

LIVERPOOL FAMILY HISTORIAN



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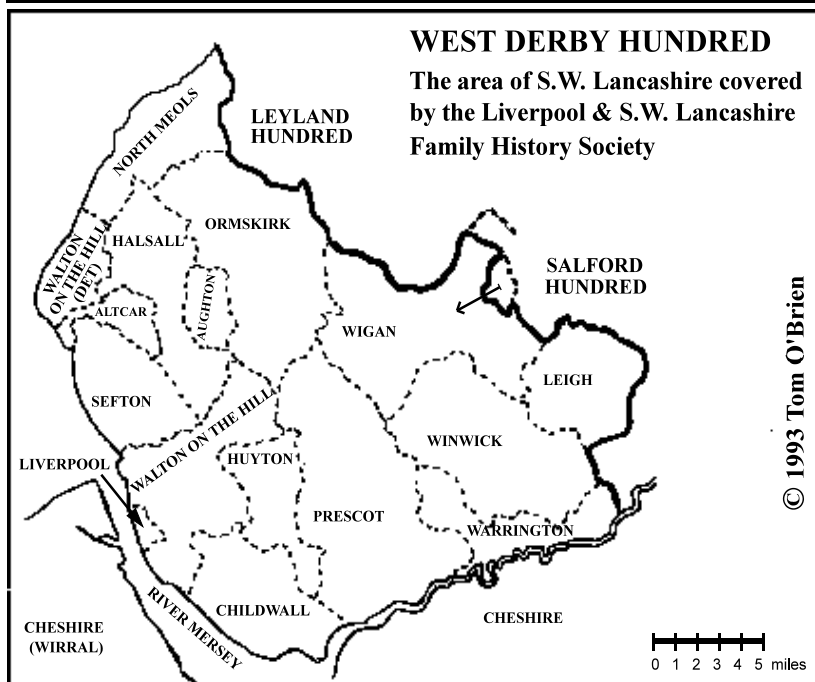
March 2024

THE LIVERPOOL & S. W. LANCASHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Founded 27 May 1976

Covering

“the area of interest shall be that part of the ancient
County of Lancashire known as the Hundred of West Derby.”



Website: www.lswlfhs.org.uk



Front cover: Warrington Town Hall was designed by James Gibbs and built in 1750 for Thomas Patten, Esq, it became known as Bank Hall. It stood in extensive grounds and had unobscured views of the River Mersey and Cheshire countryside. Photo taken by: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Rept0n1x> under [CC BY SA 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

Liverpool Family Historian

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Editorial

I hope you all had a good Christmas and a good start to the New Year!

I am sitting here writing this and hoping that the days will soon become warmer, longer and that the rain will stop. My daughter went running a couple of weeks ago and saw her first daffodil, yes that's right, daffodil. Now she is no gardener, but even she was surprised at this. Our seasons are all out of sync because shortly afterwards we had very hard frosts...I wonder how the daffodil fared.

We have another request for help on page 38. This time from an overseas member from Australia. I hope someone can help him solve the problem of where his ancestor was born.

This is the first time that I have the pleasure of announcing the winners of our 'Best Articles' competition. Please see page 3 for the winners. As usual, I would like to add my personal congratulations to the winners and to thank everyone who sent in the contributions that made last year's Journals such interesting reading.

Which leads me on to ask if you are all in a writing frame of mind because as I write I have no articles for publication for the June edition of the Journal. Remember, this is your Society, and the Journal is yours too, but I need your articles to put in it. They can be short, long, sad, funny and everything in-between. My only request is that you don't send them to me as a pdf. Just a word doc is fine as it is easier to do the formatting from that.

We have some interesting articles this month, from a young girl masquerading as a boy and the story of Eleanor Latchford's parentage, although the other articles are no less interesting either.

The Southport Group held their AGM in January and now have a new Committee and venue. Please see the details on page 15 if you are interested in attending any of their meetings.

Alison Anyon, Editor

News Items

Competition for Best Article in Liverpool Family Historian – 2023 Winning Articles

In September 2017 we announced an annual competition (Vol. 39, No. 3, page 147) where the contributor of the best article published in each edition of Liverpool Family Historian would win a year's free membership of the Society. We have run the competition ever since and I am pleased to announce that the winning articles for 2023 are as follow:

Researching Lancastrian Ancestors Across the Miles by Elizabeth Kilbourn (7472) (Vol. 45, No. 1, pages 40—45, March 2023);

Some Memories of my Schooldays by Mike Parker (3056) (Vol. 45, No. 2, pages 71-79, June 2023);

A Marriage That Never Was by Brian Joyce (9234) (Vol. 45, No. 3, pages 152-158, September 2023); and,

Felix MacDonough—Man-Midwife, by Marie Paterson (9256) (Vol. 45, No. 4, pages 201-206, December 2023).

Congratulations to all the contributors of our winning articles for 2023 and a big “Thank you” from me to all those of you who were able to contribute. The competition will continue this year and I look forward to reading more of your articles as we progress through the year. -Ed

RootsTech 2024

This year RootsTech will run from **Thursday 29 February to Saturday 2 March 2024**. This will be the second time the show will be hosted live and online with the aim of uniting families, traditions, communities and experiences globally. Last year there were over 3 million attendees both in person and virtual, making it a huge success.

The in-person event returns to Salt Lake City with: speakers, ven-

dors, and other participants; keynote speakers and entertainment on the main stage celebrating family and traditions; 180 classes promoting the development skills for undertaking genealogical research; various interactive, hands-on activities and products in the Expo Hall that can help attendees with their research; and, access to experts at the FamilySearch Library.

The online programme allows participants to: connect with millions of people from around the world through a dedicated chat feature; choose from 200 online classes from experts in the field; explore the Expo Hall online, and connect with products and features to help you with your research; and, watch keynote speakers on the virtual main stage. You can register for the online event for free at:

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/registration/>

Wirral History & Heritage Fair 2024

The Wirral History & Heritage Association will be holding its annual fair on Saturday 23 March 2024, at Hulme Hall, Port Sunlight Village, Bolton Road, Bebington CH62 5DH. Admission to the event, which will run from 10:00 to 16:00, is free and refreshments will be available throughout the day. The event is family-friendly and the venue has free parking and disabled access. It is easy to access being just off the A41 and only 5 minutes walk from Port Sunlight Station.

There will be many history and heritage stalls with 90+ exhibitors registered at the time of writing, including local history societies and family history help desks, together with new and second-hand bookstalls etc. Displays around the venue will celebrate Wirral's museums, historic buildings and landscapes.

The Wirral History and Heritage Association website also has a useful 'Future Local Events' page, which details events run by many local organisations and societies. The website address is:

Their website can be found at:
www.wirralhistoryandheritage.org.uk and
their email address is heritagewirral@gmail.com

Ancestry Update

There were seven new datasets added to the UK collection on Ancestry since the last edition of the newsletter, together with another seven UK datasets that had new content added to them. The new datasets are:

- **Belfast, Northern Ireland, The Belfast Newsletter (Birth, Marriage, and Death Notices) (1738-1925)**
- **Dudley, England, Burials and Cremation Index (1800-2020)**
- **Ireland, Wills and Admons (1515-1858)**
- **Norfolk, England, Indexes to Wills, Probate, Administrations and Marriage Licence Bonds (1371-1858)**
- **UK, Officers' Birth Certificates, Wills and Personal Papers (1755-1908)**
- **UK, Registers of Births, Marriages, and Deaths from British Consulates (1810-1968); and,**
- **UK, Royal Hospital Chelsea Admission Books, Registers and Papers (1702-1980).**

The updated UK datasets are:

- **East Sussex, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials (1538-1812)**
- **England & Wales, Civil Divorce Records (1858-1918)**
- **UK, British Army World War I Pension Records (1914-1920)**
- **UK, Portraits and Photographs (1547-2018)**
- **UK and Commonwealth, Law Examination Records (1836-1947)**
- **UK and Ireland, Obituary Index (2004-current); and,**
- **West Sussex, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials (1538-1812).**

The following select overseas datasets are either new or had new

content added to them recently:

- **Aisne, France, Births, Marriages, and Deaths** (1408-1930)
- **Dordogne, France, Births, Marriages, and Deaths** (1540-1896)
- **Dordogne, France, Censuses** (1831-1896)
- **Oklahoma, U.S., County Marriage Records** (1890-1995)
- **Pennsylvania, U.S., Death Certificates** (1906-1970)
- **Poland, Registration Cards of Jewish Children (USHMM)** (1945-1949)
- **Prenzlau, Germany, Marriages** (1874-1923)
- **Queensland, Australia, Civil Servant Indexes** (1866-1867)
- **Queensland, Australia, Hospital Indexes** (1830-1919)
- **Queensland, Australia, Indexes of Teacher Registers** (1860-1905)
- **Queensland, Australia, Naturalisation Index** (1851-1908)
- **U.S., Presbyterian Church Records** (1701-1970)
- **Utah, U.S., Birth Registers** (1892-1944)
- **Wisconsin, U.S., Marriage Records** (1820-2004); and,
- **1950 United States Federal Census.**

British Newspaper Archive Update

The British Newspaper Archive has digitised content from another two new titles recently. The new titles are as follow: **Coleraine Times** (1990-99); and **Cumbernauld News** (1961-91).

The following select titles have had new pages added to them since the last edition of the journal: **Aberdeen Press and Journal** (1784, 1793); **Birmingham Daily Post** (1913); **Bo'ness Journal and Linlithgow Advertiser** (1885-87, 1890-91); **Buxton Advertiser** (1988, 1991); **Cheshire Observer** (1871, 1880); **Cork Daily Herald** (1868); **Dublin Leader** (1964); **Dundee Evening Telegraph** (1991); **Dundee Weekly News** (1880, 1882); **Galway Observer** (1964); **Hull Packet** (1799); **Larne Times** (1930); **Liver-**

pool Daily Post (1997); **Liverpool Mercury** (1836); **Market Harborough Advertiser and Midland Mail** (1969-72, 1974, 1976-80, 1983-88, 1990); **Northampton Herald** (1844); **Nottingham Evening Post** (1979); **Portadown Times** (1998); **Rochdale Observer** (1990); **Stornoway Gazette and West Coast Advertiser** (1986-87); and, **Worthing Herald** (1979, 1982).

FamilySearch Update

There were six new UK datasets added to the FamilySearch collection over the last quarter, including more records for our own city of Liverpool. Several existing UK datasets had new records added to them over the same period. There were many more additions also to the FamilySearch overseas records collections and some of these are detailed below. The new UK datasets are:

- **United Kingdom, England, Lancashire, Liverpool, Baptisms** (1557-1919);
- **United Kingdom, England, Lancashire, Liverpool, Church of England Confirmations** (1734-1930);
- **United Kingdom, British India Office, Births and Baptisms** (1712-1965);
- **United Kingdom, England, Lancashire, Liverpool, Roman Catholic Parish Records** (1709-1968);
- **United Kingdom, England, Military Pension and Service Records** (1702-1933); and,
- **United Kingdom, Royal Airforce Service Records** (1912-1945).

The following UK datasets had new content added to them between November 2022 and early February 2023:

- **England, Lancashire Non-Conformist Church Records** (1647-1996);
- **England, Surrey Parish Registers** (1536-1992);
- **United Kingdom, England, Cumberland Parish Registers** (1538-1990);
- **United Kingdom, England, Lancashire, Liverpool, Banns and Marriages** (1557-1960); and,
- **United Kingdom, England, Lancashire, Liverpool, Baptisms** (1557-1919).

These select overseas datasets are either new or had new content added to them over the last quarter:

- **Australia, Victoria, Wills, Probate and Administration Files (1841-1926);**
- **Austria, Catholic Church Records (1565-2007);**
- **Austria, Vienna, Jewish Registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths (1784-1911);**
- **France, Ardennes, Parish and Civil Registration (1585-1892);**
- **France, Calvados, Censuses (1876, 1891);**
- **France, Hautes-Alpes, Census (1876);**
- **France, Indre, Parish and Civil Registration (1564-1905);**
- **France, Manche, Parish and Civil Registration (1546-1912);**
- **France, Savoie, Parish and Civil Registration (1500-1927);**
- **Germany, Bavaria, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1591-1963);**
- **Germany, Bremen, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1746-1970);**
- **Germany, Lübeck, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1797-1961);**
- **Germany, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1639-1943);**
- **Germany, North Rhine-Westphalia, Wuppertal, Civil Registration (1810-1930);**
- **Germany, Prussia, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1580-1974);**
- **Germany, Prussia, West Prussia, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1537-1981);**
- **Germany, Saxony, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1653-1939);**
- **Germany, Württemberg, Catholic and Lutheran Church Records (1818-1915);**
- **Ireland, Betham Genealogical Abstracts (1179-1830);**
- **Ireland, Original Will Registers (1858-1920);**
- **Jamaica, Church of England Parish Register**

Transcripts (1664-1880);

- **South Africa, Cape Province, Civil Records (1840-1972);**
- **South Africa, Church of the Province of South Africa, Parish Registers (1801-2004);**
- **South Africa, Dutch Reformed Church Registers (Cape Town Archives) (1660-1970);**
- **South Africa, Johannesburg, Cemetery Records (1840-2019);**
- **Spain, Catholic Church Records (1307-1985);**
- **Spain, Civil Records (1475-2003);**
- **Sweden, Stockholm City Archives, Index to Church Records (1546-1927);**
- **United States, California, County Birth and Death Records (1800-1994);**
- **United States Censuses (1840, 1900, 1940, 1950);**
- **United States, Florida, Deaths (1877-1939);**
- **United States, Indiana, Marriages (1811-2019);**
- **United States, Maine, United States Naturalization Records (1918-1991);**
- **United States, Massachusetts, Births (1636-1924);**
- **United States, New York, County Naturalization Records (1791-1980);**
- **United States, New York, Southern District, U.S District Court Naturalization Records (1824-1946);**
- **United States, Tennessee, Deaths (1914-1966);**
- **United States, Texas, County Deaths (1860-2005);**
- **United States, Virginia, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Birth Records (1853-1949);**
- **United States, Virginia, Vital Records (1715-1901);**
- **United States, Washington, County Birth Registers (1873-1965);**
- **United States, Wisconsin, County Naturalization Records (1807-1992);**
- **World, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company Financial Accounts (Worldwide) (1849-1886); and,**
- **World, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Record of Members (Worldwide) (1836-1970).**

FindMyPast Update

FindMyPast released five new UK datasets and updated many other UK datasets over the last three months. This includes an interesting collection of Canadian records, released as part of a new partnership with **Library and Archives Canada**. Furthermore, the company announced on 8 December 2023 that it had made significant improvements to 19,000 records within its **Irish Roman Catholic Parish Marriages** collection – improving transcripts and identifying names that were previously omitted.

The new UK datasets are:

- **Britain, First World War Campaign Medals – 6,527,684** transcriptions of records relating to the men and women awarded campaign medals, from RAF personnel to medical volunteers and labourers
- **British Army, London Regiment, Surrey Battalions, 1914-1940** – images and transcriptions of 3,517 military records for the Surrey Battalions, with details including name, rank, service number, battalion, regiment, together with dates of enlistment, transfer and discharge
- **Cheshire, Macclesfield WWI Hospital Records, 1914-1918** – 1,880 transcribed records, which includes name, birth year, age, an event date and a place, together with details of rank, service number, regiment and unit or corps
- **Lincolnshire, Workhouse Guardians' Minutes, 1837-1901** – this new record set has 9,354 workhouse guardian records, both transcriptions and image scans, which include details full name, date of birth, residence, status and the event date
- **London, Asylum for the Deaf & Dumb Pupils, 1792-1859** – 899 records from the London Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, which was the first free public institution in England offering education for deaf children of poor families.

The following UK datasets have had new records added to them:

- **Anglo-Boer War Records, 1899-1902** – more than 24,000 transcriptions relating to soldiers who fought in this conflict
- **British Army, Coldstream Guards, 1800-1981** – almost 17,900 photo album records and 497 attestations available as images and transcriptions
- **British Army Service Records, South Wales Borderers, 1890s and 1915** – 698 new transcriptions of records relating to the regiment's involvement in the Anglo-Boer War and WWI
- **Crimean War Casualties, 1853-1856** – 5,983 new records were added to the dataset, transcriptions only, with the records including full names, soldier number, rank and regiment, together with a description of the casualty and the action in which it was caused
- **Cumberland, Baptism Records, 1508-1923** – more than 65,200 new records were added to the dataset and include the usual details of full name, baptism date, place of baptism and parent's names
- **Cumberland, Burial Records, 1566-1992** – over 62,700 new records were added to this dataset, with details including names, date of death, burial date/place and address at the time of death
- **Cumberland, Marriage Records, 1547-1975** – 68,200+ new records were added to this collection, with details including names, marriage date, addresses and father's full name
- **Derbyshire, Births & Baptisms, 1760-1966** – 13,932 new baptismal records have been added to the collection, all relating to non-conformist parishes within the county
- **Kent, Baptisms, 1842-1934** – more than 12,200 new records, both transcriptions and scanned images, relating to the Canterbury area
- **Kent, Burials, 1955-2020** – over 14,500 new burial records transcribed from the records of the borough of **Medway** (1981-2020) and 500 burial record transcriptions for **Canterbury Cathedral** (1955-1967)

- **Kent, Burials – Dunns Funeral Directors Registers, 1803-1839** – 1,478 records from two parishes in the town of Bromley in Kent. Records include both a transcription and a scan of the original register
- **Kent, Marriages and Banns, 1852-1939** – 8,000+ new marriage and banns records from Canterbury Cathedral in the county of Kent
- **National Burial Index for England and Wales, 1539-1840** – more than 122,600 new transcription-only records relating to the county of **Herefordshire** and include details of name, age, year of death, burial date/place and religious denomination
- **Northamptonshire, Roman Catholic Church, Baptisms, 1775-1913** – over 9,300 new records, both transcriptions and scanned images, relating to parishes within the Roman Catholic diocese of Northampton
- **Northamptonshire, Roman Catholic Church, Burials, 1834-1913** – 1,547 new records, both transcriptions and scanned images, relating to parishes within the Roman Catholic diocese of Northampton, along with the usual details of name, death date, burial date etc., parents' names and burial plot details may also be included
- **Northamptonshire, Roman Catholic Church, Marriages, 1781-1913** – almost 1,300 new records, both transcriptions and scanned images, relating to parishes within the Roman Catholic diocese of Northampton and containing details of name, marriage date, church, parish, spouses names and names of both fathers
- **Westmorland, Baptism Records, 1533-2008** – almost 56,700 new transcription-only records were added to the collection, detailing full name, birthdate, baptism date and place, together with both parents' first names
- **Westmorland, Burial Records, 1500-1900** – 128,700+ new transcription-only records have been added to this dataset, with the records covering parishes across the county
- **Westmorland, Marriage Records, 1500s-1900s** – over 62,200 new transcription-only records taken from parishes across the county

- **Yorkshire Monumental Inscriptions, 1807-2022** – more than 15,000 transcriptions from monuments across the county of Yorkshire, including 6,979 records from Exley Cemetery in West Yorkshire; and,
- **1939 Register** – another 187,771 previously redacted records have now been opened to researchers.

The following overseas datasets are either new or have had new records added to them since the last edition of the journal:

- **Canada, Courts Martial of the First World War Index** – records include full name, service number, rank, regiment and unit, the date and nature of the offence (and often include additional remarks about each case). These records also include a link to the original digitised record in each case; and,
- **Canada, Military Honours, and Awards Index, 1812-1969** – more than 113,400 new transcription-only records taken from a variety of different medal award collections.

The Genealogist Update

In its newsletter dated 12 January 2024, The Genealogist announced that it had added the details of more than 389,000 people to its **1929 Register** dataset. The records have become available under the 100-year rule and as a result of open requests submitted by the public. All of these records are linked to The Genealogist's **Map Explorer** system, meaning the results of a search can be viewed against modern and historical maps.

On 8 December 2023, the company announced the release of over 170,000 **property records**, detailing heads of households and property owners in **Northamptonshire** in the years between 1910 and 1915. The records were created by the **Inland Revenue Valuation Office** and can also be viewed using The Genealogist's **Map Explorer** system.

11 November 2023 saw **The Genealogist** release a huge number of new military records on its website. The release includes over

40,000 **Rolls of Honour**, more than 65,000 **Medal Awards**, and 1.5+ million **War Memorial Records**. The War Memorial records can be searched through the main search tool or by locating the memorial on the georeferenced maps displayed on Map Explorer.

The Rolls of Honour name the deceased and missing-presumed-dead from the ranks of the merchant marine fleets and fishing trawler crews who were employed on minesweeping and patrol duties during World War II and in further years up to 1953. The list of Medal Awards records covers the period from 1866 to 1970 and includes Mercantile Mariners recognised for gallantry and service.

Family History Federation

Here is a quick summary of the collective achievements made in 2023 through publication of datasets with FindMyPast and also submission of Surname Interests to the Federation website.

Datasets Published with FMP in 2023:

- 34 separate datasets published. Another one in progress with FMP and ready to be published early in the New Year
- Submissions from 15 discrete FHS groups – from Northwest Kent to Cheshire and Montgomeryshire to Northumberland and Durham
- Almost 900,000 new records published, and over 120,000 records updated with new, additional information
- Recordsets have been varied and have included Hospital Admissions, School Admissions, Workhouse Guardians' Minutes and Funeral Director Records alongside the more traditional MI's, Burials, Marriages, and Baptism Records
- Many of the recordsets have included linked images of either Register Pages or Memorial Inscriptions, adding greater interest for the family researcher

All this activity has helped maintain a healthy royalty payment revenue stream for your societies. Despite the economic

environment, FMP have reported increased search traffic and resulting royalty income for societies during 2023.

Surname Interest Database:

We now have 24 FHS Groups contributing names to the Surname Interests database on the Federation website (<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/surname-search>). There are over 70,000 Surnames listed in the database. This continues to be one of the areas most frequented by visitors to the Federation Website so hopefully you are seeing some of the benefit with enquiries flowing through to your websites via the Surname Interest links.

Many thanks for the part you and your FHS group have played in helping achieve all of this in 2023.

As always, I have enjoyed immensely working on the many varied datasets and viewing the rich content that you provide to supplement the records. It's great to be able to help add value for the family researcher users on FMP and help generate some income for your societies. I look forward to working with you again next year and to receiving many more (and varied) datasets!

Kevin Todman

Data Manager – Family History Federation

Southport Group

The group held its AGM on 12th January when a new committee was elected. The outgoing committee have our heartfelt thanks for their many years of hard work and the success with which they ran the group. They will be much missed.

Presently meetings are held at Birkdale Station Master's House on every second Friday of each month and start at 19:30.

Chair: Shelagh Boardman

The National Archives

Great Escapes

There is a major new exhibition on at the National Archives called ‘Great Escapes: Remarkable Second World War Captives’ which explores the human spirit in times of captivity during the Second World War.

It opened on **2 February 2024** and closes on **21 July 2024**; the exhibition reveals iconic and under-told stories of prisoners of war and civilian internees. From famous escape attempts such as the escape from Stalag Luft III that we know as “the Great Escape” and British officer Airey Neave’s escape from Colditz Castle dressed as a German soldier, to remarkable stories of individuals seeking escape through art, music and finding love, the exhibition offers glimpses of the courage and ingenuity that is possible in desperately hard times.

The exhibition is free to visit, and you do not need to book a ticket. The National Archives is open Tuesday – Sunday, please check the opening times at:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/visit-us/opening-times/>

You can learn more than just about genealogy on the National Archives website. Below is a list of the subjects available to browse through and learn more from:

- How to manage your Information: View advice and guidance on information records management.
- Re-using public sector information: Learn about re-using public sector information (PSI), licensing and copyright.
- Producing official publications: Find guidance on

- publishing for government organisations.
- Training courses and events: They provide training courses for staff from government departments and public record bodies.
- Legislation and regulations: Find out more about Legislation and Regulations
- Keeping in Touch: Find out who to contact for advice and information.
- Browse guidance and standards: Read our Guidance and Standards for information management professionals, organised by subject.

You can also learn about their work as an Independent Research Organisation.

- Get help to develop your collections and archives services.
- View award-winning resources for students and teachers.
- Book exclusive curator tours.
- As well as booking a seat in a reading room.

They also have various websites including:

- Blog
- Podcasts and videos
- Shop
- Image Library
- UK Government Web Archive
- Find Case Law
- The Gazette

Their Finest Hour

At Liverpool Museum

Saturday 2 March 2024 between 11am and 4pm

Wartime memories to be held digitally for future generations.

Share your WW11 Story Today

Precious stories that are fading fast from living memory are being digitally recorded in a Second World War archive.

People from Liverpool and beyond can share experiences and objects linked to the conflict at a one-off free event on **Saturday 2 March 2024**. The 'Digital Collection Day' event is taking place at the **Museum of Liverpool** between **11am and 4pm**.

The event is part of a nationwide campaign organised by Their Finest Hour (theirfinesthour.org), a team based at the University of Oxford that has been preserving, digitally, the everyday stories and objects of the war.

Attendees at the Liverpool event will be given the opportunity to share their family's wartime experiences, which will be recorded in an interview setting.

Associated objects – such as diaries, letters, medals, journals, and ration books – will be photographed on the day. Transcribed interviews and photographs of the objects will then be uploaded to an online archive, which will be free for anyone to access from June 2024.

The project team want to record stories from people of all backgrounds to increase the diversity of Second World War history. They are also looking for any war-related stories and objects, from the extraordinary to the seemingly 'ordinary'. Every story and object matters.

However, **please do not bring any weapons or dangerous items (including gas masks) to the event.**

Full information about the event can be found at
<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/second-world-war-digital-collection-day-association-their-finest>

If you cannot attend the event, you can upload stories and photos of objects directly to the Their Finest Hour archive by clicking 'Share Your Story' via the project website at
<https://theirfinesthour.english.ox.ac.uk/>

Dr Matthew Kidd | Project Manager - 'Their Finest Hour'
Member of English Faculty, University of Oxford

Liverpool Weekly Mercury

Saturday April 5, 1856

Freemasons' Hall, Lime Street

The Proprietor of the PARISIAN GALLERY OF ANATOMY begs to inform the inhabitants of Liverpool that in consequence of the great influx of visitors to the Museum since the reduction of admission to half-price after six o'clock, he has been induced to put off the final closing until April 12.

Gentlemen are admitted daily from Eleven am till Ten pm, excepting Tuesday and Friday afternoons, when Ladies only are admitted from Two till Five o'clock.

Charge of Admission; 1s;
to the Working Classes, 6d. N.B. Half-price after 6 o'clock.

LIVERPOOL & SOUTHWEST LANCASHIRE FAMILY

HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES SECRETARY

Following the resignation of our Minutes Secretary, we are now in urgent need of a new Minutes Secretary and would urge a member of the society to volunteer for this exciting role.

The **Minutes Secretary** will be expected to:

- Attend the four General Committee meetings held each calendar year (currently via Zoom) and the Annual Conference and AGM (which may be either via Zoom or as a physical meeting)
- Record all attendees and any apologies received
- Take notes at the meetings recording the key points, ensuring that all decisions and proposals are recorded along with the name of the person(s) responsible for carrying them out
- Obtain a copy of all reports presented at the meetings to attach to the Minutes along with notes on any discussions or decisions which took place following the reports
- Prepare a draft of the minutes and send them to the General Secretary following each meeting for agreement
- Present the final version of the minutes prior to the next calendared meeting

The Minutes Secretary will also be expected to fully participate in the meetings and make an appropriate contribution to the business of the General Committee.

The position of Minutes Secretary is also a nominated Trustee of the Society.

If you wish to apply for this position, you are invited to send your name and contact details to the General Secretary at the following e-mail address: secretary@lswlfhs.org.uk

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

LYDIATE HALL AND A FAMILY COINCIDENCE

Mr and Mrs Tickle at Lydiate Hall – that rang a bell. After reading Don Higham's account of an *Investigation at Lydiate Hall* in the December 2023 issue, I went to re-check my family history.

My 2x Great Grandmother Anne Price (née Jones) remarried following her first husband's death after he fell in a dry dock in Liverpool during a drunken brawl with a police officer, which I wrote about in the September 2023 issue (p. 148-150). Her second husband John Bankes (sometimes Banks), briefly mentioned at the end of my piece, was a horse trainer from Flintshire who was well-known in Lancashire as well as his home county, according to the newspaper report of his funeral in February 1909.

It is one of those pieces that lists all the mourners and all those who sent wreaths. The wreath senders listed first, after family members, are Lord and Lady Mostyn.



organist, played the "Dead March" in *Saul*. There were a number of wreaths—from his sorrowing wife, his daughter Maggie, Mr Wm. Banks, Mr H. Hughes, Master John Smith, Lord and Lady Mostyn, Mrs Storey, Pentreffynon; Mrs Holgate, Mr and Mrs Charlesworth, Wern; Mr and Mrs Tickle, Lydiate Hall, Liverpool; Mrs Williams, Bagillt; Charlotte and Edith and nieces, Prestwich, and Caerwys Lodge of Oddfellows. The coffin was of oak with brass fittings, and was made by Mr Joseph Hughes, Groesffordd, the hearse and mourning carriages being supplied by Mrs Lambert, of Lambert's Hotel, Holywell.

Now, I know I am not related to the Mostyn's but when I first saw the other names (during the first lockdown in 2020) I thought perhaps the Tickles were important people with an address like Lydiate Hall and perhaps there was a family connection. Brief searches, when I was still fairly new to family tree building and with limited resources, brought up nothing. As often happens in my research, I got distracted and soon moved on to other branches of my tree.

Thank you to Don Higham for clearing up the mystery of why the Tickles were at Lydiate Hall and it might be interesting for Don to see that the Hall still had caretakers in 1909, if indeed they were still caretaking and not just living there without permission. The connection to, or friendship with, John Bankes is still a puzzle, but as we know with family history you never can tell when another clue or link will come to light.

Noelle Chambers (9556)

Liverpool Mercury, Tuesday, June 1, 1875

A Liverpool Ship Disabled

Last evening, the screw steamer South of England, of Liverpool, Captain Wright, Snr; from London for Plymouth, arrived at Plymouth and towed into that port the screw steamer Edith, also of Liverpool, commanded by Captain Wright, Jnr; bound from London for Liverpool with rice, the latter vessel having broken her main shaft off the Start Point at eight o'clock yesterday morning.

By a curious coincidence, both vessels belong to the same owner, Mr Samuel Hough, of Waterloo Street, Liverpool, and are commanded respectively by father and son, in which relation the Captains Wright stand to each other.

Annie Stewart:

A Sailor's Tale

Although workhouses have a notorious reputation, for those in desperate circumstances, they could be preferable to life on the streets, and some institutions, depending on the governor and board of guardians, were more humane than others.

I have been researching the Liverpool Workhouse for a number of years. My own ancestors were inmates and I have come across many fascinating stories of people who spent time there. I thought that readers might perhaps be interested in the case of Annie Stewart, who was not Liverpool-born, but whose fate was inextricably entwined with the city.

On a cold Winter's night at the end of November 1860, a smart-looking sailor lad, dressed in a shirt with collar thrown back in popular naval style; blue jacket; canvas trousers, and an oil-skin cap, took refuge in the vagrant wards on Brownlow Hill. This was a night shelter attached to the Liverpool Workhouse, but set apart from the main building, with its own entrance, a night porter at the gate, and separate male and female sections.

Not all workhouses had them, but the one in Liverpool was very well used. They were more formally titled 'casual wards,' as in Luke Fildes famous painting of a queue of destitute people waiting to be allowed into a London workhouse. But in Liverpool, despite being housed in a solid structure they were almost always called 'the sheds'. Later admission registers that recorded where inmates spent the previous night often list 'sheds' or 'vag sheds' in the designated column.

The sheds were only intended to provide emergency accommodation and there were limits on how often and how many nights you were allowed to stay. Some people, such as those passing through Liverpool looking for work, would simply use them for an overnight stopover, and would be back on the road in the morning.

Alternately, individuals and families, turning up at the workhouse after the offices had closed, would spend the night there before applying for admission to the house the next day. The young sailor was in the latter category, and during the admissions process next morning asked to see the master of the workhouse. The governor, George Carr, was duly sent for, and the sailor then confessed that they were not what they seemed to be, but actually a woman in disguise.

Owning to the name of Annie Stewart, she recounted her history to the governor. She was a native of Glasgow and her father was a sailor who had been lost off the coast of Africa. Her five brothers all went to sea, and she decided she would do the same. Dressing as a boy, she apprenticed herself for five years to a shipowner in Liverpool. She sailed abroad in two different vessels, and was close to finishing her apprenticeship, with a good chance of promotion to second mate, when disaster struck. She fractured her ribs falling from one of the yardarms while the ship was harboured in the Mersey and was taken to the Northern Hospital where surgeons discovered that she was female. Upon recovering, she was brought before the stipendiary magistrate, John Smith Mansfield, although it isn't clear from her account what the charge was, and I haven't yet been able to find a record of it.

Discharged, and again presenting as male, Stewart said she then travelled to Hull, and from there went on several short voyages. Returning to Liverpool, she had tried to get another ship, but had no luck. She managed to get engaged on a vessel bound for Valparaiso in Chile, and had even got as far as boarding, when her plans went awry: the mate recognised her, and the skipper put her ashore.

At the end of her tether, she had come to the workhouse, telling the governor that since her injuries she had found it difficult to take the part of a 'man before the mast' and was ready to give it up. Stewart, who had adopted the name 'Tom' for her alter-ego, passed convincingly as a sailor, chewing, and smoking tobacco and confessing to a weakness for grog. Stewart's posture was described as 'that of a thorough seaman', and dressed in workhouse clothing, in the absence of trouser pockets, she tucked her hands ostentatiously into the waistband of her gown.

Stewart proposed a solution to improving her circumstances. If the parish would provide clothes for her to leave the workhouse, she would go back to dressing and acting as a woman and try to get a job on a ship as an under stewardess. Such positions could be available on voyages where the captain was accompanied by his family and the wife wanted some domestic help.

The governor put her story to the workhouse committee, telling them that there was 'a frankness and honesty in what the girl said,' and they agreed to provide her with a set of women's clothes. This may not have involved a financial outlay: the workhouse stores generally had a stock of clothing from people who had died in the house, although relatives were entitled to ask for them back. As a gesture of support, two of the volunteer 'lady visitors' to the workhouse, Eliza Gilpin and Mrs Roche, offered to help her find work on discharge to get her back on her feet.

Stewart, I subsequently discovered, had only revealed part of her history. Her past was more eventful than she had described and her route back to Liverpool a little more circuitous. After her trip to Hull, she had spent time in Cardiff where she had been charged with threatening to drown herself. Her motive was desperation because she had been unable to obtain a sailor's outfit and other necessary essentials to enable her to go back to sea.

In May 1859 she was again before Cardiff magistrates charged with theft. Stewart had been visiting a house with 'some loose characters' and left wearing somebody else's dress. When her name was called out in court she apparently sprang nimbly from her seat and walked with a 'rollicking swaggering gait'. Despite her bravado, she came across as a vulnerable child-like figure and was so small that her head only reached a little above the dock.

She told the magistrates that she had worked in London as a prostitute but disliking the life, at the age of seventeen had come up with a drastic solution to escape it. Cutting off her ringlets and dressing in male clothing, she made her way to the docks. With masculine features and a deep voice, she passed without difficulty for a fourteen-year-old boy and was able to find work. She embarked on her first foreign voyage as a cabin boy and managed to go undetected. This encouraged her to make a second voyage and she

became expert in running up the ladders and performing the duties of a young sailor.

After her accident, when her secret was subsequently exposed, the ship's captain told her that he had no option but to 'send her adrift'. She had tried to earn a living onshore in Liverpool without success, and so had gone to Cardiff, hoping she could get a berth from there. But without the clothes she needed to pass as a boy she had little option but to revert to sex work. She denied that she had meant to steal the dress and argued feistily that 'exchange was no robbery,' adding that she was drunk at the time. The magistrates, unimpressed by the excuse of alcohol as an extenuating circumstance, sentenced her to two months' hard labour. They directed that the governor of the gaol should ascertain whether she was in her right mind.

After her short imprisonment, Stewart seems to have travelled a fair bit. She spent some time in Bristol where the Caledonia Society took pity on her and paid her fare back to Glasgow. Then, at some point she found her way back to Liverpool where she then ended up in the workhouse offering an edited version of her misadventures to the sympathetic governor, thinking perhaps it expedient not to divulge the Cardiff episode or the story that she had given to the Cardiff magistrates.

Thanks to the decision made by the workhouse committee, Stewart stayed only three nights in the house before being discharged with a set of women's clothing. Registers for the vagrant sheds no longer exist, but in the workhouse admissions register she was recorded as Anne Stewart, a Protestant from Glasgow. She gave her age as eighteen, although if what she said to Cardiff magistrates was accurate, about undertaking her first voyage at seventeen, she may have been a little older than this.

A great deal of interest was generated by her story which was widely publicised in the newspapers, and several letters arrived for her at the workhouse after her departure. One, from a clergyman's wife, was full of 'wholesome advice'. Unfortunately, nobody knew where to reach Stewart who seemed to have gone underground. This period of silence didn't last long. On the 18th of December, attired again in a sailor's outfit, the dress from the workhouse stores apparently sold, pawned, or discarded, she was brought before Thomas Stam-

ford Raffles who had taken Mr Mansfield's place as stipendiary magistrate. She was charged with being drunk and disorderly. *The Northern Daily Times* observed:

She looks as like a stout boy of 20 as a female possibly can look, and if one was not aware of her sex no suspicion would attach to her. Her voice, too, is that of a 'tar' that had seen some service.

Stewart told the magistrate that she had met an old shipmate and they'd had a few glasses of grog together. She assured him that she was not 'tight' but 'only a little rocky'. As this was the first time she had appeared before Mr Raffles, he treated it as her first offence and discharged her with a caution, advising her 'not to get rocky anymore'.

After this, Stewart seems to have gone quiet again. I could find no more newspaper reports after December 1860, but there may be good reason for this. Two months later, on the 16th of February 1861, Ann Stewart from Scotland, a Protestant aged eighteen, was admitted to the medical ward of the Liverpool Workhouse. She was probably aware that she was dangerously ill because, after a week, she asked to change her religious designation to Roman Catholic. This was not unusual for the time and sometimes occurred when lapsed Catholics were close to death and wanted a visit from a priest to receive the last rites. The governor approved her request. She died a few days later of pleuro-pneumonia. I found it impossible to establish definitively that this was the same person, as her death appeared to pass unremarked by the press or the workhouse authorities, but it seems too coincidental to be otherwise.

Stewart's story has echoes of that of the more well-known James Barry, who was born in Cork as Margaret Anne Bulkeley. After adopting a male identity at an early age, Barry had a long and successful career as a military surgeon, serving in the Crimea and the West Indies before retiring in 1859 at the age of around seventy. It was during a post-mortem examination after Barry's death in 1865 that he was discovered to be biologically female

Despite outward displays of cheerful insouciance, things did not go so smoothly for Stewart: a chaotic history of sex work; physical injury, attempted suicide; imprisonment, and heavy drinking, did not bode well for a long life. She did at least meet with some kindness

during her time in Liverpool, and the workhouse committee, the women visitors, and the governor, all treated her with tolerance and compassion.

References:

This account has been compiled from various sources including newspaper reports between 1859 and 1860 and Liverpool Workhouse minutes and admission records.

Luke Fildes image issued under creative commons, courtesy of Tate.org.uk.

Marie Riley (8442)



applicants-for-admission-to-a-casual-ward-at-St-Martin-in-the-Fields by Samuel Luke Fildes from Wikimedia Commons Open Domain held at the Tate Gallery London

Members' Interests

Members may publish up to ten family names that they are researching on our website **www.lswlfhs.org.uk** and in our Journal, the '*Liverpool Family Historian*'. Please print in block letters those names you wish to be included, using Chapman County Codes (shown overleaf) for the location.

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Address:

.....

Post Code:.....Mem.No:.....

E-Mail:

A/N	Name	Location	Date(s)
1			
2			
3			
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Please tick this box to consent to the Society publishing your above details in support of your Members' Interests request.

Members Interests

When the Society was first preparing the Members' Interests database in 2005, there was concern about the lack of appreciation for the pre-1974 Chapman County Codes that Members are encouraged to use when giving place names for their ancestors. In one case the town name submitted was repeated over twenty times in an Index to Place Names in the British Isles.

To assist Members we have, since then, published a list of pre-1974 County Codes and would recommend the website link below to see the post-1974 County Codes that apply today, that some Members use even though their interests relate to dates earlier than 1974:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chapman_code

The present system is a continuous on-going service, with a restriction on the number of names put forward for publication to ten names published in the Journal. All Members can submit additional interests later, via this form or via e-mail, that will be published on the website.

E-mail addresses will be published (where included), when Interests are uploaded to the website and printed in the Journal. If you do not want this to happen please inform the Treasurer when submitting your interests. This is necessary to meet the Society's responsibility under Data Protection legislation.

It would also help if each Interest submitted was classified either as "New" or "Amended" so that the database is kept up to date, and does not include old and invalid information.

Good hunting.

CHAPMAN County Codes

England (ENG):

BDF	Bedfordshire	HRT	Hertfordshire	SOM	Somersetshire
BRK	Berkshire	HUN	Huntingdonshire	STS	Staffordshire
BKM	Buckingham	KEN	Kent	SFK	Suffolk
CAM	Cambridgeshire	LAN	Lancashire	SRY	Surrey
CHS	Cheshire	LEI	Leicestershire	SSX	Sussex
CON	Cornwall	LIN	Lincolnshire	WAR	Warwickshire
CUL	Cumberland	LND	London	WES	Westmoreland
DBY	Derbyshire	MDX	Middlesex	WIL	Wiltshire
DEV	Devonshire	NFK	Norfolk	WOR	Worcestershire
DOR	Dorsetshire	NTH	Northamptonshire	YKS	Yorkshire
DUR	Durham	NBL	Northumberland	ERY	Yks East Riding
ESS	Essex	NTT	Nottinghamshire	WRY	Yks West Riding
GLS	Gloucestershire	OXF	Oxfordshire	NRY	Yks North Riding
HAM	Hampshire	RUT	Rutland	IOW	Isle of Wight
HEF	Herefordshire	SAL	Shropshire	IOM	Isle of Man

Wales (WLS):

N.WLS	North Wales	S.WLS	South Wales		
AGY	Anglesey	DEN	Denbighshire	MON	Monmouthshire
BRE	Breckonshire	FLN	Flintshire	MGY	Montgomeryshire
CAE	Caernarvonshire	GLA	Glamorgan	PEM	Pembrokeshire
CGN	Cardiganshire	MER	Merionethshire	RAD	Radnorshire

Scotland (SCT):

ABD	Aberdeenshire	ELN	East Lothian	PEE	Peebleshire
ANS	Angus (Forfarshire)	FIF	Fifeshire	PER	Perthshire
ARL	Argyllshire	INV	Inverness-shire	RFW	Renfrewshire
AYR	Ayrshire	KCD	Kincardineshire	ROC	Ross & Cromarty
BAN	Banffshire	KRS	Kinross-shire	ROX	Roxburghshire
BEW	Berwickshire	KKD	Kircudbrightshire	SEL	Selkirkshire
BUT	Bute	LKS	Lanarkshire	SHI	Shetland Isles
CAI	Caithness-shire	MLN	Midlothian	STI	Stirlingshire
CLK	Clackmannanshire	MOR	Moray	SUT	Sutherland
DFS	Dumfriesshire	NAI	Nairnshire	WLN	West Lothian
DNB	Dunbartonshire	OKI	Orkney Isles	WIG	Wigtownshire

Ireland (IRL):

CAR	Carlow	KIK	Kilkenny	OFF	Offaly (Kings)
CAV	Cavan	LET	Leitrim	ROS	Roscommon
CLA	Clare	LEX	Leix (Queens)	SLI	Sligo
COR	Cork	LIM	Limerick	TIP	Tipperary
DON	Donegal	LOG	Longford	WAT	Waterford
DUB	Dublin	LOU	Louth	WEM	Westmeath
GAL	Galway	MAY	Mayo	WEX	Wexford
KER	Kerry	MEA	Meath	WIC	Wicklow
KID	Kildare	MOG	Monagan		

N. Ireland (NIR)

ANT	Antrim	DOW	Down	LDY	Londonderry
ARM	Armagh	FER	Fermanagh	TYR	Tyrone

Channel Isles (CHI)

ALD	Alderney	JSY	Jersey	SRK	Sark
GSY	Guernsey				

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Eleanor Latchford (Johnston/Johnson?)

When I started doing my family tree many years ago, my gran, Eleanor, was a huge stumbling block. She had already passed away by the time I started my research, but according to my parents my gran never knew her exact birthdate, never knew her father, and was even unsure as to whether she was born in England or Ireland!

Eleanor Latchford



28-08-1903 to 4-12-1971

After many hours of searching, I could not find any record of her birth being registered, but as time went on I discovered 3 siblings, 2 of which were unknown by my parents, so I began to look into the life of Flora, Eleanor's mother.

Florence
Catherine
Latchford
(Flora)

15-10-1874 to
11-04-1930



Flora was born on 15 October 1874 at 8 Summer Hill South, in Cork, Ireland, and was the fourth of five children to George Drew Latchford (a teacher at the Model School in Cork) and Elinor Latchford (nee BECK).

Elinor died in 1877, and George in 1892. Within a couple of years of George's death, Flora, and three of her siblings, Mary, William and Francis moved to Liverpool. I have no records of what happened to the fifth sibling, John.

The first record I have of Flora in Liverpool is the birth certificate of her first child, and this is where the puzzle begins.

When and where born	25 January 1896 50 Gerald Street U.D.
Name	George Drew
Sex	Boy
Name and surname of father	-----
Name, surname and maiden name of mother	Florence Latchford (Stationers assistant)
Occupation of father	-----
Description and residence of informant	F. Latchford (Mother) 97 Butler Street, West Derby

My father was always aware of my Grandma having a brother, but they never really knew what happened to him, but more of that later! As you can see, on the birth certificate there is no father listed, yet just a month later, George was baptised at St. Peters in Liverpool....

When baptised	Childs Christian name	Parents Names		Abode	Trade or Profession
		Christian	Surname		
10 February 1896	George Drew	Hugh Beck & Flora	Latchford	Belfast	Caretaker

And the plot thickens! Now Flora is saying she is only a Latchford by marriage, her husband being a “Hugh Beck Latchford” and that they lived in Belfast. Is it just a “coincidence” that BECK was Flora’s mothers’ maiden name, and that her mother, Elinor Beck, originally came from Belfast?

When and where born	11 June 1900, 40 Bourne Street U.D.
Name	John Francis Victor
Sex	Boy
Name and surname of father	George Latchford
Name, surname and maiden name of mother	Florence Latchford (formerly Drew)
Occupation of father	Mariner (Merchant Service)
Description and residence of informant	F. Latchford (Mother) 40 Bourne Street, West Derby

Once again Flora is saying she is a Latchford by marriage, her husband being a George Latchford (not the Hugh Beck on the previous baptism record!), and that her maiden name was DREW.....Now, Flora’s father was George Drew Latchford. Did perhaps when registering the birth and asked for the fathers’

name, she actually just gave her own fathers name..... and the real father was just some unknown sailor?

The family then appear on the 1901 census....

Name	Relationship	Condition	Age	Occupation	Where born
Mary GOODALL	Head	M	32	-	Ireland
Flora LATCHFORD	Sister	S	26	Cook - domestic	"
Francis Victor LATCHFORD	Brother	S	24	Tobacco spinner	"
William J GOODALL	Son	S	9		"
Flora GOODALL	Daughter	S	1		Liverpool, Lancs

At this point Flora is still single, living at 40 Bourne Street, with her eldest sister, Mary (now Goodall) and her younger brother, Francis, but there is no mention of Flora's 2 children, George and John Francis.

Further investigations found George, aged 5, as a boarder with a Margaret McConnell at 129a Boaler Street, and that sadly the second child, John Francis Victor had died as an infant of only four months old, so within a few years of arriving in Liverpool, Flora had given birth to two children, one had died, one "given away" and boarding elsewhere.

My next discovery was of another child to Flora.....

When and where born	6 August 1908, 79 Aber Street U.D.
Name	William Joseph
Sex	Boy
Name and surname of father	William Joseph Latchford
Name, surname and maiden name of mother	Florence Catherine Latchford (formerly Drew)
Occupation of father	Steamship cattleman
Description and residence of informant	F. Latchford (Mother) 79 Aber Street

This time Flora is again saying she is a Latchford by marriage, but now to a different husband and that her maiden name was DREW (her father's middle name!).

The family next appear on the 1911 census living at 162 Spencer Street, which became the family home until the mid-1970's, with my grandad moving in there when he married my gran in 1926. At that point, my gran's "Uncle" Frank was the head of the household, and he remained so until his death in 1960.

Name	Relationship	Condition	Age	Occupation	Where born
Francis Victor LATCHFORD	Head	S	35	Tobacco warehouse	Cork, Ireland
Florence JOHNSON	Sister	Widow	37		"
William Joseph JOHNSON	Nephew	S	2		Liverpool, Lancs
Eleanor JOHNSON	Niece	S	7		"

Although I was only 5 at the time of his passing, I can still vividly remember him playing “the monkey goes up” with me sitting on his knees.

Also on the 1911 census, I found Flora’s first born, George, by then 15 years of age, still living with Mrs McConnell at 129a Boaler Street but now listed as her adopted son. He was working as a tobacco factory hand which I’m guessing was at Ogden’s – which was where his “uncle” Francis Victor spent his whole working life..... I wonder if he was instrumental in George getting the job?

When and where born	28 August 1903, 127a Boaler Street
Name	Eleanor
Sex	Girl
Name and surname of father	Frederick Johnston
Name, surname and maiden name of mother	Flora Johnston (formerly Latchford)
Occupation of father	Steamship cattleman
Description and residence of informant	F. Johnston (Mother) 127a Boaler Street, West Derby

(Note the address, 127a Boaler Street, next door to where Flora’s first son was lodging!)

Anyway, at last I thought I'd found details of Eleanor's father with Flora, and perhaps for the first time, a correct recording of a fathers' name, "Frederick Johnston", but this was not to be the end of the story!

Just a year later in 1912, young William Joseph sadly died aged just 3. He was buried at Walton Park Cemetery but the burial register shows him as Joseph William **LATCHFORD!**

Name	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Where born
Francis Victor LATCHFORD	Head	44	Tobacco worker	Cork, Ireland
Florence LATCHFORD	Sister	45	Charwoman	"
Eleanor LATCHFORD	Relative	17	Waitress	Liverpool, Lancs

So, in 1908 he was born as a **Latchford**, on the 1911 census he is recorded as a **Johnson**, but the following year in 1912 he is buried as a **Latchford!**

The next record I have for them is the 1921 census still at 162 Spencer Street. By 1921, Flora and my gran had reverted to being **Latchfords**.

The next piece of the puzzle is my grans marriage certificate in 1926. On this not only is she recorded as **Eleanor Latchford**, but she has listed her Uncle, Francis Victor, as her father! This could be just because he had been like a father to her all her life, helping bring her up, and was just acting as her father to "give her away" on her marriage..... or.....!!!

And now the final piece (so far) of the jigsaw, Flora's death certificate, on which she is recorded as Florence Catherine LATCHFORD, widow of..... further information not known!

So, the crux of the story is that Flora had four children, all by different fathers. Or were they?

When starting my family tree many years ago, on talking to my Dad he had some concerns if "uncle" Frank was his mum's uncle or actually her father! My research proved he was definitely Flora's brother, but he never married, and he and Flora lived together from the time they both arrived in Liverpool until their deaths.

Francis Victor Latchford



25-06-1876 to 5-06-1960

Perhaps he was such a good guy that he stayed with and supported Flora while she produced her offspring from various dubious assignments, or was their relationship more than that of brother and sister?

Both my Dad (Francis William) and myself (John Francis) were named after “uncle” Frank, so he was definitely held in high esteem in our family.

And one very last note.....My father remembered meeting George Drew Latchford (the son given up for adoption) a couple of times, and insists he was the spitting image of “Uncle” Frank!

I guess we all have skeletons in the cupboard!

John Fletcher

Liverpool Mercury
Thursday July 3 1890
Coroner's Inquest
Died under Chloroform

On the body of William Thomas Bird, 9 years of age, who lived with his aunt, Mary Bird, at Frankby, nr Birkenhead. As the deceased was leaving school on the 24th ult, he received a blow to the eye by a stone thrown from a sling by a bot named as John Hughes. A doctor was called who said the eye was burst and he was subsequently admitted to the Eye and Ear Infirmary in Liverpool.

Dr EA Browne, of that institution, stated that it was necessary to operate on the boy which took place with the consent of his family on Monday. It was necessary to use chloroform to put him under and both the witnesses and the doctor thought the young boy was a fit enough subject to have chloroform administered to him.

The operation was a success and the boy seemed to have recovered when he suddenly turned pale and fainted away. Four surgeons were present and every remedy was applied but the boy died during the faint. The death was caused due to the combined influences of the operation and the chloroform.

A verdict to this effect was returned, the jury considering that the chloroform had been skilfully administered.

New Members & Members' Interests

New and old Members' Interests detailed below consist of the membership number and interest in terms of **SURNAME and INITIAL, LOCATION and DATE**. **A maximum of only ten interests can be published for the sake of space. Anyone needing more than ten interests can see the extra numbers published on our website.** Members reading this section who identify an interest they are looking for, should note the membership number of the contributing member and contact them through the **'Members Only'** area of our website: www.lswlfhs.org.uk

We welcome new members, **numbers 9658-9677** who have joined most recently and wish them every success with their research.

New Members:

9658 P SIMMONDS; 9659 SPURCELL; 9660 J PERRA; 9661 I COOPER; 9664 R JEPSON; 9665 V OWEN; 9666 A FOSTER; 9667 A LYNCH; 9668 R MITCHELL; 9669 L HELSBY; 9670 D EGLINTON; 9671 S MOORE; 9672 J HOGGARTH 9673; A COPLEY; 9674 R DUTTON; 9675 W HOLLIS; 9676 L McDONALD; 9677 S BROWN

Members' Interests:

8937 WEAVER LAN/Liverpool 1832-; **9667** DOWLING Agnes LAN 1888-1921; SEAGRAVES Edward LAN 1888-1921

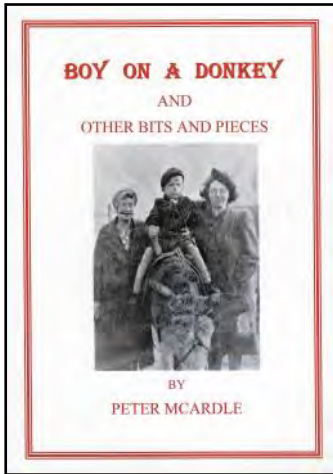
9661 BLUNDELL George LAN/Liverpool 1850-1950; BLUNDELL George Maghull/Halsall/Liverpool 1800-1850; BLUNDELL Charles CHESHIRE/Neston 1800-; BLUNDELL James LAN/Everton 1833-1878; LLOYD Charles Wrexham/Everton 1799-1879; LLOYD Charles LAN/Everton 1829-1907; LLOYD Edward LAN/Everton 1861-1920; ALLEN Ralph LAN/Winwick 1774-1811; ALLEN John LAN/Everton 1835-1893

9653 BYRNE Peter LAN/Liverpool 1868-1934; NEVILLE Anastasia LAN/Liverpool 1878-1953; MCNERNEY Patrick LAN/Liverpool 1800-; FEARON Mary Ann LAN/Liverpool 1844-1901; CARVILLE Catherine LOU/Omeath 1800-; CASSERLEY Mary Ann LOU/Omeath 1800-; GUY Peter LAN/Prescot 1779-1853; ARMOUR Jane LAN/Halsall 1774-1849; DIRHAM Mary DUB/Castleknock 1799-1878; MOLLOY Anne LAN/Liverpool 1800-

9149 STOLL Elizabeth LAN 1920-

9675 CORNESS/CORNER Thomas/Any LAN/Liverpool 1750-1900

Book Reviews



Boy On A Donkey and Other Bits and Pieces

By Peter McArdle

Pub: Pejomac Publishing

ISBN: 978-1-3999-4247-8

Paperback: £6.99

My apologies to Maria McArdle for my tardiness in reviewing *Boy On A Donkey* - she kindly sent me a review copy last year but all sorts of obstacles got in the way of me sitting down for a good read and review.

The first section in this book is a delightful trip down memory lane (and Penny Lane) by a Liverpool lad in the 1940s and 1950s. Vivid memories from the Liverpool Blitz in 1941, a lazy bomb and a local hero. The story of Mrs Diamond's poltergeist and kind but quirky gifts from Auntie Alice. Larry King's rag shop in Liverpool 8 and rhyming tales of Annie McGlock and Annabelle Snell are all quite charming and remind us all that we should write up some events and rhymes and stories from our youth, to add warmth and heart to our family histories.

The second section, the 'Other Bits and Pieces', are tales from

Peter's imagination. The Fairy on the Christmas Tree reminds me (spoiler alert) why I have some old childhood Christmas decorations I cannot part with (even though they may no longer adorn the house as they once did during festive season's past. Then there's the story of 'Po and his Tuneless Flute', or maybe it should be Po and the angry Emperor. And does God really pick up the tab when

angels take tea at the Ritz?

A thoroughly enjoyable read with a fine selection of illustrations by the hand of Maria and some atmospheric photographs from the family album. All in all, this little book will lift your spirits during these dark and rather worrying days.

Mike Paice (8171)

‘No Problem’

I was born in Everton, Liverpool. I am now in my late 70s and my thoughts often go back to those always sunny summer holidays of my childhood. Around the ages of 7,8 and 9 in the early 1950s, our holidays were spent in Cheshire. We rented Lilac Cottage, not far from Sam Barne’s pub (Now The Pheasant Inn), Tattenhall. What a different world for three Liverpool kids.

My dad could play the Piano and Banjo and was made welcome in the many pubs around the area and a good sing-song was always had by all.

With my brothers I share many happy memories of Beeston Castle/Market, climbing to the Stanner, Burwardsley, camping in Bunbury, and eating crisps on the steps of the Sportsman’s Arms pub. All very nice you may say, but why are you telling me this? Read on and all shall be revealed.

Family History

My Grandmother was Mary Letitia Blackburn, B 1877. Her parents were John Blackburn born 1843? (Age 38 on the 1881 Census) and Rachel Dicks B 1850. John and Rachel were married in The Church of St. Nicholas in 1870 and researching their lives and children afterwards was ‘No problem’.

Last Year

A cousin asked me to find John Blackburn before his marriage in 1870. John’s marriage certificate stated that his father’s name was Thomas William Blackburn, a farmer. Being a family researcher for over 20 years, I said ‘No problem’. Oh! Never, never, say ‘No problem’ with family history! What a nightmare it turned out to be.

Well, nothing seemed to fit – Thomas was not Thomas William, he was not a farmer and his son was born in 1841 a few years out. For over a year I daily dipped in and out of the many websites. Genealogy friends who had also said ‘No problem’ were also dipping in and out. Nothing resulted from our combined dipping’s!

I did say to a friend – Hey, here’s a funny one. There is a Thomas Blackham (sic) labourer on the 1841 census with wife Mary. The 1851 Census says he is from Beeston, Cheshire...wait for it... that’s where we used to go on holidays.

Well, nothing seemed to fit – Thomas was not Thomas William, he was not a farmer and his son was born in 1841 a few years out. My gut feelings, however, would not let me dismiss this family. So, who were they? Thomas Blackburn married Mary Bradshaw in 1821 in Stoke (Stoak) Cheshire. They had 8 children, John being their 8th, all born in Liverpool. In old age Thomas and Mary went back to Cheshire and died in the Great Boughton Workhouse.

In-between ‘dipping’ I researched their children. 1st born Mary married Manuel Domingo in 1854, I then lost track of her. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th children died. The 5th and 7th sisters got to marrying age, then disappeared. The 6th child, Thomas, was 4 when I lost him. I was now beginning to doubt myself and my ‘gut feeling’. I still wanted proof before I could connect John & Rachel to this family. Looking up to heaven and asking Ninny Nook (Grandma) for help also did not work.

What Next?

I took a DNA test. Following the results, I typed in Thomas Blackburn 1798 Beeston. Up pops Shelley in Wrexham, 5th-8th cousin, her Blackburn (Blackburne or Blackhand) family were from Bunbury, Cheshire.

After that it was just DNA cousin after DNA cousin with multiple family tree hits popping up in the surrounding area. It was so unbelievable; I could have cried. What more proof did I need? So, did my dad know his family roots? - I am sure he did; I just wish he had told me.

A trip to The Pheasant Inn, Tattenhall (which is now very posh) is now on the cards.

Lesley Rotheram (8148)

Help Required

There's One in Every Family

It is said there is 'one' in every family. My family is no exception. Our 'one' is John Charles Johnstone and he has proven to be a mystery, a real conundrum.

What I, and other family historians, have managed to ascertain is that John Charles Johnstone was born in 1835 and lived in Liverpool. John married Jane Steel at St Phillips Church in Liverpool on 17 November 1856. On their marriage certificate John described himself as a bachelor and a mariner. He listed his father as George Johnstone, a shipwright. Jane listed herself as a 21-year-old spinster, her father, Isaac Steel (1806-1853) and his occupation, a brazier or tinman. Jane's mother was Elizabeth Crewdson (1810-1868).

It is suggested John was born in Prussia (Germany). That is according to the evidence uncovered by family historians. Other family historians following the same line have linked our John as the son of a George Ramsay Johnstone, a Chelsea Pensioner of Scotland who served in the British Army. This raises a few questions, was John of German or Scottish decent? Why would he list his father as a shipwright on his marriage certificate if he was a former British soldier?

When John and Jane were married in 1856, neither could read or write and both were believed to be living in a boarding house at 28 Greenland Street in Liverpool. By 1861 they were living at 32 Stanhope Street nearer the docks. John and Jane migrated to Australia in 1866 with three children (one born at sea) arriving in Sydney and settling in Palmer and later Beattie Streets in the harbourside suburb of Balmain. They had nine children in all, of which only seven survived, Mary Jane, John, Rosetta, Eliza, Edward, Emily, and William.

John continued his career at sea, and it is said that in later life he became a ship's captain. John died at Balmain on 7 March 1902 aged 71. He was buried at Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney alongside his wife Jane who died on 6 October 1908 and his son, John Charles Johnstone who died aged 27 in 1903. Interestingly John's death certificate states he was born in Liverpool and not Prussia.

Can anyone help solve this mystery?

Darryl Johnston, Canberra, Australia
9643



(Image: The home of John and Jane Johnstone in Beattie Street Balmain Sydney)

Zoom Talks

As always if anybody has a desire to share their research, please get in touch at zoom-admin@lswlfhs.org.uk and help will be given if required. As you can see from the list below we still have a few months to fill in.

Talks planned so far will all take place at 7.00 pm on a Wednesday evening, as follows:

14 February 2024

The lives of Families who Operated Cargo Carrying Narrow Boats on the British canals in the 20th Century by Cath Turpin

13 March 2024

Wrecks Off The Southport Coast by Martyn Griffiths

10 April 2024

Going Beyond Names, Dates and Places by Ken Nisbet

8 May 2024

Development of the Small Victorian House in Liverpool by Gareth Carr

June - taking a break

21 August 2024

Mental Illness and the Victorians: the case of Alice Hadfield Petschler by Joanna Williams

Wednesday, 11th September 2024

Women in Aviation by Jess Boydon-Juckes

11 December 2024

Forgotten Disasters by Richard M Jones

MaryA

zoom-admin@lswlfhs.org.uk

Liverpool & South West Lancashire Family History Society

Apprenticeship

I recently attended a very interesting and informative talk, hosted by L&SWLFHS, on James Naysmith's Hammer. I was reminded that there was such a hammer (I could not be sure that it was a Naysmith) in the blacksmith shop at Tate and Lyle Refinery. Love Lane, Liverpool when I was serving my Engineering Apprenticeship. The tradesman who operated it was so skilful that, he could place a walnut on the anvil and then bring down the hammer to touch the nut without cracking the shell.

I then started to think about the difference between apprenticeships of my era and the present day. At that time a boy started his apprenticeship aged 16 and spent 5 years learning his trade.

I left Toxteth Technical School in July 1956 approximately 9 weeks short of my 17th birthday and hoped to gain an apprenticeship in engineering. I immediately started applying to many of the engineering companies that were operating in Liverpool at that time. Although I managed to get several interviews, I was unsuccessful in achieving my ambition. Some of the interviewing boards suggesting that my GCE passes in Physics, English Language, Geography and Woodwork, were more suited to a career in commerce or the arts.

I was, later in my career, to become a Shift Engineering Supervisor, for a large food processing company and then Engineering Services Manager, for the English branch of an International chemical company. Hmm.

1956 was a tumultuous year worldwide, with several serious events taking place. The Suez crisis occurred, the Polish Solidarity movement was born, and Russian troops entered Hungary to put down a student uprising. Towards the end of September, I had still not had any success in gaining employment, so I was starting to get concerned.

Eventually I found my way to the Youth Employment Office, which at that time was situated on the corner of Dale Street and Sir Thomas Street. After a short chat, the clerk advised me that Tate and Lyle, Sugar Refiners, were looking for one more apprentice to

complete their quota for 1956 and would I be interested in going for an interview . “*I most certainly would*” was my response. A telephone call was made, and an appointment arranged for me to attend for an interview the following day.

Suitably washed and attired I presented myself at 9.00 a.m. and was interviewed by the Chief Engineer Mr James Fairrie, a member of the Fairrie family who had once operated a sugar refining business founded in 1847 but amalgamated with Tate and Lyle in 1929. Mr Fairrie, having satisfied himself that I was a suitable candidate, offered me an apprenticeship as a Mechanical Fitter provided that both my father and I agreed to the terms of employment.

These were set out in a letter which arrived at my home two days later, which was to be signed by both my father and myself. I was required to return the letter personally and take a medical examination to prove my fitness for work.

On Wednesday the 3rd October, 4 days before my 17th birthday, I started my working life.

I reported to the Personnel Department, and after being given an induction I was issued with personal protective clothing, and a small set of tools. I was expected to add to this tool kit as my Apprentice progressed. I was also given a brass tally with my works number stamped on it.

I am still in possession of the tally.



The tally was placed on a board hook in the security lodge when entering the refinery and removed when leaving the premises. Thus, enabling the timekeeper and wages clerk, to determine the weeks pay. The working hours were from 7.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday and 7.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. on Saturday. My starting pay was £2.13s.6p (£2.67½ pence).

I have to say, that travelling on a bus to start school at 9.00 a.m. was a lot easier than walking 2 miles to start work at 7.30 a.m.

I was required to attend Technical College one day and one evening each week in order to gain academic qualifications. I managed to gain Ordinary National Certificate in 4 subjects.

The first department I worked in was the Engineering Stores, where I became familiar with much of the spares and equipment used to keep the refinery operating efficiently

At the end of my second year of apprenticeship I was voted 2nd top apprentice. This earned me a month term at an Outward Bound School based on the Moray Firth, near Elgin. My time there was very interesting and enjoyable. I learnt to sail small boats and travelled to the Orkneys on a large sailing schooner. Mountain walking, field crafts and athletics were also interesting events.

The 5 years of my apprenticeship were spent learning my trade in all aspects of Mechanical Engineering. My favourite department was the Engineering Machine Shop where I learnt to use various types of machine tools. Here, I made some hand tools such as engineers square, marking block, various types of punches and measuring callipers.

On the 6 October 1961, I completed my 5 years apprenticeship and qualified as a Mechanical Fitter.

See overleaf for Indenture Papers

For the next three months I was employed by Tate and Lyle as a fitter and then at year end, I was presented with my indentures and a personal reference and sent out into the big world to make my way in life.

Arthur Jones (9050)

(With thanks to Yvonne Eckersley for editorial advice)



BY APPOINTMENT
TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SUGAR REFINERS

Tate & Lyle, Limited,

SUGAR REFINERS,

LOVE LANE, LIVERPOOL, 3.

Certificate of Apprenticeship.

WE, TATE & LYLE, LIMITED, hereby certify that

ARTHUR JONES

has COMPLETED a FIVE years' apprenticeship to

MECHANICAL AND INSTRUMENT

to our satisfaction.

His detailed records are:—

Apprenticeship commenced 3.10.56

Practical Work

DATE	DEPARTMENT
3.10.56 - 12.11.56	General Stores
12.11.56 - 31.12.56	Whitesmith's Shop
31.12.56 - 11. 2.57	Pipe Fitting Shop
11. 2.57 - 11. 6.57	Fitting Shop
11. 6.57 - 15. 7.57	Tool Stores
15. 7.57 - 30. 9.57	Fitting Shop
30. 9.57 - 6.10.58	Machine Shop
6.10.58 - 5. 4.59	Construction
5. 4.59 - 29. 6.59	Garage
29. 6.59 - 5.10.59	Instrument Shop
5.10.59 - 4. 1.60	Construction
4. 1.60 - 4. 4.60	Hesser Machines
4. 4.60 - 2. 1.61	Mechanical O. & M. Dept.
2. 1.61 - 3. 4.61	Steam & Power Dept.
3. 4.61 - 6.10.61	Drawing Office

1958 - Attended Outward Bound School

Technical Studies

DATE	
1956/1957	Passed S1, Ordinary National Certificate at Walton Technical College
1957/1958	Passed S2, Ordinary National Certificate at Walton Technical College
1958/1959	Failed S3, Ordinary National Certificate at Walton Technical College
1959/1960	Passed S3, Ordinary National Certificate at Walton Technical College
	Awarded Ordinary National Certificate
1960/1961	Failed A1, Higher National Certificate at Liverpool College of Technology

Signed on behalf of Tate & Lyle, Limited,

D. D. Bell

Chief Engineer.

Date 29th November 1961.



TATE & LYLE LIMITED,
LOVE LANE SUGAR REFINERY,
LIVERPOOL, 3.

REGISTERED OFFICE:
8, MINING LANE,
LONDON, E.C.3.

TELEPHONE
NORTH 2161.
TELEGRAMS
LOVLANE, LIVERPOOL, 3.

OUR REF. Eng/TWM/AG.
YOUR REF.

29th September, 1956.

Mr. J.E. Jones,
8, Eyes Street,
Everton,
LIVERPOOL, 5.

Dear Sir,

Engineering Apprenticeship

We have interviewed your son Arthur and are prepared to accept him as a Mechanical Engineering Apprentice on the following conditions :-

General Conditions

(a) The Apprenticeship is to be for five years.

(b) The first six months is to be regarded as a probationary period during which time we will satisfy ourselves that your son is suitable for training as an Apprentice. It will also give both you and your son the opportunity of discontinuing the apprenticeship if you so desire. One week's notice of termination of apprenticeship during this period is to be given by either party to the other. In the event of being accepted for serving the full five years of apprenticeship, the probationary period will be included.

(c) The Apprentice must keep himself clean, neat and tidy in appearance; be of good general behaviour; and attentive to his duties. He must maintain a high standard of timekeeping; make satisfactory progress in his practical training, and apply himself diligently to his technical studies.

(d) The Apprentice must attend part-time day classes held at Walton Technical College, and must attend an additional class on one evening per week in his own time. Whilst attending College during the day-time his wages will be paid by us. See (e). He will be expected to pass the appropriate National Certificate Examinations (or other examinations suited to his trade) each year of his apprenticeship. In the event of the College Year continuing beyond the date of the termination of apprenticeship, this will be taken into account when dealing with item (f).

(e) In the event of the Apprentice failing to comply with the above conditions, then after due warning being given to him appropriate to the misdemeanour and no satisfactory improvement being evident, it is to be understood that we have the right to modify or withdraw the concessions granted under (d) or to terminate the apprenticeship on one week's notice.

(f) In all other cases an Apprentice will not be considered for re-employment by us, unless he is entitled to re-instatement under the Re-instatement in Civil Employment Act, until he has had three years outside experience. No guarantee however, is given of any such re-employment, other than re-instatement under the Act.

Hours of Employment, Rates of Pay:

(g) The hours of employment will be those current in the trade at the time. At present these are :- Mondays to Fridays 7.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (except when

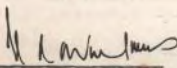
attending the School or College when they will be those fixed by the School or College Authorities). Saturdays 7.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. The rates of pay are based on those of journeymen and will be proportional to those current at the time, and appropriate to the year of apprenticeship.

Medical Examination

(h) We understand that your son was passed as medically fit by the Factory Inspection Department Medical Officer on Wednesday, 26th September, 1956, and by the Refinery Doctor on Friday, September 28th, 1956, to undertake the apprenticeship.

If you are in agreement with the foregoing, we are agreeable for your son to commence his Apprenticeship on Wednesday, October 3rd, 1956. We shall be obliged, therefore, if both you and your son will sign your names at the foot of this Agreement, return it to us, and retain the copy for your own reference.

Yours faithfully,
FOR TATE & LYLE LIMITED.


for J. C. Fairrie
Chief Engineer.

Signature of Parent *J. P. Jones*...

Signature of Apprentice *J. P. Jones*...

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Mesmerism in Disease

Mr Hicks (Practical and Consulting Mesmerist and Phrenologist) may be Consulted Daily, at Mrs Wood's, 62 Bold Street, opposite Newington, from Nine till Eleven o'clock, by Individuals wishing to avail themselves of Mesmerism as a Curative; or Mr Hicks will attend Invalids at their own residence.

Phrenological Delineations may be obtained Daily from Three until Seven o'clock. Fees for a Written Delineation of Character 2s 6d; Children 1s 6d each.

62 Bold Street, February 11, 1848

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Liverpool & S W Lancashire FHS Help Desks

Liverpool Group

Central Library—Floor 3 every Tuesday 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Southport

Crosby Library—1st and 3rd Fridays 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

bookable only

Maghull Library—Thursday morning depending on availability –
phone to book

Leigh

Help Desk at Archives: Wigan & Leigh, Town Hall, Leigh -

Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am - 1.00 pm by appointment.

Contact Search Room at 01942 404430 or alternatively complete
the query form by email at archives@wigan.gov.uk

Warrington

Warrington Library, Museum Street

Family History Help Desk here between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon
Saturdays

For further details please contact:
email: warrington@lswlfhs.org.uk

Website

www.lswlfhs.org.uk

There is a Help forum on the above site

Member Bob Dobson of Blackpool

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50yrs of trading. He offers to
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Can we help you with your brick walls?

Have you come across a stum-
bling block in your
Liverpool research?

Your Society hosts an online
forum
to help and you would be very
welcome to join in and also
make contact with other
friendly members around the
world.

[https://forum.lswlfhs.org.uk/
forum](https://forum.lswlfhs.org.uk/forum)

Mary Allan
Email: [forum-
admin@lswlfhs.org.uk](mailto:forum-admin@lswlfhs.org.uk)

Death Notice Saturday April 5 1856

Crocket – June 20, at the manse, Kirkgunzeon, stewartry of
Kirkcudbright, aged upwards of 90 years, the Rev. Joh Crocket,
who was, if not the “Father of the Church”, at least the clergyman
of the greatest age. He was ordained to the charge in which he
dies in the year 1809.

News from the Groups

Leigh & District

Chairman: Margery Harrop

Secretary: Glenys McClellan

Meetings are held in the Derby Room, Leigh Library at 7:30pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

19 Mar	The Manchester Martyrs by Joe O'Neill
16 Apr	Women Who Lived as Men by Brian Joyce
21 May	TBA
18 Jun	'Madness': The History of Mental Health Care by Louise Wade

Liverpool

Chairman: Susan Atkins

Secretary: Joyce Culling

The Group meets on the 4th Floor, Central Library, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EW, on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August. Doors open 5:45pm for 6:00pm start and meetings finish no later than 7:45pm. £1 for refreshments.

12 Mar	T.B.A.
09 Apr	T.B.A.
14 May	T.B.A.
11 Jun	T.B.A.

Skelmersdale & Upholland

Chairman: Bill Fairclough

Secretary: Caroline Fairclough

The Group meets at Upholland Methodist Church, Alma Hill, Upholland, WN8 0NR at 7:00pm for 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month - unless stated otherwise.

05 Mar	Home Children Sent to Canada by Ian Monney
02 Apr	The Halsall Murder by Dot Broady-Hawkes
07 May	Maggie May by David Brown
04 Jun	Into the Woods; The Heritage of the Tawd Valley Park by Mark Boardman

Southport Group

Chair: Shelagh Boardman

Secretary: Ian Cooper

Meetings are held on every second Friday of each month and start at 19:30. Coffee/Tea and biscuits from 7.15. Presently the venue is at Birkdale Station Master's House.

8 Mar	The 1939 Register by Susan Atkins
12 Apr	Record Keeping by the Committee
10 May	Britain's Weirdest Fleet by Shelagh Boardman

Warrington

Chairman: Peter Jolliffe

Secretary: Keith Thompson

[New Venue] The Group meets in The Oaks Centre, Stocks Lane, Penketh, WA5 2UB. Meetings start at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:30pm) on the fourth Monday of each month, except July, August and December.

25 Mar	Memorabilia Night
22 Apr	Dating Old Photographs by Janice Hays
27 May	T.B.C.

Your Journal Needs You!

Please send us your articles, pictures, help requests, website reviews etc. Our journal depends on your contributions, if we are to maintain the high standards we have all enjoyed for so many years.

DEADLINES

The cut-off dates for material to reach the editor, for potential inclusion in the next issue are:



MARCH	Jan 15th
JUNE	Apr 15th
SEPTEMBER	July 15th
DECEMBER	Oct 15th

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Zoom Administrator	Mary Allan Email: forum-admin@lswlfhs.org.uk
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Strays Co-ordinator:	Kathy Donaldson Email: strays@lswlfhs.org.uk
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Donated Certificates Sec:	Val Benson Ailsa Craig, Russet Road, Weaverham, Northwich, CW8 3HY Email: certificates@lswlfhs.org.uk

Plus one representative elected by each Group of the Society.



Liverpool Town Hall

This impressive building stands in High St at the junction of Dale St, Castle St and Water St. It was designed by John Wood the Elder and built between 1749 and 1754 and is a Grade 1 listed building. An extension on the north side, designed by James Wyatt, was added in 1785.

A notable event was that the very last act of the [American Civil War](#) was when [Captain Waddell](#) walked up the steps of the town hall in November 1865 with a letter to present to the mayor surrendering his vessel, the [CSS Shenandoah](#), to the British government.

Part of the building was damaged in the Liverpool Blitz in May 1941 and was only repaired after the end of WW11.

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Leigh Town Hall

The new building was designed for [Leigh Borough Council](#) by [J.C. Prestwich](#), who had an architectural practice in the town, in the [Edwardian Baroque style](#). Work began in 1904 and, after construction works costing £60,000 had been completed, the building was opened in 1907. The building has been described as "An exceptionally good building, expressive yet not showy".

On 18 May 1938 [King George VI](#) and [Queen Elizabeth](#) visited the town hall and talked to a local soldier, Private [Alfred Wilkinson](#), who had been awarded the [Victoria Cross](#) in WW1.

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