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Contributions:

The Editor is happy to consider material, articles, letters and information for inclusion in the Journal. Receipt of such material does not necessarily indicate that the material will be published.

Material should be sent via email to fibis-editor@fibis.org or to 80 Brighton Road, Watford, Herts, WD24 5HW

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Contributors should be aware that as a rule their articles will in due course be posted on the FIBIS website.

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Editorial

At the end of 2011, the British Newspaper Archive went live, a joint project between the British Library and company Brightsolid to digitise millions of pages of historical British newspapers. I have found a few interesting family snippets hidden in local papers that I would never have been able to check had a digital search not been available. I even found some information for an article on Sir Walter Gilbert (p14) that I would've trawled many miles of microfilm for had I even known to look for it. As more organisations digitise their archives for preservation and commercial reasons and make them available online, access to a wide array of historical sources has become vastly easier and virtually instant. These days, brick walls tend to crumble from the comfort of an armchair.

Our research could be advanced at any time by information hidden in a public or private archive. Even when researchers feel they have exhausted all avenues, new sources can appear. In our first article (p3), aspects of Pippa Milnamow's research that stood still many years ago were invigorated by a distant cousin getting in touch via Pippa's website. It is a remarkable discovery of new information and there couldn't be a better demonstration of the potential benefit of contacting those who share your ancestors. Returning to the FIBIS Journal with an update on his Pearce family investigation, Mike Pearce too found his research advanced by documents in the possession of a relative. The results of Mike's look at the Viceregal carriages can be found on p30.

Research 'on the ground' has produced the information in Omer Tarin's work recording the history of St Luke's Church in Abbottabad and the current state of the Old Christian Cemetery there (p23). This type of work is vital and hopefully records in South Asia will increase in accessibility during this decade.

A detailed new guide to India-related materials in the manuscript collections of the British Library has been produced by Dorota Walker, opening up new channels for research by indexing hitherto unexplored papers. From p37, Dorota has kindly recounted some of her findings that may be useful biographically and FIBIS intends to explore these further with an eye to transcription. For a more radical method of discovering new information, consider a DNA test! Debbie Kennett's FIBIS talk explaining how the whole thing works appears from p44 and it is hard not to be enthused by the possibilities she details.

At the time of writing, the publication of digitized India Office Records on the Find My Past website is imminent. The prospect of browsing these records so easily is quite exciting and as the project advances many new sources should become available online. This provides an opportunity to search for those tiny details that a trip to an archive cannot always afford. I made extensive use of the same company's British Army Service Records last year, spending many hours reading the papers of my ancestor's comrades in arms and I intend to waste an equal amount of time looking through the N series records for marriages at which my ancestors may have been the official witnesses. You just never know where you'll find something special.

Sarah Bilton

The Imhoff Inheritance

By Pippa Milnamow

My interest in genealogy and the Imhoff family began 40 years ago when I heard a family story. My father's family believed that they were descended from Anna Maria Apollonia Chapuset de St Valentine (1747 – 1837) and her first husband Baron Christophe Adam Karl von Imhoff (1734 – 1788). Anna Maria's second husband was Warren Hastings (1732 - 1818) the first Governor-General of India. The story was first relayed in the early 1940s when my grandfather's sister, Marjorie Jahans, came for a visit to the family home in England. My grandfather was Gordon Alexander Jahans.¹

As I remember the story, in about 1944 Marjorie gave her brother a family tree that she said had been professionally commissioned and it showed that we were descended from Julius Imhoff, one of the sons of Anna Maria Chapuset. The story went on to say that our family owned land in Calcutta and that a claim had been made for this land supported by the family tree. Marjorie, I was told, said that it was proven that the family did own land in Calcutta and since government buildings then occupied the land, the Jahans family could be given first refusal to buy the land if the Government wished to sell it at a future time. My grandfather thought it a joke and did not believe the story about the land but he thought that there was a possibility that the family were descended from the Imhoffs. At that time my grandmother was dying of cancer, and the family could not entertain guests, so Marjorie left. The family tree was forgotten and no one remembered what happened to it or what information it contained.

Years later in the 1970s, my father and mother spoke about the family tree. In 1946, my parents, newly-wed, had moved into the family home with Gordon and his second wife. My mother remembered that the tree had been kept in a laundry basket in the pantry in my grandfather Gordon's house. I took some genealogy classes and my mother and I began to research our family history to find out if there was any truth in the Imhoff story. Were we really descended from Anna Maria Chapuset? The India Office Records in those days were kept at Blackfriars Road, London and we researched there in much the same way as is done today. My mother also wrote letters to Germany and contacted descendants of Anna Maria Chapuset's family. She also corresponded with a Warren Hastings historian in Daylesford, Worcestershire, where Warren Hastings and Anna Maria Chapuset, whom he called Marian, are buried.

Anna Maria had two surviving sons from her first marriage to Christophe Imhoff who were adopted by Warren Hastings. One son, Charles Imhoff, became a General in the British Army and was knighted. He married Charlotte Blunt but they had no children. The other child Julius Imhoff had three illegitimate children, William, Charles and John. Two

¹ Gordon Alexander Jahans's autobiography of his early life in India was published in *FIBIS Journal* 12, Autumn 2004.

of them died when still young. Grier² wrote that young Charles Imhoff had been drowned in a well with his nurse in 1802. He was five. William died prior to 1824² and according to record N/1/10/677 it was on 11 Sep 1818 in Calcutta. The youngest son, John Imhoff, married a Maria Chambers 16 Oct 1826³ but they had no children. With no direct descendants, it was therefore impossible for us to be directly descended from the Imhoffs, but I determined there could be a very slight possibility of a connection to the Imhoff family via another line of descent. Later, when I had a computer, I researched again.

I concluded that there could be a chance we were related to one of the mothers of Julius's children or that we were related to Maria Chambers, the wife of John Imhoff. Julius, in his 1799 will⁴ mentioned the mothers of his 'natural born children' but no names were written. We have Chambers in our family tree but I was unable to come up with any connections as there were a lot of Chambers in India. My 2x great grandmother Cecilia Olivia Chambers, born about 1835, was married to Thomas Leslie Jahans⁵ and from their marriage record I found that her father was a William Chambers. I had no other information to work with so that was where I left the research.

Recently a 3rd cousin, Yasmin, contacted me and we found that we had similar Chapuset, Imhoff, Warren Hastings stories. Yasmin is also descended from Cecilia Olivia Chambers and Thomas Leslie Jahans. Her great grandmother Florence Hope Jahans and my great grandfather Charles Chambers Jahans are sister and brother. Yasmin had heard a story that our family was descended from the Baroness Imhoff and that the Jahans and Chambers families had made a claim for the Imhoff fortune. Yasmin told me that her mother had a box of papers which had been passed down from her grandfather that proved this. She said she had heard that there was a big court battle which included arguing among the cousins. She also heard that the Judge ruled that the properties which were already being leased should all have a 99 year lease and then they could go back to the Chambers family. A few days later Yasmin and I were on the phone and Yasmin read a letter that connected the Jahans, Chambers and Imhoff families. Not too long after, I held copies of the documents in my hands. The stories clearly have flaws but the discovery of documents intrigued me.

The documents are as follows:

1. A handwritten seven page legal petition for the goods of Maria Imhoff deceased by 'William Edmund [sic] Chambers practicing physician and coroner in the town of Calcutta and landed proprietor' and his wife Editha and the attorney for several of the next of kin of Maria Imhoff. No date.

² Sydney C. Grier, *The Letters of Warren Hastings to his Wife*. (William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London, 1905)

³ *East India Register* 1827 Ed. 2 (FIBIS database)

⁴ IOR L/AG/34/29/1-154

⁵ IOR N/1/80/76 - 2 September 1851 in Agra

2. A handwritten four page legal document, a 'brief', titled 'Estate of Maria Imhoff deceased.' Dated 19th Mar 1898. Background and supportive information regarding the properties of Warren Hastings that were given to Julius Imhoff.
3. A handwritten two page document granting Letters of Administration to Edmond William Chambers and some members of his family
4. A handwritten eight page legal document titled 'Estate Maria Imhoff deceased.' No date but it must have been written about 1898. It includes a list of 'documents and extracts of documents in support of the brief.'
5. A handwritten three page 'True Copy' of the Will of Julius Imhoff. Dated 7 Nov 1799
6. A letter from Stanley Edwin Jahans to an attorney seeking help to find out what happened to the property of Mrs Maria Imhoff and offering payment from his share of the inheritance. Written 1st June 1914.

The documents concern Maria Imhoff née Chambers who was the wife of John Imhoff, the surviving son of Julius Imhoff and grandson of Anna Maria and her first husband Baron Christophe Adam Karl Imhoff. Maria died intestate in 1856 ('about 1857' also written) and the next of kin, her nieces and nephews, who believed she had possessed a considerable fortune, were petitioning for her estate. Maria Imhoff's siblings as well as the nieces, and nephews are all named in the documents. The primary petitioners are Edmond William Chambers and his wife Editha Chambers who represent the heirs of Maria Imhoff.

The great treasure to me was the documents and the information that they contained about my family. Seeing my 2x great grandmother's name, Cecilia Jahans, together with the other names of people in her family meant I could now extend this branch of my family tree.

Maria Imhoff and her five siblings were the children of John Chambers, a merchant. According to the petition, Maria was 'not a European British Subject but who had been a Danish subject and was for some years a resident of Fredericks-nagore in the Danish settlement of Serampore, until her marriage in 1826 but who since her marriage was a resident of Alipore in the suburbs of Calcutta departed this life about the year 1857 [1856] in Patna [sic].'

Named in the petition are her brothers James, Robert, Richard, William⁶ and a sister Charlotte, the wife of Charles Ashe, all deceased at that time. William Chambers was my 3x great grandfather and Cecilia's father.

⁶ I have found a reference to the grave of William Jonathan Chambers in *List of Inscriptions on Christian Tombs and Tablets of Historical Interest in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh* by EAH Blunt (1911). He died 3 December 1854 aged 46 years.

Also named in the petition are the children of James Chambers - Catherine Olympia Chambers, the petitioner Edmond William Chambers, Richard Chambers, and Teresa Sophia Ashe; the only son of Robert Chambers - Edward Chambers; the daughters of Richard Chambers - Constance Chambers and Ellen White; the daughters of William Chambers - Cecilia Jahans and Starlina Mary Ashe; and the children of Charles Ashe (Jr.) deceased - Eugenie McGrath, Cecil Ashe, Reginald Ashe, Charles Ashe, and Mary Burke.

The petition states that 'the assets of Maria Imhoff are in the possession of [a] certain person or persons who are not heirs.' Edmond William Chambers declares that he is the executor of the Will of his father James Chambers, deceased. He stated that James Chambers, as the last surviving brother of Maria Imhoff 'adopted in 1891 and 1892 legal steps towards the recovery of the estate and assets of the deceased set out in the schedule...' Edmond referred to Maria Imhoff's assets as listed by his father James. This schedule is inserted in the petition – document 1.

The 'Schedule of assets left by the deceased' as provided by James Chambers in 1891 or 1892 are:

- The Alipore House and grounds now [des]cribed as Warren Hastings House togeth[er] with the estate appertaining thereto formerly the principal house of the Alipore estate.
- Other houses and lands included in the above estate out of which several houses and lands are as your petitioners are informed and believe, held on a lease for 99 years and others under [exactly as written]
- No. 2 Hastings Street in the town of Calcutta
- Money and assets in the hand of the official assignee and administrator general of Bengal

The petition also stated that Editha, the wife of Edmond William held a general power of attorney dated 4 May 1892 from James Chambers and special powers of attorney from Mrs Teresa Sophia Ashe and her son Alex St Geo Ashe, and from Eugenie McGrath, the granddaughter of Charlotte Chambers.

The next of kin who are represented are listed as above, except Edward Chambers is named as one who had not consented, Re(ginald) Ashe who is in Khulnaare is named as not available, Cecilia Jahans, Charles Ashe and Cecil Ashe are absent from Calcutta are named as the next of kin who gave consent but have not signed the petition due to their absence from Calcutta. The petitioners ask that letters of administration to the property, credits, assets of the deceased Maria Imhoff and effects of be granted to the petitioners.

The second document, the 'brief' provides some history and background information on the Imhoff family referring to 'Anna Maria Appolonia Chapusettine' [sic] and her husband Baron Imhoff, an officer of the German Army and their two sons Charles Imhoff and

Julius Imhoff, who became the stepsons of Warren Hastings. It states that Daylesford Castle in England was settled on Sir Charles Imhoff, whereas the Alipore House and grounds in Calcutta was given to Julius. Then about 1814, after Julius Imhoff's death, the property called Belvedere was added by Anna Maria, now Mrs Hastings, to the Alipore Estate.

Warren Hastings estate in India, so the document stated, consisted originally of 8,000 acres, on which he built Alipore House, Belvedere and other buildings. The document said that 'justice (at that time) was meted out by the Sudder Divani Nujamal Adat. This *Jagir*⁷ was the gift of Shah Alam King of Delhi to Warren Hastings who built the above named houses.' Warren Hastings made two lots of the Jagir, the Alipore House estate and Belvedere estate. On his retirement, Warren Hastings divided up the Alipore property into three lots for sale about the year 1785. The sale was not 'effected' so Alipore House and grounds were given to Hastings' stepson Julius Imhoff as a gift.

Continuing the story, the brief stated that Julius died in 1799 and John Palmer an executor of Julius's will notified Warren Hastings, 'the will being filed in the supreme Court of Calcutta in 1801.' The brief also states that 'about the same time, similarly Belvedere Estate was put up for sale in the name of Colonel Tolley in three lots and not being sold was added by Mrs Warren Hastings about the year 1814 to the other estate of Julius Imhoff for the benefit of Julius's surviving sons William and John, reserving one third for the benefit of Sir Charles Imhoff during his lifetime.'

The brief goes on to explain that Julius Imhoff bequeathed his property to his children Charles, William and John and that John Palmer and others were the executors of his will. Julius's son Charles died about 1802, William about 1824 (as stated in the document) and John died about 1848. Charles died intestate but his share 'from the account filed by John Palmer' was divided equally between William and John. When William died around 1824, probate was granted to John Palmer on 9 March 1825, inventory filed 21 March 1826 and account current filed 21 March 1826. John Imhoff inherited the entire estate by survivorship.

John Imhoff 'attained majority in 1826 and married Maria Chambers a daughter of John Chambers a merchant of Serampore in the Roman Catholic church in the same year.' It is written that 'they lived together in possession of Alipore house and land till 1844 when he was arrested for debts (paltry hundreds) put into jail, made to file his schedule, declared a lunatic and lodged in an asylum in Bhawanipore(?) kept by one Beardsmore.' It is written next that John Imhoff's further history will be written later. Unfortunately there is nothing more about John's history in these documents.

In trying to piece together the story of John Imhoff's life, I have looked through records, books and journals that might mention his name. I found mostly conflicting reports. I

⁷ Henry Yule and AC Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson Anglo Indian Dictionary* (1886) gives *Jagheer/Jaghire* as 'literally "place-holding". A hereditary assignment of land and its rent as annuity.'

have found no date of birth for John. The brief states that John Imhoff reached his majority in 1826 which would give his birth as 1805 if the majority is 21. However Julius's will specifies that the children should reach the age of 26 which could mean that John was born about 1800. It is well documented that his father Julius died in 1799. According to the will, sons William and Charles had the same mother. William was born about 1794 and Charles about 1797.⁸ John was the youngest son and born to a different mother. Perhaps he was born in 1798. Grier writes that John was murdered in the grounds of Alipore House and describes this as John's father's house.⁹ A review¹⁰ of Grier's book claims that the story of the murder is inaccurate. The writer mentions that Julius Imhoff who died in 1799 appears to have been possessed of considerable property which he left to his natural children. 'One of these children, a hopeless vagabond, wandered over the North-West, and at last died at Kurrachee [Karachi], where his father's will from which these facts are extracted, came into the possession of Captain Ashburner.' The article then states that the vagabond was no other person than John Imhoff. Feiling writes that 46 years after Warren Hastings died, the last known descendant of Carl and Marian Imhoff, a Eurasian, was laid in a pauper grave at Karachi.¹¹

In the book about John Palmer,¹² who took charge of the children of Julius, it is stated that John Imhoff died in 1802. I believe this to be a mistake as it appears that it was Charles who died in 1802. Burial record IOR N/1/37/266 has a J Imhoff buried 14 Dec 1833 at Fort William age 64, status pauper. This would give John's birth year as 1769, but we know that John's father Julius was born in 1768. The documents that I am writing about state that John died in 1848 and it is probable that he was born in 1798. Without firm evidence John Imhoff's death remains a mystery, but it is my opinion that John Imhoff was not the vagabond wandering the North-West.

Going back to the documents, there are two pages (document number 3) that write about the heirs (of John Imhoff's wife Maria) who are asking for letters of administration so they could establish their claim to the properties that were now in the possession of other people. It was written that 'the properties therefore must be treated as of no value until suits have been brought and decrees attained.' Then on 19 February 1898 'letters of administration of the property and credits of Maria Imhoff, Danish subject formerly of Serampore but lately of Alipore deceased' were granted to Edmond William Chambers, his wife Editha and some of the next of kin of Maria Imhoff. The document specified they undertake to make a full and true inventory and (as I understand it) were to return to the court in six months. The petitioners were to render to the court a true account of the property and credits within one year. This order was dated 19 March 1898.

⁸ Grier

⁹ Grier, p452.

¹⁰ CJA Pritchard, University of Calcutta, *The Calcutta Review* Vol CXXIII (73), (Edinburgh Press 1906), p507 [accessed via Google books]

¹¹ Keith Feiling, *Warren Hastings*, (Archon Books, Hamden, Connecticut, 1967)

¹² Anthony Webster Boydell, *The Richest East India Merchant: the Life and Businesses of John Palmer* (Brewer, 2007)

The most complex document, number 4, contains the list of 'documents and extracts of documents in support of the brief.' The first page lists the documents and extracts from documents required in support of the brief. There are too many to list here but they include documents from the office of the chief clerk, High Court, documents concerning the schedule and assets of several people who I think must be occupying the properties in question at the time of the petition. At the top of the list is 'the schedule of John Imhoff 1844.' I believe this to be a listing of all his assets that he made upon his insolvency.

The next page is concerned with John Palmer who was collecting the rents from Belvedere from 1820 to 1844. It documents that 'in 1814 Belvedere and lands were added to the Alipore House and lands by Mrs Warren Hastings subject to a reservation of one third of its rents for Charles Imhoff during his life time.' The document goes on to describe the insolvency of John Palmer in 1829 and the insolvency of John Imhoff in 1844, (insolvency – the inability to pay one's debts.) It states that the documents and papers connected with the insolvencies were 'among other proofs that Alipore House and lands and Belvedere and lands were the property of John Imhoff by survivorship after the death of his brother Charles in 1802 and his brother William in 1824.' In 1827 Palmer granted a '*Murasī Pottah*' to the Agri Horticultural Society for lands for their garden between Belvedere and Alipore House on a rental of Rs 50/-per annum. In 1820 a farm base was granted to a Mrs Speid for arrowroot growing and manufacturing on a rental of Rs 20/- per annum. This ground called the Paddock of Alipore House was now called 'the Pen' and the property of Mrs Bromfield. John Palmer, it noted, died in 1836.

In 1840 John Imhoff mortgaged to a 'Mohim(?) Mandal of Tolly gung the out offices with stabling that were at the back of and part of Alipore House for the sum of Rs seven hundred and the said property is now in the possession of his son Raj Kissen Mandal.' It is stated that the property had recently been 'dismantled'.

According to the document 'Maria Imhoff [nee Chambers] resided in Calcutta after the death of her husband from 1848 to 1852 when she retired to Bankipore and lived there until her death in 1856. Maria Imhoff never remarried and had no issue by her marriage with John Imhoff.' It was written that the government official assignee and his successor were doubly neglectful of their trusteeship after John Imhoff filed his schedule (of insolvency) in 1844. The assignee also conducted the case of Sir Charles Imhoff versus his nephew John Imhoff in the 1830s. Sir Charles claimed a portion of Belvedere which was likely the third portion that Mrs Hastings reserved for him in 1814. A *Pottah*¹³ was granted to Sir Charles.

Continuing with document 4, it describes other *pottahs* granted in respect of the Alipore House in 1856 to others listed on the first page of this document. The people named were Elizabeth Veignon and John Veignon. It was stated that the house never belonged to John Veignon but he set the value of Rs 80,000/- on it. The house was subsequently

¹³ *Hobson-Jobson* (ibid) gives *pottah* as 'a document specifying the conditions on which lands are held; a lease or other document securing rights in land or house property.'

sold as the property of Elizabeth Veignon. The writers clearly believed that the sale and transfer should not have taken place and quoted a Registration Act.

There follows a statement about the lease of Belvedere and a list of miscellaneous leases and mortgages. 'In 1854 the Government of Bengal leased to themselves Belvedere on a 99 years lease on a rental of 400 Sicea Rupees per mensem. [sic]'

A statement is made that 'this completes the chain of facts in connection with the properties relative to the Estate of John Imhoff who died in 1848 leaving his lawfully married wife Maria Imhoff (née) Chambers sole heiress absolutely of this property – Maria Imhoff also died in the year 1856 and as there was no issue...' lawful claimants of the property could be determined by virtue of collateral consanguinity.

When Sir Charles Imhoff contested John's right to Belvedere in the Alipore Court, 'the result led to an appeal by John Imhoff that resulted in John's favour.' In the next portion, the page is torn and some words are missing but it writes of the assets per the insolvency schedule and the protection of the properties. Then follows a listing of the properties and that the onus of custodianship fell on the Government and it is alleged that the properties remained in trust. Then from 1853(?), there was partitioning of the properties and *Pottahs* were granted to several persons on the plea of tenancy. There follows a list of people and the properties that they were in possession of. This document then ends abruptly.

So, the documents show that poor John Imhoff was arrested for debts, declared a lunatic and sent to an asylum. When his wife Maria died she did not have a will. The Chambers family, including my 2x great grandmother Cecilia Jahans who was by then married, found an attorney and petitioned for ownership of the land as the nearest heirs. The list of all the property is huge, the documents that are listed to support the case are lengthy and there is also much criticism of the management of the estate.

The original question was finally answered through these documents. They show we were not descended from Anna Maria Chapuset as the family story claimed, but we are related to her family through the marriage of her grandson John Imhoff to Maria Chambers, the sister of my 3x great grandfather. One can see the relationship in the chart I have prepared. It had involved an investigation over many years and my excitement at finding the answer and the mystery of the inheritance has been absorbing. Not only that but I have found a new family member and a friend in Yasmin.

As with most genealogy projects when one question is answered other questions emerge. Many questions result from these documents. The lands and properties were leased or mortgaged to others. Edmond William Chambers, Maria's nephew, was granted letters of administration of the properties. Stanley Edwin Jahans's letter showed he had attempted to contact Edmond William and his wife 'who were residing in Calcutta on the 19th day of February 1898' but had been unable to do so. Stanley is a son of Cecilia Olivia Jahans née Chambers and the brother of mine and Yasmin's ancestors, Charles Chambers Jahans and Florence Hope Jahans. In 1914 Stanley contacted an attorney to find out what had happened to the goods and property of Maria Imhoff

(document 6). I wonder why he waited 16 years. Clearly Stanley was not successful in receiving any share of the properties as in 1923, a widower, he had lost his job and the family were in dire straits. Five of his seven children were sent to Kalimpong and placed in a Dr Graham home.¹⁴ As for the properties, Belvedere House and its 30 acre grounds now house the National Library of India. The Institute of Education for Women is housed in Hastings' Alipore House. I also understand that the Zoo covers some of the Hastings' land.

A question that puzzles me concerns the ancestry of Maria Imhoff and her siblings. The documents state that Maria is Danish and the daughter of John Chambers, merchant. In *Bengal Past and Present* Vol 30, Cotton writes 'Maria Chambers the sixth daughter of John Chambers.'¹⁵ The documents I have written about here name six children - two daughters and four sons. Cotton also writes 'John Chambers, free merchant and oriental translator to the company, died at Serampore in 1833. He was said to be the son of Captain John Chambers of the Company's service who was killed at Cossimbazar in 1756 and was himself the son of Charles Chambers, Director of the Company from 1755 to 1757 and again from 1763 to 1768 (information derived from a genealogical table of the Chambers family, supplied by the Rev. Fr. G Lowyck, SJ).' Cotton also writes of a Mrs Ashe who was a member of the Chambers family. Another journal has 'John Chambers, Writer and Assistant at Cossimbazar, Public Proceedings, 1st December 1755. Arrived July 1753. He was made prisoner at Cossimbazar. Released on the Dutch and French Chiefs giving bail. Massacred at Patna, 1763.'¹⁶ There is, therefore, conflicting information. The research of Maria Chamber's ancestry and hence the ancestry of Maria's brother William my three times great grandfather will therefore have to be the focus of another project.

I have shown there was after all some truth to Great Aunt Marjorie's story. The family believed that they had inherited the Imhoff properties in Calcutta and made a claim. It seems the Indian Government does possess much of the properties. From Yasmin's story, there was supposed to have been a review of the claim at the end of the 99 year lease. Certainly the properties were not handed over to members of the Chambers family. The legal response to the claim is probably lost to history but it has made an intriguing story. In conclusion, the sharing of these Imhoff documents shows that one never knows what additional family history information may come your way even many years later. Documents such as these need to be photographed and preserved as not only are they a part of my family's history but they are of historical significance. Valuable

¹⁴ Copies of original letters from the chaplain of St Andrews, Lahore to Dr Graham at Kalimpong on http://milnamowandjahansfamilyhistory.com/html/1923_letters.html

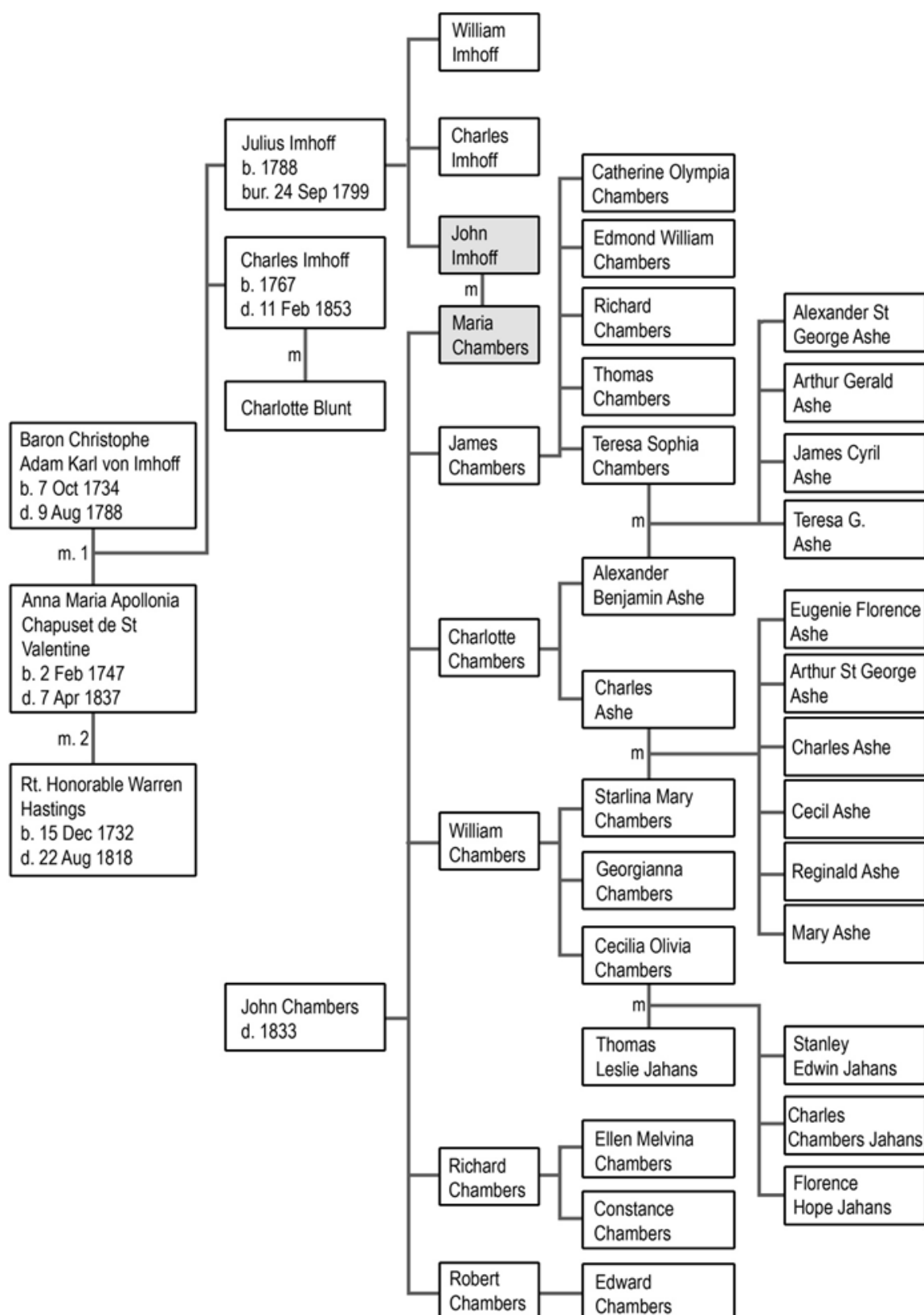
¹⁵ Julian James Cotton, 'The Second Mrs Hastings and Her Sons' *Bengal Past and Present* Vol 30 Part 1. July-Sept 1925. Journal of the Calcutta Historical Society.

¹⁶ S Charles Hill BA BSc, *List of Europeans and Others in the English Factories in Bengal at the time of the Siege of Calcutta in the year 1756*. (Calcutta: Office of the Superintendant of Government Printing, India, 1902)

family documents do not need to be kept in laundry baskets in pantries. I am most grateful to Yasmin who found me via my web site. She has kindly shared her family stories and documents with me which has enabled me to solve a mystery, add to my family tree, and write this article.

About the Author:

Pippa Milnamow was born in Bristol, England and now lives in Florida. She enjoys travel to all parts of the world. She married an American army officer and they have two daughters. Now retired, Pippa was a teacher, a home maker, and then a nurse. She likes history and regards genealogy as great fun as well as an interesting challenge. She has been researching for 40 years, first her family and then her husband's and frequently helps others with their research.



Imhoff – Chambers family tree

A more complete version, with dates can be found on the FIBIS database.

Sir Walter Gilbert and the surrender of the Sikh Army

By Sarah Bilton

Last year FIBIS appealed for images to be used on our new exhibition stand. A drawing kindly offered by FIBIS member Michael Jones intrigued the trustees and this article investigates those it depicts. The picture shows officers of the Bengal Army and British Army receiving the arms of several Sikh soldiers and it is captioned 'Major General Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert, Bt, GCB, receiving the surrender of the Sikh Army at Rawal Pindee, Punjab, in 1849'. Alongside Gilbert is his son-in-law, Charles Colt. The disarmament marked the end of the Second Anglo-Sikh War.

In investigating the lives of the men at the centre of this picture, it was apparent that the scene it illustrates was powerful for those who witnessed it, clear that a significant moment was playing out before them. Hopefully, the small collection of accounts and images presented here will serve to bring to life the final events of the Second Sikh War and the men who enacted them. They also demonstrate how a range of contemporary sources used together can build a vivid picture of a long ago event.



'Major General Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert, receiving the surrender of the Sikh Army etc' by kind permission of Michael Jones and Angela Grace-Jones.

The Second Sikh War

Following the conclusion of the First Anglo-Sikh War in 1846, the young Maharaja Duleep Singh remained nominally at the head of the Sikh Empire but a British Resident was installed at Lahore in charge of the Durbar. Tensions persisted in the region and Chattar Singh Attariwala, the Governor of Hazara, was suspected of planning an uprising. When Patrick Vans Agnew, the Political Agent, was murdered at Multan in April 1848 by the men of ousted Governor Dewan Mulraj, many Sikh soldiers deserted regiments loyal to the British and joined Mulraj, hopeful of a rebellion. In August, a small force from the Bengal Army laid siege to Multan and they were joined by elements of the Khalsa [Sikh] Army under Sher Singh Attariwala, Chattar's son. Following his father's rebellion in the Hazara area in August, Sher Singh rebelled against the British at Multan in September. Funded by Mulraj, he took his army north with the intention of joining up with his father.

In November, Lord Gough's 'Army of the Punjab' arrived to take on the Attariwala's Khalsa Army. Sir Walter Gilbert headed the 1st Infantry Division. From early 1849, Sher Singh was supported by the Emir of Afghanistan on the promise of the return of Peshawar. It was a bloody, hard-fought war with major tactical mistakes made by both sides. Between November 1848 and March 1849, battles took place at Ramnagar, Chillianwala (after which Sher and Chattar Singh were able to join forces) and on the 21 February at Gujrat, Gough inflicted a heavy defeat that sent Sher Singh retreating northward.¹ The following day Sir Walter Gilbert's division set off after them, chasing the Sikh force over 80 miles to the area around Rawalpindi in the early days of March.

The surrender

As the war reached a conclusion, the scene depicted in our drawing was enacted.² A letter held in the Private Papers collection at the British Library provides an eyewitness account. Sadly, the author is unidentified, but the letter indicates he is a young officer of the 30th Bengal Native Infantry. Writing home to his father from the divisional camp on the left bank of the Sohan River, just outside Rawalpindi, he described the events thus:³

On the 9th [of March 1849] to our surprise Shere [sic] Singh made his appearance in Camp with all prisoners, Lawrence, Mrs. L & children, Herbert, Bowie etc and released them, at the same time trying to make terms, for he said he had got such a licking at Goojerat that he knew it was no use fighting even our small force; but our gallant General Gilbert told him he would not see him until he gave up his guns etc. So away went Mr Shere Singh to try and persuade his army to give in. He offered to send in his guns and his arms on hackeries [bullock carts]; but Gilbert said 'no, you shall bring them in and lay them down before my army, or else I'll take them.' The 11th was the day appointed and when he was to bring

¹ Some further details on these battles are in Ainslie Sharpe, 'John Arnfield', *FIBIS Journal* 26

² The Sikh Army disarmed to Gilbert at Hoormuck and then at Rawalpindi several days later. Of around 10 different sources examined, some primary, some modern, each gave a slightly different date for these events. It seems that the 11 and 14 March 1849 are correct.

³ IOR: Mss Eur C605

them across the river to us. When we arrived here, all the Sirdars [commanders] came in, but Gilbert would not see them until their guns came – which they did about 2pm. Amounting to 37 and about 3 or 400 sum troops. Yesterday their Infantry came in and laid down their arms of about 7 or 8,000 men. It was indeed a splendid sight and a sight that had never been seen by any army in India. 20,000 men with 37 guns humbling themselves before 9,000 and 24 guns. It makes one proud to see the Khalsa army, that nobody could conquer, not only conquered, but humbled to the dust and that by our gallant division. Tomorrow the boasted Goocharas, from whom the 14 dragoons bolted, wanted to come across the river and give up also, but Gilbert said 'No, you shall wait until I come across and then dismount before my army.' There are 15,000 of them and they are to do it tomorrow.

A second letter, dated 28th March, continues the story:

After writing [my last letter] our Corps went down to the river and received the arms of about 12,000 men...The next morning we were ordered to march for Rawal Pindee as there were about 10,000 Goocharas and Infantry who did not seem inclined to give in. We arrived there about 12 and you never saw such a sight. The remains of the Sikh Army were all mounted and ready but the sight of our 9th [Lancers] quickly decided them and about 5pm there was not a Sikh left armed at Rawal Pindee...The Chiefs gave up their arms to Gilbert and Major Lawrence, their late prisoner, escorted them back to Lahore, prisoners. We found we had been slightly out in our calculations as to the strength of their army. We fancied it was about 12,000 men and 17 guns, small ones. We found they had 25,000 regular troops and about 5,000 irregular & only 41 guns. Some of them very large ones.

The defeat of the formidable Khalsa Army was a great victory for the British and the words of this unnamed soldier reflect the esteem in which the Sikh military prowess was held by their opponents and the pride felt in defeating them. For the Sikhs, however, the defeat was devastating. In his narrative of the war, Lieutenant Edward Thackwell, the aide-de-camp to Major General Joseph Thackwell of the Cavalry Division observed 'the reluctance of some of the old Khalsa veterans to surrender their arms... Some could not restrain their tears; while on the faces of others, rage and hatred was visibly depicted.'⁴

Others also were moved by the reactions of the Sikh soldiers. Ensign Daniel Augustus Sandford of the 2nd Bengal Eur Regt, kept a diary during the campaign that was published in 1849, shortly after his death at Lahore on 20 June 1849. His witness to the surrender reflects the sense of import felt by both sides:

They marched in bodies of two hundred; and each man, as he passed, threw his arms on a heap in front of the general's tent. There were about one thousand of them; and I never saw anything like the reluctance with which they seemed to part with their weapons. Many of them were fine gray-haired old fellows, with large flowing white beards, probably some of Runjeet Singh's veterans. One old fellow I noticed in particular: he stood for a long time looking wistfully at his arms, and the pile before him, and evidently could not make up his mind to give them up. At last the officer on duty came and touched him on the shoulder, and ordered him to move on; he then threw down his sword and matchlock with a crash, and

⁴ Edward Thackwell, *Narrative of the Second Sikh War, in 1848-49 etc* (1851) p244.

turned away, saying, with tears in his eyes, 'All my work is done now.' I quite pitied the poor fellow's feelings, and should have liked to give them all their arms back again, had I not known that they would have felt the greatest pleasure in cutting our throats the next minute. After they had deposited their weapons, they went away - goodness knows where - probably without a farthing in their pockets to procure food with...As I went away, I met a company of pioneers coming to break up the matchlocks. The swords will probably be sold by auction.⁵

Although these accounts provide powerful examples of the actions of Sikh soldiers at the disarmament, the voices of subjugated peoples are notoriously absent from the historical record and the same is true in this case. However, some attribute the following quote to a surrendering veteran: '*Aj Ranjit Singh mar gaya*' (Today Ranjit Singh has died).⁶ The laying down of arms at Rawalpindi marked the start of 100 years of British rule in the region and at Partition it was the Punjab that was ripped in two. The Indian Army now considers the battle honour 'Punjaub' repugnant, a position reserved for those actions where regiments had been involved in conquering parts of India.

The Punjab Medal

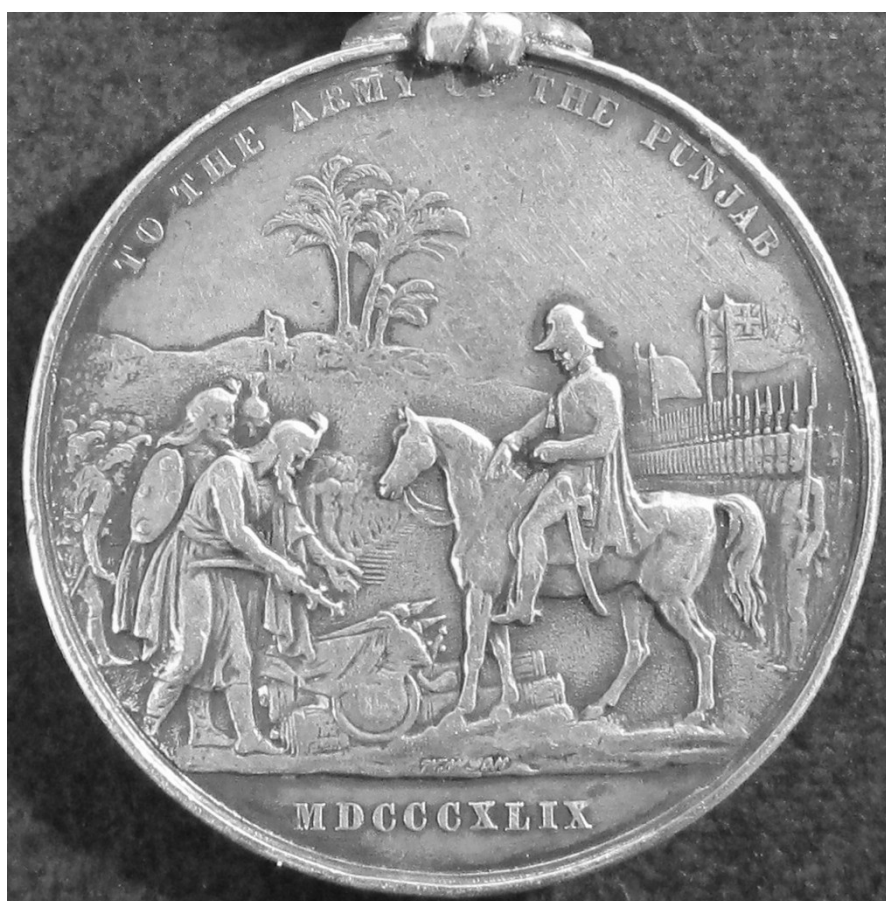
Notably, the medal awarded for this war features another depiction of the surrender. Designed by William Wyon, the Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint, the Punjab Medal was instituted by a General Order of the Governor General not a month after the end of the campaign.⁷ The reverse of the medal depicts 'Major-General Sir Walter Gilbert at the head of a line of infantry receiving the capitulation of Sikh chiefs near Rawul Pindee [sic]'.⁷ It is an extremely detailed relief and one of the most attractive 19th century campaign medals, featuring a cast of hundreds flanking the focal events and an exotic backdrop.

Surveying the other military medals in the Royal Mint catalogue, it seems that Gilbert holds an almost unique place in being the only named soldier to appear on a campaign medal. The only other is no less than the Duke of Wellington on the Military General Service Medal, and that does not illustrate a real scene, rather Victoria crowning the Duke with laurel. The image selected for the Punjab medal is a clear indication of the importance placed on the surrender as a symbol of the war. For Gilbert it was a significant accolade, attesting to the regard in which he was held and it stands as a fine testament to a long career in the service of the Indian Army.

⁵ Daniel Sandford, *Leaves from the journal of a subaltern during the campaign in the Punjaub, Sept. 1848 to March 1849* (1849) p189-90

⁶ S Khuldip Singh Attariwala *Ranjit Singh's Khalsa Darbar and Attariwala Sardars* (National Book Shop, 1994) p186

⁷ WJ Hocking, *Catalogue of the coins, tokens, medals, dies and seals in the Museum of the Royal Mint* (1906) p163. The medal was the last the Government of India was allowed to confer without the prior sanction of the home authorities.



The Punjab medal, reverse. Image courtesy of british-medals.co.uk

Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert

Born on the 18 March 1785⁸ at Bodmin in Cornwall, Walter Raleigh Gilbert was the third son of the Revd Edmund Gilbert and a descendant of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, the half-brother of Sir Walter Raleigh. Obtaining a cadetship, Gilbert was posted to the 15th Bengal Native Infantry in 1801 and fought in many actions of the Second Maratha War. In 1814, Gilbert married Isabella Rose Ross on 14 June at Fort William.⁹ Isabella was the daughter of Major Thomas Ross of the Royal Artillery and had gone to India as a ward of Francis Rawdon-Hastings, (later the 10th Governor-General of India).¹⁰

Gilbert spent time as a barrack-master, as cantonment magistrate at Cawnpore and was the commandant of the Calcutta native militia and the Ramgarh local battalion. In June 1838, Gilbert was promoted to major-general and during the First Anglo-Sikh War he commanded a division under Sir Hugh Gough, as he would in the second war three years later, seeing action at Mudki and Ferozeshah. Following this conflict Gilbert received his knighthood, advancing to a Knight of the Grand Cross (GCB) in 1851.⁸

⁸ HM Chichester & Roger T Stearn, 'Gilbert, Sir Walter Raleigh, first baronet (1785–1853)', rev. Roger T. Stearn, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, (Oxford University Press, 2004) [<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/10704>, accessed 14 Nov 2011]

⁹ N/1/9/237

¹⁰ George Frederick Russell Colt, *History & genealogy of the Colts of that ilk and Gartsherrie, and of the English & American branches of that family* (1887) p195

Gilbert was a well-known sportsman and a keen supporter of horse racing.¹¹ This interest was the source of yet another depiction of the Surrender, a magnificent silver centrepiece, still in the possession of the Gilbert family. Geoffrey Gilbert, a descendant of the General's brother (the Rev John Pomeroy Gilbert) has been able to provide the background to the piece, stating that it was originally conceived as a prize that the General's friends and admirers wished to present to him at the Lahore Races, where they hoped he would win. It seems they became worried that he might not win the race after all and so changed the silver inscription plate and re-inscribed it on the reverse to be a gift to him. The centrepiece now resides at Compton Castle, the Gilbert family home since the 14th century. Geoffrey has kindly provided the inscription:

PRESENTED TO MAJOR GENERAL SIR WALTER GILBERT BART G.C.B
by the Officers who served under him in the Punjab, and in his pursuit
after the
SIKH ARMY BEYOND THE JHELMUM
as a Testimonial
of their admiration, regard and esteem, and in commemoration of the
Surrender of the
SIKH FORCE TO HIS ARMS AT RAWUL PINDEE
on the 14th of March 1849

To commemorate Gilbert's love of equestrianism and support for sport in India, his friends and admirers had chosen to commission a piece depicting his most significant moment on horseback – not on the turf, but overseeing the disarmament of the Sikhs.



Silver centrepiece depicting Gilbert taking the surrender of the Sikhs. Image by kind permission of Geoffrey Gilbert.

¹¹ *Dictionary of Indian Biography* (Haskell House, USA, 1906) accessed via archive.org

The presentation took place during the 1850 autumn race meeting. The *Royal Cornwall Gazette* reported the news that a handsome cup had been presented to Gilbert by the Lahore Jockey Club and that its cover bore a design representing 'the gallant General on horseback, on an elevated piece of ground, with members of his staff by him, also on horseback. Before him are several Sikhs, mounted, who are surrendering their arms'. Narrating the events of the surrender, the *RCG* states that the General would stand no nonsense from the Sikh leaders and demanded they 'fight or surrender'. Interestingly, the *RCG* also provides an alternative inscription that is likely the original that Geoffrey Gilbert refers to: 'This cup was presented by the friends and admirers of Major General Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert, GCB, especially to commemorate his glorious career of upwards of forty years on the Indian Turf, of which he has ever been the staunchest supporter.'¹²



WR Gilbert by Mrs Aris, after an 1850 painting by GF Atkinson of the Bengal Engineers. Image by kind permission of Geoffrey Gilbert.

Sir Walter Gilbert died on 12 May 1853¹³ at the end of a distinguished military career and not four years after the event that would seal him in the public imagination of the time. Bodmin, the town of his birth, collected the money to commemorate him locally and raised a 144ft obelisk in 1857, overlooking the town. Now a well-known landmark, it stands as a literal public record of Gilbert's fame bearing an inscription recounting his military achievements. Unsurprisingly, it ends with the events of March '49, proclaiming that 'having eventually [compelled] the Sikh Chiefs to surrender themselves to him at Rawul Pindee, with their whole Force of 16,000 men and 41 guns, [Gilbert] drove their Afghan Allies across the Indus, and thus brought the war to a triumphant conclusion.'¹⁴

Sher Singh and Chattar Singh Attariwala

Whether any of the visual depictions of the surrender that we have seen here intended to specifically show the Attariwalas is unknown. In our drawing the father and son would have formed an obvious counterpoint to Gilbert and his son-in-law, but it is unlikely the drawing includes them, instead illustrating a scene from the disarmament well underway.

Being on the losing side of the war, Chattar Singh and Sher Singh's fate was very different from the feted Gilbert's, but like him, neither of them would live another ten

¹² *Royal Cornwall Gazette*, 3 January 1851, p5 [British Newspaper Archive]

¹³ *Dictionary of Indian Biography* p165

¹⁴ As transcribed in: Michael Williams, 'Majestic tribute to a man of 'zeal' and 'tact'', *Cornwall Guardian*, 27 October 2010

years. The Attariwalas were a distinguished family from the Amritsar area. Following the surrender their lives were spared and they were sent to the Attari village in the Amritsar district, where they were forbidden to keep arms or encourage followers and where they were obliged to stay.¹⁵

In Kuldip Singh's history of the Attariawalas' contribution to the Sikh Wars he states that once back at their village, Sher and Chattar continued to be lionized by the masses,¹⁶ a significant worry for the British now governing the area. An excuse was found to get rid of them in early 1850; the Attariwalas had apparently fed Brahmins in their village during an eclipse and this was deemed to breach their parole. Arrested and exiled from the Punjab, Sher Singh died in Benares in 1858 by the waters of the Ganges, his father earlier that same year in Calcutta.¹⁷ Sher's brothers Gulab, Atar and Tej were exiled at the same time,¹⁸ but their fortunes were somewhat better. Gulab was commissioned and became a Captain in the Bengal Army for his services during the Indian Mutiny. Along with his two brothers he was granted a zemindari (a facility to pay land revenue direct to the authorities) in Oude. Gulab's friendship with Lord Napier led him to be allowed eventually to return to Amritsar. Descendants maintained the proud family military tradition, fighting in the two world wars.¹⁸

The same might be said for Sikhs within the British forces overall. Having been designated a 'martial race', the British populated the Indian Army with a disproportionate number of Sikhs. Their bravery and skill in combat were deemed second to none and in the dedicated Punjab regiments and other forces, Sikh men made a great contribution to many British campaigns, 83,000 giving their lives in the two World Wars.

Captain Colt

Returning to the drawing that started our investigation, there appears behind Gilbert another British officer. The image depicts Gilbert's aide-de-camp by his side and at the time of the Second Sikh War, this was Charles Russell Colt of the Kings Own Light Dragoons. Colt was by this time Gilbert's son-in-law, having married Geraldine Adelaide Elizabeth Gilbert (b.1818, Bodmin) in Umballa on the 22 February 1848.¹⁹ He was born in Chertsey, Surrey on 8 March 1822 and had joined the 3rd Light Dragoons in 1843.²⁰

Colt recorded his own witness to the surrender. Although it does not add much new to those accounts we have already seen, it is worth quoting here, the personal memoir of the man who owned the drawing of the surrender. Colt's diary entry for the 14 March 1849 reads:

¹⁵ *The Times*, Tuesday, June 05, 1849; p5; Issue 20194

¹⁶ Khulip Singh, p188

¹⁷ *Chiefs and families of note in the Punjab: a revised edition of 'The Punjab chiefs' by Sir Lepel H Griffin and of 'Chiefs and families of note in the Punjab' by Charles Francis Massy* / revised and corrected by WL Conran and HD Craik, Vol 1, (Lahore 1909) p514

¹⁸ Singh, p28

¹⁹ *Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce* 8 March 1848 (FIBIS database)

²⁰ Colt p194

When the Army was all fairly across, we commenced our march towards the Sikh Camp at Rawal Pindie, arrived there the General took post upon a small knoll surrounded by a few of his staff and a small escort of Irregular Cavalry, the enemy slowly trooped past casting their weapons in a pile before Sir Walter, and each receiving as he did so one rupee, by the afternoon 16,000 men, including those who had previously come in, had laid down their arms, and the war, as far as the Sikhs were concerned, was over.²¹

GFR Colt, in his 1887 genealogy of the family,²² claimed that the sword laid down by Sher Singh himself had been given to Colt by Gilbert and was preserved at the family home at Gartsherrie in Lanarkshire. Sadly, it is not clear what happened to it after this.

Captain Colt continued in the British Army for another ten years, eventually retiring due to ill health and the effects of climate. In the 1860s, he emigrated to New Zealand and must have taken the drawing of the Sikh surrender with him, as this is where Michael Jones and his wife Angela Grace-Jones came across it. An elderly cousin of Angela's had produced it when they were visiting, wrapped in a brown paper bag, and passed it on to Angela. Her grandmother Rhoda Colt was a daughter of the Captain. Angela is the 2x great granddaughter of Sir Walter Gilbert.

Walter Raleigh Gilbert died in London and is buried at Kensal Green Cemetery. The monument erected there by his widow states that Gilbert:

Died on the 10th of May 1853 having passed his life in the Indian Army where he was distinguished as much for ability and zeal as for brilliance of achievement on occasions of considerable emergency and responsibility.

It seems almost an understatement to describe receiving the Sikh Army's surrender to the British Empire as an occasion of considerable responsibility, but Gilbert's successful negotiation of those events sealed him a place in history. It was crucial for the British that Gilbert held his nerve at Rawalpindi and oversaw a peaceful surrender. A different outcome could easily have been prompted by the actions of a lesser man and the extent of the remaining Sikh arms indicates a great deal more blood could have been shed had hostilities been allowed to continue.

Two weeks after the surrender Dalhousie, the Governor-General, proclaimed that 'the Kingdom of the Punjab is at an end, and that all the territories of Maharaja Dalip Singh are now, and henceforth, a portion of the British Empire in India.'²³ In his despatch informing the Governor of the surrender, Gilbert had been rather less dramatic:

'I now have the high gratification of reporting for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India that the disarmament of the Sikh army...has this day been completed.'²⁴

It was a simple turn of phrase that marked a radical turn in the lives and future of the peoples of the Punjab.

²¹ Extract courtesy of David Marsh, who holds a transcript of Colt's diary.

²² Colt, p195

²³ CH Payne, *A Short History of the Sikhs*, (1915) p213

²⁴ *The Times*, Thursday, May 03, 1849; p5; Issue 20166 (Times Archive online)

The Chaplains of St Luke's, Abbottabad c.1859-1947¹ and some notes on the Old Christian Cemetery

By Prof. Omer Salim-Khan Tarin, FRAS, Director, the Sophia Research Institute, Abbottabad, Pakistan

St Luke's Church² and the Old Christian Cemetery (OCC), Abbottabad,³ in the Hazara region of the NWFP,⁴ Pakistan, hold special interests for historians of the British colonial period, particularly because of the military-historical connections of Abbottabad's old cantonment to the British Indian Army of yore, the predecessor of the present Pakistani and Indian armies.

Abbottabad town itself was founded on a specially selected site in early 1853 by James Abbott, the first Deputy Commissioner of the Hazara region after the British annexation of the Punjab (1849), and the town was meant from the first to be both the civilian administrative headquarters of the region/district as well as a central military garrison and cantonment,⁵ and the place continued to grow and flourish as a number of military units were posted there. Soon enough, a sizeable garrison came to exist, and since it was a family station, proper domestic lodgings in addition to army barracks also came into being, as well as a small family park, a bazaar and many other facilities. Since a permanent Christian community was now to be found here all year round, it became imperative to have a church for services and as early as 1854, plans were laid out and a central area demarcated for the site of its construction. It was envisaged in the 'Gothic' style. Since funds were a problem, the Anglican Church in India set up a subscription and also launched a fund-raising campaign which appealed to people in India and back home in Britain. By 1856, sufficient funds were available to start work—however, an interruption occurred in 1857 due to the Indian Mutiny/Rebellion and it was not until late 1858 that work commenced in earnest, going on slowly for quite some time. Finally, St

¹ Also for the Hazara region, NWFP, in general, excepting Nathiagali-Dungagali-Kalabagh in the Galiyat Hill Tracts.

² In Abbottabad's old cantonment near the GPO and the main Saddar Bazaar. It was the main Anglican church in the Hazara region, originally constructed and completed between 1854-1864. It is today part of the Peshawar Diocese of the Church of Pakistan.

³ The old, central Christian cemetery. For further information about the foundation of Abbottabad town and on the OCC, please see a detailed and comprehensive article by O Tarin and S Najmuddin, 'Five Early Military Graves (1853-1888) at the Old Christian (Anglican) Cemetery, Abbottabad, Pakistan', in *The Kipling Journal*, UK, Vol 84, No 339, December 2010, pp35-52. Originally published in serialized form in *Durbar: Journal of the Indian Military Historical Society*, Autumn & Winter 2009; later republished in the above journal as a whole.

⁴ The NWFP (North-West Frontier Province), once a part of the Punjab province of British India and later a separate province from 1902 onwards, has recently been renamed as the 'Khyber-Pukhtunkhwa' province, with effect from April 2010; however, for historical purposes the old name shall be continued to be used when referring to the period 1902-2010.

⁵ Tarin and Najmuddin, *ibid*, pp37-38.

Luke's was completed and duly consecrated in 1864. As the central church in the Hazara region, St Luke's territorial jurisdiction extended throughout the district and also included the smaller parishes in the Galiyat tracts (including the smaller seasonal churches of St Matthew's, Nathiagali and St Xavier's in the Wilderness, Thandiani in due course), the supervision of the OCC, Abbottabad and several other smaller cemeteries in the area, as well as various other duties and responsibilities.

Since FIBIS has for quite some time been involved in the task of tracing out family histories in South Asia, the preservation of surviving records of old churches and cemeteries are relevant to its objectives. Thus, a listing of the chaplains in Abbottabad/Hazara (excepting the Galiyat tracts), which might be useful for FIBIS members and/or researchers, compiled from existing/surviving records in Pakistan,⁶ has been added to the FIBIS database.⁷ The list has been checked and counter-checked as carefully as possible from church records as well as other surviving sources such as journals, diaries, military regimental records, and so on; and although some gaps still remain, it is a reasonably accurate record.

It must also be remembered that most of the military units that were posted to Abbottabad also had their own military chaplains attached—indeed, St Luke's Church had strong early links to the 5th Gurkhas⁸ and in its early stages, frequently had recourse to their chaplaincy—but, by and large, the regular records of baptisms, marriages and burials within Abbottabad and Hazara were effectively maintained by the gentlemen in our list, over a considerable period of time.



St Luke's Church, Abbottabad © TSI 2009-2010

Some of them also held charge, or officiated in the hill tracts from time to time; whereas at other times, a separate chaplain was available to maintain records there. A smaller,

⁶ I am especially thankful in this regard to Rev. Riaz Mobarek, Vicar of St Luke's, Abbottabad, for providing continued access to records and archives.

⁷ On the FIBIS database under *Ecclesiastical records>Ministers and missionaries*

⁸ The Fifth Royal Gurkha Rifles (Frontier Force) or 'Punjab Goorkhas', or 'Huzara Goorkha Battalion', was originally raised at Abbottabad in May 1858, and this was also their home station. In August 1947, they were transferred to the Indian Army and are now designated as the 5th Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force). For further information about them please see John Gaylor, *Sons of John Company: The Indian and Pakistan Armies 1903-1991*, orig. published UK, 1992; Indian reprint, New Delhi: Lancer International, 1993, pp232-234 and p294.

supplementary list of chaplains in the hill tracts was also made whilst researching this topic, as part of an extended project spread out between 2008-2010 and this is available from the Vicar at St Luke's, Abbottabad, for those who are interested in delving deeper into this subject.

The Chaplains

Between 1853 and 1859, St Luke's Church had yet to be established, and generally, army chaplains posted in Abbottabad provided various religious services to the community. No regular, organized records are available for this time. From 13 March 1859 to 14 April 1859, Robert Clark, Chaplain at Campbellpore/Attock, was also officiating at Abbottabad. It is worth noting here, that initially, Abbottabad/Hazara fell under the jurisdiction of the Anglican Church at Rawalpindi, generally via the chaplain at Campbellpore/Attock (who officiated at Abbottabad until mid-1863), but in due course, it came under the Peshawar Diocese.

From July/August 1863 to October 1864, John H Pratt, Archdeacon, officiated via regular visitations from Rawalpindi, in the absence of a regular chaplain at Abbottabad. October 1864 saw the completion of St Luke's Church, Abbottabad, and its consecration by the Bishop of Calcutta, the senior-most Anglican prelate in India. P Kellner was Chaplain for Abbottabad and for Hazara generally from November 1864 to 13 April 1866.

Over the following decades, a succession of chaplains was posted to the church, many only at St Luke's for short periods. The baptisms, marriages and burials of the local Christian population were the day to day business of a chaplain and many of those sent to Abbottabad saw similar personal events occur during their time here.⁹

The Reverend Henry Fisher Corbyn (1833-1903) had several spells as chaplain of St Luke's.¹⁰ He was born on 21 July 1833 in Calcutta to Surgeon Frederick Corbyn of the Bengal Medical Service and Emma his wife.¹¹ After graduating from Jesus College Cambridge in 1859, Corbyn returned to India on the Bengal Ecclesiastical Establishment, being installed at Port Blair in the Andaman Islands in 1863. In that well-meaning Victorian manner, he set up the 'Andamese Home' on Ross Island, an ostensibly charitable, yet in reality repressive institution. A year later Corbyn had resigned his post and he left the Andamans in 1866.¹² Corbyn Cove there is named after him. In 1867 he began the first of his Abbottabad chaplaincies and this included a stint attached to the Abyssinian Field Force in 1868. In 1903, Corbyn was Senior Chaplain for Hazara and was re-posted to St Luke's in August. He died in post on 25 November 1903 and is buried in the Old Christian Cemetery Abbottabad where his grave can still be seen.

⁹ Notes on the lives of four chaplains (Corbyn, Furneaux, Syme and Bomford) by S Bilton.

¹⁰ 24 May 1867 - 29 Aug 1872; 15 Nov 1872 - August 1879; March 1880 - Sept 1880; and finally Aug 1903 - Oct 1903.

¹¹ IOR N/1/38/37

¹² George Weber, *Pioneer Biographies of the British Period to 1947* Appendix A

Walter Coplestone Furneaux (1849-1931) briefly officiated at St Luke's from September to October 1881. Born in 1849 in Walton, Warwickshire to William Duckworth Furneaux, the Perpetual Curate of Walton (himself India-born), Walter had married Gertrude Annie Young the daughter of Major Gordon Young, Commissioner of Delhi, on 25 April 1881, just a few months before he was posted to St Luke's. Sadly, Gertrude died from puerperal fever on 30 December 1882 at Lahore, a week after giving birth to a daughter, Gertrude Cecile.¹³

The Rev James Greensill Skottowe Syme (20 March 1863¹⁴ – 1948) graduated from the University of Glasgow in 1886 and was accepted on to the Bengal Establishment in 1893. Syme first arrived in Abbottabad in September 1897 with his wife Alvide, their two year old daughter Gladys Margaret Stuart (born Quetta, 20 March 1895) and four month old daughter Joyce Phyllis Stuart in tow. The new baby had been born at Dunga Galli, a hill station not far from Abbottabad, at the tail end of Syme's appointment at Lahore Cantonment (then called Meean Meer). The following year, Alvide gave birth to twins Ralph Noel and Vera Noel on 14 November 1898. Their father baptized them at St Luke's on Christmas Day, just a week after he had buried his daughter Gladys, who succumbed to diphtheria at Abbottabad on 19 December 1898, aged three. The family stayed on at St Luke's until the end of 1899 and travelled to the UK in 1901. James returned to India and was posted at Abbottabad again for a year in 1907.¹⁵

The Rev Trevor Bomford (1849-1929) of the Church Missionary Society was at Abbottabad from 1899 to 1902. Born at Tyne Hall, Bembridge, on the Isle of Wight, he spent 43 years in India from 1881. In 1883 he married Jane Catherine Charlotte Briggs of Mooltan, the daughter of the Rev William Briggs, also of the CMS and the couple had six children during their time in India.¹⁶ The youngest, Raymond Francis, was born on 29 August 1901, during Bomford's Abbottabad tenure and baptised by his father at St Luke's. Raymond Bomford was a prisoner of war in Malaya during WWII before becoming headmaster of Victoria School in Singapore until his death in 1954.^{17 18}

The Chaplain of the 15th Punjab Regt, F Garrett IA, officiated at St Lukes from January to March 1947. He was followed briefly by E Claydon, who had also been at the church in 1933 and 1946. From June 1947 to April 1948 there was no chaplain or vicar as St Luke's shut down in the wake of Independence/Partition. In April 1948, after many

¹³ Marriage: IOR/N/1/176/90; Gertrude A. burial: N/1/182/227; Gertrude C. bapt: N/1/183/55

¹⁴ *Registrar's Handwritten Roll of Graduates* via University of Glasgow website

¹⁵ Gladys bapt: IOR/N/1/241/132; Joyce bapt: N/1/259/131; Twins bapt: N/1/270/178; Gladys burial: N/1/271/96; Furlough and posting details: Ancestry.com *Crockford's Clerical Directories*

¹⁶ Trevor's son Lieut-Col Trevor Lawrence Bomford had a successful career in the Indian Medical Service. His uncle, Trevor's brother, was Sir Gerald Bomford, a distinguished IMS member and Director General of the Indian Medical Service from 1905-11.

¹⁷ Peter Bamford, *The Bomford Family of Ireland and Allied Families* (2005) Chapter XXVI 'Samuel Bomford & his Family 1813 - 1980s' (via www.bomford.net)

¹⁸ Bomford to Briggs marriage: *Times of India* 12 Jan 1883 (FIBIS database); Raymond bapt: N/1/295/220 (record notes that birth was at Thandiani, the hill station that served Abbottabad).

complaints and representations by the small, remaining local Christian community in Abbottabad, the church authorities nominated Daniel Rashid, Chaplain at Peshawar, to the additional visiting charge of Abbottabad/Hazara. He also reorganized occasional church services and prayers under several lay preachers, from time to time. It was not until August 1951 that the Rev JH Hewitt, Vicar of Peshawar, also received additional charge of the Hazara region and regular services were once again instituted at St Luke's. A curate was then appointed in 1954, to assist here full-time and at last, in 1965, this official, ZK Daniels, was appointed permanent Vicar and Chaplain for Hazara.

The Old Christian Cemetery, Abbottabad

The Old Christian Cemetery (OCC) at Abbottabad is an important cemetery dating from British Colonial times. The cemetery is attached to St Luke's parish church although the OCC (est.1853) predates the church itself and between 1853-1947, it remained a burial ground of some significance due to its military and Frontier campaigns connections.¹⁹ It has a large number of graves that are quite well-known, or have historical interest.

Previously, a number of surveys were made of the OCC Abbottabad between 1901-2006, by various people and/or organizations²⁰ and BACSA maintains a file of its records at the British Library. This record has recently been updated, after in-depth physical survey/verification by the author at the OCC, as well as at St Luke's church, from 2008-10. As a result, a number of previously unidentified graves and/or memorial tablets have now been added to the record at the British Library.



*The lychgate, Old Christian Cemetery,
© TSI 2009-2010*

¹⁹ Tarin & Najmuddin, pp37-38.

²⁰ The earliest of these surveys was made by Miles Irving and George de Rhe-Philipe, recorded in *Inscriptions on Christian Tombs or Monuments in the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Kashmir and Afghanistan*, originally published in Lahore, 1910-1912, 2 volumes, although later editions/reprints are also available. Subsequently, the British High Commission in Islamabad, Pakistan, and BACSA also made surveys to update their own records/lists and, during 2005-2006, rather more cursory surveys were made by Dr. Ali Jan of the 'Sarhad Conservation Network' (Peshawar) and by Ms. Rabia Zafar of the 'Pakistan Genealogy Network' (Karachi). These organizations have also, I believe, made similar cursory listings of old cemeteries/graveyards in Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Murree, Lahore and elsewhere.

There are, of course, a somewhat larger number of deaths/burials recorded in the old registers at St Luke's²¹ but most of the older graves dating to between 1853 (when Abbottabad town and cantonment were founded) and 1947 are no longer physically verifiable. However, some 150 graves at least seem to be from this period, of which some 80 have been identified²² with more or less some certainty. Some are listed below,²³ and they might be of interest to FIBIS members. It must be please kept in mind that (a) the old registers at St Luke's, prior to 1920-21 aren't always complete or regular, and (b) this is essentially an *ongoing exercise*, as new information often comes up.

Selected existing/surviving graves at the OCC Abbottabad (verified to Sept. 2010)

- Capt. WW Repton: Sept. 1853, Aged 31 years (oldest existing grave).²⁴
- Constance Christina Davies: Aged 11 months and 6 days, Daughter of Lt. Col. HL Bernard, 1st Bengal European Regiment, 1860.
- Charles Johnstone, Sergeant, 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, died of *delirium tremens*, December 29th 1863.
- Jane Anna: Aged 38 years, Wife of WGW Clemenger, MB, 5th Goorkhas [sic], May 1864.
- Major Hugh Rees James: Died October 1864, at Umbala. Commissioner & Superintendent of the Peshwaur [sic] division. Eldest surviving son of the late Hon. Hugo Rees James, Attorney-General of Jamaica, and Amilie, his wife. (Grave at OCC and Memorial Tablet at St Luke's, too).⁶²
- (a) EBW (22 mos), May 1868, (b) EBW (15 mos), April 1872, (c) ABW (12 mos), March 1873 - These three children's' graves are all placed together, under one common memorial slab in the OCC. No other identification.
- Charlotte Frances & Infant son George Edward: Beloved wife and son of Surgeon JR Johnson, 6th Goorkha [sic] regiment, September 1872. (Mother and child buried together).
- Lt. Robert Gerald Fitzgerald: Sacred to the Memory of; Royal Artillery, Peshawar Mountain Battery. Died from accidental gunshot wounds at Hurripore [sic] near Abbottabad, on 27th November 1872.⁶²
- Clarice Sohun Lal: Daughter of the Post-Master. 1884.²⁵

²¹ These cover the entire Hazara region, as well as smaller cemeteries and a few scattered graves at Haripur, Mansehra, Dunga gali/Changla gali, Thandiani, in the Galiyat hills.

²² Thanks, once again, to Rev. Riaz Mobarek, Vicar at St Luke's, Abbottabad, for his fullest cooperation and help in making available records for consultation.

²³ Full list of existing graves at the OCC on the FIBIS database under Cemeteries>Abbottabad

²⁴ For details see Tarin & Najmuddin, *ibid*.

²⁵ This is a later/recent addition. In our previous survey, of 2008, this grave of a local/native Christian wasn't identified. As a result of subsequent correspondence (please see Tarin & Najmuddin, p48) we learnt that there were at least five other graves of non-Europeans at the OCC, which we haven't yet been able to find, namely: (i) Edward Sohun Lal, father of the above Clarice, who served for long years as Post-Master, Abbottabad, and died and was buried here c.1920s; (ii) Rai Bahadur Mangat Rai, who originally belonged to a well-known Punjabi Christian family but worked in Abbottabad as a revenue officer and settled here, died c.1930s;

- Maj. Leigh R. Battye: 5th Goorkhas [sic]. Killed in action, Black Mountain Campaign, Agror Valley, 18th June 1888. (Son buried next to him, in a grilled/fenced plot). For further details Maj. Battye, see Tarin & Najmuddin, pp43-45.
- Charles Burt Lee Steere: Son of Charles & Laura Steere, ---?--- West Australia, 1924.
- Irene May: Wife of Lt. Col. G.M. Glynton, DSO. 6th Gurkha Rifles. December 1924 (Memorial Tablet in St. Luke's, too). Further details about Lt. Col. and Mrs. Glynton are available online in the British Library's Family History (India Office Records) database.
- Dennis GJ Ryan: Major, 1/6th Gurkha Rifles, died in a polo accident at Kakul near Abbottabad. --?—July 1927. (Also a plaque erected by officers and men of the battalion, near his grave, *In Memoriam*).
- Viola Mabel Rundle: b.1876, d.1927 Dec.
- Fanny Rosa Rundle: Daughter of CS Rundle, PWD Punjab. (Additional Inscription: 'Also her sister, Viola'). --?—1927.
- G Adolphus Robertson: Survey of India. 1943.
- Unidentified: A small plaque near the wall of the cemetery, amidst some plain earthen graves/mounds and rubble, states: 'Mssr --?--, Ministre de France'. ND
- --?—Urmstone: ND²⁶

Concluding Note

It is sincerely hoped this list might be of some help to family history researchers, including those people in the UK and elsewhere trying to seek out graves/records of ancestors and relatives who died in this part of (then) British India.

St. Luke's Church, Abbottabad, now makes available information concerning deaths, births, baptisms and marriages, on enquiry, in return for a small donation to the church fund. In the first instance, please write with any queries, to: The Rev. Riaz Mobarek, c/o The Vicarage, St. Luke's Church, Opp. Main GPO, Cantt. Bazaar, Abbottabad, Pakistan. Reference to the historical records of the Sophia Institute, Abbottabad, can also be made via a query to the Public Liaison Officer, at slevant100@yahoo.com.

About the author:

Omer Tarin is a Pakistani research scholar and a well-known poet. Many of Omer's ancestors held prominent civil and military roles in the Punjab region during the British period. His great-grandfathers include the magistrate and politician Abdul Majid Khan Tarin OBE and the renowned statesman Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan.

The Sophia Institute is a private, non-profit research and higher educational/training institute, located in Abbottabad.

(iii) Mrs Mangat Rai, wife of the above, died c.1930s; (iv) 'Suzanna', supposedly a young girl belonging to an Armenian Christian family settled here, believed to have died and buried here early 20th century; and (v) Another grave of a local Christian convert, who died 1930s.

²⁶ Although this last grave is now in a condition that a proper name identification or exact date cannot be ascertained, one might speculate that this is probably the grave of the unfortunate Capt. HB Urmstone, of the 6th Punjab Regiment, who died in action in the Agror Valley (Black Mountain) at the same time as Maj. Leigh Battye of the 5th Gurkhas. If so, a record of his burial exists in the old register at St Luke's and mention is also made in Tarin & Najmuddin, p44.

The Viceregal Carriages - The Indian Railways and a dynasty of Pearce's, Part 2

By Michael Feilden Pearce

This continues my investigation into the Pearce family's contribution to the development of the railways in India as described in *FIBIS Journal* 25.¹

With the help of distant relatives I have uncovered some previously unknown private papers. Amongst these was the correspondence from 1891 between Lord William Beresford, the Military Secretary to the Viceroy of India and my ancestor Richard Pearce, the Carriage & Wagon Superintendent for East India Railways.

The first letter, hand written by a clerk and signed by Lord Beresford sets the tone –

Military Secretary to
the Viceroy
SIMLA
April 16 1891

Dear Mr Pearce

As promised I now write to you a few lines to tell you what the further requirements of Their Excellencies the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne are in their Excellencies' Railway Carriages and I shall be much obliged if in due course you will be good enough to take the necessary action regarding them.

1. His Excellency desires to have included in the furniture of his carriage a small table for papers similar to one he uses at Government House, Calcutta and pattern of which can be seen on application to Balioo Facoor Dass Banerjee, Overseer, Government House, Calcutta who has been instructed to show the pattern to you or to any other person who you may depute to send for the purpose. Besides this His Excellency would like an ordinary waste paper-basket supplied for his use.

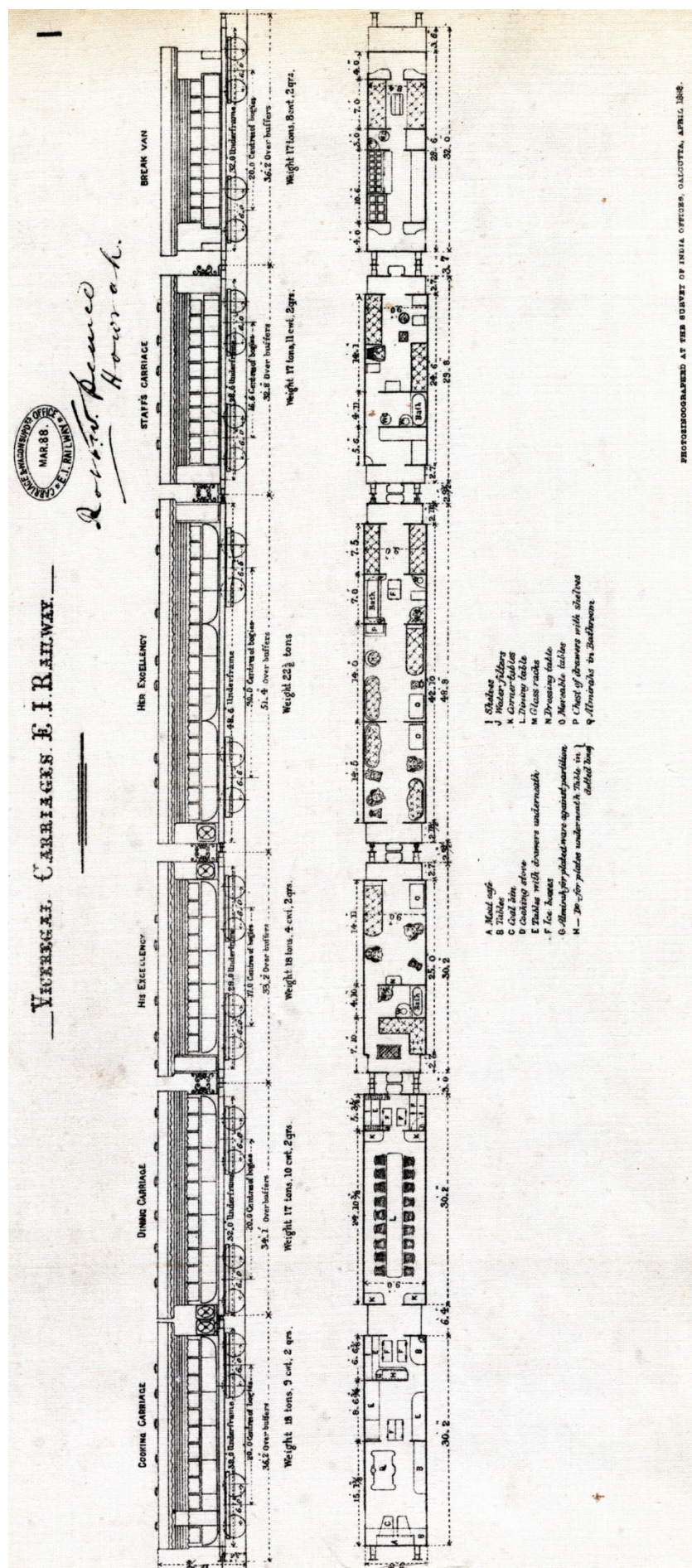
2. Her Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne would like to have green silk blinds with springs put up in her Carriage similar to ordinary blinds that are used in Broughams and closed Carriages. Application to Messrs. Stewart & Co. would at once show what is required, and I shall be much obliged if you will kindly arrange to have these alterations made.

At the same time I better mention that Her Excellency thinks her bed is too springy and would like the bed made less springy than it is at present. Will you kindly give orders about this also.

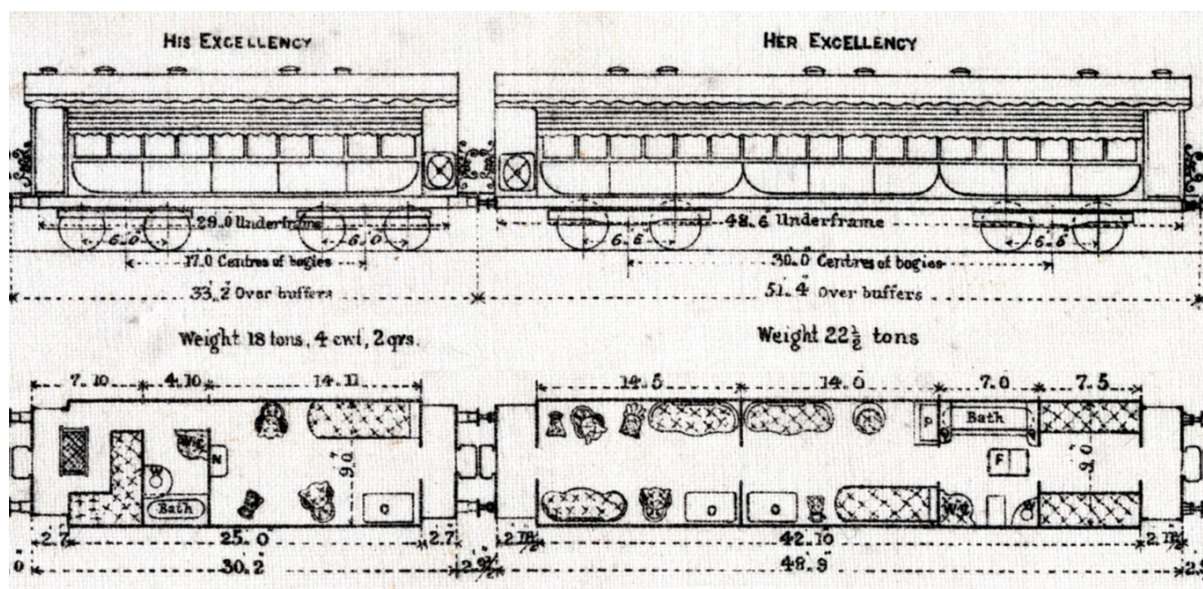
I am very sorry to give you so much trouble in these little details.

Believe me
Yours truly (signed) William Beresford Colonel
Military Secy. to the Viceroy

¹ Michael Feilden Pearce, 'The Indian Railways and a dynasty of Pearce's 1855 to 1930', *FIBIS Journal* 25, Spring 2011, pp13 – 21.



The Viceroy's Carriages had been constructed in the Carriage and Wagon Workshop at Howrah when Robert Webb Pearce was the Superintendent. A signed drawing, dated February 1888 appears in the book *Rolling Stock as designed at and at the Howrah Workshops by Robert Webb Pearce – Carriage and Wagon Superintendent*² and details Pearce's design of the Viceregal carriages.



The drawing 'Viceregal Carriages E.I. Railway' (full page) and detail enlarged above are by kind permission of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

| Transcript of codes used in drawing | | Details of Carriages L to R | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| A Meat Safe | I Shelves | Int. Length | Weight |
| B Tables | J Water Filters | COOKING CARRIAGE | |
| C Coal Bin | K Corner Tables | 30ft 2" | 18 tons 9cwt |
| D Cooking Stove | L Dining Table | DINING CARRIAGE | |
| E Tables with drawers underneath | M Glass Racks | 30ft 2" | 17 tons 10cwt |
| F Ice boxes | N Dressing table | HIS EXCELLENCY | |
| G Almirah for plated ware against partition | O Moveable Tables | 30ft 2" | 18 tons 4cwt |
| H -do- for plates underneath Table in dotted lines | P Chest of drawers with shelves | HER EXCELLENCY | |
| | Q Almirahs in Bathroom | 48ft 9" | 22½ tons |
| | | STAFF CARRIAGE | |
| | | 29ft 6" | 17 tons 11cwt |
| | | BREAK VAN | |
| Almirah - Anglo-Ind. wardrobe, cabinet or cupboard | | 32ft 0" | 17 tons 8cwt |

Robert Webb Pearce died in 1889 and his brother Richard Pearce then became the Carriage and Wagon Superintendent – their biographies are given in the earlier article in Journal 25.

² Institution of Civil Engineers Library – *Rolling Stock as designed at and at the Howrah Workshops by Robert Webb Pearce – Carriage and Wagon Superintendent* (1888)

The next letter was Richard Pearce's handwritten reply to Beresford –

April 21 1891

Dear Lord William Beresford

I am in receipt of yours of April 16th confirming in that Their Excellencies the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne requiring certain additions to their Excellencies Carriages as follows

- 1 – A similar Table for the papers for use by His Excellency and a waste paper basket.
- 2 – Green Silk Blinds with springs in lieu of the present curtains in Her Excellency's Carriage.
- 3 – The bed couch to be rendered less springy.

In reply I beg to say I will make arrangements for Their Excellencies wishes being carried out, and with reference to your last paragraph you will confirm if you will kindly let me know at anytime of any additions or alterations that may contribute to Their Excellencies comfort when travelling by Railway.

I remain
Yours faithfully
(signed) Richard Pearce
Carriage & Wagon Supt.

To Lord William Beresford VC, GCIE,³ Military Secretary, Simla

The correspondence rather speaks for itself, but suffice to say it is a fascinating little window on the culture and practices of the Raj. As stated, I have detailed the life of Richard Pearce already, but his correspondent in these letters is an interesting man.

William Leslie de la Poer Beresford was the Military Secretary, from 1881 to 1894, to successive Viceroys of India. These were: Lord Ripon 1880-1884; Lord Dufferin 1884-1888 and Lord Lansdowne 1888-1894, who was Viceroy during the period covered by this correspondence.⁴

Beresford (born 20 July 1847) was the third son of the fourth Marquis of Waterford. Educated at Eton, he entered the 9th Lancers in 1867 and was aide-de-camp from 1875 to 1881 to Viceroy Lord Northbrook, then Lord Lytton and Lord Ripon. He served in the Jowaki Expedition⁵ in 1877-8; the Zulu war in 1879 (for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross); and the Second Afghan War in 1880. Beresford was promoted to

³ GCIE - Knight Grand Commander of the Indian Empire

⁴ Henry Charles Keith Petty-Fitzmaurice, the 5th Marquess of Lansdowne (1845 – 1927) married Lady Maud Evelyn Hamilton in 1869, a daughter of the 1st Duke of Abercorn.

⁵ In 1877, the government proposed to reduce the allowance granted the Jowaki (an Afridi tribe) for guarding the Kohat Pass, which connected Kohat with Peshawar. The tribesmen responded by sabotaging the telegraph and raiding British settlements and in retaliation Colonel Mocatta led a British expedition against them.

Military Secretary to the Viceroy in 1881 and remained in that post until he retired.⁶ The main Office of the Military Secretary was in Simla, the hill station summer residence of the Viceroy.

Beresford was a popular and well-regarded man, both professionally and socially. He was a keen sportsman, successful rider of steeplechases and a polo-player. For years he kept a stud of racehorses with which he won the Viceroy's Cup at the Hastings Race Course in Calcutta six times and the other principal races at race-meetings in India. Calcutta, being the centre of British power in the early days of the Raj became the leading horse racing centre.⁷

On his retirement, a farewell dinner was held for Beresford on 30 December 1893, at the Town Hall, Calcutta and attended by 180 friends. It was said of him that he 'had raised the office of Military Secretary to a science, and himself from an official into an institution, and acquired a reputation absolutely unique.' He retired from India in 1894 and died in England, 28 December 1900.⁸



William Beresford in 1886, whilst Military Secretary to Lord Dufferin.

The work of a Military Secretary is given in the chapter 'An Ideal Military Secretary' in the book on Beresford by Mrs Stuart Menzies, from which the following is a small extract:

The popularity of a Viceroy rests in a great measure in the hands of his Military Secretary, hence the importance of having a man who understands, and is in touch, with the native princes and people, who has the table of precedence at his finger-ends, and is pleasing and courteous to all. Lord William excelled in all this, and one of the reasons why he was from first to last such a phenomenal success, was because he left nothing to chance, everything was carefully thought out, no hurried word of mouth orders, but everything written or printed and placed in the hands of those it concerned, some time before the orders and work had to be carried out...⁹

⁶ *Dictionary of Indian Biography* (Haskell House, USA: 1906) accessed via archive.org

⁷ Lord Beresford's Racehorse contribution in Calcutta <http://www.asianracing.org/india>

⁸ *Dictionary of Indian Biography*, ibid.

⁹ *Lord William Beresford – 'Fighting Bill' – Some Memories of a famous sportsman, soldier and wit* by Mrs Stuart Menzies Chapter VI, pp125 -130 (via archive.org)

So with this as a background, the Military Secretary wrote again, this time in his own handwriting –

Military Secretary to
the Viceroy
SIMLA
April 24 1891

Dear Mr Pearce

I have to thank you very much for your letter of April 21st & the kind trouble you have taken in carrying out the wishes contained in my letter of 16th.

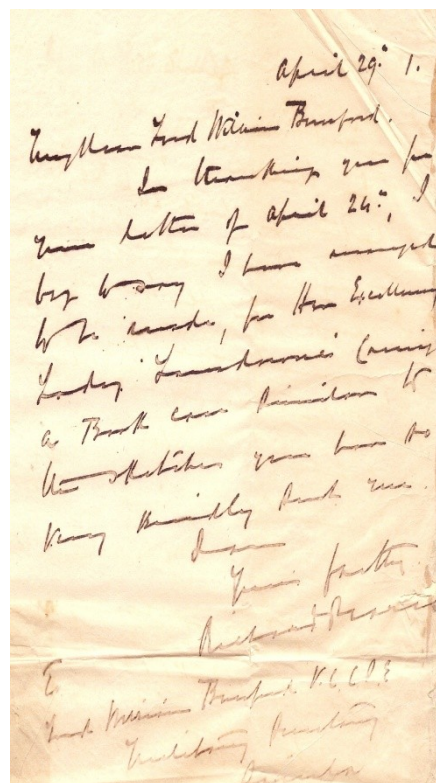
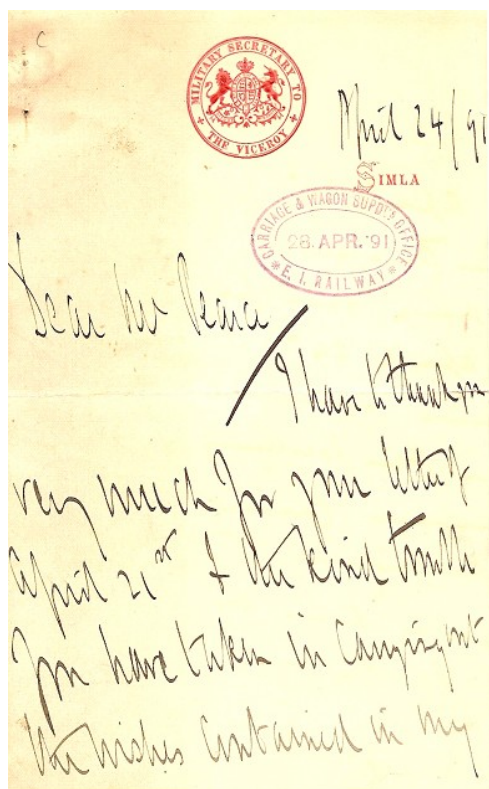
I have heard from the overseer, Government House, Calcutta, that you have been good enough to send for the small table as mentioned in my letter. It is to be copied.

I note also you were kind enough to carry out the two changes in her Ladyship's Carriage, and I hope you will not think me very tiresome if I add one more request with regard to Her Ladyship's Carriage, namely Her Ladyship would like to have a bookshelf placed in her Carriage similar to the picture enclosed. The shelf to be very much like the second picture enclosed, adding glass faced doors which do not appear in the picture sent. If you can kindly add this one more kindness in addition to the many you have already done I shall be very grateful, believe me.

Yours truly

William Beresford

To Richard Pearce Esq., Supt..Carriage & Wagon Dept., Howrah



To this letter, Richard Pearce replied in his almost illegible handwriting –

April 29 1891

My Dear Lord William Beresford,

In thanking you for your letter of April 24th, I beg to say I have arranged to be made, for Her Excellency Lady Lansdowne's Carriage, a Book Case similar to the sketches you have so very kindly sent me.

I remain
Yours faithfully
Richard Pearce

To Lord William Beresford V.C. C.I.E, Military Secretary, Simla
From: Richard Pearce, Supt.. Carriage & Wagon Dept., Howrah

I recently obtained the book *The Administration of the Marquis of Lansdowne as Viceroy and Governor-General of India 1888-1894* by George W. Forrest.¹⁰ It is a fascinating account, full of outlandish quotes, written in 1894. But the write-ups on Lansdowne's five Tours of India from 1889 through to 1893 make no mention of how he travelled. A number of these ceremonial trips must have been by train and although I have no proof, it seems sensible to surmise that the viceregal carriages would have been in use at least some of the time. I have made a survey of Lansdowne's tours and those that took in places that could be reached via broad gauge railway (broad gauge being the size of the Viceroy's carriages) included: the 1889 trip to hold a durbar at Quetta (the Sind Peshin State Railway has reached Quetta in March 1887); the 1890 tour of Patiala, Rajputana and Ulwar States that ended with a durbar in Agra; the 1891 tour of Kashmir, Gwalior, Bhopal and Indore; and Lansdowne's visit to Hyderabad (the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway could be reached via the GIP Railway).

It can only be hoped that on these later journeys their Excellencies were satisfied with their carriage furnishings.

About the author:

Mike Pearce is a retired Production Engineer now living in France. He worked in England and then overseas, mainly in Nigeria. His areas of specialty were manufacturing of Furniture, Orthotic Appliances, Timber Products, Commercial Vehicle Bodies and finally Boat Building. When he commenced this research into his unknown family history he had no idea of that there was an Engineering heritage of four generations going back as far as 1860.

¹⁰ George W. Forrest, *The Administration of the Marquis of Lansdowne as Viceroy and Governor-General of India 1888 – 1894* Kessinger Legacy Reprints. Original published Calcutta 1894

Discovering biographical sources in the British Library manuscripts collection

Dorota Walker, Asia and African Studies Reference Team, British Library

I have recently finished compiling *People and places: A guide to the materials relating to India at the British Library Western Manuscripts Department*. The project's goal was to create a comprehensive research tool to aid researchers interested in India, the East India Company and its servants by detailing related materials in the Western Manuscripts archive. This impressive collection was one of the most important at the British Museum and was subsequently inherited by the British Library. It is a separate collection from the European Manuscripts (Eur Mss) that are available in the Asian and African Studies Reading Room and that came from the India Office.

Although most of the manuscript titles can be searched through the Manuscripts Catalogue, which is available online,¹ the contents are mostly undiscovered. The level of catalogue description varies and in some cases letters or documents found amongst the manuscripts are not listed in either online or printed catalogues. It has taken me three years to complete the task of compiling the list of India materials, as I wanted to capture as many places and as many people as I possibly could. I believe that my 700 pages of entries can fill in a few gaps.

The guide contains a chronological list starting with medieval manuscripts, including one describing the Indian marvels supposedly witnessed by Alexander the Great (on display at the exhibition 'Royal Manuscripts: The Genius of Illumination'). The last entry in the guide comes from c.1980.

I have based the guide on the online Manuscripts Catalogue and the printed catalogues available in the Manuscripts Reading Room here at St Pancras. I have not included recently catalogued materials as they can be easily searched on the 'Search Our Catalogue Archives and Manuscripts' (SOCAM) webpage.² Besides I had to stop somewhere, otherwise the project would become a full time job for the rest of my career, and as those of you who have met me know, I still have a long time before retirement.

The list is fully indexed with name, place and subject indexes at the end. All people mentioned are in the index, as are all places and where possible the subjects to make searching for relevant manuscripts easier. Each entry gives the year, name of the author and/or the recipient (ie of a letter), or the title of the manuscript, the collection it comes from and the shelfmark and folios. I am planning to release an e-version in early 2012, which will make searching even more user-friendly. It will be freely available online and

¹ <http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/manuscripts/INDEX.asp>

² <http://searcharchives.bl.uk/> The cataloguing in the SOCAM started in 2009. The department is currently working on transferring the whole Manuscripts Online into the system, which is expected to be completed in 2012.

details will be announced on the British Library and FIBIS websites when it is ready. At the moment the print-out is available on open access in the Asian and African Studies Reading Room (OIR 026.954).

The material is available for consultation in the Manuscripts Reading Room and instructions for ordering are at the front of the guide. Some manuscripts have recently been transferred to the Asian and African Collections – they are still listed in the guide.

I have made numerous discoveries relating to family history, especially for the 17th and 18th centuries. Some of them may fill in gaps for those researching this early period. What is important to note is that the manuscripts come from de facto private collections and they are rarely systematic. The only exceptions to this are official correspondence of very prominent persons. Within the collections, amongst both private and official papers, can be found wills, appointments and lists of staff.

The methodology I used when compiling the guide was that of a typical historian: 'the more, the better', so that researchers have a chance to discover something interesting in a volume they would never think to check. I was surprised myself what amazing gems can be found in the most 'boring' manuscripts. I was not able to check every entry, but to give an example, just before printing the guide I had to call a volume up. Both printed and online catalogues give the details as the unassuming 'Correspondence of [so-and-so] to [so-and-so] or the Supreme Court at Calcutta'. Searching for some letters I came across a two-page list of officers of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in 1775 (BL catalogue ref: *Add. 16265 ff.12v-13*). It is a list of about 40 people from the masters, through the interpreters, to representatives of the Crown, Church and the Admiralty. Most posts are matched with salaries and names, both European and Indian. One thing is certain – it was worth being a representative, as their salaries matched the top posts of the court. A mullah, a Brahmin and a Persian moonshee are also mentioned. The moonshee was one Gollaub Mohammed.

Material on military topics

There are many other items of interest. For instance, taking military-related papers first, there are a number I found that could be useful to family researchers. I fished out a list of Dutch officers in charge at Manaar, Ceylon. The date span is given as 1659 to 1755. It comes from the transcripts of Dutch East India records (*Add. 40737 f.186*). There is a similar list from 1759 naming the principal officers in the French Army in India (*Add. 32888 f. 158*). We have a list of Bengal Army officers from 1767, which is quite exciting, considering that biographical records for that time are scarce (*Add. 6050 f.93*). It is a detailed report of gun practice with names of gunners, bombardiers and matrosses.

There is also a return of the Company's troops on the Coromandel Coast from the same year (*Add. 34685 f.100*). Manuscript *Add. 23756* contains the returns of troops during the Mahratta War in the years 1817-1818. Unfortunately they only list the officers; the lower ranks are only described by numbers. The confidential reports on the 77th and 83rd Regiments of Foot from 1839 may be however an interesting read (*Add. 54516*). Among

them should be a memorandum regarding the court martial of Private Keating (ff.26-28v). The volume also contains the returns of troops in the Northern District (unfortunately it is not a Northern District of India, but of England) as well as the returns of the Indian Army, although from the latter we learn more about cattle than we do about soldiers.

Two volumes from Sir Charles James Napier's papers contain returns for the Indian Army, covering the years 1843 to 1850 (*Add. 54521-54522*). The medical reports on the 22nd Regiment of Foot may also be of interest (*Add. 49115*). There are other interesting pieces, such as accounts, a programme of entertainment prepared by the men of the regiment and a permit for one Private Edward Guest, who served with the 22nd Foot.

This petition from Edward Guest is yet another exciting discovery. It contains the details of his attestation in Belfast in 1825, when he joined the 41st Regiment. He served in Burma, Afghanistan and Madras and when his regiment returned to England in 1843, Guest volunteered for the 22nd in order to rejoin his family in India, who were 'left destitute'. During his service he was 'never troublesome for the Medical Department' until shortly before his discharge in 1846 due to 'extreme ill health'. Although he was a good and brave soldier, Edward was court-martialled on three separate occasions, all for drunkenness. He was imprisoned for 20 days the first and last time, but at the second court martial he was quite lucky, as due to some procedural issues he avoided punishment. He also lost one Good Conduct Badge during the third court-martial in 1839. Living off 6d per day pension he was not able to support his wife and five children, so he applied to remain in the bazar of the 22nd Regiment and was allowed to 'sell pop or any thing else to the soldiers of the said Regiment with the exception of wine, beer or spirits [sic]'. He managed for two years, until the pension was withdrawn. Then Edward Guest applied to Sir Charles Napier and the Duke of Wellington. Unfortunately that is where the story ends and to find out whether he actually obtained a sustainable pension for life it would be necessary to search other British Army records.

A special entry can be found in the Broadfoot Papers (*Add. 40127 f.395*). It is an extract from a regimental roll of 1845 relating to Ram Singh, Sepoy with the 54th Bengal Native Infantry. With the virtual lack of biographical sources relating to native Indians, I think it is a wonderful gem.

It is difficult to establish whether a manuscript is of any use to family historians unless it is called up and examined. It is a similar case with the more complex series of the India Office Records. So, for instance, the memorandum relating to inmates of Peshawar Field Force Hospital sounds very promising, but the contents may either be a great discovery or a great disappointment (*Add. 49116*).

The Indian Mutiny (or the First War of Independence) shocked British society and the richness of materials on the subject reflects that. It is also quite a popular subject for genealogists. I have come across a list of Europeans who escaped from Delhi in manuscript *Add. 41489 f.122*. The whole volume refers to the Mutiny and there is a chance that the letters of the army officers and civil servants who witnessed the events,

may contain some useful information. There are also three volumes of diaries, maps and photographs relating to the events in Cawnpore at that time (*Add. 37151-37153*).

Material on the Civil Service

The early materials relating to civil servants are in the three volumes (*Add. 38871-Add. 38873*):

- Vol. I. Stamped on the cover are the arms of the Company
 - A. List of Governors, Deputy-Governors, and Committees of the Old East India Company, 1658-1708. f.1;
 - B. List of members of the Old and New Companies yearly chosen to be the Court of Managers, 1702-1709. f.15;
 - C. Court of Directors of the United Company, 1709-1858. f.17.
- Vol. II. List of shipping to India with dates of arrival and departure, names of commanders, etc.; 1673-1790.
- Vol. III.
 - A. Similar list; 1794-1833. f.1;
 - B. 'Receipts given by Commanders and Officers of Maritime Service for Journals returned to them under the Court's Order of Dec. 1834', arranged in alphabetical order. f.85b;
 - C. List of ships taken up in India, 1815-1828. f.94.

Nominations considered for directorship in 1758 can be found in the Hardwicke Papers (*Add. 35635 f.110*) and a list of the East India Company's chairmen and deputy chairmen is in the Peel Papers (*Add. 40592 f.430*).

More interestingly there are a couple of lists of covenanted civil servants of the East India Company in 1783 in *Add. 42073 B*, and in 1789 in *Add. 16811*. The 1783 list is very similar to the volumes preceding the *East India Register* in the Asian and African Studies Reading Room, but it actually fills in a gap, as 1783 is not on the shelf. It is heavily annotated with salaries and recommendations. The 1789 list is one of the most impressive rolls of civil servants. It lists the Governor-General Cornwallis and the members of the Council, over 100 senior merchants, junior merchants and a writer. The details give the year of nomination, the original rank in the Civil Service and the date of commencement; the present rank with the date of appointment, the offices held previously, the period of residence in and out of India and monthly and yearly salary. The Governor's and the Council members' official income was tenable under an Act of Parliament, but the others listed could make an 'unlimited amount'. The Governor-General received a good salary of 23,604 CRS [Current Rupees] monthly and 283,250 CRS annually. The senior merchants had a yearly allowance from about 4,500 to over 30,000 per annum, but they were not limited in how much they made on the side. If only all biographical sources were as accurate.

Manuscript *Add. 38400 (ff.104-113)* provides a good example of a contract between the East India Company and its prominent servants. This covenant, as it is entitled, with Sir

Thomas Rumbold is very detailed. I have also come across some government appointments in 1853 (*Add. 43251 f.307*), but similar information can probably be found in the more obvious sources such as the *East India Register*.

The Cooper and Wilson Papers (*Add. 70662*) contain quite special materials relating to William John Cooper, of the Indo-European Telegraph Company. Among his Second World War-era correspondence, whilst interned in France, are a photograph and an identity tag from a German camp.

An interesting insight into the work of the civil servant fighting the Thugs (effectively tribes of murderous highwaymen) can be found in *Add. 41300*. There is a report from James Paton, Extra Assistant to the Superintendent for the Suppression of Thuggee and Dacoitee to Maj-Gen. Sleeman, with a list of thugs apprehended in Oudh.

Examples of records of services for both civil and military servants also appear amongst the manuscripts but they relate to high ranking officers, well known already. For others, some details may be extracted indirectly from petitions, for example in a letter from the people of Bourbon and Mauritius (*Add. 37294*) or a letter and address to Warren Hastings from the British inhabitants of Calcutta in 1786 and 1795 (*Add 29169 ff.262, 264; Add 29174 ff.174, 240; Add. 29202 f.265; Add. 29217A-29217 F*). In 1842 the native merchants of Bombay issued a memorial on their opium claims; it again may reveal at least some names (*Add. 40522*).

Education and schools topics

From the collection of Richard Wellesley come volumes relating to Fort William College from 1800 to 1805 (*Add. 13860-13862*). The volumes are spectacular. Not only are they in perfect condition, but the contents are very detailed. There are lists of professors, students and even moonshees, with their salaries. Also present are lists of classes and lectures and even some homework! For example, Mr Bechell and Mr Mitford had to read Homer's 22nd Book for their Classics course. Particular lectures are mentioned in some cases. The Experimental Philosophy course started with the 'Best method of prosecuting philosophical inquiries: Newton's rules of philosophizing'. Examination questions with reports, including marks awarded, are also there. The volumes also contain full lists of pupils, with their date and place of birth, the date of arrival and previous education. There are also some accounts relating to the college. Manuscript *Add. 14052* gives the admissions of students to the college up to August 1805, with certificates of progress, degrees of honour, and all the proceedings relating to the institution. Also available is Fort William College's library catalogue of books in European languages from 1836 (*Add. 39165*).

Haileybury College gets its place in the private collections as well. These papers relate to staff rather than to students, but nonetheless it may be worth checking *Add. 40423* for nominations and *Add. 36468* for general material about the establishment. For other institutions there is, for instance, an 1818 report relating to exams by P Mudie, Secretary of the Madras Grammar School (Madras College), St Andrews, Scotland in *Add 38273*.

A unique account of the orphanage founded by the East India Company's Service officers of the Bengal Army can be found in manuscript *King's 196*.

Miscellaneous topics

Some manuscripts complement already well-researched topics, such as a list of staff at Longwood when their most famous prisoner Napoleon Bonaparte was kept at the Island of St Helena. The series of Sir Hudson Lowe is the main source.

Interestingly, there are some listings of monumental inscriptions. The most comprehensive seems to be in the collection of Augustus Fortunatus Bellasis, of the Bombay Civil Service. It covers the English and Dutch cemeteries in Surat from 1649 to 1812. The Dutch entries had been translated and there is also an index (*Add. 44948*). The volume is not very long but seems quite detailed. Similarly, an inscription in Latin from 1714 can be found in *Sloane. 1968*. The person mentioned was Edward Bulkley, who lived at Fort St. George.

When consulting *Add. 36471* one would hope not to find ones ancestors, as it contains a petition from Birmingham against religious tolerance in India. Similarly daunting may be discoveries in the papers about eugenics. A sign of the times.

Numerous manuscripts regarding shipping are listed in the guide but sadly I found they do not seem to go beyond 1834, so the hope of finding any passenger lists after the time that the East India Company lost its monopoly quickly faded.

As the British Library holds archives from publishing houses there are some biographical notes for people linked with India, such as Edward Shepherd Creasy (Chief Justice of Ceylon), Hugh Gough (Commander-in-Chief in India), and John Francis Davis (of the East India Company's factory at Canton and a Chinese scholar) which come from original letters, with corrected proofs of memoirs, etc. addressed to Charles Griffin, the publisher of the 'Handbook of contemporary Biography' (*Add. 28509*). Some of them were asked to describe their own careers for the purpose of the publication.

My personal favourite manuscripts are the petitions, etc., to Queen Anne relating to a pardon for pirates of Madagascar and the East and West Indies, signed by over 40 pirates' wives and their relatives. The documents come from 1707 and 1708 and I believe are absolutely unique (*Add. 61620 ff.155b-171b*).

I have also found many maps and works of art in the Western Manuscripts Collections that hopefully will be of interest to family historians, even if they go slightly beyond the scope of compiling a family tree.

I hope this selection will be of use and amongst you will be lucky ones, who find their ancestors named in the papers I have discovered. Those less fortunate can use the guide to conduct fantastic research into life in British India.

About the author:

Dorota Walker, Reference Specialist in the Asian and African Studies at the British Library and Member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, obtained her MA in History and MA in International Studies at the University of Wroclaw, Poland. She lives with her husband in London.

Serendipity strikes again

Ainslie Sharpe's article on John Sharpe, one of her husband's 2x great grandfathers, appeared in Journal 26. Upon receiving her copy of J26, Ainslie wrote to me thus:

In Peter Bailey's tribute to Peter Denzil Rogers, he wrote of "Good-fairy serendipity". There is an example of that 'Good-fairy' in this same edition of the Journal! In David Atkinson's article 'A Lucas Family: from Ireland to India' he writes about the practice of 'putting on noses', and refers (in footnote 36) to the example of the British Subject, JE Mathwin, (James Elder Mathwin) who was sentenced to 10 years transportation to Tasmania for cutting off his wife's nose. I am very sorry to say, that this offender was my husband's 2x great grandfather! We had found the reference to his attack on his wife in Allen's Indian Mail, however, it did not say to where he was transported. This footnote in David's article provided us with the answer and I found his convict records online in the Tasmanian Archives. (His name had never come up in the convict lists on Ancestry.)

What happened to the lady? The woman unfortunate enough to be Mathwin's wife was Elizabeth Caroline Dorand (born 1827). She had married Mathwin in Benares in 1844 and had three children. The convict records showed that Mathwin was convicted on 7 October 1852 and *Allen's Indian Mail*, reporting the trial, noted that after Dr Leckie of Benares had performed surgery on Elizabeth, she suffered 'no permanent mutilation'. What ultimately became of her, Ainslie has not been able to determine. As for her assailant, he arrived in Tasmania on the *Anglia* on 6 March 1853. The island stopped taking convicts just two months later, so Mathwin was one of the last to arrive. After his sentence he returned to India, where he died in Benares in 1886.

Ancestral research through DNA

Debbie Kennett

At the FIBIS Autumn lecture meeting in London on 12th November 2011, Debbie Kennett explained the potential benefits of using DNA for genealogical research. An edited version of Debbie's engaging talk appears here.

DNA testing can help to verify family trees and can provide a focus for your family history research. It can confirm that two people are related and can also prove that people are not related. Sometimes, elimination can be equally as important. If you don't know where your ancestor was born, a match with someone with ancestry from a particular county will help to narrow down the possibilities. If you are researching an illegitimate line, a match with a different surname might provide clues as to the surname of the father. It's a way of networking and putting you in touch with your genetic cousins. Within a surname project you can establish which names and variants are related. Finally it can give you some insight into your pre-surname history – your deep ancestry. DNA testing is not a replacement for traditional paper research. It does not give you the names of your ancestors, their relationships or their dates. Everything is based on probabilities.

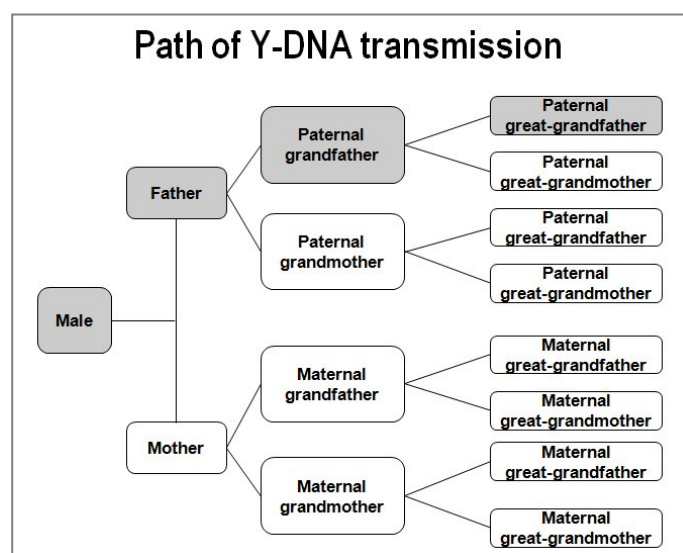
We will be looking at the three different types of DNA test that are currently available. The most popular test for genealogy purposes is the Y-chromosome DNA test. This looks at the direct paternal line which usually, but not always, coincides with the surname. Mitochondrial DNA tests look at the direct maternal line. Finally we will look at the new autosomal DNA tests which help you to find close relatives on all your family lines. Taking a DNA test is a very simple matter. Most testing companies use a kit with a couple of brushes and vials for the samples. The little brush is rather like a small toothbrush and this is used to swab your inside cheek cells.

Y-DNA tests

Having got the basics out of the way we are now going to look at Y-DNA tests and how they can be used to trace surnames and your paternal line. These are the most established and popular DNA tests and the most useful for family history research.

The Y-chromosome is passed on from father to son and determines the sex of a male child. As only men

have a Y-chromosome, only males can take a Y-DNA test. Women are, however, very actively involved in the world of Y-DNA testing. We just have to persuade our male relatives to take a Y-DNA test on our behalf. Many surname projects are run by women.



A Y-DNA test can confirm that two men are related on the direct paternal line. It can also confirm that two men are not related. As the path of Y-DNA usually corresponds with a surname, Y-DNA tests are usually collated in surname projects.

The Y-chromosome is passed on from father to son virtually unchanged. Every now and then mistakes occur in the copying process. We call these mistakes **mutations**. The mutations in Y-DNA are quite harmless. A Y-DNA test looks at locations on the Y-chromosome where mutations are known to occur. We call these locations **markers**. The technical name is 'short tandem repeats' (STRs). A numerical value is assigned to each marker and the numbers are then compared with other test results in a database. The more mutations present, the more distant the relationship between the subjects being compared. The fewer the number of mutations, the closer the relationship.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|

To explain further we can look at a few sample DNA results. The chart above shows a string of numbers from a Y-DNA test result. These numbers are known as your haplotype. A single DNA result on its own is meaningless. The value of a DNA test is in the comparison process. For this reason, Y-DNA tests are collated in surname projects where you can compare your results with other people with the same surname.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |

This next chart shows two men's Y-DNA results for comparison. These are taken from my own Cruwys DNA surname project. These two men are documented second cousins twice removed with a common ancestor born in 1821 in Devon. You would expect close cousins to match on all or nearly all their markers. In this case, the numbers match on all 25 markers. This is known as 25/25 match. The DNA test has effectively verified the paper trail.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 27 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |

We have now added a third man's Y-DNA result. The first two men, both Canadians, matched exactly. We've now done a test on a different documented branch of the same family. In this case you can see that one of the numbers doesn't match, so we have our first mutation, though the mutation could in fact have occurred on either branch of the tree (ie 28 may be the deviation from the standard, or 27 may be). One mutation in 200 years is roughly what we expect. We now have three men with matching DNA results for whom the paper trail research had shown share a common ancestor born in 1792. The DNA testing has verified the family tree on two branches back to the point where the two men share that common ancestor in 1792.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 13 | 23 | 14 | 11 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 18 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 27 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 18 |
| 14 | 22 | 15 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 11 | 30 | 17 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 23 | 16 | 21 | 29 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 14 |

Finally we will just add one more result. This fourth man has the same Cruwys surname and can trace his ancestry back to Devon. His ancestor John Cruwys married in Oakford in 1708. As you can see, most of his markers are different from the other three men. We therefore know that he is not related on the direct paternal line. This does not rule out a relationship on the maternal line as these results do not test this.

For the purposes of space, the examples I've shown here only used 25 markers. The number of markers used determines the precision or the resolution of a test. The more markers used, the more confident you can be of the match. When Y-DNA tests first became available in the year 2000, only 10- or 12-marker tests were available. Later on 25-marker tests were introduced. Today 37-markers is the standard entry-level test. At 12 markers you can sometimes have hundreds of insignificant matches. Some of these will still remain at 25 markers. With 37-markers you can be confident that the match is significant if the two men share the same surname. If you want to investigate an illegitimate line then it's best to test 67 markers. 67 markers are also useful if you are interested in exploring your deep ancestry, which we will discuss later. A 111-marker test was introduced in April 2011 and is really only for advanced users.

In a surname project men are grouped in matching genetic families. Even with a very rare surname you would not expect all the DNA results to match. For the surname Cruwys all men tested so far fall into two different groups. There is also one man from an illegitimate line who doesn't match anyone else.

Haplogroups

As part of your Y-DNA test you are also told which haplogroup you belong to. A haplogroup tells you about your deep ancestry. It is another way of sorting out the results in a project. Two men with different haplogroups do not share a common ancestor in a genealogical timeframe. Haplogroups provide information about your pre-surname history and can be viewed as branches of the human family tree. All the Y-DNA haplogroups descend from one man who lived around 142,000 years ago in Africa, known as 'Y-chromosomal Adam'. There are 20 base haplogroups labelled from A to T. Each haplogroup has numerous sub-branches, known as subclades, named with alternating numbers and letters such as J2b, I2a, R1b1a2 and so on.

Haplogroups can be used to map the migratory paths of our ancestors. The oldest Y-DNA haplogroups such as A and B are usually only found in Africa. A branch of haplogroup Q is associated with Native American ancestry. Haplogroup C is mostly found in Australian aborigines and also along the coastal route from Africa to Australia via India and the Pacific islands.

Fig. 1 shows the main haplogroups that are found in the British Isles. These figures are taken from my own Devon DNA Project. You'd probably get similar figures in other counties. In the North of England you would expect to find more R1a1, which often denotes Viking ancestry. As you go further east you would expect to find more I1, which is a sign of Anglo-Saxon ancestry. In general however the haplogroups don't correlate with specific tribes. There's no single haplogroup for Norman, Viking, Roman or Celtic ancestry.

| Haplogroup | Percentage |
|------------|------------|
| E1b1b1a2 | 1% |
| G | 4% |
| I1 | 6% |
| I1b | 1% |
| I2a | 1% |
| I2b | 3% |
| J1 | 1% |
| J2 | 3% |
| R1a1 | 5% |
| R1b1a2 | 76% |

Fig. 1

Fig. 2 lists the main haplogroups we expect to find in men from India. Starred entries are also found in the British Isles. The population of India is more genetically diverse than the people of the British Isles as India was on the migration route out of Africa. There are many more haplogroups found in India. If you have someone who has a haplogroup that is found in India and not in Britain then this proves an origin in India, but it's more difficult with those haplogroups that are found in both countries. R1b1a2 in India might be an authentic Indian haplogroup or it could be an Anglo-Indian with an English ancestor somewhere on the paternal line. In Britain we also have Romany gypsies and a sizeable percentage of these belong to the Indian haplogroup H.

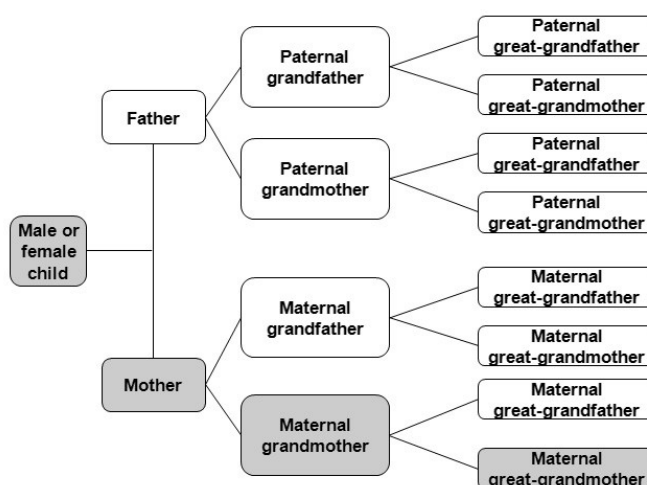
| Indian Y-DNA Haplogroups | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| C | L |
| E1b1a | O |
| *E1b1b | Q |
| *F | R |
| *G | *R1a1 |
| H | *R1b1a2 |
| *J1 | R2 |
| *J2 | T1 |

Fig. 2

Mitochondrial DNA tests

We now move on to mitochondrial DNA tests which explore the direct maternal line.

Mitochondria are organelles found within all of our cells. They are the power plants in our body that generate energy from the food we eat. We inherit mitochondria from our mother via the egg cell. A sperm cell's mitochondria are in its 'tail' and



so are not passed on to a baby. Mitochondria have a separate genome from the DNA in our cell nuclei.

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is passed on by a mother to all her children, both male and female, but only a female can pass on mtDNA to the next generation. Both men and women can therefore take an mtDNA test. The test traces your direct maternal line – your mother, your mother's mother, and so on back in time. It is less useful than Y-DNA as a genealogical tool because the surname changes every generation making the lines much more difficult to research. Also, the mutation rate is slower than that for the markers used in Y-DNA tests so the matches are not as precise. As with Y-DNA it can confirm that two people are related, but within a very wide timescale. It can be more useful for proving that two people are NOT related on their direct female line. It will also tell you about your deep ancestry.

I find that people often get very confused about which line mitochondrial DNA follows. The chart above shows it is basically the mirror image of Y-DNA and follows the very bottom line of your family tree.

Rather than testing selected markers the mtDNA test sequences entire sections of the DNA molecule. A section called the control region is most commonly tested. The control region is also known as the hypervariable region because mutations – letter changes in the DNA code – occur more frequently here. The very basic mtDNA test sequences HVR1 (hypervariable region 1). The standard mtDNA plus test sequences HVR1 and 2 – the whole of the control region. It is now possible to have your entire mitochondrial genome sequenced – all 16,569 bases. This test is known as the full genomic sequence or full mitochondrial sequence and includes what is known as the coding region. This test used to cost about \$800 but is now much more affordable. As the price has only dropped fairly recently there are not so many results at this level so it will take time for the database to build up in size. It will eventually become the standard test as the price drops further.

Fig. 3 shows what a mitochondrial DNA test result looks like. On its own it is somewhat meaningless. All results are compared against what is known as the Cambridge

Reference Sequence (CRS) – the first mitochondrial sequence to be completed. Rather than list the results for all 16,569 bases, you are given a list of bases where you differ from the CRS. These are my results for the full sequence test. You don't have to worry too

| Haplogroup U4c1 | | | Coding region differences from CRS | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| HVR1 differences from CRS | | | 750G | 1438G | 1811G |
| 16172C | 16179T | 16356C | 2706G | 4646C | 4769G |
| 16519C | 16400T | | 4811G | 5999C | 6047G |
| HVR2 differences from CRS | | | 6146G | 7028T | 8860G |
| 73G | 195C | 263G | 9070G | 10907C | 11009C |
| 315.1C | 499A | 505T | 11332T | 11467G | 11719A |
| 523.1C | 523.2A | | 12308G | 12372A | 14620T |
| | | | 14766T | 14866T | 15326G |
| | | | 15693C | | |

Fig. 3

much about what all the letters and numbers mean. As with Y-DNA, it is a match-making game. The testing company does all the matching for you and gives you a list of all your matches.

With mtDNA we only consider exact matches to be relevant and you can see why from this Fig. 4. For the basic HVR1 test around 50% of your matches could share a common ancestor from over 1000 years ago. Even with the combined HVR1 and HVR2 test it's still highly likely that the

| Test | Bases | Probability |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| HVR1 | 16001 to 16569 | 50% chance of sharing a common maternal ancestor within fifty-two generations or 1,300 years. |
| HVR1+ HVR2 | 00001 to 00574 16001 to 16569 | 50% chance of sharing a common maternal ancestor within twenty-eight generations or 700 years. |
| Full Genomic Sequence (FGS) | All 16569 bases – control region + coding region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% chance of sharing a common maternal ancestor within the last five generations or about 125 years. • 90% probability of sharing a common ancestor within 16 generations or 400 years. |

Fig. 4

common ancestor could be too far back to find a connection. The FGS test gives you more precise matches. 90% of your matches will be within the last 400 years or so but even then, because of the difficulties in tracing the female line you might not be able to find the connection. So far only a small proportion of the database have upgraded to the FGS test so the match pool is not yet very large.

An mtDNA test will also assign you a haplogroup. These are branches of the human family tree but this time trace the maternal line. All mtDNA haplogroups descend from a common ancestor, 'mitochondrial Eve', who lived between 180,000 and 200,000 years ago in Africa. There are 26 haplogroups labelled from A to Z and numerous subclades. You can only get a detailed subclade assignment with a full sequence test. The haplogroup letters don't in any way correspond to the Y-DNA haplogroups. As with Y-DNA, mitochondrial DNA haplogroups often have distinct geographic origins.

On the right are the main haplogroups that you might expect to find in the British Isles. Some of you might have read the book by Bryan Sykes about the Seven Daughters of Eve in which he tells us that all European women descend from one woman who had seven daughters or clans. He gave names to all the sister clans. These names correspond to the haplogroups but there are now more than seven daughters. He later gave names to some of the new 'daughters'. About 40 or 50% of British people belong to haplogroup H known as Helena.

| | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| H | Helena 40%-50% |
| HV | The "mother" of Helena and Velda |
| I | Iris |
| J | Jasmine |
| T | Tara |
| U2 | Uta |
| U3 | Uma |
| U4 | Ulrike |
| U5 | Ursula |
| V | Velda |
| X | Xenia |

The haplogroups that you might expect to find in someone of Indian origin are shown in Fig. 5, with the percentage indicating the frequency that this group is found in India. It's actually quite difficult trying to find data on haplogroup percentages and this information was kindly provided by Family Tree DNA from their

database. Some of the haplogroups found in India are also seen in the British Isles – all the starred entries. If you get one of the non-British haplogroups you can be fairly confident that your maternal line is from India. It gets more complicated if you have one of those that is also found in the British Isles. Much will then depend on the origins of the people you match. If many are of Indian origin, this will indicate a similar origin.

Geraldine Charles, one of the FIBIS trustees, has had an mtDNA test result that significantly helped her research. Geraldine can trace her maternal line on paper back to Ann Harvey née Oliver who is her 2x great grandmother.

Geraldine has not been able to find a baptism for Ann so she doesn't know the name of Ann's mother. When Geraldine's mitochondrial DNA was tested she turned out to be haplogroup M, which is one of the very old Indian lineages, dating back to about 70,000 years ago. Geraldine's closest match was with someone from India. She had known she had Indian ancestors through a different lineage, but finding it was also the case in her maternal line was a surprise. Even without the paper trail Geraldine has new information to add to her family tree and she now knows that Ann was of Indian not English origin.

| | |
|---|-----|
| M | 51% |
| *U | 19% |
| R | 12% |
| *H | 5% |
| *HV | 3% |
| W | 3% |
| N | 2% |
| C, F, *K, *J, *T, A, D, L2, B, *I, L0, L1, *X | <1% |

Fig. 5

Autosomal DNA tests

Finally, I am going to take a look at the new autosomal DNA tests which give you matches with close cousins on all your family lines.

Before I start explaining how the tests work we just need to run through a few basics about genetics. Chromosomes are the genetic material you receive from your parents that determine which traits you will inherit. Each human cell has 46 chromosomes consisting of 22 pairs of autosomes (in pairs, because you get a copy from each parent) and one pair of sex chromosomes (females have two Xs and males have one X and one Y). The 22 pairs of autosomal chromosomes recombine. The copy of each chromosome you get from your mum is a mixture of the copy she got from her mum (your maternal grandmother) and her dad (your maternal grandfather). Each time the mother contributes a copy of a chromosome to a child, it is usually a mixture of each of her two copies. The same process applies to the autosomal chromosomes inherited from the father. Each child in a family inherits different combinations of segments.

The new autosomal DNA tests look at almost a million autosomal markers. The test therefore picks up traces from all your different family lines. Autosomal DNA is inherited in large chunks. These get broken up into smaller chunks with each new generation. The basic principle therefore is that close relatives will share large segments of DNA in common. Distant relatives will share smaller segments. You can predict the relationship based on the size and number of shared segments. The test will give you matches with genetic cousins sharing a common ancestor within five or six generations. The matches could be on any ancestral line so both parties need detailed genealogies to figure out

who their common ancestor is. There are currently two tests available. Relative Finder from 23andMe is one of the features of their personal genome service which is largely a health test. Family Finder from Family Tree DNA is a dedicated genealogy test.

If you look at the basic statistics on the right, you can see how the signals from the more distant ancestors weaken with each new generation. By the time you get out to fourth and fifth cousins you only have a very tiny percentage of DNA in common.

- Siblings share 50% of the same DNA
- First cousins share 12.5% of the same DNA
- Second cousins share 3.125% of the same DNA
- Third cousins share 0.78% of the same DNA
- Fourth cousins share 0.195% of the same DNA
- Fifth cousins share 0.049% of the same DNA
- Sixth cousins share 0.0122% of the same DNA
- Seventh cousins share 0.003052% of the same DNA (circa 92,000 base pairs)
- Eighth cousins share 0.000763% of the same DNA (circa 23,000 base pairs)

Inheritance of shared segments is random. Percentages can vary.

You might receive more than 25% of your DNA from one grandparent and less than 25% from another grandparent. Once you get out to the fourth cousin level, two documented fourth cousins could take a DNA test but have no detectable shared segments. The absence of a match does not disprove a relationship with more distant relations. Segments can persist by chance in deeper relatives. Even if you don't match your fourth cousin you could still have matches with fifth, sixth and more distant cousins. The predictions are distorted by cousin marriages and inbred populations such as Ashkenazi Jews and Colonial Americans.

You don't have to worry about calculating the amount of shared DNA as the testing companies do all the predictions for you. The Family Finder test at Family Tree DNA allows you to list your ancestral surnames and shared surnames are highlighted in bold on your matches page. Family Finder has only been available since February 2010 whereas the Y-DNA and mtDNA tests have been around for over a decade. The Family Finder database is therefore much smaller. It's a good test for confirming suspected relationships. If you have say a great-grandfather who you suspect fathered some illegitimate children you can test someone from each line to see if they have the expected percentage of shared DNA.

The other use of the test is to find your ethnic percentages. These tests are in the very early stages of development and Population Finder is still in beta-testing. There are no British samples in the reference databases other than Orkney Islanders. The results therefore match you with the nearest populations. As an example most of my mum's ancestry matches the French, Orcadian and Spanish populations. A small percentage matches Tuscans, Finns, Romanians and Sardinians. You could use the Family Finder test to see if you have any Indian ancestry. This would show up as a percentage of South Asian and there are reference populations from North and South India. In the years to come these tests will become more refined as more studies are done. It should eventually be possible to assign specific percentages to smaller areas, for instance, Devon and Cornwall.

The FIBIS project and the Family Tree DNA website

If you want to order a DNA test, the first place to go is the new FIBIS DNA Project at Family Tree DNA (FTDNA).¹ Joining via the project attracts a discount on all Y-DNA tests. If you order a test through the project, the administrators Valmay Young and Sarah Bilton, can keep all the FIBIS results together and display them on the project website.

The FIBIS project could have some very interesting mitochondrial DNA results and you might even make interesting new discoveries. Although for those with Anglo-Indian heritage it is much more likely that Indian ancestors will appear on the female line than the male, the FIBIS project provides access to both mtDNA and Y-DNA tests (as well as other available tests) and tracks the global origins of those who had family in India.

As well as the FIBIS project you can also add your results to some of the other projects at FT DNA. There are now over 6,000 surname projects, projects for Wales, Ireland and Scotland and an all-embracing project for the British Isles. There are projects for most major European countries and a project for the Indian subcontinent. There are also a few county projects such as my own project for Devon. In addition, there are also specialist projects such as those for Romany gypsies and Jews. There are even special projects for adoptees and those who have been conceived by donor insemination. If you are interested in your deep ancestry then it's worth joining the appropriate haplogroup project for your Y-DNA and mtDNA.

Finally, a few words about Family Tree DNA, the company hosting the FIBIS project.² They have a huge international database, do over 90% of all genetic genealogy tests and host all the major surname, haplogroup and geographical projects. They also have the widest range of tests, being the only company to offer a 111-marker test or the full sequence mitochondrial DNA test. They also do the testing for the Genographic Project, a major international research project that has tested over 500,000 people from around the world. Anyone tested with the Genographic Project can transfer their results to the FTDNA database. Some people can get a free DNA test or part of the cost paid for by a project interested in adding their results. You usually have to provide a pedigree going back several generations and probably be from a line not yet represented in the project.

The standard 37-marker Y-DNA test is the best for a beginner to start with. If you're female then you would need to find a male relative to test for you. The advantage of a DNA test is that you only pay for the test once and it keeps on working for you. You don't have to renew a subscription and you are notified by e-mail of new matches as other people join the database.

About the author:

A professional genealogist and writer, Debbie Kennett founded the Cruse/Cruwys one name study which gave rise to her interest in DNA testing. She now runs several large DNA projects. Debbie's book DNA and Social Networking was published in 2011 (see review page 54) and The Surnames Handbook is due to be published in September 2012.

¹ Find it via www.fibis.org/dna

² Debbie does not work for FTDNA or receive any financial benefits from them.

Admiral Dawson

13 November 1923 to 23 October 2011

Admiral Oscar Stanley Dawson, who died at Bangalore on 23 October 2011, had a distinguished career that spanned 41 years with the Royal Indian Navy and later the Indian Navy. He rose to become the Chief of Naval Staff, a post that he held from 1982 to 1984. Admiral Dawson was the director of naval operations during the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict and it is widely acknowledged that it was the naval attack, directed by him, on Karachi that brought the war to an end. After retirement from the Indian Navy, he served as the Indian High Commissioner to New Zealand from 1985 to 1987.

After his retirement from active service to the Nation, he was involved in serving society in many ways. His deep interest in cemeteries is well known to many. He was solely responsible for getting the Army to regularly clean up the overgrowth at the Agram cemetery, and locate and identify many graves. Whatever records exist today of the graves at Agram and St John's Cemetery in Bangalore are solely due to the tireless efforts of the late Admiral. Whenever someone visiting Bangalore would meet him with their research requirements, particularly connected to cemeteries, he would personally go along with them to the cemetery and organize help locating the graves.

At the funeral service, one Naval Officer said 'they don't make Naval Officers like him anymore. He was of a unique mould'. Admiral Dawson was a gentleman to the core and will be missed by all who knew him. He was a bachelor and leaves behind his sister, Thelma.

David Barnabas

Reviews

***The Chaplains of the East India Company, 1601-1858* by Daniel O'Connor, (Continuum 2012) hardback, no illustrations but 2 maps, notes, bibliography and index, 167pp, ISBN 978-1-4411-7534-2, \$US120.00**

Many browsing the open shelves in the Asian and African Studies Room at the British Library will have found a valuable typescript list with notes of all known *Chaplains of the East India Company* compiled by a Mr SJ McNally, who was an official of the old India Office Library (shelf mark OIR 283.54).

The present book puts these men in context. Of McNally's 665 names, about 400 were appointed in the last 45 or so years of the Company's rule. This means there were only 200 Chaplains from 1601 to 1813 and with the high mortality among Europeans in India at the time they were spread thin. Yet this book concentrates precisely on this earlier period, covering the post-1814 Chaplains in about 20 pages.

The story of these later men is well-known, but the early period virtually unknown to most of us. The story that emerges from Mr O'Connor's researches shows – contrary to popular belief – how earnest the earlier Courts of Directors were in trying to persuade

their Merchants in India to lead godly lives. The drunkenness and other dissolute behaviour of some of the Company's servants in India was not intended to go unchecked. Of course a few of the early Chaplains became as avaricious as the nabobs, one (Matthew Cardrowe) even being described as 'carnal'. But in general the picture is of men of integrity trying desperately to fulfil their duties under very difficult conditions.

Then in the later eighteenth century there is plenty about relations between the Chaplains and the Presidents (of Bombay, Madras and Bengal) – often rather frosty – and the efforts to build churches in the Presidency Cities.

Subsequently, Wilberforce and the Evangelicals of the early nineteenth century started to goad the Company on the subject of conversion of the Indians. The first Bishop, Thomas Fanshaw Middleton 1769-1822, did his best not to offend other religions in India, expressing the view that what he termed "the fabric of idolatry" would never be shaken merely by the preaching of missionaries. Other less sensitive clerics helped precipitate the crisis of 1857-8 and the end of Company rule.

The author, the Revd Daniel O'Connor, is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Edinburgh, and was formerly Lecturer at St Stephen's, Delhi University, so knows India. His book has valuable insights. How many know that there was slavery in British India till 1838? However, the index is only of people and places, so one cannot locate all the references to a topic, such as Chaplains' pay (generous on the whole), or the right of the Chaplain in the 18th century to have an umbrella over his head (p80 as it happens).

I fear the high price will guarantee that few will read this book except in academic libraries, which will be a pity.

Richard Morgan

***DNA and Social networking: A Guide to Genealogy in the 21st Century* Debbie Kennett (History press, 2011), 215pp, illustrated, index and appendices, £14.99 hardback. ISBN**

The two subjects of the title are dealt with here in what is effectively two separate books linked by Debbie Kennett's clear explanatory style and enthusiasm for the 21st century's most exciting family history (FH) tools – genetic genealogy testing and the contact and collaboration that the internet enables.

Part I: the Genetic Genealogy Revolution provides a comprehensive run-through of the principles, benefits and details of DNA testing for FH research. Useful both for those who have been tested (and are unsure what to make of or do with their results) and also for those new to the idea; I doubt a clearer, more thorough layman's explanation exists. For the more experienced, advice is even given on setting up and running a DNA project (usually a surname project).

The potential limitations of testing are not really discussed at length, but the author does stress that testing works best 'in conjunction with traditional documentary research' and that results will increase in their usefulness as databases grow. Kennett hopes to inspire

readers to be tested and certainly it is hard not to share her enthusiasm. The many references made to her own testing experiences provide real examples of the FH gains that can be made with this technique.

Ostensibly connected to Part I by detailing methods useful for tracking down candidates for DNA testing (eg relatives or surname-sharers), Part II: the Social Networking Revolution is in fact an excellent introduction to the most useful tools for connecting with others online. Some may balk at the term 'social networking' but as the author points out, 'finding and connecting with people with common surname interests is a key component of FH research and the...websites that enable us to make those connections are our social networks.'

First taking in 'traditional' networking methods online such as FH societies, surname listings, forums and mailing lists, before covering genealogy networking websites (Genes Reunited, Ancestry etc) and general social networks (Facebook, Twitter etc) the author details their benefits for FH research as well as that of blogs, wikis and multimedia. Those who have not ventured much past Rootsweb or making contacts via a members' interest list might be surprised by the level of FH activity that has developed elsewhere online in the past few years, especially on sites that might be renowned for more time-wasting pursuits. Kennett is clear on the drawbacks of these methods, particularly drawing attention to privacy issues, but she firmly believes these matters are outweighed by the positive contribution social networking can make and she stresses the many forms of research collaboration now possible through the internet.

This is a handsomely presented book – clear in both presentation and style and it is certainly up to date. Recommended for anyone with an interest in either topic.

Sarah Bilton

***Anu: The Raj Years* (Emp3books, 2009), 178pp, by Shabnam Vasisht; *Anu: The Nomad Years* (Emp3books, 2010), 310pp. Available from Amazon.co.uk - Raj: £7.95; Nomad; £12.95, also as Kindle editions.**

My 3x great granduncle, an army Captain, was killed in the siege of Beejagur in 1781. Later my 3x great grandfather, who was the youngest son of Arthur Guinness the brewer, was in the army in India and my great grandfather was an army surgeon there. So, I have always been interested in army life in India. My grandmother was born in Burma and three of her four sisters were born in India; their brother died as a child in Ahmednagar as did their mother. Later, one of her sisters died in Benares.

With so many Indian connections, I had to visit the country. Early in 2011 my wife, Mary Ena, and I joined a cruise that started in Chennai and brought us to Mumbai after stopping in various ports on the way around the southern tip of India. Before we left we were delighted to find the *Anu* books as they changed our perspective completely. Instead of seeing India from the outside in, we saw it against the background of these books about life in India. We heartily recommend them to anyone with an interest in India either historically or contemplating a holiday there.

The books relate the life story of a woman born in India during the Raj. Her name was Anu and both books have been written by her daughter Shabnam Vasisht. Anu's parents were married in Christ Church, Calcutta in 1917. The first book, *Anu – The Raj years*, sees her born in 1920, so tiny a baby that she was named Anurani – Little Queen. Against a background of Anu's family life until her marriage, we learn a great deal about India – its geography, many varied foods, social structure of the country, its religious tensions, its transport and lack of, the wallahs and just about everything else in everyday life. The fact that India was under British rule at the time makes the context particularly interesting to someone with ancestors who lived or served in India during the Raj. Anu attended the prestigious Allahabad University when most students were caught up in the independence struggle. This charming first book is illustrated with family photos.

The second book, *Anu – The nomad years*, tells about her life after marriage. Anu fell in love with Ramesh Vasisht, a Hindu captain in the army. Their marriage preparations in 1948 were interrupted by the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. In contrast to her settled upbringing Anu now had to face an army life, travelling the length and breadth of India. From Delhi, they were posted to other army locations including Ahmednagar (of particular interest to me), Kirkee (now Khadaki), Udhampur, Patna (Bihar) and Poona (now Pune). The author describes each location as well as an extended holiday in Srinagar (Kashmir) and regular visits to Anu's hometown of Allahabad. This book again gives further fascinating insights into life in India.

Anu bore three children but, unfortunately, her husband's drinking and their different religions created tension and the book ends as the marriage breaks up. A third book is in preparation and a fourth is planned, all recounting the life of this amazing woman.

David Pyle

***Graves in British India* (FIBIS Fact File 6), Richard Morgan (FIBIS, 2011), 24pp.
Available from shop.fibis.org, members price £1.50 +p&p.**

In the latest addition to the FIBIS roster of publications, former FIBIS trustee Richard Morgan provides an expert run-down of sources for researching the graves of ancestors. Taking in printed, online and archival collections, Part I lists sources for Indian memorial inscriptions, noting their strengths and weaknesses and indicating the locations or cemeteries covered by each. The genealogical information to be gleaned from MIs can be invaluable, as too is the additional information often provided by the compilers of some of the print and archive sources listed here. Morgan enlivens the Fact File with many examples of these.

Part II advises on looking for an extant grave in India. First, space is given to the job of pinpointing cemeteries and plots and assessing the likelihood of a stone still existing. Then Morgan deals with visiting graves in India, including practical considerations and tips on recording information by transcription and photograph.

A highly useful addition to the bookshelf of all British India family researchers.

Sarah Bilton