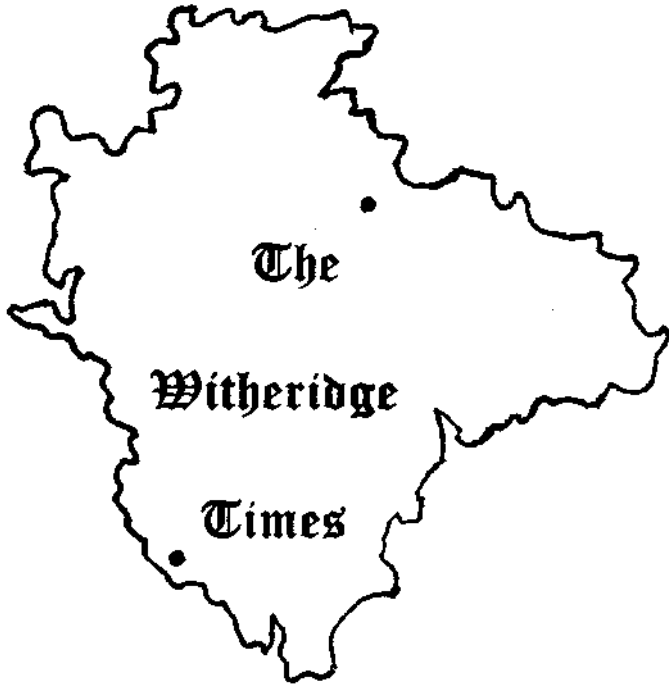


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VISIT THE WITHERIDGE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY WEB SITE!

<http://www2.ebtech.net/~kathpaul>

EDITORIAL

Greetings from an English summer more like November, with rain, drizzle and fog.

The drizzle we experienced on our Witheridge weekend didn't dampen our spirits, and we were heartened by the good will messages we sent to us, especially from the far away places of Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and we can quite understand that, although our 'family' would like to be with us, the expense is prohibitive.

I am writing this as editor of the official journal of 'The Witheridge Family History Society'. The reasons for the decision to change our name are reported in the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting. This does not change our aims and objectives, and you will find examples of our desire to spread information and knowledge of our Witheridge families in this edition of the magazine.

From New Zealand Eve Witheridge tells us of some not widely known circumstances which affected her life, and David Witheridge enlarges our knowledge of a family in North Devon. The memoirs of R.E. Witheridge Chapman continue with his life in the Royal Navy, which he joined shortly before the outbreak of the first World War.

I will say "Happy summer reading and researching" and "Thankyou" to our contributors - keep those contributions coming!

Joyce

PLEASE NOTE

**FROM NOW ON CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO
'THE WITHERIDGE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY'**



FAMILY NEWS

On Thursday, 2nd May, two days before our annual re-union, our President Kim Cook and her husband Roy had the sad experience of attending the funeral of their only granddaughter. The baby, named Grace, daughter of Jason and Zoe Cook, was stillborn, and the events immediately preceding the birth were very traumatic for Zoe and Jason and all the family. We could only give sympathy, and hopes that they will all recover from this sad time.

Another cause for sadness is the news that our member Paul Freed of Minneapolis, died on 16th April after a long illness. Paul was brother to our members Bruce Freed and Marcia Taylor of Essex. Paul was Professor Emeritus of Piano in the School of Music at the University of Minnesota, and was an active pianist in the community. He was a graduate of Hamline University, held an Artist's Diploma from the Basel Conservatory in Switzerland, and advanced degrees from Florida State University for piano performance. He made many contributions to the musical life of Minnesota, and was held in affection by all who knew him.

Paul came to our tenth anniversary re-union in Devon 1997 and we know that he will be sorely missed.

We send our condolences to all his family.

In 1997, when members of the Society visited Devon, we were met in the village of Bradworthy by local historian Cecil Collacott who pointed out places of interest. Cecil was a friend of Kathy and Paul Witheridge of Ontario, and gave great help to Kathy in her researches into Paul's Bradworthy family. With great regret Kathy reports that Cecil died in the Autumn of 2001. It appears that the only family he had is a niece who lives in the London area. Cecil helped many people in Canada and elsewhere in their researches into families who had lived in the Bradworthy area, and Kathy is pleased to learn that a museum is to be set up in Bradworthy to accommodate the many books, notes and items of interest which Cecil had in his possession.

Now for a happy event - our representative in Australia, Dorothy Witheridge, tells us that her son, Brad and his wife, Robyn, had a son born in July 2001. Congratulations and good wishes all round!

Another cause for rejoicing was to see Ron Dixon and Terry Finemore at the Tenterden reunion. Both members have had serious operations in the recent past, and it was a joy to see them recovered, and able to take part in the events of the weekend. Keep taking the tablets, gentlemen!

THE NINETY NINERS

by Eve Witheridge

The 'grape vine' works very well here, in New Zealand. Velma Metcalfe, our Witheridge Society representative, was told that an Eve Witheridge was to be on a programme on the national radio called "Sounds Historical" - so she might be interested in listening in? Indeed she was - and did - and consequently asked me if I would write an item to be included in the Witheridge Times. It's all about a group called "The Ninety Niners".

Way back, during the war, we all did our bit for King and Country and many of us joined the Military Services. Although we didn't know anyone else when we started off, with living and working together we soon became like family. I myself, joined the ATS and spent the first three years with an ATS unit until I was sent to Belgium, where we were the first girls to go in after the liberation. There we felt we were really helping to win the war.

After the peace came demobilisation and back to civvy street where life soon became tame and monotonous, and we missed the company of all our friends. So, when I heard that the New Zealand Government was asking for ex-servicewomen to join the Royal New Zealand Air Force for two years, I, along with over 2000 others, applied. At last - a chance to see the world!

After interviews and medicals in London, one hundred women between the ages of 20 and 30 were chosen to go to New Zealand. It was all part of the immigration scheme, and we were 'farewelled' by the New Zealand Ambassador who hoped we would all find good Kiwi husbands - which most did.

We left Southampton on the 19th April, 1951 on board SS Atlantis (on her last trip as an immigrant ship) for a voyage via Suez that would take six weeks. It was all very basic with eight to a bunk room, but never having travelled on such a ship before, we thought it was fantastic.

On the way one of our number got sick and had to be taken off at Malta and sent back to the UK. So when we arrived in Wellington there were only 99 of us. We were greeted by the RNZAF party and the newspaper reporters, and were referred to as "the Ninety Nine" by which name we have been known ever since.

It was the Queen's Birthday weekend when we arrived - on the 3rd June, so it was a holiday and all the shops were closed. It was deadly quiet!

After a short trip on the ferry, SS Tamahine, across a rather rough Cook Strait, we arrived at Picton in the South Island, then by RNZAF transport to Blenheim and Woods RNZAF base. Here we spent six weeks being trained into the ways of the RNZAF.

The weather was a shock - with 15° or 16°C of frost every night, up at 6 a.m., and march to breakfast by moonlight. But the meals were fantastic after UK wartime rationing. There was cream every day and a choice of steak, sausages or bacon and eggs for breakfast. You can guess why we were issued with uniforms one size larger than normal!!

At the end of six weeks we were posted to one of the seven or eight RNZAF bases around New Zealand. We got used to the quiet life, the "upside down" weather with Christmas in the summer, and the funny old cars still being used on the roads. Some of the girls married, most left the service at the end of our two years. Some stayed in New Zealand, other left for Australia, Canada, USA or the UK.

I was quite happy in my job as a draughtsman in Air Department, so I took some leave to visit my family (it also happened to be Coronation time so I was able to see that in London). I served another four years in the RNZAF during which time I met my husband, also an ex RAF airman. We had a quick trip home to get married then settled down to raise our family of three Kiwi kids.

At the beginning of this year I attended a re-union to celebrate 50 years since the Ninety Niners came out to New Zealand. I'm still here and I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99



A VERY FIRM DENIAL!

by June Witheridge

While searching through the Witheridge Times magazine and various family trees recently, I was horrified at how many times I came across the incorrect entry in the Ermington branch of a daughter to Samuel and Gwendoline on the Ermington family tree.

I have stated previously in the magazine (Winter 1996) as has Joyce Browne (Spring 1997 and Autumn 1999), and mentioned it many times to others, that this entry is completely incorrect.

I have gone to the trouble of purchasing the Birth Certificate showing that Jean belongs to a completely different family, but still receive bigger, better more official documents with Jean attributed to the wrong family. Joyce Browne has produced a family tree for Jean's family.

What is the point of all of the research, the time and cost invested, if this glaring mistake, **ONLY ONE GENERATION BACK**, is apparently impossible to correct.

I feel that if this is the result of research, then it is simply serving to distort information, which if left alone, would remain correct.

I worry about trying to explain this complication to my children and grandchildren, a complication which does not exist in reality, but is there in black and white, so must be true!

I enclose again a copy of the relevant Birth Certificate and do urge everyone concerned with the accuracy of their records, to fire up their computers, take out their red pencils and correcting fluid, and correct this error **NOW**. It seems that once a poor and incorrect piece of research has been added, it is impossible to rectify.

(Please heed this cry from the heart)



CERTIFIED COPY of an
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953



ENTRY OF BIRTH

Registration District East Strathcona

in the **County Borough of Edinburgh**

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No	When and where born	Name, name	Sex	Name, surname, initials, family	Name, surname, initials, surname of mother	Occupation (if any)	Marital status, and date of marriage	Signature of Registrar
114	Edinburgh February 1935 77 Dundee Street U.D.	John	Girl	John James Widdowick	Lily Widdowick Fleming Brown	labourer Provision Factory 4 3 Traquair Terrace Wauchope Road Edinburgh	L. Widdowick Married 3 Traquair Terrace Wauchope Edinburgh	Edinburgh February 1935 Registrar

Certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody.

S. G. G. G.

Registrar

11th September

CAUTION:—It is an offence to falsify a certificate or to make or knowingly use a false certificate of birth, or to make or knowingly use a false certificate of death, or to make or knowingly use a false certificate of any person, or to possess a certificate knowing it to be false without lawful authority.

WARNING: THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF THE BIRTH OF THE PERSON MENTIONED THEREIN.

FINDERS-SEEKERS

Update - South Huish. South Milton. Yealmpton Family Tree

The tree for this family appeared in the magazine for Winter, 1995, but we now know the surname of the 'Elizabeth' who married WALTER WITHERIDGE, born 1733 at South Milton, and Sheila has discovered another child of the marriage - RICHARD - baptised 1776. Also we can place the children in order of birth.

Walter WITHERIDGE married Elizabeth BOYS at Loddiswelh 7th August 1769

The children of this marriage were:

John	baptised 25. 1. 1770	Loddiswell
William	" 23.4.1771	Sherford
Elizabeth	" 15. 2. 1773	Sherford
Sarah	14.8.1774	Sherford ? married George Laphorne at Plymouth Stoke Damerel 5. 6. 1797?
Walter	" "	Sherford married Elizabeth Sears, 30. 8. 1799 Yealmpton
Richard	" 6.9.1776	Charlton
James	27. 9. 1778	Newton Ferrers

John, b. 1770 married Susanna Bentley, with subsequent connections to the Shillabeer family.

Walter, b. 1776 married Elizabeth Sears, with subsequent connections to the Baker and Northmore families, descending to our member Peter Grafton.

WITHERIDGE WEEKEND 2002

by Joyce Browne

I will tell you the worst first - it was cold and drizzly, but that was only the weather and it didn't dampen our spirits!

Six of us met on the evening of Friday 3rd May for dinner at the Collina House Hotel in Tenterden, Kent. Conversation did not flag except when we were too busy eating the delicious food to talk.

Not for nothing is Kent called the 'Garden of England'. It is rolling country, with beautiful woods and colourful fields, apple orchards and vineyards. Tenterden is a small busy town with a wide High Street with trees and grass verges, and interesting shops. It is noticeable that no two buildings in the High Street are alike, and the only supermarket is well hidden from view.

The Annual General Meeting of Saturday was at the home of Kim and Roy Cook, where their delightful garden lived up to the name of the house - 'Cherry Trees'. It was a lively meeting, with several decisions made which are reported on in the Minutes, and although it was business like, there was time for jokes and laughter.

Lunch was taken at a pub in Tenterden High Street - a most interesting Inn with a wonderful Tudor carved fireplace. It was called 'The Eight Bells' because it faced St. Mildred's Church, with its peel of eight bells in the tower. Apparently the Inn was originally called 'The Six Bells' when St. Mildred's had but six bells, but when St. Mildred's acquired two more the pub obligingly changed its name.

Back at 'Cherry Trees' Graham gave a short talk concerning Admiral Lord Nelson, Britain's greatest Naval hero. This may have appeared somewhat mystifying until Graham explained that Horatio Nelson's daughter by Lady Hamilton had married the Vicar of Tenterden, and had lived there for some years. Horatia Nelson married Philip Ward in Norfolk, he was offered the living of Tenterden and they had moved there with their growing family and Philip Ward had died in Tenterden in 1858.

Two new members joined us after lunch, and the rest of the afternoon was spent in catching up on family news and pooling research on various families.

Eight of us met for evening dinner, and it was a very jolly occasion.

Sunday was cold, but we visited a local vineyard where we had lunch. The visit planned for the afternoon was to the local steam train station, where we were to

embark for a short journey from Tenterden to Bodiam, where there is a spectacular Norman castle.

World War II had returned to the East Kent and Sussex Railway! Tenterden was in enemy hands, the halfway station was neutral, and Bodiam was in British territory again. The whole re-enactment was well done. The soldiers at Tenterden were in perfect German uniforms, some sporting the Iron Cross. There was a WWII motor bike and side-car, and a gun emplacement with a machine gun menacing the platform. All the notices were in German, and we were required to obtain special passes as well as tickets before boarding the train. Even the 'German' who demanded to inspect the passes whilst we were on the train looked suitably mean. Of course we have seen dozens of war films, but to see real men in that uniform was quite chilling for those of us old enough to remember the apprehension we felt in 1940 when it was thought that Germany would invade England.

The train was crowded and the Witheridge party had to split up. The atmosphere was very convivial, and I felt that in our carriage a 'knees up' might break out at any moment!

We puffed through delightful countryside with wide verdant valleys and hills beyond, heading for Romney Marsh country. Halfway brought us into the 'neutral zone' with American troops and some vehicles on display, and all too soon we were at Bodiam, and on 'home' ground. The castle keep, which does not look like a ruin from the distance of the station, is very impressive, and some of the party did a brisk walk to look around it. I stayed on the station as there were various points of interest. Again everything was very well done - for instance - the toilets had squares of newspaper strung into bundles with a notice informing us that owing to war time shortage of paper, we were restricted to two sheets per person!

A large tent displayed the notice 'NAAFI' - which in case you have never heard of it means 'Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes' - organisations devoted to looking after the recreational needs of the Forces (cups of tea well to the fore). A band was playing, and to my surprise the most unlikely looking people burst into song when they heard the old tunes, and people were dancing and swaying to the rhythm. We wallowed in nostalgia until it was time to get back on the train.

The next day we changed our plans and decided not to go to Great Dixter Gardens - it was not quite the weather for gardens, so we concentrated on Tenterden itself and explored the Church with its magnificent tower, and looked for the grave of the Rev. Philip Ward and some of his children. We found them in an 'oven grave' - these graves are underground vaults with a curved brick barrel top showing just above the surface. The antique shops were our next objective, and having invaded most of them, we became aware that it was time to bring a lovely week end to a close.

OUR NORTH DEVON FARM FAMILY

by David E. Witheridge

Credit another discovery to the FINDERS...SEEKERS section! In the Autumn/Winter issue of The Witheridge Times (Vol.15. No. 3) there is a notation from Kathy Witheridge about four burials in North Devon cemeteries. Two of these are in High Bray churchyard, where William Witheridge and his wife Elizabeth Gibbs are buried. The other two, which are in the East Buckland graveyard, are the graves of a son and a daughter-in-law of William Witheridge and Elizabeth Gibbs.

The marble headstone reads: "In loving memory of Mary Maria Witheridge, who passed away February 28, 1964, aged 76 years; also William John Witheridge, beloved husband of the above who passed away June 3 1967, aged 82 years".

The article reads:- "We have William John's birth certificate, so we know that he was the son of William and Elizabeth Gibbs, and we know that he married in 1911, but we do not know the maiden name of Mary Maria.....We do not have a record of any children of William John and Mary Maria, and, as far as we know, he had only one sibling, a sister, Mary E., born 1880."

Since this William John was a first cousin of my grandfather, William Witheridge (1856-1935), I do have this information and more about this family. The maiden name of Mary Maria was Ridd, and their children were two sons, namely William John and Charles.

When my late wife Elizabeth and I first went to England in 1976, we made quite a point of visiting this son William John (known in the family as John) at his farm called "Middle Stoodleigh" near West Buckland in North Devon. It was a special privilege, because, although we were able to visit several second cousins and other relatives in various parts of England and Wales, he was the closest relative I had there (second cousin once removed) by the name of Witheridge. In addition he was living in the general area (in the vicinity of CombeMartin and Barnstaple) that my family had come from.

Before I tell more about this family, I want to interject an excerpt from the daily journal Elizabeth kept on that trip in 1976 describing the lovely time we had with them. This will give you some of the feeling of an American couple going to England for the first time to visit their places of origin. It will also give some of the feeling of the area around CombeMartin for the benefit of the many members of the Society whose ancestors stem from that area:

Great Britain June 15-Sept 2, 1976
Written by Elizabeth P. Witheridge

"Thursday, Aug. 5.

We stopped for lunch at the Red Lion Inn (in Salisbury) and then left for West Buckland in North Devon, where we were expected at the farm of John Witheridge.... Somehow or other we got royally lost on the winding, hilly roads that led to Middle Stoodleigh Farm, so we were almost an hour later arriving than we had expected to be. We were warmly welcomed by the Witheridges. John is a 2nd cousin once removed of David's and he has farmed in Devon for many years. He owns 150 acres of beautiful rolling land and raises Friesian and Devon cattle and several kinds of sheep - at least 500 of them.

It was such a thrill for us to be on a farm again. I got up early to watch milking, and both of us enjoyed riding round the farm in John's car to see the animals. They have two saddle horses and a pony for the grandchildren, too. John and Hilda's son George lives in a house built for them on the farm. He and his wife, Pat, have two very attractive children, John, who is eight and Sarah Mary who is four. They spend a great deal of time in the farmhouse with Grandma Hilda and the house pets, Pupser and his daughter Topsy, little fox terriers, and five cats that go in and out of the house at will.

The backdoor of the house opens directly from the farmyard into the kitchen, and it is always open during the daytime. People and pets wander in and out all day long. George, after attending a very fine public (private) school close to the farm went on to a technical school where he had intensive training in mechanics of various kinds that fitted him to operate a farm without having to hire people to repair machinery etc. He also learned how to shoe horses. He is an intelligent, educated young man, and he and Pat are excellent parents. George works with his father, doing most of the heavy work these days.

John and Hilda also have two daughters, Joyce and Marian, who married farmers and live nearby. Joyce and her husband, Michael, have two beautiful little children, Amanda and Stephen. Marian and Anthony have none as yet.

Friday Aug. 6th

This is the day that I mentioned in yesterday's entry that I got up at 7.00 to watch the milking. There are three sheep dogs on the farm that are trained to herd cattle as well, and it was exciting to watch them drive the milking herd of 13 back to the pastures after milking was done.

After breakfast David and I drove over to CombeMartin where his grandfather Witheridge was born and visited the lovely old parish church. We located the motel where we will stay tomorrow night, browsed through the cemetery where a number of his relatives are buried and went on to investigate the village of Berrynarbor next to CombeMartin. Both towns are on the Bristol Channel very near to where it joins the open Atlantic, and are popular resorts at this time of year.

After supper, which we had back at the farm, we were taken by George and Pat to see West Buckland Church, to which the Witheridges belong - a small church, but very attractive. George is the warden. Then we went on to the East Buckland Church, where John's parents are buried.

The truly outstanding part of the evening was our stop at the Swimbridge Parish Church to admire the beautiful, lacy, hand-carved screen and list to Pat's sister Janet Balment play the organ. It's a good organ for a small village church, and Jan is a very talented organist. She played some Bach and various other selections most beautifully in the quiet of dusk in that lovely little church. A very moving experience for us.

Afterward we were taken by George and Jan up the steep, tortuous road to the summit of Codden Hill, the highest point hereabouts. We could look off to the place where the Bristol Channel becomes the Atlantic Ocean, and we could see Lundy Island with its flashing light. The lights were beginning to twinkle in the valleys as we descended to Barnstaple for a hurried survey of that famous old port and finished a splendid evening with tea and sweets at the Balment home in Swimbridge.

Saturday, Aug. 7th

Saturday morning before we said goodbye to John and Hilda and George and Pat, we were taken by Pat in John's car to see the sheep close hand, so we could take pictures of them. He had promised me that the night we arrived. The dogs were there, of course, to keep them in hand. Sheep are new to me, because we didn't have them on our farm, and I've always been fascinated by the woolly creatures. We had morning coffee on the farm and left soon after"

(End of journal excerpt)

With this article is also a family tree as far as we have it. William John had only one sibling, a sister, Mary Elizabeth. She married John Greenslade Harding and they had many descendants, as shown on the family tree. I have never had any contact with this Harding family, and the only address I have ever had is one in 1976 for Ethel Maud Johns (Mrs. Frank) at 12 Summerland Terrace, Barnstaple, Devon. There are many "Harding" relative of ours out there somewhere, who are good prospects for membership in the Witheridge Society!

On the family tree you will also see the descendants of William John and Mary Maria Witheridge. By now there must be other births, marriage and deaths we do not have. Correspondence with this family has been sporadic and difficult over the years, so we have been out of touch since about 1997.

Some of you may remember that the little four-year-old Sarah Mary referred to by Elizabeth in her 1976 journal- now Sarah Witheridge-Harrison - attended our Tenth Anniversary Witheridge Day Celebration in Tiverton with her husband, Simon Harrison. That was a great thrill for me to see her grown up, but I have lost track of her in recent years, even though she was the best correspondent in the family. Some day I hope she may join the Witheridge Society.

On our second trip to England in 1980 Elizabeth and I stopped briefly at Middle Stoodleigh Farm on our way from Exeter to CombeMartin, but we were only able to stay an hour or so. However, on our third trip in 1988 we had a little more time, and I want to quote a few paragraphs from Elizabeth's journal of that year:

"May 28 - Saturday. This has been quite a special day. In the middle of the morning we set out in the midst of a cold drizzly rain to go to the Witheridge farm in West Buckland. In spite of the dark wet weather and the uncommon amount of traffic because it was the first day of the long holiday weekend, it was a very beautiful drive. I remembered as we drove through miles of beautiful blossoming bushes and trees a phrase I wrote in our first journal for our first visit to England: All of England is a Garden! And we still feel that way about its beauty.

We arrived at the farm and were delighted to find a really big gathering of David's Witheridge family there to greet us in the lovely old farmhouse. His second cousin once removed, John Witheridge, was there with his wife Hilda and their children and grandchildren. On our second visit with them, for some unremembered reason, the children were not there, so the pictures we have of them were taken during our first visit in 1976.

Naturally, the change in them was just incredible. Suddenly, as if by magic, they had all changed into young men and women, and best of all, many of them are planning futures that require college educations. John's brother Charles and his wife came over from their home in East Buckland, a nearby town. We were happy to find that the older males in the family are still devoted to managing their farms in partnership with their sons.

The wives and daughters and granddaughters together had set out a wonderful buffet luncheon in the room with a cozy fire in the fireplace - very welcome on this chilly wet day! This was truly a happy reunion of the Witheridge family, and we enjoyed every minute of it."

My last visit to Middle Stoodleigh was with Kim and Roy Cook in 1997. It was

after the end of the Tenth Anniversary Celebration in Tiverton, and we were on our way to CombeMartin specifically to look for the grave of the first Thomas Witheridge Gubb, which we understood was in the churchyard there. (See The Witheridge Times, Vol.14. No. 2. Summer 2000)

As usual, the Witheridges welcomed us with open arms. Grandpa John (William John) had died and Grandma Hilda was living in a cottage a little way from the main house. George and Pat were now living in the main house. We decided to go to the cottage and see Hilda, but that was our undoing. On the way back we were caught in an unexpected downpour without any raincoats or umbrellas. We sought shelter under some trees, but the heavy rain came right through and drenched us all. When we got back to the house, Pat had us remove as many of the wet clothes as we could and hang them in front of the fireplace, while she fed us the delicious lunch she had prepared. In the end it didn't dampen our spirits any, and we left very glad that we had been able to see them all.

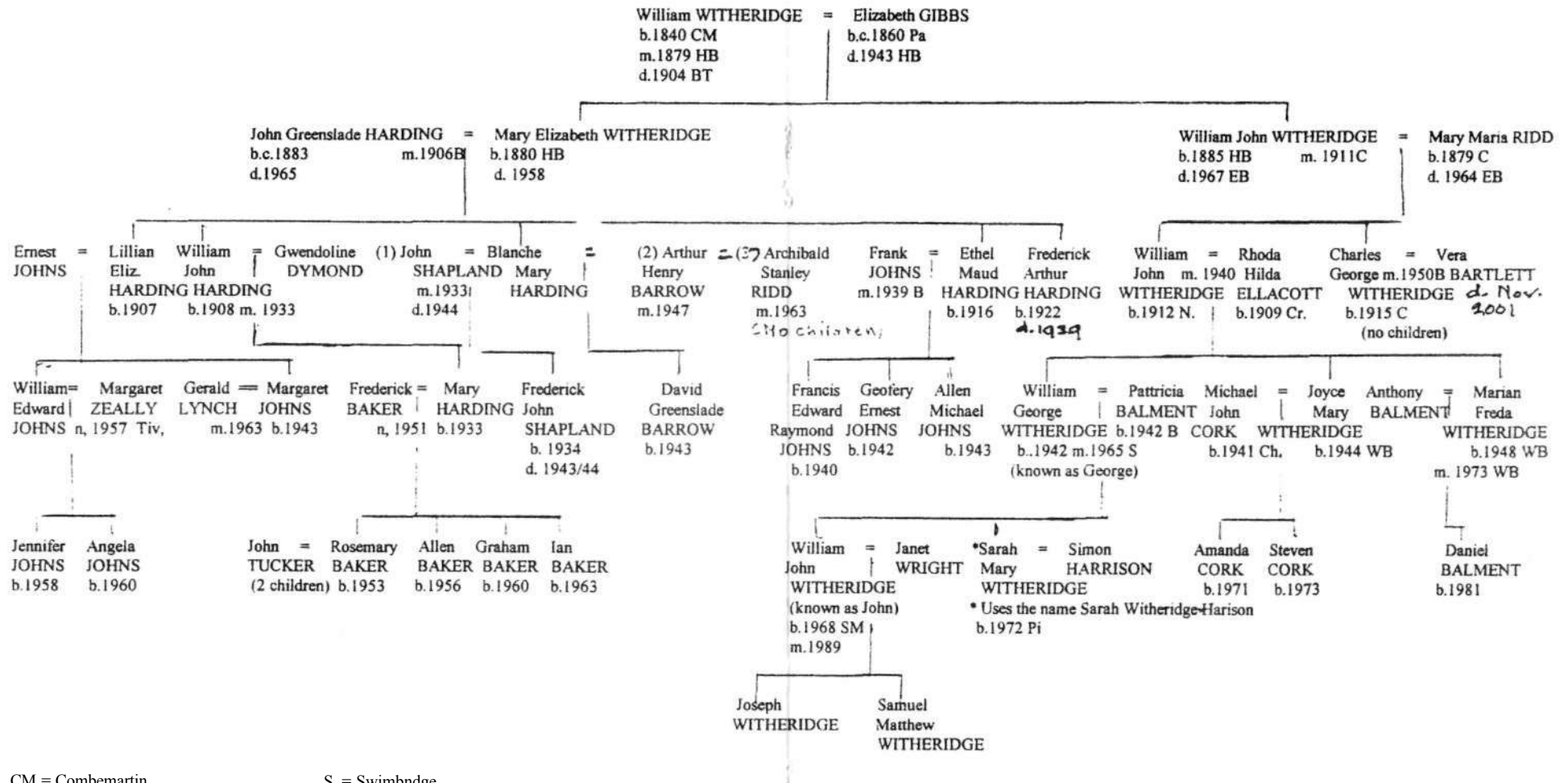
Through the last year or so I have worried that George and Middle Stoodleigh might have been hit by the foot and mouth disease. I never wrote to them, because they would never answer my letters unless I was about to descend on them, and they had to confirm the suitability of my proposed date and time. I still wish I knew whether or not they escaped this tragedy, and someday I'm sure we'll find out.

So this is the story of the only family by the name of Witheridge that actually still lives in the vicinity of CombeMartin and Bamstaple, where their Witheridge ancestors lived continuously for hundreds of years - at least as far back as 1500 in Berrynarbor.



Pat and George Witheridge at Middle Stoodleigh

HIGH BRAY FAMILY



CM = Combemartin
 HB = High Bray
 BT = Bray own, High Bray
 Pa = Parracombe
 C = Challacombe
 EB = East Buckland
 N = Nadrid South Molton

S = Swimbndge
 Cr = Crediton
 WB = West Buckland
 B = Barnstaple
 SM = South Molton
 Pi = Pilton, Barnstaple
 Ch = Chuggaton

Constructed by David E. Witheridge 12th February, 2002

MEMOIRS OF R.E. WITHERIDGE CHAPMAN PART II

1913 - 1939 MY NAVAL CAREER

On the 21st October, 1913 I became a boy seaman and started my training on board HMS Impregnable at Devonport, England, my official number was 128194.

The "Impregnable" was an old square rigged training ship moored off Cremyll in Plymouth Harbour and used as a training ship for seaman boys of the Royal Navy. Training was fairly hard and discipline was very strict. It was mostly on old sailing ship lines with daily drill of climbing over the riggings at the double, in feet everything was done at the double.

Punishment was mostly by birch. Smoking, swearing, and disobedience was punished by having to lay on top of a gym horse with a pair of duck pants on and the master-at-arms laying on six or twelve strokes very hard with a cane. Some lads would have to go to the sick bay afterwards suffering from shock or bad bruising.

Swimming lessons were heart breaking for a lot of the boys as the hardest ways possible would be used to teach the lads to swim, even to pushing them in and making them struggle for it.

Many boys suffered acutely from home sickness, things like holystoning the decks and having to work in icy cold water with bare feet, and instructors bullying them all the time did not go down too well. It was worse than I am able to describe in full detail. I did not have to have the swimming lessons. I knew most of the knots and splices, and I thought it was great fun climbing over the riggings, being just a country boy I did what I was told, and I also joined the football team. Besides being favoured that way I was allowed "local leave", which enable me to go home at weekend when it was not my watch on board.

Another favour I had was that the captain of Marines who was also sports officer was one of the congregation of "makar Church" on occasions and knew me as being a choir boy there. After the Impregnable I was transferred to two other ships for training. One was HMS Powerful, and the other HMS Defiance, which was always my depot ship when I returned to base from my commissions on other ships. I continued to do well in my training, taking higher educational and advanced classes.

NORTH SEA - HMS CORDELIA

Just over twelve months after joining the Royal Navy war with Germany was declared. I was to serve aboard this ship for the duration.

She was commissioned at Pembroke in Wales, where we went by train to join her. One memory of the journey by train is of the cheering crowds as we passed through different towns.

I soon came to realise that being out on the high seas was a bit different from sailing around Cawsand Bay. Part of my trouble, that I did not like anyone else to see, was that I was sea sick. I tried too hard to suppress it, but the smell of oil when the ship was darkened and more or less closed up used to get the better of me, but I improved as I went along. I was always cheekier when we were in harbour, and pleased to get in.

After the ship had gone through her trials and surviving several submarine scares, we set out on her first and my first long sea voyage. At first we did not know where we were going, but after a day or so we heard that we were bound for Gibraltar. I still remember seeing the 'Rock' for the first time, and HMS Fido, a small cruiser patrolling in the "Gat".

We had no sooner berthed at Gibraltar than nets were rigged between the ship's side and the wharf and soldier sentries were posted alongside of the nets. Just as soon small or long boxes were being brought aboard by other soldiers. The boxes, although small, seemed heavier to handle than their size warranted, and they turned out to contain gold bullion which had been brought to Gibraltar from South Africa. We did not stay after being loaded with 80 tons of bullion but sailed immediately it was on board.

I had heard so much about the rough seas in the Bay of Biscay that I was dreading going through it, but we had a good trip back to Plymouth where the same tenders that used to come out to the big liners when I lived at Kingsand came out and took the valuable cargo off us.

The Cordelia was the latest of light cruisers and was an oil burner - which we were pleased about - and was commanded by Captain Beamish. "Black Jack" we called him as his face always looked black after he had been at sea a day or two. After the war he became a member of the British Parliament.

From Plymouth we went to Scapa Flow. It was a bitterly cold but sunny day when we entered Scapa. I was in the crow's nest, a lookout on the way in. I found myself in trouble as we entered, as there was a box floating about that I had failed to report. For this I was told to stay up in the crow's nest for two hours after we had anchored.

This gave me the opportunity to see all of Jellicoe's fleet at anchor. I was intrigued to see a lot of people rushing about the quarter deck of some of the big ships, after

making enquiries afterwards I was informed that it was a crowd of officers playing deck hockey. I never thought that anyone could play hockey aboard a ship! I believe some also ran around on roller skates!

There was nothing else to remind me of our stay in Scapa and I cannot remember how long we stayed on that occasion. However, we were not destined to stay there as the next thing that comes to my mind is the ship steaming under the Forth Bridge into the Firth of Forth which was to become our base for the remainder of the war, joining three other light cruisers - HMS Galatea, HMS Inconstant, and at first HMS Caroline, which was later replaced by HMS Phaeton.

These ships became the first light cruiser squadron attached to the battle cruiser fleet, under the command of Admiral Beatty. This squadron, with a flotilla of destroyers, was to become the work horse of the Grand Fleet for the whole north sea war strategy.

We had not been at Rosyth (Firth of Forth) long, before we had an explosion aboard ship which blew up the quarter deck and split the after deck open. Apparently, it was caused by one of the ship's carpenters going down by a petrol tank with a naked light and the fumes exploding. Most of the officers and men were ashore on a route march so the only casualty was one officer who was in his cabin at the time. I was forward in the paint shop and so quite clear of danger.

We were put into Leith Dockyard for repairs, and whilst in there the battle of Heligoland Bight took place. The repairs to our ship took two or three months and was not without incident. A new stern post was being put into position when the chain sling from the crane broke and the stern post crashed to the bottom of the dock, killing three dockyard men who were working on it.

I was able to see quite a lot of Edinburgh whilst we were under repair as it was only a short walk along Leith walk to the city. Being a boy I was only allowed leave until seven p.m., so could only go and sit in Princess Street gardens or go to the pictures. As I only had about 1s.0d a week in pay that was not very often. This was to be the only spell we got until the end of the war except for a short holiday each year.

The first light cruiser squadron was employed convoying ships across the north sea to Norway and Sweden, during the blockade of the Skaggerac. Whilst in convoy during a fog on one occasion we collided with a Norwegian ship which ripped our starboard rolling chock back like a wood shaving, which could be seen when looking over the side, but both ships did not have a great deal of damage.

Any foreign ships met during the blockade were boarded and searched by a boarding party of a boat's crew and an interpreter. The procedure was to hoist an international flag signal for the ship to stop and if it failed to do so we would fire a shot across its bows. With the boarding party away our ship would go around in varying circles in case of submarine attack.

We seldom met with German ships although on one occasion off the Dutch coast we met up with half a dozen German minesweeping trawlers which we either sank or they ran ashore on the Dutch coast. Occasionally we would find a floating mine which would be sunk by rifle fire. Submarine scares were numerous but I only remember one light cruiser being sunk by submarine and that was HMS Nottingham, which was sunk just outside May island in the Firth of Forth when the German fleet attempted to raid the East Coast in their last sortie of the war.

Life at sea was fairly hard. We had to do 4 hours closed up at battle stations, 4 hours stand by - when you could not turn in - and 4 hours off. During standby watch would be exercised once or twice, sometimes "battle stations", "abandon ship", "away all boats", or "fire stations".

The North Sea, especially in the winter, can be very cold and cruel. Steaming into a gale with your two escorting destroyers made one wonder how they ever kept afloat, with waves breaking over them and covered in spray. It was always a great relief when the ship turned around to go back to port.

My night station was on the midship searchlight platform. On a light cruiser there is no cover as in the bigger ships. I used to get inside the searchlight cover to keep a bit sheltered, still with telepads on in case of orders from the bridge, or pass the time singing, 'My Little Grey Home in the West', 'Look for the Silver Lining', 'Tipperary', and a few other songs of the time.

We thought we would never meet the German fleet until on the 31st May 1916, whilst on a grand fleet sweep our flagship HMS Galatea sighted a couple of German destroyers and the light cruiser ELBE searching a merchant ship. When on these sweeps our squadron, the first light cruiser squadron, was always ahead of the battle cruisers about 30 miles, and each of us about 20 miles apart.

The Galatea challenged and opened fire which was replied to by the Germans. Aboard our ship we were alerted and immediately prepared for battle, guard rails were dismantled, all ammunition fused ready, torpedoes made ready, and boats were partly filled with water in case we caught fire if we were hit. All water tight doors were closed, and fire mains kept running. Whilst taking up battle stations with the fleet we were piped an order to bath and change into clean clothes. This seemed

very strange to me, not realising the reason for it, and thinking it was impossible for everyone to do so.

My feeling at the time was of elation at our meeting up with the Germans at last, and being so young, not thinking how serious it was. Our station in battle formation was on the starboard bow of HMS Lion on the enemy side of the fleet, the 1st light cruiser squadron appearing as if they were leading the fleet into action. The Cordelia, being the last ship in the squadron, was about a quarter of a mile ahead of the Lion.

Apparently our job was to repel any torpedo attack by the German light forces on our battle cruisers. Luckily that did not take place against the battle cruisers, although the German destroyers did make an attack on Jellicoe's fleet of battleships before they cleared off.

And so we remained in our position with the Lion all through the battle. My station in battle was ammunition supply to the forecandle guns, a point where I was able to see a lot of the action.

In line astern of us were eight battle cruisers firing all their heavy 13.5" guns. The sky became heavy with flashes and smoke, so that it was hard to tell whether our ships were getting hit or the flashes were from their own guns. Shells were falling all around us and it was a miracle that we weren't hit but as the enemy got more accurate and had concentrated on the big ships the fall of shell was a bit further away from us. The Galatea had a shell through her superstructure which did not explode but damaged her steering gear and she had to withdraw for a while whilst it was being repaired.

I could see a faint line of smoke on the horizon which was the leading German ships, but of course, being so far away could not see where the shells from our ships were falling.

Some news of how the battle was going was coming down from the bridge. There was one big bump as if our ship had run over something, or something had pushed it aside, when shortly news came down that the Queen Mary had blown up - shortly after the Indefatigable had gone the same way. The Lion had been hit once or twice and we heard the Admiral Beatty might have to change his flag over to our ship, but the Lion survived.

We did not hear any news about the Germans so it was a bit depressing to know that we had lost two ships. The next thing I remember was that four old cruisers had crossed our bows, three of them were the cruisers Black Prince, Defence Warrior, Duke of Edinburgh, under Admiral Arbuthnot. Needless to say the Germans soon put these out of action and a lot of men were lost in this part of the battle. It was like

committing suicide. Later, looking astern, I saw a flotilla of our destroyers steaming toward the German fleet to make an attack. I did not know what success they had.

All I can recollect after the battle is seeing GHQ HMS Onslow with half her bows missing.

It seemed as if Jellicoe's fleet was never going to join us. The German Grand Fleet had already joined their other ships and things didn't appear too good for us.

There was a lull in the fighting due to one of the fleets losing contact with the other, and so after four hours of fighting we were joined by Jellicoe's fleet. After that there was very little fighting. I think Jellicoe had one bit of a go at them and the Germans made a destroyer and light cruiser torpedo attack on him which led to an encounter with Jellicoe's light forces - in this action Jackie Cornwell got his Victoria Cross.

(Jackie Cornwell was the boy who remained on deck and stood by his gun although mortally wounded)

Our fleet sighted and engaged the enemy for a brief period following that, but the Germans took evasive action as night came on and during the night returned to their base. Our fleet were ready for action the following day, but as there was no one to fight they also returned to their bases.

Our squadron stayed at sea until the 2nd June when we returned and steamed up through the other ships already at anchor. We had been looking for survivors. Always after that if we opened a tin of herrings we used to refer to them as 'Jutland Survivors'.

June 2nd was my 18th birthday and I finished my boy's time in the Royal Navy, was made an ordinary seaman and started my 12 years' service. Boy's time did not count towards my 12 years' service for which I had volunteered.

Except for a couple of scares the usual convoy and blockade duties and one or two zeppelin chases thing went on as usual.

One event I remember was when we took the British Minister of Munitions to Norway on his way to Russia. We landed him at a place called Stavanger. I remember it because we were challenged by a very small Norwegian torpedo boat almost laughable to look at, although we were not considered very big ourselves. It was good to see all the people at peace enjoying themselves along the Marina. We stayed in the port very briefly in case of submarine attack outside.

I remained an ordinary seaman for three weeks when I passed for able seaman and was made able seaman on 21st June 1916.

To be continued

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WITHERIDGE SOCIETY HELD AT 'CHERRY TREES', INGLEDEN PARK
ROAD, TENTERDEN, KENT, ON SATURDAY, 4th MAY 2002**

The meeting was opened at 11.0 a.m., by the Chairman, Graham Browne, who welcomed all the members present, and thanked Kim and Roy Cook for their hospitality.

Present: Graham Browne Joyce Browne Kim Cook
 Roy Cook Brenda Dixon Ron Dixon
 Barbara Finemore Terry Finemore Alison Smith
 Alan Smith Maureen Witheridge Richard Witheridge

1. Apologies for Absence

Zoe and Jason Cook were unable to attend owing to the recent loss of their baby daughter, Grace, who was buried on the Thursday prior to the meeting. The members expressed their sympathy and a card of condolence was signed by all present.

The members also sent a message of sympathy and condolence to the family of member Paul Freed of Minneapolis, who died recently after a painful illness.

Apologies and messages of goodwill and support were received from Dorothy Witheridge, Australia, Judith and Alan Witheridge, Australia, Velma Metcalfe, New Zealand. Messages were read from the Vice President, David Witheridge of Minneapolis, and Jim Witheridge, and Kathy and Paul Witheridge of Ontario. Apologies were received from Carol Goins, California, new members Catherine and Geoff Shingler, and Eric Pover.

2. Annual General Meeting at Merston. on Saturday. 5th May. 2001

It was proposed by Richard Witheridge and seconded by Terry Finemore that the report on this meeting be taken as read, and accepted. This was carried.

3. Matters arising from the Report

There were no matters arising from this report

4. Officers' Reports

Chairman's Report
Treasurer's Report
Secretary's Report (There was no Secretary's Report available)

Officers' Reports

Research Coordinator's Report (There was some discussion on the necessity of this post and it was agreed that it should be recommended that members commencing research should consult the research coordinator to obviate duplication of effort)

On the proposal of Barbara Finemore and the seconding of Kim Cook, these reports were accepted.

5. Proposal to change the name of the Society

(a) Proposal by Richard Witheridge to change the name to 'The Witheridge Family History Society'. Richard thought this to be necessary in order to avoid confusion with any Society connected with the village of Witheridge. He has been contacted by people who thought that we were connected with the village.

(b) Proposal by Kim Cook to change the name to 'The Witheridge Family Society'. Kim thought that people who were not necessarily interested in history might be more attracted to the possibility of tracing living relatives.

(c) Proposal by Barbara Finemore to incorporate both ideas and call the Society 'The Witheridge Family and History' Society'

There was lively discussion on these proposals, and when put to the vote there was a majority decision to re-name the Society 'The Witheridge Family History Society'.

6. Proposal to insert an additional clause into the Constitution

Clause to read:-

"The Executive Committee of the Society may suspend the membership, and/or recommend the termination of the membership of any member, who, in the opinion of the Committee

- i) behaves in a way likely to bring the Society into disrepute
- ii) discloses information of a personal or sensitive nature relating to any living member of the Society or their immediate family
- iii) behaves in an unruly or unseemly way at any meeting or social gathering organised by the Society

- iv) consistently fails to perform the duties of any Committee or sub-committee post to which the member has been elected
- v) behaves in any way to the detriment of the Society and/or its members provided always that
- vi) such member has been given the option of either appearing before the committee with a friend if the member so wishes, or of presenting a written defence to the Committee which shall have been read by all those Committee members entitled to vote
- vii) in the case of an ordinary member, 75% of the Committee vote for the suspension, whether in person, by post or by e-mail
- viii) in the case of a Committee member, 75% of the remaining members of the Committee vote for the suspension, whether by post or by e-mail
- ix) that any suspension is considered and voted upon at the next Annual General Meeting, or the next Extra-ordinary General Meeting, at which time the members may vote for the suspension to be ratified for a further year, to be set aside, or to be converted into a termination of membership, and that any such motion requires a two-thirds majority of the number casting votes
- x) that in the event of an unclear decision, the Chairman (or acting Chairman) will have an additional casting vote
- xi) that any member having been suspended or had their membership terminated will not be able to hold a committee post in future. They may or not be re-admitted to membership at the discretion of the Committee.

Roy Cook proposed that this clause be inserted into the Constitution and Maureen Witheridge seconded the proposal. Accordingly this clause is now adopted into the Constitution.

7. Election of Officers

Chairman	Graham Browne (agreed to serve for one more year)	
Treasurer	Richard Witheridge	
Assistant Treasurer	Maureen Witheridge	
Secretary	There were no nominations received for the post of Secretary. Richard Witheridge agreed to perform some essential duties pro tem. The Committee was given the authority to appoint a Secretary during the year.	
Membership Secretary	Richard Witheridge	
Research Coordinator	Richard Witheridge	
Editor	Joyce Browne (agreed to serve for one more year)	
Publisher and Distributer	Kim Cook	
Committee members	Jason Cook Barbara Finemore Mark Witheridge	
Overseas Representatives	Dorothy Witheridge	Australia
	Kathy Witheridge	Canada and North America
	Velma Metcalfe	New Zealand

8. Any Other Business

Venue for the Annual General Meeting Year 2003 -

Brenda and Ron Dixon kindly offered to hold the AGM., at their home in Orpington, Kent, on Saturday, 3rd May, 2003. Orpington is within a half hour train journey of London, and there are several places of interest to visit in the neighbourhood. There is bed and breakfast accommodation in the area available for those wishing to stay for more than one day.

It is hoped to offer a three day event for the year 2004, based in South Devon. Details will be published later.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 4TH MAY, 2002

During this year we have been assisted by our overseas representatives and members, and we thank all those who by their efforts have helped to keep our Society alive.

The Australian families held an enjoyable picnic, and in June Kathy and Paul Witheridge in Canada organised a highly successful re-union week-end, which was attended by 63 people, who are now asking for a repeat event.

In September we had an informal get together at our home in Luton, when members gathered to meet Kathy and Paul who were visiting from Canada.

In my report of 2001 I commented on our disappointment at the lack of support at our Annual General meetings. We still need volunteers to administer the Society, but the number attending the AGM rose last year, and is expected to be even better this year.

I have to report that this year the Society faced a difficult situation due to the failure of the Secretary to carry out the duties required, particularly with regard to our membership of the Guild of One Name Studies, and the Federation of Family History Societies. This matter has been partially resolved due to the persistent hard work of the President, Kim, and the Treasurer, Richard, who contacted the Societies with satisfactory results.

The change of venue for this year's AGM., from that agreed at the meeting of May 2001, is also a result of difficulties with the Secretary who did not proceed with his offer to organise this year's meeting, and it is due to the generosity of Kim and Roy Cook who offered their home as a meeting place and to organise the week end, that we are able to hold this year's meeting at Tenterden, Kent.

The Secretary also failed to maintain contact with the Committee and members of the Society, causing anxiety and disappointment. Again, due to the personal intervention of the President, it is thought that misunderstandings have now been cleared up.

The Society is, as always, grateful to Kim, Richard, Joyce and Kathy in Canada for their untiring efforts to maintain contact between Witheridge families, and by their researches to further the knowledge of the family history.

Despite the difficulties, this should be seen as a good year for the Society as we have attracted new members and renewed the interest shown by existing members.

GRAHAM BROWNE Chairman May 2002

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH APRIL, 2002

INCOME

Brought forward from March 2001 statement No. 171	£575.22
Membership Subscription including payments for previous years	£1091.71
Collection at AGM for the cost of Buffet meal	£ 57.00
Payment from member for 6 copies of booklets	£ 6.00
TOTAL	£1154.71

TOTAL **£1729.31**

EXPENDITURE

Payment for Buffet meals tea/coffee at the Abelands Hotel	£ 91.70
Payment to Philip Witheridge for printing Vol 14 Nos.1-4 and Vol No. 15 No. 1. and Witheridge Day invitations for 2001	£329.99
Payment re Kim Cook for dispatch of magazines Vols. 2 & 3	£ 54.47
Payment to Grammer & Co. Ltd., for printing magazines Vols 2 & 3	£130.00
Membership Secretary Account (Donation)	£ 00.00
Secretary's Account (no submission)	£ 00.00
Subscription to Guild of One Name Studies	£ 00.00*
Subscription to Federation of F.History Socs. for 2001	£ 30.00**
Subscription to Federation of F. History Socs. for 2002	£ 30.00**
TOTAL	£666.16

As per statement No. 182 **FINAL BALANCE** **£1063.77**

We the undersigned believe the above to be an accurate statement of the current financial standing for the Witheridge Society for the year ending 30th April, 2002

R.H. WITHERIDGE Treasurer Dated 6 th April 2002	M.L. WITHERIDGE Assistant Treasurer Dated 6 th April 2002	G. BROWNE Auditor Dated 17 th April 2002
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* Membership is still held by John Witheridge who is no longer the Membership Secretary but has paid the subscription to the GOONS for himself. We cannot take

over this membership unless he relinquishes it or is suspended by the GOONS as no longer representing the Witheridge Society.

** Previous Membership Secretary failed to pay subscriptions when due, hence the two payments in one year.

The huge increase in subscription payments is due to members being reminded that they were overdue with previous years' subscriptions. **I would like to say a big thank you to all the members who have honoured their past dues.**

We have lost 5 members for various reasons not associated with the subscription problems. If we can maintain the balance at this level or more, then the membership subscriptions can be kept at the existing level. However, with the costs rising each year we will need to watch carefully how our expenses are being used and try to find ways of reducing the costs wherever possible.

Due to the transfer of funds shown on last year's statement not actually being transferred until later and the amounts being more than quoted, last year's final balance figure was inaccurate at that time. In future the balance carried forward and shown on the statement will be as stated on the March statement from the bank. This will give me time to prepare the accounts and pass to the auditor and make it simpler for checking by the auditor. Any later payments/deductions will be included with the next year's figures.

Signed: R. WITHERIDGE

Richard Witheridge April 2002
Treasurer and Membership Secretary

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RESEARCH REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL, 2002

Joyce reports as follows:-

"We received an enquiry from members of the South Milton and Thurleston family on the reason for an ancestor's unusual name - Beauchamp Henry Witheridge, and our efforts to find an explanation sparked off researches by myself, our friend Sheila Jewell, and Kathy Witheridge of Ontario. Gwenda Mason and Jennie Smith were already involved.

The discovery that Beauchamp Henry had an uncle, Beauchamp Henry Hammett, led to searches of the Parish Registers of Dodbrook, Malborough, Churchstow, Totnes and other districts, as well as Census returns for Kingsbridge. We did not find what we were looking for - which was the marriage of Beauchamp Henry Hammett's mother, Mary, but the search did provide us with solid evidence concerning the Hammett family. This enabled us to refute statements that "our" family was descended from one of the Tolpuddle martyrs. The search led Kathy to Boston, Massachusetts, and Halifax Nova Scotia, and much information was gleaned.

Kathy has sent a list of arrivals at Ellis Island, New York, between 1892 and 1922. Each one of these names was investigated, and we were able to identify seven out of the nine names, with a probable suggestion for the eighth.

This search led to further enquiry into the Swansea/Bedwelty family and its connection with Bridgwater. This query remains unresolved.

As a result of information in the 'Finders... Seekers' section of the magazine, David Witheridge, our Vice President, has sent us the results of some of his research into the Berrynarbor/CombeMartin family, and this will be published in the 'Witheridge Times' shortly.

A legal document of a lease on property drawn up in 1570 was discovered by Sheila Jewell, and it is still being transcribed and studied. It is a lease on property in Barnstaple, and the names mentioned may lead us to re-arrange the relationships of the first names we know on the Barnstaple family tree. Work continues."

Kathy, as can be seen above, has been involved in the research with Joyce and stated that she has been delving into so many areas that it was almost impossible to report, but added the following list:-

CombeMartin families who emigrated to North America
Tiverton families who emigrated to Pennsylvania , USA
South Milton families who emigrated to New Jersey, USA

Dorcas Hammett family who emigrated to Nova Scotia, Canada
Witteridge family who emigrated to Nova Scotia, Canada (Records in Canada showed the name as 'Witheridge' but later documents named them as 'Witteridge' and it is unlikely that this family belongs to us - still being investigated.

Kim, as can be seen in the magazines has been busy researching Witheridge Farm in Somerset, and the family who live there. She intends to do similar research on other Witheridge places around the country.

(At the meeting Kim reported that she had recently visited Witheridge Cottage at Newton Ferrers, and had made contact with the owners who were pleased to hear some of the history of the place. Kim was able to take photographs and will be reporting further later)

RICHARD WITHERIDGE Research Co-ordinator. May 2002

ANOTHER E-MAIL ADDRESS

Members No. 164 Mr. Allan and Mrs. Judith Witheridge
165 (Australia)
jjwitherid@hotmail.com

Apology

I have to apologise to our representative in Australia, Mrs. Dorothy Witheridge - in the last edition of the magazine I gave her new address, but failed to correct the address given in the list of officers on the back cover. I am very sorry and have now corrected the back cover list. (Editor)



OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY - continued from front cover

Representative Australia	Mrs. Dorothy Witheridge, 2/66 Abuklea Road, Eastwood 2122 Australia
Representative Canada and North America	Mrs. K.M. Witheridge, 343, Bright Street, Sarnia, Ontario Canada N7T 465
Representative New Zealand	Mrs. Velma Metcalfe 49 Chester Road, Tawa, Wellington New Zealand

Committee Members:

Mr. Jason Cook 2, Rusthall Close Addiscombe Croydon Surrey CR0 7YH (Responsibility for liaison on Youth projects)	Mr. Mark Witheridge 27 Shenley Fields Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham Warw. B29 5AG
Mrs. Barbara Finemore 1 Corfe Avenue Hartley Vale Plymouth Devon PL3 5SQ	Mrs. Carolyn Green 2 Thornhill Gardens, Newport South Wales NP10 9GA

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2002 WERE
DUE ON 1ST JANUARY!**

Subscriptions should be sent to the Membership Secretary:-

Mr. Richard Witheridge

Address on inside front cover

THE WITHERIDGE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY WEB SITE:

<http://www2/ebtech.net/~kathpaul>

