

LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Founded 1968)
Registered Charity No. 1024919

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AIMS

To promote an interest in history generally and that
of the Leyland area in particular

MEETINGS

held on the first Monday of each month (September to July inclusive)
at 7.30 pm
in

**The Shield Room, Banqueting Suite, Civic Centre,
West Paddock, Leyland**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Vice Presidents | £10.00 per annum |
| Members | £10.00 per annum |
| School Members | £ 1.00 per annum |
| Casual Visitors | £3.00 per meeting |

**A MEMBER OF THE LANCASHIRE LOCAL HISTORY FEDERATION
THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE
and
THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL HISTORY**

Visit the Leyland Historical Society's Web Site at: <http://www.leylandhistoricalsociety.co.uk>

Contents

| Page | Title | Contributor |
|------|---|---------------------------|
| 5 | Editorial | Mary Longton |
| 6 | Society Affairs | Peter Houghton |
| 11 | Origins of surnames: the next generation – Chairman’s notes: | Peter Houghton |
| 12 | Golden Hill Building Society | Derek Wilkins |
| 16 | Books about Leyland | Edward Almond |
| 20 | Fame and scandal in football | Joan Langford |
| 26 | Irish potato famine: cause and effect? | Derek Wilkins |
| 28 | Did you know my great-great-grandfather? | Peter Houghton |
| 38 | What we did on our holidays | Doreen and Peter Houghton |
| 43 | From the Chronicle Archives: ‘The Baldwins of St Andrew’s Parish Church: Part 6’ – J N Banister (1976) The Legend The Monster Cat The Last of the Baldwins | |
| 46 | Our 2009 Christmas Cards | |

Editorial

Welcome to the fifty-fifth *Chronicle*.

Our season has got off to an excellent start with the September and October meetings at the Civic Centre being well attended and memberships being renewed. Members certainly seem to enjoy the convivial atmosphere of the venue and I am sure it outshines many of the venues in which our entertainers perform. Colin Balls' September talk with his file of photographs projecting to us the changes in Leyland over the recent years could have continued well past our allotted time allowance and still have held our interest; then, in October, the Mikron Theatre Company, always historically thought provoking and giving it their all, even involving audience participation.

Some of our entertainers come with their sample of goodies, merchandise I think they call it, to help with what must be a considerable expense of paying for something they like to do and we like to benefit from. Our Society has its own modest stall selling back issues of the *Chronicle*, cds, etc. to help to cover our own expenses and at the next two meetings we will have for sale two Christmas cards, one depicting the Cross and one of Worden Gate, (c.1981). When the suggestion of producing a Christmas card was made it was thought it would just be a simple matter of choosing from a selection of photographs and then taking one to a printer and having the cards made; however, trying to find photographs depicting Leyland in the snow was fairly impossible and the scenes on the cards were the only ones committee members could find: 'Worden Gate' was found in a pile of photographs handed to Mary Fowler with the words, 'I've been clearing out some things and I didn't want to throw these away', and Sylvia Mayor kindly donated the 'Leyland Cross' scene. So, if it snows this year, please take pictures of Leyland and let committee members see them, or if you have any from previous years they would be welcomed to perhaps adorn next year's card.

Articles for the *Chronicle* this year have arrived promptly giving me plenty of time to prepare them for printing. I thank our contributors for giving us the fruits of their work; the amount of research undertaken, the gathering of information, the photographs and their putting pen to paper in good time. I hope members enjoy reading the articles.

Congratulations to David Harrison, last year's 'Historian of the Year' winner. My apologies to him for calling him 'Michael' in last year's *Chronicle* and also my apologies for the distortions and reduction in print size in that *Chronicle* which were due to the vagaries of the different editions of 'Microsoft' held by 'Imprint', our printers, and my own machine which, I hope, this year we have put right.

We all look forward to the next eight meetings of the Leyland Historical Society.

Mary Longton

Any opinions expressed in the contents of this journal are those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily represent the views of the Society.

Permission has been granted by the Ordnance Survey for the map scroll used on the cover.

Society Affairs 2008 – 2009

For the forty-first season, the second season in our new venue at the Civic Centre, while we could not match the likes of the 2007/8 season's presenters, Phil Harding and Dr David Starkey, to name but two, we have had a varied programme.

To begin the season, on Monday, 1 September, your Chairman entertained the newly enrolled members with a talk entitled 'Leyland and its Festival'. The first part concentrated on the early history of the Leyland May Festival. The first festival, on Wednesday, 29 May 1889, was intended to be a children's fete to revive the fast-dying observance of Royal Oak Day and was organised by the Sunday School Teachers of the Parish Church. The festival was usually arranged for the last Thursday and Saturday in May and held annually from 1889 to 1936, with the exception of a two year break from 1901 to 1902, and four years during World War 1, from 1915 to 1918. The procession and its route from 1889 to 1936 was from the schools in Union Street (now Fox Lane), through Towngate, Hough Lane, and Chapel Brow as far as the Railway Station – later extended to Mill Street – and returning by the same route to the May field.

This talk was illustrated by photographs of the many May Queens, floats depicting 'Tom Thumb and his wife', 'Ten Nigger Boys', and 'The Four Seasons' and the Leyland Morris Dancers.

To close the first part of the evening, we were lucky to be able to obtain a copy of the film of the 1951 Festival which was financed by the New Palace cinema and shown there after the event. This was provided by the North West Film Archive which was to provide the programme for the following January meeting.

Following the break, we saw pictures of the Festival of 1951 to celebrate the Festival of Britain and the official opening of Worden Park by Leyland Urban District Council who, under the Chairmanship of James Hunt, ran the event for six years, before its last break. The processional route from 1951 was circular, the assembly point being St. Andrews Green (behind the War Memorial), the route then proceeding down Balcarres Road, Turpin Green Lane, Hough Lane, Towngate and then down Worden Lane to the park.

The latest revival of the Festival ran from 1966 to 2000. On Saturday, 21 May, James Hunt became the President of the Committee until he retired in 1980 – marking thirty years of his promotion of the Leyland Festival. Following a run of bad weather in previous years, the festival committee decided to move the date of the 1969 festival to the first Saturday in June. The procession's starting point was also changed to Centurion Way, allowing the procession to pass through the more populated areas of Stanifield Lane, Preston Road, down Chapel Brow to Hough Lane and on through the usual route to the park. There was also the first appearance of the Festival mascot, 'Festi'.

As we reached the recent history of the festival, your chairman's memories came to the fore with the planning of the festival: the festival committee, the buying and selling of the programme; setting up the park and the balloon fly-past; the procession and its content: John Holt with horse, the Festival Queen, Tom Thumb and wife, Ten Nigger Boys (and Girls) and the Leyland Morris Dancers, etc.

Personal highlights included a journey up in the helicopter in 1982, the gliders accompanied by the music of Pink Floyd in 1986, and the appearance of the Historical Society in the Craft Tent in 1991, followed by your chairman's organisation of the tent from 1993 until the demise of the Festival in 2000.

Due to a clash with other events at the Civic Centre, our meetings in the months of October, November and December were held on the second Mondays of those three months.

Our meeting on Monday, 13 October, was the latest Mikron Theatre production: 'Fair Trade – Reaping the Dividends, the story of the Co-operative Movement'. This told the story of the Co-operative Movement from its beginnings in Toad Lane, Rochdale, to the present day with the Fair Trade campaign. The team, consisting of Daniel Wexler, Company Manager; Adrian Palmer, Gemma Richardson and Erica Rogers, acted their socks off.

Dan's cheeky smile especially with the washing line on the front row (you had to be there) is well remembered. From the song about the Co-operative Funeral Service (they carry out over 160,000 funerals a year) to the song about the famous people who worked at the Co-op: from Richard Burton to Sean Connery, the milkman. Many present agreed that this was their best show so far, personally I want a revival of, 'I'd Go Back Tomorrow'. On the closing note they told of the great Co-operative movement in Japan; your chairman was then able to tell the feet and metres story about the replica of the Toad Lane building built in Japan to the *wrong scale*.

For our next meeting on 10 November, we welcomed the return of our old friend Cliff Astin who told the story of the settlements on 'The Lune from Source to Sea': the villages along its banks from the Pennines, through the Lune Valley, via Kirkby Lonsdale, through Arkholme, Hornby and Caton until Lancaster is reached. The docks at Lancaster were shown before the final length from Sutherland Point, Glasson Dock and Cockersands Abbey to the sea.

The swift return of Dr CP Lee on 8 December to talk about 'Comedy Routes and Roots', enabled him to talk about the history of comedy from the days of Dan Leno and the early comedians by showing archive films. With many imitations and his little ukulele, he gave his usual wonderful performance as he re-enacted the various routines of the music hall days. His rendition of the Max Miller song 'Mary from the Dairy', which Doreen knows better as an innocent Canadian Scout song, was enlightening. He will be back.

For the first meeting of 2009, on 5 January, we showed a collection of films from the North-West Film Archive which featured Leyland. The first two were Leyland Motors' promotional black and white silent films of the 1920s: the first concentrating on the factories and offices all over the world, the second featuring a trip to London by the workforce taking a large model of a lion around the sights.

This was followed by a short black and white silent film about the Home Guard on manoeuvres and on parade in Chorley in 1943. The fourth black and white film was a repeat of the 1951 Festival of Britain Celebrations *with sound*. (Yes, the one some of the members saw in September). We wanted to repeat it as not a lot of the members were present the first time it was shown and our venue couldn't find the cable to connect the laptop into their sound system so hardly anyone could hear it.

The fifth and first colour films were made by Ribble Buses to show the opening of the local Preston and Lancaster motorways, though the voice-over did stress that the motorways were a long time coming and did not totally meet the growing needs of the motorist, or bus firm for that matter. The last film in the first half showed the various cities, towns and villages to be found in the original county of Lancashire prior to 1974.

The second half consisted of various films made by the Central Lancashire New Town Development Corporation. The first one, entitled 'An Old Wives Tale', tried to entice people to move to Lancashire in the early 1970s. It featured Daphne Oxenford as a mother who brought up all the Northern stereotypes to persuade her daughter not to move to the grimy and dirty North-West, but, of course, showing what a lovely place the area around Leyland is. The final two films were

silent colour films showing aerial views of the early seventies development sites around British Leyland and Preston Dock and the visit of Prince Michael of Kent to open the Commercial Vehicle Museum.

'Lancashire Folk Songs and Poems' featured on 2 February when our Society member, Brian Calderbank, talked about and demonstrated how the local music originated and told the stories behind the songs and poems. He started with a song called *Warrikin Fair* as an example of early Lancashire dialect dating back to 1548. The comic song from Warrington was difficult to understand though we soon had the message.

As Sid says on his website:

'It was not until the middle of the 18th century that dialect writing as we know it began. Enter John Collier, better known as Tim Bobbin, born in Urmston in December 1708 the son of a curate and educated by his father for a life in the church. he became a schoolmaster at Milnrow teaching the 3 R's and music. He was a competent artist and a sharp satirist with a lightning wit.

'In 1746 he published "The Adventures of a Lancashire Clown", a comic dialogue between Tummus o'Williams o'Margit's o'Roaph's and Meary o'Dick's o' Tummy o' Peggy's, written in the dialect of the old folk of Milnrow. No one had ever tried to do this before and he even provided a glossary of words and phrases used. We owe it all to him. The story is funny and daft and as such becomes very popular.

'Within 50 years we get more jolly pieces from the Wilsons of Manchester and then in 1805 Joseph Lees of Glodwick near Oldham writes "Jone o'Grinfil" and everyone starts singing it. More "Jo'G" songs are written by persons unknown, lighthearted silly songs for 20 years until, around 1825, something changed and serious songs appear. This change is a by-product of the Industrial Revolution – life in Lancashire has it's dark side.'

In a change to our published programme, on 2 March we had the welcome return of Colin Dickinson who spoke about 'The development of the Port of Preston', which started with the old quay alongside the River Ribble. He then told us about the various development plans prior to the building of the Dock in the 1890s, their working life and finally the demise and closure in the 1980s. This was well illustrated by Colin's collection of slides taken over the years.

John Gater, who should have been with us on 2 March, had been called in by *Time Team* to do a geophysics survey around Hampton Court for a special programme about Henry VIII to be broadcast at Easter to commemorate Henry's accession to the throne in 1509. He has been re-booked for January 2010, when as he says even *Time Team* won't film.

On Sunday, 5 April, forty Historical Society members headed off to Alston Hall, which is a Victorian country house overlooking the Ribble Valley about six miles east of Preston. It is owned and maintained by Lancashire County Council and is part of Lancashire Adult Learning. Following the three course meal, excellent as usual, we were then treated to a talk by Phillip Scully called, 'Those were the Days'. This led through Philip's memories of growing up in the north in the 1940s and 50s, leading to the members present, reliving many of their own experiences.

The next night, Monday, 6 April, we welcomed a new speaker, Ray Farrell, who has produced an excellent book entitled *Preston to Wigan – The North Union Line*. This showed the line in the closing days of steam in the 1950s and 60s with photographs taken by the line side from Wigan Springs (just south of the town) to Preston, though for our talk he concentrated on the section from Euxton Junction (Packsaddle Bridge) to Preston.

As he is not a railway historian I was asked to provide the historical background. Thus the story was told of the line from the first meeting of the Wigan Branch Railway prior to the opening of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1829, through the problems of that railway and its subsequent merger with the Wigan & Preston Railway to form the North Union Railway in 1834, the world's first railway merger.

The four years it took to build, owing to the engineer, Mr Vignoles, being absent building other railways (and not being available to sign off payments due to the construction workers) making for slow progress. Eventually the line opened on 31 October 1838, (still only eight years after the Liverpool & Manchester Railway). Platform One is still in use, as originally built, 171 years later and is the oldest one on the West Coast Main Line.

Ray's slides showed the many different locomotives which ran over our local line from the expresses of the day with 'Princesses' and the later 'Standard' classes, through to the numerous 'Stanier Black Fives' to many old locos on their last legs before the diesels and multiple units took over after steam was withdrawn in August 1968. Of course, the background was interesting to us as the bridges and buildings at line-side, especially around Leyland station, could be seen again.

On Monday, 4 May, we took fifty members on the fourth Annual Historical Society trip across the border by coach to Yorkshire, our first stop was the National Coal Mining Museum at Caphouse Colliery at Overton near Wakefield. The Museum is home to original colliery buildings, some of which are over 130 years old. The story of the mine, its workers and their lives was told in the numerous buildings around the extensive site. There was the original pithead and the 1876 steam winder, the control room, the pithead baths where the miners cleaned up at the end of a shift and the newly restored medical centre where the injuries were treated.

Some of the members descended the 140 metres down one of Britain's oldest working mines where the guide took them around the underground workings, sharing his mining experiences with them. The tour took just over an hour with everyone being provided with a hat, belt and battery, so that the true atmosphere of working life underground was captured.

Returning to the coach, we boarded again and headed to Leeds to the Royal Armouries at Clarence Dock, just off the Aire and Calder Navigation as the River Aire enters the centre of Leeds. The Royal Armouries is home to the United Kingdom's national collection of arms and armour, including artillery. As a museum they have a duty of care for these objects, to keep them, study them and increase our knowledge of them, so that this can be passed to future generations along with the objects themselves.

The museum in Leeds is a multi-million pound purpose-built building. It houses a large part of the national collection of arms and armour, and displays over 8,500 objects throughout its five themed galleries from the Oriental and Hunting section on the top floors, through the Military, Police, Armour and Gun sections, to the café and shop on the ground floor. All during the day there were various displays and re-enactments taking place with our favourite being the soldier's story from the Battle of Waterloo as he told the main events of the battle.

A happy but tired group of members headed back along the M62 over the Pennines back to Lancashire into the rain, the sun having shone in Yorkshire for most of the day – it makes a change.

While it was sad to report that the Leyland Craft and Local Societies' Fair is no more, at the next meeting, on 1 June 2009, we were entertained by Peter Watson with 'The Origin of Surnames – the Next Generation'. Peter was able to answer queries put to him by members about where their names originated from and he came armed with a list of answers as he had requested names to research before his talk; unfortunately, a number of members were unable to attend and, as promised, the list of surnames follows as a short article in the *Chronicle*.

Your chairman was away in Canada for the annual general meeting in July and despite the news of the unfortunate increase in the yearly subscriptions, members were able to enjoy the return of Colin Dickinson for his talk on 'Sir Edwin Lutyens and the Building of New Delhi'.

The website continues to grow and since its inception in December 1999 the number of visitors to the site is over 39,600 – over 3,500 hits in the last year. Enquires continue to flood in with over thirty-five requiring the committee's attention in the last twelve months.

I would just like to thank all the committee members for their assistance in the last sixteen years and I hope they will continue to carry on in the future, especially Elizabeth with the planning applications and Mary editing the *Chronicle*. If anyone else would like to join the committee, there are only ten meetings a year and we are friendly, please see any of the current members of the committee.

At the end of the season we had 225 members. The successful new postal renewal system was again used in the month of August and as I write this after the first meeting of the new season, we already have 172 members, so here's to another great season.

Peter Houghton



***The Annual Historical Society
Dinner and Talk
on
Central Manchester from the
1400s to the present time
by Margaret Curry
will be held at Alston Hall
on
28 March 2010***



Durham Castle

***The Fifth Annual
Historical Society Trip
visits
DURHAM
on
3 May 2010
calling at the
National Railway Museum
at Shildon***

Origins of surnames: the next generation

Chairman's notes:

On Monday, 1 June, members were again treated to Peter Watson's interesting research as he told us the history of names we have inherited from our forebears.

At a previous meeting I had asked for surnames of members for Peter to research but not all those mentioned on the list were present at his talk; therefore, this short article is a list of surnames mentioned on the night and their meanings.

Peter told us that the surname can usually be divided into four main categories:

Who were your parents (example – Thompson)

Where were you born (example – Leyland)

What you did for your living (example – Cooper)

What you looked like (example – Cruikshank)

and he then went on to give the origins of the following surnames:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Fairhurst | Old English 'Faeger' Lovely and 'Hyrt' - Raised clearing |
| Petho | To do with Peter |
| Wrennall | Old English 'Wrenna' and 'Hyll' Wren Hill – Small person on hill |
| Kite | Old English 'Cyta' – Rapacious |
| Yates | Old Norse 'Gata' – Road dweller or keeper |
| Barton | Old English 'Bere' Barley and 'Tun' Village |
| Wiggins | French 'Wivcon' – Noble |
| Keogh | Old Irish 'Mac Lochaidh' – Son of the Horse |
| Pinkett | Old English 'Pinca' – Chaffinch – Chirpy Person |
| Antrobus | Old Norse Name 'Eindrifi' and 'Buski' – Bush |
| Tolen | Old English 'Toln' – Taxman |
| Tierney | Old Irish 'Tighearnaigh' – Lord |
| Hawthornthwaite | Old English 'Haeg' Thorn and 'Thwaite' Clearing – Fields surrounded by thorn hedges |
| Hindle | Old English 'Hind' Deer and 'Hyll' Hill |
| Bannister | French 'Banastre' Basketmaker |
| Goodrich | Old English 'Good' and 'Ric' Power |
| Abernethy | Gaelic - Water Sprite |
| Hinchcliffe | Old English 'Henge' Steep and 'Clif' Cliff |
| Symmonds | Relative of Simon (To listen Hebrew) |
| Houghton | Old English 'Hoh' and 'Tun' Ridge Village |

Golden Hill Building Society

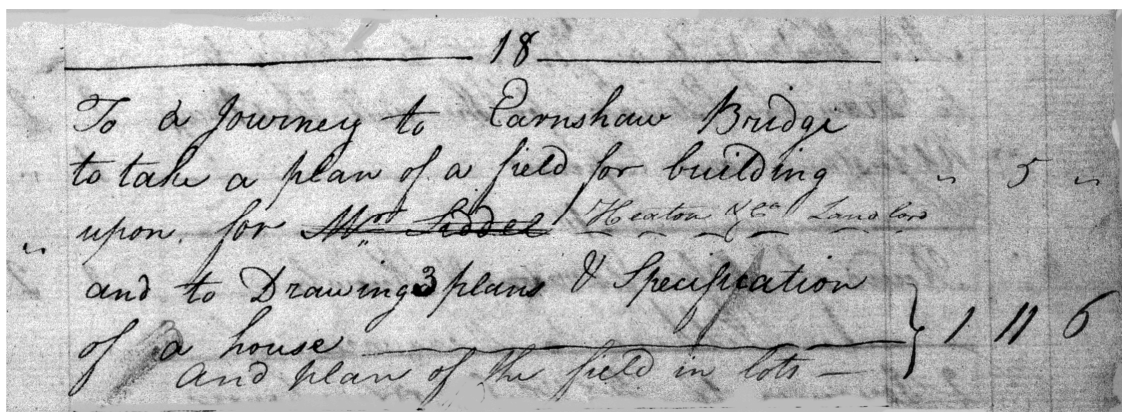
Derek Wilkins

It is well known that the building of the Union Street and Bradshaw Street step-houses in the early nineteenth century was financed by two of the very early building societies.¹ It has been speculated that those in Water Street and Heaton Street may have been financed in a similar way although, so far as I am aware, no records of this have hitherto come to light.

William Shakeshaft was an accomplished surveyor and cartographer. Working from premises in Bolton's Court, Preston, he was responsible for producing and publishing an early street plan of Preston in 1808. From 1809 until his death in 1834 he was steward to Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh of Rufford Old Hall.

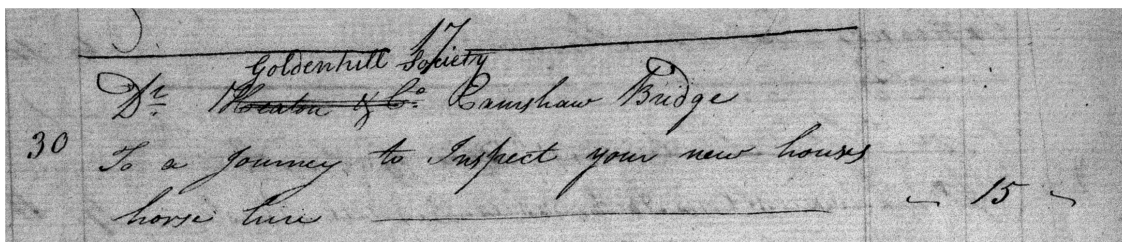
His 'day book' of cash receipts and expenditure for the years 1803 to 1810 has survived in the Hesketh archive and this, along with his 'field books' of the same period, provides a fascinating insight into his surveying work.² He was actively involved with the early industrial-age buildings then springing up in Preston, many of which were similar in design to the Leyland step-houses.

On 18 June 1806 he made a journey to Leyland:



18
To a journey to Carnshaw Bridge
to take a plan of a field for building
upon for Mr. Sedel Heaton near Lancaster
and to Drawing 3 plans & Specification
of a house and plan of the field in lots - } 1 11 6

In March the following year he went back to inspect the finished houses



30 Golden Hill Society
Heaton & Co. Carnshaw Bridge
To a journey to inspect your new houses
here - } 15

Both the above are from L.R.O. DDHe 107/1. Courtesy of the County Archivist.

William habitually made working sketches of his survey work in his field books but unfortunately seems to have broken with the habit for the Golden Hill project.

¹Hunt, D. (1990) *The History of Leyland and District*, Carnegie Press,

²LRO. DDHe 107/1

The 'Mr Siddel' to whom the first of the above accounts was initially charged is almost certainly the Preston lawyer Thomas Sudell with whom Shakeshaft had several other business dealings around this time. Sudell was presumably acting for 'Heaton & Co' who a year later became the 'Golden Hill Society'.



1st edition 6" O.S. map of 1848

As usual, discoveries such as these raise more questions than they answer: who were the original members of the Golden Hill Society? What were their rules? How did they raise capital and how were the houses allocated when finished?

Between 1793 and 1803 John Fidler was the owner and licensee of the Wheatsheaf Inn on Croston Road. His daughter Elizabeth married William Heaton around 1802 and shortly afterwards William and Elizabeth took over the Wheatsheaf with William as licensee. After William's death in 1828, it passed to Elizabeth and later to their daughter Ann.

Fidler and Heaton seem to have been involved in the building of the houses as 'Heaton and Co', which then became the Golden Hill Society.

In his will of 1816,³ John Fidler, by then living in Farington, made the following bequest: 'I give unto my son John Fidler all those houses or dwellings situated in Leyland near Urmshaw Bridge [*sic*], now in the possession of William Heaton and John Fidler as tenants of the same.'

Fidler also owned houses in Bradshaw Street: 'I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Heaton the wife of the aforesaid William Heaton all those houses or dwellings situated in Leyland commonly called Bradshaw Street and now in the occupation of Nicholas Wignall and [blank] as tenants of the same.'

³ LRO. WCW

William Heaton made his own will in 1823, five years before his death, and left to his six daughters: ‘...all my houses and lands...’ Although he doesn’t specify their location it is apparent from later records that they were in Heaton Street.

Another potential candidate as a founder member of the society is John Waddecar, a yeoman of Moss Side. In 1838 he left to his wife: ‘One house and garden in Heaton Street within Leyland.’ He also owned a house and garden in Union Street as well as a pew in the parish church. The fact that he owned houses in both localities may suggest that he had made a speculative investment at the time of their building.

Other than these wills, the earliest record we have of ownership is the tithe award of 1838,⁴ a full generation after the building of the houses. This shows that in addition to the heirs of Waddecar and Heaton there were three other owners: Martha Sharp, William Sharp and Thomas Sumner. To date I have been unable to find any further information about these individuals.

It should, in theory at least, be possible to trace ownership backwards in time from the tithe award via the land tax assessments⁵ which are available from 1781 to 1831. So far this has not proved possible, although there are references to the Union Street houses.

A Tide of Beer

David Hunt has drawn attention to the role of a maltster and an innkeeper in the building of the Union Street houses when he says: ‘...this corner of Leyland floated into the industrial age on a tide of beer!’⁶

It is now clear that two of the main players in the Golden Hill Society were likewise involved in the beer trade.

Furthermore, while it has been suggested that Bradshaw Street took its name from John Bradshaw, a local builder, it is evident from a study of the alehouse recognizance records of the period 1795 to 1810 that a John Bradshaw (perhaps the same person) was innkeeper of what was then known as ‘The Grapes’, later to become the ‘George IV’⁷ in Leyland.

It seems that the two industries of handloom weaving and beer may have been feeding off each other. It was commented on by Lawrence Rawstorne of Hutton⁸ that in the so-called ‘golden age’ of handloom weaving (between about 1790 and 1820) the weavers spent much of their hard earned cash on drink. Perhaps the innkeepers and their suppliers were attempting to cash in on this lucrative market by providing accommodation in the expectation that the weavers would patronise their inns. In this respect it may be more than coincidence that in Bamber Bridge the ‘Black Bull’ was at the end of the Club Street row of weavers’ cottages. One exception seems to be the Water Street step-houses which do not appear to have any obvious connection with the beer trade.

⁴ LRO. DRB

⁵ LRO. QDL

⁶ Hunt, *History of Leyland*

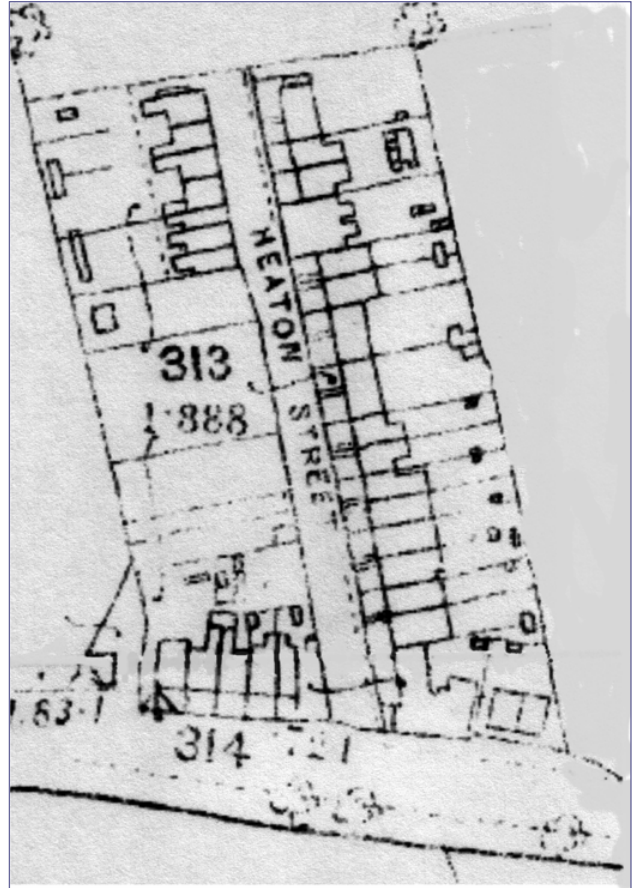
⁷ LRO. QSB/3 John Bradshaw is one of eight Leyland innkeepers listed between 1795 and 1808, although the name of his inn is not given. However by a process of elimination it can only have been what is now the George IV. In the list of 1809 he is replaced by John Banister at ‘The Grapes’ and it appears from other sources that Banister was innkeeper at the top of Bradshaw Street. (See ref 1 p. 81).

⁸ Rawstorne, L. (1843). *Lancashire Farming*.

Tup Row

To generations of Leylanders, especially those from the Earnshaw Bridge area, Heaton Street was never known as anything other than ‘Tup Row’ and indeed this name appears on the 1848 6" OS map (shown above) and in sale notices from the 1850s.⁹ So why ‘Tup Row’? It has been suggested that ‘tup’ refers to a male sheep or ram and may indicate the presence of a sheep fold in the vicinity. While this may well be the case there does not seem to be any supporting evidence. The Oxford English Dictionary gives the origin of ‘tup’ as being from the north of England pronunciation of ‘top’. This is certainly in keeping with local dialect, where to those of my family who lived on Leyland Lane, the area around the cross was always referred to as ‘the tup o’ Leyland’. Similarly my granddad Thomas Wilkins was always ‘Tum’ to his friends and neighbours.

So, if there was a ‘Top Row’, it follows that there must have been a ‘Bottom’ but at first sight there is no obvious candidate. However, the 1890 25" OS map (opposite) shows the houses in more detail and it is clear that those at the Golden Hill Lane end had a different layout to those at the bottom, perhaps reflecting two phases of building. Could the former have been the original houses surveyed in 1806 and known as the ‘top’ row to distinguish them from the later ones at the bottom of the street? If only William Shakeshaft had left us his sketches in his field books.



1890 25" OS map

Acknowledgement

The kind permission of the County Archivist for the reproduction of the excerpts from William Shakeshaft’s ‘day book’ is greatly appreciated.

⁹ The *Preston Chronicle* of 9 Sep 1854 carried a sale notice for: ‘All those dwelling houses in Tup Row, Leyland occupied by William Heywood and James Wilson’.

Books about Leyland

Edward Almond

Over forty years ago I read an article in a magazine I subscribed to, by Tom McNab (athlete, coach, author, and screen writer for the award winning film *Chariots of Fire*) on the lost literature of athletics. He listed ten books which he considered to be classics, dating from 1810. This inspired my interest in collecting and over the years I have managed to acquire seven of those listed. A further two I have seen at book fairs but I have not been prepared to pay between £300 and £600 for them.

Another magazine I subscribe to has recently been running a feature on readers' favourite cigarette and trade card sets and this led me to thinking which books on Leyland would I choose as my top ten from my own collection – on the lines of *Desert Island Discs*.

How *do* you decide? Some books in the list are used on a regular basis for reference, some for memory trips and others for pleasure; I have not included copies of the *Lailand Chronicle* (none is exclusively about Leyland) or the excellent books about Farington by Joan Langford. The books are listed in chronological order and not in order of merit. I stress that this is just a personal choice.

1. *The First Fifty Years*, published by Leyland Motors Limited in 1948 and taken from a series of articles in the Leyland Journal of 1946. These were presented to employees of the company and, although my father worked there, I do not recall ever seeing a copy in our house.

I chose this book because it represents the Leyland of my childhood which was dominated by the Motor Works. I grew up in Towngate, quite near to the smithy, which was the headquarters of the original Lancashire Steam Company, the forerunner of the modern Leyland Motors. Nearby was the sports ground where I competed in the children's races on Sports Day, and the canteen where I attended Christmas Parties. Whenever I travelled by bus it was on a Leyland vehicle and wherever I went I constantly saw the Leyland logo on buses and trucks. The early history of Leyland Motors covers the period when my parents were living in Leyland. I purchased my copy at 'Great Grandfather's Books', the second-hand book shop in Towngate.

2. The first book I can remember reading about Leyland was Norman Rogers' *The Story of Leyland*, published in 1953, which was acquired from a second hand book fair in Longridge. Rogers stimulated my interest in history and Leyland in particular and I had ambitions of writing a history of Leyland myself; however, the course of time made me realise my limitations. One chapter to catch my attention was 'Ancient Tombstones and Dwellings' as it contained a drawing of William Walker's grave which, as a child, I knew as the devil's grave because of the strange outline of a figure and the Latin inscriptions. The chapter on Leyland Motors is taken directly from *The First Fifty Years*.
3. George Birtill's *Green Pastures* was published in 1968. George was the editor of the Leyland Guardian and I regularly read his notes and articles on local history. I was immediately attracted by the dust cover as it displayed an old photograph of the stile which led to the path from the Mayfield to Back Lane (now renamed Langdale Road). It was a familiar route for Sunday afternoon walks in the forties and fifties and later, in the early sixties, it was also a favourite route for a cross country run. *Green Pastures* was an easy and pleasurable read with a high proportion of photographs (50 pages from a total of 105) many of which I had not seen before. In addition, it proved to be a very useful resource for teaching local history.

The book was purchased on its publication from the Leyland Guardian Office in Hough Lane, Leyland (now removed to Chorley).

4. Another book bought new and used as a resource after taking a class of schoolchildren to St Andrew's Parish Church, was a copy of W J Sawle's, *Leyland Parish Church 1220-1970*. Although too academic for primary-school children it did contain a number of interesting photographs as well as lists of vicars, assistant clergy and churchwardens. What did appeal to the children was the legend of the black cat concerning the siting and building of the church.
- 5 and 6. These two books were both purchased in Leyland and it was difficult to decide which I preferred. The first, *Memories of Old Leyland* (1979), by Bertram Morris, contains 37 photographs as against 80 in *At the Turn of the Century* (1983), by Jack Winrow; however, the former has the added advantage of containing more detailed information regarding each picture, but the latter has much better quality pictures. Used in conjunction, they provide a very good pictorial record of what Leyland was like in the early part of the twentieth century. These books were the forerunners of a further eight books of photographs of Leyland..
7. The definitive book on the history of Leyland must be David Hunt's *The History of Leyland and district*, published in 1990. This is a well researched and scholarly piece of work. It is a book to delve into and use as a resource from the wealth of information. There are photographs and maps which are not found in print elsewhere. Notes in the text are useful guidelines and as reference for further research. The index is excellent. Anyone seriously interested in Leyland's past should possess a copy. Mine was bought new from the Museum and Exhibition Centre in Church Road.
8. In 1993, I approached Father Jonathan Cotton, parish priest of St Mary's, to enquire if he had any thoughts or ideas on producing a booklet for the 150th anniversary of St Mary's church in Leyland. His response was: 'Do you want to write it?' I declined as I did not feel confident and did not have the time to do proper research, fortunately, the task fell to Frank Harrison, head teacher of St Mary's High School, now retired, who produced a history which was comprehensive and fascinating. Mr Harrison approached the subject in a different way to that which I had expected. Being a member of St Mary's parish for over fifty years, at that time, the book, *St Mary's Leyland*, brought back memories of people, places and events with which I was familiar. The book contained many photographs I had not previously seen. My family were parish sponsors and I purchased my signed copy from the author in church. Frank Harrison had taught me art while at St Mary's All Age School on Golden Hill Lane.
9. The mid-nineties saw a number of books published which added greatly to the pictorial record of Leyland. The first of these was, *The Archive Photographs series; Leyland*, compiled by David Hunt and William Waring, published in 1995. The authors are, without doubt, the two most knowledgeable people on the history of Leyland and their selection of pictures reflects the many varied aspects of the story of Leyland. It is the best pictorial record of Leyland with over 200 pictures accompanied by short captions. Many of the pictures I have seen before but all seem to evoke memories of the Leyland that I grew up with or heard about.
- 10 and 11. Two books by Peter Houghton are included in my list: *The Festival Route Through Leyland's History*, and *Through the Lanes of Leyland*. In all there are 93 pictures (45 in the former and 48 in the latter) accompanied by text which gives further information about them. As Peter states in his introduction: 'This is by no means the final word on any building or site, additional information continues to be discovered and any new local knowledge is

always well received.' Both books are good introductions to Leyland and its continuing changing face and are starting points for further research. One picture of Mrs Jolly's Corner in Towngate prompted me to write an article for the *Lailand Chronicle* about my grandmother who ran the shop for many years.

Making choices is not as easy as may first appear and I have compromised with numbers 5 and 6. There are, of course, many more books on Leyland and I list below those in my 'library' which did not make the top eleven. I don't expect everyone to agree with my selection. Perhaps some members would like to list their top ten in future editions.

Cheetham Society vol 39, 'The Farington papers' (1856)
Leyland Methodist Church Diamond Jubilee 1876-1936
Official Guide Leyland (1938)
The Story of Leyland Congregational Church 1846-1946 by Rev Harry Townley
St Mary's Leyland (1964)
Official Guide and Handbook Leyland (1974)
The First 100 Years 1876-1976 at Turpin Green, Leyland
Leyland Parish Church; A Treasure Trove in Memorial and Stained Glass by J N Bannister
Worden Park, Leyland SRBC (1974)
Balshaw's School 1782-1982 by George Birtill
Leyland, Midge Hall & Moss Side 1880-1982 by J Hirst (1984)
Views of Leyland Old and New by Robert Willis (1984)
Leyland by Robert Willis (1986)
Official History 1896-1986 Leyland Motors Ltd
St James's Church and Worden Hall by Nessie Markland (1987)
The Festival Centenary Souvenir 1889-1989
St Mary's Leyland 1964 Silver Jubilee (1989)
Charnock Hall The Hall with Four Names by George Bolton and William Waring
The Leyland Clocks. British Commercial Vehicle Museum (1996)
John Fishwick and Sons 1907-1997 by David Prescott
Leyland Cricket Club 1846 to 1998 a pictorial history
The History of the Leyland Historical Society by Peter Houghton (2001)
Then & Now Leyland by Jack Smith (2003)
Will it Be Fine do you think? the Story of Leyland's Morris Dancers by Roy Smith (2003)
Snapshots of Leyland The Years 1960 to 2000 by Jack Wimow (2007)

Lancashire Library, South Ribble District, have produced the following pamphlets;

A Look at Leyland (1982)
Domesday Book Leyland Hundred
A Look at Balshaws 1782-1982
History of the Free Grammar School Leyland Leyland 100 Years Ago
The Farington Family of Leyland (1978)

Lailand Chronicles Nos 1 to 54 (1970 – 2008) contain many interesting articles on different and varied aspects of Leyland's past. Perhaps one day in the future the society may think fit to arrange them chronologically and produce a book or series of booklets on Leyland's rich heritage.

Please note, the Society does have a number of back copies of the *Lailand Chronicle* at reasonable prices as well as a series of two CD's of the *Chronicle* up to 2005.



Favourite 'Leyland' books

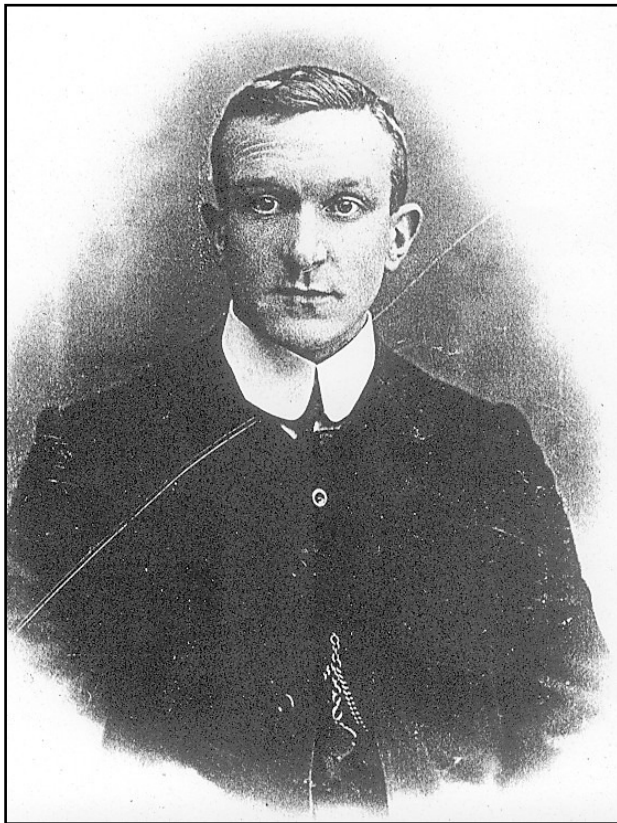
Fame and scandal in football

Joan Langford

Origins of Football

Football is an ancient game, and since the invention of 'balls' various ad hoc forms of the game have been played in different parts of the world for hundreds of years. Throughout the centuries boys (and girls) and young men have been unable to resist the challenge and fun gained from kicking objects around, be they stones, tin cans, discarded packages or whatever, but from 1880 'local' football teams played friendly matches with occasional competitions until 1892, when the activities were formalised into the Football League.

Youngsters in Farington and Leyland, like others all over the country, soon took the game to heart, spending as much time as possible playing and endeavouring to perfect their skills. Many made it into their school teams, some continued to play as adults, and just a few managed to become professionals. Three young men with Farington connections all realised their dreams and joined top football teams as professional players, two of them playing at the highest level, for England.



A young Jimmy Bannister

Jimmy Bannister

Jimmy Bannister was the first of the three, the others being Frank Moss and Brian Pilkington. Jimmy was born in Leyland in September, 1880, but little is known about his early years. By the 1880s the newly formed Temperance Movement had groups in many local towns and cities providing activities aimed at keeping young men occupied, out of trouble and out of the public houses. One popular distraction activity was the formation of football teams with the provision of trainers/coaches, grounds on which to play, and other teams to compete against. It was as a member of one of these Temperance teams, in Leyland, that Jimmy's football career began when he left school in 1894, aged 14, and then (having reached the age of 16 and become an 'adult') from 1896 until 1901 he played for Chorley Football Club.

In May 1902 Manchester City's new manager, Tom Maley, was urgently trying to find a young player at inside right to partner City's star player Billy Meredith. It was at this time he discovered Jimmy Bannister playing for Chorley FC, recognised his talent, and immediately signed him up.

An excited Jimmy set off on this new adventure to Manchester City little knowing the controversy and scandal in which he would inadvertently become involved just a few years later.

Playing at inside right Jimmy scored 13 goals in 21 appearances in his first season at City (1902/3) and also won a Second Division Championship medal. In the following season (1903/4), with Jimmy in the team, Manchester City finished in second place in the First Division (the top division in English football at that time) and also had a superb FA Cup run, winning the final against Crystal Palace.



Jimmy Bannister, Manchester City player

Illegal Payments Suspected

In 1904 City was the premier team and pride of Manchester, but their victory served only to focus the hostile attention of the Football Association whose members were amazed by the Club's rapid improvement – which led them to suspect the Club was dealing in illegal wages and bonuses. As a result, in the summer of that year they decided to carry out an investigation into the way the Club was being run. The investigation did not uncover any evidence of the suspected illegal practices, but did turn up enough 'dirt' to have the Club fined £250 and their Hyde Road ground closed for a month.

The following season (1904/5) Manchester City again challenged for the first Division Championship and needed to beat Aston Villa on the final day of the season to clinch the title. After a *'torrid, rather unsporting'* game, City lost and finished third in the table.

Scandal

After the game, Alec Leake, the Villa captain, claimed that Billy Meredith had offered him £10 to throw the game. Meredith was found guilty of this offence by the FA and was fined and suspended from playing football for a year. Manchester City refused to provide financial help for Meredith during his suspension so he decided to go public about what was really going on at the Club: 'What was the secret of the success of the Manchester City team? In my opinion, it was the fact that the

Club put aside the rule that no player should receive more than four pounds a week. The team delivered the goods, the Club paid for the goods delivered and both sides were satisfied.'

As a result of Meredith's allegations, the FA was forced to carry out another investigation into the financial activities at Manchester City and this time they discovered that City had indeed been making additional payments to all of their players. Tom Maley was suspended from football for life, five directors were dismissed and seventeen players, including Jimmy Bannister, were banned from ever appearing for the Club again.

Manchester City was therefore forced to sell their players and arrangements were made to auction them at the Queens Hotel in Manchester.

I understand that the Directors and management at Manchester City were very anxious that their main stars remained in Manchester if at all possible, and that there may have been some behind the scenes collusion with Manchester United to achieve this.

Secret Negotiations

Watching all these events with interest was Ernest Magnall, Manchester United's first real manager (appointed in 1903). As a team builder he was looking for a blend of young and old in his players, and he also adhered to the dictum: 'A ball should only be used one day a week'. His idea was that by Saturday the players would be longing for the ball and would play madly for it.

Ernest was about to cause a sensation. He knew he could not afford auction prices for the players so he made his move early. On 15th May 1906, Manchester United announced the signing of Billy Meredith for just £500, and Magnall then spent the close season secretly negotiating the transfers of Jimmy Bannister, Sandy Turnbull and Herbert Burgess. None of them could set foot on a pitch since they were all suspended, but Magnall was prepared to wait.

Manchester United Player

Jimmy Bannister's new era began on New Year's Day, 1907, when he played in a home game for Manchester United against Aston Villa (which they won 1 – 0). In the 1907/8 season Manchester United became first division champions – a team which included all four of the former Manchester City players. That year Jimmy played in thirty-six league games and scored five goals and only missed one game all season. His First Division winner's medal is now on display in the Manchester United FC museum.

Billy Meredith¹⁰ said of his 5'6", 10 stone team mate: 'Bannister was one of the best partners I ever had; very little, if anything, below the best. No partner ever fed me better than Jimmy did and during the whole of my career at the Manchester clubs he was, in my opinion, equal to any inside right playing in League football. I shall always think of him as one of the cleverest and most unselfish partners I ever had been blessed with.'

¹⁰ Billy Meredith was one of the most talented footballers ever to put on a shirt for Manchester United. He was a giant of the game during the late 1890s and early 1900s and a celebrity long before superstardom became common.



**Manchester United's championship winning team of 1907/8
Jimmy Bannister is second from the left in the middle row**

The First Division teams against whom Billy and his Manchester United team mates played during the 1907/8 season were:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Aston Villa | Middlesbrough |
| Blackburn Rovers | Newcastle |
| Birmingham | Nottingham County |
| Bolton Wanderers | Nottingham Forest |
| Bristol City | Preston North End |
| Bury | Sheffield United |
| Chelsea | Sheffield West |
| Everton | Sunderland |
| Liverpool | Woolwich Arsenal |
| Manchester City | |

During this season they played 38 games, won 23, drew 6, lost 9 and finished top of the division.

Preston North End

In October 1909, Jimmy Bannister moved to Preston North End where he played a further 65 league games and scored 12 goals, wearing the 'Lillywhites' number 8 shirt.

In the 1909/10 season's game against Newcastle, Jimmy scored 2 goals in Preston's 4 – 0 win, and in the dying moments of the game he also struck the post, denying him a hat-trick. In the 1910/11 season Jimmy was joint top scorer for Preston North End.

He was released from the Preston Club in the summer of 1912 when they were relegated from the First Division and he then transferred to Burslem Port Vale where he ended his professional football career a short time later.

Public House Landlord

Local legend has it that for a number of years Jimmy was the manager of the Ship Inn on Towngate Leyland, a story which is backed up by the photograph below.



The period of the Bannister's tenure of the pub was from 1904 to 1910 and the Barrett's Directory of Preston and Districts for 1907 does indeed show Jimmy as licensee there. However, I have been told that in the early 1900s both Manchester City and Manchester United football clubs put considerable pressure on their star players (which included Jimmy) to move to Manchester and live in one of the club-owned houses near to the grounds; especially as the City players were required to train at their Hyde Road ground every weekday morning, so I am not sure just how much time Jimmy actually spent at the Ship Inn.

Therefore, I wonder if the pub was in Jimmy's name, but in fact for most of the time it was being run for him – possibly by his parents. Whoever, they obviously made the most of his fame by renaming it Bannister's Ship Inn and it would certainly have provided a useful source of income for him during his suspension in 1906.

The Ship Inn, Towngate, Leyland.

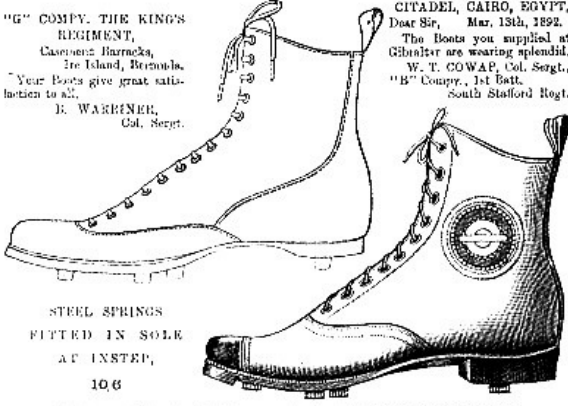
The earliest record of a pub on this site is 1799, when Edward Beardsworth was the licensee of 'The Sun'. By 1819 the pub was known as the 'Cordwainer's¹ Arms' and had a brew house, malt room, stables, garden and a bowling green on ground at the rear of the building. By 1824 the pub's name had been changed yet again and William Pilkington was recorded as being landlord of the 'Ship Inn'. As late as 1884 the then landlord was still brewing his own beer. Between 1884 and 1893 the Ship Inn underwent a major rebuild, resulting in the double fronted building shown in the photograph above, and which is still familiar today. The brew house, malt house and stables were all demolished before Jimmy took over.

¹ Cordwainer – shoemaker

FOOTBALL BOOTS.

"G" COMPY. THE KING'S
REGIMENT,
Casement Barracks,
The Island, Bermuda.
Your Boots give great satis-
faction to all.
E. WARRNER,
Col. Serjt.

CITADEL, CAIRO, EGYPT,
Dear Sir, Mar. 13th, 1892.
The Boots you supplied at
Gibraltar are wearing splendid.
W. T. COWAP, Col. Serjt.,
"B" Compr., 1st Batt.
South Stafford Regt.



STEEL SPRINGS
FITTED IN SOLE
AT INSTEP,
106

THE LARGEST STOCK! THE LARGEST VARIETY!!

FOOTBALL BOOTS, Laced to Toe Cap.
FOOTBALL BOOTS, Steel Springs in Sole at Instep.
FOOTBALL BOOTS, with Spring Heels.
FOOTBALL BOOTS, specially made Toes and Toe
Caps, insuring True Kick.

Sadly, as a result of all his footballing years – kicking hard leather balls around in heavy leather boots – Jimmy’s knees were badly damaged and painful with osteo-arthritis, and by 1920 he found it hard to walk far. Unable to play football any more he then found employment as a labourer in the Farington Steel Foundry at Leyland Motors.

Jimmy’s son, Eddie, not surprisingly, also loved playing football. He began his professional career as a full-back with Leeds United FC, was on Preston North End books at the beginning of WWII, and also played for Barnsley in the 1950s.

Jimmy’s grandson and great-grandson, Frank and Danny Hindle, also got pleasure from playing football, but only as amateurs.

When Jimmy and his family left the Ship Inn, they moved to East Street Farington (where other members of their family already lived), and where he lived until he died in December 1953, aged seventy-three years.

Irish potato famine: cause and effect?

Derek Wilkins

Between 1829 and 1855 Longton Hall Farm, then part of the Weld of Stoneyhurst estate, was farmed by my great-great-great-grandparents, George and Mary Taylor. At almost 130 acres it was by far the largest farm in Longton and extended from Chapel Lane to Drumacre Lane with outlying fields on the moss and on the reclaimed marsh.

The census of 1851 records that the family had two live-in servants: Christopher Wilding, a local man aged twenty-two, worked on the farm and a young woman by the name of Rosa o,Hair [sic] was a house servant, she was twenty-four and had been born in Armagh, Ireland – Rosa was almost certainly a refugee from the horrendous potato famine which ravaged Ireland between 1845 and 1850. Around one million people died during that time and another million emigrated, many to England. While many Irish migrants settled in the surrounding area at this time, Rosa was the only one to find employment in Longton and she must have felt very isolated indeed.



A famine burial in Ireland

Although the direct cause of the famine was the infestation of the crop by the potato blight fungus, the effects of this were greatly exacerbated by the almost total dependence of the Irish peasantry on potatoes as their staple diet. This had largely been brought about by the agricultural practices of absentee landlords who were mostly English: while large quantities of cereals were grown, it was on land not available to the Irish peasants; furthermore, the high grain prices resulting from the Corn Laws of 1815, designed to protect farmers and landowners, meant that it was very profitable for the landlords to ship their grain to England.

A few years earlier, by a quirk of fate, George Taylor had been involved in this trade, the *Preston Chronicle* of 14 December 1839 carrying the following story:

‘Robbery

‘On Monday last the malt kiln of Mr. Thomas Wilkins of Longton was broken into and a load of meal stolen therefrom ... it was the property of Mr. George Taylor of Longton Hall and had been discharged from an Irish trader the same day.’

This was part of a substantial import/export business through the port of Preston which in the 1840s saw large quantities of oats, meal and barley arriving from Irish ports, particularly Drogheda, with the return cargoes often being Lancashire coal.¹¹

Thomas Wilkins, a relative of George Taylor by marriage, had a thriving malt business on Marsh Lane which later became the brewery of W & R Wilkins: among his customers were the Faringtons of Worden. Thomas was also involved in this trade and imported substantial quantities of barley for malting.

Little could George and Thomas have suspected the effect that this trade, in which they were innocent participants, was to have on poor Rosa and her kinfolk in just a few years hence. Even at the height of the famine, cereals were still being exported rather than being diverted to feed the starving. In November 1847, no less than twenty shiploads of grain arrived in Preston from Drogheda, Dundalk, Newry and Wicklow. Even after the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846, which allowed the import of cheap foreign grain into the country, there was no immediate relief for the starving, although the English public did respond to appeals for financial assistance and quantities of potatoes were shipped to Ireland – in 1845, following the preaching of a sermon by the curate in Longton Chapel, a collection raised £3.18s. 6d. in aid of the ‘suffering Irish people’.

Although the role of the landlords and of the London government, with its laissez-faire policy on economic matters, continued to be the subject of much debate, there nevertheless developed a loathing of the English (which has persisted into modern times) and this found its expression in so-called ‘rebel songs’. One in particular, *The Fields of Athenry*, has even become an anthem on the – *Anfield Kop!* It tells the story of a young Irishman, Michael, who was transported to Botany Bay because ‘against the famine and the crown, I rebelled, they cut me down’. His crime was that he ‘... stole Trevelyan’s corn so the young might see the morn’.

Thinking about this and wondering what punishment would have been meted out to the Longton thieves had they been caught, I decided to research the level of punishment for similar crimes in Lancashire. It appears that transportation, particularly for theft, was not unusual although crimes of violence, other than murder or manslaughter, tended to be less harshly punished; perhaps reflecting the Victorian value of property being more important than people. By chance I also discovered that transportation to Botany Bay actually ceased in 1840, five years before the start of the famine, so, if young Michael was transported, it most certainly was not to Botany Bay. *The Fields of Athenry*, perhaps in common with many folk songs and legends, seems to be an amalgam of different stories.

So, what became of Rosa? It would be pleasing if I could report that she married a wealthy Longtonian, had several children and lived to a ripe old age but, so far, despite extensive searches in the censuses and other records, I have been unable to trace her whereabouts after 1851 although the search is continuing.

¹¹ Shipping information is from the Port of Preston Custom House reports in the relevant issues of the *Preston Chronicle*. Earlier reports name the recipients of the cargoes but by 1847 only the name of the ship, its cargo and its port of origin were routinely given.

Did you know my great-great-grandfather?

Peter Houghton

Now its part four, so, as promised at the end of part three, we'll head over to Norfolk for the Hastings side of the family. In case you missed the first three episodes here are the six main websites to get information on your relatives, some are not complete and some you have to pay for.

<http://www.1901censusonline.com/>

This was the first site I encountered as this is the famous website that crashed on its first day of being available. It's the government site that includes the complete 1901 census, the information is only released after one hundred years. Most users use their credit/debit card to pay for viewing images or transcripts. 500 credits cost £5.00 and your credits will last seven days. If you do not own a credit or debit card you can buy 1901 census vouchers.

<http://www.familysearch.org/>

The site is as it says "The largest collection of free family history, family tree and genealogy records in the world". It is run by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (the Mormons), their belief that if you become a member of their faith, so do all your ancestors. This makes their interest in family history seem more logical. This free site contains the collection of information from parish records around the world, together with the 1881 census from the UK, United States and Canada.

<http://www.findmypast.com/home.jsp>

This is the government site for the birth, marriage and deaths from the start of registration in September 1837 up to the present day. It also includes the complete 1861 and 1891 censuses.

<http://freebmd.rootsweb.com/>

However, this website while not as complete as the above one is a free site for the birth, marriage and deaths from the start of registration in September 1837 up to around the 1920s. This is being added to all the time, so a previously untraceable entry may now be there

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk/>

If you are serious about this hobby, you can pay £10.95 per month for the full list of censuses from the first in 1841 up to and including the 1901 census, all seven in total. The site also includes the free birth, marriage and death site too.

<http://www.1911census.co.uk/>

The latest addition is the early release of the 1911 census which, while including the usual search facility for the family historian, also includes census pages actually completed by the family members so you can see your ancestors' hand-writing. This site and the 'findmypast' site are both pay sites on a pay by credits system.

The whole story: Part Four - The Hastings dynasty



Gayton is one of those largish, comfortable villages you get in this part of Norfolk.

St Nicholas, the Parish Church of Gayton, where all the Hastings christenings, marriages and burials took place, is a large church; a fourteenth-century building, the nave's clerestory echoing similar churches on the north Norfolk coast at Cley and Upper Sheringham.

So, without further ado, we'll head over to East Anglia and the Hastings family, though this time I will tell the story of the family in chronological order. Here in the village of Gayton, we find Richard Hastings, who was born in 1744. He married Mary Smith on 23 August 1769; she was also born in Gayton in 1748. Their son, Richard Hastings was born in 1772, also in Gayton, Norfolk. He married Elizabeth Wakefield on 4 August 1797 in Gayton, Norfolk. She was another Gayton villager being born there in 1776.

Funnily enough, they called their son, Richard, who was born in 1814 in Gayton, a fairly boring story so far, eh! However, as we reach the magic dates of 1837 and 1841, things start to get interesting: (1837 is the date that births, marriages and deaths had to be registered from, and 1841 is the date of the first census where family details can be seen). Richard married Susannah Gittens in 1834 in Gayton, Susannah having been born there also in 1814. Susannah's parents, William Gittens and Sarah Kemp, were married on 12 October 1807 at St Margaret's in King's Lynn. Remember the name *Kemp*.



Lynn Road, Gayton

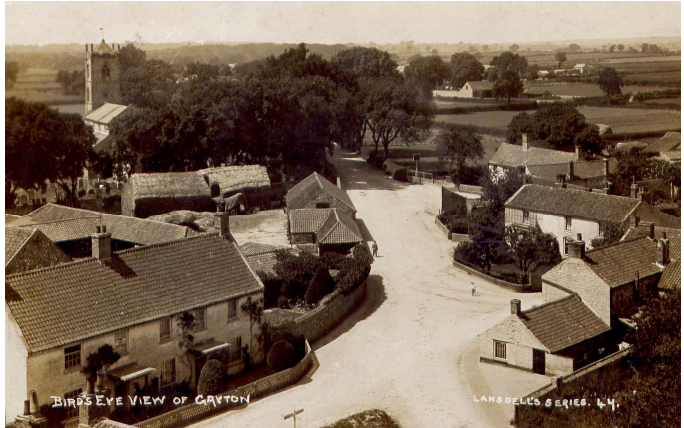
From the 1841 census, Richard Hastings' family could be found in Lynn Road, Gayton, with his wife and five children, his occupation being described as 'tailor'. Their names were Eliza, born in 1833; Mary Jane, born in 1835; George, born in 1837; John born on 8 February 1839; and Jemima, born in 1840.

| PLACE | HOUSES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night. | NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night. | AGE and SEX | | PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS. | Where Born | |
|-----------|--|---|-------------------|---------|--|----------------|--|
| | | | Males | Females | | In this County | Whether Born in same County or Foreign, or Whether Foreign |
| Lynn Road | 1 | John King 75 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Caroline E. 70 | | | | | |
| | | Charles E. 1 | | | | | |
| | | Charles Lane 20 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | John Walker 20 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Lydia E. 25 | | | | | |
| | | Charles Walker 20 | | | Tailor | | |
| | | Annabel E. 25 | | | | | |
| | | Edie E. 2 | | | | | |
| | | James E. 6 | | | | | |
| | | George E. 2 | | | | | |
| | | John E. 2 | | | | | |
| | | Annabel E. 1 | | | | | |
| | | Francis Mann 30 | | | Shedder | | |
| | | Martha E. 30 | | | | | |
| | | Marjaret E. 8 | | | | | |
| | | John E. 6 | | | | | |
| | | James E. 6 | | | | | |
| | | William E. 2 | | | | | |
| | | Robert Hensel 25 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Ellen E. 25 | | | | | |
| | | Emily E. 1 | | | | | |
| | | Miss Richardson 20 | | | Bookbinding | | |
| | | Frank E. 50 | | | | | |
| | | Henry King 20 | | | By Lab | | |
| TOTAL in | 71 | | | | | 12 | 15 |

| PLACE | HOUSES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night. | NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night. | AGE and SEX | | PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS. | Where Born | |
|-----------|--|---|-------------------|---------|--|----------------|--|
| | | | Males | Females | | In this County | Whether Born in same County or Foreign, or Whether Foreign |
| Lynn Road | 1 | James Green 25 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Elizabeth E. 25 | | | | | |
| | | Thomas E. 30 | | | | | |
| | | Charles E. 14 | | | | | |
| | | John Walker 20 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Francis King 20 | | | F. E. | | |
| | | Edie E. 14 | | | | | |
| | | Martha E. 15 | | | | | |
| | | William E. 11 | | | | | |
| | | Elizabeth King 25 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Louisa E. 7 | | | | | |
| | | Martha E. 5 | | | | | |
| | | Henry King 30 | | | Shedder | | |
| | | Mary E. 20 | | | | | |
| | | Henry E. 12 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | Mary E. 10 | | | | | |
| | | Harold E. 8 | | | | | |
| | | Annabel E. 6 | | | | | |
| | | Henry King 25 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | John E. 50 | | | | | |
| | | Charles King 25 | | | By Lab | | |
| | | John E. 20 | | | | | |
| | | James E. 20 | | | | | |
| | | Henry E. 20 | | | | | |
| TOTAL in | 51 | | | | | 12 | 15 |

Extract from 1841 Census


As you can see from the above example, the 1841 census was not as detailed as future censuses: the parish being named on the top of the page as 'Gayton', the place column listing Lynn Road, no numbers here as a plan of the village shows this as simply the road to King's Lynn from Gayton. The family are listed chronologically though the adult ages at this time were usually taken to the nearest five years.



Bird's Eye View of Gayton

As we will be following the life story of the fourth child, John Hastings, below is a copy of his birth certificate showing the birth as 8 February 1839; Name: John; Father: Richard Hastings; Mother: Susannah Hastings, formerly Gittens; Occupation of father: Taylor [sic]; Signature description and residence: Richard Hastings, father and Gayton respectively; Date of registration: 10 February 1839 (fairly fast for those days).

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH **GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE**



Application Number COL082981

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Freebridge Lynn

1839 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Gayton in the County of Norfolk


| Columns: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|----------|----------------------|--------------|-----|----------------------------|--|----------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. | When and where born | Name, if any | Sex | Name and surname of father | Name, surname and maiden surname of mother | Occupation of father | Signature, description and residence of informant | When registered | Signature of registrar | Name entered after registration |
| | 8 Feb 1839 at Gayton | John | Boy | Richard Hastings | Susannah Hastings formerly Gittens | Taylor | Rich. Hastings Father Gayton | 10 Feb 1839 | J. Headly Registrar | |

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 19th day of January 2006

BXCB 459420

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AF

Above is a copy of John Hastings' Birth Certificate and below an extract from 1851 Census showing the Hastings family

| Parish or Township of <u>St. Margaret</u> | | Ecclesiastical District of <u>Freebridge Lynn</u> | | City or Borough of <u>Freebridge Lynn</u> | | Town of <u>Freebridge Lynn</u> | | Village of <u>Freebridge Lynn</u> | | |
|---|--|--|------------|---|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| No. of Inhabitants | Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House | Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851 | | Relation to Head of Family | Condition | Age of Males Females | Rank, Profession, or Occupation | Where Born | Whether Blind or Deaf and Dumb | |
| | | Male | Female | | | | | | | |
| 23 | 6, Newmarket St. East | John Walker | Head | Male | 44 | | Railway Lab. | Lincolnshire; E. Leic. | | |
| | | Ann Walker | Wife | Female | 35 | | | Do; Do | | |
| 24 | 10, Newmarket St. East | John Walker | Son-in-law | Male | 16 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Richard Hastings | Head | Male | 27 | | Taylor (Carpenter) | York; Gayton | | |
| | | Susannah Hastings | Wife | Female | 27 | | | Do; Gayton | | |
| | | John Hastings | Son | Male | 12 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Richard Hastings | Son | Male | 8 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Sarah Hastings | Daughter | Female | 4 | | | Do; King's Lynn | | |
| 25 | 10, Newmarket St. East | William White | Head | Male | 67 | | Bricklayer (Pensioner) | Do; Do | | |
| | | Ann White | Wife | Female | 63 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Henry White | Son | Male | 20 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Sarah White | Daughter | Female | 14 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | James White | Son | Male | 16 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | Mary Jane White | Daughter | Female | 11 | | | Schooler | Do; Do | |
| 26 | 10, Newmarket St. East | William White | Son | Male | 10 | | | Do; Do | | |
| | | William Lewis | Head | Male | 28 | | Railway Lab. | Lincolnshire; Boston | | |
| | | Elizabeth Lewis | Wife | Female | 24 | | | Yorkshire; King's Lynn | | |
| | | John Rice | Son | Male | 10 | | | Railway Lab. | Lincolnshire; Thoresby | |
| | | William Brock | Son | Male | 16 | | | | Yorkshire; Do | |
| Total | 14 | U | B | Total of Persons | | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | |

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: **HO.107**

1829

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By the time of the 1851 census, the family of Richard and Susannah had changed almost completely, however the census page, shown above, had now adopted the pattern that would continue from 1851 to the 1901 census.

Richard Hastings was now described as a 'tailor (journeyman)': this was a tailor who had completed an apprenticeship and was therefore entitled to ply his trade independently. He was not, however, in a financial position to set up his own business and take on apprentices of his own (which would have enabled him to style himself 'Master Tailor'). So he worked for others on what we would now call a freelance basis. The word 'journeyman' derives from the French *journee*, meaning 'a day': he was paid by the day for his work; it has nothing to do with travelling around.

His family now consisted of his wife Susannah, John, now aged twelve; Richard, born in 1843; Susannah, born in 1847 and Sarah, born in 1849. The first two were born in Gayton and Sarah was born at their new home in Johnsons Yard, off the High Street in King's Lynn. What happened to the four other children mentioned on the 1841 census I do not know but I'm pretty sure that Jemima died, as she was too young to have married and/or left the parental home. John followed his father into the business but surely this should have been the eldest child's (George's) position, therefore, what happened to George? The immediate answer is also found in the 1851 census as the thirteen year old could be seen in the prisoner list at King's Lynn gaol, his last appearance in the records I have so far found.



Map showing Johnsons Yard, off the High Street in King's Lynn

Richard Hastings had moved again by the time of the 1861 census, with John having gone his own way, but with Susannah, his wife, and the two daughters, Susannah and Sarah, still living at home. Now at this point I was poised to write that I did not know what happened to the rest of John's brothers and sisters after this date. However, then I got an e-mail from a Maggie Thwaites in response to a family history query I left on a website. It seems that she was the great-grand-daughter of Sarah Hastings and could fill me in on the Hedgers family who Sarah married into after being a housemaid to Catherine Fry, the daughter of Elizabeth Fry, the great reformer.

To follow John we now have to relocate to London as, on the 1861 census, we find him at 6 Union Street, Southwark, south of the river. He was living here as *Henry Hastings*, aged twenty-three, (it took a little while to find him) with a wife called *Mary Hastings*, aged twenty-six and children called *John*, nine; *Mary Ann*, seven; *James*, five and *Edwin*, three, though with the surname of *Dancy*.

On the right is a photograph of the property at 6 Union Street, Southwark, just south of Southwark Cathedral, taken in 2006 when it was up for sale.

In 1861, there were three families living at this property: besides the Hastings there were *George Brown* and his family and *Alfred Didley* and his family.



Mary Ann Bamber was born in Lambeth in 1836, marrying Amos Dancy in December 1850, also in Lambeth. They had five children as above, the missing one being Emma who only lived for five months in 1858/9. Amos died in March 1859, so Mary was left with five children to bring up.

Here is where I hit a problem. There was no record of a wedding here where Jemima Alice was born in June 1862, or in King's Lynn, where my great-grandmother, Sarah Jane Hastings, was born on 15 October 1863. The family had relocated back to John Hastings' home ground. Here Alfred was born in December 1864, Philip Charles in May 1870 and John James in June 1871.

I thought I would check the marriage certificates over a longer period and, again by luck, was surprised to find an entry dated 5 October 1865 for their marriage in Lambeth. When I obtained a copy of the marriage certificate, (see below), a few things became clear.

- Mary Ann Bamber was married under her original maiden name and her condition was described as spinster not widow;
- they had returned to Lambeth to marry to legalise their family life in King's Lynn and
- their residence is shown as Brook Street, which no longer exists. I think that this is the home of John's aunt, Jemima Gittens (as was) whose signature is one of the witnesses, the other being John Pearson Banber, Mary's brother, who lived in nearby Webber Row;

Here is the first appearance of John's full name: John Kemp Hastings .

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 1099700/1

| 1865. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of <i>St. Andrew</i> in the County of <i>Sussex</i> | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
| | 5 th October 1865. | <i>John Kemp Hastings.</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>Single</i> | <i>Taylor.</i> | <i>Brook Street</i> | <i>Richard Hastings</i> | <i>Taylor.</i> |
| | | <i>Mary Ann Bamber</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>Single</i> | | | <i>John Bamber</i> | <i>Carman.</i> |


Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *Richard Hastings* or after *Richard Hastings* by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *John Kemp Hastings* in the Presence of us, *John Bamber Bamber* *John Langhorne, Rector* *Thomas Hastings*

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of *Lambeth*
Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the *27th* day of *March* 2009

MXE 278634

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Copy of Marriage Certificate showing marriage of John Kemp Hastings and Mary Ann Bamber in 1865

By the time of the 1871 census, we see the extended family now living at No 1 Brewery Buildings, London Road, St Margaret's, King's Lynn. Here were living John and Mary together with James, fifteen, and Edwin, thirteen, now called *Hastings*, (As this was the first census found naming him as John Hastings with these children you may understand why I was looking for a much earlier marriage certificate prior to their births in 1856). The other children were Jemima Alice, nine, Sarah Jane, seven, Alfred, six, and Philip Charles, aged one, John James being due to arrive in June 1871.

While John and Mary Ann continued to live at No 1 Brewery Buildings, London Road, King's Lynn for the next thirty years, the family begin to expand, though what happened to James and Edwin I am not sure as James disappears after the 1871 census and Edwin after the 1881 census.

Sarah Jane married John Goodrich in Clapham on 13 July 1883 (see the last *Chronicle*) and began her trek around the country, via Milford Haven, Runcorn, Liverpool, Blackburn until they and the family ended up residing in Chorley.

Alfred married Mary Ann Creasey in Spalding during the first quarter of 1889 before they and their growing family headed off to Runcorn in Cheshire to live at 7 Norfolk Street, Runcorn where Alfred got a job helping to build the Manchester Ship Canal. As they were living round the corner from John Goodrich and family in 1891, whether he got John the job there or vice versa I do not know but I recently came across an article in the Chorley Guardian which interviewed John Goodrich in the 1930s and he confirmed that he had worked on the canal (see also *Chronicle 54* – copies still available).

The Acton Grange Viaduct from the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal

There was a clause in the original Railway Act of Parliament that decreed that if ever the Mersey and Irwell Navigation was improved, the railway company would have to pay for the bridge to be heightened and new approach inclines to be constructed. The Ship Canal at this point follows the exact course of the old river navigation.



Acton Grange – May 1889

From the 1901 census, the family had moved to Acton Grange where Alfred's job was described as 'engine driver'. While their home was listed in the census as 'wooden dwelling' it was one of only thirty dwellings in the temporary shack village erected near the point where the Manchester Ship Canal went under the newly-elevated West Coast Main Line just south of Warrington: this photograph was taken in May 1889 when the canal was still under construction. We'll come back to Acton Grange shortly.

Philip Charles Hastings married Henrietta Elizabeth Hampton in King's Lynn during the first quarter of 1892 where he carried on the family business of tailoring at Blackfriars Street before they relocated to Grantham in Lincolnshire by 1911.

Jemima Alice Hastings got married in King's Lynn during the last quarter of 1892, although I have not yet discovered the lucky man; however, I do know that John James Hastings married Emma Harrison in Paddington, London during the third quarter of 1895. This family moved around the country too with the first two children being born in Stow, Suffolk; the next child in Newmarket, Cambridgeshire, and the last one in Warrington, Cheshire; where the family finally settled and where John was employed as a platelayer on the London & North Western Railway.

We now go back to King's Lynn. By 1891 there was only John Kemp and Mary Ann left at No. 1 Brewery Buildings, London Road, King's Lynn with Philip Charles before his marriage in the following year. However, soon everything was about to change when in the first quarter of 1900, Mary Ann died. John was not one to struggle on alone and on 16 September 1900 he married the widow, Hannah Newsham, (formerly Rix, and who had been married to George Newsham, who died in 1896) and had seven children with her.

So with the next census in 1901, John Kemp Hastings could be found with Hannah Hastings living above her shop in South Clough Lane, King's Lynn with Ethel Edith Newsham and Alice Mary Newsham, the two remaining unmarried daughters. The details are similar on the 1911 census: they were all now living at 3 Valingers Road, King's Lynn. As the actual returns which were filled in by the house-owners have been made available, you can actually see the writing of your ancestor.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedule, 1839
(To be filled up by the Enumerator and retained)

| NAME AND SURNAME | RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family | AGE last Birthday and Sex | PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE | | | | PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards | | | | BIRTHPLACE of every person | NATIONALITY of every person | INFIRMITY |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------|-------|----------|---|--|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| | | | Married | Single | Widow | Divorced | Personal Occupation | Industry or Service with which worker is connected | Whether Employer, or Working on Own Account | Whether Writing as Artist | | | |
| 1 John Kemp Hastings | Head | 72 | Married | | | | | Sailor | | Employer | King's Lynn | British | |
| 2 Hannah Hastings | Wife | 62 | Married | | | | | General Shopkeeper | | Employer | King's Lynn | British | |
| 3 Ethel Edith Newsham | Daughter | 30 | Single | | | | | Shop assistant | | Employer | King's Lynn | British | |
| 4 Alice Mary Newsham | Daughter | 26 | Single | | | | | Shop assistant | | Employer | King's Lynn | British | |
| 5 Dorcas Phillips | Servant | 29 | Single | | | | | Shop assistant | | Employer | King's Lynn | British | |

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

| | | | |
|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| Total | Males | Females | Persons |
| 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 |

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or person in occupation, or in charge of the dwelling)

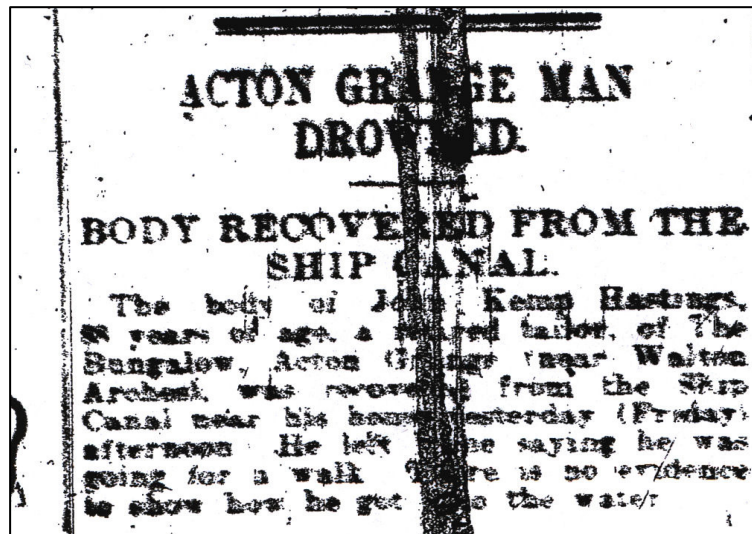
I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief

Signature: John Kemp Hastings
Postal Address: 3 Valingers Road

Extract from 1911 Census

Unfortunately, this is not the end of the story because by the end of 1911, Hannah had also died and John was again left on his own. So, what happened to John. Well it took a while to track him down as the free Birth, Marriages & Deaths site is being continually updated and extended. Imagine my surprise when, after again checking the Norfolk death indexes, I decided to extend the search to the whole country and into the 1920s and there he was, John K Hastings: death, June 1926, in Runcorn, aged 88 years.

Then I got the death certificate: he died on 30 April 1926 by drowning in the Manchester Ship Canal while staying at The Bungalow, Acton Grange. So, my guess is that he must have been staying with his son, Alfred, and his family and that the canal Alfred and son-in-law, John Goodrich, helped to build claimed his life.



I contacted the Runcorn Historical Society and they managed to locate the details of the death as mentioned in the *Warrington Guardian* of 1 May 1926.



The above aerial photograph shows the bridge over the Canal. Just south of the current main line can be seen the original lower route of the railway. If you look in the fields between there and Mill Lane, the crop marks in the fields suggest that this was the site of the Acton Grange canal village

What else would I like to find? A photograph of John Kemp Hastings (my new contact in Essex has provided me with a photo of John's sister Sarah). I am also working on the Acton Grange canal village to find out where the property was situated that John set out from on that last morning.



What we did on our holidays

Doreen and Peter Houghton

When we arrived in Toronto on our summer holidays, we contacted the Toronto Railway Historical Society to see what was happening around Toronto railway-wise while we were there. Unfortunately, we had just missed the monthly guided tour around the main Union Station.

However, we were pleased to discover that our visit had coincided with the grand opening of a furniture store, 'Leon's', not a great occasion you may think, but this store uses part of the Union Station Roundhouse where all the locomotives were serviced and stored from the 1920s. We managed to wangle invitations to the event on 9 July which was to be opened by the Mayor of Toronto.



The Roundhouse (though it is more of a semi circle) is built around a railway turntable with thirty two tracks going off the turntable into bays within the building. The furniture store has taken over half of the bays, while the Steam Whistle Brewery has the first twelve; the remaining bays are to be the new home of the Toronto Railway Museum whose largest exhibits are presently to be seen around the site including the largest locomotive seen on the turntable above.



The inside of the furniture store has been tastefully restored with all the original features in the walls and roof still *in situ*. The tracks have been carefully covered over for any further restoration that may be undertaken at a later date.



Above are two views of the interior of 'Leon's' furniture store

We took the following picture from the top of the CN Tower (CN standing for Canadian National – as in Railways) looking down on the Roundhouse. Note that all connections to the railway behind the camera have been severed, the CN Tower and the adjacent Skydome having been built on former railway land.



Looking down on the Roundhouse

The next picture was taken in the 1970s and shows the Roundhouse when it was still being used for its original purpose. This 9,300 square-meter roundhouse was built between 1929 and 1931 by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and became known as the John Street roundhouse. The roundhouse originally had stalls for 32 locomotives that were moved in and out of the structure on a massive 120-foot rotating turntable designed by the Canadian Bridge Company. Locomotives were driven onto the turntable and rotated for positioning into one of the stalls for servicing and light repairs.

Every day, John Street locomotives hauled over forty CPR passenger trains in and out of Toronto's Union Station. Some of them would pull local commuter trains to Hamilton or Peterborough, Ontario. Others would haul quarter-mile-long trains on the initial portions of journeys to destinations as far as Montreal, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Detroit, Chicago and New York City.

In its prime, the John Street engine facility contained 43 structures, several miles of track and covered nearly 16 acres of property. Up to 150 men worked in the facility 24 hours a day.

The locomotives serviced here were so attractively maintained that their appearance became known among railroaders as the "John Street polish". For over thirty years the roundhouse was used to service CPR steam locomotives. When the company retired its steam engines in 1960, John Street continued to service CPR and VIA Rail diesel-electric locomotives for another twenty years until 1986 when the CPR decided to close the facility and donate the facility to the City of Toronto for use as a municipal railway museum.



The Roundhouse in the 1970s

The aerial view on the following page has been borrowed from Google maps. It shows the extent of the old railway lands bounded by the Gardiner Expressway which was built above its southern boundary with Front Street to the north and with Union Street to the east. It has to be remembered that Front Street was named thus as this fronted onto the beach of Lake Ontario. All the land to the south of it which started as railway land was reclaimed from the lake. The Roundhouse is marked on the map as the 'Steam Whistle Brewery'.



Aerial View – Google Maps

Site of the Roundhouse

From the Chronicle Archives:

The following article is copied from Lailand Chronicle, No 19, dated 19 March 1977. It is written by the late Nowell Banister and reprinted from Chronicle No. 18 of November 1976. Edward Almond's article on his favourite books mentions the legend and by coincidence I just happened to open this Chronicle in my random searches for any previous connections to this year's articles. Edward, of course, gave us extracts from Mr Banister's journals in last year's Chronicle. Mr Banister died in 1977, aged 87. Editor.

THE BALDWINS OF ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

Part 6

By J. N. Banister

THE LEGEND

There is a curious and oft quoted legend about Whittle-le-Woods and Leyland Parish Church. It states that the foundations were laid for a church at Whittle. A whole pile of building material was brought to the site. The following morning the whole lot mysteriously disappeared.

A report came to the priest that the stones had been found at Leyland. The priest went to Leyland and found the report to be correct, so he and his companion, assisted by the miller from Leyland, got all the material back to Whittle.

To make sure that this did not happen again, two men were on duty as night watchmen. They became weary and fell asleep and upon awakening they were surprised to find that the material had vanished once more. Again the materials were found at Leyland and once more they were carried back to Whittle.

MONSTER CAT

On the second evening another watch was kept. This time the priest stayed with the men until midnight. As soon as he had left, one of the men was suddenly startled by a monster of a cat, with big eyes and a barbed tail.

The monster immediately took off with a large stone, and quickly returned for another. One of the men tried to stop him and struck the animal on the head with a stout stick. He tried a second blow, but before he could deliver it the monster sprang at him, and fixed its teeth in his throat. The other man ran for the priest and when they got back the poor fellow was dead, and the building material gone.

No further attempts were made to remove the material and the church was built on the site chosen by the huge cat. It is also stated that there is a correct image of the cat forming one of the gargoyles on Leyland Church.

Another version of the story has been related which gives an angel the credit for the transference of the material. With the utterance of the following rhyme:-

Here I have place thee,
And here thou shall stand,
And thou shalt be called
The church of Leyland.

There is buried in Leyland churchyard a man who was hanged in 1825 at Lancaster Castle. This was Robert Robinson, known as "Robin O'Jacks". He was hanged for burglary. It was suggested that he was innocent, or hanged by mistake.

His body was brought to Leyland. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Gardner Baldwin. A copy of the sermon preached on this occasion was printed in pamphlet form. The Church which holds more than 1,000 was packed to overflowing.

THE LAST OF THE BALDWINS

The funeral of the Rev. O. de Leyland Baldwin, who died on January 16th 1913, took place in the burial ground of the Parish Church of St. Andrew. Flags flew at half mast on both the Parish and St. Ambrose Church. The bells in the tower rang muffled peals. From the bungalow where he died he was carried across church lands to enter the churchyard at the eastern end.

The coffin was carried in at the western door. The organist, Mr. H. G. Lockett playing "O Rest in The Lord" by Mendelssohn. Messrs. J. T. Whalley and E. Platt were at the head of the procession, carrying their staves of office, followed by the vergers, Mr. F. Barrow, Mr. J. T. Norris, evangelist in St. Andrew's Parish Church walked in front of the surpliced choir, followed by the clergy, with the Lord Bishop of Whalley bringing up the rear.

The coffin carried by sidesmen, followed by the mourners. The body of the church, and the two galleries were filled with people from all walks of life.

The remains were in an oak coffin, with brass mountings. The inscription on the plate was:-

Leyland Baldwin, priest.

Born April 17th 1837

At Rest January 16th 1913

R. I. P.

The service was taken by two of his former curates, the Rev. E. G. Marshall and E. Evington. The Epistle associated with the Burial Service was read by the Lord Bishop of Whalley.

The Psalm - "Lord Thou Has Been Our Refuge" and the hymn "Now The Labourer's Task Is O'er" were sang. During the reading of the last few sentences of the service the congregation stood while Chopin's Funeral March was played on the organ. As the mourners moved down the centre aisle, it was to the singing of the Nunc Dimittis.

* * * * *

T H E E N D

Re-printed from the November edition.

H E L P W A N T E D ! ! ! !

Information wanted on SOD HALL.

I would be very grateful for any information on the Sod Hall, off Jane Lane.

I can be contacted at LOSTOCK HALL LIBRARY. Telephone: Preston 39775
or at any Historical Society Meeting. Dorothy Kazer.

- 4 -

2009 Christmas Cards

On sale at the November and December meetings.



Greetings from Leyland