



Berkshire
Family
Historian

Volume 22 - No 3 - March 1999



Events Calendar 1999

Bracknell Branch

Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell

7:15pm for 7:45pm

16 th April	"Newspapers as a source for Family History"	Marion Brackpool
21 st May	"Women in Family History"	Audrey Collins
18 th June	Branch AGM followed by "The East End of London"	Robert Bartrop

Newbury Branch

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

7:30pm

14 th April	"Family History on the Internet"	Polly Lawrence
12 th May	"Immigrants & Emigrants"	Lillian Gibbens
9 th June	Branch AGM followed by "'Very useless and not at all correct in their morals': Crimean War camp followers"	Brian Oldham

Reading Branch

BFHS Research Centre, Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading

7:15pm for 7:45pm

31 st March	"What's New at the Family Records Centre"	Margaret Brennand
16 th April	"Archaeological finds at the Oracle Site"	David Wilkinson
	Meeting at Earley St Peter's Church Hall	
28 th April	Branch AGM followed by "Tithe Maps and Awards c.1840"	Jean Debney
	Meeting in Sixth Form Common Room, 'D' Block	
26 th May	"The New Berkshire Record Office"	Peter Durrant
30 th June	Berkshire FHS Annual General Meeting followed by "All about Wills"	Jane Cox

Slough Branch

St Andrew's Church Hall, 2, Merton Road, Slough

7:30pm for 7:45pm

30 th March	"Bringing it all to Book - Presenting Your Family History"	Jeanne Bunting
27 th April	"Newspapers for Family Historians"	John Gurnett
25 th May	Branch AGM followed by "BFHS Research Centre"	Ivan Dickason
29 th June	"Poor Law Records"	David Hawkins

Vale of the White Horse Branch

Tomkins Room, 35 Ock Street, Baptist Church, Abingdon

7:30pm

12 th April	"Looking at MI's: Members' Interests and Problem Sharing"	Jill Muir
10 th May	"Grave Matters" Bring Pencil & clipboard meet outside hall.	Jill Muir
14 th Jun	"18 th /19 th Century Transport in the Vale - an illustrated talk"	Nigel Hammond

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

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The cover this time shows Maidenhead Bridge today. It is reproduced by permission of Judith Mitchell and her accompanying article River, Roads, Railways & Bridges: The Maidenhead Story can be found on p.76.

Chairman's Notes

By Ivan Dickason

Research Centre

Just before Christmas the Society received distressing news concerning the Research Centre. Prospect Technology College gave us six months notice of termination of our lease on the rooms we use for the Research Centre. I understand that the College require the rooms for use as classrooms because of their rising school roll.

We are required to vacate the Research Centre by 31st July, 1999. This means that the final session at which members are able to carry out research will be Thursday evening 1st July. The final Library Tour will take place on Monday, 17th May at 7:30pm.

Needless to say, the Society are actively looking for new premises. We require premises in the vicinity of Reading - say, within 20 miles - having between 1,000 and 1,200 square feet; car parking for 10 to 12 cars; a minimum of a three-year lease; and with a very economical rent. We anticipate that by the time you read this our search will be over - but you never know! If, therefore, any member has a suggestion about possible accommodation that could meet our requirements then they should please telephone John Gurnett, the Society Secretary. John is co-ordinating our efforts to find new premises, and he will be pleased to talk to you. His name and address are on the back cover of this magazine. **PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL DO IT!** Each of you must help if we are to continue with our very successful Research Centre for the benefit of members.

Of course, gifts of money - large or small - would be welcome for we expect that the process of acquiring and fitting out new premises will be a considerable drain on the Society's resources. Do please try to help.

Contingency Plans

However, we also have to make plans now in case we have to store everything for a time. If anyone within 10 miles of Reading has some available storage space please let Cliff Debney know ASAP. Tell him where it is, is it accessible by light van, is it at ground level or if not is there a lift, what size is it, is it clean and dry and suitable for books and fiche as well as fiche readers and all the other electrical and mechanical equipment we have in the Centre, has it got light and power, will it always be accessible or only when you are there to let us in, and what will it cost, if anything?

I hope we will not need to call for help in this way but we have to plan in case.

Cliff's phone number is 0118 941 3223, and his address is on the back page of the magazine or you can e-mail him at JeanDebney@onename.demon.co.uk

Vale Family History Group

On a much more cheerful note I can announce that the Society has established a new Branch in Abingdon.

The "*Vale Family History Group*" has become the nucleus of the new Branch. The group grew out of an evening class whose members decided they should carry on meeting after the conclusion of the formal classes. This is a familiar story since many family history societies -including our own - have very similar origins. Cliff Debney and I visited the management committee of the group in October to explain the benefits of becoming part of a larger community. I am pleased to say that in November the members of the Vale Family History Group voted unanimously that they wished to become part of our Society. At its November meeting the

members of the Executive Committee were pleased to agree that a new Branch be formed and that the Officers of the Vale Family History Group should become the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the new Branch.

The new Branch is to be known as the "*Vale of the White Horse Branch*". The name is a little long-winded but we wanted the name to explain clearly - to members and others - the area of old Berkshire that it serves. The first Branch meeting under the banner of the Berkshire FHS was held in January. The future programme of the Branch appears on the inside front cover of this issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*. Members who wish to know more about the Branch or its activities should contact the Branch Chairman Ken Marsden (Tel: 01235-525797) or the Branch Secretary Mary Barber (Tel:01235-768615). We wish the Branch every success. Do please go along to their meetings if you can.

National Burial Index

The Society is about to embark on a Berkshire Burial Index. This will form part of the National Burial Index, organised by the Federation of Family History Societies. Initially this project will cover the period 1813-1850, taking account of the inconsistencies of the early civil registration period. In choosing this particular timespan it is hoped that it encourages volunteers to participate: the format of the later registers is standardised, the writing is easier for those less skilled, and the completion of individual parishes will be accomplished in a reasonably short time. A computer program has been developed to help input parish burial records in local databases which will eventually be combined into the National Index. The database will include: name of deceased, age, date of burial, parish name, county code, and source code. We will be working from fiche copies of the parish registers so volunteers

will need to have access to a fiche reader and a computer. If you think you can help then contact John Gurnett, the secretary, in the first instance. A Society co-ordinator is about to be appointed, but given the pressure of time it was felt that an initial announcement should be made in this issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*. The Society made such good progress with the 1881 Census project that it is time we contributed towards another big index which will help all those, not just in this county, but nationwide.

Annual General Meeting

The 24th Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire FHS will be held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 30th June, at the Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading..

Display Panel Competition

I would like to remind you that you should now be well on the way towards completing your entries for 1999 display panels competition. Full particulars of the competition were given on page 39 of the December issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*. Remember that we are looking for more than family trees as such. The judges will be awarding prizes to displays showing evidence of novel or original research that makes an interesting and graphical display of your family history. Remember that they will be displayed to the public and are intended to advertise family history in general and Berkshire FHS in particular.

Your entry should be delivered to the Research Centre at Prospect Technology College before 31st May, 1999. We do not recommend that the finished displays are sent by post. If you wish, you may send the actual display material unmounted and we will mount it for you. Please do not forget to include a sketch of the layout for our guidance!

June and I wish you all a very happy Easter.

River, Roads, Railways and Bridges: The Maidenhead Story

By Judith Mitchell

Family historians unfamiliar with Maidenhead might well despair when looking for their ancestors in Maidenhead. "They're not there" they might sigh as they gaze at the IGI on the microfiche viewer "but Grandma definitely said that the family came from Maidenhead!" This is not because Maidenhead is missing from the records - the ancestors are there but they come under Cookham or Bray. Even in the 19th century the censuses record the Northern part of Maidenhead as being in Cookham and the South part in Bray despite Maidenhead town being acknowledged by Royal Charter in 1582!

Cookham and Bray

Cookham was a place of some importance in Saxon times, having a monastery and palace as well as a church. It is likely that the early river crossing was at Cookham. The first record of Bray appears in the Domesday Book (1086). The common boundary of the parishes and manors was the London to Bath Road (A4). The Domesday book also recorded a hamlet called Elentone (later Ellington), the first recorded settlement in the Maidenhead area, sited about a mile north of the present town centre.

The manors of Cookham and Bray belonged to the King and their manorial courts administered Maidenhead. The hunting reserves of the royal palace of Windsor (6 miles from Maidenhead) extended into the district in the middle ages.

The Thames and Bridges

Maidenhead Bridge - a timber construction - was described as "almost broken down" in 1297 when King Edward I gave a grant for its repair. Down through the years the struggle to keep the bridge maintained presented a continuous problem. Along the road from the bridge, about half a mile west of the river the new settlement of Maidenhead grew up. Maidenhead was usually spelt as variations of Maidenhithe in early days probably referring to a large wharf or

hythe on the Thames as described in 1538.

The bridge over the Thames was not the only one in Maidenhead, the other was over a brook now called York Stream. In 1270 at the foot of this bridge, in the middle of the road, the Hosebund family built a chapel dedicated to St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene. This was a "chapel of ease" where travellers could give prayers of thanks for a safe crossing of the river. Although local people would have attended services there, Bray and Cookham continued as parish churches for baptisms, marriage and funerals until the mid-nineteenth century. A hermitage was established by the Thames bridge to collect alms from travellers. In 1452 King Henry VI granted a licence for a Guild of St Andrew and St Mary Magdalene to maintain the chantry and bridge.

The Town and Coach Travel

The Guild was dissolved in 1547. Replacement arrangements were needed to maintain the bridge and as a result of a petition Queen Elizabeth granted Maidenhead's first charter in 1582. The area of Maidenhead town was defined, arrangements made for a warden and bridge masters to be appointed. Tolls could be levied, a weekly market held and two fairs each year. Out of the struggle to keep the bridge in repair the town of Maidenhead had arrived.

The main source of income for Maidenhead for the next three hundred years was travellers. Inns had been recorded from the 15th century but after 1750 the expansion of coach travel due to improved roads allowed the town to become the first overnight stop on the road from London to Bath. Larger coaching inns and taverns opened. The little chapel was replaced by a larger building in 1724 and again in 1824 this time on a site just north of the High St. as it had become an obstruction to traffic passing along the Bath Road. Other denominations also established places of worship.

Increased traffic necessitated an improved bridge and the present stone bridge was opened in 1777.¹ Wheelwrights, coach builders etc. set up workshops and breweries opened. In 1834 in two weeks 823 coaches passed through the town involving the use of 3000 horses. Not all travellers were wealthy. Cookham Union Workhouse (now St Mark's Hospital) opened in 1835 just north of the Bath Road took in 180 vagrants per week in 1840.

Probably 95% of goods were still sent by river particularly heavy cargoes such as coal, timber and malt.

Railways, Tourists and Commuters

The Great Western Railway Company chose a route which passed very close to Maidenhead. By 1838 the railway had reached Taplow and the first train had arrived carrying 1,479 passengers. Once Brunel's great river bridge over the Thames had been completed in 1839 the railway ran close to the town, but perversely the Maidenhead station remained at Taplow until 1871. A railway from Maidenhead (Castle Hill) to High Wycombe and Marlow opened in 1854.

Undoubtedly the coming of the railway caused a temporary recession in the town as the old coaching trade finished.² The river trade also declined as heavy goods were now sent by rail.

Fortunately with the railway came the first commuters and tourists using the river not as a means for transporting goods but for recreation. New churches were built and new parishes formed: St Mary's, All Saints (1857) and St Luke's (1869). Schools: church, private and state opened. Grand houses were built all around the town but especially down by the Thames; lesser houses were built for the artisans whose workrooms and shops provided goods for the "carriage folk". From the town and from villages far and wide came the housemaids, footmen and grooms to serve the gentry in the big houses and newly-built hotels. Maidenhead became a fashionable resort town.

In 1801 Maidenhead had 949 inhabitants, by 1851 3,603, 1901 12,980, and in 1971 45,306.

After the First World War

In post-war Maidenhead the holiday trade declined but new sources of employment emerged. Breweries closed but factories opened. Horses and carts disappeared but motor-cars and aeroplanes arrived. Latterly all kinds of computer and electronics firms have flourished in the area. The motorway (M4) constructed in 1972 passed on the edge of Maidenhead encouraging all kinds of road travellers into the area.

Present-day Maidenhead has few ancient buildings so the likelihood of findings an ancestor's home if earlier than the 19th century is remote. Many Victorian and Edwardian buildings still exist, but unfortunately many disappeared. Maidenhead with its riverside walks is still an attraction to visitors.

Sources:

- *The Story of Maidenhead* (1984) and *The Royal County of Berkshire* by Luke Over (1995)
- Older Books: *A History of Maidenhead* (1931) by J Wesley Walker & *The Book of Maidenhead* T. Middleton (1975)
- Good books for photographs are: *Maidenhead in Old Photographs* M Hayles & D Hedges (1992) *Images of Maidenhead* from the Maidenhead Advertiser by Luke Over (1997)
- Also: *The Hundred of Cookham & The Hundred of Bray* both by Luke Over.

Ruth Timbrell of Catherine Lodge, Long Hill Road, Ascot wrote in response to the enquiry from Mr Hanson in the September 1998 Berkshire Family Historian about the Skyrme family

If my recollection is correct, Major T.G. Skyrme lived at Tittensor, London Road, Ascot. He was a Bursar for Heathfield school for many years and it was that Governing body who allowed him to erect a memorial to his son on Heathfield Wall, together with a seat. Our W.I. cleaned it all up at one stage and planted shrubs, but road workings and sundry deposit of materials, undid all our hard work!

¹ Tolls continued to be collected until 1903.

² The last stage coach from London to Bristol ran in 1843.

Dates for Your Diary

- Sat. 27th March* 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 April - 11th April* “*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.
- 2nd May - 3rd May* Society of Genealogists Fair at the Royal Horticultural Society New Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster SW1, 10am to 5pm. Tickets £4 (before 16th April from the SOG, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London) or £5 at the door.
- The Berkshire FHS will be one of the many Societies and will be there on both days. We hope to see many members there who are normally unable to get to a meeting - please come to our table and introduce yourselves. We shall have a bookstall which will include books on Berkshire as well as more general subjects. Look forward to meeting you.**
- 29th May - 30th May* Family History Fair hosted by the Cornwall Family History Society at the Princess Pavilion, Falmouth, 10am to 5pm.
- Sat. 29th May* **Berkshire Family History Society Open Day at Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading, 10am to 4pm. Admission £1 to non-members.**
- 5th June - 6th June* Local and Family History Fair at the War Memorial Park, Coventry. Archives, Museums, Local History and Family History Societies attending. For further details tel: 01203-413643 or 01203-832418
- Sat. 19th June* Wiltshire Family History Society at the Edward Hyde Hall, the Clarendon School, Frome Road, Trowbridge.
- Sun. 13th June* Hampshire Genealogical Society Open Day at Barton Hall, Horndean Community School, Barton Cross, Horndean.
- Sat. 26th June* Yorkshire Family History Fair at York Racecourse, 10am to 4.30pm. Further details from Mr A.F. Winspur, 42 Chester Road, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 3QA.
- Weds. 30th June* Berkshire Family History Society Annual General Meeting at 7.45pm at the Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading.
- 12th July - 16th July* “*Family History Summer School*” at the Public Record Office, Kew. Further details from Public Events Manager, Public Record Office, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU.
- Sat. 24th July* Buckinghamshire FHS Open Day at Aylesbury Grammar School, Walton Road, Aylesbury.
- 3rd Sep. - 5th Sep.* “*Time and Tide*” Conference hosted by the North West Kent FHS at The University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Campus, Eltham, London. Further details from Mrs L Searle, 14 Links Road, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 0QW

The London Cornish Association Family History Group are holding a series of Day Conferences and Workshops throughout 1999 including workshops at the Public Record Office, Kew and the Family Record Centre as well as day conferences at the Lambeth Mission. Further details may be obtained from Chris Barrett, 3/44 Earls Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2HD.

Research Centre Report

By *Cliff Debney*

As you will read elsewhere in this magazine, the Society has been given notice to quit the rooms in Prospect Technology College by the end of July this year. Consequently the last day available for research will be Thursday, 1st July 1999.

Until then, Library Tours have been arranged on the following Mondays:

15th March 7.30 - 9.30pm
19th April 2 - 4pm
17th May 7.30 - 9.30pm (the last tour)

and Saturday openings of the Centre, from 10am to 4pm, will be on:

13th March 10th April
8th May 12th June

During the first two weeks of July the contents of the Centre will be packed up and either transferred to our new premises or put into storage for the time being. During this period we shall need lots of volunteers - to stock check both the Bookstall and the Reference Library, followed by packing and labelling boxes, etc. etc. Volunteers for both the physical and mental jobs will be required, so everyone who can spare some time during the day and/or the evenings can help. A Job List and Manpower Register will be available at each Society Branch prior to their June meeting, as well as in the Research Centre - please keep this fortnight free by **ALLOCATING** the dates and times in your diary **NOW** ready to fill in the lists when they are issued.

Bookstall sales from postal applications will continue and the revised mailing address will be given in the June Magazine. Similarly Postal Search Services will continue and again full details will be given in June; but we can already advise that the

addresses to write for details from the 1851 Berkshire Census and the Berkshire Marriage Index will not change from those given on the inside back cover.

I am taking this opportunity to point out that Reading Branch is separate from the Research Centre, and will continue to meet in Prospect Technology College. The Branch makes its own arrangements for its meetings, but the close relationship between these two sections of the Society has been mutually beneficial and hopefully will resume in the future.

Use of the Research Centre is continuing to increase and the latest figures show that in the calendar year to December end there was a 12% rise in the number of researchers compared with 1997. Similarly the income generated in the Centre, excluding Bookstall Sales which are allocated elsewhere, has again risen but the Centre is still some way from being self-financing.

Due to a change in commitments I am retiring as Research Centre Manager at the AGM in June and my replacement is needed now so they can take over the reins gradually, not in one fell swoop. The aim is to ensure continuity, especially during the removal from Prospect Technology College and the move in to the new Research Centre. Will anyone who is interested please let me, or one of the Executive Committee, know ASAP so we can meet to discuss the position as soon as possible? I will of course be helping during July.

Seen in Caversham parish register for 1792:
"Tracey, Dr of William & Mary Illsley"

Tracey is usually given as a derivative of Theresa by reference books. [*Berkshire Echo*, No. 8, Winter 1998/99]

Memories of Slough in the 1920's

By Lucy Hudson

In previous articles I have written of my memories of Slough High Street³ and of my schooldays⁴. This episode covers the period after I left school at the age of fourteen and a half.

I spent one year at home helping to look after my infant nephew as we had illness in the family. Besides my aged grandmother⁵ who had suffered two strokes and become very childish, we lost my oldest sister⁶, the mother of the baby boy. She was just 24 years old. Her husband, an early casualty of the 1914-18 war, was paraplegic and a resident in the Princess Alice home in Slough (later called Upton Towers).

Anyhow, when I was fifteen and a half years old it was decided I could go to work. My first post was at a drapers at "The Crown" end of Slough High Street. I was to go in the cash desk and learn book-keeping. My wage was 5/- per week. I stayed there for two years and my wage had risen to the princely sum of 14/-. Shop hours in those days were long: Monday & Tuesday 9 am - 5.30 pm, Wednesday 9 am - 1 pm, Thursday & Friday 9 am - 6 pm, and Saturday 9 am - 9 pm! When I started the shop was called *Clements* but they sold it to *Tuttys* who, I believe, had a shop in Reading until the 1970s.

The manager was a Welshman named Jones. Each Saturday night I would cash up and then the money would be put in

little bags labelled for each department. Then I would help him put each individual packet among the various materials in what was called the Manchester department. Monday morning it was collected (amazing how we found it) and I would go off to Barclays Bank near the old General Post Office. Can you imagine these days a young girl of fifteen walking alone through the High Street with money which ran into hundreds of pounds? Saturday was a busy day.

The job had its humorous side. I remember one sale time having to serve a lady with calico - 6d per yard. She had several yards and I got in such a pickle I was shrouded like a mummy. We actually sold coffin shrouds, now never heard of. Long white gowns with white linings in a lovely soft material. When times were slack we had to sew buttons on cards. Of course the cash went on the overhead rails. The assistants sent it to the cash desk with the bill and money. The cashier gave change when needed, pulled the chain and back it went. However the hours were long and the money was poor so I left.

There wasn't a lot of employment in the twenties. I was offered a job in a very select establishment called the *Café Modern*. It was opposite the old Palace Cinema. A very nice lady who was a war widow ran it. She made all her own cakes and employed a cook, kitchen help and waitress. It was well patronised by the local business men of the town. The food was superb. I was a go-between and helped where needed. I was there three years until she sold up and retired.

³ *Berkshire Family Historian* 20, 102 (1997)

⁴ *Berkshire Family Historian* 21, 56 (1997)

⁵ Ellen Knowles bn. 4th Sept. 1837 in St Albans daughter of Charles Goodwin Knowles and Elizabeth Radland who were married at Christ Church, Spitalfields on 29th May 1832. Ellen married Charles Cooper at Dallinghoo, Suffolk on 27th July, 1865. She died in Slough in 1926.

⁶ Dorothy Thorn (1898-1924) married Joseph Rickards at St Laurence, Upton cum Chalvey, on 5th Oct. 1921. Their son John Joseph Rickards was born 16th Oct. 1922.

That was how I met my husband⁷. He had moved to Slough from Wantage and was working at 'Ike' Day's printing works just opposite. We had a happy life and were lucky to have 54 years of marriage.

I was always a keen football supporter. I remember the year Slough won five cups in the town. They rode through the High Street on a lorry then finished at the Dolphin Hotel. The old Slough Town band played on the part where the Rotunda was afterwards built. My friend and I, both about 14 or 15, were there when they brought the Berks and Bucks Cup out and gave all the bandmen a sip then said "*Do you girls want to try it?*" So I had a drink out of the old Berks and Bucks cup.

We didn't have much money but were happy and made our pleasures. Slough had a wonderful team. I remember the nick names of some - Bochin, Tigger, Togo, Tory. Jimmy Dale was the goalie. He was deeply religious and would never play on Good Friday. My cousin⁸ played in goal for Slough Laurencians. I used to help him write an account of the match each week for the *Football Chronicle* I think it was called.

There used to be fairs on the Dolphin

ground in summer. Always a fête on Bank Holidays organised by George Bennett Senior (landlord of the *Dolphin Hotel*). Also athletic sports were held on the Dolphin ground organised by a Mr John Good. Eventually the greyhound people took over for racing Tuesdays and Saturdays and the peace of Diamond Road was shattered with cars parked everywhere.

Two characters I remember well. The old man who came round every Sunday afternoon selling winkles for Sunday tea (I don't think he supplied the pins as well). He had a little cart drawn by a pony. He also had a wooden leg which he used to hang over the side. His name was Chubby Wilds, there can't be many people who remember him. The other character was the Muffin Man, also on Sunday afternoon. He had a huge tray on his head filled with delicious muffins. He rang a big bell.

We used to get the poor down and outs at the door with a can which they asked to be filled with hot water. Sometimes they had a little twist of tea. If not we always gave them some. They used to be able to stay overnight at the union or workhouse. They had to do certain chores in return for a bed and breakfast. But they were always polite. How times have changed. They got little keep but didn't expect something for nothing. So grateful and some well spoken. You never felt nervous. Unlike today when you are very apprehensive opening your door to strangers.

The Post Office Archives at Freeling House, Mount Pleasant Complex, Phoenix Place entrance, London, EC1A 1BB, will have restricted access from 1st March for 3 months due to renovation work. Will any member planning to go please phone them on 0171 239 2570 or send them a fax on 0171 239 2576 to ascertain if they can get access to the Search Room or the archive they want to use.

⁷ Edward Leslie Andrew Hudson (bn. 24th Oct. 1904, Wantage, d. 6th Jan. 1989, Eastbourne) was the only son of Andrew Hudson (bn. 29th Nov. 1882 Wantage, d. 16th July 1930 Wantage) and Mary Jane Hayden (bn. 27th July 1880 Letcombe Regis, d. 2nd Feb. 1960 Wantage) who married at Eaton Hastings 18th Nov. 1903. Andrew was the ninth of the eleven children of Henry Hudson (bn. 24th July 1843, Fyfield and d. Oct. 1928 Wantage) and Mary Jane Gilbert (bn. 1842 East Grafton d. April 1931 Wantage) who married at Garford 31st Oct. 1864. Mary Jane was the daughter of Henry Hayden (bn. 16th July 1850 Halford) and Rebecca Thorn (bn. 25th Jul 1850 Langford, d. 1883 Letcombe Regis) who married at Halford 10th Oct. 1874.

⁸ My cousin Arthur Thomas Suttlng, bn. Bethnal Green 8th Oct. 1898 d. Slough 10th July 1956, was the only child of my mother's oldest sister, Eliza Cooper, bn. Charsfield 27th April 1866 d. Slough 27th July 1953, who married Thomas Suttlng at St Luke's Richmond 14th April 1894.

Looking for Lucy Plumb

By Penelope Stokes

For nearly two years now I have been helping a BFHS member in Canada, Bernice Strangward, to trace the birth of her great-grandmother Lucy Plumb.

Lucy Plumb first appears in the 1871 census in London, aged 21 and living with her father James Plumb, who is described as having been born in Hamstead Marshall. Lucy's birthplace is given as Newbury.

In 1872 Lucy married Charles Thom in Paddington, and in 1879, as a widow, remarried an Alfred Grinham. Her age, as given on these certificates and in the 1871 and 1881 censuses, places her birthday between September 1849 and March 1850. Her father's age and place of birth (given in two census returns) make him easy to identify as the son of Ann Plumb of Hamstead Marshall.

Ann Plumb was something of a local character: Hamstead's baptism register lists her as having given birth to no fewer than seven bastards between 1793 and 1809, not one with a putative father to the name. James was the sixth of these. In 1827 he married a village girl, Lizzie Cox. They lived for a while in Hamstead Marshall, then moved to Speen, later to Bartholomew Street in Newbury and eventually to London. They appear to have had six children: Edgar (1829), James (1831), Louise Dorcas (1834), Eliza (1843), Elizabeth (1847) and Sara Ann (1848). The first three birth years are approximate, being based on baptisms, but the last three were registered. James and Louise Dorcas died within a month of each other in the winter of 1837/8 and are buried at Hamstead Marshall.

1851 finds the family in Bartholomew Street, Newbury, with the younger three

children still at home with their parents. There is no mention of Lucy here, or indeed anywhere else in West Berkshire according to the 1851 census index.

By 1871 the action has moved to London. Lizzie died in 1860, James has remarried, and in the 1871 census his Paddington household consists of Lucy Plumb his daughter aged 21, Ann Plumb his second wife, and Elizabeth Ann Thornton his [step]daughter.

All attempts to trace Lucy's existence prior to 1871 have so far failed. The GRO, IGI, and several parish registers could not produce a local Lucy Plumb born anywhere near 1849-50. Yet she names James as her father on every possible occasion, and is equally specific about her birth date and place.

We considered the possibility that she might have been adopted when very young, under such circumstances that she was never told her about her true parentage. A scandal within the family perhaps? I thought I had struck gold when I found a Lucy Plumb born in exactly the right period in Leamington (the only such registration country-wide, in fact, for two years either side of her putative birthdate). A good deal of time was spent tracking down this family, but the theory collapsed completely when Mrs Strangward found Leamington Lucy's marriage in Cheltenham in 1870. Several other Plumb girls (and Lucy non-Plumbs!) of the right age came under suspicion, but nothing pointed to the babyhood adoption which would have explained Lucy's apparent ignorance of her true origins.

A key factor in this adoption theory was Lucy's absence from James' family in the

1851 census; this left only a couple of years to go before such a child born in late-849 would have formed permanent memories of her true parentage.

In the event we decided that the secret adoption theory was fanciful, and that the more likely explanation was that Lucy and her supposed sister Sara Ann were in fact one and the same. Sometime after 1851 her parents must have stopped calling her Sara and began to call her Lucy, although this did not account for the disparity of a year in age. To prove this theory we had to prove that Sara vanished from the records when Lucy appeared.

Mrs Strangward has ploughed heroically through countless films of marriage and

death registrations in pursuit of Sara, Lucy and her sisters (who might well have had another sister as witness to marriage). For several months now she has also been scanning the 1861 enumerations for St Pancras, where Lizzie Plumb's death was registered in 1860, to find James' ménage.

It is, in effect, the fruitless task of trying to prove a negative. The best that Mrs Strangward can hope for is no evidence of Sara and Lucy co-existing simultaneously; provided that this does not come to light the theory is not actually disproved. Proving it is another matter entirely, and is unlikely to come about unless some startling discovery is made in some wholly unexpected quarter. The search continues.

DISPLAY PANEL COMPETITION!

In 1999 the Society is holding a competition for members to display their family history knowledge in their own way.

The rules are quite simple:

- produce a display mounted on 1, 2 or 3 card(s) of A2 size (the dimensions of A2 size are 594 mm x 420 mm or 23½" x 16½");
- submit them to the Research Centre before 31st May 1999;
- all the entries will be shown at the AGM in June 1999;
- the best entries will be judged by a panel drawn from members of the Society;
- the presentation of valuable prizes will be made after the AGM in June 1999.

The following guidance may be helpful:

- winning display panels are likely to be more than a family tree. The judges will be looking for evidence of some further research to find and display additional information about your ancestors. For example, they may have been in the services; they may have been in the police and/ the territorial army; perhaps they were awarded medals; they may have been in prison; perhaps they were convicts, etc. Each of these examples could generate an attractive display.
- the Society would like to retain the best entries for use when we are invited to mount exhibitions and for display in the Research Centre.
- the restriction on size is necessary to ensure that the display panels can be readily stored and transported.

Overseas members may send the display material to the Research Centre with a sketch of the layout and we will mount the display for you.

Berkshire Record Office News

The following items are reproduced from The Berkshire Echo - The Newsletter of Berkshire Record Office (No. 8 Winter 1998/99).

What's New?

The BRO has acquired microfiche copies of additional indexes of births, marriages and deaths of British people overseas from the Registrar general, with the help of a donation from the Berkshire Family History Society. The indexes cover military deaths during the Boer War and First and Second World Wars, births and deaths at sea 1837-1965; civil aviation births, deaths and missing 1947-1965; and births, marriages and deaths (military and civil) for the Ionian Islands 1818-64.

If you have any old photos or family correspondence and have wondered how best to look after them, we can help. We are now selling archival standard packaging materials. These include archival copy paper, acid free folders and tissue, archive boxes, cotton tape, polyester sleeves and photograph enclosures. We are able to take orders in person and by post and the materials can be collected from the office. At the moment we are unable to send orders by post.

Charity in Reading

Records of certain Reading charities have been catalogued and are now available for consultation. From very early times, the mayor and corporation assumed responsibility for administering charitable bequests, whether by establishing almshouses, setting up apprenticeships, or making annual payments of money, bread or clothing. In the 19th century, partly because of instances of abuse (though none is recorded in Reading!) greater controls were imposed nationally on the reformed corporations' charity administration. The bulk of our records so far catalogued are the minutes and accounts of the Reading

Municipal General and Municipal Church charities from 1837 (D/QR1 and D/QR2), groupings of some four dozen charities established in the previous centuries.

Approximately one hundred years of charity trusteeship can be followed, but the more recent volumes, containing as they do personal information, are closed for 50 years (adults) or 75 years (children). Also of interest to the local historian will be much older documents relating to the properties with which charities were first endowed. Examples so far available are deeds to properties in Reading dating back to 1431 (John A'Larder's charity, D/QR4), and - a wonderful discovery - a lease of the manor of Southcote of 1596 with an accompanying map (John Blagrove's charity, D/QR7). The beautifully coloured map, the oldest in Berkshire Record Office, illustrates the division of the manor between three Blagrove brothers, and shows the moated manor house, and farm buildings, roads, lanes, watercourses and bridges. The fields between the "London Hygh Waye" (A4) and River Kennet changed little until well into this century, but the northern half has now been developed with housing, including a block of modern flats incongruously surrounded by the still surviving moat.

Just Catalogued

We are pleased that in the 50th anniversary year of the National Health Service, we have been able to catalogue the records of two local hospitals. The King Edward VII Hospital in Windsor (formerly Windsor Dispensary and Windsor Royal Infirmary) was founded in 1818, as a charity providing medicine for the sick poor. Queen Charlotte, wife of George III, and her

daughters the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth and Sophia, were the first patrons, and since 1821, successive monarchs served in that role, with other members of the Royal Family as President, including Prince Albert in the 1850s. At first smallpox vaccination was offered free to all-comers, with a financial incentive in the 1820s, in the anxiety to help rid the area of the scourge of this highly infectious disease. The institution was later known as Windsor Royal Infirmary. The hospital joined the NHS in 1948. The fine collection of records (D/H6) covers the period 1818-1978, and help to illuminate local medical history. They include a register of patients, 1913-1917, which shows the impact of the decision to admit wounded soldiers straight from the Front in 1916, although this item, as with others containing medical information about named individuals is subject to 100-year closure. We have also received records from Upton Hospital, Slough, 1945-1988 (D/H7). Family historians will be especially pleased to hear that we have now received a register of marriages for Pangbourne parish church covering the period 1837-1935 (D/P91). Marriage registers have also come from Radley 1991-1998 (D/P95) and Sunningwell 1989-1997 (D/P127), and Theale Congregational (URC) Church 1957-1987 (D/N40). Other church records have come from East Woodhay (Highclere) Congregational Church 1925-1936 (D/N39). An opponent's view of nonconformity is revealed in a fascinating handbill of 1810, criticising Maidenhead Congregational minister John Cooke and others for "*pretending to sanctity above measure*" in opposing the performance of plays by itinerant companies as part of the

local celebrations of George III's golden jubilee (D/EZ121).

The BRO has purchased an interesting little collection of papers relating to the Martin family of Reading (and originally from the French-speaking community in the Netherlands), 1712/3-1823 (D/EZ124). The human touch is displayed in letters to merchant Edwin Martin from his son Edwin junior, talking of his life at Oxford, and in one letter of 1764 requesting "*3 or 4 Pair of Silk Stockings by the earliest conveyance as necessity presses my footsteps, having no others than those on my Feet.*" It would appear that some elements of student life have not changed!

We have also acquired deeds and papers of the Bishop family of Hamstead Park, Hamstead Marshall, 1849-1943 (D/EX 1527); an inventory of plate passed to William East of Hall Place, Hurley, on his coming of age in 1759 (D/EZ123); and deeds of property in Cookham, 1635-1714/5, and Bray, 1679-80 (D/EX1517); Newbury, Thatcham and Kingsclere, 1689 (D/EX1508); Reading, 1880-1965 (D/EX 1526); and Waltham St Lawrence, 1868-1926 (D/EX1529,1530). The last also includes a scrapbook kept by Harold Brooks, Liberal Parliamentary candidate for South Berks in 1929, mostly relating to that campaign, but also Mr Brooks' success as a solicitor in a libel suit brought by his client Princess Irma Youssouppoff, wife of one of Rasputin's killers, against the makers of a film on the case. Some stray estate records of the Marquis of Downshire, 1774, 1817 (D/EX1535), include the assertion that prehistoric earthwork Caesar's Camp "*is of very little value, except to his Lordship, as being highly ornamental and interesting to his Estate & Mansion*"!

University of Oxford Dept for Continuing Education hold a number of day and weekend courses of interest to family and local historians. For further details contact the Administrative Assistant, Day and Weekend Schools, OUDCE, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA.

Computer Forum

By Eddie Spackman

E-mail list/Discussion Group

This continues to be successful and many have found it helpful in several different ways. One is that users become aware of what is new in Computing and Family History and get to know the opinions and recommendations of others in the Society. A recent example was the new Vital Records Index from the LDS. Jean Debney has written an article about this CD set which can be found elsewhere in this issue. It was reported that the LDS will be publishing the 1881 census on CD in April/May this year.

About 40 new 'listers' signed up as a result of the article in the last Family Historian. Thus there are now nearly 200 members of the society on the discussion list to whom I forward an average of around 3 messages a day.

One of the major discussion topics has been the availability of records, such as Parish Registers, from Family History Societies. It quickly became known that copies of Parish Registers on fiche for a County can in some cases be purchased (for private research only) from Societies (e.g. Oxford) or from Record Offices (such as Essex). This was news to many of us. Fiche copies for Berkshire do not appear to be available in this way although I gather the Society now has plans to do something about it. It also transpires that if you have a very high resolution scanner (which will also be expensive) you may be able to read fiche with the scanner on your computer.

Projects

It has become obvious that several projects of the Society are not progressing as fast as many would like because of the lack of volunteers to work on them and a Projects

Co-ordinator. The e-mail group found several who were willing to help even though one or two were on the other side of the world! The secretary, John Gurnett, is now planning how to use these offers.

Also, volunteers are needed to help maintain and develop the Society's Website.

How do I connect to the Internet?

Now, for those who may be wondering about how to connect to the Internet, a FAQ (Frequently Asked Question):

Q: How do I get started for Family History with the Internet?

First you require a computer which runs a suitable operating system. On most personal computers the system will be Windows (either version 3.1x, 95, 98 or NT). Next you need a modem with a speed of 33 Kbps (Kilobits per second) or higher - V90 56 Kbps is now the current standard. If you buy a new computer today, an 'internal' modem will probably already be installed. If do not have an internal modem an 'external' one to connect to a standard COM port will cost from £70.

You will require access to a standard telephone line (an analogue line which is compatible with 56K technology) via a standard socket - you can use an extension lead - and the wherewithal to pay the bill! The phone cost will depend on the amount of time you spend on the Internet. Browsing Web pages is expensive, as this normally has to be done on-line, but e-mail can be cheap as messages, once downloaded, can be read and replies composed and written whilst 'off-line'. Next, you will need to connect to the 'server' of an ISP (Internet Service Provider). There are many around who

provide access at local call rates (e.g. by connection through an '0345' number). You can make this number your favourite friend on the BT Friends & Family service and also join 'Premier Line' to reduce your costs by over 30%.

Popular ISPs are AOL (America Online), MSN (Microsoft Network), Demon, CompuServe, Virgin Net, BTinternet, LineOne etc. but other organisations such as Which? can be used and will offer discounts for members. The cost per month will range from £5 (for up to about 5 hours access) to £10 (for unlimited access).

In the UK there are several 'free' ISPs of which the most widely known is Freeserve (from Dixons) but there are others (e.g. Xstream, Free On-line, Telicno, Connect Free etc.). They all appear to offer local rate 0845 calls, but technical support is on a premium rate line which may cost up to £1 per minute. In most cases e-mail support appears to be free. It has been reported that the Freeserve software changes your settings in Internet Explorer and that uninstalling is time-consuming. Free ISPs are financed by taking a proportion of the telephone call charge from BT and advertising on your e-mail software. You may also need to complete a 'market survey'.

The choice of ISP will depend on many personal factors and you should choose one with whom you will feel 'happy'. There may be 'hidden' charges; the most severe may be the cost of the 'technical support' helpline. You will normally get 5 e-mail addresses and upwards of 10 Mbytes of free Web space. This space can be used by you to set up your own 'Home Page' on which you can make your Family History information available to everyone on the Internet across the world. You will be able to find web sites offering extra e-mail addresses free.

You will need software to connect to your chosen ISP. This may already be loaded on your machine but free trial software can be found on CDs on the covers of or inside computer magazines every month. Software from other ISPs can be obtained on CD by contacting them by phone or by downloading when on the Internet. This can be done after dialling-in, in the first instance, via the Microsoft Network.

Once you have your computer, modem, telephone line and software you only need to run the software from the CD and have your credit/debit card handy when asked for its number. You should be 'up and running' well within half an hour. If you have trouble you can use the ISPs 'helpline' but it is probably better to contact a friend - I could try and put you in contact with a member of the Society if necessary.

E-mail fraud

The February edition of 'Which?' reports on an e-mail fraud in which some people, soon after connecting to an ISP, have been fraudulently asked for personal information including passwords and credit card details. To avoid this NEVER give your passwords to anyone and NEVER pass credit card details by e-mail.

Surfing the Net and E-mail

Once connected you will wish to 'surf the net' using a Web Browser. There are only two in general use and both are free: 'Internet Explorer', which is usually already loaded on your computer, and 'Netscape', which many prefer. The latter can be downloaded from the Web. A browser will be included with your ISP software.

You may want to e-mail your fellow Berkshire Family Historians. To do this just send a message to me at the address below.

easpackman@lineone.net

Genealogy is said to be the second most popular subject on the Internet, so you may wish to look for 'your' family there. Within a year you stand a good chance of making contact with an nth cousin, probably on the other side of the world, also into researching 'your' family. There is an unbelievable amount of information now available and it continues to increase at a formidable rate all the time.

Berkshire FHS Home Page

You can visit our 'home' page at:⁹

<http://www.vellum.demon.co.uk/genuki/BRK/berksfhs/index.htm>

The site also provides access to a page generated by our Bookstall Manager, Sally Pellow, describing and listing what is available for sale.

Commonwealth War Graves site

You might then like to try the Commonwealth War Graves site at

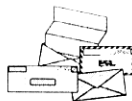
<http://www.cwgc.org>

Here you will find details of servicemen buried and commemorated in the graves. It is a site worth visiting but it appears that the search facilities are only available during 'UK working hours'.

Handout and Computer Group Newsletter

At her talk in November, Jocie McBride provided a handout suitable for newcomers to Genealogy and the Internet. Also, a Computer Group Newsletter was produced in December. These have already been sent to everyone on the e-mail list and will be sent automatically to new subscribers. However, copies for those without e-mail can be obtained by sending an SAE to me (address on backcover).

⁹ URLs (Universal Resource Locator) such as this are frequently long and often 'case sensitive'. It is preferable to 'click' on URLs at Web sites or included in Emails from your friends in preference to typing them in.



Dear Editor,

"Can you tell me what is the latest news on the new Records Office to replace the old 'Shire Hall' office? How far advanced are the plans for the building and is there any likely opening date?"

I certainly hope the design will allow for more space than at present to prevent the overcrowding and in particular the congestion in and around the area of the microfiche/microfilm readers. I would also make a plea for the Office to be open on a Saturday as many County Records Offices do. For those who have experienced Hampshire or Surrey RO they are centres to aspire to for the planners of the Berkshire RO. Yours sincerely, Shaun Morley (3539),"

The following is reproduced from The Berkshire Echo No.8 Winter 1998/99 and I hope answers your query:

Building work has now started on the new Record Office building in Castle Hill, Reading. It is early days yet, but so far the works are on schedule. If all goes to plan, the building should be completed by January 2000, so that we can spend February and March moving ourselves and the four miles of records in our care into the new building. The new office will have a larger search room than the present one, and an exhibition/group visits room which is badly needed. It will be necessary to close the Record Office to the public for a period of time in order for the move to take place, but we hope to keep this as short as possible. It is likely that the service will be reduced gradually during the course of the move, with access to records on film and fiche continuing longer than to original documents. Closure periods will be advertised well in advance.

Bookstall News

By Sally Pellow

First of all, some news about price changes and changes to stock on the booklist. For those of you with access to the Internet, I now maintain a copy of the booklist, linked to the BFHS website, at <http://www.rdg.ac.uk/cbspelow/booklist.htm>. I keep the list updated as often as possible. We still don't have the option to order books via the Internet, though: plain old paper with a cheque and a stamp, I'm afraid! Remember to address orders to Judith Morgan-Russell, who does marvellous work as our Postal Sales volunteer, or simply to Postal Sales.

As we run low on the printed supplies of the **1851 census indexes**, we are moving to reprinting using microfiche, which means that the prices have dropped from £2.75 per index to £1.00 each. Five of the sets are now on microfiche only, and as stocks dwindle, more will be moving to microfiche. If you are ordering a census return, and don't want microfiche, please make that clear in your order. As a reminder, the current prices are:

No	Places	Price	Type
1.1	Thatcham;	£2.75	Paper
1.2	Newbury	£2.75	Paper
1.3	Speen	£2.75	Paper
2	Hungerford	£1.00	Microfiche
3	Shrivenham, Faringdon & Buckland	£2.75	Paper
4:1	Abingdon	£2.75	Paper
4:2	Fyfield, Cumnor & Sutton Courtney	£2.75	Paper
5:1	Wantage	£1.00	Microfiche
5.2	Illesley & Hendred	£1.00	Microfiche
6	Cholsey & Wallingford	£2.75	Paper
7	Bradfield	£2.75	Paper
8.1	Reading St Mary	£2.75	Paper
8.2	Reading St Lawrence & Reading St Giles	£2.75	Paper
9	Wokingham	£1.00	Microfiche
10	Cookham	£1.00	Microfiche
11	Easthampstead	£2.75	Paper
12	Windsor	£2.75	Paper
	Master Surname & Place Name Index	£2.00	Microfiche

Monumental Inscriptions. These microfiche have now been reduced in price, as follows:

MI/01	Reading Cemetery, Berkshire 1843 - 1995	£4.00
MI/02	Beech Hill Baptist Chapel, Berkshire 1843 - 1994	£1.00
MI/03	Wokingham Free Church Burial Ground, Berkshire 1921 - 1993	£1.00
MI/04	Dunsden All Saints, Oxfordshire, 1842 - 1994	£1.00
MI/05	Mays Lane Burial Ground, Earley 1936 - 1993	£2.00

Last month Jean Debney reviewed "*Salt of the Earth*", by Dorrie Minall; this, unusually, was not one of the titles being stocked in the Research Centre, but had to be ordered direct from the author. I had a report later in the month that some of the orders placed by members did not allow for postage and packing, and that Dorrie Minall was out of pocket in her expenses. Please can I remind everyone that prices of books quoted are only for the book itself. Postage and packing costs extra. We advertise our postage and packing rates at the end of the magazine for any books you see reviewed: please bear these in mind when ordering, either from us or from any other supplier. Incidentally, those of you who have not placed a postal order before may like to know that we always send a copy of the booklist back with your order, so you should always have a copy.

Last month I reviewed the series about the **Kitchener Battalions** of the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Since then we have heard that we will not be able to obtain more copies of "*On the Somme*", the third book in the series: supplies are dwindling and there is no plan to reprint at present. I will be removing these books from the booklist when it is reprinted in the summer.

A new book which is selling faster than I can order it is *Computer Aided Genealogy: A Guide to using Computer Software for Family History*, by Nigel Bayley. Nigel is the N of S & N Genealogy Supplies in Salisbury, and the real selling point of this book is that it includes at the back a CD with demos and shareware supplied by S & N. Load the CD into your drive, and a simple menu appears which allows you to try these packages: Family Tree Maker, Family Origins, Brother's Keeper, Cumberland Tree, Generations/Reunion, Legacy, Win Family, TMG, Genealogy for Windows and so on. The book itself is a fat description of the packages available, assessing them with a comparative table and examples of what the different reports and screen entry systems are like: there is also discussion of GEDCOM, graphics and the Internet. All for the excellent price of £5.95 (don't forget the postage and packing if ordering by post!)

Now to advance warning of our **Summer Sale**, which will start at the Open Day on 29th May and will continue through June until the Centre closes on 1st July for its move to new premises. The size of the reductions and the number of items going into the sale will depend on how long we will be unable to display a bookstall – more information in the June magazine, by which time we will have a much clearer idea! There will certainly be many genuine bargains, so pencil it onto your calendars now.

The following new books have been received since Christmas and are reviewed below by Jean Debney and myself. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with book reviewing - I am tending still to review many of the books myself in order to familiarise myself with the stock - however when there is a large number to review which usually happens after the two Federation conferences in March and September, I will contact you.

An Historical Atlas of Berkshire £14.95

For those who love maps, here is a fascinating book to absorb you. Edited by Joan Dils, this book gives you a map of Berkshire for every need, together with an explanation. It opens with maps of a) the ecclesiastical parishes in 1831, b) Berkshire villages and towns, c) Berkshire civil parishes in 1887, d) the ecclesiastical parishes in 1901, and e) the Hundreds of Berkshire c. 1800. Then it goes on to another 58 descriptions, ranging from the geology, topography, towns, roads, rivers and canals, to maps of trades, crime, religious beliefs and health. Each of these maps appears on a right hand page: an expert takes up the left-hand page with an essay on

that particular map. For example, Margaret Gelling writes on the place names of Berkshire, and the map illustrates how our ancestors named their villages and towns by habitative type or topographical type. Joan Dils writes on elementary education from 1819 to 1902, with indications on the positioning of Church of England, non-conformist or Catholic schools throughout the county. The book is beautifully printed and laid out; though unfortunately the shape of Berkshire means the book is wide and short (A4 landscape) and to keep costs as low as possible it is softback, which means it can be floppy reading! A wonderful research guide, though, and one which I strongly recommend.



Local History, A Handbook For Beginners - by Philip Riden £9.95

When this down-to-earth guide to studying local history was first published in 1983 it was hailed as “*outstandingly useful*” for beginners. This new and updated edition is even better and includes an extensive “further reading” list. It is an ideal “*how-to-do-it*” guide that will assist the amateur family history enthusiast to place his ancestors within the context of their local environment and community. [JD]



An Introduction To Tracing Your German Ancestors - by Peter Towey £3.25

The author of this new research guide is Chairman of the Anglo-German Society and a professional genealogist so is well qualified to guide you on the trail of tracing your German-speaking ancestors. The flow of migrants from Europe to the British Isles started in the 16th century and reached a peak in the 19th century.

Written in an easy style, this guide will enable you to identify when and where your ancestors came from on the Continent and how to use the local records even though you may have minimum knowledge of German. [JD]



Nuts & Bolts - Family History Problem Solving through Family Reconstitution Techniques - by Andrew Todd: £3.60

The title says it all: instead of just looking for your ancestors in isolation from the wider family and their neighbours, Andrew Todd suggests that many of your research problems could be solved by broadening your approach. His suggestion is to look at the wider community and reconstitute family trees for other members of the family and even their neighbours. In this way, all sorts of discoveries can be made about your ancestors which brings the past to life. From my own experience of reconstituting all the families who lived in my present home parish of Purley in Berkshire I can confirm that this method does create a better understanding of life in one particular village. [JD]

Do you have glassmakers in your family tree? The Glassmakers and Allied Trades Index (1600-1900) includes all trades connected with the blowing of glass together with all trades which enhance glass. This includes stained glass artists and cutters and engravers of glass, plus any person working in a glass manufactory. The whole of the UK is covered in the index, plus a few world-wide. Please enclose a SAE or 2 IRCs with each enquiry for which there is no charge. If you can supply details of your own glass ancestors Brian Hardyman would be grateful. His address is: 6 Beeforth Close, New Earswick, York YO32 4DF.

A Modern Mystery

By Bill Britton

Having been researching my wife's and my ancestry for a couple of years with varying degrees of success, I was forming the opinion that nearly always the information was available somewhere and that the sources appear to be virtually limitless, provided the searcher read enough of the splendid books produced to help him or her and sought the advice of the "old hands". Much assistance is by way of the army of people - unpaid in the main - who break down masses of often very confusing and almost illegible documents/monumental inscriptions/parish books, school registers etc. into lists and indexes that save many, many hours of searching and deciphering by the individual.

I am also grateful to the past governments, official bodies and individuals who collated the original information and had the foresight to retain it for future generations. In the main, the present day archivists and staff of record depositories are understanding, kind and helpful.

However, in early December 1998, I began the search for the life story of a much more recent forebear - my father. Couldn't be simpler really, every facet of persons living in this century is recorded from cradle to grave. The advent of National Insurance, TV Licensing, Driving licences, NHS, even two World Wars and conscription had to mean a paper trail that a trained monkey could follow. Not only was there a huge increase in the number of organisations that required or held one's personal details, including banks, mail order, credit agencies, building societies, utilities providing gas, water, electric etc. the method(s) of collating, storing and retrieval has become very much easier and faster due to rapid development of computer-based wizardry and the like.

Life for the researcher is becoming easier by the hour, what with microfiche, film, CD-ROM and the Internet! However there is one group that have not progressed with the rest of us in this avalanche of electronic gadgetry - the good old Civil Servant(s) in charge of the records of the hundreds of thousands of World War II participants. They have got all the usual aids - telephone, word processors, e-mail etc., but for their use only.

The records for 1920 to the present day are held at M.O.D. Bourne Avenue, Hayes; so I requested an application form and asked what fee was required; I did get a prompt response:-

1. They had 30 miles of records.
2. The records were not centralised.
3. There was no surname index.
4. There had been no filming, microfiche or computerisation.
5. They do not photocopy.
6. They have few staff for the manual search.
7. They had numerous enquiries re:-pensions, dependant welfare etc. that were of an urgent nature and there was a backlog that could mean a three-month wait.
8. The fee was £25 - not refundable; cheques to "The Accounting Officer, Ministry of Defence" and crossed "Bank of England a/c HM Paymaster General". NB I can tell you it was not easy getting that lot on my cheque, which already says "A/C Payee" across it.
9. Provide proof of identity and/or if required by next-of-kin due death of person involved, copy of death certificate.

10. Unlike PRO Kew, the public have no access!

So, much encouraged by this information, I duly filled in the form and sent it off, enclosing £25.

Five days later, (surprise, surprise), I received a letter that spoke of an “*extensive search*” without success. They could not proceed further without the following:

MOD	My comment
Army number	I had told them that I did not know it.
Full Name	I had given it - Royston Morgan Britton (not so common Christian names).
Regiment of Final Discharge (including any Territorial Army or Reserve)	I had said that he was in Pioneer Corps 1942/1946, Portsmouth (Smoke Coy). I did not know if he was still in it at demob or on reserve.
Year of Final Discharge (including Territorial Army or Reserve)	If I knew, I would have said.

Incidentally, my father’s last wife (1970-1984) disposed of car, all personal effects, medals, letters etc. the morning that he died! Hence my lack of documentation.

No portion of the £25 was returned. I do wonder why nobody in charge of that building or senior officer(s) connected with records, has tried to reduce their 30 miles of racking and space used and/or wished to speed up the process of dealing with those “*numerous*” enquiries in the last 53 years.

Anyway, being of a stubborn disposition, I resolved to explore every avenue, however tenuous some might be.

1. **The Royal Logistic Corps Museum, Camberley**, with some success. I knew my father’s Officer in Command. The War Diaries named officers and who/what they commanded. He, Major Lavender, was OIC 846 Smoke Coy in Portsmouth 1942/1943.
2. **The Royal Pioneer Corps Association**. They assisted the above mentioned and suggested I advertise in their magazine.
3. **The Royal British Legion**. They couldn’t help; nationally, they dispose of a deceased’s record! I’ve written to his local branch (attendance book?).
4. **Department of Social Security**. The date of issue of National Insurance number would be approximate time of discharge from army - as NI numbers did not exist before the Second World War.
5. **Royal Ancient Order of Buffalo** as he was a member. All their records are computerised/indexed.
6. **My older sister and brother** may remember further information.

I also have written to:-

1. “**Service Pals**” - a free advertisement on Channel 4 teletext (p.682) for past colleagues etc.
2. “**Lost Trails**” - Pioneer Corps association magazine.
3. “**Where are You**” - “Yours” Magazine for 50+.
4. “**Question and Answers**” - Jean Cole of “Family Tree Magazine”.

Other Possible Leads

- I am getting the breast section of a 1942 army photo blown up, to identify the pre-world war II medal ribbons. I will then write to the Army Medal Office, Droitwich, who have a surname index.
- I have a photograph taken when he was 65+ where he was wearing a blazer with a regimental badge on the pocket. It appears to be a "RE" badge which begs the question - Did he join them initially and was then transferred to the Pioneer Corps? This photo will also be "blown up".
- When young I saw his kitbag, bearing his number. I may try being hypnotised into regression - to recall it.
- It has been suggested that I try to contact him at a seance!
- Talk to my Member of Parliament as his title may get a better result(s) from Hayes.

I wrote the initial part of this article in December 1998 and since then things have moved rapidly towards my goal as follows:

The M.O.D. Army Medal Office, Droitwich wrote to me on 11th December 1998 - "*Thank you for your letter received 11th December 1998; your late father 2190771 Royston Morgan Britton, Royal Artillery, the undermentioned awards*", etc. Etc. How good is that? On receipt of my enquiry, they located the record, which contained his Army number, drafted and posted a reply; all on the same day!

Now, complete with his number and parent regiment, I re-applied to M.O.D. Hayes - not sending another £25 and mentioning the alacrity of M.O.D. Droitwich!

Allowing for Christmas, the reply (dated 8th January 1999) was all that I could have hoped for - his whole World War Two service, what he joined, when and where, his postings and promotions (many of both); his date of discharge to the "Reserve" and subsequent re-enlistment in R.A. (T.A.) 1947. His final discharge was in 1948 when he moved away from the Portsmouth area.

Together with a donation to their "*trust fund*" for their help, I sent a copy to the Royal Logistics Museum and they sent "*extracts*" from the "*War Commanders Diaries*" of every Company that he was involved with. Between his listed dates for posting(s) and promotions and the "*extracts*", I have a written account of his World War Two experience(s) from November 1939 (British Expeditionary Force) to December 1948. NB. He never met the enemy and was never shot at or shelled whilst in St. Nazaire in 1939/1940.

Finally when re-enlisting in 1947, he claimed earlier R.A. service 1919-1925, which may explain the pre-world war two medal ribbons, but he joined as "*Clarke*" - to avoid the authorities? Thereby hangs another tale to be uncovered!!

The Missing Link? Following his article "Saumarez Mountstevens" (p.46 December 1998 Berkshire Family Historian) Ron Dobrée has found the following:

Thomas de Sausmarez (born 20th April 1720 died 21st July 1766) who also went with Anson round the world 1739-44, married a Caroline Mountstevens (date not known). He became Captain of Belliqueux (1764), which he captured while in command of Antelope 1758.¹⁰

¹⁰ Naval Records Society: The Saumarez Papers

Q & A with Jean

Q *Syd Quarterman (703) of Tarvin, Chester: On my Family History computer program, Family Tree Maker, I have found a reference to a Luke Quarterman in the USA who, according to the source, was born between 1813 and 1890! Among my own records I have a Luke who was born in 1813. Are there any records of people going to the USA either in the army or by emigrating and would the records state where they came from and who their parents were?*

Also, when we visited a local church, two lovely elderly ladies told me that in the 1820s people were paid to go and live in the Colonies. Where would these records exist?

A If Luke joined the British Army and served his time, his enlistment papers will be among the War Office papers (class WO 97) in the Public Record Office at Kew. The early records from 1760 to 1854 arranged by regiment (if you know which one) but help is at hand - a computerised index is now available at Kew which gives, where known, the following information:

Surname and forename(s), place of birth, enlistment and discharge dates, age at discharge, regiment(s) in which served and any comments plus the piece number in PRO class W097.

Reference to the appropriate record will detail the soldier's career and where he was posted with his regiment, etc. Luke would probably have enlisted when he was between 18 and 22 years old, i.e. between 1831 and 1835 - this may help identify "your" man but shouldn't be a problem with an unusual surname.

Regarding emigration - as opposed to transportation - there was a certain amount of parish assisted emigration in the early decades of the nineteenth century before and after the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act. The amount of information may vary and it is not possible to say what personal data may be discovered apart from perhaps age at migration (probably not always accurate) plus they place they came from, which may not be the same as place of birth. The county record office catalogue should be checked for any relevant items from the "Parish Chest" for a parish prior to 1834, and in the Poor Law Union records after this date: the Guardians' Minutes are the usually a good source to check for references to a local scheme. In addition, class MH12 in the PRO at Kew contains correspondence and other material (1834-1890): the class is arranged alphabetically by county and Poor Law Union.

Further ideas and information can be found in "Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office" and the PRO Records Information Leaflet no.71: *Emigrants: Documents in the PRO*, as well as in the various alphabetically arranged "help" books available which could be consulted in a local reference library or obtained through the interlibrary loan service. These includes *The Family Historians Enquire Within* by Pauline Saul (FFHS 1995), (available from the BFHS bookstall), *The Oxford Companion to Local & Family History* by David Hey (OUP 1996), *Ancestral Trails* by Mark D Herber (1997) and *The Dictionary of Genealogy* by Terrick Fitzhugh (4th ed. 1994).

Editor's Notes

Thank you once again to all contributors to this issue. If you don't see your contribution this time, it should be there next time. **The next three deadlines are 27th April for June 1999, 27th July for September 1999 and 30th October for December 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. If you e-mail an item for "Help Wanted", please include your postal address. If you send an item to the e-mail group which you would also like included in the magazine, please could you add a note to that effect on your message. 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!

Help Wanted

Rosemary Perry (231) of 329 Ferndale Road, Swindon, Wilts, SN2 1DE asked as follows:

“After many years searching, I still cannot find the death or burial place of Anne Crocker (née Blackstone/Braxtone) wife of George Crocker of Hamstead Marshall. She was alive in the 1851 Census, but dead by 1861, when George, a widower, had remarried. Intensive searching of parishes surrounding Hamstead Marshall has drawn a blank. Hopefully someone can find her somewhere.”



Ruth Timbrell (1285) of Catherine Lodge, Long Hill Road, Ascot, Berks, SL5 8RD would like some help as follows:

“Does anyone know of the whereabouts of the old records and registers of Cumberland Road Chapel, Reading? I have been searching for these for some time as my husband’s family are recorded there. Mark Timbrell, his grandfather, was a preacher. The Berkshire Record Office only have records from about 1940/1950 and I have exhausted all the recommended channels. I can only presume when the Chapel closed the records were taken away for safekeeping.”



W.T.Goodman (3086) of Mantle, Knapp Lane, Painswick, Gloucs wrote as follows:

“I have been trying to obtain a photograph or postcard of Cheap Street, Newbury, which includes the old building on the side of which was a narrow covered way into Plenty and Co’s Eagle Ironworks. I believe it was half-timbered and that it was demolished about 1965, and certainly was by 1970. I would be grateful, therefore, for any information which might lead to my acquiring such a photograph or arranging a temporary loan to make a copy.

Marcel Verbeeck (3571) of Ambroossteenweg 160, 1981 Hogstade-Zemst, Belgium, e-mail address : marcel.verbeeck@planetinternet.be would be grateful for help with the following:

“The original text in French is:

“Jean Arazola d’Onate, Secrétaire de la Chambre de la Sérénissime Infante, fils de Jean, & de Doa Maria d’Arrechavaleta, épouse Béatrix Heath, fille de Jérôme, Seigneur de Heath, Gentilhomme Anglois, & d’Elive Ramirez”

Jean Arazola d’Onate, Secretary of the Chamber of His Serene Highness Prince (probably of Spain?), and de Donna Maria d’Archeleta. He married Béatrix Heath, daughter of Jérôme Heath, Lord of Heath, Nobleman of England, and d’Elive Ramirez, 1611 in Brussels, Saint Goedele Cathedral, Belgium. (Heath Family Coat of Arms in Appendix).

1. Who was Jérôme Heath, Lord of Heath and d’Elive Ramirez?
2. Where is are (was) the place Heath?
3. Does anybody recognize the Heath Family Coat of Arms?
4. Is there a connection with another Heath Family I found? These are Richard Heath; married Mary Yerwood 14 Oct 1641 and another who resided in Brereton, Cheshire, and married Susanna Woolrich.”



Derek Neville (3749) of 31 Bradenham Road, Hayes, Middlesex, UB4 8LR would like to hear from the owners of the photograph of Eva Mercy Somerville and Henry Neville displayed in “Lost Property” in the December 1998 edition of the Berkshire Family Historian:

“This couple were my grandparents. Of general interest, Henry was a master

plumber with Merleys, expert in lead work. He was known for his good workmanship as far away as Basingstoke and he cycled the county to seal lead coffins, mend and make elaborate lead fittings as well as doing the more mundane plumbing tasks.

☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

Beth Hancock (3860) of 13 Greenways, Egham, TW20 9PA:

"Annie Wernham aged 29 in the Surrey 1881 census was married to William Thomas Vincent aged 32, bookbinder. I have two certificates which I hoped would be this lady.

1. 26th November 1849, Ann Wernham, St Leonards Square, Wallingford, mother Ann, late Kirkland, formerly Webb, gather Robert Wernham.
2. 18th July 1859, Annie Mary, Chieveley, mother Elizabeth formerly Deane, father Richard Wernham.

If there is anyone who has any knowledge of either of these two families I should be most grateful to hear from you."

☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

Bessie Handy and her sister Lavona Robinson (3971) of 150 Robinson Lane, Kingston, Tennessee 37763, USA are trying to trace relatives in England, who may be in the Windsor area:

Their grandfather John H. Jackson (bn. 1856) married Bessie Pearce (bn. 1854) in 1875. Bessie was one of thirteen children of Theophilus Pearce and Ann Maria Kellow who were born between 1847 and 1866. John and Bessie emigrated to America in 1880 where they had five children. When Bessie was growing up, her grandmother told her that both she and her grandfather lived at Windsor Castle. Bessie Pearce's family had something to do with the ladies-in-waiting and John Jackson's family were something to do with the King's horses.

Paul A. Scissons (3921) of 17 North Clark Avenue Newcastle, Wyoming 82701 USA

"I am looking for any information on John Cuthbert Scissons who was born on 20th March, 1833 in Shropshire, England."

☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

Jo Pool (3991) e-mail address: Malcolm.R.Pool@tesco.net is researching her great-grandfather John Allen and is having trouble locating the correct one.

"I have his marriage certificate to Lizzie Ely in 1887 where he is recorded as being 30 years old. (bn. c1857). I cannot find his birth certificate. His father's name is George, whose occupation has been entered as plumber. A small mystery here because mother reports him to be a miller. In fact the mill was on the River Kennet and still stands today but is now a restaurant. (Any information about this would be wonderful). John Allen is found on the 1881 census aged 24, lodging with an E Jordan. He is now apprenticed as a coachpainter. This I know to be true from both mother and auntie. He is supposed to have painted all the gold leaf on the Queen's coaches. In fact my grandmother, as a small child, is said to have sat in them all - even the "Cinderella" coach! I have tried to find records on coachpainters but have drawn a blank there. Any help please?

He is supposed to have attended Christ's Hospital school. There was apparently a photograph (seen by both mother and auntie) of him in the very distinctive uniform. I have tried to search there but they report there was no John Allen of the correct age or family connection. Mother says he was born in Wokingham and the family lived there or Thatcham. However I have recently come across some Allens in Braywick but George (who is down as a Baker - close enough) would have been only 15 when John was born."

A New Source - The Vital Records Index for the British Isles and Berkshire in particular

By Jean Debney and Eddie Spackman

At the end of 1998, an exciting new source for family historians became available from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (the Mormons). It contains about 5 million names taken from records in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man (there are none for the Channel Islands) dating between 1538 and 1888 on 6 CD-ROMs: an installation disc which includes the 31-page Users' Manual and 5 data discs: 1: Marriages (A-Z), 2: Births and Christenings (A-C), 3: (D-I), 4: (J-Q) and 5: (R-Z). There are no death or burial entries in this source.

One of the most important features is the ability to download selected entries (up to 100 at a time - but I would recommend restricting yourself to no more than 50) to a file in GEDCOM format. This file can then be imported into your favourite Family History computer program. However, a word of warning! You will generally create several new 'unlinked' families which will need to be merged manually. Updates can be expected in the years to come.

The CD set can be purchased for £13.50 including p&p in the UK from:

LDS Distribution Centre, 399 Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham B33 0UH.¹¹

As most family historians will know, several editions of the IGI (International Genealogical Index) has been available for family history research on microfiche and, more recently, on CD-ROM. The VRI is an addition to these records and both should therefore be consulted. Although I have not been able to locate any examples so far, there may be some duplicate entries in the two sources, but a

careful check will probably show they originate from different sources: e.g. parish registers and bishop's transcripts.

Like all new sources, it is only as good for you as the information it contains: a bit like the proverbial curate's egg really: If you find what you want, then Great! but if not - then ... I was fortunate to find entries that enabled me to expand the Victorian family of my Venus ancestors in Brighton, Sussex, but didn't take them further back. One thing to remember is that there are over 240 million names on the IGI compared to 5 million on the VRI. Also, as on the IGI, coverage is variable and a careful check of the locations lists for both sources will indicate the parishes / places which are included and, by deduction, those which need to be searched for that elusive ancestor, plus his relatives to confirm you are following the right family.

The VRI Users' Manual includes a list of the countries and counties covered, but closer examination shows that this is not quite accurate. For example, Berkshire is not listed but 12,428 births / christenings and 4,102 marriage entries (i.e. 2,051 events covering both parties) have been extracted from the following places in the VRI locations list; additional information has been added from the Berkshire edition of the NIPR 8.1¹² in [square brackets].

BUCKLEBURY - BT's: C 1760 - 1835 = 2190 entries; M 1760 - 1835 = 909 entries

[with (the Tything of) Marlston; St Mary; Reading Hundred; Bradfield Union; original registers in Berkshire RO from 1538; BT's in

¹¹ For more detailed information about the VRI see "British Isles Vital Record Index" by Barney Tyrwhitt-Drake in the Computer Section of the Family Tree Magazine (January 1998, pp59-62).

¹² NIPR = National Index of Parish Registers, Vol.8 part 1, Berkshire; published by Society of Genealogists (1989) and available from BFHS Bookstall. For coverage of later registers deposited, see a recent BRO list.

Wilts RO 1760 - 1803; 1813 - 1835.]

CLEWER - BT's: C 1813 - 1836 = 1741 entries; M (nil)

[St Andrew; Ripplesmere Hundred; Windsor Union; original registers in Berkshire RO from 1653; BT's in Wilts RO 1713 - 1835]

CUMNOR - BT's: C 1607 - 1835 = 3811 entries; M 1607 - 1835 = 1529 entries

[St Michael; Horner Hundred; Abingdon Union; original registers in Berkshire RO from 1559; BT's in Wilts RO 1607, 1612, 1616 - 23, 1632 - 34, 1637; 1665, 1672 - 99, 1701 - 31, 1737 - 1835.]

DRAYTON - BT's: C 1607 - 1836 = 1809 entries; M 1607 - 1836 = 447 entries

[St Peter; Ock Hundred; Abingdon Union; A Chapelry of St Helen, Abingdon: created a separate parish in 1867; Original registers in Berkshire RO from 1813, (earlier registers destroyed by fire in 1780); BTs in Wilts RO 1607, 1612, 1618 - 23, 1628, 1631, 1634 - 37; 1668 - 69, 1672 - 78, 1681 - 83, 1690 - 1707, 1710 - 31, 1737 - 42, 1745 - 1836.]

CHALLOW, EAST - C 1812 - 1836 = 177 entries; M 1813 - 1836 = 76 entries

[St Michael; Kintbury Eagle Hundred; Wantage Union; Chapelry of Letcombe Regis; joined West Challow in 1852; original registers in Berkshire RO from 1711]

CHALLOW, WEST - C 1812 - 1836 = 105 entries; M 1812 - 1836 = 28 entries

[St Lawrence; Kintbury Eagle Hundred; Wantage Union; a chapelry of Letcombe Regis until 1852; original registers in Berkshire RO from 1653]

KINTBURY - BT's C 1813 - 1836 = 1297 entries; M 1813 - 1836 = 618 entries

[St Mary with Christ Church; Kintbury Eagle Hundred; Hungerford & Ramisbury Union; Original registers in Berks RO from 1558; BT's in Wilts RO: incomplete series from 1607 including 1813 - 1836.]

LETCOMBE BASSETT - C 1607 - 1833 = 801 entries; M 1607 - 1833 = 381 entries

[St Michael; Kintbury Eagle Hundred; Wantage Union; Original registers in Berks RO (defective before 1683): C 1564 - 1812; M 1564 - 1812]

LETCOMBE REGIS (or KINGS) - BT's: C 1812 - 1836 = 257 entries; M 1812 - 1836 = 114 entries

[St Andrew; Kintbury Eagle Hundred; Wantage Union; Original registers in Berks RO from 1536; BT's in Wilts RO: incomplete series from 1607 including 1751 - 1836]

There are also some Berkshire entries from the Nonconformist Dr Williams Library Birth Certificates, but, since the Library is in London it is not possible to isolate these entries by counties. However, when trawling the database I found the following:

Children of Robert SHARP and Ann (daughter of Isaac and Charlotte MARCHMENT)

James SHARP, born 18 Sep. 1831 at Wokingham, Berks¹³

Henry SHARP, born 14 Sep. 1834 at Wokingham, Berks¹⁴

Sarah Ann SHARP, born 25 Aug. 1836 at Wokingham, Berks¹⁵

Son of **Thomas SHARP and Sarah (daughter of John COOK)**

Thomas SHARP, born 25 Aug. 1836 at Barkham, Berks¹⁶

It is anticipated that this resource - together with the Vital Records Index for Australia (births, marriages and deaths 1788-1905) - will shortly be available for postal searching

¹³ Registered at Dr Wm Lib 1837 [PRO - RG 5/143] Certificate no.9698 (FHL.No. 0815935)

¹⁴ Registered at Dr Wm Lib 1837 [PRO - RG 5/143] Certificate no.9699 (FHL.No. 0815935)

¹⁵ Registered at Dr Wm Lib 1837 [PRO - RG 5/143] Certificate no.9709 (FHL.No. 0815935)

¹⁶ Registered at Dr Wm Lib 1837 [PRO - RG 5/144] Certificate no.10,224 (FHL.No. 0815936).

Members' Interests

Compiled by Robert Houseman

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

32871 Mrs J M TAULBUT, 40 Crawte Avenue, Holbury, Southampton, Hants SO45 2GQ

MEMBERS SUBMITTING THEIR INTERESTS:

(* Member of Guild Of One Name Studies)

- 0231 Mrs R PERRY, 329 Ferndale Road, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1DE
 3517 Mrs A TAYLOR, 203-81 Washington Cr, Elliot Lake, Ontario P5A 2L6, CANADA
 3727 Mr & Mrs P WEBB, 2 Evelyn Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 8AY
 3749 Mrs R WALLIS & Mr D Neville, 31 Bradenham Road, Hayes, Middx UB4 8LR
 3776 Mr A HIND, 110 Whitley Wood Road, Reading, Berks RG2 8JG
 3847 Mr PJV REEVES, 38 East Towers, Pinner, Middx HA5 1TL
 3858 Mr & Mrs P KEAREY, 32 Grovelands Road, Reading, Berks RG30 2NY
 3863 Mr JC WOODARD, The Maltings, 14 Old Road, Surrex, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1RS
 3870 Mr RB ALDER, 30 Crossfield, Hutton, Preston, Lancs PR4 5EH
 3872 Mrs M CRINKS, 109 Groundwell Road, Swindon, Wilts SN1 2NA
 3875 Ms BD COODE MANKIN, 9964 Greenwood Ave, Montclair, CA 91763-3116, U S A
 3880 Mrs RA CURRIE, Ford Farm, Aldbourne, Nr Marlborough, Wilts SN8 2DP
 3882 Mrs DW ANDREWS, 92 Plumstead Common Road, London SW18 3RE
 3884 Dr RV FOSTER, 2a Belmont Park Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6HT
 3885 Mr REQ LAWRENCE, 2 Delane Drive, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berks RG41 5AT
 3890 Ms C CATTERMOLE, St Andrews Acre, Thames Street, Sonning, Berks RG4 6UR
 3892 Mrs C FIELD, 1 Bouchiers Close, North Tawton, Devon EX20 2DB
 3894 Mrs L CLARKE, 33 Desborough Crescent, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4BB
 3898 Mrs CA FENN, 179a Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5NU
 3910 Mrs C BOTWRIGHT, 5 The Green, West Tilbury, Essex RM18 8TU
 3911 Mr P VAUGHAN, 18 Redlands Road, Reading, Berks RG1 5EX
 3918 Mr D BELCHER, 1 Goodwin Walk, Wash Common, Newbury, Berks RG14 6SD
 3922 Mr PA BEDDING, 9 Bucklers Mead, Yelminster, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6LA
 3924 Mr E KENDRICK, Driftway, York Road, West Hagbourne, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0NG
 3931 Mr DW PULLEN, 17 Rectory Park, Sanderstead, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 9JQ
 3967 Mrs SA MATTHEWS, 83 Curtis Avenue, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 3UW
 3975 Mrs EM WOODALL, 22 Edwin Road, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8LE

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3870	ALDER	Abingdon	BRK	1800-1880	0231	BEAKHURST	Hampstead Marshall	BRK	1760-1840
3863	ALEXANDER	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	BKM	1200-1900
3910	ALLUM	Dennington	SFK	1840-1870	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	BRK	1200-1900
3882	ALLWAY	Kintbury	BRK	1840-1600	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	LND	1200-1900
3872	ARCHARD	Wallingford	BRK	1600-1850	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	ESS	1200-1900
3872	ARCHER	Wallingford	BRK	1600-1850	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	KEN	1200-1900
3880	ARNOLD	Birmingham	WAR	1700-1900	3922	BEDDING	Anywhere	SRY	1200-1900
3875	ASPINWALL	Westminster	LND	1760-1770	3892	BEERE	Emsworth	HAM	1800-1880
3727	BAILEY	Newtown	BRK	1750-1900	3918	BELCHER	Appleford	BRK	1600-1900
3975	BANNISTER	Cholsey	BRK	1750-1850	3918	BELCHER	Blewbury	BRK	1600-1900
3847	BARNEY	BIX	OXF	1600-1750	3918	BELCHER	Drayton	BRK	1600-1900
3776	BARRY	Anywhere	LND	1850-1870	3918	BELCHER	East Hendred	BRK	1600-1900
3898	BATCHELOR	Speen	BRK	1700-1750	3882	BENSON	Woburn	BDF	1790-1600
3872	BATHE	Redruth	CON	1600-1880	3975	BEW	Thatcham	BRK	1760-1820

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3892	BIRMINGHAM	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1870	3517	GOATLEY	Ramsbury	WIL	1700-1800
3749	BLACK	Edinburgh	MLN	1066-1900	3910	GODBOLD	Dennington	SFK	1800-1920
3875	BLONDEAU	St James Palace	LND	1730-1741	3894	GODDARD	Fawley	BRK	1845-1851
3875	BLONDEAU	Westminster	LND	1730-1740	3875	GOUGEON	St James Palace	LND	1730-1741
3910	BOUTWRIGHT	Framlingham	SFK	1880-1930	3847	GRA(E)Y	Cookham	BRK	1600-1700
3872	BOLTON	Ashton Keynes	WIL	1500-1800	3975	GREENWAY	Sonning	BRK	1720-1850
3882	BOWLER	Woburn	BDF	1760-1600	3863	GRIFFIN	Newbury	BRK	1700-1900
3776	BRADBROOK	Easington	DUR	1913-1917	3875	GRIFFITHS	Dorney	BKM	1740-1750
3880	BRAMHAM	Pontefract	YKS	1600-1850	3875	GRIFFITHS	New Windsor	BRK	1753-1765
3880	BRAMHAM	Stokesley	YKS	1600-1800	3884	GROSS	Woodbridge	SFK	1750-1850
3918	BRIMINGHAM	Botley	BRK	1600-1900	3847	HAMBLING	Chieveley	BRK	1600-1750
3727	BROOK	Leckhampstead	BRK	1750-1900	3910	HANSON	Clifton	GLS	1840-1876
3749	BUGLASS	Berwick	MLN	1066-1998	3910	HANSON	Newbury	BRK	1889-1900
3884	BULLOCK	Woburn	BDF	1700-1800	3517	HARRIS	Aldbourne	WIL	1750-1800
3847	BURFOOT	Cookham	BRK	1650-1850	3517	HARRIS	Aldbourne	WIL	1700-1800
3884	BUSS	Ardleigh	ESS	1800-1840	3875	HART	Acton	MDX	1810-1836
3872	BUTLER	Faringdon	BRK	1600-1850	3875	HART	Gt Yeldham	ESS	1769-1775
3727	BUTLER	Winkfield	BRK	1800-1900	3875	HART	St James Palace	LND	1740-1770
3918	CARTER	Hanslope	BRM	1600-1900	3847	HATCH	Waltham St Lawrence	BRK	1550-1700
3872	CHENEY	Bristol	SOM	1600-1900	3884	HEARN	Canterbury	KEN	1750-1850
3885	CHILTON	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900	3847	HEASTER	Cookham	BRK	1600-1750
3918	CHUCKLEY	Hanslope	BKM	1600-1900	3872	HIBBS	Mangotsfield	GLS	1600-1900
3975	CHURCH	Stoke Talmage	OXF	1680-1800	3975	HINE	Anywhere	HAM	1740-1850
3858	CHUTER	Anywhere	STRY	1700-1900	3975	HOBBS	Anywhere	BRK	1780-1860
3911	COLEMAN	Whitchurch	HEF	1850-1900	3872	HOBBS	Cricklade	WIL	1600-1900
3892	COLLIER	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1900	3975	HOBBS	Lower Swell	GLS	1750-1850
3847	COLLING(S)	Binfield	BRK	1700-1800	3967	HOLMWOOD	Anywhere	STRY	1500-1900
3863	COLLINS	Speen	BRK	1800-1900	3880	HOLT	Horbury	YKS	1700-1900
3882	CONDEY	Paddington	MDX	1825-1600	3880	HOLT	Rothwell	WRY	1700-1900
3727	COOPER	Chieveley	BRK	1750-1850	3880	HOLT	Royston	YKS	1700-1850
3918	COOPER	East Woodhay	HAM	1600-1900	3910	HOWARD	Anywhere	DEV	1845-1880
3727	COTTERELL	Winkfield	BRK	1700-1900	0231	HUNT	Kingsclere	HAM	1800-1840
3872	CRINKS	Bristol	SOM	1500-1755	3847	HUNTINGDON	Berkbury	BRK	1650-1800
3517	CRIPPS	Asbury	BRK	1800-1850	3975	INGLEFIELD	Anywhere	HAM	1760-1840
3967	CRIPPS	Hinskey	BRK	1800-1900	3892	JEFFRIES	Brighton	SSX	1800-1900
0910	CRISP	Dennington	SFK	1795-1880	3967	JENNER	Horley	STRY	1800-1870
0231	CROXALL	Coleorton	LEI	1740-1800	3967	JENNER	Worth	SSX	1870-1950
3884	de SMITT	Amsterdam	NL	1810-1900	3517	JERVAIS	Aldbourne	WIL	1800-1850
3727	DEAN	Wokingham	BRK	1850-1950	3880	JOHNSON	Birmingham	WAR	1830-1920
3875	DENHAM	New Windsor	BRK	1725-1755	3880	JOHNSON	Sallitoy	WAR	1800-1920
3898	DENTON	Bradfield	BRK	1808-1999	3880	JOHNSON	Wallingford	BRK	1700-1900
3776	DEW	Leckhampstead	BRK	1840-1855	3858	KEAREY	London	MDX	1600-1960
3882	DODSWORTH	Clapham	STRY	1800-1900	3918	KEEN	Hanslope	BKM	1600-1900
3898	DOLTON	Aldermaston	BRK	1770-1870	3924	KENDRICK	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1999
3898	DOULTON	Thatcham	BRK	1740-1999	3924	KENDRICK	Reading	BRK	1550-1750
3847	DREW(ES)	Bix	OXF	1500-1800	3924	KENDRICK	Stone	STS	1650-1998
3911	DUMAYNE	Newport	GNT	1750-1850	3924	KENRICK	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1999
0231	ELLIOT	Wartmout	DEV	1780-1820	3924	KENWRICK	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1999
3776	ELLIS	Anywhere	GLA	1919-1921	3776	KNIGHT	Bethnal Green	ESS	1855-1871
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	LDN	1066-1930	3776	KNIGHT	Reading	BRK	1855-1871
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	MDX	1066-1930	3872	KRINKS	Bristol	SOM	1500-1755
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	KEN	1066-1930	0231	LA TOUCHE	Derby	DBY	1800-1860
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	STRY	1066-1930	3910	LARGE	Ramsey	ESS	1840-1900
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	HUN	1066-1930	3885	LAWRENCE	St Albans	HRT	1700-1860
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	CAM	1066-1930	3910	LAWRENCE	Ware	HRT	1840-1880
3890	EVEREST	Anywhere	ESS	1066-1930	3975	LEE	Baughurst	HAM	1700-1850
3898	FENN	ALL	ALL	ALL	3517	LIDIARD	Chilton Foliat	WIL	1700-1900
3892	FIELD	Brentford	MDX	1850-1890	3882	LOGAN	Windsor	BRK	1850-1600
3884	FORWARD	Sutton Waldron	DOR	1740-1800	3517	LONG	Aldbourne	WIL	1700-1750
3884	FOSTER	Bilton	STS	1750-1830	3880	MACKENZIE-EDWARDS	India	1800-1900	
3884	FOSTER	Birmingham	WAR	1830-1870	3872	MAGGS	Mangotsfield	GLS	1600-1850
3967	FRENCH	Anywhere	SOM	1750-1900	3749	MARRINER	Portsea	HAM	1066-1860
3910	FRY	Upminster	ESS	1870-1990	3749	MARTELL	Steventon	HAM	1066-1880
3882	GARRETT	Ridgmont	BDF	1830-1600	3911	MARTIN	Pentrych	GLA	1780-1820
3911	GATWARD	Reading	BRK	1780-1880	3872	MASON	Ashton Keynes	WIL	1600-1850
3863	GAZELEY	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900	3858	MATTINGLEY	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1828
3918	GEARING	Marcham	BRK	1600-1900	3858	MATTINGLEY	Hurst	BRK	1500-1800
3863	GILES	Hungerford	WIL	1800-1900	3517	MAY	Inkpen	BRK	1800-1900
3863	GILES	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900	3776	MEARS	Anywhere	MDX	1066-1998
3727	GIRDLER	Anywhere	ALL	1066-1999	3776	MEARS	Anywhere	BRK	1066-1998
3910	GLADWIN	Ramsey	ESS	1840-1890	3776	MEARS	Luton	BDF	1066-1998

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3776	MEARS	Neath	GLA	1066-1998	3858	SEARL	Finchampstead	BRK	1600-1850
3776	MEARS	Poplar	ESS	1800-1998	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	LDN	1066-1930
3776	MEARS	Worcester	WOR	1800-1917	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	MDX	1066-1930
3880	MENSAL	Sattley	WAR	1800-1900	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	KEN	1066-1930
3880	MENSAL	St Pancras	LDN	1780-1900	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	SRV	1066-1930
3890	MILES	Anywhere	HRT	1800-1974	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	HUN	1066-1930
3890	MILES	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1974	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	CAM	1066-1930
3890	MILES	Anywhere	BKM	1800-1974	3890	SHOEBRIDGE	Anywhere	ESS	1066-1930
3847	MITCHELL	Cookham	BRK	1600-1800	3882	SIMMS	Kimbury	BRK	1840-1558
3884	MOBBS	Ringsfield	SFK	1770-1820	3727	SLARK	Easthampstead	BRK	1800-1900
3880	MORECROFT	Birmingham	WAR	1700-1900	3776	SMITH	Bethnal Green	ESS	1800-1826
3975	MUNDAY	Anywhere	HAM	1740-1850	3749	SMITH	Overton	HAM	1066-1900
3749	MUNDAY	Kingsclere	HAM	1820-1998	3749	SOMERVILLE	Reading	BRK	1066-1900
3749	MUNDAY	Sulhamstead	BRK	1066-1900	3918	SOUCH	Faringdon	BRK	1600-1900
3749	NEAGLE	Bermondsey	SRV	1066-1900	3880	SPAWFORTH	Fleet Street	LDN	1700-1850
3749	NEVILLE	Hartley Row	HAM	1066-1870	3967	SPICER	Hannington	HAM	1870-1920
3749	NEVILLE	Reading	BRK	1870-1998	3967	SPICER	Kingsclere	HAM	1820-1870
3872	NEW	Buscot	BRK	1600-1850	3975	STACEY	Tadley	HAM	1700-1870
3872	ORCHARD	Appleton	BRK	1600-1850	3967	STIMPSON	Abingdon	BRK	1500-1999
3884	PAINE	Wingrave	BKM	1750-1800	3910	STOCKWELL	Clifton	GLS	1870-1900
3898	PALMER	Chilton	BRK	1770-1850	3858	STOVOLD	Anywhere	SRV	1500-1890
0231	PALMER	Stockcross	BRK	1780-1825	3776	STRATTON	Anywhere	WIL	1879-1881
3967	PANTING	Anywhere	OXF	1500-1999	0231	STRATTON	Hampstead Marshall	BRK	1740-1850
3847	PARFITT	Binstead	HAM	1650-1820	3858	STRIKEL	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1890
3884	PARKES	West Bromwich	STS	1800-1850	3858	STRUDWICK	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1812
3894	PAUFFLEY	Guildford	SRV	1911-1925	3884	STUDDS	Hillingdon	MDX	1800-1870
3967	PAVEY	Anywhere	SOM	1500-1999	3749	SULLIVAN	Bermondsey	SRV	1066-1916
3967	PAVEY	Anywhere	DEV	1500-1999	3880	SYKES	Thornhill	YKS	1700-1850
3847	PERRING(G)	Rotherfield Greys	OXF	1600-1800	3517	TALBOT	Faringdon	BRK	1600-1700
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	LDN	1066-1930	3776	TANNER	Anywhere	MDX	1850-1870
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	MDX	1066-1930	3918	TAYLOR	East Woodhay	HAM	1600-1900
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	KEN	1066-1930	3911	THACKWELL	Cardiff	GLA	1760-1810
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	SRV	1066-1930	0231	THORN	Hoe Benham	BRK	1770-1851
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	HUN	1066-1930	3884	THORRINGTON	Ealing	MDX	1750-1850
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	CAM	1066-1930	3911	TIDCOMBE	Bristol	SOM	1750-1810
3890	PIGGOTT	Anywhere	ESS	1066-1930	3872	TILEY	Stapleton	GLS	1600-1880
3727	PITHER	Sunninghill	BRK	1800-1900	3517	TURNER	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1800
0231	PLANK	East Kennet	WIL	1760-1800	3910	TUTTON	Brading	IOW	1860-1906
3894	POFFLEY-ROSIER	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900	3910	TUTTON	Windsor	BRK	1909-1920
3894	POFLY	East Garston	BRK	1600-1700	3911	VAUGHAN	Anywhere	GNT	1700-1850
0231	PONTING	Swindon	WIL	1760-1800	3911	VAUGHAN	Anywhere	HEF	1700-1800
3885	POOLE	Anywhere	SOM	1700-1850	3911	VAUGHAN	Brecon	BRE	1810-1880
3749	POOLE	Bermondsey	SRV	1870-1998	3911	VAUGHAN	Cardiff	GLA	1750-1850
3749	POOLE	Poole	DOR	1066-1860	3911	VAUGHAN	Carmarthen	CMN	1780-1810
3749	POOLE	Portsea	HAM	1066-1870	3911	VAUGHAN	Forest of Dean	GLS	1650-1850
3894	POPHLY	Shrivenham	BRK	1600-1700	3884	VORST	Guntenhausen	GER	1750-1830
3847	PORVIT	Chieveley	BRK	1600-1800	3884	VORST	Amsterdam	N L	1830-1890
3911	POWELL	Chelsea	LDN	1750-1820	0231	WAKEFIELD	Uttoxeter	STS	1760-1860
3967	PRATLEY	Anywhere	OXF	1500-1999	3882	WALKER	Windsor	BRK	1850-1600
3885	PRICE	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900	3967	WALLEY	Yarcombe	DEV	1820-1900
3911	PRICE	Caerleon	GNT	1750-1850	3910	WALTER	Stepney	BRK	1860-1890
3911	PRICHARD	Aston Ingham	HEF	1680-1780	3975	WARWICK	South Moreton	BRK	1680-1830
3517	PUDLE	Faringdon	BRK	1700-1800	3967	WATTS	Kingsclere	HAM	1700-1900
3931	PULLEN	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1930	3892	WEBB	Cosham	HAM	1800-1880
3931	PULLEN	Anywhere	OXF	1500-1930	3727	WEBB	Easthampstead	BRK	1700-1900
3884	PURKISS	Ardleigh	ESS	1800-1840	3872	WEBB	Gloucester	GLS	1600-1900
3885	QUENBY	ALL	ALL	ALL	3975	WEBB	Thatcham	BRK	1760-1840
3918	RAINBOW	Hanslope	BKM	1600-1900	3727	WEBB	Winkfield	BRK	1750-1950
3858	RANCE	Hurst	BRK	1400-1835	3847	WELLS	Cookham	BRK	1600-1800
3858	RANCE	Wokingham	BRK	1700-1850	3847	WHEELER	Watlington	OXF	1650-1830
3892	RASSSELL	Emsworth	HAM	1800-1880	0231	WHITE	Long Whatton	LEI	1760-1800
3892	RICKS	Brentford	MDX	1850-1890	3967	WIBLIN	ALL	ALL	ALL
3911	RODERICK	Usk	MON	1800-1900	3967	WILCOX	Shoreditch	MDX	1800-1900
3922	ROOK(E)	Hatherleigh	DEV	1200-1800	3517	WILD	Aldbourne	WIL	1650-1750
3975	RUMBLE	Cholsey	BRK	1770-1860	3892	WILLIAMS	Abingdon	BRK	1800-1880
3975	RUMBLE	East Isley	BRK	1750-1850	3776	WOOD	Reading	BRK	1926-1928
3975	RUMBOLD	Thatcham	BRK	1760-1820	3894	WOODHAM	Crookham	BRK	1831-1852
3847	SADGROVE	South Stoke	OXF	1600-1700	3727	WOODLEY	Hampstead Norris	BRK	1750-1900
3858	SANDOE	Anywhere	CON	1700-1860	3885	WRIGHT	Anywhere	SOM	1700-1850
3858	SANDOE	Anywhere	BRK	1850-1900					
3858	SEARL	Anywhere	BRK	1600-1850					

Berkshire Family History Society AGM

The 24th Annual General Meeting of the Berkshire Family History Society will be held at 7.45pm on Wednesday 30th June, at the Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading.

Agenda:

1. Apologies for Absence
 2. Minutes of the 1998 Annual General Meeting
 3. Matters Arising
 4. Chairman's Report for 1998/9
 5. Treasurer's Report for 1998/9
 6. Election of President and Vice-President
 7. Election of Officers for 1999/2000
 8. Accept the Branch Committee Appointed Ex-officio Members
 9. Election of Executive Committee Members for 1999/2000
 10. Nomination of Auditors for 1999/2000
 11. Any Other Business
- Nominations for election of officers should reach the Secretary by 4th June, 1999.

BFHS Executive Committee 1999-2000 Nomination Form

Members of the Executive Committee are re-elected each year and may not serve for more than five consecutive years. By signing, Nominees indicate their acceptance of the Nomination and confirm that they are able to serve as a Trustee of the Charity. A Member of the Society may not be nominated if he/she is under 18 years of age, or has been disqualified under Section 45 of the Charities Act 1992 because of bankruptcy or conviction for an offence of dishonesty or deception.

Nominee's Name (please PRINT) _____

Nominee's Membership Number _____

Nominee's Signature _____

Date _____ 1999

I, the above Member of the BFHS, wish to be nominated for the post of: (please circle preferred post)

Chairman Secretary Treasurer Committee Member

Proposer's Name: (please print) _____

Proposer's Membership Number _____

Proposer's Signature _____

Date _____ 1999

Please detach this form carefully from the Journal, and send it to:

The Secretary, John Gurnett, Purley Lodge Cottage, Purley Village, Reading RG8 8AT

To reach him no later than the last post on Friday 4th June, 1999

The Research Centre (Until 1st July 1999)

Open FREE to Members on Tuesdays 7pm-9.30pm, Wednesdays 10am-4pm, Thursdays 1pm-4pm, Thursdays 7pm-9.30pm and the 2nd Saturday of each month 10am-4pm.

Situated in Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading, the Research Centre houses the Society Reference Library, containing books, articles and research material on Berkshire as well as many other Counties; in addition, it has the 1881 Census fiche for all Counties published to date, the Berkshire Name Index and many other aids; the Centre has numerous fiche readers and a plain paper Fiche Printer. For more information contact: **Cliff Debney, Research Centre Manager, 8 Huckleberry Close, Purley, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 8EH.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RESEARCH CENTRE IS CLOSING FROM 1ST JULY. THE LAST SATURDAY OPENING WILL BE 12TH JUNE THE BFHS ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING NEW PREMISES. IF YOU CAN HELP PLEASE CONTACT JOHN GURNETT (ADDRESS ON BACK COVER).

Bookstall

If you would like to order any of the books in this magazine, or any other books from the bookstall order list featured in the September 1998 *Berkshire Family Historian*, please write to

Postal Sales, Berkshire Family History Society, c/o Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Reading, Berks, RG30 4EL, UK

Post and packing charges are as follows:

Total order value	P&P to UK addresses	Overseas, surface	Overseas, airmail
£1 or under	£0.50	£0.65	£1.50
£1.05 to £1.99	£0.90	£2.00	£2.00
£2.00 to £4.99	£1.10	£1.25	£2.70
£5.00 to £9.99	£2.40	£2.95	£6.70
£10.00 to £29.99	£3.80	£4.25	£8.75
£30.00 and over	£4.50	£6.00	not available
If you are ordering one fiche only, the following rates apply:			
Set M1/01	£0.20	£0.50	£1.20
All other sets	£0.20	£0.50	£1.10

Payment must be in UK sterling, and cheques must be drawn on a UK clearing bank and made payable to BFHS.

Berks FHS E-mail Discussion List: easpackman@lineone.net

Membership - Requests for Membership, with SAE, to: John Gurnett, Hon Secretary, Purley Lodge Cottage, Purley Village, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 8AT.

Advertising Rates - £30.00/full page; £15.00/half page; £7.50/quarter page. Requests for advertising should be addressed to the Editor: Mrs Catherine Harrington, 20 Test Close, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire RG30 4DL

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Enquiries, including an SAE and first class postage to:

Carolyn Harris, BA, MEd. P.O. Box 20226 Fredericton, NB Canada E3B 7A2

Tel: 506-454-4965, e-mail: hilderly@nbnnet.nb.ca

Research fees: £7.50/hr or \$15 Canadian/hr.

POSTAL SEARCH SERVICES

We are happy to search the following indexes. Please send your request and search fee, together with an SAE or 2-IRC's, to the person whose name and address is given against the particular index of interest to you. If you want searches made into more than one index please send your enquiry to BFHS INDEXES, c/o Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks, RG30 4EL. Enquiries for the Marriage Index must be sent separately. Always give your BFHS membership number if applicable.

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 upto 5 surnames with 30 record slips photocopied max. (5-A4 sheets) per enquiry. If you are not a member the search fee is £1 per surname plus the above. Please send 2- SAE's or 2-IRC's if you want an acknowledgement. Send your enquiry to The BNI, BFHS Indexes, etc. as above

1851 BERKSHIRE CENSUS

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 2 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

1881 CENSUS for ENGLAND and WALES

This Census has been transcribed and indexed by a nationwide effort. We have a complete set of fiche for each county. The charge for an estimate of the number of prints is £2 per county searched per surname, including two sample print-outs (£3 if not a member). Thereafter A4 print-outs are charged at 50p for each additional page. We can search and produce print-outs by county in "Surname order"; "Surname by Birth Place"; "Surname by Census Place"; "As Enumerated"; or from the "Miscellaneous - Notes, Institutions or Vessels" fiche sets.

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

OTHER COUNTY CENSUS INDEXES

We hold copies of Census Indexes, mainly 1851 but from 1841 to 1891, for many other counties of England, Scotland and Wales in booklet form or on fiche. The charge for a search and an estimate of the cost of any print-outs is £2 per county searched per surname (£3 if not a member) including two sample prints. Charges thereafter will depend upon the type of A4 size copies to be made and the number of prints involved.

Please write to Mr Ivan Dickason, as above.

BERKSHIRE MARRIAGE INDEX

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 grooms full name, brides if known & approximate date. Postal enquiries only. Please send an SAE. 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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Vice-President: Peter Durrant (Dr), County Archivist, BRO, Shinfield Park, Reading,
Berkshire RG2 9XD
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Treasurer(*): Ron Dobrée, 102 Shinfield Road, Reading. Berkshire RG2 7DA (0118-986-0206)
Editor: Catherine Harrington (Mrs), 20 Test Close, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire
RG30 4DL (0118-943-1589 e-mail: sharrington@compuserve.com)
Bookstall Manager BFHS Research Centre, c/o Prospect Technology College, Honey End Lane,
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Society Librarian: Lesley Hanna (Mrs), 161 St Peters Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire RG6
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RG5 3LZ (0118-969-5236)
Membership Sec L-Z: Dawn Garlick (Mrs), 21 Windermere Road, Reading, Berkshire RG2 7HU
(0118-987-5660)
Research Centre Manager(*): Cliff Debney, 8 Huckleberry Close, Purley, Reading, Berkshire RG8 8EH
Projects Co-ordinator(*): Chad Hanna, 161 St Peters Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire RG6 1PG
1851 Census: Geoff Mather, 18 Ravenswood Avenue, Crowthorne, Berkshire RG45 6AY
1881 Census(*): Ivan Dickason, 1 Mower Close, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 1RZ
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E-mail Discussion Group: Eddie Spackman, 40 Western Elms Avenue, Reading, Berkshire RG30 2AN

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