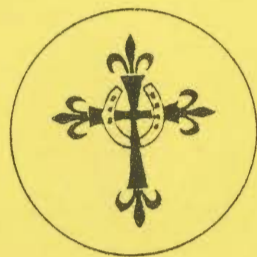


SWINNERTON

Family History



Lucy Swinnerton
1990-1991

THE JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

VOLUME 8 No.5 MARCH 1991

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SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

Volume 8 No.5

Mar 1991

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Editor: Iain Spencer Swynnerton

Shortly after writing this I shall be leaving for a five-week trip which will take me to Australia, New Zealand and America in my capacity as President of the Federation of Family History Societies. I am basically going to give the opening keynote speech at the 6th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry at Launceston but I shall also be giving 5 lectures there and also lecturing in Perth, Melbourne, Ballarat, Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney. In New Zealand I shall be visiting officials of the New Zealand Societies and in both countries I hope to meet up with members of our society. In Melbourne we are hoping to have a little gathering of Swinnertons again through the good offices of Bill Swinnerton of Kew and also in Sydney with the help of our Australian Treasurer, Ted Swinnerton.

In the USA, I am stopping over with our American Vice-President who is hoping to arrange a similar gathering of all the California Swinnertons, Swenertons, Swenartons and others.

It will be an exhausting trip but very worthwhile and I look forward to seeing many of you.

By a very happy coincidence, our Annual General Meeting this year is on the same day as the Swynnerton Church Summer Fair. This is always a very happy occasion and I hope it will attract many of you to come who may not otherwise have thought it worth making the trip for just a business meeting. A form is enclosed and although we are not providing meals, it would be a help if you could let us know if you are coming so that we know how many for coffee, tea etc.

We have not produced a new Directory of Members for some years now due to the difficulty we have had in establishing just who are paid-up members and who have forgotten to renew. However, that is all behind us now and the computer gives us an accurate printout at any time of subs received including those by standing order and covenant. Council have therefore decided to include a list of paid-up members in the journal and you will find this at the back. If your name is not there, a reminder form is enclosed. Please do respond now to ensure receiving the next journal.

On page 71 of Volume 8 No.4 of the Journal, I regret that a number of the comments by my cousin Douglas Swinnerton about my grandfather Frederick Swynnerton are not quite correct and this note is to put the record straight.

Frederick Swynnerton (born Swinnerton) was born in the Isle of Man on the 8th June 1858. As a young man he studied painting in Paris and later joined his elder brother Joseph and his sister-in-law Annie Swynnerton (who was one of the first woman ARAs) for further study in Rome.

Although Frederick became a very accomplished artist he did not become "well-known by his works over Europe" and sadly does not seem to feature in any of the standard works of reference. Frederick certainly did not serve as "an interpreter in Italy during and after World War I" nor did he become an Italian citizen.

It is not clear when exactly Frederick moved to India to join his brother, the Reverend Charles Swynnerton, but it must have been about 1890 as he married Louise Oldfield Angelo (daughter of Colonel Richard Fisher Angelo of the Bengal Army) in India in 1892, and all five of his children were born in India.

Frederick must have become quite a well-known painter in India as he painted a number of Maharajahs and Rajas including the Maharajah of Nepal who gave him a silver-mounted Kukri which is in my possession. Indeed alert tourists in India may well discover a portrait by him on the walls of the palaces of Indian Rulers.

To Mark's daughter Mary from her grandfather Charles.

The Studio
Port St Mary
Isle of Man
16 Nov (?1895)

My Dear Mary

It is with pleasure I receive the card announcing your marriage on the 15th Sept last with Mr S.Saunders. May God bless you both with all the happiness, prosperity and protect you from all harm. I congratulate on being the first of my grandchildren to enter into the happy state. Two of your cousins are engaged to be married Miss Frances Swinnerton, eldest daughter of your Uncle Robert, now of Los Angeles, and Miss Edith Blakely, so you have stolen a march on them.

The weather at this time of the year is cold and wintry with you. It is so with us here, and we are not so far North neither are we exposed to the same cold in winter or heat in summer as you are.

To see you all would be a great pleasure to me, but the distance is so great that I fear I must banish it from my thoughts, now at my age 82 years.

Your Uncle Charles is still in India, and so is Fred whose wife Louie and family of a boy and girl are in Simla and all are well. Your Uncle Joseph and wife is still in London. Your Uncle and Aunt Blakeley and their four girls are still living in the outskirts of Manchester in a very quiet and pretty locality. Their only son Charlie died about three years ago and about two months after the death of your Uncle Godfrey to the great grief of us all. Your Uncle Charles returns in about two years on a handsome pension.

My house here is situated in a very beautiful spot on the margin of the sea and within eighteen feet of high water mark. Within the last nine days we have experienced very severe gales of wind accompanied by rain but I am happy to say the house sustained no damage, being protected by a strongly built bulwark next the sea.

I am quite well than God. And now my dear Mary I close with my best love to yourself and your dear husband from

Your ever affectionate Grandfather

In 1989 'The Art of George Stubbs' was published. Written by Venetia Morrison it is an outstanding study of the great English horse painter of the Eighteenth Century. In her chapter entitled "The Desire to Change" she deals with the ambitions of Stubbs as a painter of things other than his equestrian speciality. The Wedgwoods and Swinnertons are referred to and obviously the industrial and financial success of the ceramic manufacturers gave Stubbs the opportunity he desired. Today, some marvellous examples of his wider skills can be seen in the Lever gallery at Port Sunlight in Cheshire.

In about 1780 there is a great deal of evidence that Stubbs spent a lot of his time at Maer Hall and Butterton Hall both with the Wedgwoods and Swinnertons. Stubbs painted a portrait of Josiah Wedgwood as well as his relative Dr. Erasmus Darwin. His famous son, Charles Darwin, was a great friend of the Swinnertons of Butterton and conducted a good deal of his early geological studies on the Butterton Dyke. This can still be examined today in the ridge of woodland which lay between Butterton Church (built by Thomas Swinnerton) and the Butterton Hall stables and Old Hall Ruins.

Venetia writes quoting from a letter written by Josiah to his colleague Bentley in September 1780 "Mr Stubbs came to us again last night after finishing a portrait of Mr Swinnerton which is much admired, and I think deservedly so, by all who have seen it. I hope this, with our family picture and others, will give him a character which will be entirely new to him here, for nobody suspects Mr Stubbs of painting anything but horses, dogs and lions. I can scarcely make anyone believe that he ever attempted the human figure."

In this period Stubbs painted a head and shoulders portrait of Richard Wedgwood who was a great friend and walking companion of William Swinnerton of Butterton.

In 'Country Life' dated October 29th 1981, a reproduction of the Stubbs portrait of *Guilelmus Swinnerton Armiger aetat suae 73* appeared on page 55 as part of an article entitled "Talking about Salerooms" by Frank Davis. The portrait was apparently 36 inches by

27 inches and had been sold at Sotheby's for the executors of Basil Taylor who had been an authority on Stubbs.

Davis said of William Swinnerton: "When I caught sight of this sad little man, dressed in brown coat and breeches, and looking browned off, I was at once intrigued and puzzled. Intrigued because it seemed to me a remarkable character study of a man who so clearly found life the reverse of cheerful and puzzled because I could not think of a probable painter!"

Mr Davis described the portrait's setting as being in an anonymous property but, of course, we know that it is the old Butterton Hall. We catch a glimpse of the rich carpet, Georgian furniture, oil paintings and, through the open door on William's right, his book-lined study.

The remains of the old hall still stand today and I trust the Staffordshire County Archaeologist will make sure they are preserved. The Hall was built as a fortified and moated house but was really a stone keep which marked the northern limits of the Swynnerton estates. In early Tudor times (1560) the keep was gradually extended and improved. The replacement Hall built in 1810, 100 yards to the south, was a bybuilding of poor materials and construction and after the military occupation during the 1914-18 war it deteriorated rapidly.

Please can anyone tell us where the Stubbs portrait is now? I think it sold for £4000 in 1981.

Editor's note: In Volume 4 No.1 p.8 of this journal I reproduced the portrait and recounted my search for and location of it at the Lowndes Gallery in London. I was able to take photographs of it which are in our archives. It was on sale for £8000 but what it finally fetched I do not know. Pictures of the old Butterton Hall appeared in this journal, Vol.8 No.3 September 1990.

The two churches of Swynnerton stand, shoulder to shoulder, twin guardians of the souls of the few hundred villagers. Their presence so near to each other is testimony of an age, now happily gone, of a religious strife which in today's atmosphere of tolerance is difficult to imagine.

Separated by a few yards in distance but seven centuries in time, both buildings are dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Christ. In the twelfth century church of Saint Mary, the Virgin, lie the remains of successive generations of the Fitzherbert family. This family later built the Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and are now its chief patrons. In the Catholic church is a plaque transferred from the room in Swynnerton Hall which served as a private chapel for those worshippers who, during the religious strife refused to attend the so-called "reformed" church. Yet is the reformed church which guards and displays in its Lady Chapel the huge stone image of Christ the King which was discovered buried a few feet from where it now stands. Tradition tells that it had been hidden there after being brought from Lichfield Cathedral to protect it from over zealous "reformers" during the destruction of "Popish" images and idols. Such were the strange effects of sixteenth and seventeenth century religious intolerance in Britain.

But Sir John de Swynnerton, Knight and Crusader, who died in 1254 and was buried in the only church then in the village, would know nothing of this, when, for a few brief moments, six hundred years after his burial, he reappeared exactly as he was at death. Two startled observers, Mr Thomas Fitzherbert, of Swynnerton Hall, and the Rev. W. Taylor, Rector of Saint Mary's Church, had unwittingly disturbed his body during restoration work at the church in 1856. The awful scriptural exhortation to man to remember that he is dust and to dust will return was to be dramatically proven to them. Sir John had been buried wrapped in lead which fitted closely to his form and which had preserved his body until its accidental exposure to the atmosphere which caused it to crumble, late but inevitably to the promised dust. But before doing so, the two spectators had seen a young knight, ruddy complexioned and with auburn hair and bearded and with two of his front teeth missing.

The burial chamber and masonry were restored and now the remains lie under a time-worn effigy of a Crusader, armoured and with crossed legs resting on a lion couchant. On his left arm hangs his Norman shield.

Nor would Sir John have known that during his time in the tomb, the village, his village, would have been moved a mile or so nearer to where he was lying. He might have turned in his grave and itched to reach for his sword at the thought of Cromwell's despoilation of the Manor House in February, 1644 after the Roundheads had tramped over Swynnerton Common and down the hill. But he would certainly have approved of the work of Thomas Fitzherbert, eighteenth century squire, who after remodelling the replacement house built after the Restoration, but on a different site, decided that the old village spoiled the view over Shropshire to the Welsh Hills so he moved it, lock, stock and barrel. He bought out the freeholders, rehoused the tenants a mile or so away and enclosed the common.

Now both churches stand with their entrances overlooking what is now left of the common and on which is built the village war memorial. Names on the memorial are of former worshippers of both churches who have joined Sir John in the dust of time.



All these have a Yorkshire flavour this time to accompany Part 2 of the Tree of the Swinnertons of Yorkshire on the centre pages.

1851 Census of HUNSLET

Bower Street						Born
Joseph W. Swinnerton	Head	Mar	42	Painter	Master	Hunslet
Mary Ann Swinnerton	Wife	Mar	40			Hunslet
John B. Swinnerton	Son	Unm	20	Painter	Appr.	Hunslet
Eliz. Ann Swinnerton	Dau	Unm	17			Hunslet
Mary Ann Swinnerton	Dau		15	Scholar		Hunslet
Hannah Swinnerton	Dau		12	Scholar		Hunslet
Jos. Waite Swinnerton	Son		10	Scholar		Hunslet
Ann C. Dooley	Visitor	Mar	25			Eggborough

SHEFFIELD PARISH REGISTER

Burials 1703-1719: Baptisms 1736-1752

17 Jun 1736	Sarah, dau. George Swinerton mason	Bap.
15 Feb 1737/8	Thomas son George Swinerton mason	Bap.
9 Dec 1739	Bessy dau. George Swinerton mason	Bap.
5 Apr 1749	George son George Swinerton mason	Bur.

These were taken from the 1989 publication of the Yorkshire Parish Register Society by Mrs Pauline Litton but do not agree with the records we have which were extracted from the original registers and Bishops' Transcripts so will need investigating.

DIRECTORY OF LEEDS

1853

Swinnerton, Joseph
15 Waterloo Road

Painter, paperhanger, Oil & Colour
Dealer

JOHN BROADHEAD = Martha Harrison ELIZABETH HANNAH(HS.56) MARY ANN(MS.128) JOSEPH WAITE = Isabella EMMA(ES.119)
SWINNERTON neeStephenson ANNE (ES.117) bp.23Jun1838 b. c. 1837 SWINNERTON Charlesworth b.1842Leeds
b.4Sep1831 10Aug1856 Leeds bp.30Jun1833 Hunslet b.2Dec1840 Hunslet 2Dec1863 d.1842Leeds
Hunslet b.c.1829 Hunslet = Samuel d. 1903 b. c.1840 SARAH ELLEN
d. 1887 d. 1883 = John Walker Williamsson d. 1922 (SS.81)
Holbeck 24Feb1860 24Dec1860 Butcher b.1846
Housepainter (JS.205) Leeds Rothwell (JS.208) Hunslet d.1848
Hunslet

SARAH ELLEN JOHN WILLIAM JOSEPH = Ada Jackson EDWARD ALBERT EMILY(ES.120) MATTHEW KEELING = Beatrice
BROADHEAD SWINNERTON SWINNERTON 23Dec1893 SWINNERTON b.25Oct1867 SWINNERTON Hunslet b.24Apr1870 Hannah
(SS.84) b.23Dec1858 b.19Mar1863 Leeds b.19Mar1863 Holbeck b.13Dec1904 William Saynor d. Jun1939 Barker
b.21Mar1857 Holbeck d. d. d. d.13Dec1904 Leeds Henson d.22Jan1937
Holbeck = d. (JS.223) (JS.222) (Twin) (ES.125) (Twin) Leeds Carriage Painter (MS.122) Stockport
? (JS.223) (JS.222) (Twin) (ES.125) (Twin) Leeds Carriage Painter (MS.122) Stockport

MAY(MS.129) ELSIE(ES.121) VIOLET(VS.5) ELIZABETH(ES.118) JOSEPH = Doris WALTER = Emma
b.22Jul1894 b. 1898 b.30Aug1891 b. 1892 SWINNERTON Marston SWINNERTON b.17Jun1907
d. 1910 d.26Dec1901 Hunslet d. 1962 b.10Sep1895 Hunslet Stockport b.10May1908
Leeds Hunslet d. 1981 Ripponden b. 1897 Leeds West Ham
DORIS(DS.39) JOHN Bertram George Allison d.4Jun1974 (JS.210) = (2)Theodora (WS.74)
b. 1896 SWINNERTON Hadfield 1915 Stockport Galwan 1926
d.21Dec1901 b.25Nov1909 d. 1911 d. 1920 d.28Oct1984 L'pool
Hunslet d. (JS.221) b.4Aug1900
GLADYS(GS.54) Hunslet
b. 1898 (JS.221)
d.15Jul1899 Hunslet

HILDA JOSEPH JAMES C... = Alice BEATRICE(BS.25) THEODORA(TS.82)
DORA(HS.38) CLIFFORD Slack b.5Jan1933 b. 1935
b.1920 SWINNERTON 1Nov1952 Stockport Stockport
d.1920 b.16Oct1927 Cheadle =
Stockport Welshpool b.4Dec1926 Malcolm Barker Leslie Atkinson
(JS.211) Eire 1957 1955
Stockport Stockport

DAVID = Sheena Mc EILEEN(ES.143) GLENIS(GS.71) KEVIN MARIA(MS.153)
SWINNERTON GregorBrogamb.100Oct1955 M..... SWINNERTON b.9Sep1961
b.17Sep1953 16Nov1974 Stockport b.14Apr1958 b.30Dec1959 Prestatyn
Cheadle Roughton = Prestatyn Prestatyn d.4Feb1962
(DS.43) Lincs George Baines = (KS.21)
b.8Mar1957 12Jun1976 Evan Mihailovitz
Rotherham Alderley Edge 11Sep1982
Alderley Edge

ANDREW SWINNERTON JENNIFER(JS.610)
b.29Mar1979 b.14Feb1985
Ely Oakham
(AS.277)

ANN(AS.278) = Paul Hellewell HANNAH(HS.184) HARTHA(HS.361) HARRIET(HS.123) JAMES WILLIAM
bp.10Aug1828 14Jun1852 bp.21Apr1833 bp.5Mar1837 bp.5Mar1837
Ecclesfield Sheffield Ecclesfield Ecclesfield Ecclesfield
= Lewis Hattersley (JS.601)
20Oct1854
Ecclesfield
b. c.1830.

SARAH ANN(SS.82) JOSEPH CLARA(CS.68) MARY ELIZABETH JOHN WILLIAM JOHN HENRY
b. 1875 SWINNERTON b. 1879 (MS.360) SWINNERTON SWINNERTON
d. 1881 b.21May1872 d. 1873 bp.8Aug1847 bp.5Aug1849 bp.13Nov1853
Hunslet Hunslet Ecclesfield Ecclesfield Ecclesfield
= William Thomas (JS.602) (JS.603)
b.20Oct1864 Lamb
bur.11Apr1865 30Oct1903
Hunslet Hunslet

MATTHEW = Olive Parry JACK = Annie Clarke THEODORA(TS.82)
SWINNERTON 21Dec1935 SWINNERTON 25Jul1936 bp.4Feb1912
b.17Jun1907 Stockport b.11Sep1908 Stockport
Stockport b.10May1908 Stockport n.16Jan1912 d. 1914
dsp.13Oct1980 (JS.212) Stockport
Blackpool (MS.123)

JACK BARKER = Jennifer Brunt BARBARA(BS.26)
SWINNERTON 27Dec1968 b.6May1941
b.4Mar1939 Newcastle-u-Lyme Stockport
Stockport b.18Mar1944 =
(JS.213) John Norman
Falding
14Sep1979
Blackpool

JOHN ANDREW JAMES BARKER
SWINNERTON SWINNERTON
b.6Feb1971 b.30Jul1979
Blackpool Blackpool
(JS.214) (JS.259)

WILLOW GROVE CEMETERY, REDDISH, STOCKPORT

Nonconformist Section

In Grave C1036

19 Mar 1914 Theodora aged 2 years. Dau of Matthew Swinnerton
of 7 Greg Street, Reddish

26 Jan 1937 Beatrice Hannah Swinnerton aged 65 of 202 Higher
Brinksway

9 May 1939 Matthew Swinnerton aged 69 of 202 Higher Brinksway

Grave - no number in Burial Register

7 Jan 1920 Doris Swinnerton aged 23 of 109 Bangor St. Reddish

BAINES DIRECTORY OF YORKSHIRE

1821

Swinnerton, George, Sheffield, The Chequers Inn, Intake

1822

Swinnerton, George, Intake, Parish of Handsworth
3 mile south Sheffield
Victualler, Chequers

LEEDS DIRECTORY 1830

Swinnerton. Joseph Waite, Mulberry Place, Hunslet Lane
House, Sign & Furniture Painter.

Swinnerton, Joseph, Old Row, Leathley Lane
Corn Miller

PIGOTT'S DIRECTORY 1834

Swinnerton, Joseph Waite, Hunslet Lane
Painter, House & Sign (and
manufacturer of ornamental silvered
cloth and Shalleens, thibets, shields
and gold blanks.



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from the publishers at £18 for 12 issues (post free).

Summing-up

CAMBRIDGE has a corresponding blue riband: the Rede Lecture founded in memory of Sir Robert Rede, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who died in the reign of Henry VIII. Its stipend remains 50 guineas.

This year it will be delivered on May 10 by Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer FRS, who is about to retire as chief executive of the Universities Funding Council. He will talk about higher education and research.

The 16th baronet, he is the first of his line to have been to a university. From College at Eton, where he showed brilliance as a mathematician, he went up to Trinity, Cambridge, where he was elected to a Fellowship. He became Professor of Mathematics, Master of St Catharine's and eventually Vice-Chancellor.

A man who absorbs large quantities of food and drink to support a generous frame, he shines at squash, real tennis and international bridge.

Swinnerton-Dyer's proclaimed opinions are rarely commonplace. "Principles are only for the most intermittent application," is one. A contempt for dons "who draw a full day's pay for half a day's work" is another.

He should be worth listening to.

Besides Tom Wood's regular feature for beginners, and Jean Cole's Questions & Answers pages, the reader will find numerous other useful topics and articles written by some of Britain's leading genealogical personalities such as Anthony Camp, Michael Watts, Iain Swinnerton, John Titford, and Cecil Humphery-Smith.

For sample back copy send 50p in stamps to

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Ramsey, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire,

PE17 1HP. Phone 0487 814050

Visa, Access & Mastercard also taken by phone.



LORD THOMAS OF SWYNNERTON

Chairman, Centre for Policy Studies. He is one of the salon success stories of Mrs Thatcher's leadership. A former socialist, and once a mere professor of history, Hugh Thomas is

now the chairman of her beloved Centre for Policy Studies. A sharp mind and ready wit make him a favourite — when the occasion demands. His 1961 history of the Spanish Civil War is rightly regarded as a fine piece of work. Recently, he has cast his net more widely, both in subject and approach. His ambitious work, *An Unfinished History of the World*, was said to be the Prime Minister's holiday reading last year.

George. In his 79th year. Dearly loved husband of Yvonne for 54 years and Father to Jackie. Passed away suddenly on February 15, 1990. He will be sadly missed. Funeral to be held at Robin Hood Crematorium on Friday, February 23 at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only please.

SWINNERTON

Lucy. Passed peacefully away on February 28, 1991, aged 91 years. Service on Thursday, March 7, at The United Reformed Church, Hardware Street, at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Newton Road. Family flowers only, donations if desired for The Spastic's Society, c/o George Webb and Sons Ltd, 80, New street, Town Centre, West Bromwich. — Tel. 021 553 0298.

DEAR ABBY: Several years ago, I lost my one and only brother in a tragic accident.

My father's comment: "Now there is no one to carry on the family name."

Then I got to thinking, "What am I, chopped liver?"

Had I been the one to die, it wouldn't have been such a big tragedy; after all, I was only a female.

I hope '73 and Resigned,' who wrote to you recently, doesn't close the book on the family tree just because there are no grandsons.

There are spaces to be filled in for granddaughters, great-granddaughters and great-great-granddaughters.

Perhaps if he tried, his daughter's line could be traced back to Eve!

— MY FATHER'S DAUGHTER



Jane Swinnerton: scored twice for Sutton Coldfield.

SWYMMERTON - On July 26th 1990, after a long illness, Dr. Brian Fitzalan Swymmerton, FRCP, aged 72. Fond brother of Roger and nephews John and Charles and devoted housekeeper Betty Benson. Private cremation.

SWYNNERTON.—On July 28, 1990, after a long illness, Dr BRIAN FITZALAN SWYNNERTON, FRCP, aged 72. Fond brother of Roger and nephews John and Charles, and devoted housekeeper Betty Benson. Private cremation.

Tone Up for Christmas.
Every Wednesday, 2pm.
Swinerton Hall, Gibbon
Road, Kingston. 'Body
control and jazz dancing.
Ring: 540 4133 or drop in.

Anniversary Newsflash

Seventy years ago the RAF Individual winners were in a tournament held at RAF Cranwell 28-30 April, 1919, were:

Officers: Fly, Nil; Bantam, Nil; Feather, 2Lt Hodgkinson; Light, Cpt Smith; Welter 2Lt Mason; Middle, Lt Clarke; Lt Heavy, Cpt Roberts; Heavy, Lt Price.

Airmen: AC2 Stelfox (3 Group); Sgt Groves (France); AC1 Bennett (167. Sqn); Sgt Stone (France); Sgt Swinnerton (France); Cpl Garrat (France); AC2 Wightman (3 Group); Nil.

Please check the list very carefully and let the secretary know of any amendments. If your name does not appear but you think you have renewed your subscription contact the Treasurer. Both addresses are on the inside front cover.

DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

FAMILY NOTES

Flying Officer DAVID SWINNERTON has moved again This time, however, he says it is permanent so that his young family can settle after 2 years of moving. His new address is [REDACTED]

Members will be saddened to hear of the death at the age of 91 of Lucy Swinnerton who died on the 26th February. Lucy had always been a generous supporter of our society and was a familiar figure at our Gatherings. Joe Swinnerton represented us at her funeral and we send our sincere sympathy to her sister Mrs Norah Scott.

We extend a warm welcome to two new members - David and Janet Swinnerton of [REDACTED]

TAILPIECE

During the absence of the Chairman and Administrator of the Federation of Family History Societies in the USA last year I, as President, was left various little jobs to do!

One of the more mundane was to order some new archive files which I duly did by telephone. Of course I had to give my name as the authority to supply and when the invoice finally came through it was written down as **SINNERTON!** As you know I have found many variations of our name over the years but not this one. The Rev.Charles Swynnerton said that the older people in Staffordshire in his day pronounced the name in this way just as we do not sound the 'w' in sword. But, as the administrator, our old friend Pauline Saul, said - "Have you checked the St.Catherine's House Indexes for this?" The answer is no- any volunteers?

THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

was founded in 1973 as a non-profit making organisation devoted to the research and publication of Swinnerton Family Records and the support and welfare of St.Mary's Church, Swynnerton, Staffordshire.

Research into the family history had been started in the 1870s by the Reverend Charles Swynnerton FSA. Over the course of the years he wrote a number of articles and papers about the family and gathered together many Swinnertons from all over the world.

Interest in the family history became dormant after his death in 1928. The present Archivist resumed research into the family records in 1952 and founded the Society in 1973. Today it has a world-wide membership and holds a 'Gathering' at Swynnerton every 3 years. It is registered as a Charity No. 518184.