

*Burton & District Family History Society Newsletter

* Burton & District Family History Society is a branch of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry



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Editor's Comments

Your Editor hopes that you have all enjoyed your summer break even though the weather might not have been sunny all the time! However, there are plenty of interesting meetings, courses and events coming up in the next three months so please check them out for any you may be interested in attending. Our member Catherine has written about her two holidays which make for fascinating reading, so thank you Catherine for submitting these.

Dates of Meetings, Courses and Events

25th September, Friday: SAHS lecture at the Lichfield Guildhall, 8.00 pm. Small entrance fee.

The Adventurous History of Sabrina Sidney 1757-1843. Speaker, Dr. Kate Iles.

26th September, Saturday at Tamworth Library, 9.00 am – 4.00 pm. Tamworth Family History Day. BMSGH have asked if we can provide some members to promote the society and answer Questions about our area. Janet B and Delia will attend and anyone else is welcome. They usually get about 700 visitors.

28th September, Monday for 5 consecutive weeks, at St Paul's Church Social Room, Lichfield Street, Rugeley, 7.30-9.00 pm. Cost £20 approx. Phone Marion Kettle, 01889 576674. Landor Soc.

A Sense of Place: Five talks given by staff from Staffordshire Archives and Heritage Services. How to Start, People and Population, Buildings, The Landscape, Community Life.

1st October, Thursday at Methodist Chapel, Main Street, Hilton at 7.30 pm.

Hilton and Marston History Group, Foston Hall 1300-2010, Speaker Gordon Thornhill MBE Contact: Helena Coney, 01283 733069 or hiltonhistory@gmail.com

5th October, Monday at Keele University, Chancellor's Building, Westminster Theatre, 8.00 pm. Free entry. 28th Earl Lecture in collaboration with the Jack Leighton Trust.

Church Monuments in Post-Reformation Staffordshire. Speaker, Professor Richard Cust.

10th October, Saturday, at Castle Church Parish Hall, Newport Road, Stafford, 10.00 am-4.00 pm. Cost £17.00 including lunch and refreshments.

Staffordshire Heritage Day Anniversary '15', Talks: Magna Carta, Agincourt, Jacobite Rebellion, Waterloo and demonstrations. Contact Margaret George 01889 882472 or ma.george@btconnect.com

24th October, Saturday, DFHS trip to TNA, Kew. Coach departs Hilton 7.00 am, Derby 7.30 am. Cost £15.00. Contact: Helena Coney, 01283 733069 or hiltonhistory@gmail.com

30th October – 1st November, Friday – Monday, Cumbria Family History Society Weekend Conference, Crooklands Hotel nr Kendal. Cost from £80.00, conference only, £200.00 single room. See booking forms for full details or tel. 01931 714305 or embership@cumbriafhs.com

31st October, Saturday at St Mary's Church, Rolleston-on-Dove. 9.45 am – 4.00 pm. Cost £20.00 Including refreshments and lunch. All proceeds to St Mary's Bells Restoration Fund. Rolleston History Day talks: History of the Meynell Hunt; Rolleston Railway and Station; Sir. Oswald Moseley's 'Natural History of Tutbury'; WW1 Fallen List on the War Memorial; Rolleston Music Festivals of the 1960/70s; Crime and Punishment in Rolleston.

5th November, Thursday at Methodist Chapel, Main Street, Hilton at 7.30 pm. Hilton and Marston History Group talk. How Old is Your House? Speaker Pamela Pym. Contact: Helena Coney, 01283 733069 or

hiltonhistory@gmail.com

7th-8th November, Saturday 10 am - 4.00 pm, Sunday 1.00 – 4.00 pm , Rolleston Railway Station Heritage Project, at Rolleston Station Site, Dovecliff Road, Rolleston-on-Dove.

17th November, Tuesday at the Frank Wickham Hall, Etwall, 7.30 pm. Non-members by ticket (£3.00) only. Etwall & Burnaston Local History Society Annual Lecture. Almshouses, speaker Anna Hallett. Contact: Pam Kerby 01283 730287 or sandypits.kerby@btinternet.com

Help Requests to the Group.

The Newton Husbands family and Kottingham Works. Thanks to Janet Brealey for researching this request.

Lilian Stocks enquiry. Thanks to Janet B again for contacting and helping the family.

Geoffrey Brown's family living at Lloyds Bank House, 16 High Street, Burton-on-Trent in 1911, emigrated to Australia in 1912. His descendants are visiting Burton in late September. Janet Brealey and Delia Wyers have been researching this family and I hope we can meet up. Delia is very distantly related through a marriage about 1848 of Edwin Brown and Jane Tabberer nee

Atkin. Hopefully, Janet will write up all her research for the next newsletter.

Burton Patriotic Fair Enquiry. The Burton Daily Mail of 28th July 1917 has an article about this Fair being filmed by Gaumont Ltd, to be shown in cinemas throughout the country. The enquirer wants to know if the film still exists. Delia has emailed several local historians with no success and googled Gaumont films but there is no mention in their WW1 films. Googling ' WW1 Patriotic Fairs' hasn't produced any results either. The next step is to send an enquiry to Gaumont. Meanwhile if anyone knows anything, please let Delia know.

July 2015 Meeting The Merchant of Baltimore, Speaker Simon Pawley.

Simon knew of the existence of John Pawley of Littlethorpe, Leicestershire, of his adult baptism at Narborough Independent Church in 1780, his marriage to Mary Moore at Great Gaddesden Hertfordshire in 1781 and the subsequent birth of three children James, Sarah and John in Staffordshire all baptised in Leicestershire in 1787. But why marry in Hertfordshire and then move to Staffordshire. Then one day whilst researching at the old Leicestershire R O as he replaced a folder on a shelf he was hit on the head by a folder of solicitor's letters falling from the shelf above and lying open at Pawley family letters, The letters showed that John emigrated to the USA and was involved in applying for a Licence for a Dissenters meeting house at Whetstone. Directories showed that John ran a business, the Staffordshire Warehouse, in Cheapside in Leicester exporting Staffordshire ware to America. A letter to his uncle William, in 1792, told of his family's embarkation to America. Research showed that John must have sailed on the SS Thomas arriving in New York on September 30th or October 1st 1792. Another letter in 1796 from Baltimore mentioned Mr Hulse, Mr Healey and William Lynes, members the Baptist Church in Leicester. Hulse, Healey and Pawley were all working in of Baltimore. Hulse died of Yellow Fever. John's wife was ill and in the letter he comments that he didn't

want to lose her as there were no servants. He was dealing in and importing hosiery, china and glassware and he joined the Methodist Episcopalian Church. In 1806 James Pawley married Mary Ann Walker who soon died of Smallpox. In 1809 John who had been naturalised in 1798 applied for a passport and in 1814 John arrived back in England. James and his new American wife stayed in America. In 1816 John is listed as a merchant of Hanley; in 1818 a packer by commission to America and his pottery commission was dissolved. In 1824 John is shown as a member of the Independent Brunswick Chapel in Shelton, near Stoke. He spoke out against slavery, throwing a new light on his comment about the lack of servants if his wife died. In Baltimore he could only have a slave, not pay a servant to look after his children. In 1825 his wife died and he married Sarah Harrop. In 1832 John died aged 72. His son John died in 1857 in Baltimore and son James died in Stoke on Trent Workhouse aged 69 in 1856. But Simon does not know what happened to his daughter Sarah. Simon has not found a marriage or a death for her in England. In the letter dated 1798 he writes that S's speech is improved. Sarah would have been 12 then, so did Sarah have a disability or was there another daughter? White's 1834 Directory of Staffordshire lists a Miss Sarah Pawley, his daughter or his second wife Mrs Sarah Pawley for whom he has found no death? Simon reminded us, that there are always new questions to be answered about our ancestors and eventually many of them can be solved.

Following Simon Pawley's visit in July and his research about a distant relative in Baltimore our member Catherine thought members might be interested in where family history took her this year. "What I did on holiday"

At the July meeting Simon Pawley encouraged us to research any relatives who could have an unusual story. I have the same philosophy and this year I incorporated family history into two contrasting trips abroad. I have an interest in early Mormonism following the conversion of

my husband's 3x great-grandfather, William Cartwright, in 1842 in south Derbyshire. A son John emigrated to America in 1859 with his wife Ann as handcart pioneers to join the Mormon community in Salt Lake City. In 2008 my husband and I met distant relatives in Utah and visited several sites along the Mormon trail. On another road trip earlier this year we drove from Seattle in the far north-west to Denver. We spent several days in Wyoming where, from records of John and Ann's journey along the Mormon and Oregon trails, we located river crossings, trading posts and landmarks in the landscape that we know they saw and passed. We also visited Martin's Cove, now a historic site, where hundreds of Mormon pioneers were rescued in 1856 following early winter storms in which scores perished, including three of John and Ann's friends. It is said that travel broadens the mind and since our first visit we have read about pioneers, homesteaders and mountain men in the American West. This latest trip brought many of those stories to life and it was very humbling knowing that someone related to us waded through the Platte river which we crossed by bridge or, like us, stood in a barren landscape with no signs of habitation in any direction and aware that the mountains in the distance had to be crossed for the final 300 miles of their 1300 mile journey – on foot.

Our second holiday also had a connection with 1842 as that year Joseph Shuttleworth, my first cousin five times removed, went into partnership to form Clayton and Shuttleworth, an engineering company in Lincoln. The firm established factories and agencies in several east European cities. In 1857 Joseph's younger brother John became the agent in Vienna so our recent visit included many buildings and sites familiar to him including his home and the building where the company had its office. In a German book on 'Google books' I read that John was involved with the establishment of the Anglican Church. I contacted the church administrator, Miranda, who opened the church up for us. The company gave £200 towards its building and Joseph's son later gave a stained

glass window, sadly destroyed in the Second World War. From the book I also learned where and when John was buried in 1890. At the cemetery we saw that the vault also contained John's wife Maria whom we knew nothing about. We visited the site of the firm's second factory, built in 1905, which is now a garage although the company's name survives in the name of the street – Shuttleworthstrasse. It was not all family history - we did other normal tourist things including enjoying sachertorte and strudel and altogether had a fascinating and very enjoyable trip.

Catherine also writes: "Members may be interested in this recent link on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website: <http://www.cwgc.org/news-events/news/2015/8/commonwealth-war-graves-commission-launches-new-online-resources-to-commemorate-vj-day.aspx>

It will be useful for those who have family buried or commemorated at CWGC sites. For the two relatives I have searched for so far I found details about their burials, including reburial, of which I was aware in both cases.

There is also a copy of the relevant page of the cemetery register and details of headstones.

Prisoners of War records

Our member Roy has written to your Editor that the Findmypast website has added over a million records to their Prisoners of War 1715-1945 collection, which include personal diaries and even photographs. There is also an exclusive video footage of a fascinating account by former prison camp inmate, 103 year old Dr. Frankland, also interviews with former POWs and ex-Royal Navy Officer Bert Turville, who share their incredible stories of life in the camps.

Future Branch Meetings:

16th September 2015: WW1 Film. Election of Branch Officers. Members Evening.

21st October 2015: Sudbury Museum of Childhood. Speaker: Sue Fraser.

18th November 2015: Wills, Administrations and Inventories. Speaker: Mick Rawle.

9th December 2015: Christmas Genealogical Social.

