The Button Files

Newsletter of the Warburton One-Name Study **Number: 30 August 2026**

Editor:
Ray Warburton - ray1warburton@gmail.com
The Warburton Website: http://warburton.one-name.net

Contents

Contents 1
This Newsletter 1
Bowler Hats 1
The Thiepval Twelve 6
Various Clan Updates 8
Scottish Clan 9
William Percy Rudolph Warburton 9
Drowning at Cleveleys 11
Warburton Mormon Trek 1849 12
DNA Solves Another Puzzle 13
French Warburtons and Josiahs 13
Next Issue 14

This Newsletter

Welcome to the 30th issue of **The Button Files.**

This edition includes Posts since October 2025., The articles are:

- **Bowler Hats** The story of the Bowler Hat factory at Conte near Amiens that brought my distant cousin Leonard Warburton to France..
- **The Thiepval Twelve** The story of the 12 Warburton listed on the Thiepval Memorial to those British soldiers who died in the Somme theatre in WW1.
- **Various Clan Updates** As well as the updates to 6 clans affected by research into the Thiepval 12, I have also updated the Hale Barns and Garryhinch clans.
- **Scottish clan** Publication of a new Scottish Clan.
- **William Percy Rudolph Warburton** The Whitaker Museum at Rawtenstall in Lancashire was recently gifted a collection of over 100 photographs relating to William Percy Rudolph Warburton, and his wife Alderman Gertrude Mary Warburton nee Howarth. I was asked to investigate their family
- **Drowning at Cleveleys** I was sent a newspaper cutting about the drowning of 3 sisters at Cleveleys in 1903. It turned out the sender was my 8th cousin, descended from a fourth sister who was saved.
- **My New Genetic Cousin** A recent BigY-700 result from FTDNA has provided me with a new genetic cousin. Indeed according to FTDNA he is my closest match. His name however is not Warburton, but Norbury.
- **Warburton Mormon Trek 1849** Ian Sanderson sent me a link to a story in the Lincolnshire Family History Society Journal. The story describes a party of Mormon converts from Louth in Lincolnshire who sailed to the USA in 1849 and set off in wagons to the recently established Salt Lake City. The party included a Warburton family.
- **DNA Solves Another Puzzle** I had an email from Max Harris who is descended from Mary Warburton who married William Evans at Norton-le-Moors, Staffordshire in 1815. Mary's parents were identified as James Warburton and Mary Bagnall who married at St. John, Burslem in 1795. Some Ancestry Public Trees identified James as the James born in Lymm, Cheshire in 1771 to James Warburton and Sarah nee Allen., despite there being an established Warburton family of potters throughout he 18th century. DNA indicates the trees are correct.
- **French Warburtons and Josiahs** I have produced a list of Warburton references in French records, and updated my Warburtons named Josiah paper.

Bowler Hats

In May, 2025 under **Hale Barns Clan Update** I posted about my new French cousin, who is descended from a Leonard Warburton, a distant cousin of mine who moved to Picardy in the early 1900s to work in a hat factory. The story is that he was recorded in the 1901 census, aged 19, living with his parents in Stockport, and working as a felt hat finisher. Two of his younger sisters were also in the felt hat business. He then moved to Conty, south of Amiens in 1906, married a girl from Amiens in 1907, but divorced in 1938 and returned to Stockport, leaving a line of descendants in France.

I have recently spent a week on holiday in Amiens, along with my wife and sister-in-law, who coincidentally lives in Burgundy about 30 kilometres from my new French cousin. We hired a house for the week and explored Amiens and the area.

The Button Files

Knowing that Leonard Warburton lived in Conty when he came to work as a hat maker, I decided to visit the town, not really expecting to see any evidence of his time there. However we had a big surprise. I found nothing about Leonard himself, but the history of the Battersby Bowler hat factory has left a big impression on the town. The road to the factory was renamed Rue des Chapeliers quite recently, and in 2024 a mural about the factory was added to two sides of an electrical transformer near the Carrefour supermarket.

Mural of the Battersby Bowler Hat Factory

There is an article (in French) about the mural, with a picture of second side of the transformer here.

Part of a Row of 8 English style, semi-detached houses built in the Rue des Ecoles for the English workers at the Battersby Hat Factory

I first went to the tourist information office where a lady pointed me to some articles in the local papers. Her printer wasn't very good so she rang the Library to print them for us. When we went to collect them from the library we were then directed to the place where the factory itself was, passing the English quarter, a row of 8 English style houses, also known as The Battersby Villas, supposedly built for the English foremen and supervisors that went from Stockport to help run the factory.

I wondered if Leonard and his young family must have lived in one of these houses, but have concluded he probably didn't, as explained later.

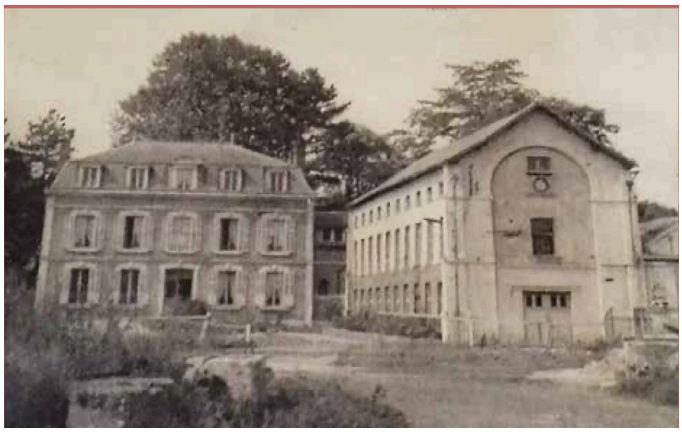
The English Houses in Olden Times

Workers Outside the Battersby Chapellerie

Battersby House, Conty, Picardy

we got to the factory site it looked private, but we saw a man who invited us to look around. Inside we also found the house the Battersbys occupied. A lady saw us looking through the fence. She turned out to be Aline Andrieu, and she and her husband Andre now own the house, and we were invited in.

The two articles we collected from the library were an article from the France 3 Regions website whose title translates as Battersby Bowler Hats: The Incredible Story of an English Millinery Established in the Somme at the Beginning of the 20th Century and two pages from leMag 2022 about the factory's role as a hospital in the first world war (scroll down to the article called 'La Chapellerie' containing the following photograph) .



The article from France 3 Regions is based on interviews with a local historian, Jean-Michel Renaux, who was in turn in contact with Rupert Battersby, a descendant of the Battersby family, and author of a book: **Battersby Hats of Stockport.** The article from leMag was written by Jean-Michel Renaux.

View of the workshops of the Stockport factory, near Manchester, England. A bowler hat company owned by the Battersby family. • © Rupert Battersby / Private collection

Although the France 3 Regions article states it was in 1902 that the Battersby family, proprietors of a large factory in Stockport, near Manchester, decided to open a factory in Conty, an entry in the diary of William John Battersby the proprietor of the Stockport business, dated 5th March 1906 says "To Conte and place bought". He had probably been searching for a place for some time as a diary entry from 11th March 1896 says "To Beauvais – Factory no good,"

The France 3 Regions article indicate that two cousins, Walter and Edgar were sent to run the Conty factory, and Walter ran the factory until the late 1930s when he returned to Stockport.

Walter and Edgar were actually brothers, younger sons of William John Battersby, proprietor of the Stockport factory. However it was Charles Harold (known as Harold) and Ernest, two of William John's other sons, who were located in Conty. There were 7 brothers in total, plus 2 sisters, and 2 other boys who died in infancy. Walter did spend two years in Paris after his wedding in 1909, and visited the factory in May 1920,. He may have visited at other times but was primarily based in Stockport. The factory was sold to a Mr and Mrs Rousseau in 1922. Walter stayed in contact with the new owners, as evidenced by the letter (see below) from Madame Rousseau dated 1948.

Edgar's speciality was felt dying and he was also based in Stockport, though he may have visited occasionally. He enlisted as a Private in the Honourable Artillery Company in November 1915, aged 35. He was killed in action at Gavrelle, near Arras on Aril 29th 1917. Although most records correctly give his rank as Private, a memorial in St Alban's church, Offerton refers to him as Captain.

Censuses for the Somme region are available on Ancestry for 1906, 1911 and 1921. The 1906 census was taken at the end of March, and it recorded Harold Battersby a hat maker in Rue Rigollot, Amiens, and Leonard Warburton, Harry Bradshaw and Lambert Pendlebury as chapelliers in Rue Vascopin, Amiens and employed by Battersby.

In 1911 Harold, and Ernest are living at La Fabrique. Harold is the Patron and Ernest his brother. Harold was responsible for marketing and sales, whilst Ernest probably handled production, though his worsening TB meant he spent winters in Cannes and Nice. Leonard Warburton, Lambert Pendlebury and Harry Bradshaw are also present , They all have wives, and Lambert has 2 children. Leonard and Lambert are living in Rue des Hargars, and Harry in Rue Verte.

Harold's birth was registered in the first quarter of 1872 as Charles Harold. Curiously he is omitted from the Wikipedia list of William John Battersby's children, though he is present with the family in censuses up to 1901. Harold died in Conty in 1913.

Ernest is also known from a letter he received from Joseph Haumesser, Dean of Conty, who ministered to the severely wounded soldiers housed in the Battersby house and factory during the Great War. Ernest is described as living in Conty, but of fragile health, having contracted TB. He died at Yvetot, Southern France in October 1918. Walter made a hazardous journey across wartime France to be with him when he died.

The factory actually made felt hats in general, not exclusively bowler hats. It was powered by a mill located on the Selle, a tributary of the Somme. The hats were moulded onto moulds in ovens using steam. This was a laborious task, usually performed by men. The material

used was felt, made from rabbit hair imported from Australia. A 3 minute video of the felt hat making process in Stockport can be seen on YouTue here.

It is estimated that 10% of the population of Conty was employed by the English factory, around a hundred employees. These were mostly women, who worked in the factory or at home.

Many women worked for the Battersby hat shop in Conty, in the Somme, at the beginning of the 20th century. This photo dates from 1909. • © Jean-Michel Renaux / Private collection

A gentleman from the early 20th century, proudly wearing his bowler hat, a very fashionable headgear between 1880 and 1920, particularly in England. • © Jean-Michel Renaux / Private collection

The bowler hats were of very high quality, with perfect finishes, and were exported all over the world with the 'Battersby-Conty' crest.

In the First World War Conty, 20 kilometres SSW of Amiens, was very close to the front lines. The German advance in 1914 captured Amiens and came very close to Conty before being pushed back to the north and east of Amiens, which became a major logistical and recreational centre for British troops. In 1918 the German Spring Offensive was aimed at capturing Amiens but the advance was stopped short of the city.

The Battersby factory played an important role during the war. Conty was then considered a rear base for rest and care for the most seriously injured soldiers. The house and part of hat factory were requisitioned to be transformed into a hospital, but also into a parking centre for military vehicles. The most seriously injured were treated there.

The letter from Joseph Haumesser to Ernest Battersby was written in April 1918, during the German Spring Offensive. The dean writes that he is a frequent visitor to the house. The hat shop is still operating, but some workshops are requisitioned to accommodate the seriously wounded who arrive every day. Many die in his arms. "In 12 days, I buried 102 heroes admirably resigned to the sacrifice of their lives for God and country."

He writes that the house has become a place of suffering. The dining room is transformed into an X-ray room, the living room converted into an operating room, and the large room into an infirmary for the dying. Sometimes in the buildings, there are 700 to 800 wounded, some of whom leave in the evening, leaving only amputees and desperate cases.

He also describes the incessant cannonade: "t**hose terrible lights that illuminate the horizon in front of Ailly-sur-Noye every night. It is frightening to hear the great naval cannons ringing over the Bosquel and Essertaux plateaus, and then, since yesterday, the siren sounds the alarm of the German planes, shining in the sky during the day like white midges and at night rumbling like demons".**

He also shares his state of mind: "War is misery, it makes you irritable. This morning, I received an English captain, who has come to take command of an anti-aircraft force. Moreover, the headquarters of an army is in Conty . We therefore become the centre of the battle. I can't leave, because if I did, Conty would panic and everyone would rush there. I believe the situation is under control in front of Conty; the Germans won't get through.

"No matter what, we will win, we will have confidence and patience."

After the war the factory continued to make hats, but was not properly revived. The 1921 census for Conty reflects a declining Battersby influence. Both Harold and Ernest had died and no other Battersby had replaced them. However the census includes an area named Usine et Cite Battersby, and the first family in the area is the English family of Ernest Bracegirdle, Directeur d'usine, his wife and daughter. The daughter later married

Arthur Hamer, the head dyer at Stockport. The only one of the three Englishmen listed in Amiens in 1906 still present is Harry Bradshaw, still living with his wife in Rue Verte.

Dean Haumesser, parish priest of Conty, testified to the terrible fate of the hundreds of soldiers who flocked to the military hospital set up in the Battersby hat factory between 1914 and 1918. • © Jean-Michel Renaux / Private collection

Nurse: “Angel, saviour of our poor wounded”

This hat is in the possession of the Andrieu family, the current owners of the Battersby House. It was made at the Conly factory in the post Battersby era. The photo was taken by me on our visit in October 2025

The factory was sold circa 1922, and apparently diversified into women’s hats. However it seems the production of bowler hats continued, to the astonishment of the invading German soldiers in WW2 who sent examples home to their families in Germany.

A Conty Bowler Hat

The new owners, Mr and Mrs Rousseau, maintained close ties with the Battersbys, as evidenced by a letter dated 1948 from Madame Rousseau to Walter Battersby. The following image was kindly sent to me by Walter’s grandson, Rupert Battersby.

Capes
Cloches

TÉLÉPHONE 2
TÉLÉGRAMMES
CHAPEAUX-CONTY
NÉMOTECHNIQUE DES PRODUCTEURS
N° 657 - Somme
R.C. Amiens 6858

Manufacture de Chapeaux de Feutre de Conty
SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME AU CAPITAL DE 1.780.000 FRS

Conty, Somme, le 5 Août 1948

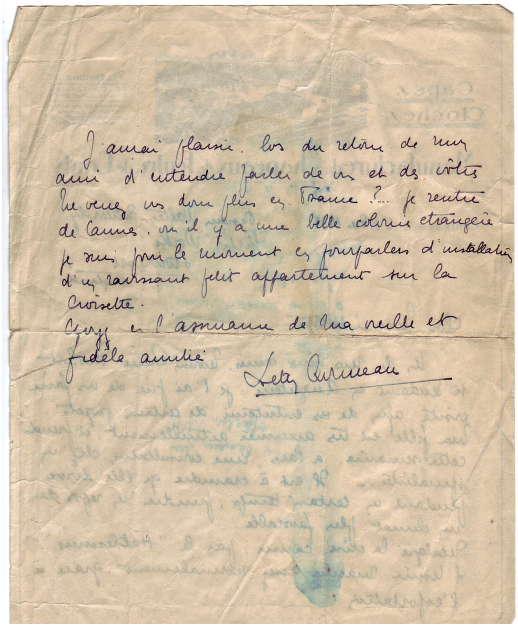
Monsieur Walter Battersby
Offerton Works
Stockport
England

Cher Monsieur Walter

Un de nos vieux amis, Monsieur René Moulart se rendant en Angleterre, je l'ai prié de vous faire visite afin de vous entretenir de certains projets. Ma fille est très ennuyée actuellement, et pendant cette semaine, a Paris, une consultation chez un spécialiste. Il est à craindre qu'elle doive pendant un certain temps, prendre un repos dans un climat plus favorable.
Malgré la crise causée par la "Hatlessness" l'usine marche assez normalement, grâce à l'exportation.

Letter from Conty 1948- Page 1

The letter is addressed to Monsieur Walter Battersby, Offerton Works, Stockport, England. With the help of my sister-in-law and her French friends, my best translation is as follows:

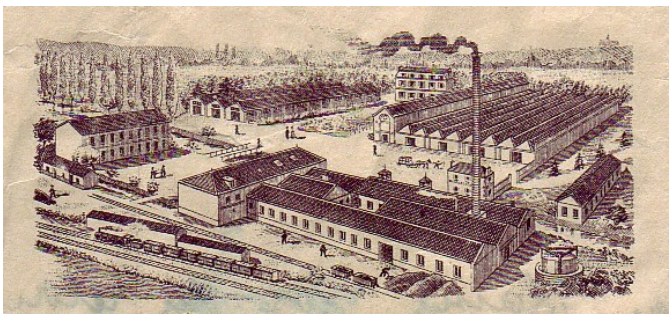


Letter from Conty – Page 2

Dear Mr. Walter,

One of my old friends Mr. Rene Molist is visiting England – I have asked him to visit in order to nurture certain projects. My daughter is currently very anaemic and is having a consultation with a specialist in Paris this week. We fear she will be there some time to take refuge in a more favourable climate.Despite the crisis caused by 'Hatlessness' the factory is working fairly normally, thanks to exports. I shall be pleased, when my friend returns, to speak to him about you and the chances of you coming again to France? I am coming back from Cannes where there is a beautiful colour of abroad . At the moment I am in discussions about a delightful little apartment on the Croisette. Assuring you of my old and loyal friendship,

Lety Rousseau



Letterhead Showing the Extent of the Conty Factory

The letter implies a close relationship with Walter more than a quarter of a century after the factory was sold, as it includes quite intimate personal details. Also the dispatch of Mr Molist to Stockport to nurture certain projects implies an ongoing business relationship. The reference to the Croisette in Cannes implies Mme Rouseau is planning for her retirement, which soon came to pass as the factory finally closed in 1951. Walter did meet Mrs Rousseau again in the 1950s.

The picture of the factory on the letterhead shows how extensive it was, and is very similar to the one in the mural on the electrical transformer near the Carrefour supermarket.

Leonard Warburton was in Amiens by the end of March 1906 when he appeared in the census. He married a girl from Amiens in May 1907, and had three sons born in Conty. The eldest died in infancy before the 1911 census where Leonard is living in the Rue des Hargers with his wife Louise.

Leonard's other two sons were born in 1913 and 1916. In 1917 he enlisted in the army where he was recorded as a French translator. He received wounds to both thighs, and was repatriated to Conty in 1919. His address was still given a Rue des Hargers.

On the modern Google map Rue des Hargers is shown as parallel to the Rue des Ecoles where the English houses are situated, Rue des Ecoles doesn't appear in the old censuses so may have been named later.

In the 1921 census there is an area named Usine et Cite Battersby, that is distinct from the Rue des Hargers. The old postcard of the houses, shown above, refers to them being in the Cite Battersby. It is unclear when these houses were built but it seems doubtful that Leonard, or any of the English chapelliers ever lived in them.

Leonard is not in the 1921 census for Cony, and according to my cousin Karin is known to appear in the 1931 census for Decize in Burgundy. Unlike the Conty censuses that appear on Ancestry.com, I cannot find the Burgundy censuses online on any English site. It would seem that he left Conty between 1919 and 1921. I don't know if he appeared in earlier censuses in Decize, or elsewhere, and what his occupation was recorded as. It would seem likely he moved to continue his trade, probably directly to Decise, but an interim location cannot be discounted. He divorced in 1938 and returned to Stockport. In the 1939 Register he is living with his father and described as a felt hatter, and manager. I don't know if he had returned to work at the Battersby factory.

The Thiepval Twelve

On my recent visit to Amiens I visited the Thiepval Memorial which records the names of 72,000 soldiers who died in the Somme region, but whose bodies were never found. Binders containing all the names in alphabetical order, were lodged in an alcove in one of the pillars, These contained the names of 12 Warburtons. I photographed the two pages containing the names.

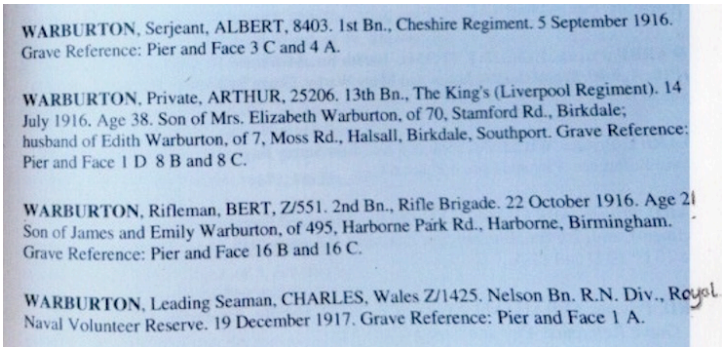
The Thiepval Memorial has the names of more than 72,000 United Kingdom and South African servicemen who died in the Somme battlefields during World War I and have no known grave.

My investigations into these twelve revealed the following.

Sergeant Albert Warburton, Cheshire Regiment, died 5th September 1916.

The Button Files

The Thiepval Memorial



WARBURTON, Serjeant, ALBERT, 8403. 1st Bn., Cheshire Regiment. 5 September 1916. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 3 C and 4 A.

WARBURTON, Private, ARTHUR, 25206. 13th Bn., The King's (Liverpool Regiment). 14 July 1916. Age 38. Son of Mrs. Elizabeth Warburton, of 70, Stamford Rd., Birkdale; husband of Edith Warburton, of 7, Moss Rd., Halsall, Birkdale, Southport. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 1 D 8 B and 8 C.

WARBURTON, Rifleman, BERT, Z/551. 2nd Bn., Rifle Brigade. 22 October 1916. Age 21. Son of James and Emily Warburton, of 495, Harborne Park Rd., Harborne, Birmingham. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 16 B and 16 C.

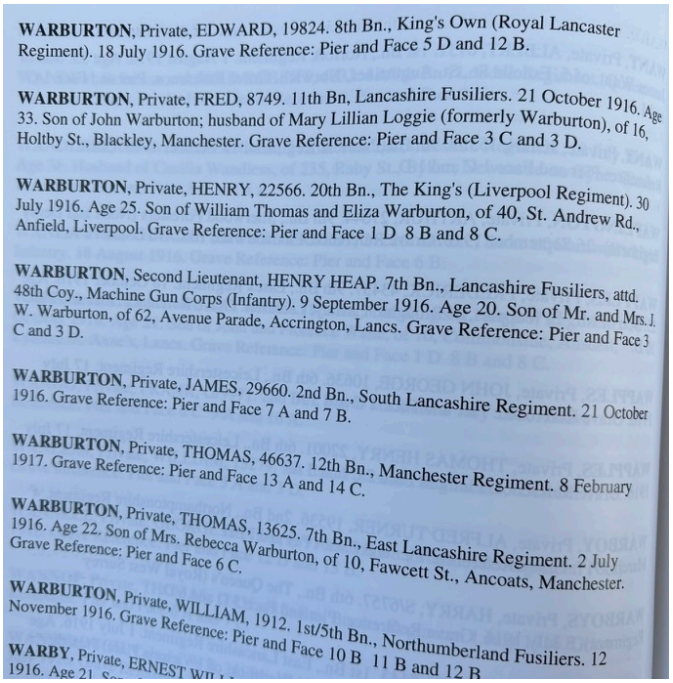
WARBURTON, Leading Seaman, CHARLES, Wales Z/1425. Nelson Bn. R.N. Div., Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. 19 December 1917. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 1 A.

Warburton Entries on the Thiepval Memorial Part 1

Albert is not included in existing clans. His birth was registered in the 4th quarter of 1884 in Congleton, Cheshire, son of Henry and Betsey (nee Beech). He is recorded in the 1911 census, but crossed out so probably not really at home. He is recorded as a soldier, aged 25 and born in Church Lawton. His parents had had 12 children, 11 still living, though Betsey is deceased. Henry is descended from a George born in Altrincham circa 1803, but George's ancestry is uncertain.

Private Arthur Warburton, The King's Liverpool Regiment, died 14th July 1916, aged 38. Son of Mrs Elizabeth Warburton of 70 Stamford Road, Birkdale, husband of Edith Warburton of 7 Moss Road, Halsall, Birkdale, Southport.

Arthur is in the Partington Clan though I had previously recorded his death incorrectly. His birth was registered in the fourth quarter of 1877, the son of Robert and Elizabeth nee Taylor of Birkdale, Lancashire. He married Edith Banks in Ormskirk in 1900, and had a son and 3 daughters.



WARBURTON, Private, EDWARD, 19824. 8th Bn., King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). 18 July 1916. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 5 D and 12 B.

WARBURTON, Private, FRED, 8749. 11th Bn, Lancashire Fusiliers. 21 October 1916. Age 33. Son of John Warburton; husband of Mary Lillian Loggie (formerly Warburton), of 16, Holtby St., Blackley, Manchester. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 3 C and 3 D.

WARBURTON, Private, HENRY, 22566. 20th Bn., The King's (Liverpool Regiment). 30 July 1916. Age 25. Son of William Thomas and Eliza Warburton, of 40, St. Andrew Rd., Anfield, Liverpool. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 1 D 8 B and 8 C.

WARBURTON, Second Lieutenant, HENRY HEAP. 7th Bn., Lancashire Fusiliers, attd. 48th Coy., Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). 9 September 1916. Age 20. Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Warburton, of 62, Avenue Parade, Accrington, Lancs. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 3 C and 3 D.

WARBURTON, Private, JAMES, 29660. 2nd Bn., South Lancashire Regiment. 21 October 1916. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 7 A and 7 B.

WARBURTON, Private, THOMAS, 46637. 12th Bn., Manchester Regiment. 8 February 1917. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 13 A and 14 C.

WARBURTON, Private, THOMAS, 13625. 7th Bn., East Lancashire Regiment. 2 July 1916. Age 22. Son of Mrs. Rebecca Warburton, of 10, Fawcett St., Ancoats, Manchester. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 6 C.

WARBURTON, Private, WILLIAM, 1912. 1st/5th Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers. 12 November 1916. Grave Reference: Pier and Face 10 B 11 B and 12 B.

WARBY, Private, ERNEST

Warburton Entries on the Thiepval Memorial Part 2

Rifleman Bert Warburton, Rifle Brigade, died 22nd October 1916, son of James and Emily Warburton of 495 Harborne Park Road, Harborne, Birmingham.

Bert is not included in existing clans. His birth was registered at Kings Norton in the first quarter of 1895, as Bertie, the son of Edward James and Emma nee Grosvenor. In the 1911 census his parents have had 8 children, all living, and are living in Harborne. His father James, aged 50, is a greengrocer born in Birmingham. The family are from Bromyard, Herefordshire where Ancestry Public Trees document them back to Joseph born 1675.

Leading Seaman Charles Warburton, Royal Naval Reserve, died 19th December 1917.

Charles is not included in existing clans. He was born on 27th September 1888 in Swansea. His parents were Charles and Jane nee Speckman, and he was one of 10 children. His father Charles, and grandfather Edwin were both born in Cumberland, and moved to Wales via Wrexham. Charles married Lilian Maud Davies in 1909. Lily of 4 James Court, James Street, Swansea was his next of kin. She had 7 children (one before marriage), up to 1917, but at least 2 died in infancy.

Private Edward Warburton, King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, died 18th July 1916.

Edward is from the Rochdale family. He was born on July 7th 1875, son of John Henry and Elizabeth nee Butterworth. Edward married Sarah Jane Wellings in 1899 and had a son and four daughters.

Private Fred Warburton, Lancashire Fusiliers, died 21st October 1916, aged 33, son of John Warburton, husband of Mary Lillian Loggie, formerly Warburton of 16 Holtby Street, Blackley, Manchester.

Fred is not included in existing clans. His birth was registered in the 4th quarter of 1883 as the son of John and Elizabeth nee Marlor of Blackley. John was born in Nantwich, Cheshire, the son of James of Broxton, Cheshire and Sarah nee Deighton. James was born in 1808 and features in the Broxton family. Fred's marriage to Mary Lillian Nangle was registered at at Prestwich in 1914, but no children were registered with mother's maiden name Nangle. Mary was remarried to Alexander Loggie in 1920. Fred's line has now been documented in the Broxton Clan.

Private Henry Warburton, The King's Liverpool Regiment, died 30th July 1916, aged 25, son of Thomas and Eliza Warburton of 40 St Andrew Road, Anfield, Liverpool.

Henry is included in the Warburton Village clan. He was one of 10 children of Walter Thomas and Elizabeth Ann nee Fullager, born on July 29th 1891 in Liverpool.

Second Lieutenant Henry Heap Warburton, Lancashire Fusiliers and machine Gun Corps, died 9th September 1916, aged 20, son of Mr and Mrs JW Warburton of 62 Avenue Parade, Accrington.

Henry's father, John William Warburton, born in 1866 in Haslingden, Lancashire, is included in the Edenfield clan. I have now documented John William's family. Henry's birth was registered in the fourth quarter of 1895 to John William and his first wife Elizabeth Ellen nee Cronshaw. Elizabeth died in 1898 aged 27, and John William remarried in 1900 to Grace Majpr, with whom he had Henry's only sister, Grace Mayor Warburton, who died a spinster in 1968.

Private James Warburton, South Lancashire Regiment, did 21st October 1916.

James is the grandson of George (1845-1907) and Elizabeth nee Marsden of the Tottington Clan, I have now documented George's line. James's birth was registered in 1897 the son of John William and Mary Jane, nee Young. He had an elder brother and sister. John William(1866-1924) was the eldest of George's 6 children.

Private Thomas Warburton, Manchester Regiment, died 8th February 1917.

Thomas does not feature in any existing clans, or Ancestry Public trees. The Manchester Evening News reports his death, and gives his age, 21, and his parents as Mr and Mrs T Warburton of 64 Church Street, Urmston and 77 Sackville Street, Manchester. The 1921 census shows a Thomas Warburton, Lithographic Print Manager, an employer who works for T Warburton Ltd at 77 Sackville Street. This Thomas's birth was registered in 1869, the son of Thomas and Mary nee Worsley. He married Elizabeth Ann Ferguson in a civil marriage at Altrincham in 1891. The youngest of their three children was Private Thomas of the Manchester Regiment, born in 1896. The soldier's grandfather Thomas was born in 1846, son of William Warburton and Elizabeth nee Buckley, but it seems William died shortly after, as an 1861 census entry implies Elizabeth had remarried and had a son called William Taylor, though details of her remarriage have yet to be found. William Warburton and Elizabeth Buckley married in a civil marriage in 1845 so the marriage registration details are needed to determine William's origins.

Private Thomas Warburton, East Lancashire Regiment, died 2nd July 1916, aged 22 son of Mrs Rebecca Warburton of 10 Fawcett Street, Ancoats, Manchester.

Thomas is not included in any existing clans. His birth was registered in 1894, the son of Thomas Mather Warburton and Rebecca nee Smith. Thomas and Rebecca married in 1885, but Thomas Mather died in 1898. In the 1901 census Rebecca is living with her widowed mother, and 4 children, Thomas being the youngest. Thomas Mather's father was also Thomas, born in Manchester circa 1831, parents James and Elizabeth, whose origins are unknown.

Private William Warburton, Northumberland Fusiliers, died 12th November 1916.

William has not been connected to any of my existing clans. He is the subject of various Public Trees, but none identify him as the William on the Thiepval Monument. He was born in Newcastle upon Tyne and gave his next of kin as his mother Alice Warburton. His birth was registered in the 4th quarter of 1892, mother's maiden name Hall. Alice Hall married Frederick Warburton in the 3rd quarter of 1873. In the 1911 census Alice and Frederick lived in Byker, had been married 38 years, and had 15 children, 8 still living. Frederick was registered and baptised in 1851, as the illegitimate son of Sarah Warburton. His grandfather William Warburton was a grocer, baptised in 1800 at Newcastle-upon-Tyne as the son of Thomas Warburton and Hannah nee Fenwick. Some Rublic Trees have Russell Warburton as Thomas's father putting the family in Newcastle-upon-Tyne since 1745.

In summary just 3 of the 12 soldiers mentioned were already in my trees. I was then able to connect 3 more to existing clans. Exploring the other 6 identified 6 more families waiting to be documented. Is this indicative of the proportion of Warburtons I have covered so far, after nearly 20 years?

Various Clan Updates

As well as the updates to 6 clans affected by research into the Thiepval 12, I have also updated the Hale Barns and Garryhinch clans. The updates are:

- Broxton Family updated to Broxton clan and doubled in size to include the ancestry of Private Fred Warburton.
- Edenfield clan extended to include Second Lieutenant Henry Heap Warburton.
- Tottington clan extended to include Private James Warburton.
- Rochdale family entry for Private Edward Warburton amended.
- Partington clan entry for Private Arthur Warburton amended.
- Warburton Village clan entry for Private Edward Warburton amended.

- Hale Barns extended to include additional Percival, Roylance and Timperley ancestors plus updates to some individual entries.
- Garryhinch clan entries for John Warburton 1733-1806, Martha Benson 1742-1824, and Sylvester Birrell Warburton 1816-1880 updated..

Scottish Clan

I late 2024 I was sent a GEDCOM of a clan that originated in Scotland by Jerome Shih. The earliest event was the birth of Charles Warburton son of Charles Warburton and Katherine Strachan. in Edinburgh in 1777.

I promised to try and get the clan published in the New Year. The year is now very old but I have now published the clan. I did do additional research on some of the lines, particularly where they moved to NE England, and in the case of one line, to London. The result is a clan of 151 persons, including 92 Warburtons.

The origins of Charles senior are unknown. If it is assumed he was the first generation of the clan to move to Scotland then he may be a Charles whose baptism is recorded in England. A search for potential baptisms in the 40 years up to 1757 reveals 8 candidates, after discounting one who died in infancy, 2 I already know the history of, and 2 whose stories are on Ancestry Public Trees. There may be others whose details are not available on-line. These are:

The son of John and Elizabeth baptised in Benefield, Northants on 2nd May 1731.

The son of Charles baptised in Manchester on 15th July 1739.

The son of Charles and Mary baptised in Austerfield, Yorkshire on 120th October 1740.

The son of Henry baptised in Great Budworth, Cheshire on 20th June 1742.

The son of John baptised in Great Budworth, Cheshire on 20th November 1743.

The son of John baptised in Culcheth, Lancashire on 8th April 1744.

The son of Thomas and Esther baptised in Stockport, Cheshire on 1st Oct 1752.

The son of William baptised in Sheffield on 26th June 1757.

I discovered evidence of several male Warburtons who are still living, so there is also the possibility that Y-chromosome DNA may indicate the clan the line originates from. All that is needed is to find a match with someone I have previously tested.

I have also made a small update to the Urmston clan after David Warburton sent me information on his father and grandfather.

William Percy Rudolph Warburton

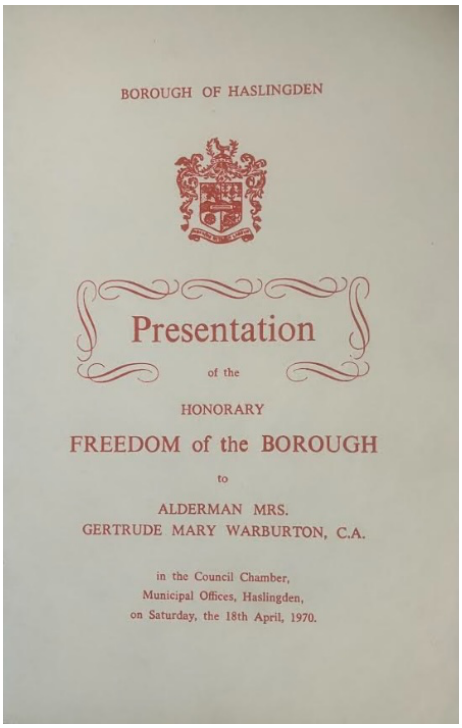
I was recently contacted by Dave Robinson who is a volunteer at the Whitaker Museum at Rawtenstall in Lancashire. The museum was recently gifted a collection of over 100 photographs relating to William Percy Rudolph Warburton, and his wife Alderman Gertrude Mary Warburton nee Howarth. The collection was gifted by a descendant of a friend of Gertrude's sister Amy, who would like the collection to pass to a relative of the couple.

It appears that William and Gertrude had no children, and Gertrude's siblings didn't either. Dave was hoping I could help him with the Warburton side.

Alderman Gertrude Mary Warburton

William and Gertrude outside of 15 Well Bank Haslingden

A sketch of William Percy Rudolph Warburton



BOROUGH OF HASLINGDEN

Presentation

of the

HONORARY

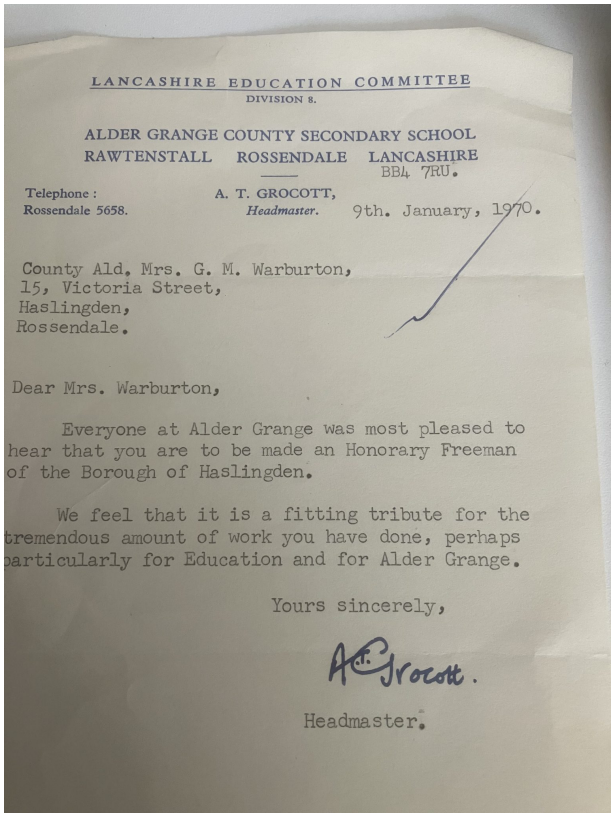
FREEDOM of the BOROUGH

to

ALDERMAN MRS.
GERTRUDE MARY WARBURTON, C.A.

in the Council Chamber,
Municipal Offices, Haslingden,
on Saturday, the 18th April, 1970.

Font cover of the Order of Proceedings for the Presentation of the Freedom of the Borough of Haslingden to Alderman Mrs. Gertrude Mary Warburton, C. A., on April 188th 1970.



LANCASHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
DIVISION 8.

ALDER GRANGE COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL
RAWTENSTALL ROSSENDALE LANCASHIRE
BB4 7RU.

Telephone :
Rossendale 5658.

A. T. GROCOTT,
Headmaster.

9th. January, 1970.

County Ald. Mrs. G. M. Warburton,
15, Victoria Street,
Haslingden,
Rossendale.

Dear Mrs. Warburton,

Everyone at Alder Grange was most pleased to hear that you are to be made an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Haslingden.

We feel that it is a fitting tribute for the tremendous amount of work you have done, perhaps particularly for Education and for Alder Grange.

Yours sincerely,

A. T. Grocott.

Headmaster.

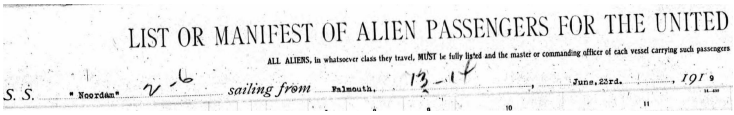
A letter from the Headmaster at Alder Grange School congratulating Gertrude on her Freedom of the Borough

William is in my Edenfield clan, though there were few details, until I recently updated it with the results of my investigations. He was one of 4 children of William Warburton (born 1853), a chemist, and his wife Katherine Needham nee Ledger. His two sisters died young, one aged 3, and the other aged 19.

As William and Gertrude had no children, any hope of finding a descendant of the family rests with his brother Stanley. The rest of this Post describes the results of my investigations into Stanley.

It was believed that Stanley moved abroad. I found details of Stanley sailing to New York in 1919, but as his firm had paid his fare it seems he was only visiting on that occasion. This was confirmed when I found his return a few weeks later.

The following images show the records of Stanley's departure and arrival. You may need to click on the images to see them clearly.



LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED

ALL ALIENS, in whatsoever class they travel, MUST be fully listed and the master or commanding officer of each vessel carrying such passengers

S. S. "Noordam" V-6 sailing from Falmouth, 13-14, June, 23rd. 1919

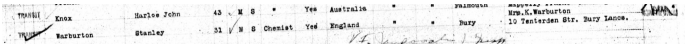
The SS Noordam sailed from Falmouth on June 23rd 1919.

Stanley is an Alien heading to New York, with a ticket to his destination, his passage paid for by his

firm, having more than $50, never been to the states before, in good health, with fair complexion, brown halr, and a grey mole near left ear, born in Ramsbottom.

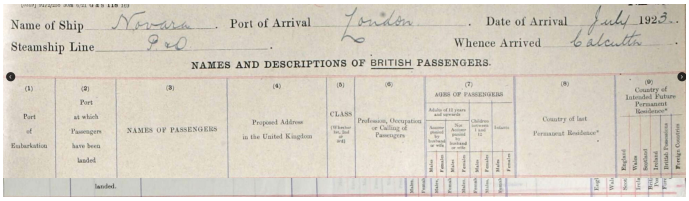
STATES IMMIGRATION OFFICER AT PORT OF ARRIVAL.
111
Arriving at Port of New-York. July 6th 1919.

The SS Nordam arrived in New York on July 6th 1919.

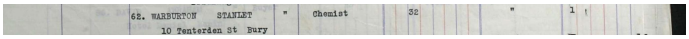

Knox Harlee John 43 M S Yes Australia Bury 10 Tenterden Str. Bury Lancs.
Warburton Stanley 31 M S Chemist Yes England Bury 10 Tenterden Str. Bury Lancs.

In transit, Stanley Warburton, aged 31, is a single male, occupation chemist, able to read and write, English, last resident in Bury, next of kin Mrs K Warburton (his mother) 10 Tenterden Street, Bury, not an immigrant.

Stanley returned to 10 Tenterden Street, Bury in October 1919.


Name of Ship Novara. Port of Arrival London. Date of Arrival July 1923.
Steamship Line P&O. Whence Arrived Calcutta.
NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS.

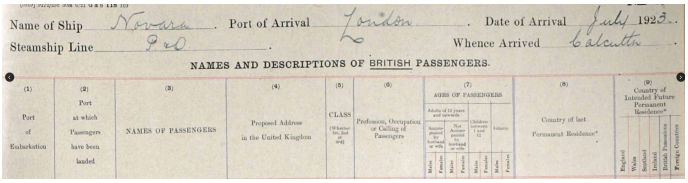
The Cunard ship Orduma arrived in Liverpool from New York on October 2nd 1919.


62. WARBURTON STANLEY " Chemist 32 " 1
10 Tenterden St Bury

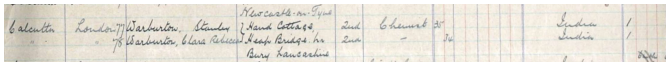
Stanley (32) is a chemist heading to 10 Tenterden Street, Bury.

In October 1919, shortly after his return from New York, Stanley married Clara Rebecca Downs in Heap Bridge. The marriage is the first time Clara is called Clara Rebecca. She was registered as Clara on her birth registration, but referred to on censuses as Rebecca. In 1911 she was living at Hand Cottage, Heap Bridge with her widowed mother and 2 sisters, Alice and Margaret.

Stanley and Clara are next found returning from Calcutta in 1923.


Name of Ship Novara. Port of Arrival London. Date of Arrival July 1923.
Steamship Line P&O. Whence Arrived Calcutta.
NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF BRITISH PASSENGERS.

The P&O ship Novara arrived in London from Calcutta in July 1923.


Calcutta London 77 Warburton, Stanley Newcastle-on-Tyne Hand Cottage Heap Bridge Bury Lancashire 2nd Chemist 35 Indian
78 Warburton, Clara Rebecca 2nd Indian

Stanley (35), a chemist, and Clara Rebecca (34) are recorded arriving in London from Calcutta en route to Hand Cottage Heap Bridge, Bury, Lancashire.

It is unknown how long Stanley and Clara were in India, but they have not been found in the 1921 census. They returned to the same address Clara was living at in 1911.

In 1929 a Jean Warburton was registered at Hayfield, Derbyshire with mother's maiden name Downs. This is the only Warburton registered with that mother's maiden name.

In the 1939 Register Clara is living in Bury with her sister Margaret Starkey and her husband Ernest. There is no evidence of Stanley in the Register, though Clara is recorded as married. There is also a person whose record is still closed, implying a child. Although this person is listed before Clara, no Starkey child with mother's maiden name Downs, was registered between their marriage and 1939.

The marriage of Jean Warburton to Laurence Wells was registered at Dartmouth in 1953. I have obtained the certificate for this marriage and it confirms that Jean's father was indeed Stanley. Also CR Warburton was a witness. A boy Leonard was registered at Dartmouth in 1955. This confirms that Stanley had a daughter and grandson.

I have not found a matching death registration for Leonard, so he if he didn't die abroad he is probably still living.

Stanley's death was registered at Dartford in 1961, aged 73. Probate was granted to Clara Rebecca, widow. Stanley's address was given as 6 Mill Cottages, Kent Kraft Mills, Northfleet. He left £1,020 10s 9d.

Clara Rebecca's death was registered at Dartford, Kent in 1977, with a date of birth that matches her 1939 Register entry. She was aged 88.

Drowning at Cleveleys

I was sent the following newspaper cutting by Wendy Collin. It relates to a tragedy that befell her great aunts.

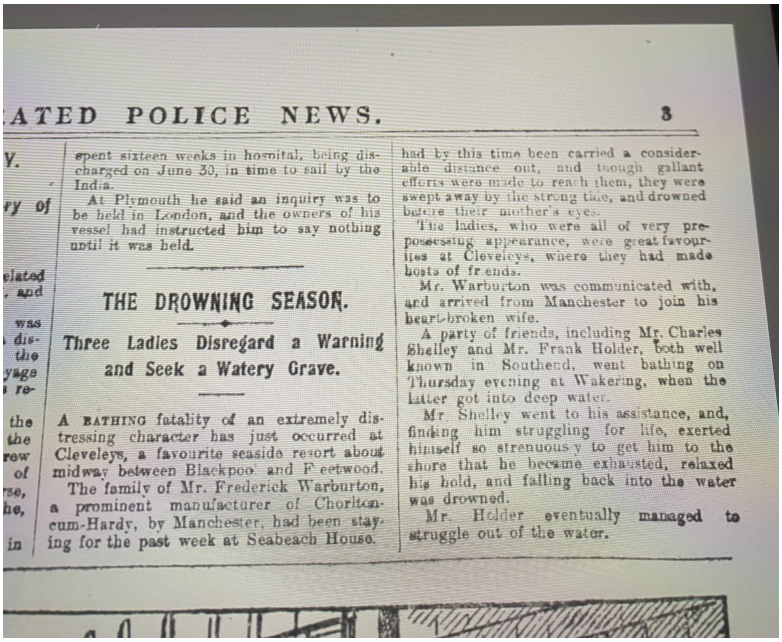
The story was carried by most newspapers in the land. The story presented was as follows:

The accident occurred on July 3rd 1903 at Cleveleys, a resort midway between Blackpool and Fleetwood on the Lancashire coast.

The family of Mr Frederick Warburton, a prominent manufacturer of Chorlton-cum-Hardy had been staying for the past week at Seabeach House. The party consisted of Mrs Warburton, her four daughters, and a son-in-law, Mr Lord, the husband of the oldest daughter. The party, with the exception of Mrs Warburton, were very fond of the water, and bathed every day.

About four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, though warned that the sea was rather rough, they all went off in a very happy mood for another dip. The tide was running

very rapidly. Powerless to help, the horror stricken mother saw them carried away and appealed for aid. This was promptly forthcoming, and her son-in-law and one daughter were rescued by Mr John Croft.



ATED POLICE NEWS. 3

spent sixteen weeks in hospital, being discharged on June 30, in time to sail by the India.

At Plymouth he said an inquiry was to be held in London, and the owners of his vessel had instructed him to say nothing until it was held.

THE DROWNING SEASON.

Three Ladies Disregard a Warning and Seek a Watery Grave.

A BATHING fatality of an extremely distressing character has just occurred at Cleveleys, a favourite seaside resort about midway between Blackpool and Fleetwood.

The family of Mr. Frederick Warburton, a prominent manufacturer of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, by Manchester, had been staying for the past week at Seabeach House.

had by this time been carried a considerable distance out, and though gallant efforts were made to reach them, they were swept away by the strong tide, and drowned before their mother's eyes.

The ladies, who were all of very prepossessing appearance, were great favourites at Cleveleys, where they had made hosts of friends.

Mr. Warburton was communicated with, and arrived from Manchester to join his heart-broken wife.

A party of friends, including Mr. Charles Shelley and Mr. Frank Holder, both well known in Southend, went bathing on Thursday evening at Wakering, when the latter got into deep water.

Mr. Shelley went to his assistance, and, finding him struggling for life, exerted himself so strenuously to get him to the shore that he became exhausted, relaxed his hold, and falling back into the water was drowned.

Mr. Holder eventually managed to struggle out of the water.

Part of an article on a Drowning Tragedy at Cleveleys

The other three, Miss Ethel Warburton, Miss Minnie Warburton and Mrs Lord had by this time been swept a considerable distance out, and though gallant efforts were made to reach them, they were swept away by the strong tide. and drowned before their mother's eyes.

The ladies, who were all of very prepossessing appearance, were great favourites at Cleveleys where they had made hosts of friends.

When I investigated the family I discovered that Wendy Collin was actually my 8th cousin, so the tragic family were part of my Hale Barns clan. The names were included in my tree, though I wasn't aware of the drowning story. Furthermore, the sisters had an older brother, Godfrey, who was the grandfather of my first DNA cousin Clive i.e. the first person to be a Y-chromosome match. We subsequently worked out how we connected and that we are 8th cousins. There is a section on our relationship on page 7 of my DNA Results Commentary.

I have now expanded the family in my tree, but as I am currently working on other parts of the tree I have not yet uploaded it to the website.

Some other aspects of the story came to light during my research. There were actually 5 sisters. Wendy's grandmother was Beatrix who was only 5 at the time so not in the holiday party. The second daughter Jessie was also not present. The daughter saved was Madge, the eldest daughter and second child after Godfrey. She later married, but died in 1917 aged 33.

Ethel's body was only recovered 8 days later, 5 miles away at Fleetwood.

An inquest returned a verdict of accidental drowning. John Croft said the day was not fit for bathing, the sea being very rough. Newspapers reports of the inquest named Madge as the sister saved, and Willian Henry Lord as the other person rescued.

John Croft was a local boatman. He was presented with a purse of gold, a silver watch, and an illuminated address, subscribed for by visitors who desired to recognise his bravery.

Although newspaper reports said Nora Lord was also a sister, she was said to be aged 30 and so born about 8 years before the girls parents, Frederick and Martha, were married. Neither seems to have had a previous marriage.

My investigations indicate she was actually Eleanora Maria Pickles from Hay in Breconshire, who married William Henry Lord at Chorlton, St Clements the previous year. They are obviously from the same area as the Warburtons, and were part of their party, but it would seem they were just friends.

Warburton Mormon Trek 1849

In 2014 I added the story **They crossed the Plains with a Handcart** to the Papers page of the Website. It was the story of a party of Mormons travelling from Iowa to Utah in 1856. I announced it in this Post.

Recently Ian Sanderson sent me a link to a story in the Lincolnshire Family History Society Journal, Volume 29, Number 3, entitled **My Ancestor was a Saint.** I have added it to the **Papers** page as **Warburton Mormon Trek 1849.**

The story describes a party of Mormon converts from Louth in Lincolnshire who sailed to the USA in 1849 and gathered in Council Bluffs, Iowa before setting off in wagons to the recently established Salt Lake City. The party included a Warburton family consisting of Edward Warburton, his wife Sophia nee Bywater, their son Richard, aged 19, and daughter Mary Ann, aged 9. Edward was originally from Yorkshire, having been baptised in Dewsbury in 1806. However he married Sophia, a local girl, at Louth in 1828.

Unfortunately Edward died at Council Bluffs before the trek could begin, leaving his family to travel without him.

The story of the trek includes a number of recollections from Richard.

Richard settled in Tooele, Utah where he had 2 overlapping marriages and several children. He died in 1907, aged 78. Sister Mary Ann was the only wife of a Canadian, Francis Lougy, and also had a large family, and dying in Tooele in 1912, aged 73. Their mother Sophia lived in Tooele until 1868 when she died aged 62.

I have been unable to attach these Warburtons to any of my existing family trees, but there are a number of public trees on Ancestry. These take the family back a couple more generations in Yorkshire, but the only attempts I have seen to link them to Warburtons west of the Pennines look speculative.

If anyone has further information on the family I would be delighted to hear it. A Y-chromosome DNA result from

a direct Warburton descendant would also be very interesting.

DNA Solves Another Puzzle

I recently had an email from Max Harris. He is descended from Mary Warburton who married William Evans at Norton-le-Moors, Staffordshire in 1815. He had been unable to find a baptism for Mary, and although she appears in a number of Public Trees on Ancestry, the details are variable and confusing. Her date of birth was variously given as 1791 or 1796 Her place of birth was Hanley, Staffordshire, and her parents were identified as James Warburton and Mary Bagnall who married at St. John, Burslem in 1795.

Her father, James was described as a potter, and both the Warburton and Bagnall families had been active in the pottery industry of Stoke-on-Trent through the 18th century. Both families were also Catholic so this explains the lack of a baptism record. Mary's date of birth was usually based on her age in censuses, and on her age of 87 when she died in 1878. But as we have seen, her parents didn't marry until 1795, explaining why her date of birth was sometimes given as 1796. The truth of the matter remains a mystery.

Another mystery was James's origins. Some of the Public Trees identified him as the James born in Lymm, Cheshire in 1771 to James Warburton and Sarah nee Allen. One of these trees is owned by John Warburton, a member of my DNA Project, and a genetic cousin. My Weaverham clan is based on his tree. Although I had included James's birth in 1771, I didn't have details of his wife and daughters.

A family of Warburton potters were active in the Burslem area through the 18th century. They were descended from Joseph Warburton and Abigail Lowndes who married at Newcastle under Lyme in 1719. Joseph was a potter in Hot Lane. His grandson Jacob (1740-1826) was particularly famous, and a friend of Josiah Wedgwood. He was a Catholic, and also married a Mary Bagnall.

Against this background the identification of James of Lymm as the James who married Mary Bagnall in 1795 seems a stretch. His age at death is close but not exact. There is no known James amongst Joseph's descendants, but as most baptisms were Catholic and there are no records, not all family members maybe known.

However Max Harris reports that AncestryDNA has identified he has 3 cousins who are descended from each of the three children of James's niece Sarah Faulkner and her husband Richard Daintith. The Daintith family lived in Warrington. Sarah was the daughter of James's elder sister Mary, who married Zacharias Faulkner. This makes the common ancestors of Max and his 3 cousins, James Warburton and Sarah Allen.

Ancestry describes the matches as follows:

11cM 2 segments – third cousin 2x removed.

9cM 1 segment – 6th cousin.

8cM 1 segment – Half 6th cousin

As the three cousins are more closely related to each other the matches are probably elements of the same match.The second and third matches are distant and possibly random. However an 11 cM match across 2 segments on AncestryDNA is statistically real and highly likely to be a legitimate match. However, because the segments are quite small, it represents a very distant relationship, typically ranging from a 5th cousin to an 8th cousin, or beyond (Google AI).

Also the links back to James's sister Mary are documented, so it is reasonable evidence that James the potter was in fact from Lymm.

This raises a further question. Did James move to Stoke to become a potter purely by chance, or could it indicate knowledge of a past link with the family of potters. Peter, the earliest known ancestor of the Weaverham clan is very closely contemporaneous with Joseph the the earliest known ancestor of the potters. Although Joseph is said to be born in Newcastle under Lyme or Cobridge in 1694, no sources are specified, or can be found to support this.

It is not impossible that Peter and Joseph were related and this was still remembered in the late 18th century. However evidence of this link could be difficult to prove unless there are surviving Warburton male descendants of the Potters. Only Y-chromosome DNA could prove a common ancestor who lived 350 or more years ago.

I have updated the Weaverham clan with details of James and Mary's family, and reckon it is time to document the Warburton potters, especially as I recently discovered that one of the Josiah Warburtons in my **Warburtons Named Josiah** paper was linked to the potters, and turned up in France in the 1840s.

French Warburtons and Josiahs

On a recent trip to visit my sister-in-law in France, a friend of hers offered me an opportunity to use her account on Filae.com, a site of French genealogical records. I have been using the opportunity to document records of Warburtons in France. I have now placed that document in the **Parishes** section of the website.

Most of the records related to short term visitors, and a number of these were known to me already. Where possible I have included information about these links, and also updated my trees where required. These updates will be put on the website in my next batch update.

Some families were long term immigrants. I wrote previously about my French cousins descended from Leonard Warburton, who went to work in a Bowler Hat factory in Conte. Curiously my sister-in-law's friend actually taught one of his descendants in school.

Another established family was that of a Josiah who married in Boulogne-sur-Mer in 1840. I recognised him from my list of Josiahs on the **Papers** page of the website, but hadn't known he emigrated. Furthermore his parents, including his mother's maiden name, were recorded, providing a direct link to the Warburton family of Stoke on Trent. This is a further incentive to document that family.

However I realised my **Warburtons Named Josiah** paper could do with an update, not least because I had referred to some Josiah's by their number in the list, and these were not always now correct due to insertions. So I have gone through always referring to Josiahs by their dates, and also where possible indicating their clan.

Nineteen of 47 Josiahs belong to my Hale Barns clan, thirteen belong to the Ashley and Morley clan which is genetically separate, but it originates in pretty much the same area on the boarder of the Bowdon and Wilmslow parishes. There are number of Presbyterian baptisms, including some at Hale Chapel, so they must have been aware of my six times great grandfather, the original Josiah, and his prominent role in the Hale Presbyterian movement. Of course the Josiah in France may well have been named after Josiah Wedgwood, who was a friend of his grandfather.

I was able to establish that a couple of previously unattached Josiahs are indeed part of the Hale Barns clan. In one case that seems to introduce quite a large new branch of blacksmiths in Cheadle, which I am working on at the moment.

Next Issue

The next issue will appear when I have collected enough articles to fill it.