

Family BN

The Family of Charles Jeffcoat

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Introduction

Our knowledge of this family initially came from Mrs Dorothy Tebby of Birmingham, who replied to one of our letters in 1985. She and her sister-in-law came along to our 1986 gathering and we were in regular contact after that.

The family tree starts with Dorothy's great grandfather John Jeffcoat.

Dorothy can remember her grandfather Charles as being a goods checker for the railway. He lived with Dorothy's family until around 1920, when he probably died and was perhaps buried at Witton cemetery.

Some time later, we made contact with David Jeffcoat of Harpenden who also linked-up with this family tree.

A little research would soon reveal more about the family tree.

Letters received in connection with this family are:

300, 328, 388, 394, 499, 586, 652, 657

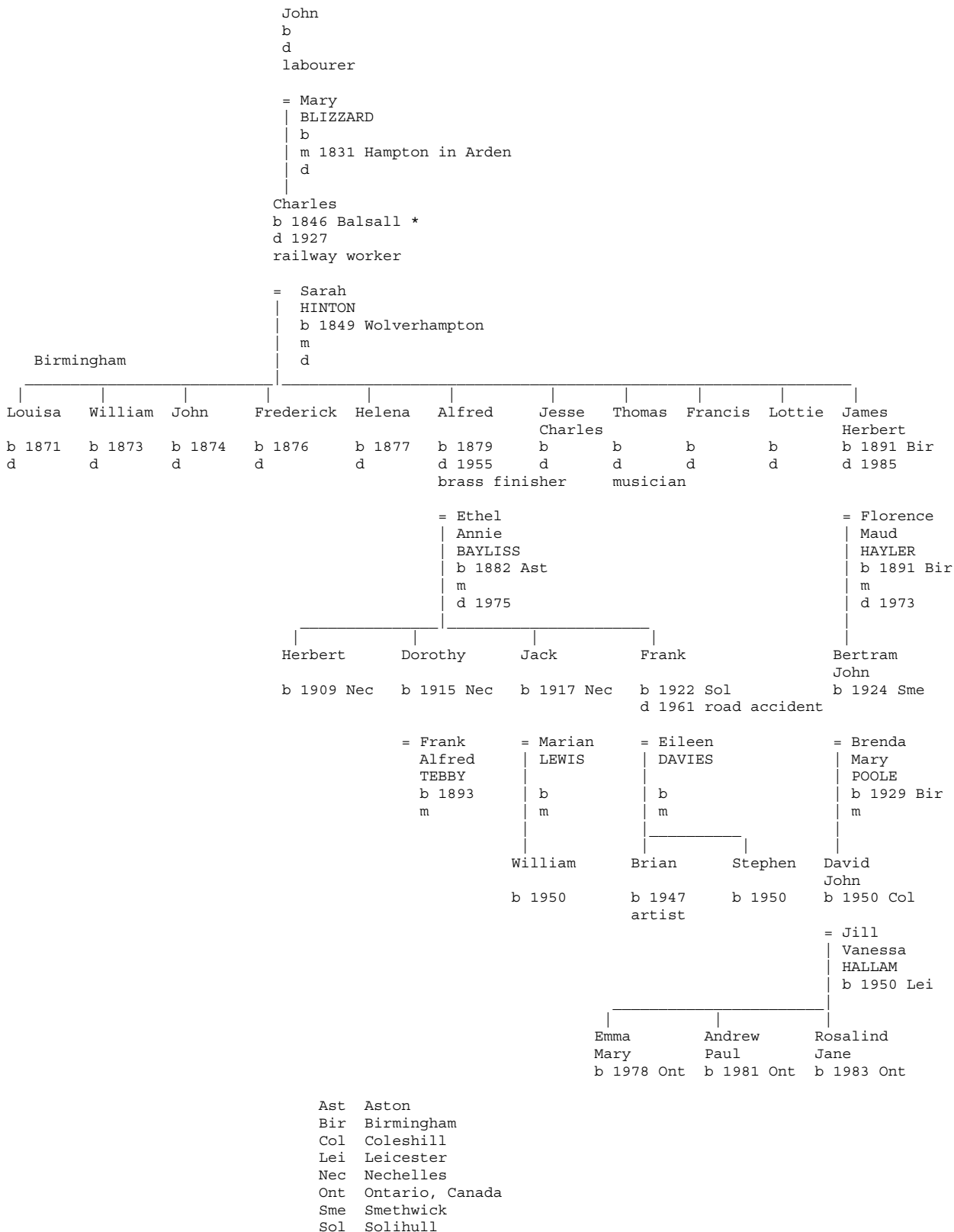
Indeed, in 2020, we discovered more about this family tree and found that it connected with Family CH, which is shown further along in this section.

It turned out that John was born in 1796, the son of Thomas and Ann. See the gedcom tree for the amalgamated tree.

The Jephcott Family – Chapter 6 – Family BN and CH

BN

JEFFCOAT



Family CH

The Family of James Jefcoatt, Hangman of Warwick

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6.BN.3 Letters Received

6.BN.4 The Family Tree

My knowledge of this family came initially from a news-cutting that had been sent to me from an old newspaper. It alerted me to the fact that one of our clan was once an executioner. I knew nothing more of James Jefcoatt until a reference to him was noticed in the 1851 census.

Soon after this, I received an email from Geoff White in Helsinki, as transcribed below.

In 2020, when this book was being edited for a new electronic version, it became clear that this family tree connected with Family BN, which is why it is placed here.

Letters Received

Geoff White – 6th July 1999

James Jefcoatt, the hangman, was christened in Nuneaton (this would be St Nicholas Parish Church) on 3rd April 1802, the son of Thomas Jefcoatt and Ann 'Somebody'.

In the 1851 census of Nuneaton he is living in Hall End, aged 49, with his wife Elizabeth (54) and son Daniel, (age 14, christened 29/5/1836) and daughter Martha (12). By now the name has become Jephcoat. He and his son Daniel are both described as sawyers (in addition to James' other part-time job of 'Hangsman for the County'). I imagine that this Daniel is Martha married Thomas Grimes in 1858. They begat Thomas who begat Alice, who married George William White, my grandfather. So that's how I fit into the picture.

I haven't had the opportunity to look at the 1841 census of Nuneaton but I would guess that a glance at this would produce more children.

Looking for Jefcoats in Nuneaton is like wandering through Hampton Court maze. There are so many of them and so many dead ends. I first noticed them when I sat for a few days in Nuneaton library researching the Whites. Jefcoats kept catching my eye as I went through the marriage records of Chilvers Coton. They were turning up as witnesses, brides and grooms on almost every page!

One final thought – my grandmother also told me that the 'dark side' of her family had two brothers who went out to Australia prospecting for gold. One returned with a bag of gold dust from which he lived, and said that his brother had died in the desert. She said that the family never believed him and were sure that he killed his brother for his share of the gold. He was reputed to sleep with a loaded pistol under his pillow. Any ideas?

I have searched the 1881 census and the wills index for James and Daniel and have found nothing. Need to check the Australian records as it is highly likely that the family emigrated.

This is the 1851 census entry for James the hangman.

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Parish or Township of <i>Nuneaton</i>		Ecclesiastical District of <i>Althorough</i>		City or Borough of		Town of		Number of Inhabitants of <i>Althorough</i>	
House Number	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	
					Male	Female			
39	Halls Bend	William Spencer	Head	Married	62		Ag. Lab	Althorough	Warwick
		Sarah D ^o	Wife		67		Ribbon Weaver	D ^o	D ^o
40	—	James Jefcoat	Head		49		Sawyer & Hangman for the County	Nuneaton	D ^o
		Bliz th D ^o	Wife		49		Seamstress	Market Bosworth, Leics	D ^o
		Ann D ^o	Son		16		Sawyer	Warwick	Warwick
		Martha D ^o	Daughter		12		Seamstress	D ^o	D ^o
41	—	Bliz th Taylor	Wife	Married	46		Silk Winder	D ^o	D ^o
		John Hands	Son		19		Bookbinder	Althorough	D ^o
		Ann Hands	Daughter		10		Scholar	D ^o	D ^o

CH

JEFCOATT

Thomas (Jefcoat)

b

d

= Ann

b

m

d

James

bap 1802 Nuneaton

d

sawyer and hangman for the county in 1851

= Elizabeth

b 1797 Market Bosworth, Leics

m

d

seamstress in 1851

Daniel

bap 1836

d

sawyer in 1851

Martha

bap 1839

d

= Catherine

HAZELDINE

b

m 1855

d

= Thomas

GRIMES

b

m 1859

d