

The Gildings of Chesterfield

SECTION D comprises:

Parts 13,14,15 and 16



PART 13

ALFRED GILDING (1863 – 1919) & SARAH PAUL (1859 - 1930)

To backtrack a little, Alfred Gilding had been born on 13th August 1863 at Grasshill Row, Hasland. In 1881 Alfred still lived on Grasshill Row aged 17 with his parents. His elder brother William and his wife Mary were neighbours. Alfred followed his father and brothers into the pit. On 23rd January 1882 Alfred, aged 19, married Sarah Paul from Dorset aged 22 ,at Chesterfield Parish Church. Alfred made "his mark X" but Sarah could write her own name. They lived in Hasland Lane. His father, Henry Gilding was shown as an underground deputy in the pit and Sarah's father Levi Paul as a labourer.

Witness Emily Manlove had been a 20 year old neighbour of Alfred in Grasshill Row. Her father Thomas Manlove was accused of sexually assaulting Mary , William Gilding's wife five years before in Grasshill Row.

Alfred Gilding and Sarah Paul's Marriage at Chesterfield Parish Church in 1882

1882. Marriage solemnized at <u>the Parish Church</u> in the <u>Parish of Chesterfield</u> in the County of <u>Westby</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
233	January 23.	Alfred Gilding	19	Bachelor	Collier	Hasland Lane	Henry Gilding	Underground Deputy.
	1882	Sarah Paul	22	Spinster	-	Hasland Lane	Levi Paul	Labourer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church.

This Marriage was solemnized between us,	in the Presence of us,
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> { Alfred Gilding his X mark } </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Sarah Paul </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> George James Emily Manlove </div>

What do we know about Alfred's wife Sarah Paul – a West Country ancestor ?

Susan Sarah Paul was born on 26th September 1859 at Broadway [now spelt Broadwey], near Weymouth in Dorset. Her mother's maiden name was Spicer and her father was Levi Paul a farm labourer. She was baptised on 7th November 1860 at Buckland Rippers a tiny village near Broadway, showing the parents living in a hamlet called Nottingham.. Sarah's parents were Levi Paul (1823-1890) and Sarah Spicer (1825-1871) who were married at Osmington, near Weymouth on 24th August 1850. Levi's father James was a thatcher and he also took up the same trade. Sarah's father Stephen Spicer was a carpenter and wheelright.

Susan Sarah Paul's Birth Certificate at Broadway on 26th September 1859

Twenty Sixth September 1859 Broadway	Susan Sarah	Girl	Levi Paul	Sarah Paul formerly Spicer	Agricultural Labourer	Sarah Paul Mother Broadway
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Susan Sarah Paul (also spelt Paull) makes her first appearance aged one in the 1861 Census living in the hamlet of Nottingham. Levi Paul is aged 38 and is employed as a labourer; his wife Sarah is aged 36 both are shown as being born at Osmington, Weymouth.

Marriage Entry of Levi Paul and Sarah Spicer 24 August 1850 at Osmington

1850. Marriage solemnized by *Bennet* in the Church of *Osmington* in the County of *Dorset*

When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
24. August	Levi Paul	full	Bachelor	Labourer	Osmington	James Paul	Thatcher
	Sarah Spicer	full	Spinster		do	Stephen Spicer	Carpenter

Levi and Sarah Paul's Family at Nottingham, Dorset in 1861 Census

Levi Paul	Head	Mar	38
Sarah do	Wife	Mar	36
Levi J do	Son		9
Ann do	Daughter		8
Francis do	Son		5
Charles do	do		3
Susan S do	Daughter	Susan S Paul	1

The following map shows the Weymouth area in 1830 including Broadway, Buckland Rippers, Radipole and Osmington. Nottingham lies between Broadway and Buckland Rippers.



Map of Weymouth about 1830

Sadly Sarah's mother died in March 1871 aged 47 leaving her father a widower in the census taken the following month.

Entry from Buckland Rippers' Burial Register for Sara Paul 30th March 1871

Sarah Paul.	Buckland Rippers.	1871.	Year
No. 75.		30 March	47.

Employed as a thatcher Levi's family comprised daughter Sarah aged 11 and her siblings: Levi John aged 19 a labourer; Ann aged 16 a house servant; Francis aged 15 a thatcher; William aged 8 and Ruth aged 5. Her brother Charles aged 13 was in domestic service at the village rectory.

Levi Paul's Family at Buckland Rippers in 1871 Census

Levi Paul	Head	Widow	18	Thatcher	do Comington
Levi do	Son	Unm	19	Labourer	do do
Ann do	Daughter	do	16	Servant	do Buckland
Francis do	Son	do	15	Thatcher	do do
Susan S. do	Daughter	do	11	Susan S Paul	do Broadway
William do	Son	do	8		do do
Ruth do	Daughter	do	5		do Buckland

The family began to fragment by the time their father married Amelia Miller a laundress from Radipole, Dorset on 17th November 1878. Ann had married local labourer John Thorne in 1875. Brothers Francis, William and Levi moved to the East Midlands looking for work. Francis married Derbyshire girl Annie Ward in 1877 and they lived with her brother in law in Derby, where brother William boarded with them. A witness at Francis's wedding was Lucy Georgina Groom who subsequently married brother Levi John Paul in 1878 in Leicester where they were confectioners for many years. Francis's marriage did not last and he had returned to Dorset by 1892 to die aged thirty six, his widow Annie remained in Derby and married her lodger the following month. Sister Ruth lived with her step mother until her marriage to George Rumble in 1897 and on his death to John Robinson from Amport, Hants. in 1908. Against this background Sarah (no longer shown as Susan) appears on the 1881 Census aged twenty-one working as a servant of farmer Thomas Doar, at Breadsall Ford Farm, some three miles to the north of Derby where brother Francis had lived.

1881 Census Extract Breadsall, Derbyshire

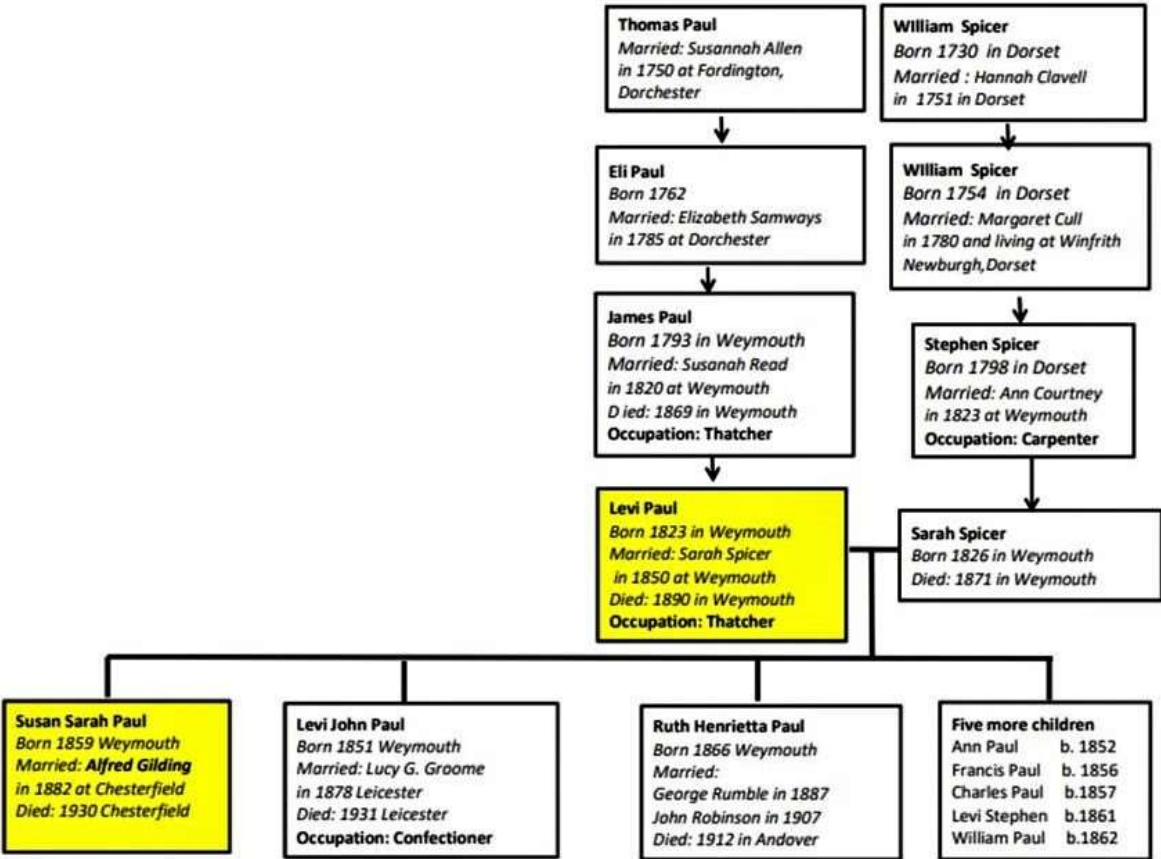
Thomas Doar	Head	M.	40	Farmer	do Breadsall
Ann do	Wife	do	36	do	do do
John do	Son	Unm	18	do	do do
John A. Craig	Boarder	do	21	do	do do
Sarah Paul	Servant	do	21	do	do do
William Salt	Sarah Paul	do	21	do	do do

How she met her husband to be from Chesterfield, Alfred Gilding, a coal miner, is not known. Whether it was a connection to his mother’s family at Churchside Farm, Hasland; or his travels for work is a mystery.

Sarah’s brother Levi and Lucy Paul remained in Leicester employed as confectioners and bakers. By 1911 Levi is aged 59 and Lucy Georgina aged 60. They had been married 32 years and lived at their fruit and grocery shop 53 Francis Street, Leicester. Lucy died in 1921. Levi attended his sister’s funeral in 1930 and died in 1931.

Sarah’s father had died aged 67 in 1890. Her sister Ruth Henrietta lived with stepmother Amelia, both laundresses, in the 1891 Census at Radipole. Stepmother Amelia died aged 51 in 1892 and Ruth married George Rumble at Wimborne in 1897. In the 1901 Census Ruth was a 35 year old housekeeper while her husband George was a 33 year old private at the Cambridge barracks Portsmouth. George died in 1907. In 1909 Ruth then married John Robinson a farm labourer from Baydon in Wiltshire. In the 1911 Census Ruth aged 45 and John Robinson aged 58 lived at East Cholderton near to Ampert, Hampshire. Ruth’s nephew James Gilding (Sarah’s son) aged 14 was shown as working on the farm.

Sarah Paul’s Dorset Ancestors



Several DNA matches have confirmed a shared ancestry to the Paul, Spencer and Courtney Dorset families

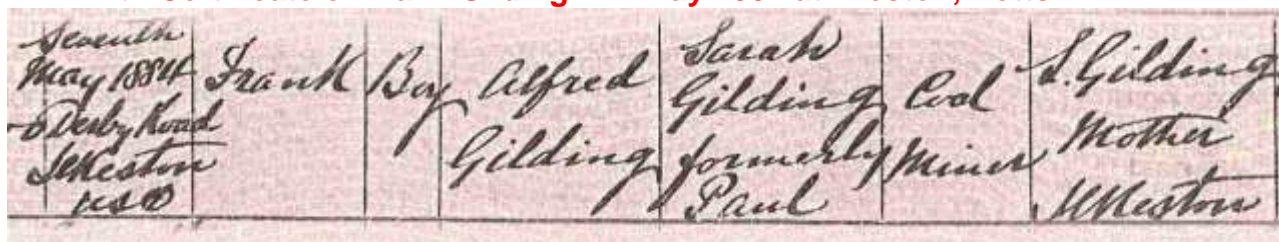
Having reviewed where our West Country links with Sarah's family we can discover the tribulations of her marriage to Alfred Gilding.

Alfred like his brothers moved around in search of work. This is evident from the disparate places his children were born and lodged. It is noted that Harry, Frank, Alfred and Fred were eventually baptised together at St Paul's Church Hasland with their sister Amy as a "job lot" in 1891 – note christening dates are not necessarily a guide to birth dates!

Alfred and Sarah's first child, **Henry Eli** (shortened form of "Levi") was born in Grassmoor, Chesterfield at the end of 1882.

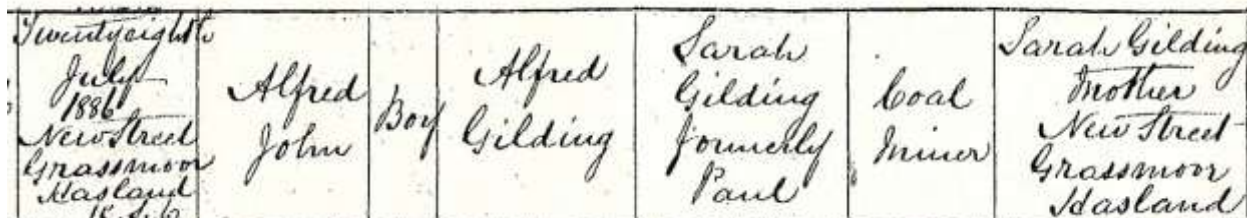
Frank (my grandfather) was born on the 7th May 1884 at Derby Road Ilkeston in the district of Basford, Notts.

Birth Certificate of Frank Gilding 17th May 1884 at Ilkeston, Notts



On 28th July 1886 their son **Alfred John** Gilding was born in New Street, Grassmoor. He was known as John Gilding.

Birth Certificate of Alfred John Gilding 28th July 1886 at Grassmoor



By 1889 Alfred had moved the family to find work at Beighton a coal mining village near Rotherham where Sarah gave birth to **Fred William** Gilding. **Ann** was born there at the close of 1890. The family moved to Attercliffe cum Darnall near Sheffield by April 1891 where they were "boarders" in the household of Thomas (also a coal miner) and Elizabeth Codling at Hazel Road. Alfred and Sarah were aged 28 and 30 respectively and their family comprised: Harry Eli aged 8; Frank aged 6, John aged 4, Fred William aged two and Amy four months old.

Alfred and Sarah Gilding Boarded in Attercliffe cum Darnall in the 1891 Census

Name	Relationship	Sex	Age	Occupation	Name
Alfred Gilding	Boarder	M	28	Coal Miner	Alfred
Sarah do	Wife	M	30		Sarah
Harry E do	Son	L	8	Scholar	Harry
Frank do	Son	L	6	do	Frank
John Gilding	Son	L	4		John
Fred W do	Son	L	2		Fred
Amy do	Daughter	L	4 mo		Amy

On 18th June 1891 Harry, Frank, John, Fred and Amy were baptised together at St Paul's Church, Hasland. Their family continued to grow: Lily was born in 1893, May Doris in 1895, James in 1897 and Annie in 1898.

It was proving to be a difficult time for Sarah and her nine children.

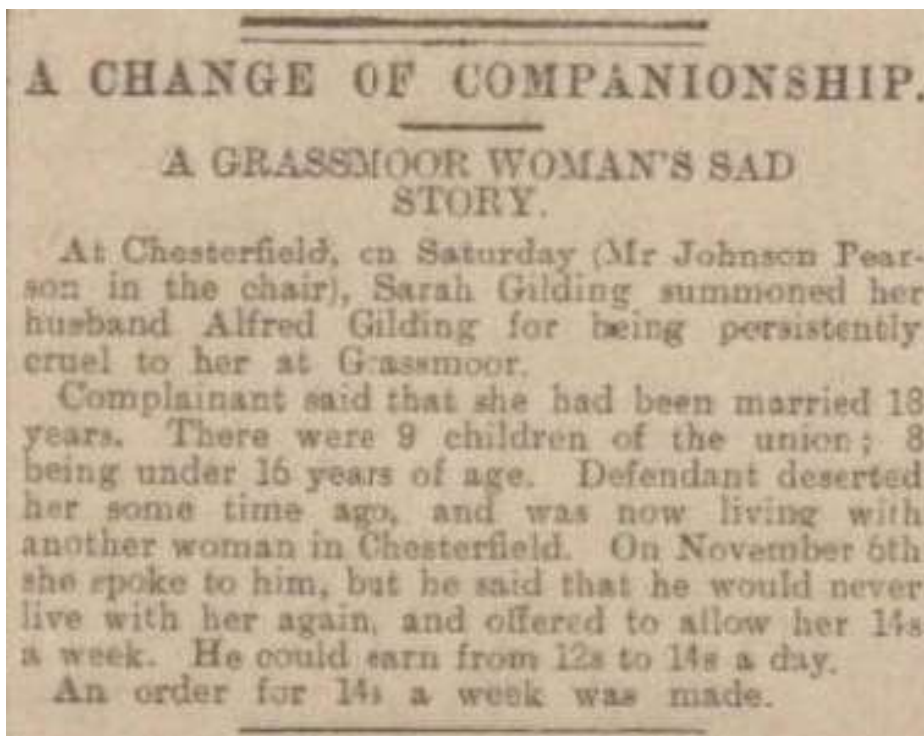
In October 1895 The Derbyshire Times reported a case of embezzlement carried out by a Chesterfield County Court Bailiff Walter Blockley during February to August 1895. He was sentenced to six weeks hard labour. In his role of bailiff of the court it was his duty to serve warrants to debtors. The warrants remained in force for 12 months, if the debt was not repaid the debtor would be arrested and sent to jail. However, Walter Blockley kept the money for himself totalling £3 and the records showed the debtor as unpaid. In investigating the case it was discovered that a warrant had been made for the arrest of **Alfred Gilding** for non-payment of fourteen shillings and seven pence. **Mrs Sarah Gilding** was able to produce a receipt showing that she had repaid the debt in instalments.

By 1900 it seems certain that Alfred had deserted Sarah and her nine children leaving them destitute. Sarah tried hard to keep her family together and with the support of the NSPCC sought support from the courts to obtain money from Alfred. The sad state of affairs was reported in the Derbyshire Times and Sheffield Telegraph. Dad always said Alfred was a "wanderer" which I thought naively meant he travelled a lot Not so.

Extract from Derbyshire Times 20th January 1900

A CHANGE OF COMPANIONSHIP

A GRASSMOOR WOMAN'S SAD STORY



Edited Transcript:

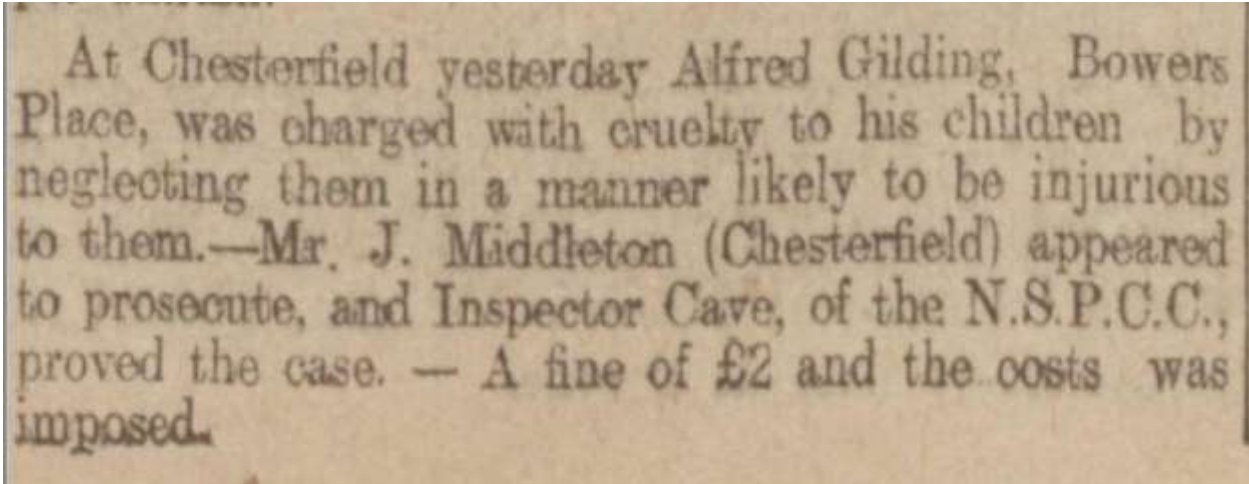
At Chesterfield on Saturday, Sarah Gilding summoned her husband Alfred Gilding for being persistently cruel to her at Grassmoor.

Complainant [Sarah] said that she had been married 18 years. There were 9 children of the union; 8 being under 16 years of age.
Defendant [Alfred]

deserted her some time ago [before 1900] and now was living with another woman in Chesterfield. On November 6th she spoke to him, but he said that he would never live with her again and offered to allow her 14 shillings a week. He could earn up to 14 shillings a day. An order for 14 shillings a week was made.

A further report was included in the Sheffield Telegraph showing that Alfred Gilding living at Bowers Place off Lordsmill Street. Alfred was charged with cruelty to his children and neglecting them in a manner likely to be injurious to them. Inspector Cave of the NSPCC proved the case and a fine of £2 and costs were imposed.

Extract from Sheffield Telegraph 20th June 1900



The above explains why it was so difficult to track Alfred and Sarah down in the 1901 Census. Sarah (shown as Mrs Gilding) was living with her family at 23 Chester Street, Brampton while her husband Alfred (named "Halfe") was "boarding" in Bowers Place, off Lordsmill Street in Chesterfield town centre.

Sarah's eldest son Harry remained with his father, leaving son John aged 15 as the breadwinner employed as a coal miner. Sarah was aged forty and her younger children comprised: Fred aged 12; Amy aged 10, Lily aged 7, Mary (known as May) aged 6, James aged 4 and Annie only two years of age. Son Frank aged 16 was living at Churchside Farm with William Gilding (Alfred's brother) and Frank's cousin Amy [his wife to be].

Sarah Gilding and her Family living at Chester Street in the 1901 Census

Mrs Gilding	Head.	M.		40.	Sarah
John G.	Son	S.	15.		coal miner
Fred. G.	Son.	S.	12.		
Amy G.	Daughter	S.		10.	
Lily G.	Daughter	S.		7.	
Mary G.	Daughter	S.		6.	
James G.	Son	S.	4.		
Annie G.	Daughter	S.		2.	

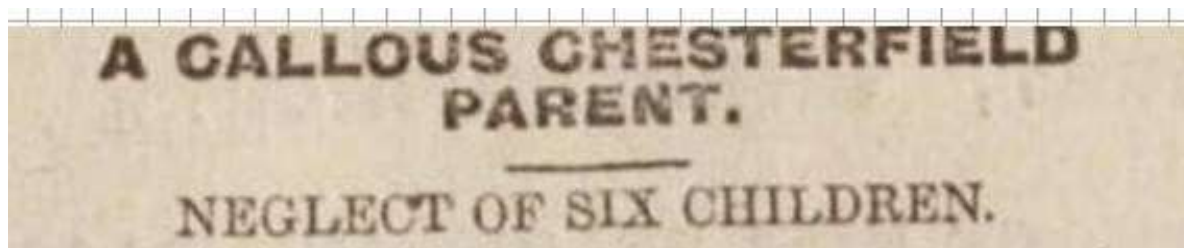
In the 1901 Census Alfred was shown as “Halfie”, no doubt meaning “Alfie”. He was still living at Bowers Place, near Lordsmill Street, which was a boarding house run by a widow aged sixty five called Ann Nichols. Ann’s married daughter Mary Pailey aged 31 and her son Harry Pailey lived with her. Alfred is shown as aged 46 although he was actually only thirty eight and his nineteen year old son Harry was a fellow boarder – both were coal miners.

“Halfe” and son Harry Eli Gilding Boarding in Bowers Place in 1901 Census

Ann Nichols	Head	Wid	65	
Mary Pailey	Daughter	M	31	
Harry do	Son	S	6	
Halfe Gilding	Boarder	M	46	Underground Coal Miner
Harry do	do	S	19	day 1
William Bruce	do	M	54	General Labourer
Elizabeth do	do	M	54	

The relationship between Sarah and Alfred continued to deteriorate as Alfred failed to support his young family. Alfred was castigated in the local paper headlines as “ A Callous Chesterfield Parent”.

Extract from Derbyshire Times June 1902



Edited Transcript

The NSPCC brought a summons against Alfred Gilding of Bower’s Yard, at the Borough Police Court on Thursday, that he neglected his six children, all under 16 years of age, in a manner likely to cause them unnecessary suffering, between the 29th May and 11th June 1902. The defendant pleaded guilty

Mr Middleton for the prosecution said this was the second time the defendant had been proceeded against. Three years ago his wife obtained a separation order against him, under which he had to pay 14 shillings a week. At the time he left his wife and family, there were six or eight children unable to support themselves. When he left his wife he went to live with a woman in Lordsmill Street. He continued there for some time and then he came back and stayed for a period of three weeks, afterwards going back to this woman. The last time the defendant went to his wife was in the month of May, when he

stayed for two nights. He had up to then avoided the [maintenance] order, and when he left on this occasion he took away two loaves and some tea and sugar, which, through her [Sarah's] own industry and the charity of neighbours, his wife, had got to support her and children. His wife [Sarah] had had to live on the charity of neighbours for what she could not provide by her own industry. **She was a clean, sober and industrious woman.** The defendant was corporal [man in charge under "colliery deputy"] at Bond's Main Collier and when he would work could earn £2 a week. He would point out that in many of these cases the people thought that as long as he did not ill treat the children they could not be proceeded against. That was a mistake, for although someone averted the evil consequences of parents neglect that parent was still culpable.

Inspector Cave [of NSPCC] said he had had this case under supervision for some time. There were six children with the wife, and under sixteen years of age. He had been to the house in Chester Street, and found it clean. The woman [Sarah] was industrious and sober. He went with Inspector Fennemore on the 28th May to see the defendant [Alfred], who said he had not been with his wife for some time. Inspector Fennemore told him that was no excuse for him, as six children were depending on him. The Inspector then sent him a warning notice. Last Saturday morning the defendant had sent five shillings to his wife, but that was after the summons was taken out.

Dr Booth asked the defendant [Alfred]: Do you think five shillings is enough to keep six children for a week? Inspector said the defendant all last summer was earning £2 a week, but latterly he had been working three days a week and averaging 27 shillings a week.

The defendant [Alfred] said he had nothing to say. Except that he was willing to keep his children. The Bench, after consultation, imposed a fine of 40 shillings and costs, or in default 28 days hard labour.

Extract from Derbyshire Times 25th October 1902

Sarah subsequently made an order against Alfred for ten shillings a week on the grounds of desertion. No wonder Alfred's children thought highly of him – especially son Frank.



However the family's situation did not improve.

Edited Extract from Derbyshire Courier 14th October 1905.

**A RUNAWAY HUSBAND AT
CHESTERFIELD.**

*"At the Chesterfield Borough Police Court on Monday 9th October 1905, Alfred Gilding was charged for running away and leaving his wife and five children whereby they became chargeable to the **Chesterfield Union**. Mr John Mason the relieving officer to the Chesterfield Union said that Alfred left his wife and five children on 1st May 1905 and they had been chargeable to the Chesterfield Union since 21st July 1905 and the cost had been thirty five pounds six shillings and six pence. The prisoner, Alfred's, excuse was that he thought he would "run out of the way a bit" and he had come back to keep his wife and children. The Mayor said: "Yes but you had to be fetched. It is a very bad case and you will have to go to Derby gaol for three months"*

A year later Sarah Gilding was still destitute and in hospital. Her husband Alfred was again prosecuted by Chesterfield Union.

Edited Extract from Derbyshire Courier 6th October 1906.

NEGLIGENT CHESTERFIELD FATHERS.
Three Poor-Law Prosecutions.
At the Chesterfield Borough Police Court

*"At the Chesterfield Borough Police Court on Monday 1st October 1906, three charges were preferred against fathers, the first one being against a miner of Chesterfield, **Alfred Gilding**, who was charged with running away and leaving his wife, **Sarah Gilding**, whereby she became chargeable to the common funds of the **Chesterfield Union**. Mr John Mason, the relieving officer of the Union, stated that Sarah became chargeable to this Union on the 26th September 1906 and had been so ever since. Alfred had not been paying anything towards her Union expense and Mr Mason said Alfred might be able to pay something. Sarah was at present in the hospital and unable to appear. Chief Constable Kirkpatrick reported past convictions against Alfred for his cruelty to both his wife and children. Alfred said that he came over to see about making arrangements for his wife and found her in the hospital. Alfred said he had been sending money to her and she knew where he lived. Mr Mason said Sarah did not know his last address and the last payment had been made six weeks ago of half a crown.*

The Mayor asked: "Why is it the woman had to go to the Union?"

Mr Mason replied: "On account of sickness and destitution"

The Mayor asked: "where had Alfred been working?"

Alfred replied: "The other side Doncaster"

Mr Mason said: "The older members of the family had been looking after the younger."

The Mayor asked Alfred: "What are you going to do?"

Alfred said: "I will look after the wife and children after this."

The Mayor replied: "That is not certain you have a dubious past to look at and that will not help you at all." Alfred responded: "No sir."

The Mayor said: "The bench did not want to send Alfred Gilding to prison and he must see Mr Mason to arrange what he could do in the future for his wife and children."

At the close of court Mr Mason said Alfred had undertaken to see him on the following Friday about taking his wife out of hospital and would report himself every week."

It seems likely Alfred did not meet his obligations. Sarah appears as an **inmate of Chesterfield Union Workhouse in the 1911 Census** and Alfred was living with his youngest child Annie aged 12 and a "housekeeper" Mrs Dandy on Brimington Common.

Sarah Gilding an Inmate at Chesterfield Union Workhouse in 1911 Census

	NAME AND SURNAME.	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family, or Position in Institution.	AGE (last Birthday).		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				
			Males.	Females.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
1	Sarah Gilding Sarah	Inmate	✓	51	Married	29	12	9	3
2	Charlotte Hemmingway	do	✓	41	Widow	-	-	-	-
3	Emily Hill	do	✓	35	Married	16	4	6	1
4	Fredrick Hill	do	3	-	-	-	-	-	-

Chesterfield Union Workhouse located on Newbold Road opposite Holy Trinity Church



The workhouse later became Chesterfield's Scarsdale Hospital. The site was redeveloped in 2001 and all the buildings demolished except for the main block.

The 1911 Census shows **Sarah** had been married 29 years and had twelve children with only nine surviving. The workhouse records show that Sarah had left shortly after the census was taken in April 1911. The stigma of the workhouse was still real in the 1950s and the conditions were deliberately unpleasant for the inmates.

Alfred, employed as a labourer, was still separated from his wife in the 1911 Census. He was living at 173 South Moor Road, Brimington, with his youngest daughter Annie, a school girl aged 11. His age was shown as 50 but he was 48. He had a housekeeper living with them, a Mrs Danby aged 44. Alfred is shown as being married 31 years (was 29 years) and had ten (actually 12) children, but only nine surviving.

Mrs Danby had been married 25 years and was possibly Emily Danby whose husband James Danby aged 43 was living in North Wingfield with their son James (20) and daughter Mary (11). Husband James Danby also had a married housekeeper Sarah Ann Gascoyne aged 54 from Clay Cross. Complicated family relationships are not a modern occurrence; the Gildings had their share.

Alfred and Daughter Annie Gilding Living at Brimington Common in 1911 Census

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (Last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION of Persons aged
		For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.		Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of:—			Personal Occupation.	
of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who (1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or (2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)	State whether "Head," or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other Relative, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."	Ages of Males.	Ages of Females.		Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7).	Total Children Born Alive.		Children still Living.
		1.	2.	3.				4.	
1 Mr Gilding	Head	50	50	Married 31	10	9	1	Labourer	Alfred 30
2 Mrs Danby	Housekeeper	44	44	Married 25					Mrs Danby 44
3 Annie Gilding	Daughter		11					School	Annie 11

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature Alfred Gilding

Postal Address 173 South Moor Rd Brimington
Chatterfield

4 rooms.

Alfred Gilding was at Chesterfield Petty Sessions again. This time charged with stealing hay, corn and “chop” from the Staveley Coal and Iron Company. The headline was “*Dishonest Watchman – Theft of Fodder at Temple Normanton*” in the Derbyshire Times dated 10th June 1911. Alfred was described as an elderly man (only aged 48) who following an accident at Bonds Main, had been engaged as a night watchman. He generally drove to the colliery and the trap was kept in a shed. On his way home he was followed and stopped by a policeman and asked about the hay, oats, beans, maize and bran in the trap. At his home was fifteen stone of chopped fodder which he tried to explain away. Despite pleading his innocence in an incoherent statement he was fined ten shillings and costs.

What had happened to Alfred and Sarah’s children?

Eldest son **Harry Eli** was unmarried and employed as a colliery labourer. In the 1911 Census Harry was aged 29. He had remained a boarder with Mary Payley’s family, who were living at 6 Alma Street, Derby Road, Chesterfield. **Frank** had married his cousin Amy from Churchside Farm in July 1903 and they were living at 17 Meakin Street, Hasland in 1911. His younger brother **Fred William** was lodging with them prior to his marriage to Lucy Bower in July 1911. **(Alfred) John** had married Rebecca (known as Becky) Thompson in August 1907. They were living with their son James (aged 2) in 1911 in Bentley, Campsall, Doncaster. **Amy** was a servant to the family of a Herbal Pharmacist on Low Pavement, Chesterfield. **Lily** aged 17 was a domestic servant to John and Annie Slack, a dentist living at 1 Club Mill Cottages, Brockwell, and Chesterfield. **Mary/May Doris** aged 16 was a domestic servant working for the cook Annie Hathway (aged 24) at 4 Spital Road, Chesterfield. Their youngest son **James** aged 14 was living with Sarah’s married Sister Ruth Henrietta Robinson (aged 45) at East Cholderton, Ampport, and Hampshire. He was doing farm work. **Annie** aged eleven was living with her father.

By 1917 when their youngest son James died in WW1 his death notice suggests that Sarah and her husband Alfred were both living at 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels, Chesterfield.

Alfred Gilding died of heart failure aged 55 (shown as 58 on certificates) on 27th May 1919 at 42 Brunswick Street. Sarah was present at his death. He was employed as a “pit sinker” (repairs pit shafts). He was buried at Christ Church, Stonegravels. Dad said Alfred’s coffin was too tight for the grave and Bud Gilding and Jack had to jump on the coffin to push it in the hole. I have been unable to find a funeral notice for Alfred Gilding probably reflecting ill feeling towards a father who had abandoned them .

Alfred Gilding’s Death Certificate dated 27th March 1919

When and Where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered
Twenty seventh May 1919 42 Brunswick Street Chesterfield U.S.	Alfred Gilding	Male	58 years	Pit Sinker	1) Cardiac degeneration Heart failure Certified by Albert Green M.B.	Sarah Gilding Widow of deceased Present at the death 42 Brunswick Street Chesterfield	

However, Sarah was held in affection by all her family for looking out for them despite difficult circumstances. Sarah had a close relationship with her children's families and her brother Levi John Paul from Leicester. Sarah was closely involved with the Salvation Army throughout her life.

Sarah's daughter May, her husband Sam Burnham and their daughter Joyce lived with her at 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels, Chesterfield. After May's husband died in 1925 her brother Harry (who remained a bachelor) lodged with them and helped out especially when Sarah became more infirm towards the end of her life. May married William Morley in 1931 and they remained at 42 Brunswick Street with Harry. [The house no longer exists.]

Sarah Gilding was a widower for eleven years. She died of heart disease aged 70 in September 1930 still living at 42 Brunswick Street and was buried at Hasland Cemetery. Her daughter Amy's husband, John Barber was present at her death. Her funeral was attended by all her relations .

Sarah Gilding's Death Certificate dated 8th September 1930

Dated September 1930 42 Brunswick Street Chesterfield N.D.	Susan Sarah Gilding	Female 70 years	Widow of Alfred Gilding a Steel Works Labourer.	In Tabular disease of Heart: (Myocardial Degeneration the R.M. certified by A. D. Miller M.D.	J. P. Barber Son in law Present at the death 34 Millgate Bentley Doncaster
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Sarah had tragically seen four of her sons die before her: James aged 19 in France in 1917; Fred aged 34 in 1923; John aged 35 following a roof fall at Ramcroft Colliery, Heath in 1925 ; and Frank aged 43 from injuries resulting from a roof fall at Grassmoor Colliery in 1927. Despite the hardships she endured and Alfred's "wandering nature", Sarah appears

Sarah's funeral notice was in the Derbyshire Times on 30th September 1930.

MRS. S. GILDING.

Mrs. Sarah Gilding, 42, Brunswick Street, Stonegravels, Chesterfield, died on Monday week at the age of 70. She was a native of Chesterfield, where she had lived all her life. She leaves one son and four daughters, her husband having predeceased her 13 years ago. The funeral took place at Hasland Cemetery on Thursday week, the Rev. W. V. Davies officiating. The mourners were:—Mr. H. Gilding (son); Mr. and Mrs. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Burnham, Miss L. Gilding (sons-in-law and daughters); Mrs. F. Gilding, Mrs. L. Fretwell (daughters-in-law); Mr. J. Paul (Mrs. Gilding's brother), Leicester; Mr. S. Gilding, Mrs. T. Gilding, Mrs. Wilkinson, and Mrs. Greenwood.

The bearers were Messrs. W. Gilding, J. Gilding, Jim Gilding, A. Gilding (grandchildren), A. Eyre, and W. Morley. All the mourners and a number of friends sent wreaths.

Mrs Sarah Gilding, 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels Chesterfield died on Monday week at the age of 70. She was a native of Chesterfield where she had lived all her life. She leaves one son and four daughters. Her husband having predeceased her 13 years ago. The funeral took place at Hasland Cemetery on Thursday week, the Rev. W.V. Davies officiating. The mourners were: Mr H. Gilding (son) {Harry Eli Gilding}; Mr and Mrs Barber {daughter Amy and husband John Barber}; Mr and Mrs Hill {daughter Annie and husband Bernard Hill}; Mrs Burnham {daughter May married to

Sam Burnham}; Miss L. Gilding {*daughter Lily*}; Mrs F. Gilding {*Amy widow of son Frank*}; Mrs L Fretwell {*Lucy widow of son Fred – remarried to Allan Fretwell*}; Mr J. Paul {*brother Levi John Paul from Leicester*} ; Mr S. Gilding {*?*} , Mrs T. Gilding {*Tom ?*}, Mrs {*Phylis* }Wilkinson and Mrs Greenwood {*?*}. The bearers were Messrs W. Gilding {*Frank's son Bill*}; J. Gilding {*Frank's son John*}, Jim Gilding {*Alfred John's son Jim*}; A. Gilding {*Fred's son Alfred Bernard?*} (Grandchildren), A. Eyre and W. Morley {*May's husband*}. All the mourners and a number of friends sent wreaths.

POSTSCRIPT

We were fortunate to find an old photo (colourised to improve clarity) of Sarah Gilding among Aunty Kath's treasures. She remembered dancing for Sarah as a child.

It is dated by the costume historian, Jayne Shrimpton between 1915-1925. It may have been taken at 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels to mark a special occasion , her sixtieth or death of Alfred in 1919. The pose may be reading her bible



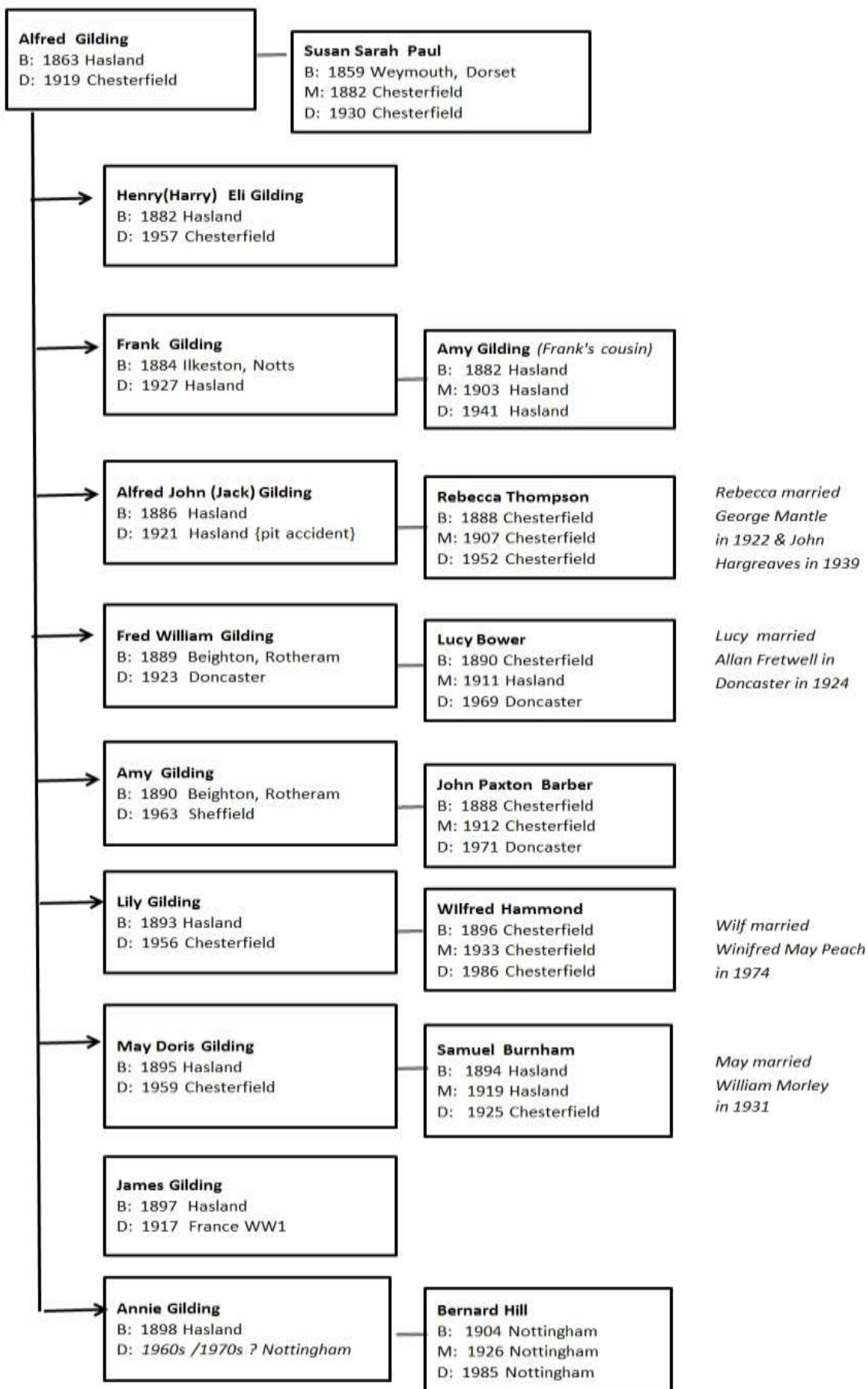
Another photo was found which could be the philanderer husband Alfred Gilding.

It is conjecture but he looks the part. Photos with postcard backs only began in 1902, however occasionally earlier photos were added.

Jayne Shrimpton reported “ *We can tell that this is a postcard copy of an earlier photograph firstly from the oval picture and vignette (shaded) effect and also from the man’s dress: this image has been lifted from an earlier photograph. It is hard to date the man’s appearance very closely, but the small jacket lapels and winged collar suggest he was first photographed c. 1895-1904. He looks to be aged about 40 years of age and so yes, he could well be Alfred (1863-1919). The postcard copy could date from around his death in 1919*”. NB: The photo has been colourised for clarity.



Alfred and Sarah Gilding's Family Tree



A further three children had sadly died as infants

PART 14

ALFRED AND SARAH GILDING'S DESCENDANTS

Henry (Harry) Eli Gilding (1882-1957)

Harry was born in October 1882 at Spencer Street, Grassmoor. His second name Eli was possibly a shortened form of Sarah's father's name Levi. He was subsequently christened aged nine at St Paul's Hasland on 18th June 1891. Employed as a coal miner he was a hard worker despite a disability. Aged nineteen Harry lodged with his father in 1901 in Bower's Place, off Lordsmill Street. The head of the lodging house was Widow Ann Nichols and her married daughter Mary Pailey. By 1911 Harry aged 29 remained a boarder with Mary Pailey's family who now lived at 6 Alma Street, Derby Rd, Chesterfield. He was now employed as a colliery labourer but above ground.

Harry Eli Gilding Boarding at 6 Alma Street, Chesterfield in the 1911 Census

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION of Persons aged 15 and upwards.
		For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Ages of Males.	Ages of Females.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—	Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."	Children born alive to present Marriage (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7).	Total Children Born Alive.	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who (1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or (2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)	State whether "Head," or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other Relative, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."			Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.					The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c. If engaged in any Trade or Manufacture, the particular kind of work done, and the Article made or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 8 and Examples on back of Schedule.)
1. Mary Pailey	Head		42	Married	18	F	3	2	
2. Harry Pailey	Son		17	Single					Polish cleaner 150
3. George Pailey	Son		7						
4. Herbert Pailey	Son		4						
5. Albert Bamford	Boarder		36	Married					Coal Miner - Heve 150
6. Harry Gilding	Boarder		29	Single					Colly Labourer above ground 70
7. Albert Bamford			11	Single					

Harry was a bachelor and spent his early years at Grassmoor Colliery. He was subsequently employed as a general labourer by the Steel Tube Works from around 1934 until he retired in 1954. His interests centred on the allotment and the Miner's Welfare. He continued to visit his brother Frank's family for Sunday dinner. He was always careful with his money and kept it in tin boxes.

His sister May, her husband Sam Burnham and their daughter Joyce lived with their mother Sarah Gilding at 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels, Chesterfield. After May's husband died in 1925 Harry lodged with them and helped out especially when Sarah became more infirm towards the end of her life in 1930. May married William Morley in 1931 and they remained at 42 Brunswick Street with Harry.

Harry died aged 75 at Scarsdale Hospital on 4th October 1957 from a virulent form of pneumonia. The informant was his brother in law William Morley. He left his belongings to May's daughter Joyce

Funeral Notice for Harry Eli Gilding from Derbyshire Times of 11 October 1957

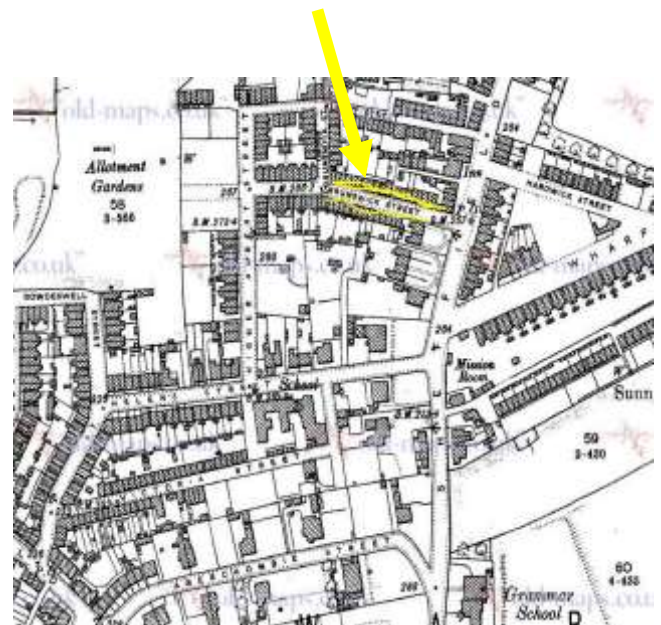
Mr. H. E. Gilding.—A native of Grassmoor who had lived the past 42 years in the same house. Mr Harry Eli Gilding (75), bachelor, 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels died on Friday at Scarsdale Hospital. A miner in his early years at Grassmoor Colliery. Mr Gilding retired three years ago after working for about 20 years with the Chesterfield Tube Co. Ltd. Mr. Gilding was a former member of Dowdeswell Street Allotments Association and the Chesterfield Miners' Welfare. Surviving relatives are three sisters. Interment was at Hasland Cemetery on Tuesday after a service in church conducted by the Rector, the Rev. E. Fraser. Mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. M. Morley, Mr. and Mrs. B. Hill, Mrs. L. Fretwell, Mrs. M. Marsh, Mr. William Gilding, Mr. John Gilding, Mr. Charles Gilding, Mr. Bernard Gilding, Mrs. L. Greenwood, Mrs. W. Wilkinson. Funeral arrangements by J. W. Smith, 32a Newbold Rd., Chesterfield.

Mr H.E.Gilding – A native of Grassmoor who had lived in the same house, Mr Harry Eli Gilding(75), bachelor, 42 Brunswick Street, Stonegravels. He died on Friday at Scarsdale Hospital. A miner in his early years at Grassmoor Colliery. Mr Gilding retired three years ago after working for about 20 years with the Chesterfield Tube Co. Ltd. Mr Gilding was a former member of Dowdeswell Street Allotments Association and the Chesterfield Miners Welfare. Surviving relatives are three sisters. Interment was at Hasland Cemetery on Tuesday after a service in Church conducted by the Rector the Rev. E. Fraser. Mourners were Mr & Mrs J

Barber (sister Amy), Mr & Mrs M Morley (sister May), Mr & Mrs B Hill (sister Annie), Mrs L Fretwell (deceased brother Fred's wife), Mrs M Marsh, Mr William Gilding (cousin Bill), Mr John Gilding (cousin John), Charles Gilding (cousin – my dad), Mr Bernard Gilding (brother Fred's son), Mrs L Greenwood, Mrs W Wilkinson (cousin Earnest's wife).



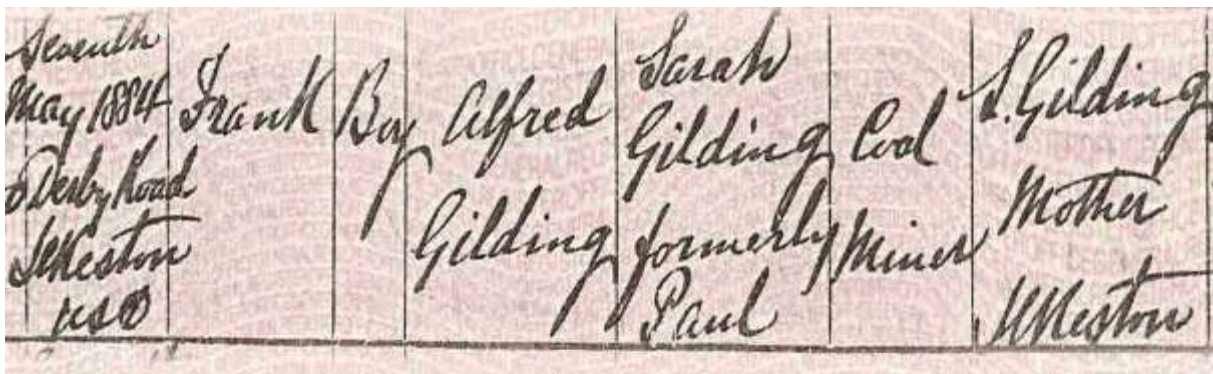
Brunswick Street, Stonegravels ,
off Sheffield Rd.



Frank Gilding (1884-1927)

Frank's parents were living on Derby Road, Ilkeston when he was born on 7th May 1884. His father had moved from Hasland looking for work probably at Ilkeston Colliery in the Derby Road neighbourhood. Frank was subsequently christened in a "job lot" aged seven at St Paul's Hasland on 18th June 1891 with his siblings.

Birth Certificate of Frank Gilding 7th May 1884 at Derby Road, Ilkeston



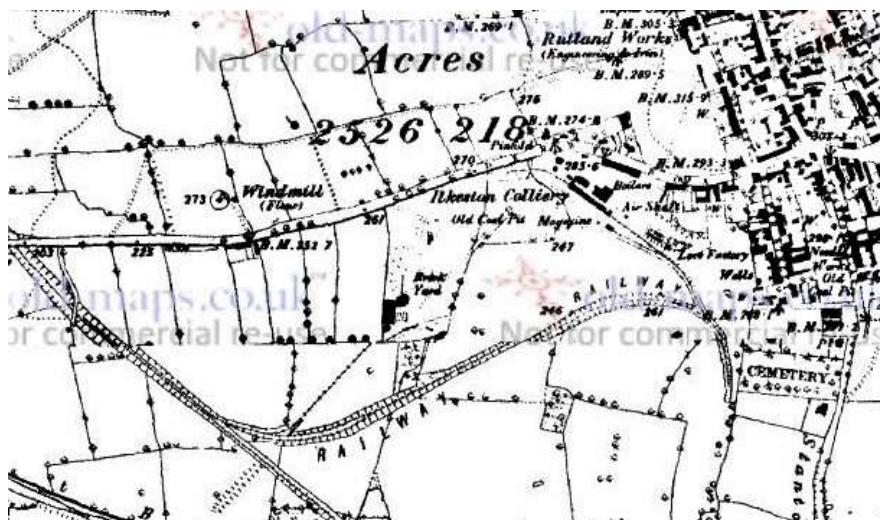
In 1903 Frank, aged 19, married his cousin Amy Gilding, daughter of William and Mary Gilding who lived at Churchside Farm. These are my grandparents who will be covered separately in Chapter 11.

Their family home by 1911 was 17 Meakin Street, Hasland .

It became a refuge for Frank's siblings when they needed somewhere to stay, despite their own growing family. There were only four rooms including the kitchen; and the activity of washing the ingrained coal dust from the mining family members plus their clothes would have been a daily tiring challenge.



Neighbourhood around Derby Road, Ilkeston in 1880s



Alfred John Gilding (1886-1921)

Alfred , known by his second name John or Jack was born on 28 July 1886 at New Street, Grassmoor. He was subsequently christened aged five at St Paul's Hasland on 18th June 1891.

Alfred John Gilding's Birth Certificate dated 28th July 1886 at New Street, Grassmoor

Twenty eight July 1886 New Street Grassmoor Hasland K.S. 10	Alfred John	Boy	Alfred Gilding	Sarah Gilding formerly Paul	Coal Miner	Sarah Gilding Mother New Street Grassmoor Hasland
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In 1901 John was employed as a coal miner and living with his mother and siblings on Chester Street, Brampton.

On 14th August 1907 Alfred John Gilding aged 22 was married at Chesterfield Parish Church to **Rebecca Thompson** aged 21. They were both living at Beetwell Street in Chesterfield town centre. Rebecca might have been known as "Becky". Both signed the register. The witnesses were Rebecca's brother George Thompson and a Jane Nuttall. Rebecca's father William Tyler Thompson had died in 1894.

Marriage Certificate for Alfred John Gilding and Rebecca Thompson at Chesterfield Parish Church on 14th August 1907

When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
August 14	Alfred John Gilding	22	Bachelor	Miner	Beetwell Street	Alfred Gilding
1907	Rebecca Thompson	21	Spinster	—	Beetwell Street	William Tyler Thompson (deceased)

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church
 This Marriage was solemnized between us, Alfred John Gilding and Rebecca Thompson
 In the Presence of us, Geo. Thompson and Jane Nuttall



Old Beetwell Street looking towards old Municipal Hall in 1900s

As a diversion we will find out more about **Rebecca Thompson's family**.

Rebecca's father was William Tyler Thompson who had been born in 1850 at Thringstone Leicestershire. In 1872 at Basford, Notts, he married Ann (also known as Hannah) Bend.

Coincidentally, Ann had been born in Bottesford in January 1850 and her parents Samsan and Mary Bend would have been known to John Gilding's grandfather Henry Gilding. William's father Jonathan was a coal miner and a primitive Methodist preacher. By 1881 William employed as a coal miner and his wife Anne had moved from Kirby in Nottinghamshire to Temple Normanton, near Hasland. In 1891 the Thompson family were living at 54 Lordsmill Street where William had become a dealer in yeast for the brewing trade. Rebecca is shown aged three, born in Hasland.

1891 Census: William and Annie Thompson at Lordsmill St. Chesterfield

William T Thompson	Head	M	41	Yeast Dealer	+	Leicester Thringstone
Annie	Wife	F	41			Bottesford
Jonathan	Son	M	16	Coal Miner	+	Chow. Kirby
George	do	M	11	Scholar		Wolverhampton
Annie	Daughter	F	10			Temple Normanton
Margaret	do	F	8			Whittington
Mary J	do	F	5			Barlby
Rebecca	do	F	3	Rebecca		Hasland
Walter	Son	M	1			Chesterfield

By the 1901 Census William had died and his widow aged 51, now shown as Hannah is a self-employed yeast dealer living at 3 Dixons Street, off Lordsmill Street. Rebecca is aged thirteen. Annie (Hannah) Thompson died aged 58 in 1908.

The Thompson Family at 3 Dixon's Street, Chesterfield in 1901 Census

Hannah Thompson	Head	Wid	51	Yeast Dealer	
Mary Jane	Daughter	F	15		
Rebecca	Daughter	F	13	Rebecca	

Alfred John Gilding and his wife Rebecca had married on 14th August 1907. Their first son James was born on 22nd June 1908 at their home at 5 Central Terrace, off Lordsmill Street. His father shown as John Alfred was employed as a coal miner

James Gilding's Birth Certificate 22 June 1908, Lordsmill St, Chesterfield

Twenty second June 1908 5 Central Terrace Lordsmill Street Chesterfield N.S.	James	Boy	John Alfred Gilding	Rebecca Gilding formerly Thompson	Coal Miner	R. Gilding Mother 5 Central Terrace Lordsmill Street Chesterfield
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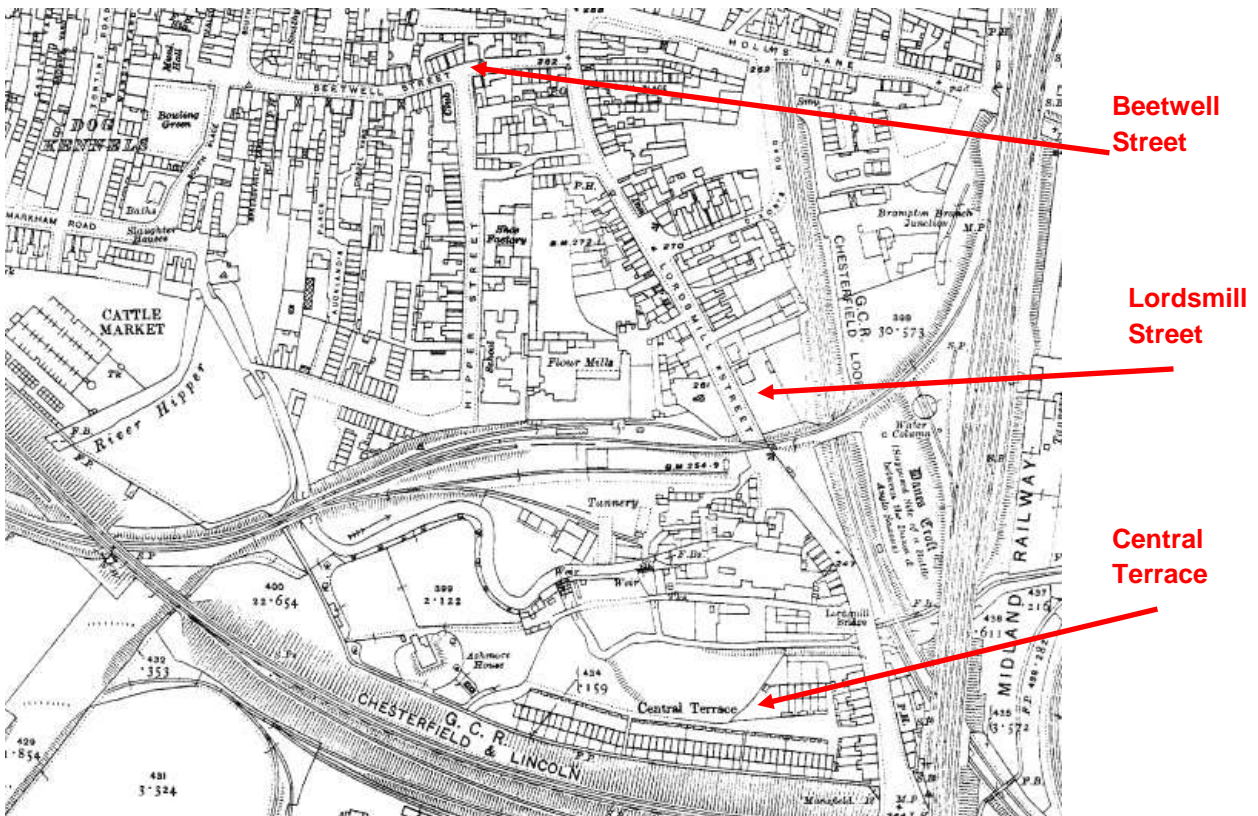
Rebecca's mother, shown as Annie Thompson, died at the end of 1908 aged 58.



Central Terrace, off Lordsmill Street, was located near the back of the old Chesterfield and Lincoln railway line. In addition to being a temporary home of John Gilding's family; his sister Amy boarded there close to John Barber who she married in 1912.

Lordsmill Street and surrounding areas have been redeveloped over the years and little remains of the original streets and yards. Central Terrace was subsumed by Markham works which in its turn has disappeared.

Area around Lordsmill Street, Chesterfield Town Centre in 1918



John and Rebecca Gilding's Family in Bentley 1911 Census

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION of Persons aged 15 and over.				
		For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—	Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children have alive write "None" in Column 7.)	Total Children Born Alive.	Children still Living.		Children who have Died.			
		Age of Males.	Age of Females.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
<p>Every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.</p> <p>No one else must be included.</p> <p>For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.</p>													
Alfred John Gilding	Head	27		Married									Coal Miner
Rebecca Gilding	Wife	27	23	Married	3	1	1						
James Gilding	Son	2											

By the 1911 census John and Rebecca's family was living at 4 Toll Bar Estate, Owston, Bentley, and Doncaster. John was a "ripper" in Bentley Colliery. Son, James was aged two.

By the 1920's the family had returned to Chesterfield. Tragically John Gilding, a stallman , aged only 35 was killed in a roof fall at Ramcroft Colliery, Heath on 11th October 1921 aged 35. They were living at 5 Eyre Street, Chesterfield.

Ramcroft Colliery, Heath (closed in 1966)



Death Certificate for (Alfred) John Gilding on 11th October 1921 at Ramcroft

When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant
Eleventh October 1921 29 Stall of the Ramcroft Colliery Heath R. U.	John Gilding	Male	35 years	Coal mine (Stallman) 5 Eyre Street Chesterfield	Accidentally knocked down by a fall of roof (rock) and killed	Certificate received from a Green Coroner for Husband of Soarndale Inquest held 12 th October 1921

The Inquest into the death was reported in the Derbyshire Times dated 15th October 1921. The report is transcribed below:

“

FALL OF ROCK

Chesterfield Miner Killed at Ramcroft

*A fall of rock at Ramcroft Colliery on Tuesday (11 October 1921) partially buried John Gilding (35) miner, 5, Eyre Street, Chesterfield, who died before being extricated an hour later. The accident was investigated at an inquest held at the Elm Tree Hotel, Heath on Wednesday, by Dr A Green (Coroner). There also attended Mr J Hall (HM Inspector of Mines), Mr JW Woodbridge (manager of Ramcroft Colliery), Mr H Hicken (Derbyshire Miners Association), Mr H Gill (National Association of Colliery Deputies), and Mr JL Middleton (solicitor for insurance company concerned). **Frank Gilding, stallman, 17 Meakin Street, Hasland, said the deceased was his brother and had worked in the pit***

since he was a boy. He left a widow and one child. Richard Murley, 15 Sadler Street, Mansfield, said he was working with the deceased when the fall occurred. They were each filling a tub shortly after 7am on Tuesday and were standing about two yards apart. There was a sudden bump and a big piece of rock broke the timber and fell on Gilding, pinning him to the ground. Assistance was obtained, but an hour elapsed before Gilding was released and he had died while the rock was being removed. Part of a second fall of roof fell onto the tub the witness was filling. Witness considered that the roof was sufficiently timbered, and remarked that the fall broke three bank bars. Replying to Mr Hicken (Derbyshire Miners Association) witness said there was no indication of weight before the bump. Percy Blake, 85 Sutton Hall Road, Carr Vale, deputy of the district where the accident took place, said he examined the stall in question an hour before the fall. It was properly timbered.

A verdict of Accidental death" was returned.

On behalf of the Colliery, Mr Woodbridge manager, expressed sympathy with the widow and her family. Gilding had been a careful and conscientious workman, whom there were all very sorry to lose under such tragic circumstances. Mr H Hicken associated himself with the expression of condolence on behalf of the Derbyshire Miners Association. "

Funeral Notice for John Gilding 20 October 1921 and Transcription shown below

The funeral of Mr. John Gilding (35), miner, 5, Eyre Street, Chesterfield, who was accidentally killed at Ramcroft last week, took place at the Cemetery, Spital, on Saturday, the Rev. H. V. Nicholl-Griffith officiating. The mourners included Mrs. Gilding (wife), Jim Gilding (son), Mrs. M. Gilding (mother), Mr. Harry Gilding (brother), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gilding, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gilding, Doncaster (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Barber, Doncaster, Mr. and Mrs. S. Burnham (brothers-in-law and sisters), Miss Lily Gilding, Halifax, Miss Annie Gilding, Nottingham (sisters), Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Gilding (aunts), Messrs. Jack, William, Tom and Jim Gilding (cousins), Mr. and Mrs. J. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bridgett, Leeds, Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillips, Mrs. J. Thompson, Mrs. H. Thompson, Mrs. A. Thompson, Derby (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law). Workmates of deceased were life bearers, whilst fellow workmen in the stall where the accident occurred attended as mourners. There were many floral tributes sent by relatives and friends and included wreaths from deceased's workmates at Ramcroft Colliery and the customers of the Greyhound Inn.

The funeral of Mr John Gilding (35), miner, 5, Eyre Street, Chesterfield, who was accidentally killed at Ramcroft last week, took place at the Cemetery, Spital, on Saturday, the Rev. HV Nicholl-Griffith officiating.

The mourners included Mrs Gilding (Rebecca, wife), Jim Gilding (son), Mrs M Gilding (should have been S. Gilding, mother), Mr Harry Gilding (brother), Mr & Mrs Frank Gilding, Mr & Mrs Fred Gilding, Doncaster (brothers and sisters in law). Mr & Mrs J Barber (sister Amy) Doncaster, Mr & Mrs S Burnham (sister May), Miss Lily Gilding, Halifax, (sister), Miss Annie Gilding (sister), Nottingham. Mrs Bradley (nee Eliza Gilding) and

Mrs Gilding (probably Sally, William Gilding's widow) (aunts). Messrs Jack, William, Tom and Jim Gilding (cousins). Mr and Mrs J Cox, Mr & Mrs C Bridgett, Leeds, Mr and Mrs J

Phillips Mrs J Thompson, Mrs H Thompson, Mrs A Thompson, Derby, (Rebecca's brothers and sisters).

Workmates of deceased were the bearers, whilst fellow workmen in the stall where the accident occurred attended as mourners. There were many floral tributes sent by relatives and friends including wreaths from deceased are workmates at Ramcroft Colliery and the customers of the Greyhound Inn."

Example of miner filling tub in "stall"



Rebecca remarried George Mantle in 1922. Widowed again in 1936 she may have married a John Hargreaves at Calow in 1939. Possibly she died aged 64 on 9th December 1952 at 68 St Helen's Street leaving £591.

John and Rebecca's son, **James (Jim) Gilding** lived in St Helen's Street, Chesterfield and was a journeyman stonemason. He was a bearer at his grandmother Sarah's funeral in September 1930. James married Mary Elizabeth Bennet from Sheffield Road near St Helen's Street in October 1930 at Chesterfield Registry Office. Her father John William Bennet a coal miner was a witness.

James Gilding and Elizabeth Bennett's Marriage on 18th October 1930

When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
Eighteenth October 1930	James Gilding	22 years	Bachelor	Stone Mason (Journeyman)	68 St Helen's Street Chesterfield	John Gilding (deceased)	Coal Miner
	Mary Elizabeth Bennet	22 years	Spinster	—	31 Sheffield Road Chesterfield	John William Bennet	Coal Miner

James and Mary had a son named James Peter Gilding born in 1933 in Chesterfield. The family moved to Blackpool in the early 1940's. Mary died in 1980 and James, a monumental mason, died in 1991 at Blackpool aged 82. Their son James married Wendy Nora Flad from Leicester, and became a Vicar. James and Wendy's eldest son David Gilding made contact a few years ago and was living near Nottingham.

James Gilding (1897-1917)

Alfred and Sarah's youngest son **James** had been living with his Auntie Ruth (his mother's married sister) on a farm in Hampshire in 1911, presumably as a consequence of his father leaving his mother destitute.

He subsequently moved back to Hasland working in Grassmoor Colliery and lived with his brother Frank's family in Meakin Street. It would have been a crowded house, especially as his brother Fred had boarded their prior to his marriage.

On Sunday 28th June Archduke Franz Ferdinand who was heir to the Austro/Hapsburg throne was assassinated with his wife Sophia in Sarajevo. The culprit was a Bosnian Serb student. Relations with Serbia had been heated before but remained under control. In England the weekend was a scorcher and apart from an obituary the assassination attracted little attention. The government view was that *"the tragedy ... will not, I trust lead to further complications"*. The main focus of the press and government was the issue of Home Rule for Ireland, increased disruption caused by the Suffragette movement and growing industrial unrest. At the end of June the biggest sailing event took place at Kiel involving the British Fleet anchored alongside the German Imperial Fleet, The Kaiser donned the uniform of a British Admiral and was welcomed with his officers on the battleship the King George V (who was a cousin). Although the increase in the German navy had been a worry, the British were trying to make economies in their naval budget (nothing changes). By the end of July Austria gave a 48 hour ultimatum to the Serbs to deliver excessive concessions. The British Prime Minister recognised the danger of Russia supporting Serbia and Germany and France being involved. However he saw no reason why Britain would be dragged in. Also the German General Staff expected Britain would remain neutral and France would be defeated in 40 days. On 28th July Austria declared war on Serbia. On 1st August Russia declared war on Austria and Germany mobilised in support of Austria. France mobilised its army. Needless to say there were anti-war rallies in Trafalgar Square. Germany invaded our ally Belgium who Britain was pledged to support. The hot Bank Holiday weekend saw Britain declare war on 3rd August 1914. Our professional army, the British Expeditionary Force was sent to France but by 23rd August was in retreat and Germany invaded France. So began one of the bloodiest conflicts depleting a generation of young men. Against this background James and his Hasland pals volunteered to fight for "King and Country". Volunteers were called for on a "short service" basis, which meant for three years, or the duration of the war. By early 1916 compulsory conscription had been introduced. Like many families the tragedy of the First World War hit the Gilding family.

James had joined the (pedal) Cycle Corp attached to the Lincolnshire Regiment. The bicycle mounted infantry were widely used by all sides as a rapid response unit. He enlisted aged 17 with other young Hasland men in September 1914. James had been wounded twice but with a large number of the Lincolnshire's volunteered to cover losses and fought with the 1st Battalion, Scottish Rifles (Cameronians). He contracted trench foot and fever in the firing line during the hostilities on the Somme. Trench foot was an infection of the feet caused by cold, wet and insanitary conditions. This gave rise to lockjaw (tetanus). The symptoms were repeated muscular contractions of the head and neck preventing the intake of liquids or food. Unfortunately anti-biotics did not exist. He was moved to hospital at Boulogne. The War Office exceptionally arranged for his mother to be rushed to James's bedside in Boulogne, but tragically James had died a few hours earlier.

He died on 11 January 1917 a month before his 20th birthday. His mother attended his burial. This was a great loss especially for his brother Frank.

James's cousin's both died in June 1917: Harry Gilding with Sherwood Foresters at Ypres and John Gilding (from Rotherham) with the York's & Lancs at Arras.

James Gilding 1914



Derbyshire Courier 3rd February 1917 (page 7 "Hasland")



CHESTERFIELD SOLDIER'S DEATH FROM LOCKJAW.

Lockjaw resulting from trench feet and fever contracted while in the firing line has accounted for the death in Boulogne Hospital of a Chesterfield soldier, Private James Gilding, attached to the Cycle Corps of the Lincolnshires. He would have attained his 20th birthday next month, and was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Gilding, 42, Brunswick Street, Stonegravel. In response to a communication from the War Office the mother left for Boulogne at midnight on Thursday last week, and arrived at the hospital the following morning, to find that her son had passed away. She was present at the interment, which took place five hours later. Formerly employed at Grassmoor Colliery, Private Gilding had been in the Army about two years, and was wounded on two occasions.

Transcript: CHESTERFIELD SOLDIER'S DEATH FROM LOCKJAW

“Lockjaw resulting from trench feet and fever contracted while in the firing line has accounted for the death in Boulogne Hospital of a Chesterfield soldier, Private James Gilding, attached to the Cycle Corps of the Lincolnshire’s. He would have attained his 20th birthday next month and was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs A Gilding, 42Brunswick Street, Stonegravels. In response to a communication from the War Office the mother left for Boulogne at midnight on Thursday last week, and arrived at the hospital the following morning to find that her son had passed away. She was present at the interment, which took place five hours later. Formerly employee at Grassmoor Colliery, Private Gilding had been in the Army about two years, and was wounded on two occasions.”

Brother Frank Gilding felt strongly about setting record straight in the Derbyshire Courier when he explained that James’s lived with him and not with his parents in Stonegravels. His father’s earlier abandonment of his children and leaving his wife in the workhouse must have caused a rift in the family.

Mr. Frank Gilding, 17 Meakin Street, Hasland, wishes to state that his brother, Pte. James Gilding, who died from lock-jaw in France, and whose photograph appeared in our last week’s issue, had never resided at Brunswick Street, Stonegravels. He was always recognised as a Hasland soldier, having lived at the above address for nearly three years previous to his enlistment with the host of village lads who joined the Lincolnshire Regiment early in September, 1914. He was transferred later to the Scottish Rifles, being amongst the large number of his own regiment who volunteered to make up the depleted ranks.

“Mr Frank Gilding, 17 Meakin Street, Hasland, wishes to state that his brother, Private James Gilding, who died from lockjaw in France, and whose photograph appeared in our last week’s issue, had never resided at Brunswick Street, Stonegravels. He was always recognised as a Hasland soldier, having lived there at the above address for three years previous to his enlistment with the host of village lads who joined the Lincolnshire regiment

early in September 1914. He was transferred later to the Scottish rifles, being amongst the large number of his regiment who volunteered to make up the depleted ranks.”

The area around Etaples was the scene of immense concentrations of reinforcement camps and hospitals. In 1917, 100,000 troops were camped among the sand dunes and

the hospitals could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick. Etaples is south of Boulogne.

This is now where the cemetery is located.

It also includes many who died in the WW2 conflict.

Casualty Details	
Name:	GILDING, JAMES
Initials:	J
Nationality:	United Kingdom
Rank:	Private
Regiment:	Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)
Unit Text:	1st Bn.
Age:	19
Date of Death:	11/01/1917
Service No:	25839
Additional information:	Brother of Frank Gilding, of 17, Meakin St., Hasland Chesterfield.
Casualty Type:	Commonwealth War Dead
Grave/Memorial Reference:	XXI. A. 7.
Cemetery:	ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY



The following photographs were taken courtesy of Simon Gilding (Harry's grandson) who visited Etaples Military Cemetery with his family in August 2013. His entry in the cemetery records is shown below. James's brother Frank was his next of kin.

GILDING, Private, JAMES, 25839, 1st Bn., Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Died of tetanus 11 January 1917. Age 19. Brother of Frank Gilding, of 17, Meakin St., Hasland, Chesterfield. Grave Ref. XXI. A. 7.

James Gilding's headstone reads "**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**". It bears the emblem of the Lowland Brigade of the Cameronians, where he rests with his young comrades and is remembered by later generations with pride.



The following picture shows Frank Gilding's son Harry Gilding wearing his own and James's Gildings medals (on the right) on Remembrance Day. James was never forgotten.

Harry Gilding with James's medals on his right



War Memorial in Eastwood Park, Hasland



GEORGE GILDING	WILLIAM H. JAMES
GOODWIN	ARTHUR HARRY
GOODWIN	WILLIAM H. JOHN T.
GRAHAM	WILLIAM A. J. ROLAND
GUEST	BERNARD C. WILLIAM H.
HANCOCK	CHARLES C. HOLLINGWORTH
HEATH	GEORGE HOLLAND
HOOLE	JAMES HOLLAND
HOPKINSON	DANIEL HUTCHBY
HOLLINGWORTH	ARTHUR ILLIFFE
HOLLINGWORTH	STANLEY IBALL
HOLLAND	JONES R. JENKINSON
HUTCHBY	HAROLD J. KENT
ILLIFFE	ALBERT H. KEIGHTLEY
IBALL	THOMAS LYNN
JENKINSON	CYRIL W. MARSH
KENT	ERNEST A. MELLOR
KEIGHTLEY	WILLOUGHBY JOHN
LYNN	ERNEST MELLOR
MARSH	WILFRED METCALF
MELLOR	FRED
MELLOR	
MELLOR	
METCALF	

The medal card below shows his entitlement to the Victory and British Medals. Like many service personnel of World War One, James Gilding was entitled to the Victory medal. This medal was awarded to all who received the 1914 Star and to those who received the

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
GILDING James	Abyc-bomb Sea Rifs	Pte	5604 25839
Medal	Toll	Page	Remarks
Victory	D103B 9	976	
British			
1914			

British War Medal. It was never awarded alone. These three medals were sometimes irreverently referred to as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred. James was entitled to the British War Medal for service in World War One. This

1914 Star, Victory & British Empire Medals



British Empire campaign medal was issued for services between 5th August 1914 and 11th November 1918. It was automatically awarded in the event of death on active service before the completion of this period.

Fred William Gilding (1889-1923)

Fred had been born in 1889 in Beighton, near Rotherham and baptised two years later on 18th June 1891 at St Paul's Church, Hasland. He was living with his mother in the 1901 Census on Chester Street, Brampton. By the 1911 Census Fred aged 22 was boarding with his brother Frank Gilding, at 17 Meakin Street, Hasland. He was employed as a coal miner, a hewer.

Fred Gilding boarding at Frank Gilding's household in the 1911 Census

Charles Gilding	son									
Fred Gilding	Brother	22	single							Coal Miner Hewer

On 14th July 1911 Fred aged 22 and Lucy Bower aged 20 were married at St Paul's Church, Hasland. They had both been living at brother Frank's home in Meakin Street. Frank and Grace Gilding (*Frank's wife Amy's sister*) were witnesses.

Lucy had been born on 21st October 1890. Her father Thomas Bower, a coal miner had married his wife Mary Bunting in 1884 in Chesterfield. The family had originated in the village of Woolley Moor, near Stretton. The original village was submerged below the Ogston Reservoir in 1958. The village was bounded by the parishes of Ashover and Clay Cross, within the Chesterfield registration district. In the 1911 Census Lucy was employed as a servant to the family of George Whitlam of 63 Low Pavement, Chesterfield, who ran an Herbal Dispensary.

Lucy Bower aged 5 months in 1891 Census at Fletcher Hillock, Woolley Moor

Civil Parish		Municipal Borough		Municipal Ward		Urban-Sanitary District		Town or Village or Hamlet		Rural San
Stretton								Woolley Moor		Colde
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Inhabited (U.) or (B.)	Number of rooms occupied if less than One	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Male	Female	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION
21	Fletcher Hillock 1		X	Thomas Bower	Head	Married	54			Coal Miner
				Mary J	Wife	Do	51			
				Gladys J	Daughter		9			
				Sarah Ann J	Do					
				Lucy J	Do					
										Lucy Bower

The 1911 Census shows Thomas Bower aged 54 still employed as a coal miner living at Woolley Moor with his wife Mary aged 51 and their nine year old daughter Gladys. They had been married 26 years and had seven children, but only four were alive in 1911. We know Lucy's sister Sarah Ann had married Walter Cupit in 1908 and they had a child named Eric in 1909.

Fred Gilding and his wife Lucy began their family in Chesterfield with the birth of Lily in 1912 but she died aged one. Fred like other family members moved to work at Bentley Colliery, near Doncaster. His brother John's family were already living there in 1911.

Fred and Lucy's son **Alfred Bernard** (known by his second name) was born on 5th January 1915. They were living at 3 Coney Road, in the village of Bentley with Arksey.

Alfred Bernard Gilding's Birth Certificate 5th January 1915

5 th January 1915 3 Coney Road Askeby Road Bentley with Arksey U.S.	Alfred Bernard	Boy	Frederick Gilding	Lucy Gilding formerly Bower	Coal Miner (on Roads)	L. Gilding Mother 3 Coney Road Askeby Road Bentley with Arksey
--	-------------------	-----	----------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------	--

Sisters Gladys and Freda were born in 1917 and on 13th July 1921 respectively. Gladys died in 1937 a year after marrying Norman Cooke. Freda married James McGhee in 1952 and died in 1994 aged 72 in the Rotherham district.

Fred and Lucy Gilding attended the funeral of Fred's brother John at Hasland in October 1921.

Sadly Fred died aged only 34 on 21st April 1923 from a severe skin inflammation and kidney problems, not helped by the difficult conditions in which he worked. They were living at 25 Main Road, Bentley with Arksey. His brother in law Walter Cupit who lived in the same community at 7 Manor Road was present at his death.

Death Certificate of Fred Gilding in April 1923 at Bentley, Doncaster

When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant
Twentyfirst April 1923 25 Main Road Bentley with Arksey U.S.	Fred Gilding	Male	34 years	Coal Miner (Bower)	W. Cupit deceased (L) Nephritis Certified by H. M. Morris M.B.	W. Cupit Brother in law 7 Manor Road Bentley with Arksey

Lucy was left with a young family to bring up and no breadwinner. She married Allan Fretwell, a coal miner, in 1924 and Earnest and Maurice Walter Fretwell were born in 1925 and 1927.

Lucy attended the funeral of Fred's mother Sarah Gilding in 1930. Fred's sister Amy and her husband John Barber were also living at 34 Millgate, Bentley at that time.

At some stage Fred and Lucy's son Bernard (he was not known as Alfred) was brought up by his aunt Amy and John (known as Jack) Barber, who had no children of their own.

In 1940 Bernard had married Margaret (known as Peggy) Hall Willis in the Doncaster registration district. Peggy's father Alexander Septimus Willis lived in the Gateshead area of Northumberland and married Margaret Walsh from Burnley in 1906. In 1911 they lived at 11 Front Street, near Luitz Colliery, County Durham. Peggy was born in Ashington, Northumberland in 1921. Subsequently the Willis family moved to the Doncaster area.

From around 1950 Bernard and his wife took over from his aunt, Amy and her husband John (known as Jack) Barber as landlord of the Gate Inn, the Knoll, Tansley, near Matlock. Aunty Kath believed Bernard had a “typical” Gilding face.

Bernard & Peggy Gilding outside the Gate Inn in 1946



Bernard Gilding in 1950s



Bernard & Peggy Gilding in 1980s?



The Gate Inn ,Tansley



They had two sons, Peter who subsequently moved to the Falkland Islands as a school teacher; and Keith who was a chef involved in the pub and restaurant business with his father in Matlock and at the Red Lion, Stanedge.

The extract shown from the Matlock Mercury of 9th April 1982 captures the concerns over the invasion of the Falklands by Argentina.

The Gilding’s remain on the Falkland Islands as well respected members of the community and committed to the British ownership of their islands. Also a DNA match has been proven.

Edited from the Matlock Mercury - Friday 9th April 1982

Falklands war threat haunts parents

ANGUISH

AN anguished Tansley couple yesterday told of their fears that their son could be caught up in the cross-fire of war in the Falkland Islands.

As Britain's massive task force sailed towards the South Atlantic, Bernard and Peggy Gilding pledged their faith in the hope that talks will end the crisis before the guns roar.

For trapped beneath the jackboot of the Argentinians, Peter, 26.

Peter, a British government appointed teacher in the Falklands for over 13 years, is headmaster of Port Stanley's 120-pupil secondary school.

Nightmare

Mrs Gilding fought back the tears as she said: "We are living in a nightmare. We dread what the next two or three weeks may bring.

Licensees of the Gate Inn, Tansley, for 23 years until 1973, Mr and Mrs Gilding still live in the village, in Last Lane. They are now involved with their younger son, Keith, in running the Elizabethan Restaurant in Crown Square, Matlock.

Peter, educated at the Ernest Bailey Grammar School, and a former Old Baileans rugby player taught in Derby and South Normanton before going out to the Falklands in 1968.

He has been head of the Port Stanley school for the past year.

Mr and Mrs Gilding's last direct contact with him was last Tuesday night - little more than 48 hours before the armoured troop carriers rolled in at dawn.

Mounting anxiety over the weekend was eased for Mr and Mrs Gilding when a telegram from Peter and family arrived at their home on Monday afternoon. It had been handed in at Port Stanley about five hours earlier.

And they clutched at a ray of hope in the 26-words message: "Looking forward to seeing you all soon."

Anger, frustration and bitterness underly Mr and Mrs Gilding's worries. For they allege that the British government must have known for months that invasion was imminent. Letters from Peter, they say, reveal that the Falkland islanders knew it.

Protested Mrs Gilding: "It's betrayal. The islanders should be re-settled in this country or in New Zealand before any lives are sacrificed."

Mr Gilding revealed that as long ago as 1977 he was given a written assurance by Sir James Scott-Hopkins, then MP for West Derbyshire, that only a referendum in favour of a change to Argentine rule would end British sovereignty in the Falklands.

Said Mr Gilding: "I'm disgusted."

A personal moment in Matlock - but a far from warm one. Peggy and Bernard Gilding.

The Gate Inn, Tansley in 2013



Entry from 1958 Telephone Directory for Gate Inn

Gilding A.B, The Gate Inn Tansley. Matlock 3038

Bernard and Peggy continued to live in Tansley in Lants Lane. Bernard died aged 73 on 3rd February 1988 at El Capistrano, Nerja, Spain and his ashes were buried at Holy Trinity Church, Tansley .Peggy died aged 86 in 2007 and her ashes were buried with those of her husband.

Obituary of Alfred Bernard Gilding

Former licensee's death in Spain

TANSLEY Parish Council was filled to capacity for a funeral service on Thursday week for Mr Alfred Bernard Gilding, former licensee of the village's Gate Inn.

Mr Gilding, 72, of Lant Lane, Tansley, died on January 2 while on holiday at El Capistrano, in Spain with his wife, Peggy.

Bernard and Peggy Gilding were popular host and hostess at the Gate Inn, for 23 years from 1950/73. They played an active part in Tansley community life and were well-known in the licensed trade in a wide area.

Mr Gilding was a former treasurer of Matlock District Licensed Victuallers Association, and Mrs Gilding was president of the Women's Auxiliary for many years.

Mr Gilding came to Tansley after 20 years as a sign-writer and coach painter for the former London and North Eastern Railway Company at Doncaster.

After his retirement from the Gate Inn, he was involved with his younger son, Mr Keith Gilding, in running the Elizabethan Restaurant in Crown Square, Matlock.

More recently, up to the time of his death he had assisted Mr Keith Gilding and his wife, Christine, at the Red Lion Hotel, Stonedge, where they are joint proprietors.

Mr Gilding's death occurred as he and his wife's elder son, Mr Peter Gilding, was flying back to this country from the Falklands on a business visit.

Mr Peter Gilding had been in the Falklands for 14 years, and was headmaster of Port Stanley secondary school, at the time of the Argentinian invasion in 1982.



Retirement

Bernard Gilding

Burial Record for Alfred Bernard Gilding in Tansley on 3rd February 1988

Alfred Bernard Gilding (cremated remains)	Lycamore cottage Lant Lane Tansley	February 3 rd 1988	73 years
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Amy Gilding (1890-1963)

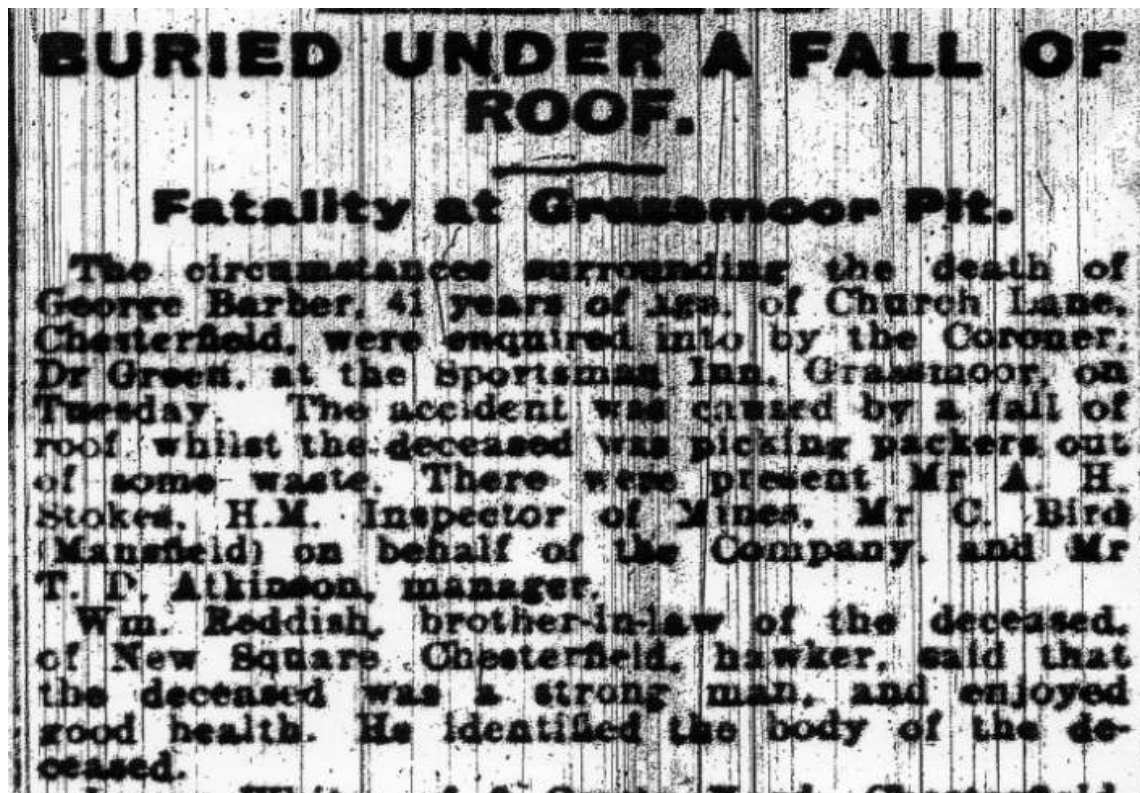
Amy aged ten was living with her mother in Chester Street, Brampton in the 1901 Census. By the 1911 Census aged twenty Amy was employed as a cardboard box maker (possibly at Robinsons). She lodged with Walter and Emma Fowkes, the parents of her friend Mabel at 35 Central Terrace, off Lordsmill Street. Her brother John and his wife Rebecca had lived at 5 Central Terrace when their child James was born in 1908.

Amy Gilding boarding with Fowkes Family in 1911 Census in Chesterfield

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION or of Persons aged ten	
		For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Agos of Males.	Agos of Females.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7).			Personal Occupation.
of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who		State whether "Hos." or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other relative, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."		Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."		Total Children Born Alive.	Children still Living.	Children who have Died.	The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c.	In wh
(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or		(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.		No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)						
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
1	Walter Fowkes	head	47	Married	22	3	1	2	coal miner	know 50
2	Ellen Fowkes	wife	49	married	27					
3	Mabel Fowkes	daughter	18	single	11				pad maker	717 2
4	Frank Longdon	boarder	29	married	11				coal miner	9.11.15 0
5	Amy Gilding	boarder	20	single					cardboard box maker	8.16

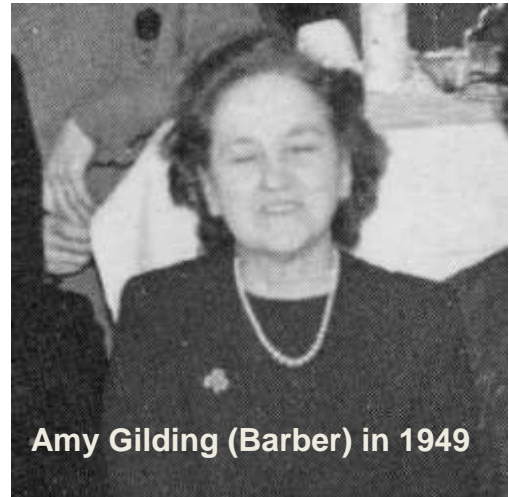
Nearby at 32 Central Terrace was John Barber aged 22, a fitter in the coal mines, who was living with his widowed mother Alice aged 43 and his seven siblings. John's father George Barber had been killed aged 41 in 1906 following a roof fall at Grassmoor Colliery.

George Barber : Report of Fatality in Derbyshire Times of 13th January 1906



On 17th February 1912 Amy aged 21 married the same John (known as Jack) Paxton Barber aged 22 at Chesterfield Parish Church. The witnesses' were her brother John Gilding and her friend Mabel Fowkes, who would marry John Henstock the following year.

Amy attended the funerals of her brother John in 1921, her brother Frank in 1927, her niece Florence and her mother Sarah in 1930. At some stage Amy and Jack Barber moved to Bentley, Doncaster. They had no children of their own but took a role in bringing up their nephew Bernard Gilding after her brother John's widow, Lucy remarried. Jack was the witness at the death of Amy's mother, Sarah Gilding in 1930. His address was shown as 34 Millgate, Bentley.



Amy Gilding (Barber) in 1949

Amy and Jack became publicans and nephew Bernard and his wife Peggy also became involved in the same business. Bernard and Amy were shown as joint tenants of the Gate Inn, Tansley.

Lily Gilding (1893-1956)

Lily was born in 1893 and christened at St Paul's, Hasland on 29 January 1895. In the 1901 Census Lily aged seven was living with her mother and siblings on Chester Street, Chesterfield.

By the time of the 1911 Census Lily was aged seventeen and was employed as a domestic servant working for John and Annie Slack He was a dentist's assistant living at 1 Club Mill Cottages, Brockwell, Chesterfield.

Lily Gilding in 1911 Census at Brockwell, Chesterfield

NAME AND SURNAME <small>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</small> (1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or (2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of recording, see Examples on back of Schedule.)	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family. State whether "Head," or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other relation, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."	AGE (Last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION of Person aged 15 and over. Personal Occupation. The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c. If engaged in any Trade or Manufacture, the particular kind of work done, and the Article made or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 6 and Examples on back of Schedule.)
		For Males under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	For Females under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widowed," or "Divorced," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of— Children born alive in present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7.) Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "within one year." Total Children born Alive. Children still Living. Children who have Died.				
1 John William Slack	Head	27	Male	Married					Dentist's Assistant
2 Annie Slack	Wife	32	Female	Married	4	1	1	0	
3 Walter Herbert Bddy	Boarder	73	Male	Widowed					Retired Butcher
4 John William Slack	Son	14	Male	Single					
5 Lily Gilding	Servant	17	Female	Single					

Lily Gilding

Lily married aged forty to Wilfred ("Wilf") Grosvenor Hammond aged 37, at Chesterfield in 1933.

In the 1911 Census Wilf aged 15 lived on Chatsworth Road with his mother Charlotte (possibly a widow) aged 49 and a brother Walter aged 27. Wilf was a clerk at the Gas Works and Walter was a bookbinder. He was described as a “kind gentleman” who looked after Lily. They lived near Horn’s Bridge, near Chesterfield town centre. Sadly Lily died of throat cancer in 1956. Wilf remarried at the age of 78 to Winifred May Peach aged 63 at Chesterfield Registry Office on 25th September 1974. He died at Walton Hospital on 22nd July 1986. Winifred died in 2011 aged 99.

May Doris Gilding (1895-1959)

May Doris Gilding was born in Hasland in 1895. In the 1901 Census she was aged six and lived with her mother in Chester Street, Brampton. By 1911 she was employed as a housemaid working for the cook at 8 Spital Lodge.

1911 Census for 8 Spital Lodge, Chesterfield

1	Annie Hethway	Servant	24	Single	Cook - Domestic
2	May Doris Gilding	Servant	16	Single	Housemaid Domestic
3	Edith Alice Parkes	Servant	16	Single	Kitchenmaid Domestic

May married Samuel “Sam” Burnham at Chesterfield on 25th December 1919. They lived with her mother at 42 Brunswick Street. They had a daughter Eleanor Joyce born in 1922, who married a Harry Arblaster in 1942; she died in 1948.

Sam Burnham died in 1925 leaving May with a toddler to bring up. Her brother Harry Eli Gilding, a bachelor boarded with May’s family at 42 Brunswick Street until he died in 1957. May had married a William Ridley Morley an engineer aged 43 in 1931 in Chesterfield. May died on 1st August 1959 at 30 Higher Albert Street, Stonegravels, leaving over £1,000 to her husband a. William Morley died in 1961 leaving over £6,000 to Margaret Marsh and Jennie Welsh, both married women.

Annie Gilding (1898-?)

The youngest child of Alfred and Sarah Gilding was **Annie** Gilding. She was born in the summer of 1898 and christened at St Paul’s Church, Hasland on 18th August 1898. She was living with her mother aged two in the 1901 Census.

In 1911 while her mother was destitute in the workhouse, Annie lived with her father Alfred at 173 South Moor Road, Brimington, and his “housekeeper”, Mrs Danby.

Mr Gilding	Head	50	50	Married
Mrs Danby	Housekeeper	44		Married
Annie Gilding	Daughter	11		

Annie married Bernard Hill in 1926 at Chesterfield and subsequently lived in Nottingham. They had one daughter Annie Margaret Hill born at Nottingham in 1929. I do not know any more about her family.

PART 15

MORE MYSTERY PHOTOS

Earnest Gilding's daughter Doreen, found a photo of a couple that is unidentified. I have included this mystery photo in this section . We had believed it could have been Alfred and Sarah Gilding in their backyard in Stonegravels. Since we obtained a photo of Sarah Gilding , this is not the lady in the mystery photograph. . They seem to be enjoying their music in this informal setting. *[Photo coloured for clarity]*



I asked Jayne Shrimpton to analyse this photo to determine if it could have been taken before Alfred's death in May 1919. Her report confirmed that the photo was taken before his death. Her report follows:

*"This is a lovely scene, taken outdoors in what must be the family garden. There is a casual air about it and the lady is not looking at the camera – features that suggest it could well be a 'snapshot' taken by an amateur photographer – a friend or relative, using a personal camera. Usually it is the appearance of our ancestors – their clothing, hairstyles and accessories – that provides the best time frame for undated scenes like this, especially when there is a female present. Here we see a lady wearing the plain tailored skirt and separate blouse combination that was customary by the early twentieth century. Being a mature lady, she is not dressed in the very height of fashion: for example, her hemline is probably slightly longer than that of a young lady. However, the relatively narrow style of her skirt should indicate a date in the early-mid 1910s, or thereabouts, while her front-buttoning blouse features a small collar – characteristic of c.1911 onwards. Based on the fashion clues here, I estimate that this photograph was taken **c.1911-18, with the most likely years being 1912-16**. The man's appearance may not be dated quite so precisely, although he looks fine for a year in the 1910s. His starched shirt collar and the long lapels of his lounge jacket are typical of the decade, while his straw boater that was especially fashionable during the early 1900s and 1910s and implies that the season was summer. There is dappled sunlight in this scene and a wonderful, unusual*

feature is the wind-up gramophone (or phonograph, as it was often called at that time) that has been brought outdoors so that they could enjoy playing music while they relaxed on the wooden bench. I would judge them both to be aged in their 50s, or thereabouts.”

The identity of the couple remains a mystery, but the photo still represents a snapshot of history of a hundred years ago.

While we are dealing with mystery photos we may as well add a few more.

The following postcard photos of a boy aged about two and four were annotated on the back as “**James Gilding**” written in biro some 40 years later.. . Initial thoughts were that this was Alfred & Sarah’s son James who was born in 1897. In the first picture the photographer’s studio is shown as : “*Photo by Royal, 3 Holm Road, Stonegravels*”. This identity has proven to be wrong as postcard photos date from 1902 and the layout suggests a format before 1910, John would have been between 5 and 13, not a young child. His facial features differ. So far we have not been able to trace this Chesterfield studio to assist in dating the formal photos. Jayne Shrimpton’s comments were as follows: “*Here is a lovely little boy aged about 2 years old, dressed in the picturesque fashions of the early 1900s with his dog* “ and on the second photo which had a Christmas context : “*Here is the same little boy the resemblance is striking and here he stands firmly and is aged 3 or 4. So this photo was taken up to 2 years later. Now, this child must have been born in at least 1900 and may have been born as late as 1906. The boy has dark looks, sallow skin and dark eyes (almost French features)* “



The only “James Gilding” who was born between 1902 and 1910 was the grandson of Alfred and Sarah. He was the son of Alfred John Gilding and Rebecca Thompson born on 22 June 1908 near Lordsmill Street, Chesterfield. He would become a journeyman stonemason, living in Stonegravels when he married Mary Bennet in 1930 prior to settling near Blackpool. This would place him above at the upper edge of the assumed age range of the postcard photos. It is possible the young boy is not a James Gilding at all, another mystery.

We have another mystery photo of a father and two daughters. The demeanour of those in the photos is certainly sad. They have no obvious resemblance to other family members.

Again my initial thought was “Is it Alfred and two of his daughters?”. It does not appear to be the case as the age/ dates do not tally. There is nothing written on the reverse of the postcard. The opinion of Jayne Shrimpton was as follows.



*“Another postcard photograph, we know that this must date to at least 1902. The style of this particular postcard, with large, open lettering, indicates a date in at least the 1910s, and could be early 1920s. Looking at the image, the man is dressed in a three-piece suit and conservative starched shirt collar, while his two daughters look more modern in comfortable jerseys and knee-length skirts. Their appearance dates this image to broadly **1913-23**.. Most significant here is the absence of a wife/mother figure. I wonder if she had recently died and this is a mourning photo of sorts? Hopefully you may be able to establish this from your records: did 2 girls lose their mother in the 1910s or very early 1920s?”*

So far I have found no obvious widowers with two children between 1913-1923. The wives seem to survive longer than their husbands.

PART 16

DON'T GO DOWN THE MINE DAD

Like many others, the Gilding's had existed by seeking work as labourer's on the land. They would line up to be chosen for work in all weathers at the whim of the landowners. The circumstances must have been dire as they saw their escape in the coalfields of the East Midlands. The mining industry remains one of the most dangerous, dirty and damp environments to work in, but was considerably worse when Henry and his sons ventured below ground. I cannot imagine the darkness, wet, dusty and cramped conditions endured to hew coal at the workface and transport it to the surface. Safety took second place to profit as price per ton and weight of coal mined determined a worker's pay. The introduction of the miner's safety lamp in 19 century was not accepted quickly as use of a candle was considered a better guide to presence of gas. Similarly the use of wooden props and the sound of them splintering were thought a better warning, than their replacement with metal props. The rats were regarded as friends as they had an instinctive knowledge of bad conditions. Danger was ever present and my grandfather, Frank Gilding's death in 1927 resulted from a roof fall. His younger John had died at Ramscroft colliery in 1921 aged only 30 from a roof fall. George Barber, the father in law of Frank's sister Amy died in a roof fall at Grassmoor pit in 1906. Frank's elder brother Bill's death in 1961 was probably due, in part, to an unreported head injury at Tupton colliery.

Cramped housing conditions with large families and boarders supplementing the household income were the norm. Removing coal dust from clothes and body was an enduring challenge. It was thought by some that too many baths would weaken the back. The legacy of coal dust ingrained in cuts and scars and on the lungs remained as a badge of the miner's sacrifice for the coal owners till their death.

Pit baths were first introduced in Derbyshire at Grassmoor pit in December 1929. The miners contributed two "old" pence a week. They proved to be a great success. Prior to this was a tin bath in front of the fire or a cold splash in the backyard.

The miner's welfare club proved to be at the centre of the village community as did the local pubs. Despite the hardships there was a strong bond and pride among the miners. Over 15,000 jobs in the coal industry disappeared and not a single colliery remains open.

To set the scene I draw on the book "The Derbyshire Miners" by J.E. Williams and the photos taken at Clay Cross collieries. Only a few photos exist of Grassmoor colliery.



Grassmoor Colliery



The Grassmoor colliery complex was developed in an area which had for many years been worked by small enterprises. The colliery known as Grassmoor colliery was founded around 1846 when Alfred Barnes returned to the area from journeying abroad. He was instructed by his father to set work in progress to sink collieries on land at Grassmoor which his father had purchased. At first three shallow pits were sunk after the necessary leasing of the mineral rights from the Duke of Devonshire. The revenue raised from this small localised coal production at the three pits was used to sink the deeper and larger shafts into the profitable Blackshale seam, the cost being £40,000. The number one shaft to the Blackshale was sunk in 1861. The Grassmoor colliery company sought limited liability in 1884 the cost of which was around £200,000



and this during the depression in the coal mining industry of the 1880's. Many men were transferred from the Barlow collieries owned by Barnes at this time. Three hundred and fifty railway wagons were purchased and left in sidings and all but one of the company subscribers were Barnes family members with the one exception being George Leach who was the company cashier. Later, by 1896 the company controlled a great group of collieries producing around 24,000 tons of coal each week. The company boasted some sixty miles of underground roadways including six miles of coal face. The main Grassmoor shafts to the Blackshale seam were 1,350 feet deep and a steam winding engine was used. The collieries were known locally as the 'Barnes collieries' and were involved in the coking of coal since 1846. The gas produced from the coking process was piped to Chesterfield, Shirebrook and Mansfield



for domestic and industrial customers, hence the saying '*Chesterfield depends on Grassmoor*'. The Barnes colliery company went into voluntary liquidation in 1928 thus severing all the Barnes family ties with the company. The colliery which by now employed five shafts was finally closed in 1950. The colliery site was turned into an area training centre in 1952.

The Grassmoor Country Park is now on the site of the colliery.

Comments from Derbyshire Times Reports on conditions in the Derbyshire Coalfields

Overcrowding was one of the most serious problems. In 1898 a doctor, who was called to attend a Clay Cross family, found six children in one bed. The mother, anxious to prevent the spread of infection, had placed three who were suffering from scarlatina at one end of the bed and three who had typhoid fever at the other.² At a meeting of the Clay Cross urban district council, in 1907, G. M. Jackson, of the Clay Cross Company, stated that in one house there were fourteen people sleeping in one room. 'Is that a Company's house?' asked Rowarth, the leader of the enginemen's union. 'I do not know', replied Jackson. 'I should be very sorry if it were'.³ Even at the larger, modern collieries there was a serious shortage of housing. The difficulty was accentuated by the growth of the multiple shift system and the bigger labour force required. 'It was said that in some houses associated with these collieries the beds were never cold', complained Frank Hall, in 1912. 'The houses were overcrowded. Such a system destroyed home comforts and happiness.'⁴

Depression in coal industry in 1927

Meanwhile the coal industry showed no sign of recovering from its persistent depression and conditions in the Derbyshire coalfield became more desperate. Short time became the rule, more collieries were closed and large numbers of miners found themselves unemployed. In November, 1927, the Grassmoor Colliery Company alone dismissed about 500 men. Frank Hall commented:

Three days a week, with stoppages, means that in many cases there is not sufficient to live on. It has come to my notice today that in one case five men went to work without anything to eat. The distress in this district is worse than ever it has been in its history.⁷

Samuel Sales told a *Derbyshire Times* reporter:

It is no use thinking of living in terms of 1913 to 1914. We are living in 1927, and we have to face the hard economic fact that the world is producing more coal than it can consume. . . . At the present nobody seems to care what conditions the miners are working under so long as the nation is getting cheap coal.⁸

The situation became even worse in 1928 when the price of coal reached its lowest point in the inter-war years.² In March Hicken told the Carr Vale miners: 'Before Christmas this year between 5,000 and 7,000 men now working would be permanently unemployed in Derbyshire.' The county was spared the extreme poverty and unemployment which prevailed in the depressed areas but conditions were sufficiently bad, as they were in all the coalfields, to arouse violent protests.

Against this background Amy, a widow after Frank

Gilding's death in 1927, had a family to bring up notwithstanding the growing effect of TB on her life.

Down The Coal Mine (*photos taken in Clay Cross Colliery*)



MAP OF COLLIERIES AROUND CHESTERFIELD

From 1981 to 2002, 15,000 jobs in the coal industry disappeared and not a single colliery remains open, but that is another tragic story of broken communities. Yet Chesterfield is rising from the ashes despite the removal of the mining and engineering industry which formed the economic base of the region.

