

DORSET

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

For People in Dorset or People with Dorset Ancestors

JOURNAL VOLUME 33 No 1 December 2019



ISSN 1755-2052



DORSET

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 801504

Society Address: *Treetops Research Centre,
Suite 5, Stanley House, 3 Fleets Lane, POOLE, BH15 3AJ*
Tel: 01202 785623 during opening hours
e-mail: contact@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Website: www.dorsetfhs.org.uk

Find us on Facebook

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

*

Opening hours

Mon, Wed & Sat 10 am – 3 pm

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

*

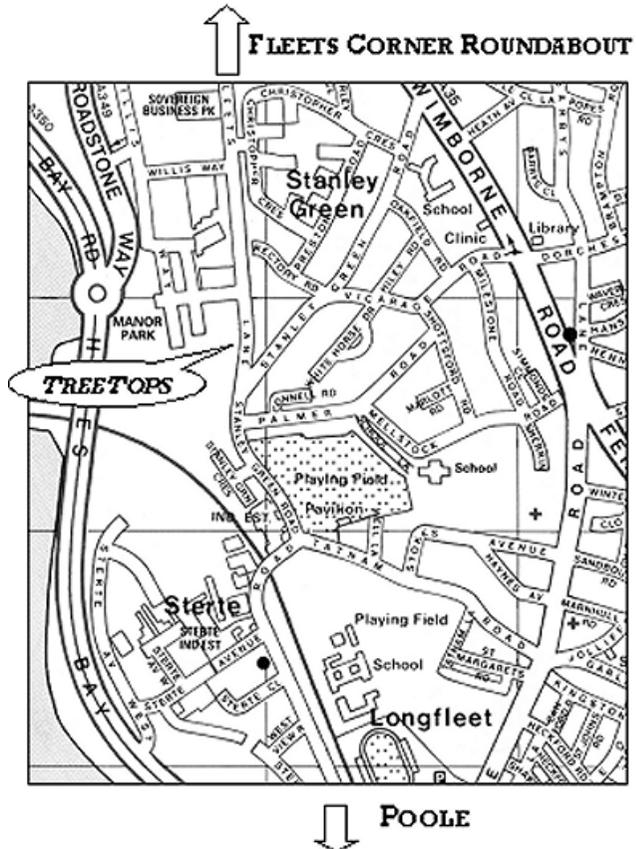
Bookings and research requests are taken by e-mail or by telephoning the Centre during opening hours.

*

Parking is available in residential roads in the local area.

For disabled parking please contact Treetops before travelling.

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



FLEETS CORNER ROUNDABOUT

TREETOPS

POOLE

*

For details of Officers and Committee please see back inner cover

DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Quarterly Journal

Volume 33, Number 1 - December 2019

Cover picture – The late Roy Stockdill, Genealogist and Renowned Family Historian – refer to article on his life

Contents

From the Editor's Chair.....	2
Programme and Speakers.....	3
Meetings in Retrospect	5
Computer Group meetings at Treetops	9
Cerne Abbas.....	10
Houseboat Murders.....	11
Exchange Journals.....	12
Members' Interests	12
Members' Area	14
Dorset Family History Society - Minutes of Council Meeting.....	14
Chairman's Chat.....	26
Roy Stockdill.....	28
Jack Mason and the Sadness of Rose	29
Amy Wonderful Amy	32
A World Turned Upside Down.....	34
News from Dorset History Centre	35
Membership News.....	39
Society Services	40

From the Editor's Chair



I would like to personally thank all those who have sent in articles for our Journal, especially those who share precious family facts and images. It is always good to be reminded of why we cherish our wonderful Society, and why our contributors and volunteers give freely of their time and knowledge to make our Society such a success.

Please continue sending in your articles relating to Dorset families long gone, so we can all learn together about how our ancestors spent their time and energies, how they lived, loved, worked, and died. Whatever your story, we look forward to receiving it at <editor@dorsetfhs.org.uk>.

It is with sadness that we learned of the sudden loss of Roy Stockdill, our Journal Proof-reader and Speaker at previous Family History Days. He will be missed by many Family Historians and Genealogists.

May I wish you and yours a wonderful Christmas and happy researching in 2020.

Angie, Journal Editor

Deadline for March 2020 edition – 15 January 2020

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

It is the contributor's responsibility to ensure that their submission does not infringe copyright. Items remain the copyright of Dorset Family History Society and the author jointly. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and not necessarily of the Society. No material may be reproduced without prior written permission.

© 2019 Dorset Family History Society and contributors, unless otherwise stated.

Programme and Speakers

Sue and Pete Redfearn



The meetings will take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, (except August), from 7.30pm – 9.30pm, at St George's Church Hall, Darby's Lane, Oakdale, Poole, BH15 3EU. Doors open at 7pm. (Talks normally last up to 1 hour) - These timings have been changed to accommodate the bus

timetables.

Admission to monthly meetings: £2.00.

Please note that meetings can sometimes be subject to change at short notice. Please check for possible updates on <www.dorsetfhs.org.uk> and on Facebook.

Tuesday 17 December - “Mr. Selfridge - Fact and Fiction” – a talk by Steve Roberts

We welcome back Steve Roberts, this time he tells the true story of retail entrepreneur Harry Selfridge, telling of his American background, his flagship store, his family, successes and failures. Steve also looks at the TV series and assesses what they got right and what they got wrong. How many of the characters were based on real people? Did Harry Selfridge really build homes fit for heroes at the end of WW1? Did he really have a fall when unveiling the Queen of Time??

Steve lives in Christchurch, originally graduating as a teacher, he later changed career to become an IT Project Manager. In 2012 he came to Christchurch and became a freelance writer, private tutor and public speaker.

Tues. 21st Jan. 2020 - “Women of Poole”- a talk by Richard Yeoman

The talk covers women of Poole who have made a mark on the town, the country or even internationally. They were either born in Poole or lived here for a considerable time. Richard's interest in the subject came

about from a small exhibition in Poole Central Library. Coinciding with International Women's Day it told of women of note from Poole.

Richard is a long-time volunteer at Poole Museum's History Centre and also editor of the Poole Museum Society's Newsletter.

Tues. 18th Feb. 2020 - "Family History Sources at The National Archives" – a talk by Susan Moore

Susan's talk will concentrate on the valuable sources held at the National Archives. Bearing in mind that only 5% of the Archives are online, she shows the sort of information that can be found by family historians in the other 95%. Subjects will range from army and navy personnel, to tax and manors, and then to records of family disputes and criminal records. The talk will not only illustrate the information in the records, but will include guidance on identifying and locating relevant records.

Susan is an independent professional genealogist and researcher with a lifetime's experience in private, county and national archives. Initially she worked in Devon, and then in Scotland, later moving to London for many years, with the emphasis on the history of houses and manorial lordships. Now based in Somerset Susan specialises in Chancery records in the National Archives, working for families and has done research for the National Trust uncovering the history of a Somerset village and manor.

Tues. 17th March 2020 – "Mixing DNA Results with a Paper Trail" by Dr. Penny Walters

Penny explains how to merge established paper trails with DNA results, the biology and jargon of which can be overwhelming. Through DNA testing people receive ethnicity estimates, a heritage map, a list of people that DNA matches (overlaps) with, and the opportunity to contact and collaborate if they wish. Many people only focus on that ethnicity result and don't know what to do with the other information. Advantages and disadvantages of different tests are explored, a consanguinity chart provided and useful information for adoptees, and triangulation explained. Penny will show how to add 'useful' DNA

matches to your tree to inform a restructured paper trail. She will also outline a variety of ethical dilemmas.

Dr. Penny Walters' PhD researched ethical dilemmas, and she is a University lecturer in Psychology and Business Studies. Adoptee Penny lectures internationally about genealogy topics and regularly writes articles for Family Tree magazine. DNA testing and collaboration with 2nd and 3rd cousin matches revealed 91% Irish heritage, and has also revealed fascinating insights into her children's' cultural heritage. Penny has also published two books "Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy" and "The Psychology of Searching"

Meetings in Retrospect

Sheila Tanner and Angie Parker-Harris

Tuesday 18 September 2019 "Nonconformity (the Road to Toleration)" by Les Mitchinson

Les was our speaker for the first meeting in our new venue, St George's Church at Oakdale in Poole. He guided us through the many transitions of Religions in England and sources in which we are able to trace our ancestors.



Nonconformity is a blanket term given to all non-Anglican protestant denominations. Many acts were passed through the years to help change the acceptance of non-conformists.

In 1559 The Act of Uniformity was passed making Church attendance compulsory, or risk a fine for every absence.

Until the 16th Century Catholicism was the religion of England, and a protestant was likely to be punished for their faith. Dissenters or heretics were then known as Non-Conformists.

1534-1689 The Anglican Church was established, and Catholicism was outlawed.

In 1689 The Toleration Act was passed allowing freedom of worship to most. Church attendance no longer compulsory. Priests were free of prosecution.

Clues to a Non-Conformist.

A Dissenter - a non-conformist
protestant

A Recusant – a refuser of
Catholicism

A Protester – a protestant.

A Misliker- late for service and left
early, would talk through a service.

Many people would move to
neighbouring parishes to worship,
preferring meeting houses or
chapels. Records can be found in
Parish Chests, Ecclesiastical court
records, Probate records, which will
name a parish of residence.



Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1753 became law for all couples to be married in their Parish church, unless you were of Jewish faith or Quakers. Before this The Fleet Registers 1667 – 1754 were deposited with the Registrar General. Baptists suffered as clergy were reluctant to marry persons who had not been baptised.

Casual dissenters were cornered by the Clergy, and as an incentive to return to church were given poor relief and local charity handouts. Not being baptised then you were not entitled to these benefits.

In 1829 The Catholic Emancipation act lifted many restrictions of the faith.

1840, The Non-Parochial Registers act. All non-conformist registers were to be lodged with the General Registrar.

In 1851 an Ecclesiastical Census was taken and can be found at the National Archive. Ref: HO129 in the discovery catalogue. Information of churches and chapels are listed. Also, Independent chapels, Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Chapels are within the census.

A list of dates, Acts and websites was given to those attending the meeting, which will be a great benefit to those researching ancestors through the church.

Nonconformity – The Road to Toleration

Date	Remarks
1559	The Act of Supremacy – the break from Rome was now complete
1559	The Act of Uniformity – Church attendance made compulsory or risk a fine for every absence
1604	The Presbyterian/Unitarian movement established by Thomas Cartwright (Unitarian by 1790s)
1611	John Smythe established the Baptist church in London
1650	Earliest Quaker registers
1657	Earliest known Catholic records
1661	The Corporation Act - forced all those in public office to swear an oath of allegiance
1664	The Conventicle Act – made it an offence to attend any religious service other than the one prescribed
1665	The Five Mile Act made it an offence for rejected ministers to remain outside of corporate towns
1676	The Compton Census - provided numbers of dissenters/recusants in a particular parish
1688	Baptist registers generally commence from this date – earliest date is 1669
1688/9	The Glorious Revolution, accession to the throne by William and Mary
1689	The Toleration Act – allowed freedom of worship to most
1725	The Georgian Gap. The period between 1725 and 1780 when the recording of dissenters was rare.
1740	Methodist movement founded by John and Charles Wesley and George Whitefield
1743	The Presbyterians, Independents and Baptists started a Register of births at Dr Williams Library
1744	Earliest date in Moravian registers
1753	Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act – all marriages to be conducted in an Anglican Church
1778	Catholic Relief Act – lifted some restrictions such as holding, leasing and inheriting land
1788	The first organised Swedenborgian congregation met
1791	The second Catholic Relief Act – introduced a formal toleration of Catholic schools and worship
1792	Baptist Missionary Society founded
1797	Methodist movement fractured creating numerous splinter faiths
1829	The Catholic Emancipation Act – almost all restrictions were lifted – admitted to public office
1829	Earliest records in the Irvingite (Catholic Apostolic) registers
1840	The Non-Parochial Registers Act – all nonconformist registers to be lodged with the RG
1853	Catholic burial grounds made legal - pre 1853 many were buried in the churchyard at night.
1857	A further request for Nonconformist registers was made. All records lodged in RG4 and RG8
1898	Marriage Act - Dissenting congregations to appoint an 'authorised person' to register marriages
1932	Methodist splinter faiths merged to form the Methodist Church
1972	Merger of the Presbyterians and Congregational Union of Churches to form the United Reformed Church.

A most interesting informative talk, giving a detailed insight to Non-conformity.

Tuesday 15 October 2019 “It’s The Way You Tell ‘Em” by David Gynes

We were treated to a fascinating look at sayings from our own and our parents’ childhood and youth, often in our local dialect. This included sharing Christmas traditions from times past, such as tangerines wrapped in tissue paper, Dad dressed as Santa, decorating the tree and many memories of seasonal stockings filled with goodies.

David helped us to think of simple ways to add this local and historical colour to our writing, especially when writing up our own family histories, avoiding presenting just a list of facts.



Did you know that scrap books were originally commonly used to save and store the outside of Christmas crackers and mottos?

We also considered where and how our ancestors lived, whether it was in a tied cottage, house share, or even manor house. Did your parents have a front room, drawing room, lounge, sitting room or morning room? Did you have lunch, dinner, supper or tea? This sort of detail all helps to paint a picture of how our families lived.

Thanks to David for making us think, laugh and remember happy memories. It is good to share 😊

Computer Group Meetings at Treetops

Richard Yates



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

December 3rd – Christmas Quiz

Last year's winner will provide a light-hearted quiz to see who can set next year's! Please contribute a SMALL offering to the refreshments.

January 7th – No Meeting

February 4th – Bring an Ancestor Part 2

Several members were unable to contribute at our September meeting, as time ran out. Members are invited to bring along a short introduction to one of their ancestors. If that includes information which can be displayed on the big screen or details of sites that provided information on that ancestor, even better.

March 3rd – Any Questions

Moving on from our former Open Forums, we are trying a wider topic. Alan will still try to answer technical computer questions if you e-mail them to him at least 7 days before the meeting at webmaster@dorsetfhs.org.uk . In addition, the assembled group will attempt to help on Family History questions. We usually have a range of expertise present, so you could well be lucky.

April 7th – DNA Further Investigations

Our October meeting proved very interesting, but some members were away, and others have more to contribute. Hopefully Linda Adams and Ann Bush will be able to join us to share their expertise again.

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

Cerne Abbas

Richard Yates

I attended the re-enactment of the Cerne Abbas auction on 24th September, exactly 100 years to the day after the village was sold by the PITT-RIVERS family in Dorchester, which I wrote about in the last Journal.

The performance was held in the church with a genuine auctioneer playing the role and even a beer pump serving pints. The area of the pews was devoted to those villagers taking part, making bids and “buying” their cottages. Even Kate ADIE bought her home back! To the sides and rear were the onlookers, many dressed in period costume. This was an excellent living history event and the exhibition was very professional.

Asking around, it appeared that the whole event, which centred on the exhibition in the church for two weeks, was a great success, bringing large numbers into the village over the whole period. The Cerne Historical Society produced a “Guide to the 1919 Auction Properties”, which contains much of the detail shown on the Exhibition Boards, as well as a summary of each auction lot, its place on the map, a brief description, and in many cases photographs. Additionally, there are details of the tenants prior to the auction, the buyers, and in several cases further historical information about the property including some earlier occupants of some properties. I bought a copy, which I have placed in the DFHS library, so if you have Cerne Abbas ancestors, it might be worth a look.

The whole event was facilitated by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. You may be able to find further details of the what took place on the website of the Cerne Abbas History Society at www.cerneabbashistory.org

Houseboat Murders

Karen Yeadon



I was told of a story by my mother of a large black car arriving at my grandparents' home. It was 1956 and they were being asked to look after a lady who was being hounded by the press. They were relatives of my grandad but for years I had no idea exactly who they were, so I thought it was about time I found out.

My grandfather, John Thomas RICHARDSON married Grace SCUDDER.

They moved from London to a houseboat at East Creek Street, South Benfleet in Canvey Island. Grace Richardson became friends with neighbour Mrs Violet CLARK (also known as Vicci WRIGHT) who was a mother to three-year-old twins, Colin and Reginald Clark.

Violet was staying with Grace and her children following to a fire on her own boat. 48 hours later the houseboat "Windmill", home to Grace and her family, was also gutted by a terrible fire. Grace and her children managed to escape along with Violet, but her twin boys were tragically killed in the fire. Rumours were rife as to why the fire started. Both Violet and Grace were charged with the murder of the twins.

The trial made headline news and took place at the Old Bailey. The queues to get into the public stands stretched around the block every morning and reporters from all the newspapers packed the court. But as evidence built up, the court decided that Grace was innocent and so she was acquitted of both murder and manslaughter. However, Violet was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to three years for each of the twins.

So finally, I have been able to find out about the lady who my Grandfather was asked to look after; it was Grace, who was his sister-in-law.

Exchange Journals

June Taylor



A number of other Family Histories Societies have historically exchanged journals with us as a hardcopy. With the increase of digital technology and the ever increasing cost of postage many societies particularly overseas ones, now only exchange digitally. As the hard copies at Treetops have been little used recently and space is at a premium, Dorset FHS has decided to go digital so that in future Exchange Journals will only be available in the Members Area of the Web site.

Members' Interests

Alan Mead

To try and connect Society Members who may be researching the same ancestor, Dorset FHS maintains a database of surnames that Members are interested in.

A Members' Interests form is sent to new Members as part of the Welcome Pack, but **all** Members can register or update the surnames they are researching by completing a Members' Interests form. The latest version is available in the Members' Area at www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-area.

New surname Interests will be added to the database and published in the next Journal. Minor changes, such as revised place or dates, will be updated on the database but not published in the Journal. Interests of

those who do not renew their membership will be deleted from the database.

The following new surnames have been added to the database since the last Journal:

Mem	Name	Place	County	Period
5174	ALLEN	Bermondsey	SRY	19th c
5174	BUTT	Chettle	DOR	19th c
5174	HICKS	Lymington	HAM	19th c +
5174	JAMES	Witchampton	DOR	19th c
5174	LONG	Rotherhithe	SRY	Any
5016	LYONS	East End	LND	pre 1900
5016	MONTAGUE	Chalfont St Giles	BKM	pre 1840
5174	TUBBS	Horton	DOR	19th c
5174	WADHAM	Tarrant Hinton	DOR	Any
5167	WAREHAM	Any	DOR	1670 - 1714
5167	WAREHAM	Reading	BRK	1670 - 1714
5167	WAREHAM	Kingsclere	HAM	1670 - 1714
5167	WAREHAM	Wareham	DOR	1600 - 1700
5167	WARHAM	Any	DOR	1600 - 1700
5174	WILCOX	Horton	DOR	Any

The database can be viewed at Treetops and on the Society's website at www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-interests, where there is a search box to see if any other Member is interested in the same surname as you. This search box can also be used to check what surnames you have registered by entering your Membership Number. If there is a Member with an interest in the same surname as you, the same page has guidance on how to obtain their contact details.

Members without Internet access should contact Treetops during opening hours.

Members' Area

Alan Mead, Webmaster

Have you visited the Members' Area on the website www.dorsetfhs.org.uk/members-area yet?

There you will find all the documentation being sent to new members in the Welcome Pack so, even if you are not a new member, you can see what the newest member gets on joining. This includes the latest version of the form to register or update the surnames you are researching to share on the Members' Interests website page.

In addition, you can find back numbers of this Journal, with an index, going back to 1999 when the first electronic version was produced. Previously, the Journal was produced by, literally, pasting typed articles together for printing and distribution.

The Members' Area is also where the Exchange Journals, which you can read about elsewhere in this Journal, are available.

Full details of how to access this information is set out on the above page. You will see that the password is changed on publication of the December Journal, so only members who have paid their subscription fee have access to this area.

Dorset Family History Society Minutes of Council Meeting 30th July 2019

1.0 Apologies

Helen Colvin, Valerie Groves, Fran Mee, Shirley Chick, Mike & Gina Parker, Jan Spink, Monique Munro, Nick Ellis, Lindsey Dedden, Brian Galpin, Beryl Norman, Graham Searle, Anna Ward, Julia Towner, Derek Winter, Cherry Fisher.

2.0 Chairman's welcome and report

- 2.1 DG welcomed 23 attendees and explained that the meeting was an opportunity for DFHS Officers, Committee Members and Volunteers to look back to the last AGM and Council meeting and to look forward to share ideas for the future to keep DFHS a vibrant and friendly Society.
- 2.2 DG reflected on last year's Council meeting which suggested Open Days at Treetops which were organised and went very well, encouraging a number of visitors and is something that should be considered again.
- 2.3 DG thanked Richard Yates, Treasurer – a role which he continued on a temporary basis to ensure the Society could continue to function, alongside the role of Liaison Officer, whilst seeking a replacement. Joy Dixon was welcomed as new treasurer and will be assisted by Chris Chuck in a job share arrangement.
- 2.4 DG thanked Sheila Martin for her hard work as Society Secretary to keep DFHS running.
- 2.5 DG welcomed Lorraine Squires as minute secretary.
- 2.6 DG thanked and said farewell to Julia Towner who has retired as the Society Librarian and welcomed Debbie Winter into the role.
- 2.7 DG thanked Stuart and Miriam Withers. Stuart has led the team of transcribers who go to DHC on a monthly basis but has decided to retire, so a new leader and volunteer transcribers are needed.
- 2.8 DG noted the hard work of those in a variety of other roles, Treetops & Fairs volunteers, researchers, the publicist, the educators, trip organisers, MI & FMP, website, member interests, strays, Facebook and journal editor and contributors.
- 2.9 All the above were thanked for their hard and dedicated work which makes DFHS a great society & which could not be achieved without their input and dedication.
- 2.10 The **AGM** this year will be on the 4th Tuesday in **November (26th)** as a one off change to the new 3rd Tuesday in the month meetings at St Georges. It is anticipated the AGM will revert back to its usual slot next year.

2.11 The DFHS Family History Day has been confirmed as 21st March 2020 at Parkstone Grammar School. Lots of smiling volunteers are sought.

3.0 Officers were invited to provide a report for their area(s) of responsibility;

3.1 Treasurer – Richard Yates.

Richard reported that he published the required report to the Charity Commission website today. Signatories for the bank are still being sorted and will reflect new treasurer arrangements (Joy and Chris). Receipts to June 2019 were similar to 2018 (excluding the 2018 Family History Day) with spend up by around £900 due to attendance at more fairs/open days and Family Tree Live. RY noted that as no major project was underway the legacy left to DFHS has been used to increase and improve the facilities at Treetops. As at the end of June 2019 a balance of £80,000 is held.

3.2 Membership – Claire Evans

Sheila Martin read Claire's report on her behalf. Renewals to the Society in October and November 2018 came in fast with 450 received by the end of November. More people are using the online method of payment. Unfortunately, we had to lapse just over 100 members who had not renewed. As at 22 July membership stands at 604, down on previous years. However, we have received 70 new Members since October 2018. The running of the membership is more of a team role now, with Claire relying on the help of a few volunteers at Treetops, who put together the new Member Packs, and help send them out. DG noted thanks to Claire and the volunteers who assist with memberships.

3.3 Sales – Ann Capon

DFHS books etc. that are available for sale are on our website and in a leaflet, available from Treetops and at Open Days. The process of updating this information is continuing. Thanks to June Taylor and Alan Mead for their input in this job. Display books and other items that have been reduced as old stock or have been given to sales for selling by members can be seen at Treetops, meetings and at Open days and

Exhibitions.

Books and other items that can be purchased are displayed at Treetops. A selection is taken to our monthly meetings, where possible selected to link in with the topic of the evening. A selection is also taken to Exhibitions, Open days and other events.

I try to keep in touch with new books that become available. I do not buy in large quantities but can usually get more quite quickly. It is interesting to note how one book can suddenly become popular; I think it might sometimes be after a course of lectures or someone's recommendation.

A book has been launched this month by Poole Historical Trust about Longfleet written by Patricia Parker. The book takes you from the early landscape and history of the area until the present day, covering events of the 17th to 20th century. There are many “maps” of areas showing where residents were living and some family trees. As the area developed houses and shops appeared and a railway arrived in Longfleet in 1872. A very comprehensive book that hopefully will prove popular. Price £15 and available for purchase from DFHS.

Another book recently made available & recommended by a member is produced by the local publisher Dovecote. Lost Dorset - The Villages & Countryside by David Burnett (The Barry Cuff Collection of Dorset Postcards 1880-1920). Each “chapter” is a collection of illustrations of different events/places in Dorset. A book for the Coffee Table with plenty to show life in past times. Available from DFHS priced £20

Ann advised that demand for books was steady, with some peaks and troughs. On average one per week. She will be providing Alan with a new catalogue for the website.

3.4 E-News – Alan Mead

E-News is a monthly email sent to those who have indicated that the Society can contact them by email and there are currently 476 recipients (79% of the membership).

It is intended to be an addition to the quarterly Journal and usually

includes reminders of events being organised by this and other organisations and items of possible family history interest. I rely on Officers letting me know of anything they want shared and the more notice that can be given to me and the Members the better

It was demonstrated that a high number of those present were receiving e-news.

3.5 Transcription Team /Databases

As reported by the Chairman Stuart Withers has now retired from this team. A Transcription team leader volunteer is sought.

It was noted that Graham Searle has completed the Bride's index. He is planning to have a look at the Marriage index later in the year, to remove duplicate entries.

Philip Newton Webb, reports that he has just sent another batch of 13,000 MIs to FMP (which is awaiting their verification before they upload them) and has a further 26,000 in the pipeline from Shirley so that should help boost income.

Theresa advised she has completed Branksome and Parkstone Monumental Inscriptions transcriptions. There are no future plans at present.

3.6 Fairs - Richard Yates

Richard attended the West Surrey fair and will book again for this year. He organised the stand at Family Tree Live & reports this as being the best national fair and worth doing again – with a minimum of 3 volunteers required.

DFHS has had stands at one or two other local fairs such as Broadstone, Cherry Tree Nursery, Corfe Castle May Fair, as well as at Libraries.

June Taylor is attending Sandown on 24th August and seeks volunteers who can help for an hour or two in return for a free admission ticket.

3.7 Journal - Angie Parker-Harris

Angie is on holiday but sent thanks to those who sent in articles on time.

3.8 Computer Group – Richard Yates

Richard reports that this group meets most months and although he is the lead many others contribute. For September he plans a 'bring your ancestor' inviting attendees to talk about their ancestor (with display screen presentation). Linda will talk about DNA in October and investigating the Red Cross website may feature in November. Celia advised that she is unlikely to be able to prepare the quiz for December – a volunteer is sought.

3.9 Publicity – Shirley Robinson

Posters for the new monthly meetings at St Georges have gone out. Shirley continues to look for good economic sources to advertise in, including community magazines. Her next task is to concentrate on publicity for the DFHS Family History Day in March 2020. Shirley reports that spare posters can be found in the monthly meeting box for those who may need them at events.

3.10 Liaison – Richard Yates

Attended SWAG (The South West Area group of the Federation) with DG – not much of interest. He has attended Poole Heritage Forum and Dorset Archive Trust AGM. He has come across two events which members may be interested in; an exhibition at Poole Museum of a Royal Collection of Victoria and Albert's water colours running from 26 Oct to 5 Jan. Cerne Abbas Historical Society is marking the 100-year anniversary of the Pitt Rivers family selling Cerne Abbas with an exhibition from 24 Sept to 5 Oct and a re-enactment of the sale event (tickets required). Details can be found on their websites and in the DFHS journal.

3.11 Education – Sheila Tanner

For the last three years I have been the Education Officer for the Society, arranging workshops/courses for members who have been keen to further their own research. Topics include; Research for Beginners, Writing it up, Military History On Line and Researching Family History via the Internet. To date, Debbie Winter, Jan Marsh and Jackie Berry have

been our presenters. It is my intention to plan more workshops and include other topics of interest in the autumn of this year.

I am now a volunteer on Monday's at Treetops, helping members and non-members alike to either start their research, help those who have found "brick walls" or any other ways of gaining more knowledge with up to date programmes that we have on our computers. The Genealogist is a more recent addition to our website and proving quite useful.

Chris Chick and I have been doing small presentations in local Libraries promoting Dorset Family History, and through this have gained interest, encouraging them to visit Treetops centre. A visit to Wareham Library is planned for 20th September, where the library holds their own family history group monthly. I also attend a meeting once a month at Kinson Library, and from this have encouraged members to also visit us and a few of these members have also been included in coach trips to the National Archives, and the Family History Show at Alexandra Palace.

Last month I gave a short talk to Poole Rotary Club about the work we do at Treetops and what facilities we have to offer. Quite a few of their members have expressed an interest in visiting us.

Now that Debbie Winter has taken on the Librarian Role, beginner courses have been handed over to Sheila.

Sheila also noted that she takes notes from monthly meetings and provides write ups for the journal, asking if this was welcome and worthwhile. RY suggested that this was helpful for those who could not attend, so Sheila will continue but is open to having volunteers take a turn.

3.12 Library – Debbie Winter

Carrying on from Julia's sterling work over the past 14 years work on rationalizing the library has begun and I am in the process of removing duplicate, non-required or out of date books from the shelves and catalogue. These items can be sold at meetings/Open days or taken to charity shops in due course. There are also a large number of new or useful books which need to be added to the catalogue.

Once the main job of updating the catalogue has been done we will be able to see what shelving is required. I have already asked the committee if new modern library shelving can be purchased and this has been agreed, once the amount required is known.

The borrowing of books (by members only!) needs to be tightened up. Books should not leave the library for more than 2-3 weeks but many are not returned for several months! Treetops Volunteers are requested to stress this time limit when issuing books. Both contact names and numbers are required so borrowers can be chased if necessary.

Books that are on loan from members should be used as reference books only and not taken away.

Books donated by the public can be accepted but on a selective basis and seeking permission of owner that they can be used/sold/disposed of as appropriate to the Society.

3.13 Facebook – Nichola Hannaford

A few of those present have used/referred to the DFHS Facebook page. It is used at the computer group. Linda noted that her DNA talk will use some Facebook content.

3.14 Programme Secretary (Walks and Talks) - Sue and Pete Redfearn

This past year we have again tried to arrange a selection of speakers, to provide a mix of more Family history topics, together with some of local or general interest. With experienced speakers on subjects such as “Workhouses and the Poor”, “Quarter Sessions Records” and “Brickwall of missing Deaths”, along with others, we hope we have provided some useful information to members. With more general talks such as “Dad’s Army” and “Ian Fleming”, together with local interest, such as “D-Day in Studland and Poole” and one regarding Poole Speedway, we hope we have provided variation.

We have not arranged any walks this year, as we were having to look further afield, and many members did not want to travel too far. Anna Ward previously led a walk around Wareham and is doing a Bournemouth walk in October and we are thinking of arranging an Old

Poole Town walk. A visit and tour to Russell-Cotes Museum was of interest, but rather expensive as they did not offer a group discount. Any suggestions regarding walks or visits would be welcome.

The change to the new venue, and new meeting day, did cause a “hiccup”, but we have managed to resolve this and, thankfully, the speakers were able to agree the new dates. The AGM date has been agreed for this year, and we will be doing “Lest we Forget- Wartime Ancestors Remembered” as suggested at the last Committee Meeting. Attendance to meetings seems to have been “steady” with reasonable numbers.

We have begun booking speakers for 2020, with a similar mix. Any feedback or suggestions would be appreciated

A suggestion offered was a historical talk about Kinson (contact Michael Stead at the Library).

3.15 Coach trips – Cherry Fisher

DG asked for any input/ideas for trips to be passed to Cherry.

Sheila T advised that CF is looking at a potential visit to the Huguenot House London, with the opportunity to also take in the Museum of Childhood and the Jack the Ripper museum on the same day.

3.16 Exchange Journals – June Taylor

The hard copies that we still receive are a much underused resource. However, these are getting less every month as more Societies now only exchange digitally and although available on the research computers at TT as far as I am aware no one has accessed them during the past year. I don't know how many members have accessed them through the Members area of the web site.

There was a question as to whether the availability of the exchange journals was publicised enough, awareness raising may help with increasing use.

3.17 Poole Heritage Forum – Richard Yates

Nothing else to report – see RY report under liaison.

3.18 Research Team -Theresa

Theresa reports that research requests are quite busy, with on average 2 emails per week. Some lulls are seen but it is noticeable that overseas emails from USA and Australia increase during their winter seasons.

3.19 Treetops- June Taylor

Our team of volunteers have continued to help researchers who come to TT and have covered for each other during absences. The opening hours have been reduced on Mondays as the present volunteers do not wish to stay after 3pm. Mondays and Wednesdays are well attended but we are sometimes short of researchers on Saturdays.

We survived the lack of heating on Saturdays until Birchmere realised that we are open. The lock on the Ladies toilet door was eventually replaced with a bolt.

The Open weekend in November was a success and brought in several new members.

Between 4th and 8th May a quantity of old journals, both exchange and DFHS ones disappeared and recently it has been noted that the War memorial books for Broadstone, Bistern, Boscombe, Ellingham, Highcliffe, Pokesdown, Sopley and Talbot village have also gone missing.

We are still looking for an occasional handyman/woman and a volunteer is sought. Our secretary's husband has changed some of the lights and more need attention and our Education Officer's son unblocked the sink for us. Sheila M will put something in the 'Notices', with the suggestion that the handyperson contact number is left at TT to be called when assistance is needed.

June also thanked Joy & Anne for removal of rubbish from TT.

3.20 Member Interests – Alan Mead

I maintain the Society's database of surnames that Members are

researching. This database appears on the website and can be searched by surname or Membership number. Members can contact me for the address of anyone researching the same surname. There are currently 1,787 surnames registered by 223 members. This represents just 37% of the current membership, so the facilities offered are not fully used. Most forms are sent in by new Members, longer-standing Members can download the form from the website's Members' Area to register or update the surnames they are researching.

3.21 Secretary Report – Sheila Martin

Not having GDPR to worry about this year has been a blessing, & the fact there wasn't a FHD either meant a fairly quiet year in the office. However, we are gearing up now for the FHD next March, the preparations will begin in earnest after the summer & I shall soon start sending out invitations to other Societies & commercial enterprises. Like every event we hold, we rely on our volunteers to share the workload, especially on the day itself.

I did spend quite a long time this year searching out new premises for our monthly meetings; not an easy task when trying to fulfil all criteria, such as parking, on a bus route, availability etc. We now look forward to holding these meetings at the new venue in Oakdale & hope the changes still mean this will remain a successful regular event.

As always, communication is the key, & I thank those who have made my job that little bit easier by responding promptly to emails about Society business.

3.22 Webmaster – Alan Mead

I am responsible for ensuring that the Society has a website that can be accessed by all. As such, I ensure that the software the site runs on is kept up to date and liaise with our webhosting company as necessary. Recently a new menu system has been installed so that those who view on a mobile get a better experience.

I am not an expert on everything the Society offers and am not responsible for keeping the content accurate and up to date. Most Officers have access to update the content of their own area of

expertise. If they don't feel able to make the updates themselves, they can copy and paste their existing text into a word document, make changes (preferably marking where these are) and email the revised wording so that I can update the site for them.

I continue to share Society OneDrive storage space with Officers. The hope is that by saving all material connected with their role on Society storage; this will then be available for a successor, particularly in the event of a sudden change of Officer. The original storage area became full and files had to be moved, so Officers please let me know if you can no longer access your files.

4.0 Comments /suggestions:

The meeting was opened up to allow all attendees to make suggestions for the future for the committee to discuss. The following suggestions were made;

- 4.1 Another TT Open Day/Weekend – possible in the autumn
- 4.2 Linking up with smaller societies/groups such as the monthly family history group at Kinson (Library) – inviting them to visit TT or including on invitations for coach trips. Link with the family history group at Pelhams
- 4.3 U3A genealogy group – invite to TT
- 4.4 Library visits have proved popular. Libraries are required to provide a programme of events and talks. Attendees are welcome to approach Librarians to offer & advise Sheila Tanner.
- 4.5 Posters – send to named individuals or those known the lead history groups rather than just to the location address.
- 4.6 Produce flyers rather than posters for the FH Day in March.
- 4.7 Approach bereavement groups to offer talks (e.g. Smiths of Swanage, or Tappers)
- 4.8 Look for other groups to offer talks to - e.g. WI or Towns Women's Guild
- 4.9 Men's' shed – may be an option to find a volunteer handyman
- 4.10 Cherry Tree Nursery have a sister nursery in Poole – possible interest in talks?
- 4.11 Summer Fetes or Community events – all were tasked with noting events happening in the next 12m so that a list can be

- prepared. A forward plan of who to approach/where to attend can then be made.
- 4.12 Rotary meetings /talks
 - 4.13 Deliver posters/flyers to the Spire in Poole High Street
 - 4.14 Take a table at table top sales etc. to promote TT/DFHS

If anyone approaches a group /location to display poster(s) or offers a talk – let Sheila M and Sheila T know.

Any more ideas can be emailed.

TREETOPS RESEARCH CENTRE
NEEDING RESEARCH ADVICE?

Our experienced volunteers are here to help

Contact us by

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

Chairman's Chat

The UK had a rather “mixed” Summer following the mixed Spring. We know disturbed weather patterns have affected life elsewhere too, with wildfire, storms, floods and other horrors. Our thoughts and best wishes go to you if the weather has caused you problems or danger.

When I see TV footage of homes damaged and people losing their possessions through natural disasters I think, beyond the natural sympathy for their situation and well wishes for their welfare, about the precious mementoes, the photos, their children's drawings that are lost

for ever. As Family Historians we know how important these ‘things’ are to our sense of identity and history.

It behoves us to take special care of the things that are entrusted to us as the Family Archivist, or Family history buff; to guard and secure them because they are part of the life and history of other people as well.

Memories are important but we need some tangible things too to represent other places, people, times. Photos are priceless, in this digital age we snap away with gay abandon – but do we store them securely, back them up away from our main computer. Have we scanned in all our hard copy photos and catalogued them and backed up the disk, thumb drive, hard drive, cloud...? Do it now, it’s no good saying tomorrow – “I wish I had -- ’

We sell some storage aids through Treetops and there will be an even wider selection at the Family History Day on 21st March 2020 in Poole. (FHD 2020) Yes! It’s that time again. More details elsewhere in this Journal and a volunteering opportunities form as well. (Sorry, we can’t pay travel expenses for volunteers, so, much as we would love to see friends and Members from Canada, Australia and all points in between its no good you offering – unless you happen to be planning to be in UK anyway at that time ?????).

I end on a sad note. As I write this in October I have just learned of the death of Roy Stockdill. Roy’s name will be known to many of you from his work in The Guild of One Name Studies, The Society of Genealogists, other Family History Societies or groups and from his writings in a variety of magazines. I have known Roy for years in the Guild; he was a knowledgeable and enthusiastic genealogist of standing and will be missed.

Come and say “Hello” at the FHD 2020. I shall be the one looking slightly bemused yet happily hopeful.

Best wishes for your welfare and your research.

David

Roy Stockdill

We were saddened to learn of the death of Roy STOCKDILL. Roy joined Dorset Family History Society when he moved to our region some years ago. He helped at our Family History Days with his well-received (and well-researched) talk on Breaking Down Brick Walls.

Roy was a Fleet Street journalist for more than 30 years. When he retired from the national media he turned his hobby of family history into a second career as a genealogist. He once said that his two great passions were 1) genealogy and 2) jazz music. He loved the thrill of the chase and the discipline of research. He wrote columns for several Family History Magazines and particularly enjoyed researching the ancestors of celebrities “to keep his hand in”.

His work as a professional genealogist is well known. He was Trustee of the Society of Genealogists (London), a family historian for 40 years, lecturer, and writer for Family Tree magazine. We were delighted to include his regular column ‘Dorset’s Past in Print’ in our own Journal. Roy also volunteered to proof-read the draft Journal for our own Editor prior to each edition going to press.

Roy was a Yorkshireman, born in Bradford, but lived in Hertfordshire in the south of England for many years before moving to his last permanent home in a lovely village near Poole Harbour in Dorset.

He was steeped in Genealogy, having served in a number of senior positions in Family History Societies, including Yorkshire and The Guild of One Name Studies. He used his journalistic experience to edit the Journal of One Name Studies for ten years, winning accolades along the way.

Our sympathies go to his wife and family.

Angie Parker-Harris

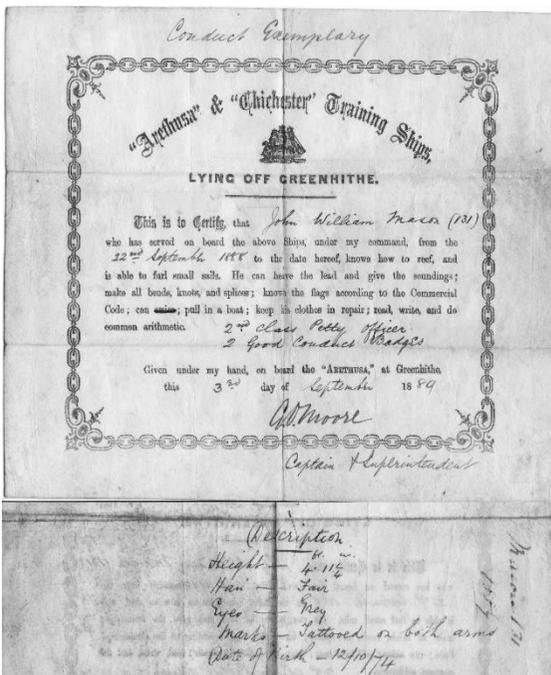
Jack Mason and the Sadness of Rose

Jill Floyd

Family research, we are told, should be started by asking the people still alive what they can remember. I have done this even though there are not many family members around now. This has prompted me to write about a story I had been told.

John William MASON, aka Jack, was born in Westminster in 1874 to John and Lucy Mason. John was a Hatter's Porter.

Jack's father died in 1886 and two years later he was living with his mother and brothers in a very poor part of London, outside the market wall in Watergate Street at Deptford. At the age of 14 Jack joined the Training Ship *Arethusa* moored in the Thames off Greenhithe. This had been set up by Leonard CHESHIRE to train destitute and unruly boys to set them on a better path in life. Jack left a year later with a good report: Conduct Exemplary.



In 1891 Jack joined the Kings Royal Rifle Corps and fought in the Boer War. He stayed in the army for the 12 years he signed up for, and afterwards carried on as a reservist.

He married Charlotte Rebecca, aka Lottie, WARREN on 20 September 1903. They wasted no time in starting their family and Len was born in June 1904. Jack and Lottie Mason lived in what is described as an Artisan

Dwelling in Webb Street, Bermondsey, a stone's throw from Tower Bridge, and stayed there with their ever-growing family until they were bombed out in 1942. Jack was only an Assistant Caretaker so probably didn't earn a great deal. The flats were owned by the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, so I had looked him up at Kew [on a DFHS trip] and found his employment dates.

Jack and Lottie were my Grandparents on my Father's side.

One of my family stories which recently came to light was of my Father's baby sister Rose Mary Mason. I hadn't heard of her at all through my life and was very surprised to hear of her from two cousins. Their Grandmother Bertha was sister to my Grandma, Lottie.

I knew of my Uncles – Len, John, Bob, Jim, Arthur and Auntie Edie, but hadn't heard of the sad stillbirth of another child and the birth of Rose Mary.

Rose Mary was born in 1915 to Lottie and Jack. She was the eighth baby for Lottie. Rose was the second of only two girls in this ever-growing family, and born only 13 months after the previous baby, my Dad, Albert.

The family story passed down to my cousins was that when Rose was born Grandma didn't look after her very well. The family was very poor and the children were not well-fed. This was borne out by my own recollection of Dad telling me he rarely ate any good food, scavenged what he could from under the barrows in the street markets, and lived mainly on bone stew with very little goodness in it. Auntie Edie had told my cousin that she was lucky to eat so well as Edie herself had grown up eating scraps.

This was quite hard to hear about my lovely cuddly 'London Grandma', who I loved even though she died when I was five. I have happy memories of her on the few visits we made to see her. At the top the flats in London you could see the gold trim on top of Tower Bridge whilst walking among the chimneys with washing hung between them. We could also hardly sleep for the noises of London all though the night.

However, after Rose was born in 1915, the story went that Bertha was so worried that the baby wasn't thriving that she took her as her own. Bertha had not long been married, but had another child by her first husband who had reputedly died at sea. The baby was well looked after and loved, and thrived in Bertha's care, but at the age of three Lottie wanted her little girl back. Bertha had no choice.

The little girl was returned to her rightful mother and father, to live in cramped, probably pretty squalid conditions and within weeks had died! I had to know the truth of this awful story and the only way I thought I could find out was to find her death in the registers and order the certificate. Hopefully this would tell me enough to believe what I didn't want to - that my lovely Grandma was to blame.

I struggled to find any record of Rose's death but had found her birth in Bermondsey, St Olaves, in 1915. So this was correct as her Mother's maiden name of Warren was given. However, the only death I could find that looked likely was of a 0-year-old baby. I searched every death record set I could find online: Ancestry, FMP, Find a Grave, etc., but could only come up with the one Rose Mason who had died in Bermondsey, in 1916. There was nothing for it but to send for that certificate to rule it out, or prove the story to be a little wrong.

Today, ten days later, I have received that Death Certificate, showing that Rose Mary Mason, daughter of John William Mason, Assistant Caretaker, died on 15 January 1916. It was her. This poor child was only 8 months old, not three years. But then the awful truth was listed, cause of death: Marasmus and Whooping Cough.

I had to quickly look up Marasmus as I had never come across it, but it shocked me to find the definition as Severe Starvation. How awful, terrible and shocking this was, despite having been told by my cousins. To see it printed in a document was so, so sad.

I can only think that my Grandma had 6 other children around her heels in a tiny, dirty flat with a husband who didn't earn much. Maybe she suffered from Post Natal Depression, or just sheer exhaustion. However, none of this excuses the way she didn't feed her children well, despite

the love I know she gave them from those who survived long enough for me to know.

But then there is yet another story when Lottie died in 1958 her daughter was clearing out her things and found, under her bed, rolls and rolls of money hidden away. Money she should have used to feed her children. It was probably money she had inherited from her own mother, who had died in 1914, the year before Rose was born. I knew Bertha had inherited enough money to open a sweet shop and often wondered why Lottie didn't get anything, or if she did what she did with it.

Whatever happened is in the past now, I will never know any more, there is no-one else left to ask. The moral of this story is that not all family recollections are necessarily accurate, but a little perseverance can possibly find out one way or the other. But be warned, finding out doesn't mean it will be good to know the truth.

Amy Wonderful Amy

Sharon Lawrence



We used to sing this song '*Amy Wonderful Amy*' on family car journeys. It was by Joseph G GILBERT in 1930, composed by Lawrence WRIGHT. Singer Pat O'MALLEY.

The Amy on this popular song is the aviator Amy JOHNSON C.B.E. Amy Johnson was born in Kingson-Upon-Hull, Yorkshire in 1903 and died in the Thames Estuary in 1941. I was told that she is my Gran's cousin. Is there any truth in it?

My Grandmother was Muriel STRATFORD (nee WINSOR) born in Hull, Yorkshire in 1904 (died in Spilsby, Lincolnshire in 1990). Her father was William Henry Winsor He was a trawler skipper of The *General Gordon*. William H Winsor was born in Hull



in 1882 and died there in 1943. My Great Grandfather was Samuel Winsor. Samuel was a Shipwright was also born in Hull in 1855 but died in Torquay, Devon in 1933.

Samuel Winsor was married in Hull in 1878 to Caroline Winsor (nee HOLMES) who was born in Brixham, Devon in 1860. Caroline Holmes had an elder sister called Mary Ann Holmes who was born in Brixham, Devon in 1857 and died in Bridlington in 1930. I found a 50th wedding (1874 to 1924) card in my mother's box after she died. Mary Ann Johnson (nee Holmes) was married to Andrew William Johnson in 1874 who was born in Hull. So the Brixham sisters married Hull men.

What of their father and mother? Caroline and Mary Ann's mother was Mary Ann Holmes (nee WILCOCKS) born in Brixham, Devon in 1834 (died in Hull 1901) and their father was Thomas Holmes was in the Royal Navy and born in Hook, Yorkshire in 1832 (died in Vancouver, Canada in 1861). My mother had jotted down that she thought Caroline's mother was married twice... that is another story... the connection with the sea goes back generations in my family and there is definite connection with intermarriages between Yorkshire and Devon. Samuel Winsor's father himself was born in Devon!

Andrew William Johnson married Caroline Winsor's sister. Andrew was born in Hull, Yorkshire and was a fisherman and his father was on record as an "Alien" called Anders Jorgensen from Funen, Denmark...

My family history goes that Samuel Winsor had to mend a boat in a storm and went over the side of the vessel. When he came up again his hair had turned white. Fear can do that to people I found out. There was a family falling out over a piano and the Johnson family. The Winsors couldn't get a ship. They wanted to buy a piano from my Great Grandmother and she declined.

To return Mary Ann and Andrew William Johnson are the parents of John William Johnson who was an owner of a fish processing plant and a wealthy merchant born in Hull in 1876 and died in Hull in 1963. John William Johnson was married in 1902 in Hull to Amy Johnson (nee Hodge) who was born in Hull in 1881 and died there in 1958. Amy

(senior) was a music teacher and had two brothers who were also musicians. Perhaps John William Johnson was trying to help to William Henry Winsor? They obviously had a lot of pride.

To continue. Amy Johnson (Jnr) was born in is the oldest daughter of Amy Johnson (Snr) (nee HODGE). She was a flier who was the first to fly from England to Oz in a bi-plane called "Jason".

Therefore, Amy Johnson was my Grandmother's (Muriel Winsor) second cousin.

A World Turned Upside Down?

Bryan Phillips



Milton Abbas was once a much more important place than it now is. Most people know that the old town was pulled down and moved into a valley out of sight of the Lord of the Manor, Joseph DAMER, Lord Milton, 1st Earl of Dorchester, around 1780.

Although this was not the earliest such move by a Lord of the Manor, we believe that it was the largest, with over 80 substantial properties pulled down, leaving just one standing. There were four inns and a number of shops in the Old Town. This destruction was part of the landscape design of Capability Brown. A new village of 40 semi-detached houses, each initially for two families, later four, was erected to house the estate workers and no inn or tavern was allowed.

The grammar school founded as a charity in 1521, and providing free education for local residents, was also pulled down and relocated eventually in 1786 to Blandford Forum, with the connivance of Lord Milton's cronies in the House of Lords.

It has been our mission to explore what this traumatic event was like for the people of the town. We are lucky to have Churchwarden's Accounts

and Overseers of the Poor Accounts for this period, and these have been transcribed by us to enable searching for names of the Church Rate Payers, the Poor Rate Payers and the poor receiving out relief. The names of the six poor widows of the alms-houses were not recorded.

Together with the Churchwardens and Overseers records we have used wills, settlement examinations, bastardy records, leases, rent books, Quarter Sessions records, maps and surveys of 1652, 1770 and 1806, alehouse licences and land tax assessments to tell their stories.

We now have a good idea of the affluence, the poverty, the clothing, the severity of the weather, the medical attention, the drastic amalgamation of properties, the terms of the old and new leases, and so on.

We hope that you saw the BBC program 'Pubs, Ponds and Power', which told some of the story of Milton Abbas at this traumatic time.

If any readers think they may have ancestors from Milton Abbas, please check out our website at <https://miltonabbashistorygroup.com> or use the link on the Dorset Family History Society website, where you can find a list of surnames of former residents and over 80 pages of more information.

Please use the contact form on our website if you would like to know about your Milton Abbas ancestors.

We love to share information about the history of this amazing place.

News from Dorset History Centre

Sam Johnston - County Archivist

Dame Elisabeth Frink – an archival legacy

1. Introduction

I'd like to take this opportunity to inform you about a newly launched project which focuses on one of Britain's foremost modern artists with which Dorset History Centre now has a permanent and close association.

Dame Elisabeth FRINK RA (1930-1993) was one of Britain's most renowned sculptors. Her works are held by museums and galleries throughout the UK and worldwide. Frink moved to Dorset in 1976 and lived here until her death, establishing her studio at Woolland, near Blandford. She was part of a post-war school of sculpture known as the 'Geometry of Fear' and much of her work was concerned with the exercise of power as well as a strong interest in the human form and animals, particularly birds, dogs and horses. Locally, her best-known work is the striking 'Dorset Martyrs' in Dorchester. Since her death, Frink's reputation has grown and there is high demand for her works amongst collectors and institutions.



Frink – in Memoriam II

2. About the collection and the cataloguing project

Dorset Archives Trust, the charity which supports Dorset History Centre's (DHC) work has been generously gifted the Frink archive by the Frink Estate. Frink's son, Lin JAMMED was keen to ensure that Frink's strong relationship with Dorset was maintained which led to the generous bequest to DAT. The collection is now deposited at DHC for public benefit. A range of other UK museums and galleries are also to receive Frink sculptures to form part of their permanent collections.

The archive (documents, photographs, works of art on paper, printed material and audio-visual content) contains material which is essential to anyone hoping to understand Frink's life, inspiration and techniques. It is contained in over 110 boxes alongside 'outsized' materials and represents the single most important source of evidence relating to Frink. Without the archive, it would be impossible to understand her life and work. It is currently hard to access as only very brief descriptions of materials exist.

Thanks to the generous support of the Henry MOORE Foundation and a group of private donors, it has been possible to fund a project which will allow full access to this collection. This project will fundamentally and permanently change this situation through the production of a detailed archival catalogue. Through this, the archive will be accessible through online discovery for research by a wide range of users - from academics, students and curators to anyone else interested in Frink's work.

Cataloguing commenced in October 2019 and last for 12 months. In addition, conservation work on some of the material will be carried out. Volunteers will be recruited to assist with the project.

DHC is fortunate to be working with Annette RATUSZNAK, who as former Curator to the Frink Estate has unrivalled knowledge of the artist and her work. Annette has written and spoken widely on Frink and she will act as expert advisor to the archivist and project team over the next 12 months.

3. The sculptures

In addition to the archive, DAT has been gifted a group of Frink sculptures and plaster maquettes. These too will remain at DHC, which most unusually has now taken objects into its collection – because in this case they are an obvious link to the archive collection housed here. The sculptures include six bronzes amongst which are The Group and the de Beers Trophy. It is DAT's intention to exhibit these sculptures at DHC in a specially designed case.



Frink, The Group, 1980.

4. Fundraising for Frink

DAT is now actively fundraising for the secure exhibition case required in order to safely hold the Frink sculptures now in its care and to make them available to the public. We need to raise £5,000 to do this. The sculptures, like the archive will be free for anyone to come in and view. If you would like to make a contribution, you can donate via the Dorset Archives Trust website.

DHC is keen to collect the archives of culturally significant figures and organisations in Dorset – to add to the wide range of collections held by the service. If you would like to discuss the deposit of archives, please contact the service on: <archives@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>

For further information, see: <www.dorsetarchivetrust.org>

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

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

Follow the service on Twitter @[dorsetarchives](https://twitter.com/dorsetarchives)

Sam Johnston

Membership News

Claire Evans

We are pleased to have received so many renewal payments in to the Society already, so thank you to all those who have paid. Reminders will be sent out via email to those members who haven't yet renewed with us, and we hope to keep our numbers up for the coming year.

In amongst the renewals we have received to the Society, we would also like to offer a warm welcome the following new members. If you are interested in contacting any of these members, you can obtain details from Treetops during opening hours:

5171	Ms	Pauline	WILLIAMS	Shefford	Bedfordshire	
5172	Mr	Robert	COX	Tasmania		AUSTRALIA
5173	Miss	Elizabeth	SPARKES	Uckfield	East Sussex	
5174	Ms	Catherine	ARCHER	Berkhamstead	Hertfordshire	
5175	Ms	Christine	RUSSELL	Eastleigh	Hampshire	
5176	Ms	Sheila	PATEL	Middlesborough		
5177	Ms	Tracey	EDWARDS	Bournemouth	Dorset	
5178	Mr	Robert	WIFFEN	Poole	Dorset	
5179	Mr	Chris	RIGLER	Verwood	Dorset	
5180	Ms	Judith	HANSON	Poole	Dorset	
5181	Ms	Karen	ARNSDORF	Chippewa Falls	Wisconsin	United States
5182	Mr	Michael	ROBINSON	Bedford	Western Australia	AUSTRALIA
5183	Mr	Stephen	PLOWMAN	Fleet	Hampshire	
5184	Mr	Anthony	HARRIS	Verwood	Dorset	
5185	Mr	Jeremy	BUNN	London		
5186	Ms	Marilyn	PARKS	Gig Harbour	Washington	United States
5187	Mrs	Teresa	WYATT	Bournemouth	Dorset	
5188	Mr	Chris	GOODCHILD	Poole	Dorset	
5189	Mr	Graham	READER	Kings Lynn	Norfolk	
5190	Mrs	Freda	MOTTRAM	Poole	Dorset	
5191	Mrs	Jan	BRIAN	Poole	Dorset	

Society Services

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

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

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

Transcriptions and Indexes

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

Facilities for visitors to Treetops

In addition to the Transcriptions and Indexes: -

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

Members Only

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

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

Member's Area: Also available from the website Menu bar, the Password is yzpd3tMc (includes numbers as well as letters). It contains some additional information just for Members.

General Data Protection Regulation

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

DORSET FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

President - Ian Andrews

Vice Presidents - June Clist
- Brian Galpin

Committee members

Linda Adams, Ann Bush, Chris Chuck, Cherry Fisher, Susan Redfearn, Shirley Robinson, Sheila Tanner, June Taylor, Anna Ward, Debbie Winter

Officers

Chairman – David Gynes, e-mail: chairman@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Secretary - Sheila Martin, Tel: 01202 687586 e-mail: secretary@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Treasurer - Joy Dixon, e-mail: treasurer@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Coach Organiser – *Cherry Fisher*, e-mail: coachtrips@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Computer Group Coordinator – various

Exchange Journals Librarian - June Taylor, Tel: 01202 767666
e-mail: garryandjunetaylor@ntlworld.com

Database Manager - Graham Searle, Tel 01202 520306 e-mail: gra.searle@btinternet.com

Education Officer – Sheila Tanner, e-mail: education@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Fairs Coordinator – Anna Ward, e-mail: ward.anna@gmail.com

Liaison Officer – Richard Yates, e-mail: liaison@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Journal Editor - Angela Parker-Harris e-mail: editor@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Librarian – Debbie Winter, Tel: 01202 842838, email lynwoodwinter@hotmail.com

Members' Interests – Alan Mead, Tel 01202 520189 e-mail: interests@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Membership Secretary - Claire Evans, Tel: 01202 691285 e-mail: membership@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Monumental Inscriptions Coordinator – *Theresa Dobbs*, see under research

Parish Registers Coordinator - *Vacant*

Programme Secretary – Sue & Pete Redfearn, e-mail: peterredjohn@gmail.com

Publicity Officer - Shirley Robinson, Tel: 01202 880171 e-mail: publicity@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Research Coordinator-Theresa Dobbs, 01202 385516 e-mail: treebordobbs@hotmail.co.uk

Sales Coordinator - Ann Capon, Tel: 01202 389605 e-mail: sales@dorsetfhs.org.uk

Strays Coordinator - Lindsey Dedden, Tel 01202 824473 e-mail: lindsey.dedden@gmail.com

Webmaster - Alan Mead, Tel: 01202 520189 e-mail: webmaster@dorsetfhs.org.uk

*Unless otherwise indicated, all postal correspondence to be sent c/o
Treetops Research Centre at the address shown on the front inner cover*



Dupli-Service

your one-stop resource
for all your printing
and copying needs

Leaflets - Booklets - Newsletters
Magazines - Laminating - Draw Tickets
Photocopying - Calendars - Booklets

01202 749820

**We specialise in Order Of Service for
Weddings– Baptisms and Funerals**

www.dupli-service.co.uk
sales@dupli-service.co.uk

Recycle your Printer Cartridges

Recycle4Charity will make a donation to the Society for every 'virgin' (not recycled before) printer cartridge received.

They can be left at Treetops, but please note that not all cartridges are accepted - see the list on their website <<http://www.Recycle4Charity.co.uk>>.

Freepost envelopes can also be ordered for the return of print cartridges by following the link from our website and registering as a donor.

Envelopes will be stamped with your ID number and the name of the Society. To order more, log into the site as an existing donor. Why not hand the envelopes around to family and friends to raise more for the Society?

Printed by

DUPLI-SERVICE LIMITED

www.dupli-service.co.uk