

# ORIGINS

WINTER 2021



## *Included in this Issue*

- Special Constable Jasper Mellett (Alan Dell Award Runner Up)
  - Seventeenth-Century Ancestors
  - Belgian Refugees

# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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*The affairs of the Society are governed by a Constitution,  
copies of which are available from the Secretary or Chairman*

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FHS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES for the year commencing 1st January 2022

UK Individual (A)	£12.00	Overseas (E)	£17.00
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**MAGAZINE OF THE  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Winter 2021 Vol. 45 No. 3

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# From the Editor

Welcome to the Winter edition of *Origins*, which I hope finds you fully prepared for the colder days and longer nights with a family history 'to do' list to occupy you through any further lockdown periods.

Some autumn and winter events and activities are currently scheduled to take place in person, but online also remains a popular option, which is no bad thing for accessing research opportunities from outside the county.

Archives are also operating on a restricted basis. Buckinghamshire Archives (formerly CBS) is still open, but booking is required and I recommend visiting their website for the up-to-date status.

I took a window of opportunity to travel up north to visit family and places I hadn't seen since I was a child. It was a trip I had wanted to do for a long time, and Covid restrictions made me realise that I just had to do it rather than think about it. After over 20 years of research and countless conversations with relatives, I was thrilled to see different photographs of ancestors and hear new stories. There is always something else to discover.

As always, a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. I am always so glad to have such a good variety of material to publish, and please keep it coming! The Alan Dell Award deadline is 31st December ...

Rebecca Gurney  
editor@bucksfhs.org.uk

## Origins Submissions Deadlines

March 2022 (Spring) issue – 4th January 2022

July 2022 (Summer) issue – 3rd May 2022

December 2022 (Winter) issue – 4th October 2022

*Submissions received after the deadline must be held over for the next issue*

# A Note From the Honorary Secretary

Welcome to Gillian and Graham to the executive committee! I hope you enjoy the experience. There are still places to be filled more suited to those living in Bucks, especially on the Open Day committee.

I hope we can return to holding meetings face to face in real halls. How that will work in practice is yet to be decided. Who would want to sit in a hall with the doors open? I hope there will be an online element for those who cannot travel. There will be some firm news on the website when time comes.

We are having to increase our membership rates for certain categories. If you pay by standing order please update the payments through your bank. It is now £12 for individual membership, family membership at £15 and international membership at £17. These categories have a paper copy of *Origins* journal. If you can cope with a PDF version of *Origins*, a web membership is available online for £6.

I have been researching all sorts of people now Buckinghamshire Archives are open. Like Solomon, baptised in Buckingham in 1571. What was a 14-year-old from Ethiopia doing in Bucks?

Tony Sargeant, Honorary Secretary  
secretary@bucksfhs.org.uk

Please send your contributions and comments to the Editor, who reserves the right to edit all contributions.

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# Society Notices

## Online Family History Workshops

I am running a series of Online Workshops to help members tackle problems with their research. These are advertised with the Zoom link on the website and usually take place in the second Monday of each month. I can look at particular problems or subjects if given notice.

Please email me at: [tony.sargeant@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:tony.sargeant@bucksfhs.org.uk)

**\*\* POSITIONS VACANT \*\***

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**All Society activities are run by volunteers**

If you would like more details about these roles, please email:  
[secretary@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bucksfhs.org.uk)

# Society Meetings

## ONLINE TALKS

At present, the Society is running a series of free online talks to replace the cancelled meetings. This means we can continue to provide a key benefit to our members, as well as extending it to members who live away from Buckinghamshire.

Details of talks will be announced on our website [bucksfhs.org.uk](http://bucksfhs.org.uk) or sign up to the monthly newsletter.

## ACCESSING ONLINE TALKS

Details will be emailed in advance to members. If you think we may hold an out-of-date email address for you, contact [membership@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:membership@bucksfhs.org.uk).

You may be requested to download Zoom or a Zoom plug-in for your internet browser. Audio will be switched off when you enter the online room but you will be able to activate your microphone if you wish to ask (or answer) questions.

The talk is limited to 100 participants and in order to protect the talk and participants from unwanted visitors, please do not publish the meeting links.



# Diary Dates

## \*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*

At the time of writing (Oct 2021), some events are still subject to Covid-19 restrictions. Government guidelines continue to change, so always check with the event organisers or on the relevant websites before attending.

## Family History & Heritage Events

<b>Fri 12 and Sat 13 Nov</b> <b>10am to 6pm</b>	<b>The Really Useful Family History Fair</b> An online family history fair hosted by the Family History Federation Price: £10.00 <b>w</b> <a href="http://familyhistoryfederation.com">familyhistoryfederation.com</a>
<b>Wed 17th Nov</b> <b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Local Stories: Traditional Crafts</b> Host: Amersham Museum Join us on Zoom for 45 minutes, where Stuart King will share stories of traditional, local crafts, including lace-making and straw plaiting. <b>w</b> <a href="https://amershammuseum.org/event/local-stories-traditional-crafts/">https://amershammuseum.org/event/local-stories-traditional-crafts/</a>
<b>27th Nov</b> <b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Discovering Buckinghamshire's Museum Gardens</b> Host: Bucks Archaeological Society Speaker Claire de Carle. Lecture in person at St Mary's Church Aylesbury, and on Zoom. Register on the website. <b>w</b> <a href="http://bas1.org.uk">bas1.org.uk</a>



<p><b>Thur 2nd Dec</b> <b>2pm to 3pm</b></p>	<p><b>An Introduction to Jewish Family History</b> Host: Society of Genealogists An online talk by Jeanette Rosenberg Price: £6.50, booking <b>w</b> <a href="http://sog.org.uk">sog.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Thur 9th Dec</b> <b>2pm to 3pm</b></p>	<p><b>The Gentleman's Magazine</b> Host: Society of Genealogists An online talk by Julian Pooley Price: £6.50, booking <b>w</b> <a href="http://sog.org.uk">sog.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Sat 19th Feb</b> <b>10am to 4.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>The Family History Show</b> Online 2022 event Price: £10.00 (early bird £7.00) <b>w</b> <a href="http://thefamilyhistoryshow.com">thefamilyhistoryshow.com</a></p>

## Exhibitions

<p><b>To 22nd Dec,</b> <b>Tue to Sat</b> <b>11am to 3.30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Quackery &amp; Enlightenment – a journey through Georgian medicine</b> Newton &amp; Cowper Museum, Olney MK46 4BA Admission to this new temporary exhibition is included in your museum entry ticket. <b>w</b> <a href="http://cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk">cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Opens Nov</b> <b>2021</b></p>	<p><b>Discover Bucks Museum</b> Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP A huge transformation project, with five brand new galleries to tell the story of people and landscapes in Bucks from 200 million years to today. <b>w</b> <a href="http://discoverbucksmuseum.org/whats-on/discover-bucks-progress-so-far/">discoverbucksmuseum.org/whats-on/discover-bucks-progress-so-far/</a></p>

# Alan Dell Memorial Award

Best article competition

**DEADLINE 31 DECEMBER 2021**

First prize £50.00  
Second prize £25.00



For entry requirements visit  
[www.bucksfhs.org.uk](http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk)

# Special Constable Jasper Mellett

by Mick Shaw

*Alan Dell Award Runner Up 2020*

## Special Constable Jasper Jackson Mellett Royal Flying Corps

This story is about a Bucks Special Constable and his World War I service. No Special Constable records remained after amalgamation, which is why this account is an important record of a volunteer policeman.



On 1 August 1914 Britain declared war on Germany and so began 'The Great War'. Jasper Jackson Mellett, known as 'Jap', was 16 years old and working in his father's bakery at Wooburn Green in Buckinghamshire. Jasper was born at the bakery on 29 October 1898, the third of seven children born to William and Jane Joy Mellett. William was a master baker and confectioner.



In 1917, with the war still raging, Jasper joined the Royal Flying Corps (RFC); he was 18 years old. Men were recruited into the service for their skills as mechanics, carpenters and upholsterers. Jasper, having a natural aptitude for anything mechanical, became a mechanic/despatch rider with the service, which was originally formed in May 1912. His job as a despatch rider, serving in France, was to pick up and deliver information about artillery placements, trench lines, etc. This information was sometimes thrown out of balloons in pouches by observers and picked up by the despatch rider. As a mechanic he would have helped maintain the aircraft, working alongside the armourers, metal smiths and riggers who dealt with the airframes.





**Jasper in his  
Royal Flying Corps  
uniform 1917**

On 1 April 1918 the Royal Air Force was formed, merging the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Navy Air Service and a few months later the 11 November 1918 saw the end of the Great War.

Jasper stayed on in the service until he was invalided out in 1920. His service during the war earned him the War Medal and Victory Medal.

Jasper met his future wife, Lavinia Linda Tyler, while collecting his service pension at Wooburn Post Office where she worked. In 1921



**Jasper on his motorcycle (despatch rider) 1917/18**



**‘Mellet’s’, Wooburn Green, around 1930**

Jasper started a cycle shop on the Green, very near his father’s bakery. Not only did he mend bikes but he also repaired radios and gramophones.

Jasper married Lavinia (who was always known as Linda) on 2 April 1923 at St Paul’s Church, Wooburn. In December 1926 they moved to larger premises on the other side of the Green where they were the first to have electricity in their house, installed by Jasper himself. They eventually had three daughters, and settled down into running the business and raising a family.

Jasper’s life was a busy one; he never went to bed on a Friday night. This was a really busy night at his father’s bakery, which was just over the road. He helped out overnight, returning home Saturday morning with fresh bread and lardy cakes for his family’s breakfast. He then went back to his shop where he worked all day. The bakery was eventually taken over by his brother Edgar.

In 1926 Jasper joined the Special Constabulary, being locally appointed to Wooburn Green and High Wycombe. Issued with a police uniform, his powers would have been the same as a regular policeman but only locally, probably in the Wooburn Green, High Wycombe area – unlike now when a Special Constable's powers extend to the whole of England and Wales.

His uniform was the same as his regular colleagues but he would not have been issued a helmet; instead he wore a flat cap and as you can see in the photograph he wore the insignia of a Special Constable on his collar. As well as the 'SC' the insignia shows the swan of Buckinghamshire and above the King's Crown; the same insignia was worn by regular constables but without the 'SC'. His warrant number was 4222 and unlike now, this number was not displayed on his uniform. His duties were to assist the



**Jasper in 1940**



**Special Constable  
collar badge**

local police at evenings and weekends, reporting to the local sergeant or inspector. His training was mainly on the job but he would have had evening classes on the use of his powers, law and arrest techniques. After nine years' service Jasper received his Long Service and Good Conduct medal from the Chief Constable. You can see in the photograph of him taken in 1940 that he is also wearing his medal ribbons from the First World War, from left to right: the War Medal, Victory Medal and Special Constable Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

During the Second World War his duties increased to cover regular police officers who were recalled into the army. Some police officers had seen regular service in one of the services prior to joining the Constabulary and

on the onset of the Second World War in 1939 they were recalled back into the service. Special Constables were called upon to cover these officers. Like the Home Guard, he still worked at his regular job, in Jasper's case running the shop, and in the evenings and weekends he donned his police uniform and patrolled the streets. In the event of an emergency he was expected to close his shop and report for duty.

Besides his normal duties he and his fellow Special Constables were trained to deal with a range of eventualities, such as first aid in case of injury, initial coordination of the security of aircraft crash sites, clearing people from the vicinity of unexploded bombs, handling of unignited incendiary bombs and checking compliance with lighting regulations.

At the end of the Second World War in 1945 the Home Secretary said of Special Constables, '... you have responded loyally to all the many calls which have been made upon you. You have given generously of your time and energy ...'.

For his war service Jasper received the Second World War Defence Medal. Persons entitled to this medal also included Regular Police, First Police Reserve, Police War Reserve, Women's Auxiliary Police Corps, Police Auxiliary Messenger Service and in Jasper's case the Special Constabulary. Special Constables received no pay, as is the case today; their duties were on a voluntary basis. Jasper received a certificate from the Chief Constable of Buckinghamshire, TRP Warren, stating:

'Jasper Jackson Mellett of Wooburn Green, High Wycombe served in the Special Constabulary during the World War 1939 – 1945.

The thanks of the County are hereby conveyed to him for loyal and efficient service rendered to the public'.

This was signed by the Chief Constable and the Chairman of the Standing Joint Committee for the County of Buckinghamshire.

His service in the 'Specials' did not end there; he continued his duties as a Special Constable, receiving a total of four 'bars or clasps' with the words 'Long Service'. These are issued at 10-year intervals to add to the long service medal and a silver rose is added to the riband when worn alone.



In January 1951 Jasper was issued with his second 'bar or clasp' and in July 1955 he was issued his third (War Service counted as treble). This would have been at the discretion of the then Bucks Chief Constable Brigadier Cheney. Jasper receive one more long service 'bar or clasp' in 1963 the year he retired as a Special Constable at the age of 66 having been 37 years in the service.

**Jasper's Special Constabulary  
Long Service Medal** (should show  
4 bars, the one for 1955 is missing)



Jasper continued to work in his shop, known by locals as 'Melletts', repairing cycles, radios and gramophones. He said at the time of his retirement, 'I started repairing radios in the days when they were a very new thing. I didn't know much but I learned from experience'. His shop was described by one local thus: 'It looked like a bomb had gone off in it, but he knew exactly where everything was if you needed a spare part'. Another said, 'He was very helpful and very good at mending punctures, his shop looked like an Aladdin's cave'. One of his sidelines was to provide Tannoy systems for local fetes and dances.

During his 48 years running the shop he never took a holiday and spent most Sundays mending the bikes and radios that had been brought in for repair during the week. His large garden was his hobby, which included an orchard and greenhouses, and he also ran an allotment. His family were never short of vegetables, but his pride and joy was his greenhouse chrysanthemums. Jasper was a popular, kind, considerate and hard-working man.

Jasper's shop doors closed during 1968 when he retired at the age of 70 but to local children the doors were always half open. For around five





**Jasper in his shop taken in 1968 at the time of his retirement**

months he continued to repair their bikes – it didn't matter if the job was large or small, they all found a ready welcome. Jasper said, 'I love children, they are my best customers'.

When Jasper finally closed his doors for good, the local children made a collection and presented him with a box of cigars.

Jasper never had a holiday until he retired in 1970, then he took his wife on holiday to Scotland.

Jasper died on 30 November 1988 at the age of 90 in a nursing home in Fifield, Maidenhead. He was survived by his wife Linda and his three daughters Brenda, Daphne and Wendy.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Footnote**

No records of Bucks Special Constables survived the amalgamation in 1968 and records of the issue of Long Service and Good Conduct medals to Special Constables were never kept by the Home Office. Jasper's story has been put together from letters and a certificate from the two Chief Constables he served under, TRP Warren and Brigadier Cheney, also from local newspaper cuttings from the 1970s and information, medal ribbon and bar/clasps supplied by his youngest daughter Wendy, and online research.

*Mick Shaw*

# Royalty in Buckinghamshire

Tony Sargeant

I was given the lead to this story via an email from New York. A Princess, Catherine Hilda Duleep Singh, lived and died in Tyler's Green and she was a suffragette. Another link to suffragism in the Beaconsfield area after the story of two doctors, Flora Murray and Louisa Garrett Anderson. You can read about them on the Buckinghamshire Archives blog <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/buckinghamshire-archives-blog>.

The first step for me was to take a look at *Kelly's Directory* for 1939 as the email mentioned a death in 1943. With this period many of the usual sources are not available. A search of the internet bought two articles on the Historic Royal Palaces website while Wikipedia gave many more leads and the story of the family. The name Duleep Singh also warns that Anglican Church records may not be of use. This proved the case as princess Catherine was cremated in Golders Green. The civil registration for her birth on FreeBMD is not particularly enlightening: 'Singh Female St Georges Hanover Sq Vol 1a page 385 in Dec 1871'. In FreeBMD there are only six entries with the surname Singh between 1860 and 1890 in England. This is a problem, as two of Catherine's sisters are missing from the list. From the 1939 Register, birth dates can be confirmed as both Catherine and Sophia were at Colehatch House in September 1939. The other sister, Bamba, had married Dr David Sutherland in Lahore. Next we see the registration of two deaths, for both Catherine and Sophia. The probate entries give a lot of detail:

## Probate

Princess Duleep Singh her highness Catherine Hilda of Hilden Hall, Penn Buckinghamshire spinster died 8 November 1942 Probate Llandudno 17 May to her highness princess Sophia Alexandra Duleep Singh spinster. Effects £171,162 14s 11d.

Her Highness Princess Sophia Alexandrown Duleep of Hilden Hill Penn Buckinghamshire and of Faraday House Hampton Court Surrey spinster

died 11 August 1948 at Hilden Hall Penn Probate London 8 November  
to Henry Charles Winstall solicitor Effects £58040 0s 11d

Further grant 7 January 1950

Her Highness Princess Sophia Alexandrowna Duleep of Hilden Hall  
Penn Buckinghamshire and of Faraday House Hampton Court Surrey  
spinster died 22 August 1948 at Hilden Hall Probate London 7 January  
to Princess Bamba Sophia Jinden Sutherland widow

Effects £14025 15s Former Grant P.R. 8 November 1948

The second probate was probably caused by the return of the third sister from the Punjab after the death of her husband. Also note that Colehatch House has been renamed Hilden Hall. Probably as a nod to Catherine and their father's estate Elvenden Hall in Norfolk.

From the rarity of the surname at the time, we can say this is a displaced family. Their father Maharajah Duleep Singh was brought to England when his father Rangeit Singh was deposed by the annexation of the Punjab by the British East India Company and kept isolated from Indian culture, people and religion. In 1863 the Maharajah moved to Elvenden Hall near Thetford. In 1864 he married Bamba Müller and had six children. For many years the British East India Company was paying him a pension, so long as he agreed to give up all rights, titles, and claims to sovereignty over the Punjab for himself or his heirs. Later, Maharajah Duleep Singh made an attempt to go back to Lahore and was arrested and sent back to Britain. His son Victor went to Eton and joined the British Army; later he collected art, including a collection of Jacobite portraits and relics. He probably learnt about the Jacobites when he spent a good part of his childhood at Strathdearn, and saw similarities between his family and the Stuarts. A portion of his art collection now resides in Inverness and Thetford Museums.

All three sisters were involved in the suffrage movement in Great Britain and India. They were wealthy enough to travel to Scotland and Germany as well as have a grace and favour apartment at Hampton Court. The 1939 register shows they were actively supporting causes with eight German refugees in their home.

*Tony Sargeant*

# Who Do I Think I Am?

Sue Hetherington

My BUSBY father always told me that his father, my grandfather, was ‘a foundling’. I never knew my grandfather; he died many years before I was born. He was born in 1860 and had a middle name of GURNEY. Who his father, my great-grandfather, might have been was a complete mystery but some vague family myths came down to me saying he had joined the Indian Army and wanted my BUSBY great-grandmother to go with him to India but she refused. At that time, I was just constructing a one-name tree of BUSBY which normally would follow males. It was a bit of a cheat to follow through a female for one generation but I wasn’t too hysterical about it.

I have a BUSBY first cousin who lives in New Zealand, who has a daughter called Keitha who is a similar age to me. In 2018, I was flabbergasted to receive an email from Keitha to say she had sent her father’s DNA off to an American free online DNA matching facility called GEDmatch (an outfit which around the same time gained notoriety for allowing law enforcement to use its data to identify the ‘Golden State Killer’ in California from matches with a close family member). A match between her father, my first cousin, and a female descendant of a man called Thomas GURNEY had been established. Some further work had been done in New Zealand and the GURNEY descendent, called Barbara, was contacted. This lady had resided in America but was now living in Wales. I was given her details and established with her that her ancestor had been called Thomas GURNEY, had been born in England (at a farm at Little Kingshill) and had served in the Indian Army.

So this was conclusive evidence that I had found my missing great-grandfather – I had the DNA match, a matching story and the middle name GURNEY passed down when there was no marriage to do so in the normal way. So, if events had taken the more usual course, my name would have been GURNEY, not BUSBY.

I wondered how on earth my great-grandparents met and at this point Bucks Family History Society was enormously helpful with its Bucks

Names database. I 'knew' my great-grandmother's name was Mary Ann BUSBY and that she was born on 19/6/1838 because I had found her civil birth certificate. But I could see no reason she could have met Thomas GURNEY. BFHS astonished me by revealing that there were two Mary Ann BUSBYs baptised on the very same day (2/9/1838) only one of whom had a civil birth certificate. The one without the civil birth certificate had different parents to those I'd deduced from the birth certificate and that BUSBY family were LIVING RIGHT NEXT DOOR to Thomas GURNEY's widowed mother at Kingshill Common while the young Thomas was being educated at a private school at Potterspur, Northants.

My cousin Keitha also sent me a photograph. What a strange thing to see the face of your mystery great-grandfather.

In a final twist to the story, I now find that I have a distant Gurney relation, a 6th cousin I think I make it, who is married to my old school friend from Lady Verney High School, High Wycombe – and a connection to Rebecca, the editor of this journal.

There are quite a few bits of the story that I've abbreviated and I haven't mentioned all of my evidence. There are also still lots of loose ends I need to research. But I'd like to pay tribute to the wonderful people at Bucks Family History Society who pre-pandemic were at Buckinghamshire Archives at Aylesbury (formerly CBS) every week and who gave me priceless help.

*Sue Hetherington*

**From: The Diary of John Carrington,  
Farmer of Bramfield 1798–1810  
(Hertfordshire Record Society Vol. 26. 2010/11)**

Mr Noon of Wing in Buckinghamshire near Tring its said will cure the bite of a mad dog on a person when they are taken with madness, or the Hydrophobia is on them, Tewin May 16, 1794.

Footnote: This is of potential interest, as I am researching the NEWEN(S) / NUEN(S) / NOON(E)(S) family in the Aylesbury Vale.

*Howard Lambert*

# The Journal of Rev Miles Tarn (1719–1797)

Howard Lambert

In 1997, while staying with friends in Cumbria, I was shown a fascinating leather-bound journal covering the period 1745 to 1802. Comprising over 200 pages, it was written by Rev Miles Tarn (1719–1797), curate of Cheddington parish church from 1745 to 1750. Much of the journal records the history of his family from 1615, along with the births, marriages and deaths of his 11 children by his first wife Mary. Two of his sons, Miles and John Tarn, were also ordained ministers.

Some of the first entries provide details of sowing, reaping and Harvest Home plus prices paid for meat: 12 Nov 1748 – Leg of pork 14pd at 3d, 3-6. Then he states: 'Left Cheddington in Buckinghamshire Sept 9 1750 & was inducted into ye Rectory of Dean in Cumberland Sept 23 1750'.

We learn much about his farming activities, for instance:

1751	8 Bushels of Oates sown
1 May 1754	Flora and calf sold for £5-12-0
29 Oct 1772	2 Scotch cows bought for £4-12-0
14 Aug 1779	Forward Harvest. Haytime over. Began to reap Barley and wheat in some forward places.

The livestock went inside usually in early November and came out in May. A keen beekeeper, he writes '1783 was a very good Honey-year'. This contrasted sharply with the following year: 'No honey to take this season and only have two boxes to stand the winter'.

I found the 'bought and sold' entries particularly interesting:

9 Jun 1763	Gun stock of English Walnut 0-5-0 and other things new to the gun 0-4-0
20 Feb 1764	Garden Rake 3-0. Horse comb 3d. ½ lb canary seed 3d

- 20 Apr 1764 A new hat for everyday 6-0  
 20 May 1771 Maid's half year wages 1-14-0  
 14 Aug 1772 Copper Tea Kettle new 0-10-6 (old one in exchange 2s)  
 13 Nov 1772 New spinning wheel 7-6  
 9 Apr 1781 6 Tea cups & saucers 0-1-0. A gallon of Red Wine 0-7-0  
 A quart of Brandy 0-2-6  
 27 Jun 1787 Bought of Js. Wilson a pair of new stays for my wife £1-2-0

He also comments on the weather:

- 1765 Dry summer. Thin meadows and bare pastures.  
 31 Dec/1 Jan 1784 Frost so intense as to freeze ink in the stand and  
 break a quart Bottle full of ink made last summer.

Reverend Tarn died in 1797 and the final five years of the journal were completed either by his second wife, Grace, or one of his children. Unfortunately the journal left these shores in 2014, when it was sold at auction to the Lewis Walpole library at Yale University.

# Belgian Refugees

Brian Horridge

## Chesham Bois, Chesham and Amersham

One aspect of the Great War that is not as well known as others is the impact on the inhabitants of the countries invaded in the early days of the war. Although basically a neutral country, Belgium was particularly badly affected, which resulted in over 300,000 Belgians evacuating to England.

Although Kent and London dealt with most of the influx (special refugee camps were set up at Earls Court and Alexandra Palace), a call went out for other places in the UK to help. A lot of the refugees came as families but there were also large numbers of unaccompanied children. Their plight was made worse due to differences in language and religion.

Chesham was one of many towns that set up Belgian Refugee Committees to provide help in both raising funds and offers of housing and jobs. There was also a County Relief Committee based in Aylesbury who asked if people were prepared to offer accommodation and entertain refugees – either in empty houses or places in homes for individuals. There were requests for furniture and clothing as most refugees had fled with very few personal possessions. Some Belgian families were housed in the Church Street area of Chesham and a newspaper joked that they may have had to rename the area to reflect the new residents.

The newspapers of the time report many local activities to raise funds. Local schoolchildren had been taking bearer notes home to their parents asking them to promise small sums per week (as low as a halfpenny) towards the support of a Belgian child. A concert was held in Amersham Town Hall in two parts (afternoon and evening) comprising music and songs and raised £20/18/- for the refugees. There was a well-attended lecture given by Miss M Theresa Bryan entitled 'My Experience in a Belgian War Hospital' where she recounted the story of herself and other doctors and nurses who went to Antwerp to set up a field hospital. At one time she tried to get a photograph of some British soldiers near the front line but ended up being arrested as a German spy. They left Antwerp just before it was overrun, having previously been in an area subjected to heavy bombardment. This lecture itself raised over £9.

One aspect of these offers of help came to light when researching the Admission Registers of Chesham Bois Church of England School in Bois Lane, Chesham Bois. There are entries for several children who are listed as Belgian refugees and with addresses in Bois Lane and Long Park. The children were enrolled in January and February 1915 and their ages ranged between 6 and 14. All the children were only at the school for a few months and they had all 'left the neighbourhood' by May 1915. At the moment, we have been unable to trace what happened to them after they left the school.

Questions were asked why some male refugees were not in Belgium fighting for their own country, but it was pointed out that these men were not trained in fighting. At the start of the war, Belgium had a limited army and limited equipment and had not had the time to build up its fighting



capabilities. In due course, refugees of suitable ages were also called up for military service. Legislation was introduced in 1915 that required all refugees to register – failure to do so would render the refugee liable to a fine of £100 or 6 months' imprisonment. These penalties would also apply to any persons who failed to take steps to secure the compliance of any refugees living or lodging with them.

A lot of Belgians were of the Catholic faith and this was one of the reasons that a plot of land was purchased early in 1915 for the new Catholic Church in Chesham Bois. Other societal differences also caused the RSPB to write letters to local papers pointing out that snaring of small birds for the pot, although common on the continent, was not allowed under UK Bird Protection laws.

The Government also looked at using these refugees to work the land as many UK farm labourers were away serving in the army and there were fears of food shortages due to uncultivated land. In Chesham some were employed in the woodenware factories but one enterprising Belgian established a local basket-making industry which stayed in Chesham after the war – even surviving a factory fire in 1917.

After the end of hostilities, most of the Belgian refugees went home, but several thousand stayed on in the UK as they had established new lives for themselves.

A project to trace and document Belgian Refugees has been set up by the Universities of Leeds, Leuven and UCL and a free-to-use online database can be found at their website <https://belgianrefugees.leeds.ac.uk/>. This site has used both official records and family stories submitted by refugees or their relatives and descendants.

This article is based on research done for Amersham Museum which is trying to build a better picture of the impact of these refugees on our local area. Any information to fill any gaps would be much appreciated.

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# Bucks Research Timeline

## 1500–1599

Year	Significant dates in Bucks history and family history research
1509	Henry VIII's reign started
1522	Certificates of Musters in Bucks available at BRS
1530	Muster Rolls began
1530s	Probate inventories started to be produced
1530	First baptism recorded in a surviving Bucks parish register. Hulcot register's next entry is dated 1539
1534	First surviving Bucks marriage record (Stoke Hammond Register)
1534	Henry VIII stayed at Chenies when visiting Lord John Russell
1535	Survey of Church Wealth took place
1536	Dissolution of the Monasteries
1536	First burials recorded in Bucks at Wolverton
1538	All clergy started keeping records of all baptisms, marriages and burials they officiated at
1537	The Manor of Dorney was sold to Sir William Gerrard by James Hyll
1540	Statute of wills permits freehold land to be bequeathed
1547	Edward VI's reign started
1547	The Statute of Legal Settlement made provision for branding or enslavement of beggars deemed capable of work

<b>Year</b>	<b>Significant dates in Bucks history and family history research</b>
<b>1552</b>	Ale House Act led to recording of licensees' names
<b>1553</b>	Lady Jane Grey reigned for 9 days
<b>1553</b>	Mary I's reign started
<b>1553</b>	Fulmer parish separated from Datchet
<b>1557</b>	Lord Hastings of Loughborough founded a hospital in Stoke Park and endowed it with a rent charge of £53 10s
<b>1558</b>	Reign of Elizabeth I started
<b>1567</b>	Buckingham Borough Corporation records started this year
<b>1571</b>	Temple family bought Stowe
<b>1572</b>	Many Huguenots came to England after the Massacre of St Bartholomew's Day in France
<b>1576</b>	Justices of the Peace allowed to issue bastardy bonds
<b>1576</b>	Another Poor Law Act required houses of correction for vagrants and beggars
<b>1581</b>	Recusancy (non-attendance at Anglican services) became a criminal offence
<b>1597</b>	Relief of the Poor Act required church wardens and overseers to levy a tax on parishioners in order to fund work for the poor and fund apprenticeships
<b>1598</b>	Surviving records for Buckingham Borough Quarter Sessions started
<b>1598</b>	Copies of parish registers were sent to the Archdeacon in Buckinghamshire. Commonly known as BTs. Buckingham was an Archdeaconry

This series will continue in future editions.

*Tony Sargeant*

# Seventeenth-Century Ancestors

Geoff Swindells

Researching your family tree usually starts with those relatives that you know, then working backwards as far as possible through census returns and birth, marriage and death certificates. I, like many other researchers, do not have any ancestors in the county in which I live. This means visiting relevant county record offices to dig through their records for older documents, or obtaining help from the family history societies. I had assumed that, going back beyond 1837 and the early days of newspapers, there would be very little information available. How wrong I was.

Many years ago, I collected coins, which led to collecting privately issued token coins; these were made in the period 1650 to 1672 for small traders throughout England. Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth and the first years of Charles II's reign saw hardly any small denomination legal coinage struck by the government mints. Since tradespeople needed small change to carry out their businesses, minters toured the country taking orders for farthings and halfpennies, which they struck in the relevant communities. These tokens usually carried the name of the tradesperson (both men and women) and the name of the town or village where the trader operated.

As a long-term resident of Bucks, I have collected Bucks tokens, which means I have been to visit Bucks Archives many times to look at their holdings. In most cases, the parish registers survive and have been filmed onto microfiche, progressing on to more modern recording systems. This has always been the starting point, but is not infrequently backed up by wills and other documents. As an example, I will tell the stories of a few people from Newport Pagnell.

William BREDEN was born on 19 June 1636 and married Elizabeth BARNES on 29 April 1656. They both came from Newport Pagnell and, bearing in mind this was the period of the Commonwealth, the marriage

was conducted by Brett Norton Esq, Justice of the Peace for Bucks. Bucks was a major area for lacemaking, and William was a lace buyer. His token shows the initials W E B, for William and Elizabeth Breden, and shows a pair of scales, which was a common symbol for many traders. Elizabeth was buried on 14 February 1673.

In 1662, the government introduced a hearth tax, by which each property rated at 20 shillings or more per year was charged one shilling every six months for each hearth. This tax was scrapped in 1689. The records held by Bucks Archives show that William was assessed for one hearth. This record also confirms that William was living in Newport Pagnell at the time and gives an idea of the size of his home.

Various religious groups had been growing throughout the 17th century. The Commonwealth Puritans disapproved of the relaxed behaviour of Anglicans and brought in strict rules of behaviour for everyone in England. They believed that people should have a pure soul and live a good life; that if you worked hard you would go to heaven. Pointless enjoyment was frowned upon. Cromwell shut many inns and closed all the theatres. Most sports were banned. Boys playing football on Sunday could be whipped as punishment, and swearing was punished by a fine. Sundays were very special and most forms of work were banned. Women caught doing unnecessary work on the Holy Day could be put in the stocks. Simply going for a Sunday walk (unless it was to church) could lead to a hefty fine. To keep the population's mind on religion, instead of having feast days to celebrate the saints, (as had been common in Medieval England), one day in every month was a fast day – no food all day. Puritans believed that marriage was rooted in procreation, love and salvation. In their view, husbands were the spiritual heads of the household; their wives should demonstrate submissiveness and humility. Boys should be educated for vocations and leadership, while girls were taught for domestic and religious purposes. Women and girls were supposed to dress in a proper manner. Make-up was banned. Too-colourful dresses were also banned. A Puritan lady should wear a long black dress that covered her from neck to toes. She wore a white apron and her hair was bunched up behind a white headdress. Puritan men wore black clothes and short hair. Christmas was banned as it was a form of celebration and enjoyment. Cromwell's army was sent out to patrol the streets and enforce Puritan beliefs. Cromwell

himself did not obey his rules strictly. He enjoyed music, hunting and playing bowls. He even allowed entertainment at his daughter's wedding.

John GIBBS had been a public minister (magistrate) under Oliver Cromwell, but was ejected from his parish when he refused to conform to the Church of England's rules upon the restoration of Charles II. Anabaptist meetings were held at the homes of William Breden, John Child (a tobacconist) and John Gibbs (who all led the meetings) for four or five years before 1669, being sometimes interrupted by punishments inflicted by the magistrates. The punishments were usually for non-attendance at the parish church. The Bishop of Lincoln, under whom Newport Pagnell was regulated, required the local clergy to carry out a survey in 1669 of the religious persuasions of their communities. The Anabaptist meetings were reported to be attended by people of inferior trades; the vicar did not want to give the impression that the better classes might attend.

John BURGIS, whose birth I have not tracked down, was a lace buyer who married Sarah. His token, dated 1668, carried the initials I S B and a pair of scales. Their children were:

Thomas baptised on 5 March 1669

Samuel baptised on 14 August 1670

Elizabeth baptised on 17 September 1671

Mary baptised on 24 August 1673

Martha baptised on 21 February 1675

Hannah baptised on 10 February 1678

Susanna baptised on 22 March 1679 and buried on 31 March 1679

Priscilla baptised on 30 May 1680

At the quarter sessions in 1667, John Burges, lacebuyer, of Newport, with others was indicted for not repairing the highway outside their respective houses. The roads at the time were always in very poor condition, so the magistrates may have decided to make examples of these individuals. He must have improved his reputation by 1679, when he was elected as petty constable. A charity was founded in the church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, (the parish church of Newport Pagnell), by a Richard Burgess.

He died on the fourth of April 1682 and in his will left his wife Sarah the rents from two houses in Newport Pagnell until his youngest child Priscilla

was 12 years of age, to enable her to bring up his eight poor small children; all his other possessions went to Sarah. Sarah, widow, was buried on 15 April 1686. John's will record also describes his death: 'John Burgis late of Newport Pagnell in the county of Bucks lacebuyer being sudingly taken and surprisped with violent distemper whereof he died the fourth day of Aprill anno domi 1682'.

Josias CHAPMAN, the son of Thomas, was baptised in June 1606 and married Jane WATTS on 26 April 1630. Their children were:

Ann baptised on 10 July 1631 and buried on 20 February 1632

Elizabeth baptised on 14 August 1632

William baptised on 17 May 1635 and buried on 12 November 1657

Josias baptised on 26 December 1637 and buried on 26 March 1658

John baptised on 15 July 1641

William baptised on 20 October 1662

In 1642, in response to massacres of Protestants by Catholics in Ireland, parishes throughout England raised funds to support the Protestants. Josias Chapman gave 5/- and Thomas Chapman gave 1/-. The token only has the initials I C and a pair of scales, suggesting it was issued by either the father after his wife's death or (more likely) by his son.

Josias, the father, was buried on 12 July 1673. Josias, son of Josias, yeoman, was apprenticed to Thomas Roberts on 20 September 1654 with the London Company of Grocers. The parish register for Chicheley (two and a half miles away) recorded the marriage of Josias Chapman and Elizabeth BOWYER, both of Newport Pagnell, on 30 October 1659. Their children were:

John baptised on 15 August 1665

Elizabeth baptised on 17 March 1668

Mary baptised on 30 June 1671

On 23 April 1678, Josias, son of Josias, grocer, deceased, was apprenticed to John KNIGHT for seven years with the London company of Ceilers and Joiners. Again, apprenticeship records are held in Bucks Archives.

Also in response to the 1642 Irish massacres, William COOPER senior gave 1/- and William COOPER gave 5/-. They may be related to Edward

Cooper, as they all lived in Newport Pagnell. Susanna Cooper, wife of Edward of Newport Pagnell, received a Quaker burial in Sherrington on 8 February 1670, and Edward her husband had a similar burial on 19 April 1676. These may have been Edward the grocer's parents.

Edward COOPER was a grocer who married Elizabeth BROWNE on 19 December 1649 in Buckingham. He issued two tokens, one of which, a farthing, is dated 1667 and bears the initials E C with the grocers' arms. His other token includes his wife, E E C, and is a halfpenny with a pair of scales. He died on 21 February 1702 and was buried in the Quaker burial place in Sherrington. In his will he left his son Thomas £40 and his daughter Hanna £60, to be administered by Edward's brother (in law?) Thomas SMITH of Olney and Joshua WHEELER of Cranfield, Bedfordshire. Everything else was to go to his wife Elizabeth, who declared herself to be a Quaker in an attachment to the will, dated 1703. All the children of Edward and Elizabeth had Quaker baptisms and, when it came to it, Quaker burials in Sherrington. They were:

John buried on 17 July 1671

Mary baptised on 8 July 1672

Edward baptised on 17 February 1674 and buried on 19 April 1676

Cary buried on 2 August 1675

Thomas baptised on 12 June 1675 and buried on 12 Aug 1675

Mary and Elizabeth baptised on 2 February 1677

Mary baptised on 8 November 1678 and buried 22 June 1697

Ruth buried on 28 July 1681

Ruth baptised on 6 February 1682 and buried on 20 November 1690

Edward baptised on 5 December 1683 and buried on 12 February 1688

Ann baptised on 14 January 1686

Thomas baptised on 7 May 1687

Edward Cooper and others were reported for non-attendance at church at the Quarter Sessions in April 1683, October 1683 and January 1684. Edward and many other abstainers were sent to prison on 25 December 1695 and released on 16 July 1696.

Elizabeth Cooper also had a Quaker burial on 23 April 1711.



James DAVIS was a skinner who married Elizabeth BURFOOTE on 17 September 1635. He died and was buried on 9 September 1666, while she was buried on 23 November 1668. Richard, son of James, was baptised on 14 August 1636 and buried on 27 April 1641. James's token shows the initials I E D and the skimmers' arms.

In 1642, in response to massacres of Protestants by Catholics in Ireland, James Davies gave 5/-, Widow Davies gave 6d, Bartholomew Davies gave 2/6d, Widow Davies gave 5/-, Richard Davies gave 4/- and Mary Davies gave 2/6d. Under the hearth tax, James was assessed for two hearths and Thomas Davis for one.

John Davis, son of Bartholomew (and maybe related to James), was born on 27 December 1638 and became a draper. His token bears the initials I I D and the drapers' arms. He married Joan COMENDALE on 20 November 1655 and then Martha COWLEY in 1667. John and Joan's children were:

Martha baptised on 16 January 1656 and buried on 3 October 1656

Martha baptised on 20 September 1657 and buried on 17 April 1680

John baptised on 6 February 1660 and buried on 9 January 1662

John and his second wife Martha were regular attendees at the weekly Quaker meetings in the late 1660s. At the Easter 1684 Bucks Presentments John Davis was reported for non-attendance at church. John paid tax on five hearths under the hearth tax, while Samuel Davis paid for three. John's liability is illustrated by the provisions of his will:

'In his will dated 2 January 1705, John Davis, linen draper of Newport Pagnell, left to his son Thomas, shoemaker, the house and messuage in Newport Pagnell he now lives in together with the house occupied by John Palmer, out of which he was to pay to his son in law John Palmer forty pounds in money, and Thomas's sister Dorithy Davis ten pounds after her mother's death; to his son John he left the house and messuage at Marie End of Newport Pagnell currently occupied by John Bury and others out of which he was to pay to son in law John Palmer twenty pounds; to his daughter Dorithy Davies he left the profits from the lease on his house in Tickfield End, Newport to share with John's wife Martha until her death, and all his personal goods and chattels to be shared between John and Dorithy'.

Robert HOOTON of Newport Pagnell and Elizabeth KING of Moulsea were married by Mr Thomas WHITE, justice of the peace, on 13 November 1655. His token bears the initials R E H. The children of Robert and Elizabeth were:

Elizabeth baptised on 11 November 1656

Robert baptised on 26 November 1658 and buried on 21 June 1665

Sarah baptised on 8 November 1671

Mary baptised on 22 October 1672 and buried on 13 August 1676

The name Hooton is also spelt HOUGHTON and there were several families of Hooton in the nearby village of Stoke Goldington owning land and homes.

John NORMAN, father of the token issuer, married Marguerite HOLLAND on 15 June 1619 in Bow Brickhill and they had a son John who was baptised on 4 January 1620 and buried a day later. They had another son John baptised on 27 April 1621; it was common practice to re-use a Christian name where an infant had died. John then married Ann HUMPHERY in Newport Pagnell on 26 April 1632, but she died and was buried on 5 December 1633. A son, Edward, was baptised on 24 November 1633, so Ann may have died as a result of complications. He subsequently married Elnor SHAWE in Wolverton on 7 June 1636 who may well have been a widow, as her will dated 1666 refers to her children Deborah and John CHILD as well as her son John Norman.

John Norman of Shenley (token issuer) became a grocer in Newport Pagnell and married Elizabeth MOTTESHEAD on 3 November 1659 in Beachampton. She lived until 1669. As one of John's tokens has just his initials and the other includes E for Elizabeth it would seem that the tokens were issued before and after 1659. John was buried in Winslow on 16 July 1684, having buried his father John in Bow Brickhill on 22 April 1665. John may have married Mary around 1670 as this declaration may well apply to him:

'Knowe all men by these presents that wee John Norman of Newport Pagnell in the County of Bucks Grocer and Mary my wife one of the daughters of Anthony Hotter late of Newport Pagnell aforesaid gent deceased have remised Released and for ever quitt Claymed And by these presents doe for us and either of us our and either of our heires

Executors Administrators and assignes remise Release and for ever  
quitt Clayme unto Thomas Hotter Executor of the last will and Testament  
of the said Anthony Hotter his Executors Administrators and assignes all  
manner of accon and accons and Cause of Accons Suites debts dues  
legacyes accompts and demands whatsoever due or accrewinge to us  
or either of us from the said Thomas Hotter as Executor or otherwise  
for any matter Cause or thinge whatsoever from the beginninge of  
the world untill the day of the date hereof In witnes whereof we have  
hereunto Sett our hands and seals the eighth day of June in the twoe  
and twentieth year of his Majesties Raigne that now is Annog Dom 1670  
sealed and delivered in the presence of

William Hartley

John Norman

Charles Dymoke

Mary Norman'

Thomas PERROTT was born on 7 February 1602 and married Elizabeth.  
They were both buried on 22 February 1678. Their children were:

Mary baptised on 12 September 1658

Mary and Hannah baptised on 11 March 1661

Mary baptised on 22 June 1665

Another member of the Perrott family has a memorial in the parish church.  
In 1642, in response to massacres of Protestants by Catholics in Ireland  
Thomas Parratt gave 6d and Richard Perrott gave 10/-. Thomas's token  
has the initials T E P and a heart. Thomas, son of Thomas Perrott of  
Newport Pagnell, was apprenticed to Francis MOORE of the Painters  
company of London on 6 June 1669.

John THORNTON, the token issuer, was a merchant of small wares  
and married Elizabeth in North Crawley, not far from Newport Pagnell.  
John's token shows the initials I E T and a thornbush (maybe a play on  
his surname). Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth, was baptised  
in Newport Pagnell on 11 May 1654 and buried on 2 February 1656.  
Zachariah, son of John and Elizabeth, died on 25 October 1662 and had  
a Quaker burial with his mother on the same day in North Crawley. John  
married Susanna ARNITT on 17 April 1664 in Buckingham, a Quaker  
wedding, and she lived until 1691, when she had a Quaker burial on 20  
October in Newport. John had a Quaker burial on 16 November 1680 in the  
orchard of Henry CUNNINGHAM in Newport.

Samuel, still born son of John and Susan, received a Quaker burial on 12 August 1669 in the Cunningham's Orchard at Newport Pagnell. Their son Zachariah (using the same name as the former deceased child) had a Quaker burial on 20 August 1672 in North Crawley.

John was imprisoned twice at Aylesbury Jail for his religious beliefs (being a Quaker): first for 15 weeks in 1660 and then for three months in 1664. His inventory when he died showed his possessions being worth £179:

**Probate Inventory for John Thornton of Newport Pagnell on  
29 December 1680**

Appraisors: Mathias Coney, John Davis, John Charon

In the shop

Inprimis All the small wares thereto belonging wherein the trade and Merchandize consisteth of Linnen Cloath that is to say of Flaxen hemp Callicoe Linswoolsy underwaiscoates bodys Stockings Caps Sempsters waire made of Severall Sorts Ribbons tapes Laces Flat and Round Couldred threds with all other odd wares thereto belonging exactly measured rated and cast up to the value of 66 11 10  
Item all the Haberdashery Wares for hatts of Severall sorts both Casters and Felts Strawe hatts Lineings hatbands brushes hatcases Looking lace hat presses Counters Shelves and the rest of the implements thereto belonging vallued and Cast up to the just sume of 47 12 0

In the Hall

Item One drawing table and frame three Joynt Stools one little round table One great Pres Cupboard Eight Chaires One Iron Jack foure Spitts one paire of plaine Andirons fire shovell and tongs wth pott hangers and all other lumber there 2 0 6

In the Kitchen

Item three tubs one Kimmill one Deecover with other wooden vessells and all the rest of the Lumber there 0 10 6

In the Butterie

Item Foure barrells one Drink stall one frying Panne at	0 6 8
All the pewter weighed and appraised	1 10 0
All the brasse weighed	3 0 0

In the Chamber over the shop

Item One Joynt bedstead one feather bead three old Cloth bolsters 2 feather pillows 2 blancketts with one old set of Curtaines and vallenge one presse Cupboard 2 Chests 3 boxes 2 Stools 2 Chaires One table and frame with other Certaine Lumber	2 19 0
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In the Chamber over the hall

Item One beadstead with a set of old Curtains and vallans One featherbed 2 feather pillows One flock bolster 2 Old Ruggs one white blancket one Chest 2 Chaires foure Stools One Stable one form 2 old Carpetts 3 Cushions all at	2 16 0
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In the Chamber over the Buttry

Item Two bedsteads 2 flock beds One old Curtaine and vallins One flock pillow one feather pillow one flock bolster two Coffers one wheele one Chaire and 5 old boxes at	1 8 0
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In the yard

Item one old Hovill and a small parcell of firewood with a certaine presell of old boards and tressells with all the rest of the Lumber in and about the Outhouses and yard vallued at	1 1 0
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Item all the Linnen	2 13 0
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Item his wareing apparel	2 2 0
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Item In good Debts and Summes desperate	17 12 0
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Item In ready moneys in the house	22 0 0
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Total	179 0 0
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It is worth bearing in mind the living conditions and local and national events which relate to the people you are researching. For this period, the country had just come out of a long Civil War, which had split families apart and made many poorer. The roads of Bucks were extremely bad and dangerous. They had ruts so deep that when the wheels of a light wagon fell into them, it was very difficult to draw them out. There was also the hazard of boggy ground alongside the roads. When travelling through the county, it was difficult to distinguish the public roads from mere drift-ways, to the extent that without a guide some routes could not be travelled by a stranger with safety. Gypsies were very commonly met with in the wild parts of Bucks and might help travellers. Witness the roads from Fenny Stratford via Drayton Parslow and Stewkley to Wing, or Risborough to Thame, Wendover to Chesham, and all the roads from Chesham; even the best roads were very bad. The road from Maidenhead to Colnbrook was very flat, so that in the winter it was very muddy and in the summer very dusty. To consider a journey to London, it was advisable to write your will and take leave of your acquaintances, in case you did not return.

The period of the 17th to 18th centuries was called the little ice age. Between 1650 and 1700 there were 20 severe winters, the coldest being 1684 when in January and February the River Thames froze and the straits of Dover froze. The winter of 1662 was very mild while the winter of 1663 was very cold.

I started my research by searching Parish registers at Bucks Archives, where I also found hearth tax returns and parish records. Their online catalogue identified Bucks wills, and the work of many volunteers subsequently produced the Bucks FHS database, where I have checked and added to my findings. The National Archives online catalogue identified wills and other documents held both by TNA and in other archives. Thanks to the TNA catalogue, I have located documents in other Record Offices which refer to Bucks residents. I hope this helps other genealogists to realise the wealth of records that are available, and mostly written in English for this period.

*Geoff Swindells*

# The Arthur Veary Treacher Mystery: Part 2

Carol Bossenberry

In part one you read about my challenge trying to make a connection between the Arthur Veary TREACHER family and my husband's VEARY ancestors. I traced the Arthur Veary Treacher family back to the marriage between his great-great grandfather Thomas Treacher and Elizabeth Veary in 1820. I traced Elizabeth and her sister Jane to their parents William Veary and Martha VENABLE but hit a brick wall when I tried to connect them to my husband's Veary ancestors. The Veary and Treacher families lived in High Wycombe and West Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. High Wycombe is a large town situated in the Wye valley on the main London to Oxford road that runs through West Wycombe. The names Treacher and Veary are listed in Poll Books and community directories in the same time frame. Thomas Treacher was an executor of his brother-in-law Joseph Veary's will.

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From the beginning of the quest I worked on the assumption that the Vearys in High Wycombe were all connected in one way or another and that in the late 1700s and early 1800s most people stayed in the same area where they were born and raised, especially if they had established a business.

The images of parish registers for Buckinghamshire are not available online so I ordered parish register transcriptions on CD for High Wycombe and West Wycombe from the Buckinghamshire Family History Society. I have often heard the experts say when you hit a brick wall you just haven't searched hard enough. I knew I needed to go back as far as I could and explore the Veary family in detail to establish a connection between the Veary and Treacher families.

It took just over a week for the two CDs to arrive. I could hardly wait to delve into the records. The actual parish registers are in fragile condition and some are missing but it was worthwhile to spend the money to get accurate transcriptions and be able to look at the entries in chronological order as well

as see the connections with other families in the parish. The set up on the CD allowed for sorting the entries by date, name, year or event (baptism, marriage or burial); however, there were some gaps in the original records.

I searched for the names I already had in the family tree to confirm the information I had obtained from indexes on FindMyPast and FreeBMD.

There were a few variations of spelling of Veary – Vearey, Veery, Very, and possibly Vere. I found the marriage of Samuel VEAREY and Mary HALL in 1781 (Ralph's great-great-great grandfather) and the baptisms of their children: John Vearey 1782, Joseph Vearey 1784, Samuel Grover Vearey 1786, William Veary 1788, Ann Veary 1790, Frederick Miller Veary 1793, Mary Veary in 1795, Thomas Veary 1797 and Richard Veary 1798.

Also under the Vearey spelling were the burial dates of Rebecca Vearey wife of Joseph junior in 1785 and Jane Vearey wife of Joseph senior also in 1785. Joseph Veary was buried 8 Nov 1796. Some time ago on Ancestry I found wills for a Joseph Veary Senior who died in 1791 and a Joseph Veary junior who died in 1796. The script was difficult to read and because they were not people of interest at the time I printed the images and filed them away just in case I might find a connection to my research. When I saw the name Joseph in the burial register I knew I better get out the wills and check the details. It took almost a whole day to transcribe the two wills and even then there were some words and phrases that I could not translate; however, it was a worthwhile exercise in the end.

In his will Joseph Veary named his sons Samuel, Joseph, William and Frederick Miller and daughters Elizabeth, Mary and Susannah. The original will was signed 8 May 1786 with two codicils. In the first codicil signed 11 September 1786 he mentions his wife but she is not mentioned in the second codicil. In the second codicil he identifies himself as Joseph Veary senior, blacksmith. The second codicil was written 4 May 1791. Sons Samuel, William and Joseph are mentioned several times in the will and each time their last name was written but when Joseph referred to his son Frederick Miller the name Veary was not recorded. His son-in-law John ALLEN, husband of daughter Mary, was named in the will as well.

Recorded in the parish register was the marriage of Joseph Veary to Jane GROVER on 11 August 1742 at All Saints Anglican Church in High Wycombe. Jane Vearey was buried on 27 November 1785. Oldest son John Very was



baptised in 1745, Ann Verey in 1747, Mary Veary in 1751, Samuel Veary in 1753, Joseph Veary (Junior) in 1755 and William Veary in 1759. I couldn't find an entry in the parish registers for daughter Susannah or son Frederick Miller.

Again there were more spelling variations which I would not have considered without the transcriptions. I knew I was on the right track as the Grover name occurs in almost every generation of Ralph's family up to the present. I am convinced that Samuel Veary (Ralph's great-great-great-grandfather) is the son of Joseph Veary and Jane Grover. However, the task isn't over yet.

<b>Marriage</b>	<b>1742</b>	<b>11-Aug</b>	<b>Joseph Jane</b>	<b>Veary Grover</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1745</b>	<b>31-Oct</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1747</b>	<b>20-Dec</b>	<b>Ann</b>	<b>Verey</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>05-Nov</b>	<b>Mary</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1753</b>	<b>11-Aug</b>	<b>Samuel</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1755</b>	<b>20-Jul</b>	<b>Joseph</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1759</b>	<b>10-Jun</b>	<b>William</b>	<b>Veary</b>

I looked at the other Joseph Veary will. He referred to himself as Joseph Veary junior, grocer and tallow chandler of Chopping Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. The will was proved 19 June 1797. He named his wife Elizabeth Veary, his brother William Veary and his brother-in-law William BALL as executors. He bequeathed the sum of two thousand pounds to his daughter Sarah to be paid when she attained the age of 21.

I believe that Joseph Veary senior, blacksmith, is the father of Joseph Veary, grocer and tallow chandler, who had an apprentice in 1785 about the time of his first marriage to Rebecca LINE in April of that year. Rebecca died only a few months after the marriage and Joseph married Elizabeth BALL two years later in 1787. The question that remains is – when was daughter Sarah born and who is her mother? There was no baptism recorded in the parish registers for Sarah Veary but in 1830 a Sarah Veary married John PARKER. A Sarah Parker died in 1836 aged 43. If she is the daughter of Joseph that would give her birth as around 1793 leading me to believe that she was the daughter of Elizabeth and the minor daughter mentioned in Joseph's will.

The widow Elizabeth may be the Mrs Elizabeth Veary of Oxford Street who was listed in the 1830 *Pigot's Directory of Buckinghamshire Wycombe*,

*High and West & Neighbourhoods* under the heading 'Nobility, Gentry & Clergy', along with a Mrs Lydia Treacher of Canal Street.

I came across a will for Elizabeth Veary who died in 1840. Her executor was her son-in-law John Parker and she made bequests to her grandson John Parker who was a minor, niece Elizabeth Ball, John Ball and Mary Ball, Joseph Veary of Ham Farm and three WARSALL sisters, Ann, Elizabeth and Mary. This information confirms Elizabeth as the second wife of Joseph Veary junior and connects Sarah Veary and John Parker and their son John. I found an entry in the register for a John Parker aged 4 years who died in 1841. It is possible that Sarah died in childbirth or soon afterwards.

Back to the parish registers. I confirmed the marriage of William Veary and Martha VENABLE on 16 May 1791 and the baptisms for their children, John 1792, William 1795, Elizabeth 1796 (married to Thomas Treacher), Ann 1798 (deceased 1806), Samuel 1800, Thomas 1802, Robert 1804, Martha 1805, Ann 1807 and Jane 1814 (found in the 1841 and 1851 census with sister, Elizabeth Treacher).

<b>Marriage</b>	<b>1791</b>	<b>16-May</b>	<b>William Martha</b>	<b>Veary Venable</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1792</b>	<b>07-Mar</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1795</b>	<b>29-Apr</b>	<b>William</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1796</b>	<b>15-Mar</b>	<b>Elizabeth</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1798</b>	<b>12-Aug</b>	<b>Ann</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>27-Apr</b>	<b>Samuel</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1802</b>	<b>26-Mar</b>	<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>18-May</b>	<b>Robert</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1805</b>	<b>08-Sep</b>	<b>Martha</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1807</b>	<b>25-Jan</b>	<b>Ann</b>	<b>Veary</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	<b>1814</b>	<b>02-Feb</b>	<b>Jane</b>	<b>Veary</b>

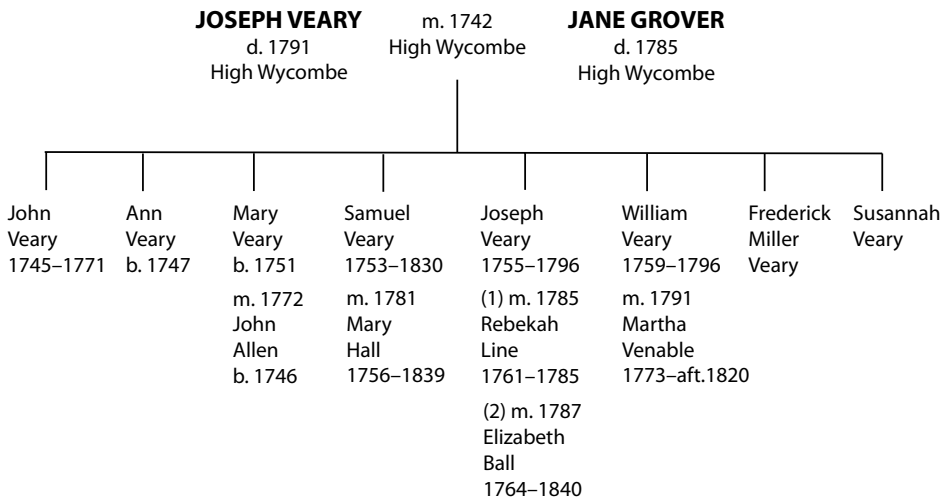
I was going back and forth between the parish registers and other databases to find marriage and death dates for each of the children and came across another will on Ancestry. Joseph Veary of 14 Middleton Square, Pentonville, Middlesex (the Islington/Clerkenwell area of London) died in 1851 and probate of his will was granted 30 July 1851. The executors named were Thomas Treacher, husband of his sister Elizabeth,

and Thomas Veary, his brother. He also mentioned brothers John, Samuel, William and Thomas, and sisters Elizabeth, Ann (married to John ? a draper) of Lower Tooting, Surrey and Jane; nephews Harry Treacher and Charles Treacher and niece Ellen wife of Harry MORETON. That confirms the relationship to William and Martha and his siblings.

Thomas Veary, 73 of Wycombe was buried 21 Mar 1876. His will also available on Ancestry (probate was granted 5 May 1876) wherein he named his nephew Henry Treacher and great nephew Henry Philip Moreton as executors, confirming that he is brother to Elizabeth Veary Treacher and son of William Veary and Martha Venable.

There is one unsolved mystery, that of Jane Veary, youngest daughter of William and Martha. In the parish register I found the 20 May 1852 marriage of Jane Veary, aged 21, spinster, father deceased, to Thomas FURNELL, aged 21, bachelor of Great Marlow, hotel keeper, father deceased. The witnesses were Thomas Treacher and Emma Furnell. The ages were a red flag. However in the 1861 census for Walsall, Staffordshire there was a Thomas Furnell, aged 44, hotel keeper and his wife Jane aged 46 along with daughter Emma, aged 7 years. In the GRO indexes I found the birth in Wycombe, of Emma Jane Furnell in the 3rd quarter whose mother's maiden name was Veary. In the index I found the death of Jane Furnell aged 61 in Walsall, Staffordshire. In the 1891 census in Richmond, Surrey, Thomas Furnell, 75, widower is living with his daughter Emma, 37. Thomas Furnell died in 1892 in Richmond, Surrey. I can only conclude, without seeing the actual marriage register, that ages were not recorded correctly, or there was an error in the transcription. I have seen marriage registrations where the age was written as full, indicating that the person was of legal age i.e. over 21 years and perhaps that was the case here.

At this point I don't have access to any other resources and short of another trip to England I have run out of ideas. Based on the information I gathered I have come to the conclusion that Joseph Veary and Jane Grover had eight children and based on actual and inferred evidence, that William Veary is the younger brother to Samuel by five or six years and that William Veary and Martha Venable are the direct ancestors of Arthur Veary Treacher who is the connection to Ralph's Veary family.



If you are connected to this family and would like to contact the author, please email [editor@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@bucksfhs.org.uk)

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# Beyond the Dead End

Graham Gough

Dead ends they may be, but they needn't be a dead loss. You know the ones I mean: those uninteresting peterings out which arise because everyone contrived to die, or nobody quite got around to being born, and no one lived ever after, happily or otherwise. But you might still find a story there, for all that. Did I say uninteresting? Unpromising would be better. An afternoon's research beyond the basics is what I expected would close the file on the life of an apparently insignificant ancestral cousin, one Robert GOUGH (1844–1922). I was wrong. So I encourage you to take a closer look at those truncated branches which appear in your tree, because like mine, your research efforts may repay you. Here's what I discovered.

The youngest of five children, Robert was born on 19th February 1844<sup>1</sup> at Marsh Gibbon, a large agricultural village in the rural north of our county. His father was variously baker, publican, or labourer Richard Howes Gough (1797–1862) and his mother Harriett (née COX 1802–1870). As far as can be told, his early years were as normal as any similar child's. The census of 1851 lists seven-year-old Robert living with his parents and three older siblings<sup>2</sup>.

Ten years later, at the census taken on 7th April 1861, the then 17-year-old is recorded working at Marsh Gibbon as a labourer,<sup>3</sup> but notably his mother Harriett was absent. I discovered her at the Rose and Crown, a public house a few miles distant in the Oxfordshire hamlet of Blackthorn.<sup>4</sup> Since 1850 the pub had been kept by Harriett's younger unmarried licensee sister Matilda Cox (1803–1865). Was Harriett there helping her sister because Matilda had been unwell? This is entirely speculative, though not impossible. Matilda's death occurred four years later on 13th August 1865,<sup>5</sup> although there is no evidence of Harriett's whereabouts during that time. Whatever the reason for her stay at the Rose and Crown, it was to prove a turning point as far as her son Robert's fortunes were concerned.

Harriett's husband had died at Marsh Gibbon in 1862, and Harriett was not tied to her then grown family. Following the death of her sister she took over the licence of the Rose and Crown, her 23-year-old daughter Maria joining her there. There is nothing to suggest that Robert did so; probably he remained at his work in Marsh Gibbon.

Almost immediately, in September 1865, the following incident occurred. Reported in *The Bicester Advertiser* of 6th October, it set the tenor of what was to come:

### **PETTY SESSIONS, September 29**

Present – Rev. R. Pretyman, Sir Henry Peyton, Bart., and the Rev. John Lowe.

Damaging a Door. – William Walker, of Blackthorn, was charged by Maria Gough with having committed wilful damage at that place, on the 20th of September last. It appeared that Walker went to the plaintiff's house (the Rose and Crown Inn) and wanted some beer. He was disorderly and they refused to give it him. He then kicked at the door, knocking the paint off it, and otherwise damaging it. The amount of the damage done was one shilling. He was fined 2s. with costs 11s. 6d., police 4s., and damage 1s., or one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

A couple of months later, in November, there was a further incident involving William Walker, the resulting hearing being reported at length in *The Bicester Herald, and Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Courier* of 8th December 1865:

### **BICESTER DIVISION PETTY SESSIONS, December 1**

Present – Rev. E. Pretyman, chairman; Sir Henry Peyton, Bart., Rev. J. Lowe, and C.J.B. Marsham, Esq.

#### **REFUSING TO LEAVE A PUBLIC HOUSE AT BLACKTHORN.**

Mr. John King, miller, Blackthorn; William Walker, labourer, Blackthorn; and Thomas Jarvis, labourer, Launton, were charged by Mr. Moulden, superintendent of police, with having, on the 20th of November, refused

to quit the Rose and Crown public house, at Blackthorn, after being requested so to do by the occupier, Mrs. Harriett Gough.

The defendants pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Isaac Berridge, solicitor, Bicester, appeared for the defendants.

Mrs Gough, being sworn, deposed– On Monday week last these three men came to my house, in the evening, between six and seven o'clock. I spoke to them as they were making a great noise and going on shamefully; Walker had a great stick with him. As they were still making a noise I said I would not draw any more beer. Walker spit on me and flourished his stick about. I asked all three of the defendants to leave but they would not. The five other men who were in the house left immediately. Mr King said he would not leave for the police or any one else. I sent for the parish-constable about nine o'clock. The constable when he came in asked them civilly to leave the house, but they sat down and would not go. Mr. Kirby, the constable, then went into the bar. In a short time he went and asked them again to leave. They then left, and it was nearly ten o'clock. When they were leaving they pulled the mantel piece and two pieces of wood down.

Cross-examined by Mr Berridge– Did you draw any more beer for them after you had requested them to leave?

Witness– I did not draw beer for them after I had told them to go. It was before that I drew it.

Mr Berridge– Did you not order them out before they had drunk the beer ordered?

Witness– No; I did not.

Mr Berridge– Did you not draw some gin and water for Mr. King, or any beer after you had told them to leave?

Witness– I did not draw either gin and water or beer after I had told them to quit.

Mr Berridge– Had either of the defendants a stick besides Walker?

Witness– Walker was the only one who had, or flourished a stick.

Mr Berridge– Did you not make more noise than all the rest? (Laughter.)

[At this point Harriett evidently stands down, and her daughter Maria steps up to give evidence, although the report fails to make this clear and simply continues:]

Maria Gough, said– I saw these three men in the house. Mr. King and Walker came between six and seven. Walker had three pints of ale and threepenny worth of brandy. King had three pints of ale and some gin and water. They abused me very much. Walker spit on me, and was bamboozling with his stick in his hand. I distinctly heard mother ask them to leave the house. They would not leave for any one. Mr King said he would not leave for the police or any body. Walker was carrying on very abusive language. I then went for Mr. Kirby, the parish constable, who, when he arrived, asked them to leave, but they would not. Mr. Kirby was at our house about an hour and a quarter. Walker said he would not go till his master went. Mr. Kirby did not put them out, as they were quiet after he came in, Jarvis did not say anything.

Cross-examined by Mr. Berridge– Did you not provoke Walker in some way.

Witness– No, he was not provoked in any manner to my knowledge.

Mr. Berridge– Did you not draw some beer for the defendants, and take it to them, and then take it away?

Witness– There was no beer carried to them, and then taken away again.

Mr. Berridge– Did Mr. King insult you or not?

Witness– He insulted me, as he always does when he comes to our house.

Mr. Berridge– Did you request the defendants to leave?

Witness– I heard both my mother and the constable tell them to go.



William Kirby, deposed– I am one of the constables for the parish of Blackthorn. On the night in question I was called to Mrs Gough’s, the Rose and Crown, at nearly ten o’clock. When I arrived there I saw the three men in the house, they were doing nothing when I went in. I said “How do you do altogether,” when I got there. I told them the people wanted to close the house for the night, and they had better go away, but they refused to leave. I said that if they would not go Mrs. Gough would summon them. I was in the room about twenty minutes. The first time I requested their withdrawal, they refused to leave. I asked them again in about twenty minutes, when they said they would go. I cannot be positive as to whether Walker had a stick in his possession or not. Directly I went in the house I told the defendants they had better leave, but they said they would not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Berridge– Was their any quareling [sic] during the time you were in the house?

Witness– I did not hear any at all while I was there.

Mr. Berridge– Did Mr. King refuse to quit both times you requested him?

Witnes [sic]– The second time I asked him he said he would go.

Mr. Berridge– How long were you in the house?

Witness– About twenty minutes.

The defendants were convicted. Mr. King was fined 40s, costs 10s, and police fees 2s, or two months’ imprisonment; Walker was fined 30s, costs 10s, and police fees 2s, or two months imprisonment; and Jarvis was fined 20s, costs 10s, and police fees 2s, or one month’s imprisonment. Each of the defendants paid the money.

The Chairman in giving the magistrates decision, stated that there were 14 previous convictions against Mr. King, and 6 against Walker.

There were probably other, similar, incidents, which went unreported. The move to Blackthorn was not destined to bring good fortune. On 1st May 1869 Maria died there at the age of 27.<sup>6</sup> Her death was followed by that of



### **The former Rose and Crown, Blackthorn**

*by Steve-Daniels: cc-by-sa/2.0 via [geograph.org.uk/p/ 3447617](https://www.geograph.org.uk/p/3447617)*

her mother just eleven months later.<sup>7</sup> These events did not deter Robert from taking over the licence of the Rose and Crown himself, and on 25th July 1870 when he married 22-year-old Elizabeth CUTLER at St Paul's, Islington, London,<sup>8</sup> the marriage register noted his new occupation.

Possibly the couple had met through the agency of Robert's older brother, James Cox Gough (1838–1892), who had moved to Islington about 1862 following the death of their father. Robert's bride was one of the children of William Cutler, a maker of cane seats for chairs, and Ann his wife (née HARRIS) of Lane End, Marlow. Coincidentally, Elizabeth had also been born on 19th February, sharing her birthday with Robert, although born four years later in 1848.<sup>9</sup> So too had Elizabeth's mother died, in 1858<sup>10</sup> when Elizabeth was only ten. Unusually for the time, her father did not hurry to remarry, but brought up his young family alone until 1866.<sup>11</sup> The census taken on 7th April 1861 reveals that Elizabeth was kept busy by her father as a chair caner, alongside her 15-year-old sister Jane.<sup>12</sup> Between then and the time of her marriage to Robert, Elizabeth went into service in London, and in 1870 she was living at Grove House, Willow Bridge Road, Canonbury.

Willow Bridge Road is a short, well-to-do street. In Elizabeth's time its seven villas, all constructed in the preceding 25 years, provided private residences occupied by people from the professional classes. Grove House seems to have been an older building occupying its own grounds behind the eastern side of the road. Regrettably, while the Victorian villas still stand, the site of Grove House has long since been redeveloped. In 1871 it was the home of 78-year-old retired merchant George J HOSSACK, his wife and five adult children.<sup>13</sup> Only one member of this family was under the age of 30, all of the children being unmarried adults. Clearly Elizabeth was not fulfilling any sort of child care role, but would have been one of the three domestic servants the family employed. Moving with her husband from this relatively genteel environment to a roughneck country pub must have come as something of a culture shock.

On 10th September 1871, a year after the couple's marriage, a son Frederic [sic] Robert was baptised to them<sup>14</sup> at St Mary the Virgin, Ambrosden (of which parish the hamlet of Blackthorn is a part), The birth on 11th August was announced in the columns of *The Bicester Herald, and Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Courier* on Friday 18th August. The occasion may not have been the happy one the couple had been anticipating though, for the boy had been born with a spine disorder which left him unable to walk.<sup>15</sup> Three years passed before a daughter, Harriett Elizabeth, was born. She was to be the last of Robert and Elizabeth's family, receiving her baptism on 27th December 1874.<sup>16</sup>

Another disturbance took place at the Rose and Crown on 30th May 1875, reported by *The Bicester Herald, and Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Courier* on Friday 18th June:

### **BICESTER DIVISION PETTY SESSIONS Friday, June 11**

Before W.W.M. Dewar, Esq. (chairman) and G. Glen, Esq.

Blackthorn.— Thomas Cox, labourer, of Blackthorn, was summoned by Robert Gough, of the "Rose and Crown," Blackthorn, for having on May 30, wilfully damaged property, belonging to complainant, to the amount of 3d.— Elizabeth Gough wife of the complainant, appeared to support the charge, and stated that on the day in question, she saw Cox's wife at the complainant's house. At that time the defendant came

up and went to the door. He had been drinking, but had not been in complainant's house. Defendant wanted to fight, but witness told him that there should be no fighting in her house. He burst the door open, which was the damage complained of. The defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s. and costs. Paid.

Although the report paints a picture of Elizabeth and her husband acting together as one, things between them were not well. At the General Licensing Session which took place before magistrates on Monday 23rd August the same year, Robert found himself rounded upon by the Bench. The same newspaper reported in its edition of Friday 27th August 1875:

### **THE GENERAL ANNUAL LICENSING MEETING**

For the Bicester division was held at the Magistrates' Chamber, Bicester, on Monday August 23. The justices in attendance were George Rochfort Clarke, Esq. (chairman), and George Glen, Esq. The licences were all renewed (with the exception of the following) without remarks being addressed to the applicants with reference to the way in which they had conducted their houses during the past 12 months.

Mr. Robert Gough, of the Rose and Crown Inn, Blackthorn, upon being called, was reprimanded by the chairman for allowing drunkenness on his premises, and also for being guilty of the same offence himself; but he was allowed the license, the chairman telling him the Bench hoped that what they had said would act as a caution to him for the future.

The hopes expressed by the magistrates were in vain. Matters worsened in the coming months. In its edition of 4th March 1876 the *Buckingham Advertiser* reported:

DIVISION PETTY SESSIONS, Friday, February 25th.– Before C.J.B. Marsham Esq. chairman, Major-general Sir T. Peyton, Bart., and W.W.M. Dewar, Esq. ... – Robert Gough, landlord of the "Rose and Crown," Blackthorn, did not surrender to a charge of assaulting his wife (Elizabeth Gough). After hearing the statement of the complainant, the case was adjourned for a week, and a warrant was ordered to be issued in the meantime for the apprehension of the accused.

Whether the arrest warrant was executed is unknown, but a month later, there had been a change. The *Bicester Herald, and Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Courier* carried in its edition of Friday 31st March 1876 a report of the Petty Sessions held the week before:

### **BICESTER DIVISION PETTY SESSIONS Friday, March 24**

Before E. Slater-Harrison, Esq. (chairman), Major-General Sir T. Peyton, Bart., and C.J.B. Marsham, G. Glen, and W.W.M. Dewar Esqrs.

Holdovers of the following licences, until transfer day in May, were granted:— "The Plough," Sheep-street, Bicester, from Mr W. Budd to Mr. J. Clifton, and "The Rose and Crown," Blackthorn, from Mr. R. Gough to Mr. A. Markham. — The first-named application was allowed, by the magistrates, without any demur; but, upon Mr. Gough making known his request, they reminded him that they hoped he would behave better in future, and that his wife behaved very kindly to him in withdrawing the summons against him for assaulting her, or he might then have been in prison. — Mr Gough: I forgive her. — The Chairman and Mr Dewar expressed themselves of the belief that there was no occasion for him to do that; but that he ought to be thankful to his wife for forgiving him. — In reply to enquiries, Mr. Gough said he was going to work at his trade, and was all right except when in drink.

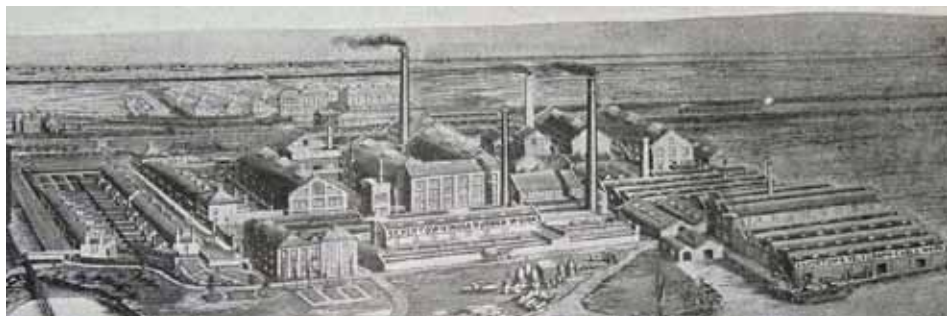
It doesn't seem far-fetched to suppose that Elizabeth had persuaded her erring husband to take work in the capital in order to put The Rose and Crown, and everything it represented to her, behind them. Although not a Londoner herself, Elizabeth had worked there, and Robert's own brother did so. His assistance may well have been sought. A sale of the couple's household furniture and effects took place at The Rose and Crown at one in the afternoon of Wednesday 5th April 1876.<sup>17</sup> Although the move to London may be seen as a genuine attempt at a fresh start, it did not get off to a good start: sadly, within three months 19-month-old daughter Harriett had died.<sup>18</sup>

On the night of the 1881 census, 3rd April, Robert, Elizabeth and Frederick were living at 27 Upper Constance Street, Silvertown.<sup>19</sup> Robert was

employed as a labourer, although in what trade we are not told. Besides removing the direct temptation of the barrel, work in the growing industrial area of Silvertown may have been more lucrative than the trade of a country publican. Regardless of the behaviour Robert had shown towards his wife, it is not hard to imagine Elizabeth's probable relief at being rid of the troublesome Coxes, Kings, Walkers and no doubt others, of Blackthorn.

Thirty years earlier, about the time Robert's mother and sister had moved from Marsh Gibbon to Blackthorn, Silvertown did not exist. The development of Constance Street, Andrew Street, and Gray Street, north of the riverside area that would become the industrial Silvertown had begun about 1865.<sup>20</sup> In 1891 their address is shown as 62 Constance Street and Robert as a general labourer.<sup>21</sup> The address remains unchanged in 1901,<sup>22</sup> though Robert's occupation is given more informatively as 'labourer (telegraph works)', which points to his having been working nearby on the large riverside industrial site of the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Company. Perhaps this is where Robert had worked since his arrival in London, for his older brother James Cox Gough had been working for the company at the time of his marriage in 1865.<sup>23</sup>

The six years Elizabeth had spent with her husband in Blackthorn had been stressful and at times distressing. The first had begun with wedding bells but had ended with the birth of a child with a disability. For their livelihood



**The India Rubber and Telegraph Cable Works c.1869**

*by an unknown engraver (Counterfire, Public Domain, via Wikimedia Commons)*

she and her husband had been at the beck and call of neighbours who could show little or no respect for them or their property. Her husband had become drunken and violent towards her, and although the six years had ended with her removal to the city she knew and doubtless preferred, her second child was dead.

Although none of the records left by the couple hint at mental illness, about 1891 at the age of 43, some 15 years after returning to London, Elizabeth was held to be a lunatic.<sup>24</sup> The word then meant 'one who has had understanding, but by disease, grief, or other accident has lost the use of his reason ... one that has lucid intervals, sometimes enjoying his senses, and sometimes not'.<sup>25</sup> Elizabeth was still living at home at 62 Constance Street with Robert and Frederick in 1901,<sup>22</sup> but within ten years her condition had deteriorated to the extent that she was admitted to the newly constructed and, for its time, state-of-the-art West Ham Borough Asylum.<sup>26</sup> Might the death in the spring of 1907 of disabled son Frederick Robert<sup>27</sup> been the final straw? He was buried at East Ham on 18th May at the age of 35.

By way of adding insult to injury the census taken on 2nd April 1911<sup>28</sup> records Robert, then aged 66, as an unemployed cable manufacturer. He was living at Halton Cottage, 25 Halton Road, Islington North<sup>29</sup> the home of his sister-in-law Jemima (née CULLEY, 1843–1918), the widowed wife of James Cox Gough, the older brother who perhaps had been instrumental in introducing him to Elizabeth. This unemployment is consistent with Robert having been working in cable making for the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Company, for after 1902 the company largely withdrew from cable manufacture, and although it continued to install submarine cables until 1914, inevitably some of its workforce were no longer needed.

Whilst Robert's sister-in-law undoubtedly knew of Elizabeth's illness and her whereabouts, for she completed the census form in 1911 at the time Robert was lodging with her, evidently other family members were allowed to believe that his wife had died. Having stayed with Jemima 'for a while', he returned to Marsh Gibbon.<sup>30</sup>

Jemima died in 1918,<sup>31</sup> Robert in 1922 at the age of 78.<sup>32</sup> Whether he ever visited Elizabeth after his return to Marsh Gibbon, I don't know. If he did not, he had at least told the asylum of his whereabouts while he stayed

with Jemima. Four years after Robert's death, that institution addressed a letter to him at Halton Cottage. It communicated to its surprised recipients that Elizabeth, whom they had supposed was long dead, had recently died.<sup>33</sup> She was 78, as her late husband had been. Her burial took place at St Mary the Virgin, High Road, Great Ilford, Essex on 25th October 1926.

My afternoon's research occupied the best part of three weeks, and turned out to be some of the most productive time I have spent on family history. So try not to overlook those dead ends, however unpromising they may look. Until you start digging, you never know what you might dig up.

(This article was first published in the Winter 2021 Newsletter of the Goff-Gough Family Association: <https://goff-gough.com/index.php>)

## References

1. GRO Buckingham 6 377 March 1844
2. Census taken 30th March 1851 HO 107 1724
3. Census taken 7th April 1861 RG 9/879
4. Census taken 7th April 1861 RG 9/899
5. Oxford History Centre PAR007 1 R5 2 010
6. GRO Bicester 3a 386 June Quarter 1869
7. Oxford History Centre PAR007 1 R5 2 015; Harriett had died on 29th March 1870 and was buried at St Mary the Virgin, Ambrosden on 2nd April 1870, aged 67.
8. GRO Islington 1b 300 September Quarter 1870
9. GRO Wycombe 6 422 March Quarter 1848
10. GRO Wycombe 3a 235 September Quarter 1858
11. William Cutler married widow Mary Ann Steel at Lane End on 5th May 1866 (GRO Wycombe 3a 609, June Quarter 1866). In 1861 William's family consisted of two girls Elizabeth and Jane aged 13 and 15, and two boys Henry and William aged 5 and 9; another girl, Rachel, aged about 8 was absent on the night of the census.
12. RG 8/858



13. Census taken 2nd April 1871 RG 10/296. Although Elizabeth had left her employment the previous summer to get married, there is no reason to suppose that Grove House had been occupied during the intervening months by anyone other than the Hossacks. For a synopsis of the 19th-century development of Canonbury, London, see British History Online: <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/middx/vol8/pp19-20>
14. Oxford History Centre PAR007 1 R2 2 052
15. My thanks to researchers Matt Banks (via Rootschat) and Andrew Gough for this information.
16. Oxford History Centre PAR007 1 R2 2 056
17. Advertised in the *Bicester Herald and Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Courier*, Friday 31st March 1876.
18. GRO Islington 1b 219 September Quarter 1876; she was buried at Islington on 28th July. <https://www.deceasedonline.com/servlet/GSDOSearch?DetsView=Summary&src=ext&fileid=1019466>
19. RG 11/1716
20. For a synopsis of the 19th-century development of Silvertown, London, see British History Online <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/essex/vol6/pp43-50>
21. Census taken 5th April 1891 RG 12/1316
22. Census taken 31st March 1901 RG 13/1578
23. For a history of this company and its activities, see the detailed Wikipedia article at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India\\_Rubber,\\_Gutta\\_Percha\\_and\\_Telegraph\\_Works\\_Company](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India_Rubber,_Gutta_Percha_and_Telegraph_Works_Company); James Cox Gough's marriage to Jemima Culley took place at St Bartholemew's, Islington, on 24th December 1865: GRO Islington 1b 448 December Quarter 1865.
24. We know this from a note which has been added to the return of the census taken 2nd April 1911, which lists the patients at West Ham Borough Asylum on that date.
25. Commentaries on the Laws of England 1765-1769 by William Blackstone (via Roberts, Andrew 1981-/glossary – Mental Health History Words <<http://studymore.org.uk/mhhglo.htm>>).

26. See <https://ezitis.myzen.co.uk/goodmayes.html> for a history of the hospital
27. GRO West Ham 4a 62 June Quarter 1907
28. RG 14/939
29. Halton Cottage suffered bomb damage during World War II, and was condemned in 1959. My thanks to fellow researcher and Jemima's descendant Brenda Skeffington for this information. Modern flats now occupy the site.
30. My thanks to Brenda Skeffington for this information from her father.
31. GRO Islington 1b 742 December Quarter 1918
32. GRO Buckingham 3a 1010 December Quarter 1922
33. GRO Romford 4a 490 December Quarter 1926

## Heckler or Hackler

Do you have an ancestor in the wool or cotton milling trade? Have you got a **hackler** or **heckler**? A hackler combed the impurities out of the flax ready for weaving; he would tease lumps out of the hemp for spinning. A hackle maker made the combs for combing the flax.

Perhaps you have a **fuller**, a **tucker** or a **walker**? A fuller finished the woven flax by treading it in liquid laced with fuller's earth. In Medieval times they trod the cloth in stale urine. Fuller was the southern version of the term, tucker in the south west and walker in the north.

You may have a **hoyman**. The hoyman operated a small boat to carry goods or people in coastal waters. A **hoyboatman** was a shore-based seaman who assisted vessels entering the port.

*Abecedarian*

# AGM Report 2020

## Legal and Administrative Information

### Charity Trustees

The Executive Committee is the Charity Trustees of the Buckinghamshire Family History Society (“the Charity”), and the members listed below have all served throughout the year except where indicated. They are:

Rosemarie Bucknell	Served throughout the year
David Foster	Served throughout the year
Colin Kightley	Served throughout the year
Steve Powell	Served throughout the year
John Price	Served throughout the year
Anthony Sargeant	Served throughout the year

The Charity Trustees are appointed each year by the members of the Charity at the Annual General Meeting. Each Trustee serves a term of one year. Retiring Trustees can be re-elected.

The Trustees receive no remuneration for their work as Trustees. The day to day running of various aspects of the charity is delegated to individual postholders who are appointed on an annual basis by and report to the Trustees.

### Address

Buckinghamshire Family History Society, Box 2 c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

### Independent Examiners

Lane Accounting Limited, Denmark House, 143 High Street, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 9QL and 29 Ballyknockan Road, Ballygowan County Down, BT23 6NR

### Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd., 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

### Insurance Brokers

Towergate Risk Solutions, Funtley Court, Funtley Hill, Fareham Hants PO16 7UY .

# Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2020

## **Status and Administration**

The Charity was constituted in 1976 by a constitution and registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 290335. The constitution has been amended in subsequent years, the latest amendment being in 2017.

## **Charitable Objects**

The objects of the charity are

- a) to promote and encourage the public study of family history, genealogy, heraldry, local history and other associated subjects with particular reference to the County of Buckingham.
- b) To promote the preservation, security and accessibility of archival material.
- c) To promote and engage in educational activities including the publication and sale of a regular journal and other appropriate material.

## **Review of activities and achievements**

This year has been one of disruption for many due to COVID-19 and Bucks FHS is no exception. The Society has had to adapt to cope with the changes in both law and attitudes while trying to provide a service to our members. Travel restrictions have affected the central operation of Bucks FHS and I thank Steve Powell for collection and distribution of the post. We have also been able to keep sales going due to the efforts of Angela Evans and John Price, thank you.

Since February the Executive committee has been meeting via Zoom. It is doubtful if the Executive will meet in person for the normal running of Bucks FHS in the future. Using Zoom allows the possibility of a larger Executive Committee without travel costs or time involved. The work of the Executive and Open Day committees are being restricted due to the lack of members.

With the cancellation of all meetings at our venues, the Society started virtual talks via Zoom ably managed by Dave Foster. These have been popular and allowed members from further afield take part. Thank you, Dave. The Executive Committee explored the possibility of holding an AGM in 2020 on more than one occasion. But these were not successful due to the evolving situation. There were problems in organising alternative meetings.

Open Day was cancelled for 2020 and appears to be unlikely for 2021.

With Buckinghamshire Archives closed for most of the year, number of new publications has fallen. We have been able to publish both Langley Marish and Winslow parish registers. The closure of the Local Studies at the same venue meant that the normal help-desk for the public has stopped for the time being. Towards the end of the year it was decided to add an advice or workshop meeting in 2021.

The Executive Committee have had to manage the costs of Bucks FHS. During 2020 postage rates have continued to rise especially for international. The continued rise in costs has shown the Executive that arise in membership rates is still a necessity.

The Executive met 6 times in 2020 in accordance with the constitution. I would like to thank all the members who served on the committee and other volunteers within Bucks FHS. If anybody is interested in helping Bucks FHS on the Executive Committee they will be most welcome.

Thank you to all our volunteers and members who continue to support Bucks FHS.

## **Income Generation**

This has been a quite exceptional year and the numbers presented are also exceptional. Gross income decreased by £5314 in 2020, the third year in succession. The subscriptions were down by £1438, this can be explained by banking transaction taking place after the year end due to the lockdown. However, the lockdown also meant that there was an increase in sales of Publications and Searches of £1143. This year we did not hold our Open Day and therefore we were down by £2418, with £90 still owing to stallholders. The pandemic also meant we were unable to hold our monthly meeting which equated to £2575 loss of income.

## **Investment powers, policy and performance**

The Trustee's Investment powers are governed by the Constitution, which permits the Charity's funds to be invested by the Trustees in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject to any conditions, consents or constraints as may for the time being be imposed or required by law.

The Charity's investments have continued to be managed in line with the Constitution, with current assets over and above working capital being invested in a CAF Bank Gold Account and COIF Charities Deposit Fund.

## **Fund-raising**

The Charity has not carried out any fund-raising activities during the year.

## **Resources expended and services**

As you can see in the accounts there was a deficit for the year of £37,531 this consists of two parts, a write-off of £39,400 and surplus of £1,868 for 2020.

Within the accounts we held a value for fixed assets of £39,400. This is cost value when the equipment & assets were purchased and hopefully a resale value. After an equipment audit the committee found that the items were all over 6 years old, and a decision was taken that this value should be written off as resale value would be much lower. Going forward any Capital Spend over £200 would be classed as a Fixed Asset and would be depreciated over 4 years.

The surplus of £1868 for 2020 activities comes from many factors. There were decreases in the cost of our Family History Show and other Fairs, Postage/Stationery and Travel Costs. Venue costs for branch meetings decreased due to COVID-19 with meetings only up to March. Total meeting costs include speaker fees for the online talks.

Publication Costs of Origins reduced by £1675 as more members took the offer of going paperless. Monthly meeting reduced by £2315, however, the online talks attracted speaker costs with no corresponding income. Open Day and Fairs did not take place. The subscriptions the Society pays were reduced they were prepaid in 2019. Travel costs we down as committee meeting were via ZOOM and no fairs.

## **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees approved a reserves policy during the year. Factors taken into account included the need to cover fluctuations in income (principally subscriptions from members, income from sales of family history information), current liabilities and unplanned expenditure.

The level of available reserves (net of any Restricted and/or Designated Funds and planned extraordinary capital expenditure) should be maintained in order to ensure the future of the Society in the event of total loss of income, the Society shall retain available funds (net of any Restricted and/or Designated Funds) to run the Society for one year without income and to hold an additional reserve to enable action to be taken following the loss of income. The level of income to be retained for this purpose is 150% of the average of the gross income for the previous three years.

The Trustees will review the level of reserves at least twice each year. Should the level of available reserves fall outside of the stated range, the Trustees will review the activities of the Charity and make such changes as deemed to be appropriate. This policy was adopted by the Trustees in October 2011. The policy was last reviewed and renewed in December 2020. The gross incomes for 2018 to 2020 averaged £17,555. The cash reserves at 31/12/2020 net of restricted and designated funds was £69,032 being 243% above the stated required reserve level.

## **Independent Examiners' Report to the Members of Buckinghamshire Family History Society**

### **Charity No. 290335**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name: Richard Lane**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: ACA., ICAEW**

**Address: 29 Ballyknockan Road, Ballygowan County Down, BT23 6NR**

**Date: April 2021**

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Current Year 2020		Prior Year 2019	
		£	£	£	£
<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>					
<b>Voluntary Income:</b>					
Subscriptions received		6,200		7,638	
Donations		286		90	
		<u>        </u>	6,486	<u>        </u>	7,728
<b>Income from Charitable Activities:</b>					
Publications		4,751		4,122	
Libraries		-		-	
Searches		1,661		1,147	
Bucks FHS Open Day		90		2,508	
Fairs		-		-	
Meetings & Events		-		2,575	
Advertising		-		-	
Miscellaneous Income		763		834	
		<u>        </u>	7,265	<u>        </u>	11,186
<b>Investment Income:</b>					
Bank Interest Received			167		318
			<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>			<b>13,918</b>		<b>19,232</b>
			<u>        </u>		<u>        </u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Current Year 2020		Prior Year 2019	
Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Costs of Charitable Activities:</b>				
Origins inc. Members Interest	4,996		6,671	
Society Meetings & Events	1,436		3,751	
Bucks FHS Open Day	-		2,151	
Fairs and other Open Days	-		798	
Website and Internet	164		-	
Storage Costs	1,967		1,962	
Subscriptions	65		836	
Travel	54		627	
Misc. Costs of Charitable Activities (3)	943		948	
		9,625		17,744
<b>Costs of Governance:</b>				
External Examination	720		720	
Insurance	308		308	
Hall Hire	-		-	
Post & Stationery	279		633	
Travel	-		-	
Fixed Asset Depreciation	39,400		-	
Miscellaneous	134		95	
		40,841		1,756
<b>Costs of Generating Funds:</b>				
Cost of sale of publications	984		497	
		984		497
<b><u>Total Resources Expended</u></b>		<b>51,450</b>		<b>19,997</b>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>		<b>£(37,532)</b>		<b>£ (765)</b>



**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	Current Year 2020 £	Prior Year 2019 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	(2)	-	<b>39,400</b>
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Publication Stocks etc.		2,515	2,515
Cash at Bank	(4)	90,890	89,141
Cash in Hand	(5)	521	402
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>93,926</b>	<b>92,058</b>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Expenses Payable		-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>£93,926</b>	<b>£131,458</b>
<b>Reserves:</b>			
Balance at 31.12.2019	(6)	131,458	132,223
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		(37,532)	(765)
Balance at 31.12.2020	(6)	<b>£93,926</b>	<b>£131,458</b>

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C Kightley on behalf of the Managing Trustees

**NOTES OF THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1.Accounting Policy**

*a.Basis of Accounting*

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014.

*Fixed Asset Policy*

Fixed assets are held at original purchase cost.

*b.Investment Policy*

The Society's investment policy is to invest the majority of its reserves in the CAF Charity Deposit Fund whilst also ensuring timely transfers of funds where necessary.

*c.Incoming Resources*

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA where the charity is legally entitled to the income.

*d.Resources Expenses*

All expenditure is recognised on a cash basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to that category.

**NOTES OF THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

<b>2. Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Assets held at 31.12.2019	39,400	39,400
Additions	-	-
Depreciation	(39,400)	-
Assets held at 31.12.2020	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 39,400</u>
<b>3. Expenses of Charitable Activities – Misc Costs</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Credit Card Costs	403	807
Bank Charges	540	141
Total	<u>£943</u>	<u>£948</u>
<b>4. Cash at Bank</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
CafCash Main Current Account	1,000	1,000
CafGold Account	18,477	15,202
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	50,686	50,553
Bank of Scotland	20,727	22,386
Total Cash at Bank at 31.12.2020	<u>£90,890</u>	<u>£89,141</u>
<b>5. Cash in Hand</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Southern Group	217	103
Northern Group	117	117
Central Group	187	182
Aylesbury Catering	-	-
Total Cash in Hand at 31.12.2020	<u>£521</u>	<u>£402</u>

## NOTES OF THE ACCOUNTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

6. Breakdown of Reserves Balance	2020	2019
General Reserves Fund (Unrestricted Fund)	71,547	109,079
Equipment Fund (Unrestricted Fund– Designated)	5,000	5,000
2005 Review Fund (Unrestricted Fund– Designated)	17,379	17,379
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Reserves at 31.12.2020	93,926	131,458

### 13

The Caf Cash Main Current Account is a sweep account with the Caf Gold Account. The daily balance in the Current Account is maintained at £1,000 with monies automatically transferred from the Gold account.

An Unrestricted Fund is one where the contents may be used for any purpose permitted by the objects of the Charity. A Designated Fund is also unrestricted but the contents of the fund have been allocated for a particular special purpose by the Trustees.

A Restricted Fund is one where the contents may only be used for particular purpose, usually because the moneys have been raised specifically for that purpose. The Society did not have Restricted Funds at 31.12.2020.

*[The reports and accounts are published as submitted and are presented here for information only]*

### **Holt's Family History Research**

*Have you ever hit a brick wall and don't know how to break it down?  
Have you ever needed someone on the ground to research in  
archives? If so, I can help! I am a genealogist with twenty years  
experience. Please check out my online reviews and contact me for a  
free no obligation quote.*

[holtsfamilyhistoryresearch@gmail.com](mailto:holtsfamilyhistoryresearch@gmail.com)



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07983633023



**Do you have ancestors in  
Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire,  
Essex, Hampshire, Gloucestershire,  
Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire,  
Warwickshire, Wiltshire or Worcestershire?**

## *The Eureka Partnership*

transcribes and publishes historic data from these counties.  
We transcribe unusual and lesser known records such as those  
listed below.

Non Conformist Registers  
Workhouse Records  
Militia Lists  
Pre 1841 Census Lists  
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Taxation Records  
School Records  
Charity Records  
Canal Boat Registrations  
Canal Boat Inspections  
Marriage Notices  
Probate Records  
Asylum Records

**Our Website and Online Shop at**  
**[www.eurekapartnership.com](http://www.eurekapartnership.com)**

**contains full details.**

# Buckinghamshire FHS SOCIETY SERVICES

## What is available?

- Names indexes and databases
- Libraries containing publications of local and general interest
- Publications for sale

## How do I request a service?

- Individual service request procedures are detailed on the following pages. Information is also on our website at <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>
- Please send your order for publications or for searches to the address specified.
- The services are not run from a central office, but by individual volunteers.
- If you are writing to the Society address, to avoid delay please ensure the name of the service and volunteer you wish to contact is included in the address on the envelope.

## How do I pay?

Please refer to the individual services notices on the following pages

- **Cheque**  
Made payable to 'Buckinghamshire Family History Society' and drawn on a UK clearing bank. For sums less than £2.00 please send equivalent value in postage stamps instead.

- **Credit Card**

We are able to process credit card transactions through our website for membership, publications and searches. Please visit our shop at <https://shop.bucksfhs.org.uk> to place your order.

## How is postage charged?

Stamped addressed envelopes must be supplied for a written reply, otherwise please give an email address. Please do NOT use the prices in the online shop when purchasing items by post, as this will delay your order. There is a separate price list available for download online.

## How do I cancel my order?

Sales are covered by the Consumer Contracts Regulations 2013 & Consumer Rights Act 2015. Orders may be cancelled within 14 days. In the case of goods supplied (e.g. books) this is 14 days from the date of receipt by the consumer. In the case of services supplied (e.g. database searches) this is 14 days from the date of the contract which is the date on which Buckinghamshire Family History Society receives the request. Any cancellation must be in writing either by post or e-mail to the address to which the original order was sent. On the receipt of a cancellation notice and the returned goods the Society is required to refund the cost within 30 days. Cost of postage for the returned goods will be borne by the customer. Any orders for magazines or periodicals which the Society may from time to time sell are excluded from the right to cancel.

## Other notes

- Please note that fees for searches undertaken at fairs may vary.
- Please provide full contact details including email address, as this will help us to process your order more efficiently.

# Society Publications

## Bucks FHS Publications

Bucks FHS has published parish registers, 1851 census and miscellaneous records available for purchase variously on CD and printed formats.

CDs are designed for Windows systems and are NOT compatible with Apple Mac systems. Microfiche (fiche) require a microfiche reader. Many libraries and Record Offices have microfiche readers.

### To purchase items by post:

- For a catalogue, please send a C5 sae (162 x 229 mm).
- See 'how to pay' on the introduction pages to this section
- Use the details in the catalogue for prices including P&P charges for postal purchases – Please do NOT use the prices in the online shop when purchasing items by post, as this will delay your order.

### To purchase items online:

Consult the Society's online shop on the website at <https://shop.bucksfhs.org.uk>

### Contact

Bucks FHS Publications, Bucks FHS, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

**Email:** [printed.publications@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:printed.publications@bucksfhs.org.uk) (for printed publications)  
[cd.publications@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:cd.publications@bucksfhs.org.uk) (for CD & DVD)

# Search Service

## CBS look up (Members Only)

A search of a specific type of record will be undertaken for members by volunteers at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies (CBS) in Aylesbury.

For each member, the time spent on searches will be limited to 2 hours per annum. Further time may be made available to a member with a donation to the Society's funds.

Requests should be sent by email to the Search Service with details of the type of record and the time period to be searched together with your Membership Number. Searches will normally be undertaken and the results reported back to the member within 21 days.

### Contact

CBS Look up, Bucks FHS, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

**Email:** [cbinfo@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:cbinfo@bucksfhs.org.uk)



# Database Searches

## Baptisms and Burials

This searchable database is an on-going transcription of baptism and burial entries from deposited Buckinghamshire parish registers 1538 to 1908.

The following options apply to a baptism **OR** a burial search – please specify which you require:

- Option 1: Single Baptism OR Burial Search – first name and surname £1
- Option 2: Single Surname Search – all available parishes £3 per 100 years
- Option 3: Single Surname Search – all available parishes, all years £10
- Option 4: Single Surname Search – all years in 6 parishes £3

*(Options 3 & 4 are available to members only)*

Results sent by email, or by post as a print out (please include large sae and loose stamps for postal option). Visit <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>, email or send an sae for a list of parishes and dates in the database.

Payment for baptism and burial searches can be sent by post (by cheque, postage stamps). Credit card payments can be made online; please email for details.

### Contact

Madeleine Harvey, BFHS Baptisms, 1 Drove Cottages, Newhaven Road, Rodmell, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3HD

**Email:** [baptisms@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:baptisms@bucksfhs.org.uk)

## Marriages

This searchable database contains transcripts of marriage entries from deposited Buckinghamshire parish registers. It is fully transcribed from 1538 to 1837, with many parishes up to 1908.

- Option 1: Single Marriage Search – first name and surname £1
- Option 2: Single Surname Search – all available parishes £3 per 100 years
- Option 3: Single Surname Search – all available parishes, all years £10

*(Option 3 is available to members only)*

Results sent by email, or by post as a print out (please include large sae and loose stamps for postal option). Visit <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>, email or send an sae for a list of parishes and dates in the database.

Payment for marriage searches can be sent by post (by cheque, postage stamps). Credit card payments can be made online; please email for details.

### Contact

Marilyn Blake, BFHS Marriages, 5 Mandeville Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2BD

**Email:** [marriages@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:marriages@bucksfhs.org.uk)

# Society Libraries

## Exchange Journals Library

Contains copies of other Societies' journals from home and abroad.

The Society exchanges journals with a large number of other family history societies both in this country and overseas. The librarian keeps the three most recent journals of each society.

Members may borrow journals for up to a month by post or at the Central or North Bucks meetings. Those borrowing by post are asked to reimburse the small postal charges.

### Contact

Exchange Journals Librarian, Bucks FHS, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

**Email:** [magexchange@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:magexchange@bucksfhs.org.uk)

## Take a look at our FACEBOOK GROUP

Our new Facebook group (which is separate to our Facebook page) is proving popular. There are now over 80 photos of Bucks churches and chapels. Members are beginning to share research interests, and some have already found common ancestors and other links. It's also a good source of news about family history developments, and the various events and shows that BFHS will be attending during the year.



# Useful Contacts

**Buckinghamshire Archives (formerly CBS)**  
County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UU  
[www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

**Record Office** Tel: 01296 382587  
Email: [archives@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:archives@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

**Local Studies** Tel: 01296 382250  
(Check before visiting)

**High Wycombe Library**  
5 Eden Place, High Wycombe,  
Bucks, HP11 2DH  
Tel: 01296 382415  
Email: [lib-hiw@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:lib-hiw@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

**Milton Keynes Local Studies  
and Family History Library**  
555 Silbury Boulevard,  
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK9 3HL  
Tel: 01908 254051

**Slough Library**  
The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY  
Tel: 01753 875533  
Email: [library@slough.gov.uk](mailto:library@slough.gov.uk)

**Chesham Library**  
Elgiva Lane, Chesham, Bucks, HP5 2JD  
Tel: 01296 382415  
Email: [lib-che@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:lib-che@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

**Buckingham Library**  
Verney Close, Buckingham,  
Bucks, MK18 1JP  
Tel: 01296 382415  
Email: [lib-buc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:lib-buc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

**Society of Genealogists**  
14 Charterhouse Buildings,  
Goswell Road, London, EC1M 7BA  
Tel: 020 7251 8799  
[www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk)

**The National Archives**  
Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond,  
Surrey, TW9 4DU  
Tel: 020 8876 3444  
Email: [enquiry@pro.gov.uk](mailto:enquiry@pro.gov.uk)  
[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

**General Register Office**  
PO Box 2,  
Southport PR8 2JD  
Tel: 0300 123 1837  
Email: [certificate.services@gro.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:certificate.services@gro.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.gro.gov.uk](http://www.gro.gov.uk)

## 'ORIGINS' ADVERTISEMENT RATES

**Full page: £40**

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**three** consecutive issues

Contact: BFHS Editor, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields,  
Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 8BU  
Email: [editor@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@bucksfhs.org.uk)

# Alan Dell Memorial Award

*2021 competition for best  
Origins article*

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**Second prize £25.00**

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[www.bucksfhs.org.uk](http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk)



Please submit entries to the 2021 competition to:

[editor@bucksfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@bucksfhs.org.uk)