

SWINNERTON
Family History



Our new Chairman – Roger Swynnerton

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The Swinnerton Society

A non-profit making organisation devoted to the welfare of Swinnerton Church and the research and publication of Swinnerton Family Records

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SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

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Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton

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Foreword

This is my first report as Chairman, having had the honour of being elected at the AGM in June. Col. Iain Swinnerton had to stand down as Chairman after six years of sterling service. I am very glad to say that Iain was elected as President at the AGM, and he will still be very much involved in the Society. I am also very pleased to welcome three new members to the Council: Mary Vivash, Stuart Limb, and Alan Jones.

The Society faces some problems, perhaps the greatest of which is the loss of many members who have not renewed their subscriptions. I have to confess that I had forgotten to pay mine, until I was discreetly reminded. I know, therefore, that not renewing one's subscriptions is often a case of putting aside, or forgetting that letter from the membership secretary.

You can also help. If you know of any Swinnerton relatives, or people with Swinnerton connections, try and persuade them to join. The more members we have, the more there is to spend on our Journal and research, as well as helping St.Mary's Church, as we have done in the past.

This year, on the 22nd and 23rd September, there will be re-enactments of the Battle of Blore Heath, which took place in 1459. Blore Heath is two miles east of Market Drayton, in Staffordshire, on the A53. It is not far from Swinnerton. Blore Heath was the site of the first major battle of the English Wars of the Roses. Some 17,000 men, plus their families, gathered at Blore Heath and fought a very brutal battle.

Despite being outnumbered by three to one, the Yorkist leader used superior tactics and defeated the Lancastrian army led by Lord Audley, who was killed. What has this to do with the Swinnertons? The Rev. Brian Swynnerton, a vice-president of our society, lives very near the site of the battle, and takes a great interest in it. He informs me that many Swinnertons were in Lord Audley's retinue on the morning of the battle.

Re-runs of the battle are at 2 pm on Saturday and Sunday, and a memorial service will be held at Audley Cross on the Sunday. I will be there with my wife Elizabeth - our secretary - and we will be glad to see any friends who are able to attend. Please ring me or Elizabeth for more details, or if you are on the internet, search 'Blore Heath'.

Your Council will soon be planning next year's Gathering at Swinnerton on Saturday June 1st 2002. Our new Patron, Lord Thomas of Swynnerton (Hugh Swynnerton Thomas) has already promised to attend and give a lively speech. These gatherings are always enjoyed by everyone, and I am sure next year's will be no exception. Make a note in your diary now - June 1st 2002.

Roger Swynnerton

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swinnerton Society held in Swynnerton on Saturday 16th June 2001.

The Chairman, Iain Swinnerton, welcomed 12 members to the meeting. There was a special welcome to Mrs Limb, Stuart Limb and Audrey Cherry, who were attending for the first time

1.01 APOLOGIES. Apologies were received from Cynthia Howe (Treasurer), Elizabeth and Keith Livesey, Geoffrey Swinnerton (Membership Secretary) and the Revd. Brian Swynnerton.

2.01 MINUTES of the last AGM were read and signed.

3.01 MATTERS ARISING. "The Steeplechase Notes" still required illustrations before they can be published. Only 30 of the photographs of the Society Banner have been sold so far. It was suggested that they could be sold as Christmas cards, and also at next year's AGM

4.01 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Iain Swinnerton reported that the Council had met twice since the last AGM, in Newcastle-under-Lyme, and in London. He expressed his appreciation and thanks to Roy Talbot for all the hard work he had done in putting the family records on disc.

5.01 ARCHIVIST'S REPORT. Iain reported that there had been steady progress on two branches of the family. There is still discussion as to where Stuart Limb, our new member, fits into the family tree,

6.01 TREASURER'S REPORT. The Treasurer's Report was not available, due to the ill health and resignation of the Treasurer, Cynthia Howe.

7.01 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT. Due to the sickness of Geoffrey Swinnerton, the Membership Secretary, the report was given by the Chairman.

We have lost 8 members in England during the year, as well as 15 in America and 10 in Canada. The members in Canada have all been paid for in the past by one member who is now seriously ill. Members who have not paid their subscription since 1999 are no longer considered members. A few new members have been recruited, and we now have a membership of around 163, including our overseas members.

8.01 ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Our Patron, Sir Roger Swynnerton died during the year. Lord Thomas of Swynnerton has agreed to become Patron of the Society. His appointment was proposed by Roy Talbot, and seconded by Audrey Cherry.

Iain Swinnerton has been Chairman for 6 years, and now has to stand down. Roy Talbot proposed that Iain Swinnerton should now be President, and this was seconded by Alan Jones.

Ron Swinnerton proposed that Roger Swynnerton be Chairman to succeed Iain Swinnerton, and this was seconded by Rosemary Swinnerton.

Roy Talbot proposed that Elizabeth Swynnerton should continue as Secretary, and this was seconded by Stuart Limb.

Ron Swinnerton has completed 6 years on the Committee and now has to retire.

These changes left several vacancies on the Committee and the following new Council members were proposed by Roger Swynnerton and seconded by Roy Talbot to fill these vacancies: Stuart Limb, Alan Jones and Mary Vivash. The meeting agreed to all these proposals.

9.01 ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Ron Swinnerton was appointed Keeper of the Swinnerton Banner.

10.1 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT AGM. The AGM will take place as part of the Family Gathering at Swynnerton on Saturday June 1st 2002.

The AGM was adjourned until the next Council Meeting, when the reasurer's Report could be discussed and received.

MEET YOUR NEW CHAIRMAN - Roger Swynnerton

Roger, our newly appointed Chairman, was born in 1932, and has lived most of his life in Hampstead Garden Suburb in London, except for a period during the war, when he lived in Scotland with his mother and brother. His father was in the RAF, where he rose to the rank of Wing-Commander. Roger is a nephew of our late President, Marjorie Thomas.

Roger was educated at local primary schools in London and Scotland, and progressed to Haberdashers' Aske's Hampstead School. After leaving school, he qualified as a librarian and became a Fellow of the Library Association. He worked in various libraries in London, the last twenty-five years of his career were spent in Islington as Branch Librarian in several libraries.

Retirement has given Roger the opportunity to pursue his many interests. He now finds time to read books, and has continued his interests in theatre-going and visiting art galleries. He enjoys listening to music, and, strictly for his own pleasure, he plays the piano, and still takes lessons. He is a member of Finchley Art Society, and Hampstead Humanist Association.

Elizabeth Swynnerton

HABERDASHERS' ASKE'S SCHOOL

The school was founded in 1690, its income arising from an estate left in Trust to the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers by Robert Aske, citizen of London and master of the Haberdashers' Company. A haberdasher was a dealer in small items of dress. The Haberdashers' Company is a Livery Company or Guild of the City of London which has a very long history indeed. There are references to Guilds in the records of Alfred the Great and Edward the Confessor: they began as Fraternities but really came to power in the 11th and 12th centuries, when towns as we know them today began to develop, when they were formed to protect the interest of the various groups of skilled craftsmen. They also had a religious aspect in that the members of a trade, meeting together to do business, adopted a local church. The Haberdashers' Company was incorporated in 1448.

The term 'Livery' Company arose because, by the middle of the 14th century, the Guilds had begun to adopt distinctive coloured gowns to distinguish one from the other. There was an order of seniority, first drawn up in the time of Henry the VIII to avoid quarrels, the first group, of which the Haberdashers' was one, being known as the "Great Twelve". There are some 80 or so other "Minor Companies". The Heads of the early fraternities were known as *Aldermen*, a Saxon office that later became the political office we

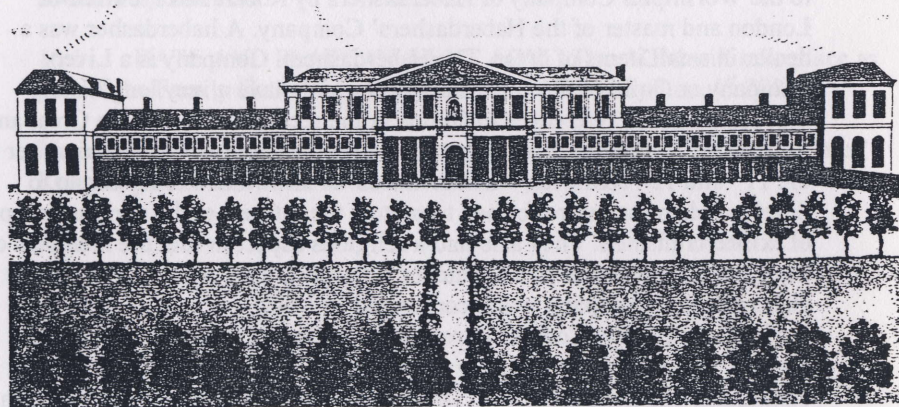
know today. The heads of the Guilds then became known as the Master and were assisted by four *Echevins* who are known today as Wardens.

Each Guild had a hall where it met: The oldest of these was that of the Merchant Taylors' which was acquired by a member of the Guild, a pavilion-maker to the King, in 1331. Before the building of the present-day Mansion House it was used for Lord Mayors' Banquets and it was in this hall that a sumptuous banquet was given to King James I that cost the enormous sum, for those days, of more than £1000. The host on that occasion was, of course, **Sir John Swinnerton**, Lord Mayor of London. Sadly, having mostly survived the Great Fire of London in 1666, which began in Pudding Lane, the home of the Basket Makers' Company, this famous building was destroyed in the Blitz on the 17th September, 1940.

The companies also undertook a great deal of charitable work. This included the founding and endowment of almshouses, charities and many famous schools throughout the country. The Haberdashers also founded the William Jones Schools; the Mercers were responsible for the start of Mercers' School and St. Paul's, the Grocers for Oundle, the Skinners for Tonbridge, the Brewers for Aldenham, the Fishmongers for Gresham School, Holt and, of course, Merchant Taylors by its eponymous company.

Girls were also cared for and, amongst others, the Drapers founded Howell's School, Denbigh.

One of the most notable acts of the Livery Companies was, of course, when, together with the Corporation of the City of London, they founded the City and Guilds of London Institute in 1880 to promote technical education and research with which, I am sure, many of you will be familiar.



Haberdashers' Company Almshouses at Hoxton, London in 1798



*The Coats of Arms of the Twelve Great Companies in 1667.
The School still uses these arms today.*

BIG CELEBRATIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

Rockley, New South Wales celebrates its 150th Anniversary.

"A member of a pioneering Rockley District family, Artie Nightingale, is looking forward to greeting old friends at the Town's 150th Anniversary celebrations tomorrow."

So read the introduction to a full page spread in the *Weekend Advocate* of Saturday March 31st 2001.

"Sesqui Centenary Committee President, Mr Nightingale, said a huge programme starts at 9.0am and his pet project the grand parade runs its course up "main street" from noon.

"Now 76, Mr Nightingale will relish seeing three surviving generations of the Nightingale family rubbing shoulders with about 3000 people who identify with Rockley's historic past.

"Rockley's one of the oldest settlements west of the Blue Mountains" Mr Nightingale said. "An old bushranging town".

"Many of the descendants of the original petitioners for the proclamation of the village in 1850, and for the first land purchasers in 1853, still reside in the area."

"Mr Nightingale will be heading three of five generations of his family attending non-stop festivities, reminiscing about their past when great-grand father Daniel Risley Nightingale arrived in the district in 1864 as the village blacksmith.

"A son of the "village smithy" and grandfather, also Daniel Nightingale, lived until he was 93 and died in 1940 after raising 10 children – four boys and six girls – making his name buying and selling land, becoming famous driving a five-horse dray bringing provisions from Sydney to Rockley.

"Mr Nightingale said his father, Arthur Ambrose Nightingale, was one of the four boys, he married Ellen Begley. Mr Nightingale was the second youngest in the family of six and was named after his father.

"We should have three generations of Nightingales at the Sesqui-Centenary" Mr Nightingale said.

"My wife Marge, two of three surviving sisters Sylvia and Mavis from Bathurst, my daughters Glenda Simpson and Leanne Stacker and grandchildren Emma and Bryce Stacker, and Lance and Jason Nightingale"

And now you will see our interest. "Marge" Nightingale is, of course, Marjorie Nightingale née Swinnerton who despatches our journals to all our Australian members and Glenda Simpson, her daughter, is our Australian Membership Secretary.

The article goes on to describe all the events that were taking place and says the committee has published a Rockley Gazette Sesqui-Centenary Edition as the official programme which also contains a history of Rockley. It finishes by saying that it will be a long day for Mr Nightingale starting with the 9.0am opening of exhibitions and stalls, 12.30pm parade, 2pm gymkhana, 6.30pm Barbecue and 7.0pm Bush Dance. Not bad for a 76 year old! Congratulations Arthur on your stamina and all your efforts. When I had supper with them last October, he never mentioned any of this!



PLAQUE: Artie Nightingale unveils the commemorative plaque at the Rockley Mill. 331PRO32

MISCELLANY

Our Membership Secretary, ever a proud Liverpudlian, has sent me a photograph of the Honours Board of the Head Boys of the Liverpool Institute School which shows that the last ever Head Boy before the school closed was I. Swinnerton 1984-85. Can anybody tell me who he was?

Geoffrey says the building has now been reopened as the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts by ex-Beatle Sir Paul McCartney who attended the school.

* * * * *

Peter Groom, father of our member Mrs Rebekah Hunt, visited Norfolk Island in October last year and found some interesting Swinnerton material which he very kindly copied out for us. Peter's late wife and Rebekah's mother was, of course, my cousin Esther Swinnerton.

Norfolk Island was discovered by Captain Cook in 1774 and was established as a settlement for dangerous convicts from New South Wales in 1790. It became a general penal colony in 1826 and closed in 1856. It was then colonised by free settlers from the Pitcairn Islands. It was administered by New South Wales from 1856-1896, by Tasmania from 1896-1913 and finally became a territory of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1913. It is situated in the Tasman Sea about 700 miles East of Brisbane and 400 miles north of New Zealand. Today it is a very popular holiday resort.

From a book researched and written by Norfolk Island residents describing and naming in full all those persons who were the original settlers (convicts, soldiers, settlers, administrators etc.) of Australia and its penal settlement at Botany Bay who subsequently served time or lived on Norfolk Island in any capacity we get:

THOMAS SWINERTON. Private. Marine 2nd (Portsmouth) Company. Served at Port Jackson in the company of Captain Watkin Tench. On 3rd January 1793 he received a grant of 80 acres at the Field of Mars. No later record has been found. Now although we know a good deal about Thomas, we did not know he had served on Norfolk Island.

* * * * *

We have now received from the Federation of Family History Societies, who regularly receive a copy of this Journal and microfiche it for their archives, a copy of the latest set of microfiche for our archives..

A NEW AUSTRALIAN CONNECTION.

Peter Groom also noted the following on Norfolk Island:

A brass plaque measuring approximately 3ft by 2ft above the main double doors to the Hospital and Dispensary in the township of Burnt Pine reads as follows.

“To the Glory of God and grateful memory of
CHARLES LESLEY SWINNERTON DUKE
FRCS(Eng). MD.

Government Medical Superintendent at Norfolk Island 1925-1938.
Honorary Medical Superintendent at this hospital who was largely responsible
For the foundation of this Hospital on Norfolk Island.

Peter tells me that Charles's son John and wife, Mary, Swinnerton Duke are still resident on the Island although they are now getting on. Mary Swinnerton Duke runs the Letl Art Gallery and sells paintings, pen and ink drawings, photographs, books and cards and she is rightly highly considered on the Island. Their address, (and a lovely home and garden it is overlooking the Pacific from a cliff top) is “The Nest”, Two Chimneys Road, Norfolk Island 2899.

Now this is very interesting because way back in 1991 I had a letter from a Peter Swinnerton Duke of Wollatoncroft (*sic*), New South Wales who had heard me being interviewed on ABC when I was lecturing at a conference in Tasmania. He told me that his family had used the name Swinnerton for several generations and understood the Duke family came from Chester and Liverpool. He said Joseph Duke married Elizabeth Newns 26 Dec 1809 at St. Oswald's, Chester and their second son, Joseph Duke, married Elizabeth Jones. Joseph and Elizabeth's eldest son, John Swinnerton Duke, was born in 1837 in Wales.

He said he had examined the Mormon Records (IGI) and the only likely reference was Emma Jane Duke marrying William Swinnerton 25 Dec 1850 at St. Nicholas, Liverpool. Family tradition said that the Dukes came from Chester and were descended from Thomas Duke who was Mayor of the city in 1770.

The IGI entry was correct except that William's full name was William Henry Swinnerton. He, like his elder brother Thomas, followed his father's profession of wood turner and French polisher. Their father, also William, was the eldest son of Joseph Swinnerton and Hannah Dod, progenitors of the junior branch of the Betley family which includes our new Patron and Chairman.

SOME UNKNOWN CONNECTIONS in KENT

Linton

John Swynderton = ?

John Swynderton Buried 1566	Alice Swynderton Baptised 1568
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Brekesbourne

Ellen Swinnerton = Rychard Davis
Bekesbourne 1568

Ulcombe

Edward Swinnerton = ?

Thomas Swinnerton Baptised 1603/4	Robert Swinnerton Baptised 1604/5	Ann Buried 1608
		Ann Buried 1639

Brenchley

Robert Swyventon
Buried 1615

Margery
Buried 1614/5

Robert Swyventon Baptised 1611/12	Thomas Swinerton Buried 1621
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Canterbury

William Swynnerton = Fridiswinde Hind
1620

Marbledown

Ann Swinnerton = William Dunkyn
1628

Nackington

(IGI says Canterbury. Marriage License says Nackington or Sellinge)

Thomas Swinnerton = Margaret Hales
Clerk 1640
Licensed in 1634 & 1637
Canterbury

William Swinnerton Baptised 1641 Hinkshill	Thomas Swinnerton Baptised 1642 Hinkshill
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AND SOME IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Nottingham

Thomas Swinnerton = Lydia Truman
19 November 1782

William Swinnerton Baptised 20 July 1783 Stanley	John Swinnerton Baptised 1 Sep 1785 Nottingham	Thomas Swinnerton Baptised 25 May 1787 Nottingham
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Mansfield

Thomas Swinnerton = Mary Kirby or Kirkby
20 April 1767

Ann Swinnerton
Baptised 1 Feb 1768

AND LANCASHIRE

Bolton

James Swinnerton = Sarah Airey

Richard Swinnerton
Born 25 Aug 1889

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There appears in the last journal an article apropos "the other Isle of Man family", or UF07 (unidentified family offshoot) as they are known to those of us whose life is spent slaving away over banks of hot Swinnerton Society computers. Included therein is a family tree, which is splendid, composed largely of Swinnertons without a single reference number between them which isn't. (*Editor's note: this is my fault, not Stuart's, I should have allocated numbers to them before publishing the tree*).

Said tree gives the descent to our member Stuart Limb from John Swinnerton of Hanley, china gilder, and the accompanying article provides suitable corroboration. Indeed Mr Limb has donated copious facsimiles of appropriate documents to the Society which will be placed in the Society's archives and are an excellent example of how it should be done. So far so good. Unfortunately tacked on to the top of this tree above John Swinnerton of Hanley, there appears another John Swinnerton married Martha Whittingham 1790 as the parents. No mention is made of Martha Whittingham anywhere in the text. Why Martha Whittingham? Why not Queen Victoria or the Duchess of Malfi? Martha did indeed have a son John (JS.76) married to Leah Massey in 1824 and hence the cratemakers of Hanley.

The text includes several observations pertinent to John, china gilder, for example 'a family assumption that it (his birthplace) was Liverpool' and 'Frances May Swinnerton remembered a "cousin" Charles staying with them'. It would seem reasonable that Charles was cousin to the householder (Joseph, son of John) rather than the resident little girl whose subsequent recollection this is. Rather than publish unreferenced family trees from randomly selected progenitors perhaps there might be merit in trying to match known facts. If there were a Charles who had a suitable Joseph son of John this would help. If the said John happened to live in Liverpool this would help even more.

An Account of the Family of Swynnerton is the original history of the family, of which a very few facsimile copies are still available from this society. One of its contributors was the Revd. Charles Swynnerton (CS.15) native of Douglas, Isle of Man. Page 161 of that work supplies the tree which includes the Revd. Charles himself. His cousins were, obviously, the children of his uncles. His uncles include John (JS.89) of whom he states "John, born at Newcastle, co. Stafford, 21 March 1804 who died in Liverpool leaving issue". The 1851 census entry kindly provided by Stuart states that John, potter gilder, was born in Staffordshire: Hanley. We note in passing that Revd. Charles had another uncle called Joseph and that his grandfather was Joseph and that consequently Joseph might make a good name for John Swinnerton of Hanley, china gilder, to call his son.

Note that to give credence to the Whittingham theory it is necessary to accept that she chose to name a son John, whilst already having a son John living. (*Editor's note: this was by no means an unusual practice particularly if the first one was sickly and not likely to survive into adulthood*). Further one has to believe that there is 'another Isle of Man family' – how much more likely that there was only ever one in the first place. By no stretch of the imagination does the above constitute proof of the cousinhood of Revd. Charles, but there is at least circumstantial evidence making JS.89 a rather more likely candidate as the father than the groom of Martha Whittingham or, indeed, Prince Albert.

Roy Talbot

Editor's comments.

Those of us who know him well will recognise this as vintage Roy: his use of an older style language and his sense of humour keep us much amused at Council Meetings. His (always beautifully hand-written) letters to me frequently begin "Honoured Sir" and end "Humble and obedient" reflecting the style of what was probably a more gracious period. However, as I have told him, it is of no use saying something ain't right unless you can submit a correct solution. Neither should one believe that the Revd. Charles or his co-author were infallible nor indeed the book itself – far from it, later research with better access to records has proved the point. Also, the Revd. Charles having "gone up in the world" when he became an Indian Army Chaplain tended to concentrate on his own branch and their better-off connections. For instance, although he knew of the Adbaston Swinnertons (I have his hand written notes) he left them out of the book completely probably because they were blacksmiths and thus in trade ignoring the fact that his own father was a stonemason! Perhaps that is why he left out the potters! Similarly, he changed the spelling of his name to Swynnerton.

After 47 years research I have not succeeded in finding any of these alleged descendants of his uncles so I shall be delighted if Roy succeeds where I have failed.

NEW CONTACTS

David J. Ball of 50 Park Avenue, Redcar, Cleveland got my name from the Family Tree Helpline - actually I don't know what that is, I must find out! He is researching his mother's family of Swindells, his maternal grandfather James Henry Swindells married Elizabeth Swinnerton in 1865 at Stafford.

Research in the census of 1841 shows that Elizabeth was born in Cornworthy in the parish of Dartmouth, Devon about 1838 and was the daughter of Thomas Swinnerton, a shoe maker and Harriet. Her marriage to James Henry Swindells took place in Stafford in 1865 and shows Thomas now as a Master Tanner.

Unfortunately, when asked to state where he was born in the 1851 census he merely said "Staffordshire" which isn't a great deal of help. Research is continuing.

* * * * *

Michael Gater of New Duston, Northampton advertised in a Cheshire Family History Magazine that he was interested in the 19th Century Swinnertons of Betley. I wrote to him and it turned out to be an easy one. His ancestor Charles Gater, tailor, widower, married Elizabeth Swinnerton, widow of Thomas Swinnerton (TS.18) of Betley on 23rd February 1789. Unfortunately, we have not yet found Elizabeth's maiden name because we do not have a record of the marriage of Thomas who was baptised at Barthomley on the 29th December 1733 and was buried at Betley on the 19th July 1772.

* * * * *

Roy Hayes of Wyches Farm, Soss Moss, Nether Alderley, Macclesfield was put in touch with me by the Guild of one-Name Studies as he thought, having remembered hearing me talk at a Family History Society meeting at Chelford (which is about 1 mile from Wyches Farm) about 10 years ago that there was a Swinnerton One-Name group. He was looking into the history of his home and found that the last Wyche occupant of the farm was Edward Wyche (1765-1843) the son of William Wyche and Mary Swynnerton.

His information on Mary was fairly limited but he knew from an old tree of the Wyches that she was a daughter of John and Mary Swynnerton of Stone and that it was said that John was *the owner of considerable property in Stone*.

At the moment, we have two possibilities for John and we hope to sort out the right one for Mr Hays.

ANN BAGOT'S DIARY (CONTINUED)

1824

July

When I came through Henley on my road here I went to see the Ashmolean Spring which mentioned in Plot it is now flowing rapidly the people have an idea its appearance is a scarcity.

17th

Went in the pony carriage to see the great Lime at Moore Park - met a gentleman who was admiring it who told me the oaks in the park had been pollarded by the Duchess of Mortmouth after her husband had been beheaded. I afterwards proceeded on a Botannizing expedition. I got lost and bogged and rather frightened but never the less enjoyed and found some plants.

31st

Went to Denham - found Lord Henley and Miss Eden just going to marry Edmund Hart. She is to be my neighbour I was glad to be acquainted with her. When I returned to Mefford I found Edward Levitt and his wife and rejoiced to meet an old friend.

Archery at Milford and Blithfield

August

6th

Wm. and I left Moneyhill at 4 o'clock and slept at Buckhill.

7th

Got to Pipe by dinner time and found Egerton and his wife. She had been very poorly so I was greatly to fear a miscarriage.

9th

Stayed another day at Pipe that I might be with his wife while Egerton went to the archery at Meredon where Wm. and I had parted on Saturday.

10th

Returned home Dulci Domo! Found things tolerably well considering my long absence.

15th

Went to church at Baswich.

16th

An archery party at Milford consisting of Talbots, Chetwynds, etc. etc. to about 30 - Dick Lady Harriet, they brought Hervey with them who won both Boys' prizes - Charlotte and the Ladies prize bows and arrows which was given by Wm.

19th

We all went to the Archery at Blithfield - the day was fine and very beautiful spectacle. Very splendid fête it was - about 150 people were present among them Lady Mark Kerr and her daughter. I was quite glad to see them and many others there assembled. Dear Honora looking very handsome and still very much admired upon the ground. Mr. Sneyd told me he had offered the living of Wolstanton to Ralph to hold for his son Watt: which he had accepted. We all return'd to Milford much pleased with our day.

21st

Honora brought me home. On our arrival in the Close we found a letter from Egerton giving a sad account of his poor wife but thinking Honora be of comfort to him he wished her to

25th

Better acct: from Pipe

29th

Went twice to the Cathedral. The Bishop (Ryder) presented for the first time since his accession to the sea

31st

Intended going to Pipe but were turned back by a message from Egerton on acc: of the illness of his wife.

A wet day for Archery at Byrkley Lodge

September

10th

Went with Miss Greaves to Holly Bush to the 3rd Archery meeting - the day beautiful, a very pleasant as well as grand assemblage in a spot where natural beauty and every luxury were united - Met the Levetts, Ansons Bagots Sneyds etc. Louisa Bagot and Lady Cecil Talbot both there though hardly come out. Lady Sheffield introduced her daughter Lady Anne Halroyd to me, said it was 42 years ago since she was at Blithfield how well I remember the time with Lord and Lady North then just left the Ministry - th rain came on at 5 o'clock which made the shooters draw for the prizes. We did not get home till after two.

11th

Lord & Lady Mark Kerr called upon me - After 6 o'clock I went to Milford to get myself out of the way of the races.

14th

Went with Lou to call on Mrs. Chetwode.

15th

Walked to call on Lady Chetwynd at Brocton. She is going for a time to Wolseley I shall miss her in my Milford walks.

19th

Return'd home. Called on Lady Selina Bridgeman in my way.

23rd

Went to Yoxall Lodge. Found the Palmers, Milford Levetts, and Leveson Lane beside the family party.

24th

Went to an archery meeting at Byrkley Lodge the day pouring with rain but the young ones shot from the verandah and Portico and enjoyed the conversation perhaps more than if the day had been propitious.

26th

Came home.

October

21st

Leveson took me with him to Packington. Met Mr. and Mrs. Disbrowe, Edward Levett and the Acklands, Mr. Proby Mr. and Mrs. Manley and a Mr. Campbell a young and well bred man but a great advocate for a savage life.

24th

Went in the morning to the Cathedral after church on my return home I saw the Levett carriage at the door - Louisa on her road to Moneyhill where Dearest Dico is ill of a

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fever. Levett had gone the day before. I got in the carriage with her and went to Coleshill where she pursued her journey. I got into a chaise and went to Pipe where at the door poor Egerton met me and told me his poor wife had had a relapse and was then in her bed. Mrs. Charles Thorley there, her husband gone to comfort Lord Sheffield. Wood the apothecary slept in the house.

Some children lost on the chase

25th

Saw poor Lizzy who was a little better her patience and sweet temper exemplary.

26th

Dr. De Lys came. Poor Dick very ill.

27th

Lizzy very bad and no better accts: of Dick.

28th

Dr. De Lys came. Lizzy sent for me and took what she believed a leave of me - I hope it will not be so - better acct: of Dick it was pleasant to have something to cheer me - Poor Egerton is the Kindest and best of nurses and of husbands.

30th

Drs. Johnson and De Lys both came. They pronounced her a little better - Dearest Dico out of danger - I left Pipe as I could be of no use. Egerton sent me in the little carriage Lady and Mr. Hartopp met me and good naturedly invited me into their carriage it beginning to rain very much, I gladly availed myself of it and sent home Egertons. They brought me to Lichfield.

November

1st

Went to Milford Kent coming to fetch me in the little carriage - I called at Brereton found Bess and Harriet who were packing up to go into Cheshire then at Ravenhill when I found poor Lady Selina Bridgeman and her 2 infants.

2nd

Very busy with the alteration of the approach. Louisa had begg'd I would overlook the planting of the Box etc. I ventured to alter the line of Stone wall which I thought decidedly wrong - heard of three little children having been lost on the chase and taking Anderson with me went to see if I could help the parents and a most bitter sense of distress I found - offered a little reward to recover them - the eldest boy of 6 years just brought back by his cousin a girl of 16 who had found him in the night at Hedgeford after a walk of 20 miles - the other 2 of 4 years old were not discovered till some hours after asleep and quite stiff in a Heath Bush at Hedgeford¹ - probably they wd: never have waked - The night though wet, not very cold.

3rd

Had intended coming home but Frances beg'd me to stay and I thought I should be of use about the approach Lord Talbot and Sir George Rich came to shoot - I ask'd Lord Talbot's advice who agreeing with me altered the line of the stable side and am now very anxious the Levetts should approve of the one I have taken. When they left

¹ The old pronunciation of Hednesford.

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Milford in distress about Dick they had not marked it.

Death of Mrs. Egerton Arden Bagot

4th

Came home leaving Frances well and happy, called at Hagley where I found Mr. and Mrs. Curzon - the latter still on her couch. Lady Bromley and Miss Curzon gone unluckily to Armitage Park.

9th

Kent came for me in the little carriage I went to Milford.

10th

Kent took me back from Milford - spent an hour at Hagley When I got home the Lane carriage met me and took me to King's Bromley where I had the comfort of finding my Kind old friend much better.

14th

Mr. Lane Newton brought me home.

16th

Heard from Egerton of his poor wife's death - went immediately to Pipe found him struggling like a good man and a Christian with deep affliction. She had expired with out pain having suffered sadly before her death was not at that moment expected. Egerton was on one side of the bed and her faithful Robinson on the other.

20th

Levett came.

21st

Mr. and Mrs. Bridgeman being expected I thought it better to go as the house would be too full. Went on to Milford, dear Dico nearly recovered from his 21 days' fever at Moneyhill which had alarm'd us all so much - Thank God he is restored to us.

Anne goes to London

22nd

Went with Lou to Stafford to buy mourning.

27th

Louisa brought me home where Levett met us from Pipe.

30th

We set out and arrived just in time at Coleshill to meet Wm. from Pipe. I got into his carriage and put my maid with the girls (Almina and Mary Jane Phillimore) in another We slept at Buckhill that night having (gone) through such a rain the whole day as is seldom seen.

31st [sic]

Not finding the Pe carriage at St. Albans I sent my maid to Dean's (?) Hill with the Pe's Wm. came to Moneyhill where I had the satisfaction of finding Martha better than I left her 18 months ago a close prisoner on her couch.

December

25th

Christmas Day. I should perhaps have preferred being at Elford with the Howards and Levetts but on the other hand am thankful I am not in the solitary home on this day.

1825

January

1st

At Rickmansworth with Wm. Martha. God bless them.

2nd

Went to church. May this year of a lesser jubilee be one to me and mine! May we be thoroughly and rightly thankful to the giver of All good for all the blessings he may give us in the course of it and be resigned to any events which in our blindness we may call evil and oh! that in the course of it it might bring entire peace.

15th

After a nervous anxious day of waiting Mary Swinnerton arrived at 9 o'clock at night.

20th

Honora and Charlotte Legge came.

24th

Came to Park Street. My journey had been put off for a few days for my own selfish gratification of seeing Honora and Mary Swinnerton. Alas I did not know how ill she (Aunt Harriet) was or that she was ill at all till it was too late her letters to me having been as good as possible - it has indeed been a most sudden failure of a powerful mind and a very strong constitution. I fear she will not know me but as it is not long since she said she could depend on my Kindness I will not leave her home again while she is in it.

Death of the last of Sir Walter Wagstaffe² Bagot's children.

25th

At Seven o'clock an alteration took place. I did not leave dear Aunt Harriet's Bedside except for a few minutes till ½ past eleven when she expired and I closed her eyes! there ended a well spent life of nearly 82 years, there ended the last generation, the last of the children of Sir Walter!²⁵

Sir Charles Bagot came - just landed from Brussels. I was glad to see him. Phillimore Lady Liverpool called. Francis came as I was sitting down to dinner.

26th

Sir Charles came in the morning. I enjoyed the visit and conversation I had with him. Francis went by my recommendation to dine at Fife house. Phillimore good naturedly drank tea with me.

27th

She is in her coffin and looks so placid and so as if her spirit was blessed, it is a pleasure, more than pleasure, a satisfaction, a happy foretaste to see her.

² Sir Walter Bagot married Lady Barbara Legge in 1724. They had 20 children.

28th

Mortimer's clerke came and said the will was here (?) We sent for Sir Charles and a partial search was made, we found so much money that we were quite surprised so much appearance at least, for we did not count it and in so many places that Sir Charles intended would stay after the funeral till Lord Bagot to whom it belongs as residuary legatee would. We did not however find the Will. I am thankful that nobody but ourselves have any id there is any money in the house.

30th

Francis read prayers at home.

31st

It is almost necessary I should have a little air. Bob came and was kindly anxious I should. She promised not to leave the front drawing room till I return'd. I went to see Robin shut up with an ague at Whitehall.

February

Mortimer and Turner came as arranged by Lord Bagot. No will was found. We found 3 in cash and notes - I had a very irksome morning in sealing up many things which had to go to all my Aunts, many letters, some of my own which would have been rightly improper left to the inspection of strangers.

Aunt Harriet's hearse leaves for Blithfield

- In the morning I had seen the hearse drive from the house³ of which my respected Aunt had been an inhabitant for 56 years. Aye, such another generation of which she was the last will not speedily be found. Bab and Lady Liverpool came - after many hours hard work I got late into a carriage and went to Walthamstow where I found Mrs. Bagot and the 5 girls all well and happy and prosperous.

3rd

A very great relief to find myself here.

Went to the Infant school - I was so much delighted I should like much to be able to get one at Lichfield.

4th

Honora and Charlotte Legge came from Moneyhill - it was pleasant to be able to talk over all that had happened since we parted.

8th

Went to Dagham. Sir Thomas sent his carriage all the way and his horses half - I found him, my kind old friend Digby Caroline and Charlotte all as friendly and cordial as ever.

March

5th

Dined at Rocketts. When Lord North was told by some boyd at the ancient musicke that he did not attend it as frequently as his brother did he answered "I am not half as deaf as he is" When he, Lord North saw Mrs. Digby put down her trumpet at the concert he said "How I envy you, you can take a spoonful when you like".

³ The Park St. house in which the Miss Bagots lived.

The last two pages were left for the Annual Accounts but unfortunately, through illness, they were not ready when the journal had to go to the printers. They will be sent for insertion with the next issue.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER 2000

	Y/E 2000	(Y/E 1999)
Closing Stock	817.90	277.97
Subscriptions	1061.84	630.40
Xfer from USA	300.00	nil
IT Repayments	nil	577.70
Bank Interest	4.70	3.64
Building Soc Int	0.83	n/k.
Donations	343.56	550.00
Sales	29.00	42.50
Gathering Receipts	nil	1420.50
	2557.83	3502.71

Opening Stock	277.97	320.47
Subscriptions:		
GOONS	12.00	12.00
FFHS	61.80	41.90
GRD	18.70	19.25
Archive Material	nil	24.00
Journal: Printing and Postage	536.53	368.75
Research	45.50	235.49
Donations	60.00	900.00
Wreath and Gift	50.47	nil
Purchases	361.67	nil
Gathering expenses	nil	797.80
DPA	nil	75.00
AGM	13.50	nil
SURPLUS	1119.69	708.05
	2557.83	3502.71

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	Y/E 2000	(Y/E 1999)
Computers b/f	932.08	278.13
additions	208.69	653.95
Fiche Printer	100.00	100.00
Flag	125.73	125.73
Bibles	55.00	55.00
Stock	817.90	277.97
1881 Census	522.95	522.95
Topogr Dictionary	95.00	95.00
Tapestry	394.23	394.23
Balance: Bank	971.75	601.51
Building Society	51.05	50.22
Petty Cash	1.85	1.85
	4276.23	3156.54

	Y/E 2000	(Y/E 1999)
Surplus b/f	3106.54	2398.49
surplus of year	1119.69	708.05
Surplus c/f	4226.23	3106.54

Loan	50.00	50.00
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