

Archived by Wheathampstead  
History Society from the website  
compiled by the late Brian Joyce.

## Early Families of Wheathampstead - Page 4

Sapwell | Saunders | Seabrook | Shambrook | Sibley | Slough | Smith | Spacey | Sparrow | Steed | Steel | Swain  
| Sygrove | Thrale | Tidd | Warner | Welch | Westwood | Wheatley | Wilsher | Wren | Wright |

*Updated 05 November 2015*

### Sapwell

Mary Mealey

07 March 2005

added 16/5/2005

1851 Harpenden @ Kinsbourne Green  
William Sapwell 48, Ag Lab b Dunstable, Beds (1802)  
Ellen Sapwell 47 wife b Flamstead 1804  
Ann 15 dau b Harpenden (1836)  
James 10 son Ag Lab b Harpenden (1841)

Note: William Sapwell bapt 1801 Dunstable, Beds s/o Wm Sapwell & Elizabeth Parker who married Nov. 7, 1791 Dunstable, Beds.

## Saunders

*contributed 2 Feb 2003*

I am currently researching my Saunders family tree. I know of a lot of my **Saunders** family that lived in Wheathampstead.

The earliest member of my family that I have living in Wheathampstead is **John Saunders**, His wife **Sarah** and their **11 Children**. John is mentioned on the **1855** census as being a widow and living with his daughter **Rachael Vaughan** and her family at the time. John is also mentioned as being a labourer at the time. He died in Gustard Wood in **1883**.

I would be extremely grateful if you could give me any (however small) information or any links to any information on My Saunders family.

Regards  
Barbara Saunders

*updated 5 Feb 2003*

Hello and thank you for the Wheathampstead page which I have found today from Barbara Saunders. It is wonderful. I think that **Max Saunders** from New Zealand (*provider of Historic Pics 2*) is the grandson of Alfred Saunders who in turn was the brother of George Frederick Saunders. My grandfather.

Our family were from Wheathampstead from a very long time back. I have quite a lot of Saunders records. The **G. Saunders** is in the 1902/3 football team could be **George Frederick Saunders**, my grandfather born 5 Mar 1882 in the Village, Wheathampstead. He later died in the first world war and is the G Saunders on the memorial in St. Helen's.

Best regards, Malcolm Saunders

*From the web master:*

Memorials at St Helen's -

1914-18 war memorial - **G Saunders**

1939-45 war memorial - **T Saunders**

**Sarah Ann Saunders**, died 23/12/1922 aged 68 also **William Saunders**, died 8/4/1932 aged 74.

**Desmond Fredrick Saunders**, born 9/12/1914, died 9/5/1987.

**Emma Saunders**, died 8/4/1901 aged 63; **Alfred Saunders**, died 18/2/1910 aged

73; **Winifred Daisy Saunders**, died 24/3/1936 aged 41; **Sarah Ann Louise Web**, died 5/10/1948 aged 79.

**1881 Census Wheathampstead**

Dwelling: Cross Farm

William SAUNDERS M 46 M Gustard Wood, Hertford, England Rel: Head Occ: Agricultural Labourer

Mary SAUNDERS M 49 F Wheathampstead, Hertford, England Rel: Wife Occ: Platter

Elizabeth SAUNDERS U 24 F Harpenden, Hertford, England Rel: Daur Occ: Bonnet Sewer (Straw)

David SAUNDERS 12 M Hollybush, Hertford, England Rel: Son Occ: Farm Servant

John SAUNDERS 6 M Wheathampstead, Hertford, England Rel: Grandson Occ: Scholar

Annie SAUNDERS 5 F Wheathampstead, Hertford, England Rel: Daur Occ: Scholar

Dwelling: East Lane

Alfred SANDERS M 44 M Wheathampstead Rel: Head Occ: Labourer

Emma SANDERS M 44 F Wheathampstead Rel: Wife

Sarah SANDERS 12 F Wheathampstead Rel: Daur Occ: Scholar

Mary PRATT 32 F Wheathampstead Rel: Visitor Occ: Dressmaker

Dwelling: High Street

John MC CULLOCH M 64 M Scotland Rel: Head Occ: Baker

Mary Ann MC CULLOCH M 60 F Wheathampstead Rel: Wife

Arthur James MC CULLOCH U 20 M Wheathampstead Rel: Son Occ: Helper (Baker)

Kate MC CULLOCH U 18 F Wheathampstead Rel: Daur Occ: Dressmaker

Frekk. S HOOLE 8 M Chelsea Rel: G.Son Occ: Scholar

Albert E. SANDERS U 26 M Rel: Lodger Occ: Clerk G N R(Rail)

**1851 Census**

Saunders at Gustard Wood:

John Saunders, Mar, 38, Ag Lab b Ippollitts

Sarah Saunders, wife, 41, b Offley (nee Pearman)

Alfred, son 14, Farm Lab, children all b Whstd

Abraham, son 12, Farm Lab

George son 10, Farm Lab

Mary, dau 8 scholar

Mark, son 6 scholar

Emily, dau, 4, scholar

Henry, son 1

At Harpenden Common:

George Saunders, Mar 25, Ag Lab b Harpenden

Sarah Saunders, wife 34, b Bovington

## Seabrook

Contributed Oct. 2009

My branch of the **Seabrooks** lived in **Wheathampstead** for three generations and there are now no members of the family there. The **Seabrooks** appear to have originated in **Redbourn**, at least that is the earliest connected reference I can find, dating back to **1624**, though it's a little tenuous. The clearest connection is **John Seabrook**, born **Redbourn 1705**. They were farmers and apparently quite prosperous. The family practice appears to be that the sons were put out to other farms as they grew up, leaving the youngest son to take over the family farm on the death of his father.

**George Seabrook (1766-1827)** farmed **Dane Farm, Harpenden** (though nearer **Kimpton**) and his grandson **William Seabrook (born 1842**, my great-grandfather) came to **Wheathampstead** first as landlord of the **Railway Hotel** and proprietor of a **coal business** based at **Wheathampstead Station**, with coal trucks emblazoned with the **family name**. He also took over **Lamer Farm**. He was the first of the **Seabrooks** to marry outside the traditional local farming background, his wife being **Anna Maria Maddy**, who was proprietress of a **young ladies' academy** in **Sloane Street Chelsea**.

The influence of **Anna Maria** meant that their first child, **Robert William Hawes Seabrook (born 1870)** was not put into farming, but trained as a schoolteacher. **Lamer Farm** eventually passed to his younger brother **George** and remained in that side of the family until fairly recent times.

**Robert** became well-known in **Wheathampstead**. He was **Clerk to the Parish Council** and **Assistant Overseer**. He also trained musically and for many years was **Organist** at **St Helen's Parish Church**. The family lived in various houses at **Marford** and in **Wheathampstead High Street**, eventually settling opposite the church at the old **Ship Inn**, which they re-named **St Helen's**. His wife was **Maude Godseff**, daughter of a noted plant expert who managed the **orchid nurseries** at **The Camp, St Albans**. They had **nine children** between **1902 and 1919**, two of whom are still alive.

Unfortunately, it was said, **Robert** had another side to his character and had numerous liaisons with local ladies, much to the distress of his wife, who died young in **1936**. **Robert** remarried two years later but died in **1941** and was buried at **Harpenden**. His **first wife and their two daughters** who died in infancy are buried in **St Helen's Churchyard**.

The picture shows **Robert William Hawes Seabrook** wearing his familiar straw boater, about **1935-36**.

All the **Seabrook** children but one moved away from **Wheathampstead**. His oldest son, **Robert William Eric Seabrook** (born **1903**) married and lived in **Harpenden** and was my father. The only one of his siblings to remain in **Wheathampstead** was **Gerald George Seabrook** (born **1904**) who lived with his family at **Church Street** for many years. He married **Gladys Rolph** and their two children **Robin** and **Jane** spent their youth in the village until they married and moved away.

I have an extensive family history of the **Seabrooks** and would be happy to share it with anybody who is looking for information.



### **John Seabrook**

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My great grandfather - **Michael Seabrook** born 25 November **1836**. Died in accident on 6 October **1882**. Great Northern Railway. Married to **Eliza**.

Records in cemetery. His siblings -

**George b. 1826**

**Ann born 1828** (married **Joseph Males** Mar. 21 Maltman b. Codicote)

**William 1830**

**John 1832** (immigrated to N.Z. ancestors then went to Queensland, Australia, then NSW)

**Thomas 1835**

Michael's son Herbert John Seabrook is my grandfather. He married Susie May Yarrow in Paddington, London. They immigrated to Australia approximately 1912.

*Contributed June 2009  
by Jennifer Brooks*

*Contributed Jan 2009*

My great grandfather was **Michael Seabrook** born **1837**. He was killed by a train (6 Oct. **1882**, aged 45). He worked on the Great Northern Railway, and lived in the GNR Cottages in Whitewash Alley, **Hatfield**, Hertford. He was a Station Inspector. He is buried in the **United Reformed** churchyard Wheathampstead, along with his wife **Eliza** (who died 3 April **1897** aged 59) and son **Francis** (who died 15 Mar. **1889** aged 17).

His son, my grandfather, **Herbert John Seabrook**, Coach Painter, immigrated to **Australia**, after marrying **Susie May Yarrow** in **London** (Paddington district). His son, my father, **Ronald Herbert Seabrook** was born in **Victoria**. He eventually moved to NSW. I now live in Valentine, NSW, Australia. 1half hours north of Sydney. Amazing how people move across the world.

I have traced my mothers side back to the UK as well, Ireland and Scotland. My husband's side goes back to the **First Fleet\***. His g,g,g,g, grandmother/grandfather were convicts on the ships Alexander and Friendship respectively. Everyone wants a convict in their ancestry over here . My mother's side is supposed to go back to Belton House but I haven't found the link yet. I am trying to trace Edward Augustus Blount and Eliza Fraser. Edward was born in Bermondsey Surrey, so I'll keep looking there.

JENNIFER BROOKS

*\*The **First Fleet** is the name given to the 11 ships which sailed from Great Britain on **13 May 1787** to establish the first European colony in New South Wales. It was a convict settlement, marking the beginnings of transportation to Australia.*

The **Seabrooks** are a very well known name in Wheathampstead. They go back to the seventeenth century and I believe a Seabrook was once a mayor of St Albans. The Seabrooks I know about here were churchwardens and their signature often appears on manorial court records, but I hadn't heard about the station inspector member of the family.

I got to know **Robert Seabrook** quite well until he died about 15 years ago well into in his eighties, and once met his son who lived in Hitchin. His father had been parish overseer and church organist at St Helen's, also owning several properties in the village. Robert and his wife came to tea here once when he was in his eighties. He used to live in this house and remembered it when they had to get water from the well and

kept a pet owl in a meat safe in the garage. I recorded his stories about life in the village as school boy and choir boy in the 1920s. His friend, **George Hawkins**, came too and they had some wonderful stories about what the mischief they got up to. Some of them are in our book "Wheathampstead Railway Recollections", now out of print.

#### **Burials in St Helen's churchyard**

**Anna Maria Seabrook**, wife of **William** is buried in the churchyard here. She died in **1910** aged 73 years. **William** of Lamer Farm died in **1918** aged 75. Their daughter **Alice May** died in **1963** aged 87 years and is buried with them.

**Ada Mary**, wife of **George John Sabrook** born July 21 **1880**, and **George John Seabrook** born Nov 11 **1874**, died Dec 5 **1954**. "Re-united".

**Doris Evelyn Seabrook**, wife of **George William**, died 15 Aug **1976** aged 69 years, also **George William Seabrook**, died 24 Feb **1983**, aged 75 years.

**Maud Seabrook** /who died Dec 29th **1936** aged 59 years/ also of **Gwendolyn Mary** who died Oct 9th **1914** aged 6 years, 6 months/ and **Pearl Madeleine** who died Feb 23 **1920** aged 2 years 5 months.

**Gerald G. Seabrook 1905-1972/ Gladys M Seabrook 1911-1991.**

#### **Burial in the United Reformed churchyard**

**Michael Seabrook** died Oct 6 **1882** aged 45 years.. "He is not dead but sleepeth"/ also of **Francis** second son of the above who died March 15th **1889** aged 17 years/ also of **Eliza** wife of the above/ departed this life April 3rd **1897** aged 59.

Herts Militia lists give **George Seabrooks** as a farmer in **1772, 1778**

**James Seabrook** as labourer at the Town (farm) from **1758-1762**

**William Seabrook** as labourer from **1758 to 1778** (some years, not all) in Wheathampstead and the Great Cutts (a farm near Mackerye End to the north west of the parish)

I would advise you look in census returns for more information about your Hatfield branch of the family. I know that **Seabrooks** lived in **Wheatsheaf House** in the Wheathampstead high street when **Robert** was a small boy, as he remembered throwing a toy brick into a French horn, tuba or some such big instrument that happened to be marching by in a parade - probably for Red Cross day.

Contributed by Ruth Jeavons, Wheathampstead (Jan 2009)

## Shambrook

My grandmother was born **Martha SHAMBROOK** at **Gustard Wood** in **1874**. Her parents were **Joshua and Sarah (nee HALE)** who married at the parish church Wheathampstead in **1872**. Joshua SHAMBROOK was born at Wheathampstead in **1848**. He was the son of **Daniel and Mary (nee MALES)**. Daniel SHAMBROOK was the son of **Joseph and Elizabeth PARSONS** who married at **Ayot St Lawrence** in **1800**. It is thought that this Joseph was the son of **Joseph SHAMBROOK** and **Sarah (nee TEMPSON)**.

I would like to make contact with anyone with any knowledge of these or other Wheathampstead **SHAMBROOK** families.

Ray VALENTINE

email [ecatray@gmail.com](mailto:ecatray@gmail.com)

Melbourne, Australia

In **1881** the following family were in Gustard Wood

Josh. SHAMBROOK 34 Gustard Wood

Sarah SHAMBROOK 32 Amwell

Mary SHAMBROOK 9 Gustard Wood

Martha SHAMBROOK 7 Gustard Wood

Wm. SHAMBROOK 5 Gustard Wood

Caroline SHAMBROOK 4 Gustard Wood

### 1851 Census

Shambrook at Gustard Wood:

Daniel Shambrook, Mar, 46, Ag Lab, b Whstd

Mary Shambrook, wife, 40, Straw Plait, b Codicote (nee Males)

Elizabeth, dau unnm 20 straw plait b Codicote

Caroline, dau, unnm 13, straw plait b Whstd

Eliza dau 10 scholar, b Whstd

Joshua son 7 scholar, b Whstd

Hester dau 4 scholar b Whstd

Martha, dau 1 b Whstd



Herbert Harry & Martha Valentine

Martha was born at Gustard Wood in 1874, the daughter of Joshua & Sarah Shambrook (nee Hale). Herbert was from Bedford and worked for the Midland Railway. They lived in Hendon after marriage in 1895.



## Sibley

My mothers maiden name was **Sibley** and it's clear from the research done to date that the family come from the Wheathampstead/Harpenden area.

**Francis Sibley, Born c 1610 = Elizabeth Perrie**

|  
**Francis Sibley, Bap 1636 = Martha ?**

|  
**Francis Sibley, Bap 1662 = Mary ?, Married Wh'std 1691**

|  
**Francis Sibley, Bap 1693 = Mary ? Married Wh'std 1718**

|  
**Henry Sibley, Bap 1720 = Sarah Huxley , Married in Harpenden 14-Nov-1753**

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**Huxley Sibley, Bap 1771 = Sarah Lattimore, Married in Wh'std 15-Dec-1799 (Moved to Hackney shortly after and within a year Sarah was dead. Huxley re married.**

I would be interested to learn the surnames of the wife's where there is a question mark against their names. Addresses, wills, and I also believe that **Francis Sibley** (Born c 1610) received a pension from Cromwell, but what was it for? Does anybody know anything about **Sarah Lattimore**? My research has a lot more information that takes the family back even further but until we have sorted it out and verified it's accuracy I don't think that it would be appropriate to publish it. The family are proving very interesting due to strong links to the farming/milling/bakery/oil seed crushing/cattle food industry in the early 1900's with clear evidence that connections to the industry go back generations. Any information of whatever nature that can be provided would be helpful.

Jonathan Clark

10 Jan 2011

Hi, I'm doing my family tree and I have come to a stop on my dad's mums side. All I know is that her name is **Sylvia May Sibley** and she was born march **1904** in **Bishops Stortford**. **Sylvia** married **Albert Munt** who was born in **1903**, they had 2 children. **Sylvia's** parents were called **Arthur Sibley** and **Ellen Lavinia**.



Attached is a picture of **Sylvia** and **Albert** on their wedding day - in the middle are **Sylvia** and **Albert** and behind the bride is **Ellen** who is the 5th from the left and next to her is **Arthur** who is the 4th from the left.



My great grandad is **Albert George Saunders**, he was born in **Wheathampstead** in **1905** and he married a **Winifred Foster born 1905**. I was just wondering if people have any more information on him. **Albert** is with his regiment I think as he is in a soldiers uniform, **Albert** is on the bottom row second from the right.

Lauren Munt

*9 Oct 2008*

I have been researching my family history, and believe that I am descended from **John Sibley** and **Mary Sibley (nee Brown)**. **John Sibley** was born circa **1780** in **Wheathampstead**. They had a son **Henry Sibley** born **1805** in **Wheathampstead** who married **Mary Brackstone** in **Fulham**, London in **1840**.

Regards Ann Wheatland (nee Sibley)

*20 Feb 2005*

## Slough

My great-grandparents are featured in the Wheathampstead Local History Group publication Tales from Old Wheathampstead and Gustard Wood, 1900 -. **John Slough** was born in Gustard Wood c.1846 and married **Ann Archer**, born in **Hog Island** also c 1846. Her father was **James Archer b. 24 April 1823** and I believe her mother's name was **Hannah**. They had four children **John**, Arthur, **Ellen** and **Alfred**. Incidentally, father and son were known as 'Jack'. **Alfred** was my grandfather, and he lived at The **Folly Fields** next to his brother **Jack**. **John Slough** senior had a brother, **Edward**, who was about six years older than him. Both were agricultural labourers. **Ann** is described as a straw plaiter but I'm sure she worked on the land at times. They married in Wheathampstead Parish Church on **20 October 1866** and **John Slough** died on **5 April 1930** and is buried in St Helen's churchyard, with **Ann**, whom I believe died first, but **I cannot trace her date of death** and I need this to erect a memorial.

Brenda Fraser-Newstead

13 May 2011

(Other surnames included: **ANDERSON, ARCHER, CLARK, COATES, CRAIG, DRAPER, EAST, FLOYD, GILBERT, GOODSHIP, HENLEY, HIVES, HOWE, NORTH, POWELL, SAUNDERS, SEAMAN, SEYMOUR, SKINNER, STEAD, TOYER, UPTON ROBINS**)

**WILLIAM SLOUGH** was born in Wheathampstead around **1800**. He married **MATILDA STEAD** 13 October **1828**. She was the daughter of Elisha and Mary Stead, born about 1812 and baptized aged 8 on 12 November **1820**. William and Matilda lived at Gustard Wood and had six children.

1. **FREDERICK SLOUGH** was born 22 August and baptized 13 September **1829**. He married **ANN FLOYD** 22 September **1850**. They lived at St Albans where Frederick ended his days at the Union Workhouse. They were a childless couple.

2. **MARY SLOUGH** was born 29 November **1831** and baptized 7 October **1832**. She married **JAMES NORTH** 28 October **1855**; on the same day her brother married her sister-in-law. James was later an engine driver. They lived at The Orchard, Wheathampstead. Their children were Frederick, Fanny, Emily, Sarah, Ann, Clare and Hatty North.

3. **WILLIAM SLOUGH** was born 7 February and baptized 24 July **1836**. He married **LOUISA NORTH** 28 October **1855**. They lived at Gustard Wood. Their children were:

a. **WILLIAM ALFRED SLOUGH** was baptized 22 June **1856**. He married **SARAH ANN ANDERSON** in **1877**. He was a coal merchant at Shenley. Their children were:

i. **WILLIAM ALFRED SLOUGH** was baptized 23 December **1877**. He cannot be found after the 1881 census.

ii. **ARTHUR FREDERICK SLOUGH** was baptized 31 August **1879**. He was serving with the Royal Horse Artillery in **1901**.

iii. **LILLY FLORENCE SLOUGH** was baptized 31 July **1881**. She cannot be found after the 1891 census.

b. **FREDERICK CHARLES SLOUGH** baptized 13 January **1858**. He probably died in 1863.

c. **ALFRED WILLIAM SLOUGH** baptized 29 April **1860**. He died aged 39 in **1900**. He married **SARAH SEYMOUR** 20 June **1885**. They lived at Gustard Wood and St. Albans. Their children were:

i. **ERNEST JAMES SLOUGH** was baptized 11 July **1886** at Kimpton. He was a grocer and moved to Milford Haven where in **1910** he married **ANNIE BLANCHE SKINNER** from Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire.

ii. **WALTER HENRY SLOUGH** was baptized 27 January **1889** at St Albans. He has not been found after 1901.

iii. **FREDERICK JOHN SLOUGH** was baptized 29 June **1890** at St Albans. He moved to Hornsey Rise and in **1910** married **MATILDA SAUNDERS** from Berkhamstead. They both worked on the railways.

iv. **FRANK THOMAS SLOUGH** was baptized 26 June **1892** at St Albans.

d. **CLARA REBECCA SLOUGH** was baptized 27 July **1862**. She probably died as an infant in 1863.

e. **EMILY ROSA SLOUGH** was baptized 29 August **1869**. She married **HENRY CLARK** in **1897** and their son Alfred was born about 1905. Her son Eustace was raised by his grandmother. There was a daughter who has not been identified.

i. **EUSTACE CHARLES SLOUGH** born Hornsey Rise, Upper Holloway **1896**. He was raised by his grandmother Louise and in the 1901 census is recorded as George Slough. He

married my great aunt **MARION BEATRICE ANSELL** at Wheathampstead on 8 December **1917**. He was then serving with the Army Cyclist Corps. He had volunteered in 1914 and in the course of WWI was twice wounded and gassed. Eustace died 2 May **1969** and Marion 22 December **1978**. They are buried in St Helen's churchyard. Their daughter **JOAN MARIAN SLOUGH** served in the WAAF during WWII and in **1944** married **ALEXANDER A. CRAIG** from Winchburgh, West Lothian. Their children were Mary Ansell Craig and Helen F. Craig. Eustace and Marion had a son **FRANK M. SLOUGH** who married **NELLIE J. SEAMAN**; their children were Elisabeth and Alan Slough.

f. **WALTER FREDERICK SLOUGH** was baptized 29 October **1871**. In **1896** he married **ELIZABETH ELLEN GILBERT** from Norwich. They settled in Kent where he was a gardener. They had no children.

g. **ADA TOTTIE SLOUGH** was baptized 26 August **1877**. She cannot be traced after 1891 and possibly died aged 22 in 1898.

h. **HARRIET KATE REBECCA SLOUGH** (Hetty) was baptized 29 May **1881**. She married **HERBERT JOHN COAT(E)S** in **1899**. They settled in Gustard Wood. Their children were Walter Herbert, Horace Victor, Albert Victor, Percy Edward, Gladys Louise and Lilian May Coates.

4. **EDMUND SLOUGH** was born 27 November and baptized 30 December **1838**. He did not marry. At the St Albans Petty Sessions in **1868**, Edmund Slough of Wheathampstead was sentenced to 21 days hard labour for stealing 13 carrots, worth at least 2d, the property of Mr. **GEORGE UPTON ROBINS** a solicitor and landowner from Somerset resident at Delaport House. This was reported under "More Examples of Justices 'Justice'" in Reynolds Newspaper 1 November 1868.

5. **JOHN SLOUGH** was born about **1845** He married **ANN ARCHER** 20 October **1866**. They lived in Wheathampstead. Their children were:

a. **CLARA ANN SLOUGH** was baptized 20 February **1867**. She married **CHARLES EAST** in **1887**. Later they moved to Long Melford, Suffolk, where he was a gamekeeper. Their children were Charles William, Frederick, Rosie, Harriet, Ellen and Johnnie East.

b. **FREDERICK SLOUGH** was baptized 29 May **1870**. He moved to Battersea and 5 August **1895** married **FRANCES TOYER** from Harpenden at St Paul's Chapel, Battersea. Their children were Frederick and William Slough.

c. **HARRIET SLOUGH** was born **1873** but baptized 26 April 1875. She settled in Battersea where in **1893** she married **WILLIAM CHARLES POWELL**. They had a daughter Elida Powell.

d. **JOHN HENRY SLOUGH** was baptized 25 February **1877**. In **1904** he married **ELIZABETH (POWELL?)**. They lived at The Folly, Wheathampstead and their first children were John, Kathleen and Lilian Slough. John Slough served with the 4th Bedfordshire Regiment in World War I and was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in the Field.

e. **ARTHUR WILLIAM SLOUGH** was baptized 29 August **1880**. He joined Frederick and Harriet in Battersea and in **1899** married **ADA FRANCES HIVES**. Their first child was Arthur Slough.

f. **ELLEN MAUD SLOUGH** was born **1883** and baptized 27 January 1884. In 1901 she was a domestic servant at Wandsworth.

g. **ALFRED SLOUGH** was baptized 28 February **1886**. In **1908** he married **FRANCES MABEL HOWE**. They lived at Cromer Hyde. Their first children were John Alfred and Alice May Slough.

6. **ARTHUR SLOUGH** was baptized 30 July **1849**. He married **MARGARET GOODSHIP** 6 February **1869**. Her parents were **WILLIAM GOODSHIP** and **EMMA née HENLEY** (see my entry under Goodship). Arthur and Margaret lived at Gustard Wood and had a daughter:

a. **EMMA SLOUGH** was baptized 25 June **1871**. She married **CHARLES DRAPER** in **1891**. They lived at Sandridge. Their children were Arthur Charles and Leonard William Draper.

**Note.** At the 1841 census there were five Slough households in Wheathampstead and Harpenden. Only one is dealt with here. Another was headed by **WILLIAM and MARY SLOUGH** whose son **CHARLES SLOUGH** is the subject of a separate entry.

*Contributed by Anthony M. Carter*

*5 Nov 2009*

I am tracing my family tree. My paternal grandmother **Clara Ann** or **Clara Jane** was born in Wheathampstead, 18th Feb. **1867**, she had a sister **Harriet** & brothers **Fred, John & Arthur**. Her father **John** (b.1847) mother **Ann** (nee **Archer**). Her Grandfather also **John** ( b.1816) & Grandmother **Sarah**. I believe her family were farm Labourers.

The **1851** census of the inmates of **Portland Convict Prison, Dorset**, records “**Chas. Slaugh**” aged **22** from “**Withamstead, Hertfordshire.**” He is very likely the son of **William** and **Mary Slough** found in the **1841** census near **Ayres End Farm, Wheathampstead**. This Charles was born **13 May** and baptized **6 June 1830**.

Examination of the recently published criminal records from the National Archives suggested to me that he was gaoled at Portland pending transportation to **Van Dieman’s Land (Tasmania)**. **Charles Slough** was found guilty of stealing a **gelding**, value 5 pounds, from **Edward Biggs** at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey) on 7 January **1850**. The sad background is that **Charles Slough** had worked for **Edward Biggs** for **5 years** and had been dismissed 3 weeks previously for misconduct. Giving evidence at the trial **PC Henry Edwards**, who apprehended Slough, said the latter claimed the horse belonged to Mr Smith of Stockwell Road, St Albans. This was untrue but does bolster the argument that he was a Hertfordshire man. The **sentence** was **transportation** for **7 years**.

Other records show him among the 280 male convicts transported to Van Dieman’s Land on the “**Oriental Queen**,” which sailed from Plymouth **4 November 1852** and arrived **Hobart 19 February 1853**. The indent from this voyage shows that the horse was stolen from **Edward Biggs** of **Marylebone**, no doubt the farmer of **300 acres** found in the census. Although there was a **Biggs** family in **Wheathampstead**, this **Biggs** was from **Buckinghamshire**. The conduct register of **convict 27791** in the **Archives of Tasmania** not only confirms that **Charles Slough** was from **Wheathampstead** but tell us he was 5 feet 7¼ inches tall with a large head and a florid complexion. His hair was dark brown and his eyes blue. He could read and write a little and by profession he was a groom and coachman.

He appears to have been given a Ticket of Leave on 22 November **1853** and had then 13 months to serve before receiving a conditional pardon. He did not entirely reform being sentenced to **9**



**months** hard labour for **larceny** in **1861** and a further **6 months** in **1863** for obtaining 12 loaves of bread under false pretences. It is not known whether Charles Slough has descendants in Australia.

*Contributed by Anthony M. Carter (Aug2009) email: ACarter@health.sdu.dk*

**from 1881 Census**

**Gustard Wood, Wheathampstead**

William SLOUGH M 43 M Kimpton, Head Laborer  
Louisa SLOUGH M 45 F WIFE Plaitter  
William SLOUGH M 24 M Kimpton, Son Laborer  
Alfred SLOUGH U 20 M Kimpton, Son Laborer  
Emily SLOUGH 11 F Kimpton, Daur Scholar  
Walter SLOUGH 9 M Kimpton, Son Scholar  
Ada SLOUGH 3 F Kimpton, Daur Scholar  
Baby SLOUGH 4 d F Kimpton, Daur  
Sarah A. SLOUGH M 23 F Luton, Sons Wife Hat Sewer (Straw)  
Arthur SLOUGH 1 M Wheathampstead, Grand Son

**East Lane, Wheathampstead**

John SLOUGH M 34 M Gustard Wood Head Gravel Digger  
Ann SLOUGH M 34 F Hog Island Wife Plait Sewer  
Clara SLOUGH 14 F Gustard Wood Daur Plait Sewer  
Fred SLOUGH 12 M Pickford Mills Son Scholar  
Harriet SLOUGH 8 F Gustard Wood Daur Scholar  
John SLOUGH 5 M Wheathamstead Son Scholar  
Arthur SLOUGH 8 m M Wheathamstead Son Scholar  
Edmund SLOUGH M 40 M Gustard Wood Lodger Labourer

**Gustard Wood, Wheathampstead**

Arthur SLOUGH M 32 M Wheathampstead, Head Laborer  
Margaret SLOUGH M 30 F Wheathampstead, Wife Plaitter  
Emma SLOUGH 10 F Wheathampstead, Daur Scholar  
Frederic BUNNAGE 7 M Luton,

### **My Wheathampstead Childhood in the 1950s**

(contributed by Marian Smith (nee Wilson))

#### **Tudor Road**

In 1950 my parents moved to Wheathampstead to lodge with my aunt and uncle at **8 Tudor Road**. One of the attractions of the village was the convenient train service to Welwyn Garden City where both my father and uncle were employed at ICI. My parents moved to a newly built house at **17 Tudor Road** after I was born in 1953. My younger brother Ian was born there in 1954.

My earliest recollections of living there were playing freely on the unmade road with neighbouring children. In fact, pushing my dolls' pram along to my cousin's house, the jolting of the rough surface caused components to fall off the prized pram! One winter my cousin and I picked ice off the muddy puddles and ate it, only to be told off by **Mr Avery**. Racing up and down the road on our bikes was a favourite pastime, particularly for the boys. Often we went into **Devils' Dyke** to play but we were slightly afraid of its rather spooky atmosphere and what seemed to be huge sloping banks down into the gully that ran between them. Without our parents and with no sense of trepidation we would go for bike rides on the country lanes to **Nomansland Common** or **Coleman Green** and fishing or swimming in the River Lea near **Lambs' Farm** on Sheepcote Lane. We also used the playing fields with swings and round-a-bouts, which we approached from **Necton Road**.

Initially Tudor Road consisted of 4 pairs of 1937 semi-detached houses, 4 pairs of early 1950s semis and our detached house, with waste land at each end that allowed for speculative house building later. I recall most of the families that lived there and their house numbers:

1. **Mr and Mrs East** with their sons, who included **Richard**; Mr East used to cycle along the road, often with empty bottles clanking in the basket on the front.

3. **Mr and Mrs Sullivan** with their 3 children **Maureen, Arthur and Tony**, who we played with; Mr Sullivan had a motor bike and sidecar.
5. **Mr and Mrs Field** with their 2 older daughters and a dog called Bobby who alarmingly chased anything and anyone that moved; The Fields ran the fish and chip shop on the High Street.
7. **Mr and Mrs Avery**; Mr Avery worked for the Evening Standard and he drove the van fast along the road, leaving a cloud of dust behind.
9. **Mr and Mrs Odell**; Mr Odell was the milkman who made early morning deliveries in a battery operated milk float.
11. **Mr and Mrs Jowett**
13. **Mr and Mrs Page** with their 2 children; **Elaine** who was older than me and the younger **Douglas**
15. **Mr and Mrs Holland** with their daughter **Elizabeth** who was younger than me and wasn't allowed to play on the road with us.
17. **John and Frances Wilson**, my parents
2. **Mr and Mrs Crisp** whose children included **Roger** and he was a play mate
4. **Miss Winnie Cloak and her 2 Brothers**; an elderly family group
6. **Jack and Mirriam Walpole** with their sons **Keith and David**, who were older than us and we admired their go-carts. This family became life-long friends of the Wilson and Welton families.
8. **Norman and Jean Welton** with their children **James and Gillian** (my cousins)

10. A man who rode a motor bike (can't recall his name)
12. **Mr and Mrs Redwood** with their children, who included Andrew, younger than my brother and me
14. A young couple (can't recall their names)
16. **Mr and Mrs Capon**; Mrs Capon gave me her glass slipper ornament which I had admired and I still have it today.

About 1960 the road was renumbered to account for the additionally built houses; we became 13 Tudor Road and favoured play areas with massive ant hills were lost but new friends made, including **Maureen Peg**. In 1962 my youngest brother Neil was born and then we moved to Harpenden to a bigger house.

#### **St Helen's Infant & Junior School**

I started the **infant school** in January 1958; then it was in the Victorian brick and flint building opposite the church. My first teacher was **Miss Squires** (Jenny Ward) who became a life-long friend of our family. I learnt to read from *The Beacon Readers* in my second class. The central hall, which had large folding doors separating two classrooms at each end, was used for assemblies, PE and indoor play. On fine days we played on the cinder track by Bury Green, sometimes supervised by **Mrs Bracey**. There was small room behind the hall that had a pot-bellied stove in the corner where I remember going with a teacher called **Mrs McNally** who taught me how to knit. I recall the outside toilet block that was very chilly and rather smelly. Taking the part of a shepherd in the *Nativity Play*, performed in St Helen's Church, was one of the highlights of my infant schooling.

The **junior school** was a 1930s flat roofed building in the shape of a two-pronged fork with the rear hall forming the handle. I remember that the hall had a dado made with bricks that had the carved names of all the people who had funded the school's construction. The hall was a place for learning from radio programmes such as *Singing Together* or for listening to music like the *Peter and Wolf* on gramophone records and for putting on performances. I was the Bong Tree in *The Owl and the Pussy Cat!* Delicious lunches were prepared and served by **Mrs Latchford** in a canteen building between the main school and the field. There was a huge tarmac yard where we usually played but in the summer we went

on to the field, where there was a WWII air-raid shelter that we were not allowed to go down but of course we did! The *May Queen Parade* and maypole dancing marked the start of the school's summer activities, which culminated in the sports day, when it always seemed to be sunny.

I don't remember the name of my first year junior teacher but I recall her getting very cross with two boys, **Anthony Lewis** and **Philip Ellis**. Philip Ellis ran away from school one day and climbed up St Helen's Church spire which was surrounded with scaffolding for repairs. **Mr Price**, a very strict Welsh man who told us a great deal about coal mining and introduced me to joined-up writing, was my second year teacher. On one occasion some gypsy children were in class and one fell asleep but we were told not to wake him. The third year lady teacher taught me how to use a dictionary, amongst other things. **Mr Hayes**, the headmaster, came in to teach us arithmetic. He lived in Harpenden in a house not far from where my parents had moved in 1962 so he gave me and my brother a lift each day ensuring that my education was not disrupted in the run up to the 11+. My final year teacher was **Mr Crossfield** and his classroom was in an annexe building. He was very strict and gave misbehaving children the slipper. We spent a lot of time preparing for the 11+ but got some rest bite in the afternoons when we used the adjacent craft room, which I loved for the experiences of paint, clay, basketry, needlework and rug-making. Another highlight of the week was going by coach to the swim baths at Kimpton. Mr Crossfield taught me to play the recorder at an after-school club. In my final year my special friends were **Annette Ratuszniak** and **Phillipa Weatherly** but once we moved on to senior schools we went our separate ways.

### **Life in the Village**

Whilst at the infants' school Mum took me to school and often I ran along the tree studded bank that lined Marford Road as Mum pushed her bicycle along the path with my younger brother in a child's seat. Sometimes we would call at **Marshall's Stores** for sundry groceries, other times Mum would take us to the newsagent and sweet shop on the High Street next to the **Post Office** beside the river. Once I started at juniors across the road I stayed for school lunches and was allowed to walk home on my own using footpaths that crossed **The Hill, Conquerors Hill** and onto Tudor Road.

In the 1950s there was no need to travel out of the village for routine shopping and activities. We used **George and Betty Amos's Shoe Shop, Ruth and Eric Smith's Chemist shop, Bob Simmons' Butchery**, the hardware merchant's that had a petrol pump

outside it, the wool shop and the baker's next to the **Police Station** as well as the hairdresser's on **Church Street**. Mum bought fruit and vegetables from a man (Mr Tate, I think) who travelled round the village in an old maroon converted furniture lorry. We went to the library that was housed in a green painted corrugated hall on Bury Green. The Brownies were held there too. Visits to **Doctor Parkinson** at his surgery on The Hill were not as frequent as the visits to **Nurse Smith's East Lane Clinic** to pick up supplies of milk formula, rose-hip syrup and cod liver oil for my younger brothers. I recall the **Memorial Hall** being built in 1961 - it was a place for many kinds of entertainment, including film shows for children, where I first saw *Bambi*.

### **St Helen's Church**

The Church played an important role in my childhood. Sunday morning services and afternoon Sunday School, led by **Kath Gayton**, were frequently attended but the most memorable were the candle-lit Carol Services on Christmas Eve and a Sunday School summer outing to Southend-on-Sea. I was impressed that **Rector George Roe** could sing unaccompanied sections of the liturgy and to my amazement, he was often to be seen cycling round the village with his two Dalmatian dogs attached to each handle bar of his bike. I recall the Church as being very cold and draughty in winter. A heavy wool curtain covered main door which made a clatter on its metal runners as the Verger, **Ron Cox**, drew it back to let in late comers. (**Lynton Cox**, the Verger's son, was in my class at St Helen's and Ron Cox built the front wall of our garden.) After my parents and my cousins had moved to Harpenden the two families remained parishioners, continuing to attend services and belonging to the Church Choir for many years. Most of us had moved away to other parts of the country by the 1980s except my parents, who were faithful attendees until they passed away. **Fran and John Wilson's** ashes were scattered in the Garden of Remembrance in 2009 and 2011 respectively. Their children (**Marian, Ian and Neil**) have honoured their parents' memory and their own happy recollections of the village with a memorial bench in the churchyard.

The '**SMITH FAMILY**' lived at the **Folly**, Lower Luton Road Wheathampstead. Is there anyone who remembers **Albert Smith**? Who worked for SMITH BROS BUILDERS. Was

wed to **Millie Arnold**, also **Henry Charles** who wed **Sarah Mayles**.

I would like any info on this family!!

SYLVIA CASTLEMAN    email - [tands@castleman25.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:tands@castleman25.fsnet.co.uk)

Anyone remember the names who played in the football team at the folly fields, Lower Luton Rd, in the 50s and 60s, apparently they were a good team.

Any info, photos, not getting much luck with my family search name SMITH, is there anyone out there can help me?

Wishfull thinking!

Regards sylvia castleman entry Nov 2004

## Sparrow

My name is Jean O'Neill, nee Sparrow, my grandparents were **Thomas (Tom) and Florence Sparrow** who lived in **Necton Road, Wheathampstead**. Thomas was a councillor on both the Wheathampstead Parish Council and St. Albans Rural District Council. My father **Robert Victor (Bob) Sparrow**, also of Necton Road, was also a councillor on both councils, and a well known figure like his father in the village. I would love to hear from anyone who has any information about them, however small, or perhaps an old photograph of any of my family.

*Contributed April 2009*

These are family photographs contributed by Ann Henderson (nee Sparrow) in 2002



**Thomas Sparrow (seated),  
Alfred Sparrow (died in First World War)**



**Florence Sparrow with Amy and Alfred**





**Thomas & Florence Sparrow  
with Robert and Ann**

## Steed

### STEED FAMILY Generation No. 1

1. **ELISHA**<sup>1</sup> **STEED** was born **1779** in Luton, and died **1854** in Saint Albans<sup>1</sup>. He married **MARY CRAWLEY** 29 January **1802** in **Wheathampstead**. She was born **1771**, and died October **1848** in **Wheathampstead**<sup>2</sup>.

#### Notes for **ELISHA STEED**:

Despite marrying in Wheathampstead he spent the first years of his marriage in St Pauls Walden before moving back at some point between 1810 and 1816. Some Ratepayers accounts survive for him in Wheathampstead showing that he lived in a property owned by **James Mardell** during the years 1837 to 1841. In 1841 the census shows him living on the East Lane in Wheathampstead and working as an Agricultural Labourer. He and his wife shared the house with his daughter **Eliza** and her husband Henry Mondin and their 3 year old daughter Rebecca. It is not known at what point he entered the Saint Albans Union Workhouse, although it may tie in with his wife's death in 1848, but he was a resident Pauper at that institution in 1851.

Children of **ELISHA STEED** and **MARY CRAWLEY** are:

- i. **MARY**<sup>2</sup> **STEED**, b. **1802**, Saint Pauls Walden.
- ii. **THOMAS STEED**, b. **1802**, Saint Pauls Walden; d. February 1803, Saint Pauls Walden.
- iii. **SARAH STEED**, b. **1804**, Saint Pauls Walden.
- iv. **GEORGE STEED**, b. **1806**, Saint Pauls Walden; m. **MARY WOOD**, 23 December **1826**, Wheathampstead; b. **1801**.
- v. **JOHN STEED**, b. **1809**, Saint Pauls Walden; d. **1887**; m. **REBECCA CATLINE**, 24 December **1832**, Wheathampstead; b. **1809**, Codicote; d. **1853**, Kimpton.  
Notes for **JOHN STEED**: In **1881** he was living with his son William on the High Street in Kimpton and marked as an invalid.
- vi. **MATILDA STEED**, b. **1814**, Wheathampstead; d. December **1872**, Wheathampstead; m. **WILLIAM SLOUGH**, 13 October **1828**, Wheathampstead; b. **1794**, Wheathampstead; d. October **1874**, Wheathampstead.  
Notes for **MATILDA STEED**: In **1871** they lived in Gustard Wood in Wheathampstead with their sons **Edmund** and **Arthur** and his wife **Margaret**.
- vii. **ELIZA STEED**, b. 18 January **1816**, Wheathampstead; d. December **1890**, Wheathampstead<sup>3</sup>; m. **HENRY MONDIN**, 15 October **1836**, Wheathampstead; b. **1812**, Wheathampstead; d. December **1893**, The Hill, Wheathampstead<sup>4</sup>.  
Notes for **ELIZA STEED**: In **1841** Eliza was living with her husband and first daughter Rebecca on the East Lane in Wheathampstead. During the next 10 years she had 4 children of which 1, **Charles**, must have died as he was not recorded with the family on East lane in **1851**. At that time **Eliza** and her daughters **Rebecca** and **Emma** were all employed as Straw Plaiters. Neither **Eliza** or her children **George** and **Emma** were working in **1861**. Her husband Henry was an Agricultural Labourer and they all lived at Orchard Cottages in Wheathampstead where they were also recorded in **1871**. By **1881** **Eliza** had moved to Necton Road where the property was shared with her daughter **Elizabeth**, her husband **William Crawley** and their daughter **Elizabeth**.  
Notes for **HENRY MONDIN**: In **1841** **Henry** was living in Wheathampstead on the East Lane next door to his wife's parents. In **1851** he still lived in the same place in Wheathampstead and was employed as an Agricultural Labourer. His wife and daughters **Rebecca** and **Emma** were all working as Straw Plaiters. By **1861** he had moved his family to Orchard Cottages in Wheathampstead and was supporting his wife and children **Emma** and **George**. He lived

in the same house in **1871** and both he and his son **George** were Agricultural Labourers. His daughter **Elizabeth** was at school. By **1881** his daughter **Elizabeth**, a Straw Bonnet Sewer, had moved into his house in Necton Road with her husband **William Crawley** and her daughter **Elizabeth**. **William** was not working so Henry may have been supporting them all from his wages as a Labourer. This act of kindness may be the reason why after the death of his wife he was living with **Elizabeth** and **William** at Wheathampstead Hill in **1891**.

Marriage Notes for **ELIZA STEED** and **HENRY MONDIN**: Witnessed by **Samuel Churchill** and **Rebecca Mondin**.

viii. **WILLIAM STEED**, b. 26 April **1818**, Wheathampstead; m. **CHARLOTTE**; b. **1835**, Walthamstow. Notes for **WILLIAM STEED**: In **1881** **William** was living at 32 Summerfield Street in Lee in Kent with his wife **Charlotte**, a Washer, and son **Elisha**, an Errand Boy. **William** was not working.

ix. **JAMES STEED**, b. 17 September **1820**, Wheathampstead; d. November **1821**, Wheathampstead.

#### Endnotes

1. St Albans Volume 3a Page 147 December 1854, Death Certificate for Elisha Steed.
2. St Albans Volume 6 Page 335 December 1848, Death Certificate for Mary Crawley.
3. St Albans Volume 3a Page 326 December 1890, Death Certificate for Eliza Steed.
4. St Albans Volume 3a Page 358 December 1893, Death Certificate for Henry Mondin.

Contributed by Matthew Butcher

*September 2006*

#### Steel

I could add to the Steel entry. I am **Theo STEEL** grandson of **Frank STEEL** and god son of **Charles Theodore Jacob**.

**Charles Denton STEEL** married to **Fanny Sophia** and buried at Wheathampstead was the eldest of 9 siblings, **Edwin Bedford** was the youngest.

**CDS** returned from **India** in **1909** where he was latterly a judge in Uttar Pradesh (then United Provinces) and after living in **Bedford** and **Westcliff on Sea** came to **Wheathampstead** where he lived at the **Red House** from we think **1921** until his death in **1942**. Various of his children continued to live in the **Red House** until **1960**.

His children were as follows, all are believed to have been born in **India** - my grandfather **Frank** was baptised in **Cawnpore (Kanpur)** with **Ouri** shown as place of birth.

**Ethel** born **1881** and died in **Dublin 1964** - she is buried with her daughter **Jean** in **Dublin**. **Ethel** married **Fergus Gordon Anderson**, a tea planter (he died in **1914** and is buried in **Leigh on Sea**), and had 3 children **Malcolm** (born **1905** and died in infancy), **Beryl** born **1906** who married and died in **1938**, and **Jean** born in **1911** who married **Richard O'Sullivan** and had 6 children before passing away in **1969**. The family do not know where **Beryl** rests.

**Ethel, Beryl and Jean** lived at the **Red House** in the **1930's** and **Ethel** left to go to **Ireland** in **1960**.

**Charles Troughton STEEL** was born in **1884** and was cared for by his family all his life. He lived at the **Red House** with his father and later sister until **1960** when he went to a nursing home for the final years of his life - he died in **1964** and was cremated at **Watford**.

**Dorothy** was born in **1887** and married **Charles Theodore Jacob** - they were childless and were in **Tuticorin India** until **1930** where **CTJ** was a shipping agent. They retired to St Albans and lived at the **Red House** from **1944** to **1960** when **Dorothy** died and was buried at **Wheathampstead**. **CTJ** then moved to **Westcliff on Sea** where he died in **1965**. They are buried in the **Wheathampstead** churchyard.

**John Valentine** was born in **1891** and died in **1978**. He was in the army in the **1914 -8** war and transferred to the **Royal Flying Corps**. He served in **Iraq** for the **RAF** in the **1920's**. He married first **Ingrid** and later **Gwen** - they never lived in **Wheathampstead** and he died childless. **JV** was cremated in **Leeds** where he lived from the **1950's**.

**Frank** was born in **1893** and died in **1975**, he married **Isobel May STEEL** in **1917**. He was in the **Army** and later **RFC** in the **1914 -8** war and later served the **Maharaja** of **Jodhpur** from **1925** to **1946** - rising to **Finance Minister**. He never lived in **Wheathampstead**. He had one son **LF STEEL** who married **Muriel** - they are my and **Robin STEEL's** parents. **FS** and **IMS** rest at **Southend on Sea** crematorium.

from **Theo Steel** email:

**August 2011**

The relatives I've found were **Charles Denton STEEL** (retired from Indian Civil Service) and his wife **Fanny Sophia STEEL** (nee **TROUGHTAN**) who both died at 'Red House, Wheathampstead' (I don't know if they lived there) according to two obituaries from The Times newspaper (online archive). The dates for **Charles** and **Fanny STEEL**: **Fanny** died aged about **75** in **1930** and **Charles** died in **1942** aged **88**. **Charles** and **Fanny** had three children including a **Frank Steel**, who was in the **RAF**; he married a **Ms BRADLY** and they had a son **Laurence F STEEL**, who married a **Ms LUCAS**. (most address related to these are in India etc, not Herts)

I also read a note that was a bit faded on a hand-written family tree that said: '**Beryl JACOBS** d. (died) Wheathampstead, Harpenden,' (date of death not written) **Beryl** was a niece of **Charles D STEEL**, daughter of his sister, **Dorothy STEEL**.

Also another **STEEL** relative, I think called **Beryl**, I think daughter of **Charles Theodore JACOB**, also died at 'Red House' but I'm not sure of any details/dates.

A booklet on the monuments in the St Helen's churchyard in Wheathampstead (1994) shows:-

**Dorothy JACOB** (nee **STEEL**) **17Oct1887 - 11Aug1960** and her husband **Charles Theodore JACOB** **16Feb1881 - 14Dec1965**

**Fanny Sophie** wife of **G D STEEL July 1856 2 Dec 1930** / **Charles Denton STEEL Feb 25 1854 Jan 17 1942**

Another way to show some of this is:-

Charles Edward Steel = Frances Bedford#

#Charles Denton Steel = Fanny Sophia Troughton\* (Both died in Wheathampstead)

\*John Steel

\*Dorothy Steel=Charles Theodore Jacob~

~Beryl Jacob ((Possibly died in Wheathampstead, like Charles, Fanny & Dorothy))

~Bridget Jacob

\*Frank Steel = Isabel May Bradley^

^Laurence Frank Steel = Muriel Edith Lucas

#Edwin Bedford Steel = Ethel Mary Robinson

Christopher Bedford Steel = Ivy Topham

Alison Joyce Steel = Peter Steer

My Mum

Me (Jessica Stella Fox)

Jessica Stella Fox.

*updated 10th Aug 2006*

## Swain

Found the history of 1901 very interesting. My grandfather **George Edward SWAIN** was born that year in Ellsville? The family moved to Wheathampstead soon afterwards. His parents were **George Thomas** and **Ada SWAIN**. Both are buried in St Helens. He died in **1931** and she in **1946**. Does anybody remember them or their family? I believe there were about 10 children in all.

sharon truby email sharontruby@aol.com

stroud, Glos, England - Thursday 12 February 2004

We am looking for information on Batford old boys football club my great grandfather George Thomas Swain was club chairman sometime in early 1900s. Can anyone help.?

### 1851 Census

Swain at Bower Heath:

Elizabeth Swain, Wid, 71 Charwoman, b Norfolk

Edward Reed, son-in-law, 48, Ag lab b Whstd

Susannah Reed, dau, mar, 45, b Norfolk

John Reed, grandson, 10 b Whstd

George Reed, grandson 4 b Whstd

Swain at Causewell Farm:

Emma Swain, unnm 19, House Servant b Colney, Herts

Employed by William A. & Ellen Grigg, Farmer of 150 acres employing 7 labourers.

Swain at Mackery End Farm:

Thomas Swain, unnm 31, Shepherd, b Kimpton

Employed by Elizabeth Wilmott, Wid, & family, Farmer of 300 acres employing 12 labs.

## Swain

My grandmother was Louie Marcia Swain, born 13.7.1899 at the Folly. George Fenwick Elias Harding, (always know as Fen) my grandfather, born 6.11.1894 East Lane, Wheathampstead married. 8.9.1915.died 19.11.1977. Together they developed a property business, building, painting, decorating and signwriting. Fen also did some undertaking. See also **Harding** family.

**Louie Marcia Swain** ( middle row right) Wheathampstead School C 1913



**Louie Swain's parents** - Walter Swain, born 10.10.1865, died 1.5.1949 & Annie Wright born 11.11.1870.died 8.9.1915

**Walter Swain's Parents** - William Swain, born, 1840 died 3.1.1914 Kimptom & Sarah Carter.b 1842 died 24.8.1914

**Annie Wright's parents** - James (Jimmy) Wright, born 1850, died 20.3.1941 & Eliza Crawley born ? 1850.

**William Swain's parents** - John Swain, born 1812 Kimptom & Susan Carter born 1820 Kimpton

**James Wright's parents** - George Wright, born 1819 & Sarah, born 1817

**Sarah Carter's parents** - George Carter, born 1817 W'hampstead & Mary Cobb born 1815 Kimptom. Lived in Gustard Wood

**Eliza Crawley's parents** - Samuel Crawley, born, 1820, Married 2.12.1839 Elizabeth born, 1825 Whitwell

**George Carter's parents** - William Carter born 9.12.1776 died 29.11.1857 & Mary Olds. Also known as Mary Olles born 1780, died 4.3 .1848

All this information has been gathered from Family members, Family Bible, Wheathampstead Village web page (early names **Carter**) submitted by Arthur Holdford. Census returns, LDS website, [www.Rootsweb.com](http://www.Rootsweb.com).

I will be pleased to hear from anyone who has more information especially relating to the **Harding / Scadding / Scetting** families.

Pauline Masters, nee Harding. Email -

*contributed Jan 2006*

## Sygrove

My name is **Jane Lockley**. my maiden name was **SYGROVE** and the pub I mentioned being the **Cross Keys** was my grandparents pub many years ago. My Grandfather died late **1969**, and Nan continued to run it for a while by herself but unfortunately had to sell.

I'll be interested to find out your interest in the pub. Have you any info on this topic as I'm doing a family tree. Any info. would be great. I spent a lot of my childhood in that pub - so upset when it went. Good memories I have.

Thanks Jane.

## Thrale

You can find useful information at this web site <http://www.thrale.com/>  
and specifically for Wheathampstead at: [http://www.thrale.com/thrales\\_wheathampstead](http://www.thrale.com/thrales_wheathampstead)

### 1851 Census

Thrale at The Boot, High Street:

Thomas Thrale, Mar, 25, Baker & Beer Seller b Luton, Beds

Eliza Thrale, wife, 24 b Whstd

Sarah Thrale dau, 2 b Whstd

Thomas R. Thrale, son 1m b Whstd

James Peacock, relative, unnm 26 Ag Lab b Whstd

Henry O'Dell, lodger unnm 22, Fishmonger, b Whstd

Thrale at High Street

William Thrale, Unm, 23, Baker Master, b Luton, Beds

Thrale at Cross Keys, Gustard Wood:

Norman Thrale, Nephew, unnm 19 Miller journeyman b Luton, Beds

Working for John & Mary Sibley, Shoemaker & Victualler



## Tidd / Tydd

My three times great grandfather **George TIDD** was born in **Wheathampstead** in **1801** to **Daniel TIDD** and **Sarah ROBERTS/ROBARDS**. Daniel was a **carpenter** and after George's birth they moved to Deptford. I'm having trouble finding out who Daniel's parents were; too many TIDDs, not enough information!! Daniel and Sarah were married in **King's Walden 29 April 1799**. Visit my website to see my TIDD family connections at: [www.tribalpages.com/tribes/tiddly](http://www.tribalpages.com/tribes/tiddly)

Melissa Zimmerman

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## Warner

My 4x grandparents where **Edward Warner** born **Harpenden 1794** and **Mary Fitzjohn** born **Sandridge 1793**. They settled at **Wheathampton** and had 9 children there. Their daughter **Sarah Warner**, born **1822**, is my 3 x grandmother. Her daughter, **Harriet** born **1842**, was reared by her grandparents till they died. **Harriet** then worked at a local pub as a servant. Her fathers name was **Thomas Brindle** (have nothing on him at all) but **Sarah Warner** married a **George Draper** in **1847**.

**Harriet** married **Thomas Franklin** in **1864** and had 12 children - they lived in **Lobble Lane, Shenley** untill **Thomas** died in **1893**. After that the children seemed to have moved all over the place.

My other family surnames are **Clark**, **Webb**, **Fitzjohn** , and **Franklin** but they all seemed to have come from **Sandridge** to start with and later moved to **Harpenden** and **Shenley**.

Cheers, Cassy

*added August 2009*

## Welch

Hi. Just looking at your web site and found the name of **Welch** I am very interested in this name as I am doing a family tree and I am stuck. All the Welch family I am researching come from **Flamstead** which is not very far from Wheathampstead. I am stuck in **1767** a **William Welch** I just don't know where he came from if you know any one with an interest in this name please let me know.

Update April 2002 - I am a bit further in my family tree I am now looking for a **James Knot** from **Wheathampstead** who married **Ann Welch** by licence in **1787** - witnesses to the marriage were **George Burchmore** and **George Andrews**. I do not know where the witnesses came from.

Mrs Mary Mealey -

**Webmasters note:** Some members of a Welch family were resident and born in Wheathampstead as evidenced by the 1881 Census.

### 1851 Census

Welch at Leasy Bridge Farm:

Benjamin Welch, Mar 36 Ag Lab b Whstd

Mary Welch, wife, 44 b Boddington, Northants (nee Needham)

Emma Welch dau 12 straw plait, children all b Whstd

Benjamin, son, 10 ag lab

William, son 7 scholar

Mary dau 5

Helen dau 2

Joseph Munt, Serv, Unm, 18, Shepherd b Sandridge

Henry George, Serv, Unm 18, Horsekeeper b Whstd.

Welch at Holly Bush Hall:

Mary Welch, Wid, 65, Charwoman b Whstd (wid of Edward) (nee Collins)

Edward Welch, son, unmm 19, Ag Lab b Whstd

Francis Collins, son, Mar, 26, Ag Lab b Whstd

Ann Collins, wife, 31 b Kimpton

William Collins, grandson 3 b Whstd

George Collins, grandson 0 b Whstd

Welsh at High Street:

Sarah Welsh, house servant, unmm. 15, b Whstd

Servant to George & Sarah Nash, Grocer & Draper.

## Westwood

"**James and Sarah Westwood** nee **Aldridge** ... Living at the **Steamer Public house** Welwyn in 1861... James was born in Ayott St Peters around **1853**...They went on to have five children, one being **John** junior (my great grandfather). **John** junior married **Mary Ann nee Gray** at Wheathampstead in **1871**. They also had a son **Thomas** known as Tom (my grandfather) who I believe owned a **builders and estate agents** in High St, Wheathampstead. **Tom** had 3 children **Mary** who died in 1944 (she was only 27 yrs old), **Sarah or Cathy** and **Jack**. Jack I'm told went on to look after Mary's two children after her death.

Many thanks Kerry

*added Oct. 2007*

I am looking for any information on **Mary Eileen Winifred Westwood** who I believe lived in **Wheathampstead** and went on to marry **Harrold Jones**, they had two sons, **Martin** and **Christopher** born in the **1940's**.... They later moved to Oak Cottage in Old Welwyn?..(so I'm told)....  
Many Thanks, Kerry - *added Feb. 2006*

My father was **Ted Westwood**, the village **blacksmith** until his death in **1980**. His father was also Wheathampstead's village Blacksmith. I'm not sure whether the tradition goes back further generations but if anyone out there knows please tell me. I'd like to know more of my families history and ties to the village.

My grandfather, **Harry George Westwood** had a forge (H G Westwood & Son) behind the **Bull** public house, in what is now the car park. My father took this over with his brother **Alf** on the death of their father. The forge then moved down to the end of **East Lane**, by the river (and sewage works).

My father, **Ted**, married **Joyce Pearce**, who lived next door to him in Necton Road. They had 3 children. We lived in **Brewhouse Hill**, moving to **Ceasars Road** later on. We have all moved out of the area now. I live in North Norfolk and have no reason now to come back to Wheathampstead. The last Westwood of my family still living there died last year.

I know my father had ties with the **Titmuss** family and my mother also worked for them. If anyone can help me fill in my family history please send me an e-mail [sandi.westwood@btinternet.com](mailto:sandi.westwood@btinternet.com)

Sandi Westwood.



Added 29/04/04

I am trying to put together a family tree of the **Westwoods** from **Wheathampstead** so far got back to nineteenth century, we go back a lot further, can anyone help me on this. I would be grateful for any little information you could add.

Thank you  
Paul westwood  
Harpenden, herts, uk

Added 30/09/2007

### 1851 Census

No Westwood's in 1851

**Descendants of John Westwood** (research by Roger H Euinton with added data by Paul Westwood and [further info](#) from Sandi above )

*added June 2004*

1 John Westwood  
+Elizabeth  
..2 Thomas Westwood 1760-Dead  
.. +Sarah Salter m1774 -Dead  
....3 John Westwood -Dead  
.... +Mary Autt m1803 -Dead  
.....4 Sarah Westwood -Dead  
.....4 John Westwood -Dead  
.....4 Elizabeth Westwood -Dead  
.....4 Emma Westwood -Dead  
.....4 George Westwood -Dead  
.....4 Thomas Westwood -Dead  
..... +Sarah Aldridge m1849 -Dead  
.....5 James Westwood 1850-Dead  
..... +Mary Ann  
.....6 Ada Mary Westwood -Dead  
..... +Edward Wetherall 1898-1969

.....6 Henry George Westwood  
.....5 Thomas Westwood 1852-Dead  
.....5 Henry Westwood 1855-Dead (Whstd blacksmith)  
.....6 Grace Westwood  
.....6 Alfred Westwood (Whstd blacksmith)  
.....6 James Westwood -2003  
..... +Joan  
.....6 Edward Westwood (Whstd blacksmith)  
..... +Joyce Pearce  
.....6 Phyllis Westwood -2000  
.....6 Dolly Westwood  
.....5 John Westwood 1857-Dead  
..... +Amy  
.....6 Wilfred Henry Westwood  
..... +Margery Moore  
.....6 Queeny Westwood  
..... + ?  
.....6 Pops Westwood  
..... +Percy North  
.....5 Emily Westwood 1859-Dead  
.....5 William George Westwood 1862-1928  
..... +Minnie Sarah Charlotte Gray m1895 1864-1944  
.....6 Doris Ann Westwood 1898-1958  
.....6 William Charles Westwood 1899-1962  
..... +Cissie Margaret English m1932 1905-1949  
.....6 Ernest James Westwood 1901-1901  
.....6 Gladys Minnie Westwood 1902-2001  
..... +Wilfred Reginald Euinton m1932 1903-1955  
.....7 Roger Henry Euinton  
..... +Jean Margaret Collins m1958  
.....7 Barry Euinton  
.....6 Bernard George Westwood 1905-1975  
..... +Lilian Ewer -Dead  
.....5 Sarah Anne Westwood 1865-Dead  
....3 Elizabeth Westwood -Dead  
....3 George Westwood -Dead  
....3 George Westwood -Infant  
....3 William Westwood -Dead

....3 Elizabeth Westwood-Dead  
....3 Thomas Westwood -Dead  
....3 Henry Westwood -Dead  
....3 Sophie Westwood -Dead  
....3 James Westwood -Dead  
....3 Robert Westwood -Dead  
....3 Vincent - Dead  
....3 William Westwood -Dead  
..2 Ann Westwood -Dead  
..2 Edward Westwood -Dead  
..2 Edward Westwood -Infant  
..2 Elizabeth Westwood -Dead  
..2 George Westwood -Dead  
..2 James Westwood -Dead

## Wheatley

I have been trying to do some research on the **George Wheatley** family. **George Wheatley** would be my great-grandfather. He married **Mary Ann Wheeler** in approximately March, **1872**. The **Wheeler** family seems to have a very long history in Wheathampstead, dating back to **Joseph** and **Joshua Wheeler** (born in **1814** and married to **Mary Ann Hornet**). I have been searching for any descendants of this family as we will be travelling to London on **May 10th** of this year and will be visiting Wheathampstead during that time. If there are any descendants or anyone who could give me information on these early families or someone to whom I could send an e-mail for information I would be very grateful.

My grandmother was **Alice Kate Wheatley**, married to **Sidney Montague Pope** in **1899**. In **1901** they officially changed their name to **Priske**, registered in St. Helen's Church. They emigrated to Canada in **1909/1910**.

Kathy Jones

*Contributed April 2009*

I am researching my grandmother's family. Her maiden name was **Alice Kate Wheatley**, one of six sisters, parents **George** and **Mary Ann (Wheeler) Wheatley**. I have been able to find another **George**, the father of the **George** mentioned above and I can see that the family goes even further back than that when trying to find more ancestors. It seems as though they were in Wheathampstead for many generations.

She married **Sidney Montague Pope** on September 17, **1899**, the marriage was in the Parish Church of Willesden. Both **Sidney Montague** and **George Wheatley** worked for the railway, **George** as a plate layer and **Sidney** as a loco' cleaner. Their address of registration at the time of marriage for both was **2 Bridge Road**.

Kathy Jones email:

*Contributed 14 Dec 2008*

## Wilsher

I read with great interest the article from **Harry Wilsher** added on 3rd May 2006 and wondered if this could be passed on to him or if it might be of interest to others....

He wrote "**William Wilsher** the first son of John and Sarah ( Thrale ) Wilsher married a Phobie ( Brown) about 1862. From 1871 and 1881 census of Wheathampstead William and Phobie Wilsher had 7 children. William is listed as a plumber in 1871 and a painter in 1881. Phobie is listed as a straw hat maker. Phobie had a son Henry Brown born in London about 1800 from a previous marriage. I have more details on file if required."

I am descended from the **Henry Brown**, Phoebe's first son who **William** brought up as his own son with **Phoebe** and would be interested in any further information that he may have. I cant actually find a record of the marriage between **Phoebe** and **William** and indeed we also think that **Dennis Pearce** (**Sarah Elizabeth Wilshire's** son) was unable to find it in the 1940s & 50s.

An update kindly provided by Sandra Pender. - **William Wilsher & Phoebe Brown** (nee **Gray**) married on 27th Sep 1863 in St Dunstan West, West London. Phoebe's younger brother (by 2 years) witnessed the wedding along with **Eliza Gray**.

Indeed some years later after the birth of **Henry Arthur's** first son (called **Henry William** in respect of **William Wilsher**) this boy, **Henry William Brown** went to live from age 4 and was brought up by **William & Phoebe**

I am very keen to track down a photograph or a photo of a drawing of **William** although he wasnt a blood relative he played a very important part in the life of our family. I am also looking for any pictures of Phoebe & the rest of the family if possible.

I have a couple of (scanned) photos of **Sarah Elizabeth Wilshire** with my Grandfather **Henry William Brown** that I can send if they are of interest.

kind regards Paul Goodwin (my mother was the last Brown of the line).

*contributed 11 April 2009*

**Contribution from Judy Jones**

*5 Jan 2009*

*(The following makes references to the contribution from Harry Wilsher further down this page.)*

The middle name of **BROC** which has been handed down over many generations since the **1700s** is actually spelt **BROCK**. However, **Harry's** sibling **Frederick Broc Wilsher** may have spelt his middle name that way - I am not sure, but in my branch, the name has always been **BROCK** and says so on the marriage cert of **George BILLOWS** and **Mary BROCK 1805**. I am also attaching the family



group sheet of the **Edward BILLOWS** and **Ann CHARMBURY** with their children - I think that Harry didn't have them all and not in correct order. Also, **Ann BILLOWS (nee CHARMBURY)** died **1884**, not **1886**.

Mary Brock Billows  
Gladys Charmbury Brock Billows  
George Walter Brock Billows (my father)  
Samuel Ashton Brock Jones (my son)

My husband, **Stephen Ashton Jones** was born 14 July **1953** Fredericksburg Virginia. Where **Harry** mentioned that **Thomas George Wilsher** visited **England** in **1948**, he would not have visited his mother. I have conclusive proof that she died in **1924** as **Eliza Jane Turner**. She was **married 3 times!!** and was divorced from **Thomas George Wilsher Sr** in **1876**. She married **John Calverley** in **1882** - her lover and then a **Jonah Turner** in **1891**.

**Eliza Jane Turner died 18 Nov 1924** at 349 Hitchin Rd, **Luton, Bedfordshire**. Extract from the **TIMES** of 25th May **1876**

#### **Wilsher v Wilsher & Calverley**

Mr Middleton appeared for the petitioner. The petitioner, a baker **married** the respondent on 18 October **1863** at St Mary's, **Islington** and lived with her at **Folly, Wheathampstead**. There are **two children**. In August **1873**, the petitioner discovered that his wife had committed adultery with the co-respondent, and she has since lived with him at **Notting Hill**. Decree nisi with costs.

The petition went on as follows:

That after his said marriage, your petitioner lived happily with his said wife until his said wife became addicted to excessive drinking when upon your petitioner remonstrating with her she habitually used abusive and threatening language to him. That on one occasion in the month of July **1873**, the said **Eliza Jane Wilsher** left home early in the day and returned at midnight in a state of intoxication and on your petitioner remonstrating with her rushed at him and assaulted him with her fists. That on the morning following the occasion last mentioned, the said **Eliza Jane Wilsher** left home taking the youngest child and remained away for 14 days at the end of which time she besought the petitioner to forgive her and receive her back which your petitioner did on her promising to remain sober. That on or about the 9 August **1873**, the said **Eliza Jane Wilsher** committed adultery with **John Calverley** at the **Rose and Crown** public house at **Folly, Wheathampstead** aforesaid.

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I believe that both **Thomas George Wilsher Jr 1864 - 1953** and his sister, **Adeline Kate Wilsher** were both born in **Wheathampstead**, contrary to what Harry has said. "The Folly" is in Wheathampstead. **Harpenden** is where **Adeline Kate Wilsher** and her father lived in his later years.

Thanks, Brian.  
Best wishes, Judy



**Thomas George Wilsher's family taken circa 1910 most likely in Brisbane.**

Thomas George Wilsher and Mary Brock Billows with children, left to right - Gladys Charmbury Brock Wilsher sitting next to her mother, Mary Brock Billows, George Tindall Thrale Wilsher standing between his parents and Adeline Mary Wilsher.

*2 May 2006*

Picture on right taken at St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead on 4 Sept 2005. From L to R - Brian Joyce, **Harry Wilsher**, Ruth Jeavons, **Jaqui Wilsher**, Doreen Glynn, Laurence Mallett.

[Link to Wilsher family](#)



**Thomas George Wilsher** was born 12 May 1864 in **Wheathampstead**, married **Mary Brock Billows** 10 Nov 1885 in **Melbourne**, Australia, and died 4 June 1953 in **Brisbane**, Australia. Thomas was a confectioner and later a salesman for a biscuit company in Brisbane. Incidentally the mother of **Mary Brock Billows** was **Ann Billows** who died in Wheathampstead aged 62 in first quarter of 1884. **Ann Billows** (her mother was **Ann Charmbury** nee **Joyce**) was born 23 Jan 1822 in Poole, and married 25 Sep 1841 in Blandford Forum.

*11 September 2002*

**1881 Census** for The Folly, Wheathampstead, gives  
Thomas WILSHER Marr age 41 born Wheathampstead - Master Baker  
Sarah C. WILSHER his wife age 32 born Hatfield  
Thomas G. WILSHER age 16 Son - Baker

**Contribution from Judy Jones** email (September 2003)

Hello! Just making a comment that **William Wishere** who donated the land to **Richard Kilby** was my ancestor. I was very interested to read the article about the house Guelders. I knew that **Mary Ann Wilsher** had married **John Kilby**

**WILLIAM WILSHER**, was baptised 22nd October, 1767 with his brother, **George** in Sandridge. Parents were **William Wilsher** and **Mary Goodman** who married 1766 Sandridge.

**William** was a single man of Ayot St. Lawrence when he married **Susan George**, single woman of Sandridge 26th November, 1792 in Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire.

**Susan GEORGE** was baptised February, 1773 in Ayot St. Lawrence, the 5th child of **John George** and **Elizabeth Harrison** who married 27th April, 1761 in Hatfield.

**William Wilsher** was a farmer who died in 1836, aged 68 years. **Susan Wilsher** nee **George** lived to be 90 years old when she died in Wheathampstead in 1862.

A son, **William** was born in 1793, but he died in 1803.

**MARY ANN WILSHER**, their first daughter was baptised 14th February, 1796 in Sandridge. She married **John Kilby** 22nd November, 1821 in Wheathampstead. **John Kilby** was a carpenter of Gustard Wood, Wheathampstead. **Mary Ann** and **John Kilby** had several children in Wheathampstead:- **Henry** (born 26 Dec, 1822); **Elizabeth** (born 11 Sept 1826); **Sarah** (born 16 July 1834); **Alfred** (born 25 June 1837)

**William's** son, **John Wilsher** (sister to **Mary Ann** above) married **Sarah Thrale** in 1833 Wheathampstead. Their son, **Thomas George Wilsher** (Master Baker) married **Eliza Jane Tindall** 1863 Islington and their son, **Thomas George Wilsher (Jr)** (Confectioner and Baker) immigrated to Australia when he was only 20 years old and married his sweetheart, **Mary Brock Billows** in 1885 Melbourne. **T G Wilsher Jr** sang in the choir at St Alban's Cathedral. I'm sure that he met his future wife there. **Mary Brock Billows** was Dorset born, but after her father died of cholera in Calcutta, India, installing gas lighting for the city, the family moved to Southampton and eventually London.

As an aside, my aunt, **Grace Thiele**, has a locket containing a sample of hair which belonged to **Sarah George**, **Susan George's** sister.

Susan's sister, **Sarah GEORGE** married **George Reeve** 11 Feb 1793 in Wheathampstead. She had a son **George**, in 1794 at Watford where they were living. **Sarah** died 14 Jan, 1796 at the age of 26 years and was buried in Sandridge on the 18th Jan, 1796. **Aunt Grace Thiele** has a locket of braided hair with the inscription **Sarah Reeve** 14 Jan 1796, 26 years.

*Added 19 Feb 2005*

I am helping my wife to research her family tree. She was a **Wilsher**, and her grandfather was **Edgar Wilsher** (also called **Wilshire**). He came from Middlesex and in **1915** married **Hermione Thrale** from **Wheathampstead**. That is how we made the link back to the **Thrale** origins. We were amazed to then discover that the **Thrale** family had been linked with a **Wilsher/Wilshire** family in the Hertfordshire region.

We are now in the process of tracing Granddad **Edgar** back and it occurs to us that his origins might just be linked to the **Wheathampstead** groups of the same (or similar) name. .

Regards **Gerald Law**

#### **1851 Census**

Wilsher at Wheathampstead Village

John Wilsher, Mar, 40, Carpenter b Sandridge

Sarah Wilsher, wife, 35 b Whstd (nee Thrale)

William, son, unm 16, Apr Grocer, all children b Whstd

Sarah dau 14, Appr Bonnet Sewer

Thomas, son, 11 scholar

John, son, 8 scholar

Wilshire at Gustard Wood:

William Wilshire, Mar, 42 Cow Man b St. Pauls Walden

Frances Wilshire, wife, 47, b Beds (nee Bailey)

## Wren

**Joseph WREN** was born in **1747-48** in Hertfordshire, possibly in **Wheathampstead** as youngest child of **John WREN** and **Sarah GODMAN**, who married in Wheathampstead in **1723**. Their known children were **John** (1724), **Elizabeth** (1729), **Sarah** (1736) and **William** (1742). **Joseph Wren** was a wheelwright. He was buried in **1824** in **Kimpton** aged 76.

**Joseph Wren** married **Sarah Hawkins** in **1769** in **Redbourne**. **Sarah HAWKINS** (daughter of **Francis HAWKINS** and **Mary WOODSTOCK**) was born in **1749** in Wheathampstead. Her parents married there in 1742 and their other children were **Francis** (1743), **Mary** (1747) and **Thomas** (1752). **Sarah** was buried in 1816 in **Kimpton**, aged 64, **J.Douton**, Curate of Wheathampstead, officiating.

**Joseph Wren** and his wife **Sarah** moved to **Kimpton** where they had the following children: **Ann** (1770), **Sarah** (1772), **Joseph** (1773), **William** (1776), **Sarah** (1778) and possibly **Sarah** (1801).

**Next Generation - Joseph Wren** (wheelwright) moved to **Luton**, married **Sarah Smart** in 1795, and had the following children in **Luton**: **William** (1795), **Ann** (1797), **Thomas** 1799), **Henrietta** (1803), **John** 1805, **George** (1807), **Frederick** (1809), **James** (1811), **Amos** (1816) and **Mary** (1818).

**Next Generation - William Wren** married **Mary Currant** in 1815 in **Luton**, moved to **Kimpton** and had the following children in **Kimpton**: **Elizabeth**, **Matthew**, **Mark**, **Luke**, **John** and **Emma**.

**Next Generation - Matthew Wren** (wheelwright/coachbuilder) married **Ann Clark** in 1839 in **Kimpton** and had the following children in **Kimpton**: **William**, **Anne**, **John** and **Thomas**.

**Next Generation - Thomas Wren** married **Louisa Emily Coleman** in 1873 in **Kimpton**, moved to **Wheathampstead** and had the following children in Wheathampstead: **Rose**

**E** (1876), **Ella Augusta** (1878), **William Matthew** (1880), **Maud May** (1884), **Harold Hugh** (1885), **Cyril Vivian** (1886), **Hubert Oscar** (1889) and **Eric Victor** (1890).



**Thomas Wren** was a **wheelwright and coachbuilder** next to **The Bull** in High Street, Wheathampstead. He was still there in 1901 with his second wife **Adela**.

**Thomas** was born in **1849** in **Kimpton**, the son of Matthew Wren (wheelwright and coachbuilder) and Ann Clark, and g-g-grandson of Joseph Wren (wheelwright) and Sarah Hawkins, and seems to have been the only one of all the relations to move [back] to Wheathampstead. His wife Louisa Emily was born in **1852** in **Kimpton**, the daughter of **William Coleman**, brewer. Haven't yet traced the known children of John Wren and Sarah Godman who were born in Wheathampstead, but I have traced some of my Kimpton and Luton Wren descendants if there are any interested connections out there.

Judith Wren Waterer,  
Sydney, Australia (descended from James Wren, b.1811, Luton)  
*contributed Dec 2003*

#### **1851 Census**

Wren/Ren at High St.

William Ren, Mar 30 Ag Lab b Hatfield

Eliza Ren, wife, 28, straw plait b Whstd (nee Gathard)

Isabella, dau 6 scholar b Whstd

George, son, 5 scholar b Whstd

Betsy, dau, 1 b Whstd

Thomas Gathard, Father-in-law, Mar, 68, Ag Lab, b Whstd

Hannah Gathard, Mother-in-law, wife, 60, Washerwoman, b Whstd (nee Huntley)

Wright







**Do you recognise any of these people?** It is thought they are related to the Wright family.



I must say how intrigued I was to find that Wheathampstead has it's own website! My Late father **William James Wright** was born there in 1920 and my grandparents kept the **Walnut Tree pub** from the late 1930`s until they retired in about the 1950`s The pub which was in Church Street opposite St Helen's and the school is now a private house. I have done lots of research into the Wright family whom I have traced back to the **17th century**. I believe that most of the Wrights still living in the village are of the same family but sadly I have never met any of them!

**John Wright**, my great great great great grandfather was born in the village in **1734** but moved to Kimpton where he farmed at **Barleybeans farm** where he died in **1797**. Barleybeans still exists near Peter`s Green just north of Kimpton. His son **James** moved to Gustard Wood and his youngest son **George** was my great great grandfather. **James** was pardoned in **1839** after being sentenced to 15 years transportation for assaulting the curate of Wheathampstead: he was pardoned because of his age (72 years!) and health. **George** was caught poaching in Brocket Park in **1870** for which he received a severe sentence. He died at Gustard Wood in **1875** aged only 57 after falling off a ladder! His middle son **James**, my great-grandfather lived all his adult life on Wheathampstead Hill where he died in **1941 aged 91**. I would love to know what became of his elder brother **Daniel** who was also brought up at Gustard Wood but disappeared between **1861 and 1871** - maybe he emigrated. His eldest brother **Frederick** ran the **nurseries opposite the Cross Keys** at Gustard Wood and I believe was a member of the first parish council in 1895.

*[paragraph added 2/2/2002]* My great grandfather was actually buried on **22 March 1941 aged 91**. His monument is in **St Helen`s churchyard** about half way along and on the left of the footpath from Church Street. There are of course many other Wrights there, including **Fred the `cucumber king`** and **Fred jnr**. I have recently, also purchased a copy of the book on Gustard Wood. This mainly consists of letters from **Bert Russell** to Amy Coburn. **Bert** was the son of **my great grandfather`s sister** who married into the **Russell** family. Her husband farmed at **Astridge Farm at Gustard Wood** and his brother ran the **Cross Keys**; his father, The **Old Plough** (closed long ago).

My grandfather Albert Wright who kept the Walnut Tree was fortunate to survive the First World War. He was wounded in France and taken prisoner. His two brothers Leonard and George also survived. I would love to hear from any members of my family or anyone that knows them.

*[paragraph added 11/2/2003]* Does anyone in the village know what became of **Sheila Wright**? She married a **Dennis Pawley**, printer from St Albans, so she may have gone to live there. Also I wonder if **Lorna Rowe** is still about. She ran the **greengrocers** in the **High Street**. I remember her well, as my father and I often used to see her if we called into the Bell and Crown where she enjoyed a lunchtime tipple. I believe she ended up in sheltered housing in Brewhouse Hill (- Sparrow House?)

Keith Wright, Poole Dorset.

#### **1851 Census**

Wright at Gustard Wood:

Robert Wright, Mar, 42, Ag Lab b Whstd

Ann Wright, wife, 51, plait, b Whstd (nee Parkins)

With Benjamin & Martha Reed and son

Wright at Marshalls Heath:

William Wright, Mar, 59, Ag Lab b Kimpton

Sophia Wright, wife 52 b Flamstead

Charles, son unnm 22, Ab lab bWhstd

David, son unnm 19, Ag lab b Whstd

George, son 9 b Whstd

Wright at Cold Arbour:

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