



Bolton's Genies



The Monthly Newsletter of the Bolton Family History Society:

<http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/>

- Newsletter Comments, and Speaker Bookings: boltongenies@mlfhs.org.uk
- General Society enquiries to the BFHS Secretary, Christine M Ellis bolton@mlfhs.org.uk
- Research help, please email boltonhelpdesk@mlfhs.org.uk or visit our
- Help Desk Drop In 10am -12md Bolton Central Library. First Saturday of each month
- Facebook page <https://goo.gl/n99qtW>
- Bolton Document Collection on MLFHS website: <https://goo.gl/hJi8Ns> (members only)
- Join the MLFHS/BFHS at: <http://mlfhs.org.uk/join/index> .

January 2019

Bolton Family History Society is a branch of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society



Banner picture from "Celebrating 130 years", commemorative booklet about Crowthorn National Childens Home provided by Anita Forth in her talk May 3rd 2017. See our Face book page for more pictures.

Well here we are, we have made it to another year and lets hope it is a bit more peaceful and less dramatic than the last one. Were your Christmas and New Year festivities productive as far as new family stories were discovered and perhaps new "twigs" greeted?. For those of you who opted for quieter days for whatever reason, we hope you also feel more refreshed now after a chance of R&R. If you or yours were working still, and keeping the nation ticking over safely , our thanks.

As far as I know we hopefully have no major changes planned in this coming year, but as this is being written before our yearly General Meeting next month that could always change of course. As things stand it seems all current officers on the committee are happy to continue serving , although there has been recent rejigging of responsibilities. Our "Assistants " continue to beever away in the background, at our meetings, and arranging and helping with other events, and also several are transcribing and indexing local documents, and cataloguing at the Central Library. If anybody else feels they have a little spare time and a particular useful interest to contribute in any way, please do let our secretary know as above. You don't have to be a committee member to be part of the team, but most feel the more they put into the effort the more satisfaction they get out of it..

OUR LAST and NEXT MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Where?

Bolton Old Links Golf Club, Montserrat Brow, Chorley Old Road BL1 5SU. Buses 519&125 <https://goo.gl/TH5zYC>. All MLFHS members free. £3.00 to non-members unless joining on the night.

- When?

7pm beverages and bar available for 7.30pm start, on the first Wednesday of each month, except December and January. Extras include a Help Desk for personal research, Stationery Table for discounted books and maps, and recycle service for your used family history magazines, books etc.



RECENT AND COMING EVENTS

Wednesday 9th January Bolton FHS –7.30pm “Bread, the Staff of Life - A look at the history of Warburtons”, <https://tinyurl.com/y9y4kruw> by David Tomlinson - retired technical director of Warburtons

Well we hope you all enjoyed this opening talk for 2019. David came well prepared with armfuls of mysterious packages. We had been asked to provide 2x 6ft long tables but had no idea why. He also wanted tea cloths and a “big stirring spoon”.

He launched his talk with a potted version of how he had become involved with Warburtons. A story which may have given the younger generations an insight into how careers had often started post war. David started in 1959 when, whilst studying an apprenticeship course in Bolton re food technology, he had acquired part time seasonal work at Warburtons. Many students did this at that time to supplement their grants, and it was indoor, as opposed to outdoor postal deliveries, albeit a 5.15am start to 5pm finish. After completing this first course he went on to study more in research and development in Manchester and joined the Archer Daniels Midland Company, a global wide American food processing and commodities trading corporation, based in Chicago. Here he learned more about food technology, working in Boston and Detroit, and met Tom Warburton, part of the 4th generation of the Bolton bakers, who was just completing a course at Harvard. Tom’s ambition as a confirmed entrepreneur, was to introduce and distribute their traditional British products to the American market and he invited David to join him. Shops were opened up initially in Boston, Detroit and Chicago, then elsewhere.



Tom’s siblings and cousins were equally energetic and George, Henry, Derek, and others totalling ten in all, were encouraged to explore and diversify according to their own particular interests. Cousin Derek apparently decided the bread was too crumbly so he set up a fish farm to use the residue up. This lasted 2 years before being abandoned as the fish died. He next opted to buy and sell selected “high profile” cars such as a gold covered Rolls Royce, to create a “Hollywood image” of the firm, and he went on to use the car to visit a jewellery shop in Wigan that he had bought! (This perspective has continued in recent years with Christmas adverts involving big stars such as Peter Key, Sylvester Stallone, the Muppets, and another planned for 2019 thought to be with Robert de Nero <https://tinyurl.com/y7yevw37> and <https://tinyurl.com/y78wd75p>). He also regularly tried to identify the specialities of other bakeries such as the Blackpool milk roll, Haworths Thai pies, and match them. Another deal bought Soreen (Malt Bread) in Manchester, and various other local bakeries such as Hampsons were acquired, 220 retail shops in all. Henry liked Continental style baking and cakes and went there to learn their methods and replicate them at home. George liked accountancy and had set up a van business to deliver their products with sidelines of coach building and making number plates amongst other things. In the early 1990s though, the 4th generation were ready to retire rather than restrict new ideas and their successors were to take over the management of the firm.

The 5th generation were recalled home to Bolton after their similar “internship”. In all five of them had been training in the specialities required i.e. production, accountancy, sales, retail, and technical, and they had now gained experience from other businesses such as Ross, Unilever, Ranks, Marks and

Spencers. In 1995 all the 4th finally left leaving the 5th in charge of the biggest bread making business in the country. By 2018 they were making 550 million loaves of bread in 15 bakeries, the biggest being in Wakefield, and they are now the largest bakery in Europe. There are also 7 or 8 trainees in the 6th generation preparing to continue the momentum.

David next explained how this had all started in 1876 when Thomas and Ellen Warburton, who owned a small family grocers shop at 125 Blackburn Road (picture →courtesy of the Warburtons website <https://tinyurl.com/y9y4kruw>), decided to make and sell their own bread during a slump in trade. The idea took off and they had sold 4 loaves and 6 bread cakes after one hour. Staunch Methodists they made a point of trying to provide a standard size good quality product at reasonable prices to help sustain their community. Warburtons try to continue this ethic even now. Thomas and Ellen never had children, but research shows how nephews and nieces have continued the family traditions. Some of our members actually have distant connections to the family and have found that the couple retired to 239 Tong Moor Road. Tom died in 1906 and Ellen in 1920. Support for their community continues though, with investment and involvement in many local projects in their Community Investment Strategy, such as 12 educators visiting local schools and providing nutritional advice linked to the national curriculum, as well as showing how to make bread <https://tinyurl.com/y9y4kruw>, plus financial and product donations for cancer charities, childrens health and much more.



The term “staff of life” was next expanded on. Bread is universally recognised as one of the most nutritious basic foods available around the world in various shapes and forms, adapting to what types of ingredients and cooking methods are available locally, and with a history of production from at least 10,000 years ago, demonstrated from archaeological digs in Turkey. It was explained how wheat, one of the three basic ingredients along with water and yeast, varies in gluten levels depending on where and when it is grown. Warburtons use mixtures mainly of American, Canadian and English species, also varying the proportions according to the weather and season. The forms of bread also vary according to local preferences, such as baguettes, flat breads, bannocks, ciabatta, cobs. Other factors include how much of the grain to use such as wholemeal, or white, and the amount of gluten used to control the bubbles which affect the sponginess, (or albumin for those with coeliac disease). Quality control regulations have been introduced to monitor the ingredients, allowing certain preservatives such as acetic acid, standardise weights, and add approved food supplements such as certain vitamins and minerals as pioneered in childrens clinics post war. to improve the health of the nation.

The talk was closed with advice about how to store and use the weekly loaf, and sample packages given to maybe 30+ raffle ticket holders which became almost a “bun feast”.

Thanks to David for a very interesting talk about one of Bolton most successful families and how they have contributed so much to their local community for the last 141 years.

87 attended including 12 guests and 3 new members.



Oldham Branch Meeting There will be no Oldham Branch meeting in January 2019

Wednesday 16th January 10.30am: MLFHS Quarterly Meeting . Talks all held in the MCL Performance Room, Free to Members, £3 to non members unless joining on the day.

10.30 am “Sir Neville Cardus 1888 – 1975” Speaker: Chris O'Brien

The life of Sir Neville Cardus, writer on cricket and music for the Manchester Guardian, is a rags-to-riches story, but his family history is shrouded in mystery and deception. He was born in Manchester, and originally named Fred, the son of a prostitute and an unknown father. Click <https://tinyurl.com/y7sge5k7> to book

12.00 noon Lunch

1.00 pm “ The Boat Families of the Leeds - Liverpool Canal” Speaker: Bill Huyton

Bill's talk is an introduction to the Leeds - Liverpool Canal. He gives examples of a family who moved to Salford, and of a very large family of boaters. Bill is a member of the Ormskirk and District Family History Society, who have supported a free searchable website <http://www.boatfamilies.website/> containing nearly 40,000 names and which now includes names extending into Yorkshire and Cheshire, and beyond.



NB If you missed Bill speaking to us in Bolton in July 2016 <https://tinyurl.com/y9y6omnc> this is another chance to hear his excellent talk. Well recommended. Click here to book <https://tinyurl.com/y8fkxcrf>

Saturday 19 January 2.00pm: Anglo-Scottish Branch Meeting in the Chief Librarian's Office on the third floor of MCL (Turn left out of the lift). This month is our Quiz and Social meeting. The talk is open to both members and non-members. Booking is NOT required.



Wednesday 6th February, 7.30pm, Bolton FHS General Meeting (approx 10 minutes).

Please could all members read the 2018 Chairmans Annual Report and 2018 BFHS Accounts Report available on this link. <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/Variou.php> . Paper copies will also be available on the night.



The formalities will be followed by

Dr Alan Crosby - Family & Local Historian, University Lecturer, visting us again to tell us about the adventures of another of his aunts. What an exciting heritage he has. His talks have become one of our annual , well anticipated treats. 😊

“A manicurist? in cowboy country: the adventures of Edith Crosby, 1882-1966”

He is introducing this next talk this way,

“In recent years I’ve talked to Bolton FHS about my great-aunt (courtesan and lover of various celebrities in Europe before 1914 and between the wars) and my grandfather (multiple bigamist and embezzler in Canada and Australia). Now it’s the turn of my great-aunt Edith, their older sister. She definitely did not let the side down by being either normal or respectable – she went off to Wyoming, became a manicurist in a cowboy town (and if you really believe that, you’ll believe anything) and ended up in Little Rock Arkansas in the mid-1960s, via two marriages under false names and a lengthy sojourn in Beverly Hills. Quite a girl”.

MLFHS and Branch e-Newsletters and Facebook pages ALL FREE

Did you realise that as well as Bolton the other MLFHS branches, (apart from Manchester Central), also each provide, free to all, monthly e-newsletters with useful local and related news items and tips. To sign-up, simply click the appropriate link below and complete the short form where you will also find copies of past issues.



Anglo-Scottish Newsletter <https://tinyurl.com/y9chgsxf> **Facebook** <https://tinyurl.com/y86en68x>



Oldham Newsletter <https://tinyurl.com/yc2pobad> as yet no **Facebook** page but watch this space.



MLFHS Central, no newsletter but does have its own **Facebook** page <https://tinyurl.com/y8ecosnk>



Bolton details as above and we now have 222 members “liking” our FB page as at 4th January

GENIE’S TIPS for

List of mills in Bolton <https://tinyurl.com/va7ad9fy> Wikipedia accessed 23.12.18

Mainly late 19th and 20th C unfortunately but may help some, and the link can be extended to other areas. This is Eagle Mill.

“This list of mills in Bolton lists textile factories which existed at one time or another in the Borough of Bolton, Greater Manchester, England.”---



WORKSHOPS, COURSES and CLASSES

Please follow the link for more, up to date, details. <http://www.bolton.mlfhs.org.uk/Workshops.php>

Introduction to Family History Websites Location Bolton Central Library

Workshop Leaders Margaret & Colin Calderbank

Saturdays, 9, 16, 23, 30th March 2019 Time 10.00am – 12.00noon.

Enquiries & Enrolment Tel: 01204 412 574 11.00am – 4.00pm



THIS MONTHS LOCAL NEWS and SOME ORGANISATION UPDATES

Lancashire Records

UKBMD Summary

<http://goo.gl/i29JpL>



Can you help us to improve FreeBMD? <https://tinyurl.com/yd3wrwwm>

The FreeBMD website will be undergoing a revamp over the next few months. The new website, which will run alongside the current one, will be in line with the design used for sister projects FreeCEN and FreeREG. We want to make sure that it continues to provide the service that family history researchers know and love, whilst possibly incorporating new features that will improve your experience. We're asking you in this form, for how and why you use FreeBMD, and what, if any, improvements you would like to see. Please make your responses as clear as possible.



Lancs OPC <http://goo.gl/AN699Z> and left click on the “What's New” tab on the left



Lancashire Archives News and Events <https://goo.gl/H8UexE> for their latest newsletter and more

Federation of Family History Societies Newsletters <https://tinyurl.com/y6vdrvjk>

This is the Christmas edition so a bit old by the time you will receive it by this route, but you can sign up for regular posting via this link. You may have seen already via our November newsletter, and our Facebook



page that we had Peter Higginbotham visit us in Bolton last November at our Open Day, and also the report of our members helping out at the very successful Bolton event of the “Lest We Forget “ project as mentioned here . Just to show we are “on the ball”

“Inside Rivington Gardens' Pigeon Tower as it prepares to open to the public during spectacular festival”

<https://tinyurl.com/y7k3qe6l> Bolton News 26.12.18 by Saiqa Chaudhari

“For decades the towering centrepiece of the historic Rivington Terraced Gardens (Editors Note part of Lord Leverhulmes estate of course and recently saved from the Winter Hill fire), has been closed to the public. But now thanks to a multi-million pound restoration project, The Pigeon Tower, one of Bolton’s most recognised, intriguing and romantic structures, will once again open its doors”---



SOME INTERESTING, USEFUL, AND MAINLY FREE WEBSITES

“Two men of genius, Richard Arkwright and Samuel Crompton”

<https://tinyurl.com/y9gkqpna> by Simon Topliss 28 June 03 Bolton Evening News

Just a brief reminder of two stories contributing to Boltons heritage . Picture shows the site of Richard Arkwrights 18th C peruke making establishment on Churchgate before he became diverted with pubs, then water frames, and Whigs of another kind.



Why children need to know their family history

<https://tinyurl.com/y8em2xsn> The Guardian by Rebecca Hardy

Sat 14 Jan 2017 . This story rings so many bells in my family, and I suspect it will with a lot of yours.

“Like many people, we are raising our kids away from “home turf”. Their father and I hail from the north. Most of our family are dotted around Manchester, but as we have been living in London for more than 20 years, our kids are southerners, which, from a northern perspective, is a little like admitting you eat babies for breakfast. Does it matter? Would our children benefit from being more in touch with their roots.”---

If reading this article you also consider some of the ideas for passing family stories on to grandchildfren as suggested here on “Zap the Grandma” (<https://tinyurl.com/ya63wpnu>), posted recently on our FB page, there seems to be a lot of food for thought about how we can enrich and strengthen the lives of the next generations.

Hidden Lives Revealed , A Virtual Archive, 1881 – 1981

This site says it includes *“information on children's homes up to the 1980s, but the site focuses on the period 1881-1918, and includes unique archive material about poor and disadvantaged children cared for by The Waifs and Strays' Society. The Society cared for children across England and Wales - in both the densest urban conurbations and some of the smallest rural villages.*

To give an example of how many children The Waifs and Strays' Society looked after in its early years, about 22,500 children were cared for between 1881 (when the Society was founded) and the end of the First World War (1918). The Waifs and Strays' Society became the Church of England Children's Society in 1946 and is now known as The Children's Society.

Our site features a range of archive material, most not previously accessible by the public, as well as articles and learning resources that help interpret these stories for a modern audience. No other Internet archive gives you the opportunity to browse through such unique material - a kind of resource which has the type of information not recorded elsewhere. For more local interest though, **Ashleigh Home for Girls, Bolton** is mentioned as being a sort of “temporary staging post” for girls in care from Whalley Range Manchester , from 1940 to when they were moved on to Formby in 1948. There seems to be some doubt where it actually was in Bolton though, and no pictures. Can anyone help please?

“Salford Lads Club” Archives <https://tinyurl.com/ybgub3py>

“Salford Lads Club was established in 1903 as a purpose built club for boys. The club has continued to provide this facility for more than 100 years and is considered to be the ‘finest example of a pre First World War club surviving and operating today’ The club is now open to girls and boys...

The club has amassed an amazing archive of photos, records, film reels and memorabilia over the years. We’ve doing great things with it, such as the 100 Camps project, that includes photos and stories from lads about their experiences.

We often get queries from people with historical links to the club. Please contact us with your enquiry”.

<https://salfordladsclub.org.uk/contact-us/>



The National Registration Acts of 1915 and 1939 <https://tinyurl.com/y7ltp7lj>

With thanks to the Anglo Scottish branch for drawing our attention to this. It appears that there was a 1915 Register prepared on August 15th 1915 for 15-65 year old men and women to complete themselves, to assess the resources and needs we had at home, and channel the abilities and assess the basic living requirements of all none combatants in the most useful direction. After the war there was a directive in 1921 to destroy same, and only the Gloucestership ones seem to have survived.



Populations Past –Atlas of Victorian and Edwardian Population <https://tinyurl.com/ybakjbqw> University of Cambridge accessed 23.12.18

This fascinating link shows maps of the UK demonstrating graphically things like the incidence of child mortality >1 year old, between 1851 and 1911, along with many other variables looking at social conditions, occupations, family and housing, medical availability etc.

The ranking of provincial towns in England 1066-1861 <https://tinyurl.com/y9xmnxnk> **Researching Historic Buildings by Jean Manco** accessed 26.12.18

Can you found your places of origin here? Interesting to see how towns have appeared then grown or disappeared over the centuries. *“London has been England's capital and largest city since before the Norman conquest. Other English towns and cities have been wafted up or buffeted down the status ladder by the economic winds of change. Some of the trading hubs of the Middle Ages became backwaters in the industrial age”---*

Over 60 million pages of digitized Canadian documentary heritage soon to be free <https://tinyurl.com/ybjola2a>



Posted on November 16, 2018 by Gail Dever GenealogylaCarte

“As of January 1, 2019, more than 60 million pages of Canadian digital documentary heritage are now available at no charge to users. The Canadiana collections are the largest online collections of early textual Canadiana in the world. The removal of the subscription paywall will allow unimpeded access for anyone around the world to this unique historical content archival material that includes government publications, periodicals, monographs, annuals, and newspapers.” ---

“How the Western Front Association WW1 Pension Ledgers May Have Solved another Family History Mystery <https://tinyurl.com/y8alh6hz> Posted on December 6, 2018 PastToPresentGenealogy” Jane Roberts: Yorkshire-Based Professional Family History Researcher

“Last weekend I finally gave in and subscribed to Fold3 taking advantage of their cyber week. The deciding factor was the need to view their exclusive record set:- the Western Front Association (WFA) collection of Pension Record Cards and Ledgers.

Dependents of each serving British soldier, sailor, airman and nurse who was killed in the Great War were entitled to a pension. So were those service personnel wounded or otherwise incapacitated. For those who

died the next of kin and pension amounts are detailed in the cards and ledgers. For those who survived they provide details of injury (wounds, illness), plus regimental details (unit, regimental number) and home address. The latter are particularly important for researchers, as those who survived are often more difficult to find information about, especially with common names" --- An interesting article about an alternative source for UK military research with a Yorkshire/ Lancashire interest. Just a shame it is from the USA.

"Remittance man (and Women)" Do You have One in Your Family?

I must admit I had never heard the term before but there has been quite a bit of discussion about them recently on Facebook. I have one ancestor who went to Australia in 1849, with his young family from an apparently comfortable home background, and I am now wondering whether it was the cholera epidemics of the time that they were trying to escape from, or something else? This first discussion is mainly re Canadian and American examples.

<https://tinyurl.com/y7gxtusi> Wikipedia accessed 26.12.18 "A remittance man is a historic term for an emigrant, often from Britain to a colony, supported by regular payments from home, on the expectation that he stay away. Note that in this context, money is being sent in the opposite direction to today's usual usage of the term remittance, which means money that migrants send to their countries of origin."

"Remittance Men and Women" by Heather Barford 08-01-2012 British Genealogy <https://tinyurl.com/ybhqeq6t> accessed 26.12.18 (need to register here first but free). This project has been launched by Heather as part of a Masters Degree dissertation .

"Not all black sheep were convicts, it was very common to send remittance men and women often with their families overseas, to get them away from the area where they had disgraced themselves. A place of residence was bought and regular sums of money deposited in the bank to keep them away. Administration of this was generally arranged with a firm of lawyers, who perhaps kept a friendly or fatherly eye on them. The reason they were banished could be because they had"---

Read on

A List of Remittance Men in New Zealand <https://tinyurl.com/y9en7s5b> Blog by The Hunting Kiwis Team accessed 26.12.18

"the earliest reference to "Remittance Man" that I could find in New Zealand using Papers Past online archive. It appears to be a rather tongue-in-cheek reference to the stereotypical Remittance Man who lived by the financial seat-of-his-pants, reliant on family back home for an income"--- Picture courtesy of Ships & Travel in the 19th century <https://tinyurl.com/ycss98qs> accessed 04.01.19



Remittance Men in New Zealand (also Australia, and from Britain)

<https://tinyurl.com/yco6c38w> Facebook Closed Group.

"This group exists to bring together people interested in Remittance Men, particularly in New Zealand and Australia, for the purposes of academic research for a Masters in History at the University of Canterbury (NZ) by Helen Leggatt.

People in New Zealand, Australia, and Britain, are encouraged to share their stories of Remittance Men, whether they be descendants or figures from their local history. The information in this group will, by prior consent, be used in the research for the Masters Thesis".

Please let us know if you come across any suspects in your family.

Colonial Outcasts - A Search for the Remittance Men <https://tinyurl.com/ya76ra8t> New ZealandGenWeb Project

It has recently been brought to our attention that this research project has also been running for some time.

MISCELLANEOUS

On the other hand of course, some were sent overseas without choice or bank roll, (and what an excellent example this is of the use of newspapers for contemporary reports).

The Saga of Two Boltonians, Transported to Australia 1835 Part 1 by Mike Cunliffe 24 September edited by the BFHS team

"A couple of weeks ago Denis McCann shared the story of a local convict Silwood who was transported in 1835, (Facebook "Little Bolton" Aug 16 2018) <https://tinyurl.com/ybyky2hd>). By coincidence at the same time I was researching details of my 1st cousin five times removed William Shipperbottom (bapt St Peters Bolton 13.07.1806, Lancs OPC) who was also transported in 1835. Incredibly we discovered that they were in the same gang. We have therefore put all the factual information together to tell the following story. Please allow a little dramatic licence in the presentation for your enjoyment, but the factual evidence is correct.

*The "scene" was 1835 Little Bolton a township in Lancashire, which ultimately joined with the township of Great Bolton to make the cotton town of Bolton Lancashire in 1838 (<https://tinyurl.com/yqvqxzu6> British History Online accessed 10.12.18) . The name Shipperbottom is a solid Lancashire name with possible local origins

<https://tinyurl.com/ydyhskqz> HouseOfNames.com

*The "Cast" George Nathaniel Silwood aged 24, William Schofield 26, William Shipperbottom 29, John Crompton age unknown and an Alice Cook were local criminals. Silwood was a man with "a superior education", who was looked upon by the crooks as a sort of leader. Shipperbottom was a married collier with three children (married Mary Crowshaw 1st Jan 1827, Deane St Marys Lancs OPC)

*The Crime (as reported in the Bolton Chronicle Feb 14th 1835 p3—They broke into the warehouse on Green Street, Bolton, of Thomas Pearson and Co on the 27th January 1835. They stole 42 sheets, 4 counterpanes, and some minor items.(England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892 Ancestry <https://tinyurl.com/y8rf43p9>).

*The Twist - A few days afterwards Silwood, a beer seller and known receiver of stolen goods, wrote to the Little Bolton Deputy Constable, Mr Howarth, inviting him to search Silwood's home to clear his character. It all backfired when the police took him up on his offer. On accepting the invitation the Constable attended his home and found two others with Silwood , and some of the stolen property. On searching further a trapdoor was found leading to the loft where more of the property and the proceeds of other crimes were found.



Letter from Silwood to John Howarth Deputy Constable Little Bolton

"Sir, - I take the opportunity of addressing you with a few lines concerning different cases, which I hope will in no ways offend you; the nature of my case is as follows.

I am given to understand from different friends of mine that you and your party have very great suspicions upon me for robberies which have been committed at various times and places in Bolton. I therefore think it my duty to contradict the assertion, and so far as lies in my power to clear myself.

Your suspicion's perhaps falls upon me from company coming into my house but it is my duty to inform you that my house is open for everyone, as far as regards my trade as a beer seller.

In another place I know the enemies and watches there are about me, but I can inform you it is all to no purpose, and therefore I set them all at defiance.

In another place I have a mother to keep, and what must she do if anything was to happen to me. Do you think I have no more sense than to go and get myself transported for life for a lot of joiner's tools or school books? I shall never do so, for I too well know my doom.

I even heard from good authority that you was going to fetch me one day last week, but before you did you had a consultation with Mr Holden, and further if anymore robberies were committed in Little Bolton you should come for me first. Now what have any more spite at me anymore than anyone else, for I am sure I cannot tell. I never did you or any of your family any harm. I can assure you that you are heartily welcome to come any time you think proper and examine anything I have in the house without going to the expense of getting a search warrant. I have plenty of joiners tools, which you or anyone else can see if they choose without going to any trouble and therefore I can assure you that



anytime the door is open to you for to come and overall everything in the house anytime when you may think fit and convenient and in the meantime allow me to remain Yours G.N. Silwood

Further items were then found at William Shipperbottom's home, and after being committed to the Lancaster Sessions, the prisoners were all placed in the lock ups in Little Bolton underneath the Town Hall. <https://tinyurl.com/y828kimg> (website Little Bolton Town Hall and Prison Parliamentary Papers, Volume 5.)

*The Jail Break - During the night Silwood and Shipperbottom contrived to make use of a fire provided to keep them warm, and burn a hole in the bottom of their cell door, in the Star Chamber, large enough to permit their escape. Silwood through previous experiences was acquainted with the cells layout, and located Crompton and Schofield's cell and helped them to make their escape. Before Silwood and Shipperbottom made their escape Silwood had the audacity to write on the cell wall;

"G.N.Silwood, first time November 21st 1831 six months spent at New Bailey, which cost me twenty six pounds.

-G.N.Silwood, second time May 17th 1834 Got acquitted

-May 18th 1834 Listed in the East India Company Artillery and was discharged unfit for service November 21st 1834"

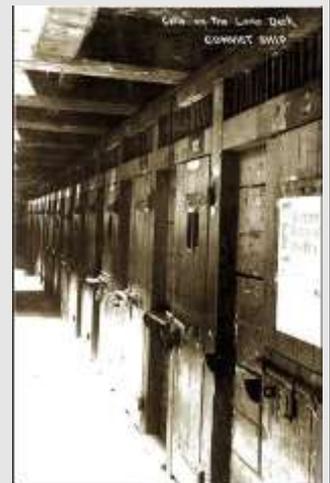
He also had drawn a man hanging on the gallows. During his confinement he had frequently declared he would commit self-destruction. (Bolton Chronicle February 14th 1835 p3Col1)

*The Capture – Three of them were found 45 miles away in Chester by the city walls, Silwood was washing his army shirt in the river, and it was thought as it was an army shirt he had stolen it or he was a deserter. They were put before the magistrates in Chester, but with no charges they were remanded. When it was determined who they were a letter was sent and then they were returned to the constables of Bolton and lodged in the Salford New Bailey (<https://tinyurl.com/y786gvtw> Prison History accessed 16.12.18). Silsden did make another attempt at escaping apparently via a sewer bit was thwarted by some railings (Bolton Chronicle 9th July 1853 "Bolton Foks in Australia"). John Crompton was never recaptured.(Manchester Courier & Lancashire Adv ertiser Feb21st 1835 and Bolton Chronicle 21 February 1835 p3col2)

*The Trial - On the 2nd March 1835 they were all tried at the Lancaster Quarter Sessions. (Bolton Chronicle -March 7thp3Col5 .) Schofield was acquitted, and the two other men were transported., Silwood a life sentence for theft, Shipperbottom 7 years .(<https://tinyurl.com/y7vzdq17> Lancashire, England, Quarter Session Records and Petitions, 1648-1908 for William Shipperbottom accessed 16.12.18). Alice Cook was given six months in prison. There are reports of this elsewhere including Manchester, Dublin, and Liverpool newspapers.

*Transportation - Shipperbottom sailed from The Downs (an anchorage of Kent) to Van Diemens Land for seven years where he arrived on 7th October 1835 aboard the Convict Ship "Aurora" <https://tinyurl.com/yau2yq5n> . "

Editors Note There is more of this story coming next month, including the curious tale of how Mike made contact with Australian descendants , and a Boltonian ex pat researching George Nathaniel Silwoods family. He had arrived in Van Diemens land a month later <https://tinyurl.com/y7jq2qfs> on board the "Layton". There were 455 ships in all. More on Hulk ships and transportation to Australia from the National Archives website <https://tinyurl.com/y7u8cwhn>



MEMBERS COMMENTS, QUERIES, and MEMORIES)

Some Follow Ups

- **RE an Enquiry Re Pew Springs Bolton By Neal Singleton from Canada in December 2018 Genie**

Some may remember this query last month, asking for help re identifying an address mentioned in a 1923 Canadian document as Neal's great aunt's last address in England i.e. 60 Pew Springs Bolton. We "threw it out" to whoever we could think of and received some quite helpful information via our Facebook connections. Using a process of elimination we learned from member Rita Greenwood that "According to Allison's Directories dated 1930 and 1947, there are no references to Pew Springs in Bolton. New Springs features in both directories as being at 2 Smithills Croft Road, Bolton."

Neal it seems had already worked this out from studying other maps of the time and has informed me that "We have come to the conclusion that the address in question is 6 New Springs and it was a transcription error that made it 60 New Springs". All well that ends well. Nice to show we can provide a bit of international help though and remind all of the "Help Address" above.

Coincidentally Neal also noticed the advertisements for our talk on the history of Warburtons bakery and had a relative who used to work for them. "my great grandfather Henry Arthur Sands,--- head baker at Warburtons in the early 1900s ---, who has a photograph supplied to me via my grandmother from Warburtons in 1976 after she saw it published in the Bolton Evening News. I assume that someone from the Warburton family supplied the original as it appeared in their publication '100 years of good baking'. I have an original copy of this booklet and on one of the pages there is a reproduction from the wage book in which my great grandfather's weekly wage was stated as £2/3/3d. Published with the permission of Warburtons.



→

- **Re Trevor Maseys article also last month about the Bleackley Family Band of Bolton**

Well on Dec 20th we received this enquiry from Australia. "I do enjoy reading the Genie newsletter and I found the article on the Bleackley Band most interesting. Is it possible to contact Trevor as I am researching the family. My grandmother was a Bleackley and have researched back to the James Bleackley, there was no mention of his parents and this is to confirm if I have the right information".

We connected them up and the next we heard was "he sent me an email confirming I had the correct father to James Bleackley, so I am the 1st cousin 4 times removed".

Enabling two Bolton "strays" to confirm their investigations via our media is also very rewarding for us. It helps us to see where our network is reaching out to. Please help spread the word, and if we can help in any way please do let us know. Even if it is only pointing you in the right direction, (we don't actually deprive you of doing your own tree of course, that is where the fun starts.)

OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES NEWS



Halliwell Local History Society <http://goo.gl/8erYyr>

Email margaretk@talktalk.net. Meetings are usually held on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm, at St Luke's Church, Chorley Old Road, BL1 3BE opposite Shepherd Cross St, Bolton,
29th January 'The Mass Observation Archive' – David Burnham



Turton Local History Society <https://goo.gl/adx4GM>

Illustrated talks and meetings are held from August to April inclusive on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Longsight Church Centre, Harwood BL2 3HX beginning at 7.30pm. This next month's event

23 Jan - AGM / Pubs in Turton (John Barlow)

Westhoughton Local History Group – <http://goo.gl/XNugl5>

Meetings take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, between 10am and 12md in the room above Westhoughton Library, Market St, Westhoughton, BL5 3AU.



Horwich Heritage Centre- <http://goo.gl/fSPsj>

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Horwich Resource Centre, Beaumont Road (off Longworth Road), Horwich BL6 7BG.

Open Days, are held most months on Saturdays between 10am --- 1pm