

# GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE

Journal of the Society of Genealogists



Volume 34 Number 10 Jun 2024

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ANNOUNCING

# All About That Place

*A Unique Challenge Event*



**All About That Place is back! Join the family and local history virtual event of the year, taking place from Friday 27th September to Sunday 6th October 2024.**

Last year we focused on helping you to start a One-Place study. This year we'll be helping you to put your ancestors into the context of both their time and place. Spearheaded by Society of Genealogists, the Society for One-Place Studies, the British Association for Local History and Genealogy Stories, we're excited to announce we've already confirmed Family Tree Plus, University of Strathclyde, The Genealogist and WeAreXYZ as our Platinum sponsors.

## **What is All About That Place?**

All About That Place is an online event running for 10 days, encompassing a wide range of 10-minute talks and an accompanying electronic task workbook designed to help you to take action on everything you learn during the event. The event first took place in 2023 and you can still catch up on many of the 130 talks by joining the free Facebook Group or visiting our YouTube Channel.

*'What an amazing event #AllAboutThatPlace has been. I've somehow managed to watch every single talk and it has been truly inspiring.'*

Penny Duggan, Participant

Celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Society for One Place Studies, last year the event helped participants to explore local history. Watched by over 28,000 individuals on YouTube alone, our event Facebook Group included over almost 2,000 people. This event goes beyond passive watching, it's truly an interactive community. Meet the Speakers, take part in competitions, share your research and thoughts as you take part in tasks.

This year we are widening our definition of 'place' and we'll be helping you to delve into your ancestors' lives by exploring their 'place' in history. Explore everything from health and medicine to genealogy research techniques. Discover new tools, and alternative ways of sharing your findings. Join us for a social history and genealogy extravaganza! To stay up to date on all the event details join our email mailing list here:

[www.subscribepage.com/allaboutthatplace](http://www.subscribepage.com/allaboutthatplace)

*'The 'All About That Place' event has been nothing short of enlightening, inspiring, and thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you for bringing the world closer together, for fostering learning and understanding, and for creating an environment where curiosity thrives.'* Daphne Hannam, Participant

**#AATP24**

**Society of Genealogists**

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## SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

Founded 1911

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES

Spring has been another busy period for the Society of Genealogists. We've continued to settle into our new home on Wharf Road, listening to visitor feedback and continuing the careful curation of our library shelves.

We also launched our new Gold Membership and have received positive feedback from members on the new video library of talks available. The ability to learn about new subjects and hone your genealogy skills, all from the comfort of your own home, has proved a popular addition to the Society's many offerings. The addition of our Armed Forces Advice Hour has also been a particular highlight, and on page 495 you'll find an article exploring a selection of the many questions attendees have been asking our military expert Graham Bandy.

Old and new members alike have also been enjoying our new online search tool, SoG Explore, which now contains over 11 million names and includes parish registers not previously available on SoG Data Online (our old search tool). The migration of data from the old to the new system continues, and we're incredibly grateful to the many volunteers working exceptionally hard on this project.

We have an array of exciting free events to look forward to in the months ahead. Plans for our 113th AGM, which will be held on 23rd July, are taking shape. This will be the first AGM to be held in our new Research Hub and it truly feels like a milestone worth celebrating! (see page 470). In September, we are delighted to announce the return of our online event All About That Place (see previous page), and in October, our NextGENERation conference will showcase a range of talented younger genealogists with a series of unique talks.

As always, we'd like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support (whether it be through membership, attending events, volunteering, or donations), which helps us to fulfil our charitable activities.

We look forward to seeing many of you in the coming months. Hopefully the sun will be shining and you can enjoy lunch and a catch up with fellow members alongside the lovely canal landscape of our new home!

***Rebecca Gregory and Natalie Pithers***  
Interim Co-CEOs

**Society of Genealogists** | 40 Wharf Road, London, N1 7GS

# Annual General Meeting

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the 113th Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society of Genealogists will be held on Tuesday 23rd July 2024 at 6pm precisely. The meeting shall take place at Society of Genealogists, 40 Wharf Road, London, N1 7GS and online by Zoom.

## **BUSINESS:**

1. The Auditor's Report.
2. The Annual Report of the Board of Trustees.
3. The Annual Accounts.
4. The appointment of the Auditors: In accordance with Sections 485 of the Companies Act 2006 a resolution proposing the appointment of Richard Place Dobson as auditors of the Society will be put to the Annual General Meeting.
5. CEO's report and update.
6. The appointment of Trustees of the Society.
7. To announce awards and Fellowship of the Society.
8. Any other competent business.

By Order of the Board of Trustees

All AGM documents, a proxy voting form, and links to register attendance can be found on our website at: [www.sog.org.uk/agm2024](http://www.sog.org.uk/agm2024).

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# GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE



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**Cover picture:** *Tsar Alexis [1629-1676] of Russia chooses his bride.* Painting by Grigory Sedov, 1882. Alexis's first marriage (1648) to Maria Ilyinichna Miloslavskaya was harmonious and they had 13 children (five sons and eight daughters) in twenty-one years of marriage. He was buried at the Cathedral of the Archangel, Moscow. Public domain image sourced from Wikimedia.

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# THE MEDIEVAL FAMILY WHO ADOPTED THEIR NAME FROM GADDESBY IN LEICESTERSHIRE

*David J. Lewis*

## Introduction

Nestled in the heart of England lies the Leicestershire village of Gaddesby, approximately eight miles north-east of the city of Leicester and five miles from the market town of Melton Mowbray. With a present-day population of almost 450, it is bounded on the south by the Gaddesby brook which empties into the River Wreake less than four miles to the west. Just beyond the brook, lies the site of the now deserted hamlet of Newbold Folville. Around a century before the Norman invasion of England in 1066, Danes settled along the River Wreake and its tributaries, as evidenced by the significant number of villages in the area ending with the Old Norse suffix 'by' (see Fig. 1). In the case of Gaddesby, its name derives from the Danish personal name *Gaddr* and can be translated as 'Gaddr's homestead'.

At the time of Domesday, Gaddesby was recorded as *Gadesbi* or *Gadesbie*, although many variant spellings are subsequently found in medieval documents, such as *Gadesbia*, *Gadesby*, *Gaddesbi*, *Gaddesbia*, *Gaddisby*, *Gaddisbya*, *Gaddysby*, *Gadysby*, *Gadesberi*, *Gadesbir*, *Gatesbi*, *Gatesby*, *Gaddebi* and *Gaddeby*. Regardless of its written form, Gaddesby as a place name is unique within the United Kingdom and, as such, those who bear the name (in whatever variant) through lineage, undoubtedly have ancestral roots planted in this Leicestershire village. This article explores the medieval family initially termed 'of Gaddesby', the adoption of Gaddesby as a surname and its form and prevalence into the 20th century.

Piecing together the genealogy of a medieval family that is neither noble nor knightly presents a significant challenge. In the case of the early family that took

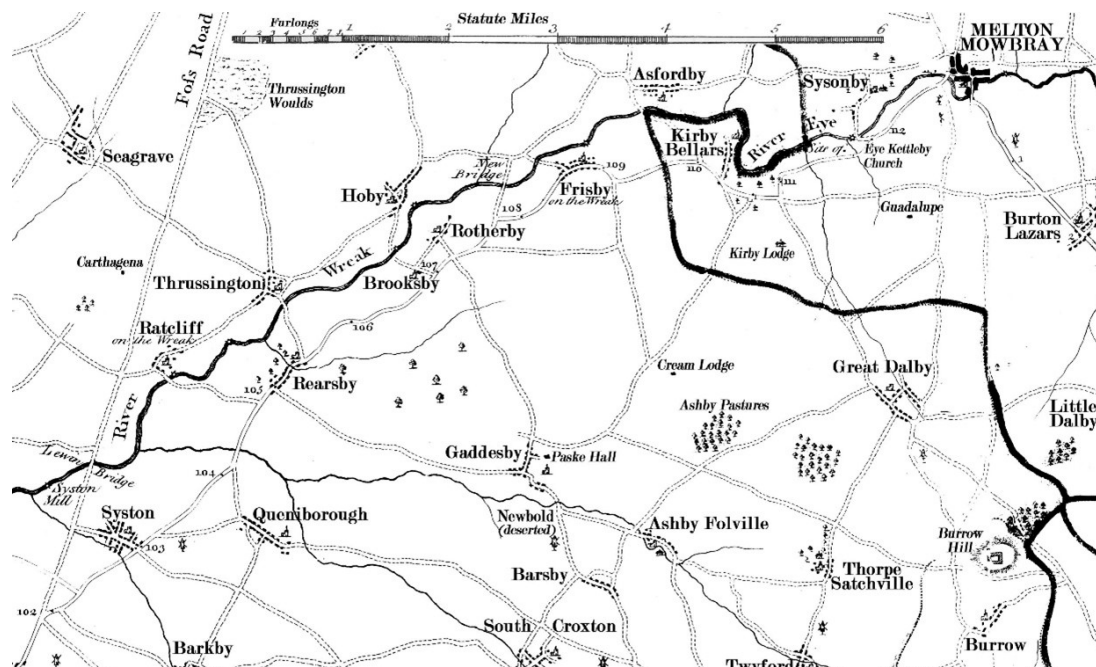


Fig. 1 - Map of Gaddesby and surrounding villages, based on John Prior's 1777 map<sup>1</sup>

their name from the village of Gaddesby, they were mainly sokemen who either involved themselves in local administrative affairs or became members of the clergy. Some managed to elevate their status and wealth, not on battlefields or through favourable marriages, but through political and legal roles within the civic administration of the borough of Leicester, or by becoming a master of a trade requiring guild membership. Thus, plotting the lineage of the Gaddesby family over almost four centuries inevitably has occasional elements of uncertainty.

It should be noted, that after the Norman conquest, the use of the French 'de', meaning 'of' or 'from', followed by a place of residence or birth, was an established naming convention. Initially sharing a common appellation did not necessarily signify kinship, but over the following two to three centuries, its use became increasingly hereditary, and around the late 14th century (in Leicestershire at least), the 'de' began to be dropped as surnames became the norm. For consistency, the French preposition is not used throughout the main text of this article.

### The medieval origin of the Gaddesby surname

The first documented reference of the Gaddesby byname is found in the pipe rolls for the year 1200 when Ralph Gaddesby is recorded rendering an account of four shillings and eight pence in fines, strongly suggesting he was the village reeve.<sup>2</sup>

Several decades later, a custumal of Rothley (to which manor, a large part of Gaddesby was attached<sup>3</sup>) mentions the following residents: Geoffrey, son of Reginald Gaddesby, John, son of Richard Gaddesby (clerk<sup>4</sup>), Richard (reeve), son of Gena Gaddesby, and his younger brother, Robert (I).<sup>5</sup> Gena was the widow of Henry Gaddesby (I) - who was previously the reeve<sup>6</sup> - whose father was probably the aforementioned Ralph as the village reeve for Gaddesby appears to have been held by three successive generations of the same family.

Before his death, Henry Gaddesby (I) gifted a bovate of land (about fifteen acres) in Gaddesby to Leicester Abbey (St Mary *de Pratis*) worth twelve pence per annum in rent, which was inherited by his eldest son, Richard, upon his demise. At the time of the Rothley custumal (c1260-1275), the rent from this parcel of land - then held by Geoffrey (son of Reginald Gaddesby) and Alice *filia Dionis* (daughter of Dennis) - was granted to the master and brethren of Rothley Temple by Richard (who was at the time the Templars' reeve at Gaddesby) and his wife, Alice, in exchange for a message *cum furno* (with an oven).<sup>7</sup> This suggests a close family connection between Henry (I) and Geoffrey who may have been cousins.

In 1284, Richard held a sixth part of a knight's fee in Gaddesby from Sir Nicholas Seagrave,<sup>8</sup> but nine years later, he was lamentably slain by a fellow

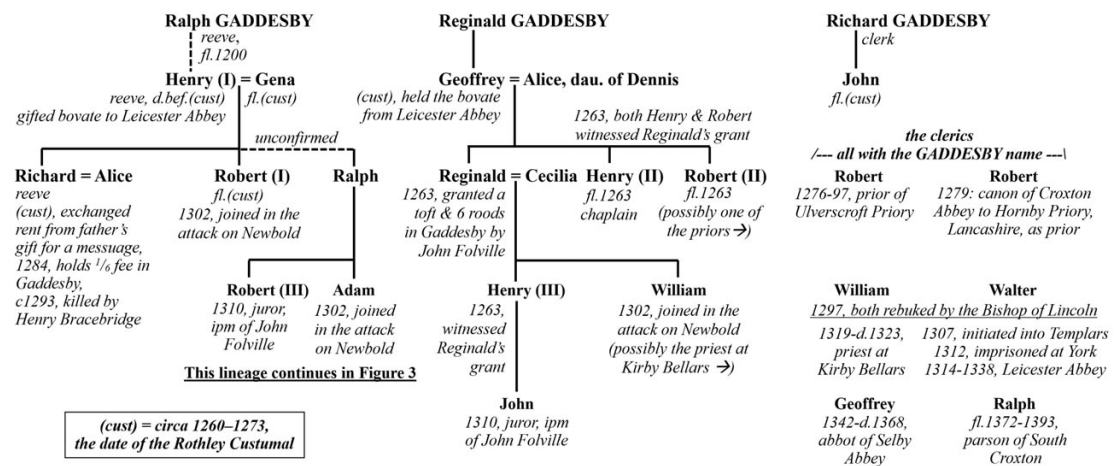


Fig. 2 - The early Gaddesby family pedigree

resident, Henry, the son of John Bracebridge.<sup>9</sup> Henry Bracebridge was subsequently outlawed for his malefaction.

From this, we can start to piece together the medieval Gaddesby family pedigree (see Fig. 2). In a fine dated 1263, John Folville (who later inherited the neighbouring manor of Ashby Folville) granted a toft and six roods of arable land in Gaddesby to Reginald, the son of Geoffrey Gaddesby, and his wife Cecilia.<sup>10</sup> A condition of the grant states ...

To have and to hold to the said Reginald and Cecilia and their heirs and assigns, excepting men of religion and Jews, and also with the exception of Henry, the chaplain of Rearsby, and his brothers.<sup>11</sup>

... and amongst the witnesses were Reginald's brothers, Henry (II) - the chaplain - and Robert (II), and also Henry (III), Reginald's son.

Having succeeded to the manor of Ashby Folville (which included Newbold Folville and land and property in Gaddesby), John Folville's relationship with his neighbours was not an easy one. Discontentment boiled over in 1302 when 18 villagers from Gaddesby broke into Folville's house at Newbold, wounding and ill-treating his tenants, before taking away goods to the value of five pounds.<sup>12</sup> Amongst the marauding throng were Robert Gaddesby (I), son of Gena, Adam, son of Ralph Gaddesby, and William, son of Reginald Gaddesby, the latter's parents presumably being Reginald and Cecilia. Adam's father is of particular interest as he heads the next part of the Gaddesby story which follows shortly. It is possible that Ralph was another son of Henry and Gena as in the patent rolls, we find Ralph Beler and Ralph (son of Henry Gaddesby), along with many others, accused of assaulting Robert Folville at Newbold in the continuing feud with the Folvilles.<sup>13</sup> Following the death of John Folville in 1310, an inquisition was held to determine the extent of the late lord's estate and to identify his heir.<sup>14</sup> Two of the jurors at the inquisition were John, son of Henry Gaddesby, and Robert, son of Ralph Gaddesby. The former was probably the grandson of Reginald and Cecilia, whilst the latter was Robert (III), the elder brother of Adam.

Many bearing the Gaddesby name entered religious institutions. A certain Robert Gaddesby, a canon at Ulverscroft Priory (situated less than six miles from Gaddesby), was installed to the vacant position of prior in 1276, having been presented to the Bishop of Lincoln by the monastery's patron, Countess Ferrers.<sup>15</sup> He remained prior of Ulverscroft until at least 1297 during which time another Robert Gaddesby, a canon at Croxton Abbey (situated less than ten miles from Melton Mowbray), was dispatched to become the prior at Hornby Priory in Lancashire - a dependent cell of Croxton Abbey - to ensure its lax canons obeyed the rules of the priory more diligently.<sup>16</sup> One of these Roberts may have been the younger son of Geoffrey and Alice who witnessed the earlier grant of 1263.

In 1291, Walter Gaddesby (ordained by the Bishop of Coventry) and William Gaddesby (ordained by the Archbishop of Dublin) were both admonished by the Bishop of Lincoln as their respective ordinations were without the required letters dimissory, which meant they were ministering in holy orders without dispensation.<sup>17</sup> They were both suspended for a period of penance before finally being granted the necessary dispensation by the Bishop of Lincoln. It appears the same Walter Gaddesby was initiated into the Order of the Temple (the Knights Templars) in 1307 by William de la More, Master of the Temple in London.<sup>18</sup> When the order was suppressed five years later, Walter was imprisoned at York for two years and subjected to interrogation (as were many others),<sup>19</sup> before being released to his chosen sanctuary within Leicester Abbey to perform penance on a pension of four pence per day.<sup>20</sup> His admittance there was probably aided by the earlier grant made by Henry Gaddesby (I) to the Abbey. William Gaddesby was one of ten priests installed to Roger Beler's newly created college (formerly his chantry) at Kirby Bellars in 1319 until his death four years later.<sup>21</sup> In all likelihood, he was the same William who in 1302, took part in the raid on John Folville's property at Newbold.

Furthermore, Geoffrey Gaddesby was the Abbot of Selby Abbey in Yorkshire from 1342 until his death in 1368,<sup>22</sup> and a certain Ralph Gaddesby was a parson of South Croxton, another close neighbour of Gaddesby.<sup>23</sup> However, placing these ecclesiastics



within the Gaddesby pedigree is problematical, thus one can only speculate or simply acknowledge their existence.

### The Gaddesby family elevate their status

In 1290, Ralph Gaddesby and his wife, Alice, granted a messuage and a bovate of land in Gaddesby to their son Adam (who joined in the attack on the property at Newbold) in exchange for a 'sore sparrowhawk' plus an annual rent of a single rose (see Figure 3).<sup>24</sup> In 1308 - the year before Templar assets were seized during their suppression and Walter Gaddesby was arrested and imprisoned at York - Ralph was on the payroll of the mayor of Leicester as an advocate, so presumably trained in law. Two years later he appears to have remarried as Ralph, with his then wife, Margaret, granted a messuage and a virgate of land in Frolesworth, Leicestershire, to Alice, the wife of Ralph Danvers, for which they received twenty pounds sterling.<sup>25</sup> In all likelihood, given her name, Alice was Ralph's daughter by his first wife.

Robert (III), Adam's older brother, followed in his father's footsteps as a civic dignitary within the borough of Leicester. Both Ralph and his son Robert (III) appear in several entries within the mayoral expenditure accounts for services rendered, which also record a gift for Robert's (unnamed) wife.<sup>26</sup> Ralph and Robert (III) were both called upon in April 1318 to act as jurors at an inquisition *ad quod damnum* to verify on oath that the king would suffer no damage or prejudice if Roger Beler granted three messuages in Kirby Bellars (and the manor of Buckminster) to the warden of his chantry shortly before it was converted into a college.<sup>27</sup>

According to Howell (a chronicler of the Leicestershire estates of Oxford's Merton College), Robert (III) was steward of the college's manor at Kibworth Harcourt along with a moiety in a manor at Barkby from 1295 until the second decade of the 14th century.<sup>28</sup> The name reappears as the college's seneschal between 1323 and 1345, but whether this is the same Robert, or Robert (IV) - his son - is not clear. Younger sons, William and Edmund were

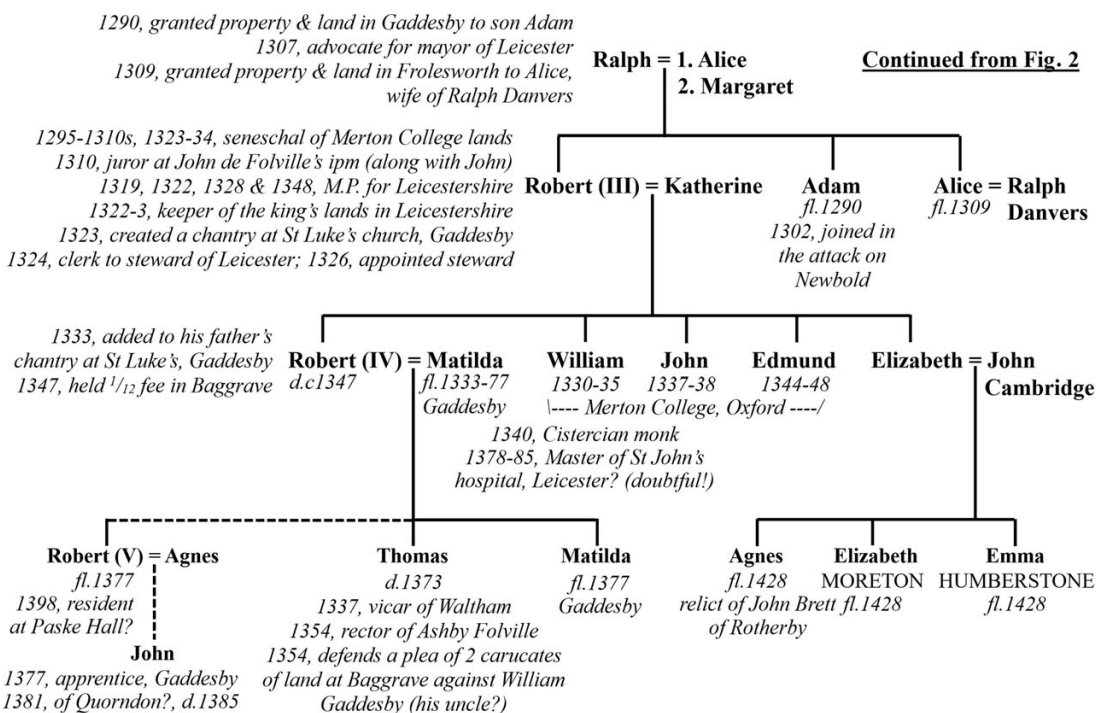


Fig. 3 - The fourteenth-century Gaddesby pedigree

'scholars in villa' at Merton College between 1330-35 and 1344-48 respectively. William became a Cistercian monk, so there is some doubt as to whether he is the same William who became master of the House of St John's Hospital in Leicester between 1378 and 1385, as masters there lived under Augustinian rule.<sup>29</sup> John Gaddesby (undoubtedly another brother) also entered the college in 1337.<sup>30</sup>

Tensions between Edward II (considered a weak king) and his barons had been developing for some time. Following the king's defeat against the Scots at Bannockburn in 1314, the Earl of Lancaster's political influence increased; and when he refused to meet with the king (his cousin) in parliament, it effectively brought governance to a halt for two years. Following arduous negotiations between the two factions (which began with a parley at Leicester), a parliament was called at York on the 6 May 1319 at which Robert Gaddesby (III), 'another knight of the shire', was ordered to attend having been vouched for by his father and John Gaddesby.<sup>31</sup>

*Quia super diversis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri specialiter tangentibus parlamentum nostrum apud Eboracum a die Pasche proximo futurum in unum mensem tenere et cum Prelatis Magnatibus et Preceribus dicti regni habere perponimus colloquium et tractatum ... Robertus de Gaddesby alius Miles ejusdem Comatati Leycestrie mandamus per Radulphum de Gaddesby et Johannem de Gaddesby.*

Translation: Because of diverse and arduous negotiations, specifically affecting us and the state of our kingdom, we intend to hold our Parliament at York from the day of Easter next to come in one month, and to have a conference and a treaty with the Lords, Magnates and Leading men of the said kingdom ... We command [to attend] Robert de Gaddesby, another knight of the same county of Leicester, through Ralph de Gaddesby and John de Gaddesby.

At the time, 'knights of the shire' were not necessarily knights in the true sense but burgesses, notable esquires and gentlemen having estates sufficient to become a knight were also eligible for election to parliament. Robert (III) also represented the county at parliament in 1322, 1328 and 1348.<sup>32</sup>

As receiver for the steward of Leicester castle, Robert (III) was appointed keeper of the king's lands in Leicestershire confiscated from rebel barons following the Despenser War (1321-1322) and four years later, he succeeded his superior as steward.<sup>33</sup> With increasing political and civic stature came wealth and in 1323, Robert (III) and Robert Overton (another wealthy resident of Gaddesby), each granted land and property in Gaddesby to the incumbent chaplain to create their respective chantries within the village church dedicated to St Luke.<sup>34</sup> A decade later, Robert (IV) - son of Robert (III) - granted further land and property,<sup>35</sup> which undoubtedly funded the highly decorative additions to the exterior of his father's chantry within the south-west aisle of St Luke's church (shown in Figure 4<sup>36</sup>). These embellishments led Pevsner to describe it as 'one of the largest and most beautiful of the village churches in Leicestershire'.<sup>37</sup>

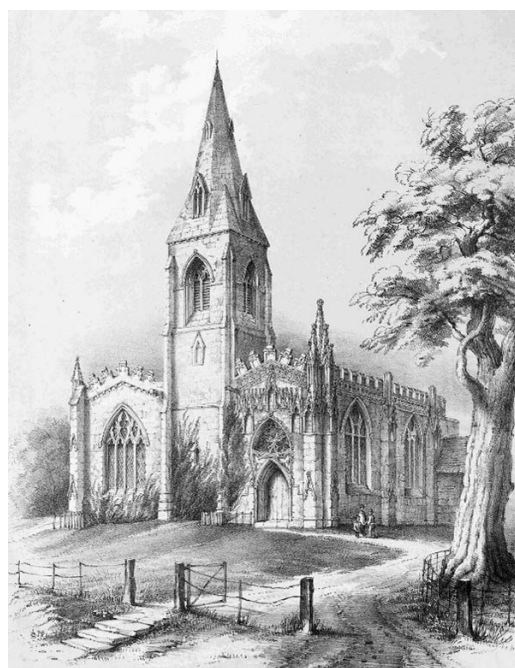


Fig. 4 - St Luke's Church, Gaddesby, viewed from the south-west.

Thomas Gaddesby, son of Robert (IV) by his wife Matilda, was installed to the vicarage of Waltham on the Wolds in 1337 by the abbot of Leicester.<sup>38</sup> Shortly after his father died (circa 1352), Thomas exchanged benefices with Hugh Willoughby (then rector of Ashby Folville) to be closer to his widowed mother.<sup>39</sup>

He died as rector of Ashby Folville in 1373. Recorded in the 1377 poll tax for Gaddesby are Matilda Gaddesby, widow of Robert (IV), and their daughter Matilda, each taxed at the nominal rate of four pence.<sup>40</sup> Also recorded are Robert Gaddesby (V) and his wife, assessed for two shillings in tax, and John Gaddesby ('*apprentis*') - a possible son of Robert (V) - taxed at 20 pence. With Matilda's husband having died many years prior, the relationship between Robert (V) and Robert (IV) is not obvious. However, a charter dated 1398, records Robert '*atte Paskehall*' and Agnes, his wife, were granted two acres and half a rood of land in Gaddesby by Thomas Amys.<sup>41</sup> In the 1377 poll tax, only Robert Gaddesby (V) and his wife were wealthy enough (based on the tax levied) to reside at Paske Hall, an imposing three-storey mansion house situated in extensive grounds adjacent to St Luke's church, suggesting he may be the eldest son of Robert (IV) and Matilda. Today, Gaddesby Hall, built in the mid-18th century to replace Paske Hall, is Gaddesby's principal mansion house.

Finally, a feoffment dated 1428 (witnessed by Thomas Derby and John Danet, esquires of Gaddesby) allows us to fill in some missing pieces of the Gaddesby family jigsaw. The charter identifies Agnes, the relict of John Brette of Rotherby (another small village neighbouring Gaddesby to the north), as the daughter of John Cambridge and Elizabeth, the daughter of Robert Gaddesby and his wife, Katherine.<sup>42</sup> It also confirms he was Robert (III), the son of Ralph, and that Agnes had two sisters, Elizabeth Moreton and Emma Humberstone.

### **The Gaddesby family of saddlers of Leicester**

Henry Gaddesby (IV) obviously had tenural links with the village of Gaddesby and was the progenitor of a family of Leicester saddlers. An action brought before the court by John Folville of Rearsby against Henry Gaddesby (and others) to recover a debt of eight marks, confirms Henry (IV) was the son of William; but whether William was the son of Robert (III), i.e. the monk (see Fig. 3), is not known.<sup>43</sup>

In 1391, Henry (IV) and his wife, Anne, were granted two cottages by Walter Clerk situated near the north gate of Leicester just beyond the wall.<sup>44</sup> A witness to

the transaction was the town's mayor, Geoffrey Clerk, presumably a relative of Walter. Henry and Anne lived in one of the two adjacent cottages, with tenements belonging to the abbot of Leicester abbey located on either side. As the cottages remained in the family for four generations, they are subject to several property transactions which provide useful insight into Henry's descendants. In 1392, the master of St Leonard's Hospital granted Henry Gaddesby (IV) and Richard Barrow the piece of land called 'The Pingle' (see Fig. 5) and Henry (IV) was also granted two shillings in rent from a capital messuage in Gallowtreigate as well as land at Longerofts near Humberstonegate.<sup>45</sup> Henry's close ties with the village of Gaddesby are confirmed by a 1402 covenant in which Richard Hallaton released to Henry (IV) all his claims in the town and fields of Gaddesby, Newbold and South Croxton.<sup>46</sup>

Following the death of Henry (IV) circa 1420, his eldest son, Thomas (I), enfeoffed Adam Cook, John Syton (vicar of All Saints' church in Leicester) and William Bulle (a chaplain of Leicester) in the tenement between the cottage of his late father on the south and the abbot of Leicester on the north (which stretched westwardly from the North Gate highway to his late father's land) along with all his moveables both within Leicester and the fields of Gaddesby.<sup>47</sup> Two years later, the feoffees delivered seisin of the tenement and moveables to Thomas (I) - then a master saddler - and his wife, Agnes, with reversion to their son, Henry (V), and 11 years later, the same tenement was re-enfeoffed by Thomas (I) to John Glen (vicar of St Peter's church), William Syton (then vicar of All Saints' church) and William Keyling.<sup>48</sup> A similar grant enfeoffed John Danet and Thomas Derby junior (both of Gaddesby), the same William Bulle and others, in all lands belonging to Thomas (I) in the town, fields and suburbs of Leicester, and Gaddesby, of which the feoffees instructed their attorney to deliver seisin to Thomas (I) in 1441.<sup>49</sup> In the years that followed, the family disposed of most (if not all) of their land and property in Gaddesby as they and their descendants were now firmly ensconced in the town of Leicester and elsewhere.

Sons, Thomas (II) and John, also became saddlers, which enabled them to take over the business when their father died sometime before 1452.<sup>50</sup> Another

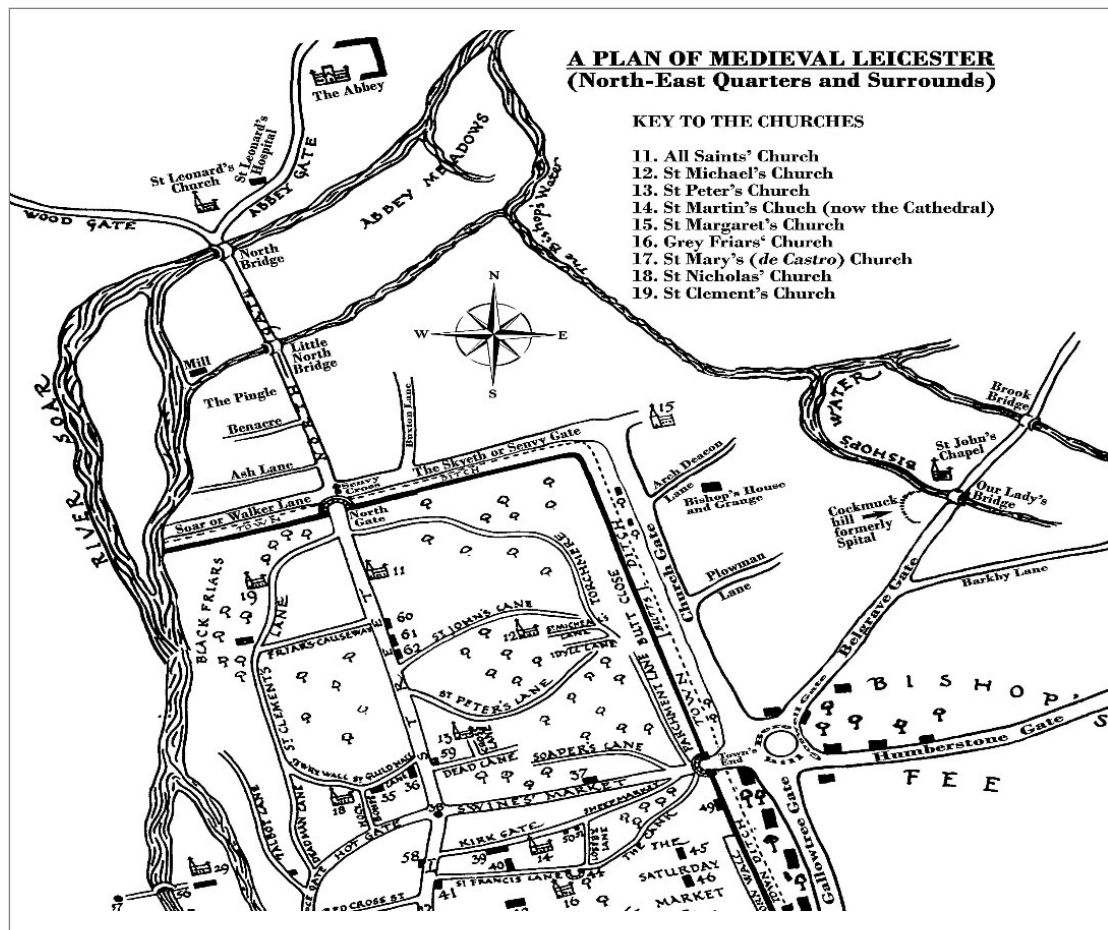


Fig. 5 - Plan of medieval Leicester including outside the north and east walls. This composite is based on three drawings of 'Medieval Leicester' by Charles James Billson, (published in Leicester, 1920).

son, William, entered the church and served as a chaplain. Further issue are gleaned from a 1478 counterpart enfeoffment in which Katherine Bulle, the daughter of the late Emma Bulle - identified as the daughter of the then deceased Thomas Gaddesby (I) - came into possession of two gardens in the parishes of St Michael and St Margaret in Leicester.<sup>51</sup> Failing heirs of Katherine, the two gardens were to revert successively to William (clerk), John, Amy and Henry (V) - the siblings of Emma Bulle, née Gaddesby. The eldest sibling, Thomas (II), passed away sometime before 1463, thus pre-deceasing the grant. William Bulle, the cleric involved in earlier transactions, was probably Katherine's father.

Shortly after the death of Thomas (I), his widow, Agnes, paid sixpence and two hens in rent for the

two cottages along with two shillings and a further hen for a parcel of enclosed land in Ash Lane. In 1454, William Gaddesby (the chaplain) instructed his attorney to transfer the message outside the north gate of Leicester, situated between the tenement of the abbot of Leicester on the south and that of his mother on the north (stretching from the king's highway to the footpath called 'Burge's pavement'), to his brother John, also a saddler.<sup>52</sup> This is undoubtedly the other cottage which was once home to Henry (IV) and Anne. Five years later, John and his wife, Joanna, enfeoffed John Keyling (clerk), William Gaddesby (clerk), Robert Baron (weaver) and others in all their lands in Leicester.<sup>53</sup>

In 1470, both Henry (V) and John, sons of Thomas (I) and Agnes Gaddesby, leased the same tenement

**William GADDESBY**

1380, Amice Rothley quitclaims to Henry & Amice, her tenements and lands in Leicester 1391, Henry & Amice granted 2 cottages near the north gate of Leicester by Walter Clerk called 'The Pingell' outside of north wall of Leicester next to the river Soar 1392, grant of 2s. in rent from a capital messuage in Gallowtreegate and land near Humberstonegate in Leicester, adjacent to land previously held by Amice Rothley 1396, John Folville of Rearsby vs. Henry son of William Gaddesby and others (debt) 1402, Richard Hallaton releases to Henry Gaddesby all claims to his possessions in the towns and fields of Gaddesby, Newhold & South Croxton for 20 years.

**Henry (IV) = 1. Amice**  
d.bef.1420

**2. Anne**

saddler, d.bef.1452

**Thomas (I) = Agnes**

fl.1423-70, d.bef.1483  
1452, (relict) paid chief rent for 2 cottages & land within her close beside Ash Lane, then in the hands of her son, Thomas (II) Gaddesby

1420 & 1435, grants tenement between late Henry (II) Gaddesby, (on the south) & the abbot (on the north) to William Bulle (chaplain) and others 1423, enfeoffs the above tenement outside the north gate & in Gaddesby to Thomas Derby, Jr, John Danei (both of Gaddesby) and Wm. Bulle, et al., who in 1424, grant it to Thomas (I) and Agnes, with reversion to son, Henry (V) 1441, Thomas Derby, Jr, John Danei, et al., deliver seisin to Thomas (I)

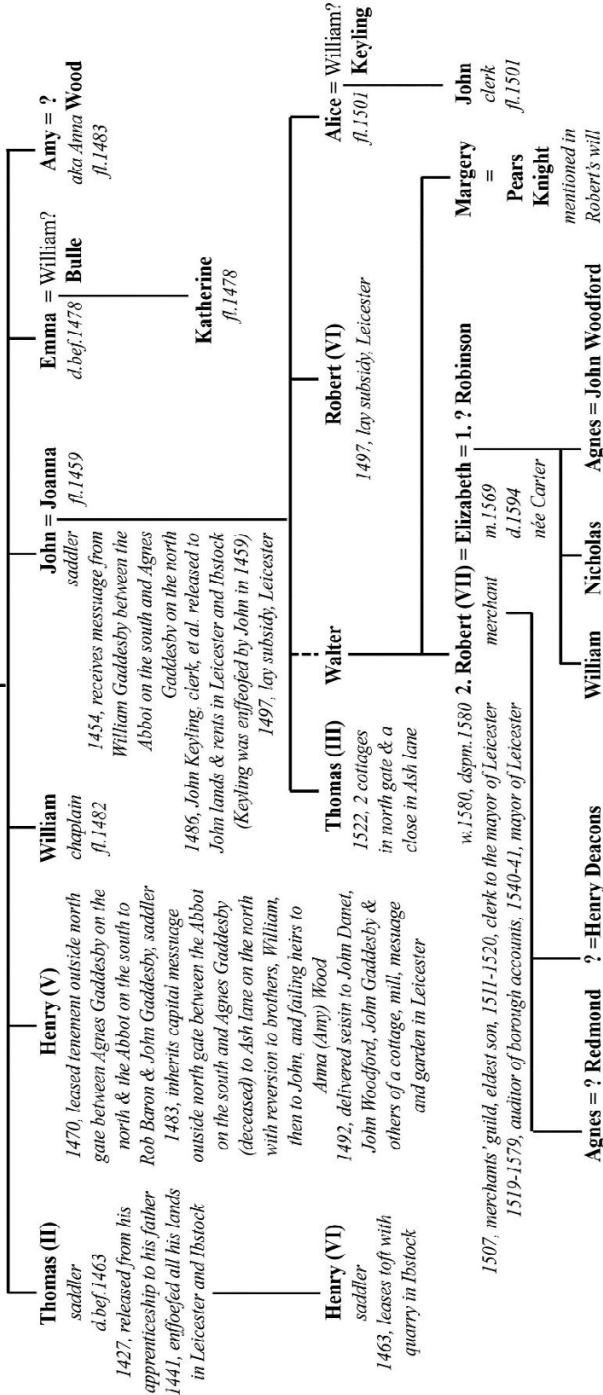


Fig. 6 - The pedigree of the Gaddesby family of Leicester saddlers and their descendants

to Robert Baron on a 90-year lease.<sup>54</sup> Following the death of Agnes, the cottage passed to her son Henry (V) in 1483, which failing heirs, was to revert successively to siblings William (clerk), John and finally Anna Woode, their youngest sister.<sup>55</sup> In the 1497 lay subsidy roll for Leicester, it appears the two cottages were in the possession of John Gaddesby and a certain Robert Gaddesby (VI), possibly his son.<sup>56</sup> As the new century dawned, a writ was brought to chancery concerning the messuages in Leicester by 'John Gaddesby, son of Thomas, father of Alice, mother of John Keyling, clerk' against John Glen (clerk).<sup>57</sup> Having previously come across John Keyling in earlier transactions, we can now place him into the Gaddesby pedigree.

The final mention of the two cottages, that have formed the backbone of the story of the Gaddesby family of saddlers, is found in the military survey of 1522 as King Henry VIII was about to declare war on France.<sup>58</sup> The survey, in a similar fashion to the Domesday survey, was to provide an account of the wealth and estates of all the king's subjects to extract money from them, only this time by way of a loan. In the section for Leicester, it records Thomas Gaddesby paying one shilling and sixpence and 11 roosters in rent per annum for the two cottages by the north gate and a further eight shillings and a single rooster for the parcel of land in Ash Lane, which can be directly compared to the amount paid by Agnes some 70 years earlier. Having followed the succession to the two cottages from Henry (IV) and Anne to their son Thomas (I) and his wife, Agnes, after which they passed successively to their sons, Thomas (II), Henry and John, it is reasonable to assume that Thomas (III) mentioned in the 1522 survey was the son of John Gaddesby by his wife Joanna.

### Robert Gaddesby, mayor of Leicester

The final part of the Gaddesby pedigree (shown in Fig. 6) centres around Robert Gaddesby (VII) who was admitted to the merchants' guild in Leicester in 1507 through patrimony, being the eldest son.<sup>59</sup> Undoubtedly, this would be upon him attaining the age of 21 years, thus unlikely to be the same Robert (VI) mentioned in the 1497 lay subsidy. Indeed, if we jump ahead to the last will and testament of Robert Gaddesby (VII) dated 1580, we discover his

father was called Walter who, more than likely, was another son of John and Joanna thus, younger brother to Thomas (III) who finally possessed the two cottages beyond the north wall of Leicester.

By 1511, Robert (VII) was clerk to William Wigston, the mayor of Leicester.<sup>60</sup> William was the son of John Wigston, an alderman of Leicester who also served as mayor in 1469. John Wigston owned property adjacent to John Gaddesby, which may partly explain how Robert (VII) came to work for his son.<sup>61</sup> For almost 60 years, Robert (VII) was one of the auditors of accounts for various quarters of Leicester as part of his role within the administration of the borough;<sup>62</sup> and in 1540, he was elected mayor of Leicester.<sup>63</sup>

Being quite advanced in years at the time, the marriage of Robert Gaddesby (VII) to Elizabeth Robinson (née Carter) at St Martin's church on 16 January 1569/70,<sup>64</sup> may not have been his first time before the altar. It was certainly not Elizabeth's first marriage as she already had two sons. The couple shared just a little over a decade together as man and wife, for on 5 February 1579/80, Robert (VII) made his will and died shortly afterwards.<sup>65</sup> An abridged transcript of Robert's will now follows.

In the name of God Amen that I, Robert Gaddesby of the Town of Leicester, mercer, have made this my will and testament this 5th day of February and in the 22nd year of the reign of our sovereign lady Elizabeth [1579/80], Queen of England ... First, I will and bequeath my soul to almighty God, who is my redeemer and maker, and my body be buried in the parish church of All Saints in the town of Leicester near unto the place of my father Walter Gaddesby, and there to be nominated of [*sic*] my father's gravestone, the day and year of my departure the which I, Robert Gaddesby, being the last of the same name. First, I will and bequeath unto Elizabeth Gaddesby, my wife, unto the end and term of her natural life, all my land as messuage and tenements, with also a horse mill and a dovecote, pastures, meadows and closures, orchards & gardens, crofts with all other pieces of ground that unto me belonging, paying unto the chief lord his due and custom. Item, that my wife Elizabeth shall suffer and let Agnes Redmond to dwell in the said house that the said Agnes now dwelleth in, until the end and term of my wife's life, and then immediately to pass from it. Item, that I will that my sister Margery Knight

shall have the house that master George Norris dwelleth in, during my wife's life, paying unto the chief his due, and after the decease of my wife, to pass from it. ... I will and bequeath after the decease of my wife, unto Agnes Redmond & John, her son, and to his heirs male, one tenement new build wherein Robert dwelleth, forever of his body lawfully begotten, and for want of an heir male of the said John, I will & bequeath the said tenement unto the chamber of the town of Leicester and to the comburgesses of the town of Leicester, and to their successors, forever paying unto the chief lord his due. Item, I will and bequeath after the decease of my wife, unto my sister Margery Knight and to her husband, and unto the heirs male of her body lawfully begotten, one messuage with an orchard thereunto belonging, now in the occupation of Roger Sewton, with two cottages belonging to the same, and also one croft with a pingle adjoining to the same, paying unto the chief lord his due, and for want of heirs, I will and bequeath unto the comburgesses of Leicester. Item, I will and bequeath after the decease of my wife, unto Edward Newcome and to Robert his son, and to his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, one tenement in the occupying of George Norris and one orchard lying in the Soar Lane, otherwise called Walker Lane, & for want of heir male, I will and bequeath the said tenement to the chamber of the town and to the comburgesses, and to their successors forever, paying unto the chief lord his due. ... Item, I will and bequeath unto John Woodford and to Agnes his wife, and to Robert, his son, and to his heirs male, after the decease of my [wife], of his body lawfully begotten, the same house that John Woodford now dwelleth in, paying the chief lord his due, and for want of heirs male, I will and bequeath the said house unto the chamber and comburgesses of the town, forever paying unto the chief lord his due. Item, I will and bequeath after my wife's decease, unto my brother Robert Carter and to his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten, one piece of ground lying in Parchment Lane, sometimes four gardens in the occupying of old master John Herycke, paying to the chief lord his due, and for want of heirs male, I will and bequeath the said piece of ground unto the comburgesses and chamber of the town of Leicester, and to their successors, forever paying unto the chief lord his due. Item, I give and bequeath after my wife's decease, unto the comburgesses and to the chamber of the town, and for their successors forever, the house with appurtenances thereto belonging that Henry Deacons now dwelleth in, and also I give and bequeath a malt mill to the said comburgesses and chamber of the town

forever, in the occupying of mistress More dwelling in Humberstone gate, and also one close I give and bequeath to the said comburgesses and chamber of the town lying and being within Barkby Lane and in the occupying of Christopher Alexander. And also I give one croft with dovecote standing in the said croft in Plowman Lane, in the occupying of Robert Orton, and a garden lying in Parchment Lane, in the occupying of Thomas Balleden, saddler, paying unto the chief lord for all things his due. ... Item, I will that this my last will and Testament shall be read once every year before the mayor and the residue of the company, or else to be laid in a decent place in the parlour for the company to read it. Item, I will that all my deeds and evidences shall be kept in the chamber of the town of Leicester after my departure. Item, I will and bequeathe to William Symons of Wigston, a suit, a jerkin, a doublet and a pair of hosen. Item, I give unto Peares Knight, a coat, a doublet & a pair of hosen. Item, I give unto four substantial men out of the eight and forty for bearing of my body to the church, for their pains 12 pence apiece. Item, I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth, my wife, all my goods moveable and unmoveable, unbequeathed and my debts being paid & my body being honestly brought to the ground, and also I do make her to be my full executrix of this my last will and testament. And I also do make to be overseers of this my last will and testament, Richard Archer and Lebbeus Chamberlain & for their pains I will and bequeath unto them both six shillings [and] eight pence apiece. ... These witnesses [being] Lebbeus Chamberlain & Richard Archer and Thomas Glosse and Richard Budworth.

As a testament to Robert's elevated status within the civic halls of Leicester, one of his final wishes was that his will should be read once each year before the mayor of Leicester and for it to be kept in the parlour of the great hall for all the worshipful company to read. Robert Gaddesby (VII) was buried near his father at All Saints' church on 3 June 1580 leaving no male heirs to carry on his name.<sup>66</sup>

The argument for the deceased Robert being the grandson of John and Joanna Gaddesby stems from a plea entered in court by John Woodford, Henry Deacons and Agnes Redmond against Robert Newcombe (who are all mentioned in Robert's will) to counter the latter's claim to parts of the late Robert Gaddesby's estate.<sup>67</sup> Woodford, Deacons and Redmond all claimed descent from John

Gaddesby, and in Elizabeth Gaddesby's will, dated 9 Jan 1592/93, John Woodford, baker of Leicester (her son-in-law), was named sole executor and residual legatee.<sup>68</sup> Amongst others mentioned in Elizabeth's will were William and Nicholas Robinson (the two sons from her previous marriage), Robert Carter of Leicester (her brother) and her friend, Richard Archer, the latter two being appointed supervisors of her will. Oddly, Elizabeth was buried at St Martin's church, Leicester, 16 Jan 1592/93 rather than beside her second husband.<sup>69</sup>

## Epilogue

Whilst Robert left no male heirs, the surname was perpetuated by other branches of the family. Today its most prevalent form is by far 'Gadsby', although the 1925 classic novel, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, also owes its title to the same Leicestershire village.

## Notes

1. J. D. Welding (ed.), *Leicestershire in 1777, An edition of John Prior's Map of Leicestershire* (Leicester, 1984).
2. J. K. Hunter (ed.), *Pipe Rolls 1200-1201* (London, 1833), pp.8-9.
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4. The Latin *clericus*, -i (priest, curate, chaplain, etc.) is usually translated as clerk.
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6. The National Archives (hereafter TNA), *Coram Rege*, KB27/135, 21 Edward I (1293), Hilary term, m. 11.
7. Clark, p. 104.
8. *Feudal Aids preserved in the Public Record Office (PRO), 1284-1431*, vol. 3, Kent-Norfolk (London, 1901), p. 97.
9. *Cal. Close Rolls 1296-1302*, vol. 4, p. 162.
10. Mary Bateson (ed.), *Records of the Borough of Leicester* (hereafter Bateson), in 3 volumes (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1899-1905), vol. 1, pp.383-4.
11. The village of Rearsby neighbours Gaddesby to the west. The Folvilles also held a manor there.
12. TNA, CP 40, *De Banco roll 142*, Easter, 30 Edward I, 1302, m. 165.
13. *Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1327-1330*, pp. 279, 292.
14. *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, vol. 5, p.97 (19 Jun 1310). For a transcript of the i.p.m., see W. A. Copinger (ed.), *History and Records of the Smith-Carington Family*, vol. 1 (London, 1907), p.392. For more details on the Folville family, see David J. Lewis, *The Folvilles of Ashby Folville in Leicestershire, Genealogists' Magazine*, vol. 34:4 (Society of Genealogists, Dec 2022), pp.169-177.

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16. F. A. Gasquet (ed.), *Collectanea Anglo-Premonstratensia*, vol. 2 (London, 1906), pp. 148-9, 266.
17. R. M. T. Hill (ed.), *The Rolls and Register of Bishop Oliver Sutton, 1280-1299*, vol. 3 (printed for The Lincoln Record Soc. at Hereford, 1954), pp.85-6, 136.
18. H. J. Nicholson, *The Proceedings Against the Templars in the British Isles*, vol. 2 (Farnham, 2011), pp.313-314.
19. Templars in England were treated comparatively leniently as Edward II was a supporter of the order, whereas those in France were tortured to extract confessions to the allegations manufactured by Phillip IV designed to suppress the Order. Those who refused to confess were burned alive at the stake.
20. C. Clubley, *John de Dalderby, Bishop of Lincoln, 1300-1320*, Doctoral Thesis (Univ. Hull, 1965), pp.174-6.
21. A. H. Hamilton, *The Chapel of St. Peter at Kirkby upon Wreake (Kirkby Bellars)*, Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society (hereafter TLAHS), vol. 16 (1929-31), p.205.
22. Rev. J. T. Fowler (ed.), *The Croucher Book of Selby*, vol. 2, (Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Association, vol. 13, 1893), p.364. See also *Cal. Pat. Rolls 1367-1370*, p.220.
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24. TNA, Fine CP 25/1/123/38, #194 (25 Nov 1290).
25. TNA, Fine CP 25/1/124/45, #12 (8 June 1309).
26. Bateson, vol. 1, pp.257-261, 338-9 and 341.
27. *Cal. Pat. Rolls 1317-1321*, p.394.
28. Alistair Mutch, *Gaddesby: A decorated church in its social and cultural context*, TLAHS, vol. 82 (2008), pp. 179-180, citing C. Howell, *Land, Family and Inheritance in Transition, Kibworth Harcourt 1280-1700*, (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1983), pp.37-38.
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31. F. Palgrave, *Parliamentary Writs*, vol. 2 (London, 1830), p.209.
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33. Between 1322 and 1324, Robert de Gaddesby appears as 'keeper of the king's lands in Leicestershire' in numerous entries in Close Rolls, Patent Rolls and Fine Rolls.
34. George F. Farnham, *Gaddesby, Notes on the Manor* (hereafter Farnham, *Gaddesby*), TLAHS, vol. 13 (1923-24), pp.266-7. See also, *List of Inquisitions ad quod damnum preserved in the Public Record Office* (hereafter *List Inq. q.d.*), vol. 17:1, HMSO (reprint New York, 1963), pp.222 & 236.
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36. The engraving of Gaddesby church is taken from J. F. Hollings, *Sketches in Leicestershire* (Leicester, 1846).
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46. Bateson, vol. 2, p.412.
47. Bateson, vol. 2, p.415.
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49. Bateson, vol. 2, p.421.
50. Bateson, vol. 2, pp.416, 421 & 425.
51. Bateson, vol. 2, pp.432-3.
52. Bateson, vol. 2, p.425.
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# THE HEBDONS:

## AN ENGLISH MERCHANT FAMILY AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH RUSSIA

*Peter Wynn*

### Introduction

Sir John Hebdon was an English merchant and Royalist, who at various times acted on behalf of Tsar Aleksei Mikhailovich and Charles II of England. He has been described as ‘a peripatetic merchant, ambassador, and sometime-spy, acquiring anything and everything for the demanding Tsar, from exotic songbirds and soldiers to physicians, alchemists, actors, and state secrets’.<sup>1</sup> An extensive study of his activities on behalf of Alexis was made by Gurliand who stated that there were hundreds of documents in the Russian State Archives that made reference to Hebdon.<sup>2</sup> Gurliand’s account formed the basis of a thesis by Vereschagin who drew on additional source material.<sup>3</sup> More recently the late J. R. Hebden produced a short booklet on the life of Sir John Hebdon.<sup>4</sup> He made use of Gurliand’s work, adding information on disputes with English Parliamentary agents over how he had carried out the role of an interpreter, but it would appear he was not aware of Vereschagin’s thesis. A number of academic studies have also appeared on the family. Whilst some of these may appear obscure, they illustrate the continuing international interest in the activities of the family. In this article I present an overview of Sir John Hebdon and his family, concentrating on their service to the Russian and English crowns.

According to the transcriptions of Neve’s pedigrees, Sir John Hebdon was the son of John (citizen of London) and Elizabeth (née Pope) Hebdon with his paternal grandfather being John Hebdon of Little Almostcliff [*sic* - probably Almscliffe] in Yorkshire and his maternal grandfather being Richard Pope of Henly [*sic*] upon Thames.<sup>5</sup> *If this is correct*, then it seems probable that his parents were the ones who on 21 August 1611 were granted a licence by the Bishop of London to marry at St. James’s Chapel near Cripplegate. The licence stated that the groom

was a Merchant Taylor of St. Martin in the Vintry.<sup>6</sup> The chapel referred to was probably St. James on the Wall *alias* Lamb’s Chapel in Monkwell Street.<sup>7</sup> Unfortunately the available records for the chapel do not cover that date. I have not found a record of [Sir] John’s baptism. However his probable siblings, Thomas and Mary, both recorded as children of John Hebdon, were baptised at Holy Trinity the Less on 23 July 1615 and 22 December 1620 respectively.<sup>8</sup>



*Fig. 1 - Sir John Hebdon. Portrait by Ferdinand Bol. Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation, Houston, Texas*

### Early Period in Russia

J. R. Hebden said that the 1659 citation for the grant of arms to John Hebdon stated that for 33 years he had diligently applied himself to the profession of Merchant in the Empire of Russia.<sup>9</sup> The first

concrete evidence of John Hebdon's presence in Russia is in 1640. In that year he witnessed an affidavit of Henry Twentymen, an official of the English Muscovy Company in Archangel.<sup>10</sup> The 33 year period would be compatible with Hebdon joining the Company as an apprentice in his teenage years. The Company, chartered since 1555, had a monopoly on trade between England and Russia until 1698, although there were periods when its privileges were suspended, most notably following the execution of Charles I. Hebdon's relationship with the Company is uncertain since its records were destroyed in the Great Fire of London. A Russian Language primer, now in the British Library, contains the inscription shown in Figure 2. The inscription has been translated as:

This alphabet book belongs to the Englishman Yuri son of Roman Guk. In the year from the creation of the world 7148 [i.e. 1640] February the 20th day. With humble greetings from [literally 'humbly bows to the ground'] Ivashka son of Ivan Gebdon.<sup>11</sup>

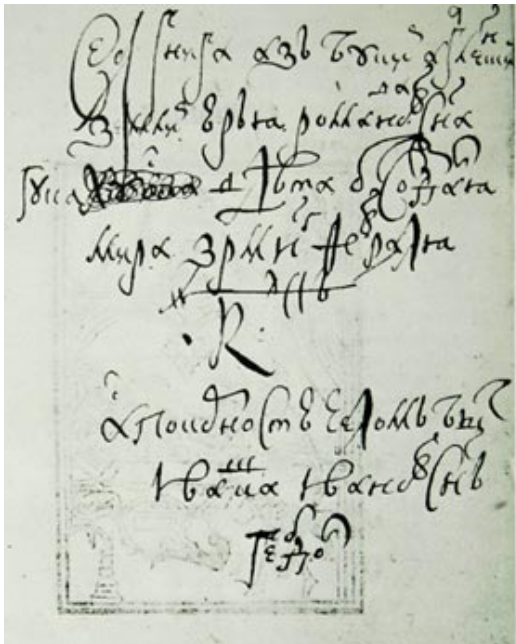


Fig. 2 - Inscription in Russian Primer.  
© British Library Board, C.104.dd.11.(2.)

In 1647 Hebdon was living in Moscow and was acting as an interpreter for other visiting English merchants.

Possibly the first Russian translation of an English printed text appeared in about 1649. It is reported that the original was provided by John Hebdon.<sup>12</sup> The subject matter, demonstrating the plight of Charles I, was clearly of great concern in Russia.

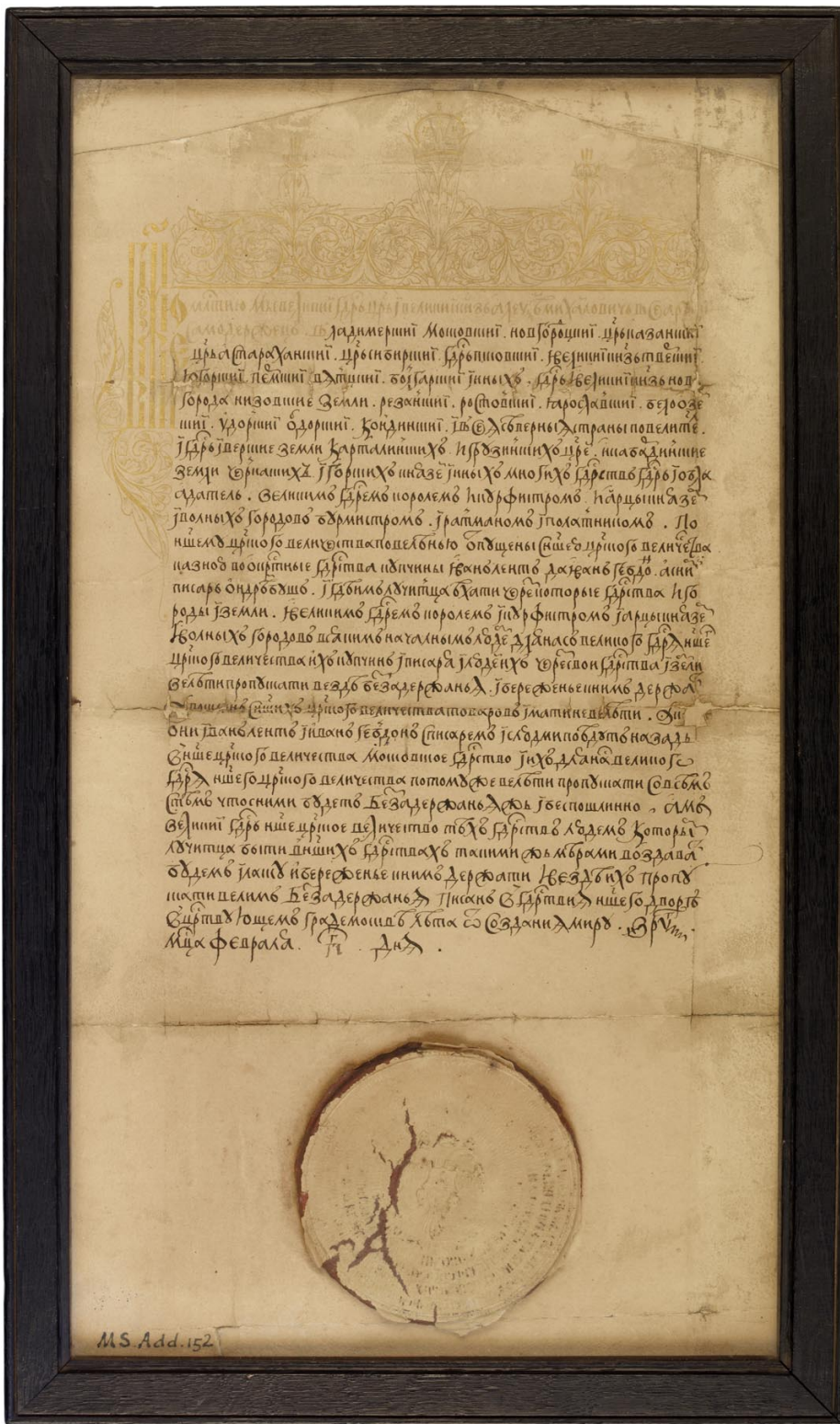
In 1650 Hebdon was recorded as living in Moscow with his wife, his sons, John and Richard, and his daughter who was [? subsequently] married to Thomas Bryan. Depending on business requirements the latter sometimes lived in Moscow and sometimes in Archangel.<sup>13</sup> As will be discussed later in this article, it seems likely that the children were born in Russia. In 1650 the future Charles II sent Lord Culpepper to Russia to negotiate a loan. Hebdon was one of those giving a receipt for the money.<sup>14</sup> Hebdon later reported that Culpepper attempted to have the Muscovy Company's privileges restored.<sup>15</sup>

### Hebdon's First Assignments for the Tsar

In 1648 Hebdon was sent to Germany to recruit soldiers, artillerymen and experienced officers.<sup>16</sup> In 1652 he was sent, under the leadership of Ivan Lent, along with an aide, Andrei Bush, to obtain for the Tsar Italian luxury items, in particular Venetian patterned goods for use in the Tsar's household. They were also required to visit Holland and elsewhere to recruit good and skilful people for the Tsar's service.<sup>17</sup> The terms under which Hebdon operated for the Tsar are unclear. Gurliand stated that the Tsar did not necessarily demand that a foreigner acting for him be in the Moscow service: it was enough if the foreigner traded in Moscow, or even only from time to time came to Moscow and, consequently, could be considered more or less a faithful person.

During the 1652 mission, Hebdon discovered the whereabouts of Timoshka Ankudinov, a pretender to the Russian throne, in Gdansk and took part in his pursuit, final capture and extradition from Lübeck.<sup>18</sup>

The delegation returned to Moscow in 1654. It was recognised as a successful mission for the Tsar, but also for Hebdon as he was able to establish a network of contacts in Holland and Italy.<sup>19</sup>



MS. Add. 152

Fig. 3 - Passport for Ivan Lent, John Hebdon & Andrei Bush. Cambridge University Library

### ‘Guest and Commissioner’

Hebdon was sent again to Italy in 1656, this time on his own and with the title of *Guest and Commissioner* under the sponsorship of the Office of Secret Affairs, again to purchase luxury goods and recruit craftsmen.<sup>20</sup>

*Guests* received a salary, rights to purchase land, tax exemptions and the right to engage in private trade. Clearly Hebdon was now in a privileged position.<sup>21</sup>

In 1658 Hebdon was sent to Holland. The main purpose was the purchase of military equipment, the recruitment of specialists and, perhaps above all, the recruitment of a general to lead a new army.<sup>22</sup>

### ‘Commissar and Resident’

Hebdon returned to Holland in 1660 with a new title. Gurliand interpreted this as Hebdon having a more general role in looking after Russia’s diplomatic and commercial interests. He saw Hebdon’s appointment as the first step by Moscow towards the establishment of permanent embassies in foreign countries.<sup>23</sup> In a footnote Gurliand added that Hebdon’s role was not just confined to relations with Holland, but to neighbouring states as well. So we might ask, was Hebdon in effect proto-ambassador to what would become the European Union!?

Whilst in Amsterdam Hebdon noted news sheets suggesting that Moscow had suffered a military setback against the Poles and their allies at Chudnov (now in Ukraine). He suggested to the head of the Foreign Office that, whether or not the stories were true, counter propaganda should be issued. He arranged for the subsequent news story, prepared by the Office of Secret Affairs denying the ‘false news’, to be published in western media.<sup>24</sup> It has been suggested that the alleged defeat was a reason for the Dutch government’s refusal to lend money to the Tsar.<sup>25</sup> However Hebdon did manage to obtain a loan on behalf of the Tsar from the van Klenk brothers in return for rights to a monopoly over hemp exports to Holland. With that money and other funds he had from Moscow he was able to purchase nearly 62,000 roubles worth of muskets and gunpowder.<sup>26</sup>

### Activities on Hebdon’s own account

Hebdon was able to use his influence with the Tsar, the privileges of being a *Guest* and the contacts he had built up through carrying out official business for his own advantage.

Whilst in Florence he had been approached by merchants who wanted to buy caviar. On his return to Moscow he persuaded the Tsar to grant him a five year monopoly on its export and undertook to export a minimum of 500 barrels a year through Archangel.<sup>27</sup> It was reported that the enterprise produced an annual profit of 30 to 40%.<sup>28</sup> He sold this caviar business to a Dutch merchant, Isaack Jan Nijis in 1660.

In 1659, as a reward for his service to the Tsar he was granted the right to buy and sell tar through Archangel for an annual payment of 300 roubles.<sup>29</sup>

### Relationship with the English Parliament

Hebdon’s activities described above corresponded to the time of the civil war and the inter-regnum in England. In 1649, in response to the execution of Charles I, Tsar Alexis issued a proclamation banishing English merchants from the interior of Russia, leaving them only Archangel for their trade.<sup>30</sup> In 1654 Parliament sent William Prideaux as an envoy to the Tsar in an attempt to restore the privileges of the English merchants. He arrived in Archangel in August of that year but his onward passage was prevented for several months on the pretext of the risk of spreading the plague from England. Hebdon was appointed by the Tsar to act as interpreter for the meeting. The eventual meeting was not cordial, with complaints by the English that the Tsar did not give the customary respect that an ambassador of a king would have received.<sup>31</sup> In a post-meeting letter from Prideaux to Secretary of State Thurloe made complaints about Hebdon’s role and stated that he deliberately carried out mistranslation.<sup>32</sup>

A further mission was sent by Cromwell led by Richard Bradshaw in 1657. Again this was not successful. Hebdon subsequently stated that Alexis would not allow Bradshaw to enter the country.<sup>33</sup> Dukes *et al.* pointed out that Hebdon was wrong in that statement.<sup>34</sup>

## The restoration of the English Monarchy

Hebdon informed Alexis of the Stuart restoration and suggested to him that relations with England should be re-established.<sup>35</sup> He was sent to London in December 1660 where, on the Tsar's behalf, he congratulated Charles II and sought the king's permission to recruit 3,000 cavalrymen and infantrymen with officers for Russian service.<sup>36</sup>

In his Humble Remonstrance to Charles II of 16 March 1660/1 he attributed the removal of the Muscovy Company's privileges to a reaction to the revolution in England.<sup>37</sup> This was disputed by Dukes *et al.* who argued that it was the result of the need of the Tsar to increase revenues.<sup>38</sup> In his further remonstrance Hebdon offered to spend the rest of his life 'in the joint service of my sovereign the King's Majesty and his Imperial Majestie my master in this or any other service.'<sup>39</sup> He advised Charles II to send an ambassador to Russia to restore the ancient amity between the two countries. He took a letter from Charles to the Tsar thanking him for his help during his exile and again raised the question of privileges for the Muscovy Company.<sup>40</sup>

Hebdon also suggested to the Tsar that it would be advantageous to send a delegation to England, emulating that of other nations in its appearance. This was sent in November 1662 but was far from successful.<sup>41</sup> Whilst a loan from the Tsar to the Stuarts was repaid, Charles II did not grant the loan now sought by the Tsar. Zhelyabuzhsky, one member of the delegation, blamed Hebdon for the mission's failure.<sup>42</sup>

Hebdon subsequently returned to Holland where he continued to obtain goods and especially ornithological specimens for the Tsar.

## Knighthood and Service to Charles II

John Hebdon was knighted at Whitehall by the king in the presence of the Russian Ambassador on 30 May 1663.<sup>43</sup> Shortly afterwards he complained to Samuel Pepys about how poor things were at Court and how poorly naval stores were organised compared with Holland.<sup>44</sup> In July of that year he

accompanied the Earl of Carlisle on his mission to the Tsar which was intended to persuade the latter to restore trade privileges to English merchants. In an account of the mission Hebdon was described as being the Tsar's *late* agent.<sup>45</sup> The mission which reached Moscow the following year, especially from Hebdon's point of view, was not a success. Carlisle, on behalf of Charles II, had to defend him from accusations of acting in concert with a John Cartwrite [*sic*] and Luke Nightingale in undervaluing Russian exports and overvaluing imports from western Europe.<sup>46</sup> Carlisle pointed out that Charles II had authorised the 3,000 troops that Hebdon had sought on behalf of the Tsar.<sup>47</sup> Lubimenko stated, but without giving details of her source, that Hebdon had warned the Russian representative, Dashcov, that Carlisle was seeking an Anglo-Swedish alliance against the Tsar.<sup>48</sup>

In April 1665 two payments of £200 and £1,000 were made to Hebdon 'without accompt for His Majesty's secret service'.<sup>49</sup> The reason for these considerable payments is not clear, but could have been reimbursement for expenses incurred during Carlisle's mission.

The Scotsman, Patrick Gordon, entered the service of Tsar Alexis as a mercenary in 1661. In 1666 he was sent by Alexis to England with a letter to the king and stayed with Hebdon. Several social events between Gordon and Hebdon are recorded in the former's diary. Hebdon advised Gordon on procedures at the royal court.<sup>50</sup>

In 1666/7 Hebdon was appointed by Charles II as his Envoy Extraordinary to the Emperor of Russia. Hebdon's instructions included reference to the King's reply to the letter brought by Gordon. He was asked to raise again the question of the restoration of trade privileges and to seek the lifting of the quarantine on English shipping that had been imposed because of the plague. He was instructed to be friendly to any Swedish ministers he met in Moscow, but to treat French, Danish or Dutch representatives with great circumspection.<sup>51</sup> Hebdon's mission was not very successful. Konavolov suggested that aspects of his business activities in Russia and his leaving of the Tsar's service may have been a reason for this.<sup>52</sup>

## Deaths of Sir John Hebdon and Phillipa, his wife

Sir John Hebdon died 10 June 1670 at the age of 59 and was buried at Tooting Graveney, Surrey. His memorial states that he had four sons and two daughters.<sup>53</sup> He appointed his son, John Hebdon Esquire, as his executor. The overseers included his brother, Thomas, and his son in law, Samuel Meverell. Mentioned in the will were Sir John's son and daughter in law, Richard and Silvester, John Hebdon Esquire's wife, Ellen, and Sir John's daughter, Elizabeth Bryan. He included a schedule of debts he owed and those who were indebted to him. The latter included the Treasury of Great Britain for his service as Envoy Extraordinary and money he considered due from the Russian Treasury.<sup>54</sup>

Phillipa was buried at Chertsey, Surrey, on 22 January 1695/6.

## Children of Sir John Hebdon

As noted above, Sir John Hebdon's memorial states that he had four sons and two daughters. The House of Commons Journal recorded that the addition of the 'Names of John, Richard and Thomas Hebdon, Sons of John Hebdon, a natural Englishman, now Ambassador Resident from the Emperor of Russia, and Thomas Smith his Kinsman, be inserted into the Bill for Naturalization.'<sup>55</sup> The need for naturalisation suggests that the children were probably born in Russia. Gurliand was confused, concatenating John and Richard to 'Ivan-Richard' or 'Richard-Ivan'<sup>56</sup> Presumably the fourth son mentioned in Sir John's will had predeceased his father. J. R. Hebdon named him as Robert, but I have not seen evidence on which he based this. His daughters were Elizabeth and Mary.

## John Hebdon Esquire

John Hebdon Esquire was the eldest son living at the time of Sir John's death.

He, or Richard, or both of them, was sent to Moscow from Amsterdam with military equipment their father had purchased there.<sup>57</sup> According to Lubimenko it was John Hebdon Esquire, rather than his father, who brought the request for 3,000 men to Charles II.<sup>58</sup>

By 1671/2 he was appointed Collector of Customs at Colchester in Essex.<sup>59</sup> It is perhaps no coincidence that his wife, Ellen, was the daughter of Sir John Jacob of Bromley-by-Bow, a Commissioner of the Customs.<sup>60</sup> In 1676 Hebdon was suspended from the post because he was in debt to the Commissioners.<sup>61</sup> A replacement was appointed in December of that year.<sup>62</sup>

In 1676 he became more visible in his own right. In that year, on behalf of the Muscovy Company, he petitioned Charles II to make a further attempt to get the company's trading privileges restored.<sup>63</sup> He was appointed by the king as envoy to the new Tsar, Fyodor, and left England with two diplomatic letters in July 1676. His efforts were unsuccessful and he proposed in a letter to Sir Joseph Williamson, one of the king's Secretaries of State, that an Anglo-Polish war against Russia should be started.<sup>64</sup> This wild suggestion was rejected by the king.<sup>65</sup> Hebdon Esq. did not leave Russia immediately and tried to collect debts he claimed were due to his late father.<sup>66</sup> His continued stay was far from uneventful. He tried to extract from officers his father recruited advances of pay that had already been repaid to the Russian government. In 1677 he conspired with the Swedish correspondent, Chriftoff Koch, to fabricate false news designed to get the Danish resident expelled from Pskov.<sup>67</sup> In December 1677 he claimed there was a plot to assassinate him.<sup>68</sup> The following month an altercation between Hebdon's men and the officers of the watch led to one of the latter being killed. Hebdon refused to hand over, or even identify, the person responsible.<sup>69</sup> Fyodor sent a letter of complaint over the actions of Hebdon and his entourage.<sup>70</sup> Charles II promised to investigate the matter.<sup>71</sup> Further complaints against Hebdon were made later in 1678.<sup>72</sup>

John Hebdon Esquire continued to have money problems. Whilst Hebdon was in Moscow, Danby the Lord Treasurer instructed the Customs Commissioners to approach Hebdon's guarantor.<sup>73</sup> In 1678 and 1679 Hebdon was arguing that his debt was more than covered by payment he was due for his service as envoy and put in a petition for the extra costs of his delayed return from Russia.<sup>74</sup> By November 1681 he was in the Fleet prison from where he wrote two letters to Pepys seeking charity.<sup>75</sup> In 1684 he was credited with his extra



costs but this was insufficient to clear his debt.<sup>76</sup> Still in the Fleet, he was visited in May 1686 by Patrick Gordon.<sup>77</sup> In 1709 he was amongst those Collectors who were recorded as having died insolvent with money still due to the Exchequer which if possible was to be recovered from their heirs.<sup>78</sup> I have been unable to find details of his death or burial.

The will of John's widow was proved in 1713.<sup>79</sup> She requested burial in the parish church of Bromley-by-Bow.

A Captain John Hebden was captain of the company of trained bands at Brightlingsea, Essex from July 1676 to February 1683/4.<sup>80</sup> It may be reasonable to speculate that he was the son of John Hebdon Esq., as the latter's chaplain during his mission to Russia was the vicar of Brightlingsea which is about 10 miles downstream on the River Colne from Colchester where John Hebdon Esq. was the Collector of Customs.<sup>81</sup>

### Richard Hebdon

As noted earlier, Gurliand appeared to merge Richard with Ivan [John] to form Richard-Ivan or Ivan-Richard.

In 1666 he married Silvestra, widow of William Wykes and daughter of Theophilus Baynham at St Martin in the Fields on 13 September 1666.<sup>82</sup> One hesitates to interpret the entry in the diary of Patrick Gordon later that year when he talks of 'having augmented our company with Mr. Richard Hebdon and bedfellow'.<sup>83</sup>

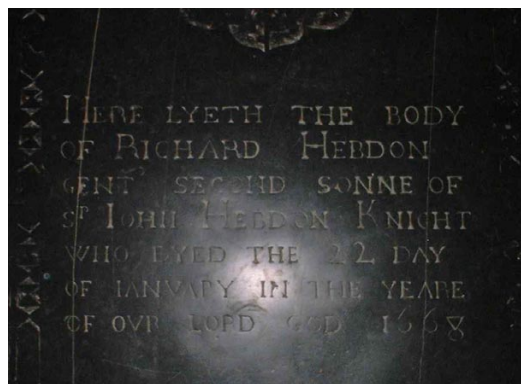


Fig. 4 - Grave marker for Richard Hebdon, Wells Cathedral

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. The inscription on the graveslab confirms him as the second son of Sir John. A mural in the west cloister states that he died during his 30th year, indicating a birth about 1638.

### Thomas Hebdon

Thomas was not mentioned by Gurliand. Although he had presumably been in England when he was naturalised in 1661/2, the *London Gazette* reported that he had been stabbed by his servant in 1669 whilst accompanying Thomas Bryan on the mission described in the next paragraph.<sup>84</sup>

### Elizabeth Bryan née Hebdon and Thomas Bryan

Elizabeth Hebdon was married to Thomas Bryan. Thomas had been sent as the Tsar's envoy to the King of Persia to negotiate the yearly transport of silk through that country so as to avoid Turkish territory. The *London Gazette* article reported that he had died the day before entering the then Persian capital city of Spahaune [Isfahan].<sup>85</sup> J. R. Hebden stated that the cause of death was a fever, but that was not stated in the Gazette account.

He had previously been shown as a merchant in Archangel where he had provisioned ships for the English Admiralty and arranged for the export of hemp to London.<sup>86</sup> A bill of lading for hemp at Archangel was prepared by Thomas Bryan and Samuel Meverell in September 1663.<sup>87</sup> In April of that year Sir John Hebdon had written to the Navy Commissioners suggesting that the ship that was to bring a present of hemp from the Tsar to the king might also convey the Russian Ambassador and his entourage for their mission.<sup>88</sup> In June Pepys recorded that he travelled with Sir John to Whitehall to discuss arrangements for the hemp.<sup>89</sup> I suspect the cargo being organised by Bryan in September was that gift.

### Mary Meverell née Hebdon and Samuel Meverell

Mary was married to Samuel Meverell, another merchant in Russia. He was the son of Othowell Meverell and Katherine Ironside who had married

at St. Giles Cripplegate on 12 August 1617. Samuel was baptised at St. Lawrence Jewry 5 October 1631.<sup>90</sup> Dr. Othowell was president of the Royal College of Physicians from 1641 to 1645 and was known for his support of the Parliament cause during the civil war.<sup>91</sup>

According to Romaniello, actions during the 1670s by Thomas Hebdon over his (un-named) sister's estate led to Samuel being imprisoned in Russia for three years.<sup>92</sup> Charles II asked the Tsar to intervene on behalf of Meverell.<sup>93</sup> Romaniello stated that Thomas was the younger son of Sir John Hebdon. This appears to be an error because as noted earlier that Thomas had been killed in 1669. A more reasonable account of the matter was given by J. R. Hebden relating to Thomas, the brother of Sir John, which is discussed later.

Patrick Gordon's diary showed that he kept in touch with Meverell, either by letter or on occasion meeting at the latter's property in Chertsey, Surrey.<sup>94</sup>

Samuel's 1696 will named sons Samuel, Thomas, Josiah, William, Richard, John and Othowell, and daughters, Mary Palmer wife of Richard, Sarah and Katherine.<sup>95</sup> Mary completed a deed of Release and Quit Claim in the same year.<sup>96</sup>

### **Thomas Hebdon, brother of Sir John Hebdon and his wife, Mary**

Little is known about this merchant. However one thing stands out. In 1667 - 1671 Stenka Razin, a Cossack, led a rebellion against the Russian government. He was executed on 6 June 1671. Thomas Hebdon was an eye-witness to the execution which he described in a letter written the same day to Richard Daniell.<sup>97</sup> This has been described as the most reliable account of the execution.<sup>98</sup> The letter was addressed from the Novonemetskaya Slobada ('New German') quarter of Moscow, an area that was generally home to foreign merchants.

In his will made in 1674 Thomas of Archangel appointed his wife, Mary as executor. Besides his wife, beneficiaries included John Hebdon Esquire, Samuel and Mary Meverell, Elizabeth Bryan and Elizabeth's son Thomas.<sup>99</sup> It appears that Mary did

not prove the will prior to making her own will shortly before her death in 1677.<sup>100</sup> She asked to be buried with her late husband in Archangel. Family beneficiaries included Elizabeth Bryan and her children, Samuel Meverell and his wife, Richard and Silvestra the children of Richard Hebdon, and Ellen Hebdon the wife of John Hebdon. She left money to the parishes of St. Giles without Cripplegate, where she said she was born and Queenhithe which incorporated the parish of the Trinity where Thomas her husband was born. There was a contribution towards the re-building of St. Paul's Cathedral. Other churches benefitting were the Dutch Church in London and the Lutheran Church at Novonemetskaya Slobada. Mary appointed Samuel Meverell as one of her three executors. However since he was imprisoned in Russia, he could not immediately prove the will. He eventually proved both wills in 1680.

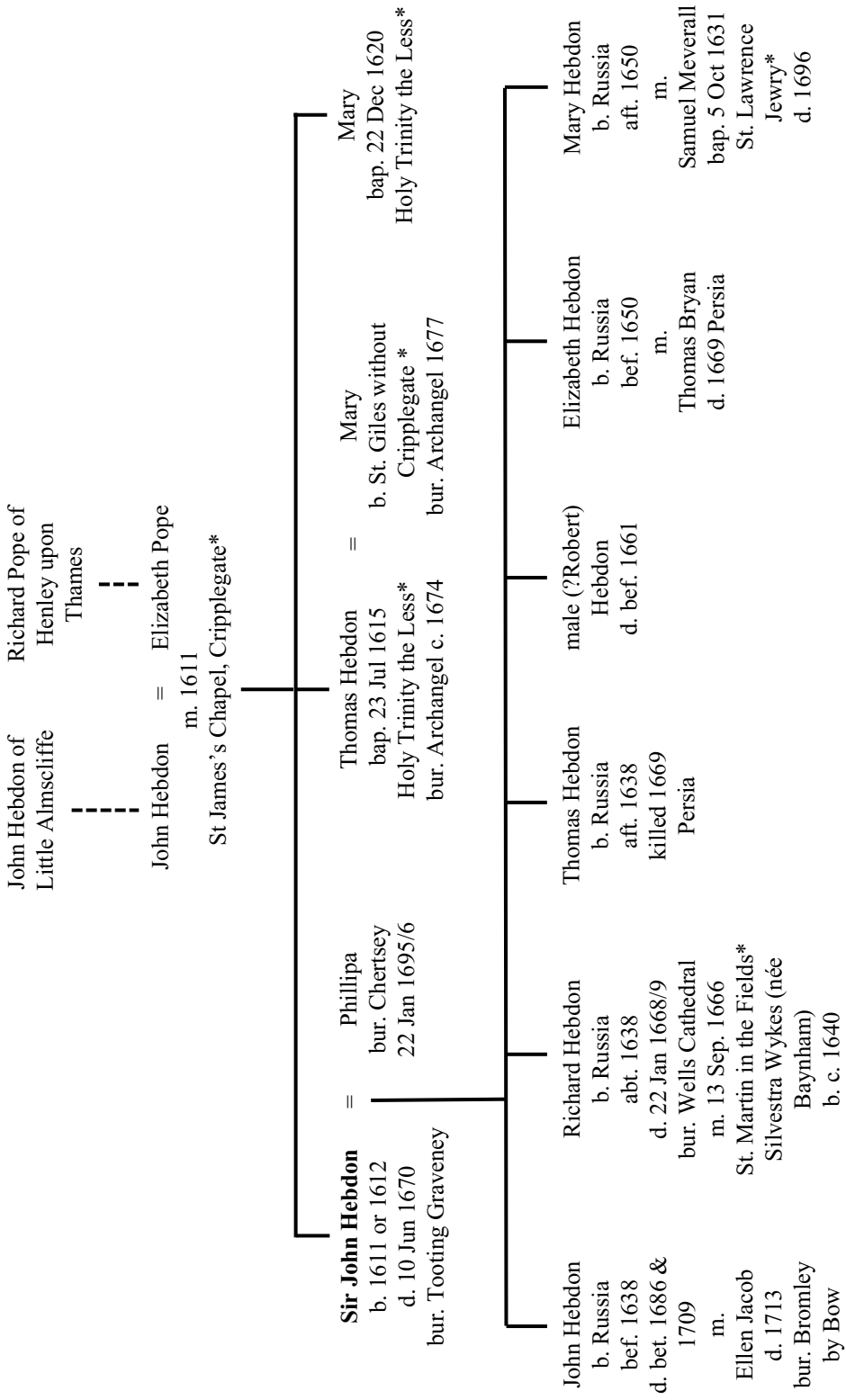
J. R. Hebden provided an alternative explanation for the imprisonment of Samuel Meverell. He drew attention to a letter Charles II had written to Tsar Alexis in 1665 seeking help over an unjust court claim made against Sir John's brother, Thomas.<sup>101</sup> The claim had apparently been settled in Hebdon's favour in another court some years previously.<sup>102</sup> However heirs to the original claimant then raised the issue again, leading to the imprisonment of Samuel, the executor of Thomas's will.<sup>103</sup>

### **Thomas Smith**

Alongside the sons of John Hebdon, a Thomas Smith was added to the Bill for Naturalization and was stated to be a kinsman of Hebdon. Whilst it is tempting to suggest that he was related to Thomas Smith or Smythe (died 1625, a governor of the Muscovy Company and one time ambassador to Tsar Boris Godunov), I have found no evidence to support such a link. However if there is a link it may provide an explanation for John Hebdon's involvement with Tsar Alexis.

### **Notes**

1. A. Dunlop (2014) *Early Modern Faces European Portraits 1480-1780* Newcomb Art Gallery, Tulane University p.44.
2. I. Ya Gurliand (1903) *Ivan Gebdon - Kommissarius I Resident*.
3. D.L. Vereschagin (1967) *John Hebdon: 17th Century Russian Agent in Europe* MA thesis, University of California. <https://doukhobor.org/spanning-the-years-the-vereschagin-family/> contains an interesting account of the early struggles of the author's family in Canada and the United States after their exile in Siberia.



\* indicates City of London

Fig. 5 - The Hebbon family tree

4. J.R. Hebdon (2003) [hereafter JRH] *Sir John Hebdon Kt: his history and family*. JRH also compiled the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* entry for Sir John Hebdon.
5. G.W. Marshall (ed.) (1873) *Le Neve's Pedigrees of the Knights King Charles 2 to Queen Anne* Harleian Society p.169.
6. London Metropolitan Archives: DL/C/0340 Marriage licences issued by the Bishop of London 1611-1616.
7. R. Newcourt (1708) *Repertorium ecclesiasticum Londinense* Vol 1 pp.368-9. JRH [p.2] suggested that the marriage was to be at St James, Garlickhithe, but this seems inconsistent with the wording of the marriage licence.
8. London Metropolitan Archives: P69/TR13/A/001/MS09155 Holy Trinity the Less Register of baptisms, marriages & burials 1547-1653.
9. JRH [p.4].
10. The National Archives: SP 91/3/56 Affidavit of Henry Twentyman concerning goods at Archangel 15 August 1640.
11. C. Thomas (1984) 'Two East Slavonic Primers' *British Library Journal* Vol.10 No.1 pp.32-46.
12. I. Maier & N. Mikhaylov (2009) «Королевский извет ко всем его подданным» (1648 г.) - первый русский перевод английского печатного текста? [“The Kings Declaration to all His Subjects” (1648) - the first Russian translation of an English printed text?] *Russian Linguistics* Vol.33 pp.289-317.
13. Gurliard p.6. JRH reasonably suggested that the marriage of the daughter, Elizabeth, to Thomas Bryan might have been up to a decade later.
14. JRH [p.3].
15. The National Archives: SP 91/3/77 Humble Remonstrance of John Hebdon.
16. Vereschagin p.14-15 quoting A.I. Zaozerski (1917) *Tsar Aleksei Mikhailovich o svoem khoziaistve* p.279.
17. Gurliard p.7.
18. Gurliard p.8.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. Vereschagin p.23 quoting R.H. Fisher (1943) *The Russian Fur Trade* p.126.
22. Gurliard pp.9-10.
23. Gurliard p.14.
24. Gurliard pp.21-22.
25. Vereschagin p.33.
26. Gurliard p.21.
27. Gurliard p.7.
28. Vereschagin p.18 quoting V. Barbour (1963) *Capitalism in Amsterdam in the 17th Century* University of Michigan Press.
29. Gurliard p.7.
30. I. Lubimenko (1928) 'Anglo-Russian Relations during the First English Revolution' *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* Vol.11 pp.39-59.
31. Ibid.
32. T. Birch (1742) *Collection of State Papers of John Thurloe* Vol.3 p.173-5 Letter dated 24 February 1574/5 and pp.387, 602 and 698.
33. The National Archives [TNA]: SP 91/3/77 Humble Remonstrance of John Hebdon.
34. P. Dukes, G.P. Herd & J. Kotilaine (2009) *Stuarts & Romanovs* Dundee University Press p.96
35. Gurliard p.23.
36. Gurliard p.25.
37. TNA: SP 91/3/77 Humble Remonstrance of John Hebdon.
38. *Stuarts & Romanovs* pp.58-9 and 83-5.
39. TNA: SP 91/3/82 Additional Remonstrances of John Hebdon, Resident of his Imperial Majesty.
40. TNA: SP 91/3/85 Letter Charles II to Tsar Aleksei 10 May 1661.
41. Gurliard p.26.
42. Gurliard pp. 26-27.
43. W.A. Shaw (1906) *The Knights of England* Vol.2 p.238.
44. *Diary of Samuel Pepys* 6 June 1663.
45. GM [probably G. Miegel] *Relation of Three Embassies from his Sacred Majesty Charles II to the Great Duke of Muscovie, the King of Sweden and the King of Denmark* pp.180/1.
46. *Three Embassies* pp.193/3, 197, 203/4.
47. *Three Embassies* p.274. Vereschagin (p.42) incorrectly said that Hebdon directly addressed the Tsar in response to allegations against him.
48. Lubimenko (1926) 'Les Relations Diplomatiques de l'Angleterre avec la Russie au XXVII Siecle' *Revue Historique* Vol.153 pp.1-39
49. W.A. Shaw (ed.) (1904) *Calendar of Treasury Books: 1660-7* Vol. 1 p.656-7.
50. B. Botfield (ed.) (1859) *Passages from the Diary of Patrick Gordon* p.79-89.
51. TNA: SP91/3/210 Instructions for Sir John Hebdon.
52. S. Konovalov 'England and Russia two missions 1666 - 1668' *Oxford Slavonic Papers* Vol. 13 pp.47-71.
53. Memorial in Tooting Gravney Church. This was placed in the original church by his son, John, and re-positioned in the replacement church.
54. TNA: PROB 11/333/143 Will of Sir John Hebdon of Tooting Gravney proved 14 June 1670.
55. Journals of the House of Commons Vol.8 p.363 13 February 1661[2].
56. Gurliard p.6 & p.21.
57. Gurliard p.21.
58. Les Relations Diplomatiques p.29 and Anglo-Russian Relations p.55.
59. W.A. Shaw (1908) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1669-1672* Part 2 pp.1043 & 1198. J.R. Hebdon stated that he held the position from 1668, but I have not found evidence of this.
60. J. & J.B. Burke (1841) *Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies* p.279.
61. W.A. Shaw (1908) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1676-1679* pp.171, 189, 338, 386, 626.
62. W.A. Shaw (1908) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1676-1679* p.392.
63. TNA: SP 91/3/302 Representation of the Moscovia Company and SP 91/3/302 Proposals of John Hebdon.
64. TNA: SP 91/3/235 John Hebdon to Williamson 27 February 1676/7.
65. TNA: SP 104/118/45 Secretary's letter book Williamson to Hebdon 11 May 1677.
66. The National Archives: SP 91/3/269 John Hebdon to Williamson 23 October 1677.
67. H. Droste & I. Maier (2018) 'Christoff Koch (1637-1711): Sweden's Man in Moscow' in S.V. Brandtzeag & C. Watson (eds.) *Travelling Chronicles: News and Newspapers from the Early Modern Period to the Eighteenth Century* Leiden: Brill pp.119-139
68. S.P. Orlenko (2009) 'John Hebdon à Moscou (1677-1678) Histoire d'une crise diplomatique' *Cahiers du Monde Russe* Vol.50 pp.441-451.
69. Ibid.
70. TNA: SP 102/149/43 Tsar Fyodor to Charles II 27 February 1677/8.
71. TNA: SP 104/118/53 Charles II to Tsar Feodor 13 June 1678.
72. TNA: SP 102/49/44 Tsar Fyodor to Charles II 1 September 1678.
73. W.A. Shaw (1908) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1676-1679* p.626.
74. Ibid pp.63, 1062 & 1255.
75. Bodeian Library: MS. Rawl. A. 178, fols. 93, 95 Two letters to Pepys from John Hebdon, late envoy to Russia, praying for charity; Fleet-prison, Nov 1681
76. W.A. Shaw (1908) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1681-1685* p.1337 & 1684.
77. B. Botfield (ed.) (1859) *Passages from the Diary of Patrick Gordon* Entry for 4 May 1686 p.132.
78. W.A. Shaw (1952) *Calendar of Treasury Books 1709* p.443.1679.
79. TNA: PROB 11/536/339 Will of Ellenor Hebdon widow of London proved 25 November 1713.
80. F.H. Blackburne Daniell (1909) *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1676-1677* p.208 and F.H. Blackburne Daniell & F. Bickley (1938) *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1683-1684* p.258.
81. F.H. Blackburne Daniell (1909) *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1676-1677* p.392.
82. Westminster City Archives: STM/PR/6/5 Marriage Register for St. Martin in the Fields 1658-1711.
83. Diary of Patrick Gordon Entry for 6 December 1666 p.85.
84. *The London Gazette* Issue 439, 27 January 1669/70.
85. Ibid.
86. M.A.E. Green (1861) *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1661-1662* pp.94, 97 and 176.
87. M.A.E. Green (1862) *Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1663-1664* p.271.
88. Ibid p.115.
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100. TNA: PROB 11/363/28 Will of Mary Hebdon of London proved 6 May 1680.
101. TNA PRO 20/60/85 Photograph of Letter in Russian archives from Charles II to Alexei Mikhailovich concerning the law suit of Hebdon 12 April 1665.
102. JRH [p.10].
103. JRH [p.16].

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**Peter Wynn**

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## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED:

# Discovering Your Military Ancestors

## A Genealogy Research Guide

### Learn how to research/discover your military ancestors with this research guide

We all have military ancestors, and we all have questions about them, which is why the SoG's Gold Membership includes a monthly Armed Forces Advice Hour. Led by Graham Bandy, an expert military historian and British Army veteran, we find our members learn so much just from listening to the answers raised by other people's questions. Luckily for you, we're sharing some of the answers to questions raised in our recent sessions.



Medals and ephemera from the SoG's Inman collection

#### 1. How can I identify WWI war medals?

Identifying surviving medals, or photographs of them can provide precious clues about your military ancestors. Learn more about medals and their significance by consulting resources on military decorations and honours. British First World War Service Medals were awarded based on specific criteria, such as serving in particular areas for a set duration. There were six types of service medals, including the 1914 Star, 1914-1915 Star, British War Medal, Allied Victory Medal, Territorial Force War Medal, and Mercantile Marine War Medal. These medals commemorated service during the war, with criteria varying for each. Medals were often nicknamed, and records of recipients were meticulously kept, which is helpful for your family history research. Service in the Royal Navy or Royal Flying Corps also had specific medal records.

**DYK?** 'Pip, Squeak, and Wilfred' were nicknames given to three main campaign medals from the First World War: the 1914 Star (or 1914-15 Star), the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal, respectively. These nicknames originated from a popular comic strip in the Daily Mirror newspaper during the 1920s, featuring characters named Pip the dog, Squeak the penguin, and Wilfred the rabbit.

For further details on WWI medals, including where to search medal rolls, check out the following sites:

- The Great War 1914-1918 (<https://tinyurl.com/2aeb3zu2>)
- The Long, Long Trail (<https://tinyurl.com/4j23sc2p>)
- The National Archives (TNA) introductory guide to campaign service medals (<https://tinyurl.com/ajuptf6w>) and an explanation of First World War Medal Index cards (<https://tinyurl.com/y79ej544>)

Consider attending our new Armed Forces Advice Hour with our military expert, veteran British Army Officer Graham Bandy, for personalised guidance on identifying specific war medals.

#### 2. I know my ancestor's regiment. How can I find out where the regiment was and what they were doing?

Muster Rolls and War Diaries are invaluable resources. Muster Rolls provide lists of personnel within military units, while War Diaries offer detailed accounts of their activities and locations. In the UK, family historians can find muster rolls and war diaries primarily at TNA in Kew. TNA holds extensive collections of military records, including digitized versions accessible both in-person and online through their website. Additionally, subscription websites like Ancestry and Findmypast provide access to these records. Local archives, libraries, military museums, and regimental archives may

also have relevant materials. Family history societies and online forums can offer guidance and assistance in accessing these resources, ensuring comprehensive research for those tracing their military ancestors in the UK.

**DYK?** - A muster roll is used in military contexts to record the names and details of individuals serving in a military unit, such as a regiment, company, or ship. These rolls were typically created regularly, often monthly, quarterly, or annually, to account for personnel within the unit. Muster rolls typically include information such as the names of soldiers or sailors, their ranks, enlistment dates, periods of service, and sometimes details about pay or equipment issued. These documents served administrative purposes for the armed forces, but today are valuable resources for historians and genealogists researching military personnel, as they offer insights into individual service histories and the composition of military units during specific periods.



### 3. What resources can I use to find out about the day-to-day operational activities of units?

Research War Diaries and Unit Histories to uncover detailed accounts of military units' day-to-day activities and operations. Use these to learn more about the activities your military ancestors engaged in, where they served and when. Check out this helpful page from the Imperial War Museum (<https://tinyurl.com/3fy9t633>) for more details on the records you might find and where they might be held.



### 4. Family legend tells me that my military ancestor was a deserter. Aside from service records, how can I find out if this is true?

Explore resources like Police Gazettes (<https://tinyurl.com/282ymcjf>) and newspapers (remember, not all are available online) for mentions of desertion or related incidents.

Court Martial records and civilian jail records may also shed light on the circumstances surrounding desertion accusations. The National Archives holds a significant collection of court-martial records, while local archives and record offices may have documents specific to their local areas. Former prisons converted into museums or historical sites may also contain relevant archives. Online databases like Findmypast and Ancestry offer digitised collections, and specialist organisations like SoG can provide guidance.

### 5. Where can I learn more about military ranks and what they mean? For example, what was a 2nd Corporal, and was this common to all regiments?

A 2nd Corporal was a historical rank within the Royal Engineers and Army Ordnance Corps of the British Army. Second Corporals held full non-commissioned officer status, the rank being equivalent to bombardiers in the Royal Artillery. It was discontinued in 1920. Useful to know if you want to narrow down when your military ancestor was serving!



To learn about military ranks and what they signify, you can consult various sources. Official military websites of the British Army ([www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)), Royal Navy ([www.royalnavy.mod.uk](http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk)), and Royal Air Force ([www.raf.mod.uk](http://www.raf.mod.uk)) provide detailed information on ranks, including their insignia, roles, and progression criteria. See the SoG library for manuals, books, and publications relating to military history. Museums such as the Imperial War Museum ([www.iwm.org.uk/collections](http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections)), National Army Museum ([www.nam.ac.uk](http://www.nam.ac.uk)), regimental museums and libraries dedicated to military history are further useful resources. Speaking with current or former military personnel, such as our expert Graham Bandy, can also provide valuable firsthand insights into the meaning and significance of these ranks.

## 6. Why are Royal Engineers named Sappers?

The term 'Sapper' originates from the French word 'sapeur,' which refers to military engineers involved in siege warfare, particularly in digging trenches or sapping enemy fortifications. Find out more about nicknames using military history books, online forums, regimental museums, veterans, and historical records. Common nicknames include 'Tommy' for a British soldier, 'Redcap' for Royal Military Police, 'Para' for paratroopers, 'Tankie' for armoured regiment soldiers, 'Gunner' for artillery unit members, 'Craftie' for REME craftsmen, and 'Infanteer' for infantry soldiers. These nicknames reflect the unique roles and traditions of different units within the British Army, but there are many more variations used.

## 7. What was the Royal Flying Corps, and what was its role?

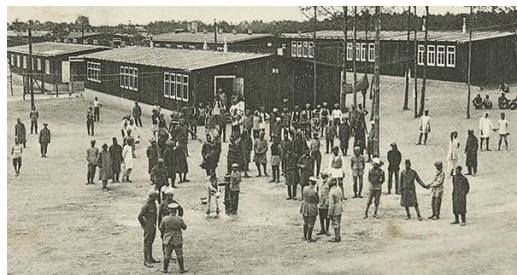
The Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was a precursor to the Royal Air Force (RAF) and was responsible for aerial warfare during World War I. Find more information on the Royal Air Force Museum's official website ([www.rafmuseum.org.uk](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk)), which offers a

dedicated section on the RFC. This section provides historical overviews, photographs, documents, and personal stories related to the RFC's operations, aircraft, and personnel during World War I. It's a treasure trove for those military ancestors in the RAF or RFC. The Imperial War Museum's site (<https://tinyurl.com/3fy9t633>) also contains valuable resources and archives related to the RFC and its contributions to aerial warfare in World War I.



## 8. What's the difference between the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy?

The Royal Navy is responsible for military operations, while the Merchant Navy handles commercial shipping. The Royal Navy and Merchant Navy produce numerous records detailing their activities and personnel. These records, including ship logs, crew lists, and service records, are essential for understanding maritime history and tracing ancestors who served at sea. For those interested in exploring these records, resources like *Tracing Your Naval Ancestors* by Simon Fowler and *Tracing Your Merchant Navy Ancestors* by Simon Wills offer practical guidance. Additionally, websites such as The National Archives Discovery (<https://tinyurl.com/3ejvmsnj>) and the Maritime History Archive (<https://mha.mun.ca/mha/>) provide access to digitised records and resources for maritime research, making it easier to delve into the rich history of your Royal Navy and Merchant Navy ancestors.



### 9. My grandfather was a Prisoner of War. How can I find out more about his experiences?

Discover resources such as POW camp records, personal diaries, and oral histories to gain insights into your grandfather's experiences during captivity. Invaluable resources include the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for POW camp records and the Imperial War Museum (IWM) for personal diaries and oral histories. NARA holds extensive collections of military records, including documents related to prisoners of war, such as rosters and reports. Meanwhile, the IWM offers firsthand accounts through personal stories on their website ([www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)), providing insights into wartime experiences, including capture and internment. Exploring these resources can help you gain a deeper understanding of your grandfather's wartime journey.

### 10. My grandfather was a GI with the US Forces in Britain. Where do I find his records?

Access military service records through official archives like the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in the United States ([www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)). Use their resources to locate your grandfather's service records.

### 11. My military ancestor died in service in WWI, where can I find out more about him?

Explore websites such as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) (<https://tinyurl.com/2p8y4ppe>) and books/online datasets like the Soldiers Died in the Great War (<https://tinyurl.com/32jxvrdn>) to research soldiers who perished during the First World War.

### 12. How do I use local newspapers to find out about the Home Guard in my home town?

Use online and offline local newspaper archives to search for articles, advertisements, and reports related to the Home Guard's activities in your town during World War II. Visit SoG or your local library to find out more about accessing these resources.

**Questions like these are answered all the time in our Armed Forces Advice Hour. Why not ask Graham Bandy your burning military questions there too?**



#### MEET GRAHAM - VIDEO INTERVIEW <https://tinyurl.com/mtscawr>

*Graham Bandy is a former British Army Officer. Having spent 7 years with the Royal Anglian Regiment and later rejoining the British Army as a Nursing Officer, Graham has extensive military experience. More recently he has worked as a military medical historian/expert for the Yesterday TV series Instruments of Death demonstrating both Great War and Napoleonic military medicine and appeared on BBC's Who Do You Think You Are. He has also shared his expertise at many county and national family history fairs, such as WDYTYA Live and Family Tree Live. Graham also gives many talks and lectures on the subject of badge and photographic identification and sits on the Heritage Committee of the QARANC Association.*

### Gold Membership

Sign up to Gold to access our Armed Forces Advice Hour, catch up on previous sessions and attend the next one live online!

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# Going for Gold in 2024

Ruth Willmore | EVENTS AND EDUCATION MANAGER

*With the Olympics taking place, we're diving into sporting records, getting the ball rolling with American research and going the distance with Stage 3 Family History Skills. Else Churchill teaches a hat trick of courses, plus we host a heavyweight DNA Summer School. All our regular members' events are ace too!*

*'Very pleased to see the wide range of specialist courses available thru SoG which I have been recommending to friends.' - Steve*

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From ag labs to Latin, London ancestors to writing your ancestors' stories, DNA to the 17th century, there is a course for everyone in the next 6 months.

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Learn to navigate the terminology, archives, newspapers, workplace and club records to connect with your athletic heritage.



**MEMBERS 20% OFF**

**Tracing your Sporting Ancestors**  
with Margaret Roberts

**Researching 17th Century Ancestors**  
with Else Churchill

*Monday 8 to Friday 12 July*

Week-long summer school with sessions afternoon and evening. Focus on how to find your earlier ancestors and flesh out your family's history.

**DNA Summer School**

*Monday 12 to Friday 16 August*

Spend a week taking your DNA research to the next level.



**Unexpected DNA Results**  
with Michelle Leonard

*Thursdays 7:30pm to 8:45pm*


*Starts 22 August - 3 weeks*

Learn key aspects required to understand unexpected DNA results from how to identify them, to how to analyse and work with your mystery DNA matches.

**Was Your Ancestor an Agricultural Labourer?**  
with expert tutors

*Saturday 31 August - full day*

Have you ever secretly thought that your agricultural labourer ancestors were a little bit boring? Find out how wrong you are!



**MEMBERS 20% OFF**

**Was Your Ancestor an Agricultural Labourer?**  
with expert tutors

### Introduction to Latin for Genealogists with Christopher Whittick

*Wednesdays 6:00pm to 7:00pm*

*Starts 4 September - 6 weeks*

Learn the basics of reading Latin. Covering verbs, nouns, numbers, adjectives, prepositions, days of the week and dates.

### Tracing London Ancestors with expert tutors

*Mondays 6:00pm to 7:30pm*

*Starts 9 September - 7 weeks*

How to make the most of the capital's diverse records and tips on tracking down those elusive London ancestors.

### Family History Skills Course Stage 3

*Saturdays 10:30am to 12:30pm*

*Starts 28 September - 12 weeks*

Take your research back before the 18th century and learn about the sources and research techniques used by professional genealogists.



### Writing Your Family History with expert tutors

*Fridays 12:30pm to 2:00pm*

*Starts 11 October - 6 weeks*

Turn your years of genealogical research into captivating stories or organised research reports.

### Wills & Probate Records in England & Wales with Else Churchill

*Mondays 6:00pm to 8:00pm*

*Starts 28 October - 6 weeks*

Learn strategies for finding and understanding wills, no matter in which court they were proved.

### NextGENERation

*Saturday 5th October - full day*

In collaboration with Family History Federation. Details to be announced. A day of Discoveries by the NextGENERation of GENEalogists.

### Sourcing Your Ancestors in England in the Long 18th Century with Else Churchill

*Weekend Study School*

*Friday 15 to Sunday 17 November*

Covering all the essential resources and techniques to help you take your family tree back into the 1700s.



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

## Online Talks

One-hour or two-hour talks on a huge range of subjects.

### July

#### *The Paris Olympics and US Independence Day*

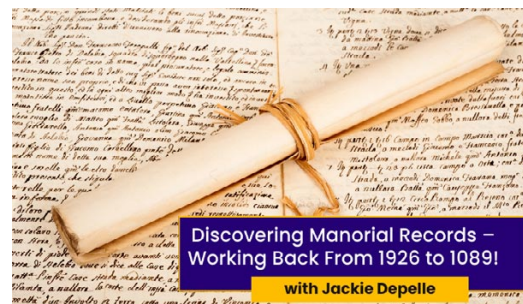
- 2nd Focus on the SoG Genealogical Treasures and Collections: Manuscript, Sheet and Roll Pedigrees | Else Churchill
- 3rd USA and Canada for British Genealogists  
Dave Obee
- 4th Lost Football Grounds of London | Rob Smith
- 5th Armed Forces Advice Hour | Graham Bandy
- 5th Introduction to Tracing Your Sporting Ancestors | Margaret Roberts
- 6th Finding British Colonial Records in The National Archives (UK) | Cathie Sherwood
- 6th Using Fact in Fiction | Nathan Dylan Goodwin
- 9th Luncheon Chat Preserving Olympic History: The British Olympic Association Archive at UEL  
Paul Dudman
- 9th Palaeography Club | Caroline Adams
- 10th Gateway to America: Navigating New York City Records | Caitlin Hollander
- 11th The Blazing World | Jon Healey
- 11th Researching Your French Ancestors with Little or No French. Yes, it is possible!  
Linda Hammond
- 11th Genealogy and the Little Ice Age  
Wayne Shephard

- 12th Team Sports | Margaret Roberts
- 13th Family Tree Maker: merging data from Ancestry & FamilySearch | Kate Keter
- 13th Mining U.S. Census Records for Family History Miles Meyer
- 15th Professional Corner: AI and Your Genealogy Business | Fiona Brooker
- 17th Wednesday Workshop: Recording Family Interviews | Mary Stewart and Cynthia Brown
- 18th Lives, Interrupted: Ten Young Officers in the Great War | Frances Hurd
- 19th Women in Sport | Margaret Roberts
- 20th 1908 London Olympics | Ian Porter
- 20th Sports Records at The National Archives Keith Mitchell
- 20th Battle of Quebec 1759 | Graham Bandy
- 22nd Book Club – The Future is Bigger than the Past
- 24th Mission France: The True History of the Women of SOE | Kate Vigurs
- 25th Tracing Your Potteries Ancestors Mike Sharpe
- 26th SoG Virtual Café
- 26th Brits in the Olympics | Margaret Roberts
- 27th Brickwall Buster Zoom
- 27th Give Your Past A Future: Unlocking the secret to sustained family engagement | Simon Davies
- 29th Book Club – The Future is Bigger than the Past Meet the Author Debbie Pledge

## August

### Countryside, Getting Out and About

- 1st Discovering Manorial Records – Working Back From 1926 to 1089! | Jackie Depelle



- 2nd Armed Forces Advice Hour | Graham Bandy
- 3rd Family Historian Software – Sources John Hanson
- 3rd History of the Postcard- A potted history & its place in social history | Gay Evans
- 7th Wednesday Workshop: Journalling Your Place | Julie Goucher
- 8th Weather Lore: Fact or Fiction | Ian Currie

- 8th Stormy Weather: events that changed our ancestors' fortunes | Wayne Shephard
- 10th An Irish Farm History | Chris Paton
- 10th Up Up and Away... a drone's eye view of our ancestors | Simon Davies
- 12th History of DNA Testing | Debbie Kennett
- 12th Why Your Traditional Family Tree Matters More Than Ever for DNA Research | Michelle Leonard
- 12th Autosomal DNA Refresher | Mia Bennett
- 12th Connecting the Dots: Exploring the Power of DNA Match Clustering | Donna Rutherford
- 13th Hunting Through Matches | Mia Bennett
- 13th Lunchtime Chat: Watch Party – Genealogy Field Trips | Else Churchill and Dave Annal
- 13th Palaeography Club | Caroline Adams
- 13th Exploring the Fatherline: Y-chromosome DNA Testing for Genealogy | Debbie Kennett
- 14th Under the Genetic Waterfall: autosomal inheritance and how to use it | Sophie Kay
- 14th A Guide To DNA Painter | Michelle Leonard
- 14th Case Study: A tale of two grandfathers Debbie Kennett
- 15th Forensic Genetic Genealogy | Debbie Kennett
- 15th Solving the Puzzle of Ancestry: Identifying an Unknown Parent Through DNA Donna Rutherford
- 15th Ancestral Spaghetti: getting started with endogamy | Sophie Kay
- 16th Time Detectives on the Telly – What on Earth Were They Thinking? | Paul McNeil
- 16th Professional Corner: Essential Finance for Professional Genealogists | Mahmood Reza
- 16th When Surprises Hit: support avenues for unexpected DNA results | Sophie Kay
- 16th Moving DNA to the Next Level | Mia Bennett
- 17th Virtual Tour: Discover Whitehaven – a Curiosity in the County of Cumberland, England Tess Pike
- 17th Historic Maps and the English Countryside Sarah Spooner
- 17th Pin Your Ancestors Down with Google Maps & Google Earth | Cyndi Ingle
- 19th Country Bumpkins at the SoG and Elsewhere Else Churchill
- 23rd SoG Virtual Cafe
- 24th The Undesirables: The Law that Locked Away a Generation | Sarah Wise

*'My first attendance at a Zoom presentation, but I can assure you it won't be my last! Excellent, thank you.' – Brian*

- 24th My Ancestor Came from Yorkshire  
John Hanson
- 29th Where Were They? Looking at WWI Trench  
Maps & Exploring on the Ground  
Graham Bandy

## September

### Back to School and City Ancestors

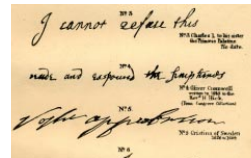
- 3rd Focus on the SoG Genealogical Treasures and  
Collections: Sources for Trades and  
Occupations | Else Churchill
- 4th Using County Archives: School Records  
Nichola Court
- 5th Beyond the Disco Lights: Culture and  
Innovation in Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Gudrun Lauret
- 6th Armed Forces Advice Hour | Graham Bandy
- 7th Heckmondwike Grammar School: An Unlikely  
History | George Hall
- 7th Bournville Unwrapped: a taste of life in a  
model suburban village | Karen Averbly
- 9th Archives of the Order of St John Ambulance TBC
- 10th Lunchtime Chat: Family History Societies  
Else Churchill
- 10th Palaeography Club | Caroline Adams
- 11th Getting the Most from the National Archives  
Mish Holman
- 12th Tutin's Grove: How one Victorian Speculative  
Builder Shaped a Nottingham Street  
Benjamin Doty
- 14th Scottish Burgh and Trade Incorporation  
Records | Chris Paton
- 14th The Letter of the Law: legislation for family  
historians | Dave Anal
- 16th English Education Records at SoG & Elsewhere  
Else Churchill
- 18th Apprenticeships before 1850 in the City,  
Borough and Parish | Alec Tritton
- 18th Wednesday Workshop: Getting to Know Your  
Ancestor | Natalie Pithers
- 19th Queen Catherine Court, Ratcliff: a turning point  
in the history of social housing in London  
Patrica Coveney Sears
- 20th Professional Corner: Freelancing -  
A Writer's Life | Chris McCooey
- 21st My Ancestor Was a Shopkeeper
- 21st Nurseries of Disaffection: Birkbeck and  
educating working people | Joanna Bourke
- 23rd Using Local Trade Directories for  
Family History | Else Churchill

- 26th The Common Lodging House | Gay Evans
- 27th SoG Michaelmas Members' Social
- 28th Validating Data | John Hanson

## October

### Crimes, Courts and Scandals

- 2nd Bigamy in 19th Century England & Wales  
Rebecca Probert
- 2nd Wednesday Workshops: Census | Mia Bennett
- 3rd Using Fashion to Date Family Photographs  
Rosemary Harden
- 4th Armed Forces Advice Hour | Graham Bandy
- 7th Professional Corner: Writing a Client Report  
Natalie Pithers
- 8th Focus on the SoG Genealogical Treasures and  
Collections: Sources for the legal profession  
Else Churchill
- 8th Palaeography Club | Caroline Adams



- 9th The Boy in the Painting: Marcus Thomas,  
b.1768, d.1816 | Alice Millard
- 10th Brickwall Buster Zoom
- 10th Black British Family History Research  
Penny Walters
- 12th Family Historian Software - reports  
John Hanson
- 12th Family Tree Maker: Charts & Reports  
Kate Keter
- 15th Lunchtime Chat: Criminals, Ne'er Do Wells and  
Rogue Ancestors? | Else Churchill
- 17th My Ancestor Was a Coalminer | Jill Clapham
- 19th Officers and Gentlemen? Facing Disgrace in a  
1920s Courtroom | Frances Hurd
- 19th The Good, the Bad and the Ugly | Sue Swalwell
- 19th The History and Development of Civil and  
Criminal Courts | Sarah Pettyfer
- 24th "Dismissed" the Misdemeanours and Sacking  
of Three Victorian Housekeepers | Judy Hill
- 24th Regicide in the Family: Finding John Dixwell  
Dixie Brown
- 25th SoG Virtual Café
- 26th There Are No Criminals in My Family  
Penny Walters
- 26th Convicts Galore | Hilary Blanford
- 26th The Ultimate Black Sheep | Karen Evans
- 26th The Last English Peer Hanged for Murder  
Gay Evans

- 28th **The Arcane, Bizarre and Darn Right Witchy!**  
Kirstie Bingham
- 29th **Grave Robbers** | Steve Bacon
- 29th **Virtual Tour of Kensal Green Cemetery**  
Henry Vivian-Neal
- 30th **The Devil's Daughter and Me** | Ben Nicholls
- 31st **The Witchcraft Persecution - Why Most Things You Think You Know Are Wrong**  
Wanda Wyporksa



- 31st **Scary Things from The British Museum Collection** | Rob Smith

## November

### Remembrance: war and death records

- 1st **Armed Forces Advice Hour** | Graham Bandy
- 2nd **Getting the Most from the 1939 Register**  
John Hanson
- 2nd **Beyond the 1939 Register: Additional Records of National Registration (1939-1991)** | Richard Holt
- 2nd **British Civilian POWs in the First World War**  
Chris Paton
- 5th **Focus on the SoG Genealogical Treasures and Collections: Sources for the armed services** | Else Churchill
- 6th **Wednesday Workshop: Autosomal DNA Matchbuster** Debbie Kennett
- 7th **Virtual Tour Historic Soho** | Diane Burstein
- 7th **Who Should I Subscribe To?** | Natalie Pithers
- 7th **Buried Deep but Not Lost Forever: Discovering your Ancestor's final resting place**  
Linda Hammond
- 7th **Getting the Most From Find a Grave**  
Laurel Smith
- 9th **Getting the Most from Commonwealth War Graves Commission Resources** | Jane Barton
- 9th **My Ancestor Was a Fisherman** | Martin Wilcox
- 12th **Lunchtime Chat: Where There's a Will, There Is a Genealogist!** | Else Churchill
- 12th **Palaeography Club** | Caroline Adams
- 13th **The Dead on the Margins** | Anna Cusak
- 14th **Family Tree Maker: Sources** | Kate Keter
- 16th **Uncovering the Lives of Lodgers, Landlords and Landladies in Georgian London**  
Gillian Williamson
- 21st **Virtual Tour Totteridge** | Paul Baker

- 22nd **Professional Corner: The Art of Earning More per Hour: A Genealogist's Guide**  
Mike Cole
- 22nd **SoG Virtual Cafe**
- 23rd **Suffolk on the Home Front: the effect of the First World War on the county's people**  
Sarah Doig
- 23rd **Making Genealogy Accessible** | Sophie Kay
- 28th **The Victorian Funeral** | Brian Parsons
- 30th **Getting the Most from Scottish Indexes**  
Emma Maxwell
- 30th **Scottish Research: A Case Study from Cradle to Grave** | Lorna Kinnaird
- 30th **Death and Taxes: understanding the death duty registers** | Dave Annal

*'I love your Gold Membership courses etc. Great value for money.'* - Gillian

## December

### Birth records

- 3rd **Focus on the SoG Genealogical Treasures and Collections: Monumental Inscriptions and Memorials** | Else Churchill
- 4th **Wednesday Workshop: What is it? A Quiz.**  
Gay Evans
- 5th **Virtual Tour: Christmas in Georgian London**  
Rob Smith
- 6th **Professional Corner: Juggling a Genealogy Business and Life** | Rachel Stakes
- 6th **Armed Forces Advice Hour** | Graham Bandy
- 7th **Illegitimacy in England and Wales, 1837-1960: birth registers and beyond** | Rebecca Probert
- 7th **Dr Williams' Library: an early nonconformist birth registry** | Dave Annal
- 7th **Aspects of Adoption** | Penny Walters
- 9th **Birth & Baptism Records at SoG & Elsewhere**  
Else Churchill
- 10th **Lunchtime Chat: What Did Your Ancestors Do at Christmas?** | Else Churchill
- 10th **Palaeography Club** | Caroline Adams
- 11th **Victorian and Early 20th Century Baby Farmers**  
Eve Bacon
- 12th **Beyond the Birth Certificate** | Julie Goucher
- 13th **SoG Christmas Members' Social**
- 13th **Forgotten Festive Fare** | Paul Couchman
- 14th **Cribs, Cards and Christingles - The Origins of Christmas Traditions and Customs**  
Mark Lewis
- 14th **Bringing Home the Bacon** | Sophie Kay



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# THE JONES PRINTING DYNASTY

## THE WORTHY AND THE UNWORTHY; THE TRANSLATOR AND AUTHORESS; AND 'GOODY TWO SHOES'

*Melanie Winterbotham*

Having tracked my Huguenot line in London as much as I could, I looked for other children of the earliest couple: Louis/Lewis Gilles (c.1684-1769), whom one can imagine arriving soon after the Revocation of Nantes in 1685 as a babe-in-arms from the Normandy town of Bolbec,<sup>1</sup> and Marie Deliot (c.1692-c.1767, provenance unknown). They married in 1714 at St Martin-in-the-Fields and seemed happy to use any church that was convenient. Only four children have been identified: Jeanne (aka Jane) was baptised in 1718 at the Tabernacle, Milk Alley; Jacques (aka James) in 1721; Marguerite in 1723 at Savoy - les Grecs; and Lewis in 1728 at St Giles-in-the-Fields. Jacques/James was buried in 1724 at St Martin-in-the-Fields and Marguerite must have died young.

Lewis junior (my ancestor) prospered, first as a tailor in Litchfield Street and latterly through a second marriage as a lace maker in Long Acre. He and his sister also benefited from legacies from Deliot relatives. Two of his grandsons, Osmond and Lewis William Gilles emigrated to Australia where they developed lucrative mining and banking interests. They can be found in the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

However, the eldest child Jane (Jeanne, 1718-c.1774) proved even more interesting - and challenging at first, as all we knew was that she married a Griffith Jones at St Giles-in-the-Fields in 1745. Searching for a Jane Jones suggested needle in haystack territory; however, with assiduous checking of records, my cousins and I established that this Griffith Jones was recorded in the *Dictionary of National Biography* and other sources on printing. We were thus able to piece Jane's and Griffith's life and family together.

Jane had married into a printing and publishing dynasty, and she herself was no mere housewife. Griffith Jones (1720-1786) and his brother Giles Jones (c.1715-1799) had both been apprenticed to the Stationers' Company.<sup>2</sup> While Giles's main occupation was Secretary to the York Buildings Waterworks, which pumped water from the Thames into reservoirs for domestic use, he also dabbled in writing and publishing. Griffith on the other hand ran a considerable printing and publishing business, which included translations from French works.

Griffith and Jane started out in Long Acre, but had soon moved to Bolt Court off Fleet Street, already the centre of the printing trade, where their neighbours included Samuel Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith. A short letter survives from Johnson who valued Griffith's skill:

"You are accustomed to consider advertisements and to observe what stile has most effect upon the publick. [please] take the trouble of digging twelve lines of common sense out of this strange scribble, and insert it ... in the daily Advertiser ... *Sam Johnson*"<sup>3</sup>

Griffith became editor of the *London Chronicle*, *Daily Advertiser*, and *Public Ledger*, and was connected with Dr Johnson's *Literary Magazine*, and with Smollett and Goldsmith in the *British Magazine*.<sup>4</sup>

### **Anonymous translator and author unveiled?**

A biographer (John Nichols) wrote that with his brother Giles and the children's publisher John Newbery, he was co-author of the 'Lilliputian' histories of *Goody Two Shoes*, *Giles Gingerbread*, *Tommy Trip* and others, and "his translations from the French were very numerous; but as he rarely, if ever, put his name to the productions of his pen, they cannot now be traced."<sup>5</sup>

It was not unusual for works to be published anonymously in the 18th century, but I suggest that the Joneses had good reason not to disclose the authorship. *Goody Two Shoes* is still in print, and is these days also attributed to Oliver Goldsmith - who better for the Joneses to consult on a new work? - but surely the original author was Jane. Jane must have been doing the translations from the French. Would a London tradesman have learnt enough French or even have the time for such a task? So Jane had a literary bent and good experience. I have no doubt she is one of so many unsung talented women of her time.

Of Griffith (and surely of Jane), John Nichols wrote:

“The native goodness of his heart endeared him to a numerous and respectable literary acquaintance ... His modesty shrunk from public attention, but his labours were frequently directed to the improvement of the younger and more untutored classes of mankind.”<sup>6</sup>

### **The Dynasty continues - with both flair and flaw**

The publishing business continued into the next two generations, but not all the family earned glowing epitaphs. Giles's son John Jones (1768-1851) became an author, and editor of the *Naval Chronicle* and the *European Magazine*, and in turn his son John Winter Jones (1805-1881) became an editor and translator and the Principal Librarian of the British Museum.

Giles's eldest son Stephen Jones (1763-1827) had a more chequered career. Having attended St Paul's school, he started as an apprentice to a sculptor, but rejected this for a training with a printer, and was close to his uncle Griffith, being married to the latter's daughter Christian until her early death in 1790. Stephen became editor of the *Whitehall Evening Post*; then part proprietor of the *General Evening Post*, before it merged with the *St. James's Chronicle*. From 1797 to 1814 he compiled from newspapers and other periodicals an amusing annual volume entitled *The Spirit of the Public Journals*. In 1807, he became editor of the *European Magazine*, and for some years ran the *Freemasons' Magazine*. His membership of the Freemasons contributed to his downfall: it was said that evenings at the lodge and other convivial parties undermined his health, and he lost nearly all his literary work.<sup>7</sup>

To return to Griffith and Jane, they had three sons who followed them into the trade, with varying success. The elder two, Lewis and Griffith, attended St Paul's School before starting their apprenticeship at the age of fifteen.

Griffith Jones (1757-1833) received a musical training under Charles Frederick Baumgarten, but claimed membership of the Stationers' Company by patrimony. He ran a bookselling and printing business, which was listed from 1812-1830 at 17 Ave Maria Lane; with his cousin Stephen he published volumes of John Wilkes's *Encyclopaedia Londinensis* in which he wrote the articles on music. Publishing probably paid the bills, but music was his first love and he played and sang at Covent Garden, as well as performing elsewhere. He was recommended for membership of the Royal Society of Musicians in 1779.<sup>8</sup> On 6 October 1787, at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, the marriage took place of “Mr. Griffith Jones, of the orchestra at Covent-garden Theatre, to Miss Laidlaw”<sup>9</sup> This was Elizabeth Laidlaw, with whom he had two children, just their daughter surviving; Griffith later lived with a woman named Sarah and had five more children, the youngest of whom became a printer compositor. His other sons and a son-in-law went into medicine and dentistry, and are not relevant to this article, but what accounts there are suggest a streak of eccentricity and poor financial management in the family.

Jane and Griffith's last child Joseph Jones (1761-1838) was apprenticed to William Baker of the Stationers' Company in 1775 and was described as a printer of Little Britain in his will.

### **The ‘black sheep’ and the Founding Father**

It is the life of Griffith and Jane's first son Lewis Jones (c.1746-1806) that astonishes most. As he disappeared from English records, I had assumed he had probably died in infancy until I spotted a reference to his father Griffith in the ‘Founders Online’ section of the U.S. National Archives.<sup>10</sup>

Lewis was apprenticed at the age of 15 to a fellow stationer John Emonson, but got in with a bad crowd, and it was suggested he be sent to America, away from the temptations of London. On the recommendation of a mutual friend, Griffith wrote to



an editor and printer Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia, seeking an apprenticeship for Lewis, informing him that Lewis had “from his Infancy been brought up in the Principles and Practice of Religion; but having had from the very Beginning of his Apprenticeship too much Liberty to go out after the Business of the Day was over (an Indulgence of a very pernicious Nature for Youth in this vice-abounding Metropolis) he began to contract an Acquaintance with Boys of the like Age and Situation with himself, and to go with them to Places of Entertainment.” He writes with optimism countered with realism “he is now capable of earning his Bread, having served two Years of his Time, and can work well. He has learnt Latin and a little Greek; can speak French fluently, and translate it as well as most of his Years. His Behaviour so far as I have ever seen or heard is orderly and obliging. But as Boys of his Age have seldom Resolution to withstand Temptation, I should esteem it as a great Favour, if you would give Instructions to the Person whom you shall think proper to place him under, that he may [be] kept closely to work, and not suffer’d to ramble out after the Hours of Business; but employ himself at Leisure Times in improving himself in French, Latin, &c.”<sup>11</sup>

Franklin found him a master, James Parker in Woodbridge, New Jersey, who also paid Lewis’s passage to America<sup>12</sup>. Parker was a kindly master, but in 1766 he was lamenting to Franklin that Lewis Jones had:

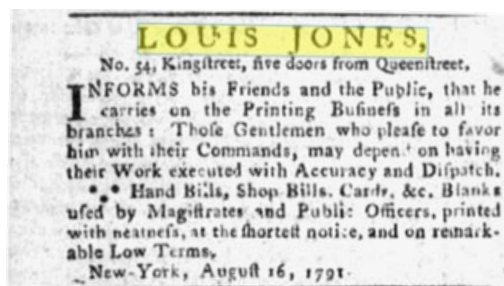
“left me, and got among the Soldiers, and I hear is listed for a Drummer ... I don’t know any Difference we have had and I was preparing to get him Cloaths, &c. only some Months ago, I two or three Times miss’d some small Matters, and I had Room to suspect him; therefore catechised him about, and remonstrated to him the Evil Consequences that would follow such a Conduct; but I did never strike him: It seems he told my other Lad, he never liked the Business, that he was forced in it, and he would not follow it ... He loves Drink rather too much ... he is lost to Goodness and Virtue: and I have lost the Money and Service due to me.”<sup>13</sup>

Just a month later, there is news that Lewis had found the army rather less congenial than his apprenticeship and asked his master to take him back.<sup>14</sup> The kindly Parker agreed, and Lewis completed his term, but left immediately for a

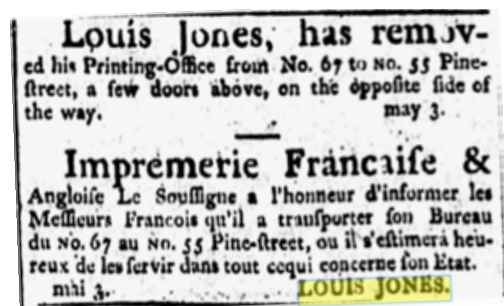
newspaper publisher<sup>15</sup> and got married to a Mary Bennett who Parker considered to be “of the poorer sort”.<sup>16</sup> Contract ended, Parker should now have peace from Lewis, but this was not to be.

Six months later, Parker had “melancholy” news for Franklin: Lewis had been caught counterfeiting theatre tickets (and had the gall to falsely lay the blame on Parker’s absent son), but was then arrested for uttering counterfeit Jersey Bills and sent for trial on three indictments, risking a certain death penalty if found guilty. Despite being very ill at the time, Parker was called upon by Lewis’s friends as a character witness. He was more concerned for Lewis’s parents than for the man himself and obviously gave a good impression, for Lewis was acquitted.<sup>17</sup> We also learn from the letters that poor Parker had had trouble with his own son and sent him to England where he had been treated with kindness by Griffith and Jane!

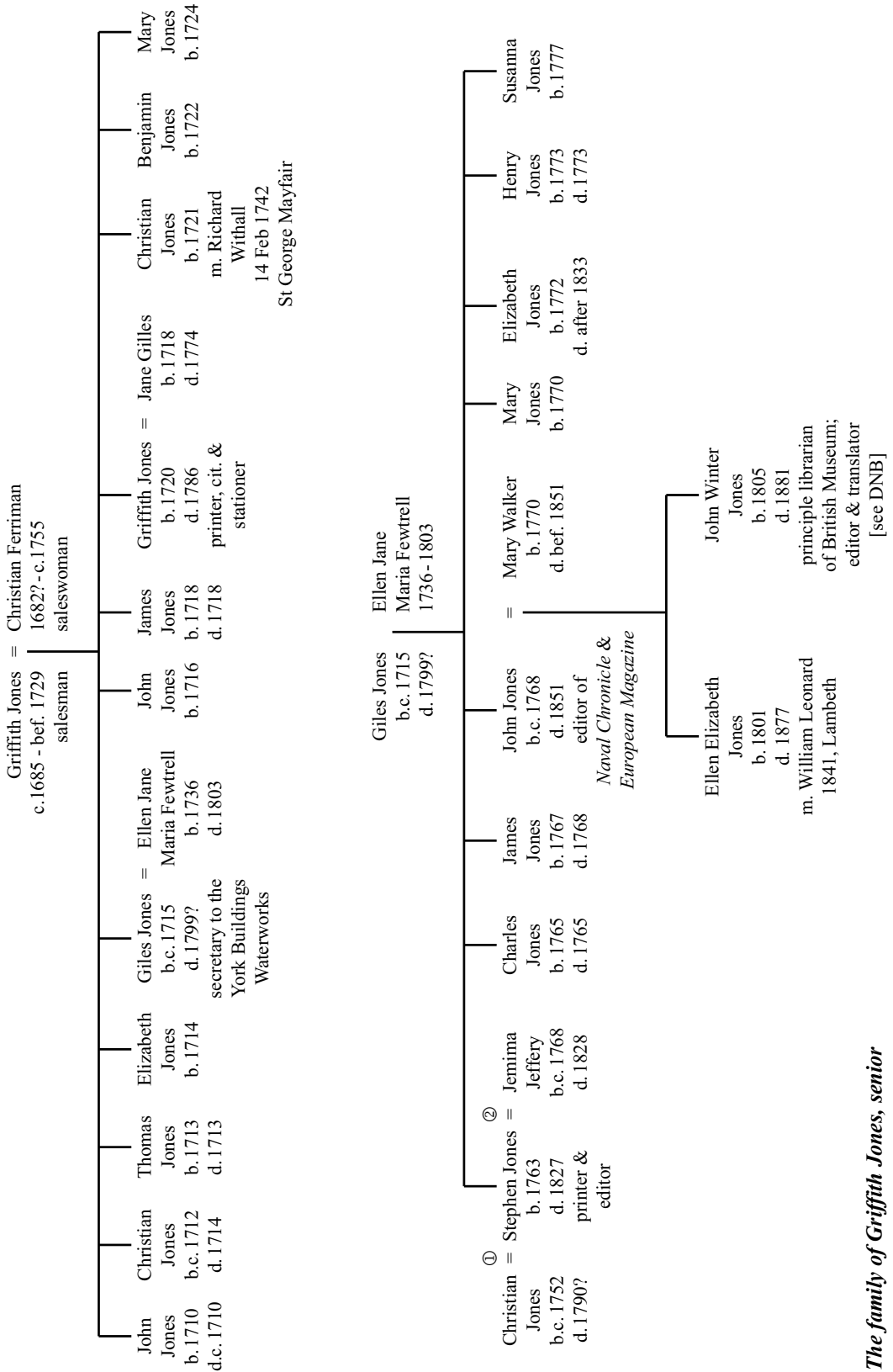
Parker even helped Lewis financially to leave for a post in South Carolina. By 1778 Lewis was back in New York, but struggled to keep his family of at least seven children (an eighth had died). He changed his name to the more exotic ‘Louis’ and offered translations as well as all sorts of printing.



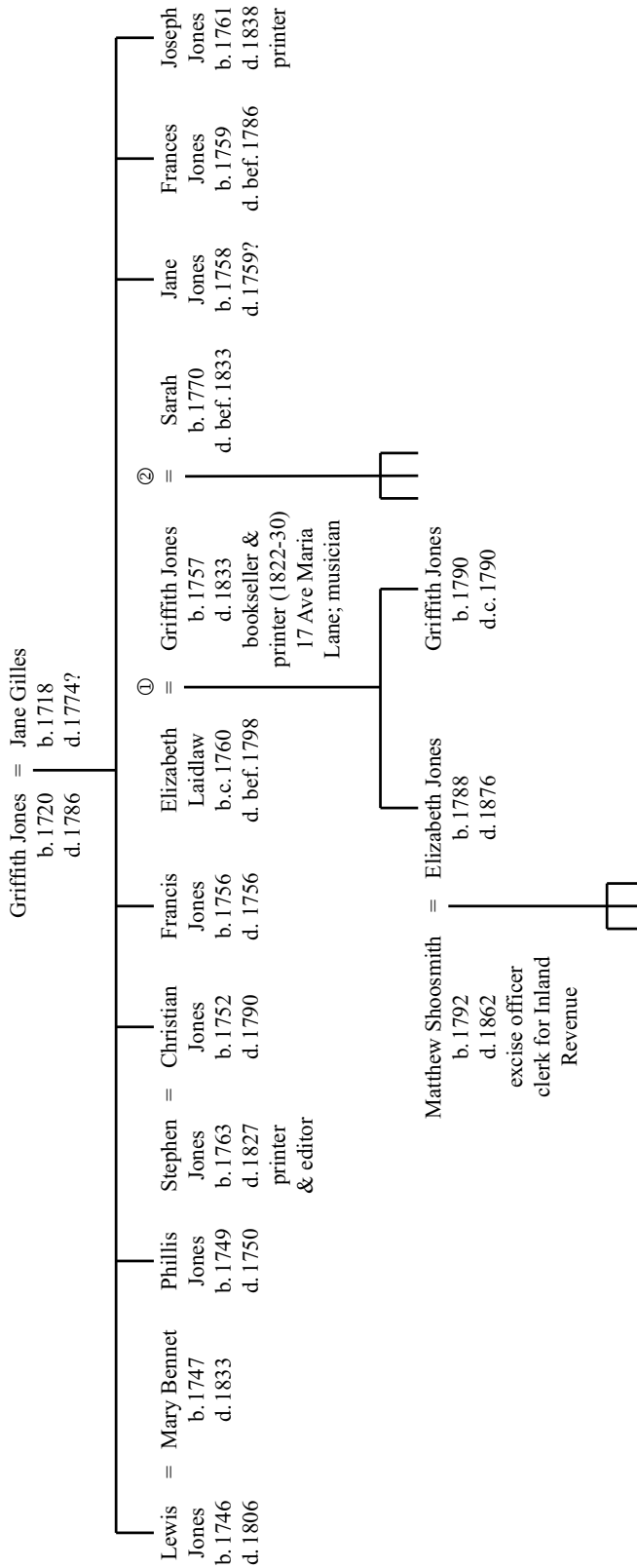
*New York Daily Gazette 16 Aug 1791*



*New York Gazette 3 May 1799*



*The family of Griffith Jones, senior*



*The family of Griffith Jones junior*

In 1786, while still a journeyman, but essentially running the *New York Morning Post*, Lewis had the audacity to write a fawning letter to the then President of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, requesting his assistance in finding a better post, for “It has pleased the benign Disposer of all Good to bless me with a healthy constitution, which I have preserved by temperance.”[!] Ever chasing trouble, Lewis had “the conducting and management of a Daily Paper here, called the *New York Morning Post*, whose unfortunate Proprietor is in confinement in the common gaol for printing an obscene pamphlet called *The Philosophical Theresa*; his sentence was a fine of 100 Dollars and six months imprisonment, which does not expire till the 17th of March next.”<sup>18</sup> This pornographic book *Thérèse Philosophe* by Jean-Baptiste de Boyer d’Argens was originally published in France in 1748 and translated into English a few years later. One wonders whether Lewis was asked to make any amendments to the translation.

Franklin’s response can be imagined, but Lewis should have received some money either at his father’s death in 1786 or that of his sister Christian in 1790. At any rate, he is listed as a printer in New York directories from 1787, and from 1805 until his death in 1806 was publisher and part proprietor of the *New York Morning Chronicle*.

Lewis’s son and namesake published the *New York Daily Advertiser* for a short while before his early death in 1809.

Thus ended the American branch of the Jones dynasty, which had survived through loyal networks rather than good character or judgement.

## Notes

1. Lewis Gilles applied for naturalisation by an act in the House of Lords in 1767 (7 Geo. 3) c. 43P and named his parents as Jean & Marie and his birthplace Bolbec in Normandy.
2. Giles Jones to Daniel Farmer on 3 Feb 1729/30; Griffith to William Bowyer 7 May 1734.
3. *The Letters of Samuel Johnson*, vol. V, ed .Bruce Redford, Clarendon Press Oxford 1994, p.8.
4. Dictionary of National Biography.
5. *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, Comprizing Biographical Memoirs of William Bowyer, Printer, F.S.A., and Many of His Learned Friends; an Incidental View of the Progress and Advancement of Literature in this Kingdom During the Last Century; and Biographical Anecdotes of a Considerable Number of Eminent Writers and Ingenious Artists; with a Very Copious Index - John Nichols, 1812.
6. *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, *ibid*.
7. [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Jones,\\_Stephen\\_\(DNB00\)](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Jones,_Stephen_(DNB00)) (accessed 24 May 2020).
8. Graeme Skinner (University of Sydney), “Readings in early colonial music”, Australharmony (an online resource toward the early history of music in colonial Australia): <https://sydney.edu.au/paradisec/australharmony/readings-1.php>; (accessed 5 November 2023).
9. *The Gentleman’s Magazine* (October 1787), 934, cited in Graeme Skinner, *ibid*.
10. <https://founders.archives.gov/>.
11. to Benjamin Franklin from Griffith Jones, 6 October 1763.
12. to James Parker in Woodbridge, New Jersey, 1763.
13. to Benjamin Franklin from James Parker, 25 October 1766.
14. to Benjamin Franklin from James Parker, 11 November 1766.
15. to Benjamin Franklin from James Parker, 29 March 1769.
16. to Benjamin Franklin from James Parker, 23-24 April 1770.
17. to Benjamin Franklin from James Parker, 23-24 April 1770.
18. from Louis Jones, New York Feb. 12, 1786.

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# IMPROVEMENTS TO PARISH REGISTERS INITIATED BY DAINES AND SHUTE BARRINGTON

*John Wintrip*

Genealogists researching their Northumberland and Durham ancestors before civil registration are often able to make progress that would be impossible elsewhere as a result of the innovative system of parochial registration introduced in 1798 by the bishop of Durham, Shute Barrington (1734-1826), who served successively as bishop of Llandaff from 1769 to 1782, Salisbury from 1782 to 1791, and Durham from 1791 until his death. However, it is evident that his interest in the improvement of parish registers had developed much earlier, as in 1781 while at Llandaff he recommended the adoption of the more detailed forms of entry that had just appeared in a new type of printed register devised by his elder brother Daines Barrington (1727-1800), a judge and antiquary. This article outlines the contribution of the two Barrington brothers to the improvement of parish registers in the late eighteenth century.



*Shute Barrington (1734-1826)*

## The Proposed Form

In 1781, a London printer, John Nichols, began selling printed baptism and burial registers, entitled *Proposed Form of Register for Baptisms*,<sup>1</sup> and *Proposed Form of Register for Burials*.<sup>2</sup> Both registers included an identical preface, which outlined the historical legislation relating to parish registers and included recommendations regarding churchyards. The rationale for these new registers was explained as follows:

‘Parish registers are not yet kept as they should be, which seems to arise from the following causes.

The form of the book for this purpose hath hitherto been generally not above four inches wide, in which there were no proper columns for separating the entries as to births, marriages, and burials: besides which, the book was often paged with parchment, on which material few can write distinctly.

The next objection to this same book was, that it



*Daines Barrington (1727-1800) c.1770 portrait.*

contained so many leaves, so that it was worn, or much thumbed and effaced, before it was written out. It is supposed, that the present form of a register will not be liable to any of these defects, as the pages are considerably wider, and the material good paper for writing; nor will it consist of more than 100 pages, whilst there are different books for baptisms and burials, from want of which separation great confusion in the entries hath frequently been occasioned.'

The following pages were divided into columns, with examples of entries at the top of the first page of each type of register, as shown in figs. 1 and 2. Baptism entries were to include the age at baptism, the father's occupation, and the mother's maiden name, none of which were routinely recorded at that time. Burial entries were to include the occupation of the deceased person, the name of their parents, the age, the supposed cause of death, and the place of burial. The column headings do not seem to have been based on any system of registration already in use elsewhere, although the details to be recorded in the last three columns of

the burial register, which had rarely been recorded previously, were also a feature of the Dade system that had been officially adopted in the dioceses of York and Chester in 1777 and 1778 respectively.

As indicated on the cover, *Proposed Form* registers were 'Printed by and for J. Nichols' in London, and 'Sold also by Mr. Collins at Salisbury'. Although there was no attribution of authorship, an oblique reference to the identity of the originator appeared in an advertisement in the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* dated 1 July 1782. This listed publications available from Collins and Johnson in Salisbury, and included 'A new and improved PLAN, by the Hon. D—— B——, for registering BAPTISMS and BURIALS'.<sup>3</sup> Only the sons and daughters of barons and viscounts are styled with the prefix 'The Honourable', and this limitation, corroborated by other evidence, leads to only one possible candidate, the judge and antiquary Daines Barrington. Daines and his younger brother Shute were both sons of John Barrington, 1st Viscount Barrington (1678-1734), who had been born John

B A P T I S M S.			
Date.	Aged.	Name of the Child.	Names of the Father and Mother.
1781. May the 4th	— Days.	John Smith, Son of	John Smith, Labourer, and Mary his Wife, formerly Mary Evans.

Fig. 1 - Column headings in the Proposed Form of Register for Baptisms

B U R I A L S.					
Date	Name of the Deceased.	Names of the Father and Mother.	Aged.	Supposed Cause of Death.	Where buried.
1781. May the 10th	John Smith of this Parish, Labourer,	Son of John and Mary Smith, formerly Mary Evans.	— Years.	Small-pox.	On the — Side of the Church-yard.

Fig. 2 - Column headings in the Proposed Form of Register for Burials

Shute, but changed his surname to Barrington after inheriting property from a distant relative of that name. He married Anne Daines in 1713, and their eldest son, William, became 2nd Viscount in 1734. The family seat lay within the parish of Shrivenham in Berkshire (now in Oxfordshire), and it seems that Daines, who remained a bachelor, was actively involved in the life of this parish, as the new *Proposed Form* register introduced there in 1782 includes annotations in his hand.

A complimentary review of the *Proposed Form* appeared in *The Gentleman's Magazine* shortly after its publication, which recommended its widespread adoption.<sup>4</sup> Another favourable review appeared in the *Critical Review*.<sup>5</sup> However, it seems likely that more extensive adoption of *Proposed Form* registers was curtailed by the imposition of Stamp Duty in 1783, which resulted in other types of printed baptism and burial register becoming available.

The first mention that has been found in a published genealogical source of a parish in which *Proposed Form* registers were used is a transcript of the parish registers of Milton Ernest in Bedfordshire, published in 1935, in which it was noted that 'for the end of the 18th century Milton has two volumes of a type rarely found'.<sup>6</sup> In an article on Welsh parish registers, published in 1976, it was reported that *Proposed Form* baptism and burial registers had been used at Hubberston in Pembrokeshire from 1783 until 1812. It was also noted that 'few printed registers of this pattern appear to have been used but there are a number of manuscript registers with entries made according to a similar pattern in the diocese of Llandaff'.<sup>7</sup> A note from the register of Pen-marc, Glamorganshire, was quoted, which explained why this pattern had been adopted:

New Method of registering, recommended by The Honorable & Right Reverend Father in God Shute, by Divine Permission, Lord Bishop of Landaff, at his fourth triennial visitation held at Landaff June 28th 1781.

It therefore seems that Daines's younger brother, Shute, had recommended the adoption of the forms of entry set out in the *Proposed Form*, which had only just been published, at his episcopal visitation of 1781. Although it is clear that Shute had become

aware of the need to improve parish registers by this point, no evidence of his involvement in the development of these new forms of entry has been found. No further attempts were made to improve parish registers in the diocese of Llandaff, as Shute was translated to Salisbury the following year. The new forms of entry at Pen-marc, which had only been used for burials, were abandoned in 1782.

*Proposed Form* registers were adopted in a small number of parishes scattered throughout the country, but mainly in the southern half of England, as specific instructions regarding the details to be recorded in parish registers had already been issued in the northern dioceses of Carlisle (1771), York (1777) and Chester (1778). In 1981, Trevor Falla, an archivist who was interested in the reasons for the increased interest in improving parochial registration towards the end of the 18th century, and who had requested information from several county archivists, reported that 'examples of the *Proposed Form* are scattered widely but thinly over the country, from Pembroke to Essex, and Devon to Nottinghamshire'.<sup>8</sup> Unfortunately Falla's research remained uncompleted and his findings unpublished as a result of his untimely death.

*Proposed Form* registers were adopted more widely in the diocese of Salisbury than elsewhere. Eighteen parishes in Wiltshire in which they were used have been identified,<sup>9</sup> with their availability from a printer in Salisbury likely to have been the major contributory factor. Although no similar list has been compiled for Berkshire, which also lay in the diocese of Salisbury at that time, this type of register has been found at Shrivenham and several other parishes in the Vale of White Horse, formerly in Berkshire but now in Oxfordshire. It would therefore seem that Daines promoted the use of the registers he had designed in the parishes surrounding his home.

Other parishes in which the use of *Proposed Form* registers has been noted include Aston in Warwickshire, Bix and Somerton in Oxfordshire, Salehurst in Sussex, St Nicholas, Deptford, in Kent, Hemyock and Membury in Devon, Winterborne Houghton and Winterborne Whitechurch in Dorset, Mansel Lacy in Herefordshire, Nannerch and Overton in Flintshire and Llangathen in Carmarthenshire. There is an obvious connection

with Daines Barrington in the case of Mansel Lacy, as his sister Sarah had married Robert Price, a major landowner in the parish, so the writer of the note: 'The different form of Register now given to the Parish of Mancell Lacy by William Price Esqr', on the memoranda page at the end of the volume, was almost certainly Daines's nephew.<sup>10</sup> The registers used at Membury (baptisms from 1802 to 1812 and burials from 1807 to 1812) were printed locally by J. Spurway of Honiton. Apart from a change in title to *A Register of Baptisms* and *A Register of Burials*, these were facsimiles of the original version produced by Nichols, and included an identical preface.

The entries that were made in *Proposed Form* registers did not necessarily conform to the example forms provided, and even when they were followed initially, reversion to less detailed entries often occurred as time went on. For example, the practice of recording the mother's maiden name in baptism entries was discontinued in 1786 at Milton Ernest. Some *Proposed Form* registers that had been filled up before 1813 were subsequently replaced by conventional registers comprising blank pages. It therefore seems likely that the majority of parishes that acquired registers of this type did so because they needed new registers and these were available, rather than because they wished to adopt the more detailed forms of entry recommended.

### Shute Barrington's system of parochial registration

Shute Barrington assumed his new role as bishop of Salisbury in August 1782, by which time *Proposed Form* registers were already in use in several parishes in the diocese. Although he does not seem to have encouraged the further adoption of this type of register, the improvement of parochial registration was clearly an issue of continuing concern. In a letter sent to clergy following his visitation in 1789 he made several comments about the deficiencies of parish registers and the desirability of recording more details than hitherto, concluding with the words:

Real and extensive benefits would, in my coolest judgment, result from the introduction of a better form of register than that at present in common use. Ascertaining claims of property, especially maternal property, and the investigation of lineal and collateral

descents, would be among those benefits. But whatever my own sentiments on this subject may be, I shall readily acquiesce in that collective opinion which I so lately requested you to give.<sup>11</sup>

This implies that his proposals had been explained at the visitation, to which clergy had been asked to respond. Although no relevant documents have been identified in the diocesan records by the present author, Falla had reported that following the visitation, relevant instructions had been noted in the parish register of Cholsey in Berkshire. The annotation appears as follows:

Jul 16 Bishop's triennial visitation

At the Request of the right Revd. the Bishop of Sarum the following mode of registering Baptisms has been adopted.<sup>12</sup>

Subsequent baptism entries are virtually identical to those introduced in the diocese of Durham in 1798, and include the date of birth, the child's seniority (birth order), the mother's maiden name, and the place of birth of both parents. A similar annotation was made in the burial register, with subsequent entries also very similar to those later introduced at Durham. These forms of entry were continued at Cholsey until 1793, when the practice was abandoned.

Entries similar to those at Cholsey have also been identified in the registers of a small number of other parishes in the diocese of Salisbury, and it may be more than coincidental that all these parishes lay in eastern Berkshire. Visitations, which in the diocese of Salisbury took place over a period of about three weeks, usually followed a standard itinerary. The visitation of 1783 took place sequentially at Windsor, Reading, Newbury, Wallingford, Abingdon, Farringdon, Swindon, Marlborough, Malmesbury, Chippenham, Devizes, Bradford-on-Avon, Warminster, Salisbury, Ludgershall, Hungerford and Wantage,<sup>13</sup> and it is likely that the 1789 visitation followed a similar if not identical route. It is possible that the purpose of a document outlining the proposed forms of entry, issued only with the intention of soliciting the opinions of clergy, had been misunderstood at the earlier visitation locations, perhaps by the diocesan official responsible for its distribution. Whatever the explanation, Shute was translated to Durham two years later, and his



successor appears to have taken no further interest in the improvement of parish registers. Nonetheless, 'Barrington' forms of entry continued to be followed in a handful of parishes in eastern Berkshire for several years, and in an even smaller number of cases, such as at Bray, until the end of 1812.

Although Shute had first recommended the use of forms of entry set out in the *Proposed Form*, and is also likely to have been aware of the systems of enhanced parochial registration adopted in some other dioceses, the new forms of entry he introduced himself were both unique and innovative, achieving a fine balance between the ability of informants to provide the details being asked for and the usefulness for posterity of the information being recorded. A particular innovation, not found in other systems of parochial registration, involved recording the 'nativity' or place of birth of both parents in baptism entries. This was not only more concise and practicable than attempting to record 'descent', as in the elaborate system of registration devised by William Dade, but was also particularly apposite in

the late eighteenth century, when the population was increasing and becoming more mobile.

Shute was translated to the diocese of Durham in 1791, which at that time covered most of Co. Durham and Northumberland, but his instructions regarding parish registers were not issued to clergy until his visitation of 1797. It is possible that he had referred to his intention to improve parochial registration at an earlier stage, as the mother's maiden name began to be recorded in the baptism registers of a handful of parishes in the diocese several years before 1798. However, this could simply have been the result of a small number of clergy, who had become aware of the improved forms of entry that had already been introduced in neighbouring dioceses, introducing similar improvements of their own accord.

Copies of the bishop's letter, and detailed schedules of examples of the new forms of baptism and burial entry, have been preserved in a number of Northumberland and Durham parish registers, and are reproduced in figs. 3-5. The bishop's letter,

AUCKLAND CASTLE, September 30th, 1797.

REVEREND SIR,

*HAVING explained to my Clergy, at the late Visitation, the Motives which induced me to recommend an improved Form of Parochial Registers, nothing further is requisite on my Part, but supplying the Forms. They accompany this Letter. I wish them to be inserted in your present Register Books unless nearly filled; in which Case, new Register Books should be procured; and the Use of the new Forms to commence on January 1st, 1798.*

*To preserve the Forms and to transmit them to your Successors, as well as to ascertain the Mode of introducing them into the Register Books, it may be advisable to paste the Forms themselves, together with this Letter, either in the Beginning or the End of the Register Books.*

*To give Authenticity to Registers it is necessary that the Bottom of each Page be signed by the officiating Minister and the Church Wardens.*

*I am, Reverend Sir, with much Regard,*

*your sincere Friend and Brother,*

*S. Dunelm.*

Fig. 3 - Representation of Shute Barrington's letter of 1797

## MODE OF REGISTRING BAPTISMS.

REGISTER of BAPTISMS, in the Parish (or Chapelry) of A \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year, 1798.

NAME.	BIRTH.	BAPTISM.	CHILD.	NAMES OF THE PARENTS.
William Jones	June 28th	June 30th	1st Son of	William Jones, *Esquire, †Native of this Parish, by his wife Ann Stephens, Native of this Parish.
Thomas James	June 10th	July 2d	3d Son of	Robert James, *Surgeon, Native of Bishop Auckland, by his Wife Mary Evans, Native of Yarm, Yorkshire.
Margaret Davis	June 15th	July 12th	2d Daughter of	David Davis, *Blacksmith, Native of this Parish, by his Wife Jane Powell, Daughter of ‡Joseph Powell, Native of Penrith in Cum- land, Relict of George Green of this Parish.
Sarah Smith,	July 21st	July 28th	4th Daughter of	John Smith, Farmer, Native of Newark upon Trent, by his Wife Jane Thompson, Daughter of Henry Thompson, Native of this Parish.
Henry Taylor,	July 10th	August 15th	5th Son of	John Taylor, Labourer, Native of Hexham, Northumberland, by his Wife Mary Taite, Daughter of Henry Taite, Native of Doncaster, Yorkshire.
James Todd,	July 12th	August 17th	7th Son of	Joseph Todd, Butcher, Son of William Todd, Native of Tower-Hill, London, by his Wife Grace, Daughter of James Dunn, Native of Glasgow, Scotland.
Edward Kirkby,	July 20th	August 20th	8th Son of	The Rev. Thomas Kirkby, Rector of Kirkhaugh, Native of Carlisle, by his Wife Hannah, Daughter of John Craig, Native of Allendale, Northumberland.
John Smith,	January 1st	January 30th	Illegitimate Son of	Sarah Smith, of B _____ in this Parish, Single-woman Native of G _____ in the Parish of N.

\* The Father's Rank, Profession, Trade, &amp;c. is very material.

† Mentioning of the Places of Nativity of the Parents, although attended with some little Trouble, may at a future Time be attended with beneficial Effects. Without such Information, many are the instances where the Descent of Families cannot be traced.

‡ It is very proper in Registers of this Kind to name the Parents of the Father and Mother of the Infant when they can be readily had.

As the Pages in your present Register Book, may not be sufficiently wide to admit of the several Columns, two Pages may be ruled for that Purpose or only one from the Bottom to the Top.

Fig. 4 - Representation of Shute Barrington's instructions for baptisms

signed with his official name of S[hute] Dunelm (Dunelm being the Latin name for Durham), was relatively brief, as he had already 'explained to my Clergy, at the late Visitation, the motives which induced me to recommend an improved form of parochial registers'. It was recommended that the letter and forms be preserved as a source of reference and for the benefit of future incumbents by pasting them into parish registers. Existing registers were to be used 'unless nearly filled; in which Case, new Register Books should be procured', and it was suggested that 'As the Pages in your present Register Book, may not be sufficiently wide to admit of the several Columns, two Pages may be ruled for that Purpose or only one from the Bottom to the Top.'

In contrast to the more elaborate Dade system, Shute's requirements for the details of 'descent' to be recorded were limited to information that would have been readily known to the majority of informants at all levels of society. The minimum details to be recorded concerning the identity of the mother in baptism entries comprised her maiden name and place of birth. However, several examples were provided in which the name of the mother's father was included. It was also stated in a footnote that 'It is very proper in Registers of this Kind to name the Parents of the Father and Mother of the Infant when they can be readily had'. Although it was not specified that the cause of death should be recorded in burial registers, it was suggested in a footnote that a further column

## A MODE of REGISTRING DEATHS and BURIALS.

REGISTER of BURIALS, in the Parish (or Chapelry) of A \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year, 1798.

NAMES and ABODE.	DESCENT, PROFESSION, TRADE, &c.	DIED.	BURIED.	AGE.
Henry Johnson of P.	Esquire.	May 11th	May 15th	65 Years
John Thompson of C.	Blacksmith.	Jan. 7th	Jan. 10th	49 Years
John Holmes of B.	Pitman, a Batchelor.	May 29th	June 1st.	30 Years
Thomas Henderson of C.	Surgeon, a Widower.	Feb. 8th	Feb. 11th	73 Years
Thomas Jopling of P.	Farmer.	June 20th	June 23d	60 Years
Mary Smith, late *Johnson, of L.	Wife of John Smith, Gentleman.	July 30th	Aug. 2d	46 Years
Ann Fenwick, late *Scott, of P.	Widow of Thomas Fenwick, Joiner	Aug. 2d.	Aug. 5th	55 Years.
John Graham of C.	Son of William Graham, Shop-keeper, and Mary his Wife, late Thompson.	Aug. 30th	Sept. 2d	19 Years
Thomas Evans of K.	Son of William Evans, Mason, and Mary his late Wife, deceased, heretofore Johnson.	Decem. 1st	Decem. 3d	21 Years
Ann Potts of P. Spinster.	Daughter of Thomas Potts, Labourer, and Ann his Wife, late Palmer.	Sept. 1st	Sept. 3d	23 Years
Andrew Punshon of O.	Son of Robert Punshon, Corver, deceased, and Ann his Wife, late Hilton.	Sept. 30th	Oct. 2d	6 Months
Jane Simpson of L.	Daughter of William Simpson, Weaver, and Jane his Wife, late Dixon.	Oct. 1st	Oct. 2d	2 Days
William Ward of N. * Maiden Name	Illegitimate Son of Ann Ward, Single-woman.	Nov. 30th	Decem. 2d	15 Years

The Capital Letters in the first Column are intended to shew the Part where the Name of the Village, Hamlet or Place of abode is to be inserted.

The Preceding Forms are intended for Persons Buried in the same Parish where they died; and the following for such as die in one Parish, and are buried in another.

NAMES and ABODE.	DESCENT, PROFESSION, TRADE, &c.	DIED.	BURIED.	AGE.
Henry Todd of Newbottle in the Parish of Houghton-le-Spring.	Taylor.	Oct. 30th	Nov. 2d	57 Years.
Anthony Scaife of Church-Street in Sunderland, near the Sea.	Shipwright.	Oct. 31st	Nov. 3d	40 Years.
Thomas Bell of Newgate-Street, in the Chapelry of Saint Andrew in Newcastle.	Grocer, a widower.	Nov. 3d	Nov. 6th	48 Years.

As the Pages in your present Register Book, may not be sufficiently wide to admit of the several Columns, two Pages may be ruled for that Purpose or only one from the Bottom to the Top. In populous Places, such as Newcastle, Shields, Sunderland, Durham, &c. it will be proper to mention the Name of the Square, Street, or Lane where the deceased resided at the Time of his or her Death, in like Manner as the Names of the Villages, Hamlets, or Places are mentioned in the preceding Forms.

Besides the Case of a *Widow* who may have been *twice* married, there will be others to which none of the above Instances will *exactly* apply. The above are however such as most commonly occur, and will be of some Service in directing the Mode of Entries under particular or special Circumstances, which must necessarily be left to the Judgement and Discretion of the Minister, it being deemed impracticable *precisely* to state a Form for *every* Case which may happen.

If any Clergyman should be disposed to enter the Distemper, &c. *when certainly known*, of which any of the Persons died, a Column for that Purpose, might be added.

Fig. 5 - Representation of Shute Barrington's instructions for burials

might be added 'if any Clergyman should be disposed to enter the Distemper, &c. *when certainly known*'. Despite these exhortations, only the minimum amount of information that had been specified was recorded in the majority of parishes, although the name of the mother's father was recorded in the baptism registers of a significant minority. Cause of death was hardly ever recorded in burial registers.

The importance of recording specific details was highlighted in footnotes to the schedules of examples. In the case of baptism entries, it was stated that 'Mentioning of the Places of Nativity of the Parents, although attended with some little Trouble, may at a future Time be attended with beneficial Effects. Without such Information, many are the instances where the Descent of Families cannot be traced,' and also that 'The Father's Rank, Profession, Trade, &c. is very material.'

The seniority of children was also to be recorded. This practice had been recommended by Ralph Bigland,<sup>14</sup> included in Dade's original scheme, and incorporated in the pattern of printed baptism register to be most widely adopted following the official introduction of the Dade system in Yorkshire. However, seniority was omitted from the episcopal instructions issued in the dioceses of York and Chester in 1777 and 1778 respectively, so this information was not usually recorded in those parishes that complied with the instructions but either did not use printed registers or used a different pattern of printed register.<sup>15</sup> Durham was therefore the only diocese in which the seniority of children was routinely recorded, albeit for the relatively short period from 1798 to 1812.

In the case of burial entries, specific instructions were included for recording the burials of people who died in one parish and were buried in another, and it was suggested that 'In populous Places, such as Newcastle, Shields, Sunderland, Durham, &c, it will be proper to mention the Name of the Square, Street, or Lane where the deceased resided at the Time of his or her Death, in like Manner as the Names of the Villages, Hamlets, or Places are mentioned in the preceding Forms.' Although a comprehensive list of examples of burial entries was provided, it was recognised that:

'Besides the Case of a *Widow* who may have been *twice* married, there will be others to which none of the above Instances will *exactly* apply. The above are however such as most commonly occur, and will be of some Service in directing the Mode of Entries under particular or special Circumstances, which must necessarily be left to the Judgement and Discretion of the Minister, it being deemed impracticable *precisely* to state a Form for *every Case* which may happen.'

It seems likely that the main reason that the instructions issued in the diocese of Durham were followed in virtually every parish was that this initiative so obviously emanated from the bishop himself, and not some diocesan underling who had merely issued instructions in the bishop's name. At the time the new system was introduced, the rapid industrialisation of many parts of Northumberland and Durham was resulting in increasing migration both into and within the area, with a corresponding increase in population, so the introduction of a more detailed system of registration may well have been welcomed in populous parishes in which numerous unrelated families often shared the same surname.

Several features of Barrington's system were included in the forms of baptism and burial entry that appeared in earlier drafts of George Rose's Bill, first laid before Parliament in 1810, which in some respects went even further than Barrington had done. Baptism entries were to include the place and date of birth of both parents, and also their date and place of marriage. Burial entries were to include the marital status and date and place of birth of the deceased. The sequence of events through which Rose's Bill atrophied into Rose's Act has been discussed elsewhere.<sup>16,17</sup> Half a century later, John Southerden Burn, in the second edition of his history of parish registers, expressed his opinion that the Act had 'ever since remained subject to ridicule'.<sup>18</sup> The introduction of the new Rose registers must therefore have been regarded as an extremely retrograde step in many parishes in the diocese of Durham. John Bacon, Perpetual Curate of Auckland St Andrew in Co. Durham, made the following annotation in his now superseded baptism register at the end of 1812:

'An Act having been passed the last Session for altering (I do not think improving) the present Mode

of Registering, and new Registers having been sent to this and every other Parish from the King's Printer, this is discontinued.<sup>19</sup>

Bacon continued to record the mother's maiden name and child's seniority in baptism entries, and details of relationships in burial entries, until his death. A few other clergymen also recorded some additional details, although the practice was rarely continued by their successors. The existing Barrington registers in a handful of parishes, including Wickham, Lamesley and Eglingham, were initially kept up in parallel with the new printed registers, but most were abandoned within a decade. At Ellingham, however, one of the few parishes to have introduced bespoke printed baptism and burial registers in 1798, these were continued in full Barrington format alongside the standard printed registers until 1855.

Baptism and burial registers conforming to Shute Barrington's system of registration are therefore to be found in virtually all Northumberland and Durham parishes in the period from 1798 to 1812, and in a small and dwindling number of parishes in eastern Berkshire in the period from 1789 to 1812. One further parish outside of those areas has been identified in which very similar forms of entry were adopted. A new printed baptism and burial register was begun at Chertsey in Surrey, in the diocese of Winchester, in 1809. No other examples of similar registers have been reported, so this register may have been printed locally specifically for use in the parish. Baptism entries included both the seniority of the child and the nativity of the parents, a unique combination of details introduced by Shute Barrington and otherwise found only in registers in the dioceses of Salisbury and Durham. Although no explanation of the origin of this register has been found, Chertsey is not far from the county boundary with Berkshire, so there may have been some connection with one or more parishes in that county in which Shute's forms of entry had been adopted.

I would be grateful for details of any other parishes where *Proposed Form* registers were used, and any parishes outside the diocese of Durham where Shute Barrington's forms of entry were followed.

## Notes

1. *Proposed Form of Register for Baptisms* (London: Printed by and for J. Nichols; sold also by Mr. Collins at Salisbury, 1781).
2. *Proposed Form of Register for Burials* (London: Printed by and for J. Nichols; sold also by Mr. Collins at Salisbury, 1781).
3. *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 1 July 1782, p.1.
4. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 51 (1781), 377-378.
5. *The Critical Review, or, Annals of Literature*, 52 (1781), 398.
6. F.G. Emmison (ed.), *Bedfordshire Parish Registers, vol. 11: Odell 1602-1812, Milton Ernest 1538-1812, Bolnhurst 1602-1812* (Bedford: County Record Office, 1935), p. Bi.
7. R.W. McDonald, 'The Parish Registers of Wales', *Journal of the National Library of Wales*, 19 (1976), 399-429, (p.418).
8. Trevor J. Falla, 'Further Material for Eighteenth-Century Mobility', *Local Population Studies*, 26 (1981), pp.46-47.
9. Steven Hobbs, *Gleanings from Wiltshire Parish Registers* (Chippenham: Wiltshire Record Society, 2010), pp. xxi, 297.
10. Herefordshire Archives, Mansel Lacy Parish Records, AB69/2; AB69/6.
11. Shute (Barrington), Lord Bishop of Sarum, *A Letter to the Clergy of the Diocese of Sarum* (Salisbury: Printed by B.C. Collins, 1789), pp.29-32.
12. Berkshire Record Office, Cholsey Parish Records, D/P 38/1/2.
13. Mary Ransome (ed.), *Wiltshire Returns to the Bishop's Visitation Querries 1783* (Devizes: Wiltshire Record Society, 1972), p.16.
14. John Wintrip, 'The Influence of Ralph Bigland on the Evolution of Parish Registers', *Genealogists' Magazine*, 33 (Dec 2020), pp.267-272.
15. John Wintrip, 'The Legacy of William Dade', *Genealogists' Magazine*, 34 (Mar 2023) pp.222-234.
16. Stuart Basten, 'From Rose's Bill to Rose's Act: a Reappraisal of the 1812 Parish Register Act', *Local Population Studies*, 76 (2006), pp.43-62.
17. Gwyneth Wilkie, 'George Rose's Act of 1812: How Was it Received?', *Genealogists' Magazine*, 32 (Jun 2016) pp.48-57.
18. John Southerden Burn, *Registrum Ecclesiae Parochialis: The History of Parish Registers in England*, 2nd edn (London: John Russell Smith, 1862), p.35.
19. Durham County Record Office, Auckland St Andrew Parish Records, EP/Au.SA 1/6.

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The author is also featured on our new **Gold Members' Video Library** with a talk on the Implications of Hardwicke's Marriage Act: [www.sog.org.uk/members/members-area/gold-video-library](http://www.sog.org.uk/members/members-area/gold-video-library).

# PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS - A THING OF THE PAST?

*Helen Dawkins LRPS*

The much spoken about dilemma across the media currently is that of the dying days of the good old-fashioned photograph album. I think it is fair to say that we have become accustomed to scaremongering throughout the various social media channels but I do believe this is a very real issue.

For the last twenty years plus we have been encouraged more and more to store our treasured photographs 'on the cloud'. For many of more mature years this seemed like a step too far and even amongst the older tech-savvy, we perhaps approached this idea with some trepidation. Over the years we had been

used to flicking through the photo album to reminisce when family members gathered. It was feasible as we only had a few photographs of our ancestors and many of us could happily enjoy and share two or three generations in just one book. Even into the mid-20th century when film was still the main stay for our record keeping, a family get-together would produce perhaps half a dozen photographs, more of course for a wedding but in those days of medium-format film, 12 exposures to a film, an absolute maximum of 10 films would suffice. Compare that to today's averages which show that approximately 3.2 billion images and 720,000 hours of video are uploaded and shared daily on social media. More images are being created



*Figure 1 - Photo Album Collection*

than ever before but they no longer exist as a physical form to treasure as an inheritable artefact. Images taken on phones have changed the way we make and share our collective memories. Another consequence of the move towards digital photography is that studio and portrait photography is vanishing - professionals are disappearing at an alarming rate as images become easier to produce from our mobile phones. Even weddings will probably have half the guests present 'snapping' away, making it very difficult for the paid photographer to assume control.



Figure 3 - Leaf from Veronica Rose Kemp's archive: 'March 1892 / A token of sincere ... / and friendship / ... Will / Lizzie P'



Figure 2 - Archival Storage 'album'

So what does the future hold? We often read of the advantages of producing a photo album online . A veritable option for new photographs - I would advise using the best quality available - and yes, it can include clearly printed captions but sadly this is not an option for storing your **original** old photographs unless you merely wish to store a copy which in itself is commendable as it enables you to share the family archive amongst relatives. However the albums/archives we are producing, or have become the custodian of, which store our original old photographs are so very important. I believe we have a huge responsibility to protect this historic record from 1839 to the 1970s / 80s. Many years ago when in employment, my line manager said to me "Helen, fight the battles you stand a chance of winning" and we know and must accept that we cannot go back, we cannot change how images are now recorded but we can ensure that our history is protected as far as we possibly can. We should also look to archive old letters and ephemera with the same level of care. Personal letters have, generally speaking, been a thing of the past for quite a number of years but it makes them no less important than

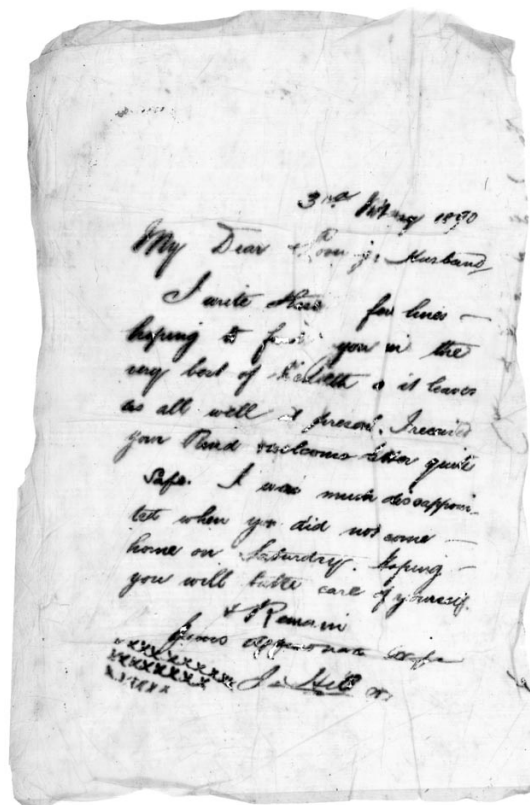


Figure 4 - Letter dated 3rd May 1890:

'My Dear and Loving Husband  
 I write these few lines  
 hoping to find you in the  
 very best of health as it leaves  
 us all well at present. I received  
 your kind and welcome letter quite  
 safe. I was much disappointed  
 when you did not come  
 home on Saturday. Hoping  
 you will take care of yourself.  
 I Remain  
 Your Affectionate Wife  
 Jane Hill'

[This would have been written for Jane Hill as she was illiterate - she signed with an X on her wedding certificate and the death certificate of her husband.]

photographs. If anything they 'speak' to us and portray the feelings behind the photographs. Anything handwritten makes for so potent a memory that I also encourage my clients to hand write details of photographs in their archives. Even the briefest of notes can tell us so much about a person and personal pieces of ephemera are so evocative and truly are worth adding to the archive. My own archive even contains a leaf which has been written on and lovingly kept in the insole of a shoe - the whole story was never shared/declared but it means so much to me and adds another dimension to my family history.

Please do get in touch if you would like any information regarding storing old photographs, ephemera etc. - always happy to advise.

### The importance of photographs: World War II



Figure 5 - Photograph from Antiques Roadshow

Photographs have served many purposes over the years but none more important than the project undertaken by the Admiralty at the time of the Second World War. The Admiralty advertised in newspapers for holiday snaps from Norway to the Spanish border - they gave this range to remain incognito as to where D-Day landings would take place. The idea was to build up a record of what the beaches etc. looked like to know what troops might encounter on D-Day landings. Antiques Roadshow broadcast on 21 January showed an example of one such photograph of a woman's grandmother on a day trip to Cherbourg meeting a farmer and a calf. The Admiralty acknowledged

receipt, thanked her, copied the photograph and returned the original to her in due course. Little did these holidaymakers know what an important part they were playing in providing such important discreet reconnaissance. Another example of how inventive we were before the days of images being taken by drone and sent round the world immediately but also in the days before security could be compromised by 'big brother' listening/watching ... and giving the game away!

### Photographs arriving in the studio this quarter:

During the quarter the usual range of photographs etc. came into the studio: portraits/buildings/farm equipment/cars etc. etc. The stories shared as to how our ancestors lived is truly amazing and particularly how stoic they were in the face of adversity. The determination to stay out of the workhouse, the local farm buildings effectively repossessed by the landed gentry, every day families sharing what little they had to those with nothing. On the more materialistic side of things I began working on a collection of photographs of steam farm engines - threshing machines etc. which are now collectable rather than working stock and also the much-coveted old cars including the Reliant Scimitar GTE Se5a being driven through Italy c1973. Princess Anne bought one such car which resulted in a surge of popularity. One photograph that only an enthusiast could love showed the speedometer as the car was being driven in Italy at 'full throttle'. It was showing 130mph!! By comparison I understand that in 1900 the average speed of a car was 8 mph - exactly the average speed it is possible to drive in London today given the congestion! Progress eh!

### Another late Victorian/early Edwardian innovation: The Chrystoleum

Another format of antique photograph to come under discussion this quarter was the **Chrystoleum** introduced around 1880, popular until the beginning of the Great War. Many tended to be over-sentimentalised Victorian portraits rather than the format being used for family portraits and consequently became collectable wall decoration but nonetheless, they were painstakingly produced works of art.





Figure 6 - Chrysoleum

The Chrysoleum process was a method of pasting an albumen print (typically very thin paper) face down to a piece of convex glass. Once the adhesive, usually starch paste or gelatin, was dry, the paper backing of the print was rubbed away leaving only the transparent emulsion on the glass. The image was then hand coloured using oil paints. Another piece of convex glass was placed over this and could also be coloured by hand. Both pieces of glass were bound together providing a very creative detailed, albeit fragile, image. Our Victorian ancestors were ever inventive.

**... And arriving soon:**

Two more of my favourite self-adhesive albums to rescue the contents - always a very rewarding challenge and a rather unique and beautiful traditional carte de visite album requiring some TLC.



Figure 7 - Antique Carte de Visite Victorian Album

As ever I look forward to hearing from you with any questions/comments/challenges you may have.

Happy Archiving.

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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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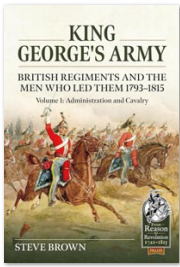
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# BOOK REVIEWS



***King George's Army: British Regiments and the Men Who Led Them 1793-1815, Volume I: Administration and Cavalry***, by Steve Brown. Helion & Company, 2023. ISBN 978-1-804513-41-5. Paperback, 358pp. £24.95.

This is a new addition to the Society's library. It contains biographical details of about a thousand senior officers (Lieutenant Colonels and above) who served in the Cavalry and at the Army's headquarters in Whitehall during the wars with France, from the declaration of war in 1793 to ultimate victory at the Battle of Waterloo in June 1815.

Details included in each biography are: dates of birth and death, parentage, education, their military career, honours and awards, and place of residence. Occasionally there is a, generally unfavourable, contemporary character assessment. The Earl of Eglinton, who was the regimental colonel of the 2nd Dragoons was described as being "A good companion, hard drinking, genial... A violent Scotsman with a contempt for Englishmen".

The information is taken from a variety of sources, some published elsewhere and some not. In addition, there is a useful introduction to the organisation of the Army at this time with details of regimental lineages and where units served.

It is the first of a series. Volumes two to four cover the infantry. The final volume contains biographies for senior officers who served in the Ordnance, Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers.

Researching anybody in the Army at this period, whether they be a humble private or a decorated general, can be a nightmare with many conflicting sources to consult. This book offers a useful guide, and will be of real value to anyone researching senior officers on their family tree.

*Simon Fowler*

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## BOOKS IN BRIEF

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**Correction:** In the March 2024 Magazine, we reviewed the book *Regicide In the Family: Finding John Dixwell*, by Sarah Dixwell Brown. The price quoted was not that listed by the distributor. To be clear, this book is available in the UK from Central Books Ltd (<http://centralbooks.com/>) and the price is £25.00.

***Ancestors, Descendants, and Extended Families of John Henry Henderson and Ann Craggs Silvester***, by Lorraine E Schmidt. Wynn Christensen, 2021. Six volumes, hardback, 5,600pp.

This is an outstanding set of books, beautifully bound and printed. The family history begins with the author's great-grandparents, John Henry Henderson (1847-1917) and Ann Craggs Silvester (1852-1906) who married in 1871. After an excellent description of their lives, the author presents each of their 11 children, in separate sections. Included are their spouses, children and grandchildren. In total, the books include 15,000 people that can trace their ancestry back to John and Ann Henderson, the original couple.

There are large, fold-out pedigrees in each section that are easy to follow and place each branch of the family in context. John and Ann Henderson lived and worked in Gravesend, Kent. Their descendants emigrated to South Africa, France, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the USA. Included are many photos, diary excerpts, letters and postcards, and written memories contributed by family members.

Volume 5 is a transcription of John Henderson's diaries, from 1876 to 1894, although there are some gaps. This is especially interesting because John was a Trinity House Pilot, whose job it was to control large ships moving along the Thames River and to guide them into the commercial docks.

***In Search of a Legend, the Barenger Family of Kentish Town***, by David Turland. Self-published, 2022. ISBN: 978-0-9751920-4-7. Paperback, 160pp. Illustrated, maps, bibliography, index.

David Turland traces his branch of the Barenger family from their ancestors who lived in London up to the time that they arrived in Australia. On a wider scale, he also considers the family legend that his early ancestors came from France to England, perhaps fleeing the French Revolution or religious persecution.

The author gives each of the five generations a separate chapter, with a pedigree, photos, copies of documents and maps. He includes a narrative of British history to place the people in context. Many members lived extremely interesting lives. In the early chapters, the author explores any evidence that might confirm the family's belief that their ancestors were French migrants that settled in Britain. There are records that may point towards this but nothing that gives real confirmation. In fact, he is scrupulous in the way he examines records and considers their relevance. No links have been found back to France, although the family legend remains.

Other names covered in this book include: Luff, Woollett, Wiber, James, Wade and Cox.

**Mark of Mosedale – a family history**, by Patrick Mark. Scottish Printing Archival Trust, 2022. ISBN: 978-0-9563043-2-2. Paperback, 327pp, maps, appendices, index.

This book covers the branch of the Mark family who came from Mosedale, a hamlet in Cumbria. The author aims to provide a record of Mark family ancestors, of course, but in addition to telling the story of their lives and their experiences. It starts in the mid-16th century and tells the family story up to the 20th century. The Mark family were strong supporters of the Quakers (Society of Friends). There were Quaker meetings in Mosedale in the 18th century and the author includes some very interesting accounts. Some ancestors are given starring roles. In particular, two sisters with nursing careers in the British Army Nursing Service that extended through the Boer War and into France during WW1. Both women were awarded the Royal Red Cross and other medals. There are also one or two villains with marvellous stories.

This is a well-structured book, with a chapter for each generation, plus chapters for related families. There are a number of maps giving a high level of detail of the area. Useful appendices include details and photos of the local villages and farms, transcriptions of wills, and talks given by the author's father on a range of subjects.

Other surnames featured: Barwise, Holliday, Barnes, Gill, Bailey and Grainger.

*Sherryl Abraham*

are all in excellent condition and include such as titles as *Mayflower Births & Deaths* by Susan E Roser, or *The Great Migration Begins Immigrants to New England 1620-1633* by Robert Charles Anderson.

During the months of May & June all the titles in relation to Early Settlers of the USA will be available with a 25% discount and can be found by clicking on the link here: <https://tinyurl.com/3stfd6h2>.

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## BOOK OF THE MONTH

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***My Ancestors were Gypsies***, by Sharon Sillers Floate. Published: Third edition 2010. ISBN: 978-1-859514-01-6. Paperback, 128pp., illustrated, index.

There is a long standing belief in family history circles that if you discover you have gypsy ancestry you may as well abandon your search at once. This book by Sharon Sillers Floate, who has been specialising in the subject since 1992, suggests otherwise.

Sharon provides readers with an invaluable, easy-to-read guide to trace their gypsy ancestors. Plus she covers the fascinating social history of gypsies in Britain.

The usual cost of *My Ancestor were Gypsies* is £8.99. It is currently available to SoG members here: <https://tinyurl.com/yrd6m2x4> at the discounted price of £7.19 (£8.09) to non-members).

A £2.75 postal charge applies within the UK, check our website for postal rates outside the UK. This book plus the full range of titles published by the Society is available from our bookshop through our website. Offer valid until 30 June 2024.

*Catherine Hopkins*  
[eventsoffice@sog.org.uk](mailto:eventsoffice@sog.org.uk)

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## SoG BOOKSHOP NEWS

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### Do you have ancestors who were among the early European settlers in the USA?

We have recently had a large donation of books from Charlotte LaPrade all about them. Those that were not needed in the library are now available for sale. They



[www.archivesearch.ca](http://www.archivesearch.ca)

### CANADIAN RESEARCH

Melissa J. Ellis PG Cert.



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

Professional Researcher with unique "outside the box" genealogical problem solving, specializing in probate records and all aspects of migration across Canada.

## DR ANTHONY JOSEPH, MB, BCHIR (CANTAB), FSG

1937 - 2024

Membership of the Society of Genealogists and the genealogical community was important to Dr Joseph as can be seen from the chapter he contributed to the Society's centenary publication. His interest in genealogy was kindled as a ten-year-old child, when during convalescence from a long bout of respiratory illness, he came across genealogical tables of the Royal Family from King George VI backward to his Saxon ancestors. Young Anthony sought to impress his actuary father by undertaking a systematic and scientific approach to finding the background history of his own "common people of immigrant stock". He subscribed to the *Genealogists Magazine* in 1953, before going up to Cambridge to read medicine, and became a Life Member two years later for the princely sum of £21 (an amount Dr Joseph conceded was probably actuarially unsound!). His membership was steered through by SoG's Vice President Sir William Palin Elderton, KBE who was also an eminent actuary and colleague of Mr Joseph senior. Young Anthony always heeded Sir William's advice "if he minds what he finds he should not look".



Australian Genealogists between 1966 and 1995 (another organisation of which he was a life member). Dr Joseph was President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain from 1998 and a former President of the Jewish Historical Society of England (1994-1996). He wrote numerous publications in many genealogical magazines, all

focusing on Jewish research and ancestry and he became a contributing editor to AVOTAYNU for the UK from its inception. He was elected to the Fellowship of the Society of Genealogists in 1970. It amused Anthony to discover his own link to the Royal family by establishing that the Duchess of Windsor's first husband, Ernest Simpson, was born of a Jewish father (Ernest Solomon) who was a distant cousin, thus claiming his family was related to Royalty by divorce. He found Anglo-Jewish roots on some lines dating to the 1680s, only a generation after Cromwell allowed the readmission of the Jews in 1656. He had one strand of gentile ancestry through his maternal grandmother's mother who converted to Judaism but whose forebears proved much more elusive to track down than his immigrant Jews. In due course, as Anthony put it, he was able to crack the code and this line too could be traced back through Worcestershire and Shropshire parish registers to the mid-seventeenth century.

*Else Churchill*

A contributor to the *Genealogists Magazine* since 1960 and author of the Society's book *My Ancestor was Jewish*, Dr Joseph lived for a time in Australia and became the UK representative of the Society of

## DECEASED MEMBERS

Peter Aldridge	1995 - 2024	Anthony Joseph FSC	1955 - 2024
Peter Bailey	1967 - 2024	Moira Maidment	1982 - 2024
Oliver Bedford	1999 - 2024	Margaret Murcott	2006 - 2024
Stanley Bennett	1995 - 2024	Kathleen Oldham	2000 - 2024
Andrew Birks	1980 - 2024	Sandra Petch	2006 - 2024
John Bourton	1978 - 2024	Brian Piercy	2000 - 2024
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Robert Carter	1992 - 2024	Sally Pocock	1988 - 2024
Peter Christie	1974 - 2024	Yvonne Shattower	1990 - 2024
Michael Day	1995 - 2024	Sandra Smith	1976 - 2024
Arthur Eccles	1999 - 2024	Campbell Sylvester	1977 - 2024
Adrian Evans	Unk. - 2024	Elizabeth Webb	2005 - 2024
Rita Gerrard	1989 - 2024	Frederick Wellings	1988 - 2024
Carol Hewit	1976 - 2024	Merryl Wells	1984 - 2024
John Huthwaite	1980 - 2024	John Winder	2008 - 2024
Noel Jennings	1960 - 2024		

**20-22 SEPTEMBER 2024**

# THE LIDDIARDS THROUGH TIME & DISTANCE

**Liddiard Gathering 2024 – Aldbourne, Wiltshire**

The Liddiard Family History Society would like to invite you to our next Liddiard gathering which will be held from 20th to 22nd September 2024. If you have any Liddiard's (of any spelling) in your family, we would love to see you.

Bring out your family photos and anything Liddiard/ Lidiard/ Lyddiard/ Lydiard/ Lediard and join us as we follow the family's journey from North Wiltshire to the six continents of the world. Berkshire & Wiltshire Family History Societies & the Guild of One-Name Studies will also be joining us. RSVP 1 August 2024 for more information, please see our website.

<https://liddiardfamilyhistorysociety.com/wp/events-2/>

Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/5fc5a8dZ3>

Or email us & RSVP [info@liddiardfamilyhistorysociety.com](mailto:info@liddiardfamilyhistorysociety.com)

**Just some of the activities planned:**

**Over 300 feet of family trees will be on display**

**Tour of Aldbourne and the Aldbourne cemetery**

**Presentations**

**Photos & special items of interest**



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# SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS

Founded 1911

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## FROM THE LIBRARY

Here are some updates on our progress in the new library:

The process of retrieving our microfiche cabinets continues. This will be part of an undertaking to empty our general storage, which is a large project, but the fiche cabinets will be among the priority items for delivery. The rep from our general storage company has visited to survey our premises and hopefully we will soon have a quote and be able to arrange a delivery date.

When the cabinets are installed, adjacent to the library enquiry desk, we'll retrieve and file the fiche into their correct order, and we appreciate your patience in the meantime. After this is done the fiche will be permanently on site and it will not be necessary to order them.

We continue our work to fill the remainder of the new library shelves:

- We have processed our volumes of Birth Briefs to the open library shelves. Indexes for the Birth Briefs can be found in SoG Data Online. If you find a family or individual you are interested in, note the volume and sheet reference information so that when you visit it will be easy to find the birth brief you want to look at.
- We have now on the open library shelves collections for Ireland (1363 items), Heraldry (256 items), Wills (63 items), British India (291 items) and British Record Society (143 items), Marriage Licences (47 items), London City Companies (178 items) and Harleian Society publications (112 items). We continue to add items to the library shelves and the process of checking shelf contents to our catalogue has commenced. When you're looking at the catalogue to plan your visit, items showing as having a library location do not need to be pre-ordered.
- Our new featured library collection contains nearly 450 resources for Catholic research and will be on the Featured Collection shelves until mid-May. A new collection guide for Catholic research has recently been added to the other collection guides you'll find on our library page [www.sog.org.uk/research-hub/library/](http://www.sog.org.uk/research-hub/library/)
- The recent periodicals shelf contains over 60 newsletters, journals and monographs in series acquired over the previous quarter. We are picking up the threads of journal exchanges that had been put in place before the pandemic. These exchanges are being converted to digital exchanges wherever possible and digital journals will be added to the new collections system in due course. In the meantime, we are preparing to make digital journals acquired over the previous quarter available on library computers - more about this in the next update.
- For those who visit the new SoG building for the first time, we now have a Visitor Tour video which can be accessed at home (via a link in the first section of the library page, above) or at the library (via a desktop shortcut). A set of headphones is available at the library information desk, for those who would like to watch the tour video or any other videos on library computers.

We are so pleased to have a community of hardworking and enthusiastic volunteers supporting us in our work. Onsite volunteers attending the library have been helping us to: process books to the library shelves; catalogue outstanding materials and new acquisitions; sort, pack and document new archive collections; scan administration files and typescript resources; check scanned material to digital files; extract files from CD format items and coordinate book reviews for the magazine.

Our home volunteers continue to work hard on our three main indexing projects - SoG Data Online, the Great Card Index and the Pedigree Rolls Projects and it's exciting to see their work going onto the new collections system. As always, our professional Events Team volunteers are working hard hosting our amazing program of educational talks, clubs and classes.

If you are interested in joining our volunteer community, take a look at our volunteer page and complete your expression of interest form [www.sog.org.uk/get-involved/volunteers](http://www.sog.org.uk/get-involved/volunteers)

Get in touch anytime if you have any questions at all about volunteering or accessing our collections and services.

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

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE

January - March 2024

### FAMILY HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

- Aldrich** A branch of the Aldrich family in America: in the footsteps of a line of descent from George Aldrich, from Massachusetts to Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, the Midwest and Washington State / by Harl Preslar Aldrich, Jr. (1996)
- Bartlett** Robert Bartlett of the 'Anne' and his descendants for four generations / compiled by Robert S Wakefield. (1995)
- Booroff** The story of researching the history of the Booroff and Patten families 2023 / John Booroff. (2023)
- Brand** A tale of two islands: the Brand family history 1951-1958 (Part 1: St Kitts, 1951-1955) / by Robin H. Brand. (2020)
- Churchill** The Reminiscences of Lady Randolph Churchill / Mrs. J. (George) Cornwallis-West (1908)
- Cook** Descendants of Walter Cook / Susan Salisbury. (2002)
- Cook** The untold story of Captain James Cook RN: revelations of a historical researcher / Colin Waters. (2023)
- Cosway** Richard and Maria Cosway: Regency artists of taste and fashion / Stephen Lloyd with essays by Roy Porter and Aileen Ribeiro (1995)
- Crosner** A Crosner family history: 1559-2017/ Peter Nash. (2023)
- Doggett** A history of the Doggett-Daggett family, 2 vols / by Samuel Bradley Doggett. (1894)
- Dufferin** Helen's tower / Harold Nicolson (1937)

- Fairfax** The life and history of police constable George Fairfax from Birmingham (England), Wagga Wagga (NSW), Gloucester (NSW) / (Margaret) Joan Jenkins. (2009)
- Follett** The Follett-Dewey Fassett-Safford ancestry of Captain Martin Dewey Follett, 1765-1831 and his wife Persis Fassett, 1767-1849... / by Harry Parker Ward. (1896)
- Hollins** The family history of John Donald Hollins / David Hollins. [2023]
- Hollins** The family history of Vava Hollins: a family history story with a twist / David Hollins. [2021]
- Howe** An addendum to the Howe family history and heraldry: being the true pedigree and proper arms of the ancestry of John How(e) of Sudbury and Marlborough, Massachusetts / Clifford Kelly Howe. [2008?]
- Jenks** Genealogy of the Jenks family of America / compiled by William B. Browne. (1952)
- McDonnell** The Antrim McDonnells / Angela Antrim. (1977)
- Mores** Loving and obedient? : family correspondence of the Mores of Loseley Park, 1537-1686 / Eliza Wheaton editor. (2023)
- Morgan** The book of the Morgans: a Scottish family around the world: by Richard Morgan. (2023)
- Nash** A Nash family history: 1785-1998 / Peter Nash. (2022)
- Nicholson** Nicholson being a compilation of family trees of Nicolson and Nicholson and variants of the same name, compiled / by The Reverend Canon Nigel Nicholson and Mrs Rosemary Kitson. (3rd edition) (2003)
- Noel** The Noels and the Milbankes: their letters for twenty-five years 1767-1792 / Malcolm Elwin. (1967)
- Osborne** The letters of Dorothy Osborne to Sir William Temple 1652-54 / Kingsley Hart editor. The Folio Society. (1968)
- Pearson** On family lines / by John Cox Pearson III. (1977)
- Percy** The life and letters of Lady Anne Percy, Countess of Northumberland (1536-1591) / edited by Jade Scott. (2024)
- Peshall** Genealogy and fraud: the case of the fabulous Peshalls / David Jacques. (2023)
- Puffer** Descendants of George Puffer of Braintree, Massachusetts / by Charles Nutt. (1915)
- Renwick** The mourning brooch, book two: moving on / Jean Renwick. (2023)
- Scott** The Scott Genealogy / by Mary Lovering Holman (1919)
- Sprague** Genealogy in part of the Sprague families in America: as descended from Edward Sprague of England, from 1614 to 1902, with the wills of Edward Sprague and that of his son William who settled in Hingham, Mass., in 1636 / Augustus B.R. Sprague. (1902)
- Swarbrick** Some Swarbrick stories: a collection of ordinary nineteenth century lives / John David Swarbrick. (2023)
- Swarbrick** Swarbrick record of service, 1914-1918: a record of the Swarbrick / Swarbreck / Swarbrook / Swarsbrick men and women who served in the Great War / John David Swarbrick. (2021)
- Tower** Tower Genealogy: an Account of the Descendants of John Tower, of Hingham, Mass / by Charlemagne Tower (1891)
- Warren** Richard Warren of the Mayflower and his descendants for four generations / compiled by Robert S. Wakefield, Janice A. Beebe and others. (1995)
- Weber** Faithful and just: a family chronicle / William and Diane Weber. (2023)
- Whipple** A brief genealogy of the Whipple families who settled in Rhode Island, in two parts by Henry E. Whipple. (1873)
- Williams** Descendants of Roger Williams, Book III, Sayles Line through Mary Williams, / compiled by Dorothy Higson White. (2002)
- Vincent** The Vincent family diary: Gentry life in Victorian Bangor / Dennis S Wood and Vanessa Field, with foreword by Sir Kyffin Williams. (2002)
- Vose** Robert Vose and his Descendants, parts 1 and 2 / compiled by Ellen F. Vose. (1915)
- Woodcock** John Woodcock of Rehoboth, Mass., 1647, and some of his descendants. (1913)

## RESEARCH GUIDES

- Family history: a legacy for your grandchildren / by Joan Ferris Curran. (1996)
- Family history handbook 2024
- Family oral history across the world / Mary Louise Contini Gordon. (2024)
- The Oxford dictionary of local and family history / David Hey (1997)
- The population history of England, 1541-1871: a reconstruction / Edward Anthony Wrigley and Roger S. Schofield. (1989)
- Tracing your family history using Irish newspapers and other printed materials: a guide for family historians / Natalie Bodle. (2024)
- Tracing your marginalised ancestors: a guide for family historians / Janet Few. (2024)
- Tracing your twentieth century family history / Stuart A. Raymond. (2003)

## HISTORY

- Catholics in Britain and Ireland, 1558-1829 / Michael A. Mullett. (1998)
- The Catholics: the church and its people in Britain and Ireland, from the Reformation to the present day / Roy Hattersley. (2017)
- English Heritage book of Castles / Tom McNeill. (1992)
- The Georgian theatre / W.S. Scott. (1946)
- Great lives: a century in obituaries / Ian Brunskill, editor. (2007)
- Great Victorian lives: an era in obituaries / Andrew Sanders editor. (2007)
- Kidders receipts: an eighteenth century recipe book / Edward Kidder. (2001)
- The Restoration: a political and religious history of England and Wales, 1658-1667 / Ronald Hutton. (1985)
- Sixteenth-Century Britain / Dominic Baker-Smith [et al.]. (1992)
- The story of the Huguenots: a unique legacy / Joyce Hampton. (2018)

## ENGLAND

### BEDFORDSHIRE

- Bedfordshire probate inventories before 1660 / edited by Barbara Tearle and Martin Deacon. (2010)

### BERKSHIRE

- Medicine and society in late eighteenth-century Berkshire: the commonplace book of William Savory of Brightwalton and Newbury / William Savory ; edited by Stuart Eagles. (2024)
- Hungerford** Hungerford overseers' papers 1655-1834 / edited by Peter Durrant. (2021)
- Reading** Reading Wesleyan Methodist circuit / transcribed and published by the Eureka Partnership. (2021)
- Stanford** Stanford in the Vale churchwardens' accounts, 1552-1705 / edited by Joan Dils. (2023)

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

- Bierton** The people of Bierton / transcribed and published by the Eureka partnership. (2019)
- Emberton** The people of Emberton / transcribed and published by the Eureka Partnership. (2019)



**Hanslope** The people of Hanslope / transcribed and published by The Eureka Partnership. (2019)

**Wycombe, High** High Wycombe All Saints parish church: marriages 1887-1901 / transcribed and published by the Eureka Partnership. (2020)

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

**Bassingbourn** The Bassingbourn field book / transcription by Valory Hurst and Sue Chandler. (2023)

## CORNWALL

**Falmouth** The last traditional oyster men: a photographic record of Falmouth's working boats and the men who sail them / Mal Stone. (2005)

## DEVON

**Axminster** Axminster legacies in wills, deeds & stone: who built and lived in some of the main Georgian and Victorian buildings in Axminster, what survives and what was lost / David Knapman. (2023)

**Axminster** Unsteady progress: a history of Axminster from 1701 to 2000. An attempt to explain how and why the town became the way that it is / David Knapman. (2020)

## DURHAM

Traditionally untraditional: St Cuthbert's Society 1888-2003 / Bernard Robinson. (2023)

## ESSEX

**Colchester** Colchester Wesleyan Methodist Circuit / transcribed and published by the Eureka Partnership. (2020)

**Saffron Walden** Saffron Walden Union / transcribed and published by the Eureka Partnership. (2019)

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

**Creaton** Creaton Congregational Church: baptisms, burials and members / transcribed and edited by the Eureka Partnership. (2019)

## HERTFORDSHIRE

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Hertfordshire 120 Years of Mark Masonry / by John Oakley-Smith. (2006)

## LANCASHIRE

**Lancaster** The registers of St Mary, Lancaster, 1821-1837 / transcribed by Ernest Bosdin Leech and J. Perkins. (2023)

## LONDON AND MIDDLESEX

Alderman Michael Mainelli: Lord Mayor of the City of London 2023-24 / The City of London Corporation. (2023)

The Brewers' book, part 1, 1418-25: an edition of the minute book of William Porlond, Clerk of the Brewers' Company / edited by Caroline Anne Metcalfe. (2024)

The wax chandlers of London: a short history of the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers, London. (1973)

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

**Peterborough** Peterborough Wesleyan Methodist circuit, volume 1: baptisms 1822-1871 / transcribed and edited by the Eureka Partnership. (2019)

## OXFORDSHIRE

**The Baldons** The people of the Baldons / transcribed and published by The Eureka Partnership. (2019)

## SHROPSHIRE

**Cardeston** Parish church of St Michael Cardeston, Shropshire: memorial inscriptions / edited by David Petley-Jones. (2022)

**Ford** Parish church of St Michael, Ford, Shropshire: memorial inscriptions / edited by David Petley-Jones. (2022)

**Marton** Parish of Marton, parish church of St Mark, Marton Congregational Chapel: memorial inscriptions (2023)

**Telford** Telford: the making of Shropshire's new town / Maurice de Soissons. (1991)

**Westbury** Westbury, Shropshire, parish church of St Mary, church cemetery, council cemetery: memorial inscriptions (2023)

**Yockleton** Parish church of Holy Trinity, Yockleton, Shropshire: memorial inscriptions (2023)

## SURREY

**Kew** At the heart of the community: Victoria House, Kew 1980-2020 / Simon Fowler. (2022)

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