

# Buckets & Spades



Issue 98  
July 2019  
[wsmfhs.org.uk](http://wsmfhs.org.uk)



The Society, founded in 1983, grew out of an Adult Education Class which had been inspired by Brian Austin (now a Life Member) to continue their research. It has grown into an active membership of over 300 who come from all parts of the world as well as those who live locally.

The area covered by the Society includes Weston-super-Mare and Parishes in North Somerset and in the Axbridge Registration District, as shown on the back cover.

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, except August and December, at the Vintage Church, Hughenden Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2UR. The doors open at 7.00pm for refreshments and informal research. Meetings start at 7.30pm. *New members and visitors are always welcome.*

The Society tries to encourage and stimulate interest in family history generally and has a very positive link with Weston-super-Mare Library, which has excellent local history resources and facilities. Each Saturday, volunteers from the membership are in the Library from 2.00pm until 3.30pm to assist anyone who wants to start searching for their ancestors or who has a problem with their research.

Enquiries may be made through our website [www.wsmfhs.org.uk](http://www.wsmfhs.org.uk) – Use the ‘Contact Us’ button towards the top right-hand corner of the home page. Enquiries can also be addressed to the Secretary of the Society: 125, Totterdown Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 4LW, accompanied with a SAE please.

#### **Honorary Life Members**

Brian Austin, 2001; Mrs Pat Hase, 2005; Paul Tracey, 2014;  
Brian Airey 2018; Graham Payne 2018

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Weston-super-Mare Boating and Paddling Pool; Weston-super-Mare Beach

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The next issue of ‘Buckets & Spades’ is due for publication at our November 2019 meeting.

**Please note:** the deadline for articles is 17 October 2019. Thank you.

**Editorial**  
**Sue Maguire**



Once again, thank you for your interesting articles and photos. I hope Society members, and others, will enjoy this issue of 'Buckets & Spades' and, if your contribution has not been included, please be assured that it is on 'the list' for a future edition. I wish you all a very happy summer. As you know, time passes quickly. This means I am busy collecting items for our November issue and I hope you are feeling inspired. In anticipation, 'Thank you'.

It is wonderful news that Pat, our Chair, has recently returned to us, also very good news that recovery for Peter, our Vice-chair, has continued.

I hope to see many of you at our forthcoming Society meetings and, if you have any concerns, please don't worry – I am always happy to advise or help. You can also contact me by email - [smaguire15@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:smaguire15@yahoo.co.uk)

**Reminder** – Next issue date for 'Buckets & Spades' is November 2019. As you will appreciate, it takes some time to 'sort' everything before the draft goes to our printers, therefore, the deadline for contributions is 17 October 2019.

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**Do You Need Assistance with Your Research?**

Brian Austin, WSMFHS Honorary Life Member and our local historian, has kindly informed us that he is happy to assist members with their research. To contact Brian, please send a SAE and your query to 11 Alma Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, BS23 1RB.







### **Please Help!**

A few more volunteers are needed to serve refreshments at our Members' Meetings - a very good way to greet and meet your fellow members.

It's not difficult! There are only 10 Members' Meetings each year and, if more people helped just once, your 'next turn' could occur in 2 years' time!

Thank you, if you have already assisted. If you haven't, at our next Members' Meeting, please add your name to the list.

By the way, WSMFH Society mugs are still available, priced £5 each.

Lastly, don't forget to bring your mug to our Members' Meetings to enjoy your 'cuppa'!

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### **Weston-super-Mare & District Family History Society Facebook Group**



In January, our Facebook Group went 'live'. This is a great opportunity to reach new family history researchers and help more people along the journey to discovering their ancestors. It is also a useful way to encourage new members to join our Society and attend our Saturday Afternoon Help Sessions at Weston-super-Mare Library.

Why not join us and share your questions, photographs and memories? Please use CAPITAL letters for surnames because it makes them easier to spot.

Adminstrators: Pat Hase and Lorna Gibson;  
Moderator: Jeanette Carter

## Thoughts from the Chair Pat Hase



A circular has just been issued by the Family History Federation about membership of Family History Societies. How can we ensure that we attract new members? The Federation states – *‘The concept to those new to Family History research is that everything is available on the Internet. Consequently, they see no need (or probably don’t recognise the benefits) of joining a Family History Society to take advantage of its freely available expertise and help’.*

Am I right in thinking that there is a large number who have been attracted to family history with the media interest in DNA and finding lost families as well as WDYTYA but have become frustrated with their own lack of progress? How do we reach them? Over the years we have had a trickle of new members from the Free Help Sessions in the Library, from our website, from the U3A Family History Group and latterly from our Facebook Group but what else should we do to attract members?

While we are attracting new members, how do we also make sure that existing members are getting what they want from the Society? We don’t want to lose you. Nearly every month the Monthly Update on the website offers research tips and asks members whether we are meeting their needs but there are never any replies!

What do you find the most helpful? What would you like to get from the Society? Please let the Committee know your thoughts on this so that we can guide the future of our Society. Bring your ideas to the next Members’ Evening or contact us through the website letting the Secretary Brian Airey know your suggestions. As the most irritating comment you hear these days states, ‘Your opinion is important to us’ - but we mean it!



**WSMFHS Autumn Lunch at Worlebury Golf Club**  
**Monday, 30 September 2019**

**Menu**

Chicken and leek soup  
Melon and port  
Farmhouse pâté

Chicken breast, white wine and mushroom sauce  
Trio of roasted stuffed vegetables  
Fresh fillet of sea bass

Sticky toffee pudding and custard  
Lemon cheesecake  
Cheese board

Coffee and mints

£20 per person

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To reserve a place, or any queries,  
please speak with Peter de Dulin or Roy Smith.

**We hope to see you there!**

**Breaking down ‘Brick Walls’  
Can We Help?  
by Pat Hase**

We all get stumped sometimes – I am suggesting that we have a section in ‘Buckets & Spades’ to consider these problems and to offer ideas of how to get around them. This will be in addition to the Research Forum online and I am asking that questions for inclusion in the Journal are sent directly to me or to the Editor who will pass them on and, hopefully, ideas for solving them will be published in the next edition.

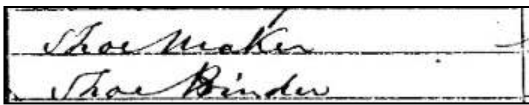
To start things off, here are a couple of queries which I’ve been asked recently.

**1. Brick Wall**

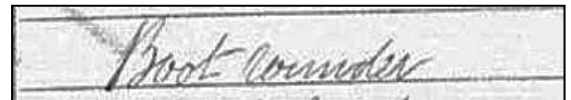
***‘My Great Great Grandfather was a Bounder – what did he do?’***

*On the 1881 Census, the occupation of my ancestor is given as a ‘Bounder’. Having looked at definitions, it seems he could have been a ‘Cad or a Rogue’ but would he have admitted that?*

**Reply** - I suggested that she looked at all census entries to see how his occupation was entered at another time.



On the 1871 Census, he had been described a ‘Shoemaker’ and his wife as a ‘Shoe Binder’ – so was he a ‘Shoe Binder’ as well? However, his son in 1881, who was living with a married sister, was described as a ‘Boot Rounder’ and so I am now inclined to think the father might have been employed as a ‘Boot or Shoe Rounder’.



A possible occupation was discovered by comparing the occupations of all the family, not just direct ancestors, to see where there was a similarity.

**2. Brick Wall**

***‘Can’t find a baptism or a marriage for William HARES.’***

*William HARES appears on the 1851 Census, in Weston-super-Mare, born Shiphham, but I can’t find his baptism, his parents or his marriage to a Sophia.*



**Reply** - The Census gives some clues and can be used as a starting point.

### 1851 Census of 4 Buckingham Yard, Weston Super Mare

First Name	Last Name	Relationship	Marital Status	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation	Birthplace
William	Hares	Head	Married	Male	58	1793	Ag Lab	Shiphham
Sophia	Hares	Wife	Married	Female	50	1801	Ag Lab's wife	Shiphham
Joseph	Hares	Son	Unmarried	Male	23	1828	Ag Lab	Shiphham
Emma	Hares	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	20	1831	Shoe Binder	Shiphham
William	Hares	Son	Unmarried	Male	18	1833	Ag Lab	Shiphham
Sophia	Hares	Daughter	Unmarried	Female	16	1835	At home	Shiphham
Jesse	Hares	Son	Unmarried	Male	14	1837	At home	Shiphham
Aaron	Hares	Son	-	Male	12	1839	Scholar	Shiphham
Stephen	Hares	Son	-	Male	6	1845	Scholar	Shiphham

1. First of all, check that all the children have the same mother. You can use the parish records for Shiphham, available on our website. There are baptisms for more children of William and Sophia than appear on the Census – some may have died or left home before this Census. The earliest baptism (March 1823) may be after the date of the marriage of the parents, but don't bank on it!
2. Secondly, by using the GRO index, you can find the mother's maiden name for each child – this is necessary because the mother could have died and the father married again (sometimes more than once). Quite a problem if the next wife has the same first name as the previous one! In this case, all have the same mother's name – STOCK.
3. Still not found a marriage for William HARES and Sophia STOCK.
4. The burial of the mother, Sophia HARES, was found on 16 June 1852, aged 51, at Emmanuel Church in Weston-super-Mare.
5. William married again the next year (4 January 1853) at Emmanuel Church to a widow, Hannah HURST, née ATWELL. On our transcriptions, William's father was a Thomas HARES, a 'Mason'.

6. The William HARES, who married Hannah, was the same one who had been living with Sophia. Their youngest surviving son, Aaron HARES, is living with William and Hannah at the time of the 1861 Census.
7. The 1841 Census has a Thomas HARES, born about 1766 and living in Shipham, who could well be William's father although described as an 'Agricultural Labourer' not a 'Mason'. He is listed with a female called Frances who could be his wife (no relationships are shown on the 1841 Census).
8. There are baptisms of children for a Thomas and Fanny HARES at Shipham on our transcriptions – the first one in 1794 – with a note that they were from Sandford, Winscombe.
9. The transcriptions of Winscombe marriages reveal that a Thomas HARES married Frances PIM on 7 April 1793 at St James.
10. No christening of William HARES, son of Thomas and Fanny in 1793. Looked also for a William PIM in case he was baptised with his mother's name before they were married, but there is an unnamed son of Thomas and Fanny, baptised on 28 April 1799. Was that a late baptism for William?
11. You cannot rely on ages given on Censuses, for example: William HARES - in 1841-40, 1851-58, 1861-56, 1871-77, 1881-88, and his death/burial 1884-92.
12. Similarly, the place of birth can be a problem. In 1861, William HARES was shown as born in Shepton Mallet. I think this was caused by the Somerset dialect. When asked where he was born, William answered 'Sheppam'. The enumerator heard 'Shepton' and added the Mallet.
13. FreeBMD has death registrations for both Thomas and Frances HARES in the March Quarter 1847, but only Thomas is recorded as being buried at Shipham. Where was Frances buried?
14. To sum up – almost certainly, William HARES was the son of Thomas and Frances HARES (but no baptism found). The mother of William's children was Sophia STOCK (but no marriage found). As with all family history, the more you find, the more questions it poses!

## New DNA Books

Those of you interested in DNA testing for your family history may be interested to hear of the following new publications.

**Already available:** *Advanced Genetic Genealogy: Techniques and Case Studies*; editor Debbie Parker Wayne. Published by Wayne Research, Texas. US\$49.95 + p&p.

**Available this month:** *Tracing Your Ancestors Using DNA*; editor Graham Norton. Published by Pen & Sword Books. Pre-order price £11.99 + p&p.

**Available 31 August:** *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing & Genetic Genealogy* (second edition) by Blaine Bettinger. Pre-order price £22.99 + p&p.

If you're a genetic DNA beginner, I recommend the Blaine Bettinger book; if you've been using DNA research for a while, I recommend the first book.

Just a reminder that I run two U3A 'DNA for Family History' classes: the first Tuesday afternoon of the month at 5a Madam Lane, Worle and the second Thursday of the month at 4 Channel Heights, Bleadon Hill.

Please note that, as from September, the Thursday group will no longer be an evening group. It will run in the afternoon.

Jenny Towey  
jenny@towey.me.uk

# *May They Rest in Peace*



Read about the history of the men of Bleadon, Hutton and Locking who are commemorated on the First World War Memorials in these Parishes.  
Details from our website: [www.wsmfhs.org.uk](http://www.wsmfhs.org.uk)



*To the Glory of God and in Memory  
of the Men of the Parishes of Bleadon,  
Hutton & Locking  
The Great War 1914 - 1918*



**Editor:** Further to the publication of 'May They Rest in Peace', the following article has been kindly provided by Mrs Sheila Berry of Brent Knoll whose uncle, Private William 'Bill' Banwell, died in the First World War.

## PRIVATE WILLIAM 'BILL' BANWELL

**B**ill was the eldest son of Charles and Ethel Banwell of Myrtle House Bleadon who ran a market garden in the area alongside and beyond School Lane.

Bill and his brother Ernest both served in the 1914-18 War; Ernest taken prisoner, but Bill killed in the conflict on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1917, aged 21, during the Arras offensive of that year. He served with the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Gloucestershire Regiment. Bill's sacrifice is commemorated on the Arras Memorial (Bay 6), and remembered on both our church memorial and the family grave in the churchyard adjoining his former home.



(Front badge)



(Back badge)



**H**E whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who, at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom. Let those who come after see to it that his name be not forgotten.

*Private William Henry Banwell  
12th Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment*



WHB Rev 1



**Charlie ‘Farmer’ Clark and His Three Missing Fingers**  
**by Philip Clark**  
**Charlottesville, Virginia**

Charles CLARK (1845-1921) was the last of the twelve children of Charles (1796-1875) and Rebecca Clark, née TRIPP (1802-1881). He was only nine years old when the family moved to Weston from Shipham. He followed his father into the corn and seed trade. Known to everyone in Weston as ‘Farmer’ Clark, Charlie used to tell the story that going down the steep Highbury Hill in Weston, one day, the brake failed on his cart. He lost three fingers heroically trying to put his hand in the wheel to stop it. As I will explain, this was one of the tall tales he was fond of telling!

Charles married Cordelia SIMMONS (1845-1913) in 1871. They too had twelve children. One of them was my grandfather, David John. The circumstances of the marriage ceremony are again a little odd but not unusual. Though the Census taken on 2 April 1871 has them both working in Weston, they were recorded as residents of Lawrence Hill in Bristol at the time of their wedding on 10 August of the same year. Why did they need to be married somewhere else? Was she pregnant? If she was, it wasn’t with their first documented child, Herbert Henry, who was born in 1873. Maybe they simply wanted to be married in Bristol just as his own father had done at his first wedding to Rebecca MILKINS. Cordelia was a maid and Charles was a businessman - perhaps they were thought to be socially incompatible?



**Charles Clark on his Wedding Day 1871**  
**Three fingers on his right hand are partly missing.**



**(c. 1896) Possibly the Silver Wedding photo of Charles and Cordelia Clark with their family of 12 children. David John is at the back, second from right. Charlie's shortened fingers can be seen clearly in this picture.**

Charlie, or 'Farmer Clark' had his hay and seed shop at 9 St James Street. Rebecca, his mother, lived in Union Street with his older sister, Mary Ann COOME. Joyce POST (1907-1998), my aunt and my father's sister, spent a lot of time at the St James Street house as a child. The shop had a yard and stables behind where Ginger the horse was kept. She remembered that Charlie never used a horsewhip when they were out on their errands. However, she said he used to 'put a handful of corn in his mouth and, when he wanted Ginger to go faster which was pretty often, he would spit some of it to land between the horse's ears'. Apparently, this did the trick!

As I intimated, I discovered the story that Charlie told his family about the missing three fingers was not the truth.

Searching through old copies of the Weston Mercury in Colindale, North London, I came upon the following for Saturday, 10 October 1868.

*‘Serious Accident – On Saturday afternoon, Mr T Clarke, son of Mr Clarke, hay and corn dealer of Union Street in this town, had occasion to go to Mr Pond’s foundry to test the advantage of a new chaff cutting machine. Whilst another person turned the wheels, he fed the machine when he unfortunately got his right hand entangled in the same, smashing three forefingers. He was immediately extricated from his perilous position and conveyed to hospital where he was attended by Drs Martin and Hitchins and the house surgeon, the result being that the three fingers alluded to were amputated to the first joint. On enquiry, we find that the patient is favourably progressing towards recovery.’*

The foundry was in the High Street. Mr Pond was both a blacksmith and a whitesmith. (‘Whitesmith’ defines someone who works with lighter metals such as pewter and zinc.) The spelling of ‘Clarke’ with an ‘e’ most likely means nothing and ‘T’ Clarke, instead of ‘C’, might equally be dismissed as a reporter’s error. However, we can surely be certain that the Mercury was referring to a son of Charles Clark (1796-1875) for it would be beyond belief to have two brothers each to lose three fingers of the right hand down to the first knuckle.

As for Charlie’s story, I suppose the young man (aged 23 years) was embarrassed at having to say that he had stupidly stuck his fingers in a machine and thus made up a more romantic account. It happened three years before his marriage, so he may even have invented it soon after, and Cordelia, his wife, may never have known. He would certainly never imagine that he would be found out by his great-grandson more than a hundred years on! I have found no evidence that Thomas, his brother, was in Weston or even still alive so can’t vouch for his involvement. Whatever the truth, Charles’s granddaughter, Joyce, said he seemed to get on quite well without his fingers!

Another story told about Charlie Clark is that his twelve legitimate children were not the total sum of his offspring. Joyce told my sister, Catherine, that there was someone in Milton who was not family, but looked suspiciously like a Clark, and it was rumoured that Charlie had more than a roving eye. I’d love to know who that was!

**Seek and You Will Find**  
**by Sheila Mills**  
**Blue Anchor, Minehead (and formerly Weston-super-Mare)**

I love to browse at bric-a-brac stalls, also antiques and collectables sales.

On one occasion, I noticed a blue attaché case and, thinking that it would be useful as a weekend suitcase, I bought it.

Returning home, I investigated the case and saw that it had a small side pocket. Putting a hand inside, much to my surprise, I discovered a broad ribbon marked 'HMS Raleigh'. Obviously, the previous owner had been a seaman!

I googled 'HMS Raleigh' on my computer and found the following information.

'HMS Raleigh' is the modern-day base training establishment of the Royal Navy at Torpoint, Cornwall, and it is the largest RN training establishment in the South West. It was opened on 9 January 1940.



No doubt, a Royal Navy man would have used this attaché case to go home on leave. Attaché cases were quite common in the 1940s and 1950s and large enough to hold a change of underwear, a toiletry bag and light clothing.

Why had someone decided to get rid of such a thing or had the owner died and their effects were disposed of by someone else? I shall never know to whom the attaché case belonged, only that it was a seaman and it could have travelled with him to many countries.

I love visiting auction sale rooms and am staggered by many photos being sold as lots. Again, this may be the result of house clearances.

In old sepia photos, one sees un-named people dressed in elegant clothing. They lived and died somewhere but now their existence is being thrown away or dismissed. It is wise to pass on your own photos as one gets much older. Remember to write on the backs – who the people are and where the photo was taken. Sadly, modern technology has replaced many photo albums and images are often only stored on mobile phones and computers.

While researching family history, letters are also interesting. This happened to me in the early 1970s whilst going through my late mother's effects and I found a letter written by my Grandmother Isabella PENTECOST, née DAVIS (1869-1946), to my Mother Beatrice Irene SILLICK, née PENTECOST (1905-1974). The letter was written in the 1940s during World War II, expressing what distressing times these were. Obviously, she was concerned about my mother, father, sister and me. I was very young at the time, but I can remember hearing the bombs falling, the sirens and crawling in and out of an indoor air raid shelter. Exeter, where I was born, was bombed extensively.

My Grandmother concluded her letter, 'We must trust in Providence!'

So always value old letters and documents relating to family history and think twice about throwing them away!

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**Editor:**

**Items for Next Issue of 'Buckets & Spades'**

- Brown Brothers Stores
- Buried in Weston Cemetery
- Famous for a Day
- Ghost in the Closet
- Scout Reports
- Then & Now
- Christmas in East Brent in the 1920s

**... but more are required!**

**Thank you**



## **Childhood Memories - World War II** **by Ben Simpson**



Firstly, I ask readers to bear in mind that I was a couple of weeks off my 8<sup>th</sup> birthday on the nights of the raids. These are my memories, so please forgive me for any historical inaccuracies. Memories of conversations at the time may be a combination of what I heard and what my mother, Florence, told her parents when we returned to London.

After the passage of so much time, the chronology of events is somewhat blurred in my mind. That said, to me, the events I describe are as fresh in my mind as if they occurred yesterday.

In 1940, we had to move from our house - it was deemed unsafe due to a land mine obliterating several houses over the road. Not long afterwards, we and my grandfather had to shelter in an alley between buildings because the street was strafed. Consequently, I thought that living in Weston-super-Mare, a seaside town, would be heaven!

We lived in a flat at the end of Waterloo Street, about 30m from the corner of High Street. The flat was above two shops - a dry-cleaners and another selling electrical gear.

A friend of Mum's sister, Dot, came to live with us - I think she was called Tiny. She wanted to get away from London and this was not an uncommon practice during the war, when the men were away.

I was a latchkey kid because my mother worked as a waitress at J Lyons & Co Ltd - I think they were called 'nippies'. In winter, I went home from school and read a lot. I was nearly always given books at Christmas and for my birthdays. In summer, I got my swimming togs and a towel and walked the short distance to the beach to meet the kids from my class.

The beach at Weston is enjoyable only at high tide. At low tide, it is an unpleasant long walk, knee deep in a green/black viscous mud, to get to the water. Is that still the case? There was also a man-made stone Boating and Paddling Pool, about 50cm deep, that we used occasionally at low tide. (*Editor: see front cover of 'Buckets & Spades' for images of Weston Pool and the Beach.*)

Everyone, apart from me, could swim having lived in Weston all their lives. When one of them noticed that I just seemed to splash about and not swim, I was taunted. Of course, I said I could. 'Prove it!' was the cry.

The tide being out, I got into the Pool and did 'the crawl' from one end to the other - about 30m. That was the end of all the jokes concerning my inability to swim, however, I had conned them! I discovered that, when doing the crawl, the tips of my fingers just touched the bottom of the pool. This was enough to make me look like I was swimming!

I do remember that most parents would not let their kids swim in the Pool because the bottom had lots of broken glass, tin cans and other rubbish - ideal for cutting the feet of the unwary!

Around 1941, I contracted scarlet fever. I don't remember anything about this other than that I ended up in a children's ward in hospital. The bed next to me had an adult man in it. Mother was outraged and complained at length when she found out that he had diphtheria. No idea how long I was there.

Life at Weston was good until the day one of the national newspapers had a full front-page picture of a crowded Weston beach with a headline, something like 'Locals and London evacuees enjoy a day on the beach at Weston-super-Mare'. That was on a Saturday or Sunday - the weekend before the raid.

My mother said it was like waving a red flag at a mad bull and she would not be surprised if we had an air raid or two to pay for the newspaper's complacency. I have a vague memory that it was the Sunday pictorial that was the villain!

There were many nights when we heard the German bombers on their way to Cardiff or Swansea to bomb the docks, but this weekend they did not keep going - they stayed over Weston.

That night my mother woke me, I got up and dressed - shoes and long socks, short trousers, a sweater over my pyjamas and a jacket, like a battledress blouse, over that.

I was on my own for a while in the lounge room. Mum and Tiny were on the roof with a stirrup pump putting out incendiaries. They came down saying they hoped no more would fall on the roof. They thought the worst was over - all to no avail.

The three of us were in the lounge room, with stirrup pump and bucket - the two adults obviously were tired after their efforts on the roof. We watched the fire across the road. My mother said something very quietly, but I don't know what. A prayer, maybe?

The fire in Lance & Lance Department Store was out of control. The wind was blowing the flames across the road. Then it happened - the heat caused a window to shatter and the windborne flames ignited our curtains. I watched the flames run up the curtains as Mum and Tiny worked the stirrup pump and sprayed water.

The settee was next to catch fire and, as Tiny refilled the bucket, my mother kept spraying the curtains and the settee. Then another window shattered - more curtains were alight and then an armchair.

I was very scared. Fire has frightened me ever since that night. Mum said, 'We've got to go - it's hopeless'. She grabbed my hand and we started to run downstairs. Disaster! Someone had removed the ladder from the window on the landing. To jump meant a leap of about 5m - dangerous for an adult, but possibly lethal for me.

We continued downstairs to the front door which, fortunately, was set back about 2-3m from the street. It seemed there was no way to escape but Mum noticed the wind was gusting, so she waited for a pause in the wind and we sprinted to the pub on the corner. I think this was about 30m away.

As we ran, a plane strafed the street. I remember this because I tried to run into the road to collect the shells - a very tradeable commodity amongst kids during the war! Fortunately for me, my mother had hold of my hand and stopped me. We knocked on the pub door and we were led into the cellar.

After a while, how long I do not know, the emergency services arrived. We were all brought out of the cellar. I was carried by a WAAF and taken somewhere, but I have no idea where - I just fell asleep.

The next morning at 10 or 11am, my mother found me. She had had no idea if I was alive or dead and she was frantic with worry. When she saw me, she burst into tears, hugged me closely and said over and over, 'Oh, Brian; Oh, Brian'.

Our flat in Waterloo Street was destroyed completely, as was the whole row of buildings on our side of the road, and Lance & Lance opposite. We were two of the homeless thousands. I have no memory of what happened to Tiny.



**Ruins of Lance & Lance with Ben's flat in the background**

The church hall up the road was saved, the interior was mostly gutted, and all the instruments of the Billy Cotton Band were destroyed.

That morning, my mother was at a loss about what to do. I was dressed, as described earlier. Mum had a coat over her nightdress with a pair of shoes and nothing else.

She decided to go to J Lyons & Co where she worked, in the hope of getting something to eat and a cup of tea because she had no money. As we entered, the Manageress said something like, 'Florrie - you too'. She stood there in a fur coat over her nightdress with slippers on her feet.

My mother explained our situation and they swapped tales of the past night. The Manageress had also lost everything. My Mum said, 'but at least you managed to save your fur coat' and the Manageress replied, 'I spent years saving for it and bloody Adolf wasn't going to get it!'.

She ushered us in, gave us breakfast 'on the house' and said we could wait there while Mum decided what to do. I discovered years later, when I worked for J Lyons & Co, that it was company policy to give any bombed-out employee a meal and, if possible, help them to get to friends or relatives. I guess my mother somehow got the fare for us to go to London, but from whom I have no idea.

I can't remember what happened next. I guess we got a train back to London because I have a memory of us standing at the door to 217 South Park. My grandmother opened the door and my mother said, 'Mum, we've lost everything'.

As it transpired, the worst thing we did was to leave Weston. Bombed-out people were given clothes, accommodation and ration books when they were made homeless. Because of this, no Council had any approved procedures to look after 'immigrant homeless' caused by enemy action. Wimbledon Borough Council was no exception. My mother made, what seemed to me, daily visits battling the bureaucracy to get assistance for us.

Fortunately, we were able to stay at my grandparents' house until this was all sorted out - some months later. My mother's family had a 'dig around' and found clothes for us until the Council came good. Life just went on!



**Henry Preston  
by Brian Airey**



It started with a small photograph on glass of a young man with a beard. This was Henry PRESTON, my great grandfather.



It was not until many years later that I came across Henry resplendent in chain of office of Grand Master in Manchester Union of Oddfellows. Grandma, Henry's daughter, never told me anything about him or, if she did, I certainly did not retain it in my memory.

My wife took up family history research in the 1980s and left me to my own hobbies. Because she had found a lot of information locally on her side, she wanted to file it all. This was the beginning of the computer age and I volunteered to attempt entering all the information in electronic format. From that I became hooked and decided to look at my side of the family. Naturally I followed my father's ancestors prior to branching out to my grandmother's family.

William Shaw AIREY, my grandfather, married Elizabeth PRESTON. She was the 6<sup>th</sup> of 8 children born to Henry PRESTON and Elizabeth CROSSTHWAITE.

Henry was baptised on 19 October 1845 in St John's Parish, Preston. He was the 5<sup>th</sup> child of 11 born to Thomas and Mary Anne née GARSTANG. In the 1861 Census, the family is found at 10 Georges Street and heavily involved in the cotton industry which was undergoing challenges brought about by the American Civil War.

On 19 May 1870, Henry started work at the firm of Stephen Simpson, a wire works situated in Avenham Road. Henry remained there until his death in 1923.

On 5 March 1871, Henry married in Percy Street Unitarian Chapel. He set up home at 120 Park Road, Preston. By 1881, they had moved 5 times (as ascertained by birth details of their offspring) being in 14 Arkwright Road by that date. By 1891, they had moved to Back Percy Street and ten years later they were in Oxford Street. Were they trying to keep one step ahead of the bailiffs?! By 1911 for some reason they were back at 14 Arkwright Road.

The 1881 Census shows Stephen Simpson employed 63 girls, 4 boys and 6 men. At its height, it employed 230 in all its departments.

In 1891 Henry had been joined in the wire works by his son Daniel Preston, aged 19 years, who is also a gold wire drawer. The 1901 Census shows the remainder of the family has joined him. Bertha Preston, aged 22 years, a gold/silver flatter; Elizabeth Preston, aged 19 years, a gold/silver puller; and Fred Preston, aged 14 years, a gold/silver embroiderer.

A trip to Preston Harris Library was necessary! I asked the librarian if she they held any details about the wire works. The reply in a strong Lancastrian accent was 'Com wi' me, lad'. She pulled out a copy of 'The History of the Firm of Stephen Simpson 1829-1929' and, as she handed it to me, it opened at a page of photographs. Who should it have been but none other than my Henry! The following page also showed some male workers in 1885, including Henry and Daniel, and another of workers in 1929, including Daniel now a manager of one of the sections in the firm. The text below was taken from that book.

‘It was a unique factory and was the only one to produce the threads from the beginning to the end of the process. The first stage was to melt the silver and copper and pour the molten material into a mould. Then it was cooled. On the drawing bench, a perfect surface was obtained before covering in gold leaf. The rod was then pulled through a series of die until the wire became thinner than a human hair. The wire would be flattened, spun, woven, corded and crimped to produce cords, sashes, ribbons and laces. Threads were given different effects and known as purl purl, smooth purl and rough purl. Hand embroiderers, both in the factory and as out workers, produced beautiful badges and emblems for the military, royal outfits, the White Star Shipping Company and the Masons to name but a few.’

The next stop was Preston Record Office where I found some wage books from the firm. (DDX 1876 Acc 6915 item 31)

### **Week ending 15 January 1913**

	No of Hours	Rate	Gross Pay	Nett Pay
<u>Bar Shed</u>				
H Preston	84.5	34/-	£2/10/10d	£2/10/6d
D Preston	81.5	34/-	£2/9/0d	£2/8/8d
<u>Prep Room</u>				
F Preston	56.5	34/-	£1/14/-d	£1/13/8d

In 1918, Henry was living with his daughter and her husband at 251 Watling Street Road, Fulwood, on the outskirts of Preston. Henry's Death Certificate shows he died at 291 Watling Street Road, Fulwood, to where the family had moved in 1920.

### **The wage book entry for week ending 6 October 1920**

H Preston				
Check no 1	58	89/6	£5/10/5.5d	£5/10/3d

Between March and July 1921, Henry's hours went down to between 17 and 24 hours, but on one week only it climbed to 50 hours. By January 1922, Henry's rate of pay went from 72/6 to 68/- in October (presumably, he was becoming ill).

There is a note in red pen against Henry's name: 'Died 6/3/23'. Last pay date 24/1/23 when he worked 22.5 hours at 68/-, gross wage £1/12/7d, nett pay £1/12/7d.

Death Certificate shows 6 March 1923 at 291 Watling Street Road, Fulwood. Henry Preston, 78 years, a 'Gold Wire Drawer (Journeyman)'. Cause of death: 1) Senility 2) Myocardial degeneration and Broncho pneumonia. Certified by T H C Derham MB. Informant: Elizabeth Preston, daughter-in-law (Fred's wife) of 3 Avenham Road, Preston. Registered on 7 March 1923.

Daniel became manager of the heavy wire section. Fred was in charge of hand and machine embroidery and epaulette and belt work, a large department with about 100 employees.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Diary Dates for 2019

<b>7 September</b>	<b>Dyfed FHS Fair</b> St Peter's Civic Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1PG (10am - 4pm)
<b>27/28 September</b>	<b>AGRA* Conference</b> Pembroke College, Oxford Commences with formal dinner on 27th September and lectures held on 28th September. You don't have to attend dinner and stay the night, if you just want to hear the lectures. Open to all, not just AGRA members. <a href="http://www.agraconference.com">www.agraconference.com</a> *Association of Genealogists and Researchers in Archives
<b>5 October</b>	<b>Oxford FHS Fair</b> Marlborough School, Shipton Road, Woodstock, OX20 1LP (10am - 4pm)
<b>12 October</b>	<b>Glamorgan FHS Fair</b> Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre, Glamorgan, CF48 1UT (10am - 3.30pm)
<b>12 October</b>	<b>SWAG AGM/FHF Next Steps on the Road Seminar &amp; Workshop</b> Ruishton Village Hall, Cheats Road, Ruishton, Taunton, TA3 5JD
<b>24/25/26 October</b>	<b>RootsTech 2019 (3-Day Fair)</b> ExCel London, One Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock, London, E16 1XL

**Society Meetings and Speakers for 2019**  
**Weston-super-Mare & District Family History Society**

Meetings at The Vintage Church, Hughenden Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2UR. The venue is open from 7.00pm with coffee/tea and biscuits. Meetings start at 7.30pm.

- **23 July 2019 – The Weston, Clevedon & Portishead Railway**

The story of our former local railway presented by its Preservation Society. An opportunity to also learn about meetings and events, including a proposed guided mini-bus day tour along the old route, in September or October.

**Speaker: Paul Gregory, WC&P Railway Group Secretary**

**No Meeting in August**

- **24 September 2019 – British War Medals**

**Speaker: Peter Towey**

- **22 October 2019 – Somerset Photographers 1839 – 1939**

A celebration of Somerset's photographic history, as seen through the lives of its photographers.

**Speakers: Phil Nichols and Robin Ansell**

- **26 November 2019 – AGM, Followed by Members' Evening & Memorabilia**

Do you know any Black Sheep? Do you have famous or infamous people on your tree? Be prepared to talk about your naughty, but interesting ancestors! Question and answer session.

**No Meeting in December**



## **Uphill Man Serves Time - Yuma Territorial Prison, Arizona by Arthur Redman**

This is a story about a man from Uphill who served time in Yuma Territorial Prison. The story came to light while I was conducting some research into an ancestor of mine, Joseph REDMAN. He was a son of Richard Redman and his wife Ann (née Card) who were farmers at Vole Road, Mark. Joseph Redman was born on 12 June 1846 and, in the Census (1851 and 1861), he was recorded as living with his parents who farmed 35 acres.

It appears that in 1870, at the age of 23, Joseph was at Ellsworth, Fort Harker, Kansas, where he had a farm holding of some 150 acres.

By 1876, he was living at Globe, Arizona, and went into the butchering business with Lieutenant James WILEY, a Civil War veteran. It seems that during this period he came into contact with a 'Miner', Harry HANCOCK. This man was born in Uphill in 1846 and was one of the 9 children born to Joseph HANCOCK and Charlotte (née EVERY).

At this time Globe, situated on the edge of the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation, was in the process of being set out as a township, a remote area with vast mineral deposits. It was a lawless area and there are many accounts of gunfights, murders and Indian troubles.



**Old Dominion Mine, Globe, Arizona**

Joseph Redman and Harry Hancock became acquainted, probably because the two men were from the same general area of Somerset and could relate stories of 'home'. It appears that Harry Hancock arranged for his older sister, Eliza Maria Hancock (born 3 June 1844), to travel to Arizona and to marry Joseph Redman. She arrived in New York on 6 October 1876 from Bristol on 'SS Cornwall' and she was described as a 'Spinster', aged 28 years. The couple were married on 30 October 1879 in Florence, Pinal County, Arizona. After Joseph Redman's death, the Arizona 'Silver Belt' newspaper (18 January 1900) recorded that his wife (Eliza), 'Miss Hancock came out from England with the express object of marrying him'.

In the Globe Census Record 1890, Joseph Redman 'Butcher', his wife and brother-in-law are all listed. He also appears in the 1894 Globe Voters' Records. Joseph served two terms as an Arizona County Supervisor for the governing body which oversees the operation of county government. He was incapacitated due to ill health and eventually died on 12 January 1900. His wife, Eliza, died on 22 August 1912. An interesting fact is that she was the first child to be baptised in the 'new' Saint Nicholas Church, Uphill.

Eliza's brother, Harry Hancock, is the only known person from Uphill to be imprisoned in the infamous Yuma Territorial Prison. This prison, opened in 1875, was built by convicts and housed some of the most violent and hapless 'Old West' criminals, including 20 females, until 1909 when the last inmate left.



**Yuma Territorial Prison - Main Guard Tower**

Harry Hancock was tried between 18 and 20 December 1899 at the Second Judicial District for ‘assault with a deadly weapon’. He was sentenced to 3 years’ imprisonment at Yuma and was released on 17 July 1903. His prison number was 1581 and his next of kin were listed as Mr and Mrs Redman, Globe. His personal descriptive form indicates numerous knife scars on his left hand, base of thumb and little finger, also stiffness of hand. He was blind in his right eye and it appears that he had a ‘bullet scar’ to the top of his left arm.

Harry was found dead on 19 November 1909. The Coroner’s Report indicated that death was due to ‘natural causes’ and there was no requirement for an inquest.

The story does not end there!

It seems that another Hancock sister went to Arizona. Her name was Alma Lucy Hancock, who travelled from Liverpool on ‘RMS Lucania’ and arrived in New York. She was listed as a ‘Spinster’, aged 26 years. Alma then went to Globe where, on 3 June 1897, she married Charles BANKER (1852, Germany – 1914) and she died on 28 January 1911. Alma and Charles are shown in the 1900 and 1910 Census Reports and appear to be ‘Saloon-keepers’. The 1910 Report also includes Joseph Edward Hancock, a brother of Alma. Joseph arrived in America on 4 April 1909 to ‘visit his sister in Globe’. It is believed that he eventually returned to England in November 1914. Joseph died in 1922 at 2 Wilton Gardens, Weston-super-Mare.



**‘RMS Lucania’**

**Memories (1954 – 1962)**  
**Weston-super-Mare Grammar School for Boys (Part 4)**  
**by Jerry Dorber**

My Mum and Dad were secondary teachers for many years in Bristol and they were both successful in their jobs. Indeed, on numerous occasions, I was in both of their schools - Mum and Dad sometimes let me work with students from their classes, either with individuals or in small groups. Mum allowed me to teach her class of Special Needs youngsters for the odd morning or afternoon, whenever the opportunity arose.



Whilst the pay for teachers was not particularly good at that time, the length of holidays held a certain attraction, so teaching became my chosen profession. I needed at least two A-Levels and, as I was doing three, I decided to apply for a place at my Mother's old college in Bristol - Redland College. The outcome of all this was that I was offered a conditional place to do a Primary Teaching Course in September 1962, subject to me passing at least two A-Levels that Summer, which I did.

### **Changes and Final Thoughts**

Between September 1954 and July 1962, there were great changes in structuring and staffing at the Weston Boys' Grammar School.

It was apparent right from the start, that overcrowding was always going to be a problem. In my first year, many specialist rooms in the School were used for basic classroom teaching. My classroom (1S) and the adjacent first-year classroom (1D) had additional locker units placed just inside the classroom door. These lockers were for the books and personal items of lads who were being taught in any available vacant specialist room in the school, for example, the Geography Room.

To alleviate this problem, a large building project was begun towards the end of my second year to increase the teaching facilities within the School. This long concrete and glass single-storey building on the south side of the main building was to contain a Biology Laboratory, the School Library and additional classrooms. It was proposed that the area between this new structure and the main building was to be used initially as a horticultural area with a greenhouse. Later this area was used as the site for additional Pratten classrooms. About this time, another single Pratten classroom was erected just beyond the Boiler House.

Back in 1954, when I first went to Weston Grammar, our lunches, which we ate in the Main Hall, were cooked elsewhere and delivered in large aluminium containers. With the increase in the Grammar School population from 1955/6 onward, changes were also being planned for the provision of school meals, culminating eventually in the construction of a large new on-site Canteen and Kitchen. This facility was situated on the school field between the Caretaker's house and the detached building used by the School's Air Training Corps (159 Squadron). However, the site chosen for this new Dining Room and Kitchen had one drawback - it was a long walk in snow or rain from the Main School building.

The increasing population in the School was due in part, so I understand, to growing numbers of youngsters passing their Eleven-plus Exams, or being transferred from local Secondary Modern Schools having passed their Thirteen-plus Exams, as well as an increasing demand for a Sixth Form education.

These increases in pupil numbers also meant considerable staffing changes. Having neared or reached retirement, many of the 'old guard' quietly disappeared and were replaced by a younger, more vibrant professional team. This new mixture of both experience and youth amongst the staff made a positive impact on me. Certainly, by late 1959, the staff who most influenced me - Messrs Forbes, Brown, Symes, Anderton, Moody, Sutton, Cooper and Boyce - were all 'in situ'.

Since leaving Weston Grammar in July 1962, qualifications, marriage, children, a long career in education and now retirement have all come to pass. From time to time, I think back over the sixty-four years since I first went to Weston-super-Mare Boys' Grammar School (and my eight years spent there) and I wonder whether I did 'quite well' because of it - or in spite of it!

## **Flying around Weston by Simon Begent**

Weston-super-Mare, and many residents, has a long association with aviation. In 1910, just 3 years after the Wright brothers first flew, Mr Stevenson, Manager of Weston's Pier, invited pioneer airman Sam Cody to lecture at the Pier Pavilion. Cody spoke about how flying could be developed to encourage tourists and was very well received. On 3 August 1911, Cody became the first man to arrive at Weston by aeroplane. He gave another popular lecture at the Pier and about 7,000 people saw him take off early the next day and witness the then fantastic spectacle of flying machines. The first flights were from the beach. By 1912, an early seaplane with floats was providing joyrides from Sand Bay.

World War I put a stop to civilian flying but, in 1919, Weston Council licensed passenger flights to be operated by Avro Transport from the 'Sands' Aerodrome on the beach near Uphill and the Warwick Aeroplane Company at Brean Down. In August 1920, Henri Barman landed his seaplane in front of the Grand Atlantic Hotel. Cobham's Flying Circus gave joyrides and spectacular flying displays along the seafront.

Flying was attracting much publicity and many visitors. Weston was keen to become the 'Flying Centre of the South West'. By the 1930s, aircraft were becoming safer, more reliable and able to carry passengers on timetabled flights. In 1933, an Airport Committee was formed and, in 1935, work started on Weston's Airport on Locking Moor. The Council funded the £56,000 land and construction cost and let Western Airways manage the Airport. There was a large hanger, a wooden terminal building made from a converted WWI field hospital and a control tower using a former taxi shelter from the seafront. The runway was a grass strip which sometimes flooded!



By 1936, there were regular scheduled flights in De Havilland Dragon and Rapide aircraft from Weston to Cardiff (Splott), Bristol (Whitchurch), London (Croydon) and Bournemouth where there were onwards flights to Paris. You could fly every half-hour to Cardiff for £22/6 return.

It is said that the flights from Cardiff were particularly popular on Sundays when the pubs in South Wales were dry!

There were no road bridges then across the estuary to Wales. The alternative to the short flights were occasional steamers from Birnbeck Pier. In the first two years, 36,000 people flew from Weston Airport, which is an incredible number considering each flight could take only up to 7 passengers. It was one of the busiest airports in the country.

The outbreak of war in 1939 brought an end to all, but essential, civilian flying. RAF Locking was opened for RAF technician training and, at the airfield, Western Airways was contracted to repair, overhaul and modify military aeroplanes. Barrage balloons were flown. Pillboxes and anti-aircraft sites were built for defence, as well as air raid shelters. A Pilots' Block and a new 1,400-yard concrete runway, to take heavier aircraft, were built. In 1941, two 'shadow' factories, one at Oldmixon and another at Banwell (Elborough), were built for aircraft production by the Bristol Aeroplane Company of Bristol Beauforts, Blenheims, Beaufighters and other aircraft. The completed aircraft from the Banwell factory were towed along Locking Moor Road (A371), passing RAF Locking to the airfield. A Polish Training Squadron was briefly based at Weston and an Aircraft Torpedo Development Unit tested torpedoes by dropping them from Avro Lincoln bombers into the sea.

After the war, regular flights to Cardiff resumed but only for a short while as Western Airways concentrated on aircraft maintenance. In the 1950s, Bristol Britannia and Bristol Freighter aircraft were flown to Weston for maintenance and repair. Weston Aero Club and later the Achilles Flying School operated small private aircraft and the gliding school provided glider training for Air Cadets. Anson and Varsity Aircraft based at Weston provided air navigation training for RAF trainees from Locking Camp. The Banwell factory at Elborough made prefabricated houses and then became Bristol AeroJet, making rocket motors for missiles including Seawolf and Bloodhound.

The most significant change was when Bristol Helicopters moved to the Oldmixon factory and the Airfield was used increasingly by helicopters. Advanced in their day, Belvedere and Sycamore helicopters were fully designed, built and tested at Weston which became a centre for helicopter development and production. In 1960, production at Oldmixon was merged with Westland Helicopters which became the largest local employer. In 2002, Westland closed their design and production facility in Weston and 950 jobs were lost or moved to Yeovil.



So - what is left now of Weston's aviation heritage and its once busy airfield? The Oldmixon site is an industrial estate of small units, Banwell (Elborough) and RAF Locking sites are closed and turned into housing estates and the west end of the airfield is a housing development (Haywood Village). The runway has been turned into a road called appropriately 'The Runway' providing access to the new houses. There are still spectacular flying displays along the seafront on Weston Air Days. The airfield now home to the International Helicopter Museum which is the world's largest helicopter collection with over 80 types on display. A Bloodhound missile stands sentinel outside the newly restored Pilots' Block and Control Tower and there is a Weston Aviation Exhibition in the Pilots' Block.

***Do you have any ancestors or memories associated with Weston's proud aviation heritage?***

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**Family Holidays at Dawlish Warren, Devon**

**by Sheila Mills**

**Blue Anchor, Minehead (and formerly Weston-super-Mare)**

This photo, taken about 1918 at Dawlish Warren, Devon, shows my Maternal Grandmother, Isabella PENTECOST (née DAVIS), with a parasol. She was born in Weston-super-Mare because her father, Charles DAVIS, was a 'Journeyman'. With her are Uncle Arthur and Uncle Stanley. Note the railway carriage in the background.

My Grandfather, Halse Ley PENTECOST, used to hire 'The Links', a holiday home, for his family of ten children. Uncle Arthur, the youngest, was born in 1912. I spent a lot of my childhood at Dawlish Warren too. In the 1940s and 1950s, it was wild and windy with a lovely sandy beach, a good golf course and not much commercialism!



## Some Useful Local Addresses

The Editor is always pleased to receive additions or corrections to this list, based on Members' experiences.

Bath Library	Tel: 01225 787400
Bristol Central Library, College Green, Bristol	Tel: 0117 9037200 email: <i>bristol-library-service@bristol.gov.uk</i>
Bristol Family History Centre (LDS), 721 Wells Road, Whitechurch, Bristol, BS14 9HU	Tel: 01275 838326
Bristol Record Office, 'B' Bond Warehouse, Smeaton Road, Bristol, BS1 6XN	Tel: 0117 9224224 email: <i>bro@bristol-city.gov.uk</i>
Clevedon Library, 37 Old Church Road, Clevedon, BS21 1RQ	Tel: 01934 426020 email: <i>clevedon.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Clevedon Story Heritage Centre, Waterloo House, 4 The Beach, Clevedon, BS21 7QU	Tel: 01275 341196
Nailsea Library, Somerset Square, Nailsea, BS48 1RQ	Tel: 01934 426030 email: <i>nailsea.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Weston-super-Mare Museum, Burlington Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1PR	Tel: 01934 621028. Fax 01934 612526 email: <i>museum@wsm-tc.gov.uk</i>
Portishead Library, High Street, Portishead, BS20 6EW	Tel: 01934 426040 email: <i>portishead.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Registrar of Births Deaths and Marriages, Town Hall, Walliscote Road, Weston super Mare, BS23 1UJ	Tel: 01934 427552 email: <i>register.office@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Somerset Heritage Centre, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6SF	Tel: 01823 278805 email: <i>archives@somerset.gov.uk</i>
Somerset Studies Library, Paul Street, Taunton, TA1 3XZ	Tel: 01823 340300. Fax: 01823 340301 email: <i>somstud@somerset.gov.uk</i>
Weston Library, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston super Mare, BS23 1UJ	For general enquiries: Tel: 01934 426010 email: <i>weston.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i> For local history enquiries: Tel: 01934 888855 email: <i>answers@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Weston Civic Society, The Old Town Quarry, South Road, Weston super Mare	Tel: 01934 412144
Worle Library and Children's Centre, Mendip Avenue, Worle, BS22 6HN	Tel: 01934 462090 email: <i>worle.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>
Yatton Library, 48 High Street, Yatton, BS49 4HJ	Tel: 01934 426100 email: <i>yatton.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>

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*E=Elected Position according to Constitution; C=Co-opted Position by the Committee.*

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*All Committee Members may be contacted using the Society's website. From any page on the site, go to the top right corner and click on 'Contact Us'. This will bring up a Contact Form for you to complete. Please choose the correct category so that the form is addressed to the correct recipient.*

*Neither the Editor nor the Committee necessarily agrees with the views or opinions expressed by contributors to the Journal. Articles remain the property of the individual author and may not be reproduced without their permission.*

## Map of the Parishes covered by the Weston-super-Mare & District FHS

*On the rear cover is a map of the general area that we cover as a Society, showing the Parishes that are known to have existed in 1832. This basically equates to the same area that forms North Somerset District Council's boundaries plus that covered by the Axbridge Registration District which was set up in 1837:*

1. Easton-in-Gordano	2 Portbury	3 Abbots Leigh
4. Portishead	5. Clapton in Gordano	6. Wraxall
7. Long Ashton	8. Weston in Gordano	9. Tickenham
10. Nailsea	11. Backwell	12. Flax Bourton
13. Barrow Gurney	14. Dundry	15. Walton in Gordano
16. Clevedon	17. Kenn	18. Yatton
19. Brockley	19a. Chelvey	20. Wrington
21. Butcombe	22. Nempnet Thrubwell	23. Winford
24. Kingston Seymour	25. Wick St Lawrence	26. Puxton & Hewish
27. Congresbury	28. Churchill	29. Burrington
30. Blagdon	31. Kewstoke	32. Worle
33. Banwell	34. Weston-super-Mare	35. Hutton
36. Locking	37. Christon	38. Winscombe
39. Uphill	40. Brean	41. Bleadon
42. Loxton	43. Biddisham	44. Compton Bishop
45. Axbridge	46. Shipham	47. Rowberrow
48. Cheddar	49. Charterhouse	50. Ubley
51. Compton Martin	52. Chew Stoke	53. Chew Magna
54. West Harptree	55. East Harptree	56. Berrow
57. Brent Knoll	58. Lympsham	59. East Brent
60. Badgworth	61. Weare	62. Nyland
63. Rodney Stoke	64. Westbury	65. Priddy
66. Burnham on Sea	67. Huntspill	68. Mark
69 Chapel Allerton	70. Wedmore	

*The following Parishes were split as follows:*

*Clevedon into All Saints; Christ Church & St Andrew.*

*Nailsea into Christ Church & Holy Trinity.*

*Weston-super-Mare into All Saints; Christ Church; Emmanuel; Good Shepherd; Holy Trinity; St John; St Paul & St Saviour.*

# Map of Parishes covered by Weston-super-Mare & District FHS

