



Berkshire Family Historian

Volume 22 - No 1 - September 1998



Events Calendar - 1998/99

Bracknell Branch

Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell
7:15pm for 7:45pm

18 th September	"Tracing Your London Ancestors"	Jane Cox
16 th October	To Be Confirmed	
20 th November	"Wokingham Old & New - Part 2"	Ken Goatley
18 th December	An Elephant Hunt - practical genealogy for all!	

Newbury Branch

United Reform Church Hall, Cromwell Place, Northbrook Street, Newbury
7:30pm

9 th September	"So You think Your Ancestor was a Publican"	Judith Hunter
14 th October	"My Ancestor was a Berkshire Bobby"	Sue Healy
11 th November	"Apprentices and Freemen"	Richard Moore
9 th December	"The Oldest Profession"	Beryl Hurley

Reading Branch

BFHS Research Centre, Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading
7:15pm for 7:45pm

Please note that Reading Branch meetings are now held on the last Wednesday of the month.

30 th September	"From the Beginning: Starting your Family Tree"	John Pollock
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Please note that the September meeting will be held in the Sixth Form Common Room in Block 'D': please use the Cockney Hill entrance.

28 th October	"The Battle of Trafalgar and some participants' descendants"	John Gurnett
25 th November	"Find one Huguenot ancestor and fill out your family tree"	Michael Gandy
9 th December	"Thackeray transport ventures in Reading"	Paul Lacey
27 th January	"Genealogical Computer Packages"	Eric Probert

Friday 16th October at Earley St Peter's Church Hall at 7pm for 7:45pm

"Reading Old and New" Doug Noyes

Slough Branch

St Andrew's Church Hall, 2, Merton Road, Slough
7:30pm for 7:45pm

29 th September	"Records of Other Ranks in the British Army"	Dr Chris Watts
27 th October	"40,000 Souls' - How to Use the IGI"	Geoffrey Sewell
24 th November	"24 Square Miles' Includes showing of a film made 1946"	David Eddershaw
15 th December	Christmas Party	

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Volume 22, 1998/9

Part 1, September 1998

Chairman's Comments	By Ivan Dickason	2
Dates for Your Diary		4
Off to France August 1914, and After	By Len Wigg	6
Research Centre News	By Cliff Debney	9
A Not So Cheerful Story	By Gillian Picken	10
Computer Forum		13
Thomas Gardiner, Preacher and Miller	By Elizabeth Ballard	14
"Four Manly Boys"	By George Sawtell	16
Wills from 1858		21
A Visit to the Book Town	By Chad Hanna	22
Surfing the Internet for Scottish Family History	By Ruby Bateman	23
Reading Cemetery: Tales from the Tombstones	By Jacqueline Harbor	24
Editor's Notes		27
Reading Local Studies Library News	By Margaret Smith	28
Builders Day Book	By Judith Lawrence	28
Did Your Grandmother go to Kendrick?	By Ann Davis	29
Berkshire Record Office News		36
Wokingham Library: Local History and Family History	By Carol Carson	37
Minutes of the 23 rd Annual General Meeting of the BFHS		38
A Group Photograph, Before, Now and In-Between	By Andrew Tatham	44
Help Wanted		46
Q and A with Jean		48
Bookstall News	By Sally Pellow	50
Members' Interests	Compiled by Robert Houseman	51
Bookends	By Keith Buckingham	56

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If anyone has a suitable photograph for inclusion on the front cover please let the Editor know.

Chairman's Comments

By Ivan Dickason

June and I hope you all enjoyed your summer holiday.

I am pleased to say that someone has come forward to be our new Bookstall Manager. She is Sally Pellow - welcome, Sally. No doubt we will hear more from her in future issues of *Berkshire Family Historian*.

I presented my first annual report to the Annual General Meeting of the Society at Newbury in June. The full text of my report appears elsewhere in this magazine. There are, however, a couple of points that need to be re-stated. Robert Houseman has retired from the position of Secretary having served the full term of five years allowed by the Society's constitution. We thank him for his splendid service.

In Robert's place, John Gurnett was elected to be our new Secretary. John has served as Secretary previously and was for some time Editor of *Berkshire Family Historian*. So, welcome back, John.

I have received some comments about our Members' Interests fiche issued free with the June magazine. First of all, I should say - and we may not have made it clear when we issued the form in December 1997 - that the 1998 issue of Members' Interests would only comprise those submitted on the yellow forms. It was not intended that Members' Interests already submitted to the Secretary would be included. We are sorry if that was not made plain. Can I say that the Society acknowledges that the interests of members change as time passes and that any member may therefore submit a new schedule of their interests to the Secretary at any time.

Secondly, I would like to restate the factors that led the Executive Committee to agree to publication on fiche only.

One result of the membership survey from June 1996 was that some 60% of respondents declared that they have a fiche reader or have access to one. The Executive therefore felt that issuing Member's Interests on fiche would be popular with the membership.

Many - perhaps most - family history societies now issue a majority of their publications in fiche form and the Society were correct to follow this trend.

The cost of making and reproducing the fiche is significantly cheaper than an equal publication in booklet form. A printed booklet of some 150 pages - the size of the Members' Interests - would cost perhaps £3 or £4 to produce and the Society could not contemplate issuing such a document free to members.

The inclusion of the fiche with the magazine meant that there were no additional postal charges.

Nevertheless, we cannot please the entire membership! I am pleased to announce that the 1998 Member's Interests can be made available on disk. If you wish to have the Member's Interests on disk please send a blank, formatted, 3½" disk and **THREE FIRST CLASS STAMPS** to Robert Houseman, The Corner House, Shaw Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 6JX.

The Society are planning to publish more material on fiche. We shall issue more memorial inscriptions during the next twelve months. Also, as the stocks of our 1851 Census index booklets become exhausted, they will be reprinted **on fiche only** so if you are desperately keen to complete your collection of red booklets you had better buy them soon!

June and I have decided to follow the tide

and we recently purchased a small fiche reader so that we can take advantage of the wide range of data now available in this format for our own research. We have, for example, recently purchased fiche containing the Memorial Inscriptions for Stevenage Parish Church (2 fiche - £1.50), hoping to find out more about the family of one of June's great-grandmothers and a transcript of the Parish Registers of Brenchley, Kent (15 fiche - some 300 pages of data - £4.50) in the hope of tracking down the ancestors of one of June's great-great-grandmothers. Whether this approach is correct for everyone, I do not know.

In June, I went to the "Getting to know you" day at the Federation of Family History Societies in Birmingham. This is, apparently, an annual event directed at newly elected officers of member societies. It was designed to introduce us to the Federation and to the services it offers to societies. We met most of the senior officers and the staff of the Federation. As is often the case at such events, the range of services offered is found to be much greater than one expects! It was an enjoyable day.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. D.', is written on a white background.

Temporary Changes at Berkshire Record Office

Following the acquisition of the former Shire Hall by Foster Wheeler, there will be a period of refurbishment of the main reception beginning in the week commencing 17th August and lasting until early November. The usual entrance to the main building will be closed, a hoarding will be put up in front of it, and visitors will be directed to a new entrance and temporary reception, at the next door round the corner to the right, closer to the Record Office in fact. Parking will not be affected.

The toilets at reception will be closed. Visitors may use those beside the shop and there will be access to disabled toilets. Disabled parking will be in the two bays outside the new temporary entrance.

As security staff will not be based at the temporary entrance, Foster Wheeler have agreed to staff the new reception until 9pm on Thursday evenings to enable late night opening to continue. **During the refurbishment period the Berkshire Record Office will be closing at 8.50pm so that all members of the public will have left the building by 9pm.**

Cover Photograph

The cover photograph is supplied this time courtesy of Colin Brown and is a picture of the Dance family, who descended from Hannah Newton. She was a widow and miller mistress of Weston Mill, Welford from 1826-1875 and she had six daughters which ended the Newton reign which began before 1617. One of the daughters married William Dance who was of a milling family from the Marlborough area of Wiltshire. Their son was William Dance, miller, who is shown in the picture with his wife Mary Ann, née Fisher of Wickham. Their children are left to right, Worthington, Margaret, Bary Ethel Alice, Florence and Fred with Lily in front. Two children remained in England, one went to Ireland and three to Australia. The picture is from about 1909, at Weston, Welford, Berks, perhaps on the day they left Weston and went to Shaw-cum-Donnington.

Please note that the September meeting of the Reading Branch will be held in the Sixth Form Common Room in Block 'D', please use the Cockney Hill entrance.

Dates for Your Diary

- Weds. 23rd Sep.* "Trees, Charts, reports and Web pages" Computer course organised by the SOG, fee £5. (1)
- Sat. 3rd Oct.* "Puttees, Puffers and Porridge" - Tracing Military, Railway and Criminal Ancestors - A One-Day Seminar hosted by Warwickshire FHS. Speakers are David Seene, Frank Hardy and Dr Peter Davies. To be held at Bluecoat School, Terry Rd, Coventry from 9.30am until 5pm. Cost £10 members; £12 non-members. For further details contact The Seminar Secretary, WFHS, 11, The Crescent, Brinklow, Nr. Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 0LG.
- Weds. 7th Oct.* "Personal Ancestral File and GEDCOM" Computer course organised by SOG, fee £5. (1)
- Sat. 10th Oct.* "Preparing for the future; caring for your documents and files" Day Course organised by SOG, fee £17. (1)
- Sat. 10th Oct.* North West Group of Family History Societies Family History Fair to be held at Stockport Town Hall, Wellington Road South (A6), Stockport; from 10am to 4.30pm. Admission £1.50.
- Sat. 10th Oct.* "Footwear to Footprints" One Day Conference hosted by Northamptonshire FHS at The Commarket Hall, Kettering from 10am until 5pm. Fee £10. Further details from Mr R Bailey, 25 Gotch Road, Kettering NN15 6UF
- Weds. 14th Oct.* "Two Hundred Million Names" afternoon course organised by SOG, fee £8.50. (1)
- Sat. 17th Oct.* "Your Family History I: getting started" day school at the University of Reading from 10am to 4.30pm. Tutor: Polly Lawrence. Fee £14. (2)
- 23rd Oct. - 25th Oct.* "Wisdom in the West" residential course organised by the Society of Genealogists in Newquay. Course fee is £130. This is a compressed version of the intermediate level course run in London and covers the same topics each year. This course is held in various parts of the country to cater for members and family historians who find it inconvenient to come to London. Next year the SOG hope to run this course in the East of England. (1)
- 30th Oct. - 1st Nov.* Family History, an advanced course; tutors Richard and Marjorie Moore at Urchfont Manor College, Urchfont, Devizes, Wilts SN10 4RG. (Suitable for those with three years general research experience); fee about £100.
- Sat. 7th Nov.* "Genealogy in Wales" afternoon course organised by the SOG, fee £8.50. (1)
- 13th Nov. - 15th Nov.* "Non-Conformity" weekend course investigating the full range of Catholic and Protestant belief, along with the relevant records, organised by the IHGS. Fee £140, closing date 26th October 1998. (3)
- Sat. 14th Nov.* Open Day hosted by West Surrey FHS at the Methodist Church Hall, Brewery Road, Woking from 10am until 4.30pm.
- Sat. 21st Nov.* "Family History Workshop" day school at Newbury College from 10am to 3.30pm, fee £20. (4)
- Sat. 28th Nov.* "Tracing your German-speaking ancestors" afternoon course at the SOG, fee £8.50. (1)
- Sat. 28th Nov.* "Berkshire and South Oxfordshire c.1840-1930: Place and People" day school at the Lecture Theatre, Bulmershe Court, The University of Reading,

Woodlands Avenue, Woodley, Reading. Director of Studies: Joan Dils. Fee £25.50. (2)

- Sat. 16th Jan. 1999 "Military Ancestors" Day School which aims to introduce family historians to the records of military service, organised by the IHGS. Fee £32; closing date 31st December 1998. (3)
- Sat. 23rd Jan. "Your Family History II: getting unstuck" day school at the University of Reading from 10am to 4.30pm. Tutor: Polly Lawrence. Fee £14. (2)
- Sun. 31st Jan. Family History Fair at Bracknell Sport Centre, Bagshot Lane, Bracknell: 10am - 5pm; admission £2.
- Sat. 6th Feb. "Wills, inventories and accounts" day school at the Berkshire Record Office, Shinfield Park. Tutors: Peter Durrant and Joan Dils. Fee £13. (2)
- Sat. 20th Mar. "Family History Workshop" day school at Newbury College from 10am to 3.30pm, fee £20. (4)
- Sat. 27th Mar. Second Midlands Family History Fair hosted by Leicestershire and Rutland FHS at the De Montfort Hall, Regents Road, Leicester. Further details from Miss D Merryweather, 11 Faldo Close, Rushey Mead, Leicester, LE4 7TS.
- 9th Apr. - 11th Apr. "Cabbages and Kings" Family History Conference hosted by the Hampshire Genealogical Society in association with the Federation of Family History Societies at Sparsholt Agricultural College, Winchester. Further details from Mrs J Renton, 27 Lodge Road, Locks Heath, Hampshire SO31 6QY.

Family History Classes

- **Digging Up Your Ancestors** 10 week course commencing on Monday 14th September, 7pm-9pm. Fee £52 to be held at Newbury College.(4)
 - **"What's in it for me, too?"** 9 week course commencing on Friday 25th September, 1pm Fee £45 to be held at SOG. This course will look at sources in the Society of Genealogist's library including on nineteenth century sources, overseas sources, peerage and royalty. (1)
1. To find out about courses organised by the Society of Genealogists (SOG), 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London, EC1M 7BA, contact Jean Rutherford on 0171-253-5235.
 2. To enrol for courses organised by the University of Reading, Centre for Continuing Education, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AQ contact Sarah Liddell on 0118-931-4405.
 3. The address and contact numbers for the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies (IHGS) is 79-82 Northgate, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1BA, tel. 01227-768664, e-mail: ihgs@dial.pipex.com.
 4. For details of courses at Newbury College, please ring either 01635-35353 or 01635-37000 ext. 215.

Bookstall Visits to Other Societies

The Society Bookstall will be at the following Open Days run by other societies. Cliff and Jean Debney (0118-941-3223) will appreciate any help offered by members going to these events. These are opportunities to help our Society and to meet and talk to people who are both members and non-members of the host Society, as well as browse other Societies' Bookstalls.

- Sat 26th Sep Oxfordshire FHS at Exeter Hall, Kidlington, Oxford: 10am -4/4.30pm
- Sat. 14th Nov. West Surrey FHS, at The Methodist Church Hall, Brewery Road, Woking, 10am to 4.30pm.
- Sun 31st Jan Family History Fair at Bracknell Sport Centre, Bagshot Lane, Bracknell: 10am - 5pm; admission £2

Off to France August 1914, and After

By Len Wigg



*Mom best wishes from
your affectionate
Harry*

My father, Henry James Wigg, was a regular soldier in World War One. He enlisted at Wokingham 30th September 1912 when he was 19. In the following year he was at Aldershot, as he registered his father's death (Henry Douglas) at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading on 22nd December 1913, stating he was then at Mandora Barracks, Aldershot. His mother was Sarah, née Hampshire, and fortunately she kept a few of the letters he sent home during the war. First was a post card with a printed ½d stamp. It was franked Southampton 10 30 AM AUG 11 14. She was then living at 5 Evendons Cottages, Wokingham. All he said was:

"Dear Mother Arrived at Southampton & embarking this evening. Harry"

Undated:

"Dear Mother, I am glad to say that we have had a grand time since leaving Aldershot and are all in the best of

health and spirits. I will just copy off a few notes I made during the time. Aug 10th Left Field Stores, Aldershot by 2.30pm Arrived Southampton 5 pm. Unloaded train and conveyed baggage to edge of dock. Finished embarking on the "South Western" (a LSWR boat) at 10 o'clock and went aboard for the night. Altogether with ASC and RE we numbered about 300, and of course there was no sleeping accommodation so we got down to it on the deck. Some of us who slept near the engine room woke up to find ourselves stuck to the floor, by the tar which oozed out between the boards.

Aug 11th Started to move out of docks at 4am. Weather very calm but fresh. Passed many steamers and seven or eight torpedo boat destroyers - kept well along the Isle of Wight coast - lost sight of land about 9 o'clock - nothing seen afterwards until half past twelve when three warships were noticed to the SE - one a torpedo boat HMTB 110 came over and spoke to us. 1.30 pm the French coast is noticed but does not look very charming. The weather is quite hot but there is a nice breeze. 3 pm pilot arrives, also two steamships the "Richard Waddington" and "Abeille" and one from Havre to escort us into the docks. 4.30 pm reach destination and start to disembark. 6 pm tea and then continue unloading. Finished about 9.30 and then marched to a large Commerce Depot for the night.

Up to the present we have quite enjoyed ourselves, it has seemed to be a holiday Hoping you are all keeping well. God bless you, With love from your affectionate son Harry.

PS I will send address as soon as I know where the Ordnance Base is to be formed. Please let Aunt Polly know how I am getting on as I may not have time to write to her."¹

On August 16th he wrote again, giving his address as No 1 Ordnance Coy, B.E.F.:

*'My Dear Mother, I hope you are keeping quite well and not worrying yourself about my welfare as I am glad to say I am as safe and sound as ever. We arrived [deleted by the censor I presume - but 'in France' is just about legible] last Tuesday and the following day I wrote you a letter but as I mentioned the locality, I expect it has been stopped for some time.*² *The voyage was very pleasant, the weather could not have been better, but a day or two ago the fine weather broke up and since then it has been little else but rain.*

All British troops have had a cordial welcome by the French [deleted again] and their polite and obliging ways are well appreciated. The climate and vegetation are very much the same as at home, but the town is of a little different style and not half so clean. Their ideas of sanitation are worse than any I have seen in England.

*We get very little news of the war, but our troops are moving fast to the front and I expect we shall be following closer in a few days. Hoping all at home are in good health*³ *With love and best wishes from your affectionate son Harry'*

Other documents are a letter dated May 26th 1915:

"AOD Travelling Workshop, IV Corps

¹ I suspect 'Aunt Polly' was actually Jane Benham Wigg who lived with the family in Wokingham.. See article in Berkshire Family Historian, March 1998.

² I am sure this was the letter above, written 11th August.

³ These would have been his three brothers, Leonard, Edwin and Robert and probably sister Amy.

1st Army BEF. Dear Mother I expect that as soon as you open this letter you will wonder whatever this spray of holly can be for, so I will tell you at once. It is a "Souvenir Français" from the good lady of our house to "Votre Mama", so she told me this evening after asking me to show her your photo. Of course it is a thing of no value as far as that goes, but you will understand better than I can explain, the feelings that prompted such a gift - the interest she takes in us.

I have told you before I think that she is an old maid, and like most of them she is often very exact, and as a consequence we all in turns do something which is wrong or fail to do something which is right according to her rules, and then get into trouble, and we are treated as bad children. Last night about half a dozen of us got into the wrong. You know she gets up about 4 o'clock in the morning and retires soon after 8 o'clock in the evening. Well, yesterday had been a very hot day, and I suppose it was too hot for her to sleep, so that she noticed us talking and then walking up and down the creaking stairs, as we do not as a rule turn in before 10 o'clock. Our noise was too much for her to put up with, so that she got up and scolded us severely, but of course we couldn't understand all she said. It is very convenient not to know French when you get into trouble, and so you see English soldiers are surprised that the French people should get angry with them, and are at a loss to understand what all the row is about.

In the morning we had to pay the penalty for our misbehaviour, and be deprived of the cup of coffee she always gets ready as soon as washing is over. I was wondering for how long she was going to keep us in disgrace, but before

the afternoon was out everything was made up between us. The news that Italy has declared war, was received with joy here. As we were coming up for tea, the Town Crier was round announcing that the French government had sent a vote of thanks to the Italians with the hope that the end of the..."

The next or last page of this letter is missing.

There is a postcard dated Dec 29th 1916. It is a birthday card with an embroidered lace pocket, entwined flowers with tricolour ribbons and 'Happy Birthday' in blue thread. Inside the pocket is a card with six flags, including the Union Jack and Tricolour and 'Many Happy Returns'. The date and brief message is written in the ubiquitous purple indelible pencil on the back. The photograph of him, reproduced at the start of this article, was sent to his sister Amy then c/o Mrs Daubeny, Winkfield, with the message:

'Dear Amy, I hope this will find you as well as it leaves me at present. We are having some bad weather again now, but hope it will not interfere with our offensive. The good news has put fresh vigour into everyone. May it please God to bless our arms and bring the war to a quick end. Love from Harry.'

These letters and cards give a personal view of certain aspects of WW1, and I am very glad my grandmother kept them.

My father was discharged from the Army in 1924, as the discharge certificate reproduced shows.

The discharge certificate is the original which he kept in pristine condition in a brown envelope. He was discharged from the Royal Ordnance Cops on 29th September 1924 at Hilsea Barracks, having served twelve years. His medals are listed:

1. This form is to be filled in by the soldier or by a person acting on his behalf. It is to be sent to the Officer in Charge of the Depot or Barracks to which the soldier is being discharged. It is to be sent to the Officer in Charge of the Depot or Barracks to which the soldier is being discharged. It is to be sent to the Officer in Charge of the Depot or Barracks to which the soldier is being discharged.

Name L. Rigg Harry Star
(Surname) (Christian name)
 Corps from which discharged Royal Army Ordnance Corps
 N.D.—The following particulars refer only to the engagements in which the soldier is now being discharged.
 Called out 1 Birmingham on 30th September
 (a) 1916 1917
 (b) 1916 1917
 Medals, Claps, Decorations, Mentions in Despatches. 14th Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal
 Any special acts of gallantry or distinguished conduct brought to notice in brigade or superior orders (b) 600
 Discharged in consequence of Exhaustion of 1st Division of 1917
 (c) after having served (a) 12 years and (b) 11 days the Colours and (c) 12 years and (d) 26 day Army Reserve.
 (e) after having served (a) 12 years and (b) 11 days the Colours and (c) 12 years and (d) 26 day Army Reserve.
 Date of discharge 29 September 1924
 Description of the above-named soldier when he left the Colours—
 Year of birth 1892 Marks or Stamps None
 Height 5 ft 7 in. of right hand
 Complexion Fair
 Eyes Blue Hair Brown
 Place 14th Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal
 Date 29 September 1924 Officer L. Rigg

NOTE—
 (a) The word "HT" to be inserted where necessary.
 (b) If there is no subject room for the insertion of the record of an act of gallantry or distinguished conduct, such record will be written on the Army Form and added by the Officer who issues the

14th Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal at Kew, which I have with my ribbon. In WO/3292118, the Medal roll at Kew, I discovered that he had been promoted to Cpl. during the war and the time the roll was prepared in August 1920 he was L.Sgt.

He had met a Sidney Wright while in the Corps, whose brother Bill had a second-hand furniture shop in Bouremouth and Sidney persuaded my father to join them in the business and they leased the next-door shop as well. Within a few years they had changed the business from selling furniture to second-hand books. He only made brief visits back to Berkshire, where his sister Amy had married Frank Mason, a carpenter in Finchamptonstead and brother Len also lived with them.

Research Centre News

By Cliff Debney

Before I get on to other things, the next four Library Tours are:

21st September	2pm - 4pm
19th October	7.30pm - 9.30pm
16th November	2pm - 4pm
18th January 1999	7.30pm - 9.30pm

Notice in particular that there is no Tour in December. The reason for this is because, as Tours are always held on the third Monday of the month, it would be too close to Christmas, and in fact this year the school will have already closed its doors for the Christmas holiday.

The Research Centre will close on Thursday 17th December at 9.30 pm for the Christmas holidays and re-open on Tuesday 5th January at 7pm.

May I remind all readers, and inform those of you who are reading this magazine for the first time, that in addition to the normal weekly opening times of

Tuesday 7pm-9.30pm

Wednesday 10am-4pm

Thursday 1pm-4pm & 7pm - 9.30pm

on the 2nd Saturday of each month the Centre will be open between 10am and 4pm. The full list of dates is:

12th September **10th October**

14th November **12th December**

9th January **13th February**

As those of you who have used the Research Centre will know, it only opens because there are two Library Assistants who give up part of a day or evening to let you in, help you and then close up behind you. June Dickason is still looking for more members to join the rota. If you have been on a Library Tour the only additional tuition you need is to be shown the routines. Your worry about answering

questions can be forgotten as, provided all those in the Research Room can hear the question (if necessary repeat it for them), there will be at least one person with the answer. That only leaves one option open to you - **VOLUNTEER**. Whether you can regularly fill a monthly slot or only for specific months, or occasionally help on an evening or day time, provided you tell June she will be delighted. Saturday opening is still a problem as it is such a new day and nobody, including me, has yet got used to the idea. Please, those of you who cannot offer your services on a weekday for whatever reason, offer to help on the monthly Saturday opening, either morning or afternoon. June will be pleased to accommodate your diary.

At the end of the Society's year 1730 visitors had used the Research Centre, an average of under 7 a session (3 hours). Many used the facilities more than once, especially as it is like all research centres - the more you go the more you realise how much there is still to be used for research, or copied, or used for reference, or whatever. Did you realise that at the end of the year there were over 6250 items in the Reference Library! Have you been yet? Did you find it useful for your family history research? Did you take copies of relevant fiche - so that you did not have to risk scribbling down some relevant fact only to find you couldn't read your notes when you got home - and now have a copy of that information in your files, fully referenced, which you can also use to show aunty where you got THAT particular piece of information from? Those who have been have proved that the Centre is a very necessary part of the Society; we are surprised that sometimes only a few of the nine fiche readers are in use.

A Not So Cheerful Story

By Gillian Picken

When I first became interested in family history about eight years ago, I did the standard thing of asking my parents about their parents and any family stories. My late father, Ernest George Wise Baston, sensitive about his illegitimate birth, was not forthcoming about his childhood in Maidenhead - he was born in Reform Road in 1902 to Frances Nellie Baston. I just remember my paternal grandmother - she died when I was six - as a tiny lady with dangling earrings - a widow living with her widowed sister Agnes Roles in Grove Road, Maidenhead.

As a child I was puzzled by the fact that she was Grannie Capson, father's surname was Baston and my uncle, Dad's younger brother Uncle Bert, was Albert Edward Green. Questioning my father I discovered that Grannie had married Uncle Bert's father, also called Albert Edward Green, he was a sailor who had been killed during the First World War, "at the Battle of Jutland on a ship called HMS *Cheerful*". After his death, she had married a Canadian soldier, Guy Capson, and had outlived him also.

I determined to find out more about my step-grandfather and his war record.

First I checked books about the Battle of Jutland 1916, only to discover that there was no HMS *Cheerful* present. On checking *Jane's Fighting Ships of World War One*, I discovered that HMS *Cheerful* was a class C destroyer, built in 1897 with a ship's complement of 60 and that she had been mined off the Shetlands on 30th June 1917. There was also a picture of the class of ship. Now I had a date of death for Albert Edward Green and I was able to obtain his death certificate from what was then St Catherine's House. I knew from his marriage certificate of 1906 that he was a

stoker in the regular navy.

Further checking in the naval collection at Portsmouth Library gave more background information. Apparently there was concern about the fuel consumption of some of the navy's ships during this period This was thought to be due to bad stoking. Many men were reservists, but there was a complete lack of training for stokers and men were often sent on board as soon as they had received a course of physical drill and practice in small arms. A conversation with the curator of the Shetland Museum in Lerwick told me that the *Cheerful* was part of the 10th Cruiser Squadron patrolling the northern approaches and acting a convoy vessel guarding the merchant and passenger ships between the Humber and the Shetlands. The museum has a brass letter C from the ship's boat which was brought up in the lines of a fishing vessel nine years after the sinking. I wrote to the Hydrographic Department of the Ministry of Defence to enquire if they held any information on the wreck. They confirmed the position of the wreck, provided another (better) picture of the ship, and told me that only 18 crew had been saved out of the complement of 60. Finally a visit to the Public Record Office at Kew gave the full story of the loss of the *Cheerful* in the Admiralty Court of Enquiry on board HMS "*Brilliant*" on Monday 2nd July 1917.⁴

The Board of Enquiry heard evidence from the survivors of the sinking and other witnesses to the tragedy. They heard first from H.G. Briggs the commander of HMS *Ness* (the other escorting vessel):

"We left Humber at 5 am on 28 June

⁴ ADM 137 3673 and ADM 137 3305

with a convoy of four ships. Seven ships joined the convoy off Tyne and one ship dropped off at Tyne and Blyth respectively. We arrived at Lerwick at 12.30pm on 30 June. The convoy was in two lines proceeding along the main swept channel. "Ness" was zigzagging on the East and "Cheerful" on the West of the convoy.

The drifter "Boy Charlie" was seen coming from harbour flying the signal "LOOK OUT FOR MINES". We closed her and communicated by megaphone. Whilst we were speaking "Cheerful" blew up. The trawler "Gloria II" proceeded to her assistance as did "Boy Charlie". We got the convoy into single line ahead. Trawler "Strathacua" sent round to warn all ships to follow carefully in the wake of the next ahead. We returned to where the trawlers were rescuing survivors. The spot where she was struck was roughly 2 miles E of Helli Ness.

"Gloria II" picked up three officers and fifteen men. "Boy Charlie" picked up one officer and three men. "Ness" took the four survivors from "Boy Charlie" and gave him a mark buoy to mark the spot, then we proceeded into harbour with "Gloria II".

This was followed by the report of the Skipper of "Gloria II" G H Fuller RNR:

"Being in my appointed station (on the port side bow of the rear steamer) I saw HMS "Cheerful" on the port beam heading for the entrance to Lerwick harbour. I saw and felt the explosion. I headed for her and ordered out boat and stations to pick up survivors. I arrived before "Cheerful" had sunk and picked up four men swimming. The first man picked up was asked how the depth charges were set. He said that the last he saw of the CO was that he was putting

them out safely. I saw a man climbing about on the quarter deck, then saw him take a leap from her. This was the CO. I consider that by doing what he did, with the ship sinking so fast, that he saved a lot of lives and damage to "Gloria II". After we had got the men on board they said that they could hear someone inside the forepart of "Cheerful" which was still floating bottom upwards. The CO ordered the boat alongside, and gathered all available tools. One man from the "Gloria II" sat astride the destroyer forefoot holding the painter and said it was gradually sinking. Presently the man inside the destroyer cut through with a chopper and held it whilst my 1st engineer used the large hammer. By this time she was getting low in the water and my man had to jump off that was holding the painter. By this time the hole was made larger, and the air rushed out and she sank like a stone. After seeing that I could do nothing more I proceeded into harbour with the survivors. I judged my position at the time of the accident to be approximately within the swept channel Kirkcubbin Light bearing N 1/4E Magnetic."

The Board then heard the report of The Commanding Officer of HMS Cheerful H.A.L. Bond Lieut. RNR:

"At noon yesterday HMS "Cheerful" under my command, attached to Escort Force A (HMS "Ness" senior officer) was entering Bressay Sound escorting nine steamers. we were steering N (Magnetic) for Kirkcubbin Lighthouse. "Cheerful" was sweeping to westward of convoy, position abeam of rear ship from 1200-1500 yards clear and approximately three and a half miles SSW of Bard Head. At 0001 A violent explosion occurred under the after boiler room. The ship broke in half from

its effects. The fore end immediately submerged, then turned and floated bottom up for about fifteen minutes. Mr J.M. Cole, gunner was Officer of the Watch. I had just entered my cabin to obtain private signals when the explosion occurred. On reaching deck I saw that the fore end was under water and sinking rapidly. I gave orders to clear away all floats and boats. This was being undertaken by Lieut. G.H. McAllister RNR and the float being lifted over the guard rails when this portion of the ship sank. I also gave orders to have the two type D depth charges placed at safe and saw this done. HMS "Gloria II" was on the starboard beam steering N at a distance of 2-3 cables. She closed and lowered a boat to pick up all survivors except one officer and three ratings who were picked up later from a carley float by "Boy Charlie".

When I was picked up the fore end was still afloat bottom up and from tapping heard, it was apparent that someone was still alive in the fore compartment (seaman's messdeck) The boat was immediately sent out with all tools available and an attempt made to cut a hole. The part was sinking rapidly and nothing was accomplished.

On mustering survivors it was found that four officers and eighteen ratings were saved and that forty ratings were missing.

I consider that the explosion was due to a mine. The draught amidships was 6'3", the sea was smooth and it is unlikely that a torpedo running shallowly could have approached undetected. The ship had just been steadied after turning 16 points

I regret the heavy loss of life. The watch keepers in both boiler rooms were

undoubtedly killed by the explosion, also any ratings on deck between the foremast and after funnels (the middle funnel was lifted and thrown aft). One watch was at dinner on the seamen's and stoker's mess decks and the fore end submerged so quickly that no one had time to get clear. The fore end of the after portion submerged so rapidly that only one rating got clear from the engine room and three ratings known to have been in the galley (abaft the engine room) are also missing.

I consider that all ranks and ratings behaved with great coolness and that everything possible was done. I also praise the good seamanship of HMT "Gloria II". All carley floats floated clear and swimmers were picked up off each one. Numerous lifebelts and buoys and floating wreckage was in reach of all swimmers. All men who were seen floating after the ship sank were rescued".

Other witnesses gave evidence that the channel was regularly swept for mines. The commanding officer was then cross examined. Lieut. Bond had been on the Lerwick escort run since 1st May. His orders were to screen the convoy by roughly up to two miles. There was no set pattern for screening, it was left to be decided by the circumstances. sometimes they did sail outside the swept channel. HMT "Blackwhale" was leading the convoy and setting the course. "Cheerful" was on the outer leg of the zigzag from the convoy which takes 4000 yards. The pattern of the convoy was five ships in the Port line and four in the Starboard. He was shown a sketch plan of the convoy with which he agreed. He was asked about the setting of the depth charges to make them safe. Seaman torpedoman A.B. Fromant did the Port charge whilst Bond did the

Starboard. On lookout duty there was one seaman on the forebridge, one seaman torpedoman aft and a signalman on the bridge.

Other members of the crew who were mentioned or gave evidence were Joseph Maurice Cole, gunner, A.B. Jamieson, a lookout man named Lovejoy, William White, chief artificer and Edmund Dan Frary, skipper of "*Boy Charlie*".

In conclusion the Board decided that there was conflicting evidence as to where the explosion actually occurred and that the after-portion of the ship 120 feet long went down by the head and sank. There was time to put the depth charges to safe. The forward portion of the ship, 90 feet long, turned turtle and remained floating for fifteen minutes before floundering.

George H.J. Fuller the skipper of "*Gloria II*" and Harman A.L. Bond CO of HMS "*Cheerful*" were both commended by the Admiralty for their actions.

No blame was ascribed to anyone for the sinking. However it was recommended that the practice of the escorting vessels in sailing outside the swept channels should be changed.

The PRO is just releasing the service records of naval personnel of the First World War. They are due to be fully transferred during the next two years. When this occurs I will be able to check Grandfather's full service record.⁵ He is not listed on the War Memorial in Maidenhead. The Portsmouth War Memorial to the Naval Dead list a D.E.Green as a stoker 1st Class for 1917. However the Commonwealth War Graves Commission have now informed me that he is listed on the War Memorial in Chatham. The National Maritime Museum have

supplied me with two good photographs of the ship.

The Green family come from Bray. Albert Edward's father Frederick is listed as a bricklayer on the 1881 Census and by using the IGI for Berks I have been able to construct a family tree back to Daniel Green in 1819. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can contribute to my knowledge of the Greens and the Bastons in Maidenhead,

I have written this article to demonstrate that by the use of a variety of readily available sources it is possible not only to confirm and expand a family story but to discover a little known piece of naval history. Most people are familiar with the great loss of life and sacrifices made by the army in World War I. The naval side deserves to be better known.

Computer Forum

The October meeting of the Computer Group will be "*Using General Programs in Genealogy*" presented by Geoff Hicks, on Wednesday 7th October in Room A3, Prospect Technology School, Honey End Lane, Reading, at 7.45pm for 8pm. Room A3 is just along the corridor from the Research Centre.

The 4th November meeting at the same venue, will be "*Experiences of Using the Internet for Genealogy*" by Jocie McBride.

There will not be a December meeting.

In the June issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*, there was a form to fill in if you have an e-mail address. The BFHS is considering circulating a list of e-mail addresses with the December magazine. If you do not wish your e-mail address to be included on a public circulation list, then please e-mail the Editor at:

sharrington@compuserve.com

Please send any computer-related queries to the Editor and they will be passed onto the Computer Group to be answered.

⁵ In fact since writing this article I have obtained Albert Edward Green's service record from the PRO.

Thomas Gardiner, Preacher and Miller

By Elizabeth Ballard



Thomas Gardner (1843-1898)

On Christmas Day 1839, at St. Mary's Reading, my great-great-grandfather, Thomas Gardiner a 24-year old labourer, married a widow with two young daughters, Dinah Townsend née Louch, born 1809 at Moulsoford.

According to the 1841 Census they were living at Lime Court with Dinah's two daughters, Mary and Theresa, and their baby Elizabeth, two months old. My great-grandfather, Thomas, arrived on 28th July 1843, but three years later the family, with another son Joseph, live at Kings Road. By 1848 they have moved to Abbey Wall and another daughter Frances has appeared. They are still there in 1851, however, Mary Townsend has left home, but there is a daughter Mary of two months. 1861 finds the family at Crane Wharf. Thomas, the father is now a carter, but both Theresa Townsend and

Elizabeth Gardner have left home. Thomas, aged 17, is still there as a labourer. I believe he was working at the local Mill. There is a family story that Thomas on a errand from work one day witnessed the last public hanging in Reading. This could be true as it took place in 1862 when Thomas would have been eighteen years old.

Thomas married Mary Ann Dance, a granddaughter of a Hannah Newton of Welford Mill, Mistress Miller, at Welford Church on 18th November 1868. Mary Ann had interviewed Thomas for his miller's job sometime in the 1860s. After the wedding they lived at Tidmarsh, where their first child Thomas, was born. Thomas only lived for 17 months according to Family Bibles and died at Calcot 6th January 1871. In the census that year Thomas and Mary have moved to Calcot Mill, he is aged 27, and his wife is 26, and they have no children. His boss was Mr J. Smith, Master Miller, employing 8 men.

Thomas's parents meanwhile have moved to the Six Bells, Upper Thames Street. where great-great-grandfather, Thomas, has become innkeeper and carman. In 1881, Upper Thames Street has become Kennet Side. Thomas died there in 1888 and Dinah moved to the Alms Houses, in Castle Street where she lived until the age of 82, dying in 1891.

At the same time, Thomas and Mary Ann at Calcot Mill, have five daughters and one son, Edith, (b.1871), Mary Ann, (b.1873) my grandmother Gertrude Elizabeth, (b.1874), Grace, (b.1876), Annie, (b.1878), a boy Albert, (b.1879, but died aged four months) and Ethel who arrived in 1881. Thomas was now a journeyman miller and his boss has also become a farmer of 144 acres, in Bradfield, employing 20 men and two boys.

My great-aunt Edith, the eldest of the family told me that the sisters' walked into Southampton Street from Calcot to school every day.

By 1883 the Gardner family had moved to Tilehurst and Thomas became a Town Missionary

for the Reading Town Mission, 69 Castle Street in the February of that year. In the 32nd Annual Report of 1883, printed in 1884, Thomas was earning £59 10s p.a.⁶ It gives an insight into life as it was. My great-grandfather and the two other missionaries wrote reports from their diaries.

A son Ernest was born in November 1883 at Tilehurst but it wasn't long before the family moved to Preston Crowmarsh, near Wallingford, and back to milling. Here as well as being Miller Foreman Thomas was a local Preacher. It is said he often worked harder on a Sunday walking to the surrounding villages to preach in the Chapels not reaching home until well after dark. Their last child Amy Frances was born at Preston Crowmarsh on 25th January 1888. The Family Bible records that "*Precious Pet*" died 22nd April 1889. She is buried with her parents in Benson Churchyard.

Thomas died at Brompton Hospital, two days after an operation, on 11th July 1889. His obituary read as follows:

"[Benson] - This village has sustained quite a public loss in the death of Mr. Thomas Gardner, who was for many years foreman to Mr. Littleboy, at Preston Crowmarsh Mill. He underwent an operation for cancer on Friday, at the Cancer Hospital, Brompton, and though for the first day or two it promised to be successful, a sudden collapse carried him off early on Monday morning. Deceased was a very good and useful man. He was a member of the Free Church Committee, took the lead in the management of the Band of Hope, and was a local preacher for both the Wesleyans and Primitive Methodists, and he frequently worked harder on Sunday than any other day of the week, walking over to Brightwell, Berks, to preach in the morning, and to Chalgrove in the afternoon and evening. He was a quiet, unassuming, upright and intelligent man, who though not occupying a very exalted position, served his day and generation with a purity of motive and abnegation of self that are worthy of all praise.

His wife Mary Ann died at the home of her daughter Mary Ann who lived in Oxford Road, Reading on 7th January 1919.



Thomas Gardner
Gertrude Elizabeth, Mary Ann,
Edith Ellen, Mary Ann, Grace
Ernest, Ethel, Annie

⁶ A photocopy of this is available in the BFHS Research Centre

The following is reproduced from an article published in *The Annual Report of the Jane Austen Society* for 1982. The late George Sawtell is a cousin of John Fowle, a BFHS member.

“Four Manly Boys”

By George Sawtell



Rev. Fulwar Craven Fowle

“And still in my mind’s eye methinks I see
The village Pastor’s cheerful family.
The father grave yet oft with humour dry
Producing the quaint jest or shrewd reply.
The busy, bustling Mother who like Eve
Would ever and anon the circle leave,
Her mind on hospitable thoughts intent,
Careful domestic blunders to prevent,
And ever ready on her guests to pour
The corner Beaufet’s rich and savoury store:
While yet a gayer group, four manly boys,
Heightened the relish of domestic joys.
Of future happiness gave promise fair
And eased with pleasing hopes a Parent’s care.”

The verses are taken from the Rev. James Austen’s manuscript collection of writings (inappropriately known as his “*Journal*”) which is now the property of the Jane Austen Memorial Trust at Chawton.⁷

The complete passage, entitled “*Lines written at Kintbury, May 1812*” consists of about a hundred rhyming couplets full of the worthy James’ nostalgic and sentimental reminiscences of his boyhood visits to the Fowle family at their Berkshire home more than thirty years before.

The ‘*village pastor*’ and ‘*father grave*’ is the Rev. Thomas Fowle (1726–1806), vicar of the parish. The ‘*busy, bustling Mother*’ is his wife Jane Craven, cousin to the fourth Baron Craven who was a bachelor with the unusual name of Fulwar. The name ‘*Fulwar Craven*’ was bestowed on their first born in recognition of the help his lordship gave the couple in the years leading up to their marriage. The other three of the “*four manly boys*” were given the very orthodox names of Thomas

(usually Tom), William and Charles.

The friendships between Fowles and Austens began when Fulwar and Tom were sent by their “*shrewd*” father for tuition at the home of the Revd. George Austen at Steventon to prepare them for entrance to Oxford. James Austen, the eldest son of the family, was at this time a precociously scholarly youth who had matriculated at his father’s old college, St. John’s, at the age of fourteen. In age he was just between Fulwar and Tom and he became firm friends with both of them.

James’ boyish admiration for Fulwar Fowle is expressed at length in two poems he wrote at the age of 15 and 16 and which are both preserved in the *Journal*. The first, in James’ typical vein of pawky humour, is entitled “*An Epistle to Fulwar Craven Fowle Esq., supposed Secretary of State in the reign of George 4th, by J. Austen as a Country Curate*”: the second, more sedate but fuller perhaps of hyperbolic sentiment, is “*An Elegy, written at Kintbury Berks, addressed to F.C.F.*”

⁷ Brother of Jane Austen, born 1765

For much of the time that Fulwar and Tom were “boarders” at Steventon vicarage, Cassandra and Jane Austen were themselves away at boarding school, yet no doubt the boys and girls saw enough of each other to form their likes and dislikes. As most girls would, they preferred the quiet, restrained character of Tom to the headstrong impetuosity and quick temper of Fulwar.

In 1784, when the Steventon theatricals were in their prime, James started to write prologues and epilogues for the amateur productions, and several of these are to be found in the Journal. The epilogue to “*Matilda*” was entrusted to Tom Fowle to deliver: despite the tragic nature of the piece it starts in James’ typical style of self-deprecatory humour:

“*Halloo, good gentlefolks! What, none asleep!*”

It continues in this vein for a dozen rather unheroic couplets.

The Fowles’ cousins, Martha, Elizabeth and Mary Lloyd, came, on the death of their father, to live with their mother at Deane parsonage in 1789. The Lloyd girls and the Austen sisters became, as the *Life and Letters*⁸ tells us, “*fast friends*”. The move benefited Tom too, for on his visits to see his cousins at Deane he could always slip over to Steventon as well. By the time Cassandra was nineteen the “*tender attachment*” between her and Tom Fowle was plain for all to see. Fulwar meanwhile had married Elizabeth Lloyd and having obtained a living at Elkstone had moved away to that remote Gloucestershire parish and started to raise a family.

Four years later Tom also obtained from his patron the young Lord Craven a benefice at

the tiny village of Allington, Hants: but it seems that conditions there were not such as to allow the young rector to marry. Cassandra Austen was prepared to wait.

So much for the two elder brothers, both following their father’s footsteps in seeking ordination. What of William and Charles? It had long been decided by their far-seeing father that they should follow the two other liberal professions, Physic and Law.

William was sent at an early age to be apprenticed to his uncle, also William Fowle, a hard-working and thriving apothecary of Red Lion Square. Wm. Fowle the elder, though he became Master of the Society of Apothecaries in 1796/7, and no doubt played his part in the struggle which had been going on most of his working life to raise the status of his calling to that of a true profession, had clearly made it his aim to see that his young nephew attained the higher and much more respected designation of physician.

Young William was sent to the United Hospitals Medical School, then for a year to Edinburgh, and finally overseas to Leyden University, where he matriculated on 5th Oct 1791 and (according to quite normal practice) graduated as Doctor of Medicine three weeks later. His *Dissertatio Medica Inauguralis* (on the fever of Erysipelas) is dedicated to Chas. Dundas Esq., squire of Kintbury and a lifelong friend of the Fowle family. It is probable that Mr Dundas had made a substantial contribution to the cost of his training.

Now proudly adding M.D. to his name, young Dr. Fowle went straight down to Devizes and married Maria Carpenter on 19th July 1792, at St. John the Baptist church.

We may surmise that if the small country town of Devizes already had the services of a reasonably good apothecary and surgeon, the newly-arrived physician might have

⁸ Austen-Leigh, William and Austen-Leigh, Richard Arthur, “Jane Austen, her Life and Letters, a Family Record” 1st edn, London 1913

found himself short of patients. Perhaps it was to occupy his time and make a little money that Dr. Wm Fowle translated from the French a short book about the possible cure of the smallpox by mercury treatment: so we may be allowed to wonder further whether that other son of the parsonage, Edward Jenner, who was about that very time beginning his researches on the cowpox and smallpox only 30 miles away at Berkeley, Glos, ever read the treatise "*Experiments with Mercury in the Smallpox*" (Salisbury 1793) or was acquainted with his Wiltshire colleague?

The year 1795 brings two of the brothers together again, for in that summer, within a few weeks of each other, William and Tom both joined the army. William of course was commissioned as a physician, while Tom became chaplain to Lord Craven. His lordship, 25 years old, had purchased the colonelcy of the Third Regiment of the Line, (the Buffs), now due to become part of a 19,000 strong force under Sir Ralph Abercromby, to be sent to the Windward Islands.

The culpable mismanagement and strategic uselessness of this expedition caused Fortescue to describe the 1795 campaign in the West Indies as:

"perhaps the most discreditable to be found in the records of the British Army".

The huge armada sailed from Portsmouth many weeks late, immediately encountered a violent tempest and was completely dispersed over the Atlantic, scores of ships sunk, hundreds of men drowned.

After many weeks at sea a fair number of Abercromby's force, including the Buffs, at last reached the West Indies, but by then it was far too late: the good six months of winter campaigning had gone; the hot weather, with its invariable companion the yellow fever, was approaching.

The Royal Navy flagship accompanying the transports was, so Fortescue tells us, the frigate HMS Glory; and if "*Jane Austen's Sailor Brothers*" is correct, Lieut. Frances Austen was serving in her at the time. If Frank was indeed a witness of that horrendous crossing of the Atlantic, one wonders how much he told his family?

In any case the fever struck with its annual inevitability and carried off about half of the gallant Sir Ralph's stalwart but ill-accounted force. The casualties included, early in the following year, the young chaplain of the Buffs. Following the death of her fiancé, Cassandra Austen, like her sister, Jane, never married.

Lord Craven returned from this appalling fiasco quite cured, his mother's *Memoir* informs us, of his "*military furor*" We do not hear of his going soldiering again.

William Fowle reaped some benefit from the fact that he too, serving in the Leeward Islands, was stricken by the fever but recovered. He wrote "*A Practical Treatise on the Different Fevers of the West Indies and their Diagnostic Symptoms.*" He could not, naturally, offer any evidence of cause or hope of cure. In 1800 he left his wife and two young children in Devizes to sail overseas again, and died in the pestilential land of Egypt in the following year.

To come to the youngest son: Charles Fowle was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in January 1790, at the age of 19, and called to the Bar a decade later. In 1799 he married Miss Honoria Townsend of Newbury and set up in practice as a barrister in that town.

Charles was only five years older than Jane Austen, and in their salad days the two seem to have been on very friendly terms. In her very first Letter to Cassandra she describes the "*exceeding good ball*" at Manydown, where despite a host of young men to dance and flirt with she was:

“very much disappointed at not seeing Charles Fowle of the party, as I had previously heard of his being invited.”

Perhaps Charles, rather short of stature (like all the Fowles), had been put off on hearing of Jane’s liking for the very tall Irishman Tom Lefroy!

A few days later Jane calls Charles a “good-for-nothing” for having ordered some silk stockings; having declared she cannot afford them, Jane goes on, “I hope he will be too hot in them the rest of his life!” Whether the offending garments were intended for her or for himself, there seems to have been some friendly hanky-panky going on. Some years later Charles again shows his penchant for playing little tricks on his lady friends, when he sends his cousin Mary (née Lloyd) a “Mameluke cap”- far too daring a fashion for such a staid and self-conscious person as the wife of the Revd. James Austen! Mary passes the fez-like object on to her young sister-in-law Jane to wear at the Kempshot ball.

Charles Fowle distinguished himself as a Volunteer Officer. In the earlier invasion crisis of 1799 he was persuaded by Mr. Dundas to take command of a comic little unit, consisting of a dozen worthy ironmongers and bakers, calling themselves the Hungerford Pioneers. In the second and greater emergency of 1804-5 we find him commanding the Hungerford Infantry (a corps that eventually numbered more than 180 all ranks), and promoted to the rank of major.

Charles shared with his elder brother Fulwar the glories of the Bulmarsh Heath Review at Reading, when HM George III personally inspected all his Berkshire Volunteers. Fulwar had gained the distinction of being given command of a Rifle Company, the Rifle regiments newly raised by Col. John Moore and Col. Manningham being the elite of the army at

this time. His unit was 232 strong, with 11 officers, Paymaster, Quartermaster, Sergeant Major, 12 Sergeants, 12 Corporals, 4 drummers and 190 privates.

It was on June 8th 1805 that Lt. Col. the Rev. Fulwar Fowle, C.O. of the Kintbury Infantry Company (Rifle) achieved his moment of glory when His Majesty said to him:

“I knew that you were a good clergyman and a good man; now I know that you are a good officer.”

On another occasion George III said of Fulwar Fowle:

“he is the best preacher, the best officer and the best rider to hounds in all my royal county of Berkshire.”

To return to Charles: it may be that his health broke down very suddenly, for in April 1805 Jane writes to Cassandra that he has taken a house in Bath “from Michaelmas”. Then in February 1806 comes the announcement in the Reading Mercury:

“On Wednesday last died, after three weeks illness, at his brother’s house at Kintbury, Charles Fowle Esq, of Kensington Place, Bath, Barrister-at-Law and Major Commandant of the Hungerford Volunteer Infantry.”

It appears from the record that Charles died on the day of his own father’s funeral, 12th February 1806. We may imagine the crushing effect upon Fulwar as he had to look to the burial of his father and the last of his three brothers in the same week.

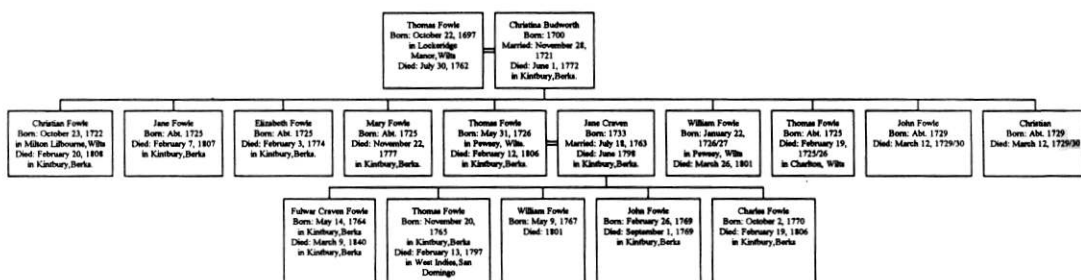
Fulwar Craven lived on until 1840 as Vicar of Kintbury and died on the 9th March in that year, ten months after his wife Elizabeth. His reputation as a crusty-tempered fox-hunting parson is well documented; not so well known perhaps is the creditable part he played in the Hungerford Riots of 1830, when at the age

of 66 he intervened courageously on several occasions and contrived to combine his loyalty to the establishment as a magistrate with a truly human feeling for the desperate and starving labourers.

Apart from their connections with Jane

Austen, the lives of these four sons of the parsonage, here sketched in briefest outline, form a fascinating paradigm of the social changes taking place as we pass from the eighteenth into the nineteenth century.

Direct Descendants of Thomas Fowle



Wills from 1858

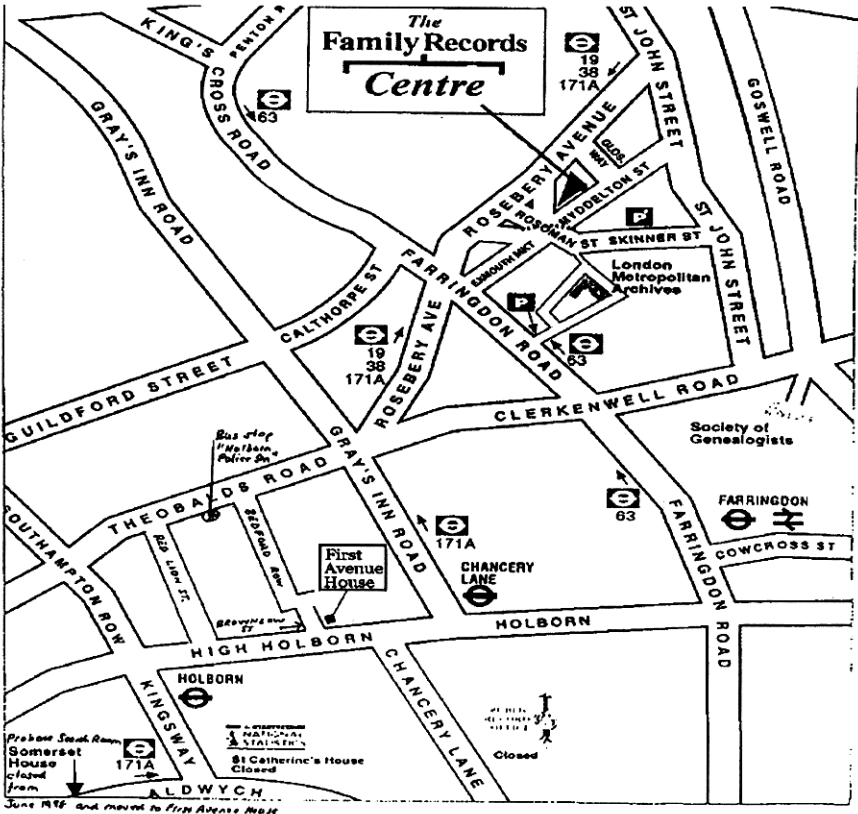
The following information is taken from The Family Records Centre, Fact Sheet, May 1998

As some readers may know, post-1858 wills are no longer available for consultation at Somerset House, London. The Probate Search Room has moved to First Avenue House, 42-49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6NP. The telephone no. is 0171-936-7000. The searchroom is open to the public Monday to Friday 10am to 4.30pm

At the searchroom you can consult the indexes on the open shelves. Having found a relevant reference, you can then order a copy of the will or grant which will be faxed to the searchroom to consult there or have posted to you. If you wish to look at the will on site you are advised to arrive well before **3pm** as this is the latest time for orders if you wish to see the document on the same day. Once ordered it usually takes up to an hour for your document to arrive. The cost of reading a will in the searchroom is 25p. To obtain a copy of a will costs 75p and a copy of a grant is 25p.

If you are unable to visit First Avenue House, you can order a copy of the will (cost £2) by post. Write to The Court Service, York Probate Sub-Registry, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 2EA, (telephone no 01904-671564).

You may also consult indexes to wills 1858-1943 in the Census and Wills Reading Rooms at the Family Records Centre (FRC), Myddelton Place.



A Visit to the Book Town

By Chad Hanna

We'd been planning to visit Hay-on-Wye for some months. Lesley wanted some books on church architecture and it seemed like a good opportunity to see what we could find for the Research Centre Library.

We didn't rush off on Saturday morning as I find that although it's about 140 miles from Reading to Hay-on-Wye we don't need more than 2 or 3 hours in Hay before we've run out of both money and credit!

Membrury services provided a poor value lunch about midday and we then pushed on along the M4. Now there was a choice, do we head for Hay via Cirencester, Gloucester and Hereford, or do we take the more southerly route across the new Severn Bridge and then head north from Newport going through Abergavenny? Lesley chose to see the bridge on the way out, although this meant we would pay the £4 car toll for the westward journey (the eastward crossing is free).

After a slow journey through Abergavenny, which was holding a Shire Horse Show, we finally reached Hay about 3 o'clock. Parking was more difficult than usual as the main pay and display car park was full. Nevertheless, we did find a slot on the outskirts and walked into the town. We picked up a free bookshop leaflet at the first bookshop we visited. This was quaintly named "*The Bookshop*". The leaflet numbers the bookshops in the town (and the bookshops display matching numbers in their windows) and lists the specialisms of each bookshop although most bookshops carry a wide range of books varying from antiquarian to second-hand to remaindered.

"*The Bookshop*" has several floors and the main floor includes many books on collecting old photographs. We purchased four of the more recent edition of the King's England books by Arthur Mee, namely Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, Hampshire and one on Berkshire that appeared to have belonged to Maidenhead Library at one stage. My mother has a complete set of the old (Dark Blue dustjacket) King's England series, including County Durham, the rarest. Lesley and I thought it would be helpful to have the reprinted editions in the library, as they are cheaper and have had some minor corrections, although there are still errors, for example, the mistake of thinking that St Luke's in Erleigh Road, Reading was the Earley Parish Church (actually St. Peters). "*The Bookshop*" also supplied us with a book about the history of St Mary's in Castle Street, Reading - "*The Church that would not die*" by John Dearing.

We moved on to another shop. Lesley found a beautiful book on the "*Badges and Insignia of the British Army*" which apparently had only come in that day. I guess that almost all insignia and badges are listed along with their dates of use - which would make the book very useful for dating photographs of your soldier ancestors!

We then visited the Castle Bookshop where Lesley bought herself a monster book on the "*Architecture of Southern England*" by John Julius Norwich. Mark Westwood was the next shop which looked as though it could help. Here we found a King's England for Sussex, along with a battered, cased set of three paperback volumes of "*The Concise Dictionary of National Biography*". Not as useful as the CD-ROM version I know, but a lot cheaper at £24. As we went up to the till to pay for this little lot, I noticed a small notice saying 11 volumes of "*The Ancestor*" £65. We asked to have a look at these old genealogical magazines from the early

years of this century, hummed and hawed at the condition of the bindings and the usefulness of the material, finally walking away with the set for £50. While Lesley stayed and helped box up our purchases I returned for the car and collected Lesley and boxes shortly after the 6 pm closing time. Apparently *The Ancestor* volumes had been there for more than a year.

Now quite pleased with ourselves, we set off home returning via Gloucester and Cirencester, or rather their bypasses. We reached home about 10pm after taking a break for a meal. We're now busy cataloguing these books and they'll be in the Research Centre library by the time you read this. If you are making a special trip to see these items, please phone either us or Cliff Debney beforehand to check that they are there.

Library Matters

We've now purchased the 1851 census index for Cambridgeshire on microfiche and we've had updates from Buckinghamshire FHS and Gloucestershire FHS. Huntingdonshire expect to have their 1851 census index available on fiche at the end of the year. The Research Centre also hold the four A to Z street maps of London, in Elizabethan, Stuart, Georgian and Victorian times. There is also a very useful Atlas of the 1st World War which may help you figure where your relatives were likely to be during the war.

Surfing the Internet for Scottish Family History

By Ruby Bateman

Our first two attempts ended in failure. The first weekend the Scottish bank was not accepting payment, then the next weekend we had a job to get in, then gremlins struck again. The message "*not a valid entry*" meant the computer was not working. The third weekend we tried we were in luck. We got in immediately, paid our money, received the "*all OK*" message and put in our code again and were able to read 30 pages of entries plus entry information sheets for our £6. However, we forgot to read all the instructions properly before starting, and its best to get them printed out and thoroughly read first. We did not realise that the entries were per parish not county. We got some lists, but not the marriage of John and Mary, no luck in the place Tobermory where we were told they lived, but managed to get some print outs of births and with some IGI records managed to find their place of birth. We should have asked the computer for the parishes of Argyll (about 70) and tried the obvious ones (reduced to 12 for each 10 year period) and may have struck lucky, or tried

the whole country for each 10 year period.

When you ask it to look into a parish you get a information sheet, which will tell you if there are any entries in that parish for that period; if yes you pay for the sheet or sheets that contain it. I recommend that a log is kept of places and dates requested and the results to save going over the same ground; also ask your computer to save any sheets you may want to refer back to, as once turned off, all is lost.

It took us 2 hours to surf the Internet, but we could have done it in smaller doses and thought about the results as they give you 24 hours to enter for your £6, but then I had to use some-one else's machine. So we are still looking for the wedding of Mary Maclean and John Maclauchlan in the Isle of Mull or the Island of Knapdale between 1868 and 1880.

It was a experience looking, but if some-one does find them let me know.

The address for Scottish records is <http://www.origins.net>.

Reading Cemetery

Tales from the Tombstones

By Jacqueline Harbor

When I first joined the Berkshire Family History Society six years ago, a project had just begun to record all the gravestones in the old Reading Cemetery. Being a native of Reading (as are most of my family and my husband's family), I offered to help in the belief I would find all the missing links on my family tree and large numbers of unknown and forgotten ancestors.

To a certain degree this has been achieved (apologies to all those who have heard me say on several occasions "*that's one of mine*"), partly by recording the inscriptions but mostly as a consequence of a careless remark one Saturday afternoon when I asked a fellow recorder if anyone had transcribed the actual burial books. He said nobody had but it would be a worthwhile task for someone to take on.

Six years later I'm pleased to report that the "*worthwhile task*" has been completed. Some 75,174 burials have been transcribed and indexed - a labour of love (literally, I had a baby halfway through!). I have found many ancestors that I didn't know existed and have been able to identify several of whom I knew something without actually knowing their names. I've also been able to put a relationship to a boyhood friend of my father's who knew he was related to my mother but neither knew how. They're actually second cousins but I would not have worked this out without finding the burial of this man's grandmother which led to her marriage and maiden name (Harding - the same as my mother) and the fact that she is buried very close to my great-grandfather her oldest brother.

For those who do not know Reading Cemetery, or for those who drive past it

every day on the way to work (it is sandwiched between two main roads leading in and out of Reading) it was opened in May 1843 as a badly needed burial ground for the people of Reading. The first interment was of an Elizabeth Jacobs aged 22 of Eldon Terrace. The Reading Mercury reported the officiating minister as describing it as a:

"praiseworthy institution for which the town was deeply indebted to the gentleman by whom it was originated".

The last plot was sold in 1959 but an occasional burial is still held there today.

During the 116 intervening years the great, the good and the unfortunate of Reading have been laid to rest. There is no-one particularly famous individual interred here although many will know Sutton Seeds (and have sown them in their gardens). Quite a few members of the Sutton family are buried in a vault now surrounded by ivy-clad railings, including the founder of the firm John Sutton, in 1865 and his son Martin Hope Sutton who was the leading light of the company until his death in 1901. His funeral according to the Reading Mercury was impressive by anyone's standards: flags flew at half mast, businesses were closed and private houses lowered their blinds on the afternoon of the funeral. There were 45 carriages in the cortege plus 60 private carriages and 20 broughams to carry the mourners. It stretched for a mile of roadway and admission to the cemetery was by ticket! Incidentally in one of the carriages was a lowly clerk from the Gas Office, Mr J.B.Harbor, my father-in-law's uncle. He has no idea how Uncle John got an invite to

such a grand occasion!

The approach to the vault was lined with moss and decorated with white flowers. A large marquee was erected over the grave in case it rained (it was October). It was also reported that all his nine children attended, a rare occurrence for those times when so many were lost in infancy. His last surviving daughter, Jessie, died in 1954 and is buried with her father.

Needless to say the vast majority of interments did not attract the attention of the media nor did the mourners need a ticket to attend. Take my husband's great-great-grandfather for example: Thomas Harbor died in 1861, the cause of death according to the inquest was "*Unknown. Found dead in a ditch*". Read on a little further and you'll find that he spent all day in the Three Tuns Public House. Victorian-speak for probably intoxicated.

Local newspapers reported the death and funerals of the town's tradespeople, clergy, doctors, teachers and charitable workers whose last resting is the cemetery. They also reported on the "*poor and huddled masses*" who met an unfortunate end. Members of my own family are amongst the latter. by chance when looking through the Reading Mercury for 1921 I came across a Coroner's inquest on an Ernest Henry Shorter, aged 46, a widower of Whitley Street who was found by his father with his head resting on a pillow in the gas oven. Ernest was my maternal grandmother's cousin. My mother knew nothing of this even though she remembers visiting the family just before the start of World War Two. Poor Ernest left £1 to "*Doll*" together with his watch and his insurance policies and a £1 bank account to his father. I wonder is this is the Cousin Dolly who appears in a photograph with one of my great aunts taken about the same time? Sadly, I shall probably never know.

I'm sure many will have heard of Annie Dyer, the baby farmer who disposed of her charges by throwing them over the weir into the River Thames at Reading, locally called The Clappers. Annie Dyer herself was hanged at Newgate Prison on 10th June 1896 but her victims are buried in Reading Cemetery. Many children lost their lives in the rivers Thames and Kennet that flow through the town. These days children are rarely allowed to play unsupervised near water but rivers and lakes were common playgrounds for our predecessors. Harold Pinker aged 16 was drowned whilst attempting to swim across the Thames near the Kings Meadow Recreation Ground in 1916. The currents are strong here and Harold got halfway across before being carried away. Despite a gallant effort by a passer-by, Mr S.Glanfield (later to be the grandfather of a childhood friend of mine) Harold's body was not recovered for another 25 minutes. Three years earlier Annie Louise Robus was sentenced to two months imprisonment for throwing her new-born baby into the river. In 1896 Mr George Murdoch who ran a boys' home in Mount Pleasant in the town, together with four of his boys, was drowned after watching Reading Regatta when their cycle boat overturned. It was 9.30pm at night and in the dark, confusion followed. Nine boys were saved by onlookers but four boys were trapped under the boat and their bodies were not recovered until the following day. Mr Murdoch and the children aged between nine and eleven are buried together in the same grave.

Other children buried in the Cemetery are Lilian Daisy Lake, aged 7 in 1907, who died from eating fungi in Palmer Park; George Edward Kinch aged 14 who was knocked down by a car in Tudor Road in 1929, and George Waylands Scales aged seven in 1917 also killed by a car in the

town's Oxford Road. The saddest, though, has to be Henry George Eden aged five of Southcote, who was found in the River Kennet in 1873 the day after his father's funeral who had also drowned in the same river at Burghfield. The inquest was held at the widow's cottage - how very traumatic this must have been for her.

Railways were also dangerous places to live near or work on. In 1913 a 21-year-old Reading man, Joseph Plumridge, was killed whilst working at the Great Western Railway sidings at Swindon. A train came out of Swindon station and started to shunt backwards. Another man with him managed to get clear but Joseph met his end when the wheels of the coach ran over the lower part of his abdomen. Joseph was the cousin of my paternal grandmother who clearly remembered that her aunt, his mother, never got over her son's tragic death.

The funeral of Victor Houghton Wicks in 1921 attracted the whole of Newtown, Reading plus civic dignitaries. Victor was one of the victims of the R38 airship crash at Hull. He was the wireless operator who sent the last message "*Ship broken. Falling*". His funeral service was held at St John's church where he had been married.

Sidney Gamester's route to the Cemetery in 1929 was via a bottle of Lysol which he drank because he could not get a divorce from his wife, who was in Park Prewett Mental Hospital, Basingstoke. He wanted to marry his girlfriend.

Alfred Oliver, a tobacconist of Cross Street, Reading, was bludgeoned to death (also in 1929) at his shop by person or persons unknown. His story was featured on ITV's "*In Suspicious Circumstances*" and also the book "*The Ordeal of Philip Yale Drew*" by Richard Whittington-Egan.

Newspapers gave much fuller obituaries than their modern counterparts and they

often named employers and occupations long gone from our memories. I had no idea that the Royal Engineers had a Pigeon Service Section during World War One until it was mentioned upon the death of Mr Albert Grant of Oxford Road in March 1919.

Probably the most well known monument in the cemetery is that of Bernard Lawrence Hieatt. He was killed in a motor cycle and sidecar race at Brooklands racetrack in Surrey in 1930, aged 21. His machine was doing 90mph when the sidecar caught the edge of the grass, hit a fence and he was flung ten feet into the air. Death was instantaneous. Amazingly his passenger survived with just a severe shaking! Bernard's grave is marked by a statue of a man in contemporary motor racing clothes.

Another sad event was that of a Winifred May Walden in 1927 who was found drowned in the weir stream near to Sonning Lock. She had been missing for six weeks having visited her doctor on New Year's Day complaining of feeling tired and run down. She disappeared three days later. Sadly her mother was found in the same spot four years later having been missing for four months. A friend of my sister is the great-granddaughter of Mary (the mother) and says that it was understood within the family that Winifred was pregnant by a local lad although there is no mention of this in the inquest report.

Another body was found in the River Kennet in 1917 but was only identified as a woman aged 65 to 70 and was thought to be of the "*tramping class*".

There are several Commonwealth War Graves stones but not one for Carl Buckmaster (sic), a German prisoner who died in a Reading War Hospital. He was given a military funeral watched by crowds of cheering people and other British wounded. The procession was headed by

military police and followed by a firing party. His coffin was draped with a German flag and conveyed on a gun carriage. His remains were removed with seven others in 1963 to the German Cemetery at Cannock Chase, Staffordshire.

I mentioned previously that the town's tradespeople are well represented in the Cemetery. One was McCarthy Fitt, builder and contractor, who died in 1915 aged 56. He was responsible for building the Art Gallery in Reading, several schools (including Redlands Primary, Katesgrove Boys' and Alfred Sutton Primary), the Reading Vaudeville Theatre, Henley Town Hall and remodelled the British Dairy Institution for a police station. A lot of these buildings still exist today and the company of McCarthy Fitt was around until fairly recent times.

For those interested in statistics, in its first year (1843) 28 interments took place; in 1959 (the year of closure) there were 99. In its heyday 1860s to 1920s, it averaged four burials per day, six days a week. In 1889, 849 interments were held made up of 245 men, 200 women, 324 children under 5 and 80 stillborn. In 1949, there were 179 men,

209 women and only four children under 16, making a total of 392 for the year.

Finally in these days of TV stars, footballers and pop singers and the names they inspire parents to call their children, I just wonder who the following were named after (some are obvious): Topsey Honeybun, Toto Jesse, Mozart Archer, Mainprice Barton, Saumarez Mountsteven, Worthington Willicombe, Verdun Prior (1917), Dardenella Newitt, Colleberry Beldam, Camperdown Clark, Kennet Armistice Legg (died 28th December 1918, aged one month) and Agnes Pretoria Clinch, aged 18 in 1919.

If any reader thinks an ancestor may be buried in this old cemetery, I am willing to search for the cost of a SAE. Please give as much detail as possible - especially if your name is Smith.

Sources

- **Berkshire Record Office:** Reading Cemetery Order and Burial Books
- **Local Studies Library, Reading:** Reading Mercury and Reading Standard Newspapers

Editor's Notes

In the June issue of the "*Berkshire Family Historian*" Andrew Bathe contributed an article "Song Collecting in North-West Berks 1914-1916" in which he asked for further information about various singers of the Nineteenth Century. Unfortunately I omitted Andrew Bathe's address which is: Regent House, West Market Place, Cirencester, Glos, GL7 2NN. Please contact him if you have any information regarding those mentioned in his article. If you are a new member, please send me an SAE and I will send you a copy of the article.

Thank you once again to all contributors to this issue.

I am, as always, still needing articles. The next two deadlines are 31st October for December 1998 and 27th January for March 1999.

If you use a computer I should be pleased to receive your article on a 3½" disk in most IBM-compatible formats, (please enclose a printed copy of your article), or e-mail me on sharrington@compuserve.com. I am of course always delighted to receive articles, letters, items for the Help Wanted pages, comments or general feedback in whatever format you are able to send them!

The Berkshire Record Office is now run by Reading Borough Council on behalf of all the unitary authorities in Berkshire. The new telephone number is 0118-901-5132. **Please note that visitors will no longer have access to the shop and restaurant.**

Reading Local Studies Library News

By Margaret Smith

Firstly, a change of name (we used to be known as the County Local Studies Library)! '*Reading Local Studies Library*' is now our official title which reflects the fact that we are now part of Reading Borough Libraries, following the abolition of Berkshire County Council at the end of March. Despite this new name, we still have our very large collection of printed material about Berkshire. My job title has also changed and I am now known as '*Local Studies Librarian*'.

Secondly, how to contact us. Our phone number is now 0118-901-5965, the fax number is now 0118-901-5954 and our e-mail address is reading.ref@dial.pipex.com

A word about a useful addition to stock. Following a visit to the Family Records Centre in London, we acquired a copy of the street index for Reading to the 1861 census returns, which means that there are now Reading street indexes to all the

censuses except 1841 in stock. Reading was not a large enough town in 1841 to warrant an index.

Recent visitors to our microform room may have noticed that a third microfiche carousel has appeared. This has been purchased to accommodate various fiches that we have acquired over the last few years, but which we have not been able to display properly. Out on open access now are a set of transcripts of parish registers for South Oxfordshire (including places in pre-1974 North Berkshire) produced by the Oxfordshire Family History Society, and transcripts of monumental inscriptions issued by both the BFHS (most notably Reading Cemetery) and by the OFHS. Amongst various other microfiches, we have a set of indexes produced by the Berkshire Record Office to its holdings of wills and admns 1711-1858.

Builders Day Book

By Judith Lawrence

Recently, I bought a "*Builders Day Book*" whilst at a car boot sale at Burghfield, near Reading. I am not sure how it came to be in Berkshire or if there are family connections in this area.

From the addresses of the properties where work was carried out, I was able to deduce that the book came from Brighton. It records details of work done between 1864 and 1866. A few pages in the book give details of farming records from Chiddingly, Sussex in the 1890s.

I have given the book to the East Sussex Record Office at Lewes. (Reference number AMS 6475). Christopher Whittick, the senior archivist at Lewes has been able

to do some further research and discover that the day book belonged to William and Samuel Russell of Brighton, Builders.

The farming records were connected with Samuel Russell, grandson of the Brighton builder.

I have made a list of the property owners and the addresses at which work was done. I have also made a list of the workmen employed by the firm (surnames only.) If any BFHS members have connections in the Brighton area am happy to send copies. Please send an SAE to Mrs J Lawrence, 16 Clevedon Drive, Earley, Reading. RG6 5XE.

Did Your Grandmother go to Kendrick?

By Ann Davis

The Endowed Schools Act

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century the education available for the daughters of the rising middle class, shopkeepers, tradesmen and professional men was worse than that available to the daughters of labourers. The School Boards, constituted in 1870, provided a system of schooling under trained teachers. However middle class parents did not send their daughters to Board Schools, neither could they afford private governess. Sometimes a family would employ a governess then advertise for one or two little girls to share lessons, others sent their daughters to private schools where the curriculum usually consisted of English, French, Drawing and Music.

The Endowed Schools Act of 1869 allowed the diversion to educational uses of unused charitable funds. The often quoted case is that of funds for the redemption of Barbary captives but there were also funds to provide dowries for poor maids or apprenticeship for poor boys. Interestingly the provisions of the Act had already been anticipated in Reading where a large part of the Kendrick Loan charity had been used to provide new finance for the old Free Grammar School (now Reading School).

The schools established or reformed by the Endowed Schools Commission had certain points in common. These schools were to be graded, with "*First Class*" schools aiming to prepare children for University; "*Second Class*" and "*Third Class*" schools with business careers in view were to have lower leaving ages, lower fees and less classics in the curriculum. Each school was to have a board of governors who would be the trustees of the endowment funds. The schools were to be

independently examined and reports made to the governors. On one point the Endowed Schools Act was quite specific, schools were to be provided not only for boys but also for girls.

Kendrick Schools

The Reading scheme provided for the use of the remnants of John Kendrick's charity to provide both a boys' school and a girls' school. It is the girls' school which is the subject of this article.

The Kendrick Schools were aiming to prepare pupils for business careers rather than for University entrance. The Girls' School followed a curriculum adapted from that of boys' schools but also included art, music and modern languages. Few careers were in fact open to girls leaving school in those days but very early in the life of Kendrick Girls' School it began training Student-Teachers and encouraging suitable pupils to take up the profession.

In 1876 the school Governors bought Watlington House from Reading Corporation for £1,200. Perhaps the fact that one of the previous tenants had operated a school for young ladies suggested to the Corporation that this lovely old house would be a suitable home for the Kendrick Girls' School, until a more suitable building could be provided. £109.16.6d was spent on necessary alterations. The long-term plan was for Watlington House to become the Headmistresses home. Until then the Headmistress, caretaker and school would have to share the building. In the event, the school was not rehoused until 1927.

Advertisements for the new school appeared in the local press during 1876.

Parents were advised that the school would be open to girls aged between seven and sixteen, the daughters of Reading residents to have preference over other applicants. The subjects to be provided would be Scripture, Mathematics, English Language and Literature, French, History, Geography, Natural Science, Drawing, Singing, Household Management, the Laws of Health and Needlework. Piano lessons were available as an extra. The school admission register shows that forty girls applied and were accepted during the months before the school opened but sadly, one died before the term began.

The Kendrick Girls' School of the 1880's was very different from the Kendrick School of the 1990s. We would probably not regard it as a Grammar School, nor even as a Secondary School! Compared with schools today it was very small, it was only intended for 100. Girls went home for dinner, and the register of the first forty applicants shows that the majority lived within walking distance. There was no school on Wednesday afternoon. There was no uniform, girls wore the high necked close fitting stiff serge dresses of the time, probably in serviceable dark colours. Rather as the Sixth formers today wear their own clothes, members of Form VI put their hair up and were occasionally allowed a game of croquet on the lawn.

Some of the subjects taught are not taught today, and many of the subjects available to schoolchildren today were not offered. Apart from "*instrumental music*" i.e. piano lessons there were probably no "*options*", everyone following the same course. The staff was small, though as the number of pupils was so low by present day standards the pupil teacher ratio may have been much as it is today.

However the real difference between Kendrick Girls' School in Queen Victoria's

time and now, lay in the age range of the pupils. We are used to the idea of schoolchildren being divided "*Horizontally*" with one type of school for under 11s and one or more for over 11s. The Victorians divided children "*Vertically*" with one type of school for the working class and others for the middle and upper classes. Both Board Schools and Endowed Grammar Schools were "*all through*" schools. Kendrick Girls' School was intended to take girls from seven to 16, and school records and memories of Old Girls suggest the age range may have been even wider. Girls entering the school at say, eight, were preparing for public examinations at the end of their school career, if at all. Only a proportion of the girls did in fact join the school in the Kindergarten and stay until Form VI. Girls joined the school at any age. A few free or half-fee places were awarded each year, out of the endowment funds, to girls who had attended local Board Schools. The candidates for these were usually about twelve years old but some were as young as ten. The exhibition was normally for three years and frequently the "*exhibitioners*" left on the completion of the three years. A girl coming from a Board School at 12 might know no French, for example, but find the other girls of her age had been studying the language for three years. Another girl might come from a private school for young ladies and find herself ahead of her classmates in drawing but with no knowledge of Euclid.

The school was inspected regularly by inspectors acting on behalf of the Governors, the Department of Science and Art, or the Board of Education, and this often meant the whole school sitting written test papers beside being tested "*viva voce*". The Inspectors' Reports often indicate that the three upper forms, or two

or three of the lower forms, were grouped together for some or all subjects.

The First Head

The first Head Mistress, Mrs Emma Smith, had trained as a teacher under Miss Buss at the North London Collegiate School and had also taught at that school, now famous for its pioneering role in women's education. When she applied for the post at Kendrick Girls' School she was a widow, her husband's early death having left her with two sons and three daughters to support. She has been described as kindly but firm and as having ideas that were ahead of her time.

A statuesque woman of 39 with dark auburn hair, and blue-green eyes, the younger girls in particular found Mrs Smith decidedly awe-inspiring. She was never addressed as "*Mrs Smith*", but as "*Ma'am*". She was anxious that the girls should uphold the honour of the school, and should grow up to be good and useful women.

The agreement made between Mrs Smith and the Governors allowed her and her son to occupy such rooms in Watlington House as were not needed for classrooms. The Assistant Mistresses were also permitted to live in Watlington House, under the control of the Headmistress. They were permitted coals for one fire but the Governors would not provide any furnishings for the Headmistresses' use. The arrangement raises the question - where were Mrs Smith's other children ? None of them appear on the 1881 census return for Watlington House. Two of her daughters actually attended Kendrick school. The eldest, Minnie, joined the school in January 1879, and when she was 14, in April 1880, left to go to High School. This was possibly Reading High School and Ladies College in Oxford Road. Another daughter, Ethel, spent a similarly brief time at Kendrick,

from September 1882 to December 1883. Since Ethel was 16 on 27th June 1883 she should presumably have left then. The youngest child, possibly the son referred to in the agreement, died at the age of eight while Mrs Smith was at Kendrick.

When the school was opened, on 15th January 1877, Mrs Smith had one assistant, Miss Walmsley, to help with the 39 pupils. Miss Fanny Grigg was engaged in March 1877 but left in December the same year to be replaced by Miss Edith Sheward. Music was taught by Miss Biggs.

The school was examined at the end of 1877 by Philip Magnus, BSc, BA, Examiner for the University of London. According to his report there were 78 on the roll and the Headmistress was assisted by a staff of two. The subjects being taught were English Grammar, French, Drawing, Singing, Physical Geography, Domestic Economy, Reading and Recitation, and Arithmetic. The Inspector remarked on the difficulties facing the teachers, girls were entering the school between age 11 and 14 and much time was spent on:

"the necessary correction of injurious habits of thought, consequent on the superficial teaching which many of these children have previously received. It is only necessary to compare the papers written by the children when they first entered with those which I have received in answer to my examination questions. The improvement in handwriting, neatness and the orderly arrangement of ideas is very marked."

While the efficiency of the Headmistress was warmly commended the report did recommend the employment of an extra governess to enable Mrs Smith to give more time to the younger girls. He also mentioned in his report that she was well aware of the need to give more time to Science.

Two new teachers were appointed in July 1878. Miss Fanny S Denham was 21 and Miss Ada Chitty was 18, scarcely older than the oldest pupils. Miss Denham taught History and could remember all the dates that were such an important part of the teaching of History at that time. Their appointment brought the staff to three, since in her end of year report to the Governors for 1878 Mrs Smith reported that a junior assistant (Miss Sheward) had left.

In her end of year report for 1878 Mrs Smith also suggested two improvements. The school should no longer accept all applicants but should enforce an entrance examination, since girls who could not be placed with classmates of their own age were causing a problem. Certainly there already was an examination but at first this may have been used to determine in which form a girl should be placed. The other suggestion was that the school should engage Student-Teachers with a view to forming a nucleus from which future assistants could be drawn. This would also give suitable pupils a chance to enter the teaching profession.

When Mrs Smith recommended setting up a scheme for training Student Teachers she probably had some suitable candidates in mind since when, in May 1879, two Student-Teachers were employed under terms reminiscent of apprenticeship both were former pupils. Eliza M Bourton, who had left Kendrick at Christmas 1878, and her father, William Bourton, entered into a contract with the Governors. The Governors undertook to pay Miss Bourton £6 for the first and £8 for the second year of the contract and to arrange for her to receive *"from the Headmistress instruction in the art of teaching and keeping school according to the system and method which shall be in operation in the said Kendrick School for Girls during the time of this*

engagement". For his part Mr Bourton undertook to *"clothe, feed, lodge and watch over the student-teacher in a proper manner"*. A similar contract was made with Annie Rebecca Simonds and her father William Henry Simonds.

Now training the Student-Teachers was added to Mrs Smith's duties, and her report for 1880 showed that they were careful and painstaking and *"bid fair to turn out good teachers"*. Every lesson that a Student-Teacher gave had first been checked by Mrs Smith, who might also sit in on a lesson. Not only the Head Mistress, every member of the small teaching staff had to be prepared to teach a range of subjects.

The first pupils seem to have been entered for public examinations in 1879 when 21 girls took the College of Preceptors examination and 15 passed. Those who failed, Mrs Smith hastened to assure the Governors, did so because they took the wrong paper in History, though they passed all the other subjects. The same year four girls sat the Cambridge Local Exams and all passed, two with honours and one with distinction in Music.

Miss Maria Bromley joined the staff in October 1879 and the 1881 census shows that she, together with Miss Denham and Miss Chitty, lived on the premises with Mrs Smith. Besides the teaching staff there was also a small domestic staff, a man described only as a servant, with his wife, daughter and sons. This would be the caretaker, whose wife and daughter would provide domestic services for Mrs Smith and the Assistant Mistresses. A former pupil, writing in the school magazine for 1937 recalled the feud between the mistresses who lived in and the caretaker's daughter, Lizzie. Apparently, if Lizzie felt she had been slighted she took her revenge by putting washing soda in the jug of water on the offender's wash-stand. It was

Miss Denham who discovered the cause of the apparent skin complaint affecting the teachers

One duty which does not seem to have fallen to the domestic staff was that of cleaning the desks. The pupils themselves were responsible, not only for keeping them tidy, but for keeping them clean. This was not easy in the days of “dip-in” pens, and girls filling inkwells made sure any spills went on the floor and not on the precious desks! Friday afternoon was a busy time, sandpaper and cut lemons were vigorously applied to remove all traces of ink, as each vied with another to have the whitest desk.

In 1878 Mrs Smith proposed setting up a Dorcas Society among the girls. She discussed the idea with Mrs Palmer and Mrs Simonds, two of the Governors, and they supported her in her plan to encourage the girls to do something for those less fortunate than themselves. By the end of 1878 it was well established. Those Victorian Kendrick Girls who subscribed to buy material, then practised their needlework making clothes for poor children while Mrs Smith read aloud from “*The Water Babies*,” began a tradition of support for different charities that exists in the school to this day.

The scheme for training Kendrick teachers under a type of apprenticeship seems to have been satisfactory since in 1882 two new Student-Teachers signed contracts. Miss Annie Margaret Pecover had been a pupil at Kendrick until the end of 1880 and her contract, though signed in 1882 took effect from January 1881. Miss Margaret Grant, the other Student Teacher taken on in 1882, was also a former pupil. M. Edith Craft, a former pupil, recalled in the School Magazine for 1937 how, after a year at college in London, she also returned to Kendrick as a junior mistress to receive practical instruction from her old

Headmistress in “*the art of teaching and keeping school*” and the school register suggests this was in 1883.

The School received a glowing report from the Rev. A Evans Vinter, MA, when he carried out the examination in 1883. He praised:

“Mrs Smith’s powers of organisation and kindly discipline (which) seemed to me exactly what should be desired in a girls’ school”.

His report shows that the subjects being studied were Scripture (much better than expected), Grammar and Literature (highly satisfactory), Reading (good), Recitation, History (very satisfactory), French (satisfactory), Arithmetic (neat and accurate), Drawing (on the whole, very satisfactory) and Needlework (on which as a man he did not feel qualified to express an opinion). He wished to recommend that the study of Algebra be added to that of Arithmetic but this was deleted from the final draft of the report.

In December 1884 Mrs Smith left Reading as she was about to be married again. Pupils and staff subscribed to give her a leaving present, described in the Reading Mercury as “*a handsome china tea service.*” The presentation was made by Miss Grant, who had been one of the original 39 pupils, then a Student Teacher and had recently been appointed to the staff.

Sources

- Kendrick School Magazine 1937
- Reading Mercury (Local Studies Library)
- 1881 Census Returns for Reading
- Below is a list of the first forty applicants for places at Kendrick Girls’ School taken from the Admission Register kept at Berkshire Record Office Ref 1986/SCH/2/1-6. With the exception of Rosa Marian Hickie all started on 15th January 1877. The register shows the date and reasons for leaving and continues up to 1908 with similar information.

Date	Name	Date of birth	Address	Parent	Date Left
3 Oct 1876	Mary Angelina Bushell	23 Mar 1865	35 Horn Street	Henry Knap Bushell	1878
	Edith Avonia Roberts	12 Feb 1863	Western Cottages, South Street	John Roberts	1878
	Mary Lena Roberts	1 April 1866			ill health
	Maud Roberts	11 Jan 1868			left neighbourhood
7 Oct 1876	Fanny Elizabeth Hunt	25 July 1863	6 St Mary's Parade, Minster Street	Edwin Hunt	Xmas 1877
	Margaret Ann Hunt	9 Sep 1864			left school altogether
3 Nov 1876	Annie Welman	16 Sept 1863	Oxford Street	William Welman, draper	July 1878
14 Nov 1876	Annie Ward	6 April 1868	Kings Road	Ebenezer Ward, Brick merchant	gone to Boarding School
15 Nov 1876	Bessie Matilda Smith	12 Aug 1867	17 Kings Road	George R. Smith	April '81
	Sarah Brown	13 May 1863	Alberton Cottages, Southern Hill	Charles Brown, foreman (factory)	May 1880
	Annie Brown	20 Mar 1865			Dec 1880
	Rose Brown	23 Feb 1867			Xmas '82
16 Nov 1876	Maria Jane Egginton	12 Feb 1868	Reading Savings Bank, London Street	John Egginton	Xmas 1878
22 Nov 1876	Mary Ann Warwick	11 Sept 1863	61 Oxford Street	James Geo Warwick, builder	Xmas '80
	Amelia Warwick	28 Nov 1866			entered as student teacher, left Xmas '82. illness
24 Nov 1876	Kate Herman	4 Aug 1868	33 Letcombe Street	J Herman, café keeper	Xmas '82
27 Nov 1876	Elizabeth Annie Collins	30 May 1868	145 Friar Street	George Collins, Hotel keeper	Xmas '82
5 Dec 1876	Clara Huggins	5 Mar 1865	Queen's Road	Thomas Huggins	July 1882
					left school altogether

	Armie Sophia Churchman	23 Jan 1866	Tilehurst		Robt Churchman, brick merchant	Xmas '81	left school altogether
	Bertha Mary Pearce	2 Feb 1878	23 Lorne Street		Thomas Pearce	Sept 1880	withdrawn
7 Dec 1876	Dora Beatrice Jones	2 Feb 1866	Duke Street		Edmund Jones	April 1878	Boarding School
	Lilian Eva Simmons	28 Nov 1866	Trevor Cottage, Lower Caversham		Hubert Simmons	July 1878	non-payment of fees
9 Dec 1876	Margaret Grant	18 Sep 1864	County Police Office		William Grant	Xmas '81	finished education entered as student teacher
	Alice M Patton	4 Aug 1862	Ernest Storer, 236 Kings Road		William Patton	Xmas '79	left school altogether
11 Dec 1876	Rosa Marian Hickie	16 Sep 1868	38 Broad Street		William Hickie	Dead before opening of school	
12 Dec 1876	Ellen Soper	8 Aug 1869	22 Friar Street		William Soper, gun maker	Mids 1884	
13 Dec 1876	Armie Matilda Hawkins	22 June 1864	8 Albert Road		Louisa Hawkins	Xmas 1878	want of means
	Louisa Anne Hawkins	28 Feb 1867					
14 Dec 1876	Kate Mary Poynder	19 Feb 1865	102 Queens Road		John A Poynder	Easter 1879	left school altogether
21 Dec 1876	Elizabeth Morris	7 April 1862	22 Queen's Crescent		Jane Morris		left school altogether
	Agnes Mary Handy	9 Sep 1867	52 Caversham Road		Thomas G Handy	Xmas 1878	Boarding School
	Caroline Handy	13 May 1869				Xmas 1878	Boarding School
	Kate Brunston	12 Mar 1866	Gosbrook House, Caversham		Charles Brunston		
	Armie Rebekah Simonds	20 Jan 1864	19 Princes Street		William Hy Simonds	April 1878	non-payment of fees
	Elizabeth Fidler	23 July 1866	130 Kings Road		Isaac Fidler	July 1880	no reason given
2 Jan 1877	Eliza Mary Bourton	12 May 1863	49 Watlington Street		William Bourton	Xmas 1878	left and entered as student teacher
3 Jan 1877	Armie Eliza Plim	15 July 1863	39 Watlington Street		James Plim		left school altogether
	Armie Margaret Pecover	13 July 1865	48 Broad Street		Edward Pecover	Xmas 1880	left school, entered as student teacher
11 Jan 1877	Emily Sophia Jones	6 Feb 1863	33 Bedford Road		William Jones	Xmas 1878	left school
	Ethel Marian Hurley	8 April 1869	Mill Lane		Frederick Hurley	July 1878	Boarding School

Berkshire Record Office News

The following items are reproduced from The Berkshire Echo - The Newsletter of Berkshire Record Office (No.6 Summer 1998).

What's New?

We have recently acquired overseas indexes of births, marriages and deaths from the Registrar General. These are as follows: army returns of births, marriages and deaths, 1796-1965 (excluding war deaths); Consular returns of births, marriages and deaths for British citizens abroad, July 1849-1965; High Commission returns of births, marriages and deaths from the date of independence of the Commonwealth country to 1965; and combined overseas births, marriages and deaths, 1965-1994.

Just Catalogued

A number of West Berkshire churches have added to their deposits in the Record Office. They are Midgham, which has deposited registers of burials 1813-1980, and baptisms 1931-1982 (D/P/130C), Woolhampton, with the register of baptisms for 1872-1980 (D/P/156), and Beenham, which has deposited registers of baptisms 1924-1984, and of services, 1963-1977 (D/P/16). We have also acquired Reading Christchurch parish magazines, 1904-1906 (D/EZ/119) Non-conformists are also represented, with the recent deposit of the records of Woolhampton Congregational Church, which cover the period 1838-1969, and include registers of baptisms 1838-1859, 1877-1904, and 1930-1941 (D/N/38). The records of Crowthorne Methodist Church, 1870-1988 (D/MS/19), have also been transferred here. The Church of England is represented by the records of Reading Deanery Mothers Union, 1926-1983, and of three of its constituent branches: Christchurch, 1933-1996, Holy Trinity, 1966-1974, and St John with St Stephen, 1957-1974 (D/EX/1480).

An interesting collection of records has been received from Compton Civil Parish Council, covering the years 1814-1995 (CPC/41). The oldest documents are the enclosure map and award for West Compton, 1814-1816, and also of particular interest are the papers of the Local Defence Committee, 1941-1944, and a series of photographs of floods which devastated the village in 1925. The disruption caused locally by World War Two is also reflected in plans of proposed post-Blitz emergency building arrangements, 1942-1943, (D/EX 1483). We have also acquired the admission register for Newbury County Girls' School, 1943-1961 (98/SCH/1) and the logbook of Ashampstead Church of England School, 1901- 1903 (D/EX/1493).

A particularly interesting deposit has been the records of the Reading Temperance Society, 1832-1993 (D/EX/1492). Among the records are a reference to a particularly hard winter (1891) which led to many local workers being thrown out of work, when the Society set up a soup kitchen for affected families, and provided free breakfasts for local schoolchildren. A local organisation of more recent vintage to deposit its records has been the East Reading Horticultural Society, 1941-1991 (D/EX/1482). The Clewer Non-Ecclesiastical Charities derive from a number of charities set up in the parish of Clewer at various dates between the 17th and 19th centuries. We have catalogued their records, 1861- 1980, which contain much detail relating to beneficiaries. We have also listed an interesting collection of deeds of property in Enborne, Newbury, Speen and Thatcham belonging to St Bartholomew's Charity, Newbury, 1546-

1879 (D/EX/1379).

The most interesting estate collection to have been listed recently consists of Chamberhouse manor and estate records, 1306-1800 (D/EZ/77). This estate was in the parish of Thatcham, and highlights of the archive include 15th century manorial accounts, two 15th century leases of Chamberhouse mill which are (unusually) in English, and a charming survey and plan book containing a set of plans of the estate, copied in 1691 from an even earlier original map. Unfortunately, the 18th century estate papers have been badly damaged by exposure to water, and the majority will be unavailable until essential and extensive conservation work can be carried out.

We have also catalogued a fine collection relating to the property of the Blagrave family of Southcote and Calcot Place,

which consists primarily of deeds and estate papers, from the 13th century to 1902 (D/EBG). The family acquired much of the Reading property formerly held by Reading Abbey after the Dissolution of the Monasteries, much of which they let out on long leases, including, in the early 19th century, the homes of Reading printer Robert Snare and the Revd Richard Valpy, a much celebrated headmaster of Reading School. The mediaeval deeds refer to property in Shinfield and Swallowfield, but the majority of the collection relates to Reading.

We have also purchased a revealing probate inventory of the Revd Osborne Gordon, Rector of Easthampstead, 1883 (both D/EZ/118). Gordon was a distinguished scholar who taught the future Edward VII at Oxford.

Wokingham Library:

Local History and Family History

By Carol Carson

The main local history collection of Wokingham Libraries is housed at Wokingham Reference Library. The coverage is Berkshire with a Wokingham District Council Area bias. Items for loan are kept here also. Stock includes books, pamphlets, local journals, church magazines, civil parish magazines, Wokingham Council minutes and Council reports. Other items include large scale OS maps and photographs of the Wokingham District Council area, newspaper cuttings and local newspapers with a complete back file of the Wokingham Times on microfilm from 1989. We also hold Wokingham Remembered material consisting of 30 oral history transcripts, five volumes of directory extracts covering central Wokingham and notes on Wokingham history.

Our Family History Collection holds books

and pamphlets on family history techniques and sources. Also included are *The Genealogical Research Directory*, the 1988 International Genealogical Index and some monumental inscriptions. Recently the library acquired Census Returns 1841 - 1891 on microfilm for most of the Wokingham District Council area. In addition the collection holds indexes to the 1851 and 1881 Censuses. Our two microform readers and two microform reader/printers can be booked.

The Reference Library has two public Internet terminals. We do not at present offer e-mail. Our address is <http://www.wokingham-library.org/>.

Further information and a leaflet are available from Wokingham Reference Library, Denmark Street, Wokingham, RG40 2BB Tel: 0118-978-1368, fax 0118-989-1214.

Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire Family History Society

*Meeting held on Wednesday 10th June 1998, at the United Reform
Church Hall, Northbrook Street, Newbury, Berkshire*

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire Family History Society, and informed the Meeting that the Annual General Meeting will follow the Agenda as published in the March 1998 issue of the Berkshire Family Historian.

1. Apologies for Absence

The following apologies were received:

Lady Palmer, Dr Peter Durrant, John Elkin, Margaret Pyle, Peter Francis, Barbara Swiatek, Simon Harrington

2. Minutes of the 1997 Annual General Meeting

The Chairman reminded that Meeting that the Minutes of the 1997 AGM were published in the September 1997 edition of the Berkshire Family Historian. The Chairman asked the Meeting that the Minutes be accepted as read. This was proposed and seconded and the meeting agreed unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report for 1997/98

The Chairman delivered his report as follows:

"It is my very great pleasure this evening to give my first report to you as Chairman of the Society. When I was first asked to take on this role, little did I expect the amount of time and effort required by the position. However, I now know much better what is required behind the scenes to assist members and to promote the Society.

The Society has two principal assets: you - the members - and the Research Centre. Membership this year has increased by about 11% so that the total on 30th April was 1524. During the last four years the membership has increased from 1241. We need to thank the people responsible for this growth. Firstly, we should thank our membership secretaries

Margaret Pyle and Dawn Garlick who so patiently guide applicants through the processes of becoming members. Secondly, we have to thank Robert Houseman - our Secretary - who has had a lot to do with promoting the Society and who looks after our membership database. Last, but not least, we should thank you, the members, because each time you mention family history at work and at play you are advertising the Society.

The second principal asset of the Society is the Research Centre at Prospect Technology Centre (recently renamed from Prospect School). The Research Centre has been open for about three years now. The total number of visitors in the year was 1729. That is to say, each member has visited the Centre one and a bit times. Visitors spent an average of £3-43 each! In response to requests from 'out of town members' we have arranged for some Saturday openings. Starting in September the Centre will open on the second Saturday of each month. I have to say that this is in the nature of an experiment. The response from members will be monitored and the opening will only continue if we feel the number of visitors warrants it.

The Research Centre only functions by the efforts of volunteers. Firstly, our Research Centre Manager Cliff Debney puts in a lot of time at the Centre ensuring that all is well for visitors. The Society appreciates your efforts, Cliff. Thank you! Secondly, we have to thank Ed Pearce who looks after the hardware in the Centre - the fiche readers and the printers. He also keeps track of people visiting the Centre and checks the cash. How else do you think I can quote these wonderful statistics! Thank you, Ed. Thirdly, the Centre can only open while the Society can find sufficient volunteers - sorry, Library Assistants - willing to man the Centre during its opening hours. My wife looks

after the roster for the Library Assistants; she has about fifty on her register. When you think that in a five week month fifty volunteers are needed, you can imagine that things can get a little fraught at home. The Society's thanks go to the many volunteers who have spent time at the Research Centre. Finally, a library is only as good as the books that can be found in it. I understand that we now have some 6,000 items in the library. For that we have to thank Lesley Hanna - ably abetted by her husband Chad. I know that they spend a lot of time finding and buying material for the library.

Our Society journal Berkshire Family Historian binds all the membership together. Catherine Harrington our Editor looks after it. She continues to provide us with a magazine of splendid quality. I know that she receives many compliments about her work from both the UK and from overseas. Nevertheless she would still like feedback from you. It is after all your magazine, so if there are any ideas or items of interest which you would like to see included, do please let her know. Catherine always looks forward to receiving articles from members telling others of how you carried out your research, or highlighting pitfalls encountered during your searches. Why not surprise her by everyone submitting an article—long or short—during the next twelve months.

For the first time for many years the Society has established its members' interests. Another first for the Society is that it is being published on fiche and provided free to members. It will be delivered to with your June edition of the journal. This initiative originated from Robert Houseman and he has handled most of the hard work himself. Well done Robert!

From what people tell me, you all look forward to our indexes and publications and you cannot understand why our projects take so long to complete. The answer is that they are entirely done by volunteers who have to squeeze research, typing, checking and rechecking into the time available after their paid work or looking after the family. Our Projects Co-ordinator Chad Hanna looks after these matters. He tells me that we need many more

members who are willing to give a few hours each week to assist with projects. If you are able to help please give Chad or myself a ring. I know that Chad has many ideas for new projects just waiting for volunteers.

Our publications this year have included the Master Name Index for our Berkshire 1851 Census indexes and memorial inscriptions for four cemeteries or burial grounds. Each of these has sold quite well. Of course, our publications do depend on the completion of projects, so the sooner you ring Chad to volunteer the better! We are planning to publish more memorial inscriptions during the next twelve months. Also, our 1851 Census indexes will begin to be reprinted during the year on fiche only so that if you are desperately keen to complete your collection of booklets you had better buy them soon. Incidentally I have been asked why the society is publishing more material on fiche. Firstly, from our analysis of the results of the questionnaire to members from two years ago we found that some 60% of members either had a fiche reader or had access to one and a good proportion of the respondents preferred their data in that format. In general terms it has to be said that publication on fiche is cheaper. Our Publications Manager is Cliff Debnay and we thank him for all his hard work.

For about the last eighteen months the Bookstall has been under the general care of Lynne Macmillan but regretfully she has decided to step down. We thank her for her hard work during this time. In the June magazine which you will receive during the next week or so you will find that I am appealing for a Bookstall Manager. I am pleased to say that a willing volunteer for the role has already come forward. She is Sally Pellow and is just beginning to get to grips with the job. In addition to the main Bookstall in the Research Centre and the branch bookstalls, the Society also provides a postal book sales service. This involves some hundreds of orders each year from members in the UK and overseas. The postal sales service is run by Judith Morgan Russell and, again, the Society

would like to thank Judith for all her hard work. The total sales of the Bookstall from all its activities in the financial year was £12,513. Members will appreciate that the profits of the bookstall are put back into the Society's funds and go a long way towards keeping our subscriptions down.

The Society now has its own Internet pages. Once again the Society is indebted to Chad Hanna who has created them. The Berkshire pages include information about the Society; the services it provides for members; its publications and information about the Research Centre. All the surnames in the 1851 Berkshire Census are listed. The site has created interest among members and non-members alike. We have had visitors to the Research Centre solely due to the Internet. Membership and bookstall postal sales have benefited.

Your Executive Committee has met six times during the year. We have discussed a wide range of matters mostly about the Society, of course, but also on a wide range of other matters concerning family history. Our membership of the Federation of Family History Societies brings interesting and important topics to our discussions.

With regard to the Executive Committee I would like to say that two stalwart members are having to stand down this year since they have served for five years which is the maximum period allowed under the constitution. Robert Houseman has been the Society Secretary for five years and was Minutes Secretary for two years before that. This is a splendid record of service to the Society. Thank you, Robert. His services to the Society will, however, not be entirely lost for he will continue to look after the membership database and we are grateful for that. Margaret Pyle also retires this year. She is of course one of the joint Membership Secretaries and is therefore well known to about half the membership! The Executive has been well served by Margaret. Her input on all membership related matters will be missed. Thank you, Margaret. Again, Margaret is not entirely lost to the Society for she continues as

one of the Membership Secretaries.

I have mentioned a large number of people who have contributed to the running of the Society. There are others in addition to those I have mentioned directly; for example, the four Branch Committees. I estimate that, one way or another, the Society has between 80 and 90 people working for it. Since the members resident in Berkshire amount to about 800 this means that 10% of you contribute to the running of the Society. I think it is a splendid achievement that we should have such a large body of helpers.

I would like to send my personal thanks, not only to the Executive Committee who have supported me during my first year of office, but also to all those members who continue to help out behind the scenes. Without the contributions made by you all the Society would not be the success that it is."

5. Treasurer's Report for 1997/98

Ron Dobr e delivered his report and took questions.

Treasurer's Report

"Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to be able to report that the Society has had a successful financial year in most areas of activity.

In terms of Membership there has been an increase of some 10% over 1996/97 from £13,453 in last year to £14,889. Other income, in the forms of deposit interest, and payments for the various facilities and events also rose in line with the increase of Members.

Unfortunately the Society's claim from the Inland Revenue for tax rebates from covenants dropped compared with previous claims. It was however nice to see a few Charity Gift cheques appearing: these have the same effect on claiming tax but on an occasional basis. I would encourage members to complete covenants as a painless way of redistributing tax from the Government to the Society.

The Executive Committee decided that they should improve Members' facilities where possible and have concentrated on the Magazine and the Research Centre. In

particular it was necessary to increase the print run of the Magazine, and to reprint the New Members folders. Coupled with the increased print run of the Magazine, went increased printing, postage and packing costs.

The Committee also agreed that the Society should try to acquire copies of all published census indexes and allocated more money for that purpose, which the Librarian has seemed happy to spend. Unfortunately, the push on projects was not so successful, and there was an underspend in that sector, which hopefully may be rectified this year.

The result of these actions was that the Society broke-even on its main activities, with a surplus of £10.

Then the Bookstall. It also had a successful year, increasing its sales nearly 30% and producing a profit just over £3000. The improvement came from better margins generally together with the adoption of microfiche for new publications, which allows stock costs to be reduced. My congratulations to Lynne Macmillan and all her team, together with the Debneys who, although Jean was supposedly retired, have continued the sales at Open Days and elsewhere.

Now to the future. With the balance of funds still showing a surplus, and sufficient funds in reserve to meet current commitments, I have little hesitation in suggesting to your Committee that they should hold the level of subscriptions for the new year starting on 1st July, and think that it also unlikely that any increase will be needed in the following year.

Finally may I thank all those who have dealt with the finances of the Society. My part tends to be that of a Recording Angel (some Angel!) with all the real work done by many other people, Dawn Garlick and Margaret Pyle as Membership Secretaries, Ed Pearce and Cliff Debney for the Research Centre, all the Branch Treasurers, Lynne Macmillan, Judith Morgan-Russell and Jackie Holcombe for the Bookstall together with the Bookstall helpers, the Research Centre volunteers, the researchers, the raffle organisers, the tea makers and anyone else who handles Society funds on their

way in or out of the Society.

I am happy to take questions on the accounts, and will try to provide answers."

The Chairman asked the Meeting to approve the audited accounts. This was proposed and seconded, and the meeting agreed unanimously.

6. Election of President and Vice President

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the Executive Committee has invited Lady Palmer, our current President, and Dr Peter Durrant, our current Vice President, to continue in those posts for the 1998/99 Society Year and so they are duly elected.

7. Election of Society Officers for 1998/99

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the following nominations were received by the Secretary by the closing date of 5th June 1998 on the form published in the March 1998 *Berkshire Family Historian*.

Society Chairman - Mr Ivan Dickason

Society Secretary - Mr John Gumett

Society Treasurer - Mr Ron Dobrée

As no other nominations were received by the closing date, they are duly elected to serve as Officers of the Society for 1998/99

8. 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 for 1998/99.

Bracknell - Dr Peter Francis

Newbury - Mr Rick Maynard

Reading - Mrs Liz Longhurst

Slough - Mrs Barbara Swiatek

9. Appointment of Executive Committee Members for 1998/99

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the following nominations were received by the Secretary by the closing date of 5th June 1998 on the form published in the March 1998 *Berkshire Family Historian*:

Berkshire Family History Society
Expenditure for the Year ended 30th April 1998

	£	1997 £
Magazine	4799	4296
Magazine Postage	1689	2015
Meeting Halls	1393	1416
Speakers	1015	1111
Symposia, Open Days & Other Events	666	134
Reference Library	1898	1189
Premises Lease	2188	2123
-Other Research Centre Costs	676	495
Computer and Project Costs	336	129
Computer Depreciation	1124	1038
Conference Fees	230	302
Insurance & FFHS	962	944
Other Affiliations	203	43
Postage	590	498
Stationery	616	408
Photocopy	150	276
Telephone	70	63
Travel	442	210
Miscellaneous	458	396
	<u>19505</u>	<u>17084</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Bookstall Income & Expenditure Account
Year ended 30th April 1998

	£	1997 £	1997 £
Income			
Sales Income	12513		9384
Opening Stock	7200	8699	
Purchases	8527	6649	
Fiche and Census Printing	75	712	
	<u>15802</u>	<u>16060</u>	
Closing Stock	7300	7200	
Cost of Goods	8502		8860
Margin	4011		524
Stationery	29	32	
Postage	220	184	
Telephone	2	34	
Travel	158	66	
Sales Commission	429	38	
Photocopying	32	2	
Miscellaneous	0	-7	
	<u>870</u>	<u>349</u>	
Surplus	3141		175
Contribution to General A/c	-		174
Profit/(Loss) to Accumulated Fund	<u>-</u>		<u>1</u>

Berkshire Family History Society
Balance Sheet as at 30th April 1998

	£	£	30.4.97 £	30.4.97 £
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accumulated Funds	30741		30741	
Bookstall Surplus	3141		-	
Bookstall Creditors	2521		0	
General Surplus	10		0	
General Creditors	1873		3120	
<u>Assets</u>				
Computer and Copier Equipment		605		1729
Debtors		78		0
General Account		6259		1324
Instant Savings Accounts		208		2199
30 Day Account		18527		17820
Bookstall Account		4523		2584
Instant Savings BSA		642		622
Cash		144		382
Stock		7300		7200
	38286	38286	33861	33861

Berkshire Family History Society
Income for the Year ended 30th April 1998

	£	1997 £
Subscriptions	14889	13453
Inland Revenue	411	0
Deposit Interest	735	635
Advertising	0	120
Research	37	11
Symposia	224	39
Donations	80	206
Berkshire Name Index	126	95
1851 Census	239	82
Fiche Printer	1914	1693
Miscellaneous	859	679
	19515	17013
Total Income & Expenditure		
Income	19515	17013
Contribution from Bookstall	-	174
	19515	17187
Expenditure	19505	17084
	10	103

Signed I Dickason (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

Cliff Debney, Chad Hanna, Catherine Harrington, Sally Pellow

As no other nominations were received by the closing date, they are duly elected to serve on the Executive for 1998/99.

10. Appointment of Auditor for 1998/99

The Chairman informed the Meeting that David Muzzlewhite FCA has kindly offered to remain

in the role of Auditor of the Society.

The Chairman asked the Meeting to approve this appointment. All were in favour.

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Close the Meeting

The Chairman closed the Meeting.

A Group Photograph, Before, Now and In-Between A History Project

By Andrew Tatham

I have a group photograph of the officers of the 8th Royal Berkshire Regiment taken at their training camp on Salisbury Plain in July 1915. My aim is to explore who those officers were - where they had come from, what happened to them, and what their families are doing now. So often wars are seen in isolation from the rest of history - well, I want to put the First World War in the context of the family histories of these officers.

Of all of those in the Photograph, only my great-grandfather (their Commanding Officer) was a regular soldier at the outbreak of the war. The rest of them included businessmen, students, and lawyers, as well as a vicar, a teacher, an artist, and a poet and critic. Amongst them were the sons of an explorer, a tobacconists' traveller, the Bishop of Persia, a biscuit factory machinist, an egg merchant, and a physics professor. Each was an individual who had entered the world small and defenceless and had grown into someone with particular feelings, values, and aspirations. Some had travelled from as far afield as Malaya, Belgium, South Africa, Canada, Ceylon, and Argentina. This group was brought together by a shared belief in the cause that they were to fight for. They shared the intense experience of preparing for and going to war. Only twenty-three out of the fifty officers survived to have post-war lives.

Of those that survived, some had their lives shortened as a result of wounds. Others went on to have full lives with their families and occupations (including a GP in Wimbledon, a Canadian MP and newspaper owner, a parish priest, and a gold mining engineer in India). Some were also involved in military service in the Second World War. The longest survivor that I have discovered died in 1989, aged 94.

The beginnings of my research have put me in the position where I have a lot of background information as well as contact names and addresses for over half of the officers' families. In addition to trying to contact the officers' families and find out as much as I can about these men, I am exploring ways of representing the information that I find - to enable viewing of the information from a variety of different perspectives, and to see the long term consequences of human actions. If you are interested or feel you have anything to offer, I would be very pleased to discuss this Project with you. I can be contacted at 140 Wells Road, Totterdown, Bristol, B54 2AG. Tel: 0117-972-1903, and for those with access to the Internet:

website address: <http://www.mister-t.demon.co.uk/>

e-mail address: photo_project@mister-t.demon.co.uk

The following is a list of the officers in the photograph:

Thomas Edward ALLEN
James BARROW
Charles Frederick Napier BARTLETT
Leslie Herman BERLEIN
William Howe BISSLEY
Geoffrey Heslop BLACK
Ronald William BRAKSPEAR
Brian Dudley BRIGG
Hugh Kennedy CASSELS
Wilfrid Lawson CLARKE
Cecil Stedman CLOAKE.
Harold COHEN
George Bertrand COOTE
Richard Markham COOTE
Alfred Percival DOBSON
Lionel Huddleston EDWARDS
Douglas Eric FOOT
Frederic Clifford GARDENNER
Cyril GENTRY-BIRCH
David Corse GLEN
Douglas Murray HANNA
William Gray HAYNES
George Henry HEWITT
Basil Perrin HICKS
William George HOBBS

William Franklin George JOSEPH
Harold Charles Linford KEABIE
Louis Arthur KLEMANTASKI
Thomas Bernard LAWRENCE
Gordon Fraser MARSH
Peter McGIBBON
Wilfred Southey Deare OLDMAN
Charles Gordon PARAMORE
Thomas Gordon PEACOCK
Richard Stephen Pierrepont POYNTZ
Meryyn Phippen PUGH
Thomas Gerald ROBINSON
Aubyn Redmond ROUSE
Clifford SALMAN
Cyril SPARTALL
Donald Fenwick STILEMAN
Frank Mariner SUMPSTER
Edward Sidney Beaumont TAVENER
Morice Bell THOMPSON
Henry Cyril THORNE
Douglas TOSETTI
William Crawford WALTON
Charles Randolph WATSON
Cyril Arthur WILLIAMSON
Harold Vivian WOODFORD

WRNM One Name Study

David Wornham (410) of 20 The Parklands, Droitwich, Worcs, wrote to thank all those who have sent details of their WRNM (Warnham / Wernham / Whornham / Wirdnam / Wornam / Wornham / Wyrdenham etc.) findings.

“Although, owing to other commitments, my actual researches remain dormant, I have now computerised my database using ‘Pedigree’ software so making entry and searching more simple. I hold, to date, 2714 names covering from the year 1455 to the present day and am able to compose many extensive family trees, with Berkshire being the predominant county then and now.”

R Hanson of 6 Illingworth Grove, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 2QH, noticed the following memorial stone inset in the brick wall on the London Road from Bracknell to Ascot opposite the Royal Foresters Pub:

“In Memory of Henry Beaucourt Skyrme flying officer RAF who did not return from his last operational flight in the service of his country 16th January 1941, Per Ardua ad Astra”

Mr Hanson would like to know if anyone else know anything about the Skyrme family.

Help Wanted

Marcel & Ingrid Verbeeck-Proost (3571) of Ambroossteenweg 160, 1981 Hogstade-Zermst, Belgium need some help as follows:

“Ferdinand Ernest Kilby, born in Brussels (Belgium) 9 Impasse Perignon Street on 7th April 1851. Father unknown man. Mother: Mary Anne Kilby. Some days later they gave the child up at a hospital. A family story tells us, which may or may not be suggests, that Mary Anne Kilby was the daughter of an Earl and was formerly engaged to an ambassador in Belgium. There is also a possibility that she knew Elisa Nicholson (born Great Parton England 1807) married to Cavanillas Nicolas (born Madrid Spain 1787). This couple lived on 7 Impasse Perignon Street, Brussels during that period. The same family story also said that, when Ferdinand was about 21, a vicar came from England to ask the adoptive family to give the child back to the natural mother. This request was refused.

At the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints we found four possible Elisabeth Nicholson born in 1807 in Cumberland:

Elisabeth Nicholson	Fa: John Nicholson
(Elisabeth) Elisabeth Nicholson	Fa: Joseph Nicholson
(Elisabeth) Betty Nicholson	Fa: Lancelot Nicholson
(Elisabeth) Elizth Nicholson	Fa: Wm Nicholson

There were also many Mary Anne Kilbys. If she was between 18 and 25 years old in 1851, there are the following eight possibilities:

Father	Mother	Christening	Parish
Charles	Mary;	5 Oct 1830	Glenfield, Leicester
John	Caroline	6 Apr 1828	Saint Leonard’s Shoreditch, London,
Ralf	Ann	8 Aug 1824	Saint Mary, Lambeth, London
John	Mary	22 Jun 1824	Banbury, Oxfordshire
William	Mary	10 Jan 1830	Ascot-Under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire
Thomas	?	15 Jul 1832, Independent	Bedworth, Warwickshire
John	Elizabeth	19 Apr 1833	Banbury, Oxfordshire
John	Caroline	10 Nov 1833	St Leonard, Shoreditch, London

Can anyone help me to find out more about Mary Anne Kilby, Elisabeth Nicholson or an Earl Kilby.”

Miss Gillian Oakley (3789) of Lodore, Kent Street, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3LG asked the following:

“I would very much like to make contact with Iain Pattison or his wife (last known address 42 Wendan Road, Newbury, Berks. Iain was a t one time a member of the Northumberland and Durham FHS and I believe may be a distant relative of my Mother’s.

Perhaps Iain or his descendants are known to members of the Berkshire FHS, or are known to members who would be willing to pass on this message.”

Gordon Drewe (3280) of 6 Treve Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 4AJ would like some help as follows:

I am researching the Messenger and Bunting names for the period c1800-1850 in the Brightwell/Wallingford area. My great-grandfather, James Messenger was baptised at Brightwell parish church on 7th September 1828, the son of William and Ann Messenger. William and Ann (née Bunting) were married at the same church on 4th July 1825.

I know the subsequent history of James from the time of his marriage at Kensington, London in 1853 to his death at Battersea, Surrey in 1875 but nothing earlier apart from his baptism. He doesn't appear in local census records. I have also failed to find any information relating to William and Ann apart from their marriage. It is possible that they came to Brightwell shortly before their marriage and left after James' birth.

Has any member information which would help me with further research.

Lynda Hughes of 75 Jones Parade, Coolum Beach, Queensland 4573, Australia, wrote as follows:

"My father David Hughes was born in Newbury on 21st August 1937, the son of Albert George Hughes, born in Windsor, 1st July 1891 and Kathleen Nina Olga Wiltshire. His parents married on 24th January 1928 and they lived in Newbury until their immigration to Australia in 1959. Albert's father was Henry Hughes, a builder's labourer. Any information that anyone comes across concerning this family would be greatly appreciated."

Mrs W.A.Phelma contacted the Berkshire Family History Society for help in looking for any other descendants of William John Butler and May Maud née Rowland as follows:

"My husband came from Wantage, Berkshire. He went to a home in Faringdon until he was thirteen then worked on farms until he came to Canada in 1930. The farms were around Ashbury.

William is 84 years old now and this past few years he has thought about his time in England. His brother Fred stayed in England but wasn't interested in past history. He is dead now.

We went to England in 1976 but we were too busy sightseeing to look up relatives. We did go to Faringdon to see the school and church William attended. The home was gone.

William was born February 12th 1914. Parents William John & May Maud Rowland. His father died when William was very young and was told his mother married again.

He did correspond with another Butler from that area but didn't find any connection.

Can anybody help? Please ring Ivan Dickason on 0118-978 6785."

Chris Sibbald of 18 Horseguards Drive, Maidenhead, a new member of the Berkshire FHS wrote as follows:

"In 1991 before I started researching there was an arson attack on St Luke's Church in Maidenhead. Although the registers were locked in the safe the intense heat took its toll and they were mostly destroyed.

A group of church members decided that it was a shame that there was not now a hand-written record of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials for St Luke's. So we started copying out these records from the bound copies of the Parish Magazines. These are copied out chronologically into separate volumes, longhand in a calligraphic hand. So far we have done: Baptisms 1911-1940, Marriages 1919-1945 (1935-1945 being checked) and Burials 1899-1940. All records for 1916 are missing. The work is still on-going."

Q and A with Jean

Q Michael J Tigwell (2325) of "Riverdown", 11 Platway Lane, Shaldon, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 0AR: For many years I have been researching my Tigwell family tree and this has, inevitably, turned into a one-name study. 95% of the references to this name are confined to Hampshire, Berkshire and Surrey (just). I have abstracted information from many parish registers in these counties and created family trees where I could - an interesting but quite time consuming exercise. The earliest reference I have is to a manor in Hampshire c.1350.

The purpose of this enquiry is to ask if you can check your "Surname Index" for anything on Tigwell - or the variations Tiggle/ Tiggal / Tyghal. Although I have looked in several surname books I have never found an entry, except in a 19th century book which suggested that it might have come from France - Normandy I suppose. There is definitely No connection to the similar names of Tickell or Tighe.

A Although I was unable to find anything about your surname under the different spellings you listed, I decided to pursue the possibility it might be a lost place name comprising two elements from Old English. The first element tyg-/tig- may be a form of tigel = a maker of tiles or bricks, and the second, well = a spring. However, as the second element in earlier examples is spelt -hall/-hale/-all, the name might mean "Tigga's hall"; but this is an unconfirmed suggestion on my part.

As you referred to a manor I visited Reading Local Studies Library to check the *Victoria County History* (VCH) for Hampshire which might have been where you found the reference to a Tigwell manor c.1350. The VCH, for those counties

which have been published, includes details of the descent of manorial lords together with a great deal of other local information and are always worth consulting. They are fully indexed and can be found in many large libraries. In the Hampshire VCH⁹, there are several references to Tygall. Between 1326 and 1505 the manor of Peak, in the parish of East Meon, was held by the Tygehall or Tygall family after which it became known as Peake Tigall: that is, the family name was added to that of the manor and therefore was not adopted from the manorial name and that the name predates these references. And in the neighbouring manor of Bereleigh (also in East Meon) a tenant called Reginald Tygall was recorded in 1369. The VCH footnotes refer to a pedigree in *The Genealogist* (New Series), ii, 108 and other details in the Hampshire Feet of Fines. All that is left of this manor today are two farms known as "Peak" and "Peake" which are listed in the Ordnance Survey Gazetteer (to the 1:50,000 Landranger series, 1987), also in Reading library. It is possible that "Peake Farm" may have been known as Tigwell Farm earlier this century.

The possibility that the name Tigwell predates the manorial references suggests that it may be an old French place name - and a dictionary of Old French or a detailed gazetteer of France may locate a place of that name. I wonder what the title was of that "19th century book" on surnames you consulted - it sounds as if it may have been on the right track.

From my own bookshelf I also checked Stuart Raymond's *Genealogical*

⁹ Vol.3, p.71. Hampshire VCH pub. 1900-1914, 5 vols and index

*Bibliography for Hampshire*¹⁰ in which he refers to a Tyghale pedigree included in an article on the Manorial Charters of Ropley.

As your researches have developed into a one-name study, it could be to your advantage to register your interest by joining the Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS); information can be obtained by sending an SAE to The Secretary, Box G, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA or via internet on: <http://www.leicester.co.uk/guild/>

Q *Wheeler (3267) of 981 Old Lillooet Road, North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7J 3H6: I visited the Research Centre in June 1996 and was lucky enough to find a little white card that referred to one of my ancestors. However, I am a little confused about the meaning of the entry which had my ancestor's surname and first name on the top left and right corners (respectively "BAYLISS" and "Sarah"). In the middle was, from top to bottom, the parents names, the town and dates of birth and baptism. Finally, in the bottom left hand corner was "Zion Chapel, Highworth" and in the right corner "Wilts FHS". Another similar card had "Zion, Highworth, Independent" in the bottom left hand corner.*

I would like to know what does "Zion Chapel, Highworth" mean? Is it where the record was found? I am confused because Sarah BAYLISS was from Longcot, Berks and not Highworth, Wilts.

Secondly, what is the reference to the Wilts FHS - do they keep their records at your library?

And finally, there was a reference to John & Beryl Hurley from Devizes, Wilts - were

they the people who submitted the information?

A The little white card you refer to is one of the many thousands of slips in the Berkshire Name Index which come from a variety of sources. Your entry was a "stray" - i.e. the entry was found in a record made outside Berkshire but refers to a person who is linked with the county. The majority of our "strays" reach us via the central clearing house of the Federation of Family History Societies which, apart from maintaining a master index which is published on microfiche from time to time, redistribute duplicate slips to the appropriate county family history society twice a year. Your examples were generated by the Wiltshire FHS and probably by John and Beryl Hurley who are very active in that society.

Although your ancestors came from Longcot, Berkshire, they were evidently members of the Zion Independent Chapel which is about five miles away in Highworth, Wiltshire and naturally took their daughter to be christened there. Non-conformist congregations are usually drawn from a wide geographical area and are not confined to a single place unlike an Anglican parish. The Independent chapel was in the High Street, Highworth, and was founded in 1777 or 1784, according to different sources; it later became Congregational and is now the United Reformed Church. The original registers for this chapel are in the Public Record Office, Family Records Centre, London¹¹ and the births/baptisms are on the IGI. Copies are also held by the Wiltshire Record Office, Trowbridge.¹²

¹⁰ Published by Fed.FHS (1995); these indexed publications include detail of title, author, date & publisher of many printed sources of use to family historians. Armed with the details you have to locate the item yourself, perhaps through the inter-library loan service.

¹¹ Ref RG4/2593

¹² Information obtained from the National Index of Parish Registers for Wiltshire - one of a series of publications which details all registers by individual English counties.

Bookstall News

By Sally Pellow

You may recall that in the June copy of the Society magazine Ivan appealed for someone to come forward to run the bookstall. Well, I volunteered: and hope you will now bear with me as I slowly begin to get to grips with the stock and all the systems.

Let me introduce myself: my name is Sally Pellow (née Dickson) and I have been researching my family history since I had my first daughter seven years ago. I started with my mother's line (MacDonald, Fethney, Fleming, Anderson), went on to my father's (Dickson, Muir, Garrard, Butchart, Christison, Alexander) and when I started to hit dead ends moved on to my husband's family (Pellow, Moran, McIntyre, Williams, Croker). In the way of these things, I am now thoroughly embroiled in the minutiae of the Pellow, and all the rest are having to wait their turn. Unfortunately for me, none of any of the branches ever lived anywhere near Berkshire.... Most were in Cornwall, Scotland and Lancashire.

I am starting off my new part time role by setting up a new system of stock control: those of you who are able to buy books from us at either the Centre, or one of the branch meetings, or at an Open Day, will find in your book a sticky label bearing details which will help me to identify the stock more exactly. The labels are used at the point of sale. The good news is that, in order to start the system off, I need to get rid of as much of our older stock as possible. At this time of year we place our main orders for stock for the coming year, and some of the titles have risen in price; others are due to be revised. Some of our stock is simply a little tatty. I have decided to hold a

SALE

which will start on Tuesday, 22nd September. Sale stock will be displayed in the Centre and will be available for purchase at any time that the Centre is open. Postal orders are gladly accepted, and I have chosen that date to allow as many of you the chance to place an order as possible.

All stock has been reduced from the original sales price. Most is on sale because when I reorder it, it will cost you more, even though the books haven't been revised! Examples are given below. Buy now!!!

Title	Price will be	Sale price
<i>Army Records for Family Historians</i>	£6.99	£4.50
<i>Basic Approach to keeping your Family Records</i>	£1.50	£1.00
<i>Basic Facts about... Archives</i>	£1.50	£1.00
<i>Basic Facts about... Sources for Family History in the Home</i>	£1.50	£1.00
<i>Welsh Family History (1st edition)</i>	£9.95	£7.50

There will be many other titles available: I have simply advertised the ones I have the largest supply of. Most are FFHS publications, and I am afraid there will be little or no Berkshire stock in the sale. We sell our own publications much too quickly to have to reduce it!

I will let you know how successful the sale was in the next magazine.

Members' Interests

Compiled by Robert Houseman

MEMBERS SUBMITTING THEIR INTERESTS:

(* Member of Guild Of One Name Studies)

- 0757 Mrs F MANNES, PO Box 1689, Mildura 3502, AUSTRALIA
1929 Mrs V STEVENSON, 59 Antill Street, Wilston, Brisbane 4051, AUSTRALIA
2297 Ms K SAUNDERS, 20 Columba Avenue, Lookout Point, Dunedin 9001, NEW ZEALAND
3432 Me SA BRADY, 16 Lambert Cross, Saffron Walden CB10 2DP
3502 Mr R BEAZLEY, 14 Ennis Court, Orelia 6167, Western Australia, AUSTRALIA
3517 Ms A TAYLOR, 122a Bronte St South, Apt 725, Milton, Ontario L9T 1Z1, CANADA
3554 Mr & Mrs KW CAULKETT, 85 Kynaston Road, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8HA
3558 Mr DA BARRETT, 9 Bethune Road, Horsham, Sussex RH13 5JN
3561 Ms H NORTON, 1b Homebush Court, Heathmount, VIC 3135, AUSTRALIA
3572 Mrs L GRIMWOOD, The Ramblers, Dudswell Lane, Northchurch, Berkhamsted HP4 3TQ
3610 Ms V ALASIA, 32 Makins Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1PP
3617 Dr D WHITEHEAD, 16 Chesterfield Road, Bristol BS6 5DL
3676 Mrs V CLEMENT, 3 Hardwicke Gardens, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6AH
3677 Ms W MASKELL, 5 River Walk, Shaw, Newbury, Berks RG14 2LN
3682 Mr MJ BUCKNER, 4 The Green, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2NF
3700 Mrs S GRIST, 34 Rochester Avenue, Woodley, Reading, Berks RG4 5NA
3708 Mr D GRIGGS, 41 Wadeville Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex RM6 6EX
3712 Mr A BATHE, Flat 3, Regent House, West Market Place, Cirencester, Glos GL7 2NN
3724 Mr PL DARIUS, Dringfa, 25 Park Road, Hanwell, London W7 1EN
3727 Mr & Mrs PJ WEBB, 2 Evelyn Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 8AY
3739 Mr ML MINNIS, 845 Putters Green Way N, Jacksonville, FL 32259-4340, USA
3740 Ms P KUYT, Box 392, Cookstown, Ontario L0L 1L0, CANADA
3742 Ms J FELLOWS, 20 Parkfields, Pewyfai, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF31 4NQ
3743 Mrs C THATCHER, Glad-of-It, 20 Carsdale Close, Coley Park, Reading, Berks RG1 6DL
3750 Mr T GOODENOUGH, 11 Wyndham Lane, Allington, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 0BY
3751 Mr A McGAHEY, 2 Vane Road, Thame, Oxon OX9 3WE
3756 Mr H BLACKMAN, 45 Kenwood Drive, Beckenham, Kent BR3 6QY
3758 Mrs B CODDINGTON, 55 Pennytoft Lane, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs PE11 3PQ
3761 Mr DA STRONG, 62 Karen Drive, Backwell, North Somerset BS48 3JS
3762 Mr A GUNBE, 1 Thomey Close, Earley, Berks RG6 3AF
3768 Mrs I ALLEN, 2 Wren Close, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 6NZ
3778 Mrs P GALLART, c/Alguer 30 bios, 08032 Barcelona, SPAIN
3780 Mrs J ADAMSON, 38 Chesterton Park, Cirencester, Glos GL7 1XT
3782 Mr P EASTMAN, 53 Knights Way, Emmer Green, Reading, Berks RG4 8RJ
3784 Mrs A HARGREAVES, Owls End, 52 Somerset Street, Abertillery, Gwent NP3 1DL
3786 Mrs J HOLLEY, 17 Lower Road, Teynham, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9DR
3787 Mrs EM LOTHIAN, 21 Hayes End Manor, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5BE
3789 Miss G OAKLEY, Lodore, Kent Street, Cheddar, Somerset BS27 3LG
3797 Mr SA SWAIN, 114 Dogfield Street, Cathays, Cardiff CF2 4QN
3798 Miss D HOLLAND, 7 Holly Close, Cherry Willingham, Lincoln LN3 4BH
3801 Mr RP SAUNDERS, Bramwoods, 1b Davenham Avenue, Northwood, Middx HA6 2HW
3803 Mr PJ SANDS, 10 Fletching Road, Hampden Park, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 9DU
3804 Mr JDC BLAKE, 17 Pool Anthony Drive, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4LT
3805 Mrs R PRATT, 11 Abbotsridge Drive, East Ogwell, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6YS
3809 Mr CR PERRIS, 73 Hamilton Avenue, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey GU22 8RU

3823 Mr DR SPACKMAN, Pippins, 6 Harts Paddock, Midsomer Norton, Bath BA3 2SN
 3825 Mr WJ SCOTT, 22 Hardwick Road, Pill, Bristol BS20 0DB
 3827 Miss EW LANE, 1 Sycamore Close, Gloucester GL1 5TY
 3841 Mrs P SMITH, 11 Rosecroft Close, Lancing, West Sussex BN25 9HL
 3845 Mr N MATTHEWS, 15 Carlton Tye, Horley, Surrey RH6 9XJ

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3554	ABRAMS	Anywhere	HAM	1066-1997	3743	BOYDE	Wasing	BRK	1806-1997
3617	ALBINA	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1998	3803	BRADLEY	Anywhere	MDX	1800-1910
3610	ALDRED	Bramfield	SFK	1800-1850	3803	BRADLEY	Chieveley	BRK	1890-1950
3682	ALLEN	Gt Marlow	BKM	1800-1900	3803	BRADLEY	Lambeth	LND	1870-1910
3554	ALLUM	Crowmarsh	BRK	1066-1997	3740	BRAY	Lambourne	BRK	1750-1850
3617	ALLWRIGHT	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1800	3778	BRETT	Lambeth	SRY	1700-1850
3617	ALLWRIGHT	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1900	3841	BROWN	Pamber	BRK	1066-1997
3756	ALMOND	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900	3561	BROWN	Wokingham	BRK	1780-1850
3761	ANDERSON	Anywhere	SCT	1800-1860	3617	BUCKET	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1850
3740	ANGELL	Ogbourne St Geo	WIL	1700-1800	3682	BUCKNER	Blewbury	BRK	1700-1900
2297	ANGUS	Anywhere	PER	1066-1850	3778	BULL	West London	MDX	1750-1850
3677	ANNETTS	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1950	3502	BUNCE	Stanwell	MDX	1790-1860
3558	APPLETON	Kintbury	BRK	1800-1850	3784	BURROUGHS	Anywhere	BRK	1890-1995
3750	APSLY	Farnborough	KEN	1840-1900	3784	BURROWS	Anywhere	BRK	1890-1995
3712	ARCHER	Coleshill	BRK	1800-1916	3432	BUSH	Childrey	BRK	1600-1850
3617	ARTER	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1820	3727	BUTLER	Eastbourne	SSX	1800-1899
3617	ARTER	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1820	3756	BUTTON	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900
3617	ARTHUR	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1820	3801	BUTTON	Farnham	SRY	1780-1860
3617	ARTHUR	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1820	3797	BYE	Brimpton	BRK	1600-1900
3740	AVERY	Brightwalton	BRK	1700-1900	3798	BYRON	Lincoln	LIN	1700-1920
3768	AVERY	Henley	OXF	1750-1810	3708	CAINE	Wokingham	BRK	1881-1920
3727	BAILEY	Newbury	BRK	1800-1899	3750	CALLOW	Canterbury	KEN	1780-1920
3682	BAKER	Brighton	SSX	1850-1945	3708	CARNE	Wokingham	BRK	1881-1920
3682	BAKER	Lambeth	SRY	1800-1900	3502	CARTER	Cookham Dean	BRK	1800-1930
3797	BALLARD	Appleton	BRK	1600-1900	3712	CARTER	Watchfield	BRK	1800-1916
3797	BALLARD	Pusey	BRK	1600-1900	3554	CAUKETT	Anywhere	SRY	1066-1997
3558	BARETT	Newbury	BRK	1881-1940	3554	CAULKETT	Richmond	SRY	1066-1901
1929	BARKER	Finchampstead	BRK	1795-1997	3768	CHAMPION	Benson	OXF	1720-1780
3561	BARKER	Hockfield	HAM	1760-1850	3676	CHANDLER	Aborfield	BRK	1750-1998
1929	BARNETT	Basingstoke	HAM	1700-1997	3561	CHANDLER	Arborfield	BRK	1740-1830
3558	BARRETT	Hungerford	BRK	1810-1855	3676	CHANDLER	Earley	BRK	1750-1998
3558	BARRETT	Lambourne	BRK	1780-1800	3797	CHANDLER	Woolhampton	BRK	1600-1900
3740	BARTLETT	Highworth	WIL	1800-1850	3797	CHEESEMAN	Woolhampton	BRK	1600-1900
3801	BARTLETT	Southwark	SRY	1800-1920	3677	CHENEY	Anywhere	OXF	1800-1900
3845	BATES	Aldermaston	BRK	1800-1997	3677	CHENEY	Anywhere	BKM	1800-1900
0757	BATTEN	Brightwell	BRK	1750-1900	3750	CHILD(E)(S)	Canterbury	KEN	1870-1950
3712	BAXTER	Watchfield	BRK	1800-1916	3750	CHILD(E)(S)	Crowland	LIN	1770-1850
3827	BAYLE	Maldenhead	BRK	1700-1800	3768	CHURCHILL	Gt Milton	OXF	1750-1810
3712	BECKETT	Eaton Hastings	BRK	1800-1916	3610	CLARE	Hendon	MDX	1800-1880
3751	BECKINGHAM	Anywhere	WIL	1600-1899	3789	CLEMONS	Dublin	IRL	1820-1841
3554	BEDWARD	Anywhere	MDX	1800-1997	3768	CLIFTON	Gt Milton	OXF	1730-1770
3682	BELCHER	Blewbury	BRK	1700-1900	3645	COLE	Ealing	MDX	1700-1900
3825	BELCHER	Kingston Bagpuize	BRK	1700-1770	3782	COLEMAN	Cotswolds	GLS	1780-1920
3712	BENNETT	Cumnor	BRK	1800-1916	3740	COLLETT	Anywhere	GLS	1700-1900
3845	BIDMEAD	Brimpton	BRK	1700-1997	3740	COLLETT	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3677	BILLING	Anywhere	NTH	1700-1998	3740	COLLETT	Anywhere	OXF	1700-1900
3762	BIRKINSHAW	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1850	3517	COLLINS	Aldbourne	WIL	1730-1900
3742	BISHOP	Wantage	BRK	1800-1891	3756	COLLINS	Warbleton	SSX	1700-1900
3682	BLACK	Wolstone	OXF	1800-1900	3561	COLLYER	Wokingham	BRK	1750-1890
3766	BLACKMAN	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900	3742	COMMINGS	Wantage	BRK	1750-1860
3804	BLAKE	Reading	BRK	1700-1900	3809	CONWAY	Anywhere	DOR	1600-1960
3804	BLAKE	Speenhamland	BRK	1700-1900	3809	CONWAY	Anywhere	HAM	1600-1960
3750	BLOOD	Crowland	LIN	1725-1815	3700	COOK	Anywhere	GLS	1700-1998
3712	BOND	Faringdon	BRK	1800-1916	3502	COOK(E)	Cookham	BRK	1830-1880
3798	BOOTHRIGHT	Newark	NTH	1700-1900	3801	COOPER	Cronall	HAM	1800-1900
3798	BOOTHRIGHT	Seaford	LIN	1800-1900	3798	COOPER	Macclesfield	CHS	1800-1900
3751	BOVINGDON	Anywhere	SRY	1800-1899	3554	CORKET	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1997
3751	BOVINGDON	Anywhere	MDX	1800-1899	3724	COSTER	Datchett	BRK	1700-1850
3712	BOWKER	Faringdon	BRK	1800-1916	3700	COWDREY	Westbury	WIL	1500-1900
3743	BOYDE	Anywhere	COR	1800-1997	3561	COX	Faringdon	BRK	1750-1860
3743	BOYDE	Dummer	HAM	1860-1960	3761	COXHEAD	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1930

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3751	COYLES	Anywhere	ANT	1800-1899	3740	GORTON	Highworth	WIL	1800-1900
3517	CRIPPS	Ashbury	BRLK	1793-1859	3740	GOUGH	Cliffe Pypard	WIL	1750-1850
3554	CROOK	Crowmarsh	BRK	1066-1997	3786	GREEN	Chalfont St Giles	BKM	1700-1900
3803	CROSS	East Ilsley	BRK	1800-1950	0757	GREENAWAY	Wallingford	BRK	1750-1900
3803	CROSS	Marcham	BRK	1800-1900	3762	GRIGGS	Anywhere	HRT	1700-1900
3762	CURTIS	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1900	3700	GRIST	Westbury	WIL	1500-1900
1929	DANCE	Ramsbury	WIL	1700-1997	3797	GROUT	Anywhere	BRK	1750-1850
3724	DARUEL	Datchett	BRK	1700-1850	3762	GUNBIE	London	MDX	1700-1900
3740	DAVIS	Faringdon	BRK	1750-1830	3756	GUNNIMAN	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3677	DAWSON	West Ilsley	BRK	1850-1950	3682	GUNTER	Lambeth	SRY	1800-1950
3502	DAY	Bray	BRK	1850-1780	3432	GUSH	Axminster	DEV	1750-1820
3727	DEAN	Sunninghill	BRK	1800-1899	3751	HACKER	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1899
3751	DEANE	Anywhere	ANT	1800-1899	3786	HALFACRE	Wokingham	BRK	1700-1900
3432	DENNINGSON	Nottingham	NTT	1800-1850	3554	HALL	Aston Tirrold	BRK	1066-1997
3778	DERRICK	Gr Marlow	BKM	1700-1850	3761	HALL	Bristol	GLS	1760-1860
3572	DIXON	Brinkworth	WIL	1801-1880	2297	HALL	Edinburgh	MLN	1066-1860
3572	DIXON	Tetbury	GLS	1778-1900	3712	HAMBRIDGE	Buscot	BRK	1800-1916
3554	DOBSON	Cholsey	BRK	1066-1997	3801	HAMILTON	St Pancras	MDX	1800-1920
1929	DOBSON	Ramsbury	WIL	1812-1997	3762	HANCOCKS	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1900
3554	DOUGHTY	Stafford	STS	1066-1997	3762	HANN	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1900
3554	DOUST	Margate	KEN	1750-1900	3610	HANSON	Pangbourne	BRK	1785-1998
3789	DOWLING	Buckland	BRK	1730-1878	3517	HARRIS	Aldbourne	WIL	1750-1900
3789	DOWSETT	Chalfont	BKM	1800-1861	3682	HARVEY	Brighton	SSX	1800-1940
3572	DUNFORD	All Cannings	WIL	1600-1800	3572	HARVEY	Purton	WIL	1790-1840
3740	DUNN	Swindon	WIL	1750-1850	3762	HAYNES	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1900
3572	EACOTT	Purton	WIL	1800-1832	3432	HEARNS(E)	Childrey	BRK	1600-1850
3682	EAGLES	Watchfield	BRK	1800-1900	3801	HEATHER	Elvetham	HAM	1780-1850
3841	EARLY	Reading	BRK	1066-1997	3768	HEAVER	Streathay	BRK	1700-1780
3782	EASTMAN	Alverstoke	HAM	1800-1900	3801	HERRIDGE	Basingstoke	HAM	1800-1880
3786	EDWARDS	Chalfont St Giles	BKM	1700-1900	3682	HESTER	Gt Marlow	BKM	1800-1900
3554	EDWARDS	Twickenham	MDX	1850-1950	3572	HIGGINS	Purton	WIL	1790-1900
3502	EMMETT	Cookham Dean	BRK	1800-1820	3554	HILL	Isleworth	MDX	1750-1900
3739	ENGLEFIELD	Englefield	BRK	1066-1700	3778	HILL	Reading	BRK	1700-1830
3750	ENGLEFIELD	Old Basing	HAM	1730-1840	3554	HOARE	Peppercombe	HAM	1066-1997
3801	ENSTONE	Maidenhead	BRK	1860-1910	3798	HOLLAND	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1870
3432	EVANS	Anywhere	LND	1700-1800	3798	HOLLAND	Anywhere	OXF	1600-1997
3827	EVANS	Bray	BRK	1700-1800	3798	HOLLAND	Macclesfield	CHS	1830-1900
3432	FARBY	Sutton	CAM	1600-1900	3798	HOLLAND	Nottingham	NTT	1890-1997
3825	FARR	Ashbury	BRK	1750-1800	3712	HOLMES	Coleshill	BRK	1800-1916
3554	FAULKNER	Cholsey	BRK	1066-1997	3778	HOLLOWAY	East London	MDX	1750-1850
3789	FEAR	Buckland	BRK	1700-1820	2297	HOLYOAK	Longcot	BRK	1700-1850
3682	FELTON	St Pancras	MDX	1800-1900	3502	HORN	Bray	BRK	1600-1780
3801	FIDLER	Winterbourne	BRK	1760-1880	3572	HOWES	Wylie	WIL	1800-1900
3751	FITCHET(T)	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1899	3786	HUBBARD	White Waltham	BRK	1700-1900
3751	FITCHET(T)	Anywhere	OXF	1800-1899	3756	HUDSON	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3751	FITCHET(T)	Anywhere	NTH	1800-1899	3572	HUGHES	Brinkworth	WIL	1780-1900
3751	FITCHET(T)	Anywhere	MDX	1800-1899	3750	HUGHES	Poplar	KEN	1805-1855
3751	FITCHET(T)	Anywhere	WAR	1800-1899	3677	HUMPHRIES	Wantage	OXF	1700-1900
3554	FORESTER	Plumstead	KEN	1066-1997	3803	HUNT	Kintbury	BRK	1800-1900
3561	FRANKLIN	Little Coxwell	BRK	1700-1800	3780	HUNT	Midgham	BRK	1750-1890
3841	FRANKUM	Pamber	BRK	1066-1997	3798	HUNT	Nottingham	NTT	1700-1950
3778	FRASER	Hedingham	ESS	1700-1830	3561	HURDLE	Crondall	HAM	1760-1870
3677	FRY	Thatcham	BRK	1700-1900	3561	HURDLE	Wokingham	BRK	1840-1920
2297	GERRING	Baulking	BRK	1600-1880	3762	HURRIE	Anywhere	HRT	1700-1900
1929	GIBBONS	Egham	SRY	1700-1997	3845	HUTCHINSON	Barnsley	YKS	1700-1915
3554	GIBBONS	Newbury	BRK	1066-1997	3787	HUTCHINSON	Windsor	BRK	1863-1998
3554	GIBBONS	Reading	BRK	1066-1997	3809	HUTTON	Reading	BRK	1800-1980
3740	GIBBS	Lambourne	BRK	1750-1800	3756	HUXTER	Gt Braxted	ESS	1700-1900
3827	GILES	Bray	BRK	1750-1850	3682	HYDE	Lambeth	SRY	1800-1950
3554	GILES	Richmond	SRY	1750-1900	3845	HYDE	Thatcham	BRK	1500-1834
3727	GIRDLER	Kingsclere	HAM	1800-1899	2297	ILES	Anywhere	BRK	1600-1880
3778	GITTENS	East Dereham	NFK	1700-1850	3572	ILOTT	Faringdon	BRK	1730-1785
3517	GOATLEY	Lambourne	BRK	1700-1800	3572	ILOTT	Highworth	WIL	1815-1900
3682	GOLDER	Checkendon	OXF	1800-1900	3750	JACKSON	Holborn	MDX	1775-1830
3750	GOODENOUGH	Chaddleworth	BRK	1700-1765	3798	JACKSON	Welbourn	LIN	1700-1900
3750	GOODENOUGH	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1765	3750	JACKSON	Westminster	MDX	1775-1830
3750	GOODENOUGH	Marylebone	MDX	1825-1890	3750	JAMES	St Columb Major	CON	1750-1875
3750	GOODENOUGH	Old Basing	HAM	1795-1830	3750	JAMES	St Dennis	CON	1750-1875
3750	GOODENOUGH	Ramsbury	WIL	1765-1795	3712	JEFFERIES	Longcot	BRK	1800-1916
3750	GOODENOUGH	St Pancras	MDX	1825-1890	3617	JERMAINE	Anywhere	OXF	1066-1820
3750	GOODENOUGH	Westminster	MDX	1825-1890	3762	JONES	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3789	JORDAN	Buckland	BRK	1780-1880	3750	MINEAR	St Dennis	CON	1675-1875
2297	KEEN(E)	Stanford in the Vale	BRK	1800-1900	3750	MINEAR	Treverbryn	CON	1675-1875
3554	KENNARD	Richmond	SRV	1850-1997	3827	MITCHELL	Bray	BRK	1700-1800
3761	KERR	Anywhere	SCT	1760-1860	3727	MITCHELL	Reading	BRK	1800-1899
3682	KILMINSTER	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900	3756	MONFORT	Anywhere	ALL	1800-1900
3778	KIMBER	Reading	BRK	1700-1830	3778	MONTAGUE	Anywhere	BKM	1700-1850
3845	KING	Basingstoke	HAM	1500-1800	3778	MONTAGUE	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1850
3768	KING	Gt Milton	OXF	1660-1720	3798	MORLEY	Newark	NTT	1700-1900
3798	KING	Lincoln	LIN	1700-1920	2297	MORRELL	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1820
3782	KING	Portsmouth	HAM	1890-1920	1929	MORRIS	Finchampstead	BRK	1700-1997
3676	KIRBY	Shinfield	BRK	1840-1998	1929	MORRIS	Windsor	BRK	1800-1997
3743	KNIGHT	Dummer	HAM	1770-1997	3700	MOULDER	Anywhere	GLS	1700-1998
3432	KNIGHT	Peterborough	NTH	1600-1850	3750	NALDER	Chaddelworth	BRK	1670-1730
3805	LAILEY	Thatcham	BRK	1600-1900	3676	NEVIL(LE)	Earley	BRK	1750-1998
2297	LAMPKIN	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1840	1929	NICHOLAS	Ramsbury	WIL	1797-1997
3740	LANDER	Faringdon	BRK	1750-1900	3677	NORTHWAY	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3712	LARKIN	Shrivenham	BRK	1800-1916	3561	NORTON	Stanford in the Vale	BRK	1789-1920
3572	LAWES	Coombe Bisset	WIL	1690-1900	2297	NOTT	Anywhere	DEV	1700-1850
2297	LAWRENCE	Bridport	DOR	1700-1850	3554	NUTTING	Margate	KEN	1800-1900
3780	LAWRENCE	Bucklebury	BRK	1800-1850	3617	OAKLEY	Anywhere	OXF	1066-1820
3789	LAWRENCE	Faringdon	BRK	1830-1851	3700	OAKLEY	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1998
3789	LAWRENCE	Wootton Bassett	WIL	1767-1823	3789	OAKLEY	Buckland	BRK	1793-1914
3561	LEWINGTON	Swallowfield	BRK	1690-1800	3789	OAKLEY	Eaton Hastings	BRK	1758-1793
3561	LEWINGTON	Wokingham	BRK	1850-1940	3789	OAKLEY	Faringdon	BRK	1830-1858
3572	LEWIS	Brinkworth	WIL	1674-1900	3789	OAKLEY	Henley-on-Thames	OXF	1900-1960
3517	LIDDIARD	Aldboune	WIL	1600-1800	3801	OFFORD	Tottenham	MDX	1800-1850
3617	LIDLGEY	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1998	3712	OSTLEY	Southmoor	BRK	1800-1916
3778	LINCOLN	Central London	MDX	1750-1850	3572	PAINTER	Purton	WIL	1733-1900
3617	LISLEY	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1998	3762	PALMER	Anywhere	SFK	1700-1850
2297	LITTLE	Buckland	BRK	1800-1880	3750	PALMER	Greenwich	KEN	1850-1900
2297	LIVINGSTONE	Ballauchulish	ARL	1066-1900	3558	PALMER	Hurley	BRK	1890-1950
3768	LOCK	Gt Milton	XF	1700-1760	3502	PARKER	Bray	BRK	1700-1850
3517	LONG	Aldboune	WIL	1700-1800	3841	PARKES	Reading	BRK	1880-1997
3778	LONG	Anywhere	BKM	1700-1850	3727	PARSONS	Worthing	SSX	1900-1950
3561	LOVELOCK	Swallowfield	BRK	1650-1750	0757	PARTRIDGE	Wantage	BRK	1750-1900
3798	LOWE	Macclesfield	CHS	1800-1900	3845	PATEY	Newbury	BRK	1500-1800
3782	LUCKETT	Amptney St Peter	GLS	1800-1950	3789	PATTISON	Durham City	DUR	1750-1846
2297	LUDGROVE	Watton Hastings	BRK	1750-1820	3789	PATTISON	Guildford	SRV	1847-1870
3751	MacGAUGHEY	Anywhere	ANT	1800-1899	3768	PAULIN	Henley	OXF	1740-1810
3740	MAISEY	Faringdon	BRK	1750-1830	3554	PEALL	Margate	KEN	1066-1997
3778	MALLAM	Cowley	OXF	1700-1850	3825	PEARCE	Ashbury	BRK	1750-1800
3724	MANNING	Oakley Green	BRK	1750-1850	3502	PEARCEY	Bray	BRK	1700-1800
3572	MARKS	Keovil	WIL	1818-1900	3756	PENNELLS	Burwash	SSX	1700-1900
3801	MARSH	St Pancras	MDX	1800-1920	3502	PERCY	Bray	BRK	1700-1800
3797	MARSHALL	Brimpton	BRK	1600-1900	3809	PERRIS	Anywhere	DOR	1500-1997
3805	MARSHALL	Yattendon	BRK	1800-1900	3809	PERRIS	Anywhere	WIL	1500-1997
3502	MARTIN	Bray	BRK	1700-1850	3809	PERRIS	Anywhere	SOM	1500-1997
3682	MARTIN	St Pancras	MDX	1800-1900	3809	PERRIS	Newbury	BRK	1500-1997
3742	MARTIN	Wantage	BRK	1850-1918	1929	PERRROW	Neath	GLM	1870-1997
3677	MASKELL	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1998	3805	POCOCK	Curridge	BRK	1600-1900
3677	MASKELL	London	MDX	1800-1998	2297	POPHAM	Anywhere	DEV	1066-1870
3778	MASON	East London	MDX	1750-1850	3700	POTTER	Edington	WIL	1500-1900
3789	MASTERS	Aspley Guise	BDF	1891-1940	3789	POULTER	Albury	SRV	1820-1873
3789	MASTERS	Westminster	MDX	1841-1889	3768	POUND	Streatley	BRK	1710-1750
3845	MATTHEWS	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1870	3756	PRESTON	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3845	MAY	Brimpton	BRK	1750-1997	3743	PRICE	Llanbister	RAD	1750-1997
3517	MAY	Inkpen	BRK	1700-1900	3743	PRICE	Reading	BRK	1886-1960
3751	McGAHEY	Anywhere	ANT	1800-1899	3700	PRICE	Tinhead	WIL	1600-1900
3751	McGAUGHEY	Anywhere	ANT	1800-1899	3610	PRICKETT	Hendon	MDX	1800-1880
3827	MEADS	Bray	BRK	1700-1800	3756	PRINCE	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3700	MEARS	Bethnal Green	LDN	1700-1920	3750	PRING	Bromley Common	KEN	1800-1900
3750	MENEAR	Luxulyan	CON	1675-1875	3750	PRING	Orpington	KEN	1800-1900
3750	MENEAR	St Austell	CON	1675-1875	3750	PRING	Westerham	KEN	1800-1900
3750	MENEAR	St Dennis	CON	1675-1875	3517	PUDDLE	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1800
3750	MENEAR	Treverbryn	CON	1675-1875	3756	POTTOCK	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900
3700	MERRYWETHER	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1998	3809	QUELCH	Bradfield	BRK	1500-1900
3786	MESSINGER	Bray	BRK	1700-1900	3809	QUELCH	Dunsfold	SRV	1600-1900
3700	MILES	Pewsey	WIL	1700-1900	3617	RACKLEY	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1800
3700	MILLARD	Westbury	WIL	1700-1900	3610	RAVEN	Coggeshall	ESS	1800-1850
3750	MINEAR	Luxulyan	CON	1675-1875	3610	READ	N Crawley	BKM	1800-1850
3750	MINEAR	St Austell	CON	1675-1875	3786	REED	Chalfont St Giles	BKM	1700-1900

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
2297	REID	Anywhere	PER	1066-1850	3572	TROTHAN	Rodbourne	WIL	1736-1900
3554	REYNOLDS	Mortlake	SRY	1850-1950	3558	TUBB	Hungerford	BRK	1780-1800
3554	RICHARDSON	Richmond	SRY	1066-1997	0757	TURNER	Brightwell	BRK	1750-1900
3825	RICKS	Longcott	BRK	1740-1800	3517	TURNER	Faringdon	BRK	1650-1720
3676	RIDER	Lambourne	BRK	1750-1870	3801	TURNER	Tottenham	MDX	1800-1920
3700	RIXON	Reading	BRK	1700-1998	1929	TWYGROSS	Ramsbury	WIL	1800-1997
2297	ROB(EY)	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1850	2297	WALKER	Anywhere	WIL	1650-1800
3827	ROLLS	Bray	BRK	1700-1900	3758	WALKER	Newbury	BRK	1840-1890
3740	ROSIER	Hungerford	BRK	1700-1850	3554	WALKER	Richmond	SRY	1750-1900
2297	ROWING	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1840	3782	WALMSLEY	Plymouth	DEV	1900-1920
3782	ROY	Dundee	TAY	1850-1900	3739	WARFIELD	Warfield	BRK	1066-1700
3554	RUSSELL	Kew	MDX	1850-1950	3761	WARMAN	Gt Faringdon	BRK	1760-1860
3554	RUSSELL	Twickenham	MDX	1850-1950	3743	WASON	Glastonbury	SOM	1850-1997
3676	RYDER	Earley	BRK	1860-1900	2297	WATSON	Deptford	KEN	1066-1840
3740	RYDER	Lambourne	BRK	1700-1850	2297	WATSON	Kings Lynn	NFK	1066-1800
3676	RYDER	Reading	BRK	1860-1900	3743	WATSON	Orleton	HEF	1826-1900
3554	SANDWELL	Margate	KEN	1066-1997	1929	WATTS	Axford	WIL	1700-1997
2297	SAUNDERS	Caputh	PER	1800-1900	1929	WATTS	Ramsbury	WIL	1700-1997
2297	SAUNDERS	Clunie	PER	1066-1840	3786	WAYLING	Welford	BRK	1700-1900
3801	SAUNDERS	Farnham	SRY	1860-1900	2297	WEBB	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1820
3801	SAUNDERS	Winterbourne	BRK	1750-1860	3727	WEBB	Easthampstead	BRK	1800-1899
3778	SEERS	Gt Marlow	BKM	1700-1850	3762	WEBSTER	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1850
3712	SESSIONS	East Hendred	BRK	1800-1916	3700	WEEKS	Anywhere	DEV	1700-1900
3778	SEXTON	Hainford	NFK	1700-1860	3700	WEEKS	Neath	GLM	1800-1920
3610	SEYMOUR	Pangbourne	BRK	1800-1998	3682	WELCH	Brighton	SSX	1800-1950
3617	SEYVELL	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1850	3742	WELLAVISE	Wantage	BRK	1750-1850
3768	SHERWOOD	Strealey	BRK	1710-1760	3827	WELLS	Maidenhead	BRK	1700-1900
3825	SLADE-BAILEY	Pewsey	WIL	1886-1890	3554	WESTWOOD	Fulham	LND	1066-1997
3432	SLONE	London	LND	1600-1850	3554	WESTWOOD	Ilford	LND	1066-1997
3768	SMITH	Cuddesdon	OXF	1720-1760	3761	WHEATLEY	Hinckley	LEI	1800-1930
3700	SMITH	Dilton Marsh	WIL	1800-1920	3712	WHEELER	Buscot	BRK	1800-1916
3558	SMITH	Kingsclere	HAM	1850-1880	3797	WHITE	Appletton	BRK	1600-1900
3610	SMITH	Marston Moreton	BDF	1800-1850	3797	WHITE	Charney	BRK	1600-1900
3712	SMITH	Watchfield	BRK	1800-1916	3797	WHITE	Cholsey	BRK	1600-1900
3724	SOLEY	Datchett	BRK	1700-1900	3739	WHITE	Swanborn	BRK	1055-1700
3823	SPACKMAN	Broad Hinton	WIL	1066-1716	3610	WHITE	Wallingford	OXF	1825-1998
3823	SPACKMAN	Clyffe PyPard	WIL	1066-1716	3750	WHITEHEAD	Bromley Common	KEN	1730-1900
3823	SPACKMAN	Lambourn	BRK	1779-1875	3750	WHITEHEAD	Chelsfield	KEN	1730-1900
3823	SPACKMAN	Steeple Aston	OXF	1875-1906	3750	WHITEHEAD	Knockholt	KEN	1730-1900
3823	SPACKMAN	Winterbourne Bassett	WIL	1716-1779	3554	WHITELAND	Richmond	SRY	1066-1997
3517	SPARROW	Faringdon	BRK	1600-1700	3742	WHITELOCK	Anywhere	YKS	1800-1891
3432	SPENCER	Walkeringham	NTT	1600-1850	3554	WHITEMAN	Knighton	BRK	1066-1997
3809	SQUELCH	Bradfield	BRK	1500-1900	3554	WHITEMAN	Wallingford	BRK	1066-1997
3809	SQUELCH	Dunsford	SRY	1600-1900	2297	WHITNEY	Anywhere	WIL	1650-1750
3798	SQUIRES	Newark	NTT	1700-1950	3517	WILD	Aldboune	WIL	1650-1750
3798	SQUIRES	Nottingham	NTT	1700-1950	3617	WILKINS	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1900
3708	STACEY	Cookham	BRK	1800-1880	3617	WILKINSON	Anywhere	BKM	1066-1900
3708	STACEY	Wokingham	BRK	1881-1920	3762	WILLIAMS	Anywhere	SFK	1700-1900
3750	STAG(G)	Easton Royal	WIL	1670-1770	3786	WILLIAMS	Bray	BRK	1700-1900
3750	STAG(G)	Ramsbury	WIL	1670-1770	3801	WILLIAMS	Winterbourne	BRK	1740-1880
3554	STAMP	Stafford	STS	1066-1997	3782	WILLIS	Aldershot	HAM	1890-1970
3768	STEVENS	Gt Milton	OXF	1710-1760	3740	WILLOUGHBY	Highworth	WIL	1750-1850
3827	STILES	Bray	BRK	1700-1800	3561	WILMOT	Wokingham	BRK	1780-1850
3750	STOCKWELL	Willesborough	KEN	1790-1840	0757	WILSON	Brightwell	BRK	1750-1900
3778	STONE	Reading	BRK	1700-1850	3739	WINKFIELD	Winkfield	BRK	1066-1700
3572	STONEHAM	Purton	WIL	1578-1890	1929	WISE	Finchampstead	BRK	1750-1997
0757	STRANGE	Brightwell	BRK	1750-1900	3798	WOODLEY	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1870
3700	STRATTON	Anywhere	WIL	1600-1998	3554	WOODRUFF	Anywhere	KEN	1850-1997
3756	STREETER	Anywhere	HAM	1700-1900	3803	WOODS	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900
3761	STRONG	Anywhere	BRK	1850-1950	1929	WOODS	Finchampstead	BRK	1700-1997
3845	SWEETTSUR	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1750	3825	WRIGHT	Bourton	BRK	1740-1770
3517	TALBOT	Faringdon	BRK	1717-1800	3845	WRIGHT	Depwade	NFK	1700-1870
3517	TALBOT	Lambourne	BRK	1756-1834	3762	WRIGHTS	Anywhere	SFK	1700-1850
3740	TAYLOR	Leckhampstead	BRK	1750-1850	3841	WYETH	Pamber	BRK	1066-1997
3432	THARBY	Sutton	CAM	1600-1900	3739	YATE	Charney	BRK	1066-1700
3825	THATCHER	Longworth	BRK	1700-1770	3739	YATE	Denchworth	BRK	1066-1700
3743	THATCHER	Woodcote	OXF	1850-1997	3739	YATE	Lyford	BRK	1066-1700
3561	TIMMS	Stanford in the Vale	BRK	1800-1890	3739	YATE	Padworth	BRK	1066-1700
1929	TOWNSEND	Bedwyn	WIL	1700-1997	3739	YATE	Upton	BRK	1066-1700
3756	TOYE	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900	3502	YOUNG	Bray	BRK	1700-1850
3743	TRACE	Kings Langley	BRK	1870-1997					

Bookends

By Keith Buckingham

"Born Too Soon" by Peggy Broadhouse

Copies of the book can be obtained from The Hambridge Press Ltd, PO Box 5967, Thatcham, RG10 6YY for £10 or £11.50 inc. p&ap.

This book is subtitled "*The Story of a Little Spastic Girl*" and on starting it I was concerned that it would be mawkish and sentimental. I was wrong. It is actually a pleasantly written and humorous autobiography of a farmer's wife at Norcot Farm west of Reading, and although along the way it charts the progress of her younger daughter with cerebral palsy, this forms only a small part of her story.

The author married the owner of the farm, and she has painted a detailed and interesting picture of a style of life there since the 1930s. Being somewhat isolated, the farm initially seems to have preserved some of the habits of earlier times, and the chapters concerned with her early life there could well be of interest to local and social historians.

The author has a straightforward artless narrative style, easy to read, and each chapter has purpose and direction. There is also a good deal of fun. She has recounted a wealth of anecdotes drawn from a lifetime of incident, and she has drawn humour even from minor disasters. The book has a minimum about farming matters, and its subjects range widely: antique collecting, horse riding, cooking and catering, boating and pets.

Perhaps inadvertently, the book paints a picture of a privileged life, despite the calamities that beset her - a good deal of suspected arson for one thing in addition to the problems of a disadvantaged daughter - and this probably tells us a lot about the character of the author. The title of the book makes one assume that the author intended to give hope to others who find themselves in the same predicament, and wished to show them that all is not lost and it is possible for someone with a considerable degree of disability to build a successful and fulfilling life. However, the book is such a good read, that

had she published it as a straightforward autobiography, it is possible that she might well have reached a larger audience and more successfully achieved her aim.

The Research Centre

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BERKSHIRE NAME INDEX

The Name Index comprises about 100,000 slips of names found in documents, which are identified on the slip, e.g. the Berkshire Record Office reference number. A number of members' genealogies of countrywide interest have also been slipped. The charge is £5 for up to 5 surnames with 30 record slips photocopied max. (5 A4 sheets) per enquiry. If you are not a member of the Society the search fee is £1 per surname plus the above. Please send 2 s.a.e.'s if you want an acknowledgement. Send your enquiry to The BNI, BFHS Indexes etc. as above.

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The Census is fully transcribed and held on computer. Print-outs can be supplied of any folio (the required references can be obtained from our published indexes) and the charge is 50p per folio with a minimum of £1, (£1 & £2 respectively if not a member) giving two folios. Alternatively we can search for any given surname and advise on the total number of folios required. The charges are £1 per search per surname (£2 if not a member) and print-out charges are then as above.

BFHS, c/o Mr Geoff Mather, 18 Ravenswood Avenue, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6AY

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BFHS, c/o Mr Ivan Dickason, 1 Mower Close, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1RZ

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Please write to Mr Ivan Dickason, as above.

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This covers the pre-1974 county. The charges are £1.50 for each specific marriage enquiry (£2.50 if a non-member) with a maximum of 3 marriages per request - NO blanket searches undertaken. Details required are groom's full name, bride's if known and approximate date. Postal enquiries only. Please send an s.a.e. with extra 2nd class stamp or 3 IRC's; give your membership number; all cheques addressed to Mrs P Knight, NOT the Society. Currently allow about 4 months for a reply.

Mrs P Knight, Old Oak Cottage, The Pound, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 9QE

Payment is only accepted by means of a sterling cheque, drawn on a London clearing bank, and made payable to BFHS, except for the Berkshire Marriage Index - see above. Please allow 4-6 weeks for a reply.

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