

THE  
LOCAL HISTORY JOURNAL  
OF  
BACKWELL, NAILSEA,  
TICKENHAM AND WRAXALL



"Blitz" The Firefighters Memorial Near St Paul's Cathedral



**LOCAL HISTORY**  
GOSSIP - NEWS - RESEARCH

CONTENTS INCLUDE

JAMES WILLIAM SHORTMAN - FIREFIGHTER  
TYNTESFIELD CAMP, FIRES IN NAILSEA  
NAILSEA GLASSMAKERS SETTLEMENTS  
WHERE AND WHY IS NOWHERE?, A FAILAND STORY  
THE POST OFFICE AT WRAXALL - TRANSPORTATION

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## **A Welcome to New Readers especially those from the Nailsea Civic Society**

This journal has now been going for 9 years and I now welcome those members of the Nailsea Civic Society who have joined N&DLHS. There is much to do in recording and saving some of Nailsea's past and also recording the present for the future. I see no reason why this journal should not continue to put before its readers items of both the past and the present; hopefully this will suit those who are interested in history and also those with a more active interest in making Nailsea a place where people want to live. Would anyone like to prepare a page or so for those with a particular interest in the present and the future. If so contact the editor as soon as possible.

I am sure you will find much to interest you in this edition of Pennant and also the newsletter which accompanies it. There will also an order form for volume 1 of "Nailsea Court –The Story". The fact that we are able to publish this is in no small measure due to the help we have received from The Nailsea Town Council who I thank. Publication date of Volume 1 will probably be in September, shortly followed by Vol 2 which will cover the 20<sup>th</sup> century. If you wish to avail yourself of the special offer for the numbered edition get your order in as quickly as possible. This will be a limited edition and once sold out will not be available later.

With regard to publications to be published either by me on behalf of the Society or to be published by N&DLHS I have in hand at the time of writing this introduction (7<sup>th</sup> April 2001)

1. a book of the roads and tracks covering the area south of Queens Road
2. The 1841 Census of Nailsea
3. The Old Nailsea Golf Course.

Full details will probably accompany this volume.

I have not been deluged in the past with correspondence but maybe those new readers will have a view which they wish to express. I am always pleased to receive comments and information as well as photographs. There is a limit to the number of photos of the past that I can use without supporting text. I am fortunate this month in having articles from Phyllis Horman and Brian Hardyman as well as some information from David Chappell about Mr Dinneen's enquiry in No 28 regarding the Marchant family. This could in fact be called the Phyllis Horman edition as you will see that she has contributed more than her fair share. So come along all you readers put pen to paper.

Letters to the editor may be sent to me at my home address or by e-mail but please use the Society's box no. for all other correspondence.

I must apologise, especially to Mrs Sheila Baker, that in the last issue of the journal I omitted to include some illustrations that had been sent to me with the article about John Tilley Glassblower. These have been included in this edition.

You may have noticed in recent times that we have been experimenting with the way photographs are presented. They are much better on a shiny paper, but obviously this will cost a little more. We sometimes have a coloured photograph that we would like to include but this would add about 50p to the cost of each copy and would probably affect the annual subscriptions.

My own view is that the use of coloured illustrations in this journal cannot be justified but I wonder whether you would prefer us to use a better quality paper for the photos in the centre of the journal. We would have problems including photos with the article they belonged to. If you have a view please write; Even a note on a piece of paper is better than verbal comments at meetings which are easily forgotten.

I would like to find out what readers want from the journal but unless you write to me I will not know and will not be able to put forward recommendations to your Committee. (By the way I have not discussed this with the Committee either as regards the possibility of including such items or their cost)

Peter Wright  
Editor and Publisher for N&DLHS

## **TYNTESFIELD**

For new readers this is currently the home of Lord Wraxall. During WWII in its grounds was situated an American Army Hospital. After the war the buildings put up for the hospital were used to provide homes for many local families. The illustration elsewhere came to the Society via Mrs Bid Wheeler one of our members. It is the first time I have seen a view of the layout of the huts.

The following is a list of members of the American 74<sup>th</sup> General Hospital which was once stationed at Tyntesfield whose deaths had been reported to the unit's members' association by 1<sup>st</sup> September 1999. Information has been provided to the Local History Society by Mrs Winnie Carter who now lives in America having married one of the and Mrs Baker of Noah's Ark. I must emphasise that I do not know whether any of those named below actually served with the hospital while it was at Tyntesfield. If anyone has contact with members of the Hospital staff I would welcome more information.

### **IN MEMORIAM SEPTEMBER 1999**

Joseph J Alesio  
Frank Allegra  
Clifford R Allen  
John I Anderson  
Acie W Atkinson  
Ralph E Avant  
Robert W Baker  
Alfred R Berkeley, Jr  
Edward W Bernemann  
Harry Borow  
Ernest E Bradley  
Julian D Brookshire  
William J Callahan  
Edward C Carey  
Harold E Carlson  
Andrew J Chester  
Marlen W Chrisner  
Carl E Coffey  
Robert C Confer  
David R Corey  
Frank Costa  
Clarence Cox  
Hickson H Davis  
Rocco C DeLuca  
Elic A Denbo

Thomas D Dotterer  
Vincenzo Dramis  
Edwin S Dressel  
Richard T Dunphy  
Okey M Dyer  
Bernice Easley  
Bertie A Easley  
Rylan H Ewart  
Helen G Feeley  
Winetta C Fetzer  
Harvey W Felkel  
Donald L Fink  
Mary R Fitzgerald  
Sheldon Allan Friechman  
Harold Fromm  
James E Goodson  
John S Hatfield  
Michael J Harden  
Robert P Hefty  
Arthur C Haineman, Jr  
Lucy V High  
Selwyn C Hitchings  
Charles E Hollis  
Margaret J Hornickle  
Raymond A Hunter  
Elizabeth C Hurt  
Louis Hussar  
Esther Janov  
William St J Jervey  
Ralph B Johnson  
Kenneth H Julian  
George T Kalivas  
Roachel D King, Jr  
John Klauss  
William H Knoderer  
Francis W Kroll  
Joseph Kropavitch  
Charles E Land  
Ray R Leach  
Richard Lichtenwalter  
Alis Lindstrom  
George D Long  
Zigmund P Lubianez  
Edwin J Mackowiak

Frank J Madden  
Yale Marks  
Gordon L Marquadt  
Robert L McAdoo  
Michael H Morrow. Jr  
Hilda D Norton  
Kenneth L Parks  
Angela A Patrella  
Bernard V Pawlaski  
Paul E Peeler  
Helen Weshinger Peterson  
Malcolm E Price  
Hooper Ray  
John R Rominger  
Clara Obenshain Rookstod  
Lenore Taylor Sauln  
Rudolph A Schibler  
Helen J Schnader  
Ralph W Sharp  
Vernon Sheaklay  
Dewey Shearer  
Louia E Spak  
Gordon R Stoflet  
Frank J Suto  
Isabal M Parkins Suto  
Lloyd C Taylor  
Hyman I Teperson  
Anne C Thomas  
Jean E Thompson  
Anthony G Totoro  
Robert D Turley  
Luis E Viteri  
Catherine J Wall  
Thomas J Walther  
Earl A Westervelt  
Nick F Yahn  
Mike J Zagrovic

I am told that the unit left New York on 29<sup>th</sup> February 1944 aboard the Queen Mary and came ashore in the Clyde. The personnel went by train to Hoylake and eventually arrived at Tyntesfield in March or April.

After the war they went home by 'banana boat' either leaving Europe or arriving in USA on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1945.

*(I am sorry that my note taking was not as it should be. A lesson for us all.)*

In writing to me Winnie Carter mentioned going to the Firefighters' memorial in London.

Her father James Shortman is mentioned on it having been killed while on duty with the brigade in Long Ashton. The details previously published in Pennant are set out below.

A photograph she let me have appears in this edition showing Brigade members outside what is still the Clist and Rattle Garage at Cambridge Batch. James Shortman is on the right. A photo of the Firefighters' memorial "BLITZ" also appears but whether the definition can be enhanced so that his name can be seen is doubtful. (His middle initial is incorrect in that it should be "W" and not "H") For anyone visiting London and wishing to see the memorial it stands on the corner of Sermon Lane due south of St Paul's south transept entrance. It is a sobering thought that the Dec 1998 Newsletter of the Firefighters Memorial Charitable Trust mentions that since records began in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century the Trust has identified over 2000 firefighters who have been killed or died from their injuries due to their firefighting duties.

On the subject of fires we have recorded the following as taking place in Nailsea.. Although these details were previously published in Pennant No 16 and Pennant 22 for the sake of completeness and for our many new readers they are repeated here.



## Fire in Nailsea

by Peter Wright

Among the various items relating to the Nailsea Fire Brigade is the Account Book which appears to cover most fires that occurred over a 20 year period from March 15<sup>th</sup> 1913 to November 30<sup>th</sup> 1933.

In the order in which they appear they are as follows :-

Year	Month / Day	Details	Duration (approx.)	Cost
1913	5 <sup>th</sup> March	Fire on G.W. Railway Main Line near Nailsea and Backwell Station	3 Hours	£5/14/6d
No	Date	Fire of Hayrick at Eastern Road belonging to Mr G.H. Yendole	2 Hours	£4/3/9d
1917	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	South Common Farm, property of C. E. Evans Esq.	1½ hours	£1/5/0d £2/0/0paid
1919	5 <sup>th</sup> February	"Stowell" the property of O Appleby Esq.	1 ½ Hours	£1/3/3d
1919	13 <sup>th</sup> February	Mrs Rogers Grocery Stores West End Nailsea	1 ½ Hours	£2/3/0d
1922	2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Hayrick at Mizzymead Farm, Mr J Wyatt	5-9 hours	£5/19/6d
1925	18 <sup>th</sup> January	Moorfields Farm, Silver Street, Wm. Baker	5 hours	£4/7/6d
1927	26 <sup>th</sup> April	Mr Loney's, Church Lane Nailsea NB first reference to "Motor Lorry conveying fire engine" Charge for this £1/0/0d	NOT SHOWN	£3/0/0d
1929	13 <sup>th</sup> January	Call to Mr Joseph Wyatt's Tower House Farm Wraxall	8 hours approx	£27/3/6d
1930	18 <sup>th</sup> April	Call to Mrs Morgan Browns Moorfields	1 hour approx	£3/11/0d
1930	1 <sup>st</sup> December	Call at Mr W Coles' Channel View, Tickenham	3 hours	£7/15/0d
1931	10 <sup>th</sup> January	Call at Mr G Perkins Nailsea Imperial Veterinary(sic) works	NOT SHOWN	£4/7/0d
1931	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Fire at Mr Wyatt's Mizzymead Cottage	no details	£2/18/4d
1932	4 <sup>th</sup> January	Fire at Mr Davis' Cottage, Wraxall	no details	£6/17/6d
1932	10/11 July	Fire at Mr H Dyers Farm, Kings Hill Nailsea	no details	£19/14/0d
#	pencil	Fire at Mr Hobbs West End Nailsea	no details	no details
#	pencil	Mr George Kings The Grove	no details	no details
1933	21 <sup>st</sup> January	Fire at Mr W(?) J Durbin, West End, Nailsea	no details	£2/8/6d
1933	30 <sup>th</sup> March	Fire at Mr W Neate, Wraxall	no details	£5/1/0d
1933	29 <sup>th</sup> August	Fire at Moors, owner Mrs J Griffen, Nailsea	no details	£5/8/0d
1933	30 November	Fire at Dr R F White, High Street, Nailsea	no details	£2/5/0d

The entries in this book show various amounts of information ranging from the first entry referred to above which provides the following:-

Use of Fire Engine and services rendered as follows:		
Use of engine and appliance	1 <sup>st</sup> hour	£ 2:00:0
	2 <sup>nd</sup> hour	10:0
Hire of Horse		10:0
Chief Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Hour 6/-	2&3 <sup>rd</sup> 8/-	14:0
5 Firemen 1 <sup>st</sup> hour @ 2/6 each		12:6
5 Firemen @1/6 for 2hrs after		15:0
7 pumpers @1/- an hour per man		7:0
Cleaning hose & washing	1/- per man	6:0
		<u>£5:14:6</u>

The entries in the book cease after 30<sup>th</sup> November 1933 apart from Registers of Mortgages for Y5383 Public Works Loan Board Old Jewry London Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> 1937 Loan for Fire Station £320

## **Fell from fire engine -**

Nailsea man's tragic death

*The following is a copy of a press report.*

The tragic death of Mr James Shortman of Clifton Villa, High Street Nailsea, came as a great shock to many friends both in Nailsea and elsewhere, for he was well known in the district.

As a full time member of the Auxiliary Fire Service, attached to the headquarters station at Long Ashton, he was with a party who had been engaged in a brigade exercise on Sunday afternoon at Gatcombe, when he fell from the fire engine when it was returning to the station. He sustained injuries to the head, and was conveyed to Bristol General Hospital where he died on Monday (Whit Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1941).

Prior to his joining the A.F.S. in July 1940 Mr Shortman filled the position of groundsman to the Flax Bourton C.C. and greenkeeper to the Backwell Golf Club for some years.

In his young days he joined the Somerset Light Infantry and served with the regular forces in India, Malta and China. He was in the service when the last Great War began (1914) and went through the whole of the four year's campaign. He received four medals including the D.C.M. the M.M. and the Service and Victory medals.

He was one of the founders of the Nailsea Comrades Club, which afterwards became a branch of the British Legion.

## **Funeral Tributes**

Fire Brigade Services were among a large and representative assembly at the funeral which took place at the Parish Church on Thursday afternoon. Contingents were present from Long Ashton and the area sub-stations, under the command of Chief Officer Clist, while Clevedon and Bristol Brigades were also represented.

The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, was borne to the church on the Long Ashton Fire Engine.

The service which was choral, was conducted by the Rev. W. Russell Davey, (Rector) and Preb. J. H. Powell Rural Dean. The hymns were "For ever with the Lord" and "Abide with Me". Mrs Ridley was at the organ. The Rector paid a high tribute to the life and work of Mr Shortman.

### **Family mourners were:-**

Mrs Shortman (widow); Miss Winnie Shortman (daughter); Mr W Shortman (father); Messrs E & A Shortman (Brothers); Miss Doll Shortman (sister); Mr & Mrs Strickler; Mr & Mrs Wright; Mr & Mrs Palmer; Mr & Mrs Perry (brothers in law and sisters in law); Mr & Mrs G Hartwidge; Mr & Mrs S Hartwidge; Mr & Mrs C Hartwidge and Mr & Mrs H Hartwidge (brothers in law and sisters in law); Mrs P Hartwidge and Marjorie, Mr and Mrs Bert Gray (niece and nephew); Sam and Ivy, Margaret, Stan, Ron and Mary (nephews and nieces) and Mr and Mrs J Sullivan.

In addition to the Fire Services, other bodies represented included Nailsea Parish Council; Messrs R E Gray (Chairman), H G Hedges, J Langley, J Stock (Clerk) together with Mr H Shepherd who represented the Royal Engineers and Mr H Parsons and Mr A Sprod (Brotherhood members); Capt. Neville Rolph, Lieut. E C Tuckey, and Messrs Sullivan, Summerell, P Maggs, and A Burrige represented the British Legion; while among many others who attended were A.R.P. Wardens.

## **19<sup>th</sup> Century Fires recorded in the papers**

*(Editor. I believe the Imperial, mentioned in both extracts below, was absorbed by the Sun Fire Office now part of the Royal Sun Alliance. Many years ago I tried to contact their archivist but received no answer. Maybe the letter did not get there)*

### **May 1851 - Nailsea**

On Thursday afternoon about two o'clock, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr Samuel Thatcher, brewer, Nailsea, owing it is supposed to a spark from the engine chimney having fallen on a thatched roof. In addition to their own engine they were assisted in extinguishing the fire by two engines from the glass manufactory and the prompt exertions of the inhabitants. Under these united efforts the flames were subdued in about two hours, but not, we regret to say, till considerable damage had been done. Mr Thatcher we are informed, was insured in the Imperial.

### **SEPTEMBER 1863**

#### **Extensive Fire. Nailsea**

At an early hour on Tuesday morning a fire broke out upon the extensive Glassworks of Mr Bowen of Nailsea, which resulted in damage to the extent of £2,000. That part of the works in which the fire originated was one of the warehouses and pot-rooms, and as in the former, a wagon load of straw had been placed only the preceeding day for the purpose of packing glass in crates, the premises being very old, the fire burnt with considerable fury. The workmen, aided by the inhabitants of the village, set to work right willingly, and seeing that their efforts were in vain to suppress the conflagration in the part of the premises in which it had originated, they directed their energies to the preservation of the adjacent buildings, in which they are successful. A mounted messenger was dispatched to Bristol for the fire engines, and the Royal and Imperial proceeded to Nailsea but the fire had been got under control before their arrival. The premises and contents were insured in the Imperial and we are happy to hear that in all probability no men will be thrown out of work by the disaster.

## Responses to mentions in Family Tree Magazine

Family Tree is one of the magazines that the Society subscribes to and it often enables us to help people who are researching local names. Two of our latest publications were mentioned in their book review columns. This mention led to several orders through the post. One of the people who wrote was Brian J M Hardyman of 6 Beeforth Close New Earswick York YO32 4DF. I knew that he had specialised over many years in preparing an index of glassmakers and so I asked him if he would be prepared to write an article for Pennant. Several letters later he sent me the following letter and a short article. The Settlement papers which he refers to are now safely deposited at Somerset Record Office at Taunton but photocopies are available for examination at Nailsea Library.

02 March 2001

Mr Peter Wright 5 The Perrings Nailsea Bristol BS4S 4YD

Dear Peter,

I have now returned from Glasgow where I spent some time researching Scottish glassmakers. The visit went very well and I traced some data on some Bristol glassmakers including some Bristol Warrens who had worked in Alloa and Glasgow in the mid 1900s.

I enclose an article for your consideration for placing in the Nailsea Journal. If you have any queries please do let me know.

I will be pleased to write a further piece if you feel it worthwhile. One idea I have is for a link with the mobility of Nailsea glassmakers mentioned in the Nailsea 1828 Poor Rate. Another could be 'where are they now' type of text tracing where the glassmakers went when the glassworks closed down.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Brian J M Hardyman

Enc: Nailsea article

## **Nailsea Glassmakers Settlements**

In the Parish Chest of Nailsea there is an interesting collection of Settlement Examinations. The documents are dated 1798, 1811, 1816 and 1817 showing many facets of a glassmakers life, including places of birth, marriage details and children born to the glassmakers family, together with the towns he was apprenticed in and where he plied his trade.

Included in the collection are glassmakers born in Bristol and some Parishes in Somerset; Yatton, Stanton Drew, Publow, Chew Magna and Midsomer Norton. Others are from various parts of the United Kingdom: Warrington, Lancashire, Carmarthen, Wales, St Giles, Reading, Berkshire, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, Shipton Moen, Wiltshire, Peebles, Tiviotdale, Scotland, East Smithfield, London, St Thomas, Dublin, Ireland, All Saints, and Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland.

Places of work include Stanton Drew, Somerset, Bristol, Chepstow, Monmouth, South Shields, Durham, Leith, Edinburgh, Scotland, Whitefriars, London and Dumbarton, Scotland.

The men born in the Bristol and Somerset areas were from families who had blown glass in the areas for many years, namely the Groves, Bailey, Noble, Williamson, Warren, Dully, Sims, Price and Smart families. The Warrens were Bristol glass masters in the early 1700s and were taxing apprentices at that time.

Two younger members of the Warren family obviously did not take easily to working in a glasshouse as they absconded in the late 1700s from their master, John Robert Lucas of Stanton Drew. A local Bristol newspaper printed a good description of both boys.

ROBERT WARREN - Genteel grown, well looking lad of 15 1/2 ft. tall, a round smooth pale face, dark straight hair and black eyes. Wearing dark claret coloured coat, no waistcoat, corduroy breeches and round hat.

NATHANIEL WARREN - tall, slender man 20 5/8 ft tall, small face, dark complexion, black eyes, thin straight black hair, scar near one eye caused by a cut. Wearing blue coat with yellow buttons, yellowish striped velvet waistcoat, olive coloured velvet breeches and fashionable round hat.

Both absconders were the sons of George Warren a glassmaker of Stanton Drew. It is evident they came to no harm and that they were forgiven their misdemeanour as their Settlements of 14 February 1816 prove.

Glassmakers were a mobile workforce and the Settlement Examinations show this. Sons and grandsons of Nailsea glassmakers carried on this trend by moving to other glass manufacturers in Great Britain with some even leaving for various parts of the world, including the United States of America.

Editor's reply

*Brian delighted to receive your article. My readers would welcome more on the lines you suggest. As a matter of interest Nailsea Library holds only a copy of the Settlement orders, the originals having been deposited at The Somerset Record Office for safe keeping. I have prepared an index to the orders and some bastardy records that were held together at the library and have added an alphabetical index below. The index has not been checked. It is one of the many jobs we would like our members to volunteer for.*

## **INDEX Settlement papers etc.**

A listing prepared on 9<sup>th</sup> February 1998 and taken from the photocopies of photocopies of the originals. The first generation photocopies are now in Nailsea Library. The original documents are now in Somerset Record Office in Taunton as is a similar set of photocopies to that held by Peter Wright on behalf of Nailsea and District Local History Society.

The original photocopies appear to have been subdivided into two sets of photocopies which depended on the size of the original. Settlement examinations, Bastardy enquiries, and orders are included and as at 9<sup>th</sup> February 1998 have not been separated.

Margaret	Abraham	1804
Richard	Abraham	1806
Samuel	Aldridge	1777
William	Allen	1816
James	Ansty	1799
Mary	Ashley	1776
Valentine	Ashton (date indistinct further investigation shows him as Pte in 7 <sup>th</sup> Fusiliers of Carey Glos Mar. Hannah Gale of Nailsea 10 May 1813)	1813
Elizabeth	Atwell	1808
William	Bailey	1816
Ann	Baily	1822
Sarah	Baker	1832
Grace	Ball	1789
John	Ball	1815
Samuel	Barber	1781

Sarah (1)	Barber (see Samuel Barber / Short)	1781
Sarah (2)	Barber (see Samuel Barber / Short)	1781
Samuel	Barber (see Samuel Short)	1781
John	Barfield	1796
Sarah	Barfield	1796
James	Barnett	1815
Mary	Barrett	1783
Mary	Barrett	1783
William	Bassett	1783
William	Bassett	1783
George	Bassett	1798
Richard	Batten	1816
Moses	Bayly	1809
Amandus	Beake (see Becke?)	1804
Amandus	Becke (see Beake?)	1804
William	Birch	1798
Thomas	Blackman	1816
John	Bond	1804
John	Bond	1816
John	Bond	1816
Isaac	Brean	1774
Joseph	Brean	1780
Joseph	Breane	1786
Benjamin	Bright	1822
Richard	Brimble	1803
James	Brock	1798
James	Brock	1817
William	Bromley	1798
Benjamin	Brooks	1798
James	Brooks	1822
John	Broom	1816
John	Brown	1812 +
Sarah	Brown	1800
Mary	Brown	1801
Dorothy	Brown	1808
Isaac	Brown (see Isaac Spear)	1807
Thomas	Bryant	1801
George	Burge	1798
William	Burland	1817
Sarah	Burrige	1796
Sarah	Burrige	1819
Johannah	Cabel	1780
John	Cabele (see Cable)	1780
John	Cable (see Cabele)	1780
Thomas	Capel	1798
Robert	Capell	1815
James	Cavil	1816
George	Challenger	1805
George	Churchill	1816
James	Clements	1780



John	Cole	1806
John	Cottle	1812
Nathaniel	Cox	1771
Nathaniel	Cox	1781
Nathaniel	Cox	1783
Robert	Cox	1808
George	Crain (see Crane)	1794
William	Crane	1780
Mary	Crane	1804
George	Crane (see Crain)	1794
Hester	Crease	1796
Hester	Crease	1796
Dinah	Cross	1763
Thomas	Culverwell	1798
Thomas	Davy	1780
Elizabeth	Daw	1841
Elizabeth	Daw	1841
James	Day	1802
Henry	Day	1827
William	de Laney	1812
John	Dedham	1806
Patience	Denmead	1831
Jane	Derrick	1775
Samuel	Derrick	1812
Louis	Detandy	1816
James	Dicks	1784
John	Drake	1800
John	Dulley	1811
William	Dulley (see Dursley)	1841
Betty	Dully	1799
Joseph	Dully	1813
John	Durbin	1804
Richard	Durbin	1805
Joseph	Durbin	1806
William	Dursley see Dulley	1841
Samuel	Elliot	1780
Thomas	Elliott	1801
Hannah	Emery	1805
Thomas	Escott	1796 ?
Samuel	Evans	1816
Hester	Evans	1834
George	Eyres	1805
William	Flook	1798
Daniel	Flower	1785
Daniel	Flower	1785
Henry	Fowler	1822
Isaac	Fudge	1806
Sarah	Gale	1802
Susannah	Gale	1802
Susana	Gale	1808

Betty	Gale (See Sarah Inon / Onion / Richard Gale)	1779
Richard	Gale (see Sarah Inon or Onion) Illegitimate child Betty referred to was Bp on 25 Nov 1779 as "Onion"	1779
Elizabeth	Garland	1836
Elizabeth	Garland (see Elizabeth Treable)	1836
John	Gibbons	1762
John	Gibbons	1762
Pamela	Gibbs	1836
Ann	Gilroy	1816
Ann	Gilroy	1816
Ann	Gilroy	1816
John	Glew	1798
Mary	Glew (see Gore)	1797
John	Glew (see also Mary Gore)	1797
Sarah	Godwin	1801
John	Golding	1809
Mary	Gore nee Glew	1797
William	Gorton	1798
Harriet	Gorton	1807
James	Gould	1772
Thomas	Gould	1815
John	Gould	1840
John	Gould	1840
William	Grant	1798
John	Greave	1816
Amos	Grimstead	1798
Amos	Grimstead	1801
Cornelius	Grove	1816
James	Groves	1798
John	Hale	1782
John	Hale	1798
James	Hale	1816
William	Hale	1816
Dorothy	Hamett	1758?
William	Hammett	1798
Jacob	Hanney	1816
Thomas	Harding (3 pages)	1834
William	Hawkins	1800
Joseph	Hedges	1780
Solomon	Hedges	1801
Charles	Hedges (see Hodges)	1780
Caleb	Hedges (see Hodges)	1789
Amos	Hellier	1816
John	Hickey	1816
John	Hickey	1827
Betsey	Hill	1801
Betsy	Hill	1802
William	Hill	1810
William	Hill	1810
Joseph	Hilliker	1806

Joseph	Hilliker	1806
William	Hill	1811
Caleb	Hodges	1801
Joseph	Hodges	1801
Mary	Hodges	1801
Charles	Hodges (see Hedges)	1780
Caleb	Hodges (see Hedges)	1789
Jarman	Hodges (see Jarman Hodges)	1804
Jarman	Hodges (see Jarman Hodges)	1804
John	Holding	1831
Samuel	Hopkins	1798
Samuel	Hopkins	1808
William	Hopkins	1816
Moses	Horler	1786
Thomas	Horwood	1817
John	Howe	1789
Samuel	Howe	1800
Sarah	Inon (see Richard Gale also ) Illegitimate child Betty referred to was Bp on 25 Nov 1779 as "Onion"	1779
William	Jackways	1800
Sarah	Jacqueways	1782
Mary	Jakeways	1785
Mary	Jakeways	1785
Henry	Jarman	1800
John	Jefferies	1816
Richard	Jenkins	1798
John	Jenkins	1810
Elizabeth	Jennings	1800
John	Jennins	1810
Elizabeth	Johnson	1819
John	Jones	1786
James	Jones	1800
William	Jones	1816
Nancy	Kinton	1801
Sarah	Knill (see Sarah Nill)	1823
William	Lancashire	1806
William	Lancaster	1800
John	Leonard	1813
Robert	Lewis	1794
Thomas	Lewis	1798
Lydia	Lilly	1836
John	Lot	1798
Sarah	Mackever	1798
Henry	Milsom	1806
John	Moggs	1798
John	Moon	1835
John	Morris	1812
Joseph	Moss	1798
Richard	Moss	1798
Joseph	Murford	1763

Ann	Neads	1802
Peter	Newton	1780
Sarah	Nill (see Sarah Knill)	1823
James	Noble	1816
John	Noble	1816
William	Noble	1816
Mary Ann	Noble	1837
Emma	Noble	1837
Charles	Noble	1837
Sarah	Onion (see Sarah Inon & Richard Gale & Betty Gale)	1779
Hannah	Owen	1789
Hannah	Owen	1789
John	Pains (see John Panes)	1816
John	Panes (see John Pains)	1816
Thomas	Parker	1796 +
Edward	Parsons	1820
George	Perkins	1780
William	Perry	1816
William	Perry	1816
Joseph	Petheran	1804
James	Pey (see also Pye)	1798
John	Phillips	1798
William	Phillips	1800
John	Phillips	1816
William	Pimm	1812
William	Pope	1800
Charles	Pope	1804
William	Pope	1806
William	Pople	1806
Thomas	Powell	1798
Richard	Price	1792
John	Price	1816
Humphrey	Pring	1789e
Elizabeth	Pye	1813
James	Pye (see also Pey)	1798
Thomas	Raybold	1798
John	Redgers	1812
Sarah	Reed	1833
Isaac	Rich	1792
William	Richards (see William Rogers)	1789
Elizabeth	Roach	1805
Ann	Roach	1816
Ann	Roach	1816
James	Robbins	1789
William	Roberts	1798
John	Robinson	1816
John	Rogers	1789
Richard	Rogers	1808
William	Rogers (see William Richards)	1789
Thomas	Sadler	1812

William	Sainsbury	1804
John	Salsbery	1798
William	Sheriff	1807
Samuel	Short (see Samuel Barber)	1781
Samuel	Short (see Samuel Barber)	1781
William	Simmons	1786
James	Sims	1798
John	Skinner	1806
Hannah	Skinner	1811
William	Skinner	1811
William	Slade	1799
William	Slade	1799
William	Slade	1799
William	Slade	1800
Samuel	Smallman	1816
Robert	Smart	1816
Thomas	Smart	1816
Stephen	Smart	1816
John	Smart	1818
John	Smart	1818
Mary	Smith	1780
Mary	Spear	1786
Richard	Spear	1797
Isaac	Spear (see Isaac Brown)	1807
Anne	Spreat	1816
Mary	Squire	1794
William	Stallard	1798
William	Stevens	1811
George	Stokes	1815
George	Stokes	1815
John	Summerell	1801
Joseph	Summerell	1801
John	Summers	1786
James	Summers	1826
John	Taylor	1812
William	Tilley	1798
Elizabeth	Treable (see Elizabeth Garland)	1836
Betty	Tucker	1784
George	Tutton	1800
Samuel	Tutton	1800
Samuel	Tutton	1800
Samuel	Tutton	1801
Samuel	Tutton	1801
Samuel	Tutton	1802
John	Tutton	1805
William	Tutton	1805
Sarah	Tutton	1806
William	Tweet	1801
William	Vawer	1813
Samuel	Vickery	1799

John	Vimpenny	1783
John	Viney	1817
Sarah	Viney	1823
John	Vowles	1808
James	Vren?	1800
James	Vren?	1800
John	Walker	1808
John	Walker	1808
John	Walker	1811
James	Warfield	1796
Elizabeth	Warfield	1812
Robert	Warren	1816
Nathaniel	Warren.	1816
Thomas	Waterman	1799
Sarah	Watkins	1825
Benjamin	Watts	1780
John	Webb	1809
James	Webber	1780
William	Webber	1804
James	Weeks	1777
Elizabeth	Weeks	1801
Harriett	Weeks	1833
George	Wellin	1833
George	Wellin	1833
Samuel	Were	1811
John	West	1805
John	West	1815
Hannah	Willcox	1813
John	Williams	1810
John	Williams	1810
John	Williams	1811
John	Williams	1811
John	Williams	1811
George	Williamson	1816
William	Williamson	1816
William	Williamson	1816
Thomas	Williamson	1817
Charles	Windmill	1816
Sarah	Windsor	1793 +
Sarah	Windsor	1794
James	Windsor	1796
James	Winscombe	1761
John	Winsor	1830
William	Withy (the Younger)	1808
James	Wookey	1832
Joseph	Wookey	1832
Joseph	Wookey	1832
Joseph	Wookey (see James Wookey)	1832
Walter	Woolcock	1798
John	Wright	1789

Further details will be obtained from the documents and added to this list. In the meantime the possibly ambiguous note (See ..... ) has been added where it was noticed that the person also used an alias or where the actual spelling was not clear on the photocopy. It does not mean that there is necessarily more than one "examination". In relatively few cases some of the extra names that appear on the examination have been included on this list.

## **The Marchant family**

In connection with Adrian Dinneen's enquiry in Pennant No 28, I have received the following from David Chappell re a Marriage at Tickenham Church

27<sup>th</sup> September 1882. John George Marchant of full age, mason of Tickenham and Emily White spinster domestic servant of Clevedon.

Fathers: George Marchant a carter and Thomas White a butcher. Witnesses Thomas White and Isabella Hill

David comments that he would be the right age to be a brother but he cannot find him on the 1881 census for Somerset and there are 360 of them on the National Index

However he can trace Emily. She does not appear to have been baptised at Tickenham. Her father was much older than her mother (80/45 in 1881) and he was a butcher living at Jacklands.

When David was working in Clevedon (up to 1988) he had dealings with a firm of electricians called Marchant and maybe the decorator currently in Clevedon of that name maybe related.

1881 Census - Stuart House Marine Parade Clevedon James Jupp railway station master and family with Emily Bowden Aunt and Nurse monthly and Emily White U 25 F Tickenham General Servant.

## **Where and why is Nowhere?**

Phyllis Horman noticed that there was a query in that very useful "Nailsea Paper" that comes out monthly and is delivered free to our door.

Someone had asked how the name "Nowhere" arose and a suggestion had been made by a reader. Phyllis contacted me saying she had decided to write to the Paper and try to explain what seems to be the real answer to the origins of Nowhere. She explained that in no way was she trying to criticise the person who gave the information to the Nailsea Paper, they only repeated

what they had been told. She went on to say that it was not Mr Thomas's idea of referring to his property by this name, his house had been East End House.

Nowhere was a very old cottage and there had been four other smaller cottages around it, one of which was attached to Nowhere. The area where these cottages had stood had been described in various ways in the Nailsea Census Returns.

In 1841 it was known as "Snatcher's Folly", in 1851 it was "Late Young's Property"; in 1861 "Nowhere" while in 1871 census William Morgan a colliery manager lived at East End House. The cottages were "Nowhere".

In 1881 Samuel T. Morgan was living at "Nowhere" and the cottages were also described as "Nowhere".

One of our members Mrs. Johnson and her brothers grew up at Nowhere, whilst Mr. Thomas, his wife and daughter lived at East End House. Mrs. Johnson's mother lived at Nowhere from the age of about two years until, of course, she was old enough to go to work elsewhere, then returned again with her husband to bring up their family. According to Mrs. Johnson's mother the reason that the name was given, was because Mr. Harding's mother had died and he had to find in which parish she should be buried. As the house was on the borders of Nailsea, Wraxall and Backwell, in effect it was Nowhere.

Mr. Harding owned the house and a piece of land, but he went to Australia, having told Samuel Davis of the "Royal Oak", that if he should not return Samuel could have the property. He didn't return so Samuel took it, and later it became the property of Mr. James Binning.

The two lanes into Trendlewood have been wrongly named. The right hand one marked Nowhere Lane is incorrect, it really was the lane to East End House and East End Farm. The left hand lane was the original Nowhere Lane which ended at a gate into a field which had to be crossed to reach Nowhere.

### **Corrections / Additional information**

The oil pipeline from Portishead mentioned in Pennant 24 was in the 1950s

In the previous part about Wraxall Boys School the spellchecker helped me to print the words "Nailsea Fete and Gala" One of our readers asked if I meant that the children had too much to eat and drink!



## Wraxall Boys' School Log Books Part 4

Compiled by Phyllis Horman

In 1876 the school re-opened after the holiday with a fair attendance and at the end of January and into February the Master received notice of the Drawing Examination and Diocesan Inspection. On February 11<sup>th</sup> the Rev. E.P. Vaughan took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. classes in Scripture and a prize of 6d. was offered to the first boy who could solve the following problem, "Two men go to dine at a house, one walks 5 miles an hour, the other 4. The first gets there 5 minutes too soon, the other, 10 minutes too late. How far off did they live?" By the 25<sup>th</sup> no one had given the answer.

March 1<sup>st</sup> was Ash Wednesday and as usual the children went to church in the morning, with a holiday in the afternoon. Then the exams started, the 6<sup>th</sup> March was the Drawing Examination, the 13<sup>th</sup> the Time Table was re-arranged and on the 15<sup>th</sup> was the Diocesan Examination. The report of the tatter was, "Wraxall Boys School. I am happy to note a considerable improvement in this school. Some of the answers on paper showed care and thoughtfulness. The children throughout answered well".

On March 24<sup>th</sup> three boys had solved the arithmetical question referred to previously, Walter Lippiatt, Frank Walters and Charles White, who all received 1/- each. After Easter came the Annual Inspection on May 17<sup>th</sup> I wonder if Mr. Tidcombe felt a little nervous at these times?

On June 1<sup>st</sup> "Holiday in consequence of the marriage of Dr. Adams and Miss Emily Doyne. The village is "en fete". Dr. Adams was living at West Town at the time of marriage and was the son of Dr. Adams of Moorfields, Nailsea. Miss Doyne was living at Wraxall Cottage, her father Philip Walter Doyne was a Clerk in Holy Orders. On June 15<sup>th</sup> Rev. E.P. Vaughan called. Fred Wilkins was sent home for bad behaviour to one of the schoolgirls, but by the next day he had made his peace and allowed to go to school again. It was getting near the Summer holiday on July 12<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. classes were taken to the Girls school when the opening of the children's missionary boxes took place, and on the 28<sup>th</sup> the school closed for the Summer holiday of three weeks.

The school re-opened on August 21<sup>st</sup> with a good attendance. September 4<sup>th</sup> there were new Reading cards for the infants, and new Grammar sheets for standards 2 to 5, and the 11<sup>th</sup> the arrival of the Prizes and Cards for proficiency for the boys who attained them at the Drawing Examination of March 5<sup>th</sup>

September 18<sup>th</sup> Rev. E.P. Vaughan called and brought new regulations for Drawing in Elementary schools. A few problems with three of the boys, S. flew was reported for being late, three days later Frederick Wilkins was punished for bad behaviour and on October 6<sup>th</sup> although it was a very wet day and there was a small attendance, S. and J. flew were both reported for being late and were to be sent home the next time. I've never been able to pinpoint exactly where the family lived but it is possible it may have been one of the cottages on Tyntesfield estate. If I am correct, it was rather a long walk for the boys, especially in wet or snowy weather.

By October 24<sup>th</sup> potato picking was in full swing and some of the boys were absent. The schoolroom was used for many purposes besides teaching the children, on November 1<sup>st</sup> "The school was arranged at 4 o'clock for a Lecture on Coal with experiments, to the members of the Library by Mr. Frank". On November 2<sup>nd</sup>. F. Walters resigned his office of paid monitor and left school and a son of the Master, Reg. Tidcombe, took his place. On the 6<sup>th</sup> the Night school opened at 6d. per week but no one went, probably due to the Guy Fawkes festivities, but two days later four boys arrived, by the 13<sup>th</sup> there were seven. December 22<sup>nd</sup>. the school broke up after morning lessons for the Christmas holiday of two weeks.

January 8<sup>th</sup> and the school re-opened, William Winstone of Nailsea was admitted, and Night school re-opened with four pupils, but on the 19<sup>th</sup> "Night school attendance - four this week, school closed". This I think, must mean closed for the season. Once again the notices came for the Drawing and Diocesan Examinations.

March 6<sup>th</sup> the afternoon school was from 1-30 to 3-30 to give time for the school to be cleaned in the evening in preparation for the Diocesan Exam. the next day. The Easter holiday began on 29<sup>th</sup> March and the boys were back on April 4<sup>th</sup>, it was a very wet day and therefore a small attendance, Another small attendance during the week ending on the 20<sup>th</sup> this was through sickness, also that day Rev. E.P. Vaughan took 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. classes in Scripture and brought an Indian idol to show the boys. Toward the end of May the boys did well with holidays, the Annual Examination was on May 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 9am. and finishing at 12-45pm. with a holiday in the afternoon. May 25<sup>th</sup> holiday in the afternoon "On account of yesterday's inspection", and on the 30<sup>th</sup> a holiday to enable the Master to attend a Teachers meeting at Wells.

The Annual Report arrived on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. "Boys School. The boys are in very fair order and passed in some respects a very fair examination. The Reading however is indistinct, the Spelling wants attention, and the boys barely passed in Grammar. Geography was very fairly known".

The Abstracts of Results of Examination - Presented - 30. Passes in Reading - 27. Passes in Writing - 18. Passes in Arithmetic - 24. 69 at 3/-. Geography and Grammar - 34 at 4/-. Average - 46 at 6/-. Under 7 - 12 at 8/-. Grant per head on Average - 15/6 ½d. On July 24<sup>th</sup> "The Rev. Henry Vaughan, having lately come into residence in the Parish as his father's Curate, made his first official visit to the school this morning and took the first class in Scripture". On the 27<sup>th</sup> holiday - Mr. Vaughan's class treated to a trip to Weston and back, also the breaking up for the Summer holiday.

The school re-assembled on August 20<sup>th</sup> after three weeks holiday, there was a good attendance and Sunday school prizes were given out at 4 o'clock. September 3<sup>rd</sup>. was a holiday and the 4<sup>th</sup> some were absent in the afternoon with the re-opening of Christ Church, Nailsea, by the Bishop. The 5<sup>th</sup> was Backwell Harvest Thanksgiving Festival when some were absent in the afternoon, and the 25<sup>th</sup> was Nailsea's Old Church Harvest Service when again some were absent.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> there was a visit of Rev. H. Vaughan and a lady to see the school, and the next day there was another visit of two ladies from Nailsea (names unknown) to see the school and hear the boys sing. Night school opened again with just one boy arriving and on the 9<sup>th</sup> the Master was absent a short while in the morning to "Officiate as organist at Miss Lushingham's wedding at the parish church". October had other surprises, the 12<sup>th</sup> was Tithe Day and therefore a holiday, the 15<sup>th</sup> the school was arranged at 4 o'clock for a Magic Lantern entertainment in the evening shown by Rev. H. Vaughan and on the 29<sup>th</sup> yet another holiday. For the first week in November there was ordinary progress, then on the 9<sup>th</sup> was Mrs. Gibbs Clothing Club, so, another holiday.

I presume that the Clothing Club was always held at the school.

There was a written examination in Scripture by the Rev. H. Vaughan on November 12<sup>th</sup> The 30<sup>th</sup> was a Day of Intercession for Missions when the children were taken to church for a 3 o'clock service. December was ordinary progress until the breaking up for the Christmas holiday on December 21<sup>st</sup>

School re-opened again on January 7<sup>th</sup> with a good attendance. The next day was a holiday in the afternoon "To enable the Master to take some of the elder boys to the Japanese entertainment in Colston Hall, Bristol". Except for a church service on January 25<sup>th</sup> the rest of the month was ordinary progress. Again, in February, except for a church service on the 29<sup>th</sup> with a holiday for the remainder of the day, it was ordinary progress.

March livened up with Ash Wednesday on the 6<sup>th</sup> church in the morning and holiday in the afternoon, and then it was exam. time again. The 11<sup>th</sup> was the Drawing Examination "Managers present - Rev. E.P. Vaughan, Mr. Newton, Mr. J. Nichols. Presented in Freehand - 30. Presented in Geometry - 7, Presented in Model - 22, First Grade. Presented in Freehand - 3, Second Grade. No instructions concerning the Model Drawing having reached the Managers, an object was set up at their discretion to be copied". On the 18<sup>th</sup> "A letter received from the Science and Art Dept. stating that the Model Drawing Exercise would be accepted, an error of address having occurred in the Office".

On March 22<sup>nd</sup>. there was Confirmation at Nailsea, when some boys were absent and one of the boys from the school, F. King. was confirmed. The 29<sup>th</sup> was a very snowy day and there was no school. The Diocesan Examination took place on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. and the Report on the 8<sup>th</sup> seemed reasonably good, "Religious Knowledge - good, Discipline and Tone - very good, Repetition - good. The boys answered generally well with the exception of a few backward ones in each division. The writing of the lower division was good and the paperwork of the upper division was fairly well done. The repetition was good throughout", and on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Annual Examination took place. By June 24<sup>th</sup> haymaking was in full swing, and the Summer holiday seemed to start a little earlier than usual, being July 5<sup>th</sup> for three weeks.

The school re-opened on July 21<sup>st</sup> with good attendance, and for a couple of weeks jogged along quietly. There was a holiday when the Master took some Sunday school boys to Weston. William Winstone who had started at the school on January 8<sup>th</sup> 1877, left on September 27<sup>th</sup> to go to Mr. Nunn's school at Weston, presumably a private school. Night school opened on October 7<sup>th</sup> for four nights a week, 7 to 8-30, fees 6d. per week, only one boy arrived. The next week no one went, but by the 18<sup>th</sup> the number increased to four, and on the 21<sup>st</sup> it had increased to seven.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> "Visit of Rev. H. Vaughan, Miss Elton and Mr. Hebron a negro gentleman from Sierra Leone. The latter questioned the boys in Geography and Grammar, gave them a short lecture and heard them sing". The 31<sup>st</sup> the school was arranged for a lecture on "Fire" by Mr. Franks of Clifton, to the members of the Parish Library and friends - he seemed to have held these lectures most years. The first snow of the winter came on November 1<sup>st</sup> and there was only a small attendance, by December 10<sup>th</sup>. the weather was very cold and there was difficulty in getting the school warm, so everyone must have been very glad when school broke up for the Christmas holiday on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **A Failand Story**

By Phyllis Horman

In 1999 I had a query from a lady and her husband who wished to trace the grave of a little boy. He had been fostered out to people at Failand and the little fellow only lived for a very few years. It seemed possible that he may have been buried at Wraxall or Failand, but after looking through the burial registers of Wraxall and consulting the verger, it was obvious that little Reginald was not buried there. The verger suggested contacting Mr. Harvey who was, I think, a churchwarden of Failand church and he was able to say that the grave was at Failand, and where it could be found. I phoned the enquirers, who visited the church and grave, and also met Mr. Harvey.

This seems a very simple cut and dried story, but is, in fact, very sad, though ending very happily. I have now met Margaret and her husband Terry, Ronald (Margaret's halfbrother) and his wife Brenda and it has been a privilege and very great pleasure to do so.

They have given permission for the story to be printed hoping it may help others to keep searching, to persevere and never give up hope. This story comes from records held at Barnardos' and information given to me by Margaret and Ronald.

Margaret and Ronald's mother Edith was in domestic service when her mother died in April 1930 leaving a husband, one daughter and six sons. Edith left her domestic situation and returned to the family home to look after them. Her father was a 52 years old miner and was most unkind to his daughter, who left the family home again after only a few weeks. Between June 1931 and June 1932 Edith was again in domestic service, but then returned home once more to nurse her young brother who was suffering from T.B. of the spine. She became pregnant and her son Ronald was born in July 1933,

Edith' remained at home with the baby, her father and four of her brothers, the older ones were living elsewhere. In November 1934 she had another baby, whom she named Reginald. Through her father's ill-treatment, yet again, and even having to depend on kind neighbours for clothing, she left the family home with her two little boys in July 1935.

She received shelter at Elm House, Marlborough Hill, Bristol until she could return to work.

Barnardos' offered to admit Ronald to their homes and provide a foster home for the baby so that their mother could obtain a domestic post for herself because she couldn't support her boys without work.

In August 1935 Ronald entered Barnardos' and was admitted to a residential nursery in Kent. He was separated from his baby brother, who, as stated, was fostered to people at Failand. Edith did not see Ronald after he entered Barnardos', although they sent news of his progress.

In February 1936 Ronald then 2½ years old, was placed with foster carers. These people became very attached to him as the years went by. He decided to leave school at 15 years and become an apprentice book binder or cabinet maker. He made many friends, went to scouts, cadets and was in the church choir. Everyone was pleased with his progress and his foster mother described him as "Such a good boy with such nice feelings". Elsewhere in the records, comments about Ronald describe him as "Steady, trustworthy, sensitive and affectionate" and as having creative ability.

Ronald's foster parents decided they would like to adopt him as their own son, and he wanted this, too. His mother was visited to discuss her views, she was now married and had four more children. She told the visiting officer she would have liked to have had Ronald back, but because of opposition by relations, she felt she shouldn't do so. Eventually she signed her consent for adoption but found it a struggle to do so, she asked for a photo of her son which was sent via Barnardos', but when she asked if she could see him this was not agreed.

Ronald was adopted in 1948 and his mother requested that she would not be required to attend court on the advice of Barnardos'. In 1952 a Barnardos' aftercare worker visited the adoptive mother but was not able to see the boy as he was at work, but the mother reported he was leading a full and interesting life and that she was tremendously proud of him.

Now, back to present day. Ronald heard the name Warmley mentioned on the TV and the name struck a chord; he remembered that it appeared on his birth certificate as being his birthplace.

This prompted him to try and find his sisters and brothers and within six weeks they were found.

He came to Bristol to meet his sister Margaret for the first time, and her husband Terry said it was almost uncanny, because as Ronald walked toward them, he looked so like his mother Edith.

So now Margaret, Ronald, Terry and Brenda have visited little Reginald's grave together, there was a small stone which has now been cleaned and a brass plate added.

One remark Ronald made to me, has remained in my mind ever since and proves how very happy he is, having found his family –

“I didn't used to like birthdays and Christmas very much, now I love them”.

It is no wonder that when he received his first birthday cards from his sisters, two years ago, he kept them. After all, this was the first time he had received cards from his FAMILY.

Who can ask for a happier ending to such a sad beginning?

## **The Post Office at Wraxall – Transportation!**

Phil Barclay has given me some items relating to the local Post Office and the first, a notice, is of particular interest. Is it Wraxall next to Nailsea or another Wraxall?

<p>(Circular) To all Postmasters and Receivers</p> <p>-----</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>GENERAL POST – OFFICE</b> 15<sup>th</sup> April 1835</p> <p>At the last Somerset Assizes the Receiver of Letters at WRAXALL was indicted for advancing the Rate of Postage on a Letter addressed to that Place, and not accounting for such advanced Postage, and being found guilty, she was sentenced to Seven Years Transportation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>By Command</b> <b>F FREELING</b> <b>SECRETARY</b></p>
--

(Editor - This notice has never, to my knowledge been seen by the Society before and I wonder whether it may relate to one of the “other Wraxalls”. If anyone cares to look into this I would appreciate an answer. If it is “our Wraxall” is it possible that we are already in contact with a descendant.)