

# GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE

Journal of the Society of Genealogists



*Guilielmus Camden Clarencieux  
Rex Armor*

*Nicholas Charles Lacey*

Volume 34 Number 8 Dec 2023

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



SOCIETY OF  
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Founded 1911

Welcome to this December edition of the *Genealogists' Magazine* and also welcome to all the Society's new members who joined this year (approaching 600 in the last 12 months). We have some great articles in this quarter's edition. Having photographer friends, who always remind me how tough their job is, I am very eager to read Helen Dawkins' article "*Photographers were a hardy bunch*". What also stands out to me in every edition is the personal stories that are so vividly depicted, and the fascinating contributions from Peter Wynn and Terence Gower will be some of the many highlights this month, of which there are too many to list. Despite the excitement that comes with every edition, December's edition brings with it the sadness of losing Lord Teviot, who had given so much to the Society and the wider community. To Lord Teviot and everyone we have lost this year, you will be missed and forever remembered.

With 2024 just around the corner the events team have worked hard to bring you a full list of courses, walks and visits for next year as well as shorter talks for the first half of the year. We are bringing back our most popular courses including the 18th Century summer school which will be a long weekend course. Our 17th Century course will be coming back as a week long summer school. We are also repeating the *What to do with your Family History* course and *Creating Family Trees and Pedigree Charts*. We're continuing the popular quarter day socials and the monthly palaeography club for members. Plus of course we're repeating the ever popular Stage 1, 2 & 3 Skills courses. Ann Larkham's Photogenealogy course has been very popular and she has promised to return in 2024 to teach us to use metadata. We also strive to bring you new events, and I'm particularly excited to see a 3 week course on creating beautiful family trees with calligrapher Fiona Mitchell, a 6 week course on writing your family history with Janet Few and Natalie Pithers, plus a talk on the use of family history with dementia patients.

Every year feels like they pass faster than the last. With so many exciting things in the pipeline at the Society; new library, improvements in our online resources, we are finishing 2023 with a flourish. So, with an imaginary glass of festive mulled wine in hand, I offer everyone cheers for 2024 and wish you a wonderful time over the Christmas period.

***Patrick Barker***  
Chief Executive



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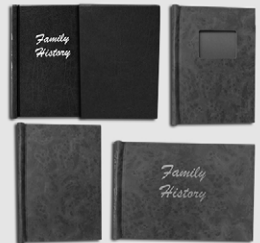
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# GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE



Volume 34 Number 8 Dec 2023 Editor: Michael J. Gandy, BA, FSG

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**Cover picture:** *Marshaled arms from the Trelawny Roll.* The roll was seen and noted by William Camden, Clarenceaux King of Arms and Nicholas Charles, Lancaster Herald of Arms in 1613, and subsequently approved at the Visitation of Cornwall in 1620 by Henry St, George, Richmond Herald and Sampson Lennard, Bluemantle Pursuivant.

The Society of Genealogists does not necessarily agree with, support or promote any opinion or representation by contributors to *Genealogists' Magazine*. Please note that some terminology that appears in this publication is the language of the time and is used in the historical context.

# THE TRELAWNY FAMILY OF TRELAWNE

*Terence Trelawny Gower*

I was asked to write something on the Trelawny family, and on consideration I was at a loss as to where to start. In a flash of inspiration came the solution: start at the beginning. Obviously, condensing a thousand years of history into a magazine article was not going to be easy, so I would crave the indulgence of readers for my focusing on but a few of the actors.

As with many ancient families the origins are usually lost in the mist of time and the Trelawnys are no exception. I recall many years ago reading a rather fanciful account of the ancient Trelawny battling alongside the Celt-Britons against the Saxon invaders in the 8th/9th centuries. Probably a tale worth the telling, but is it possible that they were part of the invading armies rather than the defenders? Fox-Davis in his *Armorial Families* (1895) states that they were of Saxon descent, or at least claimed to be so (I have not seen any other source of this alleged claim). After the Conquest, when so many families rushed to claim Norman descent (however tenuous) this was probably seen as rather eccentric. It has been claimed that at some point the Trelawnys used the prefix 'de' Treloen or 'de' Trelawn;<sup>1</sup> I very much doubt that this was ever the case as no family claiming Saxon or Cornish origin would deign to use a solely Norman-French territorial indicator. Such a Norman frippery might be considered an affectation too far. The 'de' was probably added by Norman chroniclers or even later historians/genealogists.

The story really starts around the 11th century with Edward the Confessor (r.1042-1066) when Eduni 'de' Treloen was living at Treloen, where the family are recorded as holding estates at Alternun in North Cornwall on the edge of Bodmin Moor (Tre-lawny)<sup>2</sup>. Eduni was followed by his son Hamelin Treloen who held 22 manors under the Earl of Mortain. In those days Alternun was probably a rather bleak outpost; the size of the parish at that time I have not been able to ascertain and it is likely that the villages had simply developed around the estates. The estates

passed successively through Hamelin's son Richard who was succeeded by William (owner of a knight's fee from Reginald de Botrell), whose daughter married this William's son, John Trelawny. John was succeeded by his son William who had married Joan Trewynick.

From this marriage came John who married Lucy Serjeaux daughter of Sir Richard Serjeaux. The Serjeaux, by establishment were an ancient Cornish family, although originally thought to be Anglo-Saxon. (The name may however suggest Norman.) His son was William, one of the burgesses returned as an M.P. for Launceston (1325). William had a son of the same name by Margery de Ryparus, who married Joan Doynge, by whom he had a son and heir, John (1366). This John had the honour of a knighthood and had married Matilda Myuwenyke. From this marriage came Richard and John Trelawny. (The family remained at Alternun until the 16th century). Sir John Trelawny (1370\*-1440 (\*other sources have this as 1340 Edward III, 1366), a favourite of Henry V (1387-1422), had resided at Treloen when he was not engaged in the wars against the French; he fought in a number of battles but is best remembered for his bravery at Gisors in Normandy. For his services, culminating in exceptional bravery at Agincourt, Henry V granted him (1415) an augmentation to his arms *of three oaken leaves vert*. (Figs 1 and 2). Henry VI (1422-1471) confirmed this and also awarded him £20 per annum for life.

According to Joseph Polsue in his *Parochial History of Cornwall* (1867): 'The manor of Treloen (Trelawny) was the original seat of the ancient family of that name and the barton with a deer park was the residence of Sir John Trelawny, a distinguished military character in the reign of Henry V. Over one of the gates of Launceston were the arms of that monarch, and under them this distich, "He that will do ought for me, let hym love well Sir John Tirlawnee".'

Sir John died in 1440 when the house devolved to Sir Richard Trelawny (1389-1449). Richard died without issue in 1449 when that branch of the family became extinct. He left two daughters, of whom the elder married Arundel of Talvern, and through her descents a portion of the estate became the property of the Jagos of Launceston. The Wreys and Smiths of St. Germans inherited the portion of the other heiress. A younger branch was also established at Menheniot at this time.

The reduced Trelawney estate at Alternun ultimately passed into other hands and by the 17th century had become derelict. The main house had fallen into decay, was demolished, and some of the stone and timbers were used to repair the local church (Alter Nun). Whatever the case, the Trelawny family took their name from the barton of Treloen, Trelawne, or Trelawny; there are various spellings of the name but probably little trace of the Trelawnys remains at Alternun.

In the Davis Gilbert *Parochial History of Cornwall* (1750), based on the MS of William Hals (1655-1737) and Thomas Tonkin (1678-1741) he recorded the following:

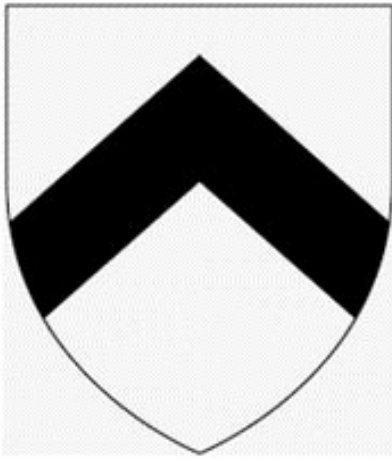
‘The term Tre-lawn-y, he observes, implies the oak grove or oak grove town, a name first given and taken from the natural circumstances of the place, it being situated between two hills, then notable for woods or groves of oak timber, and though there is not now left standing any house or trees to countenance this etymology, yet I have been told by some of the inhabitants of this parish that tradition saith the greatest part of the stones which built the present church and tower of Altar-Nunn were brought from the dilapidated walls of Trelawny, and much of the oak timber that roofs the same was also cut and carried from that barton’.

Carol Vivian suggests ‘that Sir John Trelawny in 1421, had acquired part of the manor of Menheniot through his marriage with Agnes Tregodek. He is often mentioned as residing at Tresernet so I believe the family did not move to Pool in Menheniot until the late 15th century. Pool is thought to have come to the Trelawny family through the marriage of John Trelawny (1452-1517) to Florence Courtney, whose mother was a Carminow’. At the death of Richard in 1449 junior branches of the family were

to be found at Menheniot, Coldrenick, and other parts of Cornwall. A scion of one of these was Edward Trelawny of Coldrenick, 2nd son of Sir John Trelawny Knt., of Trelawne (obit. 1604), younger brother of Sir John Trelawny 1st Bt., who left a son, Jonathan Trelawny of Coldrenick whose heir was the Very Rev. Edward Trelawny.

The Coldrenick branch of Trelawny continued there for some time, presenting, among others, Edward, Dean of Exeter (1653-1726). He matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford 1671; B.A. Christ Church, Oxford 1674; and an M.A. in 1677. He had married in 1692, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Darell of Chawcroft, Hampshire, by whom he had three sons, Darell, Charles, and Jonathan Trelawny (Jonathan died an infant in 1695). This Charles succeeded his father to Coldrenick in 1726. Charles died in 1764 leaving no male issue and in his will he specified that Coldrenick should go to his maternal relatives, the Darells, and under no circumstances to his cousins the Trelawnys of Trelawne, who had treated him with disregard. (I have not determined the reason for this).

On the death of Charles, the Trelawny line became extinct. He had devised the estate to the nephew of his mother, ‘*a stranger in blood*’, Henry St George Darell who assumed the name and arms of Trelawny. He also died without issue, when Coldrenick passed to his kinsman, Darell Crabbe, at whose decease in 1795, the estate devolved upon his cousin, Edward Stephens (1762-1807) who also assumed the name of Trelawny. He married Jane, daughter of Thomas Woolcombe of Plymouth, and dying in 1807, was succeeded by his eldest son Charles Trelawny (Darell). The family passed through successive generations of army and naval officers, (Charles Trelawny (Darell) (obit. 1891) was a Vice Admiral R.N.), leading to Charles Trelawny (Darell) (1799-1883), a High Sheriff of Cornwall who died without issue and was succeeded by his nephew John Jago-Trelawny (1826-1900), who also assumed by Royal Licence in April 1886 the surname of Trelawny, in addition to and after that of Jago, and the arms of Trelawny and Jago quarterly. John died without male issue and was succeeded by his 2nd sister, Lucretia Bedford Jago, Lady of the Manor of Treworlis, in 1909. She died unmarried in 1914, when she was succeeded by her nephew. The



*Figs. 1 & 2 - Ancient and augmented arms (Henry V/Henry VI). Argent, a chevron sable - arms first borne by Sir John Trelawny and the augmented arms with three oak leaves Vert (Henry V/VI).*

arms and crest are those of Trelawny (but not, as far as I know, the arms having the later augmentation). The family is, of course, Trelawny in name only, representatives of the Darells, Crabbes, Stephens, Jago and others of Coldrenick.

In a previous generation, another John Trelawny married Florence, 4th daughter of Sir Hugh Courtney of Boconnoc, and sister to Edward, Earl of Devonshire, who, upon the extinction of the line with the death of Marquess of Exeter in 1538<sup>3</sup>, became, with her sisters, the co-heirs of the family. This meant that a great part of the Courtney inheritance was acquired by the Trelawnys.

**Moving forward to the beginning of the 17th century**



*Fig. 3. Trelawne Manor.*

Sir Jonathan Trelawny Knt., of Menheniot (1568-1604), bought the manor of Trelawne, Pelynt, from

Queen Elizabeth I in 1600. Although the estate was named Trelawne, it had no historical connection to the Trelawny family. Perhaps Sir John was keen to absorb it into the family. According to the Revd. Geoffrey Grigson in his book *Freedom of the Parish* (1954), the Pelynters persistently refused, contrary to the family attempts, to acknowledge the final ‘e’, rhyming the name with lawn. (Interestingly, Grigson makes no attempt to conceal his dislike for the Trelawnys; for reasons that I have not been able to ascertain.)

Trelawne Manor had passed from the families of Bodrigan and Champerdowne to Lord Bonville, whose son, Sir William Bonville and his grandson were both killed (before his eyes) at the battle of Wakefield in December 1460. In February 1461 Bonville was taken prisoner at the battle of St. Albans and was subsequently beheaded that year by order of Queen Margaret. The only daughter of Lord Harrington had brought Trelawne to the Marquis of Dorset; in the attainder of his grandson, Henry, Duke of Suffolk (1517-1554) it was seized by the Crown. (Henry Grey was executed for treason and the dukedom has been extinct since that date). Trelawne was purchased of Queen Elizabeth in 1600 for the sum of £2,840 by Sir Jonathan of Menheniot, who made it his residence. The sale of the house had been held in abeyance as Jonathan’s wife Elizabeth (Killigrew) had written to her cousin Sir Robert Cecil (1565-1612), 1st Earl of Salisbury, requesting a delay; this was in order to give



Jonathan Trelawny time to return to England from France, whither he had accompanied Sir Henry Neville (1564 -1615), the new English ambassador.

centre. (To date, I have not been able to find any information on who may have lived at Trelawne from 1920 to 1950.)

The manor had a sitting tenant with several years to go on the lease, so consequently, the Trelawny family did not move into the house until circa 1616.<sup>4</sup> This branch of the Trelawnys remained there for some 300 years. His son, Sir John Trelawny, was the first baronet (cr1628) and his grandson, Sir Jonathan Trelawny (1650-1721) 3rd Bt., Bishop of Bristol, was one of the seven prelates committed to the Tower by James II for presenting the petition against reading his declaration for liberty of conscience, which was considered arbitrary and an attempt to re-establish Catholicism in the country (18 May 1688). Sir Jonathan later became Bishop of Exeter and finally Winchester. Sir Jonathan rebuilt the chapel at Trelawne, and dying there was buried in Pelynt Church. Sadly, Trelawne Manor fell into disrepair and was sold to a Mr. C.C. Morley sometime in the 1920s<sup>5</sup> and was later donated by him (1950s) with an endowment as a daughter house to the House of St. Barnabas; a home for retired clergy. The manor had a somewhat ignominious ending as a holiday



*Fig: 4 - Sir Jonathan Trelawny, 3rd Baronet. He is shown here in the robes of a Prelate to the Order of the Garter (as Bishop of Winchester). This portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller Bt., (1646-1723) used to hang at Trelawne; the portrait contains an error in that the badge of the Prelate is shown on the left shoulder when it should be on the right.*



*Fig. 5 - Marshalled arms from the Trelawny Roll. This was found in the cellar of a London solicitor's office in the 20th century and subsequently donated to the Devon and Cornwall Record Office, and from there to the Cornwall Record Office (now called Krensens Kernow). The vellum Roll is some 3 metres long and the colours are vibrant.*

The Trelawne estates of Sir Jonathan Trelawny 3rd Bt., around 1650, comprised:

1. The Barton of Trelawny Mills
2. Treleigh
3. The Manor of Trelawne
4. Lamelion
5. Trethewy
6. Southcarne
7. Callyland
8. Poole
9. Menheniot
10. Tregrill
11. Pensuigh
12. Tregarlick.

There is also a Trelawny couplet that goes ‘Trelawne, Trelask, Trelay, Ashen Cross and Trendaway and not forgetting Little Bell Hay. Looe Island was also owned by the Trelawny’s’.

#### Families named on Trelawny Roll, 1613 (Camden)

##### Dexter

1. Trelawny, Ancient (ante temp Henry V)
2. Trelawny, Augmented (post temp Henry V)
3. Daynell
4. Toolston (?)
5. Tregrilla
6. Carraton
7. Helligan
8. Cartuther
9. Powna
10. Crooke
11. Pincerna
12. Deuyork
13. Parterda
14. Courtney
15. Riduers (compte de Devon)
16. Riduers
17. Millenti

##### Sinister

18. Reginald, (compte Cornibic)
19. Dawney
20. Carminoe
21. Glynne
22. Tynten
23. Blyowe
24. Lamelion

25. Bewcombe
26. Lucombe
27. Reskynmer
28. Treuarthia
29. Helogan
30. Carminow
31. Bodigan
33. Trennowith
34. Skewys

N.B. Some of these names may be identified with more modern spellings, some not, and may well be of extinct families of Cornwall.

#### To the 19th Century



Fig. 6 - Contains 266 coats of families intermarried with the Trelawny's. A print of 1886 from the Trelawny Papers held at the Cornwall Record Office.

#### Trelawny's in the Tower

The first Trelawny consigned to the Tower by Parliament (1628) for alleged ‘delinquent behaviour’ was Sir John Trelawny Knt., a Cornish Royalist leader, who allegedly conspired with others to prevent an individual, Mr. Coryton, from becoming a knight of the shire (Devon). The background to this was that Trelawny had become involved in a dispute

between Charles I and leading members of Parliament. The king was keen to have his own men elected to Parliament to represent Cornwall, and to that end appointed one James Bagg acting in concert with the Duke of Monmouth to mobilise opposition to William Coryton and Sir John Eliot, two of the king's most implacable opponents who had declared their intention to stand for election as knights of the shire for Cornwall. Political jiggery-pokery prevailed and Coryton and Eliot were elected. The result was of course not considered legitimate by the Royalist plotters, including the magistrates who had signed letters against Coryton and Eliot, however, their objections went unheard and they, including Trelawny, who had failed to answer the summonses of Parliament, were taken into custody by the serjeant-at-arms and brought to London in May 1628 to explain their actions. Trelawny and his fellow conspirators were questioned and arguments were heard from both sides in the matter; the result was that the accused were consigned to the Tower. The charges were eventually dismissed, and Trelawny and his associates were released on the orders of Charles I in June of that year. Four days after his release Trelawny was created a Baronet with 'remission of the ordinary fees as a compensation for his imprisonment'. The refrain (but not the song), *And Shall Trelawny Die* was supposedly sung by Cornishmen demanding his release; although he was imprisoned for such a short period one wonders how a significant protest could have been organised!

In another MS there is a receipt from the 'treasurers of monies to be paid into Goldsmiths' Hall by Sir Jonathan Trelawny and Jonathan his son, for the sum of £314.15s.8d, in final settlement of the fine imposed on him by the Lords and Commons for his delinquency to Parliament ... 8th February 1649'.

This Sir John was the eldest son of Sir Jonathan Trelawny Knt., (obit. 1604) and the grandfather of The Bishop Jonathan Trelawny 2nd Bt., (1650-1721) who was the second recorded member of the family to be consigned to the Tower, along with other prelates; for him the refrain *And shall Trelawny die* was also sung. This was later transcribed into a song of *Western Men* by the Reverend Hawker based on a poem written by him, and allegedly sung throughout Cornwall when Sir Jonathan Trelawny was sent to the Tower, along

with six other churchmen on the orders of James II, for expressing in a petition their unwillingness to publish his declaration for liberty of conscience, because they thought it arbitrary and specially designed to favour Catholics. He was later promoted to the See of Exeter and later Bishop of Winchester.

The song, *a poem set to music* by Louisa T. Clarke, was not composed until 1861, and is believed to be based on the song, 'Come all ye Jolly Tinner Boys' which contains the line 'Why forty thousand Cornish boys shall know the reason why'. The Reverend Hawker (1803-1878) had erroneously presumed that the Trelawny mentioned was Jonathan Trelawny, Bishop of Bristol. However it is more than likely that it referred to his grandfather, Sir John Trelawny, a Cornish Royalist leader who had been imprisoned in 1628. In view of the short periods of time spent in the Tower by both men, it is very unlikely that any march on the Tower occurred. (The only original words were 'And have they fixed the where and when / And shall Trelawny die / Here's twenty thousand Cornishmen / Will know the reason why. The rest was arranged almost 200 years later).

Sir Jonathan Trelawny, as mentioned previously, was sent to the Tower on the 18th of May 1688 and was finally released on the 15th of June 1688. He was subsequently tried on a charge of libel, in Westminster Hall, on June 29th and acquitted the following day. He was appointed Bishop of Exeter by James II on 16th November 1688, the appointment being confirmed by William and Mary in April 1689. He was Bishop of Westminster 1707 to 1721 and Prelate to the Order of the Garter (see fig. 4). There was a portrait of the Bishop at Trelawne showing him in the robes of Prelate to the Order of the Garter; unfortunately, the badge of the order is on the left shoulder rather than the right, which is the correct position. With regard to the Baronetcy, Bishop Trelawny held this until his death in 1721, when it passed to his eldest son Sir John Trelawny 4th Bt., who held it between 1721-1756. This baronet had continued a tradition of becoming an MP for the areas close to Menheniot House, such as West Looe, East Looe and Liskeard. However, he died without issue, and his younger brother having predeceased him the title therefore reverted to the younger branch, and it was Sir Harry 5th Bt., his first cousin and brother-in-law who benefited when aged 69.

## THE TRELAWNY QUARTERINGS.

*(Illustration.)*

BY ARTHUR J. JEWERS, F.S.A.



THE elaborate shield of the quarterings of arms belonging to Sir William Lewis Salusbury-Trelawny, tenth and present baronet of Trelawne, in Cornwall, at whose expense they have been engraved and by whose kind permission they appear in this magazine, demands some explanatory notice, or it would remain, to the majority of those who see it, as unintelligible as the hieroglyphics of Assyria or Egypt.

Before proceeding to enumerate the different families represented in the Trelawny shield, we may be pardoned if we explain for the benefit of the uninitiated that a gentleman, already entitled to use armorial bearings, marrying a lady who has no brothers, or whose brother or brothers leave no surviving issue, their children become entitled to quarter the arms and quarterings belonging to their mother in the same shield with those of their father. With this explanation we will proceed to the case before us.

The family of Trelawny of Trelawne is one of the most ancient and distinguished of the ancient and notable families of Cornwall. Seated at Trelawne or Treloen, in Altonon, in the time of Edward the Confessor, according to many old authorities, they have continued in the male line to the present time seated at Trelawne, where in fire-proof muniment rooms they possess a most magnificent series of family records.

The numbers of the quarterings are from left to right, as if reading a book. It will be observed that with quartering 88, which is the same as No. 2, the whole are repeated up to No. 173, and with No. 174 they are repeated again up to No. 239; then six additional coats are introduced, and the series proceeds as before to the

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THE TRELAWNY

end, where the first quartering is repeated to fill a blank square—making in all 266 quarterings. They are as follows:—

1 quarterly, 1 and 4 Trelawny ancient, 2 and 3 Salusbury, granted on assuming the name of Salusbury in compliance with the will of Owen Salusbury Brereton, Esq.

2, Trelawny ancient. 3, Trelawny, with the augmentation (three oak leaves), conferred, it is said, on a Sir John Trelawny, Knight, by King Henry V., with a pension of £20 per annum, for his distinguished services in the French wars.

4, Repariis or Rivers. William Trelawny, M.P. for Launceston, 19th Edward II., 1325-6, married Margery, daughter and heiress of John de Repariis.

5, Botterell. John Trelawny married Joane, daughter and heiress of Richard Botterell.

6, Doyngull. William Trelawny married Joane, daughter of Richard Doyngull and heiress to her brother John. This marriage brought in

7, . . . . ? 8, Tregrilla. 9, Carraton. 10, Wolston.

11, Helligan. John Trelawny (will proved 26th Jan., 1510) married Joane, daughter and heiress of Nicholas Helligan, with which came

12, Tregrilla. 13, Carraton. 14, Cartuther.

15, Powna. Sir John Trelawny (son of the last) married Blanch, daughter and heiress of John Powna, or Pownd. This marriage brought in

16, Crooke. 17, Pincerna. 18, Devyocke. 19, Pederda. 20, . . . . 21, Wisa, or Wise.

22, Courtenay. John Trelawny (son of the above Sir John), who died 14th November, 1513, married Florence, daughter and coheiress of Sir Hugh Courtenay, Knight, with which came in

23, Sappe or Bryona. 24, Averénges. 25, Deyncourt. 26, Leyakre. 27, Devon? 28, Redvers. 29, FitzOsborne. 30, Mellent. 31, Reginald FitzRoy, Earl of Cornwall. 32, Dawney. 33, Clifford. 34, Treverbyn. 35, Cardinham. 36, Carminow. 37, Hornicote. 38, Glynn. 39, Tynten. 40, Bloyhowe.

41, Lamelyon. John Trelawny, M.P. for Liskeard, 6th Edward VI., died 29th September, 1563, having married Margery, daughter and heiress of Thomas Lamelyon, which brings in

42, Bawcombe. 43, Luccombe. 44, Trethewy.

45, Reskimer. John Trelawny, son and heir of the last-named, was M.P. for and Sheriff of Cornwall; died 14th October, 1568, married Anne, daughter and coheiress of William Reskimer. With this match came in

46, Pulyn. 47, Devyock. 48, Trevarthian.

49, Carminow. 50, Hornicote. 51, Bodrigan.

52, Mandeville. 53, Denzell. 54, Tretheke.

55, Trenowth. 56, Trejago. 57, Trewarthenick.

58, Skewes (generally said to be a chevron between three stumps of trees, but is represented in a very old book of evidences at Trelawne, and also on a monument at St. Tudy, as here engraved.

*Index to Trelawny Quarterings  
as seen in Figure 6 page 6*

## QUARTERINGS.

59, Killigrew. Sir Jonathan Trelawny, son of the last-named John Trelawny, was M.P. for Cornwall, and died 21st June, 1604. He married Elizabeth, daughter and eventual heiress of Sir Henry Killigrew, Knight, thus bringing in with Killigrew

60, Trewent. 61, Arwennack. 62, Trejago.

63, Carrington. 64, Petit. 65, Fitz Ives.

66, Carminow. 67, Govilly.

68, Halse. General Henry Trelawny, of Whiteleigh, Governor of Plymouth, seventh son of Sir Jonathan Trelawny, second baronet (grandson of the above Sir Jonathan and Elizabeth Killigrew), married Rebecca, daughter and coheiress of Mathew Halse, of Efford, near Plymouth, through whom the following quarterings came in, *viz.*:-

69, Hydon. 70, Mewey. 71, Esse. 72, Latimer.

73, Gowyn. 74, Lincoln. 75, Whiteleigh. 76, Wendyn.

77, Wynard, 78, Reprim. 79, Lapflood. 80, Suckliff.

81, Speccott. 82, Belston. 83, Ferneaux. 84, Scoble.

85, Cornu of Thornbury. 86, Boys of Boys Hele.

87, Boys of Wood.

88, Trelawny ancient. Sir William Trelawny, sixth baronet, eldest son of William, younger son of the above General Henry Trelawny and Rebecca Halse, married Letitia, second daughter and heiress of Sir Harry Trelawny, fifth baronet, which Sir Harry was the eldest son of the above General Henry Trelawny and Rebecca Halse, and consequently entitled to the same quarterings as his nephew William, who became his son-in-law and afterwards 6th baronet, thus bringing into this shield quarterings 88 to 173 inclusive. The mother of the above Letitia Trelawny was Letitia, daughter and eventually heiress of Sir Jonathan Trelawny, third baronet, D.D., and successively Bishop of Bristol, Exeter, and Winchester, brother of General Henry Trelawny who married Rebecca Halse, as stated above, and consequently entitled to all the above quarterings from No. 2 to 67 inclusive. The bishop married at Egg Buckland, 31st March, 1684, Rebecca, daughter and heir of Thomas Hele of Babcombe, Esq. (whose only other child, Ann, was baptised at Kingsteignton, 10th March, 1673, and buried there 21st April, 1676. Her sister Rebecca was baptised at the same place, 11th February, 1670, being consequently little more than fifteen when she was married. Their parents were married at Egg Buckland, 22nd April, 1670, as Mr. Thomas Hele and Mrs. Elizabeth Hals. He was buried at Kingsteignton, 16th March, 1673, as "Thomas Hele Esq.," and his wife, 18th November, 1681, as "Mrs. Elizabeth Hele of Babcombe, widow." In the south aisle of this church there is a handsome monument to their memory, on which are the arms of Hele quartering Gillert and Hele impaling Hals., by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Mathew Halse (or Hals), and sister of the above-named Rebecca Halse. Letitia, the wife of Sir William Trelawny, being a Trelawny both through her father and mother, who was an heiress as well as herself, she brought into the shield of her male de-

scendants a double series of the Trelawny quarterings— that is to say, through her father, all the quarterings from No. 2 to 87 inclusive, and through her mother, quarterings No. 2 to 67 inclusive—thus making the number of quarterings up to 239; then the following are introduced for her grandmother, the heiress of Hele, *viz.*:-

240, Hele. 241, Gilbert. 242, Compton.

243, Champernowne. 244, Valletort. 245, Sanchette.

246 to 265 inclusive are a repetition of numbers 68 to 87 inclusive, the two sets having been brought in by two sisters married respectively, as we have seen, to Trelawny and Hele.

Trelawny of Plymouth and Ham, whose heiress married Collins, and their issue took the name of Trelawny, descend from John Trelawny of St. Germans, second son of Sir John Trelawny and Blanch Powna; consequently they are entitled only to quarterings 2 to 21 in this shield.

Trelawny of Coldrenick is descended from Edward Trelawny, second son of Sir Jonathan Trelawny and Elizabeth Killigrew, and is consequently entitled to the quarterings No. 2 to 67 inclusive; also several additional quarterings. The above Edward Trelawny married Ferdinanda, daughter and coheiress of Tristram Gorges, but his issue appear to be quite extinct, unless descendants exist of the daughters of the Rev. Robert Beele and Mary, grand-daughter of the above Edward Trelawny, and who are mentioned in the wills of their uncles, Edward and John Trelawny, as living in Plymouth in 1796. The male line of Trelawny of Coldrenick having failed, that estate passed to strangers in blood, descended from Henry Darell, brother of Elizabeth Darell, wife of Edward Trelawny, going successively to the families of Darell, Stephens, and Jago, who all, on coming into the estate, took the name and arms of Trelawny, although not descended from that family.

In concluding our remarks a word of commendation is due to the engraver, Mr. J. E. Wood, of Queen Street, Plymouth, for the very careful and skilful way in which he has carried out the work, one of no little difficulty, from the complication of quarterings; but the plate speaks for itself.

Harry had married his first cousin, Letitia Trelawny, daughter of Jonathan Trelawny, Bishop of Winchester. He held the Baronetcy until his death in 1762 when the title passed to Sir William Trelawny 6th Bt., an officer of rank in the Royal Navy, and Governor of Jamaica, where he died in 1772 (he had married his first cousin, Letitia, daughter of Sir Harry Trelawny). Sir Harry Trelawny (1756-1834) inherited the 7th Baronetcy.

His son, **Hamelin Trelawny** (1782-1846) was Governor of St. Helena. He was Colonel R.A., and had fought in the Peninsula Wars. (Hamelin was born at St. Budeaux, Devon.)

**Edward Trelawny** (1699-1754) was a commissioner at the victualing office and later Governor of Jamaica (1736-1752). He is remembered for a treaty that ended the long war between the white planters and the Maroons<sup>6</sup>. (In 1734-1735 he had, with the British army, participated in the war of Polish Succession).



Fig. 7 - Trelawny Town, Jamaica, 1795

**Harry Trelawny, Lt. General** (1726-1800), was Governor of Landguard Fort 1788-1800. Harry became Governor of Landguard Fort on his retirement from the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guard, in which regiment he had served for over 40 years. Before joining the Guards, he had carried the colours of the 3rd Regiment of Foot during the suppression of the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745. He served with guards in the North American War. Landguard Fort stood on land at the south east extremity of Suffolk, at the mouth of Harwich Harbour, where the rivers Stour and Orwell flow

into the North Sea. It formed part of the Harwich defences and was in the parish of Felixstowe.

### **Sir John Salusbury Trelawny 9th Bt., MP (1816-1885)**

Sir John was educated at Westminster School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He was called to the Bar, Middle Temple, in 1841 but never practiced law. In 1840 he had been appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Cornwall and a captain of the Cornish Rifles Militia.

In 1842 he married Harriet Tremayne of Heligan (obit. 1879). Secondly, in 1881, he married Harriet Keppel (nee Buller). John had succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1856.

His father **Sir William Salusbury<sup>7</sup>-Trelawny** 8th Bt., (1781-1856) had represented East Cornwall at Parliament (1832-1837) and John was very keen to follow his father into politics. To that end he stood for election at Tavistock in 1843 and sat as an MP for Tavistock from 1843 to 1852 and again from 1857 to 1865. He represented Cornwall East between 1868 and 1874. He succeeded his father to the baronetcy in 1856. John's attempts to become an MP were not without problems, and one that arose when contesting the Liskeard seat, 'were comments made about the modest size of his purse, and the implicit concerns about his ability to spend money on the constituency in the way that mid-Victorian MPs were often expected to do. Trelawny had frankly admitted that he was not a wealthy man, but argued that this should not disqualify him from representing Liskeard. In November 1856, on the death of his father, he inherited Trelawne, the family estate. According to the entry in the 4th edition of John Bateman's *Great Landowners of Great Britain and Ireland* (1883), the estate amounted to 8000 acres with a gross rental generation of £6000 per annum which included revenue from woodland. This income was considered to be of modest dimensions. (8000 acres (3238 hectares) of Cornwall and the 2021 equivalent of £645,000 per annum - I could be a poor man on that!). There were no substantial mineral deposits under the land although there was a single mine, Herodsfoot, producing silver-lead ore - worth around £150 per annum (£8870 in 2021).

The *Illustrated Times* of 9th May 1863 p.326 reported a comment on Trelawny by William White, the doorkeeper of the house of commons: ‘The Honourable Baronet is an independent member in the most liberal acceptance of the word, he was so politic, so courteous to his opponents, so wise in his generation’.

### The Adventurer

One could not conclude this brief overview of the Trelawnys without a nod to **Edward John Trelawny** (1792-1881), and who better to sum up the life of EJT than William M. Rossetti in his obituary.

‘Edward John Trelawny, the friend of Shelley, the associate in Byron’s Grecian expedition, the author of *Adventures of a Younger Son*, completed his eighty eighth year in November 1880 and died in 1881 at his residence at Sompting, near Worthing. He was born in the same year as Shelley. He was at one time generally known as Captain Trelawny. His father was an officer in the army, a younger son in the famed old Cornish family of Trelawny; and Edward was, as his book intimates, a younger son of a younger son. He entered the navy at the age of eleven, after scant schooling; and the *Adventures of a Younger Son* gives an account, perhaps not very far from accurate, although mixed up with some romance, of the few years ensuing. He was honourably discharged from the navy in 1812 (some biographers claimed, quite erroneously, that he had deserted owing principally to his ‘*audacious uncontrollable character.*’) Soon after leaving the navy he joined a privateer; not a pirate ship, as has sometimes been said, and followed a ‘course of desperate entertainment in the Indian and Malayan seas’. In 1822 at Pisa, he began his friendship with Shelley. Shelley was drowned (July 8th 1822) on a sea voyage from Livorno to Lerici, Italy, when his vessel *Don Juan* encountered a severe storm. Trelawny was chiefly instrumental in securing and identifying Shelley’s body after it had been washed ashore some days later, and he undertook all the arrangements for the cremation on the beach near Viareggio’.

In 1823 he accompanied Byron to Greece, seeing action in the Greek War of Independence, and he

remained in that country for some considerable while after the poet’s death at Missolonghi in 1824. The Grecian expedition seems to have terminated the adventurous period of Trelawny’s career, although he later made extensive travels in America, North and South, and spent some time in Italy; but all of the later years of his life were passed in England. Trelawny wrote two books; *The Adventures of a Younger Son* (1831) and *Recollections of the Last Days of Shelley and Byron* (1858). The *Younger Son* is considered by reviewers to be wonderfully vivid, full of the passion of maritime enterprise, and ‘saturated with the semi-barbaric chivalry of its author’s character’. His ashes are buried at the Protestant Cemetery in Rome, in a plot of land adjacent to Percy Bysshe Shelley. The opening words of Trelawny’s account of his own life:

‘My birth was unpropitious. I came into the world, branded and denounced as a vagrant, not littered by a drab in a ditch but still worse; for I was a younger son of a family so proud of their antiquity that even gout and mortgaged estates were traced many generations back on the genealogical tree as ancient heirlooms of aristocratic origin...’

and therefore revered (*Adventures of a Younger Son, 1831*).

In his book, *Trelawny, The Incurable Romancer*, (1977) William St. Clair describes a traumatic period of Edward’s young life. ‘Edward’s father was a retired lieutenant-colonel, himself a younger son. He had sacrificed love to marry an unattractive heiress, but the money had turned out to be far less than expected and he soon ran through it. When Trelawny was born, the family was living a quiet country life in reduced circumstances waiting for their fortunes to improve, until in 1798, when Trelawny was not yet six, the death of Owen Salusbury Brereton, a cousin who owned extensive lands in Cheshire and elsewhere, brought the long awaited reversal. Trelawny’s father became a rich man; he changed his name to Brereton, established himself in a large house in London, and prepared to enter public life’. (Trelawny’s thoughts on both his mother and father are probably best not repeated).



Figs. 8 & 9 - Edward John Trelawny in 1822 and 1871

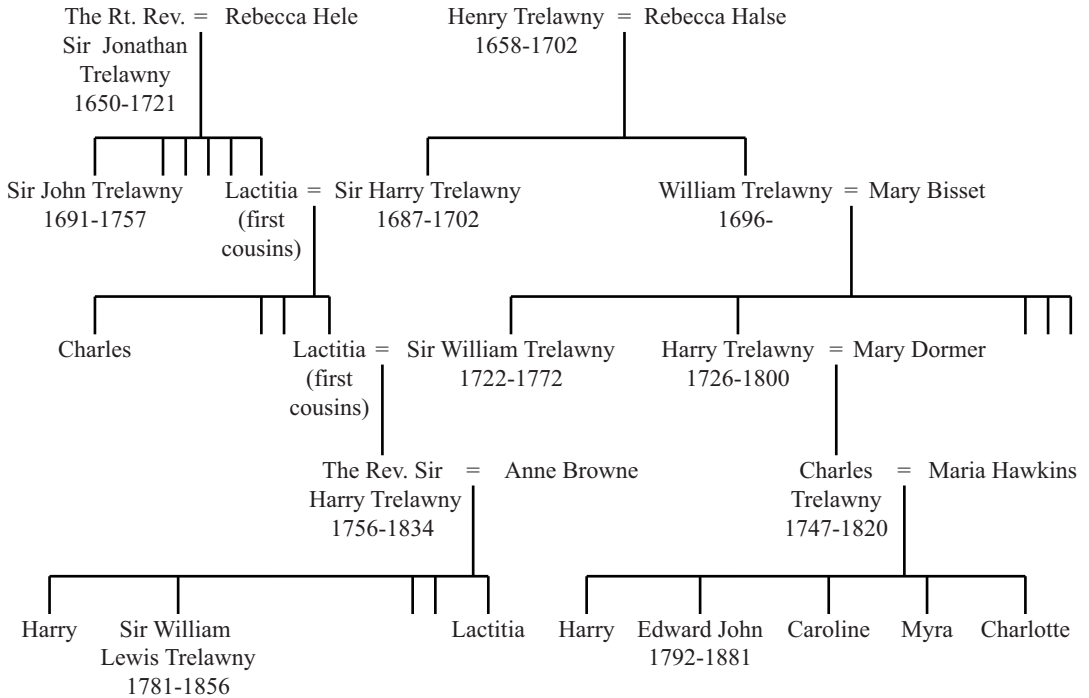


Fig. 10 - Family tree showing the descent of Edward John Trelawny



## In conclusion

... that a Godolphin was never known to want wit; a Trelawny courage; a Granville loyalty. By Tre, Ros, Pol, Lan, Caer and Pen you may know all Cornishmen.

## Notes

1. I have seen the suggestion that the prefix 'Tre' signifies in Cornish 'the place of abode' and is the equivalent of the French 'De'. This is not, in my opinion, the case, as 'Tre' may be applied to a single dwelling, whereas 'De' implies estates and a degree of nobility. Such usage would plainly be tautologous, as in Hamelin Tre (of) de (of) Loen).
2. Carol Vivian, an authority on this branch of the family, states that the claim of the Trelawnys to have been established at Altemun is incorrect and that the Trelawnys were located at Penpont and Trewint in that area. (As the principal villages in the parish at the time were Penpont, Tredaule, Five Lanes, Gunnon, Treveage, West Carne, Trethyn, Treween and Trewint, it is likely that some of these may have formed part of the Trelawny estate.) I have not seen documents supporting this claim; however, I would not dismiss it. Notwithstanding this information, the opinion that has survived within the family for a thousand years should carry the day, right or wrong. (Perhaps this is an example of not allowing accuracy to compromise the truth).
3. Henry Courtney, 1st Marquess of Exeter and 2nd Earl of Devon (1498 -1538), was beheaded in 1538 for his alleged correspondence and involvement with the self-exile Cardinal Reginald Pole, and an alleged complicity in a Roman Catholic conspiracy. The Earldom of Devon became forfeit, and his lands in Cornwall were annexed by the Duchy of Cornwall.
4. Jonathan rebuilt the mansion house there, obviously agreeing with Richard Carew the antiquary (1555-1620), 'that his house at Pool in Menheniot houseth Sir Jonathan Trelawny far beneath his worth and calling'.
5. The last Trelawny to reside at Trelawne was Sir William Trelawny, (1844-1917).
6. Maroons were gangs comprised of fugitive slaves and some freemen.
7. Sir William had assumed in 1802 the Salusbury name in compliance with the will of Owen Salusbury Brereton (1715-1798). Owen was the son of Thomas and Mary Brereton (née Trelawny).

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 Early MSS at Trelawne. Unfortunately for researchers, many early documents and books were destroyed by one Potts, a steward at Trelawne in 1776, who is alleged to have burned cartloads of MSS, books and documents, leaving many exposed to the elements and pillaging by local people. (He also destroyed the Library, Paradise Garden and the fountain, along with the old stables and Gothic gatehouse.)

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The journal is produced termly, Michaelmas (October-December), Lent (January-March), Easter (April-June) three issues per volume; CUHAGS members and guest writers are encouraged to contribute articles on the primary subjects, but also papers loosely connected with same, such as flags, medals, awards, illuminated manuscripts, academic dress, or if not related, interesting and stimulating papers.

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# THE BAYNHAM FAMILY OF YATE

*Peter Wynn*

## Introduction

The Baynhams of Yate have been outlined as a chapter in a more general account of the Baynham family.<sup>1</sup> In this article I extend that study, providing a link to the Davis and Saunders families who were prominent in the early Baptist history of Bristol and to their relationship to the Lytes of Lytes Cary.

My investigation has been aided by the repeated unusual use of the forename *Silvester* (later the more usual *Silvestra*) for female members of the family. This use can be traced back to Silvester Tybolde who married Richard Bourne of Wiveliscombe in Somerset.

Parish records of Yate before 1660 exist only as an incomplete series of Bishops Transcripts, especially during the interregnum. I have been able to make use of wills in The National Archives and the Gloucestershire Archives. These do not provide a complete story. However depositions on behalf of the Complainants in a 1712 Chancery case of Richard Hebdon, Richard Cupper and Grace Cupper against Thomas Lyte and Silvestra his wife contain details that have enabled me to establish the family relationships. The case, between the descendants and spouses of two children of Adam Baynham ‘the Elder’ of Yate, concerned a moiety of the Manor of Elborough and a quarter of the Advowson of Hutton in Somerset and whether this should have descended to the Complainants or the Defendants. Susan Moore outlined the usefulness of such records, including their use in distinguishing between several family members sharing the same surname.<sup>2</sup> In the case of the Baynhams, the names Adam and Thomas, as well as Silvester, recurred. In the case the Defendants did not dispute the family details set out on behalf of the Complainants, so I have been confident in using the information provided by the Complainants. There were some inconsistencies over forenames, a warning that later generations may not always remember the names of earlier family members correctly. I will return to the

outcome of the case later in this article once I have described the family.

I have also made use of published works. However a lesson to be drawn is that, perhaps inevitably, these can contain errors, even when the publications are from a generally reliable source: I have shown (footnote 16) that Bigland mis-read the memorial to one family member buried at Yate and that the Bristol Record Society’s study of the history of the Baptist Church at Broadmead mis-attributed the surname of a female’s first husband as being her maiden name.

## Thomas Baynham, Rector of Yate

Thomas was Rector of Yate from 1572 until his death in 1622. He had three sons: Adam, Edward and Henry, who were identified in an inscription within the chancel of Yate church.<sup>3</sup> The inscription stated that Adam was aged 84 at his death in 1661. The other sons were under the age of 21 at the time of their grandfather’s death in 1586.<sup>4</sup>

## Edward & Henry Baynham

Edward had a daughter, Silvester, baptised at Yate on 14 February 1629/30.<sup>5</sup> However she was not mentioned in his will proved in 1647 which referred to his son, Edward, and his daughters, Marie and Elinor. He appointed Adam Baynham and John Goodman as overseers of his estate, referring to them respectively as his brother and son-in-law.<sup>6</sup> I have not been able to determine with any certainty information on the family of Henry Baynham.

## The family of Adam Baynham ‘the Elder’

Adam was married to Silvestra Bourne, daughter of Dr. John Bourne, treasurer of Wells Cathedral, who died in 1622.<sup>7</sup> John Bourne was son of Richard and Silvester (née Tybolde) Bourne, and Richard’s brother, Gilbert, was the last Roman Catholic Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Adam Baynham was buried in Yate in 1661. His will mentioned as children an unnamed wife [Anne: see evidence of Robert Godwin that follows] of Robert Keynes Silvester Godwin, Susanna Geste, Elizabeth Goodman, John, Mary Kidgell wife of William Kidgell and Grace.<sup>8</sup>

More information about Adam's children comes from the deponents' evidence in the 1712 Chancery case, in particular that of the first deponent, Robert Godwin. He named the sons of Adam 'the Elder' and Silvester Baynham of Yate as John (the eldest who became minister of Stogumber, and whose children pre-deceased him<sup>9</sup>), Theophilus (the second son who drowned in Holland), Thomas (the third son), and Henry and Robert (the younger sons). He stated that Silvestra, his mother, was a daughter of Adam and Silvester, as were Anne (wife of Robert Kaines), Susanna (wife of Robert Guest), Barbara (wife of John Cliff), and Elizabeth (wife of William Kidgell). He did not give the forename of another of Adam and Silvester's daughters who had married John Goodman. Whilst this generally agrees with the content of Adam's will, it differs in the identification of the daughter who married William Kidgell.

The second deponent on behalf of the complainants was Silvestra Skinner, who said that she was the daughter of Silvestra Godwin. She confirmed most of the relationships identified by her brother, Robert Godwin but, as stated in Adam's will, that it was Elizabeth Baynham who had married John Goodman. She did not say who had married William Kidgell. She added that she had heard that Thomas 'of Bristol' had a daughter who died in infancy.

The third of the complainants' deponents was Francis Goodman, who stated that he was the son of Elizabeth (née Baynham) Goodman. He did not add any material information to supplement that provided by Robert Godwin and Silvestra Skinner.

Robert Baynham, one of the younger sons, was a fellow of New College, Oxford. He was one of 73 persons expelled from the university in 1648 by a 'Special Order from the Committee of the Lords and Commons for the reform of [the] university' but restored to his position in 1660.<sup>10</sup> He died in 1669. Figure 1 shows the memorial to him in the college.



Fig. 1 - Memorial to Robert Baynham at New College, Oxford

The most significant of the children of Adam Baynham 'the Elder' for the present story are Theophilus and Thomas.

### Family of Theophilus Baynham

In an earlier article I described the immediate family of Theophilus Baynham, the second son of Adam Baynham.<sup>11</sup> He married Catherina Swanvelt.

Her second marriage to Richard Hebdon, a son of Sir John Hebdon, took place at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, very shortly after the cessation of the Great Fire of London in September 1666.<sup>12</sup> Richard died on 22 January 1668/9 and is buried in Wells Cathedral alongside the grave of Silvestra's first father-in-law, Edward Wykes.<sup>13</sup> Richard and Silvestra's son, Richard, was born about 1667 and married Mary Beachamb in Weston-super-Mare in 1701. It seems possible that Mary was the Mary Hebdon buried at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on 14 September 1707. Theophila, another daughter of Theophilus Baynham, married William Ford. William was son of Sir Richard Ford, Lord Mayor of London (1670/1). Grace, the daughter of William and Theophila Ford, married Richard Cupper at

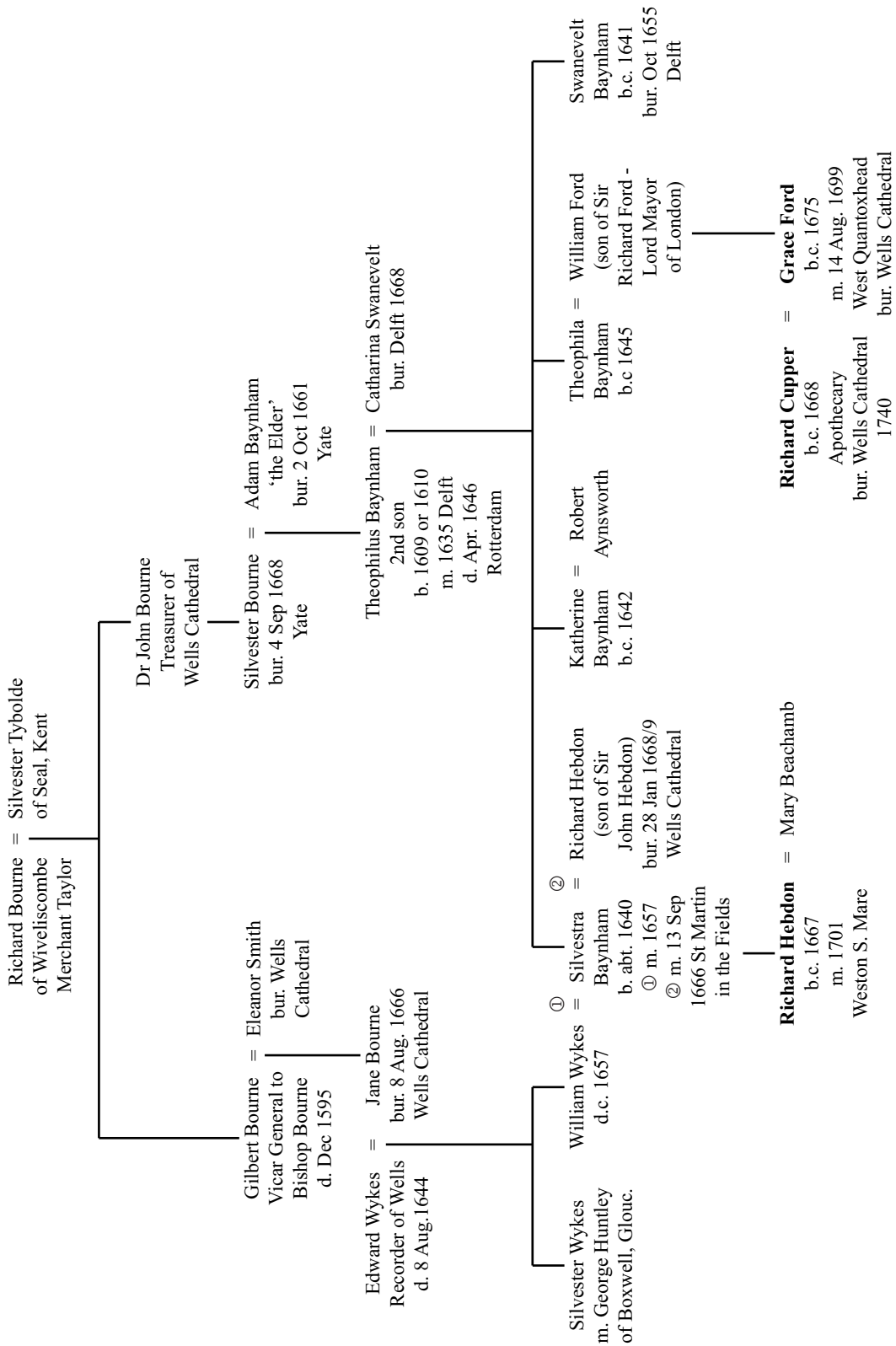


Fig. 2 - Relationship between Bourne and Baynham families Complainants in 1712 Chancery case in bold

West Quantoxhead in 1699. Richard Cupper, an apothecary, having been admitted as a burgess as ‘a stranger’ in 1707, was mayor of the city in 1727.<sup>14</sup>

Richard Hebdon, Richard Cupper and Grace Cupper were the complainants in the 1712 Chancery case.

The relationship of these complainants to each other, and the wider family is summarised in Figure 2.

### Family of Thomas Baynham ‘of Yate’

Thomas, the third son of Adam and Silvester Baynham married Grace Box in Oxford in May 1638.<sup>15</sup> He was buried in Yate in 1642. Thomas was referred to by Robert Godwin in the 1712 Chancery case as Thomas ‘of Yate’. He said that Thomas had one son, named Adam ‘the Younger’, who himself had a son, Thomas. Adam ‘the Younger’, who had been a churchwarden at Yate, was buried there in 1669 at the age of 29.<sup>16</sup> There seems to have been an unusual delay, for the time, between his death on 9 December and his burial on 26 December.



Fig. 3 - Memorial to Adam Baynham ‘the Younger’ St. Mary, Yate

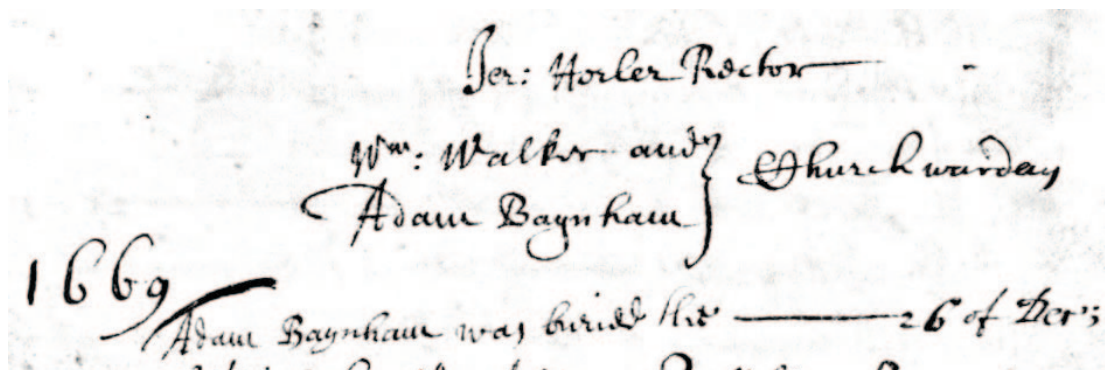


Fig. 4 - Burial of Adam Baynham ‘the Younger’ St. Mary, Yate

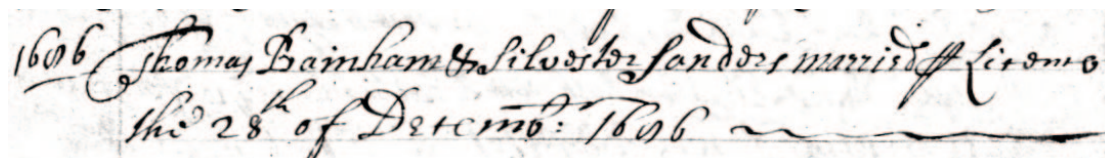


Fig. 5 - Marriage of Thomas Bainham [Baynham] & Silvestra Sanders [Saunders] at St. Ewen, Bristol

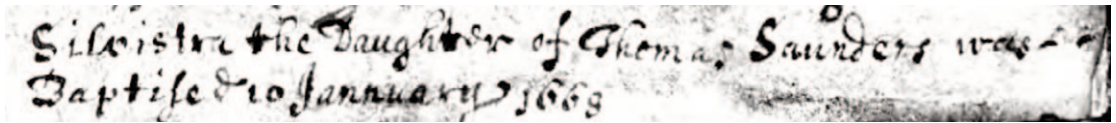


Fig. 6 - Baptism of Silvestra Saunders at All Saints, Bristol



Fig. 7 - Marriage of Thomas Sanders [Saunders] & Silvester [Silvester] Davis at St. Michael the Archangel on the Mount Without, Bristol

Intriguingly, Adam's will was not proved until 1683. The will made reference to his wife, Jane, and to his son, Thomas, who was under 21 when the will was written. It has been suggested that Thomas was about seven years old when his father's will was made.<sup>17</sup> This would mean that 1683 was the year he reached his majority. This young Thomas was subsequently referred to as 'of Bristol' in the 1712 case. Thomas Baynham of Bristol married a Silvestra Saunders at St. Ewen, Bristol, on 28 December 1686.<sup>18</sup>

The parish register of St. Ewen records the birth of a daughter Silvester of this marriage in the parish of All Saints on 10 January 1688/9. No baptism is mentioned.<sup>19</sup> As will be discovered in the next section of this article, this may reflect the beliefs of her mother concerning infant baptism.

According to the St. Ewen register the burial of Silvestra, the daughter of Mrs Baynham, took place on 20 January 1689/90. The implication of this is that Thomas Baynham was no longer alive when his daughter was buried.

### The outcome of the 1712 court case

According to an account by Locke the property that was the subject of the 1712 court case had been inherited from her family by Grace Box.<sup>20</sup> After her death it passed to her son, Adam 'the Younger'. On Adam's death this passed to his son, Thomas 'of Bristol', once he had come of age. The property that Thomas inherited was used as a Jointure on his marriage to Silvestra Saunders. On his death, which Locke suggested may have been suicide, rights in the property passed to his daughter, Silvester, who died as an infant. The court case was whether the property should then go to Thomas's widow Silvestra or to the descendants of Theophilus Baynham. The decree of the court, finally made about 1717, decided in favour of Silvestra and her then husband, Thomas Lyte.<sup>21</sup>

### Who was Silvestra Saunders?

It struck me that it was more than a coincidence that Thomas Baynham 'of Bristol' had married a Silvestra. I have found that Silvestra, daughter of Thomas Saunders, was baptised at All Saints, Bristol, on 10 January 1668/9.<sup>19</sup>

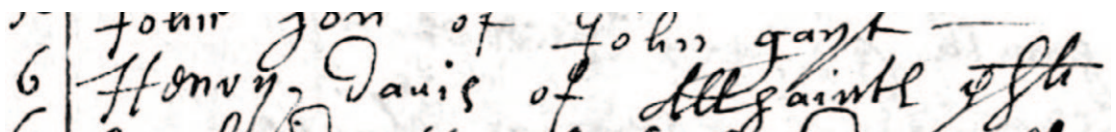


Fig. 8 - Burial of Henry Davis at St. James, Bristol

Her parents, Thomas Saunders and Silvester Davis, had married on 5 December 1667.<sup>22</sup>

In 1974 the Bristol Record Society (BRS) produced an edited account of the early history of the congregation that was eventually to become Broadmead Baptist Church in Bristol. This recorded that ‘Br. John Morgan, James Bland, in ye month, 1666, with Sister Davis, now Saunders, and S. Hughs were all four proposed, spoken with, and Joyned to this Congregation as members thereof.’<sup>23</sup> In a biographical note contained in the BRS publication the forename of Sister Saunders was given as Silvester and it was stated that her maiden name was Davis. Her husband was identified as Thomas Saunders, who was described as a Colonel in the New Model Army in the 1650s, a noted Fifth Monarchist, and a supporter of Monmouth, whose house was searched for arms in 1684.<sup>24</sup>

Contrary to the note in the BRS publication, I do not believe that Davis was Silvester’s maiden name. Instead it was the surname of her first husband, Henry Davis, who had died in 1664.

Henry Davis was buried at St. James, Bristol on 6 July 1664, being recorded as being of All Saints parish.<sup>25</sup>

Henry’s will described himself as a haberdasher, named his wife, Silvestra, as his executrix, and mentioned his business partner, Thomas Saunders.<sup>26</sup> Thomas seems therefore to have continued the business, complete with his former partner’s wife! Also named in his will was a daughter, Edith, and a

son, Henry. I believe it was Henry junior who began the ‘waste book’ mentioned in the church history.<sup>27</sup> This book recorded acts of persecution against the Baptists. I suspect Henry junior was also the Henry Davis, haberdasher, who was stated by the history to have been fined and had property confiscated under the Act of Conventicles in 1681.<sup>28</sup> Henry junior was a deponent for both the Complainants and Defendants in the 1712 case. He confirmed that his mother had married Thomas Saunders and that Silvestra and Thomas had a son, Richard, who was then living at Yate but by then not in his right mind. I believe that there is a strong case that Silvester, the wife of Henry Davis, was a daughter of Edward Baynham of Yate. I base this belief on the naming by Henry of his brother-in-law, John Goodman, as one of the trustees and overseers of his will.<sup>26</sup> I have already noted that Edward Baynham had a daughter, Silvester, baptised at Yate on 14 February 1629/30, and appointed his son-in-law, John Goodman, as one of the overseers of his 1647 will.

### Silvester Saunders: her Subsequent Marriages, more Silvestras and the Lyte Jewel

After the death of Thomas Baynham ‘of Bristol’, his wife Silvestra Saunders remarried at St. Augustine the Less on 1 October 1691. The register records her new husband as Shambre Brock, although the marriage licence bond has him as Shem Brawbridge, mercer of London.<sup>29</sup>

It is clear that both spellings of the name of Silvester’s second husband were incorrect: his will in which he names his wife, Silvester, and his

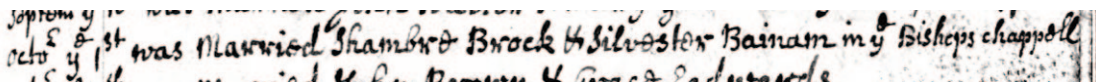
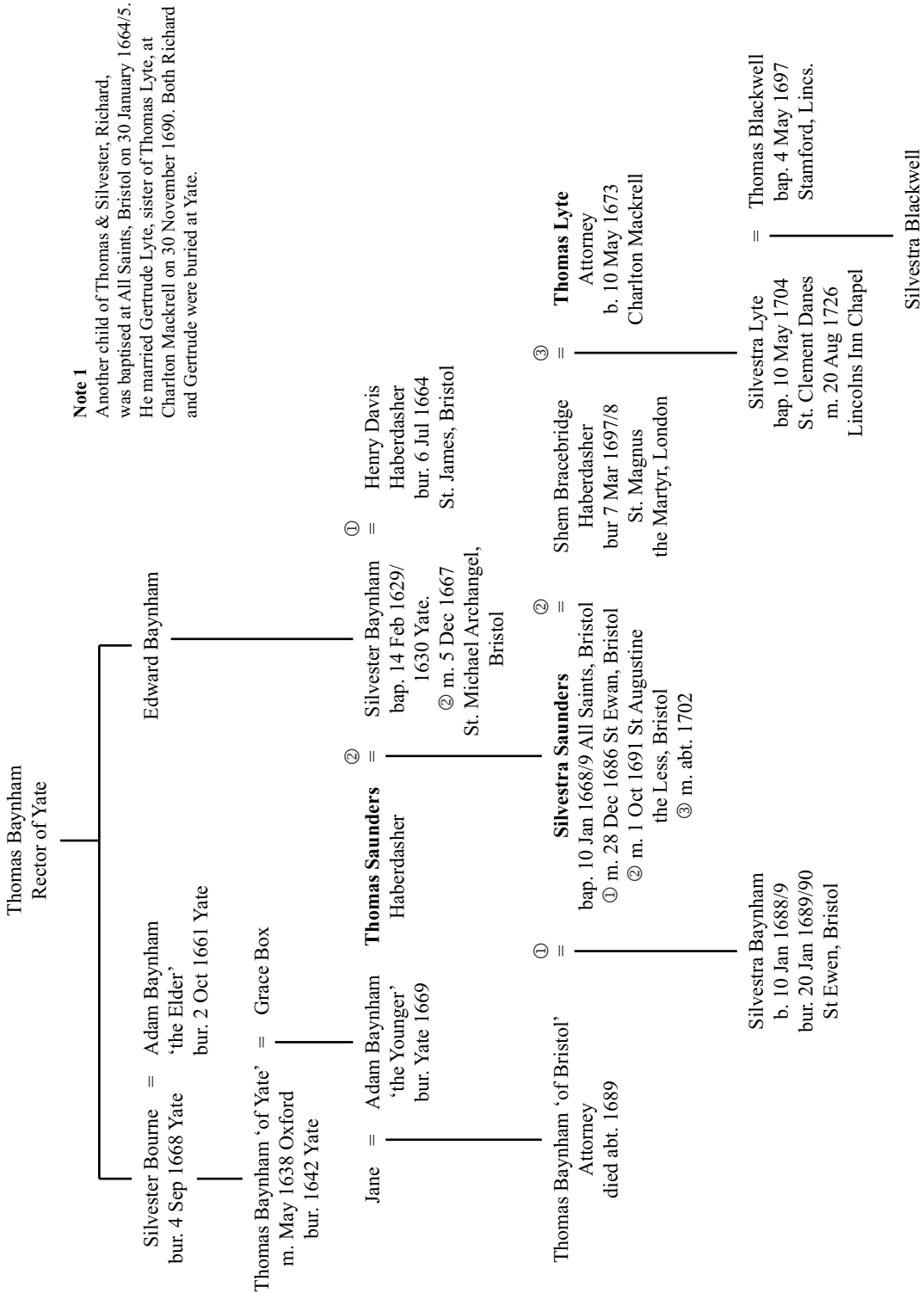


Fig. 9 - Marriage of Shambre Brock & Silvester Bainam [Baynham] at St. Augustine the Less



Fig. 10 - Birth (but not baptism) of Thomas Lyte



**Note 1**

Another child of Thomas & Silvester, Richard, was baptised at All Saints, Bristol on 30 January 1664/5. He married Gertrude Lyte, sister of Thomas Lyte, at Charlton Mackrell on 30 November 1690. Both Richard and Gertrude were buried at Yate.

*Fig. 12 - Silvester Saunders and her relationships to the Baynham family Defendants in the 1712 Chancery case are shown in bold*



parents-in-law, Thomas and Silvestra Baynham, showed that his name was actually Shem Bracebridge.<sup>30</sup> Henry Davis junior confirmed that the second husband of Silvestra Saunders was Shem Bracebridge and that the forename of her first mother-in-law was Jane. Shem died in 1697/8. After becoming widowed again, in 1702 Silvestra took, as her third husband, Thomas Lyte of Lytes Cary.<sup>31</sup> The marriage settlement again confirmed Bracebridge as the surname of her second husband.<sup>32</sup> The register of Charlton Mackrell stated that Thomas was born on 10 May 1673, and by deletion indicates that he was not baptised.

Thomas and Silvestra had a daughter, Silvestra, baptised at St. Clement Danes on 10 March 1703/4. This daughter subsequently married Thomas Blackwell at Lincolns Inn Chapel on 20 August 1726. By his will, Thomas Lyte passed to his daughter a piece of jewellery that had been presented to Thomas Lyte, his great-grandfather, by James I of England in appreciation of the pedigree that Thomas had prepared for James.<sup>33</sup>



Fig. 11 - The Lyte Jewel, British Museum Waddesdon Bequest

The jewel next passed to Silvestra, daughter of Thomas and Silvestra Blackwell who married James Monypenny, and then to Laura Dunn

Monypenny. The jewel disappeared until it came into the possession of the Duke of Hamilton and was eventually acquired by Baron Ferdinand Rothschild who donated it to the British Museum as part of his Waddesdon Bequest.<sup>34</sup>

### Richard Saunders: another Lyte connection

Richard was baptised at All Saints, Bristol on 30 January 1664/5. He married Gertrude Lyte at Charlton Mackrell on 30 November 1690. H.C. Maxwell Lyte originally considered that Gertrude may have been a daughter of Thomas and Gertude Lyte of Martock.<sup>33</sup> He subsequently said that she was more probably identified as 'Gualtery', baptised at Charlton Mackrell on 11 October 1671.<sup>36</sup> He had previously identified 'Gualtery' as a sister of Thomas who became the third husband of Silvestra Saunders.<sup>37</sup>

Both Richard and Gertrude were buried at Yate.<sup>38</sup>

Figure 12 summarises the postulated relationships between Silvester Saunders and other family members. The defendants in the 1712 court case are shown in bold.

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1. A.C. Baynham (2011) *The Life and Times of a Forest Family: the ap Enion alias Baynham Family Malvern*: Aspect Design, Chapter 12.
2. S.T. Moore (2003) *Family Feuds: An Introduction to Chancery Proceedings* FFHS.
3. Brian Frith (ed.) (1995) *Ralph Bigland Historical Monumental and Genealogical Collections Relative to the County of Gloucester*. Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society [BGAS] Part 4 p.1543. It is recorded that the inscription was not to be found in 1887.
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5. Gloucestershire Archives: GDR/V1/282 Bishops Transcripts for Yate.
6. Gloucestershire Archives GDR/R8/1647/29 Will of Edward Baynham of Yate proved 1647.
7. The National Archives: PROB 11/139/553 Will of John Bourne, Doctor of Divinity of Wells, proved 4 June 1622.
8. The National Archives: PROB 11/304/343 Will of Adam Baynham of Yate 1661.
9. I have only found evidence of one son. John, a student at Oxford, who died whilst visiting his father.
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15. Oxfordshire History Centre: PAR203/1/R1/1 Oxford St. Giles Register of baptisms, marriages & burials.
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17. Somerset Archives: DD/S/BK/1 Manuscript history of Hutton probably written by Richard Locke.
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19. Bristol Archives: P. AS/R/1/a All Saints General Register 1560-1766.
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22. Bristol Archives: P.St.M/R/1/a St. Michael the Archangel on the Mount Without General Register 1653-1683.
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24. Hayden, p.303.
25. Bristol Archives: P. St. J/R/1/b St. James General Register 1640-1687.
26. The National Archives: PROB 11/315/119 Will of Henry Davis Haberdasher of Bristol 1664.
27. Hayden, p.12.
28. Hayden, p.234.
29. Bristol Archives: P.St. Aug/1/c St. Augustine the Less General Register 1685-1709; Denzil Hollis (transcriber) (1952) Bristol Marriage Licence Bonds Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society p.223.
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36. Maxwell Lyte (1931) PSANHS Vol 77(2).p.135.
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38. Bigland, BGAS edition p.1545.

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# FLEET MARRIAGES

*Michael Gandy FSG*

Until Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1753 it was not absolutely certain what constituted a binding marriage apart from the declaration of the couple that they took each other for husband and wife. The 'best' form of marriage included a minister, due notice in public, witnesses and parental permission if under 21 but there was a clear distinction between a marriage which was 'irregular' but not 'illegal'. Thus if you had in fact got a minister to marry you without asking parental permission or checking your residence (as would often be the case with young people in London when their parents were down in the country) then tough luck to anyone who complained - it's done - get over it! This did not apply to marriages - such as brother and sister - which could never be legal. Brother-in-law and sister-in-law - clearly taboo in theory - not quite so much in practice. Bigamy too could never be legal but enormous numbers of couples married bigamously and very few got 'outed' - usually one would guess by a disgruntled first spouse.

In London and certain places elsewhere (some) churches seem to have been very easy going and I have ancestors married at St Benet, Paul's Wharf (1734) and St Lawrence Jewry (1753) when I really don't think they lived there. I know they didn't generally live there but I can't prove that neither of them lived for the qualification period of three weeks.

In the late 1600s Holy Trinity, Minories, and St James, Duke's Place developed a trade in 'Walk-ins Welcome' but they were superceded (blown away might be appropriate) by ministers who were in the Fleet Prison for debt and who realised they could make money by offering cut-rates and no formalities. I don't say 'no questions' asked because they kept registers with details of date, name, place of residence and marital status - more than you would get in some parish registers at that

time. Over 800 notebooks were always in the Public Record Office but they were much too bulky to browse on spec and for many years all we had was Fred Parker's full extract of Hertfordshire entries and Stephen Hale's full extract of entries in a section of East Surrey and West Kent (where, fortunately for me, I have many, many dozens of lines of ancestry). Bless their hearts.

It had always been thought that Fleet marriages were doubtful, exotic, probably scandalous, but it became more and more clear that they were simply ordinary people who thought it worth their while to come up from the country to an affordable while-u-wait service. Apart from City people they are largely from the Home Counties, but there are entries from further away if it was worth the couple's while - for example from Newcastle-upon-Tyne - a very easy boat ride to the Thames. I have a family of ancestors in 17th century Bromley-by-Bow who came from Newcastle but are confusingly surnamed Durham!

The ministers were not confined to dungeons but were free to move around the Liberty of the Fleet and they rented rooms and sat at their desks while employing men to stand on the street whipping up trade ("Oh, sir, madam, do you please to come in and be married"), rather like people waving the menu at you outside restaurants in the West End. Thus my ancestors Joseph Smith of Sutton-at-Hone and Anne Dalton of Eynsford (both in Kent) were married on June 1 1743 at Bate's Coffee House, Liberty of the Fleet. His occupation is given as husbandman and the custom was clearly in the family as her elder brother was married at the Fleet in 1741 and two younger sisters in 1746 and 1748.

Taking all the brothers and sisters in other families I must have a couple of dozen Fleet marriages and they all look straightforward. Some of the brides were probably pregnant but that is common - one

might almost say universal - with our young women ancestors and not a reason to skulk off to London. The only question mark hangs over Emmanuel Madle, husbandman, and Jane Marll, widow, who were married at the Fleet on October 25 1747. Both were from Much Hadham in Hertfordshire and, however much their names were mangled, both were called Mardell. Jane was the widow of James Mardell - married in 1737 and he died in 1744. After three and a half years she married his brother Emmanuel - marriage with deceased husband's brother - forbidden by the Prayer Book - but they did it - 'irregular but not illegal' - and lived together many more years in Much Hadham with an expanding family.

The ministers also employed clerks to keep proper records and here we come to a difficulty. There was clearly often a day book where the entries were recorded as the marriages happened and then a fair copy was made at some later point. It is usually obvious which is which as the writing in the day books is irregular and the writing in the fair copy is regular and neat for whole pages.

Unsurprisingly there are discrepancies and one should, I suppose, always trust the day book. Thus Joseph Smith above is recorded as being of Sutton-at-Hone near Dartford (which it is) but he appears again as being of Sutton-at-Hone near Deptford (which it isn't). Other places are simply misspelt - my ancestor William Russell married his first wife Elizabeth Squire in 1725 and they are said to be of Feekham - not a problem as I already knew them to be of Fawkham (Kent again). That reminds me

of a City of London Freedom certificate I once saw where the young man was said to be born in Tallbarns, Hertfordshire. A moment's thought produced the solution - Saint Albans.

Sometimes the discrepancy is pro-actively confusing. Henry Morris, husbandman of Chelsum [= Chelsham], Surrey, appears a number of times getting married on September 30 1741. One entry says the bride was Elizabeth Covill of Cudham, spinster. Another calls her Elizabeth Covill of Cudham, widow, and a third entry calls her Elizabeth Cudham, widow. (She was Elizabeth Covill, spinster, but it pays to look at all references).

Searching these records (which used to be practically impossible) has been made very easy now that they are on ancestry.com. The only wrinkle is that you must use the keyword 'clandestine' or you may take a while to find them. And of course there are some modern transcription errors. The marriage of Adam Sandys appears (in the index) twice as Sandys and once as Sandgs but there you go. Considering the difficulties of old handwriting, faded ink and tight bindings I am always in awe of FamilySearch, Ancestry and Findmypast. Still, some constructive thinking about what might have gone wrong may produce entries that are trying to hide.

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Ruth Willmore | EVENTS AND EDUCATION MANAGER

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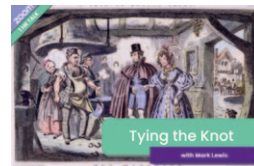
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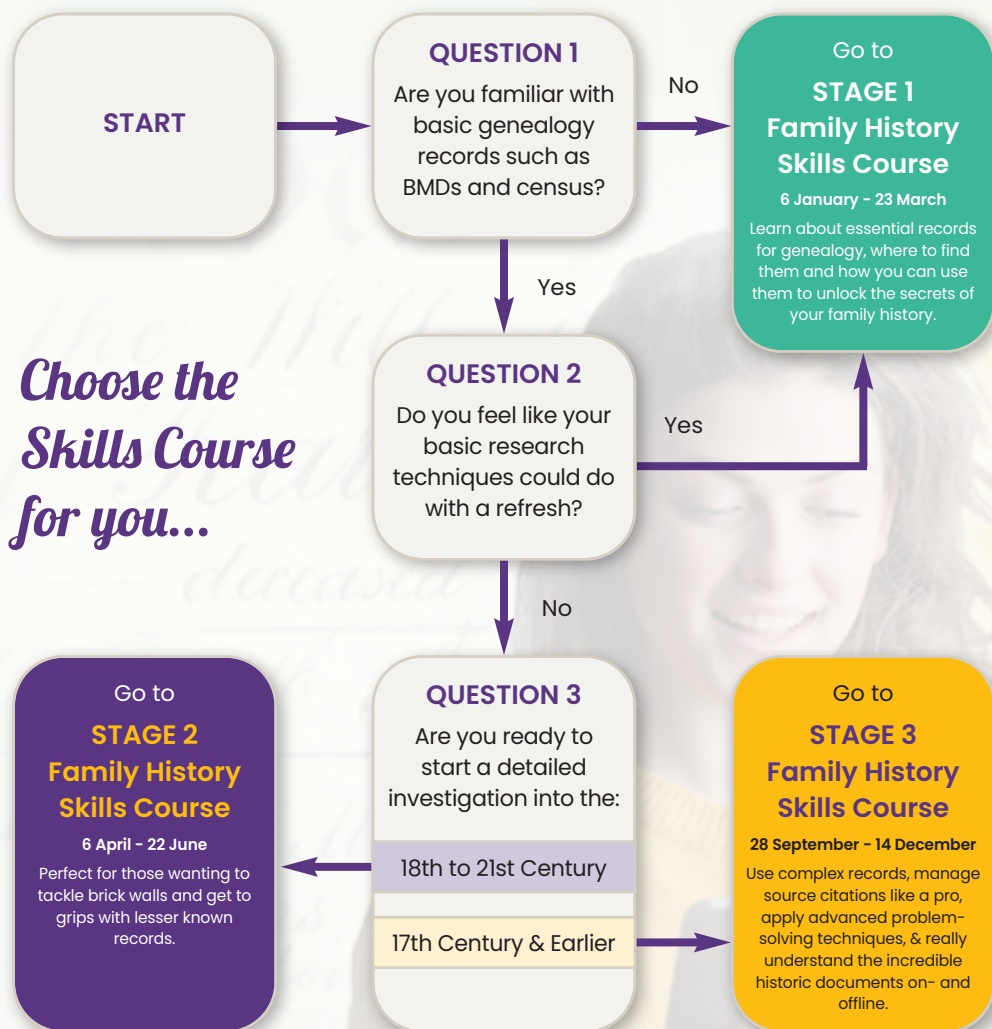
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*"Thank you for putting together such an informative course - it came along at just the right moment for me in my family history journey."*

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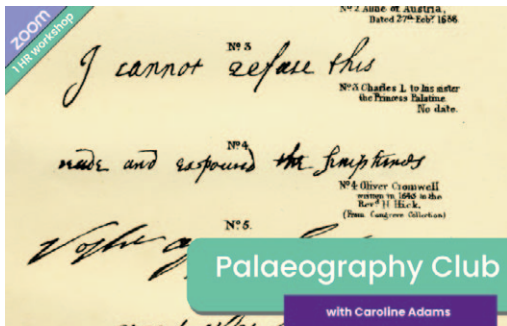
# Free Exclusive Member Only Events

As an SoG member there are plenty of opportunities to discuss genealogy, enhance your skills, discover our collections and meet fellow enthusiasts.

## NEW - Focus on SoG Genealogical Treasures & Collections

*Monthly on Tuesdays at 2pm*

Delve into the treasure chest of SoG's collections. In each session you'll learn more about one of our collections or record sets. You'll discover how you can access and use these sources to further your research or historical knowledge.



## Palaeography Club with Caroline Adams

*Monthly on Tuesday evenings*

In Palaeography Club attendees work together, under the expert guidance of Caroline Adams, to transcribe a historic document and unlock its secrets! From parish and poor law records, to school and estate documents, you'll learn about the background to these documents, as well as how to decipher tricky handwriting from a variety of time periods.

## Book Club

*Mondays at 6pm*

We read roughly ten books per year, meeting to discuss each book and to attend "meet the author" sessions. Books planned for 2024 include *Common People: The History of an English Family* by Alison Light, *The Marriage Certificate: The issue is a mystery* by Stephen Molyneux and *The House by the Thames* by Gillian Tindall.

## Brick Wall Buster

*Tuesday 16 January 2024 10:30am,  
Wednesday 17 April 2024 6:30pm,  
Saturday 27 July 2024 10:30am &  
Thursday 10 October 2024 2pm*

Whether you're baffled by a brick wall, or annoyed by anonymous ancestors, we're here to help! Join our Zoom "Brick Wall Buster" sessions and put your genealogy-related questions to our team of friendly expert volunteers.

## Lunchtime Chats - New Day and Time

*Tuesdays at 12:30pm*

All SoG members are welcome to sit down with us in our friendly and relaxed virtual common room. An expert leads a discussion on a relevant theme. Plans for 2024 include 5 Things I Wish I'd Been Told As A Beginner, How Far Apart Did Your (Great) Grandparents Live, A Woman's Place, The Art of Family History, Collecting The Stories, Volunteering, and more.

## Quarter Day Socials

*Fridays 4:30pm*

Mark Lady Day, Midsummer, Michaelmas and Christmas with a session facilitated by SoG staff members. Zoom breakout sessions will allow you to meet and chat to other members. A chance to get together and catch up with news about the SoG from the staff.



## Society of Genealogists' Virtual Café

*Various dates and times*

Our virtual café is the place to connect with other SoG members and discuss all things family history. Whether you want to sound off about an annoying ancestor or get tips on using a particular website our community is here to help.

Book now at [www.sog.org.uk/events](http://www.sog.org.uk/events)

## Walks and Visits

Join us in London to explore the capital city, walk in our ancestors footsteps and visit places of interest to family historians.

**Visit: The Wiener Holocaust Library – Family Research and the Holocaust**

14 March 11am

**Visit: Tour of the Almshouse & Collections Library at the Museum of Home**

18 April 11am

**Visit: Police Museum Archives**

25 April 2pm

**Walk: Religion, Writers and Reformers – Historic Stoke Newington**

9 May 2pm

*“The leader, Rob Smith, was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about his subject. I found it all fascinating especially the beginnings of the London Underground system.”*

**Visit: Willesden Jewish Cemetery**

16 May 10:45am

**Visit: St Bart’s Archives**

23 May 11am

**Walk: Maritime Blackwall**

23 May 2pm

**Walk: Jewish West End**

6 June 11am

**Visit: Nunhead Cemetery**

13 June 2pm

**Walk: St Katharine’s Dock**

20 June 2pm

**Visit: Stationers’ Hall**

24 June 2pm

**Visit: St Pancras Old Church**

4 July 11am

**Walk: Hampstead Gardens Suburb**

18 July 2pm

**Walk: Brothels, Bishops and the Bard – Historic Southwark and Bankside**

8 August 11am

**Walk: City Churches**

22 August 11am

**Visit: Bank of England Archives**

12 September 11am

**Walk: Gardens and a Green – Historic Kew**

9 September 11am

**Visit: Kensington & Chelsea Archives**

3 October 11am

**Visit: National Army Museum Archives**

14 November 11am

**Visit: Kew Gardens Archives**

28 November 2pm



*“The expert was very knowledgeable and made a churchyard I knew nothing about come to life (excuse the pun!)”*

*“I liked the time in the crypt as it told peoples’ stories. The guide was very good and made it interesting.”*

Book now at [www.sog.org.uk/events](http://www.sog.org.uk/events)

## And there is more...

We have a diverse programme of short talks, the majority of which are one-hour long. The following are all delivered online over Zoom, with a chance to ask the speakers questions at the end of the talk. Each month we have a loose theme, but include a variety of talks outside the theme and on an

assortment of topics. Whether you want to learn more about your ancestors' occupations or day-to-day life, understand new research techniques, discover new sources or brush up on the latest technology for family history research, there is something for you every month.

### January

#### Migration & Dry January

- 10th **Wednesday Workshop: Oral History in the Family** | Julia Letts
- 11th **Escaping Hitler: A Jewish Boy's Quest for Freedom and His Future** | Phyllida Scrivens
- 13th **Family Historian Software: Working with Media**  
John Hanson
- 18th **Virtual Walk: Historic Clerkenwell**  
Diane Burstein
- 18th **Transported to Tasmania - Female Convicts**  
Kelly Cornwell
- 18th **Getting the Most from the Digital Panopticon**  
Emma Watkins
- 20th **Booze & Clues: Tracing My Publican Ancestry**  
Gwyneth Wilkie
- 24th **A Very Dry Year: The Women behind the Temperance Movement Campaigns**  
Joanne Kenyon
- 24th **Sources for Australian Genealogy at the SoG and Elsewhere** | Else Churchill
- 25th **Victorian and Edwardian Railway Travel**  
David Turner
- 27th **Ancestors on the Margins: Tracing Misfortunate Ancestors** | Janet Few
- 27th **Turnpikes and Travellers: Getting About Before the Railways** | Alan Rosevear
- 27th **How Far Did Your Ancestor Travel?**  
Celia Heritage

### February

#### Love, Sex & Marriage

- 1st **Virtual Walk: Camden Town** | Paul Baker
- 1st **Fact from Fiction: What the Great 19th Century Novels Can Tell Us About Our Ancestors**  
Dave Annal
- 7th **Using County Archives: New Poor Law Records (1834 Onwards)** | West Sussex Record Office
- 7th **Wednesday Workshop: Six Hats for Genealogy**  
Sophie Kay
- 8th **Instantly Buckled for Life - Scottish Marriage Records** | Chris Paton
- 10th **Doxies, Dolly-Mops and Dressmakers: The History of Prostitution 1780-1930** | Janet Few

- 10th **My Workhouse Ancestor** | Celia Heritage
- 10th **Syphilis: A Night With Venus, a Lifetime of Mercury** | Kevin Brown
- 15th **Beyond the Marriage Certificate**  
Julie Goucher
- 17th **Charity Records and Pauper Ancestors: A Case Study - Richard Holt**
- 17th **The Benefactors** | Jackie Depelle
- 17th **Coastguard Ancestors** | James Cronan
- 19th **Marriage Licences at the SoG and Elsewhere**  
Else Churchill
- 22nd **Implications of Hardwicke's Marriage Act in Genealogical Research** | John Wintrip
- 22nd **Virtual Walk: London's Food Factories**  
Rob Smith
- 24th **Divorce, Separation and Void Marriages**  
Rebecca Probert
- 24th **Using Findmypast** | John Hanson
- 29th **Tying the Knot: The Lore of English Marriage**  
Mark Lewis

### March

#### Celtic Ancestors & Women's History

- 2nd **Researching Welsh Ancestry** | Gill Thomas
- 7th **Virtual Walk: Suffragette City** | Dian Burstein
- 9th **A Stitch in Time: A Social History of Seamstresses, Dressmakers & Tailors**  
Adele Emm
- 9th **Comings and Goings: The Welsh Migration Story** | Gill Thomas
- 14th **Getting the Most from the Historic Towns Trust**  
Vanessa Harding
- 16th **Researching Ancestors in British India**  
Valmay Young
- 16th **All the Other 'Ologies** | Jen Baldwin
- 21st **Virtual Walk: East Barnet Village** | Paul Baker
- 23rd **Stepping Out of the Shadows of Men: An Independent Woman in Georgian London**  
Sue Swalwell
- 23rd **'A prime issue' - Anglo-Irish Relations during the Edwardian Period** | Cynthia Brown
- 25th **Irish Collections and Resources at the SoG**  
Else Churchill
- 28th **'A Terrible Beauty': Researching Irish Revolutionary Ancestors** | David Ryan

## April

### Religions

- 3rd Using County Archives: 'Old' Poor Law Records  
West Sussex Record Office
- 4th My Ancestor Was a Carpenter | Ian Waller
- 4th Exploring House History: The History of 192 Brick Lane and its Inhabitants | Linda Hammond
- 6th Family Historian Software: Places, Addresses & Maps | John Hanson
- 6th Who were the Walloons and Huguenots?  
Sandra Robinson
- 11th Jewish Family DNA Case Studies  
Michael Tobias
- 13th Getting the Most from Goldie May - Automate Your Research Log | Richard Miller
- 13th Brother Harry and the Shakers | David Eniffer
- 15th Nonconformist Records at the SoG and Elsewhere | Else Churchill
- 18th Uproar and Disorder: The Impact of the Bible Christians on Parishes in North Devon  
Janet Few
- 20th Embracing the Snail: Fast and Slow Thinking in Genealogy Research | Sophie Kay
- 23rd Discovering Your Catholic Ancestors  
Sylvia Dibbs
- 24th Getting the Most from Lambeth Palace Library  
Wayne Fortune and Lizzie Hensman
- 25th Unknown Ancestor Mystery Case Studies  
Michelle Leonard
- 27th The Sands of Time: A Surrey Cottage from 1450 to the Present Day | Nicholas Dixon
- 27th The Godly Commonwealth - Discover Scottish Church Records | Chris Paton

## May

### Europe & Entertainment

- 2nd Sources and Resources for German-Jewish Family History | Jeanette Rosenberg
- 2nd How Legacy Family Tree Software Can Help, Even if You Use Other Family Tree Software  
Geoff Rasmussen
- 4th Mrs Wilson, Eighteenth-Century Actress and Celebrity: A Life in Twenty-Two Documents  
Mish Holman
- 4th How to find Walloon and Huguenot Ancestors in the Records | Sandra Robinson
- 4th How to Start Researching Your Ancestors in Today's Austria & Germany | Markus Schönherr
- 9th Virtual Tour: Liverpool & Emigration  
Alex Niedzwiedski
- 11th Washday Blues: The Lives of Charwomen & Washerwomen | Adele Emm
- 11th Keeping Mum: Maternity Narratives and Your Family History | Sophie Kay

- 13th Jewish Collections at the SoG and Elsewhere | Else Churchill
- 16th Madness, Mania and Melancholia: Tracing Your Ancestors within the Asylum Walls  
Janet Few
- 18th The Value Of Family History in Dementia  
Jude Rhodes
- 23rd Researching Polish Jewish Families Using Jewish Records Indexing - Poland  
Michael Tobias
- 25th Under the Influence: Provincial Players in the Georgian North | Declan McCormack
- 25th Our Ancestors on Holiday in Spain  
Kirsty Hooper
- 28th Finding Immigration Journeys from Italy to Great Britain | Kathy Kirkpatrick
- 30th Jilted! Breach of Promise Cases and the Use of Newspapers | Kate Keter

## June

### Diversity & Equality

- 1st Mind the Gaps! Understanding and Improving Your Online Searches | Dave Annal
- 1st Using A Research Methodology For Family History | Phil Isherwood
- 6th The Lives and Conditions of Children and Their Families Who Worked in the Pottery Industry in the 1840s | Ann Simcock
- 8th Cloud Computing for Genealogists  
Graham Walter
- 8th Exploring Untold Narratives: Anne Lister's Lovers | Shantel Smith and Kat Williams
- 12th Using County Archives: Hospital Records  
West Sussex Record Office
- 13th I've Got the Notion | Natalie Pithers
- 13th Necessary Women: Women Working in Parliament | Mari Takayanagi
- 15th A March Through Time - Democracy Through the Ages | Nick Barratt
- 20th Customs & Excise Ancestors | James Cronan
- 22nd Virtual Tour: Immigration East of the City  
David Charnick
- 22nd The Fight for Suffrage | Eve Bacon
- 26th Wednesday Workshop: Brickwalls  
Mia Bennett
- 29th Family History: The Next Generation  
Janet Few
- 29th Homosexuality in the First World War: A Purge of Gay Officers | Frances Hurd

Remaining themes for the year are: Jul: Paris Olympics & Sporting Ancestors | Aug: Countryside Sep: Back to School & City Life | Oct: Crime, Courts & Scandals | Nov: War & Death Records | Dec: Birth Records & Christmas

Book now at [www.sog.org.uk/events](http://www.sog.org.uk/events)

# PHOTOGRAPHERS WERE A HARDY BUNCH...



*Helen Dawkins LRPS*

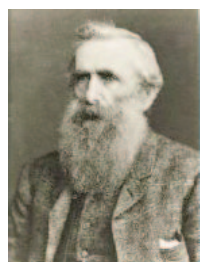
## Gibson Photographers of Scilly & Penzance

In the challenging days of photography when taking a photograph involved a large plate camera, I am constantly amazed at the seemingly inhospitable occasions when such a cumbersome piece of equipment would be put to use, especially if the plates used were utilising the wet collodion process where plates would be coated, exposed and processed whilst still wet. It is hard to believe that one of the instances I recently read of was in photographing shipwrecks. One can hardly imagine a less hospitable occasion to face this challenge.

to record the events. Often the photographs also showed normal day to day life but they became known for being well placed to photograph the shipwrecks around Cornwall and the Isle of Scilly, which also encompass stories of 'salvage' and smuggling. Life was hard on the Scillies in those days and shipwrecks often brought with them an interesting and useful cargo!

In time Alexander's son, James, took over the studios in Penzance and St. Mary's, and James' son, Frank, succeeded him. He, in turn, was succeeded by his daughter Sandra when the business became known as Gibson and Kyne. On retirement, the

*Figure 1 - The Gibson Family*



*John Gibson*  
1827-1920



*Alexander Gibson*  
1857-1944



*Herbert Gibson*  
1861-1937



*James Gibson*  
1901-1985



*Frank Gibson*  
1929-2012

The company involved was Gibson and Sons, family photographers who had a base in Penzance and who, for more than 100 years, documented life on Scilly as well as recording the life of the Isles of Scilly Steamship Company

They are a family of five generations of photographers. Father, John, began recording shipwrecks in the 1860s, hence the use of the wet plate camera, and later his sons Alexander and Herbert joined him in the business. They would transport their unwieldy equipment, essentially a portable darkroom, down to the beaches in order

business finally closed in 2019. According to Sandra the shipwreck archive has now been purchased by the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. The Cornish part of the archive went to the Penlee Gallery & Museum in Penzance, but by far the largest element of the archive, which relates to Scilly, is currently still in Sandra's possession. However it is hoped that the museum on Scilly will assume ownership following ongoing discussions. I shall certainly be seeking out these fascinating archives when I am next in any of these locations. What a credit these photographs are to our ancestors who seemingly saw no bounds!

My thanks to Sandra Kyne, nee Gibson, for her permission to include this wonderful history and photographs.



Figure 2 - John Gibson at work

Further reading: *The Wreckers* by Bella Bathurst: a novel which highlights the challenges of life at sea and on the shore.

### The Wiltshire Archive

I began working on the Wiltshire archive in early 2020 and featured Roger Wiltshire's great uncle, Charles Edward Wiltshire, in the June 2020 magazine. Work continues on this archive and we are currently working on the life and history of Charles Henry Wiltshire, Roger's father, and I thought I would share with you how a single item has opened up a fascinating development with a local museum.

At the time of World War II, Charles Henry Wiltshire was working in the railway industry, a reserved occupation, therefore he was not expected to serve in the forces; however, he was keen to represent his country and enlisted with a local unit of the Home Guard, initially known until 1940 as the Local Defence Volunteers, which was affiliated to the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.

After his father's passing, Roger located his bayonet, cap badge and boxes of ammunition - the latter swiftly handed to the authorities. The somewhat lethal-looking bayonet was also a priority to relocate away from inquisitive grandchildren and an interesting exchange started with the offer of the bayonet to the Twinwood Museum in Clapham, Bedfordshire.

During WWII, Twinwood Airfield was an RAF training base. At this time, Glenn Miller and his Orchestra were based in nearby Bedford as a safer alternative to London, and regularly used RAF Twinwood Airfield to fly to where they would perform. On August 27th 1944, Glenn Miller performed a special one-off concert at RAF Twinwood. This was the only outdoor concert he performed at a British base. Later that year, on December 15th 1944, Major Glenn Miller was due to leave England for France. He boarded a Norseman aircraft outside Twinwood Control Tower, and was never seen again. Many stories exist as to how his demise came about but none is confirmed and the saga will forever remain a mystery.

Volunteers took on the task of transforming the Twinwood Airfield Control Tower back to its original condition and in 2002 the newly restored and refurbished control tower was opened to the public as a museum by Beryl Davis, Miller's wartime singer.

Roger approached the museum to ask if they would be interested in the bayonet. Their interest and response was positive and this together with Charles Henry Wiltshire's cap badge were donated last September. The museum was keen to develop an exhibit based around the memorabilia and, following research, they discovered it would have been fitted to a P14 rifle which was produced in the USA and shipped over to the UK to equip Home Guard units etc., to release other weapons to front line servicemen. They were delighted to be able to acquire one of these rare weapons and hope to also obtain the relevant uniform to complete the display to be accompanied by three other photographs of Roger's father, his family and work colleagues.



Figure 3 - Roger Wiltshire with P14 Rifle and fixed bayonet



Figure 4- Coronet Midget Sub Miniature camera by The Coronet Camera Co.

### The Corona Midget Camera

I recently came upon one of these cameras which I thought fascinating and worth sharing with you. They were produced during the Art Deco period of the 1930s and have become collectable, although a quick glance on eBay tells me there are quite a few about, maybe something to do with their robust nature, as is often the case with old cameras. Cameras of that era were built to last and many of the popular models such as the Kodak Brownie fetch very little money unless they are a rare model. This blue Coronet Midget seems to be the rarer colour and usually sells for between £200 and £300. Other colours produced were black, lime green, olive green, brown, red/black mottled and rose/orange mottled.

The camera is made of Bakelite, measures only 26 x 65 x 35 mm and weighs in at just 70 grams so easy to carry round. It was also affordable, originally costing five shillings which made it widely accessible to amateur photographers. The camera was made by the Coronet Camera Co. in Birmingham, England and

takes six 13 x 18mm exposures on 16mm paper-backed roll film. A red window centred in the back is used to control film advance, wound by either a plain knob or a hinged D-shaped loop. The camera was simple to use and produced high quality images but unfortunately did not embrace new developments in film technology so was quickly superseded by new developments in the world of cameras.

The camera is often seen with its special case which is hand stitched, silk lined and made from the finest leatherette. The case was available in walnut, green, black and red. I wonder if any readers have one or have used one in the past?

### Daguerreotype mystery...

Member Brian Spear got in contact with a rather sorry-looking photograph from ancestors in the Drury family which he believed to be an ambrotype, but when the package arrived I found it to be a dismantled daguerreotype. In view of the way daguerreotypes are produced, exposure to the atmosphere can lead to further deterioration of the



Figure 5 - Daguerreotype of the Drury family

image which I believe was the case in this instance. However, this was an important part of family history and therefore a full Condition Report was produced and I identified the image as dating from the early 1850s. The accompanying case was the traditional leather book style which was sadly in a state of disrepair and had been at some point covered with Sellotape - certainly not the best to use but unfortunately often the 'go to' quick repair material (avoid it if you can!). Incidentally work could be undertaken to remove the damaging tape and restore the underlying leather case but for now the priority was the photograph. An interesting detail was the gold-embossed stamp on the case which shows that this was from "Beard's Photographic Institutions of London and Liverpool". Richard Beard was, as you may recall from previous articles, the holder from 1841 of the patent to produce daguerreotypes in "England, Wales, Berwick upon Tweed and Her Majesties Colonies and Plantations throughout the World". His studio on the top floor of the Royal Polytechnic Institution in Regent Street, London, was his first base. As the case and daguerreotype are in separate pieces, we cannot be 100% certain that the two are an original 'marriage', we can only assume as they have been stored together. An improved scan and print was produced from the



Figure 6 - The case enclosing the deconstructed daguerreotype

daguerreotype and from this I could deduce that, in view of the stance of the two ladies, this was possibly a mourning photograph.

Brian looked into the family history and found that James Drury's wife Mary died of cancer in January 1850 leaving 2 daughters aged 11 and 8 and he believed this to be a photograph of the daughters taken around this time; that would tie in perfectly with my dating of the piece. As ever in Victorian times, given the expense of producing a likeness, there was usually a good reason for a photograph to be made, not always a happy one but a part of history nevertheless.

As ever, I look forward to hearing from you – emails and challenging packages always welcome!

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**Helen Dawkins LRPS**

Email: [helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk](mailto:helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk)

Established in 1992, Black and White Revival carries out traditional restoration and conservation of photographs. Helen Dawkins is now one of the few traditional processors for black and white photography continuing to produce archival quality photographs in the darkroom. For further advice: email [helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk](mailto:helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk), visit [www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk](http://www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk) or tel: 01234 782265.

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# LORD TEVIOT:

50 YEARS INVOLVEMENT IN LEGISLATION FOR THE SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

*Anthony Camp, MBE, FSG*

Charles Teviot, FSG, who died peacefully on 15 October 2023 aged 88, was born The Hon. Charles Kerr in 1934, the only son of the first Lord Teviot, Chairman of the National Liberal Party from 1940 to 1956, who died in 1968. Charles, thus second Lord Teviot, was a collateral of the Marquess of Lothian and his mother, who died in 1979, was a collateral of the Earls of Clarendon.

Educated at Eton, he was pleasantly easy-going and although, when young, he was dismissed by the press as a bus conductor and driver, he made an important contribution to the work of the Society of Genealogists - and indeed to records preservation generally - through his lobbying in the House of Lords. After his marriage in 1965 to a fellow-worker Mary Harris, he developed a close interest in genealogy which she shared and encouraged. He joined the Society in January 1970.

## College of Arms

When he succeeded to the peerage, Lord Teviot experienced first-hand the process whereby new peers provide evidence of their descents and arms to the authorities at the House of Lords which necessarily involved the officers of the College of Arms. The payment of fees by new peers which this involved was sometimes thought unnecessary and not infrequently resented and in 1973 he was persuaded by Cecil Humphery-Smith, then Director of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies at Canterbury, to introduce a Bill in the House of Lords which would have required the College to publish a scale of its charges, together with its annual accounts, as well as catalogues of its collections. He was supported in this by some of the more recently ennobled members of the House but Garter King of Arms, Sir Anthony Wagner, wrote to all the peers saying that the Bill was 'an expression of no confidence' in the Earl Marshal, the head of the College, and it was heavily defeated. The

College had been reluctant to publicize its charges, but the Earl Marshal now agreed that they should be clearly set out and any air of mystery about them removed. The mention of a fee of £3,000 paid to Garter for his public services and voted annually by the House of Commons, which would have been abolished by the Bill, did not improve the Institute's uncertain relationship with the College.

## Parish Registers

At the Society in the 1970s we had about thirty active volunteers, with many more in the local societies, often working at home on the transcription and indexing of parish registers, organized for us by Patricia Riach and afterwards by Monnica Stevens. Since the Second World War, great numbers of parish registers had also been copied and made available on microfilm and microfiche by the Genealogical Society of Utah. In 1977 the latter had become widely available in the UK through its microfiche International Genealogical Index. Although the original registers, their transcripts and indexes, were increasingly being deposited in county record offices, a large number containing unique information, some dating from the sixteenth century, remained at risk from fire and theft in parish churches across England and Wales. Those for Scotland had been collected at Edinburgh in 1855 where all those prior to 1875 had later been microfilmed.

Legal responsibility for the English and Welsh registers was a delicate matter and considered to fall between Parliament and the General Synod of the Church of England (which had replaced the Church Assembly in 1970). The fees payable to the clergy for personal searches in the registers, mostly originating in the 1813 Act of Parliament called Rose's Act, had often, in the past, been waived or overlooked, but their uneven application and collection was now of increasing concern.

In November 1972 the House of Clergy of the General Synod adopted a report of its Standing Committee, to which I had given evidence, requesting the Church Commissioners to frame scales of fees for searching parish registers (and other related matters) based on the time involved, but the Parochial Fees Order made that year doubled the old fees which had been based on the number of years searched. In 1973 David Avery, representing the Users Group, took an initiative in the General Synod to urge the deposit and free availability of all parish registers no longer in use for pastoral purposes, some of which were deposited in diocesan record offices.

A draft Parish Registers and Records Measure was making a slow progress in the Synod but in 1976 the Society welcomed suggested provisions that would relieve record offices from the obligation to charge fees for searches in deposited registers, require bishops to establish record offices if they had not already done so, provide for the inspection every five years of those registers which remained in parochial keeping and give bishops power to require the temporary deposit of records for extended historical research.

In view of Lord Teviot's interest in such matters, he was in 1974 appointed a member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Council on Public Records, and in 1975 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists.

He had meanwhile developed the wording of a Parochial Records Bill which on 19 February 1976 obtained a First Reading in the House of Lords. This would have required that all parochial records be kept in safety under stringent conditions of temperature and humidity. The church's General Synod then, in July 1976, accepted similar amendments to its Measure and agreed that all church records over a hundred years old, should be deposited in diocesan record offices except in parishes that were providing similar facilities to those required by the Bill. The Measure then had its Second Reading in the Synod on 9 November 1976. As the Society's Annual Report for 1976 correctly foretold, these developments were likely to have a far-reaching effect on all future genealogical work. The Measure, which cancelled the 1813 Act and an important earlier Measure in 1929, was passed by

the General Synod late in 1977 and, as the Parochial Records and Registers Measure, it gained the Royal Assent in 1978.

However, the question of the fees involved continued to receive considerable public comment. There was a delegation to the Church Commissioners led by Philip Whitehead, M.P., on 19 November 1976, and a group of us from the Record Users Group gave evidence to the Parochial Fees Commission on 19 April 1978, we later sending a memorandum on the subject to all 547 members of the Synod.

Possible draft legislation had long been under discussion between various bodies when Lord Teviot introduced in November 1978 the Second Reading of his Public Records (Amendment) Bill in the House of Lords. For this he had the legal advice of a Q.C. and the Bill would have amended the 1958 Public Records Act to bring parish registers over a hundred years old under the definition of 'Public Records'. In his typical style he had likened the 'crush of happy family historians who nowadays, to the dismay of regular searchers, descended in coach loads on St Catherine's House', to an H. M. Bateman cartoon of happy parents arriving at Eton in a charabanc on the Fourth of June. However, in view of the progress of events in the Synod, the Bill raised questions about the State legislating for the Church, was then quietly dropped.

Lord Teviot tried again in 1983, believing that the possibility of charging a daily fee for access might be acceptable and carry the day, but such a possibility raised fears of similar charges for other public records and a correspondence developed in *The Times*. However, his Bill, which was surprisingly given government backing, passed through the Lords until its Second Reading in the House of Commons, intended on 13 May 1983, fell on the day of a general election and nothing further was consequently heard of it.

The Record Users Group had taken a very close interest in all these developments. The Group, whose meetings I attended, worked under the auspices of the Standing Conference on Local History (which in 1982 had been transformed into the British Association for Local History) and it included representatives of the active and well-

informed members of the Cambridge Group for the Study of Population and Social Structure (CAMPOP) as well as the editors of the journal *Local Population Studies*.

For all of us parish registers were a vital source and Lord Teviot's actions in the House of Lords had taken place whilst Synod was itself embarking on its program of reform of the Records and Register Measure, for which attendance at alternate meetings in London and York had been required. The worldwide program of microfilming of records by the Genealogical Society of Utah was altering many ideas about preservation and access to records of all kinds.

### Civil Registration

The old General Register Office (GRO) at Somerset House, in which Lord Teviot himself now regularly laboured, had in 1970 been subsumed into the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. Its search room, known to generations of seekers of birth, marriage and death records for a wide variety of purposes, and where one searched the indexes of births, marriages and deaths from their commencement in 1837 and of adoptions from 1926, was moved from its original home in Somerset House to a modern office building across the road in St Catherine's House on Kingsway and opened there on 2 January 1974. The neglected Miscellaneous Returns, some of which remain to this day unindexed, came later. Conditions in the increasingly over-crowded search rooms were poor and widely criticized and there was a growing lobby to have the civil servants and their nine miles of shelving sent elsewhere.

The searcher's useful access to the GRO indexes on Saturday mornings was terminated on 1 July 1974 and later that year it was announced that because of the Government's adoption of Sir Henry Hardman's report on *The Dispersal of Government Work from London*, published in 1972, the General Register Office would close, and its functions be transferred to Southport in Merseyside.

The Hardman Report had in fact said that 'the Office would probably need to retain a number of posts in London ... together with the public search room, a few registration consultants and some limited support staff', but although the Office dealt with more than a thousand enquiries a day and the condition of the

battered indexes, handwritten on parchment from 1837 to 1866, was now causing concern, the Deputy Registrar General, Mr. F. A. Rooke-Matthews, took the view that public access to the indexes was no longer necessary and that all future searches could easily be conducted by correspondence.

There was a general outcry of protest at the widespread inconvenience which would follow the removal of the records and indexes from London and the Society decided to organize an opposition to the plan. Lord Teviot, a frequent searcher of the heavy volumes, had already written to *The Times* and now representatives of more than thirty organizations which needed easy access to the indexes, met at the Society and agreed to put their names to a letter which I had drafted to *The Times*. Those who signed included the immediate past Lord Mayor of London, and representatives of the Association of Assistant Mistresses, the Association of British Investigators, the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents, the British Archaeological Association, the British Records Association, the British Record Society, Brooks & Simpson Ltd, the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, the Catholic Record Society, the College of Arms, The English Place-Name Society, the Federation of Family History Societies, the Friends Historical Society, the Heraldry Society, the Historical Association of Great Britain, the Huguenot Society, the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, the Institute of Historical Research of London University, the Irish Genealogical Research Society, the Royal Archaeological Institute, the Royal College of Physicians of London, the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Royal Historical Society, the Salvation Army, the Society of Antiquaries, the Society of Genealogists, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Standing Conference for Local History and the Worker's Educational Association. *The Times* had insisted that the published list of signatories be reduced to six and our letter appeared under their names on 1 February. It had been difficult to choose six to display the variety of interests involved, but we agreed on Arthur Carr, Chief of Staff of the Salvation Army; G.R. Elton, President of the Royal Historical Society; Brian Fitzgerald Moore, Chairman of the Society of Genealogists; J.N.L. Myers, President of the Society of Antiquaries; J.B. Taylor, Deputy General Secretary of the Workers' Educational Association, and Sir Anthony Wagner, Garter King of Arms.

Lord Teviot had in December 1974 asked if Barbara Castle, the Minister responsible for the General Register Office, would receive a deputation on the subject, and a meeting with representatives was organized at the Ministry of Health and Social Security on 22 January 1975. The deputation stressed their many points of concern to Lord Wells-Pestell, the Government's spokesman in the House of Lords, who was assisted by Alec Jones, Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, and Mr. Rooke-Matthews. I subsequently summarized the discussions in this *Magazine* in June. A short period of further consultation followed but in answer to Lord Teviot's query in the House of Lords as to when a decision might be taken, Lord Wells-Pestell replied on 18 February, and we were all vastly relieved to hear that the search rooms would remain in central London at St Catherine's House. Rooke-Matthews had meanwhile said on 24 January that he had discussed 'the possibility of depositing the older central records with the Public Record Office'.

This was an extremely busy time at the Society, but it had, as one historian says, played a key part in the campaign, mobilizing other organizations and acting as a focal point for discussions with government.

Representations to the Registrar General had also been made about the great increase in fees for certificates and the reduction in the 'checking' service. Arising from these and other discussions, we thought that agreement had been reached that all the records of the Registrar General more than a hundred years old would in due course after amending legislation, be transferred to the Public Record Office and made freely available there.

In 1976 there was much further discussion, and the Advisory Council on Public Records showed some sympathy for these aims. The Registrar General reiterated his intentions about the transfer of the non-statutory records more than thirty years old but claimed that for any other transfer complicated amending legislation would be required. The Society took the view that the records could easily be transferred on microfilm.

In 1977 there were further meetings with members of the Advisory Council to discuss points raised in a memorandum submitted in the previous year and

there was a meeting in June 1977 with officers of the Public Record Office about Saturday and late-night opening. A detailed memorandum on the needs of historians with regard to the records of the Registrar General, prepared by Dr Roger Schofield for the Record Users Group, was submitted to the Advisory Council on Public Records in November 1977 and in 1979 a working party of the Council was asked to look at a draft Bill to amend the Public Records Act 1958 so that the GRO's records more than a century old might be made Public Records and eventually be transferred to the Public Record Office (as agreed in 1967). On 2 June 1978 the Record Users Group met the working party to discuss the Bill and I wrote to their Chairman.

Lord Teviot had meanwhile been drawn to genealogical research and he became a Director of Debrett's *Peerage* in 1977 and then a Director of Burke's *Peerage* in 1983. He and Lady Teviot began to specialize in probate research, assisting claimants to intestate estates, though charging a fee of a third of the amount involved.

The Bill was introduced in the House of Lords and had a Second Reading there on 22 November 1978, being sponsored by Lord Teviot and supported by Lord Lyall and Viscount Barrington, but the Lord Chancellor cast considerable doubt on the provision of funds to make the records available. However, the Bill was not opposed at its Third Reading on 14 December, and it went to the Commons. The Bill then lapsed at the dissolution of Parliament. I had meanwhile talked to the All-Party Disablement Group in the Commons, it being anxious to secure free access to the records of civil registration for those tracing their ancestors for medical reasons.

With the new Parliament in 1979, Lord Teviot re-introduced the Bill, but at its Second Reading on 3 July he withdrew it, the Lord Chancellor having warned of the extra expenditure of public money which he estimated would be needed to implement it. A working party was then set up to review other possibilities of a transfer. However, the announcement in December 1979 which indicated the imminent removal of records from the old Public Record Office to a new building at Kew then concentrated many minds on other matters.

**A.I.D.**

On quite another subject and following the Report of the Warnock Committee the Society had in 1984 made representations to the Department of Health and Social Security, our Executive Committee having agreed that the proposed falsification of birth certificates of children conceived following artificial insemination by donor (A.I.D.) should be resisted at all costs. The Society took the view that a register should be set up, and we advocated that it should be similar to that for adopted children and record the name of the true father. We also believed that this information should become available to the child when an adult and that any birth certificate issued, whilst naming the mother's husband, should be marked in some discreet manner to indicate that conception had followed artificial insemination by donor.

However, the Family Law Reform Bill, which came before Parliament in January 1987 proposed to allow children born as a result of A.I.D. to be registered as legitimate children. The Society gave support to our Vice-President, Lord Denning, who sought in debates in the House of Lords to have the clause deleted or birth certificates annotated to show that the father was 'by donation'. He was unsuccessful and the Bill was carried into Law.

An opportunity to amend the Act came with the publication of the Government's discussion paper *Legislation on Human Fertility Services and Embryo Research* (Cm 46), about which the Society's comments, drafted by Stephen Hale, were submitted in June 1987. We were partially gratified by a White Paper published in November which proposed a statutory licensing authority to which clinics would return full details of donors in AID cases, though the Government did not think that the details should be available to the child or that its birth certificate should be annotated in any way, though any person aged 18 or over would be able to enquire if he or she had been conceived following embryo or sperm donation.

Lord Denning returned to the attack on these matters in a Debate in the House of Lords early in 1988. However, the Second Reading of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill did not take place until 2 December 1989 when Lord Teviot spoke, indicating the Society's interest. He then sought our

help in the preparation of amendments to be put forward during the Committee stages of the Bill.

Our Chairman, Stephen Hale, then met Lord Teviot, the Garter Principal King of Arms Sir Colin Cole, and Lady Saltoun, who had also spoken in the Debate, and we helped Lord Teviot and Lady Saltoun to organize a well-attended meeting to lobby peers at the House of Lords on 23 January 1990. The Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, the Garter Principal King of Arms and (from Scotland), Lord Lyon King of Arms, were all present. Stephen Hale's amendments (a) would have required birth certificates to be discreetly annotated to indicate whether the mother or father was so by virtue of the provisions of the Bill, (b) allowed the child to have full identifying information about its genetic parents at the age of 18 after counselling, (c) made that information available to the child's descendants after his or her death as well as to its medical advisers, (d) attempted to extend the provisions of the Bill to children already born, and (e) required all the records to be permanently preserved and made Public Records after 115 years. The Chairman and I attended the Debates during the Committee Stage of the Bill, when Lord Teviot was unfortunately heavily defeated. Further Amendments were attempted at the Report Stage when the Government agreed that donor children should not inherit titles or, in Scotland, coats of arms.

The Bill had its Third Reading in the House of Lords and then went to Committee in the Commons where further useful amendments were tried by the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, the Association of Directors of Social Services, and the British Association of Social Workers, and the Society of Genealogists wrote to all the members of the Commons' Committee, but not one of the amendments was secured. In June the *Daily Telegraph* surprisingly printed my angry letter about the Government's apparent denial of the importance of genetic descent or paternity.

In January 1992 I submitted a paper to the Inter-Departmental Review of Adoption Law and a Consultation Document was published in October, but it was not until after I had retired as Director of the Society that in 2004 new Regulations put out by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which came into effect on 1 April 2005, enabled

those born after that date who suspected that they were donor-conceived and whose birth certificates continued to lie, to request and to receive, when aged eighteen, the name and last known address of their sperm, egg or embryo donor.

The Society of Genealogists' Annual Report did not mention this important development and I was told by a senior officer of the Federation of Family History Societies that I should not 'meddle' in such things but to me the subject is quite fundamental

and Lord Teviot, to whom genealogists owe much for his pertinacity over these many years, would have agreed with me.

In December 2005, following the Adoption and Children Act 2002, those parents who had given up

a child for adoption were also given the right to trace that child through an intermediary, so long as the child agreed, and in November 2014 new rules further allowed the birth relatives of those adopted before 30 December 2005 to find out about their family histories and medical backgrounds, the regulations ensuring that the consent of the adopted person was obtained before contact or information sharing was facilitated, unless only non-identifying medical information was being sought, the adoptee had died, was incapacitated or could not be found. The instincts of the late noble lord had been completely right.

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*Anthony Camp, MBE, FSG*  
Email: anthonyjcamp@aol.com

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## Biographical Database of Australia

### A non-profit project



**Did your ancestor go to Australia & return to the UK or Ireland?**

**Did they have siblings or cousins who went to Australia from 1788 & stayed?**

**Many did: soldiers, marines, ship's crew, officials, clergy, wives, convicts & immigrants.**

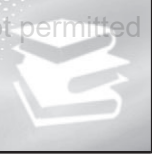
**Biographical Database of Australia (BDA)** has 2m+ records of people c1788-1910, many of them UK/Irish born. The indexes are **FREE** to view on [www.bda-online.org.au](http://www.bda-online.org.au)

From the index result you can view full transcripts & sources by **subscribing** to BDA via Paypal for Aus\$39 (about **£19.50 pa**) to allow unlimited searching for one year. No need to create an account with Paypal. Renewal notices emailed. **NO** auto-renew billing.

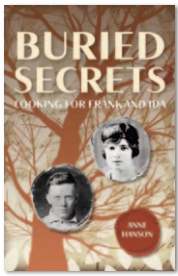
This **non-profit project**, founded by members of the Society of Australian Genealogists, is transcribing original records in Australia, linking & cross-indexing them to create a biographical timeline profile with archival & published sources.

Use **advanced search** to find place of UK/Ireland birth & conviction, usually given in Australian convict records. Many immigration records give both birthplace & parents.

Click **View Sample** to see what we do on [www.bda-online.org.au](http://www.bda-online.org.au)



# BOOK REVIEWS



***Buried Secrets, Looking for Frank and Ida***, by Anne Hanson. New England Books, 2022. ISBN: 979-8-218-02527-4. Paperback, 357pp, illustrated, pedigrees, family photos. £15.65.

Imagine finding that every single person you have on your family tree does not exist. That there is not one particle of 'evidence' that was actually a fact. This is what happened to the author, Anne Hanson.

Her father and his brothers grew up in Ohio, USA. They had learnt never to ask their parents, Frank and Ida Hanson, about where they came from or anything about their family. But a young lady marrying into the family had asked for details at a dinner. To everyone's surprise, Frank and Ida provided names of siblings and ancestors, dates and places. Ida's family came from Sheffield, UK and were wealthy. Frank's family came from Sweden.

For the next 30 years, many members of the family searched for records, using the details they had been given. There was no trace of anyone, with even remotely similar names and dates - not in any American records, not in Sheffield or any British records, not in Swedish records.

Then a box of photos was found, with pictures of Frank and Ida in the 1920s. If anything, the photos added to the mystery. But now the author was determined to find the real story and her father really wanted to know who his parents were.

This is an interesting book on so many levels. First, it is non-fiction. The author, Anne, writes in the first person as she gradually uncovered clues and came up against brick walls. She has also created small 'interludes', which provide fictional accounts of what Frank and Ida probably felt and said. However, these small sections are visually different to the rest of the book and, in a note on the first page, the author provides the chapters and page numbers where they occur.

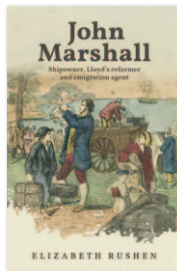
This book is not intended to offer advice to other family historians, yet we can all learn from another person's strategies. The author tried a number of things that might help others with brick walls. An example involves the box of photos. They were an untidy jumble of photos and negatives. None were properly preserved and few had names on the back. But many of them had dates, mostly from the 1920s. Anne had all the negatives printed, which was an inspired move. They provided additional photos and they showed that

some of the prints in the box had been cropped. Studying every detail of the photos - the clothes, trees and landscapes, buildings in the background - gave her clues. It's possible that other family historians value their photos as an image of an ancestor but not thought of them as a source of new information.

To find out who Frank and Ida really were, the author focused on the 20th century. It's not always easy to find records for the 1920s and 1930s. But it's more likely that there are people still alive who know the family stories and secrets. To some extent, this is what happened. It is always interesting to read about someone's recent ancestors, only 100 years ago, and the story of Frank and Ida highlights what life was like in the USA at that time.

The later chapters describe how the author met other descendants of the Hanson family. As other family historians have found, these meetings did not always go to plan - families can be complicated and there can often be strong feelings. The author writes about these communications with great understanding, especially as they were such emotional moments for herself.

It's hard to put this book down, to be honest, because it's well written and full of surprises. It's perhaps comforting to know that one's own brick walls aren't as solid as those in the Hanson family and cheering to see how such a deep mystery was finally solved.



***John Marshall, Shipowner, Lloyd's Reformer and Emigration Agent***, by Elizabeth Rushen. Anchor Books Australia, 2020. ISBN: 978-0-6480616-6-3. Paperback, 206pp, illustrations, bibliography, appendices.

John Marshall is possibly not the first name to come to mind when researching the history of British shipping and emigration during the early 1800s. Perhaps he *should* be better known. This book introduces us to a man who was 'an entrepreneur, a maverick, always prepared to have a go' (Acknowledgements, p.vii), and someone who had a profound effect on many of our ancestors' journeys across the world.

Marshall was a ship owner and a bounty agent, organising migration from Britain to Australia, New Zealand, Canada and British North America. He was a man who always saw the bigger picture. Full of ideas and enthusiasm and never slow to speak his mind, his drive and energy reorganised the registers on shipping

and created ways to help people, not just convicts, to migrate to Australia. Anyone researching migrant ancestors in the 1830s and 1840s will find lots of background detail in this book.

The author, Dr Elizabeth Rushen, is an historian, based in Australia. She has written extensively on 19th century migration. She explains that her interest in John Marshall started when she read two pamphlets he had written, responding to his critics. She started wondering '...who was this man who bellowed, fumed and raged against his critics and what were the influences driving him' (Acknowledgements, p vii). Since Marshall left no stack of papers or any descendants to tell his story, Rushen gradually explored this man's life from snippets, articles and papers in archives and newspapers in both Britain and Australia.

John Marshall was born in Yorkshire in 1787. He was apprenticed to a ship owner in Hull, a large commercial port. He married Betsey Featherstone in 1810. Her father and her brothers owned a fleet of ships, all involved in the Caribbean and Baltic trades. In 1792, his younger brother, Thomas, married Sarah Foster, the daughter of another ship owner. You can see a network of shipping in Hull was developing as the Marshall brothers learned the shipping business.

The early chapters describe how the brothers developed. By 1810 they were insuring other companies' shipping fleets. This activity gave them the revenue to buy their own ships. And it was not long before John moved to London to join that city's much larger centre of trading and insurance. Appendix 1 lists 30 ships that he owned or jointly owned between 1814 and 1838.

The main activity for a ship owner is, of course, to find good cargo that pays well. Trade to Australia was increasing, apart from convict transportation. The colony needed building tools, clothing, paint, sugar, sauces and mustard - the list was long. There are fascinating descriptions of the cargo shipped and the buyers or shop owners who received it. Marshall built up connections with agents in Sydney to make sure that cargo was unloaded and delivered in good order. But the return journey to Britain was not as simple. There was wool and timber from Sydney but it was limited. However, he knew it was a good business strategy, with freight and passengers moving in both directions.

Marshall's experience as a ship owner and underwriter, concerned about the loss of life and cargo, led him to instigate the merger of registers into the *Lloyd's Register of Shipping*. It was a major achievement in the world of insurance and risk and clearly showed Marshall's drive and energy. From the mid-1750s there had been a printed list of shipping movements, the *Lloyd's List*, known as the Green Book. But it held no information about the condition of the

ships. An underwriter, who was going to share the risks and the rewards of the voyage needed to know more. So, in the 1760s a newly formed Register Society printed their own *Register of Ships*, known as the Red Book. It included information on the condition of the ships. But only Society members were allowed to access it. Having two Registers added to the chaos and confusion. The author gives us a wonderful account of the arguments, the speeches and especially how Marshall threw himself into the fray with his insistence that there should be just one Register, open to all. There is a wonderful blow by blow account of the squabbling. It took just over 10 years, but he got his way.

Next Marshall turned his attention to the migration business. And the chapters covering this are excellent. He took the view that he was matching up two great needs: the alleged over-supply of women in Britain and Ireland and the desperate shortage of women in the Australian colony. However, people in Britain who wanted to migrate could not afford the cost. Plus, single women were reluctant to make the move. The government wanted to develop a bounty system to help people, who were not convicts, to migrate. Marshall tendered for the entire project and got the job. He chartered, equipped and provisioned the ships. Women applied for a government-sponsored passage and, of course, that payment went to Marshall. The story of how he planned the ships and their voyages is very interesting. However, there was a lot of criticism of the practice of sending young, single women to the colony and of the financial gain that Marshall was making. Marshall was loud and robust in answering the critics.

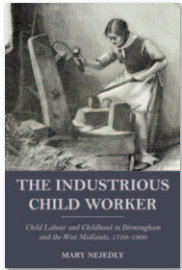
An especially interesting chapter describes how Marshall's migration business tried to address every detail of a person's voyage. Many of the women travelled from rural areas to London to board the ships. Cheap, safe accommodation was hard to find while they waited for the ship to be ready for them to board. He set up a depot on Baltic Wharf in Plymouth. There were dormitories, a communal kitchen and places to wash. It housed migrants from southern England and from Dublin and Cork in Ireland. 'This was Marshall at his most brilliant. His forte was logistics - he saw a need.....and he addressed it' (Chapter 10, p.114).

While John Marshall was making all these significant changes to insurance and migration, he made and lost three fortunes! The author shows how his excellent eye for the big picture no doubt meant he rarely focussed on the detail. He died in poverty. She suggests that perhaps it is the bankruptcies that have diminished a recognition of this man's achievements.

This is a book that is more about process than people. Of course, it tells the story of John Marshall, his brother Thomas, and his children. But it gives amazing detail



on how the London shipping and insurance business worked in the early 19th century and how organised migration developed. Plus, it contributes to an understanding of the 'financial and social underpinnings of the British Empire's extraordinarily rapid expansion in the first half of the 19th century' (Epilogue, p.144).



***The Industrious Child Worker***, by Mary Nejedly. West Midlands Publications, 2021. ISBN: 978-1-912260-43-0. Paperback, 214pp, bibliography, appendices. £16.99.

Will Thorne, a small child worker in mid-19th century Birmingham, got his first job just after his sixth birthday. He 'turned a rope for a rope and twine spinner from 6 in the morning until 6 at night' (Introduction p1). Legal restrictions on child labour did not apply to all sectors of the economy and so Will became a contributor to his family's finances. This book covers child labour and childhood in Birmingham and the West Midlands between 1750 and 1900. The author, Mary Nejedly, who is a research associate at the Centre for West Midlands History at the University of Birmingham, explores the extent of child labour in the area and how children's wages were economically important. As part of this, she considers childhood itself and the impact that work had on children's health and education. In the Introduction, the author explains:

'Studies of child labour have examined the experiences of child workers in agriculture, mining and textile mills, yet surprisingly little research has been concentrated on child labour in industrial towns....' (Introduction p.1).

For anyone wanting to understand how their ancestors lived in industrial areas, this book gives a rich picture. Apart from the carefully researched topics of labour, family economics and childhood, the book has many case studies of children who left written accounts of their early working experiences. We can hear the voices of these children and build an understanding of their lives and times.

The statistics and the conclusions in this book are based on a very wide range of sources within the Birmingham and West Midlands area. National and local government papers, reports, minutes, newspapers, apprenticeship records and parish records are all used. In addition, there are first-hand accounts from autobiographies written by two men who were child workers. They had different childhood experiences but give us an extra insight into family life.

Mini biographies of other children in care or in workhouses also give us a picture of childhood. This includes some accounts of children from the Middlemore Emigration Homes who took part in the initiative to send children to Canada. Each chapter ends with a conclusion, a nice way to tie up all the evidence and statistical tables.

It might seem obvious that parishes outside the Birmingham urban area would want to send their paupers' children to the city as apprentices. But the statistics show that most children were apprenticed locally. Very few left their local parish. They were put to work as soon as possible, however, to reduce parish costs and to teach the children habits of regular work. Boys learned a trade while girls became domestic servants.

In contrast, records for the Birmingham Workhouse show that children had accommodation separate from adults and were all put to work. The jobs were either pin making or lace making, rather than apprenticeships in more traditional trades, and the children's output made a considerable income for the Workhouse. In the latter part of the 19th century, the children attended some lessons as well as working.

Different again are children living in poor families in Birmingham. They went out to work when they were about eight or nine years old. The apprenticeship system was not as widespread in Birmingham as in other parts of Britain. The children became casual labourers. Some families worked within the home, with all members contributing. Other children worked in gangs, hired by an overseer. There are many descriptions of the work done, in metal, pin, button and brass factories, where children carried out repetitive tasks. The author explores the relationship between poor parents and their children. When a child's income was desperately needed, she considers how that might change the family dynamic.

The book describes some of the strategies that poor families adopted to keep their children working. During the 19th century, attitudes towards the notion of 'childhood' were changing. A greater emphasis was being placed on the role of education for all children, especially as many jobs required the ability to read, write and do basic maths. When their children were small, many parents enrolled them at a school to learn the basics. Then, as soon as the law allowed, the child went out to work and attended night school to extend their education.

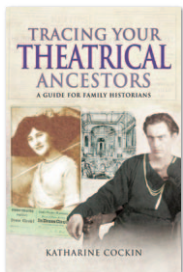
The health of child labourers is another issue addressed in the book. Of course, children working in dirty conditions next to loud machines, for 12 hour stretches meant they were hardly thriving. With no safety guards or training, many children were injured.

This is a highly readable book, with good case studies and illuminating quotations from adults

remembering their childhood and from accounts of visitors to factories when children were interviewed. It is also an interesting description of how childhood itself came to be redefined during the 19th century, with the state becoming increasingly involved in how children should be educated and cared for.

It's interesting to be mindful that in other countries, child labour is still the norm. As Mary Nejedly points out understanding child labour in Britain's history can help us to understand the experiences in other countries:

'...links between family poverty and child labour in Birmingham and the West Midlands resonate with the prevalence of child labour in countries around the world today, highlighting the significance of historical research for understanding current economic and political challenges.' (Conclusion p.191)



### ***Tracing Your Theatrical***

***Ancestors***, by Katharine Cockin. Pen & Sword Family History, 2023. ISBN: 978-1-52673-205-7. Paperback, 170pp, illustrated, bibliography, index. £14.99.

The idea of a theatrical ancestor may create images of Shakespearean or *Downton Abbey* dramas.

But, in this book, the author expands the term to include almost everyone who performed in public. It makes for a great read, even if you remain quite sure that there are probably no theatrical ancestors in your family.

A major issue when researching theatrical ancestors is that they can be hard to trace. Many performers travelled from one venue to the next. They frequently adopted stage names, often not remotely like their real ones. This book offers many strategies to help you move forward plus it suggests that you might discover new information showing that an ancestor was a performer.

The author, Professor Katharine Cockin, pursues interdisciplinary research in literature, theatre history, archival studies and digital humanities in the 19th and 20th centuries. She is the Principal Investigator of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Searching for Theatrical Ancestors project.

For anyone researching ancestors who were performers, this book is full of ideas and sources. It is also aimed at museum and library professionals and academics who would like to enhance the way they present the records and details their organisation holds to visitors and readers.

The structure of each chapter is well designed. You can read all the way through, you can browse, or you can just check one specific thing. Each chapter begins

with a description of the issues surrounding a topic. Snippets, titled Top Tips, are formatted visually in shaded boxes and offer a hint or a tip. Case studies and examples are included in each chapter to illustrate the issues. There are interviews with people who have experience in theatre history and family history, set up as dialogue questions and answers. A list of recommended sources is provided for each topic. There is also a good, detailed bibliography and an index.

The first chapter provides a brief description of the history of performing. It raises interesting issues, such as women becoming accepted as writers and performers and the gradual move towards theatre work being considered respectable. There is a case study covering Barbara Buttrick who boxed in the 1940s in fairground booths (Chapter 3 p.38).

The author has filled the book with suggested sources of information and strategies for exploring what is available. Not least is the ephemera held by many organisations, much of it now digitised. There are programmes and publicity materials, reviews in newspapers and magazines, and articles in the specialist theatrical papers for people in the business. One of the top tips here is very useful: it suggests checking reviews and articles covering the bigger stars or shows of the day because usually there will be information on all cast members (Chapter 1 p.15).

Another source that may not immediately come to mind relates to the laws that regulated all public performances. An outcome of this legislation has always produced sets of records to show surveillance. These records are name rich and well preserved, with details of the performance and the performers. They include scripts, which had to be submitted for the producers to have a licence to perform.

This book covers both professional theatre workers and those involved in amateur productions. There are strategies on researching the 18th century travelling shows, such as the circus, fairgrounds and street performers - any show that was considered 'popular'. The author looks at the implications of touring, for example finding where an ancestor was on census night or discovering a child born in an unexpected location. The author also discusses the backstage workers, for example those who created special effects, such as managing the machinery that triggered a trap door. One chapter takes a closer look at amateur dramatics. The sources you may need to find depend on the type of drama and its purpose. For example, the show may benefit a good cause, entertain troops or spread political propaganda. It might be performed in a school, a village hall, a university or at a Women's Institute meeting. The author reproduces an interview she had with Margaret Bailey, who found several

theatrical ancestors including Andrew Ducrow (1793-1842) who was a proprietor of Astley's Amphitheatre in London. During the interview, Margaret explains the sources she used (Chapter 3 p.35).

All kinds of song and dance are covered, including music halls, pantomimes and opera. Moving into the early 20th century, the author discusses performers who moved from stage to screen and the sources for tracing ancestors involved in this transition.

For anyone wanting to publish a theatrical ancestor's story, there is a chapter on copyright issues. It describes the rights in place relating to specific pieces of material. It offers suggestions on how to check permissions before publishing on paper or online.

This is a very practical handbook for anyone researching theatrical ancestors. It is also worth reading to find out how to check whether you actually have theatrical ancestors on your family tree but never knew.

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## BOOKS IN BRIEF

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***Dark Cupboards, Dusty Skeletons***, by Elizabeth Wererat. Wolver wood Books, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-3999-3102-1. Paperback, 320pp, family photos, index of names. £6.99

The sub-heading to this book is 'A post-war upbringing, 1940s and 1950s. This makes it a very interesting read as we compare life in Britain now and then. In her prologue, the author pulls out some points, such as the welfare state, the notion of respectability, and the effects of two World Wars.

The author gives us a wonderful, and very honest, account of her early childhood, primary school and secondary education. Along the way she opens up those cupboards and rattles the skeletons and the dust.

***History of the Pinot de Moira Family***, by Geoffrey Audient. Self-published, 2022. Hardback, 190pp, family photos, pedigrees, appendices including newspaper articles, obituaries and poems.

A number of members of the Pinot de Moira family collaborated with the author to ensure this book includes a huge amount of interesting detail. The history stretches from 1598 to 2022 - 13 generations.

Not many family historians can thank an ancestor, Henri Pinot de Moira, who started to compile the family's genealogy in the 1840s. Plus the family is indebted to Henri's daughter, Marguerite, for carefully preserving as much as she could. The family's origins are in France, but branches spread to Britain and Brazil. This book largely follows the English line,

although there are shorter biographies of the French and Brazilian ancestors.

Each chapter contains 'mini' pedigrees to clarify family relationships, maps that place ancestors in specific areas, and images of old documents, such as parish register entries and postcards. Within each chapter are biographies of the main males in the family tree.

The other main family name covered is Audcent.

***The Marten Family of Winchelsea and Bradford***, by Rod Marten. Brown Dog Books, 2021. Paperback, 220pp, family photos, pedigrees, bibliography.

The sub-heading to this family history is 'An Introduction to the Lives and Adventures of the Marten Family'. Certainly, the main chapters dealing with family members in the 19th century describe people living at the centre of British history. Various Marten men joined the British Army and fought at Waterloo, served in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) and fought in the Crimean War. Others were involved in developing the wool trade in 19th century Bradford. Yet another worked on tea clippers sailing from Java to Britain.

Rod Marten, the author, has compiled an excellent book, using papers, diaries and accounts preserved by other family members, a lovely set of family photos, and his own research. Most of the chapters focus on just one ancestor, with a small pedigree to clarify who the person is. That person's life is clearly described and some of them read like an adventure novel. A later chapter covers the history of Winchelsea itself. There is a full pedigree of the whole family included as a pull-out.

Other family names: Wharton, Ellison, Haigh.

***Exploring Oxfordshire Surnames, People, Places and Lives***, by Sue Honoré, Richard Merry, Jessica Feinstein. Matador, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-80313-203-7. Hardback, 302pp, illustrated. £24.99.

This book is a collation of topics related to Oxfordshire and its more common surnames. The topics, in separate chapters, are written by different experts. It builds on the Oxfordshire Surname research project started in 2017 aiming to:

'examine surnames recorded in Oxfordshire parish registers and other sources between 1300 and 1899 in order to build a comprehensive database of Oxfordshire surnames'.

Early chapters discuss whether there is such a thing as an 'Oxford surname', how to handle variants of a name, and the relevance of migration, with people moving in from other areas, leaving after many generations to London or other countries, or just simply moving through. There are many tables and charts to help you understand the data.

There are useful chapters on how to find specific surnames using advertisements and billboards, where to find Catholic, Methodist and Quaker surnames in the county, and how to link surnames to places or to trades. There is a very interesting chapter on Oxfordshire DNA, using data from a project that started 10 years ago to gather Y-DNA fingerprints for the surnames of Oxfordshire families.

The book has obvious relevance to anyone interested in family history, local history or village life in Oxfordshire. There is plenty for anyone who wants to check if they do have family links to the county. The book is also useful in a wider context for anyone who would like to know more about some of the less familiar record sources, such as tax documents, muster rolls, or anyone wondering how to use DNA results in different ways.

***Hodgkinson, Our Surname, Our Story, Our Legacy***, by Avis Keen. Hodgkinson Society and Archive, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-3999-3400-8. Paperback, 467pp, illustrated, index. £28.00

If the surname Hodgkinson features in your family tree, this book will be an incredible reference source. Avis Keen, who manages the Hodgkinson One-Name Study, has tracked early versions of the name back to the 13th century, branches of the family in many parts of Britain, and migration patterns across the world. There is a chapter which includes a number of pedigrees, which could be immensely helpful for other family historians.

Part 2 covers 'Hodgkinson families and livelihoods' and is full of information on trades and professions where the name is found. From the 'paper makers of Wookey Hole' to the 'chair makers of Buckinghamshire' to 'links to slave ownership', each section is carefully researched.

Part 3, 'Hodgkinson biographies - how our ancestors helped shape new worlds', makes for interesting reading for anyone. Eaton Hodgkinson invented the pole-star beam and Edmund Hodgkinson developed the

bicycle. John Hodgkinson was at Peterloo and Richard Hodgkinson was a printer to Parliament. Joseph Banks was a Hodgkinson and sailed with James Cook. Jean Hodgkinson was Jean Alexander the actress, more famous as Hilda Ogden in *Coronation Street*. And heading the list: Ann Hodgkinson, 'pioneering Mormon convert and all-round amazing woman'.

***Mewburn and Meaburn: a history***, by Ian G. Macdonald. Self-published, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-3999-3223-3. Hardback, 647pp, illustrated, index.

This is an extensive book offering the history of people with the surname Mewburn and the variant Meaburn. The author introduces it as:

'...an account of a family or families, or at least a bunch of people, who have shared a name down the ages' (p.2).

The chapters are divided geographically, starting with Britain, and running north to south. The surname Mewburn appears around the world and there are chapters for each country. There are now more Mewburn's in Australia than anywhere else and 17 emigrations from Britain in the 19th century have been traced.

There are many small pedigrees throughout the book which helps the reader to place specific branches and see the connections. There are lots of photos and sketches, and many transcriptions of documents, such as wills and newspapers. Throughout the book are very detailed references to source material, to allow anyone to access the information for their own family tree.

Appendix 1 holds material originally published on a website, no longer available, of the Mewburn family in Tasmania. Appendix 2 holds a list of secondary source references, including materials in archives that have not previously been published.

*Sherryl Abrahamart*

## DECEASED MEMBERS

|                              |             |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Nicholas John Bennett        | 1991 - 2023 | Alexander John McGahey       | 2004 - 2023 |
| Barry John Cairns            | 2011 - 2023 | Alfred Christopher Pagan     | 1973 - 2023 |
| John Godfrey Francis         | 2016 - 2023 | Jean Qureshi                 | 1993 - 2023 |
| Philip John Harris           | 1998 - 2023 | Audrey June Ragg             | 2002 - 2023 |
| Alan Gordon Heald            | 1981 - 2023 | Barbara Joyce Senik          | 2005 - 2023 |
| Cecil Robert Hamilton Hinton | 2002 - 2023 | Sylvia Evelyn Sleaf          | 1990 - 2023 |
| John Holroyd                 | 2017 - 2023 | Duncan Rowland Wyllie Smith  | 1983 - 2023 |
| Margaret Freda Lake          | 2000 - 2023 | Lord Charles John Teviot FSG | 1970 - 2023 |
| David R Lewis                | 2005 - 2023 |                              |             |



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## VISITING AND REMOTE ACCESS

We're delighted to announce the opening of our new Library and Research Hub to SoG members from Wednesday 13 to Friday 22 December 2023. We'll then be open to all from 3 January 2024. More information at: [www.sog.org.uk/research-hub/visit-us](http://www.sog.org.uk/research-hub/visit-us).

In the meantime, for questions relating to collection items, contact: [librarian@sog.org.uk](mailto:librarian@sog.org.uk)

You can also access digital collections remotely: <https://sogdata.org.uk/>

Or search the library catalogue, and more, at: [www.sog.org.uk/our-collections](http://www.sog.org.uk/our-collections).

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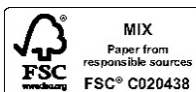
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# SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS' NEWS...

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## A WARM WELCOME FROM WHARF ROAD

*With the opening of our new home and other exciting news on the horizon, we've decided that 2024 will be the Year of the Genealogist!*

The opening of our home at 40 Wharf Road, London, N1 7GS, is an announcement that many of you have been eagerly awaiting, and we really appreciate the patience and support that the genealogy community has shown us. You are very much part of our own history.



From Wednesday 13th to Friday 22nd December, we'll be hosting an exclusive Member-Only opening. To book your visit, find opening times, and more, please visit our website or contact the membership team.

If you aren't a member yet, you can visit us from Wednesday 3rd January 2024, when our doors will be open to all. Created by genealogists, for genealogists, we are the perfect place to come, whether you are new to researching your family history or a seasoned expert.

## GET READY FOR ONLINE CHRISTMAS EVENTS!

Christmas is a time often associated with family, and remembrance. On Saturday 9 December, we look back to 1914, at a war that those alive during the time thought would be "Over by Christmas". In this event, Ian Waller will delve into the triggers that led to "The Great War". Don't miss this opportunity to gain insights into this significant period in history.

On Thursday 14 December join us for a delightful journey into Yuletide celebrations during the English Civil War and Restoration. Tim Healey will take you on an entertaining romp through "A 17th-Century Christmas",

where you'll immerse yourself in the festive atmosphere of the time. Learn about frost fairs, Twelfth Night frolics and the Puritan reaction to this revelry!



Next, work up your appetite with our final event of the year, "Forgotten Christmas Fare" with Paul Couchman, The Regency Cook. Delve into the history of Christmas pottage, Yorkshire Christmas pyes, and Christmas puddings of both savory and sweet varieties. Enjoy Paul's demonstration of cooking methods, and learn the recipe for a simple lemon mincemeat. Take your device into the kitchen and cook along with Paul for a truly immersive experience. You absolutely don't want to miss out on this incredible event filled with fascinating stories about delightful holiday treats from the past, many of which have been forgotten about today.



Finally, make sure to secure your spot at our highly anticipated Christmas Members' Social. This event promises to be filled with exciting updates on our projects, a captivating seasonal quiz, and is a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow members.

**Ruth Willmore**, Events and Education Manager  
ruth.willmore@sog.org.uk

## FROM THE LIBRARY

Work on processing books destined for the new library shelves has been underway for several weeks. Most of the textbooks have been completed and we are commencing work on county general and local history books. Over 6,600 books have been processed so far. Processing includes amending the holdings information in each catalogue record, inserting security tags, and entering each item into the new security system software.

We are managing this work amid the building renovations and we're grateful for the assistance of volunteers helping out every day with this work. We look forward to getting the books onto the new library shelves when they're installed.

Here is a reminder of what will be on the open shelves at the new library:

- general and local history collections for English counties, Scotland, and Wales
- quick reference books and textbooks (including research and record guides)
- select items relating to Ireland and India research (space permitting)
- new periodicals and monographs in series

We're also planning a set of 'rotational' shelves, which we will use to temporarily bring various parts of the library collections out of storage (e.g., for one or two months) so that visitors can access them while we work on their catalogue records and carry out some digitisation.

While the library is closed for renovation you can consult the following to help you progress your research:

- Advice Line 6pm-9pm Thursdays (020) 7251 8799, option 5
- member forum <https://members.sog.org.uk/forums>
- staff genealogists [genealogy@sog.org.uk](mailto:genealogy@sog.org.uk)

The March *Genealogists' Magazine* will contain a summary of archive collections processed in 2023.

There will be more to report when the renovation work for the library nears completion, so stay tuned for further news of our progress, and if you have any questions in the meantime let me know. [librarian@sog.org.uk](mailto:librarian@sog.org.uk)

**Christine Worthington**, Library Coordinator  
[librarian@sog.org.uk](mailto:librarian@sog.org.uk)

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE July - September 2023

### FAMILY HISTORIES AND BIOGRAPHIES

**Abbott** From the old country to the new / written and compiled by Cheryl Fitzsimmons Jensen. (2021)

**Betham** Divers dissensions: a history of the Betham family of Westmorland / David Lewis. (2023)

**Brand** A tale of two islands: the Brand family history 1951-1957 (Part 2: Unst, 1955-1957) / by Robin H. Brand. (2022)

**Clouttick** Seeking the ancestors of Dora Sarah Clouttick / by Vincent Tickner. (2022-2023)

**Harvey** Inscriptions in the Harvey Vault and Chapel, Hempstead Church, Co. Essex and extracts from the parish register of Hempstead, with notes / [W.J. Harvey] (1886)

**Henderson** Ancestors, descendants, and extended families of John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester of Gravesend, Milton, and Northfleet, Kent, England / by Lorraine E. Schmidt. (6 volumes) (2021-2023)

**Leeds** Leeds one-name study: instances of the name Leeds and its variants by county, country, year, service, war, etc. / compiled by Everett Frank Leeds. (2022)

**Marten** The Marten family of Winchelsea and Bradford: their exploits at home and abroad / Rod Marten. (2021)

**Smallwood** Smallwood family history: an overview of Smallwood families from the 1851 census to 2020 / by David Smallwood. (2022)

### RESEARCH AND RECORD GUIDES

Tracing your theatrical ancestors: a guide for family historians / Katharine Cockin. (2023)

Tracing your First World War ancestors: a guide for family historians / Simon Fowler (2013)

Register of one-name studies 2022 / Guild of One Name Studies (38th ed.)

Register of one-name studies 2023 / Guild of One Name Studies (39th ed.)

### GENERAL HISTORY AND PLACES

British coastal life (1997)

The new history of the C.W.S. [Co-operative Wholesale Society] (1938)

The old inns of England / by A.E. Richardson, with a foreword by Sir Edwin Lutyens. (6th ed., 1952)

### BERKSHIRE

**Coleshill** Coleshill All Saints parish church: baptisms 1861-1921, marriages 1911-1927. (2022)

**Reading** Reading Wesleyan Methodist circuit: volume two, baptisms 1891-1921. (2021)

### CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Cambridgeshire church goods: inventories for the county and the Isle of Ely for various years, 1538-1556 / transcribed by J.J. Muskett, edited by C.H. Evelyn White. (1952)

### DEVON

Devon reflections / Jilly Carter. (1990)

### ESSEX

Essex pre 1841 census returns: group four. (2021) Includes entries for **Gestingthorpe, Middleton, Tilbury juxta Clare, Wakes Colne, Wormingford.**

Essex pre 1841 census returns: group two. (2021) Includes entries for **Beaumont cum Moze, Great Clackton,**



**Little Bentley, Brightlingsea, Mistley, Thorrington, Wrabness.**

Essex pauper letters 1731-1837 / edited by Thomas Sokoll. (2006)

**Barking** Barking and Romford Wesleyan Methodist circuit: baptisms 1835-1922. (2022)

**Colchester** Colchester Wesleyan Methodist circuit: volume three, baptisms 1872-1921. (2021)

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

**Bristol** The Bristol scene: views of Bristol by Bristol artists from the collection of the City Art Gallery / by Jennifer Gill. (1973)

**KENT**

**Bromley** Bygone Bromley & district / compiled from the collection of G.W. Dance (1980)

**LINCOLNSHIRE**

Birth briefs contributed by members of SLHA [Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology] (1982, 1984)

**MIDDLESEX**

**Earl's Court** St Cuthbert's Church, Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court: church guide.

**Islington** The street [Popham Street] / Harry Walters. (1975)

**London** The heart of London / by H.V. Morton. (18th ed., 1936)

**London** London: heart of the empire and wonder of the world / by Arthur Mee. (8th ed., 1960)

**Newington Green** The changing face of Newington Green (1977)

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**Kislingbury** Memorial inscriptions at Kislingbury St Luke's church and Baptist Chapel. (2010)

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

Nottinghamshire: County Library local history collection. (1953)

**OXFORDSHIRE**

A history of the post-Reformation Catholic missions in Oxfordshire: with an account of the families connected with them / by Mrs Bryan Stapleton. (1906)

Hook Norton and Witney Asylums: volume two, admissions and discharge certificates 1828-1845. (2021)

Oxfordshire entries in Doctor Williams's Non-Conformist birth register 1742-1837. (2021)

**SHROPSHIRE**

**Alberbury** Parish of Alberbury ... (2020) Four publications of the Montgomeryshire Genealogical Society covering various baptisms, marriages, banns and burials 1564-1912.

**Coalbrookdale** Coalbrookdale and the museum of iron / text by Roger Thomas. (1990)

**Coalbrookdale** The Coalbrookdale ironworks: a short history / based on an original text by Dr Arthur Raistrick. (1975)

**Coalport** Coalport / text by Roger Thomas. (1990)

**Coalport** A history of the Coalport Company / text by Denis Roberts. (1976)

**Middleton-in-Chirbury** Parish of Middleton-in-Chirbury: register of baptisms 1896-2016. (2020).

**Telford** The Jackfield Tile Museum / text by Roger Thomas. (1990)

**Worthen** Parish of Worthen ... (2020-21) Nine publications of the Montgomeryshire Genealogical Society covering various baptisms, marriages, banns and burials 1659-1973.

**SOMERSET**

National, local, family: history from Somerset's Bishops' Registers, 1264-1559 / Robert Dunning. (2022)

**STAFFORDSHIRE**

**Blithfield** Blithfield St. Leonard: parish registers 1538-1812 / transcribed by James Willis, hon. editor, Robert Morton. (2022)

**Blore** Blore, St. Bartholomew: parish registers, 1558-1812 ; Ilam, Holy Cross: parish registers, 1656-1812 / hon. editor, Robert Morton. (2023)

**Forton** Forton All Saints: parish registers 1558-1812 / transcribed by H.R. Thomas & others, hon. editor, Robert Morton. (2022)

**Penkridge** Penkridge St Michael: parish general register 1735-1790 / transcribed by H.R. Thomas, hon. editor, Robert Morton. (2021)

**SUFFOLK**

The crown pleas of the Suffolk eyre of 1240 / edited by Eric Gallagher. (2021)

Cornelius Collett and the Suffolk Yeomanry, 1794-1820: defending Suffolk against the French / edited by Margaret Thomas. (2020)

**SURREY**

**Carshalton** Lysons's history of Carshalton / compiled by John W. Brown. (1991)

**Mitcham** Mitcham fair / compiled by Penny Parker. (1991)

**SUSSEX**

Sussex / by F.G. Brabant (1924)

**WALES**

Coalface / National Museum of Wales (1982)

Court rolls of the Lordship of Bausley 1418-1426, 1428-1429, 1431. (2017)

**Montgomeryshire**

Montgomeryshire area court rolls ...

... Lordship of Chirk, Commot of Carreghova court rolls 1357-1370 ; Carreghova Lay Subsidy 1293. (2020)

... Lordship of Kerry 1335-1533; Lordship of Cedewain 1525-1533; Lordship of Teirtref 1525-1526; Borough of Montgomery 1532-1533; Borough of Newtown 1526-1533. (2020)

... Lordship of Overgorther (Gorddwr Uchaf) 1396-1397, 1400-1401, 1401-1402. (2020)

**Merioneth**

Parish of Mallwyd: Dinas Mawddwy. (2022) [monumental inscriptions covering 13 burial locations]

**WARWICKSHIRE**

**Harborne** Harborne parish church magazine, August 1901.

**Stratford-upon-Avon** Minutes and accounts of the Corporation of Stratford-upon-Avon and other records: volume VII 1610-1620 / edited by Robert Bearman. (2022)

**WILTSHIRE**

**Corsham** Monks and Corsham Congregational Church: baptisms, marriages, burials and members. (2021)

**WORCESTERSHIRE**

**Kidderminster** Carpet weavers and carpet masters: the hand loom carpet weavers of Kidderminster 1780-1850 / by L.D. Smith. (1986)

**YORKSHIRE**

**Anlaby** Tranby Lane Cemetery, Anlaby monumental inscriptions: part two. (2022)

**Hull** Hull - Northern Cemetery monumental inscriptions: parts 16-25. (2021-2022)

**Leeds** Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds 1674-1924 / by William Lawrence Schroeder. (1924)

**INTERNATIONAL**

**AFRICA**

Alan Paton: selected letters / edited and introduced by Peter F. Alexander. (2009)

Friendship and union: the South African letters of Patrick Duncan and Maud Selborne 1907-1943 / edited and introduced by Deborah Lavin. (2010)

Hendrik Swellengrebel in Africa: journals of three journeys in 1776-1777 / edited and introduced by Gerrit Schutte. (2018)

I see you: the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union of Africa, 1919-1930 / editors: David Johnson and Henry Dee. (2022)

In a time of plague: memories of the 'Spanish' flu epidemic of 1918 in South Africa / collected and edited by Howard Phillips. (2018)

The South African letters of Thomas Pringle / edited and introduced by Randolph Vigne. (2011)

Travels into the interior of Africa via the Cape of Good Hope. Volume 2 / Francois le Vaillant ; translated with an introduction and notes by D.J. Caplin. (2007)

**INDIA**

Old wives' tales / Mashkura Begum, Aftab Rahman. (2015)

**USA**

California's missions / edited by Ralph B. Wright. (13th printing, 1983).

Genealogist's handbook for New England research / edited by Michael J. Leclerc. (5th ed., 2012)

**MILITARY**

Arm badges of the British cavalry regiments / Peter Seaman. (1994)

The Durnford memorial book of the Great War, 1914-1918 / [by Vere Egerton Cotton]. (1924)

The historical journal of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry / edited and compiled by Major J.D. Bastin. (1980)

History of the Dorsetshire Regiment, 1914-1919: part I, the regular battalions. (1932)

XIII Corps Association.

One hundred years of army historical research: proceedings of the SAHR centenary conference Bamford, Andrew, [editor]. (2022)

The Royal Tank Regiment: a pictorial history 1916-1987 / George Forty. (1988)

**THINK ON!**

From: the gravestone of Mary Bird in St Mary, Islington, Middlesex (as was): She died August 13 1786, aged 42.

*Farewell, vain world, I've seen enough of thee  
And now am careless what thou say'st of me;  
Thy smiles I court not, nor thy frowns I fear;*

*My soul's at rest, my head lies quiet here.  
The faults you saw in me take care to shun,  
Look you at home, there's enough to be done*



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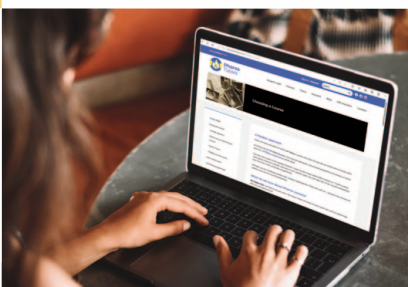


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