

# *In-spire-ation*

The Chesterfield and District Family History Society  
Magazine

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The March Talk will appear in the next issue (August 2020)

## **CADFHS and the new GDPR regarding your Privacy**

No action is needed on your part if you are happy with the status quo.

As you are a member of the Chesterfield & District Family History Society we have a legitimate reason for holding your information. For our part we undertake that we hold your information securely and that any information we hold will not be shared with any third parties but only used for membership purposes, notices of events and also member surveys.

These help us to help you.

If you wish to be removed from the mailing list please let us know.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019 – 2020

Chair & Assist. Web	-	Neil Wilson
Vice Chair/Events Coordinator/Assist. Web	-	Dena Fanshawe
Treasurer	-	David Wheatcroft
Correspondence Coordinator	-	Andie Davies
Joint Editor	-	Mary Bullas
Membership or joint membership Secretary	-	To be confirmed
Committee	-	Margaret Marsden
Archive Coordinator	-	Janet Ashley
Refreshments/Exchange Mag. Coordinator	-	Cathy Sims
Committee	-	Valerie Bladon
Assist. Web/Members Wiki Co-ord. and printing	-	David Hall
Committee and printing	-	Terry Cocking
Committee	-	Keith Fanshawe

### **Mission Statement**

**Chesterfield & District Family History Society aims to be one of the country's leading and most forward thinking 'Family History Societies' providing a strong base to enable our members to develop and grow.**

**We aim to foster a positive experience through creative and innovative and related services to our members.**



## *Editor's Bit*

Hello and welcome to the April edition of IN-SPIR-ATION. A little late I know but we hope that you have all had a good start to 2020 and that you are all keeping well. Lyn and I continue to work together in putting together the magazine and even though she has stepped back from the role of co-editor her help is invaluable in putting it together. In this issue our 'Dastardly Deeds' continue, and the quiz should give the old grey matter a little work out. Another 'Born in Chesterfield' introduces us to another sporting legend. It's surprising just how many famous people from all walks of life were born in our area. I certainly didn't realise there were so many until I started researching for the magazine. Our cover picture this issue features the Chesterfield Hotel, previously the Station Hotel which was built in 1877 and hold many happy memories for lots of local people. Sadly, it is being demolished another iconic building lost.

*Mary Bullas*

## *Cover Picture*

The Station Hotel located on Malkin Street opposite the Railway Station was opened in 1877. It was built by the Chesterfield Brewery Company and own by Mr Robert Rimmer. The architect was J.C. Mitchell Withers of Sheffield.

An article published in the Derbyshire times in October 1877 gives a detailed description of the interior, describing the luxurious leather upholstery fine oak furniture and décor. On the ground floor there was a private bar, a smoke room, a coffee and commercial room. There was also a private dining room which lead onto a bedroom plus another six bedrooms. The first floor housed another nine bedrooms and a bathroom plus a housemaid's room. An advertisement announcing the opening of the hotel also cites good stabling. The name of the hotel eventually changed to the Chesterfield Hotel and was a popular venue for private parties, wedding receptions. It closed its doors for the final time in 2005.



## Welcome new members!

To add (or change) your surname to our 'Members' Surname Interests' please visit:  
<https://membermojo.co.uk/cadfhs> and download a 'Surname Interest' form to complete. Once completed please email it to [membership\\_assistant@cadfhs.org](mailto:membership_assistant@cadfhs.org)

1184 Jeanette Hamer

1186 Collette Mason

1188 Heather Cooper

1185 Bev Hall

1187 Pauline Rodgers

1189 John Cooper

## MEET THE COMMITTEE

### Keith Fanshawe – Committee

I probably first joined the committee around 2009. Since 2012 I have held various positions. Chair, Vice Chair and General Dogs Body. I was in Engineering all my working life and latterly till I retired I had my own business, KLF Gates & Railings. I enjoy family history and the discoveries that can be found and so always enjoy our society evening's speakers.



## Christmas 2019



Many thanks to **Dena** and **Neil** who hosted our Christmas Social last year (yes it really is that long ago!!)

Neil presented a quiz on Churches in and around Chesterfield whilst Dena presented a quiz to give us a taste for our theme of the May event, 'Old and Curious Occupations'.

Thanks as well to all who contributed to the buffet!



## BEHIND THE SCENES

### ANDIE DAVIS

Hi, I'm Andie. I am a local lass and have lived in the Chesterfield area for most of my life. I am married to Peter and we have two grown up sons, Sandy and Conor. Oh, and a cat called Ninja! I have been interested in history for as long as I can remember so it's not surprising that I studied History at University and in the past have worked a little in museums including Chesterfield's.



#### What is My Heritage?

My paternal family history is, on the whole, from this area where they were farmers and agricultural labourers, miners and iron workers as were my maternal ancestors together with a few from South Yorkshire and Suffolk. However, a good chunk of my maternal heritage is Romany Gypsy from all over the East Midlands area who were mainly 'chairbottomers' and knife grinders, which has been fascinating to research.

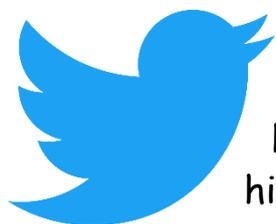
#### What else do I do besides Family History?

Well, apart from watching lots of dreadful American cop shows, I like to play board games (NOT Monopoly) which are super popular at the moment so, for once, I'm cool and on trend! My husband and I like to go church crawling in the warmer months. I love the continuity of use that church buildings have and the sense of connection between the past and the present. Then, of course, there is the usual reading, music, travelling...etc that there never seems to be enough time for.

What about CADFHS?

I have been a member of CADFHS on and off (more off than on) for over 20 years. I joined again in July 2019 and was soon asked if I would consider becoming a committee member which I agreed to do. I now help Margaret Linacre with membership as a coordinator so you can find me on the membership desk at the monthly meetings hindering....err helping Margaret do her thing!

## TWITTER and TWEETING



Discover how to make use of Twitter for genealogy - using tweets and hashtags to connect with others and keep up to date with what's new in the world of family history.

With its 140-character limit for tweets, Twitter might not seem the ideal vehicle for family history research, which often relies on lengthy documents and in-depth research. But actually, this social media network is perfect for connecting with others researching the same name, keeping up to date with new record releases and following your favourite genealogists and family history companies.

### **Using hashtags for family history**

A hashtag (#) is your key tool for accessing family history information of interest to you. Whether you're searching Twitter or writing your own tweets, you can use hashtags to find and/or follow topics of interest. For example, if you're searching for an ancestor with the surname Barnett, you could search using #Barnett #familyhistory and look for others tweeting about this name in connection with their research. If you do make contact with someone, be cautious about what information you give away (just as you would with any acquaintance) until you know more about each other.

If you'd like to concentrate on a specific branch of family history you could search using #DNA or #onenamestudy, for example, then you'll

have the option to read the most recent, or most relevant, tweets first. Sometimes a particular family-history related hashtag will be 'trending' which means it is experiencing a surge in popularity, indicating a high interest in the subject or perhaps the release of relevant news or records.

### **Twitter groups and following tweeters**

If you'd like to use Twitter as a way to immerse yourself in the hobby of family history, you can follow people whose content you enjoy. Using the #familyhistory and #genealogy hashtags explore various tweets and if you like a tweet, simply click 'follow' to have new content from that group or person dropped into your news feed. And you can take it a step further by looking at the people who that person follows, to find other accounts of interest.

Many family history societies, libraries, archives and genealogy websites have groups and again, you can follow these to access their content and find out about things such as events and record releases.

### **Ancestry Hour**

One of the best-known and best-loved Twitter groups for family historians is Ancestry Hour, which takes place every Tuesday at 19.00 GMT. During this hour, you'll find the hashtag #AncestryHour trending as genealogists of all ages and levels of experience (including Family Tree!) swap news, tips and advice. New participants are always welcome - just remember to use the #AncestryHour hashtag when tweeting or replying.

#genchat is another group recommended by our followers



## My Grandfather was a Waterman

It was actually my Great Great Grandfather Thomas HEWITT (1821-1882). He was born in about 1821 in Ranskill, Notts. He was the 8<sup>th</sup> child and 5<sup>th</sup> son born to John HEWITT (1779-1856) and Bridget HALL (1783-1832). He married Sarah MILNES (1825-1895) on 14 August 1844 in West Retford, Notts. They had 8 children, 6 surviving into adulthood.



I started researching my family tree about 25 years ago in the pre internet days when you went to local libraries and archives.

The 1861 Census was available, I think, on film or fiche. I found my 2xgreat grandfather on this Census living in Church Town, Killamarsh with his wife Sarah and 4 children. His occupation was described as WATERMAN.

At the time I was quite inexperienced in family history and had no idea what a waterman was. My initial thought was a plumber or something to do with rivers or waterwheels. It wasn't until I found him in the 1881 Census when he was described as 'Boatman on Canal' that I realised his true occupation. At this time he was living in Misterton, Nottinghamshire in Ebenezer's Cottages, with his wife Sarah.

I have yet to find him on the 1841 Census, He was probably tied up somewhere on the Canal. On the 1851 Census he was described as Master and on the Canalside in Boat No 3 at East Retford with his son John aged 15. In 1871 he was described as boat owner/manager and on a boat moored at the Retford Coal Wharf with wife Sarah and son George 13.

Thomas Hewitt died in 1882 at the age of 64 in Killamarsh and was buried in the graveyard in Killamarsh still described as a 'boatman'.

Thomas's brother John HEWITT (1808-1869) was also a Waterman. As were both Thomas and Johns sons and grandsons.

The canal boats, barges, narrowboats on the Chesterfield Canal were known as Cuckoo's, and the Canal known locally as the Cuckoo Dyke.

The term "cuckoo" is believed to have originated from comments made by boat people on the River Trent. They said the vessels were "cuckoos in the nest" - different and out of place on the waterways. The crafts were made of oak from the 1770s to the 1920s, with the design hardly changing in that period. Cuckoos were horse drawn and never equipped with engines, a mast was used when they ventured on to the Trent. Each boat was pulled along on the towpath by a medium sized horse: there was no need for the strength of a shire horse. They often knew the route and could walk along on their own.

The boatmen always had a home ashore and did not live on the boats with their families. There were generations of canal families with surnames such as CLARK, PETTINGER, CHAMBERS and of course the HEWITTS. They were a close knit community and married within their own 'kind'. The HEWITT family were related to the other bargee families of the canal. I have found them in Killamarsh, Ranskill, Misterton, East Retford, Clayworth and many other villages along the Canal and beyond.



The Chesterfield Canal was built to carry lead ore and other minerals from the peak district to the Trent water system, and was a significant

waterway when canals were the main bulk transportation systems, before the railways were built in the 1800s. It was significant for carrying the Yorkshire stone to build the New Houses of Parliament from the quarries in Anston to the Trent at West Stockwith for onward transportation to London.



The Chesterfield Canal was opened in 1776 and faced an early struggle. Never the less, within 10 years the canal began to show a modest profit and a steady trade in all manner of goods including agricultural products, malt, hops, sail cloth, gravel, bricks and tiles,

coal and coke, iron bar and cast iron products, lead, lime and marble, etc.

I have a current project where I am trying to find any families that are linked to the Canal or bargees on the Chesterfield Canal. So if you have any links please let me know.

**Dave Hall**

# *Dastardly Deeds*

## *'A House Divided'*

*A creative adaptation based on a newspaper report in the Sheffield and Rotherham Independent, 29 March 1845 by Lyn McNair*

The area in and around the Cock and Magpie in Old Whittington is more famously known for the Revolution House where in 1688 various members of the aristocracy and gentry met to plot against King James II. In the spring of 1845 though, it was once again brought to notoriety for something completely different. In 1845 on a Thursday, 13th of March at 9am however, the village was much the same as any other in Britain.

In 1844 the daughter and son in law of a widow, Mrs Green, came to live with her in her large farmhouse close by the Cock & Magpie (then known as the Cock & Pynot). The farmhouse was divided into two tenements by a partitioning wall. Mrs Green had agreed to let half of her property and the adjoining 15 or so acres to her son in law, Joseph Hawksley.

Prior to this arrangement Hawksley and his mother in law had got on quite well. However, within 6 weeks of moving into the farmhouse Hawksley and Mrs Green were at loggerheads. The arguments centred on the running of the farm with Hawksley wanting more and more control over the way things were done. Mrs Green was in total opposition to his demands and defiantly stood her ground.

Living with Mrs Green was John Green, her 6 year old grandson. John was an agreeable, quick and intelligent little boy. His father, Mrs Green's son Sydney, lived and worked close by and was a frequent visitor to the farm. Only the weekend before Sydney had been at his mother's home when Joseph Hawksley had banged violently on Mrs Green's door. He had called out to Sydney, asking if Mrs Green was there. When Sydney affirmed that his mother was there Hawksley tried to gain entrance whilst shouting verbal abuse at Mrs Green. This was not an unusual occurrence, according to Sydney. Hawksley would regularly visit his mother in law in order to shout abuse and/or threaten her. On this occasion his attempt to enter the property was frustrated by Sydney and Hawksley angrily shouted out calling Mrs Green an old b\_\_\_\_, declaring that he would "do for her" and that they could all "go to h\_\_\_\_"!

At 9 a.m. on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March young Julia Baxby visited Mrs Green with her usual daily provision of milk from her father's farm. She entered the kitchen and Mrs Green seemed cheerful and in good spirits enjoying her breakfast, her grandson John playing in the back garden. They had a brief but pleasant conversation before Julia left the farmhouse just a few minutes later. Mrs Green finished her breakfast and began her usual chores starting with giving the kitchen rug a good shaking and cleaning the hearth, using a rubbing stone and a bucket of water.

John was enjoying the fresh air playing in back garden which had also been divided by a wall with one half at the rear of Mrs Green's side of the house and the other at the rear of the Hawksleys'. From his position in the garden John saw his uncle Joseph leave his half of the farmhouse via his back door, cross his half of the garden over onto the other side and enter through Mrs Green's back door. John heard the sound of the bolt being drawn across and the key turning in the lock of the back door.

Seconds passed before John heard his grandmother cry out; John saw Joseph hastily leave Mrs Green's kitchen by the back door and return towards his own side of the house across the garden. John leaped up and ran toward his grandmother, not noticing whether Hawksley had actually gone into his half of the house, or elsewhere. Mrs Green appeared at the back door and was obviously distressed. John ran to her side and took hold of her hand; he didn't see the blood dripping from her neck until they turned the corner of the house as they headed towards the gate at the front of the property.

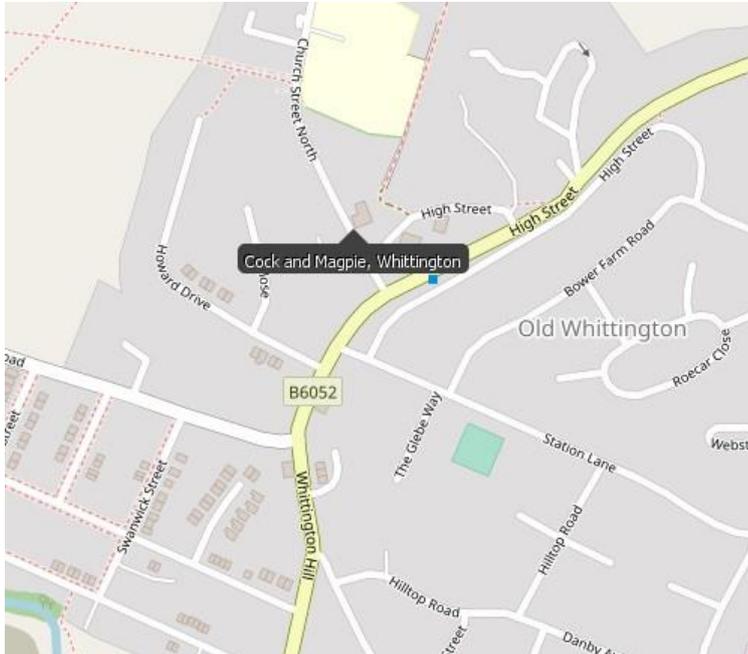


Cock & Magpie in Old Whittington – picture taken by Lyn McNair

In a nearby field Charles Shepherd and Sam Siddall were working. They saw Joseph Hawksley running toward the croft that adjoined the field in which they worked. Joseph called beckoning the two men to follow him as he turned and took off back toward the farmhouse heading towards the front of the property.

Meanwhile John and his grandmother made it to the Cock and Magpie and hammered urgently on the door. On getting no response Mrs Green and young John headed toward the rear of the shop opposite which was kept by the Widdowson family.

At about 9.30 a.m. Mr Widdowson heard a boy calling out from the direction of their living quarters at the back of the shop. He went through to their kitchen which was occupied by his heavily pregnant wife and two of their neighbours. His wife was stood at the back door which was open and he saw Mrs Green, blood pouring heavily from her neck, and the boy who was shouting “My uncle’s done it!”



Mrs Widdowson promptly fainted and Mr Widdowson, mindful of his wife’s condition, ran to the door and slammed it shut and bolting it, leaving Mrs Green and the boy outside on the doorstep. One of the neighbours, Fanny Taylor, admonished Mr Widdowson, “Don’t shut the poor creature out!” and unbolted the door. Mr Widdowson turned and carried his wife upstairs to lay her down on the bed to recover. When he returned downstairs moments

later Mrs Green was still on the doorstep but was turning to leave.

From the shop Mrs Green staggered to the pavement as she became weaker; she sat there with her grandson, unable to go any further from loss of blood. As she sat there Hawksley came running towards her crying, “What’s amiss? What’s amiss?”. He was accompanied by Shepherd and Siddall who he instructed to get the surgeon. As Hawksley approached his mother in law in an apparent attempt to come to her aid, she found the strength to get up from the pavement. She waved her hands at him signalling him to keep away from her but, undeterred, he took hold of her hand as other neighbours, who were now alerted to the commotion, rushed to Mrs Green’s side. One of the neighbours, Mrs Cook, observed Mrs Green push Hawksley away so vehemently it sent him from the pavement into the road.

Nevertheless Hawksley managed to join the other neighbours in getting Mrs Green to her kitchen once more. It was as they helped her to her home that Mrs Cook, who was nearest to Mrs Green’s head, heard her whisper hoarsely “It’s him, it’s him”. Mrs Green continued desperately trying to communicate to those helping her but she could no longer make herself heard.

Hawksley and the neighbours laid Mrs Green down on her kitchen floor, her grandson looking on in horror. Mrs Cook supported her dying neighbour's head on her lap. It was this position with her chin resting upon her own chest that enabled Mrs Green to whisper again, "It's him, it's him!"

When the surgeon arrived it was, alas, too late for Mrs Green who died on her kitchen floor surrounded by her neighbours, her grandson and her son in law.

Meanwhile word had been sent to Mrs Green's son, Sydney who had been working in Chesterfield. When Sydney got to his mother's house he was met outside by his brother in law Hawksley. "Thou sees what she has come to? I tell'd thee what she would do for herself!" Sydney made no reply, but later realised that Hawkesley's remark was an obvious attempt to plant the idea that his mother in law had committed suicide.

The surgeon called to the scene later testified that Hawksley had expressed some concern to him that people would think that he had killed her as it was well known that he and his mother in law did not get on. However Hawksley had told the surgeon that he had witnesses who would confirm that he had been out in the fields when Mrs Green had raised the alarm. The surgeon reassured Hawksley that if this was the case then "...it was no concern of his".

An enquiry was launched immediately with jurors selected who were shown the scene of the crime, untouched and with Mrs Green's body still in situ. This took place in order to gather any evidence before the scene was cleared. A razor was found at the scene on the kitchen floor which Sydney Green later testified as belonging to Hawksley. He recognized it immediately as it had a distinguishing wooden handle and he had done some work on his sister's and brother in law's half of the farmhouse recently and recognised it as being Hawksley's.

The inquest was scheduled for Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March however, despite the initial reaction of the neighbours who were misled by Hawksley into believing that Mrs Green had committed suicide, they asked that that he be put under lock and key until the inquest. This was granted. Hawksley was brought before E.G. Maynard Esq. and the jury in the 21<sup>st</sup> but the inquest was adjourned until the following day.

The inquest heard about the evidence found at the scene; the hearth only half cleaned and the spots of blood found there indicating that Mrs Green had been in the act of cleaning the hearth when sustaining the fatal injury to her throat; the nature of the

injury itself that showed it had been inflicted from someone standing over and behind her; the razor found on the kitchen floor belonging to Hawksley and the testimony of Julia Baxby as to Mrs Green's state of mind that morning. Mrs Cook gave evidence, repeating the words she had heard Mrs Green utter indicating Hawksley as the perpetrator. Sydney Green testified regarding the incident at his mother's house the weekend before when Hawksley had tried to gain entrance; but the most damning evidence of all was that of little John Green who, at the age of just six years old, gave clear, concise and intelligent testimony concerning the horrific events that unfolded before him that morning.



An example of an 1840s shaving blade  
courtesy of [worthpoint.com](http://worthpoint.com)

If Hawksley was hoping that the two men in the adjoining field to his croft that morning were going to serve as witnesses confirming his alibi that he had been in the croft at the time of the event, he was to be disappointed. Siddall and Shepherd testified that Hawksley had NOT been in the croft at the time but had run towards them *via* the croft and from the direction of the farmhouse.

After listening to all the evidence the jurors returned the verdict Mrs Green had been murdered and that Hawksley should be tried for the murder at the Crown Court in Derby. Hawksley had declined to make any defence during the hearing but as he was being taken back to the cells after the verdict he requested an audience with the magistrates to take place on the following evening where, "I will tell you all about it and prove that I am innocent". The magistrates granted his request and his transportation was delayed in order for further evidence to be heard.

At 6:45 p.m. that evening Mr Hollingworth, the cell keeper, went to Hawksley's cell. As he opened the cell door and entered he found Hawksley hanging by his own neck cloth from one of the hinges of the cell door. It was evident that taking his own life was the real purpose of delaying his transportation to Derby.

In researching this story I couldn't help but marvel at little John Green. What effect did this awful morning have on him? What became of him? Maybe this can be followed up at some point. I hope he did well and that he recovered from the trauma enough to make a decent life for himself. Interestingly, Hawksley's wife, Mrs Green's daughter, is never mentioned in the newspaper report. We don't know where she was or how she handled living in a house divided.

*Lyn McNair*

## WHAT'S ON?

(Doors open at 7pm; Talks to begin at 7.30pm)

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 7.30pm - 'Old Colonists & Territories' presented by Janet Ashley

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm - 'Pestilence Intrigue and Murder' presented by Ian Morgan

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 'Road to Ypres' - Dena Fanshawe

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 'Solving Family Mysteries with DNA' Valerie Bladen

## USEFUL WEBSITES

- ThruLines: A new feature in Ancestry.com that uses DNA results to match to your family tree if it is made public. - <https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/AncestryDNA-ThruLines>
- Adoption Contact Register - [www.gov.uk/adoption-records](http://www.gov.uk/adoption-records)
- Public Record Office of Northern Ireland - [www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/proni)
- Glossary of unusual words found in wills - [www.tylcoat.co.uk/gloss.htm](http://www.tylcoat.co.uk/gloss.htm)
- Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain - [www.jgsgb.org.uk](http://www.jgsgb.org.uk)
- Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies - [www.ihgs.ac.uk](http://www.ihgs.ac.uk)

## Surname Interest reminder:

Our Surname Interest Collection is available for all members who are interested or researching a particular surname or surnames. If you would like to contact another member who may be researching the same names as you please complete a Surname Interest form which is sent out with the Welcome Pack and email to: [Membership\\_assistant@cadfhs.org](mailto:Membership_assistant@cadfhs.org)



**Our Very Own  
Who Do You Think You Are  
Show Case Event**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**PROACT F.C. Stadium  
1866 Sheffield Rd  
Whittington Moor  
Chesterfield S41 8NZ**



**Family & Local History and  
Heritage Fair**

**"Ask The Expert"**

**Accompanied  
Children  
Under 16  
Free**

**Local & Regional  
Family History  
Societies**

**Genealogists  
& Help Desks**

**Free  
Speakers  
11:30 & 1:45**

**History Displays  
Derbyshire Records Office  
Local Studies**

**2020's Theme**

**Local History  
Military History  
and  
Heritage  
Societies**

**Old and Curious Occupations**

**Saturday the 23rd of May 2020**

**Admission  
£3.00**

**10.00 am till 4:00pm  
PROACT Stadium  
Chesterfield S41 8NZ**

**On Site  
Refreshments  
Free Parking**

# January Talk 2020

## My Infamous Ancestor - Isaac Ludlum

By David Wheatcroft

### The last man to be judicially hung and beheaded in this country

Researching the Wheatcroft direct line as far as I could I came to John Wheatcroft born 1580 and before then to his wife's father William Daine but have found no dates for him. I then started researching the lines of siblings particularly those who kept the Wheatcroft name which was mainly the males. As I went back, I came to my seven times great grandfather Samuel Wheatcroft who was born in the village of Ashover in 1644, he was one of nine children to Leonardo Wheatcroft and Agnes Wheatcroft nee Harrison. Following on from my story of my eight times great uncle Leonard Wheatcroft "The Ashover Poet", I now come to my infamous ancestor Isaac Ludlum the last man to be judicially hung and beheaded by axe in this country.

Leonard and his wife Elizabeth Hawley had eight children including a son Solomon who married Elizabeth Brownhead who in turn had three children including William who married Sarah Roberts. They in turn had three children including a daughter Fanny. So it was that the famous Leonard Wheatcroft's great granddaughter Fanny Wheatcroft who was born in Ashover in 1773 and married Isaac Ludlam in South Wingfield in 1793. Isaac born in 1765 was a farmer and quarry owner, he was also a

Methodist lay preacher and a very religious man. Isaac and Fanny lived in South Wingfield and had fourteen children.

Isaac was one of the four leaders of the Pentrich Revolt / Revolution /

uprising. Although it is called the Pentrich Revolt none of the three leaders who were hung and beheaded came from Pentrich. One being from Sutton in Ashfield and the other two from South Wingfield. The Pentrich March took place on July 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 1817 and was in fact started in South Wingfield but the "Hampton Club" meetings



took place in a barn and the White House pub in Pentrich. Pentrich at the time was a prosperous village near the Butterley Iron Works, the area is more lately known for the Midlands Railway Museum. After the revolt it was reduced to a small unimportant village and to this day it is still a small village with 'The Dog' its only pub.

The whole idea of the local revolt was to march to Nottingham to meet other people from the north then to march on to London gathering men on the way to "reform" the government of the day.

The fact was that the government was totally unrepresentative of the time with Cornwall having forty-four M.P.s and upcoming cities like Manchester and Leeds having none. This led to a great amount of unrest in the country and the formation of the "Hampton Clubs" to organise reform.

The Pentrich Revolt was in fact the last armed revolution in England and although there was a great deal of anger and dissatisfaction amongst the people it was in fact a Government spy / Agent Provocateur named William Oliver that incited the three hundred or so people of Pentrich and surrounding areas to take action and march on Nottingham convincing them that the whole country was ready for revolution. The march started in South Wingfield through Pentrich and Butterley and was stopped at Giltbrook by mounted soldiers.

There were many events leading up to and influencing the unrest in the countryside, not least was the biggest natural explosion seen in the last 10, 000 years when the Tombora volcano erupted in Indonesia which happened two years earlier in 1815. Although it happened on the other side of the world it had a devastating effect worldwide. 1816 was known as the year without summer as the sun was blocked out by the dust clouds. Crops failed all over the northern hemisphere and it was said the global temperature dropped by 5 degrees. This on the back of the Industrial Revolution which instigated the Luddites and the Manchester Blanketeers when the corn laws put the price of grain well beyond the reach of poor people. The French Revolution had also frightened the elite ruling classes of the country in case it should happen here. Also, the Napoleonic Wars had just finished and that meant that there were around 300.000 soldiers returning with no prospect of finding work.

All these factors resulted in the poor having no work and on the verge of starvation. This was to cause inevitable unrest and hatred towards an out of touch government and a cry for organisation and civil rights for the working man. Pentrich was not the only armed uprising but it was the last one as the government determined to make an example of them to deter others.

There had earlier been the Spa Fields Riots in Islington London, but the leaders had been acquitted namely because the jury was made up of ordinary people. The Folly Hall Bridge Rising was just a month before Pentrich when 'Oliver the Spy' was exposed and the whole thing had fallen apart when they realised they were being duped.

Of course there was not the communication methods of today so the news of the Folly Hall Bridge Rising and Oliver the spy's involvement never reached Pentrich. William Turner was captured in Condor the next day and Isaac Ludlam was eventually captured in Uttoxeter, Jeremiah Brandreth was captured in Bulwell Nottingham, George Weighman was captured near Sheffield. Isaac was 52 years old at the time of his capture and had seven surviving children three who took part in the uprising, they were released without trial. The trial was delayed until September so that landowners and Landed Gentry could sit on the Jury having learned the lessons of the prior acquittal of the Spa Field Riots leaders, where ordinary people had sat on the Jury. There was a ban on the press before the trial was held to avoid any news being reported. George Weightman, Jeremiah Brandreth, William Turner and Isaac Ludlam were all charged with High Treason, found guilty and ordered to be hung, drawn and quartered.

Weighman's sentence was later commuted to transportation to Australia it is said on condition he didn't mention the involvement of Oliver the spy. The other three had their sentences reduced to just hanging and beheading by the grace of the Prince Regent. At the time religion was really important and it was believed that the body needed to be whole in order to be accepted in heaven therefore the sentencing was designed to deny the condemned the dignity of thinking they would go the Heaven . Of the four men Ludlam was the most religious and was also the most agitated especially on execution day. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 1817 the condemned were taken from the cells and drawn around the prison yard on a sheep hurdle fastened behind a horse, this to humiliate them as much as possible by keeping them as close to the ground as possible. The scaffold that greeted them must have put fear in their hearts, apart from the nooses there were also three open coffins, the beheading block complete with axe and knife in case the axe didn't completely sever the head. To make things worse the axeman was not a professional but a local coalminer who made a complete hash of it and the job had to be finished with the 12 inch knife. After the drop they were left to hang for thirty minutes before being taken down and laid on the block and beheaded. Their heads were held aloft and announced "here is the traitor ". The bodies and severed heads were then thrown into the open coffins and taken to Werburghs graveyard where they remain today in unmarked graves.

The agent of the Duke of Devonshire who was the landowner ordered the families of those involved to be turned out onto the streets and their homes were either destroyed or handed over to loyal families.

**So, hearing the story of Isaac Ludlam I will leave you to decide whether he was a villain or victim of circumstance. I like to think the later.**



## *Members' Questions*

*We love to hear from our members! If you have any questions OR answers for our magazine please email us at [cadfhs.editors@gmail.com](mailto:cadfhs.editors@gmail.com)*

From a member - Liz Lockwood:

'I wonder if you could ask the members for some help.  
Whilst searching Ancestry I came across the following will/probate entry.

Lawrence Simpson of Barghs Lane Littlemoor Chesterfield Derbyshire died 10 Dec 1949 at British Houston Company Works, Chesterfield. Administration London 13 Feb to Florence Marjorie Simpson, Widow.

Lawrence Simpson was my great grandfather's nephew and worked as a shopkeeper/ delivery manager for great grandfather's grocery business R. Hicks and Sons.

Did Lawrence die in an accident or was he just visiting when he collapsed. I have searched the newspapers but can't find any incident or death notice. Can anyone help with this mystery?'



## Grandfather's Clock

As long as I can remember I have wanted a Grandfather Clock, or to give it its proper name a longcase clock. This idea may have come from to me when I was a child and my father made a clock in his workshop at the back of our house. I used to watch him sometimes, sitting amongst his lathes, drilling machine and various other machines that I didn't know the names of. Making things with metal was his hobby as well as job, which was a metal work teacher. I think over the years he made five clocks in all and I'd watch him patiently cutting out the teeth for a clock wheel from a plain metal disc. The tallest clock he made stood about four feet high, but it was not tall enough to be a grandfather clock.

I think my idea for a grandfather clock was also fuelled by a song. I had piano lessons from the age of about eight and remember looking through a pile of sheet music one day which had come from my Granny's house and wondering if there was anything with my limited knowledge that I could play. I found a song called Grandfathers Clock which I am sure most people will know and was fascinated to think that a clock might have its own personality. Now I am a Granny myself and have passed the music onto my grandson but the longing for a grandfather clock has never left me and so when my husband asked me what I wanted for Christmas I immediately replied a **"Grandfather clock"**.

Now my husband is a very patient man and he took me to various antique shops to look at clocks to give me ideas of the type I wanted when it came to colour of the wooden case , type of dial and did I want a 30 hour clock or a 8 day clock ? We saw a great many clocks and finally ended up at a shop about a mile away from our home. The owner was very kind and accommodating and showed us a number of grandfather clocks which had been beautifully restored and ,to be honest , I would have given any one of them house room , but as we viewed them yet another idea was forming in my head .

I have been working on a one particular side of my husband Jeff's family tree. Now when I'm working on a family tree, I like to explore lots of branches rather than just straight up the direct line and on his maternal grandmothers' side I that Jeffs 3x great grandmother was a lady called Thomasin Whitehurst



**My Grandfather's Clock**

born 1819. When I found her on the 1841 census her father was a clockmaker and as I worked back, I found that every generation had a number of clockmakers.

The skills seemed to have been passed down from father to most of the sons on every generation.

I worked back to Jeff's 6 x great grandfather James Whitehurst born 1719. James worked for many years with his father John Whitehurst of Congleton. John, born 1687, was the fourth son of Egerton Whitehurst, a freeholder and farmer at Biddulph and on finishing his apprenticeship moved to Congleton where he set himself up as a clockmaker, and so began the dynasty of Whitehurst clocks.

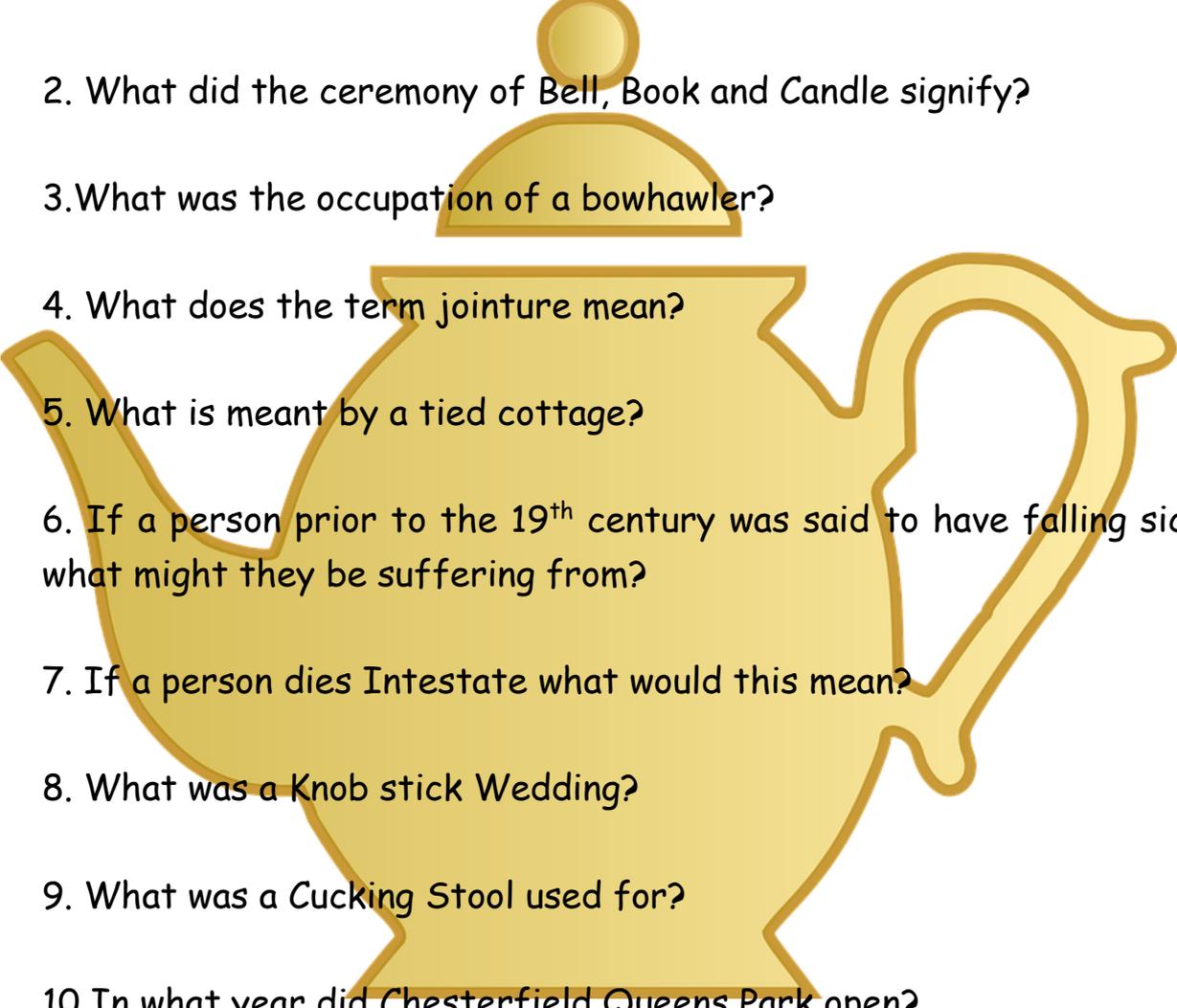
James elder brother John was also a clockmaker and as Congleton could not support a number of clockmakers, he

moved to Derby and set up his own business. John Whitehurst born 1713 is featured in Derby museum who hold a number of his more unusual clocks and was well known and respected in his lifetime as a philosopher and member of the Lunar Society. Now that I had found out all this information the idea that I was forming in my head was is it possible for us to buy a Whitehurst clock? I asked the shop owner if this was a possibility and to my joy, he said he thought he knew where one was for sale. Two weeks later he rang to say he had a Whitehurst clock for us to view. When I saw it, I couldn't believe my eyes, not only was it a Whitehurst clock but it was an early Whitehurst clock from Congleton made by Jeff's 7x great grandfather John Whitehurst.

Needless to say, Jeff bought it for me for Christmas and it stands proudly in our hall. I wind it each week and talk to it as I do because, you know after all this time it might just have developed its own personality. I'm sure I caught a glimmer of a smile upon its face when I told it it was back in the family.

***By Brenda***

## Teatime Quiz

1. What were the Court of Arches?
  2. What did the ceremony of Bell, Book and Candle signify?
  3. What was the occupation of a bowhawler?
  4. What does the term jointure mean?
  5. What is meant by a tied cottage?
  6. If a person prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century was said to have falling sickness what might they be suffering from?
  7. If a person dies Intestate what would this mean?
  8. What was a Knob stick Wedding?
  9. What was a Cucking Stool used for?
  10. In what year did Chesterfield Queens Park open?
- 

## Quick Tips

It's good practice to record all searches carried out, whether positive or not and also the source this will help to avoid repetition

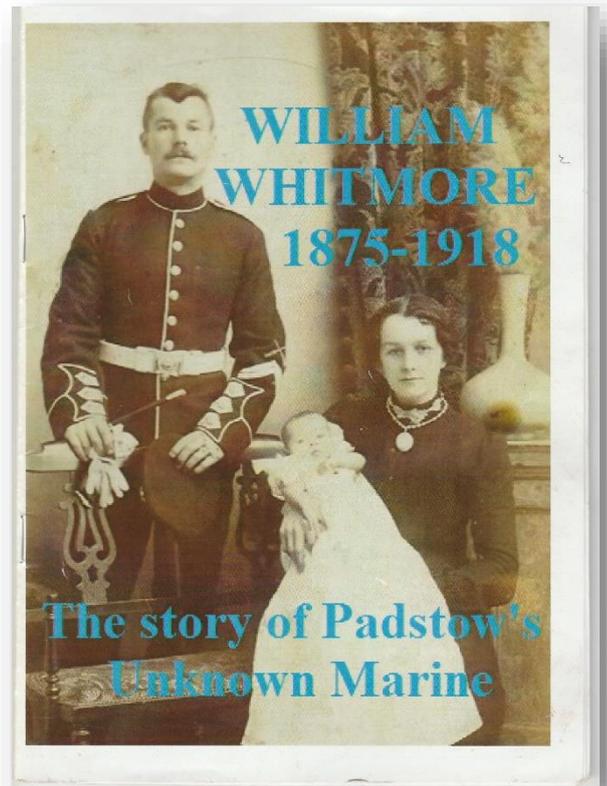
Parish Magazines are an underused resource which can give valuable details about our ancestors

A little-known resource is funeral directors archives some of which go back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century

# THE STORY OF PADSTOW'S UNKNOWN MARINE

William Whitmore 21 May  
1875 - 23 July 1918

from the publication  
by Isabel Nora Pope & Alan Godhard



Isobel's niece Deborah who lives in Florida contacted her regarding a gentleman, Peter Smith, who had found information about her great grandfather William Whitmore. Peter was on holiday in Padstow and visited the War Memorial there. He was interested in the young men who gave their lives for their country and he began researching the histories and this led him to a museum in Padstow. Here he met the curator, John Buckingham, who took Peter to see other war graves in the local cemetery. Peter saw the cross on the grave of William Moore and behind that



was the grave of 'A ROYAL MARINE OF THE GREAT WAR 19<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 1918 KNOWN ONLY TO GOD'. Peter was intrigued and he collected together the information he had which led him to my family. We went to see the grave of the Unknown Marine and examined Peter's work; I remember my grandmother, she always wore blouses with long sleeves to cover a tattoo she had on her left arm. The tattoo was of a marine. She told me that her first husband who had been killed and lost at sea had also had a tattoo on his arm done at the same time as her.

This, and Peter's information has led to the rededication of the grave. I just wish it had been found in my mother's and grandmother's time.

Who was William Whitmore? Like Peter Isobel and Alan got hooked and wanted to know more, so they consolidated all

the evidence they could find from all of the family, however they could not get further back than when William joined the Royal Marines. They decided to visit the records office for Stoke on Trent which was where they believed William had been born. They met someone at the Records Office called Dianne Shelton who was very knowledgeable and she helped them. With Dianne's help they found a possible birth record for William that was the closest match they could find. However much of the information on it contradicted the information they had. The birth date was actually one year to the day earlier than the date they had

Our info	Birth Record	
<b>Date of birth</b>	21 May 1879	21 May 1875
<b>Name</b>	William Whitmore	William Henry Whitmore
<b>Father</b>	William Henry Whitmore	William Frederick Whitmore
<b>Mother</b>	Elizabeth	Mary Ann Cotton Smith
<b>Father's Trade</b>	Joiner	Joiner

Everyone in the family were given this information and were convinced, as were Isobel and Alan, that as the information was so different it could not have any connection; but as they had nothing else they began searching and building a family around this birth.

Isobel and Alan believed that Mary Ann (Cotton Smith) Whitmore pre-deceased William and therefore at his death either his father had a new partner, Elizabeth, or alternatively this was a sister they could not find. They found that *this* William had

four brothers and three sisters, Levi, Alfred, Lucy, Julia, Mark, Eliza Hannah and Josiah. We built a family tree for each of the siblings and then out of the blue.....

**To be continued in August 2020 issue!!**



## February 2020 Speaker

### The Skivvy - The Victorian Domestic Servant

by Susan Deal

Domestic service was the single largest area of employment for women in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, accounting for over a third of all working women. However, most servants worked in smaller middle-class houses, not in stately homes. Usually there were only one or two servants in the household. Most servants were under 25, some very, very young, a lot under 16. It was hard work, up at dawn, cleaning out grates and scrubbing floors with little in the way of specialist cleaning products, washing up with soda and coarse soap. It was fairly safe however, and you got your food and a roof over your head, but you had to watch out that the master or son of the family didn't become too friendly! There was a shortage of servants and thus plenty of other jobs if the place you were in turned out not to be right. Some servants stayed in the family for decades, rising from maid of all work to housekeeper, and even to live in old age on a reasonable pension paid by the family, but most left when they got married, something that employers did their best to prevent by banning boyfriends. Some servants managed to save decent amounts from their pay, but other former servants ended their lives in the workhouse.



## Born in Chesterfield

Joe Davis

### World Champion Billiard and Snooker Player

Joe Davis was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1901 in the mining village of Whitwell to Fred and Ann Eliza Davis . Fred at the time of Joe's birth was a miner but when he was two years old his father decided to return to the area where he and his wife had been born and so took over as licensee of the Travellers Rest on Whittington Moor, later moving across the road to the Queens public house. It



was here that Joe learnt to play billiards on the pub's full size table. Joe was able to reach the table from an early age as, lucky for him, the room where it was housed had a three inch false floor. Joe made his first billiard hundred at the age of eleven and became a local billiard champion at the age of thirteen . At the outbreak of the First World War his father was called up and Joe was taken under the wing of and coached by Earnest Rudge, a local player who owned a billiard hall in Chesterfield . He used to field the balls for the leading players of the day where he witnessed what could be done on the table; this taught and encouraged him greatly .

He became a professional at the age of eighteen and in 1926 he played against defending champion Tom Newman. They were the only entrants in the World Professional Billiards Championship that year . Newman beat Davis comprehensively . Joe again got through to the final the following year losing to the same opponent . On his third attempt in 1928 Joe beat Newman and became World Champion for the first time and went on to defend his title for the following three years, twice against Newman and then against New Zealander Clark Mc Connary in 1932 .

Around the time that Joe was at his peak as a billiards player interest was beginning to wane as the players were becoming so proficient that spectators were thought to be finding it boring. Joe began to turn his attention to snooker and helped to organise

the first Snooker World Championship which took place in 1927 . He won the tournament by beating Tom Dennis . His prize money was £6.10s .

The outbreak of the Second World War prevented the staging of the Championships but on the recommencement in 1946 Joe was back at the table winning his 15<sup>th</sup> title in a narrowly fought contest against Horace Lindrum . This was to be Joe's last World Championship as he wanted to retire undefeated. Although he retired from World Championship snooker he continued to play in tournaments and exhibitions until 1964 . Billiards and snooker had brought Joe fame and fortune but also took a toll on his private life; he had married local girl Florence Stevenson at the Saltergate Wesleyen Church in June 1921 and had two children but Florence divorced him in 1940 on the grounds of adultery . He remarried June Malo a singer with the Jack Hylton band in 1945 .

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Joe Davis</b></p> <p><b>Professional 1919 – 1964</b></p> <p><b>Highest Break 147</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tournament Wins</b></p> <p><b>1927-1928</b></p> <p><b>1929 – 1930</b></p> <p><b>1931- 1932</b></p> <p><b>1933 -1934</b></p> <p><b>1935 -1936</b></p> <p><b>1937 -1938</b></p> <p><b>1939 =1940</b></p> <p><b>1946</b></p>
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In 1947 Joe became a director of Leicester Square Hall along with Sidney Smith and Bob Jelks . Ted Lowe was the managing director and Joe was the top attraction. It was here that he achieved the first officially recognised 147 break . At this venue and others Joe raised a vast amount of money for charities through his exhibitions and was honoured with an O.B.E. in 1968 .

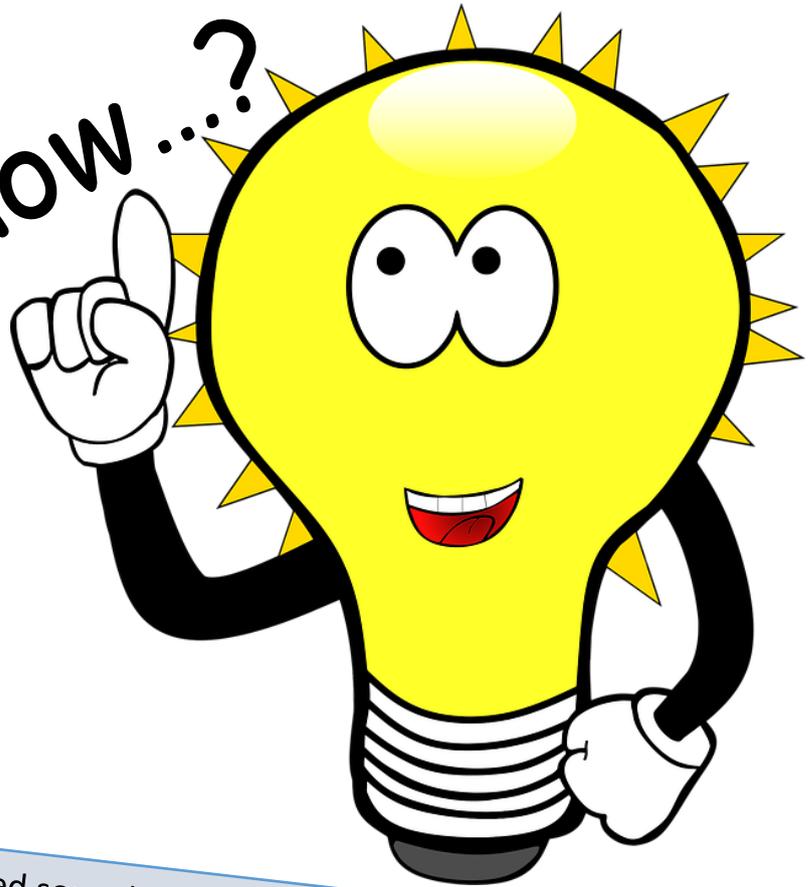
It was evident how well loved he was as he took his seat to watch younger brother Fred in the Embassy World Snooker Championship in 1978 when the packed audience rose to give him standing ovation. Unfortunately he didn't get to see the final as he was taken ill and it was a few months later that sadly he died aged 77 years .

*Mary Bullas*

References Derbyshire People Derbyshire U.K. , Census 1901, 1911 , Billiards and Snooker Archives ,



Did you know...?



...that if you need some help with your family history research you can book 'slots' with a volunteer at Chesterfield Library who will help you FREE OF CHARGE!

Included with these slots is free printing. The volunteer will show you how to research methodically and give you tips on how to search various sites. To book a slot simply call Derbyshire County Council on 01629 533444

According to BBC Reports 2021 may be the last census!!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PUBLISHED, TIPS OR CASE STUDIES/STORIES PLEASE EMAIL THEM TO THE EDITOR:

[cadfhs.editors@gmail.com](mailto:cadfhs.editors@gmail.com)

## Quiz Answers

1. Provincial Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury
2. A ceremony of greater excommunication introduced by the Roman Catholic Church in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. After reading a sentence from the book a bell was rung, the book closed, and a candle extinguished.
3. A man who manually draws barges or small vessels along a rivers or canals.
4. Property settled on a woman at marriage on the decease of her husband.
5. One occupied by a farm worker upon condition of his employment
6. Epilepsy.
7. Died without making a will
8. The wedding of a single pregnant woman to the father to be. Churchwardens attended to ensure the ceremony took place, the name derives from the knob on the end of the staffs they carried
9. Ducking stool for female scolds
10. 1887.





**CADFHS meet at 7pm (talks commence at 7.30pm) every first Wednesday of each month at Whittington Moor Methodist Church, Scarsdale Road, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield S41 8NA**