

The Swinerton Saga



The arms of Milborne-Swinerton-Pilkington in Butterton Church (see page 30)

THE JOURNAL OF SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

VOLUME 14. No.2

June 2009

Annie Swynnerton's Paintings – No.1



Miss Elizabeth Williamson on a Pony 1906

Oil on canvas 1682 x 1312 mm
Presented to the Tate Gallery by F. Howard 1939
Accession number 5019

THE SWINNERTON SAGA

**Volume 14
Number 2**

June 2009

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Editor – I.S.Swinnerton

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Ray Swinnerton,

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From the Editor

My apologies for the slight lateness of this *Saga* although the UK subscribers should get it in June! This is due to a number of factors – a cataract operation, a lot of travelling, a computer that is getting slower and slower and malfunctioning regularly which I fear will have to be replaced and a much-needed short holiday.

I hope that the number of typing errors will be reduced as I now have a wonderful new keyboard which has 1 inch square keys!

A big thank you to all those who signed up to support the *Saga*. All but 15 of the UK members renewed and two of those who did not, had partners who already subscribed. All our Australian members rejoined and we gained an additional three as did our South African member but we lost two from New Zealand, one from Canada, one from Denmark and 9 from the USA. As a result, we now are now down to 110 subscribers as opposed to 136 last year.

Way back in the 70s we had a range of items produced for the society which were sold to raise money for our funds. Amongst these were silver tie pins, which could also be used as buttonhole badges, of the Swinnerton Society badge and small Swinnerton Crosses on a ring which could be used on a silver neck chain or on a bracelet. We have a few left and also still have a few pale grey ties with the badge in gold (they look very good with a dark suit). All are very modestly priced at £2.50 each and can be obtained from Liz Yeandle whose address is on the previous page.

Work on the family history continues continuously and I am grateful to Brian Swinnerton of Liverpool and his many contacts who have recently added very considerably to our knowledge of the Wrexham branch.

Work on closing down the Society by our auditors also continues, the funds have all been transferred to St Mary's Church, Swynnerton and it is now only a matter of tying up the loose ends with the Charity Commission.

All is not lost – there have been several suggestions that we reform it next year on a much less formal basis –perhaps a simple Family Association with the minimum of officers and rules and regulations with a view to possibly having some mini-gatherings in various centres and a major Gathering in 2012 which, by coincidence will be my 80th year. I will keep you informed. Mean while, please keep sending me updates on your families and any local newspapers entries.

Iain Swinnerton

Douglas Swinnerton's Notes

(Continued from The Swinnerton Saga March 2009)

OLIVIA ELIZABETH SYLVANI SWINNERTON
(Wife of Robert Swinnerton)

Mother was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and in spite of her Italian maiden name, was as Scottish as heather. She had a strong Scottish accent which never left her even after all her years in America. Mother was about 5' 4" with dark hair and large dark blue eyes.

Her great-grandfather and mother left London with their daughter one year to spend the winter in Italy. While there the daughter met and fell in love with a handsome young Italian Army officer. They wanted to marry and her parents consented only if he would give up his career in the Army and move to London. He consented. They were married and one of their children looked very much like his father, but in other ways he was quite different for he was a typical English gentleman, whereas his father was typically Italian and they did not get on well together at all.

Young Henry became a jeweller and went to Edinburgh to fend for himself. He eventually went into business with a Scotsman there who was married and had a family, a wife, two boys and a girl. George was one, I think, Jim was the second and the girl was Jenny.

The Scotsman became very fond of his partner and when he took sick and before he died, begged his partner (Henry) to look after his family. Frances used to say she guessed that he thought the best way to do it was to marry the widow, which he did!

Then they had three children - Olivia, Poppy and Nellie.

Mother Swinnerton (Olivia) was a beauty and it was said of Auntie Poppy in spite of her own vivaciousness was very jealous of Mother's beauty, though I must say that Mother, herself, must never have known of it, for I never heard her express a single unkind word about Poppy - in fact, she was always praising her. Mother visited her in 1904 after father's death and had a lovely visit.

Grandmother Sylvani must have been a very kind, but also a very stern woman. I know Frances told how she stayed in Edinburgh awhile and went to school there. She would study her lessons and grandmother would call her into the library to recite them to her and Frances said she was so terrified she couldn't say a thing and grandmother would tell her tartly, "Ye dinna ken them, go ye and study!" They also tell how a pregnant beggar woman once came to the door asking for a bit of work or alms - and grandmother asked why, when they were so poor that she got in such a

condition and the woman replied, "Aye woman, my belly was that empty I was glad to fill it with anything!".

Another time a man asked for some work and grandmother asked him if he could wash dishes and he grinned and said, "Aye, dirty them too."

The Sylvanis had a fine home in Edinburgh and Frances had been there quite a while on her visit and hadn't been in all the rooms yet. It even contained a pipe organ.

Auntie Poppy married Mr. McNicoll, a barrister and they lived in Forfa, Scotland and he was "Solicitor for the Crown". They had three sons, Henry, Francis, and Godfrey. All were in World War I, all injured in some way and Godfrey was killed. (Godfrey was with the Black Watch and he is listed on the Honour Roll that is kept at Edinburgh Castle. When we were in Scotland we saw said Honour Roll and his name in it.)

He was an especially handsome lad and Auntie Poppy never got over his death.

Francis (Mick) was quite a number of years recovering from the war and didn't marry until in his forties. The eldest, Henry, never did fully recover and died of the effects of it.

Mother herself, was gay and vivacious and kind and stayed that way as long as she lived - always taking care of someone regardless of who he was. If a Chinese peddler, an itinerant salesman, a workman or what, if they had a cold, a sore foot, or anything at all, she fed them and "dressed their wounds".

The old Chinese vegetable man they had for so many years, for instance, carried a gourd, and Mother always filled it with tea for him, no word was said, when he came to the back door for her order and Mother filled it while he was filling her order, but he sure did appreciate all the kindness Mother was always showing him; on the Fourth of July he brought a huge lot of firecrackers and fancy fireworks for Godfrey who was then a little boy. This old peddler, Louie by name, had a wife in China and when he made a trip home to China, on returning he brought lovely gifts for the whole family.

After old Louie stopped peddling vegetables and the Swinnertons had moved to several different places, they lost track of each other. Years later on my first "date" with Godfrey he took me to Chinatown for the Chinese New Year, and whom did we come across, but the same old Louie and was he happy to see Godfrey! He insisted on plying me with nuts and sweets and wanted to know about the whole family, especially Mother.

Mother was also a wonderful dancer and at around 70 years of age danced an exhibition dance (I think it was the "Sailor's Hornpipe") at the old Shrine auditorium. She did all the Scotch dances beautifully and always kept her figure. At the Scottish balls

here she went to the masked balls and while masked, many a young blood tried to date her. Also she was always getting first prize for her costumes and dancing 'til finally Charlie, unbeknownst to her, asked them to please not give her prizes anymore because of her bad leg for she loved dancing so much and was naturally proud of winning out over much younger folk.

Her bad leg was a bad ulcerated varicose vein which was caused by a trip or fall on the end of a rocker of a rocking chair when she was hurrying to Father Swinnerton when he was so ill. I suppose she had neglected it at the time for like many people who like looking after others, she frequently forgot herself. The place healed, of course, but it didn't take much of a bump to start it up again, for the overlying skin was always so thin.

It was said she wore her clothes with more "eclat" than anyone else in the family; back in the Isle of Man, a friend who lived there was Frances' age, said that as a child she and her friends used to watch for Mother at the door of the ballroom to see Mother's costumes. Father Swinnerton even set jewels, I suppose they were Rhinestones, in the heels of her slippers.

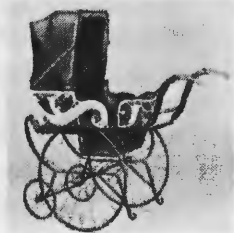
I think from all I've been told, that Mother must have been a general favourite of the whole family - not only of her own, but the Swinnerton family as well, for her brothers-in-law were quite the world wanderers and were always bringing her fine gifts from far places.

One thing only, I remember that Mother's mother objected to in her, and that was that as a girl at home Mother always wanted to learn how to do everything around the house, the servants loved her and I suppose were really flattered because she wanted to be "shown how", 'til her mother in disgust demanded to know if she "wanted to be a charwoman!".

However, the knowledge she had gained to cook and bake and garden surely stood her in good stead when they bought the ranch in this country for she had never done any work of that kind except when pestering the servants in her home in Scotland. She always had servants and a nurse for the children. She once told me she had never taken her children out herself until they were well able to walk - never in a perambulator.

Perambulator

A "baby carriage" (in North American English), "perambulator" or "pram" (in British English) is generally used for newborn babies and has the infant lying down facing the pusher.



A Letter from the College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London

A further two pages of this letter (of which I printed the first part in the March Saga) have turned up in the archives having got detached from the original. I am, therefore reprinting it in its entirety to save having to keep referring back. (Note that in Heraldic language - called Blazon - Argent is silver, Or is gold, Vert is green, Azure is blue, Gules is red and Sable is black. This is old Norman French).

Dated 18th October, 1961, the letter is addressed to Richard Swinnerton Esq,

Dear Sir

Search has been made in the records of the College of Arms for Arms of Swinnerton and kindred names and any connected pedigrees. Unfortunately no recent pedigrees of the name have been recorded, but four very similar coats of Swinnerton etc. came to light. These are: *Argent, a Cross couped fleury; with the Crest: On a Mount Vert semé of daisies Argent a Boar statant Argent gorged with a Collar Azure studded Or.* This coat is found in the Visitation of Suffolk entered in 1561 which shows seven generations headed by **John Swynnerton of Swynnerton** (? co. Stafford).

The shield includes the quartering: *Argent, a Cross couped fleury a Bordure engrailed Gules* which is shown in another pedigree to represent the match between **Humphrey Swynnerton**, father of the above John and **Anne**, the daughter and coheir of **Thomas Swinnerton** and **Hitton** (*sic*) and **Forest of Canock** (*sic*) co. Stafford whose ancestor is traced back four generations to a **Sir John Swynerton**.

Another pedigree is on record showing the first-mentioned coat with a pedigree for **Sir Roger de Swynerton** whose descendant **Maude**, coheir of **Sir Robert Swynerton** married Sir John Savage whose son John's shown descendants in the male line appear to have used the surname Swynerton. This latter line of Swynerton bore Arms: *Argent a cross couped flory over all a bend Gules.*

Another Crest appears to have been borne with the first coat by **John Swinerton** Merchant Taylor and Sherriff (*sic*) in 1602. This is shown as: *A Boar's Head erect crested Sable collared Azure.*

The first mentioned Arms also appear with a quartering with Arms of Dyer, representing a match between that family and **Thomasine**

daughter and heir of **Thomas Swinnerton** of Stanway Hall, son of **Sir John Swinnerton** Lord Mayor of London. He died in 1697.

The fourth coat is that blazoned in the Grant and Exemplification of Arms made to **Sir Lionel Milborne Swinnerton** (formerly Pilkington) wherein the Arms of Swinnerton in the first quarter are a Cross formy fleury, over all a Bend engrailed Gules. Sir Lionel's maternal grandfather was **Thomas Swinnerton** late of Butterton, co. Stafford.

As you know, a right to any of the above coats could only be established by deducing your own direct male line descent from a grantee or other member of the family shown in the Records as being armigerous and to establish such a right officially, a pedigree showing such descent should be placed on report here. I have not so far any details of your own immediate family, but if, in spite of the relatively long period to be covered, you should be interested in trying to take your line further back in the hope of making such a connection, would you let me have details of your own family as far back as you know in the direct line so that I could advise you about possible further searches.

Yours faithfully

Sinclair. (The Lord Sinclair MVO. York Herald)

Very curiously, York omitted the colour of the cross in every blazon which is, of course, Sable.

These have all been illustrated in previous issues of *Swinnerton Family History* except for the cross with a bend *engrailed* (i.e. a diagonal stripe with wavy edges) given to Sir Lionel which is a variation of the original bendlet of the Butterton family.

* * * * *

St.Chad's, Slindon: The First Fifty Years (1894-1944). Jane Benton.1993

The book explains that the Salt family were owners of property in Slindon, a will of John Stevenson of Stafford, banker "...devised to John Williamson Esq of Stafford and my son-in-law Thomas Salt Esq ...". It referred to the Slindon Estate including the manor and six cottages, one of the cottagers being **John Swinnerton**.

Swinnertons were still there in 1860 when **George Swinnerton** had to pay 3d and **Thomas Swinnerton** £4 in half-yearly rent to John Salt Esq.

(Kindly sent to me by Colin Dean who overnighted in Slindon this year).

Found in the Archives – a slice of history

(note the date).

Beach Tree House, Norton Road, Newbridge, Wrex

Mr John Swinnerton

2nd July 1970

Dear Mr Swinnerton

I am writing to you at the suggestion of my cousin, George Swinnerton of Solihull.

I did, in fact, write to you in December last and had no reply but he now tells me that he gave me the wrong address and that you have moved to this address.

The reason that I am writing is that for a number of years I have been doing some considerable research into my family history and I understand that you were in touch with him some years ago with regard to the family history which he says you did quite a lot of work on and you were under the impression that you were connected with his family. In fact he has sent me a couple of pictures of you in connection with the Radio Society.

I have a fairly extensive tree now drawn up back to 1787 of which I would be delighted to send you a copy but I would like to make sure that I have your correct address before doing so.

Yours sincerely

John Swinnerton

This letter resulted in a long and fruitful relationship between us, joined later by Ken Armitstead and Brian Swinnerton, which eventually resulted in the founding of the Swinnerton Society in 1974, John becoming the first chairman. We later discovered another link in that I had commanded a Gun Battery in the regiment to which he had been attached as Signal Officer in 1940.

* * *

Roy Swinnerton sent me a cutting from *The Sentinel* showing that the Fitzherbert Arms in Swynnerton, in which we met so many times, has now reopened. A new young couple have taken over, defying the current trend, and have also refurbished three of the bedrooms which are available for B & B. The pub closed because of the recession months ago and, in the five years before that, saw 14 Managers come and go. If you are in the area pop in and support them!

Errata: the caption to the front cover picture in the last issue should have read 'A Royal Australian Navy family'!

A letter from Swynnerton

4th March 2009

Rev Brian Swinnerton

Dear Brian

RE; Swinnerton Society

On behalf of St Mary's PCC I am writing to say how saddened we were to hear about the demise of the Swinnerton Society.

If you are able, please pass on our thanks for all the support the society has given to St Mary's over the years.

We hope that members of the Swinnerton family/society will continue to visit and they will always be assured of a warm welcome.

With kind regards

Nesta Williams

PCC Secretary

* * *

Mrs Nesta Williams

Secretary Swynnerton PCC

Dear Nesta

Thank you for your kind letter to all of us who have been associated with the Swinnerton Society over the last forty years or so. In all that time the people of your parish have extended to us friendship and hospitality. You have made us welcome whenever we have had occasion to meet at Swynnerton, and you have always included us among those you have invited to Parish Events.

This has given us all, and especially members from other parts of the world; Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America, and other countries, a centrepiece in our minds. A vision of your beautiful village and ancient church, such a permanent

feature of the landscape, can conjure up so many thoughts for us all, of our old family, which has spread throughout the world.

I do not believe the activities of the Society will cease. For instance, the Swinnerton Saga, as it is now called, will continue to be printed and circulated to those who wish to receive it. Col. Iain Swinnerton has expressed a wish to continue doing this for as long as possible and Mr. Raymond Swinnerton will continue to send it out to all those countries mentioned. Mrs. Liz Yeandle will store the books we have printed about the family and will always be pleased to hear from Swinnerton family members.

We are all part of that universal, spiritual family which will continue in future years with the Christian tasks of loving, caring and sharing.

God bless you all, and to you Nesta, a special thank you.

Floreat Swinnerton.

Sincerely,

Brian Swinnerton.

* * * * *

Another Swinnerton Painting

<http://www.phillips-auctions.com/auct/a970920/Page33.html#L10>

A picture signed FRED K SWINNERTON (19th Century) entitled 'STRIKING A BARGAIN' and inscribed 'Quimperle', Oil on canvas 31 1/4 x 25 inches (79.4 x 63.5 cm) \$5,000-7,000

Sadly, it was not illustrated.

(Could this have been Frederick Richard Swinnerton/Swynnerton 1858-1918, Isle of Man, Betley Branch?)

* * * * *

Marriage License

John Barling of Ulcombe, yeoman and Elizabeth Swynnerton, spinster to marry at StMary, Bredman's Canterbury February 1614

The Blackpool Connection

(continued from Volume 14. No.1)

Imperial Cream Ices

After losing the Regent Cinema Catering, Richard Swinnerton was looking for an opportunity to fill in the dormant period in Blackpool during the holiday season so he decided to continue ice-cream manufacture. An ice cream parlour was opened and wholesale outlets obtained including the Imperial Cinema which prompted the name for the new business. Richard and his brother Eric ran this business assisted, during the school holidays, by the younger brother Cyril, who served in the parlour.

It was the wrong time to start in this trade. Most small makers were struggling against rising competition from national companies with their ubiquitous "Stop-me-and-buy-one" tricycles and in 1930 the business was allowed to quietly pass away.



Swinnerton's Chicken Snacks

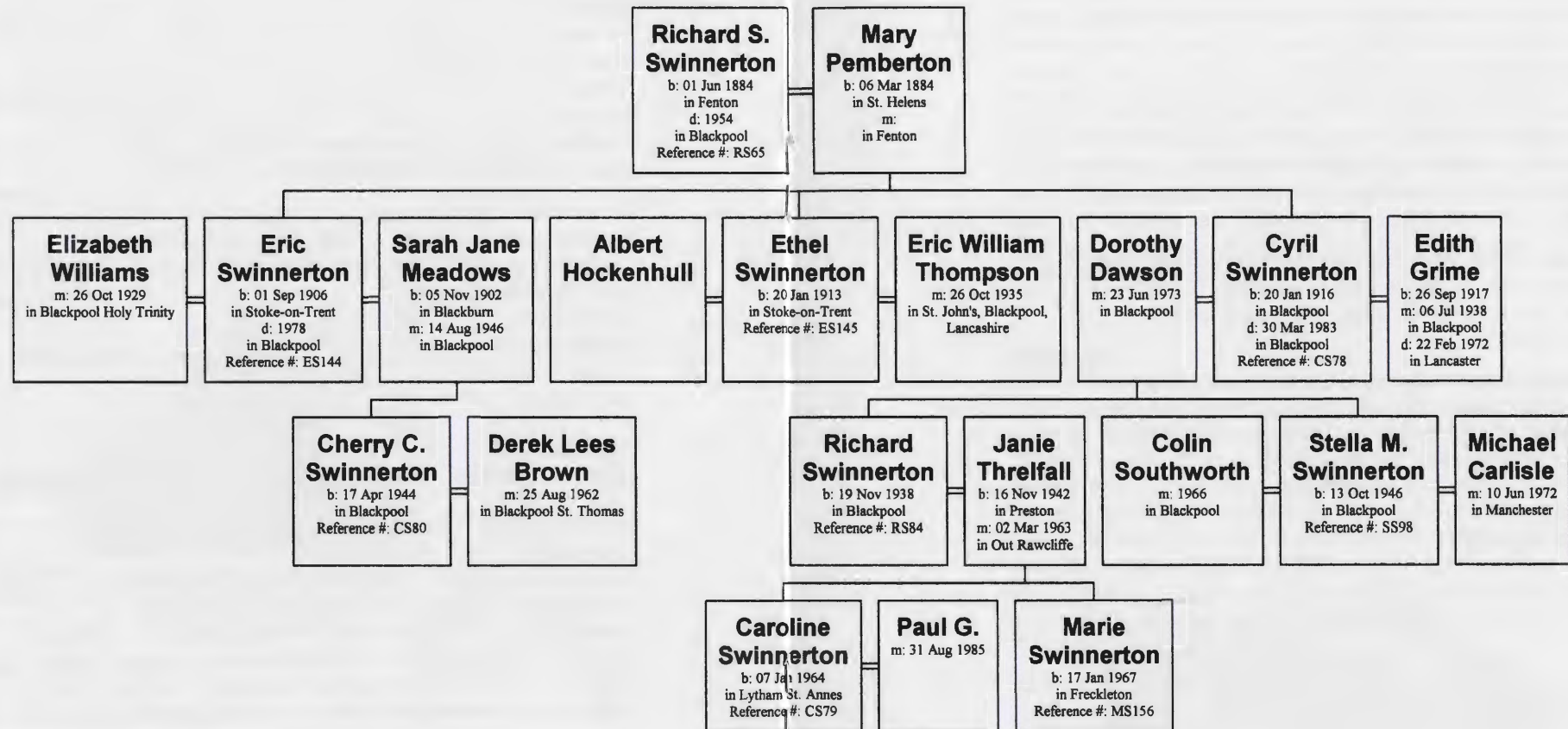
Looking for a seasonal business to replace ice-cream

manufacture, Richard overheard a pub manager complaining of the nuisance of being liable to supply food on demand. He thought that clubs, pubs and snack bars might welcome ready-made sandwiches. They did! He concentrated on chicken which was a luxury then.

Soon most of the pubs displayed:

SWINNERTON'S CHICKEN SNACKS
SOLD HERE
MADE FRESH DAILY
4d EACH

The Blackpool Swinnertons



Richard Samuel Swinnerton was a great-grandson of Thomas Swinnerton (TS108) and Mary nee Bedson who were also the great-grandparents of Edwin Swinnerton the founder of the Cycling Swinnertons.

A move to larger premises soon proved necessary and a bakehouse was built. All members of the family had a part to play in the business at some time including Minnie Swinnerton (MS155) who came from Staffordshire with her husband and son for one season. Richard was in charge of production while his sons Eric and Cyril kept up a shuttle service of deliveries.

During World War 2, rationing severely curtailed the business and Eric managed on his own using whatever ingredients were available. Things picked up again after the war as rationing eased. Cyril, after war service, became a partner in the firm but took charge of another Swinnerton enterprise.

Richard died in 1954 and Eric now ran the business, helped by his second wife Sally, his daughter Cherry (CS80), his sister Ethel and his mother Mary who had closed the boarding house.

By 1963, the brewers were aware of the profit to be made in selling their own, more sophisticated bar food. The number of customers declined and Eric closed the business to concentrate on decorating until his death in 1978.



Preserved Coronation tram 304 at Fleetwood

Swinnerton's Sweets, tobacco and fancy goods

In 1935, Richard Swinnerton won £633 in a newspaper competition. Eric's first wife, Alice, worked in a shop just off Blackpool promenade and she knew that the owners wished to retire so he used his winnings to buy the business, putting Alice in charge. At the outbreak of war, Eric and Alice separated so Richard took charge of the shop during the war years, handing it over to Cyril on his return from the forces. Cyril ran the shop, assisted by his first wife, Edith, and for two seasons by his daughter Stella (SS98) until 1963.

The shop premises were originally converted from the rear part of a converted hotel and the owners now intimated that they did not want to continue the shop tenancy. The shop premises disappeared leaving only decorating as a Swinnerton business.

Epilogue

From 1914, at various times, this small Swinnerton branch had had on it's "pay-roll" Richard, Swinnerton, his wife Mary and their daughter Ethel; Eric Swinnerton, his first wife Alice, his second wife Sally and his daughter Cherry; Cyril Swinnerton, his first wife Edith, his second wife Dorothy, his son Richard (RS84) and daughter-in-law Janie, his grand-daughters Caroline (CS77) and Marie (MS156) and his daughter Stella; Doris Swinnerton, Minnie Swinnerton and her husband Jack Brough, and Susan Thomas (Mary Swinnerton's niece) – 18 people all claiming kinship with the Swinnerton family.

There is now no Swinnerton business in Blackpool and only Cyril, Dorothy and Cherry remain there. One thing that they all had, and have, is loyalty, hard work and long hours – such as would turn a Union leader's hair white!

Bless them all.

*(These notes were written by
Cyril Swinnerton in 1978.
He died in 1982 in Blackpool).*



Some unidentified Australians

For Sale Ernest Fleming, the largest stockists of Food & Chemical machinery in Australia, have some special items for sale at their Silverwater factory. These include: "Continuous Fryer - 400 mm wide Snack Food Line Deep Fryer J C Design consists of 2.7m long single belt deep fryer, flavour drum 450mm dia x 700 mm long with 400mm wide x 2.4m cooling conveyor fitted with swinnerton 450mm wide fan. \$35000ID #9208"

This advertisement on the internet on 18 Nov 1997 intrigued our late Vice-President Bill Swinarton who could not resist the challenge. So he emailed the firm Ernest Fleming.

Dear Sirs:

Sorry to bother you, but I'm hoping that you will be able to give some further detail about an item on the Buynet - Continuous Fryer - 400 mm wide Snack Food Line Deep Fryer.

Can you give any details about the 'Swinnerton fan', such as where it is made, and the name of the company producing it....if different from Swinnerton?

Perhaps this query seems unusual, but my interest in everything 'Swinnerton' prompts me to inquire.

Arthur Lowenstein, on behalf of the firm, kindly replied saying that the tSwinnerton fan was actually manufactured in Australia by Swinnerton Fan Company, 124 Broadwater Drive, Saratoga NSW, Australia.

So - who were they?

* * *

City of Whitehorse - City of Learning - Community Resources

SURREY HILLS: Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre 157 Union Road, Surrey Hills

Activities include ESL, Writers' Group, book clubs, garden clubs, integration groups, table tennis, singalongs, historical society, playgroups, walking groups and a volunteer program.
Coordinator. Viv Swinnerton.

www.vicnet.net.au/~whitehorse/cown001.htm

Same question - who is Viv?

* * *

ACT Department of Education & Training. ACT Government

Who is Lyn Swinnerton - Home Statistics Officer ?

Miscellaneous

Calendar of the Registers of the Freeman of the City of Gloucester 1641 - 1838

Thos Swinnerton Esq of Wonastow Court (by gift).

Index of Glassmakers & Allied Trades 1600-1900

(Compiled by B.J.M.Hardman 26 St Anne's Drive, Coalpit Heath, Bristol BS17 2TH)

George Samuel Swinnerton (c.185 - 2 Apr 1905) of Holborn.
Cut Glass Manufacturer
372 City Road, Holborn, London EC
(also in Kelly's Directory 1875)

Return of Owners of Land in Ireland

Joseph Swinerton of Rouskey Upper, Moneymore, Co Tyrone
47 acres 2 rods 10 poles £4.10s

Port Philip Directory (Australia)

John Swinnerton
Blacking Manufacturer Russel Street

William Swinnerton of 34 Coerton Road, Liverpool died 12 December 1929 at The Royal Infirmary, Liverpool. Probate Liverpool 7th March to Violet Smith Swinnerton, widow £1976.1.6d.

Admissions to the Inner Temple

William Swinnerton 28 November 1734
Thomas Swinnerton 14 November 1774

The Worshipful Company of Grocers

Apprenticeships 1629-1800
Swynerton, Henry s. Daniel, Wrexham, Den. mercer to Robert Sayer 7 Jul 1663
Swynerton, William s. John Islington Mdx gentleman to John Graunt 12 Jul 1642
Swynerton, Ralph s. John Brookhouses (Cheadle), Sts yeoman to Nathaniel Smythe 14 Dec 1664
Swynerton, Tobias s. John Citizen and Grocer to Edmund Piesley 6 Aug 1633

Alumni Cantabrigienses compiled by J.A.Venn

This extraordinary database consists of five volumes which contain biographies of alumni of Cambridge University in England. Compiled by J. A. Venn, a former president of Queen's College, the collection spans alumni from the university's earliest records to 1900. Each biography reveals notable accomplishments, date of birth, other schooling, spouse, and important associations. Although not comprehensive (there are no sources listed) this work is a valuable tool in finding English ancestors who were students at this premier British university.

Volume 2:

Dyer post Dyer Bennet, Frederic Stewart Hotham. Adm. pens. (age 19) at MAGDALENE, July 16, 1882. S. of **Frederick Carr Swinnerton Dyer**, Capt., 17th and 7th s. (served in the Crimean Campaign). B. Dec. 3, 1862. Matric. Michs. 1882. Assumed the additional surname of Bennet in 1894. Died Dec. 24, 1923. (Burke, P. and B.)

Dyer, Thomas Swinnerton. Adm. pens. (age 19) at MAGDALENE, Aug. 29, 1879. S. and h. of **Sir Swinnerton Halliday Dyer, Bart.** [Capt., 17th Foot; served in Crimean Campaign], of 14, Redcliffe Square, London. B. Oct. 3, 1859. School, Rugby. Matric. Michs. 1879. Succeeded his father as 11th Bart., Mar. 16, 1882. Of Westcroft Lodge, Chobham, Surrey and of 20, Cadogan Place, London, S.W. Died there Aug. 23, 1907. (Who was Who, 1897-1916; Scott, MSS.; Burke, P. and B.; G.E.C., Baronetage; Rugby Sch. Reg.; The Times, Aug. 26, 1907.)

Volume 3

Heap, Charles Swinnerton. Adm. pens. at ST JOHN'S, Nov. 15, 1869. S. of James, painter. B. Apr. 10, 1847, at Birmingham. [School, King Edward's Grammar, Birmingham.] Mus. Bac. 1871; Mus. D. 1872. His Mus. B. exercise produced so favourable an impression upon the Professor of Music that he offered to accept the work as an exercise for the Mus. D. Organist at Queen's College, Birmingham, 1859-62. Articled to Dr Monk, of York Minster. Won the

Mendelssohn Scholarship, 1865, and studied at Leipzig for 2 ½ years. Conductor of Birmingham Philharmonic Union, 1870-86; also at Stone, Stafford, Walsall and Stoke. [p.310] Conductor of Wolverhampton Festival Choral Society, 1881-6; of N. Staffs. Festival, Hanley, 1888-99; of Birmingham Festival Choral Society, 1895, and Birmingham Musical Festival, 1897. Had a widespread influence as a teacher. Composed cantatas, anthems, songs, overtures, organ music, etc. His Maid of Astolat was performed under his own direction on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales to Hanley, 1897. Died June 11, 1900, at Birmingham. (British Musical Biography; Grove; Boase, v. 623.)

Volume 5

Pilkington, Ernest Milborne Milborne Swinnerton Pilkington. Adm. pens. at TRINITY, May 31, 1877. [2nd] s. of **Sir Lionel Milborne Swinnerton [11th] Bart.**, of Chevet Park, Wakefield, Yorks. (and Isabella Elizabeth Georgiana, dau. of the Rev. Charles Kinleside, R. of Poling, Sussex). B. there, Dec. 30, 1858. School, Eton. Matric. Michs. 1877; B.A. 1881. An architect; practised in Victoria Street, London. Died June 17, 1925. Grandson of William (1792). (Eton Sch. Lists; Burke, P. and B.)

Pilkington, William. Adm. pens. (age 18) at TRINITY, Oct. 20, 1792. [2nd] s. of **[Sir] Michael Milborne Swinnerton Pilkington [6th Bart.]**, of [Chevet Park, near] Wakefield, Yorks. (and Isabella, dau. of the Rev. William Rawstorne, V. of Badsworth, Yorks). Bapt. Nov. 14, 1775. School, Charterhouse, London. Matric. Michs. 1793; B.A. 1798. Succeeded his brother, Sir Thomas, as 8th Bart., July 9, 1811. Married, June 25, 1825, Mary, dau. of Thomas Swinnerton, of Butterton Hall, Staffs. (who adopted the name of Milborne-Swinnerton, before Pilkington 1836-7, by Act of Parliament, for herself) and had issue. Purchased the estate of Chevet Park, near Wakefield, Yorks., from his nieces. Died there, Sept. 30, 1850; buried at Sandal Magna. Grandfather of Ernest M. M. S. (1877). (Burke, P. and B.; G.E.C.)



nn Bagot's Diary

(continued from The Swinnerton Saga Volume 14 No. 4)

January 1825
1st

At Rickmansworth with Wm. Martha. God bless them.

2nd

Went to church. May this year of a lesser jubilee be one to me and mine! May we be thoroughly and rightly thankful to the giver of All good for all the blessings he may give us in the course of it and be resigned to any events which in our blindness we may call evil and oh! that in the course of it it might bring entire peace.

15th

After a nervous anxious day of waiting Mary Swinnerton arrived at 9 o'clock at night.

20th

Honora and Charlotte Legge came.

24th

Came to Park Street. My journey had been put off for a few days for my own selfish gratification of seeing Honora and Mary Swinnerton. Alas I did not know how ill she (Aunt Harriet) was or that she was ill at all till it was too late her letters to me having been as good as possible - it has indeed been a most sudden failure of a powerful mind and a very strong constitution. I fear she will not know me but as it is not long since she said she could depend on my kindness I will not leave her home again while she is in it.

Death of the last of Sir Walter Wagstaffe¹ Bagot's children

25th

At Seven o'clock an alteration took place. I did not leave dear Aunt Harriet's bedside except for a few minutes till ½ past eleven when she expired and I closed her eyes! There

¹ Sir Walter Wagstaffe Bagot married Lady Barbara Legge in 1724. They had 20 children.

ended a well spent life of nearly 82 years, there ended the last generation, the last of the children of Sir Walter! Sir Charles Bagot came - just landed from Brussels. I was glad to see him. Phillimore - Lady Liverpool called. Francis came as I was sitting down to dinner.

26th

Sir Charles came in the morning. I enjoyed the visit and conversation I had with him. Francis went by my recommendation to dine at Fife house. Phillimore good naturedly drank tea with me.

27th

She is in her coffin and looks so placid and so as if her spirit was blessed, it is a pleasure, more than pleasure, a satisfaction, a happy foretaste to see her.

28th

Mortimer's clerke came and said the will was here (?) We sent for Sir Charles and a partial search was made, we found so much money that we were quite surprised so much, to appearance at least, for we did not count it and in so many places that Sir Charles entreated I would stay after the funeral till Lord Bagot to whom it belongs as residuary legatee would come - We did not however find the Will. I am thankful that nobody but ourselves have any idea that there is any money in the house.

30th

Francis read prayers at home.

31st

It is almost necessary I should have a little air. Bob came and was kindly anxious I should. She promised not to leave the front drawing room till I return'd. I went to see Robin shut up with an ague at Whitehall.

February 1825

1st

Mortimer and Turner came as arranged by Lord Bagot. No will was found. We found £219 odd in cash and notes - I had a very irksome morning in sealing up many things which had belonged to all my Aunts, many letters, some of my own which would have been rightly improper to have left to the inspection of strangers.

SOME MILITARY RECORDS

Chaplain's Births 1796-1880 Nil

Army Regimental Birth Indexes 1760 -1924

Swinerton

Ada M	Colchester	1900	22nd (Cheshire)	922	116
Ada M	Colchester	1900	22nd (Cheshire)	917	48
Bertha A	Fyzabad	1878	25th (KOSB)	1261	91
Helen A	Wellington	1906	22nd (Cheshire)	922	116
Helen A	Wellington	1906	22nd (Cheshire)	917	49
Jane C	Wellington	1905	22nd (Cheshire)	922	116
John J	Aldershot	1903	22nd (Cheshire)	922	116
Margaret L	Aldershot	1902	22nd (Cheshire)	922	126
Margaret L	Aldershot	1902	22nd (Cheshire)	917	49
Norman H	Limerick	1898	22nd (Cheshire)	912	116
Norman H	Limerick	1898	22nd (Cheshire)	912	116
William H	Kinsale	1874	25th (KOSB)	1261	63

Supplement 1761-1924 NIL

Army Births Overseas

1881-1895 NIL

Violet Scott	Rawalpindi	1897	158
Jane Clair	Wellington	1805	503
Helen A	Wellington	1907	456

1911 NIL
(Note: Wellington is India.)



The Cheshire Regiment



The King's Own Scottish Borderers

Life in the 1500's

I think it is a good thing from time to time to print an article that is about general family history rather than always being about the Swinnertons. If you are not careful, you can get to the staghe when you think that is the only family history that is important. Here is a good example.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500's.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so the bride carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, followed by the sons and other men, then the women and finally the children, the last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water".

Houses had thatched roofs – thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometime the animals would slip, and slide off the roof. Hence the saying "it's raining cats and dogs".

There was nothing to stop things falling in to the house. This posed a real problem where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came in to existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "Dirt poor". The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floors to keep their footing. As the winter wore on they added more "threshold" until, when you opened the door it would all start slipping out. A piece of wood was placed across the entranceway and was called a "threshold".

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They eat vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stews had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old".

Sometimes they would be able to obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could "bring home the bacon". They would cut off a little to share with their guests and would all sit around to "chew the fat".

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach on to the food, causing lead poisoning or death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and the guests got the top, or "the upper crust". The burnt bottom was also used as a "trencher" instead of a plate to put food on.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of "a wake".

Mistakes had been made in burials so it became the custom to tie a string round the wrist, of those being buried, with a bell on the end of it above ground. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (The "graveyard shift") to listen for the bell, hence someone could be "saved by the bell", or was considered a "dead ringer".

Believe it or not!

* * * * *

(This article was originally printed in the Peterborough Family History Society Journal and Eastbourne & District Journal. It was presented to PDFHS by Theresa Hancock. It was re-printed in our contemporary *The Caveman*, journal of the Cave Society. I am very grateful to my old friend Hugh Cave for permission to reproduce it.

Hugh says For a good insight in to how our ancestors live I recommend books by Bernard Knight who tells the story of Sir John de Wolfe, one of the first Coroners in 12th Century Exeter, and Michael Jecks who tells the story of an Ex Knight Templar who was Keeper of the King's Peace in 13th Century Exeter. They are all fiction but fascinating stories about the way of life in those times. Read and wonder how, we as a family, survived those turbulent times.

A new arrival



James Swinnerton, born 3rd March 2009, son of John and Sarah Swinnerton and grandson of Saga distributor Ray Swinnerton and Shelagh.



Hall Cain sculpted by Joseph Swynnerton. In the background can be seen a photograph of Cupid and Psyche by his wife Annie Swynnerton



St Winifred in Farm Street Church, London carved by Joseph Swynnerton

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