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Buried by Coroner’s Warrant • The most decorated British NCO of the First World War
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Journal of the Hampshire Genealogical Society
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This journal is designed and laid out by
Acadia PR & Design  Southampton
Telephone 023 8023 5780  Email: info@acadia.co.uk
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Deadline
Material for possible inclusion in the June 2015 Family Historian should be received strictly by 10 April 2015. All contributions are, however, appreciated as early as possible.

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Submission of material
The editor welcomes articles, family trees (typed in black, A4 with 1” margins) letters, items, comments, and especially family photographs or illustrations to accompany them. Please enclose SAE for photo return. Items can be submitted by e-mail to editor@hgs-online.org.uk with your Surname and “New HFH Article” on the subject line or by post (letter or CD in Word format). The HGS reserve the right to reproduce submissions in publicity materials and on the society website.

Please, ALWAYS include a telephone contact — (it will not be printed if you clearly state this) and your membership number PLUS full postal home address - particularly when sending Emails.
This is the first Hampshire Family Historian journal of 2015, which means we shall be definitely continuing with stories from the First World War to mark the progress of the centenary!

As you can see from the Feature Article opposite, this will also be a year of several other anniversaries. So, you can hopefully expect that the various media organisations will be devising numerous ways to keep you interested and themselves in the limelight, in order to entice you to visit exhibitions, watch or listen to especially constructed programmes for the occasion, or even read about them in magazines or newspapers. It seems amazing that so many “expert” historians have now come to the fore when – not too many years ago – there was a general feeling among the public that they were not particularly interested in history. Possibly thanks to the media (and perhaps even pub quizzes), virtually everybody seems to be quite knowledgeable about the more popular historical aspects and events nowadays.

Continuing with the theme on the First World War, there are several articles for you to read here. ‘Historical Hogs’ tells the amazing story of the commander of an outdated submarine that made naval history, when – against all odds, it would appear – he and his crew sank an enemy battleship: the first sub to do so. The epic journey, there and back, in order to achieve this special task was an amazing feat in itself, as well. And it didn’t end there, for his life story was quite remarkable.

You can also read in this current journal about an ANZAC horse-trainer, originally from Fair Oak, who died on the battlefield near Ypres; of three brothers and a brother-in-law from Overton who served in the Army and Royal Marines during the conflict; of the most decorated ordinary British soldier (an NCO) of that war; and a poem written by a serving Portsmouth soldier while abroad, serving King and country.

But that’s not all. Other topics include the tale of a man involved in a railway accident in Australia; unusual family deaths requiring a coroner’s verdict; an intriguing baptism entry in the Twyford register; the second article on Roman Catholics in the Havant area; the Woods family of Tadley; and a casualty of the Second World War and a long-lost cousin.


Thank you to everybody who had contributed.

Ken Smallbone
Editor
2015 – A Year of Anniversaries

There seems to be a modern trend to celebrate or commemorate anniversaries of major events that occurred several decades or even hundreds of years ago. We continue along that same path this year, even though it may appear that we are merely heading into a media circus at times.

On 15 June 1215 (800 years ago) King John was forced by a group of barons to agree to Magna Carta, which centuries later (particularly during the constitutional conflicts of the 17th century and the American rebellion of the 18th) was inflated into the instrument that guarantees the liberties which we hold dear today. In order to commemorate this major event the British Library is holding an exhibition between 13 March and 1 September this year, in which two original versions of ‘the Great Charter’ are displayed (www.bl.uk/events). Meanwhile, the other two surviving original copies will be also shown at the Chapter House in Salisbury from 6 March and at Lincoln Castle from 1 April.

The Battle of Agincourt was fought on St Crispin’s Day, 25 October, 1415 (600 years ago), and will be celebrated in various ways. ‘The Big Shoot’, 22 to 27 August 2015, will be a re-enactment of the battle at Azincourt in France, while the Norton Archers will hold tournaments near Stockton-on-Tees on 11 and 12 July (agincourt600.com).

The Great Plague broke out in London in February 1665 (350 years ago), and spread throughout the country afterwards, eventually coming to an end during the following winter. One can view aspects of it in the Museum of London at London Wall.

The ‘Fifteen’ Jacobite Rebellion lasted from September 1715 to February 1716 (300 years ago), as the first unsuccessful attempt to place James Francis Edward Stuart ‘the Old Pretender’ on the British throne.

The Battle of Waterloo was fought on 18 June 1815 (200 years ago), and will be celebrated through re-enactments of the conflict at Waterloo in Belgium between 18 and 21 June this year (www.waterloo2015.org), presented by ASBL ‘Bataille de Waterloo 1815’.

It was a hundred years ago when the ANZAC landings took place on 25 April 1915 to begin the Gallipoli Campaign – and this will be commemorated by a special dawn remembrance service there on ANZAC Day this year (25 April 2015). The 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, was among the British and allied troops involved in that futile campaign.

VE-Day was celebrated on 8 May 1945 and VJ-Day on 15 August 1945 (70 years ago), bringing an end to the Second World War – although celebrations of the latter event will always be marred by the remembrance of the horrors and sufferings caused by the atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Fifty years ago – on 24 January 1965 – we heard of the death of Sir Winston Churchill, whose leadership was instrumental in bringing about the ending of the war twenty years earlier.

And five years ago I became Editor of the Hampshire Family Historian.

Ken Smallbone, Editor
If you would like your request to be included in this section, please submit a **brief, but specific** email or letter of enquiry or send a 'Word' based article with relevant names (and particularly your own name and address) detailed in **BLOCK CAPITALS** to Mrs L. Bull, 'Wychwynd', Cove Road, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 2RT.

Kindly **always advise a telephone number** for any possible contact, and unless you state clearly that you object, any e-mail or telephone number given will be printed. Please be patient as acknowledgement or reply will not be made except through this journal. Photographs and illustrations are gladly accepted: - (300 dpi resolution jpegs by email attachment or on CD are welcome) or laser colour photocopies (never ordinary ones) or black and white original pictures. All can be returned if you request it and supply an SAE. If sending original photographs through the post, please use a protective board envelope. **EMAIL:** searchershfh@tiscali.co.uk and please always quote a **full postal address** for those without computers. If this is not done, your request may well be disregarded.

**Abbreviations used:**  
- **b** = born, **bap** = baptised, **bd** = buried, **c.** = circa, **C** = Century, **d.** = died, **mrd** = married.

**Members are reminded that these pages are compiled from letters etc. that may have been written months beforehand, so postal addresses should always be checked for up to date changes.**

---

**Is this the correct Patterson family?**

Deborah Patterson, 2/21 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, Vic. 3147, Australia  
Email: pattersondj@hotmail.com

My great-great-grandfather George Patterson was born in 1814 and baptised in 1817 with two siblings Ann (born 1812) and Elizabeth (born 1816) at St Mary’s Portsea, the children of James Patterson, a mariner of College Lane and his wife Ann.

From the HGS marriage index the most likely marriage of his parents involves James Padeson (widower) and Ann Baxindine (spinster) who wed in 1799 also at St Mary’s. There were several children born to ‘James and Ann’ over the following decade but the mother’s maiden name is not mentioned. After years of searching I am yet to find confirmation that this is the correct couple. I am hoping that other HGS members may be
The following information has been taken from the Census records and parish registers:

John ANNETT (born 1781) probably married to Ann. Children: Eliza b 1809 m Robert LEE; William b 1815 m Martha; Edward b 1819 m 1. Mary Ann BROWN 2.

My second query concerns my great uncle Joe (Joseph) MARSHALL who was a doorman at The Gaumont between WW1 and WW2. I have been told by my mother that he wore a uniform of red and gold. I was wondering if any readers can confirm any of this information and if anyone has any pictures of the theatre at this time, with or without a doorman - that would be great. I have contacted the theatre but they are unable to help with any archival material.
I am researching the TEMPLE Family, of Sandwich in East Kent, for a friend (Kay, daughter of a Temple) who lives in South Australia. The scion of the family was one Henry Temple, who married Jane HILLS in 1738 at St Clement’s Church, Sandwich. He died in 1800 with his age given as 86. Fortunately, he married by Licence and the Allegation, etc., had his Bondsman as George Temple, a Woollen Factor of Alton, Hampshire. Thus, I was able to find Henry’s baptism dated 14 November 1714 at Alton, the son of George and Anne SPARROWFIELD. Moving on from there I found the marriage of George and Anne dated 5 June 1712 at Alton. Then I have the baptism of George Temple dated 17 October 1683, the son of Henry and Elizabeth. All the information in this paragraph has been found on Family Search. I have not been able to confirm this data from any other source.

Does anyone have access to the Alton Parish Registers to be able to confirm the detail as above and possibly find the maiden name of the Elizabeth who married Henry Temple some time prior to 1683? Any further information would be most gratefully received.

Thus far I have traced Henry and Jane Temple’s descendants through a further five generations. Ironically, (one descendant) William Temple, who emigrated to South Australia, married (in Adelaide) an Ellen BLATCHFORD of Lymington (transcribed as Leamington), but that is another story.

Have your Query published in the journal?
Send to searchershfh@tiscali.co.uk
Alec John AXFORD (1889-1918),
Private 6936, Horse Trainer:
21st Battalion,
19th Reinforcements,
Australian Imperial
Force.

Alec was born at Fair Oak, Hampshire, in January 1889, son of John Edward Axford and his wife Dinah (née BALL). His father was a nurseryman and florist, and Alec used to help him in the nursery. He would even help to take the produce and flowers to the station with the horse and cart, on their way to market. When he was 15, Alec left home to go to sea. With the port of Southampton being only 9 miles away, he joined the Union Castle Line as a cabin boy, and worked his way up to steward. In 1912 he eventually settled in Victoria, Australia, where he worked on a cattle station in Cosgrove as a labourer and horse trainer, and also became a jockey.

On 4 October 1916 Alec enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) as a horse trainer. He had his medical at Castlemaine on 27 October that year, and his army service started three days later at Royal Park, Victoria. However, his attestation papers for the AIF show that he had previously served with the Australian Military Forces (AMF), Division 4, for 121 days, but was rejected as unfit with varicocele (a form of varicose veins).

During basic training in March and April 1917, Alec spent three days in hospital and was also treated eight times for problems with his right eye at Langwarrin Camp. On 10 May he had his final examination at Broadmeadows and was classed as fit for overseas service. On the next day he embarked for England with his unit at Melbourne on the A11, HMATS Ascanius, a merchant steamship requisitioned from the Blue Funnel Line for transporting troops. The A11 arrived at Devonport on the 20 July 1917. From there Alec joined the 6th Training Battalion at Rolleston Camp on Salisbury Plain, where he received his main warfare training, as having only undertaken basic training in Australia. On 13 November 1917 he underwent a medical and was found fit for war service. His unit travelled to Southampton the next day for overseas deployment to France, and arrived at La Havre on the 15th, as part of the 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot (ADBD). Ten days later - on 25 November - Alec Axford joined the 21st Battalion in the Ypres area of Belgium.

Beginning at 4.40 am with a five-hour artillery bombardment of 1,100,000 shells, the German Army launched their 1918 Spring Offensive (Kaiserschlacht: Kaiser’s Battle) on 21 March 1918. The next day Alec was killed in action in the line at St Yves.
The Battalion War Diary for that day - the 22nd -states: "Battalion in line. At 3 a.m. enemy put down a heavy barrage on our front line and a raiding party of Huns came over and raided our outpost. Casualties – 1 Officer (2/Lt J. O’Brien) and 7 Ordinary Ranks killed. 1 Officer (Capt. C.V. Duncan) and 10 Ordinary Ranks Wounded and 12 O.R. missing. 1 Enemy taken prisoner. Weather – Fine. Observation – Good”.

Alec Axford was buried in the Rosenberg Château Military Cemetery Extension, Ploegsteert, No. B1201. In 1930 his body, along with fellow Australians, was exhumed and re-interred in the Australian section of the Berks Cemetery Extension, Ploegsteert: Plot 2, Row A, Grave No. 54. The Times (London) for Monday 10 March 1930 reported that, after long negotiations between the owner of the land, the Belgian Government and the Imperial War Graves Commission, the removal of 480 soldiers’ bodies (including 128 Australians) had taken place the week before. This was because the landowner wanted them moved and refused to sell the land to the Commission or Government. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) now looks after these graves.
Nevertheless, Alec is also remembered on his parents’ gravestone in Fair Oak parish churchyard and on the Roll of Honour in St Thomas’s church there, although the village war memorial has no names on it. Furthermore, he is recorded on the Australian Roll of Honour, the Australian War Memorial in Hyde Park, London, and the War Memorial at Canberra, Australia.

On the latter memorial his name appears on Panel 93, and is projected about every 40 days onto the exterior of the Hall of Memory, Canberra, as part of the Australian Roll of Honour Name Projection (The times of his name projection can be found on their website). This special commemoration will run from 4 August 2014 until 11 November 2018. During this period, the entire set of 62,000 names will be displayed about 30 times, and from sunset to sunrise every night. They can be seen from the Memorial’s grounds, and each name will be visible for 30 seconds.

Michael Hobbs (Member # 893)
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Sources used other than family items:
Australian War Memorials – http://www.awm.gov.au
AIF Project – http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au
CWGC – http://www.cwgc.org
Grave photo – http://www.findagrave.com
The War Grave Photographic Project - http://www.twgpp.org
The Times Digital Archive 1785–2008
Over the years I have researched many parish records at record offices and have been interested to read the additional information and comments occasionally made in the parish registers.

In baptism records the actual date of birth was sometimes included and, quite frequently, there would be unkind comments about the parentage of an illegitimate child. In burial records those of unknown strangers might include the place and circumstances surrounding the death.

These additional comments can be very useful, and in my research have stirred the need to find out ‘just that little bit more’.

My most researched parish is that of Ashmansworth, in the north of Hampshire, where the records have revealed my paternal ancestry. Through the additional comments made in the Ashmansworth burial register I became aware that there had been at least three ‘unusual’ deaths within my family, the register each time being annotated ‘Buried by Coroner’s Warrant’. The burials were between 1856 and 1876; those of a 2x great-grandmother and two of her grandchildren. Without these annotations I would never have researched further into any cause or the circumstances of their deaths.

My subsequent research uncovered three tragic deaths, which highlighted just how hard life was in those days for families of poor agricultural labourers.

The first death to be researched was that of Elizabeth EATWELL, my 2x great-grandmother, who had died, aged 70, in 1862. Ashmansworth news in those days was not reported in Hampshire newspapers, so it was necessary to consult Berkshire newspapers at Reading Library. Two newspaper reports were found, and these detailed the tragic circumstances of her death. First, on 3 May 1862 The Reading Mercury reported as follows: “Fatal accident - On Thursday morning last, a woman, named Elizabeth Eatwell, was working for Mr. Froome at Smith’s Farm at Ashmansworth, and while opening the sheaves of wheat to feed the thrashing machine, she unfortunately slipped, and one of her legs was immediately caught in the drum of the machine and was severed from her body. This terrible occurrence caused almost instant death.” The inquest on Elizabeth’s death was reported the next week in The Berkshire Chronicle: “….. her leg was torn off at the knee joint. She died instantly, most probably from the shock to the nervous system, as she lost very little blood. Verdict - Accidental Death.”

The second death to be researched was that of Isaac EATWELL, Elizabeth’s grandson. His death, in 1876, also involved a steam thrashing machine, again at Smith’s Farm, again working for the Froome family. On 2 June 1876 Isaac, aged 42, fell from a thrashing machine and died of his injuries on 5 June. An inquest was held at Ashmansworth on 7 June, his death was registered on the 9 June and he was buried that same day. The report of his death in the Reading Mercury was as follows: "A fatal accident occurred to a labourer named Isaac Eatwell recently. The deceased who was a single man, about 40 yrs of age, was working for Mr George Froome, on
a steam thrashing machine, when he accidentally fell off, causing severe injury to the spine. Dr Thompson was promptly in attendance, but he gave no hope and the unfortunate man died three days afterwards.”

The third death to be researched was that of baby Eliza BENHAM, who, aged 15 months, was buried at Ashmansworth on 13 April 1856. Expecting to find another accidental death, another visit to Reading Library was needed to search the newspapers again. However, there was no inquest for baby Eliza, but a report on the 29 March in The Reading Mercury detailed the court appearance of her mother, Hannah Benham (a daughter of Elizabeth Eatwell):

"Kingsclere divisional petty sessions. stealing fagots – Hannah Benham and Maria Poore, were charged with stealing at Ashmansworth, on the 21st of February last, a quantity of fagots, the property of Mr. J. Willis, of East Woodhay, of the value of 8d. Elijah Cripps, a policeman, stated, that from information he received he went to a field at Ashmansworth and there he saw the prisoners taking wood out of the bavins and tying it up; he had previously marked some, which they took and went away with; he followed them and charged them with stealing it. The prisoner Benham said that Poore called for her, and she should not have gone as she had plenty of fagots at home, but they were green. Poore said she had none, and wanted some to burn. The prisoners said, they thought there was no harm in taking some of the wood, as the carter had thrown it on one side, and they thought it was of no value. They were committed to gaol for 21 days. Both had been previously convicted of a similar offence”. Research at Hampshire Record Office followed, and the original Surgeons Journal (County Gaol), Bridewell 1849-56 was consulted, which showed that the health of Hannah and her baby were recorded during the following days:

2.4.1856 Hannah Benham’s child, constipation, state; slight, medicine; purgative. Reg No 10.007. Division a, Ward 2, Cell 6.

5.4.1856 Hannah Benham’s child, inflammation of the lungs, serious, medicine; the mother to have broth daily ... to the infirmary.

8.4.1856 Hannah Benham, 39, pain in the breast, slight, medicine; aperic?, broth daily .... there was no mention that Hannah’s baby had died the previous day.

Eliza’s death certificate was purchased and it shows that she died at The County Prison on 7 April 1856, aged 10 months. Her death, in prison, necessitated her burial to be ‘By Coroner’s Warrant’. The death was not registered by the Coroner until 20 May, cause of death was Inflammation of the Lungs. The age on her death certificate is incorrect, as Eliza was at least 15 months old; her birth was registered in the 4th quarter of 1854. It would seem that the death of this baby, in prison, was of little significance to the authorities. Her death was not registered quickly, and even then her age was given incorrectly. I wonder whether Hannah was allowed out of prison early to attend her baby’s funeral. I doubt it.

Val Dawe (Member # 11335) valcatperson@sky.com
To recap, Civil Registration commenced in England and Wales in 1837, in Scotland in 1855, and in Ireland in 1864. The British Isles, nevertheless, comprise a little bit more than just the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, and it is here that matters can get rather complicated. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not part of the United Kingdom, but are dependencies under the Crown. They have their own currencies and legal systems, yet come under the jurisdiction of the Registrar General of England and Wales for census purposes.

**The Channel Islands.** Civil Registration began at different times on each of the Channel Islands: Guernsey in 1840, Jersey in 1842, Alderney in 1850, and Sark in 1915. The Bailiwick of Guernsey covers the islands of Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, Herm, Brecqhou, Jethou and Lithou. The Bailiwick of Jersey consists of the island of Jersey, along with surrounding uninhabited islands and rocks.

*FamilySearch* website records births and baptisms in the Channel Islands, covering the period 1820-1907.

**The Bailiwick of Guernsey** The civil records for Guernsey (from 1840) are held at the island’s Greffe (Register Office), located in the Royal Court House, St Peter Port, GY1 2PB. Office hours are 9 am to 5 pm (postal applications to the Greffier). A full certificate costs £5 and a short one £3, while there is an additional search fee of £5. However, for visitors this charge can be alleviated, as there is public access to the Strong Room between 2 pm and 4 pm: for a nominal charge of £1, details can be copied from the records.

Printed copies of indexes and on microfilm for both Guernsey and Alderney can be accessed at the Family History Library in the Royal Court House. They can also be viewed at the Priaulx Library, Candie Road, St Peter Port, GY1 1UG, Guernsey’s premier centre for local studies and family history, along with the parish registers for the whole of the Bailiwick. Certificate entries can be either in French or English, or even a mixture of both. By the early 1860s failure to register a child resulted in a fine – those guilty of such felonies were brought before the Royal Court to declare that the child was legitimately theirs.

In England, a woman generally ceased using her maiden name when she married, but in Guernsey she retained that name throughout her life, and would be indexed in the death register under her maiden name only. However, by the 1950s both married and maiden names were used.

From 1840 non-religious marriages were performed in the Greffe, and from 1920 all marriages were recorded there, as well as in the church where they were performed. Therefore, several Guernsey marriages up until 1919 will only be found in the parish registers – and not at all under civil registration at the Greffe. Unfortunately, there may be a gap in parish registers between 1875 and 1907.

For Alderney, the address is The Greffier, Registry for Births Deaths Companies Land and Marriages, St Anne, Alderney, GY9 3AA.
Births and deaths were recorded from August 1850, but births are missing for the period from May 1871 to December 1874 (a hand-ruled book of declarations from August 1850 to December 1874 can be used to fill the gap). Deaths are recorded to 1855, but then there is a huge gap up until records resume in 1907 – the missing period can only be partially filled via the hand-ruled book of declarations, October 1855 to December 1874. Marriages in the Greffe registers date from 1886, as recorded at St Anne’s church, and from elsewhere on the island since 1891.

Guernsey holds births, deaths and marriages for Alderney from 1925. The Priaulx Library there holds incomplete microfilm sets of civil registration records for Alderney.

The births, deaths and marriages records for Sark are held at The Greffe, Las Chasse Marette, Sark, GY9 0SE. Office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 2 to 4 pm. Alternatively, they can be obtained at The Greffe in Guernsey. These date from 1925.

(The Bailiwick of Jersey) The Jersey Heritage Research Centre (Jersey Archive), Clarence Road, St Helier, JE2 4JY, holds indexes to civil registration for the island, as well as the parish and nonconformist registers. Surname indexes from 1842 are available on microfilm at the Library of the Société Jersiaise and in the CIFHS Room at the Jersey Archive, as there is limited access to the originals.

The Office of the Superintendent Registrar, 10 Royal Square, St Helier, JE 2 4WA, is open to the public between 9 and 11 am (closes at 12.30 pm), and available by appointment only. Certificates cost £20 each. It is possible to view the registers personally and copy details. However, space is severely limited, and, as the room is also used for weddings, there is no guarantee that the facility will be available at any time. Postal searches for births over five years cost £10, and for marriages over the same period £20.

The Isle of Man. Civil Registration began on the Isle of Man in 1849, but was not compulsory until 1878 – and in 1884 for marriages.

The General Registry, Deemsters Walk, Douglas, IM1 3AR, holds civil registration records for the Isle of Man. Full certificates cost £10 each, and short ones £8. A five-year postal search of the records prior to 1980 is charged at £25.

The indexes up until 1979 can also be searched on ManxBMD.com or, alternatively, FamilySearch covers births and baptisms for the island, 1821-1911; marriages, 1849-1911; deaths and burials, 1844-1911 – and parish registers, 1598-1950.

Ken Smallbone (Editor)

References:
https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en;
www.guernseyroyalcourt.gg;
www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk;
www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk;
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk;
www.jerseyfamilyhistory.org; www.societe-jersiaise.org; www.manxbmd.com;
www.ukbmd.org.uk;
www.gov.im/registries/general/civilregistry
Intriguing Twyford Baptism Entry – Update

‘03.01.1839 Mortimer Alexander Adolphus, son of Charlotte and Mortimer TIMPSON, Major of Marines, Privately, brought into church June 4 1839 T F Baker Off. Min.’

The above article appeared in Volume XXXII No. 3 (December 2005), p 234, about an amendment to the Twyford baptism register (Hants), concerning the incorrect information provided to the minister at the time of Mortimer’s baptisms, as his parents were not married at that time. Nine years later - on 14 July 2014 - I received the following e-mail from Peter Powell of Amersham, Buckinghamshire:-

“A recent search for TIMPSON on Find My Past brought up a reference to your article, some years back, in Hampshire Family Historian and HGS have kindly provided me with a copy. I have been researching the TIMPSONs of Hampshire for some years, so your article is of interest to me. Your research largely mirrors my own, but I can enlarge on some features of it.

Mortimer TIMPSON, Major of Marines, was one of six men of the family who served as commissioned officers in the Royal Marines for a combined period of about a century. Mortimer himself was at Trafalgar and also in the US in the War of 1812, where he helped in efforts to burn down the White House and the Capitol! Other members served in China and also in the Crimea. Mortimer was first married to Mary HALL in 1806, but there appears to have been no issue from that marriage.

There were three children from (or before) his marriage to Charlotte ARNOLD: Clara Mary ARNOLD 1834, Mortimer Adolphus Alexander TIMPSON 1838, and Ann Alice TIMPSON 1845, whom you mention. She was actually Cordelia Augusta Rose Ann Alice and she chose to "pick and mix" her given names, which tends to confuse simple folk like me!

Mortimer A A married Anna GARDINER in 1866, as you mention, and he died in 1904: see Windsor, Surrey records.

I am intrigued by your reference to "Mortimer TIMPSON aged 24 (in 1881) born in Marylebone and living in Brighton. I missed him, since he appears as TIMSON not TIMPSON, at least in the Ancestry 1881 Census transcript. There seem to be a rash of TIMSON records - see Free BMD for Marylebone 1837-1901 - but nary a Mortimer!

Mortimer, or sometimes Mortimore, is the given name that links generations of TIMPSONs in Hampshire and beyond. There is an early instance in Ireland and recent ones from descendants in Australia. There was a family of TIMPSONs living in St Pancras, London, the earliest member of which, Mortimore TIMPSON 1803-1863, was born in Southampton, Hants, and must surely link to the main family in Portsea, Twyford, etc, but I have not so far managed to make the connection. I suspect that your Mortimer TIMSON of Marylebone must fit with the St Pancras group and should be TIMPSON, but I am not sure where he slots in as yet.

I assume that your piece of research was undertaken out of interest and not prompted by a family connection, but, should you have perhaps made progress in the meantime, I should be pleased to hear from you. Also, should you be aware of anyone researching TIMPSON at HGS, I would certainly like to be put in touch. E-mail – pppowell@nildram.co.uk “

Bernard Sullivan (Member # 8982)
jobernard@navillusjo.freeserve.co.uk
This soft covered A5 booklet is their 25th anniversary edition in its present form, but goes back much further under different guises since 1960.

Their annual publications are divided into sections - the first 13 pages (by John Isherwood) covers Village Friendly Societies around Andover and includes 8 photographs / diagrams. It details the first recorded friendly society of 1687 in Bethnal Green and moves to the Andover District Societies detailing the benefits of the society. This article explains about Friendly Societies and how they worked.

Article 2 (by Felicity Chauncy) covers Olaf Tryggvason – A Viking in Andover. This eight-page article includes four photos / diagrams. Olaf Tryggvason, an early king of Norway who played an important part in the Christianisation of his country, was confirmed (it is said) in Andover’s church in 994. The article details his life, and researching so far back in time must have been quite a challenge!

Article 3 comes forward a little in time to cover the subject of The History of St John’s House, an Andover medieval hospital. In six pages with one map, Martin Coppen writes that medieval Andover had two hospitals, St John’s and St Mary Magdalene’s, originally supplying care rather than support, but latterly with St Mary Magdalene caring for lepers. With no archaeological or documentary records, Martin nevertheless explains how such hospitals ran, and the changes they underwent over time.

Clifford Williams wrote Article 4 on The Airship that Docked in Anna Valley: July 13th 1910. In five pages with four photographs, Clifford explains about the first army airship of 1907 and of ‘Beta’ (built in 1910), who docked at Anna Valley on the day of the annual fete for nonconformist children in Andover. Beta was on her way to Tidworth with a despatch when her engine stopped and she landed in a field. Following repairs, she made her (not uneventful) way home. It was later concluded that airships were not suited to battlefield conditions.

Diana K. Coldicott wrote the last article in this journal on the subject of The Final Turnpike Road from Andover. She explains why this particular turnpike road was required in that, despite the fact that railways brought an end to turnpike roads, this highway was developed to link the two. For those particularly interested, Diana describes where stretches of the former turnpike road can still be found.

The penultimate two pages give details of local books that are available from the Society, while the final page gives notes on the contributors of the articles.

Review by Lin Penny

Lookback at Andover (Vol 3 No 5)

Journal of the Andover History & Archaeology Society
Available from some bookshops (Waterstones) or from the Society, c/o Mill Pound Cottage, Monxton SP11 8AW, priced at £3.75, incl. postage
This is Alison Light’s third book, and in it she has written the history of her own ‘ordinary’ family, starting in the same way that thousands of family historians do - by researching back through the generations, using public records available in county record offices and online.

Like many of us, she too had no ‘ego-documents’ from her family to call upon. There were few certificates, no family photographs or well-known forebears - very little indeed to start her research of ‘Common People’.

Despite this, and probably because of these absences, the author has needed to draw on bigger themes. Thus her searches began with an unsuccessful quest to find her grandmother Evelyn’s grave (in an unmarked spot by ‘The Corporation’), leaving only census records for any written evidence of her. But it is through these almost anonymous ancestors and their migration from the countryside to the industrialising cities that we are led to 19th-century life and how the family were affected over the years by the ‘big questions’.

The book follows eight intertwined families, living variously in Birmingham, Wiltshire, Northampton, and even Newfoundland, but it is through the author’s grandfather, whose wife Evelyn died young, that we are taken back to Portsmouth, which constitutes a large portion of the book and where the author was born and grew up. The bereaved husband had family there - brothers and cousins in the building trade who came from Wiltshire, and who also had very strong ties with the Baptist Movement and built Lake Road Baptist Church in Portsmouth. Over the decades, whilst the better-off branch of the family were Guardians of the Workhouse, some of the poorer family members were the inmates of Portsmouth, and Alison’s great-grandmother Sarah was born there.

The living conditions of the poor in Portsmouth are vividly brought to life through their story. Although flourishing in wartime, a major port, the home of shipbuilding and the Royal Navy, Portsmouth lacked civic leadership and regulation. For example, the Portsmouth sewage system was far behind other developed cities, and some of the Light family members lived in intolerable conditions. Portsea is described as “a cesspool in the 1850s but whose rookeries and verminous wooden houses were cleared in the last century”. It is in the intensity of such descriptions that the author demonstrates one
This is an ingenious volume. The author, who has written extensively on social history and genealogy, provides us with a detailed guidebook to the habits, facilities, sights and values of Southern England in the early 19th century. Her walk-through of the territory is attractively supported by extensive quotations from the works of Jane Austen herself, and from other contemporaries. The author comments that ‘Austen’s observations of society were exceptionally astute (though she was not infallible).’

The whole gamut of middle-class society is covered from domestic details (candlelight and privies), through travel (phaetons, barouches and stagecoaches), to fashionable life in London (Beau Brummell and dandies). Perhaps the most interesting section deals with the etiquette (and pressure) to find a suitable marital partner, but, as the author observes: ‘It’s a man’s world’ – or, as Jane herself describes it, ‘Happiness in marriage is entirely a matter of chance’.

The text is lively and well arranged, and the anecdotes relevant and illuminating. There is a selection of contemporary engravings, an extensive bibliography, and a useful summary of Jane’s life. This is a book which Janeites will enjoy, and which will provide an informative context to the novels.

Reviewed by Charles Kaye
Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed photocopies of 2 pages from the burial register of Revelstoke in Devon 1871. On January 22nd 1871 were buried 3 men who were found drowned on Worsewell beach in this parish, supposedly from the wrecking of a ship the ‘Eleutheria’. One of these men, Francis **INGRAM**, was supposedly from Portsmouth, and aged about 35 years.

I send this in the hope that it may help a fellow researcher, although I realize that many Devon records are now online, and to be found on ‘Find my Past’, or maybe the entries for the 3 men could be placed in your strays index or a mention in the Society’s journal.

Yours Sincerely

*(Mrs)* E A Evans (Member # 8044)

49 Staddon Park Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon PL9 9HL

Editor: The three burial entries were dated 22 January 1871, and the officiating minister was J.O. West of Pinnock, Cornwall (he was the Rector of Revelstoke in 1870). The first entry (No. 1) was for John Lindman, “supposed to be 27 years, drowned on the occasion of the wreck of the Eleutheria under Worsewell in this parish”; the second (No. 2) was for FRANCIS INGRAM, “supposed to be 35 years, ditto, ditto, supposed to belong to Portsmouth”; the third (No. 3) was for Philip Noyes, “37 years, London: drowned on the occasion of the wreck of the Eleutheria under Worsewell in this parish”. A note from West states “These Bodies numbered 1, 2 & 3 respectively were buried in one grave in the corner of the Western Side of Revelstoke Church Yard. No 1 being at the bottom – No 2 in the middle & No 3 on the top – J.O.W”.

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**Need help with your research?**

All requests for research assistance to the HGS Research Room.

Telephone: 023 9238 7000

or Email: society@hgs-online.org.uk
Ken,

Richard Taunton Six Form College held a Commemoration Service and Display on the 11th Nov. to mark the 100th Anniversary of the start of the Great War, both excellent. The display included mini memorial biographies of all our WW I casualties, the work of Lesley Masters, College library. She researched their family history and found photos of nearly all of them! We have now added these mini biographies to the Memorial Section of our website.

http://www.ota-southampton.org.uk/memorial/index.html

We have still yet to identify James Harold. According to our Journal he was in the 59th Hussars and transferred to the RFA. Now we know the Journal was wrong about the 59th Hussars, as there has never been such a regiment. We have a photo of him, in uniform, wearing his cap. His cap badge has been positively identified as the 19th Hussars. An understandable error but our 'prime suspect' transferred from the 19th Hussars to the MGC (Cavalry), not the RFA.

Regards

Jeff White (Member # 10894)
Vice-Chairman & Honorary Membership Secretary
The Old Tauntonians’ Association
01489 877704; membership.secretary@ota-southampton.org.uk

Dear Editor,

Up here in Cheshire I really enjoy delving into the back numbers of HFH, such as Issue Vol 40 No 4. Your article - Just a Word ... Tithes - is really useful when looking at Census, but I was bogfounded by the acre of 4840 sq yds when up here and South Lancs it is (or used to be!) 10240 sq yds giving the following ..

64 sq yds = 1 rood
40 roods = 1 quarter
4 quarters = 1 acre

Still in use by farmers in 1886, the year Robert Holland edited A Glossary of Words (Cheshire words) - it is fully searchable online. Thought you might find this of interest.

Regards

Wayne Ranger (Member # 13547)
wayneranger@hotmail.co.uk

Editor. Having now checked on the internet myself, I agree that Robert Holland's Cheshire Glossary states that the acre held 10,240 sq yds, which amounts to
more than double the statute acre, but he did further comment: "They [farmers in north of Cheshire and South Lancs] cannot understand the statute acre at all, but compute everything according to the local measure" [Cheshire Glossary, p 3].

The Imperial Dictionary of the English Language by John Olglivie, LL.D. (New edition, 1883), published just before Cheshire Glossary, states that the acre was made into a definite measure of surface by Act of Parliament of 31 Edw III (1357/8). It continues: "A quantity of land, containing 160 square rods or perches, or 4840 square yards. This is the English statute or imperial acre which is employed over the United Kingdom and its colonies and in the United States, though Scotland and Ireland have respectively an acre of their own, which is still to some extent used in measurements ..." [Imperial Dictionary, Vol 1, p 29].

So, the statute acre continues to be the accepted form. The farmers of Cheshire and Lancashire obviously considered themselves to be a law upon themselves. I must assume that the surveyors under the Tithe Commissioners - who set up the tithe maps of the 1830s and 1840s - must have used the statute acre. Can other readers add to this interesting phenomenon?

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**Dear Ken,**

Did you see BBC Antiques Roadshow Christmas Special? If not, it may still be seen on the BBC i-player. Late in the programme Paul Atterbury presented a close-up of the message my grandfather kept and made the salient point I omitted (‘One Old Contemptible’, HFH, Vol 41/3, December 2014, p 164): there was very little documentary evidence that the truce had happened, only oral accounts. He appreciated that the message showed beyond doubt that the truce had been brought to an end - ergo, it had happened.

And good publicity for the Hampshires, I think.

Warm wishes for the New Year

**Tony Paice** (Member # 1398)
tony-chris@supanet.com
HGS Bookstall Online

Books and maps that could normally be bought from the HGS Bookstall at family history events are now available through the HFH journal and from our HGS website.

This means that you will be able to buy books and maps (both new and second-hand) from the Bookstall or the website at any time. It will take some time for everything we hold to become available, but we are starting out by listing some of the maps.

**Alan Godfrey Maps** are black and white reproductions of old Ordnance Survey maps. They are unique in showing towns and villages in great detail, with individual buildings marked, as well as roads and railways, etc. They are a comprehensive record of where our forebears lived and, as such, are an invaluable resource for family historians.

The original scale of these maps was 1:2500, but they are reproduced in the Godfrey editions at about 1:4340 or 15 inches to a mile. As well as the map, each publication includes a useful history of the area it covers, plus some entries from contemporary sources such as Kelly’s Directories and sometimes an extract of residents by name.

There are currently 19 maps covering Hampshire:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref No</th>
<th>Place Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AG HM21.09</td>
<td>Aldershot</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AG HM23.08</td>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>1894</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG EW283</td>
<td>Andover, Whitchurch &amp; Downs</td>
<td>1898</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG EW300</td>
<td>Alton &amp; District</td>
<td>1893</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM86.10</td>
<td>Boscombe &amp; Pokesdown</td>
<td>1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM86.13</td>
<td>Bournemouth (Central)</td>
<td>1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM86.09</td>
<td>Bournemouth (North)</td>
<td>1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM13.13</td>
<td>Farnborough</td>
<td>1930</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM52.16</td>
<td>Petersfield</td>
<td>1908</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM83.08</td>
<td>Portsmouth Central</td>
<td>1896</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM84.09</td>
<td>Portsmouth Eastney &amp; Milton</td>
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<td>AG HM83.04</td>
<td>Portsmouth North End</td>
<td>1896</td>
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<td>AG HM83.07</td>
<td>Portsea</td>
<td>1896</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM83.11</td>
<td>Old Portsmouth &amp; Gosport</td>
<td>1896</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG EW331</td>
<td>Portsmouth &amp; Spithead</td>
<td>1893</td>
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<td>AG HM70.11</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG HM85.11</td>
<td>Southampton East</td>
<td>1908</td>
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**Prices.** Each map costs **£2.50 + pp.** Up to two maps can be bought with one postage cost of **£1.33 UK or £2.55 Overseas.** Payment can either be made by cheque to me at the HGS Office (see inside front cover) or by card via PayPal on the website, where there will also be details of the current stock held.

Please enquire to **bookstall@hgs-online.org.uk** for any items currently out of stock or any other queries.

More Bookstall items will become available as we develop this process.

**Chris Pavey, Bookstall Manager**
HGS Research Centre
52 Northern Road, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3DB
Open Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9.30 a.m. - 12.30pm
Open Tuesday & Thursday
9.30 a.m. - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 4.30p.m.
No appointment is necessary, but if a member specifically wants to use the Find My Past website or wants to guarantee the use of a computer, then a booking should be made via telephone (023 9238 7000) or email (research@hgs-online.org.uk).

For all the latest news visit
www.hgs-online.org.uk
or
www.hgs-familyhistory.com

Diary Dates out of County

FFHS AGM & General Meeting
The National Museum of the Royal Navy, Historic Dockyard, Portsmouth PO1 3LJ
Saturday 21 March 2015

Sussex FH Group Annual Conference & AGM
Clair Hall, Haywards Heath
Saturday 11 April 2015, 9.30 am to 5 pm

Who Do You Think You Are? Live
NEC, Birmingham B40 1NT
Thursday 16 April to Saturday 18 April 2015

The BIG FH Fair (Huntingdonshire FHS)
Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, St Ives, Cambs PE27 6WU
Saturday 2 May 2015, 10 am to 4 pm

South West Area Group (SWAG) FH Fair
The Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1AJ
Saturday 16 May 2015, 10 am to 4 pm, £3.00 (adults)

Gloucestershire FHS FH Fair
Gloucester Rugby Club, Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3AX
Saturday 30 May 2015
HGS Annual General Meeting

Sunday 10 May 2015
The Discovery Centre, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8SB

This year we return to Winchester for our 41st AGM. The venue is, once again, the Discovery Centre in Jewry Street, and this has the advantage that - as the city is more or less central in the county – it would be more acceptable as a general meeting-place for most of our Hampshire members. Although parking spaces are limited at WDC, there are several car parks nearby, and there is easy access to trains and buses for those who use public transport.

The speaker this year is Dr Colin Chapman, who will give his talk on ‘WW1 prisoner-of-war camps in Hampshire and elsewhere’. The HGS Bookstall, Research Aids, Indexes and Helpdesk will also be in attendance, so there will be plenty of opportunities for those who would wish to make the most from the day genealogically, thus allowing their personal computers a well-earned rest in the meantime. Refreshments can be obtained from WDC’s cafeteria.

FAREWELL

With the deepest regret we wish to inform readers of the deaths of the following HGS members:-

Mrs A J Kersley (Member # 3808), Candleford, 12 Hazelbank Close, Petersfield, Hants, who sadly passed away suddenly in July 2014

Mrs Jo M Sullivan (Member # 8982), 6 Vimoutiers Court, Fordingbridge, Hants, who sadly passed away on 28 July 2014

Mr Patrick Sullivan (Member # 13039), Flat 52, Fernhill, Oakmount Road, Chandlers Ford, Hants, who sadly passed away on 10 December 2014
HGS Bookstall Report

**HGS Bookstall continues to offer its services to family historians with its attendance at Family History Fairs in Hampshire and surrounding areas.**

The events we attend in 2015 will be fewer than in previous years. There are various reasons for this. The Bookstall is beginning to set up its online service, so that items can be offered all year round, rather than just on specific dates. Some counties are not even holding Open Days this year: for example, Gloucester has had to cancel theirs, due to unforeseen circumstances, and some societies do not even hold them. The costs of travelling to distant events are not always as cost-effective as we would hope, not only in terms of expenses, but also for publicity, with the smaller Open Days having lower attendances. Also the Bookstall team members are finding that some of the dates clash with other commitments, so are unable to attend.

Therefore, apart from SWAG and WDYTYA (see ‘forthcoming events’), the Bookstall will only be attending fairs within Hampshire and adjoining counties. The current list is around a 50% reduction in annual attendance.

Obviously, this will be kept under review, and others could be included if members are available to volunteer their time and use of cars to travel, carry and sell the Bookstall items.

However, HGS will be at **Who Do You Think You Are? Live** (WDYTYA) - which this year will be held at the NEC in Birmingham from Thursday April 16th to Saturday April 18th. We are looking forward to meeting and talking to everyone, especially members from the Birmingham area. We will be on tables 42, 43 and 44 in the SOG area of the show, and our stall will be staffed, as usual, by HGS volunteers.

Entrance tickets for visitors are, as follows: -

- **Day ticket**: £16.00, adult (entry to the event, access to all workshops and ‘Ask the Expert’ sessions, exhibitors and features)
- **2-day ticket (Thurs and Fri, or Thurs and Sat)**: £26.00 for two days at the show and entry, as above
- **3-day ticket**: £33.00
- **Beginner ticket**: £22.00 - designed to help newcomers. This includes: three pre-booked workshops, one pre-booked ‘Ask the Expert’ session, email guides to the event, and a free issue of WDYTYA magazine. There are 16 workshops to choose from: those marked with an (L) are most suitable for beginners.
- **VIP ticket**: £28.00, which includes fast-track entry, three pre-booked workshops sessions (normally £2.00 each), a ticket to the ‘Keynote’ workshop, a free show-guide and reserved seats at all workshop and theatre sessions.
- **Group ticket**: For 10 people and more

See the WDYTYA web-site: www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com or call 0844 412 4650 for further details.

*Chris Pavey, Bookstall Manager*
Alan Godfrey Maps
- all currently available (see p 253). At the time of writing, please check the HGS website to see if they are available from this source - if not, then please order through the journal.

Coming shortly: Eve McLauglin publications
– again, please check the journal and website for availability.

The Bookstall always welcomes volunteers to help out. Please get in contact if you feel you would like to join the helpers. Also, a very big “thank you” to those of you who already freely give your time and expertise to help out. We couldn’t continue to run in the way we do without your input. Thank you to all.

And finally … the team looks forward to meeting and talking to all their customers in 2015.

Chris Pavey, Bookstall Manager
Brothers in Arms

My grandfather JOHN ANSELL (1891-1954), known as “Jack”, attested for military service on 10 December 1915. At that time he was a bachelor, living with his recently widowed mother and three younger siblings in Overton.

However, as he was currently being employed at Thorneycroft’s in Worting Road, Basingstoke, which firm manufactured, among others, military motorised vehicles, his enlistment was deferred, as he was working within a “reserved occupation”. Nevertheless, because of the extremely serious shortage of manpower as a consequence of the increasing number of casualties, he was eventually “called up” in April 1918. By this time he was married, a father and stepfather, with his own second child on the way.

Jack underwent a medical examination in Basingstoke on 23 April 1918, and was passed as ‘A1’ fit for military service. On the very next day he reported to ‘A’ Company, Royal Monmouth Reserve Battalion, Royal Engineers, at the Signals Depot in Winchester; and was immediately transferred to Bedford. A month later he arrived at the headquarters in Monmouth.

Jack claimed to have had an easy war. The Armistice of 11 November 1918 had already been signed by the time that his unit arrived in France on the 28th of that month to become involved in the “mopping up” process. The Treaty of Versailles, which ended war with Germany, was signed on 28 June 1919, and that of St Germain, ending the war with Austria, on 10 September that year. Peace treaties with Bulgaria, Hungary and Turkey were completed between November 1919 and August 1920.

In October 1919 Jack was with 228 Field Company in Germany, and was dispatched from there for dispersal on the 25th of that month. He arrived in England on the following day and was demobilised at Chatham. He was placed on the Class Z reserve list, and
officially discharged on 31 March 1920. His character was recorded as being “Very Good”, but he was undesirous to re-enlist when asked a year later.

Although Jack had claimed to have had an easy war, the other menfolk in his family at the time did not always share in his good luck, unfortunately.

**Ernest ANSELL** (1898-1980), however, might have had an equally easy war. He enlisted for the Royal Marines Light Infantry, Portsmouth Division, on 17 August 1916, and was sent to the Receiving Depot at Deal. On his left forearm he bore the tattoos “G.L.” (initials of Gladys LAMBDEN, his future wife) and a cross. He was transferred to Portsmouth on 21 March 1917. He boarded HMS *Vindictive* with his company on 11 August 1917, and they returned to the marine headquarters at Portsmouth on December 12 that same year. On 9 February 1918 he and his unit embarked for Canada, where they remained until 5 November 1919. Having returned to Portsmouth, Ernie was eventually discharged on 19 December that same year, recorded as being “invalided” – which disability must have occurred while he was in Canada, and thus could have probably been the result of an accident.

**Frederick Leonard ANSELL** (1894-1919) was a career marine, having enlisted with the Royal Marines Light Infantry, Portsmouth Division, at Southampton on 6 January 1913. He was stationed at Deal, in ‘C’ Company, and was transferred to ‘B’ Company at Portsdown,
Portsmouth, on 25 September 1913, remaining there until 20 April 1914, when he embarked on HMS *St Vincent*. After war was declared, *St Vincent* became part of the 1st Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet.

During the Battle of Jutland (31 May 1916) his ship fired 98 rounds, and came out of that engagement with no damage at all. Later in that same year it was transferred to the 4th Battle Squadron. Fred served on *St Vincent* for almost the whole duration of the war. His character was always “Very Good” - even though he suffered several penalties for lateness or absence.

He left *St Vincent*, and disembarked for service at Portsmouth in the marine headquarters there on 27 March 1918. On May 9 that year he was transferred to the accounts of *President III*, an administrative unit apparently based at Windsor, and became part of the Defensively Armed Merchant Ships (DAMS) sector. This meant that his service as a gunner was required on board merchant ships, as a means of their defence and protection. It is quite likely that he served on several such vessels during the course of the following nine months.

In 1919 Fred was on board HMS *Eaglet*. While entering the harbour at Liverpool the boiler in its engine-room exploded, causing a fire that soon consumed the ship. Several of the crew were thrown into the sea, where they remained for a very long time, until eventually being rescued. Fred Ansell was taken into the Royal Infirmary in Liverpool, suffering from lobar pneumonia, where he died on 8 March 1919. His body was transported home, and he was buried in Overton churchyard six days later. His name is featured on the war memorial in that churchyard.

**William PHILLIMORE** (1882-1967), nicknamed “China”, was the brother-in-law of Jack, Fred and Ernie, having had married their sister Anne Maria Ansell (1892-1971) in 1913. On 4 August 1914 Britain declared war on Germany, and Will Phillimore was one of the first to heed the call to arms. He joined the 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, on 12 September 1914.

Following basic training, he was shipped out to the theatre of war in northern France and Belgium. His service records have not survived, and his war service can only be partially gleaned through notes written under his name on the medal rolls, through family recollections of his war stories, and through printed histories of the Hampshire Regiment and certain activities in which the regiment was involved during that war.

Will initially saw action in France and Flanders, which is attested by his receipt of the 1914 Star (or ‘Mons Star’). By November of that year the multitudes of trenches with dugouts and bunkers – and protected with barbed wire - that stretched across the
Western Front did little more than restrict the manoeuvres of all sides. The armies had become totally locked into trench warfare, interspersed with occasional suicidal forays across ‘no-man’s-land’. As the opposing armies became locked on the Western Front, the Eastern Front had naturally gained in prominence because efforts to open an effective supply route there with Russia would relieve the pressure on the Western Front. The Gallipoli Campaign, 1915-16, was a joint British Empire and French operation, involving the newly-formed Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) troops and others from India and Canada.

The Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (MEF) comprised ANZAC troops, the British 29th Division and the Royal Naval Division, and the French Oriental Expeditionary Corps. The British 29th Division included the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, and, by this time, it appears that Will Phillimore had been transferred to that unit (as he later spoke of his part in the Gallipoli Campaign to his sons). Several young soldiers who had originally been detailed for the 1st Battalion were now being diverted into the more active units, particularly as the troops on the Western Front had become increasingly bogged down.

The 29th Division was particularly active during the whole campaign - at Suvla; the first, second and third battles of Krithia; Gully Ravine; Bloody Valley. When the fighting at Hill 60 ceased on 29 August, the battle for the Sari Bair Heights – and indeed the battle for the whole peninsula itself – was effectively over. The difficult evacuation of the British and French units from Gallipoli began in the harsh wintry weather of December 1915 and was completed on 9 January 1916. The 29th Division was diverted to the Western Front, just in time for the Battle of the Somme (1 July to 18 November 1916).

By the end of the war, however, Will Phillimore was serving in the Labour Corps. Formed in January 1917, the Labour Corps grew to employ more than 10% of the total size of the Army by the time of the Armistice. The Corps was manned by officers and other ranks who had been medically rated below the ‘A1’ condition required for front-line service. Many of them were the returned wounded. Yet, the units were often deployed for work within the range of enemy guns, sometimes for lengthy periods, and in April 1917 a number of infantry battalions had been transferred to the Labour Corps. In that same year Labour Corps Area Employment Companies were formed for salvage work, as well. In the crises of March and April 1918 on the Western Front, Labour Corps units were also used as emergency infantry.

For services rendered, Will Phillimore was awarded the 1914 Star, the Victory Medal and the British War Medal. On 5 December 1921 he was furthermore granted the clasp and roses for his 1914 Star.

Ken Smallbone

(Extracted from Ken Smallbone, Ansell – the history of a family (The Changing Seasons, Basingstoke, 2009)
Members’ Surname Interests Database

Please continue to check the members’ interests webpage at http://www.hgs-familyhistory.com/research-resources/members-interests/ for latest details and service updates that will be announced there first.

Members’ interests are published quarterly in this journal. There is a restriction in each journal of publishing a maximum of 15 entries per person to keep the journal to a manageable size. Such a constraint does not apply to the database, however, so it is possible to add further interests - within reason!

Updates to your surname interests can be made online by following the examples on the page or by post. It is also possible to remove redundant entries, and this is encouraged - deletions are not notified in the journal; they simply won’t remain in the database. Updates should be BLOCK printed and submitted in the format used in the following section or as shown on the form on members’ interests webpage. The county Chapman Codes are published at least once in any yearly HFH volume and should be used when submitting interests, e.g. HAM for Hampshire etc.

Please note that addresses published in this section refer only to members who have submitted their interests.

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Notes (‘1900’ given as example of ‘date’):
- 1900+ = after that date;
- pre1900 = before that date;
- c1900 = circa (about) that date (+/- 5 yrs);
- C20 = xx th. Century;
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If communicating by post remember that an SAE is essential these days, as not everyone has email. Please note that HGS cannot guarantee a response to any enquiry made of a member.
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Most Decorated

The most decorated British NCO of the First World War

William Harold COLTMAN (1891-1974) was born at Tatenhill, Burton-upon-Trent.

A married man, he enlisted with the 6th Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment, as a rifleman, in January 1915. However, having experienced the horrors of the Battle of Gommecourt in July 1916, he then applied to become a stretcher-bearer. In this role he faced the same perils as his colleagues, but without any means of defending himself, while carrying men out of places of danger. At only 5 feet 4 inches and slightly built, he was not best placed to handle the dead weight of larger casualties. Nevertheless, he often recovered wounded men on his own, carrying them off the battlefield on his back. Holding the rank of lance-corporal, he was unwilling to give up until all the wounded had been brought in, often meaning that he and his team of bearers were working long after the battalion had been relieved and retired to rest. Coltman was mentioned in dispatches for work in the trenches near Ransart, and gained the Military Medal (MM) for rescuing a wounded officer from No-Man’s-Land near Monchy in February 1917. He received a bar to that medal for similar work near Bellenglise in September 1918.

Yet, over the course of two days (3-4 October 1918) at Mannequin Hill, near Sequelart, during the Allies’ advance in the last stages of the war, Coltman – as well as tending to the wounded without a break – made three separate trips into No-Man’s-Land, on his own initiative and unaided, under fierce enfilade fire, in order to dress the wounds of injured men, whom he then carried on his back to safety. For his bravery during this action he was awarded the ultimate – the Victoria Cross (VC). He received his VC from King George V at Buckingham Palace in May 1919, and afterwards made a detour on his return home to avoid the civic reception in his honour at Burton-upon-Trent.

Ken Smallbone Editor

Norman Douglas Holbrook, VC (1888-1976)

NORMAN DOUGLAS HOLBROOK, VC, was the first member of the Royal Navy to be gazetted with the VC in the First World War, and the first submariner to win the award.

He was born at Southsea on Monday 9 July 1888, one of the ten children of Lt-Col Arthur Richard Holbrook, DL, JP, and his wife Amelia Mary, daughter of Alexander Parks. His father was a newspaper proprietor, who was appointed by the War Office to be in charge of Supplies and Transports, Salisbury Plain Division, at the outbreak of war in 1914, and received a knighthood for his services.

Norman Holbrook became a cadet at HMS Britannia in 1903, a midshipman in 1905, and sub-lieutenant in 1908. In December 1909 he was made a full lieutenant and subsequently trained in submarine work on HMS Mercury. He joined Bonaventure, the submarine depot ship, in the Home Fleet in 1911, and gained his first command, the A13, in 1913. By the end of that year he was appointed to HMS Egmont in Malta, to take command of B11, in which he was destined to make history.

B11 was an unlikely contender for a place of honour in submarine history. Built in 1905, measuring 143 feet, she carried only four torpedoes and was driven by a 16-cylinder petrol engine, giving her a maximum surface speed of twelve knots and top speed when submerged of six – but only attained fitfully due to the constraints of her limited battery power. Conditions on board were primitive: no dividing bulkheads; portable seating and bedding; no ventilation for the crew’s quarters. The crew of fifteen was sufficient to make it feel overcrowded. When war broke out B11 was already effectively obsolete. Yet, by virtue of a new battery, she was the best equipped of the three B-class boats that slipped into Tenedos on 6 September 1914.

As a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, Holbrook earned his VC for a feat unparalleled in war: the destruction of an enemy battleship in one of the most heavily defended waterways in the world - in the Dardanelles, Turkey, on 13 December 1914.

Three B-class submarines were part of a mixed flotilla of British and French shipping, under Lt-Cdr George Pownall, keeping watch on the western end of the Dardanelles to prevent the breakout of two German cruisers that had been eluding the Allied Mediterranean fleets. This was a monotonous task, and at one point Holbrook, encouraged by Pownall, chased a torpedo-boat four miles
into the mouth of the Dardanelles.
The next step was to strike through the Straits and attack enemy shipping around Chanak (Çanakkale) on the Sea of Marmara. The original plan was to attack the battlecruiser Göben, but reported as being safely docked at Constantinople. Eventually, instructions were given to attack “any other hostile vessel as opportunity might offer”. The honour of that task was given to Holbrook’s craft, as it had the new battery. Engineers started work on the B11, fitting and improvising shields to prevent mine moorings and other obstructions from fouling the boat, and within a week the job was completed. Such were expectations that the crew made their wills and gave their cash to chums in the other two British submarines to forward to their parents.

At about 3 o’clock in the morning of 13 December the B11 cast off from its supply ship the Hindu Kush on its way to attack enemy shipping in the Sea of Marmara. The strong enemy searchlights continuously swept the waters to the south of Kephez Point and Lt Holbrook decided to wait for nearly an hour, knowing that they would go out, one by one, at dawn, when it was still fairly dark. Soon, however, the submarine
was experiencing an unexplained vibration, and on breaking surface Holbrook saw that one of his shields on the port side had been damaged. He decided to jettison it and continue without it. It took two men half an hour to complete the job, adding considerably to the tension on board, and leaving the submarine highly vulnerable during its passage through the minefields. Not only did B11 have to maintain a depth of 80 feet for much of the time to avoid mines, but she also had to battle against the current running through the narrows. More difficulties inflicted the crew, and progress became painfully slow. At times they were even travelling blind, and were forced to rise to periscope depth. Then, to his utter surprise, Holbrook suddenly came upon the opportunity he had been seeking. Sighting a Turkish warship through his periscope, he then fired his starboard torpedoes and sank the 10,000-ton Mesûdiye, which was being used as the headquarters of the German staff – and B11 became the first submarine to sink a battleship!

Diving immediately to avoid Turkish shells, B11 started to retreat towards the Mediterranean. During its return the compass failed and Holbrook lost all sense of direction, merely depending solely upon hope and good luck to get back to the Mediterranean, occasionally bumping along on the bottom of the sea. They eventually surfaced after nine hours – an absolute record for a B-boat - and rose to the surface two miles outside the entrance to the Dardanelles at 2.10 pm. Not a moment too soon – for the majority of the crew were ‘as sick as dogs’, having breathed in the foul air caused by the gases from the batteries for far too long. Although naturally a cause for celebration for the Allies, even Vice-Admiral Merten, the senior German naval officer in the Dardanelles, was equally impressed. He told the American vice-consul a couple of days later that the attack was ‘a mighty clever piece of work’.

For this operation Holbrook later received the VC; his second-in-command Lt Sidney Winn the DSO; the remainder of the crew the DSM or DSC each, and seven of them were granted early promotions.

In August 1915, in company with another B-boat, B11 was dispatched to Alexandria to patrol the Egyptian coast to deter Turkish gun-runners seeking to incite rebellion among the Senussi tribesmen. Anchored off Cape Lukka, the crew saw a party of Arabs on the shore under a flag of truce, accompanied by what looked like a group of European officers. Holbrook set off in a small boat towards the shore, but before long his suspicions were aroused, and he turned back. As he neared the B11, they opened fire, sinking his boat and leaving him to swim the last few yards. Moments later the submarines withdrew at speed, their casings and bridge screens peppered by bullets, with one man dead and three wounded - Holbrook being one of the wounded, and thankful to be alive. He was in hospital for three days, and – with a bandaged nose and a black eye – he was discharged to enjoy the attractions of Alexandria. He returned to England to recuperate the following month. His command of B11 was now over, but not forgotten. He received his VC from the King at Buckingham Palace on 5 October 1915. More honours and awards followed: The Prize Court awarded Holbrook and his crew £3,500 for destroying what amounted to almost one-third of the Turkish Navy’s strength. Holbrook’s share amounted
The Hampshire Genealogical Society

AGM & Lecture Programme
Sunday 10 May 2015 at 2pm
(Doors open 12 Noon)

Winchester Discovery Centre
Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8SB
Nominations for the Executive Committee

If you wish to enter nominations for the Executive Committee please detach this section, fill in the form below and send so that it is received not later than 10th April 2015 by the Secretary: Mrs. S. Brine, 25 Willowside, Lovedean, Waterlooville, Hants PO8 9AQ

The Society Constitution states that the Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 13 members, i.e., the 5 Principal Officers and not more than 8 other members. All 13 members of the Executive are then Trustees of the Society as per the Charity Commissioners’ rules.

Please confirm that each nominee is willing to serve if elected

**Use your right as a member to VOTE for your Committee. Complete and send in this form.**

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Subscriptions for 2015/2016 – DUE 1 April 2015

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Hampshire Genealogical Society
52 Northern Road, Cosham, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO6 3DP, UK

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(a) Personal information supplied on this form will be held by Hampshire Genealogical Society (HGS) and used for administration purposes.

(b) I agree that my contact details can be passed to the local HGS Group Organiser, if applicable.

☐ Please tick only if you do NOT agree with (b)

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As a registered charity the Society is able to reclaim basic rate tax from the Inland Revenue on all membership subscriptions and donations. Gift Aid is a very tax efficient way for members to increase their contribution to the Society’s running costs at no additional cost to themselves.

If you pay UK income and/or capital gains tax and have not signed a declaration but wish to do so, please complete the declaration below and return it to the Membership Secretary. If you are not sure whether you have previously signed a declaration just complete and return the form. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the Society.

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I wish The Hampshire Genealogical Society to treat all donations, including membership subscriptions I make from the date of this declaration until further notice, as Gift Aid Donations.

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AGM & Lecture Afternoon Programme

12 Noon: **Doors Open** – Opportunity to visit HGS Bookstall, Research Aids, Indexes, Helpdesk, (Refreshments Available)

2.00 pm: Welcome from Dolina Clarke, HGS Chairman

2.05 pm: Talk: ‘WW1 POW Camps in Hampshire & Elsewhere’ – Colin R Chapman, PhD, FSG

3.20 pm: Refreshment Break

3.45 pm: Announcements

4.00 pm: Annual General Meeting

5.00 pm: Conclusion

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The 41st Annual General Meeting Agenda

(4.00 pm – Members only)

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of 2014 AGM
4. Any Matters Arising
5. Chairman’s Report
7. Election of Executive Committee
8. Any Other Business
9. Date of 2016 AGM
AGM & Lecture Programme
Sunday 10 May 2015 at 2pm

Winchester Discovery Centre, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8SB
to £601 10s 2d. He was also made a Chevalier of the Légion d’Honneur in France. Yet, the most extraordinary of all distinctions came from patriotic inhabitants in the Australian outback, who voted in the summer of 1915 to change the name of their town from Germanton to Holbrook ‘in memory of the valiant deeds done … in the Dardanelles.’ After August 1915 Holbrook was mainly involved in patrolling duties. Later on in the war he was engaged in mine-laying, and was mentioned in despatches in July 1917. Having mined a channel close to one of the enemy’s bases in the Heligoland Bight, he deliberately attacked an auxiliary vessel in an attempt to lure a posse of patrol boats on to his mines. Unfortunately, just when it seemed his ruse would work, they gave up the chase and returned to port. He continued to display considerable boldness, with reports referring him to be “zealous” and “very keen”, although one senior officer thought him to be “above himself”.

In January 1918 – now a lieutenant-commander – he took up his last submarine appointment as commanding officer of the J2, one of the new fleet submarines. Strangely, he began to suffer bouts of seasickness, and, on account of this, sought, and was granted, a return to general duties. On 31 August 1918 Holbrook joined, as second-in-command, the Glory IV, formerly the Russian cruiser Askold, serving in North Russian waters.

After the war he married a widow, Viva Dixon, daughter of Frederick Woodin, at Holy Trinity, Kensington Gore, on 21 June 1919. They had one son, who was tragically killed in action in Italy in 1945. Holbrook retired from the Royal Navy in 1920, and was promoted commander on the retired list in 1928. Shortly afterwards he and his family moved into Four Acres, Kingston Hill, a mock-Tudor mansion with 18 bedrooms that they had built. During the Second World War the house served as a base for the American High Command, and for a short while was home to the Dutch royal family. By then Holbrook was back in uniform, serving as an officer in the Admiralty Trade Department, interviewing survivors of ships lost to enemy action.

Throughout war and peace, Holbrook maintained close links with his family’s printing firm, serving as chairman from 1921, but his prime interest was farming. Leaving Surrey, he settled at Stedham Mill, near Midhurst, Sussex, where he had a mixed arable and dairy farm of 300 acres. His wife died in 1952, and in the following year he married Gundula...
Helene Felder from Innsbruck, Austria, 26 years his junior. The couple led a full and hectic life, and Holbrook remained active well into his eighties.

He died while watering his garden at home on Saturday 3 July 1976, aged 87 (six days short of his 88th birthday), and was buried in St James’s churchyard, Midhurst.

In 1983 a road in Portsmouth was named in his honour. But the most enduring and extraordinary tribute was provided by the Australian town that took his name. Over the years this small outback farming community has established a Commander Holbrook Memorial Park, complete with a scale model of the B-11, opened a submarine museum, and raised a statue in honour of the man whose exploits inspired their change of name.

Holbrook was deeply touched by their efforts, and visited the town three times with his wife – in 1956, 1969 and in 1976, shortly before his death. In 1982 his widow returned to present his medals to the town. In 1997, now aged 92, as their ‘fairy godmother’, she made her fifth visit during a weekend of celebrations, following the arrival of a decommissioned Australian submarine as a permanent memorial to the town’s maritime heritage, although situated 300 miles from the nearest ocean. Holbrook’s VC and medals are currently on loan to the Australian War Museum at Canberra.

Ken Smallbone, Editor

References Max Arthur, Symbol of Courage: A History of the Victoria Cross (2004); Gerald Gliddon, VCs of the First World War: 1914 (2012); Stephen Snelling, VCs of the First World War: The Naval VCs (2013); wikipedia.com; memorialsinportsmouth.co.uk; anzacsite.gov.au; victoriacross.org.uk; firstworldwar.com; greaterhume.nsw.gov.au; memorialstovalour.co.uk

Scale-model submarine B11 at Holbrook, Australia
The old club at St. Mary’s
The moon shone forth its brilliant light
Upon the snowy ground,
As though reflecting on the sight
That it caused all round
From terra-firma to the skies
’Twas but a patch of white;
So one and all can quite surmise
The splendour of the night.
Now on a certain lonely path
A figure crept along;
And in one hand was held a lath,
As though climbing Mont Blong
It is hard work you must concede,
To tread it inches deep;
So no wonder it did impede,
And make this person creep.
At last this figure stopped with glee,
Outside a wooden door;
Then in the lock was placed a key.
That had seen time before.
A click, a draft, and in the room
This figure slowly went,
And I expect that you presume,
He was on mischief bent.
A match then spluttered in the gloom,
And up shone two bright lights,
The brilliance lit up all the room,
That had seen jolly nights.
And underneath the lights that burned,
Appeared a larger green baize;
Where many a hardwork chap earned -
A rest, just for the Kais-
There’s Jock and Arthur, Den and Stan,
And heaps of other men,
Who sit for hours on end and plan,
With paper, ink and pen.
But still you know without these souls
No social could be given,
And no more coffee, buns and rolls,
Nor no more lively livin’.
So here’s to old S. Mary’s Club,
And all the jolly chaps
We hope, together they’ll still rub,
And never will collapse,
For friendship is the root of love,
Which binds us all in one,
O what joy to dwell above,
And proudly say “we won.”

Lce/Cpl. H C Hoptrough, alias Antonio

This is another snippet from ‘The Nutshell’ (see HFH, Vol 40/4 and 41/1). The entries for the Portsmouth Boys who were serving in WW1 are now mounting up, and I have a list of about 300 (a few have several entries). I thought it would be of interest to see the poem written, whilst away, by H.C. Hoptrough. I mentioned a few names of the boys in my first “snippet”, and H.C. Hoptrough was one, and it appears he was the uncle or great-uncle of one of our members. So, this is the sort of information that could come from the entries in the ‘Nutshell’.

Sheila Brine (Member # 7627)
secretary@hgs-online.org.uk
Forthcoming events
Exhibitions
Hampshire Record Office

Waiting in the Wings of War, until March 2015. Art by 2D3D South Contemporary Art group members inspired by civilian life in and around Winchester in the months before the outbreak of the First World War.

Bronzes for the world, April to June. The Morris Singer Foundry has cast bronzes for many of the world’s leading sculptors, including Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Elisabeth Frink. The foundry was located in Basingstoke from 1967 to 1999, and is now operating at Lasham.

Lunchtime lectures
Free, but donations welcomed; no need to book
Last Thursday of each month (except December), 1.15-1.45pm.
26 March: The first Charlotte Yonge scholar, Amy Locke – by Alys Blakeway
30 April: From family research to novel – by author Simon Wills
28 May: Romsey Remount Depot – by Phoebe Merrick
25 June: Flora Thompson in Hampshire – by John Owen Smith

Family History for Beginners
£12 per person. Booking essential
Practical advice and help in starting your family history research - Discover the main sources available and how to use them - Access material on microfiche/film with staff on hand to answer any questions - All you need to know to begin researching your family tree
19 March, 14 May - 6.30-8.30 pm; 16 April, 11 June – 2.00-4.00 pm. You only need to attend one session

Maps as a Source for Local History
£12 per person each session. Booking essential
Workshop on how to use historic maps to uncover the history of your local area
20 March – 2.00-4.00 pm.

The Archive Ambassador training scheme
Sign up today and help us preserve Hampshire’s heritage - £18 per person, booking essential
Wednesday 22 April (10 am - 3.30 pm). Training in archive preservation/conservation, cataloguing, digitisation and oral history recording.

For booking any of the above items, telephone 01962 846154 ***

For more information about events, please visit www.hants.gov.uk/whatson-hro or ring 01962 846154. To receive our monthly e-newsletter, which provides regular updates about events, activities and archive news, please go to www.hants.gov.uk/rh/mailinglist – then enter your details and select ‘Archives’ from the pick-list.

Recent additions to the holdings
Our catalogue database includes descriptions of more than one million items: charters, deeds, registers, court rolls, letters, diaries, accounts, minute books, drawings, photographs, postcards, films, sound recordings and digital images. Here are a few of the latest additions.

Historic hospital records form an important part of the county archives. For
Hampshire these include:-

Knowle Hospital (48M94), Park Prewett (279M87), and the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester (5M63). Recent additions have included Andover War Memorial Hospital records (99A14). The archives comprise operations books, 1939-48 and 1967-71, and admission/in-patient registers, 1950-58, as well as administrative records, such as the Building Fund donations book, 1919-mid 1920s, and the visiting committee members’ report book, 1930-67. Photographs of staff, facilities and events at the hospital, c1990s, along with notes, aerial photographs and statistics concerning the history of the hospital, 1926-date, and various plans for hospital buildings, dated 1969-2009, complete the collection. Complementing the official records are papers generated by the ‘Save the Hospital Services Campaign’ group (100A14), concerning a community campaign to protect services at the hospital, including minutes, correspondence, newsletters and publicity, 2005-08. Please note that access restrictions apply to some records in the collection.

Another cornerstone of the county records is the material generated by Hampshire’s district and borough councils, some dating back to the medieval period:-

The latest, and perhaps one of the largest to have been deposited in recent years, comes from Gosport Borough Council (123M96). The records of the Town Trustees, predecessors to the Borough Council, were deposited back in 1996. This first deposit included minutes of meetings dating from the mid-18th century, and provide a fascinating glimpse into life in the town, including several plans of shops and houses pasted into the volumes – evidence of early planning control in the district. The latest deposit includes early committee minutes for some of the current Council’s predecessor authorities, such as Alverstoke Local Board, 1874-9, as well as those for committees with intriguing wartime names such as ‘Horse’ (1914), and ‘Passive Air Defence’ (1936-46). Other aspects of the town’s history are reflected in minutes debating beaches, entertainment and leisure services, from the 1960s to the 1990s. The Council’s signed minutes were deposited last year (141A13), bringing coverage right up to 2003.

Personal records continue to provide us with touching reminders of the loss suffered by many in the wars of the 20th century:-

A small bundle of papers, found in the lining of a trunk acquired by a Midhurst family, was brought in to the Record Office in October (110A14). The letters and papers relate to Pte Albert ELLENDER of the 1st Scots Guards, on active service in France during the First World War, and comprised mainly letters and cards from Ellender to Elsie Butler, his fiancée in Farnborough. Some are also addressed to Miss Butler whilst in service to Mrs Luff on Hayling Island. Also included are two letters from Miss Butler to Ellender whilst he was in France, a portrait photograph of Pte Ellender in uniform, and most poignant of all, a letter from A H Balleine, Chaplain to the Forces, to a Miss Duckworth in Farnborough, informing her of Pte Ellender’s death on 28 September 1918, of gas poisoning. Pte Ellender was interred at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Boulogne. He kept a lock of Miss Butler’s hair in a souvenir tin, retained as part of the collection – one of many identical tins sent to the troops at the Front during the war.
Photographs are a continual source of information and fascination for family and local historians alike. Recent photographic additions have included:-

A set of small glass plate negatives taken in and around Thornhill Isolation Hospital, Aldershot, by Frank Leonard Ramshaw (c1888-1946) during the First World War (116A14). Ramshaw was an accountant with White Star Line (on the Olympic). He served with the Royal Garrison Artillery, caught rheumatic fever, and was invalided out of the army. Although he lost his hearing, he learned to lip-read and acted with the Blenheim Players in Southampton in the 1930s. The photographer has identified scenes depicted in the photos on the accompanying box, these include named staff and patients, wards, the church, the road at the camp, and groups of soldiers. Another unusual photographic collection comprises a set of large card-mounted sepia photos showing trees on the Lockerley Hall estate at around the turn of the 20th century (120A14). The photos were found at the estate office in the 1980s, and show specimen trees and woodland on the estate. What makes them particularly valuable, however, are the captions identifying species, size and age of the trees, many of
which will now have vanished. Figures – presumably estate workers – are also shown in the photos.

**Maps and plans and Deeds received in recent months have included:**

The parish copy of the **Odiham tithe map**, c1840 (47M81/PD10). The map, which arrived in a protective tube over twelve feet in length, was previously mounted on the wall at the church, and is in remarkably good condition, considering its age. The map will complement the diocesan copy of the map, which is already part of the county archives, but which is in poor condition in places.

Deeds, also relating to Odiham, have been received via Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre (129A14). The bundle comprises a mixture of unrelated items collected by Henry Swayne and C R Straton of Wilton, Wiltshire, in the late 19th century, and include court rolls for the **Hundred of Odiham**, 1383-4, the manors of **Fawley**, 1604, and **North Fareham** (or Roche Court), 1599, as well as a **Ringwood** manor compotus (account) roll, c1434. Another separate deposit of deeds, includes items concerning 36 Normandy...
Street, Alton, part of a larger property which was made up of two earlier houses, with deeds dating back to the early 18th century (132A14). Both properties come into the hands of Francis Callendar in the mid-19th century, when four cottages (nos. 36, 38, 40 and 42) were subsequently built along the Normandy Street frontage.

**Business records** received recently will be of interest to those researching Hampshire’s pubs and publicans, off-licences and hotels:-

**Crowley’s Brewery, Alton,** dates back to 1821, when the Crowley family bought the brewing business of James Baverstock in Turk Street, Alton. A substantial addition to the records already deposited includes annual profit and loss accounts, c1901-59, tenancy agreements for the brewery’s many pubs and hotels, c1878-1960s, inventories of effects, furniture and fittings at the brewery’s pubs, mid-20th century, property valuations, c1909-50, correspondence files, early-mid 20th century, and sports and social club records, c1950-70 (57A00d5).

**Sporting records** also feature in another Alton collection, received in November:-

The Alton Football League was founded in 1921, and the minute books (130A14) give a vivid insight into grass-roots football between the wars. Things were very different in those days: players had to pay a signing-on fee of 2s 6d, and even had to purchase their own strips – an incentive to avoid entering the transfer market, perhaps! Travel was undertaken by bicycle, vans or even beer-lorries, with upturned crates serving as temporary seats. One of the scorebooks appears to have been recycled as a minute book from 1958 to 1967, and many of the volume’s original fixtures, dates, results and referees’ names have been sadly pasted over as a result. Some are still exposed towards the back of the volume, however.

**Mark Pitchforth**

Contact details:
Hampshire Record Office,
Sussex Street, Winchester, Hants SO23 8TH
Telephone: (01962) 846154;
Fax: (01962) 878681
Email: archives.enquiries@hants.gov.uk
www.hants.gov.uk/archives

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<td>WOODMAN</td>
<td>294</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOODS</td>
<td>298-300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUNG</td>
<td>297</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Marilyn Rix reports:-

(October) **Barbara Large – A place of refuge (Basingstoke Union Workhouse)?** As well as giving a general history of workhouses, Barbara gave a fascinating and detailed account of the Basingstoke Workhouse, whose inmates were lucky that life there was never as bad as at the nearby Andover Workhouse. She also gave information on a number of resources on workhouses in general.

(November) **Heather Sheeley – Women at war.** The talk covered women's roles in both World Wars. Few women were in employment in 1914, but by the end of 1918 many of their lives had changed dramatically and would continue to change, as they were being employed in jobs traditionally the reserve of men. In factories they were working 12-hour shifts, making munitions, planes, equipment for the armed forces - or on the land in the Women's Land Army, in agriculture and forestry, working away from home, and living in dormitories or on farms. In the Army they worked as auxiliaries and nurses; in the Navy as Wrens, as wireless/telegraph operators, radar-plotters, clerks, nurses, and trained in the use of weapons; in Intelligence (Bletchley Park) and clandestine assignments; in the Air Force, as controllers and using Morse Code. During WW2 women joined the Air Transport Auxiliary Service, which included women pilots ferrying new planes from factories to airfields, and, as time went on, aircraft in need of repair from airfields to service centres.

Many women suffered prejudice from men working in reserve occupations, but were eventually accepted that they could do the jobs professionally and efficiently. Some, particularly nurses, worked overseas at great risk to their lives during the conflicts. Civilian volunteers in nursing (VADs) joined various organisations, both at home and abroad. Women Post Office workers were not only in telegraphy, but delivered mail and also censored letters and packages. There were so many different other organisations, even unpaid posts like air-raid and fire-watch wardens. Needless to say, women's pay was a lot less than the men's.

(December) **Share a mince pie & a family book.** Members brought a variety of interesting books to share with the group: A favourite that had been read, Flywheel (a book written by WW2 prisoners-of-war); books from the 1920/30s, awarded as school prizes or for seamanship; an illustrated housewife's book from the 1930s; a pictorial Royal Jubilee book, 1910-35, originally belonging to a great-grandmother; local history books from various county areas of special interest, including a family photograph with a great-grandparent or a picture.
of a house where a member’s family had resided. There were some older books dating from the 19th century, showing various bindings, script and stories published at that time - all treasured items helping to enhance research in each member’s family history.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Foreign records</td>
<td>Jane Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 April</td>
<td>North-East Hampshire heraldry</td>
<td>Edward Hepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 May</td>
<td>Members’ Evening: My village ancestor</td>
<td>Jane Lewes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June</td>
<td>Short man, bought us carrots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jim Duncan reports:-

(October) **Open Forum / An audience with Ann McKenzie / Manorial records (Jim Duncan)**. Communication remains the key component to ensure that members’ nights are successful and beneficial to the researcher, and Ann provided an interesting talk. We completed the evening with a look into the manorial records covering the “When, Why and Where” questions. Records can go back to the 13th century, and are an insight into the way of life of all those who made up the manorial system. We looked at how the system worked - at its meticulous record-keeping, problems in interpreting the content, and the harsh reality of life under the system. Surviving records may be found at various repositories, while the Manorial Register (The National Archives) lists many of the available records, and where they can possibly be located.

(November) **Open Forum / An audience with Judith Sexton / How did our ancestors travel from A to B? (Jim Duncan)**. Judith told us about the copper kettle that she nearly sent to auction. By asking the right questions, her mother revealed that Judith’s grandfather had actually made it.

Family history is about asking “Where, Why and When”, so as to discover the secrets of our ancestors’ pasts. We looked at “How did our ancestors get from A-B”. We can get clues as to their modes of transport by using a timeline, as to when changes to the infrastructure made travel easier for our forefathers: Improvements to roads through the Turnpike system; stagecoach travel; the canals that opened up the country; coastal trade around the UK; and, finally, the railway which revolutionised travel and eventually spelt death for the stagecoaches and canals. We finally looked at the costs of travel against what our ancestors earned at the time.
(December) **Members’ Evening: Christmas Buffet & look forward to 2015.** We closed the year by reflecting on what the group had achieved together in 2014, with a look forward to changes and new challenges for 2015. An excellent buffet, provided by the members, was definitely much-needed ‘food for the brain’ when negotiating their way through two quizzes. The genealogical quiz supplied by Rod Whale certainly tested their skills, with one worthy winner (Rosemary Wilson), who answered ALL the questions correctly. The group organiser thanked members for their support throughout the year, and Margaret Bowman and Gordon Young received a special mention for their loyalty over the last five years.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>AGS General Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>Interactive tutorial meeting (TBC)</td>
<td>Les Mitchinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Getting organised</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>Interactive tutorial meeting (TBC)</td>
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**Basingstoke**

*Meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. and are held on the fourth Wednesday every month (except August and December) at St Michael’s Church Cottage Hall, Church Street.*

Sue Wright reports:-

(October) **Members’ Evening: Brickwalls.** A new member opened the evening’s discussions with his question as to what archives were now in London: The National Archives and London Metropolitan Archives were mentioned. Another new member enquired as to where to start looking for information - this elicited a variety of answers from other members. There were two queries on certificates that didn’t contain correct information and responses included ideas as to how other sources could help solve such mysteries. Finally, a member talked about a new CD-ROM listing the names of Huguenot families, and donated a copy to the group.

(November) **Christmas Function.** Our Christmas function consisted of a general knowledge quiz and a buffet. At the close of the meeting thanks and good wishes were expressed for the group organiser, Lin Penny, who was absent due to a spell in hospital.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>The manor, its records &amp; your ancestors</td>
<td>Ken Smallbone</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 April</td>
<td>Victorian mourning &amp; funeral practices</td>
<td>John Avery</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>Members’ Evening: Occupations, apprenticeships, &amp;c</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 June</td>
<td>Reading old handwriting (workshop)</td>
<td>Jane Hussey</td>
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</table>
Meetings are held at 8pm on the second Tuesday monthly at St Thomas’ Church Hall (attached to the church) Mortimers Lane. Doors open approx 7.30pm

Sandra Naish reports:-

(October) **Les Mitchinson – Using maps.** Tithe maps can be extremely detailed with three copies produced: one apiece for the bishop and parish, with a third copy held at The National Archives under IR30. 12,000 maps were produced in England and Wales, mostly in the 1840s, with an apportionment (IR29), giving details of landowners and naming occupiers. The first authorised land enclosure was in Dorset in 1604. After 1750 it became usual practice to enclose land through an Act of Parliament. A Domescday of English Enclosure, Acts and Awards, can be used to check land enclosure information.

Ordnance Survey maps began purely for military reasons. The first map produced in 1801 was for Kent, with the 6-inch series commencing in 1840. A larger series (25 inches to the mile) followed in 1853. Estate maps were produced from Elizabethan times for manorial owners to record their tenants, but became more detailed in the late 18th century. Estate surveys and rentals give lists of copyholders, etc.

(November) **Members’ Evening: Great War family members & memorabilia.** Members retold stories of family members who took part in the First World War, and brought along inherited memorabilia. Maureen Goss had researched 18 Lancaster ROPER family members, detailing how two of six serving brothers died. Arthur Yarney’s grandfather, George CHIVERS, cowman of Dummer, joined the Hants Regiment in 1912, but was discharged from the Royal Munster Fusiliers, while brother Arthur’s death is commemorated in Dummer Church. Maureen Westwood had researched all names from Mottisfont village. Mary Steele’s 1917 book from Mary BAGGS mentioned collecting sphagnum moss for use in hospitals. Barton Court was utilised then for dysentery cases.

Sandra updated the story of William CARTER, killed at Gallipoli (Hants 2nd Battalion), plus the recent discovery of a listing on Southsea’s Naval War Memorial of teenage sailor John VINEY, killed at the Battle of Jutland. Wendy Hobbs brought the prayer book of Alec John AXFORD, killed 1918, and commemorated in Fair Oak. Mike showed many medals, including the Mons Star, and related the tragic death of a 15-year-old sailor. Incidentally, Fair Oak’s St Thomas’s Church has refurbished its Great War memorial plaques inside the church and added a new wall memorial to name some omitted from the list of the fallen in both world wars.

(December) **Christmas Social.** 2014’s last meeting had many regular faces missing, but those that came enjoyed sweet and savoury supper items and the delights of a mind-teasing word puzzle plus general knowledge quiz - at which the men were beaten by the women's team. A vote of thanks was extended to Angela Winteridge, ably assisted by Keith Turner, for everything they do to keep our group functional with an entertaining programme.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-
Local Group Programmes

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 March</td>
<td>Divorce &amp; other ways of getting unmarried</td>
<td>Vicky Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 April</td>
<td>Deaf Robert, Lame Basil &amp; Blind Peter</td>
<td>Cheryl Butler</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>Secrets of the Carriage Works</td>
<td>Chris Humby</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 June</td>
<td>Researching ancestors who served in British India</td>
<td>Peter Bailey</td>
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**Fareham**

Meetings are normally held from 7.15 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Wallington Village Hall, Broadcut, Fareham.

Carol Russell reports:-

(October) **Eric Birkbeck – Haslar Hospital.** Building work began on a peninsula of land in 1745, and Haslar became the first Naval Hospital in the country. Surrounded on three sides by water, it was thought to be difficult for press-ganged sailors to escape from there. Conditions in the early days were horrendous, with untrained staff or carers living onsite with their families and dogs. Women were often searched, and found to have alcohol hidden in their clothing to sell to patients.

After a naval captain was placed in charge of the hospital, discipline was tightened and conditions improved. Queen Victoria was a frequent visitor, and during her reign army personnel were also admitted. There are thousands of men, women - and even children - buried in the hospital grounds (the ‘Paddock’).

The plans for the hospital, which closed in 2009, have been finalised. The main building is intended to house naval veterans and their partners. Another building has been set aside for the Haslar Heritage Group for a permanent history of the hospital.

(November) **Members’ Evening: Memories of WW1 ancestors.** Members arrived with photographs and documents from the 1914-18 War of great-grandfathers, grandfathers and uncles who had served in several far-flung countries. Many stories were very sad, especially of very young men being killed soon after the war began. There were often more than two sons in one family who did not return home. Some ancestors, who had made it home, were so traumatised by the atrocities they witnessed that they were unable to settle back easily or happily into civilian life.

(December) **Alan Brindle – A Victorian magic lantern show / American Supper.** Dressed in Victorian clothes, Alan gave a splendid show, illustrating Victorian humour. He is a professional photographer from the New Forest whose hobby is entertaining audiences with his magic lantern. He is keen for the audience to participate throughout his show, and our members happily and humorously obliged!
Alan said his main collection of slides dated from pre-cinema times. Sometimes they were accompanied by piano-playing for sound effects. The slides that had moving parts, such as eyes blinking, or arms waving, were as amusing today as they were in our great grandparents’ day.

January & February meetings to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Harlots, dung &amp; glory, part 2</td>
<td>Andrew Negus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>Women in WW1</td>
<td>Charles Haskell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Writing, publishing &amp; illustrating your family history</td>
<td>Dennis Bill, Dave Ellis &amp; Carol Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>A Wickham walkabout (7 pm start at Wickham)</td>
<td>Brian Barrett (guide)</td>
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**Fleet & Farnborough**

The group meets at the United Reform Church Hall, Kings Rd, Fleet GU51 3AF second Thursday of every month except August at 7.30pm.

Lesley Bull reports:-

(October) **Les Mitchinson – Nonconformity: The road to toleration.** This talk was reported by Fareham group in HFH Vol 41/3 (December 2014).

(November) **Bobbie Neate – Conspiracy of secrets.** Bobbie, the youngest of four children, told her story of growing up in a house where her stepfather would not talk about his life, his childhood or what school he went to, and positively discouraged any questions about it. By pure chance, through a family tragedy, Bobbie discovered that her stepfather, Louis Stanley, was in fact the illegitimate son of Prime Minister Herbert Asquith and Venetia Stanley. When telling us the story of how she discovered this, that her stepfather’s birth certificate was a pack of lies, that the lady living with them as Louis’ mother was not her grandmother, and other interesting things, Bobbie kept missing out bits of her notes, hoping not to give the game away and tempting us to read her book ‘Conspiracy of Secrets’. It is a fascinating story.

(December) **Christmas Party.** We stuck to our traditional Christmas meeting format, enjoyed by all, with food, members’ research displays and quizzes. There were some excellent displays to look at and the quizzes - one about the Commonwealth countries and a picture quiz where we had to work out which Christmas carol or song was depicted - were enjoyable.

January & February meetings to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-
### Local Group Programmes

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<tr>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Gypsies, tramps &amp; thieves</td>
<td>Lesley Bull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>AGM &amp; Members’ Evening: A soldier in your family</td>
<td>Phoebe Merrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>Romsey Remount Camp</td>
<td>Celia Heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 June</td>
<td>Tracing your ancestors through death records</td>
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### Gosport

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month in the Scout Hut, Clayhall Road, Alverstoke, Gosport, at 7.30pm.

Marilyn Lovett and Pauline Powell report:

(October) **Angela Trend – Topsy, Fred, Alice, Who are they?** This was a most intriguing tale, actually about St Michael’s Church in Lyndhurst and some very well-known people involved with the design, building and decorating of the church. Although it was not what I was expecting, suffice to say that it was very interesting, with all sorts of twists and turns, and well worth listening to.

(November) **Members’ Evening: Remembering WW1.** Thomas Henry TREACHER died when HMS Bulwark exploded on 26 November 1914, and William Treacher fought at Ypres and on the Somme [Ivor Johns]. Grandfather Edward Albert WAKE was badly wounded at Ypres, but survived - while great-grandfather Frederick George METCALFE was killed in action on 17 August 1918 during the attack on Banks Trench [Jan Heath]. Grandfather Robert Matthew WAGHORN, having joined the Navy in 1890, trained as a torpedo-gunner, but was later admitted to Haslar Hospital, “worn out”, and retired as a lieutenant-gunner in 1922 [Alan Petrie]. Father Charles Frederick MIELL went down with HMS Cressy on 22 September 1914, torpedoed by German submarine U9. It sank in a few minutes, with a loss of 560 men [Irene Quinn]. Grandfather Alfred Edward Germany GREEN was a trained torpedo-gunner at Whale Island and HMS Vernon [Ken & Diane Rees]. Cousin Alec Curtis CHAMBERS, DCM and Bar, of the Machine Gun Corps (Cavalry), died in Egypt on 22 September 1918, aged 21, and was buried in the Jerusalem War Cemetery [Pauline Powell]. Grandfathers worked in Clarence Yard, victualling for WW1 ships, and uncles were involved with bomb-making in Priddy’s Yard [Jean Morgan]. Grandfather Frank Bretton TAPPING joined the Royal Medical Corps in September 1915, while grandfather Howard Thomas ATKINS of the 4th Queen’s Regiment, became medically B1, only fit for garrison duties. Uncle Dick Atkins was killed in 1916 during the Battle of the Somme [David Atkins]. Cecil CHEESEMAN joined the Royal Engineers in October 1914, aged 18, and was involved in the Battle of Loos. In which chlorine gas was released (there were 143,000 casualties). As a sapper, he became engaged in building 17 mine tunnels, but, after “going over the top” in July, was killed on 1 August 1916 [Marilyn Lovett].

### Contact:
Marilyn Lovett, 2 Anglesey Road, Alverstoke, Gosport
Tel: 02392 585194 e-mail gosport@hgs-online.org.uk
Local Group Programmes

(December) **Christmas Social Evening.** Alan Petrie gave us the second half of his saga about his two grandfathers, which turned out to be primarily about his mother-in-law Winifred Daisy **ENGLISH.** Clarence Henry English of the King’s Royal Rifles married Minnie **HARVEY.** When his regiment was posted abroad, the couple gave their daughter (Winifred) to Robert and Gertrude **WAGHORN.** After resigning from the Army and returning home they tried to get Winifred back from the Waghorns, but were denied. Winifred married Denis **HARTY** in 1931 and a daughter was born to them - who became Alan’s wife.

Following Alan’s story we mimed our chosen ancestor’s occupation and then Marilyn gave us a fiendishly difficult quiz about Christmas traditions followed by well-earned mince pies!

*January & February meetings* to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>The cowboy, the revolutionary &amp; the novelist</td>
<td>Graham Spiller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 April</td>
<td>Meet an 1805 naval officer, his lady &amp; an ancestor</td>
<td>Roger &amp; Barbara Glancefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>Quarr Abbey’s farm at Grange 1295-1536 &amp; Grange Farm &amp; Rowner 1802-1997</td>
<td>Bob Whiteley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 June</td>
<td>Members’ Evening</td>
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**New Forest**

*Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month in the Exhibition Room of the Brockenhurst Village Hall, Highwood Road, Brockenhurst and commence at 7.30 p.m. Lift and full disabled access available.*

Mike Hobbs reports:-

(October) **Phoebe Merrick - Wessex Film Archives.** A very interesting evening with two short films taken around our area. They raised lots of memories and stories from our members - particularly the film of the rehearsal of evacuees to the New Forest in the event of war: a one-day exercise, moving them by train, bus and coaches, and then having to feed them in a camp in the New Forest.

(November) **Members’ Evening: Among my mother’s keepsakes.** A large number of items were brought along, all with a story to tale. As well as photos, letters and war memorabilia, there were rings, jewellery and a pair of interesting vases; a painting and some very interesting animal and circus prints; plus a silver spoon that was won for drill in 1880, and a piccolo and ocarina flute from 1890.
Local Group Programmes

(December) **Souvenir of my favourite ancestor / Christmas American Supper.** The souvenir items included photos, books, letters and postcards, among which were featured Fritham Free Church in 1908 and Collier’s boat owners’ records. There were also a number of brass items and jewellery, which included an 1852 locket. Among the WW1 items were service documents, letters, and a prayer and hymn book sent to a soldier who was killed in Belgium. Other WW1 souvenirs comprised a bugle from the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, dated 1901, and a necklace with the Star of David on it brought back from Palestine. An American supper followed, and was enjoyable end to the year’s meetings.

**February meeting** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Members’ Evening: My workhouse ancestors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Census records</td>
<td>George Yalden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May</td>
<td>Tracing your London ancestors</td>
<td>Jane Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 June</td>
<td>Visit to Beaulieu Tide Mill (start at 7 pm at the Mill)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**New Milton & Christchurch**

Meetings are held in the Library of St. Mark’s Church, Highcliffe, on the second Friday of each month at 7.30 p.m. The church is about 100 yards off Lymington Road on Hinton Wood Avenue, the turning opposite The Galleon

Daphne Austin reports:-

(October) **John Levesley – Airfields of the New Forest.** On his first visit, John had spoken about the early days of the airfields, covering the First World War and just beyond. This time his talk was dealt with WW2 and its aftermath: a delightful evening with many photos and stories that he had gathered up from speaking to people who had worked at the various airfields. We heard about the lives of those stationed there or who lived nearby; the night-time movements of planes to other places to prevent destruction; the use of radar and communications that were invented and improved at those places; the build-up to D-day; and how the fields were put to use again after the war.

(December) **Members’ Evening: I’ve got it writing!** Members brought in written items in their possession. These covered: war service records; sale documents of property owned by the family long ago, proving who they were; a newspaper report of a grandfather drowned off the Needles, and another proving who was the first writer of novel detective stories; a document in a record office showing a connection back to 1682; a recipe book on old English cooking, which had a family history in it; a mother’s book containing not only birthdays, but
also deaths and other family news; a POW’s details obtained via the Red Cross; then a will was referred to. A very varied and informative evening.

(December) **Daphne Austin – Where on earth?** This was our usual annual quiz night, and the title was ‘Where on earth?’ It comprised a series of pictures around the world showing an important building or feature of a country, and to keep in with this year’s theme the countries covered were our allies in WW1. It certainly caused some discussion and we finished with mince pies and other goodies.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 March</td>
<td>Problems evening</td>
<td>Michael Hobbs &amp; panel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>Victorian funeral traditions</td>
<td>John Avery</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 May</td>
<td>Dating old photographs</td>
<td>Jane Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 June</td>
<td>Treasures of the parish chest</td>
<td>Les Mitchinson</td>
</tr>
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**Portsmouth**

*Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month (except January and August Bank Holidays) at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. in the Baptist Church Hall, Havant Road, Cosham.*

Sue Decicco reports:-

(October) **Geoff Watts – Memories of World War I.** Geoff gave us a miscellany of stories of WWI. These included the Angel of Mons, the leaning statue of Mary and Child at Albert; the story of ‘The Old Contemptibles’; and the poignant story of Rudyard Kipling’s search for what had happened to his son, John, at Loos in 1915. Geoff included some relevant poems, including one written by Wilfred Owen from the war years. He also showed us unusual war memorials and illustrated other aspects of the war, from the personnel level of those involved, through postcards of the time.

(November) **Jane Fox – Getting the best from Ancestry & Find My Past.** Jane started by explaining that there are many websites where genealogists are able to find information, but that Ancestry and FMP perhaps have the most records. However, this is still only a small percentage of what needs to be transcribed.

The two sites vary in the records that they have online, and it is helpful if you first inspect the list of records that they each have. With Ancestry, you need to go to ‘Search All Records’, then scroll down to the map of England - this then lists the counties, and you are able to see how many and what records are available for each county, so cutting down the number of
search results. Always look at the ‘Original Image’ for more information. Because both of these sites have worldwide access, you may be able to trace ancestors in America, Ireland, etc. Subscriptions are not cheap and it may be worthwhile to use the facility available in your local library, free of charge. Jane also gave us tips on using asterisks, or even just first names, to discover your long-lost ancestors: a very informative talk.

(December) **Christmas Buffet & Quiz.** We had a most enjoyable evening.

**February meeting** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 March</td>
<td>Getting organised</td>
<td>Les Mitchinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April</td>
<td>Members’ Evening: Are we organised?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>To be confirmed</td>
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(October) **Members’ Evening: Family letters & postcards.** Many members brought along family letters or postcards, and described their importance to their family history. A couple of postcards sent to a great-aunt in Hamburg showed the main street of Steinkirchen, with Paul’s great-grandfather’s house that has not changed since 1933; while another photograph from the same period showed the Somfleth Hotel in Mittelnkirchen (Paul Pinhorne). An album of postcards sent from 2nd Lt Charles William JANES of the Westminster Dragoons to his cousin (Pat’s grandmother) and his mother, showed where he was serving in Egypt and on the Salisbury Plain during WW1; he eventually joined the new RAF on 1 April 1918, but died ten days later when he crashed his Sopwith Camel at Turnberry lighthouse while practising bombing (Pat Hoskins). A facsimile of a letter from Ray’s 3x great-grandmother Elizabeth ALEXANDER to her husband Joseph, a convict in Van Diemen’s Land, was obtained from the Regional Museum in Burnie, Tasmania; her letter expressed how she missed him and looked forward to his return, gave news of the family and also messages from some of the other convicts’ families, asking them to write to relatives (Ray Alexander). Letters that Angela’s mother (Louisa NOYCE) received from the Ministry of War and Pensions concerned her husband’s death in September 1940, and subsequently her entitlement to a pension, amounting to 22/6d weekly, and child allowance of 8/6d as a one-off when Angela was born in March 1941 (Angela Kimber).
(November) **Roger Coleman - The Hampshire Regiment: The road to Flanders, Part 1.**
Roger spoke of the Hampshire Regiment, which was manned 60% by Hampshire men. Following his leaving the Regiment, he has been working in the Hampshire Regiment Museum, where he has access to many artefacts and documents. One such artefact was from the ‘Old Contemptibles’, where a case contains flags and records of the men who were awarded the 1914 Star. There is a memorial to them above the entrance to Dock Gate 4, where the Hampshire Regiment left in August 1914.

Roger quoted from many of the war diaries. The first casualty was Pte S Kelly, who was killed on 25 August 1914, when the adjutant’s horse kicked him out of the train taking them to the Front. Roger also spoke of the retreat to Marne and the journeys from Ligny to Ham, producing slides to show how the area now looks. By 9 September one third of the battalions were casualties. Part 2 follows in February.

(December) **Members' Christmas Festivities.** We celebrated our annual Christmas Party in December.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Irish ancestry</td>
<td>Dr Trevor Fulton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 April</td>
<td>Turnpikes &amp; Dorset coaching days</td>
<td>Rob Curtis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>Women in war</td>
<td>Heather Sheeley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 June</td>
<td>Members’ Evening: Photo of a celebration with a short story</td>
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**(December)**

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### Romsey

**Meetings take place on the first Monday of the month** *(except Bank Holidays)* **at Crosfield Hall, Romsey, at 7.30 p.m. Newcomers are welcome.**

Val Dawe reports:-

(October) **Beverley Walker – Heir Hunters.** In pre-Internet days Beverley worked as an ‘Heir Hunter’ for a probate research firm in London. Her job was to trace missing beneficiaries, and most cases involved the estate of an elderly person who had no apparent relatives. In those days all communication was through letters. Some cases lasted for years and some beneficiaries were never traced, necessitating the purchase of insurance to cover the possibility of them turning up later. The name of the deceased was never disclosed to the beneficiary until he/she had signed up with the firm. This would have been on a pre-arranged fee or commission basis. All research was documented, including birth, marriage and death certificates. Beverley explained the order of relationships to the deceased that is used to determine who is entitled to inherit from an estate. A number of her more memorable
cases were outlined and these helped to endorse her closing message: the importance of clarity when writing a will.

(October) **Members’ Evening.** Members were invited to challenge a ‘Brains Trust’ panel to solve some ‘brick wall’ posers encountered in their research. Our panel of three fellow members gave ideas on new channels to be explored, and additional help was provided from the audience. The evening continued with interesting stories from three attendees who had made interesting, unusual or shocking finds in their research. It concluded with an ‘All Our Yesterdays’ quiz provided by Kay. The questions tested our memories of events from the ‘40s and ‘50s - e.g., in which year did rationing finish? A fun way to round off the evening.

(December) **American Supper & Quiz.** We followed the format of the past few years which all members seem to enjoy immensely. Following a reminder from our group leader, Dorothy, of all that we had done this year, question-masters Val and Colin Dawe led us through a sometime taxing and frustrating - although great fun - quiz. Part 1 saw us trying, as individuals, to guess the answer from a series of drip-fed clues. Part 2 was for teams, and took us through 40 questions based on the themes of genealogy and history, memories of schooldays, general knowledge and, finally, the 20th century. There were prizes for all, and then we could partake of the American-style buffet supper to which everyone had contributed.

2 March **Don’t believe everything you’re told** Jane Fox
7 April **Members’ Evening**
5 May **The search for the body in the woodshed** Sandra Smith
1 June **The history of the Hundred & Market Place of Romsey** Phoebe Merrick

February meeting to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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**Southampton**

*Monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS at the Roman Catholic Church Hall, Commercial Street, Bitterne, Southampton, at 7.30 p.m. Car park is adjacent.*

Anne Lawrence reports:-

(October) **Cheryl Butler – Tudor ancestors in Southampton.** Cheryl told us about how the team had been reconstructing the lives of the inhabitants of Southampton (1485-1603), and how useful it could be to those of us who have ancestors here. They have 4,000 people on the database, searchable under name, nationality, networks, and trade. The users of this website could be family and local historians and graduate researchers. A lot of work has gone into this project, helped by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
(November) **Members’ Evening.** At the last minute, our speaker was taken ill, so we came up with some very interesting “off the cuff” mini-talks. The first was an account of a happy relationship with Cobbett Road Library from when the member was a child. Another told us about his search for his mother’s long-lost brother - it was successful and we saw photos of the reunion when they were in their eighties. An ex-seaman told of his trip on a banana boat to collect fruit from West Africa. A great-grandfather had been shipwrecked and we heard some of his harrowing account. We also listened with great interest to a member’s exciting trip to see the Mercers’ extensive records in their archives in London.

(December) **Bill White – Down Memory Lane & Christmas Buffet.** We had a very entertaining talk with music from our own Bill White. During the Second World War, after America joined in, some battalions of American troops were based over here. They had become a little bored, as the sparse conditions were not what they were used to. Their government therefore sent over musical records, recordings of radio shows and films. They also sent pocket books, and we were shown some of the originals.

The BBC’s Home Service mixed with the American Forces Network. Eighty dance bands toured England to cheer people up. The guest stars were well known names, like Anne Shelton, Bing Crosby and Pearl Bailey. Very popular were The Squadronaires and Glenn Miller (‘Moonlight Serenade’).

Records were made, to start with, of shellac, and later became vinyl. We were treated to some of the music from Bill’s huge collection: we heard from Frank Sinatra, Hoagie Carmichael, Woody Herman, Fats Waller, Acker Bilk and Bob Crosby, among others. Bill ended with a record of the sound of a nightingale singing to the sound of a Lancaster Bomber overhead. After the talk we had a Christmas buffet, which was delicious.

**January & February meetings** to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 March</td>
<td><strong>Cable ships of Turnchapel</strong></td>
<td>John Avery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 April</td>
<td><strong>Lammas Lands</strong></td>
<td>Geoff Watts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 May</td>
<td><strong>Members’ Evening: Heirlooms of the future</strong></td>
<td>Cheryl Butler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 June</td>
<td><strong>Itchen Village, Itchen Ferry &amp; the Diaper family</strong></td>
<td>Cheryl Butler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Are you looking for that elusive family/local history book? Perhaps we can help
– contact Chris at bookstall@hgs-online.org.uk
Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Waltham Chase Village Hall, Winchester Road, Waltham Chase, and commence at 7.30 p.m. Car parking at the Hall. Newcomers welcome.

Chris Pavey reports:-

(October) Alan & Christine Johnson – Using FamilySearch & LDS Family History Centres. We are all familiar with the LDS site, and Alan and Christine were immensely knowledgeable in showing us how to get the best from it. There have recent changes to the site and we were guided through these with an informative and helpful Powerpoint presentation. Amongst the many changes made, the site has now been split into records that users put on themselves and records from the archives. It is hoped this will improve record accuracy, as the provenance of the record will be clearer.

Alan and Christine’s main advice was to make sure you register (it’s free!), as once registered you can search the site in greater depth. They also spoke about the wide range of resources available through the LDS FH centres and we were encouraged to visit them (Portsmouth and Reading are our nearest). A wide range of literature and helpful leaflets was also provided, and Alan and Christine answered many questions.

(November) Members’ Evening: Christmas Buffet. With Christmas lights, decorations and Christmas carols playing to make a festive atmosphere, everyone enjoyed the Christmas fare provided by members. A side table contained family and local history books for members to browse and a convivial evening was enjoyed by all.

January & February meetings to be reported in the next journal. Future dates are:-

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>24 March</td>
<td>The Romsey Remount Depot</td>
<td>Phoebe Merrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 April</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>The Tichborne Claimant</td>
<td>John Avery</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 June</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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Membership renewal
If your subscription is due for renewal please see "Renewal Instructions" on the inside back cover
The National Archives (TNA)

The National Archives
Bourne Ave, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8876 3444.
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Opening Hours:
Tuesday/Thursday 9am to 7pm
Wednesday/Friday/Saturday 9am to 5pm
Free parking

Portsmouth History Centre

Portsmouth History Centre
Norrish Central Library, Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
Hampshire P01 2DX
Telephone number: 023 9268 8046
Fax number: 023 9283 9855

Opening Hours:
Monday and Friday: 9.30am to 5pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 9.30am to 6pm
Saturday: 10am to 3.30pm

Southampton City Archives

Southampton City Archives
Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LY
Phone: 023-8083-2251
Fax: 023-8085-2156
Email: city.archives@southampton.gov.uk

Opening Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday only
10 am to 4 pm

Please visit the website or telephone in advance of visiting a record office to ensure they are open
Although some of the baptisms were written in Latin, for some reason all the marriages and deaths appeared in English.

The early marriages recorded where the ceremony took place and the witnesses, in some cases quite a number - such as, when William PEMON married Ann TREVETT on 17 January 1744/5 in the house of John OLIVER senior in Bedhampton. This time the witnesses were John Oliver himself, Mrs Oliver (who was possibly his wife), and Henry Oliver senior. Another example was when Richard HUTTON married Elizabeth RIGBY on 14 June 1750. The witnesses were Charles HAWLEY, Mrs Hawley, Isabella Hawley and Elizabeth FLOYD.

Later marriages included William TODD senior, who married Ann WOODMAN, a widow, on 8 February 1796 in Brockhampton Chapel, witnessed by Richard KNAPP, Elizabeth WHEELER, Mary VEAL and Mary SMITH. It is not clear who Ann's first husband was because there does not appear to be a marriage, any baptisms or a death recorded for a Woodman in the registers there. A marriage recorded on 6 January 1807 between George BATCHelor and Elizabeth BULBECK actually gave the age of the bride as being 24, and said that her husband was “younger than his bride”. This time the witnesses were John Bulbeck and his daughter Catharine, Mary Veal, Sarah STRUGNELL and Sarah DOWLING.

In some entries not only were the witnesses named, but the relationships to the married couple were also recorded - such as, when Mary Ann SONE married Thomas WEST, who was younger than her, on 11 January 1801 at Bedhampton, the witnesses included John and Mary Sone (the parents of Mary Ann) and Helen Sone, her sister. Other named witnesses were Ann CLARKSON, Sara and Mary MATTHEWS, and Elizabeth CRUICKSHANKS. Two years later when Peter West, aged 21 and younger than his bride, married Jane TEE on 17 November 1803 at Brockhampton, one of the witnesses was the groom’s father-in-law Charles Veal. The others were Ricd. and Mary Veal, and Ann HEWETT.

A further example was on 9 November 1809 when widower William Knapp married Mary Ann MOREY at Brockhampton. The witnesses included James Knapp senior (William’s uncle), Catharine Bulbeck (the daughter of William Bulbeck), and Mary and Sara Veal (nieces of Mary Veal).

The register recorded all the deaths, but not many burials until the later years, and although the latter had to take place in a churchyard or cemetery, the entries in the HGS Burial Index are extracted from the Brockhampton registers, and so only record deaths. All the details below -except for some actual burial dates taken from the HGS Burial Index - are actually written into the registers. Apart from at St James in Winchester, there were no separate Catholic burial grounds at this time, so interments had to take place in parish churchyards or cemeteries. Not all of these were recorded, and, generally, those that do appear in the register rarely indicate that the person being buried was Roman Catholic.

The entries for deaths in the earlier years only recorded the date and place of the death, with nothing else. Examples of these are John CHAMP, who died at Bedhampton on 25
February 1759; William TRIGG, who died on Portsdown Hill on 19 September 1760; Lucy LOVEL, who died on Portsmouth Common on 26 January 1761; and Elizabeth TOD, who died at Petersfield on 3 March 1762. Although burials must have taken place somewhere, none of these names appear in our index, other than in the Brockhampton register. However, these entries do show just how far followers of the Catholic faith based in Havant extended, including into Sussex. On 10 December 1763 Mary FAR died in Arundel, with Henery, presumably her husband, dying the following year on 6 February. Both of these entries appear in the list from the Brockhampton register, and so it would be assumed, incorrectly, that they were living in Hampshire at the time.

In the latter part of the 1780s the entries started to carry a lot more detail - but not necessarily of a local nature. An entry recorded that on 23 December 1787 Captain John Morey was washed overboard near the Scilly Isles whilst on a voyage to Liverpool. He was aged about 54, and left a wife and two children. Another death at sea to be recorded was for John Morey, aged 21, who died at Holyhead on 24 May 1804 on the return voyage from Liverpool. He was the son of John Morey and Ann, whose maiden name was HIGGINS. Other foreign deaths recorded were for Richard MARSHALL, who died in the West Indies - there is no date, but the entry in the register appears between 1765 and 1766. Another death in the West Indies was that of Thomas POYNTER, who in 1792, aged 22, died on 21 December in Jamaica. A later entry was for James GUYATT, who died in Gibraltar on 3 February 1812. He was aged 21 years 5 months and his parents were John Guyatt and Winifred, whose maiden name was BRIDGER.

One of the deaths where a burial can be traced was that of Lawrence SEAGROVE, who died on 26 February 1788 in Brockhampton from palsy, and whose burial appears in the Havant burial register the next day. He was married, was aged about 71, and had previously worked at the mill owned by Mr Knapp at Langstone. After this, more entries started to show where the burial took place, such as the death and burial of Anne WHITE, whose maiden name was CLAPCOTE. She died on 7 October 1788 at Langstone, and details state that she was a widow, and survived by a spinster daughter, Ann, and a married son, Robert, who was also a captain. The entry also said that she was buried in Havant, where there is an entry on 9 October recording her burial.

Some of the entries can be treated as mini tragedies, like that for husband
and wife Samuel and Mary West. Samuel was aged 78 when he died in Havant on 11 January 1800, then Mary, aged 70, whose maiden name was ASPREY, died three days later in Havant on the 14th. The entry for Mary said that she and her husband were buried in the same grave at Bedhampton on 17 January. The Bedhampton burial register confirms this date. Another piece of information in the entry for Mary stated that her son John had died earlier on 27 September 1793. His actual entry confirmed that he died, aged 44, from consumption at Bedhampton on that date. A similar entry was for Mary Sone, who died at Bedhampton and was buried there beside her husband John, who had died earlier on 3 March 1806. She was only 45 when she died, and had originally come from Worcestershire and was already a widow, with the name of HARRIS, when she married John. The Bedhampton burial register recorded the burial of John on the 8 March 1806, and that of Mary on the 16 February 1808. Another interesting entry was for Elizabeth AYLES (maiden name GLASPOLE), who died on her birthday, 27 July 1815, at Leigh in Havant, and was buried at Warblington. She was born on 27 July 1774.

Not all of the local Catholics were buried in the area because a number of them were taken to the burial ground of St James’s in Winchester. One of these was for married woman Ann BONE (maiden name MARTIN), who was aged 70, and died on 7 January 1794 at Bedhampton. More interesting were the details given following the death of Mary Glaspole on 17 June 1808 in Havant, who was aged 69 years and 3 months, the widow of Joseph Glaspole. Her birth was entered as “22 March now 2 April 1739”. She was buried in...
Winchester alongside her husband on 21 June, although in the register “Dna Havant” appears in the Christian-name column. The death of her husband is not in the Brockhampton register, but he might have been the man buried in St James’s as Josephus de Highbridge Glaspole, aged 80, on 24 March 1802.

Another entry was for Elizabeth YOUNG, who died on 14 December 1809, and was also buried in St James’s. Details appear in the entry when her mother Winifred TUCKER, a widow aged 63, died from smallpox in Bedhampton on 18 August 1788. Much later somebody had very kindly gone back and added further details to the original 1788 entry, confirming Elizabeth’s death and mentioning her other daughter Lucy. It is also interesting that there is an MI in St James’s that records the death of John Young of Portsea on 27 September 1808, aged 52, and that of his wife Elizabeth on 14 December 1809, aged 54.

A number of deaths in poor houses, particularly at Havant, also featured with at least seven from the Havant poor house; the first being Mary BRUMAN, who died there on 21 December 1762. Others included Edward Higgins, aged 69, who died there on 1 November 1789 from dropsy, and Mary DRISCOL, a widow aged 76, who died there on 13 January 1798. One other interesting entry was for Bridget MURRAY, a widow who died on 26 September 1815, taken ill on her way to Bristol. Her parents came from Ireland, and because her married name was not known her death was recorded under her maiden name. The deaths of inmates from other poor houses included Thomas RANDALL from Catherington, a widower aged 89, who died on 4 December 1794, and Elizabeth Seagrove from Portsea, who died on 19 September 1798, aged 44, and whose parents were Laurence and Rachel. Finally, the entry for the death of Mary PAGE on 23 October 1815 in Westbourne poor house had additional information. She was a widow aged 95, her maiden name was COOKE, and that the first wife of Richard Knapp the elder of Langstone was her father’s sister – and, consequently, her aunt. Unfortunately, their names were not included.

Roy Montgomery (Member # 3759)
102 Sunnymead Drive, Waterlooville, Hants PO7 6BX Email: sunnymead@ntlworld.com

Two booklets have been commissioned and published by Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council, detailing the lives of those

Fair Oak men who served in the Great War and made the ultimate sacrifice.

The booklets cost £3 each and are available from the Parish Office, Village Hall, Shorts Road, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 7EJ.
David SMALLBONE (1843-1887) married Elizabeth WOODS (1845-1897) in the Independent Chapel at Tadley on Monday 3 November 1872. The groom was the eldest son of the farmer at Tadley Bottom Farm, and his bride was the “girl-next-door”, living at The New Inn – were she was born – as the third surviving daughter of the publican there.

Elizabeth’s father, James WOODS (1818-1883), was born at Sidmonton, and christened in St Mary’s church, Kingsclere, on 12 July 1818, the only son of Joshua and Ann Woods. He married Elizabeth HOLLOWAY (1817-1881) - the daughter of the publican of The Plough Inn, Little London, Pamber - in St Stephen’s church, Baughurst, on 14 September 1839, where he had been farming for his widowed mother, while continuing with his own tenure at Great Hill End Farm, under Brocas of Beaurepaire Park, at Sherborne St John. In 1844, however, he had given up his tenancy at Sherborne and started up in business as a beer dealer in The New Inn at Tadley Bottom. In later years he was also recorded as a shopkeeper and grocer there, while maintaining a smallholding with livestock on the premises. Although James rented the property from Richard Curtis, he also owned some land within the parish, which he had inherited from his father.

The couple had thirteen children, and a couple of the sons would move to Basingstoke, where they worked for May’s Brewery. James Woods held the beer-house in Tadley until he was evicted in October 1880. He had been drinking heavily for some time, and was now unable to pay the rent. In September that year his wife had become very low-spirited, and in November had tried to drown herself in a well. When she was prevented from doing so, she became very violent. At one point she had even tried to jump out of a window. Hence, she was committed to the County Asylum at Fareham (later Knowle Hospital) on 2 December 1880. She remained there for just over two months, mostly in a very restless and fretful state, confused and obstinate. She had a stroke and died there at 6 pm on 10 February 1881. It is not known where she was buried.

Although now classed as a general labourer, James Woods actually described himself as a cattle dealer on the 1881 census. At that time he was living on Tadley Hill. He was admitted into the Basingstoke Union Workhouse at Cowdery Down, Basing, late in 1882, and died
in the workhouse infirmary at 3 am on 13 April 1883. He was buried in the borough cemetery on Chapel Hill, Basingstoke.

James’s father, Joshua Woods (1791-1838), was a farm labourer who rose to the rank of tenant farmer. No record of his baptism can be found, but, as his father and sister – who were living with him and his wife at the time of his death – had outlived him, there is no question about his parentage. He was probably born somewhere around the Burghclere-Woodhay district of northwest Hampshire, and was the son of John and Sarah Woods. He married Ann Webb (1792-1872) of Ecchinswell in St Mary’s church, Kingsclere, on 10 February 1816, and the couple had two known children, a son and a daughter.

By 1827 Joshua was holding land at Pamber under Richard de Beauvoir Benyon of Englefield, the Lord Warden of Pamber Forest, and was apportioned an enclosure there. By 1830 he also held property at Tadley, according to the Land Tax assessments, and by 1832 was farming Manor Farm, Baughurst, for the Duke of Wellington. This farm was also known as Tadley Farm, where the fields crossed over the parish.
boundary. Unfortunately, he was not popular with Wellington’s agent, Abel Easton, who wrote of Joshua: “This is a bad tenant and the sooner he has Notice to quit the better”. Nevertheless, the farmer did not quit – he died there in October 1838, aged 47.

Joshua’s widow continued to farm at Manor Farm, initially with the help of her son and her father-in-law, then in his seventies (he died in 1842). Ann was eventually evicted for “bad management” in 1845, and Abel Easton had eventually got his way - she moved to Tadley, where she still had some property. In later years she joined her son and his family at The New Inn. She died there on 18 May 1872, and was buried in the yard of the Independent Chapel – recorded as “a humble, sincere Christian Trusting in Christ only”.

Joshua’s father was John WOODS (1760-1842), who was baptised at Burghclere on 26 October 1760, the only son of Robert and Ann Woods. He was a labourer and married twice. His first wife was Sarah WOODLEY from Overton, whom he wed in 1781, and bore him three sons. He had a daughter by his second wife, Ann. It appears that he and his family lived in the border area around Hampshire, Berkshire and Wiltshire. As a widower, John was living with his widowed daughter-in-law at Manor Farm, Baughurst, in 1841. His spinster daughter, Harriet, had also been living there until her death in March 1839. John Woods was buried in Baughurst churchyard on 6 August 1842.

John’s father, Robert WOODS (1722-1795), was a ploughman. He married Ann KENTFIELD (1734-1774) in 1757, and the couple had two children. Born at East Woodhay, Robert died at Burghclere. The Woods family had lived at East Woodhay for four generations (see pedigree chart), and were first recorded there when John, son of Tristram and Anne Woods, was christened in St Martin’s church in that parish on 10 May 1640. This couple had eight children, and from them several generations later the family had expanded into Hampshire and surrounding counties.

Ken Smallbone, Editor
The Man Who Smoked His Pipe

For years, Edward Robert ETHERIDGE remained a mystery man. Documents received from Australia included his life story, which stated he was born in Lymington, Hampshire, on 30 June 1832, but he was hard to trace, for he does not appear on the HGS Baptisms Index or the 1841 census.

Eventually, after painstaking research, HGS member Pat Stanicliffe identified Edward as the son of Elizabeth Etheridge. He was born out of wedlock to Elizabeth, who is an ancestral grandparent of both Pat and me. Pat told Edward’s story in From Forest Rides to City Streets, her brilliant 500-year family history.

Edward arrived in Sydney in 1854, having worked his passage as a steward on the vessel Madras. A butcher by trade, he established himself at Scone, New South Wales, on the Hunter River. On 24 October 1859 he married Alice CHANDLER at St John’s church, Scone. Alice had hailed from Lancashire, and, although only 21, was a widow, whose maiden name was WHITE. On their marriage certificate Edward stated his parents were Edward Robert and Elizabeth Etheridge, but it transpired that he was born before his mother married, and his father was actually Edward Robert COX.

Edward and Alice were married for 57 years - until Alice died in 1917. They had fourteen children. He wrote home but, as far as I know, never returned to England. So, although the facts about him are known, there was not a lot about his personality. Information just sent to me from Australia has accorded an interesting insight into his character. As this item from the Maitland Mercury of 10th June 1922 reveals, he was not a man to panic in a difficult situation. Rather a nasty accident occurred at the goods sheds at Aberdeen recently:

Mr Etheridge of Barraba, came down to wish some of his friends on the train good-bye, as he expected to leave that day for his home. However, whilst talking and noticing the shunting trucks, he was crushed between the platform of the goods sheds and the truck. He eventually fell, but fortunately the truck wheels did not touch his body. The remarkable feature of the whole thing is that the old gentleman, who is now in his 90th year, when released, was still smoking his pipe. Fortunately he was not badly injured, but we learn that he is suffering seriously from the shock.

Edward recovered and lived a few more years. According to the death certificate, he was 93 when he died on 13 June 1925.

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Member’s article

Long-Lost Cousin

In October 2014 I had a short break in Normandy. This gave me the opportunity to pay my respects at the grave of Gunner Kenneth Frank WILLIAMS - a first cousin of my mother, Betty BEDFORD (née SKEATES), and so, as I understand it, my first cousin once removed. Kenneth Williams’ mother (Olive Annie Williams, née HEWITT) and my mother’s mother (Betsy Constance Skeates, formerly BIGDEN, née Hewitt) were sisters.

This item, though, wishes to centre on Wendy Ann Williams, a daughter born to Ken Williams and Daisy May Williams (née GUY) on 13 December 1943. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that Wendy is still living – or has family, that is.

Kenneth Frank Williams was born on 7 December 1921 at 48 Carisbrooke Road, Milton, to Frank and Olive Annie Williams. On 24 October 1942 he married Daisy May GUY at the Victoria Methodist Church, Pyle Street, Newport, Isle of Wight. The witnesses were Kenneth’s father and Emily A Guy (perhaps Daisy’s mother, as her father, John Guy, a wheelwright, was deceased). Daisy’s address was 9 Pyle Street, Newport, and her recorded occupation showed her in the ATS.

Ken and Daisy had a daughter, Wendy Ann, born on 13 December, 1943, at St Mary’s Hospital, Newport, while Daisy was living at 9 Pyle Street – the same address on her marriage certificate.

Sadly, Ken became a fatal casualty in Normandy on 2 July 1944. He would have taken part in the Normandy offensive. Information in his record on the
Commonwealth War Graves Commission web-site shows that he was with the Royal Artillery, 71 Anti-Tank Regiment.

Following notification of Ken’s death, his mother Olive, widow Daisy and daughter Wendy travelled to visit Olive’s sister Betsy, who was living at Duxford, Cambridgeshire. At the same time Betsy had a son (James Stanley Skeates) serving in the Army, and now in Italy. He had been born at the same address in Milton as Ken - 48 Carisbrooke Road. Sadly, James Stanley Skeates became a fatal casualty two months after Ken Williams.

Vivienne Williams, Ken’s sister, who had been a bridesmaid at Ken and Daisy’s wedding in 1942 (when she was 16 years old), married Peter George Reilly BOYD in 1947 at St Mary’s Church, Kingston (on the corner of Fratton Road and St Mary’s Road in Portsmouth). The Evening News reported that the bride was attended by Miss Mary Skeates (cousin), and the Misses Brenda LAWRENCE and Eileen PITT, with David BERÉ as page and Miss Wendy Williams (niece) as maid.

The 1947 wedding photo shows the bride and groom with: in the back row (to the right of the bride) her aunt Miss Harriet Edith Ann Hewitt (sister of Betsy Constance Skeates and Olive Annie Williams); next to the bride her cousin Miss Mary Skeates (daughter of Betsy Constance Skeates); and in the front her niece Wendy Ann Williams.

Peter Boyd was from Peterborough, and had been in the Royal Navy. He and Vivienne returned to Peterborough, where Peter became a policeman. Sadly, Vivienne died in 1948 in childbirth. Peter remarried and raised a family with his new wife.

It is believed that Ken’s widow, Daisy,
married a prison officer who was based on the Isle of Wight. The family lost touch with Wendy Ann Williams. There is family lore that she married a Royal Marine, and emigrated to Australia. It is believed that she had two daughters.

Mary Skeates (Vivienne’s bridesmaid – and first cousin to Vivienne and Ken) is in her 89th year and lives near Cambridge. She and her twin brother John are the surviving children of James Lewis and Betsy Constance Skeates. If Wendy is still living and wishes to be in touch with someone who knew her father, Aunt Vivienne and her paternal grandparents, then Mary would be happy to respond.

It goes without saying that if anyone can add to this story then please be in touch through the Hampshire Genealogical Society. In particular, Mary Skeates would be very pleased to hear of or from the young lady born Wendy Ann Williams.

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COMING SOON

A new CD will launched at ‘Who Do You Think You Are?’ Live, held at the NEC in Birmingham between 16 and 18 April 2015.

The latest in the long line of HGS Publications will be ‘Hampshire Burials, 1838-1865’, and will be made available from that date. It can also be ordered online or by post afterwards, and will naturally be featured in the next HFH journal. £25.50 (UK); £26.30 (Overseas).
Renewal Instructions

All members £15.
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Sunday 10 May 2015 at 2pm
(Doors open 12 Noon)