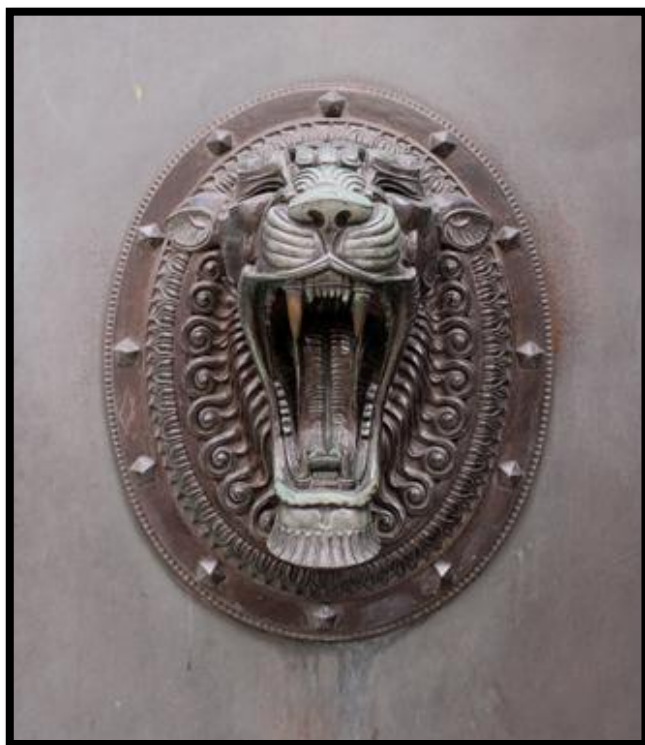


LIVERPOOL FAMILY HISTORIAN



Volume 47 No. 2



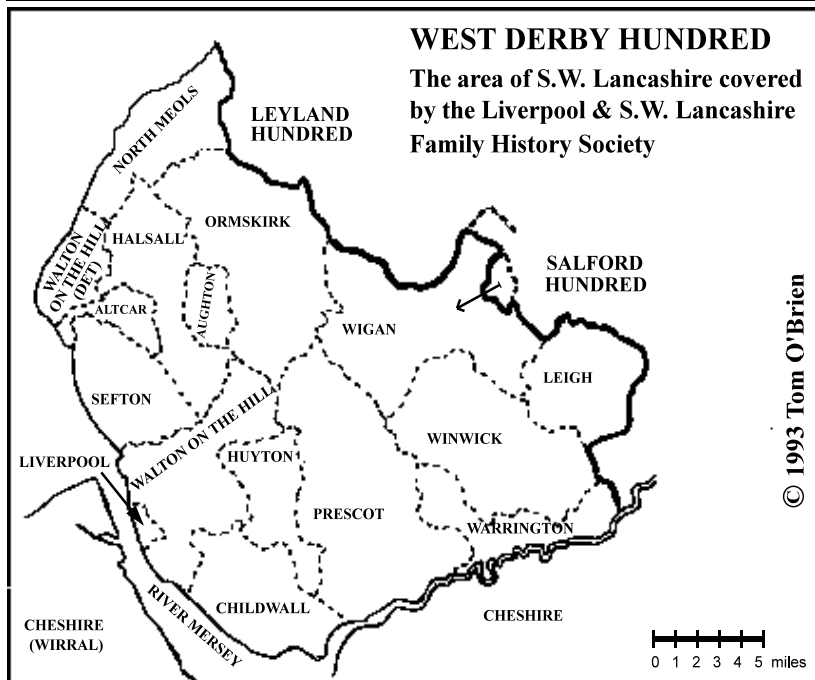
June 2025

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



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licenses/by-sa/4.0/](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/)>, via Wikimedia Commons. The doors of 7 Water St are adorned
with two tiger heads, legend has it Lascar sailors used to come and rub the
tiger teeth on the doors of the city centre building for good luck. The Grade II
listed building dates back to the early 19th century when it was home to a
pub, known as the Talbot Hotel.**

Liverpool Family Historian

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Editorial

Hello everyone

Welcome to another edition of The Liverpool Historian. I hope you have all been enjoying this beautiful, sunny weather we have been having recently. It really does make you feel better, doesn't it?

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all our new members to the Society and hope that if they need any help that they won't hesitate to ask, either through the website or at a help desk or maybe through our Facebook page. There is always someone on hand who can help.

We have received some lovely articles this quarter and I have so enjoyed reading them and adding them to our Journal for you all to enjoy as well. My thanks also go to various members of the Committee who have also submitted articles, some of which appear in this edition and some will appear in future editions.

As ever, if you have a story to tell, I would love to receive it and to publish for our members to enjoy. We all have so much to learn from each other as you may know of a resource that someone else doesn't.

Leigh & District FHS have been very busy organising the AGM and One Day Conference and I, for one, am very much looking forward to a day out in October. It looks to be a very interesting and informative day. Please have a look at the centre insert and book your place as soon as you can.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Members Interest's Secretary, Sandra Roberts, who has taken this over from Annette Urwin. I know you will all wish her well in her new role.

Best wishes
Alison Anyon
Editor

News Items

Society News

Conference and Annual General Meeting 2025

Our conference and AGM this year will be held on **Saturday 11 October 2025**, hosted by the Leigh and District Family History Society.

The venue will be **St Mary's Community Hall, Lowton, WA3 1DQ**. The programme will be available on the website and the booking form and further information is available on the centre yellow pages of this edition and the September edition of the journal, so please save the date in your diaries and join us on the day.

It certainly looks like a very interesting day has been planned for us all!

The Family History Show (London) 2025

Another early reminder that the Family History Show at Kempton Racecourse in Sunbury-on-Thames, will run this year on **Saturday 4 October** from 10:00 to 16:00.

As at all these events there is free access, it is wheelchair friendly, there are disabled toilets, free onsite parking and refreshments are available all day.

Ticket prices on the day will be £12 per person (with under 16s having free admission). Early Bird prices on the website at the time of writing

were £8 per person or £14 for two tickets. At this event there will also be a 'Goody Bag' worth £15 given to each ticket holder on arrival.

The venue is wheelchair accessible throughout and there will be free parking at the venue, for those who choose to drive to the event. There is a regular rail service from London Waterloo to the on-site Kempton Park railway station.

Book a free personal talk with one of the 'Experts'. However, talk times are not yet available so please check on the website at: [Free Talks at The Family History Show, London](#) as it is advised that early booking is essential when you arrive at the venue. They cover a wide range of topics, including Military, DNA, House Histories, Social History, Brick Walls and General Research.

FRIENDS OF PENDLE HERITAGE

Tuesday 20 May 2025, 7pm

A guided tour of the refurbished **Pendle Hippodrome Theatre**. An evening out with a difference, where you can see all areas of a full working theatre – from the box office to the stage door and beyond, be shown how it works and why. Following the tour, which will take approximately 2 hours, tea and coffee will be served. ***Please note, the tour includes many steps and staircases.***

The cost is £5 per person, with booking and payment required by 6 May 2025.

(e: info@foph.co.uk or m: 07787 631078). **Pendle Hippodrome Theatre, New Market Street, Colne BB8 9BJ**

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The Manx of South Liverpool in 1861

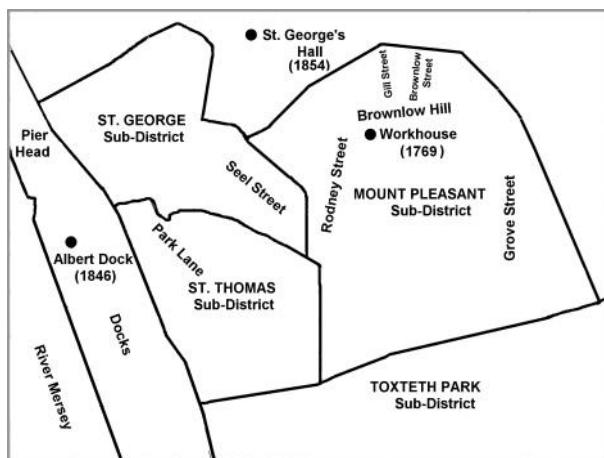
This article was first published in 2011 in the IOMFHS Journal, and the owner of the copyright text and photographs is Ron P Smith.

Continuing from the summary of the Manx born residents of Toxteth Park 150 year ago in the last journal, this item looks at the Manx living in adjacent sub-districts in South Liverpool. A total of 736 Manx born people were found to be living in the three sub-districts north of Toxteth Park namely St. George, St. Thomas and Mount Pleasant. The majority were living in the larger Mount Pleasant sub-district.

While the average age was again found to be 37 years, the distribution

was different in a range from just 5 months up to 87 years.

William P **Kelly** was the youngest and lived at 24 Alfred Street near the south extreme of Mount Pleasant. The oldest was also a **Kelly** – Matthew **Kelly**, a joiner and widower who resided at 11 Great



Newton Street off Brownlow Hill. Unlike in Toxteth Park, a single peak was found in the age ranges and that existed between 21 to 30 years.

The biggest concentration of Manx people was in the northeast of the area around Brownlow Hill. There were 34 people in Brownlow Hill itself and many more in connecting streets such as Gill Street.

Rodney Street had 18 including Elizabeth **Crowe** of Ramsey who was working as a maid & waitress at number 49. In Shannon Street, 10 Manx were living at 4 addresses, two of them being cellars. In the cellar of number 17, was the **Callow** family, headed by John, a blacksmith aged 36. Another concentration was at Park Lane and surrounding streets such as Pitt Street and Upper Frederick Street in St. Thomas sub-district. This included John **Quilliam**, a boot & shoemaker and his wife Mary who were at 107 Park Lane. Surprisingly, in southern St George, close to the main population, there were no Manx living in Colquitt Street. However, 17-year-old Sarah **Colquit**, a servant, was living nearby at Blackburne Street. Just around the corner from Colquitt Street in Seel Street there were 3 Manx. One of them was Douglas born Jane **Clegg** who worked as a servant at number 45.

The most common occupations were servants with more than one in six of those occupied found to be servants of some kind in a domestic environment. It was also noted that the Manx population contained more females than males at nearly 6 in 10. Three young women were working at different addresses in Peel Terrace in Upper Canning Street. Ann **Cowley** of Douglas was a maid while Catherine **Cottier** and Ann **Bridson** were both cooks. Two young women were described as “lady’s maids”. Catherine **Qualtrop** of Rushen was one at 5 Gambier Terrace, while a short walk away at 2 Canning Street resided Catherine **Curphey**.

The most common male occupation was carpenter / joiner, though less frequent than in Toxteth Park. One of them was Thomas **Hudson** living at 4 Pomona Street. As many people were occupied in tailoring and dress making combined and also at 4 Pomona Street was William **Caley**, a tailor. Additionally, there was a significant number of boots & shoemakers. Thomas **Harrison**, who was born about 1826 and living at 3 Brown Court was one example.

Some of the other less common occupations included that of Port St. Mary born Martha **Taubman**. She was an apprentice confectioner living at 91 Great George Street, while John Francis **Cottier** at 5 Adelaide Building was a musician who can be traced back to Douglas.

William **Gilmour** who was born in Braddan, was one of nine Manx

policemen in the population. He was single at age 25 and lived at 8 White Street. Another policeman was William **Halsall**, similarly unmarried, aged 22 and living a little northeast of him at 9 Bittern Street.

A number of the Manx were keeping hotels and public houses. Sophie **Stagg** aged 39, unmarried and born in Douglas was the hotel keeper of the “Queens Arms” at 58 Dale Street. Her servant Margaret **Brown** was also from Douglas. Thomas **Cowen** was keeper of the “Elephant & Castle Hotel” at 13 Drury Lane. Ann **Owens** lived in the “Legs of Man Inn” at 19 Norfolk Street with her husband, a Welsh born victualler. Others simply stayed in them, including William **Wood** who was a lead merchant living in the Mona Hotel at 16 James Street.

Perhaps the most notable immigrant found was Hugh Stowell **Brown**, the Baptist minister at 97 Grove Street. He had been christened at St. Matthews, Douglas in 1823 and as well as being the older brother of poet Thomas Edward **Brown** was also a social reformer and achieved great renown in the city. After his death in 1886, he was honoured with a statue paid for by public subscription.



Hugh Stowell Brown's Statue

The Mount Pleasant sub-district included a number of institutions, where census practice was often to record only the initials of the inhabitants. Perhaps most significant was the Liverpool Workhouse in Brownlow Hill where 21 Manx persons were resident. At the Royal Infirmary in Brownlow Street, Douglas born Margaret **Moore** was working as a nurse, while John **Owens** and Isabelle **Christian** were both there as patients. Robert **Harrison**, an unmarried seaman born in Laxey was a patient at the Eye & Ear Infirmary at 12 Mount Pleasant.

Ron P Smith (9696)

The Nun's Story

This article first appeared in the Catholic Family History Society
Volume 19 Number 6 December 2023 and is available to view on
www.familysearch.org

Who was Martha **Taylor**?

She was born in 1791 in Kirkby, Lancashire and in 1822 decided to leave home to enter the Order of Discalced Carmelite Nuns at the Carmelite Monastery in Lanherne, St Mawgan, Cornwall. Was she influenced by someone connected to the Antwerp nuns who fled France during the French Revolution? Was she directed there by a priest who perhaps knew the Convent? Did she ever see her family again? Had she been spurned in love? Who contributed towards her dowry in the established Order? Did she have a patron? Was she from a noble family? Did she really have a calling from God?

So many tantalising questions and I don't know the answers.

According to the Convent records, Martha professed on the 4 February 1824, aged 33, and was given the name Sister Mary of the Incarnation. At the time, there were other young ladies from Lancashire living in the convent community. Recusancy was strong in south-west Lancashire and many of the nuns were related to each other. To mention a few of the families: **Blundell, Anderton, Bradshaigh, Clifton, Tyldsley, Molyneux** and **Gerard**. After the Jacobite troubles of 1715-1716, Sefton was served by the Discalced Carmelites, one of whom was Father John **Cuerdon** who served in Sefton from September 1726 till his death or departure in 1742.

Martha died on the 14 March 1867, aged 75 from broncho pneumonia and is buried in holy ground in the nuns' private cemetery, inside the enclosure of the convent. She is mentioned in both the 1841 and 1861 Census Returns, the latter referring to her as "*Unmarried, 66, Religious Woman, Kirkby, Lancs.*"

Martha **Taylor**'s parents were Martha and William **Taylor**. Her mother, Martha **Pimlow**, was born in 1746/8 in Kirkby, Lancs. She was married 3 times: her first marriage in 1767/8 was to Henry **Pickavance**, a cordwainer of Bickerstaffe, who died in 1772. Her second marriage in 1776 in Chads Church, Kirkby, was to John **Rawlinson**, a milner, born in Simonswood/Kirkby in 1743 who died in 1786. Her third and final marriage to William **Taylor**, a farmer, in 1789 in St James, Toxteth, (Walton - on-the- Hill) was by special licence and William was described as a 'Papist'. I do not know anything more about William. When Martha **Taylor** (nee **Pimlow/ey**) died in 1798, she also had the word 'Papist' after her name in Kirkby Chapel (St. Chads) church records.

Martha **Pimlow**'s parents were James **Pimlow**, born about 1710 in Bickerstaffe and died in Winwick in 1768, and Ellen **Johnson** born about 1710 in Bickerstaffe and died 1766 in Ashton-in-Makerfield. They were married by licence at St Thomas, Chapel of Ashton, Ashton-in-Makerfield, circa 1733/4. I have yet to prove that Richard **Pimlow**, born in 1680, farmer, of Golborne and Ann **Hulme**, born about 1685/7 of Bickerstaffe, married on 24/11/1706 in Ashton-in-Makerfield are James's parents. James's siblings were Margery born 1707, Dorothy born d1711, Ellen born 1714 and Martha born 1719, who married a John **Rose** in 1740.

Martha, Sister Mary of the Incarnation, had 2 sisters that I know of; Mary (or Ellen) who married a Mr. **Chisnell**, and Jane, my 3x grandmother, who married Robert **Reeves**.

Sister Margaret Mary O.C.D., from the Lanherne Convent helped me fill in the missing gaps about Martha's life in the Convent. The rest I have gleaned from general reading including articles, journals and papers: *The nuns lead a strict life of devotions, meditation and the rest of their time is spent with household work and other occupations. The nuns left Lanherne in 2001 to amalgamate with the monastery in Eccleston, St. Helens.*

The manor in Lanherne was mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1085. It became the property of the **Arundell**'s as a dowry gift when Lady Alice married Sir Remphrey **Arundell** of Treby and Trembleth in 1231. St Cuthbert **Mayne**, the first of the Douai seminary priests, martyred in the

English Reformation said mass at Lanherne during the years 1576-1577.

In 1794, Lanherne, the ancient Catholic stronghold, was offered by Lord and Lady **Arundell** of Wardour to a group of Carmelite Nuns expelled from Antwerp, returning to England to escape the terrors of the French Revolution. On arrival it seems that the manor needed some repair and alteration. It was reported that shortly after their arrival, the nuns explored a tunnel leading from the house. They discovered that it was occupied by smugglers. They fled at the *'sight and sound of the heavenly apparition of holy nuns in a calm, candlelight procession.'*

On a more serious note, maybe Martha heard of this distressing little story closer to home: During the French Revolution a party of Carmelite nuns had been beheaded, and their clothes were distributed to their English sisters in the prison. When the clothes of the murdered nuns were brought to them, the other nuns got down on their knees, *'kissed them and wet them with their tears.'* Because the nuns were English, they did not suffer death, and when essential food became scarce, they were set free. The nuns made their way across the Channel to Dover and eventually London. A Lancashire Protestant minister, Mr. **Holt**, found the distressed ladies in vulnerable surroundings and he found better lodgings for them. Dr. **Brewer** of Woolton heard about their misfortune and invited the nuns to come to Southwest Lancashire and in 1795 they travelled by stagecoach in 3 separate parties to Woolton, where they found employment as teachers in the seminary with the Benedictine Mission there.

My grandmother, born in 1889, told me when I was a child that there was a nun in the family and that she lived in Cornwall. It was only as a curious adult that I decided to research the story. Most of my ancestors lived in south-west Lancashire, including Kirkby, Gillmoss, Simonswood and Ormskirk. There was also mention of Ashton. We had always been Catholics until 1882 that is until Samuel Reeves, the nephew of Sister Mary of the Incarnation, renounced his religion after being refused permission by the parish priest to bury his beloved daughter in sacred church ground because she had been born out of wedlock.

Another character from my family history.....Matty **Molyneux** of Croxteth Hall. Who was she? Again, my wonderful grandmother insisted that I never forget her. She is very elusive. Did she really exist? I've been down so many rabbit holes and not found her. If anybody out there has any research ideas, information or recommendations, I would be so pleased to receive them.

I'm 82 now and wanting to tie up my family history loose ends.....but, as we know, it's a never-ending pursuit.

Pauline Jessop (409)

Letters to the Editor

8th Royal Marine (Irish Battalion)

I received a letter from Jean **Alker** (1030) just after the March Journal was sent for publication. Included was an article about 8th R.M. (Irish Battalion) and casualties in May 1921.

Jean states in her letter that while on a visit to Gosport she had been wandering around the cemetery (as genealogists do) in 2005 and noticed the grave of Corporal Ernest **Williams** RMLI who was captured and shot by rebels on 17 May 1921.

None of those listed in the article are a member of Jean's family but she asked me to publish the article in case anyone from the Society is connected to him or any of the other Royal Marines named.

Also included was a map of the cemetery which Gosport Council sent to Jean as well as the article from the local paper.

If anyone would like to have the article and map of the cemetery please contact me and I will be happy to forward it on to you.

Alison Editor

8th R.M. (Irish Battalion)

The following casualties have been reported :—

Murdered by Rebels—14th May, 1921.

No. R.M.A./14710 Gunner Bernard Francis, R.M.A.

No. R.M.A./14560 Gunner William Parker, R.M.A.

Captured and Shot by Rebels—17th May, 1921.

No. Po/15586 Corporal Ernest Williams, R.M.L.I.

Killed in Ambush—21st May, 1921.

No. Ch/19831 Private Henry Chandler, R.M.L.I.

No. Ch/21743 Private Isaac Robert Bolton, R.M.L.I.

Badly Wounded in Ambush—21st May, 1921.

No. Ch/19971 Private John George Lavin, R.M.L.I.

No. Ch/21352 Private John Thomas Currell, R.M.L.I.

Wounded—13th June, 1921.

No. Ply./20753, "G" Co., Pte. Peter Murphy.

Ply./18447 "C" Co., Pte. Thomas Lawrenson.

* * *

The following account is from the *Western Morning News*:

In connection with an attack on Royal Marines at Ballyvaughan on Saturday, 21st May, a Galway correspondent says it is believed that about 6 a.m. some 25 armed men took possession of the Post-Office, which commands the road leading from the coastguard station to the village, while others occupied other positions of vantage. It is stated the postmistress was asked to send a call to the coastguard station to request the military to come to the Post-Office, but this she refused to do.

About 10-40 a.m. ten Marines in charge of a sergeant, two of them being unarmed, left the station to procure provisions in the village. Marching in extended formation they were midway through the village when a terrific fusillade of rifle and revolver fire was opened on them from all directions.

Privates Isaac R. Bolton and Henry Chandler fell mortally wounded. The Marines took cover and returned the fire. Two more of the party, Privates J. G. Lavin and J. T. Currell, were wounded. The firing lasted about five minutes, when the attackers, having deprived the dead and wounded Marines of their rifles, made off. Chandler was killed by an expanding bullet.

* * *

There was a remarkable demonstration of sympathy at the funeral at Gosport on the 31st May of Corporal Ernest Williams who was kidnapped and murdered by rebels while serving with the 8th R.M. Battalion in Ireland. Upwards of 1,500 people were present at Ann's Hill Cemetery, and all ranks of the Portsmouth Division, R.M.L.I., were voluntarily represented.

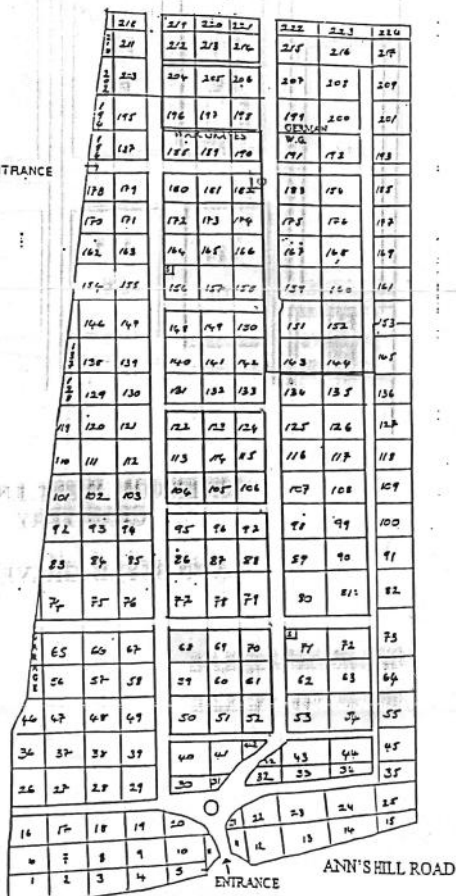
Col. Comdt. St. G. B. Armstrong, C.B., Lieut.-Col. Jones, Majors Washington, Chapman, and D. J. Gowney, and Lieut. Burgess were the officers present, while detachments representing the warrant officers, the sergeants, the junior N.C.O.'s and the men in the ranks also followed the cortège.

Among those who sent floral tributes were R.M. Detachment and Coastguard, Rosser Point, Ireland (3); R.I.C., Sligo; N.C.O.'s and men, 7th Co., 2nd Hants. Regt.; officers 7th Co., 2nd Hants Regt.; Comrades of Bedford and Herts Regts., Ireland; Bugle-Major, Drums and Buglers, Forton; Old Comrades' Association; Sergeants' Mess, Forton; Junior N.C.O.'s; W.O.'s Mess; Officers and Warrant Officers, R.M.L.I.; Married Ranks, "E" Coy.; Comrades of "E" Coy.; and Comrades of Junior N.C.O.'s Club.

GOSPORT
plants

DATE: February 1996

ENTRANCE

WILMOTT
LANE

訓

LAWIS SECTION (HENSING ONLY. SMALL GRASS - GROUND COVER. BY 21)

☐

TRADITIONAL SECTION (HORIZONTAL X KEYS)

Letters to the Editor (Contd)

JOHN HOLDEN 1833

Details from a Will in the records from the Isle of Man

The following details have been sent to me by Priscilla from the IOMFHS. If anyone from our Society is a descendant and is interested in this person, they can contact Priscilla via email at priscilla@manx.net. She is also happy to send a printout of the will.

JOHN HOLDEN 1833

Lately came to the island in Ramsey, Isle of Man late of Hackings? (not clear) Liverpool, names his wife as Alice nee **Hargreaves** of Liverpool and 3 children George, Oliver and John.

He left Alice £1,000, after she had died, £500 to go to each of the children (hope she hadn't spent it!)

The will is dated 3rd September 1833.

Witnesses: Thomas **Stowell** and Thomas **McTeare**, witnesses, both stated they could not leave their practices on the island to get Probate in England as both were medical men.

There is no burial on the island for him, so they must have taken his body back by boat to Liverpool.

I think with that sort of money he must have been here for the sake of his health; a lot of people who could afford it did come here to recover from illnesses. A very healthy place to live in as no factories, clean air and enough wind to blow the cobwebs and germs away!

Priscilla (IOMFHS)

Ancestral Warnings from Beyond the Grave

Have you ever visited a doctor who has asked about your family health history? You know, “*is there any heart disease in your family?*” or “*does anyone in your family have asthma?*” or “*have any close relatives died from cancer?*”.

Anyone outside of the family history world would probably think me macabre when I say, “*I love death certificates*”. As a source, they reveal so much. Not only do they confirm names, dates, addresses and family members (the name of the informant, especially when they were present at the death, can be a wonderful clue at times), they also reveal the cause of death. I have been able to use death certificates to paint an interesting picture of my ancestors and in some cases, the lives they led.

England’s Industrial North

With many generations of ancestors living and working in Northern English cities and towns during the industrial revolution, there were many lung-disease deaths – bronchitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis. Pollution and cotton dust in the mills would have been rife, and of course, without vaccines and the medicines we have today, bacteria was a big killer, and contagious diseases were easily spread.

There are a few deaths in particular that have stood out during my research.

Mary Josephine Lucas, nee Johnston (1890 – 1913)

The tale of my 22-year-old great-grandmother, Mary **Lucas** (nee **Johnston**) is indeed sad. She passed away on 1st April 1913 in her home at 12 Alexander Street, Liverpool (Sub district – Kirkdale), a few weeks after giving birth to my grandad Stanley. Her official cause of death was, ‘*Acute Nephritis 4 days and Uraemia – 33 hours*’. These were pregnancy complications. I feel a great affinity with Mary.

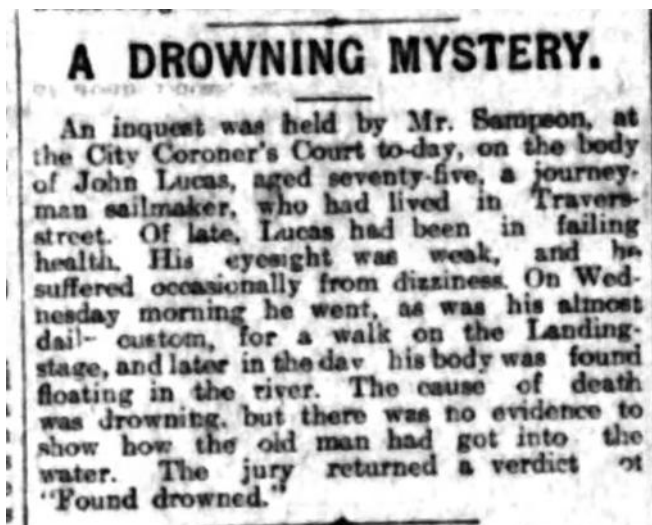
In my two pregnancies, I was admitted to hospital weeks before my due date and placed on bed rest because I developed Pre-eclampsia

a condition that can affect numerous organs and systems in the body. After the dramatic birth of my first daughter, my doctor said that had we been a generation or two earlier, I, my baby, or both of us may not have survived. Had Mary lived 100 years later, with closer medical monitoring of her pregnancy and the post-partum period, she probably would have survived. Timing, I guess, is crucial.

John Lucas (1832 – 1906)

My 3-x great grandfather John **Lucas** was a sailmaker and sadly, he met his end on 27th June 1906 in the River Mersey.

The Liverpool Echo reported his death and inquest findings on 30th June 1906. The article was titled 'A Drowning Mystery' and it went on to read: *An inquest was held by Mr **Simpson**, at the city's coroner's office to-day, on the body of John **Lucas**, aged 75, a journeyman sailmaker, who had lived in Travers Street. Of late, **Lucas** had been in failing health. His eyesight was weak, and he suffered occasionally from dizziness. On Wednesday morning he went, as was his almost daily custom, for a walk on the Landing Stage, and later in the day his body was found floating in the river. The cause of death was drowning, but there was no evidence to show how the old man got into the water. The jury returned a verdict of "found drowned".*



A common theme amongst the occupations of my ancestors is the sea – not surprisingly coming from Liverpool. We have generations of sailors, boat builders and sailmakers. I have **Lucas** sailmakers going back to the early 1700s, as confirmed in a 1935 newspaper article (Liverpool Echo, 19 February 1935) about the death of one of John's sons, Douglas **Lucas**.

LAST OF A LINE

The death of Mr. Douglas Lucas, at 67, at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, to-day, has ended a long line of Liverpool sailmakers. The family's association with the trade extended over 200 years. Mr. Lucas, who lived at 37, Lochinvar-street, Walton, served his apprenticeship with a Liverpool firm on the dock road. He sailed for some years before the mast, visiting almost every main port in the world. On one occasion his ship had a remarkable escape from foundering in a typhoon. In 1899 he went to Chatham Dockyard on Government work, but on his wife's death, in 1909, he returned to Liverpool with his family of one son and two daughters, and continued his trade until he retired two years ago. The family are all married, and his only son, Douglas, is employed on the railway.



Mr. Lucas.

Emma Lucas, nee Paisley (1862 – 1908)

The death of 2 x great-grandmother Emma **Lucas** (nee **Paisley**), who died on 11 November 1908 at 1 Alice Street, Liverpool (Sub district – West Derby), was subject to an inquest. Her cause of death is recorded as, '*extravasation of blood on the brain, due to injury to head by accidentally falling on the 9th, accelerated by excessive drinking*'. Excessive drinking! Those words certainly stood out.

A second cousin, who I have connected with along my family history journey, remembers her mother, one of Emma's granddaughters,

speaking of her gran's death. She had fallen on the steps after going to the toilet which was in the backyard. When she went back to bed and the next morning, her husband Joseph told their daughters not to disturb their mother when they were getting ready for work. They should let her sleep. It seems that a few of the women in the street had taken to regularly partaking in a jug of ale. Emma was 46. Far too young.

George Paisley (1830 – 1878)

Continuing my research along the **Paisley** family line, I ordered the death certificate of Emma's father George, who had died 30 years earlier in 1878 when he was 48 years old. His death was also subject to an inquest, and he died in the Liverpool Workhouse. His occupation had been listed on various census records and on his death certificate as a shipwright or ships carpenter. I was staggered to see his cause of death – *'inflammation of the spine from injury – 5 weeks – from accidentally falling downstairs whilst intoxicated'*. Intoxicated!

Warning!

What lessons do I take from this? Well, I'm glad that we now have excellent medical services available to us, and that there is a strong focus on environmental factors that impact our lives.

Whilst many families need to be aware of genetic health issues like heart disease and cancer, those of us who are descended from this **Lucas** and **Paisley** line need to be extremely careful around stairs, especially if we have been enjoying an alcoholic beverage or two. On that note, Cheers!

Karen Thompson, Western Australia (9730)

Disclaimer

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The Butcher, the Bride, and the Peach Thief

Not the title of a novel, but an article showing how three random things turned out to be linked.

When I began researching my family tree back in the early 1990s, my mum (Joyce **Palmer**) was my main source of information. As the youngest in her family, and single when her parents died (her dad, Alec [Alexander] **Palmer** in 1947, her mum, Alice née **Barrow** in 1952), she was left with a suitcase filled with old family photographs, the family bible, and many happy memories of their family life together, which I – as an only child until my brother was born eleven years later – loved to hear about.

As we rummaged through the photographs, she'd point out different people or share memories of coach trips when the whole family, parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins and neighbours went off to Southport or Blackpool. In this one, Mum is in the second row down, second from the left (checked coat/dark blouse). She is eighteen. Her parents are the couple on the right-hand side first row. (See photo on next page)

Mum was born in Liverpool in 1928 and died in 1995 in Wrexham, the last of her siblings (two older brothers and three older sisters), so the family stories and the memories died with her. My brother and I inherited the photographs with no idea of who most of the people in them were.

One story I remember is that Mum had rheumatic fever as a child and said she was given bulls blood and milk to drink, though I can't find any reference online to confirm this practice was true. It sounds revolting.

A second is that she spent some time as a child living with an uncle and aunt in Welshpool. The uncle was a Master Pork Butcher and walked to work over the [Montgomery] canal. It made sense that the two events might have been connected, but I didn't know for sure.

The third is my memory of a visit Mum and I made to Powis Castle in the



Palmer family and neighbours Blackpool - September 1946

1980s or early 90s, when she told she had visited as a child and had plucked a peach from a tree and eaten it. In 2024, I was able to place the scene of the crime as the Orangery on my own visit to Powis Castle.

One photograph from Mum's collection always raised a smile due of the difference in height. We called the couple in the picture the Long, the Short and the Tall (a reference to the popular song *Bless 'em All*). On the back, in faded pencil, someone had written Renee **Southall** (second cousin) and Albert (?). No date is given but I thought the 1920s because of the style of the dress and the sepia tint, but I have no recollection of Mum telling me who this couple was and how we were connected.

When I set up my family tree online in 2021, I initially referred to my parents only by their initials. I amended Mum's record in 2024 to show her full birth name. Once that was done, the first hint that popped up was her 1939 Register entry.



The Orangery, Powis Castle, Sept.2024

*Renee **Southall** and Albert*

Mum was ten when Britain declared on Germany on 3 September 1939 (she wouldn't be eleven until 9 December though the register entry gives her age as 11 and date of birth as the 11th). Expecting to see her at home with her parents, and remembering her stories about being bombed out three times in the Liverpool Blitz, I was surprised to discover that she was living at 1 Mount Street, Welshpool with Harry and Lily **Carter**, and a Gladys **Follis**. Harry's occupation is given as Master Pork Butcher while Mum is listed as a 'student'. This must be the uncle and aunt she'd told me about.

Now I knew their names, I thought it would be easy to trace which of mum's aunts had married Harry and moved away. There was one aunt, Elizabeth **Barrow**, who might fit the bill as a pencil note on her index card reminded me that the family called her Lily (Mum thought that she'd been a florist, but further research indicated the florist was her younger sister. Further enquiries in the 1921 census and 1939 register told me Elizabeth

was lodging with her sister and brother-in-law. No matter how hard I searched, I couldn't find a link between the **Carters** and any of the **Palmer** or **Barrow** siblings. I could think of only one way to find out: by setting up a second Ancestry tree - for the **Carters**, then wait to see what information popped up – and there was a lot of it.

Harry **Carter** was born in 1883 in Kidderminster; Lily in 1884, also in Kidderminster. They married there in 1907. Lily's maiden name was **Phipps** and she had three brothers and three sisters, one of whom was Maud (born 1879). In 1901, Maud married Sidney Joseph **Southall**, again in Kidderminster.

In the 1911 census, both families give their address as Lea Cottages, Lea Lane, Cookley. The **Carter**'s have Harry's widowed mother living with them; next door the **Southall**'s have three young children. By the time of the 1921 census, both families are in Welshpool, the **Carter**'s at 1 Mount Street, but staying with the **Southall**'s on census night, just along the road at Chestnut House, Welshpool.



1 Mount Street, Welshpool (courtesy of Google maps street view)

I checked the 1939 Register again, concentrating on the **Southall**'s, and there was an entry for Irene [Marjorie] **Southall**, born 1 November 1921, an eighteen-year-old shorthand typist/clerk with the local council, living with her widowed mother at Hollybush Cottage, Berriew Road, Welshpool. This must be 'Renee' from the wedding photograph, though how Mum's family come to have a copy is lost in the mists of time.

On the Register Irene's surname had been amended to **Evans**, dated 3 February 1946, following her marriage to Thomas A. P. **Evans**. Though the man in the photograph is probably the groom, he may not be (there is a **Phipps** cousin also called Albert).

Further research revealed a second marriage for Irene in 1955 to a John C **Evans**, though her first husband lived until 1984.

The **Carter**'s are buried at the Croft Cemetery, Welshpool, and their granite headstone reads:

In Loving Memory of
Harry **CARTER**
1883-1944 aged 60
also of
Lily his wife
1885-1960 aged 75

In Conclusion

- Mum turns out to have been one of thousands of schoolchildren evacuated from Liverpool to North Wales, Shropshire, Cheshire and Montgomeryshire (as was) once war was declared, though she had never once said she'd been an evacuee.
- Neither the **Carter**'s nor the **Southall**'s are related to my mum's family, and 'Renee' is not Mum's second cousin, so how did that photograph come to be in her possession?
- Mum's 'stolen' peach wasn't from the greenhouses at Powis Castle as they were moved well away from the house in 1912, out of sight in the far corner of the kitchen garden, though they no longer

- exist. Any peaches ripe for eating in 1939 would have been growing either inside the Orangery or just outside in pots, on the third of several terraces linked by steps that take the visitor from the castle courtyard down to the meadow below. the castle courtyard down to the meadow below.

Lessons learnt from my experience include the following:

- Use full names on Ancestry family trees, if you have them. It saves time in the long run.
- Take any family stories with a pinch of salt unless you have hard evidence.
- Question everything – and write down the answers, no matter how mundane they might seem at the time. They could be just the clue you need to solve a mystery long after the original storyteller has passed on.
- Not all aunts or uncles were blood relatives or had married into the family. They could be neighbours or friends of the family too. Check, don't assume.
- Census records and the 1939 Register are most likely to show the correct names, though spelling can be iffy at times.
- If you think you've reached a dead end with one line of enquiry, try setting up a temporary family tree for that individual, as I did. In my case it proved, beyond reasonable doubt, that my mother's Welshpool 'uncle and aunt' were NOT part of her family, but the people who took in and looked after a little girl called Joyce who, in September 1939 should have been at home with her family at 143 Pinehurst Avenue in Liverpool, but who always remembered her time in Welshpool with great fondness (especially the peach).

Eileen O'Reilly (9630)

WWII and My Grandad

Stanley Lucas (1913 – 1990)

When I was a child, Grandad was just Grandad. He and Nana visited us every Saturday bringing pocket money and lollies. In the school holidays, my siblings and I would go for sleepovers, and they'd give us lemonade spiders (lemonade with a big spoonful of ice cream, for the uninitiated). I remember Grandad teaching me Morse code.

I wish I'd had deeper conversations, asked more questions. It wasn't until I was older that I had a better understanding of Grandad's life, especially what he went through during World War II. His experiences helped shape, or perhaps revealed his character, values and virtues. Grandad, a Liverpoolian, joined the British Merchant Navy in 1934, at the age of 21. He was a radio officer who spent much of his life at sea, with voyages often lasting six to nine months.

World War II

During the war, he'd go, along with the other ship's officers, to the Liverpool waterfront for top-secret briefings, before setting off across the Atlantic to America to load up with cargo essential for the war effort and supplies to feed the country. Tom **Hanks'** 2020 movie *Greyhound* gives us a glimpse into what life may have been like during the Battle of the Atlantic.

Convoys of merchant and naval vessels would form near the mouth of the River Mersey, in the Irish Sea and then sail southwards, around the bottom of Ireland and into the Atlantic Ocean. Once there, they were open to attack from the German U-boats. It was not a job for the faint-hearted.

According to his service record, Grandad worked on 11 voyages during the six years of the war. This included serving on two ships, torpedoed, and sunk by enemy submarines.

The Titan

The Titan was attacked by a German U-boat in the early hours of the morning on 4th September 1940 (Ref: uboat.net) in the North Atlantic, 250 miles north-west of Ireland. The U-boat was under the command of the highly decorated **Günther Prien**, who became known as the “Red Baron of the Sea” because of his “success” in downing Allied ships.

My uncle said Grandad told him, that he always put his life jacket on the moment a convoy started sailing and it stayed on until he arrived in the US or Canada. He advised new junior crew members to do the same but often the advice fell on deaf ears. Speaking about this incident, Grandad, on hearing the first explosion, said to his junior, “Go and get your life jacket on!”. But the new man was so scared he didn’t know what to do. Following another explosion, Grandad yelled at him to get moving. He knew there was no time to waste.

As the Senior Wireless Operator, Grandad needed to get to the radio room and ensure an SOS message with the coordinates of their location was sent. Lives depended on it.

Six crew members died in that attack. Grandad and the others were rescued and arrived back on land in Scotland five days later.

SS Eumaeus

History repeated itself (well almost) on his very next assignment. The Eumaeus was transporting troops when it was hit by a torpedo fired by an Italian submarine around 6.00 am on 14th January 1941, 118 miles west of Cape Sierra Leone. The submarine then surfaced, and rounds of gunfire rained upon the ship from the deck guns (Ref: https://uboat.net/italian_submarines/).

There is a harrowing account in an [Imperial War Museum](#) oral history recorded by a survivor, **George Thomas Cook Alder** (reel 2, 21-minute mark), who speaks of the casualties they tried to save before jumping from the ship into shark-infested waters.

There are varying accounts of the final number that died in this attack, ranging from 23 to 32. The tally included Grandad’s fellow wireless

operator who was killed when the radio shack was taken out by the gunfire. Grandad had been sitting in that seat only an hour or two before the attack.

On dry land

Grandad told stories of wharfies stealing petrol from the lifeboat motors and food from the survival rations. There was a ship that was needed for the war effort and when the boat-builders working on it came back to the yard after the weekend, someone had stolen the propeller as it was made of brass and was valuable. Of course, not all wharfies were involved, and many were hard-working, but he despised those that ran black market operations, stealing goods that he and his fellow seamen were risking their lives to bring to the country.

Like other merchant seamen, Grandad was awarded a medal for his part in *the Battle of the Atlantic*, which is regarded as the longest single theatre of the war, but he threw it in the River Mersey because the same medal was given to the dockers for loading and unloading the ships. He said that they hadn't put their lives at risk in the same way and some of them were of questionable character. That said, there would have been many dedicated workers amongst them and the docks, like other parts of Liverpool, were heavily bombed in the war.

Values and virtues

When I think of Grandad and what he went through, three words come to mind:

- Courage
- Resilience
- Integrity

He would never have called himself a hero, but he and all those who served their countries, in whatever capacity, deserve recognition and respect.

Thank you, Grandad, for all you did for your family, and your country.

Final words

“Courage is the greatest of all virtues, because if you haven’t courage, you may not have an opportunity to use any of the others.” – Samuel Johnson

During the Battle of the Atlantic, the Allies lost more than 72,000 lives; 3,500 merchant ships; and 175 warships.

PS – In May 2023, we received an exciting parcel from England. Three years earlier, my sister started the process of applying for a replacement medal for our Grandad – the one he threw in the River Mersey. As it happened, he’d been awarded five medals:

- War Medal (1939 – 1945)
- 1939 – 1945 Star
- Atlantic Star
- Pacific Star
- Italy Star



Stanley Lucas – Merchant Seaman WWII Medals (Grandad)

LIVERPOOL & SOUTH WEST
LANCASHIRE
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Annual One Day Conference

HOSTED BY

**Leigh & District
Family History Society**

AT

St Mary's Community Hall
Newton Road
Lowton
WA3 1DQ

ON

Saturday 11 October 2025

(Including a free goodie pack for each delegate, a raffle for amazing prizes from some of the top genealogy suppliers and genealogy-related stalls)

A

PROGRAMME

Saturday 11 October 2025

10:00am Registration, Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

10:15am Opening Address

10.20am Have you tried....? Using Lancashire Archives Collections to help you discover your Family History?

Mr Alex Miller, Archives & Resources Manager, Lancashire Archives

11.15am Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

11.45am Do you know your Divi number?

The History of the Co-operative movement, the Rochdale Pioneers and how Co-operation affected ordinary people's lives in the Victorian era

Prof. Tony Webster, Historian, Northumbria University

12.45pm Buffet Lunch

1.45pm Not that Derby – this Derby! 100 ways to big up your district

A light-hearted, dramatic exploration of the history, mystery & magnificence of the West Derby Hundred.

**Ms Julie McKiernan & Mrs. Corrie Shelley of
“Heritage with a twist”**

2.45pm Comfort break

(Please note no refreshments will be served during this break)

3:00pm Great Victorian Inventions (and disasters!)

Mrs Louise Wade, Secretary of Leigh FHS

4:00pm Closing address

BOOKING FORM

A booking form is required for all bookings irrespective of method of payment please – this can be posted or emailed (see below)

Name:

Address:.....

.....

Postcode:Phone no:

Email address:

No. of places required:..... Any dietary requirements?.....

Fee: £16.00 includes refreshments and buffet lunch.

Payment either by cheque or by BACS transfer

Cheques should be made payable to **Leigh & District F.H.S.** and be included with your booking form

BACS: Name: Leigh & District Family History Society

Bank: Lloyds

Sort code: 30-98-97

Account no: 62272268

Reference: Please quote your surname as the reference

If you wish to have a paper receipt please include an SAE with your booking form, otherwise confirmation will be made by email

Please return completed booking form to:

Mrs Gwen Haslam, 1 Congresbury Road, Leigh, WN7 5DY

Or by email to g-haslam@hotmail.co.uk

Booking forms to be submitted by 30th September 2025 please

DIRECTIONS (by road)

Postcode for the venue is **WA3 1DQ**

From Manchester

Take East Lancashire Road, A580 heading towards Liverpool.

Turn **RIGHT** onto A572 Newton Road (signposted Lowton)

Progress straight through one set of traffic lights

After approx. 1 mile the church hall is on your right immediately after the entrance for Barford Drive and just before the pedestrian crossing

The car park has a sign saying “Lowton St Mary Primary School and Nursery” the hall shares this car-park

From Liverpool / Haydock

Take East Lancashire Road, A580, heading towards Manchester

Progress straight across Golborne Island (2nd exit)

Straight through 2 sets of traffic lights which are extremely close together

Straight through a 3rd set of traffic lights

At 4th set of traffic lights turn **LEFT** onto A572 Newton Road (signposted Lowton and Moss Lane Industrial estate)

Straight through one set of traffic lights

After approx. 1 mile the church hall is on your right immediately after the entrance for Barford Drive and just before the pedestrian crossing

The car park has a sign saying “Lowton St Mary Primary School and Nursery” the hall shares this car-park

What three words: stapled.scramble.compelled

DIRECTIONS (by public Transport)

The nearest railway station is Newton-le-Willows

Exit the station towards the car park and bus stops

From Bus stop A take the No. 34 bus towards Leigh Bus Station and get off at Sandy Lane. (13stops, approx. 15mins).

The hall is on the opposite side of the road when you get off at the Sandy Lane stop.

War Medal (1939-1945)

Generally awarded if the seaman qualified for one of the Stars. A merchant seaman had to have served a minimum of 28 days at sea. Also awarded, with no minimum service requirement, if service was terminated by death, disability due to service or capture as a prisoner-of-war.

Atlantic Star (1939-1945)

Awarded after the Battle of the Atlantic for service between 3 September 1939 and 8 May 1945. The qualifying service period for the Atlantic Star could only begin after the 1939-1945 Star had been earned by six months' service. A merchant seaman had to serve in the Atlantic, home waters, North Russia Convoys or South Atlantic waters. The Atlantic Star was also awarded to those awarded a gallantry medal, with no minimum qualifying period. There was also no minimum qualifying period if service was terminated due to death or disability while on active duty.

1939-1945 Star

Awarded for service between 3 September 1939 and 2 September 1945. A merchant seaman could qualify after six months' service with at least one voyage in an operational area. The 1939-1945 Star was also awarded to recipients of a gallantry medal, with no minimum qualifying period. There was also no minimum qualifying period if service was terminated due to death or disability while on active duty.

Pacific Star (1941-1945)

Awarded for service in the Pacific Ocean, South China Sea or the Indian Ocean between 8 December 1941 and 2 September 1945. Generally, the qualifying service period for the Pacific Star could only begin after the 1939-1945 Star had been earned by six months' service.

Italy Star (1943-1945)

Awarded for service between 11 June 1943 and 8 May 1945, in the Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea. Operations in and around the Dodecanese, Corsica, Greece, Sardinia and Yugoslavia after 11 June 1943 would also qualify. Generally, the qualifying service period for the Italy Star could only begin after the 1939-1945 Star had been earned by six months' service.



Grandad Stan Lucas at sea

Karen Thompson, Western Australia, (9730)

WHO WAS AMY DAVIES?

(1864-1937)

I believe that family historians should never give up in their search for elusive people however many brick walls they face. With new material being made available digitally, particularly newspapers, almost every day through different data base providers such as *Ancestry* and *Find My Past* you may still get a 'Eureka' moment after many years of searching.

So, whose background have I been trying to find for many years? It was Mrs Amy **Davies** whom I encountered for the first time when I was creating a talk about '*The **Nevill** Family and Bramall Hall*' back in 2015.

As Bramall Hall is in Bramhall, near Stockport in Cheshire, you might wonder what this has to do with Liverpool and the Hundred of West Derby. The **Nevills** originated in Warwickshire and had many famous relations (Richard III, Warwick the King Maker for instance, the current Earl of Derby's wife is a **Nevill** descendent). My family of **Nevills** came to north Manchester where they set up in business in dyestuffs manufacture in Blackley with a man called Thomas **Andrews** in 1782. After several years living there, like many wealthy Manchester merchants the family moved to south Manchester and had homes in Burnage (The Acacias) and then Didsbury (The Manor House) near where I live. Thomas Henry **Nevill** (1818-1893) and his son Charles Henry **Nevill** (1848-1916) were calico printers and deeply involved with the Calico Printers Association.

When Charles Henry **Nevill** married Mary Jane **Booth** in 1878 his father bought Bramall Hall in 1882, which was on the market, and gave it to them as a wedding present. The Tudor Hall had been the home of the Davenport family for centuries. Charles and Mary spent large sums of money renovating the hall, buying furniture for it and collecting artefacts from across the world. They had no children but adopted as their heir Charles' sister's son who changed his surname to **Nevill** in order to inherit. Mary died in 1901 and Charles in 1916. After WWI their nephew was in debt and sold off everything in Bramall Hall and the Hall itself.

In 1925 Bramall Hall was bought for £15,000 by the famous John Henry **Davies** (1864-1927), a wealthy brewer in Manchester, and his wife, Amy **Davies**, who immediately set about doing further renovations to the Hall. Why was John Henry **Davies** famous? Well, he was the saviour in 1901 of the failing Newton Heath Football Club. Having met the Captain, Harry **Stafford**, in 1901, after he found his St Bernard dog, Major, wandering in Manchester, he took the club over, invested money (£60,000.00) in the club and renamed it Manchester United. He became Chairman of the Club and was until his death in 1927. Amy continued to live at Bramall Hall after he died.

Intriguingly, I found a reference to the fact that his wife, Amy, was the niece and ward of the great sugar magnate and philanthropist, Sir Henry **Tate** (1819-1899), of Liverpool. Did this mean that Amy had a Liverpool or Lancashire background and relatives in that area? Back in 2015, I wasn't able to find definite evidence of this connection or who they were. However, as I was asked in early 2025 to do my '**Nevill** talk' again I decided to try to break down the brick wall. Fortunately, I found their digitised wedding certificate at St Mathew's, Ardwick, Manchester, and that they were married on 7 March 1888 when both of them were 23. He gave his address as 14 Craig Street, Ardwick, and his profession as an Accountant, his father being David **Davies**, an engineer. Most importantly Amy's name was Amy **Cattrall**, her residence was given as Seacombe and that her father was Thomas **Cattrall**, Gentleman. With this information I was able to find Amy's birth on 7 September 1864 and her subsequent baptism on 12 November 1865 at St Peter and St Paul's Church in Ormskirk.

A sibling, Mary Ellen **Cattrall**, was baptised the same day. The baptism records say that the parents were Thomas and Mary **Cattrall** of Liverpool. In the 1871 census Amy, aged 6 and two older sisters, Annie Tate **Cattrall** aged 10 and Mary Helen/Ellen **Cattrall** aged 8 are boarders at 15 Cable Street, Southport. Interestingly Annie says that she was born in Montreal, Canada. A search of Canadian records showed she was born on 27 September 1860 and baptised at the Anglican Christ Church Cathedral in Montreal on 18 November 1860. However, Mary Ellen says she was born in Liverpool, so the parents obviously came back from Canada.

However, if the three girls were boarders in 1871 in Southport where are their parents? Sadly, I discovered that their mother, Mary **Cattrall** had died on 21 September 1865 when Amy was just a year old. Mary was just 32 when she died. I found Mary and Thomas' marriage on 8 July 1853 at Bebington Church. He was Thomas Mortimer **Cattrall** (1824-1891) and she was Mary **Wignall** (1833-1865). His father was Thomas William **Cattrall** (a Customs Officer in Liverpool) and her father was John **Wignall** (1787-1840) a flour miller of Aughton. The witnesses were an older sister, Esther **Wignall**, and Henry **Tate**. Both Mary's parents were dead at the time of her marriage, Esther in 1839 and John in 1840. Thomas **Cattrall** and his three brothers, Robert Kneale, John Leigh and Jonathan Cox **Cattrall**, had all been baptised together at St Nicholas Church, Liverpool, on 20 January 1828 when the family lived in Pitt Street.

Further research found that Thomas and Mary **Cattrall** had three other children apart from the three daughters I had already found boarding in Southport. Jane **Cattrall** born 25 April 1855 in Tranmere, Harry Mortimer **Cattrall** born 14 October 1856 in Bebington and Elizabeth Ann **Cattrall** born 1858 before they went to Canada. With their mother's early death what happened to all the children and was this why Amy became a ward of Sir Henry **Tate**? In 1871 her oldest sister Jane **Cattrall**, aged 16, was living with Henry **Tate** and his wife Jane at Highfield House, Much Woolton, as a Housekeeper but was also described as his niece. Her brother Henry Mortimer **Cattrall** (1856-1927) was a boarder at Forest House School on Foregate Street, Chester. There was no sign of Elizabeth Ann.

So clearly there were family connections to the **Tates**. The answer was that Henry **Tate's** wife was Jane **Wignall** (1818-1883). Jane and Mary **Wignall** were sisters and two of the 11 children of John **Wignall**, the flour miller of Aughton and his wife, Esther **Croston** (1791-1839) originally of Ormskirk, who had been married at St Peter's, Liverpool on 3 April 1813. Jane was their fourth child and Mary their eleventh and youngest. She was 15 years younger than her sister, Jane. As her parents were dead, Mary **Wignall** aged 17 was living with Henry and Jane **Tate** at Heathly House, Woodchurch Road, Oxtun in 1851. By the time Mary **Cattrall** died in 1865 Jane **Wignall** and Henry **Tate** had been

married for 24 years and had 10 children most of whom were grown up, so it was probably natural for them to take care of their nieces and to take Amy aged 1 as a ward of Sir Henry **Tate**.

By 1881 Amy was living in a boarding house in Rodney Street, Liverpool, and working as a dressmaker. When and where did she meet John Henry **Davies**? I don't know, but as a brewer, he did travel round the Northwest from his base in Manchester. Before they married in 1888 in Manchester her aunt, Jane **Tate**, had died in 1883, her oldest sister Jane **Cattrall** had married Dr Thomas Moore **Dawson**, a surgeon and GP in Liverpool, on 13 May 1886 at All Hallows Church, Allerton. Jane and Thomas had met at Highfield House, the **Tate's** home, where Thomas was living in 1881 as a Medical Assistant. His practice and their home were at Rodney Street in Liverpool. Amy and John Henry **Davies** settled in Manchester after their wedding. During the next year her older sister Annie Tate **Cattrall** married Valentine Astley **Hampshire**, a Provisions Broker at St Luke's Liverpool on 25 April 1889 with Ethel C. **Tate** and Henry **Tate** as witnesses.

Did Amy keep up any contact with her **Tate**, **Cattrall** and **Wignall** relatives in her new life?? I only have evidence of one. The **Davies**' had a daughter, Elsie May who was born on 7 June 1889 in Manchester. On 11 September 1912 she was married at St Mary's Church in Cheadle, near Stockport, to Thomas **Partington** of Heywood near Rochdale. It was a very lavish wedding with a reception at their then home, Moseley Hall, Cheadle, followed by another at the Midland Hotel in Manchester. Fortunately, the *Stockport Advertiser* printed an extensive report of the wedding including a list of all the guests and what gifts they gave and what all the women wore. We know that Amy **Davies** wore '*a pink and grey charmeuse*' dress. Dr T M **Dawson** and Mrs **Dawson** of Liverpool (Amy's sister Jane) were guests. All the other names were friends in Manchester.

As a Trustee at the Catalyst Science Discovery Centre and Museum in Widnes which is based in The Gossage Building on Mersey Road and has a Gossage Room where we have a lot of **Gossage** archives, I knew that 3 of the children of Frederick Herbert **Gossage** (1831-1907) married **Tates**. They were the children of Henry and Jane's oldest son William Henry **Tate**

(1842-1921) who was Amy **Davies'** cousin Ernest William **Tate** (1867-1939) married Mildred Mary **Gossage** in 1892 at St Peter's Woolton. He became the third Baronet **Tate**, and she became Lady Mildred **Tate**. Ethel Caroline **Tate** b.1870 married William Winwood **Gossage** on 11 June 1896 at St Peter's Woolton on the same day and same place that her sister, Helen Frances **Tate** b.1874 married Guy Winwood **Gossage**. Did Amy **Davies** attend any of these weddings?

John Henry **Davies** died just two years after he had bought Bramall Hall on 24 October 1927 at Llandudno where they often stayed. He left £512,511 0s 1d to his wife Amy. She continued to live at Bramall Hall. Her daughter's marriage ended with divorce from Thomas **Partington** in 1932 after they had had three sons. To raise her daughter's spirits after the divorce she bought her a brand-new yellow Rolls Royce Phantom II and Elsie became its first private owner. She used to be driven around Manchester in it and at Llandudno by her chauffeur. Amy herself died on 25 April 1937 at Moseley Hall, Cheadle, as she had moved out of Bramall Hall. She left £226,630 mainly to her daughter, Elsie Amy **Partington**, but also £500 to her medical attendant, Dr Knowles **Boney** of Llandudno. For many years Elsie placed annual In Memoriam notices in the newspapers on the anniversary of her mother's death. Elsie went to live in North Wales where she died on 20 March 1976 at Orme Lodge, North Parade, Llandudno. She was 87 years of age. Her probate records her leaving £89,605.

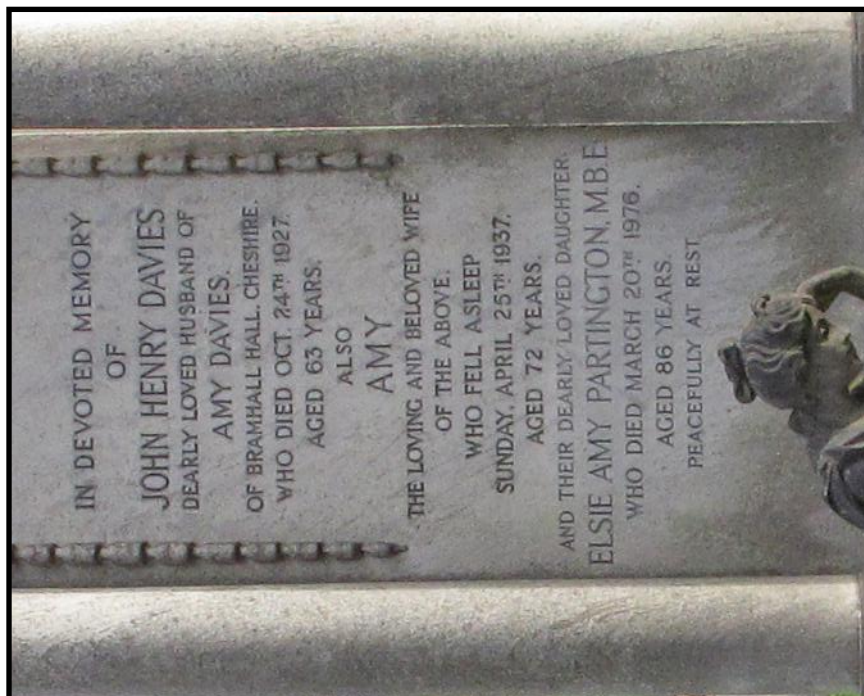
The **Davies** family John Henry, Amy and Elsie Amy are all recorded on a gravestone in Southern Cemetery in Manchester where they are buried. When I photographed this gravestone back in 2015, I noticed that Elsie Amy **Partington** was an MBE, but I couldn't find any official information about this award. However, when I gave the **Neville** talk back in 2015 in Bramhall one person there said they had known her and thought it was for her philanthropic work with the RNLI. The digitisation of *The Gazette* proved this to be true as she was awarded an MBE in 1973 for services to charities in Wales. *The North Wales Express* noted that she was a keen supporter of the Llandudno RNLI and had also helped to buy a rescue vehicle for Llandudno Mountain Rescue team. Given her support for the RNLI did she know of her ancestor's maritime history in Liverpool and that

her grandfather had been baptised at the sailors' church, St Nicholas, in Liverpool in 1828? Many of my ancestors who were Weaver and Mersey flatmen were also baptised and married there.

As a corollary to this tale Elsie's 1933 Rolls Royce Phantom II Sedan de Ville, which her mother Amy **Davies** had bought her, was sold at auction at Burghley House on 20 June 2015 for £78,750. It had been repainted in blue and cream.

In the BBC Archives there is an interview conducted in 1973 when she was 84 with Elsie **Partington** in Llandudno where she talks about how Manchester United was founded because the captain Harry **Stafford**, allowed her father to have his St Bernard dog, Major, in exchange for money for Newton Heath FC. She received the dog which she loved as a 12 birthday present in 1901.

Dr Diana M Leitch (7729)



Lydia Helen Burton (1823-1877)



In my article *'My Family Connections to Liverpool'* published in the December 2020 edition of the LFHS Journal, I mentioned that my ancestor Rebecca **Wells** married Charles Tertius **Burton**, who was the eldest son of long forgotten Victorian author Lydia Helen **Burton**. Here is a little more about Lydia and her time in Liverpool.

On 21 May 1864, the *Liverpool Mail* carried an article entitled *'Works of Liverpool Authors.'* In the article, the correspondent reflected that Liverpool was often considered far too busy and intent on moneymaking, *'to cultivate literary pursuits or local authorship. Her authors reputé are, it must be admitted, few and far between, almost as scarce as snow in summer'* but it would be *'inexcusable not to notice local authors; and [we] should be wanting in courtesy if we did not place first the latest work of a well-known Lady [whose] graceful pen has been employed on another extremely readable work of fiction.'* The 'well-known lady' in question was Lydia Helen **Burton**, whose second novel *Abbots Thorpe; or, The Two Wills* had just been published.

Lydia was born in Manchester in December 1824, the youngest daughter of Manchester mill owner Richard **Rothwell** and his wife Elizabeth. In December 1841, at the age of just 17, Lydia married the

Reverend Charles Henry **Burton** (born 1817), the son of the Rev Dr Charles **Burton** who at the time was Rector of All Saints Church, Oxford Road, Manchester. In August 1846, having spent time as a Curate in Bradford and Leeds, Charles was appointed Minister of St Philips church on Hardman Street, Liverpool. He and Lydia moved their young family to No 42 (now 40) Upper Parliament Street. The house was also known at the time as ‘Cemetery View,’ as it overlooked St James’ cemetery. Unsurprisingly, that name seems to have been dropped over the years!

Laid out by Liverpool Corporation’s surveyor John **Foster** senior in 1800, Upper Parliament Street is situated in the Georgian quarter of Liverpool. With three storeys, no 42 was somewhat larger than many of its neighbouring properties, which are mostly two storeys. The house was listed Grade II by English Heritage in 1975 and now serves as an NHS mental health hospital.

By the time of the 1851 Census, Lydia and Charles, together with their first-born son Charles Tertius (aged 6 years) and their daughter Emeline Lydia (5 months) had moved from Upper Parliament Street to 30 Bedford Street South. The family was supported by three servants, Charlotte **Jones** (cook), Ann Margaret (nurse) and Margaret **Vose** (nursery maid). Two years later, in 1853, Gore’s Directory tells us that the **Burtons** had moved to 64 Oxford Street but, by 1857, they had moved again to 66 Oxford Street. And a further move came in 1859, when the family moved to 1 Sandon Terrace on Upper Duke Street. Sadly, this terrace is no longer but the low stone parapet that fronted it can still be seen today.

Not only did Lydia have to contend with moving house 4 times in 9 years, but she also gave birth to no less than seven children during that time: Ada Maria, in July 1852; Cecil Henry in October 1853; Elizabeth Adelaide in January 1855; Ernest in March 1856; Hilda in February 1857; Basil in May 1858; and Annie in December 1859. Sadly, Elizabeth Adelaide died aged just 10 months in November 1855. Despite the challenges of moving house so many times and mothering seven children, it was during this decade that Lydia found the inspiration to write her first novel.

When Elizabeth **Gaskell's** son William died in 1846, her husband suggested that, to help get over the loss of her son, Elizabeth should write a novel. **Mary Barton**, published in 1848, was the result. It is not inconceivable that Charles **Burton** gave his wife similar advice following the death of their daughter Elizabeth Adelaide. **Bertha Darley**: *or, life in Her Husband's Curacies* was published in May 1858.

First time authors are often advised to write from their own experience. With this in mind, it is not hard to imagine that **Bertha Darley** is based to a large extent on Lydia's own life experience, not least the fact that she was a Curate's wife. For example, when describing the town that she and her husband moved to when they were first married, she writes that it was '*a town flushed with recent greatness and famous for its river and shipping and wealth, its luxury and its merchant princes.*' That town sounds very much like a description of Liverpool in the mid 1800s.

In **Bertha Darley**, Lydia includes descriptions of many events that she would have experienced both as a mother and as a Curate's wife. For example, the sad story of a mother who lost a child shortly after birth, no doubt based on her own experience of losing her first child (Helen Louisa) at just four days old. There are lively descriptions of her friendships, parish visits to the poor, a shocking Chartist riot, and the sad story of a young woman whose life is ruined by her involvement with an abusive lover. There is much more to **Bertha Darley** than might at first be expected from the pen of a curate's wife! The book's value today is that it provides a unique picture of life in the industrial towns of the north of England at a time when there was considerable social and political unrest.

Lydia's sixth daughter, Annie, was born on 16 December 1859, but sadly died four weeks later on 18 January 1860. It is evident that Annie had not been well since the day she was born, as the cause of death on her death certificate was given as *Inanition* - literally 'starvation.' This suggests that she had either found it difficult to feed, or was unable to digest her food, so basically starving to death. More tragedy was to follow two years later when Lydia's second eldest son, Cecil Henry, died on 2 March 1862 after contracting cholera.

In February 1863 Lydia gave birth to her eleventh and final child, Minnie. However, the joy of Minnie's birth was very short-lived as within two months Lydia's third daughter, Ada Mary, died on 27 March 1863, three days after contracting scarlet fever. Her husband Charles also contracted the fever but fortunately survived. More tragedy was to hit the family later in the year when Minnie, who was just eight months old, developed consumption. Charles took his daughter to the seaside at Great Crosby in an effort to assist her recovery, but to no avail. Minnie died at 8 Marine Crescent, Waterloo, Great Crosby on 5 December 1863 with her father by her side. Remarkably, the house has been listed as Grade II and can still be seen today.

Annie, Cecil, Ada and Minnie were all laid to rest in the small graveyard at St Philips. When the church closed in 1882, all those who were buried there, including Lydia's four children, were removed and re-buried in Anfield Cemetery.

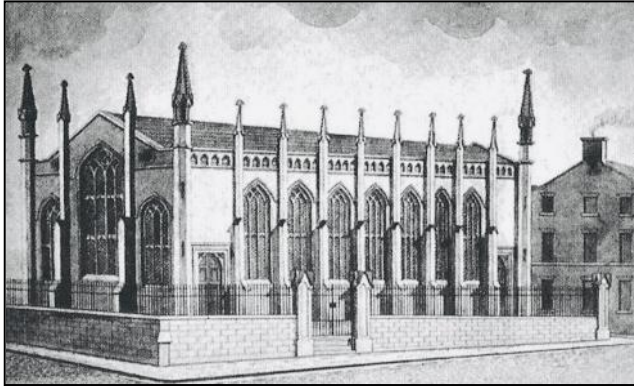
The family remained at Sandon Terrace until 1865, when they are recorded as living at 19 Peel Terrace on Upper Canning Street. Then, two years later, they moved again. This time to Aigburth Lodge on Aigburth Vale. This was the furthest that Charles had lived from St Philips, and it is unclear why he moved his family here but, with the recent experience of Minnie's health problems, he possibly considered it best to move away from the centre of the city to safeguard his children's health. In September 1869 Charles was appointed Vicar of St Peter and St Paul's church at Dinton in Buckinghamshire, bringing the family's 23-year association with Liverpool to an end.

Lydia died at Dinton on 10 December 1877. Lydia and her second daughter Emeline (who died in July 1871) were laid to rest at Dinton church, where Charles dedicated a window to each of them. These windows can still be seen today, as can their grave on the north side of the churchyard.

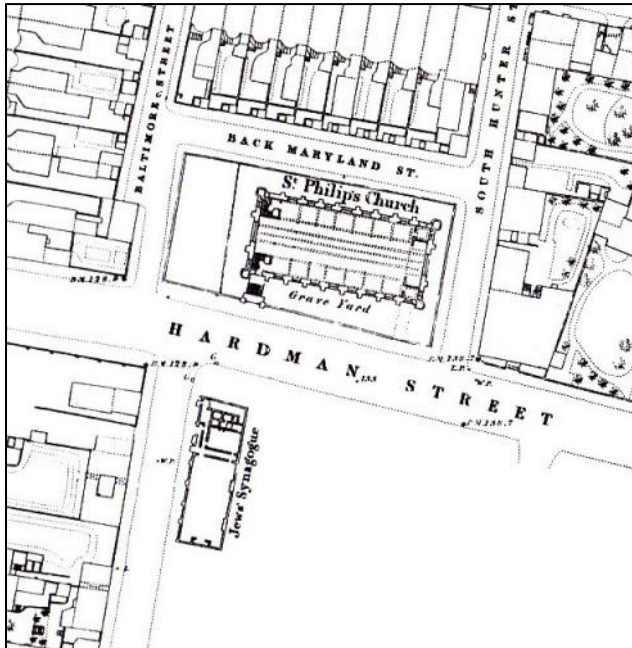
Lydia was evidently a strong and redoubtable woman, and it is a shame that her two books have largely been forgotten. However, the British Library has reprinted her *Abbots Thorpe* novel and in 2018 I prepared a

new edition of *Bertha Darley*, which was published by FeedARead.com in 2019.

Further information about St Philips church can be found on the 'Liverpool1207blog' website (search for 'St Philips').



St Philips Church,
Hardman Street,
Liverpool
c. 1830.



An excerpt
from a map
of 1848
showing
St Philips
church,
Hardman
Street.



42, now 40, Upper Parliament Street, where the Burtons lived when they first came to Liverpool in 1846.

Matthew Wells (9075)

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

What Will Happen to the Horses?

I was very excited when I received a letter from a distant cousin in England (yes, a real AIRMAIL letter, delivered by the postman). It contained a family story that had been passed down through the generations. The story relates to my paternal line – the **Lucas** family, who I have traced back to the early 1700s in Liverpool (which is where I was born in the 1960s).

The central character in the story is my 2x great grandfather, Joseph **Lucas** (1856-1946), and it is set in the early 1900s in Liverpool. On the 1901 Census the family was living at 75 Rathbone Street, Liverpool (Sub district: Mount Pleasant).

Joseph operated a horse and wagon. His occupation was a “carter”. One day he came home in a very excitable state and began telling his wife Emma (nee **Paisley**, 1862 – 1908) about an exhibition he had attended.

“I’ve seen the future Emma!” he said. “There are not going to be horses any more. There are going to be motor cars with engines in them.”

To which Emma said, “Sit down man, you must be drunk.” But Joseph couldn’t stop talking about this new incredible invention.

“If there are going to be all these motor cars with engines, what on earth will they do with all the horses?” Asked Emma, who in her mind had won the argument.

It got me thinking about innovation, technology and change, and the pace of change in today’s world. I wonder what Joseph and Emma would say if they came back to life today.

Karen Thompson (9730)

Help Requests

We have received a request for information on the following person,
Rev. James Bell Cox.

Cox was the vicar at St Margaret's of the Antioch, Toxteth. He was imprisoned under the Public Worship Regulation Act of 1874 for ritualistic practices (one of four vicars in the country, we believe.)

There is a bit of information on **Bell Cox** on the web. St John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool, have his crucifix on display. There is an original oil painting of **Rev. James Bell Cox** and any information about where that originated and any other information about him would be much appreciated.

Please send any information to me at editorlfh@gmail.com and I will pass it on.

Thank you
Alison Anyon
Editor

Can we help you with your brick wall?

Have you come across a stumbling block in your Liverpool research?

Although we do not host a forum anymore, you are welcome to ask questions relating to your research on our website at

<https://www.lswlfhs.org.uk/no-crawl>

Alternatively, send your questions to the Editor at
editor@lswlfhs.org.uk

and we will do our best to include your query in the Journal

Liverpool Group Meeting 8 April 2025

and a Book!

A year ago, I was at a Flea Market at Old Christ Church, Waterloo when I came across an author named Bob **Dunn** who was selling copies of a book he had written called 'Childhood in the Liverpool Slums'. I bought a copy of the book which he kindly signed for me, and I also asked if he would give a talk to the Liverpool Group, which he kindly did on Tuesday 8 April 2025.

The book is part autobiography and part social history. The author grew up in Everton just off Scotland Road and he talks about his family living nearby, particularly his grandparents who had a shop in the front room of their house. He also talked about childhood in general covering many topics including school, games, church, transport and travel and many other subjects. It is well worth reading. The book is available from Amazon and bookshops with a cover price of £9.99.

For the talk, Bob explained that he had made some notes on his childhood following a comment made by one of his grandchildren which he had had replicated at a local photocopying company and they suggested that he should write a book. The next problem was finding a publisher, and the third problem was copyright of photographs which were obtained from the internet and elsewhere. He also explained that 'slums' was the term used by Liverpool City Council for the area where he grew up.

He then went on to talk about his childhood, which resonated with a lot of the audience, and there was a bit of a discussion about how childhood is different now to the 1960s. The talk was very much enjoyed by all those who attended and it has given us all food for thought.

Susan A Atkins
Chair, Liverpool Group

Doorway Architecture in Liverpool

I thought I would try and provide a bit more background on the subject matter for my choice of photographs for this quarter's journal. There is not much space available on the covers themselves, and I thought an explanation was needed.

In Liverpool's architecture, doorways are not just functional entrances but significant architectural elements, reflecting the historical styles, local narratives of their time and even serving as focal points that draw attention and add character to both interior and exterior spaces.

If we look deeper we find:

Historical Significance:

- **Georgian Architecture:** Liverpool's Georgian architecture, characterised by symmetrical facades, sash windows, and elegant doorways, is a symbol of the city's wealth during that period.
- **Suburban Expansion:** Semi-detached homes with distinctive front doors, many still prominent in Liverpool suburbs, emerged during suburban expansion.
- **St. George's Hall:** The bronze doors within the Great Hall of St. George's Hall feature openwork panels incorporating the letters "SPQL" ("the Senate and the People of Liverpool"), reflecting the Victorian ambition to associate Liverpool with ancient Rome.
- **Water Street:** The imposing doors of number seven on Water Street, adorned with two tiger heads, are said to have been rubbed by Lascar sailors for good luck.
- **Adelphi Bank:** The doors on the former Adelphi Bank, Castle Street, depict scenes from "1 Samuel 19-22" and "The Iliad".

Art Deco Buildings:

Liverpool's iconic Art Deco buildings feature sculptures and reliefs around the main entrances, such as those representing day and night, and "Speed, the Modern Mercury".

Hidden Doors and Archives:

- **Liverpool Central Library:** A wooden door on William Brown Street leads to the stunning Picton Reading Room, a hidden gem within the library.
- **Cathedral Archives:** A narrow, spiral staircase accessed through an old door leads to the cathedral's archives, where "something new is always found".

Accessibility and Design:

- **Royal Albert Dock:** The entrance to the Britannia Courtyard, with its brick arched entrance, highlights the importance of ensuring accessibility for all.
- **Back-to-back houses:** The first back-to-back houses built in Liverpool are believed to be from around the 1780s.

Focal Points and Design Narrative:

- Doors serve as focal points that draw attention and add character to interior and exterior spaces. They contribute to the design narrative and set the tone for the entire building.

According to Wikipedia:

*'The **architecture of Liverpool** is rooted in the city's development into a major port of the British Empire.^[1] It encompasses a variety of architectural styles of the past 300 years, while next to nothing remains of its medieval structures which would have dated back as far as the 13th century.^[2] Erected 1716–18, Bluecoat Chambers is supposed to be the oldest surviving building in central Liverpool.^[3]*

There are over 2,500 listed buildings in Liverpool of which 27 are Grade I and 105 Grade II listed.^[4] It has been described by English Heritage as*

England's finest [Victorian](#) city.⁴ However, due to neglect, some of Liverpool's finest listed buildings are on English Heritage's [Heritage at Risk](#) register.⁵ Though listed buildings are concentrated in the centre, [Liverpool](#) has many buildings of interest throughout its suburbs.'

Sources: [Architecture of Liverpool - Wikipedia](#)

1 Hughes (1999), p10

2^ Hughes (1999), p11

3^ Pollard, Richard; [Pevsner, Nikolaus](#) (2006), *The Buildings of England: Lancashire: Liverpool and the South-West*, New Haven & London: [Yale University Press](#), pp. 302–304, [ISBN 0-300-10910-5](#)

4^ "[Listed buildings](#)" (PDF). [Liverpool City Council](#). Retrieved 10 August 2019.

5^ "[Heritage map for changing city](#)". BBC News. 19 March 2002. Retrieved 11 July 2009.

6^ [Heritage at Risk register 2011 North West](#), pp. 66-69.

Alison Anyon, Editor (6094)

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New Members and 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 9758-9774** who have joined most recently and wish them every success with their research.

New Members

A correction to new member **9751** from D **ASPINALL** to D & T-J **PRESTON**

9758 F ELSDEN
9760 G DOWLING
9762 C SHELLEY
9764 H WRIGHT
9766 S EMMERSON
9768 A STANKIEWICZ
9770 J ADDERLEY
9772 G BIBBY
9774 D CASEY

9759 C BURNS
9761 D OGDEN
9763 F TAYLOR
9765 G HALL
9767 C LOVATT
9769 J COWLEY
9771 H HURST
9773 S ALLAN

Members' Interests

9766 Formby	John	Crosby	Jan 1874
9766 Formby (Bradley)	Catharine	Crosby	Nov 1836
9486 Higson	Thomas	Wigan/Salford	1700-1750
9486 Ryding	Various	West Derby LAN	1550-1700
9486 Rideing	Various	West Derby LAN	1550-1700
9486 Rydinge	Hugh	West Derby LAN	1550-1700
9758 Moran	Martin	MAY	1820-Present
9758 Ryan	Martin	GAL	1820-Present
9758 Murphy	John	Liverpool	1870-Present
9758 Hughes	Evan	AGY	1840-Present
9758 Caslin	James	Roscommon	1820-Present
9758 Killen	John	DOW	1849-Present
3612 Alexander	James	LNS	<1800
7850 Carney	Thomas		
	Wilfred	Liverpool	1700-1900
7850 Stockton	Russell	Stockport	1700-1900
7850 Wharton	George		
	Smart	Weston Point	1700-1900
7850 Shacklady	James Edward		
	Alderman	Liverpool	1700-1900
7850 Dillon	Bailey	Liverpool	1700-1900
7850 Kennedy	Thomas	Liverpool	1750-1850
9737 Cooper	James		
	Curtis	Liverpool	1855-1920
9737 Curtis	Elizabeth	NTH	1801-1870
9737 Fagan	Rossana	Liverpool	1831-1880
9737 Cooper	Samuel	NTH	1829-1867
9737 McCrystal	Francis	Liverpool	1848-1920
9737 Dunphy	Thomas	Liverpool	1853-1910

Instructions for Joining Zoom Talks

By using the following link members can try out a test

<https://zoom.us/test>

You should then be able to find out how easy it is to get up and running on Zoom.

Mary A

Zoom Admin

Welcome to the listings for our Zoom talks coming up in the next few months.

Members will receive an invitation each month with a link to go to Eventbrite and book their ticket, which will arrive a day or two before the talk from the Zoom Admin email address. If you don't receive these invitations, please check that you have renewed your membership as that list is provided for the invitations to be sent to.

Generally speaking, we will hold these talks on Wednesday evenings, but this may vary depending on the time zone the speaker lives in, however if it is at an unusual time we will usually ask the speaker if we can record their talk and place a link in our Members Area for everybody to catch up with.

Zoom Talks

16 July	Wednesday 12 noon A Boy on a Horse	Barbara Rae
20 August	Wednesday 7pm He's not like other expert's, is he?	Paul McNeil
17 Sep	Wednesday 7pm A Tragedy in the Family	Sue Evans

Help Desks

Have you hit a brick wall with your research?
Why not visit one of the Society's help desks?

Liverpool Group:

The Liverpool group have volunteers who hold a weekly help desk each Tuesday, 1:30pm till 4:00pm, at the **Liverpool Central Library**, 3rd Floor, William Brown Street, Liverpool L3 8EW.

Leigh Group:

Leigh Group's Help Desk is now at the Archives:
Wigan & Leigh, **Leigh Town Hall**.
Tuesday to Thursday 10:00am to 1:00pm by appointment.
Telephone: 01942 404430 for further details.

Southport Group:

Crosby Library - First and Third Friday in month - 10am to 1pm. Please contact Crosby Library for an appointment.

Maghull Library - Thursday mornings depending on availability. Please contact Maghull Library for an appointment.

Warrington Group:

The helpdesk is based at **Warrington Library**, Museum Street, Warrington on Saturdays between 10am and 12 noon

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

The Liverpool and South West Lancashire FHS Website:
www.lswlfhs.org.uk

News from the Groups

Leigh & District

Chairman: Margery Harrop

Secretary: Louise Wade

Meetings are held at **Leigh Town Hall** at 7:30pm on the third Tuesday of each month.

- | | | |
|--------|---|----------------------|
| 17 Jun | Leigh in the 1940's & 1050's—War then Austerity | Michael Caine |
| 16 Sep | The Man who Shod Horses | Martin Jones |
| | From documents found in a house clearance described by a WW1 historian & expert on the Antiques Roadshow as ' <i>Absolute Gold Dust</i> ' | |

Liverpool

Chairman: Susan Atkins

Secretary: Joyce Culling

Meetings are held in Room 2, 4th Floor, Liverpool Central Library, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EW on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August. Doors open 5:30pm for 5:45pm start and meetings finish no later than 7:45pm. £1 for refreshments.

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10 Jun | West Lancashire Famous & Infamous | Dot Broady-Hawkes |
| 8 July | TBC | |
| 12 Aug | No Meeting | |
| 9 Sep | Members Evening | |

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.

- | | | |
|--------|--|----------------------|
| 03 Jun | Tawd Valley Mining Disaster | Mark Boardman |
| 02 Sep | Welcome Back — Research and Help Night | |

Southport

Chairman: Ian Cooper

Secretary: Shelagh Boardman

Meetings are held at Birkdale Station Master's House on the second Friday of each month (unless stated otherwise). Meetings start at 7:30pm. Coffee/Tea and biscuits from 7.15pm.

13 Jun	Agricultural Labourers	Ian Cooper
11 Jul	Group visit to Liverpool Record Office	
	Please see website for more details	

Warrington

Chairman: Peter Jolliffe

Secretary: Vacant

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.

23 Jun	Online Zoom —	Traditions of Death & Burial	
28 Jul	Back to Basics —	Census Returns	Dr Helen Frisby
25 Aug	Online Zoom —	Liverpool Carter	Peter Jolliffe
23 Sep	TBA		Margaret Clare

Widnes

Welcome to our group page from your committee members Claire, Gill and Sue.

Widnes Family History Group was formed in 1994, and is one of the six groups that form part of the Liverpool & South West Lancashire Family History Society.

We meet at 7pm on the last Wednesday of each month, except December at Upton Community Centre, Hough Green Road, Widnes, WA8 4PF.

Meetings currently consist of members research evenings, with our library available to browse. Help is offered from our committee members and members of the group.

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Email: chair@lswlfhs.org.uk

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CW8 3HY
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Plus one representative elected by each Group of the Society.



Image Attribution: by [John Bradley](#) from Wikimedia Commons and licenced for reuse under [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0](#)
10 Hockenhall Alley 10 Nov 2014.jpg

Tucked off Dale Street in Liverpool city centre is one of the oldest surviving workers' dwellings in the city. The Grade II listed building at 10 Hockenhall Alley has fallen into a state of disrepair but with just one room to each floor, the pint-sized house offers an insight into what inner-city living conditions were like for some of the poorest members of society at that time.

10 Hockenhall Alley was originally known as Molyneaux Weint and was once part of a small row of houses which have since been demolished. It is believed to have been built between 1765 and 1785 when the alley was laid out off Dale Street, one of the seven streets of medieval Liverpool.

The exact date the other houses in the row were demolished is unknown but it's thought to have been some time around the 1880s. 10 Hockenhall Alley remained as a dwelling into the early 20th century however, before it became a pharmacy and finally clock repairer's premises John Nelson.



Image: Attribution:

Entrance to Picton Lecture Hall at Picton Library, Liverpool(3).JPG by [ReptOn1x](#) from Wikimedia Commons and licenced for reuse under [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0](#)

Entrance to Picton Lecture Hall at Picton Library, Liverpool (3).JPG



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