

ORIGINS

SUMMER 2025



Included in this Issue

- The Probable Origins of the Surname Sabatini •
- Cadd Family of Preston Bissett •
- References •

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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*The affairs of the Society are governed by a Constitution,
copies of which are available from the Secretary or Chairman*

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FHS MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES for the year commencing 1st January 2025

UK Individual (A)	£12.00	Overseas (E)	£17.00
UK Family (B)	£15.00	Individual online (W)	£6.00
UK Corporate	£14.00		

Go to <https://www.parishchest.com> and join online
Or email membership@bucksfhs.org.uk for how to pay by standing order

MAGAZINE OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Summer 2025 Vol. 49 No. 2

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From the Editor

I am pleased to announce the winner of the 2024 Alan Dell Award is Eleanor Phillips, for her article 'The Probable Origins of the Surname Sabatini', which appears on page 71. Anita Waite is the very worthy runner-up and her article will appear in the next edition of this journal. Congratulations to you both for producing well-researched and interesting articles – the judges thoroughly enjoyed them. It is wonderful to share your research stories and everyone who is researching their family history has a story to tell. Do consider sharing yours for a chance to win a prize in this annual competition. Full details of how to enter are on the website.

Talking of the website – the Society now has a fantastic new website. This key resource has had a full redesign and is better than ever. Please do take a look. Content from the previous site has been migrated, and there is new content too. More details are on page 58. Visit <https://bucksfhs.org.uk/> to explore what is on offer.

As always, your contributions to this journal are very welcome. Articles, help wanted requests, photographs, snippets of information or useful resources or events are just some of the things to consider. Please help us to keep the content as varied as possible by submitting anything Bucks family history related that might help you, or indeed another Bucks FHS member.

Rebecca Gurney editor@bucksfhs.org.uk

Please send your contributions and comments to the Editor, who reserves the right to edit all contributions.

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A Note from the Honorary Secretary

When you get to read this, I hope the AGM is over and the new website is providing new resources for our members. We must thank Colin Kightley and Steve Powell for their hard work making the site a reality. Circumstances have forced Steve Powell to step down from the Executive Committee and his work for Bucks FHS as Membership Secretary. There is a good chance the role of Membership Secretary is still vacant when you read this. Please contact me if you are interested.

In better news, Brian Curtis has taken over the role running the Exchange Journals. Welcome, Brian, and thank you.

You may also have heard that the Bucks FHS has a President. Julian Hunt has accepted the role in an honorary capacity. Julian was the Archivist for Buckinghamshire and is a regular speaker on the history of both Buckinghamshire and Worcestershire. He is also the President of Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society.

Our project work on Parish Registers is proceeding well, and the current parish transcriptions are now available as downloads. The team in Bletchley are preparing and checking transcripts of other parishes for publication. Thank you all.

Tony Sargeant, Honorary Secretary
secretary@bucksfhs.org.uk

Origins Submissions Deadlines

December 2025 (Winter) issue – 6th October 2025

March 2026 (Spring) issue – 4th January 2026

July 2026 (Summer) issue – 5th May 2026

Submissions received after the deadline may be held over for the next issue

Society Notices

FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOPS

The first Saturday of the month sees the
Society's Family History Workshop at
Buckinghamshire Archives, Walton Street, Aylesbury,
where we aim to help with:

- **RESEARCH:** Advising visitors on how to conduct family history research, and to offer advice and guidance on how to move forward.
- **RESOURCES:** Explaining the resources available to them via our Society as well as those of the Archives and Local Studies Library.
- **SEARCHES:** Conducting searches for Baptisms, Marriages and Burials on our Names Database for those researching their Bucks ancestors.
- **RECORDS:** Enabling those wishing to see original records to book a space in advance with the Archives. Requests can be made for up to 8 documents per session, ordered in advance. A further 3 documents can be ordered throughout the day.

CAN WE HELP YOU?

Come to see us on:

June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd, September 6th, October 4th
between 9.00am and 4.00pm.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Positions vacant:

Chairman

Executive Committee members

Membership Secretary

We also need help with:

Publicity/social media officer

Online talks

All Society activities are run by volunteers

If you would like more details about these roles, please email:
secretary@bucksfhs.org.uk

Cheque payments

The Society is no longer accepting cheques for search services and new memberships. Those who are already members and renew by cheque will not be affected.

Bucks FHS Website Update

Hopefully by the time you read this the new website will be up and running.

<https://bucksfhs.org.uk/>

Under the heading “County” then “Bucks pictures” somewhere around 2,500 pictures have been added. Many are copied over from the old website but there are also many that have been updated or added as new.

Yvonne Parker and myself have been photographing the Commonwealth War Graves in Buckinghamshire as found on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website. There are just over 200 sites and to date we have visited about 100 of them. Most are the slate headstones but others are family graves. In a few cases we have recorded memorials, where the war dead are mentioned on headstones, but are buried abroad.

The area covered so far is north and central Bucks, so we still have some work to do in the south. We have around 8 sites where we have headstones that have not yet been found.

Whilst we have been recording those who perished in both World Wars, we have also photographed the war memorials, rolls of honour and the church/cemetery. If the church has been open, we have recorded the inside.

Help is needed with the following:

1. Photographs of headstones in south Bucks – lists can be provided.
2. Photographs of war memorials, rolls of honour and church interiors which have been missed.
3. Photographs of significant buildings etc from towns and villages that have not been included.
4. Information on the War Dead pages that we have not yet entered – especially if they are relatives and you have photos.
5. Photographs of war graves from abroad of relatives from Buckinghamshire that you have taken.

All photographs submitted will be attributed to the sender.

Please send any information by email to: website@bucksfhs.org.uk

Many thanks for your help.

Colin Kightley

Online Zoom Talks

Until we can get a volunteer to take on the organisation of online Zoom talks, I have taken on the role.

The speakers booked for the next few months are detailed on page 65.

Topics that are being investigated include:

- Station X – Bletchley Park and its influence by Polish codebreakers
- AI (Artificial Intelligence) and genealogy

We are trying to get more local Buckinghamshire interest into our talks and also setting up local chat groups to discuss areas, jobs etc in Bucks. Can anyone do a 15-minute PowerPoint presentation, or just talk on their Bucks ancestors or places? If we could get three, we have an evening! Hopefully, this would stimulate interest and may stimulate others to contribute. If you are too shy, but have the materials, maybe we can get another person to present!

Please contact: website@bucksfhs.org.uk

Colin Kightley



Society Meetings

Come and Meet Us!

The Society holds regular meetings for members at Bletchley, Bourne End and online via Zoom. Visitors (non-members) are welcome to attend face-to-face meetings, but there is a charge of £2. Online meetings are available to members only.

Most meetings have a topic which is introduced by a knowledgeable speaker, with the opportunity to ask questions. There is time before and after meetings to chat with other members, and some libraries and research aids may be available for consultation. Meetings are held at the venues below.

Note: all speakers are subject to change at short notice.

SOUTHERN GROUP	ONLINE	NORTHERN GROUP
Community Centre Wakeman Road BOURNE END Bucks SL8 5SX email: southernbranch@bucksfhs.org.uk On the second Tuesday of each month (there may be changes at Christmas and New Year). Doors open 7:30pm Meetings start 7:45pm	Held via Zoom. Members only. Log in to the Society's website for joining details, and information about the talk being given. On the fourth Friday of each month, except in December. <i>We need a volunteer to book speakers for online talks in 2025/26. email society@bucksfhs.org.uk</i>	Methodist Church Hall Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB email: northernbranch@bucksfhs.org.uk On the first Wednesday of each month (there may be changes at Christmas and New Year). Doors open 7:15pm Meetings start 7:30pm

Tea, coffee and ample parking are available at Bletchley and Bourne End.

Northern Group

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**NORTHERN GROUP : MEMBERS' NIGHT
Wednesday 2nd July 2025 7:30pm**



This evening's meeting will be given over to members. The theme will be announced later, please look out for local publicity or information on our website.

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**IAN WALLER : FamilySearch
Wednesday 6th August 2025 7:30pm**

FamilySearch

There are many facets to the FamilySearch website (www.familysearch.org) which enable family historians to contribute to a world-wide tree including the use of memories, photographs and the addition of sources. Ian examines the way in which the site can be used by contributors to its best advantage.

By Wilfredo Rafael Rodriguez Hernandez - Own work, CC0 via Wikimedia Commons

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**SPEAKER AND SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED
Wednesday 3rd September 2025 7:30pm**



Details of this meeting were still to be announced at the time Origins went to press. Please see local publicity and the Society's website.

Northern Group

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**BEN NICOLLS : FINDING MY GRANDAD'S GLOBAL FAMILY
Wednesday 1st October 2025 7:30pm**



When, at the age of 24, Ben discovered that his grandfather had had four children with three different women over a period of 40 years, he felt a mission coming on! Without even knowing their names, he embarked on a seemingly impossible quest to trace them and their descendants...

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**SPEAKER AND SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED
Wednesday 5th November 2025 7:30pm**



Details of this meeting were still to be announced at the time Origins went to press. Please see local publicity and the Society's website.

**NORTHERN GROUP Methodist Church Hall
Queensway BLETCHLEY Milton Keynes MK2 2HB**

**JOHN FLEWIN : THE STORY OF THE ROYAL BUCKS HOSPITAL
Wednesday 3rd December 2025 7:30pm**



Film presentation. In the late 1930s families were enlisted to join the hospital's Contributory Scheme, which ensured free healthcare at the hospital. A film was commissioned, unseen since the end of the 30s, that tells the story of the hospital from its birth in the 1860s in line with plans drawn up by Florence Nightingale. John will show that film tonight.

Southern Group

**SOUTHERN GROUP Community Centre
Wakeman Road BOURNE END SL8 5SX**

**SOUTHERN GROUP : HOW I GOT STARTED IN FAMILY HISTORY
Tuesday 10th June 2025 7:45pm**



A series of short presentations given by members, on the subject of what made them take up Family History research.

**SOUTHERN GROUP Community Centre
Wakeman Road BOURNE END SL8 5SX**

**KIRSTY GRAY : SEARCHING FOR SURNAMES
Tuesday 8th July 2025 7:45pm**



The full title of Kirsty's presentation is 'Searching for Surnames - challenges, pitfalls and the downright ridiculous'. Kirsty shows how creative searching of those online records is a must, as is an understanding of how it is that transcription and other errors come about.

Portrait of Kirsty Gray supplied by the speaker

**SOUTHERN GROUP Community Centre
Wakeman Road BOURNE END SL8 5SX**

**SPEAKER AND SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED
Tuesday 12th August 2025 7:45pm**



Details of this meeting were still to be announced at the time Origins went to press. Please see local publicity and the Society's website.

If you can assist, please email:
southern.committee@bucksfhs.org.uk

Southern Group & AGM

**SOUTHERN GROUP Community Centre
Wakeman Road BOURNE END SL8 5SX**

**SPEAKER AND SUBJECT TO BE ANNOUNCED
Tuesday 9th September 2025 7:45pm**



Details of this meeting were still to be announced at the time Origins went to press. Please see local publicity and the Society's website.

If you can assist, please email:
southern.committee@bucksfhs.org.uk

**SOUTHERN GROUP Community Centre
Wakeman Road BOURNE END SL8 5SX**

**JANET FEW : ILL, IMPOVERISHED, ILLEGITIMATE AND INSANE
Tuesday 14th October 2025 7:45pm**



Our more wealthy ancestors left behind them wills, records of property ownership and evidence of careers in the professions. Janet's presentation focuses on those who were less fortunate in a society that made little provision for those who fell on hard times.

Portrait of Janet Few supplied by the speaker

**Buckinghamshire Family History Society
AGM AND ONLINE TALK VIA ZOOM FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING + TALK BY GILL BLANCHARD
Friday 30th May 2025 from 19:15 UK / 18:15 UTC**



Following the AGM, Gill Blanchard will deliver The Huguenots Impact On Britain, a story of religious persecution, politics, endurance, assimilation, and integration of one of our largest refugee communities.

Members will find the link required to join the meeting by logging in to the Society's website.

Online Talks (via Zoom)

Buckinghamshire Family History Society ONLINE TALK VIA ZOOM FOR MEMBERS ONLY

DR JANET FEW : FROM VICTORIANS TO ELIZABETHANS
Friday 27th June 2025 from 19:45 UK / 18:45 UTC



Janet will be looking at tracing our more recent English ancestors, those who lived between 1901 and 1952.

Members will find the link required to join the meeting by logging in to the Society's website.

Portrait of Janet Few supplied by the speaker

Buckinghamshire Family History Society ONLINE TALK VIA ZOOM FOR MEMBERS ONLY

ALAN RUSTON : NON-CONFORMITY FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS
Friday 25th July 2025 from 19:45 UK / 18:45 UTC



Although it can be difficult to find information about congregations since so many have flourished and faded since the seventeenth century, Alan is here to help.

Members will find the link required to join the meeting by logging in to the Society's website.

Portrait of Alan Ruston supplied by the speaker

Buckinghamshire Family History Society ONLINE TALK VIA ZOOM FOR MEMBERS ONLY

MIKE CORBETT : WOLVERTON CARRIAGE WORKS
Friday 29th August 2025 from 19:45 UK / 18:45 UTC



Mike, a former Depot Manager, will discuss the history of one of north Bucks' most important employers.

This talk will be given on the last Friday of August. Members will find the link required to join the meeting by logging in to the Society's website.

Ben Brooksbank Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 via Geograph

Diary Dates

*** PLEASE NOTE ***

Details are correct at the time of writing (June 2025), but are always subject to change. PLEASE CHECK with the event organisers or on the relevant websites before attending.

Family History & Heritage Events

Sat 21st June 10am to 4pm	Wiltshire FHS Family History Day Michael Herbert Hall, South Street, Wilton SP2 0JS Family history societies and commercial exhibitors. Free entrance, see website for parking and transport options. For details visit: https://www.wiltshirefhs.co.uk/
Sat 23rd August	Northern Ireland FHF Really Useful Family History Show Live Family history societies, speakers, and more. Venue: PRONI (Public Record Office of Northern Ireland), 2 Titanic Boulevard Titanic Quarter, Belfast BT3 9HQ For details, visit: https://www.nifhs.org/
Fri 19th to Sun 21st September	Secrets & Lies: More Hidden Voices of Our Ancestors International Family History Conference Hosted by the Halstead Trust, an interactive weekend exploring innovative approaches to researching “black sheep” ancestors and the challenges of uncovering their stories. Venue: Holiday Inn, Peterborough West Details and booking: https://secretsandlies.org.uk/

Sat 4th October 10am to 4pm	The Family History Show, London Local and national exhibitors, many family history societies, archives and companies. Free parking and accessible by local transport. Venue: Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Rd E, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 5AQ For tickets, visit: https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/
Sat 25th October 10am to 4pm	Oxfordshire Family History Society Fair Venue: The Cherwell School, Marston Road, Oxford, OX2 7EE For up-to-date details of stallholders visit: https://www.ofhs.uk
Sat 25th October 10am to 4pm	Huddersfield & District FHS Fair Talks on local and family history topics, ask the experts research service, exhibitors including local and family history societies, books, maps, genealogy supplies and more. Venue: The Masonic Hall, Greenhead Road, Huddersfield, HD1 4EN Price: £5.00. Accompanied children under 16 are free https://hdfhs.org.uk/the-family-history-fair/

Other events

Websites for family history events:

National Archives

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/visit-us/whats-on/>

Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS)

<https://one-name.org/events/>

Pann Mill Open Days

Sundays 13th July and 14th September

11am to 5pm

Free admission

Milling demonstrations at this restored historic flour mill (River Wye water levels permitting!) and there will be teas, books and other stalls.

Pann Mill, London Road, High Wycombe HP11 1BJ (on The Rye)

<https://www.pannmill.org.uk/>

A Walk Around Wycombe Through Time Photographic Exhibition

**An exhibition at Wycombe Museum, produced in partnership
with Sharing Wycombe's Old Photographs (SWOP)**

This photographic exhibition reveals how the streets and open spaces of High Wycombe have changed through time. See historic photographs – some within living memory and some beyond – and compare them with modern views of the town you know today.

Free entry

Runs until March 2026

Wycombe Museum, Priory Avenue, High Wycombe, HP13 6PX

<https://wycombemuseum.org.uk/exhibitions/a-walk-around-wycombe-through-time>

Buckinghamshire Archives New Location

Buckinghamshire Archives is moving from Aylesbury to High Wycombe.

The Archives Service will reopen in High Wycombe during the summer of 2026.

The new site will provide significantly better facilities for the archives, customers and staff. Onsite public access at Aylesbury will close from late November 2025. So, if you plan to visit the archives around this time, please contact the service to obtain the latest information.

While closed to onsite access, you can still access the archives, and have professional advice via the virtual search room:

Website: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/culture-and-tourism/archives/>

Email enquiries: archives@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Telephone, during opening hours: 01296 382 587

Bucks Newspapers Online

The *Bucks Free Press* newspaper archive is now available to search online at Newspapers.com (the search site run by Ancestry).

This includes 333,007 searchable pages from 1856–2023.

Other local papers include the *Midweek*, *Bucks Examiner*, *Amersham Advertiser* and *Buckinghamshire Advertiser*.

<https://www.newspapers.com>

Alan Dell Memorial Award

Best article competition

DEADLINE 31 DECEMBER 2025

First prize £50.00

Second prize £25.00



For entry requirements visit

www.bucksfhs.org.uk

The Probable Origin of the Italian Name Sabatini

Eleanor Phillips

Alan Dell Award winner 2024

I had noticed the name SABATINI recurring frequently in census returns as far back as the first official national census in 1841, and this made me curious to find out why a name which is obviously Italian in origin should be such a common family name in the Chesham and Amersham area for at least 200 years. I discovered that this was no easy task. There are numerous spellings of the name. The most usual spelling is Sabatini but SABATINA or SABATINE or SABBATINE are sometimes used instead. Many of the Sabatinis also seemed to be called LEVERNO or LEVERNE or LIVERNO or LAVERNO.

However, I had a breakthrough whilst researching something else. I came across a couple of old newspaper articles which do seem to solve the puzzle of two surnames. In 1902, a correspondent wrote to the local press as follows:

“In the issue of May 10th you mention the name Sabatini. In the Great Hampden Register of Baptisms under date July 17th 1789 is this entry: Mary daughter of Giovanni and Mary Sabatini, and in the same register under Burials, May 3rd 1803 is the entry Giovanni Sabatini (an Italian). I do not know if this has any bearing or connection with the Laverno of Amersham also known as Sabatini. I have always understood that the Giovanni Sabatini of Hampden came from Italy as the body servant to the Lord Hampden, and he may possibly have left a son as well as the daughter.”

The Lord Hampden referred to would have been the Hon. Robert Hampden-Trevor, descended from Ruth, eldest of the daughters of John Hampden the Patriot. He was created Viscount Hampden of Great & Little

Hampden in 1776 and travelled extensively in Italy. This, however, still left the puzzle of how the name Sabatini comes to be muddled with the name of Leverno, but another correspondent had the answer to that one, replying to the above quoted letter with additional information.



Hampden House

Photo: Rebecca Gurney

He explained that, as a young man, he had been a curate in Amersham and had registered a baptism for the family. He had queried the correct surname and had been told that it was Sabatini, the name Leverno referring to the place in Italy that the family had originated from (today known as Leghorn). Apparently in the 1700s, it was normal in Italy when introducing yourself to do so as “Signor Sabatini di Leverno” or “Mr Sabatini of Leverno” but in England, it had been erroneously assumed that Leverno was part of the family name.

Giovanni travelled with his master who worked for the British Government both at home and overseas. Giovanni bought a farm at Hyde Heath, probably after his master's death. He married twice, in 1783 (the year in which his master died) and again in 1789. His first wife was Grace Lucy JEWSON and they had two children – Thomas Charles born 1785 and Lucia Mary born 1787. The son married Hannah SPURRIER in 1809

and they lived in Chesham Bois. They had four sons and five daughters. The sons were Charles (b.1810), Thomas (b.1821), William (b.1823) and George (b.1825). Thomas Sabatini Senior came to a sad end. At the age of 67, he died in the Union Workhouse in Amersham as a widowed pauper under the name of Thomas Laverno.

Thomas's oldest son Charles had four daughters and two sons – Charles Junior (b. 1831) and William (b.1856). Charles Senior was a papermaker living in Amy Lane, Chesham, but was convicted of “larceny by a servant” after stealing from Frances Peter WERRY of Chesham Bois and serving 2 months in prison. Two years later he was found guilty of stealing a brass tube value 10/- from Alfred CURTISS, the owner of Sarratt Paper Mill, at the Aylesbury Assizes in 1844 and sentenced to 7 years transportation. He was sent to Australia on the Lord Auckland convict ship under the name of Charles Leverno. He successfully returned to England after completing his sentence and is shown on the 1871 census return as living in Waterside with his wife and youngest son William. His occupation is given as ‘carter’.

The next son – Thomas – was a woodenware manufacturer living in Church Street with his family which included two sons – William (b.1840) and Alfred (b.1845). Thomas Junior and his family subsequently moved to Waterside where he employed 3 men and a boy in his woodenware business. He was the Surveyor for Latimer and had to attend Vestry meetings in the town of Chesham. (The Vestry was the forerunner of our modern day council.)

The third son William was apprenticed to a blacksmith in Amy Lane in his teens but later became a wooden toy maker. He married Ann MATTHEWS in 1848 and they did not have any children.

The youngest son George lived in Waterside with his family. George had at least three sons – William (b. 1852), Charley (b. 1861) and another George (b. 1864). By the time he was 47 years old, George (the father) was admitted to the Union Workhouse in Amersham as a pauper where he was known by the alternative name of George Leverne. This meant that his family had to go into the workhouse as well. George would have been in the men's section, his wife in the women's section and their five children would have been taken away from their parents, which explains why they were all baptised on the same day. George ended his days in the mental hospital at Stone.



Amersham Workhouse

Photo: Courtesy of Amersham Museum

Grace had died in 1788 and Giovanni married again in 1789, this time to a Mary BENNING. He and Mary had two children – Mary (b.1789) and Giovanni Junior (b.1792). Giovanni Junior married Elizabeth WARNER in 1821 and they had a son – Giovanni (3) in 1821 and a daughter – Mary-Ann in 1825. Giovanni (3) does not appear to have married and I can find no further records for him. When Giovanni Senior died, it was discovered that he had never become a naturalised citizen which made the purchase of his farm in Hyde Heath invalid, as foreigners were not allowed to own property at that time. The family therefore lost the farm.

So the Sabatinis resident in the area of Amersham, Chesham and Great Missenden today are probably all the descendants of that one Italian manservant who came to this country back in the mid 1700s.

Eleanor Phillips

Cadd Family of Preston Bissett

Tony Sargeant

While checking some baptisms for the new format of parish registers, I came across the words 'Australia in 1850' – an interesting snippet after Andrew Redfern's online talk to Bucks FHS in March this year. Andrew Redfern is a family historian and researcher in Australia. His talk about the history and records of Australia and New Zealand supplied enough information to allow a researcher to get a start researching those records.

Here is our starting point in Preston Bissett:

Preston Bissett Baptism Register (Buckinghamshire Archives Ref: PR168/1/3)	
26 Nov 1815	Thomas son of Joseph & Mary CADD, Labourer, Australia in 1850
6 Dec 1815	Anne daughter of John & Mary NEAL, Shoemaker, Australia in 1850. Thomas Cadd's wife

Then, after a brief search:

Preston Bissett Marriage Register (Buckinghamshire Archives Ref PR168/1/4)	
28 Dec 1835	Thomas CADD and Ann NEAL Witnessed by Frederick Clifton and Hannah Cadd

After a brief look on Ancestry and scanning the existing trees, I realised there were children in Preston Bissett. Also some of the trees seem to be using a different Thomas CADD and marriages. So the next job was to collect the children's baptisms.

Preston Bissett Baptism Register (Buckinghamshire Archives Ref: PR168/1/3)	
Children	
8 Aug 1836	Elizabeth Mary daughter of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer
20 May 1838	Sarah daughter of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer [Sarah was buried on 12 October 1841]
30 Mar 1840	Edmund CADD son of Thomas CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer
19 Jun 1842	Mary-Ann Neal daughter of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer
16 Jun 1844	Sarah daughter of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer
7 Jun 1846	Reuben son of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer
27 Jul 1847	Rachael daughter of Thomas & Ann CADD of Preston Bissett, Labourer. buried 30 Jul 1848

Here I have confirmed some of the details of the CADD/NEAL family that appear on a few trees in Ancestry. So the information can be used to find more detail. This time I'm looking for the emigration of the family to Australia.

While checking for any mention of the family in Buckinghamshire, I came across the following article in the *Bucks Chronicle and Bucks Gazette* of 13 April 1850.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.
[Compiled from official documents, by Henry Capper, Esq.]

VICTORIA

Is that portion of Australia lying at the southern extremity of the island; the average length of voyage from this country is 90 days. This settlement was formerly under the government of New South Wales, but is now declared a distinct colony by an Act of Parliament. The

Victoria district comprises upwards of 700 miles of sea coast, and contains an area of 98,000 square miles, ...

... The climate of Victoria displays the happy medium between the extreme heat of the northern districts of New South Wales, and the more humid atmosphere of Van Diemen's Land. The same peculiar characteristics of the atmosphere (hot days and cold nights), which are found in all parts of Australia, are nevertheless met with here; but from the circumstances of this district lying so much further south than any other portion of the island, the climate may be said to be like that of this country. Of the agricultural capabilities of Port Philip, every thing that is may be recorded. Corn of every description has been grown, yielding an average of forty bushels an acre, from soil to which no stimulant has ever been applied. This district contains numerous extrusive valleys composed or verdant and fertile vegetable mould, and a boundless extent of fine, open, and undulating ground. ...

... The Government report adds, "The labourers in request are, carpenters, smiths, wheelwrights, bricklayers, masons, farm servants, shepherds, agricultural labourers, and female house servants of every description."

The record of the voyage was found with the Certificate of Final Departure:

'British Empire' took her departure from the port of Plymouth (Devon) on 30th April 1850.

<u>Name</u>		<u>Age</u>
Cadd	Thomas	34
	Ann	34
	Elizabeth	13
	Edmund	10
	Mary A	7
	Sarah	5
	Reuben	3

The whole family appears in the list. The above article may not have been the trigger that took the family across the world – the dates are very close to organise leaving, applying to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and travelling to Plymouth. The Cadd family probably started planning in 1849; the Emigration Commissioners were oversubscribed that year.

There were also monthly adverts in the *Bucks Advertiser* by Marshall & Eldridge of Fenchurch Street, London for sailings from London and Plymouth. The ships mentioned do not include the 'British Empire'. The ship is mentioned above and on the website 'Passengers in History' (<https://passengers.history.sa.gov.au/>) where it is described as being built in 1839 as a three masted barque rigged of 640 tons. It is a small ship when viewed from today's standards.

Australian Research

With the Passengers in History website, research moves on to Australian Resources. This is new territory for me. The Government of Australia overview used by Andrew Redfern from Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia#Background_and_overview) helps show which state archive to research. For another overview, go through the Online Genealogy article for each state in the Family Search Wiki – there are many options and links into the resources. Here is a good start:

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/New_South_Wales,_Australia_Genealogy

Some sites and trees pointed to the Trove website (<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>) and the obituaries from the Australian newspapers. These provide other names and places that should be investigated. The birth date given in Thomas Cadd's obituary, being incorrect, may have been the source of some errors in Ancestry Trees.

One of the names from the obituary for Thomas Cadd was the place Angaston. Angaston in South Australia was a small settlement around a couple of junctions on a road. Angaston is 37 miles (60km) north east of Adelaide. Today the place is not much bigger with a few modern estates and houses, and is part of Barossa District.

Thomas and Mary Cadd probably arrived in Angaston in September or October 1850. The place name was used in Ancestry All Australian Birth Index, to search for the surname Cadd. This produced a nice list additional children of Thomas and Ann Cadd.

John Cadd	born 1856
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Martha Catherine Cadd	born 1858
-----------------------	-----------

Eliza Cadd	born 1861
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Edmund Cadd's family also appears from 1878.

There is one person from the family trees whose birth does not appear: Zilpha Cadd. The birth of her child, Mary Marie Cadd, appears in the lists 1871 in Angaston, but Zilpha's birth does not appear. Why?

The answer is probably involved in the founding of the Angaston, which did not get a District Council until the mid 1850s after being surveyed in 1841. The council was in place by 1857.

The modern Barossa District Council website (<https://www.barossa.sa.gov.au/>) has a full search of their cemeteries including Angaston, with a link to an interactive map of the site showing the names on the plots. What a great resource.

By following the Cadd family to Angaston, I have started to get a grasp of researching Bucks families who went to Australia. I took the easy route from 1800s to the 1860s with a clue left in the parish registers. But others have made the journey in reverse. Our journal *Origins* Vol 23 Issue 4 includes an article "Cadd family reunion at Preston Bissett", reporting that many travelled from California, Australia, Scotland and the Isle of Wight.

Tony Sargeant

A Tale of Infidelity

Graham Gough

Mary GOUGH was the daughter of John, farmer, and Martha Gough, born 3rd November 1814 and baptised at St Mary the Virgin, Marsh Gibbon on 30th December. Nothing more is known of her until she had reached the age of twenty-two. Then, on 16th April 1837 was baptised at the same font one 'Mary Greaves, illegitimate daughter of Mary Gough, Marsh Gibbon'.

The identity of the father then, was no secret. There is no doubt as to Mary's identity, as there isn't another candidate at this time. Research has shown the father to have been one Thomas GREAVES, born to James and Rebecca Greaves and baptised on 30th June 1790 at All Saints, Hillesden. He was twenty-four years Mary Gough's senior.

Ludgershall

Thomas Greaves had been married at seventeen to Mary Maria WHITE of Thame, Oxfordshire, the daughter of William and Priscilla White who had taken their daughter to be baptised at St Mary, Thame on 20th October 1786. The marriage of Thomas and Mary Maria took place by licence on 28th September 1807 at St Peter and St Paul, Buckingham, Mary Maria claiming the town to be her place of residence. This early marriage by licence to an older woman tends to suggest that two would soon become three, or perhaps that two had already done so, but no evidence of a happy event is to be found anywhere in the years close to the wedding, or indeed at any time subsequently. Independently, researchers of The Graves Family Association concluded that 'They may not have had any children' (<https://gravesfa.org/gen047.htm>).

Almost thirty years later, at about the time of his liaison with Mary Gough, the forty-six-year-old Thomas Greaves is likely to have been the man of that name working a 90-acre mixed farm at Ludgershall. Employment

probably provided the circumstances under which he and Mary met, otherwise it is hard to know how they might have done so. Ludgershall is five miles from Marsh Gibbon, and Mary would have lived in. For about a month before Mary's child is likely to have been conceived, Thomas Greaves' farm was advertised for sale by auction, to take place on Saturday 11th June 1836. A further advertisement for the auction of stock appeared in newspapers the following year, as evidently the tenancy did not come to an end until Lady Day 1838.

Annoyingly there is no absolute proof that the two are one and the same man, but it is as a farmer that this Thomas Greaves leaves Ludgershall, and as a farmer that the Thomas Greaves who is indisputably mine makes his appearance in Northamptonshire shortly afterwards.

Hartwell, Northamptonshire, 1813-1814

At this point let's look back in time and examine an incident in Thomas Greaves' earlier life. During the spring of 1813 (the year before Mary Gough had been born), the then twenty-two-year-old had occasion to visit, or be living at Hartwell, just south of Northampton. What is certain is the evidence left behind him in the person of an illegitimate son, baptised James CLARK on 23rd January 1814, born to one Sarah Clark, 'Poor Woman'.

To keep me on my toes, two Sarah Clarks had arranged to be born in Hartwell at about the same time. One had been baptised on 29th October 1775 to Catherine Clarke, a woman who had herself been born 'a Bastard', but this Sarah's child died the following year. The mother of Thomas Greaves' offspring had been baptised on 7th August 1774 to Aaron and Mary Clarke. This Sarah was almost fifteen years older than Thomas Greaves, and aged about thirty-eight when their son James was baptised. Straightaway, Sarah Clark went on to have two further illegitimate children: the baptism on 22nd December 1816 of a son Abraham HODGKINS establishes ties to a presumed father, but the other parent of a daughter baptised Elizabeth on 11th July 1818 is not hinted at. It doesn't seem unreasonable to wonder whether for a time at least, this 'Poor Woman' Sarah Clark had been driven to prostitution.

The connection between her son James Clark and Thomas Greaves was established by a descendant, a member of The Graves Family Association mentioned above, who observed that on 29th October 1832 the boy had married at Hartwell under the name of James Graves Clark. This wasn't his baptismal name, and one wonders just how much James knew about his father. Importantly though, the father and son relationship has been tested and proven through Y-DNA.

Clearly Thomas Greaves did not hold his matrimonial vows in high regard. Did his wife Mary Maria know about this infidelity? Were there others, which did not result in children? Who knows. I'll return to him shortly.

East Claydon

First, what befell Mary Gough in the years following the birth of her daughter? It is highly likely that Mary went to work for John PARROTT, a farmer at East Claydon, a few miles to the east of Marsh Gibbon (incidentally placing herself in the same potential position as she had been with Thomas Greaves). The 1841 census return records a Mary Goff [sic], farm servant. Her age has been rounded down to twenty. My Mary was twenty-six, and therefore her age ought to have been entered as twenty five. Perhaps John Parrott, as the head of his household, wasn't sure. Although this initially made Mary's identification inconclusive despite the proximity of East Claydon to Marsh Gibbon being in its favour, an unfortunate event the following year indirectly helped to establish that this Mary is almost certainly mine: on 25th August 1842 John Parrott died. He was just 34, and had seen his younger sister Rosetta married the previous 2nd November. We have to wait until 1851 to find that John's widow and children had moved out of their holding and in with his widowed mother Sarah Parrott at Sion Hill Farm, the place John had probably been born. Mary Goff / Gough was no longer with them. With the demise of her employer went her job. Coincidentally, between the same two censuses, Mary turns up just across the Oxfordshire border in Bicester.

Northamptonshire 1841-1861

By the time the census had been taken in 1841 and while Mary was at East Claydon with John Parrott, her daughter Mary Greaves, then four years old, was also across the border but in Northamptonshire, being brought up by her father Thomas and his wife Mary Maria. Thomas was now a farmer of Weedon Lois, five and a half miles west of Towcester. During the following ten years he both descended to the condition of agricultural labourer, and moved to the nearby village of Wappenham. In 1851 his daughter Mary, then fourteen years old, was at work at Wappenham Lodge, employed as a domestic servant on the 200-acre farm of one Richard JONES.

It was at Wappenham that Mary's step mother Mary Maria Greaves died at the age of 69 in December 1855, and whose burial took place at St Mary the Virgin on 12th. By 1861 Mary Greaves, now a young woman, was back home in Wappenham village with her widowed 72-year-old pauper father, living six doors from The Bull inn.



Wappenham Lodge

cc-by-sa/2.0 - © Duncan Lilly - geograph.org.uk/p/461216

Bicester 1842-1867

My story has us travel back in time again. It cannot be ascertained exactly when Mary Gough moved to Bicester following John Parrott's death, but there she took up domestic employment as a 'house servant' with John BATHE, a successful grocer and chandler who owned several properties about the town. John Bathe's shop premises were listed in Bicester Market Place in 1841, but in Sheep Street in 1851. The two adjoin and as the occupiers of the neighbouring properties are the same in both census years, clearly John Bathe was established where the two met. His son of the same name took over the business in 1855 following the death of his father, but by 1861 had retired to his house at Kings End, Bicester. Mary Gough continued in the son's employ as housekeeper until 5th February 1867, when following a long illness John Bathe died aged 62. He was buried at St Edburg, Bicester on 9th February leaving Mary £30 in his will.

Mary remained in Bicester, finding what was probably similar work as a 'general servant' to 80-year-old widow Ann PRITCHETT, with whom she lodged at 11 Twitchers Alley. Twitchers Alley runs approximately east to west, south of North Street which it joins at its eastern end, beside modern-day Tollgate Seats. In Mary's time Twitchers Alley was probably everything the name suggests. The 1919 Ordnance Survey Map shows six or seven small buildings (one being very small, perhaps only an outhouse) ranged along the northern boundary of the alley. In 1871 the occupiers consisted of five agricultural labourers, a mason labourer, a lace maker, a housekeeper, and Mary, general servant to the elderly woman of no occupation with whom she lived. None of the dwellings will have been more than basic, their small size conveying an impression of meanness, if not squalor. Today these buildings are gone. Old



Twitchers Alley, Bicester. The wooden fence and old stone walls on the right are where buildings once stood.

(Author's photograph)

stone walls which now define the rear boundaries of premises in North Street are probably their remains. Some of them have gateways which have been let into the alley, and one of these has a threshold beneath it, suggesting that it might once have been a doorstep.

Ann Pritchett died in 1871 and was buried at St Edburg on 6th June, a little more than four months before Mary herself died.

Surrogacy?

Yes, you did read that.

As family historians we know how dangerously misleading it can be to interpret the past from a modern perspective. Nevertheless it may interest readers to know that as these events were researched and discussed, the question of whether this might have been the purpose of Mary Gough's pregnancy arose in the minds of three people, quite independently of one another.

The reasons are not hard to see. There is the baptism of her daughter, naming her Mary Greaves after her father. Although this is not unusual, surnames could be bestowed upon children as a second given name to acknowledge a connection between families, but young Mary is never referred to as Mary Greaves Gough, only as Mary Greaves.

Then there are Thomas and Mary Maria Greaves themselves, childless, the one approaching fifty, the other already there. They would have long given up hope of a family. Infant Mary was not left with her mother but taken up by this childless couple.

Finally, there is nothing to indicate that Mary Gough ever saw her daughter again.

Against this is the unquestionable fact that Thomas Greaves had 'previous', leaving proof behind him in Hartwell that marital fidelity was not one of his strengths. It isn't unreasonable to suppose that the opportunity arose with Mary Gough for Thomas to take what he could get.

Although Thomas took the daughter named after him into his own home, apparently with his wife's participation, we should be mindful that records

were not made with a view to our understanding. Once the fallout from the revelation of Mary Gough's condition and the person responsible for it had subsided, possibly Mary Maria became a willing party to the adoption, but it may not have been so. Although Thomas, Mary Maria and Mary are listed together in the 1841 census return, was the way this family group appears to us the true state of affairs? Mary Maria probably had little choice.

Mary Greaves married at St Mary, Easton Neston on 24th December 1863, becoming Mrs Henry NEWBERRY, but that's another story. Her father Thomas Greaves died at the home of his daughter and son in law at Catch Gate, Hulcote, Northamptonshire nearly ten years after the death of his wife Mary Maria on 26th October 1865, aged 75. Mary Gough died in Bicester six years later on 23rd October 1871 aged 56, and on 26th joined her former employers in St Edburg's church yard. Her daughter Mary Newberry died not so very long after, at the beginning of November 1877, to be buried at St Mary, Easton Neston on 6th, aged only 40.



St Mary, Easton Neston

*By John Salmon/CC BY-SA 2.0
via Wikimedia Commons*

Graham Gough

Buckinghamshire Electoral Registers 1832-1971

This dataset is a new release on Ancestry.com

It does not include electoral registers produced between
1890 and 1918.

References: are the big companies getting it right?

Tony Sargeant

One of the modern struggles in family history is identifying records and testing their validity. Sorting out the correct reference can be onerous, but needs to be done to fully trust a source.

For census material the references are set by the rules applied by the National Archives as they received the records from the Home Office or Registrar General. In Ancestry.com these references all appear on the census record.

The story is different for parish registers. Many of the major companies have digital images for the user. This gets round all the problems with transcriptions and indexes. In many ways the film of reasonable quality will be just as good as the original. When looking at an image many archives show a good reference in the Sources section. Although anything that says “Ancestry Database” is a secondary source. This is important with parish records if you need to see the original. The archive with the record does not know about Ancestry databases, making it more important to record the original record’s citation. All the reference to a secondary source may be pointing to a problematic piece of evidence. References pointing to commercial databases may only serve to keep the user tied to that company.

London Parish Records

Ancestry.com has many images of the parish registers from London Archives. Unfortunately there was poor execution in the cataloging process used by Ancestry. For example, the BTs for Chiddingfold, Surrey, are part of the London records. While the baptisms are in the Surrey records. Yes,

there may be a reason why they are in the London Section, but that is meaningless when trying to trace the movement of your ancestors.

Another example is St Mary the Virgin, Stanwell, Middlesex. The parish is outside the old Greater London Council and the modern Borough system. As expected many of the records can be found in the “Parishes Not in a Borough” section, but the remainder are in Richmond Upon Thames.

Why look up the registers directly? One of the problems with early records is older handwriting leading to poor quality indexes and transcriptions. Parish registers can also provide information beyond baptisms, marriages and burials.

Evidence Explained

Evidence Explained is a book written by Elizabeth Shown Mills, which explains all the variations used in citations. Online, the hardback version costs over £60 in the UK. It is the source bible used by Wikitree website for their research. The book appears to make the system of sources into a bloated industry. For family history I cannot recommend the book. If you are looking for a door-stop, that is another matter.

What is a good reference?

A good reference is one that is succinct, correct and useful. Normally there will be two parts, the reference to the document and the repository holding that document.

The screenshot shows the 'RECORD DETAILS' page for 'SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, HAREFIELD: CHURCH HILL, HILLINGDON'. The left sidebar contains 'THE LONDON ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS CATALOGUE' and a 'YOUR ACCOUNT' section with fields for 'Enter Your History Card Number' and 'Enter Your Password'. The main content area displays the collection title, 'Date of Creation: 1538 - 1994', and 'Reference Code: DRD/080'. It includes a 'SCOPE AND CONTENT' section stating: 'Records of the parish of Saint Mary the Virgin, Harefield, including registers of baptisms, marriages, burials, marriages, burials, marriages and church services'. On the right, there are buttons for 'RETURN TO SEARCH RESULTS', 'PDF LIST OF THIS COLLECTION', 'Open a PDF List of This Collection', 'SHARE THIS PAGE', and 'PRINT PAGE'.

How to get at a good reference

One way of discovering the proper reference is by looking at the film image. The reference is usually on the front of the register or the title images of the film. Unfortunately, those images are usually lost or not made available.

Another way of finding the information is going back to the catalogue of the originating archive. For London this can be tricky but it can be done – persevere as the effort is worth it. Each register page should have the name you need. I have found cases where the parish and church in the indexes is different from the name in the film. Once you have found one register in the catalogue, go to the tabs on the right and click on PDF list of this collection. The PDF offered is a complete listing of the parish registers for that church with the dates each item covers.

This may be a lot of work for a reference. However, the benefits are worth the effort:

- The correct reference for the record.
- Longevity of both the record and citation.
- No need to go through formatting pain used by online sites and Evidence Explained.
- No need to be online to be sure your work is correct.
- The archive holding the records will understand the reference.

In conclusion, good references should be short and useful. But the effort required to find the reference should not be difficult. After all, family history should be enjoyable.

Tony Sargeant

Missing Bucks Emigrants

Lynda Reid has kindly submitted two snippets found in the Australian press. Does a John Fincher or a George Thorne appear in your family tree? It would be interesting to know if they were ever traced by the Colonial Secretaries and why they were being looked for.

Colonial Secretary's Office, June 2, 1851.

Inquiry having been made from England, respecting John FINCHER, late of the Parish of Hardwicke, in Buckinghamshire, who is said to have emigrated to this Colony on or about the 16th March, 1844, in the Dale Park, any person who is able to furnish information concerning him, is requested to communicate the same to this office.

By his Excellency's command. CHAS. STURT, Colonial Secretary.

Adelaide Times, 7 Jun 1851

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 4th January, 1855.

If George THORN, who emigrated as a Farm Labourer from Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire, about the year 1844, and is supposed to have gone from Sydney to Lord Howes Island, will call at this Office, he will receive a letter from England addressed to him.

New South Wales Government Gazette, 16 Jan 1855



Exhibition

A Walk Around Wycombe Through Time

Rebecca Gurney

Wycombe Museum's photo exhibition shows how places in the town have changed during the last 150 years.

Housed in the 'Chair Museum' – a lovely flint building on Priory Avenue – this small but informative exhibition is open until 1st March 2026.



Wycombe Museum, Priory Avenue

Although I have lived in Wycombe all my life and have an interest in the local history of the town, I do not have ancestors from the town itself. However, some of my family lived in the surrounding villages and would no doubt have visited and known the places and spaces this exhibition shows.

The historic photographs are from Sharing Wycombe's Old Photographs (SWOP), which is an amazing database archive of old photographs from various collections, including Wycombe Museum, Bucks Free Press and High Wycombe Library. SWOP is well worth a look if you have family from the area: www.swop.org.uk.

Here, the historic photographs are displayed alongside modern versions of the same scenes by local photographer Mark Page. I particularly liked this approach as it provides an important visual anchor for those who may not be familiar with 'old' Wycombe and a fascinating contrast between the historic and current townscape.



Historic images of the town are displayed alongside modern photos of the same locations



Photography technology and equipment through time

Photographic equipment

Also on display are items that show how technology has evolved over the last 150 years, including equipment that belonged to Wycombe photographer Ronald Goodearl (1909-1998). Ten of his photos feature in this exhibition; and two by Edward Sweetland (1867-1932) – probably the best-known photographer in the town in the early 1900s.

Exhibition highlights

Dramatic changes

As with any town, so much of Wycombe has changed and images of Pann Mill, Loakes Park (the old football ground) and furniture factories (such as William Birch on Leigh Street) show significant transformation.

Familiar sights

Some locations and their buildings are instantly recognisable, even if the building use has changed in some cases: the old library on Queen Victoria Road, the Falcon Hotel on the High Street and Frogmoor will all be identifiable to today's residents.

Furniture factories

The furniture industry, in particular chairmaking, is central to the history of High Wycombe. A handful of factory buildings do still exist, but it is especially interesting to see original sites that have now changed, with photos from 1940 up to the early 1970s (Goodearls in Mendy Street, A Parker & Co on Desborough Street, Hawkins & Co Victoria Street and William Birch Leigh Street). This is interesting for those who have no idea these factories stood on these sites, or whose family may have had connections to the industry or these particular firms.

Pictures for the memories

Anyone who grew up in High Wycombe will enjoy the images from the town they remember. The paddling pool on the Rye, the Octagon (including Murray's – Wycombe's first department store 1948–1985 and the atrium), and even Newlands bus station (a particularly strong memory for me!)

Overall, this is a well thought out and clearly presented exhibition, offering a taste of the extensive and valuable historic photographic archive available through the SWOP website.

Wycombe Museum has many other exhibits and artefacts, as well as a cafe and pleasant gardens. The shop stocks a good range of local history interest books as well as local history guide leaflets that family historians may find useful, on topics such as High Wycombe, Furniture Town; Place Names in the Wycombe District; A Brief History of Wycombe Pubs; A Brief History of the Wye Mills.

Note the museum is closed Mondays and Saturdays – always check the website for planned closures and opening times before visiting.

Wycombe Museum
Priory Avenue
High Wycombe
HP13 6PX
01494 957210
www.wycombemuseum.org.uk

All photos: Rebecca Gurney

Holt's Family History Research		<i>Richard Holt</i> <i>Professional Genealogist</i>
Have you ever hit a brick wall and don't know how to break it down? Have you ever needed someone on the ground to research in archives? Looking for a personalised gift to give to a family member or friend? CONTACT ME FOR A FREE ASSESSMENT 07983633023 holtsfamilyhistoryresearch@gmail.com		AGRA Associate  SCAN ME

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contains full details.

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What is available?

- Names indexes and databases.
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- Publications for sale.

How do I request a service?

- Individual service request procedures are detailed on the following pages. Information is also on our website at <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>
- Please send your order for publications or for searches to the address specified.
- The services are not run from a central office, but by individual volunteers.
- If you are writing to the Society address, to avoid delay please ensure the name of the service and volunteer you wish to contact is included in the address on the envelope.

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Please refer to the individual services notices on the following pages

- **Credit Card**

We are able to accept payment by credit card for all transactions though our shop at <https://www.parishchest.com>. For searches, please refer to the Research tab of the Society's website.

NOTE THAT WE NO LONGER ACCEPT CHEQUES.

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Other notes

- Please note that fees for searches undertaken at fairs may vary.
- Please provide full contact details including email address, as this will help us to process your order more efficiently.



Society Publications

Bucks FHS Publications

Bucks FHS has published parish registers, 1851 census and miscellaneous records available for purchase variously on CD and printed formats. The Society's publications are available to buy securely alongside those of other societies on the website Parish Chest.

To purchase items online at Parish Chest

To land on the Society's page, point your browser to:

<https://www.parishchest.com/buckinghamshire-fhs-12284.php>

Alternatively, visit the Parish Chest website at: <https://www.parishchest.com> and navigate from the Bucks FHS Logo which can be found by scrolling down to the 'Societies' header.

If you have not used Parish Chest before, you will need to register before making a purchase. (Sorry, existing login credentials to the Society's shop cannot be transferred.)

Note: CDs are designed for Windows systems and are NOT compatible with Apple Mac systems. Microfiche (fiche) require a microfiche reader. Many libraries and Record Offices have microfiche readers.

Search Service

Bucks Archives Search (members only)

A search of a specific type of record will be undertaken for members by volunteers at the Buckinghamshire Archives in Aylesbury.

For each member, the time spent on searches will be limited to 2 hours per annum. Further time may be made available to a member with a donation to the Society's funds.

Requests should be sent by email to the Search Service with details of the type of record and the time period to be searched together with your Membership Number. Searches will normally be undertaken and the results reported back to the member within 21 days.

Contact

Bucks Archives Search, Bucks FHS, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

Email: cbsinfo@bucksfhs.org.uk

Database Searches

Baptisms and Burials

This searchable database is an ongoing transcription of baptism and burial entries from deposited Buckinghamshire parish registers 1538 to 1908.

The following options apply to a baptism **OR** a burial search – please specify which you require:

- Option 1: Single Baptism OR Burial Search – first name and surname (£2.50)
- Option 2: Single Surname Search – all available parishes per 100 years (£5.00)

Results sent by email, or by post as a print out (please include large sae and loose stamps for postal option). Visit <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>, email or send an sae for a list of parishes and dates in the database.

Payment for baptism and burial searches can be sent by post (by postage stamps). Credit card payments can be made online; please email for details.

Email: baptisms@bucksfhs.org.uk

Marriages

This searchable database contains transcripts of marriage entries from deposited Buckinghamshire parish registers. It is fully transcribed from 1538 to 1837, with many parishes up to 1908.

- Option 1: Single Marriage Search – first name and surname (£2.50)
- Option 2: Single Surname Search – all available parishes per 100 years (£5.00)

Results sent by email, or by post as a print out (please include large sae and loose stamps for postal option). Visit <https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>, email or send an sae for a list of parishes and dates in the database.

Payment for marriage searches can be sent by post (by postage stamps). Credit card payments can be made online; please email for details.

Email: marriages@bucksfhs.org.uk

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We exchange digital versions of journals/magazines with many other UK and overseas Societies. These are available in the Members' section of our website:

<https://www.bucksfhs.org.uk>

Log in before navigating to the Members Area / Exchange Journals. Not yet registered for the website? There is more you may be missing.

We will add more Societies' journals as they start exchanging with us electronically.

Contact

Exchange Journals Librarian, Bucks FHS, Box 2, c/o Unit 7 Broadfields, Aylesbury, HP19 8BU

Email: magexchange@bucksfhs.org.uk

Take a look at our FACEBOOK GROUP

Our Facebook group (which is separate to our Facebook page) is proving popular. There are many photos of Bucks churches and chapels. Members share research interests, and some have already found common ancestors and other links. It's also a good source of news about family history developments, and the various events and shows that BFHS will be attending during the year.



Useful Contacts

Buckinghamshire Archives

Buckinghamshire Council, Walton Street Offices, Aylesbury, HP20 1UU
archives@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

01296 382587

www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/culture-and-tourism/archives

High Wycombe Library

5 Eden Place, High Wycombe,
Bucks, HP11 2DH

Tel: 01296 382415

Email: lib-hiw@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Milton Keynes Local Studies and Family History Library

555 Silbury Boulevard,
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK9 3HL

Tel: 01908 254050

Slough Library

The Curve, William Street, Slough, SL1 1XY

Tel: 01753 875533

Email: library@slough.gov.uk

Chesham Library

Elgiva Lane, Chesham, Bucks, HP5 2JD

Tel: 01296 382415

Email: lib-che@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Buckingham Library

Verney Close, Buckingham,
Bucks, MK18 1JP

Tel: 01296 382415

Email: lib-buc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Society of Genealogists

40 Wharf Road
London, N1 7GS

Tel: 020 7251 8799

www.sog.org.uk

The National Archives (TNA)

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Richmond,
Surrey, TW9 4DU

Tel: 020 8876 3444

Email: enquiry@pro.gov.uk

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

General Register Office

PO Box 2,
Southport PR8 2JD

Tel: 0300 123 1837

Email: certificate.services@gro.gsi.gov.uk

www.gro.gov.uk

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