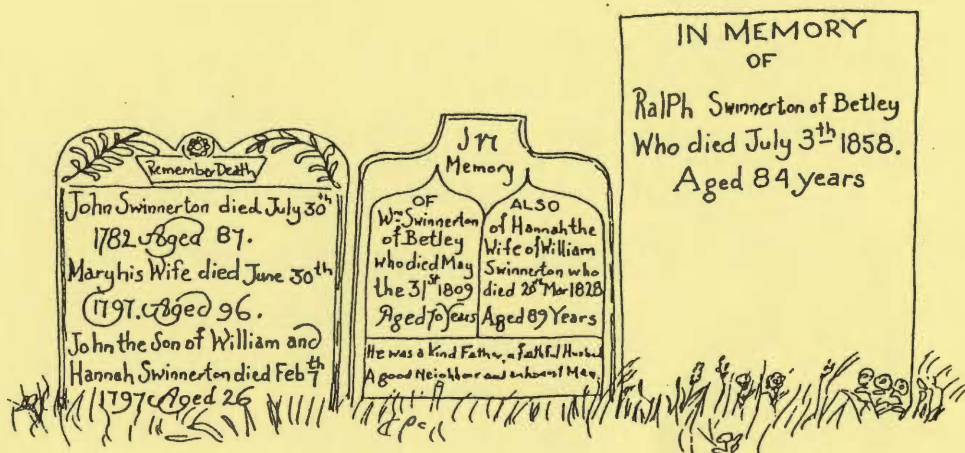


# SWINNERTON Family History



*Swinnerton Family Graves in Betley Churchyard  
Drawn by the Revd. Brian Swinnerton*

JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

VOLUME 11. No.1

AUGUST 1998

# The Swinnerton Society

A non-profit making organisation devoted to the welfare of Swynnerton Church and the research and publication of Swinnerton Family Records

*Registered as Charity No.518184 in the United Kingdom*

## Officers – 1998-99

**Patron:** Sir Roger Swynnerton CMG.OBE.MC.

**President:** Mrs Margery Thomas

**Vice-  
Presidents** H.N.Swinnerton Asc. (USA)  
W.R.Swinarton (Canada)  
W.J.Swinnerton (Australia)

**Chairman  
& Editor:** Col.I.S.Swinnerton TD.DL.JP.FSG.HonFHGSC.  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Secretary:** Mrs Elizabeth Swynnerton 30  
[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]

**Treasurer:** Mr W.K.Livesey [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Chaplain:** The Reverend Edward Swinnerton

**Council:** The Reverend B.T.Swynnerton LCP.  
[Redacted]

Mr R.A.Swynnerton  
[Redacted]

Mr R.Swinnerton  
[Redacted]

Mr G.J.Swinnerton [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Auditor:** Mr Nigel Sabell [Redacted]

SFHAugust 1998

1

## SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

Volume 11. No.1

AUGUST 1998

## CONTENTS

Foreword - The Chairman	2
New Arrivals	3
They served their King and Country	5
Some Miscellaneous Directories	7
Dr Johnson & Fanny Burney	10
Book Review	13
The Knight at War	15
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting	17

*Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton*

© The Swinnerton Society. All rights reserved. No reproduction permitted without the prior permission of the publishers. Opinions expressed in this journal are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Society.



## FOREWORD

### *The Chairman*

They say that the older you are, the quicker the time goes by and it seems no time at all since our then chairman, Joe Swinnerton, sent me the foreword for the first issue of the last volume but it was, in fact, over three years ago.

I say that he sent me the foreword because, of course, I have always produced the Journal myself but the last issue had to be put out to a commercial printer as, now I am 'retired'(!), I no longer have the equipment to print, collate and staple it. That is why you got a blank page at the end of your last issue – not being used to sending copy, I forgot to include the title page. My apologies.

This volume will take us into the Millennium Year – whether you think that is 2000 or 2001. There has been a lot of talk about making a fresh start for the Millennium and bringing organisations into the 21st century and so on. A lot of discussion has taken place over the last few months in various family history magazines, mostly sparked off by a genealogist named Roy Stockdill who runs the Stockdill Society and is a professional journalist of long standing, about what one should publish and how. He believes that you should publish everything about a family even if it is derogatory and scandalous but his views have been vociferously opposed by many. We, ourselves, came up against this some years ago when, having written up a history in which a suicide was involved, I was asked by present-day members of that branch to re-word it to say that the person 'had died in tragic circumstances'. Of course, I respected their wishes and complied. It's an interesting point – are we fudging history?

Roy, with whom I have had many friendly arguments, also believes that all family history magazines should be in A4 format (which we abandoned in 1979) and says you cannot get an attractive, eye-catching layout in A5 such as we, and many others use. He has even written a book about it. Again, arguments have raged back and forth which I have followed with great interest but from my point of view the most telling argument was put forward by a reviewer of his book who said that he saw a family history society journal mainly as a means of disseminating information – tabloid-type headlines and eye-catching layout were simply not necessary! I agree and will stay with our present format but I may try and smarten it up a little!

Preliminary arrangements are now being made for next year's Silver Jubilee Gathering – do please make sure you have the dates (5th & 6th June 1999) in your diary, full details will be in the December Journal.

*Iain Swinnerton*

## NEW ARRIVALS

Extracted from the Indexes to Births at the Family Records Centre, Myddleton Place, London by Roger Swynnerton.

### SWINNERTON

NAME MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME REGISTRATION DISTRICT

#### Births 1994

Adam Peter	Brisbourne	Shrewsbury 7151C
Amy Louise	Swinnerton	Shrewsbury 7151A
Bradley	Davies	C Cleveland 3481D
Bradley Terence	Swinnerton	Solihull S 0731B
Cara Louise	Berry	Liverpool 0251E
Chloe Louise	Swinnerton	C Cleveland 3481D
Christopher James	Robertson	Norwich 6391C
Craig Adam	Watling	Shrewsbury 7151C
Eleanor Grace	Ranpura	S Cheshire 3411C
Elizabeth Rose	Clemence	Hammersmith 2311A
Emily Victoria	Riley	Stoke on Trent 7371E
Jack Rhys	Bryant	Poole 4311C
Jade Emily	Webb	Bournemouth 4271C
James David	Bell	Gloucester 4813
Lauren Jade	Swinnerton	Walsall 0951C
Michael Philip	Shaw	Birkenhead 0371E
Natalie Marish	Smith	Brentwood 4661A
Zachary Michael	Swinnerton	Liverpool 0251E

#### BIRTHS 1995

Abbey Jayne	Dawson	Wolverhampton 0771C
Bradley	Davies	C Cleveland 34810
Christie	Day	Sandwell 0701C
Connor	Swinnerton	C. Cleveland 3481E
David James	Hooker	Luton 3151C
Eliz. Rose	Clemence	Hammersmith 2311A
Harry Rhys	Bryant	Bournemouth. 4271C
Jake Dean	Woodcock	Wolverhampton 0771D
Joshua Ian	Turnbull	Chester/EP34018
Leigh David	Domagalski	Shrewsbury 71518
Rebecca Danielle	Berry	Liverpool 0251E
Samuel Oliver	Hotine	S. Cheshire 3411C

BIRTHS 1996		
Alastair Michael	Clarke	Boston 6101B
Andrew John	Tomlin	Colchester 4691C
Ashley John	Swinerton	Solihull S. 0731B
Ben	Murphy	C.Cleveland 3481F
Callum Leslie	Shaw	Birkenhead 0371D
Danielle Samantha	Fulcher	Norwich 6391C
Eleanor Mary	Thompson	Waltham/F 2551D
Erin Elizabeth	Swinerton	Denbighnorth 8111B
Georgia Nicole	Riley	Stoke on Trent 7371A
Jake Dean	Woodcock	Wolverhampton 0771D
James Ryan	Brisbourne	Shrewsbury 7151B
Jodie Louise	Swinerton	Middlesborough 3481A
Kimberly Pat.A.	Smith	Stourbridge 0661C
Lauren Jade	Bell	Denbigh.N 8111B
Paris	Swinerton	S.Glamorgan 8901C
Swinerton-Hurford	Swinerton	S.Glamorgan 8901C

### New Arrivals Overseas

Breanna Leigh Swinerton, daughter of Mathew James and Michelle Jean (Humphries) Swinerton baptised 12th July 1988 at St.Mark's, Granville, Sydney (born 1997).

### Departures

Mrs Eva Margaret (Robin) Swinerton on 1st January 1998 aged 91. The mother of our Canadian Vice- President, Bill Swinerton, we send him our sincere sympathy.

### Marriages

Mathew James Swinerton and Michelle Jean Humphries on 3rd May 1997

### And from the past:

LIVERPOOL ECHO 1947

JOSEPH SWINNERTON. July 22nd passed peacefully away at his home, 23 Hinton Street . aged 66 years. Joseph, dearly loved husband of Lily. Interment at West Derby Cemetery tomorrow (Friday) at 1.30 (No Flowers). b. c1881

LIVERPOOL ECHO JULY 28th

SWINNERTON. Mrs L. Swinerton thanks relatives and friends and neighbours, directors and staff of Wm Crawford & Sons and the committees, members & staff of the King Protestant Benefit Society for letters and kind expressions of sympathy in her bereavement.

## THEY SERVED THEIR KING & COUNTRY

**The War Graves of the British Empire. Gt. Britain & Ireland. Vol. 5.** Birmingham, Yardley Cemetery.

COWLEY Pte. Robert William 202599. C Coy. 7th Bn. King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment. 23 March 1920. Husband of Charlotte Swinerton (formerly Cowley)? of 245 Lawley St. Birmingham. B. 18543.

**Peshawar, India Monumental Inscriptions Vol. 2 p 141.**

Sue Farrington BACSA

Sgt. William Henry Swinerton. 44th Field Battery RA. (late L.3 RA) died 22 Nov 1888 at Peshawar of an abscess on the liver aged 28 yrs. RA Memorial, St. John's Church.

**Birmingham City Battalions Book of Honour.** Published 1919

(Lists all men who joined up) Page 311. Powell and Hanmer Ltd. SWINNERTON, E

Our members Roy and Douglas Swinerton believe this to be a reference to their brother Edmund who served in the Royal Engineers.

**London Gazette.** Page 981. 18 JAN 1919

Acting Corporal Sgt S. SWINNERTON

Awarded the Military Service Medal for Valuable Service in France & Flanders

**London Gazette.** Page 6912. 3rd JUNE 1919

King's Birthday Awards

Sergeant Instructor R. SWINNERTON. Army Gym Staff

Awarded the Military Service Medal for Valuable Service in France & Flanders

LT.E.R.SWINNERTON 2/56 Punjabis

Died 1919. Medals awarded 1914/15 Star, British War and Victory Medals & Indian General Service Medal with Bar for North West Frontier 1919

HARRY SWINNERTON 6220

1st Bn. King's Shropshire Light Infantry

b. Newcastle, Staffs.

Enlisted Lichfield. Residence Burslem, Staffs.

Killed in action 9 Aug 1915



**PRIVATE THOMAS SWINNERTON**

3rd Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

Died at Parkhurst Military Hospital on 1 Sep 1916, aged 46

**SAMUEL JOHN SWINNERTON 4055**

2nd Bn. Warwickshire Regiment.

Enlisted Warwick. Residence Stoke on Trent

Killed in Action Loos 25 Sep 1915

No known grave. On Loos Memorial.

**Honours and Awards Army, Navy & Air Force 1914-1920**

published by Haywood.

The Royal Red Cross:

Associate (ARRC) 31 July 1919

Miss K Swinnerton

SISTER Territorial Nursing Service

I am in the process of extracting from the Medal Rolls all the Swinnertons who served in World War I and hope to have completed this in time to publish it in the next issue.

**AN EARLIER SOLDIER**

**The Chivalry of Cheshire** by A. J. Bostock (printed by E. J. Morten 1980) lists Thomas de Swinnerton Kt. among the Cheshire Men-at-Arms who served in the Rheims Campaign of 1359 during the Hundred Years War with France.

To List No.1 Soldiers 1642-1912 published in Volume 10 No.7 September 1996 must now be added Private **JOHN SWINNERTON** whose name I came across, quite by chance, when going through the Muster Rolls of the 81st Regiment of Foot (later the Loyal Lincolnshire Volunteers and subsequently, on the reorganisation of the army in 1881, the 2nd Battalion of the North Lancashire Regiment) for a client. He enlisted on the 1st November 1796 and I will follow this up and see if I can trace his career at the earliest possible opportunity.

**SOME MISCELLANEOUS DIRECTORIES****LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL INHABITANTS OF LONDON 1640**The Ward of Criplegate within. Samuell Cranmer, Ald'r'an

The names of those yt are reputed the ablest Inhabitants in that Ward (listed second) The Lady Swinnerton

**Tower Ward**

The names of such inhabitants in tower ward as are conceived to be of abillitie

Mr Robertt Swynerton [Swinnerton], march't. (RS.20)

**NEW ZEALAND****WISE'S TRADE DIRECTORY 1887/88**

Joseph SWINNERTON. 92 Columbo St., Christchurch, Wood Carver

**1903 Electoral Roll**

No.14683 Lady Ann Elizabeth Swinnerton

No.14684 Joseph Swinnerton

John Swinnerton passenger into Auckland arr. 29.1.1865 on the 'Auckland'  
Miss Swinnerton passenger into Auckland arr. 15.11.1880 on the 'Arawata'

**Jones's Mercantile Directory of the Iron District of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire.**

(Consisting of Wolverhampton, Bilston, Bloxwich, Brierley Hill, Bromsgrove, Cradley Heath, Darlaston, Dudley, Halesowen, Kinver, Kingswinford, Moxley, Netherton, Old Swinford, Pensnett, Redditch, Rowley Regis, Sedgley, Smethwick, Soho, Stourbridge, Tipton, Walsall, Wednesbury, Wednesfield, Westbromwich, Willenhall etc.

Specially adapted for the use of the Mercantile Community both at home and abroad. London 1865:175

**TIPTON**

Dudley Port, Great Bridge, Horseley Heath, Princes End, Toll End & Tividale.

SWINNERTON Wm., Chemist and druggist, High St, Princes End.

**RECORDS OF THE BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE**

1871 Council Certificate for Latin

3rd Class W.T.Swinnerton

**Directory and Gazetteer of Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield and the whole of the Clothing Districts of the West Riding of Yorkshire** by William White. Sheffield, 1853:152  
 SWINNERTON Jph. Waite, painter, paperhanger, & oil & Colour dealer, 15 Waterloo Road. (This is JS.207 of the Yorkshire Branch)

**History, Directory and Gazetteer, of the County Palatine of Lancaster; with a variety of Commercial and Statistical Information.**  
 In Two Volumes by Edward Baines, the directory department by W.Parson:  
 Liverpool: 1824:i 332  
 Liverpool Directory  
 SWINNERTON Wm. wood turner, 39 Blundell St.; h. Albion Place  
 (probably WS.24 Betley Branch)

#### **LIST OF BURGESSES OF WALSALL 1914**

Swinnerton  
 Benjamin 7a Forge St  
 Joseph 2 Court, 2 Blue Lane West  
 Mary 15 Little St.  
 William Charles 29 Margaret Street

#### **REGISTER OF ADMISSIONS TO THE MIDDLE TEMPLE**

29 Apr 1573 THOMAS SWYNERTON, late of New Inn, gent. son & heir of Robert Swynerton of Quadringe Edicke, Lincs. gent. decd.  
 3 Aug 1606 JOHN SWYNERTON, Knight, Alderman of the City of London.

#### **RECORDS OF JOSIAH MASON ORPHANAGE BIRMINGHAM**

1886 Walter Swinnerton Prize for Reading and Arithmetic Std.IV  
 1888 Walter Swinnerton 1st Prize in History & Arithmetic  
 1892 Henry Swinnerton Distinguished himself in all the 8 subjects in which he was examined - Reading, Composition, Handwriting, Algebra, Geography, Arithmetic, Grammar, Shorthand.  
 1893 Henry Swinnerton Top in Reading  
 1894 Scarlatina epidemic - no examinations.

Walter Swinnerton 30 Mar 1876. 31 May 1886. 1 Nov 1890  
 Henry W.Swinerton 27 Apr 1880. 22 Aug 1890. 24 Oct 1896

#### **POST OFFICE BIRMINGHAM DIRECTORY 1897 P.417**

Commercial  
 Swinnerton, John. Blacksmith St.Peter's Place

#### **POST OFFICE SHROPSHIRE DIRECTORY 1870 p.25**

Bridgnorth Commercial  
 Swinnerton, Catherine (Mrs). Reindeer 21 Northgate  
 p.32  
 Cheswardine Soudley (Great & Little)  
 Swinnerton, Wm. Blacksmith Gt.Sowdley

#### **DIRECTORY OF THE COUNTY OF DERBY 1827, 1828 & 1829**

Stone & Marble Masons  
 Stephen Swinnerton, St.Mary's Bridge  
Builders  
 Stephen Swinnerton, Bridge Gate

#### **Another Snippet from the Internet.**

<http://www.webguides.com/education/school/coopers/staff.html>  
 Coopers School: Coopers School Prospectus  
 STAFF LIST - SEPTEMBER 1996  
 Mrs. H. Swinnerton BA English - Head of Year 11

#### **Can anyone tell me who this is please?**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **PAPAL REGISTERS.**

Papal Letters 1305(c)1342  
 P.37# f.297 17 John XXII Regista Vol CIV  
 1333 4 Kal Aug. Avignon  
 To Robert son of Roger de Swynnerton knight. Provision at the request of the king, whose clerk he is, of a canonry in Lichfield, with reservation of a prebend; notwithstanding that he is rector of Swynnerton, and is dean of the free royal chapel of Stafford. Concurrent mandate to the abbots of Darley and Burton on Trent and another named.

#### **CALENDAR OF CHANCERY WARRANTS 1244(c)1326 V.1.**

P.82. 1298 Jan 7, Ghent. The like for John de Swynenorton of the county of Staff, indicted of the death of Stephen de Frauncketon of the county of Salop.  
 14 (1297)  
 p.327 Roger, John and Stephen, mandate 1310.  
 p.329 Roger, Pardon 1310.



**Dr. Johnson and Fanny Burney**

edited by: Chauncy Brewster Tinker. : Jonathan Cape. London 1912.

(Culled from the Internet by Bill Swinerton)

Fanny Burney Brighthelmstone, October 26.

My journey was incidentless; but the moment I came into Brighthelmstone I was met by Mrs. Thrale, who had most eagerly been waiting for me a long while, and therefore I dismounted, and walked home with her. It would be very superfluous to tell you how she received me, for you cannot but know, from her impatient letters, what I had reason to expect of kindness and welcome.

I was too much tired to choose appearing at dinner, and therefore eat my eat upstairs, and was then decorated a little, and came forth to tea.

Page 149

Mr. Harry Cotton and Mr. Swinerton were both here. Mrs. Thrale said they almost lived with her, and therefore were not to be avoided, but declared she had refused a flaming party of blues, for fear I should think, if I met them just after my journey, she was playing Mrs. Harrel.

Dr. Johnson received me too with his usual goodness, and with a salute so loud, that the two young beaus, Cotton and Swinerton, have never done laughing about it.

Mrs. Thrale spent two or three hours in my room, talking over all her affairs, and then we wished each other bon repos, and retired. Grandissima conclusion.

Oh, but let me not forget that a fine note came from Mr. Pepys, who is here with his family, saying he was *presse de vivre*, and entreating to see Mrs. and Miss T., Dr. Johnson, and Cecilia, at his house the next day. I hate mightily this method of naming me from my heroines, of whose honour I think I am more jealous than of my own.

Oct. 27. --

The Pepyses came to visit me in form, but I was dressing; in the evening, however, Mrs. and Miss T. took me to them. Dr. Johnson would not go; he told me it was my day, and I should be crowned, for Mr. Pepys was wild about Cecilia.

"However," he added, "do not hear too much of it; but when he has talked about it for an hour or so, tell him to have done. There is no other way."

Page 150

A mighty easy way, this! however, 'tis what he literally practises for himself. At dinner we had Dr. Delap and Mr. Selwyn, who accompanied us in the evening to a ball; as did also Dr. Johnson, to the universal amazement

of all who saw him there; -- but he said he had found it so dull being quite alone the preceding evening, that he determined upon going with us; "for," he said, "it cannot be worse than being alone."

Strange that he should think so! I am sure I am not of his mind. . .

Dr. Johnson was joined by a friend of his own, Mr. Metcalf," and did tolerably well.

Poor Mr. Pepys had, however, real cause to bemoan my escape; for the little set was broken up by my retreat, and he joined Dr. Johnson, with whom he entered into an argument upon some lines of Gray, and upon Pope's definition of wit, in which he was so roughly confuted, and so severely ridiculed, that he was hurt and piqued beyond all power of disguise,

Page 151

...and, in the midst of this discourse, suddenly turned from him, and, wishing Mrs. Thrale good-night, very abruptly withdrew.

Dr. Johnson was certainly right with respect to the argument and to reason; but his opposition was so warm, and his wit so satirical and exulting, that I was really quite grieved to see how unamiable he appeared, and how greatly he made himself dreaded by all, and by many abhorred. What pity that he will not curb the vehemence of his love of victory and superiority!

The sum of the dispute was this. Wit being talked of, Mr. Pepys repeated,

-- "True wit is Nature to advantage dress'd, What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd."

"That, sir," cried Dr. Johnson, "is a definition both false and foolish. Let wit be dressed how it will, it will equally be wit, and neither the more nor the less for any advantage dress can give it." Mr. P. -- But, sir, may not wit be so ill expressed, and so obscure, by a bad speaker, as to be lost? Dr. J. -- The fault, then, sir, must be with the hearer. If a man cannot distinguish wit from words, he little deserves to hear it. Mr. P. -- But, sir, what Pope means -- Dr. J. -- Sir, what Pope means, if he means what he says, is both false and foolish. In the first place, "what oft was thought," is all the worse for being often thought, because to be wit, it ought to be newly thought. Mr. P. -- But, sir, 'tis the expression makes it new. Dr. J. -- How can the expression make it new? It may make it clear, or may make it elegant; but how new? You are confounding words with things. Mr. P. -- But, sir, if one man says a thing very ill, may not another man say it so much better that -- Dr. J. -- That other man, sir, deserves but small praise for the amendment; he is but the tailor to the first man's thoughts.

Mr. P. -- True, sir, he may be but the tailor; but then the difference is as great as between a man in a gold lace suit and a man in a blanket. Dr. J. -- Just so, sir, I thank you for that: the difference is precisely such, since it



consists neither in the gold lace suit nor the blanket, but in the man by whom they are worn.

This was the summary; the various contemptuous sarcasms intermixed would fill, and very unpleasantly, a quire.

Thursday, Oct. 31. --

A note came this morning to invite us all, except Dr. Johnson, to Lady Rothes's. Dr. Johnson has tortured poor Mr. Pepys so much that I fancy her ladyship omitted him in compliment to her brother-in-law.

Saturday, Nov. 2. --

We went to Lady Shelley's. Dr. Johnson, again, excepted in the invitation. He is almost constantly omitted, either from too much respect or too much fear. I am sorry for it, as he hates being alone, and as, though he scolds the others,

Page 153

he is well enough satisfied himself; and, having given vent to all his own occasional anger or ill-humour he is ready to begin again, and is never aware that those who have so been "downed" by him, never can much covet so triumphant a visitor. In contests of wit, the victor is as ill off in future consequences as the vanquished in present ridicule.

Monday, Nov. 4. --

This was a grand and busy day. Mr. Swinerton has been some time arranging a meeting for all our house, with Lady De Ferrars...

I happened to be standing by Dr. Johnson when all the ladies came in; but, as I dread him before strangers, from the staring attention he attracts both for himself and all with whom he talks, I endeavoured to change my ground. However, he kept prating a sort of comical nonsense that detained me some minutes whether I would or not; but when we were all taking places at the breakfast-table I made another effort to escape. It proved vain; he drew his chair next to mine, and went rattling on in a humorous sort of comparison he was drawing of himself to me, -- not one word of which could I enjoy, or can I remember, from the hurry I was in to get out of his way. In short, I felt so awkward from being thus marked out, that I was reduced to whisper a request to Mr. Swinerton to put a chair between us, for which I presently made a space: for I have often known him stop all conversation with me, when he has ceased to have me for his next neighbour. Mr. Swinerton, who is an extremely good-natured young man, and so intimate here that I make no scruple with him, instantly complied, and placed himself between us.

But no sooner was this done, than Dr. Johnson, half seriously, and very loudly, took him to task. "How now, sir! what do you mean by this? Would you separate me from Miss Burney?"

Mr. Swinerton, a little startled, began some apologies, and Mrs. Thrale winked at him to give up the place; but he was willing to oblige me, though he grew more and more frightened every minute, and coloured violently as the Doctor continued his remonstrance, which he did with rather unmerciful raillery, upon his taking advantage of being in his own house to thus supplant him, and crow; but when he had borne it for about ten minutes, his face became so hot with the fear of hearing something worse, that he ran from the field, and took a chair between Lady De Ferrars and Mrs. Thrale.

I think I shall take warning by this failure, to trust only to my own expedients for avoiding his public notice in future. However it stopped here; for Lord De Ferrars came in, and took the disputed place without knowing of the contest, and all was quiet.

All that passed afterwards was too general and too common to be recollected...

"Ay," cried Dr. Johnson, "some people want to make out some credit to me from the little rogue's book. I was told by a gentleman this morning, that it was a very fine book, if it was all her own. is all her own," said I, "for me, I am sure, for I never saw one word of it before it was printed."



## Book Review

*The History of a Cheshire Village* compiled by the Barrow History Group under the leadership of their editor Mr. Latham of Alpraham and published in 1983.

The book contains a number of references to our forebears and a Royal Family link..

The Manor of Barrow was made over to Sir Roger de Swinnerton when forfeited to the Crown by Hugh le Despencer about 1320. Apparently Robert de Swinnerton was the Vicar of Barrow about 1349 but in that year inherited his father's title and became Sir Robert.

The books goes on to tell us that King Edward II gave Hugh le Despencer's lands in both Staffordshire and Cheshire to Sir Roger de



Swinnerton who was a very powerful nobleman and constantly with King Edward II and Edward III. He received many honours from the Crown.

Sir Roger instituted his second son Robert as Rector of Barrow in 1335. After eleven years he resigned in favour of his uncle when he inherited the Swinnerton title because both his father and elder brother were dead.

Sir Robert died in 1349 and was succeeded by his brother Thomas who fought at Crecy and in the siege and capture of Calais in 1347. He married well and became, by marriage, the uncle of King Henry IV.

Sir Thomas de Swinnerton, the book tells, was ordered to guard the person of the King of France in 1357, and whilst he was away his lands in Barrow were seized - a fact about which he complained bitterly on his return. However, by 1359 the Barrow Manor was in order again and the warlike Thomas was off on another overseas campaign with King Edward III.

Now what I find fascinating about this last statement is that the late S. A. H. Burne, the great Staffordshire Historian (who I replaced as Salt Library Trustee), told me that the money given by the French King for his parole whilst held at Swynnerton Castle was used by Thomas Swinnerton to rebuild and extend the Chancel of Eccleshall Parish Church. It is a sure fact that the Chancel is built in the architectural style of that period.

Sir Thomas died in 1361 and his son Robert took over the title and responsibilities which included the Manor of Barrow, Chester. By 1364 the Manor was in the ownership of Matilda Swinnerton who married Sir John Savage of Clifton. Interestingly, Sir Thomas de Swinnerton presented the Priests to Barrow until about 1400. The Savage family were to become extremely influential in both local and national affairs and they owned Barrow for 300 years. The Savages, like the Fitzherberts/ Staffords/ Bridgmans/Bradfords and Pilkingtons all had powerful Swinnerton roots!

The Savages fought at Bosworth and John Savage of Barrow was knighted by King Henry V at Agincourt.

The Savages took the title of Earls of Rocksavage in 1575 and by marriage in the eighteenth century became the Cholmondeley family of Cholmondeley Castle (well worth a visit), Cheshire. To the present day the heir to the Marquess of Cholmondeley is styled Earl of Rocksavage.

The Barrow book points out that Matilda was sometimes known in records as Maude de Swynnerton and that it was her husband who was knighted at Agincourt. The family wrangle as to which of them owned the Barrow lands went on as a legal battle until 1554 when the eighth Sir John Savage paid Humphrey Swynnerton a hundred marks for the legal title to the valuable Cheshire lands.

**Brian Swynnerton**

## **MILES IN ARMIS STRENUUS: THE KNIGHT AT WAR**

p209

Two surcoats, two corslets, presumably of mail, and two pairs of iron boots were bought in London for Henry III" for 13s 4d. Seven haketons bought for Edward II early in 1312 cost ten shillings each; repair of the royal sword came to 9s 4d. In 1321 the king bought a new haubergeon and two new swords, and had a range of equipment repaired, for a total cost of £10 5s 8d. The king could afford the best; an account presented by one of Edward III's armourers, Hugh de Bungay, indicates the costs of what was no doubt good quality equipment. A pair of plate gauntlets cost 6s 8d. A pair of greaves with poleyns (covering shins and knees), with burnished fittings, came to 26s 8d. A war helmet cost £2, and a painted crest for it cost a further 5s. Two bacinets, much simpler helmets, cost 13s 6d. Surprisingly, the most expensive single piece of equipment was the cotton and fustian trapper worn by the royal charger, to protect him from being rubbed by his iron armour. This cost £2 12s 8d. The costs borne by normal knights would not have been of this order. An inventory of goods stolen in 1324 from *John de Swynnerton* shows that a haubergeon with mail fittings (aventail, pisan, and collaret), was worth ten marks. Bacinets were valued at ten shillings each, and, surprisingly, war swords at a mere 3s 4d., half the price of longbows. A set of leg armour (jainbers, cussians and poleyns) came to 15s. Two tents, necessary for campaigning, were valued at six marks. Such evidence does not suggest the cost of armour was excessive. A knight might, of course possess a substantial quantity of armour; Fulk de Pembridge, who died in 1326, left three of his sons a full set of armour each, with the fourth receiving two haubers. If it was normal to buy on that scale, it becomes difficult to accept arguments that the cost of armour was an excessive burden.

\* \* \*

## **MANUSCRIPTS OF THE MARQUESS OF BATH• PRESERVED AT LONGLEAT {H.M.S.O. 1980}**

Volume V Talbot, Dudley and Devereux Papers 1533©1659

### JOHN STANHOPE TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL

1593, April 6. Asks for permission to return to the country on business connected with his estate. Sends some notes on the recent affray in Fleet Street, the desperate state of his servant, and asks that the assailants may be apprehended. Warns their Lordships of the manifold intentions and murderous threats of his adversaries.

JOHN STANHOPE'S ARTICLES EXHIBITED TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL

(1593, April 9) May it please your Lordships to peruse these notes about the affray made upon Mr Stanhope and his men in Fleet Street on Wednesday, the 27th of March, by the Earl of Shrewsbury's followers, and also the particulars about the shameful wounding of his man who at this present, having 4 or 5 mortal wounds, lies in great danger of death.

The names of such of the principal actors in the fray made upon Mr Stanhope in Fleet Street as are yet at liberty: Henry Leake, gentleman; Godfrey Markham, the Earl of Shrewsbury's man; **Thomas Swinerton**, Mr Henry Cavendish's man; one whose name is supposed to be Colborne, waiting upon Mr Henry Cavendish in his chamber; one that was committed to Newgate and bailed whose name I know not; one other that was bailed by one Alyson in Fleet Street.

*Endorsed:* '9 Aprilis, 1593. John Stanhopes articles exhibited to the Privy Council.' 3pp, with note 'Exam: per W. Waad.' (Original Letters II/156)

\* \* \*

**GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE OF NEW JERSEY**

Vol.29, pp.13,14 Essex County Gravestones. The Old Newark Burying Ground. In 1890 before the crypt was closed, **Mr. James Swinnerton**, at the request of the city authorities, spent several days with a candle, making pen and ink sketches of the devices and inscriptions of the tombstones which lined the walls of the crypt. (See letter from James Swinnerton of New Berlin, N.Y. to the Editor, Newark Sunday Call, Sept. 8, 1901.)

Vol.6 p.92. Blauvelt Bible. The following records are from an old Dutch Bible formerly belonging to the late Mrs. Mary Swinerton and now in possession of Mr. P. Inglish of Spring Valley, N.Y. (Jan. 1931). Note: The contents of the Bible are Dutch names and I think have no connection with Swinnertons).

\* \* \*

**HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF STAFFORDSHIRE**

Vol.XVI p.11.

Chester Pleas. No. 65 27(c)28 Edward III (1353(c)4)

Cestria. Ralph, son of Richard de Horton, was convicted of entering the free warren of Thomas de Swynnerton chivaler at Barowe in 27 Edward III, killing a swan and cutting down an oak tree and for beating, wounding and illtreating his bailiff, Ralph. The jury gave 40s damages for killing the swan and 12d for cutting down and carrying away the oak tree.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swinnerton Society held at Swynnerton on Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup> 1998

Twenty members were welcomed by the Chairman, Iain Swinnerton, who was very pleased with the number who had come to the meeting which was a record attendance for an AGM.

- 1.98 APOLOGIES were received from Vice President Bill Swinnerton (Australia) Kay Sabell, Roy Swinnerton, Tim Swynnerton, and Douglas Hawley.
- 2.98 MINUTES of the last Annual General Meeting were taken as read and signed.
- 3.98 MATTERS ARISING. The Steeplechase notes, compiled by Rev. Brian Swynnerton, were ready to be printed when the illustrations had been added.
- 95.03 Joe Swinnerton reported that he had been to Nuneaton and had taken photographs of the memorials. He showed the photographs to the members. Iain thanked him, and congratulated him on the quality of the photographs.
- 4.98 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Iain Swinnerton reported that the Council had met twice since the last A.G.M. They met in York in the Autumn and in London in the home of Elizabeth and Roger Swynnerton in the Spring.
- 5.98 ARCHIVIST'S REPORT.  
Iain reported that Roy Talbot was proving to be a very good addition to the team of archivists, and was working hard putting information on the computer. Geoffrey Swinnerton has now been added to the team. Ron Swinnerton has supplied two more second-hand computers for the society's use.  
Ron said we needed to expand the data base to add on extra information from Birth and Marriage certificates. Keith Livesey reported that he had bought binders for these certificates. We have now acquired a computer disc of emigrants to America which gives us more information on Swinnerton emigrants.  
The Society has acquired a fiche printer. The 1881 census of England & Wales is now available for consultation by members.
- 6.98 St.Mary's Church, Swynnerton, now have a web-site on the Internet, which includes a section on the Swinnerton Society. Roger



Swynnerton pointed out that this web-site cannot be accessed at present by searching for the word 'Swinnerton'. We should explore the possibility of doing this.

#### 7.98 TREASURER'S REPORT

Keith Livesey presented the accounts for the year 1997. Keith informed us that the finances were good, and that there should be sufficient to cover the cost of the publication of Steeplechase Notes. We should be able to recover the cost of this booklet by selling it.

#### 8.98 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

There are 12 paid up members in Australia, 12 in the U.S.A., 6 in Canada, and 83 U.K. members. There was concern that the membership had declined. Keith commented that he had been reluctant to chase people for their subscription. He said that last year's subscription of £8 had just covered our costs. He felt that we needed a subscription of £10 to cover costs for the coming year.

Rev. Brian Swynnerton thought that we should keep the subscription at £8, and hope that we should receive more donations. Keith Livesey proposed that the sub should be increased to £10. This was seconded by Geoffrey Swinnerton.

Joe Swinnerton proposed an amendment to keep the subscription at its present level of £8. This was seconded by Ron Swinnerton. The issue was put to the vote. There were 8 for the amendment, and 4 against. The amendment was carried by 4 votes.

The meeting was informed that Bob Cunningham has to have a quintuple heart bypass operation and sent him our best wishes for a successful result.

#### 9.98 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman: Iain Swinnerton

Proposed Keith Livesey Seconded Elizabeth Livesey

Secretary: Elizabeth Swynnerton, assisted by Roger Swynnerton

Proposed Rev.B.T.Swynnerton. Seconded Rosemary Swinnerton

Treasurer: Keith Livesey

Proposed Geoffrey Swinnerton Seconded Leslie Swinnerton

Council:

Kay Sabell is retiring from the council having completed her term and needed to be replaced. Geoffrey Swinnerton was proposed by Keith Livesey, and seconded by Roger Swynnerton.

All were carried unanimously. Keith gave one year's notice, informing the meeting that this would be his last year as Treasurer.

#### 10.98 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Joe Swinnerton had now acquired ten sashes for stewards to wear at the Jubilee Gathering next year. Thanks were expressed to Joe for his efforts.

#### 95.05 Banner up-date

Some concern was felt that the banner had not progressed as quickly as we would have liked. Angela Swinnerton volunteered to co-ordinate the final stages of making the banner, including assembling all the individual pieces together. Ron Swinnerton offered to do the hanging poles at the top and bottom of the banner.

Membership Secretary. Due to the decline in membership, Joe Swinnerton suggested we should appoint a membership secretary. Geoffrey Swinnerton offered to do this job, and his offer was accepted with gratitude.

#### 11.98 DATE FOR THE SILVER JUBILEE GATHERING

The date for the week-end for the Jubilee was suggested as 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June and confirmed.

1999

12.98 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. This was arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> November at Iain Swinnerton's house in Somerset

\* \* \*

#### OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21 January 1999

1st meeting of the London Branch of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy & Heraldry which covers the counties of Staffordshire, Warwickshire & Worcestershire. The meeting will be at the Society of Genealogists at 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA. Any member of our society will be very welcome – I shall be there.

9-11 April 1999

AGM and Council Meeting of the Federation of Family History Societies at the Hampshire Genealogical Society's Conference at Winchester.

16-18 April 1999

Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Guild of One-Name Studies at Chatham at which I am giving a lecture on 'Gone for a Soldier' – how to use War Office Records to trace Military Ancestors.



THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY  
ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

OPENING STOCK	370.47 (370.47)	CLOSING STOCK	345.47 (370.47)
PURCHASES	NIL ( NIL )	SALES	83.40 ( 81.00)
SUBSCRIPTIONS:		SUBSCRIPTIONS:	669.90 (849.00)
....GOONS	8.00 ( 8.00)		
....FFHS	36.60 (33.20)		
....CFS	10.00 ( NIL )		
....GRD	18.00 (18.00)		
....BAIS	10.00 (10.00)		
JOURNAL:		IT REPAYMENTS	364.81 ( NIL )
....PUBLICATION	598.00 (322.50)		
....POSTAGE	166.67 (151.54)	INTEREST:	
TREASURER'S EXPS	48.74 ( NIL )	....BLDG SOCY	0.16 ( 2.69)
RESEARCH COSTS	244.31 (140.50)	....BANK	7.19 ( 4.77)
COUNCIL MEETING	531.00 ( NIL )	COUNCIL MEETING	531.00 ( NIL )
OTHER POSTAGE	( NIL ) ( 40.78)	DONATIONS	328.00 (291.50)
SUPPLIES	( NIL ) ( 79.95)	RETURNED DONATION	25.32 ( NIL )
DPA REGISTRATION	( NIL ) ( 75.00)		
SURPLUS IN YEAR	313.46 (349.49)		

2355.25 (1599.43)

2355.25 (1599.43)

## BALANCE SHEET.

SURPLUS B/F	1516.24 (1166.75)	NET ASSET VALUE	
CURRENT YEAR	313.46 (349.49)	COMPUTER ETC	278.13 ( 2.00)
C/F	1829.70 (1516.24)	ADD	NIL (276.13)
CREDITORS:		FLAG	125.73 (125.73)
JOURNAL	153.00 ( NIL )	BIBLES	55.00 ( 55.00)
ISS	84.99 ( NIL )	STOCK	345.47 (370.47)
LOAN	50.00 (50.00)	1881 CENSUS	522.95 (522.95)
		TOPOGRAPHICAL	
		DICTIONARY.	95.00 ( NIL )
		TAPESTRY	46.74
		DR (COUNCIL MEETING)	118.00 ( NIL )
		BALANCES: BANK	501.31 (184.76)
		BLDG SOCY	29.36 ( 29.20)

2117.69 (1566.24)

2117.69 (1566.24)

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

*Swynnerton Family History* (The Quarterly Journal of the Society)

Vol.1 1974-5. Vol.2 1955-1977. Vol.3 1977-79.

Each volume contains 10 issues, is fully indexed and bound in A4 Binder.

Price per volume - UK £2.50 USA \$5 Canada \$8 Australia \$6

Volume 4.1979-82. Volume 5.1982-84. Volume 6.1984-87. Volume 7.1987-89

Volume 8.1990-9 Volume 9. 1992-94

Each volume contains 10 issues, is fully indexed and bound in A5 Binder.

Price per volume - UK £5.00 USA \$10 Canada \$14 Australia \$12

A5 Binders for your loose issues. Each Binder holds 10 issues and an index.

The binders are gold blocked on front with badge and on spine with title.

UK £3.50 USA \$7 Canada \$10 Australia \$8

*Swynnerton & the Swinnertons* by the Rev.Brian Swynnerton*Swynnerton Family Trees Vol.1**Two Early Staffordshire Charters* by the Rev.Charles Swynnerton*Two Ancient Petitions from the PRO* by the Rev.Charles Swynnerton*Introduction to 'A History of the Family of Swynnerton'*

by the Rev.Charles Swynnerton

Each of the above:

UK £1.00 USA \$3 Canada \$4 Australia \$3

*A History of the Family of Swynnerton.*

Facsimile reprint of the original history of the family published in 1880

complete with family trees and index. 208 pages.

UK £12 USA \$20 Canada \$30 Australia \$27

*Daughter of the Raj* by Margery Thomas

Our President's personal story. Born in Simla in 1894, she tells of her childhood in India in the days of the Raj: of nursing on the Eastern Front in the Great War as a VAD: of England after the war completing her training at Barts Hospital and then to Africa with her husband in the Colonial Service. A truly fascinating story of life in a bygone age.

UK £5.00 USA \$12 Canada \$15 Australia \$15

All prices include postage and packing.

Overseas members please send dollar notes as the commissions deducted by the banks for exchanging dollar cheques are prohibitive.