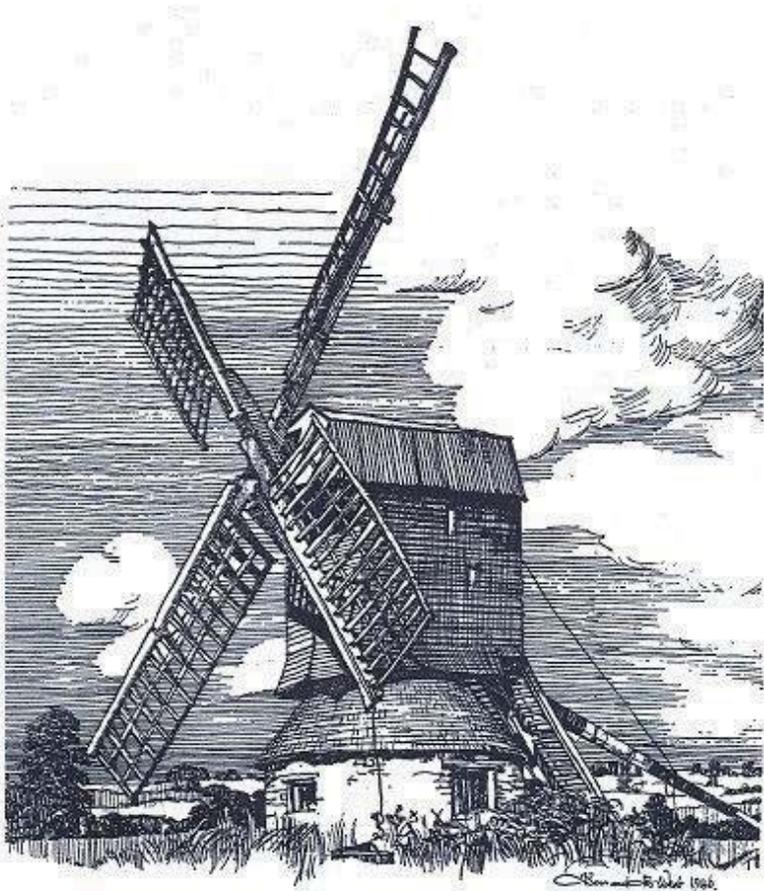




**Bedfordshire
Family History Society
Journal**

Vol 22 No 1 March 2019



Stevington Windmill

BEDFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Registered Charity No. 281677*

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BEDFORDSHIRE
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
JOURNAL



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EDITORIAL

If you were wondering what happened to the formatting in the printed version of the December 2018 *Journal* I can only apologise. We're not exactly sure what happened but it is probably due to different versions of Microsoft Publisher being used between Noel and I. Fingers crossed we have found a suitable way of working to avoid this reoccurring.

Please keep up your valuable contributions to the *Journal*. We were a little light this time round. As ever Mary Wooldridge and John Partridge have supplied several contributions which is very much appreciated ! Don't forget the *Journal* itself becomes a family history record for future generations to explore as part of their research.

Who knows who will be reading your articles in years to come ?

In this issue I've managed to squeeze in another small extract from the Hawnes Court Rolls Full Transcript and Translation of X520/273. It's a list of people who contributed to the Old Parish Rates. I skipped this list in the September 2018 *Journal*, see page 31, due to its length.

I was very saddened to hear that Peter Smith, a former committee member for the society died on 27 December 2018. His obituary is published on page 6.

As we went to print we received the sad news that Olga Page, committee member, passed away on 9 February.

journal@bfhs.org.uk

Geoff Young
Journal Co-ordinator



Bedfordshire Family History Society now has a presence on Facebook for news and discussions visit

www.facebook.com/BedfordshireFamilyHistorySociety

The **CLOSING DATE** for articles to be published in the
June 2019 *Journal* is 15 April 2019

If possible, please supply by email (to journal@bfhs.org.uk)

Bedfordshire has its own mailing list for genealogy in and around the area. To subscribe send an email to:

BEDFORD-L-request@rootsweb.com

with 'subscribe' in the **BODY** of the email



PROGRAMME

1 MAR	UP WITH THE LARK – AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS	IAN WALLER
5 APR	HOW FAR DID YOUR ANCESTORS TRAVEL BEFORE THE ADVENT OF THE RAILWAYS	CELIA HERITAGE
3 MAY	BEDLAM AND MENTAL HEALTH	COLIN OAKES
7 JUN	AGM + QUIZ	
5 JUL	THE RISE FALL AND RISE AGAIN OF THE CARDINGTON AIRSHIPS	DAVID FOWLER
6 SEP	FROM ERIC THE BALD TO NIGEL DE AUBIGNY: BEDFORDSHIRE AND THE DOOMESDAY BOOK	BRIAN KERR
4 OCT	SPANISH FLU PANDEMIC IN BEDFORD AND BEYOND	MAURICE NICHOLSON
1 NOV	LEGAL RECORDS FOR GENEALOGISTS	DR NICK BARRATT

FUTURE MEETING DATES 2019/20

2019: 6 DEC

2020: 10 JAN, 7 FEB, 6 MAR

MEETING VENUE

MARK RUTHERFORD SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
WENTWORTH DRIVE, BEDFORD MK41 8PX (by Mowsbury Park)

Doors open at 19:00, talk commences at 19:30
Bookstall and library also available

ELI THEODORE COX

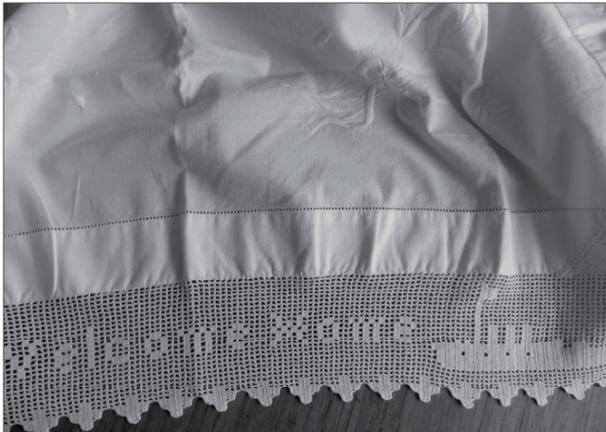
My great uncle Eli Theodore Cox served in the First World War. He was born on 19 January 1895. His parents were James Eli Cox (1861-1916) and Eliza (1867-1945) – they lived in Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire.

From rural Bedfordshire he joined the 7th Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment on 28 August 1914. I was fortunate to find and download his military records and actually see his signature. He was 5ft 7 and a half inches tall, weighed 125lb and his chest measurement was 34 inches. He enlisted at St Paul's churchyard where the 7th Battalion was formed at Norwich in August 1914 and came under command of 35th Brigade in 12th Eastern Division. He landed in France on 30 May 1915.

The 7th Norfolks were not in the Ypres Salient when Eli was killed in action on the night of the 9/10 June 1917. They were positioned around Verquin. At the time of his death he was attached to the 173rd Tunnelling

Company of the Royal Engineers. A letter dated 3 July 1917 confirms he was attached to that unit when killed. Eli was 23 when he died. The service record records that he died from a gunshot wound to the head. He was probably taken to Essex Farm which was a medical dressing station and died of his wounds there on 9 June 1917. He was buried in the newly formed Essex Farm cemetery at the side. Of note it is possibly the most visited cemetery on the Western Front today due to its position at the side of a major road, and it was here that John McCrae wrote 'In Flanders Fields' one of the most famous of all Great War Poems. He was awarded the Victory Medal.

Eli Theodore Cox was my mother's uncle (my great uncle) and my mother gave me a tablecloth which was made by his fiancée who crocheted 'Welcome Home' and battleships along its edges. Tragically he was killed in action.





Eliza Cox, 1926 Greenfield



*12719 Sergeant E. T. Cox
Norfolk Regiment
9 June 1917 age 23*

The tablecloth is now 104 years old, still looks like new and has been mentioned in various presentations at my local U3A Family History group in Oundle, Northamptonshire.

I feel very close to my ancestor and that I know him; also my great

grandmother, Eliza, whose signature I can see on the receipt for her son's effects and medals. Theodore's name is on the War Memorial and Plaque in Pulloxhill Church, Bedfordshire. □

Eunice Jones

BEDFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY JOURNALS ON CD

Back copies of Journal Volumes 1 – 19 including indexes, in .pdf format.

The cd contains Volumes 1 – 19 of the journal and a link to the online Surname Index available on our website. Each journal volume covers a period of two years and contains an individual index to surnames and subjects.

Only £10 including postage and is available from:
Noel Evans, 14 Beaulieu Way, BEDFORD, MK41 8NP
or parishsales@bfhs.org.uk

PETER SMITH OBITUARY

Peter Smith, a former committee member for the society died on 27 December 2018.

Peter was born on 26 August 1936 in North London and grew up there. He met his wife at a party, and they married on 24 September 1960. They had three children – Mark, Nick and Jo, and lived in the village of Risley, Bedfordshire. He was in the RAF and worked for the GPO and BT in the exchange. He never forgot the camaraderie he had with his mates there. He was an ardent Spurs supporter. Interested in gardening particularly vegetable growing although he grew geraniums and roses as well.

Peter became interested in family history after he retired, when he realised that, like a lot of people, he knew little about his family beyond his grandparents. A lot of in depth research followed.

Peter was also a member of the Risley Historical Society. He was instrumental in the production of the book relating to the soldiers that served in the First World War.

He had family ancestry in Germany – a Johannes Bettenhausen came to the UK from a village near Hamburg in the mid-19th century. He had been planning a trip there with his cousin Mike, a fellow genealogy buff.

He joined the committee of the BFHS in March 1998 and spent 16 years selling the societies CD's and



micro fiche. He left the committee in June 2014. He initially looked after the sales of microfiche from 1998 then the sale of Parish Register CD's and 1851 Census as well. Peter has been a great asset to the society bringing in many thousands of pounds over this 16 year period.

He liked finding out things, and while he got enthusiastically into electronic databases etc. he used to say he missed the days spent burrowing around in Somerset House or the National Archives, chasing down leads.

He will be greatly missed by the society and we offer our sincere condolences to his wife Maureen and family in their sad loss. □

*Geoff Sewell
Programme Secretary and Former
Chairman*

WILLIAM JONAS GIGGLE – AN EXTRAORDINARY INFANT

An enquiry to our BFHS Facebook page brought to light this story of an extraordinary sized baby born in August 1863 to James and Sarah GIGGLE of Everton. James Giggle married Sarah CHRISTY of Potton in March quarter 1863 in St. Neots RD. Their first child was son William Jonas Giggle in September quarter 1863 who was baptised that year at Everton–cum–Tetworth. Extracts from various newspapers in 1864 shows that he was exhibited throughout the country.

Hertfordshire Express and General Advertiser 5 March 1864

Biggleswade An Infant Giant – A wonderful child was exhibited at Biggleswade on Wednesday and Thursday, March 2 and 3. This extraordinary child is only six months old and weighs 4 stone; is 32 inches high, measures 27 inches round the shoulders, 8 and a half inches round the arms, 26 inches round the waist, 17 inches round the thighs and 10 and a half inches round the calf.

St. Neots Chronicle and Advertiser 2 April 1864

An Infant Prodigy! For the last two or three days a child of extraordinary size has been exhibited in a cottage belonging to Mrs ILSEY in the 'Fox and Hounds' yard. Some idea of the immense size of this infant may be formed from the following scale of dimensions, which is perfectly correct: the arm 8 and a half inches,

round the shoulders 27 inches, waist 26 inches, thigh 17 inches, calf of leg 10 and a half inches. The child, which is a little over six months old and in a remarkably healthy condition, weighs four stone and is son of James and Sarah GIGGLE, both of whom are rather below the usual stature, and reside in Everton–cum–Tetworth. Barnum, the celebrated American sensational showman, would no doubt give a handsome sum to obtain the sole prerogative of exhibiting this natural curiosity, which has been visited by hundreds of persons during the last two days.

Cambridge Independent Press 16 April 1864

Bedford, Extraordinary Child. A remarkably large and fine child has been exhibited in this town, whose parents James and Sarah GIGGLE, live in Everton in this county. The boy is seven months old and weighs four stones, the measurement around the shoulders is 27 inches, round the waist is 26 inches, round the thigh 17 inches, round the arms 8 and a half inches. A great number of persons have visited the child with astonishment. The boy is lively and interesting in appearance.

Derby Mercury 3 August 1864

Notice – Exchange Hall, Derby for a few days only. Now exhibiting, the most wonderful living novelty of the present day, the 'giant baby' William Jonas GIGGLE, born August 30

1863 at Everton, Bedfordshire. Height nearly 36 inches, Round the head 20 inches, Round the shoulders 28 inches, Girth of belly 27 inches, Round the arm 10 inches, the wrist 7 inches, the knee 14 inches, the thigh 18 inches, and calf of leg 11 inches. Upwards of three stones in weight, fourteen pounds to the stone, no deformity, very fair and good looking. Admission from 2 till 5 o'clock, Ladies and Gentlemen 1s, tradespeople 6d; from 6 till 9 o'clock 3d.

Bristol Mercury 13 August 1864

Among the novelties of the season, and showing its productive character, consequent upon the dryness of the year, is a giant baby, a yard high and three stone in weight. The infant is exhibiting in Derby.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1 October 1864

The Onion Fair. A few prodigies, another of the essential elements of this fair, are also to be seen. A 'giant boy' is very judiciously coupled with 'the smallest man in the world' and there is a still more remarkable phenomenon associated with 'the royal moving waxwork' namely 'the giant baby' William Jonas GIGGLE aged one year, whose name suggests that he must have laughed and grown fat till he attained his weight of 44lbs, according to the showman.

The Era 11 December 1864

Derby, Kensall's Waxwork: Mr Kensall's splendid collection of moving wax figures was exhibited in

the Market Place on Tuesday and Wednesday last, and was most extensively patronised. A living giant baby has been added to the attractions.

James and Sarah then had second child, daughter Blanche GIGGLE born 31 March 1865, again baptised Everton-cum-Tetworth. Father James died in December quarter 1865 and is buried at Everton-cum-Tetworth aged 24. Widowed mother Sarah next married William LEONARD of Tempsford at St. Neots RD in December quarter 1867. They then had 2 further children Fanny 1869 and Flora 1870 and all were living in Everton at the 1871 census. On the 1881 census living in Everton is William Leonard and wife Sarah plus step daughter Blanche Giggle and the 6 Leonard children born between 1868 and 1880. I cannot find William Jonas Giggle in 1881, however he does turn up in 1891 census as Jonas Giggle with wife Julia and 4 year old daughter Elizabeth Blanche, are living next door to William and Sarah Leonard and family.

William Jonas Giggle aged 22 married Julia Elizabeth THEOBALDS born Gamlingay, aged 19 at Everton-Tetworth on 23 September 1885, his sister Blanche Giggle is a witness. Later in September quarter 1891 in St. Neots RD, most likely Everton-Tetworth, Blanche Giggle married William Henry CORBETT of Bedford; they had 2 children born in Everton and then moved to Lancashire as per the

1901/1911 censuses and had 5 further children.

However staying in Everton in 1901 and 1911 is Jonas Giggle with Julia and daughter Elizabeth, he is a grocer and totally blind. His blindness was reported as being caused by a blasting accident that happened around 1888. However this did not stop him being a Free Church chapel preacher.

Biggleswade Chronicle 4 August 1922

Wrestlingworth Free Church: Mr J Giggle of Everton, who is blind, conducted the services on Sunday. Both afternoon and evening services were well attended.

Biggleswade Chronicle 12 September 1924

Wrestlingworth: Mr Jonas Giggle of Everton, who is blind, conducted the afternoon 7 evening services at the Free Church on Sunday. The evening service was well attended and Mr Giggle was listened to with great attention.

His mother Sarah, wife of William Leonard, died on 9 October 1902 at Everton aged 61, as per her death notice in the Bedford Mercury of 24 October. Step father William Leonard died almost 20 years later.

Biggleswade Chronicle 11 March 1921

Everton Funeral: Mr William Leonard, an old and respected inhabitant, was laid to rest in the churchyard on Wednesday aged 74

years. Nearly all his working years were spent under various tenants on Warden Hill Farm, this being sufficient testimony to his steadiness and efficiency. Amongst the relatives present were; Mr Jonas Giggle (step-son), Mrs Corbett of Manchester (step-daughter), Mrs Thompson of Leeds (daughter), Mr Walter Leonard (son) and Mr William Leonard (son). The deceased was a widower, his wife (well-known Nurse Leonard) having died in 1902.

Biggleswade Chronicle 29 August 1926

Death of Blind Chapel Worker: Deep sorrow was evinced in the village of Everton on Sunday when the news of the death of William Jonas Giggle in a London Hospital filtered round. Of a kindly disposition, Mr Giggle was liked and respected by all with whom he came into contact, and the news of his death cast a spell of gloom on all. A native of Everton, he was 63 years of age, and has resided in the village for practically the whole of his life. Some 38 years ago he was the victim of a serious accident while conducting blasting operations at Deepdale Potton, which eventually deprived him of his sight, but although he has been totally blind for 36 years he has made slight trouble of his affliction and has been able to perform practically all the duties in connection with the general stores which he kept in the village. He was also a regular attendant at the Heath Wesleyan Chapel where he was a trustee and a class leader. Much sympathy is expressed to his

sorrowing widow. He leaves no children for his only daughter the late Mrs T HUNT passed away some years ago.

His widow Julia stayed living at Sandy Road, Everton up to her death in 1945. On the 1939 Register she is living there as retired grocer with her single cousin Mary E Giggle born in 1864.

Bedfordshire Times and Independent 16 March 1945

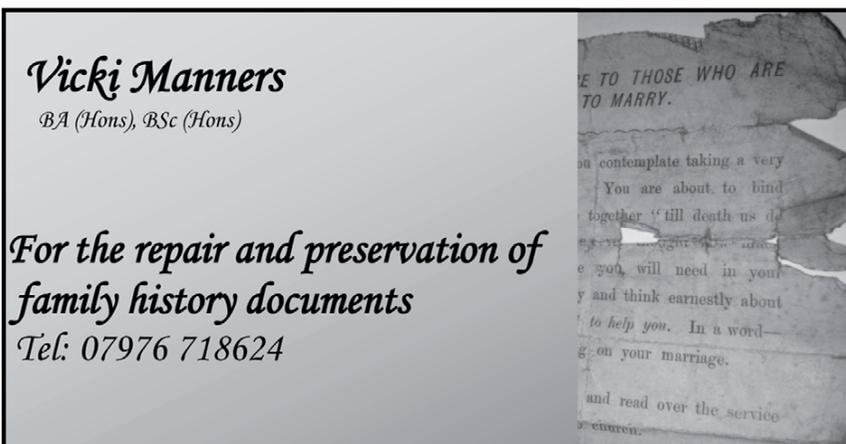
Late Mrs J Giggle: The death of Mrs Julia Giggle occurred on 7 March at her home 26 High Street Everton, at the age of 77, after a long and painful illness. She was the widow of Mr Jonas Giggle who died in 1926. For a great many years they kept the village grocer's shop. The interment took place in the churchyard by the side of her husband and her daughter, who died in 1915.

Bedfordshire Times and Independent 12 February 1915

Everton: The death occurred on the 30 January of Mrs Elizabeth Blanche Hunt, wife of Thomas Hunt (second son of Mr Alfred Hunt of Sandy) of Everton. The deceased who was the only 28 years of age, was the only daughter of Mr Jonas and Mrs Giggle of Everton, and had been an inmate of the County Hospital for seven weeks suffering from a painful illness. Great sympathy is felt for her husband and infant daughter. □

John Partridge

Ed. *John kindly points out that Sarah Christy mentioned in his article above may well be the daughter of William and Charlotte Christy mentioned in my article "Christys in Bedfordshire" in the December 2018 Journal.*



Vicki Manners
BA (Hons), BSc (Hons)

For the repair and preservation of family history documents
Tel: 07976 718624

TO THOSE WHO ARE TO MARRY.
on contemplate taking a very
You are about to bind
together "till death us do
e you will need in your
y and think earnestly about
to help you. In a word—
g on your marriage.
and read over the service
church.

CRIMINAL ELEMENT IN HOUGHTON CONQUEST

This article is an extract from a talk I have written on Houghton Conquest.

I looked at the Bedfordshire Gaol Database from 1803 to 1876 there were 223 entries of people residing in Houghton Conquest.

WILLIAM and JOHN ROBINSON interested me.

William baptised in 1799 and John baptised 1801 in Houghton Conquest were the sons of Samuel and Mary Robinson. William Robinson married MARY CHERRY on the 8 May 1815.

John Robinson married MARY HARBROW in Clophill in 1817.

In 1818 the brothers fell foul of the Game Laws, which usually means they were poaching. At their trial they were described thus: John Robinson was 5ft 8ins his hair was brown, complexion pale. William Robinson was 5ft 6ins, his hair was brown and Complexion fresh, they were sentenced to three months hard labour.

By 1820 they had become highway men and on the 14 of December 1820 they were sentenced to death but were later reprieved and transported for life.

William and John were delivered on board the Justitia Hulk at Woolwich

I looked at the Poor law records to see if I could find any other information.

There was a removal order for Mary the wife of John Robinson, he, the said John Robinson, being now confined in Bedford Gaol under sentence of transportation and their children Sarah aged 3, William aged 1 and a half were removed from Clophill to Cardington.

It looks as if Samuel Robinson, the brothers' Father, had got involved in his sons nefarious ways.

On 22 December 1820 he was on trial for Stealing or receiving Wearing Apparel. He was described as having Brown hair, pale complexion and five feet seven inches tall.

Samuel Robinson the younger was also accused of falling foul of the game laws. He was described as being 5ft 3ins, with light brown hair and fresh complexion. His conduct was very bad. His sentence was 3 months in gaol or pay a fine of five pounds. He was discharged so he probably found the money from somewhere.

There were a lot more Robinsons in the database and I am sure many of them were relatives.

The gaol database revealed other miscreants in Houghton Conquest.

At the Michaelmas quarter sessions THOMAS GRUMMIT was sentenced to seven years transportation for stealing "a butcher's steel" presumably a cleaver or some such instrument. He was age

21 and 5 feet 4 inches in height, with brown hair and a fresh complexion. He was delivered to the hulk *Justitia* at Woolwich [Kent] on 1 November [QGV10/1].

At the Lent Assizes 1831 WILLIAM JUFFS was sentenced to death for burglary. He was age 23, 5 feet 6 inches in height, with brown hair and a fresh complexion. His sentence was reduced to transportation for life and he was removed to the *Justitia* hulk on 12 April 1832 [QGV10/1].

At the Midsummer Sessions of 1832 CHRISTOPHER COX was sentenced to seven years transportation for stealing pigs. He was age 41 and stood 5 feet 6 inches. His hair was brown and his complexion fresh. He was removed to the *Justitia* on 17 July 1832. The general remarks on the Prisoner simply reads: "Bad" [QGV10/1].

At the Michaelmas Sessions 1832 JAMES ALLEN was transported for life for sheep stealing. He was age 35 and stood 5 feet 4 inches, with dark hair and dark complexion. He was removed to the *Justitia* on 31 October 1832 [QGV10/1].

At the Summer Assizes of 1834 JAMES PAGE was transported for life for unlawful wounding and maiming of cattle. He was age 38 and stood just over 5 feet 1 inch. His hair and complexion were both dark. He served one month's hard labour and then was transported to the hulk *Fortitude* at Chatham [Kent] on 21 August 1834 [QGV10/1].

At the same assizes WILLIAM ATKINS was sentenced to death for burglary. This sentence was commuted to fourteen years transportation. He was 15 years of age, standing just over four feet six inches, with dark hair and a sallow complexion. He was removed to the *Fortitude* on 21 August 1834, no doubt in the company of James Page [QGV10/1].

On 19 January 1835 WILLIAM TAYLOR was committed to Bedford Prison for cutting and wounding. He was sentenced to death but had this commuted to transportation for life and he was put on board the *Justitia* on 24 April 1835. He was age 37, just over 5 feet 5 inches tall, with light brown hair and a fair complexion [QGV10/1].

On 24 March 1835 JOHN RADMAN was committed to prison for fowl stealing. He was given seven years transportation and sent to the *Justitia* on 24 April, probably in company with William Taylor. He was 30, 5 feet 7 inches tall, with brown hair and a fresh complexion; unusually he could both read and write, suggesting he was a product of Houghton Conquest School [QGV10/1].

On 31 December 1835 two men were committed for sheep stealing. WILLIAM PENNYFATHER was age 24, 5 feet 8 inches in height, with brown hair and a fresh complexion. He could read and write. SAMUEL CHAPPELL was age 23 and five feet four inches tall. His hair was a sandy brown, he had a fresh complexion

and a mole on his cheek. He could read. Both men were transported for life and put on board the *Justitia* on 20 January 1836 [QGV10/1].

The following extract is taken from the minute book:

63 male prisoners and 4 female prisoners.

There are five prisoners in the Infirmary, one of whom has smallpox; no-one is with him who has not had that disorder. Three are ill with bowel complaints and the fifth is an old man with mortification in his feet. There are six other prisoners ill in their cells. [William] Pennyfather, a convict, is seriously unwell.

The order for the removal of the 12 out of the 13 convicts from here to Woolwich was received yesterday.

On 28 April 1836 JOSEPH REDMAN was committed for stealing eggs. He had been in trouble before: in 1825 he had been sentenced to death for housebreaking, the sentence being commuted to twelve months hard labour [QGV10/1]. He was now age 36, standing 5 feet 9 inches tall and he could read and write imperfectly. The quarter sessions records [QSR1836/3/6/12] tell us that he stole eight hen's eggs worth three pence from George Smith. Redman was given seven years transportation and sent to the *Justitia* on 13 July 1836, his conduct being "very orderly", as it had been in his previous brush with the law

[QGV10/1].

Left behind, were his wife Elizabeth Redman and their children:

James Redman, 21
William Redman, 18
Joseph Redman, 15
Mary Redman, 12
Maria Redman, 10
Ann Redman, 5
Jeffery Redman, 2

The final two men to be transported were both committed on 21 June 1837 for stealing a lamb. WILLIAM NEAL was 26, stood five feet eight inches tall, he had brown hair, hazel eyes and a small mole on his left cheek. He could neither read nor write. His confederate was JOHN RIDDY, 22, five feet six inches tall, with brown hair and grey eyes. He could read imperfectly. Both were sent to the hulk *Ganymede* on 8 July 1837.

Left at home were:

Sh Neal, 23
Thomas Neal, 4
Ann Neal, 3

John Riddy lives with HARRIETT CHAPPELL at Bedford. Transported in May 1837.

Elizabeth Riddy, who was mother to daughter Diana, 2. □

Mary Wooldridge

BEDFORDSHIRE PARISH RECORDS ON CD

See also details of the **Surnames Index CD** to all parishes

CDs for all 128 ancient Bedfordshire parishes are now available from:
Noel Evans, 14 Beaulieu Way, BEDFORD, MK41 8NP

or parishsales@bfhs.org.uk – details of CD contents: www.bfhs.org.uk

Each CD contains, for one parish:

All Parish Register transcripts up to 1812 (images)

Searchable Indexes to the Parish Registers for:

Baptisms at least 1813-1851 (some parishes all up to 1851);

all Marriages up to 1837; and all Burials to 1851

The relevant 1851 Census Index for Bedfordshire (images)

CDs marked † also contain *Monumental Inscriptions* (MIs) from a graveyard in the parish (church, chapel or cemetery).

Those marked * contain *records from the registers or graveyards of Non-Conformist chapels* in the parish; photographs and other records are included as available.

‡ **Holwell:** MIs and Burials only, not Registers (now in Herts)

Parish	Price	Issue	(Recent updates marked in bold)		
Amphill † *	£15	2	Clapham †	£10	2
Arlesey	£20	2	Clifton	£20	2
Aspley Guise †	£15	3	Clophill †	£15	2
Astwick †	£10	2	Cockayne Hatley	£10	2
Barton	£15	3	Colmworth †	£10	1
Battlesden	£10	2	Cople †	£10	1
Bedford St Cuthbert †*	£15	2	Cranfield † *	£15	2
Bedford St John *	£15	2	Dean † *	£15	1
Bedford St Mary † *	£15	2	Dunstable † *	£15	2
Bedford St Paul † *	£25	2	Dunton †	£15	2
Bedford St Peter *	£10	2	Eaton Bray	£20	2
Biddenham †	£10	2	Eaton Socon † *	£25	2
Biggleswade † *	£15	2	Edworth †	£10	1
Billington †	£10	2	Elstow †	£15	2
Bletsoe	£10	2	Eversholt †	£15	1
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Bolnhurst	£10	2	Eyeworth	£10	2
Bromham †	£10	2	Farnish †	£10	1
Caddington †	£15	1	Felmersham † *	£10	2
Campton & Shefford † *	£20	2	Flitton *	£15	2
Cardington † *	£15	2	Flitwick	£10	1
Carlton † *	£10	2	Goldington	£10	2
Chalgrave	£15	1	Great Barford †	£15	2
Chellington	£15	2	Harlington †	£10	2



DOES YOUR JOURNAL HAVE A BLACK SPOT ON THE FRONT?

If there is a Black Spot on your Journal front cover you need to read this.

The Society year runs from January to December and subscriptions are collected at the beginning of each New Year.

The black spot on the front cover tells you that, to date, we do not appear to have received your subscription for 2019 and so this will be your last Journal.

If you do wish to continue to be a member and receive the journal then please renew your subscription immediately. Details of subscription rates and forms for renewal, to be sent to the Membership Secretary via the PO Box, were included in the centre of the December journal. Alternatively you can renew on the internet at www.genfair.com (overseas members only) or at www.parishchest.com (all members) for a small additional charge.

Your membership entitles you to four quarterly journals, which contain articles to help you with your research into your ancestors from both inside and outside Bedfordshire, as well as up-to-date information about what is going on in the Society and in the world of family history. Information on the latest research aids available to members is included in the Journal, on our website and in the Members' Handbook (available to existing members from the Bookstall). Membership also gives local members free entry to our monthly meetings with talks, library and bookstall.

**Cathy and Kevin Friend
(Membership Secretary)
membership@bfhs.org.uk**

BEDFORDSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
Nominations for Executive Committee Members

Name of Nominee

Name of Proposer

Signature of Proposer

Membership Number

Name of Seconder

Signature of Seconder

Membership Number

Signature of Nominee

Membership Number

The Committee would welcome nominations for the Executive Committee, which must be made in writing and received by the Secretary by Friday 24 May 2019. Nominations must be signed by the proposer, seconder and nominee, and sent to the Secretary, PO Box 214, Bedford, MK42 9RX.

NOTIFICATION OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Friday 7 June 2019 at Mark Rutherford School, Bedford at 7.30 pm.

Under clause 7 (d) (iv) of the constitution, any member wishing to move a resolution at the meeting must give signed notice in writing, stating its terms, sent to The Secretary, PO Box 214, Bedford, MK42 9RX and must be received by Friday 10 May 2019.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

Constitution

The relevant section of the Constitution approved at the EGM on 7 February 2003 relating to election of Executive Committee members reads as follows:

Clause 5

- (a) The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, together with not less than four other committee members.
- (d) All Officers, that is Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, will be elected by a simple majority at the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years and will then be eligible for re-election. Any person elected to fill a casual vacancy will be deemed to have been elected for the remaining period of the original term only.
- (e) Ordinary Committee Members shall be elected by a simple majority at the Annual General Meeting for a period of one year when they will be eligible for re-election.

• **Officers**

Chairman –	Noel Evans:	elected 1 June 2018, has served one year of the three-year period.
Treasurer –	Peter Sharp:	elected 1 June 2018, has served one year of the three-year period.
Secretary –	Lynn Manning:	elected 1 June 2018, has served one year of the three-year period.

• **Executive Committee**

The current Members of the Executive Committee are: Catherine Friend, Kevin Friend, Val Thomas, Paul Woodcraft, Mary Wooldridge.

A nominations form is attached. If you require further copies please use photocopies or contact the Secretary.

AREAS WHERE WE NEED HELP IMMEDIATELY

Executive Committee

We currently have vacancies on the Executive Committee. It is considered a necessity for nominees to have email. You will need to attend a committee meeting held on the third Friday of every month except August. Please come along, under no commitment, and see how the Committee works.

Minutes Secretary

We need someone to take minutes at the committee meetings. You would not have to be an elected member of the committee. To help you we record our meetings. You would need a knowledge of Microsoft Word and you need to have email.

Monumental Inscriptions Publications Officer

We need an M.I. Co-ordinator who can compile the information collected from the Churchyards into a prepared Access database. A good knowledge of Microsoft Office is needed for this. This information will then be forwarded to the CD Co-ordinator for adding to the Parish Register CDs.

Monumental Inscriptions Co-ordinator

An M.I. Co-ordinator is required, someone who can organise and lead a small team of people to go out and collect information from Graveyards. This is usually a day's activity which includes a lunch break in the local pub, making it a good day out.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD:

Programme Secretary

For next year (but with some preparatory work this year) we will need someone who can book the Speakers for members' meetings at least four months to a year in advance of the meetings. They will also liaise with Mark Rutherford School re the hall bookings. Good communication skills are needed and also a knowledge of Microsoft Word to supply the speakers with a contract for the talk they will give. A speakers list is available.

In all cases Microsoft Office will be provided if required.

If you have any queries regarding any of these, or wish to offer help, please contact Chairman Noel Evans or myself. You can write using our PO Box address or send an email to chairman@bfhs.org.uk or secretary@bfhs.org.uk or alternatively you can talk to us at meetings.

Lynn Manning
Secretary

Harrold *	£10	2	Ridgmont † *	£15	2
Haynes †	£20	1	Riseley	£10	2
Henlow †	£10	1	Roxton † *	£10	2
Higham Gobion	£10	2	Salford †	£10	2
Hockliffe † *	£10	2	Sandy † *	£15	1
Holwell † ‡	£5	1	Sharnbrook	£10	2
Houghton Conquest † *	£15	1	Shelton †	£10	1
Houghton Regis *	£15	2	Shillington †	£15	2
Hulcote †	£10	2	Souldrop †	£10	2
Husborne Crawley †	£20	2	Southill † *	£20	2
Kempston	£15	3	Stagsden †	£15	1
Kensworth †	£15	2	Stanbridge *	£10	2
Keysoe † *	£15	2	Steppingly †	£10	2
Knotting	£10	2	Stevington † *	£10	2
Langford	£15	2	Stotfold † *	£10	2
Leighton Buzzard † *	£20	3	Streatley †	£10	2
Lidlington †	£10	2	Studham	£15	1
Little Barford †	£10	1	Sundon †	£10	1
Little Staughton † *	£10	2	Sutton	£15	2
Lower Gravenhurst	£10	2	Swineshead †	£10	1
Luton † *	£30	2	Tempsford †	£10	2
Marston Moretaine †	£15	2	Thurleigh	£10	1
Maulden † *	£15	1	Tilbrook	£10	1
Melchbourne †	£10	1	Tilsworth † *	£10	1
Meppershall †	£10	1	Tingrith †	£10	1
Millbrook	£15	2	Toddington † *	£15	1
Milton Bryan †	£10	2	Totternhoe *	£15	1
Milton Ernest †	£10	2	Turvey † *	£20	1
Northill †	£15	2	Upper Gravenhurst	£10	1
Oakley †	£10	2	Upper Stondon	£10	1
Odell †	£10	2	Westoning †	£10	2
Old Warden †	£15	2	Whipsnade †	£10	1
Pavenham	£10	2	Wilden †	£15	1
Pertenhall	£15	1	Willington †	£10	1
Podington	£15	1	Wilstead †	£20	2
Potsgrove †	£10	2	Woburn † *	£20	1
Potton † *	£20	2	Wootton	£15	2
Pulloxhill	£10	2	Wrestlingworth †	£15	2
Ravensden †	£10	2	Wymington	£10	1
Renhold	£10	2	Yelden †	£10	1

Prices include UK or overseas post and packing. The cost of a full set of Parish CDs is £1,250.

Some baptism indexes only cover the period 1813-1851, but as more stocks are needed, they will be updated to include the full period from the start of registers. This also applies to the issue of new MI listings. Any revised CDs will be indicated by the **issue number**. Complete details of the content of each CD may be found on the Society website: www.bfhs.org.uk 

THE HISTORY OF STEVINGTON WINDMILL

This is an abridged version of the talk given to the members' meeting on Friday 5 January 2007 by Stuart Antrobus.

A century ago or so ago there were 10,000 windmills in England and they were almost as common a sight as the parish church. At one time there were 141 in Bedfordshire, the first being recorded at Leighton Buzzard in 1212. Nineteen survived into the twentieth century in the county but only one, Stevington Windmill, has survived in a complete state into the twenty-first century.

Stevington Windmill, an eighteenth century wooden structure situated in a field on the southern edge of the picturesque village, was one of the last operating windmills in Bedfordshire (Keysoe Mill, the last, was demolished in 1948). It is believed to have been built in 1770 – the date is carved on one of the beams – for local baker, Richard Pool. James Paselow was recorded in 1804 as being the miller and would have been either the tenant or an employee of the Pool family. The ownership of the mill passed from Richard Pool's son, William, in 1837, to the Green family, his creditors. The mill was then let to Robert Franklin and, on his death, to his widow, Ann, in 1847.

In 1849 Edmund Favell of Stevington purchased the mill from Thomas Abbott Green for £470. Mr. Favell sold the mill in 1868 to

William Raban, who is recorded as a miller. He was followed by James Raban who passed the mill to his son, Alfred Raban, who was there from 1898 until 1917, when he sold it to George Field, the last private owner.

Fred Harpin, the miller employed by its owner, George Field, last milled Stevington Windmill commercially in 1936, just before the Second World War, but small local mills - windmills and watermills - had been declining since around 1900, due to the success of the large industrial milling processes.

What makes Stevington Windmill so special is that it is of the oldest type of design – a post mill, comprised of a very large fixed oak post, on which the whole body of the mill revolves. This traditional windmill design remained, virtually unchanged, from the twelfth century and is clearly illustrated in medieval documents such as the Luttrell Psalter.

It is 37 feet high, with a weather-boarded, box-like body, or “buck”. Distinctive features include a four-sided gabled “gambrel” roof and a tailpole fitted with a yoke against which the miller's assistant pushed his shoulders to turn the windmill and its sails, manually, into the wind. It also has a lever (“althur”) to lift the steps off the ground, for when turning the body; an unusual clockwise rotation of the sails; and a set of “common” (canvas) sails.

Until the 1880s, its trestle base was open, revealing the wooden structure of quarter bars mounted on cross trees on which it sits. The limestone roundhouse, with its tiled roof, now protects this base and was built then to act as a storehouse. The weather-boarded body of the mill has a flared skirt shape at the bottom to clear the roof of the roundhouse.

A post mill is constructed entirely of wood, having many large baulks of oak, usually cut and shaped when the wood is still green and unseasoned. There are four “sweeps” which hold the cloth sails. The adjustment of the sails, by reefing (after first stopping the movement of the sweeps), enables the miller to regulate the speed of the windmill’s revolutions, rather in the manner of a yachtsman sailing a boat. The brake consists of a very large wheel mounted on the windshaft, to which the sails are attached, with a band of wood or metal round its circumference. A lever applies pressure to the band and the friction makes it stop (at the same time generating a good deal of heat so that care has to be taken to avoid a fire!).

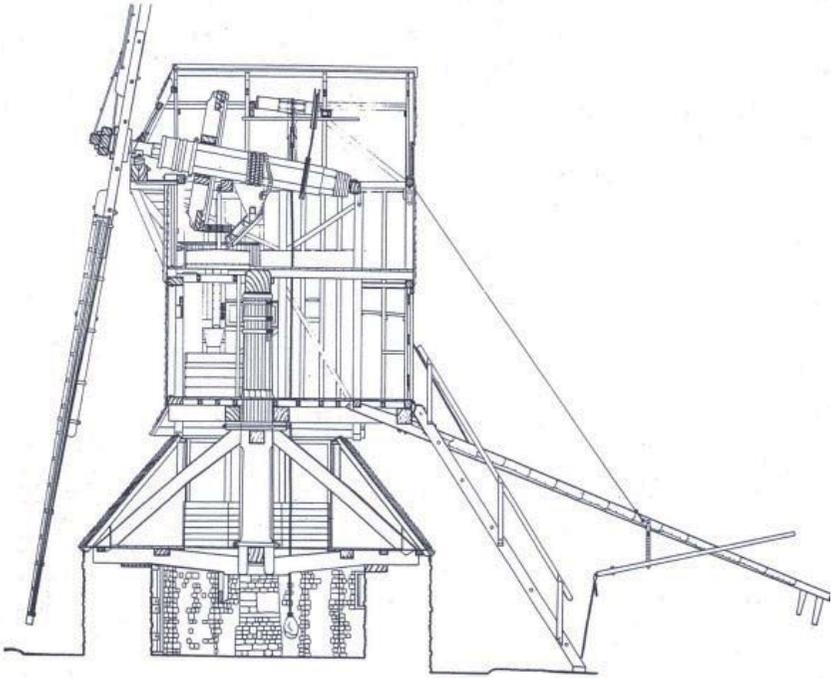
The sail frames on which the canvas sails are spread are more sophisticated constructions than they, at first, appear: wider at the extremities and built with a slight twist to catch the wind, embodying the characteristic that later went into the construction of aeroplane propellers.

The windshaft, to which the sail

shafts are fixed, transmits the movement through a system of gears to the grinding machinery within the body of the mill. French burr millstones were used to produce fine flour for bread making, and Derbyshire grit stones were used to grind animal foodstuffs. On a good day, with a fresh wind, it would have operated, in its heyday, two pairs of mill stones and ground up to twenty quarters of barley.

A windmill is designed to face into the wind and one of the great dangers is being caught with a strong wind coming from behind, “tail winded”, which can result, in the worst cases, in the mill being blown over. This happened in November 1919 when a fierce storm grew up while Fred Harpin and Arthur Coleman were busy milling. They tried to operate the brake but were unsuccessful and after the main “sidegirt” timber broke in two the mill lurched forward causing the sails to foul the ground. If that had not have happened, then there probably would have been a fire, started by the heat of the enormous friction caused in trying to brake the movement of the sails.

The mill had suffered such major damage that the only thing left to do was to rebuild the entire body. This was carried out in 1921 by Percy Keech, a carpenter from Stevington. Work began on 22 September and lasted twelve weeks. He was assisted by Charlie Field and Alfred Hewlet, carpenters, Alfred Mackness, a builder and his assistant James Ruffhead. A derrick was built



Side elevation cross-section of Stevington Windmill. Bedfordshire County Council (DMH 1975, from original drawings by B. Woodhams and R. Greenard)

over the mill, formed of tall trees grown on the estate of Lord Amphill at Oakley. The new body was carried by two Colombian pitch-pine beams of huge proportions: 10 foot long, 16 inches deep and 12 inches wide.

The overdriven mill stones were removed and replaced by Derbyshire Peak stones from Milton Ernest watermill. The old millstones were placed at the mill to counterbalance the sails. All that remained of the original were the post and trestle, crowntree and windshaft. It is thought that the mill was actually

strengthened by cross-bracing techniques which Percy Keech had observed in northern French windmills when he was there during the First World War.

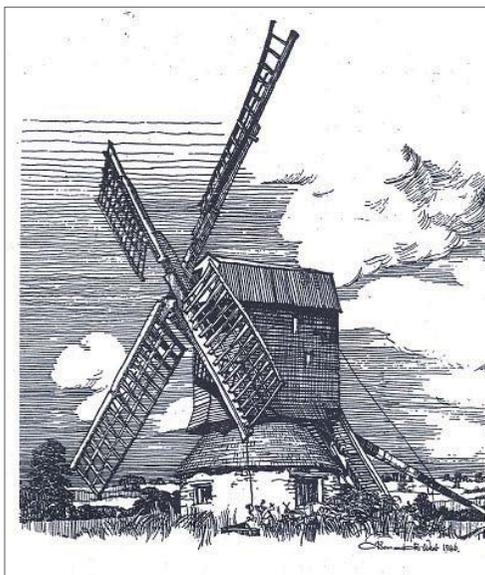
When Stanley Reese, a researcher of windmills, visited Stevington on a tour of English windmills in 1929 he wrote, "...the piece de resistance of the whole tour ...I could hardly believe my eyes. The cloth was furled neatly on all four sweeps as they arose over a little hump across the green fields; the mill was in perfect condition and freshly painted...the sail-frames of

Stevington Windmill, 1946, by Bernard West, from "A Bedfordshire Sketchbook", p.37, Bedfordshire Magazine, Vol.1, No. 1, Summer 1947, by kind permission of the late artist.

unpainted wood... the roundhouse is white with a red roof."

J. Steele Elliott, in a survey of windmills for Bedfordshire Historical Record Society in 1931, recorded that the sails were 6 feet wide and with a span of 54 feet across (at one time they had been 60 feet across, almost touching the ground).

Following the Second World War, the condition of the mill inevitably deteriorated but Bedfordshire County Council came to its rescue. Wishing to celebrate the Festival of Britain, 1951, in some permanent way, it decided to purchase and restore the mill (the restoration of Moot Hall, Elstow, was the other main work). It was officially opened on 3 October 1951 by Lord Chorley, Secretary of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (standing in for the Chairman, Professor Sir Patrick Abercrombie). The aim was to ensure a landmark site to remind future generations of what was once a major industrial activity in the county.



Since then, for over fifty years, it has stood, a picturesque reminder of a way of life once part of most village communities. However, despite maintenance and repairs, the wooden structure gave way to weathering and in July 1996 the back stock holding the sails snapped and caused serious damage to two of the sails. For safety reasons, all four sails were removed. It was not until eight years later, in the spring of 2004, that not only were the sails replaced but the windmill was completely restored,

This has ensured that for yet another generation to come, Stevington Windmill, thought to have been the last operational common-sail post mill in England, will stand as a landmark both pleasing to the eye and as a reminder of a way of life now long passed. □

LIBRARY NEWS

Members' Portal

We are soon going to have another PDF journal from a fellow society available on the Members' Portal of the BFHS website, which is the journal of the British Columbia Genealogical Society. There are another 21 FHS that send their journals to us as PDFs, all available on the Members' Portal.

New Acquisition

Class 24

Tracing your Jewish Ancestors
Rosemary Wenzelul, (Pen and
Sword, 2014)

This was kindly donated to the Society by Jane Smith, many thanks. It is the fully revised second edition of this specific guide for the family historian. Rosemary Wenzelul's lively and informative guide to researching Jewish history will be absorbing reading for anyone who wants to find out about the life of a Jewish ancestor. In a clear and accessible way she takes readers through the entire process of research. She provides a brief social

history of the Jewish presence in Britain, with descriptions of the principal communities all over the country. She gives a concise account of the history of genealogy and looks at practical issues of research – how to get started, how to organize the work, how to construct a family tree and how to use the information obtained to enlarge upon the social history of the family.

Class 4

Family History Handbook 2019
Family History Magazine, 2018

This must-have genealogy pocket book for family historians was a freebie with the Christmas edition of Family Tree Magazine. It is packed with loads of updated information on how and where to do your research.

Beds FHS Facebook page

In last December's journal I reported that we had 724 'likes' as at 21 October. Steady progress and we are now at 739 'likes' as at 18 January 2019. □

Thanks

John Partridge, Librarian



LUTON NEWS

100th Anniversary Celebration Souvenir

I've been having a clear out recently and came across this copy of the Luton News 100th Anniversary Celebration Souvenir. It was published on 13 November 1991 and came free with the Luton News.

If anyone would like it please drop me an email to: journal@bfhs.org.uk. As there's only a single copy it'll be a first-come-first-served basis.

Geoff Young

Family Tree

LIVE

26TH & 27TH APRIL 2019
ALEXANDRA PALACE

The goal for Family Tree Live is to create a family history show that people of all levels of genealogy knowledge and curiosity about their roots can come along and have a fabulous time revelling in family history.

More than 60 talks
Hands-on workshops
Expert advice 1-to-1

Numerous stands covering all your family history needs – from books to websites, software to DNA tests, and more.

BFHS will have a stand, as will many other family history societies. If you are coming to the show please come along and say “Hello”.

To keep your Twiglets entertained each child who comes to Family Tree Live will be given a history detective pack.

This isn't a hobby that's preserved in the past, but one that continues to evolve with each generation that tends and cares for it. So don't be shy, come along to the show, chat to people, and learn more about your ancestors and the pastime you love.

Tickets cost £12 per person per day (for £10 for Family Tree magazine subscribers; children aged 16 and under free).

If you've not been before, Alexandra Palace has a lovely pub, and stunning views of the London skyline, which you can enjoy from the promenade style terrace! Great for enticing 'other halves' to come with you.

Find out more

Family Tree Live is being organised by Family Tree magazine in partnership with the Federation of Family History Societies and really aims to help support the work of family history societies.

To find out more about Family Tree Live, which is being held on 26 and 27 April 2019 at Alexandra Palace, London, please visit:
<https://familytr.ee/familytreelive>

HAWNES COURT ROLLS

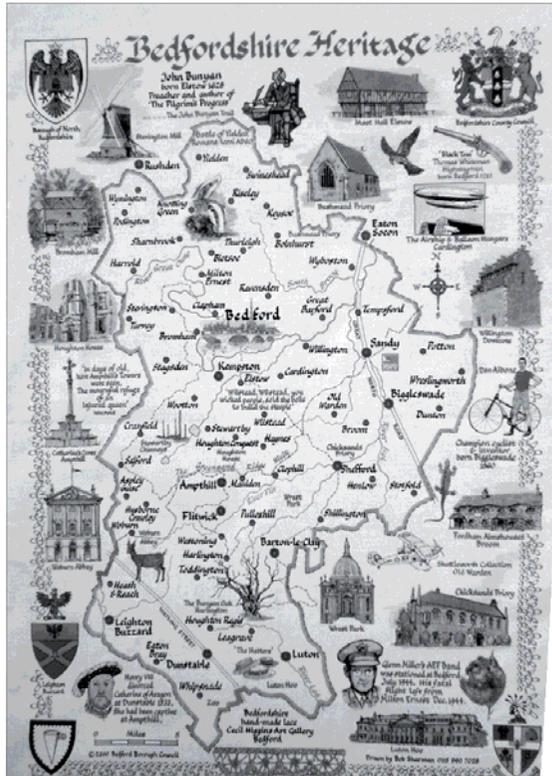
[endorsed; Old P[ar]ish Rates – Hawnes]		Henrie Chawckley	3	
Imprimis	s	d		
Sir Oliver Luke knight	3	0	William Wilson	3
Sir Peter Osborn knight	3	4	John Smyth	2
Sir Richard Conquest knight	5	0	Thomas Hunt	3
John Luke, gentleman	5	0	Samuell Jones	2
The P[ar]sonage		5	Thomas Hacle	2
John Ashbolt	8	5	Thomas Groome	2
John Warren	3	4	Thomas Crowe	3
John Peirce	1	6	William Wilkinson	4
John Thrale	2	10	John Iverey	4
John Baldock	2	8	Thomas Spencer	4
Widowe Astine	1	6	Thomas Tompkins	2
Richard Wheeler	2	6	John Wheeler	3
Peter Warner	1	8	Francis Everett	2
Daniel Cotton	2	0	John Linford	2
Philip Whitmore		6	John Tompson	2
Francis Keeling		9	William Usher	2
Henrie Seabrook		8	Henrie Hill	2
Lawrence Field		6	Abell Thrale	2
Widdowe Streete		6	George Thodey	3
Henrie Warren		9	Widdowe Fan	2
Paule Fletcher	2	0	Thomas Legsdon	2
Peeter Whitmore	3	5	Widdowe Gudgeon	2
Widdowe Feltcher	1	2	William Milward	2
Arthur Radcliffe		8	George Milward	2
Thomas Cooper	1	8	William Thrale	2
Richard Keyes 1		6	Edward Hickman	3
Widdow Baldock	1	0	Widdowe Linford	3
William Maxey	1	0	Richard Surcute	3
Edward Procter	1	4	William Ravensden	2
Robert Yonge	1	0	Robert Jerves	2
William Lowe		2	John Jerves	2
Thomas Andrews		6	Robert Sheffeild	2
Thomas Prior	3	4	John Prior	3
Widow Goodey		2	John Watson	2
Thomas Bastion		3	Mr Warner	6
Thomas Drape[?] [part obliterated by large stain]		2	Thomas Coote	6
John Watson		3	John Hunt	2
Nicholas Feilde		2	Thomas Linford	2
Henrie Ashbolt		3	Widdow Campion	2
William Worsley		3	Widdow Eve	2
Richard Daye		3	Mr Compton	3
Ellis Farr		2	The Warraner	4
Thomas Hare		3	Widdowe Elmer	3
John Sheffeild		2	Widdowe Jerves	2
Robert Sharpe		3	Widdowe Keeling	0

[the following is written along the left-hand margin:
“The hole some of this church bills is 3p 15s 6p”]

BEDFORDSHIRE HERITAGE TEA TOWELS

The Society has had a supply of Bedfordshire Heritage tea towels printed and these are now being sold to raise funds.

These tea towels are really too nice to use for drying up; they are beautifully colour printed with some famous Bedfordshire landmarks forming a border for the County map. Even if you don't have any Bedfordshire ancestors they make ideal gifts. They are 100% cotton and at £4.50 each can be obtained from the bookstall at Members' meetings by email to Lynn at secretary@bfhs.org.uk or by post to the undermentioned address.



For UK orders please add postage and packing as follows:

- Up to 2 tea towels add £1.50
- 3 to 6 tea towels add £3.00

For orders from outside the UK please enquire before ordering.

Cheques should be made payable to Bedfordshire Family History Society.

Lynn Manning
38 Risborough Road
Bedford MK41 9QW
Tel. 01234 306482



REMINDER

The CLOSING DATE for articles to be published in the June 2019 *Journal* is
15 April 2019

Liddiard Family Gathering

12 – 14 April 2019



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Do you have any Liddiard, Lidiard or Lydiard (or any other spelling) amongst your ancestors?

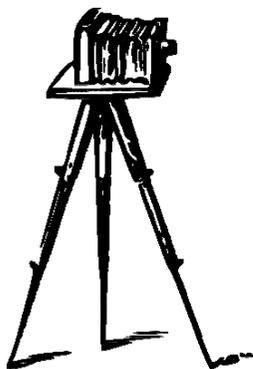
We would like you to join us for our second family gathering to celebrate the family.

There are lots of activities planned for the weekend, including displays of trees, photographs, talks on the Liddiard family and many other activities.

A bus trip to other Liddiard locations is planned on the Sunday.

- Friday 12 April we will be in Aldbourne, Wiltshire England, where we will have family trees and photos on display along with other activities.
- Saturday 13 April: Steam, The Museum of the Great western Railway. Off Fire Fly Avenue Kemble Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 2TA, where we will have a range of talks and presentations about the family.
- Sunday 14 April: Coach Tour to Liddiard locations in and around Wiltshire and Berkshire.

For all enquiries and to receive the full programme for the weekend and cost contact Liddiard Family History Society at info@liddiard-family-history-society.org or visit <http://liddiard.one-name.net> or Liddiard Gathering on FaceBook. By mail Aldbourne Heritage Centre, 7 The Garlings Aldbourne Marlborough SN8 2DT. On FaceBook: The Liddiard Family Gathering and The Liddiard Family History Society.



INTERESTING PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you have any photographs of interest to Family Historians that you would be willing to share with our members and the general public?

We are always looking to enhance our web site (and *Journal*), so if you do have a relevant photograph(s) and you are willing to have it/them listed on the BFHS web page on our 'Local Interest/Photographs' page, please forward them to treasurer@bfhs.org.uk together with a short descriptive text about the photo.

Peter Sharp, Treasurer



BIGGLESWADE HISTORY SOCIETY 2019 PROGRAMME OF TALKS, VISITS and EVENTS

- 01 Apr Members only AGM and film of the bicentennial commemoration of the Great Fire of Biggleswade.
- 13 May 'All Along the Prom' – Kiss Me Quick hats, saucy postcards and more from popular speaker, Mark Andrew Pardoe.
Note: This is the 2nd Monday of the month due to May Day Bank Holiday.

MEMBERS

DON'T MISS OUT!

The Friday night meetings of the BFHS offer members instructive, interesting and often amusing talks on subjects that fascinate all interested in history and genealogy in general, and are usually particularly relevant to those with a Bedfordshire heritage.

If you aren't currently attending them you are missing out – not just on the talks and lectures, but on accessing a wide range of resources and a pool of knowledge.

Why not come along?



DOREEN MARGARET SHELBOURN

I have had a letter from a lady who has asked if we could include her email somewhere in the journal. If anyone knows something can they contact Mary for more information at research@bfhs.org.uk

We have come across some family papers in a book we purchased from a charity shop some time ago, including birth, marriage and death certificates for a DOREEN MARGARET SHELBOURN who we believe was born 21/6/1918 but latterly lived at 18 Villa Road, Luton. She became a Forster and was living in Bletchley. It appears that she may have been born in Clontarf, Ireland.

Other family names are CHARMAN

ROSEMARY SHELBOURN,
EDWARD PICCAVER
SHELBOURN (who was an architect living in Melton Mowbray), ENID MARY FORSTER and LILIAN HORSLEY. There is also reference to a HERBERT CECIL FORSTER.

We wondered whether there may be other Shelbourn family members still living in Bedfordshire ? The writer named some Shelbourns living in 2002 – 2003. To ensure compliance with GDPR these are not printed.

We would really like the family to have the documents and photographs back. □

Jane Halliday

RE. WILLIAM ROWLES – FINE OLD ENGLISH FARMER.....

Reading the article in the BFHS *Journal* for December 2018 provided by T Masterton about the family of George and Elizabeth Rowles of Great Barford, I find that they are in my family tree, as the last of their eight children was Sarah ROWLES baptised there on 29 Sept 1817.

She first marries Samuel PARTRIDGE, bachelor, wheelwright of Sharnbrook, son of John Partridge, also wheelwright of Sharnbrook on 25 April 1839 at Bedford St.Paul's. She is a spinster, living at Tavistock street, Bedford, daughter of George Rowles, gentleman. They have daughter Elizabeth born 1840 Eaton Socon as per censuses, baptised at Great Barford on 27 March 1842.

Samuel Partridge died December 1841 & buried at Sharnbrook on 24 December 1841 age 27. Next widow Sarah Partridge, daughter of George Rowles, marries William ALLEN, bachelor, carpenter of Sharnbrook, son of John Allen, also carpenter on 19 July 1847 at Sharnbrook.

Samuel Partridge was born 1814 Sharnbrook, son of John P and Elizabeth Ward who married in 1810. These are not in my direct Partridge line, however it is another Partridge family living in Sharnbrook at same time as my lot, that I have traced back to mid 1600's originating from Bozeat/Easton Maudit in Northants.

John Partridge
john.partridge10@ntlworld.com



Writing Your Family History E-Courses

Gill Blanchard, BA, MA, PGCE (PCE)

*Author of **Writing Your Family History: A Guide for Genealogists***

Writing Your Family History is a practical writing course that guides participants through the process of bringing their ancestors to life in an enjoyable and entertaining manner.

- Two ten week modules
- Lessons are delivered electronically
- Students receive in-depth feedback
- Access to an online learning hub
- Regular live discussions with the tutor and each other

For more information contact Gill Blanchard at:

Office 14, Meadow View House, 191 Queens Road, Norwich. NR1 3PP

Email: Gill@writingyourfamilyhistory.co.uk

Web: www.writingyourfamilyhistory.co.uk

BEDFORDSHIRE

Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire

Family and Local History Research (including Probate Transcriptions) undertaken by

COLIN DAVISON

66 Sudeley Walk, BEDFORD

Bedfordshire MK41 8JH

England

Tel: (01234) 364956

Email: colinndavison@gmail.com

*Member of the
Association of Genealogists & Researchers in Archives*

Professional Service Offered. All Enquiries Welcome



PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED !



Are you a BFHS member with a digital camera or smart-phone? If so could you take some photographs of nearby villages to add to the parish CD?

Although we have now published a CD with data for all 128 ancient parishes, some have no photographs, or very few.

We need pictures of the parish church, interesting buildings and local sights.

The following have no photographs at present. So if you live nearby or are visiting, why not take your camera along?

Battlesden, Clifton, Edworth, Flitton, Higham Gobion, Holwell, Husborne Crawley, Kensworth, Leighton Buzzard including Eggington and Heath & Reach, Potsgrove, Stanbridge, Streatley, Studham, Sundon, Tilsworth, Upper Stondon, Whipsnade

If you think that you can help, please contact Mark Tresidder by email at:

parished@bfhs.org.uk



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