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## Our Mission

To document the history of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire, by providing a means for historians to publish findings on that history, and on topics which relate to that history.



## THE WHITLAM FAMILY?... WHO ARE THEY?

By David King

### INTRODUCTION

It is well known that Caroline Whitlam of Grimsby married Titus Salt at Grimsby Parish Church on 21st August, 1830. When Titus Salt received his baronetcy she became Lady Salt (see Illustration 1). The couple had 11 children and Caroline outlived Sir Titus by over 16 years, residing in London in her later life. She died in 1893 at St Leonard's on Sea, aged 81.

Much has been written about the background and early life of Sir Titus and his later life with Caroline. However, very little has been published previously about Caroline's life before her marriage, or about her own family, the Whitlams. So just what has been recorded?

The main source of information about the Whitlam family is to be found in the Reverend Balgarnie's book 'Sir

Titus Salt, Baronet: His Life and Its Lessons', first published in 1877, shortly after the death of Sir Titus. Here we learn that Titus was in the habit of travelling to Lincolnshire to purchase fleeces in connection with the Salt's family business as

woolstaplers in Bradford. Titus was the junior partner in the firm of Daniel Salt & Son whose main activity at that time was the buying of raw wool for resale to the many textile firms in Bradford. At that time the county of Lincolnshire was by far the largest producer of British wools. The story goes that during the course of his business travels in Lincolnshire Titus

was accustomed to visit George Whitlam, a wealthy wool producer. We are told that George Whitlam resided at the Manor House, Grimsby and was the father of 18 children, of whom eight survived to adulthood. Word of George Whitlam's daughters reached



*Illustration 1: Portrait photograph of Lady Caroline Salt (née Whitlam), taken in later life.*

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the ears of Titus, who soon made it his business to get to meet them, already having in mind one particular daughter for a future wife. Balgarnie relates, however,

that, rather than being struck by the beauty of the daughter he had originally intended to court, he was immediately attracted to Caroline, the youngest

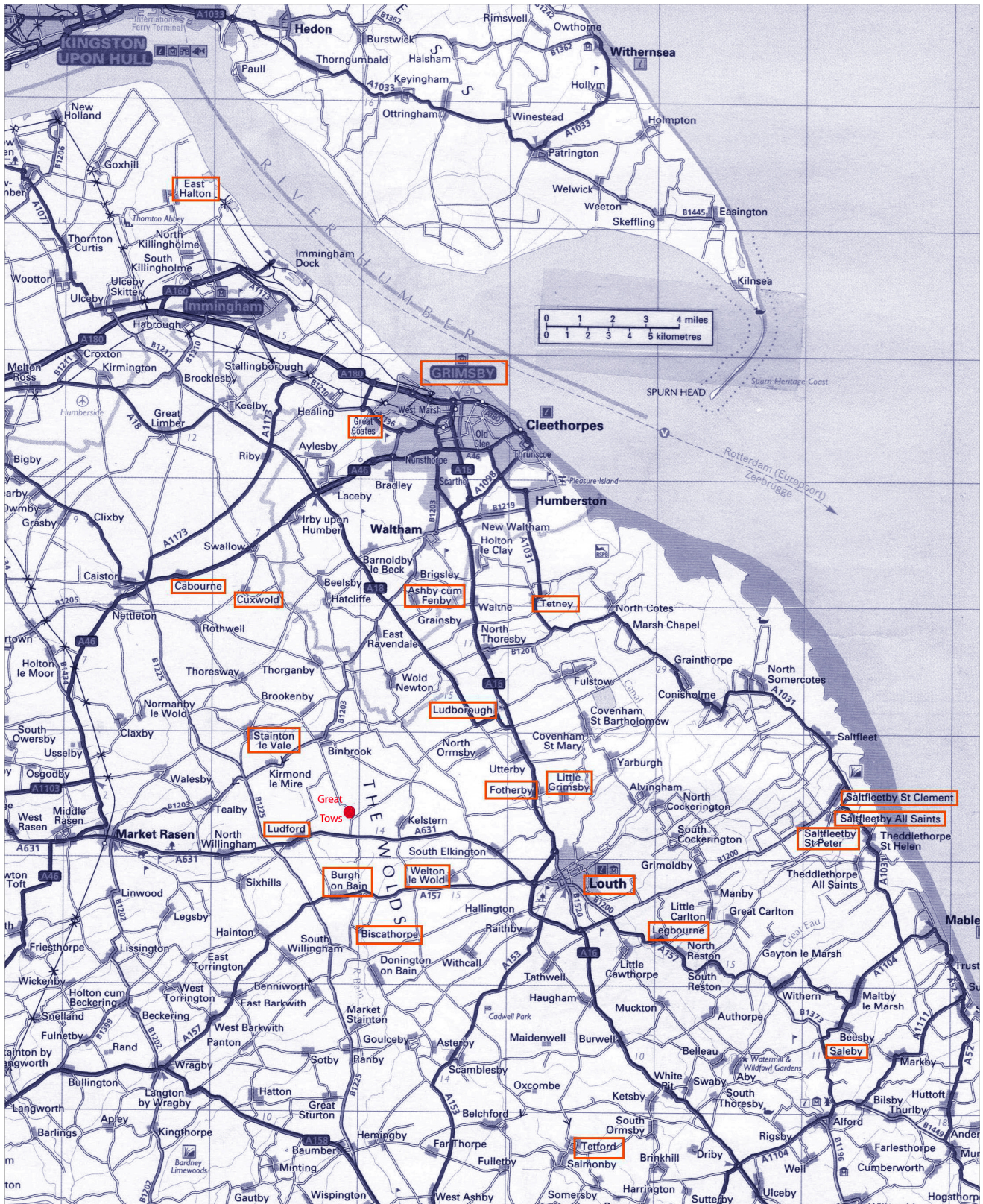


Illustration 2: Map of north Lincolnshire, highlighting locations associated with the Whitlams.

daughter. At this stage Caroline was only 16 or 17 years old. However, their courtship prospered and Caroline was a little over 18 when they were married in 1830. Further information is provided by Balgarnie when he tells us that Titus was not the only Bradford woolstapler to marry into the Whitlam family. He relates that one had previously married Caroline's sister Amelia and another had subsequently married another sister, Lucy. As a consequence all three sisters were soon living in Bradford. The final piece of information provided by Balgarnie is that, at the time his book was published (1877), Caroline was the last survivor of the children of George Whitlam.



*Illustration 3: Photograph of portrait of George Whitlam.  
Courtesy of Nicholas Salt.<sup>1</sup>*

This was more or less the sum total of our knowledge of the Whitlams until Jack Reynolds published his book 'The Great Paternalist' in 1983. Other writers in the meantime had merely retold the story already related by Balgarnie. Reynolds does not add much more to the story, but he does tell us that Amelia Whitlam married George Haigh in 1820 and Lucy Whitlam married Charles Timothy Turner in 1833. He adds that at one time all three sisters lived very close to each other. Titus and Caroline were at North Parade, Bradford and the Turners and Haighs were next door to each other in Manor Row. At this time North Parade and Manor Row were the recently-developed, smart part of Bradford, just out of the town centre, yet close enough to business warehouses and offices. Many substantial houses were built here, some of which remain to this day. The only further piece of information given is that Titus Salt's first daughter was named Amelia after her aunt, Caroline's sister.



*Illustration 4: Photograph of portrait of Elizabeth Whitlam.  
Courtesy of Nicholas Salt.<sup>1</sup>*

These are the few scraps of information about the Whitlam family that have been brought to our knowledge by previous writers. This lack of information is what prompted a deeper investigation into the background of Caroline and the Whitlam family in general. The results are contained in the rest of this narrative. Much of the source material for this article has been obtained from searching through church registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, as well as the national registration records of births, marriages and deaths and census information.

The text is written from the perspective of Caroline Whitlam.

However, since much has already been recorded about Caroline's later life, it is not proposed to repeat it here and reference will only be made to Caroline where it is considered to be new, or particularly relevant, old information. Readers wishing to learn more of Caroline's life after her marriage to Titus Salt are referred to the list of recommended books to be found at the end of this article.

## THE WHITLAM FAMILY

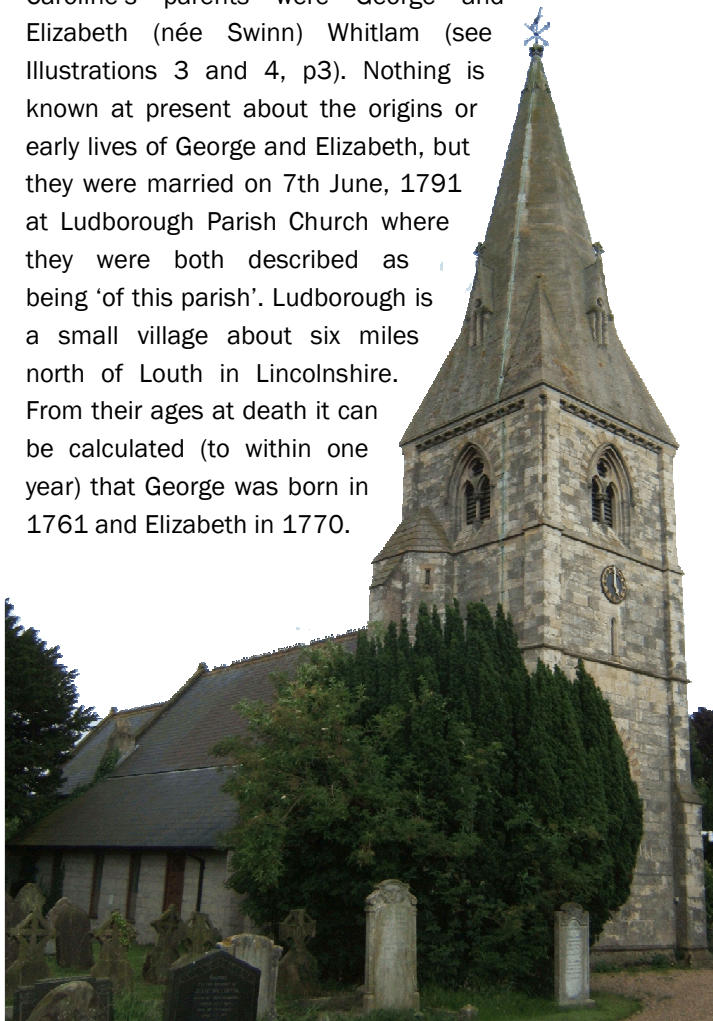
N.B. The locations of places associated with the Whitlam family are highlighted in Illustration 2, opposite. Readers may find it useful to refer back to the map when new places are mentioned.

<sup>1</sup> The portraits of George and Elizabeth Whitlam were bequeathed in George's will to his oldest daughter. The bequest included the proviso that, on her death, they would pass to the next daughter in order of seniority and be passed on, in like manner, at each subsequent daughter's death. Eventually they became the property of Caroline, being the youngest and last survivor of the Whitlam sisters.

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Caroline's parents were George and Elizabeth (née Swinn) Whitlam (see Illustrations 3 and 4, p3). Nothing is known at present about the origins or early lives of George and Elizabeth, but they were married on 7th June, 1791 at Ludborough Parish Church where they were both described as being 'of this parish'. Ludborough is a small village about six miles north of Louth in Lincolnshire. From their ages at death it can be calculated (to within one year) that George was born in 1761 and Elizabeth in 1770.



Within a couple of years the newlyweds had moved to Fotherby, which is three miles closer to Louth than Ludborough, and this is where the first seven of their children were baptised between 1793 and 1802 (see Illustration 5). Baptism registers indicate that George and Elizabeth had 14 children in all; five boys and nine girls. It is a sad reflection on the mortality rates of the time that six of their children – three boys and three girls – were to die in infancy, leaving only eight children to eventually reach maturity. This number of 14 children is at odds with Balgarnie's figure of 18, but no more registrations have been found and there is scarcely room for others given the closeness of the children's births. The figure of 14 also agrees with what is written in the Whitlam family Bible (see Illustration 6, opposite).

Caroline was the second youngest child, but, as her younger brother Henry died in infancy, she was the youngest child to reach maturity. Each of the Whitlam children who reached maturity eventually married. Table 1 shows the birth, baptism and death details of the Whitlam family children, in order of seniority. Table 2 details their marriages.

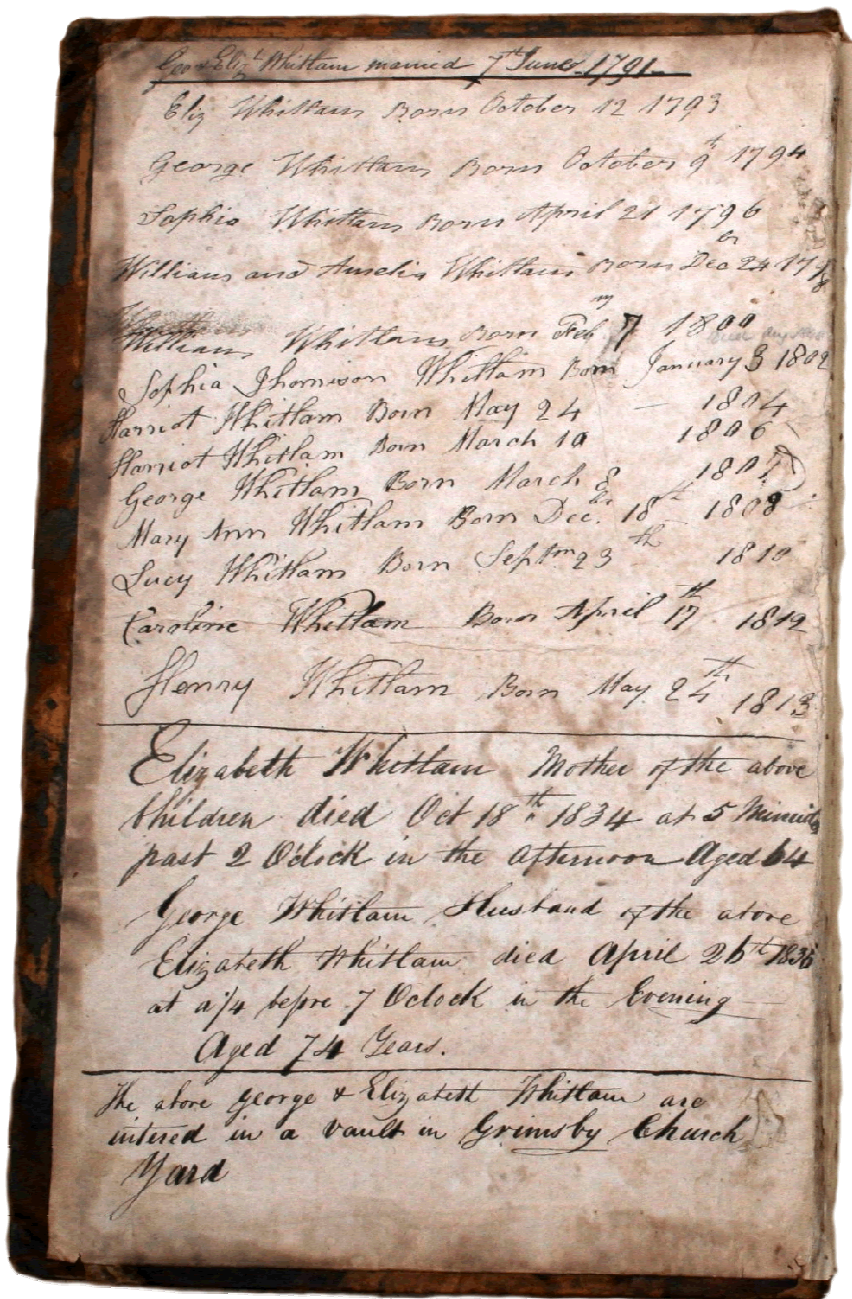
*Illustration 5, left: St Mary's Church, Fotherby, 2007. Place of baptism of the elder Whitlam children. (The church was rebuilt in 1863). Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

**Table 1 - The Children of George and Elizabeth Whitlam**

Name	Birth Date	Baptism Date	Baptism Place	Death Date	
Elizabeth	12/10/1793	13/10/1793	Fotherby	1846	
*George	09/10/1794	21/10/1794	Fotherby	before 1807	
*Sophia	21/04/1796	29/04/1796	Fotherby	In infancy	
Amelia (a twin)	24/12/1798	25/12/1798	Fotherby	1848	
*William (a twin)	24/12/1798	25/12/1798	Fotherby	In infancy	
William	07/02/1800	16/02/1800	Fotherby	1848	
Sophia Thomison	03/01/1802	10/01/1802	Fotherby	1870	
*Harriet	24/05/1804	09/06/1804	Tetford	before 1806	
*Harriet	10/03/1806	17/03/1806	East Halton	1813	
George	08/03/1807	24/03/1807	Ludford	1840	
Mary Ann	18/12/1808	22/01/1809	Ludford	before 1877	
Lucy	23/09/1810	01/10/1810	Ludford	1851	
Caroline	17/04/1812	21/04/1812	Ludford	1893	
*Henry	24/05/1813	05/1813	Ludford	1813	*died in infancy

**Table 2 - The Marriages of the Whitlam Children**

Name	Spouse	Date of Marriage	Place of Marriage
Elizabeth	1 George Towler	08/06/1812	St Mary, Sculcoates, Hull
	2 John Foster	10/01/1843	Welton le Wold
Amelia	George Haigh	27/09/1820	Cuxwold
William	Eliza Banes	12/02/1824	Weston
Sophia Thomison	Marmaduke Clark	14/09/1824	Cuxwold
George	Rachel Kirkby	06/06/1837	Cabourne
Mary Ann	William Archer	20/01/1829	Cuxwold
Lucy	Charles Timothy Turner	24/10/1833	Cuxwold
Caroline	Titus Salt	21/08/1830	Grimsby



It can be seen that Cuxwold Church (see Illustration 7, overleaf) appears to have been the favourite marriage location for the Whitlam daughters, being chosen by Lucy even after the family had moved to Grimsby. Cuxwold is situated approximately 10 miles south west of Grimsby, just to the south of the present-day A46.

Over the years the family lived in a number of locations. After being at Fotherby for about nine years the next two children were baptised at Tetford and East Halton respectively. The family then moved to Tows House, Great Tows and the remaining five children, including Caroline, were born there (see Illustrations 8, 9, overleaf). They were baptised between 1807 and 1813 at Ludford, where the local parish church is situated (see Illustration 10, overleaf). Two of the children who died in infancy (the second of the two daughters named Harriet and the youngest son, Henry) were buried at Ludford. There is an inscribed stone, much weathered and barely readable, over their grave (see Illustration 11, overleaf).

Great Tows lies approximately eight miles west of Louth and is situated in the Lincolnshire Wolds in what, for Lincolnshire, is a high, exposed position, approximately 430 feet above sea level. The family must have spent many winter

*Illustration 6: Photograph of page of the Whitlam Family Bible. Courtesy of Nicholas Salt.*

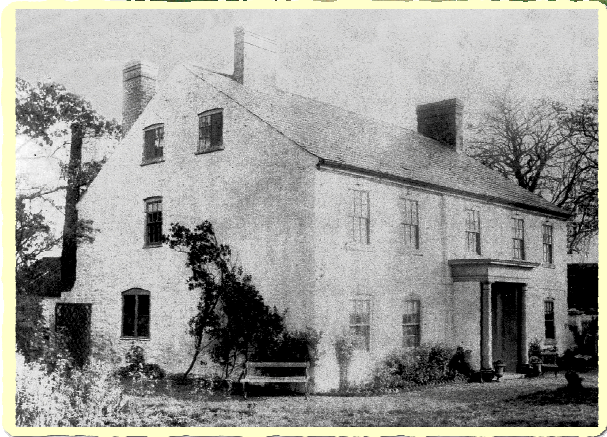
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*Illustration 7, left: St Nicholas' Church, Cuxwold, 2007. Place of marriage for many of the Whitlam daughters. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

*Illustration 8, below: Aerial view of Tows House and Farm, taken in the 1960s. Courtesy of Maureen Keal, Great Tows.*



*Illustration 9, left: Tows House, birthplace of Caroline Whitlam. Date unknown (early 20th century?). Courtesy of Tony Turnbull.*

*Illustration 10, below left: Church of St Mary and St Peter, Ludford, the Parish Church of Great Tows, 2007. Philip Barlow and David King in the foreground. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

*Illustration 11, below right: Gravestone commemorating Harriet and Henry Whitlam. Churchyard of St Mary and St Peter, Ludford, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*



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nights huddled round the fire in an attempt to keep warm as the icy north east winds blew in, unrestricted, from across the North Sea. Tows House itself was demolished in 1985 by the present owner of the land and buildings forming the Great and Little Tows estates. However, several of the outbuildings once forming the perimeter of the farmyard are still standing (see Illustration 12) and the original entrance gates remain in situ (see Illustration 13). We can infer from the places of marriage of the Whitlam daughters that, after living at Tows House, the family moved to Cuxwold around 1815.



*Illustration 12: The original barn of Tows House, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

The final home of George and Elizabeth was at the Manor House, Grimsby (see Illustration 14), to which they must have moved in the late 1820s. This was the house from which Caroline married Titus Salt, in 1830, at Grimsby Parish Church (see Illustration 16, overleaf). The church stands directly in front of the Manor House a few hundred yards away, so it would have been a very short ride by carriage for the couple on their wedding day (see Illustration 17, overleaf). Caroline would not have lived long in Grimsby before she was married.



*Illustration 13: The original gates of Tows House, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

The Manor House at Grimsby is still standing, but barely recognisable. It has now taken on a new life as The County public house in Brighowgate (see Illustration 15). One wonders what Sir Titus would have thought were he to have known that his wife's grand home, from which she was married, would one day become a public house. The parish church is still visible from the property, but now the main railway line into Grimsby runs between the house and the church, so the ride to the church today

*Illustration 14, below: Manor House, Grimsby, c1920. Home of Caroline Whitlam at the time of her marriage to Titus Salt. Courtesy of North East Lincolnshire Library Service.*

*Illustration 15, right: Manor House, Grimsby, 2007, now The County public house, Brighowgate. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*



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would be slightly longer, across the nearby level crossing.

Caroline's parents George and Elizabeth were to remain at the Manor House until their deaths. Elizabeth died first on 18th October, 1834, aged 64, followed 18 months later by George on 26th April, 1836, aged 74. They were both buried in the churchyard of Grimsby Parish Church where an inscribed, altar-style tomb covered their remains. Unfortunately, most of the gravestones in the churchyard have been removed from their original positions. Many have been placed against the perimeter wall of the churchyard, but on a recent visit the stone belonging to George and Elizabeth could not be located.

Although Caroline was a staunch Congregationalist following her marriage to Titus Salt, there is nothing to suggest that her parents were other than Anglican in their religious leanings. All the children of Caroline's



*Illustration 16: Parish Church of St James, Grimsby, 2007. Location of the marriage of Caroline Whitlam and Titus Salt, and the burial place of Caroline's parents.  
Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

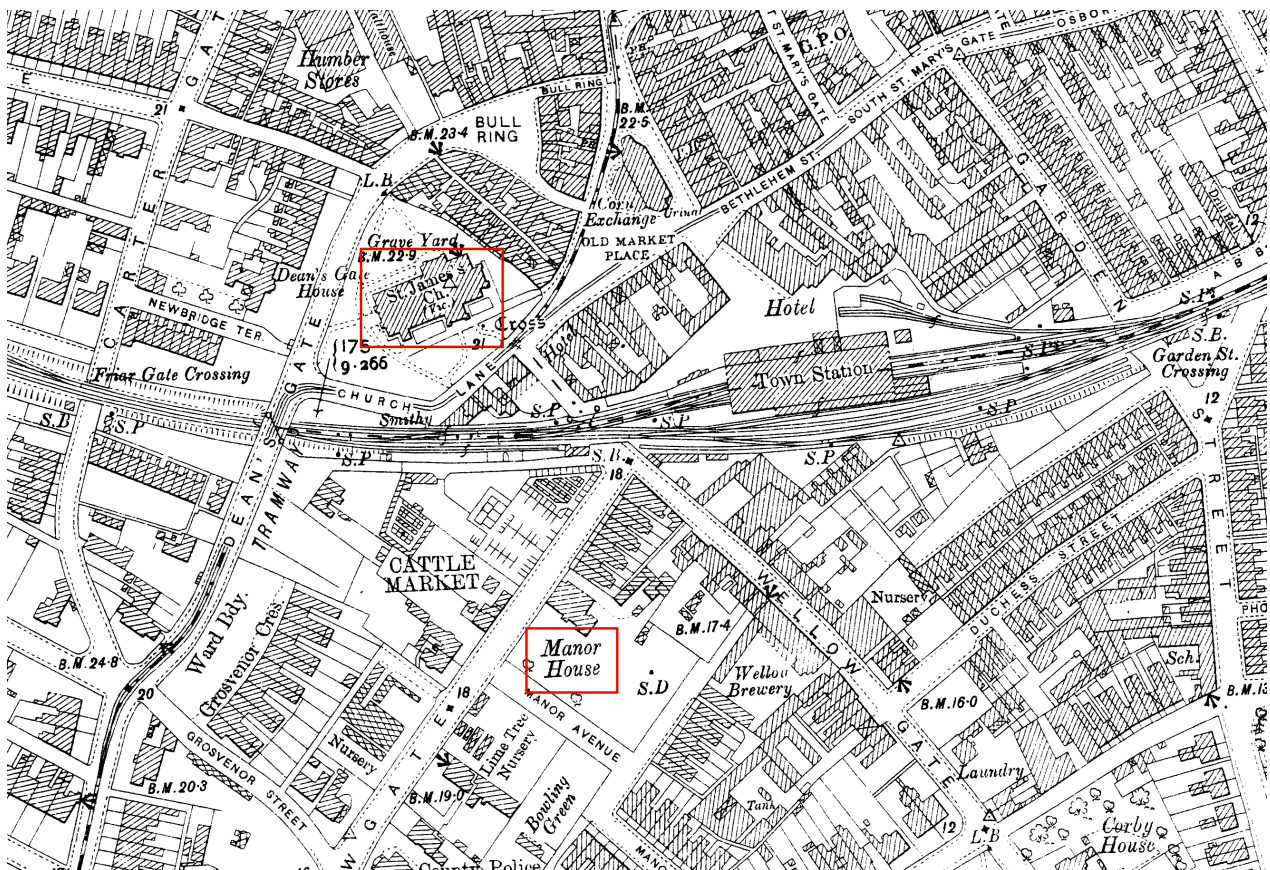
parents, George and Elizabeth, were baptised in local parish churches, as were the children of Caroline's siblings. The only exceptions were the baptisms of Caroline's own children and those of her sister Amelia and her husband George Haigh, whose children were baptised at Horton Lane Congregational Chapel, Bradford.

One of the witnesses to the will of Caroline's father, George Whitlam, was Steven Marston, dissenting minister, of Grimsby, but this alone

should not be taken to suggest that George did not follow the Anglican faith.

It seems likely that Caroline and her sister Amelia were following the lead set by their husbands when they later subscribed to the doctrines of the Congregational Church.

*Illustration 17: Map of Grimsby, 1908, highlighting the Manor House and Parish Church of St James.*





## THE STATUS OF THE WHITLAM FAMILY

The status of Caroline's family can perhaps best be ascertained from the will of her father, George Whitlam.

In his will, administration of which was granted on 13th June, 1836 to his executors George Haigh (husband of his daughter Amelia), Titus Salt (husband of his daughter Caroline), Charles Turner (husband of his daughter Lucy) and John Acton, solicitor, he makes, amongst other, minor things, the following arrangements:

- › Bequests (out of his personal property) of £1,000 to each of his sons William, of Tows and George, of Cuxwold and a further £1,000 to his daughter Mary Ann.
- › He directs that the rents and profits from his estate at East Halton should go to his daughter Sophia and, at her death, the estate is to be sold and become part of her own estate.
- › Out of the rents and profits from his estates and lands at Saltfleetby and Saleby his daughter Elizabeth is to receive a yearly income of £100 for life and, at her death, the estate is to be sold and the monies shared between the other daughters.
- › His other real estate at Grimsby, Tetney and elsewhere is to be sold and, together with the residue of the personal estate, the money raised is to be invested and the interest resulting therefrom is to be paid in equal proportions to his daughters Amelia, Lucy and Caroline.

The will raises several interesting points:

- › To be able to grant legacies of £3,000 out of his personal property, and still expect a residue to be dealt with later, represents a very large amount for 1836 (approximately £2.5 million at today's values using average earnings as the basis of comparison - see [www.measuringworth.com](http://www.measuringworth.com)). In addition to this he owned the several estates and properties previously mentioned which, collectively, must have been worth many times more than his personal estate.
- › It can be seen that George took great care to provide for the wellbeing of his daughters after his death, without their needing to depend totally on their husbands. He always states that everything they receive is to be for their own personal use to do with as they please.
- › He had already partly provided for his two sons, as they were now occupying the farms at Great Tows and Cuxwold, previously occupied by George and his family. Although these farms

were held on lease and not owned outright, William and George would be receiving the rents and profits from them which would provide a substantial income.

- › It is evident from the places of baptism of the Whitlam children that some of the other farms or properties mentioned in the will - East Halton, Tetney and Grimsby - had also been occupied by the family at one time or another.

It is highly likely that at the time of the marriage of Titus and Caroline the immediate family of Caroline would have been considerably more wealthy than that of Titus.

## THE WHITLAM DAUGHTERS

More is known about the lives of some of Caroline's siblings than others. A summary of what is presently known is given in the following pages.

### Elizabeth Whitlam

The first surviving Whitlam daughter

Elizabeth, the eldest Whitlam child, was married twice. She firstly married George Towler on 8th June, 1812. However, in her father's will of 1836 she is referred to as 'widow of George Towler', so George must have died in the meantime. At the time of the 1841 census, having inherited from her father's will, Elizabeth was described as a 47 year old farmer living at Bedwells, Welton le Wold. Also in the household were a 20 year old farmhand and three female servants. On 10th January, 1843 she was married again, at Welton le Wold Parish Church, this time to John Foster.

Elizabeth herself died shortly afterwards, in January 1846, and was buried at Welton le Wold. She appears not to have had any children.

### The 'Bradford' Sisters

As previously mentioned two of Caroline's sisters, Amelia and Lucy, also married Bradford woolmen (see Illustration 18, overleaf) and came to live in Bradford:

### Amelia Whitlam

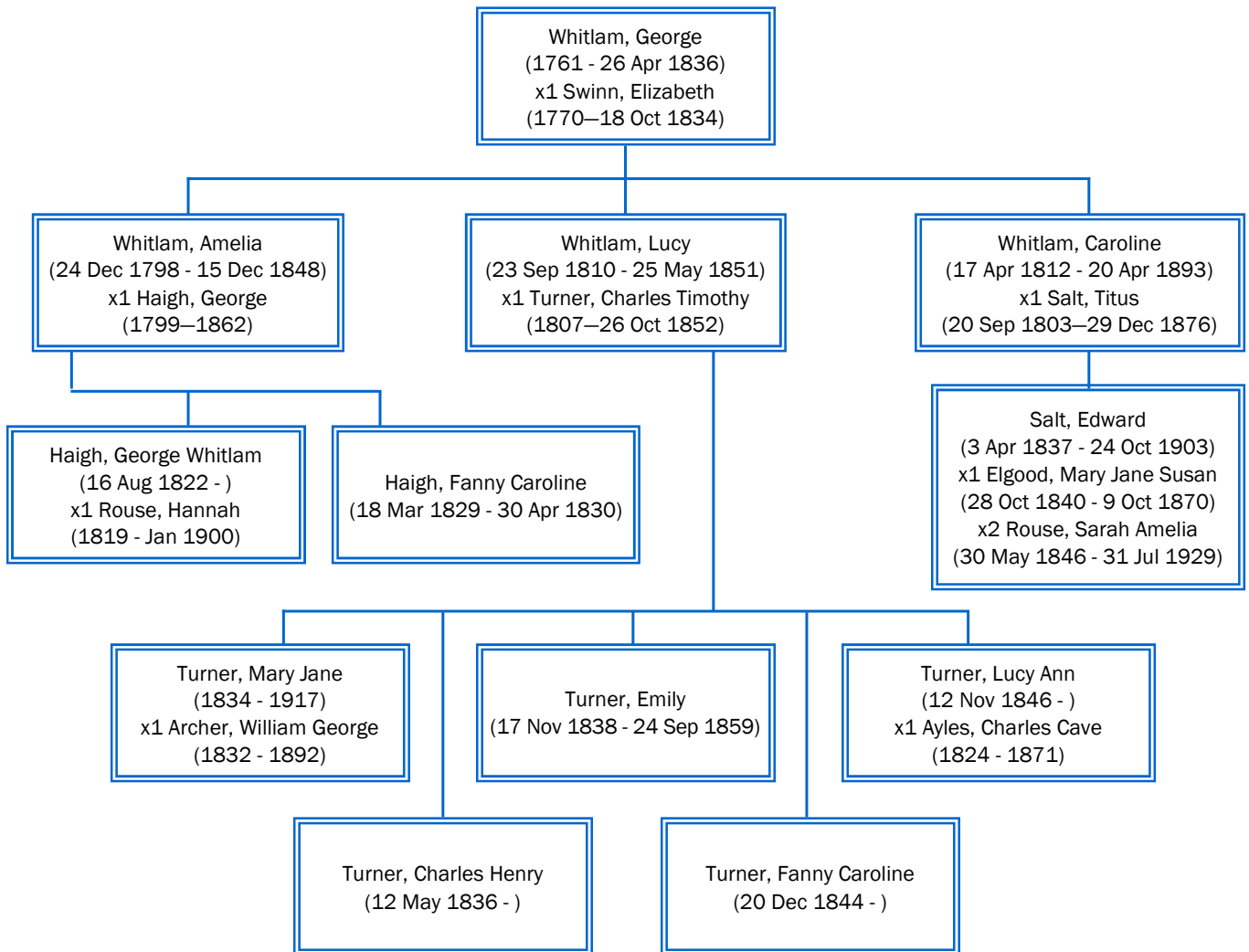
The second surviving Whitlam daughter

Caroline's elder sister, Amelia, married George Haigh at Cuxwold on 27th September, 1820. George was, like Titus Salt, a woolstapler. In the same way as Titus, he must have visited George Whitlam many times during his wool buying trips to Lincolnshire and have become acquainted with his daughters.

In Baines' 1822 Directory of the County of York, George

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**THE 'BRADFORD' SISTERS**



*Illustration 18: Abbreviated family tree of the 'Bradford' sisters, showing relationships with the Rouse family.*

Haigh, woolstapler, is living in Skinner Lane, Manningham, Bradford, so this may have been where Amelia came to live immediately after her marriage. By 1837 the couple were in Manor Row, Bradford, next door to Amelia's sister Lucy Turner. George's offices and warehouse were nearby in Cheapside, Bradford.

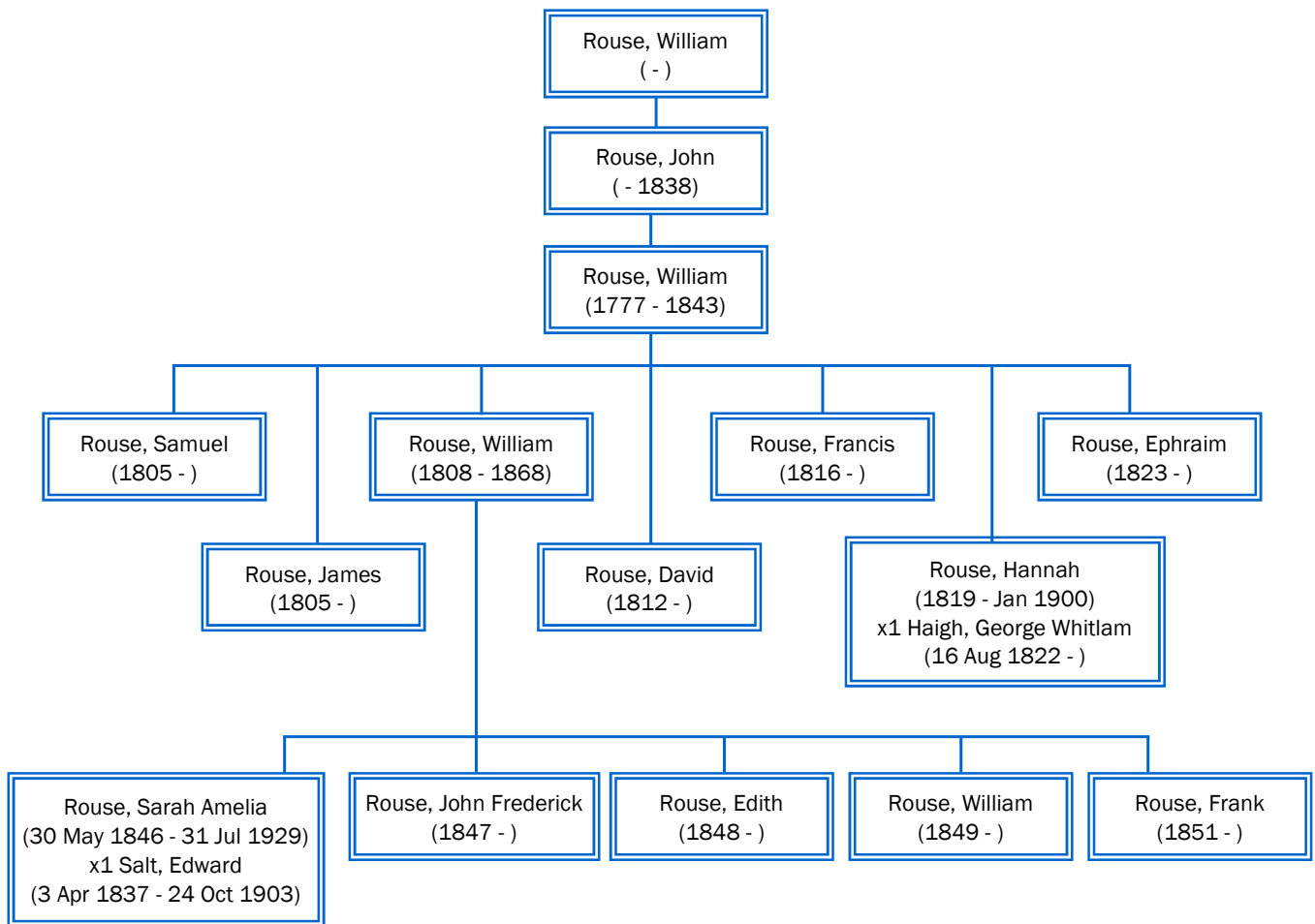
The couple were to have two children, George Whitlam Haigh, born in 1822 and Fanny Caroline Haigh, born in 1829. Both children were baptised at the Horton Lane Congregational Chapel in Bradford, which was also patronised by the Salt family.

The Haighs appear in local trade directories up to the year 1847, but at about this time they moved to Pocklington in the East Riding of Yorkshire. Presumably they were now sufficiently wealthy to retire to peaceful, rural surroundings. However, their idyll was to be short

lived as Amelia died at Pocklington in December 1848. George remarried later, but he himself passed away at Pocklington in 1862. Both Amelia and George were buried in the graveyard of Salem Congregational Chapel, Manor Row, Bradford, where an inscribed stone marked their grave. Unfortunately, the graveyard was dug up in 1962 and all the gravestones were broken up. The site is now the car park for the Bradford Register Office. Titus Salt's father, Daniel, had been greatly involved in promoting the building of Salem Chapel, which opened in 1836, and both he and his wife were buried there.

Their son George Whitlam Haigh married Hannah Rouse at Bradford Parish Church on 2nd November, 1842. Hannah was the daughter of William Rouse, a member of a well-to-do Bradford wool family which had been established in Bradford by William's grandfather,

## THE ROUSE FAMILY



*Illustration 19: Abbreviated family tree of the Rouse family, showing relationships with the Salt/Whitlam families.*

another William, in the 1780s.

The Salts and Rouses were close friends and business colleagues. The young Titus on arriving in Bradford had been taken on by the Rouses to learn the wool trade and the connection between the two families had been maintained over the years.

We learn from an article in the Bradford Antiquary, Volume 2, 1986 that when old William Rouse died in 1843 a dispute between the three remaining Rouse brothers resulted in litigation. In 1847 the court ordered the family textile mill to be divided and auctioned. At the auction the larger part was purchased by Titus Salt. To everyone's surprise it became known that Titus had actually been bidding for his friend, a third William Rouse, great grandson of the original William Rouse.

Interestingly, it was the eldest child of this William Rouse, Sarah Amelia, who became the second wife of

Edward Salt, son of Titus, in 1871 (see Illustration 19).

Thus, two members of the Rouse family had married into the greater Salt/Whitlam family – firstly Hannah Rouse to George Whitlam Haigh, son of Amelia Whitlam; and secondly Sarah Amelia Rouse to Edward Salt, son of Amelia's sister, Caroline Whitlam.

So far, George Whitlam Haigh has not been traced after his marriage in 1842. One report states that he went to Australia, but this has not been verified. His wife Hannah, however, was subsequently living alone in North Parade, Bradford in 1851 and later at Camden Terrace, Manningham. From around 1870, to her death in 1900, she was at Middleton Villas, Ilkley. It is assumed that George Whitlam Haigh died shortly after his marriage, though this has not been definitely proved at this stage.

Fanny Caroline, the daughter of George and Amelia, died in April 1830, aged only 13 months. She was

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buried in the graveyard of Horton Lane Congregational Chapel. The records of monumental inscriptions for Salem Congregational Chapel, Manor Row, Bradford, tell us that an inscription in memory of Fanny Caroline was later placed on the gravestone of her parents.

### Lucy Whitlam

The fifth surviving Whitlam daughter

The last of the three 'Bradford' sisters was Lucy, who married Charles Timothy Turner at Cuxwold Parish Church on 24th October, 1833. Like Titus Salt and George Haigh, the husbands of her sisters Caroline and Amelia, Charles was a Bradford woolstapler.

The Turners produced five children. Unlike the Haighs, the Turners did not choose the Congregational Chapel for the baptism of their children. Instead they were all baptised at Bradford Parish Church: Mary Jane, baptised 10th September, 1834; Charles Henry, born 12th May, 1836, baptised 10th June, 1836; Emily, born 17th November, 1838, baptised 21st December, 1838; Fanny Caroline, born 20th December, 1844, baptised 28th January, 1845 and Lucy Ann, born 12th November, 1846, baptised 15th December, 1846 (see Illustration 18).

It is to be noted that the Haighs, the Turners and the Salts all had daughters named Fanny Caroline.

As already mentioned, the Turner family were living at Manor Row, Bradford, in 1841. In 1851 they were at 5, Spring Gardens, off Manningham Lane, Bradford. Their son, Charles Henry, aged 14, was at Healds Hall, a boarding school in Liversedge. Also at the same school, at the same time, was Edward Salt, aged 11. This is the

son of Edward Salt, Titus Salt's brother, and his wife Ann Wade. Liversedge is situated approximately eight miles south of Bradford.

Unfortunately, both Turner parents were to die shortly afterwards. Lucy died on 25th May, 1851 and Charles on 26th October, 1852. They are both buried in the graveyard of St Paul's Parish Church, Shipley, where an

inscribed gravestone was erected. The gravestones in the churchyard have been moved and re-erected against the graveyard wall, but the Turner's gravestone can still be seen, in its new position (see Illustration 20). Shipley is situated approximately three and a half miles north west of Bradford and half a mile to the east of Saltaire, where Titus Salt's vast manufacturing plant would already have been under construction at the time of Charles' and Lucy's burials.

Recalling Balgarnie's report that Titus Salt originally went to Grimsby with the intention of wooing one of Caroline's sisters, rather than Caroline herself, it is probable that this other sister was in fact Lucy Whitlam. The only other sister who was not married at that time, in addition to Caroline, was Mary Ann. Mary Ann married in January 1829, so it is likely that she was already engaged to be married when Titus first met Caroline around 1828.



*Illustration 20: Turner family gravestone, graveyard of St Paul's Church, Shipley, 2009. It is known that the gravestone at one time also carried an inscription relating to the daughter Emily. This inscription may have been lost through weathering, or other, unknown factors. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

Following the deaths of both parents the Turner children went to live with their uncle, John Turner, who lived in Bramley Lane, Lightcliffe. This lane was the site of the old Bramley Lane Congregational Chapel where two of Titus Salt's young children, Whitlam and Mary, were buried in 1851. They were later to be re-interred in the family mausoleum at Saltaire. So we can see that the Turner children were living in close proximity to their other uncle, Titus Salt and his family, who were in

residence at Crow Nest, Lightcliffe, at this time.

## Emily Turner

Whilst living with her uncle the middle child, Emily, died on 24th September, 1859, shortly before her 21st birthday, and was buried in the same grave as her parents in Shipley.

## Mary Jane Turner

On 24th July, 1856 the eldest of Charles and Lucy Turner's children, Mary Jane, married her cousin, William George Archer, of Lambeth, at St Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe, the parish church of her uncle with whom she had been living since the death of her parents. William is described as a merchant.

For details of the exact relationship between Mary Jane and William George and of William George's business relationship with his father refer to the section under the heading 'Mary Ann Whitlam' later. The marriage highlights the strong bonds that existed between the various members of the Whitlam family. The strength of the Whitlam family ties is further demonstrated by the fact that Marmaduke Clark, husband of Sophia Whitlam, aunt to Mary Jane, was one of the witnesses to the marriage, presumably having travelled from Lincolnshire.

Following their marriage the pair moved to London, taking with them Mary Jane's younger sisters, Fanny Caroline and Lucy Ann. They are all found in the 1861 census, living at 2, Gresham Rd, Brixton, London, along with Mary Jane's own two children, three year old Charles W Archer and two year old Sidney Archer. Her husband, William George, is now described as a miller. Fanny Caroline's and Lucy Ann's brother, Charles Henry Turner, is not present and he has not been traced since his appearance in the 1851 census.

From now on William George and Mary Jane Archer were living alone on the south coast of England, appearing as hotelkeepers at the New Steine Hotel in Brighton in the 1871 census. There is no sign of their children at this time or subsequently.

William George had been in partnership with Charles Albinus Ross at the New Steine Hotel, trading under the name of Archer & Ross. The partnership had been dissolved in 1867 and the business was continued by William alone. However, in January 1870, an announcement appeared in the London Gazette that he had been required to give a statement of his debts, liabilities, properties and credits to the Court of Bankruptcy. His exact position at the hotel in 1871 is unclear. Perhaps he had managed to continue in business for a time, or maybe he had been retained as

manager by new owners. Whatever the position, William George and Mary Jane were shortly to leave Brighton for good.

In 1881 the couple are running a grocer's shop at 54, St Nicholas Rd, Bristol and in 1891 they are manager and manageress of the Tradesman's Club at 1, Windsor Terrace, Plymouth.

William George Archer died in the quarter ending December 1892, in Plymouth. In 1901 Mary Jane, aged 67, a widow, is at 21, Baring St, Plymouth, which appears to be a large house let to several families and individuals. She is classed as 'living on own means'. In 1911 she was at the North Friary Nursing Home in Plymouth, aged 76 and was to die in 1917, at Plymouth, aged 82.

Mary Jane Archer, like her siblings, was a cousin of the Salt's eldest daughter Amelia. When the latter died in 1913, her will made financial provision for Mary Jane, suggesting a strong family bond had been maintained between the two for more than 70 years.

## Lucy Ann Turner

The youngest of the Turner children, Lucy Ann, married Charles Cave Ayles, a man 24 years her senior, in London, in 1866. In the census of 1871 the couple are at Sunny Side, Cuckfield, Sussex. Charles is described as a wholesale beer merchant; he was to die in Brighton later in 1871, at the age of 47.

At the 1881 census Lucy Ann is living at 26, King St in the Pall Mall area of Westminster. She is alone in the household except for four house servants. Presumably she had been left in a good financial position after the death of her husband. However, it is possible that the servants living with Lucy Ann, and possibly Lucy Ann herself, were connected with the public house next door, and we should be cautious in speculating about her financial position. It has not been possible at present to trace what became of Lucy Ann after this point.

## Charles Henry Turner

It has not been possible at present to discover what became of Charles Henry since his appearance in the 1851 census, when he was at school in Liversedge. He does not appear to have moved to London with the other Turner children following the marriage of his sister Mary Jane.

## Fanny Caroline Turner

The whereabouts of Fanny Caroline after the 1861 census, when she was living in London with her

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married, elder sister, Mary Jane, have not been determined at this point.

## Sophia Thomison Whitlam

The third surviving Whitlam daughter

Caroline's elder sister, Sophia, the second child to be given this name, married Marmaduke Clark at Cuxwold on 14th September, 1824. The Clarks were a well-established, old Lincolnshire farming family.

Sophia went on to have 18 children over a period of 20 years, of which six died in infancy (see Table 3).

After the marriage the family resided at Stainton le Vale until around 1836 when they removed to Wykeham, a small settlement approximately one mile south of Great Tows. In the 1850s the family moved again; this time to Legbourne Grange, Legbourne, where Marmaduke died in 1862. Sophia continued to live at Legbourne Grange with her unmarried daughters Elizabeth Anne, Amelia, Eliza, Fanny Louise and Ellen, where she in turn died in 1870.

The Clarks went on to produce a large number of offspring over the succeeding generations, but it is not proposed to record the details here.

## Mary Ann Whitlam

The fourth surviving Whitlam daughter

Mary Ann Whitlam married William Archer at Cuxwold Church on 20th January, 1829. William is described as a miller and flour dealer of London. There is a family relationship between this William Archer and the William George Archer who was later to marry Mary Jane Turner in 1856. They were, in fact, father and son, so Mary Jane had married her cousin, the son of her aunt, Mary Ann Archer, née Whitlam.

At the 1841 census the couple are living in Southwark, London with a seven year old daughter Mary Ann, named after her mother. At the 1861 census the family is at 17, Mornington Rd, Bromley. Their daughter, aged 26, is still unmarried. It has not yet been possible to trace the family in census returns after this date. However, the London Gazette informs us that the partnership of William Archer and William George Archer carrying on the business of flour factors and dealers in London, under the name of W Archer and Son, was dissolved in April 1863. This is the last piece of information to have come to light at present.

Table 3 The Children of the Clark Family

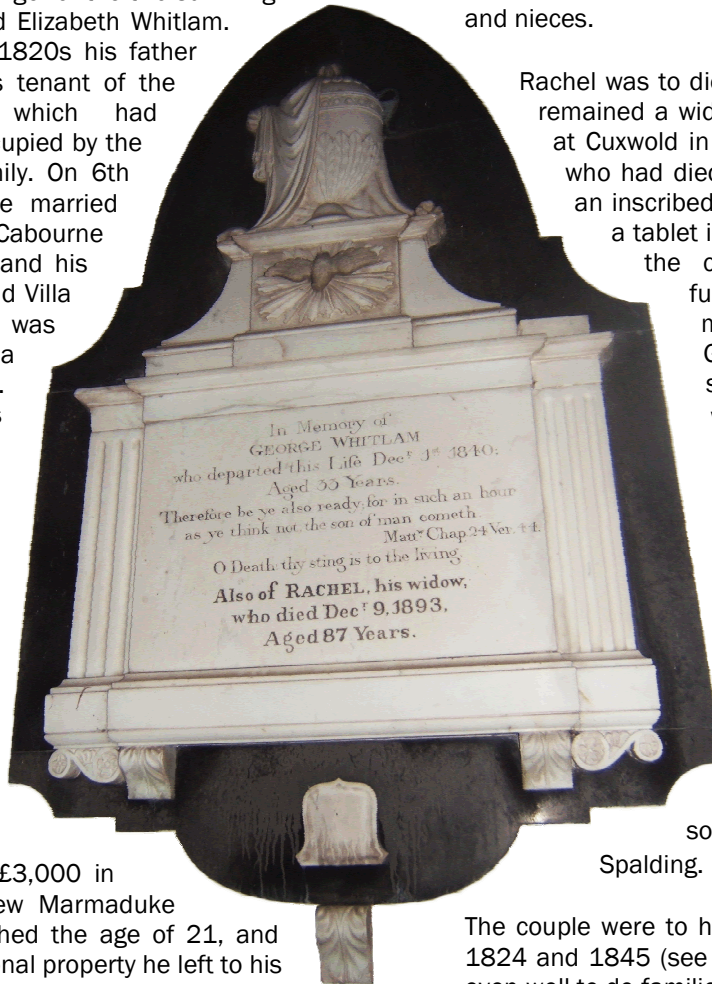
Name	Birth Date	Baptism Date	Baptism Place	Death Date	
*Richard	1825	02/11/1825	Stainton le Vale	August 1831	
John James	1826	20/09/1826	Stainton le Vale	July 1894	
Marmaduke	1827	22/08/1827	Stainton le Vale	June 1872	
George	1828	22/12/1828	Stainton le Vale		
Elizabeth Anne	1830	20/07/1830	Stainton le Vale	Q September 1911	
Sophia	1831			August 1883	
*Emma	1832	12/08/1832	Stainton le Vale		
Amelia	1833				
*Henry	1834	29/08/1834	Stainton le Vale	January 1835	
*Mary Jane	1835	26/06/1835	Stainton le Vale		
*Mary	1836	01/08/1836	Burgh on Bain		
Eliza	1837	21/09/1837	Burgh on Bain	June 1895	
William	1838			December 1889	
Caroline	1839	21/06/1839	Burgh on Bain	1910	
Fanny Louise	1841			February 1892	
Albert Whitlam	1842				
Ellen	1844	06/03/1844	Burgh on Bain	Q December 1893	
*Charles	1845			March 1860	*died in infancy

## THE WHITLAM SONS

### George Whitlam (1807 - 1840)

The younger surviving Whitlam son

George was the younger of the two surviving sons of George and Elizabeth Whitlam. Some time in the 1820s his father had placed him as tenant of the Cuxwold Estate which had previously been occupied by the whole Whitlam family. On 6th June, 1837 George married Rachel Kirkby at Cabourne Parish Church. He and his wife lived at Cuxwold Villa where George was described as a farmer and grazier. Cabourne is situated on the present-day A46, about 12 miles south west of Grimsby. George was to die in 1840 at the young age of 33, and was buried at Cuxwold. The couple had not produced any children.



*Illustration 21, below: Tablet commemorating George and Rachel Whitlam, St Nicholas' Church, Cuxwold, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

the death of her brother in 1883, Rachel was living at The Hall, Little Grimsby with an assortment of nephews and nieces.

Rachel was to die there in 1893, aged 87, having remained a widow for 53 years. She was buried at Cuxwold in the same grave as her husband who had died all those years before. There is an inscribed gravestone in the graveyard and a tablet inside the church commemorating the couple (see Illustration 21). A further tablet inside the church is in memory of Marmaduke Clark, George's nephew who, we have seen, benefitted from his uncle's will (see Illustration 22).

### William Whitlam (1800 - 1848)

The elder surviving Whitlam son

William was the elder of the two sons of George and Elizabeth Whitlam who survived to maturity. On 12th February, 1824 he married Eliza Banes at Weston Parish Church. Weston is situated in south east Lincolnshire, close to Spalding.

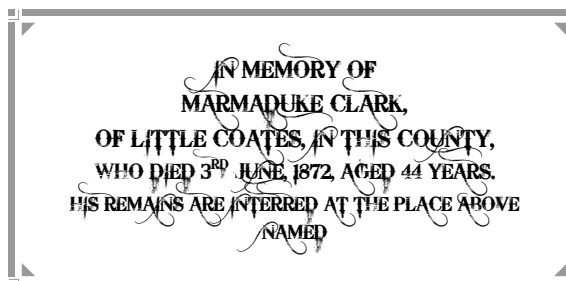
In his will he left £3,000 in trust for his nephew Marmaduke Clark until he reached the age of 21, and the rest of his personal property he left to his wife. Marmaduke was the son of George's sister Sophia and her husband, also called Marmaduke. The younger Marmaduke had been living with George and Rachel at Cuxwold and would have been aged 13 at the time of George's death.

George's widow, Rachel, continued to farm the Cuxwold estate. At the 1851 census the young Marmaduke is living with her and helping to run the farm. He would have benefitted from George's will by this time. In 1861 and 1871 Rachel is still at Cuxwold, this time with her brother Thomas Kirkby, who had been joint trustee and executor of George's will, along with Rachel. By 1881 brother and sister had moved to the Rectory, Great Coates and by 1891, after

The couple were to have 15 children in total between 1824 and 1845 (see Table 4, p16). Again we see that even well-to-do families at this period were not immune from the scourge of infant mortality. Nine of their first 10 children were to die at a young age. These deaths included a set of twins who both lived only a few days.

Another five of the nine did not live more than three years and the remaining two died in their early teens. Their fourteenth child also died when just over one month old.

The children who did live to maturity were two boys – George, born 1838 and William, born 1842; and three girls – Fanny Louise, born 1830, Eliza, born 1841 and Sophia, born 1845.



*Illustration 22: The inscription as it appears on the tablet commemorating Marmaduke Clark, St Nicholas' Church, Cuxwold.*

We have already seen that William became tenant of the Great and Little Tows estates which had previously

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been the old family home. However, William must have been doing very well out of the estates as we learn that in 1834 he purchased the estates of Biscathorpe and Gayton le Wold, comprising 1,300 acres. The purchase of the two estates took place even before William had inherited from his father's will in 1836. The estates almost abutted onto the Tows estates, and together provided William with a vast tract of prime Lincolnshire Wolds land. Along with ownership of the Biscathorpe estate came the title of Lord of the Manor of Biscathorpe. The family also appears to have been granted a coat of arms.

It is not thought that William actually lived in the manor house, Biscathorpe House, as this was occupied by the Kirkham family during the mid to latter part of the 19th century. Instead, William is occupying a house in Eastgate, Louth at the 1841 census, so he would have been living the life of a country squire with his properties and estates let out to a number of tenants.

In 1848 William died suddenly whilst at Buxton. It is not known why he was there. Possibly he was taking the waters for medical purposes. Eliza, William's wife, took a second husband, William Palmer, in 1850. They were married at Christ Church, Sculcoates, Hull and, along with her unmarried children, the family went to live at South Parade, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire, at the residence of her new husband. Eliza herself was to die at Newark in 1865.

In his will, which was proved on 5th February, 1849, William leaves a sum of £100 to each of his three trustees, plus an annuity of £500 per annum to each of them, to be paid during the life of his wife. He also bequeaths an annuity of £500 per annum to his wife, £5,000 to his eldest son and £3,000, plus an annuity of £200 per annum, to each of his other children. The annuities are to be paid out of the profits of the Biscathorpe and Gayton le Wold estates. The lump sum bequests are to be held in trust until his children attain the age of 21 years and any residue is to be shared between each of his children. His estates at Biscathorpe and Gayton le Wold are to be held in trust for his eldest son for life and, at his death, to be held in trust for his children and so on. Occupation of the Tows estate is to be continued and the rents and profits received from the estate and farm are to be used for the upkeep and maintenance of his children; any residue is to be added to the trust fund for his children.

William also directed in his will that all his children should receive a good education and remain at school up to the age of 18. Additionally, he stated that the family burial place was to be in the family vault at Biscathorpe Church (see Illustration 23, opposite) and that memorial tablets were to be placed inside the church to commemorate the members of his family.

The directions regarding the family vault in Biscathorpe Churchyard and the tablets to be placed inside the

Table 4 The Children of William and Eliza Whitlam

Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Baptism Date	Baptism Place	Death Date
*William Banes	12/1824	Tows, Ludford	17/12/1824	Ludford	04/1825
*Fanny	01/1827	Tows, Ludford	06/02/1827	Ludford	03/1827
*Mary Anne	01/1828	Tows, Ludford	31/01/1828	Ludford	18/03/1842
*Elizabeth	1829	Tows, Ludford	08/02/1829	Ludford	03/1832
Fanny Louise	1830	Tows, Ludford	03/05/1830	Ludford	Q Sep 1903
*George East	1832	Tows, Ludford	19/07/1832	Ludford	09/1832
*George	21/07/1833	Tows, Ludford	21/07/1833	Ludford	07/1833
*William	21/07/1833	Tows, Ludford	21/07/1833	Ludford	07/1833
*Caroline	1834	Tows, Ludford	23/11/1834	Ludford	30/12/1846
*Amelia	1836	Tows, Ludford	29/09/1836	Ludford	10/1836
George	1838	Tows, Ludford	05/12/1838	Ludford	31/07/1871
Eliza	1841	Tows, Ludford		Ludford?	Q Jun 1922
William	1842	Louth		Ludford?	25/02/1870
*Henry	1844	Louth	13/01/1844	St James Louth	02/1844
Sophia	1845	Louth	23/11/1845	St James Louth	01/1878

\*died in infancy





*Illustration 23: St Helen's Church, Biscathorpe, 2007. Burial place of the family of William Whitlam. Philip Barlow and David King in the foreground. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

church were carried out and, to this day, four tablets may be seen inside Biscathorpe Church. The first tablet commemorates William himself who died in 1848 (see Illustration 24). A second tablet commemorates Eliza, William's wife, who died in 1865, William their second son, who died in 1870 and George, their eldest son, who died in 1871 (see Illustration 25, overleaf). The third tablet commemorates two of the children of William and Eliza who died at a young age: Mary Anne, who died in 1842, aged 14 and Caroline,



*Illustration 24: Tablet commemorating William Whitlam, St Helen's Church, Biscathorpe, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

who died in 1846, aged 12. Finally, there is a cast metal plaque commemorating George

Richard Michael Whitlam, master mariner and second officer in the Merchant Service, who died in 1951, aged 26 (see Illustration 26, p19). He was the grandson of the George Whitlam mentioned on the second tablet above. The family vault in the churchyard is now very much overgrown and neglected and does not bear any inscriptions to the family.

William's will imposed an onerous task on his trustees and it is believed they administered

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the trust for over 30 years after William's death. Once again the large sums of money involved are of note. At the time of William's death there were four surviving children, his wife and his executors to benefit from the will. This meant there would be an annual sum of £2,600 to be paid out in annuities and further lump sums totalling £14,300 to be paid out as legacies between 1849 and 1866. All this was funded without recourse to selling his estates.

### THE DIRECT MALE DESCENT OF THE WHITLAM FAMILY

The various generations of Whitlams, although giving birth to many children in total, were unfortunate in producing few male offspring who lived to maturity. Of those who did reach maturity some did not marry and others died early in their marriage, without having any children of their own (see Illustration 27, p21).

As we have seen, Caroline's parents, George and Elizabeth Whitlam, produced just two sons who reached maturity; William and George.

George (1807-1840), died a few years after his marriage without producing any children, so the direct male descent derives from the male children of William Whitlam.

William (1800-1848), as already described, had two male heirs, George Whitlam (1838-1871) and William Whitlam (1842-1870). The younger of William's sons, William, died unmarried in 1870, and did not have any heirs.

The elder of William's two sons, George, born 1838, married Harriet Taylor on 8th August, 1864 at St James', Louth. The couple had two children, Maria Theresa, born in 1867 and George, born in 1869. Brother and sister would eventually jointly inherit the Biscathorpe and Gayton le Wold estates that had originally been purchased by their grandfather. The estates were finally sold by them around 1920.

In 1889 Maria Theresa married into the large and long-established Lincolnshire family of Fieldsend, through her husband, William Rainey Fieldsend. The couple had six children (four girls and two boys). From



*Illustration 25: Tablet commemorating Eliza Whitlam, wife of William and their sons, William and George, St Helen's Church, Biscathorpe, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

# The *Saltire* Journal

around 1908 they resided at Biscathorpe House on the Biscathorpe Estate.

However, to follow the male line of descent, we must concentrate on Maria's brother, George Whitlam (1869-1938). On 14th January, 1891 George had married Alice Maud Garvey at St Peter's, Ashby cum Fenby, where the bride's father was rector. The couple had three children, all males. Christopher James Garvey Whitlam was born in 1893, George Michael Whitlam in 1896 and Philip Noel Garvey Whitlam in 1899.

Initially, the father, George, followed the occupation of farmer at East Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, where his first two sons were born, but by 1899 he was living at Pannal, near Harrogate, where his youngest son was born. George himself died in the Harrogate area in 1938.

Of George's three sons, the eldest, Christopher, served in WW1 and married Jean Ogilvy Robertson of Dundee on 30th March, 1918. Jean died in 1930 at Murray's Royal Asylum, Perth, without issue.

Ships' passenger lists reveal that during the period 1935 to 1952 Christopher travelled between Canada and England on several occasions. It is not known whether he was ever permanently resident there.

In 1956 he married for a second time, this time to Katie I Wright, in Lewisham. Christopher died at Lewisham in 1959 and Katie at Sunderland in 1965. The couple did not have any children.

The second son, George Michael, married Olive Moore, in Bury, in 1924. He fathered three children – George Richard Michael Whitlam born at Pannal in 1925, Alan Moore Whitlam born at Worksop in 1926 and April M G Whitlam born at Bury in 1929. George Michael died in 1966 in the Harrogate area and Olive died in 1986 at Chippenham.

No marriage registration has been found for the youngest of George Whitlam's sons, Philip Noel, who died in 1984 in the New Forest area of Hampshire. Thus attention is to be focussed on the children of George Michael Whitlam to ascertain whether any direct, male Whitlam descendants are alive today.

George Michael's eldest son, George Richard Michael Whitlam, the master mariner commemorated on the tablet in Biscathorpe Church, married Pauline M C Kendall at Cambridge in 1947. Unfortunately, he died at Cambridge in 1951, aged 26, without issue. The second son Alan Moore Whitlam never married, and died in 1998 at Worksop.



*Illustration 26: Tablet commemorating George Richard Michael Whitlam, St Helen's Church, Biscathorpe, 2007. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

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So, sadly, with the passing of the sons of George Michael Whitlam, without producing any offspring, it would appear that the direct male line of George and Elizabeth Whitlam's family was finally extinguished in 1998 with the death of Alan Moore Whitlam, unless any information to the contrary subsequently comes to light. On the female side, however, there is a possibility of the existence of living descendents of George Michael Whitlam's daughter, April Mary Garvey Whitlam, who married Jeffrey Lord and had a daughter, Anne V Lord, born in 1950, and who in 1974, at Chippenham, became Mrs Michael J Broadhurst. However, no record of children being born to Anne V Broadhurst has been found.

Of course the legacy of the surname Whitlam lives on to this day in Saltaire, as Caroline and Titus Salt gave their sixth, short-lived son the name of Whitlam, and one of the streets in Saltaire is called Whitlam St in his memory.

## A TOUR OF THE WHITLAM FAMILY'S LINCOLNSHIRE.

The area of the Lincolnshire Wolds formerly inhabited by the Whitlam family is very picturesque and can easily be visited on a day trip by car from the Bradford district (see Illustration 2).

Arriving in Grimsby for morning coffee, the splendid parish church can then be visited. The next port of call should be the County Inn, in Brighowgate, the former Manor House from where Caroline was married. To allow a closer inspection of the building a drink in the pub is recommended.

One should then make one's way to Louth along the A16. The churches of Ludborough (scene of the marriage of Caroline's parents) and Fotherby (scene of the baptisms of the first seven of George and Elizabeth Whitlam's children) are situated within a few hundred yards of the A16 and are worth visiting on the way to Louth.

Lunch can be taken in the busy market town of Louth, which the Whitlams must have visited frequently for legal, business and shopping purposes. George Whitlam's son, William Whitlam, Lord of the Manor of Biscathorpe, lived in a house in Eastgate, Louth, during the 1840s.

The next port of call should be Biscathorpe, via the A157, Lincoln road. On this stretch of the tour the Lincolnshire Wolds are entered. Unlike the greater part of Lincolnshire, which is generally very flat, the Lincolnshire Wolds consist of a series of gentle hills and valleys rising to between 400 and 500 feet above sea level. At the time the Whitlams were living there the

area was renowned for the rearing of sheep and horses. However, today, the district is given up to arable farming and to spot an animal of any kind is a rare sight.

On the A157 the turn-off to Biscathorpe, about six miles from Louth, on the left, is easily missed, but there is a small signpost pointing the way down a narrow country lane. This lane is very picturesque and rarely used, with grass growing up its centre. After a little over a mile, and having forded two crystal clear streams, Biscathorpe Church lies hidden in a clump of trees behind a derelict building on the road side. This tiny church, although rarely used today, is normally open to the public and here one can inspect the wall tablets commemorating several generations of Whitlams and the family vault in the churchyard.

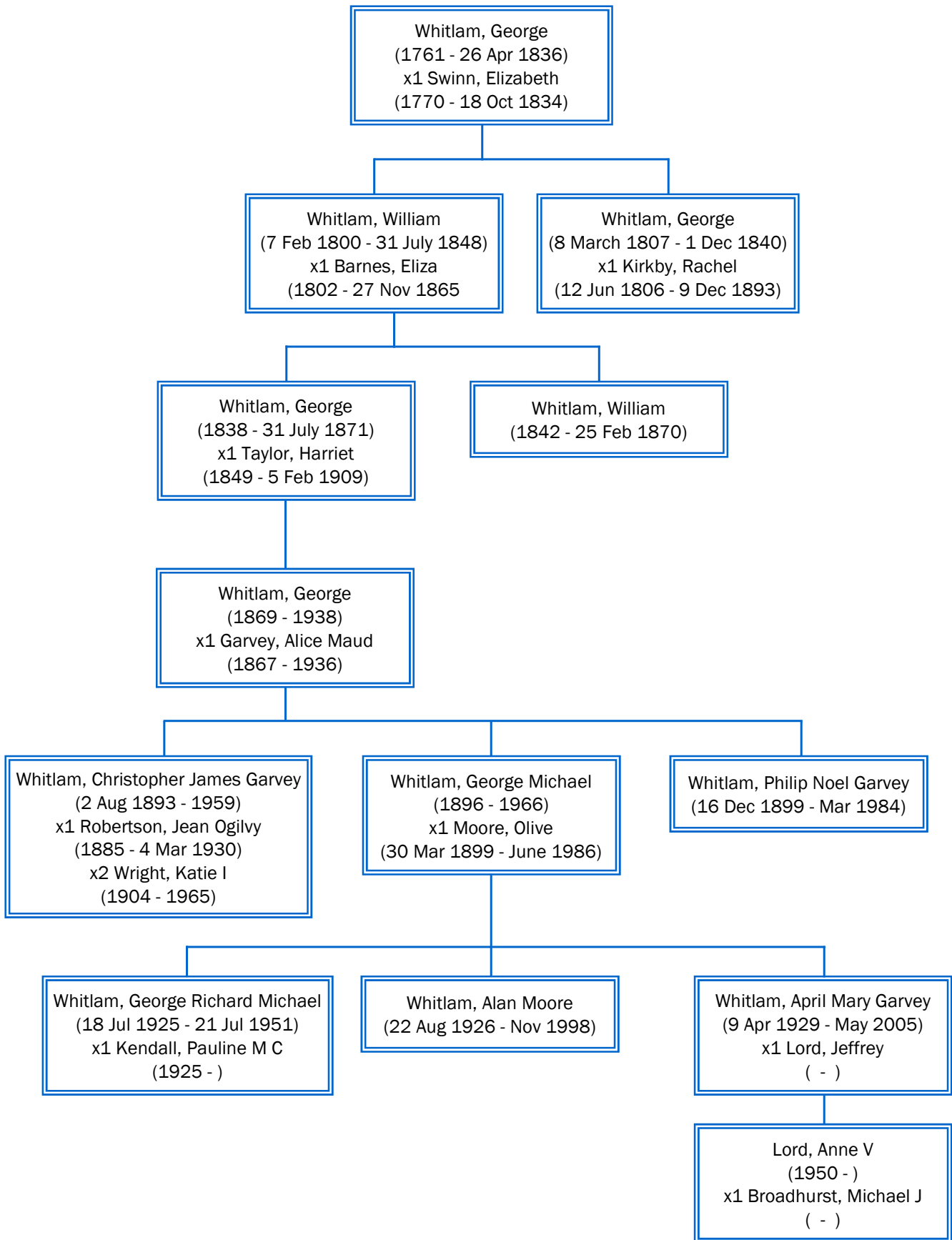
Return back to the A157, turn left and after one and a half miles take the first turning on the right for Ludford, eventually emerging onto the A631. Here turn to the left and find Ludford Church immediately on the right. This was the parish church of the Whitlams for a number of years. Here the last five children of George and Elizabeth were baptised and two of them buried. Also at this church 12 of the children of William Whitlam (the elder son of George and Elizabeth) were baptised, and seven buried. The church is not normally open to the public, but the churchyard is peaceful, although situated by the now busy road.

From Ludford Church retrace one's steps along the A631 towards Louth but turn left after a few hundred yards on a narrow road to Binbrook. After a short distance the road turns sharply to the right and the remains of Tows House and farm, the birthplace of Caroline Whitlam, lie immediately on the left. There are two modern bungalows to the left of Tows House Farm. Please respect their privacy and do not block the approach road if alighting for a view of the farm buildings. The farm itself and the farmyard is private property and should not be entered.

Continue through Binbrook, cross the B1203 (left and immediately right) and via Brookenby, Thoresway and Rothwell arrive at Cuxwold, a distance of about eight miles from Tows House Farm. Cuxwold Church, where four of the Whitlam daughters were married, is a fine country church. It is normally open to the public and well worth a visit. Inside can be seen the two tablets to George and Rachel Whitlam and their nephew Marmaduke Clark.

From Cuxwold one can return to Rothwell and follow the signs to Caistor and Brigg where the M180 can be picked up for the return to Bradford.

## WHITLAM MALE DESCENT



*Illustration 27: Abbreviated family tree showing the male descent of George Whitlam, father of Caroline Whitlam.*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



David King

After taking early retirement from the Halifax in 2000, David King began to research his family history, which has led to an interest in genealogy in general.

During the 1960s and 70s he was a member of the Management Services Team of Illingworth, Morris & Co. Ltd., based at their headquarters, which were located in the office block of Saltaire Mills, facing Victoria Rd. This resulted in an interest in, and a familiarity with, the Saltaire Mills site and Saltaire itself.

To further his interest in, and knowledge of, local history, David is a keen collector of postcards and antiquarian books about the Bradford area.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the following for their contributions to the information contained in this article:

**Tony Turnbull**, of Melton Ross, for his permission to observe the present day Tows House Farm and for guiding our visit there.

**George Douglas**, of Thorganby, for providing information on Tows House Farm during the time he worked there in the early part of the 20th century and for the hospitality shown by himself and his wife.



## RECOMMENDED READING

For those wishing to learn more about Sir Titus and Lady Caroline Salt, the following works are recommended:

**Rev. R Balgarnie.** 'Sir Titus Salt, Baronet: His Life and its Lessons.' Hodder and Stoughton. Various editions, first published 1877. The original biography of Sir Titus Salt. Now quite scarce.

**Rev. R Balgarnie.** 'Sir Titus Salt, Baronet.' Brenton Publishing. 1970. ISBN: 902847-00-7. This is a reprint of Balgarnie's work of 1877, with an introduction by David B Ogden, Shipley librarian, and an index. Out of print, but available through second-hand book dealers.

**Jack Reynolds.** 'The Great Paternalist. Titus Salt & the Growth of Nineteenth Century Bradford.' Maurice Temple Smith, 1983. ISBN: 0 85117 230 X. This book provides information on the political and industrial scene in 19th century Bradford with reference to Sir Titus Salt's life and achievements during the same period. Out of print, but readily available through second-hand book dealers.

**Barlo & Shaw.** 'Balgarnie's Salt.' Nemine Juvante (Saltaire) Publications, 2003. ISBN: 0 9545840 0 7. This book is a re-issue of the first edition of the Rev. Balgarnie's work on Titus Salt and is embellished with copious notes in the text and comprehensive appendices. Readily available from the mill at Saltaire, bookshops in Saltaire and Bradford, and online at [www.saltairvillage.info](http://www.saltairvillage.info).

**Barlo and Shaw.** 'Traces of Salt in London', The Saltaire Journal Vol. 1, No 1, November, 2007, (Online) ISSN 1756-0853, Nemine Juvante (Saltaire) Publications.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Dave Shaw  
Editor and reviewer.

Pamela Reynolds  
Picture editor and typesetter.

*Visiting party at Tows House, 2007, in front of original entrance gates. L to R: Joyce Grant, Philip Barlow, David King, Tony Turnbull, George Douglas. Courtesy of Dave Shaw.*

# SNIPPETS . . .

## And So Saltaire Park Became Roberts Park...



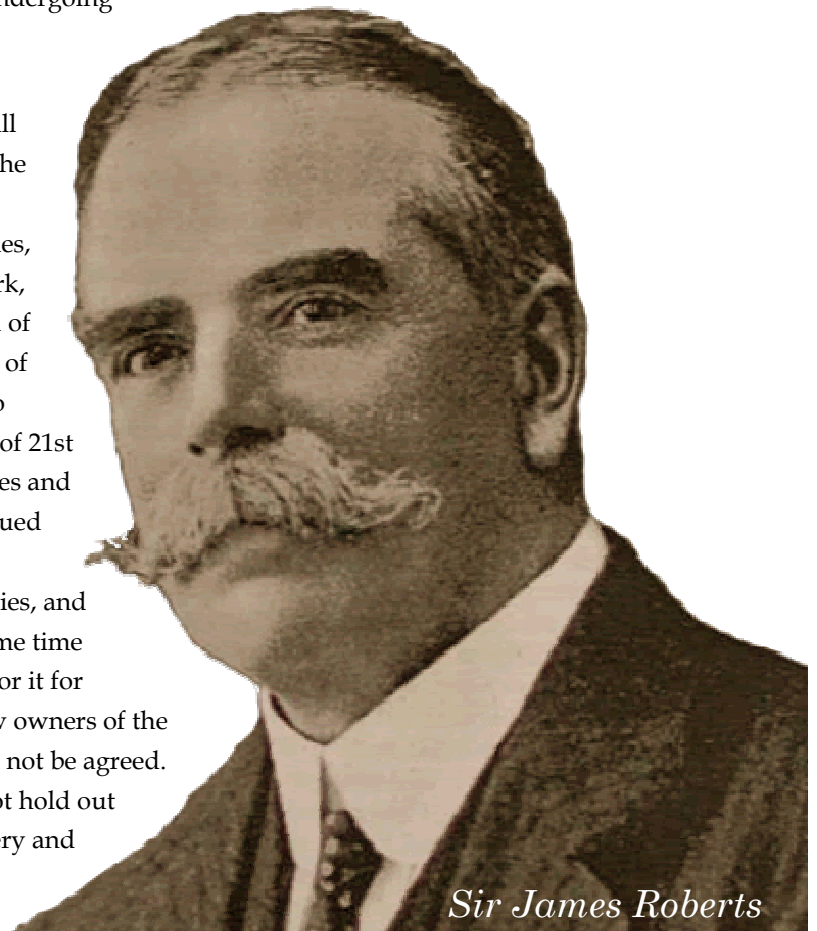
*An early postcard view of Saltaire Park*

In the preceding issue of the Saltaire Journal (Volume 1, Number 3), Roger Clarke reported on a dispute between Shipley Urban District Council (UDC) and Mr (later Sir) James

Roberts. This dispute of 1903, which was publicly aired through the newspaper columns of the Shipley Times and Express, concerned the future ownership and management of the almshouses in Saltaire's Victoria Rd. The outcome left the ownership of the almshouses with Shipley UDC.

Despite this unpromising episode, Sir James Roberts subsequently went on to be elected chairman of Shipley UDC. However, further research by Roger Clarke has found that Sir James' relationship with the Council was to end in disagreement, for reasons worth recording here, since at the centre of a later dispute lay another major Saltaire amenity, which in the present day is undergoing restoration - the Park.

Sir James Roberts was the sole owner of the Mill from 1896 until retirement in 1918. As well as the Mill he owned the village's houses (other than the almshouses) and some of its public amenities, including what was then known as Saltaire Park, on the north side of the river. Having disposed of the Mill and the housing stock to a consortium of local wool merchants, Sir James was anxious to dispose of the Park. In a letter to Shipley UDC of 21st February, 1919, reproduced in the Shipley Times and Express of 5th September, 1919, Sir James pursued the prospects of the Council taking over the running of Saltaire Park and associated amenities, and explained how he could have sold the Park some time previously, having been offered "a big price" for it for "another purpose". He had hoped that the new owners of the Mill would buy the property, but a price could not be agreed. He then describes the reasons why he could not hold out to sell the Park when he sold the Mill, machinery and the village:



*Sir James Roberts*

# SNIPPETS . . .

“My son, Bertram was dead; my other son, Harry, was lying seriously ill and wounded in a London hospital; Mr Briggs, who was secretary of the Company and my private secretary, was lying on his deathbed, and indeed was dead some time before I was made aware of the fact; and my own doctors insisted on it that at all costs I must get clear of the business. Mrs Roberts<sup>1</sup> has, I believe, sold the Knoll<sup>2</sup>, but in great sacrifice in what it had cost, and she is naturally anxious to leave the district. I am not now living at Milner Field<sup>3</sup>, and do not see any reason why I should hurry to sell my property about there. In any case, not at a wreckage price, as in the case of the Knoll and other properties previously, when the only choice was what is known as Hobson’s. Do you think that your Council would be inclined to keep open the park for the benefit of the public, if at no rent, and also take over the boathouse on the south side of the river, and the allotment gardens there in front of the Mill and in Albert Road, paying me half yearly the rentals that I am at present receiving from them? This would put you in entire control of the gardens. There would also be the park lodge, the greenhouses and the gardens entered through the gateway. In regard to the park, it would be a condition that I should be consulted before the same were let off for any purpose which would necessitate the exclusion of the public from it, such consent however not being unreasonably withheld. I feel obliged for reasons which I need not now state, to refuse to allow the cricket club to close it for their matches. It affords me no pleasure to act as I have in regard to this matter.”

Sir Titus Salt had paid £13,000 to have the Park laid out, its river embankment strengthened, and for the construction of its buildings, and the Park had been opened to the public in July, 1871, for the public benefit for all time.

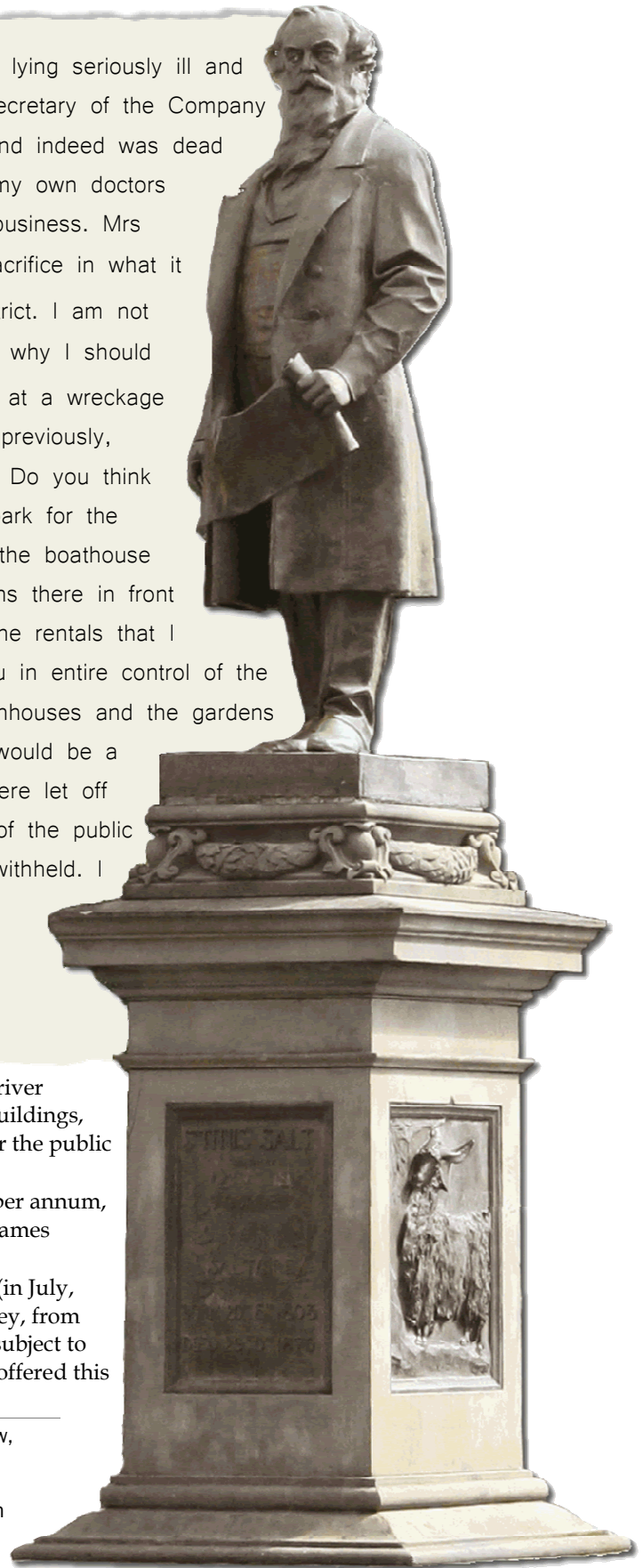
The probable cost of upkeep for the Park was around £300 per annum, and had been the responsibility of the (Mill) Company. Sir James retired from the Board of the Company in February, 1918.

It also seems pertinent that Shipley UDC had only recently (in July, 1919) agreed to purchase Northcliffe Wood, in nearby Shipley, from the Earl of Rosse for a sum of £12,500 for 114 acres of land, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board. The Earl had offered this

<sup>1</sup> It is judged that here Sir James is referring to his daughter-in-law, Mrs Eliza Gertrude Roberts, widow of his late son Bertram Foster Roberts.

<sup>2</sup> The Knoll was a large mansion standing in grounds on the north side of the River Aire, approximately half a mile from the Mill. It had previously belonged to Charles Stead, one of the early partners of Sir Titus Salt. It no longer exists.

<sup>3</sup> Milner Field was another large mansion on the north side of the River Aire, originally the residence of Titus Salt Jr. It too no longer exists.



*The Park's statue of Sir Titus Salt, erected in 1903 by Sir James Roberts in honour of the centenary of the birth of Sir Titus. Courtesy of Pamela Reynolds.*



# SNIPPETS . . .

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land to the Council at an unexpectedly low price, although its purchase would have required the Council to take out a loan to cover the cost. Soon afterwards, Sir Norman Rae stepped in as benefactor and covered the loan, offering it as a gift to the Council on condition that it should be devoted to the benefit of the public.

ShIPLEY UDC did not accede to Sir James' proposals, and from September, 1919, the rumours about the future of the Park were legion. It was said that Roberts had included the Park in the sale of Milner Field to a private syndicate in 1919, and that there was talk of using it as building land. This was despite the fact that Roberts had assured the Council that no decision would be made about the Park during 1919. He is also known to have been opposed previously to the sale of ShIPLEY Glen and HIRST Wood for building purposes.

The Council's view was that no definite "offer" about the Park was ever made by Sir James, and that they never "refused" to take it on:

"In effect, the Council were simply asked to become the agents for Sir James Roberts to collect his rents and be responsible for the upkeep of the park, but it would be open at any time to Sir James Roberts to terminate the Council's control and dispose of the park in any way he thought proper." They merely "held the matter over for further consideration". Sir James responded, in the Press, that this was a "contemptible interpretation of the facts".

Feelings were obviously running high, because there was a comment from the Council that:

"Sir James Roberts had made money from selling to the Council the gas mains and services in the Saltaire estate on both sides of the river, and the right to supply in this area, for the sum of £33,500. The valuation of the gas mains and services was only about £7,000 or £8,000, and Sir James Roberts had a very handsome margin out of which to do something for the public. If all that Sir James Roberts can show in the way of public benefit is the maintenance of Saltaire Park then he is a long way from fulfilling his reasonable obligations".

Then, on the 19th September, 1919, the Park was suddenly closed to the public. The gates were locked and a "no admittance until further notice" announcement was posted. There was public outrage. No-one would admit responsibility for the action, and a few days later the Park was re-opened.

There was no further Press coverage of this story until 16th January, 1920, just four months later, when it was announced that Sir James had offered Saltaire Park to **Bradford** Council as a gift, subject to a number of conditions:

- › There should be a tablet placed at the entrance acknowledging the gift and establishing it as a memorial to Sir James' son, Bertram.
- › The Council should maintain the Park to the benefit of the public at all times.
- › It should henceforward be called Roberts Park.

Bradford Council immediately accepted the gift with gratitude. The Council had acquired ShIPLEY Glen and BILDON Moor in 1899, and this land was adjacent to it.

As the present-day Bradford Metropolitan District Council proceeds with its major restoration of the Park, Roger Clarke's account of the events of 90 years ago sets that work in an interesting historical context.

# BOOK REVIEW

## THE BUILDINGS OF ENGLAND – YORKSHIRE WEST RIDING: LEEDS, BRADFORD AND THE NORTH Peter Leach and Nikolaus Pevsner

When the late Nikolaus Pevsner (1902–83) first published, in the 1950s, his multi-volume series of architectural guides 'The Buildings of England', they were recognized as invaluable records and appraisals of English architecture through the ages. Now, after 50 eventful years, his original guide for the West Riding is being comprehensively updated and expanded. So far-reaching is this revision that it is to be presented in two volumes, and here we have the first of those, covering the northern part of the West Riding. And what a wonderful book it is!

The geographical coverage of the volume takes in the Bradford/Leeds conurbation in the south, and extends northwards to include Ripon, Harrogate, Skipton and much of the Dales. For the Saltaire enthusiast, the proximity of the volume's southern boundary is too close to permit the inclusion of other, related developments such as Akroydon and Copley, although the text acknowledges the relevance of the latter.

The introduction provides a short summary of the region's geology and its building stones, and then an invaluable chronology of its main architectural phases, starting with prehistoric and Roman features, and ends with a commentary on some of the very latest, built additions to our landscape.

The book also contains a glossary of architectural terms, complete with many additional diagrams. This glossary in itself is, for the non-specialist, a highly interesting read, and a helpful source of reference.

The 677-page gazetteer is packed with information on the region's sites of architectural interest, arranged in alphabetic order, from Aberford to Yeadon. These pages reveal the great range of our built heritage, from the splendours of urban civic pride in Leeds and Bradford, through the smaller agricultural settlements of the Dales, and on to the country houses of bygone gentry. Any planning of a walk, or day out to pastures new, would benefit from a study of relevant pages of 'Pevsner', to better appreciate what architectural treasures lie in store.

Not all is celebration, of course, and so praise of the good is tempered by occasional, critical assessment of the bad – thus, in Harrogate, the 1990s Victoria Shopping Centre is well identified as "an inept pastiche of Palladio's basilica with DIY statues on the parapet." Thankfully, Saltaire attracts praise, with the four pages of text devoted to it giving an accurate and balanced account of both its exceptional size and its characteristic Italianate features. It's a delight to read



the professional appraisals of individual buildings such as the Mill, Church, Victoria Hall and Schools.

Several of the book's colour photographs are very local to Saltaire – the United Reformed Church, Five Rise Locks, and the Ove Arup footbridge over the Bingley relief road, to name but three.

Inevitably, readers are likely to find their opinions differing from those of the writers in some cases, but that's part of the enjoyment of the book – such differences lead to new insights and thoughts, and ultimately to a more informed appreciation of the subject.

Equally inevitable are the small failings that one can find on close inspection. The recent restoration of the North Lodge of the nearby Milner Field estate has rendered the book's mention of its ruinous state outdated. The (undated) plan of Saltaire that has been used is perhaps not as informative as that available on our own Saltaire Village website ([www.saltairvillage.info](http://www.saltairvillage.info)). The dating of the Salts Hospital extension to three floors is incorrect.

Given the huge body of work that is contained, these are minor issues, and do not lessen the admiration for what has been achieved.

Perhaps the greatest pleasure to be had from the book stems from the knowledge that, in a spare few minutes, one can always learn something new - leaving an enhanced appreciation of, and pride in, our West Riding architectural heritage. Three cheers for Peter Leach and Nikolaus Pevsner!

DAVE SHAW

<b>Authors:</b>	<b>Peter Leach and Nikolaus Pevsner</b>
<b>Price:</b>	£29.99
<b>ISBN:</b>	978 0 300 12665 5
<b>Size:</b>	H: 222mm W: 130mm
<b>Pages:</b>	824
<b>Illustrations:</b>	128 colour photos, 61 figures
<b>Publisher:</b>	Yale University Press
<b>Publication date:</b>	2009

# CD REVIEW

## *New source for Saltaire History Researches*

Bradford Family History Society has done local historians a great service with their recent publication on CD of the transcribed Burial Registers and Monumental Inscriptions for Shipley St Paul's Churchyards and Hirst Wood Burial Ground.

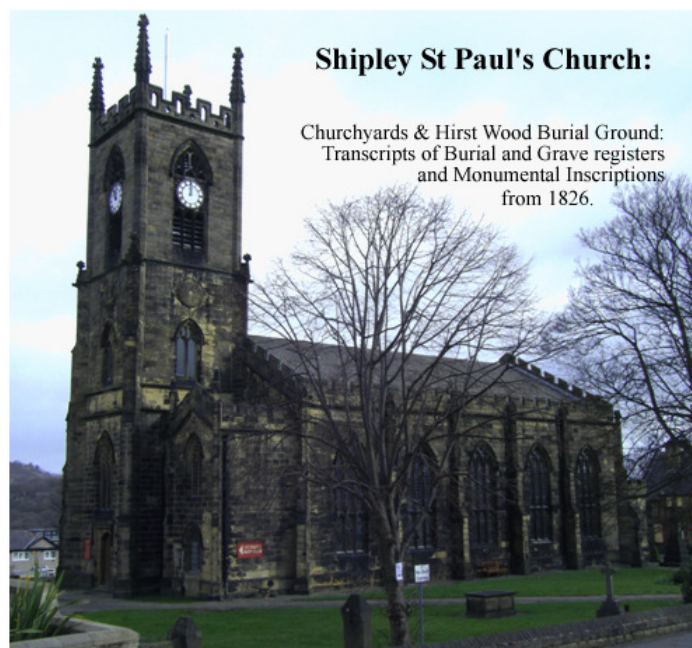
The CD has background information about the church, including several photographs and contains a wealth of useful information, dating from 1826, and its user-friendly format allows searches to be done by name, or any other keyword that one chooses<sup>1</sup>.

Whilst not being the complete account of burial records for those who died in Saltaire – other burial grounds were, of course, used – the records captured here are extensive, with many hundreds, if not thousands, of burials of Saltaire's residents being recorded.

What is very striking as one looks down the chronological sequence of burials is the frequency of deaths in Saltaire and the surrounding areas - several people a week from Saltaire alone died in some weeks. Also the youthfulness of those dying still shocks.

When one gets into the 1880s and beyond, the register entries frequently contain the exact house number & street in Saltaire of the deceased - so there is a wealth of information for historians to study.

Novel findings can also be made in browsing the CD's contents. There is currently uncertainty about when the Bath Houses on Caroline St ceased to be operational. Here we learn that a Mary Risdon, aged 75, of No 5 Bath Buildings, Saltaire was buried on 24th August, 1898; and that eight years previously a one-year-old



### **Shipley St Paul's Church:**

Churchyards & Hirst Wood Burial Ground:  
Transcripts of Burial and Grave registers  
and Monumental Inscriptions  
from 1826.

child, John Scott, had been buried from the Bath Buildings, on 2nd August, 1890.

This highly recommended CD is an important source of information to all those interested in the social circumstances in Saltaire from the township's earliest days (there are, of course, registrations of burials that predate the building of Saltaire).

**DAVE SHAW**

<sup>1</sup>In using the CD on more than one PC, this reader found that some sections of the records appeared to be missing. This was caused by the use of an early version of Acrobat Reader, and the problem was readily eliminated by following the instructions in the CD's introduction.

<b>Produced by:</b>	<b>Bradford Family History Society</b>
<b>Price per CD:</b>	£11.00 inc p&p within UK
<b>Request by writing to:</b>	Mrs Sandra Hodgson 14 Greenville Drive Low Moor Bradford West Yorkshire BD12 OPP
<b>Payment:</b>	Cheques should be made payable in sterling to "Bradford Family History Society".
<b>Additional Information:</b>	Details of the location of any particular gravestone in St Paul's Churchyard are independently available on request from Ian Watson, email <a href="mailto:ianaire@blueyonder.co.uk">ianaire@blueyonder.co.uk</a> .  A reference copy is available in the Saltaire Archive, located in the Resource Centre of Shipley College, Exhibition Road, Saltaire.

# The Saltaire Journal

## AVAILABILITY OF SALTAIRE JOURNALS & CONTRIBUTOR GUIDELINES

### SALTAIRE JOURNALS

The Saltaire Journals provide a means for historians to publish findings which relate to Saltaire, the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Yorkshire, England. The Journals are freely available on a world-wide basis to non-commercial parties such as local historians, and research and educational bodies. The facility is free to contributors and readers alike.

### CONTRIBUTOR GUIDELINES

The purposes of these guidelines are two-fold. Firstly they seek to set a common standard for contributors. Secondly, by giving advance notification, they reduce the amount of work involved in the editing process.

1. Wherever possible text should be submitted as a PC Word document. If the author lacks access or familiarity with PCs or Word, it may be possible to help, depending on the nature of the material.
2. Start sentences with a single space.

3. Avoid the use of the first person "I" where possible - use instead the passive form (eg rather than writing "I have not found...." use the words "... has not been found.")

4. Single digit numerals should be spelt out when used in sentences (eg "The five houses accommodated 10 adults.")

5. When referring to streets or roads by name, use the abbreviation of St or Rd. No full stop after the abbreviation is necessary (except of course where it happens to be the end of a sentence).

6. Similarly, the fifth son of Sir Titus Salt is normally to be referred to as Titus Salt Jr or Titus Jr (again no full stop except when ending a sentence).

7. Dates should be presented as eg 20th September, 1803.

8. Remember that the readership of the Journal is world-wide. Please do not assume that the reader has close familiarity with the local history or geography of Saltaire.

9. Prior to submission of a piece of work, it is advisable to reread it from

the perspective of a new reader, unfamiliar with the subject, and make adjustments accordingly.

10. Images should be copyright-cleared. Photos, scans and diagrams should be of high print quality. Further advice is given on the Saltaire Journal area of the Saltaire Village website.

### AVAILABILITY OF ISSUES

Each Journal consists of a single topic by an author or group of authors. The Journals are published as new research is written up, and are available to download from the Saltaire Village website. Any copyrights attached to an article are made known in its issuing. A limited number of copies are printed centrally, for deposition in libraries, archives and other outlets.

### EMAIL ALERTS

Anyone wishing to be placed on the emailing list, alerting them to the availability of a new issue, is invited to register by completing the form on the website.

**PUBLISHING:** Formal publishing and deposition is done by Nemine Juvante (Saltaire) Publications, a not-for-profit partnership dedicated to the publishing of works relating to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Saltaire. If you would like to see your work published in this way, please contact Nemine Juvante Publications.

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#### The Saltaire Journal

E. [neminejuvante@saltairevillage.info](mailto:neminejuvante@saltairevillage.info)  
W. [www.saltairevillage.info](http://www.saltairevillage.info)

#### Saltaire Village Website

E. [pamelareynolds@saltairevillage.info](mailto:pamelareynolds@saltairevillage.info)  
W. [www.saltairevillage.info](http://www.saltairevillage.info)

#### Saltaire History Club

E. [historyclub@saltairevillage.info](mailto:historyclub@saltairevillage.info)  
W. [www.saltairevillage.info/forum](http://www.saltairevillage.info/forum)

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