





# SALFORD *to* BELFAST

## A PERSONAL JOURNEY



With love from Petrina, Gillian and Isobel

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Salford to Belfast – A Personal Journey

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# HENRY HALL

## AN INTRODUCTION



The purpose of this book is to mark the 90th birthday of Henry Walter Hall. Henry was born in Salford on 3rd October 1922. The first part of the book outlines his life to date including his education, the development of his career and his interests.

Family life was extremely important to Henry and the second part of the book places emphasis on his immediate family, his extended family and concludes with a look at his ancestry. The book is punctuated with accounts of personal experiences and photographs.

It is very much a tribute to Henry and is comprised of contributions compiled by his immediate family. It is a mark of how loved, valued and appreciated Henry is and the high esteem in which he is held.

Henry Hall was born on 3rd October 1922 at 18 West Craven Street in Salford. He was the third of three surviving children born to Walter Hall and Lillian Gee being preceded by his sisters Phyllis and Lily, who were born in 1913 and 1918 respectively.

His father had been a coal dealer in the family business, but by the time Henry was born, Walter had taken a semi-skilled job at the Manchester Ship Canal Docks. Lillian was the daughter of Henry Gee, a local publican. Henry Gee died in 1929 aged 68. Following his death, Walter and Lillian ran the Lord Egerton which was then owned by the Empress Brewery. These were difficult times in urban Britain with the onset of the Depression. At the time, Manchester and Salford had a plethora of pubs and within a year the business had failed and the family had moved to 351 Bradford Road, Miles Platting on the east side of Manchester. Walter died in 1935 aged 56. Henry was only 12 years of age when his father died.

## Salford

The Salford area has been home to people for a very long time – Neolithic, Bronze Age, Celtic (the Brigantes) and Roman (roads) – not to mention the Saxons, Danes and Angles – who gave it the name Sealhford. Eventually a village formed on the banks of the River Irwell.

It was in the 13th century that a small town began to grow. In 1228, Henry 111 granted Salford the right to hold a market and an annual fair and in 1230 the 6th Earl of Chester made it a burghage – a free borough, giving its Burgesses extra rights – especially commercially. Apparently this attracted all the ‘right sort of people’ as by the late Middle Ages. Salford had

30 manor houses within a five mile radius of Ordsall.

So, Salford was already well established as a manufacturing town long before the industrial revolution – wool was important in the early days as well as clogging, cobbling, weaving and brewing. In 1761 the Bridgewater Canal made enough difference as to reduce the price of coal by approx. 50% and this infrastructure, together with the proximity of the river, attracted the founders of the cotton mills for which the area was to become famous.

The Manchester Ship Canal was finished in 1894 and the Salford Docks were a principal dockyard, making the town an inland port. Salford was at the height of its economic growth.

*Lillian Gee remembered the Manchester ship canal being built – dug by Irishmen who sometimes came to her father's bar. She recalled her father, Henry Gee, having to jump over the bar to stop the fighting!*

Decline started in the early 1900's with cheaper foreign trade making inroads. The depression was severely felt and coal mining was almost over by 1940 with cotton spinning following suit by 1971. Salford became synonymous with poverty and depression, but regeneration is now underway and the University of Salford and the BBC in the North have made Salford their home.

## Conditions in Salford

Salford's working class population had grown rapidly during the industrial revolution and low cost housing went up quickly to meet the need. In 1812 there were 12,000 people but by 1842 this had risen to 70,244 and by the end of the

19th century – 220,000! The area was overcrowded with house density as high as 80 homes per acre.

As early as 1844, Friedrich Engels spent time in Salford and described it as *“really one large working-class quarter ... (a) very unhealthy, dirty and dilapidated district”*.

A survey in 1931 found that things were not much better and many areas were slums with rat infestations and a lack of basic amenities. Over a third of the houses surveyed were in a bad state of repair with leaking roofs and rotten woodwork. The inspectors were *“struck by the courage and perseverance with which the greater number of tenants kept their houses clean and respectable under the most adverse conditions”*. Slum clearance projects started as early as 1933 and continued well into the 1950’s.

## Manchester

At the age of eight, Henry and family moved to Manchester. A quote from one of Henry’s letters – dated Oct 1995:

*“Things seem to have been comfortable enough until Henry Gee died. Then a catastrophic decision was made. The pub was taken over with the Empress brewery manager commenting that they ought to know how to run the place. The truth is that times were bad and not only was the great depression of the 20’s and 30’s still on, the old industrial centres like Salford had had their day. There were far too many pubs for the money about”*.

*“Getting out meant unemployment and Salford was left behind when the Manchester house of the next tenant was taken. No. 351 (?) Bradford Road is in Miles Platting. With the help of Florence Hall a job was found but it meant labouring and I am sure contributed to Walter’s death from pneumonia at the age of 56”*.

*“The house was fairly big and a move had to be made to something smaller. Lillian had never been out to work and her sight was very, very poor. No. 63 Hassop Street was a mile or so away in Beswick”*.

*When Henry was very young he was always called ‘Sonny’ until an Aunt suggested that they should at least call him Harry.*

## Henry’s Education

Henry’s first school was St Clement’s in Salford, a school also attended by his big sister, Lily. When the family moved to Manchester, he attended St Marks - he is the one in the white shirt in the photograph.

His potential was clearly recognised by the family. Aunt Florence and Cousin Arthur Galley appealed to another cousin, Helen Scotson (Taylor) who was married to the Deputy Chief Treasurer at the Town Hall. They arranged that Henry should get a place at Hulme Day Continuation School in Embden Street and it is here that he learnt technical drawing – which was to serve him well in his later career.



Holland Street, Manchester: St Marks Primary School; Henry on back row with white shirt and tie September 1932

Whilst at Sutcliffe's (his first employer), Henry attended the local technical college in the evenings and later went on to Manchester Municipal

College of Technology which was later to become UMIST, where his granddaughter, Louise, was to study Civil Engineering, 2001 to 2005.



Manchester: Henry and Louise July 2005.

## The War Years

Salford and Manchester were prime targets and suffered during WW II with German bombers coming over, dropping their bombs over Trafford Park, Salford Docks and Manchester. Thousands of children were evacuated.

Talking to Henry as he opened his presents on his 89th Birthday he was asked what he was doing when he was 21. He replied that it would have been 1943, the war was on and he was living at home with his mum and sister, Lily. He was still working in his first job and had joined the Home Guard, health issues kept him out of the army.

His officers, who trained him in the Home Guard, were all middle aged and were ex first world war. Their experience of war was in the trenches. They were marched up the main street until they reached the countryside – Clayton Bridge – a valley where they expected the Germans to come from. He was taught to use a Ross rifle, which came from Canada, where they still had a stash of ex WW I rifles.

An air raid had taken out Sutcliffe's office in town and Henry was delighted when they took over a large house in Didsbury, an area where his aunts had once lived. Henry turned the small garden behind the offices into a small vegetable garden – 'Digging for Victory', he produced potatoes and carrots.

*Henry was an avid listener to the popular radio program Brains Trust and admits to being greatly influenced by its discussions. It was an unscripted program broadcast in the 1940's and 50's. The three panellists tackled a variety of issues answering questions from the thousands they received each week from the general public.*

## Henry's Early Career

Henry's career started when he was 14 years old. His first full time job was with Sutcliffe Ventilation and drying Company and he recalls that his mother went with less food to ensure he had the proper clothing for his first day at work. Sutcliffe was a London firm, but Henry worked out of the Manchester office. He earned 10 shillings a week.



Manchester: Possibly Sutcliffe's drawing office 1930s.

They were certainly a well-respected firm in the world of air conditioning. In 1912 a government investigation into "Humidity and Ventilation in Flax Mills and Linen Factories" began. The need for humidity in the processes obviously created serious health issues and in one case, it was noted that the water taken from the River Ban(n) was "*undoubtedly beyond the limit of purity*", Hearings from company owners, weavers and spinners in Belfast and Glasgow, (including one J M Andrews of John Andrews & Co, Comber), went on for over a year and Maurice Sutcliffe was called, on 18th December 1913 in Manchester, to confirm what could be done. Although at this time he admits that humidity was not something he worked with – he dealt with dust removal problems in the carding rooms – his opinion was clearly highly valued.

Henry then moved companies and began work for Sturtevant Engineering Company in Denton. It was this company that sent Henry over the Pennines to Leeds, where he lived in digs – this was in 1946 at the age of 24.

His next firm, Walkers, was based in Halifax. The company was run by a former army Colonel, who after the war, had been given the job of Mayor of a German town. There he met an inventor who, had an idea for a good humidifier – Henry was employed to work on this project. The firm undertook several jobs for Gallahers. Henry remembers going to their London factory where ‘roll your own’ was made. It was the old Richard Lloyd factory in Clerkenwell Road and there was a Mr Gore Lloyd still in charge.

Extract from Henry’s letter to Gillian & Isobel - Sunday 28th February 1993:

*“My photocopies tell of two stories if not three. The first is of the enormous Gallaher wealth of the fifties and sixties. Any new machine or development had to be professionally photographed for the record and nothing was too insignificant.”*

*“The York Street factory was not getting things right and the air conditioning plant was blamed. I, and my small firm in Halifax undertook to put in a new plant with the minimum of disturbance to production. The space reserved for such plant was already occupied and had to be left at work to the last moment. A new plant room was chosen but it was a bit remote. One picture shows the main ducts being installed to make the link. They were about 4.5ft square and you could almost walk in them.*



York Street, Belfast: PM Walker Team erecting air conditioning plant at Gallahers July 1960.

*The final link had to be made over one week and everyone from Halifax was needed. Gallahers still had to gather the team in the yard for the photograph as you see. Although I got most credit, the man standing on the left was the supremo for the week end and his planning ensured things could be switched on the following Monday. His name was Roy Taylor.”*

*“I enjoyed my time at the small firm of Walkers but it was also a small town firm and my salary was related to Roy Taylor’s rather than those of the directors. I had almost clinched a new job in Manchester when I got a phone call from Gallahers to tell me of a new job. It was when I explained that I was parting company with Walkers that they came back with a job offer. Since it was my fifth firm I assumed it was just another on the list, but I soon experienced the Gallagher easy life.”*

Henry joined Gallahers with a salary increase from £1000 to £1500pa.



PM Walker, Halifax: Brian Walker (left) In the drawing office.

## The Leeds Years

When the war had come to an end Sturtevant opened an office at City Square in Leeds. Henry was 24 when he moved to the new office to work for Dick Mobbs.



Henry's digs at Stonegate Road, Carr Manor, North Leeds 1946.

Henry took digs a little way out of the city at Carr Manor, Meanwood and he was struck by how unlike Lancashire it was with views of the countryside and the Dale. He moved within the same area to stay with Mrs Hill where he had somewhere of his own to sit in the evenings. He travelled into the city centre by bus. At this time Doreen was travelling across Leeds to school and they later realised that they must have been passing each other every day.



Leeds: Doreen and Vera Duccles on the way home from school.

He returned home to see his mother every weekend and when her failing eyesight meant that she had to move in with Lily and Bill, it was Pauline Green who had to vacate her bedroom

for Henry's visits. She remembers having Uncle Harry's technical drawing books in her room for many years.



Paris: Henry and the Cycling Club 1953.

Henry enjoyed travel, usually with his bicycle, and holiday destinations included Scotland, Ireland and the Cotswolds. He holidayed with a cycling group that travelled to Paris, Rome and Naples.

Whilst at a dance class he met Doreen his future wife and they were married within a year on September 11th 1954. They honeymooned in Venice, an exotic location at the time.



Henry and Doreen 11 July 1954.

*Henry had ambitions to learn German and had purchased the necessary books. Then he met Doreen and never did learn German.*

Sturtevant provided Henry with his first company car, a Morris Minor, and this is when he gave his bicycle to young Jack. In 1956 he left the company to work for Walkers in Halifax, who made industrial fans.



First car -in the Dales, 1955.

Whilst working for Walkers, Henry made two trips to Belfast to undertake work for Gallaher's Tobacco. When he considered he was ready for more responsibility and a better salary he applied for and was offered a job in the Manchester office of Davidson Sorrocco, a Belfast firm. During his next conversation with Gallaher's, he explained that he would be leaving Walkers for a new job. On hearing the news, Bob Marrs offered him a better job in Belfast. Taking this job meant moving the family from Leeds to Belfast, but only for a "couple of years"!

*Henry's bike played a large part in his life and took it on holidays to the Cotswolds, Scotland and the Continent. He also took the bike to Ireland and on his return reported that it had been so wet that he had to empty the water out of his shoes.*

## Life in Belfast

The family moved across the Irish Sea to Belfast in 1961. There was a preliminary look at Northern Ireland with a family holiday at the seaside resort of Bangor in a guest-house overlooking the beach.



Bangor: Petrina, Doreen and Gillian July 1960.

A job was available in Belfast because Gallahers were expanding and taking over a mill. Henry remembers seeing the building when it was still a linen mill and watching the women working bare foot on the wet floor. Henry's initial job in the factory was to look after the air conditioning system. The air conditioning was an important part of tobacco manufacturing because it controlled the drying of the tobacco and so the final weight. If the tobacco was too dry, it weighed less and the company's profits would drop.



Henry, Hilary Glynn and Shane Browning.

At the time Henry started, Cecil Mason, the successor to the founder, Tom Gallaher, was in charge. He was a 'tobacco man' and the company continued to be controlled by similar teams for Henry's twenty two years there. Henry's role was in the Central Engineering Department, moving into research and development for much of his employment with a team of young engineers. The work involved regular travelling, usually within the UK, London, Cardiff and Manchester, but occasionally further afield to the Netherlands and USA.



Henry addressing the conference, Galgorm, Scotland.

The Belfast site of Gallahers was between the docks and the New Lodge Road. When the Northern Irish troubles started this was a high

risk area and there was concern that the factory would be targeted. The management instituted a 'fire watching' rota with Henry and colleagues taking turns to sleep in the factory, to be on site if anything untoward happened. There was to be no cash payment, but a very generous allowance of tokens for the Benson and Hedges gift catalogue, resulting in many hours of family time, perusing its contents.

The new life in Belfast had an inauspicious start, with a delay of seven hours in the spartan nissan hut that was then Leeds' Yeadon airport, with three small children. But the family, including Grandma Bilton, were picked up by a Gallaher colleague, John Corrigan, and taken for a meal on the Kings Road in Belfast.

Against prevailing views, and mild pressure from the Chief Engineer to find a house close to Gallahers, a decision was made to base the family in the leafier, east side of Belfast with views over the city and lough. A home was made in rented accommodation in Ellesmere Park while house hunting took place. The first two choices were near Kings Road but problems with land or water intervened. A new site in Gilnahirk Walk was found; Henry liked the view and Doreen appreciated the trees. As it was at an early stage in the build, this option allowed more input into the design. Progress was inspected by the family each Sunday.

The family moved in 1963 and this remains the family home. The garden was a challenge;



The building of No 21 Gilnahirk Walk; Gillian in foreground, possibly Petrina to the right side, young Snoddy to the left c1962

sloping and a used as a bit of a tip during the building of the other houses in Gilnahirk Walk. The slope was terraced and tamed but the ‘glen’ of bluebells, ash and sycamore down to the stream remains. The more formal side of the garden was planted with ornamental trees and shrubs before the flower gardens were developed. There was a swing for many years but when this was outgrown a sundial was installed on the bottom section of an antique lamp post.



Gilnahirk Walk, Belfast: Henry's improvised garden sculpture.

The garden is now mature but continues to be admired and developed with the recent artistic addition of a gate at the entrance to the stream.

The beautiful Northern Ireland countryside was a surprise. Summer weekends involved family trips to many favourite places, Dundrum



Gilnahirk Walk, Belfast: Ornamental garden gate to the Glen 2012.

Castle, Tyrella Beach, Ballywalter in County Down and Portrush and Gaints Causeway further north. Tollymore Forest was a favourite. Many happy hours were spent ‘fishing’ with feet in the icy pools while others walked past in their Sunday best. A consistent favourite outing is to Strangford Lough and Castle Ward. In the early years the crossing between Strangford and Portaferry was in a small boat open to the elements that could ferry about 20 people. Later a car ferry allowed a round trip. The restaurants and coffee shops in the area are well used when either Isobel or Gillian visits. The Lough looks wonderful in any light! The family are still finding treasures, with a first visit to Murlough Bay this summer.



Strangford Lough 2012.

The family were happy to share the countryside with visitors. The most regular guests were Lilly and Bill Green with Pauline and Shirley. Bill was a railway man and was able to travel for free by the railway-owned ferry from Heysham. They would take trips to Portrush or Newcastle on their own. At the weekends, all nine would pile into the family car. Quite a surprise for the RAC man, who helped when the car broke down. In the evenings there was time for an update to satisfy a Mancunian desire for local news. Then there was the annual trip to the pet shop in Smithfield for the girls.



Henry, Isobel, Doreen, Petrina, Bill, Gillian, Lily c1964.

There were trips in the opposite direction too. A pattern of one holiday in Ireland and one on the mainland was established and helped maintain contact with extended family. Holidays in Ireland and Wales were shared with Doreen's family. In good weather, at either location, the focus was on the beach. One Welsh holiday included Henry, Petrina and Gillian climbing Snowden with Eric and Jackie Room. Whenever

possible, extra trips to the mainland were organised to allow the whole family to be involved in weddings and other family occasions.



Brighton: Isobel, Doreen, Gillian and Henry July 1973.

In winter, weekend trips tended to be closer to home; the Transport Museum, East Belfast playgrounds or Dixon's Park. Sometimes there was just a walk around the local streets kicking leaves. Saturday afternoons were Doreen's 'off duty' time and Henry took charge of the family. He was never the Head Chef, however, and when Doreen went to Leeds for the weekend there was some deliberation on how to make gravy.



Snowdon: Isobel, Henry and Gillian August 1969.



Dundonald, Belfast: Gillian, Doreen, Isobel and Henry at Moat Park on Easter Monday 1969.

Life got more complex as the girls got older, compounded by the continuing violence. It wasn't safe for teenagers to socialise in the centre of Belfast so Henry ran a 'taxi service', often to Milanos in Bangor.

When each daughter left Belfast, contact was maintained with those away by means of a Sunday letter. The weekend writing routine started in Henry's younger days with regular letters to his mother from Leeds. For Petrina, Gillian and Isobel it was a direct communication with their father when he could no longer hear a telephone conversation clearly. Any daughter away from Belfast got a copy of a letter covering a mixture of family, political and other local news complete with relevant cuttings from the papers. The Sunday 11th December 2005 dispatch is a good example with paragraph subjects ranging from elderly neighbours, the Queen's visit to Northern Ireland, George Best's funeral, the turnover of Dunnes Stores, and Blair's deal making with Sinn Fein and the IRA. The letter was completed with a personal comment for the addressee. Many letters read like ongoing family conversations rather

than factual accounts; often three way discussions with Doreen.

There was plenty of material for the cuttings. Henry is an avid reader and a keen follower of current events. As a true Mancunian his routine of reading the 'Manchester' Guardian continued in Belfast, stopping at Cherryvalley shops on the way to work each morning to pick up a copy. The weekly edition is still delivered to Gilnahirk Walk. The Belfast Telegraph, Economist (and Gardeners World) also drop on the mat and there is a daily routine of walking to Gilnahirk Garage for an Irish News. The library was also a routine part of family life and when wondering what Henry would like best for a birthday, Christmas or Father's day gift – well, a book of course. No made up story thank you, one with plenty of facts.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Henry, December 1988.

Henry installed speakers in several rooms in Gilnahirk Walk. His preference to listen to Kathleen Ferrier singing arias first thing on Sunday morning was not appreciated by at least one teenager in the bedroom upstairs. Friday evening attendance at the Ulster Orchestra was a routine part of life for many years. There were favourite seats at the front of the circle, to the right hand side facing the orchestra.

## Henry in Retirement

Leaving Gallahers and full retirement was separated by a year working with the Youth Training Scheme; an organisation set up to bridge the gap between school and work for those who were not interested in continuing in education. Involvement in the Castlereagh workshop included committee meetings particularly as secretary of the Development Committee, but also travelling to other workshops to understand how they were organised. For example, when Henry felt that Castlereagh should move towards more general metal work, he could visit Andersonstown and 'Ballymac' workshops for benchmarking.

At one stage there was talk of retiring whichever side of the Irish Sea was home to the majority of daughters. When the time came, there was a granddaughter on the Irish side and with weekly involvement in her care, this decided the issue.

A self-survey of what Henry wanted to do with his time in retirement suggested that he had a day too short each week.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Henry and Beth (5 months).

## Henry the Local Historian

Henry's participation in the Queens University social history group may have come to an end when the residents of the Markets district became reluctant to answer the door but his interest in social history remained.

Shortly after his retirement, Gallaher themselves were leaving central London to a site in Weybridge and when he showed interest, Henry was asked to provide a history of the company to be displayed at the new site. The invitation came from Nigel Anderson, a director but the idea came from the Director of the Brooklands Museum. Gallahers were moving to the site of the famous racing track. They received planning permission provided that they refurbished the Brooklands Club House as a car and plane museum - 2,500 wellington bombers had been built there. The Director of the museum suggested that Gallahers looked at their own history. The first brief, in, July 1985, was for a display in the new entrance Hall at Weybridge. The display was to consist of items of interest, photographs and brief notes.

Henry's secondary ambition was to write something deeper about Tom Gallaher and his times with a focus on economic history rather than just Tom as a front man. This involved many hours of research, particularly in the Linen Hall Library in Donegal Square. The official Gallaher Museum research provided access to people who could help with the written history. Adverts in *Smoke Signal* (Gallaher's in-house magazine) and company lists provided contact with pensioners. The oldest had been 27 when Tom died. There was also communication with Tom's family. Henry met Pearl, Tom's youngest granddaughter.

However, there were some touchy areas as the family had fallen out over the inheritance and the descendants had to be persuaded that it was worth saving pertinent papers - as long as they were kept secret for 25 years.

Tom Gallaher was born in Londonderry in 1840. He started his tobacco processing business in a shop in Derry before moving to Belfast in 1863. His company's York Street factory was built in 1881 and became one of the biggest in the world. Gallaher also opened premises in London to cope with huge expansion in business. One avenue of investigation was the tax fraud of 1910 and Henry found the actual lead weight that was used to give a false reading – as big as a postcard and half an inch in depth.

Tom had wide business interests in Belfast. As well as his tobacco business, he was a shareholder in the Belfast Ropeworks and chairman of the Belfast Steamship Company. During the 1907 docker's and carter's strike, Gallaher was involved in the supply of scab labour to the employers in the dispute. He refused to meet with trade unionist leader James Larkin who was publically negative towards Tom. Thomas Gallaher died in 1927 aged 87. His York Street factory was partially demolished in 1990, the surviving elements converted into the Yorkgate retail and leisure complex. A Gallaher's tobacco factory continues to operate at Ballymena in Co Antrim.

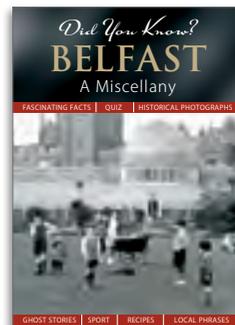
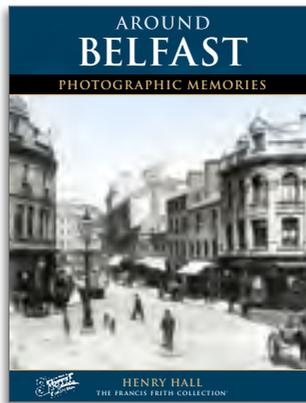
Henry's involvement with Gallaher's history meant that when the York Street factory was closed in 1987, he was in a position to select pieces of machinery to be kept. He had been in contact with the Ulster Museum and now asked them to store the pieces of plant, with an idea to add tobacco to the linen and ship building exhibitions in the Belfast Room.

## Henry the Author

Henry's life long interest in history and his natural curiosity resulted in him being asked to write a book on the local history of Belfast. The book was to be illustrated by photographs from The Francis Frith Collection. Henry seized the opportunity to indulge in his favourite pastime and set out to research every detail of the buildings and scenes portrayed in the photographs. He did such a thorough job that the publisher had some difficulty in prizing the final text from his hands as he kept finding additional information to add! However, as the publication date loomed he declared the task completed and the book was duly published on time.

It proved to be a big success and sold over 3,000 copies in its original format. Many of Henry's facts from the first book have subsequently been used in a second miscellany book about Belfast – which has also sold over 4,000 books. Interestingly, the publisher reports that there have been no corrections received from the general public – despite the large numbers printed, which is unusual and a testament to the quality of Henry's research!

This record must put Henry high in the ranks of "Best Selling Local Authors"!



## Henry the Political Activist



Castlereagh Council Offices on Nominations Day: Henry (Agent) and Candidates; Addie Morrow, Ian Kirkpatrick and Melissa Jeffers 19 April 1985.



## Henry the Correspondent

Petrina was the first of the offspring to leave home when she and Sam moved to Cheltenham. Then began the “letter from Belfast”. When Isobel and Gillian left home to go to university and beyond, the letters continued in duplicate.

Every Sunday morning, before the rest of the household awoke, Henry would start work on a weekly summary - of family events (outings, decorating, new purchases, visits from other family members), political happenings (his work for the Alliance party and the ups and downs of the elections), commentary on the ‘troubles’ in Belfast and his latest findings from his Gallagher research. This would be interspersed with comments about the weather; the garden, the Snoddy household and health matters etc etc.

Each letter would be finished off with a handwritten note to each of the recipients and envelopes would be stuffed with newspaper cuttings from the Belfast Telegraph or The Irish News with items of interest to that particular person. This would then be followed by a walk to the post box to send them off and apologies if it was late!

These letters were enjoyable and informative at the time and are wonderful to look back on. It was Gillian who first recognized the value in keeping them as part of our family history, not to mention Henry’s account of the unfolding political situation in Northern Ireland. Isobel followed suit – and hopefully between us we have the whole set!

*He enjoyed Alistair Cooke’s Letter From America and Gardener’s Question Time.*

## Henry the Family Man

Despite his many and varied interests, Henry is mainly a family man. The family have always

come first, especially when there was any problem to sort out and he made sure he regularly visited his sisters and their families.



Lily, Phyllis and Henry 1993.

When the children were young, the family often went out at the weekend to a park, the coast and to a variety of ruins! One of the favourite places to visit was Tollymore Forest Park where they had many picnics.

Although Doreen and Henry had only intended to stay in Northern Ireland for a couple of years, once the children were settled in school, disrupting them wasn’t an option and so 51 years later, Belfast is still their home.

Henry gave the girls great support throughout their education. Petrina was in a class of four, doing O level French, following her father’s recommendation to the Headmaster that the subject should have been offered to her class. He continued with his support in later years, with the family regularly receiving cuttings from his many newspapers, which related to individual interests.

*When the new home in Gilnahirk Walk was completed, what was to be the garden, was full of builders rubble and very high nettles. Henry spent many hours landscaping, moving tons of earth and making garden paths to create the garden they have today. When Doreen came home from hospital in 1982, she was surprised to find Henry had been building a summer house in the garden for her to recuperate in. The garden was well used by children in the family and many others. It provided endless adventures.*

Family holidays covered many parts of the UK and the Republic of Ireland. During a trip

to London Henry managed to secure a theatre box at a bargain price to see ‘Godspell’ and waited at the end so that Gillian could get David Essex’s autograph.

In Belfast in the 1970’s nowhere was open in the evenings and Henry patiently drove to Bangor on Saturday nights to collect Petrina and her friend from a disco.

*Henry never watched much television preferring to read in the evenings however he made an exception for Top of the Pops on Thursday evenings. He was obviously keeping an eye on what the girls were watching. He taught Doreen and Petrina to drive.*



Gilnahirk Walk: The whole Clan.

An extension was built above the garage in the early 70's so that Doreen's Mother could come to live with them.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Henry and Rebecca May 1990.

When grandchildren came along, Henry was nearing retirement and so was able to spend time with them. When Petrina needed help he undertook the school runs as well as her shopping and Hoovering. Help with shopping continues today. There was an occasion when the children were able to help him. Louise remembers putting together packs of leaflets in the back of his car while he was out canvassing for the Alliance Party.

*The Alliance Party raised funds through jumble sales held in Tullycarnet. Henry brought home all sorts of things, including an old rocking horse which looked great when he had painted it and made it a new wooden head.*

Louise recognised the true engineer in her granddad who found logic and systems in everything, including accurately weighing potatoes for Sunday lunch and experimenting by placing a post in the garden to help decide where a new tree should go.



Louise and the giant Rabbit 1 March 1993

Rebecca recalls being taught about 'turning circles' as Grandad parked the car, and the day he was met at the school gate by Louise carrying an enormous toy rabbit she had won and which was bigger than her.

He fully supported Louise when she first expressed an interest in engineering, making enquiries and providing her with literature from WISE (Women in Science and Engineering). She is proud to have followed in her grandfather's footsteps into a career in engineering. When he visited her at UMIST she was glad to be able to give him a tour of the buildings where they both studied.



Portballintrae: Gillian, Henry, Isobel, Doreen and Petrina at Sweeneys on 50th Wedding Anniversary September 2004.

Doreen and Henry have been married for 58 years and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a weekend family get together at Portballintrae, on the north coast of Northern Ireland.

Henry and Doreen have a long tradition of taking their grandchildren to Belfast Zoo. Louise and Rebecca enjoyed these trips to one of their favourite destinations every summer holiday. Later, Beth and James were often taken to the zoo on Christmas Eve. Such a favourite destination, the whole family even went to the zoo to celebrate Rebecca's graduation!



Belfast Zoo: Rebecca, Henry and Louise August 1996.

## An 80th Birthday Party Celebration.

The party for Henry's 80th birthday was held on Saturday 26th October 2002, at John and Isobel's home, Larkham's Farm in Teffont, Wiltshire. But for Henry, it all started with the usual visit to Petrina and Sam's on his birthday, 3rd October. A phone call from Lily earlier in the day had not spoiled the surprise and he talks in a later letter of leaving Petrina's house "clutching a sheaf of papers on movement, stopping places and the colourful invitation sheet", "We raced across the car park for the usual coffee hardly waiting to see the details".



Henry and John's mother Jean October 2002.

It was to be a good party, lots of food, wine, a sing-a-long (ably led by Jack Dennis) and fireworks in the back garden! In attendance, along with immediate family were Lily, Pauline, Shirley and Brian, Jack and Kath, Claire and Paul, Janet and Colin and John's Mum, Jean. It was the sing-a-long that set the standard for future get togethers!



Larkham's Farm, Teffont: Mark, Henry and Doreen 2002.



The Black Dog, Chilmark: Henry, Lily, Shirley, Pauline, Mark, James, Beth, Doreen, Isobel, John, Louise, Petrina and Brian 2002.



'Salford Quays: James, Beth, Isobel, Petrina, Doreen, Louise, Sam, John, Henry and Gillian September 2008.



Skipton: Everyone at Pauline's 60th September 2007.

## Henry's Family

### Doreen

Doreen Bilton was born on the 17th February 1931, the second daughter of Alfred and Annie Bilton (nee Swindels). She had an older sister Audrey and they lived at 2 Cedar Road Armley, where Doreen was born.

Alf was from Leeds and worked for Yorkshire Engineering Supplies having served his time as an engineer in Newcastle working on submarines. Annie was the eldest sister in a large family and so was known to everyone as Cis. She had worked as a tailoress making men's suits.



Audrey and Alf Bilton.

Doreen was 3 when the family moved to 73 Blue Hill Lane. Four of her mother's siblings, Auntie Elsie, Auntie Flo, Auntie Nell and Uncle Bert and their families lived very close by on Blue Hill Lane and Crescent, in houses which had been built by her uncle, Alf Chatterton.

Doreen's family moved to no. 1 Blue Hill Crescent when she was 6 years old. She attended Wingate Road Council School where she met Joyce Triffitt who was to become her best friend.

Doreen was 8 when war broke out and was evacuated along with her mother, aunts and cousins to Lofthouse in Nidderdale where they spent most of the war years. They



Leeds: Wingate Road Council School; Doreen, top row, 5th from left.

arrived in the village by car, which intrigued the local children and they lived together in a house which her Uncle Bernard knew about. He was involved with the YHA and had been asked to find suitable properties in the area which could be rented and run as Youth Hostels. This house was one of his suggestions. The outbreak of war put a stop to any such plans and so the family were able to rent it. Doreen has very fond memories of life in Lofthouse and playing in the countryside. She has since enjoyed many holidays in the Yorkshire Dales. Her heart is still there, especially by the river at Beck Side Top.



Friends at Beckside Top.

At the end of the war many children were returning to Leeds, some from as far away as America. Schools had to accommodate them as best they could and at age 13 Doreen passed an exam and was accepted into Lawnswood High School on the far side of Leeds. This involved travelling by two buses and two trams every day.



Doreen and Jean 1953.

After leaving school she trained at St James' hospital in Leeds, known as Jimmy's where she met her friend Jean Argyle who she is still in contact with. She became a state registered nurse in 1952. She and Jean went together to Lennox Castle near Glasgow to do their midwifery training. This involved working night duty in the infamous Glasgow tenements, which housed large working class families in cramped and impoverished conditions. On returning to Leeds, Doreen and Jean shared a (prefab) house together in Cottingley at the end of Elland Road, where they worked as community midwives.

Doreen met Henry at a dance class (they never learnt to dance). After frequently missing the last bus home from Cottingley, Henry acquired a motor cycle, Reg MUG. He was introduced to her family at her nephew Richard's christening and they were married in St George's, Leeds General Infirmary Chapel, on September 11th 1954.



Doreen.

*When Henry and Doreen first met she thought he was an orphan because he kept quoting his guardian. She soon realised of course he was quoting his newspaper and not a surrogate parent!*

They lived with her parents at first, on Blue Hill Crescent, while Doreen worked for a short time in a lab with her brother in law, Eric Jackson. They moved in to their own home at 37 Ringwood Drive, Seacroft. Their first child, Petrina, was born in November 1955 followed by Gillian in 1958 and Isobel in 1960, and so it was with a very young family that they went to live in Belfast in October 1961.

Before leaving, Doreen and the children stayed with Audrey for a short time while Henry looked for somewhere to live in Belfast. A rented house at 5 Ellesmere Park was home for the first couple of years. Initially Doreen's mother lived with them, but she didn't like Belfast and returned to Leeds.

During this time, 21 Gilnahirk Walk was built. The family moved there in the summer of 1964 and Doreen has put much time and effort into creating their family home. She looked after her mother when she came back to live with them in the seventies. Later, her mother's failing health meant that Doreen could only go out when there was someone else there to look after her.

Doreen has missed her family and Leeds very much. She especially missed the big family parties they used to have at Christmas but Audrey, Auntie Nell, Uncle Jack, and cousins Olwen and Tommy came with their families on holiday and many trips were made to Yorkshire.

Doreen became a grandmother in 1982 when Petrina's first child, Louise was born, followed



Wardour Castle: Henry and Doreen at Isobel's wedding, July 2006.

by Rebecca in 1985. She was needed again to look after Louise for a couple of days a week when she was a baby and has done a lot to help out with Petrina's family over many years. At one time Sunday afternoons were reserved for teaching her granddaughters how to paint and bake. Favourite recipes included chocolate muffins and school holiday buns. Many birthday cakes of various shapes were produced and of course Doreen's parkin and lemon fridge cake are renowned.

Doreen became a grandmother again in 1993 when Gillian's daughter, Beth was born, followed by James in 1995. The family live in London



Gilnahirk Walk, Belfast: Louise and Smokey 1984.

but Doreen loves having them to visit as often as possible and has enjoyed receiving videos, many photographs and examples of the children's art-work.

There had been another addition to the family, when a grey cat had kittens in the Snoddy's coal house. The kittens were given away to neighbours and friends and Smokey became Doreen's much-loved cat, appearing in family photographs.



Manchester: Gillian, Petrina, Doreen, Henry and Isobel at Richard's wedding November 1980.

Doreen loves the garden, although not all the weeding and watering. She has taken art classes and regularly attended Ulster Orchestra concerts in the Ulster Hall. She enjoys reading fiction and poetry. She loves the countryside and her favourite holiday destinations are the Dales and County Kerry. When either Isobel or Gillian comes to stay, she enjoys their days out along the County Down and County Antrim coast. She has many fond memories of time spent in out of the way remote places and shares Isobel's love of Strangford Lough, but her heart will always belong to the Yorkshire Dales.



Henley: Doreen, Petrina, Gillian, Isobel and Henry at Jane's wedding June 1994.



Rowallen, Saintfield: Henry, Doreen and Audrey July 2003.

## Petrina

Petrina, the eldest of Henry and Doreen's three daughters, was born at Blue Hill Crescent in Leeds on 19 November 1955.

Petrina initially attended school at St Johns Church of England in Leeds. She was nearly six when the family moved to Belfast. Petrina met Helen Kane, her life long friend, at Ginahirk Primary School and both went on to Dundonald Girls High. The two girls went to Guides together, sang in St Dorothea's Choir and after undertaking their "O levels in 1972 entered the world of work.



Henry and Petrina 1957.

*Petrina's first day at the local school in Belfast was somewhat traumatic as she couldn't understand the local accent.*

After a period of 18 months working for the Department of Health and Social Services, followed by the General Accident Insurance

Company in Belfast, Petrina embarked on her nursing career. She trained at the Ulster Hospital in Dundonald, living initially in the Nurse's Home and then Bloomfield Road with a group of student nurses. During her time at the Ulster Hospital, a patient re-introduced her to one of her former boyfriends, Sam Kendal.

*One Christmas morning while Petrina was at work, Henry found Eithne on her own in the house at Bloomfield and persuaded her to join the rest of the family for Christmas dinner, before giving her a lift to work.*

Petrina and Sam married in August 1977 and went to live in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, where Sam was studying Town Planning. Petrina worked in the Gloucester Royal and Cheltenham General Hospitals.

On their return to Belfast in 1980, Petrina and Sam lived with Henry and Doreen for a short period before moving to their current home at 181 Sandown Road. Petrina took a nursing post in the Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital and soon became a member of the Cardiac Team.

The team was set up by the late Professor Pantridge and became world renowned by providing rapid response using a portable defibrillator. One dark winter's night Petrina found herself scaling the sides of an oil tanker in the middle of the Irish Sea to treat the vessel's captain. Sam took up a post in the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and eventually went on to become their Strategic Planning Manager.



Culloden Hotel, Holywood: Shirley, Bill, Lily, Phyllis and Doreen at Petrina's wedding August 1977.

They had two children. Louise was born on 31 July 1982 and Rebecca on 28 June 1985. These were busy days for Petrina and Sam. Petrina worked nights and would sleep at her parent's home during the day. Sam would drop Louise with her grandparents in the morning and the family would be reunited in the evening for dinner with Henry and Doreen.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Louise, Petrina, Henry and Rebecca July 1985.

During the late 80s Petrina developed ME and was no longer able to work. For many years after that Henry and Doreen would go to Sandown Road two days a week to look after Petrina and the girls. They would undertake house work, make the meals, pick up the girls from school and do the weekly shopping. Petrina and Sam remain indebted to this day.

Petrina has strong Christian beliefs and has been an active member of the Select Vestry, Mothers Union and various other groups at St Dorotheas in Gilnahirk. In the past she has been a church warden and today she is a parish reader and regularly leads prayers and gives communion.

Both Louise and Rebecca attended the Braniel Nursery, followed by Greenwood Primary, Strandtown and Bloomfield Collegiate.

*Louise Kendal was such a chatter box. One day when Henry collected Louise from Nursery school at the Braniel, one of the teachers, Mrs Knipe, came out to wish him many happy returns of the day.*

After Bloomfield, Louise studied at UMIST and the University of Calgary. In 2005 she graduated with a Masters in Civil Engineering. Her first Civil Engineering job was for Arup in Manchester. She married Elizabeth (Liz) Riches from Heywood, Lancashire in 2009. Liz ran a hypnotherapy business. A downturn in the building industry led to Louise being made redundant. She and Liz emigrated to Christchurch, New Zealand in 2011 where Louise took up a post with Aurecon, working on the earthquake recovery, while Liz was appointed as a medical secretary to a consultant in a local hospital.

Louise has been a long time member of the Girl Guide Movement. In 2007 she led the UK

and Australia Gold Team which trained guide leaders in Thailand. She was a leader in several guide companies in Manchester and in 2010 was appointed Divisional Commissioner for South West Manchester. She continues her guiding today and currently leads a Guide company in Christchurch.

Rebecca fell ill with ME during her days at Bloomfield. She completed her “A” levels at Belfast Tech. She graduated with a BA(Hons) in American Studies and then a Masters in Human Resource Management at the University of Ulster. Since 2006 she has worked for Northern Ireland Water, initially in Human Resources and more recently as a Project Support Officer in Data Quality.

Rebecca has an eclectic taste in music including rock and heavy metal. She has adorned herself with numerous piercings and tattoos. Her hair has been jet black, blue, purple, white, red, orange, blonde and green. During her time at University she rented flats in South Belfast’s Donnybrook Street and Ashley Avenue before returning home. In 2010 she bought her late Auntie Mary’s house in Ballyhackamore.



Ramsbottom: Henry, Liz, Louise and Doreen at Louise's wedding October 2009.



Sandown Rd, Belfast: Henry and Sammy July 2005.

## Gillian

The second of the 'Hall girls', I was born at Ringwood Drive, Leeds on a snowy day in February 1958. So snowy that Daddy had to dig the midwife's car out to allow her to leave. I don't have many memories of my first three years there but I can remember great anticipation when Grandma Hall came from Manchester to visit. She had poor eyesight, so my sisters and I placed our hands on Grandma's knee so she knew how much we had grown. Grandma Bilton brought chocolate bunnies!

A pre-school child when the family moved to Belfast, my life revolved around trips to Mr Johnston's shop and Cherryvalley, and the myriad of domestic deliveries that were routine at that time. I followed Petrina to Gilnahirk Primary

School. My highlight there was probably winning an enormous cake in a raffle on Sport's day! My parents thought very highly of the Headmaster, Mr McCartney.

My secondary school was Bloomfield Collegiate. I suspect that Daddy and I passed our interview with Miss Grey, the Headmistress, because of his English accent. I was always one of the first to arrive at school as Daddy dropped me off in Knockhill Park on his way to work. Our journey was longer when I started work in the laboratories at Belfast Children's Hospital in 1976. We travelled together into the centre of Belfast then went our separate ways. Initially Daddy drove but later I did the first leg then he took over in a quiet street in Short Strand. At election times, at the worst of the troubles, my first task was to check under the car for explosive devices.



Gillian, Henry and Petrina 1962.

The Chinese curse ‘may you live in interesting times’; working in a complex wedged between the Falls, Grosvenor and Donegall Roads of Belfast in 1974 was ‘interesting’ to say the least. We were at the height of the Northern Irish troubles and there were evenings when we had to consult security before we knew which exit to use. When Bobby Sands was on hunger strike the tension could be felt as soon as we left the building. My driving test coincided with the first of the Ulster Workers Strikes; there were few other cars on the road but multiple out of practice cyclists and the odd road-block.

The first time I drove Daddy’s car to work it was stolen and used in the armed robbery of a post office. The perpetrators were spotted by the police and chased. There was no time to plant a booby trap, so no need to blow it up. Instead, I had to stand on the war torn Springfield Road outside the Police Barracks until the police let me in. I was finger printed then asked to identify possessions (spare glasses yes; gun and balaclava no) by a policeman in a Starsky and Hutch cardigan, before leaving. Unfortunately he forgot to clear the registration from the stolen car list so that when I tried to get to the airport to pick the family up, I was stopped at gun-point and surrounded by half a dozen paratroopers with rifles pointed and safety catches off.

My next move was to London to work in the Biochemistry Department at Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital. Gallaher’s Head Office was a few minutes walk away, so occasionally Daddy and I were able to meet up for the evening. There was time for supper and theatre before the last flight back to Belfast, with mutual admiration of the architecture en route. There was usually a surreptitious transfer of Doreen’s

home baking from the bottom of Daddy’s briefcase before we separated at the underground; Daddy to Heathrow and me to Balham.

There was an opportunity to visit another part of the UK when I moved to Aberdeen for an MSC course in Clinical Pharmacology. But all my roads lead back to the South East: Surrey, Balham then Wimbledon this time. I managed to finish a PhD from the University of Wales, Cardiff despite only spending one night in that city. Daddy had an excuse to pound the capital’s streets once again, while Mummy preferred the galleries. I remember Daddy once walked from Wimbledon to the centre of London, carefully crafted map in hand.

1988 was rather hectic with a sabbatical in the US, a family trip to Cardiff for my graduation and a wedding I met Mark in Balham in May 1983. We lived in various cities over the next five years, usually not at the same time. My parents first met Mark on a theatre trip in London but Daddy and Mark bonded, engineer style, looking down an excavation in Inverness. I think Mark became a real part of the family through Christmas visits to Belfast. For many years the Christmas routine was Church, opening presents, coffee with the Snoddys, drinks with the Kendals and lunch at the Hall’s (in those days).



Henry, Gillian, Beth, Doreen and Louise in North Wales after Claire’s wedding, 2002.

I left academia to earn a living again. This time I joined the non-government sector real world - as advised by my father! I was given the opportunity to turn my PhD research into a business; one that has lasted twenty years. I am now an advisor and client rather than the boss. With a bit of cash coming in, Mark and I bought a house and travelled when we could. A trek through the Amazon was amazing but ended in many months of illness and my having time off work.

Beth was born in London in July 1993. Within a few weeks our new family moved to Newcastle giving us all another part of the UK to explore. "Geordie" James was born in December 1995 providing male support for Henry after a run of six girls (according to the family cards). We went to Newcastle for two years and stayed for six, so all our pre-school time was spent in the North East. It was an easy place to live when two parents are working; Mark in manufacturing operations and I set up a consultancy in Pharmacoepidemiology.



Beth, James and Mark at Niagara Falls, 2011.



Larkham's farm, Telford: James, Beth and Henry.

Back to London in December 1999, this time settling north of the river. Despite moving house, two jobs, school, nursery and nannies, we still made it to Belfast for the Xmas festivities. We moved into our current home the next summer, a regency house built about 1810 – by Daddy's estimate – complete with plaster sphinx which was fashionable following Nelson's victory at the battle of the Nile. It was quite a shock when we realised that we had been here long enough to have to redecorate. It has become our busy family home with school, work, friends and sport revolving around it and the launch pad for Beth and James. Beth has recently started studying for a degree at Sussex University. James is now focusing on "sensible" subjects at school next year (maths, chemistry, physics and biology).

## Isobel

I was born 28th December 1960 in the front bedroom of 37 Ringwood Drive, Leeds. At eleven months I made my first (of many) house moves, via Auntie Audrey's, to Elsemere Park, Belfast.

My first memory is of Elsemere Park – being in a back garden (ours presumably – or visiting a neighbour at a later date) with Petrina & Gillian and someone pointing out a tiny silver aircraft in the sky and telling me that there were people inside. Other memories of this time are of being in the push-chair (I remember the pattern on the material) at the gates of Gilnahirk School, waiting for one of my sisters. This last memory actually came back to me, years later, as the result of smelling a familiar smell – I identified it as a mixture of dog pee & privet hedge – I was fairly low to the ground in that pushchair!

I had the best of rural childhoods, growing up in Gilnahirk. I went to Gilnahirk Primary School and then Bloomfield Collegiate. I was an easy going child and remember being told that I would be staying on to do 'A' levels because I had been bought a new school uniform toward the end of my 'O' level years – I had no other plans, so stay at school I did. I think I surprised my parents when I agreed to go to university but only on condition that I could go to England. I don't know where this sudden urge to leave home came from, but off I went to Leicester University to get my BA Hons degree in Archaeology, Ancient History and Classical Studies. I still have an interest in history (presumably inherited from Daddy) but I came away from university with a mistrust of the world of archaeologists and their pronouncements. John will confirm that to this day, archaeology programs can lead to me shout-

ing at the telly – “if you don't know, just say you don't know – don't start making it up!!”



Gilnahirk, Belfast: Isobel and Smokey 1971.

I returned home to Belfast after university and by October 1982 was working voluntarily for The Educational Guidance Service for Adults in Bryson House, an organisation mainly set up to target adult literacy. Through them I also started work for Channel 4. It was at the very beginning of their broadcasting – I remember when they started they had some difficulties with advertising and there would be music played in the breaks between programs. At the end of each program would be a list of PO box numbers for England, Wales, Scotland and N. Ireland. I was responsible for dealing with enquires to the N.I. PO box. In those days there was only one telly in our house and I couldn't insist that we all watch only Channel 4 – so I was often dealing with enquires about programs I hadn't seen!

In May 1983 I moved back to England – to Reading where, despite my total lack of affinity with numbers and maths, I started down a long road where I can't seem to get away from them. I worked for various pension companies, which I hated, and then Reading Borough Council as a credit controller (Senior Clerk - Enforcements!) – which I loved. I never collected much outstanding rent, but I got to meet lots of people from all walks of life. I must have made some sort of good impression because they promoted me to run the Rents/Debtors department – but a year later I was given an opportunity I couldn't refuse.

In June 1989, I set off for a year on a round the world trip; Canada, Hawaii, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand and India. What an experience!

Back to reality in 1990 and back to credit control in various companies (credit control turned out to be a useful fallback) before I moved to Eastbourne. I then had a great time working for House of Fraser and from 1992 to 1997 was promoted from Merchandise Manager to Assistant Admin Manager and then to Retail Finance Manager. As second to the Store Manager I



Sandown Road, Belfast: John, Henry and Isobel December 2006.

knew all the ins and outs of daily life in a department store – Grace Brothers all over again – every day was a riot! Unfortunately the building was falling into disrepair – the glass dome over the old dance floor (the furniture department) often leaked and buckets had to be placed at strategic places. Eventually, head office decided to close us down.

In April 1997 I moved to Wiltshire, as several old friends from Reading days were already there. Again I got work in credit control but then one 'fateful' day in 1997 I went for an interview with John Buck at The Francis Frith Collection in Shaftesbury and got the job as Administration Manager! By December 1999 we had moved into Larkham's Farm, Teffont, together, with the business being run from the old barn at the back.



Belfast: John and Henry slope off to the pub December 2005.

In 2006, John & I were married. John, born in Montreal, Canada, had lived in the UK from an early age but for many years had had a longing to move back to Canada. I was not thrilled at the thought of a log house by a lake (I had plenty of experience of Canadian black fly and mosquitos whilst camping there) but a visit to a step brother on Vancouver Island changed my mind and by 2007 the Canadian authorities had



Teffont: John, Henry, Jack, Kath, Janet, Doreen, Mark, Louise and Mary, July 2006.

approved me and we bought our lot at Willis Point and built a house here.

I still work part time for Frith's. I manage the cash flow – (can't get away from those numbers) and check/edit the memories being added to our website on a daily basis (much more fun). My other job is landscaping – trying to turn an acre of wilderness and old driveway that surrounds the house into a garden. This is the job I love the most. John calls it a hobby – but then I remind him how much it would cost to have someone else do it!

In marrying John I acquired an extended family in the form of his sons, Jason and Sebastian

and now their wives, Helen and Kerry. Jason and Helen have two children, Poppy (5) and Tilly (born in December 2011) and live close to us on Saltspring Island. Sebastian and Kerry were married in Santa Monica in June of this year and live in Pacific Palisades, LA.

One last memory; I was very young, perhaps four or five, I think I was playing with Zara from next door. Daddy was working in the garden – on the slope at the back of the house near the Snoddy's. We, giggling, asked him how old he was. He thought for a moment and then said "90"!

## Henry's Sisters

### Phyllis Hall

Phyllis was the eldest of Lillian and Walter's three children and nine years older than her brother Henry. He was known to her as Harry, and when he was learning to talk he called her 'Did' instead of Phyllis, a name which he continued to use on occasions when they were adults.

Phyllis was born on Goodiers Lane, Salford on September 23rd 1913. She grew up in Salford and would have been 16 when her parents took over The Lord Egerton and the family moved to live in the pub. When her father, Walter died in 1935, Phyllis along with her sister Lily, became the family's bread winners. She worked in Fennel Street near Manchester Cathedral as a tea packer.

Phyllis married Jack Dennis on March 4th 1939, not long before the outbreak of war. Jack's father ran several shops selling sweets and tobacco and Jack and his siblings followed him into the business. Jack ran one of his Father's shops on Bradford Street in Ancoats and Phyllis and he lived above the shop. They had to leave Bradford Street when it was being cleared for redevelopment and for a short time had a shop on Great Ancoats Street.

The shop was open six and a half days a week and Jack worked long hours. This meant they missed out on family occasions and holidays. Phyllis' married life always involved helping in the shop and when Jack was called up and sent to Scotland, she had to take over the running of it. Her son Jack was just a baby at the time, so her sister Lily came to live with her to help out. Phyllis and Lily decided to close the shop for one day on young Jack's first birthday and take him



Henry, Doreen and motorbike outside Cottingley Drive, Leeds c1952.

to Blackpool. This was the only day the shop ever closed and Jack senior was never told.

The shop sold a variety of goods including tobacco, cigarettes, snuff, sweets, toys and herb beer. For a while they had a paper round and both Jack and Phyllis delivered the early morning papers before their children went to school. Herb beer was made on the premises and at one time sold for sixpence a half gallon. The snuff they sold was Gallaher's Irish Snuff and came from Belfast. Gallagher's had a depot on Great Ancoats Street and Jack went there to collect it. Snuff was used mainly by women. Mill workers used it, as they were not allowed to smoke in the mills. It was subject to tax and so had to be carefully weighed. It was then sold by the dram wrapped in folded paper.

Their first child, Jack, was born in December 1941, during the battle of Britain. As Phyllis and Jack made their way to hospital they walked past factories where there were no air raid shelters and when bombing started they had to lie down on the pavement and wait for it to stop. Their daughter Margaret was born on March 3rd 1944, followed by Janet on August 28th 1945. In



Larkham's Farm, Telford: Henry and Jack 2002.

1952 they moved to a new shop in Wythenshawe not far from where Phyllis's mother, sister and family had moved to. They lived in a flat above the shops in the housing estate.

*Henry took his nephew Jack on various trips including his first meal out. Jack wore his long trousers.*

The children also helped in the shop. Jack can remember being in charge when he was seventeen and when Margaret and Janet left school they had ready-made jobs.

In 1967 Phyllis and Jack moved into their new home, a house in Heald Green. Young Jack married Kathleen Shutt (Kath) in 1965 and their son Andrew and daughter Jane were born in 1968



Colwyn: Henry and Kath.

and 1970 respectively. In 1967 Janet married Colin Shaw. They had a son Simon in 1969 and a daughter Claire in 1971.

Jack retired from the shop in 1981, having previously retired for 6 months when he thought the lease was up. He died in 1984.

Margaret married Mike Protty in 1983 and they lived for many years in Australia. In 1985 Phyllis, along with Lily and Bill, travelled to Australia to visit them. Margaret and Mike have since returned to live in the UK.

*During the weekend of Paul Garner's wedding, the extended family visited Manchester Library. Margaret recalled Henry taking Jack, Janet and her to the library as a child.*



Manchester Library.

In 1986 Phyllis left Manchester to be close to Janet who was living on the north coast of Wales. She died in October 2002. Since then Phyllis' family has grown and she has six great grandchildren. Phyllis enjoyed living in Colwyn Bay. When she was young, just before she was married, she visited a clairvoyant who told her she would end her days by the sea. Being very much a city girl she didn't believe him!

## Lily Hall

Lily was Henry's older sister and the middle child in the family but to her, and to the rest of the family, he was Harry and Uncle Harry. Lily was born on Dec 6th 1918 and like Harry, was born at 18 West Craven Street in Salford. As she was four years his senior she was protective of her younger brother.



Henry, Bill, Lily and Phyllis.

Lily was 12 when the family moved to Manchester where she and Harry attended St Marks School. She was 16 when their father died and her income was needed to support the family. She had an interest in sewing and worked as a machinist, first of all on Oldham Road and later in Market Street, Manchester city centre.

Following the move to Hassop Street in Beswick, Lily became a member of the local church, Christ Church. It was here that she met Bill Green, her future husband. When war broke out Lily was 21. She worked for a time at an engineering firm "Mather and Platt". When her sister Phyllis' husband, Jack Dennis, was called up, she went to live with Phyllis to help her run the shop and to keep her company.

Bill Green was also called up and served in North Africa, Italy and Greece.

At the end of the war Lily and Bill were to be married but arrangements for the wedding had to be cancelled twice as it took some time for Bill's regiment to return home from Greece. Lily refused to arrange another date until Bill had actually returned home. They were eventually married in Christ Church on November 24th 1945.

Initially they lived with Bill's parents in Connie Street where Pauline Linda was born on September 10th 1947. They later lived with Lily's Mother in Hassop Street and this is where Shirley Ann was born on October 8th 1951. The move to Hassop Street meant that they were

somewhat overcrowded especially when Henry came home from Leeds for the weekends. This put them onto the housing list and eventually led to them having a home of their own.

In 1952 they moved along with Lillian and Henry into their own home at 54 Amberly Drive in Wythenshawe. They were very much involved in their local church, St. Francis, for many years. Lily was saddened when she was no longer able to worship there. Lily cared for her Mother when her failing eyesight meant that she could no longer do things for herself. Later Bill's Mother and Father came to live with them.

Bill's job with the railways meant free travel by train and boat. They took advantage of this and so the family had many holidays with Harry



Pauline, Lilly, Bill and Shirley July 1984.

and family in Belfast, when nine of them would squeeze into the car for day trips.

Shirley married Brian Garner in 1974 and Lily's grandsons, Stephen and Paul, were born in 1979 and 1981 respectively. Pauline married Michael Ruscoe (Mike) in 1980. Mike and Lily were very fond of each other. Tragically Mike died as a result of an accident age 46.

Lily enjoyed many family celebrations, including her 90th birthday party in 2008, when for two days she was surrounded by her extended family. She lived to be 91.



Wardour Castle: Lily and Henry July 2006.

## Henry's Parents

### Walter Hall

Walter Hall, Henry's father, was the eighth of nine children born to William Hall and Ellen Higham. He was born on 5 April 1879 in Salford at the Wheat Sheaf Public House on Regent Road where his father was the landlord and from where he also ran a coal dealing business.

Walter was christened at St Philips, in Salford, as were all but one of his nine siblings. Also, Jane Ainscough and Henry Gee were married at St Philips in 1884.

His mother, Ellen, died in 1892 aged 52 when Walter was only 13 years of age. He continued living in the Wheat Sheaf but by 1901 he had moved to 1 Vere Street, still in Salford, from where his father, together with his sons Joseph and Walter ran a coal yard. By this stage, Walter's older brother, Joseph, was a widower and had returned to live with the family. His youngest sister, Florence was also still living with them.

During the 1900s, Walter's father moved to Didsbury where he had helped establish daughters Ellen and Florence in a drapery business. In 1910 he collapsed and died on the platform at Didsbury Station.

Joseph inherited the coal merchants but the business failed. By 1911 Walter was 32 and living as a lodger at 107 Tatton Street. His occupation was recorded as a Carter.



St Philips Salford: Jane Ainscough and Henry Gee were married at St Philips in 1884. It is possible that Lilian Gee was baptised here too. Walter Hall was baptised at St Philips in 1879, as were his siblings, Joseph (1871), Ellen (1872), Mathew (1876) and William (1874). The church is impressive and spacious and was well suited to and used by the local garrison. Designed by Sir Robert Smirke in 1825, the building's Greek style is unique in Salford. The view of the church from Chapel Street is impressive, with its bow-fronted porch with ionic colonnade and balustrade parapet and bell tower above. The church became St Philip's with St Stephen in 1962 when St Stephen's church on St Stephen St closed and the congregations merged.

## Lillian Gee

Lillian Gee, Henry's mother, was born at 51 Ellesmere Street in Salford on 20 March 1887. She was the only surviving child of 10 or possibly 12 children born to Henry Gee and Jane Ainscough. Lillian's twin brother, Frederick Morgan Gee died within 12 months of his birth.

Lillian was christened at St Bartholomew's, in Salford on 3 April 1887. At the time of her birth her father was a waiter and by 1891 he had become a barman working and living with his wife Jane and daughter Lillian in an Inn at 57 West Worsley Street. However, by 1892, her father, like William Hall, had become a publican when he became landlord of the Lord Egerton at 27 West Craven Street.

Lillian attended a private school in Woodbine Street. Her mother Jane, died in 1905, aged 41 when Lillian was 18. Her father, Henry, later married Charlotte Ellen Rodgers (often referred to as "Ma Gee"), a widow from Hyde in Cheshire with a daughter. Lillian continued living and working at the Lord Egerton with her father until 1912, when she married Walter Hall.

*Lillian could recall the Queen's diamond Jubilee in 1897 including the local regiments marching along Regent Road with bandsmen in their red coats.*

## Married Life

Walter and Lillian married in 1912. There are suggestions that Lillian's family did not approve of the union. However, they sought advice from Walter's eldest sister, Francis, and were married by special licence. There was a ceremony at the Non-Conformist Church in the fine setting of Monton Green. This led to a family reconciliation.



St Bartholomew's, Salford, where most of Henry and Jane's children were christened. The church was demolished as part of a redevelopment scheme in the about the mid 1900s.

It is understood that when Walter and Lillian married, Walter was running a one man coal business. They moved to Goodiers Lane where Phyllis Hall was born in September 1913. Without any training, Walter took a semi-skilled job with the Manchester Ship Canal Docks and about the same time the move was made to a family home at 18 West Craven Street where Lily (1918) and Henry (1922) were born. Another daughter, Ethel, was born in 1916 but she didn't survive.



Gillian, Grandma Hall and Petrina 1958.

*When Walter was living in West Craven Street, their house backed onto his brother Joseph's house at 21 Dodddington Street.*

Henry Gee died in 1929 aged 68. Following his death, Walter and Lillian ran the Lord Egerton, then owned by the Empress Brewery. These were difficult times in urban Britain and within a year the the brewery were putting pressure on them to leave and the family moved to 351 Bradford Road, Miles Platting on the east side of Manchester.

Unemployment soared and a sister helped Walter find out door work, labouring. Unfortunately he developed pneumonia, possibly

during a flu epidemic, and died in 1935 aged 56. Henry was only 12 years of age when his father died. After Walter's death the family moved to Hassop Street, again in East Manchester.

### Living with the Greens

Phyllis Hall married Jack Dennis in 1939 and Lily Hall married Bill Green in 1945. Initially Lily and Bill lived with Bill's parents but when Henry Hall left home to work in Leeds, they, along with their first daughter, Pauline, moved back to Hassop Street with Lillian. Shirley Green was born in Hassop Street. However, in 1952, all five, including Lillian, moved to 54 Amberley Drive, Newall Green in Wythenshawe.

Lillian died in 1962, aged 75.

*With time Lillian's eyesight began to fail but Henry would read to her. Jack was aware that Henry's visits included readings from Dickens and frequently took the opportunity to sit by the fire and listen in. His favourite was Pickwick Papers.*



54 Amberley Drive, Newall Green in Wythenshawe. Before Henry married he would return from Leeds to Manchester every weekend and stayed with Bill, Lily and family. He would frequently take his mum for a walk to Jack and Phyllis' shop in Heald Green.

A synopsis of Henry's Uncles and Aunts, which in this instance, is confined to Walter's brothers and sisters, is included in Appendix 1.

## Henry's Ancestry

Both of Henry's parents were born in Salford, Walter in 1879 and Lillian in 1887. Three of his grandparents were born in the South Lancashire area, the exception being Henry Gee who was born in Lincolnshire.

William Hall, Salford, 1835

Ellen Higham, Salford, 1840

Henry Gee, Lincolnshire, 1860

Jane Ainscough, Curdley, Warrington, 1863

John Hall 1804, Alston, Cumbria

Jane Lee 1806, Garrigill, Cumbria

Richard Higham 1812, Warrington

Margaret Hewitt 1814, Salford

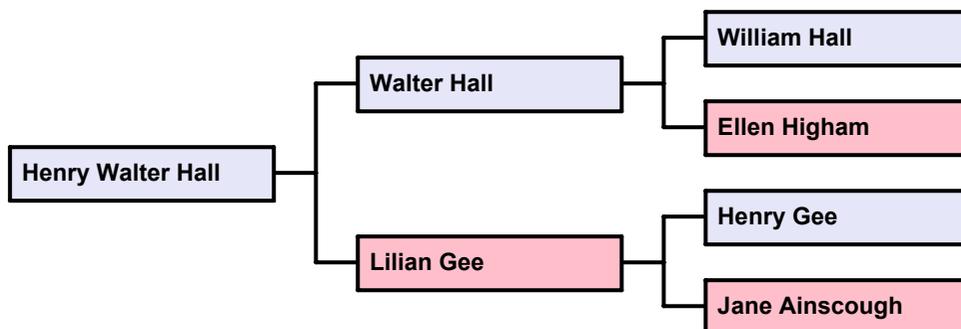
William Morgan Gee 1823, Deeping St, Lincs

Mary Ann Atkin 1828, Boston, Lincolnshire

James Ainscough 1832, Churchtown, N Lancs

Alice Cookson 1829, Tarleton, N Lancs

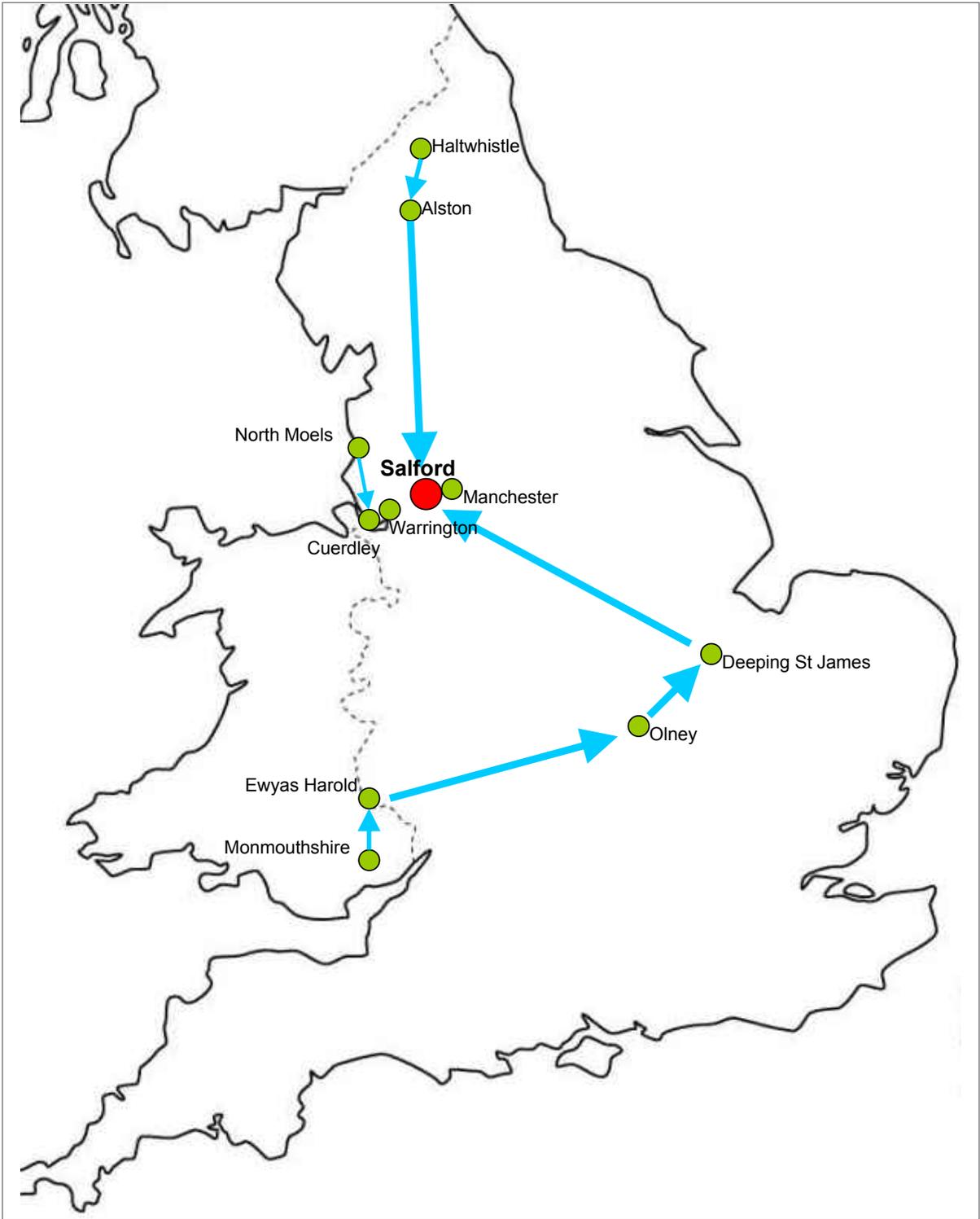
# Ancestors of Henry Walter Hall



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The birth places of the previous generation, Henry's great grandparents, were much more dispersed. With the exception of Margaret Hewitt and possibly Richard Higham, all were born in rural areas. The migration of these families in the early C19th very much reflects the general pattern of rural to urban drift at that time, as people followed new job opportunities to the fast developing industrial conurbations.

The following sections explore the origins of the four family lines; The Halls, The Highams, The Gees and the Ainscoughs. The exploration will also branch to follow the lines of spouses.



## The Halls

The earliest reference to the Hall line is Joseph Hall born about 1778 in Cumbria. However, the ancestry of his wife, Ann Charlton, also born 1778, predates this. Ann was born in Henshaw, and baptised in 1780 at Halfwhistle, Northumberland. This represents the most northerly point of Henry Hall's known ancestry. It is estimated that Ann's parents, John Charlton and Elizabeth Pickering, were probably born in the 1750s.

Joseph and Ann were married in Alston on 27 May 1803 and had five children:

<b>John Hall</b>	born 1804
Betsy Hall	born 1806
Ann Hall	born 1807
Charlton Hall	born 1809
Joseph Hall	born 1819

The Halls were a lead mining family who lived in Garrigill, near Alston in Cumbria. The area is very remote and the family home, Windy Hall, was perched on a west-facing slope above the village. The dwelling is still there today and has undergone major renovations in the last couple of years.



The remains of Windy Hall 2003.

In 1826, John Hall, Henry's great grandfather and the eldest son of Joseph and Ann, married a local girl, Jane Lee (born 1806 in Garrigill). Jane's parents were Joseph Lee and Mary Rumney who married in Alston in 1802.

## Alston

Alston claims to be the highest market town in England, being about 1,000 feet above sea level. It lies within the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, more than 15 miles (24 km) from the nearest town, and is surrounded by moorland.



Alston: Centre of the Village.

Historically the area has been mined for lead, silver, zinc, coal and fluorspar. Most mining was very small scale until the mid-18th century. The landscape has been heavily influenced by the effects of varying methods of mining over the centuries.

The biggest mine owner in the area was the London Lead Company; the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), with enlightened employment policies, established an interest in the area during the early 18th century. In 1745 it began

construction of a school, a library, a sanitary house, a surgeon's house, a market hall with clock tower, a laundry and a 'ready-money' shop in Nenthead, four miles away.

The last mines closed in the 1950s. Tourism is now a key source of income for the area and Alston is noted for its cobbled streets and 17th century stone buildings.

At its peak, Garrigill was home to 1,000 people, mainly employed in the lead mining industry; now its population numbers less than 200. Those who live and work in the village are mainly employed in agriculture. The centre of the village is the green, overlooked by the post office and the George & Dragon, with the church and village hall nearby.

John and Jane headed for Salford, while most of John's siblings remained in the local area and worked in the mining industry.

John and Jane had five children, all but one of whom was born in Salford:

Thomas Hall	born 1830
Hannah Hall	born 1831
Matthew Hall	born 1833
<b>William Hall</b>	born 1835 – 1910
John Hall	born 1840

By 1841 the family were living at 6 Mason Street in Salford and John was working as a "coal heaver". They were still there in 1851 but John was described as a widower working as a store man in a machine shop. There is no record of Jane's death but it can be assumed that she died in the mid-1840s when she was approximately 40 years old. She would have left John with a family of five children ranging from 5 to 15 years of age.

John married his second wife, Sarah, from Houghton and by 1861 he was a milk dealer living at 101 Hodge Lane, Salford, while Sarah ran a grocer's shop.

William Hall, Henry Hall's grandfather, was born in 1835 and would have been approximately 10 years of age when his mother died. At the age of 15 he was a foundry labourer. By 1861 William was working on the railways as a railway guard and living with his uncle, Joseph Hall, at Shepherds Hill, in Whorlton, Yorkshire. Joseph had continued in the family mining tradition and was working as an agent for a mining company.

It is thought that William, whilst working on the railways, injured his hand. The resultant compensation enabled him to set up business in a coal yard. The railway company subsequently acquired the coal yard as part of its expanding network and William used the proceeds to purchase investment properties in Salford.

William and Ellen Higham were married on 1 July 1861 at St Johns Church in Manchester. Ellen was a cotton weaver living at 67 Liverpool Street in Salford. When they married, William's occupation was described as a "baker". However by the mid-1860s he was following his main occupation as a "coal dealer".



Salford: William Hall's calling card late 1880s.

William and Ellen had nine children. Further details are listed in the Appendices under Uncles and Aunts.

These were as follows:

Richard Hall	born 1865
Frances Hall	born 1867
Margaret Hannah Hall	born 1868
Joseph Hall	born 1870
Ellen Hall	born 1872
William Hall	born 1875
Matthew Hall	born 1876
<b>Walter Hall</b>	born 1879
Florence Hall	born 1884

The family lived at a range of address in the Salford area including Mason Street, Sidney Street, Liverpool Street, Wilna Terrace and Pembroke Street, before taking over the Wheat Sheaf at 239 Regent Road in the late 1870s when William became a “beer retailer” and a “coal dealer”.

William was widowed in 1892 when Ellen died, aged 52. Later he was to give up the Wheat Sheaf and moved to 1 Vere Street off Eccles New Road from where he and his two sons, Joseph and Walter ran a coal yard.

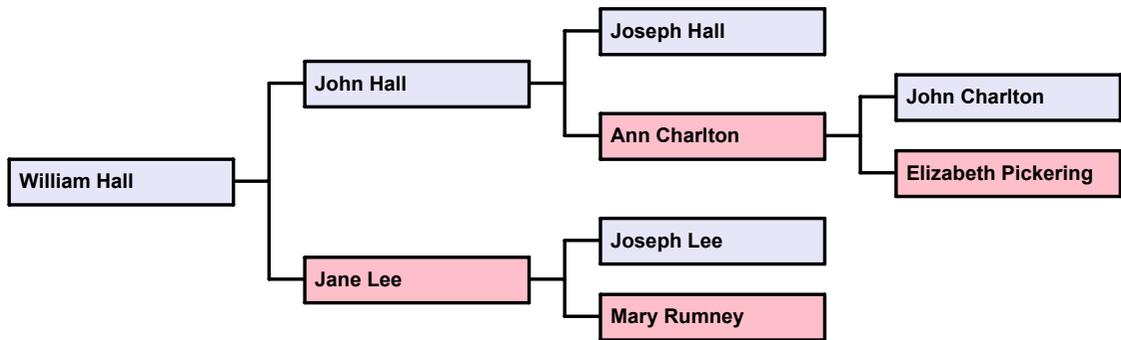
During the 1900s, Walter’s father left Salford and retired to Didsbury where he had helped establish daughters Ellen and Florence in a drapery business. In 1910 he collapsed and died on the platform at Didsbury Station, aged 75.

*William Hall had purchased a number of dwellings (investment properties) in the Salford area. Frances, being the eldest daughter, was seen as the family matriarch. She was her father’s book keeper and collected money in respect of her father’s businesses, including rent from the properties. This she did riding on a horse and cart. All of William’s children received quarterly cheques from the rents on the investment properties.*



In 1901 Walter was living at 1 Vere Street as a coal salesman. The property appears to have been on the corner of 239 Eccles New Road. It is thought that No 1 Vere Street (now 239B Eccles New Road) is the little shop to the side and rear of 239. The remainder of the street has been redeveloped. His father’s coal yard was to the rear.

# Ancestors of William Hall



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## The Highams

Of the four main lines which comprise Henry Hall's ancestry, his grandmother, Ellen Higham's line, can be traced back furthest in the South Lancashire area. The Higham name only goes back as far as 1812, however, the line of Ellen's mother, Margaret Hewitt, can be traced back to mid-1700s.

Ellen's great, great grandfather was Joshua Drake. It is thought that he may have been born about 1755 in Hartshead, West Yorkshire. At the time of writing this line is under investigation. If verified it appears Joshua's was part of a long established family in the Hartshead area, dating back to at least 1617.

*Henry and Jack Dennis suspected the family had a Yorkshire connection and on one occasion Henry remarked: "When I told an aunt that the firm I worked for was transferring me to Leeds, she exclaimed that was where the family came from".*

Joshua married Rebecca (possibly Goodall) in Hartshead in 1773. They moved to Manchester and their daughter, Sarah Drake, was baptised in the Cathedral parish in 1785. At this stage nothing is known of Joshua's occupation, where he lived and if Sarah had any siblings.

In 1809, Sarah married John Hewitt, again in the Cathedral Parish of Manchester. They had two daughters, Mary Hewitt in 1811 and Margaret Hewitt in 1814. Although both were baptised in the Cathedral parish, their address is only recorded as Salford. John Hewitt's occupation was a "dyer" and it can be assumed he was working in the cotton industry or a related field.

In 1834 Margaret Hewitt married Richard Higham in Manchester. They had seven children:

John Hewitt Higham	born 1835
Harriet Higham	born 1838
<b>Ellen Higham</b>	born 1840
Sarah Jane Higham	born 1843
Richard Higham	born 1845
Leonard Higham	born 1846
Margaret Higham	born 1847

We know that Richard was born in Warrington in 1814 but it has not been possible to confirm who his parents were. By 1841 they were living at Coronation Street in Salford with three children. Richard's occupation was a rope maker and Henry's grandmother, Ellen Higham, was just eight months old. It appears Richard, in partnership with Daniel Bray, was running his own business. However in 1843 the partnership was dissolved.

Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser - 23 December 1843

### Legal Notices

Notice is hereby given, that the partnership therefore existing between the undersigned RICHARD HIGHAM and DANIEL BRAY, carrying on the business of rope and twine manufacturers, in Coronation Street, Salford, in the county of Lancaster was this day dissolved by mutual consent. All debts due and owing to the said concerned will be paid and received by the said Richard Higham, by whom the business will, in future be carried on - As witness our hands the eighteenth day of December 1843.

RICHARD HIGHAM

DANIEL BRAY

Witness to the signatures of  
the said parties,

J. M. Heslop, solicitor,  
28, Princess-street, Manchester.

The family continued living in Coronation Street but in 1851 Richard was absent. However, he is showing as residing in Lancaster Castle. At that stage the Castle was a prison and Richard was recorded as a debtor. Obviously Richard's business had hit hard times. An indication of this was a notice in the Lancaster Gazette dated 1 March 1851.

**INSOLVENT COURT:** On Friday last, Feb. 28th, 1851. Before John Addison, Esq. Richard Higham, formerly of Coronation-street, Salford, rope and twine manufacturer — petition dismissed.

By 1861 Richard and Margaret were reunited and living at Liverpool Street in Salford. Richard was again working as a rope maker, as was his eldest son, John. Ellen, now 20, was still living at home and employed as a cotton weaver. Ellen married William Hall in July of that year and had gone to live in Sidney Street.



Coronation Street, Salford: Although much of the Regent Road part of Salford was redeveloped, it appears Coronation Street was either the subject of significant refurbishment or rebuilding on the old foot print. The dwellings continue to occupy the same space they did in the 19th century.

Times continued to be difficult for the Highams. By 1871 Richard was described as an unemployed rope maker, and his son, Richard, who was still living at home, had left the rope making business to become a railway porter. Their youngest daughter, Margaret, was also still living in the family home at 107 Liverpool Street, just four doors away from William Hall, Ellen and family at number 99.

At this stage Richard changed occupations, decided to become a publican and took up the license for the Union Tavern in Liverpool Street. He died in 1875 aged 63. On his death, his wife Margaret took over the licence. Margaret died in 1883 aged 69.



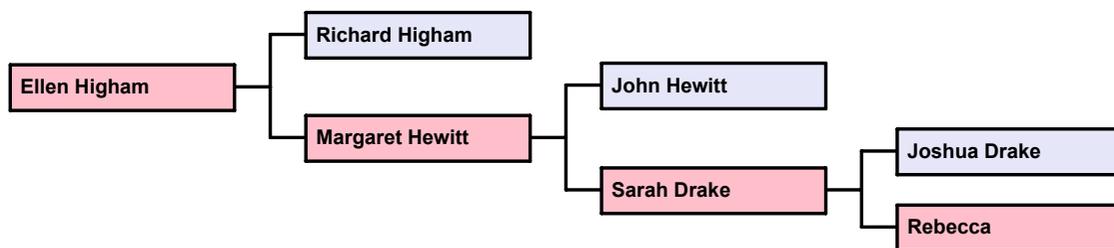
The Union Tavern, Liverpool Street. Salford Local History Library in a recent publication on Salford pubs states the Highams ran the Union Tavern for a period of 20 years from 1858.

### **SPECIAL TRANSFER SESSION IN SALFORD.**

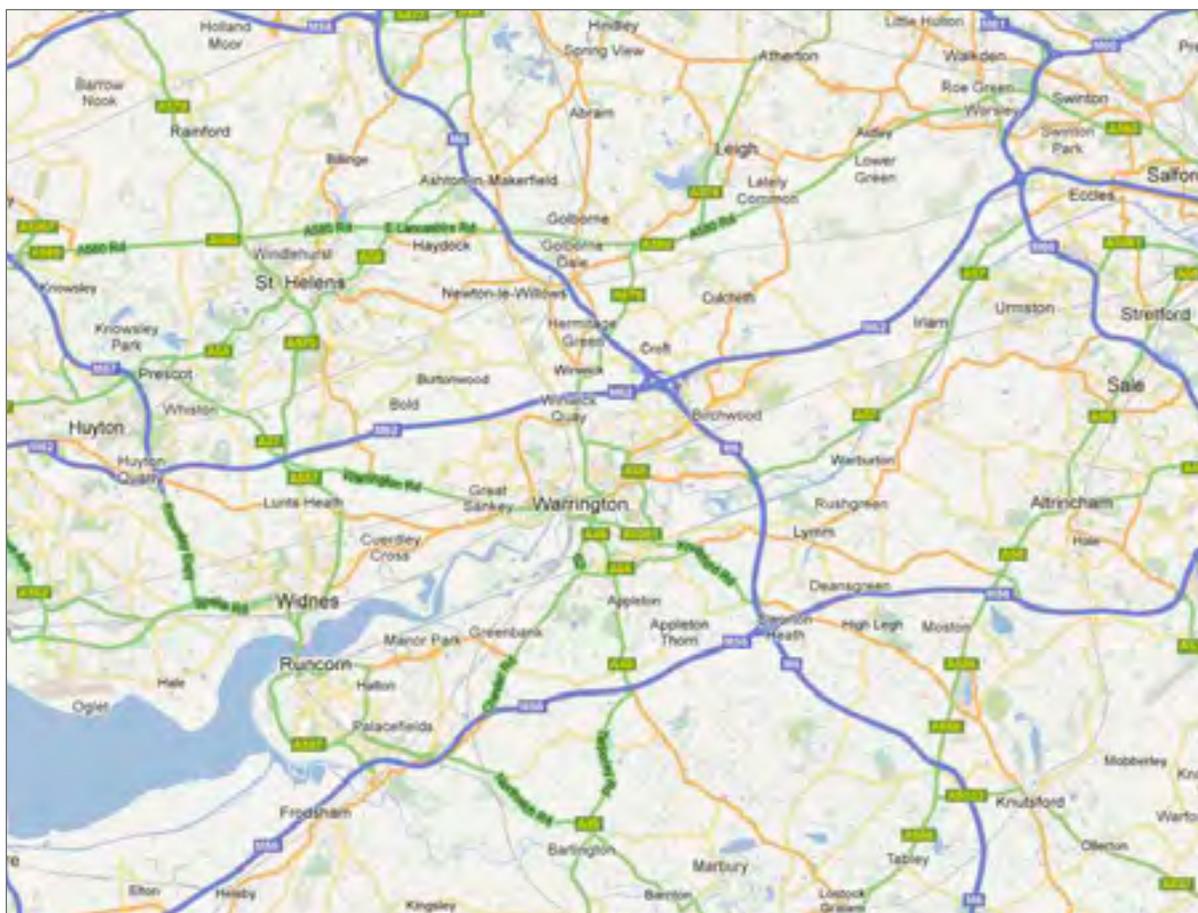
Union Tavern, Liverpool-street, Salford, Richard Higham (deceased) to Margaret Higham (as new tenant and occupier)

Source: Manchester Evening News - Wednesday 7 July 1875.

# Ancestors of Ellen Higham



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## The Gees

Henry Gee's ancestry is geographically distinct from the Halls, Highams and Ainscoughs in that it is much more southern and eastern orientated. The most reliable and verified information records the earliest Nathaniel Gee as being born in Olney, Buckinghamshire in 1711. However, unsourced information suggests his parents were Nathaniel Gee and Jane Wilky from Scotland. Indeed, it is thought that the origins of the Gee name are derived from Geeson in Dumfriesshire.

There are three key locations in the Gee ancestry:

- Olney in Buckinghamshire,
- The Deepings in Lincolnshire and
- The Manchester and Salford Area

## Olney in Buckinghamshire

In 1735 Nathaniel Gee married Jane Royston in Astwood, Buckinghamshire. They had eight children but only four survived to adulthood.

Jane Gee	born 1737
<b>William Gee</b>	born 1739
Barbara Gee	born 1742
George Gee	born 1745 – 1747
Elizabeth Gee	born 1747 – 1762
George Gee	born 1748 – 1791
Kitty Gee	born 1750 – 1751
Ann Gee	born 1756 – 1756

Barbara Gee, William's sister, was the grandmother of Jane Morgan, the mother of William Morgan Gee, born in Deeping St James in 1823.

*Astwood lies between Bedford and Milton Keynes just south of the Newport Road. It is approximately six miles from Biggleswade, the home of Doreen Bilton's great, great, great grandparent in the late 1700s!*

Nathaniel was the curate at St Peters & St Pauls and it is highly likely that he knew John Newton who wrote Amazing Grace. John Newton was also a curate at the church. Jane died in 1781, aged 66, but Nathaniel survived until 1796, when he died aged 85.



St Peter and St Paul, Olney. The church stands on the bank of the River Great Ouse and, with its fine spire, dominates the southern approach to the town. It is thought that Olney Church was originally situated at the north end of the town and there is some suggestion that that church was founded in 1018. The greater part of the present church was built in the fourteenth century between c.1330 and 1400, in the 'Decorated Gothic' style then in vogue. The finest feature of the church is the spire, which is unusual for Buckinghamshire. Among the graves in the south-east corner is the grave of John Newton and his wife Mary (re-interred). Amazing Grace is a Christian hymn written by poet and curate of St Peter & St Paul Olney, John Newton (1725–1807).

Olney has a history as a lace-making centre, and as the place where the Olney Hymns were written. Since 1445, a pancake race has been run in the town on many Pancake Days. Tradition records that back in 1445, on Shrove Tuesday, the "Shriving Bell" rang out to signal the start of the Shriving church service. On hearing the bell a local housewife, who had been busy cooking pancakes in anticipation of the beginning of Lent, ran to the church, frying pan still in hand, still in her apron and headscarf. The women of Olney recreate this race every Shrove Tuesday (known in some countries as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday) by running from the market place to the Church of St Peter and St Paul, a distance of about 380 metres.



Olney: Pancake sign.

William Gee (born 1739) continued to live in Olney and in 1762 married Ann Barnard who was born in 1837 and was also from Olney. Ann's known ancestry predates that of William. Her father was Nathaniel Barnard, born in Olney to Samuel Banard and Elizabeth Day. Her mother was Rose Goodwin born in 1706 to Ralph Goodwin and his wife Rebecca. The Goodwin family came from Emberton, just south of Olney.

William and Ann had three children:

**Nathaniel Gee** 1763 – 1848

Elizabeth Gee 1765 – 1830

George Gee 1767 – 1770

Ann died in 1770 aged 33, leaving William with three children between the ages of three and seven. It is thought she may have died in child-birth.

William then married Ann Hindle in 1772, a local girl, aged 16. They had two further children:

George Gee 1773 –

Thomas Gee 1776 – 1851

William died in Olney in 1789 aged 49.

## The Deepings in Lincolnshire

Nathaniel Gee (b 1763) was the first recorded Gee to live in Lincolnshire. Although born in Olney, he married Elizabeth Wooley (nee Hardy) in 1794 in Deeping St James. History repeated itself and Nathaniel, like his grandfather Nathaniel Gee 60 years earlier, named his first two children Jane Gee (born 1795) and **William Gee** (born 1799). Both were born in the Deepings.

It is 1841 before we get our first hint of the family's links to the brewing trade. Nathaniel, at the age of 78, while living in Deeping St James, is a wholesale agent for a brewery. He is living with his son William (b 1799).

In the same year the following notice appears in the Lincolnshire Chronicle on 19 March:

THE Oundle Union Brewing Company respectfully inform their friends and the public generally, that they have appointed Mr. Nathaniel Gee, of St James Deeping, Wholesale Agent for the Sale of their superior Ale, Porter and Stout, which can be obtained of him in Casks of 9, 18, and 36 Gallons each.

Nathaniel died in 1848 and was buried at Deeping Market.

The Deepings is a collective term used to describe adjoining villages near the River Welland, 8 miles to the north of Peterborough. The area is in the Lincolnshire Fens. The Deepings include: Deeping Gate, Deeping St James, Deeping St Nicholas, Market Deeping and West Deeping. The area is very low-lying, and gave The Deepings their name. The villages are mentioned in the Domesday Book.

Deeping Fen and its drainage was an important part of seventeenth and eighteenth century land reclamation. Drainage of the area dates back at least as far as the Romans. In William the Conqueror's reign, Richard de Rulos who was the Lord and Owner of part of Deeping Fen made an enclosure within a bank

because almost every year his meadows, lying near that stream, were flooded. On the bank he erected tenements and cottages. By embanking the river he reduced the low grounds, which before that time were deep lakes and impassible fens.



Deeping St James.



Church Street, Deeping St James c1965.

William Gee (b 1799) married Jane Morgan in Spalding in 1843. They had six children:

<b>William Morgan Gee</b>	born 1823 – 1906
Jane Maria Gee	born 1825
Selina Gee	born 1825
Charles Hardy Gee	born 1827
Maria Elizabeth Gee	born 1829 – 1905
Edwin Gee	born 1831 –

Jane died in 1832 aged 33. Yet another Gee was left with a young family and without a wife. In this instance there were six children aged between 1 and 10. William then married Elizabeth Bellars from Spalding in 1843. She was the widow of Thomas Sindall who died in 1842. At that stage, Elizabeth had four children between the ages of 10 and 19.

Following the marriage of William and Elizabeth, William's eldest son, William Morgan Gee, married Elizabeth's daughter, Ann Sindall in 1845. In 1856 William's daughter Maria Elizabeth Gee married Elizabeth's youngest son, Thomas William Sindall.

William (b 1799) was a saddler with a business in Town Street, Deeping St James. It appears by 1871 he was 73 years of age, retired, widowed again and living with his youngest daughter, Marie Elizabeth, in Spalding. William died in Spalding in 1875 aged 76.

William Morgan Gee was born in Deeping St James in 1823. He married his step-sister, Ann Sindall in 1845. Ann was only 17. The venue of the marriage in far off Peterborough suggests that their parents may not have approved of the union. They had two children:

William Gee	born 1846
John Thomas Gee	born 1849

Ann died just aged 21 in 1849. Once again a Gee father was left with a young family but without a wife. Two years later he married Mary Ann Atkin, who although born in Boston, was living in Deeping with her mother and Stepfather, Richard Peake. Her stepfather was a butcher and landlord of the Harrow Inn.

William Morgan and Mary Ann had 12 children:

Mary Elizabeth Gee	born 1852
Samuel Gee	born 1854
John T. Gee	born 1856
Fanny Gee	born 1858 – 1873
Frederick Gee	born 1859 – 1888
<b>Henry Gee</b>	born 1860 – 1929
Nathaniel Gee	born 1863 – 1886
Jane Gee	born 1864
Charlotte Gee	born 1866
William Gee	born 1866
Maria Gee	born 1867
Selina Gee	born 1870

Initially, and at various stages throughout his life, William Morgan Gee was a saddler and harness maker. However, like his father before him he had a strong connection with the brewing trade and in 1851 was landlord of the Plough Inn in Deeping. William Morgan's harness making business obviously experienced difficult times. In 1866 he was declared bankrupt but five years later he was trading again.

The 1870s marked a period of upheaval for the family. It is thought that William Morgan and Mary Ann may have lost up to four children between the ages of 6 and 16. By 1881 most of the family had departed Lincolnshire. Mary Elizabeth and Maria were living in Lambeth. William Morgan and Mary Ann, along with

their son Nathaniel, were living in Hackney with the two men working as saddlers. Meanwhile, Frederick and John had both married and were working in the brewery industry in Salford and Manchester respectively.

William Morgan and Mary Ann's stay in Hackney was short lived and during the 1880s they, Nathaniel and Henry had all moved to the Greater Manchester area to join John, Frederick and Charlotte. Tragedy struck the family when Nathaniel, landlord of the Rose and Crown in Hulme, committed suicide in 1886 at the age of 23. His brother Frederick, who was landlord of

the St Matthews Tavern, died two years later at the age of 29 leaving a wife and young family. Two of Frederick's children carried the name "Morgan" as a second christian name.

In 1891, William Morgan and Mary Ann were living at Byrom Street in Manchester. Charlotte their daughter had joined them and William was working as a saddler. By 1901 William had retired and both he and Mary Ann were living with Giles Ainscough, Jane Ainscough's brother at 21 West Craven Street, just a few doors away from Henry Gee, who by that time was landlord of the Lord Egerton.



33 Byrom Street, Manchester. By 1891 Henry Gee's father William Morgan Gee (b 1823, Deeping St James) and mother Mary Anne Atkin (b 1831, Boston) had moved to Manchester and were living at 35 Byrom Street, Manchester. The Picture shows Nos 27 to 33 Byrom Street. By 1901 William Morgan Gee and Mary Anne Atkin had moved to Salford and were living at 21 West Craven Street with Giles Ainscough.

Mary Ann died in 1905 and William died the following year.

Henry Gee was born in Deeping St Nicholas in 1860. There isn't a record of his whereabouts after the family left Lincolnshire but he does reappear in Salford in 1884 when he marries Jane Ainscough at St Philips Church.

Henry and Jane had at least ten children, however only one, Lillian Gee, survived:

Henry Gee	born 1884 –
Maud Gee	born 1886 –
Frederick Morgan Gee	born 1887 – 1888
<b>Lilian Gee</b>	born 1887 – 1962
David Gee	born 1887 – 1887
Gertrude May Gee	born 1888 –
Frank Gee	born 1890 – 1890
Alfred Gee	born 1892 –
Harold Gee	born 1893 –
Herbert Gee	born 1894 –

Lillian's twin brother, Frederick Morgan Gee died within 12 months of his birth. At one stage it was thought that Lillian was the first-born and that all the subsequent children died as a consequence of the Rhesus factor. The evidence shows that Lillian was not the first born and that some of her siblings survived for up to 12 months thereby suggesting that the Rhesus Factor may not have been the cause of their premature deaths.

Most of Henry's career orientated around the brewery business: being a waiter, a barman, a beer seller and a landlord. When his first child was born in 1884 he was working as a waiter. By 1886 he and Jane were back living in Salford at Tatton Street. They lived at several other locations in Salford including Cash Street, Ellesmere Street and West Worsley Street before ending up at the Lord Egerton on West Craven Street.



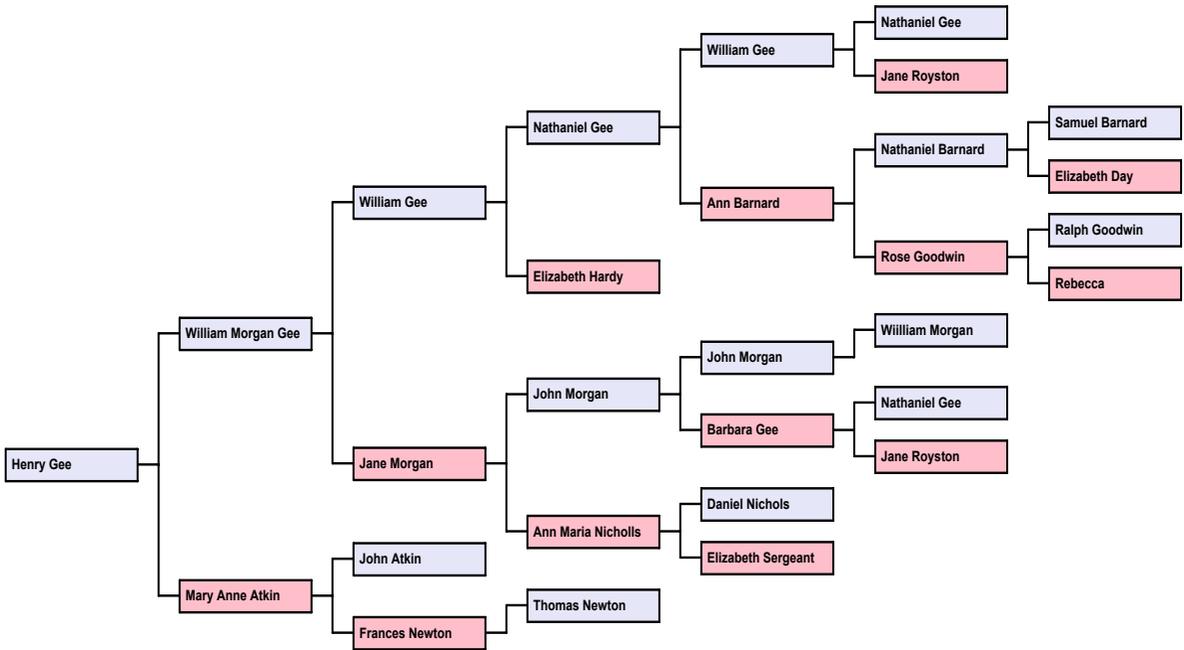
Salford: Henry Gee.

*According to the 1891 census, the Inn which Henry Gee ran at West Worsley Street had a number of lodgers, including a pugilist (a boxer) and an illusionist in a ghost show. Jane died in 1905. Henry married Charlotte Ellen Rodgers. He continued living in and running the Lord Egerton until he died in 1926, aged 68.*

## The Welsh Connection

Morgan, as a second Christian name, is a recurring theme in the Gee family. The earliest occurrence is William Morgan Gee in 1823. It is thought the name was derived from his mother, Jane Morgan. Jane's parents were John Morgan and Ann Maria Nicholls. It is thought that John's grandfather was born in Usk, Monmouthshire in Wales during the early 1700s. At the time of writing, this link is not yet proven.

# Ancestors of Henry Gee



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**WILLIAM MORRIS GEE**, landlord of the Rose and Crown, Deeping St. James, was convicted of a charge of permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 7th of October.—He was fined £2 and costs, and reprimanded.

**GEORGE LA BERT** and **GEORGE GIBSON**, who were remanded last week on a charge of stealing a shirt from South Wytham, were brought before the Justice again, and convicted of the offence.—Their plea was that they found the shirt on a stone heap and intended giving it up to the police.—The prisoners were on tramp, having recently left Banger's streets.—Committed for one month each.

OF ONE ABOVE US,

S. GEE.

IMPRESSED with gratitude to the very numerous friends of my late Husband, **WILLIAM GEE**, for their liberal support during the long time he was engaged in the Malting Business, begs to inform them that she has DISPOSED of the MALTINGS at **GRINBY** the Stock of MALT, &c. to Mr. **JOS. BROOKS**, whom she can with confidence recommend to them as worthy their support and patronage.

Dung, July 17th, 1833.

**JOSEPH BROOKS,**

## The Ainscoughs

The Ainscough line may not go back as far as the Hall, Higham or Gee lines but it is the only one to include all eight of Henry Hall's great, great, great grandparents. The line is very rural, right up to and including the birth of Jane Ainscough in Curdley in 1863. Geographically it is also very concentrated in the North Meols area between Preston and Southport.

The earliest record available is the marriage of Hugh Ainscough, a widower, to Jayne Rymer at St Cuthbert, North Meols in 1775. It is thought they had up to eight children born in Crossens and baptised at St Cuthberts.

Their eldest son, James, born in 1780, married Jane Wright, also from Crossens, at St Cuthberts in 1800. James and Jane had five children:

Eleanor Ainscow	born 1800 –
Hugh Ainscow	born 1803 –
<b>Thomas Ainscough</b>	born 1806 – 1882
Richard Ainscow	born 1809 –
Jane Ainscow	born 1811 –

## North Meols and Churchtown

A small group of whitewashed buildings dating from the C18th still survive today in the village of Churchtown, which forms the northern edge of Southport. The village grew up around the church of St Cuthbert's, which gave the village its name - Churchtown. The church was in the parish of North Meols (pronounced "meals" and not "mells") and is still at the centre of Churchtown today.

With a booming fishing industry, the area grew slowly and hamlets became part of the parish of North Meols. These villages included



St Cuthbert, Churchtown.

South Hawes, Haweside, Little London, Higher Blowick, Lower Blowick, Rowe-Lane, Churchtown, Marshside, Crossens, and Banks.

Parts of the parish were almost completely surrounded by water until 1692, when Thomas Fleetwood of Bank Hall cut a channel to drain Martin Mere to the sea. From this point on attempts at large scale drainage of Martin Mere and other marshland continued until the 19th century, since when the water has been pumped away. This left behind a legacy of fine agricultural soil and created a booming farming industry.

Thomas married Elizabeth Ball, the daughter of John Ball and Alice Meadow from Churchtown in 1826, again at St Cuthbert. They had ten children:

John Ainscough	born 1829 –
<b>James Ainscough</b>	born 1832 – 1871
Hugh Ainscough	born 1835 –
Jane Ainscough	born 1837 –
Jenny Ainscough	born 1837 –
Richard Ainscough	born 1839 –
William Ainscough	born 1841 –
Thomas Ainscough	born 1844 –
Edward Ainscough	born 1848 –
Margeret Ainscough	born 1850 –

Thomas Ainscough was a great, great grandfather of Henry Hall. He worked as an agricultural labourer while his wife, Elizabeth (Betty), and their eldest son John were engaged in the Silk industry as a winder and a weaver respectively. Elizabeth died in 1853 aged 46. Thomas eventually retired and in 1881, at the age of 77, was living with his son William, a brick layer, and his family. Thomas died the following year.

Henry Hall's great grandfather, James Ainscough (born 1832), was working on the farm of a relative, Hugh Ainscough, in the North Moels area. He married Alice Cookson from Tarleton in 1854. Alice was born in 1829 to Giles Cookson and Margaret Almond. Her mother died in 1836 aged 43 when Alice was only 4 years old. Tragedy struck the following year when her father, who was a farmer in the Tarleton area, died aged 52.



Croston: St Michaels. The very same font where Margaret Almond was christened in 1793.



Croston: St Michaels and All Angels, Croston. A fine C11th church and the church of the Almond family. The approach from Church Street is worth seeing.

Giles was born in Tarleton and a farmer. However, his parents, Thomas Cookson and Jenny Elizabeth Billington were born in the

1740s at Woodplumpton, just north of Preston. It appears, from unverified research, that both families may have been living in the Woodplumpton area as far back as the 1500s and probably engaged in agriculture. Margaret Almond's father, Thomas Almond came from Croston and was a Yeoman. Her mother, Catherine Mawdesley came from Ormskirk, about 7 miles south of Croston.

## Tarleton

Tarleton Mosses is an area of reclaimed moss-land that stretches along the coastal plain from the Ribble Estuary in the north to the A565 in the south. It is a market gardening area with many glass houses. The farms and smallholdings have exploited the rich peat deposits. Beyond the smallholdings and greenhouses are arable fields.

The built environment is dominated by ribbon development of modern bungalows along banked roads between Tarleton, Banks and Beconsall.

Alice was one of nine children. In 1841, aged 12, she was living with her older sister, Catherine Major's family on a farm at Mere Brow. At the age of 21, Alice was living as a lodger at 1 Arthur Street in Preston and in 1854 married James Ainscough at St Johns, Out Rawcliffe.



Out Rawcliff: St Johns Church

James and Alice had six children:

- Margaret Ainscough    born 1858 –
- Betsey Ainscough     born 1860 –
- Jane Ainscough**        born 1863 – 1905
- Catherine Ainscough    born 1867 –
- Mary Ainscough        born 1868 –
- Giles Ainscough        born 1872 –

Margaret was born at Little Eccleston in 1858, within a mile of Out Rawcliffe where James and Alice were married. However, by 1860 they had moved to Cuerdley on the banks of the River Mersey just east of Widnes. James was both a carter and labourer, probably working and living on the Cuerdley Hall Estate.

The rest of the family were born in Cuerdley, including Henry Hall's grandmother, Jane Ainscough (born 1863). The children were chris-

tened at St Luke's (formerly St Wilfrids) in Farnworth. James died in 1871 aged 37. Alice was left to raise six children, the eldest of whom was just 13 years of age. Jane was just 8 years of age when her father died.



Cuerdley: In 1861 and 1871, James Ainscough (b 1832, Churchtown) and Alice Cookson (b 1830 Southport) lived at Moss Lane near Cuerdley Hall. What was pleasant low lying pastoral land was obliterated by the construction of the coal fired Fiddlers Ferry Power Station in 1961. 2010.

Alice took work as a washer-woman to support the family. By 1871 she and her youngest child Giles, had moved to the home of her daughter Margaret at 10 Walter Street in Widnes. Alice's occupation was described as a "midwife".

By 1881 Jane was in Salford living at 120 Cross Lane as a domestic servant to John Henshall who was the manager of a chemical works. She married Henry Gee in 1884. (See Henry Gee for further details).



Widnes: St Lukes, Farnworth.

## Southport

Alice Cookson always described herself as coming from Southport, but in actual fact she was from Tarleton. By the time of her birth, Southport was the largest settlement in the area and no doubt the villages of North Moels including Churchtown, The Crossens, Mere Brow, Tarleton and Croston formed part of its growing hinterland.

"The Old Duke", realised the importance of the newly-created canal systems across the UK and set up a bathing house in the virtually uninhabited dunes at South Hawse, by the seaside, just four miles (6 km) away from the newly constructed Leeds and Liverpool Canal and two miles south-west of Churchtown.

When a widow from Wigan built a cottage nearby in 1797, for seasonal lodgers, Sutton

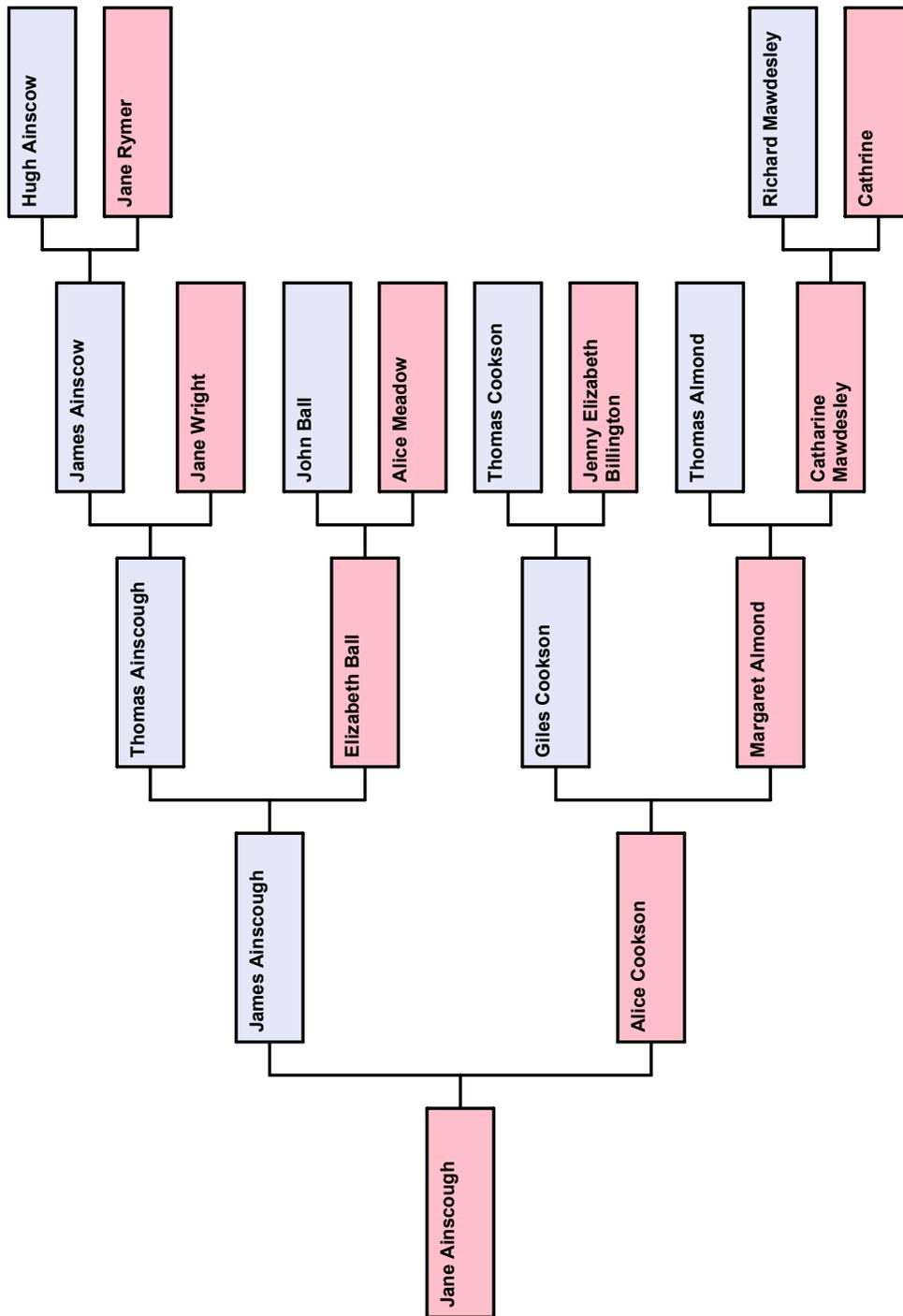


Southport: Churchtown.

In the late 18th century it was becoming fashionable for the well-to-do to relinquish inland spa towns and visit the seaside to bathe in the salt sea waters. At that time doctors recommended bathing in the sea to help cure aches and pains. In 1792 William Sutton, the landlord of the Black Bull Inn in Churchtown and known to locals as

quickly built a new inn on the site of the bathing house which he called the South Port Hotel, moving to live there the following season. The locals thought him mad and referred to the building as the 'Duke's Folly', but Sutton arranged transport links from the canal that ran through Scarisbrick, four miles from the hotel and trade was remarkably good.

# Ancestors of Jane Ainscough



## Appendix 1:

### Henry's Uncles and Aunts

The following represents a brief synopsis of Walter Hall's Brothers and sisters, i.e. Henry's uncles and aunts.

#### Richard Hall

- 1865 Born Mason Street, Salford, England, United Kingdom
- 1865 Baptised St Philip, Salford, Lancashire, England
- 1894 Died, Lancashire, aged 19 or probably earlier. There is no other record

#### Frances Hall

- 1867 Born 16 Sidney St, Salford. Father: Coal Dealer
- 1867 Baptised: 21 Apr, St Philips, Salford
- 1871 Liverpool Street, Salford
- 1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford
- 1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford, Book-keeper
- 1894 Married Thomas Proe
- 1895 Widowed when Thomas Proe dies
- 1896 Daughter Florence Proe born, raised by Thomas Proe's parents.  
Married Reginald Greenhalge in 1916
- 1900 Married Frank Scotson
- 1900 Daughter Nellie Scotson born
- 1901 6 Reservoir Street, Pendleton, Husband: warehouse man,  
Nellie 6 mths
- 1904 Daughter Nellie Scotson born
- 1911 5 Catherine Street, Winton, Patricroft, Husband: salesman  
Nellie 10, Doris 7
- 1938 Nellie marries Laurie H C Taylor in Salford
- 1945 Died, 5 Catherine Street, aged 78

#### Margaret Hannah Hall (sometimes referred to as Violet)

- 1868 Born 14 Sydney Street, Father: Coal Dealer
- 1869 Baptised: St Philips, Salford
- 1871 Liverpool Street, Salford
- 1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford
- 1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford
- 1894 Marriage to Edmondson Riley

1896 Son Edmondson Riley born  
 1897 Daughter Violet Riley born  
 1899 Son Norman Riley born  
 1901 Cross Lane Salford, Husband: shopkeeper  
 Edmondson 5, Violet 4, Norman 1  
 1911 39 West High St, Cross Lane, Salford, Husband: Piano Tuner  
 Edmondson 15, Violet 14, Norman 11  
 1972 Died Manchester, aged 103

## Joseph Hall

1870 Born 99 Liverpool Street, Salford. Father: Provisions Dealer  
 1870 Baptised: St Philips, Salford  
 1871 Liverpool Street, Salford  
 1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
 1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford, Carter  
 1894 Married Eliza Ann Giller of Weast, Groom: Coal Merchant  
 1897 Widowed when Eliza Ann Giller dies  
 1901 1 Vere Street, Salford, Coal dealer  
 1902 Married Emma Beatrix Brooksbank, Groom: Coal Merchant  
 1903 Daughter Helen Hall born  
 1905 Son Harold Hall born  
 1911 21 Doddington Street, Salford, Coal Merchant  
 Helen 8, Harold 6  
 1919 Died Salford, Spanish Flu, aged 49

## Ellen Hall

1872 Born Liverpool Street, Salford. Father: Coal Dealer  
 1872 Baptised: St Philips, Salford  
 1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
 1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford,  
 1900 1 Vere Street  
 1900 Married Frank Lewin Galley, Book keeper, Walter Hall was a witness  
 1901 13 Have Street, Pendeleton, Salford, Husband: Mercantile Clerk  
 1902 Son Arthur Galley born  
 1904 Widowed when Frank Galley dies  
 1911 81 Wilmslow Road Didsbury, Drapery dealer  
 Arthur 9, also Sister Florence  
 1960 Died 2 Claremont Avenue, Marple, Cheshire, aged 88

## **William Hall**

- 1874 Born 9 Wilna Terrace, Salford. Father: Coal Dealer  
1875 Baptised: St Philips, Salford  
1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford, Carter  
1899 Married Emily Simister, Groom: Coal Dealer  
1900 Son William Hall born  
1901 44 West Craven Street, Salford, Coal Dealer  
William 5 Months  
1906 Son Harry Hall born  
1911 97 Duncan Terrace, Salford, Coal Carter. alone  
1911 Emily and sons William and Harry staying with parents

## **Matthew Hall**

- 1876 Born 23 Pembroke Street, Salford. Father: Coal Merchant  
1876 Baptised: St Philips, Salford  
1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
1888 Died

## **Walter Hall**

- 1879 Born Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford. Father: Publican and Coal Dealer  
1879 Baptised: St Philips, Salford  
1881 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
1891 Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford  
1901 1 Vere Street, Salford, Coal Salesman  
1911 107 Tatton Street, Salford, Lodger, Carter  
1912 Married Lillian Gee  
1913 Phyllis born, Goodiers Lane, Salford  
1918 Lily born, 18 West Craven Street  
1922 Henry born, 18 West Craven Street  
1929 Lord Egerton at 27 West Craven Street, Publican  
1930 351 Bradford Road, Manchester  
1935 Died Manchester aged 56

## **Florence Hall**

- 1884            Born Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford. Father: Publican and Coal Dealer
- 1891            Wheat Sheaf, 239 Regent Road, Salford
- 1901            1 Vere Street, Salford,
- 1911            81 Wilmslow Road Didsbury, assisting in Drapery business  
Also Sister Ellen and her son Arthur 9

## Appendix 2: Pub life

The Licensed trade formed an important part of Henry's family heritage. At least seven members of his family were pub landlords.

Landlord	Pub	Location	Year
Richard Peake	Harrow Inn	Deeping St Nicholas	1838
Richard Higham	Union Tavern	Liverpool Street, Salford	1873
William Morgan Gee	Rose & Crown	Deeping St James	1874
William Hall	Wheat Sheaf	Regent Road, Salford	1879
Frederick Gee	St Matthews Tavern	Tonman Street, M'chester	1881
Nathaniel Gee (b1863)	Rose & Crown	Hulme, Manchester	1886
Henry Gee	Lord Egerton	West Craven Street, Salford	1892



Deeping: Plough Inn.



Deeping: Rose and Crown.



Salford: Henry Gee outside the Lord Egerton.



Gallahers: Norman Moore, Chris Millar, Jimmy Speers and Henry 1975.



Bangor: Henry, July 1960.



Windy Hall: Replacement building considered to be on the site of the original Windy Hall where many of the Hall family lived. The site is relatively elevated and sits above Garrigill (half a mile away in the valley) and Alston, about 5 miles to the north. The property lay vacant for almost 100 years and was refurbished in 2004. Old outhouses still remain. Immediately to the north is High Loaning.



Doreen and her Mum.



Skatterick Island: Louise, Rebecca, Petrina, Sam, Doreen and Henry at Daft Eddys for Sam's Birthday July 1995.



Henry, Rebecca and Doreen, Waterfront Hall, Belfast, 7 July 2006.



Belfast Zoo: Henry, Doreen, Craig, Sam, Sadie and Rebecca July 2006.



Henry Doreen, Sadie, Sammy, Sam, Mary, and Louise. Louise's 21st, Tuesday 1st July 2003.



Tebay: Henry, Doreen and Sam.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Doreen with Rebecca's Birthday Cake, June 1989.



Sandown Road, Belfast: Henry, December 2002.



Gilnahirk Walk: Henry, 29 September 2012.



Lily's first grandchild, Lily Kissen Garner, born on 8th December 2012.

