

# SWINNERTON

## Family History



THE JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

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SEPTEMBER 1993

## 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 welfare of St.Mary's Church, Swynnerton, Staffordshire. Research into the history of the Swinnerton Family had been started by the Reverend Charles Swynnerton FSA. in the 1870s and 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 became dormant after his death in 1928 until the present archivist resumed research in 1952 and re-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 in the United Kingdom No.518 184.

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## SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

Volume 9 No.5

September 1993

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*Cover picture - a device used as a bookplate by the Reverend Charles Swynnerton reproduced from an old printing block given to me by his grandson, Sir Roger Swynnerton, our President.*

*Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton*



The Chairman has been on his travels again with the Rotary Caravan Fellowship and I was unable to catch him between trips to get a Chairman's message. So - an update from me.

First - an apology. My response to correspondence and the production of this journal has been slower than usual this year I am afraid, but it has been something of a traumatic year.

I had a simple little accident last September - slipped on a muddy step and what I thought was just a sprain turned out to be a broken foot. We had been off to India but had to cancel. The break refused to heal so they decided in February to operate on it. Whilst waiting for the operation, I had been due to go to Canada to lecture on the 5th May which I could have managed strapped up and on crutches. Sadly, I never got away because on Bank Holiday Monday evening I had a further accident with my tractor mower. I got off it and the broken foot gave way under me which resulted in it ending up in the blades! That broke the big toe in 3 places and chewed it up somewhat so I had to wait for that to heal before they could do the original operation.

However, they finally did it 8 weeks ago and took a bone graft from my hip and I have now been out of plaster for 2 weeks but I am still having to use crutches for a little while. However, it should be OK after a few more weeks and I have already started picking up the threads again and leading a normal life (such as driving myself and carrying things in my hands instead of in a bag slung round my neck). So - there you are, a sorry tale indeed.

On the society front, we are at last making progress with our master index. Four members (David Brock, Elizabeth Livesey, Roger Swynnerton & Joe Evanson) are now using computers to feed in the details from all my trees to a genealogical database program called *Pedigree*. From this I hope to compile a master index to all the family - something we have needed for a very long time. It is a very big operation - more volunteers would be welcome.

The next meeting of Council is being held in Colchester on 9/10 October so that we can make a pilgrimage to the ruined church and manor of Sir John Swynnerton, Lord Mayor of London in 1612. I will report on that in the December issue.

Following the AGM in the Church Hall and a sustaining and delicious lunch at the Fitzherbert Arms, eighteen assorted and honorary Swynnertons were welcomed by the Rev. Brian Swynnerton and introduced to coach driver Richard who admitted to being unfamiliar with the area. Three hours later he was very familiar with it!

Initially, we assembled in front of Swynnerton Hall so that we could see for ourselves how influential and strategically significant were the Swynnerton family and strongholds of old.

Our coach tour then began, passing Swynnerton corn mill, Hatton Mill and the Italianate water tower with Brian already beginning to share with us his wealth of knowledge of the area and its history and much background information. I don't propose to write a travelogue of the tour. I couldn't do justice to Brian. His enthusiasm was so infectious that even driver Richard found the tour fascinating. The coach became a source of interest to the local population as it wound its way along the narrow twisting lanes. As we stopped to look at the site of the Saxon Swynnerton corn mill, Richard was challenged by three young boys who asked how long we would be staying as Dad would need to get the tractor past shortly: on several occasions cars had to be reversed down a lane so that Richard could ease the coach through the tightest of spaces but at Butterton we had to admit defeat and walk along the narrow track to St. Thomas's Church.

Brian explained how we could recognise Swynnerton houses, the meaning of 'Penny Leasehold' and the significance of the 'Cock Horse Inn' now known just as the 'Cock Inn' and much, much more.

We travelled through Whitmore, the church guide having been written by our member Julian Hawley, son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Hawley who were present on the tour, then on past the famous Yew Tree - of special interest to me as that is 'my' branch - and finally to Betley with its unique church interior of Spanish chestnut and its well preserved gravestones of Swynnertons of long ago.

The time passed all too quickly and I shared Brian's disappointment at having to curtail the tour he had intended to provide. Like him, I hope it might be possible to arrange a full day's tour in the future or at least another afternoon's tour of the places we had missed.

With very many thanks to Brian and a message to those who were unable to join this year's Swynnerton Steeplechase, you missed a real treat!



WALTER WILLIAM SWINNERTON (WS. 226)

Fifty years ago, on the 3rd August 1943, Walter William Swinnerton, the son of Noel and Lilian Swinnerton of [redacted]

[redacted] was killed in action. He was 22 years old and had left St. Albans Abbey School in 1938. He became a surveyor on the LMS Railway and (under age) joined the RAFVR. At school he had been a sergeant in the OTC and captained the school's Boxing and Shooting teams.

I recall him vividly at my home when on holiday, teaching me to box and shoot and watching him ploughing with horses and subduing a massive bad-tempered bull. He was always full of fun and seemed to be always laughing.

I used the outline of his career as the conclusion to our booklet "Swynnerton and the Swinnertons". However, here are a few additional bits and pieces about him including my two favourite snaps of him. The one signed "Wallie" was taken in July 1942 and the other is inscribed "Flying Officer Hart and me, Dec. 10th 1941, Tobruk with our Nazi Buggy-car"

The other picture is of the gatehouse which joins the medieval Abbey and present-day school. In the gatehouse is the "Swinnerton Memorial Library Room" which is a memorial to Wal. It is panelled in English Oak and inset on one wall are his portrait, decorations and Mentions in Despatches. In addition to refurbishing the Gatehouse, Walter's parents left a Swinnerton Bursary for the school.

There is also a Bursary, left by Lilian, known as "The Swinnerton Bursary" at the Duke of Kent RAF Memorial School at Cranleigh in Surrey. This latter Bursary is to enable orphaned children of RAF members to be boarders and fully educated at Cranleigh.

If there is a member of the society who lives near to St. Albans or Cranleigh and would be willing to keep an eye on these family links, I would be extremely grateful. I do know that any Swinnertons would always be welcome to see the famous ancient room when the school is open.

If any member of the family visits Sicily on holiday, I'd be glad

if they would call at the Catonia Military Cemetery. It is sited at Bicocca just SW of Catonia on the coast road by the railway (which would please Wal!). It is extremely beautiful with mimosa, bouganvillea and oleanders. There are fountain-pools and it remains fresh and green throughout the summer. The backdrop of Mount Etna is most impressive.

Walter is buried there alongside another young Englishman - a Sapper officer named Chetwynd-Talbot, much decorated for bomb disposal work. It's noteworthy that both Swinnertons and Talbots were knights with King Richard the First's Crusade when it rested and watered in Sicily 800 years before, en route to the Holy land!

Sadly, Walter was on his last mission before home leave when he was killed. He was accidentally shot down by Canadian guns. As his Flight encountered the flak, he was able to warn his colleagues to climb to safety as they were some way behind him. His Kittyhawk crashed in an olive grove where he was found by soldiers from the Hertfordshire Regiment and, initially, they buried him alongside his aircraft. Amongst the burial party was a boy who had been at school with Walter and lived in the village of Park Street.

I have Wal's Wings taken from his shirt, his wristwatch and his wallet which contained a copy of the poem "An Airman's Ecstasy" and various other treasured possessions including a silver tankard presented to him by 250 Squadron on the occasion of his 21st Birthday. I also have a box containing all the letters he wrote to his parents while he was in the RAF including one written on the day he died. I have not yet managed to read them but I have a feeling they will make a fascinating story.

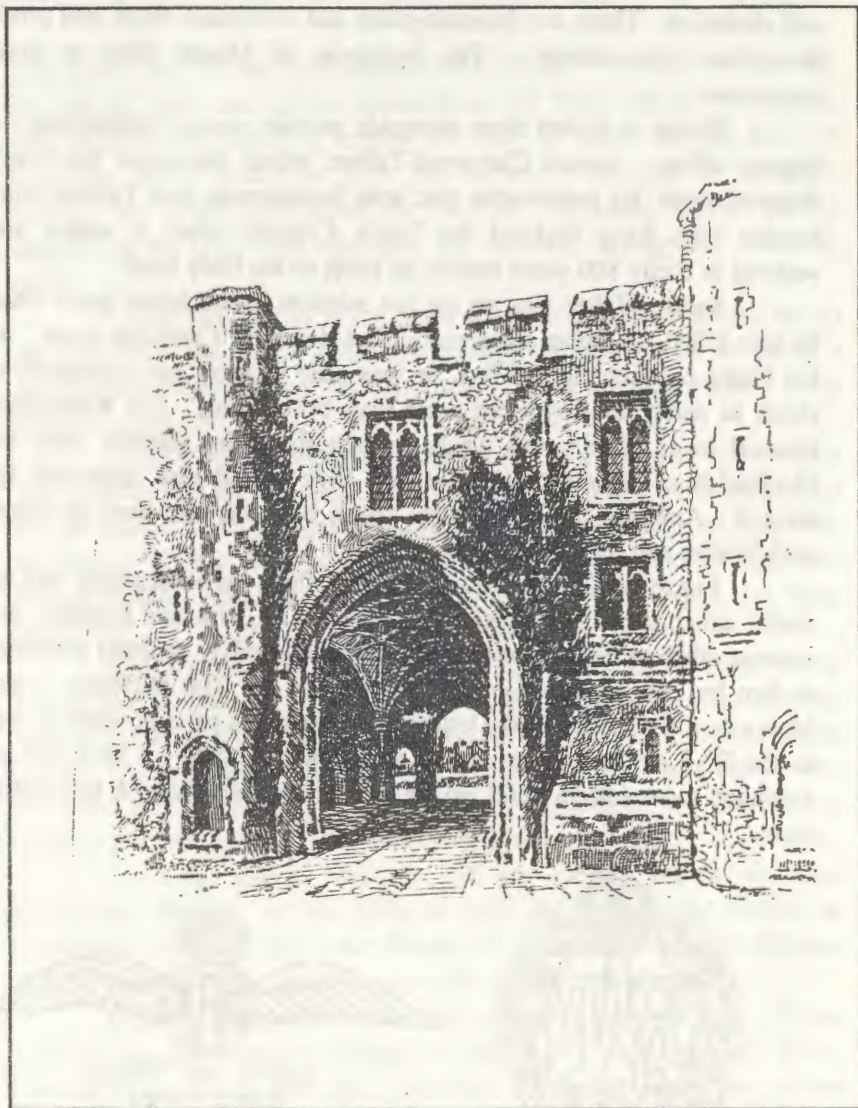


ROYAL AIR FORCE  
(Cap Badge)



ROYAL AIR FORCE  
(Pilot's Wings)



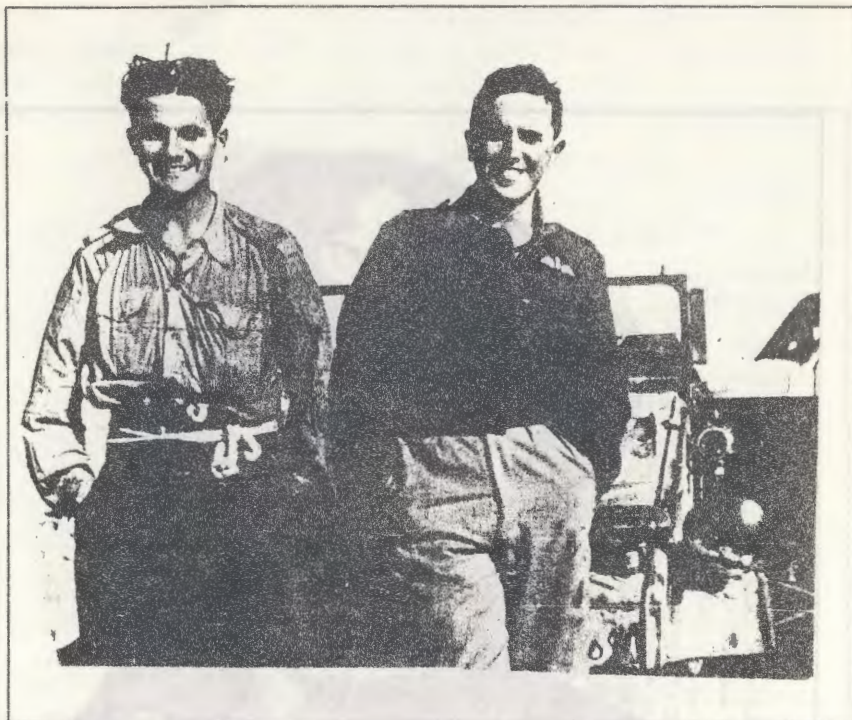


**The ancient Gatehouse at St. Albans Abbey which houses the Swinnerton Memorial Room**

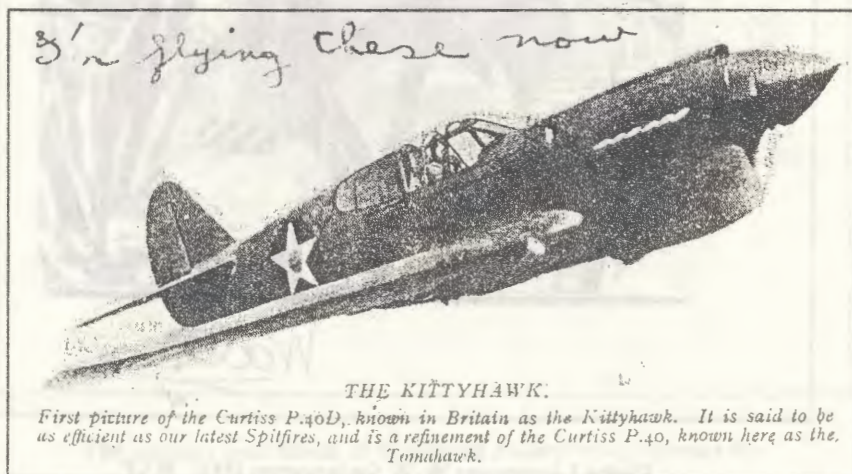


**Flight Lieutenant W.W. Swinnerton DFC. RAF.**





Wallie and F.O Hart - Tobruk 10th. December 1941



THE KITTYHAWK.

First picture of the Curtiss P.40D, known in Britain as the Kittyhawk. It is said to be as efficient as our latest Spitfires, and is a refinement of the Curtiss P.40, known here as the Tomahawk.

## He 'Foxed' In A Tank

A DISABLED British tank was being towed from a Libyan battlefield when the crew were ordered by radio to evacuate.

The enemy was half a mile away, and pushing on.

But Sergeant Leslie Cotton, of the County of London Yeomanry, decided to stay on to try to complete repairs.

Cotton let the enemy imagine the tank was derelict.

Throughout the night he was able to radio back valuable information about enemy movements and strength.

Next morning help was sent out and Cotton brought back. Now he has been awarded the Military Medal.

*Handled 28/7/42*  
X Mapped Minefield X

Acting Flight Lieut. Walter Swinnerton, of St. Albans, who has been awarded the D.F.C., also did some good scouting in the Libyan Desert.

Last November he was shot down near Benina aerodrome.

Hiding himself, he watched the enemy lay a minefield before withdrawing.

He made a map of the mining which enabled our forces, on their arrival, to render the aerodrome serviceable at once.

EVENING STANDARD 8.1.42

## Shot Down R.A.F. Pilot Befriended By the Senussi

A 20-year-old R.A.F. pilot-officer who was befriended by the Senussi, the fighting tribesmen who were the chief obstacle to the Italian conquest of Libya, is rejoining his squadron after recovering in hospital from the effects of his adventure.

The pilot, who comes from Radlett, Herts, told the British United Press in Cairo:

"On December 19 I was flying a Tomahawk, escorting Blenheims of the Free French Air Force which were out to bomb the Barce-Tokra road.

"Suddenly I was attacked by a Me 109. My engine was blasted by high-explosive shells, but I scraped into a crash landing on the side of a rocky hill eight miles west of Barce.

### "Not Luxurious"

"I had a small head wound but began walking south-east. Then I met a group of Arabs and went with them to their village.

"They were members of the Senussi tribe. Their 70-year-old sheik gave me food and promised me shelter.

"Conditions were not luxurious as I shared a rush mat on the floor of a tent with chickens, sheep and goats, the goats giving me some bad biting.

"The following morning I climbed the hills nearby which overlooked Barce airfield. While I was watching the German air force at its work I saw an Italian Bersagliere coming up the hill. He had obviously seen me, so I took cover and shot him when he was about 30 yards away.

"On December 21 the Germans evacuated Barce and the following day I decided to go out scouting for the British forces."



RALPH.  
SWINNERTON  
3rd son of  
William of  
Betley  
b.2Dec1773  
d.3Jul1856  
(RS.13) Betley

Sarah  
Wilson  
6Aug1799 S.O.T.  
b.c.1778  
Acton, Ches.  
d.1863 Betley

Part of Betley Tree showing the descent  
of Walter William Swinnerton and the  
Reverend Brian Swynnerton

HANNAH (HS.13) bp.25Nov1800 Betley (b.at Stoke) d.30Dec1866 Sedgeberrow Worcs. unm.  
WILLIAM SWINNERTON b.c.1805 Betley (WS.22)  
Elisabeth Timmis 20Oct1834 b.c.1803 Audlem d.12Jan1893 Betley aet 90  
JAMES SWINNERTON b.c.1806 Betley d.1869 Betley (JS.85)  
Hannah Harding 21Mar1832 S.O.T. b.c.1811 Madeley d.1890 aet 80

MARY (MS.53) b.c.1836 SARAH ANNE (SS.95) bp.27May1838 Betley ELIZABETH (ES.138) bp.17Apr1843 Betley  
SAMUEL SWINNERTON b.c.1837 Betley (SS.35)  
RALPH SWINNERTON b.14Jun1840 Betley (RS.21)  
JAMES SWINNERTON b.c.1830 d.26Mar1897 Sedgehill aet 67 d.s.p. (JS.111)  
Mary Rowley 22Jun1852 Madeley  
WILLIAM SWINNERTON b.18Jul1830 d.1922 aet 92 (WS.23)  
Hannah Rowley 22Jun1852 Madeley  
HANNAH (HS.23) bp.29Mar1835 Madeley  
SARAH (SS.33) bp.30Jul1834 Madeley  
HARRIET (HS.24) b.c.1844 Joseph Jones 1869 Wolstanton  
(1) Jane Rees 1863 Birkenhead b.21Nov1842 d.9Jun1881 Birkenhead  
JOHN SWINNERTON b.9Apr1840 Betley d.1897 Birkenhead (JS.86)  
Hannah Harper 1883 Birkenhead

STEPHEN SWINNERTON b.c.1855 Madeley d.1914 aet 58 (SS.34)  
Hannah Nicholas (his cousin) 1878 Nantwich  
JOHN SWINNERTON b.1857 Madeley d.1928 Canada (JS.297) d.s.p.  
RUTH (RS.102) b.1862 d.1862  
ELIZA (ES.156) b.1867 NUL William Bedson 1889 NUL RUTH (RS.155) b.1865 d. .... unm.  
WILLIAM HARDING SWINNERTON b.10Apr1863 d.9Nov1949 (WS.25)  
Eliza Ann Blears 1888  
CHARLES JAMES SWINNERTON b.8Feb1875 Madeley d.2May1951 Regina (CS.13)  
Hannah Hall 1896 NUL d.30Oct1959  
WILLIAM HENRY SWINNERTON b.14Sep1870 NUL d.6Jul1929 Connahs Quay (WS.139)  
Mary Cleare b.13Jan1877 Roscleare d.5Jul1959 Connahs Quay  
JANE (JS.216) b.14Sep1863 b'kenhead d.13Apr1959 Canada Joseph Carter 27Oct1886 Winnipeg  
MARY (MS.125) b.21Jun1875 NUL d.1968 Vancouver Duncan McKellar Winnipeg d.2Dec1891 W'peg  
(1) James Pettigrew b.14Jun1852 Kirkcudbright a.13Dec1883 Winnipeg d.2Dec1891 W'peg

ERNEST SWINNERTON b.1897 Madeley d. (ES.141) dsp  
Marie Dudley 1913 London  
ARTHUR SWINNERTON b.1880 Madeley d.1927 NUL (AS.93)  
Ursula Barrett 1910 Madeley  
OLGA (OS.5) W... b.1911 Madeley Gilbert D. Rich 1937 S.O.T.  
EDITH B (ES.142) Madeley  
SHEILA M.. b.1920 Madeley (SS.96)  
Raymond A Shewilt 1943 NUL.  
HARRY NICHOLAS SWINNERTON b.1886 (HS.27) d.20Apr1960 Pontefract  
Eva Woodhouse nee Caton 1909 Nantwich  
NOEL WILLIAM L. SWINNERTON b.7Jan1889 d.26Mar1965 Llandudno (NS.2)  
Lilian Hooper 1919 Conway d.1May 1980 Llandudno  
JOSCELIN HARRY SWINNERTON b.17Mar1892 d.10Oct1973 (JS.88)  
Peggy Walton 1920 Kings Norton b.1893  
FRANK SWINNERTON b.28Jun1902 Crewe d.27Jul1969 Morbury  
Marjorie Ann Whalley 1929 NUL b.29Dec1907 Morbury  
BERTRAM SWINNERTON b.12Mar1904 (BS.10)  
Harriet Caroline Mary Simkins 1946 Sut.  
DOROTHY ALICE (DS.70) b.1890 Madeley James Riley 1914 Bolton MARION ISOBEL (MS.239) b.1896 NUL Charles Worth 1919 Uttoxeter

STEPHEN HARRY SWINNERTON b.7Jan1910 M'ley d.5Jul1974 Poole (SS.121)  
Esther Eileen Myers 21Jul1930 Doncaster b.9Mar1909 Hull  
SYDNEY ALFRED SWINNERTON b.1914 Madeley d. .... (SS.122)  
Eileen  
ALFRED W.. b.1911 d.1913 Madeley (AS.117)  
DOROTHY (DS.71) b.1909 ETHEL G.. (ES.223) b.1910 d.1920 NUL  
WALTER WILLIAM SWINNERTON b.5Mar1921 Conway Killed in Action 1943 (WS.26)  
ALAN CHARLES SWINNERTON b.16May1924 d.10Apr1929 d.inf. (AS.23)  
BRIAN THOMAS SWINNERTON b.8Nov1931  
Anne Jane Cooper 28Mar1959  
MARY ELIZABETH ANNE (MS.238) b. 1951 Sutton Coldfield  
..... Hooley 1972 Aldridge  
RONALD IAN SWINNERTON b.29Jan1931 Doncaster (RS.103)  
June Ray Hawkins Oct1954 Poole  
DEREK STEPHEN SWINNERTON b.10May1934 Doncaster (DS.46)  
Cathelene White Crockley 5Aug1967 Salisbury  
PETER SWINNERTON b.12Feb1939 Horley (PS.29)  
Elsie Marie Rees (nee Cartwright) 23May1963 Bournemouth b.4July1932  
MARGARET PAMELA (MS.175) b.11Apr1932 Featherstone  
(1) Frederick Harrington 5Jun1952 Poole  
(2) Filippo Giovanni Gennard 20Sep1956 Nairobi (dis)  
ROGER WILLIAM HARDING b.30Mar1961 Stafford (RS.22)  
THOMAS FRANK PERSHALL b.30Sep1962



## A Modern Knight

Walter William Swinnerton is a good example of those who represent the family in this century. A descendant of the Betley Branch he was born in 1921, joined the R.A.F.V.R. in 1939 and served with a Polish Squadron at the end of the Battle of Britain. He joined the famous 250 (Sudan) Squadron in May, 1941. On the journey out to the Middle East he was taken ill in Nigeria and when fit again to fly, was so anxious not to be late in arriving in Egypt that he undertook a pioneering flight from Takoradi in the Gold Coast to Cairo for which he received a mention in despatches.

This intrepid young airman had some miraculous escapes. He came down in the Western Desert after one dog-fight, having got out of control and at one point into an inverted spin. He was reported missing and was for some time alone in the desert having managed to land the 'plane safely in the no-man's land between the Allied and German armies. Eventually a South African Brigade armoured car came on the scene whilst on long range patrol and he persuaded the crew to tow his 'plane across the desert some fifty miles to the British forces. In this way the new Tomahawk fighter was saved from becoming a prize for the German tanks which were in the vicinity.

In November, 1941, when involved in another dog-fight he was shot down near the Benina aerodrome. He hid himself in the hills and watched the enemy lay a minefield before they withdrew. Walter made a sketch map of the minefield thus enabling the advancing Allied Army to make the aerodrome serviceable at once.

On December, 19th, 1941, when just twenty years old, he was flying as escort to Blenheim bombers of the Free French Air Force to attack the Barce-Tokra Road when they were attacked by German M.E. 109's. His engine was blasted by high-explosive shells and once again he was forced to make a landing on a rocky hillside eight miles west of Barce. He was wounded in the head but was eventually picked up by some Senussi Arabs whose seventy year old Sheik gave him food and shelter. When the Germans searched the encampment Walter hid amongst the herd of sheep and goats, the goats giving him some bad bites. Some days later whilst walking on the hills the Italian Bersaglieri spotted him and he was eventually cornered by one of them. After a pistol duel, he shot the Italian at a range of thirty yards and later buried his body. On December 21st the enemy evacuated Barce and on the 26th he met the British Troops.

In May, 1942, when proceeding on a flight to machine-gun the enemy, he observed six of his comrades walking. Landing near them he found that they were the crew of a shot down aircraft so giving them his emergency rations he took off and found and directed one of the Allied ground patrols to their rescue.

Walter Swinnerton was responsible for shooting down at least eleven enemy aircraft. He was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, and again Mentioned in Despatches for his work as an instructor at a flying training school in Egypt.

Whilst in action with 250 Squadron in Tunisia he was the pilot of the first fighter to land in Sicily but whilst leading his flight back from a successful mission his 'plane was hit by flak and he was killed. He is buried at the Catania Military Cemetery. The headstone on his grave reads: Flight Lieutenant W. W. Swinnerton, D.F.C. Pilot, Royal Air Force, 3rd August, 1943, Age 22. "God's Gallant Young Knight".

*Extracted from Swynnerton & the Swynnertons by the Rev. B.T. Swinnerton LCP. CF. (1971)*

*(Note: copies of this, our first publication, are still available from the secretary @ £1 post paid (UK) - overseas members please add extra for airmail postage).*

\* \* \* \* \*

## AN AIRMAN'S ECSTASY

*Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of: wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hovering there  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air;  
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,  
Where never lark nor even eagle flew;  
And while, with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.*



## MISCELLANY

### RECORDS OF THE LONDON & NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY

Rail 397/1/2

31 Oct 1939 Cefnybedd Station

Walter Swinnerton Porter Cl.II £2.5.0 per week

Born 22/2/1900 Married Entered service 19/3/1923

(ex David Hawkings)

\* \* \* \* \*

### SWINNERTONS IN FICTION

Member David Kenneth Swinnerton has come across another example of our name being used as a character in a novel. I quoted from *Satan in St.Mary's* in the last issue of this journal where Sir Edward Swynnerton was Constable of the Tower of London; Sir Henry Newbold uses Roger Swynnerton as a squire in his *The Book of the Happy Warrior* and again in *The New June*; Nathaniel Hawthorne has Dr. John Swinerton in *The House of the Seven Gables* and Leon Uris has a Customs Officer called Swinerton in *Trinity*.

Now David has discovered a Swinnerton is Captain of School and a sergeant in the School Combined Cadet Corps in William Horwood's *The Stonor Eagles*.

Dr John Swinerton was, of course, a real person in Massachusetts in the 17th century but what influenced the other authors to choose our name for their characters, I wonder? Did they actually know a member of the family? William Horwood had a degree in Geography - did he know Professor Henry Hurd Swinnerton, that great geographer and palaeontologist by any chance.

Please report any other examples you spot.

## Miscellany (continued)

I have received a brief little note from Mr H.J.Leach of Colchester (a member of several family history societies he says) to say that a Swinnerton family appears in the 1871 Census of Deptford (RG.742 folio 135). The father was, apparently, away but the wife was born in Liverpool. This needs following up when I have time.

\* \* \* \* \*

An old friend from the family history world, Philip Lloyd from Manchester, has written to say that he found the following in the marriage records of St.Matthew's, Manchester and it contained two occupations he had never heard of before.

1867 November 14

Name	Age	Occupation	Address	Father	Occupation
Adolphus Bury	25	Bach. Corresponding	Cobden St.	Adolphus Bury	General Consul
Sarah Annie Swinnerton	24	Spin —	Cobden St.	William Swinnerton	Farmer Swinnerton

Corresponding Clerk I know, this was an office clerk who did letters but what was a General Consul?

Incidentally, the fact that they both gave the same address did not necessarily mean they were living together already as is so common today, it was a way of saving money by only having to have the Banns called in one parish and was very common.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mrs Betty Jones has sent me a note to say that in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1791 there is a note which says that Mr James Swinnerton married Mrs Ann Day of Penkhull at Norton, co. Stafford. "Though only in her 17th year, he is her second husband".



Reading in the journal of the Isle of Man Family History Society that the writer had a number of Certificates of Registration surplus which she was willing to pass on to anyone researching the family, I spotted a Swinnerton so promptly wrote to ask for it.

The lady very kindly sent it and it turned out to be the Birth Certificate of a *Frances Mary Swinnerton*, daughter of Joseph Swinnerton and Mary Hannah (née Bowling). He was described as a Master Draper and the birth took place at 85 Daisy Hill, Dewsbury, Yorks on the 8th September 1893. How on earth did that get to the Isle of Man?

I puzzled over this for some time and then something clicked and I knew that somewhere in our records we had another reference to this family who were not connected in any way with the branch of the Betley family settled over there by Charles Swinnerton, the stonemason.

After a long search (roll on the day we get our computerised index - see Editorial) I found it. It was in our own Journal for February 1978 (Vol.3 No.4) and as one of our 'unknown soldiers' listed Private 33766 *Frederick William Swinnerton*, 13th Battn. Cheshire Regiment, born Dewsbury, Yorks, Enlisted in Isle of Man, killed in action 7 June 1917 aged 19. *Son of Joseph & Mary Swinnerton* of Falcon's Nest Hotel, Port Erin, Isle of Man. No known grave.

However, this little family still remains a mystery as they do not fit into the tree of our large Yorkshire Branch in any way.

JOSEPH SWINNERTON = Mary Hannah Bowling

Frances Mary  
b. 8 Sep 1893 Dewsbury

FREDERICK WILLIAM SWINNERTON  
b. 1898 Dewsbury  
Killed in action 1917.

I shall continue to search.

# Health union's chief warning

by John Jeffay

MANCHESTER "METRO NEWS"

- 16th April 1993

HEALTH reforms in Stockport will create too many chiefs, and too few Indians, claims a union leader.

He says extra managers will be appointed if the authority's opt-out bids are accepted in the autumn.

But lower ranking posts will be axed to pay for them.

"There's going to be a big influx of managers on high salaries, and there'll have to be a reduction in nursing staff to pay for them," said Joe Swinnerton, of the health workers' union COHSE.

His comments this week follow the publication of a health authority document which details the management structure of Stockport's proposed trusts, and lists a total of 28 top jobs.

But Alan Yates, general manager designate of Stockport Healthcare — the community services trust — insists the number of new posts is small, and says they will be needed to handle increased workloads.

"Inevitably there will be some statutory appointments which have to be duplicated, like a director of finance for both trusts, but we've had a major exercise in containing the costs of management and have merged the responsibilities for post holders," he said.

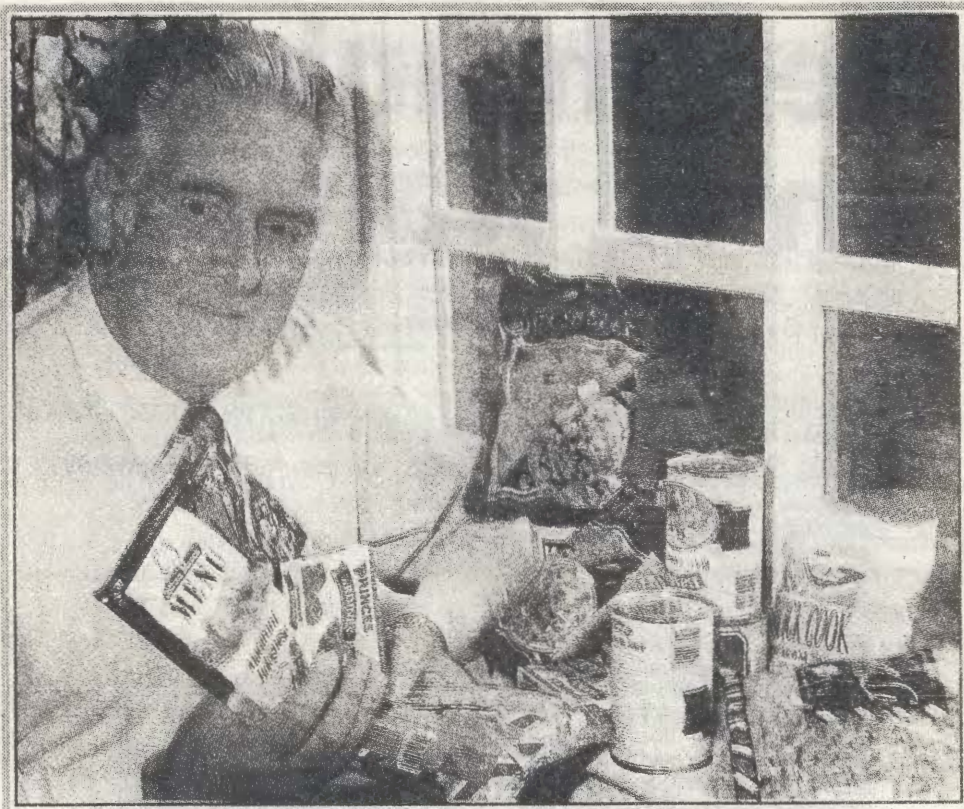
He said it was possible that two or three nursing officer posts would go.



● Joe Swinnerton

Can someone please tell me who this is?





FOOD donations are being collected by an Alderley Edge man to send to Bosnia.

Joe Swinnerton is on the hunt for grub to send to Mostar, a town north of Sarajevo where there is little food, little or no electricity or water and the hospital has been flattened by bombing.

He said: "We are collecting substantial food such as tins, pasta, rice and dried fruit."

Hilda Bomber, a joint organiser of the appeal, said: "Of all the families 75 per cent of the fathers and young men have gone, the women not knowing whether they're dead or alive."

Hilda added: "Although it is a Christian group collecting the relief is going to both Christians and Muslims in and around Mostar. The relief is for people who need it, not certain religions."

All donations should be sent to Joe Swinnerton, 9 Oakfield Road, Alderley Edge.

OAKFIELD RD

## FAMILY NOTES

I am sorry to say that I have four deaths to report.

Firstly, that of Alec Arthur Swinnerton on the 12th June at the great age of 86 (he would have been 87 in August). Alec had been a member of the society since the very early days and until quite recently was a familiar figure at our gatherings. He was a member of the Betley Branch, the father of our member Valerie Dall and a very proud grandfather and great-grandfather.

Secondly, Mrs Muriel Swinnerton, the mother of our member David Kenneth Shaw Swinnerton, on the 28th July after a long illness. She was cremated at Teesside Crematorium and, later, her ashes were scattered with David's father's in the Frith Valley, North Wales about 4 miles from his place of birth.

Thirdly, Douglas Kingsley Swinnerton of California, another very long-standing member who died in April and lastly, former member Charles William Swinnerton of Walsall.

We send our sincere sympathy to all the families.

Colin Swinnerton tells me that congratulations are in order to his elder son Neale who has graduated from Birmingham University with a 2nd class Honours Degree in Electronic Engineering.

His younger son Paul, who you will remember had thespian ambitions, has gained a place on a degree course in acting at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

We have two new members to welcome:-

Steven Charles Swinnerton, who actually came to our Domesday Gathering in 1986, has now joined the society. He lives at [redacted] and is the son of Joseph Arthur and Mary Swinnerton of the Adbaston family. He is



married to Jeanette Elaine (née Jardine) and has 3 children, Davin, Louise and Neill.

We also welcome Mr E.C.Swinnerton of [redacted]

[redacted] Mr Swinnerton phoned me when he was over here on a visit, unfortunately we were unable to meet as he had not enough time left. However, from the brief details he was able to give me over the telephone, I can tell you that he has opened up a whole new family in Australia which I will deal with in detail in the next journal. I will, at last, also deal with the other new family I wrote about in the June 1991 issue. All the checking has now been done and the shape of the tree of the senior branch of the family now looks very different.

Finally, our congratulations to our member Edythe Seeley of Canada for her honour from the Ontario Genealogical Society.



### *Society honors co-ordinator*

Sarnia's Edythe Seeley, left, has been honored by the Ontario Genealogical Society. Mrs. Seeley has been a co-ordinator for the society's cemetery project in Lambton County, spending countless hours recording, typing and producing transcripts of many rural and urban burial grounds. She has also helped many people find their family roots. Presenting her with her certificate is Frances Eagleson, chairman of the society's local branch.

## SWINNERTON SOCIETY PRODUCTIONS

**THE SOCIETY TIE.** Made in Woven Jacquard with a single Swinnerton Society Cross and Horseshoe badge. Available in Navy Blue, Maroon and Grey. Price £4.50 plus .50p postage. Set of 3 - one of each colour £12.50 plus .50p postage.

**BINDERS FOR JOURNALS.** Red with the "Swinnerton Family History" embossed in gold on the spine and the Society's badge in gold on the front cover. Each has 11 strings to hold 10 issues (one complete volume) and the index. £2.50 each plus .50p postage.

Both the above are obtainable from the Secretary, David Brock (address inside front cover)

**AN ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILY OF SWYNNERTON.** A facimile copy of the original history of the family published in 1886 by the William Salt Archaeological Society, Stafford. Over 200 pages of the family history with trees of various branches of the family. £12 plus .50p postage. Every Swinnerton family should have a copy. Obtainable from Iain Swinnerton (address inside front cover).

**THE BOER WAR DIARY OF EDWARD ALBERT SWINNERTON**  
A vivid and personal account of a soldier during the campaign fought in South Africa almost one hundred years ago. Price £4.00 plus 50p postage.

### **A HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE OF SWYNNERTON AND THE SWINNERTONS OF WARWICKSHIRE.**

A general synopsis of the history of the village of Swynnerton and the original family who lived there. Plus - the history of one of the Warwickshire branches of the family and an article on the Family Heraldry by Iain Swinnerton. Researched and produced by our Chairman, Joe Swinnerton. The first part of the book can form the basis of the history of any branch of the family. Price £7.00 incl. postage.

**FIRE & FURY OVER ENGLAND - THE SECOND WORLD WAR - TEN LOST MONTHS.** The diary of our Chairman, Joe Swinnerton, of his service in the army during the Second World War. 120 pages with many illustrations. a very good "read". Price £7.00 incl. postage.

The above three books obtainable from J. E. Swinnerton, [redacted]  
[redacted] Prices quoted apply to orders from the UK. Overseas members please send a Sterling cheque or International Money Order in Sterling.