

GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE

Journal of the Society of Genealogists



Volume 35 Number 7 Sep 2026



Society of Genealogists

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SOCIETY OF
GENEALOGISTS

Founded 1911

At the heart of this issue of the *Genealogists' Magazine* is Michael Gandy FSG. Michael, who died recently, was this journal's stalwart editor, curator and champion for 25 years. And this was just part of all that he did for the Society. In this issue can be found his obituary which, in typical Michael style, he penned himself, an appreciation of him by my colleague Else Churchill and a few of our favourite pieces he wrote for the magazine over the years. He will be much missed.

This is the last complete issue which Michael edited, although he made a degree of headway on the December issue as well. In doing so, he has given us some breathing space to consider how the magazine might develop which, in turn, will guide us in the choice of the next editor. If you have any thoughts on the magazine, we would certainly be delighted to hear them.

At the recent AGM the Chair, Ann Radmore CBE, referenced the Society's continuing deficit and the need to better balance income and expenditure. As one of the steps to help remedy this, the decision has been made to increase membership subscription prices this October. Currently new members pay £85 for regular membership and £150 for annual Gold. However, many long-standing members have remained on membership rates which have not, in a few cases, seen a price rise for almost 35 years! To put that into perspective, the Bank of England says that inflation over just the last 10 years has increased prices by around 40%. More information about the subscription rise will be sent to you in due course and if you have any questions don't hesitate to get in touch.

We appreciate that there are some very loyal, and long standing, members who will be concerned about this. Such members are hugely important to the Society and enable us to do so much, not least with regards our astonishing library collection. If you are concerned about the price rise but would like to remain part of this remarkable Society, you might want to consider becoming a Supporting Member. You will then be in charge of the contribution you make, with only you able to increase or decrease it. We might even be able to claim gift aid on your support, thereby increasing its impact. Supporting Members will experience a few limitations on the benefits they receive from the Society, but for the majority of members that is unlikely to have a material impact on them. If you would like to know more, do get in touch. Thank you, as ever, for your continued support of the Society and all that we do together.

Philip Spedding
CEO

Annual General Meeting



Photographs (left to right): Ann Radmore CBE, Chair of the Board, fields a question from member, Malcolm Smart | Members' votes are counted alongside those of proxy & online members in attendance | New Trustees Paul Beecham & Karen de Bruyne are elected to the board | Paul Blake, Chair of the Fellows, presents a Fellowship Award to Alec Tritton | Appreciation Certificates awarded to volunteers Graham Kidby & Hugo Williams (among others) | Members, staff & board members enjoy wine & nibbles after the formal meeting. | In all, 37 members attended in person and 74 joined online.

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Cover picture: *HM Packet Brig 'Sheldrake', Lt Passingham Entering Falmouth Harbour, 1834*, by Nicolas Matthew Condry, the Younger. A packet ship - similar to one on which Matilda Hyman (née Godfrey) sailed. The original painting also shows HMS *Eclipse* and HMS *Sandwich*. Falmouth was a key port for packet sailings to the west. Public domain image sourced from Wikimedia.

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MICHAEL GANDY - THE GENEALOGIST

The following is an abridged version of the tribute given at Michael Gandy's funeral.

I knew Michael for almost my entire working life - some 40 years.

When people speak about Michael Gandy, they often begin by listing his achievements, and there are certainly enough of them. He was Editor of the *Genealogists' Magazine* for more than 25 years, a Fellow and Chairman of the Society of Genealogists, a founder of family history societies, a lecturer, author, editor, indexer and researcher. Typical of Michael, he even prepared his own obituary for the Magazine, published elsewhere in this issue, leaving a detailed account of his life and career.

But I would like to remember Michael not simply for what he did, but for what he represented.

Michael was one of those rare people who discovered genealogy as a child and never lost his fascination with it. He liked to say that his first birth certificate from Somerset House was obtained in February 1963, when he was just 12 years old - although we were never entirely convinced he had got his arithmetic right! While many of us came to genealogy later in life, for Michael it was a lifelong passion.

That passion began with his own family. He was fascinated by his Swedish great-grandfather, by the Gandys of Cheshire and by his roots in south-east London. Long before DNA testing became commonplace, he was exploring the stories that connected people, places and generations.

More importantly, he never kept that enthusiasm to himself.

Michael belonged to the generation that transformed genealogy from a minority interest into the thriving movement it is today. As family history grew during the 1970s and 1980s, he was already helping to build the organisations, publications and resources that would support thousands of researchers who followed.

Introduced to the Society of Genealogists as a young man by members who had known the

Society's founders, Michael became part of a living chain stretching back almost to the beginning of organised genealogy in Britain. Over nearly 60 years he served the Society in many capacities - as committee member, Fellow, Chairman, Editor and adviser - giving an extraordinary amount of time and energy to both the Society and the wider genealogical community.

Those of us who worked with Michael will also remember the extraordinary breadth of his knowledge. Quakers, Catholics, Huguenots, Jewish families, nonconformists, travellers, British India, Latin records, London sources, Irish migrants - it seemed that whatever the subject, Michael either knew the answer or knew exactly where to find it.

Yet knowledge was never something he kept to himself. Through his lectures, his writing, his editorial work and countless conversations over coffee in the Society's common room, he generously shared what he knew with anyone who asked. I still picture him arriving from the café next door, takeaway coffee in hand, often only moments before he was due to lecture. There were rarely notes or slides, but there was always immense preparation, deep knowledge and an audience that left having learnt something new.

For those of us fortunate enough to know him, Michael was much more than an outstanding genealogist. He was a colleague, mentor, adviser and friend who connected generations of researchers, linking the pioneers of post-war genealogy with those beginning their own research today.

His books and articles will continue to inform genealogists for years to come. An appreciation of him as editor and contributor to the *Genealogists' Magazine* follows. But perhaps his greatest legacy lies in the many people whose enthusiasm for family history he encouraged, supported and inspired.

Else Churchill

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AN APPRECIATION OF MICHAEL GANDY

AS EDITOR AND CONTRIBUTOR TO
THE GENEALOGISTS' MAGAZINE

Else Churchill



Part I - People before Pedigrees

For a quarter of a century, Michael Gandy was one of the defining voices of the *Genealogists' Magazine*. As Editor, he guided the journal through 25 years of change, maintaining the standards for which it has long been respected, while encouraging a wide range of contributors and subjects. At the same time, he remained one of its most prolific authors. His own articles ranged from medieval genealogy to 19th century migration, from Quaker records to Fleet marriages, from royal descent to Catholic registers. Alongside these substantial contributions were book reviews and the shorter notes that became a familiar feature of the Magazine.

Viewed individually, these articles reflect an extraordinarily wide range of interests. Read together, however, they reveal something rather more significant. Certain themes recur with striking consistency. Michael was repeatedly drawn to records that had been overlooked, to accepted assumptions that deserved re-examination and, above all, to the people whose lives could be recovered from careful reading of the surviving evidence.

This article is therefore not an appreciation of Michael as a colleague or friend; those memories properly belong elsewhere. Instead, it looks at the body of work he left in the pages of the *Genealogists' Magazine*. What kind of genealogy did Michael advocate? What subjects returned again and again? And what do those choices tell us about the way he believed family history should be researched and understood?

The first answer is perhaps the most striking. Whatever the title of the article, Michael was rarely writing about records for their own sake. He was writing about people.

At first glance, some of his subjects seem far removed from the everyday concerns of most genealogists. Articles on *The Family of King Charles II*, the descendants of *Sancha de Ayala* or the *ancestry of King Charles III* suggest an interest in royal and aristocratic genealogy. Yet these articles were never simply exercises in pedigree construction. Michael consistently approached even the grandest families as families.

His study of Charles II is a case in point. Rather than concentrating on the King's political career or his celebrated mistresses, Michael reconstructed the royal family as it existed at Charles's death in 1685. Legitimate and illegitimate children, grandchildren and those who had died in infancy all found their place within the family group. It was a reminder that, despite rank and privilege, royal households experienced the same joys and tragedies as every other family. His observation that even royal families, "with all the money, the best accommodation and the best medical treatment", still lost children with heartbreaking frequency quietly redirects the reader from monarchy to humanity. It is a genealogist's perspective on history rather than a historian's perspective on monarchy.

The same approach appears throughout his work, whatever the social standing of his subjects. One of his most memorable articles began not with a famous name but with an extraordinary parish register entry from Limpsfield in Surrey. Joan Payne was described as the daughter of William Foster and

the “sometime wife of Payne and by him sold to Richard Heath.” The temptation to embroider such a story would have been considerable. Michael resisted it entirely.

Instead, he patiently assembled the available evidence from parish registers and other local records before posing a simple but revealing question: “Can we suggest a scenario based on the facts and without trying to guess the emotions?” That sentence, almost understated in its simplicity, reveals much about his approach to genealogy. He was perfectly prepared to interpret evidence, but he insisted on distinguishing clearly between what the records demonstrated and what the researcher merely suspected. It is an attitude that runs through almost everything he wrote.

If *Richard Heath and Joan Payne* illustrates Michael’s respect for evidence, *Daniel Mardell - But Which One?* reveals something equally important about his understanding of research itself. Here, unusually, Michael became part of the story. The article follows more than 50 years of attempts to identify one elusive 17th century ancestor, tracing changing theories, discarded conclusions and the gradual accumulation of evidence. Summarising decades of work in a single sentence, he remarked, “How easy to write that sentence, and how it hides fifty years of grief!”

Every experienced genealogist understands precisely what he meant.

Research is seldom a straightforward journey from question to answer. More often it consists of false starts, promising leads that prove disappointing, conclusions that must be abandoned and fresh evidence that forces us to think again. Michael’s willingness to acknowledge that process was one of the strengths of his writing. He never suggested that genealogy was easy; instead, he demonstrated that persistence, patience and a readiness to revise one’s conclusions are essential parts of good research.

Even his reviews often became studies of people rather than books. A review of *German Waiters in the YMCA* quickly moved beyond the institution itself to explore the experiences of young German migrants arriving in Victorian London. Shop

assistants, waiters, bakers and apprentices emerge not simply as names in an institutional history, but as individuals negotiating language, employment and community in a foreign city. Michael’s interest lay not in the organisation but in the lives it touched.

Read across 25 years, these articles reveal a remarkably democratic approach to genealogy. Kings, Quakers, labourers, immigrants and prisoners are all treated with equal seriousness because each offers an opportunity to understand how people lived, worked, worshipped and formed families. Social status mattered far less than the quality of the surviving evidence.

This emphasis on people rather than pedigrees also explains another recurring feature of Michael’s work. He was continually drawn towards records that allowed ordinary lives to emerge from the documentary shadows. Time and again he demonstrated that the richest genealogical discoveries often lie beyond the sources that researchers habitually consult. Parish registers and census returns certainly had their place, but Michael’s curiosity was repeatedly attracted to the records that many genealogists overlooked.

In doing so, he quietly expanded the horizons of his readers. He encouraged them to recognise that genealogy is not simply the accumulation of names and dates but an historical discipline, one in which apparently obscure records can illuminate lives with extraordinary clarity.

That conviction lies at the heart of many of his most important contributions to the *Genealogists’ Magazine* and forms the second recurring theme that runs through his work: a determination to encourage genealogists to look beyond familiar sources and to ask new questions of the evidence they found.

Part 2 - Looking Beyond Familiar Sources

If people rather than pedigrees provided one thread through Michael’s contributions, another was his enthusiasm for sources that took the genealogist beyond the familiar sequence of certificates, censuses and parish registers. Again and again he used the pages of the *Genealogists’ Magazine* to

draw attention to records which could provide quite different perspectives on family relationships, migration, religion and community.

Settlement examinations were a particularly good example. Created to establish where responsibility for poor relief lay, they might appear at first sight to be administrative rather than genealogical records. Michael's examination of the Bethnal Green material showed quite the reverse. Here were individuals required to recount their lives: where they had been born, where they had lived and worked, whom they had married, the apprenticeships they had served and the children they had produced. Illegitimate children might be identified with fathers who appeared nowhere else; while movements of individuals and families could sometimes be traced across several places and generations. Michael described the records as "a genealogical treasure trove", and it is not difficult to see why. They allowed the circumstances behind the names and relationships to emerge in ways that conventional sources rarely permitted.

Religion provided another route into less familiar records. Michael's own expertise in Catholic genealogy naturally found its way into the Magazine, but his article on *Catholic registers in The National Archives* did more than alert readers to their existence. It explored how and why the registers had been created and deposited, and the complications this presented for researchers. Retrospective registers, copies and originals could become confused, while the changing status and names of Catholic missions could make catalogue descriptions misleading. The lesson was applicable far beyond Catholic research: understanding how a record came into existence is part of understanding the evidence it contains.

His interest was by no means confined to Catholic sources. Joseph Besse's 18th century *Collection of the Sufferings of the People called Quakers* provided another opportunity to show how a source created for one purpose might prove valuable for quite another. Accounts intended to document persecution and suffering could contain names, relationships, places, occupations and events capable of filling gaps in a family history. The genealogist's task was to recognise the possibilities within them.

This readiness to look again at the purpose and meaning of records could also overturn familiar stories. Michael's interest in Fleet marriages is a particularly good example. The popular image of marriage in the Fleet tends towards clandestine ceremonies, elopements and couples escaping parental disapproval. Yet the registers themselves suggested a more complicated and rather more everyday reality. Drawing on examples encountered in his research, Michael showed ordinary working people - labourers, servants and husbandmen - using the Fleet as an accessible and relatively inexpensive means of marrying. For many, convenience rather than scandal may have been the principal attraction.

This was characteristic of his approach. A good story was never sufficient reason to stop asking questions. If the evidence suggested that received wisdom needed modifying, then it should be modified.

Sometimes only a tiny amount of evidence was required to make the point. In *Covill or Cudham?* Michael considered three surviving versions of the same Fleet marriage entry, each preserving slightly different information. The problem was modest, but the implication was important. Finding a record does not necessarily mean that the search for that record is finished. Another version, duplicate, transcript or contemporary copy may contain something different. The lesson was particularly relevant in an age when increasing numbers of genealogists encounter historical records through searchable databases and may understandably assume that the first successful search result represents the entirety of the surviving evidence.

The common element in all these examples is not obscurity. Michael was not advocating difficult sources simply because they were difficult. Rather, he demonstrated repeatedly that records acquire their genealogical value from the questions we ask of them. A settlement examination created to administer poor relief can reconstruct migration; an account of religious persecution can establish family relationships; a marriage register can challenge assumptions about social behaviour.

This wider understanding of genealogy surfaced explicitly when Michael considered the familiar

question of whether we should call ourselves genealogists or family historians. In *Family History or Genealogy?* he resisted any attempt to establish one as superior to the other. Genealogy establishes connections and relationships; family history attempts to discover what happened to the people those connections reveal. His succinct distinction was: **“With genealogy you can finish; with family history you never will.”**

There is something important in that observation when set beside the articles he published over 25 years. Establishing that A was the child of B might complete a genealogical problem. But it immediately produces another set of questions. Where did they live? What did they do? Why did they move? What did they believe? What happened to their children? What circumstances shaped the choices they made?

The answers require the researcher to move beyond the pedigree and beyond the records that constructed it.

Michael’s articles repeatedly provided examples of where that journey might lead. But his encouragement to look further was not confined to substantial research articles. Scattered between them were much smaller discoveries: an extraordinary name, an odd description in a parish register, an unexpected burial, a forgotten quotation or a contemporary comment that caught his attention. Individually these occupied little space in the Magazine. Taken together, they reveal perhaps more clearly than anything else the curiosity that lay behind both his writing and his editorship.

Read together, Michael Gandy’s articles amount to more than a body of published work. They

COVILL OR CUDHAM?

PUBLISHED DEC 2013

Michael Gandy

Many years ago I did some research on the family of my ancestors Thomas Covill and Letitia Powell who were married at St George the Martyr, Queen Square, Middlesex in 1794. They spent most of their lives in Lewisham but it looks as though Thomas was from Hayes, Kent.

Covill is quite a common name in parishes in that area along the Kent/Surrey border but a number of members of the family were married in the Fleet, the extra-parochial area around the Fleet prison, where you could turn up without warning and just put your money on the table in one of the various marriage shops. Fortunately a large number of registers have survived and are in the National Archives in Class RG 7: see ‘Irregular Marriage in London before 1754’ by Tony Benton (SoG, 1993). Stephen Hale did an enormous piece of work in extracting entries relating to parts of East Surrey and West Kent and I was delighted to get the benefit of his work. Happily it threw up some important inconsistencies.

On Sep 30 1741 Henry Morris, bachelor, husbandman of ‘Chelsum’ [Chelsham], Surrey, married Elizabeth Covill of Cudham, Kent. This marriage appears in RG 7/191 f21v, but it also appears in RG 7 194 f57, where Elizabeth Covill is also given as from Cudham, but a widow!

So far, so bad, but the marriage also appears in RG 7 182 f93v. The details about Henry Morris are the same but his bride is recorded as Elizabeth *Cudham*, widow, with no place of residence given. Oh, dear!

The Fleet registers are now online as an independent pay-per-view site (S & N Genealogy) or via the TNA website, and a lot of our missing ancestral marriages from the early and mid 1700s may turn up there. Letitia Powell’s grandparents lived in Bromley, Kent, but they were married in the Fleet in 1733 as John Powell of Bletchingley and Gertrude Rose of Godstone, both in Surrey. That entry also appears in different registers, though fortunately with the same details.

represent a sustained encouragement to look more closely, question assumptions, and enjoy the process of discovery. That curiosity - shared so generously through the pages of the *Genealogists' Magazine* - may be his most enduring contribution to generations of genealogists.

A list of Michael's articles can be found here:

1. Some Settlers in Ireland - Jun 2004
2. Burials from Newgate Prison - Dec 2005
3. A Word in Season - Jun 2009 (filler)
4. A Catholic Apple - Richard Clarke of Myddle, Shropshire - Jun 2010
5. A Loathsome Abomination in St Clement Danes - Dec 2012
6. Covill or Cudham - Dec 2013 (filler)
7. Hiatt Church & Gipsy Weddings, Ashley, Northants - Dec 2013 (fillers)
8. Catholic Registers in The National Archives - always look for yourself - Mar 2014
9. Cholera in Somersham - Dec 2015
10. Frederick Treadaway's Relations try to help him - Dec 2016
11. Non-Quakers in Besse - Mar 2017
12. What Sort Of Friendly Society - Sep 2017 (filler)
13. Richard Heath and Joan Payne - a wife-sale in Limpsfield - Jun 2018
14. Writing It Up (for people who don't want to write it up) - Dec 2018
15. My first visit to SoG - Sep 2021
16. Family History or Genealogy - Dec 2021
17. Boys Will Be Boys - Mar 2022 (filler)
18. Our Kiev Ancestors - Jun 2022
19. The Male Line Ancestry of King Charles III - Mar 2023
20. Jacquetta of Luxemburg (1415/6-1472) - Jun 2023
21. Huguenots in the Bethnal Green Settlement Examinations, 1839-1861 - Sep 2023
22. Fleet Marriages - Dec 2023
23. German Waiters in the YMCA - Mar 2024
24. Sancha De Ayala, St Dominic (1170-1221) and St Anthony of Padua (1195-1231) - Dec 2024
25. The Family of King Charles II - Jun 2025
26. Daniel Mardell - But Which One? - Dec 2025

MY FIRST VISIT TO SoG

PUBLISHED SEP 2021

As our caravan moves on from Charterhouse Buildings I put on my anecdotal hat...

I was always attracted by the family trees in history books but one day (when I was 13) my mother and I passed Somerset House and my mother said: 'That's where you go for family trees'. In those days a lot of people imagined that they kept the trees all worked out and you just had to go in and ask for yours. An electric light went on in my brain and I asked my father to take me. We bought my first birth certificate (from 1858: price 3/9d and 1/6d for the search fee) and from then on I lived there - and at the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane. Dad never needed to come again.

At some point my parents mentioned my new hobby to Mrs Bernau, a lady at our church. Her husband - the great C.A. Bernau - was dead but she asked one of his

colleagues to show me around the Society of Genealogists - and so I turned up at Harrington Gardens (probably in school uniform) to meet Cregoe Nicholson who was born in 1885.

After our tour the standard 4 o'clock ritual of tea and cake was served by the housekeeper and we sat in the panelled common room. Naturally almost everybody else was of an Indian colonel or Miss Marple style - or so it seemed to me - but they were all very kind to me as one of the few youngsters they had.

In those days you couldn't actually join until you were 18 so my membership dates from 1967. I rather wish there were a paper record of my connection which began in 1963 - if only I had been a naughty boy and doodled in something!

Michael Gandy, editor

WHAT SORT OF FRIENDLY SOCIETY?

PUBLISHED SEP 2017

Lancashire Quarter Sessions, Midsummer 1806:

'Winstanley. Order of filiation and maintenance of Thomas, bastard child of Henry Grounds of Upholland, weaver, and Martha Hurst of Billinge,

single woman, member of a Friendly Society at Billinge.'

*Lancashire Archives,
QSP/2534/58.*

MATILDA HYMAN, NÉE GODFREY, AND HER EMIGRATION TO JAMAICA

Ruth Willmore

In *Genealogists' Magazine*. Vol. 34, No. 11, September, Else Churchill wrote about a collection of "31 letters to Mrs Louis Cohen and family of South Street, Finsbury, from Matilda Hyman née Godfrey written from Kingston, Jamaica, between 1840 and 1848." The letters, found in the D'Arcy Hart Collection, Box 1 [4666214] folder C18 – COHEN describe Matilda's home life, and how much she misses family and friends in England. She usually includes a small section written to the Cohen children. She writes of the difficulties in receiving an inheritance from an uncle, of her marriage, and the ups and downs of

business. She tells of English people she has met in Jamaica, and asks to be remembered to many friends at home in London. This collection has formed the basis of an assignment I completed for Strathclyde University MSc Genealogical, Palaeographic & Heraldic Studies I am studying. I set out to investigate how, when and why Matilda emigrated.

My first challenge was physically reading 185-year-old letters, with the inevitable damage. Each letter was squeezed onto a single sheet of thin paper, often cross written, in now faded ink. Matilda has some interesting use of punctuation,



Fig. 1 - Address panel of a letter to Mrs Louis Cohen

Eliza, Mrs. M. H. Model and Family. Mr. and Mrs. P. H. H.
 Mrs. Martin, Miss Wainwright. Mr. Cohen. Lionel Adelaide
 Julia. Accept of my sincerest love and fervent
 wishes for your uninterrupted Health and Happiness
 and Believe me
 Yours truly
 I am
 Sincerely Madam
 Ever yours affectionately
 Matilda Hyman.

Fig. 2 - Signature of Matilda Hyman

My dear Adelaide, & Julia,
 I have only time to acknowledge
 the receipt of your very kind letters which afforded me
 a great deal of pleasure the packet goes earlier than
 I expected, and my Aunt being unwell - I am now
 unable to write a long letter, so I trust you will take
 the will for the deed - in this instance, in my next
 I will write more fully Accept of my sincere congratulations
 on the Birth of your dear Brother David who I wish
 to kiss for you, with kindest love, Believe me
 My dear Adelaide and Julia
 Your very Affectionate
 Matilda Hyman
 My dearest Lionel & Alfred,
 being hurried I have
 only time to thank you for your kind letters
 and to congratulate you on the Birth of your Dear Bel.
 David, to you my dear Alfred I send 20 Kisses, and to each
 of you 10, With my sincere love Mrs. Hyman sends
 his kind love to you all - Believe me Ever
 Your Affectionate
 Matilda Hyman
 My dear Henry,

Fig. 3 - Notes to Mrs Cohen's children

replacing full stops and commas with hyphens. However, they fascinated me and I was determined to piece together what I could of her life.

No familial relationship has been established between Matilda Godfrey and Mrs Cohen, but Matilda clearly respected her, and was taught much by her. She wrote, “I endeavour to imitate you D[ea]r madam in the management of everything as near as possible” and “I have followed your kind advice up to the very letter.”

Mrs Cohen was Rebecca Floretta Keyser, the wife of Louis Cohen Esq.,¹ a stern and very orthodox Jew. He was founder of Louis Cohen & Sons² and “a commanding figure in the Anglo-Jewish community”, a warden of the Great Synagogue, a colleague and active supporter of Sir Moses Montefiore and on the board of deputies.³

The Cohen family had connections to many prominent Jewish families in London and abroad, the first generation, Levi or Levy Barrant Cohen having arrived from Amsterdam around 1778.⁴ It has not been possible to establish how or when Matilda came to know the family, though she mentioned that her cousin Levy had dined with the Cohens in London prior to her departure.

From census records Matilda was born in about 1811. In her letters Matilda mentions her siblings, Samuel, Eliza and Maria. From the will of Hyman Hyman⁵ legacies are left to Judith Solomon, wife of jeweller Godfrey Solomon of Birmingham, and to Matilda and Maria Solomon daughters of Judith Solomon. Matilda wrote extensively about a legacy left to her by Hyman Hyman and so it is my belief that Matilda Godfrey is the daughter of Godfrey Solomon and his wife Judith. From the will, Judith is the daughter of a sibling of Hyman Hyman. Census records show that this couple had children Samuel, Eliza and Maria. The death registration of Judith Godfrey, widow of Solomon Godfrey, is further evidence that Matilda’s father reversed the order of his name in later life with his wife also taking the surname Godfrey.

From the letters to Mrs Cohen, Matilda lived with the Cohen family for some time prior to her departure to Jamaica. “I fear shall never be so good & kind as you was to me when living when with you

- I shall never forget it Dear Madam.” That her uncle Levy Hyman writes to thank Mr Cohen on Matilda’s arrival in Jamaica also shows the close connection.

Matilda’s uncle Levy Hyman wrote a letter dated 2 September 1840 to Louis Cohen Esq. acknowledging her safe arrival. On 18 April 1841 Matilda wrote that “8 months I have left Eng[land] and - it seems like years”. Presumably then she emigrated in August 1840.

In the first letter written by Matilda she says she had written from “Falmouth”. It is not clear if this was Falmouth, Cornwall, or Falmouth, Jamaica. It would seem likely that she was a passenger on the Falmouth packet service which provided regular transport for mail and passengers from England to the West Indies. The Great Britain Philatelic Society website includes a downloadable timetable of the Falmouth Packet sailings to the West Indies 1756-1841. Using these it possible to work out that Matilda probably departed Falmouth on board the “Hope” on 17 July 1840, arriving in Barbados by 16 August from where she would have transferred to another ship for onward transportation to Jamaica.



Fig. 4 - A packet ship, similar to one on which Matilda probably sailed

One pull to Jamaica could have been that Matilda’s aunt and uncle required female assistance, having only sons and nephews. Perhaps as slavery had ended it was harder to find domestic help. Matilda wrote, “I am mistress entirely of the Establishment - which is very large & and with the assistance of a housekeeper, have the management of everything - My Uncle & Aunt are at present quite pleased with me.” Throughout the letters it is clear that Matilda is providing care for her relatives.

I think of you, and wish you was near, to see all the nice
 people of this country, I am glad you were so well entertained at the
 house of Mr. & Mrs. Godfrey, you are really quite gay - every person that I hear
 the name of is a friend of yours, and I do, that it does you great credit, and is
 a great advantage to you, and I am sure you have also improved very
 much in the mean time. My dear friend sends his kind love to you, and regrets with
 much that you cannot come to spend a few days with us - you must
 come to see us a great distance to you, near Marston, and at least as far
 as this, which is a long way. I left God Bless you near Abilene
 and I am often as you can see for I am quite delighted to hear from
 you, and I am sure you are, and I will send their love to you, which
 I am sure you will receive.
 Affectionate Friend
 Matilda Hyman

My dear Julia,
 I acknowledge the receipt of your very
 kind letter, and many thanks of a bag - which I like very much
 and in answer to your great credit, I will take great care of it, and
 every time I use it, I think of you, I am quite surprised
 that you can write so freely and write such pretty letters, when
 you must be quite a business, and suppose you have now got
 to the point of being a student nurse to Elizabeth, as you have
 a great deal of importance to attend to, I had last week I wrote
 you a long letter, and it appeared like spotted with blue behemoth
 a few lines from Kingston, I must now bid you, good bye!
 I am sure you will be with me in kindest love, and my kind
 love, and believe me dearest Julia
 Your Ever Affectionate Friend
 Matilda Hyman

My dear Julia,
 I am very happy to have the pleasure of
 receiving your kind letter, and beg you will accept of
 mine and Mr. & Mrs. Hyman's sincere thanks, your kind
 congratulations, the weather is now very warm, and the
 mosquitoes are very annoying, (I hope) I am quite well, and am
 ready to go to the you all, as we cannot at present
 leave home, I must be content with
 reading from you often as possible I often kiss the
 Bible you gave me, for the sake of the giver, and

Fig. 5 - Damaged cross written letter from Matilda Godfrey to Mrs Cohen

Mrs Cohen assured Matilda that she would soon get a husband, but Matilda was not so sure, declaring the majority "are so depraved - I should be afraid to trust my happiness to their keeping" and was concerned that when it came to religion her "Uncle & 3 cousins are not strict at all". In a

little over six months, her cousin, Mr Matthew Hyman, changed Matilda's mind and she wrote in the manner of Jane Austen's Elizabeth Bennet "he is a man calculated to make me happy ... , he is a very exemplary, gentlemanly young man also well educated," and they married in December 1841.⁶

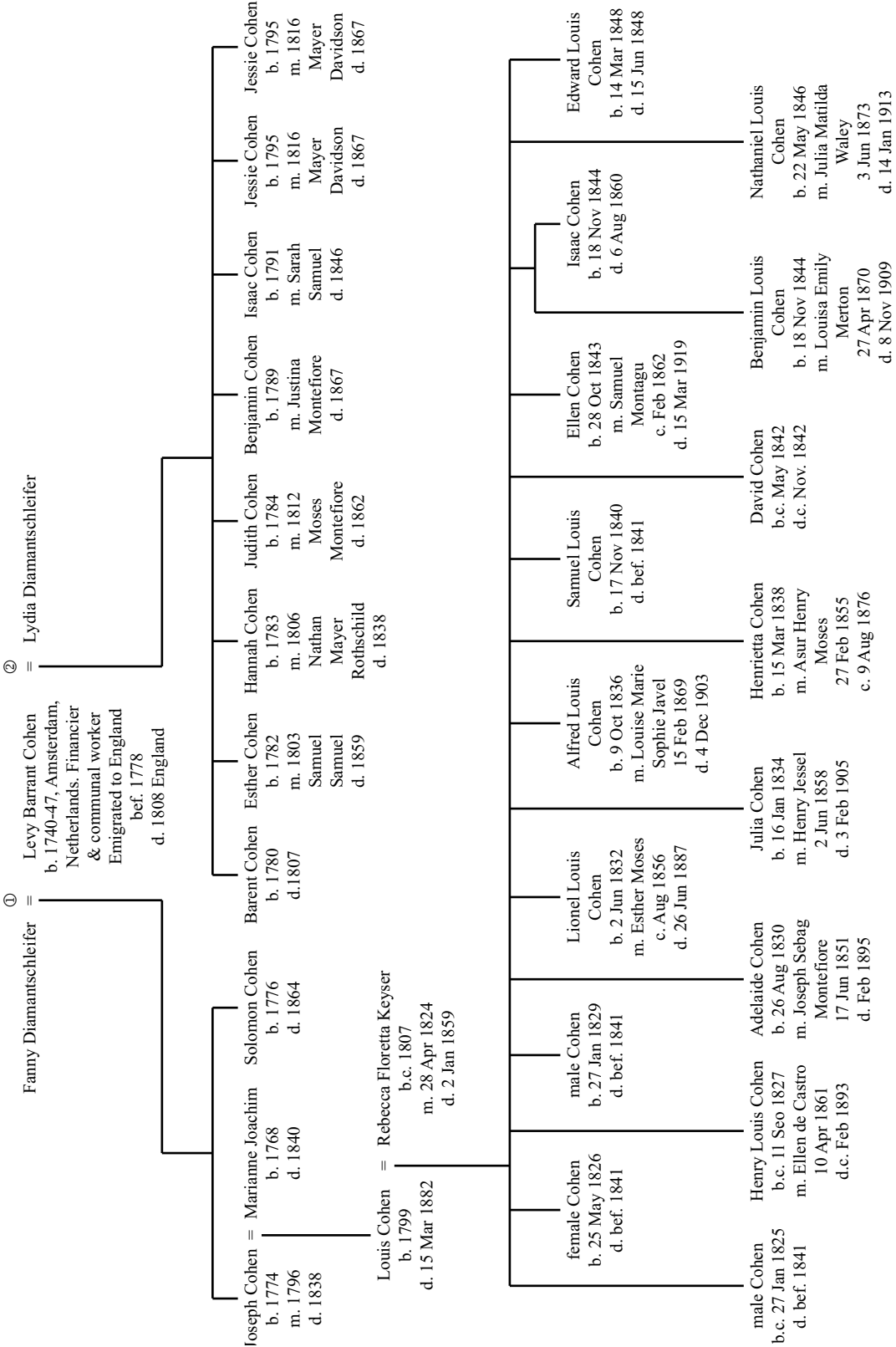


Fig. 6 - The Cohen Family

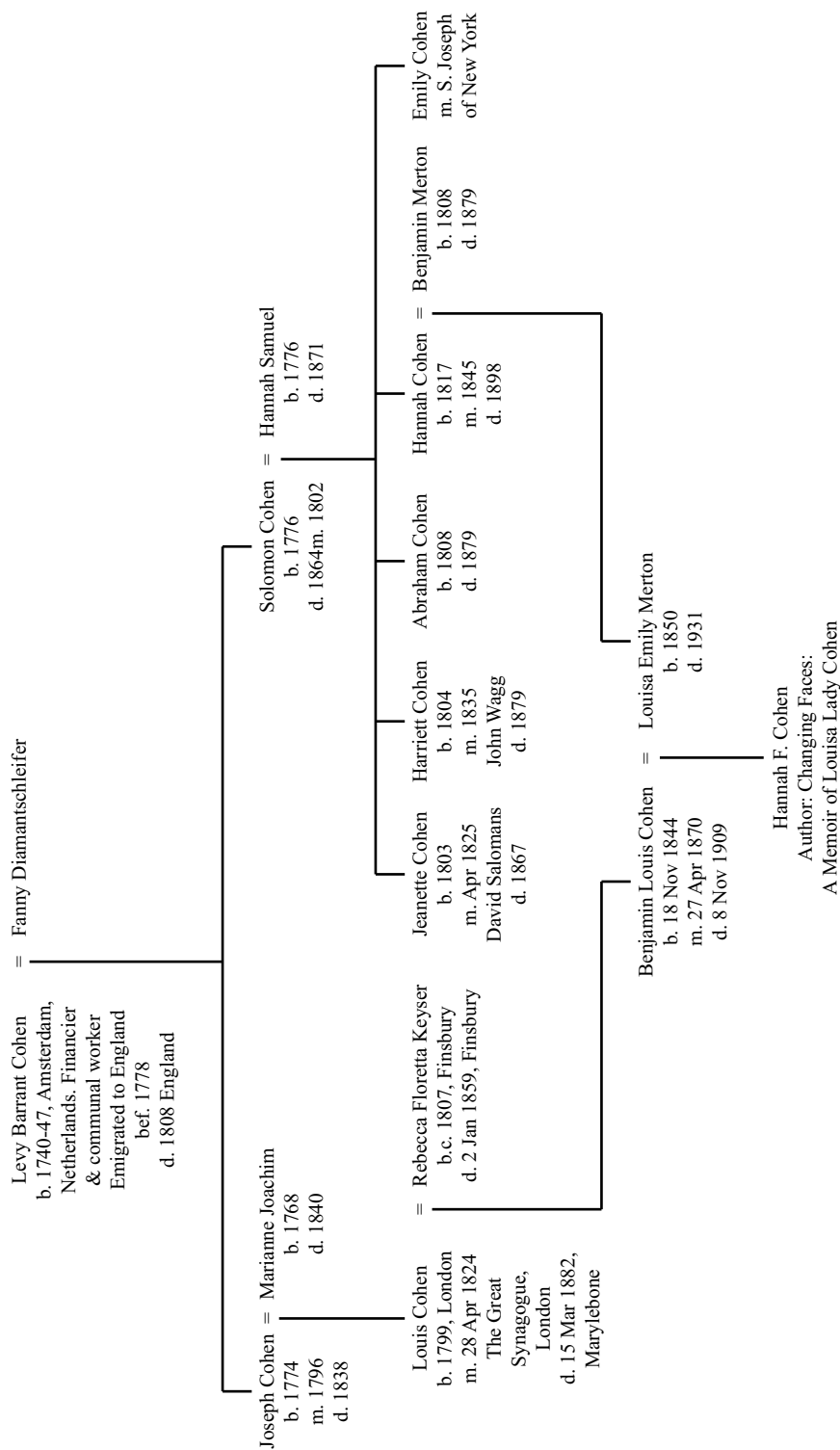
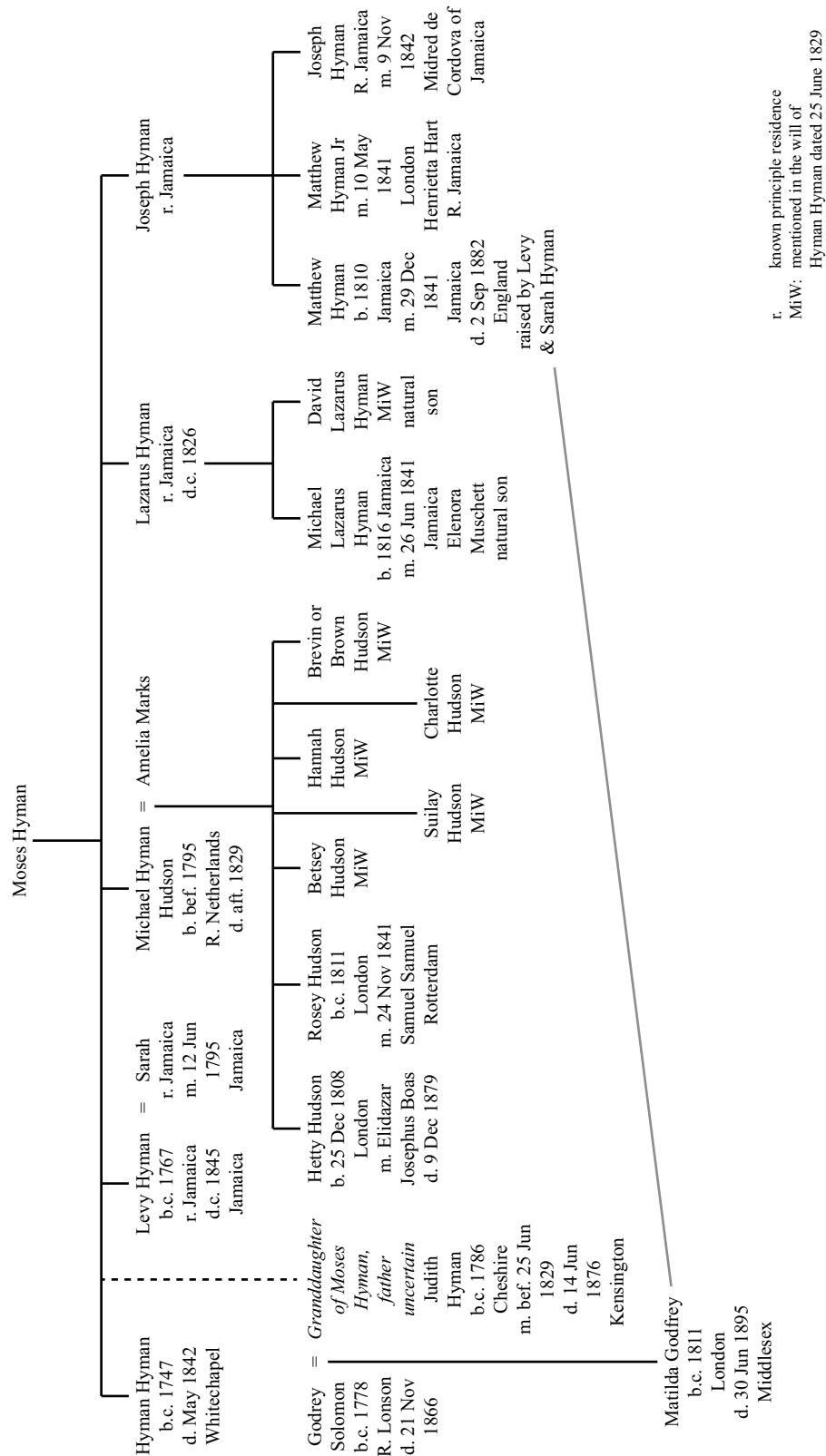


Fig. 7 - Hannah F. Cohen - author of: *Changing Faces: A Memoir of Louisa Lady Cohen*



r. known principle residence
MiW: mentioned in the will of
Hyman Hyman dated 25 June 1829

Fig. 8 - The Hyman Family

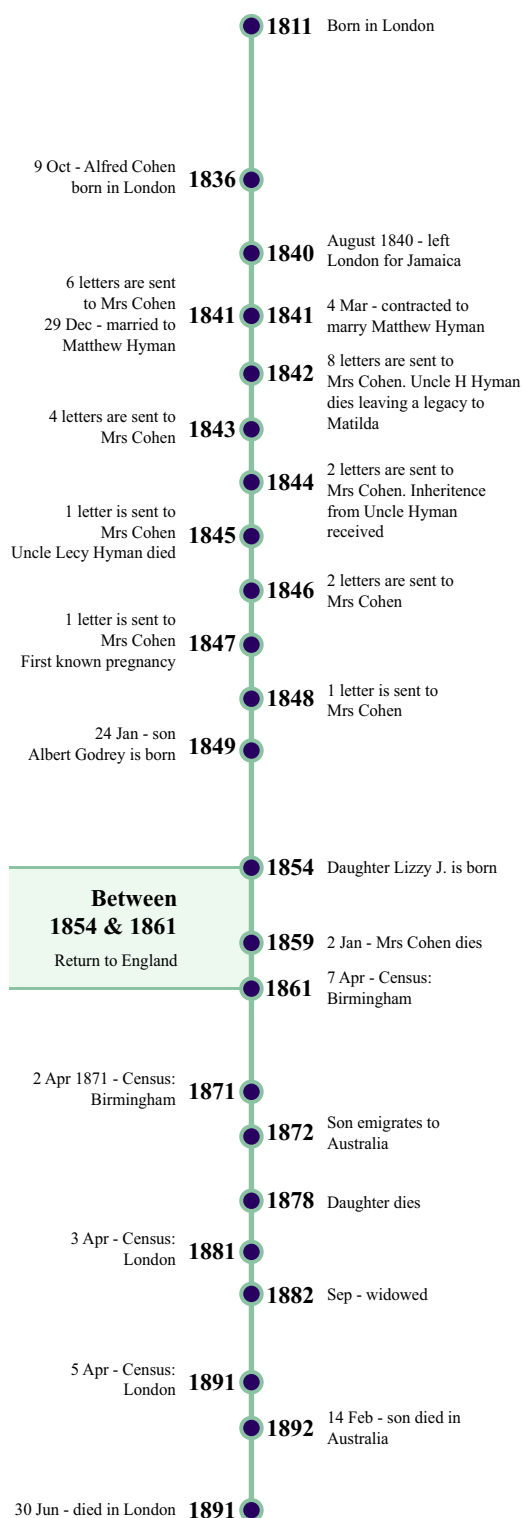


Fig. 9 - The Life of Matilda Godrey

Matilda was not the only one, she wrote that “the moment an English Girl comes - to Jamaica - she takes away a West Indian.”

As well as the pulls of caring for her relatives, and marriage, there may have been a factor which pushed her away from London hidden in the letters. Matilda wrote to Mrs Cohen that “I have been brought up very different to ma[n]y Jewish females - in the middle class of England” There may have been more to this, the letters are peppered with references to Mrs Cohen’s son Alfred being Matilda’s favourite: “most particularly My Dearest little Alfred,” “most particularly my own Dear Alfred” and “my dearest Alfred - how sincerely I love the child” More telling still, twice Matilda describes Alfred as her son, “he says my son Alfred, is beautiful” and to Adelaide “do write if my darling Son Alfred is altered and how.”

Is there any significance that a birth announcement for Alfred has not been found, or that he is the only one of the Cohen brothers enumerated on the 1841 census without his father’s name as a middle name? By the time of Alfred’s birth the family had lost at least three infant children, which may have encouraged them to adopt an illegitimate child. From 1851 onwards Alfred used the “Louis” middle name and he was treated no differently to his brothers in his father’s will. Perhaps the only way to truly answer the question would be if the descendants chose to take DNA tests. It may also be significant that Matilda named her first child Albert, a similar name to Alfred, and in one record is named Albert Alfred Hyman.

In December 1847 Matilda wrote that she expected to be confined at the end of July 1848. However, as this child does not appear on the index of births of the Sephardic congregation of Kingston, Jamaica, and her son Albert was born in January 1849 it would appear that this pregnancy ended in miscarriage.

Matthew and Matilda also had a daughter, Lizzie born in Jamaica in 1854. Lizzie died of pneumonia aged just 23.

Matilda lived in Jamaica for at least fourteen years, but by 1861 she was living in Birmingham, England with her husband and two children, where they stayed for at least ten years.

Matilda's son Albert Godfrey Solomon was not with the family at the time of the 1871 census and we next hear of him in the New South Wales Gaol description book which stated that he was born in West Indies, in 1850. He arrived in Australia on board the *Patriarch* in 1872. His occupation was bookkeeper, and religion Hebrew. He could read and write. He had black hair, grey eyes, and was 5'7.5" tall. His photograph was taken on 17 February 1875, after he was tried for larceny on 15 February 1875 in Sydney. He married in 1877, a fact learned from a Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Jurisdiction between Mary Frances Hyman, Petitioner and Albert Alfred Hyman Respondent. Granted 8 October 1891. Mary and Albert had three children, but their daughter had died before her first birthday. He remarried, bigamously, in April 1891, but died in a boating accident by the Darwin Ice Works less than a year later. I can't help but wonder if Matilda ever learned of her grandchildren.

She was widowed in 1882, and aged 80 we find her living in a private boarding house, a friend of the head of the household:

The cosmopolitan household consisted of:

Anita Lyon, Head, Single, age 55, Private boarding house keeper, Born Buenos Ayres.

Rebecca Lyon, Sister, Single, age 50, Private boarding house keeper, Born Kingston Jamaica.

Matilda Hyman, Friend, Widow, age 80, Lady, Born London.

Audley A Trencado, Nephew, age 16, student, Born Kingston Jamaica.

Emily Pariente, Friend, age 16, student, Born Oran, Algiers.

Rachel Pariente, Friend, age 15, student, Born Oran, Algiers.

Matilda Hyman, died aged 85, in 1895 of senile decay syncope. Her brother Samuel Godfrey was present at the death. A sad end to a fascinating life.

Notes

1. Boyd's marriage index, 1538-1850.
2. Cohen, Sir Benjamin Louis, first baronet.
<https://www.oxforddnb.com>
3. Louis Louis <https://jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/4494-cohen-louis-louis>
4. Cohen, Levy Barent <https://jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/4492-cohen-levy-barent>
5. Hyman HYMANS Will. Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 1384-1858. Piece 1964: Vol. 9, Quire Numbers 401-450 (1842)
6. Jamaica Sephardic Jewish Marriages F - L.
<http://www.jamaicanfamilysearch.com/>

Ruth Willmore

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BOOK OF THE MONTH



My Ancestors were Gypsies,
by Sharon Sillers Floate.
Published: Third edition 2010.
ISBN 978-1-859514-01-6.
Paperback, 90pp.

There is a long standing belief in family history circles that if you discover you have gypsy ancestry you may as well abandon your search at once. This book by Sharon Sillers Floate, who has

been specialising in the subject since 1992, suggests otherwise.

Sharon provides readers with an invaluable, easy-to-read guide to trace their gypsy ancestors. Plus she covers the fascinating social history of gypsies in Britain.

The usual cost of *My Ancestor were Gypsies* is £8.99 and it is currently available to SoG members at the discounted price of £7.19 (£8.09 to non-members), go to: <https://tinyurl.com/59an4xut>.

A £3.50 postal charge applies within the UK, check our website for postal rates outside the UK. This book, plus the full range of titles published by the Society are available from our bookshop or through our website. Offer valid until 30 Sep 2026.

Catherine Hopkins, eventsoffice@sog.org.uk

UNCOVERING A FAMILY IN SUFFOLK VIA SPANISH RECORDS

Jim Boulden

In 2012, an article entitled ‘Spanish Archives of Primary Source Material for the Irish’ was published in *The Irish Genealogist*.¹ It has a wealth of knowledge on the settlement of Irish in this Catholic country, what records were kept and where to locate them today.

The Catholic connection was obvious for the Irish diaspora, but I would have dismissed (incorrectly) any help this article might have given for my Anglican Noel family from Newmarket, Suffolk, but for one connection: the article went into great detail about records preserved for the port city of Cádiz. It was a key trading city with the Americas.

It is yet unclear why Garrat Noel and his brother Alexander emigrated *circa* 1739 to the southern coast of Spain before Garrat headed for New York City *circa* 1750 leaving behind family members.

Surviving records in Suffolk and New York have not yet solved the *why* mystery.

With many of these Cádiz records available online, and with further help of a local genealogist, I turned to Spanish records to find the Noels. I did not know what to expect. But in Spain, the maiden name of the mother is often listed in records.² And given this Spanish custom of people having two surnames, the second being the maternal surname, it is much easier to trace mothers than in English records.³

My fifth great-grandfather Garrat Noel (1707-1776) emigrated from Spain to New York after the death of his Spanish-born wife Frances and has not yet been found in Cádiz records.

He became a well-known bookseller and Spanish-speaking translator in New York.⁴ He took with him his Spanish-born daughter Mary (my

ancestor), while leaving behind his infant daughter Josepha with relatives. She married in Cádiz and continues to provide an avenue of ongoing research.

Garrat’s older brother Alexander remained in Spain and died in Cádiz *circa* 1760 (his descendants can be found in records there for the next 100 years). In his will, he is referred to as ‘Alejandro Noel, natural del al Provincia Suffolh, Inglaterra’ and it correctly names his father as Alexander, deceased, and crucially lists his mother as Eleanor *Jackson*⁵ (A modern index abbreviates his name as ‘Alejandro Noel Jach’ referencing his ‘second’ surname as discussed above).⁶

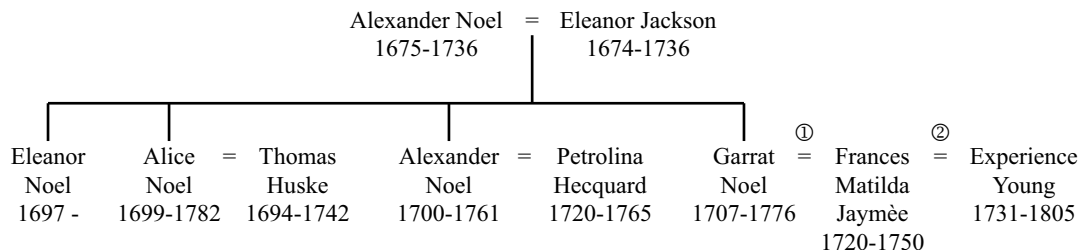
Jackson - a maiden name unknown to me and not attached to this Noel family in any record I had found to date - a brick wall firmly cracked (Eleanor is the name given as the mother in Alexander’s baptism at All Saints, Newmarket, in 1700).⁷

With that, a bit of reverse engineering lead me back to Suffolk and my likely Jackson family. John and Alice Jackson had several children baptised at All Saints, Newmarket (then in Cambridgeshire), in the 1670s, including an ‘Ellen’ in 1674.⁸ Eleanor Noel, widow was buried at St Mary, Newmarket, in 1736.⁹

One possible marriage is an Alexander Noel, bookbinder married to *Elinor* Jackson at St. James, Westminster, in 1696.¹⁰ It is not yet clear if they are the same people who appear in Suffolk records.

Without the Spanish records, I would never have started down the Jackson route.

And despite my scepticism, Alexander’s will added an interesting twist. It mentions Roman



Noel family tree

Catholic confession, payment for a shroud, and alms for 50 masses to pray for his soul (did he have to convert to marry?). Finally, the neighbours mentioned as witnesses or executors are clearly English and their occupation listed as traders.

Notes

1. Fannin, Samuel (2012), 'Spanish Archives of Primary Source Material for the Irish'. *The Irish Genealogist*, Vol. 13 No. 3, pp. 186-209.
2. For example, the death of Juana Hartley in 1842 lists her mother as Isabel Noel (a niece of Garra^①t Noel) (www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q2X5-LZD5).
3. <https://blog.myheritage.com/2011/07/spanish-naming-conventions-%E2%80%93-part-1-the-basics/>.
4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garra_t_Noel.
5. It is written over two lines as 'Eleanor Jah son'. Wills book 1.174, pp. 47-49, 1 March 1760; codicil in Wills book 1.174, p. 252, 11 June 1761.
6. Índice de las disposiciones testamentarias de Cádiz, 1740-1775 (Madrid, 1991), p. 247.
7. FHL film 952197. Alexander Noel baptised 04 September 1700 to Alexander and Eleanor Noel.
8. Parish Registers, All Saints Newmarket (then Cambridgeshire), England, An Indexed Transcription of the Parish Registers 1568-1900, Cambridgeshire Archives.
9. FHL film 49-80 P408 R1.
10. Alexandrum Noell to Elinor Jackson, London and Surrey, England, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1597- 1921, ancestry.co.uk.

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ELIZABETH IRELAND'S MISSING HUSBAND

Allen R. Peterson, AG®, CG®, FASG

Genealogists are often puzzled when an ancestor who should have been recorded on a census is missing. Such is the case with Elizabeth Ireland's husband. In 1851 Elizabeth, a married woman, lived at East Elswick Terrace in Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland, without her spouse. Who was he, and why was he not living with her? England's treasure trove of genealogical records provides answers.

Elizabeth Ireland's family

In 1851 Elizabeth Ireland of East Elswick Terrace was 39, married, and listed as born in Ryton, Durham. Although married, her husband was missing. Her seven children, all born in Newcastle, included Edward J., 11; Alice M., nine; Frances, eight; James P., six; Peter H., five; Elizabeth F., three; and William S., nine months. Father-in-law James Perry, a 65 year-old gardener born in Clare, Suffolk, and mother-in-law Alice Perry, 63, born in Monkseaton, Northumberland, also lived with Elizabeth.¹ Although Elizabeth's husband was not present, he would have nevertheless been

considered the head of her household. The Perrys were his in-laws.

Elizabeth's maiden surname was unquestionably Perry. Her eldest child was Edward Samuel Ireland, born in 1839 in Westgate Township, Newcastle upon Tyne, to Samuel Ireland, a mariner, and Elizabeth Ireland, formerly Perry.² A birth certificate for Elizabeth's youngest child, William Simm Ireland born in 1850 at Elswick Terrace, confirms her maiden surname Perry. William's father was Samuel Ireland, a grocer.³ James and Alice Perry were certainly Elizabeth's parents and Samuel Ireland's in-laws.

Elizabeth's marriage to Samuel Ireland

Elizabeth Perry, a full-age spinster, married Samuel Ireland, a full-age bachelor and mariner, in 1838 at St. John's Church in Newcastle upon Tyne - both lived on Blackison Street. Her father was James Perry, a gardener; Samuel's was Samuel Ireland, a farmer.⁴ Elizabeth's marriage record verifies her father, James Perry, as the same gardener seen in her 1851 household.

Name of Street, Place, or Hamlet, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who slept in the house, on the Night of the 31st March, 1851	Sex	Age	Occupation	Where Born
116 East Elswick Terrace	Elizabeth Ireland	Female	39		Newcastle upon Tyne
	Edward J. Ireland	Male	11		Newcastle upon Tyne
	Alice M. Ireland	Female	9		Newcastle upon Tyne
	Frances Ireland	Female	8		Newcastle upon Tyne
	James P. Ireland	Male	6		Newcastle upon Tyne
	Peter H. Ireland	Male	5		Newcastle upon Tyne
	Elizabeth F. Ireland	Female	3		Newcastle upon Tyne
	William S. Ireland	Male	9 months		Newcastle upon Tyne
	James Perry	Male	65	Gardener	Clare, Suffolk
	Alice Perry	Female	63		Monkseaton, Northumberland

Fig. 1 - Elizabeth Ireland's household in 1851

1838. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St. John in the County of Newcastle upon Tyne

No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the Time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
285	12. Mar. 1838.	Samuel Ireland	27 yrs	Bachelor	Mariner	Newburn to	Samuel Ireland	Farmer
		Elizabeth Perry	24 yrs	Spinster		Newburn to	James Perry	Gardener

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church of the same

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Samuel Ireland and Elizabeth Perry in the Presence of us, E. Lumb and David Perry

W. Thompson Minister

Fig. 2 - Marriage certificate for Samuel Ireland and Elizabeth Perry, 1838

Perhaps Samuel, a mariner on his marriage record and his son Edward's birth certificate, worked at sea the day of the census. His occupation as a mariner seems to conflict with grocer reported at son William's birth, shortly before the 1851 census. Were the two occupations somehow intertwined?

Though recorded in 1851 as married, Elizabeth could have been widowed. Youngest son William, born on 9 June 1850, would have been conceived in the fall of 1849. A search for Samuel Ireland's death in the General Register Office death index yielded no results between 1849 and 1851.⁵ It appears unlikely Samuel died before the 1851 census.

Elizabeth and Samuel's births

Elizabeth, born on 23 October 1811 at Lane Head in Ryton, was baptised on 17 November in Durham. She was the first daughter of James Perry, a gardener native to Stoke near Clare, Suffolk, and Alice Hewison formerly of Morton, Tynemouth Parish, Northumberland.⁶ Ryton is about seven miles west of Newcastle upon Tyne, on the south side of the River Tyne.

Elizabeth's father, James Perry of Lanchester parish, Durham, married Alice Hewison of

Newcastle upon Tyne, in 1810. They signed their marriage certificate in the presence of probable relative David Hewison.⁷ Lanchester is about fourteen miles southwest of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Samuel was the son of Samuel and Frances Ireland, born on 28 February 1811 and baptised on 23 March at Wood Dalling, Norfolk.⁸ Wood Dalling is near the east coast of southern England, about 250 miles southeast of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Samuel's parents married at Wood Dalling. On 3 August 1807 the elder Samuel Ireland of Heydon Parish, Norfolk, above 21 years, declared his intention to marry 21 year-old Frances Bale of Wood Dalling.⁹ They married by licence the next day.¹⁰

Samuel and Elizabeth (Perry) Ireland

Details of Samuel and Elizabeth's married life provide clues to Samuel's occupation and whereabouts between 1841 and 1870. Three years after their marriage Samuel Ireland, a 30 year-old labourer, and Elizabeth, 25, lived in Westgate Township in Newcastle upon Tyne with two-year-old Edward.¹¹ Edward was certainly Edward Samuel Ireland, born in 1839 in Westgate.

Samuel the son of Samuel & Frances Ireland of Wood Dalling, was born Feb. 28th 1811

Registered and baptized by me, March 23. 1811.

Fig. 3 - Samuel Ireland's birth and baptismal record, 1811

An 1844 commercial directory shows Samuel Ireland as a shopkeeper living on Scotswood-road in Newcastle upon Tyne.¹² Scotswood Road runs east-west and is situated north of Low Elswick on the west end of Newcastle upon Tyne.¹³

Samuel appears in the electoral register's list of burgesses in 1845, when he qualified to vote for Member of Parliament by virtue of his house and shop at Low Elswick Villas in Westgate Ward.¹⁴ By 1851 Samuel Ireland had moved to East Elswick Terrace, where he owned a house and shop.¹⁵ The 1851 census agrees with Samuel's family's address at East Elswick Terrace. Samuel's house and shop qualified his vote in 1853, two years after the census.¹⁶ Samuel, a mariner and grocer, probably operated a grocer's shop with Elizabeth.

Samuel Ireland, born in Wood Dalling, Norfolk, on 25 February 1811, received a Mate's Certificate of Service in 1856 in Hartlepool, Durham. He had been employed for 14 years as an apprentice, seaman, and mate in the 'Coasting & Foreign' trade.¹⁷

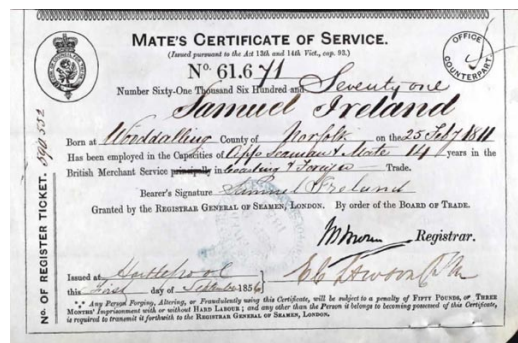


Fig. 4 - Mate's Certificate of Service for Samuel Ireland, 1856

The back of his certificate shows Samuel, an apprentice in 1829-32, served in 1832-39 as a seaman, 2nd mate, and mate on various ships. He was employed onshore in 1839-52. Then in 1852-56, he worked as a mate offshore on the *Elizabeth*. An attachment to the certificate shows Samuel worked offshore on the *Elizabeth*, *Energy*, and *Mary* from 1857 through 1861.¹⁸ His sudden shift in 1852 to working offshore suggests his circumstances might have changed. Perhaps he sold his shop.

(1J)

MATE'S

CLAIM FOR CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE, FOREIGN GOING SHIPS.

Port of *Hartlepool*

No. *590 552* day of *August* 185*6*

Christian and Surnames to be written at full length and in Legible Characters. *Samuel Ireland*

Number of Register Ticket (if any). *590 552*

Born at *Wooddalling* County of *Norfolk* on the *25* day of *February* in the Year *1811*

PARTICULARS OF SERVICE FROM TIME OF FIRST GOING TO SEA.

Vessel's Name.	Port belonging to.	Registered Tonnage.	Capacity, whether Apprentice, Seaman, or Mate.	In what Trade.	Date of Service.	
					From	To
<i>Mary</i>	<i>London</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>Apprentice</i>	<i>Coasting</i>	<i>1829</i>	<i>1832</i>
<i>Portland</i>	<i>Newcastle</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>Seaman</i>	<i>Foreign</i>		
<i>Wales</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>Seaman</i>	<i>Foreign</i>		
<i>Ruby</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>2^d Mate</i>	<i>Foreign</i>	<i>1832</i>	<i>1836</i>
<i>Seaside Ship</i>	<i>do</i>		<i>Seaman</i>	<i>Coasting</i>		
<i>High Hall and</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>Mate</i>	<i>Coasting</i>	<i>1836</i>	<i>1837</i>
<i>Horn</i>	<i>London</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>2^d Mate</i>	<i>Foreign</i>	<i>1837</i>	<i>1839</i>
<i>Guilford</i>	<i>Shields</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>Mate</i>	<i>Coasting</i>	<i>1838</i>	<i>1839</i>
<i>From the year 1839 to</i>		<i>1852</i>	<i>employed on shore</i>			
<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>Shields</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>Mate</i>	<i>Coasting</i>	<i>1852</i>	<i>1856</i>

Witness *Shumway* Residence *Hartlepool* Signature of Applicant *Samuel Ireland* Place of Address *New Hartlepool*

I request that my Certificate may be transmitted to the Shipping Office at the Port of *Hartlepool* within Ten Days from above date.

in return about to send on Friday first inst and only 2 of the 10 sent on that day

Fig. 5 - Backside of Samuel Ireland's Mate's Certificate

been severally referred and transmitted to the County Courts hereinafter mentioned, pursuant to the Statute in that behalf, are ordered to be brought up before the Judges of the said Courts respectively, as herein set forth, to be dealt with according to Law:

Before the Judge of the County Court of Northumberland, holden at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on the 17th day of April 1851, at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon precisely.

Samuel Ireland, late of East Elswick-terrace, in the borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Grocer and Flour Dealer, previously of No. 1, Blenheim-street, and formerly of Marlborough-street, both in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, aforesaid Grocer and Flour Dealer.²⁷

A reexamination of the 1851 census taken the evening of 30 March shows Samuel Ireland, a married, 40 year-old grocer, born in Wooddalling, had been committed to the Borough Gaol in Carlilol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne.²⁸ He had apparently been detained while awaiting his release hearing on 17 April 1851.

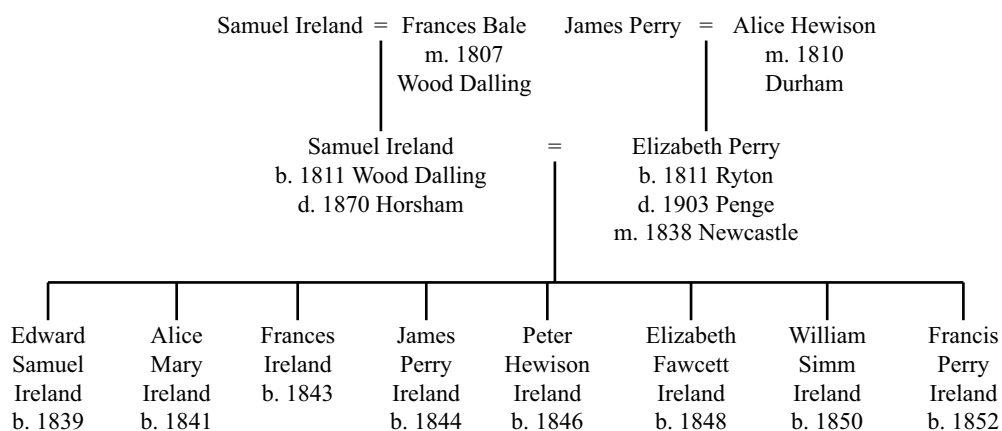
A description of Newcastle Gaol reads like a page out of Dickens's *Little Dorrit*.²⁹ It opened in 1828, replacing the old Newgate Gaol which could no longer hold the ever increasing number of inmates.

Debtors 'were incarcerated under different conditions than other offenders. [They] could have visitors for three hours per day and receive three pints of ale. This they used to sell on to other prisoners.' Seven years after Samuel Ireland was incarcerated, chaplain John Irwin complained the gaol was a 'paradise of thieves, a nest of villainy, a hot-bed of vise, and a house of corruption.' Irwin 'was concerned that there was no reformation possible in the prison.'³⁰ Samuel probably suffered greatly while incarcerated there. His release date remains unclear.

Conclusions

Samuel Ireland's absence in his 1851 household led to initial assumptions that he had either died or was working at sea. These suppositions were ruled out by investigating other English records. A newspaper notice revealed he was an insolvent debtor imprisoned at Newcastle Gaol. This triggered a closer examination of the 1851 census that verified his incarceration.

Before prison, Samuel worked for 14 years in his shop where he laboured as a grocer and flour dealer. He probably sold his business about 1852–53, perhaps to pay debts that had temporarily cost his freedom. From 1852 forward, Samuel worked offshore as a mariner until his death in 1870.



(All born in Newcastle upon Tyne)

Fig. 7- Genealogical summary

Notes

1. 1851 census, Northumberland, Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne Reg. Dist., Elizabeth Ireland.
2. Birth certificate, Edward Samuel Ireland, June quarter 1839, 19 May 1839, Newcastle upon Tyne Union Reg. Dist.
3. Birth certificate, William Simm Ireland, September quarter 1850, 9 June 1850, Newcastle upon Tyne Union Reg. Dist.
4. Marriage certificate, Ireland-Perry, March quarter 1838, 12 March 1838, Newcastle upon Tyne Reg. Dist.
5. "Search the GRO Online Indexes," *General Register Office* (www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp), negative search, Samuel Ireland's death in Newcastle, 1849–51.
6. Bishop's Transcripts, Durham, baptisms, Elizabeth Perry (1811).
7. Parish registers, All Saints Church, Newcastle upon Tyne, Perry-Hewison, married 5 March 1810.
8. Parish Registers, Briston and Guestwick (Independent), Samuel Ireland (1811).
9. Marriage bonds, Norwich Diocese, Norwich Archdeaconry Court, Ireland-Bale, 3 August 1807.
10. Parish Registers, Wood Dalling, Ireland-Bale, marriage 4 August 1807.
11. 1841 census, Northumberland, Westgate, Newcastle upon Tyne Reg. Dist., Samuel Ireland.
12. *Williams's Commercial Directory of Newcastle upon Tyne* (Newcastle, UK: Blackwell & Co., 1844), 73, 122, and 199.
13. '1858 Ordnance Survey,' *Old Maps Online* (www.oldmapsonline.org/).
14. List of Burgesses, Westgate Ward, Samuel Ireland (1845).
15. Newcastle upon Tyne, Electoral Registers, Samuel Ireland (1851).
16. List of Burgesses, Westgate Ward, Samuel Ireland (1853).
17. Registry of Shipping and Seamen, Masters and Mates Certificates, no. 61671, front, Samuel Ireland (1856).
18. Registry of Shipping and Seamen, Masters and Mates Certificates, no. 61671, back, Samuel Ireland (1856).
19. 1861 census, Durham, West Hartlepool, Hartlepool Reg. Dist., Samuel Ireland.
20. 1871 census, Staffordshire, Wednesbury, West Bromwich Reg. Dist., John Fawcett.
21. Bishop's transcripts, Ruspur, Sussex, Ireland-Boxall, married 2 March 1867.
22. 1871 census, Sussex, Horsham, Horsham Reg. Dist., Edward S. Ireland.
23. Death certificate, Samuel Ireland, March quarter 1870, 18 March 1870, Horsham Reg. Dist. Parish Registers, Horsham, Sussex, Samuel Ireland, buried 20 March 1870.
24. 1881 census, Surrey, Croydon, Croydon Reg. Dist., Elizabeth Ireland in Archibald Perry household.
25. 1900 census, Surrey, Penge, Croydon Reg. Dist., Elizabeth Ireland in William S. Ireland household.
26. Death certificate, Elizabeth Ireland, March quarter 1903, 7 February 1903, Croydon Reg. Dist.
27. 'Court for Relief of Insolvent Debtors.,' *London Gazette* (London, UK), 1 April 1851, issue 21196, pp. 914–15.
28. 1851 census, Northumberland, Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne Reg. Dist., Samuel Ireland in Newcastle Gaol.
29. Charles Dickens, *Little Dorrit*, 1st ed. (London, UK: Bradbury & Evans, 1857).
30. 'Newcastle Gaol,' *Newcastle Gaol* (<https://newcastlegaol.co.uk/operation1828-1925>).

Allen R. Peterson, AG®, CG®, FASG

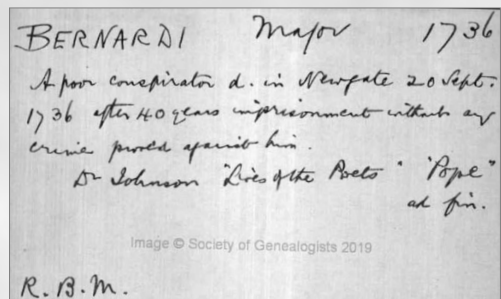
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Oddities from the Great Card Index

ODDITY #9

Major Misjustice: In 1736, Major Bernardi died in Newgate in after four decades behind bars. All that time served without a single proven crime. Accused of conspiracy yet never convicted. (Beo-Bers 1106)



THE RECORDING OF CONSENT IN MARRIAGE REGISTERS, 1754-1837

John Wintrip

Canon 62 of 1604 required parents or guardians to give their consent to the minister before a party under the age of twenty-one years (a minor) could marry, whether by licence or by banns. However, before 1754 this requirement could be circumvented by marrying clandestinely, which was particularly easy in London.

There was no requirement for the granting of consent to be recorded in parish registers before 1754. This article is concerned with the period from 1754 to 1837, when Hardwicke's Marriage Act required consent to be recorded in marriage registers, but only in certain circumstances, which were not always understood by clergymen or printers.

1754-1812

A major motive for the introduction of Hardwicke's Marriage Act was to prevent underage parties from prosperous families from marrying unsuitable spouses against the wishes of their parents. The middle and upper classes routinely married by licence, which was more expensive, but afforded a greater degree of privacy. In relation to obtaining consent when one or both parties were under age, Hardwicke's Act therefore made a significant distinction in the requirements for marriages by licence and those by banns.

All minors (with the exception of those who were widows or widowers) marrying by licence were required to obtain the consent of a parent or guardian before a licence could be issued, with a defined hierarchy for giving consent. Reflecting the patriarchal nature of society of that time, a legal guardian, who had usually been appointed by the father or the Court of Chancery, took precedence over the mother. That consent had been obtained was required to be recorded in the entry in the marriage register.

The requirement for the marriages of minors by banns was completely different. Active consent was not required, and the relevant parent or guardian was deemed to have consented unless they expressed their dissent by forbidding the banns. People who married by banns rarely had legal guardians, so in practice it would only be a parent who might withhold consent by expressing their dissent.

The rationale for the distinction was succinctly explained by Thomas Secker, Bishop of Oxford (acting for Thomas Herring, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was seriously ill at the time) in a 10-page letter, dated 16 November 1753, in response to numerous queries in relation to Hardwicke's Act from the punctilious Archdeacon of Northumberland, Thomas Sharp:

The Act makes no provision, relative to the Age of persons to be married by Banns: because the chief Inconveniences of marriages under Age are in the case of persons possessed of great Fortunes, or Heirs to great Estates: and these seldom attempt to be married by Banns, or if they did, usually their attempt would be known, and if improper, prevented. And were full Age, or in default of it, Consent of parents, made necessary for lower people, it would both needlessly clog marriages, as they might often be less able to procure certificates; or produce marriages that would be annulled, as they might be more tempted to forge certificates.¹

Secker also confirmed that consent for the marriage of a minor by banns 'is not required to be registered: and therefore is mere scribble, void of all force and effect'.²

The procedure for recording marriages was set out in clause 15 of Hardwicke's Act, in which it was specified that:

... it shall be expressed, that the said marriage was celebrated by banns or by licence; and if both or either of the parties married by licence, be under age, with consent of the parents or guardians, as the case shall be and shall be signed by the Minister with his proper Addition, and also by the Parties married, and attested by such two Witnesses; which Entry shall be made in the Form or to the Effect following; that is to say: [see Fig. 1].

Although the form of entry included the words 'with Consent of ...', the preceding wording clarified that consent was only required to be recorded for those marriages that took place by licence and in which one or both parties were under age. Since consent was required to be recorded for only a very small minority of marriages, the words 'with Consent of' were omitted from most types of printed register produced in response to the Act, but space was provided for these words to be inserted when necessary.

It is a common misconception that Hardwicke's Act required the use of printed marriage registers, but its only requirements were that the pages of the new registers were to be ruled with lines, and each page was to be numbered at the top. The widespread use of printed registers was the result of printers, booksellers and stationers recognising an opportunity to supply a large number of new registers with the standard wording required to be included in each entry pre-printed. However, the Act's requirements were not always correctly interpreted in the examples and instructions

provided. One of the examples in the register sold by Joseph Fox showed consent having been recorded for a marriage by banns, and instructions in the register sold by Thomas Lownds stated that consent 'must be so expressed immediately after the Words, Banns, or Licence'. Some clergymen therefore followed such guidance and unnecessarily recorded consent when minors married by banns.

The recording of consent in marriage entries was expressed in Hardwicke's Act in the form 'consent of parents' or 'consent of guardians'. Some clergymen used this precise wording when making entries for marriages involving minors, and since the Act did not require underage parties to be described as minors, such entries therefore provide no indication of whether only one of the parties was a minor or they both were (although this should have been recorded in the relevant marriage licence allegation). However, example forms of entry in printed marriage registers often included more detail than was required by the Act. For example, two model entries included in the widely used type of register sold by Joseph Fox involved underage parties, with the words 'a Minor' appearing after their names.

In practice, many clergymen specified the party to whom consent related, sometimes indicated their minority status, and often recorded the name of the parent or guardian who had given consent. For example, the following details of the parties were recorded for a marriage at St Saviour, Southwark, Surrey, on 30 June 1807:

A. B. of the
this Parish and
C. D. of the
this Parish were
 married in this Church
Chapel by Banns
Licence with Consent of Parents
Guardians this
 Day of in the Year
by me *I. K.* Rector
Vicar
Curate
 This Marriage was solemnized between Us *A. B.*
C. D.
 In the Presence of *E. F.*
G. H.

Fig. 1 - The form of entry for marriage according to Hardwicke's Act

Alfred Thrale Perkins, of this Parish, Bachelor, and Jane Baily of the parish of Saint Giles, Camberwell, in the County of Surrey, Spinster and Minor were Married in this Church by Licence by & with the consent of Thomas Baily, her natural and lawful father.³

As Hardwicke's Act receded into history, however, some clergymen, particularly in parishes where few marriages by licence took place, were either unaware of the requirement to record consent in their marriage register, or forgot to record it when necessary. For example, Susanna Palk married John Jones by licence at Lamerton in Devon on 5 March 1801, followed by the marriage of her sister Mary, to Arthur Couch, also by licence, on 31 March.⁴ Both sisters were minors, as confirmed in the relevant marriage licence allegations, which recorded that consent had been given by their father, James Palk.⁵ However, the vicar failed to record consent in the marriage register on both occasions.

There was therefore considerable variation in practice as to how individual clergymen, as well as the printers of registers, interpreted the requirements of Hardwicke's Marriage Act in relation to recording consent. Although the new marriage registers sent to all parishes following George Rose's Act of 1812 were in a standard format, their introduction resulted in even greater confusion and variation in practice, as discussed below.

1813-1837

The prescribed form of entry for marriages, as it appeared in Schedule B of Rose's original Bill submitted to Parliament in 1811, followed the exact wording of Hardwicke's Act, including the words 'with Consent of', eliciting the following response from clergyman John Hey:

"With consent of" "Parents" would appear to a stranger as if it were necessary for marriages by Banns: but the Parents not forbidding the Banns may be accounted perhaps a *tacit* consent; which it would be, if they were present, or knew of the publication.⁶

The same form of wording appeared in Schedule B of Rose's Act of 1812, but without any clarification of the circumstances in which consent was to be recorded. However, the Act clearly stated 'that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to repeal any Provision contained in an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, intituled *An Act for better preventing Clandestine Marriages*'.

The pre-printed entries in the new marriage registers supplied to all parishes by the King's Printer, which provided no further instructions, followed a similar pattern to the schedules, with the words 'with Consent of' followed by a blank space, as in Fig. 2.

_____ of _____ Parish
 and _____ of _____ Parish
 were married in this _____ by _____ with Consent of
 _____ this _____ Day of
 _____ in the Year One thousand eight hundred and _____
 By me _____
 This Marriage was solemnized between us { _____

 In the Prefence of { _____

 No. 298.

Fig. 2 - The pre-printed wording in the registers introduced following Rose's Act

The sudden appearance of these words in the new registers led to some bewilderment among clergy. In January 1813 a correspondent to the *Oxford Herald* sought clarification on various aspects of the new Act, and specifically in relation to marriage registers:

as it is declared, that this act shall not affect any provision in the marriage act, I wish to be informed what is meant by the introduction of “with consent, &c” into the form of the marriage register, and if the publication of banns will be in future a sufficient security to the officiating minister.⁷

A letter in *The Gentleman's Magazine* from ‘Clericus Surriensis’ dated 18 February 1813 included a number of remarks on the Act, including the following observation in relation to consent:

It has been asked, with more *testiness* than desire for information, how is the consent of parents, or guardians, to be procured, for record, as the form seems to require, in the cases of marriages by banns? (for in those by licence an affidavit is taken of that consent.) To this it may be answered, that the Marriage Act secures every minister from punishment by ecclesiastical censure ... if no notice shall have been given him, before, of their dissent. Perhaps every minister will, therefore, be now warranted to substitute, in the entry of marriage by banns, the words *without dissent*, instead of the words *with consent*, as the case may be.⁸

Samuel Parr, the curate of Hatton in Warwickshire, outlined his deliberations and enquiries in relation to this matter on the title page verso of his new marriage register.⁹ He had ‘in several instances found obscurity and ambiguity’ in the recent Act, and had ‘sent some sharp strictures upon them to the King’s Printer’. The point that chiefly perplexed him was the uniform insertion of ‘with consent of’ in the register of marriages. He ‘thought it absurd to leave the word consent in those numerous cases, where consent is not legally required’, but ‘could not venture to expunge these most inapplicable words, when they were brought to me in registers drawn up by public authority’. He had consulted an eminent lawyer, by whom he ‘was advised never to expunge the words, but to leave them as what is technically called *surplusage* in cases, where the law does not require the consent of parents, or guardians’. Parr noted that he had subsequently followed this advice,

which he had shared with a number of fellow clergymen. However, many clergy did adopt the practice of crossing out the words ‘with Consent of’ when they were not applicable, which was the case for the vast majority of marriages.

Although the majority of clergy clearly understood that consent was only required to be recorded for marriages involving minors, a significant proportion appear not to have appreciated that as Hardwicke’s Act was still in force, this was still only necessary for marriages by licence. Many clergymen therefore recorded consent when minors married by banns, although as Hey had pointed out, absence of dissent could only be construed as consent if the parents were aware that the banns had been published. Minors who married by banns rarely had legal guardians, so if their parents were dead or living elsewhere, absence of dissent was sometimes expressed as ‘Consent of *congregation*’ or ‘Consent of *friends*’. The term ‘friends’ was used in a wider context at that time, embracing all those with an interest in an individual’s wellbeing, including close and distant relatives, legal and unofficial guardians, godparents, and benevolent employers, as well as friends and acquaintances in the modern sense.¹⁰

A small minority of clergy appear to have completely misunderstood the requirements, routinely recording consent for all marriages, irrespective of the ages of the parties, presumably having assumed that the presence of the words ‘with Consent of’, which had not previously been included in most printed registers, implied that something had to be written in the following space. Some clergy covered all eventualities by routinely recording ‘with Consent of *those whose consent is required*’, and sometimes ‘with Consent of *the parties*’. It is therefore impossible to identify underage parties in entries made by clergymen who routinely and unnecessarily recorded consent, unless they were specifically described as minors.

Individual clergymen had a tendency to follow their own practices, leading to variations in the forms of entry in the same marriage register. For example, from 1813 until his death in 1825, the Vicar of Buckfastleigh in Devon, Matthew Lowndes, recorded either ‘with Consent of *Parents*’ or ‘with Consent of *Friends*’ in all the

marriage entries he made.¹¹ His son, also Matthew Lowndes, who succeeded him as vicar, consistently recorded 'with Consent of *Friends*' in all the marriage entries he made until 1837. However, the parish curate, John White, generally left the space following 'with Consent of' completely blank whenever he performed the marriage ceremony.

It is possible that guidelines in relation to the recording of consent were issued in some dioceses or archdeaconries. Instructions may have been given verbally at episcopal and archidiaconal visitations, or issued on a printed sheet, which may have been subsequently inserted or copied into the marriage registers of some parishes. The author of this article is not aware of any such instructions, and would be grateful for details of any relevant insertions or annotations that readers may have come across.

The words 'with Consent of' were omitted from the new marriage registers introduced in 1837, although the ages of the parties (shown in the original schedules only as 'Of full Age' and 'Minor') were now required to be recorded.

Notes

1. Lambeth Palace Library, Secker 7, f.297v.
2. Secker 7, f.300r.
3. St Saviour, Southwark (Surrey), Register of Marriages 1802-1809; The London Archives, P92/SAV/3046/01.
4. Lamerton (Devon) Register of Marriages and Banns 1793-1812; The Box, Plymouth, 889/8.
5. Diocese of Exeter Marriage Bonds and Allegations 1801; Devon Heritage Centre, DEX/7/b/1/1801.
6. John Hey, *Substance of a Bill Respecting Parish Registers, as Amended by the Committee, with Remarks* (Buckingham, J. Seeley: 1812), 29.
7. *The Oxford University and City Herald*, 9 Jan 1813, 2.
8. *The Gentleman's Magazine*, March 1813, 224-226.
9. Hatton (Warwickshire) Register of Marriages 1813-1837; Warwickshire County Record Office, DR477/8.
10. Naomi Tadmor, *Family and Friends in Eighteenth-Century England* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009), 167-215.
11. Buckfastleigh (Devon) Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1813-1840; Devon Heritage Centre, 3639A/PR/1/5.

John Wintrip

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SKETCH OF A LIFE #7

Curiosities from the Great Card Index

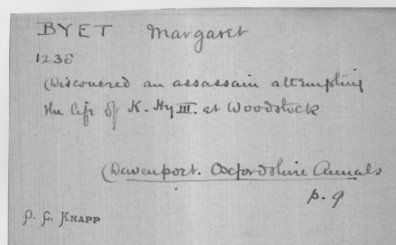
As the Society of Genealogists digitise their historic card archive, the volunteer team is spotlighting curious lives and forgotten notes. This is a peek inside...

Margaret Byet: In the year 1238, the day after the Nativity of St. Mary, Margaret Byet was awake in the middle of the night, singing psalms by candlelight. Her nocturnal devotions may have otherwise gone unnoticed, but one particular occasion has led this nighttime ritual to become a defining moment. Earlier that same day, a learned esquire came to the King's Court at Woodstock. While pretending to be insane, he taunted King Henry III. Despite his attendants' pleas to beat and drive this man away, the King replied, 'Let the madman rave - such people's words have not the force of truth.' A response that almost proved fatal.

Later that night, as Margaret Byet prayed by candlelight, the same man entered through a window into the King's bedchamber. Approaching His Highness's bed, knife in hand, the assassin became disappointed to discover that it lay empty; the King was sleeping with the Queen that night. With plan A disrupted, the midnight murderer began searching for the King. Margaret Byet's holy habits had kept her awake despite the late hour.

Noticing the intruder, she cried out to alert the King's attendants, who quickly awakened and seized him.

Knowing his plan was foiled, the assassin confessed that he had been sent to kill the King by William de Marisco. In response, the King sentenced him to be torn limb from limb by horses. The successful stopping of this assassination attempt is attributed to Margaret Byet. Her strong faith sustained her for the rest of her life. Upon her death in 1242 in Bordeaux, she was described as a most holy woman. (Bwis_Bywo Image no.149)



GREVILLE MATHESON MACDONALD (1856-1944), AND HIS WIFE

Terry Jenkins

The number of family trees now to be found on genealogical websites such as *Ancestry* shows that many people have researched the family of the Scottish author George Macdonald (1824-1905), and posted their findings as Public Member Trees. Many of them state that his eldest son Greville, who was an eminent throat specialist in London at the end of the 19th century, married Elizabeth Phoebe Winn, born in 1848. **And they are wrong.**



Superintendent Registrar's District <i>Birmingham</i>											
Registrar's District <i>Lady Wood Birmingham</i>											
1848. BIRTHS in the District of <i>Lady Wood Birmingham</i> in the County of <i>Warwick</i>											
No.	When Born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.	Baptismal Name, if added after Registration of Birth	
436	<i>26 March 1848</i>	<i>Elizabeth Phoebe</i>	<i>Girl</i>	<i>William Kimberley Winn</i>	<i>Jane Winn formerly Welch</i>	<i>Carpenter</i>	<i>Wm Kimberley Winn Father of the child Saturday Bridge Summer Row Birmingham</i>	<i>Twenty first April 1848</i>	<i>J. H. Wood Registrar</i>		

It is always annoying to find incorrect genealogical information posted on these websites. Especially, as once the errors have appeared online, they are virtually impossible to eradicate. This information can now be found in Greville's *wikipedia* entry, and his biography on *FamilySearch*. He certainly married someone called Phoebe Winn, but she wasn't born in 1848 and her name wasn't prefaced by Elizabeth. Nonetheless, at the time of writing, more than fifty people have posted their versions of Greville's family tree on *Ancestry*, giving this as his wife's name and birthdate. Of course, they have not all arrived at this information independently, but unquestioningly copied the information on *Ancestry's* 'database online'. It only takes one wrong entry to open the floodgates. **And it is easy to prove they are wrong.**

Elizabeth Phoebe Winn's birth certificate shows she was the daughter of William Kimberley Winn and his wife Jane, née Welch, born at Saturday Bridge in Birmingham on 26 March 1848. This can now be

easily confirmed in the online index of births on the GRO website which, for the first time, includes the mother's maiden name for these early days of registration. She is listed, as the three year-old Elizabeth Winn with her parents and grandparents at Saturday Bridge in the 1851 census. On 22 January 1868, while still a minor, she married Benjamin New in Edgbaston. She signed herself 'Elizabeth Phebe Winn', which must have been her preferred spelling. The marriage certificate shows that her husband was an illiterate boatman working, I presume, on the local canal network, and by the 1871 census the couple had two daughters. They eventually had a total of eight children, as confirmed in the 1911 census. Elizabeth P New died in 1928 aged 80, and there are plenty of people who have posted versions of the New family tree on *Ancestry*. She was not Greville Macdonald's wife, and we thus have the curious situation where Elizabeth Phoebe Winn has two completely different, and conflicting, Public Member trees on *Ancestry*! One as 'New', one as 'MacDonald'. They cannot both be right.

1848. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Edgbaston in the County of Warwick

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
213	Jan 7	Benjamin New	full	Bachelor	Postman	Birmingham	Benjamin New	Postman
	22	Elizabeth Phebe Winn	Widow	Spinster	—	Edgbaston	William Winn	Childless

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by I. Spooner or after Deceased by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Benjamin New & Elizabeth Phebe Winn in the Presence of us, Abel Poole John Chadburn I. Spooner Winn

1868 Winn-New marriage certificate

It was not until 3 March 1888, 20 years after Elizabeth Phebe's marriage, that Greville was married in Birmingham at St Stephen's, Selly Oak. Clearly his wife was a different Phoebe, but establishing the true facts about her origins and early life is not easy - especially as it turns out that she lied about her age in the censuses taken after the marriage. She was older than Greville, and discreetly subtracted a few years from her true age, leading to a supposed birth in 1848. It is therefore understandable that she has been confused with Elizabeth Phebe. However, according to Greville, his wife was 'in her 82nd year' when she died on 17 Feb. 1927, indicating a birth some time in 1845. Unfortunately, there is no-one called Phoebe Winn listed in the GRO birth indexes at this time.

And so, to quote the words of W S Gilbert - "Phoebe? Who the deuce may she be?"

Greville's marriage certificate shows that his bride

was the daughter of Charles (i.e. *not* William) Winn. But the newspaper reports of the marriage do not mention her father. They describe her as the 'only sister of Charles Winn, of Birmingham'. This is understandable - the older Charles Winn had gone bankrupt in 1834. Not something you might wish to draw attention to fifty-something years later. The bankruptcy had necessitated a move to a poor area of the city, and in the 1851 census the family can be found in Inge St - living in one of Birmingham's notorious 'back-to-back' courtyard slums (one of which is now preserved by the National Trust). This is where Phoebe was brought up, and she can be found in 1851 at court no. 7 aged six, again indicating a birth around 1845. Her mother proves to be the inspiration for the name Phoebe, and research shows that father Charles Winn married Phebe [sic] Willits Kimberley in 1823. The family tree shows that, although Phoebe was only a few years older than Elizabeth Phoebe, she was technically her aunt.

1888. Marriage solemnized at St Stephen's Selly Hill in the Parish of Selly Oak in the County of Worcester

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
93	3 March 1888	Greville Matheson MacDonald	full	Bachelor	Physician	Marylebone	George MacDonald	Author
		Phoebe Winn	full	Spinster	—	Selly Hill	Charles Winn	Manufacturer

Married in the Church of St Stephen according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Samuel or after Deceased by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Greville Matheson MacDonald Phoebe Winn in the Presence of us, Charles Winn Robert Stokes Robert Holmes Mac Donald Thomas Richard

On the 3d inst., at St. Stephen's, Selly-hill, by the Rev. Robert Stokes, M.A. GREVILLE MATHESON MAC DONALD, M.D., eldest son of George MacDonald, LL.D., of Bordighera, Italy, to PHOEBE WINN, only sister of Charles Winn, of Birmingham.

The Times, 14 March 1888

No further births in GRO index,
mother = Welch

*[1871] transcript
misreads ditto marks and
gives children as 'Smith'*

William Kimberley Winn —————
 joiner [1851]
 b. 12/4/1824; chr. 23/4/1829 St Philip, B'ham
 [1841] @Ludgate Hill with parents
 [1851] @Welch Family
 d. before [1871] ?
 mar. (Dec) 1847 **Jane Welch**
 [1871] = Jane Smith (44) with the New family

Elizabeth Phoebe Winn
b. 26/3/1848 (Cert.)
[1851] @ Welch Family
as Elizabeth aged 3
possibly [1861] servant aged 12
d. (Dec) 1928 aged 80
mar. 22/1/1868 Edgbaston (Cert.)
Benjamin New
boatman, illiterate
d. (Dec) 1918 aged 74

- Clara Jane Maude New
b. 1868
- Mary Elizabeth New
1870-71
- + 6 further children

• **Orpah Winn** b. 1826/7 ?
bur. 13/2/1829, aged 2
St Paul's chapel (St Martins)

Charles Winn *brassfounder*
b. 26/3/1829; chr. 23/4/1829 St Philip, B'ham
[1841] @Ludgate Hill with parents
[1871] @Uplands + sister Phoebe
(1888) witness to Greville's marriage
d. 1/3/1917 The Uplands, Selly Hill aged 87;
(W) c.£35,000
mar. 22/6/1858 St Bart's Edgbaston
Emma Webley
(1888) witness to Greville's marriage
d. 9/1/1920 aged 80 (W)

Robert Steventon Winn —————
 aka. **Stephen R Winn** etc.
painter [1861]
 b. 22/8/1831; chr. 30/7/1832 St Philip, B'ham
 [1841] @Ludgate Hill with parents
 [1851] @Wice family
 mar. 13/11/1851 St Bart's Edgbaston
Graham Wice [GRO register = Wice]
possibly d. 1895 aged 63

Frederick Kimberley Winn —————→
glass blower [1871]; brewer [1881]
 b. 2/5/1840 @126 Lionel St.
Certificate = birth registered as Boaz Frederick Winn
 [1841] @Ludgate Hill with parents
 chr. 13/1/1851 St Martin B'ham [b. 2/5/1841 = *incorrect*]
 [1851] = 10 yrs old. @Inge St.
 d. (Mar) 1890 Aston aged 49
 mar. (Mar) 1864 Solihull
Martha Hewitt d. (Dec) 1911 aged 67

Phoebe Winn b. c.1845
[1851] = 6 yrs old, @Inge St.
[1871] living with brother Charles @Uplands, aged 26
d. 17/2/1927 Haslemere aged 81 (A)
mar. 3/3/1888 Selly Hill
Greville Matheson Macdonald [1856-1944]

Phoebe described as -
“only sister of Charles Winn of Birmingham”
in *The Times* and *The Morning Post*, 1888

Henry Winn b. c.1847
[1851] = 4 yrs old, @Inge St.
[1861] = 14, bellows maker
presumably - **Harry Kimberley Winn**
[1871] beer seller
1878 Directory @Beerhouse, 23 Hurst St.
mar. (Sep) 1869 King's Norton **Mary Hall**

Charles Winn —————
b. c.1801-06
tray maker, bankrupt, October 1834
[1841] = 40 yr-old @Ludgate Hill
[1851] = 45 yr-old, tray maker, @Inge St.
d. 17/6/1857 aged 59
@ Summer St. hospital
mar. 24/11/1823 Harborne
Phebe Willits Kimberley
b. 15/3/1804;
chr. 19/7/1804 St Martin, Birmingham
[1841] = 35 yr-old @Ludgate Hill
[1851] = 45 yr-old, @Inge St.
d. 1877, King's Norton aged 73,
bur. Witton Cemetery

[1851] census = 30 March
Why were these two not christened
at St Martin's on 13 January 1851
like Frederick??

The Winn family of Birmingham

showing relationship of
Elizabeth Phoebe Winn, b. 1848
to Phoebe Winn, b. c1845

The Winn family tree also shows that the births of Phoebe's older brothers were properly registered at the GRO, and they were all baptised at St Philip's (Birmingham Cathedral) - if not necessarily particularly promptly. Frederick Kimberley for instance, born in 1840, was only christened on 13 January 1851. It is therefore strange that Phoebe, and a younger brother called Henry, were not baptised at the same time. Why not? It seems absurd to take a ten year-old child to be baptised, but not to bother with his six year-old sister, or the youngest four year-old. They were certainly all members of the family when the 1851 census was taken a couple of months later on 30 March. Of course, it is perfectly possible that all three children were baptised at the same time, but the names of the younger two were not entered in the register by mistake. This is the simplest solution. However, it is significant that the births of Phoebe and Henry were not officially registered at the GRO either. This is presumably not simply an oversight. The only reason, I suggest, can be that there was no need - both registration and christening had already been carried out, albeit under another name.

This is only a supposition, and it is very unlikely that any conclusive proof will be found. But the likeliest scenario, I submit, is that Phoebe and her younger brother were 'adopted'. I can believe that, in the close-knit communities of these slum properties, families helped each other out, and especially when the parents of young children had died. The prospect of the alternative, the poor house, was always viewed with horror.

The website of the Birmingham Archives states that many Poor Unions across the country began to set up a 'boarding out' system of care during the middle of the 19th century, whereby orphaned and illegitimate children would be placed in private foster homes (see *Birmingham Poor Law Union, ref GP B*). The central parishes in Birmingham of St Philip's and St Martin's combined to administer such a scheme but, unfortunately, no specific records exist before the 1850s. However, it is possible that the system was already in existence in the period 1845-51, when Phoebe could have been fostered. No wonder that other researchers have been unable to find the correct records of her birth. I suggest she was not born Phoebe Winn.

In 1871, 26 year-old Phoebe can be found living with her (step)brother Charles at his home in Selly Oak. Charles had become a successful brass founder, and was rising back up the social scale. By 1881 he was employing 50 men and 20 boys, and he died in 1917 leaving a fortune of £35,000 - over £2 million today. Some time after 1871, Phoebe went to London, and in September 1883 she was appointed Matron at the throat hospital in Golden Square, behind Regent Street. She must have had some prior experience of nursing before this appointment, but I don't know where, and I have been unable to find her in the 1881 census.

The Minute Book of the hospital's management committee (at the *London Archives*) records that, on 28 Sept. 1883, Miss Winn:

"be appointed 'Matron and Sup^t Nurse' to the Hospital, it being understood that she shall take an active part in the nursing, and that her salary be £50 per annum, the salary to commence as soon as the wards are open".

(In 1883, the hospital was using temporary accommodation while the premises in Golden Square were rebuilt).

Two years later, in November 1885, Greville was appointed Resident Medical Officer at the hospital, and in February 1888 Phoebe resigned as matron, prior to their marriage a month later.



George MacDonald Collection. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

The marriage of Greville and Phoebe took place on 3 March 1888 at St Stephen's church, Selly Hill, in Birmingham, and was witnessed by her brother Charles Winn and his wife Emma among others. According to William Raeper, in his 1987 biography *George Macdonald*, the marriage was not welcomed by his parents, who were now living in Bordighera, Italy:

"... He had fallen for the matron of the hospital he had been working at. The woman's name was Phoebe Winn, and the family were solidly opposed to her — perhaps because they felt she was 'only' a nurse — or that she had somehow trapped Greville in her clutches. More than that, she was fourteen years older than he was. Whatever the case, Greville was adamant that he wanted to marry her, but realized soon enough that broaching this subject with his parents was impossible. In March 1888 he announced to his mother from the safety of London that he was about to marry her, and despite a breathless dash from Italy on the part of Louisa and Lilia [*George Macdonald's wife and daughter*] to prevent him, they arrived in England to find that the ceremony had already taken place . . ."

MacDonald wrote resignedly to his wife when he heard that she had not been able to stop the marriage:

"I had your letter from Birmingham. Poor dear Greville and poor dear wife! What an experience for you to have to go through. It will be a wonder if you are not very ill after it. What a woman for any gentleman to marry! I wonder when and how it was settled for Saturday. I suppose they are really married! Well, this world and all its beginnings will pass on into something better." (pp. 357-58)

There must have been good reasons for the antipathy that caused Greville's father to write "What a woman for any gentleman to marry!" If her humble origins were the only reason, this is appalling snobbery, and shows a distressing lack of charity from a former Christian minister. Naturally, none of this is mentioned in Greville's biography of his father: *George Macdonald and his wife* published in 1924. Although he comments on the marriages of his brothers and sisters, he makes no mention of his own whatsoever. Furthermore, there is little information about his wife in his 1932

memoirs, *Reminiscences of a Specialist*. He does recount, however, how ill he was with a recurrence of earache when he was appointed to the Golden Square Throat Hospital:

"... my first three weeks were the hardest ever mastered. But for the careful feeding and encouragement of the Matron, Miss Phoebe Winn — who, she confessed, looked upon me from the first as a wreck, even while marvelling at my quickly acquired skill and my doggedness — I doubt if I could have held on. I married that admirable lady two years later, although she fully believed I should not live very long even with her care. We had no children and she died thirty-nine years later in her eighty-second year." (p. 221)

Phoebe died on 17 February 1927, and her death certificate states that she was 81 years-old. This is also the age given in the parish burial records - further confirmation that she was born in 1845. She was therefore only 11 years older than her husband, and not 14 as Raeper thought. She died in Haslemere, where she and Greville had become involved with the Haslemere Peasant Arts movement, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the parish churchyard.

The couple may have had no children of their own, but they did unofficially 'adopt' a child. She was Mary (Molly) Gamble, born in 1894, and one of the nine children of a bricklayer in Nuneaton. She was living with them in the 1901 census in Harley Street, and it seems was a patient of Greville's. She never returned to her own family, but remained with Greville and Phoebe thereafter. She was listed as Mary MacDonald in the 1939 Register, and described as Greville's housekeeper. She was the major beneficiary of Greville's will.

It is surprising that so many people have identified the wrong person as Greville's wife - the anomalies that I have described are not difficult to spot. The error is not of any great consequence, as Greville and Phoebe had no offspring. Nonetheless, it is something that should not simply remain unchallenged and uncorrected. Unfortunately, many people believe that everything they find on the Family Trees in *Ancestry* is true. Not so. And the moral of the tale is, of course, that if you do genealogical research, do it properly.

Postscript

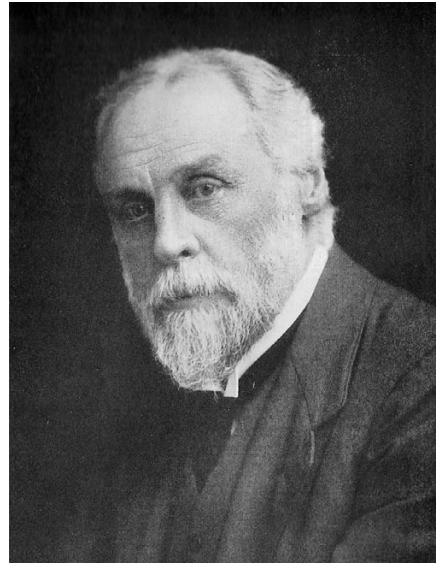
Greville MacDonald is remembered today as the boy whose enthusiasm for Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* brought about its publication. Charles Dodgson - Lewis Carroll - was a family friend, and Greville's mother read the manuscript to the MacDonald children as a bedtime story. Greville's enthusiasm persuaded the author to publish the work.

Greville was the model for Alexander Munro's 1865 sculpture of a boy with a dolphin, now in Hyde Park.



Boy with a Dolphin, Alexander Munro (1825–1871) Hyde Park, Westminster. Image credit: Sally Norris / Art UK

George MacDonald, Greville's father, was born in Huntly, Aberdeenshire, and in the biography of him that Greville wrote, he claimed the family could trace their ancestry back to a survivor of the Massacre of Glencoe. There is no documentary evidence for this. George MacDonald led a peripatetic life, dogged by ill-health, and in early adulthood sought to make a living as a Congregational minister in England. He was never able to find a permanent appointment, and turned to writing instead. His fantasy novels, written in the Scottish vernacular, were well-regarded during his lifetime, but have now fallen out of fashion. Nonetheless, he is recognised as having been a major influence on such later authors as C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien.



Greville Macdonald, from 'Reminiscences of a Specialist' (Wikipedia)

The Haslemere Peasant Arts movement was inspired by the ideas of the Arts & Crafts movement of the late 19th century, and sought to teach handicrafts such as weaving and woodworking to people in the Surrey town. One of the founders was a cousin of Greville's, Joseph King. Greville's involvement with the movement, however, was basically administrative. Greville died in 1944, and was cremated in Woking. There is no grave in Haslemere. It has been suggested that a wooden carving may have originally marked Phoebe's grave, but this has now rotted and disappeared. There is such a carving for Maude King, Joseph's wife, in the Haslemere Museum.

As is well-known, the leading figure of the Arts & Crafts movement was William Morris, and Greville would have known him personally. Morris bought the MacDonald's family home in Hammersmith when his father, George MacDonald, moved to Italy in 1878, and renamed it Kelmscott House.

Greville was my great-grandmother's first cousin.

Terry Jenkins

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*Serendipity in the Archives*THE UNEXPECTED TALE OF
TUMULT AT PURVESHALL*Harry Purvis*

Searching for a stubborn genealogical detail, critical in confirming a family connection, feels like digging for treasure. After tediously exhausting every possible avenue, the secret is unearthed while reading an unrelated newspaper cutting. In serendipitous moments like this, it seems as if this crucial fact found us, rather than the other way round. Maybe our forebears orchestrate these discoveries, reaching across the generations, to ensure their tales are not forgotten. While researching in the SoG archive, an ancestor dropped a story into my lap.

Utilising the fascinating collections kept by the Society of Genealogists, I requested a notebook containing an intriguing story of an illegitimate daughter. The journal arrived safely stored in a small archival box, packed together, alongside other collections, into a larger container. Instead of selecting what I ordered, I felt an urge to look inside the neighbouring box. Opening it, my jaw dropped. What was the first word I saw? My surname. Eagerly reading its contents, I was shocked to discover a story about a building sharing my family name. Bafflingly, the night before I had stumbled across a property listing for that very same house...

Just over three and a half centuries ago, my eleven x great-grandfather was utilising the opportunities available to loyal royalists in the wake of the Restoration. An influential, albeit controversial, Edinburgh Lawyer, Sir William Purves watched his reputation and livelihood crumble during the Civil War. The newly-restored King compensated his loss and rewarded his service to the crown with an appointment as Solicitor General of Scotland and the granting of a baronetcy. All Sir William needed now to establish fully a lasting inheritance was a family seat. In 1673, he bought a 16th century tower

house in Berwickshire, in the Scottish Borders, changing its name from Nether Tofts to Purveshall. Since my family line followed that of a younger son (whose son anglicised the family name to Purvis) and tradition meant both title and property were inherited by the eldest son, my direct connection to this property was lost in the 17th century.



Fig. 1 - 'Sir William Purves of Woodhouselee, d. 1685. Solicitor-General for Scotland'. Public domain image - Wikimedia.

Thirteen generations and 350 years later, this same house, steeped in family folklore, became the unexpected backdrop for a story I had uncovered. Of the millions of individuals recorded in the SoG archive, the one who emerged as the tale's protagonist turned out to be a relative. And of all the days for this discovery to happen, it was the day after I'd found a

property listing, which contained images of rooms that were the setting of a story I was now immersed in. Titled ‘Tumult at Purveshall, 17th August 1797,’ the tale takes place during the life of Sir Alexander Purves (1738-1812), 5th Baronet of Purveshall, who was a Scottish landowner and military officer. The opening scene is nothing out of the ordinary - a small dinner party with family and friends. Yet as the meal is tidied away, this story’s author teases that the after-dinner entertainment was not what anyone expected. ‘Immediately after dinner it was rumoured voices were heard in front of the House but no one thinking it proper to look out of the windows or to take any sort of notice.’

The first attempt to explain the commotion came through a servant’s rather mild report to Sir

Alexander that ‘some people’ wished to see him - quite the understatement. Within moments, the dinner party guests grasped the true scale of their disturbance: an angry mob, perhaps 150 to 400 strong, brewing outside the house. Armed with not only their voices, but the crowd also ‘had without exception as far as I saw ordinary walking staves, and the women (except one or two, who had nothing in their hands) had short cudgels, very thick apparently made of young Fir or Larch trees, with the bark taken off and cut smooth at the ends.’ The focus that united this menacing group was Sir Alexander himself. Their fury lay with him, but he refused their demands for an audience. Although too dangerous a prospect for her husband, Lady Isabel Purves (née Hunter) displayed her brave character and offered to go out herself but was



Fig. 2 - A description of the province of the Merche, 1580-1661. Historic map marking Tofts, later becoming Nether Tofts, and finally Purveshall upon purchase by Sir William Purves

forced to give up the idea. Eventually, another guest, Mr Robertson, went out and returned with the information that the people wanted assurance a militia would not be formed.

The French Revolutionary Wars were raging, and Britain was gripped by fear of revolution and invasion. In response, the government in the 1790s became increasingly reliant on local militias. In England and Wales, a ballot-based system had been used since 1757 to muster these forces, but Scotland had largely been exempt. That changed in 1797, the year of this story, when Parliament passed a new act aiming to establish a Scottish militia force of 6,000 men. Each parish was required to submit a list of men aged 19 to 23, from which a ballot would select those who had to serve.¹ Records within the SoG archive map the history of these various militias. A surviving example of a militia ballot list from another part of Scotland is the *Men of Lower Deeside of Military Age in 1798*, transcribed by David L. Walker (Aberdeen & North East Scotland Family History Society, 1998). As well as Scottish records, the archive holds English lists such as the Hertfordshire Militia Lists 1757-1801, transcribed by John Hill (Hertfordshire Family & Population History Society, 2000) and Northamptonshire Militia Lists 1777, edited by Victor A. Hatley (Northamptonshire Record Society, 1973).

Resentment was widespread. Fears that those selected might be sent abroad or become permanent soldiers began to circulate. In small farming communities like those found in Berwickshire, even a handful of conscriptions could unsettle the local economy. Wealthy families could often avoid service by paying for substitutes, a luxury far out of reach of rural labourers and tenant farmers.¹ The story of *Tumult at Purveshall* was not a one-off, but part of a large pattern of working-class resistance against a system of conscription seen as unjust.

The anger and fear surrounding a possible militia is felt through the crowd's cries: 'Bring him out or we will force him out.' 'We'll not leave this spot till he has signed.' 'There must be a Rebellion in this County.' 'We've been long enough abused by the whole of you.' 'They look upon us like dogs.'

'By God while I can wield this (brandishing his stick) there shall not be a Militia in this County.' Mixed into these shouts were threats of burning the house down and even rumours of killing all the Gentlemen when the Rebellion starts.

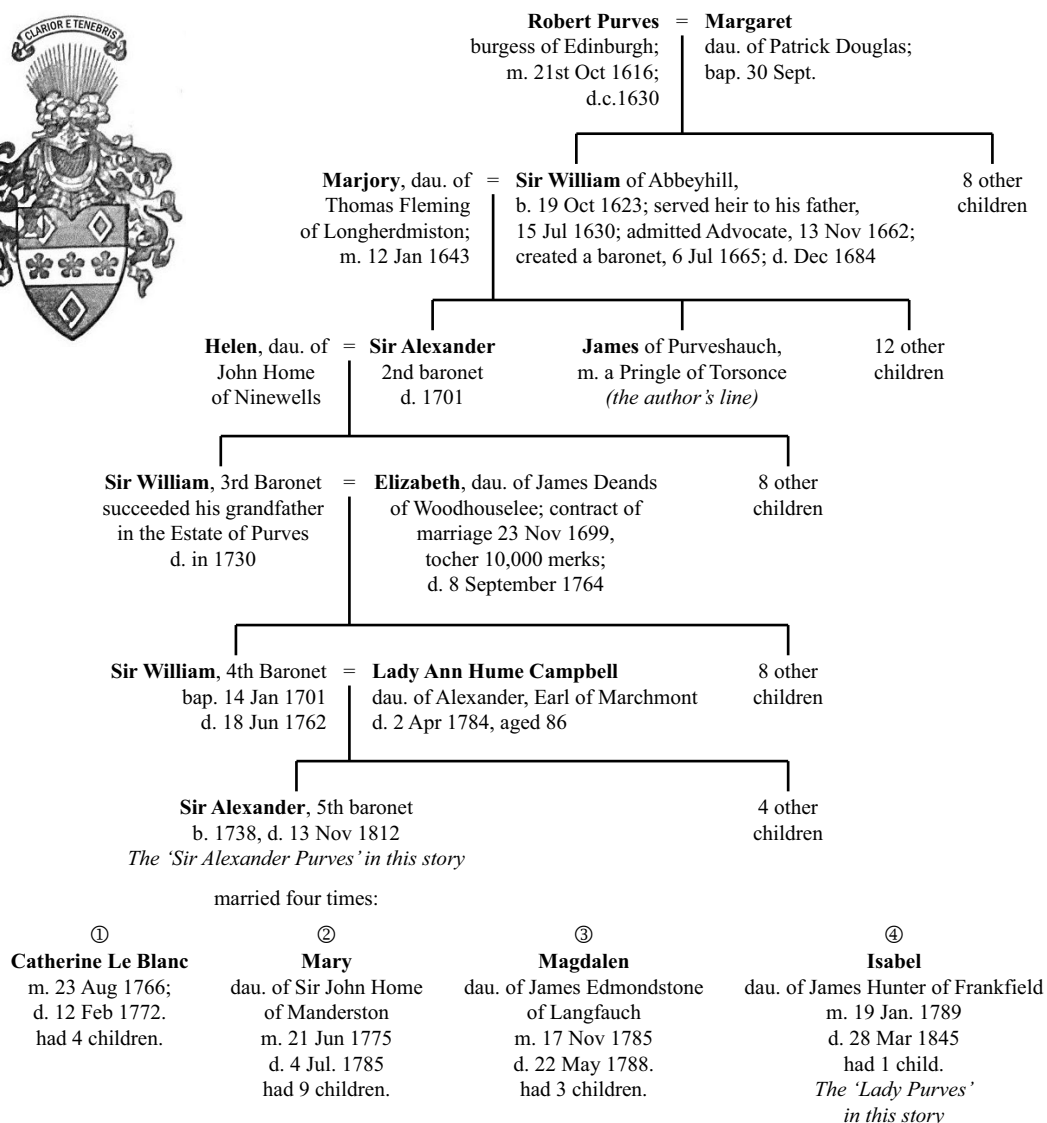
Keeping this impassioned group outside indefinitely was impossible. Inevitably, five or six managed to force their way inside. Yet, despite the threats hurled from the crowd outside, the group's leader bowed low before Sir Alexander - respect amid chaos. With formalities concluded, he thrust a contract toward Sir Alexander and demanded his signature. Whether oblivious to the danger or inexplicably confident in the British legal system, Sir Alexander stood firm. He 'ordered them peremptorily to leave the room, saying he was in his own house, that the laws of this County would protect him, and that he would sign no paper, he even refused to look at it.' Another guest, Mr. Tyler, also warned these intruders that they would be hanged for housebreaking. Bold? Or brash?

The formation of a militia meant local men being taken away from their family and work, to fight, and perhaps die, under leaders they had not chosen. This crowd outside had no intention of leaving without a signature. 'In 2 or 3 minutes the door was opened and from 8 to 12 women or men in women's clothes, were pushed in, and followed by as many of the crowd as could gain admittance, and in a moment the room was full.' Even the most stubborn individual knows when the cause is lost. Sir Alexander held firm through several more refusals, continuing to issue threats of legal action. But eventually, he conceded, 'saying it was very hard for an old Soldier to be forced, he called for pen and ink, and put his name to the Paper, and also to a letter which they said was to the Lord Lieutenant. The People immediately left the room and seemed to disperse.'

With that single signature, it was over. No bloodshed - just a bruise to an old soldier's pride. Yet this peace was short-lived. A week later in Eccles, only a few miles away, further unrest broke out, where a property was set alight. This unrest sparked a swift and harsh government response. The intensity of the resistance and widespread opposition succeeded in suspending the Scottish Militia Act of 1797 - for a



Fig. 3 & 4 - Purves Plat-Taylor Small Collection. Along with narratives of the Purves family, the collection includes family trees of European royal lineages, kept in notebooks organised by country.



The Descent of Sir William Purves, 1st Baronet, mapping the succession of title and inheritance of Purveshall, based on a tree from the 1897 edition of his book 'Revenue of the Scottish Crown'

time. In 1802, with lessons learnt, the government successfully established a Scottish militia force through a new Act.¹

Putting the paper down after reading the final words of 'Tumult at Purveshall,' I realised the most fascinating family story I've uncovered in my research came purely by serendipity. From that moment on, I vowed always to check the neighbouring box.

Sources:

1. Falkirk Local History Society. "The Militia 'Riots' of 1797." Falkirk Local History Society Journal, no. 30.81 (2021). Available at: <https://falkirklocalhistory.club/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/30.81-militia-riots.pdf>

Harry Purvis

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PHOTOGRAPHS IN PRINT ...

Helen Dawkins LRPS

We are so used to every twist and turn being recorded in photographs in the press but looking back at old newspapers from the Victorian era, it isn't until at the very earliest, 1880 and more likely 1890 that we began to see photographs appearing in the UK press, prior to this pictures were reproduced as engravings.

The very first 'picture' appeared in *The Illustrated London News* in 1842 depicting the attempted assassination of Queen Victoria however this was simply an artist's impression as cameras were not yet sufficiently developed to capture the 'action'. The *Daily Illustrated Mirror*, founded in 1904 was in fact the first newspaper committed to using photographs including the first front page image on 23 March 1904 depicting the 'Burial of the Veteran Duke of Cambridge'.



Fig. 1 - 'Burial of the Veteran Duke of Cambridge': Front page photograph 23 March 1904; Daily Illustrated Mirror

Books containing photographs were much earlier with the first being 'The Pencil of Nature' from 1844 but these were original Calotypes or Talbotypes, named after the inventor and author, William Henry Fox Talbot in 1841. These original photographs were 'tipped in' to the page, that is attached using a thin line of glue to upper or spine edge so not yet part of the book/newspaper printing process.

It wasn't until the development of the smaller, lighter 35mm cameras in the 1920s that Photojournalism truly arrived. As I mentioned in my December 2025

article, Leica introduced the first 35mm lightweight camera in 1925 which truly opened up 'capturing the moment' for Photo Journalists and street photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson were then able to truly enjoy 'the passing moment'. Street photography is an absolute favourite of mine, capturing everyday life in public places - nothing posed just life as it is and it is often the unposed photographs that add so much to family history in a relaxed, natural situation. From conversations with my clients I realise that many of you are now self publishing your own family histories and we can truly bring these stories to life by including not only family portraits but photographs of family homes, events which in turn may tell an historical story of perhaps transport, gardens etc., etc. and those that truly 'capture the moment' - unposed but life as it really is. We are truly indebted to our ancestors for their determination to introduce and develop the wonderful medium of photography.

We are now in the era of ever more graphic images and we realise how important it is for newspapers and magazines to include photographs to truly 'tell' a story. We can see events unfolding on the other side of the world and truly understand what the article is telling us and realise what an important medium photography is. I was listening recently to a talk covering the life of Don McCullin, the renowned war photographer who famously covered, in particular, the Vietnam War from which we saw many dreadful images but so important as they enabled us to realise the atrocities occurring. It is no longer possible for dictators/regimes to inflict misery on its people without it being shown to the world via vivid images. I should add here that, unfortunately, with the arrival of AI, we are very often presented images that have been contrived so we are now in the realms of not only don't believe what you read but don't always believe what you see - how AI loves to parody politicians etc. Sometimes it is fun to see the contrived images as long as we realise that is what they are, sometimes however it can be offensive, intrusive but such is the modern interpretation of life.

Taking care of the Archives

For those of you who have followed my articles over the years, you will know that I am passionate about caring for our archives. In these days of all things digital I believe our tangible photographic archive spanning from daguerreotype production in 1839 is incredibly important. From the 1990s when digital really came into its own, less and less photographs are, in general, printed out instead we rely on fragile online technology to protect our precious images. We can only hope that these later images survive in their digital format and hopefully some are being archivally printed out so that our descendants have a record to view and enjoy. A physical archive is incredibly easy to produce and acid free protection is surprisingly easy to obtain and use - as ever beware cheap offers online. My own preference is that which I have often featured (and supply) - a reminder below:



Fig. 2 - Archival acid free storage folder

It is with these thoughts in mind that I read with interest that archival storage is as much an issue for Royalty as it is for every one of us. Queen Elizabeth was herself a keen photographer and it is reported that the Royal Collection Trust cares for some 85,000 images compiling the photography collection of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip and now with Princess Katherine also a very keen photographer, the collection can only grow. I wonder if many of her images are actually printed out? I quite agree that digital photography is so much easier than in the days of film but because of its ease, we produce far more images - numbered in their billions worldwide each day - than when we had to consider and carefully use the 36 exposures on our films. I am

seriously considering reverting to film photography for the more important photographs to once again concentrate the mind.

Work in the studio

Work in the studio this quarter comprised a very mixed and varied collection of challenges including:



Fig. 3 - Reed photograph: before and after

A very simple little snapshot of family twins. The family felt the image was probably lost as it was so faded but with some careful restoration I was able to produce a negative and silver halide photograph produced in the darkroom ready to be added to the family archive to ensure what was a basic 2 x 3 inch snapshot became a treasured family heirloom to be enjoyed once again. It really doesn't matter how small or insignificant the photograph may seem, photographs such as these complete the family picture going back over the years and are as important as any professionally produced portrait.

Ongoing work also includes repairs to a Victorian album. One of the requests was for me to take out all the photographs to establish any detail on the reverse as sadly no identification existed. If you carry out this exercise, I have two recommendations. The first is to ensure you replace the photographs in the same order as very often family members are grouped together and the second is to scan as you disassemble so that there is a working digital archive to perhaps send to other family members to aid identification etc. Hopefully some identification may be possible and if so I would advise adding a loose leaf index to photographs at the front or back of the album to ensure photographs never need to be removed again which is the cause of so much damage. This listing may only include the details of the photographer in some cases but this in itself can aid in later identification of the sitter. I have now sourced as close a shade of suede as possible to create a new spine so work commences on a sensitive repair which will hopefully ensure the album passes through the family for many more generations to come.



Fig. 4 - Suede covered Victorian photograph album

The same client who owns the album has also come across a notebook containing a typed transcription of

a family ancestor's school days diary. What a wonderful insight into an adolescent's view of life - albeit a very grown up and privileged view. The request is to produce two copies of the transcription and form these and the original into stitched books. A very rewarding task - it might take a little longer than it should as I can't resist reading every last word. I particularly like the introduction page - see below:

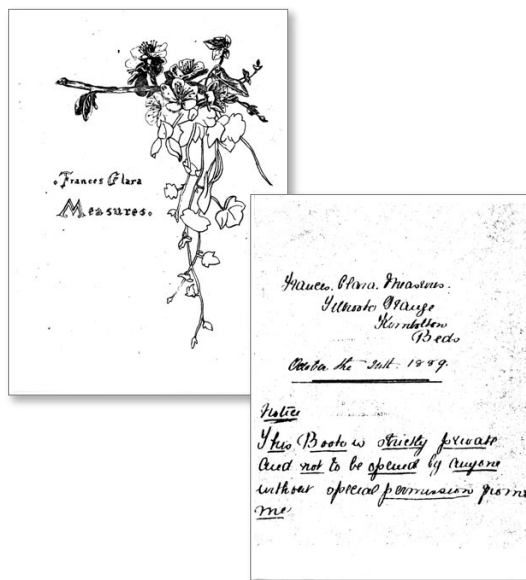


Fig. 5 - Frances Clara Measures diary: Introduction page and warning!

Other tasks in hand including reproduction and enlargement of a photograph to include in a frame with medals and a wonderful photograph of a young man as an apprentice engineer some fifty plus years ago. What wonderful memories to have and I am privileged to assist in ensuring these are enjoyed for many years to come.

As ever I look forward to your thoughts and challenges.

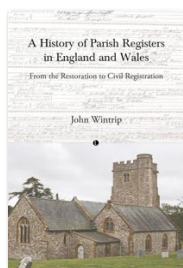
Helen Dawkins LRPS

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Established in 1992, Black and White Revival carries out traditional restoration and conservation of photographs. Helen Dawkins is now one of the few traditional processors for black and white photography continuing to produce archival quality photographs in the darkroom. For further advice: email helen@blackandwhiterevival.co.uk, visit www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk or tel: 07732 642139.



BOOK REVIEWS



A History of Parish Registers in England and Wales from the Restoration to Civil Registration, by John Wintrip. The Lutterworth Press, 2026. ISBN 978-0-718-89848-9. Paperback, xiii and 233 pp, illustrations, footnotes, appendices, glossary, index. Also in hardback, e-book and PDF from £18.00-£49.50.

John Wintrip has been a librarian and professional genealogist and a Member of the Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives.

This book has been reviewed several times already in a variety of publications. It provides a comprehensive account of the history of parish registers from 1660 to 1837, which fills a lacuna in the literature. A significant amount of new research has been carried out since the most recent book to cover this topic in any detail: *National Index of Parish Registers, volume 1 Sources of Births, Marriages and Deaths before 1837* by D. J. Steel (1968), was published more than half a century ago. *A History of Parish Registers in England and Wales* now makes this area of study accessible to a wider audience, pulling together disparate information into a more complete survey.

Wintrip's detailed account focuses on the changes in format and content of parish registers between the Restoration and the introduction of civil registration. By considering the nuances of registers during this period, including initiatives for their improvement, it offers an insight into the evolution of official record-keeping in England and Wales during a period of significant change. *A History of Parish Registers*, which is well referenced, promises to be the definitive work on this subject for many years to come.

This book is intended as a history of the parish registers of the Church of England and is not a practical guide to their use. It is not, therefore, a 'How To' manual but rather it is an overview and account of the history and development of parish registers, the goal being to encourage readers to recognise changes in their format, and to understand what is behind those changes and the references or symbols we sometimes come across alongside our ancestors' entries in baptism, marriage and burial registers. By throwing light on the development of these records, it seeks to lay the foundation for more informed and productive research and does explain how and why differences in parish registers occurred.

The focus of the book is the period 1660 to 1837 as the author has concluded that the period up to that date are already adequately covered in earlier works. Nevertheless,

a short summary chapter of the key issues of the earlier years (1538-1660) is included, as is a summary of the post-1837 era, when civil birth, marriage and death registration came into operation and the secular role of parish registers ended. Having set the direction of the book, the chapters are set out largely with a chronological account of the changes in three main periods: 1660 to 1754; 1754 to 1812; and 1813 to 1837. Each of these periods is recognisable to family historians as commencing with an important change impacting the keeping of parish registers. The Restoration in 1660 overturned the Commonwealth period rules for the maintenance of the registers as a civil matter and restored the diocesan structure of the Church; Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1753, (An Act for the better preventing of clandestine Marriages) implemented in 1754, brought in new strict rules for the administration of marriages; and 1813 saw the implementation of George Rose's Act of 1812 (An Act for the better regulating and preserving Parish and other Registers of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, in England), which applied primarily to baptism and burial registers. The text does demonstrate just what a muddle the keeping of registers had become in the period up to 1813, with the official rules being incomplete (and ignored) and other actors from various dioceses suggesting changes or improvements to which several chapters and appendices are devoted.

Taken as a whole, the period witnessed the transformation of a society ordered by the Church to a more diverse one, where secular and governmental matters gradually took precedence. The rules relating to parish registers were set down in 1604 by canon 70 of the Church of England. Yet parish registers were not simply a record of who had undergone the sacramental rites. Prior to the introduction of civil births, marriages and deaths in 1837, it was the local parish church that kept track of the population (at various times for social control, the determination of heredity and of property rights and taxation) and attempts were made in the 18th century to link parish register information with a census. Baptism entries evidenced paternity, while marriage enabled the presumption of paternity; and entries on marriage registers evidenced the legal contract that placed the person, property and inheritance of the bride into the hands of her new husband (coverture). However, the decades following 1660 were characterised by a gradual acceptance of the right to religious freedom. This necessitated a recognition that, since it was the Church of England parish registers that evidenced paternity, property and inheritance rights, somehow the Dissenters needed to be accommodated within them.

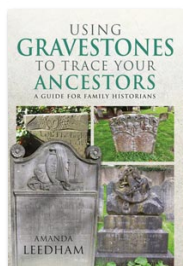
As part of this the gradual development from the early years in which often, baptism entries might simply have

included the child's name, to an understanding that the descent from one generation to the next also needed to be recorded. Although the rules governing the content and layout of parish registers, the writing surface used and even requirements for their safe keeping, were set down by canon 70, gradually accommodations were reached whereby births of the children of Dissenters/Nonconformists could be included in registers and in burial arrangements.

Wintrip outlines the introduction of various requirements over time, such as 'burial in woollen' and taxes on entries in parish registers—and how these might be identified in the parish registers. Hardwicke's Marriage Act marked a significant statutory intervention in the keeping of records from 1754. Although the circumstances in which marriages could take place had been set down by the Church in 1604, over time they had often been ignored, sometimes with serious consequences for respectable yet unwitting bigamous wives and their children, as well as ruined heiresses. Hardwicke's Act set down new strict requirements for the administration and recording of marriages, alongside significant penalties for clergy who failed to comply. In a chapter entirely devoted to the paperwork created by this Act, the book explains the administrative changes, the statutory requirements, the role of private printing companies in their interpretation and practice and many other aspects. This was also the first time the subjects of an entry in a parish register were required to sign, although the absence of a signature might be a choice, rather than evidence of our ancestor's illiteracy or limited literacy skills.

He describes the next major statutory provisions in the 1812 Act, commenting how the bill was emasculated before the Act was finally passed, and the (somewhat defective) legacy for recording baptisms and burials and the consequences for marriage registration. The final chapter deals with the period from civil registration.

A sound and comprehensive guide to the background of what and why the registers we encounter were framed.



Using gravestones to trace your ancestors. A guide for family historians, by Amanda Leedham. Pen and Sword Family History, 2025. ISBN 978-1-03611-061-1. Paperback, xvi and 134 pp, illustrations, notes, sources, select bibliography, index. £14.99.

Amanda Leedham is a local historian and genealogist who runs AJ Family History.

Whilst burials have been taking place for thousands of years the 18th and 19th centuries saw the start of the gravestone boom, particularly with the advent of public

cemeteries in addition to churchyards, and personalised gravestones became financially viable especially to the lower-middle and middle classes. The information provided on gravestones and monuments makes them a valuable primary source for anyone wanting to trace their family history. They can provide details that are not available in the official records, holding clues to break down brick walls, but can also work hand-in-hand with original records and documents.

The book explores how important gravestones are and how they can give the researcher a sense of the deceased person's identity and about the society in which he or she lived. It looks at all types of gravestones and monuments from the 17th to the 20th centuries.

Amanda Leedham takes an in-depth look at what our ancestors left behind on their gravestones and monuments and advises the researcher how to investigate, analyse and to record this information and explores how it can assist family history research. She looks at the symbolism, wording and beliefs evinced on gravestones: the images of mortality—urns, cherubs, Green Men and religious symbols for example, and how the emphasis in language changed from references to 'the body' or 'corpse' in the 17th and 18th centuries to commemoration of 'the memory' of the deceased in the 19th. Fear of body-snatchers and of being buried alive were of particular concern in the 19th century. In the chapter on children, family and ancestors she describes how children were often just listed or enumerated owing to the large size of families and high infant mortality and how the patriarchal nature of society and the doctrine of coverture relegated married women to relicts, wives and mothers, which also goes for children. Occupations are often mentioned, categorised into political, e.g. mayor, professional, e.g. doctors and surgeons, and other occupations, and religious offices. Women's occupations are few but include servants and housekeepers; the status of married women, of course, being just that. Leedham devotes a chapter to military gravestones and commemorations, dividing those pre-World War I from those from the World Wars and describing the differences between private graves and those marked by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. She gives examples of how such graves can provide helpful points to associated documents e.g. military records and local newspaper accounts. Two other aspects complete the round-up: how people died (illness, women in or after childbirth, accidents especially drowning, burning, falls, coal mining accidents, and murder) and how people felt a sense of place and being by recording where they may have come from, lived in or died in places elsewhere.

The style is narrative and easy to follow and there are copious examples based on Leedham's personal research. A useful guide.

Ian Davison

CORRESPONDENCE

From: Dr Peter Borrows
Email: peterborrows@cantab.net

Re: 'Marriages outside the parish of residence following Hardwicke's Marriage Act', (John Wintrip) *Genealogists' Magazine*, June 2026

I found your article (*Genealogists' Magazine*, June 2026) very interesting.

You point out, I am sure correctly, that couples would have many reasons for marrying away from their home: to not draw attention to a heavily pregnant bride, to avoid an unpopular local clergyman, or boisterous local celebrations or, for minors, the consent of parents. However, it seems to me there is another likely reason for saying you married in a large town. Several of the clergy responses commented that couples marrying elsewhere meant they did not get their marriage fee. Perhaps paying the fee could be totally avoided by claiming they had married in a large town but not actually doing so. More respectable than just living together! So the question really is was the deficit of marriages in the parish of residence completely made up by an excess of marriages in large towns?

From: John Wintrip (in reply)
Email: research@jwgs.co.uk

I am sure that what you suggest did take place, although perhaps not very often, otherwise I think more clergy would have drawn attention to this phenomenon. Only one clergyman, from Chadwell in Essex, appears to have alluded to the practice in his comment "And I am pretty fully persuaded that many avail themselves of a

pretence of this practice to hold forth the Idea of their being married, who have never been married at all."

In 30 years of personal research, involving both direct ancestors and collateral lines, mainly in Northumberland and Durham, I have found many examples of couples from parishes in the surrounding area marrying in Newcastle upon Tyne, but I don't recall any marriages that couldn't be traced at all (apart from those of a few couples from north Northumberland, who clearly took advantage of their proximity to Scotland). Similarly, in over ten years of professional research in Somerset and Devon, I don't recall failing to find any post-1754 marriages (other than those of men who served in the army or militia, who may have married in Ireland or elsewhere), as virtually all English and Welsh marriage registers, or substitute BTs, survive for this period. However, it is possible that the practice was more common in parishes closer to London.

I certainly think there is scope for investigating this practice further, but to produce meaningful results would require a great deal of work, so probably more suitable for an academic project.

From: Steve Barber
Email: steve.barber@plexorconsulting.com

Re: On offer: Micron 780 microfiche reader

We are looking for a new home for a Micron 780 microfiche reader, which belonged to my father, a keen member of the Society of Genealogists. It is in working order and is offered free for collection in the High Wycombe, Bucks area.

Please contact Steve Barber for further details.



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MICHAEL GANDY, FSG

1949 - 2026

Michael Gandy was brought up in Sydenham in SE London. His mother's DNA showed 100% East Surrey and West Kent and he had ancestors on Sydenham Common 150 years before he was born. His father's ancestry was $\frac{3}{4}$ South Lancashire and central Cheshire (where the Quaker meeting began in 1654 at the Gandy farm in Frandley) but it was the story of his Swedish great grandfather which first inspired him to research. Michael was one of the fairly small group of genealogists who are hooked as children and his first birth certificate from Somerset House is dated February 1962 when he was 12. Charles Bernau's widow attended his church and he was quickly introduced to SoG by Cregoe Nicholson, one of the founders and who died in 1964. He became a regular day researcher straightaway and joined in 1967 aged 18.

Michael studied Italian at the University of Kent at Canterbury and then became a teacher (1972-1992). His hobby had widened to compiling a Kent marriage index 1813-1837 and then an East Kent index 1754-1812 and when family history blossomed he was already known and quickly went on various committees. He was a founder member of Kent FHS and North Middlesex FHS (which he chaired for many years) and he came onto the Society's Executive and various sub-committees in 1979 where he served with a compulsory gap until 1997. He was made a Fellow in 1987 and was Chairman 1994-1996. He edited many of the Society's publications in the series *My Ancestors were...* and wrote the first account of how to trace Jewish families behind the Iron Curtain as it then was. He was also on the Executive of the Federation of Family History Societies and vice-Chairman for a period. He and Penny Pattinson suggested and established the Strays Clearing House which did excellent work before the arrival of macro-indexes of both parish registers and censuses.

Parallel with this Michael increasingly wrote and lectured. He was a founder member of the Quaker FHS and at the founding meeting of the Jewish Genealogical Society. He knew a bit about everything (!) but particularly specialised in the nonconformist groups. He was Chairman of the Catholic FHS for many years, Research Officer of the Huguenot Society for 14 years and frequently researched in Paris, on the British Library's list of researchers for the East India Company and later records of the British in India. He was a founder member of FIBIS (Families in British India). He was a member of many other societies and particularly active in the Romany and Traveller FHS. He was President of both London and North Middlesex FHS (which combined with Central Middlesex) and of Hillingdon FHS. He was a vice-President of Kent FHS.



During the 1970s and 80s Michael built up a professional practice and was joint Secretary of the Association of Genealogists and Record Agents from 1979 to 1985. He was on the National Archives list of researchers and specialised in older records often partly in Latin. He wrote *Latin for Family Historians* for the FFHS and *Cultures and Faiths* for the National Archives, a survey of all the religions of this country and the first to describe the situation for South

Asian research in England and Wales.

Michael went full-time in 1992 and was keynote speaker at a number of conferences in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand as well as many day conferences in England and a couple in Ireland where he specialised in explaining the many vital sources in London for tracing Irish people who did not emigrate eg, Post Office and military.

In the 1980s Michael edited *Prophile*, the magazine of the Friends of the PRO (as it was then). He edited *British Families in India*, *Quaker Connections* and *Catholic Ancestor*. He wrote a regular column for 84 issues of *Practical Family History*. He compiled six volumes of *Catholic Missions and Registers 1700-1880*, four *Catholic Family History Bibliographies*, and the enormous *Index of Nuns to 1914*. He re-indexed from scratch the whole of Besse's *Sufferings of the People called Quakers for the Testimony of a Good Conscience* in ten volumes. He took over editing the *Genealogists' Magazine* in 1999.

Michael was also one of only three researchers allowed access to the records of the Duchy of Cornwall.

In 1971 Michael married Mary Adams, a fellow student, who had been inspired to trace her Scottish ancestry by knowing that her McColl ancestors fought as Jacobites at the Battle of Culloden (under Stewart of Appin). They lived almost all their married life in Whetstone, North London. Mary was supportive and involved in family history for many years and was first joint-Secretary of AGRA with Michael and then Publications and Conferences Manager at SoG (1986-1992), including formatting *Computers in Genealogy*, before going to work for Catholic charities. In the 1990s she did a great deal of support work (and research) for the Canadian Child Migrants (1874-1928) and Australian Child Migrants (1928-1967), visited Perth and welcomed and helped former child migrants visiting England.

As young people their daughters Isabel and Rachel were in an episode of *Family Tree* in 1982 and were often also at conferences helping on bookstalls etc. Isabel spent a gap year on the Society's reception desk.

JAN GOW FSG

1940 - 2026

On 6 May 2026 the genealogy community lost a most invaluable member of our global community.

Janet Dorothy Gow (née MacDonald) QSM. Jan was brought up by Cecil Roderick & Dorothy Florence MacDonald (née Garlick) in small country town in New South Wales, Australia and like many before her, Jan travelled to explore the wider world where in 1961 Jan married New Zealand born David John Gow in London. Soon after they settled in New Zealand bringing up three children, Geoff, Alan and Carrie.

Jan had a wide-ranging influence both within and without the genealogy community, invaluable to a countless number of people in a myriad of ways¹. In the 1980s, as President of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Jan instigated the transcription of school Admission and Withdrawal registers and the indexing of wills and probates from the Court Houses around New Zealand as they transferred to Archives New Zealand. Access to these indexes still benefits many thousands of researchers today.

She owned Beehive Books from 1987 and established Hooked on Genealogy Tours in 1992. Every year for 29 years Jan took small tour groups to research in the USA and the UK. She had a passion for technology and championed advances which benefited



many researchers and organisations. She was on the local Education Board and active in Toastmistresses, regularly wrote for many magazines, including NetGuide (NZ).

Jan was made a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists (UK) in 2012, the same year she had been honoured with a Queen's Service Medal (NZ) for her services to genealogical research.

Jan won a trip to Salt Lake City in 1981 as a new researcher, still taking baby steps. This trip turned her into "a 'walking' genealogist at a fast trot! All these years later, I am still a walking, running, galloping, marathoning, travelling, surfing, gliding, cruising, eat'n 'n sleep'n, genealogist!"²

To quote her family notice: "Her warmth, wisdom, kindness, and remarkable memory for people and stories will be greatly missed by all who knew her."³

By Michelle Patient, another Australian Past President of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

- 2012 Autobiography: www.famnet.org.nz/newsletters/famnet/Jan_2012/Jan's%20Bio.htm
- 2012 Autobiography: www.famnet.org.nz/newsletters/famnet/Jan_2012/Jan's%20Bio.htm
- The New Zealand Herald* on May 16 2026: <https://notices.nzherald.co.nz/nz/obituaries/nzherald-nz/name/janet-gow-obituary?id=61474634>

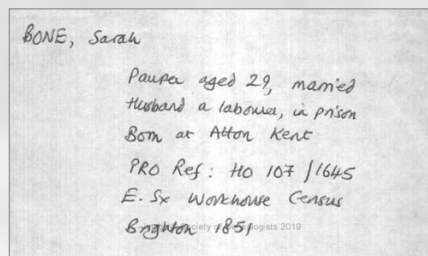
DECEASED MEMBERS

Roger Hugh Beeching	1984 - 2026	David Hawgood	1977 - 2026
William Brakenbury	1962 - 2026	Mary Catherine Hunkin	2006 - 2026
Maurice L Dalton	1999 - 2026	Eileen Bertha Robson	1979 - 2026
Elizabeth Anne Daniell	2007 - 2026	Peter Frederick Crewe Roden	1963 - 2026
Richard Richard Pearce Edgumbe	1977 - 2026	Sheila Maureen Snaith	1985 - 2026
Stewart England	1990 - 2026	Roy Storm	1963 - 2026
Peter William Griffiths	2000 - 2026	John Philip Syner	1974 - 2026

Oddities from the Great Card Index

ODDITY #10

Bare Bones: Sarah Bones's 1851 census entry strips her life down to the essentials: 'Pauper aged 29, married husband a labourer, in prison'. These skeletal details hint towards a much harder story. (Bolt-Boog 2585)



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Prices for the September and December issues are £7.99 for UK members and £10.66 for overseas members.

These prices subject to a discount if September copies are unavailable). This fee covers the cost of printing and postage.

Subscription: <https://societyofgenealogists-shop.myshopify.com/collections/genealogists-magazine>



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EVENTS NEWS

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND FAMILY HISTORY AT WHARF ROAD

Members with Australian or New Zealand family history interests may wish to visit the Society of Genealogists' Library at Wharf Road on Friday 18 September.

We are delighted to welcome genealogists Michelle Patient and Helen Smith, who will be available during the day to offer guidance on Australian and New Zealand research, suggest useful approaches, and help members think through more difficult research questions.

Both Michelle and Helen bring extensive experience in family history, DNA research and international genealogy. Between them, their work covers research in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and beyond, with particular strengths in complex family stories, genetic genealogy, social history and specialist records.

No booking is required to visit the Library on the day. However, members travelling some distance, requiring computer or desk space, or wishing to order library items in advance should check the visitor information page before coming to Wharf Road.

There will also be two talks on the day: **When A Place is New to You** with Michelle Patient and **Delving into Place: Local history enhances genealogy** with Helen Smith. Members interested in Australasian research are encouraged to make a day of it. It is considerably cheaper than booking flights.



IN MEMORIAM: DEATH & THE GENEALOGIST

This autumn, the Society of Genealogists will explore one of the most important, and often most revealing, areas of family history research: death, burial, commemoration, and the records they leave behind.

Our **In Memoriam: Death and the Genealogist** season brings together talks, visits and specialist sessions looking at death records, funeral customs, burial grounds, probate, gravemarkers, funeral directors' records, military deaths, memorials and more.

The programme will look at death and remembrance from many angles, from the essential records created when an ancestor died to the wider customs, places and professions connected with burial and commemoration. Nicola Johnson will introduce British death records in **When an Ancestor Died**, while Patrice Connell will explore what causes of death can reveal in **The Cause of Death Was....** Sessions with Else Churchill will consider death, burial, undertakers' records, monuments and memorials at SoG and elsewhere.

The season will also examine the practical and social history of death. Talks will cover funeral trains with Nicolas Wheatley, burial clubs with Kathryn Berry, funeral directors' records with Brian Parsons, and death and burial traditions with Helen Frisby. Attendees will also be able to explore burial landscapes and memorials through sessions on the Glasgow Necropolis, 'Bedstead' gravemarkers with Trevor Jones, graveyard research tools with Alison Spring, and the hidden features of Find a Grave with Nicola Johnson.



Military death and commemoration will also feature, with Simon Fowler speaking on Waterloo Teeth and Cheetah Diggings: Researching Death in the British Army before 1914, and Kathy Kirkpatrick discussing 20th Century Commonwealth War Graves Commission Burials. The programme also includes Probate with Mia Bennett, Using Deceased Online with Stephanie Stokes and events in conjunction with Cribbs Funeral Directors including visit to the National Funeral Museum.

Together, these sessions will help family historians understand not only when and where an ancestor died,

but what their death can reveal about family, community, belief, occupation, social status and the records created around them.

ALL ABOUT THAT PLACE

The Society of Genealogists will host **All About That Place** from Wednesday 7 to Friday 16 October.

This major online local and family history event will bring together around 160 speakers and almost 200 talks, exploring the places, communities, records, maps and stories that help bring research to life.

For family historians, place matters. Understanding the streets, parishes, workplaces and landscapes our ancestors knew can help us see their lives in richer context.

All the talks will be available to everyone in the Learning Hub, with a workbook of activities to help you make the most of the programme. There will also be prizes to be won.

Local and family historians, and anyone interested in the stories of people and place, can find out more at: <https://sog.org.uk/welcome-to-all-about-that-place/>

To help you prepare for All About That Place, we are offering four optional paid online events on 18 and 19 September, inspired by the programme. These separately bookable talks and workshops are not part of the free All About That Place event, but they offer a friendly way to start thinking more deeply about the places in your own research before the main programme begins. The one-hour talks cost £10 each and are included with Gold membership, while the two-hour workshop costs £20, or £16 for SoG members. Topics include **When a Place is New to You** with Michelle Patient, **Delving into Place: Local History Enhances Genealogy** with Helen Smith, **One-Place Study: A Tool for Exploring the Past** with Julie Muirhead, and **Walking With Your Ancestors Workshop: Mapping Strategies for Genealogists** with Sophie Kay.

UPCOMING COURSES

Many readers will already have come across Dr Karen Cummings' new book, **Genealogy Methods and Techniques: A Practical Guide to Research**. We are delighted to welcome Karen to the Society of Genealogists in November for **How to Be More Confident in Your Family Tree**, a four-week online course exploring the methods that help family historians research more clearly and confidently. Across four one-hour sessions, Karen will look at practical ways to organise your work, make better use of documents and online searches, assess evidence, and keep track of what has been found and what still needs checking. The course will introduce tools such as research logs, family tree software, timelines and mind maps, and is suitable for everyone from beginners building good habits

to experienced researchers reviewing their approach. Find out more at: <https://portal.sog.org.uk/Event/view/2969838>.

Else Churchill's popular **Researching 18th Century Ancestors** returns on 5 October for ten weeks of online evening classes. The course will help family historians move into the "long 18th century", exploring the records, methods and historical context needed to research ancestors from around 1690 to 1837. Topics include parish life, taxation, property, probate, court records, war, professional lives, monuments and memorials, with guest sessions from Wayne Sheppard and Dr Hillary Burlock. It is best suited to researchers already familiar with parish registers, major genealogy websites and archive catalogues.

Discover Your Huguenot Heritage Day on 9 October offers a full day of specialist guidance for anyone researching Huguenot ancestry. The day begins at the SoG Library with talks on the Huguenot Library, its collections and key family history sources, including church registers, consistorial minutes and the Royal Bounty archive. After lunch, Paul Baker will lead a guided walk through Spitalfields, exploring the Huguenot presence in the area alongside its wider history of migration. Attendees will also receive access to a recorded talk by Else Churchill on Huguenot resources at the Society of Genealogists.

Starting 21 September **Poor London Week** offers family historians the chance to spend five days at Wharf Road exploring the lives of London's poorest families, from parish relief and workhouses to foundlings, street children, charity, slums and migration. The in-person week includes 11 talks, time in the SoG Research Hub, guidance from our librarians and genealogists, sandwich lunches, and the opportunity to meet and learn alongside fellow family historians. Optional walks and visits will help attendees step into the streets, archives and places connected with London's past, making this a sociable and practical week for anyone wanting to understand the London their ancestors knew.

See www.sog.org.uk/events for more information about any of these events.

FROM THE COLLECTIONS TEAM

Library:

We now have **nearly 39,500** catalogue records referring to items on the open library shelves. All our library tracts are now onsite and we continue to process these for permanent addition to the library shelves - over 88 boxes are now complete.

Our current **Featured Collection** contains resources relating to West Indies research and at the end of August this will be transferred to Library Section C where it will remain onsite permanently. Our next Featured Collection will be the category of United States Migration, and we

expect this to be installed by the end of September. This may be of interest to those who had family who migrated to colonial America or to American visitors tracing their British ancestry.

We continue to receive **military history** from the collection at Aldershot library thanks to the efforts of member Peter Williamson. There are now 1450 regimental histories in our library collection and these can be found in the catalogue using an Advanced Search and cross-checking the subject ARMY - REGIMENTAL HISTORIES with a Word search for the place or regiment.

Digital:

In SoG Explore we now have 3850 record sets, and this number is rapidly growing.

Digitised **monumental inscriptions** typescripts for counties alphabetically to Hampshire have now been added to SoG Explore - 69,145 images and 2088 record sets.

You can search these by logging into SoG Explore and clicking the A to Z Record Sets button on the right. Then you can use the keyword/place field to search for record sets you are interested in.

Image sets subject to copyright have [Library Access Only] after their titles, so you'll know they can be viewed on a library computer by request.

If you don't live close enough to visit, you can contact our Genealogists at genenquiries@sog.org.uk; they can interrogate items on your behalf and make copies of relevant pages for you.

SoG Explore was recently moved to a new website platform and is now available directly from our Digital Resources page <https://sog.org.uk/research/digital/>

The new platform will enable us to more easily carry out further development. We can also begin work on updating the links from library catalogue records to their corresponding images in Explore.

In the meantime there is no change to its functionality, only some minor changes to its appearance to better fit with the main website design. If you would like to report any issues or make any suggestions regarding SoG Explore please contact Harry digital@sog.org.uk.

Additionally, over 220 library typescripts, card indexes and digital acquisitions added to SoG Explore since September last year on a range of topics.

A list of recent additions to SoG Explore can be found from page 14 in this issue of Notes and News.

Archives:

Every year in the March edition of *Genealogists' Magazine* we publish a report of all the collections

processed by our amazing Archives Team in the previous calendar year.

The team has been extra busy this year and, so you don't have to wait until March, see our August Collections Update for a link to a half-time report for collections processed Jan-Jun this year. <https://sog.org.uk/news/collections-update-august-2026/>.

The team will receive some practical training from Marie Chapell, Senior Conservator at the National Conservation Service in September on handling and packing of fragile archive materials.

Your feedback is important to us!

We always love to hear from our members and visitors. Your questions and suggestions can help us to improve our collections, services and finding aids.

You can email collections@sog.org.uk, fill in your post-visit survey form. Questions about how to find and access collection items that may be of interest to you are always welcome.

Christine Worthington

Research Collections Coordinator

collections@sog.org.uk | www.sog.org.uk/research-hub/library

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE

April - June 2026

FAMILY HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

Biggs A collection of family histories: Biggs, Evans, Clubb, Hale, Huke, Mills, Peyton.

Christian Fletcher Christian: some facts and fallacies / Hugh Turner.

Clough The Clough and Butler archives: a catalogue / edited by John M.L. Booker. (1965)

Corben The Corben & Maffey families / by the Rev. F.N. Davis. (1946?)

Curwen John Curwen: a short critical biography / by Bernarr Rainbow. (1980)

Elgar 'Its the only wish I've got': the story of the Elgar Birthplace / Andrew Neill. (2006)

Garside From Hampshire to Herne Bay / E M. Garside. (2016)

From Suffolk to Sydney / Ellane Garside. (2016)

My Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire families / E.M. Garshire. (2015)

My Gloucestershire families / E.M. Garside. (2025)

Suffolk gentlemen / E.M. Garside. (2025)

Sussex and Surrey to Sydney / E.M. Garside. (2022)

My Sussex families / E.M. Garside. (2015)

My Yorkshire and Lancashire families / E.M. Garside. (2015)

Horton An autobiography / by Robert Forman Horton. (1918)

James Sir Henry James of Smarden, Kent, and Clerkenwell, Recusant (c. 1559-1625) / Hugh Bowler. (1969)

Norwood John Norwood V.C. (1995?)

Pugh A memorial to the Pugh clan who lost their lives in WW1 & WW2 / Geoffrey Pugh. (2025)

Schayle Pedigree for Schayle-Sale / compiled by E.J.D. Gilbert. (1913)

Stanley William Stanley of Holt: a Yorkist martyr? / by Jean M Gidman. (2003)

Sutherland Roberta: a portrait of courage and hope / Bo Harris. (1925)

Twysden Sir Roger Twysden 1597-1672 / Frank W Jessup. (1965)

Villeneuve The young man in the photograph: a tribute to the life of Arthur Villeneuve, 16th June 1896 - 8th April 1916 / by Sylvia Leach, edited by Trevor Howes. (2022)

Wood Marguerite Wood and Margaret Simpson. (2018)

Wyatt James Wyatt / by Antony Dale. (1956)

Yeats The Yeats family Sligo connections: a tourism information booklet including a self-guided town centre walking trail / researched and compiled by Peter Tiernan for Sligo Tidy Towns. (2019)

RESEARCH AND RECORD GUIDES

Genealogica & Heraldica XXXV reformation revolutions restoration: proceedings of the 35 International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences: Cambridge 15th-19th August 2022 / Paul A. Fox editor. (2023)

The war memorials handbook / compiled by Stephen Croad. (2001)

GENERAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY

Cary's reduction of his large map of England and Wales with part of Scotland. (1819)

Churchill's generals / edited by John Keegan. (1991)

Diocesan map of England and Wales. (1899)

English sheriffs to 1154 / Judith A Green. (1990)

Goodnight campers: the history of the British holiday camp / Colin Ward and Dennis Hardy. (2010)

A history of parish registers in England and Wales: from the Restoration to civil registration / John Wintrip. (2026)

Honours and awards to women to 1914 / Norman G. Gooding. (2007)

Index of original documents in volumes of Bank of England wills / compiled by Jenny Key.

Methodist heritage handbook, 2010: information for visitors to historic Methodist places in Britain. (2010)

The Royal Family tree from Queen Victoria to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. (1962)

Some East Anglian clergy / by Charles Linnell. (1961)

Tracing your tank ancestors: a guide for family historians / Janice Tait and Davis Fletcher. (2011)

BEDFORDSHIRE

Bedford Bedford Estate Records: deposited in the Greater London Record Office, County Hall, S.E.1 and later (1975?)

BERKSHIRE

Clewer The first Clewer House of Mercy penitents' roll book 1848-1882 / edited by Lisa Spurrier. (2026)

Wokingham Luckley, Wokingham: school lists, registers and guides.

CHESHIRE

The poems of John Byrom / edited by Timothy Underhill. (2026)

Birkenhead Geographia Birkenhead & Wallasey: detailed street plan based on ordnance survey with index to streets. (1965?)

Macclesfield Macclesfield Borough Council: official map (1983?)

CORNWALL

Cornwall's historic churches

Falmouth Lake's street map of Falmouth: index of streets and places of interest. (1962)

DEVON

Abbotskerswell List of graves in the burial ground at St. Augustine's Priory, Abbotskerswell [with census returns for 1871, 1881 and 1891]. (1992)

Exeter Exeter street plan. (1989)

Official Exeter street plan 1976 edition.

DORSET

Dorset's war, 1939-45 / Rodney Legg. (1986)

Bournemouth Road map of Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch: two colour plan with index and bus routes including Broadstone, Wimborne, Ferndown, West Moors and Mudeford.

Lyme Regis Map of the Lyme Regis neighbourhood compiled for the use of visitors showing particularly the lanes & field paths of the district.

Swanage Road map of Swanage: also sketch map of Dorset giving approximate mileage from places of interest.

DURHAM

Sunderland Sunderland street map.

ESSEX

Catalogue of books, pamphlets, periodicals, manuscripts & scrap collections, in the library of the Essex Archaeological Society. (1923?)

Barking Fox's street reference plan and map of Barking and adjoining district.

Canvey Island Topo town plan of Canvey Island.

Chingford Fox's street reference plan and map of Chingford and district.

Edmonton Fox's street reference plan and map of Edmonton and district.

Harlow New Town Map of Harlow New Town showing Co-operative services now in operation.

Hornchurch Fox's street reference plan and map of Hornchurch and Upminster.

Romford Fox's street reference plan and map of Romford and adjoining district.

Southend-on-Sea Fox's street reference plan of the county borough of Southend-on-Sea.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Cotswolds at war / June R Lewis. (1993)

HAMPSHIRE

Buckler's Hard Buckler's Hard: the 18th century shipbuilding village near Beaulieu in the New Forest.

Havant Official street plan to the urban district of Havant and Waterloo including Hayling Island.

Isle of Wight Large scale pictorial tourist map of the Isle of Wight: with street plans of all the principal towns.

Three colour Isle of Wight guide map: including 8 indexed street plans.

New Forest Indexed map of the New Forest: with reference key to places of interest.

Southampton Lloyds List: port maps, Southampton.

HEREFORDSHIRE

Hereford Gall & Inglis county maps of England: Hereford for cyclists and tourists.

HERTFORDSHIRE

Barnet Fox's street reference plan and map of Barnet and adjoining district. [Map]

Lockleys Wellin Catalogue of the greater portion of the contents of the [Lockleys] mansion ... sale by Norris & Duvall, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, December 12, 13, and 15, 1911.

KENT

Hythe Auction of contents from Hill House, Hythe Kent, Sale on Wednesday and Thursday 21st and 22nd October, 1931.

Woolwich Wartime Woolwich / John Peters. (2005)

Mark Beech Holy Trinity Church, Mark Beech, Kent: Monumental inscriptions 1827-1990)

Pluckley Catalogue of the excellent surplus household furniture and outside effects to be sold by auction at 'Surrenden-Dering,' Pluckley, near Ashford, Kent on Wednesday, 26th July, 1950.

Tunbridge Wells Catalogue of the important 2 day sale of the whole of the contents of the residence of 'The Mount' Tunbridge Wells on the premises on Tuesday & Wednesday, 26th & 27th July, 1955 by Messrs Geering and Colyer. (1955)

LANCASHIRE

The place-names of Lancashire / Eilert Ekwall. (1972)

Rural Industries of the Lune Valley / edited by Michael Winstanley. (2000)

Ainsworth Extracts from parish registers relating to Ainsworth.

Chipping Full census details 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871,

1881 with surname index, maps & notes for the North part of the township of Chipping, Lancashire including Old Hive, Black Hall, Core, Saddle, the Grove & Saunder Rake Bottoms. (1990)

Speke Guide to Speke Hall / R. Millington. (1994)

My life at Speke Hall / Tom Whatmore. (1994)

Speke Hall / compiled by Belinda Cousens. (1994)

LEICESTERSHIRE

Genealogical Society of the University of Leicester: newsletter (1975-8)

Aylestone St Andrew Map showing the alteration of the areas of Aylestone St. Andrew with St. James and St. Christopher, Leicester. (1987)

Hose Hose Co. Leic.: marriages from B.Tcps.

Knossington Knossington, Leicestershire: marriages 1564-1706.

Measham Measham: 1751-1804: baptisms and burials, for each year / compiled by M. Billings.

Samlesbury Samlesbury Hall: a history / Alistair Hodge. (1990)

Stoke Golding St. Margaret's Church, Stoke Golding / A.J. Collett. (2001)

Swithland Swithland Co. Leic.: monumental inscriptions chiefly on the South side of the churchyard 23/8/1943 with outside burials at Montsorrel Baptist church, Woodhouse churchyard, Quorn Baptist church, Woodhouse Eaves Baptist church and Belgrave churchyard.

A true inventorie of all christenings [1616-1634], weddings and burials [1637/8] ; Dimock Fletcher's Swithland transcripts: 1887, 1695, 1703; Swithland Estate rent book 1701 and Swithland wills & Adms at Groby Court 1721-1800.

Thurcaston Thurcaston: monumental inscriptions in the church and churchyard with extracts from transcripts and parish registers.

LINCOLNSHIRE

Axholme The Isle of Axholme in old photographs / by Colin Ella. (1999)

The Isle of Axholme: a guide to the district and its villages / Colin Ella. (2007)

Crowle The parish church of St. Oswald, Crowle: burials 1813-1872. (2010)

A stroll through old Crowle: a pictorial record / by Colin Ella. (2004)

Eastoft The parish church of St. Bartholomew, Eastoft: memorial inscriptions volumes I and II. (2010)

LONDON & MIDDLESEX

Acton Fox's street reference plan and map of Acton and adjoining district.

Enfield Fox's street reference plan and map of Enfield and adjoining district.

Golders Green Brief history of Golders Green Crematorium: with some persons cremated at Golders Green Crematorium.

Hayes Fox's map and street reference plan Hayes and district.

Heston Fox's street reference plan and map of Heston & Isleworth and adjoining district.

Hounslow Map of the Parish of the 'Good Shepherd', Hounslow West also showing the alteration of the areas of the parishes of Holy Trinity with St. Paul Hounslow and Cranford.

Islington ?? Pentonville Prison, 1844: staff

London Bacons up to date map of London 1902 with 'Places of interest in and near London' booklet.

City of London Cemetery & Crematorium: official map. (2001?)

The handy map of central London: with full index to streets etc., house numbers on main thoroughfares & other long streets. Inset maps of underground railway, theatreland, and cinemaland. (196-?)

Leigh's new map of the environs of London.

Londinium: a descriptive map and guide to Roman London.

London 1843: drawn and engraved from authentic documents and personal observations by B.R. Davies in George St. Euston Square. (1992)

London Common Council 1755.

A street map of London 1843.

The visitations of Horace Salusbury Cotton, Ordinary of Newgate: a prison chaplain's journals / edited by Simon Devereaux.

W.H. Smith & Sons: plan of London with index.

Southgate Fox's street reference plan and map of Southgate and district.

Spitalfields A walk through Spitalfields [Map]

Tottenham Fox's street reference plan and map of Tottenham and adjoining district.

Wanstead Fox's street reference plan and map of Wanstead and Woodford and adjoining district.

Wood Green Fox's street reference plan and map of Wood Green and district.

Yiewsley Fox's street reference plan and map of Yiewsley & West Drayton and district.

NORFOLK

Frettenham Map showing the alteration of the areas of the parishes of Frettenham with Stanninghall, Haynford. (1989)

Harling A short guide to the Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, East Harling / Friends of East Harling Parish Church.

King's Lynn Borough of King's Lynn street map and places of interest.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Alnwick Guide-book to Alnwick Castle: with illustrations

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Southwell Southwell Minster: a history & guide / Philip Dixon, Nigel Coates and Paul Hale. (2008?)

OXFORDSHIRE

Oxfordshire at war / Malcolm Graham. (1994)

RUTLAND

Stoke Dry The church of St. Andrew, Stoke Dry, Rutland / William Gale. (1962)

SUFFOLK

Suffolk [Map]

Sudbury Sudbury and district: Suffolk the official guide / Sudbury Town Council.

Walberswick Bloody Marsh: a seventeenth-century village in crisis/ Peter Warner. (2000)

SURREY

West Surrey FHS [Family History Society]: a guide for members, twenty-fifth anniversary edition 1974-1999.

Chobham The monumental inscriptions of Surrey: MI series. Chobham

Croydon The monumental inscriptions of Surrey: MI series no. 11: West Surrey [Microfiche] (2001)

Southwark Cathedral church of St. Saviour & St. Mary Overie, Southwark. (1979)

The Southwark map

Streatham List of selected graves St. Leonard's Church, Streatham / compiled by John W. Brown. (1990)

Twickenham Twickenham and Whitton some evidence of early land development 1214-1644 / by A C B Urwin. (1978)

Windlesham Windlesham and Bagshot: MIs: the monumental inscriptions of Surrey: MI series [Microfiche.] (1990)

SUSSEX

Walkers county maps: Sussex. (1904?)

Bexhill on Sea A road map of Bexhill on Sea, Sussex.

Brighton About Brighton: a guide to the buildings and by-ways of Brighton and Hove / by Antony Dale. (1976)

Brighton and Hove: accommodation list and map [Map] (1969?)

Brighton cemeteries / by Antony Dale. (1991)

Brighton churches / Antony Dale. (1989)

The history and architecture of Brighton / by Antony Dale. (1972).

The history of the Kemp Town gardens, Brighton / by Antony Dale. (1964)

Chichester Trade and industry in the 18th and 19th centuries / Chichester WEA history workshop. (1978)

Eastbourne Eastbourne and district.

St Mary's Parish Church, Eastbourne Sussex: monumental inscriptions [Microfiche] (1998)

Newhaven Crew members of ships trading from Newhaven, Sussex between 1864 & 1889 / transcribed by PBN publications. (1990)

Wartling Monumental Inscriptions St. Mary Magdalene, Wartling, Sussex / transcribed by Family Roots Family History Society. (1992)

STAFFORDSHIRE

Wolverhampton Whitehead's street map of Wolverhampton: indexed compete with key. (195-?)

WARWICKSHIRE

Birmingham Allday: standard map of the City of Birmingham and its environs: street directory and index [MAP]

Stratford-on-Avon Easyfind: new map and street directory for Stratford-on-Avon (corrected from pervious issue)

WORCESTERSHIRE

Wyre Forest Wyre Forest district: official street and area map.

YORKSHIRE

Best lads of Nidderdale / Ken Wilford. (2000)

The book of Nidderdale: aspects of a Yorkshire valley / Nidderdale Museum Society. (2003)

Higher Wharfedale: the dale of romance, from Ormscliffe to Cam Fell / by Edmund Bogg. (1904)

History of Netherdale / William Weatherhead. (1839)

A history of Nidderdale / written by the Pateley Bridge Local History Tutorial Class; edited by Bernard Jennings. (1992)

Nidderdale from Nun Monkton to Wherside, being a record of the history, antiquities, scenery, old homes, families &c. of the beautiful valley of the Nidd / by Harry Speight. (1906)

Traces of Nidderdale in 40 years and 40 objects: stories of the Museum / Joanna Moody. (2014)

Washburn Valley yesterday: a pictorial record of life in a Dales valley / David Alred. (1997)

Washburn Valley yesterday, volume II: a second pictorial record of life in a Dales valley / David Alred. (2001)

West-Riding election: the Poll Book containing the names of all the persons registered as entitled to vote at Sheffield in the election of members of Parliament for the West-Riding of the county of York. (1835)

A Wharfedale miscellany: selected articles from the Wharfedale Newsletter Journal of the Wharfedale Family History Group 1993-1999 / edited by Wyn Chalker. (2004)

Victorian Ouseburn: George Whitehead's journal / edited by Helier Hibbs. (1990)

Addingham Addingham Wesleyan Methodist Chapel: Interment register [1844-1995] / transcribed by Brian Clayton.

Bolton Abbey parish registers 1813-1837 / transcribed by members of the Wharfedale FHG. (1993)

Bridlington Britain in old photographs: Bridlington / Ian and Margaret Sumner. (2001)

A snapshot of High Street Bridlington / by Linda Ellis. (2015)

Burley Burley in Wharfedale (Burley Chapelry, Otley Parish / St. Mary's) Baptisms: 1774-1812; 1813-1837;

1837-1875; 1876-1911 [4 Vols.] / compiled by the Wharfedale FHG. (2005-7)

Burley in Wharfedale St. Mary Parish Church, banns of marriages: Book I: 1857-1891, Book 3:1908-1924 [1Vol.] / compiled by the Wharfedale FHG. (2007)

Burley in Wharfedale burial registers: 1843-1904; 1904-1925; 1925-1943 [3 Vols.] / transcribed by the Wharfedale FHG. (2005)

Claro Muster roll for the wapentake of Claro in the County of Yorkshire 1535.

Fewston Fewston: Saints Michael & Laurence parish churchyard: memorial inscriptions. (2003)

Fewston Parish Church: burials 1813-1852 and 1853-1896 [2 vols.] / transcribed by the Wharfedale FHG. (2006)

Greenhow Life on the hill: Greenhow, its mining heritage, people and way of life / Greenhow Local History Club. (2010)

Grinton The Grinton mines (including Fremington and Ellerton) / by L.O. Tyson and I.M. Spensley with R.F. White. (1995)

Guiseley Guiseley & Menston cemeteries: memorial inscriptions (2003)

Hampsthwaite A history of Hampsthwaite; edited by Joyce Kirby. (1999)

Harrogate World War I service personnel from the Harrogate area: listed in Ackrill's Almanac 1914-1918 / compiled by Clarrie East.

Hartwith cum Winsley Exploring the heritage of Hartwith cum Winsley parish / compiled by Ann Stark. (2012)

Menston Menston Hospital burial registers 1890-1969. (2005)

Middlesborough Geographia Middlesbrough: detailed street plan based on ordnance survey showing places of interest with index to streets. (1965?)

Otley Otley cemetery: memorial inscriptions [parts I & II]. (2003)

Scarborough Old ordnance survey maps: [Yorkshire sheet 77.16], Scarborough (West) 1910 (1995)

Thruscross Thruscross Holy Trinity Church: burial register 1874-1984 & memorial inscriptions. (2008)

Timble Timble man: diaries of a Dalesman [John Dickinson]: selected and edited by Ronald Harker. (1991)

West End West End: a sunken village / Alastair Laurence. (1992)

IRELAND

A genealogical and historical map of Ireland, showing the five kingdoms of the Pentarchy: Meath, Ulster, Connaught, Leinster & Munster. (1968)

An index to prison registers held at the National Archives, Bishop Street, Dublin / [compiled by] Annie Wear. (1996)

Map of monastic Ireland (1979)

Results of the General Election, 1880: Political map of Ireland coloured to show respectively the representation in Parliament by counties and boroughs in April, 1880

and the seats gained by Liberals, conservatives, and home rulers / compiled by E. Shaw Lefevre. (1880)

ISLE OF MAN

Geographia Isle of Man: visitor's map and guide T.T. course.

SCOTLAND

The cornkister days: portrait of a land and its rituals / by David Kerr Cameron. (1984)

The islands of Western Scotland: the Inner and Outer Hebrides / W H Murray. (1973)

Bute Mount Stuart: Isle of Bute.

Edinburgh The abbey and palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh / J.S. Richardson. (1953)

Glasgow Macpherson's street map of Glasgow, including Clydebank, Renfrew, Bearsden, Bishopbriggs, Lenzie, Stepps, Cambuslang, Rutherglen, Thornliebank, Barrhead.

WALES

The drover's roads of Wales / Shirley Toulson. (1977)

Tenby Arnett's large scale map of Tenby and district. [Map]

AUSTRALIA

Victoria St Bede's College and its origins 1896-1982 / by Leo Gamble. (1982)

BELGIUM

Plan of Antwerp [MAP]

CANADA

* **Prince Edward Island** Cemetery transcript, Prince Edward Island lots and royalties: Floral Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Pleasant Valley lot 21-7 (2005)

Cemetery transcript, Prince Edward Island lots and royalties: Presbyterian People's Cemetery, Hunter River lot 22-3. (2008)

DENMARK

Fact sheet, Denmark: tracing your Danish ancestors and relatives / compiled by Hans H. Worsoe.

FRANCE

Blay Plan Guide, Saint-Malo, Saint-Servan, Papramé: various information, street directory with specific points of interest on the plan [Map] (190-?)

INDIA

Jews in India 64, with Who is who / by E Elias, E Isaac. (1964?)

The Jews of Calcutta: the autobiography of a community, 1798-1972 / by Flower Elias and Judith Elias Cooper. (1974)

Tourist map of Calcutta. (1929?)

GERMANY

Lower Saxony State Association for Genealogy Hanover Special Publication 4/53. An attempt at a compilation of the councilors' and pastors' families in Hamburger-Bergedorf, Steinkirchen and Altengamme 1500-1765 / compiled and edited by H. Mahrenholtz.

C.A. Starke Verlag, Limburg a.d. Lahn Publishers [Catalogue of German Genealogical Handbooks] including: '1800 family names, to at least 3 existing generations' and 'the descendants of Count Friedrich Leopold zu Stolberg-Stolberg.' (1956?)

LITHUANIA

A guide to Jewish genealogy in Lithuania / Sam Aaron. (2011)

NEW ZEALAND

The Press pocket guide and street map of Christchurch: tram and bus routes and postal areas also main outlets from the city are clearly shown / compiled by The Christchurch Press Co. Ltd.

Universal Business Directories detailed street map of Auckland including the area from Whangaparaoa to Manurewa. (1970)

NORWAY

How to trace your ancestors in Norway / Yngve Nedrebo (1996)

SOUTH AMERICA

Federation of Founding Latin American Genealogical Institutes Journal of the Federation and its Delegates. (1948?)

UNITED STATES

Virginia Bulletin: the order of the Founders and Patriots of America.

ARMED FORCES

A biographical dictionary of World War II / Christopher Tunney. (1972)

The despatches of Lord French: Mons, The Marne, The Aisne, Flanders, Neuve Chapelle, The Second battle of Ypres, Loos, Hohenzollern Redoubt and a complete list of the officers and men mentioned.

The encyclopedia of codenames of World War II / Christopher Chant. (1986)

Haig's generals / edited by Ian F.W. Beckett and Steven J. Corvi. (2006)

An informal record of 26 Machine Gun training centre / edited by Lt. S.R. Barney and Lt. E.J. Frary. (1946)

A history of the first hundred years of the Rugby School Corps, 1860-1960 / by H.J. Harris. (1962?)

The official names of the battles and other engagements fought by the military forces of the British Empire during the Great War, 1914-1919, and the third Afghan War,

1919: report of the Battles Nomenclature Committee as approved by the Army Council. (1992)
 Soldiers' Graves: France, Belgium, Netherlands. [Map]
 Who was who in World War II / edited by John Keegan. (1985) ARM/GEN?
 World War II almanac: 1931-1945; a political and military record / Robert Goraliski. (1981) ALM
 Visiting the battlefields of the Great War: commemorating the Great War 100 years on. (2014)

Regimental histories

The 1/4th (Hallamshire) Battn., York and Lancaster Regiment 1914-1919 / Cpt. D.P. Grant.
 1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) The Royal Anglian Regiment. Proceedings of the Tercentenary parade and pageant in the presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess Maragaret Countess of Snowdon, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief at Oakington Barracks, Longstanton, Cambridge, 1st August 1984.
 1st Battalion. The Border Regiment: Arnhem 17th September - 26th September 1944 / Alan T. Green. (1991)
 1st Derbyshire Yeomanry: scrapbook 1939-1947 / Lt. Col. Ian Walker, Lt. Col. M.C.C. Harrison, Barty Clowes. (1948?)
 The 2nd Munsters in France / by Lieutenant-Colonel H.S. Jarvis. (1992)
 4/6th Battalion: the Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.): a short history of the origins and the formation of the 4/6th Battalion, the Royal Berkshire Regiment Territorial Army and including up to date conditions of service in the battalion today. 1859-1959. (1959?)
 The 4th Devons: a history of the 4th (Territorial Battalion The Devonshire Regiment 1852-1952 / by Francis Thoday and Tom Anstey. (1952)
 The 4th K.S.L.I. in Normandy: the part played by 4th Bn King's Shropshire Light Infantry in the battle of Normandy, June to August, 1944 / Maj. 'Ned' Thornburn. (1990)
 The 5th North Staffords and the North Midland Territorials (The 46th and 59th Divisions) 1914-1919 / Lt. Walter Meakin. (1920)
 The 10th Royal Hussars in the Second World War, 1939-1945. (1948)
 20th Hussars in the Great War / by Major J C Darllng.
 24th (Tank Corps) Cadet Battalion: memories, Hazeley Down Camp, Winchester Jan. 1918-May 1919. (1919)
 28th Light Cavalry in Persia & Russian Turkistan 1915-1920 / Maj. J.A.C. Kreyer and Cpt. G. Uloth. (1992)
 The 23rd Division 1914-1919 / Lt. Col. H.R. Sandilands. (1925)
 The 23rd London Regiment 1798-1919: compiled from contributions by former officers of the regiment with a foreword by Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby. (1936)
 The 25th Division in France and Flanders / Lt. Col. M. Kincaid-Smith. (1918)
 29th Divisional Artillery, war record and honours book, 1915-1918 / by R M Johnson. (1921)

The 43rd Wessex Division at war 1944-1945 / compiled by Maj. Gen. H. Essame. (1952)
 The 47th (London) Division 1914-1919: by some who served with it in the Great War / edited by Alan H. Maude.
 47th Sikhs war record, the Great War, 1914-1918. (1992)
 50th Royal Tank Regiment: the complete history / Stephen D Hamilton. (1996)
 The 101st Grenadiers: historical record of the regiment, 1778-1923. (1927)
 Amateur soldiers: a history of Oldham's volunteers and territorials, 1859-1938 / by K W Mitchinson. (1999)
 The annals of the Royal Rifle Corps. (2009?)
 The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders: a concise history / Trevor Royle. (2008)
 Armoured Odyssey: 8th Royal Tank Regiment in the Western Desert 1941-1942, Palestine, Syria, Egypt 1943-1944, Italy 1944-1945 / Stuart Hamiliton. (1995)
 The army cadets of Surrey 1860-1960 / by Lieutenant-Colonel H C Hughes. (1960)
 The artists and the S.A.S. / B.A. Young. (1960)
 As thoughts survive [Auxiliary Territorial Service] / Dame Leslie Whateley. (1948?)
 Battalion: a British infantry unit's actions from El Alamein to the Elbe, 1942-1945 / Alastair Borthwick. (2001)
 Birmingham Pals 14th, 15th & 16th (Service) Battalions of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment: a history of the three city battalions raised in Birmingham in World War One / Terry Carter. (1997)
 The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) (The 42nd Regiment of Foot) / Philip Howard; Lt. Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks (editor). (1968)
 The blast of war: a history of Nottingham's Bantams, 15th (S) Battalion, Sherwood Foresters, 1915-1919 / by Maurice Bacon and David Langley. (1986)
 The bloody eleventh: history of the Devonshire Regiment / R.E.R. RobInson (Vol. I) and W.J.P. Aggett (Vol. II) (1994)
 Bravest of hearts: the biography of a battalion; the Liverpool Scottish in the Great War / Hal Giblin, David Evans and Dennis Reeves. (2000)
 A brief history of the King's Royal Rifle Corps. (1912)
 A brief record of the advance of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force under the command of General Sir Edmund H.H. Allenby, July 1917 to October 1918 / compiled from official sources. (2003?)
 C Battery: 231st Brigade RFA TGF 46th North Midland Division TF; a commemorative history, 1908-1919 / by J.E. Blore and J.R. Sherratt. (1991)
 Campaign in Europe: the story of the 10th Battalion The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow Regiment) 1944-1945 / R.T. Johnston, Cpt. D.N. Steward and Rev. A. Ian Dunlop.
 The campaigns and history of the Royal Irish regiment from 1684 to 1902 / Lt. Col. G. Le M. Gretton. (1997)
 Captain Staniland's journey: the North Midland Territorials go to war / Martin Middlebrook. (2003)

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MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

HAMPSHIRE MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

ALDERSHOT (St Michael the Archangel): MIs 1405-1961

ALDERSHOT (St Michael): MIs

ALVERSTOKE (St Mary): MIs in the church

ALVERSTOKE (St Mary): MIs in the old & new churchyard 1664-1907

ANDOVER (St Mary): MIs 1602-1965

BARTON STACEY (All Saints): MIs 1686-1972

BASING, OLD (St Mary): MIs in the churchyard 1716-1954

BASINGSTOKE (South View (Litten Ground) Cemetery)

BEMBRIDGE (Holy Trinity): MIs

BISHOPSTOKE: MIs in the churchyard 1744-1880

BITTERNE (Holy Saviour) 1848-2000: MIs

BLENDWORTH (Holy Trinity churchyard): MIs 1849-1972, (Holy Trinity church): MIs 1636-1964, (St Giles churchyard, Old Blendworth): 1704-1885

BOLDRE: MIs in the churchyard 1700-1984

BOURNEMOUTH (St Clements): MIs in 2 Bournemouth churches

BOURNEMOUTH (St James, Pokesdown Hill): MIs, & War Memorial 1914-18

BOURNEMOUTH (St Peter): MIs in 2 Bournemouth churches

BOURNEMOUTH (St Peter): MIs in the churchyard 1846-1963

BRADING (St Mary): MIs in the church 1679-1921

BRADING (St Mary): MIs

BROCKENHURST (St Nicholas)

BROWN CANDOVER (St Peter)

BURSLEDON: MIs 1719-1922

BURSLEDON (RC): MIs in the churchyard 1905-58

BURSLEDON, OLD: MIs in the churchyard 1721-1870

BURSLEDON, OLD: MIs in the churchyard

CATHERINGTON (All Saints): MIs 1631-1971

CHRISTCHURCH (Congregational Church Burial Ground): MIs

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CRONDALL (All Saints): MIs in the churchyard 1726-1916

DAMERHAM: MIs 1704-1980

EASTLEIGH (Church of the Resurrection): MIs 1801-1967

ELVETHAM (St Mary): MIs in the churchyard 1729-1957

EMSWORTH (St James): MIs 1800-1900

EVERSLEY (St Mary): MIs 1980-89

EWSHOT (St Mary): MIs in the churchyard 1882-1985

FAREHAM (Knowle burial ground formerly Hampshire County Asylum near Fareham, Hants): MIs

FLEET (Hope Cemetery): MIs in the Baptist churchyard 1855-1976

FORTON (St John): MIs in the churchyard 1843-54

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FRESHWATER (All Saints): MIs; notes on the parish churchyard

FROYLE (St Mary of the Assumption): MIs 1575-1968

FROYLE CEMETERY: MIs 1905-82

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GOSPORT (St Mark): MIs in the churchyard 1853-1974

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SUTTON, LONG (All Saints): MIs 1658-1979; (Long Sutton Cemetery): MIs 1927-81
SWANMORE (St Barnabas): MIs 1848-1990
TICHBORNE: extracts of MIs from the Baigent Papers in the Society of Genealogists
TIDWORTH (Military Cemetery): MIs in the cemetery
TIDWORTH, SOUTH (St Mary): MIs in the churchyard
TITCHFIELD (St Peter): MIs 1673-1975
TITCHFIELD (St Peter): MIs in the church
TWYFORD: MIs in the churchyard 1666-1950
TWYFORD (St Mary): MIs 1666-1983
WARBLINGTON (St Thomas à Becket): MIs(I) in the churchyard
WESTON (Holy Trinity): MIs 1866-1988
WEYHILL (Old churchyard): MIs in the old churchyard 1716-1981
WINCHFIELD (St Mary the Virgin): MIs in the churchyard 1792-1982
YATELEY: MIs in the churchyard
YAVERLAND (St John the Baptist): MIs in the church 1831-1924

LIBRARY TYPESCRIPTS

A further 16 items added are library access only

FAMILY HISTORY & BIOGRAPHY

Rosenthal Index: family tree, Brunner Reitlinger Rosenthal. (1987)
Hyman Matilda Hyman, née Godfrey, and her emigration to Jamaica / Ruth Willmore. (2026)
Lilburn Rudimentary pedigrees & descended families.
Lobb Lobby vol. 2: 20,000 Lobbs around the world, issue 2: supplementary index C-H
Loxley Loxley of Hallamshire / John Hughes. (2012) [Library access only]
Steele Robert Steele, the forgotten miner: leadership and sacrifice among the Lanarkshire miners / by Richard Lowe-Jackson. (2026)

GENERAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY

The acceleration of mails (once a fortnight) between England and the East Indies, and vice versa by Lieut. Waghorn, R.N. general agent for steam intercourse via Egypt and the Red Sea, between England, India, Ceylon, China, etc. (1843)
Notes on the use of microfilm relating to Jewish genealogies

BERKSHIRE

Berkshire Archdeaconry Court: index of Berkshire Archdeaconry registered wills 1653-1710 deposited in the Bodleian Library: Berkshire wills [Typescript.] RSA5000-BK-GEN-

SHROPSHIRE

St Mary's, Shrewsbury, Peculiar Court: Act Book 1674-97 [probate entries 1674-90]

SURREY

Charlwood Charlwood manorial records: Manor of Shiremark records of 25 courts held 1490-1570; Manor of Hook records of 5 courts held 1555-70; Manor of Charlwood records of 2 views of frankpledge held in 1502 & 1503

Lambeth Lambeth, St Mary, Surrey: baptisms 1718-1777 / transcribed and indexed by Cliff Web, Jo Mason and Bryant Bayliffe. (2016)

YORKSHIRE

Deeds relating to a number of parishes in South Yorkshire: title deeds (2009)

Methley METHLEY: 1764 census reconstituted from the parish registers.

WALES

Monmouthshire Association oath rolls for the county of Monmouth 1696

Parish record for St. Cadoc, Raglan, Monmouthshire: highways account 1829-30

Parish record for St. Thomas a Becket, Wolvesnewton, Monmouthshire; Court Baron 1642

Parish records for Trevethin, Mamhilad, Goytre & Llanover, Monmouthshire land tax 1661-62

Pembrokeshire Pembrokeshire wills 1701-1800, proven in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Public Record Office

ASIA

The most excellent order of the star of Sarawak [list of order since constituted in September 1928]

CANADA

New Brunswick Some passengers from Ireland to New Brunswick, 1828-41: transcripts from the Saint John "New Brunswick Courier" of notices of arriving passengers

ST. JOHN (Tower Hill (Church of the Assumption) Cemetery), New Brunswick: MIs

Nova Scotia Baronets of Nova Scotia / compiled by Marie Fraser.

CHINA

Finding your Chinese ancestors, from zero clues to historical truth: the most comprehensive guide to uncovering your roots / Numpy Chen.

INDIA

The acceleration of mails (once a fortnight) between England and the East Indies, and vice versa by Lieut. Waghorn, R.N. general agent for steam intercourse via Egypt and the Red Sea, between England, India, Ceylon, China, etc.

WEST INDIES

Jamaica: registry search of powers of attorney, extracts from council minutes, search of wills, miscellaneous deeds, miscellaneous patents

ARMED FORCES

Army surgeons, 1808; Artillery surgeons, 1847; Gibraltar Surgeons, 1847

The colonel in chief, colonels commandant, directors and commandants of the Army Catering Corps 22nd March 1941 to 5th April 1993

A list of Catholic officers on the active list of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve etc. December 1918

CITY COMPANIES (LONDON)

Masters and wardens of the Carpenter's Company.

EDUCATION

The Hull Trinity House School: courage, tragedy & valour [extracts of deaths of former pupils]

Possible corrections or supplementary notes for Venn's Alumni Cantabrigiensis.

PROFESSIONS

Pentonville Prison, 1844: staff

Solicitors: Sir Richard Roope Linthorne; Wilson Perry; Henry Perry; William Edward Stubbs; John Postlethwaite Jnr. [brief biographies and service]

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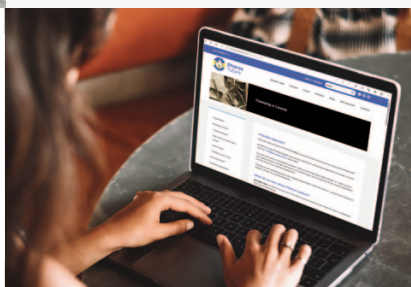
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