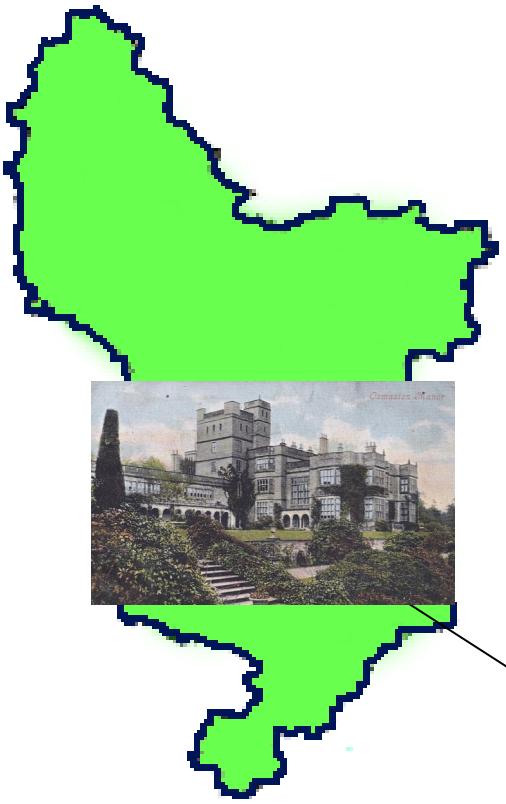
Derbyshire Family History Society



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The Poor after 1834

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Osmaston Manor
near Ashbourne
Home of the Wright family
Sadly demolished in 1964

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SOCIETY CONTACTS

Website:	www.dfhs.org.uk
Email:	bch@dfhs.org.uk
Secretary:	Ruth Barber, 6 Field Lane, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0GP Email: ruth.barber55@ntlworld.com
Membership:	Catherine Allsop-Martin, 9 Barnstaple Close, Oakwood, Derby DE21 2PQ. Email: membership@dfhs.org.uk
Editor:	Helen Betteridge, 127 Buxton Road, Chaddesden, Derby DE21 4JN. Email: betteridgehelen@sky.com Email for contributions: editor@dfhs.org.uk
Chairman:	Professor S. Orchard, Old Dale House, The Dale, Bonsall DE21 2AY
Treasurer:	Mike Bagworth, 233 Ladybank Rd, Mickleover DE3 0RR Email: m.bagworth@ntlworld.com
Book Sales:	Linda Bull, 17 Penrhyn Avenue, Littleover, Derby DE23 6LB.
Wills:	Kathleen Mason, 54 Breedon Avenue, Littleover, Derby DE23 1LR
Trip Organiser:	Helena Coney, Dale House, 11a Dale End Road, Hilton Dbys DE65 5FW,. Email: helena.coney:googlemail.com

SOCIETY REFERENCE LIBRARY

Bridge Chapel House, St Mary's Bridge, Sowter Rd, Derby DE1 3AT
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The Society will give advice on the telephone [01332 363876 OPENING HOURS ONLY] and also by e-mail. Research can be carried out by post or by e-mail, both in our own library and also at Derby Local Studies and Matlock County Record Office. We ask for a donation of £5 and if more extensive research is required we will advise you before carrying out the work.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor will accept contributions both by post and by email. Large articles covering more than 4/5 pages will possibly appear over two issues. If sending by email please remember to include your name, address and membership number. Contributions must be received at least two months before the publication of the magazine because of our printing schedule.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Society subscription is due on joining and thereafter on 1st January each year and renewal notices will be sent out at the beginning of December with that quarter's magazine. At the moment rates are as follows:-

BRITISH ISLES per family [at one address] £15
Please pay either in person at Bridge Chapel House, by cheque or postal order addressed to the Membership Secretary, or by using PayPal via our website.

OVERSEAS—EUROPE £16 [magazines sent by air mail]

OVERSEAS—OTHER COUNTRIES £19 [magazines sent by air mail]

For both the above payment in dollars or currency other than sterling please add the equivalent of £4 to cover the exchange charge. Alternatively payment may be made by PayPal with no extra charge incurred. Standing orders are also still accepted.

Please Note! Our website now offers the facility to renew your membership online, using PayPal [an account or debit/credit card needed]. If you are unsure of your membership number please look at the address label on the bag in which your magazine arrived and you will find it the top corner. It would be helpful to quote this in any correspondence with the Society.

Please renew your subscriptions promptly. Due to the steep rising rates of postage no magazines will be sent out unless your payment is with us by the end of February. Sorry for the inconvenience but, as you can appreciate, the Society cannot stand the cost of posting magazines that may not be wanted. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR SOCIETY INFORMED!
Any changes in your postal or email address etc., please let us know so that we can keep our records up to date. Many magazines come back to us as the intended recipient has moved house without letting us have the information.

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the September issue of our magazine and I hope you find something in it of interest. We are looking at various ideas to help our members and increase interest in our society and hopefully a lot of these will come to fruition and appear on our website.

One project which I hope will encourage some of you to volunteer in the future is an alliance with the Derbyshire County Record Office, who are very sensitive to the fact that our society is struggling, along with many others, because of the rising use of the internet. It has been proposed that some of their records be transcribed by us and that the index would then be used to identify documents that can be purchased from the CRO. Several ideas have been put forward, but I would like to know if anyone would be interested before committing manpower. The likely scenario is that the documents would be available on Google Docs, and transcribers could use a password to look at the original and enter data onto a database. Obviously you would need to be computer literate, but the beauty is you could be anywhere in the world to take part. Its very much at the thinking stage at the moment, but if anyone fancies trying their hand at transcribing just let me know.

Next a reminder that the subscription for 2015 will be due by the 1st January and forms will be sent out with the December issue of this magazine. The rate remains the same—and very good value too—but this is just a reminder for those on standing order to please visit your bank and alter the rate to the present £15. We still have quite a lot underpaying on standing order, and we will not be sending out the magazine if this is not altered. You are quite at liberty to renew your subscription early if you wish—you certainly won't lose out by doing so and it would be quite a help to our membership secretary who disappears under a mountain of paperwork in December/ January.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and see you next time.

Helen

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11th Nov	Shardlow Boat People—Alex Shaw
9th Dec	Christmas Party

GLOSSOP—BRADBURY COMMUNITY HOUSE, MARKET STREET, GLOSSOP— Friday at 7.30 p.m.

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3rd Oct	Title to be confirmed—G. Atkinson
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SOUTH NORMANTON—POST MILL COMMUNITY CENTRE SOUTH NORMANTON—Friday at 7.30 p.m.

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12th Dec	Christmas Party

DERBY MEETINGS

April 2014

The Friargate Line—Keith Blood

The railways were already well established in Derby when an Act of Parliament was passed in 1872 granting permission for the Great Northern Railway to build the "Derbyshire and North Staffordshire Extension". It eventually ran from Nottingham to Burton with the need to combat obstacles such as canals, roads and the main railway line, many tunnels and bridges had to be created. It was used initially to transport goods such as coal before the first passenger train in 1878. In 1881 GNR acquired the Stafford and Uttoxeter Railway creating a line from Grantham to Wales.

Permission to build was given without much thought for the people living in the area. Some streets were sliced in two by the line whilst others were completely demolished. Footbridges were erected to connect the areas back again but they were never satisfactory. Under the terms of the contract GNR were under no obligation to protect the area or the interests of the public.

Approaching the station from Chester Green a viaduct was built with ten arches underneath that were eventually occupied by various traders. A magnificent ironwork bridge was built by Handysides of Derby and a grand entrance at the side was planned but the money ran out and it never materialised. Railway yards and sidings and a grain warehouse were created.

Outside of Derby, fine country stations appeared at Etwall, Mickleover and Breadsall. For many years the people of Derby set off for destinations such as Skegness during the Railway and Rolls Royce fortnight.

In 1962 it was decided that it was no longer profitable and the last passenger train steamed out towards Nottingham on 5th September and the final goods train in 1968. Over the years the railway buildings have been demolished and lines removed. All that remains is the Friargate Bridge, sold to the council for £1 on the understanding that it will be maintained in good condition and is now in a sad state of repair. A nature reserve has emerged amidst the ruins.

Over the years the council has wanted to demolish the bridge several times and as a consequence a protection group was set up. It now looks as if it

might survive if the regeneration of the area continues with ugly office blocks that no one wants. Something that the people didn't want and caused great disruption at the time of building went on to provide many jobs and give delight to people for years.

May 2014

So You Think You're British—John Taylor

John began by making us aware of things that we think of as being totally British are in fact nothing of kind.

Who could be more British than Winston Churchill but his mother was American.

Richard the Lion Heart became King of England but his birth place cannot be confirmed as England and his parents were not English.

St George the Patron Saint of England was thought to be Roman and many other countries commemorate his death.

Many of the great castles, palaces and houses in Britain are built with materials from other countries, using foreign architects and designers.

Who is truly British? The first people to live here were Neolithic, followed by the Beaker people and then the Celts arrived. Stonehenge was created around 2000BC. Maiden Castle Fort is thought to originate from around this time, 500/600BC. The Romans arrived in 43AD, followed by Jutes, Angles and Saxons driving the Celts in to Cornwall and Wales. Raids by the Vikings began in 790BC. King Alfred the Great, King of Wessex defended his kingdom against the Vikings and by his death had become the dominant ruler in England. In 1066 the Normans arrived and so it goes on.

Anyone born here is British but what ancestry do we have, thousands of years ago Great Britain was joined to Europe and covered with ice. When the weather became warmer, the ice melted and the sea level rose and Britain became an island. The Neolithic people were from Europe and so technically, as the government keeps telling us, we must all be European.

John pointed out that the colour "red" appears to be the predominant colour in Britain. The English flag with the red cross has been taken over by sports

events. We have red buses, red post boxes, red phone boxes, poppies, Red Nose Day and even Virgin have taken on the colour red. He suggests that too much red makes us angry but there is a new red sign that is available in the shops to make us feel better.

"KEEP CALM AND BE BRITISH"

June 2014

Murder in the Family—Stephen Orchard

Stephen gave us an insight in to his family history with not one but two incidences that must have added intrigue to his research. This was not just hearsay passed down through the family but documentary evidence in the form of notes made by his great grandfather and information found in newspapers here and abroad.

In the notes there was an entry "John Orchard killed by his wife throwing a dish at him". This had to be investigated further and reports of the trial of Ann Orchard in 1850 were found in the Derby Mercury. It came out in the evidence that she was not treated very well by her husband and in a moment of frustration had thrown a dish at him. It caused an injury to his ear that led to lockjaw and his subsequent death. He died saying he did not blame her but she was charged with manslaughter. Many people gave evidence as to her good character including members of the Strutt family. After some deliberation a verdict of guilty was decided upon with a recommendation for leniency. She was sent to gaol for one month. In the 1851 census she was in Derby with her daughter. In 1852 she married George Spong and in 1861 she was still living in Derby with her daughter. The two Anns had not been traced beyond this point.

The other incident that occurred involving the Orchard family was to do with Alice Edith born in 1894, daughter of Joseph and Agnes. Alice married Cyril Warden in 1915 and unfortunately he was killed in action in 1917. She then met Henri Charles Schwartz at Celanese and they married in 1919. On their marriage certificate, his occupation was given as chemical engineer and he was son of Jean Schwartz, Cigar Manufacturer of Kolmar, Alsace. He declared that he had a secret formula for cellulose fibres and wanted to go to USA to develop it.

They arrived at Ellis Island and settled in Oakland, San Francisco. The Pacific Cellulose Company laboratory was established in Walnut Creek. In

1925 Henri was sued for a breach of promise for $75,000. It was alleged that he had been having an affair under the name of Stein and a wedding date had been arranged but on the day he refused to marry the lady. He denied everything saying he was an upright citizen living in an exclusive section of Oakland and it was all a plot to ruin him. It was said that he was a graduate of Heidelberg, an ex officer in the French army and married to an English woman. Alice supported everything he said, insisting that none of the accusations were true.

Just one month later, Schwartz was found dead after an explosion at the factory. Alice identified the body and asked for a cremation. The police were suspicious and think it was murder and they become more convinced that the body isn't Schwartz. His life had been insured for $200,000.

The body was then identified as "Portuguese Joe" and a nationwide search for Schwartz begins. As the investigation continues, the police find no evidence of his University life in Heidelberg and he is in debt. A warrant is issued for his arrest under several aliases. Then "Portuguese Joe" reappeared.

Three charred religious books were found after the explosion, one with the name D W Barbe in it. He was an itinerant preacher and labourer thought to have been hired by Henri with murder in mind. As the police close in and are about to arrest Henri, he shoots himself leaving a note for his wife to say that he killed a stranger in self defence.

Alice returned to England with their three sons for a visit but then goes back to USA. In 1931 she married her lawyer and the children take his name, Bell. He died in 1940 and she married again. She died in 1986 age 93 taking all her secrets with her. Who Charles Henri Schwartz really was will never be known.

RUTH BARBER

GLOSSOP MEETINGS

May 2014

Visit to Derbyshire Record Office

Only a few brave Glossop and High Peakers from the Glossop and High Peak Branch of the D.F .H. Society braved a sunny Friday and trekked to the outpost known as the New Record Office and Local Studies building at Matlock.

After signing in and being issued with new CARN cards, for use at any unfamiliar Record Office, that for researching family history is a must have. The reception bright and airy, the staff bright eyed and bushy tailed and with the welcome mats aplenty, it was a revelation wonderful to behold and that was just the new foyer. I half expected to be asked "Stalls or Upper Circle?" Space and yet more space gave the impression that it was being underutilised, but that proved far from the truth, there was just so much apparent "Spaaaaaaaaccccceeeeee" to spread the impedimenta that a visit to a Record Office entails.

After a tour of the "Palaise de Pleasure" including the toilets and the brewing cabin to boot, the members took off and did their own thing. The only non change of circumstances was the wait for items to turn up after ordering at the "request desk "but I cannot see how that can be improved, just read and peruse the requested documents slower could be one answer.

The sleight of hand was the apparent lack of bodies undertaking research, not my memory of past visits, but perhaps the news that the "High Peak Hillbillies" were in town had travelled faster than we had from Glossop. The general consensus of members was that the Record |Office had moved into the 21st century with a vengeance and we were just part of that portrayal.

A suitable acknowledgement was made to the Record Office and a return email replied that our favourable comments had been added to their burgeoning feedback file.

June 2014

Carrington House, Bugsworth

The meeting sprang some surprises on the members and the attending villagers of Buxworth. Starting off with the showing of the 45 minute episode produced by the B.B.C. for SkyTV in their series "Original Features." Steve Garrick then illustrated some of the restoration work, amounting to a rebuild in parts, with some graphic money spinning portrayals. So interesting, that my plan to give a potted history of the nine previous occupants, ran out of time and would have deflected from what the members had seen and heard. They would have also missed out on the tea and biscuits at the end.

The DVD fronted by Nick Knowles presented a graphic, if gruesome story of neglect and decay in about equal proportions. The subject of the former

statue of Delilah caused cheeky hints and innuendo. It soon became apparent that there appeared to be more wrong than right in both the fabric and building structure. The usual skirmishes with the planning authority, who gave Steve the choice of listing Carrington House as Grade 2, but he wisely opted to keep well clear of having more problems on the horizon. The planners wanted to have the natural stonework re-rendered, but the skill of the builders and their sympathetic pointing of the local pink tinged sandstone won through in the end. The stone chimneys a caused a problem, because of their size and weight they had to built up on the ground, then reassembled on the roof in stages. An extra floor and stairwell was built in the loft space. It was hoped that 90 % of the timber would be spared but that was reduced to just 5%. The builders merchants cash tills were registering.

Due to subsidence, the area has a reputation for landslides, Bugsworth Station 6 weeks after opening in 1866 was marooned, the lines were rebuilt on the North rather the South side of the station. There had been subsidence more recently in 2012, less than 200 yards from the house. The house was underpinned as part of the restoration, the window apertures were square but skewed, a factor that was to cause a problem for both the builders and Steve.

All was going well, the new windows were ordered, the builders had set aside 2 weeks to introduce the new frames. Other finishing work was held up due to the irregular nature of the stonework. The individual windows came, the first window, did not fit when offered, the second window, and so on--- every replacement window was a dud. 6 more weeks of delay and heartache for replacement windows for replacement windows. Steve quipped (between his teeth) that it was the nearest that he had ever been to see grown men cry. The determination of Steve, Kath and family will pull through, hopefully not through one of the faulty apertures.

KEITH HOLFORD

SOUTH NORMANTON

May 2014

Hope in India—Dr Cheryle Berry

Doctor Berry is a member of Rotary and spends one month each year at Hope Community Village, Kerala, a home for orphans sponsored by Rotary. In the village there are several houses, each having a mother and a large family from infants to teenagers.

The Mothers are all volunteers who have been given training. They are single ladies who receive no pay but are given bed and board and one sari per year. Doctor Berry teaches them basic first aid and also helps with their other projects. Some land had recently been purchased and needed much work to turn it into a playing field.

The children are taught various handicrafts as well as school lessons. A short film clip showed the children at work and play. They eagerly showed some of their needlework and painting. As they grow older, they are helped to find careers. Some are going to University, others train as cooks, electricians etc. One girl, whilst training as a nurse, became friendly with a young doctor. She invited him and his parents to visit her home in the village. After their visit, they gave their approval to the friendship.

Though the children are supposed to leave the Home when they are 18 to follow their own careers, as in other families they still return to visit their home, accepting the new members as part of their family.

Other Rotarians spend months there, bringing their particular skills to use and pass on, and all continually fund raise. Doctor Berry refused any payment for her services, but our members had been so moved by her talk and films that they made a collection to donate to the Village which she gratefully accepted.

June 2014

History of Toilets—Angela Morris

Mrs Morris began by showing us the land at the rear of a Workhouse. A wall divided the land with male inmates on one side and females on the other; the female toilet was only a hole in the ground in the corner where the dividing wall was joined to the outer boundary wall. The only flushing toilet inside the building was for the sole use of the Workhouse Master. Next we were shown two chamber pots [on screen], one with a picture of Hitler on the base and another had a portrait of Napoleon. Then we went back to Norman England and a picture of the Garde Robe in the Outer Wall of Newark Castle, where the contents emptied into the River Trent.

Over the years various types of earth closets were used and in the early 19th century Sir John Harrington invented a water closet. In 1857 an American began to sell toilet paper carefully wrapped up in brown paper. We were told

of one lady who saved the wrapping paper from around oranges for the use of her visitors.

In 1858 the Thames was so full of effluent and disease that it was known as the Great Stink. Mary Ann Skerritt caught typhoid but recovered from it. She became known as Typhoid Mary as she was a cook, but was also a carrier of the disease. Sir J. Bazalgette built the first Thames sewage scheme and Thomas Crapper, Sanitary Engineer to the King and the Prince of Wales, invented a siphon and chain flushing system.

Mrs Morris showed a Hogarth print of a chamber pot being emptied into the street from an upstairs room. Entitled 'Gardez L'eau', i.e. Beware of the Water. I wonder how many people were unable to avoid the deluge?

Lord Byron has the last word:-

"O Cloacina, Goddess of this place
Look at thy suppliant with a smiling face
Soft let cohesure, let their offerings flow
Neither too swift, nor yet too slow."

AVERIL HIGGINSON

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY

Wright Eyre Poole, a labourer, Normanton Road, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Leaper street, at 11.30 on Thursday night. Prisoner pleaded guilty and police-constable Meakin said he saw him coming from a yard close to Messrs King, Howman's Distellery. Not knowing the prisoner and the hour being late, he asked him what he was doing, when he commenced to shout and became disorderly. Consequently he was taken into custody and went quietly. Poole, whose first offence it was, was let off on payment of 5s inclusive.

***Derby Mercury*, 2 April 1915**

These are copies of photographs from a relative in the USA but as no information is known about the men I wanted to ask if anyone recognised them as being part of their family tree. It is very likely that they are connected to the MORTEN family from Chapel en le Frith

Mrs Diane Morten
81 Green Lane
Hadfield, Glossop
SK13 2BR

OLD AND NEW

NEWS FROM THE NORTH

With the prevailing mood being the 'Commemoration of WW1" my latest epistle is slanted towards that direction. Indeed, as I was starting to compose my opening paragraph for the September magazine, the Chinley & Buxworth Community Association came seeking help with their plan to make an input at a July 2014, 'World War 1 Weekend" to be held in Chinley. So it was out of my tomatoes and into the trenches. I do promise some light relief with a murder at the end.

One of the earliest casualties of WW1, non-military, was the latent proposal to change the village name of Bugsworth, first recorded in 1252, to Lymedale (eventually it became Buxworth). Since 1854 there had been several recorded attempts to change the name of Bugsworth. Lymedale---Limedale---Dalesworth---Green Valley---Bucksworth, all came and went. But by the summer of 1914 the mood was more upbeat, it seemed that a change was at last, in the offing, and Lymedale was the local bookies favourite. One erudite Councillor with a blend of irony and history came up with a show stopping suggestion --- " Why not call it Mugsworth because they would be mugs to change such an ancient name ?" I have a postcard depicting an Arab man in customary costume, postmarked December 1914. Port Said, sent to a family member in "Lymedale" ex Bugsworth, and it was correctly and timely delivered to the correct address.

In August 1914, the Parish Council agreed to hold a Parish Vote on changing the village name, a vote to be held on the third Thursday in September 1914. By then WW1 had started and it was 15 years later before the contentious issue was controversially voted upon. A point of rancour, still holding water and surfacing today, was the fact that in 1929 half of Bugsworth village lay in the Parish of Chapel-en-le Frith, who wanted to retain the name of Bugsworth. In the subsequent vote to change the name, half of the villagers were blatantly disenfranchised. While today "Buggy" remains the dog tag for local wags and wagers

In the early stages of the WW1 'jingoism' took hold, the expression that " it would all be over by Christmas" was a false dawn. Men were exhorted to volunteer to the colours. A report in the High Peak Reporter, 12 December

1914, proudly promoted the names of nearly a 100 local men who had voluntarily enlisted, 16 of these men were to lose their lives by the end of 1918. The potted biographical reports of the deaths of artisan village men make sad reading in the broadsheets of the time.

3 November 1917. Sergeant Jesse Ratcliffe. M.M. Northumberland Fusiliers Service No 242896. Died at a 'Casualty Clearing Station' in France. He was the son of Mrs Ratcliffe and the late Mr. John Ratcliffe of Bugsworth. He was admitted on the 17 October suffering from a gunshot wound which had penetrated his abdomen. He left no message because he was semi-conscious. Aged 29 years, he joined the Whaley Bridge Territorial Force when only 17 years of age and was serving with them when the war broke out. He went to France with his Battalion and served 14 months in France. His time expired and he came home for a few weeks, rejoining the forces and was attached to the Northumberland Fusiliers as a sergeant. In June 1916 he returned to France, he was a crackshot who knew no fear.

On the night of the 11/12 September he was cut off from his comrades and surrounded by the enemy. He fought his way through, killing some Germans and taking others as prisoners, for which exploit he was given the Military Medal. He was the first Bugsworth soldier to win a medal in the great war. 'Jess' as he was known to everybody in Bugsworth, was for many years employed at the Forge Bleachworks. He was attached to the Parish Church and connected to the Sunday School. He played football with the local team. Shooting was his main recreation and few men were his equal in the handling of a rifle. He was reckoned to be one of the best sergeants in the British Army. His men looked up to him because he was capable and fearless. and devoted to his widowed mother. Many more obituaries were to follow.

The killing continued....

On the 3 November 1917 the High Peak Reporter, a full 12 months before the end of WW1, reported on the unveiling of a “Roll of Honour” at Chinley. Almost 100% of the present local population are under the impression that this is the Chinley War Memorial, the true memorial is affixed to the north facing wall of St Mary's Church.

Edited report --- “Saturday was a great day in the history of Chinley, Bugsworth & Brownside when the very handsome 'Roll of Honour' was un-

veiled by Major Hill Wood. M.P.

The Roll of Honour stands on a central site at Four Lane Ends on land given by Mr. James Goddard of Heatherlea Park. The structure is of stone with a circular top. At the base, carved in stone, is a laurel leaf, within the wreath are the words ' Pro Patria' (For ones country). The names of the men who joined the services, 239 of them are carved on oak panels and faced with glass panels. *N.B. The 3 oak panels and glass were subsequently replaced by metal panels, the date this was undertaken is a subject for continuing research. K.H.*

A large crowd assembled for the unveiling ceremony, and in the meantime the Chinley & Bugsworth Silver Band played selections of appropriate music. Mr. T. Hadfield presided, supported by Miss. Scott, Major Hill Wood, Rev. W. Hodgson (Vicar of Chinley & Bugsworth), the Rev. W. E. Clapham (Wesleyan Minister), Messrs. J. B. Boycott, G. W. Little, E. Farrington, H. Evans, Jos. Goddard and A. Kirkham.

Mr. Scott --- *whose idea and money provided the impetus* --- was unable to be present but sent his daughter to represent the family. Mr. Hadfield said that the 'Roll of Honour' was the right thing at this time. Every village ought to have a Roll of Honour of the names of those of our boys who had joined our splendid armies and gone to France and other parts of the world to try and smash the German menace. There were 239 names on the Roll, thirteen had then made the supreme sacrifice.

Before continuing with the religious part of the ceremony the Rev. Hodgson, on behalf of himself and the Rev. Clapham, said that they considered it a great privilege to be asked to officiate in the official ceremony. The Chinley war hymn, composed by Mr. Ernest Marsland, was sung to a tune arranged by Mr. Will. Booth, the conductor of the Chinley Choral Society, accompanied by the band. A memorable and impressive ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

Wreaths were placed on the Roll of Honour by both the Forge and Whitehall

Bleachworks. Both works have sent men to the colours, some of whom have fallen in action. Tributes in flowers were also in memory of Privates Alfred Simpson, Charles Theyer and Allan Moss.

Subsequently at St Mary's Church Room and the Wesleyan Sunday School about 400 relatives of the soldiers and others were entertained to a first-class knife and fork tea provided by Mr. & Mrs. Scott. Later there was a concert in the Wesleyan School. The artistes were Miss Hilda Richardson, of the Manchester and Provincial Concerts; Mr. G. H. Ditchburn, principal bass at Manchester Cathedral; Mr W. H. Wilks of the Minnehaha Amateur Minstrels. ”

Meanwhile the killing continued.

When the killing continued at such a prodigious and unforeseen rate, plans had to be made for the burial of the war dead, an early decision was made, that due to the sheer numbers of fatalities involved, that the fallen could not be brought home to be buried in friendly soil. An authoritative body, the Base Recovery Communications Systems was then made responsible for the recording and marking of war graves. Fabian Arthur Goulstone Ware was the man to turn this mouthful into the more recognisable' Commonwealth War Graves Commission.' A biography states that he was a volunteer ambulance commander, and he was horrified at the treatment of the dead on the field of battle. He began to record and position each grave. A Graves Registration Commission was established and his work began to be made public. The scale of cadavers was such that a 'chain of crematoria, a hundred square metres in size was proposed, sited between the front line and the artillery parks to the rear. These would be at 10 kilometres intervals along the front line.' It was a proposal that died of its own technocratic afflatus. The aptly named 'Empires of the Dead' by David Crane, is my recommended reading on the subject. I leave you to contemplate on this course of action.

But, Mr Micawber, who has been absent from my recent columns, came up with a timely link in 'The Times, 20 June' to Fabian Arthur Goulstone Ware. Apparently English Heritage is causing controversy by their inconsistency on marking properties under the 'Blue Plaque Scheme.' Their own criteria, encompassing the named person (the very ex -recipient had to have cocked their clogs by at least 20 years) was not being judicially used. Both Fabian. A. G. Ware and Dame Maud McCarthy “Matron-in-Chief” in WW1, had recently, but very much belatedly been granted 'Blue Plaque Status” whereas in

the case of Dame Ninette de Valois, she died in 2001 but has had a blue plaque for a number of years.

Killing now continues with "A Murder at Matlock" on the 27 February 1883, at a house in Chesterfield Road, Matlock Bridge, not a million miles from the revamped super dooper Derbyshire Record Office / Local Studies Emporium. A murder in Matlock is not an every day event, there are four constituent elements, that individually conspire to make the story strange but true. Firstly, the offensive weapon used was an "earthenware chamber pot", secondly, the murderer was the father of one of Britain's best female character actresses, thirdly, his victim was the grandfather of the actress and fourthly, the family were steeped in high political circles and title ---the Wedgewood Benns --- Lord Stansgate.

The actress was Margaret Rutherford, her father was William Rutherford Benn, her grandfather was the Rev. Julius Benn, he had eight children, the eldest being Sir John Williams Benn the father of the veteran politician Tony Benn. The Times 6 March 1883 reported "After a scuffle had been heard on Sunday morning, Mr and Mrs Marchant opened the bedroom door to find the Rev. Benn's head had been smashed in with an earthenware chamber pot which was neither chipped or broken (attention to detail) and William Benn's throat was cut. At the inquest it was stated that William Benn's injuries were self inflicted and that he been previously confined in a lunatic asylum and had only recently been set free. Whilst in the infirmary at Derby awaiting trial at Derby Assizes,, he escaped the attention of his police guard and jumped 20 feet through a window, without receiving serious injury.

After the hearing at the Assizes the Home Secretary sent William Benn to Broadmoor Lunatic Asylum where he remained incarcerated until June 1890. On his release William Benn, now a widely known murderer, changed his name by deed poll to William Rutherford adopting his middle name as a surname. Margaret was born on the 11 May 1892, within 3 months the family left England for a new life in India.

Keith Holford.

Sources:

High Peak Reporter. "Empires of the Dead" and "Margaret Rutherford"

SAD DERBY TRAGEDY

Depression through the war, the fact that three of his nephews have already joined the forces, and the fear that he would himself be called upon to go out and fight seem to have so preyed upon the mind of Cyril Thomas HAYNES, of 181 Ashbourne Road, Derby, that he committed suicide in the early hours of Thursday morning.

According to the evidence of Mrs Elizabeth Ann Haynes, deceased's mother, at an inquest held by Mr Jno Close on Friday, he lived with her and was about 30 years of age. He was a stone mason by trade, but had lately been working at the tramcar sheds. Three of her grandsons were at the front and the war had greatly depressed deceased. A short time ago he signed for service, but latterly he did not want to go and had appeared very much troubled about it. It was her habit to make him a cup of tea before he left for work about 5 a.m., but on Thursday morning he came into her room about 4 and said "Mother, will you make me a cup of tea". He was very low spirited and she went downstairs to do as he asked. Directly afterwards she heard a thud on the bedroom floor and going upstairs again she found deceased lying on the bedroom floor with his throat cut. She had noticed a razor, which belonged to her late husband, on the table before, and asked deceased what he was going to do with it, and he replied that he was going to cut his corns. She fetched her son in law and Dr Barber, but deceased was dead when they arrived.

Hy Campbell, a painter, of 14 South Street, spoke to being called by the last witness. He found deceased lying on the floor with a terrible cut in his throat and quite dead. The razor was lying by his side, and his little daughter was in the room. Deceased had been low and depressed for some months through the war, of which he was always talking. He was much afraid that he would be fetched, and did not want to go.

Evidence was also given by Police-constable James and after the Coroner had summed up, the jury returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide while suffering from temporary insanity.

Derby Mercury, 2nd July 1915

Emma
A Mystery Unsolved

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MY DEAR HUSBAND
THOMAS W. DAVIS
AT REST SEP.4.1914
AGED 69 YEARS

ALSO OF ELIZABETH
HIS WIFE
AT REST DEC. 31.1891
AGED 44 YEARS

ALSO OF DAVID WILLIAM
THEIR SON
AT REST JULY 11 1903

"THY WILL BE DONE"

I had been researching the Davis family history for some time when, quite out of the blue, an unknown online fellow researcher kindly sent me this photograph of my great-grandfather's gravestone which he came across in the Nottingham Road Cemetery, Derby while looking for his own ancestors. On the right is a transcript of the inscription. It is, as we know, always interesting to read the details engraved on family headstones, but my curiosity was really aroused by the unexpected information which appears at the foot of this one.
I had already discovered that my great-grandfather, Thomas William Davis, had been twice married. Born in Derby in 1845, he had worked largely as a brass founder and had become a prominent member of the local Court of Foresters, marrying his first wife, my great-grandmother, Elizabeth Lamb, in 1867. They had four sons but sadly Elizabeth died of cancer of the uterus in 1892. The youngest son, Roland James, was just eleven years of age at the time.

As often happened in those days, within a year of Elizabeth's death Thomas had remarried. His bride was a widow, 44 year old Emma Emily Lavinia Barker (formerly Smith) and, on her marriage certificate, her occupation is given as a nurse. Having previously discovered this much, I had duly slotted her name onto the family tree and, until her appearance as a benefactor of Thomas's headstone, that was that.

It was several years later that this totally unexpected photograph appeared on my screen and I was suddenly intrigued to know more about the lady who shared my great-grandfather's life for 22 years and who, following his death, generously provided a headstone for what must have been until then an unmarked family grave. In doing so she was remembering not only her husband, but also his first wife and one of the sons from that marriage.

The obvious place to start my research was the Census readings. Emma's father's name was given on her marriage certificate and, because of this, I soon found her in 1851 aged two years, living in the Litchurch (St. Peters) area of Derby, the third child of Samuel Smith, a joiner, and his wife, Martha. And it was here in Litchurch that Emma was to grow up, apparently receiving very little formal education. No doubt as an older daughter, she frequently missed school in order to help with her rapidly growing number of siblings. Consequently with the exception of her two marriage certificates, all the official documents that I have come across have been "signed" with a cross.

The 1861 Census describes her as a "scholar" aged 12 still living with her family in the St. Peters area. By 1871 the family had moved to St. Andrews, Litchurch, however, and the Census reading shows that her life had changed quite dramatically..... and not entirely for the better. Aged just 22 years, she is now described as, "Widow" and also listed at the address is her infant son, Joseph John. Further research revealed that in 1866 at the age of 17 she had married Joseph Barker, a journeyman tailor. Her home address at that time was Wellington Street, Derby and, unusually, an occupation is given on her marriage certificate, that of a "warehouse hand". But, as we now know, this marriage was to be a short one as Joseph died at the tragically young age of 21. His death certificate gives the cause of death rather blandly as, "fever" and the place of death was 81 Regent Street, Litchurch. Much later I was to discover that the couple also had a daughter, Emma Emily, born in 1866 and so far untraceable in the 1871 Census.

Poor Emma: a young widow with two young children to bring up. But she was obviously not one to sit around depending on family hand-outs and in 1881 she is working as a "monthly nurse" in Aston. A monthly nurse was, as the name implies, a woman who was employed to look after a mother and her baby for one month after the birth. The job was a residential one and one can only admire Emma for finding a niche for herself, getting on with her life and trying to earn a living. At the time of this Census, her son, Joseph, by then

aged 11, was living with his aunt, 25 year old Catherine Smith and her two younger siblings, Sidney and Martha. Daughter Emma aged 15 was employed as a domestic servant to a commercial traveller's family in Arboretum Road.

Unable to find her registered anywhere in the 1891 Census, her next official appearance is on the 2nd November 1892 when she married my great-grandfather at the London Road Chapel in Derby. Her address was then Rose Hill Street, but for the rest of her life she appears to have lived with her husband in Dexter Street, although not always at the same number. 1901 sees the couple at number 34. Also in residence is Thomas's son, David, a grocer. In 1911 it is number 28 along with Thomas's eldest son, Thomas Edgar, who was working as a brass fitter in between stints of serving in the Army. Unfortunately to date there is no way of knowing what happened between these ten year gaps but I assume that Emma thrived, did a little so-called nursing, and hopefully made the home a place of welcome for both her children and Thomas's.

Thomas died in 1914 aged 69 at number 28 Dexter Street. Emma was the informant and present at the death. And soon afterwards she apparently arranged for the memorial stone to be erected. I hadn't imagined that my great-grandfather and Emma were ever particularly affluent. Thomas didn't leave a will and my research into the lives of the extended family indicates that these Davises were working-class people, living in rented property, existing from day to day with few luxuries. Likewise I supposed, the Smiths. Surely then the provision of such a stone would have been a financial sacrifice on Emma's part.....my heart warmed to her!

Then I discovered that on 10th May 1917, three years after her husband's death, Emma actually made a will (the only Davis so far, according to my research, to do so). She appointed her son, Joseph John, as an executor and beneficiary and also her ***daughter*** .....an enormous surprise to me as I had until then been unaware of this lady's existence. The will gave the daughter's name as Emma Emily Smith Harrison. She was the widow of a labourer, one Thomas Harrison, and she lived at 70 Stockbrook Road, Derby. As it happened, Emma's son Joseph (a tiler and slater late of Birmingham) had predeceased her and daughter Emma was the sole beneficiary. The witnesses were Edward Higgs, a railway policeman and William Smith, a tool maker (probably Emma's brother or nephew). Both were close neighbours living in

Dexter Street. And now for the biggest surprise of all: Emma left £213.13s.8d which in today's money would be worth more than £8,000: certainly not a fortune but nevertheless quite a princely sum for a lady of very (assumed) moderate means to accumulate. How she came by this money we will probably never know. An erratic income from untrained nursing seems unlikely, unless, of course, one of her patients generously left her a sum. And judging by her family circumstances, an inheritance from either the Davis or the Smith branches seems equally impossible. Prostitution? £8,000 in Derby? I very much doubt it. So what is the story here?

Then, a demure little postscript: Emma's death certificate. She died on 9th December 1921 at number 28 Dexter Street. The cause of her death was given as bronchitis and, sadly, "senility". When she made her will in 1911, the terms were, "*First read over to her.....(and) when she appeared to understand the same (she) made her mark.....*"So quite possibly Emma was already suffering from early Alzheimer's disease, or was similarly afflicted, at that time. Maybe her relatives were aware of her little nest-egg and, given Emma's assumed declining mental capacity, wanted to ensure that the money would pass to them rather than to her step-sons, or to anyone else hoping for a hand-out, for that matter.

Family research so often unearths long-forgotten questions which, sadly for nosey future generations, are left unanswered. The circumstances of Emma's little cache of money is one of these. But whatever the story, and there must be one, I do feel that this lady possessed a certain strength of character, and courage. Like so many women of that time she obviously received little formal education and, despite close family connections, as a widow with two small children, was forced to rely on her wits to survive. I have the impression, rightly or wrongly, that using her skills as an untrained nurse or carer, and any other occupation she could manage, she just soldiered on.

I do hope that she found security and happiness with my great-grandfather during those last 22 years and that her life with him (whatever her past) was a peaceful one. And I feel strangely grateful that, owing to her thoughtfulness and maybe even determination, the names of my great-grandparents are remembered in their ancestral city, an unexpected gift to prosperity. Thank you, Emma!

Kay Borsberry [Mem 1652], 19E Glenluce Road,
Blackheath, London, SE3 7SD
Email: BorsberK@aol.

Why did Uncle Wally and Cousin Roger have a French middle name?

This is not really a Derbyshire Family History Story but there are Derbyshire connections and I will begin with those. The Butt family has a continuous presence in the Derby area since 1870; the tombstone of my GGG Grandfather, Louis Gueriot (1799-1884), is easily found today in the Uttoxeter Road Cemetery; but the most important justification for the story is that of my thirty odd ancestors of that generation, Louis Gueriott is by far the most interesting.

Gueriot is obviously not a typically English family name; possibly French? As children, my cousin and I both asked our respective parents "Why Gueriott?" My father's answer was typically uncommunicative: "Frog in the family!" Roger got an equally unhelpful response: "Don't know, don't care, possibly Huguenot". So, the subject lay dormant for about fifty years (1944-1994).

This (1995) is where I took up the challenge. At this point, we leave the Derbyshire connection behind us and move back a generation to the 1841 census for Shepton Mallet, Somerset where Louis Gueriot and Walter Butt were both raising families and working in the silk weaving trade. Louis' daughter, Eliza (1824-1892) and her future husband (Walter Butt Sr.) grew up together in Shepton Mallet. In 1845, when Walter was seventeen, the Butt family moved to Chesham, Bucks where Walter was briefly "a staff man" in a silk mill before marrying his childhood sweetheart, Eliza, in 1850. Walter and Eliza moved up to Derby about 1870 where they owned a silk mill. Walter Louis, my grandfather, was Eliza's grandson, age fourteen when she died so he was old enough to have been strongly influenced by her. He would also have met his great-grandfather Louis Gueriot who spent the last year of his life (1883) in Derby with the family. Of course Walter Louis was only five when his great-grandfather died.

Obviously Walter Louis (influenced by his mother?) must have gone to considerable effort to preserve "Gueriott" as a middle name for both his first son and for his grandson. The tradition died with my generation because my cousin Roger had only daughters. Louis Gueriott was obviously proud of the

family names; two of his sons were named "Louis" however the "Gueriott" tradition is particularly odd in that nobody in my generation had the slightest idea of its origin. The Huguenot clue was soon shown to be bogus; wrong generation. Louis Gueriott's career was easily traced; born about the turn of the century in Tottenham; a labourer in Tottenham and Stratford Bow (east London) when his youngest children were baptized; a silk throwster in Shepton Mallet, Somerset for most of the rest of his life. Thrice married; a manager of a silk mill. Buried in Derby; first occupant of a tomb purchased, and subsequently occupied, by his daughter & son-in-law. If he had been an MP or an ambassador, I could see good reasons for perpetuating the family name. This did not add up! Why Gueriott?

My first inspiration was to look for émigrés from the French Revolution. A book by Margery Weiner pointed me to the account books of the Wilmot Committee which provided relief for destitute émigrés between 1795 and 1805; so my cousin Peter and I spent a few days at the National Archives. The record books are very detailed, though some years are missing. We hit a treasure trove! A Felicité Gueriot received continuous payments from 1795 until her return to France about July 1801. Summary records suggest that she may have been on the list as early as 1790. Payments were only made to émigrés who were truly destitute but the assumption was that the recipients would use the funds to maintain themselves in the style to which they were accustomed (most of them claimed extra funds to pay for their maids).

Further research suggested that Felicité had been active in feminist circles during her stay in London. In 1799 she published a book, "L'Amie des Dames", in which she recommends education, chastity and a very careful selection of a husband ("let the head rule the heart"). Mary Robinson ("Perdita") was a famous actress & courtesan, mistress of the Prince of Wales and in her retirement, during the 1790's, active in women's issues. She and Felicité obviously shared a common interest in some of his wife's dowry and went on to become a general in Napoleon's army. Napoleonwomen's issues and had probably met. On her return to France, Felicité translated and published Perdita's autobiography. Some time between 1802 and 1805, she collaborated with de Loizerolles (a famous French aristocrat saved from the guillotine when his aged father took his place on the scaffold) on a comedy "Bilivor" that was performed in Paris. During this period, she also published a book "The Peace".

A parallel research project proved that the Gueriots were a very interesting family. A 1901 article in a French monthly magazine with the unlikely title "A small coup for the Great Usurers" gave me a detailed, five generation, account of Felicité's parents and grandparents. Felicité's uncle, who was an artillery officer, had guaranteed a loan to a fellow officer and the "usurers" called in the debt. Uncle Gueriot des Rues appealed to the King but only got a delay of a year in which to pay up. He sold off attended his daughter's wedding. From there, it was hard slogging but easy enough to fill out the details of Felicité's life.

Jeanne Felicité Gueriot was born in 1767 in Chalons-sur-Marne, Champagne, France. She was the granddaughter of Claude Etienne Gueriot (1699-1755) and the youngest child of Marie Louis Gueriot (1734-1800). The Gueriot family originally came from Attigy (80 km to the north of Chalons and close to the present day Belgian frontier). By 1750, they were one of the leading families in Chalons but had estates in Saint Martin aux Champs (25 km south of Chalons). Another branch of the family had property in Moulins. The Gueriots were officially designated as "nobility", probably equivalent to "landed gentry" in England.

In 1789, just before the storming of the Bastille, Felicité was twenty-one, living safely at home with her family until the terror spread to Chalons (1793?). Felicité's uncle, Gueriot des Rues was a Colonel in the artillery; her brother (Gueriot Saint Martin), a contemporary of Napoleon at the military college in Auxonne, was still an artillery lieutenant. In the armies of that time, (French, British or American), junior infantry officers were cannon fodder; cavalry officers had horses and their horses had the brains; artillery officers had brains of their own! Between 1790 and 1800 her military relatives did very well. Her brother rose to the rank of General but died of yellow fever in Haiti in June 1802. Her uncle was another of Napoleon's Generals and a secret provider of aid to some of the persecuted aristocracy (Memoirs of Mlle. Des Echerolles: Being Sidelights on the Reign of Terror).

At this point, I think I have a plausible story. My ancestor, Louis Gueriot, somehow related to Felicité, was born about 1800 and was somewhat aware of his noble ancestry; though maybe a little ashamed of having ancestors who fought on the wrong side during the Napoleonic Wars. My grandfather, Walter Louis certainly owned a Napoleonic War Medal issued to his great grandfather (Luke Smith) who fought on the right side in that war!

Nevertheless, the story is far from complete! Two factors suggest that Felicité was probably not Louis' mother. In the first place, mothers usually feel a strong bond to their infant children and I would have expected her to have taken young Louis back to France when she returned in 1801. Maybe she did? But then why would Louis have returned to east London as a labourer in the 1820's? In the second place, it would appear somewhat hypocritical for Felicité to show up at a book signing for her "Lady's Friend" masterpiece (extolling the virtues of chastity) with an illegitimate baby on her lap. The book contains the following remarkable sentence *"La nature ne m'a accordé la gloire d'être mère ..."*! If Felicite was not his mother, who was?

Now the story gets really confusing! Lewis Gueriott (he did not adopt the "Louis" spelling until 1834) was a labourer during the 1820's (baptismal records for three children born in Stratford Bow). After 1830, "Louis" was in Shepton Mallet, a silk throwster. This is not necessarily a high skill trade but it does imply a seven year apprenticeship (completed at age 30??), so, I posted a query to the East London Family History Society and was bombarded with good information - but nothing about his apprenticeship!

The East London Family History Society provided three pieces of evidence that Felicité Gueriot may not have been following her own advice about chastity during her decade in London:

- First, a marriage record for Felicité Gueriot, at Holborn in 1795 to John Nicholas Stephen Landragin.
- Second, an adult baptism in 1825 in Dartford, Kent. Martin Garrey Landragin said he had been born on 9.11.1795, son of John Nicholas Stephen Landragin and Felicité (nee Gueriot); abode: "London": father's profession: "foreigner". Martin was born less than eight months after the Landragin-Gueriot marriage and he was married a month after his adult baptism. He died in 1866, a gentleman, owner of half a dozen houses in Bromley and Bethnal Green. We may have some flexibility concerning his birth date; we all get our birth data at second hand, from people who have some claim to have been involved but who might have reason to make minor modifications.
- Third, a baptismal record for Lewis Gueriott, born 23.12.1799 and baptised in Marylebone 5.3.1800, parents Timothy Oliver & Felicité Gueriot, alias Landragin. The record certainly implies paternity by Timothy Oliver and it seems more than a coincidence that in October & November of 1800, Felicité's pension was signed for by "Olivier Du Vivier", who was the official paymaster, intermediary between the Wilmot Committee and the émigré

community. The Du Vivier connection suggests that "Olivier" may have been related to Felicité's uncle, General Jean-Louis Denis Gueriot des Rues, who had been "adopted" by his uncle, Baron Jean-Denis Gueriot de Vivier from whom he inherited a small fortune. Timothy Olivier Du Vivier may have been Felicité's distant cousin.

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Then I had another stroke of luck. A sister/brother pair (in Australia & France, respectively) answered my Landragin query on ancestry.com. They had lots of information about Jean-Nicholas-Estephan Landragin and his son, Martin, much of it collected, in the early 1920's, by their great-grandfather, a schoolmaster, who had followed up on some family folk lore and conducted some preliminary research including the following:

- The present day Landragin family was still active in the village of Wasigny (not far from Reims).
- Jean-Nicholas-Estephan Landragin had died in 1845 as the Curé of Autry (a small parish near to Reims).

Jean-Nicholas-Estephan Landragin had been released from the Saint Pelagie Prison in Paris in March 1800.

In 1924, Gilbert George Landragin, recently retired, set off to for France to continue the project. On his return to England, he wrote a letter to his son, recounting the details in chronological order. He went first to the Reims Cathedral Register where he noted seeing church documents relating to two different Landragin priests but no mention of Jean Nicholas Etienne. From Reims, he proceeded to Wasigny where he made a copy of an 1842 legal document which confirmed that JNEL was still a priest at Autry in 1842. In Autry, Gilbert met a Mr. Godot who was 85 (born about 1839 so he was only five years old when JNEL died). Godot confirmed that JNEL had been Curé of the parish from 1824 until his death in 1844 and he gave it as his unsolicited opinion that the Curé's wife had been guillotined during the revolution. This is obviously ridiculous; Felicité was safely in London until long after the guillotine was put to rest. Anything Mr. Godot knew was certainly second hand but he said that his parents got the information directly from the Curé, with whom they had been close friends. Gilbert's next stop was in Paris where he tried (without success) to contact the Saint Pelagie Prison authorities about JNEL's 1800 arrest record.

Independent from their great-grandfather's research, my Landragin correspondents had found a current Google book: "The Prosopographie Gé-

novéfaine" by Nicholas Petit. This is a biographical directory of the regular canons of the Order of Saint Augustine of the Congregation of France, commonly referred to as Génovéfaines (in reference to their Abbey at Sainte-Genevieve). The relevant entry reads:

No 2880 Landragin (Jean Nicholas Etienne #3)
Born (baptized?) Wassigny diocese de Reims, 14 April 1763.
Novitiate Saint Lo de Rouen 15 August 1784
Sub-deacon September 1785
Deacon Easter 1787
Priest September 1787
Prior at Saint Medard de Grandpré 1790
Fled to Chalons in 1791
Imprisonned at Carmes. *(nb The September 1792 Carmes Massacre was one of the worst atrocities of the Revolution; he must have been one of the few who escaped).*

Gilbert George Landragin was almost certainly not acquainted with Prosopographie so he never had the problem of reconciling his ancestor's marriage and parenthood with the fact that he had been an ordained Catholic Priest at the time. We do not have that option!

I could take the easy way out and accept all of this at face value but the evidence does not reflect well on poor Felicité! She drew a significant pension from the Wilmot Committee, under a false name. She married an ordained Catholic priest in a protestant church ceremony. She had a child seven months after her marriage. In "L'Amie des Dames" she specifically states that she was childless *"la nature ne m'accordé la gloire d'être mère",* but this is taken out of context; in context it can be interpreted as saying *"I am not addressing this advice to any specific person; I have no daughter; in my book, I am addressing the public in general"*. Nevertheless, it is difficult to reconcile the morality that she recommends with her personal conduct! Then, she had a second child by a different man. She abandoned her two sons and returned to France to continue her literary career and to help settle the estates of her father (he died in December 1800) and her brother (he died in Haiti in August 1802). She may have had plans to return to London but the war, which had been put on hold during 1800/1802, became a serious obstacle to travel from 1803-1815 (see Footnote for the timeline of the revolution and Napoleonic era). Her sons do not appear to have had any contact as adults. When Louis

Gueriot married Sarah Lane in 1853, the marriage took place in Bethnal Green, only half a mile from where his brother Martin had a successful business. There is no evidence that Martin attended the wedding - witnesses were his daughter Eliza (who lived in Buckinghamshire) and a Wesleyan church custodian (who had recently moved from Shepton Mallet to Bethnal Green). On the other hand, Martin was in the silk weaving trade and he may have helped his brother Lewis to get an apprenticeship.

Martin certainly had significant knowledge and pride in his French ancestry. This information was passed on and it inspired Gilbert George Landragin (his nephew) to research the family history on his 1924 visit to France. Louis had so much pride in his mother's family name that he was able to ensure its survival through three more generations. This is particularly puzzling because "Gueriot" was the name to which he was least entitled. His father was "Oliver" and, at the time of his birth, his mother's name was "Landragin".

If I refuse to accept the totality of the evidence, what alternative do I have? One piece of evidence, the Timothy Oliver paternity, appears particularly anomalous. What if I reject it and (with no justification whatever) assume that on Wednesday 5 March 1800, Felicité and her friend, the paymaster to the émigré community, met an overworked curate in church and got themselves thoroughly confused, either intentionally or maybe deliberately? Felicité has a baby. Babies ought to be baptized. Her husband, a Catholic Priest usually performs the ceremony but ever since Louis' birth, Jean has been in jail in Paris. Felicité is reluctant to tell the true story and poor Timothy Oliver, who just showed up as a god-father, is recorded as being the biological father. Is this plausible?

If we accept my hypothesis, the story becomes a bit more credible. Jean helped Felicité to escape the terror and they fell in love, got married, had a son, Martin, and looked after him in London. Jean may have confessed his sins and accepted the fact that he was no longer a priest. Felicité was active with feminist education issues. Sometime late in 1799 family duty required Jean's presence in Wasigny (maybe his father died?). He mistakenly assumed that Napoleon's return signaled the end of the revolution but he was a bit premature in that judgment. He was arrested on arrival and it took a few weeks before the family could bail him out. A year later, Felicité was also called to France by family duty and they were reunited. There was a truce in place at the time and Felicité would have planned to reunite the family as soon as pos-

sible but the war was resumed and even when it was over in 1814 the reunion never took place, this is another weak spot in my hypotheses.

In France, Jean and Felicité would both have inherited substantial assets from their respective fathers and they may have lived happily together until about 1824 when Jean was re-admitted to the priesthood. This would only have been possible if Felicité had died.

FOOTNOTE

The timeline for the Revolution suggests that these were exciting times in northern France:

- From July 1789 to December 1791, the Revolution was well documented in Paris but outside of the capital, expropriation of property was quite general though the level of killing depended very much on the local enthusiasm for Revolution. Clergy were required to sign an oath of loyalty to the revolutionary regime (renouncing allegiance to the Pope).
- The year 1792 began with the potential counter-revolution; Paris was in danger from the Austrian Army but repulsed the attack. The year ended with defeat of most of the more moderate reformers; the implementation of the guillotine and the trial of the King.
- In 1793, it got worse; the King was executed and Robespierre's Committee of Public Safety set about the extermination of all but the most bloodthirsty revolutionaries. The Terror, which had been largely restricted to Paris, became nation-wide. Lyon had actively opposed the excesses of the revolution but was besieged in August and fell in October. General Gueriot was in command of the revolutionary artillery during the siege but he helped M. des Echerolles, the commander of the defending forces, to escape with his family.
- In 1794, Robespierre himself was guillotined and conditions were slightly improved.
- In November 1799, Napoleon took over the government of France, put an end to the terror and invited émigrés to return.
- Following the allied defeat at the Battle of Marengo (June 1800) the war was essentially on hold and there were serious diplomatic negotiations, though a formal peace between England & France was not signed until March 1802.
- In May, 1803 the war resumed.
- In April, 1814 the war ended with the battle of Paris and Napoleon's exile to Elba

- In February, 1815 Napoleon escaped from Elba and regained the throne for 100 days. In June, he was finally defeated at Waterloo and exiled to Saint Helena.

Post-war relations between the allies (led by England) and the defeated French government are well documented. Relations at the personal level are less easily determined; war is an emotional issue but British casualties were limited though food shortages were severe. Was it possible for well educated people to have a civilized cross-channel conversation in 1815? Specifically, did Felicité have such a conversation with Louis' guardians in the months immediately following the treaty of 1815? This remains an open issue.

David Butt [Mem 6778]

THEFT OF GROCERIES

At the Borough Police Court on Saturday before the Mayor, Jos Hill [presiding], Bertha Hall, married, 12 Warner Street, was charged with stealing on November 20th, a string bag containing margarine, cheese, tea, a tin of condensed milk and two linen belts, valued at 6s 3d, the property of James Kinsey, a labourer of Etwall.

Prosecutor's wife said while visiting the Co-operative Stores on Friday she placed the bag containing the articles in a perambulator. The bag was covered over with a shawl and witness left the perambulator in the shop, while she went into the restaurant. On her return she missed the bag and after visiting the police station, witness met prisoner in Albert Street, carrying the bag. She spoke to Hall, who stated that the bag had been given her to hold by another woman.

Detective-Sergeant Smith said when he questioned prisoner concerning the groceries she said she had put them in another bag because it was lighter. When charged she made no reply.

Hall elected to be dealt with summarily and pleaded not guilty. She had been given the goods, she said, by a stranger who had told her she was going to see her husband, who was in the Morledge. Witness was waiting for her when Mrs Kinsey came up to her.

Hall was given a good character.

The Bench imposed a fine of 20s or 14 days imprisonment.

Derby Mercury, 27 Nov 1914

The Elusive Arthur Harrison
My Great Great Uncle

All families have their stories about their ancestors that are passed down through the generations. My second Great Uncle, Arthur Harrison was one of those people. I had always been told by various members of my Harrison family that Arthur had emigrated to the USA and owned a clothing family and had become a wealthy man. It was thought that he had married a lady in the USA, and that he had been robbed on the voyage over to the USA. However, it wasn't until I started searching for more information about Arthur that things started to appear very different to the stories I'd been told.

I have traced my Harrison line back to my 4th Great Grandfather Joshua Harrison and his wife Sarah Harrison (yes she was a Harrison before she married Joshua on the 23 October, 1797 in Ilkeston – our ancestors do like to complicate things!). It was Arthur though that was proving elusive which is why I started the search for him.

I knew that Arthur was born in 1879 in Ilkeston, and he was the ninth child of **John & Louisa Harrison (nee Fretwell).** He had eight siblings: Agnes, John, Elijah, Allen, Ellen, Henry, Millicent and Florence. Elijah was my Great Grandfather.

Arthur had decided to emigrate to the USA and set sail on the 'SS Cymric', White Star Line, and travelled Third Class on the **21st September 1903** from Liverpool to New York. His occupation given was 'Cloth Examiner'. This was really the only evidence I had to show that he had indeed emigrated and as I didn't have access to USA records I didn't take it any further for a long time. However, a close friend was born in the USA and was also researching her families so when I explained about Gt Gt Uncle Arthur she offered to help and this is what we have found so far.

1903 – Arthur arrives in the USA

1904 and 1912 - Arthur became a US citizen in 1904 and in 1912 had taken Naturalisation.

1920 US Census – Arthur was shown as living as a boarder at 65 North Main Street, Uxbridge, Worcester, Massachusetts. He was single, working and

could read and write. He was living in the home of Margaret Bent. Occupation: 'Cloth Examiner in a textile mill'.

1927 - I do not know the reason why, but in 1927 he sailed home from New York (via Boston, Mass.) to Liverpool. Again travelling 'Third Class'. Occupation: 'Examiner'! It said he would be staying at 41 Station Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

In October 1927 he returned to the USA, leaving again from Liverpool with the destination port shown as Boston, Mass. He travelled again with the White Star line, but this time on the 'SS Celtic'.

In 1935 he was still in the USA and was living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and was still working in a textile factory..

1940 Census –Arthur was still living in Philadelphia, PA, and still working in a clothing factory but had now worked his way up the ranks to become a 'Textile Inspector'. However, dear Arthur was still shown as being single, and was still a lodger, this time living at 242 Green Street, Philadelphia in the house of a man called Michael Sirole, shown was a widower, born in Austria.

Arthur died in 1941, having never married and had never been the owner of the prosperous clothing factory that we had been led to believe. A probate notice was apparently placed in a UK newspaper but I haven't managed to find it yet.

So the moral of my story is to never believe exactly what you are told about any of your ancestors until you have thoroughly researched as much as you possibly can.

My father was Cecil Claude Harrison married to Lily (nee Fairburn) and he was a Gent's Hairdresser and had a salon at Eastwood, Notts until his death aged 36 in 1952, when my mother took over the management of the salon. I imagine it was quite unusual in those days for a woman to be managing a Gent's Hairdressers. Interestingly on Cecil's war records he is shown as 'Regimental Barber'!

Hairdressing runs in the family as my Grandfather Elijah Harrison and Cecil's brother Gordon were also hairdressers. My late cousin Jennifer was

also a hairdresser owning her own salon in West Bridgford.

Elijah worked as a hairdresser in Ilkeston, before opening his salon in Abbey Street, Old Lenton, Nottingham in 1936. (This photo was taken on the day of opening). After Elijah's death Gordon continued to run the salon until he died in 1982 and the salon was closed for good after 46 years of 'Harrison's Hairdressing' and eventually the salon and the row of terraced houses in Abbey Street was demolished..

If anyone reading this thinks they may know of Arthur or my Harrison family from Ilkeston I would love to hear from you.

Linda Colbourn (neé Harrison)
Email Lcsearch3528@aol.com

THE POOR AFTER 1834

We looked last time at how the poor coped before the New Poor Law Act of 1834. A man called Chadwick had very definite ideas and these he proceeded to put into operation, totally changing life for those who depended on poor relief.

The first idea was that out relief [the paying of rent and allowances to a pauper in his home] was to be abolished. Instead those asking help must leave their home and go into a purpose built Workhouse, first selling up every last possession, including clothing. This Workhouse Test was to be a measure of how serious was the need. Husband and wife and children [apart from nursing infants] were put into separate dormitories and not allowed to meet without permission. This seems harsh to us, but was practical in that it prevented further births. There were strict rules and regulations and food was adequate but plain, an improvement usually on home diet, while beer was cut out being deemed an indulgence. Inmates could not go out without permission and had to work at any labour imposed. A uniform was to be worn, labelled P, and if the pauper ran away he would be treated as a criminal, having stolen his uniform. Poverty now seemed to be looked on as a crime in itself.

Many families, in desperation, agreed to go north or emigrate rather than go inside. In some unions selected men were given an advance of money and sent where work was available, where they could get a job and then send for their families. Most men would then vanish, deserting their family. Women would tend their own and orphan infants, nursed the sick, did the laundry or were hired out as servants to the cruel, mad and incontinent.

In some places there was not the money to build a Workhouse of sufficient size. Relief, ordered by the Guardians, was then administered by a relieving Officer, whose job was to minimise the amount if he could find an excuse to withhold it.

So what records exist for the Workhouse. The most important one of course is the Workhouse Admission Register which records name, age, married or single, place from where admitted and date. A note such as idiot or cripple may be added. There follows the date of leaving, either to another union, or more usually death. Some paupers were returned to their home village for burial, if the family or a local benefactor paid the cost. In Derbyshire nearly

all of these registers have been destroyed. Many workhouses became hospitals and it was thought an embarrassment to have these registers around so they were burnt or dumped. Those for Belper and Chesterfield have survived, the rest have gone, those of Derby Union having made a large bonfire.

Later additions to records are Creed Registers, showing what denomination the person was and also the next of kin. Some workhouses kept their own baptismal and death registers, others are recorded in the parish registers with Union or House appended. Many baptisms were of illegitimate children and most single mothers were automatically sent to the workhouse, unless they had kin with money. Dying in the workhouse was still the fate of most old people who could not work until they died and a lone pauper's funeral from the House was the ultimate disgrace. This led to the setting up of Burial Clubs. In order to set aside money for their funeral people would happily go without luxuries and even necessities during life.

Because of many complaints the Workhouse regime was somewhat relaxed in the 1870s. Aged couples were no longer parted, tobacco was sometimes issued to old men and stout or port to old ladies. Christmas became an occasion when local gentry provided treats for the poor, mainly in form of food and occasional items of clothing.

In one way the Workhouse did begin to work. Fear and shame forced a lot of able bodied men to try and get work. Apart from the factory jobs up north in the large mills and the many metalworking jobs in Birmingham and Sheffield, there was ample scope to get work away from farming. Most large towns offered unskilled jobs as builders labourers and the rise in canals and railways enabled workmen to get around much easier. Successful migrants can often be traced because of their habit of going back to Grandma to christen baby, their town address appearing in the baptism register. Even better may be a death notice or tombstone inscription in the churchyard mentioning their place of origin, and of course the census is invaluable.

The new 'right of settlement' was based on birth and parentage and marriage for women. As long as the worker stayed healthy and employed there was no nonsense about producing settlement certificates. If things went wrong the reject pauper could be returned to the appropriate Union Workhouse. However, many parishes preferred to pay out relief to keep him in the new parish, hoping they would get further employment. In 1846 it was enacted that any

person living for five years in a new parish without claiming poor relief from it was settled there, however much or little rent they paid. By the mid 1860s the qualifying period was reduced to three years without claiming relief.

The hard cases, of course, were those of widows and orphans. Many parishes spent hundreds of pounds in legal fees to find the father's last settlement and returning them. Children were allowed to remain with their mother until they were sixteen. Guardians always tried to find some kin in a position to help. Sometimes a brother who had gone to the town to work, married and started a family, found his nicely balanced budget upset by contributions to the aged parent or work shy sibling back home. When universal male householder suffrage became law [1867 towns, 1888 country] the right to vote was taken from anyone receiving poor relief. In practice a pauper in desperate need could be shuttled between several relieving officers, especially during the bad years of unemployment in the twenties and thirties.

So how do you trace your poor ancestor. The obvious one is the census, of course, which follows a mobile family all over the country and records his occupation, but there are other ways. A young labourer with strong arms might work as a navvy, first on digging canals then on building railways. The work was hard physically, but well paid, though there was a fair risk of being buried by earth or rocks. Navvies tended to drink hard and get into battles over local girls. Those who survived and did not drink all their earnings could become quite well to do and set up as contractors with their own gangs. Tracing them is difficult. There was a Navvies Magazine, run by missionaries, which tried to keep personal contacts going. But most of the men are known by nicknames, some being on the run from the law or their wife. Work for the railways, once lines were constructed, was a plum job and usually only the better educated could get in—even porters needed to read and write. There are staff records for some companies, but survival is patchy.

Another occupation for a man with basic education was the police force. Enormous number of men were recruited into the various forces, served for a few months and fell foul of the very strict regulations, especially the one about not drinking on duty. The records of the Metropolitan Police are with the Public Record Office, local forces may be in the CRO or still with the police authority.

Many people went into service and a clever servant might acquire the skills to move upwards. Once in a rich household, saving wages and large tips built up capital and a thrifty butler could become landlord of a successful inn. Boys who knew about horses became grooms and later coachmen.

Unskilled men could obtain jobs in transport as drivers, humpers and haulers. Young boys started off as errand lads and hoped to graduate to the counter. Shop and office staff were mainly male until late in the century, except in some drapers. When typewriters came in they were too complicated for men to work, so ladies were recruited, but they had to be clean, clothed decently and educated, so there was little scope for poor people. Lower standards were required for milkmen, postmen, bus conductors and tram drivers, but the pay was steady and tips were possible. Crossing sweepers did well till the 1860s but declined as town streets became paved.

Dock jobs were generally confined to the families of existing dockers. The great strike in 1988 for the 'Docker's Tanner' [6d an hour when working] was one of the first actions for improved pay. So much was written about this strike that if your ancestor was a docker he may be mentioned by name. The Army was the choice of desperation and service in the Crimea, India or South Africa caused death from fevers as well as ordinary hazards of military life. Deserters with full descriptions are listed in the Police Gazette.

Those who were not young strong and healthy often had to pick up a living where they could. Widows or deserted women with young babies would take in washing, do charing, farm unwanted babies or join an agricultural labour gang. In towns there was more variety available but mostly not well paid and bad for your health. Going on the streets was an option for the young, but didn't last very long and few could make their fortune.

The solution for many of the poor was straightforward crime. Most criminals who were sent to prison after 1875 should have been photographed and details of crime, address and character appended. Major crimes got a full page spread in the Police Gazette or Hue and Cry.

Too many of the poor lacked enterprise or succumbed to the scourge of tuberculosis, so that there were always crowds of aged, sick, feeble, orphan and infant poor who needed help, but resisted as long as possible going into the Workhouse. There was a great deal of charitable effort initially dealing with

relieving the symptoms of poverty, but later trying to remove the causes. At Christmas time newspapers are full of the charity teas and feasts for the poor. In the country the Lady of the Manor would provide gruel or beef tea for the sick poor and would sometimes visit their sick workers. Farmers were expected to provide a Harvest Home feast for their workers, in addition to beer or cider and the right to a share of the rabbits and birds. Country folk had access to vegetables from the garden, pork or offal from cottage pigs and many poached rabbits, in spite of the efforts of gamekeepers to prevent it. Then there were apples or scrumped fruits to gather to make jams and pies. In town slums many were near starvation, with only rotting fruit and tainted meat from the markets. For those with little or no income there were the charity soup kitchens, which provided a kind of soup or thin stew, sometimes bread and cheese or bread an dripping, and some kind of meat at Christmas.

Some, like Lord Shaftesbury, wanted to tackle the causes of poverty and eliminate them if possible. He organised Ragged Schools for children who were too filthy, ragged and poor to be accepted into regular school. Many institutions took orphan or delinquent boys, gave them basic education and training in a trade. Reformatories existed for juvenile criminals, the hope being that the child was redeemable if removed from home and bad influences. It worked in many cases.

There were many orphan homes, run by various charities or private organisations. Some accepted children whose presence was embarrassing to their family—illegitimate or insane. Few of these have surviving records, for Derby itself the DFHS has the registers for the Railway Orphanage which are very revealing. Dr Barnardo's Society has extensive records, but these are closed for 100 years except to the children or immediate descendants. The Child Emigration movement sent many children out to Canada, but no known records are available, although there are passenger lists of emigrant children in the Canadian Archives. Neglected or orphan children often became delinquent rather than starve and were sent to reformatories or to Training Ships.

Parishes and Unions encouraged the surplus poor to emigrate. In the late 1830s over 6000 people emigrated. At first parishes carefully selected the best of their paupers to go and paid the passage. Someone then got the idea that it was a good way of shifting the troublemakers and encouraged them to leave 'for their own good'. Many, indeed, did rather well since they could obtain better paid jobs and grants of land. Letters home from the successful

encouraged others to go and soon there were agents actually coming to England to recruit emigrants. Before 1868 Australia was used as a penal colony, and many men were transported for minor crimes. These convicts are well recorded, many of them also appearing the lists in the newspapers. The arrival of new families abroad was an event and generally lists were printed in their local paper. During the 19th century there were around 100,000 a year leaving, increasing to 250,000 in the early years of the 20th century.

Before 1908 only some ex armed forces personnel and few private employees had a pension once they stopped work. The rest of the working class either kept working till they dropped, applied for an almshouse or went into the workhouse. In 1908 the radical chancellor, Lloyd George, brought in the controversial measure to pay a pension solely on grounds of age. It was a maximum 5s a week payable to over 70s and only to those whose annual income was less than £23. For the first time elderly couples could stay together, in their own home, or contribute to the family budget of a son or daughter. It made the difference between dignity and pauperism.

Insurance against sickness was also introduced in 1911. Working men paid a small sum from their wages and the employers matched this [while cutting wages to compensate], allowing sick men to draw a weekly sum for a limited period. Other legislation included provision of free elementary schooling from 1895 and permission for schools in 1906 to provide free meals for the poor and medical inspection. Poor people's children still tended to be withdrawn from school at 12 to help with finances.

The best source for information is often contemporary writings. Newspapers increased their coverage and a number of journalists investigated the conditions of the poor and wrote down what they discovered. "The Conditions of the Working Class in England" by Friedrich Engels is a must for anyone with ancestors in Manchester or Sheffield and Mayhew's London Labour and the London Poor, give a great deal of information, as did Charles Booth with his famous maps of streets in London. There are various studies at the National Archives and even famous books such as Lark Rise to Candleford and those by Dickens give an invaluable insight into the way of life for our ancestors.

STEPHEN'S STORY
[Continued]

Having attended the DFHS meeting and hearing about Stephen's "Murder in the Family, I wrote up the report for the magazine and I wondered what happened to Ann Spong and her daughter, Ann Orchard. Stephen said he had not traced them after 1861. I like a challenge!!

In 1861 Ann Spong was 57 born in Alfrick, Worcestershire and head of the household with her daughter Ann Orchard age 15 born in Repton Derbyshire. She was a pupil teacher. There was no sign of George Spong.

I looked for Ann Spong in 1871 but could not find her, so I looked for Ann Orchard born 1845. I found her in Wolverhampton and her occupation was Schoolmistress. She was living with her mother, Ann who had reverted to calling herself Orchard.
In 1873 Annie Orchard married Isaiah Roper in Wolverhampton RD.
Anne Orchard died in 1874 in Wolverhampton RD aged 67.

In 1881 Isaiah and Annie Roper were living at 113, Tettenhall Rd Wolverhampton. He was a Professor of Music and she was principal of a girl's school. They had one daughter, Dora age 6.
Annie Theodora Roper was born 1874 Wolverhampton RD.

In 1891 they were at the Larches, Wolverhampton and Annie was Principal of the High School for Girls. There were 17 boarders, governesses and servants living there also. Annie Theodora Roper won an Open Scholarship for The Royal College of Music in London in 1891.
Annie Roper died in 1893 Wolverhampton RD age 47.

Isaiah Roper married again to a Martha Taylor in 1895 Guisbro'. I wasn't sure about this marriage until I found evidence of the Taylor family with them in 1911.

In 1901 The Larches is still a Girl's school with an all female staff.

In 1901 Isaiah was staying in the Tettenhall Hotel. "Patty" Roper was the principal of a Girls' school in Harrogate. They have had two children, Cedric and Margaret, both born Wolverhampton.

Whether Isaiah had to look for new employment after Annie's death as far afield as Harrogate I don't know but he married in that area and then returned to Wolverhampton as the two children were born there.

In 1911 Isaiah and Patty and daughter Margaret Winsome Roper are in Harrogate. He is still professor of Music and Patty is Principal of a Girl's school, bigger than the one that Anne had. Cedric Raymond Roper is at Barony House School at St Bees, Cumberland.
Isaiah Roper died in 1916 Knaresborough RD age 63.

In 1901 Annie Theodora was an assistant school teacher in Rochester, Kent. Unfortunately, I cannot find her in 1911 and there is no sign of a marriage or a death, perhaps she became a governess and has travelled abroad or just living with someone and using their name.

Wherever she ended up her parents and grandmother would have been extremely proud of her. I wonder if the outcome would have been the same if Ann Orchard hadn't accidentally killed her husband.

Ruth Barber

HELP WANTED!

I am part of an archaeological group that has planned and dug many aircraft crash sites. We are currently focusing on one aircraft—Lancaster LM715 that crashed in Germany on 19th October 1944. The aircraft was returning from a bombing raid on Nurenburg and was shot down with the loss of all 7 crew members. One of the crew was named Harold Victor Ward and was son of John Thomas and Elsie May Ward of Kirk Ireton, Derbyshire.

We intend to excavate the crash site this summer and will be meeting many German villages from Wittlensweiller [where the aircraft crashed] who remember the incident. My hope is to hopefully find images of some of the crew and present these to the German villagers to be used in a memorial they have planned.

Has anyone any information or know of any people that can help, especially with a photograph of Sgt Ward. I would be grateful for any help.

Contact Tom, E-mail: pandjmilner@yahoo.co.uk

SENSATION AT TRUSLEY

It was 1915 and the world was at war. The papers were full of battles and the need for men to go abroad, and over in France opposing armies faced one another from deep trenches. In the midst of all this, in the paper of 16th November, headlines screamed of the lamentable affair at Trusley.

It appeared a young woman named Emily Harrison had attacked her lover with a razor. He lay in the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary in a dangerous condition, while Emily was arrested on a charge of attempted murder. But this wasn't just another love affair, the background caused a good deal of gossip and excitement.

The story starts with a couple called Philip Foster and his wife Lucy. They had married and set up farming around the Longford, Trusley, Long Lane area. Among their many children were Fanny born around 1858 and her younger brother, Philip, born in 1876 and named after his father. Fanny married a road worker called William Harrison from Shirley and the pair set up home in Trusley, having several children including the said Emily in 1892. Philip married Agnes Ellen Bradshaw in 1900 and the pair originally settled in Burton on Trent, Philip working as a brewery labourer which no doubt gave him the taste for drink. By 1911 they had moved back to Trusley where Philip helped his mother on the farm. The couple had no children.

After her arrest Emily herself came up before the Derby magistrates twice, both times the hearing being delayed because Philip Foster—the man she attacked and also her uncle—was still in hospital and unable to talk. She was allowed bail, a move that argues she had found sympathy in court. Eventually in December the case was heard and though Emily was committed to the Assizes she was again allowed bail and the charge was reduced to unlawful wounding. Many people of Trusley came forward to offer sureties and when the facts came out it was no wonder.

It appeared Emily had had three children by Foster, the first one being Annie who had been born in 1910, when Emily was only 17. Annie had not lived long, but Emily had gone on to have two more children and in May 1915 had taken out a maintenance order against her own uncle, a fact that appeared to shock the judge, who argued the case was most unsavoury. By November 1915 intimacy between the parties appeared to have ceased but from that

point onwards the two parties concerned told different stories.

Foster agreed he had been familiar with Harrison, but had since had nothing to do with her until they met one another in the Black Cow pub. He claimed she was annoyed because he hadn't spoken to her and when he told her to go home she went for him with a bottle of beer, threatening to knock his brains out.

The next time they met was in the Three Horse Shoes. Emily had been looking after one of the landlady's children and when she brought him home about 6 p.m., Foster was drinking in the taproom. The pair left together, Foster claiming she asked him to see her home, Emily claiming that he followed her and tried to force her to be intimate with him. At this point she struggled and he knocked her down—the girl had a black eye to prove it—and she grabbed a razor from the birdcage and hit out at him, cutting his throat. Foster at this point struggled back to the pub and when the police arrived he was sitting in the taproom with a serious gash in his throat. The doctor later said if he hadn't had such a lot of flesh round his throat he would have died. This conjures up a very vivid picture of the man, and not a very nice one either. One also has to wonder what on earth the razor was doing being housed in a birdcage. Emily chucked the razor into the vicarage garden where it was later recovered by the police.

At the time of the assizes in February 1916 Emily was 22 and living at Hamilton Terrace, Willington. The charge was reduced to unlawful and malicious wounding and the paper made much of the fact that Foster was a married man and the young woman was his niece. It took the jury only a few minutes deliberation to totally acquit the prisoner.

I am now left wondering what happened to Emily. Did she marry and live happily ever after, or did Philip continue to haunt her existence? Did the family ever live down the scandal? I would also like to know what happened to the two children she had with her uncle? If anyone has the answers I would love to know.

HELEN BETTERIDGE

AN UNUSUAL GRAVESTONE

A number of my wife's ancestors were Christened, Married and Buried in the St. Peter and St Paul Parish Church in Old Brampton near Chesterfield. I had often thought of visiting the Church, and of taking photographs of it. One day in June, on an impulse, we set off to find it. Unfortunately although the Church is normally open, we found it closed on that particular day. Nevertheless we took a number of photographs of the Church, and of some of the Gravestones. One in particular caught our attention. In inscription seemed to read –

IN MEMORY OF
HANNAH THE WIFE OF JOHN MILLINGTON
WHO DIED AUGUST 23RD 1864
AGED 54 YEARS

But does it? Look again at the photograph. It seems the stonemason was not even consistent.

FIRE AT WHATSTANDWELL

I found the following account in the Derby Daily Telegraph, after hints from our Membership Secretary, Catherine, that her grandfather had been involved in it, though she couldn't remember the date. The account is from the newspaper of 23rd June 1936 and Catherine's grandfather is the man who phoned the fire brigade. He is also the one who took the photos of the fire.

Two brigades and scores of workmen were this afternoon still fighting flames, which completely gutted the large Whatstandwell steam joinery of Messrs Yelverton Dawbarn Bros, of Birkenhead, the biggest manufacturers of timber doors in the world.
The fire broke out in the early hours and by midday the factory had become a mass of twisted steel girders, machinery, corrugated iron and charred heaps of wood within a shell of fumbling concrete walls.

The damaged caused by the fire runs into several thousands of pounds, and more than a hundred men, from Whatstandwell, Belper, Matlock and Chesterfield will be thrown temporarily out of employment. The factory lies in the thick woods on the eastern side of the Derwent valley, on the banks of the river and close to the main L.M.S. Line.

At dawn this morning the valley was wreathed in thick fog and it was not until 5.30 a.m. That cottagers at Robin Hood, a hamlet above Whatstandwell, saw flames rising through the mist above the trees. A farmer named Frederick Allsopp ran down to Whatstandwell and telephoned local police officers, who, in turn, communicated with the Matlock and Belper voluntary fire brigades. Whatstandwell is outside the area of both brigades and consequently each had to get permission of the Clerks to their respective Councils before they could respond to the call.

Flames have a good hold

Matlock brigade arrived on the scene at 7 a.m with 11 men and found flames leaping 60 feet high from the blazing joinery and door shops, while flames were already licking the walls of the window and smiths' shops. A member of the brigade told a 'Telegraph' representative that the heat was terrific, and it was not until hoses had been playing on the fire for more than an hour that the firemen were able to venture into the interior of twisted white hot metal and blazing timber stacks.

Belper brigade, with 10 men, arrived at 7.15 a.m., and, like the Matlock brigade, immediately began pumping water from the Derwent close by. A few minutes later the roofs of the joinery and door shops crashed in with a shower of sparks and spurting flame.

Five hours after the outbreak flames were still leaping high above the broken concrete walls, and the entire interior had become a chaos of broken metal, charred timber and debris.

An anxious watch was kept on the 60 foot chimney stack rising from the centre of the gutted buildings, black smoke belching from its funnel and flames licking its base. It was feared that it might collapse upon the firemen and workmen engaged on salvage work. There was also a danger of the fire spreading to the adjoining woodland and causing an extensive forest fire. Fortunately the fire brigades were able to prevent this by playing their hoses on the near by trees.

Very little left

Despite the intense heat, which had cracked its glass and wood frame, the works clock, on the wall of the engine room, was still ticking away seven hours after the fire broke out.

The brigades were able to prevent the flames reaching the one storey office building, and at the woodsheds, which are on the other side of the railway line, work proceeded almost as usual.

Mr T. Venables the manager of the works, told a 'Telegraph' representative that it was impossible as yet to estimate the damage, but it would run into several thousands of pounds. He added that the cause of the outbreak had not yet been determined.

The factory, which was the first built by the firm and is one of the largest joineries in Derbyshire was destroyed by fire in 1909. The works buildings were then constructed of wood and were gutted. New buildings were erected and various extensions had been made during the past few years.

A WELL-EARNED MEAL.—Members of the Belper Fire Brigade, who were called to the fire at Whatstandwell, to-day, having their lunch.

It is not anticipated that the fire will be completely extinguished until tomorrow and the chimney stack will probably have to be demolished.

PLASHET—GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN
Miriam Pollack

A new book for researchers is this book of background biographical information about the lives of the people who were buried in this East End Jewish cemetery 1896-1900. It gives a true sense of the lives of Jews in pre WW1 London and provides an insight into the families, childhood and children. Each entry contains information that has been gleaned from the Jewish press of the day as well as other contemporary resources. If you have Jews in your family, or indeed if you are just interested in history this book is a must.

Visit plashet.com to find the available distributors or order it from your local bookseller.

CHURCHES OF DERBYSHIRE
35. Bradbourne All Saints

Bradbourne is four and a half miles north of Ashbourne . The Roman rule brought prosperity and Christianity to Britain and there were numerous small communities in the area surrounding Bradbourne. After two centuries of warfare matters became more settled and the Trent basin was gradually transformed into the heartland of the new Kingdom of Mercia. The part of Derbyshire around Bradbourne was vitally important due to mineral deposits.

Ballidon and Bradbourne formed part of a royal estate until around 963. Thegn Oswin held it at the beginning of 11th century and he provided land and funds for the building of a stone church for the settlement. Oswin is thought to have died around 1008 and construction of the first church building probably commenced soon after this. Many local parishes were provided with a solidly built stone tower to provide a defensive point for the population and it seems likely that Bradbourne was given such a tower and that the Saxon structure formed the foundation of the massive Norman tower to be seen today.

Norman lords were very conscious of the need to save their souls so in addition to parish churches they built chapels of ease on the outlying parts of the estate. By 1160 Bradbourne had four such chapels situated at Ballidon, Brassington, Tissington and Atlow, all with the same dedication of All Saints.

The origins of All Saints are Saxon. A Norman tower and chancel were added in the early 12th century and over the next 500 years alterations took place in various styles of architecture. In 1205 the church was given to the Priory of Dunstable and soon after the Norman chancel and nave were

enlarged in the early English style. Later in the 13th century the Norman doorway was moved from the nave to the present position at the foot of the tower. This enabled a south aisle to be added.

The windows in the south aisle are later, but the hood mould of the eastern-most window can probably be dated to around 1340 and is terminated with carvings of a king's and queen's head, believed to be those of Edward III and his consort Philippa. Over the next 150 years the alterations included a number of windows. The nave roof was removed and the clerestory windows and parapet added. The outside of the church as it now stands is much as the builders left it around 1550 apart from the 19th century vestry and organ chamber. Internally most of the ancient furnishings and plaster work have been removed, but there is a Norman tub font.

The north window of the chancel contains some fragments of 14th and 15th century glass. In the south aisle is an early 17th century wall painting. The church also contains a fine 17th century canvas of the Adoration of the Shepherds. P.H. Currey, responsible for the chapel screen built in 1921, returned to the church to supervise the construction of a new roof during 1938 and 1939. Between 1940 and 1947 he also managed the alterations to the wooden screen and the repair of the pews, panelling and other woodwork.

The churchyard of Bradbourne contains the last resting place of the late Sir Alan Bates, the Oscar wining actor who starred in many films including Zorba the Greek and Far from the Madding Crowd. It is also the burial place of the celebrated early twentieth century author Nat Gould.

The Records

Derbyshire Record Office hold the original registers that start in 1713. The Derbyshire FHS has transcripts of these records and also those of the Bishops Transcripts, so that our records start in 1673. They are available to consult at Bridge Chapel House.

We also have the Memorial Inscriptions and several account books relating to Bradbourne. Again available at Bridge Chapel House.

JUST A THOUGHT

At this year's Annual Meeting a member started a discussion about what happens to our family history research when we have become an entry in the burials register. Some people know of a family member who will be carrying on their research. Others know that no-one else will be left with an interest in all the work they have done. From time to time people in this position have left their research papers to the Society in their will. We have also acquired family material when a survivor has asked us to come and take folders and files away as they clear a room or house. The more reliable of these two methods is the legacy.

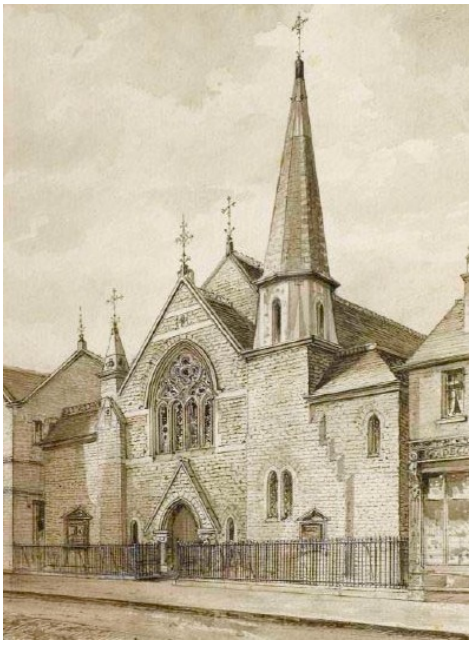
The Society already has an excellent collection of family trees and supporting documents and is happy to add to it. In this way you may help a family researcher some years down the line, who might have contacted you via the common interest part of the website while you were alive. Your part of the jigsaw might be of great interest to a distant cousin whose existence is still hidden from your researches.

We also mentioned at the meeting that monetary bequests are also very helpful to the Society. They enable us to provide the services which ensure that your family history continues to be preserved and made available to the next generation.

Sarah Ann Boot, 18, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging her with concealment of birth at Stonebroom on Dec 5. Mr Harold Wright prosecuted and Mr Marshall Freeman defended. Mr Wright described the case as a very sad one, and on the girl's uncle promising to look after her she was allowed to go on her own recognisances of £5, his Lordship hoping she would take warning and do better in future.

Derby Mercury 19 Feb 1915

DERWENT STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



According to Alger's history of the Derby Free Churches the Victoria Street Congregational Church established a mission in Mansfield Street in 1836 which faced a crisis in 1859 that led to a fresh start being made. A church was formed and, on the recommendation of John Angell James of Birmingham, the Revd Jonathan Merwood was called as minister. In 1870 they opened a chapel on Derwent Street, on the corner of Exeter St., and formally changed name to Derwent Street Congregational Church. Having paid off the £600 owing on the chapel building the church built new schools, costing £1,200 in 1887. Deeds connected with this initiative were recently sold on ebay, and were secured by my son and passed on to me. The church had been using a chapel in Chester Place as a schoolroom and this was now sold to the Primitive Methodists. The Derbyshire Churches database, though vague about other details, is clear that the Congregational Church was closed in 1926 and the building sold to the Primitive Methodists. It did not last long in their hands and in the late 1940s it had been converted into a motor engineer's workshop. A firm date for its demolition in the redevelopment of that part of Derby has still to be established. The marriage registers of the Congregational Church have been deposited in the Record Office at Matlock. Items recovered from under the foundation stone when the building was demolished are also there.

Although I have still to look I suspect that any other surviving details of Derwent St Congregational Church are among those of Central United Reformed Church, the successor to Victoria St, which absorbed the remaining members

in 1926, always assuming some may have carried on worshipping with the Methodists. The Mansfield St mission was part of an outreach to the poorer side of Derby, east of the river, just as the London Rd Congregational Church, now mostly remembered as the Colosseum cinema, was aimed at the better classes along the London and Osmaston Roads. The survival of the Derwent St deeds fills out for us a little more of the actual membership of the church.

The first deed, an Indenture of 18th November 1887 is between William Jerram of Sacheverel Street, Baker of the first part, Solomon Smithee Allsop of Burton on Trent, Baptist Minister and William Derry of Buften, Leicestershire, Tailor of the second part and Thomas George, Upholsterer, Samuel Sprinthall, Gimp Trimming Manufacturer, George Staton, Colour Merchant, Thomas Pares, Pattern Maker and Herbert Sprinthall, Cabinet Maker, all of Derby, John Irish of Warrington and Joseph Bullock of Melbourne, Builder being the surviving Trustees of the Congregational Church Derwent Street Derby, of the third part.

In 1878 William Jerram had borrowed £500 from Alfred Elliott of Castle Donington, a tailor by mortgaging his property in Exeter Street. Elliott had died and left his estate to Solomon Smithee Allsop and William Derry, their heirs executors administrators and assigns respectively, subject to the trusts and equities affecting the same respectively and the said Testator appointed the said Solomon Smithee Allsop and William Derry Executors of his Will. Their permission was necessary for Jerram to sell a small strip of his land to the chapel trustees, for the magnificent sum of £18-14s-0d.

The land in question measured almost twenty square yards and a coloured plan is drawn on the deeds. Added to a small strip already owned by the chapel it extended the boundary by seven yards alongside the building and gave room for expansion. The real interest for the family historian is in the reciting of the list of original chapel trustees in 1871. They were Thomas George, George Pearson Goodall, William Cubley, Samuel Sprinthall, George Staton, Thomas Pares, Herbert Sprinthall, Robert Whitingham, Samuel Newton, William Bird, John Irish, Joseph Bird, Jonathan Merwood, Thomas Peters and Joseph Bullock. The original loan was from John Gadsby.

A schedule of deeds relating to the Jerram property is given, beginning with and Indenture of 8th June 1857, between William Dodson and Thomas Jer-

ram; an Indenture of 7th October 1859 between Charles Thomas Reynolds Dawe, Thomas Jerram and William Jerram; an Indenture of 27th May 1875 between Thomas Dodson Jerram and William Jerram; an Indenture of 15th August 1877, between Mary Ann Hully and William Jerram; an Indenture of 4th September 1877 between George Beeston and Eliza his wife and the William Jerram; and, finally, an Indenture of 25th February 1878 between Frederick Phillips and William Allsop and William Jerram.

We can trace some of these people in the 1871 census. George Staton was a colour merchant, 8 City Rd., aged 36 and born in Nottingham. He lived with his wife Harriet and her unmarried sister, both silk hands, and son Samuel aged 1, all born in Derby.

Samuel Sprinthall, a gimp trimming manufacturer in the deed, lived in Traffic St, and is described as an elastic web manufacturer, aged 32 and born in Derby. He had a wife and five children and ran a prosperous small business employing 14 hands. His father, also Samuel, an iron moulder, born in Brampton was still alive, aged 82, in Stockbrook St.

There are several men called Thomas George at the time but the most likely to be a trustee is the draper living in Friar Gate, not showing in the 1871 census but there in 1881, aged 66, and born in Derby, with a wife and seven children.

George Pearson Goodall, an annuitant, lived at Litchurch Cottage, Grange Lane, aged 33 and born in Derby, living with his widowed mother and his brother, who ran the colour manufacturing business. This is the family described in my earlier article about James Gawthorn of Victoria St Congregational Church.

William Cubley, a grocer and fruiterer, lived at 1 Copeland St., aged 57 and born in Derby. He was a widower, with a married daughter.

Thomas Pares, pattern maker in the deed but joiner in the census, was one of a group of trustees who were neighbours. He lived at 7 City Rd., was aged 48 and was born in Warwick. He had a wife and son.

Herbert Sprinthall, cabinet maker, lived at 28 City Rd., aged 27 and born in Derby. He had a wife and two children.

Robert Whitingham, a master dyer, lived at 6 City Rd., was aged 39, born in Derby and had a wife and five sons.

Samuel Newton is also a common Derby name but this one is almost certainly the pattern fitter of 33 City Rd, aged 24, born in Derby and living with his parents.

There is more than one William Bird, but he must be the sawyer, brother of Joseph (see below) living at 62 Fowler St., aged 35, and born in Lichfield, with a wife and three daughters.

John Irish, of Warrington is impossible to identify at the moment.

Joseph Bird, a sawyer, living at 12 Edward St., aged27, was born in Lichfield. His wife was a school mistress, and they had one child.

Jonathan Merwood, living at 47 Wilmot St., was the minister, aged 65, born in the Isle of Wight, married, with a daughter and, as became the minister, keeping a servant.

Thomas Peters is a popular name but the likely one is the cigar manufacturer, living at 27 Canal St., aged 47, born in Northampton, with a wife and five children and his mother still living. He was employing 13 girls.

Joseph Bullock of Derby Rd., Melbourne, was a joiner and builder, aged 40, born in Castle Donington, married and employing six men and boys.

John Gadsby is also a popular Derby name but the likely provider of a mortgage is the builder in Sacheverell St., aged 38, born in Alton Staffs, with a wife and two sons and one servant.

The other deed of 29th March 1888, is between the church trustees and George Staton, to borrow £800 from him by way of mortgage. It lists the present trustees, Thomas George, Samuel Sprinthall, George Staton, Thomas Pares, Herbert Sprinthall, John Irish and Joseph Bullock and recites the 1871 indenture, noting the deaths of George Pearson Goodall, William Cubley, Robert Whitingham, Henry Bird, Joseph Bird, Jonathan Merwood and Thomas Peters. John Gadsby is also now deceased. The details of how the church meeting should vote on mortgage matters are set out. The deed goes on to

consolidate the various land purchases and mortgages of the church as follows:

Firstly all that piece or parcel of land or ground containing by admeasurement Six hundred and forty four superficial square yards situate and being on the South East side of a certain Street in Derby aforesaid called Derwent Street in the Parish of Saint Alkmund and which said piece or parcel of land or ground was formerly in six lots and numbered 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 and 47 on the Sale Plan of the Estate of William Eaton Mousley deceased
And also all that edifice building or church erected upon the said piece or parcel of land or upon some part thereof and known as the Derwent Street Congregational Church
Secondly all that piece of land containing eleven square yards or thereabouts situate near to Derwent Street East and Exeter Street in the Parish of Saint Alkmund in the Borough of Derby aforesaid being part of the land belonging to a messuage and hereditaments situate and known as the back of the messuage Number 21 formerly 23 Exeter Street aforesaid and which said piece of land is with the abuttals and boundaries thereof more particularly delineated and described in the plan thereof drawn on the third side of the hereinbefore recited Indenture of the tenth day of September one thousand eight hundred and eighty seven; and
Thirdly all that piece of land containing by admeasurement twenty square yards and seven ninths of a square yard or thereabouts situate in or near Exeter Street aforesaid and more particularly delineated and described on the map or plan thereof drawn in the margin of the hereinbefore recited Indenture of the eighteenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and eighty seven

Then follows the provision for insurance, interest and repayment.

Endorsements show the church borrowing a further £100 in August 1889 and repaying £200 in May 1890.

What do we know of the surviving trustees?
Thomas George is not in the 1891 census.

Samuel Sprinthall has moved to Abbey St by 1881, and is described as an elastic and boot web manufacturer. He had 9 children, 2 working in the firm. He was upwardly mobile in every sense. By 1891 he was living in The

Heights, Matlock Bath, a house neighbouring Ember Farm, on the slopes of Masson Hill. He is now simply a manufacturer, seven of his children being still at home.

George Staton, colour and varnish manufacturer has moved to Kedleston Rd by 1891. His sister-in-law was probably related to Samuel Newton, the deceased trustee from City Rd.

Thomas Pares, Pare on the census, still at 7 City Rd. in 1881, as a model maker, has moved on to 5 Morley St., as a joiner once more by 1891.

Herbert Sprinthall had moved to 91 Boyer St. with now 6 children in 1881, and to 275 Stockbrook St., with 6 children still at home, in 1891.

John Irish is no more discoverable in 1881 or 1891.

Joseph Bullock describes himself as a carpenter and also Inspector of Nuisances for the Shardlow Authority in 1881, but has reverted to builder and contractor by 1891.

As the trustees scatter from the immediate locality of the church their connections would have been more tenuous. The men who were prepared to stand as trustees in 1871 would bear the church a great deal of good will but would not be on the spot in quite the same way. They would also die and the ownership of the work at Derwent Street may have passed with them, leaving the Victoria St church to provide help to keep it running.

Evidently the energy and money had run out by the 1920s and the church, like so many others, lasted for two generations at most.

Stephen Orchard

THE LIFE OF ANNIE PORTER

My mother, Annie Porter, was born on the 8th Feb 1896 in Fritchley, she was the fourth of five children born to John and Ann [nee Knowles] Porter. They had married on the 21st April 1888 at the Baptist chapel in Belper.

Annie's father had arrived in Fritchley with his father, mother and five other siblings from Riseley in Bedfordshire, some time between 1875 and 1881. Having reputedly walked all the way. Riseley is situated in quite a rural area with the nearest town of any size being Bedford some 8 miles to the south. The move was probably motivated by the need to find alternative work to that of agriculture. Interestingly the A6 passes within two and a half miles of the village. Which may give some credence to them having walked all the way to Fritchley in Derbyshire.

By the 1901 census, when Annie was five, her father had moved from being a labourer at the paint works, to what was described as a horse groom driver and living at Hagg Farm, where he looked after the heavy horses which were used to move wagons about at the Lime Kilns at Ambergate. From the way my mother spoke she enjoyed those days. Catching crayfish in the canal, visiting the ruins of Wingfield Manor and playing on the Torrs, but according to her brother Jack [John William] she did manage to get into various scrapes. The horses on the farm were large shires and she had been warned about them. One day when one was by the fence she managed to get up on it's back. Not being used to being ridden, it took off across the field with her hanging onto it's mane. Fortunately no damage was done, but I can imagine what her father said to her.

These halcyon days were not to last. When the manager at the Lime Works retired and his son took over, Annie's father could not get on with him, so he left his job and Hagg Farm. They were still there in September 1909, but had left by July 1911. Eventually the family moved to Prospect Terrace, but may have lived in other places before that. The move would also be about the time that Annie was leaving school and starting work. Unfortunately the school admissions book for the period is missing, but the 1911 census show Annie, age 15, was working as a factory hand, sleeve, Hosiery Factory, which I presume was Lea Mills.

Things were about to get worse for the family. In March 1912, Annie's father was working as a bricklayer's labourer at Ridgeway and whilst carrying a load of bricks on a headboard he fell headlong over a wall into a yard 13ft 6 ins below. He was carried home on a door, as he had no feeling in his legs. Doctor Rankin attended him, but his condition steadily got worse and he died 3 days later of a dislocated spine. At the inquest his address was given as Crich Common.

Annie continued to work at Lea Mills, which is born out by the large collection of letters she kept, many of which are addressed to the Middle Room Lea Mills. This was probably because she would have had to leave home in Crich early in the morning to walk—in all weathers—to work and back home at night. By having them delivered to the mill she would receive them earlier. The letters date from October 1914, which coincides with the time many of the lads from Crich were volunteering for the war, which included her brother Jack. The early letters written by them show their enthusiasm at wanting to get at the enemy. The later ones written from the trenches convey a different picture. It was during that time that Annie was to meet George Frederick Brown, who she was eventually to marry. Although he came from Matlock, his mother, Martha Wetton, had been born in Crich. They were, in fact, second cousins, as Annie's grandfather Samuel Knowles had married Elizabeth Crowder, and George's grandfather, Thomas Wetton, had married her sister Ann Crowder. George, unlike most of the local lads, had joined the navy.

The letter kept coming for the duration of the war and for some time after. Although he had initially joined the navy as 'hostilities only', George later volunteered for the Mine Clearance Service so it was not until January 1920 that he was finally demobilized and returned to coal mining. Annie continued working at Lea Mills until around September 1922. The reason for her leaving is not apparent, whether it was her choice or whether she was made redundant due to the steady return of men following the war or just lack of work.

Annie went to Matlock to work, I believe as a housemaid to Mrs Denny who had a high class Ladies and Children's Wear shop on Smedley Street, not far from where George's mother and two sisters lived on Wellington Street. It was a very small two bedroomed house and so George lodged away. He lodged at times with Annie's mother in Crich and at other times at Danes-

moor. In October 1923 Annie went to work again as a housemaid at NALGO House on Lime Tree lane in Matlock, which I believe was a convalescent home for members of the National Association of Government Officers. She remained there until marrying George at St Mary's Church, Crich, in November 1925. Following their marriage they moved into a small cottage on the corner of Sun Lane and Sandy Lane in Crich. It was so small, in fact, that it is now just a garage.

Staff, including Annie [sitting with the dog], at Nalgo House

Their first child, Oliver, was born in April 1926 and in May of that year was the General Strike. Being a miner when they went back to work it was less pay and longer hours, so times must have been very hard. Things were further exacerbated when daughter Betty was born in September 1927, for it was not long after this that they moved to Derby and rented a three bedroom council house, which must have seemed luxury, at 146 Lord Street in Allenton, a suburb about two and a half miles from the centre of Derby. For it was whilst they were living there that tragically Betty died of meningitis. My father had been working for British Celanese in Spondon, nr Derby, for how long I don't know, but he was discharged in March 1930. Fortunately he found work at Rolls Royce in May 1930, but this was short lived for he was laid off in September of that year. He was to remain unemployed for almost three years. Again these were very hard times for Annie and the family, but in February 1933 he was taken on again by Rolls Royce and was to remain there for some time.

Life for Annie and the family now became more settled with a regular wage coming. Things like holidays, visits and outings could be looked forward to. This state of affairs may have changed slightly in 1936 for I arrived in September of that year. The Second World War was declared the day before my 3rd birthday and I have no real impressions of the war until I was about four or five. I never felt deprived of anything for what you have never had you can't miss. I feel that things would have been difficult for my mother to

make ends meet, rather than the hardships she had suffered in the past. Once the war was over life again slowly settled down into a routine.

In July 1958 tragedy was again to strike Annie, when George collapsed at work and died of a heart attack. I was in the army doing National Service at the time and stationed in Northern Ireland. I was given seven days compassionate leave to come home for the funeral. I completed my service in 1959 and returned home. I married in 1963 and my brother in 1971. Annie continued to live at Lord Street until about six months before her death, when she moved into Merrill House, an old peoples home.

She died at the Manor Hospital in December 1974. So ended a life that had seen six months on the throne, having been born a Victorian and dying an Elizabethan. She lived through two world wars, the hardships of the General Strike, and it's aftermath of unemployment. She had witnessed the development of so many things from housing, transportation, communications and life styles. Annie had been a passionate member of the Co-op Women's Guild. The Co-operative movement was something much more than the corner shop or supermarket.

ANNIE'S LIST OF DUTIES AS HOUSEMAID

[Given her by the Matron while she was working at Nalgo House]

Daily:
Rise 6.30 am, strip bed, cup of tea 6.50 am, duty 7 am
7-8.45 am: Sweep and dust lounge and waiting rooms, scrub same twice a week, sweep and dust ladies cloakroom and corridor, clean brass in same, flush lavatories, get own breakfast and help cook serve dining room breakfast through hatch.
9.30—10 am: Help in dining room, make own bed
10-12.30 am: Sweep and dust staircase and corridors, clean bedrooms both floors, also staircase, bathrooms and brass in women's wing.
12.30: Get own lunch and help cook
1.30 pm: Help serve patients' lunch
2 pm: Help clear dining room and lay for tea
4.30 pm: Change into black and help with teas
5.30 pm: Help clear dining room and lay for supper
7 pm: Turn all beds down
9 pm: Help clear dining room and lay for supper

Afternoon work 2.30—4 pm:
Monday: Clean all patients bedrooms, bathrooms, w.c.'s 1st floors
Tuesday: Same on 2nd floor. Polish linen room floor
Wednesday: Scrub ground floor corridor, clean ladies cloakroom and polish lavatory seats.
Thursday: Scrub dining room floor, clean own room
Friday: Clean and turn out silver baskets etc in dining room
Saturday: Same as Wednesday

When half day off, work may be fitted in
on the previous or following day.

Off Duty Times:
Tuesday 2-10pm, Friday 6-10pm, Sunday 9.30-12.30 or 12.30-5.30 or 5.30-8.30pm

General Rules:
Dust fireplaces and wake up fires in lounge etc after meals

Do not forget to use dust sheets and black lead

Address patients as sir or madam

Rise when being spoken to by members of the committee, visitors or the matron, and never precede them.

Answer bells alternatively with House Parlourmaid

Assist the cook and each other in all things to keep a high tone in the institution by working agreeably and loyally together, and bear in mind that it is not necessary to make remarks to patients or those in authority until addressed. Anything overheard by accident or otherwise must be treated as something sacred and not to be repeated.

David Brown [4735]

BRIDGE CHAPEL HOUSE

RESEARCH CENTRE AND LIBRARY

NEW ACQUISITIONS AS AT 1ST July 2014

Haddon Hall:	A Seat of the Duke of Rutland
Hazlewood:	In the Royal Forest of Duffield
Pinxton:	Patrons and Rectors
Military:	Steeple/Steeples—Military Deaths
Birth Certificates:	Muriel Annie Ash, 1913, Ashby de la Zouch
	Beryl Margaret White, 1944, Rosliston
	Margaret Wilton, 1894, Ripley
Marriage:	Thomas Anthony/Annie Maria Abrahart 1881Derby
	Vincent Ashton/Ruby Taylor 1947 Derby
	Joseph Copestake/Jane Draper 1843 Walton on Trent
	Walter Richard Deakin/Margaret Draper 1920 Burton
	Arthur Stevens Draper/Annie M Wilson 1916 Chatham
	Charles E Draper/Fanny Brassington 1857, Burlaston
	Robert Draper/Mary Ellen Rigley 1858 Greasley
	Bridgeman H Dunn/Mary M Clarke 1908 Clay Cross
	William Taylor/Margaret Wilton 1916 Morton
	James N Tompson/Emma A Hubbard 1861 Nottingham
	Thomas Wilton/Martha Featherstone 1846 Hartington
	Christopher C Wright/Kathleen G Manning 1900 West Bromwich
Family History:	William Featherstone of Biggin—Police Sergeant
	Glew—Family Trees and Papers

OUR ANCESTORS AT WORK

In 1841 some pottery owners gave evidence to the Children's Employment Commission about themselves and their child workers. The results are quite illuminating—

ILKESTON POTTERY

Richard Evans owns the pottery, but lets the earthenware part to his brother and only makes stone bottles himself. He employs two under 13 and four under 18, all males but for one female who is eight years old. Those under 13 receive 3.6 per week, the others from 4s 6d to 10s. The children work from nine to seven, allowed one hour for dinner and go home. They have half an hour allowed for tea, which they get on the premises. They are employed either in turning the wheel or lathe for the potter, or forming clay balls to be made into small bottles.

The young persons work from six to six and are allowed half an hour breakfast and one hour at dinner time. He does not find the business affects the health. This he considers is owing to his using salt and not lead for glazing. The employment is rather conducive to health. Their morals, he considers, are not injured. He is very strict with them and never allows swearing, or other wickedness, on his premises. His overlooker, who is a preacher, is also very particular. Most of the children attend the Sunday Schools and some few an evening school. The premises are kept at a healthy warmth during the winter, and the children are not obliged to go into too heated an atmosphere.

Incidentally an old resident of Ilkeston described Richard as *"an aristocratic looking man, with a rubicund countenance, and of good appearance, who was never known to wear any other headgear than a tall stylish white hat, with a fairly broad black band. He enjoyed the distinction of being the only man in the town to drive in his carriage with Mrs Evans and a lady companion, to service at St Mary's Church on Sunday evenings, where he attended very regularly."*

Samples of workers:

Esther Ann Eley is eight years old, has only worked 10 days. She turns the wheel and receives 2s 6d a week. She has been to school at Cotmanhay *"but they ne'er larnt her aught'.*

William Farnsworth is 15 years old and has worked for Mr Evans six or seven years. He turns the wheel and receives 4s 6d per week. In summer he works from six to six and is allowed half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner. Very seldom works overtime, never works all night or on Sundays, nor does he ever feel unwell or over fatigued by his work, or, as far as he can judge, do any working on the premises. He is not employed at the kiln, therefore is never too hot. He now attends the Church Sunday School, is taught reading, is just put into the Testament. Has been at the school four years and before that was at the Ranters' Sunday School for a year. He never learnt to write nor do they teach writing at either school. He reads very indifferently.

Frederick Farnsworth is eight years old, has only worked ten days. He makes balls for the small bottles. He was at a school for four years, where the Church paid for his schooling, now he only goes to the Church Sunday School. He reads in the Testament, does not write and is a poor scholar. He likes his work better than school.

SHIPLEY POTTERY [owned by E.M. Mundy Esq]

William Morland is 40 and has worked at the pottery for four years. They employ six boys and one girl under 13 years of age, and seven boys and two girls under 18. They are employed in turning the wheels, making balls and attending the kiln fires. They work from six to six, have half an hour allowed for breakfast and an hour for dinner. They may either get their meals on the premises or go home. All the works stand during meals. Never work overtime or by night.

The rooms are only heated for their own comfort. No material is used for the glaze but salt. Has not known any younger than 11 years old employed. They are not hired and only one apprenticed. They never work on Sundays. They most of them attend Sunday Schools. He is not aware that the employment is in any way unhealthy.

John Froggart is 11 years old and has worked at the pottery for three months. He turns the wheel and has 3s a week. Works from six to six, is allowed half an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner. Gets his meals on the premises. Has meat, potatoes, bread and beer for dinner and beer, bread and butter for supper. He is not hired. Attends the Calvinist Sunday School at Marpool and has done so for four years. Is only in Easy Lessons and would rather

work at the pottery than in the pit.

Elizabeth Sill is 13 years old. Has worked rather more than half a year at the pottery. She makes balls, works from six to six and is allowed one hour and a half for meals. Has 3s 6d a week. Never works overtime or by night. Goes to the Calvinist Sunday School at Marpool and has done for eight years. Reads in the Testament. Goes to an evening school to learn to write and cannot yet write her name. Reads very indifferently. She pays 1d per month for pens and paper.

William West is 12 years old. Has worked at the pottery a year and a half wheeling coals to the kilns. Works from six to half past five, gets his meals between the mending of the fires and eats them on the premises. Has meat, bacon, potatoes, and sometimes pudding for dinner. Has bread, cheese and beer for breakfast. Earns 4s a week. Never works by night, Sundays or over time. Used to work at a brickyard, is much better off here. Goes to the Marpool Calvinist Sunday School and has done for two years. Reads in the Testament, but reads very badly.

DERBY POLICE COURT

Joseph Radford, coachman of Uttoxeter Old Road, denied drunkenness in Amen Alley on Friday night. Police-constable Stanley said he found prisoner lying all his length. Police-constable Clay corroborated as to Radford's drunken condition. Prisoner said he had been upset through taking twelve grains of quinine for a cold. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.

Nellie Wing, married, of Dean Street, denied a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct in Stores Road late on Friday night. Police-constable Sinclair was the witness. Wing stated that she was holidaying in Derby. There were no previous convictions.

Elizabeth Pepper, of Boyer Street, was charged by Police-constable Sinclair with loitering for an improper purpose in Derwent Street on Friday night. The officer took both prisoners into custody at the same time. There were two previous convictions against Pepper.

The Bench fined Pepper 10s and costs and Wing 5s and costs.

Derby Mercury, 4 Dec 1914

A True Tale to Tell the Great Grandchildren

Recent world news regarding Ukraine and the Crimea, sent 1996 memory banks in the Holford household into rapid reverse and the photo albums of the non-digital storage age. Nowadays at the touch of a keyboard, the scenes are brought back to life, courtesy of an agile mind, capable aptitude and mostly by a computer. How many times have you wished that grandpa had elaborated on his WW1 experiences, wished you had asked the leading family questions that still need answers to life in general or a life in particular ? So I began to set and sort out some true tales in digital form for prosperity. I recommend that you do the same in some tangible form for your own " Family History Fables."

Early retirement in 1991 on compulsory terms but in effect leaving voluntarily, left my wife and I with a comfortable retirement plan and enough money to go with it. Initially there was one big problem, my wife was still in regular employment, nine months into my retirement the kettle blew with "Blow this for a game of soldiers, me going out to work and you staying at home." Thus the writing was well and truly on the wall and adventures beyond our then known universe began.

A 1996 holiday that encompassed a total party of "13 English Fellow Travellers" setting out for the unknown, the number 13 was an omen just waiting to happen. The holiday plan was --- 4 days in St Petersburg --- travelling by train to Moscow for 4 days --- flying from Moscow to the Simferporol in the Crimea --- then on by coach to Yalta for 6 days. Aeroflot back to St Petersburg and home. Relations, then as now, between the Ukraine and Russia were strained, but it had not developed into the present fisticuffs with firearms.

Of the 13, there were 6 couples and Rebecca, who, from my early conversations, gave the impression that she was a worldly wise traveller of some accomplishment. I had voiced an early opinion amongst the 6 couples that we ought to play a daily game of "Rebecca Roulette"--- who has Rebecca for the day. If she overheard even a hint that you were going off on your own meandering 'R' developed a limpet attachment.

Being faced, due to her actions, to the threat of an arrest by the and spending a morning in the Yalta Police Station, indirectly on the first occasion and directly on the second, my early impressions of Rebecca's capability were sadly

misplaced.

The boat moored on the Fontanka River, St Petersburg

The Russian Intourist Guides were very flexible, they so arranged that tourists could join groups other than their own, the proviso was that if you were missing at the venue and time of return, your were on your own. Other advice was --- don't --- attract attention --- talk loudly --- wear garish clothes --- display costly cameras --- flash the cash --- become separated.

Rebecca overheard my cunning plan to travel with another group and attached herself --- is glue sticky? So after the drop off, it was just 'R' and me walking down Nevskij Prospekt towards the Anichov Bridge over the Fontanka River. My aim was to photograph the four different statutes of rearing horses on the ends of the bridge. However, forward progress was impaired by 'R' randomly stopping, without warning, to peer in shop windows, dressed up not down, expensive camera swinging, talking volubly. I then lost sight of her in the biggest department store cum emporium in town. Russian roulette was spinning out of control.

Eventually reaching the Anichov Bridge and looking over parapet into the Fontanka River, I could see a small narrow boat moored alongside, a landing stage. American voices could be clearly heard. In the words of Baldrick I hatched 'a cunning plan' shouting down I asked “Is the boat going ?” The answer came back “We are leaving soon, you are welcome to join us. ”My thinking strategy was that if Rebecca was on the boat, short of her falling overboard, at least I knew where she was. The passengers were, an elderly gentleman, his wife, their son and daughter-in-law plus two small children. The elderly gentleman, surname Ycas, was Lithuanian, his father had had a Government post in Russia just before the Russian Revolution and was well acquainted with Prince Yusopov, who was reputed to have had a hand in the murder of Rasputin, the Tzarina's toxic mystic monk. The Ycas family had a Jewish background, when the Nazis began their rise to power in the 1930's, the family, hiding their intentions, emigrated to America.

The elderly man, became the Head of Biochemistry at New York State University, a veritable goldmine of information, speaking fluent Russian, he had studied at St Petersburg University and pointed out the name and the history of the buildings as we leisurely sailed along the canals, rivers, and hidden docks of the waterways. At one stage we were facing the Ocean Terminal, where he exclaimed " its only 180 miles from here to Helsinki." In a small river boat, just joking but true !

During our short stay in St Petersburg it happened to be "Naval Week" there were be-flagged ships and submarines of all descriptions moored along the length of the River Neva. Special navigation laws were in force. We sailed along a backwater, outside the normal tourist boat trip agenda, containing naval ships, line abreast bristling with armaments and radar pods. The scale was both inspiring and daunting, so much so that my camera remained prudently hidden. Not so the son, he became a later day Cecil B. De Mille with matching camera.

Leaving the well armed backwater, our boat sailed into the main course of the River Neva, my attention became focused on the bow wave created by a fast approaching boat, heading without fear of contradiction towards our pleasure cruiser. No prizes for those guessing that it was the 'River Police." Under loud hailer instructions our boat hove to, the boat skipper, the Americans, Rebecca and I were subjected to a tirade of official Russian gestures and genuflections, which appeared to me, a non speaking Russian, a pretty powerful projection of power. The only person now recording the situation on camera was me, all other shutters were silent.

Ycas Senior and the Boatman

Calmly the senior Ycas, faced the less than polite river police, gave them a blast of Russian, who knows what, but their confrontational clash collapsed in ignominy. I later learned that the boat skipper had been accused of

speeding and contravening the special navigational restrictions. Apparently names known to both sides were bandied about and the police capitulated. The later explanation was that it was a police scam to extract a cash payment up front, and nothing to do with the earlier photography in the backwater. I was top of the pops for recording the incident and a life long association with Ycas Family America has ensued.

After being afloat for three and half hours, we docked back at the start point, Anichow Quay. My offer to pay a share of the hire, $150, was rebuffed with ---- " You were invited to join consider yourselves guests." Photographs of the river incident became a must have. So my cunning plan to keep Rebecca of the streets, placed her on the river, and nearly under arrest. Next time it was inside Yalta Police Station in the company of a fugitive from Interpol.

JOSEPH THOMAS STUART

Suddenly in his sleep Tuesday morning, November 26 1985, Joseph Thomas Stuart passed away at Seven Oaks Hospital.

Mr Stuart was born in Newton Solney, England, and came to Canada in 1929 to work with Imperial Oil Ltd. In time he became a ship's master and spent 23 years at sea. After the second world war he came ashore and worked in the Personnel Department in Toronto. A few years later Mr Stuart was transferred to Edmonton as the Administrative Assistant for Interprovincial Pipeline. In 1956 he was made General Manager of Lakehead Pipeline in Superior, Wisc. He retired in 1970 and then took on the post of Executive Director of the Douglas County Development Corporation for two years.

He is survived by his wife Marcia and daughter Karen; two sisters Topsy and Jock Brown of Ringwood, England, and Hilda Elliiot of Hants, England; sisters in law Margery and John Piggott, Betty and Jack O'Malley, all of Winnipeg, Mary and Tom Jessiman of Calgary, Wynn Earl of Vancouver and many nieces and nephews.

[The above is just one of a pile of obituaries of Derbyshire people who have died in Canada, taken from various papers and kindly sent to us by D.H. Pearce, of Winchester, Hants. We are busy trying to sort them out, but they are much appreciated and will hopefully help other members trace a few missing members of their family. They will eventually join our other overseas obituaries on our website]

The Old Tin Tabernacle

I was brought up in the parish of St Mark and during my childhood I attended church and Sunday school there. My parent's garden overlooked Nottingham Rd cemetery and many Sunday afternoons were spent wandering around reading the inscriptions and admiring the flowers. That must be where I get my obsession for transcribing from. The house was only a short walk to the church on the corner of Francis St and Cowsley Rd (as it was then, now Cornwall Rd).

In the late 1800s this area was just developing and had no church. The people had to go to St Paul's at Chester Green and that was considered to be quite a long walk.

Attempts were made to secure rooms where meetings could be held but without success. In 1895 it was found that a "flat pack" church could be obtained for £80, in the form of a corrugated iron construction. A site at the bottom of Francis St was secured for £120 and £50 was required for it to be erected. Fund raising began.

The building was dedicated on 28/02/1896. Choir stalls and communion rails came from St Pauls. Kneelers, hangings and a cross were donated by the parishioners. An appeal went out for men and boys to form a choir.

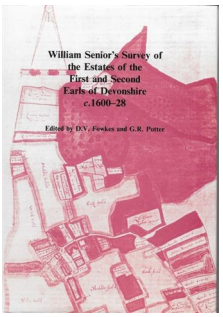
St Marks Mission Church was formed.

This served the community for nearly forty years and when decorated looked quite splendid but by 1920 the area was growing rapidly. Fund raising began again and eventually the rifle range, running track and land belonging to Cowsley Farm were bought. Building began in 1934 and the foundation stone was laid in January 1935 and dedicated in December 1935. A second hand organ was obtained and St Pauls gave money for the pews.

The Mission Church was now converted to a church hall. Cloakrooms, kitchen and a heating system were added and it was in continuous use until the 1960s. It was used for Sunday school, youth club, dances, concerts, Christmas bazaars and other social events. In 1954 a new vicarage was built at the side of the church and in 1960 plans were put forward to extend the church. A new church hall and vestries were added.

The Old Tin Tabernacle or Tin Hut was now finally redundant and demolished to make way for houses.

Ruth Barber



PURCHASED BY MISTAKE

Brand new book, unopened— "William Seniors Survey of the Estates of the First and Second Earls of Devonshire c1600-1628." One only, hardback, 221 pages listing around 2000 Derbyshire Tenants of the Duke with details of their holdings—Price £15.

Tel: 01623 648236 or email: dave@kicknrush.co.uk

A FAMILY MYSTERY

By a quirk of fate I was born in Derby, so this isn't so much a family history but a family mystery.

My Mother, Mary Barnet (nee Kennerley), was from Ashton Under Lyne near Manchester and her sisters had 'migrated' to Aston on Trent where her brother in law, Bill Bonnington, managed the brickyard.

During World War II Mam was in the Auxiliary Fire Service in Derby and also cook manageress of the British Restaurant in Pear Tree. She later moved to Morecambe where she met my Dad.

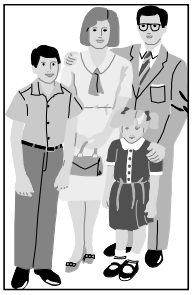
Six months into her pregnancy she was visiting her sister in Aston when she became seriously ill with pre-eclampsia (then called toxaemia) and was admitted to Derby Women's Hospital. I was born on 15th July 1948, weighing 2½ pounds. Because I was 3 months premature, and was at first thought to be dead, I was put into an incubator and stayed there until my weight had increased to 5 pounds. But that's another story.

My Mother had to express her milk which was then used to feed me. At the same time as Mam was in hospital a pregnant black lady was admitted. This lady had no milk of her own to suckle her newborn baby so all the mothers on the ward were asked to feed the child. My Mam, bless her, was the only one who agreed to suckle the infant.

Every birthday I wonder if this baby was ever told about the kind lady who fed it when its Mother couldn't, and I wonder if he/she survived like I did.

Mary Shaw
E-Mail: shaws@vectis8.wanadoo.co.uk

We welcome new members who have joined the Society by 10th July 2014



7874 Ms S Thompson, 9 Leeholme, Houghton le Spring, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, DH5 8HR, UK
7875 Ms J Moss, 1 Wilmot Avenue, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6PL, UK
7876 Mr T Riley, 7 Station Road, Stanbridge, Bedfordshire, LU7 9JF, UK
7877 Ms S Hill, 31 High Street, Tibshelf, Derbyshire, DE55 5NX, UK
7879 Mr D Henshall, 9 Enoch Stone Drive, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6ZG, UK
7881 Mr P Beardmore, 67 Brisbane Road, Mickleover, Derby, DE3 9LR, UK
7882 Mr C Arnold-Green, 12 Packington Court, Blackberry Lane, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, B74 4JQ, UK
7884 Ms S Walker, 27 Vale Leaze, Little Somerford, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 5JS, UK
7885 Mr B Whittamore, 5 Ashford Rise, Wollaton, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG8 2RR, UK
7886 Ms B Rout, Cherry Dene Farm, Hellington Corner, Bergh Apton, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 1BE, UK
7887 Ms K Barnes, 3 Holly Acre, Prey Heath, Woking, Surrey, GU22 0SL, UK
7888 Ms J Ward, 3 Lowlands Road, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 1TY, UK
7889 Ms M Obodo, 3 Orchard Road, Kirkby - in - Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 8JX, UK

Members with additional/updated interests

3387 Mr & Mrs M C Coney, Dale House, 11a Dale End Road,, Hilton, Derbyshire, DE65 5FW, UK

Searching

Name	Parish	Cty	Dates	No.
BLADON	All	DBY	after 1300	3387
CARRINGTON	Derby	DBY	1500-1920	7885
CARRINGTON	Derby	DBY	1500-1920	7885
FORD	Yeavely		after 1700	7878
GOODALL	Shirley		after 1700	7878
GRIFFIN	Derby		after 1700	7878
PRESTON	Derby	DBY	1845-1920	7885

WHERE NO COUNTY IS STATED IT IS ASSUMED TO BE DERBYSHIRE

All changes of address to be sent to
The Membership Secretary at Bridge Chapel House

Derby Mercury Marriage Index

One project I have underway at present is an index of marriage notices in the Derby Mercury from 1800 to the start of civil registration in 1837. The years to 1820 are now complete and lodged in the library. Why compile such an index? It might be argued that the online indices so widely available meet the need. Unfortunately they are still not comprehensive; whole parishes remain to be done. So while many of the entries can be traced elsewhere the newspaper index has two other advantages. The first is that it lists some of the Derbyshire people who married out of county, who may be otherwise hard to trace. The second is that the newspaper account sometimes gives details not available in the registers.

The project is not without its difficulties. Summoning up the entries online is not straightforward some of the time, owing to the vagaries of different people compiling the index. Some editions of the paper refuse to appear at all; some, photographed from film, hide the critical details in the tight binding of the page. It cannot be claimed that the index will be complete but I am satisfied that 90% of the data is there. One of the by-products of this venture is the way your eye strays to other items on the page. The births, marriages and deaths notices appear in a column which begins with national and international news relayed weekly to readers in Derby. I have noticed the changing fortunes of Britian in the Napoleonic War; the extreme conservatism of the government and its anxieties that working people in Britain should not copy the French Revolution; the Cato Street conspiracy and the trial of Queen Caroline. Notices pop up for public meetings and church anniversaries. An astonishing collection of public figures pass through Derby to make their pitch for support in the days before blogging and Facebook. The marriages editor liked to pull together data of mismatches – with the implication that there were plenty of lecherous old men out there as well as women looking for toy boys. He also liked to add up the ages of the married couple to some surprising total. By the time I have finished the Great Reform Act of 1832 will be behind me and we will have a few more clues for tracing some of those elusive relatives.

STEPHEN ORCHARD

Derbyshire Family History Society

September Quarter 2014

A bunch of young innocents smiling into the camera for their school photo. Five months later war was declared and the world went mad. They seemed a mixed class as to age, and I imagine Stanton by Dale School wasn't very big, so I wonder whether all of these would survive the next four years.