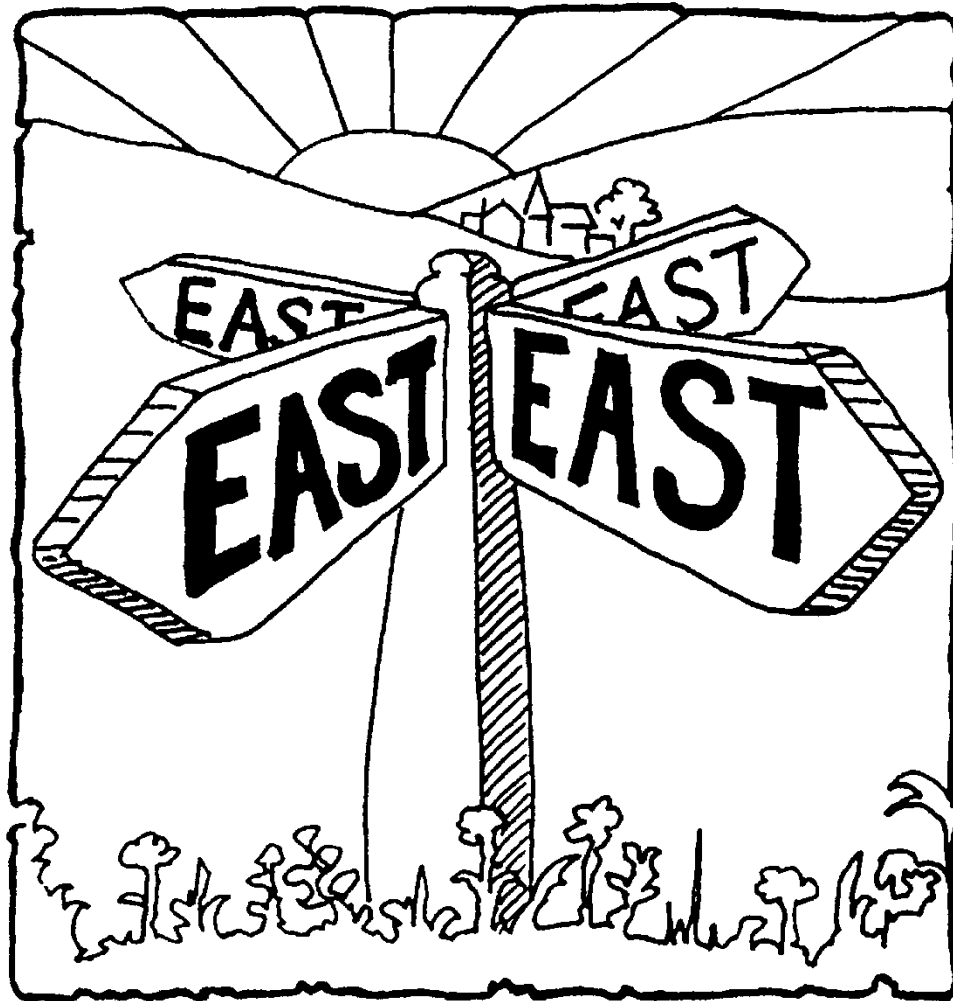


POINTS EAST

The Journal of the East Family History Society

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Editorial

What a year! Since the last issue of Points East, I have finished two dissertations - one of 18,000 words - and completed my Masters degree!

Alongside my studying I have also worked full time, driven a narrowboat taking day trippers along the Basingstoke Canal, managed to paddle my kayak a bit when weather allowed and found just enough time to research my Ancestry DNA matches. I am now getting excited about my forthcoming trip to Australia and New Zealand to take a well-earned rest and spend time with my husband!

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM and get-together event (see p.2), to catch up with news and to meet new members.

I hope that you enjoy reading this latest issue of Points East.

Best Regards. Amanda ♦

Chairman's Message

I hope that you are feeling refreshed after the summer, perhaps having had a holiday. I managed a trip to Kolin in Bohemia, which is where my mother's ancestors lived. I was there for only about three hours but in that time managed to find a number of gravestones and war memorials. I was also offered help in researching my ancestry from the historian at the cemetery. I had not imagined that anything more than an amble round the town would be possible in that time, so I hope that this encourages all of you to go and visit some of the places relevant to your tree.

Our own research manager, Angela Waterfall, recently organised a ramble around her area in Oxfordshire. I was unable to attend but it sounds as if they had a really lovely day. Do look out for more of these events.

I am currently organising some Zoom talks for members of the Society, designed to help you with your research and to take you that bit further - See p.6. It can be very disheartening to feel as if you have reached the end of the line, so I'm hoping you will find these helpful.

You will discover more at our forthcoming AGM, and I really hope that as many of you as possible will attend, as it promises to be just as interesting (and delicious!) as last year.

If you are unable to attend, do feel free to let us know how you are progressing with your research. We don't have a secretary at the moment of writing (please do apply!) but you may contact any one of us. Email addresses are on the website and inside front cover.

Angela East ♦

Annual General Meeting 2024

The 2024 get-together and AGM will be held at Bishopshalt School, Royal Lane, Hillingdon UB8 3RF) on **Saturday 19th October**, from 10am to 4 pm.

Coffee & tea will be served in the Mansion Hall from 10am to 12 noon.

A box for donations to help towards the hire of the school will be placed near the coffee and tea table. We will be very grateful for any amount.

The AGM will start at 12 noon & a talk by Ron East will be given after the meal, in the Mansion.

Lunch will be provided in the Main Hall of the school but must be pre-booked.

See the separate form sent to members with this Issue of Points East.

The meal will be a hot dish and a cold buffet which you can choose at random.

[All with gluten free, lactose free, vegetarian options]

Plus Wines and soft drinks,

Fruit salad, Individual small trifles,

Cheeseboard -with gluten free biscuits and lactose free cheese.

The total cost will be £28.

Please feel free to bring a packed lunch if you prefer, but a charge of £10 will be made to cover tea, coffee and tableware.

Cheques (in advance) to be made out to Mrs P.M.Pearce.

The talk will be given by Ron East alongside the viewing of the 'East Brothers Timber' DVD, dated approx. 1947.

During the 1930's Lilian East, his father's second sister, went to India where she met William Haines and had three children – Norah, Diana and William. They returned to England in 1946 and lived in West Dean for a time before settling in Yeovil where the children grew up. Following their deaths, and whilst clearing out the loft of their home, Norah and her husband Brian found cine films which no one knew anything about.

Directions and map to Bishopshalt school (within London Low Emission Zone) are in the members area of the website, along with previous minutes, AGM agenda and other useful documents.

Obituaries

Mr Raymond W.F. Roberts of Uxbridge (1942-2024)

Some of you will not know Ray Roberts, as he has not been to an AGM for some time, because of his illness, but I am sorry to tell you that he died on August 31st, 2024, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

Living in Uxbridge, he always asked Pam about the members he knew. He was a really kind & helpful man with a great interest in his East family history.

Raymond was born in Uxbridge in 1942 (mother's surname Wilcox) and married Christine L Lockyer in Hillingdon, Middlesex in 1968.



Dr James George (Jamie) Sime of Falkirk (1934-2024)

Dr Jamie Sime joined the East FHS as one of the original members in 1993. He was a life member who died peacefully on 26th January 2024, only three months after the death of his wife Pat. His son Dr John Sime reported the sad news.

Jamie was a Company Director and Chairman for over thirty-five years in his home town of Falkirk, Stirlingshire, was a lecturer at Glasgow University and a life member of Seagull Trust Cruises & The Scout Movement. His funeral took place at Falkirk Trinity Church on 3rd February 2024.

The Founders' Award

A prize of £50 will be awarded annually to the member of the EastFHS who submits the most interesting article for publishing in the Points East journal

The articles will be judged by members of the committee and the result announced at the autumn AGM

Please send all articles by 1 August to the Journal editor

Amanda Gostelow: amanda@gostelow24.co.uk

In memory of John and Andrée East

East Ramblings

Angela Waterfall sent out an invite (via email & the website) to members to the first of a series of walks and lunches themed around Easts in various locations in the South-East of England.

The first walk took place on 19th September, in Wallingford, where Angela lives. Three members joined her at her home for coffee & biscuits, to share information about the East families, known to have lived in Wallingford and the surrounding villages.



Angela looked at the Census data for her hometown and produced a walk around the town to find local families. The historic Saxon town was where William the Conqueror crossed the River Thames on the way to London and is one of the locations of Midsomer Murders (Wallingford is Cawston!). The search of Wallingford was on for:

Richard East (1793-1852) at Cross Keys Inn, 168 High Street

Emma East (1866-) at Church Lane

Emma East (1826-) at St Leonards Square

Jemima East (1828-) at 1, Almshouses

Thomas East (1869-) at New Road

Thomas F East (1898-) at New Road

William James East (1831-) at Grangers Court

Hannah East (1821-) at Fish Street, Marketplace

Arthur Edward East (1869-) at St Peters Street

Also (further afield):

Edmund Creek East (1899-) of East Hagbourne. There is information that links him to Robert East b.1534 and his wife Sophia Painter. From 1851-1865, Edmund was an inspector at Didcot for the Great Western Railways.

Robert East (1822-1900) who emigrated to New Zealand. His ancestor may have been Samuel East (1706-1777), born in Leicestershire

William James East (1831-1903) was a shoemaker and appears on the 1861 and 1871 Census for Wallingford. By 1881, William has returned to Oxford.

Richard East was a local publican during 1851 and 1861 Census. His father, Thomas came from Monks Risborough

John East (1860-1865) was a thatcher in the hamlet of Rokemarsh. He is buried in the churchyard of St. Helens Church, Benson.

Future walks will be open to members, would-be members and friends. Please contact Angela by e-mail for advice if you want to hold your own local walk.

[Editor: we had a lovely day in Wallingford - a pleasant walk, saw some East dwellings, visited a church, sat next to Agatha Christie & enjoyed a nice lunch!]

From Our Archives
A marriage certificate between Philip Abraham East and Sarah
Beezley, November 1841
by Angela Waterfall, Research Manager

Over the 30 years of the Society's existence, we have received several certificates from our members; some of them relate to their personal family trees, others have been bought while doing research and found not to relate to the donor's own family.

Part of my job as the research manager is to collate this information to make it accessible for when queries arise and to ensure that any material we have is recorded with evidence.

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No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
383	2 nd November 1841	Philip East	27	Widower	Bookseller	St Marylebone	John East	Bookbinder
		Sarah Beezley	27	Spinster		as above	Mich ^l . Beezley	Tailor

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, after banns by me, H. Braithwaite Clerk in Ord.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Philip East and Sarah Beezley in the Presence of us, Isaac Forster and William Torkley

This certificate was possibly given by Member 135 and a potential tree was added to the "Big Tree" (now on Ancestry as a private but searchable tree) before I became research manager. I have been attempting to use online data from Ancestry to try to attach evidence to this part of the Big Tree but I am left with some questions, that **I invite members to help me answer.**

In 1841 Census, Philip, a bookseller, is living with Sarah (27) and four children (Charles, Philip, Walter, Letitia). Looking at birth records online, these children are the children of Philip and Sarah Elizabeth East.

Question: Is Sarah Beezley the mother of his four children or was his previous wife also called Sarah?

Almost certainly. Westminster, London Births and Baptisms 1813-1819 show a Sarah Elizabeth Beezely baptized at St Clement Danes in October 1813. This accords with her age at the time of the census.

In 1851 Census, Sarah is living with her two youngest children (Walter and Robert). I believe that Robert's birth is Q2 1844 (England and Wales Civil Registration Birth Index) but I cannot find a baptism record for him and we do not have his birth certificate.

Question: Why did Philip and Sarah wait until 1841 to get married?

The most likely reason is that his first wife was still living when he started his relationship with Sarah Elizabeth.

I found a record of a marriage between Mary Louisa East and Robert Acutt in 1842. Her father is recorded as Philip East, bookseller. However the only record of baptism for a Mary Louisa East was in 1821, when her parents are recorded as Philip, a shoe maker and Ann. The birth of another child, Philip James in 1815 is also there.

Question: Did Philip change profession?

This is, of course, impossible to answer.

Question: What can we find out about Philip's first wife?

Assuming that his first wife was Ann as recorded on Mary Louisa's baptismal record, there is a record of a marriage between Philip Abraham East and Ann Jones in November 1810 in London.

There is also a London, England Selected Poor Law Removal and Settlement record showing that a Philip Abraham East had abandoned his wife and young son in 1812. For this to be the same Ann, she would need to have been reunited with Philip.

If this is Philip who later married Sarah, then we have some information that might link him to the Easts of Iver, Bucks.

Question: When did Philip die?

It is probable that Philip died in 1848. England and Wales Civil Registration Death Index records a death of a Philip East in Q3 1848. However, both Philip Joseph and Letitia married in 1855 and Philip was not recorded as deceased on either certificate. When Letitia remarried in 1860, Philip is recorded as deceased. If the latter facts are correct, then Philip died between 1855 and 1860. However, there are no records on GRO for those dates.

If anyone would like to research this family, or if they already have links to this family, please let me know.

Online Talks

Our Chairman, Angela, has booked the first planned online talk / research workshop for Thursday February 27th 8pm. There will be a nominal charge of £15 per person for participation, unless it's a partnership e.g. husband and wife. The idea of the talk is to help people to proceed with research that they thought had come to an end. There isn't yet a title for the talk but that will be discussed prior to the event.

As committee member Jane recently remarked 'One reason we all joined the society was to find out more about our ancestors. For me the draw was joining forces and doing research alongside others because doing it alone can be hard, especially if you are not an experienced researcher, and not as much fun.'

The committee are hoping to attract new members to the East FHS by offering more joint research opportunities such as archive visits or visits to places of interest such as Winchester or Buckinghamshire or Chesham, which have lots of connections. A more educational angle hopefully will come from those of you who could pass on research skills and tips by demonstrating in person or online – hence the idea of some Research workshops.

A Double Murder in the Family - continued *by Dorothy Morgan*

Background

This is a true account about Daniel East. He was my 4th cousin once removed.

Daniel East was the eldest son of Joseph East, a Hoop maker, and Sarah Polykett; he was born in Chesham in September 1844. At the time of 1851 census, Daniel's family were living at 11, Waterside, a hamlet of Chesham.

In September 1864, Daniel, age 19, married Ellen Plested, age 24, at Amersham in Buckinghamshire. They had 5 children, Ralph East Plested, b.1863 Chesham, Albert, b.1865 Chesham, Martha, b.1867, David, b.1874 and Frederick William b.1876, all born in Hertfordshire. In the 1871 Census, the family were living at 62, High Street in Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire. Like his father, Daniel was a Wooden-Hoop maker.

Continued from Issue 61 (Spring 2024):

Herts Advertiser and St Albans Times, Saturday, March 3, 1877

*Before the enquiry commenced, Mr. Catherall, one of the Jury, asked the coroner if he could beg leave to retire, as he would rather do so. **The coroner:** I can't excuse you now, you are sworn. **Mr. Catherall:** I don't feel quite up to it. **The coroner:** I don't think it will be a long case. You are acting in a way a grand jury at assizes or sessions act: you are trying to see if there are any charge against any person or person, or anything affecting that person.*

*Evidence was then taken. The first witness called was **Elijah Bowden**, who was examined by the **coroner**.*

What are you? I am a sergeant of police for the county of Bucks.

Where do you reside? At Ivinghoe.

Where were you on Saturday last? At the station at Ivinghoe.

About what time? About half past one.

Were you on duty at the station? I was at the station, just coming out.

Did anyone come to you? I saw the prisoner pass and go towards the Town Hall steps, which lead to the magistrates' room.

Did you know his name? I did not at that time.

Were the magistrates sitting at that time? They were not. I went to the Town Hall steps.

What occurred there? The prisoner passed me.

Were you following him at that time? No, and I may state that between the Town Hall steps and where I first saw the prisoner there is only a partition wall, so that I should be within about a foot of the prisoner.

Did he turn towards you? Yes.

Did he say anything? Yes.

What did he say? He said, 'Are you the inspector of police?' I replied 'I am the sergeant here'

He then said, 'I wish to give myself up' and I asked 'Who are you?' He answered, 'My name is East; I come from Berkhamstead'

Did you notice anything in his appearance? Not at that time.

Did you reply to him? Yes, I said 'What do you wish to give yourself up for?'

Did he make any reply to that? He said 'I have murdered two of my children this morning'

Did you make any reply to that? I did not, and the prisoner then said, 'I came here thinking it was rotation day' Yes, I said 'What do you mean by that?' and he replied 'I thought it was petty sessions at Ivinghoe. I came with the intention to murder Mr. Hadden, and fully prepared to do so.'

Who is Mr. Hadden? He is a magistrate for the county of Hertford.

Does he sit at Ivinghoe as a magistrate for Bucks as well? Does he act for Ivinghoe? I don't know, I have not seen him there. I have been there about twelve months and have not seen him there. When the Prisoner stated that he was prepared to do so, I said 'Don't talk like that, man and he then said 'I thought Mr. Hadden sat here with Frank Moore'

'Is Mr. Frank Moore a magistrate for Herts and Bucks? Yes, he is chairman of the Ivinghoe bench. East further said, 'I will show you the implement I am prepared with, and with which I murdered my two children.'

A drawing knife, with a blade about a foot long, with a handle at each end, was here produced by the witness.

Did he have that implement with him? He had and pulled it from his coat.

Is it sharp? It is very sharp.

What did he do with it? Give it to you? Yes

Do you know what trade a knife of that description is used by? It is used in many trades in the woodwork. Do hoop makers use it? Yes. I noticed a quantity of blood on it when he gave it to me.

Where was the blood? It is quite visible now on the blade and handle, and there are several spots on the cloth on which it was wrapped.

When he handed that knife to you was there anything wrapped round it? This cloth produced was round one end of the blade.

When you took possession of that knife what did you do? The prisoner at the same time handed to me the razor produced.

Was there any blood upon it? I could not find any, but I saw that his lefthand was covered with blood.

Was there any wound upon it? I could not see one.

What next occurred? He said 'The reason I killed my children was, I am in a destitute state, and I applied to the Board sometime since for relief. Mr. Hadden, the magistrate, opposed my application, and I took two small children of my family and murdered them.'

Are you sure those were the words used? Those were the words he made use of, and he continued 'And came here with the intention of murdering Mr. Hadden. I thought my poor wife would be able to struggle along better with three children than she would with five. If you go to a little wood on the left-hand side of Pond Meadow, near the Crooked Billet, between Northchurch and Berkhamstead, you will find the two children there covered over with a shawl.' I then told him he would have to go into a cell, and I locked him up.

Did you search him before that? Yes, and found a number of letters.

Have you read the letters? Yes, I have. They are entirely business letters.

Anything relating to the children? Nothing. He asked me to take care of the letters.

Did you then place him in confinement? Yes, and he said, 'I hope you won't take me back to Berkhamstead tonight?'

What did you do after that? I procured a conveyance.

And where did you go after that? I first drove to Northchurch, and ultimately found police-constable Fredk. Brown and he went with me to the wood adjoining Pond Meadow.

What did you find when you got there? I found a man named Arthur Glenister and two children.

Anyone else there? No one.

What else did you see? I saw a shawl, and on raising it I saw two children.

Glenister was near the shawl which was on the ground and spread out.

Did Glenister say anything before you moved the shawl? He said there were two children with their throats cut and I saw the bodies that had been viewed by the jury. The bodies were lying on the ground.

Did you observe any wound upon them? I saw that both their throats were cut, and the smallest child had a cut on the left hand and also on the left arm. With the assistance of Inspector Goodyear, who came up to the spot, I took them to the Crooked Billet public-house.

Did you see East again that day? Inspector Goodyear then went with me to Ivinghoe.

What occurred there? We brought away the prisoner from Ivinghoe, to the police station at Berkhamstead.

Was there anything you did there? We examined his clothes, and we saw that there was some blood on one of the legs of his trousers, and also saw upon the left sleeve of his coat.

Had you any conversation with him at the time? He thanked me when we left for my kindness to him for giving some dinner and tea; that was all.

Anything relating to the murder? No

Did anything transpire on the road? No, we came by rail.

Did you pass this wood in coming to the Berkhamstead police station?

Have you anything more to say?

Had you known this man before? I had not.

Did you observe anything peculiar in his manner? No sir I did not.

The coroner: *Are there any questions which suggest themselves to the jury to ask this witness?*

The Foreman: *I think that his evidence has been very clear.*

The coroner (to the prisoner): *Your name has been mentioned in this disposition. I must tell you that anything you say will be taken down and may be used as evidence against you. Do you wish to say anything or ask anything?*

East: *No sir. He said everything very good, he said nothing about a bottle that he took out of my pocket.*

Sergeant Bowden: *There was a bottle, but I have not brought it.*

The coroner (to the prisoner): You need not make a statement; but do you wish to ask him anything? **East:** No sir

The coroner: What is East's Christian name? **East:** Daniel

Arthur Glenister, bricklayer, Berkhamstead, was next called.

The coroner: What have you to tell us about Saturday last?

Witness: about half-past three o'clock I was returning from Ashridge to Berkhamstead.

And in doing so, did you have to pass some wood? Yes, Pond Field Spring

Is there any road near there? A footpath not a public road.

Did you observe anything near the spring? A boy observed something in the wood.

Did anybody call your attention to something in the wood? Yes, the witness Harry Butterfield called my attention which was about eight to ten yards from the hedge.

Did you go to that something? I got on the hedge and saw a child's leg protruding

from under a shawl which was lying on the ground.

Did you go to that shawl? Yes

And what did you find the shawl covered? I put my hand on the child's leg and

said, 'This child is dead and cold and there has been murder.' I then lifted the shawl and saw the bodies of two children.

Were they both dead and cold? Yes

Did you move them to see if they were stiff or not? I did not touch them, only the youngest child's leg.

Did you observe any wounds about them? I saw that each of their throats were cut.

Did you replace the shawl? Yes

Did you wait there or come away? There were four of us: Henry Butterfield, George Draper, James Lee, and myself. We were returning from work.

Did Draper and Lee come on? I said, 'one of us had better stop' and Lee and Draper went on to Berkhamstead to give information and I remained within a short distance from the bodies.

Who was the next person who came up? The Northchurch policeman and the Ivinghoe sergeant: Brown and Bowden.

How long did you wait? About forty minutes or three quarters of an hour.

They took the bodies away in a cart they had? Yes

Do you know the person now present, Daniel East? Yes

Do you know anything about him? No

Did you observe anything peculiar about him? No

How long have you known him? For years

You never observed anything peculiar in his manner? I know that he has not been well for some time.

Do you know the nature of his illness? I do not sir

Nothing else you known about him? No

The Foreman: Can you tell us in what position the bodies lay? Were both their heads together? **Witness:** The head of one was a little towards the other's back.

Did you get over the hedge? There was a gap.

Mr. Slater: Did you observe any signs of a struggle? **Witness:** No, I saw blood lying about.

Mr. Prudames: Was the blood in the wood or before you got into the wood?

Witness: Close to where the bodies lay.

The coroner: Was there much blood? **Witness:** There was not a great quantity.

Was there any grass or leaves in the wood? There were a lot of leaves.

The coroner (to the prisoner): Do you want to ask him any questions. **East:** No.

Sergeant Bowden then said there was one other thing the prisoner said to him, and it was this 'The reason I give myself up is, I know the bodies would be found before I had another chance at Hadden.'

You did not ask him what that meant I suppose? **Witness:** No, I asked him no questions. Did he talk incoherently? No

Mr. Harris: What state was he in when he made that statement? **Witness:** He was perfectly sober, and he asked me to give him a glass of beer, as he felt fatigued.

Another Jurymen: Did he look wild when you were talking to him? **Witness:** No, I did not observe that he did.

Henry Butterfield, a lad, living at Gossom's End, Northchurch, was the next witness.

The coroner: Were you near this wood on Saturday afternoon? **Witness:** Yes About what time? About half past three.

Were you coming from Ashridge? Yes. I came with the masons. We all left work together.

Did you observe anything near Pond Fields Spring? Yes, I noticed it first. I saw something lying in the Spring, which I thought looked like a big dog.

Did you call Glenister's attention to it? Yes. I asked him what it was.

Did you go into the Spring with him? Yes

Did you see a shawl and a child's leg protruding from under it? Yes

He lifted the shawl? And then I saw two children.

Was there anything the matter with them? I saw that their throats were cut.

Did you know the children? No

Do you know Daniel East? Yes

Do you know anything peculiar about him? No

Have you known him intimately? Do you live near him? I do not live far off him.

Is that all you have to say? Yes

How old are you? Fifteen last Christmas.

Draper and Lee were with you coming from Ashridge? Yes

James Butters: I am a publican and shoemaker and keep the Crooked Billet.

The coroner: Do you know Daniel East? **Witness:** Yes, he lives at Berkhamstead, in St. John Well-lane, and is a hoop and racquet bat maker.

A Journeyman or a Masterman? He has been doing a little for himself, but he has worked for Mr. East for some years. I believe Mr. East is a relation of his.

Did you see the prisoner on Saturday? Yes, about ten o'clock.

Where were you? I was up in my place business, at the Crooked Billet. I had the window open, and saw him coming towards the Crooked Billet bridge, on the towing path of the canal.

Was anyone with him? He had two children one in his arm, and the other was walking.

Did you know the children? I cannot say I did from the distance I was, but I think they were his children.

What was the age of the one that was walking? About three years.

Had it hold of his hand? I cannot say, but it was walking close to his side.

Did you watch him any distance? No

In what direction was he walking? He was coming up towards the Crooked Billet bridge and in the direction of the Spring.

Was he walking fast? No leisurely, as a man would with a little child.

Do you know him intimately? I have known him for years. I knew no more about the affair till the doctor came and said that there were two children murdered somewhere here (that was, near my house) and he galloped off, and I ran after him.

Mr. Dennis, surgeon: *I said, 'supposed to be murdered'.*

The coroner: *What time was it? Witness:* *About a quarter-past four.*

Did you meet the cart with the bodies? Yes, and they were taken to my house.

Did you recognise them? I cannot say that I did.

Have you anything more to say? Yes, about two years ago I had a little conversation with East, for about four or five hours and I thought him very strange in his manner. He was then doing a little business on his own account.

How was he a little strange? I had an account against him, and I called upon him for it, and he said 'I am lost; I am done; I have no nerve to carry on my business'.

I said, 'Don't talk like that' and persuaded him to throw up his business. He promised he would go and see Mr. East. That was in March 1875. The prisoner was in straightened circumstances at that time and could not pay my account. He appeared very strange and low in his manner. He talked about making away with himself.

Do you know if he was a man of sober habits? I never heard of his giving way to drink. I daresay the man has had a little now and then, but he is not a drunken man.

A juryman: *have you talked with him lately? Witness:* *I was at the window one day last week and said to him 'Dan, how are you this morning?' and he replied, 'Sometimes better and sometimes worse'. I was a little engaged, or I should have asked him to have a glass of beer.*

He was not talking incoherently? Oh, no. He said to me once, pointing to the canal, 'That will be my bed someday'.

Another Juryman: *Did you notice whether the child he was carrying had a shawl on? Witness:* *I cannot say. The child was wrapped up in something, but whether it was a shawl, or what it was, I cannot say.*

You were nearly 150 yards away? Over 100

Ann Jones, *wife of Edward Jones coach smith, St John Well-Lane, Berkhamstead, said she and her husband lodged in the house of the prisoner.*

The coroner: *Has he a wife living with him? Yes*

And how many in the family? Three now; five he had.

Have you seen the children at the Crooked Billet? Yes, they were two of his children. The eldest, David, was three years, and the youngest, Frederick William was aged nine months.

What are the ages of his other children? Nine, eleven and thirteen.

Have you observed anything in his manner lately? Since when? Ever since I have been there six months.

What have you observed? He has been strange and incoherent.

All that time? Mostly

Did you notice anything particular in his manner last Monday? Only what his wife told me.

Did anything particular strike you during the week after Monday? No not more than usual. Only that he seemed ill all the week.

Did he go to work? No

Do you know what he was doing on the Friday? No

On Saturday? I saw him about ten minutes before he started off with the baby in the kitchen. He had deceased Frederick William in his arms.

Did you talk to him on that occasion? I asked him if the baby had been to sleep and he said, 'No I will take him for a walk and then he will sleep better.' I then returned upstairs and did not see any more of the prisoner that day.

When you saw Frederick William in his arms did you see David anywhere? No but I saw him a few minutes before, when he came up to my room.

Did you not see him go with his father? No

Did the prisoner live on good terms with his wife? Yes

Was there any quarrelling? No. She was uneasy on Saturday that he did not come back. The family was distressed and had no bread in the house till I gave them some.

Mr. Prudames: *Was he usually kind to his children? Yes, and seemed very much attached to them.*

Do you know whether he was a sober man? I have never seen him worse for drink since I have been there.

Do you know whether he applied for relief of late, or at any time in your knowledge? No

The coroner: *Have they had parish relief at all? I know that they had some whilst he was in the Infirmary.*

The Foreman: *Has he ever threatened anyone? No*

A Juryman: *Did you ever hear him talk wildly? Yes*

Have you ever known the house without bread previously to last Saturday? Yes, on about three occasions.

Did his wife earn anything? No

Do you know what wages he received? No

Did he ever have any conversation with your husband about their earnings? I never heard.

A Juryman: *Have any of the children earned any money, do you know? The eldest boy is earning 3s. a week now, but he was for a long time without anything. He is now employed in London.*

Another Juryman: Are you positive about the 3s.? Yes, with his living.

Inspector Goodyear: Do you know any reason why they were without bread last Saturday? No

Robert Goodyear, inspector of police, stationed at Berkhamstead, deposed: From what James Lee told me last Saturday afternoon, about four o'clock, I went up to Billet-lane, towards Pond meadow, and met the bodies of two children being brought in a cart by Sergeant Bowden and Police constable Brown. I took charge of the bodies and had them locked up in a room at the Crooked Billet. Ann Jones saw the children in the presence of Sergeant Bowden.

The coroner: Did you go to Ivinghoe? Yes, and saw the prisoner brought into the kitchen of the police-station.

Was anything said? I don't think we said anything just then. I and Bowden examined his clothes, and I noticed that his left hand had blood upon it.

What part of it? On the back, towards the little finger. He asked to be allowed to wash his hands, but we said there was no time then, and we would get on. I also saw blood on his right sleeve of his coat.

A Juryman: The other witness said it was on the left.

Witness: (holding up prisoner's coat): Here is some on the left, but it was also on the right and on both legs of his trousers. We conveyed him by rail to Berkhamstead and just before we put him into the cell, he said 'I should not have cared if they had cut me into a thousand pieces if I had got at Hadden.'

Prisoner: I did not, Mr. Goodyear. I have not said a bad word since I have been in your custody.

Witness: Yes, he used those words.

The coroner: Did he say anything after that? **Witness:** He asked for something to drink. I ascertained the names of the children and I then said 'You are charged with the wilful murder of your sons David and Frederick William.'

Did he say anything in reply? He said, 'All right.'

Were they the words he used? That was the only remark he made then, but yesterday he was going to make a statement and I told him not to say anything, but what he had to say was better said before the jury.

Final unhappy installment in the next issue...

Recruitment Poster

Please don't forget to find places such as libraries, Community Centres, Record Centres or local archives to display the East FHS poster kindly produced by Dorothy Morgan and her husband – it is designed to encourage new members.

The ancestors of William and Richard East of East Garafraxa, Ontario

by H André East of Canada, October 14, 2023

Pamela Appleton Ames is a descendant of William East and Margaret Gear, and Gloria Onstad, of Richard East and Nancy Hannah.

The following information has been given to me by Gloria Onstad.

No record has been found of the marriage of William East and Margaret Gear. William East's death certificate mentions that he was born in England in May 1824. The name of his parents is given as John East and Mary Clemings, both born in England.

DEATHS	
County of (2) <i>Dufferin</i>	Division of (1) <i>East</i>
Full Name of Deceased <i>Shine George</i> Sex and Race <i>male, white</i> Date of Death <i>January 17, 1912</i> Date of Birth <i>August 6, 1853</i> Age and Place of Birth <i>59 years, Rutlish Township, Grand Valley</i> Occupation <i>stone mason</i> Single, Widowed, or Divorced <i>married</i> Full Name of Father <i>Thomas Shime</i> Birthplace of Father <i>Scotland</i> Maiden Name of Mother <i>Jean Mair</i> Birthplace of Mother <i>Scotland</i> Name of Physician who Attended Deceased <i>Dr. Campbell</i> Address <i>Thomas Shime, Grand Valley</i> Date <i>Jan 18 1912</i>	Full Name of Deceased <i>East William</i> Sex and Race <i>male, white</i> Date of Death <i>January 16, 1912</i> Date of Birth <i>May, 1824</i> Age and Place of Birth <i>87 years, England, Grand Valley</i> Occupation <i>retired farmer</i> Single, Widowed, or Divorced <i>married</i> Full Name of Father <i>John East</i> Birthplace of Father <i>England</i> Maiden Name of Mother <i>Mary Clemings</i> Birthplace of Mother <i>England</i> Name of Physician who Attended Deceased <i>M. W. Berwick</i> Address <i>Thomas Shime, Grand Valley</i> Date <i>Jan 19 1912</i>
Medical Certificate of Death. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased. Name <i>George Shine</i> From <i>January 15 1912</i> To <i>January 16 1912</i> That I last saw him <i>Saturday January 13 1912</i> That the Death occurred on <i>January 17 1912</i> CAUSE OF DEATH Primary <i>gun shot wound</i> Duration <i>acute anaemia</i> Termination <i>30 minutes</i> Physician's name <i>M. W. Berwick</i> Address <i>care of John East, Grand Valley</i> Date <i>Jan 18 1912</i> Remarks	Medical Certificate of Death. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased. Name <i>William East</i> From <i>January 15 1912</i> To <i>January 16 1912</i> That I last saw him <i>January 16 1912</i> That the Death occurred on <i>January 16 1912</i> CAUSE OF DEATH Primary <i>influenza</i> Duration <i>three days</i> Termination <i>cedema of lungs</i> Physician's name <i>M. W. Berwick</i> Address <i>Grand Valley</i> Date <i>Jan 17 1912</i> Remarks

Richard East and Nancy Hannah were married on December 1st, 1869, in Wellington, Ontario. (Ontario, County Marriage Registers, 1858-1869 Wellington 1858-1868, vol. 79, image 34 of 232). According to this marriage record, Richard East is a son of Samuel East and Jane. He was 24 years old and born in England. Nancy Hannah was born in Erin, Ontario, to John Hannah and Eliza.

William East death, 1912

BRIDE/GROOM.					BRIDE.			WITNESS.			DATE OF
NAME	Age	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAMES OF PARENTS	NAME	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF BIRTH	NAMES OF PARENTS	NAME	RESIDENCE	MARRIAGE
Richard McEwen 183	30	Erin	Ireland	Patrick and Jane	Samuel East 24	Erin	Ireland	Samuel and Jane	John East	Erin	Oct 12, 1869
Elizabeth Smith 182	30	Erin	England	Thomas and Mary	Nancy Hannah 24	Erin	Erin	William and Jane	John East	Erin	Oct 12, 1869
John Smith 180	30	Erin	Ireland	Thomas and Mary	Samuel East 24	Erin	Ireland	Samuel and Jane	John East	Erin	Oct 12, 1869
John Smith 180	30	Erin	Ireland	Thomas and Mary	Samuel East 24	Erin	Ireland	Samuel and Jane	John East	Erin	Oct 12, 1869
Richard East 184	24	Erin	England	Samuel and Jane	Nancy Hannah 24	Erin	Erin	William and Jane	John East	Erin	Oct 12, 1869

Richard East marriage, 1869

Richard East was killed on July 9th, 1870, during a cyclone when the barn roof fell on him as he was attempting to drive a team of horses into shelter. Six years later, on November 19, 1879, Nancy Hannah married William Allen. The record

of their marriage is in the Dufferin County Archives, in a file titled «*Mann Family History*». This record indicates that Nancy Hannah was born on June 1st, 1843, in Gainsborough Township, Lincoln County, Ontario, to William H. and Susannah Hannah.

The 1851 census and a search in cemetery records reveal that the name of Nancy's mother was more likely Rosannah, the name she gave to her first daughter.

In the records of the 1851 census of Gainsborough Tp, Lincoln County, we find:

William Hannah, 36, born Ireland, farmer, E. Methodist	
Rosannah Hannah, 36, born Ireland	
Robert, 15	Nancy, 8
Catharine, 14	William, 6
James, 12	Elizabeth, 4
Thomas, 10	

In the Price's Corners Cemetery, East Garafraxa Township, Ontario, on a gravestone, we read that William Hannah died on April 1st, 1887, aged 76, and his wife Rosannah, on October 1st 1887, aged 76 years. Beside them, in the next plot, is buried Sarah J. East, wife of George Barnes who died on June 4, 1887, aged 24 years. It is known from her marriage record that Sarah J. East-Barnes is the daughter of Richard East and Nancy Hannah and so it is fairly certain that the William and Rosannah Hannah, buried beside her, are her grandparents, the parents of Nancy Hannah.

If, in the marriage record of Richard East and Nancy Hannah, an error was made in transcribing the names of the parents of Nancy Hannah, it is reasonable to assume that probably an error was also made in transcribing the names of Richard East's parents.

In the summer of 2006, Pamela's mother handed her a letter written on July 24, 1938, by her grandmother Ellen East King to her sister Adeline East Watson. Ellen and Adeline East are daughters of William East and Margaret Gear. This letter did not contain direct information about the identity of her father William, but one line reveals important information: «*He (William) has only 2 sisters one Mrs. John Harris 'Sarah' and 'Mary' the other one but died with decline when she was 18*». The letter also listed three brothers named John, Richard, and a Thomas who had died quite young from burns.

Pamela obtained a copy of the marriage certificate of a Sarah East married to a John Harris from the General Register Office of England in Buckingham. This marriage certificate, entry No. 497, reads: «*Sarah East - 22 - spinster - residence: Buckingham - father: John East, labourer; married 5 Aug 1855 at parish church in Buckingham, Buckinghamshire*».

Pamela then searched the 1841 census of Buckingham, Buckinghamshire. She found the family of a John and Mary East having children bearing the names of William, John, Richard and Thomas, and Sarah. At the time of the 1851 census, William, John, Richard had left this family. According to these censuses, the

father and the children were born in Buckingham and the mother, in Adderbury, Oxfordshire. John East, the father, was born around 1794, Mary, the mother, around 1797. This family could be the one she was looking for.

During a trip to England, Pamela stopped at the records office in Aylesbury where she searched the registers of the Buckingham parish St. Peter and St. Paul. The details of her findings are given in the document « JOHN EAST AND MARY CLEMENGER» by Pamela Appleton Ames. [**Editor:** *To be included in the next Issue*]

In these registers, she found that John East and Mary Clemenger were married on October 17, 1819. She also found the following baptism records of children born to John and Mary East:

Thomas East, baptised 26 July 1820; buried 28 Jan 1825 (burnt to death)

John East, baptised 22 Apr 1822

William East, baptised 13 June 1824

Mary East, baptised 10 Feb 1826

Thomas East, baptised 4 Aug 1829; bur. 5 Dec 1830 (no cause given)

Richard East, baptised 10 Feb 1831

Sarah East, baptised 10 Mar 1834

Thomas East, baptised 23 Nov 1835

The first record shows that one of their children named Thomas had died young “*burn to death*” just as the information given on a document found in the family papers in Canada. The above information confirms that this John East and Mary Clemenger are the father and mother of William and Richard East who emigrated to Canada.

In the register transcripts of the St Mary parish of Adderbury, Oxfordshire, we find that Mary Clemenger, daughter of William and Mary Clemenger, was baptised on January 1st 1794. (Oxfordshire Family History Society, Parish register transcripts CD no. OXF-BAN02). These registers also have recorded the banns of marriage of William Clemenger of Adderbury and Mary Sheler of Deddington published on 20 and 27 November and 4 December 1785. These registers have records concerning a number of East individuals. But none of them could be John East, Mary Clemenger’s husband, nor his father. The marriage of William Clemenger and Mary Sheler is recorded in the registers of the parish of St Peter and St Paul of Deddington; on December 5, 1785: «*William Clemenger of Adderbury, Oxon, Mary Sheller (Sheeler on the banns) of this parish*». (Oxfordshire FHS, Parish register transcripts CD no. OXF-WOD02).

James Henry East is a descendant of Richard East. He had his Y chromosome DNA tested and has a 37/37 match with that of H. André East. (Points East, Spring 2007, page 12). They therefore share common ancestors.

Pamela Appleton Ames also found in the same parish registers of St. Peter and St. Paul, Buckingham:

- the burial record of Mary East, at the age of 18 years, daughter of John East and Mary Clemenger.

- the burial record of Mary Clemenger on November 22, 1865, at age 79
 - the burial of John East on November 9, 1869, at age 78
- Pamela made further research in the parish registers of St Peter and St Paul of Buckingham. She did not publish the results of them.

She found that John East was baptised there on January 25th, 1793, and that he is the son of William East and of Mary, his wife. She also found the baptism record of the following children of William East and Mary:

William East, baptised on June 5th, 1785, marked P

According to the Buckingham 1841 census, he was then married to Mary and they had no child. George Steel, 5 years old, born in 1836, was living with them.

The Buckingham 1851 census, reports that he was agricultural labourer.

His wife Mary is said to be 49 years old. (1851 England Census, Buckingham Registration District, Leckhamstead Sub District. John East household, household #117, Page 22).

Their nephew George Steel, 17 years old, and their niece Sarah Steel, 6 years old, were living with them. They are the children of Elizabeth East, William's sister, and wife of John Steele.

According to the Buckingham 1861 census, his wife was then deceased, and he was living with his brother John.

Thomas East, baptised on October 16th, 1787, in Buckingham, marked P

Did he survive?

Elizabeth East, baptised on July 18th, 1790

She married John Steele.

Their son George was baptised on August 15, 1836, in Leckhamstead, Buckinghamshire.

Their daughter Sarah was born during the first trimester of 1845 in Buckingham. She married George Cheshire on January 9, 1865, in Lacy-Green, Buckinghamshire.

Their daughter Elizabeth, born in 1849, married on March 10, 1872, in Wing, Buckinghamshire, to Philip Parslow. Her marriage record gives the name of her father.

John East, baptised on January 25th, 1793

He married Mary Clemenger on October 17, 1819.

Hannah East, baptised on May 20th, 1798

She married William Coles on August 9th, 1819.

Mary East, baptised on May 6th 1800

A Mary East was buried in Buckingham on June 24, 1818. It may be her burial or that of her mother, or of some other Mary East.

The Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus made in February 1798 has been edited by Ian F. W. Buckett and published in 1985 by the Buckinghamshire Record Society under no. 22. It is a return of "*all able-bodied men*" living in Buckinghamshire, aged between 15 and 60 years, who would be available to take arms, and who were not already in the army. It also lists those who could provide horse and carts. According to this census, at that time, there was only one man by the name of East living in the Borough of Buckingham, William, labourer. In the Three Hundreds of Buckingham, there was no William East. We can therefore confirm that the William East mentioned in this Posse Comitatus as living in the Borough of Buckingham in February 1798 is certainly the husband of Mary, the couple who had a daughter named Hannah baptised there on May 20th 1798.

This William East and his wife Mary were living in Buckingham from 1785 to at least 1800. They are ancestors of James Henry East of Alberta who shares ancestors with H. André East according to the result of their Y chromosome DNA tests. We can conclude that this William East is a descendant of our common ancestors.

In the Buckingham parish registers, Pamela did not find the marriage record of this William East to Mary. They were married in 1784 or before. They were poor as noted on the baptism record of their sons William and Thomas.

They might be the William East and the Mary Bedford who were married in Twyford, Buckinghamshire, on September 20th, 1784. Twyford is about 7 miles east of Buckingham. These parish records are not available on internet and could not be searched. But according to *The International Genealogical Index*, the Mormons database, there seems to be no other mention of William East and of Mary Bedford in the Twyford parish registers. But this should be verified.

I have traced my family tree back to Jonathan East married to Elizabeth who settled in Church Enstone, Oxfordshire, around 1710 as their son Thomas was born there on the 28th of October, 1710. We do not know where they came from, where they were married and where they were born. Before this date, their names are not mentioned in the parish registers of Enstone nor in those of the surrounding parishes. It seems that all of their children were born in Enstone. On the 14th of March 1729, two Judges of Peace issued a removal order to the authorities of Church Enstone. In this document, the judges stated that Jonathan East and his family were "*likely to become chargeable and that their last legal place of settlement was at Neithrop in the parish of Banbury in the county of Oxon*". Consequently, in the name of His Majesty, they ordered to the Enstone churchwardens to relocate Jonathan East and his family to Neithrop, in the parish of Banbury.

Children of Jonathan and Elizabeth East:

- Thomas, born 28 Oct. 1710 and bap. 29 Oct 1710, Enstone
- Jonathan, born 23 Nov. 1712 and bap. 30 Nov 1712, Enstone
- Giles, born 1715
- Elizabeth, bap. 17 Jun 1717, Enstone
- Mary, bap. 17 Apr 1720, Enstone

Edward, bap. 17 June 1723, Enstone

Ann, bap. 8 Aug 1725, Enstone

Hannah, bap. 26 Nov 1727, Enstone

The removal order of March 1729 lists all above children except Thomas and Jonathan. It is possible that Jonathan and Elizabeth had other children born after 1729. The baptism, marriage and burial registers of the parish of Banbury for the period of 1558 to 1812 were searched as well as the records of the neighbouring parishes. No trace of Jonathan East and of his children has been found. Assuming that, in 1710, Elizabeth was 20 years old when her son Thomas was born, she would have been 40 years old in 1730. It is likely that she did not have any other child.

Four sons are known to Jonathan and Elizabeth East: Thomas, Jonathan, Giles and Edward.

Thomas East, the eldest son of Jonathan of Enstone, had from Mary Green three sons, William, Thomas and John, born respectively in 1736, 1737 and 1741. The first two were born in Spelsbury, Oxfordshire, and the last one in Enstone. I do not know where this family went after the death of Mary Green on June 5th, 1753. No trace of them has been found in Enstone nor in the surrounding villages. In 1784, these sons were respectively 48, 47 and 43 years old. In 1798, William, the eldest son, was 62 years old. He was older than the 60 years limit to be listed in the Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798 census. Therefore, he is not the William East mentioned in this census and consequently he is not the father of John East, Mary Clemenger's husband. Although this William or one of his brothers could be the grandfather of this John East, it is however very unlikely because of their age in 1784.

Jonathan, son of Jonathan of Enstone, married Elizabeth Lathbury. Their only son, Edward, lived only one year. He was born on January 2nd, 1742, in Weston-on-the-Green, Oxfordshire, and buried there on February 14th 1743, infant.

Giles East, son of Jonathan of Enstone, married Mary Bennet. They had two sons, Giles and Thomas. Giles married Esther Stow who gave him only one son, William, born in 1777 in Chadlington, Oxfordshire. Considering his age in 1784, he cannot be John East's father. Thomas, Giles' brother, was born in 1756 and he married Elizabeth Merriweather in 1786. He is the father of Charles East, my great-grand-father. He is certainly not an ancestor of John East, Mary Clemenger's husband.

Edward East, the youngest son of Jonathan East of Enstone, was baptised on June 17th, 1723. He might be the one who married Ann Willis in East Claydon, Buckinghamshire, on December 9th, 1751. The marriage record mentions that he was from Buckingham. They seemed to have spent their life in Soulbury, Buckinghamshire.

Children of Edward East and of Ann Willis:

Jonathan, b. 18 August 1753, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

s. 28 August 1753, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

William, b. 25 May 1758, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

Mary, b. April 1763, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

s. 8 April 1763, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

Elizabeth, born April 1763, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

s. 8 April 1763, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire

Ann Willis died in Soulbury and was buried there with her two daughters on April 8th, 1763. It seems that Edward East did not remarry. He was buried in Soulbury on September 13th, 1792.

No trace has been found of their son William in the parish registers of Soulbury. He seems to have survived.

There was no man by the name of East living in Soulbury at the time of the Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798 census. William, son of Edward East and Ann Willis, was then either dead or living in another place. If he was living, he might be the father of the East children baptised in Buckingham during the period of 1785 to 1800 and the father of John East, Mary Clemenger's husband. He was 26 years old in 1784. Buckingham is only 17 miles south of Soulbury.

This William might also very well be the one who married Mary Bedford. There was no man by the name of East aged between 15 and 60 years living in Twyford, Buckinghamshire at the time of the Buckinghamshire Posse Comitatus 1798 census. However, there were Richard and William Bedford, labourers.

If William East, the father of John East, Mary Clemenger's husband, is not the son of Edward East, son of Jonathan East of Enstone, we must conclude that he is not a descendant of Jonathan East of Enstone. Consequently, the most recent ancestor common to James Henry East of Alberta, Canada, and to me lived before Jonathan East of Enstone.

It would be interesting to know if the parish registers of Soulbury have records that may concern this William East or his father.

The parish registers of St Peter and St Paul of Buckingham might have not revealed all the information they have on the family of William East and Mary and on their children.

The parish registers of Twyford may have an answer to some questions concerning William East and Mary Bedford who were married in Twyford on September 20, 1784.

1. Are there any records concerning children born to William East and Mary (Bedford) between 1783 and 1788?
2. Was a Mary Bedford born in this parish during the period of interest (1758 to 1765)?

William Bedford and his wife Elizabeth had children baptised in Twyford at least from 1759 to 1765.

3. Was a William East born in this parish during the period of interest (1758 to 1765)?

Robert East 1741-1794

By Pam Pearce

I have always been intrigued by my 4 x great Grandfather ROBERT EAST, partly because he was a man with practical skills, because I had wondered for a long time where MY practical skills in stringed instrument making came from. My father HAROLD EAST was totally impractical, so it didn't come from him, and on my mother's side they were mainly agricultural workers and servants to the Gentry.

ROBERT EAST was baptised in Amersham, Bucks on 20 December 1741, probably the 6th or 7th child of WILLIAM EAST and REBECCA DEVILL. William and Rebecca were married by licence on 23rd June 1733 at Little Missenden church, Bucks. There were probably several children, who had died in infancy, born before Robert. His older siblings were HANNAH EAST b. 1733/4, WILLIAM EAST b.1734/5, THOMAS EAST b. 1738, JAMES EAST b. 1739, and then ROBERT b. 1741, all born in Amersham. Five sisters were born after him.

William East was a prosperous farmer who, when he died, had a substantial farm in Bovingdon, just over the county border with Chesham, in Hertfordshire, and left a very interesting Will, naming all his children, including those who had died in adulthood.

I first discovered Robert when I was researching my East family history in Amersham and Chesham, and at the Buckinghamshire Record Office, where I discovered his name on the Bucks Poll for 1784, where his occupation was given as a Glover. The original document in the Record Office showed his signature. Being in the Bucks Poll book meant that he was eligible to vote, and the qualification to be able to vote was the ownership of freehold land worth 40 shillings a year, by men aged 21 and over. No women were allowed to vote. Freeholders, prior to the introduction of the secret ballot in 1872, had to attend elections in person and verbally state their preference for whom they were voting. Their vote was shouted out and their names called out as they voted. It was not secret, and at times, as I have read, could be very embarrassing.

Robert owned his own house in Chesham, which the Poll Book states was where he lived himself.

UK Poll Books and Electoral
Registers, 1538-1893
Ancestry.co.uk

BURNHAM HUNDRED.						
Freeholders Names.	Places of Abode.	What Freeholds confists of.	Occupiers.	Verney.	Grenville.	Aubrey.
Creed Thomas	Chesham Town	H. and G.	Himself, &c.			
Dell William	Tring	Land	Halfey Thomas			
Dennett John	Ilkington	Houses	Herbert Wm.			
Duncombe William	North Church	Land	Higgs, W. &c.			
Dwight Thomas	Chesham	Houses	Himself			
Dymock John	Erlesey, Bedf.	Houses	Climson J. &c.			
East Robert	Chesham	House	Himself			
Edwards John	Chesham	Houses	Himself			
Eyre John	Christ's Hospital	Woodl.	Himself			
Evans John	Warford	H. and G.	Brandon Edw.			

[We have made several visits to the places mentioned in this article and despite many tries we have never been able to locate the places where they lived. Unfortunately, William did not say in his Will what the name of the farm was in Bovingdon.]

This information made me want to find out more.

When he was 12 years old, Robert was apprenticed to Thomas Batchelor in Chesham, as a glover, in 1753, at a cost of £10 to his father. He later became a breeches maker, both being part of the leather trade.

Warr: 7. 4th of Indentures / 11. / came 2^d March. 1754.

Aug 1. 1753	1. Tho ^t Batchelor of Chesham Bucks Glover &c / Robert East	21 July 1753
2	2. Tho ^t Higgins of Denfanger Cadw ^t / Major Leithorpe	10
	3. John Trechell of Brackley Bagier / Charles Daniel	11
22	4. John Cook of Chesham Bosclopier / Joseph Cluydon	5
Oct 2	5. Rob ^t Willard Leighton (Bp ^r) Baker / James Willard	13 Aug ^t
17	6. W ^m Elbridge Chesham Bucks D ^y / John Dadder	18 Oct ^r
27	7. W ^m Smith Bl ^l Stone Cordw ^r / Tho ^t Hodges	15
Nov 15	8. W ^m Stone of Honey Sta ^r ford Cooper / Tho ^t Coar	10 Nov ^r
Jan 10	9. Tho ^t Bishop of Donington Weaver / Tho ^t Hughes	29 Dec ^r
14	10. Tho ^t Whitton of Heath Allen Butcher / W ^m Ingram	1. Dec ^r
15	11. W ^m Bayment of Same Cordw ^r / Benja ^t Bates	13 Oct ^r

UK Register of Duties Paid for Apprentices' Indentures, 1710-1811 Ancestry.co.uk

On March 4, 1761, at Haddenham, Bucks, Robert took on an apprentice glover of his own, whose name was WILLIAM EAST. This William may have been a distant relation; I have yet to make the connection.

He was married, aged 24, on 24 October 1766 in Chesham, by licence, to ROSE PRIEST of Chesham Bois. He was still living in Amersham.

24th October 1766.

On which day appeared personally Robert East of the parish of Amersham in the Archdeaconry of Bucks and Diocese of Lincoln, breeches maker, and being first sworn upon the Holy Evangelists alleged and made oath as follows that he is a bachelor aged twenty- four years and upwards and intends to marry with Rose Priest of Chesham in the Archdeaconry of Bucks and Diocese of Lincoln aforesaid spinster aged twenty-one years and upwards not knowing or believing any lawful let or impediment to hinder the said intended marriage and further made oath that he hath had his usual abode for four weeks last past in the parish of Amersham aforesaid and that she the said Rose Priest hath also had her usual abode for four weeks last past in the parish of Chesham aforesaid and therefore he prayed Licence to solemnise the said marriage in either the parish church of Amersham aforesaid or Chesham-----

Sworn to the truth of the above

Witnessed before me

Robert East

John Stevens Snr

Nine pence

P Hundred

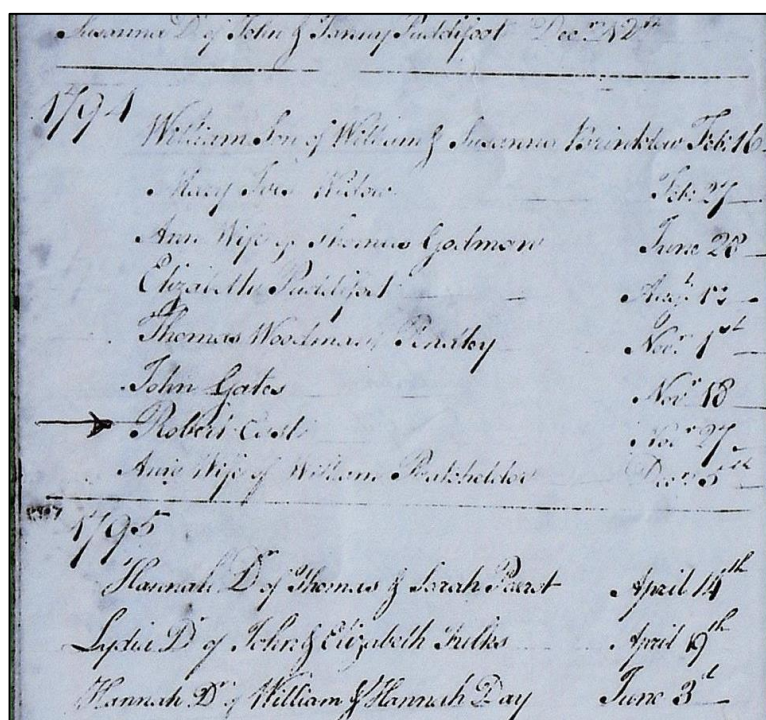
Second Marriage Licence for Robert East and Rose Priest

They eventually set up home in Chesham Bois and they had at least 7 children, the youngest and last of whom was JESSE EAST, born 1778 in Chesham, who was my 3 x Great Grandfather, born when Rose was 45. Rose died in 1784 in Chesham.

On 2 October 1786 Robert married again in Aldbury, Herts, to LOUISE ELLIOTT [Known as Louie or Love], who was a widow with three daughters. In his Will, William, Robert's father, left money not only to Robert's children by Rose, but also to the three daughters of his second wife, by her first marriage, which must have meant that he cared for them like his own grandchildren.

William East died on 26 February 1793 in Amersham and left an extensive Will and two codicils. In 1792, he had sold the farm to a nearby neighbour in Bovingdon for £1250, which today would be about £230,000.

Robert died in 1794, just a year after his father, and was buried at Aldbury, Herts on the 27 November. Unfortunately, he appears not to have left a Will. All Robert's children were well provided for under the terms of his father's Will, so it may not have been necessary for him to make a written Will himself.



Burials 1793-1797

Amersham;
William East -- Gardener
Amersham Franchise;
Henry East -- Miller.
Chesham;
William East -- Cordwainer.
William East -- Baker.
Jesse East -- Carpenter.
Ashley Green;
John East -- Cordwainer.
Thomas East -- Cordwainer.

His youngest son, my 3 x Great Grandfather Jesse East was a carpenter. He is listed, with others with the name East in Amersham, Chesham, and Ashley Green, and other villages, in the Buckinghamshire "Posse Comitatus". This was drawn up by the Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, on 16 February 1798, as a survey of men between 15 and 60, who were not in any other military capacity, as part of the preparations for defending England from an invasion by Napoleon from France. Listed as well are all the draught horses, waggons and carts that might be needed. He is shown in Chesham as a Carpenter.

The Posse Comitatus for Buckinghamshire, dated 16 Feb 1798

Some of Jesse's children became Master Carpenters, eventually moving into London to find work in the mid-1800's.

Robert passed on his practical skills to his children and grandchildren. Perhaps they are the ones from whom I get my love of wood and have inspired me to be creative in making stringed instruments.

A Donation of Certificates

by Angela Waterfall, Research Manager

Jane Hepworth has kindly donated the following certificates to add to our growing collection:

Certificate of Stillborn child (February 1953)

Jane was eight years old when her sister was stillborn, a tragic event for the whole family. As a keen genealogist, she searched for a copy of her sister's birth and death and has shared this certificate with us.

The name that her sister would have been called (Shelagh Moira) is now recorded on our Big Tree.

The General Register Office for England and Wales holds a closed register for stillbirths from 1927 to date. This is neither searchable nor digitized, but applications can be received from parents and siblings only by phone or by writing. (General Register Office PO Box 2, Southport, Merseyside 03001231837). The National Records Office for Scotland has a similar register from 1939 and General Register Office of Northern Ireland has been keeping records since 1961.

Anguline Research Archives produce digital records for family historians and have a downloadable database called Historic Stillbirth Register (1551-2005).

Birth Certificates

John East (1845-)

This certificate has been attached to our Big Tree. The earliest known member of this family is Samuel East who married Sarah Parr in 1809. The family come from Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Albert George East (1906 -)

We do not have a family tree for this man. His parents are recorded as William East (coal carman) and Mary Ann East nee Brown. They lived in Plumstead. Searching Census information, William was a gas works stoker in Woolwich in 1939.

Marriage Certificate

James East and Jane Izant Bullerwell (m.1849)

There is no family tree for James. Looking through Census Data, he and Jane had the following children – James George (1850), Jane (1852), Margaret Ann (1854), Frederick Edward (1856), Eliza (1858), George Augustus (1860), Arthur (1863), Edwin (1865), Joshua (1867), Alfred (1869), Alice (1870).

I may have found his father, Samuel, on both the 1841 and 1851 Census. If it is him, then he was born in Lavenham, Suffolk in 1790 and married Harriet Hales in 1809. In 1851 he was in a debtors' prison in White Crop Street London.

Death Certificates

John East (1828-1911)

I found 1851 Census information for John and his parents. His father, John, was a retired papermaker from Wooburn, Bucks. From his father's birthdate, I found John senior on the Big Tree. He was the son of William East, also a paper maker. The certificate has been added to the tree.

John East (1783-1847)

There is no family tree for John. The 1841 Census suggests that he was born overseas. There are two children named – Edward (1815), a watchcase maker and Mary (1818). In 1847, Mary married George Rudland, a book binder. John's son, Edward became blind and in 1881 he lived in the Clock and Watchmaker's asylum in East Barnet. This had been purposely built to accommodate infirm people who had been in the watchmaking trade. Not only did they get accommodation, but they also got a pension of £20 per year (Information from Herts Memories).

William East ((1815-1900)

William is part of a well-documented family from Lincolnshire. The certificate has been added to the Big Tree.

If you have any more information about these families, please let me know.

If anyone wants to contribute certificates to EFHS, then I am always happy to receive them. Adding to our archives enhances the records that we can use to help people with their research.

Local Research Assistants

We know that it can be difficult to get to record offices if you work during the day or don't live close to the office you need to visit; therefore, some of our members have offered to make visits to record offices to assist those who cannot go themselves. Please see the East FHS website, www.eastfhs.com, for contact details of Local Research Assistants, Peter and Pam, for their help with your research.

Alternatively, members might like the chance to accompany another member at a records office so that they have support to do their own research. If you are interested in this approach, please contact Angela, our research manager and look out for 'Easts Ramblings'!

Larry D. Duke, ‘Estes Trails’

I have again received the latest issues of the newsletter of the Estes family called ‘Estes Trails’, via email, for March to Sept ‘24. It is usual for us to exchange electronic (pdf) copies of our respective journals with the Estes Family Society in America. It is published 4 times a year.

The March issue includes American Immigrant Estes families with some delightful first names such as ‘Loving’, ‘Buddy’, ‘Kansas’, ‘Virgil’, ‘Pearl’, ‘Mamie’, ‘Xylene’, ‘Thadeous’, ‘Claudius’, ‘Nannie’, ‘Sylvenus’, ‘Nicey’, ‘Littleberry’, ‘Perennial’ and ‘Triplett’!

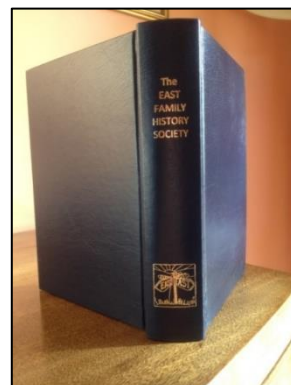
The June issue has its own great names, identifying Estes siblings ‘Doctor’, ‘Lovie’ & ‘Dovie’ and also mentions two articles from the KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Journal – 1) a new online database for English Civil War Memorials, launched at the National Civil War Centre at Newark, Notts, in October 2023 and 2) the sale (via their website) of digitised copies of all published KFHS CD Roms including Parish Records transcripts. There was a reference to our journal and also a plea from Shelagh Mason of the KFHS who wrote *‘Are we [Kent Family History Society] the only ones that have an increasingly elderly membership? Are we the only ones facing the likelihood that people believe that they can do all their family history online? Are we the only ones facing a poor level of volunteering - and most of that from elderly members? I suspect not. Quite how we remedy this in our 50th anniversary year is a bit beyond me - all I can do is carry on ‘doing what I’m doing’ - transcribing documents for members free of charge (except where I’ve had costs); and, when I get 5 minutes, catching up with transcribing early parish registers - and I will keep doing this regardless’.*

The September issue includes information on Family History DNA from a book by Roberta Estes, which covers Y-DNA, Mitochondrial DNA, Autosomal, and X-DNA tests and results. The book is 247 pages in soft-cover and is broken down into 11 chapters. She begins with the three tests mentioned above and the X-DNA results, and points out that your DNA is kept for 25 years. Chapter 3 is 70 pages devoted to the Y-DNA test, your paternal line’s story, where she covers every possible question that might come up. Another long chapter covers the mitochondrial test, the direct female ancestry - your mother’s mother’s ancestry. The more universally familiar autosomal DNA test and all the options there follows with many useful tidbits on how to use these results. The final chapters cover the X-Chromosome and features of FamilyTreeDNA.com. The book is available from the Genealogical Publishing Co. of Baltimore (genealogical.com) for \$37.50 soft-cover, and \$24.95 in the e-book edition.

Could all EFHS members pass on any Estes (or variants) references that you find to a committee member, so that we may pass them back to Larry for his information.

Binders for Points East journals

These blue Cordex binders are capable of holding 12 copies of Points East, with the spine blocked in gold with the Society's name and logo. Each comes in its own 'large letter' postal box. Please let Gillian (Committee member) know if you might be interested in buying one or more binders; there are only a few left. The cost for one binder (including increased postage) is now £8. The cost for two binders (including postage together) is £15. Cheques to be sent to treasurer John (at his address on the inside front cover) made payable to the 'East Family History Society'.



Next Time in Points East....

H Andre East's remaining article on John East & Mary Clemenger by non-member Pamela Appleton Ames (with her kind permission) has again been held over to the next issue. The final sad chapter of Dorothy's 'Double Murder' story will also be included to conclude the inquest and aftermath.

I have requested permission to include an article 'A History of Big4 Easts Beach Holiday Park', subtitled 'From Cows to caravans, BIG4 Easts Beach Holiday Park has come a long way...'. The website article contains lots of lovely family pictures of the descendants of the Thomas & Elizabeth East who emigrated to Kiama, South East Australia in 1841. As I will be visiting my distant cousins there in November, I will prompt them for a reply!

Please consider some tasks to do if you get stuck with your own tree, such as visiting a local or further afield personal history site or investigating any DNA matches! I look forward to an article from you, and any associated pictures or trees, for the next journal.

Returning Member

166	Ms Sue Crane	Uxbridge, Middlesex
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~ Please keep sending in your copies of Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates ~

Points East

To achieve production and distribution of the journal to members on the dates proposed: **All contributions need to be received by the 1st February for the Spring edition and 1st August for the Autumn edition.**

Distribution of copies to members will take place around 1st March and 1st September.

Please keep sending in your articles for publication but do bear in mind copyright law. We cannot publish any picture or writing that is copyright without permission. Send us family pictures, research successes, tree excerpts, bits of found information or family stories that will give variety to Points East. Large or small items - all are welcome. If you have any suggestions to improve it, please do let us know. Material will be held over for a future issue, or included on the website, if it cannot be included in the current one.

Annual Subscription Renewal

At the 2023 AGM, the annual subscription charge increase from £10 to £15 was voted upon and agreed unanimously. The withdrawal of the option of a reduced 3-year subscription was also agreed. The new rate is effective for existing members from the renewal date of May 1st 2024. Existing 3-year memberships will of course be honoured, and the new rate will only become effective when those renewals are due. Members who have set up Standing Orders, please update your account with the new amount. New members joining will pay the new rate immediately.

You will receive a reminder each year in mid April which will include information on how to pay.

If you have any questions regarding membership, please email a committee member at one of the addresses on the inside front cover.

Although subscriptions can cover a member and nominated partner, only one copy of the newsletter will be provided per full member.

UK Residents and Overseas application forms are available to download from the East FHS website:

~ **www.eastfhs.com** ~

Payment should be made by either bank transfer (preferred):

Bank: The NatWest **Account Name:** The East Family History Society

Sort Code: 60-02-23 **Account number:** 65499727

Or by cheque payable to '**The East Family History Society**'

Please put a reference with your payment so that we can recognise who has renewed.

The aims of the Society are:

- To collect all references to the EAST/ESTE(S) name and all variations, to collate and store these records and to make them available to all members.
- To produce a Newsletter at least once per year to be distributed to all members, the cost of which to be covered by subscriptions, and to make articles of interest available on the website.
- To advertise the Society's existence, thus bringing as many researchers of the names EAST/ESTE(S) etc. as possible into contact with each other.

Source Data

The Society's Research Manager holds the following data. Most of it is on computer and all of it is available, on request, to members for their personal use.

- A compilation of Family Trees (known as "the Big Tree") is held as a private, but searchable tree on Ancestry. This has nearly 14,000 names.
- GRO index of all EAST births from 1837 to 2005; marriages from 1837 to 2005 and deaths from 1837 to 2006. The index is held within the members' section of the EFHS website, and the access password is sent to new members when they join.
- Over 18,100 baptism, marriage, and burial Parish records. These are taken from actual records, transcripts or indexes and have been collected over time by EFHS members. Many are not on the IGI.
- Over 2,400 probate records extracted from the National Calendar from 1858 to 1967, together with some earlier probate records. These give exact dates, names and places of death, and sometimes additional information such as names of executors.
- Digital copies of over 100 EAST wills.
- A collection of over 2,800 birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- On computer, using 'Family Historian', a large collection of EAST family trees with over 12,000 individuals and more than 135 trees.
- A genealogical index of all mentions of the EAST surname from the Points East Issues 1-50.
- Civil registration indexes for EASTs in New Zealand (1840 to 1990) and Western Australia (1841 to 1905)
- An extensive collection of articles, newspaper cuttings, documents, and photos.
- Various biographies and autobiographies donated by members
- The UK National Burial Index (3rd Edition)

November 2021