



Volume 6

Number 3

Autumn 1992

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## E D I T O R I A L

Greetings to our readers everywhere. I hope that those in the Northern Hemisphere have had a good summer, and those in Australia and New Zealand who are about to enter theirs, have a happy time.

I resolved to take as many opportunities as possible to do research this season, and have visited the Society of Genealogists in Charterhouse Buildings, London, St. Catherine's House, Aldwych, Somerset House, the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London, The West Devon Record Office, Plymouth, and the local Family History Centre of the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Struggling to read crumbling parchments in dusty Record Offices, and peering into micro-film readers in dark, airless reading rooms are not everyone's idea of having a good time, and my summer activities have provoked disbelief and disapproval from friends and relations. I have heard comments ranging from "What a waste of time" to "It must be her age" - meaning 'old'.

Unfortunately, for the most part the delving has not tapped great springs of knowledge, and revelations are as scarce as water in the streams of southern England, but here and there a trickle has come through. Although I have not learned a great deal about past Witheridges, others have sent news of the living.

Kathy Witheridge, in Ontario, is now in touch with three cousins, all in their eighties, who are the grandchildren of John Witheridge, born in Bradworthy, North Devon, in 1839, and Miriam Moore. (See family tree magazine Summer 1992). Kathy was in contact first with Mrs. Marguerite Tomblin, then with Mrs. Tomblin's cousin Clarence Ayre, whose story was told in the last edition of the magazine, and now she has heard from Mrs. Stella Oyos, whose mother was Ida Estella Witheridge, daughter of John and Miriam. Mrs. Oyos' son, Lynwood, has sent Kathy details of the Oke and Marwood families from Bradworthy who married into the Witheridge families and emigrated to Canada.

John Witheridge, via Alice and Percy Witheridge, our members in Australia, has received news of a Mrs. Ellen Witheridge, living in New South Wales, who is 103 years old! She is the widow of Philemon Thomas Witheridge who was born in Penzance, Cornwall, in 1890.

One result of poring over the parchment is that we now know

that at least two of the families shown on the IGI as living in Stepney, East London, in the seventeenth century, were from the Barnstaple district, North Devon, and we hope to trace them in more detail.

We also have more definite knowledge of the parentage of children shown in the St. Catherine's House indexes as being born in Stoke Damerel between 1864 and 1884, and research into these, the Kingsbridge and Stoke Damerel families is still going on.

Can we ever say that research is concluded? We have proof that information can come from the most unexpected sources - so keep up the good work.

*Loyce*

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#### FAMILY NEWS

Maureen and Richard Witheridge of Bath have had cause for double celebrations recently. In May their daughter Susan reached the grand young age of twenty one, and their son, Mark, has become engaged to Miss Jenny Llewellyn, of Birmingham. Mark and Jenny are to be married shortly and will live in Birmingham.

We send good wishes to Susan, and to the young couple, and congratulations all round!

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#### Note on the Registration District "Barton Regis"

Mrs. Albertina Rossiter tells us that the Registration District given in the St. Catherine's House indexes as "Barton Regis", no longer exists. It came into being in 1878 and consisted of the Clifton, Lawrence Hill, Barton Hill, St. George's, and two other areas of the City of Bristol, which was then in the county of Gloucester.

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# THE GREAT ADVENTURE

From a talk given on Witheridge Day, 1992,

by Kathy Witheridge, of Sarnia, Ontario

Families had started to move from Britain to North America and Canada in the eighteenth century. Poverty at home, where farm labourers were finding it difficult to survive, was one of the main reasons for emigration to a land of opportunity.

From small villages in Devon, families emigrated to North America, and wrote home to tell stories of their new land, how much money could be earned, and how they ate meat, vegetables and fruit in abundance. Naturally, the emigration snowballed, drawing relatives, friends and neighbours overseas.

In the 1840's and 1850's the steerage fare (3rd class) varied from £3. 10s. to £5. 00d. The "Isaac Webb", a large emigrant vessel of 1850, charged £4.00d., for steerage passengers and from £6.- 7.00d., for cabin passengers (2nd class) including provisions.

Many Parishes assisted with the fares because it was cheaper to send the poor away rather than have them stay at a cost of £9.00d., a year in the workhouse, or at £12.00d., a year on highway relief.

Some landlords paid £10.00d., for each emigrant to provide the whole of the passage money, and in addition, paid a £5.00d., allowance for outfitting each person.

In his book "The Great Migration", Edwin C. Gillett tells of a Canadian settler who advised a group of four steerage passengers to provide themselves with the following for their trip:-

" 16-18 pecks of potatoes in a barrel with a lock on it,  
40 lbs. of good beef, well salted in brine,  
15 lbs. butter,  
3 lbs. coffee,  
3 or 4 dozen old bottled beer, which has less chance of  
flying than if new; some dozens of eggs packed in salt,  
6 cod fish packed dried for keeping, (milk does not keep  
well) No sweetmeats are relished at sea; a few oranges which  
at times taste very pleasant to the parched palate; some  
cheese,  
8 lbs treacle in a flagon,

1 stone barley; a good deal of pepper and mustard; plenty of carrots, turnips and onions for broth, these will keep all the voyage.

28 lbs. fine ship bread, 8 or 20 quartan loaves, baked hard; 1 boll oatmeal, 6 packs baked into bannocks and cakes, very well fired and flat for packing; some white puddings, some suet for dumplings.

A few candles and a white iron lantern with horn. 1 bottle vinegar to use in water on ship board; 1 bottle castor oil; 2 or 3 dozen of colocynth and rhubarb pills; 6 lbs of Epsom salts and 1 lb. senna (These medicines are very dear here)."

It was advised that strong linen or sacking bags were useful for potatoes, but oatmeal and flour should be kept in a strong barrel or flax-seed cask.

Single men must have a bed or mattress, a metal plate, cup or mug, knife, fork and spoon. A bed tick rather than a feather bed was recommended for the journey. The tick could be stuffed with straw and an old piece of carpet put under the tick would help keep the occupant warm.

What of clothing? The following was the minimum outfit recommended to Parishes for their labourers, including any other articles they might possess:-

Fur cap,  
Warm great coat,  
Flushing jacket and trousers,  
Canvas frock and two pairs trousers.  
Duck frock and trousers,  
Two jersey frocks,  
Four shirts,  
Four pairs stockings,  
Three pairs shoes,  
A Bible and Prayer Book

Women were to have the same in proportion and especially a warm cloak.

A Flushing jacket was made out of rough, thick woollen cloth, as worn in Flushing, a port in Holland. A canvas frock was a worker's smock, and a duck frock was of strong linen or cotton fabric, similar to canvas.

Having completed the practical preparations for the journey, there remained one very important package.

"Emigrants should take with them a good character, (if they

have the happiness to possess one), fairly written and well attested, also copies of marriage and baptismal registers or any other certificates or papers likely to be useful, the whole to be enclosed in a small case."

In the first half of the nineteenth century, the conditions on board some of the emigrant ships were appalling. In 1835-1836 a British Act of Parliament reduced the permitted number of passengers to be carried from 4 to 3 for every 5 tons. Legislation was passed in 1842 to remedy bad conditions by increasing the space between decks. Bedding had to be aired on deck twice a week, weather permitting, and the ship had to be fumigated with vinegar at the same intervals. Passengers were ordered to clean themselves regularly on the upper deck. The passengers were urged to bear in mind that their arrival in America in high spirits or in ill health depended upon their attention to these rules. Not until the Act of 1847 was there any regulation that adult passengers of different sexes, unless husband and wife, should be berthed separately.

In 1844 the 628 ton emigrant ship "St. Vincent" accommodated 240 passengers. The length between decks was 124 feet, the height 6' 4" and the breadth of the main hatchway 25' 3". Located between the rows of berths throughout the length of the ship were fixed tables and benches, with plate racks and water carriers beneath, and there were some hanging shelves fastened between beams.

Double berths were 6' x 3', and single berths were 6' x 2'. A partition extending from top to bottom separated each berth from the next. Each bed place had a seat fixed at its outer end. On either side of the deck were water closets for females, but male passengers had to use those situated on the upper deck.

Conditions in the North Devon ships were, in general, far superior to those in vessels which sailed from Liverpool carrying Irish emigrants. Conditions on these ships were sometimes horrifying. On some voyages the water became entirely undrinkable. It had a sickening appearance like water from a dirty kennel after rain, with a rancid smell which turned the stomach. Sometimes ship's water could be made usable, though repulsive, by the addition of vinegar or peppermint, if that was available.

The daily allowance of bread or meal for an adult on a typical vessel in 1847 was one pound, and half that quantity for a child under 14, and a third of that quantity for a child under 7 years. It was distributed five days a week,



and good biscuit was given out on the other two days.

Defective diet, bad water, overcrowding, and the lack of medical supervision on these vessels led to cholera, and ship fever, and many of the passengers did not survive to land in North America.

On the other hand, according to information given by Cecil Collacott of Bradworthy, Devon, some 10,000 people were carried across the Atlantic from North Devon in local ships, without the loss of one vessel with passengers, or any large numbers of passengers from disease. Many of these passengers subscribed to make presentations to the Master of the ship in which they had travelled, and surviving diaries of the emigrants give happy accounts of the passage from Devon to North America.

One ship - the "Lord Ramsey", built in Quebec in 1832, sailed to and fro across the Atlantic from North Devon for 21 years, for most of the time under a famous Master, Richard England, and it carried thousands of passengers.

None of the other ships was fitted in such superior style as the "Lord Ramsey", with its elegantly turned and coloured supports dividing the separate berths, and on deck its spacious cook-house for the use of passengers. It appeared more like a comfortable hotel than an emigrant ship.

On May 1, 1833, the Rev. J.H. Eynon and his wife Elizabeth (Betsy) Dart, a female preacher, boarded the brig "Dalusia" at Padstow, Cornwall, England, bound for North America. Rev. Eynon was a pioneer missionary sent from the Bible Christian Church in England to the Canadian Mission. He arrived in Quebec on June 17, 1833, after a voyage that required three departures, the first two attempts having failed due to bad weather. He left Quebec on June 21st, 1833, and arrived in Cobourg on July 15th, 1833. From there he set out for Darlington, an area where he and his wife were to take a prominent part in the work of the Kingdom of God.

He was the answer to the prayers and requests for spiritual leadership from some of the early settlers in Darlington. These pioneer folk from England, mostly from Devon and Cornwall, were of the Bible Christian Church denomination, and from the parent body in the old land, they sought and obtained help.

Most of the migrants from North Devon chose Canada West (now southern Ontario) and they invariably settled in the County of Durham, some in Darlington, and today we can see the names of these courageous people on our family trees Grills, Okes, and Witheridges among them.

P I O N E E R S

John Witheridge, born 1839, Bradworthy, Devon, died 1929 at Edam, Saskatchewan, Canada, and Miriam Moore Witheridge, his wife, born 1842, Bradworthy, Devon, died 1924 at Edam, Saskatchewan. John and Miriam were the grandparents of Clarence Ayre, who featured in our article in the summer edition of the magazine.



Extracts from the "Canadian Statesman" 1909

"A number of the relations of Mr. John Witheridge assembled on Thursday evening 23rd December, to assist in celebrating his birthday."..... After a life of 70 years, the greater part of which has been spent in this vicinity, it is the unanimous verdict of your fellow citizens and neighbours, as well as your nearer of kin, that it is indeed well for our country and our neighbourhood that you have sojourned with us..... It is to you and to other like rugged pioneers, who, from the fruits of your toil, hardships and privations, it has been given to see your country and your neighbourhood grow from being practically a wilderness to one of the fairest spots on God's earth. . . . The world has a need, Canada has a need, your locality has a need of just such men and citizens as you have proved yourself to be."

What a marvellous tribute! John was then presented with "a Morris Chair", and he lived another twenty years to enjoy it.

JOHN WITHERIDGE, DIED 1645 - VICTIM OF WAR?

By Joyce Browne

"PCC Admins. 1649 - 1654"

"John (Johan) Witheridge, batchelor, Plymouth, Devon. Admins granted to Arthur Witheridge, brother."

Not much there to fire the imagination, but it started me off on a search. I read the short note above whilst scanning the indexes at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London, trying to identify a John Witheridge, Mariner, who died "in parts beyond the seas". I knew that this John could not be the one I was seeking, but who was he?

I asked to see the micro-film of the actual entry in the PCC (Pregrogative Court of Canterbury) registers, but this was of no help. It consisted of a very short paragraph almost illegible except for the names. I was left with the questions - did this man actually die in Plymouth, or was Plymouth the nearest place where his brother Arthur could apply to the Court for an order to dispose of his goods and settle his estate?

I knew of no 'John' born in Plymouth, but I did recall that a 'John' was born to Arthure Witheridge and Johanne Edgecombe of Ermington, and that he had a brother Arthur. It was reasonable to assume that this was the man, especially as we know nothing about him beyond the date of his baptism in Ermington, the 31st March, 1621. We have never been able to find a marriage for him, and there is no record in the Ermington registers of a burial. He was the sixth child and fourth son of Arthure and Johanne. The seventh child and fifth son was Arthur, baptised on the 25th January, 1624.

The next questions were, when did he die, and if it was in Plymouth, what was he doing there?

I had to go to Plymouth to check the parish registers. I could find no baptismal records for a John, but among the burials for the 20th April 1645 was the entry "John Wetheridge". Long before I came to his name I realised a possible explanation for his presence in Plymouth - the Civil War was raging - was John fighting for the Parliamentary cause?

Civil War broke out in England when King Charles I raised his standard in Nottingham on 22nd August, 1642, and marched on London, intending to subdue the rebels and a troublesome

Parliament. The first battle of the War was at Edgehill, in Warwickshire. This was not decisive but ended to the King's advantage. He failed to make the most of this, and the first Civil War went on for another four years.

All England was involved, and the fighting was bloody and bitter, sometimes neighbour against neighbour and father against son. It is most probable that the Ermington Witheridges were Parliamentarians as their Manorial landlord was William Strode, Member of Parliament for Bere Alston, a leader of the opposition to the King, and one of the famous five Members whom the King had tried to arrest in the House of Commons.

Plymouth was strongly Parliamentary, as were most other Devonshire ports, and the Navy. At the beginning of the War, defensive earthworks and forts were built around the town on the land side, and although surrounded by Royalist forces, Plymouth withstood a siege for over three years.

In September, 1643, Prince Maurice, a son of the King of Bohemia, and nephew of King Charles arrived at Plymouth with five regiments of horse and nine of foot, and on the 3rd December, 1643, was active in an engagement later known as the Battle of Freedom Fields. The townsmen of Plymouth not only withstood the assault, but defeated the Royalist armies.

The population of Plymouth was swollen by refugees and by Parliamentary soldiers who had escaped after battles in Cornwall and Devon, in which the Royalist forces under Sir Ralph Hopton had been victorious, and had found their way to the town.

Prince Maurice issued a proclamation forbidding anyone to trade with Plymouth, and stopped food coming in from the countryside. Some supplies did come in by sea, but not enough to feed the increased population. They were also desperately short of water as the supply from Dartmoor was cut off, and many died of disease and starvation. King Charles himself came and asked the city to surrender, but it would not.

It was not until 1646 that the New Model Army under Fairfax and Cromwell cleared Devon of Royalist forces and the siege was finally lifted.

The siege of Plymouth has gone down in the town's history as an example of courage and endurance.

Anyone reading the parish registers cannot fail to notice that the burials during this period far exceed any other events. It is estimated that 8,000 people died during the siege. John Witheridge, at the age of twenty four, was one of them.

But let us spare a thought for his brother, Arthur. The Ermington family had been going through a period of trouble. Arthur, senior, was involved in law suits when he died in 1640. His eldest son, Thomas, baptised in 1611, died a year later. Lionel, baptised in 1613, never married, was in charge of Strode Manor farm, living with his widowed mother. We know nothing about the next son, William. beyond his baptism in 1616. Did he go off to war and disappear?

It would appear that Arthur was the only one able to go and settle his brother's affairs. Although John died in 1645, administration was not applied for until some time between 1649 and 1654. Was this because of the national situation, or because it was too dangerous to go to Plymouth? Certainly Arthur would not have been able to enter the town during the siege. Perhaps it was difficult for the family to find out what had happened to John.

We do know that Arthur named his first son, born in 1652, "John", in memory of an older brother who died away from home .

To the Conftables of *Egbackland*; and after notice taken of Publifhing, To the Conftables or Tythingmen of *St. Budeaux*; there to be Publifhed.

**F**Or as much as divers perfons difaffected to his Majefties fervice, make their daily recourfe into Plymouth, furnifhing the Rebels there with all manner of provifion for Man and Horfe, contrary to his Majefties Proclamation, prohibiting the fame : thefe are therefore fignifying, That if any perfon of what degree or quality, doe ever prefume to have any commerce or dealing with any in the faid Towne of Plymouth, or otherwife; fend into the faid Towne, or take, or carry with him any

D 2 Horfes

Part of Prince Maurice's Proclamation



King Charles asking Plymouth to surrender

## THE WITHERIDGE SOCIETY

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday,

4th May, 1992.

1. Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Philip Hookway, Barbara, Larry and Carl Smith, Bessie Witheridge, Gordon and Monica Witheridge, Anthony and Françoise Witheridge and Joan and Harry Payne.
2. Minutes of the AGM held Monday, 6th May, 1991: These were accepted as published in Volume 5, Number 2, of the Witheridge Times, Summer 1991.
3. Matters arising: There were no matters arising.
4. Chairman's Report: The Chairman praised the work of all committee members and workers, and thanked them for their endeavours. He also expressed his thanks to all who were present for making the effort to attend this year's Witheridge Day, especially to Kathleen and Paul, who had made the journey from Canada.
5. Secretary's Report: The Secretary reported that he had had a very busy year, posting nearly two hundred and fifty letters, to committee members, Society members prospective members, making research enquiries, advertisements, and invitations. He wished good luck to whoever succeeded him in the post of Secretary, and thanked all the other members of the committee for their help over the past four years.

(A more detailed report is published separately)

6. Membership Secretary's Report: Kim reported that we had had a good year and that membership was at the 103 level. She made a point of welcoming all new members, both present and absent.
7. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer (Jason) reported that on Witheridge Day he had collected £204.00p. and that the total amount in the bank would now stand at between £500-600.00p. having paid out all the outstanding accounts etc. He maintained that the charge to members should remain the same for the coming year. He also offered his assistance to the next treasurer.

8. Research Co-ordinator's Report: Richard reported that he was close to finishing the data that he was putting on computer, that he had contacted various groups through the Devon Family History Society, but had found no information that we did not already have. He thought that we should investigate fully the untapped source of information of Service records at Kew, brought to our attention by Mrs. Billings of Leicester.

9. Election of Officers: It was voted that the undermentioned should carry out the duties for the coming year:-

Chairman	Graham Browne
Secretary	Mayda Witheridge
Treasurer	Kim Cook
Editor and PRO	Joyce Browne
Membership Secretary	John Witheridge
Research Co-ordinator	Richard Witheridge
North American Representative	Kathleen Witheridge
Committee Members	Susan Witheridge Annette Witheridge Philip Witheridge
Publisher and Distributor	Philip Witheridge

10. Any other business: Philip suggested that the rule of a four year limit of duty for committee members and officers be amended. The meeting was divided equally for and against this proposal, and a compromise was reached. This being a proposal that a member having completed four years in any one post could continue in that post only if there was no other member who would be willing to fill the vacancy. Only then could the member continue, if the other members voted for him/her to do so, and then only for another year. This might continue each year if the same conditions arose. It was agreed that the constitution would not be altered for the time being to give members a chance to see this in operation, and enable them to vote on this subject at a later date.

It was agreed by all present to stress to members by an insertion in the Witheridge Times that subscriptions should be paid only to the Membership Secretary or the Treasurer. This point was raised in order to eliminate the situation of cheques or postal orders not reaching the correct destination for some time, and finally not being honoured by the bank as being out of date, as has happened recently.

Mr. Ralph Witheridge, our newest member, stated that he wished to express his thanks for the way in which he and his wife, Pam, had been made welcome by the members who were present that day.

It was agreed that Alderton should again be the venue for Witheridge Day, 1993.

It was agreed that the Secretary should send a letter of condolence to Mr. Malcolm Witheridge and Mrs. Margaret Forrester at the loss of their mother, Mrs. P.D. Witheridge, who died on the 27th January, 1992.

#### Secretary's Report, 1992

The Secretary reported that he had had a very busy year, and had enjoyed every minute of it! John said, that as it was his last year as Secretary, he would like to go out with a bang, and justify the large salary he had earned!

On behalf of the Society he had in the past year written and posted over two hundred letters. Ninety of these were to try to attract new members, and offered invitations to this year's Witheridge Day. He had obtained the Wetheridge. Witheridge names from a list he had drawn up from telephone directories. One hundred and ten letters could be placed in various categories:- letters requested by members of the committee, letters to members and committee members, letters to Record Offices regarding research, and what he enjoyed most - letters to distant members of our families. He felt honoured that people had treated him, not as an inquisitive pest, but as a member of their family, a confidante and friend.

There were also letters to members of the GOONs - the Guild of One Name Studies - from whom he had gleaned a mountain of information which had been a great source of interest.

In the last few months, the Secretary had advertised three times on television, on Channel Four teletext, hoping to arouse interest in the Society. He had submitted reports for the Witheridge Times, and articles which he thought he had enjoyed writing more than we had enjoyed reading!

John wished success to the member who would take the post of Secretary, and expressed his thanks to the Editor for her co-operation, and to all the members of the committee for their assistance over the years.

John Witheridge            Hon. Secretary.



GRO CERTIFICATES HELD FOR WITHERIDGE SOCIETY -  
 SEPTEMBER, 1992

BIRTHS

WITHERIDGE

<u>Christian Name(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Via</u>
Abel	18.01.1876	West Bromwich	081
Albert Edwin	29.08.1881	Christchurch	006
Albert Thomas	22.01.1889	Pancras	023
Alfred Percy	02.02.1855	Tavistock	008
Alice Maud Mary	13.05.1867	Plymouth	006
Amy	19.02.1878	King's Norton	005
Annette Ruth	08.07.1960	Sutton Coldfield	005
Arthur*	02.01.1887	Birmingham	005
Arthur Beer	03.10.1860	Plymouth	006
Arthur Ernest	20.01.1887	Birmingham	005
Arthur John* (Lapworth)	09.03.1884	Birmingham	006
Beauchamp Henry	05.03.1884	Stoke Damerel	001
Cecil (Cyril) Frank	28.09.1893	Christchurch	006
Charles Roberts	01.06.1908	Tynemouth	001
Cordelia	27.04.1844	Tavistock	006
Dennis	01.07.1922	Birmingham	005
Dorcas Mary	30.09.1875	Stoke Damerel	022
Dorothy	19.12.1896	Fulham	001
Edmund	21.04.1849	Plymouth	001
Eileen	01.07.1922	Birmingham	005
Elizabeth	25.01.1838	Bideford	001
Emily	01.10.1846	Barnstaple	001
Emily Alice	25.01.1868	Christchurch	006
Emma Jane	13.10.1844	Plymouth	006
Eva	06.11.1871	Barnstaple	001
Francis Robert*	29.05.1853	Plymouth	006
Frederick	09.02.1844	Birmingham	006
George	23.01.1841	Barnstaple	001
George	28.09.1858	Newington	006
George*	25.02.1894	Aston	006
George Henry	06.05.1854	Poplar	006
Helen Rachel	29.07.1971	Sutton Coldfield	005
Isabella Annie	04.02.1881	Newport	006
Jacob	03.08.1850	Barnstaple	001
James	27.04.1841	Barnstaple	001
James	04.01.1849	Barnstaple	001
James	08.06.1882	Aston	005
James Henry	04.01.1881	Birmingham	005
James Henry*	21.01.1907	Birmingham	005

<u>Christian Name(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Via</u>
John	22.12.1839	Bideford	060
John	15.04.1865	Barnstaple	001
John F.**	16.12.1869	Ontario Canada	060
John Roberts*	14.02.1932	Tynemouth	001
Joseph Fred	21.06.1881	Plymouth	006
Lenna Beatrice	06.10.1870	Plymouth	001
Leslie Arthur	18.10.1914	Birmingham	005
Lilian	31.07.1903	Warrington	006
Maria	23.05.1861	Barnstaple	001
Mary (Blackmore)	12.06.1849	Barnstaple	001
Mary	20.09.1860	Poplar	006
Mary Craven	23.02.1893	Fulham	001
Mary Elizabeth	19.05.1880	Barnstaple	001
Peter Richard	28.08.1943	Walsall	
Philemon*	01.06.1843	Walsingham	006
Philip Henry*	06.07.1934	Aylesbury	008
Philip Paul	30.04.1964	Lichfield	008
Polly	05.07.1863	Tavistock	008
Reginald			
Charles* **	07.01.1890	Toronto Canada	060
Richard	21.12.1867	Holsworthy	060
Richard**	11.07.1897	Toronto Canada	060
Richard Charles			
(Short Cert)	11.02.1975	Walsall	
Robert Herbert	12.10.1887	Pancras	023
Sidney Philip*	30.05.1898	Plympton St.M.	008
Simon Richard	05.04.1968	Cheltenham	008
Susan	26.09.1838	Barnstaple	001
Wallace Jacob			
(Short Cert)	23.02.1893	Fulham	001
William	15.12.1840	Barnstaple	001
William*	17.06.1852	Aston	006
William	23.09.1856	Barnstaple	001
William	21.10.1863	Holsworthy	060
William Charles**	25.08.1868	Darlington, Canada	060
William Henry	20.21.1870	Plymouth	006
William Henry*	10.12.1916	Birmingham	005
William John	07.04.1873	Barnstaple	001
William Leonard	17.10.1906	Christchurch	006
William Moses			
Bowden*	20.06.1838	Plymouth	006
Yvonne Dawn	05.10.1963	Sutton Coldfield	005

#### MARRIAGES

Abel	08.01.1838	East Stonehouse	006
Abel*	04.07.1908	Walsall	008
Albert	17.10.1908	Birmingham	008

<u>Christian Name(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Via</u>
Alice	08.11.1846	Longfleet, Poole	006
Alice Emily	25.12.1913	Kentish Town	023
Ann Elizabeth	20.06.1857	Plymouth	006
Arthur	18.10.1851	Plymouth	006
Arthur	09.01.1866	Plympton St.M.	006
Arthur*	25.12.1913	Birmingham	005
Arthur*	02.08.1947	Birmingham	005
Arthur George*	13.04.1891	Christchurch	006
Arthur George*	05.03.1898	Christchurch	006
Arthur John*	03.06.1906	Aston Brook	006
Betsy	05.05.1847	Combmartin	001
Caroline	01.05.1855	West Bromwich	006
Charles Roberts*	11.07.1931	Tynemouth	001
Charlotte (Witteridge)	27.03.1838	Poole	006
Clifford George**	08.10.1938	Toronto Canada	060
Cyril (Cecil) Frank*	12.10.1940	Saffron Walden	006
Dennis*	25.06.1956	Smethwick	005
Edmund	18.10.1870	Stoke Damerel	001
Edwin	13.07.1863	Clifton	006
Edwin James Albert	13.10.1877	Christchurch	006
Eliza	10.06.1857	London City	001
Emily	30.07.1868	Tavistock	008
Emily	24.05.1890	Chester-le-Street	065
Emma Jane*	28.06.1871	Poole	006
Francis Robert*	28.04.1879	Christchurch	006
George	25.03.1839	Bradworthy	060
George	19.02.1860	Combmartin	001
George	18.08.1861	Plymouth	022
George*	01.09.1923	Birmingham	008
George Henry	25.12.1876	Holborn	006
George Henry	08.05.1899	Walsall	008
Harry Arthur	27.07.1912	Bridgwater	008
Henry	24.06.1855	Plymouth	006
Henry	09.06.1945	Totnes	021
Ida**	21.10.1895	Bowmanville, Canada	060
Jacob Thomas	29.01.1876	Newcastle-on-Tyne	001
James	14.08.1851	Newport, Mon.	001
James	11.11.1871	Newport, Mon.	008
James	15.06.1872	Barnstaple	001
James*	19.05.1907	Birmingham	006
James Henry	15.09.1934	Smethwick	006
John	07.04.1801	Combmartin	065
John	25.11.1827	Combmartin	065
John	07.05.1859	Combmartin	065
John	23.07.1864	Plymouth	065

<u>Christian Names(s)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Via</u>
John Beer*	22.04.1840	Stoke Damerel	006
John Beer*	14.05.1882	Plymouth	006
John Northmore*	20.11.1867	Kingsbridge	017
John Northmore*	24.03.1903	Devonport	017
John Roberts*	07.07.1979	N. Tyneside East	001
Leah Maude	02.04.1919	Christchurch	006
Mahala	25.12.1871	Plymouth	001
Marjorie Hilda	28.07.1934	Fulham	001
Mary Craven	06.10.1919	Fulham	001
Mary Maria	19.12.1874	Tynemouth	065
Olive Prudence	22.06.1915	Kingston	001
Peter Richard	18.12.1967	Brownhills	066
Philip	09.12.1857	Plympton St.Mary	001
Philip Bowden	09.02.1840	East Stonehouse	006
Philip Henry*	02.09.1961	Stafford	008
Reginald Charles**	04.09.1912	Toronto Canada	060
Richard*	26.03.1857	Bideford	060
Richard	15.09.1861	Tavistock	006
Richard	30.06.1863	Tavistock	006
Richard* **	29.04.1885	Bowmanville Canada	060
Robert	05.03.1843	East Stonehouse	006
Robert*	19.05.1850	East Stonehouse	006
Robert	03.02.1879	Birmingham	001
Robert	30.09.1918	Fulham	001
Robert Ralph	17.07.1863	Plymouth	006
Samuel John	08.03.1878	Portsea Island	001
Sarah**	26.03.1891	Darlington Canada	060
Sydney Philip*	29.12.1923	Plympton St.Mary	008
Thomas	27.08.1848	Plymouth	001
Thomas	11.07.1858	Plymouth	008
Thomas	01.12.1859	Plymouth	008
Thomas Henry	12.05.1942	Northumberland South	065
William	08.03.1848	Plymouth	001
William	23.12.1853	Totnes	008
William	20.02.1854	Tavistock	008
William	09.09.1872	Dudley	001
William	27.10.1872	Birmingham	001
William	29.03.1879	Barnstaple	001
William	25.03.1883	Cardiff	001
William Bowden	04.05.1935	Ermington	021
William Charles**	21.06.1889	Bowmanville Canada	060
William Henry	17.03.1891	Weston-Super-Mare	006
William Henry	20.10.1894	Fulham	001
William Robert	03.1902	Poole	006
Yvonne Dawn	23.11.1985	Smethwick	005

A list of Death Certificates available will be published at a later date.

NEW MEMBERS

Birth Pedigrees

99 Mr. Gordon F. Rossiter  
100 Mrs. Britt Marie Rossiter  
101 Miss Helfrid Maria Albertina Rossiter  
Atervandsgatan 3, 55439 Jonkoping, Sweden

(1) Gordon F. Rossiter; (2) Frank Charles Rossiter 1916-1980. (3) Albertina Ethel Witheridge. (4) Edwin William Witheridge 1891-1966. (5) Alice Ethel Caple 1892-1970. (8) Joseph Edwin Witheridge 1866-1944. (9) Mary Ellen Totterdell 1870-1945. (16) Edwin Witheridge 1835-1881 (17) Albertina Cumming 1846-1903. (32) Edward Witheridge 1795-1860. (33) Mary Gear 1801-1874.

Combe Martin and Berrynarbor circa 1531-1859 Bristol areas and Somerset. 1859-1980s Sweden - present date.

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102 Mrs. Albertina Rossiter  
Little Diligent, Stone Allerton, Axbridge, Somerset,  
BS26 2NR

(1) Albertina Ethel Rossiter (2) Edwin William Witheridge 1891-1966. (3) Alice Ethel Caple 1892-1970. (4) Joseph Edwin Witheridge 1866-1944. (5) Mary Ellen Totterdell 1870-1945. (8) Edwin Witheridge 1795-1860. (17) Mary Gear 1801-1874. (32) George Witheridge 17566-1808. (33) Mary Norcott.

Combe Martin and Berrynarbor 1531-1859, Bristol area and Somerset 1859 to present date.

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103 Mr. Ralph Wetheridge

104 Mrs. Pam Wetheridge

24 Rhiw Tremaen, Bridgend, Glamorgan. CF31 2JA

(1) Ralph Sidney Wetheridge 1941 (2) James Wetheridge 1904-1983. (3) May Elizabeth Humphries - 1977. (4) Charles Edward Wetheridge 1879-1930. (5) ? (8) Charles Edward Wetheridge 1849- (9) Louisa Jane Goodwin. (16) James Wetheridge, circa 1800 - (17) Eliza ?  
Pancras and Camberwell circa 1800 - 1980 -

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105 Mrs. Phyllis May Cocking  
4A/1041 Pittwater Road, Collaroy, New South Wales,  
Australia  
(1) Phyllis May Cocking 1981. (2) Philemon Thomas Witheridge  
1890-1972. (3) Ellen Richards 1899 - (4) John Witheridge  
1848-1917. (5) Esther Jennings. (8) Thomas Witheridge 1808-  
1871. (9) Jane Thomas. (16) Francis Witheridge 1782- (17)  
Ann Eastaway. (32) Thomas Witheridge 1751- (33) Mary Howe.  
Combe Martin and Berrynarbor circa 1531-1820. Lymington,  
Walsingham, Watchet, Barnstaple 1820 - 1851/2/3. Helston and  
Penzance and Swansea 1853-1929. New South Wales 1929  
present date.

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### STRANGER THAN FICTION

By John Witheridge

We all have stories to tell about our forbears - some about  
fools, some romantic, some about dedication, some about  
heroes, and some stranger than fiction. Try this one for  
size.

Some time between 1914 and 1918, a young man ran away from  
home to join the Army and fight for his country. In due  
course he was sent to the front to fight in anger. After a  
while he thought that he was not really cut out for that  
life, and he ran away again.

"There's nothing new in this" I can hear you say, "It's  
happened before." (No, not like this, it hasn't) The young  
man was caught and tried as a deserter. You know the  
terrible punishment as well as I do. Sentence was passed.  
The young man broke down and cried as many others would.  
Then he cried for his mother...

Not surprising, really. You see, this young man was still  
only fourteen years old. I shall not tell you his name for  
I would not like to embarrass his family over what I  
consider to be an act of bravery.

I think that there were some of all the qualities in my  
first paragraph in this boy. He was a bit of a fool for not  
counting the cost of joining the Army, a little romantic in  
his ideas of what life at the front would be like, but  
dedicated in his love for his country, and a hero in his  
wish to serve. Fiction? The absolute truth - told to me by  
one of my correspondents. It is a pity that he was not a  
Witheridge, but he was a Hero who had the good sense to  
marry one. God Bless Him.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE SOCIETY SHOULD BE PAID TO THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY.

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USEFUL ADDRESSES

Devon Record Office, (Tel.No. 0392-53509)  
Castle Street, Exeter, Devon EX4 3PQ

West Devon Record Office (Tel.No. 0752-26485)  
Clare Place,  
Coxside,  
Plymouth, Devon PL4 OJW

North Devon Record Office  
Tuly Street,  
Barnstaple, Devon

Devon Family History Society  
Membership Secretary, Mrs. P. Witwicka,  
4a Cookworthy Road,  
North Prospect,  
Plymouth, Devon PL2 2LP

Society of Genealogists, (Tel.No. 071-251 8799)  
14 Charterhouse Buildings,  
Goswell Road,  
London EC1M 7BA

