

BARKER-DAWSON

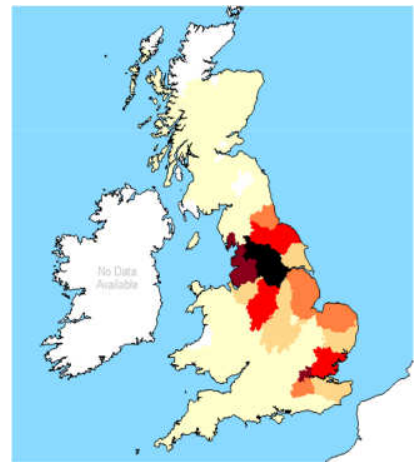


St. Andrew's, Sandon

Barker

The first firm evidence that we have of William Dawson is the record of his marriage to Martha **Barker** on the 21st of June 1790 at St. Andrew's, Sandon, Essex, when William was described as being of Sandon and Martha of Great Baddow. William was able to sign but Martha made her mark. The witnesses were John Lewis junior, James Wisby and John Rolf; Rolf appears to have been a 'professional' witness.⁴ The village of Sandon stands on a sandy hill about one mile east of Great Baddow.⁵ The surname Barker is not very common in Essex, with most being found in the North Riding of Yorkshire.⁶ It is an occupational surname; the barker being the tanner, so called because of the use of tree bark in the tanning process.⁷

The earliest proven Dawson ancestor is four times great grandfather **William Dawson** who was born about 1759.¹ No record of his baptism has yet been found although entries in the parish registers for St. Mary the Virgin, Great Baddow, Essex, suggest that he may have had a brother Thomas and a sister Elizabeth.² They could be related to a John Dawson who was baptised as an adult in 1749/50 in Great Baddow.³ The recurring use of the christian name Charles in successive generations may also be a clue.



Distribution of the Surname Barker

¹ Burial register of St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 74 and burial register for St. Mary & St. Leonard Broomfield, Essex 1813-1868 D/P 248/1/7 image 31 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

² Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

³ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁴ Marriage register for St Andrew's Sandon, Essex D/P 253/1/3 image 14 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

⁶ *The Surname Atlas* Archer Software (2003).

⁷ P. H. Reaney, *A Dictionary of Surnames* Routledge and Kegan Paul (1958); Basil Cottle, *The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames* Penguin 2nd edition 1978; Mark Anthony Lower *A Dictionary of Surnames* Wordsworth editions Ltd. 1860.

Martha Barker had been baptised on the 5th of April 1767 at Great Baddow,⁸ the daughter of **Benjamin** and **Martha Barker née Richardson**. Benjamin and Martha were married at St. Mary the Virgin, Stebbing on 28th of January 1765, when Martha Richardson was described as being of Stebbing and Benjamin of Great Baddow. The marriage was conducted, after banns, by the vicar of Great Dunmow, who also celebrated the next wedding on the same day. The witnesses were William Smith and Edward Powell who served again at the next marriage so are likely to be churchwardens rather than relatives. Neither Benjamin nor Martha could sign the register.



St. Mary the Virgin, Great Baddow

Martha's 'mark' is particularly interesting; it resembles a capital 'W'.⁹ People with christian names beginning with 'W' have been known to make 'M' shaped marks. The likely reason for this and for Martha's 'W', is that, on the rare occasions when they saw their name being written, it would be by an official on the opposite side of a desk, making what the owner of the name saw, an upside-down version.

In 1771, *The Ipswich Journal* reported that a tenement in the occupation of Benjamin Barker, near Galleywood Common, Great Baddow, was to be sold at The Blue Lion.¹⁰ Benjamin Barker was buried in Great Baddow on 14th August 1806 at the age of seventy, suggesting a baptism in 1735/6.¹¹

To be SOLD to the Best Bidder,
On SATURDAY the 11th of May, 1771, at the BLUE
LION, in GREAT BADDOW, Essex.
A Copyhold Messuage, with two Tenements,
in good Repair, now in the Occupation of Benjamin
Barker and of Gardner Widow, with a good Orchard of
about Half an Acre of Land, with a good Outhouse to the
same, situate and lying by Gallywood Common, in the
Parish of Great Baddow aforesaid.

⁸ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex D/P 65/1/3 image 35 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁹ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin Stebbing, Essex D/P 86/1/2 image 11 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

¹⁰ *The Ipswich Journal* 4 May 1771 p 2 col a.

¹¹ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1770-1812 D/P 65/1/4 image 20 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

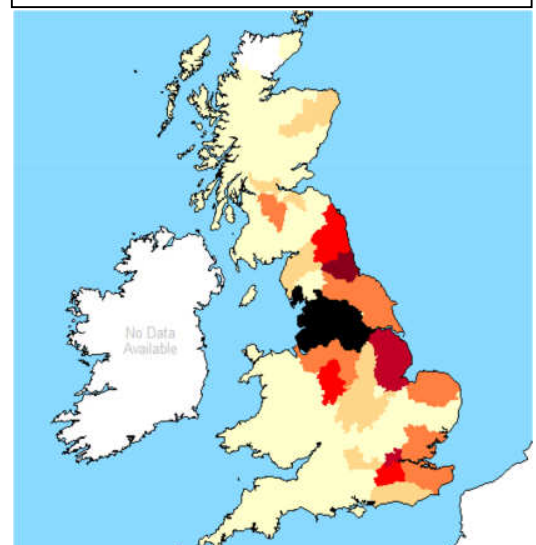
It has not been possible to find confirmed baptisms for Benjamin or his wife Martha née Richardson. Neither were baptised in Great Baddow¹² or Stebbing.¹³ Martha is likely to have been baptised in Thaxted in 1739, daughter of James and Martha Richardson.¹⁴ It is possible that Benjamin may be the son of James and Martha Barker née Claxon who married in Sandon in 1739 and had a daughter baptised in Great Baddow in the same year.¹⁵

Dawson

Dawson is another northern surname, with concentrations along the Yorkshire-Lancashire border.¹⁶ There is some disagreement about the derivation of the name. The most likely origin is son of Daw, or David.¹⁷ The alternative is that it is a locative surname taken from the Normandy town of Ossone.¹⁸ After their marriage in Sandon, William and Martha Dawson appear to have set up house in the neighbouring parish of Great Baddow. This was described, in 1839, as 'a neat village in an extensive and extremely fertile parish'.¹⁹ Six of William and Martha's children were baptised there; the eldest of these arriving rather too swiftly after their marriage. Mary was baptised on the 8th of August 1790. **William** was baptised on the 15th of April 1792.²⁰ Charles was baptised on the 14th of September 1794. John was baptised on the 11th of October 1801. Martha was baptised on the 17th of February 1805. Finally, Sarah was baptised on the 6th of September 1807.²¹ The gap between the baptisms of Charles and John may mean that there were other children of William and Martha who were not



Galleywood Common



Distribution of the Surname Dawson

¹² Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.-

¹³ A possible baptism for Benjamin in Stebbing on 12 February 1737/8, son of Benjamin and Deborah Barker has been ruled out because there is a corresponding Stebbing burial in 1739. Parish registers for St. Mary the Virgin, Stebbing, Essex Baptisms and Burials 1713-1812 D/P 86/1/1 images 42 and 11 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

¹⁴ <<<https://familysearch.org>>>.

¹⁵ Marriage register for Sandon, Essex 1554-1740 D/P 68/1/1; The baptism registers of Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

¹⁶ *The Surname Atlas* Archer Software (2003).

¹⁷ P. H. Reaney, *A Dictionary of Surnames* Routledge and Kegan Paul (1958); Basil Cottle, *The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames* Penguin 2nd edition 1978; Mark Anthony Lower *A Dictionary of Surnames* Wordsworth editions Ltd. 1860.

¹⁸ Mark Anthony Lower *A Dictionary of Surnames* Wordsworth editions Ltd. 1860.

¹⁹ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

²⁰ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 image 47 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²¹ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1710-1812 D/P 65/1/3 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

baptised, or who were baptised elsewhere. A Martha Dawson aged one is buried in Great Baddow on 24 August 1800 and although no baptism has been found, she may belong in this gap.²²

Charles was married at Great Baddow on the 6th of July 1824 to Mary Ann Nicholls;²³ she had been born in East Hanningfield, Essex c. 1799.²⁴ William Dawson and Jane Thorogood, who were probably Charles' brother and his future wife, were the witnesses. Unusually though, William here makes his mark,²⁵ yet he signs at his own marriage two years later.²⁶ It is possible therefore that the witness was William senior, Charles' father. Mary Ann Dawson née Nicholls was almost certainly the Mary Ann Dawson who was able to sign her name as a witness to the marriage of William Dawson and Jane Thorogood in Chelmsford in 1826.²⁷ Charles,



St Mary the Virgin, Great Baddow

a labourer, and Mary Ann were living at Great Baddow in 1841 with Mary, born c. 1827 and Charles, born c. 1834, who were probably their children.²⁸ Charles senior, by then a miller's waggoner and Mary Ann were still in Great Baddow in 1851.²⁹

John, son of William and Martha, married Sarah Lake in Writtle, Essex on the 18th of September 1828.³⁰ Sarah had been born c. 1810 in Writtle³¹ and their son, Charles, was baptised there on the 23rd of November 1828.³² This is probably the John Dawson who made

²² Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1770-1812 D/P 65/1/4 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²³ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1837 D/P 65/1/10 image 24 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²⁴ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 1776 folio 488.

²⁵ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1837 D/P 65/1/10 image 24 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²⁶ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex 1813-1837 D/P/94/1 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²⁷ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex 1813-1837 D/P/94/1 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²⁸ 1841 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 325/1 folio 3.

²⁹ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 1776 folio 488.

³⁰ Marriage register for All Saints Writtle, Essex 1813-1837 D/P 50/1/14 image 42 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

³¹ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 1776 folio 543.

³² Baptism register for All Saints Writtle, Essex 1813-1835 D/P 50/1/7 image 77 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

his mark as a witness at the marriage of his brother William Dawson to Jane Thorogood.³³ John was back in Great Baddow by the time of the 1841 census, living at Bear Inn Lane. Apart from Charles, ten year old John and eight year old Samuel were with the family.³⁴ John, Sarah and Charles were still in Great Baddow in 1851 when both John and Charles were agricultural labourers.³⁵ By 1861, John, still an agricultural labourer and Sarah were living close to William on Galleywood Common, Great Baddow.³⁶

Of the daughters of William and Martha, Mary has not been traced. Martha junior was buried at Great Baddow on the 21st of December 1809, at the age of five.³⁷ Her youngest sister, Sarah, gave birth to an illegitimate daughter, Martha, who was baptised at Great Baddow on 6th June 1830.³⁸ A year later, Sarah married blacksmith Henry Parker, on 5th November, in Great Baddow.³⁹ In 1841 the Parkers were living at East Street, Billericay, Essex.⁴⁰ By 1851 they had settled in Shenfield, Essex. They had five children together, Charles, Henry, Sarah, Mary Anne and Selina.⁴¹

William's wife, Martha, died on the 24th of September 1840 of 'age'.⁴² Mary Ann Dawson, almost certainly the former Mary Ann Nicholls, was in attendance. Martha was buried at Great Baddow on the 30th of September.⁴³ She was survived by her husband but there are two William Dawsons in the area in the 1841 census, both of whom died in the 1840s and as yet, it has not been possible to establish which was the husband of Martha.⁴⁴

William and Martha's eldest son, William, married **Jane Thorogood** (she signed the register as Thorowgood) on the 23rd of January 1826 at St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd (Chelmsford Cathedral) Chelmsford, Essex. That Jane was able to sign her name⁴⁵ was rather unusual for a woman from the labouring classes in the early nineteenth century. This may indicate that the Thorogood family were of slightly higher social status than the Dawsons or that they were non-conformists, who were more likely to encourage their children to be literate. William was described

³³ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex 1813-1837 D/P/94/1 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

³⁴ 1841 census for Bear Inn Lane Great Baddow, Essex HO107 325/1 folio 35.

³⁵ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 1776 folio 543.

³⁶ 1861 census for Great Baddow, Essex RG9 1082 folio 123.

³⁷ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 22 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

³⁸ Baptism registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/6 image 59 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>; 1841 census for East Street, South Benfleet, Essex HO107 322/2 folio 15.

³⁹ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1837 D/P 65/1/10 image 38 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁴⁰ 1841 census for East Street, South Benfleet, Essex HO107 322/2 folio 15.

⁴¹ 1841 census for East Street, South Benfleet, Essex HO107 322/2 folio 15; 1851 census for Shenfield, Essex HO 107 1774 folio 206.

⁴² Death certificate of Martha Dawson née Barker 1840 - from the local Register Office - typed details.

⁴³ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 61 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁴⁴ 1841 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 325/1 folio 20; 1841 census for Broomfield, Essex HO107 325/6 folio 12; General Registrar's Indexes of deaths; Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁴⁵ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex 1813-1837 D/P/94/1 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

as being of Great Baddow and signed his name.⁴⁶ Jane's family⁴⁷ came from South Hanningfield, Essex,⁴⁸ which is three miles south of Great Baddow. Jane herself had been baptised there on 21st January 1798.⁴⁹

William and Jane seem to have spent their married life in Great Baddow, which had a population of 1719 in 1831.⁵⁰ William and Jane had eight children baptised there.⁵¹ Elizabeth on the 15th of August 1827. William on the 10th of August 1828. **Thomas** on the 4th of April 1830. Jane on the 18th of July 1832. Charles on the 5th of January 1834. John on the 3rd of July 1836. Mary Ann on the 3rd of March 1839.⁵² The youngest, Elizabeth, was born at Great Baddow on the 26th of April 1842⁵³ and baptised on 5th June.⁵⁴ Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, had been buried at Great Baddow on the 23rd of August 1827.⁵⁵

The 1841 census finds William, Jane and the six surviving children (the younger Elizabeth was yet to be born) living in Galleydean 'west of the first milestone on the London Road, north of Galley Hall'.⁵⁶ William was an agricultural labourer, an occupation he was still pursuing in 1851. By this time the family was described as living 'near Galleywood'. Of the children, only William and Jane had left home. Jane was working as a housemaid in nearby Broomfield.⁵⁷ The three remaining sons were, like their father, agricultural labourers and the two girls were scholars.⁵⁸ Galleywood Common was where the Chelmsford Races were held.⁵⁹ The agricultural Dawsons may well have attended the Friday market at Chelmsford and the cattle fairs held there twice a year, on the 12th of May and the 12th of November.⁶⁰

In 1861, William and Jane were living near Galleywood Common, Great Baddow near to William's brother John. William was still an agricultural labourer.⁶¹ On the 8th of June 1861, Jane died of rheumatism from which she had suffered for two years. Her death was registered by Francey⁶² or

⁴⁶ Marriage register for St. Mary the Virgin, St. Peter & St. Cedd Chelmsford Cathedral, Essex 1813-1837 D/P/94/1 image 17 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁴⁷ See Thorogood paper.

⁴⁸ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO 107 1776 folio 540.

⁴⁹ Baptism register for St. Peter's South Hanningfield, Essex 1716-1812 D/P 378/1/2 image 12 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵⁰ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

⁵¹ Baptism registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1841 D/P 65/1/6 and 1842- 1854 D/P 65/1/7 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵² Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1841 D/P 65/1/6 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵³ The birth certificate of Elizabeth Dawson 1842 - from the General Register Office.

⁵⁴ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex D/P 65/1/7 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵⁵ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 30 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁵⁶ 1841 census for Galleydean, Great Baddow, Essex HO107 325/1 folio 36.

⁵⁷ 1851 census for Broomfield Village, Essex HO 107 1776 folio 178.

⁵⁸ 1851 census for Great Baddow, Essex HO107 1776 folio 540.

⁵⁹ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

⁶⁰ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

⁶¹ 1861 census for Great Baddow, Essex RG9 1082 folio 123.

⁶² The death certificate on which this appears was handwritten by the registrar and Francey is almost certainly a mis-transcription of Frances.

Fanny Green a widow who was a neighbour also living on Galleywood Common.⁶³ Jane was buried at Great Baddow on the 16th of June 1861.⁶⁴ William died of natural decay on the 15th of November 1867⁶⁵ and was buried on the 22nd of November, also at Great Baddow.⁶⁶ Again the informant, Louisa Calliss or Colliss, another neighbour, does not appear to have been related.⁶⁷ It has not been possible to trace the futures of most of William and Jane's children.



Thomas and Mary Archer 'May' Dawson née Bowyer

Great great grandfather, Thomas Dawson, the second son of William and Jane, married **Mary Archer Bowyer**⁶⁸ on the 2nd of April 1855 at The Old Meeting House, Baddow Lane, Chelmsford.⁶⁹ This was a chapel of the Independent Protestant Dissenters. It cannot be identified in a Chelmsford Directory of 1839⁷⁰ so it was presumably fairly new. It seems that the non-conformist influence may have come from the Bowyer family as there is, as yet, no trace of non-conformity in earlier Dawson generations. One of the witnesses was a literate Jane Dawson, who may have been Thomas' mother or sister. On this occasion both Thomas and Mary Archer were

⁶³ Death certificate of Jane Dawson née Thorogood 1861 - from the local Register Office - handwritten details.; 1861 census for Great Baddow, Essex RG9 1082 folio 122.

⁶⁴ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 114 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁶⁵ The death certificate of William Dawson 1867 - from the local Register Office. 1871 census for Great Baddow, Essex RG10 1665 folio 91.

⁶⁶ Burial registers for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1813-1876 D/P 65/1/12 image 129 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁶⁷ Death certificate of William Dawson 1867 - from the local Register Office - handwritten details.

⁶⁸ See Bowyer paper.

⁶⁹ Marriage certificate of Thomas Dawson & Mary Archer Bowyer 1855 - from the General Register Office - hand written details.

⁷⁰ Facsimile edition of Pigot and Co.'s National and Commercial Directory and Topography of Essex 1839.

able to sign their names,⁷¹ which makes it odd that Mary Archer only made a mark when she registered the birth of her second child.⁷² Mary Archer Bowyer had been baptised in Writtle in 1831⁷³ and is remembered in the family as 'May'.⁷⁴

Sophia Dawson and Charles Emberson

Thomas and Mary Archer had six children.⁷⁵ The eldest, Sophia, was born in Chelmsford within a year of the marriage.⁷⁶ Her birth was registered in the Chelmsford district in the March quarter of 1855.⁷⁷ In the 1861 and 1871 censuses she was with her family in Broomfield. In 1877 she married Charles Emberson, also in Chelmsford district.⁷⁸ Their daughter, Constance Sophia Mary (known as Sophie or 'young Soph'),⁷⁹ was born on the 14th of September 1878⁸⁰ in Paddington⁸¹ and was baptised at Broomfield, Essex on the 27th of October 1878. At the baptism, Charles was described as a dairyman of 'Gaddington'⁸² and the family were living at 33 Moscow Road Paddington in 1881, when Charles was working as a milkman.⁸³ Charles and Sophia had six more children: Ethel Annie, born in 1880 in Notting Hill;⁸⁴ Clara Maud who was born in 1883 in Kensington; Charles, born about 1884 and Alice May born two years later, both in Bayswater. The two youngest children were born back in Notting Hill, Nellie Dawson in 1889 and William Cyril about 1893.⁸⁵



Sophie Emberson née Dawson

⁷¹ Marriage certificate of Thomas Dawson & Mary Archer Bowyer 1855 - from the General Register Office - hand written details.

⁷² Birth certificate of Clara Dawson 1858 - from the local Register Office - handwritten details.

⁷³ Baptism register for All Saints Writtle, Essex 1813-1835 D/P 50/1/7 image 88 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁷⁴ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

⁷⁵ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer); 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128; 1881 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG11 824 folio 73.

⁷⁶ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

⁷⁷ Indexes of birth - held at the General Register Office.

⁷⁸ Indexes of marriage - held at the General Register Office.

⁷⁹ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer); Registrar General's indexes of birth.

⁸⁰ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Broomfield, Essex 1852-1883 D/P 248/1/6 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

⁸¹ 1881 census index for 33 Moscow Road, Paddington RG11 21 folio 9.

⁸² Baptism register for Broomfield, Essex D/P 248/1/6.

⁸³ 1881 census index for 33 Moscow Road, Paddington RG11 21 folio 9.

⁸⁴ 1881 census index for 33 Moscow Road, Paddington RG11 21 folio 9.

⁸⁵ 1901 census for 19 St. John's Place, Kensington, Middlesex RG13 23 folio 162

1891 found the Embersons at 9 Prince's Road, Kensington; Charles was working as a carman.⁸⁶ At some point in the next decade Charles had an accident or suffered from an illness leading to paralysis and in 1901, the family were being supported by Sophia's work as a needlewoman and sixteen year old Charles, who was a newsagent. The family had taken in a lodger, the widower Charles Levy and the three adults, together with the three children who were still at home, were occupying four rooms in 19 St. John's Place, Kensington.⁸⁷ By 1911, the Embersons had moved to the four roomed cottage at 2 Woodbine Cottages in Penge, nearer to Sophia's mother and other members of her family.⁸⁸

Charles died in 1913 in Croydon registration district.⁸⁹ Sophia survived until 5 March 1939, when she died in Bromley registration district.⁹⁰ Sophia lived at 2 Woodbine Cottages until the time of her death, at which point a Miss Emberson took over the household. This must have been the eldest daughter, Constance as all her sisters were either married or deceased; This is confirmed by entries in the electoral registers.⁹¹



**Sophie Emberson née Dawson,
Alice May 'Ellie' Emberson,
Constance Sophia Mary 'Soph'
Emberson and Richard Wellard c.
1908**

EMBERSON.—On March 5th, at 2, Woodbine Place, Penge. Sophia Emberson passed peacefully away, aged 83 years. At rest.

It has been possible to trace the futures of some of the Emberson children. The 1911 census shows that one had died by that date⁹² and this was Ethel Annie, whose death was registered as 'Ethel' in Fulham registration district in 1889.⁹³ The eldest daughter, Constance, was with her parents in the 1881 and 1891 censuses.⁹⁴ It is almost certain that she has been incorrectly enumerated as Enderman in the 1901 census and was then working as a housemaid in Putney.⁹⁵ Ten years later Constance was working as a cook for Elizabeth Stuart at 19 Trinity Road, Tulse Hill, London.⁹⁶ Later Constance returned to 2 Woodbine Cottages and she lived there from at least 1939, when the address is given as Woodbine Place, Woodbine Grove⁹⁷ until her death in 1954.⁹⁸

⁸⁶ 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG 12 28 folio 148

⁸⁷ 1901 census for 19 St. John's Place, Kensington, Middlesex RG13 23 folio 162.

⁸⁸ 1911 census for 2 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 124.

⁸⁹ General Registrar's death indexes.

⁹⁰ General Registrar's death indexes; *The Croydon Advertiser* 10 March 1939 p 6 col a.

⁹¹ Electoral rolls for 1938-1954 - extracted by Stuart Valentine.

⁹² 1911 census for 2 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 124.

⁹³ General Registrar's death indexes.

⁹⁴ 1881 census index for 33 Moscow Road, Paddington RG11 21 folio 9; 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG 12 28 folio 148.

⁹⁵ 1901 census for Pitlochry, Putney Hill, Putney, Surrey RG13 491 folio 29. There is no corresponding birth or 1891 census entry for Constance Enderman.

⁹⁶ 1911 for 19 Trinity Road, Tulse Hill, London RG14 2114 sn 18.

⁹⁷ 1939 Register for 2 Woodbine Place, Woodbine Grove, Penge, Kent Constance S M Emberson RG101 1271 H01311 Letter Code CKFO CKFO accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

⁹⁸ General Registrar's death indexes; electoral rolls for 1938-1954 - extracted by Stuart Valentine.

Clara Maud Emberson was in Kensington with her parents in 1891⁹⁹ but cannot be found in 1901. She married in James Mack, a hydraulic engineer from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in Croydon registration district in 1906.¹⁰⁰ In 1911, the Macks were living at 40 Fontarabia Road, Wandsworth and the census shows that they had had a child who had died.¹⁰¹ This was Clara Ethel whose birth and death were registered in Kingston registration district in 1907.¹⁰² The Macks cannot positively be traced after 1911. They had no more children born in England and Wales and are not identifiable in the 1939 register.¹⁰³ There is a likely death for James Mack in Wandsworth registration district in 1912 but no obvious remarriage for Clara.¹⁰⁴

The eldest Emberson son, Charles Francis, was also with his parents in 1891 and was still at home in 1901, when he was working as a newsagent.¹⁰⁵ In 1909, Charles married Emily Victoria Crump in Bridlington, Yorkshire. By 1911 he was living at 2 Alexandra Avenue, Mayfield Street, Hull, where he was working as a dairyman.¹⁰⁶ Charles and Emily had two daughters, Nellie, born in Bridlington about 1909,¹⁰⁷ Ivy Constance M born 14 May 1911 in Sculcoates, Yorkshire registration district¹⁰⁸ and a son, Charles H, who was born on 21 September 1913 back down south, in Romford, Essex registration district.¹⁰⁹ Nellie Victoria disappears from the records but Ivy Constance M went on to marry Frederick Lacy in West Ham registration district in 1942 and have a son Peter Donald A in Loughborough, Leicestershire in 1945.¹¹⁰ Ivy died in Eastbourne in 1997.¹¹¹ Charles H married Josephine Gladys M Mersom in 1940 in Essex South West registration district. They had two daughters Carole F and Bernice J born in Essex in the 1940s. Charles died in Havering registration district in 1996 and Josephine in 2002.¹¹² Charles Francis was a dairyman, greengrocer and newsagent. In 1939 he was living with his wife and two younger children at 124 Uphall Road, Ilford.¹¹³ He died in Ilford registration district in 1961.¹¹⁴

Alice May Emberson, known as Ellie,¹¹⁵ was with her parents in Kensington in 1891.¹¹⁶ Ten years later she was staying with her aunt, Mary Sadler, in Beckenham, Kent.¹¹⁷ In 1908 she married

⁹⁹ 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG 12 28 folio 148.

¹⁰⁰ General Registrar's marriage indexes; 1911 census for 40 Fontarabia Road, Wandsworth, Surrey RG14 2227 sn 209.

¹⁰¹ 1911 census for 40 Fontarabia Road, Wandsworth, Surrey RG14 2227 sn 209.

¹⁰² General Registrar's birth and death indexes.

¹⁰³ General Registrar's birth indexes. The index to the 1939 register on <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁰⁴ General Registrar's marriage and death indexes.

¹⁰⁵ 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG12 28 folio 148; 1901 census for 19 St. John's Place, Kensington, Middlesex RG13 23 folio 162.

¹⁰⁶ 1911 census for 2 Alexandra Avenue, Mayfield Street, Hull, Yorkshire RG14 28716 sn 268.

¹⁰⁷ 1911 census for 2 Alexandra Avenue, Mayfield Street, Hull, Yorkshire RG14 28716 sn 268.

¹⁰⁸ General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹⁰⁹ General Registrar's birth and death indexes.

¹¹⁰ General Registrar's birth and marriage indexes.

¹¹¹ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹¹² General Registrar's birth, marriage and death indexes.

¹¹³ 1939 Register for 124 Uphall Road, Ilford Charles Francis Emberson RG101 1097I 002 4 Letter Code:CCVN accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹¹⁴ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹¹⁵ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹¹⁶ 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG 12 28 folio 148.

¹¹⁷ 1901 census for 12 St. George's Road, Beckenham, Kent RG13 687 folio 97.

Richard Wellard in Croydon registration district.¹¹⁸ Their daughter, Nellie Constance M, was born in Beckenham, Kent in 1909.¹¹⁹ In 1911 the Wellards were living in the four roomed cottage, described as 1 Woodbine Place, next door to Alice's mother.¹²⁰ Richard was working as a signal fitter.¹²¹ On the 20th March 1912 the Wellards left Liverpool on the 'Virginian' for Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.¹²² Family stories suggested that they had three more daughters once in Canada, Catherine, Dorothy and Edith.¹²³



The Wellard Family 1928



Believed to be Nellie, Alice and Dorothy Wellard

This is not borne out by the records, which reveal only two additional daughters, Dorothy Alice May born in York Ontario on 26 September 1913¹²⁴ and Marrion M born about 1918.¹²⁵ Only the eldest of the three girls appears to have married.¹²⁶

Nellie Dawson Emberson, Charles and Sophia's youngest daughter, can be found with her parents in the censuses of 1891, 1901 and 1911; by 1911 she is working as a laundress.¹²⁷ In

¹¹⁸ General Registrar's marriage indexes.

¹¹⁹ General Registrar's birth indexes; 1911 census for 1 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 125.

¹²⁰ 1911 census for 1 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 125.

¹²¹ 1911 census for 1 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 125.

¹²² The passenger list of the Virginian 1912 BT27/749.

¹²³ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹²⁴ Birth registration extracted by Nancy Duffy.

¹²⁵ Information from Nancy Duffy.

¹²⁶ Information from Nancy Duffy.

¹²⁷ 1891 census for 9 Prince's Road, Kensington, Middlesex RG 12 28 folio 148; 1901 census for 19 St. John's Place, Kensington, Middlesex RG13 23 folio 162; 1911 census for 2 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 124.

1916 she married William Coles in Eastbourne district, the unusual location perhaps a result of the first world war.¹²⁸ The only child that has been identified so far is Kenneth D., born in Brentford registration district in 1926.¹²⁹ Nellie Dawson Coles died in Worthing registration district in 1972.¹³⁰ William Cyril Emberson was also with his parents in 1901 and 1911 but has not been traced beyond that point.¹³¹

Clara Dawson and Philip James Woolgar

Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson's second daughter, named Clara after Mary Archer's sister, was born on the 14th of April 1858 at Great Baddow¹³² and baptised there on the 23rd of May.¹³³ By the time Clara was three years old the family had moved to nearby Broomfield. A Sunday school prize shows that Clara attended Broomfield Church Sunday School in 1870¹³⁴ and she can be found there, living with her parents, in 1861 and 1871.¹³⁵ At some point between 1874 and 1881 the family moved again, this time to Penge, Surrey¹³⁶ and by 1881, Clara and her younger sister, Mary Ann, were working for Alexander Morrison of Alleyn Park,



Broomfield Place Lodge



Clara Dawson c. 1878

Camberwell, Surrey, as housemaid and under housemaid respectively.¹³⁷ Clara was living in Penge when she married Philip James Woolgar¹³⁸ at St. John's Church, Penge, on the 21st of December 1886¹³⁹ and her story continues under Woolgar.¹⁴⁰

¹²⁸ General Registrar's marriage indexes.

¹²⁹ General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹³⁰ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹³¹ 1901 census for 19 St. John's Place, Kensington, Middlesex RG13 23 folio 162; 1911 census for 2 Woodbine Cottages, Penge, Surrey RG14 3411 sn 124.

¹³² Birth certificate of Clara Dawson 1858 - from the local Register Office - handwritten details.

¹³³ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Great Baddow, Essex 1855-1881 D/P 65/1/8 image 15 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

¹³⁴ School prize in family possession.

¹³⁵ 1861 census for Broomfield, Essex RG9 1080 folio 122; 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹³⁶ Penge has been moved between the counties of Surrey and Kent and either can be considered to be correct.

¹³⁷ 1881 census for Alleyn Park, Camberwell, Surrey RG11 669 folio 39.

¹³⁸ See Woolgar paper.

¹³⁹ Marriage certificate of Clara Dawson & Philip James Woolgar 1886 - original in family possession.

¹⁴⁰ See Woolgar paper.

Thomas and Mary Ann moved to Broomfield, about two miles north of Chelmsford, around 1859.¹⁴¹ In 1861 Thomas was working as a gardener, almost certainly for Broomfield Place, as he was living at Broomfield Place Lodge.¹⁴² A lodge still survives however there is thought to have been two so this may not have been the one lived in by the Dawsons.¹⁴³ In 1872 Clara and her younger sister Alice, were each awarded a prize of 1s 6d for needlework at the Broomfield Cottagers' Show.¹⁴⁴

Alice Dawson and Thomas Sanders Hart



Seated Alice Hart née Dawson 1861-1949 probably May Bula Dear née Dawson a.k.a. Hart 1889-1937 standing

Their next daughter, Alice, was born there in 1861.¹⁴⁵ Her birth was registered in the Chelmsford registration district in the June quarter of 1861¹⁴⁶ and she was baptised at Broomfield on the 27th of October 1861 when her father, Thomas, was described as a groom and gardener.¹⁴⁷ In 1871, Alice, like her brother and sisters, was living at home and was listed as a scholar.¹⁴⁸ She cannot be located in the 1881 census but was unmarried when she signed her sister Clara's marriage certificate as a witness in 1886.¹⁴⁹ Oral evidence suggests that Alice's first husband was a Mr Fludder¹⁵⁰ however this cannot be substantiated. It is possible that a Mr Fludder was the father of Alice's illegitimate daughter, May Dawson, who was born in 1889 in Kensington, Surrey¹⁵¹ however she was given the unusual middle name Bula and it could be that this was her father's surname. If this is so then there was only one male named Bula in the country in 1891 and this was a Swiss clerk, John F Bula who was living and working in Wood Street, London.¹⁵² Alice and May went to live with Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson at 6 St. John's Cottages, Penge and by 1891, Alice was working as a cook.¹⁵³

In 1898, Alice married a widower, Thomas Sanders

¹⁴¹ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁴² 1861 census for Broomfield, Essex RG9 1080 folio 122.

¹⁴³ Information from Jane Braund of Broomfield.

¹⁴⁴ *Chelmsford Chronicle* 19 July 1872 p7 col d.

¹⁴⁵ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁴⁶ General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹⁴⁷ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Broomfield, Essex 1852-1883 D/P 248/1/6 image 20 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

¹⁴⁸ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁴⁹ Marriage certificate of Clara Dawson & Philip James Woolgar 1886 - original in family possession.

¹⁵⁰ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁵¹ General registrar's birth indexes; 1911 census for RG14 for 67 Perry Vale, Forest Hill, Kent RG14 2831 sn 8.

¹⁵² 1891 census for 119 Wood Street, London RG12 239 folio 80. Coincidentally, John Bula was working with a member of the Hart family but has not been possible to connect this colleague with Alice's future husband Thomas Hart.

¹⁵³ 1891 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG12 599 folio 102.



**May Bula Dawson
a.k.a. Hart**

Hart, in Bromley district.¹⁵⁴ Thomas was some ten years Alice's senior and had grown up children. May took the surname Hart and in 1901, the Harts were living at 21 Stavordale Road, Islington, Middlesex.¹⁵⁵ Thomas worked as a printer¹⁵⁶ and later a bookseller. In 1911, the family were living at 67 Perry Vale, Forest Hill by which time May had started work as a book keeper.¹⁵⁷ May was thought to have married a William Phleoney or Fleoney¹⁵⁸ but this does not seem to be a surname. Records show that she married, using the surname Hart, in 1918 to William George T Dear in Bromley district.¹⁵⁹ The Dears had a son, Colin J, born in 1922 in Bromley district but he died as an infant, thus confirming the oral evidence that they were childless.¹⁶⁰ May died in Bromley district in 1937¹⁶¹ and it is likely that William remarried in the same year to twenty eight year old Marjorie Elizabeth Ellenden in Woolwich registration district.¹⁶²



**Believed to be William and May
Dear**

Family stories relate that Alice burnt to death whilst alone in a house in Whitstable, Kent¹⁶³ however her death certificate shows that she died on the 10th of September 1949 of Pneumonia, coma and thrombosis. The address was 5 Bexley Street, Whitstable and her niece Kathleen Dawson registered the death.¹⁶⁴

¹⁵⁴ General Registrar's marriage indexes; 1891 census for 7 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, London RG12 225 folio 11.

¹⁵⁵ 1901 census for 21 Stavordale Road, Islington Middlesex RG13 200 folio 114.

¹⁵⁶ 1901 census for 21 Stavordale Road, Islington Middlesex RG13 200 folio 114.

¹⁵⁷ 1911 census for RG14 for 67 Perry Vale, Forest Hill, Kent RG14 2831 sn 8.

¹⁵⁸ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁵⁹ General Registrar's birth and marriage indexes; 1911 census for 354 Blandford Road, Beckenham RG14 3672 sn 168.

¹⁶⁰ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁶¹ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹⁶² General Registrar's marriage indexes.

¹⁶³ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁶⁴ Death certificate of Alice Hart née Dawson 1949 - from the General Register Office - facsimile copy.

William and Fannie Dawson



Kathleen Mary Dawson

Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson's only son, William John, was born about 1864 at Broomfield.¹⁶⁵ His birth was registered in Chelmsford registration district¹⁶⁶ and he was baptised at Broomfield on the 31st of January 1864, when his mother's name was erroneously given as Jane.¹⁶⁷ He was a scholar living with his parents in Broomfield in 1871.¹⁶⁸ By 1881, their home was 6 St. John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge and William was described as a carpenter and joiner.¹⁶⁹ He was still at St. John's Cottages with his parents, working as a carpenter, ten years later.¹⁷⁰ Although family memories record his wife's name as Caroline or 'Carrie',¹⁷¹ in fact he married Fannie Dipper in Lambeth district in 1893.¹⁷² In 1895 their only child, Kathleen Mary, was born in Croydon registration district.¹⁷³ William John and Fannie lived at 230 Whitehorse Road. In 1901 William was described as a builder's foreman¹⁷⁴ but by 1911, he was once again a carpenter and joiner.¹⁷⁵ William died in Croydon registration district in 1924.¹⁷⁶ In 1911 Kathleen was described as a Civil Service student.¹⁷⁷ Later she became a sub-postmistress and she died, unmarried, on the 18th of January 1969.¹⁷⁸

Mary Ann (Polly) Dawson and Eli Sadler

The next child of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson was Mary Ann, known as Polly.¹⁷⁹ She was born in 1867 in Broomfield¹⁸⁰ and was baptised there on the 26th of May 1867.¹⁸¹ In 1871, Mary

¹⁶⁵ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁶⁶ General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹⁶⁷ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Broomfield, Essex 1852-1883 D/P 248/1/6 image 23 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>..

¹⁶⁸ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁶⁹ 1881 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG11 824 folio 73.

¹⁷⁰ 1891 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG12 599 folio 102.

¹⁷¹ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁷² General Registrar's marriage indexes.

¹⁷³ General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹⁷⁴ 1901 census for 230 Whitehorse Lane, South Norwood, Surrey RG13 648 folio 181.

¹⁷⁵ 1911 census for 230 Whitehorse Lane, South Norwood, Surrey RG14 3384.

¹⁷⁶ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹⁷⁷ 1911 census for 230 Whitehorse Lane, South Norwood, Surrey RG14 3384.

¹⁷⁸ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer); General Registrar's death indexes.

¹⁷⁹ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).

¹⁸⁰ 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁸¹ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Broomfield, Essex 1852-1883 D/P 248/1/6 image 29 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.



**Harold Sydney
Sadler**



**Norman
Gerald Sadler**

Ann was a scholar, living with her parents in Broomfield.¹⁸² She was an under housemaid to Mr Morrison of Alleyn Park, Camberwell, with her sister Clara in 1881.¹⁸³ In the 1891 census, Mary Ann was back with her parents at 6 St. John's Cottages and was still working as a housemaid.¹⁸⁴ Later that year she married Eli Albert Sadler (known as Albert), a cab man, in Bromley registration district.¹⁸⁵ The Sadlers lived at 12 St George's Road, Beckenham, Kent¹⁸⁶ and had two sons, Harold Sydney born about 1892 and Norman Gerald born in 1895.¹⁸⁷ Albert worked as a jobmaster until 1926¹⁸⁸ and remained at 12 St. George's Road until his death in 1935.¹⁸⁹ Mary Ann had pre-deceased him in 1929.¹⁹⁰

Harold served in the London electrical engineers' regiment in the first world war.¹⁹¹ It seems that Harold did not marry and remained in the family home at 12 St. George's Road until 1937.¹⁹² By 1937, Harold had moved to nearby 17 Albermarle Road, Beckenham and he died the following year.¹⁹³

Norman served as a second lieutenant in the London Regiment during the first world war.¹⁹⁴ The Absent Voters' List of 1918 places him at 12 St. George's Road.¹⁹⁵ In 1922, Norman married Beatrice Eden Watson in Bromley registration district and they had three children whose births were registered in that district.¹⁹⁶ Derrick N G was

¹⁸² 1871 census for Broomfield, Essex RG10 1663 folio 128.

¹⁸³ 1881 census index for Alleyn Park Camberwell, Surrey RG11 699 folio 39.

¹⁸⁴ 1891 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG12 599 folio 102.

¹⁸⁵ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer). General Registrar's marriage indexes.

¹⁸⁶ 1901 census for 12 St. George's Road, Beckenham, Kent RG13 687 folio 97; 1911 census for 12 St. George's Street, Beckenham, Kent RG14 3661 sn 98.

¹⁸⁷ 1901 census for 12 St. George's Road, Beckenham, Kent RG13 687 folio 97. General Registrar's birth indexes.

¹⁸⁸ Kelly's Commercial directories - extracted by Stuart Valentine.

¹⁸⁹ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹⁹⁰ General Registrar's death indexes.

¹⁹¹ Transcription of Absent Voter's Lists for Bromley 1918 accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁹² Kelly's Directories - extracted by Stuart Valentine; General Registrar's marriage indexes; 1925 electoral roll - extracted by Stuart Valentine. Transcription of Absent Voter's Lists for Bromley 1918 accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁹³ General Registrar's death indexes; Kelly's Directories - extracted by Stuart Valentine.

¹⁹⁴ Index to medal cards WO372/17 accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁹⁵ Transcription of Absent Voter's Lists for Bromley 1918 accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁹⁶ General Registrar's marriage and birth indexes.

born in 1926, Gwenda M in 1931 (she died in the same year) and Enid J in 1934.¹⁹⁷ In 1939 Norman and family were living at 37 The Drive, Beckenham, Kent and Derrick was a civil servant.¹⁹⁸ Derrick married Beatrice Eden Watson in 1922 in Bromley and had three children.¹⁹⁹ By coincidence, it turns out that Derrick's daughter and Clara Dawson's great-granddaughter were in the same class at primary school in Shirley, Surrey in the 1960s, without realising that they were related until forty five years afterwards. Enid married Gordon H J Lewis and had two children.²⁰⁰

Annie Dawson

Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson's youngest child, Annie Elizabeth, was also baptised at Broomfield, on the 29th of March 1874.²⁰¹ She was born on the 2nd of January.²⁰² She was a scholar living with her parents at 6 St. John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge in 1881.²⁰³ These cottages were designed by Edwin Nash and built as almshouses in 1863²⁰⁴ but there is no suggestion that the Dawsons were tenants in that capacity.

Annie became a dressmaker and lady's maid.²⁰⁵ She spent the rest of her life at St. John's Cottages,²⁰⁶ caring for her mother after her father, Thomas, died on the 12th of September 1899.²⁰⁷ Thomas died at home at 6 St. John's Cottages, of parenchymatous nephritis and uraemia, or kidney failure.²⁰⁸ Mary Archer Dawson died on the 16th of April 1919²⁰⁹ at 6 St. John's Cottages, of nephritis interstitial and cardiac failure. The death was registered by Annie,



Annie Elizabeth Dawson

¹⁹⁷ General registrar's birth and death indexes.

¹⁹⁸ 1939 Register for 37 The Drive, Beckenham, Kent Norman Gerald Sadler RG101 1218 A00719 accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

¹⁹⁹ General registrar's birth and marriage indexes.

²⁰⁰ General registrar's birth and death indexes.

²⁰¹ Baptism register for St. Mary the Virgin Broomfield, Essex 1852-1883 D/P 248/1/6 image 39 online images of original register taken from <<<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk>>>.

²⁰² 1939 Register for 7 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Kent Annie Elizabeth Dawson RG101 1271D 015 39 Letter Code: CKFM accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

²⁰³ 1881 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG11 824 folio 73.

²⁰⁴ <<<http://www.search.com/reference/Penge>>>.

²⁰⁵ 1891 census for 6 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG12 599 folio 102; 1901 census for 6 St. John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG 13 652 folio 11; 1911 census for 6 St. John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Surrey RG14 3410 sn 99. Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer). 1939 Register for 7 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Kent Annie Elizabeth Dawson RG101 1271D 015 39 Letter Code: CKFM accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

²⁰⁶ Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer). 1939 Register for 7 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Kent Annie Elizabeth Dawson RG101 1271D 015 39 Letter Code: CKFM accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

²⁰⁷ Death certificate of Thomas Dawson 1899 - from the General Register Office - facsimile copy.

²⁰⁸ Death certificate of Thomas Dawson 1899 - from the General Register Office - facsimile copy.

²⁰⁹ Letter in the possession of Mrs M. O. Bransden née Bird, great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer. Death certificate of Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer 1919 - from the local Register Office - typed details.

whose address was given as 65 St. John's Cottages; this is presumably an error for 6.²¹⁰ Annie never married. In 1939 she was described as a travelling dressmaker²¹¹ she died in June 1955.²¹²



6 St. John's Cottage (despite the number 22)



6 St. John's Cottages in 2010



Annie Elizabeth Dawson and two unrelated children

Acknowledgements

Ella Mary Bird née Woolgar, Muriel Olive Bransden, née Bird, Gwendoline Catherine Braund née Smith, Jane Braund, Nancy Duffy, Robert Embleton, Stuart Valentine, Mrs I. Lorelei Williams.

²¹⁰ Death certificate of Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer 1919 - from the local Register Office - typed details.

²¹¹ 1939 Register for 7 St John's Cottages, Maple Road, Penge, Kent Annie Elizabeth Dawson RG101 1271D 015 39 Letter Code: CKFM accessed via <<www.findmypast.co.uk>>.

²¹² Oral information from Mrs Ella Bird née Woolgar (granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer) and Mrs Gwendoline Braund née Smith (great granddaughter of Thomas and Mary Archer Dawson née Bowyer).181. Although the picture shows number 22, this is believed to be 6 St. John's Cottages, 6 being the terrace number and 22 the number in Maple Road. It is clearly the same property as one depicted on a property website in 2010 <<www.zoopla.co.uk>>