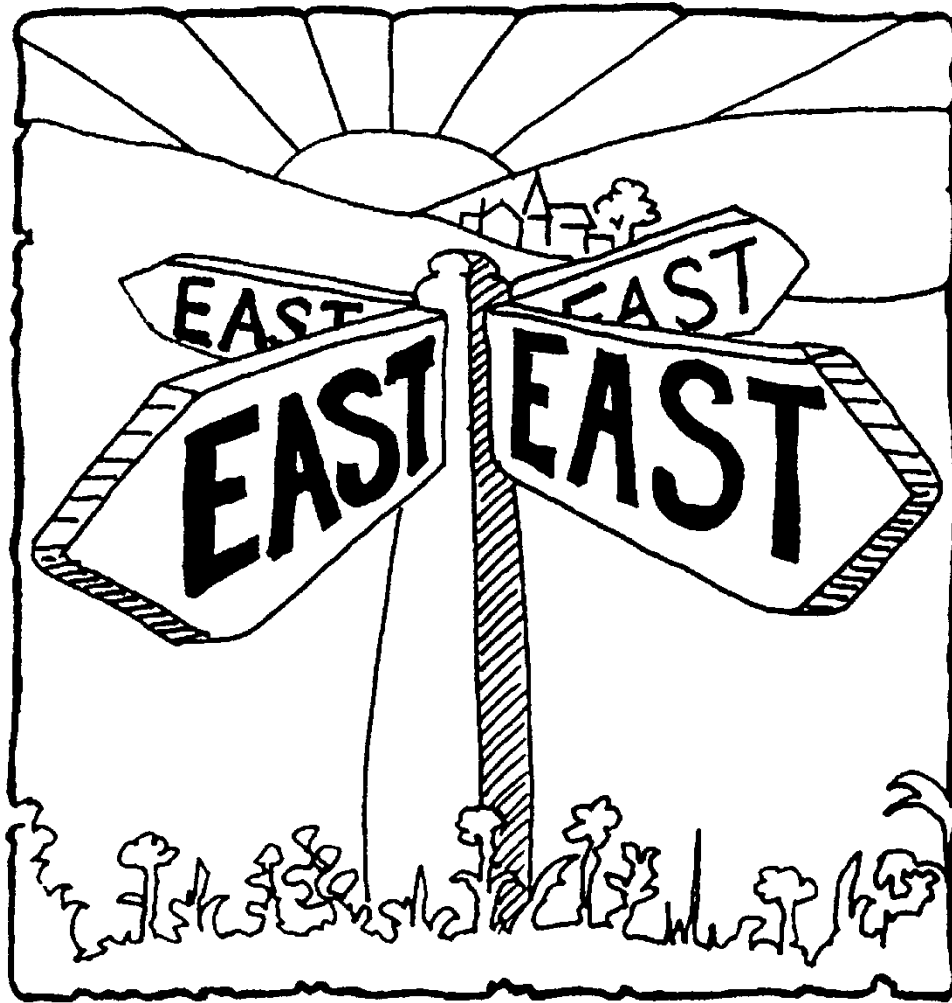


POINTS EAST

The Journal of the East Family History Society

Issue 55

ISSN 1461-2860



Spring 2021

OUR COMMITTEE

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Chairman's Message

A healthy New Year to you all.
Your committee met via Skype in September & then we met for the AGM via Zoom in November, to which a few members were able to join.
It has been a difficult year for everyone as most of us have been confined to our homes, unable to have holidays or visits. We have had family birthdays, Christmas & New Year celebrations using Zoom, which is good, but not the same as in person.
I have been putting together a "Lockdown Memories" book using photographs & articles sent by family members.
One good piece of news is that David & I had our first Covid vaccinations on January 7th – so we're hopefully on the way to being safe.

Ros Hipkin ♦

Editorial

Is it Spring yet? Well it must be – the sun is out (albeit briefly), the birds are investigating the bird box and I have daffodils in the garden!

It's quite apt that I've managed to complete this edition of the journal on Census Day 2021 – the decennial 2021 United Kingdom census, called Census 2021, will occur throughout most of the United Kingdom. The census in Scotland will take place in 2022, known as Scotland's Census 2022. Please ensure that you complete the online census so that in one hundred years from now our descendants can investigate their family trees as we have done.

I'm sure that everyone was relieved to see the end of 2020, in the hope of better days to come, then in the UK we faced our third lockdown swiftly into the New Year. Now though, with more than half the UK adult population having had at least one dose of the vaccine, it is looking hopeful that we can gradually start to move out of lockdown and tentatively socialise again. I'm not sure I remember how to!

Stay safe and well as we venture back out again and enjoy the outdoors whatever part of the world you live in.

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the articles that have combined to create this issue of Points East; I hope that you also do. Best Regards. ♦

**Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting
East Family History Society
Saturday 21st November Held via Zoom
12.00 noon**

The meeting was chaired by Ros Hipkin. 15 members attended the meeting that was the 27th Annual General Meeting of the East Family History Society.

Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Caroline Foster, Ron East, Anne East, Gordon East, Sally East and David East.

Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting were accepted.

Proposed: Pam Pearce

Seconded: Yvette East

Matters arising

There were no matters arising

Chairman's Report: Ros Hipkin

Members were welcomed to the meeting which is the first to be held by Zoom and possibly the last. The year has brought its challenges not being able to physically see family but technology has allowed us virtual get togethers. Sadly we have no guest speaker this year. Thanks to the Committee for organising this event and thank you to Amanda for managing to produce an interesting Autumn Points East. Hope everyone enjoys the meeting and feels free to join in any discussions.

Secretaries Report: Peter East

There were 21 members due to renew as of 1st May 2020. Letters were sent to all those due to renew in April, followed by reminders to those who had still not renewed a few weeks following the due date. One member wrote to say she would not be renewing her membership and three further members failed to respond. At the end of six months following the renewal date, emails were sent to those who had not responded stating that The Society was sorry to see them leave.

Payments by overseas members have not always been straightforward due to currency conversion issues, however at our last Committee Meeting it was suggested that PayPal may be an acceptable option. Our Treasurer Brian East offered to use his PayPal account to collect subscriptions from overseas members if they chose that option.

Sadly, before last Christmas, Marise, the wife of Edward East, Member 88, passed away. In October we also received news that Bill East, Member 268 had also passed away. We sent the Society's condolences to the families.

On a happier note Jean Lloyd, member 213, reached her 100th Birthday in October.

Membership renewals due at the AGM:

May 2021	25
May 2022	13
May 2023	9
May 2024	1
Life members	14

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP 62

6. Treasurer's report: Brian East

The situation is very much the same as last year with very little movement of funds. Bishopshalt School does not appear to have invoiced us for last years use and with the Covid-19 situation we will not be incurring costs this year as both the Committee Meeting and the AGM have taken place as virtual meetings.

Year 2019-2020

Opening Balance	£1026.21
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Income:

Membership subscriptions	£310
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Sale of extra copies of Points East	£10
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Sale of binders	£30
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Total income	£350
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Expenditure:

Committee Meeting Expenses	£0.00
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Committee Expenses	£50
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AGM Expenses	£40
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Points East costs	£90
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Points East Article Prize	£50
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Website	£128.42
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Postage	£0.00
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Total Expenditure	£358.42-
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Closing Balance	£1017.79
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Opening stock of binders	£113.40
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Sale of binders (shown above)	£30
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Closing stock of binders	£83.40
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Total assets	£1101.19
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Cheque for £90 not yet presented

No invoice for the 2019 AGM yet received from Bishopshalt School

1 x 3 year subscription cheque from Canada rejected by Bank and is being pursued.

No Secretarial expenses for year included. (Expenses absorbed by Secretary)

7. Journal Editor's Report: Amanda Gostelow

There were few articles received this year. The Autumn issue was smaller than usual due to one particular article about VE Day which ran for many pages. It was decided to hold this article over for the next issue. An article on 'Winchester Memories' is also planned but due to the Covid-19 restrictions, access to Winchester Record Office has had to be deferred. Member, Dorothy Morgan has offered to contribute to the article.

Articles, photographs, certificates etc are always welcome for inclusion in the journal, so please send them in.

8. Social Secretary's report: Pam Pearce

Due to the lockdown there has been little to report. Repairs to the Headmaster's room at Bishopsholt School have been delayed because of the Covid situation. The Headmaster has moved into the Conference Room adjacent to the room, in which we normally hold our meetings, so there is uncertainty over what will happen should we wish to book Bishopsholt in the near future. It maybe that we will have to look at Christchurch in Uxbridge which was our previous venue. The ongoing restrictions due to Covid may well dictate that we continue to meet virtually.

9. Research Manager's report: Angela Waterfall

The COVID Lockdowns and restrictions may have curtailed the more pleasant aspects of Family History Research (no visits to churches and graveyards with clippers and chalk, no rendezvous at records Offices and no face-to face AGM) but there has been more time to concentrate on the administrative tasks associated with the Research manager's post.

The Points East Index for Issues 40 – 50 (five years) has been finalised. A big Thank You to June Lines, who continues to sort out the entries and who has just written to me to tell me that the Index for Issues 51 and 52 is ready for me to put on the Excel Spreadsheet. The Index only contains East names.

Our "Big Tree" continues to expand. There are now 13,711 names on it; source material on Ancestry is being linked to it and our own archived material is also being linked. Since this is the core information for the society, the tree is backed up to Ancestry (as a Private Tree not on the Search Engine), to a home server, to a separate hard disk and to a memory stick.

This year, I have received some more birth and death certificates from new members. I also received a copy of a will which Pam and Ken Pearce transcribed.

Queries come in steadily; we have had 12 this year, all coming via e-mail. Interestingly, one query was from a close friend who discovered that she had some East ancestry – I was able to provide her with a copy of a will (17th Century) confirming that her information was correct. Another was from the nephew of our founder member, John Clayton East, whose mother (John's sister) had lost the family tree. It was great to be able to help him.

Looking forward to 2021, there is still much to do to digitise our archives and make them more accessible to members and to make sure that all entries on our "Big Tree" have evidence of the source of the details. I have a particular request for any members who link to East Families in Kent to help me to sort out some anomalies there. Maybe they could e-mail me if they are able to help.

2021 is not an inspiring year in terms of anniversaries. However, these are the areas that I will be focussing on in my research and hope that others will join me in that research:

- Black Lives Matter -the Points East editor, Amanda, and I have both slave and slaver ancestry through my maternal grandmother. My great-great grandfather was in the Colonial Civil Service in the Bahamas and was responsible for documenting freed slaves and the compensation claimed by slave owners. There is a branch of the East family who lived in Jamaica. Someone once posted on the website that her ancestors were involved in the "Underground Railway". What stories are there about Easts who were affected by slavery?
- It is the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Royal Albert Hall. Is this an opportunity to seek out eminent East musicians and composers?

- It is the 125th Anniversary of the formation of the modern Olympic Games. Can we find any East athletes?
- It is the 125th anniversary of the discovery of gold in the Yukon. How many East emigrated to the USA and Canada at the turn of the Century to seek their fortunes by going “west”?
- Finally, in July 2021, a group of historians and military vehicle collectors are to re-enact the wartime journey of military supply convoys heading to Fortress Darwin. What can we find out about Easts involved in the Battle for Australia and Victory in the Pacific?

10. Website Manager's report: Yvette East

The report covers use of the website for the period from October 2019 to September 2020.

It is noticeable that from 1st October 2019 until 31st December 2019, there were 1453 sessions and these were originated by 1361 users. During that period, there were 739 hits in October and 576 in November. Most of this traffic was generated from America but there does not appear to be any obvious reason why this should be so. This previously happened in 2015 and again no explanation was found.

Since the last AGM the website has been accessed 2227 times which is up by 998 from the previous year. The monthly hits vary from a low of 72 to the highest at 739. The USA traffic has trebled and the California area has shown 132 hits with Texas at 123. This has increased year on year. There were no hits from The Hague this year but we are still getting interest from Washington with 13 hits.

There has been interest on the Guest Book with some interest being generated following DNA testing. Chris East a former EFHS officer reports that he has found several links following Autosomal DNA testing.

Paul Rolfe also became a member recently following a DNA test which linked him to an East member and we trust he has been assisted in his research.

Richard East from Exeter traced back links to Bovey Tracey and also found links to USA and Canada. He was referred to Jim East in the USA who was running the North American Project. Unfortunately Jim East has been uncontactable for a period of time now. His email address is no longer working and he has not responded to written correspondence. Consequently the Committee decided that The North American Project should be removed from the website.

David East contacted the Guest Book to say he had links to Marlow and Washington

Chris Spencer informed us that he had ancestors going back to the C15th and C16th in Buckinghamshire.

Wali East in the USA was interested to know about his surname following racial tensions in the USA and was researching slavery. He had found a William East who in 1635 travelled to Virginia and this is where his family came from. He was informed of East involvement in slavery in Jamaica as there may be a link.

Angela, our Research Manager, has links through her maternal lineage to the slave trade in the Bahamas and Richard Boyles has links back to the Jamaican slave trade. It was agreed that together with Yvette's research, they would pool their resources with a view to writing an article for a future Points East detailing East involvement in the slave trade.

11. Election of Officers

There were no changes to the existing officers

The officers for 2020-2021 are:

Chairman: Ros Hipkin

Research Manager: Angela Waterfall

Treasurer: Brian East

Secretary: Peter East

Social Secretary: Pam Pearce

DNA project manager: Ron East will remain in post to answer enquiries

Website Manager: Yvette East

Journal Editor: Amanda Gostelow

Member: Kevin East

The following remain as co-opted members of the committee:

Lionel East

June Lines

David Lewin

12. The John and Andrée East Founders Award for the best article published in the Journal

This year's Founders Award has been given to Adrian Pearson for his excellent article on Arthur Ernest East, pioneer parachutist in Points East Spring Edition, Issue 53. He will receive a cheque for £50.

13. Date of next AGM

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, the date and venue of the next AGM will be communicated to members as soon as we have a clearer picture of what the future holds. It was suggested that the fact that Zoom enabled some members to be involved who had not had the opportunity to attend before due to travel difficulties that should we hold a physical AGM in the future maybe we could also use Zoom alongside so that more members could become involved. It would also benefit our overseas members.

14. AOB

Our retired Secretary, Ron East is no longer a member of the Committee and so the DNA Managers post which he held has lapsed. However, Ron has agreed to be our go-to person for all things DNA when questions arise. It was suggested that an article on Autosomal DNA would be useful. Ron will be contacted to see if this is possible.

There was a discussion regarding The Big Tree being a private tree on Ancestry. It was suggested that if it was made searchable by those interested in the East name it could both assist their research and possibly increase interest in gaining members. Angela agreed to look at the possibility of trialling it.

The meeting closed at 13.15

P.E.

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.org, for details of Local Research Assistants or contact Peter, Pam or June (committee members) for their help with your research.

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

Jesse's Jobs *by Carol Marshall*

Jesse East was born in Chesham on 17 April 1873, to Frederick East and his wife Rebecca Rowles. For the most part the East family were a family of wooden ware manufacturers, but they were happy to try their hand at anything that made money. Jesse's father Frederick ran a wooden ware factory in Townsend Road, Chesham, but like his father Ebenezer and grandfather William before him, Frederick had also run the Three Tuns Inn, White Hill, Chesham.

Jesse married a local girl Florence Priest in 1900 and at that time was working in the woodenware industry and living at his parents' home, 31 Townsend Road, Chesham. The 1901 census shows him as a wooden hoop maker living with his in-laws Samuel & Mary Priest at the Black Horse in Waterside, Chesham. When

Samuel died in 1904 Jesse became the landlord and is listed as such on the 1911 Census, but Kelly's directory also lists him as a confectioner at 61 High Street, Chesham.

Jesse & Flo moved to Amersham about 1923 and had a shop below their flat at 9 Sycamore Road. Over the years they sold many different things in the shop, from 1924-1931 it was a sweet shop, but by 1935 it was an art and needlework shop. The 1939 Register states he ran a drapers shop and Kelly's directory for 1941 shows it as selling baby linens.



Mary Priest with son in law Jesse East & daughter Flo, & their children Frank, sitting on the floor & Ethel on her mothers lap, outside the Black Horse in Waterside in 1904

Jesse was a member of the Amersham Freemason Brotherhood and enjoyed playing bowls. In September 1950 they celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary with a big family get together at their flat in Sycamore Road.

While on holiday in Eastbourne in September 1952 Jesse collapsed and died, aged 70; he left behind his wife Flo, who died in 1959, three sons Frank, Ted & Sydney and a daughter Ethel.



Jesse & Flo at home in their flat in Sycamore Road in 1950 on the occasion of their Golden Wedding anniversary.

Ethel had married Alan Marshall in 1928; his father Gilbert had a chain of local garages. In the 1960's Ethel ran a cafe and cake shop in Woodside Road, Amersham, the M & M Coffee House with her daughter Mary & daughter-in-law Carole. (Carole was my mother-in-law).



The marriage of Ethel East & Alan Marshall in October 1928, Jesse & Flo are seated on the right of this photo their three sons Frank, Ted & Sydney are standing behind them.

Who Needs a Car? *by Edward East*

When I was born in 1923 the family lived on a corner at Undercliffe in Bradford, Yorkshire. This was a nice stone house with 2 bedrooms - it is still there with lovely stone work cleaned up - an ideal location. We literally had everything we needed for living within 2 minutes walk. There were several food shops, 2 cobblers, a hairdressers, a barber, a post office, 2 paper shops, a chapel, a cinema (silent). We paid for everything in cash. We were on the inner ring road and had 3 public transport systems, with a good tram service into the city. Two fish and chip shops - another one 5 minutes away. The doctor was 1 minute away just across the road and was paid in cash - there was no NHS. Dentist was 10 mins away and was paid in cash. Nearest school was 5 mins away. Workers could walk to woollen mills 15 mins away. My mother was sent to work in a mill during the war when she was 12 years old. One could walk into Bradford city in 20 mins.

Who needs a car! ?

When I was 4 years old the family managed to scrape the down payment on a nice semi-detached house that was just built, 2 minutes further along the road, next to the cinema. I remember talkies came just after that. The house cost 500 pounds, down payment was £25, the solicitor was paid £4.10, stamp duty was £6.10, and the mortgage rate was £3.15 a month until it was paid up in 1940. I still have the paper work. There were very few cars about. Transport was mainly horse and cart. We kids used to play marbles and other games right on the main inner ring road. We had a corner shop opposite us, a few yards away - open all hours type just like the TV series, for food, drink.

Who needs a car!?

The fish shop was now a few yards away, almost opposite and was very famous - mill girls used to come at lunch time with bulk orders and one had to queue for 20 min to get served. Fish and chips cost 2 and a halfpence. I went to Wellington Road school 5 mins away until I was 12. The famous artist David Hockney went to this school later so we have something in common, but not drawing. I then went to another school a mile away until I was 14. I came home for lunch so I walked 4 miles a school day. Mother sent me out on a paper round after school - kids were not allowed to start working until 12 years old. I got 2 shillings and 6p for 6 nights and was allowed to keep 6p of this. The paper round was about 2 miles so I walked 6 miles every weekday and 2 miles on Saturdays.

Who needs a car!?

At 98, I now live in a flat in a very nice Abbeyfield residential home in Cambridge. My rooms are about the same size as a modern 2 bed semi. Within 2 mins walk from my door I literally have a cinema, a restaurant, a coffee shop, a swimming pool, a Jacuzzi, a hairdresser and a gymnasium (when/if they are allowed to open again).

Plus ca change.

I have not driven since I came here. I don't need cash. I have not been out of this building for about a year. It costs me about 500 pounds a week, the same amount as was paid for the entire house in 1927. I get lunch brought to my door and fish and chips in the evenings on Fridays. Any other requirements are ordered by mail and delivered to my door, mostly by Tesco or Amazon. Doctor and dentist are more of a problem, about a mile away, but I have a little panic button I wear round my neck and if I press it someone will come running from downstairs. I have just been vaccinated by the visiting district nurse.

Who needs a car!?

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 Dec '20 and Mar '21. It is usual for us to exchange electronic (pdf) copies of our respective journals with the Estes Family Society in America. It is published about 4 times a year.

The December issue has an article on 'Estes' books, various Estes men and Revolutionary War service and some interesting website mentions :

Some Notes on Medieval English Genealogy -

<http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk>

List of Lost, Abandoned and Deserted Settlements in the UK, by County -

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of lost settlements in the united kingdom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_lost_settlements_in_the_united_kingdom)

A directory and description of English trades circa 1818 -

<https://archive.org/details/bookofenglishtra00unse>

The March issue includes the usual American Estes family research plus a 1993 article by a travel writer on the Kentish ports of Deal and Sandwich.

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.

Adventures with DNA

by Anne East

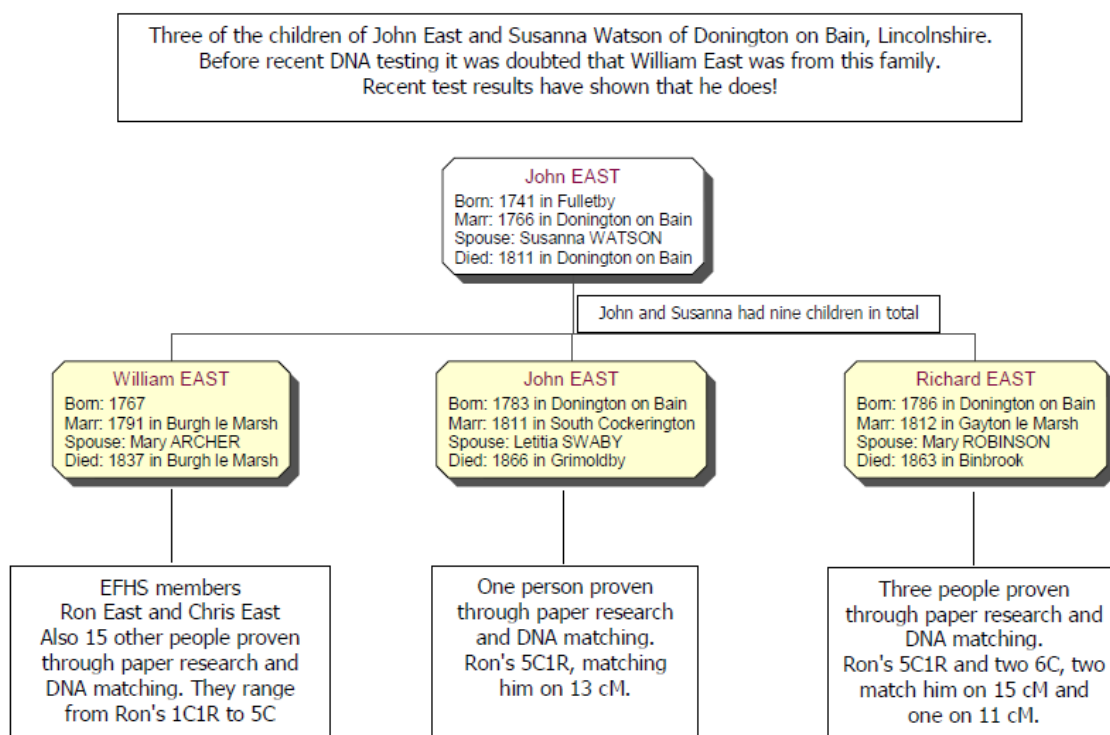
It has been suggested that an updated article about using DNA testing for family history research would be useful to members. It is over 15 years since Lionel East started the EFHS Y-DNA project, which did produce some good results and also some frustrating ‘no matches’. Since then, the world of genealogical DNA testing has moved on, touching briefly on mitochondrial DNA and now focussing on autosomal DNA. It is the autosomal DNA test which is by far the most widely marketed by various testing companies today and what most lay people mean when they say they have ‘done a DNA test’. I do not propose to explain the science because this is covered in great detail by many articles found on the internet. I will show you a couple of examples of ‘breaking down a brick wall’ and how I have had lots of lockdown fun adding distant cousins to our trees. I was very, very sceptical about the use of autosomal DNA tests but now I am a complete convert!

The main thing you need to know about autosomal DNA is that everyone has it and that each person inherits 50% of their DNA from their father and 50% from their mother. That will leave 50% from each parent that you do not inherit. Each sibling in a set of children will inherit their own versions of the 50%, so you may have a very similar or very different version to your sibling. Full siblings share 50% of their DNA on average; 1st cousins share just 12.5% of their DNA, even though they share half of their ancestors; 2nd cousins share, on average, just 3.125% of their DNA and 3rd cousins a mere 0.781%. Luckily there is a lot of DNA to go around and in practice you can find matches up to about 8th cousins.

The amount of shared DNA is measured in centi-Morgans (cM). You will share about 2600 cM with a sibling; about 800 cM with a 1st cousin; about 200 cM with a 2nd cousin. By the time you get to 3rd cousin you may share as much as 200 cM or none at all! It is important to remember that just because you know you are related at a 3rd cousin or less level does not mean you actually share any DNA. If you are lucky, a person you do match will have tested and even a tiny shared 10 cM can point the way to a link with the family.

It is the more distant DNA matches which can be the most rewarding to research. Ron’s 4x great grandfather was William East who married in Burgh le Marsh, Lincolnshire in 1791. His five children were baptised in four different places, illustrating the mobile lives of Lincolnshire agricultural workers at the time. It was very difficult to decide where William East might have been born. There was a possible William baptised in Donnington on Bain in 1767, child of John East and his wife Susanna Watson (names which William used for his own children). However, I was doubtful because the baptism did not quite match William’s age at death. My doubt appeared to be confirmed when a DNA test taken a number of years ago by a proven descendant of John East and Susanna did not match Ron or

other known cousins of Ron. Move on to present day testing and with millions of potential people to match with and I have now found not one but four people who are descended from two of John East and Susanna's other children and match with Ron and other descendants of William. See the diagram to illustrate the matches which I have also researched and proved on paper.



Another breakthrough was also from Ron's family but this time not the East family and it involves a female line. Elizabeth Marling married Joseph Ballance in Burstwick, East Yorkshire in 1805. (170 years later we also lived there but didn't know Ron's connection). Although these are rare surnames the research was much more difficult because they were Roman Catholic. It was not certain who Elizabeth's parents were, nor what happened to her after Joseph Ballance's early death. There was a possible marriage for her to a William Atkinson but the Parish Record said that Elizabeth Ballance, the bride, was a spinster. After years of research and speculation, recent DNA test results have shown descendants of both Joseph Ballance and William Atkinson match each other, so Elizabeth did have two marriages. There are also other matching descendants of Elizabeth Marling's sister Mary, leading to the confirmation of their parents. In total there are 10 Ballance descendants; 4 Atkinson descendants and 8 descendants of Mary Marling. All these are confirmed by both the DNA match and by paper research. All of them match at least one other in the group, as well as matching Ron. Some of them match several others.

These are just two illustrations of the progress I have made with the help of our DNA results. I have also found a great satisfaction in ‘attaching’ DNA matches to both Ron’s tree and my own. So far I have linked over 400 people to one or other of our trees and each one has a digital paper trail as well as the DNA link. How is that possible? Our tests are with Ancestry and I use a variety of ways to find a family link.

Firstly, Ancestry uses algorithms from all the data it holds (including other people’s trees) to suggest a ‘common ancestor’. You can look at the suggestion and then work it out by your own research. It is a short cut because without the suggestion you would need to research all of that match’s families to find the one line which links. In my experience the suggested ‘common ancestor’ is right in about 85% of cases.

Next, Ancestry can only find possible common ancestors if the person who tested links a tree to their name. Some people have an unlinked tree associated with their name and these can give clues for research, even if they have only put their parents or grandparents on a small tree.

Finally, if the person who tested does not have a tree at all I mostly don’t bother with them even if they mutually match other people who match us. However, even in these cases, you can have success if the person has registered with their real name (not a nickname) and that name is uncommon. Careful research with the GRO index, censuses, parish records online and other online resources can lead to successfully finding the family link. I have printed some blank six generation ancestor charts to scribble on and I take each generation at a time looking for any familiar surnames or places of birth. Sometimes there is the reward of success and a family link but also the ‘chase’ of researching other family histories is a reward in itself.

There are other companies that also offer DNA testing as well as Ancestry. My Heritage, Family Tree DNA, 23andMe and Living DNA are probably the best known, so which one should you choose? Some of them still offer Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA testing, which Ancestry does not. The Y-DNA test is only for males and can be useful for following the prime (male) surname. The mitochondrial DNA test is for everyone and follows the female line but the nature of that DNA is a very slow mutation (change) so it tends to show links back to the distant past (up to 100 generations), which are probably not so interesting for family historians. A son will inherit mitochondrial DNA from his mother but cannot pass it on to his children - male or female.

All the companies offer autosomal DNA tests and because links to wider family can be a matter of luck you need as big a number of tests to compare with as possible. Roughly speaking at the present time Ancestry has over 18 million people tested, while the next largest appears to be My Heritage with 4 million.

Clearly if your aim of DNA testing is to assist your family research then Ancestry is the one to use. There could be another reason too; several of the other companies allow you to upload your 'raw DNA data' to their websites and while Ancestry allows you to download your raw DNA data for your own use, it does not allow uploading of data from other companies. For example, if your test is with Ancestry you could also send your results to My Heritage. I have just done this and am interested to find some different ways of matching and a whole new set of matches and some names I recognise who, like me, have uploaded their Ancestry data.

A way that will help you to increase your chances of identifying distant cousins is to ask other close family members to take a test. I paid for a test for my brother and, like Ron, he allows me to manage the results for him. This means I can see and organise the list just like my own, although it remains his property and he could deny me access if he wanted to. It has been very interesting to see the similarities and differences in our list of matches and it has certainly extended our mutual tree. I now know much more about the more distant, neglected corners of our trees because it has been some of the more 'surprising' lines which have yielded the most matches. We all tend to have what we consider main branches in our trees but, of course, our relationship to each of our 4x great grandparents is equal, although the amount of autosomal DNA inherited from each of them will be different.

If you haven't already done an autosomal DNA test I hope this article has encouraged you to think it might be worthwhile. If you love the research and discovery of family history then this will give you something new to work on. You might solve some long-standing puzzles and possibly find some puzzles as yet unknown. You'll have around 15,000 to 25,000 matches and never find out how the majority of them link to you. You'll have the chance to contact long distant cousins, although it certainly is not necessary to contact anyone if you don't want to. You can allow your tree to be publicly shown on the company website, or keep it private, or not have a tree there at all. You can simply and permanently remove your data from the website if you should decide it is not for you. However, if you are hoping for an Ethnicity result you will probably be disappointed with the vague percentages, which are calculated merely by comparing the millions of people who have already tested – a huge number but a very tiny proportion of the whole world population.

I have been thoroughly enjoying this adventure in DNA and will continue to do so because every day there are new matches added to my lists. Mostly the matches are very small and many of them have no trees attached but every week there are four or five which are of interest for researching.

A family journey from Lincolnshire to Liverpool via Rail and Sea by Yvette East

Kevin East was born in Liverpool in 1959 but his ancestors were Lincolnshire East's, generations of whom were farmers, cottagers or agricultural labourers. From the East Family History Society's DNA programme we were able to find that Kevin and two other members, Ron & Chris, share DNA markers, a rare Haplogroup and can trace their ancestry back to Lincolnshire. Although they all trace back to Lincolnshire, we cannot find 'the link'. Your Haplogroup is genetic marker in the male line (passing from father to son) which shows where your ancestors came from way back in time. One of the highest frequencies of haplogroup R1a1a is found in Norway, Sweden and Iceland, which would be the reason this group spread into Lincoln. Skegness was a favourite landing place for Viking fleets to invade the Lincoln area where they established Danish and Norwegian settlements, followed later by Scandinavian settlers. Earlier than that R1a1a is found in people from Eurasia, which is a large region extending from Scandinavia and central Europe to southern Siberia and south Asia, where it is thought to have originated 25,000 years ago.

Kevin's 4xggf was George who was born c1780 and appears in Thornton in the 1841 census, but we do not know where he was born. It is likely that George is part of the link to Burgh le Marsh where Ron and Chris trace back to. George was an Agricultural Labourer in Thornton, Lincolnshire, when he married Anne in 1801. Their son Thomas was Kevin's 3xggf. Thomas was born in 1814 and lived in North Scarle, Lincolnshire, where he was a cottager and wheelwright. In 1842 Thomas and his wife Elizabeth had a son George, Kevin's 2xggf, a farmer who also lived in North Scarle. George and his wife Sarah had a son William, who was Kevin's great grandfather.

William East, was born in the village of North Scarle in 1879. His parents George and Sarah were working the land like several generations before them. At the age of 21 William decided to leave village life and agricultural work to move to the town of Nottingham and in April 1900 he was working as a goods guard with the Great Eastern Railway. By April 1901 he had moved to Doncaster and was working as a Railway Engine Stoker. A month later, on the 4th May, he married Ethel Aistrop at the Holy Trinity Church in Gainsborough and 5 months later their son was born in Doncaster. In Feb 1905 they now had 5 children, had moved to Harrow Green in Essex and William was a Railway Fireman. By 1911 they had moved to Chelmsford and William still with G.E.R. was a Pumper & Examiner. In 1935 William was a Railway Locomotive Foreman, probably working on the railway serving Parkston Quay in Harwich, where they were now living and where that year Ethel died. After Ethel's death William continued to live and work in Harwich and at some point after his retirement he moved to Saxmundham where he died on 29 Mar 1979, a month after celebrating his 100th birthday.



Herbert East, William's son, was born in Doncaster on 13 Oct 1901. During his childhood his parents William and Ethel and his siblings moved to Harrow Green and then to Chelmsford in Essex. In 1918 Herbert joined the



Herbert East

Merchant Navy and became a deck boy until 1921. After leaving the Navy, Herbert was living in Ipswich and working as a labourer where, on the 10th Feb 1923, he married Maud Skeet at St Peters Church. By 1927 he and Maud had 4 children and were living in Dovercourt, Harwich. Herbert was now working as a porter at Parkston Quay.

In 1939 Herbert was again a Labourer, he and Maud had 6 children, Raymond the eldest had left home and was in the Merchant Navy. Herbert is the family black sheep and at some point he left his wife and family and rejoined the Merchant Navy. In September 1940, under a special wartime agreement with the Royal Naval Admiralty, he was seconded to serve aboard Royal Navy ships of His Majesty's Auxiliary War Vessels. After leaving the Navy he remained estranged from his family and moved to Merton in Surrey where he lived under the assumed name of George Smith until his death in 1966.

Raymond East, Herbert's son, known as Roy, was born on the 31st Mar 1923 in Dovercourt, Harwich. He lived with his parents and 5 siblings until he was just 16 years old when he joined the Merchant Navy. He began his service on Royal Merchant Ships flying the Fyffes flag, which operated out of Liverpool and were known as the 'banana boats' because that was the cargo they carried. When war broke out, the merchant fleet was put under the control of the Ministry of War Transport. Roy spent the duration of the war serving on British Merchant Navy cargo ships which kept the United Kingdom supplied with raw materials, arms, ammunition, fuel, food and all of the necessities of a nation at war.

To try and prevent merchant ships being sunk by German submarines (or U-Boats), a convoy system was introduced and groups of merchant ships were provided with an escort of Royal Navy warships.

Like those who served in the Royal Navy,

Merchant Seamen faced not only the dangers of enemy attack but the hazards of the elements and if his ship was sunk at sea, the merchant seaman's chances of survival were very poor. Men whose ship was sunk from beneath them, if lucky enough to survive, had their pay stopped before the ship reached the ocean floor. If captured, Merchant Seamen were not treated under the rules of war laid down by the Geneva Convention. They were civilians and were supposed to be repatriated; instead, they were imprisoned in the Concentration Camp.



Roy at sea

These men volunteered repeatedly to run the gauntlet in the never ending need to supply a nation in its darkest days and served on all the seas and oceans of the world, in the hazardous Arctic convoys including the Battle of the Atlantic. The British merchant fleet, with its naval escorts, struggled to bring essential cargoes of food, fuel, equipment and raw materials from America and elsewhere across the Atlantic, while Germany mobilized U-boats, battleships, aircraft and mines against them in an attempt to sever Britain's supply lines. Sadly some people at home looked upon these same men with distaste, simply because they wore no official uniform, which would identify them with any of the armed services. Without the Merchant Navy, Britain would have starved, there would have been no "Operation Torch", invasion of North Africa and there would have been no D-Day landings at Normandy. *"But for the Merchant Navy who bring us the food and munitions of war, Britain would be in a parlous state and indeed, without them, the Army, Navy and Air Force could not operate."* (Winston Churchill, January 27, 1942).

During World War Two, fourteen merchant ships were lost at sea and the death rate of merchant seamen was proportionately higher than in any of the armed forces. 50,000 allied merchant seamen lost their lives, over 32,000 of whom were British. Although the Merchant Navy was essentially a civilian force, during wartime it was recognized as the "fourth arm" of the armed forces. Crew members from Merchant ships were trained to operate light machine guns. Merchant ships referred to as DEMS (Defensively Equipped Merchant Ship) also had heavier guns, such as Oerlikons, that were manned by army or naval gunners. Although they were civilians, in recognition of their vital service to their country, Merchant Seaman who served in World War Two Theatres of War were awarded the same medals as Royal Navy Seamen.

Roy was awarded five Medals & a Clasp for service in Atlantic Waters, Pacific Waters, the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean : The War Medal (1939-1945) - awarded after a minimum of 28 days at sea; The Atlantic Star - awarded for service in Battle of the Atlantic waters; The 1939- 1945 Star - awarded after 6 months service in an operational area; The Africa Star – awarded for service in the Mediterranean and a clasp for participation in the landings on the Moroccan Coast; The Pacific Star – awarded for service in the Pacific Ocean; The Italy Star - awarded for service in the Mediterranean and Aegean Sea.



Sadly Roy never claimed his medals or spoke about his service during the war. We were never able to talk to him about his experiences at sea during the war as we only found out about his medals and service in the Atlantic Convoys when researching after his death.

During a period of shore leave in Liverpool, Roy met Gladys Hemmings and during his next leave they were married on the 25 Nov 1944 at St Marys Parish Church, Wavertree, Liverpool. Roy remained a Merchant Seaman after the war ended and became a Certified Competent Able Seaman on the 11 Jul 1952. His wife Gladys and their two children lived with her parents in Liverpool, to where Roy would 'come home' when he had shore leave. In early 1959, with



Roy's Navy Discharge photo

another baby due, the family moved into a house of their own and Roy decided to leave the Navy.

However he could not stray far from the water so in 1960 began working for the Mersey Docks & Harbour Company in the engine rooms of the river Mersey tug boats, which manoeuvred and assisted ships entering and leaving the Mersey Docks. A decline in shipping traffic forced a move from the tugs and in 1970 Roy began working for Ford Motors at their factory in Halewood, where he worked in the paint shop ovens which baked the paint onto vehicles. He remained at Fords until his retirement in 1988 and died in Liverpool on the 29 December 1999.

And so back to Kevin who was born in February 1959 in Liverpool. When he left school he trained as a fabric care technician with Johnsons the Cleaners and by 1980 he had become a Manager. In 1978 he met Yvette and they married in 1979. In 1989 Kevin joined Merseyside Police where he worked for 23 years until he retired in 2013. He still lives in Liverpool with Yvette and their two grown up children. Kevin and Yvette accompanied by his cousins Barry and Julie have visited North Scarle and surrounding areas, found places where the family lived and where they were buried. The family research continues and Yvette with Kevin supervising spend many hours trying to find new information and the 'missing link' to Burgh le Marsh and his DNA family.

In 240 years this Lincolnshire East family has lived and worked on the land, climbed aboard Railway Engines and taken to the seas, before finding their land legs again in the city of Liverpool.



Kevin & Yvette

The King's Bargemaster by Angela Waterfall



Since the inception of the East Family History Society, members have contributed information about people with the surname East.

Currently, as Research Manager, I am scanning all paper articles to make them more accessible for research purposes. So, when I came across an obituary for Mr. W. G. East (1866-1932), sent in by Chris Bockett, I was intrigued by the post he had held - **The Kings Bargemaster** – and the race he had won – the **Doggett's Coat and Badge Race**.

There have been Royal bargemasters on the River Thames since 1215 when the Magna Carta was signed. The monarchy retained several watermen (those people who carried passengers in their boats) to row royal

barges along the river and transport the royal family and guests from London to various palaces and castles. Queen Elizabeth II still has royal watermen.

William Giles (a.k.a. Bill) became a royal waterman in 1898 and took the title of King's Bargemaster in 1902, when Edward VII became king. London Evening Standard of June 17th, 1902, records that:

"The Royal Barge, which was launched at Staines yesterday will be brought to Eton this week. Mr East will be in charge as the King's Bargemaster and eight royal watermen are to be selected to manipulate the barge up the Datchet Reach, by which way their majesties will return to Windsor Castle".

One of our members, Val Bennett wrote of her family connection to William Giles in her article "My Easts along the Thames" (Points East Issue 40).

Bill's death was recorded in many national newspapers. In his lifetime, he had some outstanding achievements including training Cambridge University Boat Crews and coaching Captain Webb for his swim across the Channel.

He was the youngest person to win the Doggett's Coat and Badge Race (1887 at the age of 21). This is the oldest race on the River Thames, begun as a wager to commemorate George I's accession to the English throne. There is more information about the race in Chris

Bockett's article in Points East Issue 26.

The Doggett's Coat and Badge race is still run as an annual event. Should you wish to observe it, this year's race will take place on September 8th. William Giles died at the pub that he owned in Richmond, The Three Pigeons, in 1932. Unfortunately, the building is no longer standing.

We are still happy to accept photos, certificates, wills and other family records for our archives.



Family History Stories

by Caroline Foster

5th November 2020: Lockdown for the second time this year got me thinking about another lockdown. 2010, we were stuck at home due to snow. My uncle phoned and asked about family history as he was bored at home. He then went back to work and I carried on. Now there are 10,000+ people on my family tree on ancestry.co.uk, related by blood and marriage.

Over the last 10 years, I have had some surprises, misunderstandings, sorrow and joy, sometimes at the same time, frustration and brick walls.

Good news is that there are always people willing to help and more websites coming online every day.

Some anecdotes not all EAST family

Question to a person on ancestry.co.uk - why is my grandfather on your tree?

Answer - because I am your second cousin. *We had not seen each other for 30 years.*

Question to a person in Australia - why have you got my great grandmother on your tree?

Answer - because she is my grandfather's sister. *She then, sent me photographs of the family, which my mother had never seen before.*

I joined several Family history societies - Norfolk, Lincolnshire and East.

Norfolk family history society sent me notes -

Garfield Henry EAST 1881-1883

It is always a good idea to keep checking websites - Norfolk baptism records have just been uploaded onto ancestry.co.uk and I have been able to solve a family mystery. I never heard of Garfield East in my family history. I was surprised when I was sent some information from Norfolk family history society back in 2013. Why did my great great grandfather name his first son Garfield Henry East? The records I received in 2013 were that he was baptised in April 1882 and born a month earlier. But this was wrong, after seeing the original entry in the baptism record book, I now know that Garfield was born on 29th September 1881, only ten days after US President James Garfield died from his wounds. Was this the reason? There were no Garfield's in the family before or since. Or was it a family friend's name?

Garfield Henry East was born on 29th September 1881 and baptised on 2nd April 1882, in King's Lynn, Norfolk. His father was listed as a Ropemaker. Garfield died and was buried on 19th November 1883.

Lincolnshire Family History Society sent me some dates of baptism which I know already but good to double check (see above). They also suggested that I go to Boston central library. I travelled to Boston from my home in Lincolnshire. In the library I found a copy of the school registry for Henry EAST, name, address and other details :
2nd July 1832, Henry EAST son of David, St George's Lane, Boston. Age 7

There were some lovely old books to view; they were kept in a strong room behind a thick heavy door. I went looking for the address, but I could not find it. Back to the library. In the map section some answers - the house and workshop were demolished in the 1960s to rebuild the bridge across the river Witham and a car park.

Henry EAST was the youngest of a family of rope makers in Boston, which is probably why he set up his company in King's Lynn. At one point, there were EAST rope makers from the Humber all the way down the east coast to King's Lynn.

More anecdotes

I went to several family history society open days

- Isle of Axholme family history society

- Buckinghamshire family history society

I met some interesting and helpful people and bought several booklets.

EAST Brigitta a widow married Gullelmus DAVY on 21st April 1718 in the Parish of All Saints, Belton, Lincolnshire

EAST Richardus married Margarita GERVASE on 8th December 1726 in the Parish of All Saints, Belton, Lincolnshire

EAST Margaret married John STARKIE on 19th January 1769 by license (he was a widower from Messingham) in the parish of Belton, Lincolnshire

EAST Hannah married John VAUSE on 3rd January 1803 by license (he was from Luddington) in the Parish of Belton, Lincolnshire

EAST Hannah Maria married by license George ROBINSON on 22nd June 1870 in Epworth, Lincolnshire. She is a spinster farmer; her father is **Peter EAST**. George is a Merchant and his father is George ROBINSON.

Information from booklet Crowle cemetery volume 1 (1863-2003)

EAST Peter, age 30, buried in plot 12 in Crowle cemetery on 10th September 1879:
landed property

On my tree, there are the EASTs who are my relatives, thorough my grandma's line and her husband's line. Also there are EASTs who married into my husband's family.

While looking for EASTs on Ancestry.co.uk, I found the following which may be of interest:

***Sergeant David EAST** was at the battle of Waterloo in 1815 with the 7th Hussars
Private? William EAST, 1806, 82nd Foot Soldiers, 2nd Battalion. He was 35
years old, 5ft 5, dark complex, hazel eyes, light brown hair. He was born in
Ashing, Cambridge and was a Millwright by trade.*

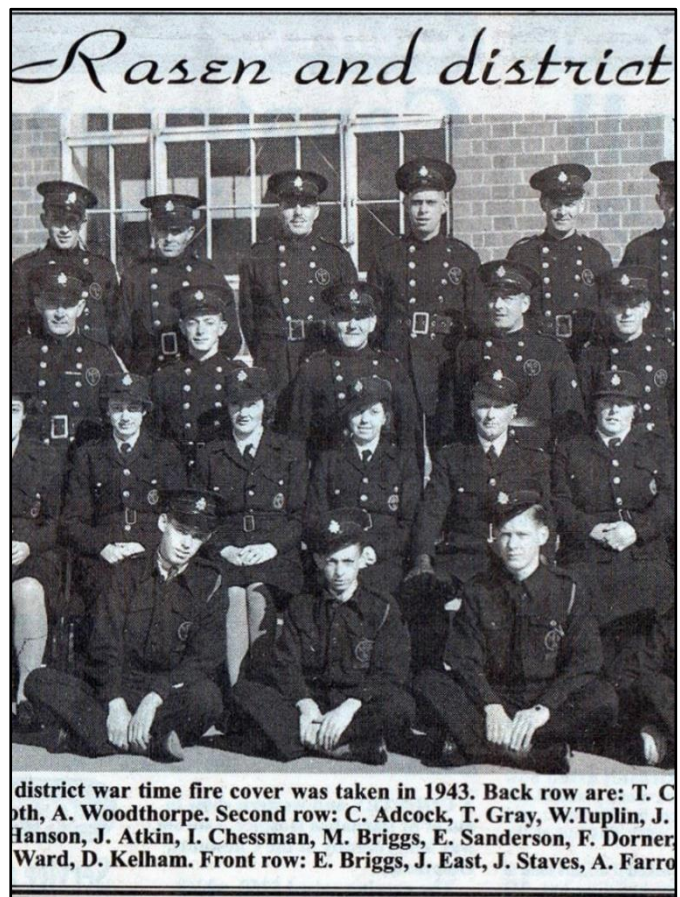


Photography of four generations, Lily Ellen EAST and her daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter-me!

This is part of a photograph from the local paper. It was taken in 1943. **The Market Rasen and District war time fire cover.**

The young man second in the front row is **J EAST**. The only J EAST I could find in Rasen at that time was **John William EAST**, born in 1928, that would make him 15 years old in the photograph - about right! He was the only son of **John and Mabel EAST**, his sister Betty was born in 1925.

The family in 1939 were living in Church Street, Market Rasen. John senior was a retired commercial traveller. John was born in 1871 and Mabel was born in 1889, they were married in Market Rasen in June 1924, her maiden name was FLETCHER.



district war time fire cover was taken in 1943. Back row are: T. C. both, A. Woodthorpe. Second row: C. Adcock, T. Gray, W. Tuplin, J. Hanson, J. Atkin, I. Chessman, M. Briggs, E. Sanderson, F. Dorner, Ward, D. Kelham. Front row: E. Briggs, J. East, J. Staves, A. Farro

John junior married Christine Rosemary BRISTOW in 1954. **Christine Anne EAST** was born in 1956, baptised in the village of Claxby, just outside Market Rasen. Christine trained as a Nurse in Leeds General Infirmary. She married Michael J BERRY in 1976 and died in Indiana, USA in 1986.

John William died in 1996.

In the 1939 census records for Market Rasen there are two more EAST entries - **John William and Mary EAST**, aged 45 and 44 years old; he is a Blacksmith.

They are living in Waterloo Street, Market Rasen.

Alice EAST, widow aged 76, is living alone in Serpentine Street, Market Rasen

From our Archives 2021 *by Angela Waterfall*

Found while scanning in miscellaneous paper articles, information about two brothers **Lancing** and **Worthing** East, born and raised in Sussex!

150 Years Ago (1871)

Will of Thomas East of Nottingham

Deaths

John East, a railway policeman in Oxford, died of phthisis (tuberculosis) on 12th May 1871.

Susan East, widow of John East, a shoemaker in London, died from senectus (old age) on 26th November 1871.

100 Years Ago (1921)

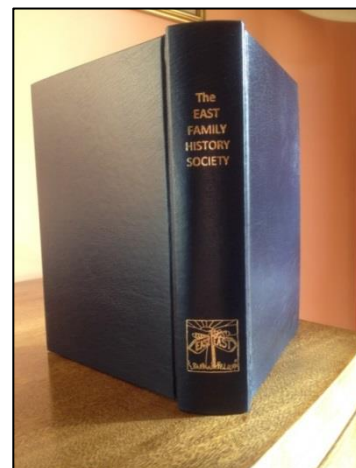
Deaths

Maria Ann East, wife of Henry East of Kingston upon Hull, die as a result of hemiplegia on 21st August 1921.

Our Society is indebted to many people who have contributed information about those people with the surname East. We hold digitised copies of certificates, family trees, wills and newspaper cuttings. If anyone has other information that they would like to contribute, please contact Angela Waterfall, Research Manager.

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 a member of the Committee know if you might be interested in buying one or more binders. The cost for one binder (including postage) is £7. The cost for two binders (including postage together) is £13. Cheques to be sent to Brian (at his address on the inside front cover) but made payable to the 'East Family History Society'.



Next Time in Points East....

With some help from Dorothy Morgan and the Winchester archives, I hope to update the article 'Memories of old Winchester' about Mr/s George Rustell East.

I still want to include an abridged transcript of the VJ Day recording on John Jellicoe Kitchener East and the article 'Our Island Story is told in DNA'. There will hopefully be more on Samuel East's colonisation of South Australia and maybe a mention of William East, a vintner's apprentice in London in the 1700s.

One exciting contact we had recently was from a lady at the Salvation Army in Avon, Ohio, who bought an old bible and inside there was a signed message to 'Thomas Oliver Cromwell East' from his father on his 10th birthday. Hopefully nephew (and member) Alan George East will write to tell us more once he makes contact with the lady!

Please do continue writing your East-related stories; I look forward to your contributions!

Welcome to new members - We extend a warm welcome to the following new members :

Member	Email address	Interests
298 ~ Mr Edward William (Ed) East	edeast@shaw.ca	Found the EFHS following an Ancestry autosomal DNA match. Peter has been helping him resolve a mystery in his English lineage.
299 ~ Mrs Sue Bartlett	suebartlett@hotmail.com	Originally from Kettering; the non-Sir Alfred East line.
300 ~ Ms Angela East	eastangela@gmail.com	William East, father of Thomas East (b. 1844), a carman in London

Points East

The committee decided that to achieve production and distribution of the journal to members on the dates proposed:

All future contributions need to be received by the 1st February for the spring edition and 1st August for the autumn edition

The preparation of the final draft by the 15th of the month for printing

Distribution of copies to members 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 if it cannot be included in the current one.

Annual Subscription Renewal

An annual subscription (including a Family Membership) is £10. A three-year subscription at £25 is available. Sterling or its currency equivalent may be enclosed with an application form which you can download from the East FHS website

‘www.eastfhs.org’

Please note that the password to access the Members Area on the website has changed recently. If you haven't received the new one, please contact the secretary.

Cheques should be drawn on a UK bank and be made payable to the **East Family History Society**.

It would greatly assist the Society if members could set up a Standing Order with their bank for the subscription. Our account is :

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

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

Alternatively, you could pay online to the above bank account and advise the secretary by email, but please put a reference with your payment so that we can recognise who has renewed.

Applications and subscriptions to the Secretary (see inside the front cover).

All subscriptions are due on 1st May.

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

The aims of the Society shall be:

- 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 twice per year to be distributed to all members, the cost of which to be covered by subscriptions.
- 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. Much of it is on computer and all of it is available, on request, to members for their personal use.

- GRO index of all EAST births from 1837 to 2005; marriages from 1837 to 2005 and deaths from 1837 to 2006. The index is regularly updated with new information. The index has been sent by email to all members and will be sent to new members when they join.
- On computer over 18,100 baptism, marriage and burial Parish records. These are taken from actual records, transcripts or indexes. Many are not on the IGI.
- On computer 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. We have paper or digital copies of over 100 EAST wills.
- A growing collection of over 2,800 birth, marriage and death certificates. A note of the certificates held is made on the GRO indexes. A list is available on the website.
- On computer, using 'Family Tree Maker', a large collection of EAST family trees with over 12,000 individuals and more than 135 trees.
- A genealogical index, in book form, of all mentions of the EAST surname from the first 14 issues of Points East, together with a separate index of other surnames. An index on computer of all mentions of the EAST surname in issues 1 to 39 of Points EAST. All the indexes are available on the website
- On computer, Civil registration indexes for EASTs in New Zealand (1840 to 1990) and Western Australia (1841 to 1905)
- An extensive collection of non-digitised information, documents etc contained within 'County' and 'Correspondence' files. This is partially indexed on cards and a computer index of all 'Miscellaneous Data' is continually updated.
- The UK National Burial Index (3rd Edition)

February 2018