

The Holliday Family Tree Newsletter

◆ Although it's fascinating to learn about our ancestors, I think it's also important to keep in touch with present day family members, as we are the future ancestors, and hopefully our descendants will look back in a 100 years time and wonder who we were, what we were like, what we did and what made us tick.....

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

MEETING MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY....

Hope you are all looking forward to the Summer? Mick and I have had a busy time in the garden trying to get it ready so we can just relax and unwind – we did some building work a couple of years ago and the garden is the last area we needed to sort out. Let's hope we have a few warm and sunny months ahead of us! Just before I sent out my last newsletter, I met up, for the first time, with Rosemary and Anne, who are the daughters of Barbara Cook and granddaughters of Florence Holliday. Rosemary and I had made contact via Genes Reunited website about a year ago and have been corresponding regularly. We finally set up a date to meet each other and go through the family documents I have. We got on really well and had a lovely day – and plan to make it the first of many, we hope. It just goes to show that although we are researching and are fascinated by our ancestors long since gone, this hobby can bring you in touch with new members of the family.

This newsletter concentrates on Francis Holliday's parents, John Holliday and Elizabeth Caudwell and their five children. Elizabeth was born in the village of Drayton in Abingdon and was one of many children, and I will tell you about them and the Manor House in which they lived, in the next issue. I would like this newsletter to also be about you and would like to put in an article every issue written by a member of the family – either about you and your family, what you are doing, your holidays and travels, childhood memories, hobbies or experiences you have had—it can be as long or short as you like, and a photo maybe. You can post or email them to me by mid August for inclusion in September's issue.



Photo of me (centre) with Rosemary (left) and Anne (right), February 2008

THE VILLAGE OF DRAYTON, ABINGDON



Village of Drayton, Abingdon at the turn of the 20th century

"DRAYTON, a parish in the hundred of Ock, in the county of Berks, 2 miles S.W. of Abingdon, its post town. The Berks and Wilts canal and the Great Western railway pass near it. A fire took place here in 1780, which destroyed upwards of thirty houses. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small Gothic structure, with a square embattled tower. The charities amount to £37 per annum".

From *The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland* (1868)

DRAYTON VILLAGE, ABINGDON

The village name of Drayton is Anglo Saxon in origin and means 'farm where sledges are used'. It is a common place name in England and refers to places that were perched on the hillside, thus requiring the use of a sledge rather than a cart to pull heavy loads. There are many places throughout England name Drayton. The village of Drayton where the Caudwell family lived is located two miles (three kilometres) south of Abingdon in Oxfordshire. The village was twinned with Lesparre in France in the year 2000.



Photo of the Abingdon Road, Drayton taken in 1909

Drayton is a village that has seen a lot of 20th century development, but enough of the old village remains for part of Drayton to be still attractive. The older part of the village is centred on the church, along the road into the village from Sutton Courtenay, High Street, and around the junction of High street and Abingdon Road.

In the centre of the village are two pubs, a post office and general store and a hardware shop.



ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON

The church in Drayton has existed for many centuries and is situated in Church Lane, tucked away from the main road. The oldest part of the building is the south wall containing a 13th century piscine, although the church shows work from many periods.

The North Aisle and Tower were added in the 15th century. A fire in 1959 led to the re-building of the roof.



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East Hagbourne Village - more photos

A number of you said after the first newsletter, how you had such fond memories of the village of East Hagbourne, and as it is such a pretty village, I thought you might like to see some more photos. I thought it might also be nice for some of our family members who live abroad and have probably never visited!



Picture the scene. Bramley Cottage - snow, christmas, lanterns and choir boys singing carols and then..... from the uppermost window a bucket of water poured onto these unsuspecting children! One of Allan Holliday's (my dad) memories of living in East Hagbourne as a small boy.

Tudor House—Rhona Holliday (daughter of my grandfather Leslie Holliday and his first wife Laura Ash) lived here for a while when she was a young girl.



Shoe Lane



Hacca's Brook running through East Hagbourne.



The Village Pond



St Andrew's Churchyard

JOHN HOLLIDAY (1815-1900)

John Holliday was born in 1815 in East Hagbourne, one of a twin, to parents James Holliday and Ann Loder. His twin sister was called Maria and an older sister Ann had been born in 1810.

John married Elizabeth Caudwell on 25 July 1844 in the village of Drayton. According to the marriage certificate, witnesses at the wedding were Francis Caudwell, Job Caudwell, Hannah Caudwell (Elizabeth's siblings) and Maria Holliday (John's twin sister). John was a farmer living at East Hagbourne at the time of his marriage to Elizabeth.

According to the census in 1851, John was Head of household, and a farmer of 172 acres employing 9 labourers. Living in the house with him on the night of the census was his wife Elizabeth and a Louise Caudwell born in Harwell who was listed as a visitor.

John and Elizabeth were married for 12 years before their first child was born (certainly the first child I can find registered at this stage). John Clarence was born in 1856, Vincent in 1858, James Warner in 1859, Ada in 1860 and Francis in 1862.

From "The Diary of a Village School 1873-2000", according to the School Minutes Sept 29th 1873, John Holliday was elected one of the committee members, along with John Lousley. By the time of the 1881 census, John was living in The Street, East Hagbourne and was still Head of household at age of 65 and farmer of 580 acres employing 16 men, 6 boys and 4 women. The family also employed Eliza Savage from Blewbury as a live-in general domestic servant.

On 9 April 1892, Maria Holliday, John's twin sister, who had never married, died at her residence in East Hagbourne. I have a copy of her will which was written on the 22 May 1872, in which she appointed her brother John Holliday as her executor and that after any debts were paid after her death, she bequeathed all her estate, household furniture etc to him. If her

brother died during her lifetime (which did not happen), then everything would go to his children. The will was witnessed by John Breach and Ann Allen. The affidavit in verification of the Account of her estate shows the gross value of her estate as £752.16.1 and is signed and dated 4 May 1892. Maria was 77 years old when she died.



John Holliday 1815 – 1900

In 1896, John had a near miss by a train as was reported in the local paper: "Mr John Holliday, farmer of East Hagbourne, had a marvellous escape from death. He crossed the line in front of the train that arrives at Didcot from Winchester at 11.16 a.m, and the side rod of the engine knocked him down.

The driver, who had previously whistled several times, promptly brought the train to a standstill, and on going back found Mr Holliday walking towards his home. It was afterwards ascertained that his arm was badly crushed. Mr Holliday is 81 years of age, but beyond the injury to his arm he does not appear to have suffered any harm".

John Holliday died on 4 January 1900 and his death was reported in the Jackson's Oxford Journal, Saturday 13 January 1900:

"A much respected resident passed away on the 4th instant in the person of Mr John Holliday, who died at the advanced age of 85 from syncope, following bronchitis. Mr Holliday was a staunch Churchman and a well-known agriculturist, and was noted for his keen appreciation of all rural matters. Not only was he greatly interested in a good stable of horses, a prime flock of sheep, or a fine field of corn, but the lesser objects of nature, such as the habits of birds and the smaller animal creation did not escape his observation. Although Mr Holliday in the latter years of his life was not frequently seen at markets and fairs, it was with singular regularity he attended the Paddle Horse Fair at Abingdon, and for considerably over half a century could not record an absence, being there in December last.

Mr Holliday was married in 1844 to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr William Caudwell, of the Manor House, Drayton, Berks, by whom he leaves three sons and a daughter. He will doubtless be remembered by a large circle of farmers, who will recognise that one of the old school of their industry has passed away. The funeral took place in the churchyard, East Hagbourne, on Monday, and was attended by a large number of friends, in addition to relatives, the Rev W R Baker conducted the service. Several choice wreaths were placed on the coffin, which was inscribed: "John Holliday, died January 4 1900 aged 85 years". The arrangements for the funeral were carried out by Messrs. A H Simpson and Co. Abingdon"

John Holliday was buried in the Holliday tomb with his parents, his wife Elizabeth who had died in 1888 and their son James Warner who died in 1859.

AND ELIZABETH CAUDWELL (1819-1888)

Page 10] The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish [or Township] of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Ecclesiastical Parish or District of			
East Hagbourne				E. Hagbourne		Wallingford	East Hagbourne			
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES		NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	II (1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic
		In-habit-ed	Un-in-habit-ed (U), or Building (B)							
58	The Street-	1		John Holliday	Head	Mar	65	Farmer of 580 ac. employing 10 men 6 Boys and 4 Women	Rebbs East-Hagbourne	
				Elizabeth	Wife		60		Drayton	
				John L.	Son	Mar	25	Farmer's Son	Rebbs East-Hagbourne	
				Vincent	Son		23	General Mechanical Engineer	Drayton	
				Francis	Son		19	Farmer's Son	Drayton	
				Eliza Savage	Serv		23	General Servant-Domestic	Blewbury	

The above is an extract taken from the 1881 census in East Hagbourne and shows John Holliday and Elizabeth (nee Caudwell) living at The Street with their children John Clarence, Vincent, Francis and a 23 year old general domestic servant called Eliza Savage from Blewbury.

For those of you who are not familiar with the census, it was a survey that was taken (and still is today) in the UK every 10 years on a particular night, of every member of the household, their ages, occupations and place of birth. It is a snapshot in time and is an essential resource for researching family history. You may be wondering where Ada the daughter was—well I found her on the census, but she had apparently been visiting her cousin Cuthbert Caudwell in Drayton at the time the census was taken.

ELIZABETH CAUDWELL - WIFE OF JOHN HOLLIDAY

Elizabeth Caudwell was born in 1819 in the village of Drayton in Abingdon, to parents William Caudwell and Hannah Lousley and was christened on 9 April 1819.

Elizabeth was one of 15 children and I will tell you about her parents and all of her siblings in the next newsletter.

Elizabeth married John Holliday on 25 July 1844 at St Peter's Church in Drayton. On the 1881 census, Elizabeth is shown as a farmer's wife.

Elizabeth died on 23 October 1888 and is buried in St Andrew's churchyard in East Hagbourne (see photo to the right)



JOHN CLARENCE (1856 - 1930)



John Clarence was born in 1856 in East Hagbourne, first son of John and Elizabeth Holliday. By the 1881 census, John Clarence was still living at home with his parents and working on the farm. In 1901, John was Head of household, his father having died the year before. John continued to farm as his family had done for many generations. At one time he was a school manager, and also a collector of rates.

John Clarence never married and he died on 10 June 1930 aged 74 and was buried at the New Cemetery in East Hagbourne on 13 June 1930. An obituary was written about John in the St Andrew's church newsletter: "By John's death both church and village have sustained a great loss, and all of us who knew and loved him will miss him for many a year to come. He had his own strong sense of duty to both church and village. When changes took place in the arrangement and order of services, he felt free to criticise and ask questions, but he was always generous and open-minded and could see more points of view than one. Hagbourne was his home - the place where he lived and worked - and therefore he gave unfailing loyalty to his church and village.



Resting place of John Clarence and Vincent Holliday

He had been a keen cricketer and loved to talk of the old days of Hagbourne cricket and retained his interest in the game to the end. John's coffin was carried on one of his farm wagons and it was a moving and pathetic sight to see all his men, young and old, at the funeral, doing their last piece of work for a well-loved master. By his own special request we sang at the grave-side, the well-known hymn "Art thou weary, art thou languid?". As we sang the words they seemed to express exactly the Christian faith and hope which shone in him with increasing strength through the long weeks of suffering. We shall sadly miss him - his fine commanding presence, his courtesy and gentleness - he was indeed a true Christian and an English gentleman. May he rest in peace".

VINCENT HOLLIDAY (1858 - 1928)

Vincent Holliday was born in 1858, second son of John and Elizabeth Caudwell. Vincent was a bright scholar and attended Abingdon School where he was awarded the Maths prize for three consecutive years, 1873, 1874 and 1875. In 1907 Vincent was living at Parsonage Farm. Vincent married late in life to Annie Elizabeth Whitefield in 1919 in the Bristol Registration District.

He purchased Smallcombe Farm, Bathwick, in Bath (in the sub district of Lyncombe) where he passed away suddenly aged 70 on 23 May 1928. He was a retired commercial traveller. As Vincent had died suddenly, an inquest was held on 25 May 1928 into his death at Smallcombe Farm. According to the post-mortem examination, death was due to natural causes - an enlarged and fatty heart and distension of the stomach, (probably a heart attack). Vincent was buried in the New Cemetery in East Hagbourne, where his brother John Clarence was later interred with him two years later.



JAMES WARNER (1859 - 1859)

James Warner was born in 1859, the third child to John and Elizabeth. Tragically, however, James Warner died at 6 months old on 21 July 1859 and was buried on 27 July in a family tomb in the churchyard at St Andrew's in East Hagbourne. His parents, upon their death, were interred with his remains.

ADA HOLLIDAY (1860 - 1957)



Ada Holliday was born in 1860 in East Hagbourne, only daughter to John and Elizabeth Holliday. She married her first cousin Paul Caudwell on 10 September 1888 in the church in Hagbourne. When the census was taken in 1901, Ada was living with Paul and their daughter Irene (born in 1891) at 3 Spencer Park, Wandsworth, London. The following article appeared in the Wandsworth Borough News on 13 November 1953 giving an account of the Caudwell family.

"For many long years the name of Caudwell has been well-known in Wandsworth, Battersea and Earlsfield in Wandsworth chiefly through Miss Irene Caudwell, author, parochial officer of St Anne's Church and with other official positions. In Battersea, her father, the late Mr Paul Caudwell, was Borough Solicitor for 27 years.

Paul Caudwell passed away in November 1938 - just over two months after his golden wedding celebrations. Irene's mother, Mrs Ada Caudwell, has not only reached the great age of over ninety years, but has just won a certificate of merit for her raffia basket work, also raffia and silk crochet work in the National Handicrafts and Hobbies

Exhibition held in Central Hall, Westminster, in September. The certificate certifies that Mrs Caudwell "has reached a very creditable standard of craftsmanship in the 'Over 80's' section of the exhibition and is awarded the certificate of merit for her submission of outstanding work in the 1953 competition". Mrs Caudwell is niece and daughter-in-law of Mr Job Caudwell, of Spencer Park, who bought the second plot of ground after the "Black Sea" had been drained. The house, built of concrete, was after his own design. Mr Paul Caudwell spent most of his younger days there until his marriage in 1888. He returned to Wandsworth with Mrs Caudwell in 1900.

Mrs Caudwell (like her husband) was a faithful member of St Anne's Church, although unable in recent years to get to church. She is still intensely interested in all the work and life of the parish and works for the bazaars, at which in younger days she used to hold a stall. All her work is done with the use of one eye only, as she lost sight of the other owing to an operation nearly 20 years ago. It is interesting to recall that this dear old lady remained in her home in Earlsfield all through the war and slept every night in her own room on the first floor as usual. Even on the night after incendiary bombs fell on the road in which her own house was one of those which was set on fire, she still kept to her own room. She has met the advancing years with placid acceptance and wonderful courage. In fact she has made nearly £100 for various church purposes during the last few years. We offer her our warmest congratulations on her latest achievement and wish her many more years of happiness".

Ada died on Christmas Eve 1957 and one of her last wishes was for no floral tributes, so her coffin was covered with a pall lent by the Church Union of which she was a member. The pall was made of cloth of gold bordered with crimson velvet exquisitely hand-embroidered in gold and coloured silks. Ada Caudwell's great love of flowers had led her to ask for no floral tributes, as she always disliked the thought of them withering and dying in the cemetery.

FRANCIS HOLLIDAY (1862 - 1937)

Francis was the last child born in 1862 and I wrote about him in Issue 1 (page 3), as he and his wife Mary Lousley were our 'common ancestors'.

I did come across this photo of him recently though, and I was amazed at the deep dimple on his chin, as both my dad Allan and his father Leslie have exactly the same mark. I would be interested to know if this feature runs through any other members of the family!



MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE OF JOHN HOLLIDAY & ELIZABETH CAUDWELL - 1844

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number COL145350



1844. Marriage solemnized at the Church of *Drayton* in the Parish of *Drayton* in the County of *Berks*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
21	<i>July</i>	<i>John Holliday</i>	<i>of full age</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>East Hagburn Berks</i>	<i>James Holliday</i>	<i>Farmer</i>
	<i>Twenty five</i>	<i>Elizabeth Caudwell</i>	<i>of full age</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>Drayton</i>	<i>William Caudwell</i>	<i>Farmer</i>

Married in the *Parish Church* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, *by License* by me, *Edward Hussey Bishop*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *John Holliday* in the Presence of us, *Francis Caudwell Job Caudwell*
Elizabeth Caudwell *Hannah Caudwell Maria Holliday.*

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of Abingdon

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the *9th* day of *May* 2007

MXD 215332

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE. © CROWN COPYRIGHT

WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

EXTRACTS FROM LOUISA EMMA CAUDWELL'S SCRAPBOOK

Louisa Emma Caudwell (1807–1880), one of Elizabeth Caudwell's sisters, left behind a beautifully bound scrapbook of press cuttings taken from the Illustrated London News and its colour supplement. They were items that must have amused and interested her as they have been painstakingly cut out and pasted into the book. The majority of the cuttings are light-hearted stories, jokes, housekeeping tips, society fashion, and news of the royal families of Europe. Below are just a few samples that were taken from the newspaper in the period 1872-3.



"You mustn't touch" from a painting by Mrs Anderson

A CAT'S WONDERFUL INSTINCT - A remarkable story, for the truth of which several responsible persons vouch, is reported from Godalming, Surrey, of a cat which was sent from that town by train to Leeds, and which re-appeared at its old home at Godalming six weeks later. The cat, which is now in the possession of Mrs E Jones, 6 Rose-terrace, Crownypits, Godalming, belonged to her son Mr James Jones, who, with his family, left Godalming shortly before Christmas, in order to take up residence at 22 Harold-view, Burley Fields, Leeds. The cat, a peculiarly marked black and white one, the chief favourite of the son, was conveyed to its destination in a closed basket.

Within five days Mr Jones wrote to his mother informing her that his cat had strayed. A few days ago Mrs Jones' attention was called by several friends to a cat, which was "mewing" piteously outside her son's vacant house at Godalming. She at once identified the creature, and wrote informing her son of the discovery. A representative of a news agency conversed with Mrs Jones at Godalming, yesterday, and she gave the above facts as to the cat's journey. She was quite certain, she said, as to the identity of the animal. Although the story seemed incredible, it was true.

"An eccentric old gentleman, who had a frail memory, was in the habit of addressing a letter to himself, containing the matter he wished to remember, and sending it to his house through the penny post"

THE WIFE KNEW BETTER

"Charlotte, my dear, how is it I find you weeping? Have you had bad news from your husband?"

"Oh, worse than that! My Arthur writes me from Carlsbad that he would die with ardent longings for me, were it not that he could gaze affectionately at my picture, and cover it with a thousand kisses every day".

"That is really very nice of him. And pray, is it that you are crying for? I would give anything to have such a poetic and tenderly loving husband as you have!"

"Ah, yes, my Arthur is very poetical, but let me tell you that, just to try him, I slipped my mother's photo into his travelling bag, instead of my own before he started!"

Mother-in-law jokes were even around in the mid 1800s in some form or another it would appear!!

"A NEAT COOK—We have heard of an old lady who was so very particularly neat, that she would always nicely wash her eggs before she broke them into the pan to fry; and was always particularly careful, moreover, to spit in the pan to see if the fat was just exactly hot enough to fry them. Now this, we think, is a little too particular"



"Going Home" from a painting by J J Hill

If you have enjoyed reading this newsletter about the Holliday family and their ancestors, and would like to know more about any of those mentioned, please contact me and I can send you further information about them.

If there is anyone else in the family 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 post one to them. Also, I would welcome any suggestions of items you might like included in future issues.

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.

The fourth newsletter will be sent to you in September 2008. If you would like me to include something you have written please get it to me by mid August—Thanks.

**Newsletter, Volume 1, Issue 2 (March 08) :
Amendments and Additions**

- ◆ Page 6 : Florence Holliday was born in 1885, not 1895
- ◆ Page 12 :Acknowledgements and Sources—John Cockburn not John Holliday

Acknowledgements and Sources:

National Gazetteer of GB and Ireland, 1868

"Diary of a Village School 1873-2000"

Census: 1841 to 1901

Family history documents from Pat Holliday, including Louisa's Scrapbook

East Hagbourne Village Website

General Register Office (certificate)

David and Jean Holliday in New Zealand for the family photos.



David Joseph Holliday, son of John Warner Holliday, 1937



David and Jean Holliday's four children, taken at school sports' day in New Zealand, 1969. From left to right, Elizabeth Jane, Thomas David, Sarah Louise and Richard William.

Coming in Issue 4:

- ◆ Drayton Manor House, Abingdon
- ◆ Elizabeth Caudwell's parents, William Caudwell and Hannah Lousley and Elizabeth's 14 siblings and their descendants.
- ◆ Appleford—the Village



Photo of Richard William Holliday (youngest son of David Joseph Holliday) taken on board the ship 'Queen Frederica' being presented with a birthday cake by the Captain on the occasion of Richard's second birthday crossing the Tasman Sea to New Zealand. Thomas David Holliday (brother) is in the foreground looking on. 26th December 1967