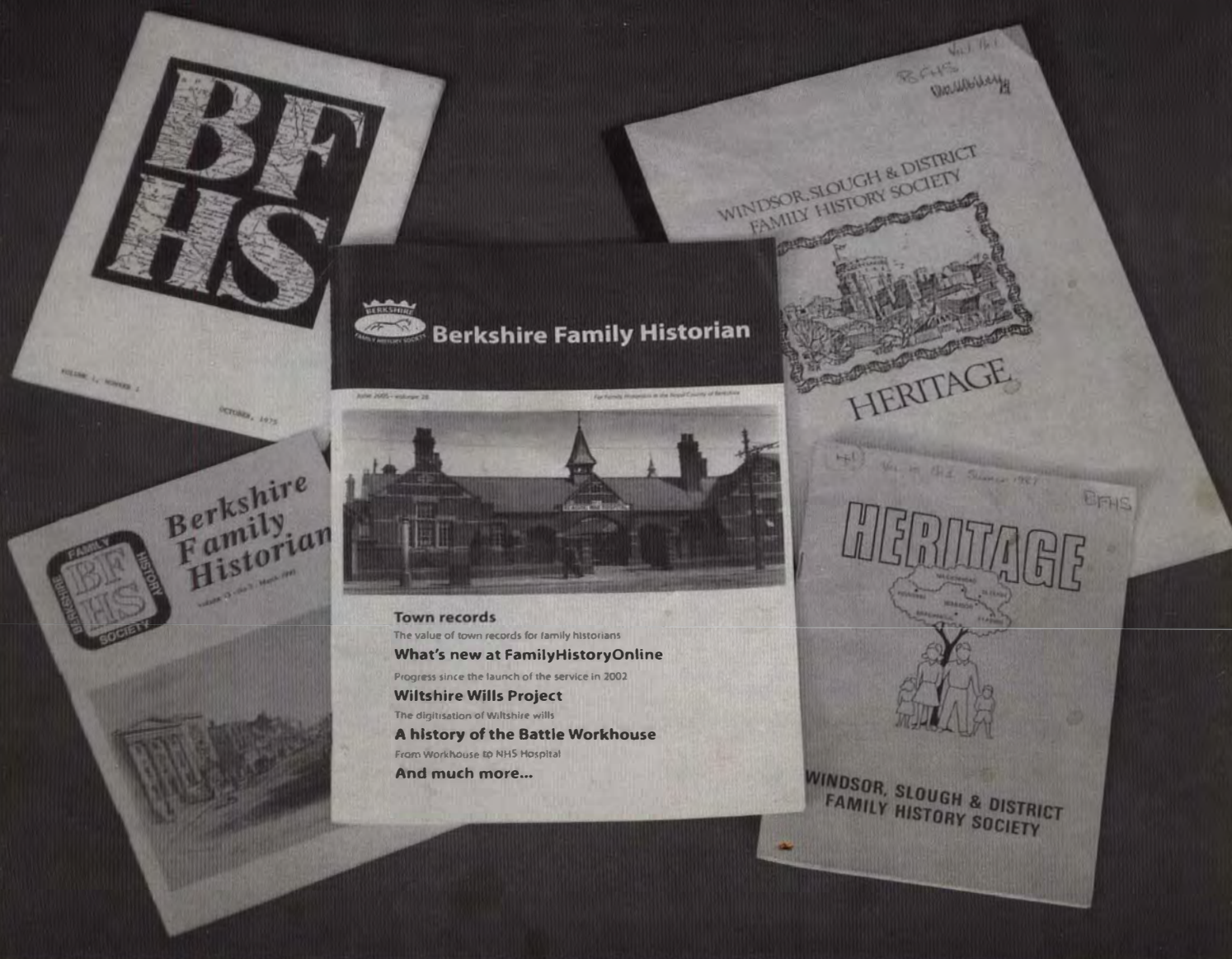




Berkshire Family Historian

September 2005 • volume 29

For Family Historians in the Royal County of Berkshire



30th Anniversary issue

A look back at the past

And much more...

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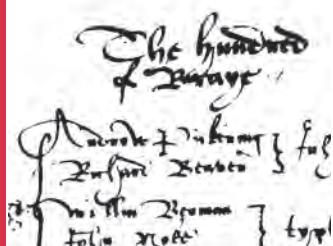
Berkshire Family Historian

For family historians in the Royal County of Berkshire

September 2005 Volume 29

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30th Anniversary Issue

The first journal for the Berkshire Family History Society carries a date of October 1975 making 2005 the thirtieth year of publication. The eagle-eyed amongst you might query why this is volume 29 rather than volume 31 — the answer is that volume 10 covered three years.

Having stepped into the breach as 'guest editor' I have done my best to produce a worthwhile magazine, while coping with using the Apple computer and its publishing package for the first time. I have been aided in this by having five pages of members interests and deciding to include the full financial report on the state of our Society.

The article by the late John Brooks, an honorary member, is a reprint from a 1984 magazine, but points out some early records that we may overlook and his transcript reminds us that forenames, surnames and placenames may be spelt in a variety of ways.

Carolyn Boulton's article explains how a problem was eventually solved while Gillian Steven's article tells us why we should record monumental inscriptions.

I hope this issue reaches you safely, if late, and without too many errors,

Chad Hanna

The Society's Chairman says...

As the new chairman of our Society I would like to express my thanks to Chad Hanna, our outgoing chairman for his hard work and dedication.

He has remained on the Executive Committee as IT Manager, for which we are very grateful, but is currently wearing other hats, one of which is editor. I will therefore make these notes short and try not to increase his burden further.

However I would like to offer my thanks to all our volunteer members who give of their time to enable the functioning of our Society. Without you we would not be able to offer such generous opening hours which I'm sure are greatly appreciated by all Centre users. I also thank those members who beaver away in the background to enable transcriptions to be produced and also those hardy explorers of deep vegetation who gather Monumental Inscriptions.

I have managed to get to some of the Branches to meet members and hope to get to the rest after the summer break. I am looking forward to carrying out my new role within the Society and to continue to increase our membership numbers. Do not forget our 30th Anniversary Conference taking place on the 8th October and I hope to see many of you there.

Nigel Saltmarsh

An apology

The membership renewal form published with the June magazine provoked several members to write about the tone of the wording on the form, and it is to be expected that many others felt similarly.

John Gurnett and the Executive committee apologise for this oversight and we will do our best to prevent a similar occurrence.

A special apology goes to Bob Plumridge, our membership secretary whose name appeared under the offending text but who had not seen it until it appeared on his doorstep!

In the past, the editor and the membership secretary liaise over the personalised renewal form that successfully appeared with the June issue in recent years. This time the A4 reminder sent to late-paying members with the September issue was quickly revamped into a renewal form for the June magazine.

We are sorry for any offence that was caused.

Membership cards

are currently issued to new members only and should be retained from year to year.

The Research Centre, Branch Chairmen and others (on a need-to-know basis) receive membership lists and can check your membership number.

This may be reviewed in the future.

Editor wanted

John Gurnett stepped down as editor of the *Berkshire Family Historian* in May after the June issue went to press.

We have canvassed the discussion list and done our best to find someone to take over as a permanent editor starting with this issue, but failed.

I am 'guest' editing this issue with the hope that it will reach you in mid-September. There is no guarantee about exactly when the next *Historian* will appear so I would suggest you check the web site or monitor our discussion list for further news.

What is involved in producing this journal?

- Encouraging and soliciting articles and letters from members and others.
- Collating news from email lists, press releases, news sources, committee reports and minutes to let our members know what's happening whether it's stocktaking at the Berkshire Record Office or the implications of the Civil Partnership Bill.
- Managing advertisements for products and services that may be of interest to our members.
- Desktop publishing the magazine using Adobe InDesign on an Apple Mac G4 and ensuring the copy reaches the printers safely as an Acrobat (PDF) file.
- Arranging for the magazine to be proof read.
- Making timely recommendations to the Society Executive about possible improvements in the production and distribution of the magazine.

I don't think one person should necessarily perform all these tasks and it is perhaps the first of these tasks that is most important. We already have help with both advertisements and proof reading.

If you think you could help out with one or more of these tasks Nigel Saltmarsh or I would like to hear from you.

Chad Hanna

Berkshire 1851 census online

The Society has now agreed to make its transcription of the 1851 census for Berkshire available on the Federation of Family History Societies pay-per-view web site, <www.FamilyHistoryOnline.net> The database became available on 22nd July.

The CD-ROM will continue to be available from the Bookshop as the CD provides much more flexible searching along with the mapping option.

Booked for our Anniversary Conference?

This is being held at Theale Green Community School on Saturday 8 October.

Registration will begin at 9.15am and the day will finish at about 4.45pm. Cost is £20 including lunch and coffee/tea.

Applications forms (see March issue) can be obtained from our web site <www.berksfhs.org.uk> or by mail enclosing an SAE to: Conference, BerksFHS, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading, RG1 7TJ

Bracknell Family History Fair

will again take place on Sunday, 29 January between 10am and 5pm at the Bracknell Leisure Centre on the Bagshot Road. This is a popular fair with many stalls. £2 Admission. Free Parking.

Guildhall Library

On 29th November a two hour free talk "Business records for family historians" by Charlie Turpie, Deputy Keeper of Manuscripts, starts in the Guildhall Library, London at 2pm and is followed by a visit to the Bank of England Museum.

Numbers are limited. Please book in advance by telephoning 020 7332 1863/2. There are 20 places available for each talk and 16 places for the behind the scenes tours. .

Now available for research at the Berkshire Record Office

The following Church of England registers are now available:

Bucklebury c 1865-1963, m 1837-1991

Hurley banns 1798-2002

Knowl Hill c 1910-2004, b 1842-2002

Marlston m 1907-1996, b 1925-1998

Reading All Saints b 1904-1948, m 1909-1980

The Office has also received more modern registers for Pangbourne, Sutton Courtenay and Tilehurst St Mary Magdalene.

Funding secured for County mental health archive

The Wellcome Trust has generously awarded Berkshire Record Office around £22,000 for a project to list and repair the historic archive of Fair Mile Hospital in Cholsey. The Hospital was previously the Berkshire County Asylum and has a rich collection of records dating from 1870 that detail life for the patients and staff. This includes admission and discharge registers covering 1870-1972. The project will see the creation of a descriptive catalogue for over 500 items, and the repair of half a dozen severely damp damaged books that are presently unusable. Work will begin in the autumn and the archive will be available for research (subject to the usual restrictions on more recent personal information) next spring.

Reading Borough poll books

Berkshire Record Office has recently packaged and microfilmed the surviving manuscript poll books for Reading Borough that span the years 1679-1690 and 1820-1837, making them more accessible for research. The early ones are compiled as a book for each candidate at the poll, and simply provide the names of the voters for each candidate at a time when the franchise was restricted to the freemen. The later ones are arranged by parish and give a street address and an occupation for each voter. All the books will be useful to those who are seeking Reading families in the late seventeenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Mark Stevens

Senior Archivist

Berkshire Record Office

Archives Network Wales

This web site <www.archives-networkwales.info> now contains 3,700 live collection-level descriptions, covering the holdings of:

Anglesey County Record Office

Ceredigion Archives

Conwy Archives Service

Denbighshire Record Office

Flintshire Record Office

University of Wales Aberystwyth

University of Wales Bangor

University of Wales Lampeter &

University of Wales Swansea

Substantial parts of the holdings of Carmarthenshire Archives Service, Glamorgan Record Office, and National Library of Wales are also covered; these are being made live as editing and checking proceeds.

The home page now features a list of which partners holdings are available for searching.

Martin Locock

Project Manager

Slough History Online

A new web site <www.sloughhistoryonline.org.uk> includes stories of past events, people and businesses in Slough.

Notably it also includes the *Slough Observer* for the years 1883-1934 (use Advanced Search) along with photos and other material from the Slough Library Local Studies Collection.

The Berkshire landscape

The Reading University School of Continuing Education in association with the Berkshire Local History Association and the Berkshire Record Society are running a course between 9.45am and 4.30pm on Saturday 12 November. The day school is entitled *The making of the Berkshire landscape: a celebration of WG Hoskins* and will be held at The New Museum of Rural Life at Redlands Road, Reading (opposite the back entrance to the Royal Berkshire Hospital and behind the London Road site of the University)

Fee: £28 (£23 to those over 60, full-time students or registered unemployed) a finger buffet will be available on the day for £3.

Speakers will include: Brian Boulter, Josephine Cormier, Joan Dils, Jane Golding, Alan Rosevear and Margaret Yates.

Contact the School for more details by telephone Tel: 0118 378 8347 or by e-mail: <continuing-education@reading.ac.uk> quoting course CO9 as a reference.

Berkshire BMD

Joan Heuvel raised an important question in the June magazine concerning the accuracy of the GRO indexes? The most authoritative analysis can be found in *A Comedy of Errors: The story of the civil registration of births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales in the 1800s*, by Michael Whitfield Foster and published by the author in two 'acts' in 1998 and 2002.

Fortunately, the General Register Office indexes are not the sole source of information about births, marriages and deaths as in 2000 Cheshire's Registration Services became the first in the country to post their Birth, Marriage and Death indexes on the Internet. Several other counties have followed and details can be found on the UK BMD web site <www.ukbmd.org.uk> David Watkins is now working with the Reading Register Office to plan a project to put the Reading district indexes online. More news in the December issue.

Spinsters and Bachelors soon to be Single

Apparently there are soon to be changes in the way marriage registers and certificates are completed. A person previously described as a "spinster" or a "bachelor" will be described instead as "single". Divorcees will continue to be described appropriately, as presumably will widows and widowers.

This will start on December 5th as part of the necessary reforms when the new Civil Partnership Act becomes law.

Diary dates

Oxfordshire FHS

The Society will be holding an open day on Saturday 24 September between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The venue again is Exeter Hall in Kidlington. There is car parking and admission is free. Light refreshments are available.

Sadly this conflicts with the Federation General Meeting at Kew the same day, so our bookstall will be unable to make the journey. Sorry!

Hampshire Genealogical Society

will hold its open day on Sunday 25 September between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at Horndean Technology College, Barton Cross, Horndean, Hampshire. Free lectures by Jeanne Bunting, John Hanson and Rod Neep.

The Berkshire Family History Society stall will be there. More details at <www.hgs-online.org.uk>

West Surrey FHS

will hold its open day and family history fair at the Woking Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking between 10 am and 4.30 pm Saturday 5th November 2005

Admission is free and there is free car parking at this popular fair. The Berks FHS stall will be there. More details at <www.wsfhs.org>

A Pub Crawl round Berkshire

John W Brooks

originally published vol 10 pt 1 Autumn 1984

In Ralph Houlbrooke's excellent talk on family history, he makes a mention of Alan Mcfarlane, who used a technique of "record linkage" to uncover a lot of information about the families he researched for his book, *Reconstructing Historical Communities*.

Mention was made of parish registers, rental rolls, court rolls, litigation, and use was, no doubt made of poll books, directories, etcetera. There are a lot of these very records in the Berkshire Record Office (BRO) that are seldom looked at, because most people seem to be hooked on to the parish registers exclusively.

An outstanding example is the **Protestation Rolls** of 1641. These are lists of males over the age of 18 years, who swore the Oath to uphold the protestant religion. There they are, man and boy, for your perusal, parish by parish. West Shefford went one better and recorded all the women too, including two who refused to take the oath in spite of the fact that their husbands did.

Now 1641 is a very useful year during which to have what is literally a mini-census. Lots of the parish registers do not go back that far, so if your research comes to a halt because there are no more registers, then why not try the Protestation Rolls? It doesn't take that long (BRO ref no: T/A 40). Also, 1641 was just the beginning of that awkward period in our history when war made a mess of our civil and church records, as we all know. Before you go rushing off to the BRO, one word of warning. As with lots of records of this nature, some are missing. That part of Berkshire which lies to the east of Reading is completely absent, so if you want to examine Maidenhead or Windsor, you will be out of luck. Nevertheless, there is still a good coverage for the rest of the county. I have made out a chart of the available

parishes, you will find in T/A 40 as well.

Similar to the Protestation Rolls are the **Association Rolls** of 1695. These are in The National Archives at Kew. These rolls give a complete coverage of Berkshire, listing men, and often women householders, parish by parish.

Mention of The National Archives brings me to the main theme, which is the public houses of Berkshire. In the State Papers (SP 12/119. CC/4233) there are six rolls which are certificates of inns, alehouses and taverns of Berkshire dated 1577.

I have transcribed the first of the rolls in full, it covers east Berkshire (the bit missing from the Protestation Rolls of 1641), just to even things up a bit.

What a lot of drinking establishments in New Windsor and Okingham (Wokingham)! It would be interesting to check how many pubs there are in these places today? Note the three classes. Innholder is self-explanatory, and so is vintner, who only sold wine (wonder which was Falstaff's local in Windsor?). Typlers would be called alehouses later, and boozers today. So was there a pub in your ancestral village? You can find out by consulting SP 12/119, and you might find that your family ran it.

Such is the use of small-scale records of ordinary people. Roughly 500 pub keepers of Berkshire are mentioned, and the chances are that one of those is just the chap you are looking for. Here you have his trade and home address. This is family history in depth.

The hundred of Bray

Bray parishe

Andrew Pickering	} Inholders
Richard Beaver	}
Willm Beoman	}
John Noke	} typlers
Thomas Boyer	}

Certificates of
inns, alehouses
and taverns
1577
SP 12/1190

**The hundred
of Bray**

Richard Robinson } typlers
Thomas Boyer }
William Orames } typlers
Richard Robinson } typler
The hundred of Cookham
William Westend } typlers
John B[?]akkston }

**The hundred
of Ripley**

Robert Davers }
Thomas Fisse }
John Hartwell } typlers
Thomas Childe }
Thomas Nease }
Walton Smith } vintner
Silvester Hilton } Inholders
Robert Davers }

**The hundred
of Keston**

William Brittin }
Thomas Fisse }
John Hartwell } typlers
Thomas Childe }
Thomas Nease }
Walton Smith } vintner
Silvester Hilton } Inholders
Robert Davers }

The Towne of New Windsor

John Allen }
Thomas Fisse }
John Hartwell } typlers
Thomas Childe }
Thomas Nease }
Walton Smith } vintner
Silvester Hilton } Inholders
Robert Davers }

Maydenhed in Bray parishe

Willm Orames Inholder
Richard Robinson typler

The hundred of Cookham

Cookham parishe
Edward Forster } typlers
Willm Westend }
John B[?]akkston }

Maydenhed in Cookham

Willm Brittin }
Thomas Fisse }
John Hartwell } typlers
Thomas Childe }
Thomas Nease }
Walton Smith } vintner
Silvester Hilton } Inholders
Robert Davers }

Binfield parishe

Richard Higdon } typlers
 John Culverhouse }

Soninghill parish

Richard Slade } typler

The Towne of New Windsor

Walter Jones }
 Richard West }
 Humfrey Heysey }
 Rober Fypes } Inholders
 John Mattingley }
 Willm Bryan }
 Robert Heath }
 Frances Binten(?) } (Inholder)
 Gowter Windell }
 Jone Wimpe }
 Thomas Clifton } Vintners
 Anthoney Clarke }
 Nycholas Sentvyle }
 John Alee }
 Edward Mullens }
 Edward Nepes }
 Richard Trod } typlers
 Thomas Bars(?) }
 Thomas Ridway }
 John Finche }
 Willm Ryche }

The hundred of Riplesmore**Cleworth parishe**

Humfrye Winche } typler

Winkfild parish

Richard Kerton } typler

Old Windsor parishe

Michell (blank) typler

Esthamsted parishe

John Chaundler } typler

The hundred of Charleton**Finchamsted parishe**

Robert Poll } typler

Swallowfild parishe

John Fawes } typler
 Shinfild parishe
 widow Lockwood } typlers
 (blank) Norman }
 Whisle in Hurst
 Willm Strowde }
 Widow Phillips } typlers
 (blank) Seward }
 humfry Heyward }

Hundred of Benershe**White Waltham**

John Gregory } tipler

Hurle

Richard Norton } tipler

Bisham

Charles Rose } tipler

Remnun

none

Hundred of Wargrave**Winfield**

Richard Short } tiplers

William Thakam }

Laurence Waltham

Thomas Wilke } tipler

Wargrave

Henry Smith } tiplers

William Huwle }

Hundred of Sonning**Sonning parish**

William Puckeridge }

Stephen Piston[?] } tiplers

William Stokes }

--- Kechin }

Arbourfield

John Walker } tipler

Winershe in Hurst

William Berd } tiplers

William Iresh }

Town of Okingham

Thomas Avys }

John Costin }

Thomas Leache }

Thomas Judin }

William Arnoll } innholders

Thomas Hudson }

John Dawson }

Agnes P e m e r t o n

Agnes Brumley }

Widow Hoop }

Christian Yorke }

Symon Leache }

Richard Planer }

Henry Bysonest } tiplers

Robert Butler }

William Turpeslot }

John Stone }

Thomas Thechar }

Grd Total Innholders } 7

Vintners } 6

Tiplers } 61

Do you need help to find Your Ancestors before 1834?

Jocie McBride, Publications Manager

The Berkshire Overseers' Records have now been put onto CD. These are the records of administration of the Poor Laws from 1601 to 1834. During that period local parish officers had immense power over the lives of the poor in England and Wales, notably using the infamous Settlement Act of 1662. All this changed in 1834 with the Poor Law Amendment Act and the establishment of the Poor Law Unions and their workhouses.

The Justices of the Peace, Churchwardens and the Overseers of the Poor in each Parish produced many documents relating to the administration of these laws. Thus we have people from all stations of life in their communities mentioned in these records, which deal with people's settlement, bastardy allegations, apprenticeship indentures, bonds, examinations and militia documents.

In the Berkshire Record Office there are over 12,000 of these documents, many of which are extremely fragile, listed in the parish catalogue sections 13 to 18. The survival

rate of these records varies markedly across the county. Some parishes don't have any surviving records, whilst others have several hundred and two have over a thousand.

Settlement Certificates were exchanged between relevant parishes and often gave a very detailed account of a person's life and family. Thus details of people from one parish often appear in the records of a far away parish to which they had travelled.

These records have been put into a calendar recording all the significant details from the documents, together with a comprehensive index. This project, led by Brian Hunt and with significant help from the Berkshire Record Office, took 12 years and was initially published on fiche and formed the basis of a scholarly analysis published by the Berkshire Record Society. It is hoped that local, economic and social historians as well as family historians will find them of interest.

The CD-ROM contains the information in a format that can be read using Adobe Acrobat Reader (version 5.01 or later) allowing the CD to be used on Apple, Windows and other computers. Pictures of sample documents are included.

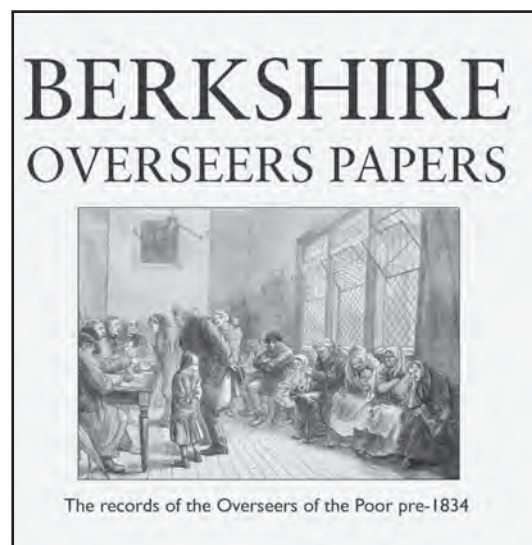
The CD is planned to be available from October after a final check to make sure that nothing has been lost in transfer from fiche.

Price:- U.K.(incl P&P) £18.10

Overseas (airmail) £19.10

This CD, other Berkshire FHS Publications and a large selection of books on Berkshire and Family History are listed on the Society web site at <www.berksfhs.org.uk>. They can also be ordered by post, just send a cheque made out to BerksFHSBooks to Mail Order, Berkshire FHS, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading, Berkshire RG1 7TJ

Cover art for the new CD uses an illustration from the Illustrated London News (courtesy of Reading Local Studies Library)



Sins of the Grandfather: or how a Vicar changed my ancestry

Carolyn Boulton

My **Marshall** ancestors left a lovely trail and I found them reasonably easy to find, from Selina Marshall [see Boulton 2000] to her father David, a Sawyer at the Steam Saw Mills in Kennet Wharf, Reading. Her mother, another Selina née **Giles**, ran the York House public house in Kings Road Reading where the main Public Library now stands. David was born at Brimpton in 1845 and was the youngest child of Sy and Rachel née **Smith** — no, I have not gone on that route yet. Sy was the father and there was Si junior, brother of David, both shortened forms of Josiah but on his baptism entry in 1803 the Vicar had drawn a _____ [did he disapprove?] Fortunately proved by being named as ‘my dearly beloved son Sy’ when his mother wrote her Will in 1825. The parents were James and Elizabeth Marshall of Brimpton and had baptised three children there: Emmanuel in 1801; Eve in 1805 (the exciting story of her emigrating to America in 1839 is for another time) and my Josiah. Then a brick wall.

I soon found other members of our Society had Marshalls of Brimpton in their ‘trees’ and we have corresponded for many years but we could never link the lines of our pedigrees, yet there were hundreds of Marshalls on all the census returns. No early baptisms were to be found in the Brimpton parish registers, Brimpton is not on the IGI, it was possible they could have strayed over the county boundary as Hampshire is so near.

It was not until another collateral relation asked me to find his Mark Marshall that I wrote down all the complete list of the eldest members we all had:

Judith,
Timothy,
Mark,
Saul,
--- Job,
Charity,
Adam----,
Emmanuel,
Josiah
Eve

Surely there was a link? One day in the Berkshire Record Office, grasping this list in my hand, I decided to have one more go, not at the film of the original registers but at the transcript — this proved to be a ‘defining moment’.

Instead of looking for the Marshall surname I scanned down the list of Christian names. There was a Mark in 1785, there was a Timothy in 1784, there was an Adam in 1800 all the children of James and Elizabeth but **Wigmore** from 1784 to 1800, nine children in the Brimpton Baptism registers. I went home with this thought and mulled it over; was it possible? Next day, I went back and thought if I could find Saul and Judith, who had been missing from the list, there had to be a connection. These were quickly found baptised at the adjacent parish of Woolhampton as children of James and Elizabeth Wigmore. For those not familiar Woolhampton is just across the A4 Bath Road from Brimpton.

We now had 14 children; 11 by James and Elizabeth Wigmore but from 1801, three by

James and Elizabeth Marshall. I searched to find a reason for the change of surname. After 30 years as Rector of Woolhampton and Vicar of Brimpton, William Deane died on 2 January 1800 and was buried 9 January. A young priest by the name of Revd Edward Cove took over that year. What did he do, and why did he change the name?

James Wigmore had married Elizabeth **Hutchins** at Bucklebury in 1782.

In passing one day with John Gurnett, our previous editor, I mentioned I think I've got Wigmore ancestry, and he replied that I should read some articles published in the Berkshire Family History Society journal of 1983 and 1990 as a former member had researched the Wigmores of Bucklebury. Copies of the back numbers are held at the Research Centre. Yes, there were the Wigmores, a very good family, even roads named after them. Searching this time in the Bucklebury parish registers, another parish not on the IGI, I came across a couple of children, 'Frances and Martha the illegitimate children of Joseph Wigmore by Mary Marshall'. Then, to my amazement, James had been baptised as a Marshall in 1760 but I believe with his five siblings had been raised as Wigmores. Because, it would appear, Joseph was still married to Mary [née **Preston** who he married in 1742 at Speen]. I do not believe Joseph ever married Mary Marshall and this had been what Revd Cove had discovered.

I would love to have been a fly on the wall the day in 1800 he called James and his children to the church to tell them their grandfather had never married and from now on they, and all their subsequent children, would be known by the name Marshall not Wigmore as they had been christened. I have searched for a reference in the church records, other than the parish registers, but without finding even a cryptic comment! Maybe the Bishop's Transcripts at the Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office in Trowbridge could hold a clue?

What manner of man was Revd Cove? He became a magistrate in 1828 and was embroiled in the famous 'Swing Riots' in 1830 calling the troopers to quell 'the unruly mob of

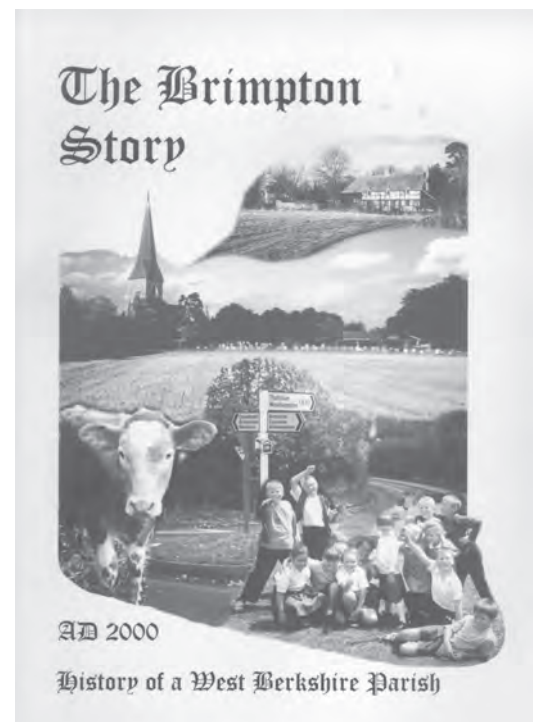
agricultural labourers'. A poem about him is retold in *The Brimpton Story*;

"The Riot Act the Parson read, as well as any prayer, And waved his bludgeon o'er his head, with a determined air".

I wonder which side mine were on? The consensus of five of the Marshall 'branches' is that our ancestry now goes back to Edmund Wigmore, my 9x grandfather, who married at Yattendon in 1627 — via a few Marshalls!

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Reading 1945 Portrait of an English town between war and peace exhibition 13 August - 4 December 2005

To coincide with the 60th anniversary of VJ day, the Museum of Reading is launching an exhibition of very special photographs taken in July 1945, to document daily life in Reading as the Second World War drew to close.

Commissioned by the Ministry of Information, the photos were taken during July 1945, between VE day (Victory in Europe) and VJ day (Victory in Japan). This selection from the 270 photographs taken, is displayed to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The Ministry of Information wanted a snapshot of life in 'a typical English town'. The Ministry wanted to show the world that everyday life continued despite the war, though both the images and the original captions play down the hardships people faced. The series proved very popular and were sent to over 40 countries.

The photographers only had a few weeks to take the hundreds of images required by the Ministry. A programme of locations was arranged by The Town Clerk and the Museum. In November 1945 the Museum curator wrote, 'Candidly I feel that some prints are poor though the majority are good and a few excellent'. However he conceded that 'conditions varied so much that I think you did a good job in quick time'. The Museum asked for a complete set of the final images for 'historical purposes' and display. The collection was exhibited in the Art Gallery in spring 1946.

Admission to the exhibition and to the Museum of Reading is free. The museum is open Tuesday - Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm, Sunday 11.00am - 4.00pm, closed on Monday. For further information, please call the Museum of Reading on 0118 939 9800 or visit <www.readingmuseum.org.uk>

The No.1 Supplier to Genealogists for Microfiche Readers Why You Need A Microfiche Reader

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London 1768	£14.50	Suffolk 1710	£14.25
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Westminster 1841	£19.00	Yorkshire 1807	
Norfolk 1768	£18.50	W Riding	£24.50
Norfolk 1806	£17.50	Hull	£6.50
Norfolk 1817	£18.00		
Somerset (Electoral registers)			
East 1832	£19.00		
West 1832	£19.00		

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email: enquiries@rememuseum.org.uk

Etched in Stone: the rewards of recording inscriptions

Gillian Stevens

While the words ‘etched in stone’ are commonly used to denote permanence, most of you will know that stone is not permanent and the inscriptions upon it even less so.

Parish records, wills and other paper documents are, hopefully, locked up safely in the record offices where the air and light reaching them is controlled as carefully as possible. However the inscriptions which are to be found on gravestones in churchyards and cemeteries, inside churches and on buildings in the form of plaques, floor stones, stained glass windows and so on, cannot be hidden away safely. They are at the mercy of the weather, damage by plants, animals, grass-cutting machinery, vandals and health and safety regulations!

John and Mary Price at work in Burghfield churchyard. Church shown on right.



Memorial Inscriptions are a valuable resource for family historians; frequently providing details of relationships not shown in parish registers such as “*3rd daughter of John and*

Mary”. They usually provide a date of death and an age or perhaps a date or year of birth, also informative epitaphs such as “*killed by falling under a horse*” may be found.

At the beginning of this year, I went to Wilby churchyard in Northamptonshire armed with a booklet produced by the Northamptonshire Family History Society in 1982 to find the gravestone of my three greats grandfather, Joseph **Coles**. I managed to take a photograph of his stone but the inscription has now completely been worn away. I would never have been able to know what was written on the stone or even to find its position without the help of the Northamptonshire FHS volunteers who recorded this vital information



A Celtic Cross revealed after some 'gardening'

for me more than twenty years ago. Next to this stone were three other stones and even in 1982 the local transcribers were unable to read their inscriptions. I believe they may belong to other members of my family but now I will never know.

Recently members of the Berkshire Family History Society joined forces with an equal number of church members under the leadership of David Watkins to record the gravestones and other memorial inscriptions in and around Burghfield St Mary. We were fortunate to have chosen two Saturdays with hot and dry weather and to have the active co-operation of the vicar, the Revd Jo Loveridge.

Chad Hanna adds:

The team of 18 have now recorded all 720 inscriptions and checked 440 after considerable preparatory work by David. This included creating a map of the churchyard using a scan of the 25 inches to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1910 — this needed some alterations, including the addition of the church hall that supplied refreshments on the day. Gillian Stevens has photographed nearly

The easy gravestone of William John Marlow alongside a more challenging gravestone



all the gravestones using a digital camera and provided these photographs.

Having a large team meant that those new to the 'sport' could be introduced gently, while those with greater experience, and patience,



could concentrate on those that were more difficult to read. There was something for everyone, even those wanting to limit themselves to the aggressive gardening needed to clear some of the stones.

Society members have also been at work recording the extension of the churchyard for Wokingham All Saints under the leadership of Brian Wilcock from the Bracknell and Wokingham branch, while Jill Muir and her team from the Vale of White Horse are working at Drayton St Leonard.



Recording gravestones is a very pleasant way to spend a few hours so please help your local family history society (see <www.ffhs.org.uk/General/Members/>) in their work if you can.

**Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting
of the Berkshire Family History Society
held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15 June 2005
at the Computer Branch Meeting
at the Oakwood Centre, Woodley.**

1. Apologies for Absence have been received from Jean Herbert, Ann Rutt, Liz Longhurst, Jill Muir and Derek Trinder.

2. Minutes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting were distributed to those attending the meeting and their acceptance was taken as read by the meeting after being proposed by Jocie McBride and seconded by Mavis Ballinger.

3. Matters Arising – none.

4. Chairman's Report for 2004-2005 by Chad Hanna was printed with the Agenda and distributed at the meeting. All important points were highlighted. There were no questions arising from this report.

5. Treasurer's Report for 2004-2005 by Ann Rutt was distributed at the meeting. The accounts had been examined by an Independent Examiner, Jacqueline Rowland, and presented to the Executive Committee on 10 June 2005. Important points were highlighted. The meeting approved and accepted the accounts after proposal by John Price and seconded by Gwen Hardwidge.

6. The President and Vice-President were re-elected as follows:

President Sir William Benyon DL (of Englefield House)

Vice-President Dr Peter Durrant (County Archivist)

7. Election of Officers for 2005-2006 – there being only one nomination for each vacancy the following were returned unopposed:

Chairman Nigel Saltmarsh

Treasurer Ann Rutt

There was no nomination for the post of Secretary prior to the meeting and nominations were invited from the floor with no response. The post of Editor remains unfilled.

8. The Branch Committee Appointed Ex-officio Members of the Executive Committee

were accepted by the meeting as follows:
Bracknell & Wokingham

Derek Trinder

Computer Peter Francis

Newbury Phil Wood

Reading John Price

Vale of White Horse Jill Muir

Windsor, Slough & Maidenhead

Valerie Storie

9. Election of Executive Committee Members for 2005-2006 – the following were returned unopposed:

Carolyn Boulter (Classes), Jean Herbert (Library), Chad Hanna (IT Manager)

10. Appointment of Independent Inspector for 2005-2006 – the meeting allowed that the Independent Inspector could be selected by the Executive Committee. The Accounts for the Trading Company have yet to be presented.

11. Any Other Business

The Chairman announced the decision of the Executive Committee to award an Honorary Membership to Liz Longhurst in recognition of her many years association with the Society having filled many posts including those of Secretary, Membership Secretary and Chairman of Reading Branch. In her absence, Liz was warmly applauded.

John Price, on behalf of the meeting, thanked Chad Hanna for his hard work as Society Chairman over the past 4 years.

Chad Hanna expressed his thanks to the outgoing Executive Committee for their support during the past year and in particular to John Gurnett and Daphne Spurling who were standing down.

Thanks were given to Alec Salisbury, the Minutes Secretary, who is also standing down.

Chairman's Report

Objects of the Charity

The Society's constitution adopted in 1989 (included in our information book sent to all new members) states that the object of the society shall be to advance public education in family history and genealogy, primarily within the pre-1974 Royal County of Berkshire. This includes helping co-ordinate research into, and transcription of, relevant county records and making them freely accessible to the public and co-operating with members of the Federation of Family History Societies and other societies with similar interests.

Main activities and achievements

Overall our membership is unchanged (2045 compared with 2046 last year) where many other societies have seen a decline. This 'steady state' has been partly won by the efforts of those involved in the BBC 'Who Do You Think You Are?' events, working with local libraries and the 'theme' days at our Research Centre. We need to continue these efforts in the coming year and the ability to pay for membership online should contribute to this. Nowadays most new members do join after printing an application form from our web site.

Our Society is now working towards the publication of 'The Overseers Papers' of the pre-1834 Poor Law on CD-ROM. The third edition of the Berkshire Burial Index was published in December and has many additions compared with our contribution to the 2nd edition of the National Burial Index published in August. Work is continuing on a new marriage index and an index of christenings is being started. Several Parish Register transcriptions and indexes have now been published on CD-ROM, often with valuable additional material.

The publication of the first edition of the 6 inches to the mile Ordnance Survey maps for Berkshire on CD is a joint publication with the Berkshire Record Office. The CD is proving popular with both local and family historians. The Berkshire Name Search service continues to be of great use to researchers, despite commercial web sites now proving more popular with many. Berkshire Name Search is available for general use in our Research Centre, for postal enquiries and at many of the family history fairs and events the Society attends.

We have continued quarterly liaison meetings with the Berkshire Record Office and value the close collaboration with the County Archivist and his staff.

Our six branches organise about 60 meetings each year and these attract many members. A data projector has been purchased to facilitate the many talks that require this type of equipment. I would like to congratulate the programme secretaries for all the hard work they put in to produce a programme suitable for modern family historians.

Our wholly owned company, Berkshire Family History Enterprises Ltd, has now completed its second year of trading. The company has gift-aided profits to the charity, paid for its share of its use of the Research Centre and paid royalties to the Society.

I was pleased to represent the Society at the General Meetings of the Federation of Family History Societies in September (at Loughborough) and April (at Bristol). A regional seminar at Surrey in November allowed us to share experiences with neighbouring societies.

To further the educational aims of the Society, we have continued to offer a series of Family History for Beginners courses. Recent changes to government priorities in Adult Education may make it cost-effective to provide additional courses.

During the past year several key volunteers have had to stand down or reduce their commitments to our Society. Among these were the Editor, Webmaster and the producer of many of our CDs. New volunteers who are computer 'power users' are now particularly welcome.

I must thank the Executive Committee, the members of the branch and research centre committees, our Research Centre assistants, our project workers, and all the other active volunteers and members who helped me in my work as Society Chairman over the last four years.

Policies

- to maintain a reserve sufficient to cover the estimated committed expenditure of the Society for a year. These reserves are to be held in high-interest premium accounts.
- to set money aside for future expansion of the Research Centre premises and to provide grants to other individuals or organisations.

Chad Hanna, Chairman

Treasurer's Report

I have pleasure in presenting the accounts of the Berkshire Family History Society for the year ending 30th April 2005. We are very grateful to Jackie Rowland for her independent inspection of the accounts and their timely presentation to the Executive Committee.

Berkshire Family History Enterprises Limited is a company wholly owned by the Berkshire Family History Society acting through a trustee, Chad Hanna. The accounts for the company are separate to those of the Society.

Income

There has been a small reduction in income. The principal reason is that the large initial sales of the 1851 census CD-ROM last year have not yet been replaced. We hope that sales of the Berkshire Maps CD and the new Overseers Papers CD will provide an increase in the coming year. The greater availability of online census indexes has reduced the Berkshire Name Search income.

Many kind members include a donation with their subscription when they renew, these are

now more clearly separated. The donations include £2000 from the Publications Company.

Expenditure

There are two major increases in expenditure; the first is the additional cost of the new A4 format magazine – this includes some one-off design costs including the new Society logo; the second is depreciation, equipment maintenance and insurance for the fiche/film scanner and the book camera. The fixed assets of the Society are noticeably greater than last year, while cash in our bank account has been reduced in line with our policy of being able to fund the coming year's expenditure from cash.

Once again, I would like to thank those of you who have completed the Gift Aid declarations and to Barbara Swiatek for managing this for us.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for the help and support they have given me throughout the year.

Financial statements for the year ending 30 April 2005

Charity Registered No. 283010

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

I report on the accounts of the Berkshire Family History Society for the year ended 30 April 2005, which are set out on the following four pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes con-

sideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met: or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jacqueline Rowland ACMA
20 Park Road, Egham, Surrey,
TW20 9BJ

Mail Order Booklist

The Society Bookshop is a service provided by Berkshire Family History Enterprises Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Berkshire Family History Society. This list is a selection of the many books available from our Bookshop. A complete and up-to-date list can be found on our website at <www.berksfhs.org.uk/berksfhsbooks> or by writing to Mail Order at BFHS, Yeomanry House, Reading, RG1 7TJ

The web site also provides an online ordering facility for many publications allowing the use of both debit and credit cards. A small 'shipping' charge is applied to debit and credit card orders to cover the additional costs involved. We regret debit and credit cards are only accepted for online orders and not for postal orders.

Berkshire books (or near Berkshire)

	UK	Abroad
Around Abingdon (Archive Photograph Series)	£11.15	£12.05
Around Ascot , Reg Morris	£13.15	£14.05
Ascot - Cheapside in the Forest of Windsor	£14.95	£16.15
Barkham - A History, D. French & J. Firth	£8.85	£9.80
A Short History of Bear Wood and Sindlesham , J. Bell	£3.90	£4.20
Bearwood - St Catherine's Church - Par Mag Extracts	£3.90	£4.20
The History of Beech Hill Baptist Church	£2.70	£3.35
Benson - A Village Through its History, Kate Tiller	£13.80	£15.00
Benson - A Century of Change, Janet Burt et al	£14.95	£15.90
Berkshire Militia Men enrolled 1807 & 1808	£3.15	£3.40
Berkshire Poll Book 1727, Eureka	£5.35	£5.90
Bradfield Union Workhouse Births and Deaths, Eureka	£3.00	£3.40
Brightwalton , A Downland Village, J Osment et al	£8.70	£9.35
Brimpton Story	£9.30	£10.25
A Walk around Charvil , Bill Crane	£3.00	£3.40
Chilton , Up in the Downs, Frank Dumbleton	£11.35	£12.30
Change at Cholsey - Again, Judy & Stuart Dewey	£14.55	£15.70
Cookham (Archive Photograph Series)	£10.70	£11.35
Cookham Union Workhouse Births and Deaths	£2.65	£3.00
The Story of Compton - A Berkshire Downland Village	£12.80	£14.00
Around Didcot & the Hagbournes, Brian Lingham	£9.15	£10.05
People of Didcot , Kenneth Caulkett	£10.95	£11.85
Earley St Peter's C of E School, Watts et al	£3.90	£4.20
Easthampstead Union Workhouse Births and Deaths	£3.00	£3.40
East Ilsley - Photographic Memories 1900-1970	£11.45	£12.50
East Garston - Past & Present	£15.05	£16.20
'Time Gentleman Please', 300 years of Public Houses in East and West Ilsley , Suzanna G. Burnay	£8.75	£9.40
Past and Present Emmer Green (2nd edition)	£11.50	£12.55
Enborne - Narrowing the Field	£1.90	£2.20

Enstone : Lifting the latch - A life on the land	£10.30	£11.30
Eton Union Workhouse Births, Eureka	£3.00	£3.40
Eton Union Workhouse Deaths, Eureka	£4.10	£4.65
Eton Wick - A Photographic History	£11.70	£12.70
Eton Wick 1217-1977, the Story of a Villlage	£6.10	£6.65
Faringdon, Witney, Woodstock & Chipping Norton - Marriage Notices, Eureka	£1.90	£2.20
Changing Faces of Faringdon - Book 1	£11.10	£12.05
Changing Faces of Faringdon - Books 2 & 3. each	£9.80	£10.55
Finchampstead in old pictures	£5.75	£6.40
Ginge to Lockinge - Historical Walk, John Brooks	£2.90	£3.30
The First 150 years of Goring School	£11.30	£12.30
Hagbourne : Diary of a Village School, M Lawson	£10.50	£11.55
Henley Rural - History of a Rural District Concl	£10.85	£11.60
Around Henley on Thames , Sian Ellis	£9.10	£10.05
Henley, Wallingford & Wokingham Mar Notices,	£2.40	£2.70
Windsor Hakebourne - A story of West Hagbourne	£12.15	£13.10
The Parish of Hinton Waldrist , Peter Keene	£3.45	£3.90
Reminiscences of 20th century Hungerford	£4.50	£4.90
A History of Hungerford , Bailey et al	£6.80	£7.55
Hungerford Union Workhouse Births & Deaths	£3.50	£3.90
Hurst , 19th Century St Nicholas Church, Jim Bell	£3.90	£4.20
Kennet & Avon Canal , Clive & Helen Hackford	£11.95	£12.85
Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor , Keen & Kelly	£3.45	£3.90
Kintbury - A Century Remembered 1900-1999	£7.45	£8.35
Longworth - A sense of place, Peter Keene	£3.45	£3.90
Maidenhead : a Pictorial History, Luke Over	£13.50	£14.35
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Maidenhead Cong. Church: Bap., Mar. & Bur., Eureka	£3.80	£4.10
Mortimer in Old Photographs	£10.15	£11.05
A Photographic Record of Newbury , Sue Hopson	£11.45	£12.50
The Story of Newbury , Tony Higgott	£11.10	£12.05
Newbury Union Workhouse Births & Deaths	£4.00	£4.40
Oxford Canal - The Boat people, Eureka	£3.15	£3.55
Oxfordshire Airfields in the Second World War	£14.70	£15.70
Pamber Heath History, Raymond West	£14.50	£15.70
Purley on Thames at the Millenium, John Chapman	£3.50	£3.90
Reading - Britain in Old Photographs	£7.95	£8.85
The Town of Reading and its Abbey, Cecil Slade	£11.30	£12.25
Reading , The History of Christ Church CE Primary Sc	£5.60	£6.15
Reading Borough Police Register 1865-1880	£4.00	£4.65
Reading Borough Police Register 1881-1904	£4.00	£4.65
Reading Reg. Dist. Marriage Notices 1837-1848	£3.00	£3.40
Reading Broad St. Cong. Church Bap., Mar. & Bur.	£3.60	£4.15
The People of Rotherfield Greys vol 1	£3.15	£3.55
The People of Rotherfield Greys vol 2 & 3: each	£3.00	£3.40
Sandhurst - a look back in time	£5.00	£5.45
Sandhurst & Crowthorne : Public houses 1740-1950	£4.00	£4.45
Shinfield : a walk around our village	£5.50	£5.95
Shinfield , Those were the days, George & Eileen Taylor	£3.00	£3.40

Tudor and Stuart Shrivenham , Dils and Schwartz	£7.45	£8.35
Slough - A Century of Change	£10.95	£11.85
The Book of Sonning , Angela Perkins	£18.55	£19.70
Sonning, Eye & Dunsden Two Centuries of Change	£11.50	£12.55
A Hundred years of South Moreton School	£4.45	£4.85
Sandhurst in the Second World War	£6.85	£7.60
Spencers Wood - Our Village	£5.60	£6.15
The Bobby's Notebook - On the beat in early Victorian		
Sunninghill , C. Weightman	£5.50	£5.95
Around Tadley - People and Places	£10.35	£11.30
Around Tadley - Fact and Fable	£9.35	£10.30
Tadley - During my Time and Before, E W Kimber	£1.90	£2.20
Thames Valley Airfields in the Second World War	£14.70	£15.70
Thames Valley Papists, Tony Hadland	£7.15	£8.70
Thatcham over 2000 years including Cold Ash		
Greenham & Midgham	£6.95	£7.85
Theale Community Quilt 2000	£4.00	£4.45
More of the Tilehurst we remember	£6.75	£7.35
The History of Tilehurst Methodist Church	£8.45	£9.35
Twyford - A Village Post Office, John and Sheila Rudd	£3.00	£3.40
Twyford - Old Inns & Alehouses, John and Sheila Rudd	£1.75	£2.15
Twyford - St Mary the Virgin Parish Register Extracts	£4.00	£4.45
Twyford's Railway Heritage, Marion & John Pearse	£3.25	£3.65
Twyford & Ruscombe Village Walks	£3.50	£3.90
Rural life in the Vale of the White Horse 1780-1914	£9.10	£10.05
Around Wallingford , David Beasley	£10.95	£11.85
Wallingford and the Civil War, J & S Dewey	£3.15	£3.45
Window on Wallingford 1837-1914, J & S Dewey	£19.25	£20.10
Wantage 1550-1650, I Schooling	£1.90	£2.20
Wantage - Images of England	£10.95	£11.85
The Book of Wargrave (History & Reminiscences)	£12.05	£13.45
The Second Book of Wargrave	£19.65	£20.60
The History of West Woodhay with Enstone ,		
Hamstead Marshall , Inkpen & Combe	£3.50	£3.90
White Waltham - A Village at War	£7.00	£7.45
Wilts & Berks Canal	£10.95	£11.85
Wokingham - The Town of My Life, Ken Goatley	£8.85	£9.60
Wokingham & Bracknell - Frith's Photo Memories	£10.95	£11.85
A Thousand Years of Windsor	£7.50	£8.55
Windsor Union Workhouse Deaths, Eureka	£3.40	£3.70

Berkshire Overseers' Papers on microfiche

(arranged by Poor Law Unions - but pre-1834)

Vol 1	Newbury: Chieveley	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 2	Newbury: Brimpton, Enborne, Wasing, Woolhampton	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 3	Newbury: Thatcham	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 4	Bradfield: Aldermaston, Englefield, Pangbourne	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 5	Bradfield: Abbots & Bannister, Bucklebury, Burghfield, Stanford Dingley, Sulham, Sulhamstead, Theale		sold out
Vol 6	Bradfield: Tilehurst, Padworth	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 7	Maidenhead: Bray, Cookham, Waltham St Lawrence	£3.40	£4.40

Vol 8	Faringdon: Ashbury, Coleshill, Great Coxwell, Kingston Lisle, Longworth, Shellingford, Stanford in the Vale, Uffington		sold out
Vol 9	Wallingford: Brightwell, Crowmarsh Gifford, Newnham Murren, Wallingford St Mary & St Peter Long Wittenham	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 10	Easthampstead: Easthampstead, Warfield, Winkfield	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 11	Wokingham (part of): Shinfield, Sonning, Swallowfield, Wokingham-	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 12	Wokingham & Windsor: Finchampstead, Hurst, Sunninghill, Old Windsor		sold out
Vol 13	Wantage: Blewbury, Brightwell, Hampstead Norris, W Hanney, Harwell, W Hendred, Peasemore, Sparsholt, & part of Wantage	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 14	Wantage: remainder	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 15	Abingdon: Abingdon, Cumnor, Drayton, Kingston Bagpuize, Sutton Courtenay	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 16	Reading (part of): St Giles	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 17	Reading (part of): St Giles	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 18	Reading (part of): St Giles	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 19	Reading (part of): St Giles	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 20	Reading (part of): St Mary	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 21	Reading (remainder of): St Mary	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 22	Reading: Caversham	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 23	Hungerford: Kintbury & part of Hungerford	£4.35	£5.40
Vol 24	Hungerford:(part of): Hungerford	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 25	Hungerford:(remainder of): Hungerford	£3.40	£4.40
Vol 26	Newbury: Newbury	£4.35	£5.40

(This series is now complete and a master index and CD-ROM version is being prepared.)

Old Ordnance Survey Maps

BerksFHS - Berkshire Maps (CD)

The Ordnance Survey first edition 1881-87

51 maps included , scale 6 inch to the mile

£10.50 £11.95

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Maidenhead 1897	£2.50	£2.80
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Oxford 1898	£2.50	£2.80
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Berkshire Parish Registers (inc. some parishes in Oxfordshire)

Abingdon Reg. District - Volume 1 (CD)*: <i>Abingdon St Helens, Abingdon St Michael (Bap & Mar only), Abingdon Workhouse (Bap only), Abingdon St Nicholas, Culham, Milton (Berks), Sandford on Thames, Shippon</i>	£17.50	£17.50
Abingdon Reg. District - Volume 2 (CD)*: <i>Appleford, Appleton, Binsey, Drayton (Berks), Drayton St Leonard, Frilford & Longworth Mission, Fyfield, Kingston Bagpuize, Lyford, Marsh Baldon, North Hinksey, Nuneham Courtney, South Hinksey</i>	£17.50	£17.50
Abingdon Reg. District - Volume 3 (CD)*: <i>Besselsleigh, Cumnor, Marcham, Radley, Stadhampton, Steventon, Sunningwell, Sutton Courtney, Tubney, Uffington Wooton (Berks), Wytham</i>	£17.50	£17.50
Barkham St James 1538–1998 (CD)	£5.50	£6.95
Barkham St James 1538–1998 (fiche)	£5.35	£6.40
Burghfield St Mary 1559–1987 (CD)	£7.50	£8.95
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Theale, Holy Trinity 1832-1968 (fiche)	£4.35	£5.40
Tilehurst, St Michael 1559-1991 (CD)	£10.00	£11.45
Wallingford Reg. District - Volume 1 (CD)*:		

<i>Brightwell, Cholsey, Long Wittenham, North Moreton, Sotwell, Wallingford: St Leonard, St Mary, St Peter, Baptist Chapel, Independent & Primitive Methodist Churches</i>	£17.50	£17.50
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Berkshire Burial Index 3rd Edition (CD)	£14.50	£15.95
For updates from first or second edition please look on the society webpages. Items marked * have been produced and are priced by Oxfordshire FHS		

Berkshire Census (inc. some parts of Oxon)

Full 1851 transcript with name index (CD)	£23.10	£24.10
Microfiche transcripts with a name index are available for some Enumeration Districts. Printed booklets of the surname are still available for a few districts.		
Full 1881 transcript with name index (CD)	£15.50	£16.95
Toomer's 1815 Census of Newbury (CD)	£7.50	£8.95
1841 Transcript and indexes (fiche)*		
Moreton and Wantage Hundreds	£9.00	£9.00
Faringdon	£9.00	£9.00
Shrivenham & Ganfield Hundreds	£9.00	£9.00
Oxford City (inc. Grandpont & Oxford Aldates)	£9.00	£9.00
Abingdon	£9.00	£9.00
Ock & Horner Hundreds	£9.00	£9.00
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1861 (except Woodstock sub-district)	£17.50	£17.50
1871	£17.50	£17.50
1891	£17.50	£17.50
Microfiche indexes are also available for Abingdon, Faringdon, Henley (including Rememham), Oxford City, Wallingford & Wantage for census years 1861, 1871 & 1891		

Items marked * have been produced and are priced by Oxfordshire FHS

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transcriptions and indexes (fiche)		
Berkshire War Memorials (Part 1): <i>Villages, towns and parish churches 1838–1982</i>	£9.85	£10.90
Berkshire War Memorials (Part 2): <i>Military Units 1854–1991</i>	£4.35	£5.40

Berkshire monumental inscriptions

Aldermaston 1553-2002 (CD)	£3.50	£4.95
Other Berkshire monumental inscriptions are available on microfiche or CD for many churchyards and cemeteries. A complete list together with prices can be obtained from the Society website on < www.berksfhs.org.uk/berksfhsbooks > or by contacting our Bookshop at Yeomanry House, Reading, RG1 7TJ.		

Other Items

National Burial Index 2nd Edition	£46.30	£47.30
Snare's Post Office Directory of Reading 1842-3	£8.10	£9.35
Secretary Hand ABC Book, Alf Ison	£4.45	£5.90
Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs, R. Pols	£6.90	£7.80

Vouchers for use on the internet

Vouchers for the 1901 PRO census at <www.1901census.nationalarchives.gov.uk> and for Family History online at <www.familyhistoryonline.net> may also be ordered from the Bookshop in £5.00 and £10.00 denominations. Please add 50p (UK) or £1.30 (overseas air mail) p&p when ordering alone.

Placing orders

Orders may be placed on our website or by mail to The Bookshop, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading RG1 7TJ. Cheques should be made payable to BerksFHSBooks in sterling or for an equivalent amount in Australian, Canadian, New Zealand or US dollars or in Euros. Currency conversion rates may be found in daily newspapers or on the internet.

Books are priced to be sent by surface mail. For air mail prices, please check the web site www.berksfhs.org.uk or by post at the above address. Fiche, CDs and computer diskettes are priced to be sent by air mail to all destinations outside the UK unless the order also includes books in which case they will also be sent surface mail. Allow four weeks for UK and overseas air mail to twelve weeks for overseas surface mail for delivery.

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New additions to the Library

The Society has recently purchased a year's subscription to the library edition of **Ancestry** for use in the Research Centre. This gives access to indexes and images of the **census** (1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901) for all of **England** and **Wales**. This complements our extensive collection of census indexes published by many family history societies, particularly for 1851 and several other countries.

Many **other** records are also available including Pallot's Marriage Index, US census and some Phillimore's parish register and will indexes. A fee of £1 is charged for each hour's use of this relatively expensive service.

Berkshire Burial Index update

The parishes and periods which have been added to the Berkshire Burial Index since the position shown in the June 2005 issue of the Berkshire Family Historian are set out below. The index now contains more than 397,000 entries. An † indicates a new parish rather than additional coverage for an existing parish.

Burghfield St Mary 1871 - 1942
Chieveley St Mary the Virgin 1813 - 1874
Faringdon All Saints 1831 - 1842
Grazeley Holy Trinity 1851 - 1905
Pangbourne St James the Less 1813 - 1926†
Reading St Giles 1564 - 1598, 1840 - 1848 and 1955 - 1990
Reading St Mary 1738 - 1749
Sonning St Andrew 1826 - 1836
Sotwell St James 1693 - 1812†
Steventon St Michael & All Angels 1813 - 1847 and 1893 - 1922
Sunningwell St Leonard 1812 - 1960†
Thatcham St Mary 1790 - 1805
Wallingford St Leonard 1813 - 1869
Welford St Gregory 1749 - 1812

Details of the postal service for researching burials in the Berkshire Burial Index are given on the back pages.

Income and Expenditure for the year ending 30 April 2005

	2005	2004
Income:	£	£
Subscriptions	23,699	25,835
Inland Revenue Gift Aid	1,928	2,245
Royalties	1,445	3,947
Bank deposit interest	502	350
Advertising	660	135
Symposia	1,290	375
Donations	3,427	634
Berkshire Name Search	706	1,101
1851 / 1881 Census	—	94
Fiche Printer/ Photocopier	670	749
Miscellaneous	688	593
Total Income	35,015	36,058

	2005	2004
Expenditure:		
Magazine and members handbooks	9,694	6,404
Magazine Postage	4,335	5,011
Meeting Halls	938	981
Speakers	1,978	1,778
Symposia, open days and other events	289	302
Reference Library	1,498	1,804
Premises	5,127	5,566
Other Research Centre costs	1,601	2,527
Projects	484	3,771
Computer Costs	1,418	—
Depreciation	4,418	997
Equipment Maintenance	1,645	—
Insurance and FFHS	1,527	1,425
Other Affiliations	70	25
Postage	448	711
Stationery	842	524
Photocopy	43	100
Telephone	139	39
Travel	463	479
Non-magazine printing	289	208
Professional fees	190	423
Miscellaneous	166	345
Total Expenditure	37,603	33,418

	2005	2004
	£	£
Total Income	35,015	36,058
Total Expenditure	(37,603)	(33,418)
(Deficit) / Surplus for the period	(2,588)	2,640
Surplus brought forward	55,848	53,208
Surplus carried forward	53,260	55,848

Balance Sheet

at 30 April 2005

	Note	2005 £	2004 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	1	18,329	4,044
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		18,329	4,044
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	2	3,695	7,498
Cash at bank		31,236	44,306
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		34,931	51,804
TOTAL ASSETS		53,260	55,848
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD		53,260	55,848

Notes to the financial statements for the year to 30 April 2005

1 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation on fixed assets in the year has been calculated to write off the cost of tangible assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Computer, 33% on cost and Other Equipment: 20% on cost

Cost:	Other Equipmt £	Computer Equipmt £	Total £
at 30 April 2004	6,763	3,200	9,963
Additions	17,856	847	18,703
at 30 April 2005	24,619	4,047	28,666
Depreciation:			
at 30 April 2004	5,118	801	5,919
Charge for the year	2,879	1,539	4,418
at 30 April 2004	7,997	2,340	10,337

Net Book value at 30 April 2005	16,622	1,707	18,329
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Net Book value at 30 April 2004	1,645	2,399	4,044
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2 Debtors

	2005 £	2004 £
Inland Revenue Gift Aid Donations	1,600	2,054
Prepayments	1,581	1,133
Owed from BEH Enterprises Ltd	514	4,311
Total debtors	3,695	7,498

The balance at 30th April 2005 owed from Berkshire Family History Enterprises Limited was £514 (2004: £4,311). This balance represents a trading balance between the Society and the Company at the end of the year.

On reaching the 121st issue

Chad Hanna

Perusing the magazine library at the Newbury branch in 1993

In September 1989, Alf Ison handed over the reins as journal editor to John Gurnett and wrote his personal view of the first 14 years of our Society [see Ison 1989]. John Gurnett edited the magazine for several years while I did the desktop publishing at work before passing the editor's job onto Catherine Harrington. The job returned to John as Catherine's growing family became more demanding. John's work now requires that he hands the job of editor on and we have a new 'opportunity' after the many changes and improvements that John has made during his editorship culminating in the Elizabeth Simpson award and the new A4 look.

Perhaps you will forgive me, after stepping down again as Chairman of our Society and stepping up as guest editor, sharing my personal view of the last sixteen years or so. Alf wrote his article shortly after I first became involved with the Berkshire Family History Society — I remember making the coffee for a meeting of the year-old Reading Branch Committee, hosted by my late wife Lesley, and then made the grave 'mistake' of giving my considered opinion about some matter to those present. I was clearly 'Chairman' material!

One of my first tasks was working with Alf and Cliff Debney to revise our Society's constitution to reflect the recent formation of the three branches, namely Reading, Newbury and Slough. The Newbury branch grew out of a set of evening classes led by the late Mike Wilshin, while the Slough branch resulted from a merger with the Windsor, Slough and District Family History Society, a society of similar vintage to our own. We foresaw the need for more branches when we rewrote the constitution, and after organising an almost



too successful open day at the Church Hall in Easthampstead, we planned a new branch for Bracknell and I was pleased to serve as its first chairman and organise the first three meetings with the enthusiastic support of a new committee. The inaugural meeting was Alf Ison giving his famous talk 'Family History from a Biscuit Tin' which showed how to glean valuable family history from the receipt for a piano and similar 'documents'. The Vale of the White Horse branch in Abingdon was much more recent and now we have the Computer branch. I see our six branches as one of the strengths of our Society. Many people do not like to travel far to meetings especially on dark, winter evenings — after all this is a hobby and not a full-time commitment (for most of us at least). Branches both educate and entertain family historians and, hopefully, help them move their family history research on and inspire them to help other family historians.

There have been two sides to the Society since the earliest days. The first is to help Family Historians who live in Berkshire, and second

is to help Family Historians whose research leads them back to Berkshire.

The library was started in the earliest days of our Society, both in Reading and Slough, the base of the Windsor, Slough and District FHS. It grew by leaps and bounds, partly by donations and partly by purchase, often at the open days organised by family history societies. In Reading, Jean and Cliff Debney's work on the bookstall and library led to explosive growth held in check only by the number of plastic 'Curver' crates that could be transported by car and stored in their house whilst causing only mild structural damage. Clearly the answer was a more permanent home, but where could this be in Berkshire where rents are so high?

One of the first opportunities was an invitation to find a use for the ground floor at Brock Barracks along the Oxford Road. Various members of the Society put together a proposal, only to find that suggestions of 'some arts group' won the favour of Reading Borough Council. Perhaps this was fortunate as it would have been a lot of expensive work to adapt it for our needs. Our then secretary, Robert Houseman came up with the suggestion of using redundant classrooms at a school and found the rooms at Prospect School. These two rooms were quickly adapted for our use, partly with the purchase of a hole in the wall to join the two rooms. It clearly made sense to move the venue of the Reading Branch meeting to the School and so it came to leave its home at Park URC Church Hall on the other side of Reading. After a short period in storage the Research Centre moved to its current location between Reading Register Office to the shortly to be filled new Record Office, returning to Reading after several years at Shinfield Park.

Fifteen years ago our Society organised a one-day conference each year, in some guise or other. Some were held at Bulmershe College, then Reading University and finally the Holt School in Wokingham. We alighted on the plan of running a weekend conference at Reading University and hosting the Federation of Family History Societies six-monthly general meeting. This great event would take place in September 1995 to celebrate our 21st anniversary. A small group met over three years to plan and organise this conference. This was demanding and once it was all over we seemed to collapse in a heap unable to organise even a one-day meeting! Or perhaps we felt, "been there, done that, got the tee-shirt." One of the major successes at the conference was the raffle of a quilt made by Margaret Quarterman, a stalwart supporter from Cheshire. The income from the raffle allowed us to buy a second-hand microfiche reader-printer to use in conjunction with the 1881 census index – then available only on microfiche. This machine has only recently been made redundant by our Society's purchase of a Minolta film and fiche, reader, scanner and printer. I'm looking forward to our Conference on 8 October.

During all this time the Society's work on projects continued. Geoff Mather's team continued to complete the 1851 census, while Vincent Millett and others worked on the 1881 census project – everyone calls it the LDS or Mormon 1881 census index without realising the effort we family historians put into it. The recording of gravestones continued, with the Reading branch meeting in a churchyard in July, a pleasant tradition I feel that all branches should consider re-instating. David Watkins led a team that over a period of years recording the inscriptions at the London

The library in 'Curver' crates at a symposium in 1993



Road Cemetery in Reading a.k.a. Cemetery Junction — “the dead centre of Reading” 12,000 gravestones by my reckoning and a real achievement. Clearly no one could afford to buy a 1000 page book of inscriptions so plans were made to begin publication on microfiche.

Recording one of the more interesting stones at Reading Cemetery in 1992



In all of these projects, we are grateful for the help of local members, often with no Berkshire interests, who were producing something for those with Berkshire ancestors. Nowadays, we can often send fiche or CDs of images to members on the far side of the world but we still need local members to work in the County Record Office or other nearby repositories to make some data available.

Berkshire FHS at the second Society of Genealogists Family History Fair in May 1994



We must not forget the Bookstall and the Publications team now operating in the form of a wholly-owned trading company. The range of publications has grown enormously over the years and Jocie McBride has become the driving force behind this. A group of us, the ‘away’ team, take the bookstall to the Society of Genealogists’ Family History Fair and to fairs in nearby counties. We now have a great deal to show, including the Berkshire Name Search on

computer, but the popularity of fairs seems to be on the wane.

I have learnt a great deal working with our Society — not all at once, thank goodness, but step-by-step. We are now in an age of computers, CD-ROMs and the Internet — a point where family history can appear ‘easy’ to newcomers inspired by TV programmes, only to be flummoxed by the different attitudes and the bare need to survive in the time of our ancestors. Many of the talks at branch meetings and the articles in this journal illuminate the lives of our ancestors and help us understand them.

The Internet is now a major focus for our Society’s activities. The Society has had a web site since at least 1997. Eddie Spackman’s dedicated work has expanded the web site and converted our library catalogue, book list, members interests and birth brief index into web pages — though it would be good if people wouldn’t try to purchase books from the library catalogue! Eddie now finds he has to step back from this work and let someone else take it further. Thanks to him almost any Google query that involves ‘Berkshire’ will result in a hit on our Society’s web site.

On your behalf, the Executive Committee thanks those who have made a major contribution to Society’s work over a prolonged period by granting honorary membership to them — they cannot be on the Committee, I hasten to add. Honorary members include the late John Brooks, Alf and Avril Ison, Jean and Cliff Debney, Geoff Mather, Jackie Blow, Irene Littleby, Brian and Joyce Hunt, and most recently Liz Longhurst.

There are so many people who have contributed their time over the years to fulfil Alf’s vision of our Society putting Berkshire on the genealogical map. Preparing for a ‘Getting to know you day’ three years ago Gillian Stevens found 170 people who were providing active help to our Society, even just a few hours. As Chairman I have been grateful for having the support of over 2000 members behind me.

Bibliography

Ison, Alf, 1989. On Reaching the 57th Issue
Berkshire Family History Society J., 13 (1) 1

Send your letters or articles: by email to Editor@berksfhs.org.uk or The Editor, Berkshire Family History Society, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading, RG1 7TJ

Elys Burges of Kintbury and Stanford Dingley

Lucijane Burgess <willbur@maineline.net>

If anyone is able to help identifying the following person, I would be most appreciative.

In Nick Hidden's Abstracts of probate records for the Wantage and Hungerford areas of Berkshire (on the Genuki Berkshire web page), I found the following three entries:

1545, probate for John **Field** in Kintbury:

witness Ellis Burges, curate

1545, probate for Thomas Field in

Kintbury:

witness Sir (?) Ellis Burges, curate

1550, probate for John Bonny in Kintbury:

witness Sir Elles Burthes, curate

I can find no other record for this person through any internet search with the exception of a marriage record that appears in the LDS/IGI/BI parish records entries as follows:

Elys Burges married Jone **Philip** at Stanford-Dingley 14 Dec 1546.

I note from the gazetteer that Stanford-Dingley is 13 miles ENE of Kintbury but I am not certain that this is the same person.

Is there anyone at all in the Berkshire Family History Society who might be able to provide even the slightest hint on this person? Any suggestions or information will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Records of the Wood Speen Academy

Gordon Drewe, 6 Treve Avenue, Harrow, Middx HA1 4AJ

I have been trying to ascertain whether the archives of The Wood Speen Academy, London Road, Speen are extant and available for inspection. It was a private boarding school for boys whose headmaster, James

Corbould, and pupils were recorded in the 1841 and 1851 censuses. By 1861 Mr Corbould, aged 62, was still living at Speen (St Mary's Place) but as a proprietor of houses. His son, Edward J Corbould, aged 32, was head of a boarding school at Waterloo Terrace, Speen which may have been successor to the Academy. Berkshire Record Office have no knowledge of the school apart from the exercise books of E **Toomer**, a pupil from 1830-36. They suggest that any archives may have been retained by the Corbould family. There is a brief reference in Pigot's Directory 1830 to the school but no advertisements appeared in the local paper, the Newbury Journal.

My interest began when I discovered the two sons of George Knowles **Drewe**, landlord of The Swan Inn, East Ilsley were pupils at the school in 1851. It is disappointing that such little information exists in the public domain and I should be grateful if any members could provide details of the school and its history. It is strange that it could exist for several decades yet leave no evidence of its influence in the locality.

Seeking
Ellen Harriet **Young** (née **Day**)
born
Waltham St Lawrence 1882,
left
Burnham (1918?)
and believed to have lived in
Maidenhead.

Please contact:
KG Davis, 8 Hinsford Close,
Kingswinford, Dudley DY6 7LF
Any costs refunded.

advertisement

Search for a half-brother in Hampshire

Robin Price, Box 111A RR2, Ste Anne, Manitoba R5H 1R2, Canada <robinofwilts@hotmail.com

My mother Gladys May **Moss**, the daughter of Charles Percy and Tillie Moss, was born in November 1916 at Skeleton Farm[!], Upton, Berks and later moved to Grange Estate, near Ringwood, Hampshire. When she was about 17 she gave birth to an illegitimate son. He would have been born in the mid 1930s and only lived for at most a few months. This was always a difficult subject for my parents and my sister, who now lives in Somerset, and we did not discuss it with our parents who died many years ago. We believe that our half-brother may have been buried at Ringwood. Later this year I hope to visit England to visit the grave but we have little idea where he may have been buried. Could anyone help?

Robin wrote again with a birth certificate for a boy born 7 April 1936 at 153 Richmond Park Road, in the sub-district of Bournemouth. The mother, also the informant, is recorded as Gladys Mary Moss, a general servant. The birth was registered on 5 June 1936.

I have done a little research in the hope that I might find that 153 Richmond Park Road was a home for unwed mothers, no luck. Today, 155 Richmond Park road is a Day Nursery and 151 is a nursing home, what the significance of this is I have yet to assess.

The registration was 59 days after the birth and there is a slight difference in my mother's name, I still think I am on the right track with this, if only for the reason that Ringwood is not far from Bournemouth (ten miles or so?) and the time frame is about right.

I have found a death of a male Moss of age in the same quarter, nearby in Christchurch registration district. I have applied for the certificate and am waiting anxiously to see what information it might provide.

I hope to spend a little time in England September or October, so I still have time for more input.

Death of great uncle Oetze

Patricia Ford, 1 Clifton Lane, Thorpe Constantine, Tamworth B79 0LJ

Please help me solve the mystery of an ancestor's death. I have tried every avenue and have reached the limit of my research ability.

My great uncle, Oetze Augustinus **Atzema**, was born in Holland on 5th July 1869. Sometime between 1871 and 1876 the family (he was the firstborn) moved to England and settled in Kent. I have a Dutch friend who has very kindly been to the archives and presented me with a full family tree. She states categorically that this person is never again mentioned in Holland.

Oetze married on 18th April 1889 very naughtily giving his age as 21 when he was patently 19! As his bride stated her age as 21 too, I am wondering about the truth of that, except that her father witnessed the wedding. I have since discovered from the 1901 census that Elizabeth Jane (Lizzie) Atzema (née **Nichols**) was a widow. So Oetze died young, but all my efforts to discover his death or burial have led nowhere. I have visited the Family Research Centre at Islington. <www.1837online.com> doesn't produce anything, nor does trying <www.mytrees.com> nor any of the other ancestry sites I've tried. I have gone into the Ellis Island records, and US censuses and databases, since family gossip had it that he had gone to the US or Canada (though subsequently discovering his marriage leads me to think this was a cover up for his death). As a place was always laid at the dining table for him, I am inclined to think that this story was told to my mother as a child because talking of his death may have been difficult for the family.

I have a cousin in Vancouver who has checked what records he can there, and there is no mention of my ancestor.

Any ideas, please?

**Relatives in Cookham?
Or was it Maidenhead or Bray?**

The following discussion took place on the Society's members-only email discussion list over a few days in August and is reprinted here with permission. Over 300 members subscribe to the discussion list sharing their questions, knowledge and experience. To join the discussion list email your membership number and postcode to <listowner@berksfhs.org.uk> and Joan Vinall will join you to the list.

Valerie Storie began:

An interesting situation has occurred over queries directed at the Research Centre. Twice recently help has been sought over families found in the 1881 census and having a Cookham address. However, the families were not actually in Cookham Village but in Maidenhead Town itself. It is an odd situation that causes no end of problems — the north side of the main road through Maidenhead (now the High Street and formerly A4 until the bypass was built) was in Cookham Parish whilst the south side of the main road was in Bray Parish. It is very confusing and I am sure leads many researchers up the proverbial garden path.

One query involved a pub called *The Swan* in 'Cookham High Street' and the descendant was convinced his relative lived at the pub called *The Swan Uppers* in the Village and that there was a connection with the artist Stanley Spencer. Unfortunately the Swan was a beer house in Maidenhead and hadn't ever seen a swan or the artist!

Although I have always lived just 3 miles from Maidenhead it wasn't something I was aware of until the Swan query came in. It does go to show we need to exercise such care in interpreting documents — the census can seem so matter of fact but there are hidden pitfalls. I go to WI in Cookham and I know the High Street is not very long — I only discovered this anomaly by looking for Cookham High Street on the 1851 Berks census CD and to get my bearings by looking out for a pub which I know to have been in existence for 400 years. It wasn't there and after literally dozens of other pubs, shops etc.

I began to realise High St Cookham was in fact Maidenhead High Street and anything in Cookham was merely 'The Village'.

So anyone who believes their relatives resided in the lovely Thames-side village of Cookham may be under an illusion — please take care.

Valerie Storie

Chairman - Windsor/Slough/Maidenhead Branch

Pat Straughan added the following:

Thanks to Valerie for pointing this out. It may explain why some people were a little vague about where they were born. There must be other similar instances. Some years ago I lived in South London. I knew someone whose house straddled the boundaries of the old counties of Kent and Surrey. Searching the 1881 Census for that area on CD-ROM is a pain — one is Greater London East, the other West.

And Judith Mitchell wrote:

Maidenhead south of the A4 (London to Bath Road) was in Bray parish. So if your ancestors appeared to have lived in Bray until the late part of the 19th century they may well have been living in Maidenhead. Even in the 1920s parts of the Furze Platt area (north Maidenhead) came under Cookham Rural District Council. (Ray Knibbs *Furze Platt remembered*).

I seem to remember that the 'Swan Uppers' Cookham is a relatively new name anyway — I think it used to be called differently.

Valerie Storie has now confirmed:

The 'Swan Uppers' was formerly 'The New Inn.'

Bookends

Jean Debney

Berkshire Records

Two new publications of indexed records from the Berkshire Record Office transcribed and published by the enthusiastic Eureka Partnership.

Note: All the following titles are available in person from the Berkshire FHS Bookshop (see middle pullout) or by mail order.

Berkshire Militia - Men enrolled 1807 and 1808, The Eureka Partnership (2005) A5, lilac flexiback, 32pp. Price £2.50, UK p&p £3.15, Overseas Surface, £3.40, Airmail £4.40

The militia ("home guard") were established in 1757 when each parish and county had to provide their quota of men aged 18 to 50 (45 from 1762) to serve for five years as required. Some men were exempted or paid substitutes and from 1802 able bodied men were divided into categories.

This booklet lists the men balloted for each parish, date of enrollment and what bounty (if any) was agreed, their substitutes' name (when applicable), place of origin and share of the bounty paid. Most substitutes came from Berkshire or the adjacent counties, but a few came from as far afield as Yorkshire, Lancashire and Kent.

Newbury Union - Workhouse Births 1836-1909 and Deaths 1868-1909, The Eureka Partnership (2005) A5, grey flexiback, 56pp. Price £3.50, UK p&p, Overseas surface £, Airmail £

Newbury Poor Law Union (formed 1835)

covers the parishes of Boxford, Brimpton, Chieveley, Enborne, Greenham, Hampstead Marshall, Leckhamstead, Midgham, Newbury, Sandleford, Shaw-cum-Donnington, Speen, Thatcham, Wasing, Welford, Winterbourne and Woolhampton (all Berkshire) and Newtown (Hampshire). Cold Ash, a parish created in 1865 from Thatcham, was added in 1894.

An informative and important introduction, and workhouse plan, precedes the text. The birth registers includes the child's birth date, name and sex, parent/s' names, parish to which belongs, legitimacy, date and place of baptism and remarks. The death register includes date of death, name, age, parish admitted from and where buried.

A History of Tilehurst Methodist Church, celebrating the Centenary of the Church Building 1905 - 2005, written and compiled by Geoff Havers, (2005) A4, pl blue flexiback, 68pp Price £7.50

The author is a member of Berkshire Family History Society and has researched and written a fascinating story of his local church with lots of interesting details, a map, photographs, original plans, etc. Everyone with a connection to the church, the parish or Methodism will enjoy this publication.

Goring School, the First 150 years, Michael ANDERSON (Pie Power Press for Goring Primary School, 2005) 8.2" x 7.8" (210mm x 199mm), pictorial blue flexiback, 180pp, Price UK p&p £11.80, Overseas surface £12.50, Airmail £15.20

This is a superbly written and well illustrated history of a village school which, although it has close links to Berkshire, just happens to be on the north side of the Thames in Oxfordshire. Written by the former headteacher for children of all ages, it has lots of cross-references and explanations. Recommended reading.

Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs, Robert POLS (Fed. FHS, 2005) A4, green/white flexiback, 112pp Price £5.95, UK p&p £6.90, Overseas surface £7.80.

This new title contains the information ending at the turn of the century previously published in 'Dating Old Photographs' but with new material, additional chapters and amended identification tables. As before all the illustrations and dating charts are grouped together as appendices with no cross-references to the text.

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Notice

Jewish Ancestor Series

A Guide to Reading Hebrew Inscriptions and Documents, Rosemary WENZERUL (Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain May 2005) p/b 56pp Price £4.50, UK £5.00, Europe £6.00, Rest of world £6.50 (US\$ 12.00)

When researching a Jewish family, it is likely that you will come across various items and documents written in Hebrew. This book is designed to help those people who have difficulty in reading or understanding Hebrew. The idea is to compare the Hebrew on a document, photograph, inscription etc with the information shown in the Guide. For example, you may not be able to read the Hebrew inscription on a relative's grave. By referring to the sections in this Guide, this will be easily achieved. All the Hebrew in the book has English explanation, translation and transliteration. Reasons behind some of the inscriptions and Jewish customs both in the home and in the Synagogue have also been included in order to help researchers understand the religious side of their roots.

It is very difficult, in fact near impossible, for those of us who are unable to understand or read Hebrew to interpret the Hebrew wording. Being in this position is most frustrating and restrictive. I have, therefore, put together a comprehensive guide which I hope will help resolve this problem.

The Guide includes the Hebrew alphabet, Hebrew vowels, numerical values, Jewish calendar, conversion tables, formula to convert a Jewish year to a Gregorian year, how to read headstones, symbols on headstones and their meanings, frequently used Hebrew words with abbreviations found on tombstones, Hebrew given boys' and girls' names, Hebrew letters which are liable to be misread, glossary of Yiddish terms, examples of Hebrew documents/inscriptions, many photographs and much more.

The Guide is available from: JGSGB Publications, PO Box 180, St. Albans, Herts. AL2 3WH, England, U.K. **or via our web-site:** <www.jgsgb.org.uk>



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David & Jenny Carter, Docton Court, 2
Myrtle Street, Appledore, Bideford, Devon
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Email: [<enquiries@nimrodindex.co.uk>](mailto:enquiries@nimrodindex.co.uk)

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- 5722 **West Mrs D**
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- 5841 **Curnow Mrs P**
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- 5850 **McNally Mrs S**
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CM2 8XL
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TW15 2RD
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TS23 3GY
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No	Name	Place	Code	Date
5857	ADLAM	Wells	SOM	1890-1930
5858	AINLEY	Kirkburton	YKS	1750-1850
5858	AITKIN	Aylesbury	BKM	1750-1850
5774	ALDERSON	Gunnarside	YKS	1600-1850
5578	ALDRIDGE	Binfield	BRK	1771-1799
5193	ALDRIDGE	South Hinksey	BRK	pre 1750
5844	ALLEN	Speen	BRK	1600-1735
4272	ALLEN	East	SSX	17th-19thC
4272	ALLEN	All	KEN	17th-19thC
5193	ANSELL	Watton	HRT	pre 1850
5193	ANSELL	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1850
4272	APLIN	All	DOR	17th-19thC
4082	ARMSTRONG	All	BRK	pre 1800

4082	ARMSTRONG	All	WIL	pre 1800	5860	CHAMP	E. Lulworth	DOR	pre 1837
4082	ARMSTRONG	All	HAM	pre 1800	5193	CHAPMAN	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1800
5858	ASHCROFT	Ormskirk	LAN	1700-1900	1224	CLANVIL	Dorchester	OXF	18c
5858	ASPINWALL	Melling	LAN	1700-1900	5858	CLAYTON	Poynton	CHS	1800-1900
5890	AT(T)WOOD	Hurst	BRK	pre 1740	5839	COATES	All	GLS	All
5890	AT(T)WOOD	Wokingham	BRK	1740-1780	5193	COLLIS	Ardeley	HRT	pre 1750
5890	AT(T)WOOD	Hurst	BRK	1740-1780	5789	COOMBER	Portsmouth	HAM	1850+
5890	AT(T)WOOD	Wokingham	BRK	pre 1740	5193	CORKETT	Bennington	HRT	pre 1800
5858	ATHERTON	Kirkby	LAN	1700-1900	5193	COSIER	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850
1224	BAGGS	Reading St Giles			5193	COSIER	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850
			BRK	19c	5193	COSIER	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850
5844	BAKER	Frome	SOM	pre 1835	5722	COTMORE	Wootton	BRK	pre 1850
5858	BANKS	Aintree	LAN	1700-1900	5853	COTTRELL	Reading	BRK	1770+
5193	BARFOOTE	Graveley	HRT	pre 1780	5193	COWAN	Clongish	LOG	pre 1850
5193	BARFOOTE	Ippollitts	HRT	pre 1780	5632	CROCKER	All	YKS	1700-1900
5578	BARTHOLOMEW				5632	CROCKER	All	DEV	1700-1900
		Binfield	BRK	1770-1799	5632	CROCKER	All	ESS	1700-1900
5774	BARTLETT	Bristol	GLS	1700-1850	5193	CROSIER	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850
5857	BATE	All	LAN	1700-1800	5193	CROSIER	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850
5790	BEATON	London	MDX	pre 1850	5193	CROSIER	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850
5850	BECKETT	All	BRK	pre 1900	5839	CROSS	Abingdon	BRK	All
5842	BEERE	London	LDN	1845-1864	5193	CROW	Hertford	HRT	pre 1800
5857	BELL	All	MDX	1800-1900	5193	CROW	Broxbourne	HRT	pre 1800
1224	BETTS	Henley on Thames			5193	CUCKO	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1750
			OXF	17c	5842	DAINES	Topesfiled	ESS	1855+
5842	BIRCH	London	MDX	1840-1920	5842	DAINES	Sible Hedingham		
5842	BIRCH	Northampton	NTH	1910+				ESS	1838-1855
3475	BLEA	Windsor	BRK	1600-1850	5842	DAINES	Bocking	ESS	1855+
5858	BLUNDELL	Halsall	LAN	1700-1900	5842	DAINES	Finchingfield	ESS	1810-1840
5578	BOLTON	Binfield	BRK	1767-1856	5858	DAVIS	Kennington	SRV	1800-1900
5722	BRAILSFORD	Belper	DBY	pre 1850	5858	DAVIS	Whitchurch	OXF	1750-1850
5722	BRAILSFORD	Biggen	DBY	pre 1850	5193	DAY	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1750
5193	BRAZIER	Bicester	OXF	pre 1700	5854	DE CANN	All	LIN	All
5857	BROCK	Bath	SOM	1890-1930	5193	DEAN	Mohill	LET	pre 1830
5857	BROCK	Wells	SOM	1890-1930	5193	DELLOW	Braughing	HRT	pre 1700
5193	BROOKMAN	South Ilsley	BRK	pre 1800	5790	DILLAWAY	All	HAM	pre 1850
5193	BROOKMAN	Tilehurst	BRK	pre 1800	5193	DOBSON	Mohill	LET	pre 1900
5193	BROOKS	Heckfield	HAM	pre 1750	5578	DOWLING	Binfield	BRK	1786-1804
5193	BROOKS	Swallowfield	BRK	pre 1750	4272	DOWNHAM	W Ridng	YKS	17th-19thC
5193	BROOKS	Swallowfield	BRK	pre 1750	5632	DRAKELY	Wolverhampton		
5857	BROWNENT	All	LAN	1700-1800					1800-2000
5193	BUNCH	Braughing	HRT	pre 1800	5632	DRAKELY	All	KEN	1800-2000
5774	BUNSTON	Chard	SOM	1700-1850	5632	DRAKELY	All	ESS	1800-2000
5193	BURCHELL	London	LON	1800's	1224	DREWETT	Henley on Thames		
5193	BURCHELL	Chertsey	SRV	1800's				OXF	18c
5193	BURCHELL	Devonport	DEV	pre 1830	1224	DREWETT	Headington	OXF	17c
5193	BURCHELL	North Kent	KEN	1800's	1224	DREWETT	Stanton St John		
5844	BUTLER	Aldworth	BRK	1600-1720				OXF	17c
5844	BUTLER	East Hendred	BRK	1600-1720	4272	DUNN	E Riding	YKS	17th-19thC
5858	CALDWELL	Kirkby	LAN	1700-1900	5835	ECCELSTONE	Aldershot	HAM	1871+
5853	CANTRELL	Liverpool	LAN	pre 1900	5774	ELLIS	Sanford	DEV	1600-1850
5790	CARN	Croydon	SRV	pre 1870	1224	EMMETT	Harpsden	OXF	18c
4984	CARTER	Marlborough	WIL	1800-1900	5790	EVITT	Armagh	ARM	1820-1901
5193	CARTER	Ippollitts	HRT	pre 1850	4984	FARMER	Brown Candover		
5193	CARTER	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1850				HAM	1800-1950
5193	CATLIN	All	HRT	pre 1850	4984	FARMER	Popham	HAM	1800-1950

Members' interests

1224 FIPPE	Stanton St John		
		OXF	17c
5789 FITZGERALD	Cashel	TIP	1850+
5193 FLEETWOOD	Reading	BRK	pre 1750
5858 FORD	All	MDX1800-1900	
5860 FORD	Plumstead	KEN	pre 1882
1224 FORD	Dorchester	OXF	18c
4272 FRANKLAND	W Riding	YKS17th-19thC	
5789 FRASER	Daviot	INV	1750+
5789 FRASER	Nairn	INV	1750+
5193 FREEMAN	Stevenage area		
		HRT	pre 1750
5842 FROOME	East Shefford	BRK1795-1900	
5860 FYFE	St Cyrus	SCT	pre 1882
5860 GALLEY	Croydon	SRY	pre 1900
5839 GARDNER	Abingdon	BRK	All
5858 GARMAN	All	CHS	1600+
5193 GILBERT	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1750
5789 GILES	All	SFK	1800+
5858 GLOVER	Southwark	SRY1700-1800	
5857 GOLDING	Steventon	BRK1700-1800	
5839 GOODE	All	GLS	All
5853 GOODWIN	Newbury	BRK	pre 1750
5890 GORE	Newbury	BRK1750-1820	
1224 GOSNEY	Sutton Mandeville		
		WIL	19c
5774 GOULD	Bristol Withycombe		
	SOM		1560-1850
5857 GOULD(ING)	Steventon	BRK1700-1800	
5890 GOWER	Newbury	BRK1750-1820	
5790 GREENFIELD	All	SSX	pre 1900
1224 GREENWAY	Dorchester	OXF	17c
1224 GREENWAY	Cholsey	BRK	18c
5858 HALL	Bourton on the Water		
		GLS1700-1900	
5858 HALL	Battersea	SRY1850-1950	
5860 HALSEY	Bridport	DOR	pre 1807
5193 HAMBLIN	Bradfield	BRK	pre 1800
5853 HARBOR	Newbury	BRK	1730+
5853 HARBOR	Newbury	BRK	1756+
5853 HARGRAVES	Stafford	STS	pre 1800
1224 HARMAN	Cogges	OXF	18c
5828 HARPER	Theale	BRK	pre 1900
5858 HASTWELL	London	LDN	1700+
5193 HEAD[S]	Ardeley	HRT	pre 1800
5858 HENWOOD	Plymouth	DEV1800-1900	
5853 HILLIAR	Beverley	YKS	pre 1800
5853 HIND	Newbury	BRK	1725+
5722 HITCHCOCK	Belper	DBY	pre 1850
5722 HITCHCOCK	Farnham Green		
		DBY	pre 1850
5858 HOBSON	Stalybridge	CHS1800-1900	
5722 HOLLIS	Besthorpe	NTT	pre 1850
5858 HOLT	Hurst	BRK1700-1850	
5193 HOWARD	North Co. Longford		
		LOG	pre 1900
5193 HOWARD	South Co. Leitrim		

			LET	pre 1900
5193 HUNT	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850	
5860 HUSSEY	All	BRK	pre 1850	
5193 HUSSEY	Reading	BRK	pre 1800	
5193 HUSSEY	East Berks	BRK	pre 1800	
5857 HUSSON	Paddington	MDX1800-1900		
5789 IXER	Marylebone	MDX	1700+	
5858 JARMAN	All	CHS	1600+	
4272 JENNER	East	SSX17th-19thC		
5835 JESSOP	Sandhurst	BRK	All	
5835 JESSOP	Aldershot	HAM	1871+	
5722 JUFFS	Houghton Conquest			
		BDF	1800-1900	
5722 JUFFS	Draycott	DBY	1800-1900	
5860 KEEPING	Bridport	DOR	pre 1800	
5839 KENT	Abingdon	BRK	All	
5857 KETTLE	All	MDX	1800-1836	
5835 KIMBER	Sandhurst	BRK	All	
5193 KING	Bicester	OXF	pre 1800	
5857 KING	Blackburn	LAN	1700-1836	
5882 KIRBY	London	LDN	1800	
5193 KITCHENER	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1775	
5193 KITCHENER	Boldock	HRT	pre 1775	
5193 KNOT	Reading	BRK	pre 1750	
5814 LAVENDER	All	HAM	pre 1850	
5814 LAVENDER	All	MDX	pre 1850	
5814 LAVENDER	All	OXF	pre 1800	
5814 LAVENDER	All	SSX	pre 1790	
5814 LAVENDER	All	SOM	1780-1900	
5814 LAVENDER	All	DOR	1760-1830	
5814 LAVENDER	All	BRK	pre 1800	
5814 LAVENDER	All	SRY	pre 1800	
5814 LAVENDER	All	LDN	pre 1800	
4984 LAWRENCE	Newbury	BRK	1800-1950	
4272 LAWSON	W Riding	YKS	17th-19thC	
5858 LEDSON	Melling	LAN	1700-1900	
5193 LEWIS	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1750	
5193 LILES	Graveley area	HRT	pre 1800	
5853 LITTLE	Newbury	BRK	pre 1750	
1224 LOWE	Henley on Thames			
		OXF	18c	
1224 LOWE	Burcot	OXF	18c	
1224 LUSH	Donhead St Mary			
		WIL	17c	
5193 LYLIES	Graveley area	HRT	pre 1800	
5842 MACLENAHAN				
	All	ANT	1830-1950	
1224 MARLOW	Reading	BRK	19c	
1224 MARLOW	Henley on Thames			
		OXF	19c	
1224 MARLOW	Old Windsor	BRK	18c	
5841 MARTIN	Chelsea	MDX	1700-2000	
5841 MARTIN	Battersea	SRY	1700-2000	
5841 MARTIN	Chilton Foliot	WIL	1700-2000	
5841 MARTIN	Hungerford	BRK	1700-2000	
5193 MASKALL	Cheiverley	BRK	pre 1800	
5193 MATHEWS	Shinfield	BRK	pre 1700	

5841	MATTHEWS	Battersea	SRY	1700-2000	5193	PITHER	North Hampshire		
5789	McDONALD	Nairn	INV	1750+			HAM	1000 onwards	
5193	MERCHANT	Reading	BRK	pre 1750	4272	PITTMAN	All	SOM17th-19thC	
3475	MERRYMAN	Windsor	BRK	1600-1900	4272	PITTMAN	All	BRK	All
1224	MESSENGER	Henley on Thames			5193	PLUMM	North Herts	HRT	pre 1875
			OXF	18c	5632	POPKIN	West Ham	LDN	1700-2000
5578	MILOM	Binfield	BRK	1799	5632	POPKIN	Bethnal Green	LDN	1700-2000
5578	MILTON	Warfiled	BRK	1755-1780	5632	POPKIN	All	ESS	1700-2000
5858	MOLYNEUX	Aintree	LAN	1700-1900	5632	POPKIN	Stepney	LDN	1700-2000
5835	MOODY	Sandhurst	BRK	All	5844	POTTINGER	Compton	BRK	pre 1700
5858	MORRIS	Blyth Burgh	SFK	1750-1850	5844	POTTINGER	Hampstead Norris		
5857	MOSS	Manchester	LAN	1700-1836				BRK	pre 1700
5828	MOSS	Oare	BRK	pre 1900	5854	POWLES	All	NFK	pre 1900
5193	MOULDING	Hertford	HRT	pre 1850	5193	PRATT	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1750
5844	MULLETT	Huish Episcopi	SOM	pre 1805	5193	PURSER	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1775
5789	MULLINS	Kilkenny	LIM	pre 1850	1224	PUTMAN	Reading	BRK	19c
5789	MULLINS	Donlais	WAL	1850+	4272	PYE	All	LAN	20th C
5882	MYHILL	London	LDN	1830	5858	PYE	Aintree	LAN	1700-1900
1224	NASH	Henley on Thames			5882	QUATERMASS	Dublin	DUB	1750
			OXF	17c	5882	QUATERMASS	London	LDN	1800-1900
1224	NASH	Wokingham	BRK	17c	1224	RABBETS	Donhead St Mary		
5789	NEW	Portsea	HAM	1750+				WIL	17c
5828	NEWHAM	Kintbury	BRK	pre 1870	4984	RABBIT(T)S	Wolverton	HAM	1400-1900
5193	NEWLAND	Hertford	HRT	pre 1800	4984	RABBIT(T)S	North Waltham		HAM
5853	NICHOLS	Norwich	NFK	All					1900-2000
5882	NIXON	Co Durham	DUR	1800	4984	RABBIT(T)S	Kingsclere	HAM	1400-1900
5853	NORRIS	Newbury	BRK	pre 1750	5853	RANDLE	Jersey	JSY	pre 1850
5193	OADES	Reading	BRK	pre 1750	1224	RATHALL	Harpsden	OXF	17c
5193	ODELL	All	HRT	pre 1900	1224	RICHINGS	Reading	BRK	19c
5193	ODELL	Graveley	HRT	pre 1900	1224	RICHINGS	Henley on Thames		
5193	ODELL	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1900				OXF	20c
5789	OUTEN	Havant	HAM	1650+	5632	RIPPINGALE	Gestingthorpe	ESS	1700-2000
5774	OWEN	All	GLS	1567-1850	5632	RIPPINGALE	All	LDN	1700-2000
5193	PAGE	Reading	BRK	pre 1900	5858	ROBERTS	Link in Horne	CON	1750-1850
5789	PALMER	Abingdon	OCF	1850+	5858	ROBERTS	Liverpool	LAN	1800-1900
5789	PALMER	Radley	BRK	1850+	4984	ROBERTS	Kingsclere	HAM	1900-2000
5193	PARCELL	All	HRT	pre 1900	5857	ROSKELLY	Blackburn	LAN	1700-1836
1224	PARHAM	Donhead St Mary			5193	ROWLEY	Wymondley	HRT	pre 1775
			WIL	17c	5193	ROWLEY	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1775
5193	PARISH	Swallowfield	BRK	pre 1700	5789	RUFFLES	All	SFK	1850+
5193	PARKER	Wyddial	HRT	pre 1750	5857	SEABORNE	All	GLS	pre 1837
1224	PARKER	Henley on Thames			5828	SEYMOUR	Oare	BRK	pre 1860
			OXF	17c	5193	SHANLEY	Mohill	LET	pre 1830
1224	PARSONS	Old Windsor	BRK	18c	5193	SHANLEY	Newtonforbes	LOG	pre 1830
5193	PASSELL	All	HRT	pre 1800	5193	SHEPHERD	Ippollitts	HRT	pre 1800
5193	PASWELL	All	HRT	pre 1700	5193	SHEPHERD	Bennington	HRT	pre 1800
1224	PEBWORTH	Dorchester	OXF	18c	5193	SHERMAN	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850
5828	PENFOLD	Hampstead Norris			5193	SHERMAN	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850
			BRK	pre 1870	5857	SHERRARD	Holborn	MDX	1700-1900
1224	PERRIE	Harpsden	OXF	18c	5632	SHORT	Bishops Nympton		
1224	PERRIE	Caversham	OXF	18c				DEV	1700-1900
1224	PERRYMAN	Old Windsor	BRK	18c	5632	SHORT	All	YKS	1900-2000
5774	PETERS	Malmesbury	WLT	1600-1860	5632	SHORT	All	ESS	1900-2000
5193	PIGGOTT	Braughing	HRT	pre 1750	5789	SILLETT	All	SFK	1800+
5193	PITHER	All			5193	SIMMONDS	Reading	BRK	pre 1750
			BRK	1000 onwards					

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BFHS Research Centre

The Research Centre contains almost all the published 1851 census indexes of England and Wales; a fully fitted computer suite including the 1881 census of the United Kingdom, Vital Records Indexes, CD ROMs as well as many other county indexes. We also have continuous access to the Internet with the Ancestry Library edition, the 1901 census and thousands of books, fiche and transcripts. Your Research Centre supplements the Berkshire Record Office and the Berkshire local studies libraries; you will also find much information about other counties in England and Wales, Scotland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and many overseas countries.

How to find us

Next door to the Berkshire Record Office, off Coley Avenue, close to the centre of Reading. Good parking, 15 minutes' walk from the main railway station, with buses passing close by. Follow the signs to the Berkshire Record Office.

Address

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

Research Centre and Reference Library tours

The tours for the next four months are:

- Saturday 17 Sep 2.30pm–4.30pm
- Monday 17 Oct 7.30pm–9.30pm
- Saturday 19 Nov 2.30pm–4.30pm
- Monday 12 Dec 7.30pm–9.30pm

Whether you are a member or just a visitor, these tours will show you what research and finding aids are available to enable you to make the most of the rich resources at the Research Centre.

Opening hours:

- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am to 4pm.
- Late opening on Tuesday from 7pm to 9.30pm with computer help
- Second and fourth Sunday of each month from 11am to 4pm.
- Second Sunday of every month 2pm to 4pm computer help is also available

Special Theme days

- Tuesdays 11 Oct 10am to 9.30pm
Far North of England
- Sundays 27 Nov 11am to 4pm
Anglia and South East England

Full details are available on our website:
<www.berksfhs.org.uk>

Birth Briefs Index

Birth Briefs are five-generation ancestral charts submitted by members of the Society. Fully completed charts contain the names and vital records (birth or christening, marriage and death or burial) of the member and up to 30 ancestors.

- You can search the index, currently 28,595 names, on the website or for £2 per surname by post.
- You can order a copy of a particular Birth Brief for £2. Quote the ID No. obtained from the website or from the postal search. The Birth Brief can be sent as a hard copy, in PAF Pedigree format or as a file in GEDCOM format.

Please post search requests and orders for copies to BFHS (BB), Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading RG1 7TJ. Mark your envelope BB and include the BB ID No. (if known). Enclose a sterling cheque, drawn on a UK bank, your email address and an A4 self-addressed envelope either stamped or containing two IRCs.

- You can contact the person submitting the Birth Brief, if they are still a member (see website). We will pass on a letter or email (if they have an email address – see website).

To contact the person submitting the Birth Brief: either send your letter with two unstamped envelopes, one self-addressed and one blank, with three IRCs (not stamps) to BFHS (BBxxxx) at Yeomanry House.

Or email your message to BBxxxx@berksfhs.org.uk (where xxxx is the BB ID No).



Research Centre and Berkshire Record Office

Berkshire Name Search

Berkshire Name Search consists of the following censuses and indexes:

1851 Census. Complete checked transcription of the 173,748 persons within Berkshire on 30 March 1851. Printouts are available for a surname search (listing all and giving district) on either the page or the household of a selected person. Also available on CD ROM.

1861 Census. Transcription has just started with 130,105 individuals to date; more districts will be added as available.

1871 Census. Transcription and index of 230,000 people now completed; checking ongoing and will be included as available. Printouts as 1851.

1881 Census. Complete transcription and index of 223,936 people.

Berkshire Marriage Index. Work in progress transcribing and checking pre-1837 registers. Includes 127,336 entries to date, see the *Berkshire Family Historian* or the Society website for the parishes and dates covered. Printouts of early entries only give dates and names of bride and groom; later entries included if from another parish or by licence.

Berkshire Burial Index. Work continues transcribing from burial registers, with over 383,000 entries to date. See the Society website or the *Berkshire Family Historian* for up-to-date contents. Some 50% of entries show all available data; the rest show – where available – name, age, abode, relationship, occupation and title together with a note indicating if there is further information such as date, place or cause of death etc. in the original record. An updated version of the index is available on CD.

Berkshire Strays Index. This dataset includes 12,000 people recorded in events taking place outside Berkshire if the person has given some reference to Berkshire. Strays records come from a variety of sources including the 1851 census of several neighbouring counties.

Berkshire Miscellaneous Index. This dataset is based on the former Berkshire Name Index and includes 100,279 records that were extracted

and submitted by individuals. When possible running sets (such as baptisms from a parish register) will be placed in specialist datasets leaving the disparate individual records and small datasets in this Miscellaneous Index. The amount of information available depends on the record.

Berkshire Name Index. This is the master index for all of the above indexes.

To search the Berkshire Name Index you may:

- do your own search at the Research Centre
- visit a BFHS stand at a family history fair
- request a postal search.

Postal Search

Send your request to Berkshire Name Search, BFHS (BNS), Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading RG1 7TJ enclosing a cheque for the charge together with your email address or an A4 sized stamped self-addressed envelope and two IRCs.

Charges

- To search the Berkshire Name Index send £2 per surname requested to obtain the number of entries in each census or index. This search will not provide any information from the records.
- To obtain the full details from the records printed on an A4 sheet (up to 25 entries or lines). We will advise the additional cost if more entries are found.
 - £2 per surname per requested database
 - £5 per surname to search all databases currently available (price will increase as more databases are included).

Records wanted

If you have records of any names that would fit into our Miscellaneous Index (event occurs within Berkshire) or Strays Index (event occurs outside Berkshire but person has Berkshire connections) please send them by post or email to:

- MiscIndex@berksfhs.org.uk, or Strays@berksfhs.org.uk
- BFHS, Yeomanry House, 131 Castle Hill, Reading RG1 7TJ labelling the envelope either BFHS (MiscIndex) or BFHS (Strays).

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Members' interests

5844 SIMS	Hampstead Norris			5882 THOMPSON	Camberwell	LDN	1800	5193 THOMPSON	All Co.Leitrim	LET	pre 1900
		SOM	pre 1700	5578 TRUNDAL	Binfield	BRK	1787	5839 TURNER	Abingdon	BRK	All
5844 SIMS	Compton	SOM	pre 1700	5193 WABEY	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1775	5790 WALLING	London	ESS	1870-1970
5632 SLARK	Mary le Strand	LDN	1800-1900	5844 WALLIS	Huish Episcopi	SOM	pre 1805	5193 WALLIS	Bradfield	BRK	pre 1850
5632 SLARK	Hackney	LDN	1800-1900	5193 WALLIS	Thatcham	BRK	pre 1850	5853 WALTER	Newbury	BRK	pre 1750
5632 SLARK	West Ham	ESS	1890-2005	1224 WALTER(S)	Henley on Thames						
5632 SLARK	East Ham	ESS	1890-2005			OXF	18c				
5632 SLARK	Battersea	SRY	1800-1900	1224 WALTER(S)	Rotherfield Greys						
5632 SLARK	Hackney	MDX	1800-1900			OXF	18c	5193 WARREN	Hatfield	HRT	pre 1850
5632 SLARK	Windsor	BRK	1780-1920					5860 WEBBER	Worth	SSX	pre 1900
5722 SLATER	Breadsall	DBY	pre 1850					5193 WELLETT	Bray	BRK	pre 1700
5193 SLONE	Hartney Wespoll			5854 WELLMAN	All	BRK	All	5857 WELLS	Dorchester	OXF	1800-1836
		HAM	pre 1700	5857 WELLS	Dorchester	OXF	1800-1836	1224 WERNHAM	Beenham	BRK	19c
5193 SLONE	Hartney Wespoll			1224 WERNHAM	Denham	BKM	19c	1224 WERNHAM	Reading	BRK	19c
		HAM	pre 1700	1224 WERNHAM	Reading	BRK	19c	5722 WEST	Borrowash	DBY	pre 1850
5193 SLONE	Swallowfield	BRK	pre 1700	5722 WEST	Draycott	DBY	pre 1850	4984 WESTALL	Ramsbury	WIL	1500-1800
5842 SMITH	Gestingthorpe	ESS	1810-1873	4984 WESTALL	Boxford	BRK	1800-2000	5860 WHICHELLO	Wallingford	BRK	pre 1850
5828 SMITH	Hampstead Norris			5858 WHITE	Liverpool	LAN	1800-1900	5193 WHITING	Reading	BRK	pre 1900
		BRK	pre 1870	5193 WHITING	Reading	BRK	pre 1900	5193 WHITING	East Berks	BRK	pre 1900
5882 SMITH	Ipswich	SUR	1820	5857 WIGMORE	Easthamstead	SRY	1800-1900	5193 WILLATS	Caversham	OXF	pre 1800
1224 SMITH	Brompton	MDX	19c	5193 WILLATS	Reading	BRK	pre 1800	5193 WILLATS	London	LON	pre 1800
1224 SMITH	Chelsea	MDX	19c	5193 WILLATS	London	LON	pre 1800	5193 WILLATS	London	LON	pre 1800
1224 SMITH	Reading	BRK	19c	5193 WILLATTS	Reading	BRK	pre 1800	5193 WILLATTS	Reading	BRK	pre 1800
5193 SNELL	Tilehurst	BRK	pre 1750	5193 WILLETT	Bray	BRK	pre 1700	5857 WILLIAMS	Oxford	OXF	1790-1836
2701 SNELLING	Cookham	BRK	1700s	5193 WILLOTT	Bray	BRK	pre 1700	5842 WILSON	Chesterton	CAM	1901-1965
5722 STEEL(E)	Swillington	WYK	pre 1850	5842 WILSON	Chesterton	CAM	1871-1920	5842 WILSON	Chesterton	CAM	1881-1901
5193 STEWARD	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850	5842 WILSON	Dry Drayton	CAM	1871-1891	5842 WILSON	Boxford	BRK	1855-1881
5193 STEWARD	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850	5842 WILSON	Boxford	BRK	1855-1881	5842 WILSON	Bagnor	BRK	1803+
5193 STEWARD	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850	5854 WITTRICK	All	NFK	All	5193 WOOD	Braughing	HRT	pre 1750
5858 STREET	Westminster	MDX	1800-1900	5193 WOOD	Braughing	HRT	pre 1750	5853 WRIGHT	Reading	BRK	1830+
5193 STUART	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850	5853 WRIGHT	Reading	BRK	1830+	5853 WRIGHT	Ripon	YKS	1800+
5193 STUART	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850	5789 YOUNG	Ipswich	SFK	1700+	5789 YOUNG	Portsea	HAM	1750+
5193 STUART	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850	5789 YOUNG	Portsea	HAM	1750+	5789 YOUNG	Pancras	MDX	1750+
1224 STUBBLE	Wokingham	BRK	17c								
5193 STUERD	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850								
5193 STUERD	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850								
5193 STUERD	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850								
5193 STURT	Bicester	OXF	pre 1850								
5193 STURT	Oxford	OXF	pre 1850								
5193 STURT	South Hinksey	OXF	pre 1850								
5789 SULLIVAN	Glengarriff	COR	All								
5789 SULLIVAN	Donlais	WAL	1876+								
5789 SULLIVAN	Merthyr Tydfil	WAL	1876+								
5578 SUMNER	Warfiled	BRK	1750-1755								
5193 SWAIN	Stevenage	HRT	pre 1775								
5193 SWAIN	Wymondley	HRT	pre 1775								
5844 SWEET	Pitney	SOM	pre 1805								
5193 TAYLOR	Oxford	OXF	pre 1800								
5853 TAYLOR	Reading	BRK	1840+								
1224 TAYLOR	Rotherfield Greys										
		OXF	19c								
5860 THOMAS	Poplar	LDN	pre 1850								
5193 THOMPSON	North Co. Longford										
		LOG	pre 1900								

Programme Calendar 2005

Bracknell and Wokingham Branch

Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell, 7.15pm for 7.45pm

- 16 Sept The IGI, useful or not? Ian Waller
A popular speaker takes a fresh look at a familiar finding aid. Newcomers to family history, as well as more experienced researchers, will benefit from this reappraisal
- 21 Oct The Future of the Internet for Family Historians. Peter Christian
*The author of *The Genealogist's Internet* takes a forward-looking view at ways in which we may come to use the Internet in our research.*
- 18 Nov I'm stuck! Techniques for localising that elusive ancestor. Else Churchill
A professional genealogist for more than 20 years, Else is the Genealogy Officer of the Society of Genealogists and is an authoritative voice on family history matters.
- 16 Dec Christmas Meeting — A Social Occasion
One or two family history diversions, a chance to catch up with people, and more.

Computer Branch

The Oakwood Centre, Headley Road, Woodley, 7.15pm for 7.45pm

- 21 Sept Family Tree Maker. Clive Killick
Top Tips on how to use it and how to get the best from it.
- 19 Oct Mobile Family History. Speaker to be confirmed
Taking ALL your family history to the record office?
- 16 Nov Using the Internet for Family History Research. Wendy Archer
How to get the best from your computer for Family History Research on the Internet.
- December No meeting

Newbury Branch

St Mary's Church Hall, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, 7.30pm for 7.45pm

- 14 Sept Maps for family historians, Peter Park
How to use maps to find detailed information about our ancestors
- 12 Oct Social History through Old Photographs. Nigel Hammond
- 9 Nov Church Courts. Mark Priddey
- 14 Dec Question time & Christmas evening. Jean Debney

See overleaf for the remainder of the programme for September to December 2005 and check <www.berksfhs.org.uk/events/> for updates

Programme Calendar 2005

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Reading Branch

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Church End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, 7.15pm for 7.45pm

- 29 Sep Diary of a Berkshire Farmer. Kerr Kirkwood
Insight into the lives of our rural ancestors, plus a projects update.
- 27 Oct Reading's Transport in 1930's and 1940's. Paul Lacey
How we travelled around Reading before we had cars!
- 24 Nov Museum of English Rural Life. Roy Brigden
The Museum is a rich source of information in its new premises
- 8 Dec Anecdotes, pitfalls and flashes of inspiration.
Members will give short talks on the ups and downs of their research.

Vale of White Horse Branch

Long Furlong Community Centre, Boulter Drive, Abingdon, 7.15pm for 7.30pm

- 12 Sep MI-ing at Drayton Churchyard. Meet at the Church at 6.30pm
- 10 Oct Making the most of the Internet for Family History. Eric Probert
- 14 Nov Death Clouds. Geoff Sewell
The story of my Grandfather & Gas in WW1
- 12 Dec Break down those Brick Walls
Members' Discussion and Queries
- 9 Jan Workhouses. Peter Higginbottom

Windsor, Slough and Maidenhead Branch

Christ Church United Reformed Church, William Street, Windsor, 7.30pm for 7.45pm

- 27 Sep Birth and Baptism in the 1800s. Tom Doig
A birth was steeped in mystery and tradition – how folklore affects our way of life even in the twenty-first century
- 25 Oct Looking at Tithe Records. Jean Debney
How the tithes were assessed - what we can learn from these records
- 29 Nov Imperial War Museum. Sarah Paterson
Its history and sources for family historians – by the Museum's Librarian
- 13 Dec Christmas Dinner – held off-site