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EDITORIAL

Greetings for New Year to all our readers! In Britain, we have had a most unseasonal Christmas - none of that ice and snow stuff we picture on our Christmas cards, but mild temperatures unfortunately accompanied by gale force winds and torrential rain. Much of Devon and Cornwall has been under water, and thousands of people were unable to cook their Christmas dinner as their homes were without power. Now we are experiencing the mildest January and February on record (so far). In some places, spring shrubs are in blossom, and the birds have been fooled into nesting. Our climate seems to be changing.

What has not changed is the warmth of Christmas greetings which have been sent to us, and I would like to thank all those who sent us lovely cards and messages. If I have not done so individually, please accept my thanks given here, on behalf of Graham and myself and also the Witheridge Society.

Velma Metcalfe, our representative in New Zealand has got our New Year off to a good start with some valuable research. She has been very generous with her time and efforts and has searched records from the British archives which are now available in New Zealand. It does strike me as odd that this information reaches us from the other side of the world!

Once again, our Secretary, John, has cast his net wider in his search for information, and has given us an article which will provoke our thoughts and questions - read on!

Richard Witheridge has produced a booklet on our 10th Anniversary Weekend at Tiverton. This has narrative on how the enterprise came about, and photographs of people we met and places we visited. The booklet will be available on Witheridge Day this year, and it is hoped to make arrangements for any one who would like the booklet but who is unable to attend, to receive a copy.

As always at this time of year I express the hope that I shall be seeing old and new friends at our annual get together. This is to be held on the 4th May, 1998 (Bank Holiday Monday) at the White Hart at Winchcombe, Gloucestershire. Winchcombe is three miles from Alderton, where previous meetings have been held, and lies between Cheltenham and Broadway on the B4632. It is a charming little town with many historic features, and interesting places to visit roundabout. I am sure that the convenience of holding the AGM and lunch buffet in a small hotel will not be lost on our members and friends. Do come and join us!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Joyce', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JEAN WITHERIDGE

The Witheridge Society was represented by a number of members at the recent funeral of Jean Witheridge (née Hollinshead), wife of Philip Witheridge. Jean, who was 57, had suffered for many years from multiple sclerosis. She died on the 20th January at the family home in Gretton Fields, near Winchcombe, Glos. For many years Philip has nursed Jean most devotedly at home, with a care and attention that far surpassed anything available in hospital.

During the funeral address the Reverend Norman Bussey spoke simply and directly of the marriage that had lasted for over 36 years, and of a family that had been no strangers to tragedy. Jean's illness had first become apparent in the early years of their marriage but she had always been determined not to let her illness impede family life. Her children Karen and Paul were born in Staffordshire, and her younger son Simon was born in Gloucestershire, and while the children were still quite young the family moved to their present home on a small-holding in Gretton Fields. Here, Jean and Philip took great delight in a life of self sufficiency, reminiscent of that portrayed in 'The Good Life'. It was not unusual for family meals to consist entirely of the produce of the small-holding.

In addition, Jean had strong creative and artistic leanings, and in later years attended local pottery classes where she successfully produced a number of attractive pieces, despite the increasing difficulties caused by the multiple sclerosis. For many years the Witheridge Society meetings were held in Alderton, (the parish to which Gretton Fields belongs), so that Philip, who was for some years Chairman of the Society, could participate in meetings, and members of the Society could visit Jean during the May week-end.

However, for the last ten years Jean's mobility was severely restricted, and for the last four years she had been confined to bed. It was during the later stages of her illness that their youngest child, Simon, then 26, was tragically killed in a car accident. Jean herself was buried in a plot immediately opposite the plot where Simon is buried, in the churchyard of St. Margaret's Church in Alderton.

As well as Philip's immediate family, and Jean's family, mourners from the Witheridge clan included Barbara Smith (Philip's sister), John Witheridge (brother) and John's daughter April, Richard Witheridge (cousin), and Richard's wife Maureen, and Kim Cook.

A wreath was sent on behalf of the Witheridge Society, and we are sure that all members will join with us in sending their condolences to Philip, Karen and Paul. KC

NEW MEMBERS

Member No. 168 Miss Una Stock

Contact Address: 74 Stopples Lane, Hordle, Lymington, Hants. S041 0GL

(1) Una Stock 1942- (2) Douglas Alfred Irwin Stock 1914-1982. (3) Winifred Gertrude Medus 1907- (4) Alfred Ernest Stock 1882-1971. (5) Rachel Irwin 1875-1962. (6) James Edward Medus 1863-1941. Margaret Sophia Glendon (2nd wife) 1967-1918 (8) George Douglas Stock 1851-1901. (9) George Irwin 1861-1873. (10) Emily Hopper c1849-1899. (11) Mary Ann Goss 1838-1915. (12) Joseph Medus c1907. (13) Charlotte Hollongdale c1838-c1929. (14) William Glendon m1856. (15) Eliza Field. (16) George Stock 1818-1891. (17) Eliza Santer 1820-1987. (18) John Frederic Hopper 1824- (19) Maria Everitt c1824- (20) John Irwin 1804-1875. (21) Susanna Kidwell 1806-1884. (22) Richard Goss 1815-1844. (23) Ann Burgess 1815-1887. (28) John Glendon - c1856. (30) John Field. (40) John Irwin 1764- . (41) Mary Ley Witheridge 1759- . (82) William Witheridge 1727- . (83) Mary Simons 1727- . (164) William Witheridge 1690-1731. (165) Rebecca Ley 1696-

1500s - 1962 London, Rochester, Berrynarbor, Combe Martin. 1962 - present - Barnstaple, Cricklewood, East Molesey.

Welcome to the Society, Una! Your family connection to the Witheridge family is well documented in our earlier magazines, Volume 2, No. 2, Summer 1988 especially, in the connection to the Ley family by marriage with the Witheridge line. You have connections to the Leys of the "Deck of Cards" following the fortune won in a game of cards in Combe Martin by one of the Leys. In turn you share a five times collective grandfather with Fenwick Witheridge and his sister Catherine Houtz, née Witheridge. Mary Ley Witheridge was the aunt of George Witheridge who sailed as cook and crew on the Mary Ann with Captain James Witheridge who founded the Monmouth Witheridge family. In this connection there will be relationships with Velma Metcalfe, June Gaylard, Carol Goins and John R. Witheridge.

Una is also related to Albertina Rossiter, the Rev. David Witheridge, Janice and John Witheridge, Irene Birdsall and also those members descended from the other side of this great family who are too numerous to mention. These are the descendants of Thomas (1808) and Jane Witheridge, the two persons most responsible for the Witheridge Berrynarbor and CombeMartin explosion all over the world. I would suggest that Una and Vida Wonnacott of North Devon get together in correspondence. Each should be able to assist the research of the other as their research is located in areas of close proximity.

I hope that your stay with the Witheridge Society will be enjoyable and also constructive in your search for your ancestors. Una - if you look carefully you will find two new items of research in the birth brief above. They are the names of John Hopper and Maria Everitt and I hope that they lead you further in your quest. I also hope that the other items unrelated to the Witheridge family which I have supplied have been of importance in the build up in the other sections of your family.

Best wishes from us all.

Member No. 169 Mrs. Deidre Deakin née Jones

Contact address:- 10 Kentucky Way, Palmerston North, New Zealand

At this stage we do not hold the full tree to Deidre's more recent family, and our present birth brief will need to be up rated in the Witheridge Times as soon as we have the information.

(1) Deidre Deakin née Jones. (2) Uncertain as yet. (3) Uncertain. (4) William Jones ?? (5) Olivia Helen Witheridge 1870 - (10) John Witheridge 1838-1911. (11) Elizabeth Delbridge 1844-1906. (20) John Witheridge 1802-c1861. (21) Mary Handcock 1805-1874. (40) John Witheridge 1775 - . (41) Elizabeth Harris ????. (80) Thomas Witheridge 1751-1819. (81) Mary Howel 1754-1817****. (160) John Witheridge 1716-1792. (161) Mary ???. (162) Thomas How c1720s-. (163) Susanna Pyle c 1725s-. (320) John Witheridge 1678-1725. (321) Jennet Lewis ???. (640) Thomas Witheridge 1650-1740. (641) Mary Sherman 1657-1744.

Berrynarbor and Combe Martin 1531 - 1867, Auckland, New Zealand 1867 - present day. Hello Deidre - welcome to the Witheridge Society. As you will know by now, most of the research that has been completed so far is as a result of the work of your cousins Velma Metcalfe, June Gaylard, John Roberts Witheridge and his sister Carol Goins.

You have family connections within the society that are more remote than those I have just mentioned:- John James, Dorothy Witheridge, Joan Payne, Fenwick Witheridge, Catherine Houtz, David Witheridge, Tony Witheridge, Vida Wonnacott, Albertina Rossiter, Phyllis Cocking, Irene Birdsall, Amanda Calder, Peter Witheridge, Allan Witheridge and many more.

Peter Witheridge and Amanda Calder are perhaps closer in relationship to you than the rest of the listed members, these members being of direct descent from John Witheridge and Mary Handcock, and are living in Australia.

The note '****' in the genealogical listing above denotes:- As far as I can ascertain Mary Howe was the daughter of Thomas and Susanna How, born 27.02.1754, Ilfracombe. This is substantiated by the fact that she died in Berrynarbor in 1817, at the age of 63 years. Year 1817 subtract 63 = 1754.

Her parents Thomas and Susanna could be Thomas How and Susanna Pyle, married 06.12. 1749 Ilfracombe. I have found no other references to this family , but the Pyle connection bears out another family connection within that same family line. This being the marriage of a Betsey Witheridge to a William Pile on 05.05.1847 at Combe Martin.

Betsey was baptised as daughter to William Witheridge and Mary née Wilmotts on the 27.01.1827 and her parents married on 01.04.1826. Mary Pile's burial stone can still be seen in the Church ground at Combe Martin.

We all wish you the very best in your research and hope that you enjoy your membership of our Society.

John Witheridge



FAMILY NEWS

It is with great regret that, with our welcome to new member Deidre Deakin, we have to send her our condolences on the death of her husband. We send you our sympathy, thoughts and best wishes, Deidre.



On a happier note we report that David and June Witheridge (our Vice President) have welcomed their first grandchild. Their daughter Delia, married to Donald Fairbairn, gave birth to Nicholas on the 29th November, 1997. Congratulations to all!

We are sorry to learn that our friend, Tom Jewell, had a nasty car accident on 18th January, and suffered multiple cuts and bruises, an injury to his hip, and a broken pelvis. At first he was in Barnstaple Hospital, but his wife Sheila tells

me (3rd February) that he has now returned home to Exeter and is making some progress

All of us who were at Witheridge Weekend last year remember Tom's amusing talk on sources of family information, and his informative commentary as he acted as courier and guide on our coach tour of North Devon.

I am sure that we all join in sending our best wishes to Sheila and Tom, and our hopes for Tom's speedy and complete recovery.



THE ONE THAT DID NOT GET AWAY

by John Witheridge

Many of our readers will remember Mavis Witheridge becoming a member. I know that Joyce and Graham, Kim and Roy and myself will remember her visit to this country with affection and were very happy with her choice to become a member. Listed with Mavis in her membership data was her daughter Carmel Wiseman née Witheridge, and her son-in-law Barry Wiseman, who I know are greatly interested in the Society's magazine and like to read about all the histories pertaining to our combined families.

I think that it is about time that we high lighted these two members. Mavis writes so often telling me about the wonderful daughter she has, and how ready she is to assist at every turn of life. For instance, when Mavis was over here two years ago Carmel phoned many times to talk with Mum and to ease problems with the tour organisers in changing routes and various other organisational changes. Indeed I had one lovely letter from Carmel thanking me for my efforts on her mother's behalf. I always hear about the man behind the lady in question both from Carmel and from Mavis. From what I have heard I think I can use the good saying we have here in England "He is the best thing since pork pies", but perhaps there is an even more apt saying, and much more in the modern manner - "The best thing since Fish Fingers".

Look at the photograph of Barry - Yes, this is the gentleman in question holding his prize catch - a magnificent MULLAWAY caught at the shallows of Monkey Mia somewhere north of Perth, Western Australia.

Barry and his companion had fished hour after hour, anchoring and drifting for three days, showing great patience and finally making this great catch. Whilst reeling and playing this fish Barry was convinced that he had hooked a shark!

Well this one did not escape and we have the proof in front of us. Well done, Barry! As the nearest most of us get to fish are fish fingers, we send you our admiration and praise!

BARRY WISEMAN WITH HIS PRIZE CA TCH



FINDERS...SEEKERS

Found - A few Tricks - by John Witheridge

Sarah Trick who married John Beer Witheridge in 1882 (2nd wife) was registered in the 1881 census as follows: -

Trick Sarah, 44 yrs. Fml. Serv. Um.Ply St.Andrew. Dom. Serv: Keys Isaiah b. Devon Bideford

Her address: 52 Bedford Place, Plymouth St. Andrews which was a Printer EMP+ owned by Isaiah W.N. Keys assisted by daughter Sarah Keys and son James.

In Sarah Trick's marriage certificate the following information was noted - age 45, spinster living at Bedford Street, St. Andrews, Plymouth. Father John Trick FARMER. We can see that Sarah Trick was the same lady who worked at the Printer shop at No. 52 Bedford Place.

Looking at the 1881 census for Bideford and the surrounding areas for the name 'Trick' I found the following:-

2259 11 15

Jane a fancy shop Keeper 11 High Street, Bideford

Margaret Assistant

Mary Schoolmistress

Jane	Trick 48y head	um. Self	born Bideford
Margaret May	Trick 57y.sister	um. Trick Jane	born Bideford
Mary	Trick 60y. sister	um. Trick Jane	born Hartland

2258 52 5

9 Willett Street Bideford

a	Thomas	Trick 62y. Head	m. Self	born Bideford
	Mary	Trick 64y. wife	m. Trick Thomas	born Buk.Brew
a	Walter C.	Trick 15y. son	um. Trick Thomas	born Bideford
a	William H.	Trick 13y son	um. Trick Thomas	born Bideford

From Woolfardisworthy Village. 2262 68 17

John	Trick 52y Head	m. Self	born Woolsary
Elizabeth A.	Trick 40y Wife	m. Trick John	born Clovelly
Mary E.	Trick 17 y serv.	um. Burrow Jose	born Bideford
John	Trick 16y. son	um. Trick John	born Bideford
Wm. Burrow	Trick 17y son	um. Trick John	born Woolsary
Susan B.	Trick 9y dau	um. Trick John	born Woolsary

Eliza Ann Trick 8y. dau. um. Trick John born Woolsary
Marion D. Trick 5y. dau. um. Trick John born Woolsary

From this I see no connection to a John Trick (Farmer) but wonder about the ladies at No. 11 High Street Bideford. Could they be sisters of Sarah? The age grouping is perfect. I find no connection to these ladies from the IGI Bideford, but I do find:-

John Trick born to John and Sarah Trick 10.03.1800 Bideford and
John Trick married Sarah Chaple 28.03.1799 Bideford, but no baptism of a Sarah to a John Trick circa 1834. There is a need for more research.

(I have found no death record for Sarah Trick Witheridge, or record of a re-marriage (Editor)



The following scraps of information have come our way:-

Loddiswell Parish

Burial John Witheridge buried 17th February, 1732

We do not know this John but wonder if he was the son of William Witheridge and Margery Tanner, Yealmpton family.

Halwell Poor Law Accounts

"Jan. 1831. Wm Witheridge Brixham 4s.0d.
Wm. Witheridge in need 2s.6d.

Advanced Wm. Witheridge for Rent to have his goods 12s.0d.
Wm Witheridge 2s.0d"

This was the William, son of John Witheridge and Jane Emmot. William married Susan Brimmicombe. We are still trying to unravel the history of John Witheridge.

Quarter Sessions Order Book. Midsummer Session 1809

"Elizabeth Witheridge, single woman Vagrant, on oath saith that she served upwards of 4 years under an indenture apprenticeship with Mr. Lystone in the parish of South Huish, since which she hath done no act whatever whereby to gain settlement elsewhere..X her mark. Passed to her parish"

In spite of the clue of the parish of South Huish, we cannot immediately find Elizabeth. Perhaps a reader can help us?

Calendar of Prisoners Year 1723 "Thomas Witheridge imprisoned for felony"

As yet we have not discovered which of our many Thomases this could be, or if he is a Thomas previously unknown. There is no clue as to his normal residence.

THE BROOKING CONNECTION

by John Witheridge

For many years we Witheridges of the Ermington line have speculated on the marriage of Margaret Brooking and John Witheridge on the 25th May, 1728, at Exeter Holy Trinity.

Some dreamed of elopements, and other romantic notions. Some thought of family feuds over a marriage dispute, but all quite mystified by the circumstances concerning this marriage. Why did they travel to Exeter when both participants lived in Ermington? Have we at long last found some of the truth?

I think that the break through came when the Marriage Bond of this marriage was found by Sheila Jewell. It showed that Margaret Brooking was a widow! Please read the photocopy of the bond

I think that all researchers within our Society instantly redoubled their efforts to find the lady concerned, but still the answer to this problem escaped us.

Over these same years of research I had made repeated requests to the Brooking Society to aid us in this search. To this they have always responded in the most helpful manner, sharing whatever information they had. It was indeed our Marriage Bond that caused them to find the connection to Josias, prompted by the accompanying information which I had forwarded.

At one time they thought (and so did we) that Margaret was from an Exeter family of Brookings and that John Witheridge must have met her on his travels, returning to Ermington to live once the marriage had taken place. Now we know that this was not quite so. It now transpires that Margaret had been living in Ermington for up to eleven years before her marriage to John Witheridge. Certainly they would have known of each other as near neighbours, but as to how they became romantically entangled I have no notion. Perhaps it was a marriage of convenience - Margaret a young widow with two children to support - John with property and no companion in life. Certainly there was nothing hasty in their relationship and marriage, as far as we can tell, but still the question of the Exeter marriage prompts the question WHY?

It seems that Margaret's first husband, Josias Brooking, was a wool merchant, travelling far and wide searching for new purchases. Please read the Brooking family tree. It is also thought that he died away from his home area. This is certainly borne out by the fact that as yet none of the researchers involved has been able to find the record of his burial.

Margaret had four children, Joseph, Robert and Margaret (Brooking) and later John (Witheridge). It is thought that Josias' and Margaret's third child, Margaret, was buried on the 22nd September, 1723, just months after entering the second year of her short life.

Noverint Universi per Praesentes, Nos *Johannes*
Willbridge & *Ermington* *Conrad*
Dowd & *Sond*

tenentur se firmiter obligari *Reward*
et duo duo *se* *hanc* *promissione* *dia* *1720*
in ducentis Libris bona & legalis Moneta Magna Britannia,
solvend' eidem Episcopo aut suo certo Attornato, Executoribus,
Administratoibus, vel Assignatis suis: Ad quam quidem solutionem
bene & fideliter faciend' Obligamus Nos & utrumque nostrum per
se pro toto & in solido, Haredes, Executores, & Administratores
nostros firmiter per Praesentes. Sigillis nostris Sigillat'. Dat'.
vicimo quinto die Mensis May 1720



THE Condition of this Obligation is such, That if there shall
not hereafter appear any Lawful Lett or Impediment, by reason
of any Pre-contract, Consanguinity, Affinity, or any other just Cause
whatsoever; but that *the above bounden John Willbridge*
and Margaret Brothman of Ermington
aford widow

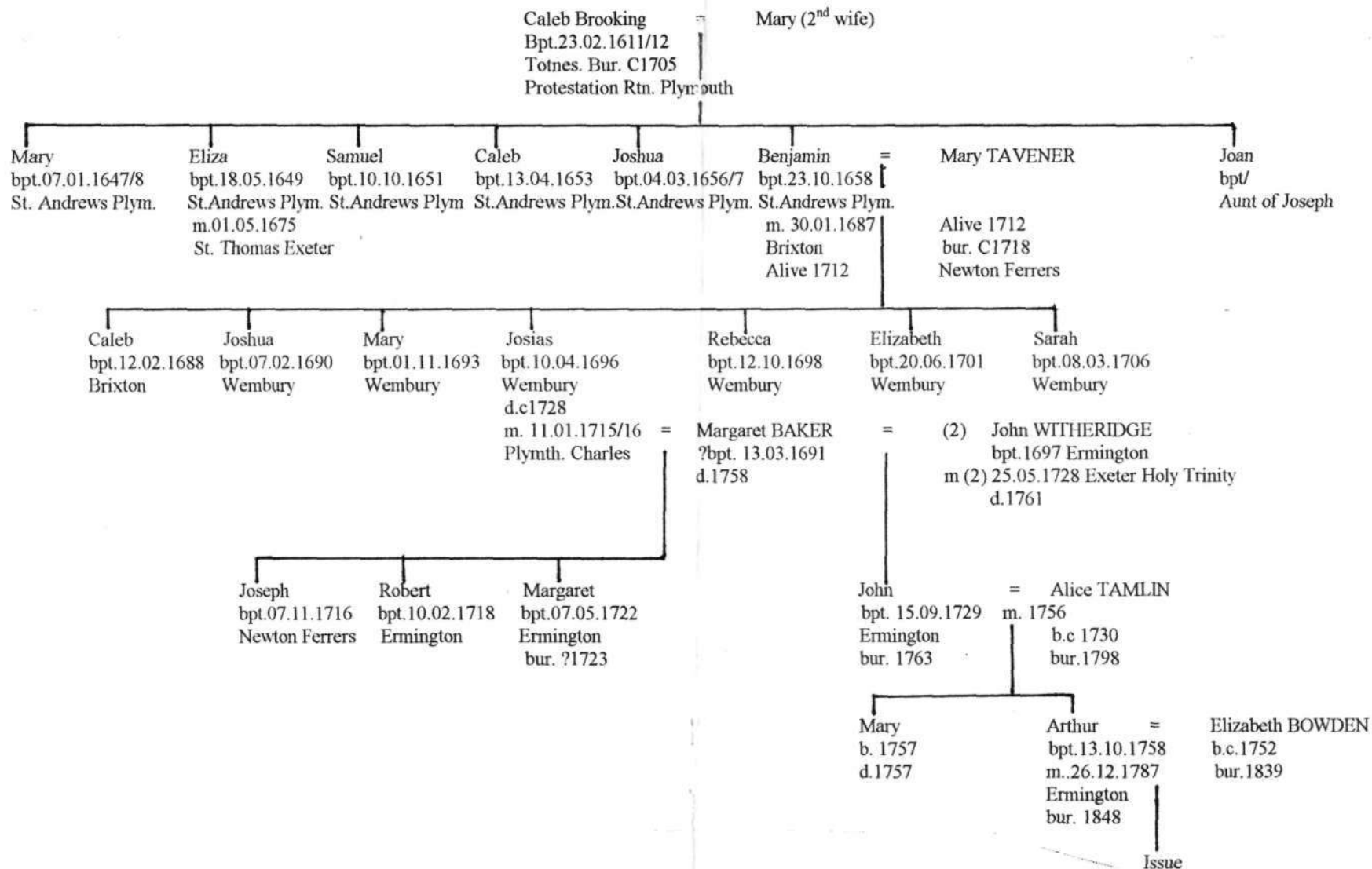
may lawfully Marry together; And that there is not any Suit depending
before any Judge Ecclesiastical or Civil, for or concerning any such Pre-
contract; And that the Consent of the Parents, or others the Governors
of the said Parties, be thereunto first had and obtain'd; And that they
cause their said Marriage to be openly solemnized in the Face of the
Parish Church of *Ermington aford*
between the Hours of Eight and Twelve of the Clock in the Forenoon;
And do and shall save harmless and keep indemnified the abovenam'd
St. Oswald of aford his Surrogates, and all other
his Officers, and Successors in Office, for and concerning the Premises:
That Then this Obligation to be Void and of none Effect, or else to re-
main in full Force and Virtue.

Signat', Sigillat', & Deliberat'
in praesentia

1720
John Willbridge *Ermington*

A BROOKING FAMILY TREE SHOWING THE FAMILY OF JOSIAS, HIS MARRIAGE TO MARGARET BAKER AND HER SUBSEQUENT MARRIAGE TO JOHN WITHERIDGE

Compiled by John Witheridge December, 1997



Robert, the second son, seems to have vanished. I have no record of his life, and I believe it is so for the Brooking Society.

The most interesting record is of the descendants of Joseph (the first son). I have been told by the Brooking Society archivist, Mrs Helen Allen, that Joseph's grandson (John Savery Brooking) took out a coat of Arms and he lived at Grove Hill, St. Giles Camberwell, Surrey, and also at East Worthele, Ermington. The sad point is that the male line died out in the next generation, but perhaps here might be a clue to the events after the death of Josias. Could there be a Will, passing on family fortune from Josias to his sons Joseph and possibly Robert? If so there may be an enclosure relating to Margaret his wife. Again, if this is so, it might hold the clue to the marriage at Exeter. More to the point why it needed to be there.

So it seems that in this instance we, the Witheridge family, have no real relationship with the Brooking family, except that these two families have been brought together through two marriages to the same lady (Margaret Brooking née Baker).

As yet I have no idea into which of the many Baker clans she was born. This of course means that we have relationships to the descendants of her surviving children from the original Brooking marriage, with the Baker line through Margaret herself, and through a half brother relationship to Joseph and Robert. As I have indicated above this male line is now extinct. I do wonder into which families did the surviving females marry? Wherever they are I certainly would like to make contact, though I doubt if time will ever allow me this luxury.

One other issue still remains to be researched. Why was Margaret Witheridge buried at Newton Ferrers? The Newton Ferrers parish register burial record reads "13th October, 1758, Margaret Witheridge of Ermington".

If you turn to the Witheridge Times, Volume 9 No. 3 Autumn 1995, page 14, you can read Joyce Browne's speculations on this subject.

The truth??? Dare I say it? No of course I can not, but speculate I must. I think that Margaret returned to her home area of Newton Ferrers to live, as her duty by those accursed poor laws that forced paupers to return to their place of birth to be a burden on the parish where they were born.

How could this terrible situation have arisen? Why did her Witheridge family not support her? John Witheridge was still alive.

The other argument could be that she was visiting relations, but this would not explain why she was not brought back to Ermington for burial.

She died before John her husband. He was quite wealthy by the standards of those days... were they estranged? Does the thought of estrangements and family feuds also relate to the marriage in Exeter? Why, Why, WHY?

Certainly Josias Brooking was a respected member of the local community and was very well off! Did Margaret bring their children with her to 'Keaton Holeacres' when she married John Witheridge, or did they live with their Brooking grandparents - or perhaps their Baker grandparents? This could explain the reason for her return to Newton Ferrers. It seems, as always in family history, you answer one question and find ten more to be answered.

Now to put a little meat on the bones of these characters from the Brooking family tree:-

Eliza, 1649, married a Caleb Raynolds in 1675 at Exeter St. Thomas

Samuel, 1651, resided in Madeira for 27 years and had accounts in Madeira, Lisbon and London. In his Will he left £200.0.0d to Benjamin, and also the interest on £800.0.0d to his nephews and nieces. He was described on documents AH851 as 'Sir Samuel'. He died in 1705 in Madeira and was buried in Newton Ferrers.

Joshua 1656/7 - a member of this family with extra interest to me. It is almost certain that Joshua was alive and living in St. Dunstan's, STEPNEY, LONDON, in the years up to 1696 when his Will was proved. He is known to have been a mariner. My interest is that my hero Captain Edward Witheridge and his family were also in Stepney at this same period. I wonder if the Brooking concerned was of the Quaker religion?

Benjamin, 1658, was the father of the family line to which we have connections. He is known to have been alive in 1687/88 and alive in 1712 (mentioned in a Will). Quote "He (Benjamin) is to be buried in such a manner as his mother and father should seem convenient. Will proved 1712.

Josias, 1696. Both in the register of his children's baptisms and in the Will of Caleb the reference is to Josiah and Margaret???. Probably a transcription error in those far off years. He was alive in 1705 to receive a bequest from his uncle Sir Samuel, and also in 1712 for the Will of brother Joshua.

With reference to John Savery Brooking, descendant of Josias, the name Savery was a reminder of Margaret Savery, daughter of Christopher Savery, alive in 1578. Margaret married Nicholas Brooking born 1520, Totnes, in the year circa 1645.

This same Nicholas Brooking was buried in Totnes 14th May, 1579. In 1560 he held a message within the gates at Totnes, No. 32 High Street. His wife Margaret was buried 6th August 1584, at Totnes.

Christopher, the first born of Nicholas and Margaret née Savery was to become the first Mayor of Totnes in 1596 and MP for Totnes in 1603. The same Christopher was the father of Caleb, born 1611/12 at the head of the Brooking family tree shown.

By this you will see that the Brooking families were of quite a high status. This may have caused family frictions perhaps in a disputed marriage settlement. Perhaps there is a Will which might explain the situation at the death of Josias.

Step by step we are gaining information to explain the events and situations in the Brooking families and between the Witheridges and the Brookings. We must remain constant in this until the whole truth is uncovered.

I will be asking for more assistance from the Brooking Society concerning this research. Perhaps some time in the future we will combine to bring this episode of research to a satisfactory close.



LIGHT FROM DOWN UNDER

Information from Velma Metcalfe

(Velma has spent a long time searching the GRO Overseas Indexes which are now available at the National Library in New Zealand, and the results of her searches are printed here. This information is very valuable, as although some of it is negative, we now know which sources have been investigated, and it will save time for other researchers. It may also help to clear up some 'disappearances'! Many of these Indexes were unknown to me previously, and this makes the search even more interesting. I have commented where something is known about a person listed, and we would all appreciate any information about persons previously unknown to the Society. Thank you Velma! Editor)

The British Army in Australia 1788-1870

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO Army Chaplains Death Indices 1796-1880

No Wetheridge or Witheridge Entries

GRO Army Returns Service Department Deaths 1881-1965

Witheridge, Frederick. Age 28. Station Umballa Year 1902 Page246*

** This could be Frederick Witheridge of the Kent, London Birmingham family, son of Frederick Witheridge and Elizabeth Morgan, born 1874/5. Great Uncle to members Annette Witheridge and Dawn Edgington*

GRO Consular Death Indices 1849-1965

1926-1930 Witheridge, Charles R. Age 56 Station Trujillo. Vol 24 Page282*

**There appear to be at least three places named 'Trujillo' - one in Spain, which is probably the original, one in Peru and also one in Venezuela. Charles R. Witheridge could be Charles Roberts Witheridge, Combe Martin and Tyneside family, born 1874, son of Thomas Witheridge and Ann Serena Roberts, great uncle to members Charles Roberts Witheridge and Carol Goins.*

GRO Deaths Abroad Indices 1966-1994

1976 Witheridge, Charles William Age 41 Post Jedda Vol C. Page 0322*

1985 Wetheridge, Howice Albert Date of birth 05 DE 1923. Registration Alicante Post C/HC Page 0384#

** / have not found a birth record for Charles William Witheridge Who was he?*

- I suspect that this could be Horace A Wetheridge, born 1923, of the large Camberwell and Southwark Wetheridge family. Father Arthur J. Wetheridge, mother's name 'Hunt'

GRO War Deaths Army, Other Ranks 1914-1921

Witheridge, George. Rank Pte. No. 16812. Unit Devon. Year 1916 Vol.1.59. Page 180*

** We know that George was killed on the first day of the battle of the Somme,1916, and he is commemorated on the Thiepval memorial, and we are activeley engaged in trying to find his parentage.*

GRO War Deaths Army Officer Indices 1914-1921

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO War Deaths Navy All Ranks 1915-1921

Witheridge Frederick J. Rank Actg.Ldg.Sto. Ship Vanguard Year 1917. Vol RN Page 4305*

** Frederick was the son of Harry and Annie Witheridge of New South Wales, who lost three sons in WW I. For his story see Witheridge Times Spring 1988.*

GRO War Deaths Army Other Ranks 1939-1945

Witheridge, Norman A. Rank Pte. No. 5735270 Unit Queens R. Year 1945. Vol 7. Page 335*

Witheridge William H. Rank Pte. No. 5107917 Unit K., Year 1943. Vol 2 Page 411#

**Norman A. Witheridge, born 1922, Bridgwater, was the son of Harry Arthur Witheridge and Mabel Porter of the Ermington Bridgwater family, descended from Philip Witheridge and Mary Northmore. He was uncle to member Doreen Pedersen, Australia.*

William H. Witheridge was possibly from the Kent/London/Birmingham family, descended from James Henry Witheridge and Amelia Raven. We would like to know more about him.

GRO War Deaths Army Officer Indices 1939-1948

GRO War Deaths Naval Rating Indices 1939-1948

GRO War Deaths Naval Officer Indices 1939-1948

GRO War Deaths RAF All Ranks 1939-1948

GRO War Deaths Indian Services 1939-1948

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO Marine Deaths Indices 1837-1965

1881 Witheridge, Samuel. Age 30. Vessel Boadicea. Page 317*

1882 Witheridge, James. Age 63. Vessel Daisy. Page 98#.

* *Samuel Witheridge could be the son of Thomas Witheridge and Mary Ann Garry related to our members of the Wembury family.*

James Witheridge was the son of John Witheridge and Elizabeth Harris, great grandfather to members Catherine Houtz and Fenwick Witheridge, descended from the Berrynarbor/CombeMartin family.

GRO Regimental Birth Indices 1761-1924

Wetheridge, Caroline. Place Meerut. Year 1833. Regt. 11th L. Dgns. Vol.117 Page 57*

Wetheridge, William. Place Cawnpore. Year 1831. Regt. 11th L. Dgns. Vol 117 Page 52*

Wetheridge, Evelyn M. Place Devonport Year 1905. Regt. 11th. Vol.949. Page 100#

Wetheridge, Esther. Place Athlone. Year 1837. Vol.RA 16. Page 110*

* *Any information on Caroline and William Wetheridge and Esther Witheridge would be appreciated.*

Evelyn M. Witheridge was the daughter of John Northmore Witheridge and Mary J. Knight, Ermington family. She lived only two months. Evelyn was Aunt to member Brenda Dwyne.

GRO Regimental Birth Indices Sup. 1761-1924

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO Ionian Island Military Regt. Births 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Military Regt. Deaths 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Military Regt. Marriages 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Civil Regt. Births 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Civil Regt. Deaths 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Civil Regt. Marriages 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Chaplain's Regt. Births 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Chaplain's Regt. Deaths 1818-1864
GRO Ionian Island Chaplain's Regt. Marriages 1818-1864

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO Chaplain Returns Marriages 1796-1880

Wetheridge, William. Station Bengal Year 1830 Page 734*

Witheridge, Susanna. Station Bengal, Year 1838-1839 Page 259*

* *Any information would be appreciated*

GRO Army Marriages 1881-1965

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO Consul Marriages 1849-1965

1931-1935 Witheridge, Herbert W. Maiden name of mother Yates. Consulate Chefoo.
Volume 25. Page 70

GRO U.K. HC. Marriage 1950-1965

GRO Article 6/Article 18 Marriages to 1955

GRO Article 6/Article 18 Marriages 1956-1965

GRO Marriages abroad 1966 1994

GRO Army Marriages Within British Lines 1914-1925

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO Marine Births Indices Informal Certs.

1839 earliest. 1867 latest. No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO Marine Birth Indices 1837-1965

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO Air Births 1947-1965

GRO Air Deaths 1947-1965

GRO Air Deaths - Missing Persons Indices 1947-1965

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries in these records.

GRO High Commission Death Indices up to 1955

Covers period 1950-1955. No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO High Commission Death Indices 1956-1965
GRO Natal & South African Forces Deaths 1899-1902

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries

GRO Army Chaplain's Birth Indices 1796-1880

Wetheridge, Caroline. Station Meerut. Year 1833 Page 690

GRO Army Birth Indices 1881-1965

Wetheridge, Barbara A. Station Kohat Year 1932 Page 464

Wetheridge Diane V. Station Akrotiri Year 1964. (26) Page 140

GRO Consular Births 1849-1965

GRO U.K. H.C. Birth Indices Pre 1956

GRO U.K. H.C. Birth Indices to 1981

No Wetheridge or Witheridge entries.

GRO Births Abroad Indices 1966-1984

1972 Records. Date of Birth 12 SE Wetheridge, Paul Craig. Mother's maiden name Watson. Ref Post B.A.O.R. Vol F. Page 1650. 1973 Records Date of Birth 1972.

Wetheridge, Paul Craig. Mother's maiden name Watson. Ref Post Dusseldorf Vol C. Page 0872.

Date of birth 31 AUG. Wetheridge Angela Jane. Mother's maiden name Ferrone. Ref. Post Hanover Volume C. Page 2173.

Date of birth 07 NO. Wetheridge Ann Rose B.M. Mother's maiden name Burnard. Ref Post Amman. Vol C. Page 2658.

Date of birth 07 NO. Wetheridge Clare Mary M. Mother's maiden name Bumard. Ref. Post Amman. Vol C. Page 2658

1976 Records. Date of birth 13 OC. Wetheridge Sarah Jane. Mother's maiden name Gaul. Ref Post Hanover. Vol C. Page 1055.

1978 Records. Date of birth 12 JE. Wetheridge Marie Elizabeth. Mother's maiden name Gaul. Ref Post Hanover. Vol C. Page 1859.



EXTENDED WITHERIDGE/WHITERIGGE FAMILIES

by John Witheridge

In our Society we have in the past, perhaps subconsciously, drawn lines of demarcation. We have limited the variants of the Witheridge name to the few that we wish to handle in our research. You will all realise that I do not accept these restrictions and I have indeed had some success in over riding the lines of demarcation and proving for instance the connection of the Kent Witheridge/Whitteridges and that of Edward Witteridge who I proved to be Edward Witheridge, son of John Witheridge of the ship Eagle, and who, in my opinion, came to be our greatest and most well known family member.

When Ivor Witheridge from Canada joined our Society he brought many new ideas and instigated much new research among us. One point that he voiced was that tradition in his part of the Ermington family stated that there was or had been a "Sir Witheridge" - a Knight. Now to many this was quite an unsupported idea, but I thought the opposite, though not in this same context. So there again it was not quite so unsupported as it seemed. He was, I am sure, relating to his own ancestors and relations within the Ermington family, a family line from which I and many of the Society are descended. In fact Ivor and I are cousins sharing a 2 times great grandfather, Philip Witheridge born 1791, and his wife Mary Northmore.

On a visit to our President's house, possibly last year, Kim and I spoke of this - Kim not accepting the idea and myself saying that I seemed to remember some item or written word that would give some credence to Ivor's tradition.

I knew that I had made some reference to such a fact in my research jottings, but as it was so obscure, and I could not at that time find a second point of research to validate it, I pushed it to the back of my mind, and it was not itemised as a point of great import.

Well, much to my pleasure, I have validated that first claim, although I must admit it is not and will never be connected with the Ermington family branch and line, unless the connection was before year 1373 - but found one I certainly have!

For a long time we have known of the Cumbrian Whittriggess/Whitteriggs, rightly or wrongly eliminating them from our research. I have always argued that we should research any similar spelling to our name, even if it is only to prove that we have no connections. Similarly the same arguments arise with the Lancashire Whitridge family. Certainly when entries such as "Ellen Witheridge, daughter of William and Mary" baptised in 1827 at Liverpool are included in the IGI for that county we should follow up such events.

But now to the basis for this article - my proof!

Calendar Patent Roll. Edward III 1370-1374

March 1st 47th year of Edward the Third (1373 if my calculations are correct)

Commission of OYER and TERMINER to: -

THOMAS DE WHITERIGGE (Chivaler) and also to John De Whitrigg

(Research note - If John de Whitrigg is the son of Thomas there could have been two such Chivalers, for in some cases the rank would pass from father to son)

(Now please read the following carefully taking note of the names included, many of which the historian will readily recognise)

ROLLS 1373 Mar 14th Westminster.

Commission of OYER and TERMINER to

Henry de PERCY Roger de CLIFFORD Thomas de MUSGRAVE William de FYCHEDEN John MOUBRAY Thomas INGELBY Robert de BAMPTON Thomas de SANDEFORD Robert de ORMESHEUED John de DRENT

On Complaint by Thomas de WHITERIGGE (Chivaler). . . .that Thomas Brown, John Fox, Nicholas de Hyton, Robert de Newby, Thomas de Dalston, John Bruyn the younger, Peter Masondieu, William Pyper, Roland son of Henry, Robert Symson, Adam Mille, William Dobbeson, Henry de Ullesby, John Astyne, John Story and others came to his Manse at Whyterigs County Cumberland, and Broke his close and house. There assaulting him. Beseiged him in his Manse for a long time to kill him and his household. Continually making assaults as well by fire as by other warlike methods. Carried away his goods with 100L (£100.0s.0d) of his money by toll and assaulting his men and servants. FINE 100 shillings paid in the HANAPER.

It shows the seriousness of this claim that three Lords - PERCY, CLIFFORD and MUSGRAVE, sat in judgment. Possibly Sandeford was a knight, and possibly the other members of this court were also knights.

Sir Thomas de Whiterigge (Chivaler) lived at Whyterigs in Cumbria. Where was this? I have no idea! As yet I have no map that indicates such a town or village, but certainly there was a habitation of this name, hence the family name of Whiterigge.

If you disagree with this statement, then the only other conclusion can be that there was a link to the North Devon families of "Whetherige, John" from Bideford in the year 1759,

or "Whetheridg, Mary" 1623, from Barnstaple, or more extreme "Wytherydge, Wilmot" 1587, Alwington.

My aim in this article is to draw your attention to the name WHITERIGGE. Now surely this spelling is as near to the spelling of our name as you could wish for. In my opinion there is no doubt that both origins are the same, even if it is from a source going further back than into the landing of the Saxons. In the following paragraphs you will see the changes that take place to the name, making it into a totally unacceptable form of Whitridge, or WHITE-RIDGE, which I would under any other circumstance accept that it was not a variant of Witheridge, although in this case it must stand.

Sir Thomas Whiterigge probably had a son John (de Whitrigg) as mentioned in the Patent Roll. The earliest Wittrige in Cumbria previously known to us is:-

Jenneta or Jennet daughter of Johis Whitryge born 31t March 1570 at Saint Bees.

Margareta daughter of Johis Whitryge born 30th September, 1572 Saint Bees.

So we have two hundred years to fill before we can count these two separate families as one. More work for the future.

Here are some short trees from the county of Cumbria, most names duplicated in the adjoining county of Lancashire. This you can see from the second set of trees. Some people from the Manchester area were baptised or married in the Cathedral. This could mean that they were from respected trade or business families living in the City precincts.

You will note that the Cumbria families are from:- Saint Bees, Whicham, Bootle, Whitbeck, Gosforth, all villages a few miles in from the coastline between Whitehaven and Barrow in Furness. Where I wonder was "Whyterigs".

Mayda, my wife and better half, does quite a lot of research for me and the Society, often coming up with fantastic finds. Mayda has always been interested in pottery and porcelain. I suppose this is natural when you consider that she was born and raised in north Staffordshire - "The Potteries". Well, one day she found a potters' works and show room in Penrith, Cumbria - the name of the company? 'Whetheregges'!

Since hearing about this company from Mayda other members of our society have mentioned the same company name. Now we have a modern name to work back through time and into the Cumbrian histories of Whiterigge.

Watch this space!

NOTES ON CUMBRIAN ASPECTS OF EXTENDED WHITTERIGE FAMILIES

by the Editor

If we accept that Wetheridge/Witheridge family names stem from Saxon words meaning either a place where willows grow or a ridge where sheep run, it follows that families could be named for a location without being related to each other.

In Cumbrian dialect 'rig/rigge' means a hill ridge, and 'with' or 'wyth' a wood. 'Whytrigge' could literally mean 'the white hill' or ridge, or a hill with a wood. John thinks that perhaps we should look back further than the Saxon era.

Cumbria was home to ancient peoples. There are evidences of bronze and iron age occupation, and Celtic British settlements. Celtic influences are in the 'Pen' names - Penrith for example. The Romans made settlements and built fortifications, leaving their 'caster' names behind - Muncaster is one.

There is a tradition that in the sixth century Saint Kentigern from Cornwall preached at Crosthwaite, and the 'thwaite' names themselves reveal the presence of Norsemen and Vikings, but none of these helps us to find where the Manse of Whyterig was situated. We must also remember that in 1373 a court record would have been written by a man who spoke Norman French.

Nor does the complaint of Thomas de Witherigge (Chivaler) help us to pinpoint his family and ancestry. In the northern counties of England - Cumberland, Westmorland, and Northumberland, raids by armed gangs such as Sir Thomas describes were part of the uncertainties and horrors of life. The Roman Emperor Hadrian built a wall across England from the Tyne in the east to the Solway in the west to keep out raiding Scots. While the Roman garrisons were in occupation this was, in the main, effective, but after the departure of the Legions in the fifth century, the northern counties were at the mercy of marauding gangs from Scotland, and equally vicious robbers and thieves from their own side of the Border.

The names of the defendants in this Court record indicate that they were English. The family name of 'Story/Storey' became known as a clan of wild men and known raiders. Whole families lived by preying on other families, cattle rustling did not originate in the Wild West of America! Raiders would oust whole families from their land if they could.

In Cumbria and the northern counties family loyalty and family enmity was strong. A thought occurs that perhaps Thomas de Whiterigge was attacked not only for his possessions, but because he did not belong.

Despite the efforts of Kings and governments to stop it, organised raiding, robbing, destruction and killing continued, and came to a peak in the sixteenth century, only being contained in the seventeenth century, nearly three hundred years on from Thomas de Whiterigge's complaint.

Thomas' case was heard by a court of OYER and TERMINER. This was not a trial by jury but a sitting of judges appointed to HEAR and DETERMINE the truth of a matter.

As John has pointed out in his article, the men sitting in judgment were important people:- Henry de Percy was of famous family, Earls of Northumberland. His warrior son earned the nickname 'Harry Hotspur' perpetuated in fame by William Shakespeare. Henry de Percy had been appointed 'Warden of the Northern Marches' by Edward III. The Marches were border counties between England and Scotland and England and Wales, and one of the duties of a Warden was to keep the peace and stamp out the attacks by mounted armed raiders.

The Musgraves were a powerful Cumbrian family also with Warden's responsibilities for the western side of the county.

The Cliffords were a fighting family who led Cumbrian forces in attacks on the Scottish borders.

It is obvious that these judges knew what was going on in their counties, and they found the defendants guilty, and imposed a fine to be paid in 'HANAPER'.

A Hanaper was a Chancery official whose duty it was to record every action in common law, and record writs and fines paid. This title came about because the writs and fines were kept in a wickerwork box called a 'HANAPER' (our 'Hamper').

As John has said, there is a lot of history to be worked through as we try to connect Thomas of 1373 with the Witriges of St. Bees of 1570, and Cumbrian history is particularly colourful, so we should have an enjoyable search!



BOOKS HELD BY THE WITHERIDGE SOCIETY

BOOKS IN STORE AS FROM 1ST NOVEMBER, 1997

Any member wishing to borrow one of these books should send a stamped addressed envelope (A5 size) to JOHN WITHERIDGE, Secretary, at his new address shown inside the front cover of this magazine.

Basic Facts About: (Archives)	Susan B. Lumas	FFHS
Basic Facts About (Heraldry)	Iain Swinnerton	FFHS
Basic Facts About: Sources of Family History in Home	Iain Swinnerton	FFHS
Beginning Your Family History	George Pelling	FFHS

Books Held by the Witheridge Society continued.

Bishops Transcripts/Marriage Licences 4 ed.	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
British Genealogy Miscellaneous Journals	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
Census Returns 1841-1891 in Microform	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Cheshire. Genealogical Bibliography 1 and 2	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
Church Registers	Lillian Gibbons	FFHS
Civil Registration	Tom Wood	FFHS
Company & Business Records - Family Historians	Eric Probert	FFHS
Conversation of War Memorials		FFHS
Coroners' Records (England and Wales)	Jeremy Gibson/ Colin Rogers	FFHS
Current Publications (Microfiche) by Member Societies		FFHS
Current Publications (Microfiche) 4 th Ed.	John Perkins	FFHS
Current Publications by Member Societies	John Perkins	FFHS
Dating Old Photographs 2 nd Edition	Robert Pols	FFHS
English Genealogy	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
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Hampshire. Genealogical Bibliography	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
Handbook 1993/4		FFHS
Hatred Pursued Beyond the Grave	Jane Cox	
Heraldry for Family Historians	Iain Swinnerton	FFHS
How To Tackle Your Family History: Preliminary Guide		FFHS
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Londoners' Occupations	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
London & Middlesex Genealogical Bibliography	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
London & Middlesex " " " " Vol 2	Stuart Raymond	FFHS
Marriage, Census and Other Indexes 5 th & 6 th ed.	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Militia Lists and Musters 1757-1876	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Occupations: A Preliminary List	Joyce Culling	FFHS

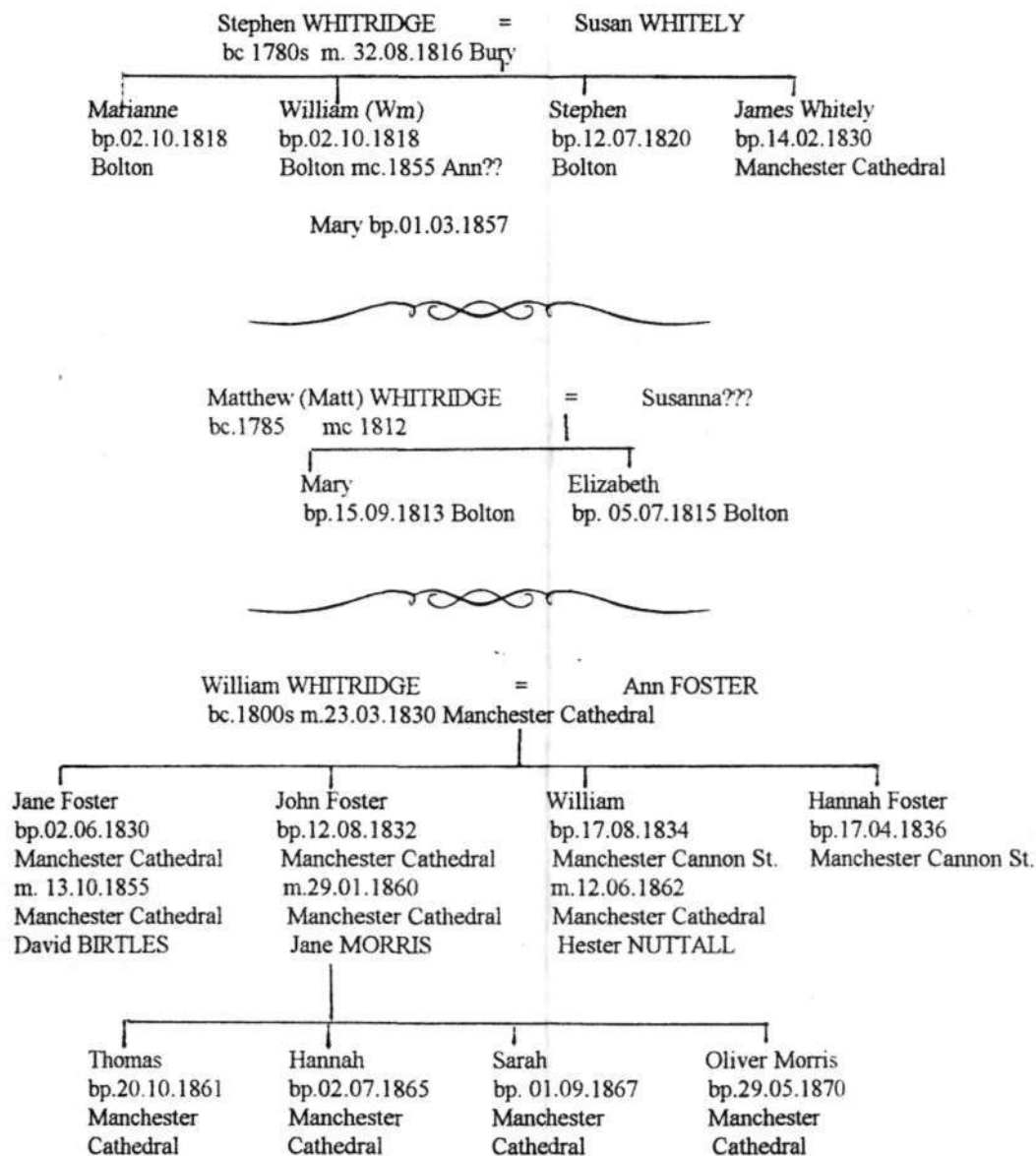
Books Held by the Witheridge Society continued.

Poor Law Documents Before 1834	Ann Cole	FFHS
Post Office Archives PRO Reader's Guide No. 4	Jane Cox	PRO
Probate Jurisdiction: Where to Look	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Probate Jurisdiction: Where to Look 4 th ed.	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Publishing Family History Journals		FFHS
Quarter Sessions Records	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Reading Old Title Deeds 2 nd ed.	Julian Cornwall	FFHS
Record Offices	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Register of One Name Studies 1993/4 10 th ed.		GOONS
Sources for Family History in the Home	Iain Swinnerton	FFHS
The Book of Trades vol 3 1818	Beryl Hurley	WFHS
The Family Historian's 'Enquire Within'	Pauline Saul	FFHS
The Hearth Tax and Stuart Tax Lists	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
The Protestation Returns 1641-42	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
The Surnames of Wales	J & S Rowlands	FFHS
Treasurers' Guide for F.H Societies	Peter Dewdney	FFHS
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Using Computers for Genealogy	David Hawgood	FFHS
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Using Newspapers and Periodicals	Colin Chapman	FFHS
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Victuallers' Licences Ed II	Jeremy Gibson	FFHS
Was Your Grandfather A Railwayman?	Tom Richards	FFHS
World War I Army Ancestry 3 rd ed.	Norman Holding	FFHS

John Witheridge

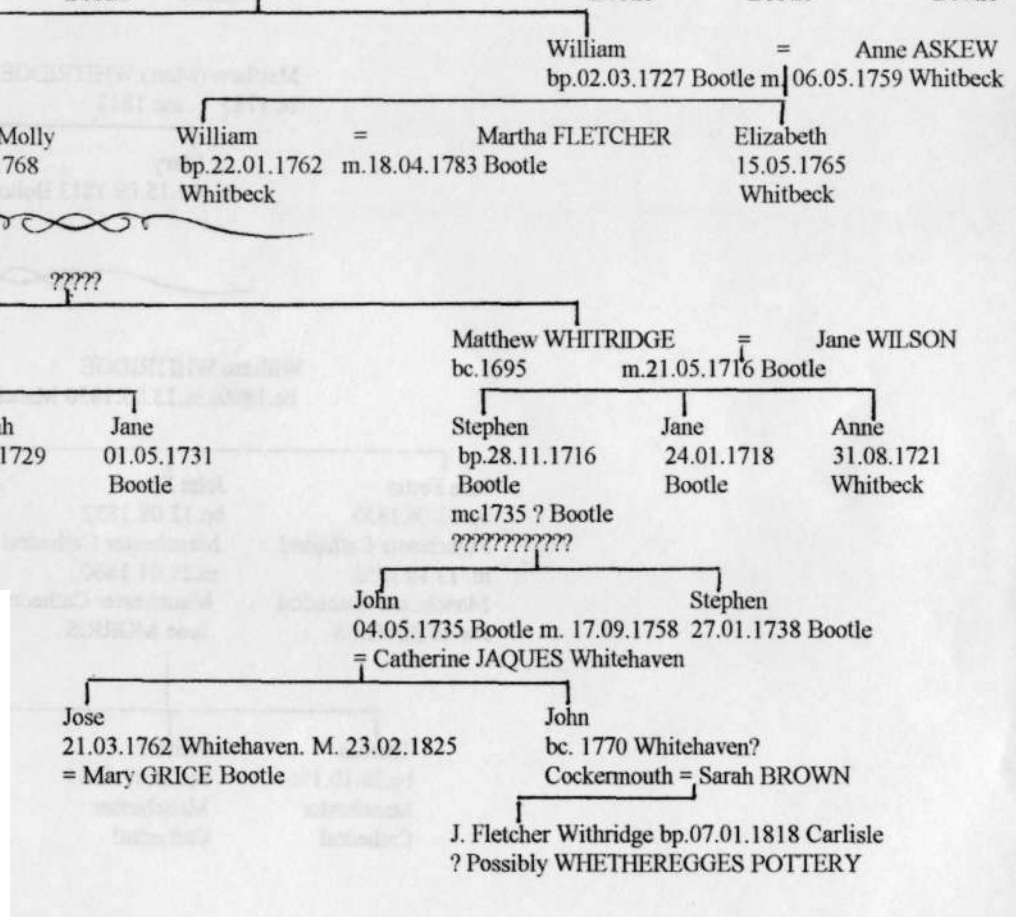
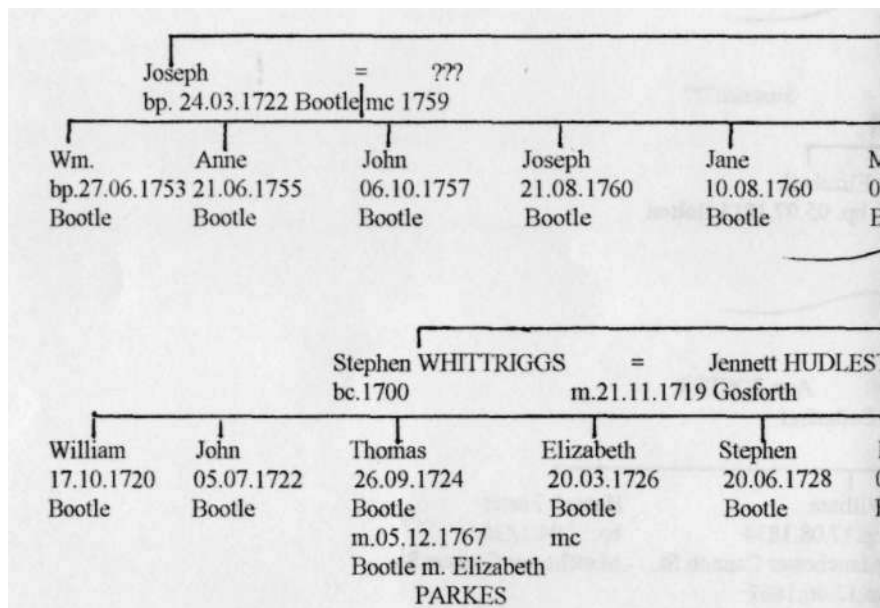
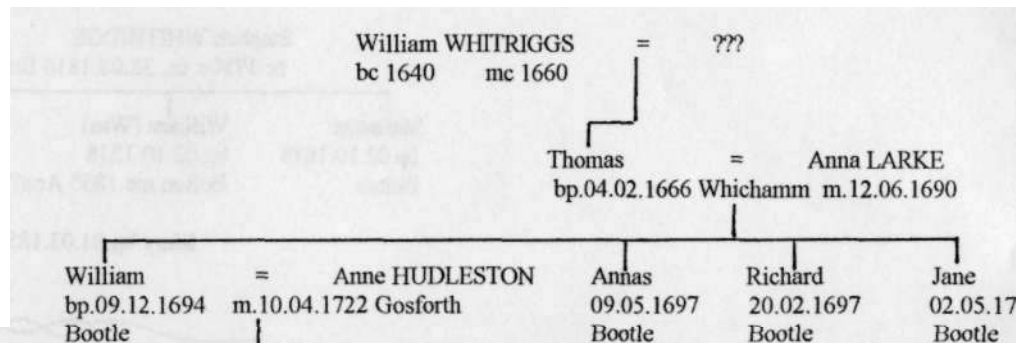
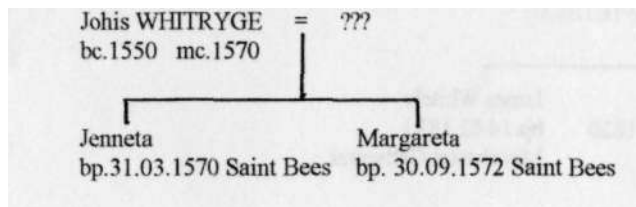
SOME WHITTRIDGES FROM LANCASHIRE

Compiled by John Witheridge from data available October. 1997



SHORT TREES FROM CUMBRIA

Compiled by John Witheridge from data available October. 1997



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