

# WARD Family Origins

Wheathampstead  
Hertfordshire, England

And tracing descent to Gravesend, Kent

David WARD (1785-1826)

Married 16 April 1815 Wheathampstead

Elizabeth FILBY (1768-1835)

William WARD (1814-1887)

Married 27 June 1841 Chipping Barnet

Sarah SMITH (1818-1875)

Emma WARD (1851-1915)

Married 26 January 1873 Chipping Barnet

Edward Charles BAXTER (1850-1895)

By Dawn Chambers  
December 2016

## **Introduction**

This research began in the late 1980s with a few recollections of Phyllis Marjorie Brown (nee Gates), the wife of Cyril Gordon Brown. The latter is a descendant of David Ward of Wheathampstead and Chipping Barnet. The results of more traditional research methods have been combined with those obtained via modern online resources. Corrections, additions and discussions would all be welcome.

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## David WARD of Wheathampstead And Chipping Barnet, Hertfordshire

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In July 1808 David Ward of Wheathampstead was ordered by the court to pay maintenance for an illegitimate child named Alice. The mother was Isabella Miller of Shenley.<sup>1</sup>

On 19 December 1809 David was convicted of being idle and disorderly at the Hertfordshire Petty Sessions.<sup>2</sup> He was a pauper in the workhouse and had made it a practice, with many others, to absent themselves during the summer months. "This man positively refused to work for the parish during harvest though required so to do, and went away and returned about a fortnight ago in rags."<sup>3</sup> A relative may also have served time in the workhouse. John Ward was a pauper in Wheathampstead when he was examined with regard to his parish of settlement in 1807.<sup>4</sup>

In early July 1809 the contract with Thomas Brown for running the workhouse was renewed. He was given £504 for providing indoor and outdoor relief and was required "that the poor be brought in decent apparel to the parish church every Sabbath day." The workhouse was probably a single three-storey building and David may have had a bedroom on the second floor. The work area, containing a warping machine, six frames and spinning wheels, may have been at the back of the building on the first floor.<sup>5</sup>

David Ward married Elizabeth Filby at Wheathampstead on 16 April 1815.<sup>6</sup> Earlier, on 27 November 1813 Elizabeth was removed from Chipping Barnet to Wheathampstead, her parish of settlement.<sup>7</sup> She was pregnant at the time with an illegitimate child and claimed that David Ward, a labourer late of Chipping Barnet, was the father.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – The Poor (1623-1912) – Index to Maintenance Orders – Reference QSB/18 (p74-78) dated 11, 23 and 30 July 1808

<sup>2</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – Crime & Punishment (1746-2015) – Index to Summary Convictions – Reference HSC/1809/4

<sup>3</sup> Google Books - Hertford County Records - Notes and Extracts from the Session Rolls 1699 to 1860 and Addenda 1701-1824 Volume II by W. J. Hardy, P.S.A. (1905) Page 226 Item No.226  
[https://archive.org/stream/hertfordcountyr00britgoog/hertfordcountyr00britgoog\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/hertfordcountyr00britgoog/hertfordcountyr00britgoog_djvu.txt)

<sup>4</sup> Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies reference C/P109/13/2

<sup>5</sup> The Wheathampstead workhouse: a speculative history by Mike Smith (November 2013)  
<http://www.wheathampsteadheritage.org.uk/uploadedfiles/History%20Society/Documents/Workhouse%20Mike%20Smith.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – Marriages & Marriage Licenses (1538-1922) – Index to Wheathampstead Marriage Register

<sup>7</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – The Poor (1623-1912) – Index to Removals – Reference C/P109/13/2

<sup>8</sup> Website We Relate – Person Elizabeth Filby – Refers to a Bastardy document in the Wheathampstead Parish Registers – "child of Eliz Filby of W'stead by Dav Ward, labr, late of Chipping Barnet; Warrant issued to Cha Lattimore 01 Dec 1813"  
[http://www.werelate.org/wiki/Person:Elizabeth\\_Filby\\_\(1\)](http://www.werelate.org/wiki/Person:Elizabeth_Filby_(1))

David and Elizabeth had three sons and a daughter. The two oldest were baptised at Wheathampstead. William was born in 1814 and James in 1816.<sup>9</sup> The family then moved to Chipping Barnet where Mary and Joseph were baptised in 1819 and 1821 respectively. David was a labourer.<sup>10</sup>

The Chipping Barnet burial register records the deaths of David Ward in 1826 aged 41 years and possibly his wife Elizabeth in 1835 aged 67 years.<sup>11</sup>

BURIALS in the Parish of <i>Chipping Barnet</i> in the County of <i>Hertford</i> in the Year 1826				
Name.	Abode.	When buried.	Age.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
<i>David Ward</i> No. 617.	<i>Barnet</i>	<i>Feb. 1.</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>D. W. Garraway, Rector.</i>

<i>Elizabeth Ward</i> No. 1117.	<i>Barnet</i>	<i>18.</i> <i>March</i> 1835	<i>67</i> <i>Yes</i>	<i>J. Winbold Curate</i>
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<sup>9</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Parish Register – FHL Microfilm 1040663 – William Ward baptised 27 Feb 1814; James Ward born 02 Jul 1816, baptized 07 Jul 1822

<sup>10</sup> Chipping Barnet Baptism Register – No.350 Mary Ward 01 Jan 1819; No.469 Joseph Ward 28 Jan 1821

<sup>11</sup> Chipping Barnet Burial Register

## Five Children of David WARD

### Alice MILLER (1808-)

Edward Norward of St Albans St Stephen married Alice Miller of Shenley on 18 January 1824 at Shenley.<sup>12</sup>

### William WARD (1814-1887)

In the 1841 census William Ward was an agricultural labourer living with his brother Joseph, at Wellington Row, Chipping Barnet.<sup>13</sup> He married Sarah Smith on 27 June 1841 by Banns at Chipping Barnet. The witnesses were Richard Reeves and William Baldock.<sup>14</sup>

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.
18	27 <sup>th</sup> June	William Ward	27 <sup>th</sup>	Bachelor	Labourer	Chipping Barnet	David Ward	Labourer
		Sarah Smith	27 <sup>th</sup>	Spinster		Chipping Barnet	William Smith	Labourer

Married in the *Church of Chipping Barnet* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the *Church of England* by me, *J. H. Woodhull Curate*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *William Ward* in the Presence of us, *Richard Reeves* and *William Baldock*

William and Sarah's four children were all baptised at Chipping Barnet – William Jnr 1842, Emma 1845, Emma 1851 and George 1853.<sup>15</sup> Their first daughter Emma was buried at St John the Baptist Church in 1848 aged 3 years.<sup>16</sup>

In the 1861 census William was an agricultural labourer and the family were living in the village of Arkley near Chipping Barnet.<sup>17</sup> In the 1871 census his son George was a "Private Mt Militia" and boarded at Barnet Common with William and Elizabeth Bryant.<sup>18</sup> Except for William Jnr, the rest of the family were also living at Barnet Common. Sarah was a laundress and daughter Emma, a boot binder. Also living with the family was Hannah Smith, Sarah's 80 year old widowed mother.<sup>19</sup>

On 26 January 1873 Emma Ward and Charles Baxter were married by banns at Chipping Barnet. The witnesses were William Ward and Emma Smith. It seems likely that the former was William Senior, given the apparent absence of William Junior.<sup>20</sup> Sarah probably saw her two infant grand-daughters – Olive Baxter, born 1873 and Emma Baxter, born 1874 - before she died at Barnet in 1875 aged 57 years.<sup>21</sup> In the 1881 census William was an inmate of Barnet Union Workhouse.<sup>22</sup> He died at Barnet in 1887 aged 71 years.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – Marriages & Marriage Licenses (1538-1922) – Index to Shenley Marriage Register; and a marriage license – reference AHH20/70

<sup>13</sup> 1841 Census Wellington Row, Chipping Barnet – Piece 438 Book 4 Folios 14-15

<sup>14</sup> Chipping Barnet marriage register – No.18 William Ward to Sarah Smith

<sup>15</sup> Chipping Barnet baptism register

<sup>16</sup> National Burial Index for England & Wales Transcription – St John the Baptist, Chipping Barnet

<sup>17</sup> 1861 Census Arkley, Chipping Barnet – Piece 788 Folio 76

<sup>18</sup> 1871 Census Barnet Common, Chipping Barnet – Piece 1332 Folio 73

<sup>19</sup> 1871 Census Barnet Common, Chipping Barnet – Piece 1332 Folio 71

<sup>20</sup> Chipping Barnet marriage register 1873 No.247 Emma Ward to Charles Baxter

<sup>21</sup> FreeBMD Death Dec Qt 1875 Barnet – Sarah Ward aged 57 years

<sup>22</sup> 1881 Census Barnet Union Workhouse, Chipping Barnet - Piece 1369 Folio 113

<sup>23</sup> FreeBMD Death Dec Qt 1887 Barnet – William Ward aged 71 years

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**James Ward (1816- )**

It is intriguing that James was the last child to be baptised on 07 July 1822 at Wheathampstead.<sup>24</sup> At the time the family were living at Chipping Barnet and his two younger siblings had been recently baptised there.

***A Possibility...***

James Ward, born 1816 Hertfordshire, was granted a Certificate of Freedom on 04 August 1845 in New South Wales, Australia.<sup>25</sup> As a consequence of stealing a pig he was sentenced to transportation and imprisonment for seven years at the Hertford Quarter Session on 04 January 1838. His physical description was given as 5' 6¼" tall, light brown hair, hazel eyes and a ruddy pock-pitted complexion. Observed marks included a man on the right and a woman on the left breast, two moles on the left side of the neck, a man woman and anchor on the lower right arm, "JW" on the lower left arm and a toe on his left foot that had contracted. He was one of 290 male convicts that arrived at Sydney on the ship 'Earl Grey' on 22 November 1838.<sup>26</sup>

On 22 March 1853 he was imprisoned at Goulbourn Gaol and was discharged on the 11<sup>th</sup> June. He was a labourer from Bell's Paddock.<sup>27</sup>

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**Mary WARD (1819-)**

In the 1841 census Mary Ward (aged 20yrs) was living with Benjamin Briers (20yrs), an agricultural labourer, at Trafalgar Place in Chipping Barnet.<sup>28</sup> Mary Maria Ward married Benjamin on Christmas Day 1841 by banns and her brother Joseph Ward was a witness.<sup>29</sup> In the 1851 census the couple were living at Barnet Common and they had a lodger living with them – James Genell a native of Luton, Bedfordshire aged 50 years, a widowed agricultural labourer.<sup>30</sup> They were still there in 1861 and Mary Maria was a laundress.<sup>31</sup> Benjamin died at Barnet in 1866 aged 47 years.

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<sup>24</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Parish Register – FHL Microfilm 1040663

<sup>25</sup> Butts of Certificates of Freedom State Records Authority of New South Wales

<sup>26</sup> List of 290 male convicts by the ship 'Earl Grey' (2), James Tulbert, Master; Alexander Nisbet, Surgeon-Superintendent; arrived from England 22 Nov 1838 - State Archives NSW Series NRS 12189 Item X641 Microfiche 735

<sup>27</sup> Goulbourn Gaol Entrance Book – State Archives New South Wales Roll 1874

<sup>28</sup> 1841 Census Trafalgar Place, Chipping Barnet – Piece 438 Book 4 Folio 13

<sup>29</sup> Chipping Barnet marriage register – No.25 Mary Maria Ward to Benjamin Briers

<sup>30</sup> 1851 Census Barnet Common, Chipping Barnet – Piece 1701 Folio 247

<sup>31</sup> 1861 Census Barnet Common, Chipping Barnet – Piece 788 Folio 70

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**Joseph WARD (1821-)**

In the 1841 census Joseph Ward was a shoemaker living with his brother William at Wellington Row, Chipping Barnet.<sup>32</sup> He married Matilda Cook on 09 June 1844 by banns at Chipping Barnet.<sup>33</sup> In the 1851 census he was a shoemaker living in Wood Street, Chipping Barnet, with his wife, Matilda, and their two children, David James Ward aged 4 years and Mary M. Ward aged 2 years.<sup>34</sup> Another four children followed – Eliza 1852, Joseph Jnr 1856, Matilda 1857 and Emily in 1859. In the 1861 census the family were still living in Wood Street. David James, the eldest son, was an agricultural labourer and his sister Mary was a nursemaid.<sup>35</sup> Only three children were at home in Wood Street for the 1871 census – the two youngest – Annie born 1861 and Elizabeth 1863 – and Joseph Junior, a labourer.<sup>36</sup> In 1881 Matilda is a widowed charwoman living with her daughter, Emily Anderson, and two grand-children at Holly Terrace, Finchley, Middlesex.<sup>37</sup> Matilda's death was registered a few weeks afterwards at Barnet, aged 55yrs.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> 1841 Census Wellington Row, Chipping Barnet – Piece 438 Book 4 Folios 14-15

<sup>33</sup> Chipping Barnet marriage register – No.37 Joseph Ward to Matilda Cook

<sup>34</sup> 1851 Census Wood Street, Chipping Barnet – Piece 1701 Folio 243

<sup>35</sup> 1861 Census Wood Street, Chipping Barnet – Piece 788 Folio 64

<sup>36</sup> 1871 Census Wood Street, Chipping Barnet – Piece 1332 Folio 50

<sup>37</sup> 1881 Census Holly Terrace, Finchley, Middlesex – Piece 1372 Folio 97

<sup>38</sup> FreeBMD Death Jun Qt 1881 Barnet - Matilda Ward aged 55yrs

**Emma WARD – Chipping Barnet to Gravesend**  
 Grand-daughter of David Ward and Elizabeth Filby  
 Daughter of William Ward and Sarah Smith

Emma was baptised at Chipping Barnet on 28 September 1851. Her father was a gardener of Barnet.<sup>39</sup>

18	Sep <sup>r</sup> 28	Emma	William & Sarah	Ward	Barnet	Gardener	P. Markward
No. 943.							

In the 1861 census, when Emma was a nine year old scholar, the family were living at Arkley near Chipping Barnet.<sup>40</sup> In the 1871 census she was described as a boot binder and was living with her parents at Barnet Common. Also her only living grand-parent, Hannah Smith, was with her family on census night.<sup>41</sup>

Boot binders were employed by master shoemakers to operate machines that sewed the upper leathers to soles. They also needed “the careful eye and ready hand” to prepare and finish off. “To sew buttons on strongly, to stitch small patches of leather on the sides or backs of repaired boots and shoes, to rip out elastics and put in new, to add bows and buckles, and to carefully prepare needlework slippers for the last, falls also to the share of the boot-binder. Her stitch must be strong and her finish neat.”<sup>42</sup> Emma probably worked for her uncle, Joseph Ward, in Wood Street, Chipping Barnet.

Emma married Charles Baxter, a bookbinder from St Marylebone, London on 26 January 1873 at Chipping Barnet.<sup>43</sup>

1873. Marriage solemnized at the parish church in the Parish of Chipping Barnet in the County of Herts								
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.
247	Jan <sup>y</sup> 26.	Charles Baxter Emma Ward	Full Full	Bachelor Spinster	Bookbinder —	St. Marylebone Barnet	Chas. Baxter William Ward	Bookbinder Labourer
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Episcopal Church</u> after solemnized by me, <u>P. R. Hutton</u>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Charles Baxter</u>			in the Presence of us,		<u>William Ward</u> <u>Emma Smith</u>	

The witnesses were likely to be Emma's father and the wife of her uncle Moses Smith. In the 1871 census the latter was a labourer living at Wellington Row, Chipping Barnet with his wife and four daughters.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Chipping Barnet Baptism Register

<sup>40</sup> 1861 Census Arkley, Chipping Barnet Piece 788 Folio 76

<sup>41</sup> 1871 Census Barnet Common, Chipping Barnet Piece 1332 Folio 71

<sup>42</sup> The New Code: The Useful Knowledge Reading Books adapted to the use of Board-Schools and others under Government Inspection by the Rev E. T. Stevens, B.A., Chaplain of New College, Oxford and the Rev Charles Hole, F.R.G.S., Head Master of North Cheam House School, Surrey (1873) pages 121-123 The Tailoress and Boot-Binder

<sup>43</sup> Chipping Barnet marriage register 1873 No.247 Emma Ward to Charles Baxter

<sup>44</sup> 1871 Census Chipping Barnet Piece 1332 Folio 58



Charles and Emma Baxter established themselves in Arkley and had two daughters – Olive and Emma. They were both baptised at Chipping Barnet on 21 December 1873 and 15 November 1874 respectively.

1873 Dec 21 No. 2265	Olive	Charles & Emma	Baxter	Arkley	Book = binder	Charles Thomas Curator of Shenley
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1874 Nov 15 No. 2307	Emma	Charles & Emma	Baxter	Arkley	Book binder	George S. B. Gordon Minister of Arkley Chapel
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Their next child, Florence, was born in Lambeth, Surrey in 1877.<sup>45</sup>

The family moved again to Swansea to be closer to Charles' wider family. His father, George Baxter, was a bookseller and stationer in Oxford Street. Late in 1878 Charles and Emma lost a new born son named Charles Henry.<sup>46</sup>

Charles may have responded to an advertisement placed in the South Wales Daily News in January 1879 by the Committee of the Swansea Public Library soliciting tenders for binding books.<sup>47</sup>

In February 1880 the Chief Librarian of the Swansea Free Library, Mr Lean, related that Baxter was "being employed nearly the whole of one day every week in connection with the lectures."<sup>48</sup> These were popular scientific lectures held on Thursday evenings. The sixth held on 04 December 1879 was titled "Parasitic Life: its marvels and mysteries" and was delivered at the Music Hall by Dr Cobbold, T.R.B., president of the Quekett Microscopical Club.<sup>49</sup>

The Chief Librarian placed his resignation into the hands of the Swansea Public Library Committee in March 1880 and "also enclosed the written resignations of Charles Baxter and John Roberts, the assistants." At a special meeting of the committee, held on 13 March, the speaker regretted on the part of the institution that "to lose their chief librarian, hon. secretary, and the attendants, who had been there from the commencement, would be a great inconvenience, and might necessitate the closing of the library for a while." The committee, on considering Baxter's resignation, learnt that he was spoken of in the highest terms by the chief librarian and that he was "a useful man at repairing books." When Charles was called in and asked his reason for resigning he said "Because I don't think it would be so conducive to the interests of the institution, my own personal feelings, or Mr Lean's feelings, that I should stop here with him." Charles responded further regarding the intended re-instatement of the Chief Librarian, that "I am aware it is for three months, but those three months would not be very comfortable for any of us. I may say that I have been blamed by Mr Lean for what I had nothing to do with." In response to a request to stay Charles indicated that he would "stay a fortnight, but no longer." His resignation was then formally accepted.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>45</sup> General Register Office online birth index – Florence Baxter born Mar Qt 1877 Lambeth

<sup>46</sup> FreeBMD Birth & Death Registration for Charles Henry Baxter Dec Qt 1878 Swansea

<sup>47</sup> South Wales Daily News 24 Jan 1879 Tenders and Contracts

<sup>48</sup> South Wales Daily News 24 Feb 1880 Swansea Free Library

<sup>49</sup> The Cambrian 05 Dec 1879 Popular Scientific Lectures

<sup>50</sup> South Wales Daily News 15 Mar 1880 Swansea Public Library – Resignation of the Whole Staff

At the end of May 1880 the new librarian, Mr Thompson, reported that “the lending stock was stated to be in a very unsatisfactory condition, no less than 800 volumes having been withdrawn for binding and repairs. By employing Mr Baxter 250 volumes had been repaired and again placed in circulation. He strongly recommended that a bookbinder should be appointed” and it was moved “that Mr Baxter be appointed as binder at 27s per week.”<sup>51</sup>

In the meantime, Emma was carrying her fourth child. Charles Hodgson Baxter was born at Swansea on 2 July 1880.<sup>52</sup> The family may have been living at No.16 Clarence Terrace or this may have been Charles’ workplace address.<sup>53</sup>

Charles was still working at the Swansea Free Library in March 1881 when he offered his opinion with regards to the disputed ownership of a book titled “The Swansea Guide, 1802.” Mr Rees, who believed he was the owner, declared on seeing the volume that it had been rebound. Charles at once said “Oh! No this book has never been re-bound. How do you know that asked Mr Rees. Charles replied “I am a practical book-binder, having worked at it all my life and I am sure this book has never been rebound.”<sup>54</sup>

When the 1881 census was taken on 03 April, Charles was described as an ‘assistant librarian’ and the family were living at 17 Portia Terrace.<sup>55</sup> In his April report the Librarian of the Swansea Public Library stated that “Mr Baxter, the bookbinder, had been chosen sub-librarian at Newcastle-on-Tyne, at a salary of £80 per annum.”<sup>56</sup> The tenure at Newcastle-on-Tyne was short.

Charles and family moved in January 1882 to Kingston-on-Thames in Surrey where he took up the post of Librarian.<sup>57</sup> In December 1881 funds were being raised to establish a Free Public Library and Mrs J. Shrubsole donated £500.<sup>58</sup> Her husband, John, predeceased his older brother Henry in 1874.<sup>59</sup> In late April 1882 plans were well underway for the Duke of Cambridge to open the library and to unveil the Shrubsole memorial on the same day.<sup>60</sup> The latter was erected to the memory of the late Mayor, Henry Shrubsole, who died in 1880 while in office. On 01 May 1882 the town was gaily decorated for the occasion and the Duke of Cambridge dedicated the Shrubsole Memorial to public use. He also opened the Industrial and Fine Art Exhibition and inspected the exhibits “many of which evidenced the possession of great creative and manipulative skill on the part of persons resident in the town and neighbourhood.”<sup>61</sup>

When Edward Sydney Baxter was baptised on 4 June 1882 at Kingston-on-Thames All Saints the family were living at Thirfield Road. When George Marshall Baxter was baptised on 17 May 1885 the family had moved to 2 Down Hall Villas.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> Western Mail 01 Jun 1880 Swansea Public Library Committee

<sup>52</sup> England & Wales Civil Registration Death Index Dec Quarter 1971 – Charles Hodgson Baxter, Pontypridd, Glamorganshire

<sup>53</sup> Butcher’s Swansea District Directory 1881-1882 Swansea Street Directory page 104

<sup>54</sup> The Cambrian 04 Mar 1881 The Swansea Free Library

<sup>55</sup> 1881 Wales Census (03 April) – 17 Portia Terrace, Swansea – Piece 5361 Folio 51

<sup>56</sup> The Cambrian 06 May 1881 Swansea Public Library

<sup>57</sup> The Monthly Notes of the Library Association of the United Kingdom 1882 page 73

<sup>58</sup> Morning Post 20 Dec 1881 Kingston-on-Thames Free Public Library

<sup>59</sup> Shrubsole Family of Kingston in Diagram Format

<http://www.shrubsolefamilytree.co.uk/diagramofshrubsolesofkingston.html>

<sup>60</sup> Surrey Mirror 29 Apr 1882 Political and Personal

<sup>61</sup> Surrey Mirror 06 May 1882 The Duke of Cambridge at Kingston

<sup>62</sup> Kingston-on-Thames All Saints Baptism Register – Surrey History Centre Ref P33/1/21

It was also the first year that Charles qualified for the vote and he was listed twice - first as a householder with a dwelling house and secondly under the service franchise."<sup>63</sup>

1512	Baxter, Charles	2, Down Hall terrace, Ham road	Dwelling house (successive)	5, St. James' road, Kingston, and Ham road, Kingston
1513	Baxter, Charles	11, St. James' road, Kingston-upon-Thames	Free public library	Free public library, 11, St. James' road

This indicated that he had been an owner or tenant within the borough for 12 months and had occupied two or more premises in the same borough in immediate succession. This would reflect the move from Thirfield Road to 2 Down Hall villas. The service franchise applied to any man who inhabits a dwelling house by virtue of any office, service or employment.<sup>64</sup> This apparently applied for the Free Public Library at 11 St. James' road.

In mid-September 1885 Charles attended the eighth meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom at Plymouth, representing the Free Library, Kingston-on-Thames.<sup>65</sup>

On 16 December 1885 nine year old Florence Baxter died and was buried three days later by Rev H. Nixon at Kingston Cemetery.<sup>66</sup>

No. 3074	Florence Baxter	Downhall Villas Kingston	December 19 <sup>th</sup> <del>4<sup>th</sup></del> 1885	9 yrs.	H. Nixon
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Burial Register Kingston-on-Thames All Saints.<sup>67</sup>

In June 1887 Charles was one of fifty two applicants for the position of principal librarian at the Edinburgh Public Library, "the salary attached to which is £300."<sup>68</sup> He was unsuccessful.

Emma gave birth to her eighth child, Henry Rigby Baxter, on 04 November 1887.<sup>69</sup> Also known as Harry he died on 19 December 1887, aged six weeks, and was buried with his older sister by Rev H. Nixon on 21 December at Kingston Cemetery.<sup>70</sup>

No. 874	Henry Rigby Baxter	Downhall Villas Kingston	1887 Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>	1 month	H. Nixon
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Burial Register Kingston-on-Thames All Saints.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>63</sup> Surrey Electoral Register 1885

<sup>64</sup> Wikipedia: Parliamentary franchise in the United Kingdom 1885-1918 with reference to "The Representation of the People Act 1884"  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary\\_franchise\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_Kingdom\\_1885%E2%80%931918](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_franchise_in_the_United_Kingdom_1885%E2%80%931918)

<sup>65</sup> Western Morning News 16 Sep 1885

<sup>66</sup> Kingston Cemetery Burial Records – Florence Baxter Grave 1294 Section C  
[https://www.kingston.gov.uk/directory/20/burial\\_records](https://www.kingston.gov.uk/directory/20/burial_records)

<sup>67</sup> Burial Register Kingston-upon-Thames All Saints – Surrey History Centre Reference P33/1/121

<sup>68</sup> The Scotsman 04 Jun 1887 Edinburgh Public Library – The Librarianship

<sup>69</sup> Baptism and Burial Registers Kingston-upon-Thames All Saints – Surrey History Centre Reference P33/1/121

<sup>70</sup> Kingston Cemetery Burial Records – Florence Baxter Grave 1294 Section C  
[https://www.kingston.gov.uk/directory/20/burial\\_records](https://www.kingston.gov.uk/directory/20/burial_records)

<sup>71</sup> Burial Register Kingston-upon-Thames All Saints – Surrey History Centre Reference P33/1/121

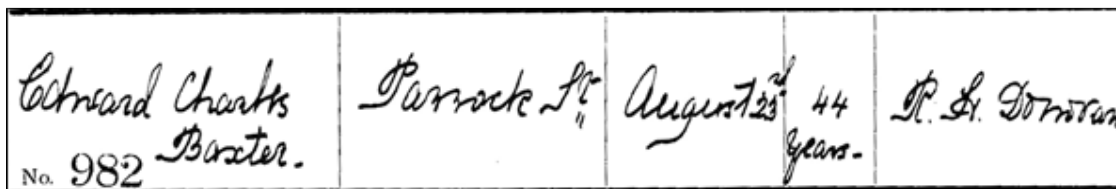
Emma's last child, Harrie Ward Baxter was born on 04 December 1889.<sup>72</sup>

In the 1891 Census the family were living at 4 Down Hall Terrace and Olive, the eldest child aged 17 years, was an assistant librarian.<sup>73</sup> At this time the free public library was situated in St James' road<sup>74</sup> and was open from 9 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. The annual circulation was 44,278 volumes. There were 2,500 volumes in the Reference Department and 5,500 in the Lending Department. About £100 of the £460 income was expended in books.<sup>75</sup>

About 1892 the family moved from 4 Down Hall Villas, Ham Road to Clattern House in High Street where the Free Library was housed and remained there till 1894-1895.<sup>76</sup>

Charles was succeeded as librarian by Benjamin Carter who introduced the open access system in August 1895. "Under the old system, there was an issue of only 800 volumes, which included directories. Under the new regime all directories and a few other annuals were placed in the news room on an open stand, and no record is taken of their use." Carter attributed the subsequent success "to the greater accessibility of the books, as they previously occupied the same position around the walls of the room and were only shut off from the public by wire doors, so that the backs could be easily seen; yet they were not used."<sup>77</sup>

In August 1895 Charles was a "librarian without employment" living at 35 Parrock Street, Gravesend. The cause of his death, about 21 August, was "suicide by taking prussic acid due to temporary insanity."<sup>78</sup> He was buried at Gravesend two days later.



St George's Church, Gravesend Burial Register<sup>79</sup>

Charles was survived by his wife Emma and six children. The youngest, Harry Ward Baxter, was six years of age. The eldest, Olive, married Edward George Brown at Gravesend in 1898.<sup>80</sup>

On 15 November 1899 Charles Hodgson Baxter, at 5 feet 4½ inches tall with a fresh complexion, brown hair and eyes, commenced service in the Royal Navy as a stoker on the ship 'Pembroke II'.<sup>81</sup>

<sup>72</sup> Baptism Register Kingston-upon-Thames All Saints – Surrey History Centre Reference P33/1/121

<sup>73</sup> 1891 Census 4 Down Hall Terrace, Kingston-on-Thames – Piece 611 Folio 58

<sup>74</sup> Kelly's Directory of Kent, Surrey & Sussex 1891 – Part 3 Kingston-on-Thames p1344

<sup>75</sup> The Directory of Second-hand Booksellers and List of Public Libraries edited by James Clegg (1891) page 116

<sup>76</sup> Surrey Electoral Registers 1893-1895 Kingston-upon-Thames

<sup>77</sup> Dundee Evening Telegraph 25 Jun 1902 Librarians & Open Access – New System Praised

<sup>78</sup> Ancestry "Baxter Family Tree" – Death Certificate of Edward Charles Baxter indicating death by Prussic Acid or cyanide poisoning <http://person.ancestry.com.au/tree/9732121/person/-752685240/facts>

<sup>79</sup> Medway Council CityArk: Gravesend St George Register of Burials 1892-1897 Image 593 [cityark.medway.gov.uk](http://cityark.medway.gov.uk)

<sup>80</sup> FreeBMD Marriage Edward George Brown to Olive Baxter June Quarter 1898 Gravesend

<sup>81</sup> Royal Navy Service Record for Charles Hodgson Baxter – National Archives reference ADM 188/474/293813

In the 1901 census Emma was a lodger living with Elizabeth Forty at 32 Chapel Place, St John the Evangelist and St Margaret, London and was working as a Matron at an Institution. Her daughter, Emma, still single, was lodging nearby with Robert and Emma Graves at 36 Chapel Place.<sup>82</sup> Olive Brown was living at 16 Union Street, Gravesend and her younger brothers, Edward Sydney Baxter and Harry Ward Baxter were living with her.<sup>83</sup> Charles Hodgson Baxter, a second class stoker, was stationed at Chatham and was on board the ship HMS Terpsichore.<sup>84</sup> George Marshall Baxter, a 16 year old clerk in a newspaper office, was visiting Henry and Charlotte Rigby at 35 Ashdown Road, Kingston-on-Thames.<sup>85</sup>

In 1911 Emma was working as a sick nurse on her own account and living with her unmarried 36 year old daughter, Emma, at 4 Hester Terrace, Dover Road, East Northfleet.<sup>86</sup> Her youngest son, Harry Ward Baxter, was still living with Olive Brown. The other three sons had married and started their own families. Charles Hodgson Baxter was in Pontypridd, Wales; Edward Sydney Baxter in Gravesend; and George Marshall Baxter in Harlesden, Middlesex.

By the time Emma died at Gravesend in the last quarter of 1915 aged 64 years<sup>87</sup> twenty three children had been born and most had survived ranging in age from infants to 16 years.

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<sup>82</sup> 1901 Census St John the Evangelist and St Margaret, London – Piece 83 Folio 130

<sup>83</sup> 1901 Census Gravesend – Piece 712 Folio 25

<sup>84</sup> 1901 Census Royal Navy Ships and Overseas Establishments – Piece 5334 Folio 35

<sup>85</sup> 1901 Census Kingston-on-Thames – Piece 663 Folio 124

<sup>86</sup> 1911 Census Northfleet – Piece 3841

<sup>87</sup> FreeBMD Death Dec Quarter 1915 Gravesend – Emma Baxter aged 64yrs

### **The New Zealand Connection**

Emma Baxter's eldest child, Olive Brown, spent most of her life in Gravesend, Kent and raised a family of five children. The youngest two were twins.

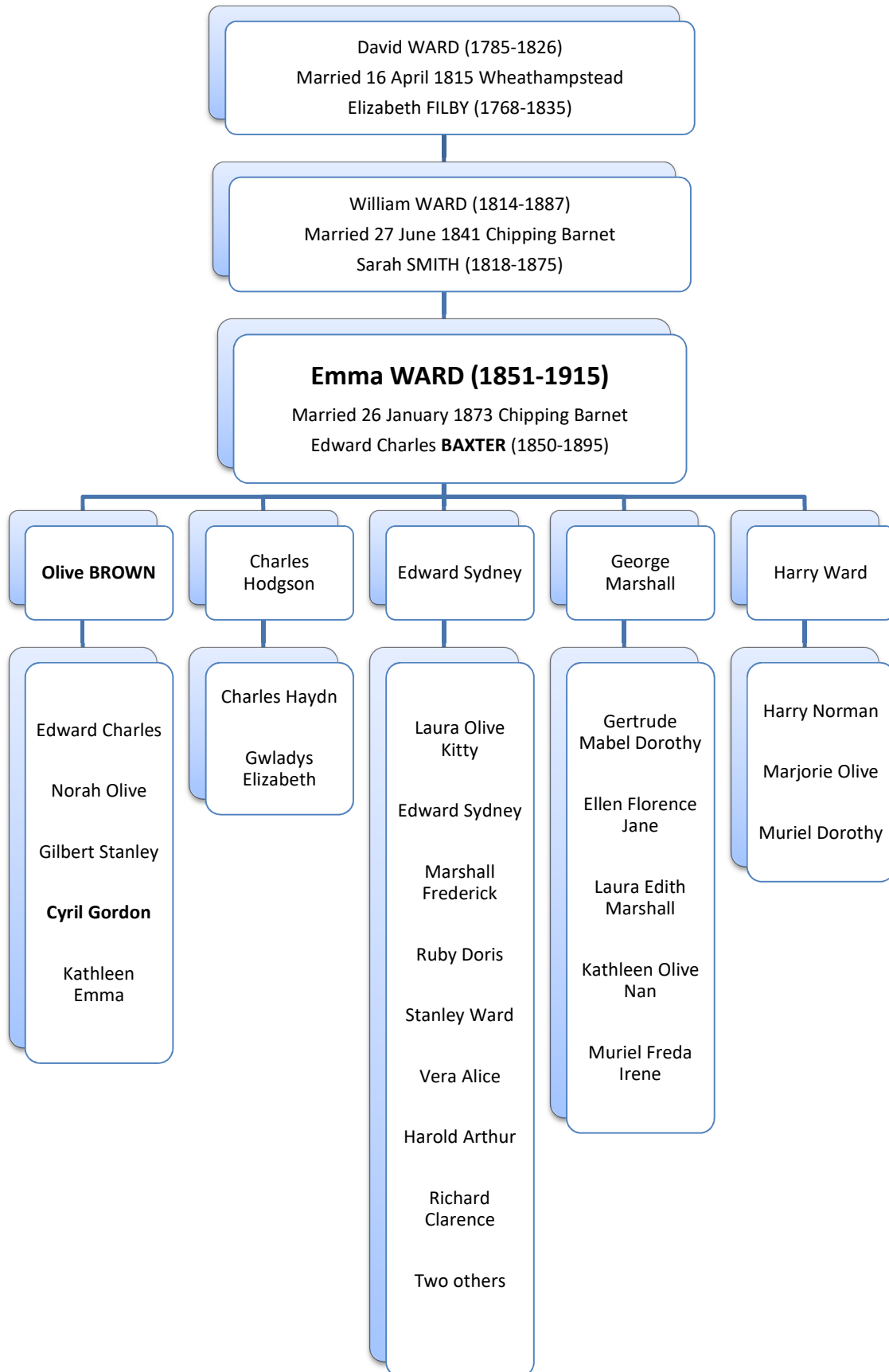
The daughter of Olive's youngest son, Cyril Gordon Brown, immigrated to New Zealand on the S.S. Orion in 1962. After a short period in Auckland she moved to New Plymouth, Taranaki. As a qualified florist she worked in this field until she married at Opunake in 1963. Cyril and his wife Phyllis flew out to New Zealand in 1971 and they also settled at Opunake.



Olive Baxter  
Gravesend September 1942



Phyllis and Cyril Brown  
Opunake 1975



## Early references to the Ward surname in Wheathampstead

That may or may not be relevant to the descendants of David Ward

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Simon Warde is named in a 1371 plea of covenant relating to “180 acres of land, 51 acres of wood, 23 shillings of rent and a rent of 1 pound of cumin in Whetehamstede.”<sup>88</sup>

William Warde was made Rector at Wheathampstead in 18 March 1415. He “received Wheathampstead on the bishop’s collation, in succession to Simon Hoke, the last rector, who had resigned.”<sup>89</sup> When the Manor of Herons was conveyed to William on 10 April 1418 he was “clerk of Wheathampstead.”<sup>90</sup>

Under William’s will, dated 06 September 1428,<sup>91</sup> and proved in 1436 the manor was left to his sister Emma, the wife of William Cressy.<sup>92</sup> The will includes reference to “all the household utensils within the Manor of Herons in the town of Wheathampstead... in the hall chamber, kitchen, and elsewhere within the same manor.” This may have been the original site of the Rectory Manor House. William also left to Emma “one gown of scarlet with the best fur, and another gown of scarlet with fur to Isabel, daughter of my said sister.” To his brother-in-law he gave “a gown furred with fitch. To my sister one pair of blankets, one pair of sheets, one feather bed and one bolster... To John Kympton of Kympton, senior, one whole bed of great boards of red worsted embroidered with eagles, the whole concealed with three curtains and one pear of silver gilt.” Also to William Whyte priest of Friday Street, London “one vestment for a priest at divine celebration... of red cloth embroidered with beasts of gold.”<sup>93</sup>

The Manor, after the decease of Emma, “ought to revert to John Deye and Isabel” and their heirs. It was purchased from Deye in 1439 by John Aleyne, John Hampton, William Abraham and Roger Taylor for 200 marks of silver.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> Some Notes on Medieval English Genealogy - Feet of Fines CP 25/1/90/93 number 615

[http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP\\_25\\_1\\_90\\_93.shtml#615](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP_25_1_90_93.shtml#615)

<sup>89</sup> Patronage Priest and Parish in the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon 1109-1547 by Colin Alexander Weale (1996) page 31 – Thesis – Middlesex University Research Repository

<http://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/13500/1/568739.pdf> - Source reference: Lincoln Archives Office Episcopal Register Philip Repingdon (1405-1419) folio 361

<sup>90</sup> Some Notes on Medieval English Genealogy - Feet of Fines CP 25/1/91/109 number 31

[http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP\\_25\\_1\\_91\\_109.shtml](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP_25_1_91_109.shtml)

<sup>91</sup> National Archives reference PROB 11/3/183

<sup>92</sup> Victoria County History: A History of the County of Hertfordshire Volume 2 (1908) Wheathampstead with Harpenden: Manors pages 297-309 – footnote 70 Wills, P.C.C. 10, Luffenam

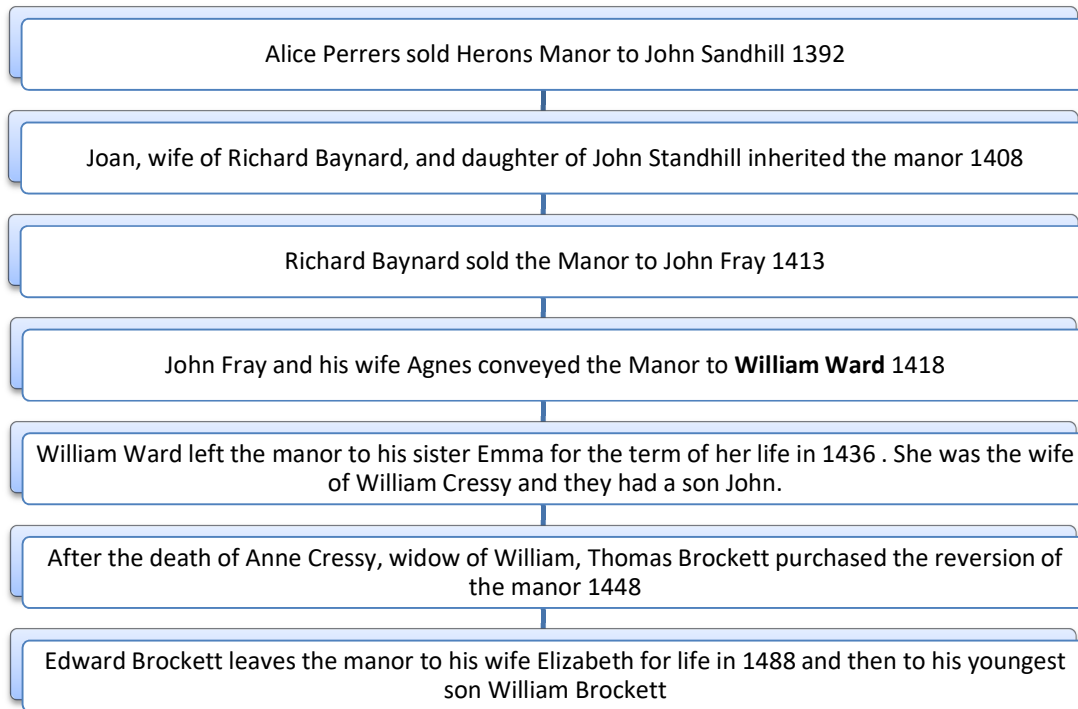
<sup>93</sup> About Wheathampstead: Its Old Houses, the Families who built them and those who lived there (1974) by the Harpenden and St Albans branches of the Workers’ Educational Association – Wheathampstead Place - pages 25-26

<http://www.wheathampsteadheritage.org.uk/uploadedfiles/History%20Society/Documents/About%20Wheathampstead.pdf>

<sup>94</sup> Some Notes on Medieval English Genealogy - Feet of Fines CP 25/1/91/113 number 94

[http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP\\_25\\_1\\_91\\_113.shtml](http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/abstracts/CP_25_1_91_113.shtml)

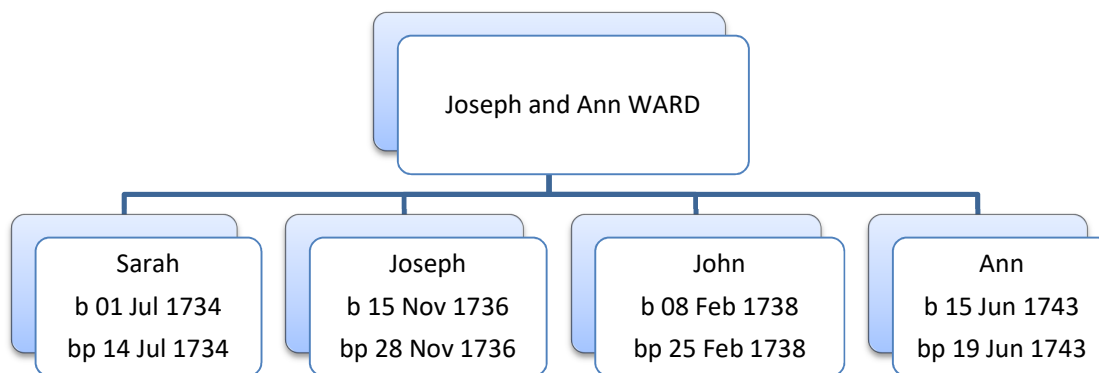




The above chart is a summary based on the account in the Victoria County of History

Thomas and Mary Ward represent the first family to be recorded in the parish registers when their daughters Mary and Elizabeth were baptised on 01 August 1661 and 12 November 1663 respectively.<sup>95</sup> In 1699 Anne Ward married Thomas Pool.<sup>96</sup> The will of John Ward, yeoman of Wheathampstead, was filed and registered 1714/1715.<sup>97</sup>

On 28 February 1740 the parish of settlement for Joseph Ward was deemed to be Wheathampstead and that he was to return there from Graveley.<sup>98</sup> This may have been the same Joseph whose children are recorded in the parish records. Their daughter, Ann, may be the same person whose son, John, was born 12 November 1761.<sup>99</sup>



<sup>95</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Baptism Register – FHL Microfilm 1040800 IT 7

<sup>96</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Parish Register – FHL Microfilm 1040663

<sup>97</sup> Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies references 143HW20 (filed will with inventory) and 11HR59 (registered will).

<sup>98</sup> Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies reference Wheathampstead CP109

<sup>99</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Parish Register – FHL Microfilm 1040663

On 07 February 1762 John Ward of Wheathampstead and Elizabeth Ward of Kings Walden were married by Banns at Kings Walden. The witnesses were John Massor and William Clifton.<sup>100</sup> It may be this John Ward whose parish of settlement was deemed to be Wheathampstead on 21 July 1765 and was returned there from North Mymms.<sup>101</sup>

( The Year 1762 )		Page 11
		No 41
John Ward	of [the] Parish of Wheathampstead	
Bachelor	and Elizabeth Ward	of [the] Parish
were		
Married in this [Church] by [Banns]		
this 7 <sup>th</sup>	Day of February	in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred
and Sixty two	by me	George Jones [curate]
This Marriage was	The mark	of John Ward
solemnized between Us	The mark	of Eliz. Ward
In the	John Massor	
Presence of	William Clifton	
1763		
		No 42

Two more marriages followed at Wheathampstead. Charles Ward to Alice Purrat on 17 June 1770 and Ann Ward to Jos. Threeder on 07 April 1779.<sup>102</sup>

John Ward, possibly son of Ann mentioned above, and his wife Elizabeth had a son John who was born 26 October 1782 and baptised at Wheathampstead on 24 November 1782.<sup>103</sup> Another John Ward married Ann Swoler on 09 September 1792.<sup>104</sup>

On 04 October 1807 John Ward, a pauper, was examined at Wheathampstead as to his parish of settlement.<sup>105</sup>

<sup>100</sup> Kings Walden marriage register 1762 No.41 John Ward to Elizabeth Ward

<sup>101</sup> Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies reference Wheathampstead CP109

<sup>102</sup> Hertfordshire County Council – Marriages & Marriage Licenses (1538-1922) – Index to Wheathampstead Marriage Register

<sup>103</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Parish Register – FHL Microfilm 1040663

<sup>104</sup> FamilySearch: Index to Wheathampstead Marriage Register – FHL Microfilm 569769

<sup>105</sup> Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies reference C/P109/13/2

## Sources for further research

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### FamilySearch

[1] Film 1593832 Item 4 Wheathampstead Churchwarden's Account Book 1800-1887  
Bastardy document – "child of Eliz Filby of W'stead by Dav Ward, labr, late of Chipping Barnet;  
Warrant issued to Cha Lattimore 01 Dec 1813"

[2] Film 1040664 Items 1-6 Wheathampstead Parish Registers  
Baptisms 1861-1888; Marriages 1754-1837; Burials 1813-1893  
Marriage: David Ward to Elizabeth Filby 06 Apr 1815

[3] Film 1040663 Items 3-7 Wheathampstead Parish Registers  
Baptisms 1690-1861, Burials 1690-1812, Marriages 1693-1765  
Baptisms: William Ward 27 Feb 1814; James Ward 07 Jul 1822

[4] Film 569769 Wheathampstead Bishop's Transcripts  
Baptisms, marriages, burials 1604-1621; 1706-1837  
Baptisms & burials 1838-1850

[5] Film 1040659 Items 8-11 Shenley Parish Registers  
Marriages 1755-1837; Burials 1813-1894  
Marriage: Edward Norward to Alice Miller 1824

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### Hertfordshire County Council

- [1] QSB/18 (p74-78) Maintenance Orders for David Ward dated 11, 23 and 30 July 1808
- [2] HSC/1809/4 Summary Conviction for David Ward Hertfordshire Petty Sessions 1809
- [3] C/P109/13/2 Removal: Elizabeth Filby from Chipping Barnet to Wheathampstead 1813

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### Kingston History Centre (holdings listed in Discovery)

- [1] KB5/17 Minutes of committees of the Borough Council – Library 1881-1898
  - [2] KX97 Photographs and newspaper cuttings of Kingston
  - [3] KX202/3/1 Newspaper cutting of photograph showing Eden St Junction looking from London Road towards Clarence Street
-