

# The Holliday Family Tree Newsletter

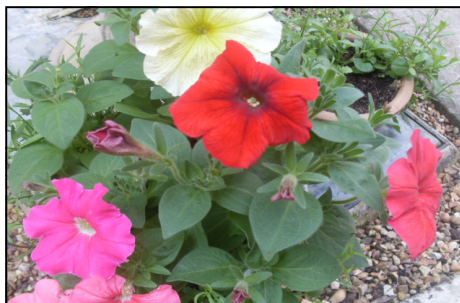
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NICKY STEPNEY  
**SUMMER IN ENGLAND HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!**

It looks as if Summer has finally arrived here in the UK! Just before Christmas we had heavy snowfall and just as that disappeared over the holiday period we had even more snow falling in the first week in January. Schools were closed and it seemed as if many parts of England came to a standstill. I couldn't recall that amount of snow since I was a child. Following a dry, but cold Spring, the gardens are now in full colour as the summer flowering plants are blooming. I don't think there's anything nicer than sitting in the garden when the sun is shining, relaxing with a glass of wine and reading a good book. In this newsletter I have gone back to James Holliday and have researched a



little of the family history of his wife Ann Loder. The Loder family were very prominent in Harwell over many centuries and I have only just begun to touch upon their history.

Mick and I are meeting Antoine Caudwell for the first time in a couple of weeks. Antoine is a descendant of Joseph Caudwell and he is coming over from France with some of his family to pay a visit to the Caudwells at Drayton Manor and to visit relatives in the Cotswolds and he said he would like to meet up with us. We plan to take them to East Hagbourne which they have never visited before and we will hopefully take some photos to show you in the next newsletter.

You may have noticed that this newsletter is shorter than previous ones — this is mainly because a story I was hoping to tell you about one of our ancestors has not quite got the final bit of evidence I needed. I am hoping that by September I will have found this proof and will then be able to tell you about the very interesting marriage she made and how the lives of her descendants made their future home in the county of Gloucestershire.

**THE VILLAGE OF HARWELL**

The village of Harwell lies in the south of the county of Oxfordshire, part of the Vale of the White Horse, and is very closely associated with our Loder ancestors. The village is rich in history and in 1985 it celebrated its one thousand years as a village. Once a small village steeped in rural tradition, the parish is now home to nearly 3,000 people, many from all walks of life, with the majority of residents having no ancestral connection to the village. Up to the mid 1940s, the village of Harwell was always known for its famous cherry orchards, but now locally, and in fact worldwide, it seems to be more known for its association with 'the Atomic' & what was the site of the laboratories for research into atomic energy and which is now a business centre.



## VILLAGE OF HARWELL, OXFORDSHIRE

The High Street in Harwell was the scene of a disastrous fire in the April of 1852, which was responsible for ruining many of the original houses along much of the street, including 23 cottages and nine farms! Despite this, the oldest house in the village, now called Lime Tree House and once the guest hall of the Bishop of Winchester, lies on the western side of the High Street.



Lime Tree House, 1968



Pryor's shop, 1905

During the English Civil War, Parliamentary troops were billeted in the village of Harwell, following the Second Battle of Newbury, and Oliver Cromwell is said to have held a Council of War here.

A Cromwellian helmet was certainly once found in one of the village cottages, so it is highly possible that Cromwell and his soldiers marched through Harwell.

## ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, HARWELL



St Matthew's church in the village of Harwell was built during the period 1190 to 1325. It is a grade 1 listed building and was formerly dedicated to Saint Mary.

There are two wall tapestries hanging inside the church. The photo of the tapestry to the left hangs in the south aisle of St Matthew's and is called the 'Gatekeeper Tapestry'. The design around the outside depicts the flowers, fruit and wildlife of the village. At the top of the tapestry are the hares from which the village derived its name. In each corner of the tapestry is a family shield and the one on the top left is that of the Loder family. I will write more about the Loder crest in future newsletters as I research back further through the Loder family line.

It has been over 150 years since anyone has been buried in the churchyard and due to the headstones falling over, it was decided that some of the stones should be carefully lifted and placed alongside the path. This was only carried out after extensive searches with descendants who did not object to this being done.



**FRANCIS LODER (1743 / 4 - 1807)**  
**&**  
**ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG (1752 - 1777)**

Francis Loder (father of Ann Loder who married James Holliday) was born in East Hagbourne in 1743/4 and was christened at St Andrew's church on 6 February of 1743/1744.

Francis Loder married Elizabeth Armstrong on 25 April 1769 when he was in his mid twenties and she was about seventeen years old. Elizabeth was born to parents William and Christin Armstrong and she had been christened in East Hagbourne on 18 October 1752. St Andrew's being their parish church, this is where they were married.

The Rev J Scoolt married the couple with Jonathan Keate and William Armstrong as witnesses. Francis and Elizabeth were married by licence and not by marriage banns. Francis was listed in the parish records as a yeoman of Harwell at the time of his marriage to Elizabeth.

Francis and Elizabeth had five children; Letitia (1769), Christian (1771), Francis (1773), Ann (1774) and Ann (1775)

Two years after their last child was born, Elizabeth Loder died in 1777 when she was only 25 years old and was buried on 30 May 1777 in St Andrew's churchyard.

After Elizabeth's death I have not been able to find a record of Francis re-marrying, but he did have a relationship with a Jane Cox, a single woman living in East Hagbourne. With Jane, Francis had two natural born children, the first was William who was christened on 3 July 1785 and the second was Elizabeth christened on 16 June 1788.

Francis Loder died in October 1807 when he was about 64 years old and was buried on 6 October 1807 in the same churchyard as his wife Elizabeth. At the time of his death, Francis was a shopkeeper living in East Hagbourne.

Francis's last Will and Testament was written on the 8 January 1805. It was quite common at this time for legacies to be made to Trustees—kinsmen or well-beloved friends—on trust to manage them in specified ways. In Francis's case he instructed that his two friends, Thomas Humfrey, yeoman of Upton and Edward Button, grocer of Wallingford, be both his Executors and Trustees of his last Will.

First, Francis ordered and directed that all his debts be paid, to the satisfaction of his Executors, including any sum of money owing to a Mr Edmund Hutchings of Abingdon. Following any legacies he listed, he then "*gave, devised and bequeathed*" unto his two friends Thomas and Edward, all his land, buildings and assets (both freehold and leasehold) in East and West Hagbourne, household goods, stock in trade (probably meaning his shop), books, plates, linen, china goods, chattels, cattle money, securities for money and all other personal estate and effects, to hold in Trust for his children.

Francis left money to both his illegitimate children to be given to them when they reached their respective ages of 21 years. If they were to reach the age of 21 before Francis died, then they should receive their legacies within six months of his death. William Cox was left £5 and his sister Elizabeth Cox was left £30.

His second request was that as soon after his death as possible, his Executors "*released, conveyed, assigned and transferred*" unto his unmarried daughter Ann Loder (she did not marry James Holliday until two years after the Will was written) all his land, garden, orchard, buildings and premises in East Hagbourne, together with all household goods, plates, china for her own use and benefit. With the remainder of the residue of his real and personal estate, half should also be released to Ann upon her father's death. The remaining half of this real and personal estate, should be held in trust for his married daughter Letitia Prior for and during the term of her natural life, "*free from the control or intermeddling of her said husband*" James Prior. This money to be released at a time when she so requested for her children, in writing, in the presence of two credible witnesses. After Letitia's decease this inheritance should then be passed directly to her children and their heirs.

On 12 February 1805, just a month after writing his Will, Francis attached a codicil to it, stating that he revoked what he had previously written and that instead of Letitia's share being held in trust, that it be released immediately after his death, but that it had to be used for her own and her children's use and to be kept independently from her husband. The Codicil was witnessed by the Clerk, James Holliday and George Holliday.

## CHRISTIAN, FRANCIS, ANN AND ANN LODER

### Children of Francis Loder and Elizabeth Armstrong

As mentioned on page 3 of this newsletter, Francis and Elizabeth had five children in all, although only two of them survived childhood.

Letitia was the first child born and as she was one of the two children that lived, I will write about her and her descendants on pages 5 and 8-9.

Christian was the next daughter born to Francis and Elizabeth in about 1771. She was christened at St Andrew's Church on 3 February 1771 but died in 1787 when she was only 16 years old. There is no information in the parish registers about how she died and I have found no reports of her death in any of the local newspapers of the time. She was buried on 21 October 1787 in the churchyard in East Hagbourne.

The next child was a son born in 1773 and he was named after his father Francis. He was christened on 7 March 1773 but sadly died a short while after and was buried on 17 March 1773.

You would think that something as awful as losing a child could not possibly happen again, but during a time when infant mortality was not uncommon, it was almost expected. Ann, a daughter born in 1774 and christened on 13 February of that year only lived for about a year before she too died and she was buried on 22 January 1775 at St Andrew's in East Hagbourne.

A final daughter was born and she was christened on 17 September 1775. She too was named Ann, after her sister, and it was this Ann who married James Holliday and their story I have already written about in the newsletter of March 2009.



I came across this old photo of East Hagbourne whilst looking at some press cuttings I had—it's obviously taken many, many years after the time when Francis and Elizabeth were living in the village, but I thought it was such a great picture, you might like to see it.

## LETITIA LODER (1769-1843) AND JAMES PRIOR (1769-1839)

Letitia Loder was the first child born to Francis Loder and Elizabeth Armstrong. I knew that Letitia was born around 1769 because of the 1841 census that indicated her age, but it took me some time to find a christening entry for her—she did not appear in the Hagbourne registers as her siblings did later on.

I eventually found her christened as '*Lititia Loddar*' in Drayton on 10 September 1769.

Letitia married James Prior at St Giles in Oxford, by Banns on 1 April 1793 when she would have been in her early twenties. James had been born in 1769 and was christened on 8 April 1769 in Woodstock.

Letitia and James had nine children; James Edward, Christian Elizabeth, Francis Loder, Ann, Margaret Loder, Priscilla, John, Letitia and Maria and you will read more about them on pages 8-9.

When Letitia's father died and left her money in his Will, Letitia's husband James was referred to as a leather presser by occupation.



Photo of Market Street, Woodstock  
1860-1922

James died in August 1839 aged 70 years and was buried on 19 August in Woodstock.

The first census I could look on to find out more about the Prior family was the 1841 census—unfortunately James was already dead by this time, but I found Letitia Prior aged 70 years, living with her daughter Maria and her family in Market Street, New Woodstock, Oxfordshire. Although Letitia was living with her daughter's family she was financially independent of them.

Letitia died just a couple of years later aged 74 years and was buried in Woodstock on 21 September 1843.

Letitia's Last Will and Testament written 12 March 1841 was very straightforward, in that she bequeathed all her real and personal estate to all her children, "*share and share alike*".

She named her son Francis Loder Prior and her son-in-law Charles Hanniss joint executors of her Will. The Will was proved in London on 21 December 1843.



Photo of Market Street, Woodstock  
1910-1930

## CHILDREN OF LETITIA LODER AND JAMES PRIOR OF WOODSTOCK

### James Edward Prior (1793/4–1862)

James Edward Prior was the first child of Letitia and James to be born and he was christened in Woodstock on 29 January 1794. James married Mary Buckle on 24 January 1831 in Headington, Oxfordshire. They had two children, Eliza (born 1832) and James Edward (born 1841).

In 1841 the family were living in the St Ebbe Parish of Oxford and James was working as a wheelwright. A wheelwright was a person who built or repaired wheels as a trade. The wheels were made for carts and wagons drawn by horses, by first constructing the hub, the spokes and then the rim. By the mid 19th century around the time that James would have been working, the wooden spokes would have been replaced with iron and fitted in the wooden rim. By 1851 the family had moved to Summer Town, Oxford. By 1861 daughter Eliza had left home to get married but son James remained at home.

James died a year later in 1862 and his son remained at home with his mother until he married Sarah Belcher on 20 October 1867 in Oxford. In 1871 Mary, a widow, had moved to 23 Cardigan Street in Oxford, along with her son James and her daughter-in-law Sarah and their two children Frances and James. Mary, however was head of household and working as a laundress whilst her son was earning a living as a carpenter.

### Christian Elizabeth Prior (1796–1883)

Christian Elizabeth was born in 1796 and christened in Woodstock on 10 August of the same year. Christian married John Smart on 20 October 1823 in East Hagbourne where John had been born. James Holliday was one of the witnesses at the wedding.

Between 1824 and 1841 Christian and John had seven children, Maria (1824), Thomas (1825), Letitia (1828), Joseph (1830), William (1833), Sarah (1835) and George Frederick (1837). In 1841 the family were living in Main Street (except for Thomas who had died at the age of 4) in East Hagbourne and their immediate neighbours were John Holliday and his sister Ann. John Smart was a baker. In 1851 the only children still living at home were William, Sarah and George Frederick. Ten years on John Smart was living on his own (or so it would appear) and his wife Christian was staying at 37 Albert Street, Oxford with her son Joseph, also a baker and daughters Sarah and Letitia. John died in April 1867 and was buried in Hagbourne and his wife Christian had returned to Hagbourne with her unmarried daughter Sarah by 1871. In 1881 mother and daughter were living on their own, with Christian recorded as being an "imbecile". I don't like the word they used, but it may perhaps have been referring to some form of dementia as we would know it today. Sarah was supporting her mother by working as a dressmaker. Christian died in 1883 and Sarah moved to Blewbury to work as a housekeeper to a Mr Curtoys.

### Francis Loder Prior (1799–1871)

Francis Loder Prior was christened on 13 February 1799 in Woodstock. He married Billah during the mid 1820s and they had six children, Ann (1826), Jane (1827), Letitia (1831), Benjamin (1835), Francis Loder (1837) and Mark (1838) all born and christened in Woodstock.

In 1841 the family were living in New Woodstock with Francis, head of household and a corn dealer and in 1851 life was pretty much the same, although daughter Jane was no longer living with the family. Everything had changed by 1861 as Francis's wife Billah died in 1855 and I could find no more trace of Francis on the census. I think he may have died in 1871 but where he had been for the last twenty years I'm not sure. His children have also been quite difficult to track through the census, so I will have to come back to this family another day.

### Ann Prior (1802–?)

Ann was the fourth child and she was christened on 19 April 1802 in Woodstock. There were so many Ann Priors born around this time that it has again been difficult to track her life through the records, so she is someone else I will have to return to at some point.

### Margaret Loder Prior (1806–1897)

Margaret Loder was born on 30 June 1806 in Woodstock. I have her exact birth date as I have an original letter that she wrote in 1897 to her cousins saying that it was her birthday the next day and at 91 years of age she was very feeble and weak but as well as could be expected for her age. She was living at 51 Cardigan Street, Oxford at the time she wrote this letter. She must have been feeling quite low in spirits as she was saying how much she would like to hear from her cousins as "*they were the only ones left from her dear mother's family*". This letter came to me via Pat Holliday, so working back up through the family tree, Margaret was probably writing to John Holliday in East Hagbourne who would have been her first cousin. Margaret married James Gardner on 28 April 1831 in Woodstock—they had six children; Ann (1832), Henry (1835), John (1841), Emily Letitia (1842) Francis Loder (1846) and Isabella (1853).

James was a beer house keeper/retailer up until his death. Margaret remained living in Cardigan Street with her unmarried daughter Emily Letitia. On the census of 1891 Margaret was recorded as blind and she died in 1897 just a couple of months after she wrote the letter.

## CHILDREN OF LETITIA LODER AND JAMES PRIOR OF WOODSTOCK CONT'D...

### Priscilla Prior (1808—?)

Priscilla was born in 1808 and christened in Woodstock on 25 September of the same year. Priscilla married John Quainton on 5 February 1837 in Stratton Audley, Oxfordshire. They had three children, William who was christened 14 May 1837 in Stratton Audley, Anne christened 28 April 1836 in Fringford and Letitia christened 12 January 1840 in Stratton Audley.

With this information, I should have easily been able to find this young family on the 1841 census, but every trawl I made came up with nothing. In the end by searching just on first names, I found a Priscilla and John Woods, a labourer, living in the parish of St Peter in the East in Oxford with three children William, Anne and Letitia Woods. This was too much of a coincidence with the children's names and with a bit more research I discovered that Priscilla's husband had probably died and that she had moved in with John and her children assumed the Woods surname (I don't know whether they ever married as I couldn't find a record of this)

Ten years later in 1851, Priscilla and John were still together with the children, plus two more daughters, Sarah aged 7 years and Priscilla just one year old.

By 1861 the situation had changed; the two youngest children Sarah and Priscilla were living with an Aunt Sarah Harper in Bicester, Letitia was a kitchen maid working alongside a butler, page, cook, housekeeper and nursemaid in a gentleman's household in Croughton, Northamptonshire. As for William and Anne I was unable to find them on the census.

I found a couple of Priscilla Woods that died during the 1850s so that could possibly be a reason as to why the family seemed so disjointed at this time.

### John Prior (1810—?)

John was christened on 30 March 1810 in Woodstock. He married Catherine Cooper on 4 November 1833 in Woodstock. I hate admitting defeat, but this family really have tested my research skills—I couldn't find enough information to write about his life and children. Some names popped up on the census, but it was always with a different name for a wife or the children's names and birthplaces were all wrong. Another test as to whether you have the right person is their occupation.

In the 19th century generally, if you started off for example as an agricultural labourer or carpenter on the first census, you tended to keep that occupation more or less throughout your life. However the John Prior I have been trying to trace, not only had all the wrong information as I have said, but occupations varied vastly from butcher, publican, bailiff, municipal town crier that none of it seemed to add up. Yet another branch I have been unable to get very far with.

### Letitia Prior (1812—1862)

Letitia was born in 1812 and was christened on 20 January 1813 in Woodstock. As you will have read through the newsletter, this is yet another daughter in this branch of the family named Letitia! I actually used to quite like this name, but I am now getting tired of it—it appears far too many times.

Letitia married a Thomas Eldridge in 1838 in Oxford. I am not entirely sure of the full number of children that they both had, but certainly there was John (1843), Francis Loder (1844) and Thomas (1849).

I could not find Letitia and Thomas on the 1841 census, but in 1851 they were living in St Mary Magdalene, Oxford and Thomas was earning a living as a cordwainer (a shoe-maker or someone who makes items made of leather).

In 1861 very little had changed although the family had moved to 58 Bridge Street in the parish of St Thomas in Oxford and the eldest son John was a mason's labourer. Thomas was soon to become a widower, however, as in 1862 his wife Letitia died in Woodstock.

Thomas's two unmarried sons were still living at home with him in Oxford in 1871; Thomas was still a shoe-maker, Francis was a butcher and his brother Thomas was an engine cleaner.

### Maria Prior (1813—1889)

Maria was the last child of Letitia and James. She was christened on 20 January 1813 in Woodstock on the same day as her sister Letitia. This doesn't necessarily mean that they were twins, but it is always a possibility. Maria married Charles Hanniss on 9 May 1836 in Saint Giles, Oxford.

In 1841 Charles and Maria were living in Market Street, Woodstock. Charles was working as a saddler. Living with them were their two children Mary Ann (1837) and James (1840) and Maria's mother Letitia Prior who was by now a widow. In 1851 the following were living in the same area, Charles still a saddler but now his wife Maria was working as a dressmaker, with the children attending school. Letitia was born in 1848 so now there were three children.

I cannot find any mention of the family at all in the 1861 census, but if we skip forward another decade to 1871, Charles and Maria were still living in Market Street and Charles was working as a picture frame maker/dealer. Charles had died by 1880 aged 67 and I found his widow Maria living with their daughter Mary Anne who had married a Thomas Ashton, a book-keeper and was living in Wavertree in Lancashire. Maria must have returned to Woodstock as she died there in 1889 aged 76 years.

# MY UNCLE ERNIE'S DIARY "OFF TO WAR 1916-17"

WRITTEN BY REX CAUDWELL

Late last year I made an exciting discovery - that my uncle, Ernest Wilfred Caudwell [1895 -1983], had kept a diary when he went off to war and had entrusted it to his grandson Paul who kindly loaned it to me to transcribe. Ernest was a son of Heber Caudwell who I wrote about in Nicky's March 2009 newsletter. Ernest enlisted on 8 February 1916 aged 20 years and 9 months. He had black hair and brown eyes and was 5 feet 8 inches tall. He served abroad for 2 years and 349 days; and his total service in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force up to the date of his disembarkation back in New Zealand was 3 years and 81 days. His record shows he was one of the lucky few who came through the Great War without being wounded.

His diary covers his basic training period in New Zealand from 8 February - 30 May 1916. The voyage from Wellington began 31 May on the "SS Willochra" and ended 26 July with their arrival at Portsmouth at 7am. That same day about midday they entered Bulford Camp on the Salisbury Plains where they had tea at 10.30pm and were in bed at midnight! A routine of squad drill, bayonet exercises, guard duty, route marches, digging trenches and church parades began.

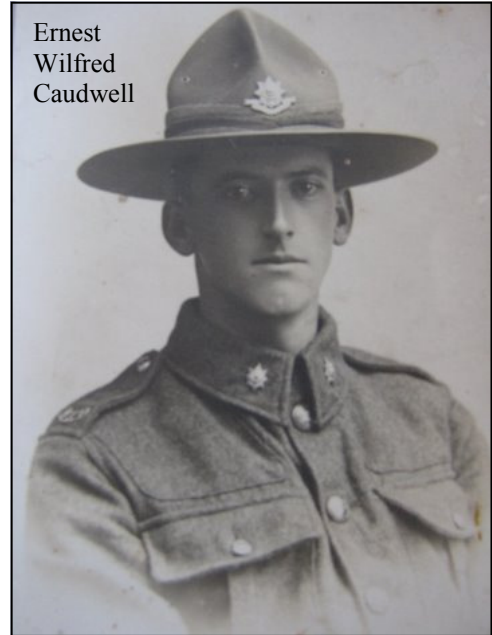
Then on 9 August he joined the Signals section and began his training with flags and semaphore, buzzers and morse code. On 11 September he did "long distance station and transmission work with telescopes and binoculars - using bicycles - almost like a picnic."; and on 13 September he began his musketry training.

Wednesday 17 September was "a showery morning for the inspection of the Australasian Forces by the King - the King passed within 6 yards - saw a great display of aeroplanes." Then on Tuesday 2 January 1917 he says "lecture on gas in afternoon". And his diary ends with this cryptic entry on Sunday 7 January 1917 "Dull day - inspection with full kit this morning - leave for France at 11.30 tonight - must post things to Aunt Annie now." Annie was his father Heber's sister who was living at Abingdon in Oxfordshire.

What really excited me most me was his detailed record of his leave weekends with the Caudwells at Abingdon and Drayton Manor - with his aunts Annie and Adah; and his Uncle Henry, his father Heber's older brother - a doctor at Woodstock, his wife "Nancy" and their daughters Frances and Margaret whose descendants I am trying to track down right now!

His first leave weekend was over Saturday and Sunday 26 and 27 August 1916. He travelled by train "arriving at Abingdon where Aunt Annie was waiting to meet me. We walked home to "Allowah" and after tea went .....on to see cousins Ernest and Kate. Cousin Ernest told me

Ernest  
Wilfred  
Caudwell



*all about his collection of game and fish and also explained about the old grandfather clock...."*

*Sunday morning..."Met Aunt Adah just before Sutton Wick where I met cousins Polly [Mrs Cuthbert Caudwell] & Charlie. After a rest we all went to Drayton Church...saw the memorial tablet to my great grandfather bearing the Caudwell crest."*

*"Met Mr Sowden [who lives at the Manor and is a very old-fashioned gentleman] at church & then walked round the Manor and were shown all over." "Back at Sutton Wick about 1 o'clock for dinner....Soon after dinner Uncle Henry and Aunt Nancy arrived in their car; and Uncle Henry, Cousin Charlie and myself went for a walk around the Manor. On the way back we called in at the cemetery and Uncle Henry pointed out the graves of the Caudwell family buried there. We....had some afternoon tea and left about 4.15 for Radley Station, Uncle Henry and Aunt Nancy taking me in the car. They waited to see me off safely at 4.47pm."*

*His second leave weekend to Woodstock and Abingdon was Monday to Wednesday 9 and 11 October 1916. ".....travelled by train to Woodstock at 2.20 where Aunt Nancy was waiting at the station & we walked to Old Bank House where I met Uncle Henry, Frances & Margaret & a Miss Beck. We had tea about 4 o'clock after which the 3 girls and myself went for a trip through the park in the car, past the Palace & back via Killington. Had some music then supper at 9pm after which we continued the musical evening until 11 o'clock -*



# MY UNCLE ERNIE'S DIARY "OFF TO WAR 1916-17" CONT'D...

WRITTEN BY REX CAUDWELL

"Up soon after 8am Tuesday morning & had breakfast about 9 o'clock. Margaret, Borrie and myself went with Uncle Henry in the car on his round of the villages getting back about 12.15 for lunch. Left at 1.30 in the car for Abingdon with Aunt Nancy & Frances..."

"Left for Woodstock at 5 o'clock and arrived about 5.45. After supper at 9 o'clock we had a "ragtime concert" until after 11 o'clock and turned in just before 12."

"After breakfast on Wednesday morning helped the girls pick some beans in the garden & afterwards cut them up. Went with Uncle Henry in the car together with Frances & Borrie. Had a feed of blackberries on the way. Back for lunch and then left for Oxford about 1.30 with Nancy and Margaret. Arrived about 2 o'clock & had a drive around the colleges, library, etc and then on to see Aunt Lou [Aunt Nancy's sister]. After a short stay we all left for the station & on the way down Aunt Nancy bought me two cakes to take back to camp."

Then on Friday 20 October 1916 Ernest writes "Went over to Bulford in the evening to see Aunt Nancy, Frances and Margaret & Miss Beck." The next day "Fine day - leave granted - went to Bulford...& we all caught train to Salisbury - went all over the Cathedral and heard the organ - went to see "A Little Bit of Fluff" in the evening and enjoyed it immensely...train to Bulford & arrived at Camp at 11.30."

On the Sunday "Aunt Nancy and the girls motored over to the Camp for me at 11 o'clock - drove back to hotel and went for a walk to Dunnington before lunch - left about 9.30 and arrived back at camp at 10pm."

On Monday 18 December 1916 Ernie receives the news of his Uncle Henry's sudden death.

"..received card from Borrie also letters from Aunts Annie & Adah informing me of Uncle Henry's death..." Wednesday...left for Woodstock by 12.27 train & arrived there at 7.15pm".

Thursday 21 December. "Snow & rain until about 2.30 in afternoon - Uncle Henry's funeral 3pm - Aunt Lou & Uncle James, Dr & Jack Morton & Charlie came over in afternoon - went back as far as Oxford with Charlie in evening - back at camp at about 2 o'clock in the morning."

In the record of the funeral in the paper "Mr Ernest Caudwell" [nephew] is listed immediately after Henry's wife and daughters. Henry died suddenly at the age of 58 just a couple of weeks before Ernie was sent off to France. I like to think that it was a great comfort to my grandfather, Heber, to have had Ernie there representing the New Zealand Caudwells at his brother's funeral.

My hope is that someone out there who reads these extracts from Ernie's diary and the record of the hospitality he received from Dr Henry Caudwell, his wife and daughters, will know if any of their descendants are still "alive and kicking" so I can get in touch with them.

Note: In the Caudwell Family Tree compiled by Hilda Caudwell:

Henry is listed as married to Annie Woodward - is she the "Nancy" Ernie speaks of? The two daughters names, Frances and Margaret, are confirmed as correct. Margaret is recorded as marrying a John Sellar. Does anyone know of them or their family?

They are recorded as having two children: Jeremy and Jocelyn- did either of them marry or have any children....I'd love to know!

If anyone has any information at all, perhaps they could get in touch with Nicky and she will pass it on to me.

Many thanks, Rex Caudwell (NZ)



Ernest Wilfred Caudwell's War Diary

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 September 2010. If you would like me to include something you have written can I please have it by the end of August. 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.

### *More Photos from the Holliday Album*

#### Acknowledgements and Sources:

Francis Frith website for photo of Harwell  
Harwell Village website by Harwell Parish Council  
Wikipedia—free online encyclopedia  
St Matthew's Church website  
David Nash Ford's Royal Berkshire History  
Francis Loder's Last Will and Testament, 1805  
East Hagbourne Parish Registers  
Pat Holliday for documents and photographs  
Oxford Heritage Search website for old photos of Woodstock in Oxfordshire  
Letitia Prior's Last Will and Testament, 1841  
1841-1911 Census Records  
Rex Caudwell for article on Ernie Caudwell



These are more photos I have found of Vincent Holliday (1857-1928)

I wrote about Vincent in June 2008. He was a brother to Francis Holliday from whom all of my Holliday relatives descend.

#### Coming in the Next Issue:

- ◆ The village of Kingston Bagpuize
- ◆ Joseph Lousley and Elizabeth Clack
- ◆ French Caudwell family visit the UK
- ◆ Helen Holliday's article about the day she discovered that she was adopted at birth plus lots more .....