

# CHESHIRE ANCESTOR



*The Journal of the*  
**Family History Society of Cheshire**



*In this edition*

**Changing Address Without Moving House!**  
**Captain Thomas TYDD**    **A Letter from Canada, 1854**  
**NTS: The Computer Section**    **Murder in Lymm**  
**Local News in Distant Newspapers**    **and more...**

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*Cover picture: View towards Queen's Park from the Chester Chronicle Christmas wheel, with Chester Castle in the foreground and St Mary's on the Hill church in the centre, December 2010. Photo © John S Turner. Photo licensed under cc-by-sa/2.0. [www.geograph.org.uk/p/2217822](http://www.geograph.org.uk/p/2217822).*

Read about Captain Thomas Tydd, who was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's on the Hill, Chester, in "Captain Thomas Tydd" on page 25.



# CHESHIRE ANCESTOR

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Cheshire Ancestor is published in March, June, September and December.

Please send items for possible publication to the editor by post or email (see last page).

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*Our society was founded in 1969—  
one of the first family history societies*

# Editorial

*by Rosie Rowley*



Many thanks to those who have recently submitted articles for the journal - please keep sending them in! Articles explaining how you went about researching an ancestor, any unusual sources you have used, or anything amusing you found while carrying out your research would be particularly welcome. Please see the last page for submission guidelines.

They say “all good things must come to an end,” and for me, that means giving up the editorship of the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR** after three years in the role, due to increasing family commitments. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as editor but I am also enjoying the time I spend with the newest addition to our family tree, and I’ve agreed to care for him when my daughter goes back to work at the end of this year. As a result, I plan to stand down from the role after the December 2018 issue and would like someone to come forward and be ready to take over in January 2019, when production of the March 2019 **ANCESTOR** begins.

No formal editorial experience is needed as advice will be given; however, you do need to be a confident computer user and have some experience of (or be willing to learn) word-processing and English punctuation, grammar, etc, and manipulating photos (cropping and resizing). The editor is provided with a laptop and the *Quarkxpress (version 15)* desktop publishing software needed to produce the **ANCESTOR**, and free versions of photo editing software, an email program and an office suite. An Internet connection is needed for email and for checking websites, future events, etc.

The editor does not work alone - there is a volunteer typist to type up hand-written articles submitted by post, and a volunteer proof-reader to check the completed **ANCESTOR** for errors. In addition, the downloadable electronic version is assembled by Geoff Johnson, the Computer Group leader.

If anyone is interested in taking on this vital role, please get in touch; I’m happy to answer any questions.

## Chairman's Jottings

*by Victoria Doran*



As I write this, spring is finally arriving after a winter that seems to have lasted far too long. Hopefully when you read it, it will really be summer in the U.K.

I am starting to get an appreciation of exactly where the society stands at present, and what issues we need to address.

Of primary importance is how we are to run the society in the future. This year sees the retirement of Maurice Stokes from the vital position of membership secretary after many years, and Rosie Rowley is having to step down as editor of the **ANCESTOR** as well. All of us are getting older and, for some of our younger committee members, the responsibilities of caring for elderly parents and grandchildren must take a higher priority.

A volunteer for membership secretary has come forward, but we now need a new journal editor (see advert elsewhere in this issue). These are two of the most important and rewarding roles in the society.

Committee members have nearly always come from the groups. The number of viable groups has declined, group membership is also declining, and in some groups the membership is also ageing, with not many new younger members.

It is very important that we support our groups well, so last year we started an annual meeting of group leaders, so that they could exchange ideas on opportunities and issues. They are so useful that it has been decided to hold two meetings each year in future. It is clear that the groups differ a lot, which is not unexpected as they are essentially autonomous. As I have never served as an officer on a group committee, I have decided to visit every group at least once during the next couple of years. So far I have been to Bebington and Northwich; don't be surprised if I appear unannounced at one of your meetings, even though I live at one corner of our area (Wirral), and have a long way to travel to the opposite corner (Tameside).

Those of you who do not live within range of a group can still assist the society.

Our new website has a forum, where questions on family history can be raised. We see this as one of the ways in which the society can provide useful benefits to members, wherever they live. Any of you can help by answering other people's questions. Up to now this task has fallen on a few of our committee, all of whom are already working very hard in other ways for the society. Collectively our membership knows far, far more than any individual, the committee or even our excellent volunteers at Mobberley and Crewe.

Another way any of you could help is by writing a research guide for the website. Gay Oliver (our assistant webmaster) has done an excellent job on the basics for beginners, but we have very little on more specific topics. Although we are the Family History Society of Cheshire, virtually no-one has ancestors restricted to just one county, or even country, so research guides on other places would be useful, as well as, for instance, how to set about researching particular occupations. Could you write a research guide for County Durham or Australia, or on railway employees, for example? If you think you could help at all, please contact Gay, who is also group leader at Tameside, so her details can be found on the inside back cover of the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR**.

## Research Centre News

*Information about our research centres can be found at the end of the journal.*

### Mobberley Research Centre

*by Alan Jones*



The facility to search on the three genealogy websites to which the society subscribes is what most of our visitors spend time on as, with luck, they can find records about their ancestors in any part of the country. However, you may not know that our library, although predominately for Cheshire as you would expect, also cover a wide geographical area. If you can access the Society's website you will find a list of our library holdings at *Research Centres > Mobberley Research Centre > Research > Holdings*.

If you take a look at the *Other Counties Combined* index you will find that we have books and other types of records relating to 38 counties across England, plus some for Scotland, Wales, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.



There is good coverage for the contiguous counties; the index lists 1,257 entries for Lancashire, 184 for Derbyshire, 198 for Staffordshire and 119 for Shropshire.

Our librarian, Joan Irving, has recently catalogued 80 Antique County Maps of Britain, the earliest dating back to 1575. The collection includes some English, Welsh and Irish counties. The cartographers include several famous names: Speed, Morden and Blome from the 1600s, Bowen, Moll and Cary from the 1700s and Moule, Creighton and Smith from the 1800s. These maps were part of the North Cheshire FHS library and can be found in a map folder in the computer room.

Joan has also finished cataloguing all of the North Cheshire FHS library and hopes soon to have the updated library lists at Mobberley and on the website. We have some amazing books so do make time to look at them!

In the previous issue I mentioned the acquisition of a collection of Macclesfield newspapers dating back to the nineteenth century. A closer examination of the volumes shows a wider coverage than just Macclesfield. For example, the *Macclesfield Advertiser* incorporates the *East Cheshire Gazette*, and the *Macclesfield Courier & Herald* incorporates the *Congleton Gazette*, *Stockport Express*, *Bollington Herald* and the *Cheshire Advertiser*.

For those who rely on buses to travel around, we have some good news. You may be aware that Cheshire bus services underwent an overhaul in April, and many services were reduced or cut. However, the reorganisation may have worked in our favour as, although there are fewer buses to Mobberley, it's possible to travel there directly from more places. So, in addition to serving Altrincham, Wilmslow and Knutsford, the number 88 bus to Mobberley now also serves Macclesfield; and the number 89 bus provides through transport to Mobberley from Northwich. Both services are routed via Knutsford, so it would be possible to take a different bus back to Knutsford and spend some time there before catching the bus home. See page 75 for a map and bus stop information.

Some example timings for Monday to Friday services can be seen below, and the full timetable can be seen on the D&G Bus website at [www.dgbus.co.uk](http://www.dgbus.co.uk).

Depart Macclesfield 10.55am, arrive Mobberley 11.44am

Depart Mobberley 2.41pm, arrive Macclesfield 3.30pm (another bus leaves Mobberley two hours later at 4.41pm, arriving Macclesfield at 5.30pm).

Depart Northwich 9.55am, arrive Mobberley 10.44am.

Depart Mobberley 3.41pm, arrive Northwich 4.28pm (another bus leaves Mobberley two hours later at 5.41pm, arriving Northwich at 6.28pm).

# Crewe Family History Unit

*by Margaret Spate*

In addition to our usual Monday and Tuesday openings we will open on the following Saturday mornings:

Sat 16th June 9.30 – 12.30

Sat 14th July 9.30 – 12.30

Sat 18th Aug 9.30 – 12.30

The team of volunteers is always there to help you with your research.

The library list, available as a paper copy at Crewe, is also available on the FHSC website at *Research Centres > Crewe Family History Unit > Holdings*. Check the list to see if the unit holds records that could help your research.

## Members' Research Lookup Service

What does the service provide? We will search our research resources at Mobberley for specific information about one named person. For example: a search for a baptism or burial record or a search for a memorial inscription. We will also check other indexes we hold.

We cannot undertake in-depth family history research. Members wanting that sort of service should seek the services of a professional genealogist. There is a charge of £5.00 per name for this service, which includes any copying and postal charges. The charge is not refundable if we are unable to provide the information.

We will respond as quickly as possible but please remember that the Research Centre is staffed by volunteers who have other duties to perform.

### Requests can be submitted:

- **Online at *www.fhsc.org.uk***

Using the 'Shop' on our website (available soon).

Payment can be made by PayPal, or by credit/debit card (credit/debit card payments are processed by PayPal but you do not need a PayPal account).

- **By post**

Please remember to include your membership number and contact details. Payment should be by cheque payable to FHS of Cheshire. Cheques from overseas members must be in sterling and drawn on a UK regulated bank. Requests should be posted to:

*Family History Society of Cheshire, Look up Service, Mobberley Family History Research Centre, Rajar Building, Town Lane, Mobberley, Cheshire, WA16 7ER.*



## Society Diary Dates

For Group meeting dates, see the Groups pages at the end of this issue.

For changes and up-to-date news check the website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk)

13th May 2018	FHSC Executive Committee Meeting, The Rajar Building, Mobberley, 2pm.
10th Jul 2018	Final copy date for <b>CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b> , September issue.
2nd Sep 2018	FHSC Executive Committee Meeting, Jubilee Hall, Little Budworth, 2pm.
10th Oct 2018	Final copy date for <b>CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b> , December issue.
3rd Nov 2018	AGM, The Rajar Building, Mobberley, 2pm.
10th Jan 2019	Final copy date for <b>CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b> , March issue.
20th Jan 2019	FHSC Executive Committee Meeting, Jubilee Hall, Little Budworth, 2pm.

Those members who do not have access to the Internet should contact their local or affiliated group for up-to-date information about meetings, etc.

Contact details for all groups are inside the back cover.

### ❖ WANTED - NEW JOURNAL EDITOR ❖

Due to family commitments, Rosie Rowley will be retiring from her position as journal editor at the end of this year, after three years in the post.

No formal editorial experience is needed as advice will be given; however, you do need to be a confident computer user and have experience of (or be willing to learn) word-processing and English punctuation, grammar, etc. A laptop and software (*Quarkxpress*) will be provided. If you are interested in taking on this vital role, please contact Rosie for information.

*Why not ADVERTISE your  
Cheshire or Genealogy BUSINESS or PRODUCT  
in this space?*

*Just £14 per issue, or £50 for four consecutive issues*

*(see last page for full details)*

## Family History Events

**For news of family history events, see the online calendar**  
***<http://geneva.weald.org.uk/>***

### **Macclesfield Barnaby Festival**

Friday 15th - Sunday 24th June 2018

This year's theme is Routes and Roots - includes exhibitions by the FHSC Macclesfield Group and Macclesfield Reflects WWI group on various dates at venues in Macclesfield town centre

More information on the Macclesfield Group page in this issue or see Macclesfield Visitor Info Centre or <https://barnabyfestival.org.uk/>

### **The Family History Show - York**

10.00am to 4.30pm, Saturday 23rd June 2018

The Knavesmire Exhibition Centre, The Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX

Admission £5 - early bird online booking offer: two tickets for £7.50

Free parking - free talks - refreshments available

<https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/york/>

### **South West Area Group Family History Day**

10.00am to 3.30pm, Saturday 30th June 2018

STEAM Railway Museum, Fire Fly Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 2EY

Admission: Adults £3, Children free

Free talks - refreshments available - ample parking

<http://swag-fair.co.uk/>

<http://www.steam-museum.org.uk>

Adjacent to Swindon Designer Shopping Outlet

### **Guild of One-Name Studies Seminar: Across the Water**

9.30am - 4.30pm, Saturday 14th July 2018

National Waterways Museum, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port CH65 4FW

Specialist speakers on waterways, their buildings, and their families.

Booking essential - Non-members welcome

<http://one-name.org/events> Tel: 0800 011 2182

**Conference: Secret Lives - Hidden Voices of our Ancestors**

Friday 31st August - Sunday 2nd September 2018

Jurys Inn Hinckley Island Hotel, Watling Street, Hinckley, LE10 3JA.

The Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives (AGRA), The Guild of One-Name Studies, the Halsted Trust and the Society of Genealogists bring you this exciting conference, sponsored by *Family Tree Magazine*, aimed particularly at family historians interested in tracing ancestors who may be less represented in mainstream records, whose voices are difficult to hear or who might be overlooked or elusive.

Information at <http://secretlives.org.uk/> or Tel: 020 7553 3290

**Federation of FHS Day Seminar: Beyond the Census III**

10.30am to 4.30pm, Saturday 29th September 2018

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission, City Road, London, EC1Y 1AU.

Speakers include Myko Clelland (FindMyPast), Peter Bailey (FFHS & FIBIS), Leigh Dworkin (Jewish Gen. Soc.), Peter Higginbotham (Workhouses)

Booking essential - price £19.50 incl buffet lunch

Further information at [www.eventbrite.com/e/ffhs-beyond-the-census-conference-3-central-london-tickets-42522905154](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/ffhs-beyond-the-census-conference-3-central-london-tickets-42522905154)

**The Family History Show - London**

10.00am to 4.30pm, Saturday 22nd September 2018

Sandown Park Racecourse, Portsmouth Rd, Esher, KT10 9AJ

Advance tickets £5 - early bird online booking offer: two for £7.50

Admission price on the day £7.00 - under 16s free

Free parking - free talks - refreshments available

There will be a free shuttle bus between Esher railway station and the fair.

<https://thefamilyhistoryshow.com/london/>

**Families in British India Society (FIBIS) 20th Anniversary Conference**

Friday 28th - Sunday 30th September 2018

Hawkwell House Hotel, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4DZ

Booking essential - Non-members welcome

Reduced fee for members

[www.fibis.org/store/events/conference-2018/20th-anniversary-conference-2018/](http://www.fibis.org/store/events/conference-2018/20th-anniversary-conference-2018/)

## Family History News

**Remember, if you don't have a subscription to *Ancestry*, *Find My Past* or *The Genealogist*, you can access their UK records at our Research Centres.**

### Ancestry

To see a list of all record sets included on the *Ancestry* website, go to <http://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/cardcatalog.aspx>.

Click on *Sort by* > *Date Updated* to see the latest additions. Click on the name of a record set for more information, and to search just that record set.

To find out what's new at *Ancestry*, see [www.ancestry.co.uk/cs/recent-collections](http://www.ancestry.co.uk/cs/recent-collections)

#### Selected Recent Additions and Updates

*Ancestry* has recently added Electoral Registers for Edinburgh (1832-1966) and Liverpool (1832-1970).

#### Gibraltar, WWII Evacuee Embarkation Records, 1940 (index only)

<https://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=70853>

*Ancestry* has included the index to the Gibraltar WWII Evacuee Embarkation taken from the Gibraltar National Archives website ([www.nationalarchives.gi](http://www.nationalarchives.gi)), where the original documents may viewed free of charge.

#### England & Scotland, Select Cemetery Registers, 1800-2016

<https://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=9041>

Transcribed cemetery registers for several English and Scottish councils including Dumfries and Galloway, Oxford, Walthamstow Forest, Ealing, Great Yarmouth and Newcastle-under-Lyme.

#### UK and Ireland, Obituary Index, 2004-2017

<https://search.ancestry.co.uk/search/db.aspx?dbid=8960>

The collection contains obituaries from hundreds of online newspapers, found on the Internet. Where available, the original URL link to the source information is included; but, as the internet is a changing medium, links may stop working over time.

## Find My Past (FMP)

To see a list of all record sets included on the *FindMyPast* website, go to <http://search.findmypast.co.uk/historical-records>; click on the name of a record set for more information and to search just that record set.

To see what's new at *FindMyPast*, go to [www.findmypast.co.uk/whats-new](http://www.findmypast.co.uk/whats-new). Here you will also be able to access the latest *FindMyPast* tutorials, helping you to get the most from their records. Remember you don't need a subscription to search these records.

### Selected Recent Additions and Updates

#### England & Wales, Electoral Registers 1920

<https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/england-and-wales-electoral-registers-1920>

Over 6.7 million records – discover where your ancestors were living in a 1920 census substitute created from an exclusive collection of England & Wales electoral records (except that they don't appear to have any Welsh counties yet).

#### Canadian Headstones Index

<https://search.findmypast.com/search-world-Records/canadian-headstones-index>

Includes over 1.8 million records from CanadianHeadstones.com, presented by the Ontario Genealogical Society.

#### Prerogative Court Of Canterbury Administrations 1660-1700

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-Records/prerogative-court-of-canterbury-administrations-1660-1700>

Over 88,000 transcripts and images of index slips and documents from Prerogative Court of Canterbury administrations held by TNA at Kew. Approximately one-third of these records refer to a mariner.

#### Hue and Cry Police Gazette Index

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search-world-Records/hue-and-cry-police-gazette-index>

Over 63,000 records have been added to our Hue and Cry Police Index. The Police Gazette was an English newspaper that published notices of wanted criminals and the offences they committed. The index contains the details of crimes committed all over Britain as well as the names of missing persons and those who had been transported or imprisoned. More information can be found by searching the newspaper archive at

<https://search.findmypast.co.uk/search/british-newspapers?newspaper=pollce%20gazette>

## FFHS News

The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) publishes three free information leaflets which are essential guides to family history research. The leaflets can be downloaded as pdf files from the FFHS website at [www.ffhs.org.uk/tips/guides.php](http://www.ffhs.org.uk/tips/guides.php). Printed copies may be obtained from events attended by the FFHS, including the Family History Show at York.

*Our Really Useful Information Leaflet* gives researchers with roots in the British Isles everything they need to know to grow their family tree.

*Our Really Useful Australasian Information Leaflet* focuses on how to research your ancestors if you live in Australasia. It is particularly useful for those with British roots, and is also a great resource for UK family historians who have ancestors who emigrated to Australasia.

*Our Really Useful North American Information Leaflet* is a guide for people living in the USA and Canada who have ancestry in the British Isles.

All three leaflets list family history societies that can help you with your research, due to their specialist knowledge. If you have hit a brick wall in your research, they will be able to give you insights on how to progress, due to their genealogy expertise and knowledge of the resources available.

## World War One Centenary Websites

In the final year of WWI commemorations, these websites are appealing for help from members of the public to add information and copies of photos or memorabilia relating to their ancestors who were involved in the war.

Imperial War Museum Lives of the First World War:

[www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org](http://www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org)

University of Portsmouth Battle of Jutland database:

<http://porttowns.port.ac.uk/source-information/jutland-casualty-database/>

The Masonic Great War Project:

[www.masonicgreatwarproject.org.uk](http://www.masonicgreatwarproject.org.uk)

Chris Paton's The Ruhleben Story (Civilian Internment Camp)

<http://ruhleben.tripod.com/>

For Club and Country: Footballers in the First World War

[www.forclubandcountry.org.uk](http://www.forclubandcountry.org.uk)

Women's Land Army in WWI

[www.womenslandarmy.co.uk/first-world-war-womens-land-army/ww1-land-girls/](http://www.womenslandarmy.co.uk/first-world-war-womens-land-army/ww1-land-girls/)



## Find My Past/British Newspaper Library: Names from Hue & Cry Police Gazette

The names of these Army deserters from Cheshire were found by searching the Police Gazette on *Find My Past*. Full descriptions of the men are also supplied; one James WHYTE of Aberdeen was said to have *a stupid look*!

ISSUE DATE	NAME	CORPS	PARISH	TRADE	AGE	REMARKS
16 Jan 1829	George HARMAN	1st Dragoon Guards	Nantwich	Weaver	26	pock marked; has been three times punished
10 Jun 1829	Thomas WHALLEY	4th or King's Own	Nothern	Labourer	22	2nd desertion; while on furlough at Manchester
17 Jun 1829	Thomas JONES	80th Foot	Upton	Labourer	21	2nd time of desertion; has been punished
24 Jun 1829	James NIXON	10th Hussars	Congleton	Labourer	29	Sup. to have stolen a white hat & drab frock coat
10 Oct 1829	John THORNTON	55th Foot	Stockport	---	22	Deserted on the march from Coventry
30 Dec 1829	William EATON	Royal Marines, Plymouth Div.	Wrenbury	Labourer	31	Deserted from H.M. Renegade at New York

# Certificate Exchange

by Jean Jones

This service enables members to share unwanted certificates. Members can obtain a **transcription** of a certificate by sending your name, membership number, and identifying the required certificate from the published list: by email to [lampreyjones@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:lampreyjones@blueyonder.co.uk) or by post (please include a stamped self-addressed envelope) to Jean Jones, 2 Lytham Rd, Ashton in Makerfield, Wigan WN4 9RU. Unwanted certificates should be sent to the above address. Please ensure you use the correct postage rate for the envelope size and weight. If in doubt, please ask at your local Post Office. Certificates will be listed in the **CHESHIRE ANCESTOR** as soon as possible after receipt.

Thank you for donating unwanted certificates to the FHSC.

Certificate type: B= birth; M=marriage; D=death

BASKERVILLE	Betsy	D 1903 Nov 19	Age 71yrs. Wife of Thomas Baskerville.	Meridon WAR.
CALLEN	Edward	D 1864 Aug 16	Age 2 days. Son of John Callen.	Whitechapel MDX.
CARTER	Jane	M 1844 Sep 1	To John Foxley. d/o William Carter.	Leighton Buzzard. BKM.
COLEMAN	Thomas F.	M 1897 Jul 13	To Elizabeth Sykes. s/o Joseph Coleman.	Crewe CHS.
DALE	George	D 1924 Jan 5	Age 74yrs. Present brother Thomas Dale.	Tattenhall CHS.
DALE	George	D 1924 Jan 8	Age 73yrs. Present George D Dale, son.	Chorlton-upon-Med. Manchester.
DALE	Mary	D 1889 April 20	Age 54yrs. Wife of John Dale.	Alderley CHS.
DAVIES	Thomas O	M 1905 Oct 7	To Sarah E. Evans. s/o Titus Davies dec.	Carmarthen CMN
EVANS	Sarah E.	M 1905 Oct 7	To Thomas O. Davies d/o David Evans.	Carmarthen CMN
EVANSON	Louisa	M 1866 Feb 6	To John Steele. d/o Peter Evanson.	Wrenbury CHS.
FOXLEY	John	M 1844 Sep 1	To Jane Carter. s/o James Foxley.	Leighton Buzzard. BKM.

FOXLEY	John	M 1844 Sep 1	To Jane Carter. s/o James Foxley.	Leighton Buzzard. BKM.
GARDNER	George	B 1845 May 16	To Henry & Maria Ibbotson.	Preston LAN.
HAMPSON	Annie	B 1893 Jun 17	To John & Sarah Jane, formerly Hampson.	Ashton Town LAN.
HEAPS	Alice	D 1887 Jan 11	Age 10mths. Daughter of William H. Heaps	Tranmere CHS.
HEAPS	Benjamin C. S.	D 1876 Jan 5	Age 6yrs. Son of Thomas Heaps.	Tranmere CHS.
HEAPS	John D.	D 1909 May 26	Age 56yrs. Informant Jessie D Heaps.	Tranmere CHS.
HEAPS	Sarah	D 1866 Oct 24	Age 36yrs. Wife of Christopher Heaps.	West Derby LAN.
HEAPS	Susannah	D 1893 Mar 27	Age 65yrs. Wife of Thomas Heaps.	Walton LIVERPOOL.
HEAPS	William H.	D 1891 Jan 7	Age 7yrs. Son of William H Heaps.	Tranmere CHS.
HILL	Susan E.	M 1885 Dec 26	To Joseph Sykes. d/o Rowland Hill.	Nantwich CHS.
JONES	James	B 1862 May 31	To James & Emma formerly Thomas.	Nantwich CHS.
LAWRENCE	James	D 1848 Sep 15	Age 45yrs present M K!!!	Dorking SRY.
NODEN	Mary	B 1890 Jan 22	To Joseph and Maria formerly Clarke.	Middlewich CHS
OLDHAM	Alice	M 1904 Nov 6	To Ernest Sykes. d/o Joseph Oldham.	Crewe CHS.
RASPBURY	Robert	B 1862 Apr 28	To Jane Raspbury.	Sandbach CHS.
ROBINSON	Thomas	M 1864 Sep 22	To Sarah A. Sherlock. s/o David Robinson.	Manchester. LAN
SHERLOCK	Sarah A.	M 1864 Sep 22	To Thomas Robinson. d/o Samuel Sherlock.	Manchester. LAN
STEELE	John	M 1866 Feb 6	To Louisa Evanson.s/o Thomas Steele.	Wrenbury CHS.
SYKES	Elizabeth	M 1897 Jul 13	To Thomas F. Coleman. d/o Edward Sykes.	Crewe CHS.
SYKES	Ernest	M 1904 Nov 6	To Alice Oldham. s/o Edward Sykes dec.	Crewe CHS.
SYKES	Joseph	M 1885 Dec 26	To Susan E Hill. s/o Edward Sykes.	Nantwich CHS.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

When researching a family tree, the usual starting point is the General Register Office (GRO) civil registration indexes of births, marriages and deaths. The Government has announced that it plans to change civil registration, beginning with marriages, to take account of modern technology.

The following is a summary of the proposed changes which have been reported in the newspapers.

1. The mother's name will be put on the certificate alongside the father.
2. Civil Partnerships will be open to all.
3. A single electronic register will replace church registers.
4. Couples will not sign the official register.
5. The marriage register is to be replaced by a "marriage schedule".
6. After marriage the couple will be required to take the completed schedule to the local Register Office, where the details will be entered on a database. The couple will only receive a certificate after they have lodged an official application form.

I have a number of concerns over some of these proposals, particularly No. 6, where it is not clear what would happen if a couple did not make an official application.

Maintaining clear and detailed information in public records is essential. It is reported that the government is planning to publish a consultation document. May I suggest that the Society and individual members consider replying to the consultation, or contacting their local M.P. if they have concerns.

Yours faithfully

**John Davies**  
**Member No. 197**

*Ed: Further information on this topic can be found on the Government website at [www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-library/Commons-Library-analysis-Civil-Partnerships-Marriages-and-Deaths-Bill-CBP-8217.pdf](http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-library/Commons-Library-analysis-Civil-Partnerships-Marriages-and-Deaths-Bill-CBP-8217.pdf)*

Dear Rosie,

It's funny how a chance meeting at my cousin's funeral led to one of my best breakthroughs in my family history research.

A family member who attended the funeral was very interested in my research, so following up on her invitation to meet up and discuss this, I visited her.

Without boring you with all the details, we spent a pleasant couple of hours discussing the family history, and then my cousin brought down photographs of hers to look at. This is when she brought out an astonishing document, namely a book written by a cousin that I never knew existed. You see, my great grandfather, William FIELD, had been a gunmaker in Birmingham and, as it turned out, not just any old gunmaker but one who had taken out various patents because of improvements that he made to the Martini-Henry Rifle, famous for being used at Rorke's Drift.

The book that my cousin wrote was based upon his own research, plus interviews with another family member. Contained within the book were photographs of my great-grandfather and great-grandmother on their wedding day, plus photographs of my grandfather in military uniform when he fought in World War I. I had never ever expected to obtain copies of these as I never even knew of their existence! Plus the book contained lots of other information that I would never have known about and would have struggled to obtain.

The book was so detailed that I was able to use it to contact not only the author but also another cousin via Facebook.

As a result of contacting the author of the book, I have helped him with the research, which has led to him producing an updated version of the book.

The moral of this story is... always follow up meetings because you never know what someone else in the family knows! Also, although the cousin who had written the book had a family tree on *Ancestry*, because his subscription had lapsed contacting him would have probably been impossible!

**David Sewell**

**Member No. 9185**

**david\_sewell123@icloud.com**

*Ed.: What a wonderful find! I have also met distant cousins and obtained copies of previously unknown photos when attending weddings and funerals.*

Dear Rosie,

Someone told me that they had published the 1939 Register. Lovely, I thought, I'll be on that. Oh, no, they said; because you are still alive you will be a blank. A blank? I've never been a blank and I can prove it. I still have my wartime identity card, complete with photograph, which you had to always carry with you. There's also my clothing coupon book, which reminds me of a story.

When my husband and I were planning to marry, I didn't have enough clothing coupons to buy material or purchase a dress, even with the help of my mother's coupons. However, I remembered seeing an advert in my film magazine which said you could hire a dress from Elstree Film Studios in London, so off we went to London. I tried on several dresses, chose one, and paid for the hire, postage and dry cleaning. The dress and veil arrived two days before the wedding and my bridesmaid returned it to the studios two days after the wedding.

**Joyce Simpson**  
**Member no. 3697**

*Ed. I think I would have been on tenterhooks, not having a dress to wear until two days before the wedding!*

*For those 'youngsters' who are not familiar with clothes rationing during and after World War Two, here are a few facts:*

*During WWII, fabric and clothing manufacturers were under pressure due to the need to produce uniforms worn by about one quarter of the population who were serving in the armed forces and uniformed voluntary services. To regulate the consumption of fabric and production of civilian clothing and footwear, rationing was introduced on 1 June 1941. Initially, every adult was allocated 66 points-worth of coupons to last one year, but immediately after the end of the war, from September 1945 until April 1946, this was reduced to only 3 points per month. Children received their own allowance and new mothers were given an extra 50 points.*

*Each type of clothing was allocated a point value. For example, eleven points were needed for a dress, two for a pair of stockings and eight for a pair of men's trousers or a shirt. The 'Make Do and Mend' campaign helped women learn to repair or recycle worn clothing.*

*Clothes rationing ended in March 1949, but many items of clothing were still scarce for some time afterwards.*



## Help Wanted - from the FHSC Forum

If you can help with any of these queries, please login to the FHSC website, click on *FHSC Forum* on the top menu, then *Research Help*, then the title of the topic you want to reply to, and finally click *Quick Reply* and type in your message. If you do not use a computer, please post your reply to the Editor.

*If you are puzzling over a family history problem relating to Cheshire or elsewhere, why not ask on our website forum, or send it to the Editor, and see if other members can help? For queries printed in the journal, your name, membership number and postal and/or email addresses will be printed so members can contact you, unless you request otherwise.*

*Do you have any unwanted Cheshire photos or documents? Perhaps you are a keen photographer and could take photos of gravestones in your local churchyard? If you are able to help other members in some way, please write to the Editor.*

### **SILLITOE Butcher Shops - Photos**

Some of my SILLITOE ancestors were butchers and trade directories have revealed various shops in West Kirby, Bromborough, Liverpool (St James Market) and possibly Hoylake and Eastham. These were in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

I wondered if any members might be aware of any photographs of street scenes showing any of these shops in local history books?

Thank you in anticipation of any help.

**M J Sillitoe**

*Please reply via the FHSC website forum, as mentioned at the start of this article.*

### **John LIGHTFOOT marriage to Ann ORME 25/12/1792 NOT FOUND**

According to several accounts John LIGHTFOOT of Warrington married Ann ORME on 25 Dec 1792 at Runcorn.

I have never found this marriage - I have been searching for 16 years.

The nearest I have is John LIGHTFOOT married Mary LIGHTFOOT at Runcorn 23 Dec 1792. Any ideas?

I have found the following baptisms from Lancashire OPC

Baptism: 6 Oct 1793 St Elphin, Warrington, Lancashire, England

Elizabeth LIGHTFOOT - Daur of John LIGHTFOOT & Ann

Occupation: Weaver

Register: Baptisms 1781 - 1812, Page 151, Entry 4735, Source: LDS Film 1562957

Baptism: 17 Apr 1796 St Elphin, Warrington, Lancashire, England  
Mary LIGHTFOOT - Daur of John LIGHTFOOT & Ann  
Occupation: School Master  
Register: Baptisms 1781 - 1812, Page 181, Entry 5742, Source: LDS Film 1562957  
Suggestions welcome, thanks.

**Sharon Bunter**

Perth, Western Australia

*Please reply via the FHSC website forum, as mentioned at the start of this article.*

### **John BRADDOCK born about 1800, Macclesfield area**

My ancestor John BRADDOCK married Mary Ann HOLLAND at Prestbury by banns on 30 December 1821. The couple were from Macclesfield. John was described as a silkworker.

They had several children including:

William baptised on 2 Nov 1825 at Macclesfield

Hannah baptised on 3 Aug 1828 at Macclesfield who died in 1842.

Sarah baptised on 25 Dec 1831 at Sutton, Macclesfield who married John PEDLEY on 19 Oct 1851 at Prestbury

George baptised on 5 Oct 1833 at Sutton, Macclesfield who married Elizabeth TRAFFORD on 31 Dec 1860 at Prestbury.

Samuel baptised 27 Dec 1835 at Sutton, Macclesfield who married Lynda ORME on 6 March 1859 at Prestbury and was living in Macclesfield in 1881

John born on 1 June 1840 at Sutton, Macclesfield who married Frances PEACOCK in Leek on 2 Feb 1862

Mary Ann born on 16 Sep 1843 at Sutton, Macclesfield who married John ASHWORTH on 31 July 1865 at Prestbury and moved to Leek

John and Mary BRADDOCK were living in Sutton, Macclesfield in the 1841 census aged 37 and 35 respectively with five children.

John BRADDOCK (senior) died on 22 Sept 1845 aged 45 years and is described as a fancy trimmer. His widow Mary Ann BRADDOCK was living in Leek in the 1851 census with .William (25), Sarah (20) George (17) Samuel (14)., John (11) Mary Ann (8) and John Pedley. Mary Ann (senior) stayed in Leek but some children went back to Cheshire to marry at Prestbury.

I am descended from John BRADDOCK (born in 1840) whose descendants lived in Leek and included my grandmother Elizabeth BRADDOCK.

My problem is that I cannot identify the parents of John BRADDOCK born around 1800 to 1804. Can anyone help?

**Michael Hodgkinson**

*Please reply via the FHSC website forum, as mentioned at the start of this article.*

## First Class Service Across the Pond!

*by Peter Lee*  
*Member no. 6151*

I recently returned from a touring holiday in America, with Boston, Massachusetts, the last stop. My family research had revealed that many of my ancestors on my mother's paternal side were Jewish and had fled Russia to start a new life in America. There has always been a nagging doubt about the relationship of two particular people so I decided to try and obtain their death certificates whilst in Boston.

The records retained at Boston City Hall are very comprehensive, according to their website, and so were the instructions and information needed to order a certificate. I duly gathered the requisite information prior to my departure from England and carefully kept it safe throughout my travels.

Boston, for those of you who have not seen it, is stunning, with a mixture of old and ultramodern architecture. Whilst doing the tourist bit my wife and I elected to follow the "*Freedom Walk*," which took in the old City Hall - a charming period building, full of character and statues, but slightly on the small side. We had been informed that the location of the new City Hall was close by and we couldn't miss it. Those famous words that invariably aren't true. We had also been advised that it is the worst looking building in Boston and is resented by the masses.

A short distance further on and, sure enough, we couldn't miss it. I doubt that the architect was ever given another commission and probably had shares in a concrete manufacturing company which enabled early retirement. It is truly awful, looking like a cross between a Russian KGB headquarters and a 1960's office block, but if I could obtain my death certificates I would be a happy bunny!

I enquired at reception where we might find Room 213 and was politely directed to go through security, which was a full airport-style set-up of bags x-rayed and individuals searched whilst under the watchful eyes of two burly cops, and then down two escalators to room 213, which was directly ahead.

The area was huge and sure enough room 213 was easily spotted via a large number on the wall. There were two windows: one for BIRTHS and one for

DEATHS. I never spotted MARRIAGES, though.

With a little trepidation I approached my elected window. A young lady sitting at a desk facing the window immediately looked up in our direction, smiled, said "Hi, I'll be with you in a moment" and instantly got up and came to the window. I explained I was on holiday from England, wanted to order two death certificates, and proceeded to give her all my paperwork as per the website instructions. "I don't need all this, just name and date of death." That was easy for me to do and she scribbled the information onto a pink card, returned to her desk and bashed away at her keyboard.

"I have the cemetery location if that helps you" I said, to which she replied "Yes, I have it also, it's in West Roxbury." With that she got up again and retrieved a large bound book from under the very counter where we were standing, scribbled out two notes and then handed them to me. "You can collect the certificates after you have paid for them." With slight nervousness I asked how long this would take. "Just pop round the corner to the cashier and you can pay with cash or credit card. Then return back here and hopefully I'll have them done."

In 2002 I was admitted to The Alexander Hospital with a heart complaint which resulted in my having three stents fitted. Hearing her reply about doing them immediately was the biggest shock my little stents had experienced in fifteen years!

True to her word, when we returned to the DEATHS window there, waiting on the counter, was the 1982 death certificate for my Celia NEILS. I couldn't believe my eyes nor my ears when the lady apologised that the other certificate wasn't quite ready as she was just finishing typing it up!!! I hadn't had time to fully take in the multitude of information on Celia's certificate when I was presented with the other certificate relating to William NEILS. With my stents still holding up I asked her why the two certificates were different in format and content.

"The earlier one from 1934 for William has just the basic details required for a death certificate over here. You want it for family history purposes with addresses and other bits don't you?" I replied that it would be nice to have this additional information but if it was any trouble I could do without. "No, it's not a problem, it's just that the originals are held in the archives." The word 'archives' is usually the kiss of death for information, and can result in at best a twenty-four hour delay, maybe even up to a week if dealing with Manchester and the records are stored off-site.

Without even breaking step after returning from her lunch break, one of her colleagues picked up a slip of paper and casually said "I'll just pop to the archives for you."

Whilst her colleague was in the archives the young lady stopped for a chat during which I complimented her on the superb and prompt service and explained what I would have to do to even remotely get such service in England - and the increased cost. She was amazed and said, "We are employed and paid to provide a service for customers who, for whatever reason and from wherever they live wish to obtain a certificate." Almost without pausing, she picked up another certificate and casually handed it over to a man who had appeared behind us. He was obviously a regular from a nursing home or such like as they briefly exchanged a few words and he then apologised for interrupting our conversation and departed.

The young lady, whom I found was called Jessica, was duly presented with several copies of William's original death certificate fresh from the archives, in landscape, portrait and varying shade tones so I could use the best copy. My stents were still holding up and I was so pleased and surprised at the service that I awarded Jessica and her team the accolade of "Most Efficient Record Office in the World." She announced this to her team and was met with cheers and hollering as only people from across the pond can do.

As I was carefully putting my wares away I asked how many certificates were usually produced each day. By now we had an audience of three, and after a brief discussion they agreed that when it was busy they could do 100 an hour; I was told I was lucky it was quiet as we had arrived at lunch time. As we said our farewells Jessica said, "Take my email address in case you want any further assistance, such as details looking up, or you want to order another certificate. It will cost you an extra \$2 to post it to England, so \$14 in total." I graciously accepted and we departed.

Total time, including pleasantries, twenty minutes.

Two important observations were made that lunchtime:

- 1 If such service can be given in America then why not in England?
- 2 My cardiologist did a superb job on my stents!

*Ed: Boston City Archives website is at [www.boston.gov/departments/registry](http://www.boston.gov/departments/registry)  
They say, "We maintain custody of all [local] birth, marriage, and death records dating back to 1630... Each year, we add about 33,000 new entries and issue more than 100,000 copies of certified records."*

## A Knutsford Stray Burial in Lincolnshire

The photograph below was sent in by Sue Parker, who found this grave in the churchyard of St Peter and St Paul's Church, Belton, Grantham, Lincolnshire.



IN MEMORY OF  
Henry Jewell who was Born at Knutsford  
IN CHESHIRE  
HE WAS PORTER TO THE RT HON<sup>BLE</sup>  
LORD VISCOUNT TYRCONNEL  
*And after His 32 years faithful service*  
DEPARTED THIS LIFE  
OCT 8<sup>TH</sup> 1749[?] IN THE 58<sup>TH</sup> YEAR  
OF HIS AGE

Lincolnshire Archives has low-resolution scans of parish registers online at [www.lincstothepast.com](http://www.lincstothepast.com). The burial entry is in the Belton general register for 1733-1812:

*1749: Henry Jewell, servant man, buried October the 11th.*

Consulting the Cheshire parish registers on *FindMyPast*, Henry JEWELL was indeed from Knutsford, baptised at St John the Baptist Church:

*1692/3, March*

*Henry son of Henry Jewell of Nether Knutsford was baptized the 5<sup>th</sup> day*

He must have been very highly regarded by Viscount Tyrconnel, who lived at nearby Belton House, to have been given such a grand memorial.



# Captain Thomas TYDD

*by Malcolm Lamb*  
*Member no. 6313*  
*malcolm.beryl@ntlworld.com*

Four years ago it came as a complete surprise to me to discover that one of my fifth great-grandfathers was an officer in King George II's British Army. Named Thomas TYDD, he was wounded fighting the French in India.

The TYDDs were on my mother's side of the family and were mainly located in Chester, Burwardsley, Peckforton and Tattenhall. I originally believed that this line of the family had always been Cheshire born and bred, but this proved not to be the case. Tracing my TYDD line over the years had been relatively straightforward; however, getting back as far as my fifth great-grandparents proved elusive, until a chance discovery in 2013.

A distant relative found the baptism of my fourth great-grandfather John Robinson TYDD amongst Warwickshire parish records, recently digitised and transcribed. John Robinson's baptism record led to the identification of his parents, Thomas TYDD and Elizabeth NODES, their marriage and most of their other children's baptism records. This opened up a whole new line of research.

Once I found out that he had been in the army and then identified which regiment he belonged to, I made the working assumption that Thomas would be with his regiment, wherever it was located. In particular, there is definite documentary proof that he was in India. This article is a diary of events associated with the life and times of Thomas TYDD.

## **1756 - Commissioned as Ensign**

At the start of the Seven Years' War (fought between the British and the French, each with their respective allies), one of the most significant initial events was the capture by the French of the then British-held Island of Minorca, following several weeks of siege. The British were evicted but were permitted an "honourable retreat" with safe passage to Gibraltar. On return to England, one of the regiments involved, the 24th Regiment of Foot, needed to build up its strength and so they began recruiting additional officers and soldiers.

Army Commission records show that in September 1756, Thomas TYDD was enrolled as an ensign into the above-mentioned 24th Regiment of Foot, then commanded by Colonel Edward Cornwallis. An ensign was the lowest rank of

commissioned officer in the British Army and Thomas would have had to pay for his commission.

### **1757 – Training and Attack on Rochefort**

Examining the regimental history of the 24th Regiment of Foot, the soldiers were found to be marching, training and encamped across England:

May 1757: Leicester (and maybe Nottingham)

July 1757: Amersham, Buckinghamshire, Dorchester and the Isle of Wight.

In September 1757, an expedition involving 31 ships and 7,000 soldiers was mounted to attack Rochefort on the west coast of France. The role of the 24th Regiment in this action was to serve as marines – maintaining discipline among soldiers and sailors on board the ships and providing protection against attack.

The “Descent” (as the action was termed) on Rochefort turned out to be an expensive failure; on arrival off the Atlantic coast of western France, no suitable attack plan with a reasonable probability of success could be agreed upon by the commanding officers. Ships remained at a distance offshore; landing craft would be manned with soldiers in readiness for attack, but then stood down. The task force returned to England in early October, having inflicted only minor damage on the Isle d’Aix. A subsequent Inquiry and Court-Martial found that there had been inadequate planning for the whole operation, especially regarding basic military intelligence such as the shallowness of the sea off that part of the coast.

On his return from the Rochefort expedition, Thomas TYDD was promoted from Ensign to Lieutenant on 4th October 1757, presumably again by purchased commission.

### **1758 – Further Attacks on the French**

At the age of 22, Thomas TYDD married Elizabeth NODES on 3rd March 1758 at Curdworth in Warwickshire. It may have been during his regimental training in early 1757 that Thomas had visited Nottingham and met his future wife, who was the eldest daughter of John NODES, a goldsmith and watchmaker.

During early 1758, a most important expedition was mounted to attack Louisbourg, a French-held fortress on the north-east coast of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. Included in this expedition were four companies (out of the ten or so) of officers and soldiers from Thomas TYDD’s regiment, still serving as marines. Overall, 24,000 soldiers and sailors took part in this attack which included forces already in North America as well as in ships sailing from England. After days of delay due to weather and suffering losses during opposed landings in rough seas, the British managed to get ashore and capture the fortress. This

success opened up the approaches to the St Lawrence River and so facilitated the capture of Quebec in 1759.

During the above operation, the rest of the 24th Regiment remained in England, probably at Portchester Castle, Portsmouth, where there was the more mundane task of guarding French prisoners of war. But also during 1758 there were further “Descents” on the French coast, including raids on St. Malo and Cherbourg, in which detachments of the regiment took part. I believe Thomas must have been involved in some of the actions mentioned above, but I don’t know which ones, because I’ve not yet found any records to prove his location.

### **1759 – A Passage to India**

Lt. Thomas TYDD was then transferred to the newly formed 84th Regiment of Foot under Colonel Eyre COOTE. This regiment was created following an appeal by the British (“Honourable”) East India Company (BEIC) for extra troops to supplement the company’s own private army in combatting French harassment of personnel and trade routes, particularly along the eastern coastal region of India. COOTE’s newly formed regiment of 875 men left England on 4th April 1759 in 13 ships, a combined force of “East Indiamen” (armed trading ships) and Royal Navy fighting ships. The route taken by the convoy went via Madeira, the Cape of Good Hope and Madagascar, arriving in India on 27th October 1759: a total distance of about 10,000 miles. After arriving in Madras (now called Chennai), the army was soon in action, fighting at strategically important fortified positions held by the French. Both the British and the French recruited Indian nationals (sepoys) to supplement their forces.

### **1760 – Thomas wounded**

The first major battle took place on 22nd January 1760 at Wandewash in the then named Carnatic region of south east India (now Vandavasi, Tamil Nadu state). In addition to the 84th, other British regiments involved were the 79th and 102nd, as well as the BEIC’s own troops. One point of interest here is that the two main protagonists, Eyre COOTE (British) and Thomas LALLY (French) were both descended from Irish and French families.

A graphic account of the battle was sent by COOTE to London; this is a brief extract (transcribed exactly as written):

*..... I ordered the Army to march forward. At Twelve o’Clock the Enemy’s European Cavalry pushed with a great deal of Resolution, in order to force our Left and come round upon our Rear. Immediately I ordered up some Companies of Seapoys and two Pieces of Cannon, which were to sustain our Cavalry, who had been ordered to oppose them. Upon the Cannon and Seapoys flanking them, they broke.*

*The Cavalry then had Orders to charge, who drove them above a Mile from our Left, upon the Rear of their own Army. We continued all this while advancing towards each other, the Enemy's Flank being very well covered by a Tank. It was One o'Clock when we arrived within Reach of Musquetry, when a Shot from us striking one of their Tumbrils, it blew up.*

Shortly after this fortuitous explosion, which seems to have demoralised the French, the battle's turning point was reached and the fighting soon came to an end. The British took control of the fort of Wandewash, capturing many French army personnel and seizing a large quantity of ammunition and stores. Another extract from Eyre COOTE's letter to the *London Gazette* reads:

*Of my Regiment, killed, Ensign Stuart, and thirteen Private.  
Wounded, Lieutenants Fraser and Tyd, Ensign Heron, and thirty-six Private.  
The Honourable Company's Troops, killed, Ensign Evans, and eighteen Private.  
Wounded, Cornet Kuhn, and twenty-nine Private. Among our Black Troops, about seventy killed, and wounded.  
The Enemy's Army, commanded by Lieut. General Lally, consisted of two Thousand two Hundred Europeans, including Artillery and Cavalry;....*

Here, COOTE states that Thomas TYDD ("Lieutenant Tyd") was among those wounded – and when I researched more about the circumstances of this battle, it is evident that the 84th Regiment had been engaged in close quarters fighting with the French Lorraine Regiment, which had made a surge against the British left flank. During the days after the battle, the condition of his wounded officers and soldiers was worrying to COOTE, and he sought agreement from the defeated French commanders for their surgeons to provide medical assistance. This request was granted, and so it is quite possible that Thomas TYDD received treatment for his wounds from a French military surgeon.

Following the British success at Wandewash, further battles against the French took place in the same region with some of the more significant events being:

10th February 1760: Fort of Arcot captured.

12th March 1760: Rock Fortress of Permacoil (Perumukkal) surrendered.

16th January 1761: Fall of Pondicherry, after months of blockade and siege.

As a result of these battles, the British gained control of the Carnatic.

### **1761 – A Disaster at Sea**

In March 1761, after consultation with the local British administrators in Madras, Col. Eyre COOTE sailed for Calcutta to reconnoitre how best to protect British interests in the Bengal area. Two ships were then engaged in transporting troops of the 84th Regiment from Madras to Calcutta across the

Bay of Bengal. The first detachment of the regiment arrived safely in July, having sailed on the East Indiaman *Hawke*. There were three companies, up to 300 men, on this ship. I have concluded that Thomas TYDD must have travelled in this ship because of the fate of the remaining troops.

In August, the rest of the 84th Regiment set off from Madras aboard a large trading ship - the *Fatasalam* - which was fully laden with cargo such as salt, wood and military equipment. Encountering a storm, the ship took on seawater, the baling pumps became blocked with salt and after several hours the ship began to sink. A survivor's account provides some insight as to how a few passengers saved themselves from the sinking ship. Some officers, men, and two officers' wives escaped by conspiring to board a longboat (containing pigs) which was being towed. They then cut themselves free of the doomed ship. Some later reports have therefore classed these survivors as cowards.

Of the 500 people on board the ill-fated *Fatasalam*, all lost their lives except for forty who escaped in the longboat. During a five day ordeal at sea, several more subsequently perished. On coming ashore in Orissa, the survivors experienced harsh treatment from local inhabitants, until they were eventually rescued by friendly forces and transported onwards to Calcutta.

During the rest of 1761, Col. Eyre COOTE was involved in politics and administrative problems between the Bengal Presidency of the BEIC and local Indian rulers. The 84th Regiment spent their time recovering whilst garrisoned at the newly built Fort William at Calcutta.

### **1762 - Promotion**

The 84th Regiment of Foot remained in Fort William, training and carrying out fortification work. It is also known that new recruits sailed from England to replace losses incurred in battle and in the ship disaster.

In November, Col. Eyre COOTE left India to return to England, having resigned his command due to a breakdown in his relationship with the Bengal BEIC. His regiment remained in Calcutta. At some time during this period Thomas TYDD was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain.

### **1763 - Campaign in Bengal**

The Seven Years' War came to an end with the Treaty of Paris, signed in February 1763. However, the British Army in Bengal still had work to do. In mid-1763, a military campaign was deemed necessary by the BEIC to suppress the Nawab of Bengal, Mir Qasim, previously an ally of the British, but who had begun to use extreme violence to disrupt the BEIC's control over local trade routes and duty payments.

The 84th Regiment, now commanded by Major Thomas ADAMS, set out from Fort William in July and did not return until November. They travelled many hundreds of miles, marching inland along the courses of the Hooghly and Ganges rivers, in the rainy season and in temperatures averaging 30°C. In most cases, the British Army was outnumbered by Mir Qasim's well trained and well equipped Bengali Army. The main battles were at Gheria (probably Giria), Udhanala (now Udhua), Monghyr (Monger) and Patna. The British and their allies numbered about 3,000 men; at Udhanala, the opposing force numbered about 40,000, but even so Major ADAMS managed to overcome his opponents.

On completion of this successful campaign, the Orderly Book of the 84th Regiment of Foot tells us that on 11th November 1763, Captain TYDD and a Captain LONG were ordered to take two companies of sick and wounded men and be ready to embark for England. In December 1763, the British government disbanded the 84th Regiment of Foot; of the regiment's officers and soldiers remaining in India, some joined the BEIC and the rest returned to England.

### **1765 to 1775 - On the "Half-Pay"**

After his return to England, it seems a normal family life resumed for Thomas TYDD, Elizabeth and their children. My fourth great-grandfather, John Robinson TYDD, was baptised on 12th April 1765 in Warwick. Thomas was now listed on the army half-pay (more of a retainer than a pension) of the 84th Regiment of Foot.

Sometime between 1766 and 1770 the first daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth was born – Charlotte Catherine TYDD. Her baptism record has not yet been found, which implies the family might have moved away from Warwick. However there is ample evidence from her subsequent marriage and from later wills that she must have been born around this time.

### **1775 - A Recall to Duty**

This year saw the commencement of the American War of Independence, triggered in part by the North American colonists' reaction to taxes imposed by the British Government to help pay for the Seven Years' War. Whether it came as welcome news or not for Thomas TYDD, he was now recalled from the half-pay to serve as a "Captain of an Independent Company of Invalids". He and his wife Elizabeth were then aged around 40 years old, with sons Thomas Samuel and John Robinson 16 and 10 years old respectively; Charlotte Catherine would have been about 8 years old.

Thomas TYDD was ordered to the north-east, to Berwick-on-Tweed, which in those days was on the Scottish side of the border. Around the country, companies of invalids were garrisoned at various strategic locations, often at



forts near the coast. These men were former soldiers, like Thomas, who had been in battle and had been wounded, or were considered too old for current army service. Their duties were not only to help protect against foreign invasion, but also to keep civil order in the local area.

### **1778 - Moving South**

Thomas was now required to relocate from the north-east, all the way down to Falmouth, Cornwall, to be Captain of the Company of Invalids at Pendennis Castle. For the next ten years, the TYDD family was based at Pendennis, a fort originally built by Henry VIII. It is situated on a promontory commanding an excellent view of Falmouth Bay and I can well imagine that the family's stay here was made more pleasurable by the marvellous surroundings and climate of this part of Cornwall. Thomas' duties would have been to keep his men actively engaged in preparing defences to be ready for a possible French invasion. It is known that this fear was considered real enough that on one occasion about one thousand local Cornish miners were assembled within the castle walls to help defend it; cattle was herded away from the coast to deny provisions to any invading force.

### **1786 – Marriage of Charlotte Catherine TYDD**

During the summer of 1786, a Lieutenant formerly in the 37th Regiment of Foot disembarked from a ship on the south coast of England – probably at Falmouth itself, which was at that time an important sailing port. This officer's name was Stewkley SHUCKBURGH, who was born in 1757 in County Limerick, Ireland, a member of a landed Warwickshire family. He was returning from North America after service in the American War of Independence – his regiment, having been engaged in the defence of New York, had latterly completed garrison duty at the citadel of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I do not know if the two families were previously acquainted, but on 6th September 1786, Stewkley SHUCKBURGH married Charlotte Catherine TYDD at Budock near Falmouth, under licence. This meant that permission had to be obtained from Thomas TYDD, due to his daughter being under 21 years of age. For another 18 months the TYDDs and the SHUCKBURGHs resided in Cornwall, during which period Thomas and Elizabeth were blessed with the arrival of their first grandchild: Caroline Ann Matilda SHUCKBURGH, who was baptized on the 19th September 1787 at Mylor.

### **1788 – North to Chester Castle; the Last Post**

Thomas TYDD was now called upon to relocate from Cornwall to Chester Castle, to continue in the same role as Captain of an Invalid Company. The Shuckburgh family also travelled with him to Chester. Sadly however, having been settled into his new post in Chester for only six months, Thomas died in

December 1788 aged about 52. He was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's on the Hill, which is situated next to the castle in Chester. There is no recorded cause of death.

### **After 1788**

Following the death of her husband, Elizabeth TYDD applied in 1789 for a pension from the government. The annual pension for a Captain's widow in those days was £50 (about £3,500 in today's money). Also, between 1789 and 1792, she received legacies from each of her parents after they passed away in Nottingham. It appears that Elizabeth TYDD stayed in Chester, with or near the SHUCKBURGH family - or perhaps with her son John Robinson TYDD - until 1799, when a newspaper notice refers to her selling off many of her possessions in order to move elsewhere.

### **Tragedy**

In 1801 Stewkley SHUCKBURGH was recalled from the half-pay to serve as a Barrack Master, and so he and his family left Chester to move south - first to Silver Hill in Sussex, and then later to serve at Canterbury.

Stewkley's brother was Sir George SHUCKBURGH-EVELYN, who was a renowned astronomer, physicist and statistician; he also served as the Member of Parliament for Warwickshire. When Sir George died in 1804 without male issue, Stewkley became the 7th Baronet and his family moved to Shuckburgh Hall in Warwickshire. For 5 years Sir Stewkley carried out the duties of estate management in the historic surroundings of Shuckburgh Hall as his family was growing up; it was reported that he also enjoyed the company of former and serving army colleagues.

It seems that one of these officers, a Lieutenant Philip SHARP of the Bedfordshire Militia, formed a relationship with Caroline, the family's eldest daughter. However, Philip was deemed by Sir Stewkley to be unsuitable as a possible future husband for his daughter and so he was ordered to stop seeing her. This appears to have caused the lieutenant to lose his mind and to make the cruellest of decisions. On Sunday 26th March 1809, Lt. Philip SHARP shot and killed twenty-one-year-old Caroline in a summer house in the grounds of Shuckburgh Park, and then killed himself - a sad case of murder-suicide. A few months later Sir Stewkley died of apoplexy (a stroke) at the age of 52. His son Francis became the 8th Baronet Shuckburgh.

### **Postscripts**

Elizabeth TYDD died in 1815 at Northampton and was buried at St John in the Wilderness Churchyard in Shuckburgh Park.

The eldest son of Thomas and Elizabeth TYDD was Major Thomas Samuel TYDD, late of the 40th Regiment of Foot, and of the BEIC. He died aged 37 in 1797 in Bombay (Mumbai), leaving behind his Indian common-law wife and their child.

Their second son, John Robinson TYDD, also a former army officer, married Jane DOD(D) in 1797 in Malpas; they subsequently lived in Harthill and Burwardsley.

In addition to Charlotte Catherine, Thomas and Elizabeth TYDD had two more daughters: Marianne, who it is believed died in infancy at Berwick, and Judith, who married Francis KINGSTON, a solicitor.

There is still much to find out about Thomas TYDD – Where was he born? Did he go to Louisbourg? Where did the family live between 1765 and 1775?

I would be pleased to hear from anyone with an interest in TYDD family history, and to receive any additional relevant facts or family stories.

### **Acknowledgments**

I would like to thank my wife, Beryl, who transcribed wills written in the legal secretary hand script of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which can be extremely difficult to read.

I would also like to thank three distant cousins of the TYDD family who gave me the motivation to pursue this line of research: Nigel Tidd, Vicky Lyons and Pam Moyes.

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## **Bristol Cotton Factory Accident**

*by Eric Millward*  
*Member no. 3486*

The Great Western Cotton Works, named after the SS Great Western and the Great Western Railway Company, was situated next to the Feeder Canal at Barton Hill. It was the only cotton mill in the south-west of England and was one of the largest in the country. The mill opened in 1838 and processed cotton which was transported by sea from America to England, arriving first in Liverpool and then taken by sea down to Bristol. Expert workers from the north-west were engaged to get production off the ground, and very soon the mill employed more than 1,500 workers, making calico and cotton goods.

Working class families in East Bristol often lived in Victorian terraced houses without baths or inside toilets, and many of the houses opened directly onto the pavement. Homes in the Barton Hill area had been built specifically for the Great Western Cotton factory workers, and some streets, like Aiken Street and Pinney Street, were named after the directors of the company. The PINNEY family lived in what is now the Georgian House Museum in Bristol.

In 1872 the weaving shed of the Great Western Cotton Works covered nearly an acre of ground and housed more than 800 looms. More than 500, mainly female, employees worked in the shed. Machinery in the adjacent sheds was powered by a revolving shaft, some 180 ft in length, which weighed several tons. The shaft crossed the weaving shed, fixed to a solid ceiling beam by heavy iron bearings. The beam itself was supported by cast-iron columns.

Shortly after two o'clock, one end of the beam broke away from its fastenings. As it swung slowly round, more bearings and columns were broken and within seconds, the shaft and beam crashed onto the looms below, completely crushing them. More than seventy girls were working directly below the beam but miraculously only ten were injured.

Five were well enough to be sent home but the remaining five were sent to the infirmary, where Clara ROBINS (15) died from her injuries. An inquest held by coroner Mr H. S. WADSBROUGH recorded a verdict of accidental death. Martha VERNON (19) escaped the first fall, but a piece of iron fell onto her head as she was trying to pull a little girl out of the debris. Martha later died from a fractured skull.

The Cheshire connection in this tragic story is that Martha VERNON was born in Lacey Street, Stockport. Her large family moved to Bristol in the late 1850s with another closely-related VERNON family to work in the cotton trade. I am related to this other family.

## Lymm Surgeon's Certificates

*By Joan Irving  
Mobberley Librarian*

A selection of Surgeon's Certificates from Lymm Parish Chest, held on microfilm at Mobberley Research Centre. They were usually partially pre-printed and filled in by hand, and might be considered to be the equivalent of today's sick note, being proof of the inability to work and therefore in need of parish relief.

A mostly printed certificate:

TO THE OVERSEERS  
I CERTIFY that *James Percival*  
is an Out Patient of the ROYAL SALFORD & PENDLETON  
DISPENSARY *and is unable to follow his employment.*  
Signed  
*Oct 10th 1832* *Thos. Fawsitt*  
*House Surgeon*

<p>Lymm April 17th 1832  I certify that <b>Samuel Smith</b>  is suffering from <i>affection of chest</i>  and requires Medical relief  W Rendle Surgeon  To Mr W N Leigh Overseer</p>	<p>To Mr W N Leigh Overseer  Lymm May 28th 1832  I certify that <b>James Pickton</b>  is suffering from an <i>affection (sic)</i>  <i>of the synovial fluid of the Elbow joint</i>  and requires Medical relief.  W Rendle Surgeon  for J Hill Surgeon  To Mr W N Leigh Overseer</p>
<p>Lymm May 4th 1832  I certify that <b>Thomas Reddish</b>  is suffering from <i>Hemoptysis*</i>  and requires Medical relief  W Rendle Surgeon  for J Hill Surgeon  To Mr Leigh Overseer</p>	<p>A handwritten one:</p> <p><i>This is to certify that <b>Thomas Thomason</b> of Rush Green is now quite incapable of following any work by reason of the illness he is now labouring under.</i></p>
<p>Lymm May 14th 1832  I certify that <b>Wm Taylor</b>  is suffering from <i>cerebral affection</i>  and requires Medical relief  W Rendle Surgeon  for J Hill Surgeon</p>	<p>Lymm W Rendle Surgeon  May 8th 1832 assist't to J. Hill Surgeon</p>

\*Hemoptysis is now known as T.B.

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## Changing Address Without Moving House!

*by Dennis Whyte  
Member no. 810*

In 1937 my parents and I moved out of our substandard cottage into a brand new council house - oh, the luxury! Our new address was **84 Thornton Avenue**, Moss Rose Estate, Macclesfield.

The house was on the first section of the proposed Macclesfield East-West bypass, which was to be named Thornton Avenue. This first section of the bypass, which went west from London Road, had family homes on the left-hand side of the road which were numbered up to 92 Thornton Avenue, and bungalows on the right-hand side. Both sides had a road in front of the properties, with a wide area of waste ground in between. At the far end of this section both roads ended abruptly at farm land, and the only way to get from the properties on one side to those on the other without walking across the waste ground was at the London Road end, where there was a semi-circular island in the road.

The second part of the proposed bypass continued two fields further on, across the end of Ryles Park Road. This part was also called Thornton Avenue; it was a wide road with wide verges in front of large private houses. Further west still, after more farm land, was a third section which came out on the far side of Congleton Road; here, houses had been built only on the right-hand side.

During the Second World War, as there were three unconnected sections of the same road, postmen were finding it hard to deliver the letters - no vans in those days! It was a long way to walk or cycle if they had a letter for the wrong section of the road. It was then decided to rename the first two sections Western Avenue, leaving the third section as the Thornton Avenue we know today; and so our second address was **84 Western Avenue**.

When the houses were built on the first section, where I lived, a space had been left part way along, and there was a gap in the numbering allowing for an additional five houses in this space. After the war the council decided to build just two large family homes on this piece of land and they renumbered the houses which came after the gap. Our house changed from number 84 to number **76 Western Avenue** - our third address in twenty years, and we had not even moved house!



Around the 1960s the Council decided to build more houses and bungalows on the waste ground between the two sides of the first part of Western Avenue, thus ending the possibility of a bypass. These new homes were staggered: some faced the existing houses on the left, and others faced the bungalows on the right. As a result, the old right-hand side was renamed Robin Hood Avenue - so this side has had three different street names since it was built. Later still, some new houses were built on the fields between the first part of Western Avenue and the second, and that new piece of road was named Ridge View, although the second section was left as Western Avenue. So Western Avenue is now separated into two parts with Ridge View in the middle of it. How do planners make these decisions?

Talking of planners - all the bungalows on the original estate (on what is now called Robin Hood Avenue) were intended for elderly people, but they all had steps to get to the front doors! The highest bungalow on that road had eighteen steps up to the front door, then a step to get into the house - and it is still the same to this day; there is no other way to get into the house. I can't begin to imagine how the residents get their wheely bins up and down the steps.

In about 1947, pupils from my school were asked to take a survey of all traffic in and around Macclesfield. We were stationed at all roads coming into the town and in several places in the town centre, and had to write down all the vehicle registration numbers and the time the vehicle passed us onto sheets supplied by the council. Clearly there wasn't a huge amount of traffic in those days - it couldn't be done today! The idea was that the routes of the vehicles through Macclesfield could be worked out by their appearance on the survey sheets at various points in the town. We were told this was so the council could then work out a new proposed ring road for the town - which, I may mention, we still have not got and I do not think we will have in my lifetime.

*Ed:* To see south Macclesfield as it was in the 1940s, with two sections of Western Avenue separated by fields, go to the National Library of Scotland maps website at <https://maps.nls.uk/view/101598865> and zoom in using the + at top left. You will also see two hospitals south of Moss Lane: the Hospital for Infectious Diseases, and the Isolation Hospital for Smallpox, which is well away from other properties and has only a narrow track leading to it.

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# The Family History Society of Cheshire

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**Maurice Stokes, FHSC Renewals & Gift Aid Officer**

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## A Letter from Canada, 1854

By Joyce Rishworth

Member no. 5231

[joyce.rishworth@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.rishworth@gmail.com)

In the 1851 census the occupation of my great-grandfather, William HIRSTWOOD (1830-1899), was stated to be his father's assistant, and his brother Thomas (1833-1904) was his father's errand boy. Their father, also named William (1801-1875), who married Sarah née BAGNALL (1806-1865) in Rotherham on 16th May 1826, ran a glass and china business in Stonegate, York, which was then owned by his father Haigh HIRSTWOOD (1778-1854).

At some time during 1854 the brothers, William and Thomas, left their parents and siblings behind in York to go to Canada 'in search of a better life.' No record of their journey has so far been discovered but my cousin Ruth (descended from Thomas) believes that they landed in New York and made their way to Toronto. However, we know for certain that they were both in Canada in 1854 because my Canadian relatives saved a letter, dated December 24th 1854 and written by William senior to his two sons, and Ruth has kindly given me a copy.

The following is my exact transcription of the letter, which is quite difficult to read and has no full stops. It gives us an interesting picture of what life was like over a hundred and fifty years ago.

50 Stonegate York

Dear William & Thomas

Your favour <sup>Dec 24/54</sup> did not reach us untill the 25<sup>th</sup> inst  
was actually our lucky bird we were glad to hear of  
your health and prosperity not having had a letter since  
the 20<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>st</sup> last of course we were rather anxious we  
thought you might be on the passage home as Marshall  
intimate you had some idea of coming the paper  
you sent to Mr Seywick bore these few words  
Marshall set off home on Monday

Dear William & Thomas

Dec 3 54

Your favour ^ did not reach us untill the 25th and was actually our lucky Bird we were glad to hear of your health and prosperity not having had a letter since the 20th Augst last of course we were rather a...osed (anxious?) we thought you might be on the passage home as Marshall intimated you might have some idea of coming the paper you sent to Wm Sidgwick bore these few words

Marshall set off home on Monday

I informed his Father who thought him very foolish He arrived in less than a fortnight after and paid us a visit I told him I thought he had not much (cause?) to complain of America as he was looking better then when he left York he seemed surprised that we had any knowledge of his return as he declared he never told either of you indeed he said he did not know himself that he was coming home he went to the Niagaria Falls and from there to New York he told me after he had agreed for his passage he found a Ship in port bound for California and should certainly have gone with it but for having paid his fare which he said was a take in he was charged 25 Dollars and several on board were only paying 8 Dollars about 30 out of 300 passengers were thus taken in the agent agreeing they should

This is the end of the first page – I think that there is a bit missing here as it does not tie up with the second page.

fresh & Warm provisions daily one old Gentleman in particular he mentioned paying 30 Dollars and the Ship under way before any thing could be got on board except a bag of Biscuits Marshall has not been to see me since he said he should write you the week following with the above particulars in order you might be aware of such like agents I have heard that he heartily regrets coming home and would have returned to America again if he could raise the means but that is not easily accomplished here as with you I told him at the time he would not unassisted save as much money as would pay his passage from this country supposing he was wishful to return

We are glad to hear Thos Henry is in Gentlemans Service and think it will be preferable to working in the Brick Yard even in the season we hope he is steady and uses economy which he has the opportunity our fears on this head have been for him we were pretty confident you would need no caution from us we hope and trust your services will be appreciated by your Masters and if they can not find you easier situation they may recomind you to one by their influence of greater profit I think it fortunate in one sense you are way from home at the present for so long as the war rages there will be but poor chances for able young men either enlisting or paying smartly I understand we are



likely to have the Ballot for Malitia a great proportion having volunteered into the regular regiments we hope the war will soon terminate for we are suffering from dearness of provisions badness of trade and increased Taxation

Your cousin T Leyland<sup>1</sup> has removed to a Situation Pacific Print Worker Lawrence Massachusetts North America a place he says more like old England than any he has seen in America the inhabitants are the descendants of some of the first Settlers from this country and are not contaminated with Irish & German immigrants he has sent for his mother and Sisters to come (illegible) believing by so doing he will better their circumstances and be altogether they are now in correspondence upon the subject Your companions Thorpe Sidgwick & Dickinsons have called to read your Letter and are glad to hear from you Your Uncle & Aunt Hoyle<sup>2</sup> & Mary Ann<sup>3</sup> feel much interested in your welfare and I think seem as anxious as we are about you and place great confidence in your statements respecting Canada he suggests that if you consider to return you should take a general tour and also visit Nova Scotia Chambers journal contains some very Graphic and animating descriptions of things as they are in America

My aunt Betty of Royds Hall<sup>4</sup> Died the 4th or 5th day after your Grandmother so that we had 3 Deaths within 15 Days and awfully sudden at a moments warning your 2 aunts went over to her funeral and brought back a whole batch of Letters sent from Turners you will perhaps remember them best calling her Cousin Eliza Stott<sup>5</sup> the difficulties they had to encounter from bad health after they had settled in Australia is very touching to read until a gentleman a Mr Walker one of the richest if not the most wealthiest in Van Diemens Land hearing of their circumstance left his house in order to fetch them placing him over his workmen she writing he has ?6£ per week they live in one of the prettiest houses we can conceive overlooking the Town a most fruitfull and genial Climate and a general wish that her friends could see that they might appreciate their happiness

Mr Diggs was here while I was writing he says you will only find the Ague on the swamps & Lake Shore he recommends that you give the country a fair trial as there is no comparison between that and this for advantages as to living your Sister says she wishes she was with you to Ride upon the sleighs your Relatives and friends beg to be remembered to you and we wish you a happy New Year Yours Affectionately W & S Hirstwood

Thomas remained in Canada with his wife Emma POWELL and their eleven children. He obtained land grants in Haliburton County, 100 acres each for the parents and also for each son, but the land did not produce enough to support his growing family and therefore the men needed to work in logging or mining.

William returned to York. On 14th July 1856 he married Mary GREENFIELD and she gave birth the following year to a son, William Greenfield. Sadly, in 1858, both Mary and young William died. On 26th June 1860, William was married for the second time to my great-grandmother Louisa BEAN (1842-1872). They had six children, including my grandfather Albert Edward (1863-1950). William married for the last time in 1873 and he and his third wife Emily OGLEY had another family.

## Notes

1. "T LEYLAND" – Mary HIRSTWOOD, eldest daughter of Haigh and Sally married William LEYLAND on 31st August 1828 – this is probably their son.
2. "Uncle and Aunt HOYLE" – Sarah HIRSTWOOD, younger daughter of Haigh and Sally, married William HOYLE on 25th December 1831.
3. "Mary Ann" - Mary Ann HIRSTWOOD, baptised Marianne on April 4th 1831 at St Martins, Coney St., York, daughter of Joshua (crossed out) and Sarah HIRSTWOOD, spinster.
4. "Aunt Betty of Royds Hall" – Betty HIRSTWOOD, fourth daughter of Iredale and Elizabeth, married John HOYLE on 24th October 1813.
5. "Cousin Eliza Stott" – probably the daughter of Rebecca HIRSTWOOD (third daughter of Iredale and Elizabeth) and Joseph STOTT, married on 3rd May 1804, who perhaps married a gentleman named TURNER.

## Murder in Lymm

Member Sue Tyers sent in this snippet from Lymm Burial Register, found when she was searching for something else.

**1798, January 12th. Sarah MALONE.**

*She was murdered by John THORNHILL (by whom she was with child) the 5th inst. & thrown into the Mill Dam. The body was found on 8th. THORNHILL was committed to Chester Castle on a strong suspicion, arraigned on 20th of April and after a trial of 14 hours was convicted upon the strongest presumptive evidence & executed on the 23rd. When at the gallows & not till then, he acknowledged himself guilty. He was servant to Revd Mr. Archdeacon LEIGH, Rector of Lymm.*

## Some Customers of Williamsons', Cheshire Brewers, 1870 to 1911.

*by Chester Guttridge*  
*Member no. 9193*

Both George WILLIAMSON, my grandfather, and his father, also named George, were Cheshire publicans and brewers, supplying ale off premises to over 450 customers, including 27 licenced publicans and 32 farmers, from 1870, until George junior retired in 1911. They supplied ale, first from the *Nag's Head*, Bridge Trafford, then, from 1882, from Mollington Brewery. Sales records dating from 1870 have survived but there is no doubt that George senior was supplying ale before then.

Below is a list of professional men, tradesmen, artisans, merchants and shopkeepers they supplied (excluding publicans and farmers), together with their location and dates supplied. These customers mostly purchased only one or two lots as private individuals, perhaps for family gatherings, buying quarter casks (72 pints) or one eighth 'pins'.

ALLONBY, Police Sergeant, Gt Saughall, 1891.

BENTLEY, Robert, Grocer, Little Barrow, 1897, Nephew. Only bought one quarter.

BOWMEN, Mr, Gamekeeper, Mollington, 1903.

BOWYER, J.M., Billiard Table Maker, Ring 6, Bell Entry, Chester, 1903. (Perhaps in the Cathedral precinct).

BRANDRETH, Mr, Coal Merchant, probably Mollington, 1875.

BRISCO, Mrs, Shopkeeper, Ince, 1878.

CASH, John, Builder, Capenhurst, 1911.

CLARKE, Mr, 'Weighing Machine,' Gt Saughall, 1895 & 1902-1803.

COTGREAVE, James, Grocer, Chester, 1873 & 1875. The Cotgreave family were from Green Looms, Hargreave.

CROOK, Mr, Bailiff, Rake Hall, Stanney, 1884-87.

CULLUM, C. R., Schoolmaster, Ince, 1879.

DEAN, Joseph, Blacksmith, Lea, 1882-92. Thirsty work.

DUCKER, Phillip, Plumber, George St, Chester, 1899.

ECCLES, Mr, Blacksmith, Hoole, 1874-84.

EDWARDS, R.C., Veterinary Surgeon, 5 Newgare St Chester, 1896.

ELLIS, James, Wheelwright, Piper's Ash, 1876-80.

FINCH, Mr, Schoolmaster, Mickle Trafford, 1882.  
FOWLER, Mr, Watchmaker, George St, Chester 1882.  
HERMAN, R. Schoolmaster, Manley, 1902.  
HUGHES, John, Gardener, Ince, 1879.  
HYSLOP, Robert, Gamekeeper, Mollington, 1901 & 1907.

JOHNSON, Mr, Roadman, Mickle Trafford, 1876-80. He also bought 'spent grains' for animal feed - the residual malted barley grains after fermentation.  
JONES, Charles, Sexton, Backford, 1882-88. Left a bad debt of 19s.  
JONES, George, Coal Merchant, probably Mollington, 1872.  
LANCELOTTE, John, Shopkeeper, Mollington, 1884-1886. Left a debt of £1 4s.  
LAURIE, Thomas, Gamekeeper, Shepherds Cottages, 1902-03.  
LAWSON, Joseph, Baker, Chester, 1879.  
LOWDEN, Mr, Exciseman, Neston, 1905-06.

MARSH, Mr, Shoemaker, Sealand, 1911.  
MARTIN H., Grocer, 131 Foregate St, Chester, 1893-94. Bought only two 'pins'.  
MEREDRITH, Charles, Shoemaker, Aldford, 1878-79.  
MILLING, John, Chemist, Town Hall Square, Chester, 1908-09.  
MORGAN, James, Stationmaster, Mollington, 1892.  
MORT, Samuel, Sadler, Tarvin, 1883.  
NEILD, George, Blacksmith, Ince, 1878.

OVERY, Mr, Clothier, Chester, 1875.  
OWEN, Joseph, Butcher, Tarvin, 1898-1902. George's sister Ann's father-in-law.  
PARKER, John, Coal Merchant, Coe Lane, Bridge, Chester, 1887.  
PAYNE, Mr J. Commission Agent, Mickle Trafford, 1905-07.  
PEERS, John, Shoemaker, Mollington, 1903-08.  
PERRY, Revd, G.A. Trafford Hall, 1870.  
PRESCOTT, Mrs, Shopkeeper, 40 Station Rd, Ellesmere Port, 1903-09. Probably bought for resale.  
PUGH, Robert, Baker, Bridge St, Chester, 1884-90.

ROBERTS, R. Randall, Chemist, 100 Foregate St, Chester 1901-04.  
ROBERTS, Henry, Bricklayer, Shotwick, 1902.  
RUSH, Mr, Seedsman, Foregate St, Chester, 1893-94.  
SANGTER, Chas., Chemist, Town Hall Square, Chester, 1903-07. As well as delivering ale, George returned 70 medicine bottles between October 1906 and 23rd December 1907, receiving 1d. per bottle. Perhaps the elixir was deficient in curative ingredients.  
SPRUCE, Denis, Blacksmith, Two Mills.  
TILSTON, Thomas, Butcher, Gt Saughall, 1883 & 1885.

VAUGHAN, Thomas, Market-gardener, Broughton, 1910-11.  
 WARRINGTON, John, Blacksmith, Stanney, 1885.  
 WARRINGTON, N., Wheelwright, Sealand, 1883.  
 WEST, Mr, Gamekeeper, Gt Saughall, 1905-06.  
 WILLIAMS, Robert, Coachman, Mollington, 1889-190.  
 WILLIAMSON, John, Grocer, 16 Rockwood St, Liverpool, 1882-85. George's brother. Probably bought for resale.  
 WOOD, John, Bricklayer, Gt Saughall, 1885.  
 WORRALL, William, Roadman, Mollington, 1891.

## Travels with my Great-grandfather

*by Mrs M E Booth*  
*Member no. 965*

My great-grandfather was baptised on 30 Apr 1845 at St Luke's Church, Little Clifton, Cumberland as Thomas Borrowdale JOPSON, the son of Robert Borrowdale JOPSON and his wife Elizabeth. Thomas later moved to West Derby, Liverpool; his middle name was spelled in various ways in the records, for example as Borradaile or Borrakil. He married twice: first in 1865 at St Clements Church, Toxteth to Sarah Ann GREEN, and again in 1875 at St John's Church, Liverpool to Ruth EDWARDS.

Thomas kept a diary for much of his life, which I am fortunate to have in my possession. Here are two of the diary entries.

### Visit to St John's Church, Knotty Ash

In July 1872, great-grandfather Thomas took his annual holiday from his employment as a meter reader for the gas company. The weather was not so good that week, so he and his family stayed at home or just went to the local park. On Wednesday 10th July Thomas went shopping in the morning and then on to Knotty Ash, a suburb of Liverpool, to tend his father's grave, but found it overgrown and looking rather neglected.

*10th July 1872. Wednesday, went down town and bought a pair of boots, afterwards we went to Knotty Ash, Sarah stayed at her aunt's whilst I went and cleared my father's grave of weeds. It being overgrown with London Pride\*, I took all from the centre, digged it over with the assistance of a man who was working in the churchyard, left it*

*very nice and clean. I brought some of the London Pride and planted it in our garden. I had a little left which I sent by Amelia, to Francis Ann. After finishing the grave, I returned to Sarah's aunt's and had a cup of tea.*

Thomas himself was laid to rest there in October 1891. In October 1991 - exactly one hundred years later - I went to look for his grave. My husband and I searched for quite some time but could not find it. I knew it had to be there somewhere so we started looking for the headstones of the graves on either side.

Some time before, I had done some research in the Archive Department of the Library in Liverpool. At the time, anticipating difficulty in finding our grave, I took some details of the inscriptions on the gravestones on either side; which was just as well, for when we finally found the plot we were looking for, the headstone was missing completely, which explains why we could not find it. It seemed to be the only one in the whole churchyard not in its rightful place. I know not why.

## **Llangollen**

On 21st August 1876, great-grandfather Thomas went with his new wife, Ruth, to visit her parents in Llangollen, North Wales. They took five-year-old Henry (my grandfather), and their new baby Frances Ann with them. His older daughter, Sara had been staying there for the good of her health - good to get away from the city for a time and much healthier too, I am sure.

Thomas wrote:

*Ruth and I, with Henry and baby visited her parents at Llangollen, we found them and my darling Sissie quite well. After having some refreshments we took the children with us as far as Berwyn intending to take the train from thence to Glen Derdery to see Ruth's father who is working there, but we were just a minute too late, so Ruth's brother John who we fell in with on the way, went on for her father and we trudged back to Llangollen visited a few of Ruth's friends, went to her mother's and had tea, father and the lads arrived at home about 6 o'clock, we spent a pleasant evening with them. At 8.30 they accompanied us to the Station, where at nine we bid them each goodbye and left for Liverpool where we arrived at 11.50, thank God for his protection.*

**Ed:** \*London Pride is the common name for the popular rock garden plant *Saxifraga x urbium*.

## Local News in Distant Newspapers

by Lyn McCulloch

Member no. 487

Whilst searching, unsuccessfully, in various newspaper archives for Thomas FOGG of Barnton, who jumped in the River Weaver and drowned on 12th September 1892, I came across some other sad stories. Note that they were not always in what one might call the 'local' newspaper.

On 25th November 1892 Edward CHRIMES (18), a boatman, of Wharftown, Stoke on Trent, fell in the canal at Barnton, whilst driving a boat horse. The horse fell on him and he died. This was reported in the *Manchester Times*.

The *Nantwich Guardian* reported, in July 1893 that the body of George Henry PARTRIDGE had been found in the river at Winsford.

Joseph JONES (38) was navigating Barnton tunnel on 25th November 1899 when he was drowned, having been dragged over the side of the vessel by a rope. The *Rhyl Record* also noted that he was the Captain of two boats.

The *Cheltenham Chronicle* had a very sad report of the death, on 9th December 1899, of Sarah HADDOCK, of Barnton, in a fire tragedy. Her husband survived.

Mrs LEICESTER of Barnton sustained an injury to the head in a railway collision, near Winsford, which happened on the 7th July 1894, according to the *Lincolnshire Echo*, *Sheffield Evening Telegraph* and others.

The headline in the *South Wales Echo* read '50 miles without food', when two escaped lunatics were captured at Barnton, in 1899. Henry JONES (25) of Birkenhead and Thomas BARROW (59) of Northwich were apprehended by police and local villagers. This story was widely reported all over the country, including in the *Cheltenham Chronicle* and *Worcestershire Chronicle*.

The *Nantwich Guardian* reported on an accident on 2nd November 1892, at the shop of Mr George HORNBLY in Barnton (this is probably George HORMBREY whose family butcher's shop is still functioning.) Twelve-year-old William Warburton was helping him to manufacture sausages when he was distracted by some friends coming into the shop, turned away to speak to them and trapped his fingers in the sausage-making equipment. He lost one finger



and badly damaged another. Dr GOUGH of Barnton treated him. The WARBURTONs had a grocer's shop a few doors away from HORMBREYs, on Runcorn Road, Barnton.

Bob Owen put a request on the Cheshire Rootsweb Email List for information about the circumstances surrounding the death of his relative, Cyril Owen PRESTON (1898-1919) from Winnington. Having no luck searching with the young man's name I searched on just the words 'Pickmere Lake' and found the following in the *Sheffield Evening Telegraph*:

*Boating Fatality: Man drowned after holding up companion.*

*A sad boating disaster is reported today from Pickmere Lake, near Knutsford. A man and a woman in a boat were capsized and another party rushed to their rescue. The man held the woman and both were about to sink for the third time when the woman was got out but the young man disappeared and his body has yet to be discovered. He belonged to Winnington. The lake is a noted resort but deep and treacherous.*

The moral of this story is – you can often find 'local' news in non-local newspapers. Don't restrict your search to Cheshire papers or you might miss something really interesting.

Happy hunting!

### **Putting Flesh on the Bones**

Member Angela Mills came across an article on the Internet and, although this extract is just the first few sentences, she thought others might like to read it too.

*To put flesh on their bones ... We are the chosen...*

*In each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve. Doing the family research is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before.*

*We are the storytellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called, as it were, by our genes. Those who have gone before cry out to us, "Tell our story!" So, we do.*

# Net That Serf

## The Computer Section

*Compiled by Geoff Johnson*

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### From the Desktop



You should find some good food for thought in this issue, without worrying too much about your DNA! Indeed, I have only had one more bit of correspondence on DNA - one member has spotted a possible common ancestor in Mike Hodgkinson's piece on page 49 of the March issue, so I've introduced them to each other via email.

As indicated I would appreciate some thoughts on the effectiveness of the electronic **ANCESTOR**.

*Family Tree Analyser* is a key topic that I would like to introduce to you. There's a powerful tool here that I believe we've all been missing. Tell me what you think, please.

I'm pleased to see that my piece in December about reducing paper records has now generated two members' thoughts on alternative approaches, one here and one in March; both with the same broad objective.

*Windows 10* fast startup and the question of saving web pages for future reference ought to bring some stuff to my NTS Inbox - which is empty, after having assembled the contents of this issue.

Further thoughts on backup contents come in the last article which will, I trust, raise some further correspondence.

# Reading the PDF Cheshire Ancestor (Especially on Non-Windows Devices)

by Geoff Johnson

In September I will have been editing *Net That Serf* for 10 years. During all that time, I have obviously been closely involved with the generation of the CHESHIRE ANCESTOR itself. Around 2010 the editor and I agreed with the committee that there would be benefits in producing the whole journal in an electronic format. You see the results today, where almost half the members now receive their ANCESTOR electronically and save themselves £5 a year!

To achieve uniformity right from the start, I generated the electronic ANCESTOR in the *PDF* (Portable Document File) file format. Adobe created this file format in the 1990s, and they made the *PDF* specification available free of charge to the world in 1993. It is now an international standard.

I create the *PDF* file that you receive using Adobe's *Acrobat* software. That file's correct interpretation on the devices at your end is entirely dependent on the program (or my favourite horrible word - App!) used by your machine. On a *Windows* PC that means using Adobe *Acrobat Reader*. I understand that there's also an *Acrobat Reader* version for Apple Macs.

Using any other program may not interpret the *PDF* file contents accurately. This of course depends on how well structured that program may be. The worst situation I perceive is where the machine opens the *PDF* in its Internet browser. On a new *Windows 10* machine the default program to open a *PDF* is *Microsoft Edge*, its Internet browser! Once you download the free *Acrobat Reader* program the installation process will generally change the default to use it.

Back in 2010/11 when we started 'the electronic', relatively few people were using Tablet PCs and 'Smart' mobile phones. Those machines are invariably not using the *Windows* operating system; they are generally driven by Apple *iOS* or Google *Android* operating systems. In the last seven years, the world seems to have gone mad in introducing these non-*Windows* devices. I and other members of the committee are regularly trying to answer questions about how they can get their device to read the ANCESTOR *PDF* file properly.

Here is a typical example. This member is using an *iPad mini 4*:

*I've recently joined and have been reading last year's issues, which I've found very interesting. However, I download to my iPad, and the photographs reproduce*

*awfully - the one of the lady who does book reviews it is not possible to identify, and there's one in the (I think) December edition which refers to a house in the background - there is no house in the background! I've checked on the PC and they seem fine. Incidentally, the accounts were also unreadable (not that I was too worried about that!)*

Google tells me that for both Apple and Android systems there is an official *Acrobat Reader* program freely available:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/uk/en/acrobat/mobile-app.html> or  
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/uk/en/acrobat/mobile-app/android.html>

They should also be available in the appropriate App Store. Are you using these programs? If not, perhaps you ought to be!

In creating the electronic **ANCESTOR** PDF, I go to a great deal of trouble to set up comprehensive bookmarks. I also create direct links from the contents page to the various sections of the journal. It's my belief that all my trouble is probably wasted when the member tries to read the online journal on a small tablet or mobile without the proper software installed. I would appreciate some feedback on this theory.

In attempting to prove a point, I downloaded the latest **ANCESTOR** onto my bedside Samsung Galaxy tablet. It opened in the device's own PDF viewer, offering little more than clean readable pages, but with no bookmarks.

I then went through the process of installing the proper *Acrobat Reader*, having to go through a login process with my *Google* account to download from the App Store. Once installed I used it to open the same **ANCESTOR** file. The results were not significantly different from that provided by the *Android* PDF viewer. Again, it offered no bookmarks. The one redeeming quality was that it told me each time, on a tab, what page I was looking at, and gave me the opportunity to input a different page number. The images were fine, in fact rather good.

Frankly it's a very negative way of viewing an 80-page PDF, due to having very poor navigation facilities. I consider it to be a completely scruffy transition from that seen on my desktop/laptop screen using the 'proper' desktop *Acrobat Reader*. As far as I'm concerned that attempt was not a good experience, and simply demonstrates why this rather expensive *Android* tablet just sits on my bedside table. It's just used for 'going to bed browsing' and reading Kindle books before I go to bye-byes!

I'd very much like some feedback on this topic please. Basic questions are:

- Do you value my efforts to set up bookmarks and links from the contents list?
- Have you found any Apps that do display the bookmarks on tablets or phones?
- Shall I stop generating the bookmarks?

## Family Tree Analyser

by Computer Club member Ian Hough

*Family Tree Analyser (FT Analyser)* is freeware that has been around for quite a while, but I recently went back to have a look at it, having seen it mentioned in the *Lost Cousins* newsletter. What a cracking tool it's turning into for:

- interrogating your data for errors
- highlighting missing data
- just tidying up things in general.

*FT Analyser* provides an additional view of the data within your family tree - and its free! Download *FT Analyser* from <http://ftanalyzer.com/>

You import your *GEDCOM* file and the program displays a number of tabs (17 currently), namely, Individuals, Families, Surnames, Locations, Occupations, Facts, Sources, Data Errors, Duplicates, Births/Deaths, Census, Lost Cousins, Colour Reports, Tree Tops, World Wars, and Maps; there may well be additional ones by the time you read this.

This is a very 'safe' tool: *FT Analyser* does not update or amend your base data. It is simply a highlighting tool.

Looking at a few of the tabs in a bit more detail:

### Colour Reports

Two options available, Census or BMD. The software allows you to review and sort the data by any column. **Census** shows whether or not census details have been entered, and if you are missing a census entry it's highlighted in red. You're also given the option to search for the missing data via two of the commercial sites (subscription required), FreeCEN or FamilySearch. **BMD** shows whether the exact date, quarter date, approximate date or no date have been entered for all options. You can then filter just the option you want to, and again you can then search for the missing data.

## **Data Errors**

Highlights twenty-three different errors, e.g. Birth after death and Birth after mother's death.

## **Individual Lists**

Displays a listing of all the individuals linked to your Root Person along with their vital details.

## **Tree Tops**

Displays the individual who is at the end of each branch of your family tree.

Surprisingly for a free utility that is still being developed, there's even online help and a manual; plus, the developer invites suggestions for new or improved features. I have paid for programs that offered far less than *FT Analyzer*. I cannot speak too highly of this program: it allows you to look at an overview of your family tree in a different way. Have a look, I don't think you will be disappointed.

*GJ: Thank you for that Ian. Until now my own experience with this program had been somewhat sparse. However, I note that whenever I look at the results, the errors that it shows up in my data are all quite correct - but the sheer number of errors to be fixed is daunting. It's going to need steady groundwork - frightening! This is a very powerful piece of software, and much tidier than my historical record keeping! Think of it as a self-generating and easily updated list of all the things your FH research lacks. Who knows, when you fill in all the gaps you might possibly knock down a brick wall.*

*Just to avoid concern and confusion the author (a person with the lovely wipe-it-clean pseudonym 'Shammy Levva'!) has recently moved the website link away from CodePlex, and created a specific site as indicated in the URL that I built into Ian's text. Undoubtedly the author is very committed and produces good work. Please do persist and try it. The latest version of the program as I write is 6.4.1.0 The update process doesn't seem very clear to me, but I established that if you go into the Help and the Online Manual, the very top item gives you a link to install the latest version.*

## **Comments on Previous Issues**

**Lesley Baxendale** from Colwyn Bay commented on *Don't Print Census Pages*:

Following on from Geoff's December article and Rosie's response in March, I thought I would add my two penn'orth.

For years I've used lever arch files for my research, and various notebooks for

jotting down my findings as I search – I can't honestly call them notes as I'm not a good note-taker. My mum started on our family history back in the 1970s, when it was much more difficult. So, she stopped at each brick wall.

I started the research again in the 1990s. In the earlier years I didn't always download documents as we were on dial-up and it was slow and expensive. I set up a spreadsheet for ease of use and gave each physical file and notebook a reference number, so that I could list them on the spreadsheet, then give some indication of what they contained. On the same spreadsheet, I set up an index page for each lever arch file which is populated with the name of the family contained within that section. I can print those off and put them at the front of the lever arch files.

Each family group within the file sections is arranged with a family record sheet at the front, pretty much in the same manner as my *Family Tree Maker* software. Each family starts with a marriage and the children of that marriage are included along with baptism and census records. If a child dies unmarried, the death and burial is there too. As each child marries, they get a new subfolder, beginning with their marriage. It worked very well at first and I was quite satisfied with myself, managing to keep most of it in some sort of order and up to date (relatively anyway). Bought or acquired genuine BMD certificates are kept in BMD binders. Over the years though, it's become a bit of a monster. I now have dozens of mostly very full lever arch files, taking up much needed shelf space in my workroom/office/sewing room (yes, I know, I'm very lucky to have the space). So, when I read Geoff's article on getting rid of paper, I was immediately hooked!

Rather than use Geoff's system directly, I thought I would try to use the system I already have on paper, but put it all on the computer. All very well, you might think: quite a simple task as all the files are there in front of me for guidance. Off I went, creating blank folders on my laptop so that I could copy the structure into a main folder for each lever arch file, one folder for each sub-division in the file and more sub-folders within those for the appropriate documents. Lovely & simple! I keep all my downloaded documents and *Family Tree Maker* files on an external drive which is constantly plugged into my laptop and backed up weekly to another external drive attached to our router. Not relevant, but I thought I'd just prove how diligent I was being with my backups.

I digress... I opened the first lever arch file with the intention of replicating the contents on the nice new file system on the laptop. Then I went for a cup of tea. If I do no further new research at all, it will take me at least a year to get



this lot sorted out! I thought I had put my downloads in a fairly logical order – census downloads, BMD, wills and admons, photos and images, etc. Well, yes, they are, but within those folders is a labyrinthine muddle of documents, with different filename styles and references. Because I have paper copies, I just put them all together within the subfolders “so I’d got them” - not to mention the documents I printed off directly from transcripts, so I (probably) don’t have electronic copies; but I won’t know that for certain until I look for them.

I’m determined to do it though – I need the shelf space and I’ll be doing my bit for the environment too. Watch this space – I may be gone some time.....

## **Windows 10 Fast Startup**

By our Editor, Rosie Rowley

My editor’s laptop, made by Lenovo, suddenly started randomly rebooting several times a day (or even several times an hour!) after a *Windows* update was installed in January - just when I was working on the March issue of the **ANCESTOR**! I cursed, went to the user forum on the Lenovo website, and found I was not the only one with this problem. After a couple of weeks, a few users decided that the problem might be connected with the *Windows Fast Startup* option, as they found that switching that option off seemed to stop the rebooting.

When *Windows 10* came in, it was noticeably quicker to start up than previous versions of *Windows*. Have you ever wondered how they managed to do that? It turns out that the reason *Windows 10* starts up so quickly is that it never actually closes down! Instead, it logs you off and saves everything still in memory to a hibernate file on your disk drive. When you switch the computer on again, *Windows* looks for the hibernate file, copies everything back into memory, and away you go!

What could be wrong with that? Well, actually, quite a lot. For one thing, when you close down *Windows*, you may have noticed that the screen goes blank but the computer is still ‘doing something’ for a short time. That’s the computer saving the file to disk. If you switch the power off before the computer has finished, the file may be corrupted.

In addition, *Windows Update* needs the computer to restart completely to implement its changes. If you shut down your computer and later switch it on again, you may think you have restarted, but you haven’t; when you switch

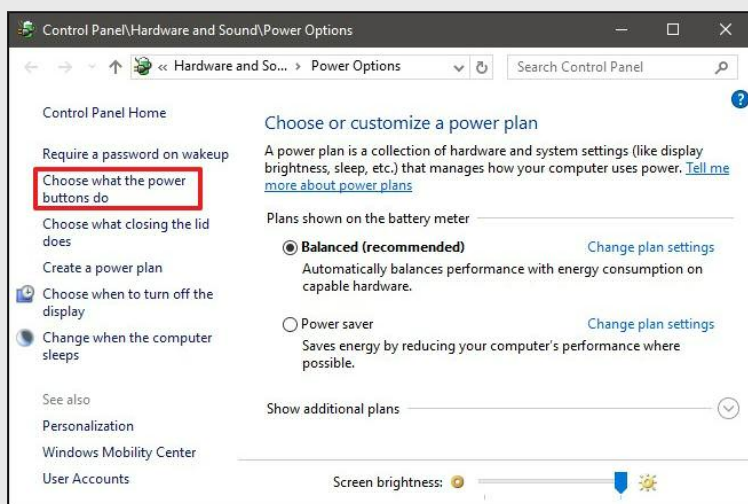
your computer on again *Windows* may immediately carry out a restart and you will be left wondering why it's restarting when you've just done that. The *Restart* option on the *Shutdown Menu* always performs a full shutdown and reboot cycle.

If you have a dual-boot system, you may find that you cannot access your hard drive when you boot into the other operating system because *Windows* locks the hard drive storing the hibernate file to prevent corruption.

Some people have found that *Wake-on-LAN* does not work when their PC has been shut down with *Fast Startup* enabled. Some devices or peripherals don't work correctly after being put into hibernation. If your computer sometimes crashes or some devices don't always work correctly, it's worth switching off *Fast Startup* to see if that solves the problem.

Finally, the hibernate file stored on the disk drive takes up about 75% of the amount of RAM memory you have; so, if you have 8GB RAM it will use about 6GB. This is usually not a problem, but if you have a small laptop or *Windows* tablet with a small solid-state drive of, say, only 20GB, you may want to save as much disk space as possible.

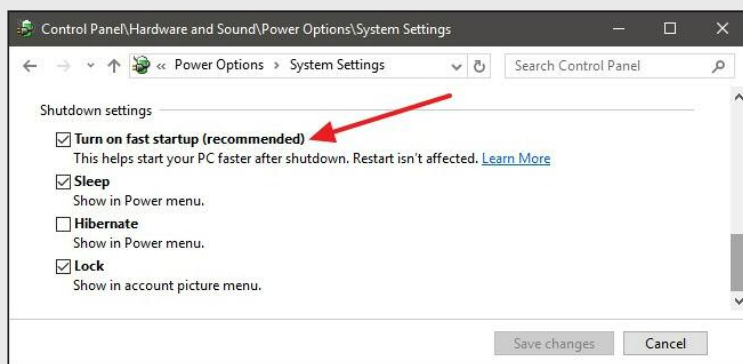
What can you do about it? Fortunately, it's quite easy to tell *Windows* you don't want to use *Fast Startup*. First, open up your power options by right-clicking your *Start Menu* and selecting *Power Options*. In the *Power Options* window, click *Choose what the power buttons do*.



If this is the first time you've changed these settings, you'll need to click on *Change settings that are currently unavailable* to make the *Fast Startup* setting available.



Scroll down and you should see *Turn on fast startup (recommended)*, along with some other shutdown settings. Just use the check box to enable or disable *Fast Startup*.



Save your changes and shut down your system to test it out. Obviously, it will take longer to start your system if *Fast Startup* is switched off; you can easily switch it back on again if you prefer.

As for my problem, since I unticked the setting and switched *Fast Startup* off, my laptop hasn't unexpectedly rebooted (touch wood!), so I'll be keeping it off. I don't mind waiting a few more minutes for it to start if it results in a more reliable computer.

# Saving Web Pages Using MHT Files

by David Guyton – Chester Group Leader

*GJ: The following is an unfamiliar practice to me, but others may have thoughts and views. So, I've reproduced the item as David presented it. I'm sure that both of us will value anything readers can add. David also included several example files that I'll gladly forward to helpers.*

For many years I have saved web pages in the form of a single *MHT* file rather than a group of linked *HTML* files. The reason for doing so was that, as a single file, *MHT* files were easy to name, to re-name if appropriate later, and to sort, file, copy and forward without having to worry about the names and locations of linked *HTML* files. This worked perfectly easily using *Windows XP* and the *Firefox* browser up to version 52. However, I have recently been copying files to a new laptop computer running *Windows 10* and the new *Firefox Quantum* browser which has just been updated to version 58. Now I find that *MHT* files are no longer readable by *Firefox Quantum* and that web pages can be saved only in multi-file *HTML* format.

It seems that Mozilla are not planning to add an *MHT* application to *Firefox Quantum* on the grounds that *MHT* files are not an agreed standard. Google searches are indicating several potential workarounds:

- To open old *MHT* files in *Windows 10* using *Internet Explorer 11*
- To convert old *MHT* files by printing and saving them as *PDF* files
- To convert old *MHT* files back into multi-file *HTML* format

All of these are less than ideal. *Internet Explorer 11* tends to render *MHT* files rather erratically and, on *Windows 10*, may have been displaced by users selecting *Edge* as the browser. And converting old *MHT* files into *PDF* files or multi-file *HTML* format requires one to retain an older system still running *Firefox* up to version 52 and could be an enormous chore if one has a lot of *MHT* files.

For example, you can do a search for GUYTON in records held by the London Metropolitan Archives at <https://search.lma.gov.uk>

This produces an interesting list of results that you can see, scroll through, and save as a linked set of *HTML* files. But if you then want to re-name, move or forward a copy of that set of files, you have more than a bit of a problem. Alternatively, you can save the complete page as a single *HTM* file (copy attached), which isn't nearly as tidy or useful as the original.

Or, if you are using a computer with *Chrome* up to version 49 or *Firefox* up to version 52 with an *MHTML* add on, you can save it as a single *MHT* file which you can name, re-name, move, etc, etc, just like any other file (copy attached). If you are using a pre-*Windows 10* computer with those earlier versions of *Chrome* or *Firefox* everything appears perfectly correctly from the one *MHT* file. But if you are using *Windows 10* it may not open at all; or it opens in *Windows Explorer 11* and is liable to be heavily jumbled.

Or you can print and save it as a *PDF* document but then it comes out like the *Chrome* or *Firefox* versions which are also attached and which don't pass muster. Having a single *MHT* file has been attractive to me but is now outside the capabilities of *Windows 10*. Bit of a disappointment and nuisance, that!

A free, independently produced *MHT* file reader is available at [www.systoolsgroup.com/mht/viewer/](http://www.systoolsgroup.com/mht/viewer/), but so far I have found no reports on its effectiveness, reliability and security.

## **Data Backup, System Security and Recovery**

by Gren Dix

*GJ: Following a talk that I gave to the Computer Club, member Gren Dix put pen to paper. Below are his thoughts, and your comments are welcome.*

Geoff Johnson's excellent talk on data backup has prompted me to put (virtual) pen to paper. I take issue with Geoff as he restricted himself to data backup. To my mind there are several areas to be addressed regarding security and backup, namely:

- Operating system
- Application software (programs)
- Data
- Odds and ends, (e.g. Internet favourites/bookmarks, desktop, emails and their attachments)

Before looking at any of these we need to ask a question. Is your computer a flabby couch potato or is it a lean, mean machine? Let's face it, it's probably a couch potato. It is no use backing up a load of rubbish as all you will finish up with is a larger pile of ordure.

First you must undertake two dangerous activities: you must think and then you must act. You need to clean up your machine, organise your data and develop a strategy.

Having had a hard disk give up the ghost on me, recovery is a sensitive issue. Let us look at the above four areas.

### Operating system

I will restrict myself to *Windows 10*. Have you made a recovery disc (or memory stick)? If not, it is time to do so. An alternative is to 'refresh' *Windows*, but this will delete all your application software and probably your data – check the *Windows* blurb (GJ: *very carefully!*). Your supplier may have given you a disk copy of the operating system. In any case you should make a note of the serial number and activation code. If you have a Microsoft account this can aid in system reload (but you still need the activation code).

### Application software/Programs

You can find these using *Windows Explorer*. Select *This PC > Boot(C:)* and you will see *Program Files* or *Program Files (x86)*.

Alternatively go to *Control Panel* and choose the *Programs and Files* option.

This will list most installed programs. Your PC may have come with bloatware – software loaded by the supplier. Most should be deleted. If you haven't used a piece of software for more than a year you should seriously consider uninstalling it. The *Uninstall or Change Program* list will include items starting with MS or Microsoft. You are best leaving these alone.

Make a list of all the other programs and their installation date. Using *Notepad*, the list will be saved as a *TXT* document. Try to work out what all the programs are and who produced them. Software such as *Belarc Advisor* can help – it also gives licence numbers. For bought software you should definitely keep note of any activation/licence keys, and keep a copy of the disk or download file supplied. For other software, at least note what it does and where it came from.

There is one class of software that can be quite useful: this is housekeeping software. There are usually free versions. Here are some I find useful:

<i>CCleaner</i>	You can guess that the first C stands for the C drive! <i>Windows</i> and browsers are notorious for leaving unwanted files hanging around. This cleans up the mess.
<i>Spybot</i>	This finds registry errors and some nasties.
<i>Malwarebytes</i>	Finds viruses etc that some software misses.
<i>Adaware</i>	Anti-malware and is useful against popups.

Other useful software:

<i>Foxit reader</i>	PDF reader and more.
<i>Irfan View</i>	Image viewer and some editing facilities.
<i>FastStone</i>	An image viewer.
<i>Defraggler</i>	Defragments discs, improving performance.
<i>Acrobat Reader</i>	For viewing PDF files.

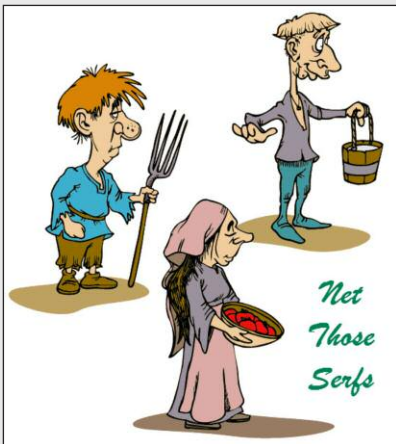
## Data

Windows tends, by default, to put downloads into the *Downloads* folder, photos and scanned items into the *Pictures* folder, miscellaneous documents into the *Documents* folder, and music into the *Music* folder. Sometimes items are just dumped on the desktop.

There is a tendency to consider each of these folders as a black hole or disorganised dumping ground; a serious effort should be made to organise that data - a few thousand photos or census scans should not be left in a heap. It is back to thinking and acting. For example, photos may be organised by year or theme; census scans by year or family group. Give things meaningful names. Have a set of naming standards. Remove duplicates. It is then that you can use file backup and synchronisation software.

## Odds and Ends

Internet favourites/bookmarks, desktop, emails and their attachments, etc. Many of the techniques for backing up ordinary data can be used - but first you need to find where they are stored. This varies depending on what programs you use.



## The Final Word

Remember that I rely on your input to keep this forum active, so please keep the responses coming.

By the way, have YOU run a backup recently?

GJ



## Group Events and Activities

For changes and up-to-date news check the website

*www.fhsc.org.uk*

### Alsager Group

*by John Higgins*

#### *Future meetings:*

- 18th Jun     ***Getting Rid of the Stink*** – Mike Haynes  
Throughout history millions of people have been killed by water-borne diseases. Mike investigates the people who created a healthier environment.
- 16th Jul     ***Group visit to Arighi Bianchi, Macclesfield***  
**Booking essential.** Nick Bianchi will talk about his family's history, from Italy to England, and give a guided tour of the store before the group take afternoon tea.
- August**     ***No Meeting***
- 17th Sep     ***Annual General Meeting followed by a presentation tba.***

Alsager Group meetings are held at 7.30pm on the 3rd Monday of the month (except August and December) at Wesley Place Methodist Church Hall, Lawton Road, Alsager, ST7 2AF. Admission is £1 for members and £2 for non-members. Refreshments are served after the talk, when there is an opportunity to discuss family history with other members. There is a large car park (free) opposite the church. Visitors are most welcome.

### Bebington Group

*by Bob Wright*

#### *Future Meetings:*

- 25th June     ***Old Mills, including the Wirral*** – Ken Clarke
- 23rd Jul     ***Liverpool Lives*** – David Heam
- 20th Aug     ***Liverpool Town Crier*** – Mr. Stubbings
- 24th Sep     ***Family History Top Tips Reviewed*** – Jean Ingram

Meetings take place at 7.30pm on the 4th Monday of the month at Bebington Civic Centre, Civic Way, CH63 7PN.

We hold a helpdesk at Bebington Library from 10am to 12pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, where we can give individual assistance to our members and the general public.

## Bramhall Group

by Janet Phillips

### Future meetings:

- 14th Jun     **Wagons West!** - Ian Cameron  
A Cheshire family's epic migration to the fledgling USA and across the Great Plains by wagon train.
- 12th Jul     **Visit: Behind the Scenes at Lyme**  
**Booking essential.** Please email bramhall@fhsc.org.uk for details.
- 9th Aug     **What did he die of?** – Sylvia Dillon  
Exploring causes of death after 1837. Sylvia will be looking at:
- strange or archaic medical terms on death certificates
  - deaths which went to a coroner, accidental or otherwise
  - war death certificates
  - other places where you might find causes of death
- 13th Sep     **AGM**, followed by **Researching the RAF** – Geoff Simpson  
A look at the allied airmen who took part in the Battle of Britain in 1940 with reference to Stockport and the rest of historic Cheshire.

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of each month in the United Reformed Church Hall, Bramhall, SK7 2PE (corner of Robins Lane and Bramhall Lane South). Admission charge £2.00. All visitors are most welcome.

## Chester Group

by Helen Elliott

### Future meetings:

- 28th Jun     **The History of Chester Co-operative Society and Some of the Men who Made it Possible** - Bob Thompson
- 26th Jul     **AGM**, followed by **Beside the Seaside** - Geoff Pickard  
A talk concentrating mainly on the glory days of Blackpool (c.1850-1960), rather than the demise the resort has suffered in recent years.
- August**     **No Meeting**
- 27th Sep     **The Progress of Women in Britain 1800 - 1945** - Michael Murphy  
The progress of women from their lowly status with no property rights, through their roles in WWI, to gaining the right to vote and more opportunities, e.g. in the job market.

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Thursday of the month at All Saints Church Hall, 2 Vicarage Road, Hoole, Chester CH2 3HZ. There is a small admission charge and parking is available. All members and visitors welcome.

We run two family history helpdesks. The Chester History and Heritage

Centre, previously at St Michael's Church in Bridge Street, Chester, has moved to the Grosvenor Museum, 27 Grosvenor Street, Chester. Our helpdesk is now open at the Grosvenor Museum 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.00pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. There is also a helpdesk at the Library at Storyhouse from 10am to 12noon on Tuesdays.

## **Computer Group – The Society's Computer Club**

*by Geoff Johnson*

Meetings take place at 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Hartford Methodist Church Hall, Beach Road, Hartford, Northwich, CW8 3AD. There is no charge - even the tea and biscuits are free! Open to ALL members, we focus on a wide range of genealogy/computing topics. Discussions are informal and audience participation is encouraged. Access to all the main family history websites is available at our meetings. With all attendees suggesting search ideas, members often go home with some family history information they have been struggling to find.

We seldom pre-arrange meeting topics, preferring instead to discuss new websites, members' own current problems, or generally educating members on getting the best from their computers. The subject of each meeting is usually announced the week before, by email or on the Club's events web page.

## **Congleton Group**

*by David Smetham*

### *Future meetings:*

19th Jun      **Workshop: Projects**

How do we plan and organise a project? What do we record, how do we share the resource? A discussion about understanding how resources are delivered, finding and using resources.

**JULY**      **No Meeting**

21st Aug      **Visit: Congleton Bath House**

Meet at 7.00pm at Colehill Bank, CW12 3UL. Nearest car park is Bank Street Car Park.

18th Sep      **AGM, followed by Workshop – FHSC Resources**

Memorial inscriptions, CDs, books, web data, etc.

Meetings take place at 7.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in Congleton Library. There is ample parking and access to the Library is by the lower entrance. Non-members are welcome.

## Crewe Group

by Margaret Spate

PLEASE NOTE **change of venue** for meetings.

### *Future meetings:*

12th Jun     *To be arranged*

10th Jul     *To be arranged*

**August**     *No Meeting*

11th Sep     *AGM, followed by Short Presentations, topics tba*

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at **Jubilee House, St Paul's St, Crewe CW1 2QA. Suggested parking at the adjacent Victoria Centre Car Park, CW1 2PT where there is free parking after 6pm.** Please check the Crewe pages on the FHSC website for further information on meetings.

### *Crewe Family History Unit*

Please see pages 78 - 79 and elsewhere in this issue for details of the Society's research centres.

## Macclesfield Group

by Jean Laidlaw

### *Future meetings:*

26th Jun     *Reminiscences of Parkside Hospital* - Dennis Whyte

A talk with many illustrations by our former Group leader.

24th Jul     *Visit to King's School, to see the school and its archives.*

**Booking essential.** Meet at 10.30am at the Cumberland Street site.

28th Aug     *The Munificent Sir John Leigh - Leslie Turner*

The 'rags to riches' story of how his father (also John Leigh) became a leading cotton waste merchant. Leslie talks about the closure and exhumation of 20,000 bodies from one of Manchester's cemeteries, the horrors of the First World War, landscape gardener Thomas H Mawson, the boll weevil, and some of England's grand estates.

25th Sep     *AGM, followed by The FHSC Website* - Alan Bennett (webmaster)

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at The Salvation Army Hall, Roe Street, Macclesfield, SK11 6UT. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Entry is through the new main door facing the Churchill Way car park. Admission is £2 including refreshments and a ticket for the FHSC members-only draw for a small gift. Visitors welcome.

For the latest news, please see the Macclesfield page on the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk). To receive the Macclesfield monthly email newsletter, click on *Add Macclesfield to My Groups*; or send a request to [macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk).

## **Macclesfield Data CDs**

The Macclesfield group has three data CDs for sale, each priced £10 plus P&P:

*Christ Church in Macclesfield*

*Roman Catholics in Macclesfield*

*Macclesfield 1871 Town Maps*

For more information or to order, please see the Macclesfield page on the FHSC website or see the Projects Administrator, Rosie Rowley, at one of our meetings. The society also has a few remaining CDs about the silk industry of the UK, price £2 plus P&P. Please contact Rosie Rowley for more details.

## **Barnaby Festival 2018**

Macclesfield's biennial Barnaby Festival will take place this year on 15th to 24th June, with the theme *Routes and Roots*. The Macclesfield group is producing a display called *Explore the Routes of Macclesfield*, to be displayed in the library during the festival. The aim is to encourage people to discover the names of Macclesfield streets and the people they were named after. Help is needed to prepare the display and also to man the helpdesks which will run alongside the display. Please contact Jean Laidlaw ([macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:macclesfield@fhsc.org.uk)) if you can help, and please support us by visiting the display.

## **Macclesfield Reflects WWI project ([www.macclesfieldreflects.org.uk](http://www.macclesfieldreflects.org.uk))**

The Macclesfield Reflects group plans to have a display during the Barnaby Festival showing the routes taken by the men who served in the local 7th Cheshire Regiment. The Battalion passed through training camps in England and then served in Turkey, Egypt, and France. More details will be available on the Macclesfield Reflects website.

Two more WWI-related displays are planned during the Barnaby Festival. One is about the life of Maxonian Edward Brittain, brother of Vera Brittain (author of *Testament of Youth*), who lost his life 100 years ago on 15th June 1918 in controversial circumstances. The second is about the town of Paterson, New Jersey, where many Macclesfield silk workers went to live in the late 1800s and early 1900s; the mayors of Paterson and Macclesfield exchanged flags in May 1918 as a sign of friendship and solidarity during the Great War.

The group is also organising a five day battlefield tour to Belgium and France in October 2018, travelling by Roy McCarthy coach from Macclesfield. More information can be found on the Macclesfield Reflects website or by post from Rosie Rowley, journal editor (address inside front cover; please enclose SAE). If you have information about anyone who lived in the Macclesfield area during WWI, or if you would like to help with research, please contact Rosie Rowley on [macclesfieldreflects@gmail.com](mailto:macclesfieldreflects@gmail.com).

## Middlesex Group

by Victoria Doran (FHSC Chairman)

Is there a member in the London area who would like to run this group? Support will be provided - the key activities will be to arrange a venue and meeting topics. If any member would like to attend a meeting in London please contact me - [chairman@fhsc.org.uk](mailto:chairman@fhsc.org.uk).

## Nantwich Group

by Sheila Mitchell

### *Future meetings:*

19th Jun     *The Trial of Dr Tomanzi* - Angela Brabin

17th Jul     AGM, followed by *Memories and Family History stories*

**August**     *No Meeting*

18th Sep     *British Children 1860 - 1948* - Alison Williams

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Nantwich Methodist Church Centre, Hospital Street, Nantwich, CW5 5RP. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission is £2 for members and £3 for non-members, including refreshments. Ample parking nearby. Visitors are very welcome.

Family History Workshops in Nantwich Library

If you have a query or need help with your family tree then call in at 2.00pm on June 25th or September 24th.

## Northwich Group

by Dave Thomas

### *Future meetings:*

11th Jun     *Divorce Records* - Claire Moores

9th Jul     *Visit: St Mary's Church, Weaverham*

Including a talk by Tony Bostock. Meet at the Church at 7.00pm.

13th Aug     *Every Time I Pass a Church* - Brian Hallsworth

10th Sep     AGM, followed by *Miss Winifred Comber of Knutsford: Traveller and Photographer* - Audrey Young

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at Hartford Methodist Church Hall, Beach Road, Hartford, Northwich CW8 3AB. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission is £1, and non-members are most welcome. Car park available.

## **Runcorn Group**

*by Peter Johnson*

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Graham Bell, a regular to our meetings and a good friend who has helped us with his computer knowledge. He will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with Trish and family.

### *Future meetings:*

- 6th Jun      *Women and Children in Mines* - Denise Bates
- 4th Jul      *The Cheshires at Gallipoli* - Paul Knight
- 1st Aug      AGM, followed by *Learn from my Mistakes* - Peter Johnson
- 5th Sep      TBA
- 3rd Oct      *Churches and Castles* - Gordon Roxby

Meetings are at 7.30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month (except January) at Churchill Hall, Cooper Street, Runcorn, WA7 1DH. All will be made very welcome. Our help desks have been suspended until further notice.

## **Sale Group**

*by Marion Hall*

### *Future meetings:*

- 13th Jun      *Travels with my Amp*  
(to working mens' clubs in the late twentieth century) - Terry Dean
- 11th Jul      *Visit: Manchester Central Library*  
For a conducted tour of the refurbished building and archives.
- 8th Aug      AGM, followed by *Members' Interests*
- 12th Sep      *The Art of Criminal Conversation* - Claire Moores  
Talk to help with researching divorce records.

Meetings take place at Trinity Methodist Church, Trinity Road, Sale M33 3ED on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm (talk begins at 8pm.)  
Members £2, non members £2.50. Visitors are always welcome.

## **Tameside Group**

*by Gay Oliver*

### *Future meetings:*

- 13th Jun      *The Monarchy and Dunham Massey* - Peter Braun
- July          *Trip, to be confirmed - possibly to Dunham Massey*
- August      We don't usually have a meeting, but I might actually squeeze in an extra meeting this year. I will start teaching again in May, one day per month, and may book a speaker on Basic Family History for my new students. Of course, all would be welcome.



12th Sep     **AGM**, followed by *Comparing Subscription Genealogy Websites*

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the Old Chapel Schoolrooms, Dukinfield - doors open at 7.00pm. There is disabled access and both members and non-members are welcome. Entrance fees are £2 for members and £2.50 for non members.

We have a full programme booked for 2018 - go to [www.flisc.org.uk](http://www.flisc.org.uk) and navigate to the Tameside pages to see the programme and sign up for our newsletters.

Why not come along to one of our helpdesk sessions in Tameside Local Studies and Archives Centre on the first and third Tuesdays each month between 2.00pm and 4.00pm, where our team of experts can help you to break down those brick walls or get started from scratch.

## **Tarporley Group**

*by Mike Craig*

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month at Little Budworth Village Hall, Booth Avenue, Little Budworth, CW6 9BU.

Mostly we now meet for a chat, but sometimes speakers are arranged on an ad hoc basis. Non-group members and visitors are very welcome to attend.

## **Wallasey Group**

*by Dave Beck*

### *Future meetings:*

19th Jun     **Timelines 2** - Hilary Watmough

Covers the political, social and cultural developments in the Edwardian period 1901-1910.

17th Jul     **AGM**, followed by

**Short talk: The History of 87 Penkett Road** - Helen Gill.

21st Aug     **Wirral Smugglers** - Gavin Chappell

The dramatic story of smuggling and skulduggery in Wirral's days of yore.

18th Sep     **The First World War** - Barry Humphreys

On the centenary of the end of the war, this talk presents the impact that the events of 1914 - 18 had, and how society was changed forever; plus the tragic story of a local girl who lost her fiancé in 1918 just before the end of hostilities.

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month except December at Claremount Methodist Church, Claremount Road, Wallasey CH45 6UE.

Access via car park in Taunton Road. Visitors are always welcome.

We hold a help desk on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, from 10am to 1pm, at the Wallasey Central Reference Library, Earlston Road, Wallasey CH45 5DX. At these help desks we are able to give individual help with family history research. All members and non-members are welcome.

## A Virgin Birth?

by Gren Dix  
Member no. 4174

The baptism entry (below) from Northamptonshire Archives parish records for Geddington can trump a “virgin birth”! When Thomas Richard Dix was baptised he apparently had no parents at all.

19	No. 690	Pauline	Francis			
25	No. 691	Mary	George	Abraham	Geddington	Drayman
12	No. 696		Sarah			
44	No. 696		Ellen			
Baptism	No. 697	Thomas		Dix		
	No. 698	Brian	Albert	Tordland	Geddington	Plate
16	No. 698		Edward			Layton
12			Spencer			
94			Mary			

As background the GRO births index entry is

1945 Q1 Kettering 3b 308 mother's maiden name HALES

The actual parents were Leslie Thomas DIX and Mabel C. HALES.

The Geddington records at this time were a mess.

## Membership

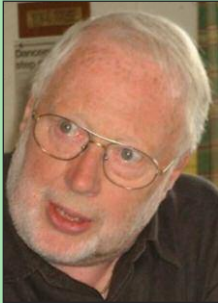
Sue McNulty



New Members

*If you receive a printed journal, the label on the mailing envelope shows your membership number and subscription renewal date. The additional numbers are "sort numbers" used by our mailing agency. If you change your contact details, please update them on the website or advise Maurice Stokes.*

Maurice Stokes



Renewals/Changes

*If you do not wish your address to be stored on the Society's computer database, please inform Maurice Stokes (see inside front cover).*

*The "M" Team*

## Deceased Members

We announce with regret the deaths of the following members:

### Alsager Group

One of our members, Beryl Fox, passed away in February. Beryl was very active in local and family history and wrote books about Alsager and Barthomley. We send our condolences to those who knew her.

### Runcorn Group

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Graham Bell, a regular to our meetings and a good friend who has helped us with his computer knowledge. He will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with Trish and family.

## New Members

We welcome the following new members to our society and wish them success with their research:

#9801	UN	Mr Peter	DAVIES	Cheshire
#9802	TS	Mr George	BATTLE	Merseyside
#9803	UN	Mr Alan	CHEETHAM	USA
#9804	UN	Mrs Wendy	WRIGHT	Cheshire
#9805	UN	Mrs Eileen	LEDINGHAM	Perth
#9806	UN	Mrs Jacqueline	PERKINS	Staffordshire
#9807	UN	Mrs Carol	DUNLOP	Canada
#9808	UN	Mrs Bridget	SMALL	Kent
#9809	UN	Mrs Anna	ALBOROUGH	Berkshire
#9812	UN	Mr John	VAUGHAN	Worcestershire
#9814	UN	Mrs Thelma	BEARDSMORE	Nottinghamshire
#9815	UN	Ms Caroline	SMITH	West Midlands
#9816	UN	Miss Lesley	NICHOLLS	Essex
#9817	UN	Mrs Alison	SOUTHERN	Cheshire
#9818	UN	Mrs Julia	SINCLAIR	Somerset
#9821	UN	Mr Christopher	LOCKETT de BAVIERA	Germany
#9822	UN	Mrs Mary	THOMPSON	Berkshire
#9823	UN	Mrs Jacqueline	WAKELAM	Cumbria
#9824	UN	Mrs Vivienne	PARKER	New Zealand
#9825	UN	Miss Lucy	McMULLEN	Merseyside
#9826	UN	Mr Mike	HAGUE	Cheshire
#9827	UN	Ms Susie	BISHOP	Glasgow
#9828	UN	Mr Jamie	BROWN	Avon
#9829	UN	Mrs Patricia	BANNISTER	West Yorkshire
#9830	UN	Mr Glyn	ROWE	Shropshire
#9831	UN	Mrs Kay	CAMPBELL	Australia
#9832	CR	Mrs Kathryn H	TYSON	USA
#9833	UN	Mrs Maria	CLARKE	Cheshire
#9834	NO	Mrs Avril	THOMASON	Cheshire
#9835	UN	Mrs Jacqueline	HEY	Cheshire
#9836	UN	Miss Ellie	WELLS	Devon
#9837	UN	Mr Colin	NIKOLAISEN	Cheshire
#9838	UN	Mr John	GREENWAY	Lancashire
#9843	UN	Mr Malcolm	HYMAN	West Midlands
#9844	UN	Mrs Sharon	BUNTER	Australia

#9845	UN	Mrs Hilary	HARTIGAN	Greater Manchester
#9847	UN	Mrs Margaret	PINDER	Avon
#9848	UN	Mrs Eilleen	OVENDEN	Australia
#9849	UN	Mrs Lynne	BENNETT	Somerset
#9851	UN	Dr Barbara	ROBERTS	County Durham
#9852	UN	Mr Mark	TAYLOR	Australia
#9853	UN	Mrs Marie	WALKER	Greater Manchester
#9854	UN	Mrs Susanne	WESTWATER	Cheshire
#9855	UN	Mrs Anne	CASEY	Gloucestershire
#9856	UN	Mr Brian	GLYNN	Cheshire
#9858	UN	Mrs Janet	BLAYDON	Cheshire
#9859	UN	Mr Michael	PARKINS	Greater Manchester
#9860	UN	Mrs Carole	DANIELS	Greater Manchester
#9861	UN	Mr Roger	TILDSLEY	Australia
#9863	UN	Mr Brian	BONEHAM	Warwickshire
#9865	UN	Mrs Margaret	PIGGO	Gwynedd
#9866	UN	Mrs Heather	PARRETT	West Sussex
#9868	UN	Mr John	WHITE	Gloucestershire
#9869	UN	Miss Kim	LOWRY	West Midlands
#9870	UN	Mrs Lynne	HEWITT	Spain
#9871	UN	Mr Ross	LAMBERT	Australia
#9872	BR	Mr Simon	DODGE	USA
#9873	CH	Mrs Enid	ROSS	Wiltshire
#9874	UN	Mrs Wendy	ROBERTS	South Yorkshire
#9875	UN	Mrs Pauline	ROEBUCK	Greater Manchester
#9876	UN	Ms Julia	SHEEHAN	Shropshire
#9877	UN	Mrs Robyn	LITTLE	Australia
#9879	UN	Mr John	MITCHELL	USA
#9880	UN	Mrs Rachel	TAYLOR	Devon
#9881	UN	Mr David	HILEY	Cheshire
#9882	UN	Mrs Susan	DE LACY	Australia
#9883	TS	Ms Janet	HARGREAVES	Worcestershire
#9885	UN	Mrs Diane	SHENTON	Staffordshire
#9886	UN	Miss Heather	FYFE	Essex
#9887	UN	Ms Brenda	SIMPSON	Australia
#9888	UN	Mr Austin	BOWMAN	Northumberland
#9890	UN	Mrs Brenda	McLEISH	New Zealand
#9891	NA	Ms June	ROWLAND	Cheshire

## The Society's Family History Research Centres

Both locations offer free access to *FindMyPast*, *The Genealogist* and *Ancestry* websites, and hold a large collection of microfilms, microfiche, books and documents. Manned by experienced volunteers, visitors can obtain help and advice on family and local history research. Do you have your own microfiche but no reader? Bring them to us and view them using our fiche readers!

### CREWE FAMILY HISTORY UNIT



**2nd Floor, Municipal Building,  
Earle Street, Crewe, CW1 2BJ  
Tel 01270 685699**

The Municipal Building is situated near the market and opposite Memorial Square and the old library. Crewe Register Office is in the same building.

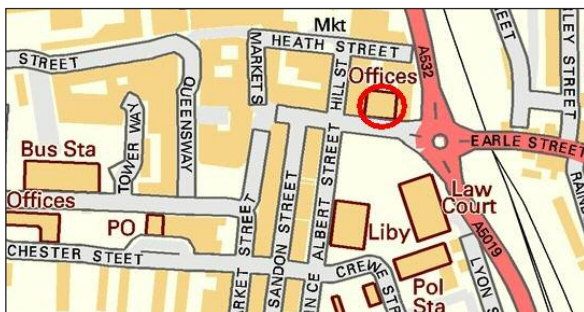
All visitors must sign in and out at reception. You will be directed to the second floor; a lift is available.

FREE access to *FindMyPast*, *Ancestry* and *The Genealogist*  
Local parish registers on film - extensive library of books  
Crewe and District and South East Cheshire local history archives  
See the Crewe FHU Library Holdings lists on the FHSC website

**Usual opening hours: 10am-4pm Monday and Tuesday  
plus one Saturday morning each month**

For Saturday dates, and changes to usual opening hours, please see this issue's *Research Centre News* or the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk).

Non-members visiting for the first time will be offered (for a small donation) time with a volunteer to explain the facilities available and advice on family history research. Membership of the Society is encouraged for further visits.





## MOBBERLEY FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH CENTRE



**Rajar Building, Town Lane,  
Mobberley, WA16 7ER  
Tel: 01565 872210**

The Rajar Building is situated on the corner of Town Lane (A5085) and Ilford Way. The entrance is at the front of the building on Town Lane, and the Research Centre is on the first floor (access by stairs - no lift).

FREE help and advice from our experienced duty volunteers

FREE access to *FindMyPast*, *Ancestry* and *The Genealogist*

Local parish registers on film (some of which are not available online)

Extensive library of books on all topics, covering many areas of the UK

(See the Mobberley Library Holdings lists on the FHSC website)

Searchable digital archive of family history magazine back-issues and data

Nominal charge for printing and photocopying

Large tree printing, fiche/film and A2 scanning available – please enquire.

**Usual opening hours: Monday-Friday 10am-4pm; closed on bank holidays.**

For changes to usual opening hours, please see this issue's *Research Centre News* or the FHSC website [www.fhsc.org.uk](http://www.fhsc.org.uk).

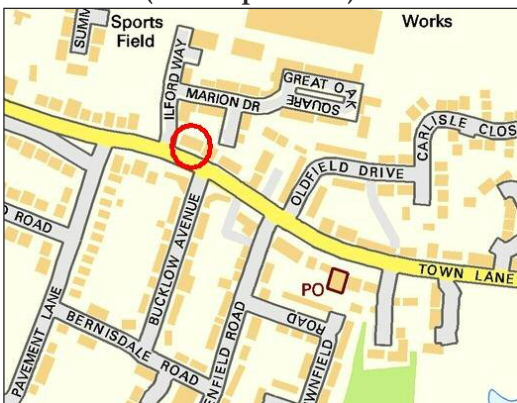
Admission charges apply.

Non-members welcome but preferably should phone in advance. Non-member entry fee £5, refundable on joining the Society on day of visit.

FREE hot drinks. Sandwiches and snacks may be purchased nearby.

Bus stop (Bucklow Ave) nearby for the **new (from April 2018) D&G Bus** no. 88/89. Approx. journey times: 10 mins from Knutsford, 20 mins from Wilmslow, 50 mins from Macclesfield, 55 mins from Altrincham, 50 mins from Northwich. See [www.dgbus.co.uk](http://www.dgbus.co.uk).

Suggested on-street parking on Ilford Way, Marion Drive, and on Pavement Lane, across the road from the Rajar Building.





## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

UK INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP with a <b>printed CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b>	- £18.00
UK INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP with an <b>electronic CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b>	- £13.00
UK FAMILY GROUP MEMBERSHIP (all at the same address)	

Above rates plus £2.00 per family

OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIP with an electronic <b>CHESHIRE ANCESTOR</b>	- £13.00
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Special arrangements will be made for overseas members who need a printed copy.

The Society year commences on 1st July.

Membership commences on the day of receipt of an application.

- New members joining between 1st July and the following 31st March inclusive will receive all four journals of that society year; renewal date is 1st July following joining date.
- New members joining between 1st April and 30th June will receive a complimentary journal; renewal date is 1st July the following year.

*Cheques, etc., should be made payable to "FHS of Cheshire".*

*Please ensure your payment date on your standing order is set to 1st July.*

New member applications should be sent to Membership Enrolments:

Mrs Sue McNulty, 59 Cedarway, Bollington, Macclesfield SK10 5NR

Renewals, or changes of address, should be sent to Membership Renewals:

Maurice Stokes, 19 North Drive, High Legh, Knutsford WA16 6LX

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## ITEMS FOR THE CHESHIRE ANCESTOR

FINAL copy dates are the 10th day of January, April, July or October.

*The earlier material is submitted, the more help it is to the editor.*

Publication is at the discretion of the editor and is subject to space being available; unused items may be carried over to a later issue. Articles accepted digitally (in MS Word or Open Office format) by email, or as typescript or manuscript. Suggested length 500-2000 words. Please email images as separate files in JPG format, preferably scanned at 300dpi, and **never** send **original** photos by post.

Please include your name and membership number (if a member), and postal or email address. Please state if you do not want your address to be published.

## ADVERTISING RATES

Advertisements are accepted for publication at the following rates per issue, with a discount when the same copy is run in four consecutive issues:

Full page: £47 per issue; £170 for 4 issues

Half-page: £25 per issue; £90 for 4 issues

Quarter-page: £14 per issue; £50 for 4 issues

Please send a cheque payable to "FHS of Cheshire" to the Treasurer, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope if a receipt is required. Advertising copy to be emailed or sent by post to the Editor, preferably as a pdf file (addresses inside front cover).

*Note: final copy dates for adverts are TWO MONTHS prior to publication date, i.e. 1st January for the March issue and so on.*

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**The Family History Society of Cheshire**  
**www.fhsc.org.uk**

## Location of Groups

(see inside back cover for contact details)



### GROUP FOCUS

Members may attend the meetings of any of the Society's groups. If travelling some distance to attend a particular talk, please check with the FHSC website or the group leader in case of a last-minute change.

### NANTWICH GROUP



The Nantwich group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Nantwich Methodist Church Centre, Hospital Street, Nantwich, CW5 5RP.

Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission is £2 for members and £3 for non-members, including refreshments. Visitors are very welcome.

Ample parking is available nearby.

### Future Nantwich Group Meetings

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 19th Jun | The Trial of Dr Tomanzi - Angela Brabin              |
| 17th Jul | AGM, followed by Memories and Family History stories |
| August   | No Meeting   |
| 18th Sep | British Children 1860 - 1948 - Alison Williams       |

For full details, please see the Nantwich group information on page 67.

*We hope to see you soon!*