1910
4376	MOSS	Reading	BRK	1800-1880	4143	PEEVER	Portsmouth	HAM	1900-1920
4535	MOUNTFORD	Great Dunmow	ESS	1700-1900	4569	PERIAM	Idc	DEV	1066-1890
4569	MOWER	Spalding	LIN	1066-1860	4376	PERKINS	Hartley Wintney	HAM	1800-2000
4492	MOYLAN	Cork	IRL	1700-1800	4367	PERRIS	Southampton	HAM	1800-1930
2963	NAPPER	Didcot	BRK	1850-1900	4367	PERRIS	Enbourne	BRK	1500-1800
2963	NAPPER	Slough	BKS	1850-1950	4449	PERRY	London	LND	1760-1923
4583	NEW	Swindon	WIL	1830-1900	4540	PETLEY	Windsor	BRK	1860-1920
2963	NICHOLLS	Stoke Poges	BKS	1800-1950	4595	PICKETT	Reading	BRK	1800-1900
4530	NICHOLS	Thatcham	BRK	1600-1850	4583	PIFF	Dublin	DUB	1750-1850
4584	OAKDENE	Any	LAN	1700-1900	4583	PIFF	Gloucester	GLS	1800-1850
2963	ONION/ONYON	Arkesden	ESS	1690-1850	2963	PINNELL	Wantage	BRK	1800-1900
4371	ORCHARD	Mursley	BKM	1600-1800	2963	PINNELL	Slough	BKS	1890-1950
4583	PAGE	Lewisham	GTL	1930-2000	2963	PLEDGER	Arkesden	ESS	1750-1810
4524	PALMER	Pimperne	DOR	1800-1885	2911	POPE	Vernham Dean	HAM	1800-1840
3898	PALMER	Chilton	BRK	1750-1850	4376	POWELL	Stroud	GLS	1800-1900
4313	PAPPS	Any	WIL	1750-1900	4155	POWELL	Aylesbury	BKM	1800-1950
4313	PAPPS	Any	SOM	1850-1950	2911	PRESTON	Shalbourne	WIL	1600-
4313	PARR	Reading	BRK	1700-1999	2911	PRESTON	Rivar	WIL	1600-
4313	PARR	Any	HAM	1898-1999	2911	PRESTON	Inkpen	BRK	1850-

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
2911	PRESTON	Bagshot	BRK	1850-	2963	RUSSELL	Mapledurham	OXF	1700-1800
2911	PRESTON	Kimbury	BRK	1850-	2963	RUSSELL	Eaton	BKS	1700-1750
2911	PRESTON	Oxenwood	WIL	1840-	4530	SADLER	Norfolk	NFK	1700-1800
2911	PRESTON	Tidcombe	WIL	1840-	4584	SANKEY	Any	LAN	1700-1975
2911	PRESTON	Fosbury	WIL	1840-	4613	SARGEANT	Bury St Edmunds	SFK	1530-1580
2911	PRESTON	Fittleton	WIL	1600-	4613	SARGEANT	Stoke by Nayland	SFK	1770-1840
2911	PRESTON	St Marylebone	LND	1880-	4613	SARGEANT	Great Waldingfield	SFK	1560-1780
4625	PRIOR	Cork	IRE	1800-1900	4613	SCHUBERT	Danzi Gt Prussia	PRE	1730-1840
4376	PYATT	Reading	BRK	1700-1850	4492	SEAR(E)S	Chalfonts	BKM	1700-1800
4584	RADFORD	Manchester	LAN	1700-1900	4492	SEARES	Brenitford	MDX	1800-2001
4407	RAVENSCROFT	Clerkenwell	MDX	1800-1900	4613	SEYMOUR	Pangbourne	BRK	1830-1881
4474	REES	Carmarthen	WLS	1600-1850	4449	SHAKESHAF	London	LND	1750-1923
2963	REEVES	Uxbridge	MDX	1800-1900	4560	SHARP	Waltham St Law'	BRK	pre 1881
2963	REEVES	Aylesbury	BKS	1800-1850	4609	SHELLEY	Abdon	SAL	1600-1800
4535	REVELL	Royston	CAM	1750-1860	4586	SHEPHERD	Grove	BRK	1600-1740
4583	REYNOLDS	Mortlake	SRY	1830-1900	4639	SHERWOOD	Reading/Purley	BRK	1600-1900
4583	REYNOLDS	Ealing	MDX	1830-1900	4376	SHOWELL	Reading	BRK	1700-1850
4586	RICHARDS	Wantage	BRK	1400-1590	4533	SHUFF	Any	Any	1000-1900
2911	RICHARDSON	Vernham Dean	HAM	1820-1860	4584	SIDDALL	Any	LAN	1700-1900
4535	RICHES	Bethnal Green	MDX	1860-1900	4313	SIGSWORTH	Greater London	GTL	1700-1999
4535	RICHES	Whitechapel	MDX	1800-1870	4524	SILVESTER	Harting	SSX	1700-2001
4535	RICHES	Norwich	NFK	1700-1850	4421	SILVESTER	Summingwell	BRK	pre 1800
4564	RIDLER	Wellington	SOM	1800-1900	4407	SIMISTER	Any	Any	1800-1900
4488	ROBERTS	Liverpool	LAN	1660-1950	4449	SIMS	Tilehurst	BRK	1750-1840
4371	ROBERTS	Oxford	OXF	1600-1810	4613	SIVYER	Ashstead	SRY	1770-1840
2963	ROBINSON	Winkfield	BRK	1800-1900	4313	SKINNER	Reading	BRK	1700-1999
4583	ROBINSON	Hackney	MDX	1850-1900	4530	SKIPPER	Peckham/Southwark	SRY	1860-1870
4421	RODGERS	Wytham	BRK	1600-1750	2963	SLEATH	Enfield	MDX	1775-1910
4548	ROSE	Any	BRK	1700-2000	4609	SMALLWOOD	Birmingham	WAR	1700-1850

No	Name	Place	Code	Dates	No	Name	Place	Code	Dates
4376	SMART	Reading	BRK	1700-1800	4560	THOMAS	Banbury	OXF	pre 1857
4143	SMITH	Bedwely	MON	1880-1916	4597	THORP	Lashbrook	BRK	1700-1880
4556	SNAPES	Goring	OXF	1850-1920	4597	THORP	Reading	BRK	1865-1950
4555	SPANTON	Gt Yarmouth	NFK	1700-1860	4569	TILL	London	LND	1066-2001
4514	SPARK	Exeter	DEV	1700-1850	4407	TOMKINS	Any	HER	1800-1900
4371	SQUIRES	Luton	BED	1600-1800	4530	TOWNSEND	Reading	BRK	1700-1850
4595	STACEY	Guildford	SRY	1800-1900	4564	TUCKER	Colebrooke	DEV	1700-2000
4595	STACEY	Reading	BRK	1800-1900	4564	TURNER	Exeter	DEV	1700-2000
4524	STEELE	Westbourne	SSX	1600-1817	2963	UNWIN	Enfield	MDX	1850-1910
4586	STEPTOE	Wantage	BRK	1600-1763	4514	van den HEUVEL	Any	LND	1870-1970
4065	STEPTOE	Hanwell/Acton	MDX	1800-1900	3844	VAUGHTON	Fillongley	WAR	1750-1900
2963	STILL	Compton Abbas	DOR	1700-2000	4586	VYSE	Wantage	BRK	1600-1740
2963	STILL	Fontmell Magna	DOR	1700-2000	2911	WALTER	Shalbourne	WIL	1800-1850
4407	STOW(E)	Islington	MDX	1800-1900	2911	WALTON	Wortley de Leeds	WRY	1800-1900
4407	STOW(E)	Salford	LAN	1800-1850	4376	WARD	Reading	BRK	1700-1800
4586	STROUD	Aldbourne	WIL	1400-1859	4584	WARHURST	Chorlton	LAN	1700-1975
4449	STRUDWICK	Woking	SRY	1780-1881	4584	WARHURST	Warrington	LAN	1700-1890
4584	SURMAN	Wokingham	BRK	1700-1950	4584	WARHURST	Ormskirk	LAN	1700-1850
4449	SWADLING	Radley	BRK	1755-1850	4407	WARNER	Clerkenwell	MDX	1800-1900
4449	SWADLING	Englefield	BRK	1804-1850	4621	WATERS	Any	OXF	1700-2000
4449	SWADLING	Wandsworth	SRY	1850-1930	4621	WATERS	Any	BRK	1700-2000
4449	SWADLING	Southwark	LND	1810-1890	4621	WATERS	Any	GLS	1700-2000
4586	TALBOT	Wantage	BRK	1400-1671	4621	WATERS	Any	WIL	1700-2000
4609	TASKER	Abdon	SAL	1600-1900	4583	WATKINS	Fulham	MDX	1830-1920
4639	TAYLOR	Any	WIL	1700-1851	4583	WATKIVES	Fulham	MDX	1830-1920
4371	TEW	Southern	OXF	1600-1820	4583	WATKIVS	Fulham	MDX	1830-1920
4560	THEOBALD	Clyffe Pypard	WIL	pre 1815	4625	WEAVINGS	Westminster	GTL	1800-1900
4560	THEOBALD	Broad Hinton	WIL	pre 1815	4449	WEBB	Woking	SRY	1810-1881



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<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Dates</b>
4449	WEBB	Shoreditch	LND	1774-1850
4524	WEBB	Southampton	HAM	1700-1840
4376	WELLER	Reading Whitley	BRK	1700-1850
4535	WESTMACOTT	Abingdon	BRK	1800-1900
4407	WESTON	Salehurst	SSX	1700-1900
4474	WHEELER	Reading	BRK	1800-1916
4569	WHITE	Torquay	DEV	1066-2001
4407	WHITE	Hastings	SSX	1750-1900
4556	WHITE	Goring	OXF	1800-1950
4406	WHITE	Windsor	BRK	1800-2000
4524	WIGGINS	Westbourne	SSX	1700-2001
4065	WILKES	Belbroughton	WOR	1750-1900
4569	WILKINSON	London	LND	1066-2001
4555	WILLBANK	Ireland	IRL	1893-2000
4584	WILLIAMSON	Warrington	LAN	1700-1975
4407	WILLOUGHBY	Bridlington	YKS	1800-1900
4583	WILSON	Fulham	MDX	1860-1920
4530	WINTERBORNE	Bucklebury	BRK	1600-1850
2963	WORMWELL	Clavering	ESS	1750-1850
4583	WORTH	Hackney	MDX	1850-1900
4376	WRIGHT	Reading	BRK	1800-2000
4407	YORK(E)	Old Windsor	BKS	1800-1850
2963	YOUNG	Stoke Poges	BKS	1875-2000
2963	YOUNG	Slough	BKS	1875-2000

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### 1851 Berkshire Census

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Please write to Mr Ivan Dickason, as above.

### Berkshire Burial Index

We are contributing to the National Burial Index and so far have 50,600 references in our own database and can now offer a limited research service to our index. For the parishes and time periods covered to date see page 219 in this magazine. The cost per surname is £1.00 for members and £2.00 for non-members for each A4 sheet. Send a cheque, made out to BFHS and a stamped self addressed envelope to David Wright, 45 Picton Way, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire RG4 8NJ.

### Monumental inscriptions

David Watkins (tel. 0118 966 1401) has offered to consult his database for the following churchyard monumental inscriptions free of charge for BFHS Members. These have not yet been put onto fiche as they have no maps. David will answer telephone enquiries only. The churchyards concerned are: Aldermaston, Avington, Compton Beauchamp, Hurst, Mortimer and Twyford.

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## Website

[www.berksfhs.org.uk/](http://www.berksfhs.org.uk/)

## Other addresses

### *Family Records Centre*

1 Myddelton Street, London EC1R 1UW  
020 8392 5300

### *Public Record Office*

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU  
020 8876 3444

### *Berkshire Record Office*

9 Coley Avenue, Reading, Berkshire RG1 6AF  
0118 901 5132

### *Berkshire Family History Society*

Research Centre, Yeomanry House  
131, Castle Hill, Reading, RG1 7TJ. 0118 950  
9553

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In the event of non-delivery please return to

John Gurnett, 5 Wren Close, Burghfield Common, Berkshire RG7 3PF

# The Museum of Reading



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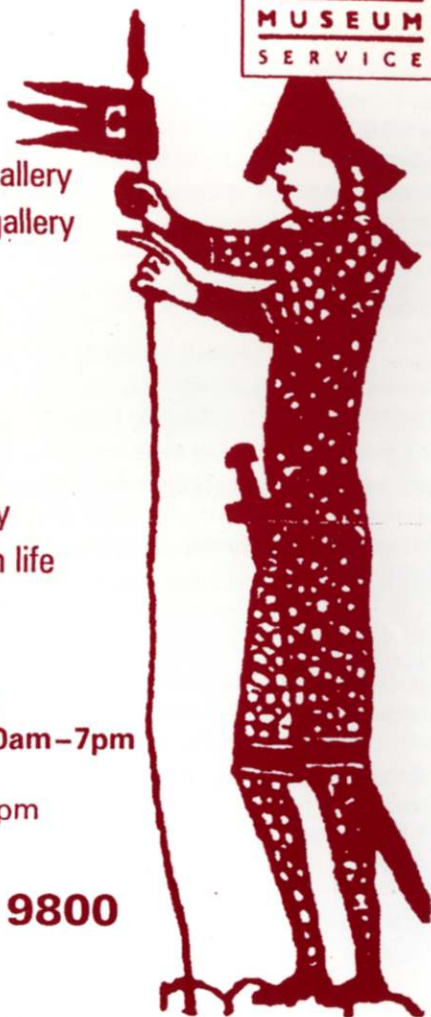
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# The Bulletin

## From the Editor

Thank you to all of those who sent cards and messages after my recent illness. After an enforced rest I am now fully recovered, although my diet has changed and I have been told to get more exercise. So no more libraries and record offices, I shall have to spend more time in churchyards.

## Civil registration of births, marriages and deaths

Birth, marriage and death certificates can now be ordered by email from [certificate.services@ons.gov.uk](mailto:certificate.services@ons.gov.uk) enclosing your credit card details and filling in the subject line with one of the following codes: QR (for applications when you are supplying the GRO index reference) STD (for applications when you are not supplying the GRO index reference) RFD (when you have a query about a refund) RDR (when you are enquiring about an order you have placed but not received) GQ (when you have another question not covered by any of the above). Note: the code should be entered as a single word in the subject line, separated from the rest of the subject by spaces. Cliff Debney says he has used this system several times and certificates arrive in about a week.

It's now possible to order a certificate from Southport (once you have obtained the reference number) using a new dedicated telephone number. The new number will be 0870 23 7788 and it will be staffed as follows: 8am-6pm Monday to Thursday, 8am-5pm on Friday and 10am-4pm on Saturday. They will accept credit and debit card payments.

## Doodlebug days

For those of us who remember the Second World War doodlebug the Imperial War Museum will be holding a series of doodlebug days from August 11-26 from 11.30am to 2.30pm. Actors will be playing characters from the home front and you, and your children, will be able to find out about life during the dramatic summer of the V1 offensive.

## Open days and events

The Oxfordshire Family History Society Open Day will take place on Saturday October 6 from 10am until 4pm at Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot. Admission is free and there will be the usual displays by other family history societies. To celebrate the Society's 25th anniversary Simon Fowler, editor of *Family History Monthly*, will be giving two lectures.

Hillingdon family history fair will be held on Sunday July 1 from 10am until 4pm at The Great Barn, Bury Street, Ruislip, Middlesex. Admission is £1.50 with free parking.

The Suffolk Family History Society annual family history fair will be held on Saturday August 4 at the Old School, Long Melford, from 10am until 4.30pm.

Warwickshire Family History Society's family history roadshow is taking place on Saturday September 8 at Bulkington Village Centre, Bulkington, a few miles from Coventry, Rugby and Nuneaton. It's on from 10am until 4pm.

Buckingham's Open Day will be held on Saturday July 28 from 10am until 4pm at Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Road, Aylesbury. County and Local Studies records will be available, plus computer demonstrations and stalls from a number of local family history societies. Admission and car parking is free.

## **Public Record Office events**

A one-day conference featuring recent research into the Hearth Tax will be held at the PRO on May 19. There will be lectures by Elizabeth Parkinson on the assessors and collectors, family names by Prof. David Hey and the houses of the Hearth Tax by Sarah Pearson, former President of the Vernacular Architecture Group. The conference including refreshments and a buffet lunch will be £35.

During the week beginning July 16 the second family history summer school will be held. It will combine teach-and-show sessions with opportunities for individual research, together with a special preview of the 1901 census online project. Tickets are £150 with £100 concessions.

## **Additions at the Berkshire Record Office**

The baptism, marriage and burial registers of Theale Congregational Church together with those of baptisms and burials from 1868 to the 1990s at Beech Hill have recently found their way to the BRO. The spring exhibition at the Record Office consists of the documents received or catalogued in recent years.

## **Forward to the Past**

The Society of Genealogists is organising a major family history conference on twentieth century records at Imperial College, London from August 31 to September 2, 2001. There will be more than twenty lectures ranging from Lloyd George's Domesday survey and merchant seamen to sources for women and GI brides and babies. The total cost for the weekend including accommodation, lectures and a gala dinner is £198, but day tickets can be purchased for the lectures at £30. Further information can be obtained from the Society.

## Wartime records research

The Imperial War Museum will be organising a series of events to help those who are researching wartime records and experience. The first is on board HMS Belfast for a learning weekend on August 25, another at the Duxford Airshow on September 8 and 9 and finally at the Imperial War Museum itself for the Armistice Commemoration.

## Ancestors

Ancestors is a new bi-monthly magazine published by the Public Record Office which aims to provide practical problem-solving advice on researching the past with the principle aim of helping family and local historians identify documents and sources. It's in full colour with many illustrations and at £3.95 is well worth the cover price. The first issue includes articles on the 1901 census, tracing the history of a house and finding military family history on the Internet.

## Foot and mouth

As this edition of the journal goes to press we are just recovering from the latest foot and mouth outbreak. Although not as seriously affected as other counties it will undoubtedly have profound consequences for our landscape and farming practices over the coming years just as the agricultural depression did in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Then the

agricultural economy was seriously affected by the decline; farming methods were changed and the number of labourers working on the land decreased with a growing number leaving the land to work in the towns. It affected our ancestors in many ways; let's hope that this disaster will have a more beneficial effect.

## Western European Vital Records on CD-ROM

Twelve and a half million vital records from Western Europe are now available on CD-ROM from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Vital Records Index for Western Europe includes information extracted from birth, christening and marriage records from the Alpine, Benelux, French, German, Italian, and Spanish regions.

Ray Madsen, product manager for the Family and Church History Department, says this is the first time such a large database of records for Western Europe has been made available for home research. "It also has a very powerful search engine that allows you to search not just for individuals but for parents or particular locations."

The set of 21 discs can be purchased for £28.95 from the Church distribution centre at 399 Garretts Green Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham B33 0UH or by credit card on 0121 785 2200. It can also be ordered on the Internet at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org).

## Protestation Oath Roll

For those of us fortunate to be researching Berkshire families during the seventeenth century the Protestation Oath Roll is one of the most important documents. In 1641 Parliament passed a resolution requesting all males aged over 18 to take an oath in support of the Crown and Charles I. In Berkshire the returns date from the following year 1641/2 between February and March. Most men took the oath and those that did not (mostly Papist recusants) were sometimes also listed. The names were listed parish by parish so it acts as a kind of mini-census at this crucial period prior to the beginning of the English Civil War when many men left their homes. The surviving returns are held at the House of Lords Record Office where they may be consulted. Returns have survived for about 100 Berkshire parishes.

## Family History Centre, Exhibition Road

The largest of the Latter Day Saints Family History Centres in Exhibition Road, London, is about to get even bigger with the acquisition of more microfilm material. By the summer the Centre will hold up to 30,000 films formerly held by the LDS distribution Centre at Solihull. Exhibition Road is already the best of the Family History Centres but this expansion of library facilities will make it an unrivalled source for family historians visiting London.

## International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

The 21st international conference on Jewish genealogy will take place at the Hotel Inter-Continental, London, from July 8 to 13. Lectures will cover Jewish ancestry in most parts of the world from the Middle East, Asia and Africa to Australasia and the Americas.

## Tracing your family

Just be thankful we are not flies. According to a new book in just two months two flies can produce more descendants than there are people on earth. How big a family tree would be needed to deal with their progeny?

## Summer holidays

During the summer when you will be researching your families in record centres and libraries don't forget to think about writing something for your magazine. The Editor is always keen to receive submissions from members — either articles, letters, or help needed. In the meantime I hope that you find that elusive ancestor.

## Joiner needed

The Research Centre needs a joiner to fit bookshelves in the Library. We will supply all the materials if you can supply the skill. If you think you can help give Ivan Dickason a call on 0118 978 6785.