

# **DORSET**

## **FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

*For People in Dorset or People with Dorset Ancestors*

*JOURNAL VOLUME 32 No 3 June 2019*



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# DORSET

## FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 801504

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*Find us on Facebook*

Treetops Research Centre is open for personal research using the Society's library and many records at £3.00 per day.

\*

### *Opening hours*

Mon, Wed & Sat 10 am – 3 pm

Those who want to go to Treetops outside these hours, (particularly visitors who are only going to be in the area for a short time) please get in touch and we will do our best to accommodate you.

\*

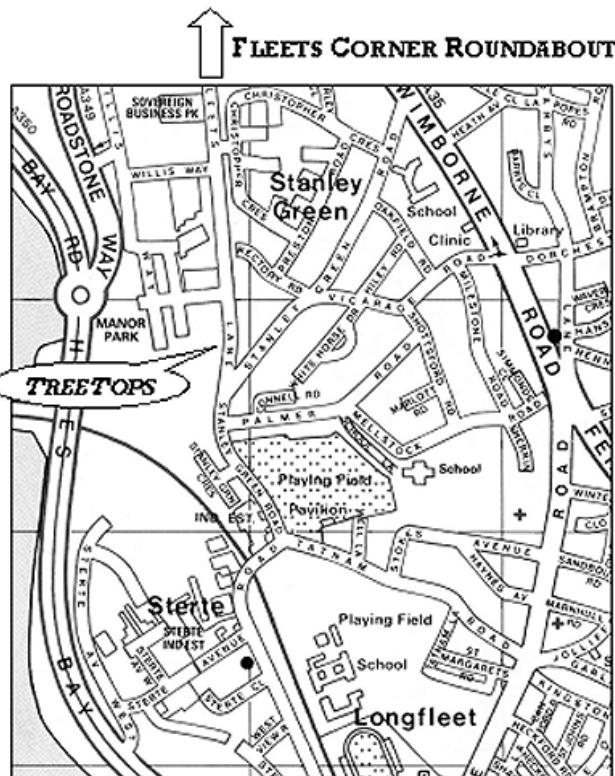
Bookings and research requests are taken by e-mail or by telephoning the Centre during opening hours.

\*

Parking is available in residential roads in the local area.

For disabled parking please contact Treetops before travelling.

Wheelchair access is at ground floor level at the rear of Stanley House. Toilets are not wheelchair accessible.



\*

For details of Officers and Committee  
please see back inner cover

# *DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY*

## *The Quarterly Journal*

*Volume 32, Number 3 – June 2019*

**Cover picture** – *Thomas Tuck and granddaughter, Bridport station – refer letter to the Editor*

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# From the Editor's Chair



Welcome to this Summer 2019 edition of your Journal.

We hope you are making fruitful and successful progress with your family history research. The warmer and drier weather should provide more opportunities for many of us to explore where our ancestors lived, worked and even died.

I am planning to venture out to some local churchyards with my mother to revisit places special to our own ancestors. At the very least, we will have new photographs of churches and perhaps gravestones to add to our research workbooks and maybe even a suntan as we enjoy the fresh air outdoors.

We look forward to hearing about the results of your research, whether that be in person, online or from further afield if you no longer live in the same region or country of your forebears.

Maybe you have reached a 'brick wall' with your research that you have been unable to resolve. Please do send in details so we can publish in a future Journal to see if any other of our members can help. A problem shared ... as they say.

Happy hunting!

*Angie, Journal Editor*

Deadline for September 2019 edition – 15 July 2019

The Editorial Team will be pleased to receive articles for inclusion in this Journal. They can be short or long, with or without illustrations. Ideally they should be sent by e-mail to <[editor@dorsetfhs.org.uk](mailto:editor@dorsetfhs.org.uk)>, but typed hard copy or clear, legible handwriting sent to Treetops is also welcome. The editors may need to edit, abridge or reject any material submitted for publication and cannot guarantee that an article will be included in any particular edition.

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# Programme and Speakers

*Sue and Pete Redfearn*



Meetings are held at St John's Church Centre Hall, Ashley Road, Parkstone, BH14 0AA on the second Monday of each month (except August) commencing at 8.00 pm. Admission no earlier than 7.30 pm, through the Ashley Road entrance. Admission to monthly meetings £2.00.

## **Mon 10th June 2019 - "Finding Evidence of Migration in Dorset Records (home and overseas) by Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard**

Surprisingly large numbers of people have left Dorset and Jane helps to find how and where they went and some sources to trace those ancestors. Who were the people that went? What were the social and economic conditions that were the deciding factors for migration? Why did they go? And where did they go?

Jane may be familiar to some of you from training courses for the Society and past talks. She is heavily involved with family history and one of Britain's leading tutors on the subject.

## **Mon 8th July 2019 - "The Brickwall of Missing Deaths" a talk by Simon Wills**

Simon helps with finding the people who just disappear in your family tree. What happened to them, and how can you investigate. The different techniques, places to look, and strategies to find your ancestor's death.

Simon Wills returns to us, a Poole bred history journalist, wildlife photographer, author and genealogist who writes for many magazines including "Family Tree" and an advisor on BBC's "Who Do You Think You Are". He has also written a book based around his ancestors involved with the Poole lifeboats - "Lifeboatmen"

(Please look at the September meeting and do some “homework” over the summer break for David’s meeting – he WILL remind you this evening. I’m sure!)

### **Mon 12th August 2019 - NO MEETING**

### **Mon 9th September 2019 - “It’s The Way You Tell ‘Em” by our own David Gynes**

A light-hearted look at sayings from yours, or your parents’ childhood and youth, local or dialect, family-unique, or folk lore. This means we will need YOUR participation, so get out your notebooks and bring along your sayings to spark others in to remembering. It will be interactive fun, with a serious underlying value, in that David believes a family history account can be given depth using sayings or jargon from the “day” in a footnote or explanation.

David has been researching his family history for 46 years on and off and still hasn’t found birth details of his GG Grandad!! A member of several FH Societies over the years as he moved around, he is also a founder member of the Guild of One Name Studies, teaching and helping others to take up this wonderful hobby. He served as Chairman of DFHS for six years previously and has now been re-elected after a two-year break.

St John's Church Centre is opposite Waitrose in Upper Parkstone, on the corner of Ashley and Churchill Roads.

Please note that meetings can sometimes be subject to change at short notice. Please check for possible updates on <[www.dorsetfhs.org.uk](http://www.dorsetfhs.org.uk)> and on Facebook.

Transport notes: The Wilts and Dorset Bus routes M1 and M2, and Yellow Buses Route 1c, regularly leave Bournemouth (Gervis Place) and Poole Bus Station for Upper Parkstone.

If travelling by car and you find the Church car park full, please do not double-park or obstruct emergency vehicle access. Continue along Churchill Road and turn right into Norrish Road, where there is some on-street parking after 6.00 pm (check signs before leaving vehicle) and two Pay and Display car parks (charges apply until 10.00 pm).

# Meetings in Retrospect

*Sheila Tanner and Angie Parker-Harris*

Mon 11th Feb 2019 - “D-Day – Studland and Poole’s Involvement” by David Warhurst



Our February meeting at St. John’s Church, Parkstone, was an account of the Involvement of Poole and Studland during the Second World War of preparations for the D-day landings.

**Operation Overlord** was the code name for the Allied invasion of France in 1944. **Operation Neptune** (code name for the D-day landings) was the largest sea invasion in history. Studland was used for the practice of the invasion, with Type 25 corrugated iron shuttered Pill boxes being built under the cliffs at Red end point. Fort Henry, a concrete bunker and observation post, was built by Canadian Engineers in 1943.

**Operation Smash**, was a practice for the D-day landings and was observed by King George VI and General EISENHOWER from a bunker on April 18<sup>th</sup> 1944. The 90ft bunker had floors, ceilings and 3ft thick walls overlooking Poole bay.

A Valentine Tank was sunk in an exercise on April 4<sup>th</sup> 1944, and remains submerged 15 metres beneath the surface to this day. Six servicemen drowned during this exercise, and are still remembered on the

anniversary every year at a memorial by the Royal Dragoon Guards 4<sup>th</sup> - 7th April.

Some of the projects did not work; pipes pumped oil on South beach and set alight to stop an invasion, and a floating runway in Studland Bay, were but a few.

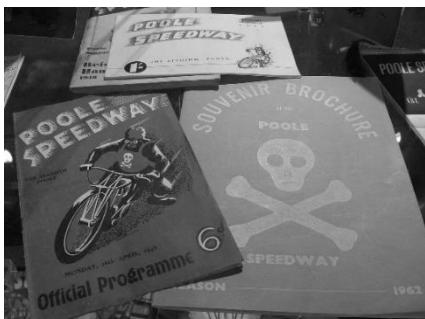
**Pluto**, was a pipeline constructed under the ocean, to pump petrol from Sandown to Cherbourg. W.T. HENRY of Gravesend manufactured 40 miles of pipeline, over 2000 tonnes, and eventually extended to 770 miles, supplying the army with gallons of petrol.

Poole shipyard built various craft, gun boats and launches for the troops in landing craft. The presence of American troops was prominent in the building of St. Leonards Hospital, a petrol depot at west moors and 500 landing craft in Poole harbour, and US coastguards built a flotilla of 60 rescue cutters.

Naval HQ was situated in the Old Quay, Poole Town. Southwick house was used on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 9.33 am for the HQ of Operation Overlord.

Poole became the third largest embarkation point for the D-day landings A plaque, commemorating **Operation Overlord** can be seen on the Poole Custom House, a US coastguard memorial on the old lifeboat station, and a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque commemorating DD day was on the Poole pottery building before demolition. A fitting tribute to Poole for their involvement in the run up to D-day

### **Mon 11th March 2019 - “Blue and White Racers of Poole Speedway” by Howard Nichols**



We welcomed Howard, a supporter of the Pirates for over 50 years to hear about the colourful history of Poole Speedway and to share images and memories of former local heroes of the sport.

In 1947, Bournemouth based Exeter

Falcons riders Tommy CRUTCHER and Charlie HAYDEN created a consortium, which also included Crutcher's brother Jack and Herby Hayden, with the aim of opening a speedway club closer to their home. The consortium applied to Poole Borough Council in 1947 to stage speedway racing in the town and the council approved their request on 6 January 1948. The Pirates lined up for their inaugural season as members of the National League Division Three.

From humble beginnings to now being one of the leading clubs in the world, Poole Pirates are one of the less known-about successes on our doorstep. With the help of the riders and those behind the scenes, Howard entertained with his images and descriptions of the men who rode for this famous club.



Poole Pirates (also known as Poole Speedway) compete in the SGB Premiership. Since 2001 the club has won twelve major trophies, including the Elite League Championship in 2003, 2004, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015 and SGB Premiership Champions in 2018.

It was fascinating to compare the images of the early riders (and their rather basic leather jackets and trousers) with the modern counterparts in their high quality Kevlar biker suits on high performance bikes.

## **Mon 8th April 2019 - "20th Century Family History - some sources for tracing families in the last century" by Janet Few**



Our speaker for April 2019, was historian Dr Janet Few, a history interpreter, who gave us an insight to the difficulties of 20th Century research.

Due to record closures, population growth and mobility of families, research can be difficult. A vital part of family history is taking advantage of concentrating on a time period, a time of great interest and

social change. We have DNA now, giving us great details to our roots and others relating to us. We have at least three generations who could give us details of ancestors, two parents, four grandparents, and if, lucky, eight great grandparents.

Our sources available include FreeBMD, census returns, church records, Inquests, wills, GRO index (which can give us mother's maiden name) 1911 census and the 1939 Register in the run-up to WW2. An age of death on a certificate can highlight a birth year.

An invaluable piece of information on FMP, on a census record, a related image menu, will reveal the enumerator's list. Non-conformist registers, Methodist Historic rolls, cemetery records, registers of burials, gravestones, and photos, Wills and Probate search service, and British newspapers are just a few useful sites to visit.

Electoral rolls, directories and gazetteers, school records and admission registers, log books all make interesting reading. Teachers registration in service 1914-1948 can also be informative. Absent voters list can be found in local archives.

War records, Rolls of Honour, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, war diaries, service and pension records, Red Cross records,

(://vad.redcross-org.uk) a list of WW1 volunteers, the ambulance service, are all useful in tracing casualty and survivors of both Wars.

A few useful websites: -

- Unknown.org.ukwarmemorials online
- Cwgc.org (war graves commission)
- Fau.quaker.org.uk/search
- Deceased online
- Gravestonephotos.com
- Britishnewspapersarchives.co.uk
- Probatesearch.service.gov.uk

In 1910, the Inland Revenue Valuation Office Survey was published, IR58 available to view at the national Archives, and on line with The Genealogist website.

In 1941 a farm survey was taken, (MAF32) relating to production during WW2, giving details of farms, farmers and areas in UK. Lists of workers not able to undertake service duty, were (health permitting) working on the land and forests.

A very interesting talk by Janet Few, held a very captive audience, giving us many ideas to continue our research.

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# Computer Group Meetings at Treetops

*Richard Yates*



Meetings are held at Treetops on the first Tuesday of each month (except January and August) commencing at 7.30pm. Please use the ground floor level access at the rear of Stanley House. *Meetings can sometimes be subject to change at short notice. Please check for possible updates on <www.dorsetfhs.org.uk> and on Facebook.*

## **June 4th – The Genealogist**

The Society invested in a subscription to the Genealogist about 18 months ago, and members have aired differing views about the value of the records available. Some of our volunteers have found much to share with visitors to Treetops. This session is designed to share some of the exclusive records, and Sheila Tanner will aim to present the highlights.

## **July 2nd – Family Tree Maker**

June Taylor is going to highlight the current version of Family Tree Maker. Although June talks to us annually on this topic, there are always members new to FTM or who have come across new issues. This session is always well attended, so come early to get the best seats.

## **August – no meeting**

## **September 3rd – Members' Ancestors**

Members are invited to bring along a short introduction to one of their ancestors. If that includes information which can be displayed on the big screen or details of sites that provided information on that ancestor, even better. We will need about five or six to fill the evening, so please don't leave it to everyone else. If we have too many, we will do it again!

*Requests for future subjects, or offers to lead an evening, are always welcome. We have decided that June and I will continue to run the meetings and produce the calendar notes.*

# Dorset Lives

*Anne-Marie Ford*

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries Dorset villagers still relied heavily on travelling hawkers and dealers selling a wide variety of goods: fruit, cloth, china, earthenware pots, ribbons and baskets. Some of these travellers were gypsies, who also brought their skills to the villagers, mending chairs, burning charcoal, brick-making, making baskets and clothes pegs, mending pots and kettles, sharpening knives and scissors and, perhaps most importantly, providing the music at local fairs. As society changed, some of these gypsies and travellers chose to remain in Dorset and to settle there.

In May 1792 a razor grinder and tinker, Peter STANLEY, was subject to a settlement order. He was descended from a major Romany family and had been born in Hampshire, but favoured Dorset as 'home territory,' probably because it was the county his wife, Sarah, came from. Their offspring were also to see Dorset as home, although occasionally crossing the border into Hampshire in the hopping season. It was here, at Millbrook in 1781, that Peter's eldest daughter, Selbea, married a fellow gypsy, William FLETCHER.

Selbea and William were to have a considerable family, most of whom were baptised in various Dorset villages: Hampreston, Owermoigne, Bere Regis, Shillingstone, Winterborne Zelston, Witchampton, Shapwick and Lytchett Minster. Of their many children four daughters were to be emblematic of social change, marrying local men and settling. Kezia married Thomas EVERETT, a bricklayer; Kerenhappuch wed a local postman, William MITCHELL; Matilda married a farmer, John CHERRETT; Jemima an agricultural labourer, Henry COX.

Jemima settled with her husband in King Street, Sturminster Marshall and in the 1841 census they are living in a cramped cottage with six of their children: Hiram, Tamar, Henry, Catherine, Susan and Mary; another son, Israel, is lodging at the village blacksmith's, probably because the cottage was so overcrowded. There was also a baby, Sarah Letitia, in the household, the daughter of Tamar and John MARTIN, the son of a local farmer.

Sturminster Marshall, however, was fortunate in having been provided with a charity school in 1799, the gift of local philanthropist William MACKRELL. Although many of the boys in the neighbourhood failed to benefit from this altruism, being required to work on the local farms, for girls it was an enormous opportunity. Here gender worked in their favour, giving them the skills to obtain employment as a lady's maid, or even a companion. Jemima's youngest three daughters certainly attended the school until they were all 15 years of age.

The 1840s were to bring profound change to the little family: Hiram, who had a diseased hip, died in 1843; Tamar had another child with John Martin, Tom Martin Cox, and in 1844 a second son, Robert Miller Cox. In 1845 young Henry married, moving a few miles down the road to Wimborne Minster and, in early 1847, Israel was arrested for stealing a silver watch and sentenced to four months' imprisonment with hard labour. Perhaps these were the events that prompted Catherine to go to London to seek her fortune in the spring of 1847.

She found a job working for the famous jockey Jem MASON at his stables just off Oxford Street, and was joined by her two younger sisters; here they learnt skills of horsemanship that would propel them into being performers at Astley's Amphitheatre. It was a popular haunt of the aristocracy, and the sisters glimpsed a world that must have seemed eminently desirable. It was not unimportant that they had gypsy blood, since it demonstrated itself in their dark beauty, their verve and their vitality. Some whispered of their gypsy heritage, others gossiped that they were courtesans. Of course, both were true.

But Catherine had a plan – she arranged for herself, her sisters and her niece, Sarah Letitia, to have lessons in drawing, music, French, writing and reading. These educational improvements would prepare them for a social mobility few could imagine in the first half of the nineteenth century, most especially women. The plan was to be something of a success.

At home a fire in the cottage in King Street in 1849 had left Henry Cox with such severe burns he died of his injuries. Yet in the 1851 census the widowed Jemima is living quite comfortably on a private allowance. Clearly the recipient of financial assistance from her three daughters

(the eldest having married a fireman, George LOW, in 1850), things were to improve still further. In 1852 Jemima married again, to a stonemason named William FARRELL; eventually, perhaps because of anxiety about her mother's health, Catherine moved Jemima and her husband to London, and so closer to her married daughters.

For, in the intervening years, Susan had married the son of a diplomat, Greville MORIER, Mary – after a long affair with Lord RIBBLESDALE and three children – married Henry HERVEY, son of Lord William Hervey and Catherine had wed the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, one of the richest young men in England.

In the village of Sturminster Marshall life had changed considerably, too. Henry Cox had become a successful cattle dealer and Israel was the landlord of the Antelope Inn at Poole, a spot which was beginning to be a popular holiday destination. By the 1861 census the development of the area can be identified in the addition of several occupations. There are shopkeepers and drapers, grocers, beer house keepers, a victualler, teachers and railways employees, for the railways had brought prosperity to the region – although some adventurous gypsies had gone to seek their fortunes long before the coming of the railways.

## **Important Notice Changes for Monthly Meetings**

*From September, we will be changing both the venue and day of our monthly meetings, (it might also be necessary to change the time slightly to suit the bus timetables).*

*On every 3rd Tuesday of the month (except August), we will hold these meetings at St George's Church Hall, Darbys Lane, Poole, BH15 3EU.*

*Further details will be posted on our website in the near future and in the September journal, along with a map and bus timings etc*

# **Members' Interests**

*Alan Mead*

To help connect Society Members who may be researching the same ancestor, Dorset FHS maintains a database of Members' Interests. Members can complete a Members' Interests form to register a maximum of 12 surnames. This form is sent to all new Members as part of the Welcome Pack.

The following new surname Interests have been registered since the last Journal.

<b>Member No.</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Dates</b>
5127	BAYLES	Weymouth	DOR	1818 - date
5127	BAYLIS	Weymouth	DOR	1818 - date
5127	BAYLISS	Weymouth	DOR	1818 - date
4946	BOYCE	New Forest	HAM	1800 - 1950
4946	BOYES	New Forest	HAM	1800 - 1950
5127	BRIGGS	Weymouth	DOR	1881 - 1962
4946	DOUCH	Any	DOR	1600 - 1950
5143	DUNSBY	Beaminster	DOR	16 & 1700's
5127	GILHAM	Weymouth	DOR	1842 - 1916
5127	GRAHAM	Bournemouth	DOR	1884 - 1951
5127	HOFF	Weymouth	DOR	1863 - 1923
5143	MATTERFACE	Any	DOR	16 & 1700's
5120	PIPER	Swanage	DOR	1880-1890

These have been added to the full list of registered surnames, which can be searched on the Society's website at [www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-interests](http://www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-interests). Contact details can be obtained by following the instructions on that page.

Members can register new, or update existing, surnames they are researching by sending a new form to Treetops. The latest version can be downloaded from the Members' Area at [www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-area](http://www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-area). The details on the new form

will replace any already registered. Members without Internet access should contact Treetops during opening hours.

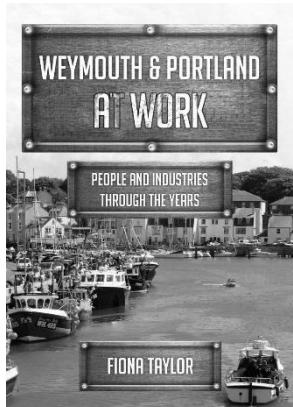
New surname Interests will be added to the website and published in the next Journal. Minor changes, such as revised place or dates, will be updated on the website but not published in the Journal. Interests of those who do not renew their membership will be deleted from the website.



## Books That May Interest You

*Cherry Fisher*

**'Weymouth & Portland at Work' People and Industries through the years by Fiona Taylor**



Publisher: Amberley  
Date: 2018  
Price: £14.99  
ISBN: 978-1-4456-8485-7

An excellent introduction outlining the area of the south coast that the author was writing about. Included are a vast number of pictures and photographs which are all relevant and supportive of the author's well researched work.

This book gives the reader an information-packed story of the history of Weymouth and Portland, covering both the human achievements and the changing face of the area. Even as a local, by section 1 I had learnt so much.

The style of writing made it an overall very enjoyable easy read. A must-have book for anyone interested in the history of the south coast.

# Buckinghamshire Family History Society Open Day

**When:** Saturday 27th July 2019, 10am to 4pm

**Where:** The Grange School, Wendover Way,  
Aylesbury, HP21 7NH.

**What:** Research facilities will include our names database (over five million entries) and libraries. Parish Register transcripts and other research aids will be on sale. Expert advice; guest societies from around the country; local history and heritage groups; suppliers of data CDs, maps, software, archival materials, talks and much more.



Admission is free, with free parking at the venue. Refreshments area for teas, coffees and snacks, also mobile catering offering burgers hot dogs etc.

Further information, including a full list of organisations attending, will be found later in the year at <[www.bucksfhs.org.uk](http://www.bucksfhs.org.uk)>

## TREETOPS RESEARCH CENTRE NEEDING RESEARCH ADVICE?

Our experienced volunteers are here to help

Contact us by

- Visiting our Centre
- Via our website: [www.dorsetfhs.org.uk](http://www.dorsetfhs.org.uk)
- Email: [contact@dorsetfhs.org.uk](mailto:contact@dorsetfhs.org.uk)
- Post: Suite 5, Stanley House, 3 Fleets Lane, Poole, Dorset BH15 3AJ. Tel: 01202 785623

# Bygone Sale Moor and Baguley - family roots and early childhood memories

*Peter G. Lewis*

My research into my mother's Cheshire and Manchester ancestors has triggered my childhood memories of the late 1940s, the austere years following WWII, and has brought into reality the connections and lives of the few family relatives I was then aware of. It has also brought to light interesting historical connections with St Anne's Parish Church, Renshaw Farm and The Gardeners Arms in Baguley Village, and has shown how very rural and lowly populated Sale Moor and Baguley were over 100 years ago - so very different from today.

I was previously unaware of my father's LEWIS family. My grandparents Samuel (park keeper at Ashton upon Mersey) and Harriet had died in the few years before my birth and it was not until much later in life that I encountered Lewis aunts, uncles and cousins. We lived just off the Ashton side of Cross Street and my wider family then consisted of 1) My grandpa Brown at The Gardeners Arms; 2) My great uncle George DEWSBURY of Sale Moor; and 3) my great auntie Jinny and great uncle Henry at Renshaw Farm, Sale Moor.

**Memory 1)** Not being allowed to go into our front parlour as an old man occupied that room. This was George Dewsbury. His wife, Alice (nee WILKINSON) died in 1946 and due to infirmity he came to live with us for a short while until his health deteriorated to the point where he needed specialist care. He died in 1948, aged 88. He was born in 1860 in Hart Lane, Sale Moor, one of several children (including my great grandmother, Maria Dewsbury) of my great x 2 grandfather, John Dewsbury, a market gardener. George married Alice in 1891 and their only child died in infancy. My mother informed me in later years the Wilkinson family were well thought of in Sale Moor with various businesses but were not blood relatives. However, recently I have discovered Alice and her five siblings were second cousins to my great grandfather, Thomas KINSEY, who married Maria Dewsbury at St Anne's, Sale Moor in 1879. Alice Wilkinson's grandfather, Thomas BARLOW (b.1798) and Thomas Kinsey's grandmother, Hannah Barlow (b.1804) (via Baldwin line) plus his great grandmother, Alice Barlow (b.1784) (via Bardsley line) were three of seven children of Samuel Barlow (b.1752)

and Alice RENSHAW (b.1756) who married at St Martin's, Ashton upon Mersey in 1779. Thomas Kinsey's grandfather, John BALDWIN, who married the said Hannah Barlow and died aged 35 in 1831, was the local blacksmith.

Back to the Wilkinsons. Alice's mother, Ann (nee KELSALL-BARLOW) after the death of her husband, Thomas in 1865, married again in 1871 to John WOOD a local farmer. For many years Ann operated the grocer's shop on the corner of Marsland and Northenden Roads in the centre of Sale Moor. Alice's brother, Jeremiah, was landlord of the Temple Inn. Another brother, Frank, had the off-licence on the corner of Warrener Street. Behind the Temple Inn there is Wilkinson Street, a cul de sac off James Street. Ironically, my late wife lived in this street in her early years.

Now to the Dewsbury family. My great x 4 grandfather William Dewsbury, a farmer in the parish of Ashton upon Mersey married Lucy KELSALL from Northern Etchells on December 20 1785 at St Martin's, Ashton upon Mersey. He died in 1795 and his will reveals the bulk of his estate, including properties and land, was to pass to his son, William, born in 1790. His wife Lucy and his brother and brother in law, James Dewsbury and James Kelsall were to act as trustees. This son, William (my great x3 grandfather) married Martha JENKINSON in 1812 at St Martin's. Martha was baptised at St Wilfred's, Northenden in 1793 and I have tracked her Jenkinson ancestors back to late Elizabethan times in Northenden. Her mother's name was MAYER and I understood from my mother that a branch of the Mayer family had the farm behind The Gardeners Arms at Baguley before the land was taken for house building in the 1950s. William and Martha had two sons, John my great x 2 grandfather and William, plus 11 daughters born between 1813 and 1837. Nearly all reached adulthood and married. Martha died in 1840 and William in 1848.

William was a farmer in Sale Moor. The Cheshire County Council website, Victorian Cheshire Tithe Maps 1836-1851, has been extremely useful in establishing what land William owned or tenanted and farmed. The website shows the modern day map of the same plots. The land owned by William on the northern side of Northenden Road was tenanted out to Thomas Marsland and a homestead and adjacent plot

was occupied by his son John, my great x 2 grandfather operating as a market gardener. The land William farmed was all tenanted and formed three distinct lots:-

- A) Six acres of water meadows on the banks of the River Mersey at the end of Cow Lane, off Dane Road, owned by Rev Charles BACKHOUSE SOWERBY. This is now part of Sale Water Park.
- B) Lime Tree Farm, Sale Moor, owned by Barberry SHAWCROSS of approx. 45 acres. William and Martha and family lived there. Currently Lime Tree School is on the site of the homestead and buildings and the land was used for building residential properties.
- C) Two acres owned by George CORNWALL LEGH adjoining Moor Lane. The modern day map shows this plot as St Anne's Parish Church on Church Road backing onto Trinity Road. The church was built by 1854 on land William tilled, a few years after his death. However, the connection continued as son, John Dewsbury (my great x 2 grandfather), was Clerk of St Anne's Church for 37 years from its beginning. John died on September 24 1893, aged 74, and was buried in the church cemetery, in ground his father had farmed.

John's father-in-law, Charles BROADHURST, born in Over, now part of Winsford, was a draper in Northenden Road until his death in 1865 and this business was carried on by Charles' grandson, George COOKSON, at least to the 1911 census. Also John's nephew, John HEYWOOD (son of his sister Elizabeth) farmed (per Tithe map) 17 acres in the centre of Sale Moor on land, part of which became Perseverance Street (now Conway Road) and the site of the Legh Arms.

**Memory 2)** Travelling on the pillion of my mother's bicycle to see my Auntie Jinny and Uncle Henry at Renshaw Farm, Sale Moor, and recollections there include

- a) Seeing Gypsy, the shire horse in the stable and being told to steer clear as she had a nasty habit of kicking out.
- b) Feeding the pig in the sty and wondering how it could eat coke
- c) Pricking out seedling bedding plants into boxes for eventual sale at Manchester Market.

- d) Collecting potatoes in the top field uprooted by a potato spinner drawn by Gypsy.
- e) The dim living room in the house illuminated by an oil lamp on the table in the centre of the room covered by a dark green cloth. The outside front door from this room which I never saw open.

Renshaw Farm, according to the Tithe maps 1836-1851, was then owned and occupied by different members of the Renshaw family. The 1851 census shows as tenant farmer William BARDSLEY, who was a brother of Thomas Kinsey's grandmother, Mary, and also was descended from two branches of the Renshaw family. William died at Renshaw Farm in 1876 and the tenancy passed to his great nephew, Thomas Kinsey, who continued to farm there until the late 1920s. In 1879 Thomas married Maria Dewsbury and they had two daughters Emily and Jane. Emily, my grandmother, married Leonard Orlando BROWN at St Anne's Church in 1910 and they lived with Thomas Kinsey (his wife Maria died in 1916). My mother, Olive Brown, their only child, was born at Renshaw Farm and attended Worthington Road School. A little later Thomas Kinsey also moved to live with them at The Gardeners Arms where he died in 1933, aged 81, leaving Renshaw Farm in the tenancy of his son-in-law, Henry Jones, who married Jane Kinsey (my Auntie Jinny) in 1914. They had one child, Leslie Jones, who married Mary and they had two daughters, Lesley & Pauline.

Thomas Kinsey and Henry Jones sold their produce on a stall on the Oak Street side of Manchester Smithfield (also known as Shudehill) Market. Henry Jones continued to use this stall until he retired in 1956. I used to visit occasionally and my sister (seven years older) used to help our Auntie Jinny on the stall on Saturdays.

Sometime around 1949/1950 Renshaw Farm was compulsorily purchased for building residential properties (now Sunningdale Avenue and adjacent roads) and Henry Jones tenanted a small nursery on Northenden Road past Essex Road (now Norris Road) opposite The Industrial School for Girls, just inside the boundary with Northenden. Again this has been built on since. On leaving Renshaw Farm, Henry & Jinny were re-housed in one of the prefabs in Ashbourne Crescent near Baguley Brook.

**Memory 3)** Bonfire night at The Gardeners Arms - huge bonfire with home grown potatoes cooked in empty food tins in the fire and home-made treacle toffee. Also Christmas Day roast late lunch with all the trimmings at The Gardeners Arms prepared by my mother using the leaded range. Licensing hours were limited in those days on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day with a 5-hour gap between closing at 2pm and reopening at 7pm for three hours. I used to go into the Smoke Room of the pub after lunch to complete a jigsaw, again before an open fire.

The Gardeners Arms in Baguley village had two acres of land attached used as a market garden. Baguley Brook formed the boundary on one side. Across the brook was farmland which along with half of the two acres, was used in the early 1950s to build the large Northern Moor residential estate.

Ironically, the land across the brook was farmed by a Wilfred MAYER, (descended the Mayers, farmers of Great Warford, Northenden and Cheadle) who I have discovered was a 4<sup>th</sup> cousin to my grandmother, Emily Kinsey. I doubt they were aware of the connection which goes back to joint ancestors in mid-1700s.

My Grandpa Brown (1882-1959) was born and died at The Gardeners Arms but his parents were born in Dorset. My great grandfather, also Leonard, who hitherto had been a shepherd like his forebears in Dorset, then gamekeeper at Toft and Carrington became landlord of The Gardeners Arms in mid-1881 as tenant of Frederic ROBINSON'S, brewers of Stockport. When Leonard (senior) died in 1912 the tenancy passed to his widow, Charlotte Emily Brown until her death in 1925. Her executor was her eldest surviving son, George, who had been landlord of the Old Bell Inn, Chalford, Gloucestershire,



for some years. He died there in 1943. The tenancy then passed to my grandfather, Leonard Orlando Brown, until he retired in 1959 when my father, George Arthur LEWIS (his son-in-law) took on the tenancy. My grandfather died a few months after his retirement. The tenancy was in the family for almost 80 years up to early 1961. I lived there for the last two years.

All through my childhood my parents visited my grandfather regularly to assist with the bar work etc. at the busiest times (every Saturday evening and Sunday lunch plus Bank Holidays etc.) and I would accompany them. One of my early tasks (from c.1949) was helping my mother add up the takings for a “tanner” which was the only pocket money I received. Later I helped sweeping up and bottling up after closing. In my last two years there I became more involved in other duties including cellar work.

In the early years before The Gardeners Arms became a hostelry it was just a homestead with market garden. Tithe maps show for 1836-1851 a John Dewsbury was owner occupier and I have discovered he was first cousin to my great x 3 grandfather, William, of Lime Tree Farm (see earlier). John died in 1842 and my great x 3 grandfather, William Dewsbury sold the property as directed under the will and ownership passed to others (not related) until it was purchased as a hostelry by Frederic Robinson's in 1881. By the 1851 census Edward MACHIN and family lived there - he was a provision dealer (shop) and beer keeper and the place was then known as the Foresters Arms, the same in the 1861 census, and Edward died in 1869. In the 1871 census a Richard OWEN was there as market gardener and beer keeper and Edward Machin's widow lived next door until she took up residence by 1881 with her married daughter at The Nag's Head (no longer exists) in Sale Moor (corner of Wythenshawe & Northenden roads, I believe). She died in 1882. After Richard Owen who died in November 1876 there were a least two more licensees named BAMFORTH (1879) & MELLOR (early 1881) (per St John's Baguley Sunday School Register).

The story passed down to me by my mother and father some years ago was that the place was one of ill repute (gambling and violence etc.) and that three brothers somehow associated with the pub died tragically, - one murdered there and one drowned in the beer cellar. Even in the

1950s I recall the drain from the cellar discharged into Baguley Brook and if the drain stop was not in place the cellar flooded to about two feet when the brook overflowed after very heavy rain. The other brother fell into one of the clay pits on Moor Lane (now Road) and drowned. The story continues - because of its reputation local magistrates were unhappy about renewing the liquor licence and apparently when approached the local constabulary recommended my great grandfather, Leonard Brown who had built up a good reputation with them as a gamekeeper at Carrington, presumably related to "controlling poachers etc.". Frederic Robinson's granted the tenancy to Len Brown.

Until the residential development of the area after WWII, the market gardening business was an important source of income for the Brown family and some produce was sold in the shop - one room of the "old pub" prior to the building alterations in 1925/26 - then later a stall on the forecourt.

Hopefully this article may jog a few early memories of some other members of our Society.

*(Ed: Though this article has little Dorset content, it is so thoroughly researched and detailed that we hope that, as the author says, it may encourage other members to write their own family reminiscences).*

## Church Kneelers as a Research Tool

*Colin Dean*

Continuing my search for an as-yet unknown/unused resource (*Backside of Gravestones*, Dec 2018), here is another possibility.

Over the years' local residents have shown a variety of skills and topics in producing pictorial kneelers, used for those when in prayer. At the last count (2018) they numbered 77.

Some have a straight-forward message; *YMCA 1900 – 1983. In memory of Margaret ALLEN MBE who worshipped in this church for many years.* (Worked by M D Moody 1984).



*Church. Churchwarden 1959-73 and 1979-83, 1921-2006. In Memory of Charlie KELLAWAY 2007. He was a local 'character'.*



*Churchwarden 1993-8.*

Near the lectern is a kneeler showing a cyclist passing a church. On the sides; *The Rev. Derek PARRY, vicar of the Piddle Valley Churches 1974-1992*. Based on a design by Mary NEED. Made by Brenda Bennett-Williams, Peggy Kellaway, Frances MALLETT, and Elizabeth RENNISON. The Rev PARRY visited his flock on a bicycle.

Useful? Perhaps not for furthering our research, but might be an interesting family heirloom to photograph and add to your family's history.

There is A Requiem for Dead Airmen. (verse and RAF motif). “Dedicated to my husband Pip and the other pilots and crews of 640 Squadron B Company 1944.” (Brenda BENNETT-WILLIAMS 1991).

There is a map of Dorset on the sides of one and the legend FCK: Alton St Pancras

Maroon square centrepiece of a crown and IV-VII. Two crown-shapes alongside. On the sides; *MRD Alton St Pancras 1935-1998. Churchwarden 1993-98. In memory of Major Michael DANGERFIELD*. On the Bible Shelf is a gold plaque; *Major Michael Roland Dangerfield 4<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Dragoon Guards November 4 1935 – June 19<sup>th</sup> 1998*.



## Chairman's Chat

By the time you read this your Society will have exhibited at Family Tree Live, the National Trust's "Purbeck at War" and the Corfe Castle May Fair. Also, we'll be preparing for the Broadstone Fun day again on Sunday 7th July as well as shows further afield.

When we go to shows it costs money to rent the space, to transport the volunteers with the show stands and books and computers, and, when necessary, to accommodate them. It also costs Volunteers' time and effort (and patience). Why do we do it? A few suggestions:

- \* It publicises our existence in ways that can't be communicated in a simple magazine/newspaper advertisement:
- \*\* It costs less than said adverts in purely cash terms:
- \*\*\* We meet our members who do not live in our lovely county:
- \*\*\*\*We can demonstrate that we are a bunch of very ordinary (but very friendly, lovely) people who are passionate about helping people in Dorset to find their ancestors, wherever they may have been, and those who don't live here to find their Dorset roots.
- \*\*\*\*\*To show off just how much data our super volunteers (transcribers, typists, computer specialists and others) have collected and made available over the 30+ years of our existence, and are still working on. There are other reasons too but enough of the asterisks!

So, if you are a member do come and say hello at our stand, better still, come and help for an hour or two; tell others why you are a member. (Sign them up!) We did "Click and collect" long before the big stores and if you are ordering from our sales dept. look at the website to see where we are exhibiting and arrange for us to bring your order for you to pick up at a show near you. (Saves you postage and Ann the job of packing it all.)

To all our members may I say a big "thank you" to those who have helped on our stand at any of our shows and at our Family History Day. [Watch this space for news and details of the March 2020 FHD] If you haven't yet helped, please do – it's fun, not frightening, you meet interesting fellow researchers and you help your Society. Training will be

given and you won't be thrown in at the deep end. The more smiling faces we have around the more people will stop to chat and enquire.

If we haven't met yet I look forward to meeting you soon at a show – and if we have met, then it will be lovely to see you again!

Best wishes and successful searching to you all,

*David*

## Society Vacancies

The Society has some key vacancies which need to be urgently filled by members. In the case of the first two vacancies, the applicant must be based within travelling distance of Treetops.

**Treasurer** – Following a sudden resignation, a new Treasurer and Trustee is required. The role includes regularly attending Treetops to count and then bank monies received, make appropriate payments, maintain the accounts and prepare a regular financial report.

**Minute Secretary** – Take notes, prepare and distribute minutes for Committee meetings plus the AGM and Council meeting. This is every two months, so there will be a requirement to attend only six times per year only)

In addition, we need a **Fairs Coordinator** to organise attendance at fairs – not necessarily to go themselves.

Please contact Sheila <[secretary@dorsetfhs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@dorsetfhs.org.uk)> for further details on any of these roles.

## Letters to the Editor



**Dear Editor,**

Please find enclosed some photos of the TUCK Family for your collection, as Mr Tuck was the Station Master at Bridport for many years.

The connection with the Tucks and my family is Frederick PARSONS who married Elsie Rhoda Tuck. They had one daughter, Freda (Fay) Parsons. Sadly, her mother died in 1914, so she eventually came to live with her grandfather and family as her father felt it was his duty to enlist for WW1. He was sadly killed in action in 1918.



If you have any members who may be interested in the Tuck family, I have other information.

Thomas Tuck retired in January 1921 and died in May 1935 at Holmlea, Bothenhampton.

With kind regards, Elizabeth J Parsons  
Email: <[iceltonfarm@btconnect.com](mailto:iceltonfarm@btconnect.com)>

*(ED: Please refer to image on the front cover of this Journal. I have also received more images not scanned here – so please let me know if you have an interest in the Tuck family and would like to receive them via e-mail)*

**Dear Editor,**

Would it be possible for this query to be published in the Dorset Family History Society's Journal in the hope that it might attract interest and for knowledge close to home?

Can any member identify the arms carded in this over mantel at a house in Sturminster Marshall, Dorset? The decorative mouldings suggest it dates from the seventeenth century, but it could possibly be a century or two later.



Regards,  
Graham Beck  
152 Victoria Road, Cambridge CB4 3DZ

**Dear Editor,**

Greetings from Parry Sound, Ontario. We recently joined your Society and thank you for your prompt delivery of your journal. Always a joy to receive and we read it from cover to cover.

Our family originated from Gillingham, Motcombe, East Sour and Shaftsbury and in the 1870's one of our branch moved to Wiltshire.

For years we searched for our great grandmother, Martha BREADWELL-ELCOCK to no avail. Then through the help of a relative it was found that

Martha was found on the 1861 (she was born in 1857) as Martha BRIDLE. Then in the 1871 census she is Martha Bridwell and her marriage license Breadwell. This knowledge then led to ALFORDS, WHEELERS and Bridles all of Dorset. A family story tells us some of the family members were glove makers.

We write to ask if any of your members have relatives from these areas or surname Wheeler, Bridle or Alford.

Regards,  
Anne Stevens #5098  
408-21 Bowes Street, Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada, P2A 2K7

## Librarian

Julia Towner has been the Society's Librarian since 2004, working diligently for DFHS, sorting, cataloguing, buying or acquiring books and pamphlets for our pleasure as well as for research purposes.

Since November 2018, when she unfortunately gave us her resignation, Julia has been tidying up her domain in readiness for a new face to take over.

Words cannot express our gratitude to Julia: she has given so many hours of her time to the mammoth task of organising the library for the benefit of our members, keeping it relevant and interesting, whilst managing the practicalities of a lending and research facility.

Julia has 'wonder woman' abilities: she has managed all this over the years, having been very involved with other things, such as the Perrott Society, travelling all over the world to attend, and organise gatherings.

We hope Julia enjoys her new found 'freedom', but continues to keep in touch with her friends and colleagues here at DFHS.



The Federation of Family History Societies is rebranding as Family History Federation. Rebranding to Family History Federation will officially launch at Family Tree Live in April 2019 along with a new-look website.

The rebranding to Family History Federation acknowledges that the membership of the Federation is wider than just family history societies, encompassing a range of associated organisations. 'Family History Federation' also reflects how its focus is firmly on family history: the primary purpose being to encourage, educate and support all family historians.

A new website will showcase member organisations and act as a gateway for family historians to find the help and expertise they need to grow their tree.

Ian Waller, Publicity Officer for the Federation, said "As we move forward as a Federation we are working towards encouraging more and more people who pursue their family history to become actively involved in their local organisations and to make it easier for them to find help, gain knowledge and be aware of the many resources available to them as they pursue this absorbing hobby."

Steve Manning, Education Officer for the Federation, added "The Federation has a long heritage, which we are very proud of, but it is still important to look to the future, so that the Federation can continue to help grow camaraderie among family historians and encourage them to tap into experienced groups well into the 21st century".

### ***About the Federation***

The Family History Federation is an educational charity with member organisations throughout the world. Most of these focus on a particular geographical area or on a specific surname but there are other specialist organisations with associated disciplines. Using its website, social media

and other means of communication, the Federation ensures that family history news, book reviews and guidance on how to learn more about the subject are readily available to the general public as well as to its member organisations.

## News from Dorset History Centre

*Sam Johnston - County Archivist*

### **Herrison Hospital archive and Wellcome Trust**

The project to catalogue and conserve this major hospital archive is now well under way, with the archivist, Sophie Smith starting work in early April. A catalogue is being created and conservation work is also under way as parts of the archive require significant remedial work.

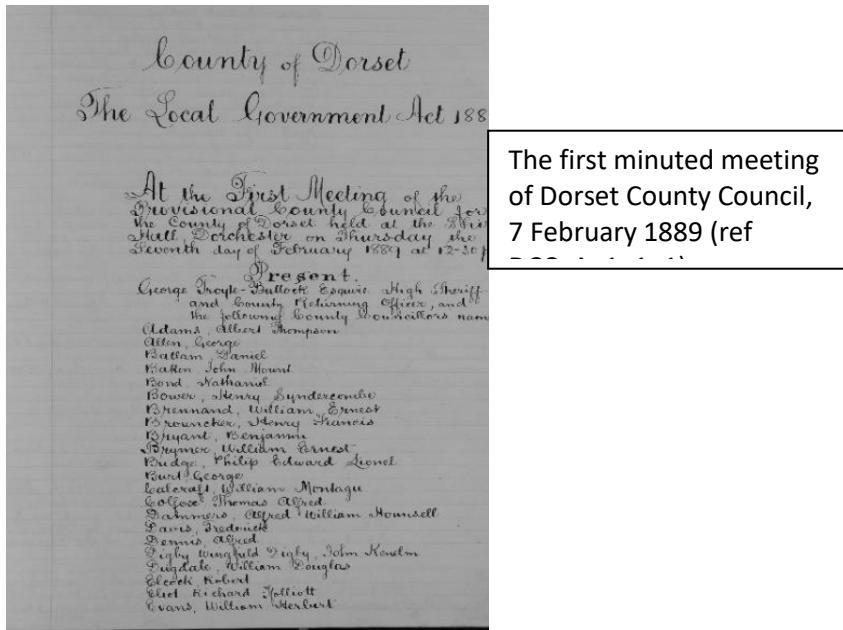
An outreach event in early April related to the history of the hospital, attended by DHC staff, attracted over 1,000 people. Many of them were former staff or people who had had an association with the hospital. DHC staff were pleased to encounter people who held materials relating to the hospital (documents, photographs, even film and sound) that they were likely to deposit with the service in due course. Several of these have now been received. We have also used this project as a means of engaging with the NHS over other hospital records from around the county that might be brought into DHC custody.

### **Council archives and the new unitary authorities**

The records of local government are not usually the first thing that inspire interest in the collections held at Dorset History Centre. However, we do hold the archives of all Dorset's councils, including Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole.

Dorset County Council operated for 130 years prior to the founding of the new Dorset Council. The reason for mentioning this is that the activities of local authorities, as reflected in the archives is a vital part of our local fabric and have had responsibility at various times for many, if not most of our local functions (highways, fire, police, social care, planning, libraries, culture & heritage, trading standards, licensing, housing, environmental protection, elections, public health, etc.), and have over the years, employed thousands of staff. Ordering and sorting

these records remains a major task - many local government collections have not been catalogued and therefore our understanding of the content of the collections is limited and there will ultimately be several thousand boxes to process.



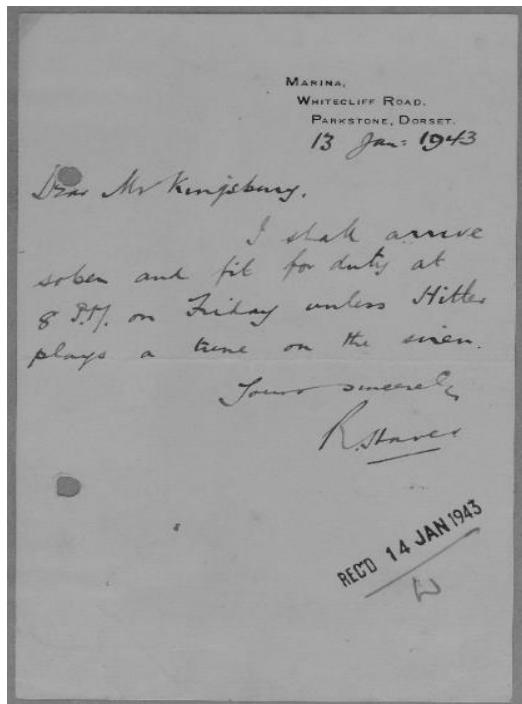
The first minuted meeting  
of Dorset County Council,  
7 February 1889 (ref

## New accessions at DHC

As ever, an important aspect of DHC's work is to oversee the safe transfer of archives to the service for permanent preservation. It is always a pleasure to review what has come in both in terms of the varying sizes of collections and the range of content. Collections, amongst others, include a large quantity of archives from the Pitt-Rivers estate, a wide range of WI archives from across the county, a letter from J.Mead Faulkner mentioning Moonfleet, material relating to a project documenting Portland's railways, a collection relating principally to the life and work of writer and pioneering advocate of organic farming, Rolf Gardiner, oral history recordings and records of Weymouth charities.

With the support of the Dorset Archives Trust, we were able to recently purchase some Air Raid Precaution (ARP) records relating to Poole dating from 1943-45. The material includes details of how the air raid

wardens were organised, along with directives from the Ministry of War, plans for VE Day celebrations and the amusing note below



ARP record: "I shall arrive sober and fit for duty at 8pm on Friday unless Hitler plays a tune on the siren"

For further information on the service, please view the website at:  
<https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/libraries-history-culture/dorset-history-centre/dorset-history-centre.aspx>

For regular updates, please sign up to our regular e-letter:  
<https://news.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/dorset-history-centre-blog/newsletter/>

Follow the service on Twitter @dorsetarchives

*Sam Johnston*

# Dorset's Past in Print

Roy Stockdill

It is almost 60 years since I first visited Lilliput, near Poole, when my in-laws retired from their newsagents business in Coventry and bought a house in the village. My wife and I inherited the house when my mother-in-law died in 2014, aged 103, and, now that we live at Lilliput permanently, I thought I might delve into a little of its history.

Apparently, the name Lilliput is a bit of a mystery! There is no evidence that Jonathan Swift, author of the famous novel, *Gulliver's Travels*, ever lived or stayed there, though some of the streets have associated names. One theory says the name derived from Lilliput House, an old country mansion on Evening Hill, overlooking Poole Harbour, which may have been owned by the famed smuggler, Isaac Gulliver, or a relative.

I looked Lilliput House up at the *British Newspaper Archive*. According to the Chineland website, it was first mentioned in 1783, but the earliest cutting I found was in the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* of July 12 1802 when the house was advertised for letting.

## *Delightful Sea Prospect.*

**T**O be LETT,—**LILLIPUT-HOUSE**, about three miles from Poole, Dorset, to which is annexed near 100 Acres of inclosed Heath Ground, uncultivated.—This House commands a view of the Sea, the Isle of Wight and the Isle of Purbeck, and also the whole of the Harbour of Poole.  
Apply to T. Parr, attorney, Poole. [1802]

Over the next four decades the property was advertised a number of times in the same newspaper. From this notice on July 15 1839, it was clearly a handsome and substantial gentleman's residence.

## MARINE VILLA.

**T**O be SOLD, or LET for a Term, Furnished or Unfurnished, with immediate possession.—**LILLIPUT HOUSE**, delightfully situated in the pleasant and improving Village of PARKSTONE, about three miles from Poole.—The House comprises an entrance hall, breakfast, dining, and drawing-rooms, with a small library, kitchen, scullery, and necessary offices; eight bed-rooms, with a water-closet. The House commands an extensive Land and Sea View, and is surrounded by eight Acres of Ground, 1½ in pleasure, and kitchen gardens, with a neat Lodge at the entrance. A good three-stalled stable and coach-house.

For viewing the same, apply on the premises; and for particulars, to Mr. Etty, Critchill, Woodyates; if by letter, post-paid.

[1839]

But in 1842 a major disaster occurred, as reported in the *Dorset County Chronicle* on November 17.

**Destructive Fire.**—About noon on Wednesday last, a fire broke out in Lilliput House, the seat of S. Solly, Esq., about two miles and a half from Poole, and notwithstanding those in the neighbourhood rendered prompt assistance, yet owing to the house being thatched and the dryness of the materials, the flames acquired such a head that it was impracticable to check them until the house was completely gutted. On the discovery of the fire a messenger was immediately despatched to Poole for the fire engines, one of which, after considerable delay, was sent, but was found so out of order as to be quite inefficient. Some of the furniture in the lower rooms was saved as was also the plate; but we regret to learn that not only the furniture in the up stair rooms, but the greater portion of Mr. Solly's extensive and well stored library, many of his rich and valuable paintings, and the principal part of the unique assemblage of rare antiquities, and collections in geology and natural history, made by the late Rev. T. Rackett, father of Mrs. Solly, have been destroyed. We hear that Mr. Solly is insured to a considerable extent; but unhappily, the paintings, antiquities, &c., cannot be replaced. The fire was accidentally caused; and it raged with such fury that the whole devastation was effected in about three hours.

S.Solly, I discovered, was Samuel Solly, an eminent London surgeon who was either renting or owned Lilliput House at the time. In the 1841 census he was shown at Heath Side House, a nearby property, with his wife Dorothea, so perhaps he had moved to Lilliput House not long before the fire occurred.

More than 60 years later a Lilliput House was mentioned in the *Western Gazette* on August 28 1903, which was obviously a very substantial property since it had gardens big enough for a cricket match! From a local history book I learned that this was a huge mock-Tudor mansion, built in 1889 on the same site as the earlier Lilliput House.

#### PARKSTONE.

GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.—Thanks to the kindness of the Rev. H. G. Watkins and Mrs. Watkins on Thursday evening last the members paid a visit to the gardens of Lilliput House, and were met at the entrance by Mr. G. Short, the head-gardener, who showed them over the finely laid-out gardens. Had the weather been favourable a cricket match would have been played during the afternoon. Tea was kindly provided by Mrs. Watkins for those present.



*Angie Parker-Harris*

Many thanks to Cherry for organising the coach which took about 20 of us to this event at Alexandra Palace on Saturday 27 April. The coach dropped us off right outside of the entrance which was much appreciated.

In addition to a wide range of 120 exhibitors, including stalls hosted by the British Red Cross Museum and Archives, The Post Museum plus our fellow family history societies, we were tempted by a wide range of talks and lectures on topics ranging from finding and traditional resources and various aspects of DNA to using technologies to help us to create and publish our articles and family histories. There was something for everyone, from those just starting out on their journey back to the past, to those with years of experience and tales to tell.

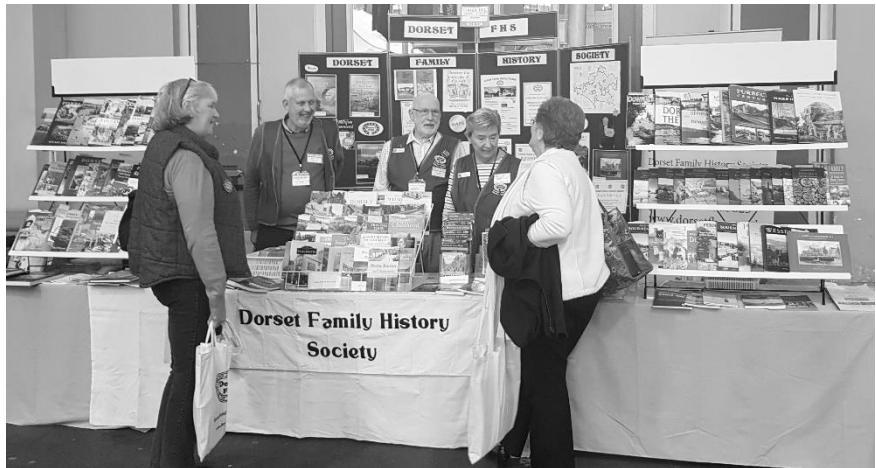
I learned that 50% of DNA is lost in each generation. We inherit segments of DNA from our ancestors, so we could potentially inherit 23% from Grandparent 1, 27% from Grandparent 2, 29% from Grandparent 3 with just 21% from Grandparent 4. The average for great Grandparents is 12.5%, and just 6.25% with our 2x great Grandparents. This could explain why siblings often look nothing alike!

Royalty was present at the event, and we were treated to a royal wave from none other than Queen Victoria as she strolled around the Palace!

I wonder what she thought of the Home Front Vintage Bus which reminded us of how life would have been in England in the 1940s – complete with an Anderson Shelter for a family with 'Gazunder' and other essentials for a family hiding from the bombing that would have ravaged London during this period of history.



We were pleased to see our own Society prominently displayed on a stall containing books on Dorset and family history subjects. In addition, those interested in Dorset past were able to work with the support of our team on specific research using our laptop and resources. 'Manning' the stand for just an hour or so made me realise how much effort David, Ann and Richard put into making our representation such a success on your behalf.



The day sped past in a whirl of enthusiasm, learned and shared knowledge, meeting new friends ... and snoozing on the coach back home.

# Hutchins Updated Information

*Ann Capon*

The History & Antiquities of The County of Dorset by  
John Hutchins M.A.



We have been selling CDs and DVDs of these volumes for a while now but decided it was time to update them to PDF format suitable for viewing with default reader software on both Microsoft Windows or Apple Mac.

Alternatively, Acrobat Reader DC may be obtained from the Adobe web-site.

A complete list of parishes written about is available on our website via sales on the introduction page. This also shows which CD has the place you require.

If you cannot connect with this page there is a copy at Treetops or at an Open Day or monthly meeting at the sales table.

The numbering of the CDs and contents may have moved slightly from the previous version, so please check just in case.

The DVD is now described as Volumes 1-4 and individual CDs as parts 1-14. but the contents are still all present. The price stays the same. The full version containing all the parts is £90 and the individual CDs at £12.

# Membership News

*Claire Evans*



Since my last report, the following new members have joined the Society and we offer them a warm welcome. If you are interested in contacting any of these new members shown below, you can obtain details from Treetops during opening hours:

5132	Mrs	Christina	Doig	POOLE	Dorset
5133	Mrs	Fiona	Kane	RINGWOOD	Hampshire
5134	Mr	Alfred	Cook	POOLE	Dorset
5135	Ms	Catherine	Wood	POOLE	Dorset
5136	Mrs	Maureen	Counter-Matta	BIRMINGHAM	West Midlands
5137	Mrs	Valerie	Dunster	POOLE	Dorset
5138	Mr	Patrick	Dibben	CASTLE HILL	New South Wales, Australia
5139	Mrs	Anna	Dormer	CHEEDDAR	Somerset
5140	Mr	Alan	Trickett	POOLE	Dorset
5141	Mr	George	Stokes	PRESTON	Lancashire
5142	Mr	Tim	Harding	VERWOOD	Dorset
5143	Miss	Rosemary	Currell	BURY ST EDMUND	Suffolk
5144	Mr	Peter	Skilbeck	EASTBOURNE	East Sussex
5145	Mr	Arthur	Wellstead	SALISBURY	Wiltshire
5146	Ms	Patricia	Compton	BOURNEMOUTH	Dorset
5147	Miss	Mary	Curtis	WAREHAM	Dorset
5148	Mr	David	James	SOUTHAMPTON	Hampshire
5149	Mr	Richard	Webb	DARTMOUTH	Devon
5150	Mr	Laurence	Thornton Grimes	POOLE	Dorset
5151	Mr	Bob	Holland	YORK	North Yorkshire
5152	Ms	Carol	Dimond	PUSLINCH	Ontario, Canada
5153	Miss	Vanessa	Widdows	WORCESTER	Worcestershire
5154	Ms	Jo-Hazel	Nixon	POOLE	Dorset

# Society Services

Details of the **Research Centre and Office** (Treetops), opening hours, accessibility, website, Facebook page and the costs of **Personal Research**, are shown on the front inside cover of this Journal. **Contact** details of Officers are on the back inside cover.

Our **Services & Sales Catalogue** includes the Terms and Conditions of Business that apply when making a purchase by post or telephone. E-mail Treetops for an electronic copy or, for a printed copy (UK only) send a self-addressed C5 sized envelope (i.e. sized for A5 contents) bearing a 2nd class stamp to Treetops. Product details and these terms may also be found on our website.

**Payment** for subscriptions, goods, and (postal) search services may be made by cash (at Treetops or meetings only), sterling cheque or, for many purchases, credit or debit card on the online shop on our website.

## **Transcriptions and Indexes**

The Society has transcribed a large number of records relating to Dorset, which may be accessed at Treetops in the form of booklets, fiche, CD-ROMs or through our search service. Some are available on the Internet.

## **Facilities for visitors to Treetops**

In addition to the Transcriptions and Indexes: -

- Access to The Genealogist, Fold3 from Ancestry (military records), Ancestry.com, Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive
- Assistance with your research, if needed
- Reference and lending library
- Sales Area

## **Members Only**

**E-News:** The Society circulates information by e-mail to Members who have given consent to receive Society emails. This includes reminders of forthcoming meetings, education courses or local family history events that the Society will be attending.

**Forum:** Available from the Menu bar of the Society's website, Society Members can apply for Forum membership and then post, and answer, family history questions (this is not intended to replace the Society's full research service).

**Member's Area:** Also available from the website Menu bar, the Password is AFQ3hfBF (includes numbers as well as letters). It contains some additional information just for Members.

## **General Data Protection Regulation**

The Society retains and processes personal data in accordance with its Data Privacy statement, which can be viewed at  
<https://www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/data-privacy/>  
A paper copy is available from Treetops.

# **DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

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- Brian Galpin

## ***Committee members***

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*Computer Group Coordinator* – various

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