

*The  
Swinerton  
Saga*



*Our new secretary Iris at the Liverpool meeting with Shelagh in the background*

**THE JOURNAL OF SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY**

**VOLUME 14. No.6**

**June 2010**

Annie Swynnerton's Paintings – No.5



Oil on Canvas  
1934 x 1538 mm.  
1932

Tate Collections Accession Number: N04656  
Presented to the Tate Collection by Messrs Wallis and Son 1932

## THE SWINNERTON SAGA

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 6  
JUNE 2010

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Editor - I.S.Swynnerton,

**Subscriptions** (£12 per annum or \$ equivalent) to:

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Ray Swinnerton,

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### *The Swinnerton Family Society*

Chairman – Mrs Elizabeth Livesey

Secretary – Miss Iris Crouch

Data base – Mr Roy Talbot

Website – Mr Malcolm Smith - [www.swinnerton.org](http://www.swinnerton.org)

## From the Editor

The mini-gathering at Liverpool in May was a great success – 35 people attended and we were given a warm welcome by our host, Geoffrey Swinnerton. Margaret Antill has written an account of the day on the next page, but has left the business side to me.

After a splendid lunch, we had a brief meeting when I was able to tell those present that the final monies due to the Swinnerton Society have now been received from the USA. As requested, these have been divided equally between the Swynnerton Church and the the *Swinnerton Saga*.

I told them I had received many enquiries as to whether the Society would be revived and that many had said that they hoped it would be. However, I pointed that, although I founded the original society, it was for this meeting to decide as it was the only occasion on which a body of former members would be likely to meet for some time.

Alan Jones, our former treasurer, then proposed that the society should be re-formed, this was seconded by Elizabeth Livesey and all present voted in favour. I commented that I hoped it would be kept simple, as it was originally, with the minimum of rules and officers.

I then asked them what it was to be called and, after some discussion, it was proposed by Geoffrey Swinnerton that it should be called the Swinnerton Family Society. This would avoid being confused with a Swynnerton village society, which it has sometimes been in the past. And also that the abbreviation SFS is much better than SS!

We then discussed the matter of the badge. When I founded the society back in 1974, I used as a logo a simple 'S' in a diamond which was, in fact, the registered trademark of my family firm. However, in 1977 we decided that we needed a proper badge and so Garter King of Arms gave the society permission to use my personal heraldic badge (a heraldic badge may be used by the armiger's (the possessor of the coat of arms to which it pertains) servants or followers). As I said the members of the society were certainly not my servants but they were my followers!

When the society was disbanded in 2008, this was no longer the case and so I adopted a logo for the *Saga* of the ancient Swinnerton Cross with an entwined 'S'. However, after discussion, the meeting decided to revert to my badge for the new SFS. This means that we can continue to use our ties, cufflinks and buttonhole badges and the ladies their silver pendants. Also the flag and banner although these do say 'Swinnerton Society'.

*Gain Swinnerton*

## THE LIVERPOOL GATHERING

My connection with the Swinnerton family is through my Great Grand-mother Elizabeth Swinnerton of the Warwickshire branch, who married Simon Truelove in 1865. Therefore I feel I am on the fringe of the family but it was wonderful to be so warmly welcomed by everyone who came to Liverpool.

Although different in format to other gatherings

I have attended at Swynnerton, it was good to have a quite different venue, with wonderful views over the Mersey estuary on a beautiful sunny day with the hills of Wales in the mists beyond. The police sports centre gave us great food, and hospitality - even a game of Rugby to watch (not sure who won - not my sport).

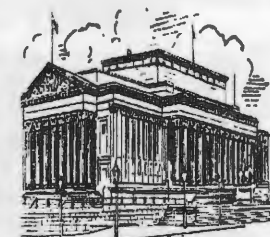
The whole point of such gatherings is to be able to meet together, renew acquaintances, share stories, and make new friends with the larger family. It never ceases to amaze me that although I have only been a member for just over 10 years, fresh information keeps coming in and new links made; the internet having a great impact. However the old ways still turn up trumps and this time it was my pleasure to bring the contents of the proverbial biscuit tin. This had been found in an old family home which has just been vacated after 120 years. Personal letters are of great interest to the direct family, but the two albums of formal photographs which were all taken before 1900 would have been of much more interest if they had been named. I will tell you all about this in the September *Saga*. NOTE please do name and date your photographs.

Since becoming a member I have avidly read the *Swinnerton Saga* and thus myself and everyone present was delighted that it was now possible to form a new society of the family. This will help ensure that information, stories and mementoes will continue to be collected for present and future generations.

I look forward to meeting many more of the family, particularly the younger generations, at the next gathering. A big thank you to Geoffrey Swinnerton for his hosting and organising the event!

*Margaret Antill*

(Editor's note: when labeling your photographs as Margaret appeals for you to do please don't put 'Me - Summer 2009' - you know who you are but your descendants in 50 years time may not!)



St George's Hall, Liverpool

**THE ARGUS** Saturday 18 Nov 1893, Melbourne, Victoria.  
**CHARGE OF CHILD MURDER**

Ararat Friday.

A charge of wilful murder laid against Mary Swinnerton in connection with the body of a male Infant found in the hospital reserve on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst, was investigated at the Police Court to-day. It was elicited that the girl had been in the employ of Mrs Russell McIntyre, of Warra Yadin, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> October, saying that she had rheumatism.

The door of her room was locked, but she was induced to open it, and it being suspected that she was attempting a criminal act, she was driven into Ararat. She carried in her arms a parcel wrapped up in black mackintosh, and she stopped two days at the Turt Hotel. After the coroner's inquest the girl was challenged by Sergeant Hamilton with having given birth to a child, and she offered to submit to a medical examination, but when a doctor arrived she declined and was arrested. When in goal she admitted that she had given birth to a child, but said she did not know what became of it, stating that she came to Barkly-Street with the intention of giving it to the police, and that she thought it was at the camp. Dr Bowe deposed that the child had breathed, and had a slight bruise on the head which might have been caused by the body being pushed or having fallen out of bed on to the floor. This might have stunned the child, but it would not have caused death, which was due to hemorrhage.

The bench dismissed the charge of wilful murder, and the girl was then charged with concealment of birth. The depositions of the witnesses were read over. Mr Grano for the accused argued at length that a prima-facie case had not been made out. The magistrates, after a brief retirement, returned, and the chairman said that the Bench was divided - two being for a committal and two for discharge. The two magistrates Messrs Barfield and Nott, then committed the girl for trial at the next Supreme Court at Ararat, bail being allowed, the accused in £25 and two sureties of £25 each.

\*\*\*

From the Victoria records of Birth, Marriages and Death:-

**Unknown male SWINNERTON aged 3 days - died Ararat 1893 (BDM 12657) to unknown father, Mary SWINNERTON mother.  
(Ex Brian Swinnerton of Liverpool)**

**Ararat** is a city in SW Victoria, Australia, about 205 kms (130 miles) west of Melbourne, on the Western Highway. According to Wikipedia, it is the largest town in the local government area known as the Rural City of Ararat and is in the federal Division of Wannon. The town is set between mountain ranges and is surrounded by fertile grazing country with a population about 8220. Europeans first settled here in the 1840s after surveyor Thomas Mitchell passed through the area in 1836. In 1841, Horatio Wills, on his way to selecting country further south, wrote in his diary, "like the Ark we rested" and named a nearby hill Mt Ararat. It is from this entry and the nearby Mount that the town takes its name.

**Pictures from the Liverpool Gathering**



*Ray, Elizabeth and Iris*



*Margaret at left rear*

## **Beware the Internet.**

Mariners and ships in Australian Waters from the Port of London to Sydney, New South Wales, 22nd July 1878

Listed are Mr John SWIMMERTON, his wife (not named) and four children (also not named). Listed separately are George, Joseph and Elizabeth A. SWIMMERTON.

On another ship, the *Enterpe* of Southampton, are listed James SWIMMERTON, carpenter, his wife Florence and children James A. and William Hy. also listed as SWIMMERTON.

On the *Roanoke*, amongst the passengers arriving is listed G.W. SWIMMERTON

The names have been transcribed from a hand-written list and placed on the internet.

### 1861 Census of Essex

Louisa SWIMMERTON 1836, St Pancras, Servant

Of course, we know exactly who these people are and that their name is actually SWINNERTON.

On a new list of American men who served in WWI

Is listed Bertram Roesther Swinnerton and on a separate entry, Bertram Roestler Swinnerton – we know he was Bertram Boerstler Swinnerton (his mother's maiden name).

However, it does have its upside:-

### The National Archives

TNA has now released records of BMDs at sea online at [BMDregisters.co.uk](http://BMDregisters.co.uk). The records cover over 150,000 individuals (previously only searchable on microfilm) who were born, married or died on ships 1854-1908.

Also digitised are Admiralty files ADM139 - Royal Navy seamen (1853-1923), which can be searched and downloaded.

Newly announced at *Who Do You Think You Are? Live!* in partnership with [Ancestry](http://Ancestry), is also the Alien Arrivals Collection into England 1810-1811 and 1826-1869. and

### Ancestry BMD now complete 1837-2005

According to [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com), it makes the site the only one where all indexes to the Births, Marriages and Deaths in England and Wales are available and fully searchable by name.

## **WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

William Shakespeare didn't seem to think very much – *'That which we would call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet'* (*Romeo & Juliet*) but in the Army, it is important.

Searching soldiers' documents over the years, I have been surprised at the number of men who enlisted under false names and ages then relented and owned up during their service. The original name is usually crossed out on the cover or first page of the discharge documents and the real name inserted in red ink. Inside, you will invariably find a statement by the soldier with his signature or mark witnessed by an officer – normally the regimental adjutant. No reasons are given but real places of birth and age are often given which can lead to a change in the soldier's length of service for pension.

Why did they do it? Well there could be a variety of reasons – to escape from family or from a shotgun wedding; to conceal a crime or to hide the shame of becoming a soldier (who were looked down on by many in peacetime as being drunken wastrels). It could be that they had enlisted before in another regiment and, having collected the bounty money, deserted and joined a new regiment for another bounty. Or, of course, because they had been given the option to enlist as an alternative to prison by Justices of the Peace.

So, to give a few examples that I have come across, Charles Thompson of Bolton became John Ward; Edwin Rowe of Plymouth – Edward Brown; Arthur Quinney of Chelsea – Arthur Gray; Arthur William Thompson of St Pancras – Walter Williams; Robert Ryder of Everton – Robert Yates; William Renshaw of Sheffield – William Handley; Harry Wilson of Leeds – John Smith; James Patrick Taylor – James Milmon and so on. Lloyd Roberts joined as No.8386 Thomas Williams of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, King's Liverpool Militia and then Edward Wilson of the 2nd Battalion Cheshire Regiment. He was discharged with ignominy from both.

The record is held by the legendary Richard Kedgson who was hanged at Rushmore, near Ipswich, after confessing that he had enlisted 49 times in different regiments in England, Scotland and Ireland deserting from each to enlist in another. In so doing, he had received nearly 400 guineas in bounty money and, of course, received the King's Shilling 49 times!

I am pleased to say that I have not yet found a Swinnerton who enlisted under a false name.

However, 'Frederick Pilkington' Swinnerton did give us a lot of problems. For over 30 years we could not find his real story despite having searched many different sets of records. I finally found the answer last year.

It all started when Ray Swinnerton phoned for a taxi one night way back in 1976 and on, being asked his name, said Swinnerton and then immediately began to spell it out s..w..i..double 'n' (as we all do!).

However, he was quickly interrupted by the lady on the other end of the telephone who said he didn't need to tell her how to spell it – it had been her maiden name.

They had a chat during the course of which he told her he did not know anything about his family so she told him about me and the Swinnerton Society.

Ray very quickly got in touch with me and explained his problem. All he knew about his family was that his grandfather (who he had never known) had left his wife with a small son, Fred (Ray's father), and gone to Australia in the early 1900s.

Fred married Ray's mother Gladys Kirkbride on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1942 at St Peter's Church, Ashton under Lyne. He was described on his marriage certificate as a soldier in the Royal Artillery aged 37 and it stated that his father was Frederick Percival Swinnerton – a clerk. He later said that he had never known his father.

We obtained the birth certificate of Ray's father which revealed that his father was, in fact, also just plain Fred, not Frederick Percival or Frederick Pilkington Swinnerton as he was known in Australia. We also found Fred senior's marriage certificate to Hannah Lainton on which it states that he was a Corporal in the Manchester Regiment. The marriage took place on the 22 Oct 1904 at Ashton under Lyne Registry Office and stated that he was 22 and that his father was Walter Swinnerton of independent means!

By now I had enlisted the help of our first chairman, John Swinnerton. By a process of elimination, we found he was the Fred born at Meriden in 1882 and the birth certificate, when acquired, revealed that he was the fifth son of Walter Swinnerton, a railway signalman, of the Betley family, and Emma née Catell. John thought that the description of him as being 'of independent means' was a cover-up for him being unemployed at the time.

However, the family information about this Fred was that he had emigrated to Australia calling himself Frederick Pilkington

Swinnerton. On the ship *Ballarat* he had met a Rose M. Bowley, married her in Singapore and settled happily in Australia and raising a family. We were on delicate ground!

Eventually, through the good offices of our member Claudia Watts when she was working for the British Council in Singapore, we were able to have the registers in Singapore checked but there was no trace of the marriage.

In the 1901 census (taken on the 31<sup>st</sup> March) Fred was listed as a Draper's Clerk, living with his brother Charles and family at 115, Back of Moland Street, Birmingham. Three years later he was a Corporal in the Manchester Regiment which was pretty rapid promotion but intensive searches by me failed to substantiate this and I could find no record of any army service whatsoever.

However, a moment of inspiration last year finally solved the problem. A search in the records of the Militia revealed that, on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1901, he had enlisted in the 6<sup>th</sup> (Militia Battalion) Royal Warwickshire Regiment for six years as Fred Swinnerton giving the above address in Birmingham. He stated he was currently in the 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteer Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was 18 years 6 months old and had been born in Birmingham.

He also said that he was not an apprentice but that his Master (i.e. employer) was Mr Halliday of New Street, Birmingham. He served with this unit until 7<sup>th</sup> May 1903 and on the 8<sup>th</sup> May was transferred to the 5<sup>th</sup> (Militia) Battalion of the Manchester Regiment.

A footnote on his service documents then says **Manchester Regiment 27.7.03** which I assume means he joined a regular battalion of the Manchester Regiment. There are no muster Rolls for the 1st Battalion of the Manchester Regiment after 1882 or for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion after 1883 so I was unable to check this.

Regiments were, at first, known by the names of their colonels but this proved confusing when different regiments were commanded by colonels who bore the same name. So – in 1751 – they were given numbers in order of their seniority. To aid recruiting, regiments were given additional territorial titles in 1782 but many regiments did not use them and preferred to go on using their old numbers of which they were very proud. It was not until 1881 that regiments were compelled to have titles instead of numbers.

After 1881, the 63<sup>rd</sup> (West Suffolk) Regiment (itself formerly the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 8<sup>th</sup> King's Regiment) and the 96<sup>th</sup>

Regiment of Foot were linked to become the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions of the Manchester Regiment.

Under the reorganisation, 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions of a regiment were the (regular) line battalions, then came the Militia Battalions and then the Volunteer Battalions.

Before 1881, the Lancashire Militia Battalions were known as the Royal Lancashire Militia and the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions carried a subtitle of *The Duke of Lancaster's Own*, the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Militia Battalions had no subtitle, the 7<sup>th</sup> were subtitled *Rifles*. After 1881, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Militia Battalions (the old 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Lancashire) were based at Ashton with the depot of the Manchester Regiment. Military genealogy is very complicated!

So this may be the reason that Fred said he had previously served in the Royal Lancasters when he joined the Australian Army during WWI but he was mistaken – the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> had never borne this title.

On the outbreak of the Anglo Boer War in 1899 two extra Line Battalions were raised numbered 3rd and 4th Battalions. On 1 March 1900 the two Militia Battalions were renumbered 5th and 6<sup>th</sup> - both volunteered for service in South Africa. The 5th was embodied on 3 May 1900 and sent to Aldershot until 19 October when it returned to Ashton under Lyne and was disembodied. However from the start of the war drafts were sent to both the 1st and 2nd Battalions in South Africa.

When Fred married Hannah in October 1904 and said he was a Corporal in the Manchester Regiment, the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion were in Singapore where they had been sent after the Boer War. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was in Aldershot although the Depot remained in Ashton.

I know for certain that he was never discharged from the British Army but I now know that on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 1904, a draft of 350 NCOs and men (under the command of a 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lieutenant!) went to Singapore to reinforce the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Manchesters before they moved to India on 13 December 1904 where they remained until 29 August 1914.

Fred could not have been on this draft but may have gone later directly to India and, now we know he was a trained Militiaman and former Volunteer Rifleman, he could well have got to Corporal in the time, seen subsequent service on the unattached list of the Indian Army (as he claimed) and been discharged from there. This I have still to investigate.

The Unattached List goes back to 1859 when the Town Major's List within the old Honourable East India Company's European Army became the Unattached List in the new Indian Army.

Non Commissioned Officers, usually with the rank of Sergeant, were recruited for The Town Major's List from the Honourable East India Company's Regiments to serve in the Ordnance, Commissariat, Public Works and other administrative Departments.

However, in 1860, new recruits for the Unattached List came from NCOs of British Regiments who wished to remain in India. They could apply for transfer to the Unattached List. If their application was successful, they became supernumeraries attached to a British Regiment before promotion to the Warrant Officer ranks of Sub-Conductor and then Conductor. Further promotion was to Department Officer levels of Deputy Assistant Commissary, Assistant Commissary and Commissary and the complementary honorary ranks of Lieutenant and Major as did both William Swinnerton and his son John whose story appeared in our journal some years ago..



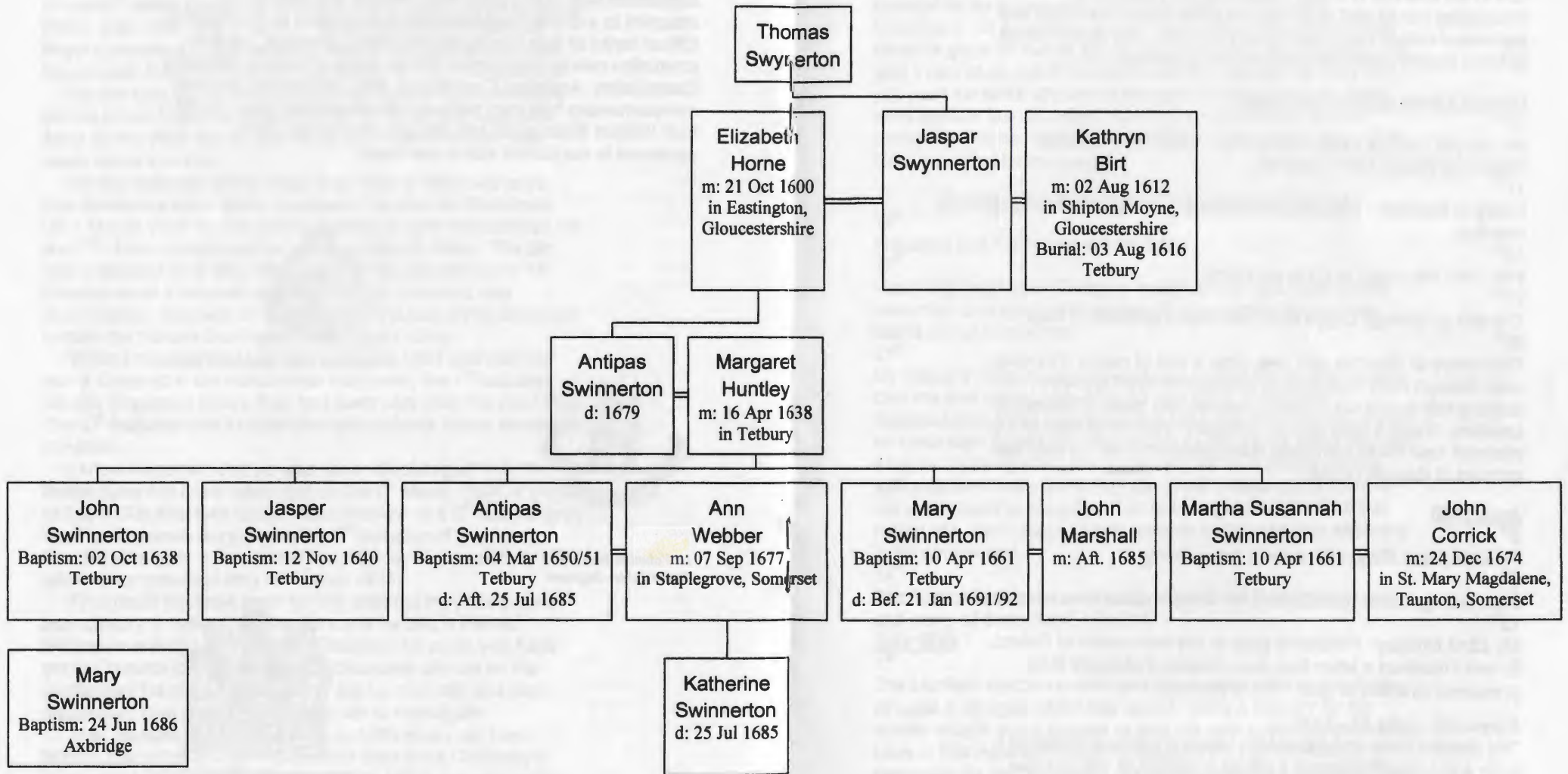
5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Lancashire Militia



1st Volunteer Battalion  
Warwickshire Regiment



## *Descendants of Thomas Swynerton of Gloucestershire*



UFO4



## Ann Bagot's Diary

(continued from Saga Vol. 14. No. 4. December 2009)

**May 1826**

8<sup>th</sup>

Mrs. Tynte return'd to London that she might go to Lady Neave's rout in the evening to whom I have had the pleasure of introducing her as well as to various other people for which she expressed herself much and greatly obliged - she much wishes to know people particularly some belonging to us.

### George Legge on his death-bed

10<sup>th</sup>

An acc (of) George Legge better than I had dared to flatter myself we should have received.

17<sup>th</sup>

I went to Denham - went into the wood to get Woodruff for Mary Howard.

19<sup>th</sup>

Wm. sent the buggy to bring me home.

21<sup>st</sup>

The acc. of George Legge that there was a glimmer of hope.

29<sup>th</sup>

Took leave of (Martha) and Wm. after a visit of nearly 3 months - went through High Wycombe to Shiplake where I arrived in soaking rain and to my dismay business had taken Elizabeth to London!! It was a blow but her six lovely children all here and a pleasant new Swiss governess Mademoiselle Arvet. A very sad account of George Legge.

### June 1826

3<sup>rd</sup>

Phillimore and Elizabeth came in the evening.

9<sup>th</sup>

John George came from Oxford. Phillimore came from London.

12<sup>th</sup>

My 52nd birthday! Phillimore gone to the nomination at Oxford. E. and I received a letter from dear Honora that ought to be preserved in letters of gold - this is the copy.

Braywicke. June 11 - 1826

"My dearest Anne and Elizabeth. Henry is not here therefore I write a line myself knowing it will be a comfort to you to know that we are all perfectly resigned and happy particularly our

beloved sufferer. We have had the true Heart felt comfort this day of taking the sacrament with him, he was quite himself and could pray with great devotion. His father was able to perform it. He said to me while kneeling by his bedside and taking it with him 'This is happiness!' After a better fore part of the day than usual yesterday he suddenly altered about 7 o'clock and I thought it would soon be over, he thought so himself and took leave of us but it pleased the Almighty to revive him which I am thankful for as it gave him the opportunity of taking the sacrament. He expressed a wish yesterday to see William and Henry is gone for him to say to bring him back this evening - He said 'I cannot go out of this world without seeing dear Billy Will you send for him? My weeks are now become days Augusta does behave like an angel.' I cannot imagine more perfect conduct in this her very very severe trial She adores him. God bless you all. Honora Legge."

### George Legge's Funeral - The Lichfield Elections

13<sup>th</sup>

Augustus and Henry came from Bray.

17<sup>th</sup>

Heard that poor dear George's mortal career had been closed yesterday God grant that we may all meet again through the merits of our Redeemer!

21<sup>st</sup>

My widow'd niece having thought she should like to see me Elie took me and Henry over, Honora was gone to Worston - Augustus was there who struggled hard with his feelings. It was an awful sight to see the widow also so short time since she was a happy bride standing like a statue of white polished marble with unbidden tears streaming down her cheeks not a murmur, not a complaint coming from her lips resign'd to the will of her maker, the man I had so lately seen in earthly joy now enclosed in his narrow bed.

24<sup>th</sup>

The funeral took place yesterday most of the Parishioners came and many of them much affected.

### July 1826

1<sup>st</sup>

The Lichfield election is over and the Ansons after a very long struggle a struggle which has lasted nearly a century for Sir Walter bought some houses to give his vote to the Levetts who have in this instance brought forwards (?) the now losing candidate Sir Roger Gresley - how long a time for such a contest to have lasted, to be sure it has been asleep for many years.

2<sup>nd</sup>

Accounts of poor Heneage Legge and also of Charlotte Percival which frighten me. God in his mercy support the parents. Went to church in the morn. the heat too great to go in the evening - heard of the distress about the continued drought being in many places great and the apprehensions for the consequences still greater.

Across England by chaise and coach

8<sup>th</sup>

Left Shiplake for Worston having spent 6 weeks very comfortably there and that wd. have been quite happy if not for the anxiety about poor George. E. sent me to Strathfields Spay (*Stratfield Saye*) where I took a chaise and went to Basingstoke where Augustus' chaise waited for me. Found my poor Nora calm and resign'd. Henry Louisa and Augusta here - the two latter much grown.



*Blithfield – the main home of the Bagot family for 750 years.*

## August 1826

7<sup>th</sup>

Went with Augusta and George to Winchester brought back dear Heneage from Portsmouth thank God in much better health.

11<sup>th</sup>

Heneage went to join Lord Willoughby in his Antelope for a cruise.

20<sup>th</sup>

During the week the heat has been great. We have been a good deal and pleasantly occupied by the poor, interested also in mowing 2 greenways as they stand in Honora's new purchase - The time has flown quietly and happily.

## ANNE'S RELATIONS

Just to remind you who all these people in the diary were:-

<u>Mother</u>	Anne Swynnerton of Butterton
<u>Father</u>	Revd. Walter Bagot. Parson of Blithfield
<u>Step Mother</u>	Mrs. Bagot née Ward
<u>Grand Father</u>	Sir Walter Wagstaffe Bagot
<u>Grand Mother</u>	Lady Barbara Bagot née Legge
<u>Brother</u>	Egerton Bagot of Pipe Hayes
<u>Brother</u>	Wm. Bagot
<u>Sister</u>	Honora married Hon. Augustus Legge
<u>Sister</u>	Louisa married Revd. Richard Levett. of Milford
<u>Sister</u>	Elizabeth, married J. Phillimore – Chancellor of the Diocese of Oxford
<u>Half Brother</u>	Ralph
<u>Half Sister</u>	Mary
<u>Half Sister</u>	Caroline married Ed. Daniel - Barrister
<u>Half Sister</u>	Jane married Right Hon. Sir Ed. Vaughan Williams Judge
<u>Half Sister</u>	Agnes married J. Farquhar Fraser
<u>Brother in Law</u>	Richard Levett of Milford
<u>Nephew</u>	Dico Levett
<u>Niece</u>	Frances (Baby) Levett
<u>Sister in Law</u>	Martha Swynnerton married William Bagot
<u>Cousin</u>	Lady Pilkington
<u>Cousin</u>	Mrs. Neave
<u>Uncle</u>	Charles Chester Bagot
<u>Uncle</u>	Lewis Bagot Bishop of St. Asaph.
<u>Uncle</u>	1st Lord Bagot (decd.)
<u>Aunt</u>	Barbara Bagot married Ralph Sneyd of Keele
<u>Aunt</u>	Maria Bagot married Rowland Wingfield
<u>Aunt</u>	Harriet Bagot
<u>Cousin</u>	William, 2nd Lord Bagot
<u>Cousin</u>	Sir Charles Bagot GCB. PC.
<u>Cousin</u>	Richard DD Bishop of Bath & Wells married Harriet d. of Earl of Jersey
<u>Levett's sister</u>	Anne married Revd. Frederick Anson parson of Sudbury



*Crest of Lord Bagot*

## The famous Bagot Goats



They are long haired with their heads and fore-quarters black and the rest white. Many animals now have spots and patches of black on their hind-quarters and a small white blaze upon their face. Both of these are allowed in the show standard but they are faults that will be bred out as numbers increase sufficiently to allow improvement.

The head of a goat has appeared on the coat of arms of the Bagot family since the year 1380 and the close association of the family with goats is believed to stem from the presentation of a herd of goats to Sir John Bagot by Richard II. In the Bagot family church at Blithfield, the crest with the head of a goat is carved on tombstones and there is a stone frieze of goat heads at Goat Lodge near Blithfield Park.

Available documentary evidence of the continuous existence of a herd of goats in Bagot's Park, which lies close to Abbots Bromley in Staffordshire, is sparse but the colour of the goats which is similar to that of the Schwarzhal goats in Switzerland lends credence to the theory that the Bagot goats are possibly descendants of animals brought back from the mainland of Europe, perhaps by the Crusaders. This makes the Bagot goat one of the oldest breeds of goats in Britain today.

The goats arrival at Blithfield around 1380 would indicate that they probably went first to one of the Royal Parks. The damage they would have done there, no doubt would have been considerable and the King would have been glad to get rid of them to another place where they could be enjoyed for hunting.

## The Swinnerton Family Society

I made a plea at the Liverpool meeting that we keep the new society simple and so we will only have a very small committee.

**Elizabeth Livesey**, having volunteered, was elected chairman; **Iris Crouch**, also having volunteered, was elected secretary; **Ray Swinnerton** will continue as membership & subscriptions secretary, which he has been doing very efficiently for three years now and I shall continue as editor, which I have been (not nearly so efficiently) for 36 years unless, of course, there is someone out there who would like to take it on! We shall need to recruit an ordinary committee member to make a balanced committee of five. If there is a volunteer out there please let us know.

**Elizabeth** was the secretary of the former Swinnerton Society from 1995-1998 having been elected to the Council in 1992. Elizabeth's connection with the family is through her 3 x great-grandmother, who was a daughter of Elizabeth Swinnerton of the Yew Tree branch who married William Harding, the Coroner for North Staffordshire. (We share this descent as my 3 x great-grandmother was Sarah another of William and Elizabeth's daughters who married John Swinnerton).

**Iris** is descended from a branch of the family who originate with John and Elizabeth Swinerton of London. John was born about 1780 in Bishopsgate. The family were flower sellers and artificial flower makers for several generations and, in one generation at least, spelled their name Swinarton. I think John was the son of a Richard Swinerton who may have come to London from Oswestry but this has yet to be proved.

**Ray's** story is told on page 125. Ray has many interests including amateur radio which he shared with his cousin, the late John Swinnerton, our former chairman, who had been President of the Radio Society of Great Britain. For our Domesday Gathering, Ray set up a special radio station at Swynnerton. He is a former member of the England fencing team and is married to Shelagh whose feats in the world of marathon runners have featured in these pages several times.

In addition, of course, we will have the invaluable help of **Roy Talbot** as our database manager and **Malcolm Smith** who maintains our website.



*Audrey Swinnerton deep in conversation*



*Audrey Cherry*  
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### Amendments and additions

At the end of the article *Swinnertons in Australia* by Dr Douglas Bolitho in the April *Saga*, I said that it would appear that there is a lot of research to be done yet in tracing any descendants of those listed as 'nothing further known' in Dr Bolitho's article and asked if any Australian member would like to take up the challenge.

I have received the following comprehensive list from Australia via Brian Swinnerton of Liverpool. All are extracted from the Victoria, Australia, registers of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

**William Swinnerton** b. 1820, Betley, Staffordshire, England, m. 1851, in Christ Church COE, Moorabool St, Geelong, **Eliza McQuade**, b. c 1830, County Armagh, Ireland, d. 25 Jan 1910, Austin Hospital, Heidelberg. William died 22 Dec 1898, Ararat.

**I. Esther Swinnerton** b. c 1854, m. 1876, in Victoria, Ephraim Arnold, b. c 1841, Cambridgeshire, England, (son of John Ephraim Arnold and Sarah Nunn) d. Feb 1913, St.Arnaud, buried: 27 Feb 1913, St.Arnaud M 9/29 N. Esther died Dec 1925, St.Arnaud, buried: 16 Dec 1925, St.Arnaud A 26/18 N.

- A. Ephraim John Arnold b. 1877, Landsborough.
- B. Sarah Esther Arnold b. 1879, Landsborough, d. Jul 1903, buried: 30 Jul 1903, St.Arnaud A 26/18 N.
- C. Mary Arnold b. 1880, Landsborough, d. 1880, Victoria. Aged 1 day
- D. Emily Eliza Arnold b. 1881, Landsborough, d. Aug 1897, buried: 15 Aug 1897, St.Arnaud A 26/17 N.
- E. Elizabeth Jane Arnold b. 1882, Landsborough.
- F. Harriet Gertrude Arnold b. 1884, Landsborough.
- G. Jeremiah Charles Arnold b. 1886, Landsborough, d. Feb 1902, buried: 17 Feb 1902, St.Arnaud A 26/17 N.
- H. Susan Margaret Arnold b. 1888, Landsborough.
- I. Harry Edward Arnold b. c 1890, d. 1973, Mildura.
- J. Christina Florence Arnold b. c 1891, d. Jan 1908, St.Arnaud, buried: 28 Jan 1908, St.Arnaud M 9/29 N.

II. **William Swinnerton** b. 1854, Ballarat, d. 1939, Bendigo.

III. **John Swinnerton** b. 1857, Maryborough, d. 1935, Euabalong, Lake Cargelligo, NSW, buried: Euabalong, NSW.

IV. **Harriet Swinnerton** b. 18 Feb 1859, Woodlands, near Crowlands, m. 3

Apr 1883, James Robinson, b. 1840, Hobart Town, Tas, (son of Benjamin

Charles Robinson and Mary Martha Atkinson) d. 2 Jul 1926, buried: Deniliquin S157, NSW. Harriet died 24 Jan 1929, Deniliquin, NSW,

buried: Deniliquin S158, NSW.

A. Ada Robinson b. 1883.

B. Arthur Robinson b. 1884.

C. Frank Robinson b. 1885, Moulamein, NSW.

D. John Robinson b. 1888, Deniliquin, NSW.

E. Herbert Robinson b. 1890, Deniliquin, NSW.

F. Jane Robinson b. 1892, Deniliquin, NSW.

V. **Henry Swinnerton** b. 1861, Crowlands.

VI. **Elizabeth Swinnerton** b. 1863, Crowlands, m. 1889, in Victoria,  
Joseph

Orr, b. c 1862, Ballarat, (son of William Orr and Ellen Robertson) d.  
1937,

St.Arnaud. Elizabeth died 1944, Cohuna.

A. Helen Robertson Orr b. 1890, Gooroc, m. 1915, in Victoria, William  
James Brabender, b. 1890, Swanwater South, (son of Andrew  
Brabender and Mary Liddle Stewart) d. 1964, Oakleigh. Helen died  
1979, Malvern.

1. Harold William Brabender b. 1916, St.Arnaud, m. 1940, in Victoria,  
Catherine Mary O'Connell.

2. Gordon Leslie Brabender b. 1918, Maryborough, m. 1941, in  
Victoria,

Amelia Mary Botten.

3. Keith Joseph Brabender b. 1920, St.Arnaud.

B. Margaret Robinson Orr b. 1891, Gooroc, m. 1914, in Victoria,  
Frederick

Battersby, b. 1889, St.Arnaud, (son of Frank Battersby and  
Ernestina

Paulina Wandel) d. 30 Jun 1978, Hawthorn. Margaret died 1961,  
Kerang.

1. Ronald Frederick Joseph Battersby b. 1915, St.Arnaud.

a. Ms Battersby m. Tony Stivala.

2. Marjorie Isabel Battersby b. 1916, St.Arnaud, m. 1936, in Victoria,  
James

Sharpe. Marjorie died 1949, Cohuna.

3. William Keith Battersby also known as Bill b. 1920, St.Arnaud.

C. William Joseph Orr b. 1893, Gooroc.

D. Florence Elizabeth Orr b. 1895, St.Arnaud.

E. Harold Orr b. 1899, St.Arnaud, d. 1901, St.Arnaud.

F. Esther Orr b. 1902, St.Arnaud.

VII. **Sarah Swinnerton** b. 1865, Crowlands, m. 1922, in Victoria,  
Edward

Heall Wright, b. c 1856, (son of Robert Heall Wright and Mary Ann  
Fawcett) d. 1922, Landsborough. Sarah died 11 Jan 1935,  
St.Arnaud,

buried: St.Arnaud A 1/11 H.

VIII. **Margaret Swinnerton** b. 1867, Crowlands, d. 1896, Ararat.

IX. **Mary Frances Swinnerton** b. 1869, Landsborough, m. 1907, in  
Victoria,

Patrick Thomas Casey, b. Ballarat. Mary died 1929, Deniliquin,  
NSW.

1. Unnamed Male Swinnerton (son of Mary Frances Swinnerton) b. c  
1893,

d. 1893, Ararat. Aged 3 days

X. **Thomas Swinnerton** b. 1871, Andersons Creek, d. 1943, Swan Hill.

XI. **Jesse Swinnerton** b. 1873, Landsborough, m. 1919, in Victoria,  
Olive

May Humphreys, b. 1898, Dunolly, (daughter of William Humphreys  
and

Mary Jane Young). Jesse died 1952, Dunolly.

A. **Gweneth May Swinnerton** b. 1919, Dunolly.

B. **William Colin Swinnerton** b. c 1922, m. Beverley Margaret Jordan.  
William died 17 Apr 2006, buried: Dunolly Memorial Wall, C15. VX  
111314 Corporal Swinnerton

1. **Colleen Doris Swinnerton** b. Jan 1954, d. 7 Sep 1958, Dunolly,  
buried

Dunolly H.

XII. **Jane Swinnerton** b. 2 Jul 1877, Crowlands, Landsborough, m.  
1899, in

Victoria, Prosper de Clercq, also known as: Peter b. 1 Jan 1870,  
Boudoix,

Brussels, Belgium, (son of John Baptiste de Clercq and Virginie  
Eugenie

de Beare) d. 15 Jun 1940, St.Arnaud, buried: Cobden H. Jane died  
10

Sep 1919, Cobden, buried: Cobden H.

A. Henry Peter de Clercq b. 1900, Ballarat East, m. 1927, in Victoria,  
Elva

May Lynch. Henry died 30 Apr 1947, Warrnambool, buried:  
Warrnambool.

B. Adela Margaret Odela de Clercq b. 1901, Ballarat East, m. 1938, in  
Victoria, James Raymond Swift, b. 1906, Schnapper Point, (son of  
Edward Swift and Emma Andrews). Adela died 1970, Mornington.

C. William Herbert de Clercq b. 1904, Ararat, d. 11 Mar 1958, Fitzroy,  
buried:

Cobden H.

D. Melva Nathalie de Clercq b. 1908, St.Arnaud, m. 1942, in Victoria,  
Vincent John Powell, b. 1907, Camperdown, (son of John Josiah  
Powell and Jane Viney Brown) d. 1974, Parkville. Melva died 1978,  
Essendon.

E. May Jane de Clercq b. 17 Sep 1909, St.Arnaud, m. 1933, in Victoria,  
Herbert Simpson Coverdale, b. 1 Jul 1910, Warrnambool, (son of  
Herbert

Coverdale and Jessie Elizabeth Lambert) d. 4 Mar 2000, buried:  
Cobden H. May died 3 Aug 1978, Warrnambool, buried: Cobden H.

1. Peter Coverdale b. c 1942, d. 1942, Cobden.

F. Harold James de Clercq b. 1911, St.Arnaud, d. 27 Apr 1982, buried:

Warrnambool.

G. Leslie Ernest Hope de Clercq b. 1912, Cobden, m. 1941, in Victoria,  
Lorna Jean Moore. Leslie died 1975, Cobden.

1. Evelyn de Clercq m. Leigh Ward.

H. Albert Edward de Clercq b. 8 Dec 1913, Cobden, m. 1940, in  
Victoria,

I. Cornelia Priscilla Saunders. Albert died 1977, HUNT.

*Our grateful thanks for these – the tree will need considerable additions.*

\* \* \* \* \*

### The Membership List.

No one has complained to me of any gross errors in the list I printed in the last issue of Saga but I did notice one error myself. Alan Jones's address is incomplete – it should read 'Tirydail, 1 Aberconwy Road, Prestatyn.

I have assumed, rightly or wrongly, that all our present subscribers to the Saga will wish to become members of the new Swinnerton Family Society – your subscription for 2010 will, of course, cover this.

### Odds and Ends

Items I picked up in my researches at The National Archives:

**Swinnerton Nicole**, mother Cuthbertson Type C/HC (Consulate or High Commission)

p.2517 Aug 2003 Marriage. **Swinnerton Nicholas Frederick** to Griffiths Jakarta Indonesia 2001

**Swinnerton Amelia** baptised 1837 London d. of Jeremiah (carpenter) and Lydia b. 19 Apr 1837 Stepney. St George in the East

**Swinnerton Charles**, son of Charles (turner) and Ann of Pool Town Mont. baptized 18 Jul 1852

Liverpool Echo 23 Nov 1924

**Swinnerton** (Higgins) Nov 20 at 6 Wendell Street. Annie eldest daughter of the late Joseph Higgins. Interment at Allerton Cemetery tomorrow Sat. at 11.00am  
(Wife of Myles James Swinnerton)



*Carole Swinnerton at Liverpool (with Shelagh having a snooze in the background - again!)*



*Shelagh Swinnerton*



*A tree drawn up by our late chairman, Joe Swinnerton, some years ago.*

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