

THE WIVES OF THE LEEs of QUETHIOCK & THEIR ANCESTRY

*Let us now make a helpmate for this man,
A creature like himself, Then he made Eve.
It is evident from this, proof positive,
That woman is for man`s help and delight,
His comfort and his earthly paradise,
How can they but live in unity?
One flesh they are; and one flesh, so I`d guess,
Has but one heart, come grief or happiness.
So if you are man not a mouse
Thank God for sending you a wife;*

Geoffrey Chaucer - Canterbury Tales 1386

The ancestors of the wives of the ancestral Lee`s of Quethiock, that I have identified, bore 73 different family names. Of these families, 53 came from the corner of southeast Cornwall that lies within 20 miles of Plymouth; 13 came from elsewhere in Cornwall and 7 from outside the county. All those from outside the county are the ancestors of my mother, Florence Maud Clarke. All of those of my father were from Cornwall

But in addition to the above 73 names we know another 23 probable ones. These are the family names of the ancestors of Jane Coode, who married William Lee (1535?-1607) and had a daughter Jane. This Jane I believe, but cannot prove conclusively, is the Jane Lee who is recorded in the Parish Records of Quethiock Church as marrying in 1581 my 8th greatgrandfather John, the nephew of William Lee. If so, then the ancestors of Jane Coode are mine too. The Coades were armigerous gentry and so their family trees were recorded by the Heralds during their Visitations to Cornwall in 1530, 1573 & 1620 and are listed by J.L. Vivien in his publication of 1887, `Heraldic Visitations of Cornwall`, of which I was able to purchase an original copy from the Antique Booksellers in Bristol. Vivien showed a total of 23 different family names in the Coode trees for the period 1591-1100, all of whom came principally from Cornwall, with a few from the adjoining county of Devon.

Overall over 90% of the families of the wives of my ancestral Lees are Cornish. Throughout the ages the Lees were Gentlemen or Yeomen Farmers until the agricultural depression of the first half of the 19th century drove them from the land and into the nearby town of Devonport. So not surprising therefore their wives were, until the 20th century, daughters of blacksmiths, farmers, fishermen and millers; in the 20th century they were daughters of naval sailors, sailmakers, shipwrights, chefs, harp makers, innkeepers and brewery workers.

I will record herein all that I have discovered about these ancestors, commencing with those of my grandmother, Louisa Deacon (1856-1935), the wife of my grandfather William Henry Lee; and then those of my greatgrandmother, Mary Bennet Ruse (1819-1865), the wife of William`s father, John Lee, and so on back through the generations. Following these I shall describe the ancestors of my mother, Florence Maud Clarke (1894-1987), and then those of my wife, Brenda Adlard (b1934).

Part I



DEACON - Louisa Lee neè Deacon (1856-1935), my grandmother, the last of our direct ancestors to be born in Cornwall. She was born on 3rd February 1856 in the Lodge of Stoketon House. The Lodge is still intact probably looking just as it did in 1856, a small house at the gate to the large country estate and driveway of Stoketon House. It is in a, still, sparsely populated rural area just some 20 yards off the main Saltash to Liskeard road down the lane towards Trehan, where in 1856 our Lee family lived . Louisa was the 4th child of 11 to George Deacon and Elizabeth Batten. Her father was a farmer who first farmed at Stoketon Farm and then by 1871 took over Trematon Castle Farm from his father. The soil in the area is very fertile and well drained so, as was customary in the area, he kept a dairy herd for milking and grew market gardening crops. So Louisa`s childhood would have been spent playing in the pleasant open pasture fields where the cows grazed and in the farmyards alive with hens and farm animals and other birds. Before she was 15, like most in her times, she went out to service, in her case to Catherine Pearce, the wife of the local Miller at Forder. Catherine was a Lee, the elder sister of my greatgrandfather, John Lee. It was only 2¼ miles (3.6Km) between Stoketon Lodge and the mill at Forder, and between lay Trehan, where the Lees lived, and Castle Farm, which her grandfather farmed: Louisa`s world at that time was small. Forder mill lies astride a stream in the narrow steep-sided valley below Trematon Castle and its Farm. It is very picturesque and was sketched several times in the early 19th century by T.Alom, and prints of etchings of them were included in a book "Views of Cornwall"; copies of them I obtained from the Antique Book Auctions held in Swindon.

Meanwhile William Henry Lee was recorded in the Census of 1871 as being 17years old and employed as an Agricultural Labourer by John Smith at a farm close-by Stoketon Farm, consequently Louisa and William must have seen a lot of each other. Inevitably they married on 14th January 1877, at Stoke Damerel Church, Devonport. I do not know why they did not marry at the local parish church of StStephens Church, Saltash other than by that time William had joined the Royal Navy and may not have been permitted to leave Devonport; shortly after the marriage he went on an overseas assignment for 2 years.

That set the pattern of their married life together; William was in the navy for 20 years during which he was at home only for a total of 5 years 4 months; he was abroad for nearly 15 years, at one time he was away in the Pacific for a continuous period of 4 years 1 month. But nearly every time whilst he was at home he fathered another child; in all 3 girls and 4 boys. But Louisa was resilient and set up home in Princess Street, Devonport. A street of large fashionable

4-storied Georgian Town Houses. It was close to the main shopping and entertainment area of Devonport, The Hippodrome Theatre was just across the street and Louisa provided lodgings for theatrical actors and actresses, these included such famous names of the pre-Great War 1914-1918 period as Dan Lupino, Little Titch, Marie Lloyd. The house had a back yard where Louisa kept chickens and each of her children was expected to help keep the run clean. This does not seem to have harmed them since the girls became tall haughty ladies who shop assistants found arrogant: Frank Lee's sister-in-law, Winnie Ward nee Clarke (1903-2000), who was a counter assistant in a haberdashery described them as being hypercritical and bought little.

William Henry died in 1918 but Louisa continued to live in Princess Street until her death in 1935; her youngest son, Reg, lived in the basement of the house with his wife, Mabel, and presumably helped her. I only recall seeing her once, presumably shortly before her death when I was 7 years old, she was a large lady reclining on a chaise-longue and wearing a fashionable full skirt down to her ankles. She was surrounded by her family and my father introduced me; 'Mother, this is my youngest'.

Of her children:

Maud (1879-1963?), her eldest, married Albert Goldsworthy, a clerk in the Plymouth Council Office. They had two daughters of which the youngest, Hester died whilst young. The other, Margery married Richard Emerson, a Civil Engineer, in Birmingham in 1927. They had one daughter, Ann, who was born in 1931 and became a Milliner's Model; she married Patrick Chewter in 1956. In June 1949 when I needed a few days overnight accommodation near London, whilst I took the practical of a B.Sc Physics degree examination at London University, in South Kensington; Aunt Flo Balfour arranged that I stayed with them at their home in Carshalton, Surrey, and there I met Maud, Margery and Ann.

Henry born 1882, her eldest son was drowned when still a youth, probably about 1897. I was told by my father he was out in a small boat with his younger brother Alonzo who was a bit of a daredevil and was messing around in the boat, as a result of which Henry fell over board and drowned.

William Alonzo (1885-1945?), known as Lonz, trained as a Boilermaker in the Devonport Naval Dockyard, one of the lower trades there. But in keeping with his character above he became an official in the Dockyard Trade Union, presumably shortly after it was permitted to be formed in the 1920s. He married Ethel Darton of Devonport and they had two daughters Phyllis & Joan who both married and had children and grandchildren, but of course none bear the name of Lee. Audrey, my sister use to talk about Stan Essery, the husband of Joan, who she obviously knew well but otherwise I know nothing of them. I recall meeting Alonzo and family once, that was about 1936 in their home, a bungalow, in Beacon Park, Plymouth.

Lillian Ellen (1889-1970?) lived all her life in Plymouth. She married Les Trenwith, a naval Shipwright who retired as a Lieutenant Commander. They lived in Peverell, Plymouth, and had one son, Anthony als Tony who graduated in Chemistry at Imperial College, London and became a lecturer at Kings College, Newcastle, part of Durham University. He retired to Fowey in Cornwall. He had two children, Richard b1960? and Wendy 1964? neither of whom had married when I last contacted him in 1991. Wendy was a primary school teacher. Richard, I understood from Aunt Flo suffered severely from dyslexia. In 1991 both of them were with him at Fowey, but by 2001 no record of Ann Trenwith exists; did she marry?

Florence (1897-1975) known as Flo lived all her life in the Plymouth area. She married Albert Balfour but had no children. He died about 1935 when Flo was 40-ish. Shortly afterwards my mother had to go into hospital to have a hysterectomy operation so Flo came and looked after our young family. During WWII she became a Companion-Housekeeper to a slightly older unmarried lady and her elderly father. She first lived with them in a bungalow in Dousland on the southern edge of Dartmoor just outside Plymouth. In the late 1940s when I was a University student I use to go walking on Dartmoor with 2 or 3 other students. We use to catch a bus to Dousland and walk past Flo's house en route to the moors. I use to drop in and see her. She was the only one of my father's siblings that I knew well.

Reginald (1903-1977) known as Reg. He trained as a shipwright in the naval dockyard as did my father and brother Godfrey. His first marriage was not approved of by the family and ended in a divorce. He worked in Hong Kong for a time, then remarried and lived in South Wales where he

died in 1977.

Of Louisa's 10 siblings I met only one, Ned (Edward) Deacon. In 1939 he was a farmer at Cowdry Farm, Cross Park, Saltash. In 1941 during World War II, to escape from the continual nightly air bombing of our home in Plymouth, Audrey and I went to stay with Ned for a weekend. Unfortunately during the Sunday night German Bombers attacked the centre of Saltash and destroyed the Chapel that we had attended in the morning; Audrey returned to work in the Devonport Naval Barracks on the Monday and I decided Saltash was no safer than Plymouth so packed up and went home only to find a bomb had been dropped in the garden of our house, fortunately the soil was very soft and the bomb had failed to explode. Ned's daughter, Myrtle Deacon later married one of Ned's farm labourers called Prouse and continued to live and work the farm. They had no children.

Louisa's father, **George Deacon (1828-1891)** was born at Trematon, just outside Saltash. In the Census Returns for 1851 to 1871 George is recorded as a Farm Labourer at Stoketon Farm. In that of 1881 he is recorded as farming Trematon Castle Farm, where previously his father, John Deacon, was recorded as an Agricultural Labourer in the Census Returns for 1841 & 1851. In the early 19th century T. Alom printed a book 'Views of Cornwall' in which there were many etched drawings that he had made of scenes of Cornwall. I acquired original copies of many of these at Dominic Winters Book Auctions of which two were of Trematon Castle and showed people who are quite likely members of my family. One is of a farmer driving his horse and cart up the hill from Forder in front of the Castle and just before reaching the gate to Trematon Castle Farm; John Deacon farmed there and it would seem highly likely that it was him in the cart. A second shows a lady with children outside the mill at Forder, directly below Trematon Castle. This is possibly the miller's wife, great-aunt Catherine Pearce nee Lee, whose daughter Mary Ann, one of the children in the painting, later married William Deacon, the Smith of Longlands. In Cornwall it is a small world and everybody are cousins.

Prior to John the Deacons had been mainly Blacksmiths. Louisa's great-grandfather, Walter Deacon (1755-1824) had a forge at Wayton als Wheatland Green, near Landulph. His forbearers had been blacksmiths too, at Stoke Climsland, a few miles further north up the Tamar Valley. Whilst his brother Mathias Deacon (b1753) and his descendants were blacksmiths at Longlands, which is about a mile west of Stoketon and Trehan. There the Smithy, together with a small row of terraced cottages, is at a cross of two narrow lanes with very high hedges. I visited the Smithy in 1990 and found the house was being modernised but the adjoining Forge had been left just as the last Deacon blacksmith must have left it when he walked out in 1920? or earlier; the tools still hung on the grey granite stone walls, the fireplace was still in the centre and the two-part outer door still opened as if to let the horses put their heads outside whilst the blacksmith shod them. Unfortunately the Forge had just been sold out of the Deacon family but the new owners intended to keep the museum nature of the Forge.

The earliest Deacon ancestor that we have found is Sampson. He married Johan, who is recorded as being buried at Stoke Climsland Churchyard in 1651; This suggests Sampson's probable birth year as around 1600. Interestingly we have only found Deacons dwelling just on the Cornish bank of the River Tamar valley but consideration of their given christian names suggests that their ancestors come from elsewhere. Before the 20th century children mostly married and set up home within 10 miles of their parents. Their horizons were very close and as a result they named their children after relations and hence in any one area only a small number of Christian names were used, in southeast Cornwall these were the 6 names- John, Richard, Henry, William, Thomas and Nicholas. Our Lee line and all its female lines, except the Deacons, used these 6 until they moved out of Cornwall. The Deacons childrens names are from a small number too, but a completely different group, it included Sampson, Walter and Mathias. So why were the Deacons different? It suggests that though they lived in Cornwall they did not hold any allegiance to it and were 'Foreigners', possibly from Devon.

Archive Records :- The records still exists of Sampson Deacon (1675-1740?) signing on 13th April 1706 a Bond (*Encl*) and a 21 year Lease (*Encl*) for The Lodge of Kerrybullock Park in South Climsland, for an annual fee of 20 shillings (In 1999 salary terms approx £700). *Stoke Climsland - Carry Bullock Park : Lodge House etc.*

21 year part lease between (i) sir Wm Coryton Bt and (ii) Sampson Deacon, Stoke Climsland, blacksmith. Lodge House with orchard and gardens and three little plots adjoining (3a) with

pasture of Saunton Wood lying within Cooper Gate and leading down to Sandway thence to backside or town place of Lodge House. 13 April 1706

The Lodge was in ruins by 1752 but in 1992 the foundations and some parts of the walls were still discernible to the west of the present Deer Lodge. A book was written on The Park which includes photographs of this (*Encl*).

Two other records of a Sampson Deacon have survived, a Will and an Inventory of his property, both dated 1694. This Sampson is probably the son of the one referred to in the above Lease, though it could be the same one, in which case his probable lifespan would be 1620?-1694.

BATTEN - Louisa's mother was **Elizabeth Deacon neè Batten (1832-1903)**. She was one of 6 children (5 girls, 2 sons) of Robert Batten and Elizabeth Dann of Liskeard. She married George Deacon at Stoke Dameral Church, Devonport, on Christmas Day, 25 December 1849. It is interesting to speculate why they married in Devonport since they had no obvious connection with Devonport, possibly Elizabeth was in service there.

Her parents, **Robert Batten and Elizabeth Dann** are shown in the returns of the 1841 Census living with their children, including Elizabeth, at Gilland Cottage, about a half mile southwest of Liskeard. He is recorded as an Agricultural Labourer born between 1802/6 at Liskeard and she is recorded as born 1803 at Talland. There is no other record of them until his death at Lake, a cottage a mile south of Liskeard, on 14th March 1860 and his burial on 17th at close-by Lower Clicker. Elizabeth continued to live at Lake with her two youngest sons, William who was an Ag Lab and Robert who was a lead miner at a local mine. I visited Lake in 1990; it is a quarter of a mile down a very narrow lane from the hamlet of Trewidland. The lane is flanked on either side by tall thick hedges and the wing mirrors of my car nearly touched both at once. Lake was an idyllic country sight; an isolated house set in rolling lush green scenery of trees and small fields that were bordered by tall green hedges. The soil was obviously very fertile deep brown loam and Lake had been a smallholding of market gardening. The quiet and beauty of its setting was overwhelming.

I was unable to trace the ancestry of Robert Batten with certainty; Batten is not a common name in Cornwall but there are a few around Liskeard. Ken Batten of Aberdeen who researched Battens worldwide thought that the most likely parents for Robert were Richard and Elizabeth.^(A copy of his work he deposited in Cornwall Family History Society's Library in Truro) Richard was baptised at Liskeard on 6th January 1773 and married Elizabeth Peake at Talland on 15th September 1802. The registration of Robert's death in 1860 was by a Richard Batten of Menheniot village who could have been a 1st cousin.

DANN - Elizabeth Deacon nee Batten's mother was **Elizabeth Batten neè Dann (1803-1870)**. She was the second child of five (4 daughters, 1 son) of James Dann of Looe and Mary Swathran of Talland, a fishing village just west of Looe. She was baptised at Talland on 19th February 1804. Her father, **James Dann** is recorded on his death certificate as having been a Seaman- Merchant Service. He was born in East Looe in 1778/9 and died there on 27th April 1861 of natural decay, aged 83. His ancestry is contained solely in the Looe area. The ancestry of Elizabeth's mother, Mary Swathran was mainly from the Talland area. These ancestors that I have found are listed on the Lee Wives tree (*Encl*) but I have no individual background knowledge of any of them. I made a historical statistical study of the baptisms of Danns throughout England and clearly saw that in the 16th century the Danns lived in a small area on the south shore of the Wash, then migrated in two definite directions; one due west through Leicestershire and the second due south along the coast to Kent and then onwards eventually a small number arrived at Looe but, no further. In Medieval times the area around the Wash was the Danelaw area so it would appear that the name was used to identify those descended from the Danish invaders/immigrants. e.g. James the Dane.

Part 2

My Mother was **Florence Maud Clarke (1894-1987)** the wife of Frank Leonard Lee, she was born at 10 Gloucester Street, Morice Town, Devonport on Good Friday 23rd March 1894 and died at noon on Wednesday 26th. August 1987 aged 93.

She was fair haired, blue-eyed, short 5ft 2", and plump from middle-age. She had a pleasant smile and manner, was always calmly alert and able to cope with all the events in her life, success and hardships, she was aware of others around her to whom she never showed anger or bitterness but always kindness and consideration. She was a virtuous wife and loving mother; a lady of great goodness. Before marriage she never had any employment outside her parents home where she helped her mother look after the large family. She was a petite vivacious blonde and so impressed a theatrical agent that met her that he offered to train her as a stage dancer, but she declined; she was a very domesticated lady who enjoyed family and her pastime was knitting complicated pullovers for them.

She enjoyed her long life, maintaining reasonable good health until close to her end. From her widowhood in 1965 until 1986 she lived alone in a flat and was able to cope, it was only in the last few years she had a Home-Help. She was married twice. Her first husband was Joseph Smerdon, whom she married during the First World War, on Boxing Day 1916 at St James Church, Morice Town, Devonport . She was 22 years old and gave her address as 8 Warren Street; Joseph was 28 years old, a Wireman in the Royal Naval Dockyard and the son of a Devonport Painter and Decorator, he gave his address as 36 Gloucester Street, which was the home of Flo's parents, it would seem that the Vicar had interchanged their addresses on the Marriage Certificate. During WW1 Smerdon was posted from Devonport to the naval dockyard at Rosyth. He and Flo lived in Edinburgh where they had a daughter, Audrey Florence Maud on Sunday 6th January 1918. He died in 1921, 6 weeks after an object had fallen on his skull at work.

Flo returned to Devonport where she remet Frank Leonard Lee who became her second husband. He was a Shipwright in the Royal Naval Dockyard and lived with his parents in Princess Street, Devonport. They had known each other for many years but lost touch during WWI when he was posted to Barrow-in-Furness. In 1916, when he was home on holiday, they met again as she was coming out of a Fish-and-Chip shop. He was dismayed to find that she was due to marry Joseph Smerdon. He asked her to break it off and marry him. She explained that she had thought he had forgotten her since she had not heard from him during all the time he was away and that the Banns for her marriage to Joseph had already been read and she could not now break her promise to him. Frank replied that if he could not have her the first time he would have her the second time. A prophecy that came true; after her first husband was killed in 1921 at Rosyth, she returned to Devonport and Flo and Frank were married on 22nd November 1922 at Devonport Registry Office. She was a widow of 28 and he a bachelor of 30. Her mother with whom she was living at the time objected to Frank and tried to prevent him seeing her but she was wrong because the marriage was a happy one that lasted for 43 years.

She gave birth to three boys, all in 36 Gloucester Street, Morice Town, Devonport; Godfrey Leslie on 26th February 1923, David Henry on 26th October 1926 and Maurice Leonard on Tuesday 14th August 1928. The last, me, was a mistake, she thought that she could not become pregnant whilst still breast feeding her previous child. Mother told me of this only shortly before she died and then with a smile on her face. It describes their affectionate natures well that I never knew this, though since it was the period of world-wide economic depression during which Frank was unemployed for about 9 months another mouth to feed could not have been very welcomed. But with their placid natures, strong affections for all their children and for each other, they survived the inevitable shortages that must have ensued.

In 1929 they moved to the outskirts of Devonport and rented a newly-built 3-bed roomed semi-detached council house close to open country; 60 Grassendale Avenue, Swilly, Devonport - now called North Prospect, and lived there until 1954 by which time all their children had married and left home, they moved to a council flat in nearby Ford. Flo lived there until she was 92 and then had to move to an Old Persons Home in Stoke, where she lived for nearly a year and died at 93. Frank died of cancer of the Prostrate in 1965 at the age of 73.

Frank spent all his working life as a shipwright working in the naval dockyard at Devonport except for the period of WWI when he was at Barrow-in-Furness. He never rose above the basic tradesman. He left home six mornings a week at 6.30am in order to be at his work station

by 7 o'clock. He had an hour for lunch and walked home for it. He finished work at 5pm on Monday to Friday and 12.30pm on Saturdays. Excluding Lunch Breaks it was a long 50½ hour working week compared to a 1999 week (9 till 5) of 35 hours, but not unusual in those days. His wage in 1940 was 63 shillings per week before any deduction or overtime.

Flo was the second child of 7 and the eldest daughter of **John Thomas Clarke** and **Lavinia Florence n e Prouse**. She died at noon on 26 August 1987, aged 93, in a side ward of Plymouth City Hospital just as her eldest and youngest children entered the room. She was 93 years old and had Cancer of the Pancreas. She had been ill for only a few weeks and up to a year previous had been quite capable of looking after herself. As Audrey and I were climbing the long steep flight of stone stairs to the entrance of the hospital Audrey recalls that I looked up to the entrance at the top where I thought I saw momentarily a lady in a white nightgown who was Mother and I said `Its alright Audrey, there`s Mum up there waiting for us`. Unknown to us overnight she had been moved to a room at the top of those very stairs and had died at that instance. Audrey and I sat beside her bed and watched her body move as it settled. Another generation ended.

Flo`s Paternal Ancestry :-

Her father, **John Thomas Clarke (1873-1945)**, was born on 11th November 1873 at 15 Pym Street, Morice Town, Devonport. He married Lavinia Prouse at Devonport Registry Office on 13th June 1892. John Thomas Clarke, or as he preferred Thomas John, known as Jack, was a small man in everyway, in stature and achievement, whether this led to his affliction to alcohol or the reverse I do not know but it assured that he remained a simple Labourer, or Iron Driller, in the Devonport Naval Dockyard the whole of his life.

He and Lavinia had three daughters, Florence Maud(1892-1987), Annie Amelia(1896-1941), and Winifred Irene (1903-2000); and four sons, John Walter(1892-1918), Thomas Henry(1899-1900), Leslie Nicholas(1905-1966) and George Frederick(1906-1979). Surprisingly they had intelligence and ability. The eldest son John, commenced as a Clerk in the Devonport Dockyard but so impressed that he was sent to the Admiralty in London, the youngest unqualified person ever to have been transferred. Unfortunately he volunteered for military service and as result of a gas attack died of pneumonia on 30 October 1918, just 12 days before the war ended on 11th November 1918, aged 26. His parents received the dreaded telegram, informing of a soldiers death, the very day after receiving a letter from him in which he wrote that he would soon be home on leave. He is buried in the British Military Cemetery behind the French civilian cemetery in Amiens; we visited his grave in 1967 and gave a photograph of it to Flo; there are some 300 or so graves in about 10 straight rows, each marked by a simple grey slab with the soldiers name; his is in the centre of the furthest right row. His Army records were destroyed in the Air bombing of London during WWII but The Commonwealth War Grave Commission hold the following data on him: Signaller J.W.Clarke No:109443 Royal Field Artillery, Unit C Bty 210th Bde. Grave No: IV.K.11.

Their second son, Leslie rose to become an Inspector in the Naval Dockyard on Tyneside and had a son who graduated as an entomologist. Their youngest son Fred`s forte was football at which he was good enough for Arsenal to send a Scout to see him play at Looe in 1930 but he lacked ambition and refused to move from Looe. The remaining son, Thomas Henry died when 10months old, Audrey says of bowel trouble. Of their two daughters, Annie married Bill Organ, who during their marriage refused to work and they lived in poverty and misery. She bore 5 live children, 3 daughters and 2 boys, and at 47years in attempting to self abort the next she gave herself septicemia and died. The other daughter, Winifred ,known as Winnie, married Reg Ward, a shipwright in the RN. He served his full 22 years in the RN even though he lost an eye in an accident offshore Iceland. After he retired he obtained a job in the naval dockyard in Chatham and he and the family moved to live there. They had 1 daughter, Hilary, and two sons, Maurice and Peter. Reg died in mid-1950s and in 1971? Winnie moved to Newcastle where Hilary lives with her husband, Wal Tanner, and family. Winnie died there in October 2000 in a Nursing Home. Hilary has a son and a daughter who has children. Peter Ward became a Customs Officer, he worked for a time in Heathrow and later at the RN Supply Depot near Bath in Wiltshire, he and his wife Mary have had 3 daughters. Maurice did not marry and one day they came home to find that he had hung himself in their house.

In summer 1945 John Thomas collapsed in the street whilst shopping in St Budeaux Plymouth and died of a heart attack, he had that morning been washing a heavy blanket by hand, he was 72. He was the son of another John Clark and Elizabeth Ann Medlen. His father was an Ordinary Seaman in Royal Navy who died in Cork, Southern Ireland, just 3 years after his marriage and when John Thomas was only 2 years old.

John Clarke (1846-1875), John Thomas's father was a Stoker in the Royal Navy, who was born in London, the son of a Harp Maker called John Clarke too. His naval service records are in the archives at Kew PRO. They give his date of birth as 1st June 1846 London Middlesex and his death on 2nd December 1875 at Haulbowline Hospital, Queenstown, Southern Ireland whilst serving on HMS Revenge. He was 5ft 4" tall of sallow complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes. He joined the RN as an Ordinary Seaman on 25 Jan 1871 HMS Duke of Wellington. He must have met Elizabeth Ann Medlen during the next 2 years and they married at St James Church, Morice Town, Devonport on 8th Jan 1873. John gave his fathers name as John Clarke, a Harp-Maker. Thirty-five months after the wedding he was dead and since 22 months of that he was on board naval ships it is unlikely his wife or her family knew much about his family. In consequence there are no recollections of his family within the present-day family. However he passed on to his descendants some very distinctive characteristics and these allow his origins to be determined. His only child was John Thomas Clarke whose grand-daughter, Audrey, my sister, said that he had a peculiar walk and that his daughter, our mother, used to tell her eldest son, Godfrey Lee, that he walked like him; Godfrey resembled John Thomas and Flo in looks, being fair haired, blue-eyed and short in stature. The walk I identify as the `Lambeth Walk` or Swagger, which is a distinctive way those from East London walk; this together with character traits typical of Cockneys that both Godfrey and Audrey possessed, of being stubborn, self-willed and slightly evasive in response, confirms that John Clarke was a East End London Cockney. Unfortunately his birth was not registered. But from the records of the Census for 1851 it can be deduced that the only John Clarke born in 1846 in the East End of London of a father named John was the son of **John & Martha Clark**. It is recorded that the son, John was born in 1846 in Bishopgate, that the family lived at 2 Thomas Place, North Street, Bethnal Green, which was just north of Whitechapel Road, opposite The London Hospital, that John the father was a Turner, and that he was born 1821 and Martha 1822, both in Whitechapel. (St Marys Whitechapel is the closest church to North Street). The trade directories do not list a John Clarke amongst the Harp Makers of mid-19th century. As a Turner John could quite possibly have made frames for Harps and would account why his son recorded on his marriage certificate that his father was a Harp Maker.

So Flo's father was the third successive generation of the Clarke family to be named John and keeping up the tradition he named his eldest son John too. It is also notable that his second name was Thomas, which is the very name of the street in London in which his grandparents, John and Martha, lived and in which his father John lived as a boy. To trace John & Martha's origins will require a search of the original records of the churches in the Whitechapel area, this I have not attempted. Nevertheless their genes lived on in Godfrey with his walk and in Audrey, who in the last years of her life, when in her 70's and a lonely widow, showed increasingly characteristics that are common among those with ancestors from East London. Audrey resembled her mother Flo in being fair-haired, blue-eyed, short and rotund in stature; this is typical of East Londoners. This description also fits John Thomas except that he was not rotund and had bushy side-whiskers. I would expect that the description would also fit John & Martha.

The people from the East End of London, or Cockneys as they are known, and even their descendants who migrated from London 50 to 100 years ago and have long since lost any memory of their ancestors, are so similar in both build and character and yet so distinctive and different from others in England. In the 1950s a large number of these Cockneys were rehoused in Swindon from London and the local Wiltshire people described them as more like foreigners. They saw them more like the Polish refugees, who had been allowed to settle in the area during and after WWII, than themselves. Interestingly we have seen pictures of a lady from Latvia who looked just like my sister Audrey. I would believe these East Enders or Cockneys emigrated from East Europe, probably from somewhere around the Baltic coast in 17/18th century, and were probably of Jewish origin since they also share many unpleasant character traits with Jews from

that area too.

Elizabeth Ann Medlen (1849-1907?), Flo's grandmother, married John Clarke in 1873. The picture comes through that she was very motherly caring person; she only had the one child but in widowhood she looked after her sisters children too and, Audrey told me, that our grandmother Lavinia could not have coped with her 6 children without Elizabeth's help, who among other things made all the children's clothes; she is described in the Census returns as a Dressmaker. She was born on 16 August 1849 at 16 John's Street, Morice Town, the eldest daughter of Nicholas Medlen and Ann nee Buckler. Other children they had were Nicholas (1847-?) a painter, Emma Jane (1851-?), Thomas (1853-1879) a baker & Rebecca (1856-?). Elizabeth's father was **Nicholas Medlen (1815-1885)** who was born in Sithney, near Helston Cornwall and his line can be traced in that part of Cornwall. He descended from Medlens of Sithney, on the Lizard in West Cornwall, who were Millers (*the name Medlin comes from Mellin, the Cornish word for miller*). The death certificate of his father **Edmund Medlen** records him as a Miller at New Mill, Truro. The earliest Medlen that I have traced is Nicholas's grandfather, another **Edmund Medlen (1740-1774)** who was born, married and buried in Sithney. His wife was **Elizabeth Trezona (1752-1780?+)** who was born in Camborne of a line of Trezonas that I trace back to **Henry Trezona** alive in 1688 at Probus.

Elizabeth Ann Medlen's mother was **Ann Buckler (1819-1885)** who was born in Saltash, Cornwall the youngest daughter of 10 children to John Buckler and Mary Wills. **John Buckler (1776-1845)** is described in the Trade Directories of 1823 & 1830 as the publican of the New Inn in Fore Street, Saltash. Flo's grandfather Nicholas Medlen was a Brewer's labourer so it is possible he worked for John Buckler and married the Boss's daughter. The New Inn still exists but has been renamed several times; successively as The Commercial Inn, Commercial Hotel and now The Brunel Inn. John died on 29 March 1845 of severe bronchitis in The Quay House Saltash; that house is now the Wheatsheaf Hotel and lies directly below Brunel's famous bridge that I used to visit frequently as a child. As to his ancestry; a **John Buckler married Mary Paddon on 11th June 1730** at St Stephens with Saltash Church, the witnesses were John Buckler and John Paddon; these were probably their fathers and probably the grandparents of our John Buckler and my 4 great grandfathers. John Buckler jnr. married **Mary Wills (b1776-d pre-1841)** who was born on 14 January 1776 at Paul just outside Newlyn, west Cornwall. She was the daughter of **Thomas and Frances Wills.**

Flo's Maternal Ancestry:-

Her mother, **Lavinia Florence Prouse (1874-1941)**, was born on 31st August 1874 in East Street, Bovey Tracey, South Devon. She was the daughter of **Louisa Emily Bate Bentley** of Devonport. Her father is recorded on her birth certificate as James Bellman Prouse, the husband of Louisa, but at that time he was a shipwright in the Royal Navy and was overseas on HMS Narcissus, the Flagship of the Mediterranean Fleet, which is recorded as being away from its home port of Devonport for nearly 2 years (9 October 1872 until 24 July 1874); so he must have been surprised when 5 weeks after returning home his wife give birth to Lavinia. The log of The Narcissus records the ship as sailing along the coast of Majorca nine months previous and on its return sighting Plymouth Breakwater on the evening of 24 July 1874. His marriage to Louisa broke up; Lavinia left her mother's home when still quite young and married John Clarke when she was still only 18 years old. She told her children that she had walked out because her mother had died and she could not bear her step-mother. Her children never knew that their grandmother lived only a mile from them in Devonport and did not die until 1913, by which time Flo was 19 years old. James Prouse himself went to live with his elder daughter in Gateshead and died there in 1893. There are no indications whatsoever as to whom Lavinia's natural father was.

Audrey described Lavinia as short with jet black hair tied in a bun at the back and flighty in character. All her married life she lived in rented terraced cottages in Gloucester St & Pym St, Morris Town, Devonport. In the spring of 1941, during WWII, Plymouth and Devonport were nightly bombed by German planes and two successive houses in which Lavinia and her husband were living were devastated around them. They left and went to Looe in Cornwall to live with their son, Fred and his in-laws, Albert Pengelly at Ronsay, Market Place, East Looe. I visited them with my mother, their daughter, about a few weeks later, before I was evacuated to Penzance

in May/June 1941. Lavinia was distraught and very upset. I realise now, that as a result of the noise of the bombs exploding close to her she had continuous Tinnitus and was a complete nervous wreck; she was suffering from shell shock, a condition common in WWI, but nobody in Looe understood this, and she was bewildered why everybody thought that she was insane. She was moved to a Nursing Home, Lamellion House in Liskeard, and died there on 24 September 1941 of a stroke.

Flo's grandmother was **Louisa Emily Bate Bentley (1840-1913)** who married James (Bellman als Henry) Prouse on 27 February 1859 at Devonport Registry Office. They had 6 children of whom Lavinia was the youngest. After the birth of Lavinia she separated from her husband, James Prouse (1837-1893) and died of a heart attack on 12 December 1913 at 102 Pembroke Street. Her husband was a Naval Shipwright who for the first 17 years 8 months of his service was away from Devonport 12 years 9 months i.e. Louisa did not see him for about 3/4ths of the time. His father, also James Prouse, was baptized in Penzance in 1799 by his father Henry Prouse, whose ancestry I cannot trace with certainty in Cornwall but data from Mary Prowse of Uley, Glos. (1999) suggests that he was baptized as Charles not Henry and that he was the son of Charles Prowse, Sawyer of StBuryan, west of Penzance. Their ancestry Mary has chased back to Benego Prouse who is recorded in the

Protestation against Popery Returns of 1641 at StBuryan.

Louisa's parents were **Thomas Bentley (1801-1865)** and **Mary Holland (1803-1856)**, who married in 1825 at StGeorges Stonehouse, Plymouth, and lived in Prospect Row, Devonport, close to Mutton Cove on the lower estuary of the River Tamar. The Census of 1851 shows that Thomas was born in East Stonehouse in 1801; I searched the PRs in Plymouth Record Office but failed to find any record of his baptism. However I did find a Thomas Bentley marrying Ann Griffith at StGeorges Stonehouse on 2 Nov 1799 and baptising a Robert in 1806 and a John in 1807 there. It seems highly unlikely that Robert was their first child, born 7 years after their marriage so I would guess that Thomas was their first child but he was not baptised or the vicar's clerk failed to record it, this happened very frequently. Similarly I have not found any record of Thomas, the father, himself been baptised in Stonehouse, at about 1770/75. Just a thought, what was he doing in Stonehouse anyway; Bentley is not a local name so I would suspect that he was an outsider who came to Plymouth with the Royal Navy, as John Clarke did, in which case this could be recorded in his naval service at Kew; unfortunately he predates Continuous Service Records and as a rating it is unlikely that he would be mentioned in the alternatives, ship's logs.

I have transcribed the son Thomas's naval record which are held at the Public Record Office in Kew; he joined as a boy on 17 September 1815 aged 14, just after the Battle of Waterloo (18 June 1815). He served for 29½ years, successively as an Ordinary Seaman, as an AB-Able Seaman, then in a gun crew and then in July 1826 he was made CMT -Captain of the Main Top Sail as an Inferior Petty Officer. The CMT stood on a ledge on the ship's Main Mast and supervised the sail crew who went out on the Top Spar and reefed in or unfurled the main sail. It tells us what sort of man our Thomas was since, I am assured by a friend who specialises in marine genealogy, that a CMT was one of the most responsible, but hazardous, jobs on a sailing ship. The whole ship depended upon setting the main sail quickly and correctly in all weathers, so going aloft to reef it in and out took courage and coolness. CMT was always a man who could be trusted and relied upon in all adverse conditions. However invariably CMTs would eventually have an injury, usually a rupture. Then it was customary to keep them on as a Ship's Cook. This seems to be what happened to Thomas since after 6 weeks as CMT on 2 Nov 1826 his record shows him as a 'Ship's Cook by Warrant'. He remained in the navy as such for a further 20 years until 1848. After he left the navy he settled in Stonehouse and first became a Sailmaker, later in 1859 he is described on his daughter Louisa's marriage certificate as a Tide Waiter: in those days of sail the ships could only get into harbour when the tide was rising so until it was they anchored offshore and the Excise men waited until the tide turned before going out to check their cargoes, the Excise men and the crew who rowed them out to the ships were known as Tide Waiters.

The Census returns of 1841 & 1851 show he married Mary Holland about 1828 and had 2 sons and 3 daughters of which the youngest was Louisa. They lived at various addresses in the

wharveside, boat building area, of Mutton Cove on the River Tamar between Stonehouse and Devonport. The area was one of inner city maze of narrow streets with closely packed terraced houses with no gardens but each with a small stone lined yard at the rear. The area was devastated in 1941 by the German air bombing of the nearby Naval Dockyard. I visited there in 1992 with Audrey and she recalled it pre-war as an area of friendly cheerful neighbourhoods and boatmen at Mutton Cove busy ferrying passengers in small boats across the river to Cremyll. Unfortunately after the war in 1950s it was rebuilt with grey concrete blocks of flats and like other areas of the country so rebuilt, had become a violent slum; a local Council Official we met there expressed the opinion that we were lucky to have driven in a large car through the area during mid-afternoon unharmed.

Thomas died aged 64 years on 27 September 1865, the Death Certificate records the cause as Cancer of the rectum. His wife Mary died nine years earlier, in 1856 aged 53, and the cause is recorded also of `Cancer of Rectum and Intestines for 25 years`. His mother-in-law, Mary Wakeham was also recorded to have died of `Cancer and Diarrhera` in 1853 aged 74. That all three died of the same cause suggests that the problem was endemic at that time in the area.

Thomas's wife Mary Holland, gave her name on Louisa's birth certificate as `formerly Holland`. In 1851 the Census recorded that living with them was **Mary Wakeham (1780-1853)** described as Mother-in-law to head of house, born 1780 Totnes. The question is whether Holland was the maiden name of Mary jnr or that she had had a previous marriage before that to Thomas Bentley and Holland was the name of her first husband. Since Mary jnr was only 25 when she bore her first child to Thomas Bentley, named Mary Ann Lydia Bentley, I would believe Holland was her maiden name and that Wakeham was the name of her mother's second husband, who was John Wakeham, a Sawyer. Mary jnr was born 1803 St Andrews, London; there are 4 possible St Andrews and I searched them all but found no baptismal record. But I did find a John Holland who married a Sarah Farley at Shoreditch East London, on 12 Jan 1804, and baptised their first daughter as Mary Ann Lydia Holland in 1809 at St Andrews Holborn, London. Mary Holland was also baptised at St Andrews London and in 1828 she and her husband, Thomas Bentley named their first daughter Mary Ann Lydia. It cannot be a coincidence, I believe that John Holland was Mary Wakeham's brother and that Mary Bentley nee Holland was base born and bore her mother's maiden name of Holland. Her mother recorded in the census that she herself was born in Devon at Totnes. The name of Holland, surprisingly is not uncommon in South Devon, and it seems quite possible that Mary haven given birth to her daughter in London returned to her family in Devon where latter in 1807 she married John Wakeham at Plymouth St Andrews .

Thomas's parents were **Thomas Bentley & Ann Griffith** who married in 1799 at East Stonehouse, between Plymouth and Devonport. I have not been able to trace the ancestry any further; so what I have found shows my mother Florence Lee nee Clarke to have been half Cornish and half a mixture of East London and South Devon.

Later Genetic Note

Florence Maud had a confirmed diagnosis of a low active Thyroid Gland late in life (1980?)

In 1993 both of her children, Audrey and Maurice found they had the same problem.

Her mother, Lavinia, exhibited in 1941 symptoms that could have been caused by a similar problem though it was not confirmed.

Part 3

My wife is **Brenda Adlard (b1934)**. She was born on Saturday 10 November 1934 at Popular Farm, Ings Lane, South Somercotes near the North Sea coast of northeast Lincolnshire. Her birth resulted from the youthful romance of Esther Kathleen Adlard and Robert Chatterton-Greenwood when they were both 17 years old. His stepmother was adamantly against them marrying and he was sent off to London to work, never to return. His father, George Chatterton paid maintenance for Brenda to her grandfather, Maitland Adlard, until 1951 when she left school. Robert later married and had 2 sons, in 1989 he was living in the Slough-Windsor area.

There were several offers to adopt Brenda but they were all refused and she stayed with her mother happily at her grandparents farm in the sparsely populated country area of Somercotes. She attended the local Grammar school in Louth until 15 when she left to become a Student nurse at the Louth Hospital. On the evening of Saturday 30th January 1954 she attended the regular public dance at the Louth Town Hall and met Maurice Lee; they were instantly attracted to one another, and as he said to a colleague as he walked across the dance floor to ask her for a dance `I see the one for me`. It was prophetic, he meant it only for the one dance but it became for the rest of their lives; 48 years later a friend commented that it was a match made in Paradise; 15 months later on 2nd April 1955 they were married at StBoltoph Church in Lincoln City; this was the local Parish Church of her mother and step-father, William Bogg, who had moved to Lincoln from Somercotes.

Brenda is a brunette with deep brown eyes; shortish at 5ft2", and has retained her youthful slim figure through into maturity. Other than her parents, her ancestors were mostly farmers from the area of East Lincolnshire, between Caistor and Boston.

Brenda`s Maternal Ancestry is:-

Esther Kathleen Adlard (b1917), known as Kathy, is Brenda`s mother, she is the only daughter of **Maitland Adlard (1883-1968)** and **Ellen Francis (1885-1966)**. She was born on Christmas Eve 1917 in the village of North Thoresby, 7 miles north of Louth in East Lincolnshire. She married William Smalley Bogg (1912-1994) in 1944 at South Somercotes and had two sons, Michael and Peter (b1950). Bill took employment with Ruston Engineer in Lincoln so he and his family left the Somercotes area and lived in Lincoln City. Both her sons have married and had children.

Kathleen`s father **Maitland Adlard** was the eldest son of 10 children; 3 sons 7 daughters, of **Charles Adlard** and **Ada Harriet Dawson**. He was born 29 October 1883 at Skidbrooke. In 1907 he married **Ellen Francis** and had a son, Charles Francis (1908-2001) and a daughter, Esther Kathleen (b1917). He was a man with a compassionate nature, and, like his father and grandfather before him, he was very strong. He was of average height say 5ft10" but every thing about his body was large; shoulders,arms,hands,legs,feet etc. He worked as the manager of an estate & farm near Ludborough, a few miles north of Louth. Unfortunately in about 1920 he slipped whilst carrying a very heavy load of corn up an inclined wood plank and smashed his right knee cap, it had been raining and the plank was wet; the corn sacks weighed about 1½cwt. He was hospitalized and eventually went to The London Hospital where the pieces of the cap were wired together. Unfortunately this resulted in his being unable to bend that knee, so though he remained very fit and active it did restrict what he could do. He continued to live in North Thoresby and was demoted to Farm Foreman which meant he had to vacate the Manager`s large house and move into a small tied cottage. Then soon afterwards the estate was sold, and he lost both his job and his home. Fortunately his sister, Edith Kate Helliwell had married well and with her help he bought a small farm: Popular Farm,Ings Lane,Skidbrooke, where he lived until he retired to a small bungalow in nearby South Somercotes. In 1966 when his wife became terminally ill he moved with her to live with their daughter, Kathy in Lincoln . In 1968 when 85 years he was walking behind a shop delivery van when it suddenly commenced to reverse, he was unable to move out of the way quickly and was killed; however he was suffering from cancer of the bladder and his life expectancy was short.

Besides himself, 7 other of his 9 siblings lived well into their 80s and 90s and only 2 moved away

from the Skidbrooke/Somercotes area; Edith Kate who married Joseph Helliwell and lived in Halifax, he was a decorator, until he inherited family wealth: and Kathleen Maud who married Bob Wilson. He was a brick moulder and made small, about 1 ft. high, statues of excellent quality. We have two pieces; one is a one foot high figure of a robust Tudor-time sailor whose head can be removed to reveal a hollow interior where pipe-baccy could be kept dry; the other is of his boot, he made it to amuse himself on a day when he had nothing to do. Aunt Kate lived in a neat little stone terraced cottage on a hill above the glorious Yorkshire village of Holmfirth where the TV comedy series 'Last of the Summer Wine' was filmed: her husband and dog both appeared in episodes. We visited there in 1991 with John & Betty Helliwell. When she died in 1999 at 92, she was the last of her generation.

Maitland's father was **Charles Adlard (1863-1929)**, who was born 12 July 1863 at Skidbrooke, the second son of **Charles Adlard (1829-1914) & Eliza Dunham (1837-1884)**.

Charles jnr & his brother Joseph William were recognised to be two of the strongest men to have lived in the area and many stories are told of their feats of strength. In 1934 the local newspaper reported in the obituary of Joseph that "in the olden days when stone used to be brought to the village by ship Mr. Adlard helped to unload thousands of tons with a barrow, wheeling ashore as much as 120 tons a day, being paid 1d. per ton." Charles was known to have carried a steel plough on his shoulders several miles across fields and ditches rather than go home and bring a horse and cart. On another occasion Charles took a donkey and cart to collect some coal and the donkey refused to move once the cart was loaded, he unhitched the animal, tied it behind and got between the shafts himself and pulled the cart home. Charles & Ada lived first at Black House, at the corner of the lane to Skidbrooke Church. Then at Laburnum Farm, which is located in Lands End Lane on Margaret Dawson's Corner. There they raised 10 children. The Farm is presently held by Gordon & Delia Adlard. Lands End Lane is the road to where Ada's grandparents, Robert & Susannah Dawson lived.

Charles's wife Ada was a petite wiry woman who matched his physical strength with her strength of character; she was a matriarch who saw that her daughters had poise and personality. She had interesting ancestry, (see Dawson, Maitland, Bloodworth trees).

Charles snr & Eliza lived at Grift Bank Farm, Skidbrooke, beside the south bank of the Greyfleet Drain to the east of Queens Bridge. He is buried with his two wives at the north side of Skidbrooke Churchyard. The memorial is an upright stone behind the low memorial square to his son Charles & wife Ada.

It is sad to note that when Charles Snr's wife, Eliza, died in 1884 so did her two youngest children, Henry-7 and Kate-4. They died of Diphtheria.

The Adlard descent can be traced back to **Christopher Adlard (1590-1639)** of Belshford, Lincolnshire. From him I have traced, through both male and female lines, some 600 direct descendants, including one branch in Australia. Most were farmers in northeast Lincolnshire, as were the ancestors of their wives too. I have drawn a tree of them ; it is on 6 A3 pages and 1 overlay of pg5.

Detailed comments on it are included as an Appendix Ref:- Adlard\TreHist.202

Genetic Characteristics :-

I made a study of the professions of the recent generations of all the descendants from Christopher Adlard, not just the Adlard ones, but all of those on the Greater Family Tree; it showed the family has a genetic predisposition to become Hoteliers & Restaurateurs, Publishers or Paediatricians. Whereas my side of the family, The Lees, were mainly scientists or engineers. One unusual Adlard however was Christopher's 3greatgrandson John Adlard 1771-1850 who was a preacher and a schoolmaster, this was at a time when education was only for the privileged. We have not identified where he taught but his death certificate records that he died at the home of his daughter in Louth.

Early Adlards :-

1156 Herbert & William sons of Adelardo witnesses documents;

1184 Adelardo priest of Ormsby Abbey gift to Nuns at Fotherby.

He was later Chaplain of Hagnaby and had two wives and 4 sons; Herbert, John, William and Thomas. The buildings of both Ormsby Abbey and Hagnaby Priory still exist though they ceased to be religious houses in 1538 on the dissolution of Monasteries with the religious changes instigated by King Henry VIII; they are marked on the present Ordnance Survey maps as private houses.

1327-1331 William, Herbert and Thomas sons of Adhelard of Louthesk

1274 Adlard fitz Adlard of Pyncebeck, Landowner & daughter Christina

Archival Data of Adlards incl:-

Domesday Book 1086 of the settlements of Grainthorpe, *Salflatebi* (Saltfleetby),
Schitebroc (Skidbrook), Somercotes, Grimoldby

13c Saltfleet & 13c Adlards

Census 1871, Skidbrooke & Saltfleet

Last Will & Testament of Christopher Adlard 1638 Original & Transcript

Adlard Printers London, formed 1767; renamed Bartholomew Press from 1820+

Printed for Tom Paine his `CommonSense & Rights of Man`

Settlement Certificate Charles & Eleanor adlard of Strubby

Adlard Armory - Ar. on a fesse gu. btwn three wolves` heads erased sa. as many mullets of the field. Crest;- A cubit arm holding in the hand a dagger erect all ppr.

These early Adlards were alive in Lincs at the same time as my earliest recorded direct ancestor, Richard de Leye (1275-1350), was alive in Cornwall. Once again it is a small world: In 1991 Maurice whilst looking over the shoulder of Brenda when she was looking through a pile of photographs given to her by her cousin, John Helliwell of Halifax (1913-1996) he recognized in one photograph the name of a small fishing boat `Our Daddy`s`. It was that of Albert Pengelly, whose daughter Lena married Maurice`s mother`s brother Fred Clarke and to whose house his parents, John & Lavinia Clarke, went in 1941 to escape the air bombing of Devonport. Albert was a fisherman who with his brothers owned a small fleet of boats all with names beginning with `Our`-Our Boys, Our Girls. . It transpired that in the mid-1930s John Helliwell used to visit Looe with his cousin John Hilbert and they went out fishing with Albert. John told many stories of those days out on Albert`s boats; of trying to eat a fried breakfast with a gale force wind rocking them like a cork and of trying to find the harbour in thick fog, and of going out with Albert`s friend Bill Southern in a boat he had used in the 1920s to smuggle alcoholic liquor into USA when Prohibition was in force and many a time had to run back to UK when the Coastguards sighted him. John even had a photograph of my Aunt Lena Clarke outside Albert`s house in Looe with my cousin John in her arms.

Maitland Adlard Dawson married **Ellen Francis (1885-1966)** who was born at Binbrook, a few miles north of Louth. They had two children; Brenda`s mother, Esther Kathleen born 1917 and a son, Charles Francis Adlard (1908-2000). Charles was a typical Adlard, big and strong. He became a parcels delivery driver for Lincoln Railway Station; he had two sons both of whom were involved in publishing and both have descendants in Lincolnshire.

Kathleen married William Bogg, known as Bill, in 1941 and they had two sons, Michael and Peter both of whom have descendants and work in Lincoln City; Michael as a Quality Control Engineer in a factory making heavy engineering items; Peter initially joined the Merchant navy, then worked as an electrician in a factory in Scunthorpe but finally settled as a Warder in the local prison. Both became tired of having their leg pulled about their name Bogg e.g. Peter Bogg became peat bog. Michael changed his surname to Maitland and Peter to Bailey.

Ellen Francis was a short rotund motherly figure. When Maurice first met her and Maitland he immediately felt at home and at ease with them since they were only a few years older than his own parents and had the same calm, kind and considerate nature. Ellen died of a stroke in Lincoln in 1966 when we were living in Scarborough. She was the youngest daughter of **William Durham Francis (1850-1920)**, an agricultural labourer of North Ormsby, just north of Louth and east of Binbrook and **Jane Simpson (1855-1902)**. Jane was born at North Ormsby in

1855 and died of a stroke in 1902.

Maitland's mother was **Ada Harriet Dawson (1863-1955)** who was baptised at Grimsby in 1863 as Ada Valentine Dawson, but adopted the name Ada Harriet, nobody now knows why, presumably it was a fashionable name. She was a thin wiry woman of slight stature who died at Skidbrook in 1955 aged 91 years, shortly after the marriage of Brenda & I. Her mother was **Susannah Dawson (1810-1889)** daughter of Robert & Susannah Dawson of West End Lane, Skidbrook. Ada's birth was not registered and I have not found her father's name recorded anywhere. For the birth Susannah was sent to Grimsby, to Robert's brother, Thomas Valentine Dawson, who was a Sweet Manufacturer and Fruiter of

of Bethlehem Street. Susannah stayed with his son, William Welberry Dawson who was a Manure manufacturer, presumably residue from the Cod Oil he manufactured. There is a story that Susannah walked back from Grimsby to Saltfleet, a distance of about 16 miles, with baby Ada in her arms. Six years later, in 1869, she married William Bloodworth, a Railway Linesman, and moved to Spalding. Ada was left with, and raised, by her unmarried great aunt Margaret Dawson in Skidbrooke. Margaret must have been a compassionate legendary figure because even to this day, 114 years after her death, the crossroads at which her house is situated is still known as Margaret Dawson's Corner.

The intriguing question is who is Ada's father? Two years before her birth, in the census of 25 April 1861 her mother, Susannah, is recorded as being a milkmaid living on a farm in the parish of Conisholm, about 3 miles from her father's house in Skidbrook. But there is not a scrap of evidence that points to anybody there as the father. However a study of the forenames of Susannah's children and descendants shows the occurrence of two names that had never been used by the Dawson or Bloodworth families previously. All of her 10 children, except her firstborn, were given two forenames that were ones that had either been used in the family and the area for many generations or were fashionable names at the time of birth. Her eldest however was named Maitland Adlard Dawson. Adlard is the surname of his father, Charles Adlard who was away working in Yorkshire when he was born, but on his return married Ada as close as they could on the boy's first birthday. But why Maitland? Another name that appears in Susannah's descendants which was not a family or local name was Lewis. Combined the two names are 'Lewis Maitland' which was the name of the local Commander of the Coast Guards and who for many years lived in a large house just across a field from Susannah's parents cottage. It is reasonable to assume that the names originate with him and that he was either a family benefactor, or, was the father of Ada.

Lewis Maitland, Captain in the Royal Navy was transferred to become Captain of the Coastguards between Grimsby and Boston. He lived in Saltfleetby House, in the parish of 'Saltfleet by all Saints', close to Susannah's parents. He is one of the family of Maitlands of Thirlestane, Scotland. We know the appearance of two members of that family, Lady Olga Maitland, Conservative MP 1980s-1997 and Sir Frederick Lewis Maitland who took the surrender of Napoleon in 1815; Brenda facially resembles both.

Part 3(i)

Robert Chatterton-Greenwood (1916-199?), Brenda`s natural father, was born 1916 at South Somercotes Lincs, the second child of George and Gertrude, nee Phillips. George had a large farm, Church Farm, the farmhouse was above average for the area and was located on the opposite side of the road to the entrance to South Somercotes Parish Church.

His mother Gertrude Phillips died in 1924, aged 34, when Robert was only 8 years old. His father later married Florence Mabel Jacklin

Maurice Rollinson in 1989 informed that Robert was then alive living in the Windsor-Slough area; *in 1992 there was a Telephone Directory Entry-R.Greenwood 1, Boveney New Road, Eton Wick Windsor. But there is no longer any reference to him in the 2001 Electoral Roll and we can assume he had died during the interim period.* that he had married and his son Gordan was living in Nottingham, subsequently I was told he had moved to Adelaide, Australia. Robert`s sister Annie, had married and was called Hubbard, she was living at Medwyn, Fieldside, Mareham, Le Fen, Boston, Lincs.

Robert`s father George, grandfather George and his greatgrandfather Edwin are all buried in the graveyard of S.Somercotes Church and there are memorials to them. Their ancestors are recorded as being Gentlemen and came from the Caistor area of North Lincolnshire, near the Humber. His mother Gertrude Phillip (1890-1924) descended from local farmers from nearby Saltfleet. The hyphenated name Chatterton-Greenwood was first used by Robert`s grandfather, George, who was born 1838 and buried 1903 both at South Somercotes. He was the son of Edwin Chatterton (1807-1849 b & d at S.Somercotes) and his housekeeper Elizabeth Nevill-Greenwood (born 1798 at Holton-le-Clay-died 1869 at S.Somercotes). She was the natural daughter of James Nevill and Elizabeth Greenwood. It is apparent from the records not just from this family but many others of this remote country area of Lincolnshire, that before the 20th century marriage was not considered of first importance, consequently natural children are common in that area and marriages were not entered into until sometimes well after the birth of the first child e.g. Brenda`s grandfather, Maitland Adlard`s parents were married 12 months, all but one day, after his birth

Memories of Brenda & Maurice

For their honeymoon they caught a train to London, where they stayed overnight at the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row, and the next day flew to Paris: this was at a time when scheduled air services were still in their early development and all the passenger facilities at the new London airport on Heathrow Farm were contained in 2 single storied prefabricated huts with corrugated iron roof. They stayed a week at the Bedford Hotel, located near the Madeleine in central Paris

Afterwards Brenda returned to Louth Hospital for 2 months to complete her nurses training and then joined Maurice in Scarborough where he was working on a contract exploring for oil for British Petroleum . In September they were posted by his employers to Pakistan to work as one of a team to explore for oil and natural gas on behalf of The Burmah Oil Company. Mostly they lived in the Sind Desert, at Balkassar 80 miles west of Rawlapindi, at Shikapur 10 miles west of Sukkar and at Dera Ghazi Khan west of Ganges River at Multan and near to the Afghan border. The accommodation was mainly tents even though the day shade temperatures were generally between 110-130⁰F. The locals treated them as British Raj; Brenda, at 21 years old, was Burrah Memsahib and had 10 servants, all male: Maurice was the Sahib and was looked upon as a wise Judge in all matters. After 17 months, in January 1957, they returned to England to join an exploration team working for BP onshore UK again, though this time Maurice was the Party Chief, the youngest one of the industry. The team was very successful and discovered several oilfields in the Notts/Lincolnshire border area of Gainsborough. They lived successively at Bingham Notts, Gainsborough Lincs, Poole Dorset and Retford Notts. The exploration team consisted of 11 professional men, most of whom were married and their wives travelled around the country with them, living in rented accommodation. During the summer of 1958 successively 6 of the wives became pregnant, each occasion was signalled by a wife arriving at their weekly Wednesday afternoon tea-party with a pair of knitting needles with which to start knitting baby clothes. It convinced both Brenda and Maurice that the time had come to start a family too and son Nicholas was conceived on a Saturday afternoon whilst they were living in Poole, Dorset, and born whilst they were living in Retford, Nottinghamshire. *It was the afternoon of Whitmonday Bank Holiday 18th May 1959, it was a fine sunny day so Brenda and Maurice drove out to nearby Sherwood Forest to have a picnic. At about 4pm Brenda said "I think we ought to go to Lincoln tonight". They hastily packed their things and drove to Brenda`s mother`s house in Lincoln and at about 7.30pm on to Lincoln Maternity Home, as planned, Brenda was admitted. Matron showed Maurice to the door with the words "You have done your bit so you can go now". Nicholas was born at 5.30am on Tuesday 19th May 1959; Brenda says she can still recall the hands of the clock on the wall of the Delivery room.* After his birth they continued to live in Retford. By this time Maurice had been working in England for nearly two years and for some time there had been pressure from his employers to swap him with someone else from overseas, but he was so well thought of by BP that they refused to agree to it. However in August his employers, SSL were awarded a new contract by BP to explore for them in the depth of the Libyan Desert and they thought BP could not object to Maurice being in charge of it. The area was a waterless, uninhabited and unvisited sand sea cut off in three directions by high hills and accessible only from the south, via Kufra Oasis which was 250 miles south of the area of operations. It was so remote that when the team eventually went they found a British Bomber Plane that had landed there 17 years before in 1942, during WWII, when it had run out of fuel. It was in perfect condition, it was refuelled and flown out. But for Maurice it would have meant leaving his young family for two years so he decided that they were more important to him than his profession, so he decided to give up his career in oil exploration and find another profession; he tendered his resigned and commenced to look for other work that would not require foreign travel. But by this time he was so well thought of that his resignation was refused and he was promoted to the company`s Head Office in Holwood, Keston, Kent. The family moved first to Eden Park, Beckenham, then bought their first home, a bungalow in the country south of the London borough of Bromley, near the village of Cudham, where they lived happily with Nicholas attending the local village church primary school and Maurice walking the two miles across the fields to the office. But after 5 years, in 1964, the exploration of the British North Sea commenced and he took on the task of setting up Appraisal Teams for the Burmah Oil Company to cover their recently commenced exploration of the North

Sea and Offshore Northwest Australia. Initially he opened an office for it in Croydon but after a year Burmah decided to open an office to supervise its North Sea drilling in Middlesborough, and suggested the exploration unit should go too; they asked Maurice to join their company but in view of his experience of their poor management in Pakistan he refused so they said they would only continue to employ the SSL team if Maurice still led it, so Maurice agreed to go for six weeks without his family, provided the new office was in Scarborough. But when Brenda and Nicholas joined him during the school Easter holiday the three of them so enjoyed it that they stayed there for 2½ years, until Burmah moved its office back to London. Finally Maurice was persuaded to join their permanent staff, with the promise of his salary being doubled and all expenses being paid for his move to a large house in Bickley, Kent, so as to ease his daily commuting to the City office. In 1973 the Burmah moved its head office to Swindon and the family moved with them.