

Volunteers' Miscellanea

The Epsom-trained jockey who found fame with a ukulele

Bert Barnhurst alerted us to this item in the Daily Mail, 20.12.2021; it is based on a response to a reader's enquiry.

George Formby Sr., a music hall comedian, determined his son would not follow him onto the stage, proclaiming 'One fool in the family is enough'. He owned several racehorses, and he enrolled his seven-year-old son George as an apprentice jockey at Epsom, under trainer Tom Schofield.



George Formby Jr. with his ukelele

George was born George Hoy Booth on May 26, 1904 in Wigan. He was ten when he made his racing debut on April 6, 1915 in the Apprentice Plate at Lingfield Park. He was recovering from mumps and weighed in at just 3st 13lb. It was an inauspicious start as he came in last.

Racing in England was curtailed during World War I, so George was sent to work with Irish trainer Johnny Burns at Naas, Co. Kildare. George Sr. sent five horses to be trained there. When racing in England resumed George was apprenticed to Lord Derby's trainer, the Hon. George Lambton, in Newmarket. From there he moved to George Drake's stable in Middleham, North Yorkshire and finished his racing career at Botterill's yard at Malton for whom he rode in National Hunt races. He never had a winner but secured several placed finishes.

In 1921, George Formby Sr. died and at his mother's behest the 17-year-old took his father's stage name and followed in his footsteps. Within ten years, he had become one of the world's biggest film stars. He coined the catchphrases 'Turned out nice again' and 'Ooh Mother!'. The 1930s and 1940s resounded with his saucy comic songs including *Chinese Laundry*

Blues, *When I'm Cleaning Windows* and *Leaning On A Lamp Post*. He made a number of comedy films including 1939's *Come On George* where he combined his skills by playing a stable lad who rides a nervous horse to victory.

See also Bill Eacott's book 'Racehorse Training at Epsom'.

<https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/RacehorseTrainersAtEpsomA-Z-1.pdf>

Notes on Epsom from State Papers, 1649-1659 – from Angela Clifford

From the Council of State Papers at the Public Records Office, Kew, these brief snippets open a fascinating snapshot of happenings in Epsom between the end of the rule of Oliver Cromwell and reign of Charles II.

9th Aug 1649: Council of State to the Lord General.

We understand that there is a confluence of malignants in the Eastern division of Surrey and that they have private meetings in such places as they used last year, for designing the Surrey petition and the following insurrection. The principal persons are Sir Thomas Bludder, with other ringleaders of the last year's rebellion, and lately Lord Goring was seen among them. The major part are at or about Epsom, under the pretence of drinking the water there, but lie privately, having good horses and arms and do not drink the water. Let two troops of horse be sent to quarter in the market town thereabouts, to be ready to execute further directions from the Council, and meantime take no notice that they come for any other cause but the changing of quarters.



*Lord Goring, after Sir
Anthony Van Dyck*

Council of State Day's proceedings.

26.6.1650 Item 9: Mr Offley, prisoner in the Tower, to have liberty to go to Epsom waters for his health, and remain there for two months, on security in 10,0001 (sic) not to go out of that County until he returns to the Tower again, and has presented himself to Council, and to do nothing prejudicial to the Commonwealth.

25.6.1652 item 6: The Earl of Carnwarth to have liberty to go to Epsom for six weeks to drink the waters.

30.7.1659: Pres. Whitelock to Major Audley

Council expecting a rising in Kent and Surrey desires your efforts to improve your troops with the Life Guards now at Epsom, and Colonel Burgess' regiment, now at Croydon, who have orders to observe your commands, to seize and secure all delinquents, and all horses and arms that may be deployed against the State, and retain them, and be especially vigilant until after Monday night.

Seems The Council of State were very generous in allowing prisoners in The Tower of London a few weeks break in Epsom to take the waters.

A fascinating insight into life at that time in Epsom and surely deserves further research on the people and their activities - Ed

Outburst from an old soldier on the 1921 Census - from Hazel Ballan

Perusing the Find-Your-Past Facebook page, I came across this interesting 1921 Census return from Yorkshire born Edwin Frank Taber, a far from happy ex-soldier, who couldn't help from adding this footnote:

"It is disgusting that the unemployed ex-soldiers should be deprived of government work by appointing women enumerators and an insult to send these women to ex-soldier's houses with census papers".

Hopefully Edwin got over it; by

1939 he was running his own newsagent, stationers, and tobacconist shop in Yorkshire; he died in 1947 aged 69.

NAME and BIRTHDAY	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	SEX	RELIGION	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY and OCCUPATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	INDUSTRY and EMPLOYMENT	Place of Birth
1 Edwin Taber	Head	43	M	Anglican	Yatesbury, Staffs	Unemployed	Head of family	Unemployed	441 Mission St 7910 - 04
2 Amy Taber	Wife	25	F	Anglican	London, England	Unemployed	Housewife	Unemployed	
3 Douglas Taber	Son	2	M	Anglican	London, England	Unemployed		Unemployed	
4 Bernard Taber	Son	5	M	Anglican	London, England	Unemployed		Unemployed	

It is disgusting that the unemployed ex-soldiers should be deprived of government work by appointing women enumerators and an insult to send these women to ex-soldier's houses with census papers.

Brrrr!! They do not care if it snows

Angela Clifford was browsing the newspaper archives and came across these old photographs from *The Bystander*, March 3, 1909. The race was the Southern Counties Championship at Epsom.



The start



Lap 2, approaching the racecourse

The race started at the Downs Hotel and comprised 235 runners prepared to face the Arctic conditions. Even so, the going was good and some 210 completed the course. The race was won by A. E. Wood of the Essex Beagles in the good time of 61 min. 4 sec. The Highgate Harriers carried off club honours.

Derby Day in Epsom, reality and phantasy – from Peter Reed

These days we fail to realise just how busy the Epsom Derby was; it was huge – the biggest public event in the country. One figure I have seen for the number of policemen on duty for crowd control and directing traffic was over 2000 (source not known). So, for sure the roads were crowded.



Returning from the Derby, c.1905



*The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News
26 May 1906*

The image on the left shows the crowds in Epsom High Street returning from the Derby c.1905. The one on the right is a 1906 cartoon I found in 'The Illustrated and Dramatic News' described as a 'The Derby Dogs return from Epsom – a Phantasy by Louis Wain'. I think I'd rather have travelled with the dogs.

See also: 'Derby Day Traffic Control in the 1920s and 30s' on our website - <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=24070> and the 1872 book 'London: A Pilgrimage' by Blanchard Jerrold (Author), Gustave Doré (Illustrator) <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=63240>

Never jump to conclusions!

Angela Clifford found this advertisement in the London Gazette, 22nd March 1720, and thought that Galloway cattle had been raced on Epsom Downs and decided to check further – just as well she did as she found there was, at that time, a breed of pony called a Galloway. It is a stout compact horse, about fourteen hands in height. It takes its name from the district of Galloway in Scotland, where they were originally bred. They were much celebrated as excellent, speedy, and steady roadsters; very sure footed. The breed is now nearly extinct.

However, on further reading the advertisement and trying to work out the terms and conditions, one wonders how any race ever got started. Here it is transcribed; and note the NB at the end of the advertisement, at least that is clear.

The London Gazette, 22nd March 1720 - Advertisement

Nine Plates to be run for upon Epsom Downs in Surry (sic) in the Year 1720. Three on the second Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in May next: three on the last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in July next; and three on the last Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in September next. Those on the Tuesdays to be of 40 Guineas, by horses, &c. carrying 11 stone, that never won a Plate of £100. Those on the Wednesdays of 20 Guineas by Galloways not exceeding 14 Hands under that Size Weight for Inches, 9 stone the highest Weight; and those on the Thursdays, of 30 Guineas by Horses carrying 10 Stone that never won a Plate of above 50 Guineas. All horses for these Plates to stand at some of the Subscribers Stables in Epsom 10 Days before each Plate, and to be shewn and entered (sic), and the Galloways measured, upon the Bridge against the New Tavern in Epsom, between the hours of 3 and 8 in the Afternoon, 7 days before Running, and then to pay to Mr Spedding, Mr North or Mr Lancaster, Entrance money, for the 40 Guineas, 4 Guineas, or 6 at the Post; for the 20 Guineas, 2, or 4 at the Post; for the 30 Guineas, 3, or 5 at the Post. No less than three to start for any of the Plates, nor any horse, &c. to start for any of the Plates for 20 Guineas, that has won a Plate of 50 Pounds, nor any horse, &c. that shall win any two of the first six Plates shall run for any of the three last, but any Horse, &c. may Run for any of the Plates, that has Run a Match for any Sum whatever.

NB There will be Cock-fighting the whole 9 Days, beginning at 11 of the Clock in the Morning.

Good luck on placing a bet -Ed.

Advertisements.

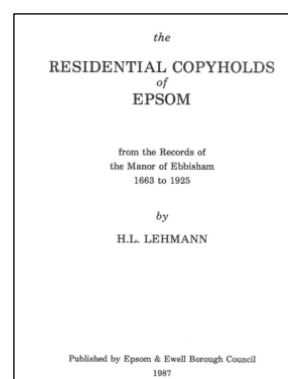
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Moiety, Pightle, Demesne, Messuage and Curtilage – from Ian Parker

In 1987 Epsom & Ewell Borough Council published Dr. H.L. Lehmann's scholarly research '*The Residential Copyholds of Epsom. From the Records of the Manor of Ebbisham, 1663 – 1925*'.

The development of Epsom is described by tracing the ownership of the various residential properties. starting with the survey of 1680. Each of the chapters is divided into three parts, to show the developments during the peak period in the history of the Epsom Spa - The run-up to the survey of 1680; 1680 to the survey of 1755; after 1755. Within each of these three parts the development of each individual property is described.

Perusing this remarkable book, we came across this entry:



*'Among the lands held in 1680 in **moieties** by Katherine Glanvill and John Ockley were 3 yards abutting on a **pightle** of land of Christopher Hatton on the north part and on the **demesne** lands on the south part.'*

But what does it mean?

Moiety: Generally used to refer to one-half interest in real estate, but is rarely used today. It is derived from an old French word "moitié," meaning half.

Pightle: With agricultural mechanisation odd-shaped fields were gradually reorganized to be acceptably rectangular. Inevitably, there were remnants, leftovers, off-cuts or tailings - small pieces of land which were essentially triangular in shape. The locals probably referred to these pieces as "pigtails". In Norfolk dialect, this quickly become pronounced as "pightle". In the 1920's through the 1940's, the word pightle was in fairly common usage but has fallen into disuse in recent years.

Demesne: in English feudal law, that portion of a manor not granted to freehold tenants but either retained by the lord for his own use and occupation or occupied by his villeins or leasehold tenants.

Two other terms we came across were:

Messuage: a dwelling house with the adjacent buildings and **curtilage** and other adjoining lands used in connection with the household.

Curtilage: an area of land attached to a house, which forms one enclosure with that house – for example, a garden, a yard or an outbuilding.

More on Dr. Hans Lehmann can be found on our History Explorer website: <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25609>

Dr. Lehmann's book - *The Residential Copyholds of Epsom from 1663-1925* - is also on our website:

<https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Lehmann-complete.pdf>

Small change from the King's Head Inn, High Street, Epsom - the half pence trade tokens of Elizabeth Amus

By Brian Bouchard

Epsom developed as a Spa attraction during the Commonwealth Period and by 1656 visitors were reported as having travelled from as far as Rutland and Cornwall to spend a week in the town. Inns and taverns were a necessity in a place of public resort but before 1700 there were only two inns known to have been on the High Street: The King's Head and The Crown.

The King's Head is thought to date from the mid-seventeenth century after the Restoration of Charles II in 1660. The premises are mentioned in the Will of Peter Evans, dated 15th June 1661 as '*a freehold messuage The King's Head, Epsom (mortgaged) to John Robinson...*' The property had been acquired from Captain William Chamlett, a seafarer, who was resident in Epsom around October 1649. In the 1664 Hearth Tax Return the premises appear to have been listed as having 13 hearths with John Amos as the occupier. It descended to a son Peter Evans junior, who sold it to William King in 1668.

An interesting development in the history of the King's Head is the issuing of its own currency. During Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth Period the centuries-old royal prerogative to issue money of any kind was ended. No longer would anyone producing coins face severe consequences, including the death penalty, for breaking the law. This new-found freedom, alongside the shortage of coinage due to the years of civil war, led to private businesses and



merchants issuing their own tokens as a means of undertaking a wide variety of transactions. Professional moneyers used cut steel dies and fly presses to produce 'coin like' tokens for their business clients. Half pennies began to appear 1656.

A few of the issuers were female, of which Elizabeth Amos of Epsom was one. As landlady of the King's Head, she issued half-penny tokens for local use in 1667 and 1668. The obverse bore the image of King Charles II's crowned head copied from the Guinea coin of his reign (*first minted in 1663 and named from the fact that gold comprising it came from Guinea, West Africa*). This was encircled by an inscription 'Elizabeth Amos at the' and the reverse gave the date and 'in Ebbisham'.

The inn seems to have been a lively place. On the 14th July 1667 Samuel Pepys noted:

'We got to Epsom (sic) by eight o'clock to the Well; where much company, and there we 'light and I drank the water: they do not but do go about and walk a little among the women, but I did drink four pints, and had some very good stools by it. Here I met with divers of our town, among others with several of the tradesmen of our office, but did talk but little with them, it growing hot in the sun, and so we took coach again and to the towne, to the King's Head, where our coachman carried us, and there had an ill room for us to go into, but the best in the house that was not taken up. Here we called for a drink, and bespoke dinner; and hear that my Lord Buckhurst and Nelly are lodged at the next house, and Sir Charles Sidly with them and keep a merry house,'



The King's Head in 1870

Furthermore, Elizabeth Amos is reported to have been arraigned at Surrey Quarter Sessions in 1667 for keeping a disorderly house. Again, in 1672, Francis Fortescue, gentleman, assaulted Jean Walker, one of the witnesses to that breach of the peace was Elizabeth Amos. By then the landlord at the Kings Head was William King – "*on 6th April 1671 William Glover sold one acre of land abutting the bowling green for £40 to William King of Epsom, smith, apparently to add to his existing possession of the New King's Head*".

The lively nature of the King's Head continued, as recorded by Surrey Quarter Sessions Presentments: 6 October 1668, '*William King late of Ebbisham, innholder, 21 September, and before and since has kept disorderly houses, allowing the servants of his neighbours, and others, to remain drinking, etc. at his house at illegal hours*'.

Carol Hill's booklet *'The Warmest Welcome – Inns and Alehouses in Epsom and Ewell 1667-1868'* records that *The King's Head continued to dominate the town until the 1950's when plans were made to build a new shopping and commercial centre in Epsom High Street. At the end of June 1957, the doors of the King's Head were closed for the last time and the entire structure was demolished. Today, the site is occupied by a branch of Boots the chemist as part of the Ashley Centre.*

A detailed account of the later history of the King's Head may be found in Richard F. Holmes book 'Pubs of Epsom High Street',

At last, Driver and Runner of 'Hollymoor' identified

From Peter Reed

Until recently, we were unable to identify the two men featured in this 115+ year old photo of the engine called Hollymoor, which is shown on our website at *Railways Serving the Epsom Hospital Cluster*.

We have recently received an email from Mr. Clive Dunn informing us that the driver of the locomotive (left) is his Great Grandfather, Alfred Deane, and the man standing on the locomotive frame platform is his son, Lionel, who was Alfred's 'Runner'.

A Runner was a sort of train guard. His job was to be the train lookout and was supposed to be in the rear wagon i.e., the farthest from the engine, and when the train approached the level crossing he was to quickly dismount and run to open the gates.

Clive went on to ask if we knew who the engine driver was when Mary Tobin was killed by the train on the 27th February 1906 at the Hook Road crossing.

Linda Jackson found two newspaper accounts but the more detailed one was badly microfilmed and parts



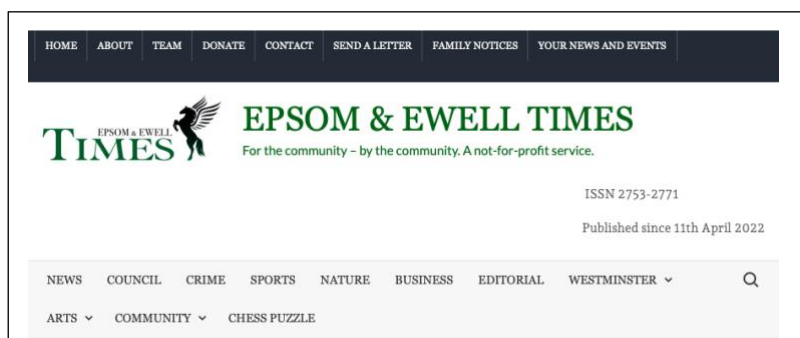
'Hollymoor' at the Exchange Sidings, c.1905. Image courtesy of [Bourne Hall Museum](#)

unreadable. However, while looking through some items in Bourne Hall Museum I discovered that the accident is covered in the booklet *Epsom's Hospital Railway* by R.I. Essen. The driver on that fateful day was not Clive's GGF but John James of Kingston Terrace, Ewell and the runner was John Thompson of Gibraltar, Ewell.

Due to the track layout the Engine could not turn round at the hospital end so reversed or pushed the empty wagons back to Ewell West Station. On the fateful day the runner was in the 5th wagon and against regulations the crossing gates had been left open.

The full article on 'Railways Serving the Epsom Hospital Cluster' by Nick Winfield can be found on our website at <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=29063>

New Community Newspaper for Epsom & Ewell



Hazel Ballan and Clive Gilbert have informed us about a new on-line community newspaper – *Epsom & Ewell Times* – a free, not-for-profit community newspaper. It will be published on-line at regular intervals.

There is also a section where people can contribute articles and details of forthcoming events; it already carries some local history articles under the 'Community' section

Check it out at <https://epsomandewelltimes.com/> - we wish it great success..

Guided Tours of the Military Graves in Epsom Cemetery



During 2022 the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) will be running tours around its site in Ashley Road Cemetery, and some of the other 83 scattered war graves in the main cemetery.

Come and hear the history of the CWGC and find out about some of the servicemen and women buried there.

Tours will be run on selected dates throughout 2022 and will last for about 90 minutes.

The tours are free but due to the nature of Epsom Cemetery numbers have to be restricted.

Please sign up through the CWGC website <https://www.cwgc.org/tours> and click on 'WHAT'S HAPPENING NEAR YOU'. This will take you to the 'Eventbrite' website where you can obtain your free tickets.

To be commemorated by the CWGC, at last

By Clive Gilbert

George William Einchcomb's name appears on Epsom's civic War Memorial on the corner of Ashley Road and Treadwell Road, and on the St. Barnabas Church Roll of Honour. Despite these commemorations he has not been recognised as a war casualty by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC).

George was born in Gillingham, Kent in 1875 to William and Sarah Einchcomb. In August 1900 George, aged 25, married Charlotte Howell in Kilburn Middlesex. George, still living in Gillingham, was a printer by trade but by the following year they were living in Paddington, London, and George's occupation was 'printer's overseer'.

They eventually moved to Upper Court Road, Epsom. Their daughter, Doris Mary was born in May 1910 and was baptised at St. Barnabas church in July 1910. Sadly, Doris died, aged two, in the Isolation Hospital and was buried in plot A452 in Epsom cemetery in February 1913. Their second daughter, Muriel, was born in April 1915 and was baptised in June at St. Barnabas church, Epsom.

EINCHCOMB G.W.
On the Epsom Civic War Memorial

George Einchcombe ❖ ❖
On the St Barnabas Church Roll of Honour
Note the different spelling

George attested at Whitehall on 5 May 1916 into the Royal Flying Corps. His attestation form recorded his address as 8 Maisonette, Manor Green Road, Epsom, Surrey, and that he was a 41year old British subject who worked as a printer. He was stationed in the Recruits Depot (RD) at Farnborough and attained the rank of 2nd class air mechanic. His descriptive report on enlistment shows that he was 5 feet 4¼ inches tall and had a chest measurement of 33 inches with an expansion of 3 inches. His next of kin was his wife Charlotte and that his only child was daughter Muriel.

George's medical report, April 1917

George's medical report dated 20 April 1917, states that he was suffering from 'sub acute combined degeneration' (see footnote), which originated on 1 July 1916 at the Farnborough camp. He was described as:

Poorly nourished, pale and anaemic. Motor loss, active reflexes. External planus responses. Incontinence of urine. Bedridden ataxia. Not caused but aggravated by ordinary military services. Permanent. Total.

A year and seven days later, on 11 May 1917, George was discharged as permanently unfit for war service. He was issued the 'Silver War Badge For Services Rendered', number 185091 but as he did not serve overseas, he was not awarded any medals. His papers record that his home address was 17 Hook Road, Epsom. His character was described as 'Good' and he was given a weekly pension of 27/6, plus 5/-allowance for his only child.

George died on 9 December 1917, aged 42, in the Workhouse Infirmary Epsom. He was buried on 14 December 1917 in plot A452 Epsom cemetery, the same plot as his daughter Doris.

Paragraph 5.1 of the CWGC commemorations policy states that:

We commemorate people who served in the Commonwealth armed forces during the First or Second World War, whose death occurred during the official war period; and was the result of

- wounds inflicted or accident occurring during active service:
- disease contracted or commencing while on active service; or
- disease aggravated by active service

George's service papers stated that his illness was 'Not caused but aggravated by ordinary military services' and under the commemorations policy he should most likely be entitled to commemoration.

On 30 September 2021 I emailed the CWGC stating that I believed that George might be eligible for commemoration and attached the relevant documents to support this claim. The result is the CWGC have agreed that George should have been commemorated and will initiate changes to their databases to acknowledge him. This may take some time to complete but hopefully it will be done by the end of this summer. Whether or not a Commission headstone will be provided depends on the outcome of an inspection of the grave by the CWGC works team.



Plot A452, Epsom Cemetery
George and Doris' grave

Footnote: Sub acute combined degeneration (of the spinal cord) is a neurological disorder complicated by a vitamin B12 deficiency and pernicious anaemia. There is selective damage to both motor and sensory nerve fibres of the spinal cord resulting in spasticity of limbs and shaky movements and gait (ataxia). It may also be accompanied by damage to the peripheral nerves, the optic nerve and dementia.

The problem of transcription

by Ian Parker

Whilst Clive Gilbert was researching his article about George Einchcomb and his commemoration by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission - (see page 7) - he came across this copy of an RAF pension for his widow, Charlotte Mary Einchcombe, living at 40 College Road, Epsom, close to where I live. Consequently, one quiet afternoon I decided to see how long Mrs Einchcombe had lived at number 40. And that's when it became a mystery, or more specifically, a mystery of mis-transcriptions.

Charlotte Einchcombe's RAF Pension

Which Charlotte Mary lived in College Road, Epsom, according to the Electoral Rolls?

★	Einchcombe, Charlotte	Erin
	Baker, Alice	Erin
	Baker, Harry Charles	Erin

1919 Einchcombe at Erin Cottage - 35 College Road

H O	Selman, Louisa	1 and 2 Juniper Cottages
O	★ Einchcombe, Charlotte	2 Juniper Cottages
O	Selman, William Henry	Do. do.
—	aWey, Lewis	Do. do.

1920 Einchcombe at 2 Juniper Cottages - 40 College Road

H O	Selman, Louisa	40
O	Selman, William Henry	40
O	Selman, Louisa	38
O	★ Finchcombe, Charlotte	38
—	aWey, Lewis	38

1921 Finchcombe at no. 38 College Road

O	O	★ Inchcombe, Charlotte	40
O	O	Selman, Louisa Henrietta	40
H O	H O	Selman, Louisa	38
R	O	Selman, William Henry	38
N M	—	aSelman, Harry William	38

1926 Inchcombe at no. 40 College Road

It started well; using the Electoral Rolls we found that in 1919 Charlotte Mary Einchcombe was living in Erin Cottage, which, however, is not number 40 College Road but number 35, a cottage across the road from number 40.

In 1920 she moved to 2 Juniper Cottages - Juniper Cottage is one of a pair of cottages, numbers 38 and 40 – number 2 is 40 College Road.

We could find no information for the years 1921 to 1927 until we discovered a Charlotte Finchcombe (spelt with an 'F') living at Juniper Cottages, 38 College Road in 1921 and 1922.

Then, even more surprisingly, we found a Charlotte Inchcombe (spelt with an 'I') living at Juniper Cottage, 40 College Road from 1923 to 1927.

The records then revert to Charlotte Einchcombe (spelt with an 'E') in 1928 when she moved to 45A Long Grove Road. Subsequently, she moved a further four times to number 5 then 13 Rosendale Road, 6 Hurst Road and finally, in 1939, to 24 Stones Road where she stayed until her death in 1947.

She is buried alongside her husband, George (buried 1917), and her first daughter, Doris (buried 1913), in plot A452 in Epsom Cemetery.

Einchcombe, Finchcombe and Inchcombe, take

your choice; it could be a firm of solicitors – and the 'e' at the end of the surname seems optional. The puzzle is how the Electoral Register got it so wrong and, assuming she could vote in parliamentary elections, which name did she use?

Electoral registers have been compiled annually since 1832, apart from the years 1916, 1917 and 1940 to 1944 when none were produced.

In 1918 the Representation of the People Act was passed which allowed women over the age of 30 who met a property qualification to vote.

What's new on the Epsom & Ewell History Explorer website

www.eehe.org.uk

From Peter Reed

Since the last issue of 'Lives & Times' in January there have been some thirty-two additional and amended items added to our website plus eight major updates to military personnel on the Epsom War Memorials. These new entries cover a range of subjects including. They can also be found on the website at <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=61076>

Subject	Web Address	Contributor
Alarming Fire	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73360	Peter Reed *
Ancient Epsom by Reginald White 1928	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73308	Peter Reed
Assaults at the Derby	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73308	Peter Reed*
A surprise glimpse into 1883	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73657	Roger Morgan
Bad Saveloys	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73269	Peter Reed *
Batch of Derby Day Charges – 1883	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73261	Peter Reed *
Breach of Promise of Marriage	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73277	Peter Reed *
Civil Defence Mobile Column	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74243	Peter Reed
Derby Toys	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73413	Peter Reed *
Destructive Fire	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73373	Peter Reed *
Double Railway Fatality	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73094	Clive Gilbert
Epsom Cycling Club: the early years	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=70388	Roger Morgan
Epsom Fairings	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73055	Clive Vaisey

Extraordinary Attempt at Suicide	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73320	Peter Reed *
Financing WW1	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74078	Peter Reed and Clive Gilbert
Flag Days – WW1	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74346	Clive Gilbert and Pater Reed
George & Laura Woodcock	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=50383	Roger Morgan
Green, Leopold Joseph	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74313	Brian Bouchard
Hendford' and the Adams Family	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74199	Linda Jackson
He Wants to be a Jockey	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73741	Peter Reed *
Joshua Crompton - Memoirs	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73133	Brian Bouchard
Keeling's Sewer Gas Exhausters and Destructors	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73537	Peter Reed
Kidnapping	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=28313	Peter Reed *
Major Fraud at the 1844 Derby	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74411	Peter Reed
Miss Mittendorff's orphans	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73719	Peter Reed and Roger Morgan
Moody & Sankey	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73565	Peter Reed
Quack Medicine Show	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73517	Peter Reed
Revised Old Maps to include A Clickable Map with links to the relevant maps at NLS	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=69722 and https://eehe.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/OS-Maps-at-NLS.htm	Peter Reed
Shocking Tragedy at Epsom	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73244	Peter Reed and Linda Jackson
Signalman Fatality	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73295	Peter Reed *
Supposed Suicide Near Epsom	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73254	Peter Reed *
"Surprise Packet" Under the Bed	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73211	Peter Reed
The Battle of Epsom	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74503	Peter Reed
The Circus Comes to Town	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73774	Linda Jackson
The Electric Spark and The Derby	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73393	Roger Morgan
The Longmans - Publishers	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73186	Linda Jackson
The Parkinson Family	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74178	Brian Bouchard
Tragic Deaths of Two Friends by Drowning. Part 1 - Arden Avery Shapland	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73991	Brian Bouchard
Tragic Deaths of Two Friends by Drowning. Part 2 - Thomas Brown Westwick	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74002	Brian Bouchard
Walks and Cycling Routes	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=74221	Peter Reed
Wool Fairs	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=73950	Peter Reed

* Drawn from articles in *The Illustrated Police News*, *The Pall Mall Gazette*, *Picture Post* and other journals.

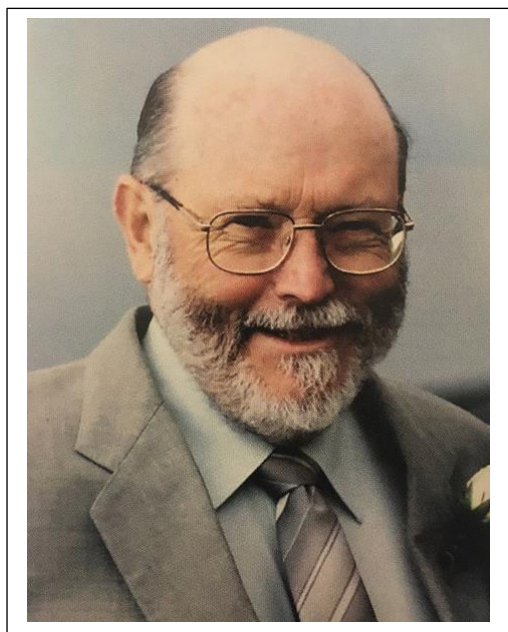
Also, the following additions and updates have been made to the biographies of WW1 and WW2. military casualties recorded on Epsom and Ewell's War Memorials:

Personnel	Web Address	Contributor
World War 1 Casualty William Norman Gardiner and his brother, World War 2 Casualty Edward Ambrose Norman Gardiner	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40914#GardinerWN https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40861#GardinerEAN	Roger Morgan
Further World War 2 Casualties		
Reginald Carpenter	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40857#CarpenterRR	Roger Morgan
Douglas George Franck	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40860#FranckDG	Roger Morgan
Charles & Stanley Olney	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40869#OlneyCWS	Roger Morgan and Bert Barnhurst
Edward Frank Petherick	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40870#PetherickEF	Roger Morgan, Hazel Ballan and Clive Gilbert
Gordon Leonard Platfoot	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40870#PlatfootGL	Roger Morgan and Clive Gilbert
Lt. Harry Wood	https://eehe.org.uk/?p=40878#WoodH	Roger Morgan

A big thank you to all those who have contributed to the website. You can check them all out, and much more, on the 'What's New' page on our website <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=61076>

To the Memory of Albert Ashley Barnhurst, 1934 - 2022

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Bert Barnhurst, one of the founding volunteers of the Epsom & Ewell Local and Family History Centre which he joined in 2002. He was Chairman from 2005 to 2007 and stayed actively involved for the rest of his life.



Bert thoroughly enjoyed the quiet pastime of Genealogical Research which saw him trace his family back through countless generations. It was this that brought him to the History Centre in Ewell Library at Bourne Hall. He spent many hours giving his time freely to help set up this useful local resource and was happy to share his knowledge and skills to anyone who asked. He knew a great deal about the local area and its history, and if he didn't, he made sure to find out.

A particular success involved a doll named 'Alice', that had been found bedraggled and abandoned in the ruins of a house in Ewell that had been destroyed by a plane crash in WW2. Thanks to Bert the owner was traced and 63 years later the lady who found the doll returned it to the original owner. Furthermore, the broken 'Alice' was then featured on the popular BBC TV programme 'The Repair Shop' and was completely restored.

Bert was also especially involved in activities around the BBC's WW2 People's War project which included a WW2 'Remembered Day' which took place within Ewell Library. This attracted upward of 215 visitors who enjoyed the ambiance of a 'Street Party' that had been created by the History Volunteers. He also, with other volunteers, helped gather and record people's stories for the BBC's 'Archive of WW2 Memories'.

Bert was involved with so much more in the History Centre, creating displays on a variety of subjects, sitting at the desk every Friday, ready to help the public with their enquiries about local and family history. He especially appreciated enquiries about WW2 and more specifically the RAF, with whom he had served as a Senior Aircraftsman in Singapore in the 1950s.

He was also ever ready to give talks about the History Centre to local organisations and groups like the Ewell Village Residents Association and to young audiences such as Woodmansterne Primary School. This probably harks back to two other organisations with which he was involved - 'Talking Newspapers' and 'Epsom Speakers'. Talking Newspapers distributes a weekly audio recording about local news, articles of interest to people who have difficulty in reading text or who are blind. Bert read for its listeners for over twelve years and was especially regarded for his deep rich voice. He also gave his time to Epsom Speakers for over 25 years working with people who were nervous of speaking in public. He eventually became President of the Club.

Outside his charity work Bert's passion was golf and the RAC Club which he joined in 1978. One memorable day he achieved a 'Hole in One' at the Par 3, 5th of the Coronation Course. He also managed to get his name on the Winners Board twice, which is no mean feat in a club like the RAC.

Above all, Bert was a family man with a selfless outlook on life, ever ready with help, advice and frequently a quip – referred to by the family as 'The Wise One'. Bert passed away on 19th March 2022; he leaves his wife, Val, a daughter and a son, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren - he will be much missed by all who knew him.

Our thanks go to Steve Barnhurst for his help in preparing this all-to-short memorial to his father.

Have You got News for Me?

We hope you've enjoyed reading this edition of 'Lives & Times'. Thanks to all those who have provided information, anecdotes, stories and pictures: Hazel Ballan, Bert Barnhurst, Brian Bouchard, Angela Clifford, Clive Gilbert and Peter Reed. But, to keep the momentum going we need more so I make no apologies in repeating this message again – have you got news for me, please?

I'm sure many more of you have experiences, contacts with enquirers or local or family history information that would interest us all, so let's have them – you can see from this current issue, we like gossip and comments as much as more serious subjects. So, please don't be shy. If you have any:

- reports on visits to various sites or centres
- intriguing Information Requests
- forthcoming projects or events
- interesting facts about local history or genealogy
- new research documents the LFHC has received
- or just strange tales to tell

please let me know. Supporting photographs and pictures, if available, would be most welcome as it will make it even more interesting for us all.

The next publication date will probably be in late towards the end of the year, as long as your contributions keep coming. Just send an email to EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk telling us what it is.

Items are welcome from volunteers, friends and readers of 'Lives & Times' wherever you are in the world.

Ian Parker – July 2022

Researching Local History or Tracing your Ancestors?

If you are interested in the history of Epsom and Ewell or want to trace your family's history then visit us at the Epsom and Ewell Local and Family History Centre located in Ewell Library at Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell.

Opening Hours

The History Centre is open and staffed by volunteers at the following times

Tuesdays	10.00 am – 12 noon
Thursdays	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Fridays	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Enquiries can also be made by email to EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk

Take a look at our History Explorer Website

<https://eehe.org.uk>

Epsom and Ewell History Explorer has numerous items of local interest including personalities, places, properties, and personal reminiscences of life in bygone times and notable events. There is also an extensive and searchable collection of local birth, christening, marriage, death records, cemetery burials, gravestone inscriptions, detailed Workhouse records and WWI and WW2 memorials with numerous stories of those remembered. It is a fascinating and continually growing source of information.

Receive 'Lives & Times' by email

If you would like to receive regular copies of 'Lives & Times' and information on forthcoming events by email, please just send your email address to EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk with the heading "EMAIL ME YOUR NEWSLETTER". Your email address will not be provided to any other organisation or company and will only be used to send you 'Lives & Times' and information on our future events.

Should you no longer wish to receive 'Lives & Times' and details of forthcoming events please just email "UNSUBSCRIBE ME" to EpsomandEwellLHC@yahoo.co.uk