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Hertfordshire People

The Journal of Hertfordshire Family History Society

No 174
September
2025



Where to Shop at St. Albans.DEALERS. ICE .IN GAME.

X

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**Editor: Jane Tunesi of Liongam,
53 Hitchin Street, Baldock,
Hertfordshire, SG7 6AQ
e-mail: editor@hertsfhs.org.uk**

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Your letters, comments and contributions for publication are welcome and should be sent to the Editor. Please quote your membership number, and enclose a SAE if postal acknowledgement is required. Articles should not have been published elsewhere, and where necessary copyright clearance must have been obtained for pictures, quotations from books etc. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions.

The views expressed in these pages are those of the author, and not necessarily those of the Society.

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Journal deadlines: 31 December for March edition; **31 March** for June edition; **30 June** for September edition; **30 September** for December edition.

Front Cover: A Mystery photo of a little lad with his scooter in a back garden in Hertfordshire. Do you recognise him?

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From the Editor.....

I do hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Hertfordshire People*.

First of all, congratulations to **Beverley Reynolds**, the winner of our biennial competition. You can read Beverley's winning article, **Tales from the Playground - Educating our Ancestors**, on Page 8.



By the time you read this issue some of our members will have been on a day visit to the historic market town of Hitchin in the north of the county. We will have a guided tour of St Mary's Church and a visit to the British Schools Museum, which ties up with our competition theme as well as looking at the historic buildings in the centre of the town.

We have had some lovely weather during the summer months and I hope that you have had a chance to do some research, whether inside in the cool, or outside visiting the places associated with your Hertfordshire ancestry. It is always exciting to visit an ancestral village or town and visiting the graveyard! Mind you, wherever we go my husband and I invariably end up in the church and churchyard.

I am always happy to receive your articles, snippets, research queries or photographs for inclusion, especially photographs of 'Hertfordshire People' for the front cover. It is *your* contributions that make *Hertfordshire People* the great journal that it is.

Jane

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23 August 2025: The Really Useful Family History Show In-person, Belfast, UK

19-21 September 2025: Secrets and Lies Genealogy Conference In-person, Peterborough, UK

4 October 2025: The Family History Show In-person, London, UK

7 February 2026: The Family History Show Online

14 March 2026: The Family History Show In-person, Malvern, Worcestershire, UK

18 April 2026: The Really Useful Family History Show. In-person, S Ives, UK

25 April 2026: The Register of Qualified Genealogists Conference In-person, Birmingham, UK

9 May 2026: The Family History Show In-person, Aintree, Liverpool, UK

For details of in person and online events and lectures from The Society of Genealogists and Family History Societies and groups do check out the GENEVA website which is updated regularly.

Geneva.weald.org.uk/doku.php

Social Media



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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Don't forget that Subscriptions are due at the beginning of March 2025. The renewal form can be found as a yellow insert in the middle of the December 2024 issue of *Hertfordshire People*.

To renew, please send your remittance to me, the Membership Secretary at:

50 Chelwood Avenue
Hatfield
Hertfordshire AL10 0RE

The instructions on how to do pay online are below. If you don't renew this will be your final issue of *Hertfordshire People*.

Sue Jackson
Membership Secretary

Renewing Membership by Internet Banking

If you have signed up with your bank for internet banking, please consider using it to renew your membership. To set up the Society as a payee three items are essential:

The Sort Code is 40-40-01

The Account Number is 72239752 (Business Account)

Name of Payee: Hertfordshire Family History Society

And you will need to quote a reference so that we know who has paid us. The reference should be of the form NNNN SURNAME, where NNNN is your membership number (to be found in the address label of your copy of *Hertfordshire People*) and SURNAME is as much of your surname as your bank's system will accept.

There is one trap for the unwary. Some banks allow you a one off payment without quoting a reference. Please do not let this happen to you.

And one reminder. If you have changed your postal address or your e-mail address, then let us know by e-mail to mbsec@hertsfhs.org.uk

HFHS Query sessions

These hour long sessions are designed to help with brick walls, give you an opportunity to share your research stories and interesting sources you have found with other members and for members to get to know each other and the committee. Our helpful members will be on hand to help you with any family history queries. The sessions are inclusive and welcoming and are offered to members, and sometimes non-members.

Information about joining will be sent out by the Registrar and we will also publicise on social media. Meetings will start at 14.30pm (UK time) and last for about an hour, unless otherwise stated.

Dates for 2025

Saturday 11 October - Online
Saturday 13 December - Online

New Publications

Do keep an eye on our website for the announcement of any new publications and refer to the pink publications list (in September issue of *HP*) for full list of publications available.

M.I. Vol 27 - Aston - St Mary - a new rewrite and reprint - price £6

M.I. Vol 114 - Woolmer Green - St Michael & All Angels - price £6

M.I. Vol No 115 - Hockerill - All Saints - price £6

Ruston, Alan *Nonconformity in Hertfordshire* - revised edition - price £7

For online orders please visit our GenFair page

[Hertfordshire Family History Society | Supplier | GenFair](#)

From the Chair

Another visitor arrived recently, from Australia, to trace her ancestors in Hertfordshire. Fascinating to hear about her grandmother who met an Australian WWI soldier, married in 1919 in Wheathampstead, and then emigrated with him and the Australian army when they returned home.



Several productive sessions were spent looking at the data in Hertfordshire Archives for her Hale family.

Hertfordshire Names Online indicated a possible will which proved useful. [Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

Original registers from the Archives and indexed transcripts on the shelves in the Local Studies library added more information as did books about various locations.



We also had help from Janice Brooker, one of the family history experts at HALS. She has now retired but we hope that HFHS can still benefit from her expertise in the future – perhaps a talk next year?

How we deliver talks in 2026 will be changing slightly. Sadly, we have decided to terminate our longstanding connection to Woolmer Green Village Hall with the last meeting there on 25th October.



Before Covid we used the large hall for monthly talks. Then Zoom provided talks to people in Hertfordshire, other counties and other countries. Now we offer hybrid talks. The Zoom audiences are still large but the number of in person attendees at Woolmer Green has dwindled with the organisers often exceeding visitors. The instability of the Wi-Fi has also influenced our decision.

However, it is important to meet our members and others researching their ancestors. We are now offering drop-in help sessions in the Local Studies Library at Hertfordshire Archives. The extensive family history material and staff in that area will also be available.

The first session was on 6th September. The next one will be on Saturday 1st November 2025 from 10 am to 12 noon.

We will also be offering other opportunities to meet in person such as the recent day out in Hitchin and perhaps visiting local museums around Hertfordshire. Ideas please for locations and also topics for zoom talks.

Felicity Brimblecombe
chair@hertsfhs.org.uk

Tales from the Playground - Educating our Ancestors

By Beverley Reynolds

In the 1860's there was no state education in England, schools were usually Church schools, but changes took place between 1870 and 1902 as during this period elementary education became free and compulsory, state elementary and secondary schools were established and central government control over education increased.

In 1811 the Church of England established the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church. This was usually called the National Society. In 1814 the British and Foreign School Society was established to by nonconformists to give a Christian but un-denominational education. There were fewer British schools, and they tended to be confined to the towns.

In 1858 the Duke of Newcastle was appointed to chair an enquiry into public education, and it was found that only about 1 in 8 children received school education. The Commission was also critical of the quality of education but believed it was better for the children to work and earn money to help their family, although infant schools were useful as they kept young children safe and off the streets.

In 1862 the Revised Code was introduced. A grant was paid for every child who attended regularly and passed an examination in reading, writing and arithmetic, often called the three "Rs". This was referred to as payment by results.

In 1870 the Elementary Education Act made provision for elementary education for all children aged 5 to 13. Parents still paid and attendance was not compulsory. State schools were set up if the Church schools were unable to provide sufficient places.

The Revised Code was revised several times. The extract below is from 1879. It is good to see in the notes that schools were instructed to teach measures connected with the industrial occupations of the area. However, the instruction that in Arithmetic the work of girls will be judged more

leniently than that of boys is certainly an indication of opinions and attitudes at that period in our history.

	Standard I	Standard II.	Standard III.	Standard IV.	Standard V.	Standard VI.
Reading*	To read a short paragraph from a book, not confined to words of one syllable.	To read with intelligence a short paragraph from an elementary reading book.	To read with intelligence a short paragraph from a more advanced reading book.	To read with intelligence a few lines of prose or poetry selected by the inspector.	Improved reading.	Reading with fluency and expression
Writing	Copy in manuscript character a line of print, on slates or in copy books, at choice of managers; and write from dictation a few common words.	A sentence from the same book, slowly read once, and then dictated. Copy books (large or half-text) to be shown.	A sentence slowly dictated once from the same book. Copy books to be shown (small hand, capital letters and figures).	Eight lines slowly dictated once from a reading book. Copy books to be shown (improved small hand).	Writing from memory the substance of a short story read out twice; spelling, grammar, and handwriting to be considered.	A short theme or letter; the composition, spelling, grammar, and handwriting to be considered.
Arithmetic†	Notation and numeration up to 1,000. Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than four figures, and the multiplication table, to 6 times 12.	Notation and numeration up to 100,000. The four simple rules to short division (inclusive).	Notation and numeration up to 1,000,000. Long division and compound addition and subtraction (money).	Compound rules (money) and reduction (common weights and measures).+	Practice, bills of parcels, and simple proportion.	Proportion, vulgar and decimal fractions.

Notes:

* 'Reading will be tested in the ordinary class books, if approved by the Inspector; but these books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked. . .'

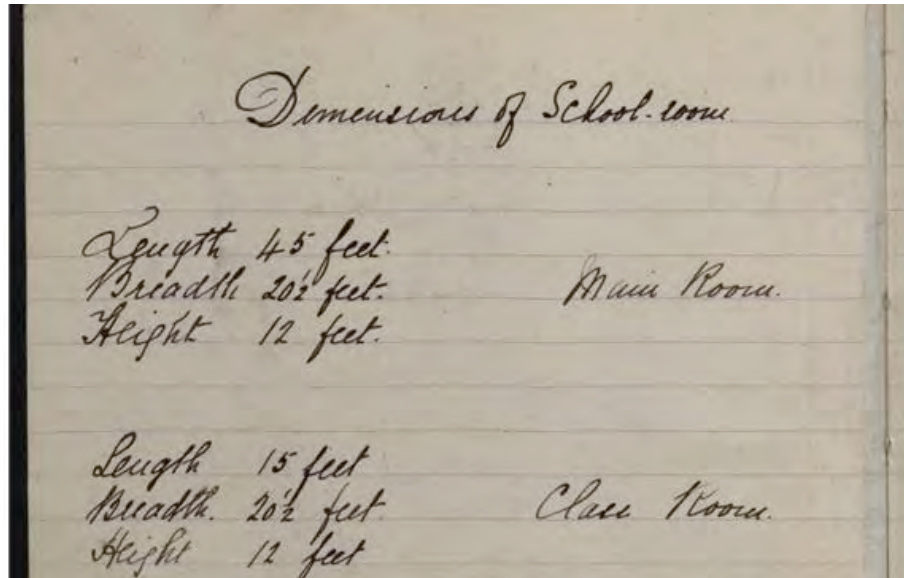
† 'The work of girls will be judged more leniently than that of boys. . .'

+ 'The "weights and measures" taught in public elementary schools should be only such as are really useful; - such as Avoirdupois Weight, Long Measure, Liquid Measure, Time Table, Square and Cubical Measure, and any measure which is connected with the industrial occupations of the district.'

In 1880 attendance was made compulsory and in 1891 elementary education was made free. If a child attained fifth standard level, they could leave at the age of 10.

Codicote school, where my ancestors attended, dates back to 1857. A grant was obtained from the National Society, and extra donations were received from local people including Joseph **Busk** of Codicote Lodge and William **Reid** of the Node. The Lord of the Manor, Lord **Dacre** of Kimpton Hoo donated

some land. It was a corner of a field called Ley Close, facing the lane up to the Church, the present day Bury Lane. There were separate classrooms for boys and girls. Looking at the original building from Bury Lane the boys' classroom was on the left, then the Master's house, the Mistress's house and the girls' classroom. An infants' room was added in 1870.



This extract from the 1905 logbook shows the size of the Infants' room

A school logbook had to be kept from 1862. In October 1863 the first headmaster of Codicote School, Thomas **Brode** writes:

The work of the school not so good as before the holidays on account of no monitor for the third class.

A monitor was a one of the pupils, the headmaster would drill them, and they then taught the lesson to other small groups of pupils. The headmaster would supervise the lessons taking place and would frequently examine the classes.

October 2nd 1863 Examined the lower classes and found them very backward, the lower classes too. Took 1st and 2nd classes together for most of the day.

In the 1860s the **Brothers** family were living in Codicote Bottom both Abraham and his wife had made their marks on their marriage certificate, but all their children were literate. I have no record of which school the children attended but Abraham's grandchildren are mentioned in the

logbooks of Codicote School.

Classrooms in the school were certainly not always comfortable or safe. On 11th January 1869 the logbook entry reads:

School very cold today. No fire

The following day the problem still had not been fixed and it was still very cold, but lessons continued. It's not surprising that on 18th January the entry reads:

Very much interrupted through the coughing of the boys. Frequently had to ask them to try to restrain themselves from doing it.

An entry from the same month tells us:

*Had a narrow escape in the case of **Males** some of the ceiling falling and just rubbing against his head. Boys much frightened.*

As well as the three "Rs" cleanliness and neat appearance were also important, and the headmaster often refers to lecturing the boys about being 'untidy about the hair'. Boys were often caned for this offence and in February 1869:

*Barber came in to cut about twelve lots of hair in the lobby. Had to send J. **Dolle** home to have head cleaned from the filth in it.*

A very revealing comment on conditions at that time. The threat of disease was always present and there are times when the school was closed several weeks because of outbreaks of illnesses like diphtheria. In 1865 when there was a smallpox case in Codicote the boys were vaccinated at the school.

School attendance was affected by the farming year there are many references in the autumn to boys being away gathering acorns or acting as beaters for sportsmen. The school closed in August for the harvest but sometimes the new term in September began later than planned if bad weather delayed the harvest meaning the boys were still needed to work. One reference to my ancestor showed that for many families work was more

important than school.

21st Mr Stickland the attendance officer called to ascertain if the warnings he had given had produced any effect. Herbert Philpott & Henry Dimmock both Standard III still away at work.

This was 21st June 1882, Henry Dimmock would have been about 12 years old and at that time of year was probably helping with farm work. His parents, Mary Ann (nee Brothers) and John Dimmock either believed Henry would learn from working or they needed the wages his wages.

Henry's brother, William, also appears to have left the school as soon as he was able. This extract was written in July 1888, and William would have found employment helping with the hay making.

July 2nd Ernest Payne, William Dimmock, & Herbert Giddins have had their names taken off the books. also Jos. Sams
July 6th Average attendance for the week = 59.8. Several boys have been away in the hay-field & the Master has had great difficulty in keeping those who have attended at school. In

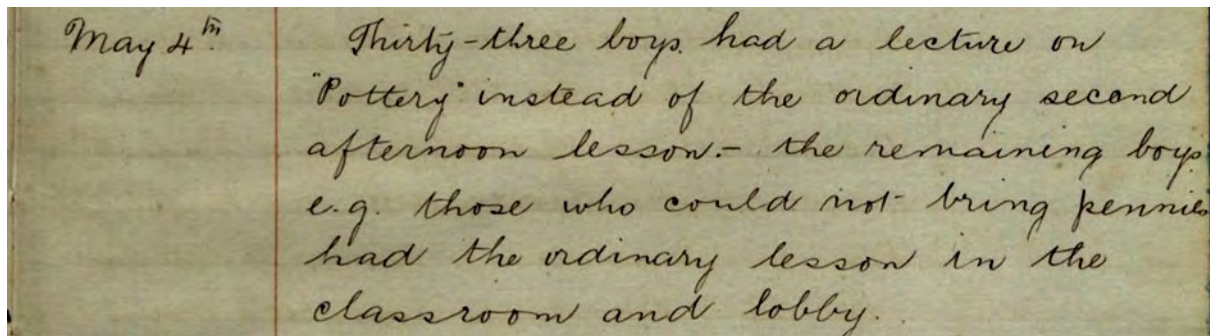
The youngest brother Albert is also mentioned in the logbooks.

Jan. 9. — 1888. —
Jan^y 9. Opened school with 71-4. Bentley readmitted.
It has been thought advisable to except Albert Dimmock from the next Annual Examination. — (mental weakness)
(Signed):— Mr. R. Jones
H. B. Bradbeer.

This term mental weakness is often used to explain why some pupils did not take part in the examinations and is a reminder of the impact of “payment by results”.

The logbooks give us an idea of the content of the school curriculum at that time, mentioning lectures on ‘Mahogany’, which would have more relevance in the 1880s than perhaps it would have today, and also, more surprisingly, on ‘Causes which effect climate’, which is of great interest in the present day.

Not all boys had equal opportunities though.



This was in May 1885 before education became free. A pity we can't tell if William **Dimmock** attended the lecture or stayed in the ordinary lesson, although the evidence in the other references to the family would suggest he probably didn't attend the lecture.

Singing was one of the subjects taught and the songs on the curriculum included *Rule Britannia*, *Home Sweet Home*, *I love to wander* and *Arm, arm for England*. A very patriotic theme to many of them.

Stories and poetry included *Defence of the Bridge* by Macauley, *The Legend of Horatius* and *The Life of Nelson*. All seem to encourage pride in military heroes.

There are very few references to sport or physical activity, although one of the visitors, who frequently came to observe the lessons did provide a football for the boys' use. In 1865 a few boys in the upper class and the teacher were allowed a little time for cricket. Many families would have found it difficult to spare the pennies to pay for their children to attend school and they certainly would have been able to provide clothing for sporting activities.

Sometimes even breaks from lessons did not allow a free choice of activity as the logbooks often note that, "the boys were employed at playtime in gathering weeds on their ground" or "I allowed the boys an extended playtime to weed the grounds".

In 1901 the Object lessons for the babies (the infants) included A tree, An apple and Setting the dinner table.

They also had games like *Ring a Ring a Roses* and *Oranges and Lemons*, which many children would certainly have been playing in the 1950 and later.

Although Mary Ann **Dimmock** (nee **Brothers**) stayed in Codicote her eldest brother, Henry, moved to Smethwick, Staffordshire and both Henry Dimmock and William Dimmock (her sons) also moved there when they were in their 20s.

This photo shows Henry **Dimmock** (back row left) surrounded by the rest of the Brothers family, who were also living in Smethwick.



The Brothers children attended Brasshouse Lane school, which opened 10th January 1876, as a mixed and infants' school. The mixed school was divided into boys' and girls' departments and by the time Arthur (the boy in the front row of the photo) went there the boys' and girls' departments each divided into senior and junior.

By this time sport had become more important in schools and Arthur was a regular member of the football and cricket teams.



Arthur is back row, the second from the left.

The football team was especially successful and even after leaving school in 1925 he was asked to play in the school team. Arthur was the goalkeeper and picked up several injuries playing in that position. His sister, Dorothy, played in the school netball team.

Overleaf is the letter the headmaster sent to Arthur in 1926 when he had left school. George **Ray** was the Headmaster of Brasshouse Lane school

The boys at Codicote school had been taken to the Node, Codicote for the end of term treat. It was only for the afternoon, and they would have walked there, but Arthur and his classmates went to Llandudno in 1925.

The senior boys enjoying the sea at Llandudno.

The pier is in the background.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF SMETHWICK—EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Memorandum.

From the . . .	To
Head Master,	
Senior Boys' Department,	
Brasshouse Lane School,	
March 11 1926.	

Dear Arthur,

We are playing a special Match on Saturday having been invited to take our team down to Wellington & Georges. As you were one of the boys who helped us before Xmas, I should be pleased if you could make it convenient to come. I understand that you do not work on Saturday mornings. It will not cost you anything, as the railway fares are being paid and tea provided. If you can come let me know as soon as possible. The boys will meet Mr Crisp at the school at 12 o'clock and we start from West Bromwich Station at 12.53.

Yours Sincerely,
Geo. Ray.

It would have been the first the first time most of the boys had visited the coast. It had been arranged by the Mayor of Smethwick and on their return a lesson was devoted to writing a letter of thanks. Arthur had the honour of having his letter judged to be the best and he copied it onto school note paper to send to the mayor.

Senior Boys' School, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick

6th July 1925

To His Worship The Mayor of Smethwick

Sir,

The boys of the above school desire me to express their thanks to you for your kind help and interest in the Llandudno trip last week.

The weather was fine and the sun very hot. We had a glorious time and learned a lot of geography. It was a pleasure to see the warships which I expect a good few of us will never see again.

The sailors of the H.M.S Campbell were very kind to us all and taught us a good deal about how warfare is carried on, and they also told us about nearly everything on board. We also thank you for our tea, which we enjoyed very much.

I hope you will enjoy another trip next year which will succeed like this one has done.

*I remain,
Yours truly
A. Reynolds*

The mention of warships reminds us that World War 1 had ended less than ten years previously, and that the boys in this photo were born just before the outbreak in 1914.

Although things were changing school rooms and lessons remained very formal. The photos of Arthur's sister show the classrooms at Brasshouse Lane in the 1920s. The first photo shows the younger children in a mixed class of boys and girls. The illustrations on the wall appear to be three letter words pan, dog and cat.





This photo shows the senior girls in Standard III. Again, it is very formal with the girls sitting with arms behind their backs.

The cookery and laundry classes would have been for girls only, which again reflected the thinking of that time in our history that girls would be the ones to do the cooking, cleaning and other domestic duties.



The curriculum in the 1920s-1930s remained similar to that at Codicote in the 1880s. Reading, handwriting and arithmetic were still important as well as dictation and recitation as these school reports show.

BRASSHOUSE LANE SENIOR GIRLS

REPORT for Term ending March 1904

Name Kathleen Hayward

Age 11 No. in Class 41

Class I.V.A. Position in Class 5

Subjects in Exam'n.	Maxm. 10.	Att
ENGLISH:—		
(a) Reading and Literature ...	10, 10+	Absent....
(b) Oral & Written Expression ...	8	
(c) Language Study ...	8	Late ...
MATHEMATICS:—		
(a) Arithmetic ...	10	
(b) Algebra ...	9	
(c) Geometry ...	9	
GEOGRAPHY ...	9 1/2	
HISTORY ...	10	
SCIENCE ...	10	
ART ...	9. 8	
NEEDLEWORK ...	10. 10	
HANDICRAFT ...	10	
DOMESTIC SUBJECTS ...	10. 10	
Intelligence Test	10	
Dictation	10	

Easter Term 1904

Subject	Marks	Times absent
Reading	10	0
Handwriting	10	
Literature	10	
Dictation	10 +	
Needlework	10	
Arithmetic	10 1/2	
Handwork	10 +	
Drawing	10 +	
Recitation	10 +	

Total = 90 = 100%

Teacher's Initials M. excellent term's work.

However, although school life has changed during the years these quotes from the Codicote logbooks show that perhaps children have changed less.

November 5th, 1863

Boys given to talking much about their bonfire and fireworks

and this on the day after the school treat, a visit to the Node, and the day before school finished for the summer holidays.

15th August, 1866

Boys rather inclined to little work after yesterday's running around.

As a footnote the Codicote school logbook tells us on May 15th 1875 the whole of the children had their portraits taken in a group in front of the Master's house.

I haven't been able to find a copy of this so it would be good to locate one.

Sources

Findmypast National School Admission Registers and Logbooks 1870-1914

David Gillard *Education in the U.K.: a history* Chapter 6

Trevor May *The Victorian Schoolroom*

Photographs and documents from personal collection.

Miss Carlisle

My Dad remembered with much fondness his teachers from Pixmore School in Letchworth. In the last issue of *Hertfordshire People* featured a biography of Miss **Virgin**, in this issue we feature a similar biography of her fellow teacher Miss **Carlisle**.

Dad always said that Miss Carlisle had an unusual first name, Leslie, and this proved useful in locating her.

Leslie Margaret **Carlisle** died in 1964, many years before her fellow teacher Miss Virgin, who died in 1991. Miss Carlisle left a Will.

1965.

CARLISLE, Leslie Margaret of 45 Norton Road, Letchworth, Hertfordshire died 29 November 1964. Probate Peterborough 26 March to Andrew Russell Carlisle, Farmer, Eveline Dorcas Virgin, spinster and Alfred Leslie Freeman, Solicitor. £7473.

In the 1939 Register Miss Carlisle is living in Biggleswade, in Bedfordshire.

27 High Street, Biggleswade

Carlisle, Mary	F	29 Sep 60	W	unpaid domestic duties
Carlisle, Leslie M	F	16 Nov 95	S	School Teacher, Herts CC

In the 1921 Census Miss Carlisle was located living with her family in Henlow, Bedfordshire.

Andrew Russell Carlisle	Head	58	3	M	Married	Co. Antrim, Lisburn
Gardener, Rtd	C. Gurney, Banker and Merchant					

Mary Carlisle	Wife	60	9	F	Married	Devonshire, Molland
Home Duties						

Andrew Russell Carlisle	Son	21	9	M	Single	Beds, Henlow
Not Occ	Lately discharged from the Army					

Leslie Margaret Carlisle	Dau	25	7	F	Single	Beds, Henlow
School Teacher, Herts CC, Pixmore School, Letchworth						

This entry confirms that we have the correct Leslie Carlisle, as she is noted as

a teacher at Pixmore School. It is also noted that the Mary Carlisle of the 1939 Register and 1921 Census seem to be the same person, Leslie's mother, and that the Andrew Russell Carlisle, mentioned in her Will is most probably her brother. Miss Carlisle's brother probably served in the First World War.

On checking via Ancestry.co.uk, it seems that Andrew Jnr joined up at Hitchin in 1916 and served in the Royal Engineers. He was living at Park Cottages, Henlow and 17 years and 3 months old when he enlisted. He was then transferred to the Signal Corps as a motor cycle dispatch rider. Andrew jnr married Edith G. **Handley** in 1927 in the Biggleswade registration district [Sept Qtr, 3b 905] They had several children, one of whom was John Carlisle the MP - [John Carlisle \(British politician\) - Wikipedia](#)

Further back in time to 1911 and the family is located in Henlow, Bedfordshire, not a million miles away from Letchworth.

Gardener's Cottage, Henlow, Beds

Andrew Russell Carlisle	Head	48	M	Gardener, Private	Co, Antrim, Lisburn		
Mary Carlisle	Wife	48	M	16	5	3	Devon, Molland
Leslie Margaret Carlisle	Dau	15	S	School	Beds, Henlow		
Andrew Russell Carlisle	Son	11	S	School	Beds, Henlow		
Edith Carlisle	Dau	9	S	School	Beds, Henlow		

The family seem to have been living in Henlow for at least 15-16 years, looking at the children's ages. Miss Carlisle's father is a Private Gardener and seems to have been Irish, born in Lisburn, Co. Antrim and her mother born in Molland in Devon.

In 1901, the family are still living in Henlow, but the address is The Gardens, Henlow Grange. Henlow Grange is still there, and is now a very swish Champney's Spa resort - [Spa Resort in Bedfordshire | Henlow Grange | Champneys](#)

Andrew R. Carlisle	Head	M	38	Gardener	Ireland
Mary Carlisle	Wife	M	40		Devon, Molland
Leslie M. Carlisle	Dau	S	5	School	Beds, Henlow
Andrew R. Carlisle	Son	S	1	School	Beds, Henlow

Sarah E. Ward	Serv	S	17	Gen. Serv. Dom.	Beds, Henlow
Elizabeth Probst	Boarder	S	66	Governess	Switzerland

Miss Carlisle's father, Andrew Russell Carlisle, Snr, was found in the 1891 Census at Caddington in Bedfordshire.

The Cell House, Caddington, Beds

Ann Prince	Wid	69	Domestic	Beds, Dunstable
Andrew Carlisle	S	28	Gardner	Ireland

He is again listed as a Gardener and born in Ireland. In 1891 he is still single so must have married between 1891 and the birth of his first child, Miss Carlisle.

I found the marriage, in Henlow, in 1894.

1894 Apr 5 Andrew Russell Carlisle son of James Carlisle and Mary Smith married.

It is interesting that his father's name is mentioned and could be useful in tracing the family further back.

In an Electoral Roll of 1929, Miss Carlisle, her parents and sister were living at The Maltings, High Street, Henlow. Her brother, Andrew and his wife were also living in Henlow, at Ballintine, High Street.

The latter also appear in the 1939 Register at 6 Church Road, Biggleswade where Andrew is described as a pig farmer. Andrew jnr died in 1967 at the Evelyn Nursing Home in Cambridge. He was of Cityfield Farm, Henlow.

Miss Carlisle's sister, Edith, was located in the 1921 Census living with the **Wells** family at 19 Kenilworth Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire where she was listed as a Nurse. However, she seems to be living back with her parents in Henlow by 1929. Edith seems to have married an Arthur G. **Taylor** in the Biggleswade registration district in 1929 [Sep Qtr 3b 987]. By 1939 the Taylors seem to be living in Stockport, Cheshire with a young family.

The Administration of the Estate's of both of Miss Carlisle's parents were

proved in 1974.

CARLISLE, Andrew Russell of 37 High Street, Henlow, Beds. Died 12 July 1929. Administration London 7 November £750. 740134208H

CARLISLE, Mary of 37 High Street, Henlow, Beds. Died 10 April 1941. Administration London 1 October £750 740130592J

Both are buried at Henlow.

There is a photograph at [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/274732764/andrew-russell-carlisle?](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/274732764/andrew-russell-carlisle?_)

Andrew Russell Carlisle
Who died July 2nd 1929
Aged 66 years.
Also of
Mary Carlisle
His dearly loved wife
Who died April 10th 1941
Aged 80 years.

So, Miss Carlisle's family were a little closer to home than those of Miss Virgin who we met in the June issue of *Hertfordshire People*. The family lived locally, just over the county boundary in Bedfordshire, but still close enough for Miss Carlisle to work in Letchworth at Pixmore School. However, Miss Carlisle's father, a gardener, was born in Co. Antrim and her mother was from Devon.

If any members have photographs of Hertfordshire ancestors they would like featured in *Hertfordshire People*, but perhaps haven't got enough information for an article, I would be delighted to include them. They can either feature on the cover, or within the pages.

I look forward to receiving emailed scans of your photos, with a short biography of the person, or people, in the photo. Please email me on editor@hertsfhs.org.uk

The Terry Connection

There has always been talk in Baldock of some houses that have a connection with Dame Ellen Terry. But is there any truth in it?

One of the most well-known British actresses of the nineteenth century, Dame Ellen Terry was born into a family of actors on 27 February 1847. Her father was Benjamin **Terry** (1818–1896) and her mother was Sarah, née **Ballard** (1819–1892). They were comic actors in a Portsmouth-based touring company, where Sarah's father was a Wesleyan lay preacher. The couple had eleven children and at least five of them became actors: Kate, Ellen, Marion, Florence and Fred. Two other children, George and Charles, were connected with theatre management. Kate was the grandmother of John Gielgud.

Ellen Terry started acting as a child in Shakespearean plays and toured the provinces in her teens. She was married in total three times and involved in numerous relationships.

1. George Frederic **Watts** in 1864. Separated in 1865. Divorced in 1877,
2. Charles Clavering **Wardell** in 1877. Divorced.
3. James **Carew** in 1907. Separated in 1909.

Her first marriage, to the much older artist George Frederick Watts ended in separation after a year after which she had a relationship with architect Edward William **Godwin**. Ellen 'retired' from acting for six years and she and Godwin lived in a house called Pigeonwick in Harpenden but as Ellen was still married to Watts they could not marry. The couple had a daughter, Edith Craig, in 1869 and a son, Edward Gordon Craig, in 1872. The surname **Craig** was chosen to try to avoid the disgrace and scandal of illegitimacy for the children as their parents were not married but living together. The Gordon Craig Theatre in Stevenage is named after their son Edward Gordon Craig who was born in Railway Street, Stevenage. He was an actor, director and scenic designer as well as developing an influential body of theoretical writings.

In 1874 Ellen Terry resumed her acting career to much acclaim and in 1878 joined Henry **Irving's** company as his leading lady. Over the next twenty years she was considered the leading Shakespearian and comic actress in Britain. She and Irving toured in America and Britain with great success. She continued to enjoy success on stage until 1920 and even appeared in films 1916-1922. On 21 July 1928, she died of a cerebral haemorrhage at her

home at Smallhythe Place, near Tenterden, Kent, aged 81. Cremated at Golder's Green Crematorium, her ashes are kept in a silver chalice on the right side of the chancel of the actors' church, St Paul's, Covent Garden, London.

But what of the connection with Baldock? On the face of it, there seemed to be no proven link with Dame Ellen Terry, but the stories persist of her living in Baldock at some time in the early twentieth century. After a little delving into the wider Terry family tree I discovered the connection via the **Morris** family who lived at The Wilderness, the large mansion house at the Letchworth end of Hitchin Street.



The Wilderness, early 20th century

In the 1921 Census of Baldock the owner of The Wilderness is noted as a **W. Morris**, Esq, Solicitor in the census entries for the Wilderness Gardeners, John **Hills** and Frederick George **Currell** and the Gardener's Help, Eric Thomas **Kingsley**. In the Currell entry it also gives Mr Morris' address – 49 Campden House Road, Kensington.

The Morris's were not living there in 1921 but looking at an earlier census I did locate the family at 49 Campden House Road in 1911.

<i>William Morris Jnr</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>	<i>Kent, Lewisham</i>
<i>Gertrude Emelie M</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>8 ch</i>	<i>London, Marylebone</i>
<i>Frederick Morris</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Law Student</i>	<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Charles James Holland</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Butler, Dom</i>	<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Jane Alice Kenny</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Cook, Dom</i>	<i>Co. Cavan, Ardtohar</i>
<i>Catherine Nellie Fryer</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Lady's Maid</i>	<i>Kent, Sittingbourne</i>
<i>Catherine Jane Mason</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Parlour Maid</i>	<i>Lincoln, Swineshead</i>
<i>Ada Louisa Button</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Housemaid</i>	<i>Somerset, Coleford</i>
<i>Eva Gower</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Housemaid</i>	<i>Essex, Walden</i>
<i>Sarah Laws</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Kitchemaids</i>	<i>London, Kensington</i>

Husband, wife and son, with a lot of servants - very Upstairs, Downstairs!

William Morris, junior was evidently a Solicitor with his son Frederick being a Law Student. It also indicates that there had been 8 children, so we can surmise that Frederick was one of the younger children.

With another search of the census records using ancestry.co.uk, now that names had been discovered for William Morris and his wife and son, I found that Mr & Mrs Morris were living at Gordon House, Sunningdale, Berkshire in 1921.

<i>William Morris</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Kent, Lewisham</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>
<i>Emelie Morris</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>6 F</i>	<i>London, Finsbury</i>	
<i>George Baron Carvill</i>	<i>Visitor</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>3 M</i>	<i>London, Bloomsbury</i>	<i>Architect</i>
<i>Ada Evelyn Carvill</i>	<i>Visitor</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>6 F</i>	<i>London, Kilburn</i>	
<i>Julia Emelie Terry</i>	<i>Visitor</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>London, Bloomsbury</i>	<i>Actress</i>
<i>Eliza Jane McConnell</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>8 F</i>	<i>Armagh, Loughgell</i>	<i>Lady's Maid</i>
<i>Rebecca Johns</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Pembroke, Haverfordwest</i>	<i>P'maid</i>
<i>Louisa Early</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>8 F</i>	<i>London, Camberwell</i>	<i>Cook</i>
<i>Emma Lowman</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>2 F</i>	<i>Cambs, Wood Ditton</i>	<i>Housemaid</i>
<i>Jennie Beatrice Watson</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>3 F</i>	<i>Cambs, Newmarket</i>	<i>Kitchenmaid</i>

William Morris's work address was 17 Throgmorton Avenue, London. It must also be noted that Julia Emelie Terry, an Actress, of no fixed place was a visitor. The first connection found between the Morris and Terry families.

In the 1901 census William Morris Jnr was located at 49 Campden House Road, Kensington, the same address as 1911.

<i>Will'm Morris Jnr</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Wid</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>	<i>Kent, Lewisham</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Somers</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>Wid</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>H. Keeper Dom</i>	<i>Sussex, Crawley</i>
<i>Morri Blackstaff</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>Cook</i>	<i>London, Chelsea</i>
<i>Emilie P Roper</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>P. Maid</i>	<i>Essex, Thorp le Soken</i>

From this entry we can see that in 1901 William Morris was a widower, so Emelie, his wife in 1911 and 1921, must have been a second wife. At this time he only has three servants, Housekeeper, Cook and Parlourmaid.

In 1891 he is still living in Campden House Road, this time at No 13, although it could well be the same house as roads were often re-numbered in the nineteenth century with redevelopment or new houses added to the street. This census entry shows William Morris with his first wife and children and three domestic servants.

<i>William Morris</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>	<i>Kent, Lewisham</i>
<i>Florence M. Morris</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>35</i>		<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Olive Morris</i>	<i>Dau</i>		<i>6</i>		<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Geoffrey Morris</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>5</i>		<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>John Morris</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>3</i>		<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Hugh Morris</i>	<i>Son</i>		<i>under 1</i>		<i>London, Kensington</i>
<i>Lydia G E Eddis</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Dom. Servant</i>	<i>Kent, Tunbridge Wells</i>
<i>Mary E. Churchill</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>Wid</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>Dom. Servant</i>	<i>Sussex, Kennington</i>
<i>Alice Young</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Dom. Servant</i>	<i>Wilts, Wilton</i>

From the ages of the children I searched for a marriage between a William Morris, a solicitor and a lady called Florence and found a possible marriage in 1882, at St Michael and All Angels, Kensington, which ties in well with the census address and subsequent children's ages.

1882 August 11

William Morris Full Bach Solicitor 106b Ladbroke Grove Road

William Morris, Gentleman

Florence Terry Full Spin Parish of St Philip's, Earls Court

Benjamin Terry, Accountant

Signed: William Morris Jnr, Florence Maud Terry

Witnesses: Syed Morris, Marion Bessie Terry, Ellen Wardell, Ben Terry

So, William Morris first wife was a Terry! The witnesses are also interesting and perhaps provide us with more clues. For completeness, I also located his second marriage, by Licence, to Gertrude Emelie Neilson at St Peter's, Kensington.

17 December 1902

William Morris Jnr Full Widower Solicitor 49 Campden House Road

William Morris Gentleman

Gertrude Emelie Neilson Full Widow 6 Elm Place, Sth Kensington

John Albert Davis (deceased), Merchant

Signed: William Morris Jnr, Gertrude Emelie Nielson

Witnesses: S. Jacobson, Julia Neilson-Terry, Arthur Howlett

A second marriage for both parties. Gertrude Emelie's father was called John Albert **Davis** whilst intriguingly one of the witnesses is Julia **Nielson-Terry**.

Down another rabbit hole I went to find out more about Gertrude Emelie Terry nee Davis late Neilson.

In the 1891 census I found her and her daughter living at 1 Devonshire Street, Marylebone, London.

<i>Emilie Neilson</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Wid</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>London</i>
<i>Julia Neilson</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>London</i>
<i>Harriet Davis</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Gen. (Dom) Hertfordshire</i>
<i>Rose Gwynn</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>Cook (Dom) London, Bloomsbury</i>

Emilie was a widow with a daughter called Julia..... Remember the witness at her marriage to William Morris.

I could not find Emilie or Julia in the 1881 census, however I did find them in the 1871 census, living in the parish of St James, Clerkenwell.

<i>Alexander R. Neilson</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>Jeweller Middx, St Pancras</i>
<i>Emelie Neilson</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>? Whitechapel</i>
<i>Julia E. Neilson</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Middx, St Pancras</i>

This entry gives Julia's father's name and confirms that it is the right family although Emelie is not sure if she was born in Whitechapel or not! Alexander Neilson was slightly older than his wife.

I located Alexander and Emilie's marriage at St Peter's, Islington on 23 June 1866.

<i>Alexander Ritchie Neilson</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>Bach</i>	<i>Jeweller 22 Thomas Street</i>
			<i>William Neilson (dec) Jeweller</i>
<i>Emilie David</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>Spin</i>	<i>22 Thomas Street</i>
			<i>John Davis Cigar Manufacturer</i>

Signed: Alexander Ritchie Neilson, Emilie Davis

*Witnesses: Thomas **Stephenson**, Sarah Margaret **Thomas***

However, in the 1881 census Alexander is living with his mother Catherine and siblings in Arthur Road, Islington, *not* with his wife. Alexander died in 1889 and is buried in Camden. Alexander's father was William Neilson, a Goldsmith employing 6 men, according to the 1851 census, and his mother Catherine had been born in Scotland. In 1841 the family were living with William Neilson snr, of independent means. Alexander's father William was at that time a Piano forte manufacturer.

But what of Alexander and Emilie's daughter Julia.

Could I trace her further on in time to see if the witness and the daughter were the same person?

I found her in the 1901 census living with her husband at 27 Elm Park Gardens, Chelsea.

<i>Fred Terry</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M 36</i>	<i>Actor own a'ct</i>	<i>London, Middlesex</i>
<i>Julia N. Terry</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M 31</i>	<i>Actress</i>	<i>London, Middlesex</i>
<i>Dennis Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>6</i>		<i>London, Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennie Furnivall</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U 40</i>	<i>Governess</i>	
<i>Barbara Welles</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U 45</i>	<i>Housekeeper</i>	<i>Sussex, Hailsham</i>
<i>Edith Clark</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U 28</i>	<i>Parlourmaid</i>	<i>London, Middlesex</i>
<i>Emma Dobbin</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U 24</i>	<i>Housemaid</i>	<i>Durham, Durham</i>

Julia's husband was a Fred **Terry** and they had a son called Dennis, and more interesting still, they were both actors.

In the 1911 census the family are living in the parish of St George, Bloomsbury. Jennie Furnivall is still with the family but has morphed from the Governess to the Housekeeper.

<i>Julia Terry</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>40 M 19 2 2</i>	<i>Actor Theatrical Manager</i>	<i>London</i>
<i>Fred Terry</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>47 M</i>	<i>Actor Theatrical Manager</i>	<i>London</i>
<i>Dennis Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>16 S</i>	<i>Actor</i>	<i>London</i>
<i>Mrs Ewin</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>43 M 19 1 1</i>	<i>Cook</i>	<i>Norfolk, Downham Mkt</i>
<i>Hannah Butler</i>	<i>Serv2</i>	<i>7 S</i>	<i>Maid</i>	<i>Ireland, Kilkenny</i>
<i>Jennie Furnivall</i>	<i>H'Keeper</i>	<i>50 S</i>	<i>Housekeeper</i>	
<i>Kate South</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>22 S</i>	<i>Maid</i>	<i>Herts, Sandon</i>
<i>Mary Evans</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>30 S</i>	<i>Maid</i>	<i>Wilts, Swindon</i>



By this time Fred and Julia were managers of *The Strand Theatre* and had for nearly thirty years acted together in mostly popular romantic historical dramas such as *Sweet Nell of Old Drury* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. They had two children, actor Dennis Neilson-Terry who died young in 1932 and a daughter, Phyllis Neilson-Terry, also an actress.

So the Terry connections grow. Emilie Neilson nee Davis, the mother of Julia Neilson, married as her second husband William Morris, the widower of Florence Terry, who owned The Wilderness in Baldock, whilst her daughter Julia married Fred Terry, the younger brother of Florence Terry, her second husband's first wife!

Emilie Davis was evidently one of five Jewish sisters many of whose offspring became actresses. Julia Neilson was the first cousin of the actresses Lily and Hilda **Hanbury**, their mother being Emilie's sister Elisabeth who married surveyor and estate agent Matthew Henry **Alcock**. Hilda's descendants became the **Fox** acting dynasty.

Looking at the earlier Terry's it can be proven that Dame Ellen Terry was a sister of both Florence and Fred.

Their parents, Benjamin Terry and Sarah **Ballard** were married on 1 September 1838 at St Mary, Portsea, Hampshire.

In the 1841 census they are in Falmouth, Cornwall, residing with the **Coad** family. Neither are born in Cornwall, and Benjamin is described as a Traveller, which does tie in with the fact that they were performers who moved about.

<i>Benjamin Terry</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Traveller</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Sarah Terry</i>	<i>20</i>		<i>N</i>

In 1851 Benjamin is visiting the **Farquharson** family in Liverpool. Head of the household, Thomas Farquharson is an Agent. There is also another visitor, also an Artist, Fanny **Maskell**. Young Ellen Terry is also there.

<i>Benjamin Terry</i>	<i>Visitor</i>	<i>Mar 39</i>	<i>Artist Portrait</i>	<i>Hants, Portsmouth</i>
<i>Ellen Alice Terry</i>	<i>Visitor</i>	<i>Unm 4</i>		<i>Warwicks, Coventry</i>

By 1861 the family has expanded and are living in St Pancras. Looking at the birthplaces of the children it can be seen that the family had moved about a lot in the preceding ten years.

<i>Ben Terry</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Mar 43</i>	<i>Theatrical Artiste</i>	<i>Hampshire, Portsmouth</i>
<i>Sarah Terry</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>Mar 40</i>		<i>Hampshire, Portsmouth</i>
<i>Kate Terry</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>U 18</i>	<i>Artiste, professional</i>	<i>Cornwall, Falmouth</i>
<i>Ellen Terry</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>U 14</i>	<i>Artiste, professional</i>	<i>Warwicks, Coventry</i>
<i>Ben Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U 12</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Scotland, Glasgow</i>
<i>George Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U 9</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Lancs, Liverpool</i>
<i>Polly Terry</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>U 7</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Middx, Marylebone</i>
<i>Florence Terry</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>U 5</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Middx, Marylebone</i>
<i>Charles Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U 3</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Middx, Pancras</i>
<i>Thomas Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U 1</i>		<i>Middx, Pancras</i>
<i>Emily Montague</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U 14</i>		<i>Middx, Pancras</i>



Dame Ellen Terry and her mother Sarah © By Lewis Carroll (1832-1898) - Gielgud Family, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=61676677>



Marion Terry (Polly), and Florence Maud Terry (Flo) By Lewis Carroll - ImageZeno.org, ID number 20001859021, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?>

In 1871 the family are living in Chelsea, at 131 Chilton Villa

<i>Benjamin Terry</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>Collector</i>	<i>Hants, Portsmouth</i>
<i>Sarah Terry</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>50</i>		<i>Hants, Portsmouth</i>
<i>George Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>Cabinet maker</i>	<i>Lancs, Swinford</i>
<i>Florence Terry</i>	<i>Dau</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>Actress</i>	<i>Middx</i>
<i>Charles Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Middx</i>
<i>Frederick Terry</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>Scholar</i>	<i>Middx</i>
<i>Jane Curtain</i>	<i>Serv</i>	<i>U</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Domestic</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bedfield</i>

In 1881 the family are living at 30 Camb. Gardens, Kensington

Ben Terry	Head	M	61	Professor of Elocution	Hants, Portsmouth
Sarah Terry	Wife	M	59		Hants, Portsmouth
Marion Terry	Dau	U	24	Artist	London
Florence Terry	Dau	U	22	Artist	London
Edith Terry	D in L	M	21	Artist	London
Maud Terry	GDau	U	11ms		London

The Terry connection to Baldock is tenuous, but we can suppose that Fred and Julia Terry would have visited her mother Emilie and her second husband William Morris at The Wilderness when they were in residence. The Wilderness was obviously a second home in the country. Within living memory Dame Ellen Terry was supposed to have lived there, or could it have been Fred and Julia? The centre house of the six dwellings that were made when The Wilderness was redeveloped in the 1970s is still called Neilson House. The house was sold at auction several times, in 1974, in 1910 by the Morris family who used to bring cricketing friends from London to play a Baldock team, 1921 and 1930. In the 1930s it was lived in by Captain Oates of Antarctic fame and after World War II it was taken over by the Admiralty for use as a hostel for young bachelor members of the RNSS working at S.E.R.L. It was semi derelict when it was converted into several dwellings in the 1970s

Sources

Ancestry.co.uk; Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terry_family & individual entries for Dame Ellen Terry, Fred Terry and Julia Nielson Terry.

Why Scattered Ashes deserve a place in Family History

An article appearing in the *Devon Family Historian*, No 194, May 2025 was recently brought to my attention in which Richard Martin writes about The Ashes Register - www.ashesregister.com.

Richard states that we genealogists meticulously record life events of our ancestors but when it comes to those who choose cremation and the scattering of their ashes this 'final chapter' of life often goes undocumented.

Cremation is the choice for the majority of people and often families are opting to scatter ashes in meaningful places rather than in cemeteries, but they forget to document where. The information may be passed down by word of mouth but with the absence of a formal memorial these places are at risk of being forgotten and lost to future genealogists.

The Ashes Register offers a place for families to record the final resting place of a loved one. A free digital entry can be created marking where ashes have been scattered, stored or buried. It is free and available to all.

Richard says 'the next time you are working on your family tree, remember to record where the ashes of your loved ones have been scattered. The Ashes Register is inviting everyone to think differently about memorialisation.'



www.ashesregister.com

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What's new at Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies?

By Sheila White

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Free; booking essential (see contact details below).

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£7; booking essential (see contact details below)

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Workshop (up to 2 hours) – £65. Use the contact details below to find out more and book.

Herts Memories

Did your family move to Stevenage New Town in the 1950s?

Find out more about the first houses in the new town and about the 'New Jerusalems' project to catalogue records, including of Stevenage, from eleven post-war New Towns in England, Wales and the Republic of Ireland. Perhaps you have memories of life in Stevenage New Town. Search for 'Stevenage New Town' on the Herts Memories website www.hertsmemories.org.uk

Harpenden and St Albans past

A set of three photo albums which belonged to Miss Hildegard Miller of Church Green, Harpenden is held at HALS and details can be found on the archive catalogue. The albums provide a glimpse of Harpenden and St Albans in the early to mid-20th century.

Non-conformist registers

Although records are patchy, names from deposited non-conformist registers of baptisms and some births (to 1913), marriages (to 1936) and burials (to 1966) are searchable through Hertfordshire Names Online.

Cheshunt connections?

The Jack Edwards Collection: A project to catalogue photographs, slides and local history papers on Cheshunt and surrounding areas has been completed by volunteers. The collection has a total of 1788 items and can now be searched through the online catalogue.

Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS)

Register Office Block, CHR 002, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford
SG13 8EJ

Tel: 0300 123 4049 (as for Local Studies)

Email: hals.enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hals

You can also follow HALS on X (Twitter) @HertsArchives

HALS opening hours

Monday Closed

Tuesday 9am – 5.00pm

First Tuesday evening of the month , 5pm -7:30pm, open by appointment. Contact HALS to book by 9.00am the previous Friday.

Wednesday 9am – 5.00pm

Thursday 9am – 5.00pm

Friday 9am – 12.30pm

Saturday 10am – 2pm

First and third Saturdays of the month

Sunday Closed

Useful links

www.findmypast.co.uk Hertfordshire parish registers, school logbooks, historic newspapers & the 1939 National Register searchable online (subscription site, normally free to use at HALS and Hertfordshire libraries)

www.thegenealogist.co.uk Hertfordshire tithe maps and apportionments searchable online (subscription site)

www.workhouses.org.uk the story of the workhouse with information about workhouses in Hertfordshire and across the country

www.hertfordshire-genealogy.co.uk Genealogy in Hertfordshire

www.hertsmemories.org.uk history, memories and photos of Hertfordshire

www.halh.org.uk Hertfordshire Association for Local History, with links to local history societies' websites. Details of free online local history talks can be found on the home page.

www.hertspastpolicing.org.uk Herts Past Policing: crime and policing in Hertfordshire through the ages

www.hertsatwar.co.uk Community led project to commemorate the diverse experiences of Hertfordshire during WW1

www.prisonhistory.org Database of prisons, prison records and lock-ups in England, searchable by county

maps.nls.uk/os Historic Ordnance Survey maps, including of Hertfordshire, at the National Library of Scotland

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk The National Archives (TNA)

The National Archives at Kew re-opened on 27 April by appointment only; more on their website. Downloadable files are still being available at no charge (usually £3.50). These include PCC wills, navy and marine records, New Poor Law correspondence (Bishops Stortford Poor Law Union only for Herts) and title deeds.

Research Queries

Are you stuck with your research? Don't forget you can still call on the help of fellow HFHS members.

Send your research questions to: The Editor, 53 Hitchin Street, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 6AQ. Or send an email to editor@hertsfhs.org.uk



Cocker family

I would be pleased to hear from anybody in your organisation that has an interest in the **Cocker** family or associated families as I am collating a family history and any information they can provide would be greatly appreciated.

I should therefore be most grateful if you would kindly mention this to all your members at any appropriate moment.

I am always happy to correspond with relatives however distant in a mutual understanding of the family history and how we have spread ourselves within Britain and across the globe.

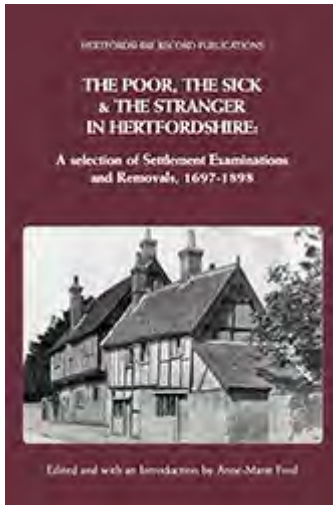
With kind regards

Peter Cocker
fmy098@gmail.com

We could do with some more Research Queries for
Hertfordshire People.

Don't forget to send them in!

Book Review



Ford, Anne-Marie (ed) *The Poor, the Sick & the Stranger in Hertfordshire: A selection of Settlement Examinations & Removals, 1697 –1898*. Hertfordshire Record Society, Volume XL, 2025. £22. ISBN 978-0-950174-17-4

Some years ago we, Hertfordshire Family History Society, published the Examination, Settlement and Removal orders held at HALS. These were transcribed copies of the original records covering most of the 18th and 19th centuries.

The basic idea of 'Place of Settlement' occurred when a person applied to a parish for poor law relief. The parish then had to determine if that person was entitled to claim from them or if they should be passed on to another authority.

One point that Anne Marie makes is that there was some confusion as to whether a person's place of settlement was where they were born, or where they had gained employment.

One case that she quotes is that of Ephraim **Thurgood**. In December 1834, he was living in Barking, Essex when he applied for relief. He was ordered to return to Bishop's Stortford which had been his place of employment. The Examination showed he had been born in Stanstead Mountfitchet, Essex about 1800. When he was about 19, he was employed in Bishops Stortford as an ostler, where he applied for relief and was paid to work on the roads. He married and had children there. By the 1851 census he and his family, were back living in Stortford and his children were working there.

Ephraim's brother Lawrence, also born in Stanstead Mountfitchet, applied for relief in Bishop's Stortford in 1828. He had not gained employment in Stortford and was ordered to return to Stanstead. He cannot have gone as he was still living in Stortford in 1841, where he died in 1850.

Another case is that of William **Butterfield**, who in 1820 applied for relief in

Cottered. He was born in Ardeley and ordered to return there. There is nothing to indicate which village he lived in after that but, by the 1841 census, he had moved away and was keeping a lodging house in Amwell End, Ware. In 1851 he was living in Hertford with his family, where he died in 1870.

Richard **Whitaker** in 1832 was ordered to be removed from Cheshunt to Bishop's Stortford, where he had been married in 1811. He had children baptised in several places in East Hertfordshire but, by 1830, he was living in Cheshunt where he had more children baptised. He was still there on the 1841 census. His children grew up and moved into London where they married. Anne Marie has traced the family through each of the censuses from 1851 to 1881, in various parts of London.

These are just a few examples of the many families that have been investigated in this book. It is a splendid example of tracing people through censuses and parish registers to find details of their lives. It has been well illustrated with contemporary pictures of the towns and villages. *JP*

Our Examinations, Settlement and Removal books are available from 'Genfair'. They not only give the names of the subject and his/her family but, in Examinations, the name of the claimant's employer is often also given.

Have you seen any new books with a Hertfordshire theme or content? Would you like to write a review for inclusion in a future edition of *Hertfordshire People*?

I am always happy to receive notices of forthcoming publications and information on new books or online sources on all aspects of Hertfordshire history and topography.

Editor.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

Apart From our Monumental Inscriptions and Militia Lists books, did you know that Hertfordshire FHS has also produced several special publications? They have been produced over the years in a variety of formats, print, CD and flash drive.

- **Transported beyond the Seas** - criminals convicted in Hertfordshire who received transportation sentences to Australia 1784-1866.
- **Fleet Marriages of Hertfordshire People to 1754** - an alphabetical list of grooms and brides.
- **Hertfordshire Settlement Certificates**
- **Hertfordshire Removal Orders**
- **Hertfordshire Examinations**
- **Nonconformity in Hertfordshire**
- **Hertfordshire Places**
- **Hertfordshire Obituaries** - from *The Gentleman's Magazine*
- **Hertfordshire Burial Index (CD)**
- **1851 Hertfordshire Census (CD)**
- **Hertfordshire Militia Ballot Lists (CD)**
- **Hertfordshire Quarter Sessions 1585-1615 (CD)**
- **Herts Marriage Links 1538-1837 (CD)**
- **Hertfordshire Strays Index (CD)**
- **Herts Poor Law** - Settlements, Removals & Examinations books above (Flash Drive)

We welcome letters on any aspect of the history and genealogy of Hertfordshire places and families, or in response to articles and extracts which have appeared in *Hertfordshire People*. Contact the Editor at the address or e-mail at the top of page 1.

A Hertfordshire Heraldic Miscellany

By John J. Tunesi of Liongam

71) The Funeral Hatchment of Edward Christian at the parish church of St. Augustine, Broxbourne, Co. Hertfordshire.

Amongst the well-preserved collection of eight funeral hatchments found decorating the walls of the Parish Church of St. Augustine, Broxbourne in the aforesaid county is one commemorating the life of Edward **Christian** (baptised 3rd March 1758 died 29th March 1823), of Broxbourne. He was the fourth son¹ of Charles Christian of Moorland Close², near Cockermouth and of Ewanrigg Hall, Dearham both in the County of Cumberland and his wife, Ann **Dixon**.

Edward was educated at St. Bees School located in the village of St. Bees upon the Cumberland coast. After his schooling there he entered Peterhouse at the University of Cambridge in 1775 but migrated to St John's College in 1777. A couple of years after he graduated from Cambridge in 1779, he became the Headmaster of Hawkshead Grammar School for about a year (1781 – 82) before returning to Cambridge. Whilst living amongst the Colleges and Courts of

Cambridge, Edward struck up a long-standing friendship with William **Wilberforce**, the well-known politician, philanthropist and abolitionist. On the 5th July 1782, he was called to the bar at Gray's Inn. Some six years later in 1788, Christian was appointed Downing Professor of the Laws of England at the University of Cambridge which he held in conjunction with a fellowship at Downing College until his death in 1823. He was a Professor of Law at the East India Company College from 1806 to 1818. Given his tenure as an academic in Cambridge, Edward was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Isle of Ely Chief Justice of the Isle of Ely and served as one of the presiding judges at the Ely and Littleport Riots³ Special Commission Assizes at Ely in 1816.

Edward married Mary **Walmsley** (baptised 28th July 1768 died 8th January 1824) at the Parish Church of St. Chad, Rochdale in the County of Lancashire on the 11th October 1809. Mary was the daughter of John Walmsley and his wife, Alice **Hargreaves**, of Tentercroft and Castlemere in the same county.

As a genealogical aside, Edward's younger brother was the famed or infamous (however you view his actions) mutineer of *HMS Bounty*⁴, Fletcher Christian (born 25th September 1764 died 20th September 1793⁵).

Now to the subject of this paper, the armorial bearings as depicted upon this funeral hatchment may be blazoned as follows:



Arms:

(Dexter) **Azure a chevron humetty between three covered cups or in chief a crescent argent for difference (for Christian)**

Impaling

(Sinister) **Gules on a chief ermine two roundels azure**⁶ (for Walmsley)

Crest: A unicorn's head erased argent maned and tufted or (for Christian)

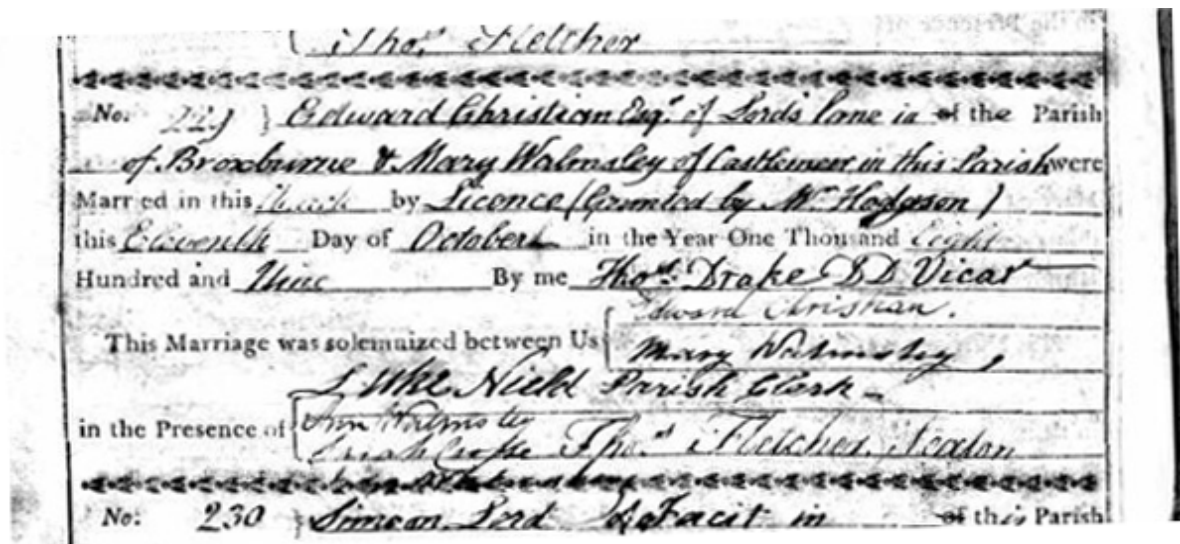
Funereal Epithet: Quies In Coelo
[Peace in heaven]

The black background behind the Christian arms, as well as the use of the shield and helm, denote that this is the funeral hatchment of a gentleman and not that of a lady.

The use of a skull between a pair of bat's wings denotes that an armigerous individual (gentleman or lady) or in this case a couple died without issue and that they were, sadly, the end of their line.

It is to be noted that the companion funeral hatchment of Edward's wife is found also within St. Augustine's. The difference is that Mary's arms impaled with those Edward are depicted upon a lozenge on an entirely black background denoting to the heraldically uninitiated that Edward had predeceased her.

There is also a different funereal epithet for Mary: '**Resurgam**' [I will rise again], and once again the skull between a pair of bat's wings.



The Marriage Entry of Edward Christian and Mary Walmsley in the Register of the Parish Church of St.Chad, Rochdale, Co. Lancashire – 11th October 1809.

End Notes

1. But probably second surviving son of his father hence the use of the cadency mark of crescent to denote the second son of an armigerous family rather than the cadency mark of a fourth son – a martlet.
2. The small estate of Moorland Close came into the Christian family upon the marriage of Charles Christian to Ann Dixon. Charles was an Attorney-at Law and descended from Manx gentry.
3. These riots occurred between 22nd and 24th May 1816 in the Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, caused by high unemployment and rising grain costs, much like the general unrest which spread throughout England following the Napoleonic Wars.
4. Also known as HMAV (His Majesty's Armed Vessel) Bounty.
5. The date of Fletcher's death is undoubtedly an approximation as he said to have killed upon Pitcairn during a conflict of some kind that has never been truly resolved given the lapse of time of the eventual reporting of his death and distance involved.
6. The 'roundels azure' may also be described as 'hurts'.

Members Interests

If interested in any of the names listed here, advise the Registrar who will liaise with the submitter so that contact may be made. Quote the full line of the submitted interest. The contact addresses are listed below. Apart from the new listings in *Hertfordshire People*, a free search facility is available to members only on family names that they may be researching using our members' interests database. This database is kept up to date at all times. Email correspondence is preferred but, if communicating by post, enclose a sae. For all enquiries, the Registrar will liaise with the submitter so that contact may be made. The contact points are:

By post: The Registrar, 134 Beechwood Avenue, St. Albans, AL1 4XY
 By email: registrar@hertsfhs.org.uk

Name	Period	Parish	County	M/No
Bowman	19c	Ware	Hrt	4697
Cary	1550-1554	Hunsdon	Hrt	4532
	Variants: Carey			
Hamond	16-18c	Westmill	Hrt	4697
	Variants: Hammond, Hamonde			
Hammond	18-19c	Hunsdon	Hrt	4697
Hammond	19-20c	Ware	Hrt	4697
Littler	19c	Sawbridgeworth	Hrt	4697
Rombs	-1615	Any	Dev	4727
Rombs	-1620	Sherburn in Elmet	Yks	4727
	Variants: Rumbs			
Thompson	c1640	Any	Any	4727
	Variants: Tompson			
Titmuss	Any	Any	Hrt	1257
Titmuss	Any	Any	Bkm	1257
Titmuss	Any	Any	Ken	1257
Tupper	-1631	Bury	Ssx	4727

New Members

Number	Name	County / Country
4713	Mrs. Brenda Mead	Cornwall
4714	Mr. Richard Oakley	Cheshire
4715	Miss Julie Holmes	Middlesex
4716	Mrs. Collette Kendall	Herefordshire
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4727	Mr. Craig Rhombs	Minnesota, U.S.A.



Hertfordshire Family History Society

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *note two rates i.e. Printed / digital PDF*

UK individual - £13/£9; UK Family - £14/£10; Overseas (airmail) - £16/£10;
UK Families receive one journal per household. Subscriptions only accepted in **Sterling**. Overseas members may pay by credit card online using the website www.genfair.co.uk.

Subscriptions run from 1 March to 28 February each year. **Subscriptions by post are payable to 'Hertfordshire Family History Society' and sent to The Membership Secretary, 50 Chelwood Avenue, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10.** All correspondence by post regarding membership of the Society should be addressed to the **Membership Secretary**. Otherwise, email all queries and changes of personal details to the Registrar at registrar@hertsfhs.org.uk.

SOCIETY PROJECTS : Projects are ongoing and volunteers for transcribing, checking etc are always welcome. If you would like to know more, contact the **Projects Co-ordinator: Mr John Pearson** - johnwelburn@talktalk.net

PUBLICATIONS: A full list of Society publications is issued with the September journal each year, and is always available on our website: www.hertsfhs.org.uk. For a booklist, you can also contact the Secretary at any time. You can buy Society publications online using a secure credit card facility at www.genfair.co.uk

- **MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS:** over 100 volumes now published with transcriptions of memorials in over 120 churches and churchyards.
- **MILITIA LISTS:** A full set of individual parish booklets are available on one fully searchable CD-ROM.
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MEMBERS' INTERESTS: Apart from the new listings in each issue of *Hertfordshire People*, a free search facility is available, to members only, on family names that they may be researching, from our database of Members Interests. The names searched for will be completely up to date with the membership details held. Email correspondence preferred, but if by post enclose a s.a.e. For all enquiries, the Registrar will liaise with the submitter

JOURNAL DISTRIBUTION: if there is any problem with the delivery of your copy of *Hertfordshire People*, please contact - registrar@hertsfhs.org.uk

UNWANTED GRO CERTIFICATES: Can be donated to the Society, making them available to other members. **MEMBERS' FAMILY TREES** or family histories are also welcome additions to the library. Please make clear what surname they relate to, what location in Hertfordshire the family comes from, and keep them compact! Contact the Secretary.

OTHER MEMBERS WITH SOCIETY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Reference Box: Would you like to take responsibility for bringing our reference books to meetings? If so, please contact the Secretary.

HOUSE GROUPS: At present, one House Group is active.

Hoddesdon Area Group – Organiser: Mrs Janet Pearson - johnandjanet@ntlworld.com Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the Methodist Church Hall, Middlefield Road, Hoddesdon. 2 - 4pm. New members welcome.

The Society would be pleased to help set up further House Groups – contact the Secretary if you would like to help to start one near where you live.

HFHS SEARCH SERVICES

Our Society is always looking for ways to help members with their research. We use income from our search services to provide further research material and in this way we hope to expand our services in the future.

The Hertfordshire Burial Index 1800-1851

Please request searches through 'Genfair' at www.genfair.co.uk.

BOOK, CD & FLASH DRIVE SALES

All sales are now online via Genfair -

www.genfair.co.uk/supplier/hertfordshire-family-history-society-66/



Member of the Federation of Family History Societies
Registered Charity No. 285008

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Mr Alan Ruston

Vice Presidents

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All Enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary
e-mail: secretary@hertsfhs.org.uk

Information is also available on the Society's website:
www.hertsfhs.org.uk

Hertfordshire Family History Society

Meetings Programme 2025

at Woolmer Green Hybrid / Zoom
From 2.15pm - Speaker 2.30pm (UK time)

Please check our website News & Events page and our social media platforms for the latest changes to the programme.

- Sept 27** **Heraldry for Local and Family History** presented by John Tunesi of Liongam. Discover how the fascinating study of heraldry can enhance your local and family history research. Our speaker will include local examples and a basic introduction to the subject
- Oct 25** **Researching your Second World War Ancestors** presented by Simon Fowler - in person. Join our speaker as he shows you how to find out more about your parents and grandparents service in the forces and on the Home Front between 1939 and 1945 with questions and research queries welcome.
- Nov 22** **Walls come tumbling down** presented by David Annal - Zoom. Brickwalls are an inescapable component of every family historian's world. If you think about it, every line you've ever researched has an individual whose parentage is unknown. It's what makes family history research so fascinating, the challenge, the detective work. Our speaker will take a practical, hands-on approach to solving brickwalls using worked examples.

Website: www.hertsfhs.org.uk