



Berkshire Family Historian

Volume 20 - No 1 - September 1996



Events Calendar - 1996/1997

Bracknell Branch

Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell

7:15pm for 7:45pm

20 th September	to be announced
18 th October	to be announced
15 th November	to be announced
20 th December	to be announced

Newbury Branch

United Reform Church Hall, Cromwell Place, Northbrook Street, Newbury

7:15pm for 7:45pm

11 th September	"The Reading Family History Centre".....	Roger Perry
9 th October	"Irish Research - part II"	Bill Davis
13 th November	"Basic Scottish Family History Research".....	Marjorie Moore
11 th December	Christmas Party + Antiques Quiz with Mark Law	
8 th January	"Occupational Costume - Working Class People in Photographs"	
	Avril Lansdell
12 th February	"The Society of Genealogists".....	Chris Watts
12 th March	to be announced	
9 th April	"The Transportation of Convicts to Australia" ..	David Hawkins
14 th May	"The Defenders of Rorke's Drift"	Rev. Derek West

Reading Branch

BFHS Research Centre, Prospect School, Honey End Lane, Reading

7:15pm for 7:45pm

27 th September	"I've Drawn The Tree - What next?.	Douglas Jackson
25 th October	"An Introduction to Computers for Genealogy".	Mrs Y.J.Bunting
22 nd November	"The Parish Chest: its officers and contents"	Jean Debney
6 th December	Christmas Meeting including a slide show by Doug Noyes	
	"The Changing Face of Reading Part 3"	
31 st January	"The Berkshire Record Office: Past, Present and Future"	
	Dr Peter Durrant
28 th February	"Bawdy Courts - What's in it for Family Historians?"	
	Joan Dils
28 th March	"The Poor Irish in England"	Mike Gandy

Slough Branch

St Andrew's Church Hall, The Grove, Slough

7:30pm for 7:45pm

24 th September	"London: The Metropolitan Nightmare?".....	Paul Blake
29 th October	"Emigrants and Immigrants"	Lillian Gibbens
26 th November	"19 th Century Country Life"	Avril Lansdell

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Volume 20, 1996/7

Part 1, September 1996

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Chairman's Comments

By Jan Jones

Firstly, I must say thank you to those of you who voted for me to be Chairman, I promise to do my best. Very conscious that I follow a long line of expert historians, I must admit to being a Jack-of-all-trades and master of none, but I do have an extensive business background and hope that my administrative skills will be of use.

I thought I should say a few words about who I am as most of you will not have heard of me. I am in my mid-forties, married with two children still at school. I moved to Purley-on-Thames in Berkshire in 1985, already slightly smitten by the Family History bug. Shortly afterwards I joined one of Jean Debney's "beginner's" classes, and that lead on to membership of Berkshire FHS and our local history group. The bug was beginning to take over. Raising two children and a full-time career with a computer manufacturer meant my research waxed and waned as time allowed, but the serious addiction got a hold last year when I took voluntary redundancy. I don't have any Berkshire ancestors myself but am very interested in the families that lived in Purley-on-Thames, particularly those that lived in my house.

I am also a frequent user and volunteer at our Research Centre. I cannot recommend it too highly. Last week I found a lost Sussex branch of my ancestors in the 1881 census microfiche, and broke the quiet of the research room with squeals of delight. I also spent an hour or so searching through the library trying to find any reference to Dunbridge Ltd of Reading. I had that

morning dug up half of an old ginger beer bottle whilst gardening and wanted to know more about the makers. You will be able to tell from this that I also have the disease, common to many of us, of getting side tracked.

Perhaps the most important thing I can bring to Berkshire FHS is reassurance that you don't actually have to know very much to contribute to the Society. My ten-year-old daughter and I spent a very pleasant summer's evening last year crawling around Ufton Nervet churchyard, recording MIs, under the direction of Chad Hanna. I find the society experts are very gentle with us beginners. Even if you live on the other side of the world you may be able to help. You might be the world expert on a particular parish having studied it for your own family. Who could be better to check the transcription of the Parish Registers for that particular parish? So come on, join in!

Finally, the front cover this time features three familiar faces, to those in Berkshire, and was taken at the recent Society AGM. The photograph shows Dr Peter Durrant, County Archivist and Society Vice-President presenting Honorary Membership of the BFHS to Jean and Cliff Debney. I am sure all BFHS members would like to join me in congratulating them on this award which is in recognition of their long service towards the Society. Once again, we thank them for their past services, but are glad that they will still be around to help out.

A Long Story

By Pam Parsons

On the afternoon of Thursday 25th April 1996 I visited my cousin in Bradfield, Berkshire. This would not seem a particularly noteworthy occurrence, except for the circuitous path that led me there.

Elizabeth Long, daughter of John and Amy (née Johnson) was born in Bradfield in 1837. Mary, her older sister, went to work as a cook in a house in Berkeley, Somerset. Sometime towards the end of 1871 she was joined by Elizabeth, who married John Wheeler, a widower living next door, on 17th June 1872. On 10th September 1873 my grandfather, John Charles, was born at 11 Margaret Street, Marylebone, London, where his father was a Lodging House Keeper.

My search for Elizabeth's place of birth began when I first found her marriage certificate, giving her place of residence as Berkeley. I started from the assumption that that was also her place of birth, and looked on census returns, wasting almost a week on Berkeley, Gloucestershire. I was told at the Census Rooms at Portugal Street that there was not a district of that name in Somerset. Fortunately when I found the right area, I found Mary, and the lead to Bradfield.

Grandfather said that his mother died when he was *'very young'*. I wasted a good deal of time and money searching for her death certificate until the 1891 census showed that great-grandfather's current wife, named Elizabeth, had also been born in Bradfield. I eventually found her death on 30th December 1895.

During all this time I had been looking for other members of the family in Bradfield

and had traced several Longs in the IGI as well as Amy Johnson's parents, Daniel and Hannah (née Hulon). I found the Long family living in Rotten Row at Hall Farm, and as servants at Bradfield Hall, and I began to form a picture, which is what my family history is all about. Now I needed to bring this picture to life.

Exactly a year ago I found Bill Johnson's listing of Bradfield Johnsons among the *'Members' Interests'* in the *Berkshire Family Historian* and wrote to him immediately. He telephoned me by return. I'm not sure who did most of the talking, but I know that I managed to establish that he was one of *the* Johnsons, not just someone called Johnson who happened to live in Bradfield.

Because we are both busy people it has taken us a year to get together, but he has begun to flesh out the bones of my Johnsons. That one Thursday afternoon we drove round and looked at so many places they would have known: I saw Bradfield Hall, the place where the cottage the Longs lived in used to be, the watercress beds, the school and several churches. Thanks to the kindness of the present owner, I went in to Hall Farm where my 3-x-great-grandfather, John Long, was bailiff at the time of the 1841 census.

Bill and I have not yet discovered how we are related; neither of us have completed family trees, and, although we are both *'into computers'*, I certainly, *'still have everything on scraps of paper'*. Maybe there is someone *'out there'* who can make the connection for us.

Dates for your Diary

The following events are taking place around the country. For further details of courses marked ⁽¹⁾ contact the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies (IHGS), 79-82 Northgate, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1BA. For further details of those marked ⁽²⁾ contact The University of Reading, Dept of Extended Education, London Rd, Reading, RG1 5AQ, (tel: 0118-931-8347). For details of those marked ⁽³⁾ contact the Local History Course Secretary, OUDCE, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA, (tel: 01865-270369)

- Fri. 1st Nov- Sun 3rd Nov. 96* Cornwall Family History Society AGM and Weekend Conference to be held at the Hotel Riviera, Newquay, Cornwall. There will be a series of interesting talks, as well as an opportunity to browse the various stands and access the computer database of names. Details can be obtained from David Holman, 3 Harbour Court, North Parade, Portsatho, Truro, Cornwall TR2 5HH.
- Fri. 15th Nov-17th Nov. 96* Day School "*Occupations*" at IHGS, Canterbury. Latest application by 18th October.⁽¹⁾
- Sat. 23rd Nov. 96* Day School "*Town and Country: Berkshire and Oxfordshire c.1520-1720*" from 9:30am-4.45pm to be held at Bulmershe Court, The University of Reading. Woodlands Ave, Woodley, Reading. Director of Studies: Joan Dils.⁽²⁾
- Sat 18th Jan. - Sun. 19th Jan. 97* Practical Weekend on "*Using Title Deeds*" to be held at Rewley House, Oxford.⁽³⁾
- Sat 1st Feb. 97* Day School "*Making More Sense of the Census*" from 10am-4pm to be held at Caversham Centre, Reading. (0118-947-7646). Tutor: Jean Debney.
- Sat. 8th Feb. 97* Day School "*Presenting the Results of Local History Investigations*" to be held at Rewley House, Oxford.⁽³⁾
- Sat. 1st Mar. 97* Berkshire Family History Society Open Day to be held at St. Nicholas Church Hall, Newbury from 10am-4pm. Look out for further details in December 1996 "*Berkshire Family Historian*".
- Sat. 1st Mar. 97* Day School "*Records of the Old Poor Law*" from 9.30am-4.30pm to be held at Berkshire Record Office, Reading.⁽³⁾
- Sat 8th Mar. 97* Day School "*In a 'manor' of speaking - An introduction to Manorial Records*" from 10am-4pm to be held at Caversham Centre, Reading. (0118-947-7646). Tutor: Jean Debney.
- Sat. 5th Apr. 97* Day School "*Future Generations: Historical Aspects of Childhood*" from 9:30am-4.45pm to be held at Rewley House, Oxford.⁽³⁾
- Fri 25th Apr.-Sun. 27th Apr. 97* Weekend Conference "*The Changing English Village 1700-1900*" to be held at Rewley House, Oxford.⁽³⁾

Family History Courses

I have been notified of the following courses in family history which are being run by the Reading Adult College and will be held at the Caversham Centre (tel (0118-947-7646):

- *Dig up your Ancestors* - (Beginners) to be held on Mondays 2pm-4pm from 16th September for 13 weeks. Tutor: Barbara Dove
- *Dig up your Ancestors* - (Continuation) to be held on Mondays 2pm-4pm from 13th January 1997 for 11 weeks.
- *Family History Forum* - (Intermediate/Advanced) to be held on Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am from 19th September for 13 weeks. Tutor: Jean Debney
- *Family History Forum* - (Intermediate/Advanced) to be held on Thursdays 2pm-4pm from 19th September for 13 weeks. Tutor: Jean Debney
- *Dig up your Ancestors* - (Beginners) to be held on Tuesdays 7:30pm-9:30pm from 14th January 1997 for 11 weeks (at Prospect School, Tilehurst). Tutor: Jean Debney

The following courses all entitled "*Tracing your Family History*" are being run under the auspices of East Berkshire College Adult Continuing Education. Full details of enrolment, fees etc. are available from Adult and Continuing Education, Langley Centre, East Berkshire College, Station Rd, Langley, SL3 8BY. (Tel: 01753-793000):

- Furze Platt, Maidenhead to be held on Mondays from 16th September for 8 weeks. Tutor: D.Hawkings
- Langleywood School, Langley, Slough to be held on Tuesdays 7:30pm-9:30pm from 17th September for 12 weeks. Tutor: D.Disbury
- Ascot Heath C of E Junior School, Ascot to be held on Wednesdays from 7:30pm-9:30pm from 18th September for 12 weeks. Tutor: D.Disbury

Public Record Office, Kew

Don't forget that the PRO at Kew will be closed for one week from **7th to 11th October 1996.**

Volunteers Needed for Open Days

Volunteers are needed to assist with the BFHS Bookstall
before, during and after the following events.

<i>Sat. 21st Sep 96</i>	Hampshire FHS Open Day nr Winchester
<i>Sat. 12th Oct 96</i>	Oxfordshire FHS Open Day at Witney
<i>Sat. 26th Oct 96</i>	W.Surrey FHS Open Day at Woking
<i>Sun. 26th Jan 97</i>	Family History Fair at Bracknell

Please contact Lynne Macmillan (Reading 431658) or Cliff Debney (Reading 413223)
if you can help at any of the above.

A History of Adoption

By Lynne Cowley, born Lesley Frances Shroff

Many people in Britain today know that legal adoption exists. They almost certainly know someone who was adopted, or of a neighbour or relative who is an adoptive parent - but could not tell you exactly when adoption legislation came into force in England and Wales. They could probably add as a caution that adoption is all very well, of course, a Good Thing to do, but you never really know how they are going to turn out, do you? (One is often tempted to ask whether you know how *'they'* will turn out when *'they'* have been born to you, but that's another article entirely!)

Throughout the ages a form of adoption has been recognised in many cultures as a means of caring for youngsters under the age of majority - whatever that age was, whether in ancient Egypt or Rome, mediaeval Europe or even Dickensian London - by adults other than the biological parents, known popularly as birth or natural parents.

I imagine we are all familiar with the Old Testament story of Moses, who was hidden in a basket in the bulrushes by his sister, Miriam, so that he might escape the campaign of slaughter waged by the Egyptians on the Israelite population. He was found by Pharaoh's daughter and brought up as an Egyptian nobleman, as her son. Some civilisations used *'adoption'* as a means of having heirs to whom they could pass on wealth, position and power, and in other countries the adoptee assumes the name of the adopting family, inherits under a will, but does not succeed to a title.

In the last century, in the time of Dickens, well before there was any legal adoption - more often than not *'adoption'* could be taken as a synonym for *'exploitation'* by which means children were (ill-)used, and

were no more than very expendable possessions. With no legislation to protect such young people, no wonder many an *'Oliver Twist'* came to a sticky end. Children could be taken into a family at will, abandoned just as quickly, or the natural parents could decide just as easily that the child was needed back in the natural family, particularly at a time when his/her income would come in handy. Such arrangements offered no security for any of the parties involved, least of all the children.

Registration

With the registration of births, marriages and deaths compulsory from 1 July 1837, came the responsibility of registering a birth of a child within 42 days of the event. Until 1870 a mother, unmarried when her child was born, could name the child's father on the certificate without his knowledge or his presence, or even his agreement to being named. This practice must have got many a squire's son into hot water, not to mention many prominent people. So in 1870 the law was changed so that if the mother was unmarried she could only have the father's details on the certificate if he consented and was present at the registration, or was paying maintenance, or had an affiliation order made against him.

On a full birth certificate that is why, very often, you will see gaps where the father's name and profession should be. **Some family historians make the mistake of assuming that because the father's details are not on the certificate, the mother does not know who he was!** That is utter nonsense, and one of those *'folk traditions'* about adoption which has unfortunately persisted, and I have seen it

in a family history book. These also include value judgements that birth parents are weak or just plain bad, and I hope that this article will go some way to explaining the way adoption works and that these myths have no basis in fact.

Before adoption proper was set up, you had the old system of taking a child in and bringing it up as a member of your family, or you could go to a solicitor if you were well-to-do and have indentures set up, whereby you would undertake to care for your charge; you had obligations and duties towards the young person which were enforceable. Some family historians may be lucky enough to come across the indentures of a relative cared for under this system, or you might encounter the casual '*unofficial adoption*' mentioned above. Depending on the circumstances and date - and on who else knew you might be able to unravel what really happened.

In 1921 a committee under the chairmanship of Sir Arthur Hopkinson KG reported in favour of legal adoption, but after the failure of several Bills a further committee was appointed with Mr Justice Tomlin in the Chair. Part of its report dealing with the adoption of children was published in 1925, and in its second report it submitted a draft Bill, which later formed the basis of the **Adoption of Children Act 1926**.

This came into effect on 1 January 1927 (which is why Adoption Registers at St. Catherine's House start from this date and no earlier). Anything before this magical date was, in fact, a fostering.

Who could adopt?

Do remember that an adoption could have happened within the family as well as completely outside it. Mother and step-father, or father and a step-mother could have adopted. With more deaths from war

and disease or industrial accidents, remarriages were very common occurrences and it would be a natural wish for everyone to have the same surname within the family.

In many cases, the adoptive parents would be unrelated to the child and possibly unknown to the natural parents, though this was not always so. Until recently it was possible for third-party or private adoptions to be arranged. This could have been fixed up by the doctor, midwife, or Mrs Jones two streets away, or it could have been just an agreement between neighbours.

Why adoption?

Only after the First World War was it realised that, with the huge increase in fatherless families, some sort of permanent arrangement would have to be made to offer proper security to these children, who although looked after by the family, were not legally full members of the new family.

The adopters, too, needed security, and were often fearful that the mother might try to reclaim her child - perhaps many years on - once he/she had reached working age. Similarly, a mother might live in fear that her child might be returned home when she was unable to care for it properly, just because the new family got tired of the idea.

Certificates

Birth certificates are the first means of indicating whether a legal adoption has taken place in England or Wales. Whether the adoption was a private one or arranged through an adoption agency/society, a court order has to be granted. When this happens the original entry is marked '*adopted*' and is followed by the signature of the superintendent registrar. Unless you know the new name, the only person who can link the original entry with the adoption entry is the Registrar General. '*De facto*'

adoptions are almost impossible to trace without knowledge (or strong suspicions) about the circumstances, or unless you have definite proof of the children's homes or nursery from which the children were placed.

Adoption agencies

Even before 1927 there were some agencies which placed children with new families, but family historians should understand that these agencies will always have as their highest priority inquiries from adopted people. Much information is only available to the adopted person alone, and access to information under Section 51 of the Adoption Act 1976 applies only to **adopted people**. Agencies known to have been in existence before the 1926 Act include, with earliest dates of records:

- **Childlink (formerly Church Adoption Society)** 1913
- **The Children's Society** 1910
- **Thomas Coram Foundation for Children** 1739
- **Mission of Hope for Children's Aid & Adoption** 1893
- **National Adoption Society** 1917
- **National Children's Homes** 1873
- **Southwark Catholic Children's Society** 1887

We also encounter other problems when dealing with access to these records, as in many cases they simply no longer exist. Under previous legislation the obligation on societies and local authorities was that records should be retained for 25 years. The **Children Act 1975** laid a new obligation of keeping records for 75 years. We are often told that the records were destroyed in the war, old ones were not kept, the building is unsafe(?), or they are in a big bundle in the basement and some have been eaten by rats. The more cynical among us might be tempted to offer a prize

for the most original attempt at stonewalling.

Other minefields

In cases where no legal adoption has been proved, in theory the person should have retained his/her original name, and it seems reasonable that at some point they might have had to produce a birth certificate for official purposes such as changing school, starting work or getting married. However, it is possible to assume another name, either by usage as long as it is not for purposes of fraud, or by changing it by Deed Poll. The Deed Poll registers are housed in the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand.

As far as records go, the end of the 1940s rather than the start of the Second World War really marks a new era in the field of adoption, since record-keeping was improved and the system was overhauled.

The 1926 Adoption Act applied only to England and Wales; similar legislation was passed for Scotland in 1930, but with differences. Because of differing inheritance laws, there was a provision that adoptees aged seventeen years and above could apply to the court to see the records of the process.

Changes to the English and Welsh legislation led to the **Adoption Act 1950**, a consolidating measure embracing the former **Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act 1939** (which came into force in 1943) and the **Adoption of Children Act 1949**. Dry though this may seem, the legislation concerned itself with adoption societies and agencies and their methods of operation. By now the earlier probationary period of six months had been reduced to three months. The first six weeks of an infant's life cannot be counted towards this probationary period. In practice, this means that an infant will be aged no less than

eighteen weeks before the prospective adopters can apply for an adoption hearing. Often a child will be around (or over) eleven months of age before this happens and an order is granted.

There is a popular myth that third-party, often known as 'private' adoptions (agreements made without an agency), did not go to court. All adoption orders are made by a court, and although 'private' adoptions now no longer happen, a good many were arranged throughout the years - by the local doctor, vicar or just between two neighbours.

In adoption applications to around 1947, the educational department or the probation service would submit a report to the court on the health of the child, maybe brief details about the backgrounds and details of the prospective adopters' home and employment. Some of those reports were extremely sketchy and were more concerned about the applicants' income than background details. From 1948, we begin to get proper *Guardian ad Litem* reports, which should contain more details. These were drawn up by the child's own legal representative appointed to the case.

However, at this time adoption records only had to be kept for 25 years. Some anomalies mean that when local services chiefs retired they burned their records (yes, really!) and others have gone 'missing' for various reasons. If you are an adoptee over 40 years of age, you may find that records are hard to come by. When you are counselled, you should ask the social worker what information is available and get him/her to write to the court for any records.

Many twins were separately adopted around this time - or worse, one adopted, the other not - as the importance of keeping siblings together, whenever possible, was not appreciated. An increasing amount of

adoption work is with separated siblings. If you are a separated twin/sibling and you were adopted, you are **only** entitled to information about your **own** case, not to details regarding your sibling(s). This makes searching for them extremely difficult. However, more agencies and social service departments are willing to assist enquirers in this position.

By the way, if your birth certificate (England and Wales only) has a time on it, as well as the date of birth, more than one child was born - indicating a multiple birth. In Scotland, the time of birth, if known, is always entered, and does not indicate that you have a twin. As we move forward into the 1960s, the 1960 Act provides for the revocation of adoption orders in the case of legitimisation, and the 1964 Adoption Act recognises orders made in the Isle of Man, Channel Islands or Northern Ireland. International aspects of adoption feature in the 1968 Act, enabling courts to make orders for the adoption of children under the Hague Convention, and providing for the recognition of certain overseas adoption orders.

The Children Act 1975 marked a great turning point in adoption. Following broadly the lines of the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Adoption of Children (usually known as the Houghton Report, 1972), adoptees over the age of eighteen years were able to obtain their original birth record, under Section 26. No more and no less. Whether further advice or assistance would be given depended on how keen the social worker was to assist and, to a large extent how busy he/she was, and his/her attitude to this particular piece of legislation.

Not many people know that it was always possible (though difficult) in England and Wales, to obtain details about one's adoption by applying to Westminster

County Court, the High Court, or the court which granted the original order. Most adoptive parents were not aware of this provision, and most adoptees did not know either! Many adoptees who decide to search have no need to use the counselling set up under the Children Act 1975. No statistics are available, but it is thought that around half the number of adoptees already know enough details to enable them to apply for their birth certificate. This would happen in an in-family adoption, or where an adoptee had been given the adoption order to read by the adoptive parents.

After many years of pleading, a **National Adoption Contact Register** has now been set up. The register assists all the

Sources

Command Paper 5107, HMSO, October 1972

Vital Registration and Marriage in England & Wales, OPCS, 1983, revised 1985

Where to Find Adoption Records, Georgina Stafford, BAAF, 1985.

Adopted Adults - an Evaluation of their Relationships with their Families, Pam Hodgkins, NORCAP, 1987 - £7.50

Shared Experiences - a collection of Stories from NORCAP NEWS 1-12, NORCAP -£3

Adoption: The Inside Story, edited by Judy Austin, Barn Owl Books

NORCAP (National Organisation for the Counselling of Adoptees and Parents) is based at 112 Church Road, Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1LU, Tel: (01865) 875000. Office hours are Mon, Wed & Fri 10 am to 4 pm.

Berkshire Strays in Suffolk

The following were found in the Suffolk FHS 1851 Census Index Vol.15 which covers Woodbridge Registration District and will also be added to the Berkshire Name Index:

Little Bealings, SFK: 1851 Census Ref: HO 107/1801/171

Matthew	DANGRAGE	40y	b Cullam	BRK
Elizabeth	DANDRAGE	39y	b Farnham	SFK
John	DANDRAGE	9y	b Lt Bealings	SFK
Elizabeth	DANDRAGE	8y	b Lt Bealings	SFK [JD]

The Newman Name Society was officially started four years ago and now numbers over sixty members. Membership is open to all with an interest in any aspect of the Newman name, whether through lineage or otherwise. The Society produces four newsletters per year. The current membership fee is £5 and Mrs Anne Cole, 174 Doddington Road, Lincoln, LN6 7HF is the membership officer. [CH]

participants in adoption and has had some measure of success. A fee is payable. UK adult adoptees now living abroad are now able to be counselled in their new country, so are no longer compelled to return to the UK - another milestone, but again taking years to come about.

Adoption has evolved in 69 years from a closed, secretive business into a climate of openness and understanding. This is all to the good - but myths still abound - Joe and Josephine Public have little idea of what adoption really is unless they have been touched by adoption. For anyone interested in further reading on this subject, I list below the following references.

Berkshire Record Office News

By Elizabeth Hughes

User Survey

At the time of writing, analysis of the user survey is reaching completion. We plan to produce a bulletin summarising the results, which we will circulate to visitors and groups, including the *Berkshire Family Historian*. In the meantime, we will be looking at the results to help us to plan for the future.

Speaking of the Future...

You will no doubt have heard that the structural order for the abolition of Berkshire County Council, which runs Berkshire Record Office, was passed by Parliament in July. This means that the County Council will cease to exist after 31st March 1998 and its functions will be taken over by six unitary authorities corresponding to the present Districts. We are confident that the BRO will survive as a single unit as the Record Office for old and new Berkshire, but there will inevitably be uncertain times ahead as we prepare for the changeover. We are very grateful for all the support that we have received in the past, and on which we are sure we can rely in the future.

Just Catalogued

Cataloguing of non-conformist records has continued and additional records of Broad Street Congregational Church, Reading (now Waterstone's bookshop) are now available, as are documents from Woodley Congregational Church. Records deposited by the following parishes were also catalogued: Arborfield (marriage registers 1974-1991); Barkham (burial register 1814-1985); Bradfield; Earley St Bartholomew; Earley St Nicholas; Reading St Luke; and Waltham St Lawrence (including registers of marriages 1966-

1990, register of banns 1948-1983; parish magazines 1934-1938).

We have had a number of transcripts given to us recently, and these are also now available. They include Hungerford burials (1700-1799); Chilton baptisms (1583-1949), marriages (1604-1974) and burials (1551-1995); Wallingford St Peter baptisms (1605-1969), marriages (1605-1967) and burials (1612-1930); Wantage baptisms (1653-1704); Abingdon St Helen marriages (1538-1837); Silchester Methodist Circuit baptisms (1844-1888); Thatcham overseers' papers (1654-1836); and Wallingford Union overseers' papers (1690-1858). In addition we have received transcripts of monumental inscriptions, with indexes and plans, of Earley Mays Lane burial ground (1936-1993); Dunsden churchyard (1842-1986); Beech Hill Baptist chapel graveyard (1826-1986); and Wokingham Free Church burial ground (1921-1993), and have catalogued a survey of graves in St Laurence's churchyard, Reading, which was carried out in 1976. As always, we are grateful to everyone who donates transcriptions to the office and for all the hard work that goes into them.

Censearch

We were interested to read about the Censearch project in the June 1996 edition of the *Berkshire Family Historian*. We were unaware of its existence until very recently when a visitor to the searchroom mentioned it, and John Gurnett's article has filled us in. As pointed out in the article, we do not have a copy of the Censearch fiches; does anyone know how we might beg or buy one? If we had a copy we might be able, time and other duties permitting, to have a go at drawing up the cribsheet!

An Active Retirement

By Stuart Eagles

Joseph Kingham Eagles, the second of four children, was baptised in the small West Berkshire village of Brightwalton on 14th June 1863, the son of a village butcher, Edwin Silas, and Millicent, one of the Hampshire Kinghams. By 1871 the family were living at the Old Plough Inn at East Hendred where Joe's father remained publican until his death.¹ By 1881, by which time he was seventeen, Joe was a pupil teacher at East Hendred Church of England School. He went on to become headteacher of Richmond National School, Surrey, Cattistock School, Dorset and Thundridge Elementary, Hertfordshire, from the last of which he retired, aged fifty-nine, in 1922.

Having spent twenty years at Thundridge, Joe and his wife, Eliza, decided to move back to the place of their childhood, East Hendred. John Parker, an active parish councillor in East Hendred today, remembered the couple vividly:

"Old Joe and Eliza lived up at 'Ingleside' along the St. Mary's Road - where I was born. Before he moved there it was a pub, 'The Rising Sun', and reverted to that name when old Joe died. Unfortunately it has subsequently burnt down, so it's no longer there to be seen ...

He was married to Eliza West, a great friend of my wife's. And Joe's sister, Amy Eliza, was married to Frank West, so brother and sister married brother and sister!"

Indeed Joe travelled back from Cattistock to East Hendred to marry Eliza on 28th December 1891, a fact testified to by the

¹ The Old Plough Inn that stands today is greatly altered from its nineteenth century predecessor.

extraordinarily large number of witnesses who signed their marriage certificate: James Eagles, Eliza Hewitt, Amy Eliza Eagles, Hagar Shepherd and Amy Elizabeth Eagles. Not for Joe the conventional two witnesses! It wasn't until just before the end of the decade that Amy Eliza married Frank West.

Joe was nothing if not active in his retirement. By 1924 he was paying his two shillings per season membership fee to the East Hendred Bowling Club. The retired headteacher immediately found himself on the committee and within two years had been elected to the selection committee. On 25th March 1926 a meeting was held to discuss the possibility of setting up a county-wide Bowling League. Joe was duly elected one of two representatives of the East Hendred club at the forthcoming conference on the issue. The League was later realised; the competitive strength of the club evidently proved impressive as the number of trophies they won testifies.

On 19th April 1926, Joe was elected Captain of the club team, a position he retained until the beginning of 1932. John Parker again:

"Yes, Mr. Eagles was a member of the bowling club, I seem to remember. Indeed, you might say that he preferred his partner to conform to his own ideas [of how to play bowls] and could be a tad funny about that sort of thing. Mind you, he was a very nice chap when you got to know him, but he was one of those people who you did have to know!"

On 25th May 1927 Joe proposed that a club secretary be elected, a post which he held from that day forward. He did not resign

until 1938, and wasn't actually replaced until 21st April 1939 by which time he was nearly seventy-six. In 1928, the bowls, or 'woods', which the club had hitherto borrowed from Joe and used for their matches were finally purchased from him for thirty shillings. The canny old devil not only pocketed the money but was then elected the member in charge of club property, so one can imagine Joe taking his 'woods' home just as he had done for the last four years, but this time thirty shillings richer! In fact, he proved cannier still in 1939 when he finally withdrew as a member of the club for he was retiring, at no mean age, at the height of his bowling success; only in 1937 he had won the pairs championship with Herbert Chasney, and the two shared a silver-plated fruit tray as a reward for their victory. It is striking how exactly this rather idyllic image of bourgeois rusticity echoes the prevailing image of inter-war Britain, typified in the rhetoric of the dominant political figure, Stanley Baldwin.

From 1936 Joe was a regular attendant of the Parish Council. Almost immediately he was elected a Sidesman of the parish (a Church officer who assists the Churchwarden) and a lay representative of the Rural Diocesan Conference. Just before the outbreak of war the Church set up a sub-committee of the council to inspect the roof for the death-watch beetle, a problem that was to continue to plague them for some time. Predictably, Joe was a prominent member of the inspectorate. Just three and a half weeks before his death, on 6th May 1943, Joe was re-elected a Sidesman and lay representative, proving that he was active to the last.

Joe's attentions in retirement were focused on yet another parochial institution of civil society, the school where he had learnt his profession: with *'one master, two pupil*

*teachers and one hundred pupils'*² in the first days in the 1860s. It became the village hall in 1974, and still stands, as Snells Hall in Church Street, today. From 1934 through to 1942 he was a school manager, regularly inspecting the registers and logbooks, entering in the latter a plain, unpretentious sentence of approval every twelve months, in his beautiful copperplate hand. Here was a product of the mid-Victorian era, still influential in the midst of the Second World War.

Another active parish councillor, Stan Frances, remembers his school days:

"Old Joe wasn't a terrifically tall man, and we used to duck under the desks when he counted up the numbers the first time, and when he recounted we stood up properly again! We didn't give him a very easy time of it, I'm afraid."

On 25th February 1941 Joe lost his wife Eliza, aged seventy-eight. They were less than a year away from their fiftieth wedding anniversary. By a cruel stroke of misfortune, his seventy-nine year old sister, Amy Eliza died the very next day. Doubtless Joe found comfort in his active participation in village life at this time, but it must have taken a toll on him. On 17th June 1943, aged eighty years, Joe died, his heart having given way. The village undoubtedly felt the loss and official tributes were recorded. The secretary's report for East Hendred Bowling Club noted, in 1943,

"It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of our late secretary, J. Eagles.

He held the office from 1919 [sic] the year the club was formed, until 1939,

² See *"The East Hendred Bulletin"*, December 1992

and the success of the club during this time was due to his untiring efforts."

On 21st June the school headteacher, Bertram E. Newman, noted Joe's funeral. On 7th December the secretary to the parish council recorded this tribute:

"The Rector attended to recent great losses. By death we have lost Mr J. K. Eagles, for many years a sidesman of and lay representative in the Rural Diocesan Conference. He had played a great part in the life of the village and was respected by all. There hangs in the base of the tower a water colour drawing of the Church bequeathed by him..."

Owing to the length and complexity of Joe's will, made on 12th March 1941, we can draw a mental image of his home, Ingleside, with some accuracy. He had at least two paintings on his walls: 'The Cottage Fire Side' and the 'water colour drawing' of East Hendred Parish Church already alluded to. In his drawing room was a carved desk, a Sheraton inlaid table, and a carved stool. Elsewhere stood a chest of drawers, a grandfather clock, a bureau, and a wheel-back armchair. His warming pan, some pink china and even his clothes and gardening tools (for Joe was a very keen gardener) were also bequeathed variously as specific legacies. The remainder of his property and monies were pooled and dispersed amongst eight parties, almost all related: Millicent Amy Taylor, Edwin Warner West, Millicent Amy Hingston, Amy Florence Betteridge, Doreen Mary Betteridge, Marjorie Gilhooly, Barbara Jackman and James Charles Eagles. They shared £23,593 0s 3d. One final wish expressed in his will was that a gravestone of 'good English stone' be erected in honour of his wife and himself, on which he directed that their names and

dates of death be inscribed. The gravestone remains in reasonable condition fifty years later, in the graveyard of East Hendred, and Joe's wishes were granted for it reads:

**Sacred to the Memory of
Eliza Eagles
Who died February 25th 1941
Aged 78 years
The Brave and Loving
Wife of
Joseph Kingham Eagles
Who Died June 17th 1943
Aged 80 years**

Afterword

What I hope this article shows is the extent to which a researcher can build a picture of an ancestor's life. I never knew Joe. I never knew of him until I had been tracing my family history for at least two years. And yet, as I think this piece demonstrates, I now share at least some understanding of not just what he did and how he did it but what kind of a person he was. This narrative deals only substantially with the last quarter of his life - his retirement. With a measure of luck and hard work it can be possible to prove both accurate and comprehensive.

The records of St. Catherine's House and Somerset House in London and particularly those of the Berkshire Record Office in Reading have proved vital and illuminating sources of information. Perhaps most interesting of all have been the discussions I have had with residents of East Hendred today, especially Mr and Mrs John Parker and Mr Stan Frances, to whom I remain eternally grateful. I should also like to thank Robin Hine who kindly copied for me the 1933 photograph of the East Hendred Bowling Club team shown on the facing page.

East Hendred Bowling Club

The photograph below shows the members of the bowling club in 1933 and the men shown are as follows:-

L to R (back)

Mr. Penghillie, Albert Stoter, Percy Prater, Ernie Faithful, Mr. Jefferies.

L to R (middle)

Herbert Chasney, Charlie Carter, Arthur Carter, Arthur (Cherry) Stone, Jack Stone, Mac Croft, Jim Jackson, Mr. Goodey.

L to R. (Front)

Joe Eagles, Rev. Fisher, Harry Colt, Mr. Aldsworth, Albert Stone



Research Centre News

By *Cliff Debney*

The extension of the opening hours to include Thursday afternoons has been welcomed and some weeks Thursday has been even more popular than all day Wednesday. To open all day on Thursday is the next natural extension, especially as it would enable those who want to spend a full day in the Reading area time at the Research Centre during the day followed by a visit to the Record Office or Reading Local Studies Library in the evening. To help us attain this further increase in opening hours we need extra volunteers to man the Centre. What about you, the member who lives in Berkshire, South Oxfordshire or North Hampshire, volunteering to cover the occasional Thursday morning until 1pm? It only needs two volunteers a week to help fellow researchers! Please write or phone Ivan and June Dickason saying when you can be or are available - their address and phone number is on the back cover.

Just after writing my "News" piece for the June magazine referring to wheelchair access, I was in the Centre and found a wheelchair-bound volunteer working in the Admin. Room. When I enquired why, it was pointed out to me that there was insufficient space in the Research room to manoeuvre a wheelchair - needless to say this situation was rapidly remedied. It may still be a tight squeeze to manoeuvre around the fiche-Reader/Printer, nine fiche readers, film reader, photocopier and desks - but it is possible.

Lesley and Chad have completed the reorganisation of the Reference Library and it is now easier to find the research material you want. As you enter the Research Room the shelves on the wall behind the printer/reader contain all the Census material, the corridor wall all the other fiche and general reference books including the all-important Genealogical Research Directories, and on the far wall the books and reference leaflets for Berkshire, all other UK counties and some overseas countries.

The School have now issued a list of dates when it will be closed. As this affects our long-term planning you may wish to note the few days a year the Research Centre will not be open, which are:

All Christmas week - 24 to 26 December

All New Year week - 31 December, 1 & 2 January

During half terms and school holidays, other than the above two weeks, the Centre will be **OPEN AS NORMAL.**

We hold copies of the four very useful "*National Strays Indexes*" collections, on fiche, which have been issued by the Federation of Family History Societies, as well as the slips of the "*Berkshire Strays*" from which the National Strays Index is extracted. These slips are passed to us twice yearly at the Federation conferences and are then filed in the "*Berkshire Name Index*". In case you don't know what a "*Stray*" is, it is a person named in a recorded event in which that person is said to be outside the area, usually county, in which they normally live. If you come across a "*Stray*" during the course of your researches, please record the name, detail of the event and source in which it is to be found, writing or typing-up the information, if possible on individual duplicate 5"x 3" slips. Send your finds to Mrs Pat Deane c/o the Research Centre and we will ensure they are passed on, through the Federation, to the relevant county society. The 1881 Census Index is a national index so strays found in it are not

required, but all other Census strays must have their full PRO reference number. Please make a fellow researcher very happy with your finds.

The series of monthly Library Tours, held on a Monday, are continuing and the dates and times are as follows:

16 September at 2pm

21 October at 7.30pm

18 November at 2pm

Please tell me if you want the Tours to recommence in the New Year, and stating your choice of time and day.

BFHS on the WWW

By John Elkin

Like many other organisations, information on the Berkshire Family History Society is now available on the World Wide Web. This can be found on GENUKI, the UK and Ireland Genealogical Information Service, at the URL of

<http://midas.ac.uk/genuki/big/eng/BRK/berksfhs>

Details can also be found on my home page, which also includes the programmes of the branch meetings at

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/John_Elkin/

If you haven't tried the Internet yet, a useful starting point is the new booklet *Internet For Genealogy* by David Hawgood (available from the Society Bookstall).

There are many other Berkshire web sites which may be of interest, particularly to people who do not live in the county. These include Berkshire County Council

<http://www.berks.gov.uk>

the Berkshire Library and Information Service

<http://dspace.dial.pipex.com/town/square/ad206/index.htm>

and Reading University

<http://reading.ac.uk>

Links to these, and other Berkshire sites can also be found on my home page.

Federation Roadshow - Salt Lake City, October 1996

Michael and Mary Armstrong of *Family Tree Magazine* are once again running one of their highly popular tours to Salt Lake City in October. This year's guest speakers are Col. Iain Swinnerton, President of the FFHS, and Mr Anthony Camp, Director of the Society of Genealogists.

By co-incidence, also on the tour, and hoping to do some of their own research for once (!), are a number of other well-known names of the family history world: Cliff and Jean Debney (Berkshire FHS), David Lambert and Brenda Smith (FFHS/FHS Cheshire), Pauline Saul (FFHS/BMSGH), June and Albert Watkins (BMSGH). Without sounding immodest we felt that family historians other than those on the tour might like the opportunity to meet these people for a chat and put faces to names.

We therefore propose to hold an Open Day on Saturday, 19th October from 10:30am to 3:30pm in the Family History Library (main floor), Salt Lake City. The day will be very informal, come and go as you please; we hope to mount a small exhibition about the Federation, its work and publications. The only set item of the day will be at 11am when Iain Swinnerton will give a talk on "*The British Army in North America*". This will take place in the Church Museum next door to the library. Our thanks, incidentally, to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for their hospitality in allowing us the use of these rooms for our Federation Roadshow. There is no charge for the day; any family historians who are able to get to the venue will be very welcome. [FFHS]

Research Centre Library News

By Chad Hanna

1881 Census

I must start off with an apology to all those who trekked along to the Research Centre to look at the 1881 Census Index for Middlesex to find it hadn't arrived. It has arrived now – although it is still missing two fiche (at the end of July). When the June magazine went to press we did know that the Public Record Office, Society of Genealogists and the Middlesex Societies had received their copies. Unfortunately, our order, along with other orders, is fulfilled via a different route which suffered a number of technical hitches. At the moment we expect that the 1881 Census Index for Lancashire will arrive at the end of July – but please phone Lesley or myself if you need to check that it has arrived

1851 Census

As a break from a particularly complicated and frustrated time at work we set off to a Family History Fair at York on 29th June. We met many friends there but one of our aims was to spend the remainder of the budget we had earmarked for 1851 census indexes. With its thirteen or so Family History Societies Yorkshire has caused us some headaches. However, we now have a comprehensive selection of Census indexes for Yorkshire, the Huddersfield area being the most notable omission due the higher cost of the indexes. We have also acquired indexes for Nottinghamshire and Lancashire.

Your best guide to what exists is the booklet *Marriage, Census and other Indexes for Family Historians*, written by Jeremy Gibson and Elizabeth Hampson and now in its 6th (1996) edition. Although like many books of this type it was out of date as soon as it was published, it does tell you about both published and unpublished census indexes and how you can either purchase them or search them. Our aim is to get a copy of every published English 1851 Census Index before moving onto Wales and Scotland.

How many times have you bought a Census Index in a plastic envelope or on fiche, only to find none of your names listed or simply to copy them out within a few minutes and put the booklet on the shelf, never to be opened again? Can I suggest you send these booklets or fiche in our direction? If you can spare a copy of any census indexes from the following list to help complete the Society's collection we'd be very pleased to receive them, either at the Research Centre or at our home address (see back cover). Of course, monetary donations would also help as we have exhausted our census index budget until May 1997.

1851 Census Indexes Wanted

While the Berkshire Family History Society Research Centre has a very comprehensive collection of 1851 Census indexes, we don't have a complete set - yet!

Could you help us fill in any of these gaps?

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Cornwall | We'd like the surname index fiche produced by the Cornish Research Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. |
| Cumberland | Cumbria FHS have published a large number of indexed census transcripts. The high total cost of those published so far has put off any purchase. |
| Cambridgeshire | We would like the fiche of indexed transcripts distributed by Microfi Publications, 3 Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF. |
| Derbyshire | We need 3:2 Matlock; 6:1 Tutbury, Repton; 6:2 Gresley, Burton; 8:4 Eckington; 11:1 Glossop. |
| Herefordshire | We would like Leominster, Ludlow and Tenbury Registration Districts on microfiche. |
| Huntingdonshire | See Cambridge. |
| Kent | We are missing Vol 6 Sevenoaks R.D. from NW Kent FHS. We are also interested in all the 1841-1881 indexes published on microfiche by Kent FHS. |
| Lancashire | We're missing some recent indexes published by Lancashire and Manchester FHS, namely volumes 45, 46, 50 and 53 to 58. |
| Norfolk | We would like the 1851 census index for Norwich that was published in the Norfolk Genealogy series (now out of print). |
| Northamptonshire | We have none of the census indexes published by Northants FHS. |
| Shropshire | The situation is unclear - we only have four indexes, for Fitz, Great Ness, Montford and Shrawardine. |
| Suffolk | We know we are missing volumes 14 and 15 from Suffolk FHS. |
| Sussex | We only have vols. 4, 6, 8, 11, 18, 19, 20 and 22 of those for East Sussex. For West Sussex we have the first three volumes, so we know we are missing volume 4 which is on fiche. |
| Westmoreland | See Cumberland. |
| Yorkshire | We'd like anything published by the Huddersfield and District FHS and any booklets from Cleveland FHS after volume 46. |
| Wales | We have been donated fiche indexes and transcripts for Gelligaer and Swansea in Glamorgan, any others would be welcome. |
| Scotland | We have census indexes for Kiltarn, Tain, Ross and Cromarty, any others would be welcome. |

Any donations to the Research Centre or Lesley Hanna, phone 0118 966 3585.

An Abingdon Family

By Sheila Smith

John Shury was baptised on 18th September 1716 at the parish church of Marcham, Berkshire, the oldest son and third child of John Shury and Ann formerly Evans. George I was on the throne, the first of the Hanoverian Kings. The previous year had seen the rising in favour of George's rival to the throne, his second cousin James of the Stuart line.

John could trace his family back for six generations to around 1500 and at the start of that period the family seem to have been quite prosperous yeoman farmers. However family fortunes seem to have declined and John senior who died in 1740 was the last of the Marcham farmers. John junior married Elizabeth Badcock on 16th June 1742 at St Helen's, Abingdon, where he was a brewer. He was buried in Abingdon on 7th July 1771. He died intestate and Elizabeth took out Letters of Administration, his estate amounting to £400. John was recorded in the Poll Book of 1754 as having voted for John Moreton. Voting rights carried a financial qualification in those days so he must have been a man of some substance.

John and Elizabeth had six sons and four daughters all baptised in Abingdon and a very mixed bunch they turned out to be, one son being hanged for murder while another took Holy Orders.

The eldest son, John, was baptised in 1745 and followed in his father's footsteps as a brewer. He held the lease of 'The Nelson' a public house in East St Helen's Street, Abingdon in 1789 and was for some years churchwarden at St Nicholas, Abingdon. In September 1785 some church plate was stolen and he advertised in Jacksons local journal offering a 20 guinea reward for information leading to its return. He was

obviously quite prosperous because his will, proved in 1804, leaves leasehold premises in Abingdon, which I think was probably the public house, a freehold messuage in Abingdon and a farm in Appleford all to his wife for her lifetime and then to be shared equally between his son and daughter. He married Elizabeth White in 1770 in Abingdon. She was the daughter of Francis White master of the 'Greyhound Inn' in Oxford. She died only two years later having already had two daughters, Mary in 1771 and Ann in 1772, the infant Ann dying at three months old. He married his second wife Mary Townsend at St Peter's, Oxford on 5th October 1777. This event made the local paper, *Jacksons Oxford Journal*, as she was the eldest daughter of a well-known Oxford builder, John Townsend the third, who was responsible for many magnificent Georgian buildings in Oxford including the Radcliffe Camera and the old Town Hall.

Their eldest son, John Townsend Shury, was baptised in Abingdon in 1778 and in 1803 married Ann Byrchall. In 1812 he was fined £50 together with his uncle Robert Badcock Shury for assaulting William Butler of Nuffield. In early July 1813 he shot himself and was buried on 4th July 1813 at Nettlebed Oxon. Although there is a coroner's bill in respect of an inquest held on 2nd July 1813 the records of the inquest itself have not survived so the reason for his suicide is not known.

The second son of John and Elizabeth née Badcock was baptised Charles Evans in 1747. John was the principle beneficiary in the will of his maternal uncle Charles Evans which is presumably why he named the child in his honour. It proved to be a bad choice because Charles Evans was

found guilty of murder at his trial on 16th July 1790. He was subsequently hanged in Oxford on Monday 20th July at eight-thirty in the morning before what the local paper *Jacksons Oxford Journal* called:

'a prodigious concourse of people flocked into this City from divers parts to be spectators at the final exit of Shury...'

In the afternoon his body was conveyed by cart to the anatomy school at Christchurch College to further the cause of medical science.

The crime of which he was accused was the battering to death of a Scottish pedlar on his way home from the fair in Abingdon in order to rob him. From the scaffold Charles persisted in his claims of innocence and from the report of the trial in the paper it does appear that the main evidence against him was the testimony of an accomplice who, although he admitted he was present, alleged that the instigator of the plan had been Charles and that Charles and another man called Castle (hanged with Charles) had actually struck down David Charteris. They then returned to the '*Chequers Inn*' at the corner of Oct Street and St Edmunds Lane, Abingdon, of which Charles was the licensee to share out their spoils. There was however one independent witness who identified Charles as a man he had seen with three others at about the right place at about the right time but I doubt it would secure a conviction today.

Whether or not Charles was a murderer he certainly appears to have been a petty thief, being implicated in stealing the parson's horse at Sutton, Lord North's golden pheasants and several dozen pigeons amongst other things. He was also implicated in stealing some church plate although whether this was the same church plate which his brother was offering a

reward for I do not know. I believe he was survived by his second wife Elizabeth née Margetts and two daughters Ann (1770) and Martha (1772) from his first marriage to Martha née White but nothing further is known about them.

The third son of John Shury and Elizabeth née Badcock was James baptised in 1750. There is no marriage or burial for him in Abingdon. He is probably the James who was apprenticed on 25th September 1764 to George James, a carpenter and joiner of Oxford. He would then have been fourteen which is the usual age to be apprenticed. A James of exactly the right age died of natural causes in the Clerkenwell House of Correction in 1823 whilst serving a one year sentence with hard labour for larceny, having stolen two window fixtures or sashes worth twelve shillings and affixed to a building belonging to a John Tanner but I have no other evidence that this is the same James.

The fourth son of John Shury and Elizabeth née Badcock was baptised Richard Badcock in 1752. Richard obtained a BA degree at Christ Church Oxford in 1771. Whilst at Christ Church he was a servitor which means he received a free education in return for performing some menial or domestic duties which were not particularly onerous. In 1773 he married Rebecca Pierce in Ealing, Middlesex. She was the daughter of the then headmaster of Great Ealing School. Richard succeeded his father-in-law as headmaster. Nothing is known of the origins of the school since some records were destroyed by bombing in the Second World War. However it was already established in 1698 and in the early part of the eighteenth century was one of the largest schools in the country with some three hundred boys.

Richard's daughter Rebecca Pierce married the Reverend George Nicholas in 1791 and

he became the headmaster, Richard having died in 1789 at the early age of 37. Richard belonged to a club called the "Ealing Toxophilites". Archery was apparently quite a fashionable thing at the time. The constitution states that it was to meet every Saturday during the summer six months and after shooting they adjourned to each others' houses in rotation for a 'frugal' supper and story-telling. In the winter six months they met fortnightly and dispensed with the shooting going straight to the supper and story-telling. The weekly subscription was sixpence plus an additional fine of one shilling for non-attendance.

Richard became Rector of St Mary's, Perivale, in 1783 and remained so until his death in 1789. He appears on the list of Rectors inside the church although it is spelt 'Shurry'. He is buried in a family tomb in St Mary's graveyard along with his wife and daughter and a granddaughter. Apart from his wife and daughter Rebecca Pierce, Richard was survived by two sons, David Nathan (1777) and George William (1781). He left everything to his wife for her lifetime except that sufficient should remain in trust for his two sons to be apprenticed and for his daughter to receive the sum of £350. Richard had an insurance policy, value unknown, and £400 in 3% consols in The Bank of England. In accordance with the terms of his will both boys were apprenticed, David Nathan becoming a liveryman of the Stationers' Company in 1798 and George William a liveryman of the Innkeepers' Company in 1803.

David Nathan was living in the City of London in the 1851 census and was editor of two local newspapers, 'The County Chronicle' and 'County Herald'. His obituary in the *Gentlemen's Magazine* 23rd July 1855 says:

... He was afterwards a master printer in Berwick Street Soho where he was unsuccessful owing perhaps to a too convivial disposition'.

David Nathan's son George William was a master at Great Ealing school and a water-colour artist. He exhibited several paintings at 'The Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolours'. He died at the age of 34 from Erysipelas which my dictionary says is a 'peculiar inflammation of the skin, spreading with great rapidity.' The 'popular' name is St Anthony's Fire. His son Augustus Hutton emigrated to New Zealand in the 1850s, the gold-rush years, where he was manager of the Union Bank, Ashburton in 1878.

Despite being a member of the Innkeepers' Company, George William, the other son of Richard Badcock, was for some years a law stationer in Chancery Lane, London. Later however he was chief cashier at the Horseshoe Brewery in Tottenham Court Road, London, owned by Sir Henry Meux and his will specifically mentions a sugar bowl given to him by Lady Meux and a 'superb piece of plate' given to him by customers of the Company on his retirement.

The fifth son of John and Elizabeth née Badcock was William Evans baptised 1756. Beyond the fact that his wife's name was Catherine and that they had five children between 1781 and 1790 all baptised in Ealing and that he died in Ealing in 1793 nothing further is known about him or his family at present.

The sixth and last son of John and Elizabeth was Robert Badcock baptised 1758. He was a cabinet-maker and he married Elizabeth Coates in Oxford in 1779. In 1812 Robert was fined £50 together with his nephew John Townsend Shury for assaulting William Butler of Nuffield. His son James baptised 1791 in

Oxford followed in his footsteps, being a cabinet maker. He married Susanna Smith in Oxford in 1820. James was a widower when he died in 1828 intestate. Letters of Administration were granted to James' creditors, his only child Ann, still a minor,

having renounced, through her guardian, her rights to Administration. Thus this story ends with poor orphan Ann, who could not have been more than eight, inheriting nothing.

Don't Always Expect the Family's Memory to be Gospel

By Rev Peter Jacobs

The following is probably a typical tale of a search for family links from things mentioned in the family years ago. Great-grandfather Goodhew (that's on my mum's side) owned a barge on the River Medway in Kent and it was said that he saved a man from drowning and received a medal or something for it. Then very much later, he was drowned at Rochester Bridge. He was said to be a freeman of the river. Finally the family said:

"we had a nameboard of his barge. It was called 'The John Goodhew'"

Of course I assumed his name was John.

I went off to the local library and looked at the long, very long, lists of barges built on the Medway, but no luck. When I contacted a local sailing barge expert he could find no name. What about the local shipping firms on the Medway, I thought? Again no luck!

However a letter to the Royal Humane Society in London did bring some success. He had been given a certificate for saving the life of a young boy aged eight who had fallen into the Regents Canal at Islington. I must say I had a bit of a chuckle when I read that the water was five to six feet deep (!!!), but that would be deep enough, of course, for a little eight-year-old to drown.

Thus a "*pecuniary reward of ten shillings*" (50p) was made to this eighteen-year-old bargeman (yes a barge!) whose initials were W.H. and not John.

Then for some unknown reason I recalled one of those '*throwaway*' remarks.. For some reason perhaps, John was a family nickname. There were a lot of Henrys so that could be his name. First principle then, **keep an open mind.**

Detective work was mixed with a bit of logic - if his last child was born in 1899 and his widow remarried in 1910 then John must have drowned between these dates. Yes, a search of burial registers revealed his burial in Chatham Civil Cemetery in December 1904. Death by drowning? Misadventure? Coroner? The death certificate told me:

"John Henry Goodhew aged 49 Master of the [barge? No, a lighter] died when the tiller of the lighter on which he was aboard, struck the deceased into the river whereby he was drowned - accidental death."

By the way, the man who was John Henry on his death certificate was born William Henry, by the river at Wouldham, Kent, and was also known as John during his lifetime.

A Breach of Promise

By Major Alex Greenwood

My great-grandfather Thomas Greenwood was the second son of Charles Greenwood of The Croft, Castle St, Wallingford and Rush Court Farm, Wallingford. Thomas was born on 14th April 1795. It seems that he was more than a playboy for in the parish records of St Peter's, Wallingford in 1824 there appears a bastardy paper which reveals that in 1822:

"Thomas was the father of a male .. bastard child born to Elizabeth Irving, the younger, in the dwelling house of her mother Elizabeth Irving, widow, situated in the said parish of St Peter."

The amount of maintenance that Thomas paid to the Churchwardens included nine shillings:

"for the reasonable costs of obtaining our order for the libation of the said bastard child"

He also paid several weekly sums. In making the order for maintenance the mayor, Alderman Richard Rathill, refers to Thomas as a "gentleman" which in those days implied high social standing in the community; but in July 1823 Alderman Rathill's daughter, Sarah Louise had married Thomas' cousin Thomas Bishop Greenwood, so perhaps Alderman Rathill was just being diplomatic!

However, "*Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned*" and Miss Elizabeth Irving brought an action of breach of promise of marriage against Thomas which was held on 14th July 1824 at the Court of King's Bench, Westminster, before the Lord Chief Justice. During the examination it was revealed that Thomas and Elizabeth, both teenagers, had left Wallingford together in a one-horse-chaise for a house in London

where Thomas proposed marriage. However, that was ten years previously in 1814 and Thomas required the written consent of his father before he could buy a marriage licence. Meanwhile Thomas' father had become aware of his son's intentions and being ill at the time caused his brother-in-law, Mr John Sheen, of Little Wittenham and his elder son Charles Greenwood to bring back Thomas from London against his will.

Later (on 12th June 1823) Thomas married his uncle John Sheen's daughter, Anne Elizabeth, at Little Wittenham. This was the last straw for Miss Elizabeth Irving who then decided to sue for proper damages. The subsequent trial lasted a whole day, but brought a verdict for the plaintiff of £300 damages plus costs. A considerable amount in those days and equivalent to about £250,000 today.

It was of course an age when the Royal Family seemed to set the standards in society for George IV had married his first cousin in 1795 (although he was already secretly married to the Catholic Mrs Fitzherbert), and his brother, who later became William IV in 1820, had ten illegitimate children by a well-known actress, Mrs Jordan, before he eventually married in 1818.

It seems that Thomas Greenwood's marriage to his first cousin was successful for his wife had eleven children in quick succession. Thomas became Mayor of Wallingford in 1831, and when he died on 8th November 1846 he left a large farm at Turner's Court, near Benson, and a prosperous iron foundry at Watlington together with an ironmonger's business in Wallingford and some cottages at Crowmarsh Gifford and Christnas

Common. His grandson, Charles Sheen Greenwood, founded the Greenwood's State Bank in Wisconsin, USA in 1883, and the bank still prospers 113 years later and I proudly have an account with them!

I never knew of the "sins" of my great-grandfather until I recently read the account of his trial in the "Reading Mercury" of 17th July 1824. Family research certainly does have its surprises. Some pleasant, some not so!

Help Offered

To family historians, one of the great benefits of belonging to the Society of Genealogists is the access it gives to their incomparable collection of Parish Register transcripts. The booklet listing current holdings is now in its 11th edition (1985) and already out of date!

Every quarter's issue of "The Genealogists' Magazine" brings pages of additions, either of new parishes, extended time coverage, indexes, etc. I'm attempting to mark up my copy of the 11th edition, where additions have been reported in the successive issues of volume 25 of "The Genealogists' Magazine" and would, on receipt of an SAE **only**, be happy to pass this information on. Of course, this won't save you a trip to Charterhouse Buildings and, if you're not a member (why-ever not?), paying for a day pass to consult them: but you would be able to travel with the confidence that the material should be awaiting you. Though it is necessary to point out that the staff (a lot of them volunteers) haven't always been able to get the newest stuff out on the shelves by the time the magazine comes out.

I must confess that I haven't always marked up where there just appears to be a short index: nor where the gaps in coverage have been more clearly defined than in the booklet. But, where you can give me a specific parish or two in a specific county, it wouldn't be a great trouble to check back through "The Genealogists' Magazine" to be sure. And be warned: some of the parish names don't exactly tie up in the two sources! So please be tolerant and give me all the help you can. My address is Talbot K.Green, 54 Elms Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AA.

Brian Greenham of 75 Queensway, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4NJ has an index of all surnames King in Berkshire to the end of 1800 encompassing baptisms and marriages and is willing, upon receipt of an SAE, to look up entries for BFHS members. He has also indexed entries from Oxon, Bucks, Herts, Somerset and Dorset and has approximately 17,000 names in his index. He also has an index for Greenham/Grinham world-wide.

Ringling for Hats

The following is taken from The Reading Mercury for 24th June 1782, reprinted in "News from the English Countryside 1750-1850":

"On Tuesday, the 30th of July, will be given to be Rung for, by Stephen Richards at Hurst Church, in the county of Berks, a set of good Plain Hats. Each company to provide an umpire, and the umpire of the winning set to be entitled to a hat. Each peal to continue 15 minutes, and no trial peal on the day of ringing; no man to ring, or be an umpire, but what dines. A good ordinary will be on the table at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Hurst man to ring, or be an umpire.

The Bowling is in good order - Coffee, Tea and Cheesecakes, as usual."

According to the note following "an 'ordinary' was a meal as usually served, as opposed to one specially prepared for the occasion. "[CH]

Bookends

Compiled by Jean Debney

Unless otherwise stated, all the following are available from the bookstalls at BFHS branch meetings, the Research Centre or by post (write to The Berkshire Family History Society, c/o Prospect School, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks, RG30 4EL).

Craven Country: the Story of Hampstead Marshall by Penelope Stokes

(The Author, 1996); 152pp, includes maps, photographs, the Craven family tree; index; price £10 + £1.50 P&P UK, from the author, The Holding, Hamstead Marshall, Newbury, Berks RG20 0HW.

Hampstead Marshall, visited by Edward III and home to the Craven family for over 300 years, is a scattered parish some four miles west of Newbury where the author has lived for over a decade. She is a journalist with other historical books to her credit and her flowing text, divided into many small, headed sections, is interesting and easy to read. The book is published at cost. [JD]

A Hundred Years of South Moreton School (1896-1996)

(Pie Power Press 1996); 64pp, illustrated with photographs; price £3.95 + P&P 55p UK, 95p overseas surface, £2.25 airmail.

This is a team production to mark the centenary of a small village school in North Berkshire (pre-1974). Like many other school histories, the story of the early years is compiled from original records and later from the memories and photograph collections of past and present pupils - much of the contents are therefore almost certainly unique. There are lots of names and pictures of pupils and the buildings during its existence. A limited production, make sure you get your copy before it goes out of print. [JD]

St Michael & All Angels Church, Sandhurst, Berks - Monumental Inscriptions and Burial Registers (1869-1995), compiled by Heather Hicks

(1996); 2 microfiche in card folder with line drawing of the church and historical notes; price £2.75 + p&p 45p UK, 70p overseas surface, £1.30 airmail.

The mammoth task of recording and transcribing, etc. was carried out in memory of the compiler's father. The text is clear but there is, unfortunately, no index to either section which means that, unless you have a date, it will be necessary to trawl through both fiche to discover anything of interest. There are clear section diagrams of the churchyard and church and each section is preceded by an over-reduced ?numbered plan to the inscriptions - my normally adequate fiche reader showed these as a series of "dots". For anyone else keen to get into print with their transcriptions etc., Chad Hanna, Berks FHS Monumental Inscriptions Co-ordinator, will be glad to offer guidelines on the best way of producing your efforts. [JD]

Marriage Licence Bonds of the Bishop of Salisbury (1700-1724)

3 microfiche: (1) 1700-1709; (2) 1710-1719; (3) 1720-1724; (Wiltshire FHS, 1996) £2.50 set + p& for 1 copy 40p UK, 70p overseas surface, £1.30 airmail; for 2/3 copies 50p, 80p, £1.50.

On payment of the appropriate fee, a Marriage Licence, valid for three months, could be granted by a Bishop³ or his surrogate for those who did not want the Banns to be called in the local church, were non-resident in the parish, or could afford the status symbol. The original

³ or, as appropriate, the Archbishop or Archdeacon who had jurisdiction over the intended parish

licence, handed to the parties, has in most cases been lost. The surviving bonds and allegations can usually be seen in diocesan record offices and those for the Bishop of Salisbury with jurisdiction over Berkshire (until 1836) and Wiltshire are in Wiltshire RO, Trowbridge.

The dated abstracts are in alphabetical annual order by grooms with indexes to brides and bondsmen. They include names, place of residence, occupation, if single or widow(er)ed, age and (for minors) consent of fathers/mothers/guardians plus the intended place(s) of marriage.

These fiche contain many Berkshire names and may include that "lost" marriage you need for your family tree. [JD]

Family History On Your PC by Alan Bradley

(Sigma Press, 1996): A5; illustrated with line drawings, facsimile documents, example printouts, etc. index, 221pp; price £9.95 + p&p £1.05 UK, £1.80 overseas surface, £4.30 airmail.

This book combines a beginners guide to tracing your family history and using your computer as a tool to store the data and produce family trees, etc. The ten chapter headings give some idea of the balance of the contents: Introduction; The basics of family history; Family history with a computer; Centralised bureaucracy; Other modern records; Case study - back to the 19th century; Church & chapel records; Other early records; Case study - to the 17th century; Writing up your family history. There are also three appendices; Useful addresses, Further reading and the Chapman County Codes.

The "terrified" will be pleased to know that the author keeps computer jargon within reasonable limits and there are lots of good ideas for collecting, storing, sorting and presenting information both for the beginner and the more experienced family historian. [JD]

Help Wanted

Adam Stout of Parkwood House, Nuffield, Oxfordshire, RG9 5RT is researching the history of Peppard House, Peppard Common, Rotherfield Peppard, Oxfordshire, and would like to track down the descendants of its nineteenth century owners - who, in date order, were as follows:

- Richard Jemmett or Jemmatt (pre-1803)
- Daniel Millard (1804) probably of Sonning
- John Creed (1805-11) Joseph Bagnell (1813-32) joint owner with
- John Mitchell Furnell (until c.1850) The Furnell family came from Newbury
- Richard Hitchcock (c1850-1882), born in Manningford Abbots, Wilts in 1795/6
- Bailey Tuckey (1883-1905), born at Westbury, Wilts 1829/30

Pat Croad of 10 Salcombe Terrace, New Plymouth, New Zealand wrote for help as follows:

"I have recently begun to research my grandmother's family tree (Edith Alice Stratton, born 2nd October 1889, Sreatley; married Denis Doyle 18th October 1918 and died 1962 in London). We have so far traced the family back to Longcot and Watchfield in Berkshire. There is some evidence that they may have come from Shrivenham before that, probably in the late 1500s. Other families of interest are Willis (Sparsholt), Jefferies, Tuck and Hall or Hale (all of Longcot), Rowland (Kempsford in Gloucestershire), Anger (Watchfield) and Griffin and Phillips (not known). If anyone is researching these families and would like to share information please write to me."

The Newbury Charities Minute books

By Barbara Young

The Newbury Charities Minute books contain a large number of references to all sorts of folk living in the town and its nearby parishes. Frequently these are the poorer inhabitants, and often those that the family historian has difficulty tracing.

From the first volume, 1837-1847, I have extracted all the boys sent to the Newbury Municipal Charity school, then called the Kendrick School, all of whom were born before civil registration began in 1837. Many of the lads were later apprenticed at the age of fourteen years by the same charity, a number of them to masters in nearby parishes, and their location can be useful evidence to establish family connections.

This minor project had three main objectives.

- 1. There is no further information in the Minute book, so the original volume can be spared from unnecessary handling. Note that photocopies cannot be obtained from this source.*
- 2. This information can be made available to members.*
- 3. This project may encourage other members to do similar extracts. It took an hour to extract the details, and a further hour to check this. At the same time the inhabitants of the almshouses were listed, and this has been deposited at the Berkshire Record Office.*

Newbury Charities Minute Book 1837-1847 (BRO Ref no: N/QA/1/1)

Boys Elected to Kendrick School & Subsequent Apprenticeships.

1839 Sep. 9	Samuel	s/o John & Amelia	REEVES	
	Alfred	s/o William & Frances	HARRIS	
	Henry	s/o James & Mary	ALDER	
	Joseph	s/o Joseph & Mary	GREEN	
	Henry	s/o Thomas & Sarah	SMITH	
	William	s/o James & Maria	ELLIOT	
	William	s/o George & Jane	GIBBS	
1841 Jul. 13	John	s/o William & Eliz'th	LIDDIARD	age 9 years
1841 Nov. 8	Charles	SWAINE		
	Joseph	LEWIS		
	Joseph Alger	SHEPHERD		
	John James	LAWRENCE		
	Luke	POWERS		
	William	LIPSCOMBE		
	Henry	COPPLESTON		
	Stephen	TAYLOR		
	Henry	DELL		
	Albert	SMITH		
	George	HAMMOND		
	William	WALTER		

	Thomas	WHEELER		
	George	LIDDIARD		
	Stephen	ROLFE		
	Michael	MORRIS		
	Edward	WAKEFIELD		[pencil note - undated - "dead"]
1843 May 15	Edward	s/o Edward & Sarah	BRADFIELD	age 9
1843 Oct. 23	Henry	s/o James & Sarah	GOODMAN	age 9 yrs 8 mo
1843 Dec. 20	Apprentice fee of £15 to be paid to Joseph GREEN lately discharged from the school - binding him to his father George Green of Bartholomew Street tin plate worker & brazier for seven years			
	William Gibbs to be removed from school for repeated acts of misbehaviour			
1844 Jan. 15	William	s/o William & Rosanna	TAYLOR	age 9yrs 1 mo
1844 Mar. 18	Alfred LANE	s/o Elizabeth now wife of [blank]	MATHEWS, late Elizabeth LANE widow,	age 9 years 3 mo
	Henry SMITH	lately left school, to be given £12 apprentice fee		
1844 Apr. 8	Henry	s/o William & Sarah	ALLEN	age 8 yrs 11 mo
	in room of Alfred HARRIS leaving the school			
	Stephen	s/o William & Sally	KNIGHT	age 11 years
	in room of William LIPSCOMBE leaving			
	Alfred HARRIS & William LIPSCOMBE apprentice fees to be paid.			
1844 Apr. 29	Thomas	s/o James & Eliz'th	SIMS	(9 yrs 4 mo)
	Albert	s/o James & Sarah	BOWNE	(11 yrs)
	premiums to be paid on apprenticeship of Henry ALDER & Samuel REEVES lately left school.			
1844 Nov. 11	Henry COPPLESTON & George LIDDIARD discharged from school, having attained 14 years - each presented with a Bible for their good behaviour.			
1844 Dec. 2	George	s/o William & Sarah	KNIGHT	(10 yrs)
	George	s/o George & Diana	BRUNSDEN	(8 yrs 7 mo)
1845 Mar. 3	£12 apprentice premium for Henry COPPLESTON to Thomas STONE, brushmaker of Bartholomew Street			
1845 May 26	George LIDDIARD apprenticed to Mr Thomas PARR of Newbury Wharf, carpenter and wheelwright.			
1845 Aug. 4	Charles	s/o Charles & Eliza	KNIGHT	(10 yrs)
	David	s/o George & Mary	KING	(8 yrs 9 mo)
1845 Sep. 8	George	s/o John & Denny	WILLIS	(9 yrs 1 mo)
	Thomas	s/o Joseph & Martha	SMITH	(8 yrs 9 mo)
1845 Aug. 4	Premiums to be paid for apprenticing ELLIOT & TAYLOR			
1845 Sep. 8	Premiums to be paid for apprenticing DELL & HAMMOND			
1845 Oct. 20	Benjamin MATHEWS painter & glazier of Westcombe Buildings, Newbury			

- approved as master for Henry DELL
 Stephen TAYLOR brazier of the Rose & Thistle Yard approved as master for his son Stephen TAYLOR lately discharged from the school.
- 1845 Dec. 15 William John s/o Morris & Hannah IRONMAN (10 yrs 6mo)
 born in Newbury
- 1846 Mar. 2 George s/o Edward & Hannah JELLIFFE (9 yrs 9 mo)
 Thomas s/o James & Phoebe SAUNDERS (9 yrs 10 mo)
 born in Newbury
- Joseph Algar SHEPPARD lately discharged from school to be apprenticed to his father Joseph SHEPPARD of Newbury, tailor.
- 1846 May 11 William s/o William & Sarah BAILY (11 yrs)
 born in Newbury
- 1846 Jun. 1 Permission given to Stephen ROLFE, on application from his mother, to leave school previous to 10 July expiration date.
- 1846 Aug. 17 Benjamin s/o John & Mary COLE (10 yrs)
 Edward s/o Edward & Letitia GOUGH (9 yrs 1 mo)
 Thomas s/o Charles & Ann PURDUE (10 yrs 11 mo)
- 1846 Sep. 14 Stephen ROLFE apprentice to Messrs BROWN & ALEXANDER of Speenhamland, ironmongers.
 Luke POWERS apprenticed to Mr Edward BALDING of Speenhamland, builder.
- 1846 Oct. 12 Albert s/o George Azor SMITH of Northbrook Street, whitesmith, apprenticed to Caleb JOYCE of East Ilsley, watchmaker.
- 1847 Jan. 4 Thomas WHEELER apprenticed to James SIMS the Elder & James SIMS the Younger of Northbrook Street, brushmakers, for seven years
- 1847 Mar. 1 Albert BOWNE, Charles SWAINE & Stephen KNIGHT completed their time at school
- 1847 Mar. 15 Benjamin s/o George & [blank] FINCH (8 yrs 6 mo)
 John s/o John & Elizabeth ABEL (9 yrs 6mo)
 (both deceased)
 Edward s/o William & Fanny HARRIS (9 yrs 3 mo)
- 1847 Mar. 29 Joseph LEWIS left school
- 1847 Apr. 12 John s/o William & Mary MAYO (9 yrs)
 Stephen KNIGHT apprenticed to Thomas EDWELL, tinman.

Berkshire Stray in Kent

Robert Hill (2584) of Pangbourne passed on the following stray found in Brenchley Baptism Register (Kent FHS Microfiche 1198)

“23 Feb. 1600 was Wm. Pynnock son of Thos of Hungerford in Barkshier taken by the officer and punished according to the statute and sent to the said Hungerford where he said he was born”. [JD]

A Newbury Tragedy

By Rev Philip Wall

Details of the suicide in 1848 of Benjamin Weston, innkeeper and Borough Treasurer of Newbury, were included in "Q&A" in the September 1995 issue of "Berkshire Family Historian" Jean Debney's suggestions have been followed up by further research in the Berkshire Record Office.

Firstly I found the Newbury Corporation Minute Book [BRO Ref: N/AC1/2/2] proved particularly revealing. Each quarter the Finance Committee submitted an account of the bills that had been paid and recommended the total sum of the Rate to be collected by the Churchwardens and Overseers during the next quarter. An account for the Watch Rate was submitted in the same way.

The account for the quarter ending 29 September 1840 included:

• Benjamin Weston, Meeting of Council	0	4	0
• Weston, Meeting of Magistrates etc.	2	15	0
• Another Bill of 7/- for an error in Weston's Acct.	0	7	0
• Jan 1, 1841 Weston for Meetings of Magistrates etc.	3	18	0
• April 1841 Weston for Meetings of Magistrates	2	0	0
Paid Weston for Use of room, fire, candle etc.	0	19	6

And later -

• Weston for Meetings of Council and Magistrates and Refreshments to Officers	2	19	2
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It is not clear what duties or responsibilities were covered by these sums. He clearly provided the refreshments at the meetings from his inn, but in one case it appears that the meeting of the Borough Council was held at *The Old Waggon and Horses* in the Market Place, of which he was the innkeeper.⁴

On 9th November 1841 the following entry is found:

"Resolved that Benjamin Weston be appointed Treasurer and Benjamin Weston and Samuel Perry Serjeants at Mace for the ensuing year, subject to the revision of their salaries by the Council."

There was no mention of the need for the renewal of this appointment. Benjamin Weston continued as Borough Treasurer until his death in 1848. On 5th January 1841 an unusually lengthy report was submitted by the Finance Committee in addition to the usual account:

"... the Treasurer states that on the Watch Account there is a debt due to him of £45-17-11½ besides Bills (which are enumerated below) that are required to be paid. These amount to £4-5-8. These two sums amount to £50-3-7½ but against it there is a sum remaining due from the Churchwardens and Overseers of about £60. It will be seen from this statement that if this money had been in the Treasurer's hands instead of where it is he would have had no reason to complain, but which he now does and that not without just and proper cause for so doing..."

⁴ Kelly's Directory 1847

"... at their last meeting in November considerable discussion took place [this was not reported in the minutes] relative to the quantity of money paid in part discharge of a bill due to Messrs Colley, Smith & Co [probably the Council's lawyers] and which discussion was ended by the Town Clerk undertaking to let the Finance Committee have the Bill itself together with the particulars of the amount paid off the same with a view of laying before the Council the correct state of the Account. This has not been done. We would suggest that the Town Clerk should see the parties in default and urge them to be more prompt in future or else some steps must be taken to compel them to the due performance of their duty ... it cannot be expected that the Treasurer is to find money to pay the expenses consequent on the Police Establishments of the Town [it seems that this is what the Watch Rate was for]. This however he has done and it reflects disgrace on those in default and it will also on the Council unless they insist on the parties liable to collect the Watch Rate more promptly and efficiently collecting the same in future"

"The same observations we have thought it our duty to make respecting the Watch Rate will apply with equal force to the Borough Fund Account for there also the Overseers are in default and the spur requires to be used. Payments that ought to have been made have been deferred for want of means and all owing to the neglect of the Overseers. Surely such a state of affairs is not creditable or respectable and now that it is officially brought under the notice of the Council we do hope that the Council will urge the Overseers to a faithful and early discharge of the duties incumbent on them to perform."

"N.B. By way of a Rider we have to notice that of the £250 ordered by precept of the Overseers in November last only £125 has been received of the Overseers."

From the Report dated 3rd January 1848, it would seem that the bills to be paid amounted to £90 and that the assets amounted to £38-14-6½

On the 28th July 1848 the following entry is found:

"The Mayor reported the death of Benjamin Weston the Senior Town Serjeant and Treasurer of the Borough."

At the next meeting on 4th October 1848 three relevant entries are found:

"Mr Mark Willis was elected Treasurer of the Borough of Newbury in the room of Benjamin Weston deceased."

"Sophia Weston Widow be appointed Housekeeper at the Mansion House during the pleasure of the Council."

"Mrs Weston the Representative of the late Treasurer delivered up the Books and paid the balances in her hands to Mr Mark Willis the new Treasurer"

On the 9th November 1848, the appointment of Sophia Weston as housekeeper was confirmed. The Minutes show that Sophia Weston continued to receive similar sums as were paid to Benjamin for Council Meetings and Meetings of Magistrates.

It would seem that the Overseers had been negligent in collecting and paying in the Poor Rate and the Watch Rate, while the treasurer continued to have to pay the bills as they fell due. No doubt the resulting confusion proved too much for the old man. The generous treatment of

Sophia Weston by the Council immediately after her husband's death suggests they felt some measure of responsibility for the tragedy.

The only entry found in the Berkshire Chronicle was the notice on Saturday 29th July, 1848:

"Died: July 23 aged 71 Mr Benjamin Weston".

The Reading Mercury carried the same entry.

The inquest was held on the day following the death, an account of which was fully recorded, but the mystery of why the coroner delayed registering the death until December 27th 1848 remains unsolved.

Longevity Stakes in the Greenwood Family

By Major Alex Greenwood

The following longevity stakes may be of interest to other members. Statistically it indicates that births in July and April may lead to long life. The oldest living is Mrs Letitia Jane May May of Canvey Island, Essex. Also there are only three men on this list! Married names are in brackets.

1. Ellen Jessie Greenwood (Bonbernard)	24 Jul. 1878	8 Dec. 1976	98
2. Kate Greenwood (Jona)	11 Feb. 1843	5 Sep. 1958	95
3. Katherine Greenwood	15 Dec. 1845	20 Nov. 1940	94
4. Bessie Edith Greenwood (Locking)	23 Nov. 1885	8 Dec. 1979	94
5. Phillis Greenwood	1808	10 Mar. 1902	94
6. Arthur Wellington Greenwood	6 Feb. 1862	1 Jan. 1955	92
7. Emily Greenwood (Tebay)	19 Apr. 1833	1 Dec. 1925	92
8. Charles Thomas Greenwood	20 Dec. 1881	2 May 1974	92
9. Letitia Jane May Greenwood (May)	10 Jul. 1904	Still alive	92
10. Isabella Georgiana Emily Greenwood	26 Jul. 1904	Still alive	92
11. Violet Muriel Greenwood (Brookes)	11 Apr. 1894	3 Apr. 1986	91
12. Sarah Anne Greenwood (Rideout)	2 May 1841	3 Apr. 1933	91
13. Lavinia Alice Constance Greenwood (Horsfall)	2 Jul. 1902	7 Jan. 1994	91
14. Emily Lydia Greenwood	1 Aug. 1889	31 Oct. 1980	91
15. Bessie Greenwood (Chapman)	21 Aug. 1872	2 Jan. 1963	90
16. James Greenwood	bpt 23 Apr. 1806	bur 20 Jun. 1896	90
17. Charlotte Elizabeth Greenwood (Fidler)	3 Jan. 1813	13 Mar. 1903	90
18. Lilian Alice Greenwood (Gambrell)	2 Jun. 1906	Still Alive	90
19. Grace Winifred Constance Greenwood (Pinchbeck)	17 Dec. 1906	Still Alive	90

Shelagh Mason has informed me of the recent formation of the Stead/Steed One Name Study which is interested in the surname and all its variants world-wide. It has been registered with the Guild of One-Name Studies (No.2519). They already have 6,000 entries in databases, mostly for the UK and publish a quarterly newsletter. All information is gratefully received and SAE or 2 IRC enquiries to Mrs S.Mason at 46, Field Avenue, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1TR or E-Mail to S.A.Mason@Cant.AC.UK are most welcome. [CH]

Charles Mead Widdows 1850-1929

By Ruth Marler née Holloway

You may have read 'The Story of a Single Parent' in BFH Vol.18 - No.2, December 1994 which was about my grandmother. Having found out about her, this is the story of her 'partner' before he met her.

Having discovered the identity of my grandfather, I decided to find out more about his background. The initial feeling that I felt towards him was resentment. He had never had the courtesy to marry my grandmother, though they had lived under the same roof for almost twenty years and he had fathered her three children.

Charity Widdows, the 29-year-old servant-girl daughter of William Widdows and Jane Allen, gave birth to Charles Mead Widdows in 1850 in Southleigh, near Witney, Oxon. The family were all agricultural labourers or domestics and Charles grew up in the house of his grandparents. He appears in the 1851 census at eight months old and in 1861 as ten years old. His middle name (Mead) appears nowhere else in the family, so I have not dismissed the idea that it could be the surname of his father.

There are now only between 200-250 families with the name Widdows in the UK. I decided that I should write to all of them to see if they had a common point of origin. I received approximately a 20-25% reply rate to my letters, two of which connected to my own branch of the family. I had to tread very carefully when corresponding with these people as my father was one of the three illegitimate children of Charles Mead Widdows born to him and his housekeeper. On his deathbed, Charles had left everything to my grandmother (his housekeeper) rather than to his legitimate offspring, so I could justifiably be regarded as "*the enemy*".

However, I received several pleasant and informative letters from two of his grandchildren and was told that according to family rumour, he was the illegitimate child of a servant girl and the master of "*the big house*". So far this dovetailed beautifully with my research. I was also told that he had spent some of his childhood in an orphanage, eventually marrying the matron, a Miss Trigg, the daughter of a farmer from Gloucestershire.

I wasted quite a while looking for the marriage of a Charles Widdows to an Emily J Trigg (his wife's name on the 1881 census was Emily J. Widdows). Finally I listened to the volunteer librarian at the Latter Day Saints Family History Centre and I applied for the birth certificate of his eldest daughter Emily J. Widdows, born at Bicester. I was peeved at the idea of spending good money on a certificate of someone who wasn't directly related to me but the librarian was right; it gave me vital information, the maiden name of my grandfather's wife. It turned out that she was a Witcomb and not a Trigg.

Emily Jane Widdows' birth certificate stated that she had been born at Oddington, Sub-district of Bletchington, Registration District of Bicester in the County of Oxford. Her father's occupation was given as "*Porter and Labour Master at a Workhouse*".

The marriage entry in the St. Catherine's House Index that I had thought applied to Charles, but rejected because it didn't match up with a marriage of an Emily Trigg, proved after all to be that of my grandfather. He had married Emily Jane Witcomb (Governess) on 20th October 1872 (just over three months before the birth of their first child) in the parish of Brookethorpe, Glos., a few miles from the birthplace of the bride. I began to have more feelings for this man

who was my grandfather even though he had been born 107 years before me. Instead of the arrogant employer, taking advantage of a vulnerable young girl who had recently given birth to an illegitimate child in the workhouse, I began to see a person who because of the circumstances of his own conception and his consequent abandonment at the age of 10+, probably had a yearning for, but a lack of understanding as to what constituted a normal family life. History was repeating itself in every generation. He himself was illegitimate; he had married his wife less than four months before the birth of their first child; during his wife's final illness he had had a son by his housekeeper (my grandmother) and after his wife's death had fathered two more children by her, the birth of my father, the youngest occurring when Charles was over 75 years old. Instead of the lustful villain in a melodrama I reminded myself that he was probably a warm caring, affectionate man, not unlike his youngest child who was to grow up to be my father.

Now I am trying to piece together what happened to Charles between 1861 (when he was still happily living with his mother and grandparents at Southleigh) and when he began to emerge into the adult world complete with a wife and children but probably little or no education. From this lowly start in life he had succeeded in obtaining employment from the equivalent of today's Civil Service, becoming an owner of property (his house in Twyford) which he would later leave to his "*partner*" to ensure that she had some means of support after his death.

Reading Local Studies Library News

By Margaret Smith

The Local Studies Library, which moved to new premises on the top floor in May (see report in the June 1996 issue of the "*Berkshire Family Historian*"), was officially opened by the Chair of Berkshire County Council, Councillor Maurice Tomkinson, at the beginning of July. Representatives from the BFHS attended, as did representatives from various local history organisations.

We are continuing to expand. We have now moved up from the Reference Library some of the family history and genealogical materials. We had already moved the IGI. Users will now also find family history '*how to do it*' reference books, the very useful Federation of Family History Society booklets on sources, and files of '*Family Tree Magazine*' amongst other items, relocated on the top floor. We have also brought up printed indexes to wills, marriage licences, parish register transcripts and visitations for counties and places in England other than Berkshire. However we do not have coverage for every English county, so please check before you visit. Our phone number is 509243 (0118-950-9243 for those outside Reading). Our remit is now very much **local studies and family history**.

Unwanted Birth Certificates

Betty Price (2615) of Caversham has passed the following certificates onto the BFHS:

Cannock Reg. Dist STS 1885 Herbert son of Sarah-Jane (FELLOWS) and Reuben PRICE.

Basford Reg. Dist NTT 1893 Alfred Thomas son of Mary Jane (LAWSON) and Alfred PRICE.

If you think they belong to "*your*" family, please write to Jean Debney enclosing an SAE (see address for Cliff Debney on back cover) and some indication of the relationship. [JD]

Berkshire in 1811

By Jean Debney

The following have been extracted from Holden's Directory of the United Kingdom, a facsimile edition of which has been produced in three volumes. A copy has been purchased by BFHS for the Society Reference Library and can be seen at the BFHS Research Centre at Prospect School, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst. Copies can be purchased from Michael Winton, Eagle Cottage, 33a Newmarket Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 2HN, price £43.50 + p&p £4.70.

Rates of Postage from London To:

Abingdon	7d	Wallingford	6d
Faringdon	7d	Wantage	7d
Maidenhead	5d	Windsor	5d
Newbury	7d	Wokingham (Oakingham)	6d
Reading	6d		

The House of Commons

[with London and other addresses where given]

Berkshire	George Vansittart Esq. MP	37 Berkeley Square & Bisham Abbey Great Marlow, Bucks
	Charles Dundas, Esq. MP,	10 Manchester Buildings, Westminster; 23 Abingdon Street, Westminster & Barton Court near Newbury, Berks
Abingdon	Henry Bowyers, Esq. MP	
Reading	John Simeon, Esq. MP	Southampton Buildings; 50 Queen Ann Street, Cavendish Square & Walliscote, nr Reading, Berks
Wallingford	Rd Benyon, Esq. MP	6 South Audley Street & Englefield House nr Reading, Berks
	Wm Lewis Hughes, Esq. MP	Hinde Street
	Charles Shaw Le Fevre	4 New Street, Spring Gardens & Heckfield Place nr Hertford Bridge, Hants
Windsor	Edward Disbrowe, Esq. MP	40 Hertford Street, Mayfair & Windsor, Berks
	John Ramsbottom, jun, Esq. MP.	George Street, Hanover Square

Place of Residence	Country Bankers	On Whom Drawn in London
Abingdon	Jos Tombs	Sansom, Blake & Postlethwaite 65 Lombard Street
	Child & Co	Williams, Son, Moffatt & Burgess 20 Birchin Lane
	Knapp & Co	Brown, Gobb & Co 66 Lombard Street
	Cripps & Co	Masterman Peters, Mildred, Masterman, Scorer & Maude 2 White Hart Ct, Lombard St - 5gns
Faringdon	Ward & Co	Ladbroke's, Watson & Gillman Bank Buildings
Maidenhead	Stephens & Co	Willis, Wood, Percival & Tomkins 76 Lombard Street - 2½Gns
Newbury (Old Bank)	Vincent & Co	Dimsdale, Baron, Barnard, Son & Dimsdale 50 Cornhill - 2½Gns
Newbury	Toomer & Co	Robarts, Curtis, Robarts & Curtis 15 Lombard St - 5gns
Reading	Marsh & Co	Harrisons, Price, Kay & Chapman 1 Mansionhouse Street
	Stephens & Co	Willis, Wood, Percival & Tomkins 76 Lombard Street - 2½Gns
Wallingford	Marsh & Co	Harrison, Price, Kay & Chapman 1 Mansionhouse Street
	Wells & Co	Down, Thornton, Free & Down 1 Bartholomew Lane
Wantage	Mattingly & Co	Spooner, Attwoods & Co 40 Fish Street Hill
Windsor	Ramsbottom & Co	Ramsbottoms, Newman, Ramsbottom & Co 72 Lombard Street
	J Coombs	Birch, Chambers & Hobbs 160 New Bond Street - 2½Gns
	J Coombs	Brown, Gobb & Co 66 Lombard Street

Excise Office

Permit Examiner's Officer, County Collectors: Reading - Wm Buck

Candidates for the Royal College of Physicians:

Dr George Dent of Windsor, Berks

Dr Samuel Ferris of Beaconsfield, Berks [sic]

Royal College of Surgeons

Members who do not reside or practise within 7 miles of the City of London:(from Lincoln's Inn, London), as at 14 Jul. 1808:

[NOTE: this list may not be complete - it is alphabetical by the first letter of the surname]

Joseph Blandy	Bunny	Surgeon & Apothecary, Market Place, Newbury
John	Bulley	Reading
John	Chapman	Apothecary of Windsor
James	Elliott	Reading
James	Flamank	Wallingford
Widdows	Golding	Reading
Rich.	Goolden	Maidenhead
John	Hooper	Reading
William P	Lauder	Wallingford
Thomas	Major	Hungerford
Charles	Maul	Newbury
John	Marshall	Newbury
James	Paratt	Maidenhead
Thomas	Ring	Reading
Rich.	Sherwood	Reading

Society of Apothecaries, London

Who have been examined, and are by Act of Parliament exempted from all Parish, Ward and Leet Offices and from serving on Juries - Incorporated 1617:

Assistants:

Thomas	Deane	Windsor
James	Paratt	Maidenhead
David	Robertson	Great Hendred

Livery:

William	Trew	Pangbourn
Robert	Winch	Wargrave
Thomas	Major, jun	Hungerford

County Fire Office Southampton Street, Strand [London]:

Directors - in Berks

Henry	Proctor, esq.	Windsor
W.	Ward, esq., banker	Farringdon (sic)
John	Deane, esq.	Reading
Henry	Knapp, esq.	Abingdon
John	Stephens, esq.	Reading

English Country Newspapers:

Taylor & Newton, General Advertising Office, 5 Warwick Square, Newgate Street, London, Agents for all the following Newspapers [including]:

"*Oxford Journal*" and "*Oxford Herald*" - published on Saturday- Oxford, Berks, Bucks, Gloucester, Warwick and Northampton"

"*Reading Mercury*"- published on Monday -Berks, Bucks, Oxf, Hants, Surrey, Sussex & Wilts

A Berkshire Village 'Revel'

The following is taken from The Reading Mercury for 29th June 1782, reprinted in "News from the English Countryside 1750-1850":

"This is to give notice that Yattendon Revel will be kept as usual, on Wednesday, the 10th of July, and for the encouragement of gentlemen gamesters and others, there will be given an exceeding good Gold-laced Hat of 27s value, to be played for at Cudgels; the man that breaks most heads to have the prize; 2s will be given to each man that positively breaks a head, for the first ten heads that are broke; the blood to run an inch, or to be deemed no head ... To begin playing at three o'clock precisely.

Also will be given a very good Hat of 15s value to be wrestled for the man that throws most men to have the prize; no dispute about falls, but three go-down.

Likewise an exceeding good Gold-laced Hat at 27s value to be bowled for; ... the man that gets most pins at three bowls to have the prize. To begin bowling at one o'clock and end at nine.

Second Revel Day

On Thursday, the 11th will be given Half-a-Guinea to be run for by Jack Asses, the best of three heats. No less than three will be allowed to start.

Also will be given a fine Holland Smock to be run for by women; the best of three heats; no less than three will be allowed to start. Likewise a Jingling March by eleven blindfolded women, and one unmasked with bells, for a very good petticoat.

Also a gold-laced Hat of 27s value to be played at Cudgels for by young gamesters, the same rules to be observed as on the first day....

N.B. Stalls for people to put their goods on to be had at the Royal Oak as usual." [CH]

A Berkshire Webb Family

By Gillian Couper

Or were their roots in neighbouring Oxfordshire? Early references to my Webb family appear in Sreatley, Berkshire, but as this is on the border of Oxfordshire, it is very possible that they had connections there: I cannot find my (as yet) earliest ancestor in any Berkshire records. For now though my story begins in Sreatley.

On 21st October 1784 Robert Webb married Elizabeth Jones at Goring, just across the River Thames in Oxfordshire. Robert and Elizabeth lived in Sreatley, where their nine (possibly ten) children were born and baptised between 1785 and 1801. Elizabeth died in 1820 at the age of 67, and was buried there. Both Robert's birth/baptism and death/burial remain elusive, neither are recorded in the Sreatley registers. Does any fellow researcher have an 'unclaimed' Robert Webb among their records?

This is basically the story of my great-great-grandfather, George Webb, the next-to-youngest of Robert and Elizabeth's children, born in Sreatley, but who went to London, as a young man, with two of his brothers. It took a lot of searching to make the connection between my Webb family of South London and Berkshire, but the 1851 census for Fulham gave me the breakthrough I had sought for so long.

Robert and Elizabeth's eldest three children were Betty, who was baptised at Sreatley 21st August 1785, Elizabeth 24th September 1786 and Richard 21st October 1788; no more is known about them. Their fourth child was Robert, baptised 20th June 1790. He married Martha Hoar 28th December 1818, at Sreatley. She was a Sreatley girl, baptised there 21st August 1791, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Hoar. At the time of her marriage, Martha was resident at

Rotherfield Peppard in Oxfordshire, where she had a daughter Sarah, in 1811. Robert and Martha appear in Fulham in 1825, some five years after his brothers. They had six children, at least four of whom were born in Fulham. Martha died in 1851, and was buried in All Saints churchyard at Fulham. Robert married again, in 1852, to a widow some years his junior, Hannah Austin (née Bayneham). She died in 1865, and was buried in the then new cemetery in Fulham Palace Road. Robert was a labourer for much of his life, but was also the night-watchman at the Fulham Union Workhouse in the 1850s. He was 83 when he died in 1873. Robert and Martha's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren all lived in Fulham.

Robert and Elizabeth's next child Mary was baptised 3rd June 1795; she married Henry Smith on 8th October 1815, at Sreatley. They lived in Reading at least at the start of their marriage; their son, James was baptised a year later, at Sreatley, when they gave their address as St. Mary's parish Reading. William, the next child, was baptised 3rd June 1795; no more is known of him. Their next daughter, Lucy was baptised 21st May 1797. She stayed very close to her roots, marrying John Abery (also recorded as Auberry or Arbery) of Hampstead Norreys, one of the plentiful "ag labs" on 8th November 1820 at Sreatley. John and Lucy lived in Hampstead Norreys for at least the next 40 years, and here their seven children were born. They probably lived at Wantage for a short spell, around 1844, but were recorded at Eling in Hampstead Norreys parish in the 1841 and 1851 census returns and in Little Hungerford in 1861.

This is where my George fits into the family; he was baptised on 30th June 1799. As a young man, George and his youngest brother Charles went to London, where they settled in Fulham, where they would be joined by their older brother, Robert, and his family.

Charles, the youngest of Robert and Elizabeth's children, was baptised 15th November 1801. He was employed as an ostler when he went to London. In 1827 he married a Yorkshire girl, Elizabeth Bray, and they first lived in the neighbouring household to his brother George, in Burlington Road, Fulham. They had nine children, all born at various addresses in Fulham. Charles had died by 1881, but Elizabeth was still alive, aged 82, at the time of the 1891 census when she and her children died and their final resting places have yet to be found.

On 25th November 1820 'my' George married Ann Smither at St. Luke's, Chelsea (the old church in Cheyne Walk), and their daughter, Mary Ann, was baptised a month later, at All Saints, Fulham, where Ann was buried 3rd August 1822, aged 19. She may have died in childbirth, for on 14th August, a 12-day-old boy, George Webb, was buried. Although not proven, it is likely that Ann was born at Chobham, Surrey, a twin daughter of James and Sarah Smither, baptised 6th February 1803 - this correlates with the death of George's wife in 1822 and there are other Chobham Smither connections with the Webbs of Fulham. On 6th October 1823, George was married again to Mary Lloyd, at St Saviour's, Southwark. She was born in Loughborough, Leicestershire.

It may be that coaching and horses took the Webbs to London. When his daughter Mary Ann was baptised in 1820, George was listed as an ostler. In 1841 George was a coachman, and lived in Mawbeys

Buildings, which was in the vicinity of Burlington road, Fulham, and on the boundary of what was then Fulham Prison! This was also known as Northampton Place, and was built in 1825 by Samuel Mawbey, the originator of the first local omnibus, which ran from the bridge at Fulham to Charing Cross. George progressed from coachman to omnibus proprietor during the late 1830s⁵ and sons George and James were omnibus drivers.

By 1851 George had branched out further, and taken the licence of the '*King's Arms*' pub in Church Street, Fulham; perhaps he ran his omnibus business from here too. This was on the south corner of what are now Fulham High Street and New Kings Road. George stayed here for several years, eventually moving on to '*The George*' at Walham Green, where he was in the 1861 and 1871 census returns.. The '*King's Arms*' was a coaching inn on the London to Southampton route, and was also used for parish meetings and dinners. The building which would have been George's pub was demolished in 1888, and rebuilt. Other members of the family were involved in the business - daughter Jane was a barmaid, and son Francis a barman. By 1871 George, by then widowed, had been joined by his son Samuel and daughter-in-law Jane to run the pub. George and Mary had ten children, two daughters (one survived) and eight sons. Of the sons, it is known that five of them were licensed victuallers, and had pubs in several parts of London. According to local directories, the licence of '*The George*' was passed round the family! In 1855 it was held by James, from 1866-1870 by Joseph, and in 1871 jointly by George and son Samuel. Henry Adolphus Webb another son, had the licence of '*The King's Head*',

⁵ Listed as such in 1839 Pigot's Directory.

Fulham High Street for 30 years, until he retired about 1897.

On 18th May 1828 George and Mary's third child, second son, James, my great-grandfather, was baptised at All Saints Church, Fulham. He was to follow in his father's footsteps, first of all driving omnibuses and then as a licensed victualler. At the age of 26 he married his first wife, Elizabeth Ann Huggins, on 5th March 1854 at All Saints, Fulham. Elizabeth was a Berkshire girl (possibly known to the Webbs, or even related?), born at South Moreton in 1830, the daughter of Martha Huggins (who was the daughter of William Huggins, the local wheelwright at South Moreton, but who was born at Blewbury). Her mother moved to Leatherhead, Surrey, where she was in service. In 1844 she married William Lusby, also from Leatherhead, and by 1851 they too were living in Fulham; William was the licensee of *'The Wheatsheaf'* just down the road from *'The George'*. James and Elizabeth were running *'The Royal Mail'* in Upper Street, Islington, in 1861. About 1865 they moved to *'The George and Dragon'* at New North Street, Red Lion Square. They had moved again by 1870, when on 2nd July Elizabeth died at *'The Swan'* (or *'White Swan'*), Brixton Road, Kennington. Whether the cause of her death was the same as that of James eight years later we shall never know, except that on her death certificate it was stated to be *'disease of liver'*! *'The White Swan'* stood on the corner of Brixton Road and Church Row (now Prima Road), just behind St. Mark's Church, Kennington.

Less than six months after Elizabeth's death, James married again, to a woman twelve years his junior, Elizabeth Sarah Maria Baker. Was she perhaps a barmaid at *'The White Swan'* - she certainly had the

licensing trade in her blood: her maternal grandfather was a publican in Hastings.

James and Elizabeth Sarah Maria had three sons in the following five years, all born at *'The White Swan'*: James Edward born 21st June 1871 (my grandfather), George Albert (1872) and Burnett St. Patrick (1875). They lived above the pub and as the boys grew up they were allowed into the bar on Sunday mornings, before opening time, to pick up pennies dropped by the Saturday evening customers. They were also only a stones-throw from the Oval Cricket Ground, where they could peer through the railings to watch the play.

On 23rd October 1878 James died, and from the cause of death recorded, he died an alcoholic. He was buried in the Lambeth Cemetery, which is at Blackshaw Road, Tooting: the fee for burial, including purchase of the gravespace, amounted to £4 18s 6d (£4.92). James did not leave a will, and his effects amounted to less than £100. Elizabeth took over the lease of *'The White Swan'* for a few years.

The connection with Berkshire was renewed once again, when Elizabeth Sarah Maria married again. Near neighbours of *'The White Swan'* were Samuel Edward Sarney and his family at 34 Brixton Road. Samuel was born at Maidenhead, Berkshire, where he was baptised 11th July 1837, the youngest of ten children of Henry and Rachel (née Sexton) Sarney. Henry Sarney was born in Bray, and was a cordwainer. In his later years he and his second wife, Mary, lived with Samuel Edward in London, and he died in Lambeth in 1869. Mary, who was born at Burford in Oxfordshire, died in 1871.

Samuel Edward married his first wife, Martha Fletcher, at St Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on 22nd January 1856. She died in 1892. They had eight children, the seventh of whom, Ada Mary born in 1870,

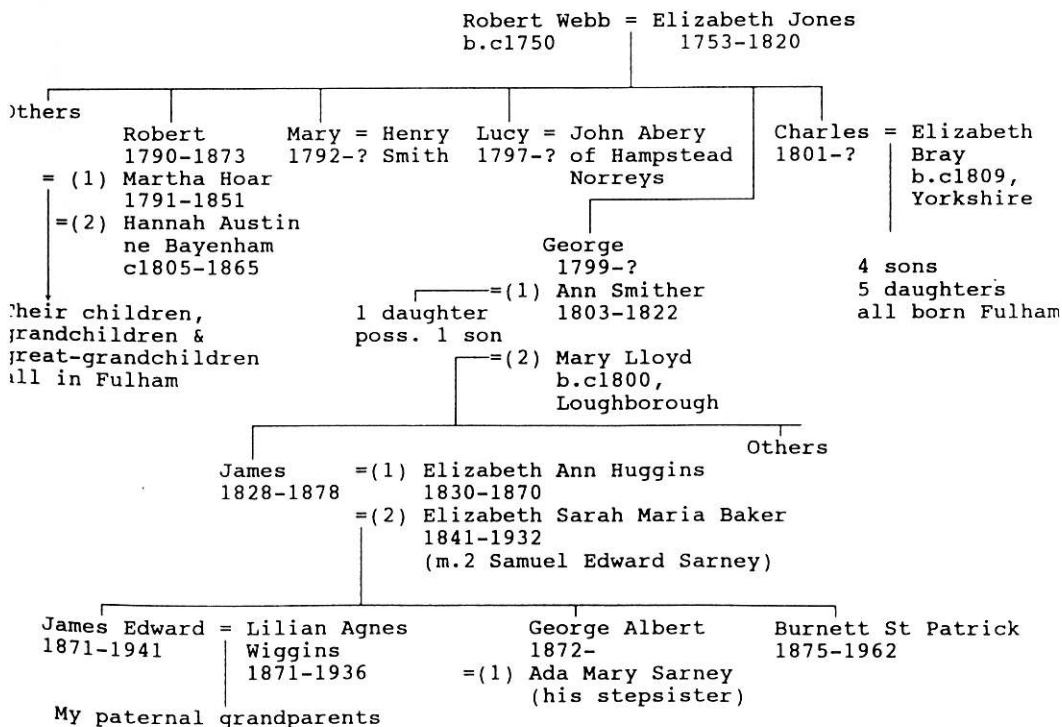
was to marry her step-brother George Albert Webb. Samuel Edward's trade of upholsterer perhaps qualified him to 'undertake' for his local landlord, James Webb, in 1878. There is no record of him being a recognised undertaker in any contemporary trade directories.

On 8th March 1893 Samuel Edward Sarney married Elizabeth Sarah Maria Webb at Emmanuel Church, West Dulwich. They were married for ten years before Samuel died in 1903 at the age of 65. He left no will, and Elizabeth was left with little, eventually living in the 'Ladywell Institution' at Lewisham, where she died

27th July 1932, aged 91. She was buried with her first husband, James Webb, at Tooting. The 'Ladywell Institution' was originally a workhouse, built as a home of rest for the "deserving elderly and infirm poor people of Bermondsey". It opened in 1900, and by the 1930s had been taken over by the LCC, as one its largest old peoples' homes.

Berkshire had been left far behind, and the story of my small branch of a Berkshire family continues through several English counties, including Surrey, Hertfordshire, Sussex and back to Surrey, with diversions to India and Canada.

Webb Family Tree



The Denchworth Annual

By Catherine Harrington

Whilst looking in the County Local Studies Library for a cover for the June Magazine, I came across a bound volume of The Denchworth Annual, 1872-1876 (RPL/BVS/4X). I noticed that it seemed interesting, if you had an interest in Denchworth, and from it I extracted the following for 1874:

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1873

The following is a list of owners and occupiers in the parish, with their residences, holdings, and subscriptions paid. Only *two* give nothing, a Mr Oliver, from whom no answer has been received to letters addressed to him, and the representatives of the late James Frogley. Those marked * are landowners. Those marked † are owners of cottages.

Names	Residence	Holding			Subscripts		
		A	R	P	£	s	d
*† Hon. Miss Dawney	Beningbrough Hall, York	94	3	31	10	0	0
*† Worcester College	Oxford	271	0	23	7	0	0
*† Magdalen College	Oxford	70	1	9	3	3	0
*† S.E.B.Pusey, Esq	Pusey House	29	3	0	3	0	0
† Mr Walker	Manor House, Denchworth	265	0	33	3	0	0
* The Vicar	Vicarage, Denchworth	53	3	12	2	0	0
Mr James Beesley	Manor House, Charney	94	3	31	1	10	0
† E.H.Morland, Esq	West Ilsley	Houses			1	0	0
*† F.Butler, Esq	Alvescott	71	3	36	1	0	0
*† Mrs Ravenshaw	Pewsey	36	3	28	1	0	0
* Mrs Bosley	Denchworth	69	1	36	1	0	0
Mr Kimber	Denchworth	71	3	36	1	0	0
Mrs Lay	Denchworth	96	0	15	1	0	0
Mr J.Jefferies	Upper Circourt	130	2	11	1	0	0
Mrs Jefferies	Lower Circourt	95	1	11	1	0	0
*† L.Jotcham, Esq	Wantage	5	2	3	0	10	0
*† J.H.Pocock, Esq	Donnington	35	0	33	0	10	0
Mr. Hedges	Challow-Marsh	38	0	28	0	10	0
*† Mr S.Dixon	Wantage	4	0	0	0	5	0
*† Mr Joseph Booker	Denchworth	1	2	38	0	5	0
Mr Benjamin Booker	Denchworth	84	3	39	0	5	0
Mr Martin Tagg	Charney-Wick	6	3	36	0	5	0
Exors. of Mrs Smith	Goosey	35	0	33	0	5	0
* Mr G.Curtis	Wantage	8	3	34	0	2	6
Mrs James Booker	Denchworth	4	3	30	0	2	6

Mr H.Church	Denchworth	4	1	31	0	2	6
Mr J.Cox	Denchworth	14	0	0	0	2	6
* Mr J.Oliver	Oxendon	181	2	22			
*† Mr J.Frogley's Reps	Buckland	21	3	20			
Other Subscriptions:-							
Mr J.Aldworth	Uxmoor				0	10	0
G.Dodd, Esq	London				0	10	0
Miss Herbert	Denchworth				0	5	0
Mr G.Moon	Goosey				0	5	0
TOTAL					£42	8	0

The item following gives details of the Sunday School which is held twice on a Sunday and is "conducted by the Vicar, with the assistance of Mrs Tomlinson and Miss Herbert. There are at present 36 children under 3 divisions on the list of the School."

The paragraph following contains details of the Choir, who "attend for Practice on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 6.30 P.M. in the Schoolroom....They must be regular attendants at the Sunday School." There then follows a list of choir members:

Rachel Lay	Ruth Giles	Annie Haines
Louisa Ellen Alder	Frances Booker	Frederick John Keep
Elizabeth Haines	Emma Giles	Martha Emma Keep

Organ-blower:- Sarah Giles

Editor's Notes

Thank you once again to all contributors to this issue. As usual all contributions are gratefully received for the next issue of the "Berkshire Family Historian". The deadline is the 25th October for the December one and the 24th January for the March 1997 issue. I now have an e-mail address for submitting articles, letters, comments or general feedback, which is as follows: 106131,1734 for Compuserve e-mail or 106131.1734@compuserve.com for e-mails via the Internet. Our names are listed as Simon & Catherine Harrington, Tilehurst, Reading in the Compuserve Members Directory. I am, of course, still delighted to receive ordinary post and articles. If you use a computer, I can accept 3½" disks in most IBM-compatible formats. Please enclose a printed copy of your article as well.

Catherine

"Sussex by the Sea"

4-6 April 1997

Federation of Family History Societies'
Conference, AGM and Council Meeting

hosted by the

Sussex Family History Group
in its

25th Anniversary Year
at Bishop Otter College, College Lane,
Chichester, West Sussex

There are a variety of booking options for conference delegates, with prices ranging from £28 to £175. Send SAE for booking form and further details to Mrs. Doreen Hayes, 31, Foulter's Lane, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 7SS.

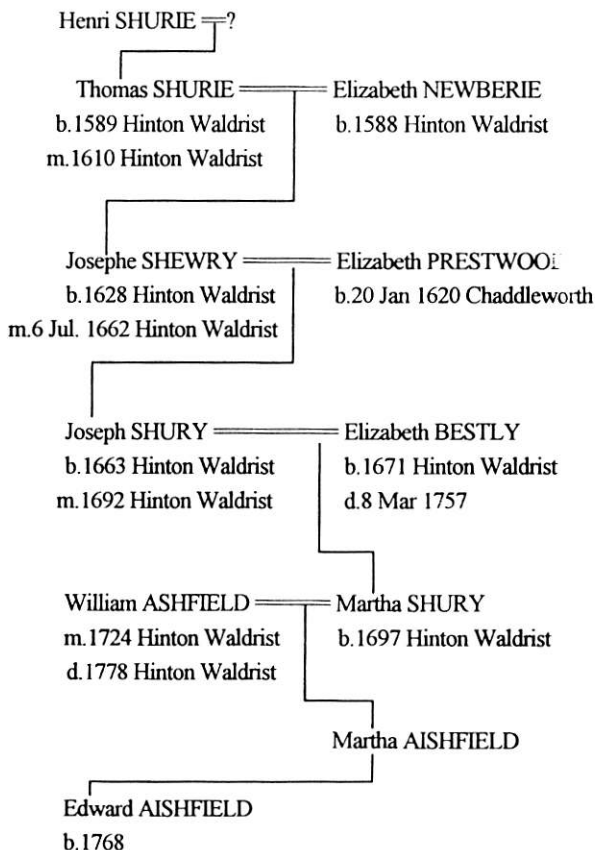
Q and A with Jean

By Jean Debney

Q Mr M.J.Penn (2925) of Dorset writes: "My research has covered only a microfiche of the Parish Registers of Hinton Waldrist, Berks and in any event there is some interruption in the parish records for a number of years.

In particular I am a little unsure of the validity of the Joseph Sherry/Elizabeth Prestwood element of my tree (see below) as she would have been 42 upon marriage.

Moving on to 1768 I think that my mothers' great-great-grandfather, Edward Ashfield, was born out of wedlock to Martha Aishfield, daughter of William Aishfield and Martha Shury. As something of a novice in the field of family history research I would like to have some guidance as to other possible sources of research open to me to validate or otherwise these links."



A good rule of thumb for family historians is: "Never accept anything as true until you can prove it from another source". For a 'novice' you have done very well tracing your potential ancestors back to the 16th century but you are also quite right in wishing to prove that the tree is correct. However, the necessary proof of a relationship becomes less easy to find the further back in time one goes.

Although 42 is a bit old for a woman to have a baby, it is possible - especially if she has had one or more previous pregnancies - some births have been recorded to women of 50. Did Elizabeth Shewry (née Prestwood) have any further children baptised after Joseph in 1663? If there were too many and for too long, then you may have identified the wrong person (i.e. the wrong baptismal date). The hiatus in parish registers, etc. during the Civil War and Commonwealth period 1640-1660, leaves a generation gap in many family trees that can only be guessed at.

Was Elizabeth Prestwood's baptism on 20th January in 1620 or 1621? Until the 18th century, England used the Julian calendar when New Year was Lady Day (25 Mar): in parish registers etc. an entry for 31st December 1620 is therefore followed by 1st January 1620. By 1751 England was 11 days behind Scotland and the Continent; the following year we adopted the Gregorian calendar which commences on 1st January and "lost" eleven days in September. There is a good explanation of this in Pauline Saul's *"The Family Historians' Enquire Within"*⁶, under "Calendars" and also in *"Beginning Your Family History"* by George Pelling⁶. If, therefore, the date of Elizabeth's baptism is "corrected" to 1st January 1620/1 then she would only have been 41 at marriage!

In our Society Reference Library at the Research Centre, Prospect School, Tilehurst, are copies of Violet M. Howse's books: *"Hinton Waldrist through the Centuries"* parts 1 & 2 (1968-69) and also *"Pusey, a Parish Record"* (1972) (the adjacent parish). If you cannot get to Tilehurst to look at these you may be able to obtain them through the inter-library loan service. The Society also hold some of her local history notes and photocopy documents which, although not yet catalogued, can be searched for useful data.

Apart from checking the IGI and the parish registers of neighbouring parishes and compiling mini-family trees from any Shury/Shewry references found, the following records should also be checked: wills and administrations, poor law records, taxation and other lists. A good way to discover what records may survive and where copies can be seen is to consult all the *"Gibson Guide"*⁶ series under Berkshire (or any other county of Great Britain): eg Probate records, Hearth Tax, etc.

My copy of *"Berkshire Wills 1508-1652"* contains three Shury wills for Marcham - three miles east of Hinton Waldrist. Other indexes in the Berkshire RO to the Archdeaconry records may include further references. The wills proved by the Bishop of Salisbury are held in Trowbridge (Wilts RO) which has a card index. The Prerogative Court of Canterbury, whose jurisdiction covered Berkshire, has printed indexes from 1383 to 1700 which can be seen in many large reference libraries.

"Your" family had several generations in Hinton Waldrist which suggests that they may have occupied a copyhold (perhaps only one or two acres) which will be recorded in surviving manorial court records. Check with both Berkshire and Oxfordshire ROs as well as at Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London for any surviving records. *"My Ancestors were Manorial*

⁶ Available from the BFHS Bookstall

Tenants" by Peter Park or "*How to Locate & Use Memorial Records*"⁷ by P.Palgrave-Moore are two useful introductory booklets.

The northern boundary of Hinton Waldrist is the River Thames with Bampton, Oxfordshire, on the other bank and the archives of that county should also be searched for "your" family.

[*Editor's Note: By co-incidence the magazine included an article last issue "A Marcham Family" and this time "An Abingdon Family" both by Sheila Smith about her researches into the Shury family. Sheila is conducting a one-name study on the surname Shury and her address is Tigh an Iasgair, Street of Kincardine, Boat of Garten, Inverness-shire, PH24 3BY.*]

Child Immigration to Canada

Pennie Redmile (2437) of Quebec, Canada wrote asking us to pass on the following to Mrs Beryl Griffin who posed the original question (see Berkshire Family Historian, Dec 1995, Vol.19/2, page 88):

"The children who came here (1880-1940) I believe were known as 'Home Children' and there is an association that may be able to help with her enquiries. I do not know what they charge.

Mr J.A.David Lorente,
Heritage Renfrew Home Children (Canada) Committee,
107 Erindale Ave, Renfrew,
Ontario, K7V 4G3, Canada
Tel: (613) 432-2486."

Earlier this year, I cut out a letter from our local paper on the same subject in which the writer recalled that as a pre-school child in 1914, he had to sit very still when a uniformed woman called on his poverty-stricken widowed mother and, after a lot of talking, went down on her knees and prayed. Years later he asked his mother about this and was told that she was trying to persuade her to sign over her sons to be sent to "happy homes in Canada". He goes on to say that he now knows that these were "slave camps" where boys over 5 worked all day on the farms and the girls, when they got pregnant, were put in hostels on condition they signed over their babies for adoption.

Roots Family History Service

I have access to most census and parish records for Great Britain. I specialise in the Greater Manchester area, Bury, Bolton, Rochdale, Manchester etc. I will search parish records, census, index to wills, trade directories, newspapers and the IGI. I have access to Scottish Parochial Registers pre 1855. I will search the following civil registration indexes: St Catherine's House indexes:- births, marriages and deaths 1837-1940, Scottish births, marriages and deaths 1855-1931, Irish births, deaths 1864-1921, marriages 1845-1932. Please send SAE to

Mrs K Stout, 372 Bury New Road, Whitefield, Manchester, M45 7SY
(Tel No. 0161-796-7130)

Fast, Efficient Service at Reasonable Rates

⁷ Both these available from BFHS Bookstall

Minutes of the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire Family History Society

*Meeting held on Tuesday 25th June 1996 at 7:40pm at St
Andrew's Church Hall, The Grove, Slough, Berkshire*

Barbara Swiatek, the Slough Branch Chairman, welcomed everybody to the 21st Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire Family History Society, and then handed over to Chad Hanna, the Chairman of the Society

Chad Hanna informed the Meeting that the Annual General Meeting would follow the Agenda as published in the March 1996 issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*

1. Apologies for Absence

The following apologies have been received: The Hon Lady Palmer, Robert Houseman, Liz Longhurst, Lesley Hanna and Gordon Campbell.

2. Minutes of the 1995 Annual General Meeting

The Chairman reminded the Meeting that these were published in the September 1995 edition of the *Berkshire Family Historian*.

The Chairman asked the Meeting that the Minutes be accepted as read - Sydney Blackman proposed the motion, Cliff Debney seconded and the Meeting approved unanimously.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report for 1995-1996

I took over as Society Chairman from Mike Sheppard earlier this year and tonight I hand over to a successor. I must reflect on the past twelve months and look forward to what the next twelve months has in store.

During the last twelve months I've seen our Society make progress past a number of milestones.

For me the first one was the completion of the recording of Reading Cemetery. When we started this project back in 1990 it was with some trepidation. I believe the largest churchyard we had recorded before had a little over 1,000 gravestones. We were now contemplating recording twelve times as many. After an initial and fairly long burst of enthusiasm it was left to a rugged band of individuals led by David Watkins to slog their way through to the end (which was in fact the entrance!).

I'll now turn to what was the main event of the year - the Weekend Conference at Reading University last September. The Society volunteered to take this event on back about five years ago, and a small team worked through the choice of venue, the selection of speakers, and on through a myriad details coming to a crescendo when the first guests arrived on that Friday evening. I personally don't think enough credit can be given to "the organiser", Joyce Wells, who stuck with the organisation of the event, despite the many frustrations on the way, from start to finish.

In September we also saw the publication of Bradfield, the final volume of the Berkshire 1851 Census Index booklets. This has been another long haul, with many individuals contributing

more or less to the project since it was launched in 1982. I recall an early discussion with Alison and Chris Bingley, well before I was actively involved in the Society, about choosing a computer for the project. I remember helping Lesley type information from coding sheets into our BBC micro and swapping disks with Geoff Mather at the Reading meetings. Again, it has been the dedication of a single individual, Geoff, who has kept the project moving forward to its successful conclusion with such a high-quality result. I'm sure you'll be pleased to hear that Geoff is now preparing a master index for publication.

Our Research Centre has gone on from strength to strength, bolstered by the addition of a fiche reader/printer bought with the proceeds from raffling Margaret Quarterman's beautiful patchwork quilt. This is proving very popular in conjunction with the England and Wales 1881 Census Index which so many of you helped on.

There are several dozen other people who've contributed to our Society whose names I could equally well have mentioned and our thanks are due to them all. The lesson I would like you to draw from this is that our Society is a collection of individual members. In the final analysis it is not the Society which does anything but those individual members, you and I.

Having stirred you up, I should also tell you how to direct your energies. The Overseer's Project calendaring the records of the Old Poor Law continues under the leadership of Brian Hunt with many volumes already in the Research Centre and various libraries. If you are sometimes left wondering what to do with your spare time at the Berkshire Record Office, or you'd like to spend more time in its sublime surroundings, please enquire at the desk if there's anyway you can help.

We're also launching a New Parish Register Project, dedicated to the memory of the late John Brooks, who worked so hard on the Berkshire Marriage Index and earlier Parish Register typescripts. As this progresses a cumulative index will be built up to help future research in Berkshire. Members who live outside the county will be able to help, often on the parishes with which they are most familiar.

5. Treasurer's Report for 1995-1996

Ron Dobrée, The Treasurer, presented the Audited Accounts to the Meeting. There was one question from the floor, about Margins, which was answered satisfactorily by the Treasurer. The Chairman proposed that the Audited Accounts be accepted by the Meeting and the Meeting unanimously approved.

6. Election of President and Vice President

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the Executive Committee have invited Lady Palmer, our current President, and Dr Peter Durrant, our current Vice President, to continue in those posts for the 1996-1997 Society Year - they have graciously accepted this invitation. The Meeting unanimously accepted these nominations.

7. Election of Officers for 1996-1997

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the following nominations were received by the Secretary by the closing date of 10th June, 1996, on the form published in the March 1996 *Berkshire Family Historian*:

Society Chairman	-	Mrs Jan Jones
Society Secretary	-	Mr Robert Houseman
Society Treasurer	-	Mr Ron Dobrée

As no other nominations were received by the closing date, the Meeting unanimously accepted these appointments.

8. Accept the Branch Committee Appointed Ex-officio Members

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the Branch Committees have nominated the following Members to serve as their Representatives on the Executive Committee:

Bracknell	-	Mr John Elkin
Newbury	-	Mrs Helen Relf
Reading	-	Mrs Liz Longhurst
Slough	-	Mr Andy Morris

The Meeting unanimously accepted these appointments

9. Election of Executive Committee Members for 1996-1997

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the following nominations were received by the Secretary by the closing date of 10th June, 1996, on the form published in the March 1996 Berkshire Family Historian:

Mrs Margaret Pyle, Mrs Catherine Harrington, Mr Cliff Debney, Mr Chad Hanna, Mr Ivan Dickason.

The Meeting unanimously accepted these nominations.

10. Nomination of Auditors for 1996-1997

The Chairman informed the Meeting that David Muzzlewhite of Bagshot has kindly offered to remain in the role of Auditor of the Society. The Meeting unanimously accepted this appointment

11. Any Other Business

Dr Peter Durrant spoke about Jean and Cliff Debney's outstanding and loyal service to the society over the years, including references to the numerous office's held within and outside the society. He made special mention of their hard work helping to establish the Research Centre. Dr Peter Durrant then presented Jean and Cliff with a certificate for Honorary Membership of the society. A few chosen words were then said by Cliff and Jean in appreciation of the presentation.

British Isles Genealogical Register: 1997

Forms for the BGR 1997 should be returned to Carol McLee by 1st November 1996 at the latest and preferably earlier. The FFHS have asked us to point out that when you fill in your interests, please remember that, although it is fine to express an interest for any reference to a surname in a specified county is understandable and acceptable, expressing an interest in **every BROWN/COOPER/GREEN/ROBINSON** in the British Isles at any date is both unreasonable and unfair.

Please also note that you should only submit your interests once, because you may have received several forms from different Family History Societies. However, if you send in a second form, with additional names to be included, please make it clear that a form in this name has already been sent in. [FFHS]

Berkshire Family History Society
Expenditure for Year ended 30th April 1996

	1994-95	
	£	£
Magazine	4034	3661
Magazine Postage	1435	1483
Meeting Halls	1787	1516
Speakers	591	896
Symposia	201	1019
Catholic Conference	-	258
Reference Library	2532	213
SOG Fair		187
Premises Lease	2000	2282
Other Research Centre Costs	408	705
Computer Depreciation	1056	437
Insurance & FFHS Affiliation	835	300
Other Affiliations	34	-
Postage	357	545
Stationery	233	455
Photocopy	339	64
Telephone	78	26
Travel	309	83
Miscellaneous	261	1141
Prior Year Extraordinary item	-	860
	<u>16790</u>	<u>16150</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Bookstall Income & Expenditure Account
Year ended 30th April 1996

	1994-95		1994-95	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Sales Income		13546		13164
Deposit Interest				127
Opening Stock	7766		8022	
Purchases	8947		8258	
Census Printing	520		873	
	<u>17233</u>		<u>17075</u>	
Closing Stock	8699		7766	
Cost of Goods		<u>8534</u>		<u>9309</u>
Margin		5012		3982
Stationery	186		67	
Post & Telephone	627		347	
Travel	92		178	
Sales Commission	13		37	
Conference Fees	283		220	
Photocopying	47		175	
Miscellaneous	36	1284	14	1038
Surplus		<u>3728</u>		<u>2943</u>
Contribution to General A/c		3728		2942
Profit/(Loss) to Accumulated Fund		<u>0</u>		<u>1</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Conference 1996 Account

	£	£
Income	24763	-
Expenditure	20462	323
Quilt Raffle Income/(Costs)	1139	(229)
Surplus	<u>5440</u>	<u>(552)</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Balance Sheet at 30th April 1996

	£	£	£	30.4.95	30.4.95
Liabilities					
Accumulated Funds	22640			25369	
Bookstall Surplus	-			1	
Bookstall Creditors	50			681	
General Surplus	7996			-2730	
General Creditors	731			135	
Conference Bookings	-			2705	
Loan	-			1000	
Assets					
Computer Equipment		3167			
Less: Depreciation		<u>1055</u>	2111		
Debtors			229		
General Account			279	38	
Instant Savings Accounts			4141	20	
30 Day Account			13270	9372	
Bookstall Account			777	1116	
Instant Savings BSA			1595	4507	
Conference 1995			-	3987	
Cash			316	355	
Stock			<u>6599</u>	<u>7766</u>	
	<u>31417</u>		<u>31417</u>	<u>27161</u>	<u>27161</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Income for the Year ended 30th April 1996

	£	£
Subscriptions	12672	9215
Deposit Interest	940	436
Inland Revenue	469	-
Fiche Printer	432	-
Advertising	122	75
Research	17	12
Symposia	-	763
Catholic Conference	-	23
Donations	233	86
Berkshire Name Index	79	40
1851 Census	51	168
Miscellaneous	<u>603</u>	<u>133</u>
	<u>15618</u>	<u>11030</u>

Total Income & Expenditure

	£	£
Income	15618	11030
Surplus on/(Costs of) 1995 Conference and Quilt Raffle	5440	(552)
Contribution from Bookstall	<u>3728</u>	<u>2942</u>
	<u>24786</u>	<u>13420</u>
Expenditure	<u>16790</u>	<u>16150</u>
	<u>7996</u>	<u>-2730</u>

Signed: C J Hanna (Chairman) R B Dobrée (Treasurer)

I have examined the books and records of the Society and confirm that the above accounts are in accordance therewith. (signed) D J Muzzlewhite FCA

Letters to the Editor

Rodney Fry (3142) of 7, Thornbury Close, Crowthorne, Berks, RG45 6PE wrote regarding Mr Pocock's query about printing of family trees included in the June 96 edition of the "Berkshire Family Historian":

"I had exactly this problem recently, made more urgent by the purchase of an Evesham Micros 'Pentium' PC machine in November 1995. I had a family tree on fifteen pages of A4 with some 350+ forming a long strip, which I did not want to update manually! My query in the "Computers in Genealogy" magazine (June/Sept 1995) regarding what package could print this elicited five replies, including one from New Zealand, with an assortment of printouts! It seems that most of the major application packages will produce a tree on continuous stationery or Z-fold paper, and will handle the large database such as mine.

However at about the same time a short review appeared in the "Family Tree Magazine" showing the printout from "TreeDraw" the drawing module, or graphics editor, that goes with *Kith & Kin*. This looked very straightforward and had the appearance and some of the functionality and flexibility of the drawing package *MacDraw Pro* which I had used and which some readers may know - I did not want to stick fifteen pages together either! A letter to the software author confirmed the capabilities. In fact most drawing packages such as the drawing tools in *MS Word* and in *WordPerfect* have somewhat similar facilities, although not in terms of using database files.

I decided to buy these two shareware applications as they were reasonably priced and available from S&N in Farnborough. They loaded without difficulty and formed the windows and icons in *Windows 3.11* Program Manager.

Kith & Kin produces and prints a simple 'block diagram' of all the families and children. The database will transfer or can be linked to the *TreeDraw* program by just clicking on the file. This produces a chart automatically on a drawing area of 15x20 A4 sheets. Various settings of fonts, line widths, attributes, data can be included or suppressed from the tree. Whole parts of the tree can be moved, additions made, families or people can be moved and reattached, graphics and pictures can be added. Selections from the database can be printed. It will import/export GEDCOM database files, indexes and lists from the database can be printed in various ways from *K & K*. GEDCOM files from other programs can be accepted by *TreeDraw*.

It seems to work very well for me and produces excellent quality printouts on inkjet printers, although unfortunately I have to stick the pages together; I am not aware of any inkjet that prints on continuous paper - it would no doubt be very expensive! For this reason I have an old Panasonic KX-P1124 24-pin dot matrix printer if the tree is long.

I recently bought Pedigree version. 6, but have not experimented with it yet. Another useful little shareware programme is IGIREAD version. 3.10, which I have used to convert the IGI CD-ROM files taken from the FH Centre in Reading."

Mr. R.Plumridge (3225) of 166 Westwood Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 6LN also wrote concerning *Computers and Family History*:

"Although a relative beginner in family history research I have found the package *Reunion* to be excellent for both storing and printing information and family trees. The package can store 30,000 individuals per family tree. I use a 486DX2/66 running *Windows 95* with an HP

LaserJet II printer. If anyone would like to see the package they are welcome either to come and have a look or to call me.

On the subject of the Internet, I have found this to be of no use at all for research but then again I may be looking in the wrong places."

John Elkin (1438) of 4 Quintillis, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 7QQ e-mailed me to say:

"In the last magazine you asked for suggestions on software to give good quality output for someone who had their data in Brothers' Keeper. I would suggest trying the new Windows version of Brothers' Keeper 5. This will work with the existing data files, and will produce output of the same standard as the other Windows programs. You also don't need to register again if you've already registered the DOS version of Brothers' Keeper."

Alma Merritt (2857) of 65 Styvechale Ave, Coventry, CV5 6DW wrote as follows:

"I would like to thank those members who replied to my plea for information about *The Bell* at Boxford and the Merritt family.

I know now about the 'Boxford Barleycorn' and have received an extract therefrom but I do hope to read the book some time."

Sally Ritchie (2103) of 39 Grosvenor Road, Caversham, Reading, RG4 5EN wrote with a cautionary tale about the 1881 census transcription:

"I searched all the counties as they were completed looking for my lost John Gower born in Bromsgrove. I found him married to Matilda and living in Aston, Birmingham R11/3022 Folio 122. After finding no death for either of them up to the age of 125 (!) I decided to look at the original census. What did I find - instead of John and Matilda Gower I found John and Matilda Pearce or Pearcy. Next door were supposed to be a family called Harbin but the name is Parker. How two transcribers and a checker could make out the name to be Gower I'll never know. Still, it's my own fault, I should have used the index as a finding aid and then gone straight to the original."

The relevant extract from the original 1881 census is reproduced below:

		John Pearce	Matilda Pearce		21
		Thomas Pearce	John Pearce		16
		William Pearce	John Pearce		3
		George Pearce	John Pearce		10
1		John Pearce	Matilda Pearce		66
		Matilda Pearce	John Pearce		63
1		George Pearce	John Pearce		54
		Thomas Pearce	John Pearce		39
		William Pearce	John Pearce		14

Talbot Green (2762) of 54, Elms Road, Wokingham, Berks, RG40 2AA sent the following snippet from 'Hue and Cry', the Police Gazette, of the 26th March 1825:

"In the calendar of prisoners, for trial at Reading, a most important improvement was introduced in the classification of the prisoners' names, by distinguishing those who could read and write. Among other benefits, were the method generally adopted, it would assist in ascertaining the effect of education in the prevention or increase of crime."

‘Repeat’ Marriages

Marion Sackett's problem with her great-uncle Sam's double marriage featured on p. 125 of the June 1996 issue of the Berkshire Family Historian generated a large response and several suggestions were made by members:

Firstly Ann Davis (750) of 71, Elvaston Way, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 4LX wrote:

“This double marriage called to mind a couple I knew of who were married three times, in the late 1950s.

When the young man was called up for National Service the couple decided to get married immediately, in order to take advantage of the married man's allowance. The plan was for the girl to continue to live at home, working and banking her allotment to save up for a house. They were married first, for speed, in a Register Office. The girl being a Catholic, they were then married in her parish church. The marriage was kept a secret from all but her closest family. When the two years' National Service was up the girl began to regret that she had never had a 'big Wedding Day' and a church wedding was arranged in the Anglican church, since the priest and records at her own church would know that she was married already. Alas, when the aunts came to the wedding they observed that she was in an interesting condition. The whole story then came out, and the vicar, who had been deceived, was far from amused.

Based purely on the marriage certificates it is possible to construct a similar scenario for Marion Sackett's great-uncle. [Surmises in italics] Samuel Sackett lived next door to Charlotte Clark who was in service. *She was afraid she would lose her job if she married so she and Samuel were married quietly at St John's and kept their marriage a secret.* Some months later, when Samuel was living in Villa Street and Charlotte in South Street, *circumstances changed and they were able to declare themselves man and wife. However Charlotte regretted the secret marriage and wished her family and friends had been present. So they decided to get married again, this time at St Stephen's where there was no record of their earlier marriage, and this time her sister Edith was her bridesmaid/witness. This is at least a possible explanation.*”

Janet Taulbut (3287) of Cambria House, Llansteffan, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, Wales, SA33 5JQ wrote as follows:

“Your article reminded me that because of opposition Douglas Bader had a secret wedding in a Register Office. About four years later when he was accepted they had a large church wedding.

While it would be more difficult with the Church of England and Banns, if the first church was a daughter church or even the second church being used by a different group of people, as used to happen in my home town, it is quite possible that the two congregations were not familiar with one another.

In a crowded church, the couple are not identified when the banns are read out, so the congregation does not know who the Vicar is talking about.

I note that in the first service they pretended that both the fathers were dead. Very convenient to dispose of one's parents as no questions are asked. I see they came to life the following year.

If one can find out the actual day of the wedding, it would be possible to know if they married first, on a week day, and the second time on a Saturday.”

Judith Gilbert (1227) of Earley, Reading, Berks wrote and suggested the following:

“Maybe then, as now, the incumbent or clerk filled out the marriage certificate with as many details as possible in advance of the ceremony. Then, at very short notice, the wedding was called off (bride or bridegroom ill? a parent died? the Groom went off to the Boer War?) but through some error somebody completed the certificate as if it had taken place. The way to check this, I suppose, is to look at the original entry which would have actually been signed (the copies shown in the Journal have each been completed in the same hand). The two, rather brief witness’ names on the first certificate may be church officers who frequently signed, whereas at least one of the (fuller) names in the second certificate is obviously a family member (Edith Clark).”

[Editor’s note: I was also intrigued by this seemingly twice-registered marriage and I asked Audrey Brown, who gave a talk at the Slough Branch meeting in June, “Getting the most from the GRO”, about it. She suggested that there could have been some irregularity about the first marriage, for example perhaps the curate was not properly licensed to conduct weddings. It might thus be worth checking the original parish register entry to see whether there is a note further on in the parish register and also checking the local newspapers in case there was some local scandal.]

Finally Norman Hidden (42) of 99, Pole Barn Lane, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9NQ wrote with his own instance of an marriage which took place twice:

1. On 24th December 1870, Henry Hidden, a Corporal in the Army Service Corps, whose father’s name was given as **William Hidden, labourer**, was married at the parish church of Charlton, Woolwich, to Mary Ann Soper, daughter of **William Soper, gunner in the Royal Artillery**.
2. On 16th September 1872, Henry Hidden, Sergeant in the Army Service Corps, whose father’s name was given as **John Hidden, carpenter**, was married at St. Nicholas Church, Plumstead, Woolwich, to Mary Ann Soper, daughter of **Thomas Soper, mason**.

Both marriages are recorded in the Registrar General’s Indexes at St Catherine’s House.

Henry was the illegitimate son of an unmarried mother, and an explanation for his differing statements concerning his father probably arose from his not knowing who exactly his father was. The same misfortune may have applied to the bride also, but I am not familiar with her background as I am with Henry’s. A few notes concerning Henry’s background may illustrate the problem which he, and others like him, faced.

Henry was baptised in February 1840 as an illegitimate son of Elizabeth Hidden of Hungerford. Elizabeth was the daughter of ex-soldier and veteran of Waterloo William Hidden, also of Hungerford, and thus Henry’s **grandfather**. Elizabeth and Henry (aged 1) were living with William, who was head of the household, at the time of the 1841 census. In 1845 Elizabeth married Thomas Wallis; but Henry never seems to have adopted his step-father’s name, although his grandfather died in 1850. Elizabeth and Thomas Wallis set up their own household and in the 1851 census are living together with various children including Henry Wallace [sic] age 11. Henry’s attachment to his grandfather may have been genuine, and a child’s fascination with the old foot soldier’s stories of Waterloo and other campaigns may have contributed to Henry’s underage enlistment in 1857.

Henry served in the Army from 1857 to 1883 and was stationed at Woolwich from 1869 to 1882. His military records state “*Next of kin, Mary Ann Soper, wife, married at Plumstead 16*

September 1872", thus giving legitimacy to the second wedding, though the Army could hardly have been in ignorance of the first.

Henry's deception in providing false details concerning his father on the occasion of his first marriage certificate seems minor enough, and humanly understandable. However, the need for a marriage renewal put Henry in a rather worse quandary, if the assumption is correct then the inaccuracy concerning William being his father had been detected. What other name might he give? He still plumps for someone named Hidden, but this time it is John Hidden, carpenter.

I have spent twenty years searching the Hiddens of Hungerford both in their town of origin and wherever else they spread and I have to say that there was no John Hidden in Hungerford or area (carpenter or otherwise) who could possibly have been Henry's father. In any case we have concrete evidence (parish register entry, bastardy papers) of Henry's illegitimacy by his unmarried mother, and for his father to have been another Hidden would strain the laws of consanguinity. Henry had an uncle John, who was dead five years before Henry was born and another uncle George who was a carpenter. I believe Henry's fictional John Hidden was a combination of these two kinsmen, induced by a desperate need to provide a "father" for himself in order to satisfy either the military or the clerical or the civil bureaucracy or, just possibly, his wife's relations!

I should greatly welcome any information from members of the Soper family concerning Mary Ann's descent, and any additional information your readers can give concerning the prevalence and nature of these "repeat" weddings and altered certificate details.

Berkshire Strays in Cornwall

Cornwall FHS have recently published its 1996 Directory of Members' Interests and passed on a list of Berkshire names being researched by their members:

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CALLUM	Faringdon	NEAL	Blewbury
DAY	Harwell	NEAL	Ardington
EDWARDS	Lambourne	NEAL	Wallingford
ELLSON	All Berkshire	NEAL	Aston Upthorpe
FISHER	Faringdon	NEAL	Aston Tirrold
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JAMES	Reading	PURCHASE	Basingstoke (HAM)
JONES	Reading	RICHARDS	North Berkshire
JOPLIN	Aldermaston	ROSE	Reading
KIMBER	Radley	SHILTON	Boxford
MITCHELL	Basingstoke (HAM)	SMITH	Faringdon
MORRIS	Windsor	WATERS	Abingdon

All the above places are in Berkshire, with the exception of Basingstoke which is, of course, in Hampshire - someone down in the West Country forgot to check their gazetteer! If you want to know more about any of the above, they are published on fiche (£2 UK, £2.50 Overseas) or A4 book format (£5 UK, £6 overseas) and are obtainable from: The Publication Department, Cornwall FHS, 5Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall TR1 2RS. [JD]

Members' Interests

Compiled by Robert Houseman

APOLOGIES:

To Ms JM TAULBUT (3287) for spelling her surname incorrectly in the June 1996 Members' Interests - all the interests are entered again below

To Mr & Mrs CULLEN (3218) for two omissions from the June Members' Interests which are entered below

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 3343 Ms S OGDEN, 14125 Durham Road #57, Box 137, Blackstock, Ontario L0B 1B0, CANADA

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3272	ALEXANDER	Hampstead Norris	BRK	1850-1930	3218	COLLIER	Newbury	BRK	Pre 1750
3287	ANSTEE	Godrington Wap	GLS	1700-1850	3252	COLLINS	Bracknell	BRK	1870-1900
3287	ANSTEY	Dyryham Hinton	GLS	1700-1850	3252	COLLINS	Funtington	SSX	1800-1900
3327	BASTING	Shrivenham:	BRK	Pre 1805	3252	COLLINS	Westbourne	SSX	1800-1900
3267	BAYLIS	Faringdon	BRK	1780-1840	3343	CONSTABLE	Epsom	SRY	1890-1950
3258	BEESTON	Newport	MON	1780-1996	3273	COOPER	Widnes	LAN	1883-1996
3258	BEESTON	Swansea	GLA	1780-1996	3327	COTTHRALL	Lechlade	BRK	Pre 1831
3273	BENNETT	Blackpool	LAN	1850-1996	3218	COXETER	Newbury	BRK	Pre 1750
1224	BETTS	Henley on Thames	OXF	1600-1700	3287	CULLIMORE	Biddestone	WIL	1600-1800
3321	BLACKALL	Caversham	OXF	1800-1850	3272	DANCE	Winterbourne	BRK	1750-1850
3321	BOWYER	Bray	BRK	1793-1798	3287	DANIELS	Bristol	SOM	1780-1850
3321	BOWYER	Slough	BRK	1850-1975	3258	DAVIES	Abergavenny	MON	1700-1850
3321	BOWYER	Warfield	BRK	1800-1870	3258	DAVIES	Llandudno	GWN	1750-1870
3252	BOYLES	Emsworth	HAM	1820-1900	3272	DEACON	Chieveley	BRK	1700-1850
3188	BRIDGEMAN	Buckland	BRK	1800-1996	3343	DENBY	Snaith	HUM	1700-1900
3262	BROOKER	Reading	BRK	1800-1900	3273	DOPSON	Boxford	BRK	1831-1996
3262	BROOKER	Tilhurst	BRK	1800-1900	3273	DOPSON	Kintbury	BRK	1801-1996
3272	BROWN	Welford & Wickham	BRK	1600-1950	3273	DOPSON	Northington	HAM	1823-1996
3273	BRYANT	Rotherfield	OXF	1855-1996	1224	DREWETT	Headington	OXF	1700-1800
3272	BURGESS	Hampstead Norris	BRK	1800-1900	1224	DREWETT	Stanton St. John	OXF	1600-1800
3272	BUTLER	East Ilsley	BRK	1750-1900	3258	EDWARDS	Bassaleg	MON	1750-1860
3272	BUTLER	Hampstead Norris	BRK	1770-1870	3258	EDWARDS	Rudry	GLA	1830-1970
3343	BYFORD	Bristol	SOM	1800-1900	3273	ELSLEY	Bromley	KEN	1843-1996
3188	CARTER	Buckland	BRK	1700-1996	3273	ELSLEY	Hastings	SSX	1870-1996
3272	CHANDLER	Boxford	BRK	1850-1930	3188	EMERY	Ashton Keynes	WIL	1805-1996
3287	CHANDLER	Petersfield	HAM	1750-1850	3188	EMERY	Malmesbury	WIL	1805-1996
3262	CHAPMAN	Reading	BRK	1885-1940	3272	ENOCH	Cumnsr	BRK	1770-1850

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3343	EVERETT	Wantage	BRK	1700-1900	3331	PURCHALL	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900
1224	FIPPE	Stanton St John	OXF	1700-1800	3331	PURCHALL	Speen	BRK	1800-1900
3321	FOSTER	Caversham	OXF	1780-1850	3331	PURCHALL	Speenhamland	BRK	1800-1900
3190	GARTON	Clenfield	OXF	1700-1850	3331	PURCHEL	Winchester	HAM	1560-1850
3190	GARTON	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1850	3331	PURCHELL	Bramey	SRY	1770-1880
3273	GILLETT	Wrae Green	LAN	1813-1996	3331	PURCHELL	Camberwell	SRY	1800-1900
1224	GOSNEY	Sutton Mandeville	WIL	1800-1900	3331	PURCHELL	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900
1224	GREENAWAY	Cholsey	OXF	1600-1700	3331	PURCHELL	Speen	BRK	1800-1900
3252	GRIFFIN	Islington	MDX	1850-1900	3331	PURCHELL	Speenhamland	BRK	1800-1900
3262	HEATH	Nettlebed	OXF	1800-1900	1224	PUTMAN	Reading	BRK	1800-1900
3252	HELLYER	Portsea	HAM	1750-1850	1224	RABBETS	Donhead St Mary	WIL	1600-1700
3190	HOLLAND	Finchampstead	BRK	1700-1850	3321	RANCE	Sandhurst	BRK	1860-1920
3190	HOLLAND	Hartley Whitney	HAM	1700-1850	3321	RANCE	Wokingham	BRK	1800-1865
3260	HUCKS	Anywhere	BRK	1600-1900	1224	RATHALL	Harpsden	OXF	1700-1800
3287	HUMPHREYS	Biddestone	WIL	1700-1800	3287	RICKARDS	Paul	WIL	1700-1800
3287	HUMPHREYS	Northwaxell	WIL	1700-1800	3287	RICKARDS	Siptonmoyn	CON	1700-1800
3260	HUX	Anywhere	BRK	1600-1900	3287	RICKARDS	Tetbury	GLS	1700-1800
3260	HUX	Pontypool	MON	1850-1900	3287	RICKETTS	Paul	WIL	1700-1800
3252	ISEMONGER	Littlehampton	SSX	1750-1850	3287	RICKETTS	Siptonmoyn	CON	1700-1800
3258	JONES	Anywhere	CGN	1750-1890	3287	RICKETTS	Tetbury	GLS	1700-1800
3258	JONES	Anywhere	SHR	1700-1850	3267	RIDSDALE	Bury/Heywood	LAN	1880-1920
3258	JONES	Brynsiencyn	AGY	1750-1950	3343	RISEBROUGH	Field-Dolling	NFK	1750-1850
3260	JONES	Llansantffraid	CGN	1600-1900	3260	ROBBINGS	Kilmersdon	SOM	1600-1900
3272	KING	East Garston	WIL	1700-1800	3317	SAUNDERS	HARWELL	BRK	1700-1800
3252	LANGLEY	Camberwell	SRY	1800-1850	3272	SEYMOUR	Welford & Wickham	BRK	1780-1900
3343	LAWRENCE	Iron-Acton	GLS	1750-1860	3343	SIMS	Bradford	WIL	1700-1900
3252	LEGGETT	Bracknell	BRK	1860-1996	3343	SIMS	Wantage	BRK	1800-1900
3252	LEGGETT	Emsworth	HAM	1820-1900	3258	SKUSE	Anywhere	GLA	1800-1900
3252	LEGGETT	Littlehampton	SSX	1750-1996	3258	SKUSE	Anywhere	MON	1800-1900
3273	LEVER	Bolton-le-Moors	LAN	1816-1996	1224	SMITH	Chelsea St Luke	MDX	1800-1900
3273	LEVER	Preston	LAN	1838-1996	3343	STAFFORD	Islington	MDX	1850-1915
3260	LEWIS	Trefeglys	MGY	1600-1900	3260	STEEDES	Kilmersdon	SOM	1700-1900
1224	LOWE	Buscot/Dorchester	OXF	1700-1800	3258	STEPHENS	Machen	MON	1800-1900
3252	MACKENZIE	Paddington	MDX	1900-1930	3190	STEPTOE	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1850
3274	MAESHALL	Welford & Wickham	BRK	1770-1850	3252	STEVENS	Westbourne	SSX	1800-1900
1224	MARLOW	Old Windsor	BRK	1700-1800	3273	STROUD	Newbury	BRK	1852-1996
3287	MARSHALL	Brimpton	BRK	1600-1900	1224	STUBBLE	Wokingham	BRK	1600-1700
3190	MARSHALL	Finchampstead	BRK	1700-1850	3317	TALBOT	Harwell	BRK	1538-1760
3321	MASKELL	Cookham	BRK	1800-1880	3317	TALBOT	Wantage	BRK	1400-1500
3258	MASON	Anywhere	CGN	1750-1890	3287	TALLIBUT	Upham/Farnham	HAM	1700-1800
3321	MASTERMAN	Greenwich	LND	1820-1880	3343	TANNER	Stroud	GLS	1850-1930
3321	MASTERMAN	Plymouth	DEV	1870-1920	3272	TAYLOR	Welford & Wickham	BRK	1700-1850
1224	MESSINGER	Henely on Thames	OXF	1700-1800	3343	THORN	Bristol	SOM	1800-1900
3321	NARROWAY	Great Milton	OXF	1760-1850	3327	THORNE	Borton-on-the-Water	GLS	Pre 1805
3321	NARROWAY	Sunninghill	BRK	1750-1790	3321	TICKNER	Chobham	SRY	1780-1860
1224	NASH	Henley on Thames	OXF	1600-1700	3321	TICKNER	Warfield	BRK	1800-1840
3252	NORGATE	West Dean	SSX	1790-1850	3272	TILTON	Fawley	BRK	1770-1850
3343	OGDEN	Nottingham	NTT	1800-1840	3287	TINGLE	Leeds	YKS	1700-1900
3343	OGDEN	Sheffield	YKS	1840-1900	3287	TRULOCK	Thatcham	BRK	1700-1900
3343	OGDEN	Tibshelf	DBY	1800-1870	3273	WALMSLEY	Walton-le-Dale	LAN	1812-1996
3335	PAINTON	Anywhere	BRK	1600-1800	1224	WALTERS	Henley on Thames	OXF	1700-1800
3335	PAINTON	Reading	BRK	1600-1840	1224	WATERS	Rotherfield Greys	OXF	1600-1700
3321	PANNELL	Lympstone	DEV	1700-1900	3327	WEBB	Shrivenham	BRK	Pre 1740
3321	PANNELL	Plymouth	DEV	1870-1950	3260	WEEKS	Kilmersdon	SOM	1800-1850
1224	PARHAM	Donhead St Mary	WIL	1600-1700	3260	WEEKS	Radstock	SOM	1700-1800
1224	PARSONS	Old Windsor	BRK	1700-1800	1224	WERNHAM	Beenham	BRK	1800-1900
3272	PAYNE	Lambourn	BRK	1800-1900	1224	WERNHAM	Reading	BRK	1800-1900
3335	PAYNTON	Reading	BRK	1600-1800	3188	WHEELER	Buckland	BRK	1700-1996
3188	PEAPLE	Buckland	BRK	1700-1996	3267	WHEELER	Faringdon	BRK	1780-1840
1224	PEBWORTH	Dorchester	OXF	1700-1800	3258	WILLIAMS	Brynsiencyn	AGY	1750-1950
1224	PERRIE	Harpsden	OXF	1700-1800	3327	WILLS	Shrivenham	BRK	Pre 1780
3273	PERRY	Kingsclere	HAM	1832-1996	3273	WILSON	Fleetwood	LAN	1854-1996
1224	PERRYMAN	Old Windsor	BRK	1700-1800	3343	WOOD	Bath	SOM	1800-1900
3262	PHILLIPS	Nettlebed	OXF	1800-1900	3343	WOOD	Islington	MDX	1800-1900
3262	PHILLIPS	Reading	BRK	1856-1911	3262	WOODESON	Reading	BRK	1800-1900
3262	PIKE	Reading	BRK	1800-1900	3262	WOODESON	Tilehurst	BRK	1800-1900
3262	PIKE	Tilehurst	BRK	1800-1900	3317	WOODLEY	Harwell	BRK	1700-1800
3287	PINNEGAR	Chippenham	WIL	1750-1850	3287	WRIGLEY	Leeds Gildersome	YKS	1700-1900
3260	PLUMMER	Babington	SOM	1600-1820	3272	YOUNG	Cheveley	BRK	1800-1900
3273	PORTER	Blackpool	LAN	1870-1996					
3260	POWELL	Panteg	MON	1700-1900					
3331	PURCHALL	Camberwell	SRY	1800-1900					
3331	PURCHALL	Islington	MDX	1750-1900					

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