

# *The Swinnerton Saga*



*A Swinnerton/Hagadom get-together in America*

**THE JOURNAL OF SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY**

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Portrait of Colwyn E. A. Philipps  
(eldest son of the Viscount St Davids, G. B. E.)

1931 on canvas 84.5 x 82.0 cm.

Signed indistinctly lower right: Annie L Swynnerton  
Present whereabouts unknown.

Inscribed upper left: COLWYN E. A. PHILIPPS.

Exhibited at The Royal Academy of Arts, London, 1931, cat.31.  
Lot 296C. Deutscher & Menzies, Australia: November 26, 2003.

Result Hammer: \$6,500.

## THE SWINNERTON SAGA

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 9  
MARCH 2011

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Editor -  
Col I.S.Swynnerton,

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## From the Editor

I had a very senior moment when typing up the last *Saga*! I got the date and place of our Spring Meeting right in my editorial but completely wrong on the booking form. Please accept my sincere apologies – a new attendance form is enclosed but you do not need to send in another if you have already applied or you are vegetarian.

All the arrangements are now in hand – your Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer/Editor had a committee meeting in the Britannia Inn on Euston Station on the 25th January! Our previous discussions have all been held by email.

The get-together starts at 10.30am with coffee/tea and we shall have a short business meeting at 11.00am – this will, in fact, be the AGM for 2010. It will be short but we do need to show you the accounts for the Saga 2009/2010 so that you can see how the expenses for printing and postage are incurred.

We have drawn up a new, very simple, constitution for you to approve (we have to have a few rules by which the society is run) and we need to elect the officers and committee for the coming year. At the moment we have just four – the chairman Elizabeth, secretary Iris, membership/subscriptions secretary Ray and myself but we would like at least one more committee member – four is an awkward number.

The rest of the meeting is socialising. I hope to bring along trees relevant to those attending and one or two other items of interest. If you have any family mementoes do please bring them along.

We are providing a small buffet lunch (Cottage Pie) for which there will be a moderate charge (£5) so it is essential you tell us as soon as possible and definitely not later than the 20th March if you are coming. At the moment we have 18 but we would like some more so please do try and join us.

Research, as always, never stops and we have had several new contacts recently through the trees of the various branches we are now putting on our website. Two of these have been corrections or updates which is very useful. Our webmaster Malcom is coming to the Spring meeting and I hope to be able to show you his efforts on a big screen so that he can talk to you about it. Do please support him in all the hard work he puts into keeping it up to date by visiting it regularly – it is constantly changing.

More and more records are being digitised and going online – it is happening so fast that it is difficult to keep up with all the new developments but I do my best. You will find details of some of them in the following pages.

I look forward to seeing you on the 25th of March.

Gain Swinnerton

## Sir Roger de Swynnerton

was probably the most famous person the family has ever produced although, as the important part he played in state affairs was as long ago as the early 14<sup>th</sup> century, he is largely forgotten today except as a name on the roll of the Constables of the Tower of London. Here is what the *Collections for the History of Staffordshire* says about him:

‘Sir Roger de Swynnerton was a man of great abilities and steered his course with consummate skill through the political difficulties by which he was surrounded. He and his family appear to have sided at first with the Earl of Lancaster in his rebellion (*against Edward II, his cousin*); but when Lancaster entered into his dangerous and traitorous alliance with the Scots, many of his former adherents left him and among them Sir Roger de Swynnerton. He was evidently in great favour with Queen Isabella after the death of Edward II, for some of the grants and lands bestowed on him were made by her when acting as Regent during the minority of Edward III.

It was during this time that Sir Roger was Constable of the Tower of London and, in this capacity, in command of the only permanently embodied troops in the kingdom; and as he retained the favour of Edward III after he assumed the reins of government, he was probably a party to the *coup-d’état* by which Isabella was deposed and the favourite Mortimer (*1<sup>st</sup> Earl of March*) sent to the scaffold (*Isabella had become Mortimer’s mistress*).

It is clear from the high favour and consideration in which he was held by Edward III, that he must have performed very important services to the young King at this juncture; and though he was a man of great military experience, and served with distinction in the King’s wars, it is probable that he rendered him even greater political services. He was undoubtedly a shrewd politician.

If we study his actions, we shall see that he left the Earl of Lancaster at the right moment for his own interests, and he seems to have also left Isabella and Mortimer at the right moment. His active career was a longer one than usual in those days and he was probably near upon sixty years of age at the time of his decease in 1338”.



## Swinnertons in Commerce

**Swinnerton Moore LLP** is an established law firm in the heart of the City of London specialising in shipping and trade matters and corporate and private property transactions. Their website says:

"We work hard for our clients regardless of the nature or value of the case. We will advise on everyday legal problems and guide you through the complicated procedures that are often a fundamental part of the development of a successful business.

We adopted the motto "*why make waves?*" to represent our approach to our clients and their work. The motto is intentionally ambiguous. It is designed to make our clients think and to show that we think. We see it as meaning:

- do you need to make waves?
- if there is no need to make waves, don't;
- but where the need arises - *full ahead!*

Representing owners, charterers, traders, yards, bunker suppliers, insurers, stevedores, freight forwarders, hauliers, banks and clubs, we have forged and maintained long-term relationships with our clients and legal correspondents internationally. Our fees are always proportionate and reflect the quality of our service".

**Tony Swinnerton** has over 25 years experience in shipping law with 20 years running his own practice. He merged with Lewis Moore & Co in December 2001.

## Viridor sweeps up Swinnerton in £1.8m deal

Recycling and waste management outfit Viridor has completed its second acquisition in Greater Manchester in under a month with a £ 1.8m swoop. Viridor, a subsidiary of FTSE 250 giant Pennon Group, has bought Swinnerton Environmental, which mainly processes paper and plastics for recycling.

Swinnerton, which is based in Bury, employs 30 staff and recycles about 30,000 tonnes of material a year.

The takeover follows a deal in mid-December which saw Viridor buy another Bury firm. It paid £700,000 for Adapt Recycling, a £3.7m-turnover enterprise employing 20 people. Adapt processes about 25,000 tonnes of plastics, cans, glass and paper a year.

Swinnerton will be integrated into Viridor's northern regional operations, Pennon said, in a stock market statement. Colin Drummond, chief executive of Viridor, said: "The UK's waste strategy demand ever-increasing levels of recycling. This is a fast-growing part of Viridor's business which accounted for 26 per cent of the company's profits in the first half of 2010/11.

"These acquisitions have an excellent geographic and business fit with Viridor's existing operations in Greater Manchester."

## G. Swinnerton Ltd.

### Chimney Builders & Repairers

1249 Pershore Road, Birmingham B30 2YT



George Swinnerton

'The oldest firm of steeplejacks in the country' – that was the proud boast of this firm in the days when it was a family concern. Founded by George Swinnerton who was born in Hinkshay, Shopshire on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1846, he was a great-grandson of William Swinnerton of Adbaston. George married Mary Rebecca Fletcher on the 19 September 1866. Reflecting their very strong non-conformist religious beliefs, they were married in the National Schoolroom at Wellington, Shropshire. And not in a church.

Over the years, I have written several times to the firm about their history but they have never replied so all I know comes from family knowledge (George was my great-great uncle). He died in Smethwick in 1924.

George and Rebecca had ten children, the eldest of whom, James, carried on the business after George died. James died in 1935 but the business continued under the management of his daughter Carrie but eventually had to be sold when she grew too old to continue. She died in 1998. The new owners carried on the name and still trade under the Swinnerton name to this day.

This small branch of the family produced a nightmare for anyone trying to draw up the family tree because George's eldest daughter Caroline (Carrie) married Seth Thomas Ravenscroft in 1887 and when she died, Seth married her sister Florence Ellen (Nellie) in 1898. It was against canonical law, it used to be the first forbidden category of marriage in the Table of Consanguinity in the Book of Common Prayer. Nevertheless, by late Victorian times, it had become quite common. Then, to complicate the tree still further, George's second son John Fletcher Swinnerton married Seth's sister Minnie Ravenscroft in 1905.



Mary Fletcher

## SOME AMERICAN HISTORICAL RECORDS

### **MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.**

Compilation from the Archives, and printed in 1907, at Boston, by Wright & Potter Printing Co.

**SWINERTON, JAMES**, Danvers. Private, Capt. John Putnam's (Alarm) co. of Danvers, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 2 days.

**SWINERTON, JAMES**, Oakham. Private, Capt. John Grainger's co., Col. Ebenezer Learned's regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 1, 1775; service, 3 mos., 1 week, 1 day; also, company return dated Oct. 7, 1775.

### **THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND .GENEALOGICAL REGISTER,**

Vol. 25, Page 264

9<sup>th</sup> Mass. Reg., 1<sup>st</sup> Company. Corp. **James Swineston**. (sic)

\* \* \*

And now a different sort of record!

### The Measly Middle Ages

One of the *Horrible History* series of books for children.

In a section devoted to bad men and their doings we find:

*Sir Roger Swynnerton of Staffordshire was accused of murder. There were several witnesses who said they had seen him do it. Sir Roger was set free to return to Swynnerton village where the murder had taken place. What did Sir Roger do?*

*The answer given was the murderer was so upset by the witnesses that he forced them to pay him 50 marks as a punishment for speaking out against him!*

I take it the authors are referring to Roger Swynnerton who slew Sir John de Ipstones in revenge for his abduction of his niece Matilda Swynnerton, the seizure of her lands and her forced marriage to his son William de Ipstones but I do not know where the story of him fining his witnesses originates.

*Thanks to Margaret Antill for this item.*

## Who's Who in the Swinnerton Family - James Swinnerton (JS259)



Jim was born in Blackpool on the 30 July 1979; He started to play the clarinet at primary school at the age of 9. By the time he was 15, he was being invited to "sit-in" with various local jazz bands. After hearing the recordings of Pops Foster, Al Morgan and others he was inspired to buy a double bass at the age of 18. Shortly afterwards, he was offered a residency in Lancaster on his newly adopted instrument - Sunday lunchtimes with the Sun Street Stompers was a stimulating experience. Today, Jim guests with a variety of bands in the North West and is a member of Martin Bennett's Old Green River band. Jim is the younger son of Jack and Jennifer Swinnerton of the Yorkshire Branch. Jack

Swinnerton will always be remembered for his love of Jazz on which he wrote widely. We have a collection of his articles in our archives. Jim has obviously inherited his father's interest.

## Who was Who in the Family - Brian Anson Swinnerton (BS36)

A long-standing member of Ryde Cricket Club and mortgage adviser, Brian Swinnerton died, aged 69 in 2006. Brian Anson Swinnerton, of Queen's Road, Ryde, was born in Wolverhampton on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 1936 and, from the age of nine when he entered the prep school, was educated at King Edward VI Grammar School, Stratford-Upon-Avon. After his A-levels he did National Service, completing two years in the Royal Air Force as a radar operator. On leaving the RAF, he joined his family, who had moved back to Wolverhampton and worked for the National Coal Board in the administration department.

In 1960, at a friend's birthday party, he met Pat (Patricia Carey) Leach and two years later, on the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1962, they were married at St Phillip's Church, Wolverhampton. They had three children, Joseph Anson, Carey Laura and Eden Brian, and three grandchildren. Brian and his family moved to the Isle of Wight in 1965 when he got a job as a gas board representative in Portsmouth. A short time later he became a representative with Island Oils, then he became involved in finance, working for Barclays Life and then as a mortgage adviser with the newly-established Wright Estate Agency.

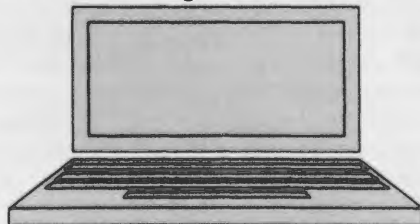
Later, he worked for Fox and Sons and lastly, he worked part time with Margaret Jones, an independent financial adviser.

In his spare time he was a member of Ryde Cricket Club for more than 30 years, helping to start the 49ers veteran side and was a fully qualified umpire. Brian was also a lover of jazz music, frequently attending concerts. He was a keen walker and regularly travelled to the mainland to visit his children and grandchildren. Brian was an early member of the Swinnerton Society and a member of the Adbaston Branch.

*(A love of jazz seems to run in the family!)*

## New on the Internet

- over 547,000 new baptisms and marriages for Durham, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Northumberland and Westmoreland
- 154,000 Warwickshire parish burials
- Over 22,000 new London Dockland baptisms
- Well over 300,000 Nottinghamshire marriages
- Over 12,000 new entries to the Worcestershire Parish Record Transcript bringing the total baptisms 1730-1849 to over 690,000
- The London Illustrated News for 6 months from 1890 (and more to come). This magazine contained many notices of births, marriages and deaths, obituaries, wills and bequests.  
All the above may be found on [www.TheGenealogist.com](http://www.TheGenealogist.com)
- [www.Familyrelatives.com](http://www.Familyrelatives.com) announced the release of over 1 million Post Office records. The exciting new collection is set to grow over the coming months and will prove to be an extremely valuable resource and complement the existing Trade Directories, allowing them to be used side by side. The Post Office collection is, in effect, a Victorian version of today's Yellow Pages covering over 25 counties and major cities of Great Britain spanning nearly a century during Britain's most prosperous years.
- Family history website [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk) is making available online for the very first time fully searchable indexes and images of the parish registers of Wales. The project is taking place with the permission of the Church in Wales and Welsh Archive Services and findmypast.co.uk is working with FamilySearch International, the world's largest repository of genealogical records, to digitise the records. Around 893,000 images containing 8,000,000 baptisms, marriages and burials from across Wales will be filmed by FamilySearch and transcribed by findmypast.co.uk. Some of the records date back to the sixteenth century, making it possible to find Welsh ancestors as far back as the 1500s. The records contain entries in English and Latin. The records will be made available over the next two years at findmypast.co.uk with an index search available on FamilySearch.org. Free access to the images on findmypast.co.uk will be made available through all Archive Services in Wales.



## Another Mark Swinnerton

WATKINS GLEN -- Mark Swinnerton, a former Watkins Glen trustee, announced his candidacy for village mayor on Wednesday. The mayoral seat is held by Judy Phillips, a Democrat who plans to run again. The two trustee positions sought by Smith and Gibson are filled by William Smagner, a Democrat who is running again, and Nick Kelly, who is not seeking re-election.

"The board hasn't been able to work together to set priorities and work with community stakeholders in a forward thinking and aggressive way to achieve economic development in our village," Swinnerton said.

"... Sound and efficient basic services, a solid capital investment plan to maintain and improve what we have and innovative partnerships with our stakeholders to expand our tax base are key elements to growing our community."



Swinnerton, who will be running on the Republican and Listening Party lines, was a village trustee from 2004 to 2008. He was vice chairman of the Schuyler County Republican Party from 2003 to 2008. Swinnerton is president of the Watkins Glen-Montour Lions Club, as well as a pack leader for Cub Scouts. He and his wife, Margaret, have three children.

Swinnerton has worked in the construction industry for 20 years as a chief estimator, project manager and a senior project manager. He is managing a \$25 million dollar project for SUNY Binghamton. He graduated from Watkins Glen High School

in 1990 and received his bachelor's degree in construction.

Now – where does Mark fit in to the family? Given his occupation is he part of the big construction company Swinnerton & Waldberg? Who can tell me?

\* \* \* \* \*

## Frome, Somerset

Sarah daughter of John and Susannah Swinerton baptised 27 Mar 1668  
John son of John and Susannah Swinerton baptized 31 Dec 1689.

These are way out of our traditional area and I think this must be John Swinerton from the conjectural tree for the ancestry of Job Swynnerton, our first emigrant to America.

**William Swinnerton (WS113)**

I first wrote about William Swinnerton in *Swinnerton Family History* Volume 4 No.8 (September 1981) and Volume 4 No.10 (March 1982).

Since then, much more information on the records of the British in India have become available largely through the splendid work of FIBIS (*The Families in British India Society*) and particular the splendid work and leadership of their chairman Peter Bailey. I played a small part in helping the society get going and I am a member. Here is the much updated story.

\* \* \*

I first came across William Swinnerton when I spotted his death in the records at the old India Office, a small, cramped, rather scruffy building at the end of Blackfriars Bridge in London. He died at Cawnpore on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1895. I then looked for his marriage and found it at Calcutta where it was recorded that he married Amelia Henrietta Williams on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 1845. He said he had been born at Lambeth and that he was 25 years of age and that she was 14! I thought that this was a mistake and should have been 24. Searching in civil records revealed that he had been baptised in St Mary, Lambeth on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1822, the son of William Swinnerton and Elizabeth Sargent

So I searched the 1841 census to see if I could find some more information about him – those were the days when you went to the old Public Record Office in Portugal Street, London and looked at the original census books. I found him stationed at Brompton Barracks, Chatham (a large military depot) so I went back to the India Office and looked for the records of enlistment of soldiers for the Indian Army.

There I found his attestation papers which showed that he had originally enlisted on the 17 December 1840 giving his trade as a bookbinder but had purchased his discharge on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1841. The ‘purchase’ was, of course, really the repayment of the bounty he had been paid on joining. However, either he could not get a job or he found civilian life not to his taste because he re-enlisted on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 1841 and sailed for India on the SS Glendower on the 11<sup>th</sup> June. His enlistment papers showed that he was 5ft 4½ inches tall (about average for the time), was of fair complexion, had brown hair and grey eyes.

In 1845, his marriage certificate shows that he was a Corporal in the Honourable East India Company’s (HEIC) 1<sup>st</sup> European Light Infantry but two years later was promoted Sgt and transferred to the 1st Battalion Bengal Fusiliers. He was obviously a good soldier because in 1851 he was promoted to Sgt Major



Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Bengal Fusiliers

serving first in the Bengal Light Infantry and then in the 47<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Native Infantry.

Then came the big change in his career. In 1858 he was appointed a Sub-Conductor and then Conductor of Ordnance – Warrant Officer’s appointments. A Conductor of Ordnance is a very ancient appointment: he is a Warrant Officer Class 1 (equivalent to a Regimental Sgt Major) and according to tradition, is the second most senior appointment in the British Army, ranking only after the Sgt Major of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. These WOs were mostly to be found in the Ordnance, Commissariat and Public Works Departments. They were largely Non Commissioned Officers (NCOs) of the HEIC’s European regiments although occasionally NCOs of British regiments stationed in India were also appointed.

After the Indian Mutiny of 1857 when the HEIC’s European regiments were amalgamated with the British Army, they were appointed solely from NCO’s of British regiments stationed in India.

Conductors were eligible for promotion to Departmental Officer - Deputy Assistant Commissary, Assistant Commissary and Commissary, and these grades were eventually given complementary honorary officer ranks ranging from Honorary Lieutenant to Honorary Major.

The Commissariat was the organisation which supplied the army with all its needs – from ‘bullets to blankets and food to fodder’ as the old saying goes. Until 1869 it was a civilian organisation who wore a plain blue uniform – readers will no doubt remember Assistant Commissary Dalton who won one of the VCs in the Defence of Rorke’s Drift in the Zulu War. Gilbert and Sullivan fans will also remember in the song about a modern major general in *The Pirates of Penzance* (popularly supposed to have been based on Lord Roberts) he said that he would ‘*know precisely what is meant by Commissariat*’.

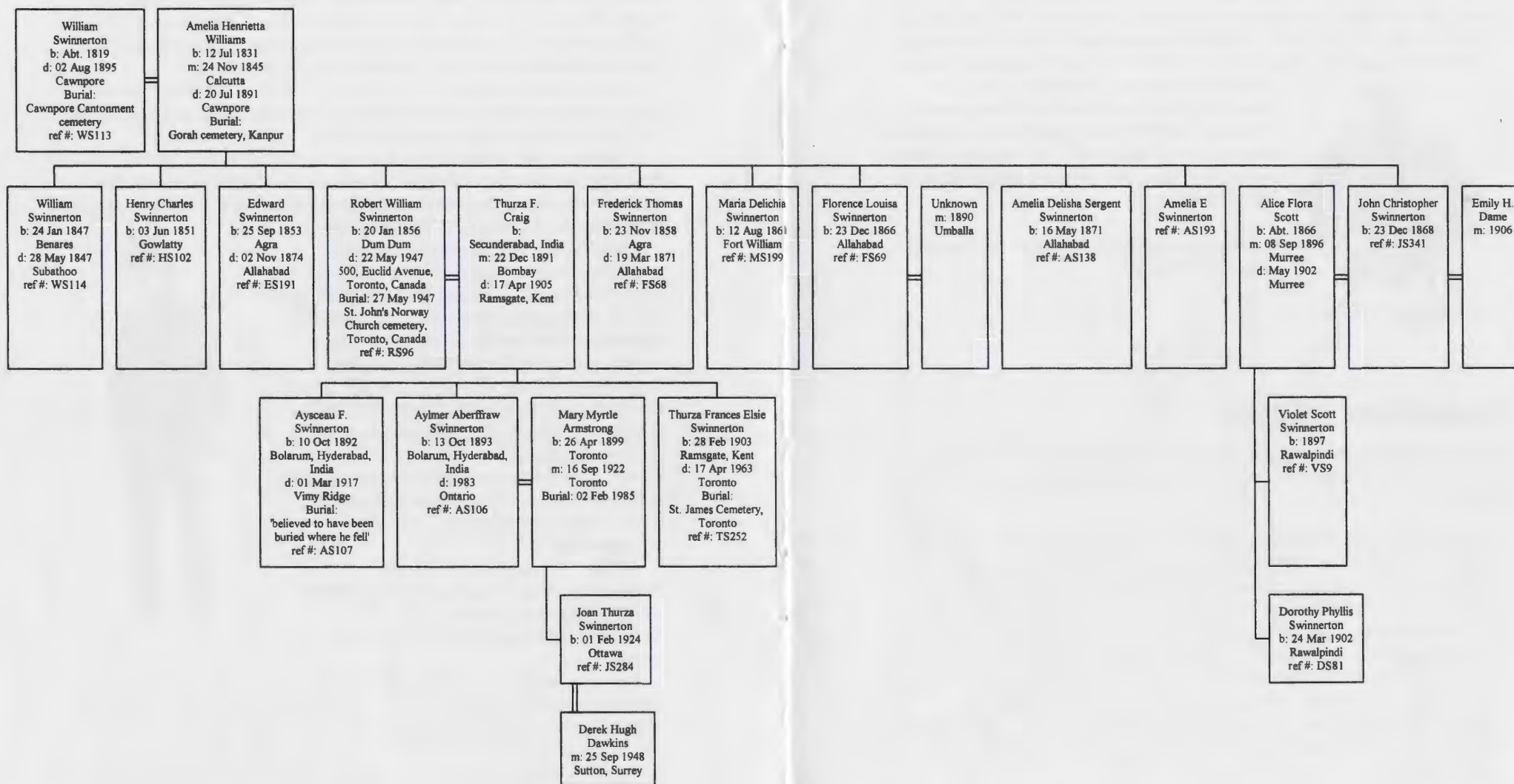
William was appointed a Deputy Commissary (Hon. Major) on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1881 and retired on pension on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 1882 aged 76 having served for 42 years.

His wife Amelia had died on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1891 at Cawnpore “aged 60 years” proving that she was only 14 when he married her but, of course, the legal age for marriage with the consent of parents, was 14 for a boy and 12 for a girl until 1929 when the legal age was raised to 16. 14 was also the age when the HEIC ceased to pay what today we would call child benefit – an allowance for the children of their employees.



An Assistant Commissary

# Descendants of William Swinnerton - soldier of the Honourable East India Company



The sons would normally go into the army as drummer boys and the girls would look for husbands - there was no shortage of suitors.

Between them, William and Amelia had ten children – six sons and four daughters. Two sons became soldiers - Edward joined the 2nd Battalion of the 19<sup>th</sup> Regiment but died of peritonitis at Allahabad on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1874 aged only 23. The 19<sup>th</sup> Foot later became The Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) and after 1920, The Green Howards.

John Christopher followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Indian Army. He started in the infantry but eventually transferred to the Commissariat ending his career as an Assistant Commissary with the rank of Captain on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1923. He had been appointed MBE for his services.

William's grandson, Aysceau Francis Robert William Swinnerton, born in



1892, the eldest son of William's fourth son Robert William who became a civil engineer in the Indian Public Works Department, was killed in action on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1917 at Vimy Ridge while serving with the Central Ontario Regiment of the Canadian Army.

Three generations of service to the Crown in just under 100 years.

*The Central Ontario Regiment*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Service Returns No.1 1806.**

*Statement of the periods of service of all the non-Commissioned Officers, Trumpeters and Privates who were liable to serve Abroad on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 1806.*

These can be found at The National Archives, Kew, under reference WO25, Volumes 951-991. This was a general muster of the Army during the Napoleonic Wars and includes regiments serving all over the world. I have used the series many times over the years but it was always a tedious task as they were listed by regiment. Life has become much easier now because the greater part of them – the Cavalry, the Foot Guards, the Royal Wagon Train and the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiments of Foot - have been alphabetically indexed by Miss Barbara Chambers. Amongst them we find Private **William SWINNINGTON** of the 35<sup>th</sup> Foot who enlisted on the 12 Dec 1801. The roll indicates that he had served previously in that regiment, in another regiment or in the Militia.

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*The Canadian War Memorial to Vimy Ridge*

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Joseph, Charles Roger Alan, and Margery with their mother Louisa Swynnerton  
(née Oldfield) In India circa 1910



Charles Francis Massy Swynnerton at his desk in Northern Rhodesia

## Another Swinnerton Gathering

These are pictures of members of the Swinnerton and Hagadom families, all descendants of Richard Swinnerton, the sportsman who featured in the *Swinnerton Saga* in Volume 14 Numbers 3 and 4. Richard was from Liverpool but his family originated in Wrexham, Denbighshire and so they are of Welsh descent. The reunion was at Seneca Lake in Upstate New York (Peach Orchard Point)



Sharon Swinnerton, James (Jim) Swinnerton, Madeline Swinnerton (wife of Richard), Edward (Ted) Swinnerton, Richard Swinnerton, Sally Swinnerton Logue, Robert Swinnerton, Stanley Swinnerton



Back row Amy Joy, Robert Mark and Tammy Lee.  
Front Jean L and Robert Mark.

## Extracts from the Bengal Ecclesiastical Registers

### Nov 24th 1845 St James Calcutta

William Swinnerton age 25, bachelor, Corporal H.Cs 1st European Light Infantry, (father William Swinnerton) married Amelia Williams age 14, spinster, (father John Williams) by Banns. (Vol.6 p.256)

### 4 April 1847

Baptised. William son of William and Amelia Swinnerton of Subathoo, Sgt HCs 1st Bn European Bengal Fusiliers, born 24 Jan 1847 (Vol 71 p.165)

### 28 May 1847

William Swinnerton. Died . Buried 29 May. aged 4 mths. So of William & Amelia Swinnerton of 1<sup>st</sup> European Bengal Fusiliers

### 6 March 1849

Baptised Amelia Elizabeth . Sp. Dau. of William & Amelia Swinnerton. Benares. Quarter Master Sgt 3rd Infantry Depot. Born 26 Jan 1849

### 3 Jun 1851

Baptised Henry Charles son of William and Amelia Swinnerton of Gowlaty Sgt Major 2nd A.L.Infantry, born 7 February 1851(Vol. 79 p.228)

### 25 Sep 1853

Baptised Edward son of William and Amelia Swinnerton of Agra, Sgt Major 47th Regt N.I., born 3April 1853 (Vol 84 p.2)

### 20 Jan 1856

Baptised Robert William son of William and Amelia Henrietta Swinnerton of Dum Dum, Sgt Major, born 12 January 1856 (Vol 89 p.33)

### 23 Nov 1858

Baptised Frederick Thomas son of William and Amelia Swinnerton of Agra, Conductor of Ordnance, born 23 July 1858 (Vol 94 p.189)

### 12 Aug 1861

Baptised Maria Delicia daughter of William and Amelia of Conductor's Barrack, Fort William. Conductor of Ordnance, born 18 July 1861 (Vol 100 Pt.1 p.27)

### 23 Dec 1866

Baptised Florence Louisa daughter of William and Amelia Swinnerton of Allahabad, Conductor Ordnance Department, born 24 Oct 1866 (Vol 118 p.7)

### 2 Jan 1869

Baptised John Christopher son of William and Amelia Swinnerton of The Fort, Allahabad, Conductor Ordnance Department, (Vol127 p.6)

### 16 May 1871

Baptised Amelia Delisha Sergeant daughter of William and Amelia Swinnerton of The Fort, Allahabad, Conductor of Ordnance (Vol 136 p.6)

### 16 May 1902

Alice Flora Swynnerton. Died 16 May 1902. Buried 17 May. Aged 38 yrs. Wife of Sub Conductor John Swynnerton. Pernicious Anaemia. Murrree.

John Christopher Swinnerton. 37 Widower (Misc. Unattached List)  
Father William Swinnerton. Married Emily Martha Dame 31 Sp. Dau of John  
Malvern Dame. By License. Both signed.  
Witnesses: M.Miranda & Charles Elliott.

### Indian Army List

1922 October p.1849

Deputy Commissary with the rank of Captain. Swinnerton John Christopher  
p.157

Commissioned 24 Oct 1913 . b. 23 Dec 1868. Date of grade of rank. 1 Jan  
1916: 17 Mar 1920

Burma Distict Staff Office

### Thacker's India Directory

1899 Pt 2

Swinnerton RW AMICE exc Engineer Public Works Dept. West Berar Div.  
Akola

### Family Notes

#### Change of address

Geoffrey and Carole Swinnerton have moved to [redacted]

(I am assured that the rumour that this is an old folks home is totally untrue!)

We welcome two new members



← Paul Swinnerton, [redacted]

Ian Swinnerton, [redacted]



Both are sons of our member Brian Swinnerton of Liverpool who is a member of the  
Wrexham Branch.

### Mark's Journey (continued)

Just to remind you – Mark was the eldest son of Charles Swinnerton (1813-  
1907) of the Isle of Man. Mark settled in Washington State, U.S.A after he  
had completed this remarkable journey. Again, I have reproduced the original  
spelling and grammar.

\* \* \*

Awaking next morning I first imagined that I had an attack of ague but  
elevating myself sufficiently to take a view of the surrounding country, what  
was my astonishment to see the whole country covered with hoar frost. I then  
remembered being told about the great difference we would find after crossing  
the boundary of New South Wales and New England, viz. Hungry Hill. That  
morning we started with our breakfast and walked till we came to a more  
cheerful looking spot where we sat down beside a cheerful brook and cooked  
our scanty meal. Towards evening I began to feel severe pain in my left leg  
which at one time had been broken. Next morning I was so lame that I was  
unable to put my foot to the ground and the old break in the bone felt as  
thought it was again loosening. Consequently, Tom had to cut me two forked  
sticks to act as crutches and the tail of my shirt, and also of Tom's, I sacrificed  
to make bandages with.

A nice spectacle we looked, I hobbling on two crutches and Tom assisting  
himself along with two sticks. By this time Tom was also crippled. He was  
troubled with two perverse big toe nails which would persist in growing how  
they chose and that was downwards at the sides. That disease necessitated a  
continual scraping of the tops of said nails, but unfortunately we had both lost  
our knives. I remember the time, mid-day Sunday, we sat down on an old log  
in a dry gulch. I suppose to rest and to try and comfort each other, for misery  
likes companionship. We figured what the chances were of ever reaching the  
next township for in Tom's adventure in the river we had lost half our  
provisions. The day was warm and splendid. Sky clear. The birds flew in  
flocks around us and everything looked as if nature was taking a holiday,  
except us.

We had not been seated long before the quick ramp of a horse coming  
through the bush and presently right in front of us there reined up a horseman.  
A stock keeper he evidently was by his dress; a crimearc shirt, cabbage tree  
hat, high boots outside his trousers and carrying in his hand a whip, short stick  
and long lash. We bade him the time of day, which he returned when the  
following conversation took place between Tom and him.

Horseman: Have you seen any travellers on the road looking for work.

Tom: No. None but ourselves.

H.: Are you looking for work.

T.: Yes.

H.: Did you ever work on a farm or station.

T.: Never done anything else much in our lives.

H.: Can you make bough yards for sheep.

T.: The very last job we done where we left down at Ranes's Valley.

H.: Well a friend of mine wants two men for a few days to do odd jobs around and if you like to go say I sent you.

T.: Alright, we'll go.

With that he put spurs to his horse and was soon out of sight. We very soon got our crutches and sticks from behind the logs where we had hastily thrust them. In that section of country there were no roads. There was what was called a marked tree line, that is a line made by government surveyors to denote which the trail was. They cut a notch in trees, a seeing distance from each other.

Our directions were to follow that for about three miles, then we would meet another clearing away to the left, we were then to follow that one for about three miles more which would lead us in sight of the station. At that particular time it was imperative that we should find some place to rest a few days to recover. It was not until the following day towards evening that we made the station.

Generally around a station there is a field fenced in to keep riding stock from wandering and in this enclosure stands the hired men's house. We took down the slip rails and toddled towards the house. The men saw us and came out to see what kind of a limping cavalcade was on hand. As soon as we got there we inquired for the overseer. When one of the number said he was the man. We then told him our errand and if ever you've seen a surprised man it was him. Why, says he, you can't walk, let alone work. But we assured him that it was nothing but a perversity of toe nails and cold in a broken leg which would be alright very soon. He told us we would have to go six miles more to an out station to put up to yards so after a good square meal and finding out exactly the road we had to go next morning, we turned in on a shake down and slept sound.

Arising very early next morning before anyone was astir, we set off and arrived there at night. The hut had a dismal look. Just such a place as you would expect to find a batchelor in. In one corner stood a sack of flour, an old rickety table with dirty tin cups, pieces of bread, scraps of meat and everything mixed up promiscuously. The door was wide open but no person in. The shepherd being out with his flock. We very soon had a fire and then attacked the flour bag which belonged to the shepherd. We soon had a meal, such as it was.

Towards evening the shepherd came home and was not a little surprised to see his hut taken possession of. This man had been living here for six years, seeing no person except once or twice a year when he brought his flock into the head station to what is called the muster. When branding and marking takes place. The first night we were awakened by the gentleman walking in his sleep, not confining himself to any particular part of the hut, but fumbling everywhere feeling all over our beds so that there was soon war in camp. It was some time before we got on easy terms with each other for the reason that we had to have resource to his flour bag toward the end of the week. The ration keeper came round every Monday morning bringing our rations, beef,

sugar, tea etc. but somehow it did not last the week through. Ours always giving out about Friday, whereas his lasted all week and then had some to spare, so that having a little to spare every week, he was not long in accumulating a stock which stood us in good part. However one day he came to the conclusion that he had met with me some six years ago at Warwick. I humored his fancy and after that we go along alright.

We remained here two weeks repairing bough yards and burning Bathurst Burs and began to feel alright. We then went to the head station where there was another little job for us. The fencing around the field was formed by posts through which three mortice holes were cut into which the ends of rails lying horizontally were placed. In some places the tops of the posts were split with the sun. Armed with a green bull's hide and a knife, we went around binding the tops of such as were split. In that manner we put in another week.

At the expiration of which we reported finished. Feeling alright we settled up. Our wages were 12/6 per week and rations. We drew three between us having used the balance in the store for odds and ends and started on the road. We had gotten a good rest. That night we made another station where a little of everything was kept, beer, spirits, etc. We had not stayed long before a game of cards was proposed and before Tom and I finished our 3 was gone. We had a glorious time and did not much regret the loss for that of three pounds was like so much money found. We had our own stock of cash alright never touching that only for what we required on the road.

Next day we made Gloucester, which lies 30 miles from Stroud. This is a small little insignificant place. A mill and a few houses. The following morning we started for Walcha, distance of 97 miles, and as this was a long way off we struck into the country so as to meet as many cattle stations as possible. It took us about four days to make that journey and a pretty rough one it was over mountains and valleys through creeks, etc. Walcha is a place something like Gloucester, of not much more importance. From Walcha we went to Armidale, 40 miles. This is intended to be the capital of New England when it will get severed from New South Wales and form a separate colony.

We found it a very nice flourishing place. From here we went to Glen Innes 60 miles-when outside of Armidale about 8 or 10 miles we came to a prairie and were overtaken with a fearful thunder and rain storm. Towards evening we met a horseman who told us there was a stock keeper's hut some distance off and that was the only habitation for miles. We walked along thoroughly saturated until we came to a creek he had spoken of. This we followed up according to directions. It was now dark, I might say "black". Every time it lightened we got a glimpse of the water so that we were able to make our road pretty well.

At length we came to the hut and as there were no blinds to windows there, before knocking we were able to take a good view of who and what was inside. There were five men and what interested us most was a goodly supply of provisions on the table. We knocked and entered. After talking a few moments about weather etc. we asked if we could stay over the night and were

answered by the hut-keeper that we could not. Stating that five men were enough to sleep in a hut that size. We offered to pay for our room but to no avail. We always offered that of course. Tom asked them if any of them slept on the floor. He answered no. Well said Tom we will spread our blankets before the fire, but no. And I am ashamed to say they were all Englishmen. So after a good deal of palaver and given them some very rough talk we left. If there had been only two or even three we would have stayed or they would have had to fight us out but we couldn't attend to five.

We left with the determination to set their hut on fire if possible. It was built of large sheets of stringy bark placed up on end. We got outside and endeavored to set it on fire for a full hour but it rained so heavily we were unable to do so. We then went off into the middle of the prairie, sat down on our heels putting our blankets over our heads and stayed there til morning. I forgot to say that as soon as we got into the hut we perceived that they had covered the eatables with a cloth and on being asked to sell us some provisions they said they had none cooked. Of course we had then to give them to lie and told them they were under the cloth on the table, but we didn't get them. We started next morning, feeling mean and left the place with our blessing. It is pleasant starting off to walk 50 miles wet through, giving the clothes a chance to dry on you.

It took us about two days to make Glen Innes where we rested a day. This is only a very small place also.

We next went to Dundee, 16 miles, from there to Tenterfield, 44 miles. We travelled over some mountainous country and of course the scenery was splendid as it nearly always is in Australia. We came through Tenterfield Gap. A wild looking rent in the mountains. We also crossed Garo Plains where we found some droves of cattle on their way to Rockhampton and Peak Downs. Tom proposed that we should engage as stockdrivers and go to Peak Downs. I was quite agreeable but I had an idea that I would not be able to pass muster being no horseman, we saw the owner. Yes, he wanted some stockdrivers but he would like to see us on horseback before he hired us. Accordingly horses were brought out saddled. Tom got on one and was no sooner in the saddle than he was galloping all over the plains. I got on the other but the infernal horse would go quicker than I wanted him too. Somehow I felt that I was not exactly ready whenever he started. However, determined to show my "agility" I gave him a lunge with my heels and for awhile I thought I would shake the top of my head off. The saddle was no earthly use to me, I could not keep my feet in the stirrups or the end of my back in the seat, that was going like a fiddler's elbow. I was all over the horses back from his ears to his tail and always lopsided sometimes on the right side and others on the left. I had not been on that horse long before I became aware of some person having hold of the bridle. The owner thought it was time to put an end to my circus performance by saying "For God's sake, get down-my man-you will kill yourself. I don't think you can ride after stock." And curious I felt just that way myself.

FORM 1.—For Candidates who apply to be enrolled.

## TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

DEAR MADAM,

You have expressed a wish to be admitted a member of the Territorial Army Nursing Service, and desire to serve your country to the best of your ability as a nurse in time of imminent national danger wherever your services may be required. Will you therefore, answer the following questions, sign this form, and forward it to:—

Miss H. E. Tork, C.E.R.C. Principal Matron, St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
London E.C.1.

### QUESTIONS.

1. In what hospital were you trained, and for what length of time? (Dates must be given to enable references to be made) —
2. Do you possess any certificates other than your general training? —
3. What further experience have you had since you completed your training? (Give dates) —
4. What position do you hold at the present time? —
5. Give the name and address of your Matron or Superintendent —
6. If private nursing on your own account, give the name and address of two principal doctors for whom you have worked —
7. Give your age and the date and place of your birth, and nationality of your parents —
8. What is your religion? —
9. Give your permanent address and the name of your next-of-kin —
10. Give date of last vaccination —
11. State previous War Service (if any) —
12. Do you speak any foreign languages? —

### ANSWERS.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital  
London E.C.1.

1919 - 1922

No

Private Nursing 1 year 1922-1923  
Ward Sister Nov 1923 to present time

Ward Sister

Miss P. M. Mounie R.R.C.  
King Edward VII Hospital  
Wimbledon

Age 30. Born at Simla India  
Aug 15<sup>th</sup> 1894. English

C. of E.

40 Lloyd's - Cox & Co Branch  
16, Chancery Cross.

(Mother) Mrs. Symington 40 above  
July 1923.

3 years Temping Indian Service 1916-1919.

No

Date

May 15<sup>th</sup>

Christian Names (in full) and Surname

Miss Mary Augusta Angela Symington

52263 W2206/11043 Am 1/34 J.P.1003 Gp.121

## Update to the branch of the Betley family who were Freemen of Chester for several generation but are now scattered world-wide.

**Guy Stretton Swinnerton:** born January 7, 1943, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, Wales married: **Norlene Esmé McCann**, June 21, 1969, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada [Norlene Esmé McCann born January 29, 1943, Victoria, British Columbia]

Children:

1. **Siân Elizabeth Swinnerton:** born February 22, 1974, Torquay, Devon, England married **Bryan John Svendsen**, July 15, 2006, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada [Bryan John Svendsen born November 27, 1977, Montreal, Quebec, Canada] Siân and Bryan live in Edmonton
2. **Gareth John Swinnerton:** born July 24, 1976, Torquay, Devon, married **Cristina Dawn Syrnyk** May 12, 2001, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada Cristina Dawn Syrnyk born September 5, 1975, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada]

Children:

1. **William (Liam) Stretton Swinnerton:** born July 19, 2003, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
2. **Roan Matthew Swinnerton:** born August 19, 2006, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada Gareth, Cristina, and family live in Edmonton

**Clive Jerry Swinnerton:** born February 27, 1945, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, Wales Married: **Janet Mary Thomas** September 7, 1968, Newport, Pembrokeshire, Wales [Janet Mary Thomas, born October 5, 1945, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, Wales]

Children:

1. **Sally Jane Swinnerton:** born September 15, 1971, Haverfordwest, Carmarthenshire, Wales has a partner **Tsambiko Manalaki**  
Children
  1. **Sofia Swinnerton Manalaki** born Oct 2, 2002 in Rhodes, Greece
  2. **Yianna Swinnerton Manalaki** born February 24, 2005 in Wedmore, Somerset, England  
Jane, Tsambiko and family live in Kalathos on the Island of Rhodes,
2. **Kirstie Janine Swinnerton:** born March 15, 1973, Histon, Cambridgeshire, England married **Johan Nilsson Westrin** October 6, 2007, Costa Rica [Johan was born August 19, 1976, north of Stockholm, Sweden] Kirstie and Johan live near Vebier, Switzerland

Clive married secondly **Kirstin McGregor**, September 2003, Mauritius

Kirstin McGregor born March 27, 1966]

Clive and Kirstin live in Chiclana de la Frontera near Cadiz in Spain

## The Swinnerton Family Society

The objects of the society are:

1. To research and record the history of the Swinnerton family.
2. To establish links with members of the world-wide Swinnerton family to promote a sense of kinship and to encourage them to study their own family history and contribute it to the history of the whole family.
3. To publish a magazine – the Swinnerton Saga – to record that history.
4. To preserve those records together with associated objects and ephemera.
5. To assist where possible in the welfare of Swynnerton church.

**Chairman** – Mrs Elizabeth Livesey

**Secretary** – Miss Iris Crouch

**Treasurer** – Col Iain Swinnerton

**Subscriptions** – Ray Swinnerton  
(see below for overseas)

**Database** - Roy Talbot

**Website** - Malcolm Smith – [www.swinnerton.org](http://www.swinnerton.org)

**Book Sales** -Mrs Liz Yeandle,

Subscriptions (£12 per annum or \$ equivalent) to:

**USA:** Mrs Diana Cunningham,

**Canada:** Mrs Edythe Seeley,

**Australia:** Mrs Glenda Simpson,

**UK and rest of the world:** Ray Swinnerton



*The Canadian War Memorial to Vimy Ridge.  
A.F.R.W.Swinnerton's name is commemorated on it.*