

The Holliday Family Tree Newsletter

N I C K Y S T E P N E Y

THE CHALLENGE OF RESEARCHING OUR HOLLIDAY ANCESTORS!!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The challenge of researching our Holliday ancestors!	1
The Village of Long Wittenham	1
Long Wittenham Village continued	2
Thomas Holliday & Mary Warner	3
The influence of the Warner surname	4
George, Ann, Sophia & James Holliday	5
Edward Holliday & Catherine Greenwood & their descendants	6-7
Descendants of Thomas Holliday & Mary Warner—a family tree	8-9
More Descendants of Edward & Catherine	10-12
History of Parsonage Farm House, East Hagbourne	13-14
More about our Caudwell ancestors	15
Acknowledgements & more Photos from the Album	16

I can't believe it's been more than six months since I wrote my last newsletter! There have been a few reasons for why I missed out on writing December's issue, not least that this particular branch of the family I have been researching this time has proven to be really challenging. However, I am now back on top form and ready to catch up on lost time and hope you enjoy reading about my latest finds. There are still a number of puzzles that I have not yet solved for this newsletter, because as you know unless I can find documentary evidence to support an old family story, I won't write about it, so I may have to come back in later issues to give you updates. In March 2009 I wrote about James Holliday from whom all of our Holliday family directly descend. I am returning to James in this newsletter to tell you about his parents, Thomas and Mary and James' brothers and sisters and their descendants. You will see that there are one or two gaps in the information, but I do hope one day to be able to fill in some of these blanks.

Our first big family celebration so far this year has been the 18th birthday of our eldest daughter Rachel. Her birthday fell over a weekend so we were able to celebrate over a few days. Aside from Rachel spending time with her friends and going out clubbing, we had a lovely family lunch on the Sunday, complete with balloons, banners and cake! Thanks to the family who helped make it such a special occasion for Rachel.



Rachel (on the left) on her 18th birthday with best friend Katherine

THE VILLAGE OF LONG WITTENHAM



Watercolour painting by Wilfred Ball of a thatched cottage in the village of Long Wittenham

Long Wittenham is a village in Oxfordshire, just under five miles from East Hagbourne. I have chosen to show you Long Wittenham this time as it is the birthplace of a Catherine Greenwood who married one of James Holliday's brothers at the turn of the nineteenth century. We have no other connection to the village than through this marriage, but it is such a pretty place that it seemed like the ideal time to tell you about it.

VILLAGE OF LONG WITTENHAM, OXFORDSHIRE



An important building in the village of Long Wittenham is Cruck Cottage on the north side of the High Street, which dates from the 14th century and is believed to be the oldest house in South Oxfordshire. The cruck frame was restored in 1974. Originally this was a single storey, open hall house, without a chimney, which was added during the reign of Elizabeth 1.

As well as Cruck Cottage, there are six other cruck-framed buildings in the village which maybe 600 or more years old!

In nearby Little Wittenham, just over a footbridge over the River Thames, is Day's Lock, which is well known locally for the Annual Pooh Sticks World Championships. The event is inspired by A.A. Milne's tale about Winnie the Pooh and raises funds for charity. It involves dropping a stick into the river and seeing how long it takes to get to the finish line. Teams from across the world visit this village to take part in this event.

ST MARY'S CHURCH



The Cross at Long Wittenham – St Birinus is said to have preached from the steps in the 7th Century, bringing Christianity to the heathen locals.



The parish church in the village of Long Wittenham is St Mary's, which is standing on the same site as its Saxon predecessor. St Mary's was begun around the year 1120, but as with most churches of this age, it has been substantially altered over the years.



THOMAS HOLLIDAY (c1745-1799) AND MARY WARNER (c1745-1798)

Thomas Holliday, father of James Holliday, who I wrote about in March 2009, was born in East Hagbourne in approximately 1745. I say approximately, because this is before the time of civil registration and we have only parish church records to really look at to find out when our ancestors were christened, got married and were buried. Civil registration did not come into existence in England and Wales until 1837 and so we have to rely on these church records to give us the details. In Thomas's case, it would appear that he was christened in East Hagbourne on 9 April 1776 when he was an adult, so 1745 is an approximate date of birth.

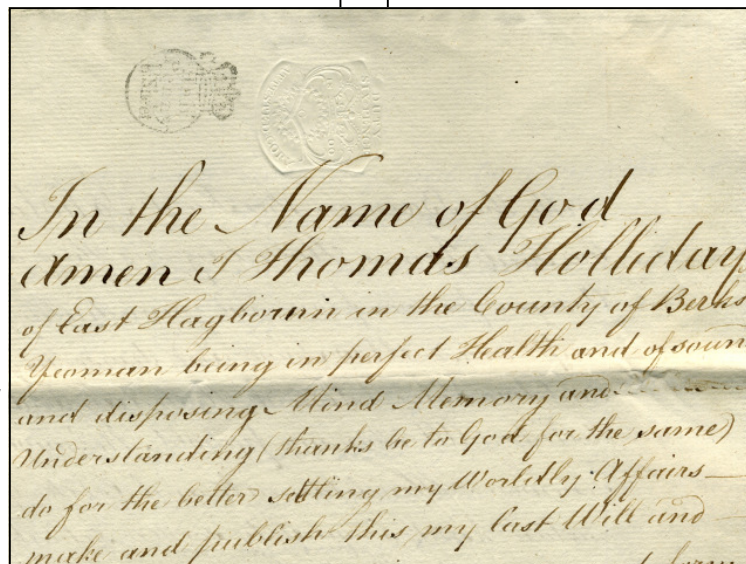
From family documents, I know that Thomas Holliday married Mary Warner, although I have to say I have as yet not found a record of their marriage. It looks as if Mary's family were originally from London, so it's possible that they were married in the parish of Mary's birth or it could just be that their marriage was never recorded, as was often the case during this time. Taking into account that their first child was born in 1767, they may have got married somewhere between 1765 and 1767.

Thomas and Mary had five children, one being James who I have already written about and the other four I will tell you what I know about them on pages (5-6).

I know very little about Thomas and Mary's life, as no census was taken until 1841 that is of any use to researchers and by this time Thomas and Mary were long dead. As most of us know, however, the majority of the Hollidays from East Hagbourne and surrounding villages were farmers and so farming would have been very central to their way of life.

When Thomas wrote his will on 17 August 1798 he referred to himself as a yeoman. I have often thought that a yeoman and farmer were one and the same thing, but having looked up their definitions there is a difference. A farmer is one who cultivates farm land, whether he be the owner of the land or not and a yeoman is of a slightly more elevated social status—a farmer who cultivates his own land, who is historically just below the status of gentry, but who also had political rights.

Thomas wrote his last Will and Testament whilst of sound mind and it was written just a month after his wife Mary had been buried in the grounds of St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne on 23 July 1798. Thomas's Will was witnessed by two people, including John Scolts who was the vicar of St Andrew's Church at the time. The majority of Thomas's estate was left to his sons, but I will go into this in more detail when I write about them later.



In the Name of God
I, Thomas Holliday
of East Hagbourne in the County of Bucks
Yeoman being in perfect Health and of sound
and disposing Mind Memory and
Understanding (thanks be to God for the same)
do for the better settling my worldly Affairs
make and publish this my last Will and

Thomas died not many months after he had made his Will and he was buried on the 9 January 1799 in the same churchyard as his wife. Whether he was ill and knew he did not have much time left or maybe he just wanted to put his financial affairs in order after his wife died, we will never know, as no death certificate would have been written and unless an entry was made in a parish record of the cause of death, it is impossible to find out. I have tried looking for both Thomas and Mary's graves in the churchyard, but some of the inscriptions on the stones are so worn away it is near impossible to identify exactly where they are buried.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE WARNER SURNAME

I would imagine that most of the immediate family reading this newsletter, are aware of the use of the name Warner within the Holliday branch. It has been used as a christian name on two occasions that I know of during the last 150 years, but have you ever wondered where the name came from and why it has been so influential over the generations?

More recently David Holliday's father John Holliday (1883-1972) was given the middle name Warner when he was christened and I believe he was always known by this name as opposed to his first name. A little further back in our family history there was a James Warner Holliday born in 1859, son of John Holliday and Elizabeth Caudwell. As I have mentioned in a previous newsletter this little James didn't live very long and died when he was only 6 months old and is buried with his parents in East Hagbourne.

However, as I have been researching back through the Holliday line I have come across quite a few documents that indicate the Warner name goes back much further than the late 1850s. As I have said on page 3, it was a Mary Warner who married Thomas Holliday in the 1760s and it is possible to see from the Wills that I have found, that this Mary Warner, by her marriage to Thomas, was partly instrumental in being responsible for the wealth and property that came into the Holliday family, certainly in the late 18th Century. The most detailed document I have come across, which gives us an idea of the extent of this, is the last Will and Testament of another Mary Warner, widow of East Hagbourne, who died and was buried in the village on 6 November 1797. By transcribing her Will and piecing together the names of the people she bequeathed her estate to, I have been able to start building a family tree of the Warner family and to work out their connection to our Holliday family.

This Mary Warner who died in 1797 had been widowed in 1772. Her husband had been James Warner of St James, Westminster in London and also of East Hagbourne and was from a line of Warners that had obviously owned many properties in different counties up and down the country. Mary and James Warner had no children of their own and James's two brothers John and Benjamin appeared to have died relatively young also living no issue. James had two sisters, but again, I have not found any evidence that they had children. James's Will written in 1772 therefore left the majority of his estate (a large amount of which he had inherited from his brother John, including all his estate and lands situated in Hagbourne, Oxfordshire and Middlesex) in trust to his wife Mary.

I would imagine that Mary Warner had moved to East Hagbourne from London, after the death of her husband, because when she wrote her Will in 1796 she described herself as a widow from the village.

Perhaps she came to live with her niece Mary Warner who had married Thomas Holliday. Bearing in mind that Mary Warner was a widow when she died and she had no children, her first and main bequest was to Thomas Holliday and her niece Mary, his wife.

She left to them all her freehold 'messuages' and 'tenaments' (land, buildings and other assets of a property) situated in East Hagbourne, during their joint lives and the lives of the survivors of them. The rest of her property (including houses in Bridge Street in Convent Garden and Lancaster Court in Westminster) and money was distributed amongst Thomas and Mary's children and other nieces that she had.

She also left the sum of £20 to the Rector of St Leonards in Wallingford and to her two servant maids who were living with her at the time of her death, £5 each. She also bequeathed the sum of £5 to be distributed in bread amongst the poor of East Hagbourne, which would be at the discretion of her executor. Finally, the rest and residue of her household goods, money, plates, diamonds and 'chattels' (personal property) and personal estate which remained after all her funeral debts had been paid, were left to her niece Mary Holliday who was also appointed sole executor of her Will.

When you read in the next few pages how Mary Warner was also generous to Thomas and Mary's children, you will see why I believe the Warners had a big influence on the Holliday family back in the 1800s. Quite when the relationship between the Hollidays and the Warners was first forged, I really can't be sure, but I am certain they must have been very close. The friendship may have even brought about the marriage between Thomas Holliday and Mary Warner.

I can tell you, however that as far back as 1718, William Warner (James and John's father) who was a pastry cook from London, bought from Hugh Keate of East Hagbourne, for the total sum of £3,300 the site of the Rectory of East Hagbourne in Berkshire. This included "*lands, meadows, pastures and commons with all rights of way called the Glebe lands and also all the one yard land containing by estimation nine-teen acres and one half and yard land and a half of arable land and two acres and a half of meadow. This to include all houses, outhouses, buildings, pigeon houses, malthouse, barns, stables, backside yards, orchards, gardens, watercourses, paths, passages, trees, woods, underwoods, hedges, ditches mounds, fences, and stables*".

As I think you will agree, the Warners were a family of some considerable wealth and maybe if James and Mary had have had children of their own, the financial situation could have been so different for our Holliday ancestors living in Hagbourne during the 19th century!

GEORGE, ANN, SOPHIA AND JAMES HOLLIDAY

GEORGE HOLLIDAY (1767–1830)

George was the eldest son born to Thomas and Mary Holliday in 1767. He was christened at St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne on 26 December 1767. George was apprenticed by a Mr Warner (it may have been James Warner, but I am not sure) into the leather trade industry. George used to make leather breeches. According to the East Hagbourne Village website there is evidence of a tannery dating from the 1600s in the Main Road near Upper Cross, so perhaps there is some proof to back up this family story.

The closure of the many smaller tanneries during the latter part of the 18th century suggests that they had found it increasingly difficult to compete with the more efficient tanneries in London and the Midlands. Tanning was a capital intensive industry, for the tanning process could take over a year to complete and an economic depression in 1810 when George was in his early 40s, gave rise to many bankruptcies. In addition, the poor standards of the roads in the area presented the tanners with the difficult problem of transporting the finished products.

When Mary Warner died in 1797 and George was thirty years old, she left him all her freehold estate and adjoining land in the village of Cole Overton in the County of Leicester *'to hold to him forever and for his heirs'*. I found some notes written by an unknown hand that said that George had come into an estate but had reportedly been cheated out of it by his lawyers. I have no proof to back up this story, but I will try to find out more. If George did actually inherit this estate, I have no idea whether he lived there at any time or perhaps sold it. In 1799 when George's father Thomas Holliday died, George was not mentioned in his Will at all, even though he was his eldest son. I can only deduce that, assuming they had not fallen out, that it was because George had already been provided for by his great aunt Mary Warner, that Thomas did not leave anything to George.

George never married and for some years he lived with his brother James until he married Ann Loder in 1807 and then George moved into the Parsonage Farm with his brother Edward until George's death in 1830. George had written his last Will and Testament in 1819 and in it he bequeathed £600 to his younger brother James and to Edward he made him his sole executor and left him all his public stocks, funds, personal estate after all his debts and funeral expenses had been paid. The solicitors were Hedges of Wallingford. George was buried in East Hagbourne on 9 January 1830.

ANN HOLLIDAY (1768–??)

Ann was the next child born to Thomas and Mary and she was christened in East Hagbourne on 9 October 1768. Ann is one of the Holliday ancestors who is giving me a real headache trying to find out more about. Having said this, I am not giving up, as I feel there could be a real story behind this person. All handwritten notes I have discovered amongst the numerous documents that Pat Holliday gave to me a few years ago, have always contained remnants of truth in what has been written, even if I might have had to dig a bit further to find it. Perhaps the same can be said about what is written about Ann. She is supposed to have married a Joseph or John Lousley who *"sold his estate at West Hagbourne and with the proceeds, together with about £6,000 given by the Warner family, purchased another estate in Minchinhampton, near Lechlade in Gloucestershire, where Ann died. She had two daughters, one of whom died a spinster and the other married a parson who had all her money"*

I have never found a marriage record for Ann, although a boy John Lousley was born to parents John and Ann Lousley in East Hagbourne in 1800, which would justify a marriage to a Lousley. Unfortunately the little boy died on 27 December 1800 and was buried in the churchyard in Blewbury, nr Hagbourne on 1 January 1801. Inside the church is an inscription that reads:

"In memory of John Lousley who died 27 December 1800 aged 6 months. Sweet innocence's form lies here, lamented by his parents dear - who hope at last in endless joy, to meet again their lovely boy"

When Mary Warner wrote her Will in 1796 she left her great niece Ann Holliday (which shows by using her maiden name that Ann was still unmarried at the time) shares in bank annuities with dividends—which could account for the £6,000 mentioned above. Like her brother George, Ann wasn't mentioned in her father's Will at all either. Perhaps she had already married and was well provided for by this time.

SOPHIA HOLLIDAY (1773-1773)

Sophia was the fourth child born but died when she was just a few months old. She was buried in East Hagbourne on 11 August 1773.

JAMES HOLLIDAY (1778-1848)

James was the last child born to Thomas & Mary and I wrote about him in March 2009.

EDWARD HOLLIDAY (1770-1836) AND CATHERINE GREENWOOD (1779-1812)

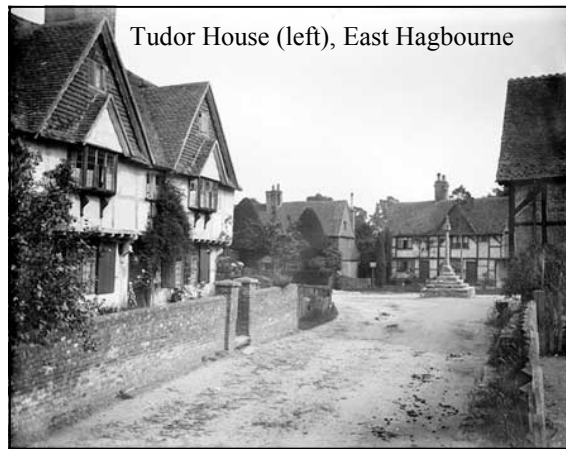
Edward was Thomas and Mary's third child and he was christened in East Hagbourne on 26 August 1770.

Mary Warner, when she died in 1797, left George Holliday with the sum of £200 in trust for Edward. She also did the same for Edward's younger brother James who I wrote about in a previous newsletter.

Edward's father Thomas left property in East Hagbourne to him when he died, along with the household goods and furniture which had belonged to the late Mrs Mary Warner. The remainder of Thomas's goods, chattels, money, after funeral debts were paid, and his personal estate to be divided equally between the two brothers—'*share and share alike*'. Thomas also appointed his two sons Edward and James as joint executors of his last Will and Testament.

Two years after the death of his father, Edward married Catherine Greenwood on 16 June 1801 in St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne. They had three children, Thomas (born 1802), Emma (born 1804) and John (born 1810).

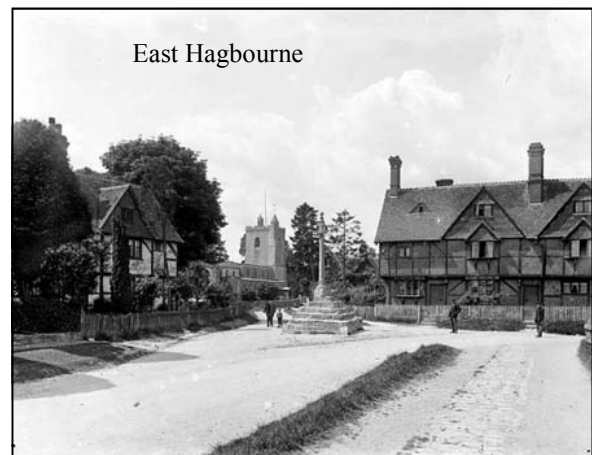
In 1830 when Edward's brother George died, Edward received an inheritance from him, but it would seem as if Edward's farm had already been mortgaged to Hedges the solicitors in Wallingford and therefore Edward's share of the inheritance was retained to pay off his debt. Edward died in 1836 and was buried in East Hagbourne on 29 April.



Tudor House (left), East Hagbourne

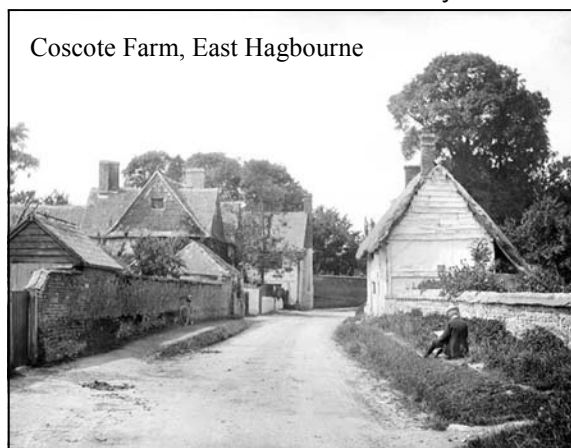
On my last visit to the Berkshire Record Office, I was looking in the Coroner's Inquisition index and discovered that when Edward died the coroner had to carry out an inquisition to look into the cause of death. I would imagine that this was because Edward up until the time of his death had been in good health and probably died quite suddenly. The inquisition was dated 25 April 1836 and the verdict was given as VOG—which apparently stood for '*visitation of God*' - in other words '*death by natural causes and/or old age—with cause of death not specified*'.

Catherine Greenwood, Edward's wife was born in the village of Long Wittenham and was christened on the 28 March 1779.



East Hagbourne

Catherine, like Edward, came from a family of farmers. Her parents were also called Thomas and Mary. Catherine had a brother Alexander who died when he was just a couple of years old, a brother John who was christened in 1776 and a sister Charlotte Ann. Charlotte married John Bristow, also a farmer, by licence in East Hagbourne on 22 December 1803.



Coscote Farm, East Hagbourne

Catherine died aged just 33 years old, three months before her youngest son John died. Catherine was buried in the grounds of St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne on 6 June 1812.

You can read about Edward and Catherine's children and grandchildren on pages 7 and 10-12.

DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD HOLLIDAY & CATHERINE GREENWOOD

THOMAS HOLLIDAY (1802–1862)

The first child born to Edward and Catherine was Thomas and as the first grandson (certainly that lived into adulthood) he was named after his grandfather Thomas. Thomas was christened in East Hagbourne on 5 January 1802. Thomas married Martha Breach, daughter of a doctor from the village of Aston Upthorpe on 11 January 1834, by licence, at St Michael & All Angels Church in Aston Tirrold.

Thomas and Martha had two daughters, Martha Ann Holliday christened on 13 February 1836 and Rhoda Holliday christened on 22 January 1838.

These were the only two children that Thomas and Mary had together, as Mary died in 1839 and was buried in East Hagbourne on 20 August.

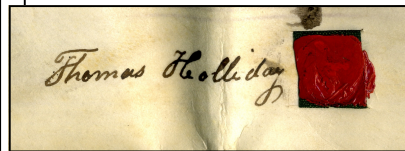
By the time of the 1841 census Thomas had married again, this time to a Mary Norris. They had married in 1840 in Thanet in Kent. Thomas and Mary were shown living in East Hagbourne on the night of the census with Thomas's two daughters Martha Ann and Rhoda.

In my second newsletter I shared a song with you called "*Ringing the Changes*" which was written about Thomas Holliday and Cyrus Pither who were the two churchwardens at St Andrew's at the time. I would imagine that Thomas was a real stickler for discipline, as I have come across several documents whereby Thomas has complained about and reported on incidents of petty theft and ill-doings, including on 15 April 1842 a report that "*a quantity of bricks were feloniously stolen, taken and carried away from the farmyard in the occupation of the informant East Hagborne aforesaid and that he hath probable cause to suspect and doth suspect that Jesse Prior of East Hagborne, labourer did feloniously steal, take and carry away the same*".

Between 1842 and 1850, Thomas and Mary had six children, George Thomas (1842), Norris (1844), Emily (1845), Alice (1847) Mary Jane (1848) and Louisa (1850), but by the next census in 1851, Thomas had been widowed again. His wife Mary had died and been buried on 11 May 1850. In 1851 Thomas was still farming land in East Hagbourne. In fact he was farming 180 acres and was employing 10 labourers to help him. Most of his children were all living with him, those from both marriages. Also staying in the house was Caroline Breach, an unmarried 25 year old visitor. Caroline

was probably a relative of Thomas's first wife Martha. Perhaps she came to stay after his wife died to help with the younger children. His daughter Rhoda was living in Wallingford.

A little while after the census was taken, Thomas and his family had moved to 'Farm House' in Bix, Oxfordshire because on January 1855, Jackson's Oxford Journal reported that a "*Henry Stevens aged 37 years was charged with stealing a sack of wheat and other articles, property of Thomas Holliday, his master at Bix*". Henry got a six months prison sentence for his crime. Thomas was still living in Bix by 1861 and was farming 255 acres and employing 4 men. Living with him were his unmarried children. When Thomas died in January 1862 at the age of 60, he was residing at 'Bottom House Farm'.



Sample of Thomas's signature in 1851

Martha Ann Holliday (1836–1895)

By 1871 Thomas's eldest daughter Martha Ann, by his first marriage to Martha, had married a butcher from Surrey called John Evered Cottrell. They had three children, John, Rhoda and Edith. Staying with them in Abingdon on the night the census was taken was also living Martha Ann's two sisters Rhoda Holliday and Mary Jane Holliday. Ten years later in 1881, Martha Ann's husband John was dead and she was head of the household and also a butcher by trade. Two other children, Ada and Emily appeared on this census having been born in 1872 and 1875, but Rhoda had disappeared—she died in September 1871 aged 3 years.

In 1891 Martha Ann was still living in Abingdon with her son John and daughter Emily—John appeared to have taken up the trade of butchery as well. Martha Ann died in 1895 in the Abingdon district aged 57 years.

Rhoda Holliday (1837–?)

Rhoda was the second and final child born to Thomas and Martha Holliday. She was born in East Hagbourne and was christened on 22 January 1838. On the 1851 census when she was about 13 years old Rhoda was living in St Martin's Street in Wallingford. She was a school student living in

MORE DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD HOLLIDAY & CATHERINE GREENWOOD

a household with two other students, a governess and a teacher. By 1861 Rhoda had returned to live with her family at the farm in Bix, Oxfordshire and in 1871 she was staying with her sister Martha Ann and her family in Abingdon. After this census the trail goes cold and I can't find any more on Rhoda.

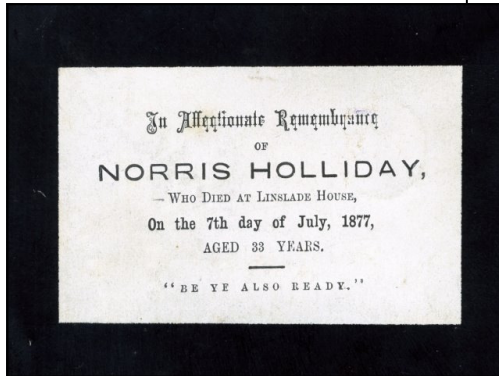
George Thomas Holliday (1842— ?)

George Thomas was the first child born to Thomas Holliday and Mary Norris. George was born in 1842 in East Hagbourne and christened in the church on 24 August 1843. George remained living at home with his father assisting him on the farm in both Hagbourne and Bix up until 1861. Again, after 1861 I can find no details on George Thomas.

Norris Holliday (1844-1877)

Norris was born in 1844 in East Hagbourne and was christened on 25 September 1845.

Like his elder brother George, Norris remained at home on the farm with his family and was 16 years old when the census of 1861 was



taken. Some time between 1861 and 1871 Norris had moved to Linslade, Leighton Buzzard in the county of Buckinghamshire. On the 1871 census Norris was unmarried and boarding at a house in Old Linslade Road owned by the Fergus family from Scotland. Robert Fergus, the head of the household was a Land Steward and Norris was working as a Foreman. Norris was only 33 years old when he died at Linslade House on 7 July 1877.



Linslade House
2007

Emily Holliday (1845—1905)

Emily was born in 1845 and christened on the same day as her brother Norris. Emily remained with her family until I found her on the 1871 census living as a boarder at 20 Park Square in Luton, Bedfordshire with the Grace family. Perhaps she had moved to be nearer to her brother Norris. Emily was working as an assistant in a confectioner's shop.

In 1878 Emily returned to Abingdon in Oxfordshire where her sisters Martha Ann, Rhoda and Mary Jane were living, to marry William Spiers from Linslade.

Three years later Emily and William were living at 'Corbetts Hill Farm', Leighton Buzzard. They were farming 94 acres and employing 1 man and 3 boys—they did not appear to have any children at this point.

By 1891 Emily and William were living at 'Stockgrove Walderick Farm', Soulbury, Leighton Buzzard. They now had two children William Norris (born 1883 in Leighton Buzzard) and Ernest Joshua (born 1886 in Soulbury, Bucks). Ten years later in 1901 they were still living on the same farm.

Emily died in 1905 in Leighton Buzzard aged 60 years.

Alice Holliday (1847 -1871)

Alice was born in 1847 in East Hagbourne and christened on 24 August 1847.

Alice married William Lewin in 1870 in Birmingham. In 1871 Alice appeared on the census as a housekeeper at 89 St Moor Street, Birmingham to the Head of household Mr John Cooper, a retail brewer. William, Alice's husband was not living there at the time.

A child, William Norris Lewin had been born in 1870 but had died at birth. Notice the middle name Norris again which was not only Alice's brother's name but also the maiden name of their mother Mary. I have been unable to find Alice on the 1881 census, but I have found a death of an Alice Lewin in Birmingham in December 1871 aged 24 years which would have made her birth year 1847—so this is very likely to be Alice.

Yet another Holliday line comes to an end!

MORE DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD HOLLIDAY AND CATHERINE GREENWOOD

Mary Jane Holliday (1848-?)

Mary Jane was born in 1848 and was christened on 22 August the same year in East Hagbourne. She remained at home with her father Thomas and the family until in 1871 I found her living with her sister Martha Ann in Abingdon.

It is unclear after this year what happens to Mary Jane as I can find no definite marriage or death record, but I will keep looking.

Louisa Holliday (1850- ?)

Louisa was the last child born to Thomas and Mary in 1850 and she was christened on 6 May in East Hagbourne.

In 1871 Louisa, an unmarried woman of 21 years was visiting the Cottrell family in the High Street, Thame in Oxfordshire. The family name of Cottrell is the same as that of Louisa's brother-in-law John who married Martha Ann, Louisa's sister. The head of the household in the High Street was a Walter Cottrell and he too was a butcher, so it is very likely that John and Walter were related.

Again, I cannot find a definite trace of Louisa after the 1871 census.



View of Upper High Street, Thame, Oxfordshire
1876

EMMA HOLLIDAY (1804—1876)

Emma was the second child born to Edward Holliday and Catherine Greenwood. Emma was born in East Hagbourne in 1804 and christened on 4 June in the same year.

Emma married Jonathan Elderfield from Harwell by licence on 21 July 1832 in St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne. The witnesses at the wedding were Thomas Holliday, the bride's brother and Martha Elderfield, relative of the groom.

In 1841 Jonathan and Emma were living in the parish of St Nicholas in Newbury in Berkshire. Jonathan was an Innkeeper by profession and they were living at the 'White Hart' with their three children; Emma (born 1833 in Harwell), Mary Catherine (born 1835 in Harwell) and Francis (born 1838 in Chilton)

By 1851 Emma was widowed, Jonathan having died in 1844. Emma and her three children plus a 22 year old servant Robert Chalk were living in Bartholomew Street in Newbury. Emma's profession was listed as a 'victualler' - this is an innkeeper or landlord who holds the license to run the pub and it is their job to ensure the financial success of the premises.

Ten years later in 1861 the family had moved to Millbrook in the county of Hampshire. Emma was now a shopkeeper and living with her was her 25 year old daughter Mary Catherine and her 23 year old son Francis who was now a Seaman. Eldest daughter Emma was not living with them.

By 1871 Emma was 60 years old and lodging with the Hallett family in Southampton, Hampshire. Emma died in Southampton in 1876.

Emma's eldest daughter Emma disappears after 1851 and I can find no more traces of her as yet.

The second daughter Mary Catherine remained at home with her mother up until at least 1861, but yet again, this daughter is also very elusive.

MORE DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD HOLLIDAY & CATHERINE GREENWOOD

Francis Elderfield (1838–1919)

Francis, Emma and Jonathan's only son has been much easier to trace through the census.

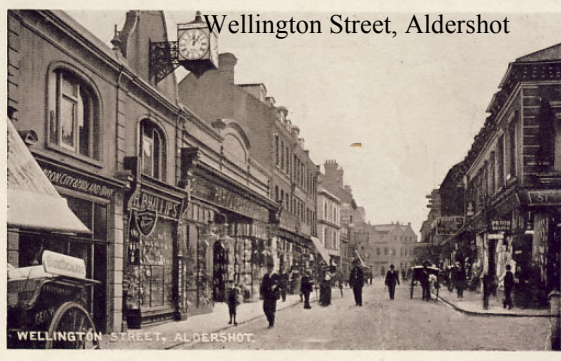
Francis was born in Chilton in the county of Berkshire in 1838. On the 1861 census aged 23 years, Francis was living at home with his mother and sister Mary Catherine in Millbrook, Hampshire. His profession was given as Seaman and yet by 1871 he was a photographer.

Francis had married Harriet M Scott in 1866 on the Isle of Wight and on the 1871 census I could see that they had two daughters, Amy Harriet born 1867 in Ryde and Alice Amelia born in 1868, also in Ryde on the Isle of Wight in Hampshire.

Staying with the family at their house in Victoria Road, Aldershot, county of Hampshire was 23 year old William Harris a visitor from Newmarket in Suffolk who was a watch maker.

By 1881 the family were still living in Aldershot but at 27 Wellington Street. Frances and Harriet now had a son called Francis who was 6 years old.

Francis was still a Photographer. Neither of the two daughters were living at home but I found



them living as boarders at 2 Sandringham Villas Preparatory School in Chiswick, Middlesex.

In 1891 the family were back living together but they had moved and were now living in South Street, Farnham in Surrey. Francis, the father was a photographic artist, his daughter Amy was a teacher of music. His other younger daughter Alice had no listed profession and Francis his 16 year old son was still at school. Francis Elderfield died in Farnham in 1919. aged 82 years.

Francis and Harriet's youngest son Francis went on to become an upholsterer, but I also found this record of his attestation paper dated 1902. An attestation paper is an agreement to be in the army and to be loyal to it. It is an agreement to serve and to be attached to any arm of the service for a certain amount of time.

ATTESTATION OF

No. 990 Name *F. Elderfield* Corp. *146.97*
Aldershot Troop, B. Squadron

Francis Elderfield
South St. Farnham Surrey

I. What is your name _____
II. Residence, private _____
III. Are you a British subject _____
IV. What is your age _____
V. What is your profession or calling _____
VI. Do you at the present time belong to any branch of His Majesty's Regular or Volunteer Forces _____
VII. Have you ever been discharged from any of His Majesty's Forces _____
VIII. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions, provided His Majesty should so long require your services _____
IX. For a term of _____ years

3

I, *Francis Elderfield*
being desirous of joining this Regiment, do hereby agree and undertake in case of my leaving the Regiment, or being discharged for misconduct or non-attendance, to forfeit and pay to such person the same laid down by Temporary Regulations, and that I will subscribe 2s. 6d. per annum to the Regimental Shooting Club, to be recovered from my pay, or in the same way as fines are recovered.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

"I, *Francis Elderfield*,
swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Edward VII., his Heirs and Successors, in Great Britain, and that I will as in duty bound faithfully serve and defend His Majesty, Heirs, and Successors, in person, crown, and dignity, and all in authority over me for the defence of the same against all his enemies and opposers whatever.—So help me God."

Date *July 28 1902* *Francis Elderfield*

**CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER OR
MAGISTRATE.**

The above-named *Francis Elderfield*
was examined by me, and the above questions were read to him in my presence.
I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered or replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at *Aldershot*
on this *28th* day of *July* 1902.
Henry F. Stoll
Signature of Attesting Officer or Magistrate.

JOHN HOLLIDAY (1810-1812)

The last child born to Edward and Catherine was a son John born in 1810 and christened on 24 June 1810. Sadly John died in 1812 and was buried in the grounds of St Andrew's church in East Hagbourne on 24 September.

HISTORY OF PARSONAGE FARM HOUSE, EAST HAGBOURNE

Parsonage Farm house in East Hagbourne was once lived in by a number of our Holliday ancestors. In my newsletter of March 2009, I showed you a photograph of this beautiful Georgian farmhouse which was taken in 1968.

I wrote to the present owner of Parsonage House explaining our connection and was delighted to receive an email from him back in January. He told me that he and his family have lived in the house for about 40 years and it was very special to them. He told me that the photograph taken in 1968 showed very little difference to how the house is today and they themselves have made few changes. The owner before them had also retained all the old features.

The owner knows little about the history of the house but has said that my contacting him has acted as a stimulus to find out more and that Mick and I would be very welcome to visit them for us to look around the house – which we certainly hope we will be able to arrange in the near future.

In the meantime, I have done some research to try and find out what I can about when our Holliday family lived there and who else has over the decades.

The first reference I could find to Parsonage Farm House once being connected to the Holliday family was in the last Will and Testament of Mary Warner who you will have read about on page 4 of this newsletter. In her Will of 1796 when she left her estate in East Hagbourne to Thomas Holliday, husband of her niece Mary, she referred to her estate as "*known by the name of the Parsonage*".

This could well be at the point when Parsonage Farm House was first inhabited by a Holliday—it certainly shows again how much was owed to the Warners. The house passed from Thomas to his son Edward and then down to Edward's son Thomas.

According to an old family document this Thomas Holliday sold Parsonage Farm to a James Morrison in 1852. I am not too clear here, but in 1853 it looks as if Parsonage Farm was then leased out for the next 15 years at a yearly rent of £170 to a John Pettitt. When Mr Pettitt died Stephen Dixon, an East Hagbourne farmer then took over the farm in 1860.

I then picked up more information, starting from the 1861 census, and found that the occupants of Parsonage Farm House for the next 60-70 years was the Dixon family. In 1861 Stephen Dixon was living there with his wife Sarah and their eight children; 4 sons and 4 daughters. Stephen was farming 196 acres and employing 7 men and 5 boys to help him.

By this time the railway had arrived and nearby Didcot was finding itself with an increasing shortage of housing for the railway workers and their families. In the mid 1860s Stephen Dixon was happy to satisfy the demand. It was he that began the urban housing development of Didcot New Town or North Hagbourne, which later became known as Northbourne. This had previously been anticipated in 1863 by the building of two terraces of five cottages known respectively as Marsh Cottages and Railway Terrace, sited next to former Marsh Bridge. The first eight houses of Northbourne were built in 1868 on land sold by Stephen Dixon. These fronted the south side of what was then known as Wallingford Road, now Lower Broadway, between High Street and Mereland Road. Then came two large groups of cottages in Church Street, built c 1870-71 by Dixon, one of which, on the south side, was called 'Dixon's Row'.

By April 1871 Stephen and Sarah were still living at Parsonage Farm, but Stephen was now farming 220 acres of land and was employing 10 labourers and 6 boys.

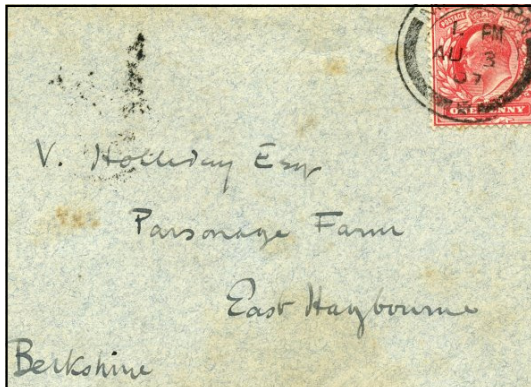
The Dixon family continued to thrive and do well for themselves and other streets were laid down in Didcot in the 1870's and 80's and given the modern road names in 1897. In 1880, the Northbourne development consisted of 65 houses, of which Dixon owned 20.

In 1881 although Stephen was farming less acreage than a decade before he was an employer of 19 men and 5 boys. By 1891 Stephen had been widowed but had married again to a Maria. Stephen was now 69 years of age and still farming, although no details are given about how many men he employed or the acreage of land that he farmed.

In 1901 the Dixons were still living at the Parsonage although Stephen was now dead and his son John had taken over the house and farm.

HISTORY OF PARSONAGE FARM HOUSE CONT'D... .

Sometime between 1901 and 1907 the Holliday family were again living at the Parsonage Farm as you can see from this envelope shown here. Vincent Holliday was living here in 1907 and he was the brother of Francis Holliday from whom all we Hollidays descend. Quite who of the Hollidays purchased the house I am unsure, but on the 1911 census Francis was



shown living at the Parsonage Farm and when I was looking on the Oxfordshire Record Office website, I found the following information

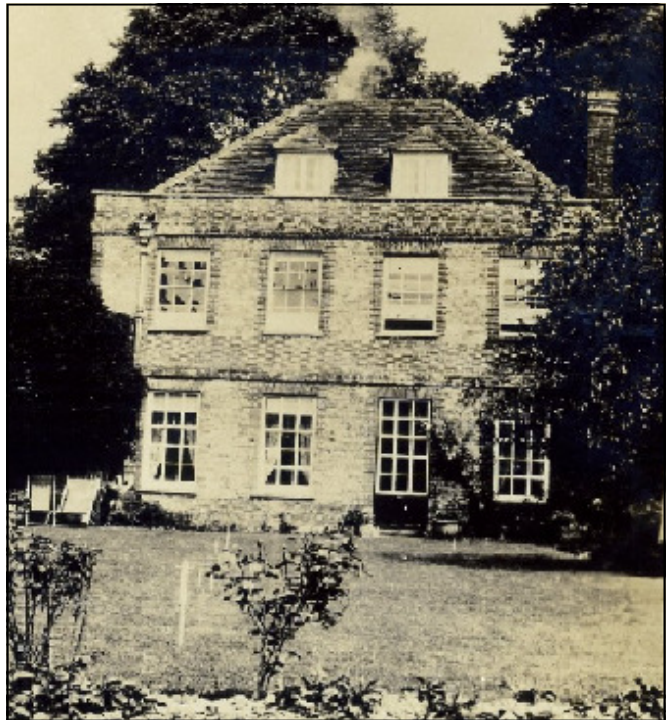
"The Parsonage, East Hagbourne, Berkshire..... particulars and conditions of sale, which Messrs Adkin, Belcher & Bowen are instructed by Francis Holliday, to offer for sale by auction at the "Lion" Hotel, Abingdon on Monday July 21st 1930 at 3.30 p.m. in one lot with possession".

Whether the house was sold at this time or not I am not too sure, but it was listed for sale again two years later in 1932 and I found these details about the house in the Berkshire Record Office.

TO BE SOLD

A comfortable Georgian Farmhouse, situated in the very pretty village of East Hagbourne, about 1 and a half miles from Didcot Junction, from whence there are frequent good trains to and from London. The property faces South and the accommodation comprises:-

Ground Floor: - Reception Room No 1 about 14' x 14'. Reception Room No 2 about 22' x 16'. Usual domestic offices comprising Kitchen, Scullery etc.
Above: - Bedroom No 1 about 18' x 17'. Bedroom No 2 about 15' x 15'. Bedroom No 3 about 15' x 15'. Bathroom. Bedroom No 4 about 15' x 13'. Dressing Room No 5 about 8' x 6'. Dressing Room No 6 about 8' x 6'. Bedroom No 7 about 18' x 12'. Bedroom No 8 about 15' x 14'.



Parsonage House, 1926

Bedroom No 9 about 12' x 12'.

Outside:- There is a Dairy, Wash house, Coalhouse. Etc.

The Grounds comprise lawn, flower beds & borders, kitchen garden with wall and other fruit trees, also tennis lawn and orchard fully stocked with matured fruit trees, the total area being about two and a half acres.

The Buildings consist of large barn with tiled roof and cement floor, pig styes, mixing house with pump, two sheds, loose box, stabling for 8 to 10 horses, hay house, cart house with 7 bays and end bay enclosed, and suitable for garage, thatched shed, yards and rick yard.

The Land (which can be purchased if required) extends to about 65 acres and comprises 2 meadows of about 10 acres, 15 acres sanfoin and the remainder arable. More land is probably available.

General Remarks:- Good water supply, from three pumps. Cesspool drainage. South aspect. Post office, shops etc near.

Possession on Completion of the Purchase

Price Freehold for the house & garden £1,600
Price..Freehold for house, garden & buildings £2,200
Price for the further 65 acres, if required.....£20 per acre.

And so, once it sold Parsonage House lost its connection with the Holliday family

MORE ABOUT OUR CAUDWELL ANCESTORS

Joseph Caudwell (1809–1893)

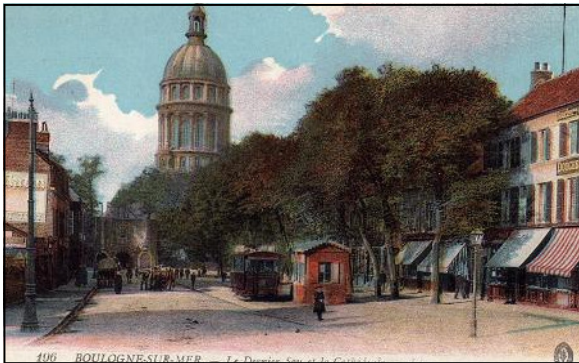
Earlier this year, Rex Caudwell in New Zealand sent me the English translation of Antoine Caudwell's book that he had written on the Caudwells of

Boulogne and Oxford—"Les Origines De La Famille Caudwell de France". In this book, written about ten years ago, I learnt more about Joseph Caudwell the ancestor who I have written about in previous newsletters.

As you know, Joseph and his family went to Boulogne-sur-Mer, France in 1856. It had been a difficult time for him and his family in the early 1850s with the shooting incident at their home in North Hinksey in 1851 followed by the perjury case a few days later. Joseph spent the rest of his life in France and died in Boulogne in 1893.

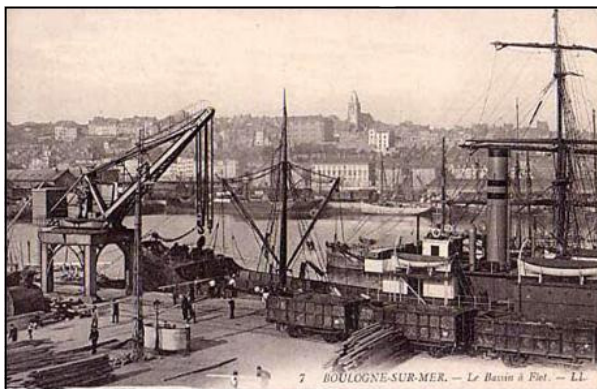
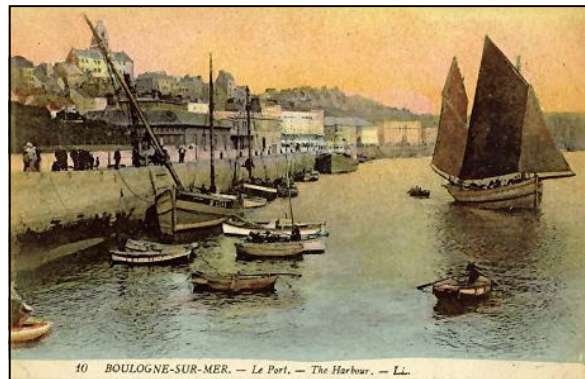
I have learnt from Antoine's book that throughout the years in Boulogne, Joseph kept moving. Every census that was taken there was a different address listed.

Apparently Joseph always liked the water and the sea. He had built his house in Oxford with its feet in the water of the River Thames and at Boulogne he saw out his latter years living alone on his boat which was moored in the port. He was known by the local people as "the Captain" and even his own grandchildren referred to him by this name.



Joseph was obviously interested in inventions, as amongst some old paperwork of Antoine's papa, Walter Edward Caudwell, a patent of Joseph's was found dated 25 February 1887. It was for the design of an improved steam ferry raft of which Joseph was the first inventor. It was signed by Queen Victoria "by the grace of God".

This reminded me of the documents I had received from the National Archives when I was originally looking into Joseph's case. Contained in the papers was a page entitled "Military Inventions" by Mr J Caudwell, late O R Militia and Royal Berkshire Yeomanry cavalry in England.



Boulogne sur Mer port in the early 1900s

In May 1852 the Emperor Napoleon of France had presented Mr Caudwell with 1,000 Francs (£40) for the model of a field piece from which his Majesty had invented two new guns based on Joseph's ideas.

The article goes on to say that Mr Caudwell had invented 6 other new plans which had been offered to the Government of his own country (England) for inspection, but "he was debarred through injustice, prosecution and obsession".



Boulogne sur Mer (today)

If there is anyone else you think would like a copy, please let me know—you can either drop me a line or send me an email and I can add them to the circulation list. Also, I would welcome any suggestions of items you might like included in future issues.

The next newsletter will be published in June 2010. If you would like me to include something you have written can I please have it by the end of May or beginning of June. Thank you.

I am continually adding to the family tree, so if you have any photographs or information that you would like included I would love to hear from you. You can either post or email them to me. Many thanks.

Acknowledgements and Sources:

Long Wittenham & Hagbourne Village Website
East Hagbourne Parish Records
Pat Holliday for old family documents
Thomas Holliday's Will dated 1798
James Warner's Will dated 1772 & Mary Warner's Will dated 1796
George Holliday's Will dated 1819
IGI (International Genealogical Index)
BRO—Coroner's Inquisition Index for Hagbourne
BMD (Birth, Marriage and Death Index)
Census 1841—1911
English Heritage Viewfinder—photos
Jackson's Oxford Journal—January 1855
Didcot Town Council Website
Oxfordshire County Council—Heritage Search website—Parsonage House, 1930
John Cockburn for photo of Parsonage House
BRO—details of sale of Parsonage, 1932
"Les Origines De La Famille Caudwell de France". by Antoine Caudwell and Rex Caudwell's English translation
National Archives—J Caudwell's court case
John Holliday for the photo of Leslie Holliday

More Photos from the Holliday Album



This is another photo of Leslie Holliday (my grandfather) sent to me by my Uncle John Holliday.

It shows Leslie in the garden of the bungalow in East Hagbourne by the shed where he used to have the incubator to hatch the chickens' eggs. The photo was probably taken in the 1930s.

Coming in the Next Issue:

- ◆ The Village of Harwell
- ◆ Francis Loder and Elizabeth Armstrong and the wider Loder family
- ◆ Family Article plus lots more