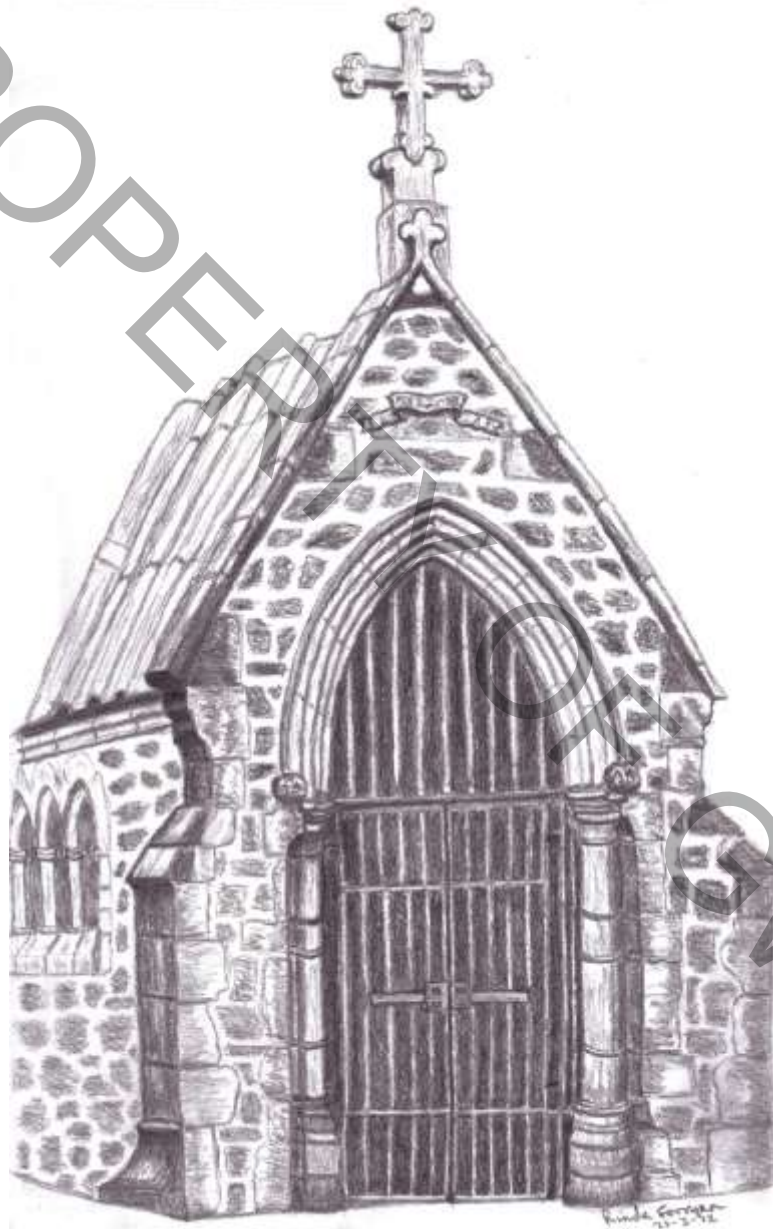




GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
White Gate Farm House, Newton Lane, Wigston Magna, Leics.

BULLETIN 95



The North Porch, All Saints' Church, Wigston by Linda Forryan

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS – MARCH TO DECEMBER 2013

Wednesday 20th March 2013

The Morrison Story (Electric Vehicles made in South Wigston) – Ernest Miller
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

Wednesday 17th April 2013

An Apothecary in 1600s – Trevor Parr
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

***Wednesday 15th May 2013** (Full Day Outing by Coach - Booking Required)

Visit to Southwell Minster & Workhouse (National Trust Members bring your ticket for free admission to workhouse)
Coach leaves Paddock Street 9.15a.m.

***Wednesday 19th June 2013** (Normal Evening Outing using own transport - Booking Required)

Visit to Ashby-de-la Zouch, walk & buffet supper with tea/coffee
Meet 6.00p.m. Paddock Street Car Park to share transport. (Note 7p.m. start at Ashby)

Wednesday 21st August 2013

History & Work of the Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation – Alan Norman
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

Wednesday 18th September 2013

The Sinking of the Titanic with local connections – Derek Seaton
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

Wednesday 16th October 2013

Who do you think lived in a house like this? – Brian Johnson
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

Wednesday 20th November 2013

Sex, Lies and Parchment – Jess Jenkins
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

Wednesday 18th December 2013

Christmas Social with picture quiz & street views – Mike Forryan
7.30p.m. The Dining Room, Age Concern, Paddock Street.

*** Note** - For bookings or queries about the summer trips please see our secretary Ann Cousins at meetings or phone 0116 2884638

The Bulletin is published three times a year on 1st March, July and November. Articles etc., (which are always welcome) should be submitted to the Editor, Tricia Berry, three clear weeks before publication date please.

Society's website: www.wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk
Chairman, Mike Forryan's e-mail: chairman@wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2012 MEETING

There was an excellent attendance on a dark and wet evening in November to hear a fascinating talk by Neil Crutchley on the Lost Houses of Stoneygate. Neil was revealed to be a major contributor to the Mr Leicester page in the Mercury and for many years had been a music critic and worked at the music library in the city.

Much of the material for Neil's talk had been taken from a book by Helen Boynton and our old friend Derek Seaton entitled 'From Toll Gate to Tramshed', clearly a reference to London Road. Neil had a copy of the book which was for sale but it was becoming a rarity as there were so few copies left. Other material had been taken from another of Dr Boynton's books (with Katherine Dickens) titled 'Leicester and its Suburbs'.

The House which gives the area its name was Stone-a-Gate which dated back possibly to the time of Charles II and stood at the corner of what is today Clarendon Park Road. From 1846 to 1945 it was occupied by the Freer family of the solicitors Freer, Bouskell & Co. The family gave 4 acres of the garden for a new Cathedral for the diocese but this was never built and instead St John's School was erected there.

Stoneygate was developed in the second half of the 19th Century as an upmarket area to Belgrave and Aylestone Roads, the latter being low lying and near the river. The land was actually outside the town boundary and in Knighton parish and was owned by the Cradocks and D'Oyleys who sold off parcels of land to business people as building plots. These, of course, were not the size of a plot as we understand today and in one case the resulting house, Ratcliffe House, was subsequently demolished in the 1930s and 42 houses were built in the grounds, now known as Sackville Gardens.

Those members who have lived in the Leicester area for a long time will recognise many of the names of those who bought land and built houses. They were the owners of the principle manufacturing and professional businesses of times gone by such as John Biggs, William Jarvis, William Turner, Dr Huckbody, Samuel Stone, Harry Gee, Thomas Cook, Joseph Goddard as well as the Freers.

An interesting anecdote related to Neil by Mary Millard, who lived on London Road with her parents, was that if you stood on the crossing of Mayfield Road and London Road in the early morning you would see a stream of chauffeur driven Rolls Royces and Bentleys taking their owners into their businesses for work. Despite this affluence Mary had said that her grandmother was still to be found shopping on Leicester Market.

One wealthy business man who did not use his car sent his maid out onto London Road to stop the tram in order that he could board without waiting at a stop.

All the houses had large gardens and at the Shrubbery, now Stoneygate Court flats, geese were kept and were known to wander out onto London Road. The garden here backed onto open countryside and the hunt came over the boundary from adjacent fields.

Many of the houses had distinctive architectural features such as Hollybank (now replaced by flats of the same name) which was adorned with very decorative barge boards which are reflected in Heathfield which is still standing on the opposite side of the road. The arts and crafts style was also evident, for example in Masoncroft which was in the Guildford Road area, as was neo Georgian in Ambergate in Carisbrooke Avenue. Many of the houses had large conservatories, not at the rear as we have nowadays, but prominently on the front or side.

Certain houses were known for their social activities such as Knighton Frith, formerly The Laurels, between Toller Road and Avenue Road. But these large houses needed staff to run and maintain them, even without the social events, and as society changed especially after the world wars, it became impossible to sustain them. Some became derelict and were then demolished, the land being used for blocks of flats such as Stoneygate Court. Often these have their own distinctive features which may, one day, lead to their listing and preservation.

All in all this was a very interesting talk, well delivered and illustrated, by Neil Crutchley.

DECEMBER 2012 MEETING

In the hectic pre Christmas period and just one week before the big day it was quite pleasant to be at our Society meeting for a little light relief in good company. There was a very good turnout, despite the pressures of seasonal preparations to complete, and our hard working Chairman had put together an excellent evening's entertainment, very professionally presented on his laptop.

One half of the meeting consisted of a general quiz with some local interest questions. Mike had displayed the questions on the screen and we were given exam style answer sheets so there was no confusion, (except for one of the picture questions which was said to be Norman Wisdom when it was actually Glen Miller). There was some real frustration at not knowing the answers to a couple to the picture clues. One was a blanked out shop in a row of shops on Leicester Road, answer: the Chinese takeaway. The other was a picture of a gable end of a building with a stone star at the point of the gable, the answer was in the clue: the Star and Garter pub.

The first prize was won jointly by the tables of Duncan Lucas and Colin Hames.

The second part of the evening was a showing of the picture gallery slowly being built up by Mike Forryan as part of the research material on the Society's website. Long Street was the subject and many of the pictures were fairly well known to long term members but there were some interesting new ones we had not seen before. For newer members, there were some fascinating views that are hardly imaginable today.

All in all this was a very interesting and enjoyable evening helped along by a good supply of nibbles, mince pies and wine/soft drinks well organised by Mike and Linda Forryan, Tricia Berry and Ann Cousins.

JANUARY 2013 MEETING

For our first meeting of the new year and on a freezing cold night (if only we knew of the heavy snow that was to come in the next few days) we welcomed Gareth King for his talk on 'A Victorian Gentleman'. I expect that very few of us realised what an entertaining evening we were going to get when it is generally considered that the Victorians were a fairly staid, if inventive lot.

Gareth emphasised at the outset that the Victorian gentleman was courteous, strong, brave and hard working and put his wife and daughters first but gave his sons less consideration. He had brought along what appeared to be a jumble sale of clothing and during the next hour proceeded to put on and remove various items worn during a typical day. Those not present will be relieved to hear that Gareth started with the nightgown that our imaginary gentleman would wear. I assume he arrived dressed in this as I didn't see him change. The night gown was supplemented by a nightcap, not because men didn't like to show their hair, but simply to keep warm. The main source of heat was of course fire but as fireguards were not invented until 1880, the fire was allowed to die down at night and so warm clothing was essential. At first nightgowns were plain

but in the 1840s new dyeing and printing processes were developed for materials making all clothes much more colourful.

The men had different clothes for different times of the day. Trousers for day wear were often check trows in dull blue or grey, there was no colour co-ordination. Early Victorians wore breaches as older men considered trousers only worn by ruffians. People had not heard of 'keeping up with the Joneses', if you wore trows as a young man, you always wore trows. They were held in place by braces, not belts, and these were of calico not elastic, and did not stretch thereby making people walk in an upright manner. Zips were not invented until very late in the period.

Shirts for working men had an attached collar and buttons. Gentlemen had separate collars fixed with bone studs which continued down the shirt. Different coloured collars were worn through the day but with the same shirt. Waistcoats were initially to keep warm and were buttoned to the neck. Men possessed many, their best in bright colours to impress the ladies, again they held a man upright. Ties developed from the cravat tied round the neck like a scarf. In the evening a bow tie, black for a dinner or white for a dance.

Footwear was ankle boots with a heel, first introduced 200 years previously. Breakfast was very much the full English, when a special jacket was worn. To go out this would change to a tailored morning jacket which gave way to the traditional morning jacket (weddings were usually held in the morning) we know today, usually in black. At midday he changed to a level hem, knee length frock coat buttoned to the neck. As the period wore on buttons were undone from the top downwards in all weathers. The morning jacket became a symbol for professional working men and was worn all day changing to a frock coat in the evening.

Hats developed from boaters through to derbys and bowlers which were hard. The soft moulded Muller came in during the 1870s. Gloves were worn to prevent the spread of disease which was also partly the cause of the development of etiquette. Here were very refined and lengthy procedures to be observed in introducing oneself to other people.

In the evening men changed to evening jackets which were a black tail jacket with a square cut across the front and a white waistcoat. As an aside Gareth suggested that men often sent their wives home early and then went on to a more lively party! They then made their own way home late at night and needed some defence from attack and so carried a sword stick. These were not outlawed until the 1920s. He concluded by talking about the many different facial hair fashions of the period. All in all, this was a very interesting and lively evening, with plenty of audience interaction, a good start to the new year.

Reviews by Colin Towell

FEBRUARY 2013 MEETING

This meeting, the AGM was well attended by members and guests. The Chairman, Mike Forryan, opened the proceedings by welcoming everyone The Agenda was as follows:

- 1) Apologies for absence** – Colin Towell, Ron and Margaret Gee and Sue Woolley
- 2) Minutes of February 2012 AGM** – read by the Chairman, Mike Forryan, on behalf of the Secretary, Ann Cousins, and signed as correct
- 3) Matters arising** – Richard Carter enquired if the new constitution had been prepared. It was

confirmed that it had and that copies would be supplied to any member who requested one. Marion Daetwyler on behalf of all, offered thanks to the Committee for their work during the year.

4) Chairman's Report – Mike reported another very successful year with meetings well attended and excellent speakers on a variety of topics. Summer outings were to Kirby Muxloe and a Mystery Coach Trip (around East Leicestershire) led by Duncan Lucas. There were some changes to the Committee namely: Ann Cousins had taken over the role of Secretary from Tricia Berry, Tony Lawrance had resigned as Vice Chairman and from the Committee and Jane Callis had joined. Mike thanked Tricia & Tony for their work over the years in these roles and the rest of the Committee for their hard work & support. Promotion of the Society continued through Borough notice boards, libraries, trade magazines, our web site and the press. When possible we have also attended the open days/exhibitions of other groups, where we have been invited to have a table to show off our Society. These have proved very successful & thanks to those who have given their time in support. It was agreed to retain the membership fee at £11 full & £8 concession for 2013, but this may need to rise for 2014.

5) Treasurer's Report – Due to Colin Towell being unexpectedly unable to attend, Mike read this report which had been forwarded to his mobile phone. Income: The subscription income was virtually the same as last year, visitors fees were double & donations had also increased. A grant of £100.00 from the Council had covered two-thirds of the cost of our new leaflets. The skittles evening made a profit of £28.00. Expenditure: Lecture fees had increased by 20%, & are likely to rise more this year as we continue to attract good quality speakers. Room Hire works out at £31.25 per meeting & is also likely to rise in future. £100.00 donation was given to the FWK Museum. Taking out money paid in advance for 2013 trips the profit for this year was £357.77, half of which was from the coach trip, thanks very much Duncan.

6) Membership Secretary's Report – Mike Forryan read this report on behalf of Linda Forryan. Another very good year with new members joining, but unfortunately a few having resigned for various reasons. There are also a few on the suspended list who will hopefully be back with us soon. There were 98 members at the start of the year & 104 at the end. These consist of 91 Concession members, 11 Full & 2 Complimentary. We also had a record 83 visitors [which shows the value of Ann Cousins sending details of our meetings to 'Mr. Leicester' page in the Mercury]. Linda thanked everyone for their support throughout the year.

7) Election of Officers – As there were no nominations it was proposed by Marion Daetwyler that the present officers should be re-elected. Namely:

Chairman: Mike Forryan, **Vice Chairman:** Vacant, **Secretary:** Ann Cousins, **Treasurer:** Colin Towell, **Membership Secretary:** Linda Forryan, **Bulletin Editor:** Tricia Berry, **Auditor:** Garry Davies, **Committee Members:** Sue Woolley, Paul Knight and Jane Callis.

8) Any Other Business – It was agreed that the subscriptions should rise by £1.00 next year (2014) to £12 full and £9.00 concessionary, and that the donation to the FWK Museum this year (2013) should be £50.00. Members were reminded that subscriptions for this year (2013) were now due and should be paid this evening if possible.

There followed a bring and tell in which:

Mike Forryan told of an incident which happened in 1980 when he and Linda were living in a 6th floor apartment overlooking the harbour at Larnaca, Cyprus. A roll-on, roll-off ship, the Zenobia approached, listing badly, before rolling over and sinking. Fortunately all on board were rescued but the cargo was lost apart from one container which was towed to shore and found to contain ice cream. Apparently someone had left a pilot door open which allowed water in and the ship to list.

Then all the vehicles on board rolled to one side, making it capsize completely. Mike showed some dramatic photos he took as the drama unfolded.

Ann Cousins told of her grandfather James Bradshaw, who was a Chief Steward for the Cunard Company, completing 47 years service. In 1912 when the Titanic was sinking he was on board the Carmania and the crew could hear on their radio everything that was happening on the stricken liner. It was the Carpathia which was nearer and went to the rescue. During his career he met many famous people. Ann showed a picture of her grandfather in his smart uniform and an album of photos of 1930's era stars of stage and screen, some with autographs.

Tricia Berry told the story of Wigston man, Thomas Goodin, who spent nearly twenty years in South Africa in the 1860s/70s with his parents and aunt and uncle. When diamonds were discovered at Kimberley they turned 'diamond getters'. Upon his return he started a Mineral Water business in Spa Lane, utilising the spring water readily available on their land off Spa Lane. Tricia showed one of the company's original bottles, thick glass with marble stopper, and a postcard photo c.1910 of Mowsley House, his home situated right across Spa Lane which in those days ended just past the junction with Mowsley End.

Afterwards members had the opportunity to browse a display of bygones which various people had brought along. During this time one of our members became very unwell and an ambulance had to be called. It is great to report that once the crew arrived and set up a drip, the patient improved greatly and was able to return home, and by the next day was quite recovered.

Tricia Berry

GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st December 2012

Receipts

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Opening Balances as at 1/1/12: | | |
| Current A/c | 351.08 | |
| Unpresented Chq | 22.34 | |
| Deposit A/c | 997.45 | 1370.87 |
| Subscriptions | | 747.00 |
| Visitor fees | | 146.00 |
| Christmas Meeting | | 90.00 |
| Donations | | 49.50 |
| Sale of books | | 8.00 |
| Sale of DVDs | | 34.50 |
| Grant ex O&WBC | | 100.00 |
| Bank Interest | | .68 |
| Skittles Evening | | 210.00 |
| Coach Trip | | 400.00 |
| Visits 2012 | | 623.00 |
| Visits 2013 | | 164.00 |

3943.55

Payments

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Lecturer Fees | 235.00 |
| Bulletin & Programme | 155.10 |
| Christmas meeting | 34.00 |
| Room hire (2012) | 281.25 |
| Secretary's expenses | 69.40 |
| Cost of DVDs | 12.00 |
| Printing Leaflets | 150.00 |
| Website Fees | 15.00 |
| Skittles Evening | 182.00 |
| Coach Trip | 229.50 |
| Visits in 2012 | 587.66 |
| O&WBP Trust | 100.00 |
| Closing Balances as at 31/12/2012 | |
| Current A/c | 740.91 |
| Unpresented Cred | 153.60 |
| Deposit A/c | 998.13 |
| | 1892.64 |

3943.55

STORY OF A POSTCARD

The postcard illustrated on page 8 has an interesting story to tell. The message on the back says "Dear Walter, Just sending a photo of a decorated cyclecar (Alldays & Onions) which took 1st prize at The Wigston Parade as Trademans' Turnout. Good wishes to you...etc. Percy"

The picture on the front shows a highly decorated early motor car Reg: AY 2668. At the top front a notice J.W. Clay, Wigston Magna, around the vehicle other advertising signs: (1) John Bull Tyres (2) We Supply Bates....(3) Three signs promoting Centaur Cycles of Coventry. There are also two men and a boy in the picture.

Here is some explanation of what it shows:

The Cyclecar first appeared c.1910. It was a smaller and cheaper vehicle, but by the 1920s Ford were able to reduce prices and so undercut the cyclecar market.

Alldays & Onions Ltd. of Great Western and Matchless Works, Small Heath, Birmingham, was a manufacturer of motor lorries, cars and vans, cycles and motor cycles, complete outfits for foundries and workshops, hammers, fans, hearths, forges, cranes, pulley blocks etc. The company was formed in 1885 by a merger of William Allday & Sons Ltd., and C. Onions Ltd. In 1889 it was re-organised to become Alldays and Onions Pneumatic Engineering Co. Ltd. In 1904 they started producing motor cars, and in 1908 acquired Enfield Autocar Co. Car makers at the time usually made just the engine and chassis with a coach builder adding the body. 20,000 cars were produced between 1904-1915 when production ceased because of the war. It continued in 1919 but ceased for good in 1925. The main engineering part of the business continued and today is named Alldays Peacock. It is part of the Witt Group and makes industrial fans.

The Wigston Parade was likely to be the annual parade held to support Leicester Infirmary.

Percy would be Percy G. Forryan who founded the Bell Street garage.

John William Clay was born in Wigston in 1879. His father was a train driver originally from Derbyshire who lived in Rugby and Leicester before settling in Cherry Street, Wigston c. 1874. In 1901 John worked as an engine cleaner but by 1904 was working as a gas fitter. In 1908 he was living at 44, Long Street and was a cycle maker and gas fitter. By 1925 he occupied additional premises at 104, Leicester Road (on the corner with Victoria Street) and was a motor engineer. From 1932-1941 he was still a motor engineer at Leicester Road but the Long Street premises are no longer mentioned. He married Hannah Smith in 1904 and they had a family but she sadly died in 1920 and two years later he re-married to Ethel Smith. He was living at 192, Leicester Road at the time of his death in 1950.

John Bull Tyres needs no explanation, Bates was most likely W.A. Bates Ltd., St. Mary's Mills, Leicester, cycle tyre manufacturers.

Centaur Cycle Company of West Orchard works, Coventry was founded in 1876. It was particularly successful in introducing a light weight bicycle. In 1910 following the death of one of the owners it was taken over by Humber (cars) and production moved to Stoke.

The above makes it possible to date the photograph to 1910-1914. The car most likely belonged to J.W. Clay and he is probably the gentleman standing on the left. The three advertising signs for

Centaur Cycles show he obviously had a close business relationship with that company. He must have been either an agent of theirs or perhaps assembled and sold their cycles under licence.

Tricia Berry

Sources: Census, trade directories & Graces Guide available online at www.gracesguide.co.uk



THE LANCASTER PLANE CRASH

A former Wigston resident found on the internet the piece I wrote in a bulletin some years ago about the Lancaster which crashed at Wigston in 1946. As a boy in the 1970s this man explored the crash site when the area was being excavated prior to building the new All Saints' School. He found a number of pieces of wreckage which are of German origin, in particular one with a Swastika visible. He asked if I knew of any bombs being dropped or German plane coming down over the village, though as the debris was all in the same area as the Lancaster's it seemed likely they had come from that.

I have heard there were some incendiary devises, which made modest craters in the fields, but nothing over the village. I suggested that perhaps the Lancaster had on a previous occasion taken personnel to the site of a German plane crash, and that pieces had been taken away for examination or as souvenirs, and that they were still on board when it crashed. If anybody has any other ideas or suggestions I will pass them on to my correspondent.

Tricia Berry

FIRST STEPS IN FAMILY HISTORY – PART V

STORING & PRESENTING YOUR HERITAGE

GENEALOGY COMPUTER SOFTWARE

When you have been researching your family history for some time you will find that you will have amassed a large collection of data on paper, probably along with family photographs, bibles, and all sorts of miscellaneous bits and pieces. This is the time that you should “*put your house in order*” and get all that information stored as this will not only show what you have achieved so far, but more importantly it will show you the gaps that you have and where you need to go next.

There are several excellent software packages on the market and also some very good free programs available. The most important factor to look for is that whatever software you choose contains the “GEDCOM” feature (short for GENEalogical Data COMMunication). This will allow you to transfer all your data from one program to another without re-entering all of your data.

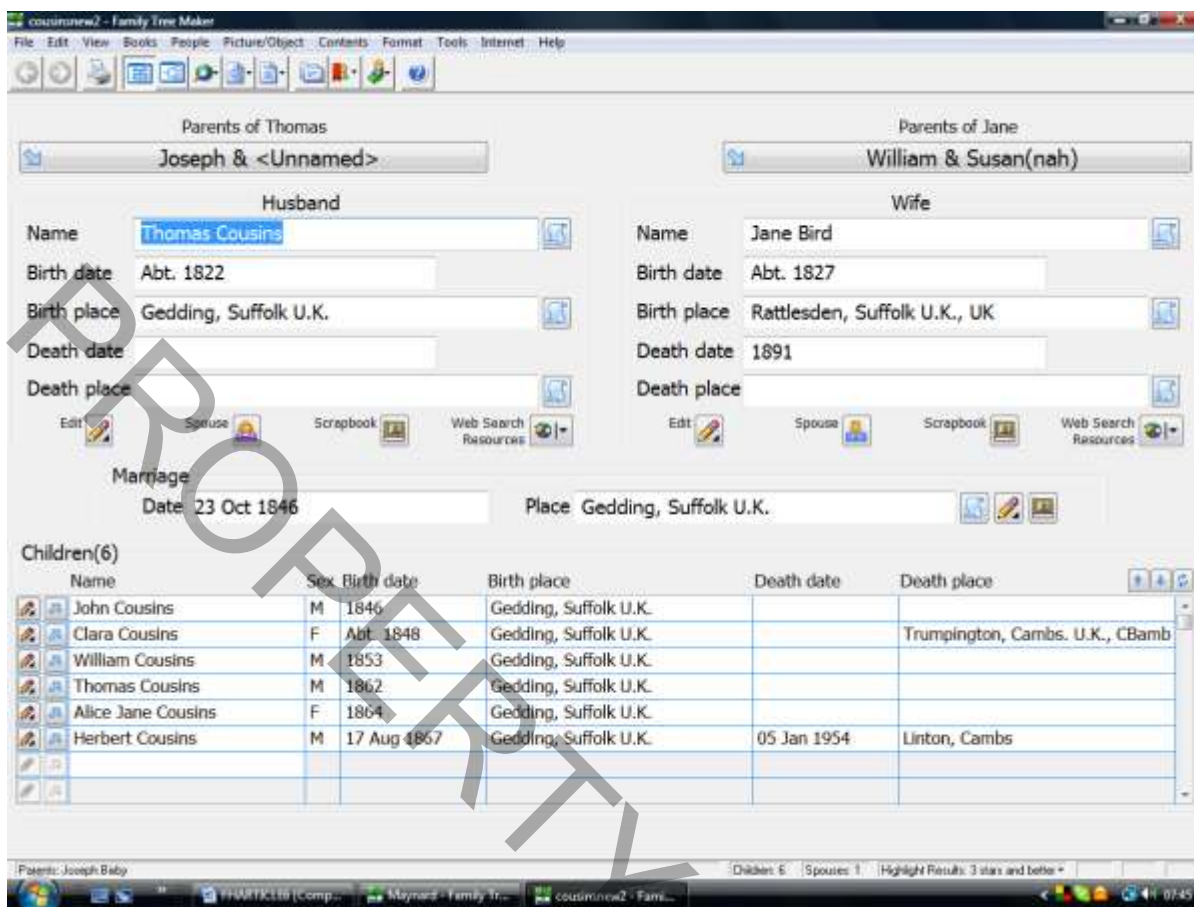
Genealogy programs are all basically database programs with powerful and flexible reporting and printing facilities. You can use your own database program such as Access, or a spreadsheet such as Excel, but you will find these much harder to manage when it comes to adding extra information, especially to family tree charts.

The most popular free package is PERSONAL ANCESTRAL FILE (PAF) from the Church Of Latter Day Saints website. Along with it you can download the free PAF Companion colour chart printing program which you will need as the main program is restricted in its reporting & printing facilities. The software is available from <https://familysearch.org/products>

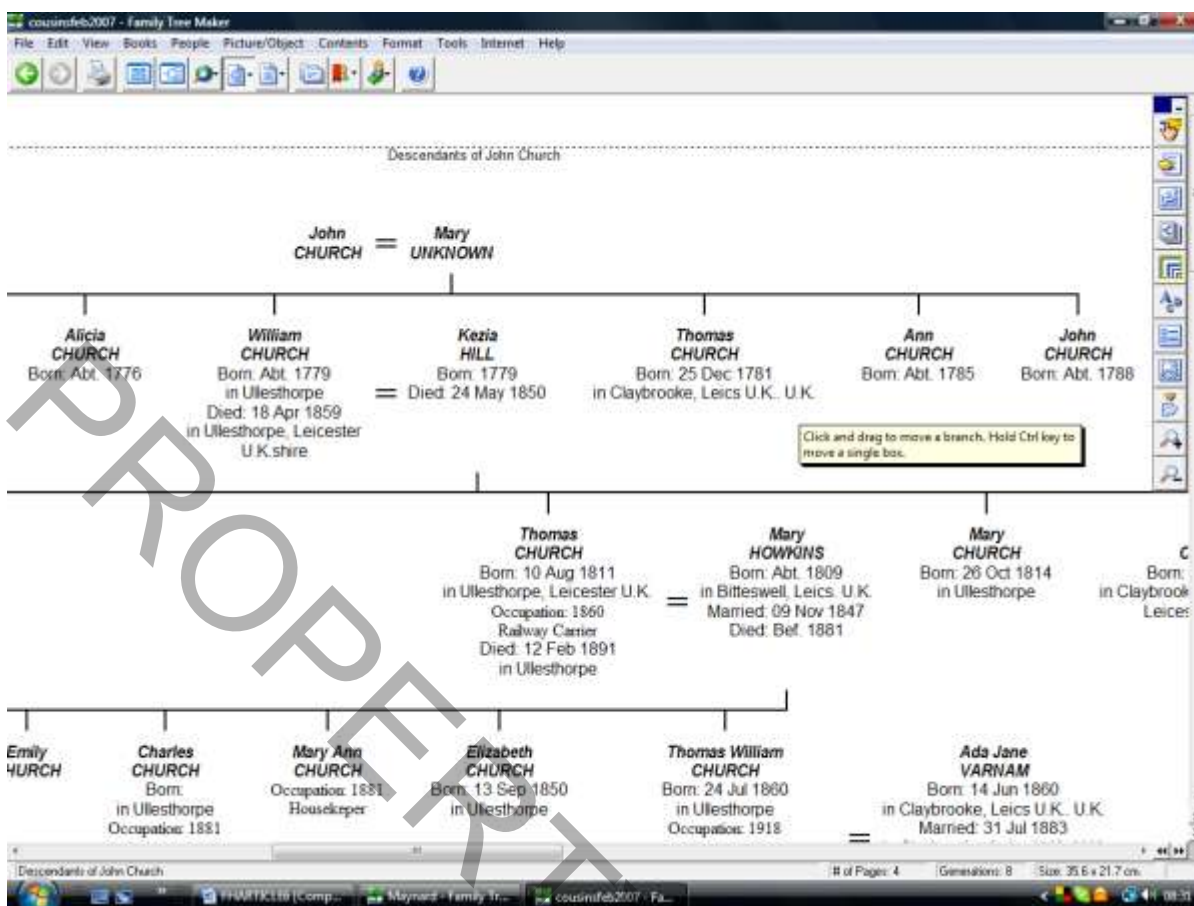
Another good free software package is BROTHER’S KEEPER by John Steed, which is widely used and has been in existence for many years. I can remember using this in DOS (before Windows) on 5¼” floppy disks! This can be used as a free version, or if you buy the registered version you will receive excellent support from the Author. The software is available from www.bkwin.org.

Both of the above packages have good database facilities but lack the printing and reporting features found in other commercial packages, although with PAF you can use the free downloadable printing companion, and with Brother’s Keeper you can use some of the free tree drawing programs available, such as TREEDRAW from www.spansoft.org

The most widely used commercial package over the last 15 years is Family Tree Maker, which now comes in several different versions, various ones of which can be purchased from Amazon, or from the on-line shop at Ancestry.co.uk. What has always set this software apart from the others is its ease of use and the charts and reports it can generate.



Your research data is entered and maintained through the family file page as in the illustration above. This is the main record of your data, and works very much like a web page, but behind it via links you can store numerous facts such as occupations, where someone was living, multiple spouses (you can even have a preferred spouse!!), and you can attach pictures via a camera or scanner and produce a slide show of your family photographs. All of this extra data can be printed in the large variation or reports such as family group sheets, descendant reports, kinship reports and of course the all important “tree” as below. All of the reports and charts can be customised by you to include whatever facts and information you want them to show.



Some of the newest features added to Family Tree Maker include the ability to produce a family tree book, including charts, pedigrees, reports and tree prints with photographs, as well a time line of your ancestors. The books can contain a title page and even an index at the back of everyone detailed in it. They print very well and can make a great Christmas gift for the family.

For those interested in the origins and distribution of your family names, you can now produce worldwide maps through the program showing where your ancestors came from.

These are just a few of the many packages, both free and commercial, which are available. Try a Google search for “free genealogy software” – it will produce you a list of thousands of links!!

Peter Cousins, Chairman Leicestershire & Rutland Family History Society

www.lrfhs.org.uk

The Wigston Historical Society Archive

The archive was started in the early 1980's by Duncan Lucas the President of the Society. Over the years he had amassed a large amount of pictures and documents relating to the Greater Wigston area.

Having had these indexed in the late 90's they were added to as the months and years passed. Changes in technology have allowed the Society to digitise many of the documents and to hold them in a digital format.

What does "digital" format mean? It means that documents and pictures can be stored on computers and used in many different ways, some of which are set out below:-

Finding Information Quickly:-

Let's say you want to find information about a specific person who lived in Wigston Magna in the late 1800's. The old way was to look through books and microfiche at the Records Office, Library and published books that you may own. The new way through the archive is to type in a key word to the computer, say the Surname of the person you are looking for and the computer does the hard work by listing for you all of the documents in the archive that contain the Surname you are looking for. It is relatively easy then to find the correct information and print it out.

Pictures:-

Pictures are scanned into the computer archive and stored in directories by Road, Event, People and other such headings. It is easy then to go directly to a specific directory and see all of the pictures on screen. These can be printed out as required.

Line Drawings:-

Drawings, by a range of artists such as Jim Colver, are also held within the archive and are treated in the same way as pictures above.

The future of Historical research is without doubt linked to the digital age and the World Wide Web. Our ultimate objective is therefore to put our entire archive on to our web site to make it available to all. However there is a cost in both time and money to achieve this and we have not reached that stage yet. So in the meantime our Chairman, Mike Forryan, manages the archive and is the one to contact if you would like to make a search.

The archive now contains 480 documents and 2450 pictures

The Society is happy to support any search by members, non members, schools or other institutions. Apply directly to chairman@wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk or contact Mike directly by phone.

We also need your help to add more information to the archive. Remember history started "Yesterday" so anything that might be of interest to future generations needs to be added to the archive. If you have pictures and or documents which you think would be of interest in the future and are willing for them to be added to the archive then please contact Mike and have a chat.

Mike Forryan - Chairman February 2013

2013 Subscriptions

Subscriptions are now due for the current year – 2013. You can pay at the next meeting or tear off the slip below and post your subscription to our Membership Secretary Linda Forryan.

We have again held the Subscription rate to £11.00 and £8.00 concession for over 60s. This is the third year we have retained the current rates but do need all members to subscribe promptly to assist the Society's finances.

Thank You

Mike Forryan – Chairman

Payment Slip

Please find enclosed a cheque for subscription/s:-

1. Name

Amount

2. Name-

Amount

Address

Post Code _____ e-mail _____

Cheques to be made payable to Greater Wigston Historical Society and posted to:-

Linda Forryan – Membership Secretary
21 Blakesley Road
Wigston Magna
Leicestershire
LE18 3WD

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