



Berkshire Family Historian

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POLICE WHISTLES 1884 **METROPOLITAN POLICE**

The clumsy and antiquated rattles had run their course; It was proposed (due to an increase in crime) to arm the police with revolvers, this was not popular with the men so a compromise was reached and whistles were to be used instead. 20,000 were manufactured by Messrs Hudson and Co of Birmingham although known as Hudson & Co it really consisted of Mr J Hudson only who worked amongst his men every day when not "on the road". Although his men put the parts together not one whistle left the factory without going through his hands or passing his lips.

The first police whistle was tested on Hampstead Heath in 1883; it was heard exactly one mile away. Other forces soon joined the band wagon and by 1885 nearly all u.k forces were issued with whistles.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY TO OCTOBER 1991

Newbury Branch

Meetings are held at 7.15 pm usually on the the second Wednesday of each month at United Reform Church Hall in the centre of Newbury (from September).

21st Sept. Saturday - Newbury Branch Open Day
 at St Nicholas's Church Hall (All Welcome - Admission Free)

Reading Branch

Meetings, normally held on the last Friday of the month 7.00 for 7.45 at the Park United Reform Church Hall, Wokingham Road, Reading

28th June	The happiest days ...? School as seen through the log book	Dr. Ron Cox
26th July	Monumental Inscription recording session at Reading Cemetery, London Road	
27th Sept.	Digging up your roots	Marion Brackpool
25th Oct.	Audience participation evening	
22nd Nov.	The Guildhall Library	Mrs. I.F. Pollock
13th Dec.	Christmas evening	

Slough Branch

Monthly Meetings, normally held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.45 at St Andrew's Church Hall, The Grove, Slough.

24th Sept.	Members evening	
29th Oct.	Parsons, politicians, pedagogues, and paupers	Glyn Morgan
26th Nov.	To be announced	
10th Dec.	Christmas party	

Bracknell branch

Monthly meetings will be held on the third Friday of the month at 7.45 at the Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell

21st June	Family History Game - In search of Elephants	
19th July	Monumental Inscription recording session in a local churchyard	
20th Sept.	Problems with London Ancestry	Michael Gandy
18th Oct.	To be announced	

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

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Part 4, June 1991

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Chairman's bits...

by *Chad Hanna*

First, I should tell (warn) you that the format of the magazine has changed again and some more has now been set in two columns. This has allowed us to squeeze a bit more in by using a slightly smaller typeface. I do hope it is not too small - I can rely you to tell us if it is difficult to read?

Over the last year we've put considerable effort into improving the appearance of the magazine, but improving the content is partly up to you. You are the people who write the articles you read in our journal. Works of great literary merit are not required but ones which tell an interesting story related to family history (preferably Berkshire) are!

Time to renew your sub...

This issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian* is a bit thicker than most with 12 extra pages in the centre. Part of the idea is that while you are writing out your renewal cheque, you can add a bit on for a recent book, or one of the growing list of 1851 census indexes. But before you send your payment, please check against the list of those we know who pay automatically by standing order (you don't want to pay us twice). There are a couple of small changes on the renewal form - dollar cheques and Family History News & Digest subscriptions. We are now able to run a conversion account for US dollar cheques, and so we can accept these directly. We are suggesting \$15 as a minimum which allows for an ex-

change rate of \$1.75 to the £, plus \$1 towards conversion costs.

The Family History News and Digest is a large A4 sized magazine published in April and September by the Federation of Family History Societies (of which your Berks FHS is a part). Besides the inside story on the national family history scene it contains a list of many of the articles in other Societies magazines. Essential is you want to make the best use of our exchange library. It also has a comprehensive list of secretary's addresses for the many Family History Societies.

This has been a busy year for me as chairman (I'm not a very good delegator) but I must save my look back and look forward to the Chairman's report to the AGM which you will see in the next issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*. Of course, you will all renew your membership especially as the subscriptions have been held at the same level as last year!

Members' Interests

At the time of writing this the new *Member's Interest Directory* was behind the *Berkshire Family Historian* in the race to meet the printing press. This may mean it will have to be posted to you (if you've ordered a copy) in a couple of weeks time. To whet your appetite it contains entries from about 320 members and will run to about 100 pages (bigger than the last one). To help publicise your interests free copies will be sent to all the Family History Societies we exchange with, and extra copies are

printed for sale on the bookstall (the bookstall price has yet to be decided).

Newbury Open Day

The Newbury Branch are holding an open day between 10 am and 4 pm on Saturday, 21st September at St Nicholas's Church Hall (the big hall downstairs). Admission will be free and it will be another good opportunity for out of county members to come along and meet us and to do some research amongst our library books and other resources. See you there!

For its normal branch meetings Newbury is leaving St Nicolas Church Hall and moving to the United Reform Church Hall from September onwards.

Diary dates

The September conference of the Federation of Family History Societies for 1991 will be held at the University of Sheffield, between 6th-8th September, 1991. The theme will be people and places. There will be lectures on a wide range of subjects, including medieval tax returns, deeds, the use of old photographs, children's employment, twentieth century farm servants and coal mining communities in south Yorkshire. Further details can be obtained from The Division of Continuing Education, 85 Wilkinson Street, Sheffield, S10 2GJ.

The Oxfordshire Family History Society autumn family history day will be held on Saturday 5th October, 1991 between 10am and 4pm, at the Church Hall, Botley, Oxford. There will be bookstalls, and displays from a large number of oth-

er family history societies. Details from Mrs. Carol Newbiggin, 4 Allin Close, Blackbird Leys, Oxford OX4 5AX.

The East Yorkshire Family History Society is hosting the 1992 Spring conference which includes the Federation of Family History Society's AGM on the 10th-12 April, 1992, at the Humberside Polytechnic, Cottingham Road, Hull. A full programme of seven lectures is planned with optional visits to the historic town of Beverley with its splendid medieval Minster. A banquet has also been arranged at the Hull Guildhall. Residential and non-residential bookings are available. Requests for booking forms and details should be sent to Mrs. Susan Raetigg, 21 Trenton Avenue, Hull, East Yorkshire HU4 7RP, enclosing a 9" x 6" stamped addressed envelope or three IRCs.

Family history classes 1991/2

At the time of writing (May 1991) classes for the autumn and winter have **not** been finalised but beginners classes **will** probably be held at the following times and places:

Caversham	Mon pm	Jean Debney
Reading	Wed eve.	Alf Ison
Wokingham	Mon eve.	Jean Debney
Wokingham	Tues pm	Jean Debney
Thatcham	Tues eve.	Polly Lawrence
Henley	TBA	

Family history forums are also held at Caversham by Jean Debney on Mondays and Thursdays.

For details contact your local adult education centre.

Was your ancestor a Berkshire policeman?

by Susan Healy

“A Constable is a citizen locally appointed but having authority under the Crown for the protection of life and property, the maintenance of order, the prevention and detection of crime and the prosecution of offenders against the peace.”

It was the fear of riot and disorder which changed the public mood and finally overcame ratepayers reluctance to spend money on the formation of a national police force. It also changed the libertarian idea that a new police force would merely increase the power of the state. Until the passing of the Metropolitan Police Act in 1829 and the introduction of “Peel’s bloody gang”, who were alleged to be arming themselves with cutlasses, policing was largely in the hands of the parish constable and watchmen. But even opponents recognised that population growth, especially in the towns, the rise in unemployment and the new industrial slums needed to be professionally policed if the outbreaks of violence were to be controlled. During the early decades of the nineteenth century almost every provincial town had supplemented its parish constables by paid nightwatchmen, and occasionally paid day constables.

It was while the government was considering the establishment of a rural police force in 1839 that the first serious outbreak of Chartist disorders occurred with strikes, and rioting in London and Birmingham, when 24 Chartists were killed by the army. But even then there was a general reluctance to spend ratepayers money on additional policing. By 1856 there were police forces in only 24 counties and in parts of seven more - 20 counties had no police force whatever.

Constables of the Reading Borough force began duties on Sunday 21st February 1836. Twenty one constables were recruited. The police station itself was in the decrepit nave of Greyfriars church. Later it was moved to No. 2 the Forbury where there was living in accommodation for unmarried constables. In 1862 a new police station and coroners court was built at High Bridge House, London Street; it was furnished by Wellsteads and Heelas.

Regulations demanded that these early policemen were under 35, of good physique, at least five feet seven in height, literate, and of good character. The wage



of a constable was a guinea a week, which was set to deter ex-army officers. From the beginning, it was policy to recruit men who did not have the “rank, habits or status of gentlemen”; the police was to be a democratic body, “in tune with the people, understanding the people, belonging to the people, and drawing its strength from the people”.

In 1840 the uniform worn by policemen outside the Metropolitan area consisted of a swallow-tailed coat of dark blue cloth, a well glazed ‘stove-pipe’ top hat, with white duck trousers in summer and blue serge in winter. They were also issued with an oilskin cape and handcuffs. A rattle was carried, together with a short truncheon concealed beneath the long tails of the coat. They were also supplied with handcuffs and a small cutlass was given to any constable whose “beat is so situated that in the opinion of two Justices of the County it is necessary for his personal protection in the performance of his duty”. The cutlass was only to be worn at night or in times of serious public disorder. Cutlasses remained in the possession of sergeants and constables until 1902 when they were handed in.

The average age of recruits was 26 years. Most came from the labouring classes, the great army of unskilled who otherwise would have worked on the farm or in

a factory. They were mostly drawn from outside the old system of parish constables and watchmen. Their pay ranged from not less than 15s. to not more than 21s. a week. In return for wages at the level of unskilled agricultural labourers, constables worked a seven-day week. The average day's duty was ten or twelve hours, usually performed in two shifts.

For the Berkshire constabulary the living accommodation for a single recruit was "The Guardroom" where they all shared the cost of food, buying their own, with one man detailed to act as housekeeper. If a man required leave of absence from the Station for private reasons he had to ask the Superintendent and give reasons for going. In the evening two recruits were sent out together in uniform as far as Tilehurst, Earley and Shinfield on foot and returned not later than 1pm. Before going to bed, they had to report to the Superintendent "All in, just going to bed, Sir". Later he would inspect the dormitories to ensure all the lights were out. All patrolling was done on foot, so men would walk up to twenty miles a day for continuous weeks at a stretch. No boot allowance was paid before 1873. Uniform was to be worn at all times and it was general practice to charge a deposit for the uniform.

In 1895, when a recruit joined the Berkshire Constabulary, his duties consisted of fetching the mail at 7a.m. each morning from the Reading Post Office and taking it to Early House, the residence of the Chief Constable, one and a half miles away, and return by 8am. On alternative weeks there was office cleaning. Each day at 10am a roll call for drill was called at Brock Barracks which lasted until 12.30pm. Very heavy iron solid tyred bicycles were supplied for delivering messages. These bicycles weighed roughly three quarters of a hundredweight.

In 1900 there was a pro-Boer riot at East Hanney and relations between the police and the public gradually worsened. So much so that in 1909 the Chief Constable draw up a scheme for mutual aid on an inter-divisional bases. It was designed for prompt suppression of any disturbance. Finally the five local forces - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxford City, Oxfordshire and Reading Borough - joined together in 1968 to form the Thames Valley Police Force.

Surviving records for these forces is patchy:

Berkshire. Personal records destroyed in a flood. Windsor Occurrence Book, various photographs and documents of Wokingham and Hungerford of old forces. Also a few exhibits in the Museum.

- **Buckinghamshire.** Several occurrence books, but very few personal records. Photographs in abundance.
- **Oxford City** All personal records are kept at the Oxfordshire County Council Archives Dept. Information can be obtained through me if there are any difficulties.
- **Oxfordshire.** All records in abundance. All old personal records, occurrence books, etc.
- **Reading Borough.** All old personal records and many documents on the early days of the force.

The Thames Valley Police museum, Sulhamstead, is open to the public by appointment only. Organised tours can be arranged for local societies and schools. Individuals are allowed in for special research purposes, although there is a general rule that personnel papers can only be examined after the death of the individual policeman.

All the memorabilia from the Great Train Robbery is either in the museum or in store, together with many other famous criminal cases which occurred in the Thames Valley area.

Susan Healy is curator of the Police Museum at the Police Training Centre, Sulhamstead, Berkshire.

Miscarriages of justice

After the Guildford Four and the Birmingham Six we now have the Oxfordshire one. The Museum of Oxford has just launched a campaign to seek a pardon for a sailor who was hanged for murder in 1791. Giles Freeman Covington was convicted of the murder of a Scottish pedlar named David Charteris, killed in October 1787 when he was attacked by a group of men at Nuneham Wood, Oxfordshire.

Covington was arrested three years after the murder. He was named by a member of the gang who turned King's Evidence to earn a Royal Pardon. As he went to the gallows Covington threw a letter to the crowd protesting his innocence. Now 200 years later Evelyn Wallace, from the Museum, is attempting to show that the original prosecution was unsafe.

“She sat brooding over her bar like a hen!”

by *Helene Jessup*

What was she really like, we wondered? We had this photograph of a heavy big-boned woman in the proverbial black dress which enveloped her, with that pinched sign, which clearly showed corsets, that true symbol of a Victorian woman. Her hair was starkly pulled back, revealing a stern unrelenting face glaring at us, demanding our full attention and obedience.

Certainly this woman had seen hard times; and so it was we came to know Hannah Hobbs (nee Humby). She started in service in Winchester, met and married Sergeant Hobbs, who retired to Eton to teach the boys in the Eton College Rifle Volunteer Corps. They lived in a house owned by the College and she ran “Tap” (an ale-house strictly for the College boys) which is well-documented in later accounts written by old Etonians. Imagine our Mrs. Hobbs being remembered by prominent Etonians.

She bore eight children to Mr. Hobbs, later remarried, and at 44 she had a ninth, but sadly this child died at the age of three. Her new husband was a tailor who lived next door to Tap, but she outlived him by 29 years.

Of her character it was written, “whether it was due to the mildness of the beer, or to its being an ale-house only, or to the motherly good sense of Mrs. Hobbs, I do not remember anyone being seriously affected by the liquor dispensed therein, whereas, I regret to say, visits further afield to the forbidden resorts of Wind-

sor, boys frequently returned the worse for their potations, especially during two wild years when a wave of gambling and of drink seemed to pass over the school”. Is this really Eton College?

Certainly this woman was of tough and strong stock, but she must have been thrifty too. Her recipe for Tap biscuits used a mere one pound of flour but boasts a yield of 22 dozen. Food comes into it quite a lot, one way or another, we can be sure of one thing; she could be a formidable character. “Many an oar has fortified his inner man with tea and poached eggs at Tap before his tussle with “Duffers” below bridge down Datchet way, and in that inner sanctum what boating secrets, what opinions discussed by the chieftains, making or marring the careers of many a budding oar, have fallen unheeded on the ears of Mrs. Hobbs as she sat brooding over her bar like a hen.”

During her 87 years she stood up well to the problems of daily life, whether it was the floods in the 1890s or the birth of another baby, or the death of a child and husband within a week of each other. A living relative remembers her as Granny Thomas, a loving grandmother who sat fondly watching him as a child, playing with knuckle bones in the “pit” (now currently the Cockpit restaurant at Eton).

Whether a brooding hen or a thrifty proprietor, a loving grandmother or a provider of poached eggs and tea, she certainly remains a memorable figure of nineteenth century Eton.

The “rough guide” to family history research in York

discovered by Sally Ritchie

YORK REFERENCE LIBRARY

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am-8pm, with early closing on Thursday at 5.30, Saturday 9am - 1pm. The York History Room covers City of York, surrounding areas and much of greater Yorkshire.

The St. Catherines House registers for births, marriages and deaths are available from July 1837 to 1957. The library also contains census returns for the parishes of York and many surrounding villages from 1841 - 1881. Both are on microfilm so it's essential to book a reader before turning up. They have three and you are allowed two hours at a time. You will find you have to ask for the IGI fiche one at a time.

Parish registers. Many Yorkshire parish registers have been transcribed, indexed and reprinted by the Thoresby Society and the York Archaeological Society. Look in the card index drawers under “Parish registers” to find them. If they hold the registers you require then ask at the desk for them. The Library also holds the Yorkshire section of Boyd's marriage index - 10 volumes - and the York marriage index. These are held behind locked grilled shelves and are available from the assistant in charge.

York newspaper index. This is wonderful. A surname card index to York obituaries. I found four members of “my family” from 1834 onwards which answered some of my “unknowns”.

Monumental inscriptions. Often in typescript form to Yorkshire churchyards and York cemeteries.

Other goldmines include directories from 1781, Poll books and electoral registers from 1832, lists of freemen of the City of York, some printed pedigrees and early maps which can be photocopied.

There is a reference guide to the library. Photocopying costs 10pence for an A4 sheet (film copies are 20pence), but these can be obtained on the spot; unlike many other libraries there's no two week wait.

Toilets. None in the Library. The staff direct you to the public toilets in the Museum Gardens, but it's far quicker to pop into the pub opposite - upstairs. There are lots of tourists so you can go unnoticed.

Food and drink. Again the pub over the road but there are lots of little tea shops around.

YORK CITY ARCHIVES

Come out of the Library and turn left. The archives are around the corner outside the Art Gallery. Ring the bell and an archivist opens the door. It's a homely shambles inside the public area with archivists working on documents. There were very few callers and someone attends to you immediately and then fetches whatever you want. No need to give references, just explain what you need help with and the people are so kind, they suggest the documents. There is one film reader, and all the burials are indexed on film. Many York churches stopped burials in the mid-1850s so cemetery records are preserved in the archives. I was brought Freeman records which had a baptism certificate attached and also the date on the back of the father's burial, this took me back to his birth in 1730. I also looked at Poor Law Guardian admission books - everything so well preserved and the people were wonderful.

BORTHWICK INSTITUTE

This is situated near York Castle at the opposite end of the City to the Library and Archives, so it's essential to buy a map before starting out. Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9.30 - 12.50 and 2 - 4.50pm. Everything is on film so again it's essential to book a place, but the staff are very helpful and caring people. The Institute contains all early wills of Yorkshire and Yorkshire parish registers but they will not allow photocopies to be made. There are about eight film readers in a small room. It is well organised and lots of help is given to enable you to select your own film. If the machines are full have a word with the archivist as many of them are taken by YFHS members indexing. The archivist knows the times they are likely to leave.

Toilets are in the building with washing facilities.

Food and drink. Lovely old walled gardens for sitting in. Close by is The Black Swan, a famous old pub which serves coffee and food. Women alone feel comfortable as it's a tourist attraction.

York is a beautiful City only two hours from King's Cross.

Record office and library liaison

Regular users of the Berkshire Record Office will have found that admission is now restricted to ticket holders only. The BRO, along with a number of other record offices, participates in the CARN network (County archive research network). Readers tickets issued under the CARN scheme at one record office are accepted at any other office. To obtain a ticket some official evidence of identity and permanent address is necessary. A driving licence, pension, or allowance book will give these particulars but a passport does not. This evidence must be produced when you fill in your application form. But watch out, if you arrive without sufficient identification, some offices will only admit you on a day pass and restrict access to manuscripts. Somerset and Surrey record offices also require photographs. The following county record offices participate in CARN:

Berkshire	Gwent	Gtr. Manchester
Buckinghamshire	Gwynedd	Norfolk
Cambridgeshire & Hunts	Hampshire	Nottinghamshire
Cleveland	Hereford & Worcester	Oxfordshire
Cornwall	Hertfordshire	Suffolk
Cumbria(Wmld & Cumberland)	Kent	East Sussex
Essex	Lancashire	West Sussex
Wiltshire		

Somerset and Surrey are considering joining the CARN scheme. Other offices operating their own ID scheme usually require similar information before issuing a card.

- **Public Record Office** - same identification information as the CARN scheme.
- **British Library** - ID and advance application is advisable together with an academic letter of recommendation
- **Lambeth Palace Library** - letter of introduction
- **National Army Museum** - reader's ticket for regular use, one-off admission at discretion.
- **National Maritime Museum** - a ticket is required for regular use.
- **Newspaper Library at Colindale** - own ticket, or a CARN ID.
- **Society of Genealogists' library** - members free, or a fee for non-members
- **Westminster Abbey library** - young people need an introductory letter

- **Oxford: Bodleian Library** - graduates or undergraduates of the University free; graduates of other universities and those with an official letter of recommendation; annual fee (£10) or set number of visits over four years, or a 48 hour pass. A small photograph is required. There is a machine on the spot.
- **Birmingham** - double ID required, one standard, another an official bill (gas, electricity etc.)
- **Cheshire** - own ticket - standard CARN ID
- **Gloucestershire** - own ticket plus a fee
- **Leicester** - own ticket on a CARN type ID plus a letter of recommendation preferred; otherwise, restricted access
- **Lichfield** - own ticket, CARD ID
- **Lincolnshire** - own ticket plus two passport size photographs
- **Liverpool** - own ticket
- **Manchester, John Rylands Library** - Manchester University ticket or letter of recommendation
- **Sheffield** - own six month ticket standard CARN ID
- **Warwick** - own ticket
- **York Minister** - proof of ID required

An entrance fee is payable at the following institutions:

- **Devon** - free for students with course supervisor's recommendation
- **Gloucestershire** - reduction for OAPs and unemployed
- **Kent** - all non-UK residents
- **Merseyside Maritime Museum**
- **Society of Genealogists' Library** - free to members
- **Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Research, Canterbury**

Thanks to the Federation of Family History Societies for providing the information for this guide

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## **BFHS reference library**

In order to carry out a stock check on the reference library during July and August, will members please make sure that they return all items out on loan at the June meetings of the Society. After the stock check it is hoped that a catalogue of the Society's holdings, which now amount to over 2,500 items and are already partially listed on computer, will be available in the near future. This only applies to reference material, not exchange magazines.

# Letter to the editor

“Beech House”, 37 North Rocks Road, Broadsands, Paignton, Devon. TQ4 6LF

Dear editor,

I was saddened to see the obituary for Mr. Dudley W. Clark of Maidenhead in the December 1990 issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*.

For some considerable time it had been my intention to write to this gentlemen and express my thanks and gratitude for a small act of kindness which proved to be a catalyst in my researches.

In July, 1988, I received an anonymous piece of information concerning my Tomlinson interests in White Waltham, Berkshire. I wrote to this magazine to try to discover the identity of my benefactor and the letter was published in the September, 1988, issue. Mr. Clark then contacted me, explaining that he spent much of his time ploughing through his local paper for items of interest to himself and others, and I was able to thank him personally.

A few weeks later I received a letter, containing a couple of Tomlinson items, from Mrs. Ruth Timbrell, a fellow member of our Society, who had seen my letter in the magazine and thought the items may be of interest. Almost as an afterthought she added that she had a Tomlinson Victorian photograph album and would I like it? So began a long and happy correspondence which has been a constant source of delight to me. Mrs. Timbrell has had access to a rich vein of “Tomlinsonia” which I have received on a sort of “drip-feed” since 1988. I have been able to make contact with several previously unknown Tomlinson relatives, including one in Canada who visited us last year.

What a pity that Mr. Clark will never know how much pleasure I have received as a direct result of his kind anonymous action. There must be many other people who have benefited from his information who, like me, left it too late to thank him properly.

Yours sincerely, Mrs. Kim Tomlinson (1378)

74 Red Rose, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 5LD

Dear editor,

## **The troublesome Tranters strike again**

The article “The Wooldridge-Tranter mystery” by Jean A. Larson in the March issue was particularly interesting to me as I, too, have found mysterious Tranters appearing in my research.

My great-great grandparents were John and Edna Lanham, who from around 1795 lived in Market Lavington, Wiltshire. I have not managed to find their marriage or birth as yet, but while searching the Market Lavington parish records at the county record office in Trowbridge I found the following entries:

- 30 July 1775 Baptism, George son of Joseph and Margaret Lanham alias Tranter
- 1 Mar 1783 Marriage, Joseph Tranter alias Lanham and Betty Pierce
- 3 Mar 1791 Marriage, John Lane and Sarah Tranter alias Lanham
- 3 Feb 1792 Baptism, Jane dau of Joseph and Betty Lanham alias Tranter  
Baptism, Ann dau of Joseph and Betty Lanham alias Tranter
- 20 Oct 1792 Marriage, Thomas Tranter alias Lanham and Jane Dowell
- 20 Jan 1793 Baptism, James son of Thomas and Jane Lanham alias Tranter
- 12 Feb 1793 Burial, Ann dau of Joseph and Elizabeth Tranter age 1 year
- 22 Feb 1795 Baptism, Keziah dau of Thomas and Jane Lanham alias Tranter
- 16 June 1797 Baptism, Sarah bb dau of Elizabeth Lanham alias Tranter
- 31 Mar 1799 Baptism, George son of Thomas and Jane Lanham
- 18 Aug 1799 Baptism, Jemima dau of Joseph and Betty Lanham
- 5 Dec 1802 Burial, Jemima dau of Jos. and Betty Tranter age 3
- 25 Aug 1803 Burial, Sarah bb dau of Mary (sic) Tranter age 6 years

All subsequent references to these individuals seem to use the name Lanham only.

Some patterns seem to emerge from the list. The marriages all are Tranter alias Lanham; the baptisms for the same families are Lanham alias Tranter before 1799, and plain Lanham thereafter; the burials are all plain Tranter even for those baptised as plain Lanham.

So what does all this mean? My first thought was that a Lanham girl had an illegitimate child by a Tranter man (or vice versa) and had given the child the father's



surname as a Christian name - a common occurrence it seems. However, this would not explain the number of people involved (two Josephs, Thomas, Sarah, Elizabeth and/or Mary). Even if the illegitimacy occurred in the previous generation then one element of the name would surely have been selected as the principal surname - or is that applying modern logic to a very different period?

Having read Jean's article, I did wonder if a young Tranter blade had been sowing his wild oats generously across Wiltshire and Berkshire. Has anyone other suggestions? In the immortal words of *Readers' Digest*, frankly I'm puzzled.....

Yours sincerely,

Leslie Darbyshire

*According to Sir Anthony Wagner in his masterpiece **English Genealogy** aliases may have been the forerunners of the modern penchant for double names in the middle ages. But we understand so little about the use of alias names that almost any interpretation can be given to them. Nevertheless illegitimacy aliases are common in parish registers and when they persist for more than a generation or two they generally signify an illegitimacy origin. This often takes a number of different forms: a child using the father's name with the mother's as an alias or using the mother's name, with the father's as an alias. Cases have also been found where an alias has been used over many generations. This often has nothing to do with illegitimacy, but may be used to distinguish one family from another in a place where the surname was very common.*

*Another type of alias was sometimes used by women. As we use nee now, some married women used their single name as an alias. Sometimes they were used as disguises and some may have been linked to property. But there are others where, despite vigorous research, there is still no explanation. Perhaps the most intriguing of these is Anstie alias Holcombe. It first appears in Cuckfield, Sussex, in 1472 occurs frequently until the end of the seventeenth century in the parish registers.*

*For those interested in the subject a useful article on alternative surnames appears in the **National index of parish registers**, Vol. 1 (1968) pp 92-96 and another in the *Society of Genealogists* magazine for June (Vol 15 No. 14 pp 594-9).*

JG

# Progress report on recording Monumental inscriptions at Reading Cemetery

by *David Watkins*

The Reading branch is now fully engaged on recording the graves in the Wokingham Road cemetery. Three Saturday sessions were held in the early Autumn. Work started on the New Extension, at the far end, which holds 1638 plots, divided into fourteen sections. A war memorial to those who died from their wounds in Reading hospitals during the First World War also stands in this area. Most of the inscriptions date from the first half of this century.

By the end of the year seven sections had been recorded and checked and one more section recorded. In addition to the Saturday sessions Bryan Wilson has contributed considerably in occasional weekday visits. The cemetery as a whole is divided into eighty sections and has around fifteen thousand plots. So far we've completed just over five per cent.

The cemetery itself was opened because of fears that the over-crowded church graveyards in the town were becoming insanitary. The first interment was in 1843. The story is told in *Berkshire Old and New*, No. 5, 1988.

We are planning an ambitious programme for this year and hope to complete half the plots. The first sessions were in April and May. Further Saturday sessions 10am to 4.30pm arranged so far are:

1 June    29 June    6 July    20 July  
3 Aug.    17 Aug.    31 Aug.    14 Sep.

Also our July meeting will be a recording sessions (Friday 26 July at 7pm). We

will, of course, be looking for numerous volunteers to achieve the tough targets we have set ourselves. There's no need for previous experience and you can stay for a couple of hours, a morning, an afternoon, or the whole day. Just turn up on the day with pen or pencil. If you can also bring a trowel, secateurs, old toothbrush, paint brush, scrubbing brush, or a short piece of plastic drain tubing, so much the better. Drive to the eastern end of town, where the A4 meets the Wokingham Road, find somewhere to park and look for someone who appears to be in charge. If you can bring along a scout troop or a gang of your workmates they too will be put to work.

During the winter months we have been entering the inscriptions onto computer disks. Volunteers for this should also get in touch with Chad Hanna or myself.

We will eventually produce an index and copies of the transcriptions which will be held in the Reading Reference Library, the Berkshire Record Office and elsewhere, but the Society will also keep a copy for it's own library.

I shall be pleased to receive requests for searches from members once the work is complete but I am also willing to receive them and to reply once we get to the relevant monument. So, if you believe you have a relative buried in the cemetery but are unable to find it for yourself, let me have details together with a stamped self addressed envelope.

David Watkins, 31 Fairwater Drive, Woodley, Reading, RG5 3JG

# Odds and ends from the exchange magazine library

*selected by Rosemary Sarney*

From feedback received it would seem you welcome these pages which try to acquaint you with some of the stories from the publications in our magazine library and the information they contain. I hope the following will encourage you to browse through the magazine library if you are fortunate enough to be able to come to Society meetings.

- For those of us who have not put our records onto computer and therefore cannot rely on a computer programme to sort out the relationships of cousins, Cleveland FHS journal Vol. 4 No. 6 comes to our aid. Peter Hogg defines cousins, first and second and third and all the “removed” business, making it easier to understand and maybe settle some family arguments.
- “Roots in the Forest” is the Waltham Forest FHS journal and in Vol. 5 No. 3 common abbreviations to be found in original documents and printed works are listed. Newcomers will especially profit from noting many of these commonly used abbreviations.
- An article by Peter Cleaver in West Surrey’s magazine Vol. 16. No. 4 is a must for anybody contemplating searching in Chancery records. A set of guidelines is clearly recorded to help the beginner become familiar with the records and indexes at Chancery Lane.
- If a visit to the PRO at Kew seems a daunting prospect, then “Making the most of Kew” in the Buckinghamshire FHS magazine Vol. 14. No. 1 should put you on the right lines. Adapted from a talk by Christopher Watts it comprehensively sets out to explain a few of the most useful sources to be found there.
- Research done by P. Whitlock in Canada and reported in the Kent FHS journal Sept. 1989 has uncovered much about the Whitlock family from the manor of Beches, Wokingham and Richard Whitlock in particular, who with his famous kinsman Bulstroude Whitelocke were supporters of Oliver Cromwell.
- “What did our ancestors eat?” by C. June Barnes is a good read in Family Roots, Eastbourne and District FHS magazine for October ‘89, providing us with valuable information on getting to know our ancestors’ lifestyles.

- “The Midland Ancestor”, journal of the Birmingham and Midland Society, also covers the counties of Worcester, Warwick and Stafford. In Vol. 9 No. 2 I found the addresses where information from marriage and burial indexes of these counties can be obtained. An up-date is also in the next edition.
- The first issue of the “Wells Chronicles” has found its way into the magazine library One Name Studies File. It includes Wells from all over the world but the family who jumped out of the page to me were the Wells of New Zealand who emigrated from the Berkshire parishes of Bray and White Waltham.
- The journal of the Hampshire Genealogical Society is always an excellent read. How lucky for those with Berkshire interests that it borders this county and is always full of useful information. Vol. 17 No. 1 has the early history of the John and Frances West Charity under the title of “Who was John West’s mother?” by Malcolm Pinhorn. Since 1710 many families from Berkshire, particularly from the parishes of Newbury and Reading, benefited from their legacies; with preference going to their kin, the names of Seakes, Cox, Keene, Stare, Mason, Randall, Barnes, Webb, Benham as well as West of course.
- More information for those interested in the John and Frances West charity can be found in the journal of the North West Kent FHS Vol. 5 No. 6 and Vol. 4 No. 10.
- According to Dr. Gwyneth Nair if you find an illegitimate baptism in your researches there is no need to be alarmed or even surprised. This came as a relief to me and I hope others with the same problem in their family history research. You may find solace in the article by Dr. Nair in the Shropshire FHS journal Vol. 11 part 2. It certainly does not mark the “end of the road”.
- Considering we do have “peculiar” in Berkshire, ecclesiastically speaking that is, it may be appropriate to mention the article in the West Middlesex journal Vol. 8 No. 3 by Vic Rosewarne. He explains why “peculiar” parishes arose and gives important information to those searching for wills, marriage licences and Bishops transcripts in these “peculiar parishes”.
- It is well worth taking some notes from Judith Kinnison Bourke’s article “Wills - a simple guide” - in Family Roots, Eastbourne and District FHS, Vol 4 No. 4. The sources of information will prove most useful for any family historian embarking on this line of research.

- Valerie Given, in Northamptonshire FHS “Footprints” Vol. 10 No. 4, explains how it is possible to discover a little more about the lives of our ancestors from maps. She gives examples from the many maps that should be available in your local record office.
- Family history and local history seem to me inseparable, our researches in one are undeniably helped by the other. Consequently “The Local Historian” has found a regular file in the Magazine Library. The journal of the British Association for Local History is published four times a year and provides articles of quality on a wide variety of subjects.
- Details of “Historexia Familiari”, a collective name for a new malady, is explained in the West Middlesex FHS journal Vol. 8 No. 1 and I urge all family historians to acquaint themselves with this disease. Symptoms range from an aching back and inflammation of the eyes to a desire to talk about people long since dead. In advance stages of this malady victims find themselves travelling long distances. Various forms of treatment include group therapy and special day centres have been opened up in many parts of the country. However, patients should be warned, there is no cure.

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## What kind of people were our ancestors?

*from Helene Jessup*

Versatility was certainly George Jessup’s middle name. The entries for the baptisms of his children give his occupations as: Waiter(1833), Shoemaker(1834), Milkman(1836 and 1843), Gingerbeer maker (1845), Shoemaker(1847), and when he died the death certificate had Saloon-keeper Theatre. I would say “in the beverage and cobbling trade” just about covers it. This must be the most trades for a single ancestor, unless you know better.

*from Chad Hanna*

This reminds me of a character from the Chessum family in St Neots. Jesse Chessum (1790-1864) was left some money by his paternal grandmother, Elizabeth to be apprenticed or trained. In time he became a carpenter, but had lost his sight by the time he remarried at the age of 27. He then became a butcher! This must be the most inappropriate profession, unless someone knows better.

# Assembly rooms in Slough

*by Connie Marshall*

In 1937 the *Slough Observer* celebrated the jubilee of the “Slough public halls and Leopold Institute” which were opened on December 6, 1887. The report reveals show much Slough has changed. Then the town was largely self-contained; its citizens lived and worked in its environs. They were proud of its heritage and cared about its future. Now it has become part of the commuter belt, a dormitory town whose civic pride has diminished over the years.

*1887 - the town of Slough has at length taken a step which it has contemplated for years. With the aid of generous friends it has erected in the High Street a building which is intended to supply a two-fold want. A public assembly room and a literary institute.*

In 1881 plans were actually prepared, but went no further. In 1883 Slough Forerers invited the Oddfellows to join them for the purpose of erecting a hall and offices to hold meetings, but as they were unable to raise the necessary capital by shares the project was abandoned. However, the scheme did start as a memorial for the jubilee of Queen Victoria. The old Literary and Scientific Institute, which had been in Church Street, was to be incorporated in the new building. On completion the Queen gave permission for it to be called “The Leopold Institute” in memory of her youngest son, Leopold, Duke of Albany. Three and a half thousand pounds was subscribed, but £500 was outstanding so the committee held a bazaar. The newspaper report gave a detailed description of the various stalls and the names of stallholders. together with a list of the notables present.

The newspaper account gives a description of the arguments and disagreements which held up building for some time and like the majority of undertakings there were the inevitable personality clashes. Part of the trust deed says “The building shall be for ever used free and apart from all exclusive spirit of any one party, political following or religious denomination”.

In 1972 it was demolished, destroying yet another link with the past.

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## Post Office archives

In the late summer of 1991 it's planned to move the Post Office's archives from Freeling House, 23 Glasshill Street, London, SE1 0BQ, to:

Mount Pleasant Letters District Office, Farringdon Road, London EC1 1BB.

The Archives will close on Sept. 9 and reopen on Nov. 5. But if you're planning to make a visit sometime soon it's a good idea to check with the Search Room Manager, 23 Glasshill Street, London SE1 0BQ (telephone 071 261 1145).

## Book ends

*The records of the Royal Air Force - how to find the few* by Eunice Wilson (FFHS, 1991), £3.95.

A very useful little book for those about to delve into the RAF records at the PRO at Kew. It is easy to read and full of helpful information. Second World War rank markings, uniforms and brevets are covered in some detail. Knowledge of these is essential if the main starting point is a name and a photograph. Eunice Wilson covers the various training units well and this is most important as there were many casualties in these units, both pupils and instructors. She also gives many of the less obvious units where details of relatives could be lurking; a great many of those who served in the RAF and WAAF were not in operational squadrons. One point she does not mention is that the Far East squadrons are covered in AIR 27. I learnt a great deal reading her book and I have been researching at Kew for some years. **Gordon Campbell.**

*English Genealogy, an introductory bibliography* by Stuart Raymond and Jeremy Gibson (FFHS, 1991) £2.00

Forty pages of titles with useful comments; contents are divided into 21 main sections plus subject and author indexes. An essential handbook for all family historians at all stages of their research. The pale pink cover is disappointing with the title and subtitle a mass of large print;

but the map on the front does indicate the scope of the contents. **JD**

*British genealogical periodicals - a bibliography of their contents.* Vol. 1: Collectanea Topographia et Genealogica. Topographer and Genealogist and Ancestor. £5.00. Vol. 2 part 1: The Genealogist, sources. £3.00. Compiled by Stuart Raymond (FFHS 1991).

Both of these bibliographies are useful for academic genealogists, but have little interest to family historians, unless you are connected with wealthy or important families. The journals in Vol. 1 were published between 1834-1858 and 1902-1905 and the contents are confusingly divided into two sections with separate indexes; those in Vol. 2/1 1871-1921 will be followed in due course by part 2: family histories. **JD**

*County genealogical bibliographies: Dorset, Somerset.* Compiled by Stuart Raymond. The first two volumes of a new series (FFHS £6 each)

Pale pink covers again but a map shows the relevant county in deeper colour and the title on the spine makes for easy identification on a shelf. Divided into sections by subject, with author, place and family name indexes. I can't wait for the counties for my interests. **JD**

*Bishop's transcripts and marriage licences* by Jeremy Gibson; 3rd edition (FFHS 1991) £2.50

A new edition with updated information of record office holdings. A new typeface and much easier to read, with the fa-

miliar gold cover plus an excellent logo of a bishop's mitre. **JD**

**World War 1 army ancestry** by Norman Holding, 2nd ed. (FFHS 1991) £3.95.

Updated with additional information, much easier to read and a nice shiny yellow cover. **JD**

**Family history news and digest** Vol. 8, 1 (FFHS 1991) £1.40

Described as the "Official journal of the Federation of Family History Societies" the cover design does suggest a technical journal. However, the new format contains almost a third more information with fewer pages, and it's easier to read. As well as the enormously useful digest of articles on family history, mostly taken from magazines like ours, and news about family history societies, a new feature are the specially commissioned articles. This issue contains one on Catholic ancestors by Michael Gandy. **JD**

**My ancestors were Methodists** by William Leary, 2nd ed. (SOG 1990), £3.30

This long awaited new edition contains an introduction to the history and records of Methodism plus lists of registers at the Public Record Office, and copy registers held by the Society of Genealogists. **JD**

**My ancestors came with the Conqueror** by Anthony J. Camp. Corrected reprint (SOG 1990) £3.90

A list of "those who did, and some of those who probably did not". This book-

let also contains a history of the eight lists compiled after the Battle of Hastings, many of which include names inserted on the Battle Roll after the payment of a fee. There's also an index of names if you think your ancestor fought with William the Conqueror. **JD**

**Berkshire old and new** No. 8 (Berkshire Local History Society) £3.00.

A miscellany of stories including a history of the social service, comings and goings in Tudor Berkshire, the Parliamentary enclosure of Bray, school records, postal markings, women's employment plus a bibliography of Berkshire local history publications. **JD**

**Pangbourne - history of the parish church of St. James the Less** by Joan Wilcox (1991) £1.00. A brief but useful history.

**City of London: a guide to the streets, parishes and wards.** Research Aid No. 30 by Cliff Webb (W. Surrey FHS, 1991), £2.00

Another invaluable guide to complete the series on London records. Other research guides include: *Anglican parish boundaries in London before 1837*, *Genealogical research in Victorian London*, *A genealogical gazetteer of Mid-Victorian London and Genealogical research in Edwardian London*

**Ashampstead: a Berkshire parish (by its parishioners).** Available from Mrs. P. Knightley, Parish Clerk, 17 Flowers



Piece, Ashampstead, Berkshire RG8 8SG

*The story of Cookham* by R. and V. Bootle (1990)

*A village post office* by John and Sheila Rudd (Twyford and Ruscombe Local History Society (1990) £2.75

*Whitley Wood: The end of the road* by Anne Waterfield. The story of the Gypsy Lee family, Demon and Mizzella Lee, who left the road and settled in Whitley Wood, Reading between 1871 and 1881. This is a manuscript privately typewritten and available at the Berkshire Record Office.

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## Help

To make the Berkshire Family Historian more useful to readers we have decided to introduce another feature - **Help!** There are some problems to which there are no ready answers, a lost ancestor or a simply an appeal to others to provide a missing clue.

If you have any problems which you think might be aired on this page then write to the editor. To begin with, here's a cry for help from Mrs. B. Mottershead, 44 The Green, Southwick, Sussex, BN42 4FR.

Ann Brey married my great great grandfather William Humphries (a blacksmith) at St. Nicholas, Abingdon, on 4th Dec. 1807. William was baptised in

1783 at Stadhampton, Oxfordshire and his parents were married at Great Milton, Oxfordshire. I have had the parish registers checked in the Abingdon area and around Stadhampton but have found no trace of Ann - in fact no Brey/Bray family. The name appears to be foreign to both counties. I would be pleased to receive comment from anyone who has knowledge of Berkshire and Oxfordshire surnames (postage gladly refunded). I know that the name Bray is fairly common in Devon but this is a long way from Abingdon. Any ideas?

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## Back numbers of BFHS magazines - special offer

We have a surplus of magazines and would like to create some space in our garage - so the following are available on special offer at 25pence each or £1 per volume (subject to availability of course):

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1981-2 Vol. 7/1-4   | 1984-5 Vol. 9/3 only |
| 1984-5 Vol. 10/1-4  | 1985-6 Vol. 10/5-8   |
| 1986-7 Vol. 10/9-12 | 1987-8 Vol. 11.1-4   |
| 1988-9 Vol. 12/1-4  |                      |

Members interests 1982 with supplements 1983, 1984 - 50 pence (3 vols.)

| Postage | UK | Overseas        |
|---------|----|-----------------|
|         |    | Surface Airmail |

|               |         |         |       |
|---------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Single copies | 30pence | 50pence | £1.20 |
| 2-4 copies    | 70pence | £1.10   | £3.50 |
| 5-8 copies    | £1.25   | £1.90   | £6.00 |
| 9-12 copies   | £2.10   | £2.40   | £8.50 |

Jean Debney (address on back cover)

# Q and A with Jean

compiled by Jean Debney

## Death by drowning

Valerie BUSHELL (2296) of New Zealand writes that her three times great-grandfather Joseph CUMMINS was drowned on 30 Nov. 1845 at Crux Easton in north Hampshire. As the death occurred miles from the sea she thought it unusual and wonders if it was reported in a newspaper. The death was not recorded until three months later and the deputy coroner of Basingstoke was the informant. She also wants to know if this length of time is usual when a death goes before a coroner; do coroners records go back that far and are they available to the public? Apart from that she asks if there are any other sources of information on the circumstances surrounding Joseph's death.

It only takes two or three inches of water to drown someone so, although he lived so far from the coast, Joseph could have died in a pond or puddle. From my OS map, Crux Easton is on chalk downs about 10 kilometres south of Newbury and east of the Andover road. There does not seem to be a river nearby but perhaps there was a pond. It should be remembered that river transport played a key role in the transportation of goods and foodstuffs and it is possible that a reason for the delay in reporting the death may have been that he was away from home at the time of death.

Since the twelfth century, a coroner has to hold an inquest in any case of sudden death or one that occurs in suspicious circumstances. For this they receive a fee and their reports may be found among the Quarter Sessions papers in the county record office. Summaries of the county holding, with useful introductions, are to be found in two Gibson Guides: *Coroners records in England and Wales* and *Quarter Sessions records for family historians*. After 1837, the coroner's name appears as informant on a death certificate following an inquest. Coroners' records are usually closed for 75 years.

Local newspapers love a story with a bit of spice, including reports of coroners' inquests. National newspapers date from the early 1600s and were followed in the eighteenth century by local newspapers. Another Gibson Guide *Local newspapers 1750-1920* lists newspaper titles by county, including the Hampshire Chronicle from 1772, copies of which can be found at the British Newspaper Library at Colindale Avenue, London, NW9 5HE, and in the libraries at Southampton and Winchester. Archive holdings by local newspapers themselves are rare. The early issues of these "local" newspapers rarely carried local news; apart from the advertising by local firms and shops most of the news stories were copied from the national press. But by 1845 a much larger proportion of news was local and if there were unusual circumstances surrounding this case it may well have been reported.

Good luck with your research, Valerie. You have an interesting story here and, if you can uncover the details, I look forward to reading all about it in a later edition of the *Berkshire Family Historian*.

### Written out and sent to court

**Q** Miss Ella SUTHERLAND (1765) of Bracknell, Berkshire, has found an entry in the parish register of St. Michael's and all Saints, Northumberland, about her great-grandmother's sister, Esther, born on the sixth and baptised on the 13th of February 1801: "3rd daughter of John DURRY, groom at Etall Hall [home of the 17th Earl of Errol] and his wife Mary". Written underneath, in a different hand, are the words "Written out and sent to Court". What does this imply?

**A** Thank you Ella for sending a photocopy of the page from the register. This shows that the next baptismal entry is dated 8th May 1801. In between 6th February and 8th of May is Lady Day, 25th March, the day when the churchwarden had to take a copy of all the entries of baptism, marriage and burial for the previous year and a note that this had been done might be put in the register eg: "Delivered in at ye Bishop's visitation" or, as in your case, "Written out and sent to Court". So your ancestor was not a criminal after all.

These duplicate register copies, called "Bishop's transcripts", were handed in at the next Archdeacon's or Bishop's Visitation Court. They are extremely useful for family historians when the

original register is lost or incomplete and they may give different or additional details. They started in 1598, but few survive from that early period, and gradually ceased during the nineteenth century; there were none during the English Civil war and Commonwealth period (1640-1660).

Bishop's Transcripts (BTs) are to be found in the relevant Diocesan Record Office. A list of county holdings is in the Gibson Guide *Bishop's Transcripts and Marriage Licences, Bonds and Allegations* (see "Book ends") which also includes a brief introduction. The BTs for Northumberland, which is in the Diocese of Durham, date from about 1760 and are held at Durham University.

### Adoption records

**Q** Mrs. E.J. Nancollis (2331) of Kintbury, Berkshire: "My query concerns adoption records, particularly around the 1850s in England. Leaflet CAS52 from St. Catherine's House deals with adoptions after 1927 and I wondered if there are any records which go back further than that? I enclose a list of details about my father's grandfather (which doesn't amount to much) in the hope you may be able to suggest possible research sources."

**A** The details sent are as follows: Fifty one year old Henry Francis Ellesmere HEWITT died on 18th June 1905 in New Zealand, where he had lived since 1873. He left a widow and seven children all born in New Zealand. His New Zealand marriage certificate of 1879

gives no date of birth. All known documents give his place of birth as London circa 1854 but searches in St. Catherine's House have failed to find his birth certificate.

According to family rumour Henry was 'adopted' by a wealthy aunt with the surname "ELLESMERE". When she died in England she left money to H.F.E. HEWITT but although solicitors advertised in New Zealand newspapers he "chose not to reply". A search has been made for the advertisement but so far without success. The will was said to be "in Chancery". Three female "ELLESMERE" wills have been examined but none mention a HEWITT beneficiary.

There are no official adoption records prior to the Adoption Registers from 1927 held at St. Catherine's House, London. Before that most arrangements were privately made between individuals with little or no documentation. Useful books which list other sources are *The family tree detective* and *Tracing missing persons* both by Colin D. Rogers, also *Where to find adoption records* compiled by Georgina Stafford (British Agencies for adoption and fostering, 11 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RQ).

Rumours of a lost inheritance and advertisements in newspapers which the recipient chooses to ignore occur in many families. My husband, Cliff, has a similar story in his family concerning a titled ancestor for which no evidence can be found. However, family legends often contain an element of truth - if only one could "crack" the system.

Have you tried looking for the birth of H.F.E.H. under the surname of ELLESMERE as well as HEWITT (HUITT/HEWETT)? Ellesmere cannot be such a common surname even in London and an attempt to trace all references from say *Kelly's Directories* might be fruitful. Once an address has been located, it could be followed up in the 1861 or 1871 census returns. Also much of the 1851 census has been indexed for major parts of London and copies are in the Census Room at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane. There are also some in the BFHS reference library. ELLESMERE may also have been an adopted name to give some grandeur to an otherwise ordinary individual; one of the great shipping lines of the nineteenth century was owned by an ELLESMERE.

The Court of Chancery dealt with disputes of inheritance etc. and the records which run from the fourteenth century to 1875 are in the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane. From 1876 money not claimed by next of kin was placed by solicitors "in Chancery". Annual accounts can be seen free of charge at the Court Funds Office, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE. Between 1893 and 1974 lists of these funds were published in the *London Gazette*. Further information can be found in *Tracing your ancestors in the PRO* (HMSO 1990).

Footnote: Mrs. Nancollis sent her copy death certificate obtained from New Zealand - a photocopy would be preferable as I cannot guarantee the safe return of the original material through the post.

## Publicans

**Q**Mrs. Joan K. Cole (1990) of Middleton-on-Sea, West Sussex, writes: "I am trying to find information about relatives who were landlords of the 'Two Brewers' in Maidenhead, Cookham, Berkshire. Samuel William STATHAM died there on 9 May, 1891. His son, also called Samuel William, was present; both were licensed victuallers. The present landlord of the 'Two Brewers' has no knowledge of the family. According to the 1851 census Samuel was a retired butler in service at Wem, Shropshire. I would like to know where he was buried and when he started as a publican.

**A**First of all, your information seems to be a little mixed up. Cookham and Maidenhead are now two separate, although adjacent, Berkshire towns. I think you mean that the death took place in Maidenhead and was registered in the Cookham Registration District. Secondly, current landlords of pubs, unless they are interested in history, rarely have any knowledge of previous tenants. But pubs where ancestors have worked or enjoyed a pint are very good places to visit. Thirdly, it is hard to understand how your ancestor could be a retired butler but also in service. It seems to me that you may have misinterpreted the information from either the death certificate or the census.

Information about licensed victuallers can be found from entries in local directories. *Kelly's Directory of Berkshire* for 1887 lists the 'Two Brewers' Inn (land-

lord Alan SYKES) at 136 High Street, Maidenhead. Licensees and their sureties are also recorded in the annual Brewsters Returns to be found among the Quarter Sessions papers in the local county record office - in this case probably among those for the Borough of Maidenhead in Shire Hall, Shinfield Park, Reading (Telephone 0734 875444 for appointment).

Further information might be forthcoming if you write (enclosing a stamped self addressed envelope) to Brian Boulter, Maidenhead Archaeological and Historical Society, 43 Bannard Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 4NP.

## What's in a name Perry and Perris

**Q**Keith L. PERRIS (1238) of Macclesfield FHS writes: "I was intrigued by your article 'What's in a name - Perrin or Sperrin' (*Berkshire Family Historian* Vol. 14 p81). For some years I, and several other frustrated correspondents, have been trying to trace the PERRIS/S ancestry beyond the mid-eighteenth century. Frank PERRIS was an illiterate agricultural labourer who married Sarah STOCKBRIDGE in 1758 in Welford, Berkshire, with the sign 'Frank PERRIS'S mark'. Thereafter, Frank's descendants are all recorded, mostly in Wickham and Walford, as PERRISS rather than PERRIS. He also witnessed the marriage in Wickham (Frank PERRIS'S mark) of Esther PERRIFS to Josiah SHELL in 1763. Despite many hours of elimination work in parishes in

West Berkshire, Wiltshire and west Hampshire, no baptismal records for Frank and Esther have been found.

The IGI, however, records a Frank and Esther Perry baptised in 1732 and 1734 in Eaton Hastings, Oxfordshire, (about 25 miles north of Welford and Wickham) the issue of Samuel and Esther Perry.

The difficulty of writing and saying 'Frank Perry's mark' and the style of handwriting in the eighteenth century - 'Frank Perrifs' - leads me to the conclusion that Frank PERRIS/S and Frank PERRY were in fact the same man. Enclosed are some (poor) copies of the original records. Perhaps you could encourage me to believe I am on the right track at last. I understand that PERRIS/S is also considered a derivative of PIERRE.

**A** Thank you for sending the photocopy documents and a family tree. They were a great help in understanding your problem. You have carried out the correct research procedure by examining as many local baptismal records as possible. PERRIS and PERRISS (and also PIERIS) are considered to be variations of PEARCE, the French form of Peter. They are listed in P.H.Reaney's *Dictionary of British Surnames* from which I trawled the majority of names for my article but were, unfortunately, omitted from my list.

Reaney's dictionary is still, rightly, considered to be the standard source reference book on the meanings of surnames. Most of his work was based on an exten-

sive study of printed Saxon and medieval documents, which he used to illustrate the development of (mostly English) surnames in the twelfth to the fourteenth century. However, the detailed research carried out by thousands of today's family historians is inevitably revealing different patterns of surname origin, change and distribution. More and more examples of the clergy's desperate imagination to spell a surname which led to inexplicable and often permanent name changes are coming to light. In your case the possessive or collective 'S' appears to have been added to PERRY and has stuck.

In the eighteenth century, a long 's' (like an f) might be used at the beginning of a word, in the middle, or the first letter of a double 'ss' at the end. The coincidence of the baptism of a brother and sister in Oxfordshire, and the marriage of two with almost identical names in Berkshire, suggests that they were the same people.

So.....I think you are on the right track, but.....how to prove it. My own ideas are first to check the entries in the baptism and burial registers to confirm the IGI (and make sure they didn't die before they reached Berkshire) and then to look at the poor law and probate records for both families in Berkshire and Oxfordshire. These are good sources where relationships and places of origin may be mentioned. *My ancestor was a migrant* by Anthony J. Camp (1967) suggests many other sources.

# MEMBERS' PAGES

*compiled by Meg Goswell*

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1960 Mrs. M. A. Holloway, 9 Howard Close,  
Tavistock, Devon, PL19 8ND

BRK HOLLOWAY Reading, St. Mary and  
St. Giles 1750-1812

BRK STAIR Aldermaston pre-1820

BRK JOHNSON Wasing 17-18c

BRK JEROME Yattendon 17-18C

---

2296 Miss V.E. Bushell, 67 Smythe Road,  
Henderson, Auckland 8, New Zealand

BRK CULLEY Hampstead Norris  
pre-1820

BRK CARTER Speen pre-1820

HAM CUMMINS/CUMMINGS  
Crux Easton pre-1810

HAM NASH, POYNTER  
Whitchurch pre-1800

HAM COLE East Stratton pre-1820

WIL SHERMAN/SHARMAN  
Any pre-1800

WIL WINSTON(E) Wanborough pre-1800

KEN FRENCH Bexley 1850s

ESS BURTON Maldon and Mundon  
pre-1820

ESS BOULTED Mundon pre-1820

ESS PICKMAN Mundon pre-1780

ESS HART/HEART Mundon pre-1760

ESS FINCH Mundon pre-1760

ESS COTTEE/COTTEY  
Any pre-1840

SRY COX, KEELY Lambeth pre-1860

SRY PEARCE Lambeth pre-1880

MDX BUSHELL, HUNTShorditch pre-1860

---

2302 Mrs. Josephine Bott, 907 Florence  
Street, Hastings, NI, New Zealand

BRK NALDER Newbury 1600+

BRK CHARLTON Swallowfield 1750+

HAM NALDER Basingstoke 1750+

---

2303 Betty A. Willis, 77 Donald Hall Road,  
Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 5DL

BRK ARCHER Any pre-1785

BRK BROADWAY, DIBLEY  
Reading pre-1870

BRK WILDE RMC Sandhurst  
1860-1870

SRY WILDE Camberley pre-1860

---

2304 Mrs. Sharon Baker, PO Box 1474,  
Mackenzie, British Columbia VOJ  
2C0, Canada

BRK FOSTER Reading 1852-1913

BRK CLINCH Bucklebury early 19c

OXF GARDINER Oxford early 19c

---

2315 Mr. H.J.A. Stockbridge, 170 Coulsdon  
Road, Old Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2LF  
is a new member who has successfully  
researched his ancestry back to 1700 in  
Hungerford and surrounding parishes -  
East Garston, Lambourne, Inkpen and  
Emborne. If members have some indi-  
rect connection with the Stockbridges  
he would be pleased to hear from them.  
It is known that a Rachel Stockbridge,  
the wife of Thomas Stockbridge, was  
buried at Hungerford church on Octo-  
ber 2, 1773. If anybody has any knowl-  
edge of either it would especially be  
welcome.

---

2318 Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Jones, 40 Keble  
Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6  
6BA

BRK JONES Wantage and Newbury  
1884-1938

HAM JONES Dummer and Odiham  
1884-1950

COR KINMONTH Cork City 1890-1950

---

2329 Miss Linda Joan White, 53 Norreys Av-  
enue, Wokingham, Berkshire

BRK BERKS,  
HUMPHRIES Reading 19c

BRK WHITE Wokingham 19c

HAM SLAUGHTER Hartley Wintney  
1750-1850

|      |                                                                             |              |           |      |                                                                      |                           |           |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| SSX  | BROWN,<br>SMART                                                             | Bexhill      | 1750-1900 | MDX  | JESSMAN, PARSONS<br>and BRAY                                         | West London               | 19c       |
| 2332 | Mrs. Helen Amy, c/o FCO (Antananarivo) King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH |              |           | MDX  | PEARCE                                                               | Fulham and Chelsea        | 19c       |
| BRK  | JOYCE                                                                       | All          | pre-1840  | MDX  | KENT                                                                 | North London              | 19c       |
| SRV  | HINE                                                                        | All          | pre-1840  | MDX  | WOODCOCK                                                             | Chelsea                   | 19c       |
| NBL  | CROSBY                                                                      | All          | pre-1840  | HNP  | HAYNES                                                               | Huntingdon                | 19c       |
| YKS  | PEARSON,<br>SMITH                                                           | Whixley      | pre-1840  | HRT  | SCALES                                                               | South Mimms               | 19c       |
| DEV  | POWLESLAND,<br>OLDRIEVE                                                     | All          | Any       | 2352 | Miss M. Hassard-Short, 56 De Bevoir Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 5NP |                           |           |
| JSY  | AMY                                                                         | Trinity      | Any       | GLA  | COLSTON                                                              | Aberdare,<br>Mountain Ash | All       |
| 2336 | Mr. M.J. Grover, 1 Oaktree Close, Colden Common, Winchester, SO21 1UT       |              |           | GLA  | PEGLER,<br>LONG                                                      | Mountain Ash              | All       |
| BRK  | BULLOCK, GROVER, MASLEN,<br>WISE                                            | Any          | pre-1900  | SEL  | CHEYNE                                                               | Any                       | All       |
| BRK  | HARRINGTON                                                                  | Any          | pre-1860  | SEL  | WAYNESS                                                              | Any                       | All       |
| BRK  | WEST                                                                        | Any          | pre-1873  | DEV  | SHORT                                                                | Kenn                      | 1600-1900 |
| 2337 | Mrs. G.M. Wilder, 16 Kiln Way, Aldershot, Hants GU11 3UG                    |              |           | GTL  | SHORT                                                                | Beckenham                 | 1800-1915 |
| BRK  | WILDER and variants<br>Sulham and Purley                                    |              | pre-1800  | YKS  | SHORT                                                                | Doncaster                 | 1600-1850 |
| OXF  | WILDER and variants<br>Shiplake                                             |              | pre-1800  | LND  | SHORT                                                                | Any                       | 1650-1930 |
| ESS  | WILDER and variants<br>Chelmsford, Rochford<br>and Southand                 |              | pre-1900  | DOR  | HASSARD                                                              | Lyme Regis,<br>Bridport   | 1500-1650 |
| 2350 | Mr. F. Carpenter, 50 Arbury Road, Cambridge CB4 2JE                         |              |           | MDX  | HASSARD                                                              | Clerkenwell<br>Bloomsbury | 1650-1950 |
| BRK  | COVENTRY                                                                    | Wargrave     | pre-1881  | LIN  | HASSARD-SHORT                                                        | Edlington, E.Keal         | 1800-1915 |
| MDX  | BRUMBY                                                                      | Hampstead    | pre-1900  | LND  | HASSARD-SHORT                                                        | Any                       | 1796-1950 |
| 2338 | Mr. R.J. Curant, 105 Harewood Road, Isleworth Road, Middx, TW7 5HN          |              |           | YKS  | HARRISON                                                             | Harrogate                 | 19c       |
| BRK  | FROUD                                                                       | Any          | All       | YKS  | DIXON                                                                | Harrogate                 | 19c       |
| CON  | CURANT                                                                      | St. Mawes    | pre-1850  | FIF  | DUFF                                                                 | Elie                      | 1500-1900 |
| CON  | CROXALL,<br>HARRIS                                                          | St. Mawes    | 18c       | STD  | GALLIE                                                               | Glasgow                   | 1850-1940 |
| CON  | PARSONS                                                                     | Falmouth     | 19c       | LIN  | ELMHURST                                                             | Ashby Grove               | 1850-1910 |
| MDX  | JUDD                                                                        | St. Pancras  | 19c       | MDX  | FITZHUGH                                                             | Mile End                  | 1650-1750 |
| MDX  | SHEPHERD, TURNER<br>and SHELVEY                                             | Kensington   | 19c       | YKS  | BUTT                                                                 |                           | 19c       |
| 2355 | Miss Jenny Lewis, 18 Harwood Avenue, Bromley, Kent, BR1 3DU                 |              |           | BRK  | STROUD                                                               | Compton                   | 1790+     |
| BRK  | STROUD                                                                      | Compton      | 1790+     | WIL  | STROUD                                                               | Froxfield                 | 1790+     |
| WIL  | STROUD                                                                      | Froxfield    | 1790+     | WIL  | BEVAN                                                                | Aldbourne                 | 1700+     |
| WIL  | BEVAN                                                                       | Aldbourne    | 1700+     | HAM  | BEVAN, MILLER                                                        | Vernham Dean              | 1700+     |
| HAM  | BEVAN, MILLER                                                               | Vernham Dean | 1700+     | LIN  | CHAPMAN                                                              | Burton                    | 1830+     |
| LIN  | CHAPMAN                                                                     | Burton       | 1830+     | MDX  | PAYZE                                                                | Any                       | 1820+     |
| MDX  | PAYZE                                                                       | Any          | 1820+     |      |                                                                      |                           |           |



|      |                                                                             |                   |           |              |                                                                                            |                            |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2356 | Mrs. Judith Guarascia, 43 Fassett Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L9C 4E6, Canada |                   |           | BRK LEWIS    | Wokingham pre-1902                                                                         |                            |
|      |                                                                             |                   |           | MDX PINNOCK  | Islington, Edmonton                                                                        | pre-1930                   |
| BRK  | FARR/PHARR                                                                  | Hampstead Norris  |           | HRT PINNOCK  | Tring                                                                                      | pre-1901                   |
|      |                                                                             | 1750-1850         |           | SRY LEWIS    | Kingston                                                                                   | pre-1902                   |
| BRK  | LOVEGROVE                                                                   | Reading, St. Mary |           | MDX SIMMONDS | St. Pancras and Islington                                                                  | pre-1930                   |
|      |                                                                             | 1750-1850         |           | MDX HOY      | St. Pancras                                                                                | pre-1900                   |
| BRK  | WARMAN                                                                      | Peasemore         | 1750-1850 | <hr/>        |                                                                                            |                            |
| NBL  | BARNFATHER                                                                  | Newcastle         | 1750-1850 | 2360         | Mr. Glenn L. Jenkins, Two Ways, Salter's Hill, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury, Glou. GL20 7DB |                            |
| CMA  | FELL and IVISON                                                             | Cockermouth       | 1850-1920 | BRK          | ROBERTS                                                                                    | Binfield 1820-1990         |
| LAN  | HEATHCOTE and PARTINGTON                                                    | Bolton            | 1850-1920 | BRK          | MAY                                                                                        | Binfield 1790-1900         |
| LAN  | VICKERS                                                                     | Bolton            | 1850-1920 | BRK          | SKINNER                                                                                    | Binfield 1810-1860         |
| DUR  | LIDDLE                                                                      | Sunderland        | 1750-1850 | BRK          | HARDING                                                                                    | Winkfield 1850-1930        |
| ANT  | DAYELET and MAGILL                                                          | Any               | 1800-1850 | BRK          | JONES                                                                                      | Winkfield 1840-1880        |
|      |                                                                             |                   |           | WIL          | HARDING                                                                                    | Devizes 1820-1870          |
| 2357 | Mrs. P. Mundy, 14 Medlock Street, Droylsden, Manchester M35 7AT             |                   |           | KEN          | JENKINS                                                                                    | Ashford 19c                |
| BRK  | BRAZIER                                                                     | Chieveley         | 1793      | KEN          | BRIGGS                                                                                     | Ashford 1800-1850          |
| HAM  | BENHAM and GROVER                                                           | Alreford          | 1793      | KEN          | CLARINGBO(U)(W)LD                                                                          | Barham 1850-1890           |
| GTM  | BOOTE                                                                       | Ancoats           | 1876      | OXF          | NORCOTT                                                                                    | Stonor 1790-1900           |
| GTM  | CROWTHER and JONES                                                          | Manchester        | 1869      | OXF          | GARRETT                                                                                    | Stonor 1780-1820           |
| HAM  | HOBBS                                                                       | Micheldever       | 1819      | OXF          | BASSETT                                                                                    | Stonor 1820-1870           |
| MDX  | GREEN                                                                       | Uxbridge          | 1885      | <hr/>        |                                                                                            |                            |
| SRY  | HORTON                                                                      | Cobham            | 1933      | 2363         | Mr. Ray Ward, 9 Endsleigh Road, Merstham, Surrey, RH1 3LX                                  |                            |
| STS  | LOCKETT                                                                     | Kankey            | c1760     |              | SKINDLE                                                                                    | Any All                    |
| MDX  | MUNDY and WHEELER                                                           | Shoreditch        | 1892      |              | SOFTLAW                                                                                    | Any All                    |
| CHS  | PARKER and WOOD                                                             | Runcorn           | 1880      | BRK          | STACEY                                                                                     | Any 1800-1850              |
| GTM  | ROTHWELL                                                                    | Ancoats           | 1876      | MDX          | STACEY                                                                                     | Any 1800-1850              |
|      |                                                                             |                   |           | <hr/>        |                                                                                            |                            |
| 2359 | Miss S. J. Pinnock, 43 Church View, Ollerton, Newark, Notts. NG22 9BH       |                   |           | 2373         | P.E.M. Nesbitt, "Donegal", 42 Bampark Road, Teignmouth, South Devon, TQ14 8PN              |                            |
| BRK  | BUTCHER                                                                     | North Moreton     | pre-1734  | BRK          | STRICKLAND                                                                                 | Aldermaston 1800-1852      |
| BRK  | BAKER                                                                       | North Moreton     | pre-1888  | BRK          | STRICKLAND                                                                                 | Tadley 1850-1880           |
| BRK  | BELCHER                                                                     | Long Wittenham    | 1867-1908 | BRK          | LOVLOCK                                                                                    | Aldermaston 1800-1850      |
|      |                                                                             |                   |           | BRK          | BUSHELL                                                                                    | Ardington 1850-1890        |
| BRK  | BELCHER                                                                     | Sutton Courtney   | pre-1867  | BRK          | BUSHELL                                                                                    | Hampstead Norris 1845-1881 |
| BRK  | WEST                                                                        | Long Wittenham    | 1830-1873 | BRK          | BUSHELL                                                                                    | Reading 1740-1800          |
| BRK  | WEST                                                                        | Long Wittenham    | pre-1830  | BRK          | BRUNSDON                                                                                   | Ilsey 1820-1900            |

|       |                                                                             |                             |           |         |                                                                         |                                      |           |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 2374  | Mrs. K. Hancock, 4 Almond Close,<br>Boston, Lincs PE21 8HL                  |                             |           | BRK     | MOTT and<br>WOOTTON                                                     | Sonning                              | pre-1800  |
|       |                                                                             |                             |           | GLS     | BAKER                                                                   | Yate                                 | pre-1850  |
| SOM   | CULLEN                                                                      | Ashcott                     | pre-1860  | GLS     | LOWE                                                                    | Awre                                 | pre-1800  |
| SOM   | CULLEN                                                                      | Bridgewater                 | post-1880 | BKM     | CHAPPEL                                                                 | Stewkley                             | pre-1800  |
| SRV   | CULLEN                                                                      | Sydenham                    | 1870-1900 | BKM     | JANES                                                                   | High Wycombe                         | pre-1850  |
| SRV   | CULLEN                                                                      | Dulwich                     | 1880-1930 | BKM     | STANNIFORD                                                              | Soulbury                             | pre-1700  |
| SOM   | WARD                                                                        | Dulwich                     | 1840-1900 | HAM     | HAIR                                                                    | Titchfield                           | pre-1850  |
| BRK   | WARD                                                                        | Lambourne                   | pre-1901  | OXF     | MORREY                                                                  | Banbury                              | pre-1850  |
| WIL   | HUTTEN/HUTTON                                                               |                             |           | BDF     | YATES                                                                   | Woburn                               | pre-1800  |
|       |                                                                             | Ramsbury                    | pre-1840  | FIF     | BRABENDER and<br>MELDRUM                                                | Any                                  | pre-1800  |
| SOM   | LEGG                                                                        | Ashcott                     | 1820-1870 | MON     | HOSKINS,<br>STEVENS                                                     | Chepstow                             | pre-1850  |
| SOM   | CARY                                                                        | Ashcott                     | pre-1840  | NTT     | HUMBER                                                                  | Nottingham                           | pre-1850  |
| DOR   | HOOK(E)                                                                     | pre-1820                    |           | NTT/LEC |                                                                         |                                      |           |
| CAM   | BLOWS                                                                       | Shepreth/Melbourn           | pre-1875  |         | MARSON                                                                  | Any                                  | pre-1800  |
| CAM   | RAWLINGS/ROWLAND                                                            |                             |           | MDX     | TREADAWAY                                                               | Harefield                            | pre-1850  |
|       |                                                                             | Bassington                  | pre-1825  | <hr/>   |                                                                         |                                      |           |
| NFK   | BONNETT                                                                     | Islington                   | pre-1850  | 2383    | Mrs. J. Ward-Lewis, Flat 9, 56 West-<br>bourne Terrace, London W2 3UJ   |                                      |           |
| NFK   | CURSON                                                                      | Terrington St Clem.         | pre-1845  | BRK     | HARMAN,<br>BENSON                                                       | Reading                              | 19c       |
| <hr/> |                                                                             |                             |           | BRK     | MOORE                                                                   | Reading                              | 1790-1900 |
| 2377  | Frances M. Tanner, 512 36th Street,<br>SW Calgary, Alberta. Canada, T36 1P7 |                             |           | MDX     | BOLITHO,<br>BARRATT                                                     | St. Pancras                          | 19c       |
| BRK   | LOWE                                                                        | 1700-1860                   |           | MDX     | BARKER                                                                  | City                                 | 19c       |
| BRK   | PAGE                                                                        | 1800-1860                   |           | MDX     | WOOD                                                                    | City and environs                    | 19c       |
| WAR   | KENNON                                                                      | Any                         | 1700-1990 | SRV     | PARIS                                                                   | Camberwell                           | 19c       |
| IRL   | WESTBY,<br>TRAVERS                                                          | Any                         | 1700-1900 | SRV     | FOLEY                                                                   | Peckham                              | 19c       |
| CAN   | WESTBY,<br>TRAVERS                                                          | Any                         | 1800-1990 | MDX     | TURNER                                                                  | Bethnal Green                        | 19c       |
| ROX   | HARDIE                                                                      | Any                         | 18c       | WOR     | FOLEY                                                                   | Stourbridge                          | 19c       |
| DFS   | HARDIE                                                                      | Any                         | 19c       | DEV     | BISHOP                                                                  | Any                                  | 19c       |
| DFS   | PATERSON                                                                    | Any                         | 1750-1850 | ABD     | SHARE                                                                   | Drumoak                              | 19c       |
| CMA   | GRAHAM                                                                      | Cumbria/<br>Scottish border | 19c       | ABD     | WILSON                                                                  | Skene                                | 19c       |
| CMA   | DOUGHTY                                                                     | Any                         | 1850-1950 | ABD     | TURRIFF                                                                 | Peterhead                            | 1750-1900 |
| DBY   | ASTON                                                                       | Any                         | 1750-1830 | <hr/>   |                                                                         |                                      |           |
| COR   | BATEMAN and<br>TANNER                                                       | Any                         | 1750-1850 | 2395    | Claire Pearson, 56 Melrose, Hanworth,<br>Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 4LF |                                      |           |
| ARM   | WILLIS                                                                      | Any                         | 19c       | WRY     | CRAWSHAW                                                                | Bradfield, Sheffield,<br>West Riding | 1580-1991 |
| SHR   | ALLEN                                                                       | Any                         | 1750-1860 | WRY     | DONKERSLEY                                                              | Honley, Huddersfield<br>West Riding  | All       |
| <hr/> |                                                                             |                             |           | DBY     | PEARSON                                                                 | North Derbyshire                     | 1600-1860 |
| 2380  | Mr. A.J. Bailey, 45 Denham Crescent,<br>Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 4LZ            |                             |           | LND     | PLUNKETT                                                                | Any                                  | All       |
| BRK   | BAILEY                                                                      | Wokingham                   | pre-1800  |         |                                                                         |                                      |           |

# BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society, which started its life as the Reading Amateur Genealogical Society in 1973, emerged under its present name in 1975 to encourage the study of family history in Berkshire. It aims to promote contacts between members through regular meetings and by the quarterly magazine.

The Society is a registered charity - number 283010.

## Berkshire Name Index

This index may be consulted by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope, with your membership number, to:

Tom and Rita Hine, Oakley Cottage,  
Westbury Lane, Purley-on-Thames,  
Reading, RG8 8DL.

A stray index for the east of the county, including the Slough area is held by:

Mrs Jaqui Ward, Woodstock, 21 Stompits  
Road, Holyport, Maidenhead, SL6 2LD.

## Berkshire Marriage Index

This index (to males names only) to 175,000 marriages in Berkshire between 1538 and 1837 may be consulted by sending details of the marriage being sought (groom's name and approximate date) and a stamped, self-addressed envelope showing your membership number, together with an additional second class postage stamp, to the Secretary. (Blanket searches cannot be undertaken.)

## Directory of Members' Interests

The directory, compiled from information submitted by members, gives sur-

names being researched, together with period and locality, is published from time to time.

## Bookstall

A wide selection of books of interest to family historians is available at meetings and by post. Publications lists are available from the Secretary and from the Bookstall organiser (addresses on back cover)

## Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription is payable on 1st July each year. The membership rates, from 1st July 1990, are:

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
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| additional postal supplement of | £2  |
| all new members :               |     |
| additional enrolment fee of     | 50p |

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Members who are (or whose spouses are) UK taxpayers, are urged to take out a covenant on their subscriptions. As the Society is a charity, this enables us to claim a sum of money from the Inland Revenue each year - at no cost to members. See back cover for covenant secretary's name and address.

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