

NORTH  
September Quarter 2016

# E Newsletter



Welcome to the E Newsletter for the North Staffordshire Family History Society (BMSGH)

Once again we will be asking you to help shape the E newsletter with your news, views and articles.

You can email them to me using the email address given in the newsletter below.



We at the North Staffordshire Family History Society are always looking for volunteers to help in any way that you can whether it be in a large or small way.

We are looking for people who can transcribe index's for the Staffordshire BMD's project which has helped us all and continues to do so .

Photographing of internal or external monuments within the local churches and churchyards.

Transcribing various documents. And index's



[robecarter@hotmail.com](mailto:robecarter@hotmail.com)

Dates for  
the diary  
2016

4<sup>th</sup> July

Research  
Evening



August

NO MEETING



5<sup>th</sup> September

3 Times on Sunday

Steve Birks

## Research Evenings

Come to our research evenings, we have a wealth of genealogy information to share with you in book form and digital formats.

We have members who are willing to help you through the maze of information that we hold and steer you in the right direction.

Please look at the library list on the BMSGH web site before you come, this will give you a flavour of the documents we have at our disposal.

### ON THE WEB

Film Archives:

British film institute, the library has a selection of commonly used books and various databases to holdings of film archives

[www.bfi.org.uk](http://www.bfi.org.uk)

Imperial war museum films: the films are both official and unofficial, covering both world wars plus other conflicts.

[www.iwm.org.uk/collections/films.htm](http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/films.htm)

Media archive for central England institute of film studies:

[www.nottingham.ac.uk/film/mace](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/film/mace)

British universities film and video council:

On line database of people who have worked in newsreels between 1910 and 1979 (Eg cameramen, editors and sound recordist's)

[www.bufvc.ac.uk](http://www.bufvc.ac.uk)

UKBMD now has a few tutorials on line to help you make the most of what is on offer and I thought it may help you in tracing your ancestors. In his commentary Ian has focused mainly on Lancashire and Cheshire, his family roots, but the guidance given is appropriate to all Counties under the UKBMD banner.

The link to the tutorials is :-

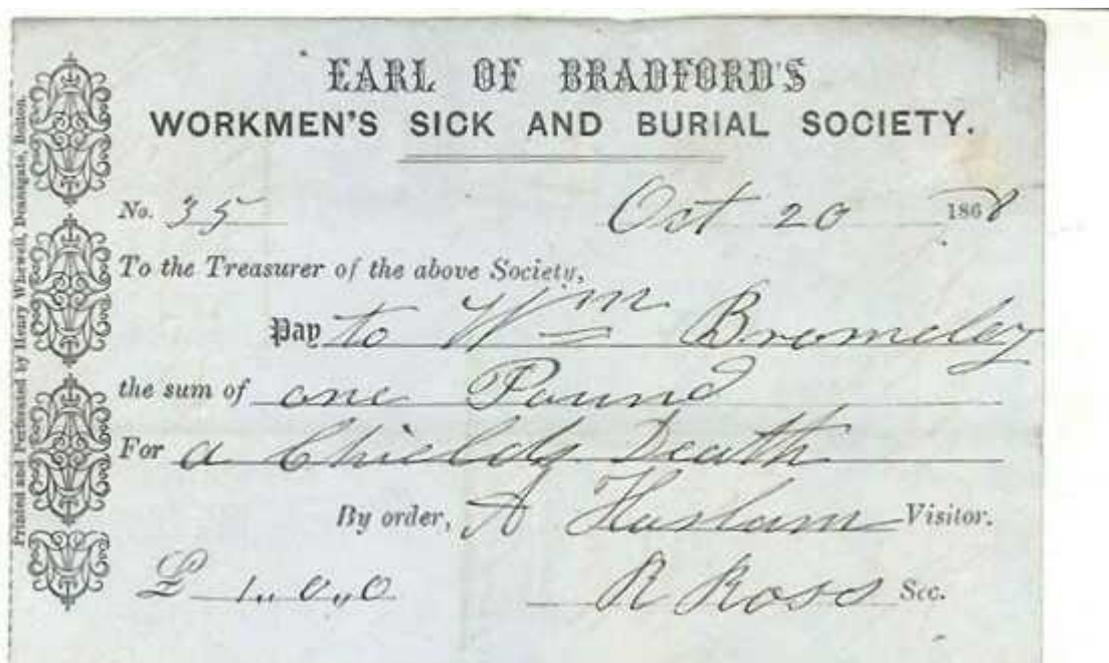
<http://www.UKBMD.org.uk/tutorials>

# Friends of Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archives

## The Bradford Collection

An exploration of the archive of the Bridgeman family of Weston under Lizard and Castle Bromwich

a talk by Rebecca Jackson



Monday July 18<sup>th</sup> 2016 2.00 pm.

Staffordshire Record Office Eastgate Street Stafford.

This collection is one of the largest in the Staffordshire Archives and covers the estates of this family in Staffordshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Lancashire and elsewhere. As well as estate papers there are manorial documents, family settlements and wills, solicitor's correspondence, household accounts, maps, surveys, photograph albums, personal papers, business documents and papers relating to public appointments held by family members. Working with the collection and a number of volunteers Rebecca Jackson has built up a wide knowledge of the family, its properties and estates and will select original documents for us to see which will tie in with our visit to Weston Park in August.

To reserve a place contact Richard Totty by e mail at [richard.totty4@gmail.com](mailto:richard.totty4@gmail.com) or write to Rock Cottage Redhill Rugeley WS15 4LL.

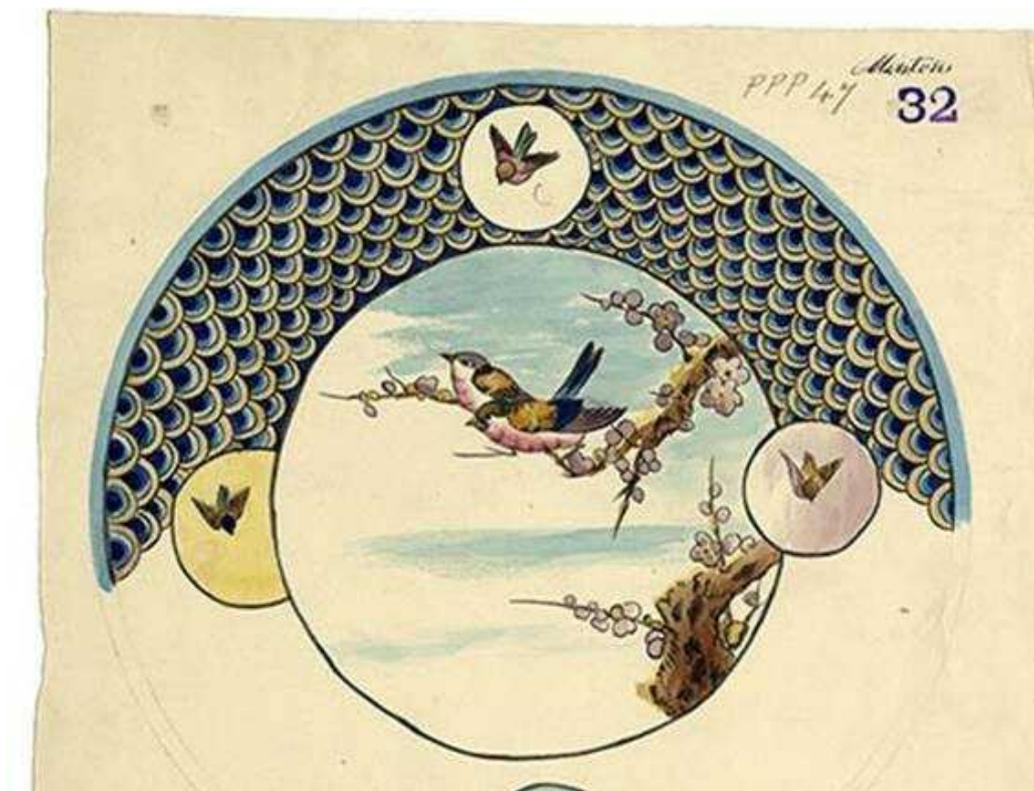
£4.00 for FoSSA members £5.00 for non-members

Please make cheques payable to FoSSA and enclose a SAE if you require a receipt.

# Friends of Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archives

## Minton Glorious Minton

An exploration of the Archive of Minton & Co (Purchased in 2015 by the Art Fund and deposited in  
Stoke on Trent Archives)



**Stoke on Trent Archives and the Potteries Museum , Bethesda Street Hanley**

**Tuesday July 5 2016 2.00 to 4.30 pm.**

The afternoon will be split into two parts, one in the Potteries Museum, where we will have a handling session on pieces from the Museum's store collection, within the store, the second in the archives where we would look at the range and scope of the Minton Archive and have significant items from the collection available for inspection and consultation in the Archive Reading Room. There is a limit of 10- 11 people on each part which would each last 60-70 minutes.

2 – 3.00 Session1 3 to 3-30 break for refreshment (the Museum has a café) 3.30-4.30 Session 2 , in which there would be two independent groups who would swap over after tea.

£6.00 for FoSSA members £7.50 for non members, not including refreshments.

To reserve a place contact Richard Totty by e mail at [richard.totty4@gmail.com](mailto:richard.totty4@gmail.com) or write to

Rock Cottage Redhill Rugeley WS15 4LL.

Please make cheques payable to FoSSA and enclose a SAE if you require a receipt.

## **Stafford History Day 7 May 2016** by Dianne Shenton

Interesting day with various speakers run in conjunction by Stafford Council (Archives) and Birmingham and Keele Universities.

**Andrew Homer** gave us his findings for his MA dissertation on Beer houses 1830-1869 in the Black Country. It cost 2 guineas for a licence to run a Beer house and many were known as Tom & Jerry Shops. The Act of 1869 ended free trade and many big breweries bought up smaller Beer houses.

**Dr Alannah Tomkins and Dr Peter Collinge** talked about the Staffordshire Paupers project which is examining and cataloguing overseer's vouchers relating to Uttoxeter at the moment. These are scraps of paper up to large end of year balance sheets for the accounts. I am volunteering on this project and we hope that we may be able to put together a little biography of some of the people – eg suppliers of goods for the poor.

**Dr Nigel Tringham** gave us a brief history of Staffordshire but was talking about its sense of identity not a list of events and dates. He concluded that the term "Shire" was coined by the West Saxon Dynasty and that the term "county" meant something to the Domesday compilers as most land was in the hands of a very few large landowners, but Domesday lists things by County not Land owner.

Staffordshire had a weak sense of identity possibly because it shared a Sherriff with Shropshire who resided in Shropshire. (Middle Ages) Elizabeth 1 had to legislate to make sure meetings relating to Stafford took place in the town! Nigel pointed out that Staffordshire doesn't even have a County cricket team.

He also pointed out that Staffordshire was very late getting people to use Stafford or Staffordshire in a title. Earls of Warwick and Derby etc. were in place much earlier. The name Staffordshire appears to be first used as a name for something in the 18<sup>th</sup> century with Stafford Infirmary. More Stafford names followed this and he thinks North Staffordshire was first used to differentiate between the 2 Infirmaries when the N. Staffs. Royal Infirmary was built. Then that name caught on.

"Staffordshire" has really caught on since the finding of the Staffordshire Hoard. It was called Staffordshire to try to ensure anonymity of the site until it could all be rescued and now the name has stuck.

**Stephen Dean**, Principle Archaeologist, Gave an over view of what is happening and was half way through an interesting bit about the site of the old Maxine's Wine Bar in Newcastle under Lyme when unfortunately at this point the fire alarms went off and we all had to evacuate the building. They has found a rubbish pit / Latrine from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Century which was sealed when it went out of use. Apparently this is a very rare find.

**This meant some adjusting of the timetable.**

Joanna Terry updated us on the possibility of getting a Stafford History Centre. They now have plans and it will cost £5 million. The end of May will tell if they are successful in getting a grant for it.

They have acquired the Minton Archive - check out details on <http://www.themintonarchive.org.uk/>  
This is the biggest archive Stoke on Trent own and they are applying for a cataloguing grant.

Many Quarter sessions records are added to the catalogue, and they have a grant from the Welcome Trust to add some Public health records.

Both Past Track and Gateway to the past sites have been upgraded.

**Dr Andrew Sargent** gave us the latest news about the Victoria County History of Staffordshire and he is updating the web site.

**Dr Malcolm Dick** informed us that the West Midlands History Magazine is to finish in its present format and will be replaced by a single one off annual publication.

**Dr Tony Phillips** gave us a run down on Staffordshire Maps. Christopher Saxon, 1570's: Wm. Smith 1602: John Speed 1610: Robert Plot 1682 revised 1686 and Gregory King's manuscript only version of his map. He compared all the outlines of the county and information contained and concluded that Christoph Saxon did do a survey as did Gregory King but the others appear to have copied Christopher Saxon and added bits in. Consequently Christopher Saxon had the most accurate outline of the county.

## **STAFFORDSHIRE**

### **HISTORY CENTRE**

#### **New £4m History Centre for Staffordshire**

Plans for a new multi-million pound modern history centre in Staffordshire have been given the green light after securing Heritage Lottery funding.

The proposed new centre has received nearly £4million from the Heritage Lottery Fund to create a two-storey link between the Staffordshire Record Office and the William Salt Library in Stafford.

The new centre will hold records up to 1,000 years old, as well as having a new community exhibition space, modern search rooms and strong rooms to provide storage for an additional 25 years of future collections.

The project follows months of planning and consultation with local people, history groups and local historians.

Existing records currently held at the Lichfield Record Office and the William

Salt Library will now be moved into the new centre and more records will continue to be made available online. A new local and family history access point will also be created in Lichfield Library where people can access a range of digital collections.

Rare archives will be displayed in a state of the art exhibition space, and over six million parish records, documenting the lives of ordinary Staffordshire people will be available in the new centre and online.

Added to this, the project will deliver a four year county wide activity programme, which includes a schools' learning programme, touring exhibitions and the digitisation of key collections.

More than 100 volunteers will be enlisted to help deliver the history centre project, which will reach out to historians and people interested in researching their family history.

Gill Heath, Cabinet Member responsible for the Archives Service at Staffordshire County Council said:

“The new Staffordshire History Centre, with more accessible facilities along with plans to take more activities out into local communities, will give us a much more modern sustainable service for the future.

“We want to reach out to more people and let them use and enjoy the records,

and our new-look service developed with local history groups and the public will help us do this. At the same time we will continue get more records available online through findmypast to ensure anyone who has an interest in history can access information at the touch of a button.”

Mithra Tonking, Vice Chair of the William Salt Library Trust said: “The creation of the Staffordshire History Centre will secure the future of the William Salt Library providing much needed space for the collection to continue to grow. It will also secure the future of a much loved grade II\* listed building reathing new life into it as a community space within the Centre, a space for new business start-ups and residential accommodation.”

People can keep up to date with the plans and sign up to the project ebulletin at

[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/archives/ourvision](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/archives/ourvision)

# A FAMILY BIBLE

The following information is from a family bible that was acquired by Steve

The bible which is a standard Big leather bound item published in 1847 and has four or five pages of family history stuff written inside *photographs of the pages below*.

The marriage of John Pearson mentioned on the inside cover is to John's second wife Eliza Minors and all the children referred to are of this marriage. John had previously been married to Maria Green on 21st December 1852 at St Giles Newcastle and they were married for about 10 years as Maria passed away in the April Quarter of 1862 . in Stone sub district but I am still to find details of the circumstances.

I have found them on the 1861 census living in King Street Newcastle and they have one servant and no children - not sure if they ever had any children at this point though.

John and Eliza were married in 1865 and had 6 children  
Hugo minors Pearson born 4 Oct 1866 @ Newcastle  
Florence Maud Pearson born 7 Sep 1868 @ Newcastle  
Ernest Arthur Pearson born 16 Feb 1872 in Stoke sub district but died 13 July 1872 and is buried in Keele  
A still born female born 29 May 1874 and buried in the same grave as Ernest  
Sidney John Pearson born 5 Feb 1876 in Stoke sub district  
Another still born female born 25 Jan 1878 and buried in the same grave as Ernest

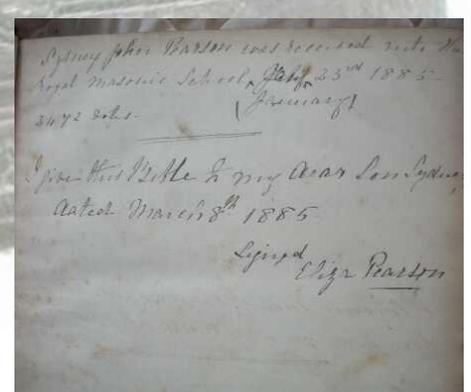
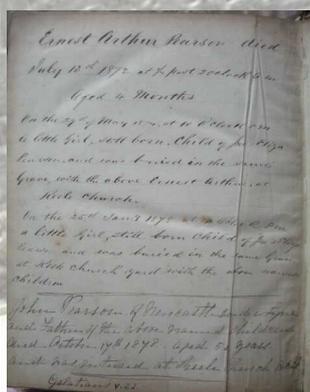
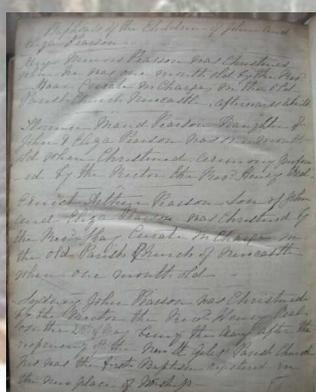
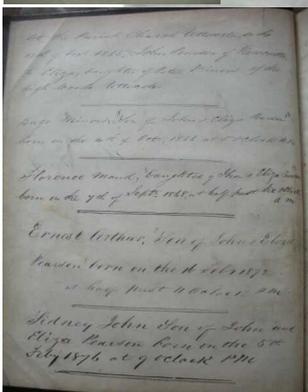
John Pearson died in October of 1878 and is buried in Keele

I have found Eliza and the 3 remaining children on the 1881 census and they are living in King Street Newcastle with a lodger - C. S. Fisher who is a 34 years old barrister at Law

I find them on the 1891 census back in Eliza's place of marriage - Uttoxeter, specifically Higher Leigh . Eliza is a 55 years old widow living on own means and the two sons are "Brazilian Merchants Clerks" and Florence Maud just as an A in the occupation column - Annuitant ?

After this I can find no record of Eliza or the two boys - have they gone off with the Brazilian Merchant ?  
I have found Florence on the 1901 census and she is living with her "single" cousin Martha A Charles (52) and other relatives listed as Nieces to the head of house - these are Edith Charles (15) and Hilda M M Smith (7)

That is as far as I have reached at the moment .... so more to follow in the next Newsletter





On the 11th of June 1898 he married Mary Gertude Eckersley at the sacred hearts church, Hanley.

In 1899 Enoch was Recalled back into the armed service to be sent to South Africa to re-enforce the troops in the Boer War conflict.



Enoch circled

He saw service in Paardeberg, Driefontein, Transvaal, until being discharged medically unfit, and returned to the UK in 1901.

Enoch & Mary's' son, Joseph Henry was born in 1899.

In 1902 he resumed service with the Hanley Constabulary until 1905.

In 1903 their first daughter Cecelia Gertrude was born , their second daughter Edith Mary was born in 1906.

He joined the Army Volunteer Reserve in 1908

After leaving the police he became a County Council Bailiff

At the age of 43 in 1914 he enlisted for service in the First World War, and served in France in 1916. by 1917 he was discharged, being not medical fit to continue in service.

By 1917 his son Joseph was killed in action whilst serving in France.

Enoch and his family lived at 10 Clifton Street, Hartshill.

The story still needs to be filled-in for the 1920's.....

However Enoch's life came to a close in January 1931. (below is Enoch's entry in the Hartshill burial register)

2/363	Enoch Davenport	Bailiff	39	10 Clifton St	Wales	Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> 1931	M. Bygones	7185	Hartshill	1/2
-------	-----------------	---------	----	---------------	-------	-----------------------------	------------	------	-----------	-----