



Berkshire Family Historian

Volume 16 - No 2 - December 1992

A FULL AND TRUE
RELATION
OF THE
Death and Slaughter
OF
A MAN and his SON at PLOUGH,
TOGETHER
With FOUR HORSES,
In the Parish of Cookham in the County of Berks, Sept. 2. 1680.
SLAIN BY THE
Thunder and Lightning
THAT

Then and there happened, as may fully be testified by credible
Persons, whose Names are hereunto adjoynd.

LIKEWISE

The same day happened another sad Accident near Norwich, eight
Persons being struck dead in a Church Porch by Thunder.

Published for prevention of false Reports



LONDON, Printed for John Harding at the Bible and Anchor
in Newport-Street near Leicester-Fields, 1680.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY TO MARCH 1993

Bracknell branch

Monthly meetings are held on the third Friday of the month at 7.45 at the Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell

15th Jan	Roundabout Bracknell (Slide Show)	<i>Les Darbyshire</i>
19th Feb	Rorkes Drift	<i>Revd Derek West</i>
19th Mar	Hospital Records & Genealogy	<i>Ms J. Foster</i>

Newbury Branch

Meetings are normally held on the the second Wednesday of each month, 7.15pm for 7.45pm at the United Reform Church Hall, Cromwell Place (opposite Marks & Spencers), Northbrook Street, Newbury.

13th Jan	How Newbury Prospered.....	<i>Tony Higgott</i>
10th Feb	Members' reference evening and Members' queries	
10th Mar	Wills.....	<i>to be announced</i>
14th Apr	Dating old photographs	<i>Jean Debney</i>

Reading Branch

Meetings are normally held on the last Friday of the month 7.15 for 7.45 at the Park United Reform Church Hall, Wokingham Road, Reading.

29th Jan	Brickmaking, a local industry.....	<i>Michael Dumbleton</i>
26th Feb	London – The Metropolitan Nightmare?.....	<i>Paul Blake</i>
26th Mar	Olde Reading	<i>C W W Moss</i>

Project sessions at Earley St Peter's Church Hall on Thursday 21st January from 1.30pm to 5.00pm and from 7.30pm to 10.30pm on Tuesday 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March and 6th April.

Slough Branch

Monthly Meetings, normally held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.45 at St Andrew's Church Hall, The Grove, Slough.

26th Jan	Bring along your Heirloom and talk about it!	
23rd Feb	Life in the 19th Century Village (with an accent on agricultural labourers)	<i>Mrs V. Evans</i>
30th Mar	Was YOUR Ancestor a Criminal?.....	<i>Colin Chapman</i>

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BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORIAN

Volume 16, 1992-3

Part 2, December 1992

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Deadline for the March issue is the 29th January 1993. All contributions very gratefully received. Also any suggestions of what you would like in the magazine.

Chairman's bit ...

by *Chad Hanna*

First, welcome to the "Crime for Christmas" issue of the *Berkshire Family Historian* – I think you will find it a stimulating read!

Renewal Questionnaire

In the last journal I promised you some results from the questionnaire that was sent out on the back of the renewal form. A big thank you to those that returned them and while the 375 replies that are considered here are quite a large proportion of the membership, many people renewed personally at the Reading branch meetings and so it would be misleading to read too much into the results.

Well what is the average Berkshire Family Historian? Is there such a person? We knew that more than half of you live outside the county¹ and are unlikely to benefit from branch meetings. You've been working on your family history for 8 or so years, a year or so longer if you're outside the county, but many of you are beginners and someone has 47 years of experience! While 26% (96) of you have been using computers for an average of three and half years, 18 of you have only been using a computer for a year – it is clearly a growing trend.²

About 60% of those inside the county have Berkshire interests and this rises to nearly 90% outside the county. I would have expected nearly 100% outside the county and a lower percentage inside the county. Perhaps we aren't getting the message over that the Society tries to help all family historians in Berkshire?

1. Here the 'county' is loosely defined as those with RG (Reading) or SL (Slough) postcodes, which usefully includes adjacent bits of Oxfordshire and Hampshire.

2. The real 'computer' percentages would probably be a bit higher than this, if we could include those who renewed personally.

Nearly a half of you went to adult education classes, and two thirds of those inside the county and one third of those outside the county went to a branch meeting last year.

Most people need to go to a library to view microfiche, though 12% have a fiche viewer and 7% have a friend with one. There seems to be a number who have no access at all to a fiche viewer, or perhaps are not sure what one is!

About two thirds of you agree with the Society setting aside money for premises, while about a quarter of you would like more information. Eight disagreed and their comments will be noted.

About 40% of the 'county' members visited the Berkshire Record Office last year, and bit over half visited the Local Studies Library.

The questionnaire was kept simple so you could complete it quickly, but we're pleased about 40 of you added comments, some of which will be discussed at future Executive Committee meetings. The answer to some of the questions asked are in the Member's folder you were sent when you joined the Society. Perhaps the most up-to-date Member's folder should be available via the bookstall.

Overseer's project

As you will see from Dr. Peter Durrant's notes we had an extremely useful session at the Record Office in October and hopefully the October session will turn out as well. I particularly enjoyed the less formal atmosphere, the discussions, and the chance to practice reading "Secretary Hand" on some of the older documents.

Members' Interest Directory

There is expected to be a Federation of Family History Societies scheme to co-ordinate this in the very near future – so plans for another Berks FHS Directory are on ice at the moment.

Finally, I must wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year**. Lesley and I have high hopes of a better and healthier new year.

Editor's piece ...

by Catherine Davis

Thank you all very much for your contributions to this issue. If you don't see your piece here, it should be in next time! However, don't forget that the magazine comes out four times a year and I always need articles, short pieces, news, comments and so on. The deadline for the next issue is the 29th January, 1993.

Dates for your Diary

2nd - 4th April, 1993

Norfolk and Norwich Genealogical Society
Silver Jubilee Conference and AGM of
Federation of FHS at University of East Anglia.
The theme will be "Life in Stuart England".
Please contact the Conference Secretary at
Kirby House, 38, St. Giles St, Norwich, Norfolk,
NR2 1LL.

17th - 18th April, 1993

Annual Conference of the Guild of One Name
Studies at the Crewe College of Further
Education. Further details available from the
Conference Organiser, Philip Coops, 4,
Lakeside, Betley, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 9AH.

16th May, 1993

"Family History Fair" organised by the Society
of Genealogists, 10 am to 5pm at the Royal
Horticultural Society Old Hall, Vincent Square,
London SW1. For further details contact the
Co-ordinator at 14, Charterhouse Buildings,
London, EC1M 7BA

3rd July, 1993

Berkshire Family History Society Annual
Symposium "What's in a name?" at the Holt
School, Wokingham. Further details with March
magazine.

3rd - 5th September, 1993

"Conservation and the Family Historian"
organised by the Suffolk FHS, in conjunction
with the Council Meeting of the FFHS, to be
held at the University of Essex, Wivenhoe.
Further details available from Dr Monica
Barnett, 6, St Raphael Court, 28, Highfield Rd,
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 6DA.

Notes on Contributors

I have collected the biographical details of the authors here, rather than add them at the end of the article as in the past. Some authors did not supply the information so their entries are rather brief.

Christina Baigent teaches mathematics and science at a London Prep School. She has been researching her family name for six years and is also a member of the Hampshire Genealogical Society.

Helen Cox née Lucking was born within the sound of Bow Bells at the "The Salvation Army Mother' Hospital", but spent her childhood in Tottenham. She started researching her family history after being given three Georgian glasses, a family heirloom, twelve years ago. She has since traced the Lucking family back to 1689.

Mike Dumbleton is researching his paternal line, which is currently stuck in Stratford-upon-Avon in the 1790s. He has published MIs and enclosure and tithe lists for East-hampstead.

Stuart Eagles is one of the Society's youngest members and is carrying out a One Name Study of Eagles.

Simon Harrington is comparatively new to family history. All his grandparents and most of his grandparents lived in the London area and, when time and money permit, is researching his Harrington ancestry in Essex.

Beryl Hurley is editor of the Journal of the Wiltshire Family History Society.

Yvonne Masson née Dearlove has been researching the countrywide distribution of Dearlove for about fourteen years. A Londoner, she is still trying to establish a connection between her own family and one of the four main Dearlove groups, one of which has been established in Berkshire since at least Tudor times.

Pam Roberts supplied the page from the diary of her great-grandfather Robert Wyatt.

Doreen Rogers is a retired teacher. Her research is now carried out mainly from home, in Sussex, due to family commitments. She has two "step-step-great grandchildren" as she and her husband were both married before. Her ancestors are spread throughout Surrey, Northants, Beds and Berkshire.

Criminal Ancestors

By Beryl Hurley

Were any of your ancestors criminals? If so, you are in luck, but don't despair if he or she was only the innocent party. There are many records resulting from crimes in past centuries. These name the criminals awaiting trial and those convicted as well as those against whom the crime was committed, the witnesses and committing magistrates.

Collins Concise English Dictionary defines crime as "an act committed or omitted in violation of a law" and L.B. Curzon in "English Legal History" says,

"crimes are, in essence, those wrongful acts or omissions considered by the community acting through Parliament and the judges, as being so injurious as to warrant a particular and special procedure ... [however] the community's concept of what constitutes crime varies from time to time".

There are three ways in which criminal records can help:

- The tree can be extended.
- Our knowledge of social conditions can be increased, how our ancestors lived and where and perhaps why they committed the crime.
- Records of personal crime can reveal personal details of our ancestors.

Where to start – Calendars of Prisoners

Apart from an index, the best place to start is with the Calendars of Prisoners. These can be found in the lists of those awaiting trial at the Quarter Sessions which were usually held, as their name implies, four times a year. Some Record Offices catalogue them separately, others keep them with the rest of the docu-

ments from that Session. Closure orders range from 75 to 30 years depending on the individual Record Office.

Some calendars give the result of the trial and sentence. By the end of the Eighteenth Century the ages of prisoners were often given, by the early Nineteenth Century whether the prisoner could read or write, and later still in the century the trade or occupation of the criminal and details of previous convictions. Sometimes a list was included of those who were awaiting trial at the next Assizes, held three times a year, and lists of prisoners convicted at the previous Assizes and their sentence, also those imprisoned for a short limited time.

If you find your ancestors in the calendars of the Quarter Sessions the other records should be searched – indictments, depositions and minutes (charges against the prisoner; witnesses' statements and records of the session), all of which should be in the local record office.

Bastardy!

Bastardy is a crime which can sometimes give you another name on your tree. How often do you come to a full stop when the parish register says "base born or bastard"? Rarely do you get the father's name but criminal records may help. By a Parliamentary Act of 1575 two Justices of the Peace were given power to deal with bastardy as an offence. They could send the offender – the father – to gaol until the next session unless he gave surety to appear, when a fresh order would be made or the old one confirmed. This remained the basis of the law until 1834.

It was not only the men who were punished for this crime. An Act of 1609 allowed that any,

"lewd woman having a bastard chargeable to the Parish MAY be

sent to the House of Correction for a year. If she offends again she SHALL be sent to the House of Correction until she gives surety for good behaviour”.

Theft

Many matters did not get to the Quarter Sessions because magistrates had powers to deal with them locally and sometimes their notebooks dealing with such cases can be found in Record Offices. Theft is probably the most common crime and you might find your ancestor in the Quarter Sessions for stealing anything from an egg to a horse. Pickpocketing was rife in the large towns and cities but obviously less common in the rural areas.

The value of goods stolen was, of course, important as this affected the sentence. The penalty for a felony was, until the nineteenth century, death. In practice the Crown's prerogative of mercy was often exercised and the felon was transported. If the article had a value of more than 12d and following the reign of Henry I it was felony, if it was under that value it was petty larceny which did NOT carry the death penalty. In 1808 the amount was up to £2 and by 1828 it was £5. Juries often valued stolen property at below the value which would have led to the death penalty.

The kind of things stolen often tells us more about the person from whom it was stolen than the criminal: A mason quarrying away from home when his coat and wallet was stolen; The owner of blankets having them stolen when they were drying on the hedge in his yard; A French Prisoner of War on parole witnessing a pickpocket.

Other Crimes

Other common crime included counterfeiting money, false pretences, deserting a wife and family, returning to a parish

without a settlement after being removed, apprentices running away from their masters, deserting from the army or the marines, not attending the militia or refusing to find a substitute. Sometimes the army swelled its numbers by taking men who had been ALLOWED to enlist from prison BEFORE they came up at the Quarter Sessions.

One of the biggest problems was the number of vagabonds roaming the countryside. The law defined vagrants in three classes – idle and disorderly, rogues and vagabonds (a bit worse) and incorrigible rogues (the worst).

Assault too was a common crime, especially assault on constables or tythingmen or assault by husbands on their wives. Rape is nothing new and was known variously as rape, ravish or carnally know and abuse.

Serious Crimes

The crimes that went to the Assizes were of a more serious nature and the indictments and depositions for these are held at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane. Assize results are held at the PRO, Kew, also the Judges' and Records' Returns. The local newspapers usually took an interest in these and will add many more personal details.

These cases included murder, concealing the birth of a child (usually illegitimate), bigamy which increased in the nineteenth century (easier to prove after civil registration was introduced) and arson.

Social Crime

Social crime is an accepted term and means crimes condoned by the community from which the criminal comes and caused by their living conditions. These include offences against the game laws, smuggling and rioting.

The game laws were particularly harsh in the early part of the last century. In a

time when conditions were bad for the labouring man and his family, when birds were bred for sport by the wealthy landlords and there was an abundance of rabbits and hares all denied to him, poaching must have been very tempting. It was often justified by the poachers on the grounds that no private property in wild animals can legitimately exist.

The law from 1770 onwards became much more strict and punishment much more severe. In 1770 anyone who killed game of any kind between sunset and sunrise could be imprisoned for 3-6 months, and a subsequent offence 6-12 months. By 1816, a person who was found at night unarmed, but with a net for poaching, was to be transported for 7 years. In the three years between 1827 and 1830, one in seven of all criminal convictions in the country were under the Game Code.

In 1830 riots swept across the whole of Southern England and the Special Sessions of Assizes transported many. These are recorded well and can be found at Kew.

Transportation

Transportation is a vast subject, which cannot be dealt with here. However, there are many records held both at Chancery Lane and at Kew, with descriptions of the criminals, how long they were held at the hulks and those returned because the merchants would not take them. The "Hue and Cry" (Police Gazette) often carried a list of escaped convicts with a description.

Police Records

Police records are more recent as most county constabularies have been created in the last 150 years, and some have imposed a long closure order. Penal servitude was introduced in 1853 when transportation began to be discontinued and well behaved prisoners with long

sentences were allowed out on ticket of leave before their sentence was complete provided they reported at the local police station in the area in which they were staying. Descriptions of these men and women give ages, physical features and photographs.

If your ancestors have been criminals you are in luck, especially if they were transported or habitual criminals in the latter half of the last century. If you do not have any criminals amongst your ancestors, they may still have been on the receiving end, and you may still get a fair amount of detail about them, where they were and what they were doing at a certain time. It takes time but the rewards can be great.

Loss of Life at Wokingham

By Vincent Millett

~~~~~  
Wokingham seems to have had its share of rough sports. The following entry in the Register of All Saints is signed by the minister, William Bremmer:-

"Elizabeth North was buried Decr 26th 1794. She was found dead, dreadfully bruised, the morning after Bull-baiting; the Coroner with his Inquest found her "accidentally killed". (NB a man had been taken from the Bull without hopes of life)".

The Norths seem to have run into a patch of bad luck. From other entries in the registers we find that John North was buried Oct 26th 1788; Ann North "pauper" May 10th 1789; James North "pauper" Feb 10th 1794 and Joseph North "pauper" on March 17th 1794. On the other hand, David North, bachelor, of this parish and Jane Hibbert spinster of this parish, had their banns read on 8th, 15th & 22nd Jan 1797, so perhaps the unfortunate Elizabeth or her close family, may yet have some living descendants.

# With Convicts to Australia in 1865

*By Michael Dumbleton*

My great grandfather's marriage certificate of 1867 states that he was Ambrose Pritchard of the Old Kent Road, a mariner of full age. Family tradition states that he was a cook in the Merchant Navy, and that he sailed with the last convicts to Australia. There was a pair of mounted and stuffed emu's eggs in my grandparents' sitting room, and more positive proof of his having been in Australia is his "carte de visite" photograph, in ill-fitting suit and stuffed shirt, on the card of a Sydney, New South Wales, photographer. I wanted to follow up the claim of the convict voyage, and crucial to this was a tradition that the ship was the *Race Horse*.

## The Search for the Race Horse

Bateson lists the Australian convict ships and shows that the last voyages were to Western Australia.<sup>1</sup> The last sailing was in 1868, and I was gratified to find that the sixth from last, in 1865, was by the *Race Horse*, leaving Portland on 26th May to reach the Swan River, now called Freemantle, on 10th August. At 76 days the voyage was the fourth fastest of the 37 sailings to Western Australia. It looked as if the family tradition was vindicated, but I still had to prove that Ambrose was on board, and not as a convict.

Taking guidance from Watts and Watts,<sup>2</sup> I visited the library of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, where crew lists are kept.<sup>3</sup> The Merchant Navy List for 1865 showed that there were four ships named "Race Horse", but at 1077 tons only No. 23131 was large enough for the Australia run.

A microfiche (also at the PRO) showed that Greenwich held the lists for each fifth year from 1865. I applied for the list for the *Race Horse* to be obtained from store, and a few weeks later I was telephoned the disappointing news that Ambrose was not among the crew. However, I had requested a photocopy of the list, called an "Agreement and account of crew

(Foreign-going ship)", and discovered that it was for the previous voyage, arriving in London on 2nd January 1865, because the dates under which the documents are classified are those of arrival back in the United Kingdom. It, nevertheless, proved to be informative showing that an able seaman was to be paid 2 15s per week and the cook 3 10s. It also showed how open-ended a voyage could be. This one was to be:

*"from Sunderland to Hong Kong, thence if required to any parts... in the China Seas, Indian Ocean, Australia, Pacific or Atlantic Ocean, West Indies, United States, British North America or Mediterranean... not exceeding three years".*

To obtain the list for the next voyage I wrote to the Maritime History Archive of the Memorial University of Newfoundland which holds most of the records for the other years.<sup>4</sup> I received the "Account of crew of a foreign-going ship" (which does not include the agreement). It showed that Ambrose, aged 25 and born at Greenwich, had signed as an able seaman on the "*Race Horse*" at London on 28th April, after leaving the *Midge*, a small steam tug, in November 1864. Henry A. Greves signed as cook, but against his name was written "Never joined at London (Deserted)", and further down the list Ambrose re-signed as cook, on the 6th May when the ship had reached Gravesend down river.

Among the crew of 51 were six apprentices, including thirteen-year-old Alfred John Auld Mann. Forty-five years later, as Captain Mann, he wrote his reminiscences of the voyage, dealing mainly with the convicts. I obtained a photocopy from the British Library of an account based on them, in "Blackwood's Magazine".<sup>5</sup> Another record of the voyage, which I saw at the PRO Kew, is the official log of Surgeon and Superintendent A. Watson MB.<sup>6</sup> He was responsible for the health, discipline and provisioning of the convicts and of the Warders and ex-soldier Pensioner Guard and their families. Unfortunately the log of the Master of the ship, William H Seward, which would have given more information on the crew, does not seem to have survived. Mann's account is lively, Watson's more restrained, and they complement each other.

## The Race Horse sets sail

The Race Horse, "a big wind-jammer", is described by Mann as a beautiful, long, yacht-like craft whose cutwater was adorned with a shield supported on each side by the figure of a race horse. On 5th May she was towed by a steam tug down river from the docks at Poplar, and young Mann was shocked by the drunken fighting and swearing of the men. At Gravesend the Pensioner Guard from Tilbury Fort and their families embarked, 47 men, 30 women and 72 children. These old soldiers had free passage and settlement in Australia in return for their services on the voyage. At Chatham 143 convicts were put on board, and Mann adds that 50 rifles and the same number of Navy revolvers, cutlasses and boarding pikes were taken up to arm the soldiers and crew. He records that the convicts' hair was closely cropped and that they were clad in a coarse yellowish fustian stuff and broad check, spattered with the Government broad arrow.

"As the men marched quickly up the gangway shackled two and two, wrist to wrist, one of them suddenly sprang over the guard rail, dragging his fellow to the rail. He hung there for a moment suspended from the wrist, when the shackle broke and he fell between the ship and the tug... A boat was ordered to be lowered and the soldiers to fire if he appeared on the surface, but he never rose again."

At Spithead 57 convicts from Portsmouth Prison joined the ship, and off Portland a further 80, making a total of 280 male convicts. There were also five Warders and their families making up the complement. That evening convict George Limsage was found to be seriously ill with an abscess on the lung and was prescribed port wine every two hours. He died during the night. Mann records that a closely-veiled lady was escorted aboard, visited the sick bay and returned weeping bitterly to be rowed ashore. Whilst awaiting orders to sail the convicts wrote letters on the deck and on 26th May a few of them got up the anchor and the ship set sail for Western Australia, with some 495 souls on board.

## Life on Board

Each day the prisoners took up all the bottom boards, scrubbed them on deck, and thoroughly

aired the prison. Then they were allowed on deck until evening. The Religious Instructor, Mr N. Irwin, took them in classes, half in the morning and half in the afternoon, and supervised the issue of books from the library. About twenty attended the Bible class. In suitable weather, Mr Irwin celebrated Divine Service on the upper deck, with the prisoners assembled in front of the barricades, the wives and families of the Guard and any sailors who choose to attend occupying the upper quarter deck, and all the Guards on the poop. Prayers were read to the Catholic convicts by one appointed from their number.

Convict Thomas Jones was seriously ill with dysentery on 20th June and died a week later. With the Guard on the poop and all prisoners on deck, Mr Irwin read the service for the burial of the dead, and his remains, sewn up in his hammock, were "confined to the deep". At mid-July the prisoners were generally healthy and well-behaved, but many of the children were in a very weak and sickly condition. On the 19th convict Henry Williams fell on deck in a strong gale and broke his collar-bone.

## Diet

After the voyage had begun the Master was directed to start serving lime juice to the Guards, their families, and the convicts because of measles among the children. Rice, sago and arrow-root were directed to all sick and young children. The convicts were issued one gill of wine daily. The Pensioner Guard received extra rum when they were exposed to long periods of cold and rain. Mann describes the convicts' diet, during the voyage: for breakfast gruel, 1/2 pint of cocoa and 6oz of biscuit; for dinner soup, 4oz of boiled salt beef alternating with pork, and 6oz biscuit (8oz of duff on Thursdays and Sundays); for supper 1/2 pint of tea and 4oz biscuit. They were allowed only a spoon, which some sharpened and used to carve objects from beef bones or their soap ration.

This diet can be compared with that of the sailors as listed in the 1865 Agreement. Their daily rations were to be 1lb bread, 1.5lb beef, alternating with 1.25lb pork, 1/2lb flour (rice on Saturday) alternating with 1/4lb peas, 1/8oz tea, 1/2oz coffee, 2oz sugar, 3 quarts of water and vinegar and lime juice "according to act".

## Security Arrangements

These are described by Mann. Between decks the convicts' quarters were divided off by a heavy oak bulkhead with a single small iron-studded door that was guarded day and night by a heavily-armed sentry. There was a barricade across the main deck, and armed guards were placed continuously at various points on the ship and as the Quarter Master struck the ship's bell every half hour each sentry called out, "No 1 all's well" and so on. The two 30lb cannons and the rifles were fired every day at noon.

## Discipline And Punishment

The Surgeon had to exercise discipline. A Pensioner Guard was put in the guard house for quarrelling with his wife, who was locked in the Hospital. Private Thomas Goodman had his grog stopped for seven days for, "carrying silly tales among the women whilst employed washing". Private Thomas Gillbride was placed on watch and had his grog stopped for seven days for thrashing John Humphries, the boatswain's mate. Pensioner Guard E. Radcliffe received the same punishment for fourteen days for supplying a clasp knife to convict Jones, who was confined under charge on the poop for 27 days. Punishments were not always served in full.

Four convicts were on bread and water for seven days for destroying their blankets, and all members of No 4 mess were placed on the Poop for 24 hours in charge of the Guard for stealing food. Convict George Wilmott was on the poop on bread and water for four days for stealing biscuits, and for seventeen days for going into the Pensioners' fore hold. During wet weather he was to be shut up in the Black Box, which Mann describes as "the sweatbox", like a small wooden sentry-box with not enough room to sit, and about half a dozen auger holes to see and breathe through.

## Disturbance on board!

In mid-June the temperature was rising and it was difficult to get the convicts to remain in bed. At 9pm on 15th the temperature in the prison was 84 degrees, and an hour later there was a disturbance and John Anderson was found insensible in his hammock with a severe wound on his forehead. Next day the convicts were told that "indulgences would be denied them" unless the perpetrator of the assault was

delivered up, and in half an hour Charles Gilbert was given into custody. The following day the Guards and the ship's company were assembled under arms on the poop while two convicts from each mess witnessed the prisoner receiving three dozen lashes. Then he was kept in custody of the Guard but with normal rations, which he was still receiving after a month, presumably in consideration of his physical condition after the flogging.

Mann describes the incident rather differently:

*"The [ventilating] fans were stopped and the grating hatches were put on. In the climatic conditions in which we then were this was terrible torture for human beings. This went on for 24 hours, when at last a man came to the bars."*

He says that it was rumoured that Gilbert was not the culprit but had come forward to relieve the others from the stifling heat. This could explain his release after six weeks.

## Man overboard!

Convict John Ryan went over the bows of the vessel to bathe, lost his hold, and was observed passing astern. A life buoy was thrown to him, a boat lowered and he received fourteen days bread and water on the poop. Off the coast of Brazil there was an alarm that another prisoner was overboard and the watch on duty immediately stood to arms. The vessel was hove to and a boat was lowered which very quickly picked up convict Thomas Ford, who was removed to the hospital in an exhausted condition. This incident is described more dramatically by Mann. The convicts,

*'were crowding in a shouting swearing mass up to the bulkhead... The captain sprang up on the poop and on to a hen-coop... In one hand he had his speaking-trumpet and in the other he carried a revolver. It was fine to see how he handled the situation...' Silence fore and aft – Turn out the guard – Gunners stand by – All hands on deck and to stations – Sail-trimmers back the main-yard – Afterguard clear away and lower starboard cutter – Quartermaster down helm."*

*'It was simply wonderful the power of coolness and discipline. In a few seconds the scene had completely changed, the soldiers had lined the front of the poop and were handling their rifles, the gunners held the trig-*

*ger-lines of the two 30lb cannons loaded with grapeshot waiting for the order to fire into the seething mass of convicts before the bulk-head...The commotion among the convicts seemed quieted as if by magic... In five minutes the hands had been piped down and the ship resumed her usual appearance... The captain told me years afterwards that it was his firm opinion, the whole thing was part of a prearranged plan to rush the poop and in the confusion capture the ship.'*

## The voyage ends

No landfall was made during the voyage, presumably for security reasons, and only two ships were encountered. The Dinapore was sighted near the equator and the Master sent a boat aboard with a letter from the Surgeon to the Director of Transport reporting progress.

At the end of the voyage trousers were issued to the convicts where absolutely necessary, to avoid barter with the ship's crew. On 10th August the ship anchored off Freemantle, then proceeded under pilot to Gages Roads where the Harbour Master and the Superintendent of Water Police came aboard. Four convicts from the Prison were engaged in knocking down the prison fittings, and on the 23rd the Surgeon went ashore to await a passage to London. All his charges except two of the 280 convicts had arrived at their destination. Seven prisoners were suffering from "moon blindness", a condition probably caused by deficiencies in the diet. A son had been born to the wife of Joseph Wright, but a child to Corporal Naughton's wife had been stillborn.

The Account of Crew showed that the ship was in Australia for at least six weeks, and then sailed leaving three of the crew in jail. It called at Madras and was in Indian waters for at least 47 days before rounding Cape Horn again to carry Ambrose back home to London. It arrived there on 11th March 1866 after a return voyage of 170 days and a round trip of 44 weeks and three days.

## Epilogue

What of the rest of Ambrose's career? I have a sea-horse that he said he caught in his hat at Aden, presumably on a voyage through the Suez Canal which was opened in 1869. The crew list recorded that he had Royal Naval Vol-

unteer's Certificate No 8053. The RNV was established in 1859 for those employed in British merchant-going ships. Volunteers undertook periodic training, which adds credibility to Ambrose's claim that he had drilled in the moat of the Tower of London and was skilled with foils and singlesticks. The RNV records are at Kew (BT 164) and give personal details of the volunteers and a full account of training received and ships served upon, but unfortunately the volume containing Ambrose's records is not preserved.

Ambrose and his wife Esther Pether appear to have been thrifty, because she invested his savings in property, leaving four houses in Chubworth Street, Deptford in her will, when she died a widow in 1906, but I have found no record of his birth, death or will.

As to the convicts on the "Race Horse", their names and details of trial and sentence are given in the contract for deportation, preserved at the PRO, Chancery Lane<sup>7</sup>. And the ship? During a 'Norther' and thick weather her skipper Paddy Conlon 'piled her up' alongside other wrecks on Mocha Island off the coast of Chile<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> C. Bateson – *The Convict Ships, 1787-1868* (Library of Australian History, 1983) pages 302-5 (summarises ref 4 below).

<sup>2</sup> C.T. Watts and M.J. Watts – *My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman* (SOG)

<sup>3</sup> National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF

<sup>4</sup> Maritime History Archive, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1C 5S7

<sup>5</sup> Cmdr B. Wemyss-Gorman – *A Boy's Voyage in a Convict Ship* (Blackwood's Magazine 242-52, March 1953).

<sup>6</sup> A Watson – "Journal" PRO Kew MT 32/9 3181 (Surgeon's logs on convict ships listed by ship's name).

<sup>7</sup> D.T.Hawkings – *Bound for Australia* (Phillimore, 1987). An appendix lists the piece numbers in TS18 and shows that the one for the *Race Horse* is 510.

<sup>8</sup> *Sea Breezes* The Pacific Steam Ship Navigation Co. Magazine. There is a typescript index at the NMM Library, Greenwich.

# Ripper's Berkshire Victim!

*By Simon Harrington*

My great-great-grandfather, James Harrington, lived in Spitalfields in the East End of London from sometime in the 1860s until he died in 1885, a few years before the notorious "Jack the Ripper" murders of 1888. His wife Esther and the children continued to live at 17, Quaker Street, a short way from the Commercial Street Police Station, where much of the detective work took place. In the course of some background reading about the area and the murders, I noticed that one of "Jack"'s victims, Annie Chapman, had Berkshire connections.

She was born Eliza Ann Smith in 1841 in Paddington, moving with her family to Windsor in 1856 where she met John Chapman (1843-1886), a coachman who worked for a gentleman in Clewer. They were married at Knightsbridge in 1869, and had two daughters and a crippled son, but returned to Windsor about 1881, where John worked for a Josiah or Joseph Weeks at St Leonard's Mill Farm Cottage, Windsor.

Following their daughter Emily's death in 1882, the couple separated by mutual consent around 1884/5, because of, what the police later referred to as, Annie's "drunken and immoral ways" (she was arrested by the Windsor police for drunkenness). Annie moved to London, whilst John Chapman retained the children but continued to pay his wife a weekly allowance of 10s by post office order made payable at the Commercial Street Post Office in Spitalfields. This payment ceased in 1887, after John's death at Grove Road, Windsor, on 25th December 1886. As a result of the father's death, the children were put into homes, the boy into a home for cripples

and the girl to an institution in France. With no money from her husband, Annie earned money by crocheting anti-macassars for sale, and selling matches and flowers, but it seems likely she was forced to resort to prostitution to make money.

The police description of Annie says that she was 5' high, stout, with dark brown, wavy hair, blue eyes and a thick nose. Her friend said that she was "*very civil and industrious when sober... generally very respectable*"

The keeper of her old lodging house said that she was not given to drinking. However, she suffered from a fatal disease of the brain and lungs, which, combined with malnutrition, could have given the appearance of drunkenness. She was murdered in a backyard of 29, Hanbury Street at 5.30 am on Saturday 8th September, 1888. She was the second victim of Jack the Ripper.

*The majority of the information in this article is drawn from "The Jack the Ripper A-Z" by Paul Begg, Martin Fido and Keith Skinner, published 1991 by Headline Book Publishing. There are of course many other books about the subject, varying in their balance of facts and wild theories, but I have found that this one is very detailed. If you happen to have ancestors who lived in the East End at the time it may well be worth a look.*

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Found in the Registers *by Sue Campbell*

From the Burial Register of Ramsbury with Axford: "Eatal, Edward 10.5.1798, an infant of 3 years old from Cirencester, drowned in the river by his father who was executed for it at Fisherton."

The Baptism Register of Ramsbury with Axford recorded that John, son of John and Anne Ashley was baptized on 13th July 1802 at his Mother's funeral.

Three Berkshire Miscreants

By Yvonne Masson

In the course of trying to find my missing great-great grandfather, William Dearlove, I looked everywhere I could think of, and my searches led me to the Guildhall Library in the City of London. Whilst there, I found that they had microfiche copies of an index of New South Wales Convict Indents 1788-1842 produced by the Genealogical Society of Victoria, Australia. I thought I might as well search them for Dearloves although of course I did not expect to find any! I found three! And one, oh dear, was a William, transported in 1821 – about the time my great-great grandfather disappears from the records. Subsequent research suggests it is highly unlikely that he is the transportee, but nevertheless, I came across some interesting case histories.

All three men, William, James and Thomas, were natives of Berkshire. The Guildhall Library listing of name, ship and date of arrival in Australia led me on to the Public Record Office at Kew and the General Musters taken of both convicts and free men in 1828 and 1837. Also a very helpful lady, with whom I correspond in Australia, sent me the convict indents on these three from the NSW records, which were more detailed. Both muster records and indents told where and when the men had been tried and this led me variously to the Public Record Office, the Greater London Record Office and the Berkshire Record Office.

William Dearlove

William was tried at Oxford Assizes as he had been living at Little Milton in the Parish of Great Milton, Oxfordshire, for some years and this is where the offence

took place. I had already found a William marrying at Great Milton to a Sarah Hand in 1810 whom I have identified with a William who was baptised at Childrey, Berks, in 1783, the son of Thomas Dearlove and Mary née Prater. The Assizes records at the PRO turned out to be large, unwieldy and extremely dirty rolls in cardboard boxes, several to a box and of course the last one I unrolled was the one I wanted. This revealed that, on the 26th January 1821, William, with Thomas Woodbridge, stole eleven bushels of flour, value £5, from the house of one Charles Surman, miller, of Great Milton. He was convicted on 7th March 1821 and sentenced to hang. It would seem that this sentence was commuted to life and transportation¹ for William embarked, along with Thomas Woodbridge and 174 other males, on the “Mary” which sailed from Portsmouth on 5th September 1821 and arrived at Sydney on 23rd January 1822. The convict indent states that his native county was Berkshire, that he was a ploughman, aged 36 and that he was 5’ 11.25” tall with a pale complexion, brown hair and brown eyes.

The 1828 muster record mistakenly calls him John but the background details are the same. His age is now 43, he is a “government servant” (convict) in the employ of S.O. Hassall at Macquarie Grove, Cook². The 1837 muster paints an even better picture. William is now given as 55, is still stationed at Cook, but has his ticket of leave³. He appears to have received this as early as 1830. The kind lady in Australia checked burial

1. It has been suggested that this was sometimes done if the convicted person could quote from the Bible.

2. This may be present day Cook in the Australian Capital Territory.

3. This was a kind of conditional pardon, as long as the convict stayed in a specified police district and did not re-offend.

records for me and found a William buried in NSW in 1856, aged 60, again a few years out, but this could be the same man. There is no record of him having re-married in Australia, something convicts were allowed to do with official permission and some records of which have survived. It would seem too that his wife Sarah, left with a family of four small children, one of whom was baptised nine days after the burglary, never re-married. She died in 1831, aged 50.

Joseph Dearlove

Joseph was a somewhat different character from William. He was probably only twenty when he was convicted on the 12th May 1831 at Middlesex Assizes¹ of stealing 40 ostrich plumes, value £4 10s, from his employer John Foster & Son of Wigmore Street, London². He was sentenced to fourteen years transportation. His indent states that he was a native of Berkshire, could read and write, was now aged 21, had been a feather dresser, and was 5' 4.25" tall with sallow complexion, brown hair and grey eyes. He had a scar on each hand and a front tooth missing. The 1837 muster shows that Joseph was then aged 26 and was living as a "government servant" in the District of Liverpool, having received his ticket of leave. No trace has been found of a burial for him.

Thomas Dearlove

In 1836, Thomas Dearlove was living in Moulshford parish. On New Year's Day, whilst passing by a field belonging to Peter Matthews, a farmer, he saw that someone (in fact Matthews' shepherd James Ockley) had left a large bundle of hay lying beside one of the farmer's haystacks. He lifted the hay onto his back and

spent the next hour or so trying to sell it to various people, none of whom would buy it as they were suspicious of his right to sell the hay. One of these became so suspicious (or inquisitive) that he followed Thomas to the "White Hart" at Streatley and saw him offer it for sale there. Shortly afterwards Thomas was arrested by the Village Constable. At his subsequent trial on 6th January, at Berkshire Quarter Sessions³, he pleaded "Not Guilty" to stealing 60 lbs of hay from Peter Matthews, but was found guilty. A previous conviction of one year being taken into account, he was sentenced to transportation for life. The hay was worth a few shillings: Thomas' trial cost £10 17s 2d. He was transferred to a prison hulk at Woolwich, and on 18th February 1836 sailed from Portsmouth on the "Strathfieldsay", arriving at NSW (via Rio) on 15th June, one prisoner out of the 270 on board dying on the voyage. Thomas' indent shows that he was 24, could read and write, that he was single, Protestant and a thatcher. He was 5' 3.75" tall, with brown hair, hazel eyes, a ruddy complexion and three scars. He does not appear on the 1837 muster, but his indent states that he obtained his ticket of leave in 1844. A Thomas is recorded in the NSW burials for 1851 aged 45/6, but as this is a few years out, he cannot positively be identified.

Conclusion

I have been unable as yet to get a "fit" for Joseph or Thomas amongst the Berkshire families as I have for William but hope to do so eventually. However as the above shows there is much which can be discovered about convicts, both in records held in this country and in records in Australia. These latter often reveal details about the rest of their (not necessarily unhappy) lives.

1. GLRO – Old Bailey Calendar

2. Foster was a well-known "Plumassier" – a specialist in dressing and mounting ostrich plumes.

3. Berkshire Record Office – microfilm and original Session Rolls.

Whilst investigating the truth of a family legend relating to the great grandfather of the wife of one of the authors, the following story came to light!

Lucy Jordan

*By Alan Turner
and Christian Steer*

It is alleged by the grandson of Charles Wiltshire, that he made the acquaintance of Oscar Wilde, whilst they were both sojourning in Reading Gaol. He is variously supposed to have been sentenced for drunkenness or mistreating his wife.

Wilde was imprisoned between 1895/6, and we were disappointed to find that the lists of inmates for Reading Gaol for these years were missing. However, on looking back through previous years, to see whether Charles had served any previous sentence, the name Lucy Jordan sprang to the eye. Charles Wiltshire's wife's maiden name was Jordan, and, in fact, Lucy was the twenty year old unmarried daughter of her cousin John Jordan.

Lucy Jordan was sentenced to two years imprisonment with hard labour in November 1891 after having been tried at Reading, for the murder of her new-born illegitimate daughter, before Mr Justice Day.

Lucy was a native of Buckland in the north west of the Berkshire, but had been in service at the Talbot Hotel in Bampton, just across the River Thames, in Oxfordshire, for some time before the events to be related. These have been extracted from the "Faringdon Advertiser" reports of the inquest, preliminary hearing and trial.

She returned home on 29th August, 1891. Her married sister, Sarah Painter, gave evidence that she suspected during

September that Lucy was pregnant. She did not speak to her on the subject, but told her father of her suspicions. He said that he had questioned Lucy and that she denied it. Intriguingly Sarah also stated that "her brother Frederick left home on the day Lucy returned, because of her condition." However, Frederick seems to have returned by the time of the crime.

On the night of 3rd October, 1891, Lucy retired to bed with her two sisters, Bessie aged sixteen, and Louisa aged eight, with whom she shared a room. At about 4am Bessie Jordan was awakened by Lucy walking around the room, and was asked if she would get her sister some castor oil. When she brought it Lucy then asked for a cup of tea. At the same time, Louisa got up. Bessie lit a fire downstairs in order to make the tea and Louisa took the tea up to her sister twenty minutes later and then returned downstairs. A little later Lucy came down and asked for the slop pail. This she took back upstairs and a short while later brought it down and took it out to the garden, later returning and leaving it by the door. She then went back to bed.

This evidence was given by Bessie who also said that Lucy seemed perfectly normal when she came down to breakfast at eight o'clock and not at all unwell. She ate her meals and did her work as usual. On Friday, 9th October, having had a letter from her former employer at Bampton, Lucy walked the four miles there and back.

The newspaper reports do not make it clear how the matter came to public light. The trial report merely states that on the 9th October, PC Portchmouth, "acting on information received", sought out Lucy, whom he met along the Bampton Road and took her into custody for the concealment of the birth of a child, that she had poked a finger down its throat and choked it. She then buried

it under a chestnut tree in her father's garden. She claimed that she had been driven to do it because of the treatment she had received from the neighbours. The following day, assisted by another constable, PC Portsmouth searched the garden and found the body of a female child about eighteen inches below the surface.

Medical evidence was given by Mr A.E. Clarke M.R.C.S. which showed that Lucy had recently had a child and the details of the post-mortem on the infant were also given. These were in accordance with Lucy's story.

A woman prisoner, Elizabeth Hitchman, gave evidence at the inquest and the trial. She had been held at Faringdon Police Station for theft at the same time that Lucy was brought there. She stated that when she asked Lucy what she was there for, Lucy told her of the birth of the child and of her subsequent suffocation of it. Lucy specifically stated that the child was born whilst her sisters were making the tea.

Following the usual closing speeches by both the prosecution and defending counsel, Mr Justice Day summed up and informed the jury, that if that found Lucy not guilty of murder, they could return a verdict of manslaughter or of concealing the birth. Within a few minutes the jury returned a verdict of not guilty of murder, but guilty of concealment, with a recommendation of mercy. The judge, however, in view of the fact that Lucy had undoubtedly killed her child, imposed the maximum sentence of two years with hard labour.

We still have to investigate what happened to Lucy in later life, after her release.

The Tottenham Outrage

By Helen Cox

In 1909, my great grandmother Mary Ann Cawley née Hawkins witnessed an incident which was dubbed the "Tottenham Outrage." On Saturday, 23rd January, she was buying vegetables from a travelling greengrocer, near to Schurmann's Rubber Factory in Chesnut Road, Tottenham, whilst at the same time some thieves were stealing the wages from the Rubber Factory and were shooting their way along the road. Mary heard the shots from their Mauser guns and went into action. The rest of the story can be found in the Daily Express of 1909,

"As the two men came running towards me I felt my nerves all going but I felt as though I must do something. The clerk and the driver of the car were writhing on the floor as if they were in fearful agony and I shouted, 'Good Heavens! Look! They have both been murdered.'

The robbers with their revolvers in their hands were quite close to me by this time and I reached for one of the weights from the greengrocer's scales to hurl at them. In my excitement I picked up a potato only. I flung it in the foremost man's face and though it hit one of them, it did him little harm.

When he came up with me he put his revolver into my face and pulled the trigger. I screamed but nothing happened. The pistol was empty. His companion, seeing this, handed him a loaded one and taking the empty one from him filled it again as they ran along the streets."

Mary Ann Cawley received an award of 10/- for her valiant attempts to thwart the robbers.

Doreen's Mum always said "Your great grandfather was Butler to Lord Ellesmere, you know. He fell down the cellar steps and drowned". However, when her Aunt Daisy said that he had "drowned in a ditch", she decided it was time to try to see where the discrepancies had arisen and to seek more of the truth.

An Open Verdict

By Doreen Rogers

I don't know why this was not one of my earlier family history investigations. Perhaps because my enquiries into my paternal lines were providing their own mysteries and keeping me busy. Perhaps because my grandma had been born "a Lancashire lass" and at that time I had not realised how much one can research by post and so the distance had put me off.

Grandma's maiden name of Habbin was not a common one, and I easily found Rosa Jane Caroline Habbin's birth in 1878 in Barton-on-Irwell, Lancs. The 1881 Census for the same address revealed further details about the family. As I knew Grandma's Dad had died when she was still a child, I found the death of John Habbin on August 8th, 1884. His death certificate showed him to have been 39 years old and that he had been an indoor servant and general helper. The certificate also said that he was

"found drowned in a pit of water no evidence how he came therein".

Well, it was true that he'd drowned, that much was established. As there had been a Coroner's Inquest, I then wrote to the Local History Library at Salford who very helpfully supplied reports of the inquest from two local newspapers, the "Salford Reporter" of the 9th August, 1884, and the "Eccles and Patricroft Journal" of the 8th August, 1884. Under

the heading, "Case of Drowning at Worsley", the former reported: "On Tuesday afternoon an inquest was held at the Grapes Hotel, Worsley, before Mr F. Price, district coroner, and a jury of which Mr Thos. Jackson was the foreman, on the body of John Habbin, who was found drowned in the fish pond at Worsley New Hall, on Saturday.

Maria Habbin, wife of deceased, 341, Worsley Road, Winton, said he had worked as the "odd man" at the New Hall, Worsley, for nearly ten years and had only come home occasionally. He was 37 years of age. He left home on Sunday week and appeared very cheerful. He did owe money to the bailiffs about three months ago but that did not seem to trouble him. Deceased told her he would be glad when the family came home. He lived comfortably at home.

Richard Harris, Bolton Road, Walkden, labouring joiner at the New Hall, said he was with the deceased on Saturday a little before noon cleaning knives in the old dairy. Deceased said to him, *'If they run me about like they have done I shall give up my job.'*

James Brittain, 482, Liverpool Road, Patricroft, gardener at the New Hall, said on Saturday he was passing the fish pond when he saw the crown of a man's head in the water; he appeared to be standing upright. He went for assistance and the body was dragged out by a rake attached to some cord, when they found it was that of deceased. He appeared to be quite dead. Means were used to restore life, but without effect. The pond was fenced around, and deceased had no business there at all, as his employment was chiefly in the house. In his opinion deceased had got over fence, as he could quite easily.

The jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned".

The report in the *Eccles and Patricroft Journal* provided further information,

"... Richard Harrison said deceased had not hard work and had no more than what he could do. He was well fed and had all that was needed. That was the last time he saw him alive. He was a healthy man and strong enough for his work. By a Juryman: He did not appear out of spirits and was not in the habit of grumbling. He took his statement as a kind of joke.

James Brittain, 482 Liverpool Road, Patricroft, said that he was employed at Worsley Hall. He never heard deceased complain about his situation. In the course of his duty as gardener he had to pass the pond and on Saturday about ten minutes past twelve he saw the body of deceased in the water. He appeared to be standing quite upright. Witness ran for assistance, and three of them got him out. Efforts were made to restore him, but without avail. Deceased had to run errands, but had no work to do in that part of the garden. Where he was found was the deepest part and the pond is fenced round at that end. By a juryman: He had seen him many times walking in the garden when he appeared to have nothing to do. An open verdict of "Found drowned" was returned.

From these it can be seen that Great Grandpa did drown "in the fishpond/lake". There was a large lake in front of Worsley New Hall and it seems likely that this was the lake referred to. From maps and old pictures supplied to me, it seems rather large to be called a fishpond. I am told that this lake still exists, located on private property, although New Hall was demolished in the late 1940s.

The newspaper reports showed too that Great Grandpa did work for the Earl of Ellesmere but an "odd man" is at the op-

posite end of the servants' hierarchy from the post of a Butler! I have however, found his uncle described in the 1851 Census as a "Gentleman's Servant", so maybe HE was the Butler, and that's where this particular confusion arose.

However those newspaper reports throw up as many questions as answers. Did he drown himself deliberately? If so why? Work problems? Money problems? Love affair?

Did he accidentally drown? Had he been drinking?

Was there foul play? Did a person or persons unknown "hold him under"?

An "Open Verdict" indeed!

A smaller graveyard

found by Lesley Hanna

You may recall that a year ago, in vol 15 no. 1, Carol Wright wrote about the *The smallest graveyard ...?* with just three graves. I recently found a clipping from the Evening Post of 23rd January 1975 which describes the graveyard at Caversham Hill Chapel, which which is alleged to have a single grave, commemorated by a plaque that reads:

*Sacred / to the memory of / JAMES
DADSWELL, / for 11 years a faithful
/ minister of this chapel / died July
19th / 1865 / aged 41 years / "He be-
ing dead yet speaketh"*

After looking at the memorial which is fixed on the wall of the chapel, I have an open mind, but do you know where the smallest graveyard in 'old' Berkshire is?

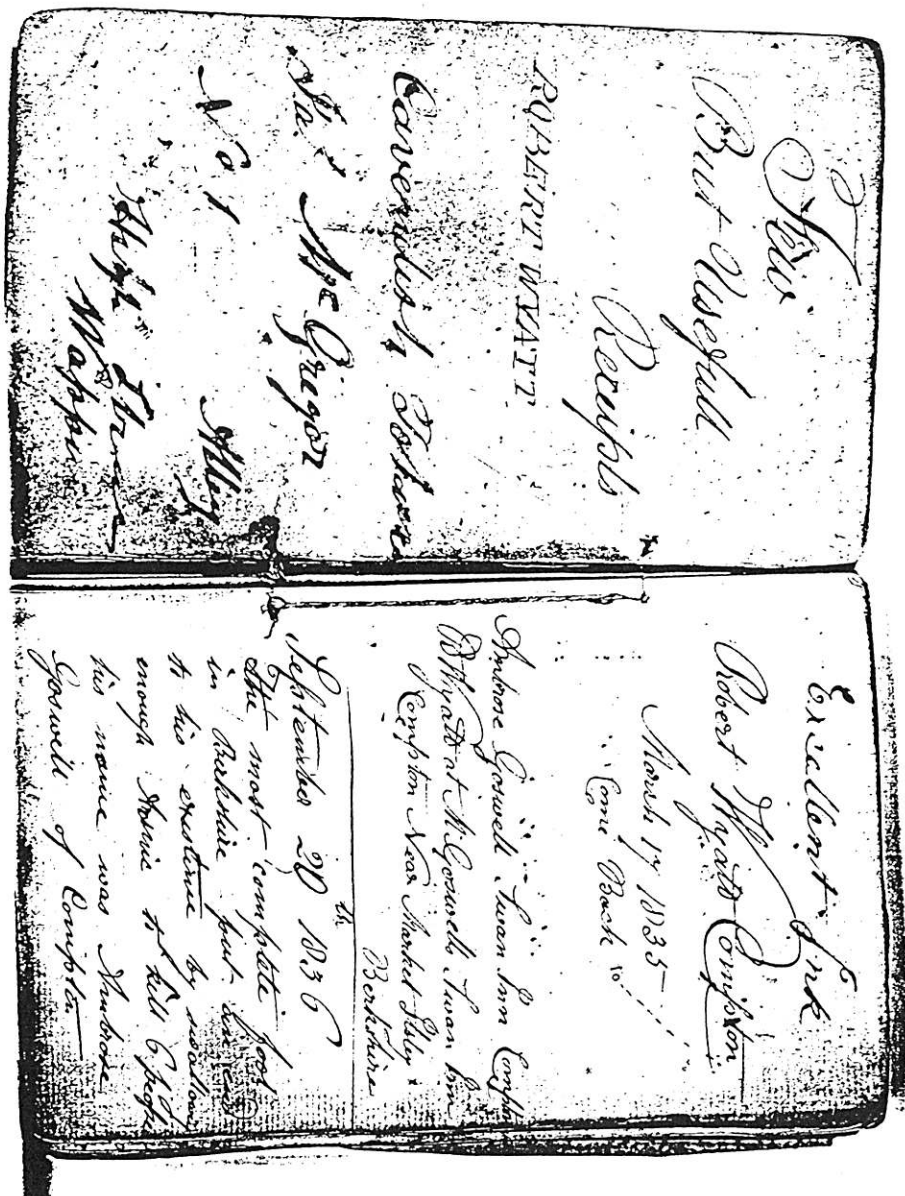
Suicide at Compton

By Pam Roberts

My great grandfather Robert Wyatt of Abingdon kept notebooks throughout his long life. At the age of nineteen, he went to work for Ambrose Goswell at

the "Swan Inn", Compton, perhaps as a pot boy. His employment was shortlived as in September 1836, Ambrose Goswell committed suicide and my ancestor went back to Abingdon. He lived there until his death in 1905, at the age of 90.

The illustration below shows Robert's opinion of his employer:



Accidental Death at Thatcham!

By Stuart Eagles

When my great-great-grandfather, William Holder, married in New Brentford in 1876, his occupation was shown as "Fireman for the Great Western Docks". His father, John Holder, was a Hay-Straw Dealer. Subsequently, William took on a farm in West Berkshire. He owned and worked Speen Farm, Speen Moors, Speen, from the early 1880s up until 1885.

In September 1885, William acquired Hart's Hill Farm in Thatcham. On December 27th 1895, William Holder was in an accident which caused his death. I have traced two reports of this, one in *The Berkshire Chronicle* of Saturday 24th January, 1896, and the other in the *Newbury Weekly News* of 2nd January, 1896. The following account is taken from *The Berkshire Chronicle*:

"On Monday evening last, Mr J.C. Piniger held an inquest at the New Inn, Thatcham, on the body of Mr William Holder, occupier of Hart's Hill Farm, Thatcham, whose death resulted from being thrown from his trap, the previous Friday. The first witness to be called was Dr Cole (in charge of Dr Lyon's practice). He deposed that on Friday evening last he was called to see the deceased, about 7 o'clock in the Marsh Road. The deceased was then but semi-conscious, and was being supported by two men. Deceased then seemed to be suffering great pain in the stomach. He had the deceased removed to his home at Hart's Hill Farm. He attended the deceased until his death which took place on the Monday evening. "Mr Frank Dodd, Baker, said that between 6 and 7 o'clock on Friday evening he was travelling

back to Thatcham from Bucklebury, with his horse and bread-cart. When he was about half way down the Marsh Road he saw another horse and trap coming at a rapid speed towards him and concluded it was a run-away. He pulled out of the way as far as possible to let it pass. The trap, however, collided with the wheel of his cart and he then heard a boy call out the word "father". He got out of his cart quickly and then saw the deceased by the side of the road. He immediately sent for medical assistance." "Frank Holder, son of the deceased, aged 13, said that he was riding with his father the previous Friday evening. They had been to Speen Moors and were returning to their home at Hart's Hill Farm. When they passed the Marsh Road corner, the rein broke, and the pony started off. He saw Mr Dodd's cart on the right side of the road. His father's trap struck Mr Dodd's trap and both he and his father were thrown out." "The jury consulted and returned the verdict of accidental death. They considered the cause of the accident was due to the breaking of the rein." "The deceased was forty-four years of age and had only recently taken to Hart's Hill Farm. The deceased occupied the farm at Speen Moors for many years." The following day, whilst he lay dying at Hart's Hill Farm, William was able to write his will in which he left effects of £1454 10s 5d. He was buried at Speen, where his wife joined him in 1929.

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Note against burial entry for 4th July 1845 for Robert MILLAR, aged 24, and William WRIGHT, aged 51, in *Hungerford Burial Register*: "Both these men were sitting under a tree in the London Road, opposite the turning to Upper Denford for shelter in a thunderstorm on 3rd July, 1845, and were struck dead by lightning." – found by Sue Campbell

# Murder at the Lodge

*By Christina Baigent*

Although only two generations from living memory, not even the remotest memory was stirred when I discovered the grave in Hurst graveyard of a Herbert Baigent, who died at the age of nineteen. After some basic research, great surprise was shown by the family that another brother existed let alone was murdered, so the search for more details began.

Herbert was born in 1872, the second son of Henry and Charlotte Baigent. Although he was born in Hampshire, within a few months his father had secured a job as blacksmith on the Hains Hill Estate and the family moved to Berkshire. From all accounts, Herbert had a very normal childhood until at the age of six his mother died of pneumonia, leaving Henry to raise four young boys by himself. Within two years Henry had found them a stepmother, Rosetta, who must have had a strong influence on the children's lives.

The four boys attended the local school and all sang in the church choir. Herbert was at the weekly practice the day before he died. At the age of fourteen Herbert left school and went to work for Major General Beauchamp as an undergardener at the Hurst Lodge, responsible for looking after "the cows and boots etc". The Major reported that the boy was very quiet, cheerful and hardworking.

Herbert had worked for the Major for four years when William Lazell was employed as the coachman. Lazell came with very good references from his previous employers in Essex. He had left them when he was required to extra duties on a Sunday.

Born in Upminster, Essex, Lazell at nineteen enlisted in the 4th Regiment of Foot and by the time he bought himself out in 1877, he had been awarded two conduct badges. The next few years he spent as coachman and groom to several families. He was a strict teetotaler, honest, trustworthy and he took excellent care of his horses. The Major also found him a quiet and obliging servant. Outwardly respectable, Lazell lived with his wife and eleven year old son, regularly attending Hurst Baptist Church, but the villagers reported that he was irritable and could be disagreeable.

The first inklings of the impending crime came in the Summer of 1891. Herbert aired an argument he had had with Lazell to William Bratt, the gardener of the Estate. Herbert met William at Twyford Station and on the journey home told him that he had seen Lazell thrashing the cows out of the shed. Telling Lazell to leave them alone, Lazell had retorted that Herbert was to mind his own business so Herbert had told him to go to his own stable and thrash his horses, not the cows. Lazell left the cows alone and nothing more was reported.

A few days later Herbert witnessed Lazell's son knocking down apples in the orchard and told him he had no right to be there. This was obviously reported to Lazell as later on that day he went straight to William Bratt and on finding that it was Herbert and not the gardener who had cautioned his son, was reported to have said that both gardeners were sneaks and, further that,

*"I will do something for him or he for me before long."*

The following morning passing by the cowstall where Herbert was milking cows, Lazell decided to have a word with him and told him not to drive his

boy out of the orchard. On leaving the shed Herbert retorted,

*"You don't dare hit me."*

Lazell flew into a rage and picking up a fork hit him over the head, shattering his skull and killing him instantly. He then stabbed and hit him several more times before recovering his senses and rushing out calling,

*"Oh dear, what shall I do?"*

The news spread quickly and soon several servants, Mrs Lazell and the Major were in the yard. PC Simmons and the surgeon were summoned.

The body was examined and removed to the Harness room at Hurst Lodge to await the inquest. Lazell, in a state of shock, was taken to Hurst lock-up and later to Wokingham. The inquest was held two days later, Monday 3rd August, at Hurst Lodge. After five hours of evidence the Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against William Lazell" with the foreman reporting that the Jury thought there was malice.

Herbert's funeral took place at the Parish Church of St Nicholas, Hurst, an important occasion. Schoolchildren were given the afternoon off. In reverence the six church bells rang out muffled peals as a procession of 300 to 400 people stretched from the churchyard to the bottom of the hill near the school. It was a scene that would never be forgotten by the villagers.

On the next day, William Lazell was brought up before the magistrates at Wokingham charged with wilful murder of Herbert Baigent on 1st August 1891. The court was crowded, the events of the previous week had had a profound effect on the whole community. Lazell was neatly dressed and appeared calm and collected throughout the inquiry. The evidence from the inquest was corroborated by the witnesses. The prisoner was

charged and cautioned and formally committed for trial on the capital charge and removed in custody to Reading Gaol.

It was three months later that the Berkshire Assizes were held in Reading. On 11th November, William Lazell admitted in court that he was guilty of striking the blow but not with the intention of killing him. This was taken to be a plea of 'Not Guilty'. After the evidence was given the Judge in summing up said that the Jury was there simply to administer the law in accordance with the facts of the case. All killing was wilful murder and unless the Jury were satisfied that there were circumstances which did not make this a case of wilful murder, they must return a verdict to that effect.

After two hours and ten minutes the Jury returned a verdict of,

*"GUILTY ... but we strongly recommend him to mercy on account of his previous good character."*

The Judge then sentenced Lazell,

*"To be taken hence the place whence you came and then to a place of execution and that you be there hanged by the neck until you die and that your body be buried within the precincts of the gaol and may the Lord have mercy upon your soul."*

With the sentencing of the death penalty, Mr Creed, Lazell's solicitor started an appeal. The feeling of the public was that it was almost certain that he did not go to the cowshed with the intention of making any serious attack on Herbert and that it was in no way a pre-meditated crime. A petition was signed by 5,900 people and after correspondence the Secretary of State felt able to advise Her Majesty to commute the capital sentence to penal servitude for life. On Friday 20th November, 1891, the appeal was granted by Queen Victoria.

# Prisoners escape from Reading Gaol in 1776

*By Jean Debney*

The following was abstracted from the *Reading Mercury and Oxford Gazette* of Monday 8th January 1776.

## p3 col.d: READING 6th January

"Yesterday morning between the hours of one and two, twelve prisoners confined in our county gaol for different felonies, found means, by the help of a saw, to get into a loft over the cell in which they were usually secured: from this place they soon contrived a method of getting to the roof, part of which they untiled, and effected an escape by the assistance of a rope: three of them are since retaken and brought back to their old lodgings, and the strictest search is making after the rest.

Rachel WALTER, (wife of one of the culprits not taken), William GARDENER and John FERRYMAN were this day committed to our gaol, on suspicion of procuring implements and aiding and assisting the above felons in breaking through the prison.

Nine pairs of fetters were left in the cell; a plain indication that a plan for their escape had been in agitation for some time."

## p2, col.d: Prisoners Escaped

"The names and descriptions of the several persons who broke out of Reading Gaol on 5th January 1775:

Thomas MEWIN, about five feet six inches high, about 23 years old, born in Radley, Berks, wears his own straight hair, has a particular look with his eyes, had on gaol dress, which is a white drill frock and breeches, white flannel waistcoat, check shirt and brown yarn stockings.

Thomas FARMER, about five feet ten inches high, about the age of 26 years, born at Wantage, Berks, dark brown curled hair,

black eyes, a little pitted with the small pox, was a miller, and had on the gaol dress with a dark brown shabby horseman's great coat over it.

Benjamin WALTERS, alias CHICK, near six feet high, about the age of 30, born at Newbury, Berks, light brown hair and had on the gaol dress with a brown cloth horseman's coat over it, and goes a little limping.

Thomas EDWARDS, about five feet eight inches high, his own black hair, black eyes, crooked nose, of a swarthy complexion, aged about 35, born in Newbury, by trade a felmonger<sup>1</sup>, but late followed barging and had on the gaol dress with a foulweather great coat tanned, without cuffs or capes.

Thomas TUGWOOD, about five feet eight inches high, about the age of 27, straight light brown hair, grey eyes, smooth fresh complexion, adown look, came lately from Bisham, Berks, by trade a sawyer, and had on the said gaol dress with a horseman's coat over it.

Benjamin PERKINS, about five feet seven inches high, about 40 years old, dark brown short hair, rough face with scars under his chin from the evil<sup>2</sup>, came from Chieveley in Berks, and is supposed to be born at Calne in Wilts, by trade a sieve-maker, and had on the gaol dress with a foulweather great coat over it.

John ELLERTON, about five feet nine inches high, aged 25 years, slim made, black eyes, fresh coloured, goes stooping and came last from London, where he had been a gentleman's coachman; he had on the gaol dress with a narrow gold laced hat.

Thomas ATTWELL, about five feet four inches high, about 17 years old, dark hair, small down looking eyes, swarthy complexion, came from Wantage, Berks, had lived with Mr Wymonfolde of Lockinge, Berks, as a stable boy, for several years, and had on the gaol dress.

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1. Felmonger/ fellmonger: dealer in animal skins, especially those of sheep.

2. The "evil": usually referred to as the "king's evil" because it was refuted to be cured by royal touch; also known as scrofula, it is a tuberculous infection of the lymph glands in the neck.

Joseph HAWKINS, upwards of six feet high, about the age of 26 years, remarkable stout-made, light curled hair, full eyed, round visaged, somewhat pitted with the small pox, by trade a woolcomber, was born in Newbury and has been a soldier in the first regiment of foot guards; he had on the gaol dress with remarkable long quartered shoes and large buckles.

Any person apprehending any of the above felons, shall receive a reward of two guineas for each so apprehending, to be paid by me, John HILL, Gaoler. ”

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The Exploits of Thomas Sims

By Joyce Sims

Sometime between April 1861 and October 1865 Thomas Sims left England for Australia. On 10th October, 1865, he married in St John's Church, Brisbane, Jane Margaret Owens, who, with her parents and nine younger brothers and sisters, had arrived in Australia from Ireland in 1862. Thomas and Jane Margaret settled at North Ipswich where it is said that Thomas was employed as a commercial clerk. There two children were born, Richard Littleworth on 4th June, 1866, and Sarah Jane on 3rd October, 1867.

On 7th September, 1867, Thomas' father died in Reading. It is quite reasonable to assume that when the news reached Thomas he decided to return to England in order to take over his father's business. On 12th June 1871, Thomas Sims married at St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, Martha Veale, daughter of Hester and Thomas Coleman Veale of Cheltenham. Thomas gave his occupation as "gentleman" and his marital status as bachelor and both gave their place of residence as Reading.

There is no record in Queensland Archives of a divorce between Thomas and

his first wife, Jane Margaret. There would be a note on any copy of the marriage certificate to say that the marriage had been annulled later if a divorce had taken place.

A child was born to Thomas and Martha on 20th May, 1872 at Cheltenham who was named George Coleman Veale Sims, and his father's occupation was given as "gentleman". Martha filed for divorce on 7th August, 1872 and this became valid on 4th November, 1873 on the grounds of cruelty and adultery. According to her petition she did not have a very pleasant time with Thomas and it is a wonder the baby was born at all. Thomas did not appear at the hearing to defend the story so only Martha's story appears. It seems that Thomas acquired money from Martha for drinking and gaming. Thomas himself was sentenced to ten days hard labour on the 9th March, 1874, at Brighton Magistrate's Court for being drunk and disorderly.

Not long afterward on 23rd April, 1874, Thomas Sims took his life at Portslade, near Brighton. His death certificate states the cause of death as,

"Suicide by shooting himself with a pistol whilst insane." Thomas did not leave a will, but Martha took out Letters of Administration, which show that she claimed his money, "under £6000" for their son, as "natural and lawful son and next of kin".

It is obvious that no one in England knew of Thomas' first wife in Australia and their two children. Furthermore the Australian descendants of Thomas Sims did not know of his exploits in England. It must be pointed out that none of his Australian descendants have followed in his footsteps.

Berkshire Record Office News

Berkshire Overseers Project

from Peter Durrant

A very successful 'work-in' was held at the Record Office on the last Saturday in October. Altogether some 20 people attended for all or part of the day, and substantial progress was made on the project. Checking has almost been completed on the parishes which will make up the second volume in the series (Aldermaston, Englefield and Pangbourne) and a good start was made on transcribing in several other parishes, including Kintbury, Shinfield and Tilehurst.

I am very grateful to those who gave up their time to come – and indeed to all those who have visited the Record Office over the past few weeks and who have also made a valuable contribution.

In view of the success of the day, I hope to be able to arrange another two Saturday work-ins between Christmas and Easter. Dates will be announced at Society meetings, or you can ring me on 0734-233180. We have made a good start – but there's a long way to go yet, so keep on coming!

From Elizabeth Hughes

Parish Accessions

During the past six months Berkshire Record Office has received records, including registers, of two parishes from which no records had previously been received, namely Stubbings, baptisms 1852-1968, marriages 1875-1951, and burials 1834-1855, and Reading Holy Trinity, baptisms 1875-1949, marriages 1875-1951 and burials 1834-1855. Although Holy Trinity, Reading, was formed in 1875, the church existed from 1826.

In addition, the parish of Earley St Peter deposited its earliest registers in October 1992. These had been retained at the church when the other records were deposited in

June 1991 until the task of transcribing them had been completed. The new deposit covers baptisms 1854-1931, marriages 1854-1940 and burials 1854-1916.

Exhibitions and Events

The Maidenhead Roadshow took place on 12th September at Maidenhead Library and featured exhibitions on the work of the Record Office, Conservation Unit and Local Studies Library, practical demonstrations of Conservation work and advice surgeries. Although not as many people attended as we had hoped, those who did spent an enjoyable and instructive time. We feel that we should continue to reach out beyond Shire Hall and hope to hold two similar events in 1993/94. The first will be a joint venture with Newbury Museum, held at the Museum in June 1993. We also intend to hold an Open Day at the Record Office in Shire Hall in April or May 1993 where visitors will be able to see what goes on behind the scenes.

The Record Office's contribution to Berkshire County Council's Berkshire in Europe Week, was an exhibition in November, in the Shire Hall display cases, of the county's historical links with the continent, whether by travel, trade or town-twinning. One of the exhibits is an account written in French by Mary Letitia Barrett of Milton Howe in which she tells a fabulous story of her journey alone to France in 1810-13 in search of her fiancé, encountering numerous people, including Napoleon, and hazards, such as finding a French officer in her bed, on the way. We are planning future exhibitions on county maps, the work of the bindery, recent accessions and the Civil War.

Maidenhead Library Local Studies Collection

By Rodhri Thomas

Have you ever wondered about the history of your Town or the town where your ancestors lived? Have you ever visited the Local Studies Collection at Maidenhead Library.

The Collection contains a wealth of material including books, pamphlets, maps, photographs and periodicals plus the *Maidenhead Advertiser* and the Census Returns for 1841-1891 on microfilm. The Collection contains material on Maidenhead, Bray and Cookham and a limited amount of information on surrounding villages. There are also standard histories of other towns in Berkshire and general books on Berkshire. A limited amount of material on Buckinghamshire, including Taplow and Cliveden is also available. There is also a special collection of books on the River Thames.

The Local Studies Collection is the ideal place to begin local history research as the materials form a unique collection. Staff will also be able to advise whether a visit to the Berkshire Record Office, County Local Studies Library, or elsewhere, would prove fruitful.

It is the ideal place to start researching your family history – the Reference Library has various guides on family history research and publications by the Federation of Family History Societies. The IGI is available on microfiche.

The use of the microfilm or microfiche readers can be guaranteed by prior booking with Reference Library staff. A printing service is also available for the material held on microfilm or microfiche.

If your family are local it is possible to gain a fuller picture of how they lived through the histories of Maidenhead, the photographic collection and the pages of the *Maidenhead Advertiser*.

Tracing the history of your house is a popular area of interest but can often be more difficult than people imagine. The deeds to the property can be a useful source of information and several books have been written on the subject. The Collection includes a run of *Kelly's Street Directories*, the earliest dating from 1830 and there is a back run of electoral rolls dating from 1947.

Wokingham Group Libraries

*By Carol Carson
(Local History Specialist)*

The main Local History Section is at Wokingham Library. This includes general books on local history, both for loan and for reference and a small pamphlet collection. All libraries in the Wokingham Group have some local history books, the number of items depending on the size of the Library. Our collections are focussed on Berkshire with a few general books on Henley. Cuttings files are kept at Wokingham, Woodley, Lower Earley and Maiden Erleigh.

The following can be found in the Local History Collection at Wokingham Library:

Philimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers

Finding Your Family: a Genealogist's Guide to the Berkshire Record Office

All Saints Monumental Inscriptions

1851 Census for Wokingham and Index to the 1851 Census for Wokingham plus Beech Hill and Remenham.

Our pamphlets include a small number of Gibson and McLaughlin guides. We also have a limited number of directories including a few Kelly's Berkshire and Gotelee Compendiums for Wokingham from the Edwardian period. The library also holds lists of items held in other libraries.

Finally of special interest to those from the Wokingham area is the "Wokingham Remembered" material. This project produced transcriptions of oral history tapes, photographs and entries from directories covering Peach Street, Broad Street, The Market Place, Denmark Street and Rose Street in Wokingham for the years 1828-1971.

Q & A with Jean

Compiled by Jean DEBNEY

Q. IS IT IN THE IGI?

Mrs Margaret FARMER (2492) of Victoria, Australia writes as follows: Slight progress has been achieved in our search for Robert JOHNSON's background in that we have obtained a copy of his half or step-sister's marriage certificate which took place on 21 Feb 1848 in the Parish Church of St Mary, Reading. Her name was Ann WATSON and she lived at Coley Terrace. Could you please tell me whether that parish has been included in the IGI?

A The short answer to your questions is "yes". How I found out takes a bit longer!

I first consulted the entry for St Mary Reading in the "National Index of Parish Registers Vol. 8 part 1: Berkshire"¹. This showed that the original registers from 1538 are in the Berkshire Record Office as follows: baptisms to 1904, marriages to 1954 and burials to 1903. However, printed copies of the registers from 1538 to 1812 published in two volumes in 1891/2 are available in many large libraries (including Reading Reference Library). The Bishops' Transcripts from 1607 to 1835,² are in the Wiltshire CRO whilst those of 1836 to 1907, are in the Oxford CRO.

I next consulted the "Parish and Vital Records List"(1991) which is to be found at the beginning of the IGI. The introduction to this states: this "is a list of the parish, town and county records

extracted [indexed] by The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints, since 1961, as part of its records extraction program for time periods for which all individuals are deceased. It also indicates records that are currently being extracted. All extracted records are automatically indexed in the IGI."

The information is arranged alphabetically by country, county and then by parish and should be used by all researchers to determine which records to examine, whether a particular parish has been included and if so for what type of record/s and period of time. Further details include the call numbers for the copy (usually microfilm) of the original source that can be ordered and viewed at LDS Family History centres throughout the world.

The PVRL indicates that the period and records covered in the IGI for St Mary, Reading are christenings from 1538-1862 and marriages 1538-1876. This suggests that you should be able to order and check the copy registers in Australia without going to the expense and trouble of hiring someone to check the records in Berkshire.

Q. Wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (PCC)

Mrs Beryl Mason (2505) of Surbiton, Surrey writes: I am researching my family name of BARFORD and have learned that there was a PCC will of Thomas BARFORD, March 1774 and another one in December 1781, both in Bedfordshire. Could you tell me what this is, how I can follow it up and where to go, etc.

Also I have a Joseph BARFORD who died on 11 Jan 1848 at Maidenhead. When his widow, Rebecca BARFORD (née LEEVER) died in 1874, the report of her inquest in the "Reading Mercury", stated that "she lived on a life interest on

1. Published by the Society of Genealogists at £5.70.

2. The Archdeaconry of Berkshire was transferred out of the Diocese of Salisbury into the Diocese of Oxford in 1836.

some property left by her husband, which property now comes to the family." Does this mean that Joseph left a will for her, and if so, how do I find out about it?

A PCC stands for the Prerogative Court (of the Archbishop) of Canterbury which was, until December 1857, the senior ecclesiastical court in England and Wales responsible for probate. The records of this court are now at the Public Record Office at Chancery Lane, London, where they can be seen on microfilm. The annual calendars have been published as indexes from 1383-1700 by the British Record Society and from 1750-1800 (A-Sh only so far) by the Society of Genealogists; copies of these are available in many libraries. The BARFORD wills for 1774 and 1781 can be seen, and photocopies ordered, at the PRO in Chancery Lane. I hope they produce some useful information to add to your family history.

It is quite usual for a husband to make some provision in his will for his widow during her lifetime, and then after her death her portion of the estate was to be divided among named legatees. Since the 1874 newspaper report mentions property due to the family, it is possible that a copy Will exists for Joseph BARFORD who died in Maidenhead in 1848. This Will may be in the PCC or the Courts of the Bishop of Salisbury, whose records are in the Wiltshire RO, Trowbridge, Wilts., or of the Archdeacon of Berkshire whose records are now at the Berkshire Record Office.

From your letter it sounds as if you are quoting from the newspaper cutting, but if not, a copy of Rebecca's death certificate will give you the exact date she died in 1874. Any unexpected or sudden death requires a Coroner's Inquest and the informant on the certificate in such cases is always the Coroner who sat on

the case. A few days later, the local newspapers usually include a full (and gory) report of the case. The "Reading Mercury" (from 1750s) is held in the Local Studies Library, Reading Central Library, or can be seen in the Newspaper Library at Colindale, London.

Further information about the above sources can be found in the "Gibson Guides" published by the FFHS: (1) Probate Jurisdiction: where to look for wills (3rd ed 1989) and (2) Local Newspapers, 1750-1920, in England & Wales, the Channel Islands & the Isle of Man (1991), both obtainable from our Society bookstall.

Q. What did she die of?

Pamela SHEADER of Bracknell, Berks says "I have a death certificate for an ancestor who died in 1867 aged 33 years in which the cause of death is given as "Morbus cordis anasarea, 2 months". The deceased had had a baby shortly before she died. What did she die of and could the pregnancy have caused it?"

A My Latin dictionary stated that "morbis" meant disease or sickness and that "cordis" is the heart. I then turned to Webster's "3rd New International Dictionary" and this said that "anasarca"¹ was oedema or dropsy (fluid collected in the tissues, usually the ankles, legs and, later, the abdomen.) In other words, your ancestor died of heart failure.

If your ancestor had been born with a defective heart or had later acquired a defect as a result of say rheumatic fever (which could attack the heart valves), then the pregnancy would have placed extra strain on an already weakened organ – ie. it could have been the straw which broke the camel's back!

1. Probably misread or even incorrectly recorded by the original Registrar.

Q. What does “extra-parochial” mean?

Jean WILLES of Caversham has found that one of her husband's ancestors whose father was employed by the Marquis of Ailesbury, was baptised in Savemake Forest, Wiltshire. This is listed as being “extra parochial” and wonders what this means.

A The easiest way to answer this question is to quote from “Making Sense of the Census” by Edward HIGGS (HMSO 1989), appendix 4, page 128:

“Certain geographic areas were not organised as parishes and hence were called extra-parochial. There were a number of reasons for this arrangement, including association with the crown (Windsor Castle), with a religious house before the Dissolution, or with a cathedral chapter, or with other corporate bodies such as inns of court. These areas enjoyed virtual exemption from taxation; from maintaining the poor, since there was no overseer; from the militia laws because there was no constable to make returns; and from repairing the highways because there was no official surveyor.

“In 1857 the privileges of those areas were curtailed by an Act ‘to provide for the relief of the poor in extra-parochial places’. This decreed that places named extra-parochial in the 1851 Census Report were to be deemed parishes for this purpose and to have overseers of the poor appointed. In the case of very small areas, the place was annexed to an adjoining parish, if the consent of the owners and occupiers of two-thirds (in value) of the land was obtained. In the case of places not specified as extra-parochial in the Census Report the Act was merely permissive, and therefore, large-

ly inoperative. An act of 1868 declared that every extra-parochial place existing on 25 December 1868, should be added to the next adjoining civil parish with which it had the longest boundary. Some lighthouses and small islands, which were not contiguous with any parish, were overlooked in the Act and remained extra-parochial. There were still many places extra-parochial from ecclesiastical parishes which enjoyed special privileges under church law of custom.

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## Soldiers' Discharge Certificates Indexing Project

“Robert Stoker discharged from 2nd Life Guards born at Thatcham near Newbury, Berks, enlisted Windsor 16 April 1822 aged 19 discharged 1825 in consequence of debility and emaciation arising from incipient organic disease rendering him wholly incapable of duty, conduct very good. Signed with a mark. At discharge aged 19, 5' 11.5" tall, brown hair, grey eyes, fair complexion, by trade a farmer. Pension 6d.”

The above was taken from WO 97/10 and is an example of the wealth of information to be found on a soldier's discharge certificate. The Friends of the Public Record Office have recently begun an ambitious project to index all the soldiers' discharge certificates between 1760 and 1854 held in Class WO97. At present these are arranged alphabetically within regiments making it virtually impossible to find a certificate without knowing the regiment, at time of discharge. The database produced as a result of this work, will be able to group men by regiment or county of origin, as well as alphabetically. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Lesley Wynne Davies at 47, Wyndcliff Road, Charlton, London, SE7 7LP.

# Book Ends

## *Compiled by Jean Debney*

All the following books are available from Society branch bookstalls at meetings, or by post from Jean Debney (address on back cover). Please remember to include the appropriate amount to cover postage and packing.

### Federation Publications

**Accommodation Register** (6th ed, FFHS 1992 – A5 24 pp) price £1.95 + p&p 25p UK, 50p surface mail or 80p airmail.

A list of offers of “B & B” for family historians at a recommended charge of £15 a night plus (where available) £8 for an evening meal. Some accommodation is self-catering but there are also details of the rooms (single, double, twin, family), car parking, whether for ladies, married couples or non-smokers only, if children or pets are welcome and if there is a baby-sitting service, also if the host/ess is a member of the local FHS. A very useful list if you are planning to research or go on family history “walk-about” in some county away from home. Sadly the list does not include any Berkshire addresses – any offers? Write to Mrs Sally Churches, 44 Blythe Road, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 3LR for an application form.

An Introduction to **The Census Returns of England and Wales** by Sue Lumas, FFHS 1992, A5 22p (+ 1 blank, ?for notes); price £1.95 + p&p 30p UK, 60p surface mail or £1.20 airmail.

This is a disappointing first in a new series: “An Introduction to ...” promised by the Federation of FHS to assist newcomers and others with their family history research. I hope that future publications improve – the cover is “camouflage green” similar to several other FH booklets and guaranteed to attract little attention on a bookstall display. Sue Lumas, a former Census Reading Room Officer and author of the excellent PRO publication *Making Use of the Census* has obviously not wanted to put anything in

this “Introduction” which might prejudice the sale of the former. However, if you are new to family history, then this booklet will be of use to you.

**Current Publications by Member Societies** (7th ed, FFHS 1992) A5 88pp, price £4.50 + p&p 45p UK, 80p surface mail, £2.15 airmail. **Current Publications on Microfiche by Member Societies** (2nd ed, FFHS 1992) A5 76pp, price as above.

The earlier editions of these publications were skinny, cheap, and did not sell at all well. They are now fat and expensive and sell extremely well because they contain lists, county by county, of all the census indexes, parish registers, etc. etc. that are pouring out of the various family history societies. This years’ editions include all UK counties plus Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the USA.

**Lists of Londoners** by Jeremy Gibson & Heather Creaton (FFHS in association with the Centre for Metropolitan History, 1992) A5, 40 pp & 4 maps; price £2.50 + p&p 30p UK, 60p surface mail or £1 20 airmail.

This new “Gibson Guide” includes lots of information to help you sort out many of the problems encountered when trying to carry out research in London. The range of its contents are probably best described by quoting from the FFHS “blurb”:

*“This Guide brings together information for the whole metropolis, not just the City, on a variety of genealogical sources, listing many published and unpublished indexes in over 100 locations. Descriptions are given of some of the more complex classes of records, such as marriage licences, probate, tax lists and oath rolls. For the 1851 census the various registration districts are listed in order with a clear indication of which indexes have been published by which societies. Electoral registers are arranged by constituency and for the first time include British Library holdings. The index lists all*

*City of London, Middlesex and Southwark parishes with a key to the ecclesiastical jurisdiction in which they lay."*

**SUFFOLK: A Genealogical Bibliography** by Stuart Raymond (FFHS 1992) A5 92pp, 3 indexes: family names, place names and authors; price £6 + p&p 45p UK, 90p surface mail, £2 airmail.

At last, a county in this series in which I am researching my ancestors – all I need now is the time to get out and do some research ...! Usual pale pink cover (with the deeper pink over-printing unfortunately omitted by the printer ...) and a map on the cover which indicates by a black area the location of this county, the first to be covered in East Anglia. A must if your ancestor came from this county.

**Forming a One-name Group** by Derek A Palgrave (4th ed FFHS 1992) A5 17pp; price £1.50 + 20p UK, 40p surface mail, 80p airmail.

Although written primarily for one-name researchers, this slim publication contains much useful information to enable many family historians to expand their range of research and communication with others. The author commences with accumulating the basic data from a variety of sources and continues with suggestions for publishing the findings in newsletters, monographs and family histories plus details of printing, copyright and bibliographic requirements. There are suggestions for informal and formal gatherings plus how to organise a one-name group from the steering committee to the inaugural meeting, via officers and finances. It concludes with some notes on how the one-name group can contribute to family history in the wider context.

**Monumental Inscriptions** (4th ed revised by Penelope Pattinson, FFHS 1992) A5 34pp; price £2 + p&p 30p UK, 60p surface mail or £1.20 airmail.

John Rayment had already begun revising his popular booklet (previous edition 1981) when his untimely death in November 1991 robbed family history of one of its most in-

dustrious and humorous supporters. The presentation of this new edition, completed by Penny Pattinson, is much improved: the figures have been redrawn, there are a couple of photos (one of John Rayment), nice, clear print and the cover is an attractive blue-green laminated card adorned with a photo of a churchyard recording session. The contents have also been expanded so that no-one will have any cause to produce second-rate recordings. Inevitably, however, some of John's original humour has been sacrificed.

## Other Publications

**Ecclesiastical Courts, their officials and their records** by Colin R CHAPMAN (Lochin Publishing 1992) A5 76pp, index; price £5 + p&p 50p UK, 80p surface mail, £2.10 airmail.

Another useful and well-researched "Chapman Cameo" which has resulted from the author's lectures on the subject. The ecclesiastical courts dealt with moral and other issues concerning the clergy and laity including witchcraft, fornication, excommunication and, until 1857, matrimonial cases (divorce) and probate. From an early date, the courts were entirely separate from both the manorial and the common law courts. This "Cameo" explains the ecclesiastical legal system, the judges and other court officials, court structure and procedures, the Archbishops' courts and Doctors' Commons, etc. and concludes with details of the courts' records and where they can be found.

**The Book of Trades or Library of Useful Arts 1811, Vol.II** edited by Beryl HURLEY (Wiltshire FHS 1992) A5 63pp, illustrations; price £3 + p&p 35p UK, 55p surface mail, £1.20 airmail.

More job descriptions originally published in 1811, and illustrated with Rustic Vignettes for Artists & Craftsmen by W H Pyne, pub. in 1824. This volume includes the bookbinder, brazier, brewer, brick-maker, brush-maker, button-maker, cabinet-maker, calico-printer, carpet weaver, copper-plate printer, cork-cutter, cutler, en-

graver, glass-blower, iron-founder, ladies' dress-maker, merchant, needle-maker, painter, paper-maker, paviour, pin-maker, printer, rope-maker, sadler, shoe-maker, statuary, stocking weaver, taylor, tin-plate worker, trunk-maker, turner, watch-maker, weaver, wire drawer and wheelwright.

[This is an expanded version of the entry included in the last *Bershire Family Historian*.]

**Computers for Family History, an introduction** by David HAWGOOD (4th ed. David Hawgood 1992) A5, 60pp, price £3.50 + p&p 30p UK, 50p surface mail, £1 airmail. Reviewed by *Chad Hanna*.

The book is packed with about 49 pages of readable, typeset information, in addition to the essential two page glossary, contents and index, between its bright red covers. It introduces every topic you might want to consider in relation to computing for family history, and points you in the right direction for more information. I don't think this is the only book you will need to read before buying your first computer for family history, but it is the first.

I believe David succeeds in reaching out to his target audience of "the genealogist with no previous experience of computers", and I found only a few occasions when a jargon word was used before it had been explained – but the glossary and index should help.

There is the niggling feeling that the book tries to cover too much ground and that a fifth edition will be needed in a year or so, although the fourth edition was bang up to date in August 1992.

All in all, if you are thinking about buying a computer, whether it's for the kids, yourself or both, you should read this book first. Only computer aficionados can get by without it.

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## HELP!

The regular slot for that elusive ancestor! If you've lost someone, drop the Editor a line, help may be at help!

Syd Quarterman (703) of Garden Cottage, Tarvin Sands, Tarvin, Chester, CH3 8JD is trying to trace two cousins, the son and daughter of his father's sister. Their names are Arthur and Diane COLLIER and their parents were Richard and Bessy COLLIER. Bessie died when Arthur and Diane were young. Bessy was buried at Yattendon Church possibly before World War Two

Mrs A. Harcourt (2086) of "The Cottage", 94, Weolbrook Road, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 9XD is seeking information on the family of James and Jemima ALDRIDGE. They were married in 1853 at Avington and a son James was baptised in 1854 at Stratfield Mortimer. Jemima is shown as a widow in the 1891 Census.

Mr S.Aust (2154) of 2, Highfield Close, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4HQ has come across a watch inscribed, "Presented to J.F.Aust by his friends at Abergynon on the occasion of his leaving for Stoke-on-Trent October 20 1902." However, Abergynon does not appear in the gazetteers he has checked. Does any member happen to know where Abergynon is?

Helen Cox (2564) of 11, Queens Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 1NE writes: "My great-grandmother Mary Ann HAWKINS (b. 1855) and her sister Emma HAWKINS (b. 1858) were both born in Wokingham. Their mother and father were Maria Ann MULFORD and William HAWKIN. I have been unable to their marriage or to progress further back on this line. According to the marriage certificates of both Mary Ann and Emma, their father William HAWKINS was a sweep. The two HAWKINS sisters married two brothers Charles Henry CAWLEY and Frederick Leigh CAWLEY in the Parish Church at Hackney, Middlesex. Mary Ann CAWLEY had ten children – Emma had none. I would be most grateful if anybody could please help me to find the marriage of Maria Ann MULFORD and William HAWKINS, probably in the mid-1850s."

# DEAR EDITOR ...

*John Hicks, County Librarian and Member no 2488, has written in response to the letters from Mr Whiteman and Mr Champion in the September edition of the Berkshire Family Historian who were both critical of the level of charges for research undertaken by staff at the County Local Studies Library.*

"Each year my department – which embraces Libraries, the Record Office, the Arts and Tourism – is set an income target. This is an integral part of our budget in that the cost of running all the services is underfunded by the amount we are expected to raise from income. If we do not reach the target we end the year over-spent and in the following year our expenditure budget is reduced to pay off the debt. This is rather simplistic way of describing it (local government finance being an arcane science) but it is essentially what happens.

For some years we have not reached our income target. Two thirds of it usually comes from fines for overdue books, and fees for reservations and borrowing cassettes, videos or compact discs. We can't compel customers to keep items out longer and there has been a clear trend to return them within the loan period of three weeks. Thus income from fines has dropped. Unfortunately our income target has not been reduced accordingly; indeed, it rises every year and currently stands at £688,000. Under the rules of County Council finance we have to be granted a "growth" sum in order to reduce the income target. Alternatively I could propose permanent reductions in some budget headings, but this would inevitably affect staffing and the library bookfund. Instead this year the County Council, to whom I am responsible, opted to try and raise the additional money

by increasing existing charges and introducing some new ones.

I am well aware of the problems of market forces. If we put our charges too high we won't achieve a satisfactory level of business and our problems repeat themselves. We have undertaken some market testing and believe that we have set the charge at about the right level to meet the target for research services. Indications for the past six months show we are not achieving as much income as we would like from this source, but it is beginning to pick up. I don't think the charges are substantially in excess of other Authorities and in pursuing my own family history I have paid around our level elsewhere in the country.

I am sorry that some members of the BFHS regard the charge as unreasonable. Unfortunately, we have to cover the cost of staff time, which with national insurance, superannuation, etc. is always more than the employee is actually paid. Without these overheads self-employed researchers can offer their services at a lower rate. Local Government finance is subject to continual curbs and squeezes. If we reduce the cost of research services the charges will have to go up for other services. Because of budget problems in the past year, I have had to make staff redundant and to avoid more we have to achieve our income target. Members may be assured therefore, that we are sensitive to market pressures. Although the increase for research services was significant last April, I trust it enables us to continue to offer a quality service."

*The following letter from Brian Taylor (member 2631), who lives in Devon could be entitled, "Beginnings in Berkshire". Brian is a member of six family history societies and thinks that our society has the best journal!*

"When I started my family history research a year ago I had no idea it would

lead to Berkshire. Nothing had been passed down in either my own or my wife's family to suggest any Berkshire connections. In this period and with a limited time to spend I have discovered that my great grandmother Clara Taylor nee Ironman was born on 9th December, 1845, in Northbrook Street, Newbury. Her father, Morris, was described as a greengrocer. Clara married my great grandfather Thomas in Gloucester in 1863. Whilst searching the St Catherine House indices at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Plymouth I realised that Ironman was an unusual surname. I have looked at the current telephone directory which covers Newbury and note that there is no one with that surname listed today.

I joined the Berkshire FHS last April in order to learn more about the County in general and Newbury in particular. I wanted to try and place my forebears in the context of their time. I have never visited Newbury, but I have now purchased everything I can on Newbury. From "Newbury Roundabout" I have discovered that Northbrook Street was, and still is, an important area of the town and the centre of trade. At the end of the book there is a list of all the traders in the street taken from the Census Returns of 1851-1881 and what a surprise, it shows Morris Ironman trading at No. 66 as a fruiterer in 1851 and a greengrocer in 1861. I hope to find out more about the family when I visit Berkshire Record Office and Libraries.

When the June edition of the *Berkshire Family Historian* arrived I was delighted to note that the Newbury Branch would be having a lecture by Audrey Franklin, on the 11th November, entitled "Newbury Shopkeepers of Northbrook St.". With my recently discovered connection to that street, I will try very hard to make my first visit to Newbury on that date.

My wife's connections to Berkshire at this time are still tentative. Her grandfather Arthur Allen (1877-1945) and great grandfather Richard Allen (1834-1898) were both in service as gardeners on the Coombe Lodge Estate in Blagdon, Somerset, first with Captain A.B. Valpy R.N. (1791-1871) and then with W.H. Wills of the Bristol tobacco family. On the gravestone of Mrs Anna Valpy (1795-1878) in Blagdon Churchyard it states that she was the daughter of Robert Harris of Reading. I thought it unusual to see a father's name mentioned on a gravestone, perhaps he was a notable citizen of Reading in the Eighteenth Century. The second link comes with Joseph Allen who was a brother of Richard and a groom to Captain Valpy. When he married Mary Purnell on 30th May 1882 at Blagdon he gave his place of residence as Enborne. This is mysterious, as I believe he was born, worked and died in Blagdon. There is no census return for Coombe Lodge for 1881, so I was unable to trace Richard and Joseph. Could it be that they were away with the Wills family at Enborne, Berkshire? It would seem that I will need plenty of time in Berkshire to search out some of the answers."

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## Found in the Registers

*by Sue Campbell*

Note attached to the burial entry for Sarah Jane, daughter of Sarah Anne and William Bunce, High St, Infant on 24th January, 1833, in the Hungerford Burial Register: "Won't pay, the woman told me she would bury it in the garden next time."

Froxfield Burials for 26th March, 1811: "Jacob Fisher, aged 23 years, who was executed at Reading for bestiality, was put in the Churchyard without any funeral service being read."

# Members' Pages

*Compiled by Meg Goswell*

## Changes of Address

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15 Mr & Mrs W.M.Smailes to 3, Elstree Close, Tilehurst, Reading, RG3 6LG

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60 Mrs A.Bamford to 16, Crooke Lane, Wilsden, Bradford, West Yorks, BD15 0LL

---

80 Mrs M.Cooper to 19, Foxglove Close, Wyke, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4TW

---

723 Derek Limpus to Pepperdon Hole, Morehamstead, Devon, TQ13 8SL

---

1863 Mr & Mrs P. & G. Sheppard to 34, High Street, Wraysbury, Staines, Middlesex, TW19 5DB

---

1884 O.L.Collier to Fairthorne Row, 35, Blackthorne Close, Wootton Bassett, Swindon, SN4 7JE

---

1936 W.H.Bonner to 15619 Ogram Ave, Gardena, California 90249, USA

---

2059 Mr & Mrs S.Coe to 73, Crofton Close, Forest Park, Bracknell, RG12 3UT

---

2113 Mrs L.Wiseman to 90, Wessex Gardens, Twyford, Berks, RG10 0AY

---

2332 Mrs D.O.Amy to 34, Busbridge Lane, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1QD

---

2378 Miss C.Baigent to 78, Pearl Gardens, Cippenham, Slough, SL1 2YZ

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1920 Congratulations to member J.A.Bird, who is now Mrs Toller

---

Mr David True, 347, Kingston Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 0BS

|     |          |             |           |
|-----|----------|-------------|-----------|
| BKM | TRUE     | Brill       | 1750-1992 |
| BKM | TRUE     | Ickford     | 1750-1992 |
| BRK | GODLIMAN | Bray        | 1750-1992 |
| BRK | GODLIMAN | New Windsor | 1750-1992 |

|         |              |                         |           |
|---------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| BRK     | GODLIMAN     | Dedworth Green          | 1750-1992 |
| BRK     | TRUE         | Clewer                  | 1830-1920 |
| BRK     | TRUE         | Dedworth Green          | 1830-1920 |
| BRK     | TRUE/TREW(E) | New Windsor             | 1550-1750 |
| LND     | HALES        | Newington               | 1800-1900 |
| LND     | TRUE         | Shoreditch              | 1800-1992 |
| LND     | TRUE         | Hoxton                  | 1800-1992 |
| LND     | TRUE         | Haggeston               | 1800-1992 |
| NFK/SFK | HALES        | Bungay and border areas | 1800-1900 |
| OXF     | TRUE         | Thame                   | 1750-1992 |
| WRY     | KAYE         | Leeds                   | 1800-1992 |
| WRY     | LAWRENCE     | Leeds                   | 1800-1992 |

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2424 Mr C.R.Bond, 24, Arundel Road, Woodley, Reading, Berks, RG5 4JL

|     |            |                 |           |
|-----|------------|-----------------|-----------|
| BRK | BOND       | Thatcham area   | Pre 1700  |
| DOR | STILL      | Cranborne       | 1700-1850 |
| DOR | STRATTON   | Edmonsham       | 1700-1850 |
| GLA | SWIFT      | Swansea         | 1800-1900 |
| HAM | BAKER      | Dummer          | 1700-1800 |
| HAM | HIND       | Portsea         | 1700-1920 |
| HAM | MIEL       | Martin          | 1700-1800 |
| HAM | YOUNGS     | Portsea         | 1800-1880 |
| NFK | ALLEN      | Thornham        | 1750-1900 |
| WIL | BAKER      | Coombe Bassett  | 1700-1820 |
| WIL | FRANCIS    | Homington area  | 1700-1820 |
| WIL | KELLOW     | Shrewton        | 1700-1770 |
| WIL | NOBLE      | Downton         | 1700-1800 |
| WIL | WALLEN     | Figheldena area | 1700-1850 |
| WIL | WHEELER    | Figheldena area | 1700-1850 |
| --- | FREMINGTON | Any             | All       |

---

2532 Mr Arthur Blackman, 2, White Butts Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0NB

|     |                   |     |     |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|
| BKM | BLACKMAN/BLACKMUN | Any | All |
| BRK | BLACKMAN/BLACKMUN | Any | All |
| MDX | BLACKMAN/BLACKMUN | Any | All |

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2552 Mr Peter W. Budd, 1, Northfield Cottage, School Lane, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hants, PO10 8TL

|     |          |                |           |
|-----|----------|----------------|-----------|
| HAM | CHAMBERS | Portsmouth     | 1800-1900 |
| HAM | CHURCHER | Wickham        | 1800-1900 |
| HAM | COLE     | Hayling Island | 1700-1900 |
| HAM | PAYNE    | Portsmouth     | 1800-1920 |
| HAM | PEARCE   | Gosport        | 1850-1910 |

|      |                                                                            |              |           |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| HAM  | SHAW                                                                       | Portsmouth   | 1890-1910 | ESS  | WARREN                                                                              | Maldon                  | Pre 1900  |
| SSX  | NOBBS                                                                      | Minstead     | 1850-1920 | GLS  | BARNETT                                                                             | Gloucester              | Pre 1850  |
|      |                                                                            |              |           | GLS  | CHIVERS                                                                             | Gloucester              | Pre 1900  |
| 2562 | Mr John S. Atkinson, "Northdene", 7, Fleet Avenue, Dartford, Kent, DA2 6NL |              |           | GLS  | GWILLIAM                                                                            | Gloucester              | All       |
|      |                                                                            |              |           | GLS  | MASON                                                                               | Gloucester              | Pre 1860  |
|      |                                                                            |              |           | GLS  | TONG                                                                                | Gloucester              | Pre 1830  |
| SYK  | ALLATT                                                                     | West Bretton | 1700-1900 | KEN  | BOORMAN                                                                             | Brenchley               | Pre 1870  |
| WRY  | ACKROYD                                                                    | Bradford     | 1800-1992 | KEN  | CHEESEMAN                                                                           | Tunbridge               | All       |
| WRY  | ATKINSON                                                                   | Leeds        | 1700-1992 | KEN  | JACOBY                                                                              | Any                     | All       |
| WRY  | BARRACLOUGH                                                                | Shipley      | 1800-1992 | KEN  | STYLE                                                                               | Brenchley               | Pre 1900  |
| WRY  | BEAUMONT                                                                   | Huddersfield | 1800-1992 | LAN  | BLUNDELL                                                                            | Liverpool               | Pre 1930  |
| WRY  | GREEN                                                                      | Leeds        | 1700-1992 | LND  | BALSON                                                                              | Any                     | Pre 1920  |
| WRY  | JAGGER                                                                     | Honley       | 1700-1992 | LND  | JACOBY                                                                              | Any                     | All       |
| WRY  | LAWSON                                                                     | Shipley      | 1800-1992 | MDX  | THORPE                                                                              | Stepney                 | Pre 1870  |
| WRY  | LITTLEWOOD                                                                 | Huddersfield | 1700-1992 |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| WRY  | PAVIOUR                                                                    | Huddersfield | 1800-1992 | 2586 | Mr R. Aubrey, 29, Harrop Road, Hale, Altringham, Cheshire, WA15 9DD                 |                         |           |
| WRY  | RAWNSLEY                                                                   | Calverley    | 1800-1992 | BRK  | AWBERY                                                                              | Any                     | 1600-1890 |
| YKS  | SAVILLE                                                                    | Mexborough   | 1500-1700 | HAM  | AUBREY                                                                              | Any                     | 1890-?    |
|      |                                                                            |              |           | HAM  | AWBERY                                                                              | Any                     | 1600-1890 |
| 2564 | Helen M. Cox, 11, Queens Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 1NE                 |              |           |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| GLA  | HEMMINGS                                                                   |              | 1835      | 2592 | Mrs Dorothy M. Jones, 4, Charles Close, Abbotts Barton, Winchester, Hants, SO23 7HT |                         |           |
| KEN  | COLVILLE                                                                   | Chatham      | 1810      | BRK  | PRESTON                                                                             | Ashbury                 | 1700-1900 |
| LAN  | LAYLAND                                                                    | Leigh        | 1796      | BRK  | WESTALL                                                                             | Newbury & elsewhere     | 1800-1992 |
| LAN  | STANDISH                                                                   | Warrington   | 1780      | DEV  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Yarcombe                | 1860-1880 |
| LAN  | STANDISH                                                                   | Leigh        | 1780      | HAM  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Any                     | 1910-1992 |
| MDX  | BODGER                                                                     | Edmonton     | 1775      | HAM  | HISCOCK/<br>HISCOX                                                                  | Kingsclere              | 1700-1900 |
| MDX  | BROOKER                                                                    | St Pancras   | 1815      | HAM  | MARTIN                                                                              | Monk Sherborne          | 1700-1900 |
| MDX  | CAWLEY                                                                     | St Pancras   | 1790      | HAM  | MARTIN                                                                              | Kingsclere              | 1700-1900 |
| MDX  | CHANDLER                                                                   | Stepney      | 1800      | HAM  | WESTALL                                                                             | Kingsclere              | 1890-1992 |
| MDX  | FELLOWS                                                                    |              | 1810      | SOM  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Chard                   | 1700-1992 |
| MDX  | MATTHEWS                                                                   | Stepney      | 1810      | SOM  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Combe St Nicholas       | 1700-1992 |
| MDX  | TOOLEY                                                                     | St Pancras   | 1814      | SOM  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Whitestaunton           | 1700-1992 |
| MDX  | WEBB                                                                       |              | 1890      | STS  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Brewood                 | 1881-1992 |
| MON  | HYDE                                                                       |              | 1790      | STS  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Codsall                 | 1881-1992 |
| MON  | MARSHALL                                                                   | Llandogo     | 1790      | STS  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Hatherton               | 1881-1992 |
| MON  | THOMAS                                                                     | Llandogo     | 1835      | STS  | DEAN(E)                                                                             | Penkridge               | 1881-1992 |
| SSX  | COX                                                                        | Lindfield    | 1520      | WIL  | AMOR/AMER                                                                           | All Cannings            | 1700-1900 |
| WLS  | WILLIAMS                                                                   | Bedwelty     | 1860      | WIL  | HISCOCK/<br>HISCOX                                                                  | All Cannings            | 1700-1900 |
| 2572 | Ms Carolyn Harris, 19-754, Coverdale Road, Riverview, N.B. Canada, E1B 3LS |              |           |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| BRK  | CLEMENTS                                                                   |              | 1800-1900 | 2594 | Mrs June D. Green, 23, Troutbeck Road, Gatley, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 4RP           |                         |           |
| BRK  | HAMPTON                                                                    |              | 1800-1900 | BKM  | COBB                                                                                | Any                     | 1700-date |
| BRK  | HILDERLEY                                                                  | Any          | All       | BRK  | COBB                                                                                | Any                     | 1700-date |
| BRK  | MARTIN                                                                     |              | 1800-1900 | BRK  | WEBB                                                                                | Little & Long Wittenham | 1700-date |
| LND  | CLEMENTS                                                                   |              | 1800-1900 | HAM  | COBB                                                                                | Any                     | 1700-date |
| LND  | HILDERLEY                                                                  |              | All       |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| 2584 | Mr Robert Hill, 19, Horseshoe Road, Pangbourne, Reading, Berks, RG8 7JQ    |              |           |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| DEV  | AXFORD                                                                     | Plymouth     | All       |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |
| DEV  | HOCKRIDGE                                                                  | Bideford     | All       |      |                                                                                     |                         |           |

| NTH  | AMOS                                                                                   | Lower Boddington  | 1700-date   |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 2596 | Mr Gerald F. Beevers, 49, Salt Street, Manningham, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD8 8BH   |                   |             |
| BRK  | BALLO(N)(W)                                                                            | Ardington         | Pre 1800    |
| BRK  | BOSH(I)ER                                                                              | East Hendred      | All         |
| BRK  | BOSHER                                                                                 | Windsor           | Pre 1920    |
| BRK  | DENTON                                                                                 | Sutton Wick       | Pre 1900    |
| BRK  | EDWARDS                                                                                | Kingston Bagpuize | Pre 1800    |
| BRK  | ELLAWAY                                                                                | East Hendred      | All         |
| BRK  | GUNTER                                                                                 | East Hendred      | Pre 1800    |
| BRK  | HARRIS                                                                                 | East Hendred      | Pre 1900    |
| BRK  | KENT                                                                                   | Ardington         | Pre 1850    |
| BRK  | PAGE                                                                                   | East Hendred      | Pre 1850    |
| BRK  | PAGE                                                                                   | Kingston Bagpuize | Pre 1800    |
| BRK  | PAGE                                                                                   | Hinton Waldrist   | Pre 1800    |
| BRK  | TRINDEL                                                                                | East Hendred      | Pre 1850    |
| 2600 | Mrs America M. Carlson, 7052, Fallbrook Court, New Port Richey, Florida, U.S.A., 34655 |                   |             |
| BRK  | BLUNDEN                                                                                | Burghfield        | 1540-?      |
| BRK  | WILLIAMS                                                                               | Burghfield        | 1500-?      |
| DEN  | LLOYD                                                                                  | Bodidris-yn-Ial   | Pre 1500-?  |
| DEN  | TREVOR                                                                                 | Allington         | 1500-?      |
| FLN  | MOSTYN                                                                                 | Mostyn            | 1500-date   |
| IRL  | BLUNDEN                                                                                | Offaly            | Pre 1667-?  |
| IRL  | BLUNDEN                                                                                | Leix              | Pre 1667-?  |
| IRL  | BLUNDEN                                                                                | Kilkenny          | Pre 1667-?  |
| LAN  | BLUNDELL                                                                               | Ince Blundell     | 1000-Date   |
| OXF  | BLOWDEN                                                                                | Shiplake          | 1585-1607   |
| OXF  | BLUNDELL                                                                               | Shiplake          | 1585-1610   |
| SAL  | BLUNDEN                                                                                | Bishops Castle    | 1245/9-1750 |
| SRY  | BLUNDELL                                                                               | Southwark         | 1642-1700   |

|      |                                                                 |             |           |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| 2675 | Mrs Catherine Sharpe, 8, Beast Banks, Kendall, Cumbria, LA9 4JW |             |           |
| BRK  | BENNETT                                                         | Ruscombe    | 1800-1912 |
| BRK  | VICKERS                                                         | Basildon    | 1770-1830 |
| BRK  | WILDE                                                           | Any         | ?-1912    |
| CUL  | HILBECK/EILBECK                                                 |             | 1690-1990 |
| LAN  | HOOTON                                                          | W.P.Holland | 1750-1990 |
| OXF  | BENNETT                                                         | Goring      | 1800-1912 |
| OXF  | RUMBLE                                                          | Goring      | 1812-1870 |
| WES  | HILBECK/EILBECK                                                 | Kendall     | 1690-1990 |
| WES  | KITCHEN                                                         | Kendall     | 1800-1950 |
| WES  | LONSDALE                                                        | Kendall     | 1750-1940 |
| WES  | RISHTON                                                         | Kendall     | 1780-1930 |
| WES  | SHARPE                                                          | Kendall     | 1700-1990 |

| WYK  | BULLOCK                                                                   | Ingleton         | 1780-1940 |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| WYK  | SHARPE                                                                    |                  | 1700-1990 |
| 2685 | Mr David C. Silvester, 33, Whitney Drive, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 4BQ       |                  |           |
| BKM  | AILE/AIRE                                                                 | High Wycombe     | ?-1621    |
| BKM  | ARCHER                                                                    | West Wycombe     | ?-1666    |
| BKM  | COLLINS                                                                   |                  | ?-1744    |
| BKM  | CRANWELL                                                                  | Hughendon        | ?-1719    |
| BKM  | MOORE                                                                     | High Wycombe     | ?-1747    |
| BKM  | MUNDAINE(DAIE)                                                            | West Wycombe     | ?-1617    |
| BKM  | PENN                                                                      |                  | ?-1702    |
| BKM  | RA(U)NCE                                                                  |                  | ?-1698    |
| BKM  | SHANK(E)S                                                                 | West Wycombe     | ?-1608    |
| BKM  | TIPPING                                                                   | West Wycombe     | ?-1663    |
| BKM  | WETHRUP(OP)(OPT)                                                          | Wycombe          | ?-1752    |
| BRK  | CHARLEWOOD                                                                | Bisham           | ?-1698    |
| BRK  | PENN                                                                      |                  | ?-1702    |
| BRK  | RA(U)NCE                                                                  |                  | ?-1698    |
| BRK  | SOMERFIELD                                                                | Bisham           | ?-1702    |
| 2687 | Mr David Slade, Brookfield, Hargrave, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, IP29 5HH |                  |           |
| BRK  | GOBLE                                                                     | Winkfield area   | Pre 1850  |
| BRK  | HERRIOT                                                                   | Wokingham area   | Pre 1800  |
| BRK  | POPE                                                                      | Winkfield area   | Pre 1810  |
| BRK  | SEARLE                                                                    | Sunninghill area | 1800-1860 |
| LND  | BINDING                                                                   | Any              | Pre 1850  |
| LND  | O'LEARY                                                                   | Any              | Pre 1850  |

## Found in the Registers by Sue Campbell

Note made by Vicar against entries nos 398 and 404 in the East Garston Burial Register: "These two men both fell dead and were found in the same field (Fairchilds Field) 1947, aged 60, and 1949, aged 64."

Baydon Burial Register for 8th August, 1700: "A servant of Mr WATSON. Not worthy of a name but perhaps his name is written in Lambs Book of Life."

# BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society, which started its life as the Reading Amateur Genealogical Society in 1973, emerged under its present name in 1975 to encourage the study of family history in Berkshire. It aims to promote contacts between members through regular meetings and by the quarterly magazine.

The Society is a registered charity – number 283010.

## Berkshire Name Index

This index may be consulted by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope, with your membership number, to:

Tom and Rita Hine, Oakley Cottage,  
Westbury Lane, Purley-on-Thames,  
Reading, RG8 8DL.

## Berkshire Marriage Index

This index (to males names only) to 175,000 marriages in Berkshire between 1538 and 1837 may be consulted by sending details of the marriage being sought (groom's name and approximate date) and a stamped, self-addressed envelope showing your membership number, together with an additional second class postage stamp, to the Secretary. (Blanket searches cannot be undertaken.)

## Directory of Members' Interests

The directory, compiled from information submitted by members, gives surnames being researched, together with period and locality, is published from time to time.

## Bookstall

A wide selection of books of interest to family historians is available at meetings and by post. Publications lists are available from the Secretary and from the Bookstall organiser (addresses on back cover)

## Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription is payable on 1st July each year. The membership rates, from 1st July 1992, are:

|                                 |    |
|---------------------------------|----|
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| family membership :             | £8 |
| overseas membership :           |    |
| additional postal supplement of | £2 |
| all new members :               |    |
| additional enrolment fee of     | £1 |

Cheques should be made out to the Berkshire Family History Society, overseas payments can only be accepted by a sterling cheque drawn on a London Clearing Bank. Membership submissions should be addressed to the appropriate membership secretary for your surname (see back cover for addresses and ranges of initials covered).

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