



Berkshire
Family
Historian

Volume 22 - No 4 - June 1999



Events Calendar 1999

Bracknell Branch

Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell

7:15pm for 7:45pm

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------|
| 18 th June | Branch AGM followed by "The East End of London" | Robert Bartrop |
| 17 th September | To Be Announced | |

Newbury Branch

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

7:30pm

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|----------------|
| 9 th June | Branch AGM followed by "Very useless and not at all correct in their morals": Crimean War camp followers" | Brian Oldham |
| July and August | No Meetings | |
| 8 th September | "Reading between the Lines - Newspapers" | Jeanne Bunting |

Reading Branch

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

7:15pm for 7:45pm

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|
| 30 th June | Berkshire FHS Annual General Meeting followed by "All about Wills" | Jane Cox |
| 28 th July | Visit to the Museum of English Rural Life | |
| August | No Meeting | |
| 29 th September | "The Battle of Trafalgar and some participants' descendants" | John Gurnett |

Slough Branch

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

7:30pm for 7:45pm

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 29 th June | "Poor Law Records" | David Hawkins |
| 27 th July | "Mapping of the English Counties - 17 th and 18 th Century" | Pauline Vaughn |
| August | No Meeting | |
| 28 th September | "40,000 Souls - How to Use the IGI" | Geoffrey Sewell |

Vale of the White Horse Branch

Tomkins Room, 35 Ock Street, Baptist Church, Abingdon

7:30pm

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 14 th Jun | "18 th /19 th Century Transport in the Vale - an illustrated talk" | Nigel Hammond |
| 12 th July | "Civil Registration for the Family Historian" | Catherine Hitchens |
| August | No Meeting | |
| 13 th September | "Army Ancestors - An Illustrated Talk" | Marjorie Moore |

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Volume 22, 1998/9

Part 4, June 1999

Contents:

<i>Chairman's Comments</i>	By Ivan Dickason	110
<i>A Little Puzzle</i>	By Graham Fidler	112
<i>Dates for Your Diary</i>		113
<i>Trials and Tribulations of a Genealogist</i>	By E.A.Gamester	114
<i>Research Centre Report</i>	By Cliff Debney	118
<i>The Family Car</i>	By Mary Rogers	119
<i>Berkshire Record Office News</i>		120
<i>Berkshire Family History Society Website</i>	By Chad Hanna	123
<i>Soldiers who Died in the Great War 1914-1919</i>		123
<i>A Search for the Wiggins of Hungerford</i>	By John Canning	124
<i>A Sailing Ticket Puzzle</i>	By Walter Townsend	126
<i>... Of Little Girls & Square Dancers</i>	By David Watkins	127
<i>Update on a Group Photograph</i>	By Andrew Tatham	128
<i>1881 Census Project - Reported Mistakes</i>	By Susan Lumas	130
<i>Presenting the 1901 Census</i>	By John Pollock	131
<i>Emigration to New South Wales</i>	By Brian Edwards	132
<i>A Jigsaw Puzzle with Pieces Missing</i>	By Julie Goddard	134
<i>A Family of Millers</i>	By Bill Bradfield	136
<i>Computer Forum</i>	By Eddie Spackman	138
<i>The Berkshire Overseers' Project - An Update</i>	By Brian Hunt	145
<i>Football and Witchcraft in North Moreton</i>	By Barry Boulton	146
<i>Programme of Entertainments, Forbury Gardens 1926</i>	By S.J.Parsons	149
<i>Library News</i>	By Chad Hanna	150
<i>'Dingle-Minded'</i>	By Simon Harrington	154
<i>A Grave Mistake - A Cautionary Tale</i>	By Keith Buckingham	156
<i>Q & A with Jean</i>		159
<i>The Wardrobe - The Salisbury Museum of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment</i>	By Jean Cole	160
<i>Editor's Notes</i>		161
<i>Huguenots in Spitalfields</i>	By Ralph Bradbury	162
<i>Bookstall News</i>	By Sally Pellow	164
<i>Lessons Learned after a Wild Goose Chase!</i>	By Tony Insell	169
<i>Help Wanted</i>		170
<i>Members' Interests</i>	Compiled by Robert Houseman	172

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The front cover is taken from a postcard in the Editor's possession.

Chairman's Notes

By Ivan Dickason

I am pleased to say that the Society has reached a provisional agreement with Reading Borough Council to lease rooms for the Research Centre within Yeomanry House. Yeomanry House is in Castle Hill and near the centre of Reading. As residents of Reading will know, Yeomanry House is the home of the Reading Register Office. The new Berkshire Record Office is being built on the same site. We are being offered rooms on two floors amounting to about 1,000 square feet.

Among the attractions of this site are:

- The premises are currently being completely refurbished as part of the Berkshire Record Office development and this work is expected to be completed by the end of May;
- The Record Office will be adjacent to our Research Centre (we will be about twenty feet away!);
- Thus, we can expect visitors to the Record Office will want to use our facilities as well;
- Membership growth is likely to continue because of the juxtaposition of the research facilities;
- We have been encouraged by the Head of the Museum and Archive Service in Reading, who has overall responsibility for the Berkshire Record Office, to move into Yeomanry House so that we are close to the Record Office and can work more closely together in the future;
- We should be able to influence archive strategy.

Of course, there are some problems:

- There is likely to be little or no car parking facilities during the daytime which may mean a walk from the

nearest car parks in Chatham Street or Broad Street Mall—but numerous buses pass the entrance and it is only a short distance from Reading railway station;

- We are being offered space on the ground and first floors so that there may be problems with disabled access;
- The rent.

This last item has troubled the Executive Committee greatly. The proposed rent of the new premises will be about double what we pay for our present premises. The Executive Committee are therefore seriously investigating ways of increasing the revenue from the Research Centre. Rather than raising subscriptions for all members, whether or not they are able to use the Research Centre, we are considering making a charge for use of the Research Centre by members. At the time of writing, these matters have not been finally decided. Hopefully, we will be able to set out our proposals at the AGM in June.

I am delighted to say that Cliff Debney was elected Chairman of the Federation of Family History Societies during its AGM at Winchester in April. This is a great honour for him and for the Society. I am pleased to be able to offer to Cliff my personal congratulations and those of all the members of the Society. Cliff, we all wish you well in your new position.

As seems to be the way in life, good news on one hand brings bad news on the other. Cliff's appointment to the important and busy role of Chairman of the Federation means that he has to give up most of the work he presently carries out for the Society. We therefore require new volunteers to take on these important tasks:

- Research Centre Manager. In addition to day-to-day management of the Research Centre, this job also involves chairing the Research Centre Committee, producing leaflets for the Postal Search Services, budgets, etc., etc.;
- Publications Manager. This includes developing and commissioning new publications, producing the business case, seeking approval to publish, seeing them through to publication, producing publicity material, sending out review copies, etc., etc.;
- Production of material for the twice-yearly *Family History News and Digest* of the Federation comprising a report on the activities of the Society for the news section and abstracts of journal articles for the digest section.

Members will recall that Robert Houseman ceased to be Secretary of the Society at the last AGM. He has, nevertheless, continued to work for the Society in a back room role. Robert has now decided to retire from Society work. Once again I would like to thank him on behalf of you all for his sterling work for the Society over the last seven years. Thank you, Robert.

Of course this now means that there are some tasks for which we require help from volunteers.

- To maintain the membership database in conjunction with the Membership Secretaries.
- To prepare the 'Members' Interests' for the *Berkshire Family Historian*. Until a new volunteer is found, please send your interests to the Secretary, John Gurnett.

While I am talking about volunteers, can I say that the following Society jobs also need to be filled:

- Treasurer;
- Publicity Manager;

- A person to take charge of the displays and manning the Maidenhead Family History Week in October, 1999;
- Bookstall helpers at 'awaydays.' (The Society takes the bookstall to the Open Days of other societies and helpers are needed to man the bookstall.)

June has asked me to say that, perhaps as a result of the uncertainty about the Research Centre, six or seven Library Assistants have recently said that they will no longer be able to help at the Research Centre. We would ask all members who live in and around Reading and who could spare three hours of their time once a month to volunteer to be a Library Assistant and look after the Research Centre. The more volunteers we have, the more often the Research Centre can be opened. The job of Library Assistant is not difficult and can be very rewarding. Full training will be given!

If you feel able to carry out any of these jobs or if you would like any more information about them, please ring myself or John Gurnett at any time. Remember that the Society can only function by the service generously given by volunteers. The old adage applies - *many hands make light work*.

Accompanying the magazine you will find the usual reminder about renewal of your membership. Please renew your membership promptly so that you do not miss copies of the magazine.

When you join the Society as a new UK member the application form invites you to also sign a covenant. This enables the Society to recover money from the Inland Revenue in respect of your membership subscription. Your subscription is paid from money on which you have already paid income tax and, in effect, the Inland Revenue returns the equivalent of that tax to the Society. The majority of members

have not signed covenants in favour of the Society. Therefore, you will find that a covenant form accompanies this year's membership renewal form. We can dramatically increase the amount we can

claim from the Inland Revenue if every one of us completes the covenant form. Please do so. It can only benefit the Society.

June and I hope that you all enjoy your summer holidays.

A Little Puzzle

By *Graham Fidler*

I am doing a One Name Study into the Fidler/Fiddler/Vidler surname and whilst working on the Berkshire lines, I stumbled upon the following little puzzle.

1. Henry Francis and Joseph Charles were baptised the sons of Joseph and Mary Fidler at Reading St Giles in 1846 and 1848 respectively.
2. No suitable death records exist for Joseph and Mary Fidler in the timescale in question.
3. In the 1851 census, Henry Francis, aged six, and Joseph Charles, aged four, were shown as the sons of Edward and Ann Fidler of Reading St Giles. Also shown as another son was Edward, aged one year.
4. Edward had been baptised at Reading St Giles in April 1850, the son of Edward and **Mary**.
5. A subsequent daughter of Edward and **Mary**, Emma, was baptised at Reading St Giles in 1854.
6. Edward (the father?) is shown as being born in Brentford, Middlesex in 1822. His wife Ann was also born in 1822.
7. There is one Joseph baptised at Reading St Giles, in 1799.
8. I can find no family which includes an Edward and a Joseph in the right timescale.

The most logical explanation is that Joseph and Mary both died in the period between 1848 and 1851, and that the children were '*adopted*' by Edward and Ann - Edward

being a close relative of Joseph.¹ Thus they told the census enumerator that Henry Francis and Joseph Charles were their own sons, and the census enumerator made a mistake and recorded Mary's name as '*Ann*'.

Then a (farfetched?) alternative explanation sprang to mind! If the Joseph who baptised the boys was born in 1799, then he was 47 when he had his first child. Presumably his wife, Mary, was younger than him. He probably died about 1849, leaving Mary a widow. Edward, a close relative, then aged 27 or 28, saw his chance and sets up home with Mary. They had their first child together - Edward in 1850 - and had him baptised under their own names. Then the census enumerator came around and they lied about their marital status and places of birth (Ann gave her birthplace as Dorset).

Unfortunately the trail dies there. Joseph Charles survived until 1881, when he is a potato grower living with his family in Reading. I checked emigration records, but with no luck. I suppose Joseph could have been sent to prison, but that is even more far-fetched. If anyone has any other ideas as to the possible scenario, then drop me a line. I'd also be pleased to hear from any member who has '*Fidler's*' in their ancestry.

¹ There was no formal adoption process in the UK until the Adoption Act of 1929.

Dates for Your Diary

- Sat. 19th June* Wiltshire FHS Open Day at the Edward Hyde Hall, the Clarendon School, Frome Road, Trowbridge.
- 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, 10am to 4pm.
- 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.
- 25th Sep. - 26th Sep.* "Family History Experience" at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Advance tickets £4, Tickets on the day £6, car park £5. Further details from the Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London, EC1M 7BA.
- Sat. 16th October* Oxfordshire FHS Open Day at Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxford, 10am to 4pm. For further details please contact the Organiser Tony Chalkly by telephone or fax on 01993-850685 or by e-mail on tonychalkly@compuserve.com

Day and Evening Classes

The following day and evening classes in Family History/Local History are taking place, starting in September 1999. The three letter code at the end of each entry refers to the addresses for details of courses. :

CAV Caversham Centre, School Lane, Caversham, Reading (Tel: 0118-947-7646)

DEN Denefield School, Long Lane, Tilehurst (Tel: Liz Heron on 0118-983-5035)

- *Family History Workshop* - (Intermediate) to be held on Tuesday evenings from 14th September 1999 thirteen weeks at Henley College.
- *Introduction to Family History* to be held on Wednesday evenings from 15th September 1999. Tutor: John Gurnett at DEN.
- *Tracing your family history for beginners* to be held on Monday afternoons beginning 27th September. Tutor: Jean Debney at CAV.
- *Tracing your family history for beginners* to be held on Tuesday evenings beginning 28th September. Tutor: Jean Debney at CAV.
- *Family History Forum (I)* - (Continuation/Intermediate) to be held on Thursday mornings or Thursday afternoons from 23rd September 1999. Tutor: Jean Debney at CAV
- *Family History Workshop* - (Intermediate) to be held on Wednesday evenings from 12th January 2000. Tutor: John Gurnett at DEN.
- *Tilehurst - the Place and the People* to be held on Wednesday evenings from 3rd May 2000. Tutor: John Gurnett at DEN.

Trials and Tribulations of a Genealogist

By *E.A. Gamester*

All my life I have wondered about the origin of my surname and whether there were any other families of the same name apart from those known to us, who were all directly related. We knew that Grandfather had one older brother James and that he and his family lived in Egham, Surrey. Father had left home at the age of sixteen and had lodged in Harrow for about a year before enlisting in the army in 1918. So, he did not learn anything about his cousins. His only recollection of them was attending his grandmother's funeral in 1906 in Egham, his grandfather having died in 1901, the year of father's birth. All that father had been able to glean about his antecedents was that two brothers had settled in Andover, Hants, in about 1700.

Father died in February 1988 after a short illness so, I wrote to all my paternal cousins to let them know as he had kept in touch with most of them. He was the last of his immediate family to go although he was the sixth child of a total of nine and was aged 87 years when he died. In reply I received a letter from my cousin to say that she had received a "*Family Tree*" compiled by a Frederick Gamester and would I like a copy? I, of course, said yes. When it arrived it was some 25" wide and 14' long. It spanned the years from 1734 to 1987 and contained some 264 names all descendants of the marriage of John Gamester to Mary Plympton at Upper Clatford, Andover, in 1734. Fred had traced two male lines from one of the sons of John and Mary, who was also John. Receipt of this family tree inspired myself and my youngest brother Maurice to begin our own research into the family. Maurice was able to visit St Catherine's House, as he worked nearby in the Strand, and obtained many certificates.

Although I was living in Egham, I had not contacted my father's cousin's family. However I visited Egham Museum where I discovered that our great-grandfather had arrived in Egham in about 1875 and that two of his older brothers had, with their families, settled in Egham in about 1851. I have since discovered more about these cousins, for instance one, William Thomas, was Chief of Egham Fire Brigade. From the Museum, I obtained two photographs of him.

Maurice's job obliged him to travel around the country so, he visited Hampshire and Berkshire Record Offices where he found more records of family members. Among these was the marriage of Thomas Gamester to Joyce in Berkshire. There was also in the same parish the records of the births of several children of Thomas and Joyce Kempster. Maurice thought that they might be Gamester births which had been wrongly recorded but I thought not.

Upon retirement, myself in January 1993 and Maurice in June 1993 we began seriously to research the family history. Maurice thought that he would see if he could broaden the coverage, as Fred had only recorded the name spelled Gamester and none of the variations such as Gamster or Gaimster. Fred had followed the lines from two of John and Mary's son John's family.

The first time that we visited the Hampshire Record Office together I found the burials of John and Mary and of a Ralph Gamester. Both John and Ralph were said to be shepherds by trade. The only other family record which I found in Upper Clatford was that of the burial of the Widow Gamester, presumably Mary.

I then looked through all the IGI for England, county by county, for Gamesters and found them in Buckinghamshire Hampshire, Wiltshire, Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Durham, Worcestershire, Cumberland, Yorkshire, Northumberland and the Isle of Wight.

Armed with the IGI records we began to visit the Berkshire Record Office, as well as Hampshire. We found many more Gamesters, particularly in Berks, around Aldermaston, Thatcham, Newbury, Woolhampton and the Lambourn Downs. Also, in East Woodhay and several other parishes in North Hampshire. From the IGI we found that the earliest record of Gamesters therein was the baptism of Grace Gamster daughter of William Gamster on the 16th August 1643 and the marriage of Elizabeth Gamster to Richard Hardcastle on the 27th October 1645, both at Leeds St Peters. There were no more IGI records of the name in Yorkshire until 1801. The next earliest date is 27th April 1667 when Thomas Gamester married Esther Barton at Fairford, Gloucs. So far we have not found any offspring of this marriage; to do this we will have to visit the Gloucestershire Record Office, as Maurice did to confirm the IGI entry. It is possible that the North Hampshire and South Berkshire Gamesters are descended from this union although there was a marriage in 1696 at Portsea of a Peter Gamester. No offspring for this marriage has so far been found.

As we appeared to be stymied in that we were unable to find any more Gamesters in Berks. or Hants. we decided to visit the Worcestershire Record Office because there are, as noted before, Gamesters recorded there in the City of Worcester during the late 1700s. I looked at the records for the parish of St Helen's and Maurice looked at those for St Martin's.

From the IGI we knew that there were records of the family in five parishes of the City. I found a family of John and Ann Gamester who had six children. Two were registered as Gamster, one as Camester, one as Kamester and two as Gamester, all by the same Vicar. As a result of this I began to look through the IGI for Camester/Kemester as a result of which I found others recorded as Kemster, Kempster, etc. all in counties, towns and villages in which we had found Gamesters. For example, in Welford, Berks, we found the family of Joseph and Sarah, who had eight children, recorded as follows:- two as Camstor, three as Camster, one as Cemstor and two as Campster. Incidentally, Joseph and Sarah are said to be "*of ye parish of Cassemin, Oxon,*" and also of Cassam which may be a dialect pronunciation of Caversham, although we have found no record of them there.

Finding so many possible ancestors recorded under so many different names has made the research very interesting as well as frustrating. One of the interesting things was sent to me by Mrs Ann Willis who is descended from the marriage of my great-grandfather's younger sister Sophia to Augustus Head. Ann and her friend Gillian had been researching in the PRO at Kew and having finished what they were doing they looked at the Battle of Waterloo Medal Roll and saw the name of Corporal William Gamester of the 23rd Regiment of Foot, now The Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Ann sent me the details armed with which I went to the Berkshire Record Office and found that William had been born at East Garston in 1780. Maurice discovered his military history which is another story.

Last January I had the good fortune to acquire a second-hand microfiche reader which has enabled me to investigate some of the North Country connections. I

purchased some microfiche records for Northumberland parishes. We found records of Gamesters in Haydon, Hexham, Haltwhistle, Barrasford and Chollerton. Once again, I have found mis-spellings of our name, although this time the spelling was Damster/Damester, oddly none spelt Kempster. Thus it was back to the IGI where I found in Cumberland the baptism of Jonathan Damester at Bridekirk. I then wrote to the Cumbria Record Office since they advertise a research service and they provided me with photocopies of the entry for Jonathan and some Gamesters who were living in Carlisle between 1811 and 1814.

In 1994 my father's cousin Violet, daughter of my grandfather's older brother, died and at the invitation of her nephew Vernon, I attended the interment of her ashes in her father's grave. During a conversation afterwards he told me that his aunt had told him that the Gamesters had been horse dealers and that they came from Wales. I had applied to the Shropshire Record Office for a copy of the actual entry in the parish records of Duddleston, Shrops, which on the IGI is transcribed as Jonathan Gamesten son of John and Catherine. Duddleston is very close to the Welsh border.

As a result of following up a contact which was passed on to me by Cliff Debney, I had begun corresponding with Mr James Povey Brownlie who is a descendant of the marriage of William Gamester and Hester Hobbs at East Garston (not the Waterloo William). I wrote to Jim to acquaint him with the above and he wrote to the Clwyd FHS and received a reply from Mrs Edna Cocking one of their researchers who replied that they had no records of any Gamesters. I then wrote to her telling her of the various names under which I had found members of the family. Mrs

Cocking was kind enough to devote a Sunday afternoon to researching the name Kempster and came up with quite a few, amongst which was the marriage of John Kempster and Catherine Heighway and the baptisms of several more children. These took place in the parish of Overton and Hanmer which were part of an enclave into Shropshire of Flintshire until 1972 when the border was changed. So I think I have found the Welsh connection but have still to find any mention of horse dealing.

Recently I have bought four volumes of the "*Wakefield Manorial Court Rolls*" published by the Yorkshire Archaeological Society.² In vol. 5 Elizabeth Hardcastle, widow³ is mentioned, as being involved, with others, in a dispute over unpaid rent of a 19-acre field at Sandal. Elizabeth was said to be of Silkeston where, according to the IGI there were Gamesters living in 1836. There were some others in the Wakefield, Darfield, Bridlington and Great Driffild areas.

Further interest in our Yorkshire connections was aroused when I re-read Nevil Shute's autobiography "*Slide Rule*". I was aware of a family connection with Howden, where Nevil Shute worked on the building and design of the R100 airship. He mentioned that Howden was the Yorkshire centre for the export of horses in earlier times.

In seeking a possible origin of the name Gamester I have found three or four. One is that at Medieval Fairs a ring would be set up in which a games called Backwords or Cudgels was played. The participants were armed with a stout stick to which a basketwork protection for the hand were attached. The object of the game was to

² They are vols. 2,3,4&5 and are for the years 1348-50, 1331-33, 1583-85 and 1664-65 respectively.

³ She was possibly the Elizabeth Gamester who married Richard Hardcastle at Leeds in 1645.

cause a wound to the scalp of your opponent, above the level of the eyebrow and from which the blood must run for one inch or more. The winners of the first round were, in Berkshire, known as "*young gamesters*". Winners of subsequent rounds and the outright winner were called "*old gamesters*". The game is mentioned in a book entitled "*Unknown Berkshire*" and in William Mavor's book "*Berkshire*" published in 1809. He expresses the opinion that anyone taking part in the game of Backwords should be reported to the Magistrates, as he thought that it was dangerous. Samuel Pepys in his Diary recounts a visit to a Cockfight and describes the onlookers as "*gamesters*". Those taking part in football matches in the eighteen century between villages were referred to in newspapers and on posters as "*gamesters*".

Another possible origin was suggested to me through reading a book by Alan McGowan of the Romany & Travellers FHS called "*The Winchester Confessions 1615-1616*" in which there is a reference to "*a note of the Cheefest gamesters alias cheaters etc.*". They apparently attended fairs to deceive people of their money with crooked dice and card games. Maybe this could be another origin, especially if they were horse dealers. I joined the Romany and Traveller FHS and attended a meeting. Unfortunately nobody had heard of my surname or that of Kempster in connection with travellers. Since Romanies and Travellers generally traverse small circuits and mine seem to have travelled long distances, from Leeds to Northumberland across to Cumbria and down to Flintshire, Shropshire, Gloucestershire and into Berkshire and Hampshire they would appear more likely to have been horse dealers or cattle or sheep drovers.

One thing that I have learnt during our researches is that one requires patience and a good deal of luck. Earlier this year an annual booklet, to which I subscribe, arrived together with a newspaper cutting from "*The Andover Advertiser*" and a note from the Secretary of the Andover Archaeology Society. The cutting was of a letter from someone in Australia looking for descendants of the marriage of William Futcher to Mary Gamester at Andover in 1818. I have written but have not yet received a reply.

We have also learnt that several other Gamesters have served in the armed services of this country, apart from father and William at Waterloo, we were aware, from the 1881 and 1891, that our great-grandfather received a Naval Pension. Maurice has done some research and discovered that he enlisted in the Royal Marines at Portsmouth during the Crimean War and served in the Baltic Sea and was awarded the Baltic Medal. We still have to research this further, although we do know that he was invalided out of the Marines because he had "*contracted epilepsy*".

It has been my experience that there are periods of frustration when one seems to be unable to make progress when suddenly a breakthrough happens and one is once more able to move forward or backwards. So, one must be patient and move on a step at a time.

I am indebted to the following for help and assistance: cousin Barbara, Frederick Gamester, Cliff and Jean Debney, Enid Cole, Isabel Chilton, Edna Cocking, Mr and Mrs Vernon Gamester, Diana Coldicott of Andover Archaeology Society, The staff, past and present at Berkshire Record Office, The staff at Hampshire Record Office, Mrs V Gate, the author of "Unknown Berkshire", LS, William Mavor, author of "Berkshire", Ann Willis and her friend Gillian and of course my brother Maurice.

Research Centre Report

By *Cliff Debney*

This is the last report I shall be writing as Research Centre Manager, not because the existing centre is being closed but because I am moving on to other things. By the time most of you read this Journal we hope to have completed our plans to move out all our Reference Library, Bookstall, Berkshire Name Index, Archived Exchange Magazines and equipment such as desks, fiche readers, etc.

Our last Library Tour was held on the 17th May, our last Saturday opening is on the 12th June and we close the doors for researchers at 9.30pm on Thursday 1st July.

You will have seen the Chairman's report, which tells all we know at the time of going to press, that we have now found a new Research Centre in a building closer to Reading centre. This will save us putting almost everything in to store and the rest into various members houses; instead we can move it straight out of one door and into another. We shall be on two floors with a total area somewhat larger than at present but with more useable space. The final layout is not finalised as I write this but, with everything we have learnt over the last four years, we hope you will find it a great improvement.

How time flies. We opened the Centre on 1st March 1995 and in the first month 63 members and visitors booked in, resulting in an income of £60. At the end of February 1996, twelve months later, the number of researchers for the month had risen to 163, and the grand total for the first twelve months was 849 researchers who provided an income of £1292. For the financial year ending 30 April 1999, the total number of researchers during the twelve months had risen to 1829, with an income of £6033, including the Bookstall

sales. It must be said that the income, when set against total Research Centre expenditure, still leaves a shortage which has to be made up from Society funds.

As this is my last report, I am taking the opportunity to thank all who have helped to run the Research Centre in any way. In particular I, the Society and most of all the researchers who have used the Centre, could not have functioned or researched without the help of all those who have voluntarily given their time and effort to ensure the centre was open on a regular basis. Some have been occasional helpers, others taking a regular Volunteer spot every month, while others again only when asked by the rota organisers. The rota organisers in particular are to be thanked as theirs always was and is still a thankless task. It is fine when they have volunteers who put their name on the list in good time but it doesn't happen for every spot which needs filling. They have had to and still do make many phone calls to their list of "*possibles*" to find the "*actuals*". My thanks to Ann Armstrong, who resigned due to ill health, followed by June and Ivan Dickason who are still gamely doing the job.

Others also, behind the scenes, have served on the Research Centre sub-committee. In particular may I thank Ed Pearce who, from the beginning, has looked after the fabric side of the Centre and weekly ensured the Treasurer has the correct figures, while recording numbers of visitors, making sure the equipment works, ordering replacement toner cartridges, etc., etc..

Without the Reference Library the success of the Centre would have been almost nil. Thank you Lesley and Chad Hanna for the way in which you have built up the Library

from about 3,000 items to over 6,500, many of these being sets of two or more fiche of indexes: the contents of the Library have made the Research Centre the success it is.

Not to be forgotten, the Berkshire Name Index has helped many researchers. Pat Deane, recently being helped by Caroline Boulton, has maintained this vital source, both for the use of those at the Centre but also those who write in for information.

Often overlooked, but used by those in the know, is the Exchange Magazine Library. Organised initially by Beryl Gorse and, when Beryl left the area, taken over by one of the team, Sue Bouchard, both with their regular helpers, between them all they have brought this Library up to date, put the magazines into countless binders (and ensured there were none missing from the sequence) all marked up for you to see which Societies' magazines are inside. They have all done a grand job and the Society is proud of them.

The Family Car

By Mary Rogers

The picture below shows the car that belonged to my grandfather, Samuel Harry G. Higgs and is parked outside their house, "Ullathorne", 5 Alexandra Road, Reading. The original (I have only a 7" x 5" copy) has the name W. Henry Dee, photographer, Reading, on it. It must have been taken between 1908 and 1910, probably 1909, from the look of my uncle Roger.



The Berkshire Record Office have looked at the Vehicle Licensing Register for the registration number of the car (BL69) and

from this I have found out that there were four owners:

1. Martin Herbert Foquet, Sutton, Broad Oak, Reading
2. Samuel H.G.Higgs, 252 Kings Road, Reading (Form 13 sent to Reading 16/6/10)
3. Albert William Bennett, 336 Kennet Side, Reading (circular 1914)

4. Alfred Newport Harris, 1 Cheapside Corner, Reading

The records revealed that it was a 12 HP Argyll Car, which was dark green picked out in light green and black. The intended use was private in the cases of owners numbers 1,2 and 4, but the third owner wished to use it for hire purposes. The dates of registration were shown as firstly 1st January

1904 then transferred 4th May 1904 then transferred 22nd February 1909 and finally transferred 26th March 1919.

Berkshire Record Office News

The following items are reproduced from The Berkshire Echo - The Newsletter of Berkshire Record Office (No. 9 Spring 1999).

What's New?

Recent visitors will have noticed that Foster Wheeler has completed the refurbishment of its reception area, and visitors now come in to the building through the main entrance, as before, rather than via the temporary entrance round the side of the building. Now that things have returned to normal, we have gone back to closing at 9pm on Thursday evening instead of at 8:50pm.

Just Catalogued

Parish records, especially registers, are one of the most popular series held in the Record Office, so we were delighted by the recent arrival of Barkham⁴ registers of baptisms (1903-1986) and marriages (1837-1893 and 1987-1998). A collection of records from Waltham St Lawrence⁵ parish church, 1903-1972, included the register of baptisms (1962-1972). Tilehurst St Michael⁶ deposited records of its Share 800+ Committee (1987-1997). We also acquired Bucklebury and Marlston parish magazines for 1900 to 1912;⁷ some papers of the Rev W.J.F.K.Stride, rector of Besselsleigh, relating to parish management and to his strong interest in local history (1920-1936);⁸ and printed posters and papers relating to a proposed new burial ground for Reading St Mary in 1852.⁹ This proposal was rejected, and the churchyard closed in 1856 (as it would have been hazardous to health to squeeze any more

bodies in). Parishioners would then have no choice but to use Reading Cemetery.

We were pleased recently by the arrival of a parcel of marriage registers for a number of closed Congregational/United Reformed churches, some of which supplemented already deposited collections. They cover Sunningdale Congregational Church¹⁰ (1899-1974); Bucklebury Congregational Church¹¹ (1939-1955); Longworth Congregational Home Mission Chapel¹² (1939-1955); and two Reading churches: Trinity¹³ (1929-1978) and Broad Street¹⁴ (1908-1981). Other non-conformist records to have been catalogued were those of Windsor and Maidenhead Wesleyan Methodist Circuit¹⁵ (1819-1952). In addition we now have in the searchroom a transcript of the registers of Slough Congregational Church (1859-1998).

An interesting collection of deeds and papers relating to property in various parishes for the period 1692-1948 has now been made available.¹⁶ The most significant properties covered are Caversham Grove mansion house and estate, Caversham (1785-1920) and Endalls or Yeldhall manor and farm, Bowsey Hill, Wargrave (1714-1948) as well as Abingdon, Bucklebury, Burghfield, Chieveley, Frilsham, Reading, Speen, Stanford Dingley, Sulhampstead Abbots and Winkfield. Other deeds catalogued include some relating to land in Station

⁴ D/P 13

⁵ D/P 141

⁶ D/P 132

⁷ D/EX 1551

⁸ D/EX 1533

⁹ D/EX 1537

¹⁰ D/N 21

¹¹ D/N 41

¹² D/N 42

¹³ D/N 10

¹⁴ D/N 11

¹⁵ D/MC 14

¹⁶ D/EX 1528

Road, Theale¹⁷ (1781-1939); property in Bath Road, Garnet Street and Whitley, Reading¹⁸ (1895-1967); and schedules of deeds relating to property in Berkshire and elsewhere, made in 1878 and 1886.¹⁹ A large coloured map of the estate of John Pocock in Goosey and Denchworth (1824) has also been deposited.²⁰

More unusual new arrivals include an album of cuttings (1895-1914) kept by Leslie Walker, manager of Reading Waterworks.²¹ As well as press cuttings relating to water supply and his family, there are several on local politics, which include the story of the adventures of the Maidenhead borough surveyor and a councillor driving a horsedrawn bus the latter had just bought in London, and picking up fares (donated to borough funds!) in 1906. We also received the commonplace book of Ellen Norman²² (1885-c.1913) and the wages book of Warwick Bros. of Oxford Road, Reading, timber merchants²³ (1943-1945).

A Wayward Register

As you may know, the Record Office undertakes limited searches on payment of an hourly fee for those who cannot get here themselves. One recent enquiry about the Lush family of Sparsholt in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries led us to a discovery which were surprised not to have come across before. Most peculiarly, this parishes earliest register, which runs from 1558-1734, is arranged alphabetically, by initial of **first** name: the first pages, for example, carry baptisms, marriages and burials of all the Alices, Agneses, Anns and

Alexanders of the parish, to be followed by the Bartholomews, Bridgets and Brians, and so on.

The entries were actually begun in 1599, which is not unusual, for the majority of parishes only then began to obey the decree to record all such events back to the start of Elizabeth's reign in 1558. From the uniform, neat, handwriting we can see that the minister or clerk who wrote the first entries using this idiosyncratic arrangement lived on until the 1620s, by which time his successors were stuck with it. Inevitably, however, problems arose. The space that was left for future As, Bs and Cs was not always correctly calculated. Pages then had to be numbered, and when, for example, the Johns and Janes filled their allocation at the foot of page 14 they had to jump forward to resume on page 61. Still proving too numerous they then jump back to page 60, where an insufficiency of Hs had left valuable parchment unfilled, then back to 56 (not enough Fs), then back to 26 and 27 where the original Ws had run out.

This sort of thing occurs many times in the register. The movements are clearly signalled, so if a known individual was believed to have been baptised, married or buried at Sparsholt at a particular date, the entry which proves it can eventually be found. That, of course, was the purpose of the register. It was not anticipated that 400 years later someone would want to extract all Lush family entries. This simply cannot be done, short of reading every word in the volume. Or can it? Well yes it can, thanks to the IGI, which is the **only** index available at present.

From the Registers

From the Windsor baptism register for 2nd July 1815 "*Daniell Son of Soldier who was killed in Spain & left this child with a Private in the 14th Dragoon Regt whose wife was a Portuguese*".

¹⁷ D/EX 429

¹⁸ D/EX 1516

¹⁹ D/EZ 126

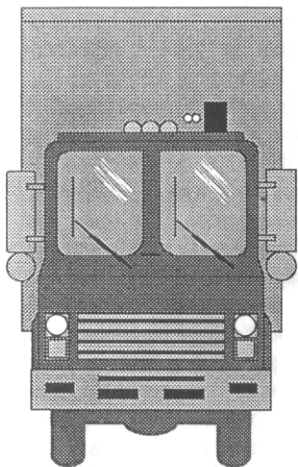
²⁰ D/EX 1550

²¹ D/EX 1540

²² D/EX 1538

²³ D/EX 1541

BERKSHIRE RECORD OFFICE ON THE MOVE



Building work has started on a new Record Office building in Castle Hill, Reading. It 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, 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 during the move, but we hope to keep this as short as possible. It is likely that the service will be reduced gradually, with access to records on film and fiche continuing longer than to original documents. Our ability to answer written enquiries will also be reduced as the move progresses.

The timetable is not yet certain. **However, it is likely that disruption to the normal service will begin in January and continue until the end of March, and that it will include a period of total closure. We ask all users and potential users to bear this in mind when planning their research.**

We hope to issue more detailed bulletins later, and to announce our new postal address and telephone number nearer the time. Meanwhile, you can contact us at:

**Berkshire Record Office, Shinfield Park, Reading, RG2 9XD,
tel. 0118 901 5132**

April 1999

Berkshire Family History Society Website

By Chad Hanna

Rather than relying on my web pages hosted on Demon, the bookstall pages hosted elsewhere, and other pages hosted by John Elkin, the Society Executive made the decision to acquire its own permanent address (domain name) and web space. Please come and visit us at our new website: www.berksfhs.org.uk

You'll find information about branch programmes, committees and locations, along with Research Centre information and the book list. There is space for more information, and also some scope for help in maintaining the web site (please contact the webmaster). As part of the reorganisation, certain roles in the Society now have email addresses, and these will automatically be forwarded to the current holder of the position. Please look at the relevant web pages before firing off a question which could be answered by a couple of minutes browsing.

Secretary@berksfhs.org.uk
general society enquiries.

editor@berksfhs.org.uk

short snippets for the journal, e.g. upcoming events. Articles after agreement with the editor.

librarian@berksfhs.org.uk

questions about library holdings, offers of donations to the library, etc.

bookstall@berksfhs.org.uk

webmaster@berksfhs.org.uk

updates to web pages, broken links.

easpackman@lineone.net

Eddie Spackman will continue to maintain his active members-only e-mail discussion forum.

Please note that you can only make address changes by posting them to your membership secretary.

Soldiers who Died in the Great War 1914-1919

The Society has purchased a copy of the CD-ROM version of "*Soldiers who died in the Great War 1914-1919*" which contains 703,000 names in two sections, "*Soldiers who died*" and "*Officers who died*."

We are offering a postal search and print-out service for members only. For each enquiry, please send as much details as possible e.g. full name (if possible), place of birth, etc. to enable the correct entry to be identified. It is possible to search by surname only but a common surname such as Smith may produce an impossible number of matches.

The information supplied for a surname will normally consist of an A4 page with up to 20 possible matches for each enquiry

and an A4 page with full details of one entry. Further pages of detail will be charged at 50p each.

Enquiries, quoting your membership number, should be sent to Mrs June Dickason, 1 Mower Close, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1RZ. Please send your payment by sterling cheque only, please, payable to "BFHS". The charges are £2 for up to two surnames, plus £1 for each extra surname. Please also send an A4 size stamped self-addressed envelope or 2 IRCs with each enquiry.

Please note that the Society of Genealogists have recently changed their day search fees. The fee for one hour remains at £3 whilst four hours is now £8 and the whole day is £12.

A Search for the Wiggins of Hungerford

By John Canning



Louisa Wiggins and John Canning

I became interested in Genealogy and family history in 1995 prior to a trip my wife and I made to England. All of my grandparents came from England but they all died before I was born. My research has been centred mainly on Hungerford, the birthplace of both my paternal grandparents. I have been fortunate to find descendants of two of my grandmother's brothers, namely Frederick and Charles Wiggins, but have been unable to track down any descendants of her other brother William or any of her sisters. I have also been unable to track down any descendants of ancestors of my grandfather John Canning.

My paternal grandmother, Louisa Wiggins, came to Australia in 1914 and married my grandfather, John Canning,²⁴ here in Mackay, on arrival, on 15th May 1914. Her occupation was shown as "*Parlour Maid*". Their son John (Jack) William Canning

was born in 1915 in Cromer Hospital, Mackay, Queensland.

Louisa, herself, was born in Hungerford in Berkshire on 27th June 1877. She lived at Marshgate, Hungerford and was still there during the 1891 census. After that she seems to have '*gone into service*', a common practice then. A series of postcards sent to her illustrate the numerous places that she lived and worked. Firstly between September 1902 and September 1906, L.C. & A.C.C. & George and Elie addressed her at 8 Shalston Villas, Surbiton Hill, Surrey.

In November 1907, they wrote to her at 23 Winchester Road, Basingstoke. Then between January 1909 and July 1910, Annie, of Dulwich, wrote to her at 60 Gleneagle Road, Streatham. By August 1911 she had moved again and Lily of Walpole Park, Ealing was writing to her at 11 Roxburghe Mansions, Kensington Court, London, until August 1912 when she moved to 10 Holuipatrick (?) Terrace, Skerries, Dublin, Ireland, where Lily & Bert of West Ealing wrote to her. By March 1914, she was back in her home area and was at Marsh View, Hungerford, where Nan & Willis of Dorking wrote to her. Presumably her family knew that she was going out to Australia to marry John Canning because on the 15th June 1914(?), Nan & Willis were addressing her as Mrs Canning and writing to her at Lillidale, Koumala, near Mackay, Queensland, Australia.

Sadly, she lived for only six years in Australia, before she died from a tropical disease on 21st October 1920, aged only 43 years.

²⁴ Son of James Canning and Mary Baker.

My father never mentioned his mother as I guess he had no memory of her, being raised by his father since he was five years old. I have been able to locate details of her family in England, have made contact and met some of the descendants of one of her brothers (Frederick), some of who are still living in and around Hungerford. With a view of finding out more about my grandmother, I am researching descendants of her family.

Lousia was the daughter of Isaac Wiggins (b.1841, East Garston) and Caroline (Ellen) Vivash who married 22nd November 1862 in Hungerford.²⁵

Isaac died on 10th February 1883 (aged only 42), leaving Caroline as a widow with seven young children to support. Isaac's death certificate shows that he died from an 'injury to abdomen' which might indicate that he died as a result of some sort of violence. Caroline's occupation was shown as a charwoman on the 1891 census.

I have been able to research some of the other children of Isaac and Caroline Wiggins. Their eldest son, William was born about 17th January 1864 in Hungerford, and baptised four years later in Hungerford. His occupation in 1891 is shown as a "Coal Merchant's Labourer". He married Eliza and I believe they remained at Hungerford, but I haven't as yet obtained details of their marriage or children. Annie (Nancy) Wiggins was born about 25th March 1866 in Hungerford, Berkshire, and she married William James Chalcraft. Annie (15) was shown on the 1881 Census as a General Servant to Thomas Fruen of Hungerford. Interestingly, Thomas Fruen was also a witness to the wedding of James Canning and Mary Baker. They kept in touch with

their sister and I have mentioned some of their postcards above. An address book shows that Nan or Nancy and Willis lived at "Hillside", Tower Hills, Dorking, Surrey.

Their second daughter Elizabeth Wiggins was born about 28th December 1868 in Hungerford, and died 28th January, 1892 at Marshgate, Hungerford aged only 23 years. In 1881, Elizabeth (12) was listed as a domestic servant.

Marianne (Polly) Wiggins was born about 11th September 1870. She married George Wickham and was a parlour maid at the Three Swans, High St, Hungerford in 1891. This couple was known of by descendants of Frederick at Hungerford, but no current knowledge of whereabouts. George could have been a chemist at Hungerford at one time. Addresses shown in old address book and birthday book as 60 Burglands Rd, Surbiton Hill, Gt London and 27 St. Sidwell Avenue, Exeter, Devon.

Charles Wiggins, born about 25th September, 1872 in Hungerford and died 13th June, 1952 in 186 Kathleen Ave., Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. He married Mary Anne Honey and in 1891 his occupation was listed as grocer's assistant. Charles emigrated to Canada and I have been fortunate to locate descendants of that family at Sarnia, Ontario, Canada in the area where they settled during the early 1900s.

Frederick Henry Wiggins was born 31st March 1875 in Hungerford, and died 20th March 1959 in Hungerford and he married Annie Wakefield. His occupation in 1891 was errand boy/porter. Annie's occupation was a shepherd. I have met descendants of this family in and around Hungerford, but little is known about their ancestors and their descendants. Frederick and Annie had four children: Frederick (Willie) William (b.1897, Hungerford, d.1954, North End,

²⁵ Caroline was baptised in 1840 at Ham, Wiltshire, daughter of Frederick Vivash and Eliza Baker.

nr. Newbury), Arthur (b.c.1903, died at Luton Airport), Edith Anne (b.1906, Hungerford, d.1997 Hungerford) and Florence Louisa Wiggins (b.1909, Hungerford, d.1978 in Hungerford).

Isaac and Caroline's final child was Eliza (Lily) Wiggins, born about 17th October 1879 in Hungerford. I have no information of details of marriage or children. I think that the postcards sent to my grandmother by Lily and Bert from Ealing are probably from Eliza, but I have no proof, or a surname.

My initial research story was published in the *'The Newbury Weekly News'* on 25th May 1995. I had five responses to the article, which I think is an excellent result. Two of the responses sent a clipping of the story. To my pleasant surprise three of the responses were from

previously unknown relatives currently residing in Berkshire. All from the Wiggins side, two great-nieces and one great-nephew of my grandmother. When we visited Newbury and Hungerford we stayed at the *"Marshgate Cottage Hotel"*, once the residence of my great-grandparents and their family.

I am curious as to the accuracy of Louisa's *"Birth Certificate"*, showing her being born on 27th June 1877. Could this have been a transcript error, as Louisa recorded her own birthday in her *"Birthday Book"* and also in her *"diary"* as being 25th June 1877?

If anyone can help me at all, I should be most grateful. My address is PO Box 17 Koumala, Queensland, 4738 Australia or e-mail: johnd@harveynorman.com.au

A Sailing Ticket Puzzle

By Walter Townsend

In the December 1998 issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian*, Ruby Bateman asked about assisted passages to New Zealand in the 1800s. I came across this activity during my researches. In the neighbouring county of Oxfordshire assistance was given to many, mainly agricultural workers and their families, to enable them to emigrate to New Zealand, away from the extreme poverty they were experiencing in the early 1870s.

The lead was taken by the newly-formed National Agricultural Labourers' Union which argued that as long as there was a great surplus of labour the farmers were never going to pay even subsistence wages. The Union made contact with construction firms in New Zealand which sent representatives to recruit workers and pay their fares. This was the start of massive emigration from Oxfordshire, about 100 adults and children leaving one village,

Milton-under-Wychwood. One extended family group left Shipton-under-Wychwood in 1874 and sailed on the *"Cospatrick"* for New Zealand. The ship caught fire and sank in the Southern Atlantic with the loss of all 429 emigrants and all but two of the crew. The loss of 17 Townsends and Hedges devastated the villages who raised a monumental fountain in their memory; it still stands on the village green. After the tragedy the villagers lost interest in emigration, though by then in excess of 40,000 people had emigrated under Union-sponsored schemes and agricultural wages had risen by 25%, an increase to about 12 or 13 shillings per week.

Yes, New Zealand was keen to attract good hard-working immigrants in the 1800s, but it seems that in this case the cost was borne by commercial interests.

... Of Little Girls & Square Dancers

By David Watkins

Last summer I was approached by member Judith Mitchell for help in recording the Monumental Inscriptions in St Luke's Church, Maidenhead. I agreed to lead the project.

This is a mid-nineteenth century church with 231 gravestones. The church suffered an arson attack in 1991 which destroyed most of their records. Parish registers up to the turn of the century had been deposited with the Berkshire Record Office but the remainder had been destroyed. The parish is trying to reconstruct these, as far as possible, from parish magazines. They were keen to have the MIs completed to augment their efforts. Thus most of the recording was done by church members although I did rope in Carol and David Wright, who helped me considerably when working on Cemetery Junction.

The sessions were announced in the parish newsletter. We never got large numbers but enough to complete recording and checking in five sessions. On the second session a young woman turned up with a baby in a pushchair and two nine-year-old girls. These were her daughter Hayley Woodham and friend Gemma Gunner. She proposed to leave the girls with us and come back later. With some reservations we agreed to this. Section 2 included a number of cremation stones, about 18" square, 29 in all. We left the girls doing this while we worked nearby. They got on with the task with a minimum of fuss and even kept Mum waiting ten minutes or so in order to finish the job. When it came to checking I found the sheets to be completely legible with only one small mistake. So I now know not to underestimate what youngsters can do and never to turn away a willing worker.

Having completed the work I have sent a copy to Mum together with two colour printed certificates as a thank you. I have suggested the girl's teachers might like to see the results of their efforts.

The MIs were entered onto the computer by myself but I wanted to avoid posting the draft out for checking. I hit on the idea of using some folk I meet regularly, that is members of Tilehurst Swingers American Square Dance Club. In particular Valerie Kearey whom I had accompanied to our Research Centre at Prospect College and advised on using the facilities, mainly the 1881 index. She has since joined the Society and has done remarkably well in tracing her own and her husband's lines.

She was not there when I took the checking along to the dance club so I approached Jill and Geoff Clift, also family historians, who agreed to help. While we were discussing this another dancer arrived, asked what we were about and promptly volunteered to help. I should have asked her in the first place for it was none other than Ann Davis. I remember that Ann came to BFHS meetings regularly in the 80s bringing her schoolgirl daughter with her, or was it the other way around? That daughter is better known to most of you as Catherine Harrington, editor of this magazine. I understand she was quite amused to find that her mother had found a family history task while pursuing another hobby.

The fiche of the transcription is now available from the BFHS Bookstall for £1.00, (plus postage and packing).

This Summer Judith Mitchell hopes to start work on All Saints, Maidenhead. If you would like to help please ring her on 01628 636963.



In the September 1998 edition of the "Berkshire Family Historian" Andrew Tatham wrote about his group photograph of the officers of the 8th Royal Berkshire Regiment taken at their training camp on Salisbury Plain in July 1915. His aim is to explore who

those officers were: where they had come from, what happened to them, and where their families are now. Following that article he has found out more about some of the officers.

Update on a Group Photograph: Before, Now and In-Between

By Andrew Tatham

Following my initial article, I received a number of interesting and interested responses. I was particularly thrilled to get a letter from the great-niece-in-law (if that's the correct terminology) of Henry Cyril Thorne, as well as a letter from someone who lives in Cyril Gentry-Birch's old house. There was also a surge of interest in my website, as well as e-mail from people with ideas and messages of support. In this article I'm going to give you a bit more detail on some of the men in the group photograph. I have specifically picked out those men who had Berkshire connections. My hope is that some detail or other will produce a spark of recognition that will add to the biographies I am building up. No detail is too small – in fact the smallest details often make the biggest difference in a view. I'd particularly like any information that would help me to get in contact with the relatives of these men – they are the people who are most likely to have the stories that really add to the picture of a life. I have now got a publisher interested and really want to make sure that the biographies of these men are as complete as possible for the final book.

Ronald William Brakspear was a director of Brakspear's Brewery in Henley. He was a member of Henley Rifle Club. After the outbreak of war, he paid for the conversion of Henley Town Hall into a Red Cross Hospital. After being severely wounded at Loos, he died on 2nd October 1915. His mother Florence Elizabeth Sophy Brakspear, his brothers George Edward Brakspear and Lawrence Edward Brakspear, and his sister Florence Elizabeth Maude Pike all survived him.

Wilfrid Lawson Clarke was born in Winkfield, and was an assistant master at Sonning School. After the war and a career in the Royal Army Education Corps, he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel, and died in Knowle Close, Caversham, in 1975, aged 89. He had a daughter Margôt J Clarke.



Harold Cohen

Harold Cohen was born at 349 Oxford Road, Reading and attended Reading School. His father, Percy Cohen, was involved with Reading Synagogue and at the time of the Great War was living at 301 Oxford Road, Reading. His two brothers were Reginald Percy Cohen, and Arthur Lewin Cohen. He was the first casualty from the group photograph, being

injured in a training accident and dying of blood poisoning and double pneumonia at Reading War Hospital on 18th July 1915.

Cyril Gentry-Birch was born in the Reading/Wokingham area. At the outbreak of the war he was a clerk at the Town Hall in Reading. He survived the war, having become a prisoner-of-war in March 1918. Just before the Second World War, he rejoined the Army, serving in the Cheshire Regiment. He retired as a Colonel, living in Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green, Caversham, and I think was a member of Pangbourne Rifle Club. He finally moved into Warren Lodge in Finchampstead, where he died in 1985, aged 92. His wife Linda Mary Gentry-Birch died at Warren Lodge in 1990.

William Gray Haynes went to Reading School. He played rugby for Berkshire Wanderers and belonged to Berkshire Hockey Club. At the outbreak of the war he was working with his father, William Haynes, at his ironmongery shop at 19 Duke Street, Reading. He was killed at Loos, 25th September 1915. His parents lived at 11 Victoria Square, and then at 5 Alexandra Road. His sister Agneta Mary Haynes married Henry Denman Cook, and was living in Northcourt Avenue, Reading, when she died in 1985. She had three children: Charles William Cook, Ann Rosemary Almond, and Kathleen Agneta Thomas.



Thomas Bernard Lawrence

Thomas Bernard Lawrence's father was a Captain in the Indian Transport Corps, who retired to 8 Vastern Road in Reading before the First World War. Thomas Bernard Lawrence later was a gold-mining engineer and served in the Indian Army during the Second World War, before retiring to Cornwall.

Wilfred Southey Deare Oldman's uncle was Col. F.A.Deare, who commanded the depot in Reading at the beginning of the war. He also had family at Grove Cottage, Sonning (and played golf on Sonning golf course). He was killed at Loos on 25th September 1915.

Mervyn Phippen Pugh attended Reading Collegiate School. He was initially commissioned into 9th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment, and then had a distinguished war career with 1st Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment, being awarded MC and DSO.



Clifford Salman

Clifford Salman's father was Arthur Henry Salman, a draper who lived and worked at 39 King's Road, Reading (and who died in 1932). Clifford went to Kendrick School, Reading. He was killed at Loos on 13th October 1915. His sister Elsie Salman died at Abbeymore Rest Home, Reading in 1989 aged 94 (she had previously lived in Headley Road, Woodley).

Henry Cyril Thorne's father was William Henry, who worked in a biscuit factory in Reading (possibly going on to be a national Trade Union leader at Huntley & Palmer's) and who died in 1940. Cyril was born at 9 Watlington St, Reading, and is likely to have gone to school in

Reading (his application for a commission is signed by Mr Pugh, the Secretary for Education, Reading). At the beginning of the war, he left his job as a clerk to join 10th Battalion, Hants Regiment. He rose to the rank of Sergeant, and married Mabel Violet Meads in December 1914. He obtained a commission in the 8th Royal Berks in January 1915, but eventually went to France with 1st Royal Berks in October 1915. He was killed at Carency on 27th June 1916 during a night raid on the German trenches. His wife re-married in 1919 to Bernard James

Kelly. At the end of the war, his parents and sister, Gladys Eva Thorne, were living in Jesse Terrace, Reading, and his brother, William Ralph Thorne, was living in Swainstone Road, Reading.

If any name or place or event mentioned here rings any bells I would love to hear from you. I am grateful for any input and always write back to anyone who takes the trouble to contact me. Please note that I have moved since I wrote my last article, and can now be contacted at:

St Anthony, Pilgrims Way, Westhumble, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6AW, Tel: 01306-882601, or via the Internet: website address: <http://www.mister-t.demon.co.uk/> e-mail address:

photo-project@mister-t.demon.co.uk

1881 Census Project - Reported Mistakes

By Susan Lumas

The 1881 Project was a joint effort by all those involved with the activities of the FFHS which includes in its membership the Genealogical Society of Utah as well as County Societies and the SOG.

As the county fiche became available, people felt the need to report '*mistakes*', not as a criticism, but as an aid to others trying to find the same entry. Inevitably, with a project of this size there will be some errors due to handwriting illegibility, mis-transcription, careless checking and inputting and the poor quality of the originals. The collection of reported mistakes is not large and it may be that many people have not sent theirs in yet. Some people expected that the published fiche would be corrected, which is impractical, and anyway upon investigation many errors turned out to be genuine and accurate entries. Accordingly the British Genealogical Record Users Committee have decided that the best way to make this information available, is to publish a list of submitted '*errors*'. Some mistakes were not mistakes, but correct on the census, although a researcher might know the information to be wrong. Thus a faithfully transcribed enumerator's error is no mistake at all. There are however, some genuine mistakes. Some are so slight that they will not prevent a user from finding the information they seek. Others may lead to confusion.

However, it is worth remembering that the 1881 project includes 26 million plus names. 1% of that is 260,000 names and that is nothing like the quantity of errors notified, although there are probably more than I am aware of. Publication of this leaflet will probably prompt people to report more '*mistakes*'. I will do one more collection and add to it what has already been collected. If you would like to submit a presumed error where it applies to surnames and birthplaces, please make sure that it includes the full PRO reference, the page number and type of fiche and not just the correct entry but also the incorrect one. Please send it, before 1st September 1999, marking the envelope '*1881 Project*' to:

Mrs Susan Lumas, 7 Mount Pleasant Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3JZ.

[Editor's Note: I have extracted the information above from a list of errors which have been reported and I will pass the list onto the Research Centre, so that it can be consulted when using the 1881 Census.

The only Berkshire entry which I noticed was the surname WHITTLE which had been incorrectly put as Whitch. This is on fiche 9, ref. RG11/1315 f14.]

Presenting the 1901 Census

By John Pollock

We often hear about the threat the Internet poses to conventional retailing. The PRO has a different problem. The Family Records Centre is proving so popular that it will be unable to provide facilities for all the researchers that want to use it by 2003 even without the demand for the 1901 census. The capacity of the first floor search room is 700 visitors a day - 210,000 a year if the flow is even, which it is not. Even in its first year 140,000 visitors arrived and the numbers keep increasing.

How, then, is the PRO to cope with the 1901 census? The answer is digitisation - put it on the Internet. Iain Watt, Head of Reader Information Services, and Janet Mason, the Project Consultant, held a succession of meetings on 9th March 1999 to explain how the problem of the 1901 census is to be mitigated.

Firstly, a decision to digitise the census was made in principle. Financial restrictions on capital expenditure mean that the PRO is unable to finance the project and must have a commercial partner. The first stage was to advertise for partners in December 1998. There was a good response and a short-list was prepared by February. Discussions are now in progress and a final selection will be made in September.

Production has begun with photographing the census on high-contrast film, which is easier to scan than the originals. The films will be scanned into a database and proofed. A number of indexes will be produced. What indexes are needed is still being discussed with potential users. The supplier will carry out more market research once it is appointed. Finally, the finished product will go on the Internet.

Microfiches and printed indexes will be made available to record offices, libraries and other research establishments, but the PRO is pressing to provide the online service locally so that users in other parts of the country will not continue to be at a disadvantage.

The commercial partner will have to cover development, maintenance and distribution costs and make a reasonable return on its capital. The PRO will ensure that the return is no more than reasonable and that the service is good - otherwise the PRO will make other arrangements. Private users will pay for the service in the normal manner. Most libraries and other institutions will probably be on the Internet by 2002, when the census is released. Institutions will have three possible options for charging.

1. Full costs passed on to users.
2. Subsidise the service.
3. Provide the service at no cost to the users.

Iain Watt thought that the PRO would be unlikely to provide a free online service either at Kew or the Family Records Centre. One member of the audience was concerned that schools would not be able to afford the service.

All the potential suppliers believe that they can complete the project by June 2001, because they have already completed comparable projects. This will leave six months for polishing and removing bugs.

If you have any suggestions please write to Alison Webster at the PRO, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU, Fax 0181-878-8905.

Emigration to New South Wales

By Brian Edwards

My parents were both avid readers in their younger days (before TV), and had a large collection of books, invariably purchased second hand. Among the books that I inherited was a bound set of the "*Saturday Magazine*" for 1839. This weekly magazine comprised eight sides of approximately A4 size and sold for 1d. It covered a wide range of subjects, with an emphasis on science, but included religion, architecture, travel and history as well as what would have been called General Knowledge when I was at school.

What I found particularly interesting was the wide range of subjects provided for the readers and the standard of the writing; there was clearly none of the current dumbing-down, this was a magazine for the literate who wished to expand their knowledge.

Of interest to family historians, and particularly those down-under, is an article on emigration to New South Wales which gives an insight into both the conditions on board ship and those expected on arrival in Sydney. By inference it shows how bad things must have been for the labouring classes in England at this time.

In 1838, the government had started to offer free passages for emigrants to Australia, and ships were being sent from various ports in the UK. The vessels generally used are stated to be of about 500 tons burden with a general cargo and carrying some one hundred passengers. The article concentrates on the "*Royal George*", G. Richards, Master, which sailed from London on 31st October 1838, and gives a plan of the steerage accommodation together with the names of those travelling.

This accommodation was 58' long by 28' wide and 6'3" high. Within this space, 6' each side was utilised for cabins which were either 5' or 6' wide, leaving a space some 16' by 58' in the middle. The passenger names and cabin accommodation show that 94 steerage passengers were carried. Married couples and some of their children had cabins, single men and boys over ten slept in hammocks in the central space. There was one WC.

The article suggests that this is comfortable accommodation, which may well have been true at the time. However, it is only necessary to compare it with one's own house to put this into perspective. By coincidence, my lounge is 28 feet long, (the width of the vessel) and some 12 feet wide, roughly a fifth of the space occupied by nearly a hundred passengers for up to eighteen weeks. Proportionately, I would need about 20 visitors in my lounge in order even to begin to feel what it was like!

We are informed that the space is for the emigrants exclusive use, and that they are not required to assist in working the ship. Divine service is performed every Sunday, and all assemble daily for family prayer. Books are provided for "*mental, moral and religious instruction*" as well as a school for children during the voyage. One does wonder how many of the passengers could actually read and make use of the books.

Materials were supplied for the occupation of passengers at sea; bagging and twine for the men and shirting for the women, and they were paid for their work by retaining some of the clothes they made or with extra comforts. The children were encouraged "*to imitate the industry of their parents*" by making up shirting to clothe themselves. Thus, we are informed, "*many families are*

able to provide themselves with an excellent stock of apparel" on arrival at Sydney.

On this particular voyage, the "Royal George" carried a party of agricultural labourers, all of whom, except for the wives, are named, and in most cases their age is shown. It is not entirely clear where they came from, but the article refers to a party consisting of 92 Kent and Dorsetshire people departing in November 1838:

"of whom accounts have only been received from Cape Town, by which time there had been an addition of 4 infants to the party."

Married men, accompanied by their wives who had cabins on the "Royal George" were:

Name (age)	No of children
Henry Sheather (40) James Sheather (45)	22 children between them
James Apps (40)	2
Charles Clout (32)	3
Sanson Norris (-)	2
Stephen Booth (42)	10
William Fuller (33)	6
William Davis (36)	6
John Whatman (25)	1
John Douch (20)	
Robert Furnell (-)	
Ambrose Sanger (-)	
George Percy (-)	
William Barrett (-)	
Jeremiah Hayter (22)	
Henry Bishop (22)	

Single men were Edward and William Bishop (30 & 24), probably brothers of Henry, Abel Farnall (20), Edward Thom, Isaac Green (21), Elias Ingram, Wm Wenham (30) and G.W. Trowbridge (18). Unlike the rest of the single men, two others, James Bailey and Henry South shared a cabin and were described as

domestic servants; perhaps their employer was on board in superior accommodation.

The description of Sydney is positively idyllic. It is claimed that poverty was wholly unknown, with good roads, churches and schools together with "men whose happy mien gives evidence of their easy condition". The emigrants from the "Royal George" were going to an estate some forty miles from Sydney where each family was to have a cottage with sufficient land for a cow, pigs and poultry for their own use. The men's wages are quoted as fifteen to twenty pounds per annum together with a weekly allowance of meat and flour. After five years, they may opt to settle rent free on nearby land and work for themselves. The cottages were valued at about £55 each and contained a kitchen, thirteen feet square, bedroom nine feet by thirteen, and one or two lean-to rooms seven feet by eight.

Clearly, when one reads an article like this it is difficult to decide how much is journalistic exaggeration, and I am tempted to believe that the writer was wearing his rose-coloured spectacles. However, other articles in the magazine, where I have some knowledge of the subject involved, seem to be essentially factual and one must assume that broadly the same applies here. My own reaction is that conditions for these families in England must have been truly appalling for them to be prepared to travel to an unknown continent, crammed into a 500 ton sailing vessel for up to eighteen weeks. I just hope that they and their children found the paradise they sought.

If anyone has an interest in any of the families listed, I would be happy to provide photocopies of the original article (or a TIF file on disc) at cost plus postage. I can be contacted either by e-mail Brian.Edwards@talk21.com or by post. Brian J. Edwards, 46 Tilsworth Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1TP

A Jigsaw Puzzle with Pieces Missing

By Julie Goddard

I regard being the co-ordinator of a one-name study as being the equivalent of doing a gigantic jigsaw puzzle, sometimes I see a group of red pieces which fit together and hey presto a pattern appears which I can sometimes attach to another coloured group which I had arranged earlier. Sometimes I realise that someone, one of our members perhaps, has some the pieces hidden away, or that some pieces over the years have slipped down the back of the sofa, but I live in hopes that one day a nearly complete pattern will emerge. If the name was Silverthorne or Hogflesh the jigsaw would not be so difficult, but I ask you, Goddard a name which has representatives nearly all over the world - but not in Cairo, one of our members assures me; he looked in the telephone directory as soon as he arrived there, as a matter of habit.

Take for example Kintbury churchyard. If you haven't been there do let me recommend a visit. Besides being in a pleasant spot in a lovely little village, alongside the picturesque canal, it has some celebrities as inhabitants and one never knows who you might meet out walking their dog. In the churchyard of St Mary's there are several more.

Near to the gap in the wall leading on to a pleasant lane is a table tomb with the inscriptions:

"In loving memory of Emily daughter of W.H.Goddard of Parsonage Farm, Iver, Bucks, who died Apr 21st 1902 aged 69 years."

"Also of Ann Weston beloved wife of the late Walter Weston of St John's Wood and sister of Emily Goddard born 17th March 1842 died 19 Feb 1926"

What were they doing in Kintbury? In the 1851 census the family are all at home at Round Farm, Love Green, Iver. There is William H. Goddard, his wife Mary Ann and

children Jane (15), Thomas (11), Ann (10), Emily (8), Sarah (6) and George (4). In 1863 they had moved to Parsonage Farm, still in Iver. In 1881 William H. Goddard, aged 67, born Grove, Berks, is still farming 135 acres at Iver. It seems that Ann's husband Walter Weston must have retired from St John's Wood to the country and taken his wife and sister-in-law with him. Another branch of this family were farming at Letcombe Regis but their ancestors, so we are told, so far unverified, bought Canterton Manor at Cadnam, near Southampton in 1560 when a London lawyer ancestor bought himself a home in the country.

Further into the churchyard under the trees are stones for Richard Goddard who died 2nd October 1867 aged 56 and Janet Goddard who died 10th October 1872 aged 59 and another to Richard their second son who died 19th April 1871, aged 25. Richard senior farmed at Templeton, between Kintbury and Inkpen. He was there in 1831 when the agricultural rioters surrounded the farm and demanded money before breaking up the threshing machine. He married Janet Lidderdale of Kintbury, in whose family were doctors and teachers. They had thirteen children, most of whom emigrated to America. Richard has an ancient family tree. His father, Richard Smart Goddard was born in Chieveley in 1779, the son of the George and Ann Goddard who have a tablet on the wall in Chieveley church. George was a son of Thomas Goddard, a timber merchant who owned property in Northcroft Lane, Newbury next to the canal, which he must have seen develop from an idea to an actual means of transporting his wood at first downstream to Reading and then upstream to the west. The family first appeared in Chieveley in 1566 and paid homage to the Lord of the Manor. They

have several eminent lawyers, doctors and clerics in their extensive family.

Almost next to this tombstone is another for James Goddard, who died 20th March 1885, aged 82, and Caroline, who died 17th April 1888, aged 73. James appears as a shoemaker in an 1827 Directory of Berkshire, but later he became a whiting manufacturer and also at his death owned a considerable amount of property including "*The Barley Mow*", a freehold beer house, four cottages and six acres of land at Kintbury and two freehold cottages at Headley, near Kingsclere. The property was divided, we learn from a document at the PRO, at Caroline's death between the children John Knight Goddard, James Goddard, Clara Scott, Kate Johnson, Agnes Cruse and Rhoda Sheppard. James junior was a carpenter at Speen.

Last year I got quite excited about this latter tombstone as my husband and I were taking two Canadian sisters around the churchyard, looking for the tombstone of their great-grandmother Caroline Goddard. Caroline, née Kimber, was the widow of William Goddard of Easton Royal, Wilts. They married in Easton in 1842 but moved to London where they kept the "*Hoops and Grapes*" in Broadway. However William had been a carrier in Easton and started a cab business in London, which his son George took over when William, presumably tired of

the bright lights, returned to the country. William died in 1875 and Caroline lived with one of her daughters-in-law, Elizabeth Emms, in the High Street, Kintbury. An entry in the burial register of St Mary's Kintbury states that Caroline Goddard was buried on 23rd February 1905, aged 84, but, although there was certainly enough money in the family for a tombstone, there does not appear to be one. The Goddard family at Easton Royal also has a long pedigree traceable forwards from the marriage of Stephen Goddard to Jane (Jenny) Wilkins in 1770, though the Goddards were in the locality for many years previously. As their nine children grew up, they fanned out over the Pewsey Valley and when their large families also grew up, married and looked for work they moved to London, the Home Counties and eventually some to Canada.

Multiply the situation with the **quite unrelated** families of Kinbury many times as one looks at Newbury, Hungerford, Bucklebury, Marlborough locally and the farms of Suffolk, the hills of Derbyshire and many other places where Goddards, are or have been, numerous and the immense task of recording all the Goddards, started by the late Howard Goddard Jones thirteen years ago, becomes clear. However, as with that large jigsaw puzzle, if you like doing that sort of thing, the intricacies and small triumphs spur you on, ever onwards.



A Family of Millers

By Bill Bradfield

For three hundred years my family were millers and farmers in Berkshire and in the nineteenth century they extended their activities to watermills in Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire. In 1579 there was a mill in Abingdon-on-Thames and it is most likely that the tale starts then. The family continued its presence in Abingdon and Abbey Mill had as miller a Richard Bradfield around 1790-1820. In the eighteenth century there were several Bradfield families living there but their relationships are difficult to prove.

In 1690 a different Richard Bradfield described as a "*miller of Abingdon*" and aged 30 took the lease of Milton Mill, about six miles south of Abingdon. This mill was on the Ginge Brook, which rises under the Berkshire Downs not far from Wantage and joins the Thames at Sutton Courtenay. In 1617 the freeholder was Sayer and the mill changed hands many times but Bradfields remained tenants from 1690 until John Richard Bradfield bought the Mill in 1898. Milling ceased in 1925 and the whole property was sold by auction. The way in which the property passed from father to son over two centuries is a subject in itself but the will of 1837 lists many of the household items ending "*Close Horse and Close Lines*".

In 1798 Richard Bradfield left Milton Mill when he was nineteen, married and turned up in Ecchinswell in Hampshire in 1811, where he was probably the miller. By 1822 he was in Kingsclere, most likely at Gailey Mill, leaving his oldest son, Edward, at the Mill in Ecchinswell. In 1849, Edward, who had married a cousin from Milton, with two of his brothers and a sister, emigrated to America. They were given £905 by their father and settled in

Rochester N.Y. from where they wrote regarding the price of milling wheat and the astuteness of the Yankee farmers! Ecchinswell Mill was then in the hands of another son Thomas, who, when his father died in 1853, had the option under his father's will to buy "*my Copyhold Mill at Ecchinswell for £1700*" and Thomas must have done this. All the other properties in Kingsclere went to James Bradfield who, in 1874, bought the freehold of Gailey Mill and 71 acres of land, having previously held the property by lease. In the nineteenth century there were four mills in Kingsclere and James for a time had Gailey Mill and Lower Mill (now Island Mill).

There being no mills available in Kingsclere, James Bradfield put three of his sons into mills away from Kingsclere. Edward went to Boreham Mill on the river Wylie on the eastern outskirts of Warminster, James Henry to Longstock Mill, on the river Test at Stockbridge and John to East Stoke Mill on the river Frome near Wareham.

When his father, James, died John left East Stoke Mill, which he gave to his brother Thomas, and returned to Kingsclere to Gailey Mill. John eventually retired to Newbury and Thomas remained in East Stoke where he is buried. East Stoke Mill has been demolished but the other mills are still standing although parts have been demolished, particularly at Longstock.

Returning now to Berkshire - in 1835 Richard Bradfield of Milton Mill bought Drayton Mill, his father having been the tenant since before 1812. This mill was astride the Ginge Brook and is the one where my grandparents and parents lived. In 1911, William Edward Bradfield was awarded a medal at an international

exhibition for flour. After the first war, flour production ceased and the mill ground and mixed animal feed and cleaned and dressed corn and seed for which it had some special machinery. The mill ceased working in the late 1950s and was taken over by a marine engineer. It was eventually destroyed by fire.

Also in Berkshire in 1851, Richard Bradfield of Milton Mill bought Ludbridge Mill on the Ginge Brook at East Hendred. This mill was already occupied by his son Robert under a lease the rent being £50pa. Land tax of 9s and tithes of 9s 8d was also payable. Later, it seems that steam power was installed. The other watermill in East Hendred, also on the Ginge Brook, (sometimes called Palmers Mill) was occupied by Robert Bradfield's son

(Robert!) and when he died in 1918, the mill was run by his daughter Mary until it ceased working probably during or shortly after the last war. Ludbridge mill was demolished and is now a fish farm. The other mill now stands.

At the end of the nineteenth century, Thomas Bradfield, the youngest son of Robert, who had East Hendred Mill, became the miller at Colham Mill, Castle Combe in Wiltshire and was there from 1891 to 1907 or thereabouts.

Not far away, Charles Bradfield had the mill at Cherhill in 1851 but so far he has not been identified as part of the family.

The picture below shows East Hendred Mill.



Computer Forum

By Eddie Spackman

LDS Computer Data

The LDS continues to provide more data in computer compatible form to help with our research. Following the release of several Vital Records Indexes last autumn (the British one was reviewed in the March 1999 *Berkshire Family Historian*) the LDS has now made available a test site on the Internet (the address is given below) which gives access to the IGI, Ancestral File and the Family History Library Catalogue. It started in early April and hopefully a fully developed site will appear later this year.

Search facilities are currently either very general - you can search for a given surname and forename - or specific - you provide at least a surname and year of a birth. There is a limit of 150 names for any search. This is fine if you have an uncommon surname but of limited use for names such as Elizabeth Brown when only the approximate year of birth is known.

The LDS have also released a 24-CD set containing the 1881 census. In the UK this costs **£29.75** including p&p and can be ordered from: **LDS Distribution Centre, 399 Garretts Green Lane, Birmingham B33 0UH.**

Frequently Asked Questions

In the last issue I gave some answers to the question: **"How do I get started for Family History with the Internet"**. The next question is:

"How can I use the Internet in my Family History research?"

To a 'Newbie', as beginners are often called, the Internet can be very daunting. However you should quickly find that it becomes a familiar and natural way of finding information of all sorts.

The Internet is a global network of computers which provides the technology for the international exchange of information over the WWW (World Wide Web), by e-mail (electronic mail) or by using Newsgroups. You join this network when you logon to a server (computer) of your ISP (Internet Service Provider). Once on the Internet you can browse the pages of any server that is connected, search data bases held on some of these computers or send e-mail to anyone with an e-mail address.

Forums and Newsgroups

These are Internet discussion groups where you can discuss a wide range of subjects with other Internet users having the same interests. Messages on some Forums have to be read on-line (i.e. whilst paying for your telephone connection!!) but those on Newsgroups can be downloaded and read off-line.

E-mail

This can be used both to send messages to one or more individuals or to subscribe (in this context it means 'join' - there is no payment) to Newsgroups or Discussion Lists. There are many of these for Genealogy run by some ISPs like AOL, by organisations such as RootsWeb or by individuals. (I host a Discussion List on behalf of our Society. If you want to subscribe please send me an e-mail giving your name and membership number).

RootsWeb hosts mailing lists for most (if not all) counties of the UK and a large number of surnames. To join the Berkshire group - for those with interests in the county - send an Email message with only the word **SUBSCRIBE** in the subject and the body of the message to: **BERKSHIRE-**

L-request@rootsweb.com. You will then receive a reply stating how the group operates and immediately start receiving new messages posted to the group. The number of messages per day will depend on the group and typically ranges from a few to dozens.

As a newcomer to a group you usually start by posting a short biography of your genealogical and surname interests (giving surname, location, period and locality of the people of interest). Later you might ask a simple question like:

"My gggPa, John SMITH, was a shepherd who lived in Sulham in the early 1800s.. From a copy of his death certificate I know he died in 1853 but have not found him in the 1841 or 1851 census. Where should I look next? Does anyone have any information about him?"

Later you will feel confident to answer questions about your own interests and post replies giving useful sources of information and data. Always put surnames in capitals and use plain text not HTML.

One way of finding addresses and topics of Newsgroups is to visit the GENUKI WWW page at the address given below under Gateways. For an index to most user mailing lists hosted by RootsWeb visit www.rootsweb.com/~maillist/.

Browsing the Internet

This is often referred to as *'surfing the net'*. You can view information almost instantaneously from any site in the world by entering its URL (Uniform Resource Locator) address into your web browser. The two most widely used browsers are Internet Explorer and Netscape. However it is easier to *'click'* on a *'link'* given in an e-mail or on a web page. For those who are just starting it is worth going to the Berkshire FHS home page now located at

www.berksfhs.org.uk or one of the Gateway sites given below. When typing a URL it is important to note that parts of the address may be case sensitive.

There are now estimated to be over 320 million pages accessible to the public, so how do you go about finding the information you are interested in? You use a *'search engine'*.

Search Engines

These are data bases to which you submit a query, such as *'+John +Smith'* (if using the Alta Vista search engine) to locate all documents containing both of the words John and Smith. More sophisticated queries can be generated when you know the syntax - read the help instructions. After a few seconds you will receive a count of the number of documents matching your search query. There will also be a list of the first few matches (typically 10) giving the subject. You can go to any document of your choice by clicking on the subject.

There are 3 types of web site providing search facilities:

Directories such as

Yahoo at www.yahoo.com

Gateways such as

GENUKI at www.genuki.org.uk
and *Cyndi's List* at www.cyndisslist.com/

Search Engines such as

Alta Vista at www.altavista.com.

There are also meta search engines such as

Dogpile at www.dogpile.com

which automatically submit your search to other search engines.

Search Engines use programs called *'bots'* or *'spiders'* to scout the net for new Web sites. The software follows links from page to page and the information found is stored and indexed in the search engine database.

The indexes will never be complete because thousands of new pages are

created every day. It is estimated that about two-thirds of the indexable web pages have been indexed.

Interesting sites

There are many interesting and useful sites but everyone has different interests. Here are a handful not mentioned above:²⁶

Berkshire Record Office at www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/council/departments/leisure/countryside/bro/index.htm

Society of Genealogists at www.sog.org.uk/

Public Record Office at www.pro.gov.uk

LDS Family Search at www.familysearch.org

Commonwealth War Graves Commission at www.cwgc.org

GenForum at genforum.genealogy.com/

Familia (public libraries' family history resource) www.earl.org.uk/familial

Addresses of Web sites are often posted on Newsgroups.

A word of warning: A lot of information on the Internet is provided by amateurs and very little is 'peer reviewed'. It must be treated in the same way that any historian checks sources in order to assess the credibility of documents.

Personal Web Sites

ISPs usually provide free disk space (in some cases as much as 50Mb) on which individuals can create their own personal Web pages. This is quite easy to do using software (such as FrontPageExpress) which works like a word processor.

General information and advice

Help on computing matters can be obtained from the plethora of Computer Magazines - specially those which devote themselves to the Internet.

There are a number of books which you will find helpful - have a look at the Society's book list. A practical guide that I consider to be very useful is: '*Internet for Genealogy*' by David Hawgood.²⁷

This FAQ answer gives only a flavour of '*How to use the Internet*'. The way of finding out if it works for you is to '*have a go*'.

News

Internet Explorer and Outlook Express.

Microsoft have recently released version 5. The software - usually found on the cover CD of a computer magazine - is easily installed but on a machine only a few years old it may take as long as half-an-hour. There are several new facilities of use to family historians: it has the ability to connect to different ISPs, it can save to disk the content of a web page with all the associated graphics - very useful for viewing off-line and is claimed to work faster. The software works reliably and seems to have remarkably few bugs; I have used it without trouble for some weeks.

Free ISPs: There are now many free ISPs; they include Virgin, Lineone, Tesco, Smiths, Tiny Computers et al. There are more and many more to come.

Free Internet connection It has already been suggested that by the end of the year no one will be paying for their Internet connections. The ISPs are battling for new members and intend paying for all their expenses by contracts with BT for sharing costs and advertising revenue.

Contributions for this column

Please e-mail me suitable information for this column to the e-mail address given on the back cover of the magazine.

²⁶ In this column 'http://' has been omitted from the beginning of all Internet addresses - it is automatically generated by modern web browsers.

²⁷ Second Edition published in 1999 by David Hawgood at £1.60.

Annual Subscriptions

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Family History News and Digest

Family History News and Digest is the twice-yearly official publication of the Federation of Family History Societies. It includes information about the activities of member Societies and abstracts of articles from their magazines.

I/We wish to subscribe to two issues of the Family History News and Digest commencing with the April/September issue (Please cross one out)

Prices:

£1.90 each collected at..... Branch

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£5.60 Overseas surface

£8.10 Overseas Airmail

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£30.20 for 12 issues, Overseas Surface

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Send this completed form to the Secretary, John Gurnett, Purley Lodge Cottage, Purley Village, Reading, RG8 8AT or to your Membership Secretary



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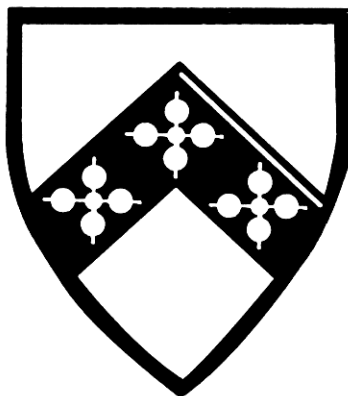
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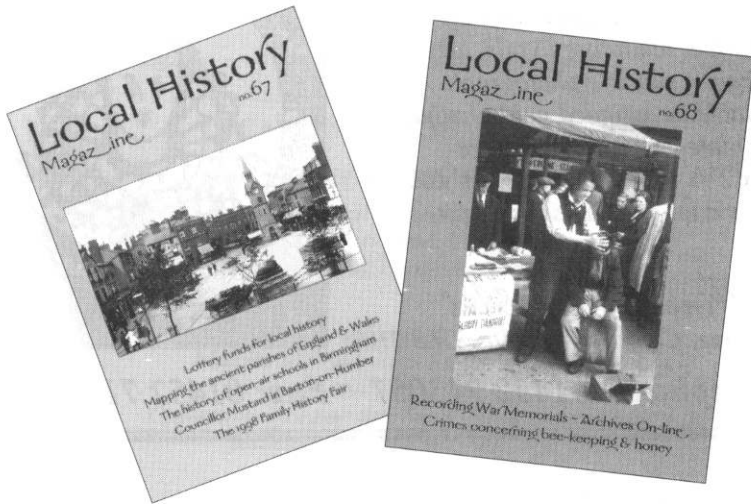


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The Berkshire Overseers' Project - An Update

By *Brian Hunt*

The last news of the Overseers' Project was in my letter in the June 1996 issue of "*Berkshire Family Historian*". Since then, quite a lot of work has been done, resulting in the issue of the following volumes:

- Vol. 12 - Finchampstead, Hurst, Sunninghill and Windsor
- Vol. 13 - Blewbury, Harwell, etc. and part of Wantage
- Vol. 24 - Part of Hungerford
- Vol. 25 - Remainder of Hungerford
- Vol. 26 - Newbury Examinations

Since the transcriptions of documents and the checking of the printed pages can only be done in the BRO itself, we are completely dependent on the occasional Saturday "*work-ins*" organised by Peter Durrant and Sabina Sutherland, and on my own work at the Record Office. Unfortunately, mainly due to the building work by Foster Wheeler on their new front entrance hall, there was a long break between "*work-ins*", from 18th July 1998 to 27th February 1999. However, on resumption in February this year there was a very good turn-out, with all the available Record Office places occupied, a considerable amount of work was done.

The break was not wasted though, since the advantage was taken for me to finish transcribing, and Peter Durrant the checking, of a complete volume of Newbury Settlement Examinations. This leather-bound book is the only document to survive from the usual Overseers' records for Newbury. It is strange when one considers that Reading St Giles has more than 2000 documents, and Reading St Mary and Hungerford in excess of 1000 each. Reading St Lawrence is in a similar position to Newbury, having just one

surviving document. This makes this Newbury volume all that more important, since it contains no fewer than 435 individual Examinations before the Justices, spanning the period from 1780-1891, most of them including details of age and birthplace, family details and almost a full record of a working career. For those people with "*lost*" ancestors who might have appeared in Newbury in the period (the Place-name Index contains entries from all over the British Isles) this could well be the most useful volume in the whole of the Berkshire Overseers' Project.

Regarding future work, Volume 15 covering Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay, etc. is about half-completed, and will be the next volume to be issued. There is now some light at the end of the tunnel, since all that will then remain to complete the task (although still some four thousand or so documents are involved) will be the Reading parishes and Caversham, together with a Combined Index to all 26 volumes. Although I spent most of my working life as a weather forecaster, I will not be tempted into forecasting when this project will be completed!

Isabel Chilton of 45 Dabinet Avenue, Hereford, HR4 9XG has a small item belonging to T.E.Nash and would like to contact someone who has information on the Royal Berkshire Regiment or access to appropriate records so that a descendant could be found who might like the item.

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.

Football and Witchcraft in North Moreton

By Barry Boulton

In 1598, in North Moreton churchyard, it appears that Richard and John Gregorie were buried - the records state that:

"These two men were killed by ould Gunter: Guntreres sonnes and the Gregories fell together by ye years at football ould Gunter drew his dagger and broke both their heads and they died booth within a fortnight after."

"Ould Gunter" was the parson of the parish and, on witnessing the game, saw his boys overthrown by their opponents and, fearing for their lives and carried away by the excitement of the game, drew his dagger to defend them. It does not appear that the parson was hanged, tried for manslaughter or even deprived of his living for his actions.

At the time Richard Fullbrook, who is a distant ancestor of mine, was about 16-17 years of age. He was baptised in North Moreton on the 17th December 1581.²⁷ As football in the sixteenth century usually involved the whole village Richard was probably playing.

About a year ago I came across the reference to the event in the *Victoria County History of Berkshire* and noted it, more for amusement than family history, but later followed up the reference in the parish records of any subsequent event, so I was surprised when, on reading an article about "*Witchcraft in the early 17th century*"²⁸ I spotted the name Gunter again.

²⁷ A descendant of Richard Fullbrook, George was the first to die in a minor engagement at Khelat-I-Ghilza that happened prior to the battle of Maiwand (1880) in which most of the Berkshire Regiment were wiped out. This is commemorated in Reading by the Maiwand Lion which stands in the Forbury Gardens. Richard is commemorated on his four-year-old sister Medora's gravestone in Shinfield parish churchyard.

²⁸ Berks, Bucks & Oxon Arch Journal

From the records of the Star Chamber²⁹, which only came to light in 1935/36, we gain the details of an interesting case.

During the summer of 1604, Brian Gunter who was described as being a 'gentleman' of North Moreton, (had he been deprived of his living after all?) lay dangerously ill at Exeter College, Oxford and during his absence from home, his daughter Anne, aged about fourteen, had fallen into strange fits. Mistress Gunter consulted a Master Cleyney of Wallingford whose diagnosis was one of "*falling sickness*" or epilepsy, by others as "*suffocation of the mother*" or hysterical, but by the "*far seeing*" as a supernatural disorder, especially when she railed against certain women by name. Such accusations were frequent in the early seventeenth century, but this case, because of the prominent and distinguished people involved, held special interest.

By the 30th October, Master Gunter had recovered sufficiently to return home and immediately set about solving the mysterious problem. The young girl appeared to suffer from swelling of the body, goggling of the eyes, lameness, foaming of the mouth, blindness, deafness, change of weight with variations in strength. She sneezed pins and more pins exuded from her body and even went without food for ten or twelve days. Regarding one of the witches she said that Agnes Pepwell's spirit was a whitish mouse with a man's face and the other

²⁹ PRO St. Ch. 8 4/10. The Star Chamber was a law court which existed in England from 1487 to 1641. It was so called because a room in the Palace of Westminster in which it first sat had stars painted on the ceiling. In the early days when English laws were being slowly formed, certain powers of judgement were exercised not only by the regular judges but by the King himself.

witch's spirit was a black rat with a swine's face and boar's tusk named *Catche* (the same name as the "*spirit*" in the famous Throckmorton case of witchcraft).

He consulted the most eminent physicians of the time as well as the lesser known quacks. On the 6th November he consulted John Wendore of Newbury, a specialist in diseases due to sorcery who from examination of the patient's water diagnosed a supernormal disorder. The same conclusion was drawn by one Blackwall who advised drawing of blood from the suspected women. In the face of these professional opinions Gunter could not be blamed for believing in witchcraft and, to prove it, suffering with pains in his shoulder, he had himself scratched by one of these women and was immediately well again; this was regarded as certain proof that the woman was a witch. This

"he did affirm to the King's most excellent Majesty, and to the Justice of the Assize on Monday 19th November 1604".

Anne's sick chamber was visited by sympathisers who brought many gifts. Amongst them was the book "*The Witches of Warboys*" a 1593 account of the epidemic in the Throckmorton family, but this seems to have been previously read by Anne and her father. Various established remedies were tried - thatch from the houses of the suspected witches was burnt in an adjoining chamber from which Anne had immediate relief, and on two occasions hair of one of the women was burnt and relief was again gained. The women were made to come to Anne's bedside and utter charms to draw out the spirits, and again Anne got relief. Various tests were applied to ascertain if the symptoms were counterfeits. Anne was passed around different learned gentlemen and one, Dr. Harding of Exeter College, noted that in her

fits, when she purported to be blind, she could write, yet when the light was extinguished she could no longer do so.

Warrants for the apprehension of the three women were issued, Mary Pepwell had already fled, but the other two were taken. John Lever, who was at the apprehension of one, was said to have suffered fits for four weeks afterwards. The women were indicted before Mr. Justice Williams at the Lent Assizes on 1st March 1605 in Abingdon. The accused were more fortunate than most women of the 17th Century that were being charged with witchcraft, having many practical sympathisers. Alexander Jermayne of Exeter College, having carried out some of the tests

"resolved to spend his 'pore endeavour' to keep the Gunters from the guilt of innocent blood".

On the day of the trial Anne Gunter was brought from her lodgings at the *King's Head* in Abingdon and exhibited "*strange fits or trances*". Mr. Gunter requested that spells should be read, but this was ruled inadmissible. The jury of quality included three members of the bench, and the case lasted until ten at night when a verdict of "*not guilty*" was returned on the three women. This verdict by no means terminated the matter as rumours of an ancient enmity between the Gunters and one of the accused witch's families, the Gregories, persisted. Elizabeth Gregory who was one of the accused, was a sister-in-law to the two Gregories that Gunter had killed in 1598, and it was suggested that Gunter had forced his daughter to counterfeit her symptoms.

In Whitsun week, after the trial, Anne entered the care of the Bishop of Salisbury, who, causing pins to be secretly marked, found that they were later vomited by Anne. On being pressed to admit her

duplicity she refused on the grounds that if she did so her father would lose all his lands.

King James took a great interest in all things pertaining to witchcraft and Brian Gunter arranged to bring Anne to see him. It is believed that the King visited her first in Oxford during August 1605, and then Anne was taken to Windsor where he saw her again. It should be noted that Elizabeth Gregory and both the Pepwells were still in custody in Windsor although six months had passed since their acquittal. A third visit to the King at Whitehall led to Anne being committed to the care of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his chaplain, Samuel Harsnett, who had previously exposed other "miracle mongers". By February 1606 she admitted that she suffered from natural distemper and that her father had persuaded her to counterfeit and to lay witchcraft charges on Elizabeth Gregory and others, making her take an oath of secrecy and when she refused he beat her and fed her drinks which "worked a great distemper and obstuperation to her senses".

She had swallowed pins to destroy herself and a maidservant had heard her say she wished to hang herself. By the end of the year the Attorney General, Sir Edward Coke, had become involved and on the 20th January 1606/7 Brian and Anne Gunter were accused of conspiracy and imprisoned at Lambeth.

These charges were vigorously defended and many friends of the Gunters who had spoken to Elizabeth Gregory and the Pepwells in Windsor and London deposed that:

"Agnes Pepwell had been a witch for fourteen years and had a spirit in it in the shape of a cat bequithed her by Goodwife Bishop deceased."

Another said that witches did at diverse times meet at "Fowler Ashes" when their spirits danced together and that Elizabeth's mother-in-law *Old Katherine Gregory* was a witch and possessed spirits. It seems that the Gunters may have got away with it again, as no decrees are known and the final judgement of the Lords is unknown.

Derek Griffis of 94 Ngaio Road, Waikanae 6454, New Zealand sent the following

"Monumental Inscriptions from Salt Lake City, Utah cemetery:

Ralph Partington born 16.3.1806 Skippool, England, died 7.3.1873 Salt Lake City, his wife Ann Taylor born 1.5.1810 Maidenhead, England, died 24.5.1860 Salt Lake City, their son James Taylor Partington born 3.5.1845 Nauvoo, Ill(inois), died 23.1.1855 Salt Lake City, other wives Ann Colton Fryer born 10.5.1810 Corby England, died 13.8.1867 Salt Lake City, and Sarah Hunter born 1803 England, died 15.9.1868

Brigham Young, the polygamous leader of the Mormons, had in all 27 wives, and by 16 of then, had 56 children. The Partington Monumental Inscription may not be of a polygamous Mormon family, but it seems likely, as at that time over 90% of the population was Mormon

From the "Nelson Evening Mail" of 7th May 1867:

Notice, Brigham Young, having just buried his 24th wife, has married his 25th. They say that he continuously oscillates between a crepe hatband, and white gloves.

From the "Nelson Colonist":

Marriage, on 16.8.1868, at Salt Lake City, America, Mr Brigham Young to Mrs J.R. Martin, Miss L.M. Pondergast, Mrs R.M. Jenkinson, Miss Emily P. Martin, and, Miss Susie P. Cleveland, all of Berkshire, England."

Programme of Entertainments, Forbury Gardens 1926

By S.J.Parsons

I discovered among the effects of a late Aunt a Programme of Entertainments arranged by Reading Corporation during the period of the royal Agricultural Show on 6th -10th July 1926 which included concerts held in the Forbury Gardens by The Band of H.M. 1st Battalion the Gloucestershire Regiment and in Christchurch Meadows by Reading Temperance Prize Band (established 1852) conductor - T.B.Wicks, the Programme including photographs of both bands. Apparently the Reading Temperance Prize Band were winners of 43 first prizes and four gold medals and winners of the Southern Counties Band Association Championship for six years in succession and Winners again in 1924 and 1925.

An Aquatic Gala was held on the Friday evening in the River Thames at Christchurch Meadows by Reading Swimming Club and Life Saving Society and the Officials for the event were shown as Referee: Mr Chas H. Davis JP, Judges: Mr E.H. Childs, Mr F.L. Ellen, Mr A.J. Maker, Mr Geo. Turner, Mr H.J. Isaacs and Mr T.R. Kent. Competitors' Stewards were Miss L.M. Smyth, Miss V.E. Hall and Miss C.E. Edwards, Mr A. Knight, Mr J.T. Mitchell, Mr S.G. Butler and Mr E.I. Chapman. The Recorder was Mr S.G. Bennett, Press Steward Mr Howard Stebbings, Assistant Hon Secretaries Mrs E. Morris and Mr S.A. Cooper and the Hon Secretary was Mr W.S. Thomson of 23 Swainstone Road, Reading. The evening's programme consisted of such delights as Tug-of War in Punts for both ladies and gents, Water Polo Match and Ladies' and Gents' Mop-Fighting Contests.

I have arranged for this Programme to be deposited with the Society.

Jo Cantello, a researcher with 'wall to wall television ltd' is looking for help with a possible future documentary project as follows:

"I am looking for people who have discovered some interesting aspects about their ancestors, particularly for the period between 1880 and 1945 and for the insight that can provide into the wider social history of Britain. The living party's relationship to an "intriguing" ancestor might have been established through genealogical research or perhaps they have always known about their relative's past. It could also be the case that they're not absolutely sure of the relationship, but they've heard a strong rumour within the family and they want to find out if it's true. What's important is that they're keen to research their family history further and that we can reveal something new about our collective past. For example a relative might have been involved in the 1926 General Strike or the Spanish Civil War. I can be contacted on 0171-485-7424 ext. 252 or by e-mail: jo.cantell@walltowall.co.uk

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Library News

By Chad Hanna

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll read about the Research Centre move and this will be much on our minds over the next few months.

Recent Additions

As before we can't list new accessions individually, but just hit the highlights.

1851 Census

Gloucestershire FHS and Buckinghamshire FHS have both been keeping us up to date with their Census fiche, while we now have the complete 1851 census for Huntingdonshire and the, now historical, county of Avon. We are now also up to date on the Cornwall 1851 census index booklets produced by the New Zealand group of the Cornwall FHS, not forgetting the latest volumes from Suffolk FHS for the Wangford District. We also have a large number of West Sussex Parish Census indexes for 1841-1891 from the Sussex FHG. We're grateful to Tom Johnson for the donation of the Census index fiche for the Glendale district of Northumberland.

1881 Census

The complete set of CD-ROMs for the country are on order, and this does include Scotland and a full country-wide index.

1891 Census

We now have census indexes for parts of the Isle of Wight and Somerset.

Parish Registers

We are grateful to Brian V. Greenham for a large donation, including North Berkshire and Oxfordshire Parish Registers. The inevitable duplicates, most of N.Berks, are being transferred to the Vale Branch library.

Armigerous Ancestors

This index to the Heraldic Visitations has been produced by the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies and complements the acquisition of records of the visitations for Berkshire (purchased with a donation from the Caversham Forum Group), Hampshire and Nottinghamshire.

Wills and Probate

We now have several British Record Society volumes which index the probate records for several Diocesan and Archdiaconal courts. We already have indexes to the Berkshire Wills and many of those proved at Salisbury (Sarum).

Family Histories

These include The NEWS of Berkshire and The BAILY Family of Thatcham, Speen and Newbury.

Criminal Registers

We now have the complete set of Public Record Office criminal registers produced by Stuart Tamblin and the Friends of the Public Record Office.

Poor Law Records

Newbury Union is the latest addition to the set of volumes produced by Brian Hunt with help from the Berkshire Record Office and Berks FHS members.

Commercial Directories

We now have several Hampshire commercial directories on fiche, and have purchased the Pigots Directory for Berks, Bucks and Oxon. on CD-ROM.

Donations and Purchases

While the Society has a reasonable budget for the Library we can't buy all the books and publications that might be of interest to library visitors. Similarly, there will never be space in the Research Centre Library for

all the books and publications we'd like to have. So there has to be a policy for what we will buy, what we will accept as donations, and items which we prefer to pass on to other members (to help Society funds, of course). Our policy is very flexible and we're always on the look out for unusual items so we'd like to be contacted if you're at all unsure. Branch library policy is often limited by what the branch librarians can carry! We do want any census indexes published for the UK, but will try and buy any 1851 census indexes for England and parts of Wales. We do want parish register transcripts and indexes, not forgetting Monumental Inscriptions, but will try and acquire any parish registers for Berkshire, and bordering parishes. Where copyright allows we're also willing to photocopy transcripts and other records. We do want old

Ordnance Survey and similar scale maps for the whole country, but there is a limit to the number of National Road Atlases that we can use! We do want church guides and local histories, particularly for Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, but we must pass tourist guides of Edinburgh and elsewhere onto other members.

Library Computer

The Library has been given a 486 computer which we've upgraded with a CD-ROM drive to allow access to the growing number of CD's and computer records held in the Research Centre. These will include the 1881 census, the 1851 census for Devon, Norfolk and Warwickshire, Pigots Directory for Berks, Bucks and Oxon, Peerage, Open University CDs, and Vital Records.

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

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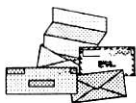
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Dear Editor,

Philip Davies (496) of Green Isha Farm, Wick, Nr. Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7QD wrote to me following the article in the December Berkshire Family Historian entitled "Four Manly Boys":

"I read with interest the article written by George Sawtell and submitted by John Fowle. It has given me some very useful clues in solving one problem in my family research, namely why my 5xgreat-grandfather William Pontin moved with his family from Chilton Foliat to Kintbury in about 1823. Until reading the article, I was unaware of the link between the Rev. F.C. Fowle and Fulwar Craven Esq., and hence a linkage between the two parishes. I assumed that the move was related to the decline in agriculture following the ending of the Napoleonic Wars and the effects of the Enclosure Movement on yeoman farmers. However that did not explain the move to Kintbury, he might have moved to any Parish.

William Pontin (born 1775) was a substantial yeoman farmer at Chilton Foliat as had been his father William (born 1749). He paid considerable Poor Rates in proportion to the other villagers, and served as Churchwarden and Overseer of the Poor on several occasions. I have a copy of the Enclosure Map from the parish that shows the land that he farmed and the amounts of poor rate he paid. At the same time Fulwar Craven was one of the leading landowners in Chilton Foliat along with Edward Leyborne Popham. I presume that Edward Leyborne Popham lived at Littlecote House whilst Fulwar Craven lived at Chilton House.

William Pontin's name appears on the same documents as those of Fulwar Craven and Fulwar Craven Fowle. For example in the Poor Rate Book entry for August 1812, William Pontin is entered as a farmer paying poor rates and also as a churchwarden for Chilton Parish. Fulwar Craven appears as Overseer of the Poor and Fulwar Craven Fowle as a Justice of the Peace. They clearly knew each other though obviously not on a social level and worked together. In March 1816 Fulwar Craven Esq. appears as responsible for the poor rate payable on land previously worked by William Pontin senior. The last entry for William Pontin junior is in September 1823 when the land he farmed is shown against the name of Edward Popham Esq. I suspect that this co-incides with the date of his move to Kintbury.

William Pontin, junior, settled in Kintbury with his family and was buried there in 1854, aged 80. His son, also William Pontin (b.1803), married Eliza Casbourn of Kintbury, daughter of Jacob Casbourn, in November 1831. Fulwar Craven Fowle officiated. Jacob Casbourn is sometimes described as a miller (perhaps of the watermill at Kintbury) in various returns. Ambrose William Pontin (b.1830, Kintbury), the son of William and Eliza left Kintbury in about 1850 and moved to the industrial area of South Wales in search of work. He settled at Aberdare, where he became a railway Policeman (signalman) and married Mary Ann Watts (b.1834, Kintbury). His father William Pontin moved to Aberdare in South Wales, after the death of his wife Eliza, to live with his son and was buried there in 1883.

I was also interested to hear of Fulwar Craven Fowle's involvement with the Volunteer forces in Kintbury and Hungerford and wonder if any rolls of these forces exist. Perhaps I might find an ancestor here. I have also read about the Agrarian Riots of 1830 in the Kintbury area and in Hungerford, and was interested to read of Fulwar Craven Fowle's part in dealing with them. Again it is interesting to speculate on what my Kintbury ancestors were doing at this time."

Alan Savin (3513) of 9 Bannard Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4NG has been in touch with Hayley Smith of Meridian Broadcasting further to her appear in the December 1997 Berkshire Family Historian in respect of a family history programme proposal. Hayley wrote in November 1998:

"The proposal was well received here but has not as yet been commissioned for broadcast. As you may be aware, ITV is currently awaiting a decision regarding the change in time of News at Ten, and so scheduling decisions are on hold. I do not know whether the programme will now be commissioned, as change is very much afoot. However I will let you know if the proposal does in fact make it into production.

I'm sorry not to be able to offer any further news but please do thank all of your members who contacted me regarding the proposal for their time and effort."

D.W.Painter (3499) of 13 Alma Road, Romsey, Hampshire, SO51 8EB wrote as follows:

"During the course of seeking information about my grandfather, John William Painter, born 1879 and resident at Baulking, Berks, I obtained through the inter-library loan service a most useful book on the Berkshire Militia

Entitled "*History of the Royal Berkshire Militia (now 3rd Battalion Royal Berks Regiment)*" and written by Emma Elizabeth Thoys of Sulhampstead Park, published 1897, it encompasses the history of the militia from c.1600 to 1897. Whilst listing Officers and places where the militia served and were in training, there is also a brief biography of the Officers. The Other Ranks are but sparsely mentioned, but the coverage of places will be most useful in understanding how some forebears became "strays" or married from some not very clearly related places. Other useful things are mentioned, for example, in 1884, due to there being a good deal of smallpox about Reading, the Battalion would not be called in for training that year. There are eight pages in double column, A5 size, of names; some 430 potted biographies of the Officers, which may serve to encourage the researcher.

Unfortunately my problem remains unsolved and I would like to know what the arrangements during the Edwardian period were for the attestation and training of this militia unit. The answer will probably lead to me filling a gap in my study of my grandfather's younger life."

Mrs Pearson of Green-Vale, Pencador, Carmenthenshire, SA39 9BS is looking for the following:

"Many years ago my husband had a children's book called the "*Dogs of Moor Green*", which unfortunately he has lost, he would desperately like some information about this book in order to try and obtain another copy.

He has enquired of various bookfinders, but because he can't remember the author's name has never been successful.

As the book was written in and about Berkshire (in particular Crowthorne and Finchampstead), I wonder if a member of your society would help?

‘Dingle-Minded’

By Simon Harrington

In family history we usually start with a puzzle and we try to solve it using a combination of logic and luck. This example shows how you can use a mixture of logical elimination and educated guesswork to identify someone in the past.

Jabez Tepper (1815-1871) was a London solicitor described by his contemporaries as a “very eccentric man” who had some shady financial dealings, at least one mistress everyone thought was his wife, and two illegitimate daughters (not by the woman he lived with), one of whom was my great-great-grandmother, Victoria Helen Boyer, née Tepper.

I was determined to find out who Victoria’s mother was - but how? From census entries, it appeared that Victoria must have been born late in 1840, although I have never found her birth entry in the civil registers. Perhaps she was never registered (not uncommon at this early stage of civil registration) or maybe she was registered under her mother’s surname, whatever that was.

Jabez’s brother Samuel, who emigrated to America in his youth, returned 40 years later to settle his late brother’s estate. I now have a transcript of Samuel’s diary of 1872-3, which is still in the hands of Samuel’s descendant in the USA, and mentions Victoria, and more interestingly a sister called “Mrs Dringle”, about whom I knew nothing.

So who was “Mrs Dringle”? If I found her birth, it might lead me to the sisters’ mother. However, the only fact I had to go on was that she was younger than Victoria. The name “Dringle” was virtually non-existent so I was probably looking for a different (similar-sounding) surname. Perhaps it might have been Drinkell or possibly Pringle (if the transcriber misread it). In other words, I was looking for a woman whose married name I did not know! Not a very promising start to a search.

To make the search feasible, I needed a plan of action, based on what I knew with some deduction and guesswork. Here’s where the mathematics starts - Victoria was born probably late in 1840, so a second child could not have been born until late 1841 at the earliest, assuming they had the same mother. The earliest she could marry a Mr “Dringle” would be aged 12 or more until 1929 when the law changed the legal marriage age for women to 16 i.e. she must have been married after 1853 (1841 + 12). Marriage at such a young age would have been, I assumed, unusual, and I expected to find the marriage much later. Samuel Tepper’s diary was written in 1872-3, so that gives the date by which her marriage must have taken place. So we have nearly 20 years of registers to search through for a “Dringle”/Tepper marriage (20 x 4 = 80 heavy volumes!). I made two assumptions to narrow down the field of research.

As the “Dringle” name did not seem likely, and I knew that Victoria had used her father’s Tepper surname at marriage, I assumed that her sister would do the same. I went through the marriage registers from 1857 up until 1873 looking for female Teppers. Here I was lucky that the name is fairly uncommon (only eight appeared).

My second educated guess - that Mr “Dringle” and Miss Tepper married in London. I knew that both sisters had lived in London with their father, and that Samuel Tepper had met her in London. If I was wrong, I would have to go through the rest of the female Tepper marriages outside the capital.

Here are the results of the search:

Dec 1857	Rose TEPPER	Stepney
Mar 1859	Sarah TEPPER	Derby
Jun 1859	Annie TEPPER	Derby
Dec 1860	Mary Ann TEPPER	Kensington
Mar 1863	Elizabeth TEPPER	St Olave
Sep 1863	Victoria Helen TEPPER	St Pancras
Sep 1866	Annie TEPPER	South Molton
Dec 1870	Catherina Mary J TEPPER	Marylebone

Five female Teppers married in the London area; Stepney, Kensington, St Olave, St Pancras and Marylebone, I knew one of them already, my great-great grandmother Victoria Helen Tepper who married David Boyer at St Pancras Parish Church. At a cost of £6.50 for a full marriage certificate, I decided to narrow it down to one and order a copy. West London seemed likely as it was where Jabez lived with his family, so I decided upon Mary Ann Tepper in Kensington. However, it was a disappointment as Mary Ann Tepper's father was not Jabez so I went back to my list and tried again.

The next one I ordered was another in West London, a Catherina Mary J in Marylebone in 1870, and this time I was delighted to see that her father was listed as Jabez Tepper, solicitor. I had found "*Mrs Dringle*"! Her husband was a Moses Dingle (not "*Dringle*"), a carpenter. The couple appear on the 1881 census in Walthamstow with a son William, and Catherine (as she is called in the census) is aged 39, indicating that she was born in either 1841 or 1842.

I have still not found Mrs Dingle's birth, which is as elusive as her sister's, but I was pleased with the discovery that I made. With a little forward-thinking, logic and some educated guesswork, it is surprising what you can uncover.

The picture below was recently found by my cousin and may be of Victoria Helen Tepper. Although this copy is taken from a photograph, the original was obviously a painting.



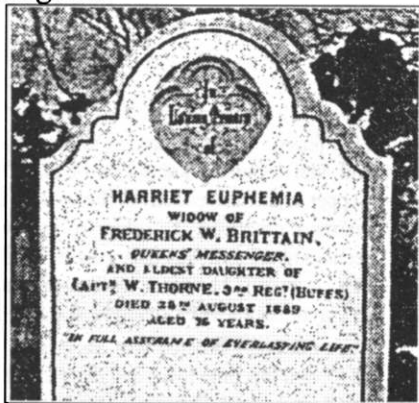
A Grave Mistake - A Cautionary Tale

By Keith Buckingham

This is a tale about a headstone. We have all, on occasions, searched for these in the hope of finding missing family information, and bearing in mind their expense, one might have expected them to be a model of propriety. However beware!

My mother's father was called Frederick William Brittain and so was her grandfather and great-grandfather. This part of her family tree was known to me, together with some family lore that said that one of them (my mother was a bit vague about which one) had been a Queen's Messenger. So it was no surprise when one of my very many Brittain cousins sent me the photo of a headstone that you see here. The stone is in a cemetery in South-East London and the inscription being a mine of information, a genealogist's dream, I set about following it up.

I decided to start with Frederick the Queen's Messenger. This job is an important one carrying dispatches between Whitehall and the important embassies in Europe, and undoubtedly would be well documented. Research started at the PRO with the Foreign Office classes, and I soon found the relevant files for the period. It turned out that there were only two Messengers at that time and both of them seemed to have been of Italian extraction. Obviously a good knowledge of European languages was necessary. Very few native Britons would speak French or Italian with any facility (of the class of person who would seek such a position). The files were fascinating and it seems that little has changed over the years, the letters being an endless bickering over payments for travel expenses. For example:



'You did not need to take the Post chase, and I shall only reimburse the cost of a stagecoach.'

'Hiring a special boat to France was wholly unnecessary, the regular Packet would have sufficed.'

The day passed quickly for me, but there was no sign of Frederick William, and it was obvious that whatever he was, it was not a Queen's Messenger.

During another visit to the PRO I discovered that the regular messengers that carried letters around Whitehall were also sometimes referred to as Queen's Messengers, and this set me off on another trail; this time to the Home Office files. These files too kept me entranced. The bulk of the correspondence was application for posts, letters excusing absences due to illness, and appeals for pensions from those with persistent illnesses or from widows of former employees. The gem of the collection was a personal letter from the Prime Minister to the Home Secretary acidly enquiring as to why the letters placed on the table at 10 Downing Street were still there the next day. The reply, again personally written, complains that the

service was seriously below strength due to sickness, and reminded the PM that funds to increase numbers had been refused.

All this was most interesting, but again there was no sign of Frederick William. However I now did what I should perhaps have done at first; apply for the birth certificates of all his children. What did one of them say? Occupation of father - "*In the General Post Office*". Not an important functionary of the state, he was a "*postie*"!

The next move was to visit the Archives of the Post Office at Mount Pleasant, where I found in the first volume of the Appointment registers, that F.W.Brittain had been appointed a Marine Mail Guard *vice* his brother who had been promoted (to what? - it doesn't say). The sad end to the tale was Fred's death certificate which shows that he died "*at sea suddenly after an attack of Rheumatic Fever*" in 1848, and first brought to land at St Johns, Horseley Down. He died aged 35 leaving a widow and eight children.

After having sorted out Frederick William's true vocation, I turned my attention to Harriet's father, the Captain W. Thorne of the 3rd Regiment "*The Buffs*". This surely should be straightforward? I started at the PRO with the Army lists, which are on open shelving. The first blow was that there were no Thornes of officer rank in the 3rd Foot at any time. Spreading my net more widely, I found a Captain that fitted the bill enrolled in the Minorca Regiment. After the disappointment of the "*Queen's Messenger*" I should have been warned that since Fred and Harriet's children had upgraded their father for posterity, they might well have done the same for their Grandfather. Searching the pay registers, it was clear that I had the right man for he had the right children (including the Harriet Euphemia of the headstone), although his

wife was not named. This Regiment, too junior to even have a number, was hastily cobbled together to protect the Island from Napoleon. The lists showed that William enrolled as an Ensign in 1800, gained a temporary Lieutenancy and was promptly dropped back to Ensign on half pay when the regiment was reduced (panic over). However things hotted up again and he was quickly reinstated and gained a substantive Lieutenancy.

He stayed with the regiment which gained recognition as the Queen's German Regiment (most of its officers were foreign) and it eventually became the 97th Foot. Then the rot set in for him, and although the Army Lists show him next as a Captain, he is serving in a various garrison battalions in Britain until he descends to half-pay in 1816 for the rest of his career.

Unfortunately, the pay records show that he was married in County Cork, and when on half-pay his money was sent to Coachford in that same Irish county. Having been warned about the difficulty of Irish research, I almost gave up at this point, but I do like looking around archives, and this seemed an ideal opportunity to spend a day at the British Library Newspaper Archive at Colindale. I expected nothing, but despite all odds I got lucky and found the following in the Cork Advertiser:

'On the 27th ultimo, at Carhue, county of Cork, Captain Wm. Thorne, of the 1st Garrison Battalion, and eldest son of the late Captain William Thorne, Barrack-master at Manchester. Aged 59 years'.

Where to go from here? Well, Capt. Thorne's pay records, after the comment about sending his pay to Ireland, conclude

'Mrs Mary THORNE may receive PW 28 May 44 W19'

So I deduced that Capt. Thorne's wife survived him, and so it might be worth

trying the pension records. This was a happy thought, for I found on microfilm in the PRO Mrs Thorne's application for a pension, giving her maiden name of Coppinger, certificates of his children's birth, a certificate of his death, and a certificate of their marriage. This last is a scrap of paper about 4" square bearing in spidery writing the following:

'I hereby certify that on the 16th day of July 1808 I married by licence at Moviddy Church between the hours of eight & twelve according to the Canons of this Kingdom & according to the Book of Common Prayer William THORNE Esq Capt^l in his Majesty's eighth Garrison Battalion to Mary COPPINGER of Forest in the Parish of Canavey & County of Cork spinster.'

I did try writing to the Heritage Centre nearest to Cork, but they seemed to have no records of Capt. Thorne and his wife. So my remaining problem was that on the marriage certificate of one of his children, he describes himself as being in the 56th Foot. This would be a strange slip of the pen for a soldier, and I eventually sorted out the matter when researching his father. I found an original letter from Lieut. Thorne of the 97th Foot in the PRO appealing to the Duke of York for promotion (he had no money to buy one), which says, inter alia:

"Your memorialist, having suffered materially in his health from a Fever caught during the Campaign in Egypt the effect of which, he still labours under".

The Duke's records show that he was awarded a Captaincy in the 56th Foot (without payment), and the reason why this does not appear in the Army Lists, is given by another letter in the PRO. It seems that William was staying with his father whilst officially on recruitment duties, and his father had intercepted a letter to him from

his new Colonel. This caused his father to write to the Adjutant General (an old friend?); and this letter is worth quoting in full (as far as I can interpret it):

Manchester Barracks Sept 1807

I Have this day received from Coll Macleod 56th Reg a very very disagreeable letter enclosed from Coll Gordon by Command of His Royal Highness saying that if my son does not join the Regt at Farnham his Promotion must necessarily be cancelled and an efficient Officer appointed, Poor fellow he is now at the Baths Buxton scarcely able to speak or walk what use can he be at Farnham. I know his spirit will make him undertake the journey at the risk of his life which seems daily on the decline sooner than his commission should be cancelled, another misfortune is, his not having received any pay since his promotion, which will prevent his going by easy stages in a Chaise as the common conveyance would be too rough, his disorder being in the head, could he but get two months longue leave, the bathing after this in the sea, must make a change one way or other, but much afraid nothing will do. I trust and know you will do what you can for us, and if sucessfull it may be the means of saving his life.

*I have the honour to be my good sir
with many many thanks for all the
favours shown us,
you obliged xxx
Wm Thorne B.M.*

p.s. I need not say how anxious I shall be for your answer, the feelings of a father for a good son is more strong than I can describe, theres not a day but he has fits from extream [???] my distress of mind hope will plead an excuse for all errors.

The “disagreeable letter” has disappeared, but the letter above has attached to it a very brief memo from the Adjutant General advising the Commander-in-Chief to transfer Thorne to a Garrison Battalion, to which the Duke consented.

So it would seem that although William was appointed, he never actually served as a Captain in a Regiment of the Line, and settled down to leisurely soldiering in England until put on the half pay list, when he moved from Portsmouth to Coachford in

County Cork for good. Unfortunately he did this in 1840, just before the first useful Census which would have given me some help towards his birthplace.

Going back to the headstone that prompted this article, it is obvious that MIs are often written by the children of the deceased, and they only know what they can remember what their parents told them about themselves, and that may well be either a fabrication or at least an embellishment of the truth. Use with care!

Q & A with Jean

Jocie McBride (3201) of Henley asked as follows: My ancestor died in Hove, Sussex in 1882 and was buried in a mausoleum in Kensal Green, Kensington, London. Would his death be registered in Hove or Kensington?

In England and Wales, a death is always registered in the Registration District where it occurred, however far from home that might be. Furthermore the burial will be recorded in the registers of the relevant cemetery or burial ground. In the UK records there is no cross-reference between these two sources of information.

However, Australian death certificates do record these details, although I do not know if there is any date limitation for the period when this was included.

It is also worth mentioning that probate of a will or a grant of letters of administration for the deceased's estate can be obtained at the District Registry local to and convenient for the executor/s or at the Principal Probate Registry in London. Although in practice this is usually in the same area as the death took place, it can also occur at the opposite end of the country.

John Talbot (977) of 21 Cranborne Waye, Hayes, Middlesex, UB4 0HW has noticed a Berkshire interest whilst reading “The Diary of a Village Shopkeeper, 1754-1765, Thomas Turner” edited by David Vaisey.³¹ Turner in his role as Overseer, and later Churchwarden, spent a great deal of his time on parish business in the village of East Hoathly, Sussex.

Tuesday 29th March 1757

It is learned that William Tull, who supposedly fathered an illegitimate child of Sarah Vinall is in the locality, so he is sought out and taken into custody by the Overseer.

Wednesday 30th March

At 2.00 am Tull made an unsuccessful attempt to abscond. After breakfast, Tull agreed to marry Sarah, and at that time said his parish was Newport on the Isle of Wight.

Thursday 31st March 1757

William Tull and Sarah Vinall married. Bride ‘given away’ by Thomas Turner. After dinner, Tull taken to Lewes so that he could swear his parish. He swore it as Thatcham in the county of Berkshire.

³¹ Published by Folio Society, London 1998. Note that the Oxford Paperbacks edition of 1979 is an abridged edition and does not include the reference to Tull.

The Wardrobe - The Salisbury Museum of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment

By Jean Cole

At the beginning of April, Wiltshire FHS members, Beryl and John Hurley, Marjorie and Richard Moore, Barbara Fuller, Cy. Cutler and Jean and Reg. Cole set off on a visit to The Wardrobe at Salisbury. This turned out to be a more than interesting event. David Chilton, the curator, was extremely helpful and informative and gave us an extensive tour of the museum, library and archives. As usual, with such a visit, there was simply not enough time to see all we wanted to see or explore the whole of the museum's treasures in depth.

Looking at it from my perspective, I never did get to look around the museum itself. David showed us some of the medal collections which had been acquired and which had been meticulously assembled for them to be viewed at their best advantage and with a need to reflect on how the medals were won. The library was fascinating with its marvellous collection and, as for the archives, I would have been happy to stay there for hours looking at them. Barbara Fuller who has a great interest in old photographs was to be found browsing amongst the Museum's photographic collection. It was not long before we were all engrossed in the library collection and runs of regimental magazines such as "*The Nines*". Marjorie Moore discovered some discharge certificates whilst Richard explored some of the Royal Berkshire Regiment's collection.

The building itself, situated in the Cathedral Close, dates from 1254 and was one of the original houses there. It was first used by the Bishop of Sarum as a store and this is how it arrived at its name - The Wardrobe. We were shown through some of its maze

of rooms and passages, and behind the scenes collections, complete with the magnificent view of the Cathedral from the front rooms. Although the name includes Gloucestershire, in the main, the museum actually houses the Royal Berkshire and Wiltshire collections of the Regiment telling the story of their courageous exploits all over the world for well over two and half centuries.

David Chilton, a Wiltshire FHS member for over ten years, is the new curator and manager and is on the lookout for experienced transcribers who are willing to transcribe various of the library records and archives, to his instructions, so that they may be put on to databases. As can be imagined he also has many requests for research to be carried out and this can be done for a certain fee. We all know that sometimes a minimal find can take many hours of research and this has to be funded. Postal enquiries are the norm by necessity. The museum is not set up to handle casual visits by researchers.

As for me, the library and archives soon had me hooked and I could have literally spent hours there. Furthermore, If you believe in serendipity, when I looked in a box of archive material, picked out at random by my husband, which referred to the Field Returns of the Wiltshire Militia for the period just after the Seven Years War (1757-1763), I noticed familiar names well known to me through my transcriptions of the "*Wiltshire Militia Orders*" and the "*Wiltshire Militia Courts Martial*" for around the same period published by Wiltshire FHS a few years ago. These returns supply another aspect as to what happened to many Wiltshire

Militiamen, just a few years after the war had ended. For example, the Field Return of 14th May 1767 showed that John Mason and Edwd. Newman of Colonel Bruce's Company were "supposed to be gone abroad". Jonas Pick of Major Sir James Long's Company "gone off for theft". And of Captain Duke's Company Danl. Watts "supposed to be in ye Marines," Jas. Wheeler "inlisted in General Accounts", John Bailey "in ye West Indias a board a Merchant ship." Captain Eyre's Company showed John Joiner was in the County Hospital and John Sheppard was in the Devizes Bridewell. Captain Stonehouse's Company - Robt Lawrence - "in ye coldstream" Edwd Mills - "supposed to be in ye 1st Batt of ye R.Scotch." Will Stevens "a vagabond" I could go on, but I hope from just these few excerpts alone, that it will be seen there is a need for experienced researchers to transcribe and catalogue such archives and library material so that the results may be put on to database, with, eventually, the catalogue to be put on to the Internet for information about the Museum and its holdings to be known world-wide.

To those contemplating a visit to look around the museum's public areas, The Wardrobe is easily accessible from the City Centre and car parks and for those visiting in the warmer months of the year there is the peaceful riverside garden complete with views of the water meadows. There is a modest entrance fee and, in addition, home-cooked food can be obtained from the tea-room which is served on the patio in the summer months. I have to say, and I am sure I speak for those of us who visited, that half a day was simply not long enough to explore this wonderful museum with its magnificent heritage. Long may it continue.

For information on units of the British Army, i.e. Infantry of the Line before being

amalgamated into various regiments, see "The Family Historian's Enquire Within" by Pauline Saul³²

Our thanks to David Chilton for giving up his valuable time to show us around the Museum and for telling us about his hopes and plans for the future.

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.

In the September issue, I should like to feature schools in one way or another, so if your ancestor was involved in schooling in some way - either through attending a Berkshire school or through teaching at one, then drop me a line or preferably an article.

Also if you know something about a particular Berkshire school, then also write and tell me.

The next three deadlines are 27th July for September 1999, 30th October for December 1999 and 30th January 2000 for March 2000. 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 editor@berksfhs.org.uk

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!

³² 5th ed. 1995 FFHS

Huguenots in Spitalfields

By Ralph Bradbury

For people researching their Huguenot ancestry the recently-published book *“Life and Death in Spitalfields 1700-1850”* by Margaret Cox could make very rewarding reading. It would also provide a great deal of background material for researchers whose forebears came from that area. There is one proviso; however, a strong stomach is necessary.

The book is about the excavation of the crypt of Christchurch, Spitalfields, London. This took place in the years 1984 to 1986 when the crypt of the church was cleared after being used for interment during the years 1729 to 1850.

The bodies, it appears, were in various states of decomposition, and to give an idea of the tasks facing the archaeologists, I give a few sample quotes:

“Two health hazards were not fully appreciated at the start of the project. The first was lead, and the second concerned the psychological effects of dealing with human remains in various states of decomposition... Added to this was the effect of working in dusty, cramped, ill lit and poorly ventilated conditions ... an understandable amount of time was lost in sick leave ... with the present knowledge of post traumatic stress disorder such a project might be handled differently today.”

The book is well illustrated to help your queasy stomach.

Almost a thousand skeletons were exhumed and extensively researched during the course of the project. The background knowledge that this provides is the really interesting part of this book. There are also a couple of family trees which show how many of those investigated were related. A sample of the type of information provided is given on the following lists:

MESMAN GENEALOGY

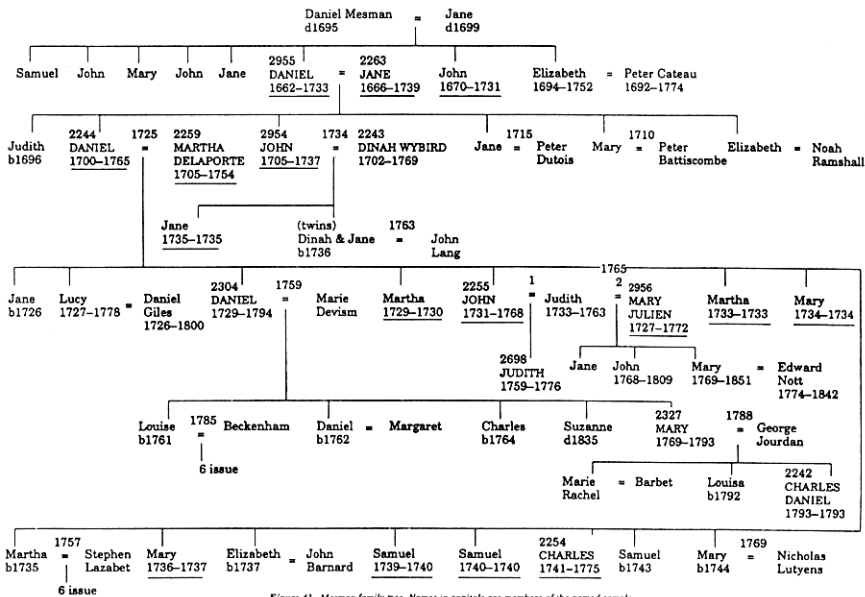


Figure 43 Mesman family tree. Names in capitals are members of the named family.

An alphabetical list of the named sample

Name	Age at Death	Year of Death	Name	Age at Death	Year of Death
A					
<i>Allen</i> Judith	46	1767	<i>Bowden</i> William	39	1831
B					
<i>Backer</i> Matilda	5 months	1824	<i>Boyd</i> Mary Ann	65	1832
<i>Backer</i> Richard Charles	1 year 5 months	1824	<i>Bracknell</i> Hannah	80	1791
<i>Baines</i> John Edward	02	1826	<i>Bredell</i> Richard	6 weeks 3 days	1777
<i>Balguerie</i> Jane	66	1747	<i>Bridcutt</i> Elizabeth	49	1810
<i>Balguerie</i> John	79	1753	<i>Brookman</i> Sarah	57	1833
<i>Ball</i> Martha	70	1821	<i>Brooks</i> William	02	1785
<i>Ball</i> Mary Ann	47	1819	<i>Brown</i> Hannah	73	1843
<i>Bardolph</i> Elizabeth	47	1806	<i>Brown</i> Henry	83	1825
<i>Baudouin</i> Frances	78	1765	<i>Brown</i> John	38	1749
<i>Baudouin</i> Margaret	70	1770	<i>Brown</i> Richard	71	1777
<i>Bawdwen</i> Thomas	74	1783	<i>Bryant</i> George	69	1768
<i>Beck</i> Charles	51	1789	<i>Burdett</i> Thomas	67	1765
<i>Beck</i> Mary	13	1786	<i>Busher</i> Charles	32	1822
<i>Beck</i> Mary	79	1832	C		
<i>Belgerie</i> John	52	1769	<i>Cadman</i> Mary	65	1824
<i>Bennett</i> Emily	8 months 18 days	1821	<i>Campbell</i> Sarah	73	1814
<i>Bennett</i> Frances Emily	8 months	1820	<i>Chabot</i> Mary	49	1808
<i>Beverly</i> Ann	64	1832	<i>Chauvet</i>	Stillborn	1754
<i>Beverly</i> William	69	1823	<i>Chevalier</i> John	67	1751
<i>Blachford</i> Robert John	05	1796	<i>Chevalier</i> Magdelene	62	1752
<i>Bosquain</i> Jacob	66	1743	<i>Clare</i> Thomas	67	1818
<i>Bourdillon</i> Jane	82	1791	<i>Clark</i> Maria	29	1827
<i>Bowden</i> Ann	29	1827	<i>Collins</i> Lewis	27	1780
<i>Bowden</i> George	40	1808	<i>Collins</i> Sarah	17	1806
<i>Bowden</i> Rachel	28	1830	<i>Conner</i> John	32	1822
<i>Bowden</i> William	39		<i>Cooke</i> John Howarth	49	1794
			<i>Cope</i> Elizabeth	41	1804

Bookstall News

By Sally Pellow

You will see following the Book Reviews an announcement of the Sale: I need to reduce stock levels to an amount I can carry across to the new premises! So enjoy the genuine bargains, and take advantage of the sale.

I list below the new publications and the new editions that have come in. All prices are quoted exclusive of postage and packing as these charges are shown at the end of the magazine.

New publications by BFHS

We now have the latest in the range of Monumental Inscriptions.

St Luke's Church, Maidenhead, 1866-1964, has now been transcribed and is available on microfiche for £1.00, (plus postage and packing). This is the sixth in our series: the other Monumental Inscription microfiches are, of course, Beech Hill Baptist Chapel, Berkshire 1843 - 1994 (£1.00), Dunsden All Saints, Oxfordshire, 1842 - 1994 (£1.00), Mays Lane Burial Ground, Earley 1936 - 1993 (£2.00), Reading Cemetery, Berkshire 1843 - 1995 (£4.00) and Wokingham Free Church Burial Ground, Berkshire 1921 - 1993 (£1.00).

New publications by other publishers

The Genealogical Services Directory 1999 *Compiled by Robert Blatchford and Geoffrey Heslop, £4.95 (plus P&P)*

Apart from thirty-four articles on a wide variety of research subjects close to the hearts of family historians by such well-known authors as Colin Chapman, Cecil Humphrey-Smith, John Titford, etc. there are hundreds of pages containing the names and addresses of those willing to undertake research by county or in specialist areas, family history societies in the British Isles, Australia, New Zealand, North America, South Africa and Holland, history societies in the British Isles, the Registrars of births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales, museums and libraries with relevant material and facilities, the Mormon Family

History Centres and - last but not least - Genealogists' Events Diary. Can you afford to be without a copy? [JD]

British Genealogical Microfiche, £8.50 and British Genealogical Books in Print, £8.95, both by Stuart A Raymond

Stuart Raymond has added two new titles to his range of British Genealogical Library Guides. These books list the publications of commercial and private publishers, and publications by societies, libraries and record offices. He ends both books with a comprehensive index, indexing by author, placename, surname and subject. The books are as accurate and full as he has been able to achieve; though there are some omissions. They are very useful for finding out what has been published by other societies and independent publishers, though you might, like me, discover that a very useful microfiche or printed record exists, then find that the cost is enough to make your eyes water! Definitely a reference work for the serious genealogist, especially if you are working on a number of different lines and in various parts of the country, but unless you have a major database, a sideline in research for others and a bookshelf already groaning, it probably would be a rather expensive purchase for most individuals. Don't forget that Stuart Raymond also publishes a range of genealogical bibliographies for individual counties - check the booklist or the Centre stock to see if he has covered your county.

My Ancestor was a Freemason by *Pat Lewis*, £2.95

Another new title in this excellent SOG series. It covers freemasonry in England and Wales only, and discusses the structure of the Masons, with mention of the connected charities and some details of the symbolism and regalia. Over the last few years we have heard a lot from the media about the secrecy of the masons, and it was a surprise to me to read about just how much information is publicly available on the membership rolls of the various lodges. There is a very useful page which directs your research depending on what you know about your ancestor; even if you only have a name, there is an alphabetical list of members for all those up to 1814, though after that the information has to be sought out with a little more effort.

My Ancestors were Freemen of the City of London by *Vivienne E Aldous*, £4.95

"To put it very simply," Vivienne Aldous says at the beginning of this absorbing book, *"if your ancestor worked or lived within the 'square mile' of the City of London, or had links with it, especially before the 1850s, there is a strong probability that he (or less frequently she) might have been a freeman of the City of London."* She goes on to explain the relationship between the City Livery Companies and the governance of the City itself; the importance of being a freeman or a liveryman, and the rights which freedom conferred on the individual. She follows up with a list of sources of research, and a series of very full appendices. Not to be missed if you have any thought at all that your ancestor might have wished to trade in the City or carry on any other business there.

Basic Approach to...Making Contact with Relatives by *Peter C Amsden*, £1.50

This is a new title in the Federation's series of Basic titles. It's a slim book, only 16 pages long, but packed with information for your starting point. From time to time I hear radio broadcasts looking for old friends and colleagues, and teletext pages, and columns in magazines and newspapers - this book would help all those seeking others. Would you know how to find out someone's address? Or telephone number? Who needs a private detective - Peter Amsden offers some very good hints for beginners and directs you to more detailed research elsewhere.

Birth and Death Certificates: England and Wales 1837 to 1969 by *Barbara Dixon*, £4.00

Jeremy Gibson set a standard for his *'Gibson Guides'* which few other authors have achieved - until now. Barbara Dixon's guide to certificates issued by the registration service in England and Wales is thorough - nothing is missed. The author takes us through the registration system itself and then the certificates in even greater detail. Each section of the certificate is considered: how a time of birth can often lead to the discovery of twins, to how the definition of the maiden name of a mother may only be the surname she was using at the first marriage.

The author gives a number of reasons why certificates cannot be found. More often than not it is the way that civil registration was first organised on the basis of the old Poor Law Unions. For example the registration district of Faringdon covers parts of the counties of Berkshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire. The moral, as Mrs Dixon says, is that if you find a birth registration at the right time, but apparently in the wrong place close by, then it could be the one you have been looking for.

In some parts of the country as many as 15% of all births were not registered during the first decades after 1837. There was no penalty for failing to register a child until 1875 and many believed that registration was not necessary if the child was baptised. Modern research suggests that the problem of under-registration was worst in Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex, Essex, Shropshire and Wales in the period before 1860.

Every time the records are copied errors can creep in, so that indexes at the Family Records Centre contain more errors than those at the local Superintendent Registrar. Often the names were written as common sense suggested, or how they were pronounced. This is a book that should be on every family historian's bookshelf. [JG]

From Eternity to Oblivion - an autobiography by *Nevil Griffin*

Berkshire FHS Member Nevil Griffin has done what all family historians should do, he has written his autobiography. His descendants will surely derive much pleasure from this and be grateful for his efforts.

Born in 1924, he writes of his childhood memories and of his school days in Reading. How different life was then. We were all so patriotic. He recalls special school assemblies in which the children sang patriotic songs to celebrate the King's birthday. In those days, children played in the street in gangs of boys and girls. (We all belonged in a gang.) The children played in the fields around the river end of Newport road, which he remembers contained cowsheds. He recollects the cows being driven through the streets from the cattle market. This was a traffic stopper in those days!

Called up in 1942, he joined the army. Mr Griffin takes us through his war time experiences as a radio operator, and his war of an ordinary soldier. After being sent

abroad to Cyprus and Malta, he returned to retirement in this country and as older age approached, the inevitable illnesses.

A good read, especially for those who know Reading and are interested in the 2nd World War through a soldier's eyes. [JM]

A Village at War: White Waltham 1939-45, by *Dennis Tomlinson*. £7.50 inc. postage and packing, UK only; £10.00 overseas including postage and packing.

If only more people would write books like this. Dennis Tomlinson, a retired journalist, brings the war years in White Waltham to life in this well written and fascinating volume: he has divided the subject matter into clearly-thought chapters, such as one chapter on the Army School of Aircraft Recognition, and one on the Home Guard. There are plenty of photographs - all, amazingly, fully identified - and line drawings including maps and layouts. Lots of anecdotes, and he believes that much of the information and research covered in the book is not available elsewhere, so this source is very important to those who might be interested in the area. Even if you don't have a connection to White Waltham, the war-time memories of factory work, the RAF station and the Air Transport Artillery would be of great interest to those who either recall the period or who wish to know more.

New title available direct from the authors:

The Bishops' Registers of Confirmations in the Midland District of the Catholic Church of England, 1768-1811 and 1816, by *Catholic FHS*. Occasional Publication no.3-1999, available from the Catholic FHS, 45 Gates Green Road, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9DE

Another useful source of information for Catholic ancestors. There is a brief but useful introduction which includes county sketch maps of the churches mentioned. The details for each confirm and include

baptismal name and surname plus the confirmation name if given. This review copy will be deposited in our Society's Reference Library. [JD]

New editions of various titles

The Location of British Army Records 1914-1918, by Norman Holding, revised and updated by Iain Swinnerton. £5.95. Fourth edition, following the editions published in 1984, 1987 and 1991.

At last! We have been expecting this book for nearly a year. There were delays at the author's end, then at the publishers - but I am glad to say that they are now here. The book updates the previous versions, giving details of where you can find any records connected to all the army regiments - would the records be at the PRO? Or the local record office? Or at the regimental headquarters? Save your time and check in here - if the record exists, then it will have been indexed and you will know what you can find and where.

All of the Basic Facts series are must-haves for the family historian. Succinct but packed with information, they lead you carefully through areas which might be new to you, and tell you details of the background of the subject, the likely sources for research and provide a bibliography for wider reading.

Basic Facts About...Irish Family History Research, by Bill Davis. £1.50. Second edition; first published in 1997.

Those with ancestors in Ireland will be grateful for this short booklet, which lists all the records still available (many having been destroyed) and the research sources, county by county.

Basic Facts About...Using Death and Burial Records for Family Historians, by Lilian Gibbens, £1.50 Second edition; first published in 1997.

Lilian Gibbens discusses the rituals of death from the Middle Ages onwards, and the way in which society has changed its attitudes over the centuries to the permanence of burial in one place, the need to keep certain bodies separate from others and the information which is relevant to burial. There is a good list of the types of records available and what you will find out from them, and a long bibliography.

Basic Approach to...Keeping Your Family Records, by Iain Swinnerton. £1.50. Second edition; first published in 1995.

How to get organised! Iain Swinnerton makes it all sound so easy and appealing! He discusses the method he uses himself (card indexes and loose-leaf filing) and goes on to discuss other methods, such as the use of databases or genealogy software programmes. The only thing he doesn't mention is how you find the time to deal with the backlog of three boxes of filing...! Something that every disgruntled spouse should buy the enthusiastic family historian.

My Ancestors were Quakers, by Edward H Milligan and Alfred A Thomas. £2.95. First published in 1983, reprinted in 1990.

The authors describe the book as 'modest in scope' - rather as the authors of the Concise Oxford Dictionary, that standard doorstop, might describe their work as modest in relation to the Complete Oxford Dictionary! The Society of Friends has kept records since the middle of the 17th century, and is now a wonderful source of information for those searching for births, marriages or burials from the late 1650s onwards. Records were also kept of meetings and membership: if you trace a Quaker in your ancestry, you are likely to find out quite a lot of well-kept information.

SALE

I can't carry all these books to the new Research Centre. . . . So any book or stock item, which is more than three months old, will be reduced in price for the whole of June.

The sale will begin at the Open Day on 29th May, and will close when we close the Centre.

Everything except the brand new stock is reduced by 10% off the ticket price.

This applies to postal orders too!

In terms of BFHS publications, that means **EVERYTHING** except the St Luke's Maidenhead MIs, which only appeared on 1st May.

All the Census indexes will be reduced by 10% and all of the rest of the MI's - just for June!

They all return to normal price on 1st July!

I am not placing any more orders (except special orders at full price) until we are ready to reopen, so it is existing stock only which will be in the sale.

Generally speaking, that will be the stock that appears in the booklist, or you can check the book list details on the BFHS site on the Internet.

Instructions for postal orders:

Complete the order form on the back of a booklist, or write a letter to say which book or books you would like. Some books won't qualify for the discount: for example, I have a number of copies of *Basic... Using Wills after 1858* which are more than three months old, but I topped up my stock this month. The older copies will have a discount but the brand new ones won't. So tell us if you only want the book if it is at a discount, or if you are prepared to pay full price for a copy hot from the suppliers.

Add up the total of your order at **full booklist price** and add the postage and packing charge.

Perhaps your order amounts to £6.50. Complete your cheque, payable to *Berkshire Family History Society*, date it and sign it. Leave the amount box empty, and on the lines write "*Not to exceed six pounds and fifty pence*" (or whatever your full total was at line 2 above).

When your order arrives, we will check what stock is left and whether we can fill your order or not. We will take note of whether you are willing to buy at full price if that is all that is left, and will add up what you owe us including the discount. Then we will fill in the box on your cheque for the amount you actually owe - hopefully, in this example, £5.85. You should receive your books within four weeks.

SALE

Lessons Learned after a Wild Goose Chase!

By Tony Insell

Some years ago I discovered two serious errors in the Baptismal Register of the Church at Bradford Abbas, Dorset, which until found, had caused me considerable problems when endeavouring to accurately identify the parents of a distant ancestor. These particular errors had been perpetuated in the Bishop's Transcripts for this Parish and are now again repeated in the Vital Records Index, British Isles, CD-ROMs as published by the Church of Jesus Christ Later Day Saints.³³

When I discovered the reason for these erroneous entries it was a relatively simple task to correct my family's records. However I am sure that many other misleading errors must have been detected over the years by researchers working on thousands of Parish Registers which have never been brought to the notice of others who may be similarly engaged. I have never discovered any set discipline for recording such entries and wonder if such a system would in fact be desirable or a feasible proposition for discussion, in an effort to prevent repetition of the error.

The following christening entry is recorded at Bradford Abbas, Dorset:

"Jan 6 1799 Robert s of George & Mary Granger Jane daughter of Robert & Ursula Stiby"

On the face of it this looks like a Robert Granger and a Jane Stiby were christened on that date. The entry does however now contain a footnote, presumably entered 42 years after the event, to "*See the last Page*".

Upon looking at the fly leaf at the end of the register³⁴ one would discover that the facts were very different from those entered, and the following is recorded in the form of a

declaration :-

"The declaration of me Jane Slocombe of Bradford Abbas, Widow made before the Rev. John Parsons a Magistrate for the County of Dorset, who says that she remembers being present when Robert son of Robert and Ursula Stiby was baptised and who further says that at the same time Jane daughter of George and Mary Granger was baptised. This declaration was made at the recommendation of the Bishop of the Diocese, as the best mode of correcting the clerical error in the Entry of the baptisms of the above named Robert Stiby and Jane Granger and of putting "Robert" instead of Jane and "Jane" instead of Robert. Signed Jane Slocombe.

The above declaration was made in the presence of us the Rev. John Parsons a Magistrate for the County of Dorset and the Rev. Robert Grant, Vicar of Bradford Abbas with Clifton Maybank annexed the 21st day of May 1841 Signed John Parsons Robert Grant"

Jane Slocombe, the widow of Isaac Slocombe, maltster of Bradford Abbas was the youngest daughter of Edward Abbott and his wife Elizabeth. The two children who were the subjects of these baptisms were cousins, being some of the offspring of her sisters Mary Granger and Ursula Stiby.

At the date of the declaration, 42 years after the baptisms she was probably the sole surviving member of her generation and possibly the only person able to recall the baptisms. Jane Slocombe died and was buried at Bradford Abbas on the 1st August 1842, just over a year after making the declaration. I have not yet been able to discover what happening or event triggered off this correction to the register so long after the events to which they relate.

³³ Source FHL Number 1279482 Dates 1729-1875

³⁴ Dorset County Record Office File PE/BRA:RE/1/3 or microfilm Ref. MIC R/103

Help Wanted

Barbara Young (1551) of 39 Howard Road, Wokingham Berkshire RG40 2BX is looking for help as follows:

“Despite checking all the usual sources for the following characters in my current local history project, they remain elusive. Any information would be very much appreciated.

- Jeremiah Gregory (born c.1789, not in Berks) and his wife Elizabeth (marriage not found) - in Wokingham 1827-1845.
- Chamberlain White (born 1788 in Appleton) a blacksmith who moved between Cholsey and Moulsoford, where his first wife Jane died in 1833. His marriage to his second wife Ann Goddard (born 1802 in Sherfield-on-Lodden) has not been found, nor his death but by 1851 Ann had remarried John Allwright (born 1792 in Goring). This marriage has also not been found nor John’s whereabouts before 1851 in Wokingham.
- William Hatter (born 1797 in Greenham) who remarried 1848, a year after his first wife Sarah died. His second wife Jane “Atter” is in Kingsclere in 1851 but William has not been found and is thought to be deceased by 1861.
- Richard Smith (born c.1815 Frimley area) and his wife Catherine (born c.1809 in Compton) were Baptists and have only been found in Wokingham censuses 1851-1881.
- James Faithfull (born 1816 son of Martha in Eversley), arrived in Wokingham in 1827.
- “Mrs Faithfull” was present at a funeral in Wokingham in 1921. Candidates for her name pre-marriage are Elizabeth Smith (born 1849), Mary Dore (born 1847) or Sarah Dore (born 1855).
- Richard Rivers (born 1829 in Aldermaston son of Francis). Where was he in 1851?”



Alma Merritt (2857) of 65 Styvechale Avenue, Coventry, CV5 6DW would like help as follows:

“I have just finished reading “Boxford Barleycorn” and it has gone back to the library. I wonder if any fellow-BFHS members have a copy of the book that they no longer require and would be willing to sell to me?”



Dorothy Ovenden (3435) of 19 Ridleys, West Hoathly, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 4HN would appreciate some help with the following:

“Henry Seems and Ann Treherm were married in East Woodhay, Hants on 22nd April 1753. Ann was baptised in 1728 at Coombe, one of several children of Thomas and Mary (née Oates) and I believe Henry is to be identified with Henry Sims son of Richard and Esther (née Pocock), baptised in West Woodhay in 1727.

My problem is that I am having great difficulty in finding where Henry and Ann went after their marriage. No children of theirs were baptised in either East or West Woodhay, or in any of the adjacent Hampshire parish which I have been able to check. Unfortunately the parish registers for both Linkenholt and Vernham Dean, which are in the likely area, have not survived. I have also failed to find burials for either Henry or Ann in either the Hampshire Genealogical Society’s Burial Index or Pat Wilson’s Wiltshire Burial Index. One possibility has to be that they settled somewhere in Berkshire, for which there is no Burial Index. Has anybody come across them anywhere?

I am particularly interested in anything which would either confirm or eliminate them as possible parents of the William Seems who was married to Frances Glass at Easton Glass, Wiltshire in 1776. William and Frances called their eldest son Henry and their eldest daughter Ann. They lived for many years in the Hampshire parish of Facombe, where the clerk wrote their surname as Sims. As adults, most of their children were known as Sims, but one son, William, who settled in St Mary Bourne, Hants, was always known as "Seames or Sims".



Mrs K Hodson (3966) of 21 Swn-y-Nant, Upper Church Village, Pontypridd, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF38 1UE would like some help with the following:

"I am trying to trace Olive Cook née Clarkson, born Southampton, married John Henry Cook, Reading St Giles, children Alfred Emanuel, Henry Albert and Sarah Ellen. John died 1891. John worked at a biscuit factory and they had numerous addresses around Silver Street.

Another family name was Norket. Last family address was 29 Alpine Terrace, Reading. This was during the 1960s.

Sarah Ellen was my grandmother, she died giving birth to my mother and the family were left orphans at a young age so we have little family knowledge other than that she worked for the Church family of Cambridge before coming to Wales. I have not been able to find any trace of this family on any census or list.

Any information or advice would be gratefully received."

New Charges at the Principal Probate Registry

From 26th April, 1999 the charges for copies of wills/admons 1858 to date have increased steeply.

- £5 to read any document (previously the 25p search fee)
- £5 for a office copy of the Will & Grant (up from 75p). Currently this £5 fees gives a copy of both the Will and the grant (i.e. the Act of Probate or Administration).
- £15 for inspection of the original document.
- £5 for Postal applications to the sub-registry at York. This includes a search of up to 4 years and a copy of the grant, and the will if there is one. Additional years will cost £3.00 for every four year period. There is no refund for an unsuccessful search.

The initial "Guide to Non-Contentious Probate Fees" document was ambiguous and vague about the changes. The Probate Registry are now offering a refund to anyone who was charged £15 for reading any document in the first week of operation of the new fees (26th - 29th April).

Family Historians can avoid paying the inspection fee if they obtain a Literary Search Pass at First Avenue House. This applies to searches for a document that is 100 years old that has been filed in the principal probate registry or in a district probate registry. Further information about the new probate fees can be found at www.courtservice.gov.uk

The official telephone number for the Federation of Family History Societies is now 07041-492032. This is a BT flexinumber and means that if the Administrator is not available, it diverts to the Assistant Administrator or another member of Federation Executive Committee.

Members' Interests

Compiled by Robert Houseman

MEMBERS SUBMITTING THEIR INTERESTS:

(* Member of Guild Of One Name Studies)

- 1080 Mr JW FREEMAN, 32 New Barn Lane, Shepherds Gate, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 5EL
2114 Mr & Mrs GC BATTS, Old Cott, 6 Spareacre Lane, Eynsham, Witney, Oxon OX8 1NH
3548 Mrs S BALLARD, 31 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, Reading, Berks RG4 8SR
3738 Mrs P BARSBY, 16 Jason Close, Canvey Island, Essex SS8 9QT
3753 Mrs FB STUART-HARRIS, 12 Red Admiral Close, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0XW
3767 Mrs T OUGHTON, 18 Swallow Close, Denvilles, Havant, Hants PO9 2RA
3851 Dr L SPENCER, Rose Farm, Top Road, Wingfield, Diss, Norfolk IP21 5QT
3854 Mr D GREEN, 62 Cornwall Road, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton WV6 8UZ
3876 Mrs PH COBB, Woodstock, Mays Green, Harpsden, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 4AL
3901 Ms A WINKWORTH, 47 High Green, Catterick Village, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 7LN
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3944 Mr RD BROAD, 33 Charnock Close, Hordle, Lymington, Hants SO41 0GU
3949 Mr K MYERS, Flat 16 Baronsmeade, 17 Branksome Wood Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH2 6DE
3950 Mr A ESSEX, 8 Trapham Road, Maidstone, Kent ME 16 0EL
3956 Mrs P JESSON, 7 The Pagoda, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 8EU
3962 Mrs CF JENKINS, 10 Waunfawr Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF4 4SJ
3963 Mrs SJ NOBES, 329 Thorney Leys, Witney, Oxon OX8 7YU
3965 Mr K MARSDEN, 3 Wharf Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5HS
3966 Mrs K HODSON, 21 Swn-y-Nant, Upper Church Village, Pontypridd CF38 1UE
3970 Mr D EDWARDS, 11 Crusadier Road, Bearwood, Bournemouth, Dorset BH11 9TY
3972 Mrs SA FORD, Springfield, 62 Bleadon Hill, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset BS24 9JP
3982 Mrs K BROOKING, 157 Parlaunt Road, Langleys, Slough, Berks SL3 8BG
3989 Ms A STEVENS, 9 Cranfield Court, Homer Street, London W1H 1HE
3990 Mr & Mrs P KENDELL, 16 Howard Road, Wokingham, Berks RG40 2RX
3998 Mrs T BELLORD, Halfway Cottage, Woodmancote, Cirencester, Glos GL7 7EF
4001 Ms H TOUCH, 5 Brain Street, Glasgote, Tamworth, Staffs B77 2DJ
4002 Mr T GARRETT, Lime Tree Farmhouse, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0SW
4003 Ms H McGUINNESS, 23 Huntercombe Lane North, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 0LF
4016 Mr D BARLOW, 87 Alwyn Road, Rugby, Warwicks CV22 7QU
4017 Mrs P LITHERLAND, 7 Elveden Close, Lower Earley, Reading, Berks RG6 3AX
4018 Mr M DAY, 20 Crouch Road, Burnham on Crouch, Essex CM0 8DX
4020 Miss I BEATTY, The Palace, East Hatley, Sandy, Beds SG19 3JA
4024 Mrs PH & Mr GB ELLIOTT, The Red House, Redhill Close, Diss, Norfolk IP22 3PL
4029 Mr P MORGAN, 73 Maresfield, Chepstow Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 5UB
4031 Mrs J SPELLER, 79 Southchurch Boulevard, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 4UL
4032 Mr DW EAST, 3 Inglesham Close, Trowbridge, Wilts BA14 0UD
4035 Mr J PALMER, 148 Racecourse Road, Swinton, Mexborough, South Yorkshire S64 8DS
4037 Mrs BJ MAYERS, 79 Westwater Way, Didcot, Oxon OX11 7SY
4040 Mr A HUNT, 19 Silbury Road, Calne, Wilts SN11 0ES
4049 Mr R PALMER, 64 Balcombe Street, London NW1 6NE

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
4018	ADAMS	Reading	BRK	1800-1900	4002	BUDD	Walthamstow	ESS	1830-1910
4018	ADAMS	Sandhurst	BRK	1800-1900	3548	BUDDEN	Frome	SOM	1600-1999
4037	AKERMAN	Iver	BRK	1850-1950	3854	BULPIT	Combe	BRK	1800-1998
3901	ALFORD	St Pancras	LDN	1700-1900	3854	BULPIT	Hamstead Marshall	BRK	1066-1800
3876	AMBROSE	Islington	MDX	1800-1900	4024	BURNHAM	St Marylebone	LDN	1800-1840
3548	ARMSTRONG	Upton on Severn	WOR	1750-1900	3738	BUTLER	Bury	LAN	1200-1920
4001	BAGLEY	Chertsey	SRY	1800-1950	3982	BUTTERFIELD	Filton	BDF	1700-1900
4001	BAGLEY	Chesham	BKM	1800-1950	3548	CADOGAN	Awre	GLS	1500-1999
4001	BAGLEY	High Wycombe	BKM	1800-1950	3854	CAIELS	Andover	HAM	1800-1998
4001	BAGLEY	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1950	3854	CAIELS	Wiltshire	WIL	1066-1998
3962	BAILEY	Beckley	KEN	1700-1999	3876	CALCUTT	Clerkenwell	LDN	1800-1850
3738	BAILEY	Camberwell	LND	1200-1920	4031	CAMPBELL	Kennington	SRY	1800-1845
3767	BAKER	Shalbourne	BRK	1800-1900	4031	CAMPBELL	Warstead	ESS	1900-1941
3851	BALLOM	Winterbourne	DOR	1700-1850	4031	CAMPBELL	West Ham	MDX	1845-1960
4016	BARLOW	Hampstead Norris	BRK	1750-1900	4017	CAREY	Anywhere	DOW	1800-1900
3548	BARNES	Frome	SOM	1600-1999	4001	CAREY	Chertsey	SRY	1800-1950
3944	BARNETT	Anywhere	GLS	1600-1800	4001	CAREY	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1950
3998	BARRATT	ShawDonnington	BRK	1800-1850	3944	CASTLE	Anywhere	OXF	1600-1850
4003	BARRETT	Catmore	BRK	1800-1950	3738	CAUSTON	Anywhere	LDN	1200-1920
3963	BARRETT	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920	1080	CHALLIS	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1730
4003	BARRETT	Lilley	BRK	1800-1950	3901	CHAMP	West Hendred	BRK	1700-1899
3738	BARSBY	Whitechapel	LND	1200-1920	3738	CHAPMAN	Anywhere	ESS	1200-1920
4031	BARTHOLOMEW	Hackbourne	SSX	1900-1950	3962	CLAC(E)Y	Finchampstead	BRK	1700-1999
4031	BARTHOLOMEW	Eastney	MDX	1860-1900	3738	CLARKE	Abingdon	OXF	1200-1920
4031	BARTHOLOMEW	Islington	MDX	1860-1900	4040	CLARKE	Eaton Hastings	BRK	1822-1913
4031	BARTHOLOMEW	Marylebone	MDX	1805-1875	3966	CLARKSON	Droxford	HAM	1800-1990
4031	BARTHOLOMEW	Westminster	MDX	1800-1805	4031	CLIFFORD	Marylebone	MDX	1860-1900
4002	BARTLETT	Islington	BRK	1800-1880	4031	CLIFFORD	Newbury	BRK	1800-1835
2114	BATTS	Abingdon	BRK	1550-1800	3944	COLES	Towserye	OXF	1600-1800
2114	BATTS	Bampton	OXF	1700-1900	4017	CONNOLLY	Anywhere	COR	1800-1920
2114	BATTS	Burton on Trent	STS	1850-1990	3966	COOK	Reading	BRK	1800-1990
2114	BATTS	Eynsham	OXF	1780-1950	3929	COOK	White Notley	ESS	1800-1900
2114	BATTS	Fyfield	BRK	1550-1800	3929	CORBIN	Bransgore	HAM	1800-1999
2114	BATTS	Marcham	BRK	1550-1800	3956	COSTER	Quarley	HAM	1850-1997
2114	BATTS	Stanton Harcourt	OXF	1760-1950	4003	COTTERELL	Caversham	BRK	1881-1981
3929	BAVERSTOCK	Newtown	HAM	1800-1850	4001	COTTERELL	Eversley	HAM	1880-1935
3949	BEACHIE	Asthall	OXF	1700-1800	4037	COVENTRY	Kingsclere	HAM	1700-1990
4018	BEALE	White Waltham	BRK	1800-1900	4037	COVENTRY	Newbury	BRK	1700-1990
4037	BEAVEN	Newbury	BRK	1840-1900	3963	COX	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920
3949	BEECHEY	Abingdon	BRK	1860-1890	3966	COX	Keynsham	GLS	1800-1990
3949	BEECHEY	Blaydon	OXF	1830-1890	3929	COX	Reading	BRK	1800-1999
3949	BEECHEY	Coombe	OXF	1800-1830	3960	CRAWLEY	Hitchin	HRT	1800-1850
4017	BELL	Anywhere	DOW	1800-1900	4037	CREIGHTON	Newbury	BRK	1870-1950
3929	BEVAN	Llangynidr	POW	1800-1900	3982	CROFT	Gt Wymondley	HRT	1800-1850
3548	BIRCH	Battlesdon	BDF	1800-1900	3963	CROOK	Goring	OXF	1800-1997
3548	BIRCH	Longhope	GLS	1800-1999	3966	CROSS	Keynsham	GLS	1800-1990
3548	BIRCH	Milton Bryant	BDF	1800-1900	4032	CUDD	Anywhere	OXF	1066-1999
3548	BIRCH	Weedon	BKM	1800-1900	4032	CUDD	Sunningwell	BRK	1720-1850
3548	BISHOP	Frome	SOM	1800-1999	4024	CULL(E)Y	Finchampstead	BRK	1750-1850
1080	BISS	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1650	3929	CUMMINS	Litchfield	HAM	1780-1805
3876	BLANCH	Sydenham	MDX	1760-1900	4018	DAVEY	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900
3753	BOLTON	Peasemore	BRK	1700-1900	3929	DAVEY	Chelmsford	ESS	1800-1999
3753	BOLTON	Staines	MDX	1800-1900	3901	DAWSON	Hanney	BRK	1700-1899
3851	BONSER	Colston Bassett	NTT	1700-1850	4018	DAY	Reading	BRK	1845-1870
4016	BOUD	Peckham	SRY	1750-1900	4018	DAY	Sandhurst	BRK	1845-1870
3738	BOUND	Anywhere	KEN	1200-1920	3982	DENNIS	Upper Gravenhurst	BDF	1600-1999
3930	BOYLES	Anywhere	BRK	1750-1900	3753	DEXTER	Staines	MDX	1800-1900
3930	BOYLES	Anywhere	BRM	1750-1900	3963	DUNSDOM	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920
4029	BRADLEY	Abingdon	BRK	1500-1850	4024	DUNTHORNE	Norwich	NFK	1700-1870
1080	BRADLEY	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1830	4032	EAST	Aston	WAR	1850-1950
3548	BRADLEY	Longhope	GLS	1800-1999	4032	EAST	Cumnor	BRK	1720-1850
4037	BRADLEY	Newbury	BRK	1880-1950	4032	EAST	Marcham	BRK	1620-1820
3548	BRADLEY	Upton on Severn	WOR	1750-1900	4032	EAST	Tackley	OXF	1620-1820
4002	BRAUND	Anywary	ALL	1700-1920	4032	EAST	Yardley	WOR	1850-1950
3901	BRAWN	Shoreditch	LDN	1700-1900	4037	EATWELL	Kingsclere	HAM	1800-1900
3944	BROAD	East Challow	BRK	1650-1800	3962	EDMONDSON	Aldingham	LAN	1700-1999
3738	BROOMFIELD	Newington	SRY	1200-1920	3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	BKM	1700-1900
3753	BROTHERS	Beedon	BRK	1800-1850	3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1900
3950	BROWNE	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1700	3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	BRK	1700-1910
3876	BROWNSMITH	Clerkenwell	LDN	1800-1900	3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	ESS	1700-1900
4002	BUDD	Dolton	DEV	1700-1850	3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	HAM	1700-1900

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period	No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	HRT	1700-1900	3876	L'ANSON	Anywhere	YKS	1640-1740
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	KEN	1700-1900	3963	LATMIER	Wallingford	BRK	1800-1920
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	LND	1700-1900	3876	LEE	Ongar	ESS	1820-1890
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	MDX	1700-1900	4024	LETTIS	Clerkenwell	MDX	1780-1850
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	OFX	1700-1900	3929	LEWINGTON	Oldham	HAM	1700-1900
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	SSX	1700-1900	3548	LINTERN	Bradford	WIL	1800-1900
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	WIL	1700-1900	4017	LITHERLAND	Anywhere	LAN	1800-1920
3970	EDWARDS	Anywhere	CAN	1900-1970	3767	LITTLE	Grafton	WIL	1700-1900
3950	ESSEX	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1900	3767	LITTLE	Grafton	WIL	1700-1900
3944	EUSTACE	Anywhere	OXF	1600-1800	3767	LITTON	Tidcombe	WIL	1700-1900
3956	EVEREST	Battle	SXW	1750-1900	3548	LOVE	Wotton-under-Edge	GLS	1700-1900
4040	FAWDRY	Bloxham	OXF	1856-1925	4001	LOVERIDGE	High Wycombe	BRK	1800-1950
3982	FIELD	Hitchin	HRT	1600-1800	4001	LOVERIDGE	Maidenhead	BRK	1800-1950
3548	FIELD	Longhope	GLS	1800-1900	3876	LOWMASS	Clerkenwell	LDN	1780-1900
3956	FIFORD	Cranborne	DOR	1750-1900	3929	LOYCE	Dunmow	ESS	1800-1999
3901	FISHER	Abingdon	BRK	1700-1899	4037	MAJOR	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900
3876	FLEUTY	Anywhere	ESS	1760-1930	3998	MARRINER	Shaw-cum-Donnington	BRK	1800-1850
4035	FOSTER	Anywhere	SYK	1600-1999	3965	MARSDEN	Middleton	LAN	1700-1850
3956	FOYLE	Verwood	DOR	1780-1860	3965	MARSDEN	Oldham	LAN	1700-1850
3963	FRANKLIN	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920	4037	MARTIN	Newbury	BRK	1850-1990
3963	FRANKLIN	Lyford	BRK	1800-1920	4002	MARTIN	Tooting	STRY	1780-1940
3929	FRASER	Anywhere	SCT	1800-1999	3738	MASON	Chertsey	STRY	1200-1920
3963	FREEMAN	Wallingford	BRK	1800-1920	3929	MAY	Terling	ESS	1800-1999
3972	FRENCH	Reading	BRK	1860-1890	4037	MAYERS	Pontypool	MON	1800-1950
3963	FROUDE	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920	3990	MAYLIN	Hitchin	HRT	1800-1900
4002	GARRETT	Islington	MDX	1800-1899	3982	McGRATH	New Ross	WEX	1800-1999
4031	GILES	Buscot	BRK	1600-1850	4001	McGUINNESS	Glasgow	SCT	1860-1950
4031	GILES	Cardiff	GLA	1880-1900	3851	MILLER	Plungar	LEI	1700-1820
4031	GILES	Gloucester	GLS	1857-1860	3982	MILNES	Birmingham	WAR	1800-1850
4031	GILES	Hartpury	GLS	1861-1880	3962	MONK	Rye	KEN	1700-1999
3944	GILLAM	Anywhere	BRK	1750-1900	4037	MORRICE	Newbury	BRK	1840-1900
3963	GODFREY	Hanney	BRK	1800-1920	4035	MYERS	Anywhere	SYK	1600-1999
4001	GOFF	Chesham	BKM	1800-1950	4001	NEVILLE	Swallowfield	BRK	1850-1950
4001	GOFF	High Wycombe	BKM	1800-1950	4001	NEVILLE	Yateley	HAM	1800-1930
3876	GOOCH	Anywhere	MDX	1800-1850	3901	NICHOLAS	West Ham	LDN	1700-1900
4017	GOURLLEY	Anywhere	DOW	1850-1900	3963	NOBES	Hanney	BRK	1800-1997
3962	GRACE	Great Marlow	BKM	1700-1999	3966	NORKETT	Reading	BRK	1800-1990
3854	GREEN	Worcester	WOR	1600-1800	3982	O'NEILL	Tenacre	WEX	1800-1999
3982	GREENAWAY	Stanwell	MDX	1800-1999	4035	PALMER	Anywhere	SYK	1860-1999
3901	GROGBOE	Shoreditch	LDN	1750-1900	4024	PALMER	Greenwich	KEN	1800-1860
4024	GROVES	Hoe Benham	BRK	1810-1825	4035	PALMER	Harwell	BRK	1820-1999
4037	HAINES	Newbury	BRK	1800-1900	4035	PALMER	North Hinksey	BRK	1800-1999
3753	HAMILTON	Heston	MDX	1800-1900	4049	PALMER	Reading	BRK	1500-1900
3982	HANKIN	Royston	HRT	1600-1800	4049	PALMER	Wrayisbury	BRK	1500-1900
3950	HARCOURT	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1700	4024	PARKER	Barkham	BRK	1750-1850
3950	HARRISON	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1700	4016	PARROTT	Reigate	STRY	1750-1900
4020	HART	Sutton Courtnay	BRK	1804-1836	3965	PARSONS	Middleton	LAN	1700-1850
4029	HATCH	Cookham	BRK	1500-1850	3738	PATIENT	Southwark	LDN	1200-1920
4040	HATHAWAY	Bloxham	OXF	1850-1930	4020	PAYTON	Eastbury	BRK	1861-1888
4024	HAWKINS	Wokingham	BRK	1750-1850	4020	PAYTON	Reading	BRK	1830-1883
3956	HAYES	Quarley	HAM	1750-1830	4020	PAYTON	Sutton Courtnay	BRK	1836-1860
3929	HEAD	Greenham	BRK	1800-1999	3956	PEARCE	Chippenham	WIL	1750-1900
3767	HEAD	Shaibourn	BRK	1700-1930	3990	PEARCE	Cirencester	GLS	1800-1850
4017	HIGGINS	Anywhere	COR	1750-1900	3970	PERRIOT	Anywhere	CHI	1700-1900
3956	HOLLOWAY	Binfield	BRK	1900-1930	4024	PHILLIPS	Twickenham	MDX	1820-1835
3956	HOLLOWAY	Newtown Tony	WIL	1730-1880	3738	PHILPOTT	Ashford	KEN	1200-1920
3956	HOLLOWAY	Quarley	HAM	1780-1900	3982	PIERCE	Tenacre	WEX	1800-1999
3929	HUMPHRIES	Pontypridd	GLA	1850-1999	3738	POOLE	Gold Hanger	ESS	1200-1920
4040	HUNT	Faringdon	BRK	1830-1883	1080	POOR	Anywhere	BRK	1500-1750
3998	HURD	Bethnal Green	LDN	1840-1900	3963	POTTER	Goring	OXF	1800-1997
3929	HUTCHINS	Kingsclere	HAM	1750-1900	3963	POTTER	Iver	BKM	1900-1997
3929	JAMES	Llangynidr	POW	1800-1999	3963	POTTER	Uffington	BRK	1800-1925
3966	JEFFRIES	Keynsham	GLS	1800-1990	4024	PROCKTER	Stetin	PRS	1840-1875
3876	JENKINS	Ongar	ESS	1820-1890	3982	PRIOR	Barkway	HRT	1600-1800
4040	JENNINGS	Eaton Hastings	BRK	1820-1920	4032	PRIOR	Blewbury	BRK	1600-1800
3956	JESSON	Salby	LEC	1750-1900	4032	PRIOR	Milton	OXF	1600-1800
4024	JOHNSON	Hoxton	MDX	1850-1860	3901	RAY	West Ham	LDN	1700-1900
3876	KEEBLE	Witham	ESS	1780-1930	3901	READING	Whitechapel	LDN	1700-1900
3990	KENDELL	St Mawes	CON	1800-1920	3970	REED	Anywhere	BRK	1880-1910
4024	KILPATRICK	Sheerness	KEN	1790-1820	3970	REED	Anywhere	CAN	1900-1970
3944	KINGSLEY	Anywhere	OXF	1700-1850	3990	REILLY	Dublin	DUB	1800-1900

No.	Surname	Place	Code	Period
4037	ROBERTS	Reading	BRK	1850-1990
3876	ROBINSON	Lewisham	MDX	1800-1900
4024	ROBLOU	London	LDN	1750-1900
3982	ROBOTTOM	Gt Wymondley	HRT	1700-1870
3753	ROCHALL	Turville	OXF	1800-1900
3950	ROGERS	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1700
3854	SALT	Combe	BRK	1875-1998
3854	SALT	Shellingford	BRK	1600-1875
3950	SANDS	Lambourn	BRK	1500-1700
3930	SANGER	Anywhere	BRK	1860-1930
4024	SCHEIBNER	Thorn	PRS	1840-1875
4031	SCHLESINGER	Lorrach	GER	1870-1970
4017	SCOTT	Anywhere	DOW	1800-1900
4024	SCOTT	Westminster	LDN	1800-1820
4035	SIDEBOTHAM	Anywhere	CHS	1600-1880
4035	SIDEBOTHAM	Anywhere	SYK	1880-1999
4037	SIMS	Newbury	BRK	1700-1900
3851	SKEATS	Burbage	WIL	1600-1750
3876	SLATFORD	Bethnal Green	MDX	1800-1950
3851	SPENCER	Kinoulton	NTT	1700-1840
3851	SPENCER	Middlewich	CHS	1600-1750
3738	SPINKS	Anywhere	NFK	1200-1920
4018	STANDING	Reading	BRK	1820-1900
4018	STANDING	Warfield	BRK	1820-1900
3851	STEVENSON	Croxton	LEI	1700-1850
3956	STONE	Abbots Ann	HAM	1700-1900
3548	STRANKS	Aston Abbots	BKM	1700-1900
3548	STRANKS	Weedon	BKM	1750-1999
4001	SURRIDGE	Ware	HRT	1850-1900
3901	SWEETAPPLE	Shoreditch	LDN	1700-1900
3990	SYMONDS	Birmingham	WAR	1800-1920
3982	TAYLOR	Anywhere	SHR	1800-1850
3982	TAYLOR	Ickleford	HRT	1780-1850
3982	TAYLOR	Willenhall	STS	1850-1900
3901	THOROGOOD	Abingdon	BKS	1700-1899
3929	TINNION	Aspatria	CMA	1800-1999
3854	TOWNLEY	Cheshire	CHE	1600-1998
3990	TRURAN	St Mawes	CON	1800-1900
3956	TUNNADINE	Barkston	LIN	1750-1900
3738	TURLEY	Newington	SRV	1200-1920
4002	TURNER	Frensham	SRV	1820-1899
4024	WAIGHT	Ealing	MDX	1750-1810
3738	WARDEN	Chertsey	SRV	1200-1920
3944	WARRICK	Stadhampton	OXF	1600-1800
3944	WARWICK	Stadhampton	OXF	1600-1800
3929	WATSON	Aspatria	CMA	1800-1999
4018	WATTS	Anywhere	BRK	1800-1900
4037	WATTS	Kingsclere	HAM	1850-1950
3901	WEBSTER	Whitechapel	LDN	1700-1900
4024	WELCH	Sheerness	KEN	1790-1880
3982	WELLS	Bray	BRK	1750-1999
3990	WELLSTEAD	Birmingham	WAR	1900-1950
3738	WEST	Abingdon	OXF	1200-1920
3851	WEST	Hackney	MDX	1700-1820
3851	WEST	Reading	BRK	1700-1800
3876	WHEATLEY	Anywhere	YKS	1800-1900
3944	WHEELER	Lyford	BRK	1600-1850
4001	WHITE	Eversley	HAM	1830-1900
4001	WHITE	Newport	IOW	1900-1950
3929	WHITE	Writtle	ESS	1800-1999
3872	WHITEHOUSE	Reading	BRK	1860-1920
4037	WICKENS	Newbury	BRK	1850-1950
3963	WILSON	Goring	OXF	1800-1997
3963	WILSON	Uffington	BRK	1800-1925
3901	WINKWORTH	St Pancras	LDN	1700-1900
3989	WINTERBOURNE	Anywhere	BRK	1750-1805
3929	WINTERBOURNE	Kingsclere	HAM	1805-1905
4016	WITHERS	Enborne	BRK	1750-1900
3929	WRIGHT	Sopley	HAM	1800-1999
4018	YATES	Reading	BRK	1800-1900
4018	YATES	Sandhurst	BRK	1800-1900

Patrick Swift, of 1672 E.Rowland Ave. Camarillo, California, 93010-3155, USA, (e-mail: Plkmswift@aol.com) contacted me as follows:

"I have come into possession of a wonderful photo album, purchased at an antique book fair in California, of a vacation trip taken by one Captain G. Fielden and his wife. This album is in pristine condition with all photos, news articles in Spanish, and colorful drawings complete within the album.

Captain Fielden, believed to be in World War One, possibly as an airman, apparently lived in Ascot, Berkshire, England at the time of his trip to Mexico. A letter at the end of the album from the Hotel Ritz in Mexico City is addressed to him at "*Old Huntsman House*".

If there are any relatives of his still living in or around Ascot or somewhere in Berkshire, I should like to contact them or with any Fielden family members who may have information of Capt. Geoffery Fielden. I would place his birth sometime in early 1900 or late 1800's, as he appears to be around the age of 35 to 40 in the photos.

I'm in the process of getting the Mexican news articles translated, as my Spanish is not very good. I believe the wife is one who put the album together and did the wonderful watercolor drawings on some of the pages. I believe her name was Virginia.

A friend has sent me the telephone directory page from Ascot which it only lists two Fieldens.

If I could find a family relative who would be interested in the album I should like to get it to them. Although my wife and I love the photos, as we are frequent travelers to Mexico and South America, I should gladly give it up to someone who would cherish it and keep it in the family.

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 IS 12TH JUNE.**

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 MI/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**

DID MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY EMIGRATE TO NSW?

KEVIN HERRING will be pleased to help you to continue your research. I specialise in tracing the history of land ownership within NSW and also hold/have access to a wide range of genealogical and historical records which also assist in tracing immigrants and their descendants. Shipping, birth, death and marriage records, death duty and bankruptcy files, and land title records are but a few of the resources held/available. Regular visits are made to major resource centres. A range of genealogical resources are also held for Victoria and Tasmania.

For a prompt, personal and professional service please write to:

Kevin Herring, G.Dip.Local & Applied History (UNE). & Dip. Family Historical Studies (SAG)

PO BOX 719, BOWRAL NSW 2576 AUSTRALIA. Tel: (02)-48-613462

Please enclose \$A15 for preliminary evaluation.

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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