

In-spire-ation

*The Chesterfield & District Family History
Society Magazine*



December 2020

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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 2020 – 2021

Chair	Dena Fanshawe
Vice Chair & Treasurer	David Wheatcroft
Correspondence Co-ordinator	Valerie Bladon
Editor CADFHS Magazine	Mary Bullas
Membership/Joint Membership Secretary	Margaret Marsden
Refreshments/Exchange Mag. Co-ordinator	Cathy Simms
Other Committee members:	Alan Beresford
	Andy Davies
	Keith Fanshawe
	Margaret Linacre
	Neil Wilson
	Terry Cocking

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.

Editors Bit

Hello and welcome to your December magazine. What a strange year it's been! Let us hope that next year sees things back to normal. Lyn and I have managed to carry on with our work for the magazine with the help of video calls and zoom. Zoom in particular has been a great help this year in keeping in touch with each other and I would like to thank Dena for all her hard work in organising our monthly talks via zoom and also for our informal Wednesday afternoon meetings in which we have been able to exchange ideas and help each other with our research. I would also like to welcome her as our new chairperson and to thank Neil for his service as Chair; he is unable to carry on in the role due to work commitments but will stay on as a member of the committee. In this issue as well as the usual features you will find a ghost story from Lyn and something for the festive season. 'Born in Chesterfield' is a little different this time as the person featured is infamous rather than famous. There is also a story from our pauper project written and submitted by one of our members, plus information on how you can get involved if you have a little spare time and are looking for something to do during lockdown. I hope that you all enjoy the magazine and Lyn, and I would like to wish you a merry Christmas and happy New Year. Stay safe and well.



Mary

COVER PICTURE

'Crooked Spire' Christmas Tree Festival

At the time of printing it was unclear whether or not the famous Crooked Spire would host the annual Christmas Tree Festival this year, so we thought we'd take you back to the happier days of Christmas of 2019 with the cover picture!

The Crooked Spire was home to more than 80 Christmas trees last year. These trees are donated and decorated by local charities, shops and groups. There are many creative and ingenious ideas for the trees with decorations reflecting various themes relative to the various groups.

Mary and Lyn enjoyed their little photo trip for the magazine last year, as well as visiting the little shop resplendent with the most beautiful of Christmas decorations.

(<https://www.visitchesterfield.info/whats-on/a-festival-of-christmas-trees-p789161>)

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

1199 Stef Leigh

1200 Liz Grundey

1201 Tracey Higginson

1202 Steven Henman

1203 Margaret Hirst

1204 Julie Manwaring

1205 Linda Murawski

1206 Carole Mason

1207 Andrew Lievesley

1208 Lance McNeill

1209 Mary Alderson

1210 James Clarke

1211 Kate Freeburn

1212 James Nolan

A Word from the NEW Chair – Dena Fanshawe



CADFHS has been a passion for me since I joined the committee back in... I can't remember, but probably about 2009.

At that time, I suppose I looked at the society differently to many people. Although the society is non for profit and not a business, my instinct was to appraise it; looking at where the society was and what we should be aspiring to going forward. My experience in advising businesses would not switch off and I saw opportunities we could take and many changes that could be made to bring our society into this century.

Don't get me wrong, the society, founded back in 1989 had always been run by a hard-working and innovative committee (reading the old magazines show this). They had worked tirelessly but were getting weary and no one was coming forward to join the committee.

The Chair at that time had been in the position for some 20 years and desperately wanted to step down and be able to spend more time with his family. So, in September 2012 Keith offered to stand for Chair and I as Secretary, along with the then Treasurer Keith Feltham who remained along with the rest of the then committee.

Over the first few years one by one the former committee and by now an older committee stood down and were happy to let new people take on their roles, but they always remained faithful and great supporters of CADFHS.

These days at each year's AGM, I like to think about them and have made reference to those founder members; I also like to remind the membership that we, as a committee and members, are just today's caretakers of CADFHS to ensure its tomorrows.

The teams / committee that we have had since 2012 have all been contributors and very important cogs in the wheels of the society as it moved forward, and also as it stands today. This year we have and are facing many challenges and I now wonder as many of us do, 'will life ever be the same again?'

Personally, I have seen the committee rise to these challenges of new ways of working. When the Covid struck the question was asked "What can we do to continue to provide a service to our members and to also keep them safe?" The committee have solicited and welcomed the thoughts of our members. And the feedback we received reassured us that society is on the right path.

I was Secretary for C.A.D.F.H.S. September 2012 – September 2020. I am a retired Business Consultant. I have been researching my Family Tree for about 25 years plus. My special passion is the journey and discovery of the past and its fascinating stories. I started out in life at 15 as a hairdresser and did a five-year apprenticeship and ran my own business for 30 years.

By my late 40s it was time for a change and new challenges, and this is when I began on a path of training and personal development that took me to becoming a College Lecturer, Assessor, Internal Verifier and Lead for Key skills.

After qualifying as a teacher and NVQ Assessor I first taught Hairdressing and Customer Service to level 3. Before moving to teaching Information Technology in all of the range of skills within and up to level 3. My own IT qualification by now was level 5.

My life's pathway then took me to the Chamber of Commerce and Business Link' where I was initially part of the 'Work Force Development Team', so I worked with companies to help them to make plans to develop and train their employees, sourcing the training and seeking funding for them too. Later I moved into Business Advice and by which time I was a fully qualified SFEDI B.A.

When the government changed back in 2011, I was made redundant under the new changes. Following this I was a Business Consultant, Mentor and Coach until ill health forced me to retire.

My other passion has been the world of dogs, showing, exhibiting, later breeding and judging. Our hobby since 1985. We know longer show dogs, but I do judge two breeds at Championship Show level. They are Rottweilers and Japanese Shiba Inu. I have also served twice as treasurer for the 'Eastern Counties Rottweiler Club'. My other hobby, when I have the time, is writing, mainly our family histories. Keith and I have been married now 50 plus years. We have a son and a daughter and 3 grandchildren.

Chesterfield & District Family History Society's 30th Annual General Meeting online.

Wednesday October 7th, 2020
Minutes

DF stood in for Chair NW, who was ill, and opened the meeting at 7:39pm

1. Apologies: Neil Wilson, Cathy Sims, Andie Davies, Veronica Bradbury, John Calow, Ian McNair, Isobel Fogg.
2. Minutes of 2019 AGM agreed and signed off Keith Feltham and seconded by Keith Fanshawe.

3. Matters Arising

4. 5 & 6. All reports will be available with these minutes. They are published each December.

4 Question to the treasurer: Member Keith Feltham asked how much Zoom costs.

D. Wheatcroft (Treasurer) replied that the cost was £ 96.50 annually.

7. Election of Officers and Committee.

Standings were as follows: Chair, Dena Fanshawe, Vice Chair, David Wheatcroft - Treasurer, David Wheatcroft - Secretary, Valerie Bladon, Committee Mary Bullas, Terry Cocking, Andie Davies, Keith Fanshawe, Margaret Marsden and Neil Wilson.

There was no one else standing. No offers from the floor either, so in agreement with the attending members all officers and committee were voted 'en bloc'.

8. Increase in annual subscriptions.

No recommendation by the committee for any changes for this year and no member proposal, so unanimously agreed.

9. Any other business: none received by the end date of September 30th, 2020.

One item was requested to be heard and this was accepted by the floor.

David Wheatcroft on behalf of absent member, Liz Youle.

Question: Why are the committee minutes not sent out to members after each meeting?

She added that she thinks they should be.

In reply DF said, 'the minutes have always been available by request' and they are available back to 1989.

A full discussion took place by the members re this item. The outcome was positive and agreed by those present that minutes should be made available. It was then pointed out that minutes cannot be sent out after each committee meeting as they are not ratified until the following meeting.

It was finally agreed that the committee meeting minutes should be available to any member by a request and in writing. However, would not be available until after being ratified by the committee at the following meeting. Minute requests should be sent to members on request and members should apply to the secretary.

This was proposed by member Alan Beresford and seconded by member Susan North. A vote was taken, and motion passed.

Member Rosemary Russel also added that she wished to thank Dena for making our Zoom meetings possible.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

AGM Minutes taken by Mary Bullas

TIP: Family photos and albums can be especially useful if someone has written on the back. If not, try to get an older family member to go through them with you to identify who's who.

MEET THE COMMITTEE



Valerie Bladon Correspondence Team – Admin Coordinator

I was born in Old Whittington and brought up in Newbold. I was 16 when I first got the family history bug and have been researching ever since.

Many of my ancestors come from Derbyshire. Others from all the middle counties of England plus one line from Roscommon in Ireland.

In earlier years I did secretarial work and Primary school teaching. However, my main focus has always been family life.

I am enthusiastic about oral history and recording people's life stories. When someone dies it's like a library being lost so I'm endeavouring to collect as many memories as I can from my relatives.

Since having my DNA tested a few years ago I have become passionate about genetic genealogy. Using DNA matching along with traditional tools such as census, parish records etc. has led me to breaking down some brick walls. I look forward to being part of the society and learning and sharing with everyone.

Useful Websites

Adoption: Mother and Baby Homes Commission of Investigation - www.mbhcoi.ie

Archives: National Archives of Ireland - www.nationalarchives.ie

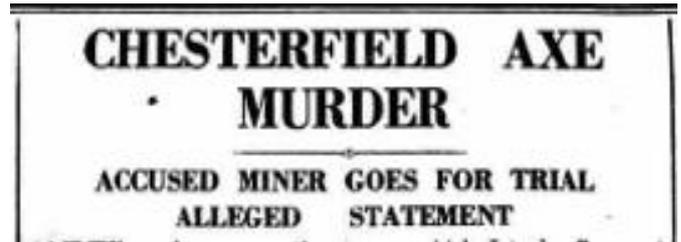
Courses: Family Tree Academy – www.familytreeacademy.thinkific.com

Films: British Pathe – www.britishpathe.com

Glossaries: Old Occupations – www.rmhh.co.uk/occup

Dastardly Deeds

Robbery or Rage?



In 1941 Sarah Elizabeth Bown age 55, lived at St Augustine's Avenue. Sarah and her brother shared the insurance money left to them by their deceased mother. Sarah's husband, Thomas James Bown, age 49, decided he ought to be responsible for Sarah's share and carried it around in a purse which he kept on his person. In his purse was a several treasury notes, plus some change amounting to the sum of £7, or thereabouts. Tommy, as he was known, was the daytime caretaker for the successful furniture shop in Chesterfield town centre, Messrs. Eyre & Sons Ltd. which still stands today.



Courtesy of www.geograph.org.uk

On Sunday 30th March he set off for work as usual and arrived at the shop at 8am to be admitted by the night watchman, Thomas Henry Neal. After Neal left the shop Tommy locked up with his bunch of keys and took his usual walk around the premises checking all was as it should be and performing other duties pertaining to his position.

Around 11.30 that morning Tommy opened the main doors for Harry Eyre, the Advertising Manager for the furniture company. Harry was in the habit of climbing onto the roof of the store to indulge his love of plane spotting. Sarah Bown called in at the store at 12:15p.m. bringing Tommy his packed lunch. Harry Eyre was let out of the shop around 1.10pm.

Shortly after Mr Eyre had left the shop Tommy also left to meet some friends at the Phoenix Inn on St Mary's Gate for a lunchtime drink, as was his custom on a Sunday afternoon. He relaxed with a drink in the company of his friends before returning to his place of work around 2pm. Shortly after his return, around 2.30pm Harry Eyre returned. He noticed the shop was not very well lit and Tommy seemed to act strangely, standing some distance away from Harry and edging further away from him all the time. Harry thought this seemed odd but he did not take too much notice and proceeded up to his favourite spot on the roof where he remained plane spotting until around 5.15pm.

Harry then went downstairs to the first floor and went to his office for something, he then proceeded downstairs to the ground floor in order to find Tommy so that he could lock up after Harry left. Harry began to search the premises looking for Tommy. Eventually he found him and made a gruesome discovery. Tommy Bown lay under the blankets of a bed, his face covered. The bed was in the corner of the showroom used by the fire watchers; his body and the bed drenched in blood! Harry alerted the police who arrived and arranged for Tommy's body to be transported to the Royal Hospital on Holywell Cross for a post mortem.

Meanwhile the police undertook a search of the premises and, with Harry Eyre's help, they identified missing items from the shop as well as items belonging to Tommy including his torch and a bunch of keys. No purse or money was found on Tommy and the fireman's axe from the corner where Tommy was found was missing. The main doors and all windows to the shop were found to be locked and secured. The police concluded that whoever killed Tommy had to have been known by the victim.

The police interviewed witnesses who had either been with Tommy or had been in the Phoenix Inn that afternoon; they were able to confirm that Tommy had been in the pub with a purse containing around £4 or £5. His wife's inheritance.

Mrs Dorothy Green, wife of the landlord of the Phoenix Inn, told police that she had known Tommy for around 17 years and confirmed that he had been in the Phoenix around 1.30pm and he had shown her his purse in which she identified 4 or 5 treasury notes.



*Spa Lane Vaults, formerly the Phoenix Inn,
St Mary's Gate
Courtesy of
Blackandwhitebuildingsofchesterfield.co.uk*

At the hospital the pathologist, Dr J. M. Webster, was joined by Dr Lewis Cruikshank who was the resident surgical officer at the hospital. They found that Tommy had a large number of wounds to his hands, arms, face, head and neck. There were abrasions, bruises and injuries to his face; his throat had been cut completely. There were severe fractures to his skull and, judging by the way that portions of skull had been driven into his brain, an enormous amount of force had been used in the administering of these horrific injuries. Dr Webster was of the opinion that something like an axe had been used, or something very similar to an axe. The conclusion reached by both medical professionals was that Tommy had died from the "laceration of the brain, fractures to the skull, bleeding and shock from the wounds in the throat". This had indeed been a vicious attack.

As the police continued their enquiries one witness in particular caught their attention. Ernest Prince had been in the Phoenix Inn that afternoon. George Coleman, a miner who lived on Beetwell Street, told police that he had known Ernest for some years and had worked with him in the colliery. George saw Ernest on the 30th March on St Mary's Gate around 12:45pm and had stopped to ask Ernest if he was going to the pub for a drink. Ernest replied that he couldn't as he didn't have any money. George gave him 2 shillings. However, George later challenged the witness statement he'd given saying that he had not told the police it was the 30th of March when he'd seen Ernest; in fact all he could say for sure was that it was a Sunday "round about that date".

It soon came to light that Ernest owed money to a number of people. His wife stated that when Ernest left the house that day he had no money on him but on his return he gave her some money, telling her he had borrowed it. Ernest and his wife had secured the rent of 2 rooms on St Augustine's Road from Mrs Lily Singleton very recently. She was able to confirm that Ernest had left the house around 11.30am that day. She was also able to confirm the time he returned to the house which was 4pm. Shortly after this time Mrs Eileen Prince gave the landlady 10 shillings for the rent.

Mrs Singleton's daughter had travelled from the town centre to visit her mother that afternoon. She caught the bus on Vicar Lane and was able to inform police that she had seen Prince on the same bus. When they got off the bus Ernest walked in front of her and entered the house going straight to his rooms. She was also able to confirm that minutes later Mrs Prince paid her mother the rent with 2 treasury notes.

Mrs Singleton's other daughter and son in law lived at the same address as the Princes. Later that Sunday evening they joined Ernest and his wife on a visit to the cinema; Ernest paid for everything and later went alone to the pub.

The police brought Ernest in for questioning on 20th April. He was asked to give an account of his whereabouts and movements on the date in question. His statement is as follows:

"I have been living at this address with my wife for four weeks..... I remember the Sunday Tommy was murdered, but I did not know anything about it until the following Wednesday. I think the first person to tell me was one of the attendants at the lavatory in St Mary's Gate. It would be about ten to two on this Sunday that I went into the Phoenix. I saw Tommy. He was talking with Mrs Green and two other people, a man and a woman I

think. I had a couple of bitters on my own. I didn't talk to anyone, and I turned out about five past two."

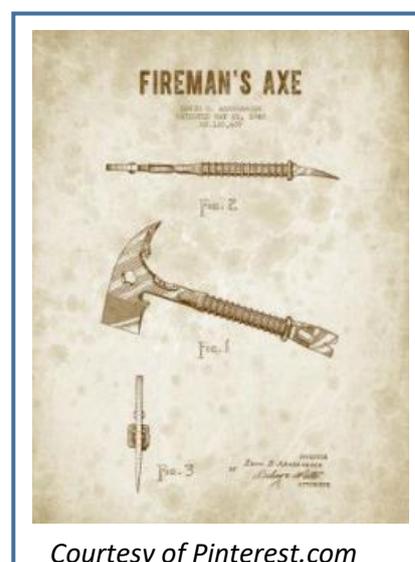
"Tommy came out and stood outside with three or four, and then I saw him set off towards Vicar Lane. He went on his own. I should say it would be about ten past by then. When I was standing outside I was not talking to anyone.... From then I had a walk round the town.... I caught the bus home, I think it was the 3.10pm Storforth Lane. When I got home I had my dinner and stopped indoors until about half-past eight, when I came into town again and called at the Anchor.... I knew Bown worked at Eyre's but I didn't know much about him. I didn't know he had any money except what he earned. I passed Eyre's that afternoon but I didn't recognise anyone about and I didn't see Tommy after ten past two".

The police continued with their enquiries then, finally satisfied that they had sufficient cause, Detective Inspector Nixey went to the colliery where Prince worked and cautioned him before bringing him in for a second interview. Nixey told Prince that he was not satisfied with his initial statement, the Inspector went on to say "I have ascertained that on the day of the murder you were in the possession of £3 10s or more and that when you left home [that morning] you were penniless. I shall detain you for wilful murder."

At this point of the interview Prince gave up the pretence and asked to write down what really happened. Nixey offered to write his statement down for him but Prince insisted on writing it himself, "I can write it better than talk". This is his second statement given that day:

"On Sunday March 30th I saw the deceased person as stated previously, but omitted to say that I saw him again later. As I made my way towards Holywell Cross [Prince's mother was in hospital at the time] Bown caught me up on the bypass road and walked down with me. He then said something about a position in the shop as if he was manager or something, and asked me to go in and have a look round.

Whilst inside someone came to the door and he switched out the light so I should not be seen. After a short while and all was quiet he showed me round a bit, and then the corner where the fire watchers camped. The implements were lying about and he showed me different things. I sat on one of the beds



and he made a suggestion to me which I took offence at, and when he I sort of saw red. The axe was near, and I grabbed it to hit him. He twisted the axe round and caught me on the side of the head. At that I think I lost all reason and I started as if I was in a New York den.

When I realised what I had done I tried to make it look like robbery. I found this when I looked in his pocket for the keys to get out. If he had not acted this way I don't suppose anything would have happened. It was when he caught me with the axe and started shouting I went partly mad, I think. As near as I could say this was about 3.15 [p.m.], because I was on the bus stand about 3.30 [p.m.]. The purses and stuff I burned, bar the money, some of which I gave Eileen and told her I had borrowed it. The keys, if they are still there, are in the river under the wooden footbridge near Hyde's works. The axe is buried down the pit under several hundred tons of debris. The torch is smashed to bits and scattered about, the flattened case you may find down a drain between the Sanatorium and the pit on Walton Road. I alone am responsible for it and no one else until today knew anything about it....."

When Nixey told Prince he would be charged with wilful murder he said, "It's there now. It can't be nowt other."

The case was committed to trial after the hearing on 27th May 1941. In this hearing Prince's motive for the murder was called into question. The investigations uncovered a list of debtors to whom Prince owed money. The couple had been behind on their rent until the date of the murder. Mr D.R Paling, appearing for the Director of Public Prosecutions asked why, if Prince's story were true, did he feel the need to murder Bown. Why didn't he just walk out of the premises or take some other reasonable action? Paling pointed out that from Prince's own written statement it was evident that he was not a "silly, uneducated half-wit of a man". He continued to point out the difference in age between Prince and Bown, Prince being the younger and fitter of the two. Paling put it to the court that the motive for the murder was indeed that of robbery and nothing else.

The case went to trial in June that year. Prince was found guilty of wilful murder and sentenced to hang. However his solicitor, Mr B. Mather, appealed and on the 28th July the charge was changed to that of manslaughter. Prince was given a sentence of 15 years penal servitude.

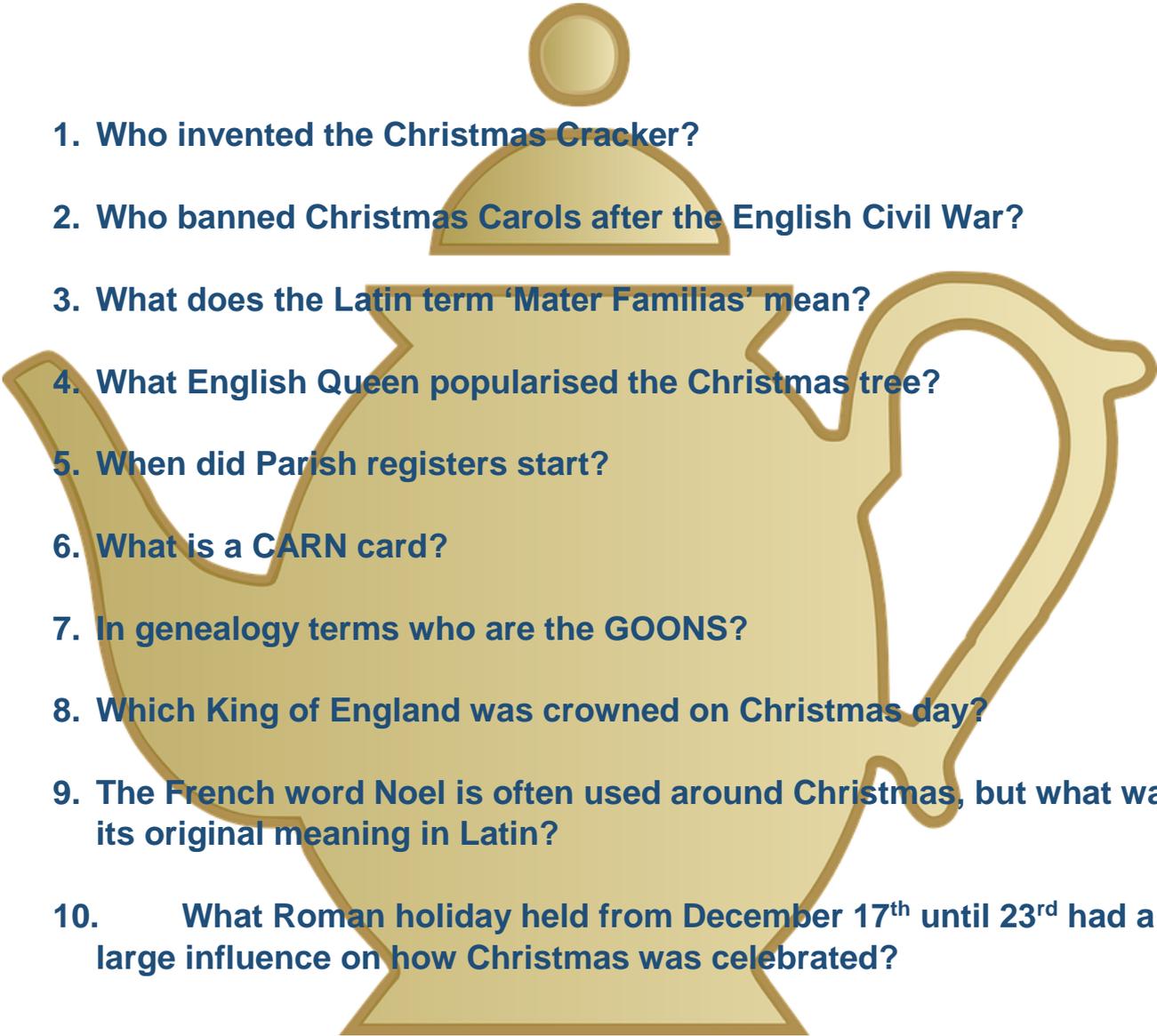
Sources:

Derbyshire Times – Friday 30 May 1941

Gloucestershire Echo - Monday 28 July 1941

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

TEATIME QUIZ

- 
1. Who invented the Christmas Cracker?
 2. Who banned Christmas Carols after the English Civil War?
 3. What does the Latin term 'Mater Familias' mean?
 4. What English Queen popularised the Christmas tree?
 5. When did Parish registers start?
 6. What is a CARN card?
 7. In genealogy terms who are the GOONS?
 8. Which King of England was crowned on Christmas day?
 9. The French word Noel is often used around Christmas, but what was its original meaning in Latin?
 10. What Roman holiday held from December 17th until 23rd had a large influence on how Christmas was celebrated?

Search historical local newspapers for accounts of your ancestors medal awards on websites such as The British Newspaper Archives / find my past / or in the Official Public Record, The Gazette which is a free to access at <https://www.thegazette.co.uk>

In Remembrance



Joining the Colours

BY KATHARINE TYNAN

There they go marching all in step so gay!
Smooth-cheeked and golden, food for shells and guns.
Blithely they go as to a wedding day,
The mothers' sons.

The drab street stares to see them row on row
On the high tram-tops, singing like the lark.
Too careless-gay for courage, singing they go
Into the dark.

With tin whistles, mouthorgans, any noise,
They pipe the way to glory and the grave;
Foolish and young, the gay and golden boys
Love cannot save.

High heart! High courage! The poor girls they kissed
Run with them: they shall kiss no more, alas!
Out of the mist they stepped-into the mist
Singing as they pass

75 years since the end of WW2

Vvictory in Europe 8TH of May V.J. DAY the end of the War August 15th, 1945



John Joseph Cannon WW1

D.C.M. London Gazette 21 January 1920:

"At Ussuna, on the night of the 9th September 1919, an enemy patrol was reported to be in our rear position. He [Cannon] organised a party of British and Russian troops and went out to verify the report. He encountered a party of the enemy, about 40 strong, and engaged them at 20 yards range. He then withdrew and reported to his officer, with the result that the enemy attack was beaten off with heavy loss. Next day, he again rendered gallant service."

M.M. London Gazette 13 March 1919.

"John Joseph Cannon, a native of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, attested for the King's Royal Rifle Corps at Winchester on 10 September 1914 and served with the 2nd Battalion during the Great War on the Western Front from 27 July 1915.

He was admitted to 13th General Hospital at Boulogne with frostbite on 9 January 1916 and was evacuated to England a week later. Returning to the Front, he was on transferred on 17 April 1918, and was wounded in action on 29 September 1918. For his services with the Machine Gun Corps on the Western Front he was awarded the Military Medal, and was disc 1918. Re-enlisting for a term of 2 years on 9 July 1919 he served as part of the North with the 19th Battalion Machine Gun Corp Russia Expeditionary Force, Murmansk Command, from 25 August to 4 October 1919, and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his gallantry near the village 1919 when he led a force of British and Russian troops in an ambush against a party of 40 Bolsheviks who had infiltrated behind British lines and engaged the enemy at only 20 yards range. His D.C.M. was the only one awarded to 19th Battalion Machine Gun Corps for North Russia and was subsequently the last ever D.C.M awarded to the Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). Cannon subsequently served in India, and was discharged on 7 J 1921.

Cannon is mentioned on page 95 of 'Churchill's Secret War with Lenin' by Damien Wright.

London Gazette 21/1/1920, London Gazette 13/3.1919

Mary Bullas Great Uncle my maternal grandfather's brother



WHAT'S ON



2ND DECEMBER 2020

VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

With Speaker: Jenny Mallin

'Walking into Grandmother's Kitchen at Christmas – A British Raj'

This talk centres on Jenny's family traditions at Christmas; how the festive season was enjoyed by those who were living in a country which was part of the British Raj. "



2021 Annual Event Saturday the 8th of May - PROACT stadium 10am - 4pm - Plenty of free parking. Onsite refreshments all day.

Monthly Meetings <https://cadfhs.org/2019-monthly-meetings/>

[The committee has the right to change the programme of monthly meetings if necessary]

PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for the next issue of 'In-spiration' is **March 10th 2021**. Any items received after this date will appear in the August 2021 edition.

TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

AUGUST – NOVEMBER 2020 (via Zoom)

August – Dr Penny Walters

'Have you ever found your 'real' family?'

Penny gave a comprehensive presentation regarding the search for adoptive parents; she covered a variety of issues such as language used in research, DNA tools, ethical dilemmas and change of name. Penny is herself an adoptee and speaks from a wealth of experience. She has given presentations on a variety of subjects at many UK Family History Societies; regional and national events such as Family Tree Live, Family History Federation annual events, Jewish Genealogy Society, Society of Genealogists, and Roots Tech London; and internationally, at Roots Tech USA, Brigham Young University, and The USA Association of Professional Genealogists annual conference.

Penny has recently written **2 books**, '*Ethical Dilemmas in Genealogy*' (Available in paperback here - bit.ly/EDIG_Paper or on Kindle here - bit.ly/EDIG_Kindle) and '*The Psychology of Searching*,' (bit.ly/PoS_Paper - bit.ly/PoS_Kindle) both of which are available on Amazon in paperback or kindle.

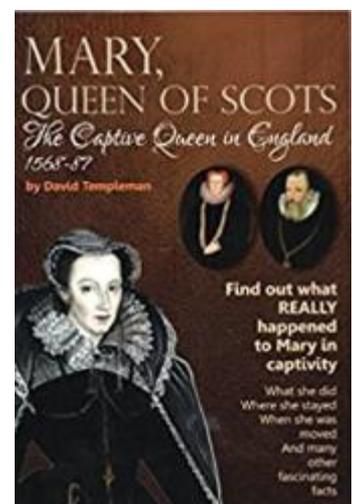
And finally, there are 2 free (until 22 June) webinars here:



September – David Templeman Mary Queen of Scots in Derbyshire

David is a retired businessman having been employed in the leisure trade most of his working life. On retirement David pursued his love of history by working as a volunteer guide at Sheffield Manor Lodge. 15 years later David is now an Elizabethan historian, an author, a national speaker and Chair of the Friends of Sheffield Manor Lodge.

We can thoroughly recommend his book '*Mary, Queen of Scots: The Captive Queen in England 1568-87*' which was



published to critical acclaim in autumn 2016. After years of painstaking research by David at Sheffield and Chatsworth Archives, the book creates a detailed account of Mary's years in confinement in England culminating in the tragedy at Fotheringhay.

To order online go to: www.fosml.org.uk/product/mary-queen-of-scots-the-captive-queen-in-england-1568-87 and take advantage of the reduced price of £7.99 while it lasts.

October – AGM – (see Minutes on page 7)

**November – Dr Carol Woodhouse
'19th Century Emigre Pork Butchers in Chesterfield'**

Queen Victoria was on the throne, the Industrial Revolution was in full swing when in 1860's several pork butchers arrived in Chesterfield from one of the German states.- Wurttemberg.

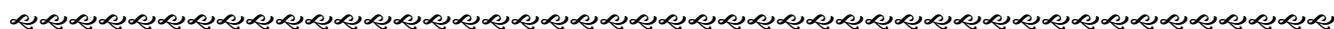
Carol is herself descended from one of these immigrant butchers and gave us an interesting talk on where they had come from and why they came to Chesterfield. She described how the different families integrated into the Chesterfield community and the contributions they made in that community. Carol is a social and cultural geographer (a Cestrefeldian).

Monthly Meetings <https://cadfhs.org/2019-monthly-meetings/>

Zoom Us Meetings

Currently and in compliance with distancing rules imposed at this time we are only conducting meetings on-line for the time being. We hope to resume physical meetings as soon as possible. **For security information please visit:**

<https://zoom.us/security>



From member 1206

Surname Interests

Surname	Parish	County	Dates
SCALES	Brimington	Derbyshire	All
	Sutton-c-	Derbyshire	
	Duckmanton		
	Beighton	Derbyshire	
	Bolsover	Derbyshire	
	Barlborough	Derbyshire	
OXLEY	Chesterfield	Derbyshire	
TOMLINSON	Newbold	Derbyshire	
	Beighton	Derbyshire	
	Brampton	Derbyshire	
MELLOR/ MELLORS	Bolsover	Derbyshire	
BROOMHEAD	Bubnell	Derbyshire	
	Baslow	Derbyshire	

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

Q from Margaret



My Great Grandfather was John James Rowland born 9th September 1883 and his wife Clara born 12th October 1892. They lived at 18 Vernon Rise, Grassmoor and had 7 children, one of which was my mother Betty. I was born in Chesterfield in 1946 and lived with my mum on Vernon Rise as my father was still in the army. He was a paratrooper and they met when he was stationed at Hardwick Army Camp. My Granddad was always known as 'Pony' Rowland; we think it had

something to do with pit ponies as he was a miner. We believe he worked at Bonds Colliery and had a serious accident in which he was badly injured and afterwards was not able to work again. He received some compensation from the pit and I would love to know if anyone has details about him or his accident. Also my Great Granddad James Rowland born 1882 and his wife Eliza who lived at Revill Street, Grassmoor. I can't find any information about him. There is a story that either he or his father came from an orphanage in Sheffield and was believed to be Jewish, so if anyone could help it would be much appreciated.

A from Mary

There are quite few useful websites where you might get more information about your Granddad and perhaps his accident. Derbyshire Records office hold some mining records at www.recordsoffice.wordpress.com. I am unsure whether they are open at the moment, but you could try getting in touch with the archivist through email. Also, NUM records for Derbyshire area can be searched and data downloaded about coal miners' ill health and accidents in Derbyshire (Miners Health and Welfare Project website on www.dhi.ac.uk/miners-health/home).

You might find Thought.co at www.thoughtco.com/uk useful for researching coal mining ancestors.

Also another really good site is Neil's local history and mining site www.oldminer.co.uk

Have you sent for your Great Granddads birth certificate? It might be able to give you more information on where he was born. You might also find a site called 'Sheffield Indexers' www.Sheffieldindexers.com useful as it has some information

pertaining to institutions, workhouses and schools in Sheffield . Also www.familysearch.org is a good site and free to join.

Q from Andrew

I am looking for help to solve the question of my great, great grandfather's trade. Was he an Innkeeper, tailor or both? Lievesley is a name that appears to originate in the Chesterfield area, going back from my brother I can trace at least six generations.

For years we thought William was a publican of the Leopard Inn Holywell Street, Chesterfield, but by digging into census history and trade directories we know he was a tailor just like his father for most of his life. Also, for most of their married life William and Anne lived in Hollywell Street. The 1861 Census shows him as a tailor. A trade directory in 1857 shows him to be a tailor in Hollywell Street, then the 1862 Trade directory shows him as a 'Retailor of Beer' in Hollywell Street. He would have been 48.

Was William Leivesley a tailor or a publican or both?

A from Margaret

In the 1860s the introduction of sewing machines and mass production of cheaper clothes would have had a huge influence on William's trade and could probably explain why William changed trades in the 1860s. It probably led him to seek another way of making a living. A useful site which may give you some insight into this subject is the WMCL (Working Class Movement library at <https://www.wcml.org.uk>). Also, if you haven't already, you may find looking for ancestors of Gladys Leivesley from Nottingham interesting.



Teatime Quiz Answers

1. Tom Smith a 19th Century London Sweet shop owner
2. Oliver Cromwell
3. Female head of the household
4. Victoria
5. 1538
6. County Archive Research Network card need to use many of the U.K.'S record offices and archives
7. The Guild of One Name Studies
8. William the Conqueror
9. Birth
10. Saturnalia

A Merry Medieval Christmas

In Medieval times people fasted right up until the 24th of December and this was followed up with 12 nights of celebration which would reach its crescendo of the 6th of January when presents would be exchanged.

This celebration of the birth of Christ and the name 'Christmas' (Christ's Mass) is first recorded in England in 1038. Celebrations included servants as master's antics and gift giving of Roman Saturnalia customs left over from the Pagan Saxon midwinter feast of



Yule. Traditions included bringing in the Yule log, which was kept burning throughout the season, homes were decorated evergreens. A boar's head was traditional fare washed down with Braggot, an extra strong ale with honey and cinnamon and spiked with brandy.

Medieval festivities were boisterous affairs directed by a Master of Mischief, whose word was law. The games could be rough, one of the tamest was 'Hot Cuckles' this involved blindfolding the victim and slapping him from behind. The victim then had to guess who had slapped him, if he guessed correctly the slapper became the next victim. Carols were originally dances accompanied by a sung chorus the words could be religious or worldly, or even sometimes rude.



Henry the 1st ceremonially wore his crown at feasts and Lawgivings at 24 different places during his 34-year reign

Medieval Christmas was also important state occasions where the king would wear his crown at banquets and law giving's.

CADFHS Family History Project 2020 Workhouse Paupers of Chesterfield

Chesterfield Union Workhouse & the Chesterfield Poor

Pauper Stories Project

The project is part of a larger project by Christ Church something Chesterfield & District Local History Society. We at CADFHS are managing the research of the poor.

Could you research and write one of their stories?

We can supply names for you.

Would you like to take part?

Contact us today! To find out more and to register for the project please visit

www.cadfhs.org/cadfhs-2020-2021-project



The project name is '**Christ Church Paupers Research Project**'. As a result of the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act Chesterfield was made the centre of a Union cover 34 parishes and a population of 34,246.

Workhouse Graves: Initially Chesterfield Union Workhouse inmates were buried at Holy Trinity Church and Christ Church circa 1650. Spital Cemetery has around 7,000 graves.

Where does CADFHS come in? The Christ Church project has many objectives but one of their main aims is to uncover the personal stories of those **paupers who died there**.

This project is open to all so non-members can contribute too.

Collaborate with other members or friend; it's your choice.

- 1) Choose someone who died in the Chesterfield Union Workhouse
- 2) You may have someone in your family tree. If not, no problem! The Society can provide a name for you to research.
- 3) Got the name? Now is the time to build a story around them for the project.
- 4) Register the pauper name here: www.cadfhs.org/cadfhs-2020-2021-project

All the resources you need are at the above website.

How do we support you? Forums, dedicated web page (see above), storyboard, password protected area (registration of pauper required)

IMPORTANT: Password is very different from the one used in the MEMBERS ONLY AREA

WILLIAM ASHMORE

HIS VERY SHORT LIFE AND THE FATE OF HIS FAMILY

By Sue Purdy. CADFHS.

The story of his life is a short and a sad one. William Ashmore was buried in Christ Church on 30th December 1903 and his place of death was given as Chesterfield Union Workhouse with an age of 7 months. His death is listed in the Workhouse discharges as an infant who died on 28th December, 1903.

A search of the Chesterfield Workhouse admissions from May 1903, which would probably be the earliest he could have been born, revealed that he was admitted on 28th December 1903, which meant that he died on the day he was admitted. This would indicate that he was probably very poorly when he came in. Admitted with him were his mother, Catherine Ashmore, born 1880, his sister Amelia, born 1896, and another sister Mary E, born 1898. Catherine was given as "wife" but there was no sign of a husband. They were given in the register as having come from Bolsover.

On the 1901 census, the nearest census to their admission, the family were living at 27 Wheeldon Lane, Chesterfield. The head of the household was Benjamin Ashmore age 23, a brick-layer's labourer born in Chesterfield. His wife Catherine was 22 and was born in Oldham, Lancashire. Little William's two sisters were on this census, Amelia, age 4, born in Chesterfield and Mary E, age 2, born in Tamworth, Staffordshire.

The name of Catherine's husband, Benjamin, gave the option to look for their marriage and it was found to have taken place in May, 1896 at St Mary and All Saints, Chesterfield ¹. She was named as Kate Wetherstone, age 16 and Benjamin Ashmore, age 18. Her father was Augustus Wetherstone and his father William Ashmore (deceased). Very young to be starting out on married life but she appears to have been pregnant at the time of the marriage.

Baptisms revealed that Amelia was baptised in Chesterfield on 23rd July 1896, father Benjamin and mother Catherine ². Mary Elizabeth was baptised on 6th January 1899 at St Editha's, Tamworth; father Benjamin and mother Catherine. Something had obviously gone wrong for the family between 1901 and 1903 and a newspaper article in the Derbyshire Times and Chesterfield Herald of March 8th 1902 may have a clue to the downward path.

In the reports of the court hearings was one listing several people, including Benjamin Ashmore, who were fined 2s 6d each plus the costs for being drunk and disorderly at Bolsover on various dates. Perhaps Benjamin was spending any money he had on drinks and not supporting his family? Or perhaps ill-treating his wife when he was worse for drink. Whatever the reason it would appear Catherine

felt she had no alternative but to go into the workhouse. She obviously had a very sick child so perhaps it was the only place she could get medical attention. Catherine, Amelia and Mary were discharged from the Workhouse on January 9th 1904 and she signed herself out, so she didn't stay in for very long. Unfortunately there is no clue to where she went to, or if she went back to her husband.

A search for more baptisms of children from the same parents revealed a baptism for Catherine Ashmore on 23rd October 1897 at Chesterfield with parents of Benjamin and Kate. Also a baptism for an Edith Ashmore on 9th February 1900 at Tamworth with a birth date of 19th January 1900 and with parents of Benjamin and Catherine ³.

¹ Free BMD

² Family Search

³ Family Search



Born in Chesterfield The Infamous Francis Percy Toplis



Percy Toplis in military uniform as printed in the Nottingham Evening post

Francis Percy Toplis was born on Sanforth Street, Whittington Moor Chesterfield on the 25th of September 1896. His parents, Herbert and Rejoice Elizabeth nee Webster, do not appear to have been able to support him and so he was brought up by his maternal grandparents Alice and William Webster in Skegby near Mansfield. He attended South Normanton School where he was reported to be an unruly pupil and a bully; it seems that he received the cane frequently. In March 1908 at the age of 11 he made his first venture onto the wrong side of the law when he was birched for receiving two suits under false pretences. His grandparents were no longer able to control him and the court released him into the care of his aunt Annie Webster. On leaving school he became a Blacksmiths apprentice at Blackwell colliery; however, his attendance was poor and after arguing with the pit manager he left and embarked on a itinerate life in Scotland. It was here that he had his first taste of jail in 1911 when he was sentenced to ten days imprisonment in Dumfries for non-payment of two train tickets. On his release he returned to England and in 1912 he was sentenced to two years for the alleged attempted rape of 15-year-old Nellie North, a

farmer's daughter from Sutton on Sea in Lincolnshire. But although his name is entered in the quarter sessions for the assault a report in the Boston Guardian on the 9th of March states the man charged at Alford police station was one James Toplis. It was reported that he followed the girl past Browns Farm and assaulted her at a railway crossing. After the ordeal she was examined at a surgery near Mablethorpe where "signs of force and violence were found". When arrested Toplis gave his name as William Edmondson and said that he was on his way to visit an uncle who lived in Skegness. The 1911 census shows James Toplis living with his 12-year-old daughter in Walter in nearby Withorn in Alford at the time of the incident. Percy however according to the census was in Blackwell 85 miles away. Percy served two years hard labour in Lincoln Jail.

In 1915, the year after the First World War broke out, Percy joined the Royal Army Medical Corps and served as a stretcher bearer; his first active service being in Loos. His unit was then shipped to Gallipoli and on his return he was hospitalised with dysentery. Later his unit was sent to Salonika in Egypt, but he was sent back home when he contracted malaria. Toplis made a public appearance in Blackwell whilst home dressed in the uniform of a captain. His visit along with some anecdotes were reported in the local paper the Nottingham Evening Post along with a photograph which was later used by the police on his wanted poster in 1920.

Just after the war Percy's father died and it was soon after that he deserted from his station in Blackpool. He was sent to prison again for six months for fraud having been sentenced at Nottingham Assizes. In 1920 he re-joined the army, this time the Royal Army Service Corps stationed at Bulford Camp. It was not long before he was up to his old tricks selling rationed fuel on the black market, forging papers to steal other soldiers' salaries and dressing in a Colonel's uniform when visiting the ladies of the town. He often wore a gold monocle as part of his disguise.

On the 21st of May 1920 an investigation took place regarding the theft of a Rover Sunbeam car from Bulford Camp by Morgan Radford Gardiner in the company of Percy Toplis. Second Lieutenant W.H. James who was the orderly officer on the morning of the 20th of December 1919 had seen the Rover in the shed but on the 27th of December the loss of the car was reported by the orderly sergeant and it was known that both men were missing on that day.

Toplis went AWOL again on the 24th of April 1920. It was after 9pm that taxi driver Sidney George Spicer was found dead from a gunshot wound on Thurxton Road near Andover. Toplis was seen in Bulford Camp around 11pm.

The inquest into Mr Spicer's death was held in a barn on Thruxton Road where the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder by Percy Toplis. It was the first time a British inquest in modern days had declared a man guilty of murder in his absence.

Toplis then spent the next two weeks in London posing as an officer. When the police began to close in, he fled to Monmouthshire in Wales. On the 7th of May a cap was found bearing Percy's name in Pontypool and a week later there was a sighting of him at a prayer

meeting at the Salem Baptist Chapel in Blaina. He seated himself between two Deacons and pled destitution saying that he had walked from London. At the end of the service the Deacons asked the congregation for help for him and a collection was taken which raised 7 shillings. The Deacon advised him to go to the local police station as there was no lodging house in Blaina at which he replied "No, no, I will go on up", apparently meaning he would go on towards Brynmawr. A diary which was read out at the inquest suggests that by the 6th of May he had arrived in Tomintoul, Scotland. The same report says that on the 11th of May he arrived at the Temperance Hotel in Central Inverness, signing the register as G. Waters. However, after a few days the proprietor became suspicious and confronted Toplis who left the Hotel on the 13th of May. He appears to have journeyed as far away as Muir of Ord but then returned to the bothy in Tomintoul. On the 1st of June, a farmer saw smoke rising from the chimney and alerted P.C. Greig and together they confronted Toplis who they found sitting by a fire. Toplis fired his pistol wounding them both and fled on a bicycle. On the 6th of June in Cumberland P.C. Fulton questioned a man in partial military dress but let him go. When he returned to the Police Station, he checked police circulars and noticed that the man matched the description of the man suspected of the murder in Andover. He returned to arrest him but backed down when Toplis threatened him with a revolver. P.C. Fulton was joined by Inspector William Richie and Sergeant Robert Bertram armed with Webley revolvers and, uniforms disguised, they set off to apprehend Toplis.

En route they were joined by the chief constable's son, Norman de Courcy Parry, on his 1000cc motor bike who came armed with a Belgian automatic pistol which he had brought back on his return from service during the war. They saw Toplis but didn't recognise him until they had passed him and were several yards down the road. They then quickly turned the car around and again approached Toplis. Parry got out of the car as Percy approached pretending to have some mechanical trouble. The police officers then came out and challenged him, he then attempted to fire at them and flee. The police ran towards him shooting and Percy collapsed to the floor and died.

The inquest was held the following Tuesday by Colonel Halton, the East Cumberland Coroner, and the jury found that Percy Toplis, who was aged 23 years, had been justifiably shot at Plumpton by police officers who were attempting to arrest him whilst he was a fugitive from justice. The police officers were praised for their courage. His body was identified by his sister Mrs Bowles and sergeant Harry Smith, of RASC, stationed at Bulford. Percy was buried in Penrith Cemetery at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning. His mother and sisters left the previous evening. The Rev H. Law officiated.

In 1978 a book was published which claimed that he had played a major part in the Etaples Mutiny from the 9th September - 12 September 1917. The author suggests that he may have been innocent of the murder and that there was a political vendetta against him.

The book was dramatized by the BBC in 1986 as the 'The Monocled Mutineer'. However critics claim that there is no evidence he was present and official records show his unit was on its way to India at the time. A letter dated 17th of May 1920 addressed to the chief constable of Hampshire from Superintendent James L. Cox describes Toplis's movements. It states that he was deployed to the Dardanelles at the onset of the war with Field Ambulance Company, was wounded and sent home, then went to Salonika and back to the Depot and then to India in the Troopship Orontes . Unfortunately, the letter makes no mention of a wanted notice that featured in the Police Gazette dated October 18th 1918 which states that Toplis deserted from Salonika on June 15th that same year. Nor did it mention the six months hard labour served by Nottingham magistrates in December 1918. As Percy's British Army Service Records were not retained by MOD the only other official document besides the letter available is his Medical Card. This makes his movements unclear; many historians feel that it appears unlikely that he was in France at the time of the mutiny.



'The Monocled Mutineer' starring Paul McGann (left)

Mary Bullas

References ; Aberdeen Press and Journal Wed 9th June 1920 , Sunday Post May 1920 , Western Gazette May 14th 1920 , Western Gazette May 21st 1920 , The Scotsman June 8th 1920 , South Wiltshire Coroners inquests 1868 -1920 , Boston Guardian May 1912 , Nottingham Evening Post .



A new mini-series exploring famous business families in Chesterfield

EYRE & SONS LTD

Brief History

In 1875, after an unfortunate injury Isaac Eyre of Barrow Hill found himself in the unenviable position of unemployed. With a family to provide for Isaac needed to earn enough money to feed and clothe them, so he decided to go into business buying and selling sewing machines and mangles from a barrow. Isaac became well respected and was a friendly chap who got to know his customers. Soon he was able to run the business from a shop in the middle of Chesterfield at number 3 Holywell Street. When his son was grown enough to join him in the business Isaac Eyre had expanded into furniture manufacturing. With the rise of the new 'middle classes' Isaac's furniture was in growing demand being good solid and well made.

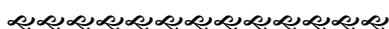


*Derbyshire Courier 1921
Courtesy of
Britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk*

In 1891 the business moved to bigger premises also on Holywell Street which remains the home of the company to this day. Their reputation as manufacturers of excellently furniture spread gaining customers from across the Midlands and by 1894 the business was able to register as the Company of Eyre & Sons Ltd.

By the mid1980s Eyre & Sons Ltd had 12 stores but most of these had to close down. Isaac's great grandson, Charles Summers, formed 'Eyre's of Chesterfield' at the original premises where they still trade today.

Ref: <https://www.eyres-furniture.com/our-heritage/>



A GHOST STORY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

I don't know about you but I love a good ghost story, especially on Christmas Eve. The most famous one of course has to be 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens, but I wanted to take a look a little closer to home. So, settle down with your mulled wine and mince pie and join me as we take a walk down a dark, lonely, road to Winnats Pass.

In 1748 lovers Alan and Clara planned their elopement. Clara's relatively wealthy parents had forbidden her from marrying Alan on account of him being a poor penniless labourer, but their love was to know no bounds. The couple left their respective homes over the Scottish border and began their journey to the Peak Forest. In the mid-18th century the Peak Forest was the 'Gretna Green' of England. The ministers here were not under the jurisdiction of a Bishop and as such could marry couples at any time of day or night.



For days the couple travelled on horseback in all weathers until finally they reached Castleton where they decided to get a room in a coaching inn. Alan enquired of the landlord directions to the church in the area where they could marry. Within earshot sat 5 miners. They heard Alan ask for directions and took an immediate interest in his bride, Clara, who was sat nearby. Judging by the way she dressed and held herself the miners could see that she was a wealthy young lady and surmised that she would no doubt have wealth on her dainty person.

That night, as the couple slept, Clara had a terrifying dream. In the dream she and Alan were riding a horse through a rocky gorge and were attacked by robbers. She woke with a scream and told Alan about the dream. Alan calmed and soothed Clara reassuring her it was just a dream.



Winnats Pass, Derbyshire courtesy of Peaktours.com

The next morning Alan and Clara went on their way furnished with directions to the church. As they approached Winnets Pass Clara felt a chill run down her spine. She recognised the place from her dream. Alan, seeing her become highly

anxious and disturbed, did his best to reassure her. About half way through Winnats Pass the 5 miners struck. They lay hold of the couple and dragged them to a nearby hut and demanded all their money. Alan would have none of it and fought bravely. One of the miners picked up an axe and brutally cut Alan down. His blood flowed and Clara became hysterical. The miners, realising that robbery had turned to murder, discussed among themselves what they should do with the girl.

They all agreed, there was no way they could let her go, she had seen them all. Ignoring her screams for mercy the miners attacked and killed Clara in cold blood. In a panic the miners fled the scene, leaving the dead lovers in the hut. They all agreed to return later to share out the money (£200) between them.

At midnight they returned. As they drew nearer to the fateful hut the men froze as they heard sounds coming from the woeful shack. The sound of shuffling and movement was heard within. In terror the miners fled once more. For three nights the miners returned and each time they returned they would hear the same shuffling and moving around coming from the hut just as the night before.

On the fourth night the miners ensured they consumed enough alcohol to give them the courage to enter the hut. Upon entering they found the tragic young couple as they had been left four nights before. They wrapped the bodies in some old sack cloth and buried them where they believed they would never be found. They shared out the money and parted company only too happy never to have to return to Winnats Pass.

Four days later Alan and Clara's horses were found wandering around on Winnats Pass. The locals had no doubt that the young couple had met with some sort of accident or worse. Despite investigation the bodies were not found and neither were the murdering miners. There was talk among the locals about the couple and suspicion rested on the 5 miners who had been partaking of their ale in the Inn the night that Alan and Clara arrived, but no one had any proof. Soon after, strange noises were heard coming from Winnats Pass; blood curdling screams and thudding noises along with the distinct sound of something *or someone* being dragged. Stories began to circulate of the ghostly figures of a young couple climbing up the sides of the Pass, or they would be seen hand in hand.

In 1758, a decade later, two skeletons were found hidden in the mine shaft at Winnats Pass. But that is not the worst of it. The five miners may have thought they had gotten away with the murder of the innocent young lovers, but events were soon to show that justice may have been meted out in other ways.

Nicholas Cook, one of the miners, died within a year of the disappearance of Alan and Clara. John Bradshaw, another one of the murderous five, was out walking in Winnats Pass. Something made him climb up the side of the gorge where a huge gust of wind blew him off and dashed his body against the rocks. Thomas Hall, the third member of the gang, took his own life; the fourth, Francis Butley was also in Winnats Pass when a huge boulder seemed to fall from nowhere and crushed him to death. The last man to be left was James Ashton who, unable to forget the frightening events that followed that fateful night and the destiny of the other four miners, went insane. He made a deathbed confession to the vicar of Castleton.

It is said that Clara's screams can still be heard at Winnats Pass; the ghostly figures of a young couple can still be seen trying to escape something by climbing up the sides of the Pass.



Lyn McNair

Adapted from a story in 'Haunted Derbyshire' by Wayne Anthony

WISHING ALL OUR READERS, WHERE EVER YOU ARE

**A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!**

Scarsdale Hundred Area: the area that CADFHS covers





CADFHS meet at 7pm (talks commence at 7.30pm) every first Wednesday of each month. These are normally held at Whittington Moor Methodist Church, Scarsdale Road, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield S41 8NA but, due to the Covid 19 situation, all meetings are currently by virtual platform. See inside for details.