

PART THIRTY-FIVE

The Melksham Line – 1600 to 2007

Updated October 2011

New information generously provided by Maureen Iliffe nee Collett (Ref. 44R15) in 2009 confirmed that Part 44 – The Malmesbury District Line also commenced in Broughton Gifford and confirmed the vital link that connects Part 35 to Part 44, and from Part 44 there is a line that leads to New Zealand through Part 31

This is the family line of Allan Simnett (Ref. 35Q5) of Ledbury in Herefordshire, Don Cameron (Ref. 35O60) in Australia, Ian Hextall (Ref. 35N94) in Scotland, and Geraldine Hopkins nee Collett (Ref. 35P63) of Strathroy in Ontario

The new version of this file, issued in December 2010, was largely due to the contribution made by Gerri Hopkins which has added more detail to the branch of the family that settled in Canada in 1906.

A previous update of this file was thanks to information received from Gloria Davies which has helped to determine some of the earlier generations of this family, which previously had just been estimations.

The information used in the December 2008 update of this file was kindly provided by Barry Collett of the USA who is currently carrying out a Collett DNA Study. The line confirmed by DNA testing is denoted by the names that are underlined.

The village of Broughton Gifford lies approximately one mile west of Melksham and it was there that this family line commenced in the late 1500s, as set out in Part 44 – The Malmesbury District Line (incorporating Broughton Gifford).

Luke Collett, who starts this line was the younger brother of William Collett (Ref. 44H1) of Broughton Gifford, and the second known son of Daniel Collett (Ref. 44G1) of Broughton Gifford, who in turn was the son of Anthony Collett (Ref. 44F1) of Great Chalfield, a very small hamlet just one mile from Broughton Gifford. All of these details can be found in Part 44 – The Malmesbury Line (incorporating Broughton Gifford).

35H1 **LUKE COLLETT** (Ref. 44H2) may have been born around 1640 to 1645. He was married to Grace around 1666, and all of their children were baptised at Broughton Gifford.

35I1	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 24.05.1668 at Broughton Gifford
35I2	Luke Collett	Baptised on 31.01.1669 at Broughton Gifford
35I3	<u>William Collett</u>	Baptised on 18.02.1671 at Broughton Gifford
35I4	<u>JOSEPH COLLETT</u>	Born circa 1673 at Broughton Gifford
35I5	John Collett	Baptised on 20.09.1674 at Broughton Gifford
35I6	Jane Collett	Baptised on 04.12.1681 at Broughton Gifford
35I7	Grace Collett	Baptised on 11.11.1683 at Broughton Gifford

35I3 **William Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 18.02.1671, the third of seven known children of Luke and Grace Collett. He later married Sarah around 1693 with whom he had a number of children, and all of them were born at Broughton Gifford.

35J1	John Collett	Born in 1694; likely infant death at B G
35J2	<u>John Collett</u>	Born on 22.11.1698 at Broughton Gifford
35J3	William Collett	Born on 08.02.1700 at Broughton Gifford
35J4	Sarah Collett	Born on 07.06.1703 at Broughton Gifford
35J5	Isaac Collett	Born on 07.01.1705 at Broughton Gifford

35I4 **JOSEPH COLLETT** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 20.09.1674 in a joint ceremony with his brother John. The two boys may have been twin brothers, although there is a possibility that Joseph was born in 1672 or 1673, a year or two before his brother John.

Joseph later married Mary Wakeley at Broughton Gifford around 1695, with whom he had seven children, and all of them were baptised at Broughton Gifford. The Wakeley surname appears many times in the records for Broughton Gifford and, on one occasion in the 1800s, it was once again linked to the Collett family when the daughter of Joshua Mortimer and Ruth Wakeley married Benjamin Collett. In addition to this, the Mortimer family also had many ties with the Collett family.

35J6	Martha Collett	Born circa 1695
35J7	Mary Collett	Baptised on 15.10.1699
35J8	Jane Collett	Baptised on 11.06.1701
35J9	<u>JOHN COLLETT</u>	Baptised on 05.08.1705
35J10	Joseph Collett	Baptised on 24.10.1714
35J11	Leah Collett	Baptised on 08.09.1717 at Broughton Gifford
35J12	Daniel Collett	Born circa 1720
35J13	James Collett	Baptised on 17.03.1722

35J2 **John Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford on 22.11.1698, the son of William and Sarah Collett. It was also at Broughton Gifford that he later married Ann Archer on 18.04.1720.

35J6 **Martha Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1695, the eldest daughter of Joseph Collett and Mary Wakeley. However, it was four years later that she was baptised there in a joint ceremony with her sister Mary (below) on 15.10.1699. And it was also at Broughton Gifford that Martha married Stephen (Steven) Dark on 25.12.1714.

35J7 **Mary Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford and was baptised there on 15.10.1699 in a double baptism with her older sister Martha (above). She later married John Bull and the couple settled in Broughton Gifford where their son William was born and was baptised on 15.10.1732.

Almost twenty years later William Bull married Martha Mortimer at Broughton Gifford on 17.09.1752. The couple were only married for twenty-six years, when Martha died and was buried in the churchyard of the parish church at Broughton Gifford on 16.07.1778.

It is very likely that the couple's grandchild was Martha Bull who was born in 1779, who married William Mortimer in 1801, but who died in 1804. Following which William Mortimer married Amelia (Millicent) Collett (Ref. 35L16).

35J8 **Jane Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 11.06.1701, the daughter of Joseph Collett and Mary Wakeley. Twenty years later she married William Brossire at Broughton Gifford on 08.06.1721.

35J9 **JOHN COLLETT** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 05.08.1705. He later married (1) Millicent (Millie) Gearish at Broughton Gifford on 07.08.1729, with whom he had four children, and all of them baptised at Broughton Gifford. Millie was born around 1707.

It would appear that Millicent died around 1740, following which John married (2) Ann who may have been much younger than John, possibly by nearly fifteen years, judging by the baptism dates of their children.

One hundred and twenty-five years after John Collett married Millicent Gearish, a certain Samuel James Collett married a Sarah Gearish. This took place at Melksham on 18th January 1855. Samuel was the son of Richard Collett and was born at Melksham on 21st December 1831, and Sarah was born at Melksham on 5th March 1833. Sarah died on 15th August 1877, while Samuel survived for nearly another fifty years, when he died on 16th February 1926. No link has yet been found that connects this couple to this particular family line.

35K1	Patience Collett	Baptised on 11.06.1730 at Broughton Gifford
35K2	Mary Collett	Baptised on 30.08.1733 at Broughton Gifford
35K3	Millicent Collett	Baptised on 09.08.1736
35K4	John Collett	Baptised on 16.05.1739
35K5	Mary Collett	Baptised on 11.09.1743 at Broughton Gifford
35K6	William Collett	Baptised on 19.04.1745
35K7	John Collett	Baptised on 04.04.1748
35K8	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 26.12.1750 at Broughton Gifford
35K9	<u>HENRY COLLETT</u>	Born circa 1746

35J10 **Joseph Collett** was possibly born at Broughton Gifford, where he was baptised on 24.10.1714. He married (1) Ann and together they had five daughters who were all baptised at Broughton Gifford. Ann's name was spelt without an e, until the baptism of the fifth child, when both the child's name and the mother's name were recorded as 'Anne'.

What happened next in the life of Joseph and Ann is not known precisely, but it is possible that Ann may have died after the birth of their fifth child, following which Joseph then married (2) Mary with whom he had a further two children, both of them being baptised at Broughton Gifford.

It is also conceivable that Ann and Mary were one and the same person, only from the fact that Joseph's first child was named Mary and that Marianne (Mary Ann) was a name used by later generations of the family.

35K10	Mary Collett	Baptised on 14.07.1738 at Broughton Gifford
35K11	Martha Collett	Baptised on 24.02.1739 at Broughton Gifford
35K12	Betty Collett	Baptised on 17.04.1743 at Broughton Gifford
35K13	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 23.06.1745
35K14	Anne Collett	Baptised on 14.01.1749 at Broughton Gifford
35K15	Rebecca Collett	Baptised on 16.11.1751 at Broughton Gifford
35K16	Joseph Collett	Baptised on 20.10.1754

35J12 **Daniel Collett** was possibly born around 1720, the son of Joseph and Mary Collett. He later married (1) Ruth and their two known children were baptised at Broughton Gifford. It is also possible, although not proved, that Ruth died during or shortly after the birth of her second child.

This tragic event would then have enabled Daniel to marry (2) Ann with whom he had another daughter soon after.

35K17	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 25.12.1753 at Broughton Gifford
35K18	Ruth Collett	Baptised on 02.02.1756 at Broughton Gifford
35K19	Ann Collett	Baptised on 24.02.1758 at Broughton Gifford

35J13 **James Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 17.03.1722, the youngest child of Joseph Collett and Mary Wakeley.

35K3 **Millicent Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford and it was there that she was baptised on 09.08.1736, the daughter of John Collett and Millicent Gearish. And it was at Broughton Gifford that she married James Hill on 03.02.1761.

35K4 **John Collett** born at Broughton Gifford where he was baptised on 16.05.1739, the only son of John Collett and his first wife Millicent Gearish. When he was around 24 years of age he married Ann (Anna) Matthews at Broughton Gifford on 11.03.1763.

With their son James being born within three months of their wedding, Ann was obviously with-child on the day that they were married. At the child's baptism in Broughton Gifford on 22.05.1763 his parents were stated as being John and Anna Collett, whereas it was John and Ann for their other two children.

35L1	James Collett	Born in 1763
35L2	Martha Collett	Baptised on 11.05.1766 at Broughton Gifford
35L3	Henry Collett	Baptised on 19.02.1769

35K6 **William Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford where he was baptised on 19.04.1745. Tragically four days later the parish register at Broughton Gifford confirmed that he died there on 23.04.1745.

35K7 **John Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 04.04.1748. He later married Mary White at Broughton Gifford on 20.11.1792. Judging by the birth years for John's and Mary's children it seems highly likely that Mary was quite a few years younger than John and that she was very likely his second wife. All of the couple's known children listed below were baptised at Broughton Gifford.

It is possible that, at the time of the wedding in 1792, John Collett of Broughton Gifford was already a widower and that it was his first married that had produced his eldest son James, who was born prior to the date of his marriage to Mary White. It is therefore likely his first wife may have died at the birth of their son James, or shortly thereafter.

35L4	James Collett	Born circa 1785
35L5	William Collett	Baptised on 17.02.1793
35L6	Mary Collett	Baptised on 05.04.1795 at Broughton Gifford
35L7	Henry Collett	Baptised on 29.04.1798
35L8	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 23.11.1800
35L9	Millicent Collett	Baptised on 11.09.1803 at Broughton Gifford

35K9 **HENRY COLLETT** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1746. Twenty years later he married Mary Hayward at Broughton Gifford on 20.06.1768, where all of their children were born and baptised, as confirmed for some of them by the Wiltshire IGI Records.

Curiously a Henry Collett and his wife Anne had a son James who was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 05.04.1777 who would sit comfortably in this family. So for completeness James Collett has been inserted into the family, until such time as it can be verified or dismissed.

35L10	Ann Collett	Baptised 25.12.1768 at Broughton Gifford
35L11	John Collett	Baptised 20.10.1771 at Broughton Gifford
35L12	Harry Collett	Baptised 31.01.1774 at Broughton Gifford
35L13	<u>HENRY COLLETT</u>	Born circa 1775
35L14	James Collett	Baptised on 05.04.1777
35L15	William Collett	Baptised on 28.09.1778
35L16	Amelia (Millicent) Collett	Baptised on 04.03.1781
35L17	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 30.05.1784
35L18	Stephen Collett	Baptised on 04.03.1787
35L19	Mary Collett	Baptised on 25.07.1789 at Broughton Gifford

35K13 **Sarah Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 23.06.1745, the daughter of Joseph and Ann Collett. And it was at Broughton Gifford that she married Stephen Bevan on 24.04.1768.

35K16 **Joseph Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 20.10.1754. However, it is possible that he was born in 1752, since he was 20 years of age at the time of his marriage in 1772, although his age at the time of his death in 1809 was 55.

On the occasion of his wedding, Joseph was described as a yeoman of Trowbridge. He married Jane Rudman (Redman) at Melksham on 29.10.1772, the Sarum Marriage Licence Bond having been issued the previous day.

Jane was a spinster also aged 20, and the Bondsman was her father John Rudman (Redman) who was described as a yeoman of Melksham. John Redman (Rudman) was also the father of Hester Redman (Rudman) who married William Collett (Ref. 44K7) in 1780, Joseph and William being first cousins.

Once they were married, Joseph and Jane left the Broughton Gifford and Melksham area, following the birth there of their first child. It was just north of Chippenham where they settled, in the village of Kington St Michael. And it was there that all of their remaining children were born and where Joseph died on 07.11.1809.

He was buried in the churchyard of St Michael's Anglican Church on 11th November 1809 and the burial record confirmed his aged as 55 and that he was the husband of Jane Collett. At the time of the baptism of his two daughters in January 1784 Joseph was the churchwarden at St Michael's Church.

In his Will of 1809 Joseph was referred to as 'gentleman of Kington St Michael'.

In an earlier edition of this family line there was reference to Daniel Collett who was born at Kington St Michael in 1803. However, it has since been revealed from census returns for 1841, 1851 and 1861 that he was actually born in 1779, and was therefore he was over twenty years older than his wife.

It is established that Daniel Collett (of Kington St Michael) married Mary Buckland, while Joseph Collett married her sister Elizabeth Buckland, and all were born and married in Kington St Michael. For these reasons it has been assumed that Daniel and Joseph were brothers and therefore, that both of them were the sons of Joseph Collett and Jane Redman, resulting in Daniel's placement into this family.

35L20	William Henry Collett	Baptised on 08.02.1774
35L21	Ann Collett	Born circa 1777
35L22	Daniel Collett	Born circa 1779
35L23	Martha Collett	Born circa 1782
35L24	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 08.01.1784
35L25	John Collett	Baptised on 17.01.1786
35L26	Hester Collett	Baptised on 30.04.1788
35L27	Joseph Collett	Baptised on 02.12.1790
35L28	John Collett	Baptised on 17.06.1794
35L29	Stephen Collett	Baptised on 01.02.1797

35L1 **James Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1763 and was baptised there on 22.05.1763. His parents John Collett and Anna Matthews had only been married eleven weeks prior to his baptism.

James Collett married Margaret Adams at Broughton Gifford on 21.10.1787 and, two years later, they were still living there when their three known sons and one daughter were born.

35M1	John Collett	Baptised on 01.11.1789
35M2	Daniel Collett	Baptised on 20.11.1794
35M3	James Collett	Baptised on 20.06.1799
35M4	Mary Collett	Baptised on 25.01.1808 at Broughton Gifford

35L3 **Henry Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 19.02.1769, the son of John and Ann Collett. It was also at Broughton Gifford that Henry married Hannah Mortimer on 04.01.1801 and nine months later their only known child was born. The IGI baptism record for the child noted the parents as Mary and Anna which, it is assumed, was a misinterpretation of Henry and Hannah.

Hannah Mortimer was possibly the daughter of William Mortimer and Mary Redman, whose son George married Amelia Collett at Broughton Gifford in 1804, Amelia being the cousin of Henry Collett.

35M5	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 27.09.1801
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35L4 **James Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1785 and he later married Sarah Clack at Broughton on 25.05.1806, where all of their children were born and baptised.

James and Sarah of Broughton Gifford both featured in the first national census in June 1841, when they were both recorded with a rounded aged of 55. Living with them at that time were five of their children, Elizabeth 25, Sarah, Mary and Henry all with a rounded age of 20, and Jane with a rounded age of 15.

No record has so far been found in 1841 for their son James who would have been 22, so he may have died by then. Also by that time their eldest surviving son Samuel was married with children of his own, and this may have also been the reason for the absence of their eldest daughter Ann.

35M6	Samuel Collett	Baptised on 25.12.1808; likely infant death
35M7	Ann Collett	Baptised on 05.08.1810 at Broughton Gifford
35M8	Samuel Collett	Baptised on 15.11.1811
35M9	Elizabeth Clack Collett	Baptised on 21.11.1813
35M10	Sarah Collett	Born possibly in 1815 or 1816
35M11	Mary Collett	Baptised on 23.02.1817
35M12	James Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1818; likely infant death
35M13	Henry Clack Collett	Baptised on 02.07.1820
35M14	Jane Collett	Baptised on 20.01.1823

35L6 **William Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 17.02.1793, and it was there that he married Jane Webb. What was slightly curious, was that Jane was recorded using her maiden name at the baptism of their first child, perhaps indicating that the couple were not yet married at that time.

35M15	Tabitha Collett	Born on 28.03.1816
35M16	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 22.04.1821
35M17	William Collett	Born in 1828

35L7 **Henry Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford, where he was baptised on 29.04.1798. Henry married Mary Morris on 03.05.1825 at Melksham, where they settled and where all of their children were born.

By the time of the census in June 1841, the family living at Melksham comprised Henry, age 40 who was listed as Harry, his wife Mary who was also 40, and their seven children. They were Henry and Sarah who were both 14, Eliza 12, Elizabeth 9, Ann 6, Everest 4, and John who was two years old.

35M18	Henry Collett	Born in 1826
35M19	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 17.06.1827 at Melksham
35M20	Eliza Collett	Baptised on 05.04.1829 at Melksham
35M21	Elizabeth (Betsy) Collett	Baptised on 11.12.1831 at Melksham
35M22	Ann Collett	Baptised on 31.05.1835 at Melksham
35M23	Everest Collett	Baptised on 30.04.1837 at Melksham
35M24	John Collett	Born in 1839

35L8 **Elizabeth Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1800 and was baptised there on 23.11.1800, the daughter of John Collett and Mary White. When Elizabeth was 24 years old she married Francis Miles of Weston near Bath, the marriage taking place in the village of Weston on 12.10.1824.

The marriage produced four children for Elizabeth and Francis, and these were Mary Miles who was born in 1825, John Miles born in 1827, Francis Miles born in 1830, and Thomas Miles who was born in 1836.

By the time of the first national census in June 1841, the family was still living within the Bath registration district and comprised Francis who was 40 (rounded age), Elizabeth who was 35 (rounded age), and their four children Mary 15, John 13, Francis 10, and Thomas who was four years old.

Ten years later the family was recorded living in the Bath & Lansdown area, which included the village of Weston. The census of 1851 listed the family as Francis 52, Elizabeth 49, and their two sons Francis who was twenty years old and Thomas who was fourteen.

By 1861 Elizabeth was a widow aged 59 who was living within the Bath & Walcot area with her unmarried son Francis Miles, who was 30 years old.

35L13 **HENRY COLLETT** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1775, and it was around the turn of the century that he married Maria. Three of their children, listed below, were baptised at Broughton Gifford where the others may have also been born and baptised.

35M25	William Collett	Baptised on 27.09.1801
35M26	Daniel Collett	Born in 1805
35M27	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1807 at Broughton Gifford
35M28	Maria Collett	Born in 1812
35M29	<u>STEPHEN COLLETT</u>	Born in 1817

35L14 **James Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 05.04.1777, where he was described as being the son of Henry and Anne Collett, rather than Henry and Mary Collett as in the case of all of the other children. This therefore may indicate that he was not of this family, but has been included in the absence of any better information.

35L15 **William Collett**, who was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 28.09.1778, married Mary and they are known to have had at least two children who were baptised at Broughton Gifford.

35M30	James Collett	Baptised on 12.04.1807 at Broughton Gifford
35M31	Mary Ann Collett	Baptised on 14.01.1811 at Broughton Gifford

35L16 **Amelia (Millicent) Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford, where she was baptised in the parish church on 04.03.1781. She was the daughter of Henry and Mary Collett of Broughton Gifford and, at the time of her marriage, she was referred to as Millicent Collett.

It was at the parish church in Broughton Gifford that, on 24.09.1804, she married widower George Mortimer of Broughton Gifford. George was the youngest son of William Mortimer and Mary Redman and was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 09.10.1785.

George had previously married Martha Bull on 18.01.1801, but sadly she died just three years into their life together and was buried at Broughton Gifford on 10.01.1804. It was just over eight months later that same year, when he married Amelia.

George died sometime between 1841 and 1850, and was followed by Amelia who was buried at the Baptist Chapel in Broughton Gifford on 23.11.1850.

Amelia's and George's eldest son Henry (Harry) Mortimer, who was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 30.06.1805, later married (1) Eliza Gay at Broughton Gifford on 07.04.1828.

Just as had happened to his father George Mortimer, Harry's first wife also died shortly after they were married, and less than a year later, on 15.01.1829, he married (2) Anne Mortimer who was born at Kington Langley in 1809. Anne was very likely his cousin.

Harry Mortimer was 47 when he died in 1852, following which he was buried in the graveyard at the Baptist Chapel in Broughton Gifford on 27.03.1852, just sixteen months after his mother Amelia had been buried there.

35M32	Henry (Harry) Mortimer	Baptised on 30.06.1805 at Broughton G
35M33	Joseph Mortimer	Born in 1807 at Broughton Gifford
35M34	Sarah Mortimer	Born in 1809 at Broughton Gifford
35M35	Hannah Mortimer – see Ref. 35M8	Born in 1813 at Broughton Gifford
35M36	George Mortimer	Born in 1815 at Broughton Gifford
35M37	Joseph Mortimer	Born in 1817 at Broughton Gifford
35M38	Elizabeth Mortimer	Born in 1818 at Broughton Gifford

35L17 **Thomas Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 30.05.1784, and it was there that he married Maria, and where their sons were baptised.

35M39	Stephen Collett	Baptised on 30.08.1807
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35M40	William Collett	Baptised on 12.02.1809 at Broughton Gifford
35M41	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 02.06.1811

35L18 **Stephen Collett** was possibly born in 1786, but was baptised on 04.03.1787 at Broughton Gifford. He married Hannah Mortimer on 21.05.1808 at Broughton Gifford, where their children were born and baptised.

The couple were still living at Broughton Gifford at the time of the marriage of their daughter Mary, when Stephen Collett was recorded as being a shoemaker, a trade that was later taken up by his sons Henry and Simeon.

35M42	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 25.12.1809 at Broughton Gifford
35M43	Anne Collett	Baptised on 21.05.1812 at Broughton Gifford
35M44	John Collett	Born circa 1815
35M45	Henry Collett	Baptised on 23.02.1817
35M46	Mary Collett	Born in 1819
35M47	Simeon Collett	Born in 1823

35L20 **William Henry Collett** was the son of Joseph Collett and Jane Redman and he was baptised at Melksham on 08.02.1774. There is however a question-mark as to whether he may have been born at Yatton Keynell, the nearest next village to Kington St Michael. Since it was to Kington St Michael that his parents had moved after leaving Broughton Gifford and Melksham, and it was at Kington St Michael where all of his siblings were born.

At the age of 32, William married Sarah Kearsey on 20.02.1806 at Ashley to the east of Corsham. The Sarum Marriage Licence Bond was issued two days before the event and the bondsman was Sarah's brother John Kearsey, a yeoman of Ashley.

Sarah Kearsey was born at Chedworth in Gloucestershire in 1782 and was baptised at Chedworth on 28th December 1782. She was one of nine children of Richard Kearsey who was born at Bisley in Gloucestershire in 1745 and who died at Ashley in 1807.

Richard Kearsey's wife (and Sarah's mother) was Judith Dane, who was the daughter of Giles Dane and Mary Clerk who are the five times great grandparents of Judy Brown of Australia who has kindly provided some of the details in this family line..

It is also interesting to note that the husband of Judy Brown, Keith Brown, is related to Doris Mason who married Roscoe Collett whose family details are provided in Part 53 – The South Wales Branch Line.

At the time of their marriage, William Collett was described as a yeoman of Slaughterford, while Sarah was a spinster of Ashley. Slaughterford lies between Ashley and Kington St Michael / Yatton Keynell. In addition to being a yeoman, William was also a churchwarden, but this must have been at neighbouring Biddestone, just to the west of Chippenham.

Whilst all of William's and Sarah's children were born at Slaughterford they were not baptised there, since the Church of St Nicholas was destroyed by Cromwell's New Model Army during the Civil War.

However, it was through the efforts of William Henry Collett of Slaughterford that the church was rebuilt around 1823. In the church today there is a plaque bearing his name as an acknowledgement of this event. Until that time, all religious ceremonies had to be conducted in the church at nearby Biddestone.

Within the "Land Tax Assessments 1780 to 1830 for Slaughterford" there is a reference to William Collett leasing land from 1803 right through to 1826. This included a statement that 'in 1827 the land that William Collett had been leasing was taken over by John Gibbs at the same tax rate'.

It continued by saying 'After 1826 William Collett ceased to be a land tax payer in Slaughterford'. He would have been 46 years old at that time and perhaps this might suggest that he and Sarah were no longer living there.

The full statement regarding the lands leased by William Collett can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this family line.

It has not been determined when William died, but it is known that his wife Sarah passed away at Cornwell House in the Walcot district of Bath on 08.10.1867 at the age of 85.

35M48	Mary Anne Collett	Born in 1807
35M49	William Collett	Born in 1808
35M50	John Collett	Born in 1810
35M51	Thomas Collett	Born in 1811
35M52	George Collett	Born in 1813
35M53	Stephen Collett	Born in 1814
35M54	Sarah Collett	Born in 1816
35M55	Joseph Collett	Born in 1818
35M56	Edwin Collett	Born in 1819

35L21 **Ann Collett** was believed to have been born around 1777 and most likely at Kington St Michael, where all of her younger siblings were born. It was also there that she was married by licence to William Mogers on 21.02.1801. The witnesses at the ceremony were her father Joseph Collett, and her two sisters Hester and Sarah (below).

35L22 **Daniel Collett** was born at Kington St Michael around 1779, according to the census returns completed by him in 1841, 1851 and 1861. And it is these which place him as most probably the eldest son of Joseph Collett and Jane Redman, although no birth or baptism record to verify this has been found to date.

Daniel Collett was in his late forties when he married Mary Buckland of Kington St Michael at Kington on 18th February 1828. Mary, who was twenty-two years younger than Daniel, was the eldest daughter of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day, and the sister of Elizabeth Buckland who married Daniel's younger brother Joseph Collett (below), and the sister of Edwin Buckland who married Louisa Collett.

Who Louisa Collett was has still not been determined, but one option may be that she was the child from a first marriage of Daniel Collett, thus making Mary Buckland his second wife. This seems very reasonable, considering his age when he married Mary.

Because of the complex inter-relationship between the Collett family and the Buckland family, details of the latter have been included in Appendix 2 at the end of this family line, to help clarify the situation.

Once married, Daniel and Mary settled in the Wiltshire village of Keevil, to the east of Trowbridge, where their four known children were all born.

In the first national census in June 1841, Daniel was recorded as being 60 years old, while his wife Mary was 40. Although it is well established that adult ages were rounded in the first census, the two ages do correspond closely with their respective ages in the next two census returns.

The couple's four children were more accurately recorded in 1841 as Henry Collett who was eleven, Mary Collett who was ten, Joseph Collett who was six, and Rosa Collett who was three years old.

Ten years later, in the more detailed census of 1851, Daniel Collett, age 72, was a farmer of 164 acres at Keevil, where he employed six men. His wife Mary was 50, and the children still living at Keevil with them were Henry who was 21, Marianne who was 19, Joseph who was 16, and Rosa who was 13.

Not long after that Daniel's and Mary's eldest son Henry left the family home in Keevil to be married and started a family of his own at Lushill near Castle Eaton by the River Thames within the Highworth registration district of Swindon. Then, towards the end of the 1850s, the couple's other son Joseph became a married man, but continued to live at Keevil.

Between these two events their two daughters were also married and left Keevil. So by the time of the census in 1861, Daniel and Mary had no members of their family living with them, just son Joseph living nearby with his new family. On that occasion Daniel Collett was 83, while his wife Mary was 60.

It was later that same year that Daniel Collett died at Keevil on 26.10.1861. His Will was proved one month later on 26th November 1861 and listed effects of under £4,000. The oaths were given by Daniel's two sons, farmer Henry Collett of Pew Hill, and farmer Joseph Collett of the said parish, and by Joseph Maslen of the said parish, his executors. Joseph Maslen was Daniel's son-in-law through the marriage to his daughter Marianne.

Nearly ten years after the death of her husband, his widow Mary Collett, age 70, was living at the home of her daughter Marianne Maslen at Longlease Farm in Westbury, by which time she too was a widow.

It was a similar situation ten years after that in 1881, except by that time Marianne Maslen had left Westbury and was living at Wick Farm in the village of Goosey, near Wantage in Berkshire. Still living with her was her mother Mary Collett from Kington St Michael who was 80, who must have passed away shortly after that time.

35M57	Henry Collett	Born in 1829
35M58	Marianne Collett	Born in 1830
35M59	Joseph Collett	Born in 1834
35M60	Rosa Collett	Born in 1837

35L23 **Martha Collett** was born around 1782, and was baptised in a joint ceremony at Kington St Michael with her sister Sarah (below) on 08.01.1784. At that time the girls' father Joseph Collett was the churchwarden at St Michael's Anglican Church, where they were baptised.

Twenty-seven years later Martha married John Stump by licence at Kington St Michael on 23.09.1811. The parish register recorded that Martha was living of Easton (Piercy) near Chippenham at that time, while her husband was of Leigh Delamere, close by Kington St Michael.

The witnesses at the ceremony were Joseph Stump and Ann Stump who may have been John's parents. It may also be of interest that the second wife of Thomas Collett (Ref. 22M1) was Anne Pheunecia Stump, who were married at Corsham on 14.06.1831. Anne having been born around 1785, making her around 46 when she married Thomas.

35L24 **Sarah Collett** was born in 1783 and was baptised on 08.01.1784 at Kington St Michael in a joint ceremony with her sister Martha (above). Sarah was over 40 years of age when she married Joseph Mattick (or Mattock) on 22.12.1825.

The wedding took place at Yatton Keynell courtesy of a Sarum Marriage Licence Bond issued on 16th December 1825. The witnesses at the ceremony were John Collett who may have been Sarah's brother, and Mary Ann Collett.

In view of Sarah's age, the couple only had one child who was baptised John Collett Mattick who was born in 1827 and who died in 1883.

35L25 **John Collett** was born at Kington St Michael, where he was baptised on 17.01.1786. Tragically he was around five years of age when he died in 1791 and was buried at Kington St Michael on 6th March 1791.

35L26 **Hester Collett** was born at Kington St Michael and she was baptised there on 30.04.1788, the daughter of Joseph Collett and Jane Rudman (Redman). She was 26 years old when she married **HENRY COLLETT** at Yatton Keynell on 27.10.1814. The witnesses at the wedding ceremony were William Redman and Sarah Collett.

William Redman was presumably related to Hester's mother Jane Collett nee Rudman (Redman), while Sarah Collett was very likely Hester's older sister (above) who was not married herself until 1825, but who was also married at Yatton Keynell.

The marriage between Hester and Henry produced six known children one of which, their son Henry, later gave his place of birth as Giddea Hall. And it was at Giddea Hall in Yatton Keynell that Hester died in 1842, and where she was buried on 13th January 1842.

All that is known about Hester's husband Henry Collett is that he was a butcher, a trade carried on by his son Henry, and that he was born around 1793. Henry outlived his slightly older wife by almost forty years and was buried at Yatton Keynell on 24.02.1880.

There is another later Collett connection with Giddea Hall in 1881, the details of which can be found in the Appendix at the end of **Part 31 – The Wiltshire to New Zealand**, where it relates to the Collett family of South Wraxall.

35M61	Jane Collett	Born in 1815 at Yatton Keynell
35M62	Llewellyn Collett	Born in 1817 at Yatton Keynell
35M63	Caroline Collett	Born in 1818 at Yatton Keynell
35M64	Elizabeth Collett	Born in 1821 at Yatton Keynell
35M65	Henry Collett	Born in 1827 at Yatton Keynell
35M66	William Collett	Born in 1830 at Yatton Keynell

35L27 **Joseph Collett** was baptised at Kington St Michael on 02.12.1790, the son of Joseph Collett and Jane Redman. It was also at Kington St Michael on 09.05.1833 that Joseph married Elizabeth Buckland, the eldest daughter of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day of Kington St Michael where she was born in 1805. In addition to this, Elizabeth's sister Mary Buckland married Joseph's older brother Daniel Collett (above).

Even at the age of 43, Joseph Collett was recorded in the parish's marriage register as being a bachelor of Kington St Michael. The couple were married there by licence and the witnesses were Edwin Buckland and Ann Buckland, who are now known to be two more of Elizabeth's siblings, as detailed in Appendix 2 at the end of this family line.

Furthermore, it was the aforementioned Edwin Buckland who married Louisa Collett at Kington St Michael in 1830, and again the details of their family can be found in Appendix 2 at the end of this family line.

By June 1841 Joseph Collett was 40 (rather than 50) and his wife 'Eliza' was 30 (rather than 35), by which time Elizabeth had presented Joseph with three children, although their first born son did not survive. So the two daughters living with the couple at the time of the census were Emma who was 6 and Mary who was 4.

According to the census of 1851 for Kington St Michael, Joseph Collett was 58 and was a yeoman farmer of 220 acres, employing seven farmer workers. His wife 'Eliza' was 45, and listed with the couple were their children Emma 15, Mary 13, Henry 9, and Eliza who was five years old.

Having already lost his eldest son Henry as a baby, Joseph's youngest son Edward, who would have been seven years old, must have suffered the same fate, since he was not listed with the family in 1851 or in any later census.

Ten years later the family was still living at Kington St Michael within the Chippenham & Christian Malford registration district and comprised Joseph 68 and Eliza 55, and their children Emma 25, Mary A Collett 23, Henry 19, and fifteen years old Eliza.

When Joseph died five years later on 18.12.1865 at the age of 74, he was recorded as living at Lower Piercy (Priory) Farm in Kington St Michael. He was buried in the churchyard of St Michael's Anglican Church. Sadly for his family, his youngest daughter Eliza died just over a year later.

By 1881 Eliza was aged 75 and was living alone at New Priory Farm in Kington St Michael, which was described as a holding of 268 acres for which she employed two men, three boys, and three women.

35M67	Emma Jane Collett	Baptised on 10.06.1835
35M68	Mary Anne Collett	Baptised on 13.05.1837
35M69	Henry Collett	Born in 1838
35M70	Henry Collett	Born on 17.08.1841
35M71	Edward Collett	Born on 18.08.1843
35M72	Eliza Collett	Baptised on 21.07.1845

35L28 **John Collett** was baptised at Kington St Michael on 17.06.1794. However, with the previous child in the family having been baptised four years earlier, it is possible that John was a few years old when he was baptised. It also seems likely that it was in early 1811 that he married Sarah of Broughton Gifford, where they lived and where all of their children were born and baptised.

In the first national census held in the UK in June 1841, John was recorded with a rounded age of 50, as was his wife Sarah. Living with them at that time were four of their children, Samuel who was 25, William who was 20, Sarah who was 11, and Eliza who was nine years old.

35M73	Anne Collett	Baptised on 13.10.1811; infant death
35M74	Thomas Collett	Baptised on 25.09.1814
35M75	Samuel Collett	Baptised on 22.09.1816
35M76	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1818 at Broughton Gifford
35M77	William Collett	Baptised on 01.04.1821
35M78	Anne Collett	Baptised on 01.06.1823 at Broughton Gifford
35M79	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 14.11.1830
35M80	Eliza Collett	Baptised on 18.11.1832

35L29 **Stephen Collett** was baptised at Kington St Michael on 01.02.1797, the youngest child of Joseph Collett and Jane Redman. Like his brother Joseph (above), Stephen was also a yeoman farmer and on 24.02.1832 he was married by licence to (1) Sophia Rawlings. The wedding took place at Writhlington in Somerset, near Radstock, just south of Bath.

The parish register stated that the groom was Stephen Collett, a bachelor of Writhlington, and that the bride was Sophia Rawlings, a spinster of Writhlington. The marriage produced five children for the couple before Sophia died, at which point in his life Stephen then married (2) Louisa Davis

Not long after that, Stephen died at Chippenham during the third quarter of 1850, where he was buried. Two of the children of Stephen and Sophia, Clara and Constance, were christened at Kington St Michael, where the other children were most likely also born.

In his Will, proved in 1852, Joseph was referred to as 'yeoman of Kington St Michael'.

35M81	Clara Jane Collett	Baptised on 27.02.1833 at Kington
35M82	John Collett	Born in 1834 at Kington St Michael
35M83	Constance Prudence Collett	Baptised on 21.06.1836 at Kington
35M84	Lot Collett	Born in 1838 at Kington St Michael
35M85	Daniel Collett	Born in 1841 at Kington St Michael

35M1 **John Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1789 and was baptised there on 01.11.1789, the son of James Collett and Margaret Adams. Around the time he was 22, John married Sarah Elmes at Broughton Gifford on 29.07.1811. Sarah was the daughter of William Elmes and had been baptised at Broughton Gifford on 09.05.1790.

35M2 **Daniel Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 20.11.1794, the son of James Collett and Margaret Adams. He was just over 21 years of age when he married Sarah Gowin at Broughton Gifford on 24.12.1815. The parish register confirmed this event as follows. Daniel Collett, aged 21 years of this parish, and Sarah Gowin, aged 23 years of this parish, were married in this church by banns this twenty-fourth day of December in the year One Thousand eight hundred and fifteen by me James Gisborne, curate. This marriage was solemnised between us Daniel Collett (who signed his name) and Sarah Gowin (who made her mark) in the presence of Thomas Gowin and James Bugg.

35M3 **James Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 20.06.1799, the son of James Collett and Margaret Adams. James was still living at Broughton Gifford when he married Martha Tarrant on 02.04.1821.

According to the census of 1841 James had a rounded age of 40, while his wife Martha was 44. Their children were Mary and Ann, both 15, George who was 12, Elizabeth who was 10, Margaret who was nine, (Mary) Jane who was six, and Martha who was two years old.

35N1	Mary Collett	Baptised on 06.07.1823 at Broughton Gifford
35N2	Anne Collett	Baptised on 21.08.1825 at Broughton Gifford
35N3	George Tarrant Collett	Baptised on 11.11.1827 at Broughton Gifford
35N4	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 06.06.1830 at Broughton Gifford
35N5	Margaret Collett	Baptised on 30.09.1832 at Broughton Gifford
35N6	Jane Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1835 at Broughton Gifford
35N7	Martha Collett	Baptised on 25.07.1839 at Broughton Gifford

35M5 **Thomas Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 27.09.1801, the son of Henry and Hannah, although the IGI listed the parents as Mary and Ann.

It is possible that he was married twice, but this has not been fully confirmed. On the first occasion, a Thomas Collett married (1) Ann Taylor at Melksham on 26.05.1823. She may have died after presenting Thomas with three children, and may even have died during the birth of the third child.

Thomas Collett was then recorded as marrying (2) Ann at Melksham around 1830, with whom he had a further five children. All of the children from both marriages were born at Melksham. According to the first national census in June 1841, Thomas and his family were living at Melksham. Thomas was 40, Ann was 35, and their children were listed as Stephen 15, Jane 15, Maria 12, James 10, William who was seven, Henry who was five, Sarah who was two, and Frederick who was under one year old.

Ten years later in 1851 Thomas Collett was 50, and was still living at the family home in Melksham with his wife Ann, who was 48, James Collett, age 20, William Collett, age 17, Sarah Collett, who was 12, and Frederick Collett who was 10 years old, and by which time their eldest son Stephen was married with children of his own.

Thomas Collett died during the month of June in 1872, while his wife Ann died less than two years later on 10th January 1874.

35N8	Stephen Collett	Born in 1824 at Melksham
35N9	Jane Collett	Born in 1826 at Melksham
35N10	Maria Collett	Baptised on 01.03.1829 at Melksham
The following were the children of Thomas Collett and his second wife Ann:		
35N11	James Collett	Born in 1832 at Melksham
35N12	William Collett	Born in 1834
35N13	Henry Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1835 at Melksham
35N14	Sarah Collett	Born in 1838
35N15	Frederick Collett	Born in 1841 at Melksham

35M8 **Samuel Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1811. He was the son of James and Sarah Collett, and was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 15.11.1811.

He later married (1) Hannah Mortimer (Ref. 35M35) on 06.04.1837. Hannah was Samuel's cousin 'one-step removed' and was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 24.07.1813. She was the daughter of George Mortimer and Amelia (Millicent) Collett, who was a cousin of Samuel's father.

This was yet another of the many links between the Collett and Mortimer families. Others were (a) Ann Mortimer who married James Gay, who were the parents of Jacob Gay who later married Mary Collett (Ref. 35M46), who was the daughter of Stephen Collett and Hannah Mortimer (Ref. 35L18), and (b) Ruth Mortimer the daughter of Joshua Mortimer and Ruth Wakeley, who married Benjamin Collett (Ref. 35O9) the son of Stephen and Catherine Collett (Ref. 35N8).

By June 1841 the family living at Broughton Gifford comprised Samuel, with a rounded age of 30, his wife Hannah who was 25, and their two children, James aged two years, and baby Sarah who was not yet one year old.

All of Samuel's and Hannah's children were born and baptised at Broughton Gifford and, according to the next census in 1851, Samuel was an agricultural labourer at 39 and was living in the main street in Broughton Gifford with his wife Hannah, age 37, and the rest of his family. The children listed with them on that occasion were children James 13, Sarah 11, and George who was two years old.

Missing from the family home in Broughton Gifford, which was only two doors from the home of Samuel's 'one step removed' cousin Simeon Collett (Ref. 35M47), was their son Edwin who was five. He was staying elsewhere but within the same registration area at that time, perhaps to ease the burden on Samuel's wife Hannah, who may have been troubled by illness at that time in her life.

Tragedy struck the family in late 1853, when Hannah died and was buried at the Baptist Chapel in Broughton Gifford on 01.12.1853. Sometime during the following years Samuel married (2) Fanny who was fourteen years younger than him, and to whom he was married by the time of the census in 1861.

The couple moved to nearby Bradford-on-Avon and within the next few years Fanny presented Samuel with three further children. By 1871 the family had left Bradford and, on that occasion, they were living at Bedminster near Bristol, where Samuel was 59, Fanny was 45, and the only children still living with them were Ann who was 10, Eliza who was eight, and Samuel who was three.

Ten years later in 1881, Samuel was a gardener aged 69 and was recorded as living at 154 East Street in Bedminster with his wife Fanny, age 55, who was the proprietor of a grocer's shop employing one assistant.

The census details confirmed that Samuel was born at Broughton Gifford and that that his wife Fanny had been born at Corston near Malmesbury. Living with them was their 18 years old daughter Eliza Collett who was born at Bradford-on-Avon, and it was she that was the aforementioned grocer's shop assistant to her mother.

No further record of the family has been found after 1881, so it is likely that both Samuel and Fanny died during the 1880s.

35N16	James Collett	Baptised on 14.01.1838
35N17	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 29.03.1840
35N18	Edwin Collett	Baptised on 11.02.1844
35N19	George Collett	Born in 1848
35N20	Ann Collett	Born in 1861 at Bradford-on-Avon
35N21	Eliza Collett	Born in 1863
35N22	Samuel Collett	Born in 1867 at Bradford-on-Avon

35M9 **Elizabeth Clack Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 21.11.1813. By June 1841 she was still a spinster and was living with her parents. For the census she was recorded with a rounded age of 25.

35M10 **Sarah Collett** was very likely born at Broughton Gifford, although the exact date is not known. It may have been in 1815 or 1816, or she might even have been a twin with her sister Mary (below). What is known is that she was baptised with her sister Mary in a joint ceremony on 23.02.1817. She was also listed with a rounded age of 20 in the 1841 Census, when she was still living with her parents James and Sarah Collett.

35M11 **Mary Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 23.02.1817 in a joint ceremony with her sister Sarah (above). It seems likely that she was born there in 1816 or in early 1817. At the time of the 1841 Census she was given a rounded age of 20, the same as her sister Sarah, which may indicate that they were twins.

35M12 **Henry Clack Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford, where he was baptised on 02.07.1820. His age was confirmed as being 20 in the census of 1841, when he was still living at the family home in Broughton Gifford.

Just over four years later Henry married Maria Gore at Broughton Gifford on 30.10.1845. Maria was also born at Broughton Gifford in 1822, while the couple's two known children were born when the family was living at Monkton Combe in Somerset.

According to the census of 1871 Henry was 50, Maria was 47, their daughter Jane was 14, and their son James was seven.

By 1881 Henry was 61 and was a shepherd living in the village of Monkton Combe with his wife Maria and his son James. Living with the family, as a boarder and domestic servant, was James Allan who was 18 and from Glasgow.

35N23	Jane Collett	Born in 1857
35N24	James Collett	Born in 1863

35M13 **Jane Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 20.01.1823 and was given a rounded age of 15 in the 1841 Census, when she was living there with her family.

35M15 **Tabitha Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford on 28.03.1816. It was also there that she was baptised on 07.07.1816, when her parents were confirmed as William Collett and Jane Webb.

35M16 **Elizabeth Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 22.04.1821, the daughter of William Collett and Jane Webb.

35M17 **William Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1828. He married Harriet Austin who was born at Chippenham in 1829, and it was there that the marriage took place on 30.10.1855. By 1861 he and Harriet had three children. William was 31 at the time of the Melksham census that year, and had with him the two older children Paulina who was four, and Albert who was three years old.

His wife Harriet, who was also 31, was away at Chippenham in April 1861 and was accompanied by her son William who was just one year old. It may have been that Harriet was visiting her parents at that time.

Ten years later their family was complete and they were all living together in Melksham. William was 42, and Harriet was 41, while their children at that time in 1871 were Paulina 14, Albert 13, William 11, Ada who was eight, Charles who was six, and Florence who was one year old.

William died in 1880, so by the time of the census of 1881 Harriet was listed as a widow at 51, when she was living at Holbrook Farm in Melksham with her children. The farm comprised 58 acres, and Harriet was employing one labourer to work there.

Living with her were sons Albert 23 and Charles 16, and her daughter Florence who was 11. All of the children of William and Harriet were born at Melksham, and the aforementioned two sons were described as farmer's sons.

Also listed as living with the family on the day of the census, was unmarried Sarah Sheat aged 33, a servant and dairy maid.

Rather curiously, two of the couple's missing children were recorded as living at Linden Hall in Melksham. This was the home of John Hayter, a wealthy master tailor from London, who was employing sixteen people in his tailoring business. The two children of William and Harriet who were there on that occasion were their son William who was 21, and their daughter Ada who was 18.

William's and Harriet's oldest daughter Paulina had already left the family to be married by 1881. Over the next decade other children left the family home, so by 1891 Harriet, age 61, only had son Charles and daughter Florence still living with her. It looks very much as though Charles had taken over running the family farm, following the death of his father.

Just after the turn of the century Harriet was still living Melksham where she was described as a retired farmer, although she gave her age as 66 rather than 71. Still living with her was her unmarried children Charles 37 and Florence 31

It was virtually the same arrangement ten years later in April 1911. The census return on that occasion listed the group as Harriet Collett 81, her son Charles Collett 46, and her daughter Florence Collett 40. Also living with them at that time was Harriet's twenty-eight years old granddaughter Lilian Collett, the daughter of her son Albert Henry Collett.

35N25	Paulina V S Collett	Born in 1856
35N26	Albert Henry Collett	Born in 1857
35N27	William James Collett	Born in 1859
35N28	Ada J Collett	Born in 1862 at Melksham
35N29	Charles S Collett	Born in 1865
35N30	Florence E Collett	Born in 1869

35M18 **Henry Collett** was born at Melksham in 1826, and was the first child and eldest son of Henry Collett and Mary Morris. He was 14 in June 1841 when he was living with his family in Melksham. He was in his mid twenties when he married Ann Pepler at Melksham on 01.04.1851, with whom he had five children while living at Melksham.

The youngest of the couple's known children was Everest Morris Collett, whose name derives from Henry's youngest sister Everest, coupled with that of his mother's maiden name. Perhaps surprisingly, two of his other daughters were both named after Henry's mother, and both survived.

By 1861 Henry was absent from the family home in Melksham or had died by then, while still in his thirties. The census return therefore listed the family as Ann who was 32, and her daughters Eliza A Collett who was nine, Mary Collett who was five, Mary J Collett who was three, and baby Everest who was still under one year old.

According to the next Melksham census in 1871, Ann Collett was a widow of 43, and living with her were four of her children. These were Henry who was 15, Mary who was 13, and Everest who was 10 years old. Her eldest daughter Eliza Ann Collett was living and working nearby at the age of 19.

No record of Ann Collett has been found in the census of 1881, so she may have died by then.

35N31	Eliza Ann Collett	Born in 1851
35N32	Henry John Collett	Born in 1853
35N33	Mary Collett	Born in 1855
35N34	Mary Jane Collett	Born in 1857
35N35	Everest Morris Collett	Born in 1861

35M24 **John Collett** was born at Melksham around 1839 and was just two years old in the Melksham census of 1841 and 11 years old in the next census ten years later. During the early 1860s he married Elizabeth who was also born at Melksham, but who was a few years older than John, having been born around 1835.

By the time of the Melksham census of 1871 Elizabeth had presented John with four children, all of whom had been born at Melksham. The census return for that year recorded the family as John Collett 31, his wife Elizabeth who was 35, and their children Henry Charles Collett who was seven, William J W Collett who was six, Frederick W Collett who was four, and Emily M Collett who was two years old.

In 1881, John Collett, at the age of 41 was an inn keeper living at Bath Road in Melksham. Living with him was his wife Elizabeth who was 45, and his unmarried sister Sarah Collett (above) who was 52.

Completing the family at that time were just three of John's and Elizabeth's four children. The oldest son Henry was 17 and was a plumber's apprentice, the younger son William was 16 and was a grocer's apprentice, while their daughter Emily was 12 years old. The absence of the couple's third son Frederick was due to him attending Weston School in Somerset as a boarder.

35N36	Henry Charles Collett	Born in 1864
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35N37	William John Collett	Born in 1865
35N38	Frederick W Collett	Born in 1867
35N39	Emily Matilda Collett	Born in 1869

35M25 **William Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford and was baptised there on 27.09.1801, the son of Henry and Maria Collett. He later married Jane Walters at Biddestone near Chippenham on 05.12.1825. It seems likely that once they were married the couple moved south to the Melksham area near Broughton Gifford.

It was while they were living within that area that their first child was baptised at Melksham on 24.02.1828, the child's parents being confirmed as William and Jane Collett.

*Around the same time that William's eldest daughter was born, another Elizabeth Collett was baptised at Christian Malford to the north-east of Chippenham. That **Elizabeth Collett** was born at Christian Malford on 3rd February 1827, and was baptised there one year later on 11th March 1828, the daughter of William and Mary Collett.*

That Elizabeth Collett never married and she was still living in Christian Malford when she died on 13th June 1866. Her details have been included here for completeness.

35N40	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 24.02.1828 at Melksham
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35M26 **Daniel Collett** was born around 1805 and very likely at Broughton Gifford, where his siblings were born and baptised. He later married Sarah and all of their children were baptised at Broughton Gifford.

According to the first national census in June 1841 Daniel had a rounded age of 45, as had his wife Sarah. Living with the couple at that time were four of their children. They were George who was 20, Mary who was 15, Daniel who was 10, and James who was seven years old.

From this family list it can perhaps be deduced that the couple's children James and Sarah did not survive beyond childhood, whilst it is possible that the two oldest daughters were already married by 1841.

35N41	Maria Collett	Baptised on 22.09.1816 at Broughton Gifford
35N42	Anne Collett	Baptised on 18.10.1818 at Broughton Gifford
35N43	George Collett	Baptised on 18.02.1821
35N44	Mary Collett	Baptised on 09.05.1824
35N45	James Collett	Baptised on 30.04.1826; child death
35N46	Sarah Collett	Baptised on 25.12.1827; child death
35N47	Daniel Collett	Baptised on 13.03.1831
35N48	James Collett	Baptised on 30.03.1834

35M28 **Maria Collett** who was born at Melksham around 1812 later married to become Maria Daniels. In 1881 she was a widow aged 69, living with her brother Stephen Collett (below) at Broughton Road in Melksham, when her place of birth was given as Melksham.

35M29 **STEPHEN COLLETT** was born at Melksham around 1817. By 1841 he was living at Woodrow Tything in Melksham. At that time in his life he was a woollen weaver, while twenty years after that he was living at Broughton Road in Melksham, where he was an agricultural labourer.

He was married to (1) Grace Brinsdon who was five years older than Stephen and with whom he had ten children, and all of them born and baptised at Melksham.

The Melksham census in June 1841 confirmed that Stephen was married to Grace and that by then their marriage had produced the first of their children. The census return recorded that both Stephen and Grace had rounded ages of 20, while their son George was still under one year old.

In 1851 the family comprised Stephen 31, Grace 34, George 10, Hannah who nine, Jemima who was seven, Emma who was six, John who was three, and baby William who was not one year old on the thirtieth of March that year.

By the time of the Melksham census of 1861 only eight of the ten children were still living with Stephen who was 41 and Grace who was 46. These were George 20, Emma 15, John 13, William 11, Ellen 9, Thomas 6, Maria 5, and Frederick who was three years.

Sometime during the next decade Grace died, but by the time of the Melksham census of 1871 Stephen had remarried and was still living there with his three youngest children Thomas 17, Maria 16, and Frederick 13. Also living nearby in Melksham at that time was Stephen's son William 22 and his new wife Sarah A Collett who was 21.

It would appear that Stephen had married (2) Susan H Hayward who was born at Plymouth in 1832, prior to the census in 1871, but on that particular day she seems to have been staying with her parents in Plymouth, perhaps because she was pregnant with Emily, the first of the three children she had with him. The Plymouth Charles district census in 1871 placed Susan Collett living there at the age of 38.

Ten years later, according to the 1881 Census, Stephen Collett was a gardener at 64, and was born at Melksham. Living with him at that time were his two of his three youngest children. They were Emily who was nine, and Sidney who was six, both of them having been born at Melksham.

Stephen's wife Susan H Collett, who was 48 and from Plymouth, was described in the 1881 Census as a gardener's wife and a visitor at the Plymouth home of James Taylor and his family. Accompanying Susan on her trip to Devon was her youngest son Frank S Collett who was three and born at Melksham.

During his wife's absence in April 1881, Stephen's married sister Maria Daniels nee Collett (above) was living with him and his two children at Broughton Road in Melksham, presumably taking over the role of housekeeper. It was also in Broughton Road that Stephen's two cousins, the brothers Henry and Simeon Collett, were living at that time.

Also by 1881 five of Stephen's older children had left England and had sailed to North America, where they had settled in Michigan and Connecticut.

Stephen and Susan were reunited for the census of 1891. Stephen was 71 and Susan was 58, and living with the couple at Melksham was their youngest child Frank Collett who was 13. No record of their daughter Emily or their son Sidney has been found in 1891.

By March 1901 Stephen and Susan were recorded as living at Melksham Within, where gardener Stephen was 81 and his wife from Plymouth was 69.

35N49	George Collett	Born in 1840
35N50	Hannah Collett	Baptised on 27.03.1842 at Melksham
35N51	Jemima Collett	Baptised on 31.12.1843 at Melksham
35N52	Emma Collett	Baptised on 26.10.1845 at Melksham
35N53	John Collett	Born in 1848
35N54	<u>WILLIAM COLLETT</u>	Born in 1849
35N55	Ellen Collett	Baptised on 25.01.1852
35N56	Thomas Collett	Born in 1854
35N57	Maria Collett	Baptised on 25.11.1855
35N58	Frederick Collett	Born in 1858
The children from Stephen's second marriage and living with him in 1881 were:		
35N59	Emily Collett	Born in 1871
35N60	Sidney Collett	Born in 1875 at Melksham
35N61	Frank S Collett	Born in 1877

35M30 **James Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 12.04.1807, the son of William and Mary Collett. It seems likely that James married Sarah, and in late 1832 or very early in 1833 Sarah presented James with a daughter Jane who was baptised at Broughton Gifford.

Coincidentally, on that same day, the 20th January in 1833, Samuel Collett (Ref. 35N114) was baptised at Broughton Gifford. He was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Collett (Ref. 35M74) and was the cousin of Jane Collett, three times removed.

35N62 Jane Collett Baptised on 20.01.1833 at Broughton Gifford

35M31 **Mary Ann Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 14.01.1811, the daughter of William and Mary Collett.

35M39 **Stephen Collett** was born around 1805 at Broughton Gifford, where he was baptised on 30.08.1807, the son of Thomas and Maria Collett. It seems possible that before he was twenty he married Mary who was around five or six years older than Stephen. It would also appear that the marriage produced just three children for the couple, before Stephen died just after 1841.

By the time of the first national census the family had left the Melksham area, where their son was born, and had moved to the Chepstow & Monmouth registration district. Stephen's rounded age was 35, while Mary's was 40, and living with them were their two daughters Sarah 14 and Caroline who was nine years old.

Ten years later in 1851 Mary was a widow aged 52, when she was living within the area of Usk & Pontypool with her daughters, Sarah who was 23 and Caroline who was 20.

35N64 Sarah Collett Born in 1827
35N65 Caroline Collett Born in 1830

35M41 **Thomas Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 02.06.1811, but this may have taken place when he was a few years old. By 1841 he was married to Ann and the marriage had, by that time, produced four children for the couple.

Thomas and his wife Ann were both listed as having a rounded age of 30, while their children were Samuel who was eight, Ann who was six, Elizabeth who was four, and James who was under one year old, and all of them born at Broughton Gifford.

Ten years later more accurate ages were given for the couple in the census of 1851, when Thomas was 43 and Ann was 36. However, only two of their four children were listed with them on that occasion, and they were their sons Samuel, who was 18, and James, who was 11.

35N66 **Samuel Collett** Born in 1832
35N67 Ann Collett Born in 1834
35N68 Elizabeth Collett Born in 1836
35N69 **James Collett** Born in 1840

35M44 **John Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1815, where he was later baptised on 23.02.1817.

35M45 **Henry (Harry) Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford, where he was baptised on 23.02.1817. He later married Elizabeth who was born at Holt in Wiltshire in 1829. In 1881 Henry, age 64, was a bootmaker of Broughton Gifford, who was living with his wife Elizabeth, age 52, at Broughton Road in Melksham.

Living just three doors away was his cousin Stephen Collett, and also in the same road was his bootmaker brother Simeon (below). By 1891 Elizabeth had died, leaving Henry at 74, still living in Melksham.

35M46 **Mary Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1819. At the age of twenty years, Mary married Jacob Gay at Broughton Gifford on 25.12.1839. Jacob was born at Broughton Gifford in 1819 and was the son of weaver James Gay and Hannah Borns.

It may be of interest that there had been earlier marriages at Broughton Gifford between the Collett and Gay families. These were Ann Collett to Timothy Gay on 12.04.1701 and Edith Collett to William Gay on 12.05.1714.

By the time of the first national census in June 1841 Mary and Jacob, whose rounded ages were both 20 years, were living at Broughton Gifford with their first child James Gay, who had been born there, but who was not yet one year old.

Ten years later Mary was confirmed as being 30, while her husband Jacob was 31, when they and their five children were still living at Broughton Gifford, where all of their children at that time had been born. The children were James who was 10, Ann who was eight, John who was six, John who was four, and Mary who was one year old.

A further three children were added to the family over the next decade, so by 1861, the family comprised Mary, age 41, Jacob who was 42, and their children James 21, Ann 18, John 16, John 14, Mary 11, Isaac who was eight, Frank who was six, and George who was three. At that time, the family was listed as living in Trowbridge, where the most recent children had been born.

A year or two after the 1861 Census, Mary died, probably during the birth of the couple's tenth child. A little while later, in 1865, Jacob married Emma Randall, with whom he had a further five children. The marriage certificate confirmed he was a widower and the son of weaver James Gay, and a witness to the marriage was Jacob's brother Isaac Gay, who was born in 1826.

Sixteen years later, according to the 1881 Census, Jacob, age 61, was working as a woollen weaver. He was living at 2 Silver Street Lane in Trowbridge with his wife Emma who was 45 and was a woollen weaver from Bradley in Wiltshire.

Living with the couple were their five children Jane 14, William 12, Enos who was eight, Obadiah who was five, and Dinah who was two, all of the children having been born at Trowbridge. Also still living with his father was Charles Gay, age 19, the only remaining child from Jacob's first marriage.

The full name of Mary's and Jacob's son Frank, who was six years old in 1861, was Frank Stephen Collett Gay. When in his mid-twenties he married Ada Searl from Portsmouth and both of them were woollen weavers in 1881, when they were living at 78 Dursley Road in Trowbridge, with no children.

Also living at Trowbridge in 1881 was Ephraim Gay and his wife Ruth Ricketts, who was possibly related to Jacob Gay. However, this was not Ephraim Gay of Broughton Gifford who was living there in 1881 when he was incorrectly listed as Ephraim Jay. It was the son of Ephraim Gay of Broughton Gifford, George Edward Gay, who married Lilly May Bunker in 1909. Lilly May was the great great grand-daughter of Elizabeth Collett (Ref. 1L2) of Kempsford.

See Part One – The Main Line 1700 to 1800 for further details of this family link

35M47 **Simeon Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1823. He later married Sophia Stinchcomb who was also born there in 1827. Sophia was baptised on 25.11.1827, the daughter of Nathaniel and Ruth Stinchcomb, her surname being given to Simeon's second son.

Sophia would appear to have been under twenty years of age when the couple were married around 1845. All of their children were born at Broughton Gifford and baptised there, although so far, no record as been found for their first born child.

In the census in 1851 the family was living in the main street in Broughton Gifford, two dwellings away from Simeon's 'one-step removed' cousin Samuel Collett and his family. Simeon, age 27, was a cordwainer, his wife Sophia was 23, and the only child with them on that occasion was their son James who was four years old. All three of them were confirmed as having been born at Broughton Gifford.

Due to the absence of the couple's other two children, Frank and Albert, it must be assumed that they had suffered infant deaths. Samuel's wife Sophia would have been 'with-child' on the day of the census, since the couple's fourth child was born just four months after.

By 1861 Simeon was 37 and was still a cordwainer, living with his family in the main street in Broughton Gifford. Sophia was 33, but curiously the only child listed as living with them was their daughter Matilda who was five years old.

It therefore seems very likely that all of their other children had died by then, possibly as a result of some illness. Once again Sophia was with-child on the day of the census, and three months later she gave birth to another daughter.

Ten years later, according to the 1871 Census for Broughton Gifford, Simeon was 46 and his wife Sophia was 45. Living with them were their two sole surviving children, they being daughters Matilda, who was 15, and 'Amelia', who was nine years old.

Simeon was a shoemaker (a cordwainer) like his brother Henry Collett (above) and, again like his brother and his cousin Stephen (above), he was living at Broughton Road in Melksham by the time of the census in 1881. Living with him was his wife Sophia who was 53, together with their youngest daughter Abijah Collett who was 19, and also born at Broughton Gifford.

What was interesting about Simeon was that, according to the IGI, he was the subject of an adult baptism at Broughton Gifford on 21.08.1870. The record also confirmed that he was the son of Stephen Collett and his wife Hannah Collett (nee Mortimer). It is possible that he had been persuaded to take this action, in order to safeguard the lives of his two surviving daughters.

By 1891 Simeon Collett was 69, when he was living within the Trowbridge & Melksham registration district with his wife Sophia Collett who was 63. Still living with the couple was their unmarried daughter Alice Collett who was 29.

35N70	James Collett	Born in 1846
35N71	Frank Stinchcomb Collett	Baptised on 28.03.1847
35N72	Albert Collett	Baptised on 23.09.1849
35N73	Ruth Hannah Collett	Baptised on 13.07.1851
35N74	Alicia Collett	Baptised on 10.07.1853
35N75	Matilda Collett	Baptised on 10.02.1856
35N76	Abijah Alice Collett	Baptised on 08.06.1861

35M48 **Mary Anne Collett** was the eldest of nine children of William Henry Collett and his wife Sarah Kearsley, and was born at Slaughterford on 02.03.1807. She later married Richard Pook towards the end of the 1830s, and the marriage produced two daughters and one son for the couple.

By June 1841 Mary was listed as living within the Clifton & Keynsham census registration district with a rounded age of 30, while her husband Richard had a rounded age of 40. Recorded with them was the first of their three children, Sarah who was not yet one year old.

It perhaps can be assumed that their second daughter was born around 1842, since it is established that their son Richard Pook was born at Clifton in Bristol in 1844.

In 1851 the family was still living at Clifton where daughter Sarah was 10 and their son Richard was six years old. Rather oddly, the children's father Richard Pook was listed as being aged 60 rather than 50, although this could be an error in translation. The children's mother Mary was absent at that time.

The only Mary Pook of the right age in 1851, was listed in the census records for Coleford & Monmouth, and was 42. The Monmouth connection is very interesting in that, it was at Christchurch near Newport, that many Colletts were living during this century, as detailed in Part 53 – The South Wales Branch Line.

Mary Anne Pook nee Collett died in 1872 and, during 1871, a scandal hit the headlines when Edmund Walter Pook was arrested for the murder of Maria Clousen at Eltham in London. Shortly after these two events Mary Anne's son Richard adopted his mother's surname.

It seems likely that it was the shame and embarrassment of being a Pook, at that time, that persuaded Richard to become Richard P Collett.

35N77	Richard P Collett - formerly Richard Pook	Born in 1844
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35M49 **William Collett** was born at Slaughterford on 30.08.1808, the son of William and Sarah Collett. He was later baptised at nearby Biddestone on 03.10.1808, since there was no church at Slaughterford. Because of the Biddestone connection it was thought that William had married Jane Walters at Biddestone on 05.12.1825, but this has since proved to be incorrect, and it has since been confirmed that it was William Collett (Ref. 35M25) who married Jane.

What is now known is that this William Collett did marry Mary Benjamin of Horton in Gloucestershire, and that the marriage was registered at Chipping Sodbury in the final quarter of 1838. By June 1841 William and Mary were living at Leonard Stanley with their first child. William's rounded age was 30, while Mary's was 20, and their daughter Emma was one year old.

William was an agricultural labourer and it may have been his work that was the reason why he was not with his wife and family in both census records for 1851 and 1861. His mother's brother was James Kearsley who was a significant figure in Coates near Cirencester, and it seems likely that he employed William to work on his land and had provided him with a tied cottage in which to live.

In 1851 William was listed as living at Coates at the age of 42, when his place of birth was confirmed as being Slaughterford. The only person listed with him was a lodger and agricultural labourer Alfred Pepworth who was 15 and born at Coates.

At that same time, in March 1851, William's wife Mary was living at Horton with her two daughters. Mary was 33, married, and the head of the house in the absence of her husband, and was described as an agricultural labourer's wife. Both of her daughters were confirmed as having been born at Horton and they were ten years old Emma and four years old Ellen.

By 1861 William was 52 and had returned to Horton within the Hawkesbury & Chipping Sodbury registration district of Gloucestershire, although his wife and youngest daughter were not recorded there on that occasion.

William was listed as married, the head of the household, and born at Slaughterford. Lodging with him at that time was agricultural labourer Joseph Gardener 35 of Iron Acton, and his wife Hannah 35 of Horton.

At that same time William's wife Mary was 42 and the 1861 Census confirmed she had been born at Horton, but that she was living at Tiltups End near Horsley, just south of Nailsworth. Living with her was her daughter Ellen who was 14 and whose place of birth was given at Coates, rather than Horton.

On that occasion Mary and Ellen were boarders at the home of forty years old William Cooper, an agricultural labourer of Horsley, and his wife Maria. Mary's occupation in 1861 was stated as being that of a dressmaker.

For the first time since June 1841, William and Mary were recorded as living together at Horton Road in Horton in 1871. William was 62 and was still working as an agricultural labourer, while Mary at 52 was still listed as a dressmaker. Curiously living with them was boarder Emily Hodges who was just three years of age, and from Horton.

By 1881 labourer William 72 and Mary 63 were living at Horton House in Horton, and with them on that occasion was labourer and lodger Elias Watts 35, a married man from nearby Hawkesbury.

Mary died during the next ten years, following which William moved to the north of England to live with his eldest daughter Emma and her family.

According to the census of 1891 William was living with Emma Sparrow of Horton at Longnewton near Stockton-on-Tees. He was 83 and his place of birth was stated as having been Slaughterford, while his relationship to head of the house George Sparrow, was that of father-in-law.

William Collett died two years later in 1893.

35N78
35N79

Emma Collett
Ellen Collett

Born in 1839
Born in 1846 at Horton, Chipping Sodbury

- 35M50** **John Collett** was born at Slaughterford on 15.03.1810 and may have died while still an infant, although no record of his death has been found at Biddestone or Slaughterford. So there is another possibility that he left home and never acknowledged Biddestone or Slaughterford as the place of his birth.
- 35M51** **Thomas Collett** was born at Slaughterford on 29.07.1811 and may have died while still an infant like his brother John (above), although again, no such record has so far been found. It is therefore possible that he too, like John, left home and did not confirm his place of birth as Biddestone or Slaughterford.
- 35M52** **George Collett** was born at Slaughterford in 1813. All that is known of George is that he later became a farmer in Melksham, and that he eventually moved to Oxfordshire, where he settled in the village of Checkendon midway between Wallingford and Henley.
- 35M53** **Stephen Collett** was born at Slaughterford in 1814. He later became the 'black-sheep' of the family when he committed highway robbery, for which he was transported to Australia as a convict. Apart from this, nothing else is so far known about Stephen.
- 35M54** **Sarah Collett** was born at Slaughterford in 1816. Later in her life she married stained glass window artist Joseph Bell, of the well-known stained glass window company of Joseph Bell & Sons of Bristol.
- 35M55** **Joseph Collett** was born at Slaughterford in 1818. He later married Harriet who was born at Berkeley in Gloucestershire and, in the late 1850s, the couple were living in Wales, where their son was born.

At some later time the family left Wales and moved to Herefordshire, where they were living in 1881. That year's census recorded the family living at 41 Eign Road in Hereford St Owen. Joseph was a general labourer at 62 and his wife Harriet was 67.

Their son George was a bookseller's assistant, age 22, and his place of birth was stated as having been Troedyrhiw near Merthyr Tydfil in Wales.

Joseph Collett died in 1888.

35N80 George Collett Born in 1858 at Troedyrhiw in Wales

- 35M56** **Edwin Collett** was born at Slaughterford in 1819, the son of William Henry Collett and Sarah Ann Kearsy. When old enough to do so, he left his family and moved to London where he took up employment as a driver of a Hansom Cabriolet.

The 'hansom cab' was a two wheeled horse-drawn carriage designed and patented in 1834 by Joseph Hansom and replaced the Hackney Carriage as the vehicle to hire. They were later fitted with a taximeter to measure the high charge and from this came the more common term today of the taxi cab.

It would appear that he married Martha Young of London around 1841 and by the time of the census of 1851 Edwin and his family were living at 6 Brook Street in the Hammersmith St Paul district of London. The family then comprised Edwin 32, Martha 35, and their three children, Emma who was eight, Harriet who was six, and Henry who was three years old. All three children had been born at Marylebone.

Edwin and Martha both gave their place of birth as being Middlesex and Edwin was listed as having the occupation of a conductor, presumably taking the fares from paying customers on the hansom cab.

Also living at 6 Brook Street in 1851 with the Collett family was another conductor, Robert Collins 29 and his wife Martha from Wiltshire and their son Robert who was two years old.

Just after the census day in 1851 Edwin's and Martha's family was extended with the addition of a second son. So by 1861 the family was made up of Edwin 42, Martha 45, Emma 18, Henry 13, and Robert who was nine. The family was still living in Hammersmith but had moved to 9 Spring Street.

Edwin would appear to have been fairly successful with the hansom cab business since he was then listed as a cab proprietor. On this occasion he gave his place of birth as Bath in Somerset. The couple's absent daughter Harriet was working away from home at Paddington at that time.

Another change of address happened during the next ten years, so by 1871 Edwin and Martha were living at 18 Overstone Road in the Brook Green area of Hammersmith. It is this census that finally confirmed Edwin was born at Slaughterford in Wiltshire although it was recorded as 'Slouterford'.

Edwin was then 51 and an omnibus conductor, his wife Martha was 55, and the only one of their four children still living with them was 19 years old Robert, whose occupation was that of a plumber.

By April 1881 Edwin (of Somerset) was 62 and a licenced victualler living a 5 Little Ormond Street in the St George the Martyr district of London, the premises being known as The Swan Public House.

Living with him was his wife Martha, who was 65 and of London, and the couple's two unmarried children. They were Harriet who was 36 and Henry who was 33, neither of whom was listed with an occupation. Supporting Edwin at The Swan was pot-man William Lucas, and domestic servant Ann Bradley.

It is believed that Edwin Collett died around two years later in 1883. Certainly, according to the census of 1891, his wife Martha, age 76, was recorded as a widow of Hammersmith by that time. Following the death of her husband, Martha had left London and was living at 31 Mount Sion in Tunbridge Wells in Kent.

Martha was recorded as being a caretaker of a furnished home, the same job title being given to her daughter Harriet who was living with her, although she was then married and recorded as Harriet Martha Chapman, age 43 and from Marylebone.

35N81	Emma Collett	Born in 1842 at Marylebone
35N82	Harriet Martha Collett	Born in 1844
35N83	Henry Edwin Collett	Born in 1847
35N84	Robert William Collett	Born in 1851

35M57 **Henry Collett** was born at Keevil in 1829, the eldest of four children of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland. In the Keevil census returns for 1841 and 1851, Henry was recorded as being eleven years old, and twenty-one years old, respectively.

Four years later Henry Collett married (1) Elizabeth Buckland (Ref. 35n1) who was around 21 years of age, compared to Henry who was 26.

Elizabeth was the daughter of Edwin Buckland and Louisa Collett, and had been born at Kington St Michael in 1834. **See Appendix 2 for more Buckland family details.**

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



The wedding of Henry and Elizabeth took place at Chippenham during the fourth quarter of 1855, but once married the couple settled in Lushill, near Castle Eaton by the River Thames, within the registration district of Highworth, to the east of Swindon, where the first three of their six children were born.

It was at Hillsworth Farm in Lushill that the family was living in 1861, when Henry Collett from Keevil was 31, his wife Elizabeth was 26, and the couple's first two children were Frank W Collett who was four, and Louisa Collett who was two years old. Also living nearby at that time, was Henry's cousin Rosa Wright, age 18, who in just over ten years, would become Henry's second wife.

Elizabeth may well have been pregnant with Henry's third child on the day of the census, since later that same year their third child was born, while they were still living at Hillsworth Farm in Lushill.

Hillsworth Farm comprised some 540 acres and required Henry to employ 15 men and 4 boys to help him manage it. Very shortly after the census day in 1861, Henry and his young family left Lushill, when they temporarily made their home at Pew Hill in Chippenham, where the couple's fourth child was born.

This move was also confirmed at the time of the death of his father in October 1861, when Henry Collett was one of the three executors of his Will which was proved on 26th November 1861. In that document he was described as a farmer of Pew Hill.

Following the birth of his son Charles at Pew Hill in 1866, the family moved again, on that occasion to the village of Langley Burrell, on the northern outskirts of Chippenham. And it was there that the remainder of Henry's children were born, and where the family was living at the time of the census in 1871. By then Henry's occupation was that of a brewer and a maltster.

At that time, Henry was 41 and his wife Elizabeth was 36. Living there with them was their first five children, they being Frank Walter 14, Louisa 12, Mary Kate 9, Charles Henry 4, and Daniel Warren who was three years of age. Also listed with the family in 1871 as a visitor, was the aforementioned Rosa Wright who was 28, and who had been living within the same Highworth area ten years earlier.

Tragically during the following year, Elizabeth died while giving birth to the couple's sixth child, both events taking place in 1872.

It was therefore cousin Rosa that Henry turned to in his grief, at the loss of his wife, and the following year Henry Collett married (2) Rosa Wright (Ref. 35n2). Rosa was born in Chippenham in 1842, the daughter of James Wright and Ann Buckland, who was the sister of Henry's late wife Elizabeth Collett nee Buckland. **See Appendix 2 for more Buckland family details.**

The wedding took place during the April to June quarter of 1873, and later that same year the first of Henry's and Rosa's six children was born at Langley Burrell, where the subsequent five children were also born.

By the time of the census in 1881, Henry's family was almost complete, by which time he had established himself as a brewer and maltster. The address for him and his large family in Langley Burrell was simply 'The Brewery'. Of the eleven children listed with him, only his eldest son Frank was credited with an occupation, that of a brewer, working with his father.

According to the census return, the full family was made up of Henry Collett, age 50 and from Keevil, and his wife Rosa Collett, age 38 and from Chippenham, who was expecting their last child any time during the next month. Henry's six children from his first marriage were Frank 24, Louisa 22, Mary 19, Charles 14, Daniel 13, and Edwin who was eight, while the five children from his second marriage were Roland who was seven, Mabel who was five, Laura who was four, Herbert who was three, and Godfrey who was one year old.

Supporting Rosa when she was heavily pregnant on 3rd April 1881 were two domestic servants, they being seventeen years old Ellen Chequer from Wootton Bassett, and sixteen years old Ellen Freegard from Langley Burrell. It was exactly three weeks to the day after the census day that Henry's and Rosa's last child was born at Langley Burrell.

Ten years later only five of Henry's twelve children were still living at the family home in Langley Burrell in 1891. It would be logical that six of the oldest seven children had gone their own way in the world. However, also absent from the family was Herbert James Collett, age 13, who was recorded in the Bath & Bath-easton registration district, where he was attending Weston Boarding School.

The five children listed with Henry who was 61, and Rosa who was 48, were Charles 24, Mabel 15, Laura 14, Godfrey 11, and new arrival Stanley B Collett who was nine years old. Of the other children, only sons Frank and Roland have so far been positively identified in 1891 and the details of what happened to them that year and thereafter are included under their individual entries.

No records at all have been found for Louisa, Mary, Daniel and Edwin in 1891, but what is known is that their father Henry Collett survived for only another five years, his death being recorded at Chippenham on 12.04.1896 when he was 67. During his life, he and his family are known to have lived at Frogwell House, and at Ferndale, The Folly, the latter being mentioned in the Will of Rosa Collett, with the former being mentioned in the Will of his daughter Mabel Burden nee Collett.

The Will of Henry Collett was proved in London on 9th June 1896 and included the following words "Collett, Henry of Langley brewery, Langley Burrell Wiltshire brewer died 12 April 1896. Probate at London given to Frank Walter Collett and Charles Henry Collett, brewers, and Alfred Wright, relieving officer". The value of his estate amounted to £3,195 11s 2d. Alfred Wright was Rosa Wright's brother.

Henry's Will made no provision for any of his children from his second marriage to Rosa, and it is believed that this was the main reason why all of his sons from that marriage eventually emigrated to Canada.

Rosa Collett from Chippenham was 58 and a widow in the March census of 1901. She was recorded as having no occupation while still living at Langley Burrell, and still living there with her, were her two daughters Mabel 25, and Laura Rose 24, together with her youngest son Stanley B Collett, who was 19 and a solicitor's clerk. The place of birth of all three children was confirmed as Langley Burrell.

Rosa Collett nee Wright died at Langley Burrell on 08.11.1923 at the age of 81. Her Will was proved at Salisbury on 26th January 1924 and included the following words "Collett, Rosa of Ferndale the Folly, widow died 8 November 1923. Probate given to Frederick John Burden, accountant, effects £419 1s 6d". Frederick John Burden was her son-in-law through his marriage to her daughter Mabel who had died six years earlier in 1917.

At the time of the census in April 1911 the only members of her family still living in the Chippenham area were her two unmarried daughters Mabel Collett and Laura Collett.

During the period in his life from 1866 until his death in 1896, Henry Collett held the freehold to: a brewery, barn, outhouses, house and public house known as the Langley Brewery, adjoining the Chippenham to Tytherton Road (Kellaways Road) in Langley Burrell; a freehold public house called the 'Rose and Crown' in the Market Place at Chippenham, and a copyhold public house called the 'Station Hotel', formerly the 'Great Western Station Hotel', adjoining the railway station in Corsham. He was also the owner of Priory Farm at Tytherton.

35N85	Frank Walter Collett	Born in 1856 at Lushill, Castle Eaton
35N86	Louisa Naomi Collett	Born in 1858 at Lushill, Castle Eaton
35N87	Mary Kate Collett	Born in 1861 at Lushill, Castle Eaton
35N88	Charles Henry Collett	Born in 1866 at Pew Hill, Chippenham
35N89	Daniel Warren Collett	Born in 1867 at Langley Burrell
35N90	Edwin Graham Collett	Born in 1872 at Langley Burrell
The following are the children of Henry Collett by his second wife Rosa Wright:		
35N91	Roland Collett	Born in 1873 at Langley Burrell
35N92	Mabel Collett	Born in 1875 at Langley Burrell
35N93	Laura Rose Collett	Born in 1876 at Langley Burrell
35N94	Herbert James Collett	Born in 1877 at Langley Burrell
35N95	Godfrey Collett	Born in 1879 at Langley Burrell
35N96	Stanley Beaconsfield Collett	Born in 1881 at Langley Burrell

35M58 **Marianne Collett** was born at Keevil in 1830 and was the eldest daughter of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland. In the Edington area census of 1841 she was recorded as Mary Collett, age 10, and ten years later in the Westbury census of 1851 she was listed as Mary Collett, age 19. On both occasions she was living with her parents at Keevil.

A couple of years later, during the first quarter of 1853, Marianne Collett married Joseph Maslen of Keevil, the married being registered at Westbury. By the time of the census in 1861 Marianne had presented Joseph with five children, although their eldest son Thomas Maslen, born in 1854, was absent. At that time, Marianne was recorded as Mary Ann Maslen, age 29, the wife of Joseph Maslen who was 40 and a farmer of 210 acres employing 7 men and 3 boys.

Living with the couple at Longlease Farm in Keevil were their four children, Louisa Anne Maslen who was five, Ernest Maslen who was three, Arthur Maslen who was one year old, and Clara Maslen who was only two months old, with the whole family being supported by one housemaid.

It was just two years later that Joseph Maslen died at Longlease Farm in Keevil on 05.04.1863. Within his Will proved later that same year at Salisbury, Marianne's younger brother Joseph Collett (below) of Keevil Farm was named as an executor. The other executor was Henry Hunt of Ashton Mill Farm in Steeple Ashton.

Following the death of her husband, Marianne continued to manage Longlease Farm, and it was there that she was still living in 1871. The census that year recorded her as Marianne Maslen 39, a widow farming 209 acres and employing 6 men and 3 boys. Still living with her was one of her two sons Thomas H Maslen 17, and one of her three daughters Louisa Maslen who was 15. Also living with the family on that occasion was Marianne's widowed mother Mary Collett, plus one servant.

At some time during the next decade Marianne left Keevil when she moved to the village of Goosey, near Wantage in Berkshire – today it is in Oxfordshire following the 1974 county boundary changes. This was confirmed by the Wantage area census in 1881. Marianne was 49 and was at Wick Farm in Goosey, which comprised 355 acres for which she needed to employ 10 men, 6 boys and 2 women. The only members of her family still living with her by then, was son Ernest Maslen, age 23, and her widowed mother, Mary Collett who was 80. Jane Cook, age 15, was the family's general servant.

It was possibly following the death of her mother during the 1880s that prompted Marianne to retire from farming, since by 1891, she was living at 29 Disraeli Road in the Ealing area of London. Living with her at that time was her son Arthur Maslen who was 31 and a civil servant working in a science department.

She was also looking after two of her grandchildren, who were Marie (Marion) Wilshire who was eight years old, and Thomas W Wilshire who was four years old, both of them born at Steeple Ashton. They were the two youngest of the three children of her daughter Louisa Anne Maslen who had married Charles Fisher Wilshire, but who was a widow by 1891. It may also be of interest, that in the Melksham census on 1891, a certain widow Ann Wilshire, age 63 and a laundress from Atworth, had living with her at Lowbourne her grandson **Sidney Collett** who was eight years old and from Melksham. Whether there was any family connection, or who Sidney's parents were, are not known at this time. By 1901 Sidney Collett, age 18, was working as an ironmonger in Melksham.

Not longer after that Sidney married Ellen Mary and by April 1911 the couple was living in Melksham with their three children. Sidney and his wife were both 29, and their children were Phyllis Collett, age five years, Vera Collett who was two, and Gervyn Collett who was just nine months old who may have been Mervyn Collett.

In the London census of 1901 Marianne Maslen was 69 and by then she was living with her daughter, the widow Louisa Wilshire, at 22 Coverdale Road in St Stephen's in Shepherds Bush. Also living there were Marianne's grandchildren, Marion Wilshire 18, Charles J Wilshire 19 and a civil servant, and Thomas W Wilshire who was 14. Louisa's occupation was that of a hospital nurse and living at the same address were patients, widow Mary Beggs 65, widow Jane Templeton 50, and unmarried Hannah M Ward who was 48.

Marianne Maslen was still living at 22 Coverdale Road when she died on 25.09.1912. The Will of Marianne Maslen nee Collett was proved at London on 8th February 1913, which named the beneficiaries as her daughter Louisa Annie Wilshire, widow, and her son Arthur Maslen, a clerk. Her estate amounted to £1,032 6s 10d, which was re-sworn as £1,365 13s 6d.

Some of the records for the address where she lived from 1901 until her death in 1912 gave the name of the road as Cloverdale in Shepherd's Bush, whereas today this is Coverdale Road, on the south side of the Uxbridge Road (A4020). And it was at St Stephen's Vicarage in Coverdale Road that the Reverend William Lloyd Collett (Ref. 18O25) lived up until his death in 1896.

35M59 **Joseph Collett** was born at Keevil in 1834, the son of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland. And it was at Keevil that he was living with his family in 1841 and 1851 when he was six and sixteen years of age respectively.

Almost ten year later he married Susan Harris, and by the time of the next census in 1861 Joseph Collett, age 26 and from Keevil, was still living there with his wife Susan who was 24, together with their first child Fanny Harris Collett who was not yet one year old.

It was later that same year that Joseph's father died at Keevil in October 1861, following which his Will was proved one month later. Joseph Collett, the son of Daniel Collett, was named as one of the three executors, when he was described as Joseph Collett, farmer of this parish, that being Keevil.

Sadly it would appear that daughter Fanny did not survive, but over the next ten years a further four children were born to Joseph and Susan, while they continued to live at Keevil. The Keevil census of 1871 listed the family as Joseph Collett, age 36 and a farmer, his wife Susan 34, and their four new children as Edith M Collett who was eight, Frances L Collett who was seven, Charles E Collett who was three, and Alice E Collett who was one year old. Supporting the family were two servants.

Two years later Susan presented Joseph with their last child, which was also born at Keevil. However, sometime after that Joseph took his family to live in the village of Bowerhill, immediately south of Melksham, where the family was living at the time of the census in 1881. The census return described Joseph Collett of Keevil as 46 and an auctioneer and a farmer of 98 acres employing two men.

His wife Susan was 43 and from Nettleton in Wiltshire, while just four of their children were still living with them. They were Frances L Collett 17, Charles E Collett 13, Alice E Collett 11, and Percy H Collett who was seven years old. Their missing daughter Edith was 18 and was living in the Fulham & St Peter Hammersmith district of London on that occasion.

It may be of interest, that Joseph and Susan employed a general servant in 1881, and she was Elizabeth Curnick who was 15 and from Beanacre, a village to the north of Melksham. Thirty years earlier Andrew William Collett (Ref. 31M18) of South Wraxall near Bradford-on-Avon, married Sarah Curnick from Beanacre, the daughter of Robert and Hester Curnick.

Ten years later, according to the census in 1891 only Frances Louisa 26 was still living at Bowerhill with her father, farmer Joseph who was 56, and her mother Susan who was 54. The couple's eldest daughter Edith Collett was 28 and was working as a nurse while living in Hastings. The couple's youngest son Percy was 17 and was recorded living and working in the Devizes area of Wiltshire.

No traced has been found of absent daughter Alice, who may have been married by then, or their son Charles. However, living with the family was nephew Charles Henry Collett from Chippenham, who was the son of Joseph's brother Henry Collett (above) and his wife Elizabeth Buckland.

By April 1901 Joseph Collett was 65 and a farmer living at Bowerhill with his wife Susan who was 64. However, shortly after that Joseph died, and by April 1911 Susan Collett from Nettleton was 74 and was still living at Bowerhill. Living there with her was her unmarried daughter and nurse Edith Collett who was 48, and her unmarried son Percy Collett who was 37.

Living with the three of them was spinster Louisa Collett, age 76 and from Nettleton. It is not clear how Louisa came to be living with Susan (maiden name Harris), but the details that have so far been discovered about her are as follows, and may be of help in the future.

Louisa Maria Collett was born at Nettleton near Castle Combe in 1834, the daughter of Maria Collett nee Harris. Maria's brother was Henry Harris a farmer of 126 acres at Bowerhill, where both of them had been born. Who Maria Harris had married to become Maria Collett has not been determined, since by 1851 she was a widow.

By that time Maria Collett was 48 (sic) and was living with her bachelor brother, 50 years old Henry Harris at Bowerhill, together with two children, **Eliza Collett** who was 11, and **Edward Collett** who was 8, and both of them born at Nettleton. Maria's older children, including Louisa Maria Collett, had already left the family to make their own way in life.

Ten years later in 1861 Maria Collett was 63 and her son Edward, age 18, was the only member of her family still living with her. By 1871 Maria, then 72, and son Edward 28, had been rejoined by unmarried Louisa Maria Collett who was 34.

During the next decade, Edward Collett became a married man when he married Lucy from Melksham. So in 1881 he was recorded as residing at Loves Farm in Bowerhill, and was described as being 38 and a farmer of 140 acres, employing two men and two boys. His wife Lucy was 37, and she was assisted by general servant Mary J Beavon who was 20 and from Bulkington.

Since the couple had no children at that time, it is possible that theirs was a childless marriage. At that same time in 1881 Louisa Maria Collett of Nettleton was 46 and was living with her mother Maria Collett, age 82, at Lowbourn in the centre of Melksham. Living with them was Maria's granddaughter **Mary F Collett** who was eight years and born at Keevil. Maria Collett nee Harris died shortly after that.

Rather curiously no record of Edward's wife Lucy has been found in 1891, instead it would appear that, at the age of 47, he was once again living with his sister Louisa Collett who was 56.

Just after the start of the new century, the 1901 Census placed Louisa M Collett of Nettleton as being 66 years old and living on her own means at Melksham Without. No record of her brother Edward has been found in either of the 1901 or 1911 census returns.

And ten years later in 1911 Louisa Collett was living with Susan Collett nee Harris at Bowerhill, as detailed above at the start of the sub-section on the Collett/Harris connection.

In addition to all of this, there was a Thomas George Harris Collett who was 28 in 1911, and he was the only person with the Collett name living in the village of Langley Burrell near Chippenham at that time. He was born at Stoke Damerel in Devonport in 1882 and he and his family feature in Part 1 – The Main Line (Ref. 1P88). His mother was another Susan Harris who came from Ireland.

35N97	Fanny Harris Collett	Born in 1860
35N98	Edith M Collett	Born in 1862
35N99	Frances Louisa Collett	Born in 1864
35N100	Charles E Collett	Born in 1867
35N101	Alice E Collett	Born in 1869
35N102	Percy Harris Collett	Born in 1873

35M60 **Rosa Jane Collett** was born at Keevil in 1837, the youngest of the four children of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland. In 1841 she was three years old, and was 13 years of age in 1851. It is possible that she never married, since the death of Rosa Collett was recorded at Highworth, near Swindon, during the period from January to March 1895.

35M61 **Jane Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell in 1815, the year after her parents Henry and Hester Collett were married there in October 1814, following which Jane was baptised at Yatton Keynell on 07.01.1816.

35M62 **Llewellyn Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell during 1817 and it was there also that he was baptised on 27.07.1817. No further record of Llewellyn has been found in any of the census record up until the time of his known death, which was in 1865. However, there was an unmarried Lewen Collett, age 30 instead of 33, living in the Chippenham registration district in 1851.

35M63 **Caroline Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell on 18.10.1818, and was baptised there on 14.03.1819. She later married plumber and glazier Henry Young of Biddestone and the marriage produced two children, Edwin Young who was born in 1848, and Elizabeth Young who was born in 1850.

During the previous century Martha Collett married John Young at Broughton Gifford on 4th March 1716.

35M64 **Elizabeth Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell on 01.04.1821, where she was baptised on 22.07.1821 the daughter of Henry and Hester Collett.

35M65 **Henry Collett** was the son of Hester Collett and Henry Collett and may have been born at Yatton Keynell around 1827. He was baptised there on 31.08.1828, although an unverified source gives the date as 31st August 1815.

Around 1863 he married Mary who was born at Corsham in 1836. Henry was a journeyman butcher, like his father, and in 1871 he was 43, his wife Mary was 36, and by that time the couple had three children, William who was seven, Emily J Collett who was three, and Edwin who was one year old. Sadly it would appear that their daughter Emily did not survive, since she was not listed with the family in 1881.

The census that year recorded the family as Henry who was 53, while his wife Mary was 44. Living with them at a cottage in Church Street at Lacock, midway between Chippenham and Melksham were four of their five children. Eldest son William, age 17, was following a similar profession to that of his father, in that he was a journeyman baker, while the other children were Edwin who was 11, Harry who was eight, and Herbert who was six years old.

The first three of those children were born at Biddestone, and the fourth at Melksham, while head of the house Henry gave his place of birth as Giddea Hall, which is in Yatton Keynell, where his mother died in 1842.

By 1891 Henry and Mary were still living at Lacock, and living with them were their two sons Harry and Herbert. It has been established that eldest son William had married by then, although no record of the other missing son Edwin has been found, either in 1891 or at any time thereafter.

In the census of 1901 Henry and Mary were both recorded as having been born at Corsham, which was an error. Both of them were still living at Lacock, where two of their married sons were also living at that time.

Ten years later in 1911, Mary Collett of Corsham was 74 and a widow, and was still living at Lacock, where her two sons William and Harry were also still living with their families.

35N103	William Collett	Born in 1864 at Biddestone
35N104	Emily J Collett	Born in 1870 at Biddestone
35N105	Edwin Collett	Born in 1870 at Biddestone
35N106	Harry Collett	Born in 1872 at Biddestone
35N107	Herbert Lewin Collett	Born in 1874 at Melksham

35M67 **Emma Jane Collett** was born at Kington St Michael in 1835. She was baptised there on 10.06.1835, and was living there with her parents Joseph and Elizabeth Collett and sister Mary at the time of the census in 1841 when, as Emma Collett she was six years old.

Ten years later she was still living on the farm at Kington St Michael with her parents at the age of 15, and was also still there in 1861 when she was 25.

35M68 **Mary Anne Collett** was born at Kington St Michael in 1837. It was there that she was also baptised on 13.05.1837, although the baptism record recorded that she was 'Marianne Collett, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Collett.

In June 1841 and March 1851, as Mary Collett, she was still living at Kington St Michael on her parent's farm when she was aged four years old and thirteen years old respectively. By 1861 she was 23 and was listed in that year's census as Mary A Collett of Kington St Michael, where she was still living with her family.

35M69 **Henry Collett** was born at Kington St Michael in 1838, where he was baptised on. 22.12.1838, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Collett. Sadly he died before he was two years old and was absent from the family by 1841.

35M70 **Henry Collett** was born at Kington St Michael on 17.08.1841 and was baptised there on 27.10.1841. The baptism record confirmed that his parents were Joseph and Elizabeth Collett.

His father was a farmer of over 200 acres at Priory Farm in Kington St Michael, where Henry was living with his family in 1851 at the age of nine years. Ten years later he was still there at the age of 19.

Just a few years after that, Henry emigrated to North America and that would appear to have taken place between 1863 to 1865, judging by the age of his oldest child who was born in Kansas.

On his arrival in America, Henry settled in the state of Kansas where he married Carrie E who had been born in Tennessee, the daughter of America parents. Over the next fifteen years the marriage produced five children for Henry and Carrie, and all of them were born within the state of Kansas.

According to the US Census of 1880, the Collett family was living at Chase Township in Kansas. This was situated on the railway midway between Great Bend and McPherson, which today lies on Route 96.

The family was made up of Henry Collett from England who was 38, his wife Carrie E Collett who was 34, and their five children Franklin Collett 13, Frederick H Collett 11, Rosina C Collett 10, Elizabeth who was six, and Grace who was two years old. At that time Henry's occupation was that of a farmer, like his father.

35N108	Franklin Collett	Born in 1867 at Kansas
35N109	Frederick Henry Collett	Born in 1869 at Kansas
35N110	Rosina C Collett	Born in 1870 at Kansas
35N111	Elizabeth Collett	Born in 1874 at Kansas
35N112	Grace Collett	Born in 1878 at Kansas

35M71 **Edward Collett** was born at Kington St Michael on 18.08.1843 and was baptised there on 04.01.1844, the son Joseph and Elizabeth Collett. With no reference to him living with his family in the census of 1851, it has to be assumed that he suffered an infant death, like his older brother Henry (above) just a few years earlier.

35M72 **Eliza Collett** was born at Kington St Michael in 1845, where she was baptised on 21.07.1845. She was five years old by 1851 and fifteen years old in 1861. Sadly six years later, Eliza Collett died during 1867 at the age of 22.

35M74 **Thomas Collett**, who was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 25.09.1814, married Elizabeth and their children were also baptised at Broughton Gifford. The couple's eldest son Samuel was baptised at Broughton Gifford on the same day as Jane Collett (Ref. 35N62), his cousin three times removed and the daughter of James and Sarah Collett.

35N113	Caroline Collett	Baptised on 06.03.1831
35N114	Samuel Collett	Baptised on 20.01.1833
35N115	Anna Maria Collett	Baptised on 31.08.1834
35N116	Elizabeth Collett	Baptised on 25.09.1836
35N117	James Collett	Baptised on 08.07.1838; infant death
35N118	James Collett	Baptised on 23.08.1840
35N119	Henry Collett	Baptised on 29.08.1841
35N120	Simeon Collett	Baptised on 09.10.1843

35M75 **Samuel Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford on 09.06.1816 and was baptised there three months later on 22.09.1816. He was the son of John and Sarah Collett and he was still a bachelor in June 1841 when he was recorded as having a rounded age of 25.

He was still in Broughton Gifford when he married Hannah Tailor on 04.07.1842, but shortly after the couple left Wiltshire and moved to Monmouthshire in South Wales. No records have so far been found to suggest that they might have had any children.

In the census of 1861 Hannah was 46 and by 1871 the couple were living within the Newport & Caerleon registration district where Samuel Collett was 55, while his wife Hannah was 57.

Ten years later in April 1881, Samuel and Hannah were living at 17 Liswerry Common in Christchurch near Newport. Samuel was still working as a general labourer at the age of 65, when he gave his place of birth as Norrington, which is the hamlet adjacent to Broughton Gifford. His wife was 67 and from Melksham.

Although not a direct link, this is yet another connection between the Collett families of Wiltshire and the Collett families of Christchurch near Newport, whose details are provided in Part 53 – The South Wales Branch Line.

35M77 **William Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 01.04.1821 and was listed as being 20 years old in the census of 1841 when he was still living there with his family.

35M79 **Sarah Collett** was born at Melksham in 1829, but was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 14.11.1830. She was 11 years old in the 1841 Census when he was still living with her parents.

She never married and in 1881 was 52 and an annuitant living with her inn keeper brother John Collett (below) at Bath Road in Melksham.

35M80 **Eliza Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 18.11.1832 and was nine years old at the time of the 1841 Census when she was recorded as living there with her family.

35N3 **George Tarrant Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford on 25th October 1827, where he was baptised on 11th November 1827, the only son and the third of seven children of James Collett and his wife Martha Tarrant. At the age of twenty-two he married Mary Ann Hill at Broughton Gifford on 28th February 1850, and just a few months later the couple emigrated to America. Their crossing of the Atlantic Ocean took place during May 1850 when they were passengers on board the sailing ship Sibernia which sailed out of Liverpool bound for Philadelphia.

Once in America the couple settled in Chester Town, Delaware County in Pennsylvania. It was at Chester that their three children were born, before George's untimely death on 27th October 1856 when he was only twenty-nine. His death was the result of an accident at the lumber yard where he worked.

35O1	Martha Tarrant Collett	Born on 26.02.1851 at Chester
35O2	Mary Collett	Born on 11.05.1853 at Chester
35O3	James Tarrant Collett	Born on 27.03.1855 at Chester

35N8 **Stephen Collett** was born at Melksham in 1824, the eldest child of Thomas Collett and his first wife Ann Taylor who died when Stephen was around six years old. His father remarried shortly after the death of his mother so in the Melksham census of 1841 Stephen had a rounded age of 15 when he was living with his father Thomas, his stepmother Ann, and his two sisters and his five half-siblings.

Just over five years later Stephen married Catherine Collett from South Wraxall, at Holy Trinity Church at Shaw in the parish of Melksham, the wedding taking place on 21st September 1846. The marriage certificate confirmed that Stephen Collett from Whitley (near Melksham) was a yeoman like his father, who was named as Thomas Collett. He and Catherine were both listed as being of full age, and both signed the certificate with the mark of a cross. One of the witnesses to the ceremony was named as Sarah H Collett, who may have been one of Stephen's sisters-in-law.

By the time of the Melksham census of 1851 the marriage had produced three sons for the couple, the first two born at Corsham and the third at Whitley near Melksham where the family was living in 1851. Stephen Collett was 27, his wife Catherine Collett was 26, and their three sons were Henry Collett, who was three, Tom Collett, who was two, and William Collett who was under one year old.

Also living with the family at that time was Catherine's widowed mother Ann Collett of Raxall [Wraxall] who was 60. Ten years earlier, in June 1841, Catherine and her mother were living together at Lower Wraxall, where Ann Collett was 50 and an agricultural labourer, and her daughter Catherine was 18, and also working as an agricultural labourer. At this moment in time it has not been possible to identify which branch of the Collett family Ann had married into.

During the following decade a further four children were born into the family, the first three of them while the family was still living in Whitley, with the couple's last child being born after the family had moved to Norrington Common near Broughton Gifford. Curiously the recorded names of the children and their ages vary in the subsequent census returns.

According to the Norrington Common census in 1861 the family comprised Stephen Collett, age 36 and from Melksham, who was a butcher, Catherine Collett, age 35 and from South Wraxall, Henry Collett who was 13 and an agricultural labourer, John (previously Tom) Collett who was 12 and a shoemaker, William Collett who was 10 and also an agricultural labourer, James Collett who was nine and Sarah Ann Collett who was five, both of them attending school, Benjamin Collett who was three, and Mary J Collett who was seven months old. Supporting the family was a servant, Mary A Davis from Box who was 24.

By 1871 the family at Norrington Common was made up of Stephen Collett, age 48, Catherine Collett, age 44, and their children John Collett, age 21, Thomas Collett, age 18, James Collett, age 16, Sarah A Collett age 14, and Benjamin Collett who was 12. The couple's last child, Mary Jane Collett, who would have been around ten years old, was not listed with the family, so may have suffered an infant death sometime after her baptism in December 1861. Their son William had already left the family home by then and in fact emigrated to New Zealand in 1874. It was some time during the next few years that Stephen Collett died, but it is not currently known if this happened before or after William sailed to New Zealand.

Following the death of her husband during the 1870s, Catherine Collett was listed as a widow in the census of 1881 when she was living at Norrington Common, immediately to the north of Broughton Gifford. Rather curiously her age was recorded as 45, although she confirmed her place of birth as South Wraxall, at a time in her life when she was working as a greengrocer.

Living with her were her three sons Henry J Collett, age 28, James Collett, age 24, and Benjamin H Collett who was 21. The first of these was confirmed again as having been born at Corsham in Wiltshire, with the other two having been born a few miles away at Whitley near Melksham. Visiting the family on that occasion was 15 years old Annie Box from Broughton Gifford.

By 1891 Catherine was still recorded as living within the area of Broughton Gifford when she gave her age as being 57, while ten years later in 1901 she was listed as being 71, when she was still working as a greengrocer, but with the additional role of that of a poultry dealer.

It is from this information that it is believed that Catherine was some years younger than her late husband Stephen, and that perhaps in their early days together, she inflated her age out of embarrassment. It is therefore assumed that her age of 71 in 1901 would appear to be the most accurate, and would place her date of birth around 1830.

3504	Henry John Collett	Born in 1847 at Corsham
3505	Thomas John Collett	Born in 1848 at Corsham
3506	William Collett	Born in 1851 at Whitley, Melksham
3507	James Collett	Born in 1854 at Whitley, Melksham
3508	Sarah Ann Collett	Born in 1856 at Whitley, Melksham
3509	Benjamin H Collett	Born in 1858 at Whitley, Melksham
35010	Mary Jane Collett	Born in 1861 at Broughton Gifford

35N12 **William Collett** was born at Melksham in 1834, the son of Thomas and Ann Collett. He was seven years old in the census of 1841 and was seventeen in 1851, and on both occasions he was living with his family in Melksham. During the next five years he became a married man, as confirmed by the next Melksham census in 1861.

William Collett married Elizabeth Fox in Brighton on 12.10.1856. Elizabeth Fox was baptised at Melksham on 28.08.1836, the daughter of Charles and Hannah Fox. Their choice of Brighton for their wedding raises the question that Elizabeth was already with-child when they fled from Melksham in shame. And this was borne out by the fact that their son William was born at Brighton, either before or just after their wedding day. This would then suggest that they 'ran away' to avoiding shaming themselves and their families.

So with William and his wife and their first born child living in Brighton in 1856 and 1857, it made sense for William's younger sister Sarah (below) to join him there during the summer of 1857 to be married when she was under adult age and very likely married without her parent's consent. When William's and Elizabeth's son was around one year old, the couple left Brighton when they moved to Devizes where their second child was born, and shortly after that, the family returned to live in Melksham

On the occasion of the Melksham census in 1861, William Collett was 26, and his wife Elizabeth was 24, and their address was simply 'city' of Melksham. At that time in his life William was a shoemaker and his wife was a (shoe) binder, and for both of them their place of birth was confirmed as Melksham.

The census return that year also confirmed the details for their three children, and they were William T Collett who was four and born at Brighton, Maria Collett who was two and born at Devizes, and Sarah J Collett who was four months old.

Two more children were added to the family during the next three years, but then tragically, around the time of the birth of the last child, William Collett died at Melksham on 06.08.1864 when he was only 30 years old. As a tribute to her late husband, Elizabeth added the name William to that of her latest son.

Sometime during the following years Elizabeth married George Truman and moved in with him at his home in Semington Road in Melksham. The house on Semington Road was adjacent to the New Inn. And it was there that Elizabeth was living in 1871, but only with her three youngest children.

What had happened to her eldest daughter Maria Collett has not been discovered at this time, whereas more is known about her missing eldest son William.

The Melksham census return for 1871 listed the household as George Truman who was 30 and a labour at the local ironworks, Elizabeth Truman who was 34 and a boot builder, and George's three stepchild, Sarah Jane Collett 10, James Collett who was eight, and Fredk W Collett who was six years old, and all of them were born at Melksham.

Ten years later at the time of 1881 Census, George and Elizabeth Truman had a child of their own, although Elizabeth two sons from her previous marriage were still living with the family. Their address on that occasion was given as Semington Lane in Melksham from where George, who was 40, was a sawyer.

His wife Elizabeth was 44, and their daughter Eliza Truman was eight. The two Collett brothers were James who was 18 and a mat maker, while Frederick was 16 and a blacksmith's labourer.

35O11	William Thomas Collett	Born in 1856
35O12	Maria Collett	Born in 1858
35O13	Sarah Jane Collett	Born in 1860
35O14	James Collett	Born in 1862
35O15	Frederick William Collett	Born in 1864

35N14 Sarah Collett was born at Melksham during 1838 and was baptised there on 26.08.1838, the daughter of Thomas Collett and his second wife Ann. She was two years old in June 1841 and twelve years old in March 1851, while living with her family in Melksham.

Sarah was 19, and therefore had not reached adult age, when she married Frederick White in Brighton on 06.07.1857. Frederick was the son of John White and Deborah Dicks, and was born in 1831 and was baptised at Melksham on 01.12.1832. The fact that the wedding did not take place at Melksham very likely indicates that Sarah did not have her parent's consent to be married.

The selection of Brighton was the obvious choice for the couple to run away to, since it was there that her older brother William (above) was married during the previous year, and where he was still living with his family in July 1857. It was however, over a year after they were married that Sarah presented her husband with their first child was born, and that event also took place in Brighton, thus dispelling an idea that she may have been with-child when they ran away from Melksham.

In total, the marriage produced six known children for the couple and they were Frederick White who was born at Brighton on 24.10.1858 who died there two weeks later on 09.11.1858, Louise Jane White born at Brighton on 19.07.1860 who died in May 1883, Sarah Amelia White born 02.02.1863, Francis William White born at Brighton on 05.09.1865, and Clara Mabel White born at Brighton on 14.06.1880.

The couple's sixth child was reputed to have been born at Powick in Worcestershire on 31.05.1871. That was Herbert Henry White who emigrated to America, where he died on 11.12.1940 at Boston in Massachusetts, following which he was buried at Wayland in Middlesex, Massachusetts.

Sarah White nee Collett died on 24.12.1892, and this may have taken place at Brighton.

35N16 James Collett was born at Broughton Gifford in 1837 and was baptised there on 14.01.1838. He was two years old in the Broughton census of 1841 and was still living with his family in the main street there ten years later when he was 13 and working as an errand boy.

At the aged of 21 James left Wiltshire and sailed to North America where he met and married Mary A Holcombe, who was born at Jasper in New York State in America on 06.08.1843.

The wedding very likely took place during the first couple of months of 1862 when James was 25 and when Mary was 19. It also seems likely that the couple were married at Rock Elm in Pierce in Wisconsin, where all ten of their children were born. It would appear that they spent the rest of their lives together at Rock Elm, where the family was living in 1880.

The United States census that year confirmed that James Collett of England was 43 and that he was a farmer. His wife Mary was 37 and was confirmed as having been born at Jasper NY. She was described as 'keeping house'.

Eight of their ten children were recorded as living with the family on that occasion and, with one of the two absent children later confirmed as being married, it seems likely that one of their ten children had died while still very young. The two missing children were Vida Collett, and Belle Collett who was later known to have been married. Of the remainder Sarah was 17, Libby 15, Edwin 13, Minnie 10, Fred was nine, Martha was six, Albert was four, and William was one year old.

James Collett died at Rock Elm in Pierce, Wisconsin on 23.06.1905 at the age of 68, and was followed by his wife Mary eleven years later who died on 14.01.1916 at the age of 73.

35O16	Sarah Jane Collett	Born in 1862
35O17	Libby Collett	Born in 1864
35O18	Edwin (Mattie) Collett	Born in 1866
35O19	Belle Collett	Born in 1868
35O20	Minnie Collett	Born in 1870
35O21	Frederick (Fred) Collett	Born in 1871 at Rock Elm, Pierce
35O22	Vida Collett	Born in 1873 at Rock Elm, Pierce
35O23	Martha Collett	Born in 1875 at Rock Elm, Pierce
35O24	Albert (Bert) Collett	Born in 1877 at Rock Elm, Pierce
35O25	William (Will) Collett	Born in 1879 at Rock Elm, Pierce

35N17 Sarah Collett was born at Broughton Gifford and baptised there on 29.03.1840, the daughter of Samuel Collett and Hannah Mortimer. In the Broughton Gifford census of 1851 Sarah was 11 years old and was still attending school, while living with her family in the main street.

It is understood that she later married, to become Sarah Bashew, but searches through various census records have not revealed the whereabouts of Sarah or her husband.

35N18 Edwin Collett was baptised at Broughton Gifford near Melksham on 11.02.1844, although he may have been born at Biddestone, west of Chippenham. His age was five in 1851, but the only Edwin of around the correct age so far found at any later time, was in Birmingham in 1881.

However, it seems unlikely that this was Edwin Collett of Broughton Gifford, even though he stated he was born at Biddestone in Wiltshire. On that occasion he was unmarried at 38 and was a brass window fitter. He was described as brother-in-law at the 43 Ryland Street home in Aston of perambulator-smith John Arnold, age 30, and his dressmaker wife Annie who was 28.

Also living there was another Collett. That was Thomas Collett who was 18 and a blacksmith's apprentice who was possibly the younger brother of Edwin. He too was described as brother-in-law but was born in Birmingham, as was Annie Arnold who, it is believed, was formerly Annabelle Collett.

Further research work is required in this area to ascertain whether there is any direct link between this family group and this family line.

35N19 **George Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford around 1848 and was two years old in the census of 1851 when he was living with his family at the main street in Broughton Gifford. George was barely five years old when his mother Hannah died in 1853.

Around twenty years later George married Emily with whom he had two children prior to 1881. The census that year confirmed that George was married to Emily and that they were living at 126 Broke Street in Shoreditch with their two children.

George was 32 and his place of birth was confirmed as Broughton Gifford, while Emily was 29 and had been born at Islington in London around 1851. George's occupation was that of a cheesemonger's traveller.

Their two young children were Ernest who was five, and Minnie who was two years old, the first born at Bethnal Green and the second at Shoreditch.

By the end of the 1880s George had died at Islington, where his wife and two children were still living in April 1891. Emily was 39, while her two children were Ernest, who was 15, and Minnie, who was 12 years old.

Ten years later Emily was listed as being 49, when she was living within the St Leonards Shoreditch registration district of London. Her place of birth was given as Bethnal Green where her son had been born who had left the family home by then. Only her daughter Minnie was still living with Emily.

It would appear that by 1911 Emily, who was 58, was living alone in Bethnal Green.

35O26	Ernest Collett	Born in 1875
35O27	Minnie Collett	Born in 1878

35N21 **Eliza Collett** was born at Bradford-on-Avon in 1863. Before the end of the decade Eliza and her family had left Bradford, by which time they were living in Bedminster near Bristol where, in April 1871, Eliza was eight years old.

Within the next decade she left school and by April 1881 she was working with her mother in the family's grocer shop. Eliza Collett of Bradford-on-Avon was 18 and her occupation was that of a grocer's shop assistant, while she was still living with her parents at 154 East Street in Bedminster.

35N23 **Jane Collett** was born at Monkton Combe in Somerset in 1857 and was 14 in 1871. By 1881 she had left the family home in Combe and was working as a general domestic servant at the age of 24. Her employer was homeopathic chemist Edmund Capper, at his home at 33 Gay Street in Walcot, Bath.

It would appear that she never married and in 1911, as Jane Collett from Monkton Combe, she was 53 and was sharing a house at Bathwick with her brother James (below).

35N24 **James Collett** was born at Monkton Combe in 1863 and was seven in 1871. On leaving school, he became an apprentice cabinet maker and by April 1881 he was 17 when he was still living in the family home at Combe village with his parents.

By April 1891, James Collett of Monkton Combe was 27 and was recorded in the census that year as living within the Bathwick & Bath registration district, where he was the only Collett listed. Twenty years later in 1911 he was 46 and of Monkton Combe, when he was living in Bathwick with his sister Jane (above).

35N25 Paulina V S Collett was born at Melksham in 1856. She was listed with her father in 1861 as being aged four years, and was 14 in 1871 when she was living with her family at Melksham.

When she was twenty-one years old she married painter, plumber and glazier William Blake of Melksham who had his own business. By April 1881 Paulina had presented her husband with their first child. William Henry Blake was two years old and was living with his parents at Union Street in Melksham.

Neither Paulina, nor her husband, have been located in later census records, although in 1911 their son William Blake of Melksham was 32 when he was married to Susan who was 31. The childless couple living at Eastbourne in Sussex on that occasion.

35N26 Albert Henry Collett was born at Melksham in 1857 and was 23 in 1881 when he was living with his recently widowed mother Harriet Collett at Holbrook Farm in Melksham, where his brother Charles and sister Florence (below) were also living at that time.

Plans for his wedding may have already been underway at that time, since it was shortly after the April census day that he married Emily of Trowbridge. The marriage produced two confirmed children for the couple, and in 1891 the family of four was living at Melksham where Albert was 32, Emily was 33, and their children were aged eight years and three years respectively.

Ten years later the same family was living in the Melksham Without registration district where Albert Collett was listed as a farmer at 42, living there with his wife Emily who was also 42. Living with them was their daughter Lillian, who was 18, and their son Albert, who was 13.

According to the next census in 1911 Albert Henry Collett from Melksham was 52, and was living in the Romsey district of Hampshire with his wife Emily Anne Collett from Trowbridge. By that time both of their children had left the family home to make their own way in the world.

35O28	Lillian Collett	Born in 1882
35O29	Albert Edwin Collett	Born in 1887

35N27 William James Collett was born at Melksham in 1859 and by the time of the 1881 Census he was 21 and was working as a butcher, while living in Melksham at Linden Hall, the home of London tailor John Hayter. Also living there was William's younger sister Ada who was 18.

Around five years later William married Annie of Bulkington, midway between Devizes and Trowbridge. The couple settled in Melksham and it was there that their two known children were born, and where the family was living in 1891 and again 1901.

In the first of the census returns, the family comprised William and Annie who were both 31, and their son Gilbert W Collett who was three years old. The later census recorded William, age 41, who was a butcher of Melksham, his wife Annie who was also 41, and their two children Gilbert W Collett who was 13, and Olive E Collett who was seven years old.

It would appear that Annie died during the first decade of the twentieth century, since no record of her has been found in the census of 1911. William James Collett was 51 and he was living in Calne with his daughter Olive Ethel Collett who was 17, when both of them were confirmed as having been born at Melksham.

William's son Gilbert William Collett of Melksham had swapped Wiltshire for Surrey by then, and was living in Croydon at the age of 23.

35O30	Gilbert William Collett	Born in 1887
35O31	Olive Ethel Collett	Born in 1893 at Melksham

35N29 Charles S Collett was born at Melksham in 1864 and in 1881 he was 16 when he living with his widowed mother Harriet Collett at Holbrook farm in Melksham, where his older brother Albert Henry (above) and younger sister Florence (below) were also still living.

Ten years later he was still a bachelor farmer at 27, when he was still living at Melksham with his mother and sister Florence. By the start of the next century he was a retired farmer at the age of 37, when he was still unmarried and was still living with his mother and sister.

By 1911 he was simply listed as Charles Collett, who was 46 and from Melksham, who was still living there with his eighty-one years old mother Harriet and his unmarried sister Florence. Also living with them was Lillian Collett, age 28, who was Charles' niece and the daughter of his brother Albert Henry Collett (above).

35N30 Florence E Collett was born at Melksham in 1869, the daughter of William Collett and Harriet Austin and in 1871 she was one year old. Sadly when Florence was ten years old her father died during 1880, so by the time of the census in 1881 Florence was 11 and was living with her widowed mother and her family at Holbrook Farm in Melksham, where her two brothers Albert and Charles were also living at that time.

Florence never married and in the subsequent census returns, right up to April 1911, she and her brother Charles (above) continued to live with their mother at Melksham. In the 1911 Census she gave her age as 40.

35N31 Eliza Ann Collett was born in 1851 at Melksham and was baptised there on 28.12.1851, the daughter of Henry Collett and Ann Pepler. In 1861 at the age of nine, Eliza A Collett was living with her widowed mother Ann at Melksham.

Upon leaving school, Eliza also left the family home to seek work, and in 1871 she was 19 and was still living close to where her mother was living in Melksham. Ten years later in 1881, Eliza was an unmarried domestic servant living and working at Melksham Hall, the home of clergyman Edward L Barnwell. Her age was recorded as 29.

35N32 Henry John Collett was born at Melksham in 1853 and would have been seven years old at the time of the census in 1861. However, it was around this time that his father died, and for some reason, Henry was also missing from the census return on the seventh April, while the rest of their family was recorded as still living in Melksham.

According to the next census in 1871, Henry was 15 years old and was back in Melksham, living with his widowed mother Ann and the rest of his family.

In the mid 1870s Henry married Martha Feltham who was born at Keevil in Wiltshire in 1853. In 1881 the couple and their first two children were living at Church Street in Steeple Ashton near Trowbridge, where Henry, age 27, was a wheelwright, a carpenter and a blacksmith.

Living with them was their daughter Everest Collett aged three years, who had been born at Keevil, together with their son Henry John Collett. He was two years old and had been born after the family had moved to Steeple Ashton. The villages of Keevil and Steeple Ashton lie adjacent to each other.

The next three children were all born at Steeple Ashton, but by 1891 the family was once again living in Keevil, where the couple's last five children were born. However, it would appear that, by 1891, their oldest children Everest had died, since she was missing from the census.

The census return only included the names of Henry John Collett 36, Martha Feltham Collett 38, their sons Henry John 12, Joseph Herbert who was nine, Edward Clement who was six, and William Frederick who was two, and their daughters Lillian Mary who was eight, and Amy Florence who was three years old.

Henry's and Martha's marriage was blessed with three more children before the end of the century, by which time Henry had died leaving Martha and her children still living in Keevil. Martha F Collett was 47 and was being supported by her eldest son Henry J Collett who was 22.

The other children living with Martha on that occasion were sons William F Collett aged 11, Reginald F Collett who was eight, and Walter G Collett who six, and her daughters Amy aged 13, and Elsie M Collett who was just two years old.

Ten years later, in April 1911, Martha Feltham Collett of Keevil was 58 and was still living at Keevil with some of her children. They were Edward Clement Collett, age 26 of Steeple Ashton, and Reginald Frank Collett 18, Walter George Collett 16, and Elsie May Collett who was 12, all of whom were confirmed as having been born at Keevil.

35O32	Everest Collett	Born in 1877 at Keevil
35O33	Henry John Collett	Born in 1878
35O34	Joseph Herbert Collett	Born in 1881
35O35	Lilian Mary Collett	Born in 1882
35O36	Edward Clement Collett	Born in 1884
35O37	Amy Florence Collett	Born in 1887 at Keevil
35O38	William Frederick Collett	Born in 1888
35O39	Reginald Frank Collett	Born in 1892 at Keevil
35O40	Walter George Collett	Born in 1894 at Keevil
35O41	Elsie May Collett	Born in 1898 at Keevil

35N34 **Mary Jane Collett** was born at Melksham in 1857 where she was baptised on 30.05.1858, the daughter of Henry Collett and Ann Pepler. It might appear that her father died just prior to the 1861 Census, since at that time Mary J Collett was three years old and living with her mother at Melksham.

In 1871 Mary was 13 and was still living at Melksham with her widowed mother Ann and her brother Henry (above). All of her other sibling had left the family home by then.

35N35 **Everest Morris Collett** was born at Melksham in 1860 and was baptised there on 31.03.1861, the daughter of Henry Collett and Ann Pepler. One week later in the Melksham census of 1861, Everest was recorded as being under one year old. By that time in her young life, her father Henry had already passed away.

Ten years later, at the age of ten, she was still living in Melksham with her widowed mother and the rest of her family, but by 1881, at the age of 21, Everest was an unmarried parlour maid at Semington House, in Semington near Melksham, the home of land-owner Thomas Bruges.

35N36 **Henry Charles Collett** was born at Melksham in 1864, where he was still living with his family in 1881. They were living at Bath Street in Melksham at that time, from where Henry was working as an apprentice plumber at the age of 17.

It was around four years later that he married Eliza who was born in 1861. It was then that they left Melksham to make their home at Radstock in Somerset, where the couple's first two children were born. They were only there for a few short years before they briefly lived at Holcombe three miles south of Radstock, where their next child was born.

For some reason it was around that time in his life that Henry reversed his christian names. So by 1891 the family of five was living in the Nunnery district of Frome, when it comprised Charles Henry Collett 28, Eliza M Collett 30, Amy R Collett who was five, Mabel L Collett who was four, and Reginald Collett who was two years old.

Three further children were added to the family over the following six years, and all of them born in Frome. The first two were born in the area of the town known as Marston Bigot, while the last was born in the Selwood district of the town.

According to the census of 1901, Charles and his family were still living at Selwood, where he was 38 and his occupation was that of a plumber and a painter. His wife Eliza M Collett was 40, and the children were Amy 15, Mabel 14, Reginald 12, Percy who was eight, Leonard was six, and William who one year old.

The two oldest daughters had left school and were gainfully employed as a dressmaker, and a printing stitcher, respectively. Two years later Eliza presented Charles with their seventh and last child.

Seven years after that, in April 1911, most of the family was still living at Frome; only Amy, Reginald, and Leonard were absent at that time. For the remainder, Charles was 46, Eliza was 48, Mabel was 21, Percy was 18, William was 12, and latest arrival Jack was seven years old.

35O42	Amy R Collett	Born in 1885 at Radstock, Somerset
35O43	Mabel L Collett	Born in 1886 at Radstock, Somerset
35O44	Reginald Collett	Born in 1888 at Holcombe, Somerset
35O45	Percy Collett	Born in 1892 at Marston Bigot, Frome
35O46	Leonard Collett	Born in 1894 at Marston Bigot, Frome
35O47	William Collett	Born in 1899 at Selwood, Frome
35O48	Jack Collett	Born in 1903 at Selwood, Frome

35N37 William John Collett was born at Melksham in 1865. On leaving school he became an apprentice grocer, as confirmed by the census of 1881 when he was still living with his parents at Bath Street in Melksham.

Towards the end of the next decade, around 1887 or 1888, William married Ellen who was born at Shaw near Melksham and, by the time of the census of 1891, they had two children. The first of them was born at nearby Biddestone and before the family settled in Castle Combe just three to the north.

The Castle Combe census of 1891 recorded the young family as William and Ellen, both 26, and their children William I Collett who was two, and Francis E Collett who was under one year old. Ellen may well have been with-child on the census day in 1891, since later that year the couple received their third child. A fourth child followed two years later, when the family was still living at Castle Combe.

Sometime during the second half of the 1890s the family moved west towards Weston-super-Mare and it was at Banwell, just outside the town, where their last child was born and where the family was living in March 1901.

The census on that occasion listed the family as William J Collett, age 36, whose occupation was that of a non-domestic coachman, his wife Ellen, also 36, and their children William, age 12, who was a grocer's errand boy, Francis who was 10, Eleanor who was nine, Alaric who was seven, and Harold who was three years old.

Over the next few years William and his family left the village of Banwell and moved into Weston-super-Mare, and by April 1911 they were living at 21 Stanley Grove Road. By that time the couple's eldest son William had left the family home and, at the age of 23, he was living and working in Swindon.

William John Collett of Melksham was 46 and by that time he had reverted to his earlier occupation of being a grocer and a shopkeeper. Ellen Collett of Shaw was 46 and was assisting her husband of twenty-three years in the family business.

The four children still living with them were Francis, age 20 and of Castle Combe, was a grocer's assistant, Eleanor, age 19 of Castle Combe, was an assistant in a music shop, 'Alasie' who was 17 and also of Castle Combe, was a goods agent's clerk with the Great Western Railway, and Harold who was 13 and of Banwell was still attending school.

Visiting the family on that occasion was lady's companion Annie Frost 25 of Weston-super-Mare, and Florence Membery, 29 from Bath, who was a trained nurse.

35O49	William I Collett	Born in 1888 at Biddestone
35O50	Francis E Collett	Born in 1890 at Castle Combe
35O51	Eleanor Collett	Born in 1891 at Castle Combe

35O52
35O53

Alaric Collett
Harold Collett

Born in 1893 at Castle Combe
Born in 1897 at Banwell, Wstn-s-Mare

35N38 **Frederick W Collett** was born at Melksham in 1867 and it was there that he was living with his family in 1871 at the age of four years. Ten years later in 1881, at the age of 14, he was attending Weston School in Somerset, the establishment of school-master Albert Browning and his wife Ann.

Just after the turn of the century Frederick Collett of Melksham was 34 and his occupation was that of an engineer. At that time in March 1901, he was living within the Twerton area, to the west of Bath city centre, with his sister Emily (below)

35N39 **Emily Matilda Collett** was born at Melksham in 1869 and was two years old at the time of the Melksham census of 1871. She was baptised at Melksham on 02.05.1869, when her parents were confirmed as John and Elizabeth Collett. In 1881 Emily was still living with her parents at Bath Road in Melksham, when she was recorded as being aged 12 years.

By 1901 Emily was 32, when she was working as a schoolteacher while she was living with her brother Frederick (above) in the Twerton area of Bath. Shortly after that she married Henry Clement Durnford who was four years younger than Emily.

The marriage is known to have produced one son for the couple since, by April 1911, the family of three were living in the Petersfield district of Hampshire. Emily Matilda Durnford of Melksham was 42, her husband was 38, and their son Clement George Durnford was five years old.

35N43 **George Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 18.02.1821 and was 20, according to the census of June 1841, when he was still living with his family.

35N44 **Mary Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 09.05.1824 and was 15 years of age in 1841 when she living there with her family.

35N47 **Daniel Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 13.03.1831 and was listed as living with his parents in 1841 at the age of 10 years.

35N48 **James Collett** was baptised at Broughton Gifford on 30.03.1834 and his age was given as being seven years in the census of 1841.

35N49 **George Collett** was born in 1840 at Melksham and was under one year old in the Melksham census in June 1841 when he was living there with his parents Stephen and Grace Collett. This would place the time of his birth to be either in the second half of 1840 or the first half of 1841.

In the following two census returns for Melksham in 1851 and 1861, George was 10 and 20 years respectively. During the next few years George's mother Grace died, and it may have been this sad event that prompted George to seek a new life, since shortly after that he left England and sailed to America, where he was married in the mid 1860s.

By the time of the US Census of 1880 George and his wife and their family were living in Hartford, Van Buren in the state of Michigan. George, age 39, was described as being an R R Agent (railroad agent). His American wife was Sarah Ada Collett who was 34 and of Indiana who was 'keeping house' for the family, supported by 45 years old servant Susan Byres from New York.

Their two children at that time were Edith who was 13 and at school, and George who was eight, and both of the children had been born in Michigan.

35O54
35O55

Edith Collett
George Collett

Born in 1867 in Michigan
Born in 1872 in Michigan

35N53 **John Collett** was born at Melksham in 1848 and was three years old and thirteen in the census records for Melksham in 1851 and 1861. Over the next few years, and following the death of his mother, John sailed to America, either with his older brother George (above) or shortly after.

Either way, John was living in Hamden in New Haven in the state of Connecticut by 1880. The US Census that year recorded him as being 32 and married to Sarah who was 36. John's occupation at that time was a worker in an auger factory.

It has not been established whether the couple every had any children, but what is known is that also living in Hamden at that same time were three other members of John's family from Melksham. They were siblings Ellen, Thomas, and Frederick (below).

35N54 **WILLIAM COLLETT** was born at Melksham around 1849, the son of Stephen and Grace Collett. He later became a blacksmith and it was around 1870 that he married Sarah A Hayward of Melksham, where they initially settled before moving to Wantage. It may be of interest to note a possible family connection with the second wife of William's father Stephen Collett, who was Susan H Hayward, who was born at Plymouth in 1832.

According to the census of 1871 William was 22 and his wife Sarah A Collett was 21. On that occasion the couple were living near to where William's father, widower Stephen Collett, was living in Melksham with William's three youngest siblings. Over the following ten years Sarah presented her husband with four children.

By April 1881 Sarah A Collett, age 31 and of Melksham, was described as the wife of a shoeing smith. At that time she was living at Partridges Yard in Wantage with her four children, William who was eight and born at Melksham, Fanny who was six, Ellen who was four, and Frederick who was one year old, the three of them were all born at Wantage.

The children's father, William Collett, age 32 and of Melksham, was not with them on the census day in 1881, but was in lodgings at 38 Newport Street in Swindon, where he was working at that time.

Sometime in the late 1880s the family moved to Gloucester, where William worked at the Gloucester Wagon Works. So by 1891 the family, excluding eldest son William who had already left the family home, was living in the South Hamlet registration district of Gloucester.

The census record for 1891 confirmed the family as William Collett, age 41, his wife Sarah who was 40, and their three children as Fanny who was 16, Ellen who was 14, and Fred who was 11 years old, and all three of them born at Wantage.

William later set up his own coach building company under the name Wm Collett & Sons, and this was confirmed in the 1901 Census.

The census records show the family living in the city of Gloucester. William's age was given as 51, as was Sarah's, and both of them were confirmed as having been born at Melksham. Also still living with their parents at that time was their daughter Fanny E Collett, age 26 from Wantage, and their youngest son Frederick, age 21 and also of Wantage.

The occupation of their father William Collett was recorded as coach builder, while the youngest son Frederick was a coach painter, working in his father's business. Also working with William at Wm Collett & Sons at that time, was his eldest son William who was married with children of his own by March 1901.

Their absence from the census in 1911 may indicate that both had passed away by then, since still living in Gloucester, was their daughter Fanny, who was married by then, and their sons William and Frederick who were also both married and both managing the family company of Wm Collett & Sons.

35056	<u>William Thomas Collett</u>	Born in 1872
35057	<u>Fanny Elizabeth Collett</u>	Born in 1874
35058	Ellen Collett	Born in 1876 at Wantage
35059	FREDERICK COLLETT	Born in 1879

35N55 Ellen Collett was born at Melksham where she was baptised on 25.01.1852. In 1861 she was listed as living with her parents in Melksham at the age of nine.

Following the death of her mother in the 1860s and her father taking a second and much younger wife in the early 1870s, it seems likely that it was around that time when she left England to join her two older brothers in America.

No trace of Ellen has been found in the UK Census of 1871, although her two younger brothers Thomas and Frederick were still living with their father at Melksham at that time. By 1880 she was recorded as living at Hamden, New Haven in Connecticut with her youngest brother Frederick (below) and the home of William Conn and his wife Maria, both of them from England.

Ellen Collett was still single and was described as being 27 and someone who 'does housework'. It is not known at this time if she was married at some later date.

35N56 Thomas Collett was born at Melksham in 1854 and was six years old in the census of 1861 when he was living with his parents at Melksham. During the next decade his mother died and by April 1871 he was 17 and was still living at Melksham with his widowed father Stephen, and his younger siblings Maria and Frederick (below).

With his father then marrying for a second time during the following year, Thomas sailed to America with his sister Ellen (above) and his younger brother Frederick (below). The exact date of the voyage has not yet been determined.

Once in America the three young people travelled to Connecticut where their older brother John Collett (above) was already established. The US Census of 1800 confirmed that Thomas Collett was already married to Julia Collett of Connecticut, Julia's father being from Canada and her mother from Ireland.

Thomas was 25 and Julia was 20 and, on that occasion, Thomas was working at the same place as his two brothers, that being an auger factory. Julia was described as 'keeping house'.

35N57 Maria Collett was baptised at Melksham on 25.11.1855. Her mother Grace died in the 1860s and, by 1871 when Maria was 16, she was still living at Melksham with her widowed father Stephen. By the time of the next census in 1881 she was referred to as Mary J Collett, age 25, when she was an unmarried parlour maid at the home of Thomas H Tooke, the Rector of Monkton Farleigh.

35N58 Frederick Collett was born at Melksham in 1858 and was three years old when living with his parents at Melksham in 1861. Ten years later, and following the death of his mother, he was 13 and was living at Melksham with his widowed father and just two of his siblings, Thomas and Maria (above).

Sometime during the 1870s Frederick, together with his sister Ellen and brother Thomas, sailed to America to be reunited with their older brother John Collett, who was living in Connecticut at that time.

According to the US Census of 1880, all four of them were living at Hamden, New Haven in Connecticut. Frederick, age 22, and his sister Ellen, were both staying with William Conn and his wife Maria, who were also from England. William Conn was employed in an auger shop, where Frederick was also working.

35N59 Emily Collett was born at Melksham in 1872 and was the daughter of Stephen Collett of Melksham and his second wife Susan H Hayward of Plymouth. By 1881 she was living with her father at Broughton Road in Melksham, while he mother and her younger brother Frank (below) were visiting family and friends in Plymouth.

For whatever reason, Emily was not baptised until she was thirteen years old. This happened at Melksham on 15.11.1885 at which time her parents were confirmed as Stephen and Susan Collett. No trace of Emily has been found after that time, probably because she was later married.

35N61 **Frank S Collett** was born at Melksham in 1877, the youngest child of Stephen Collett of Melksham and his second wife Susan H Hayward of Plymouth. When he was three years old Frank S Collett of Melksham was with his mother Susan, when both of them were listed as visitors at the Plymouth home of James Taylor and his family.

At that same time his father and his two older siblings were still living at Broughton Road in Melksham, where their needs were temporarily being cared for by Stephen's sister Maria Daniels nee Collett (above), who was described as their housekeeper.

Also by that time in 1881, Frank's older half-children from his father's first marriage had left England and had sailed to North America, to settle in Michigan and Connecticut.

Ten years later the census of 1891 placed 13 years old Frank Collett living with his parents at Melksham. No record of Frank has been found in Great Britain in 1901 or 1911 and, it is believed that the reason for this was, that he was a soldier in the army and was serving abroad.

According to the British Army records, there was a Private Frank S Collett No. 3-6813 who served with the Somerset Light Infantry from 11th October 1915 onwards, who fought on the front line in France during the Great War. Further verification is required to confirm whether this was Frank S Collett from Melksham, but it seems highly likely that it was.

35N66 **Samuel Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1832 and was 18 at the time of the 1851 Census when he was still living there with his parents. No later record has been found of Samuel or his brother James (below).

35N69 **James Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford in 1840 and was 11 years old in 1851 when he was living there with his parents. No further record has so far been located for James or Samuel (above).

35N75 **Matilda Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford, where she was baptised on 10.02.1856. In 1861 she was five years old, and was 15 in 1871. On both occasions she was living with her parents in the Bradford-on-Avon South Eastern registration district.

In 1881, at the age of 25 she was unmarried and was working as a domestic servant and a nurse for Mauritius born Alan Brodrick, the 54 years old Rector of Broughton Gifford at his home in Broughton Street in the village.

35N76 **Abijah Alice Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford and was baptised there on 08.06.1861. According to the 1871 Census she was 'Amelia aged nine years' while in 1881 she was 19 with no occupation, when she was still living with her parents at Broughton Road in Melksham. Ten years later she was still a spinster, age 29, when she was still living with her parents.

35N77 **Richard Pook Collett** was originally born as Richard Pook at Clifton in Bristol in 1844. He was the only son of Mary Anne Collett and Richard Pook, and he lived with the Pook surname for nearly thirty years. By the time of the Clifton census of 1851 Richard's age was confirmed as being six years.

It was during the early 1870s that Richard changed to his name by adding his mother's surname. She had died in 1872 but, the year before in 1871, a potential relative by the name of Edmund Walter Pook, was arrested for the Eltham murder of Maria Clousen, which happened when Richard was in London.

It was also around that same time, that Richard married Sarah Ann Hulin who was born at Fishponds in Bristol in 1844. Shortly after they were married the couple were living at Small Heath in Birmingham, where their first child was born.

Not long after that the family moved to Evington on the eastern outskirts of Leicester, where their next two children were born. By the time of the census of 1881 Richard P Collett, age 36, was working as an assistant embosser in glass and was employing one man.

His place of birth was confirmed as Clifton in Bristol and his wife was recorded as Sarah Ann Collett, age 36 and of Fishponds in Bristol. Living with them at 61 Myrtle Road in the city of Leicester was their daughter Gertrude who was five, their son Herbert who was three, and baby Edith who was just six months old.

Also living with the family was Sarah Ann's brother Oliver Hulin, age 26 and of Fishponds, who was an unemployed engine fitter. The family were affluent enough to employ a domestic servant in the shape of 18 years old Harriet A Hilter.

Ten years later the family was complete, following the arrival of daughters Beatrice and Mabel. So the full family was listed in the Leicester census of 1891 as Richard 46, Sarah 46, Gertrude 15, Herbert 13, Edith 10, Beatrice who was seven, and Mabel who was five years old. It would appear that Richard died at Leicester in 1900.

So just after the turn of the century the family, excluding Richard, was still living in Leicester. His widow Sarah, at the age of 56, had taken over the family business by 1901 and was described as a leaded glass maker, while working with her was her son Herbert.

In addition to her son Herbert, all of Sarah's other children were still living with her. Gertrude was 25, Herbert 23, Edith 20, Beatrice 17, and Mabel was 15.

Sarah Ann Collett of Bristol was still living in Leicester ten years later in April 1911 at the age of 66. Still living there with her were her two daughters Edith Mary Collett who was 29, and Mabel Eveline Collett who was 25.

35O60	Gertrude Annie Collett	Born in 1875
35O61	Herbert Frank Collett	Born in 1877
35O62	Edith Mary Collett	Born in 1880
35O63	Beatrice Emily Collett	Born in 1883
35O64	Mabel Eveline Collett	Born in 1885

35N78 **Emma Collett** was born in 1839 at Horton in Gloucestershire, just north of Chipping Sodbury. In June 1841 Emma was one year old and was living with her parents at Leonard Stanley. Her age in the subsequent census records would indicate that she was born in 1842, but this may have simply been to reduce the age difference between herself and her younger husband.

She married George Sparrow during the late 1860s and by 1871 Emma and George were living at Cherington with their two children. George was 25 and Emma was 28, and listed with them was their son William Sparrow who was two, and their daughter Annie G Sparrow who was under one year old.

By 1891 Emma and George had moved north, and were living in County Durham. The census that year listed the family as gamekeeper George Sparrow of Cherington, age 45, his wife Emma, age 48 and of Horton, and their daughter Annie Sparrow who was 20 and also of Cherington.

Living with the family at Londonderry Cottage in Longnewton, near Stockton-on-Tees at that time, was Emma's widowed father William Collett who was 83 and from Slaughterford in Wiltshire.

It might be that Emma and her father died during the next ten years since, by 1901, George Sparrow of Cherington was 54 and was still working as a gamekeeper at Longnewton. The only person then living with him was his daughter Annie Grace Sparrow who was 30 and whose occupation was that of a dressmaker.

35N82 **Harriet Martha Collett** was born at Marylebone in London in 1844. In the census of 1851 she was six years old and was living with her parents at 6 Brook Street in Hammersmith. Ten years later, at the age of 16, she was a nurse in domestic service at the home of cloth merchant and shipper John P Bull at 15 Hyde Park Street in Paddington.

By 1881 when she was 36, Harriet was living with her parents at The Swan Inn, in the Southwark area of London. Ten years later in 1891, she was living with her mother at 31 Mount Sion in Tunbridge Wells, where they were both described as caretakers of a furnished house.

It is highly likely that Harriet was the 'aunt Harriet M Collett' referred to in the military records as the English next of kin of Captain Clive Franklyn Collett (Ref. 31O16) of New Zealand, who died in 1917, when her address was given as 117 Central Hill in Upper Norwood in London.

35N83 Henry Edwin Collett was born at Marylebone in London in 1847 and was listed as being three years old in the Hammersmith census of 1851, when she was living at the family home at 6 Brook Street.

Sometime during the next decade the family moved house, but stayed living within the Hammersmith area of London. The 1861 Census recorded Henry Collett, age 13, as living with his family at 9 Spring Street.

At the age of 33 he was still a bachelor living with his parents at The Swan Inn in the St George the Martyr district of Southwark, south London. And with no occupation stated, it seems likely that he helped his father Edwin in the running of the public house.

From the information within the later census records it is apparent that, about five years later, at the age of 38, he married Emily from Ramsgate, possibly during 1886. Emily was also in her late thirties, and within the next four years she presented Henry with two daughters.

By March 1901 Henry Collett of Marylebone, age 53, was an off-licence holder living in the Acton area of London with his wife Emily who was 52, and their daughters Patience who was 13 and born at Marylebone, and Dorothy who was 10 and born at Southwark.

The census of 1911 recorded the family living within the Brentford registration district, where the head of the household was Henry Edwin Collett of London, age 63, and his wife was Emily who was 62. Still living with the couple were their two daughters, Patience Emily Collett who was 23, and Dorothy Martha Collett who was 20.

35O65	Patience Emily Collett	Born in 1887 at Marylebone
35O66	Dorothy Martha Collett	Born in 1890 at Southwark

35N84 Robert William Collett was born at Hammersmith in 1851, the son of Edwin Collett and Martha Young. He was nine years old in the Hammersmith census of 1861, when he was living with his family at 9 Spring Street. Ten years later, at the age of 19, he was working as a plumber, while he was still living with his parents who, by then, were residing at 18 Overstone Road in Hammersmith.

Five years later in 1876, Robert William Collett married Christine Louisa Grove at Fulham in London. It was as Christine Louisa Grove that she was born in London on 29.01.1859 and baptised at Holy Trinity Church in Clapham, Surrey on 08.05.1859, the daughter of James and Laura Mary Grove.

Although the couple had two children prior to 1881, the first born at Acton and the second at Clapham, curiously no record of any member of the family has been found in the census that year. However, ten years later in 1891 the family of four was recorded as living within the Wandsworth & Clapham registration district of London.

At that time in his life Robert Collett was 35, which may have been a misinterpretation of 39, when he was living with his wife Christina Collett who was 34, also an error since she was 31, together with their two children. They were Ernest Collett who was 13, and Florence Collett who was 12 years old.

Ten years after that the family was still together, according to the census in March 1901, by which time Robert had followed in his father's footsteps and was a publican's manager at the age of 49. The hostelry in question was 'The Two Brewers Inn' at 76 Perry Hill in Lewisham. Robert was also described as having been born in Middlesex, and that he was a worker at home.

His wife was listed as Christine Collett, age 41 and from Clapham, while their two children were Ernest Collett, age 23 and from Acton, who was an ironmonger's assistant, and Florence Collett who was 22 and from Clapham who had no occupation, presumably helping her parents at the public house.

After a further ten years Robert William Collett, age 59, was living at Epsom in Surrey with just his wife Christine Louise Collett who was 52, their two children having left home to be married by then.

35O67
35O68

Ernest Collett
Florence Collett

Born in 1877 at Acton
Born in 1878 at Clapham

35N85 **Frank Walter Collett** was born in 1856 at Lushill near Castle Eaton by the River Thames, within the Highworth registration area to the east of Swindon. He was four years old in the Highworth census of 1861 when he was living with his parents and his Louisa (below) at Hillsworth Farm in Lushill.

Shortly before he reached the age of ten years, Frank and his family left Lushill, when they moved to Chippenham and to Pew Hill, where they were living in 1866.

Their time at Pew Hill was short-lived, and by 1867 the family had moved out of the town of Chippenham, and was living just to the north, in the village of Langley Burrell, which became the family's more permanent home.

At the time of the census in 1871 Frank Walter Collett was 14, and he was living at Langley Burrell with his family. Tragedy hit the family later that same year, when Frank's mother Elizabeth died during childbirth, leaving his father with a large family to care for.

However, living with the family as a visitor, was Frank's aunt Rosa Wright, whom his father married in 1872. So in 1881 Frank was living with his father and his stepmother at The Brewery in Burrell, along with his four siblings and six half-siblings. Frank W Collett was unmarried at 24, and was working as a brewer with his father Henry Collett.

It was a few years later that Frank married Lucie Elizabeth Rich who was born at Chippenham in 1866, and by 1891 the couple had settled in the village of Banwell to the east of Weston-super-Mare in Somerset, when they were living at The Farms. Lucie was nearly ten years younger than Frank as recorded in the census, when Frank W Collett was 34 and his wife Lucie E Collett was 25. Also living at The Farms with the couple, was Lucie's cousin Ethel L Rich who was six years old.

Lucie may well have been expecting the couple's first child on the day of the census since, later that same year, she gave birth to the first of their two sons, both of whom were born at Banwell in Somerset. Sometime after the birth of their second child, the family gave up Somerset for Berkshire, and in March 1901 the family of four was living at 44 Peasecod Street in New Windsor.

The census that year recorded the family as Frank Walter Collett, age 44 and from Tushill (sic), Highworth, whose occupation was that of a brewer's manager, his wife Lucy Elizabeth Collett, age 35 and from Chippenham, and their two sons Cecil Henry Collett who was nine, and Francis Austin Collett who was seven years old.

It was during the following decade that the family returned to Wiltshire and settled in the Calne registration district, where three of them were living in April 1911. According to that year's census return, the couple's eldest son Cecil was no longer living at the family home, and no trace of him has been found at that time.

The remainder of the family comprised Frank W Collett who was 53, his wife Lucie E Collett who was 43, and their son Francis A Collett who was 17.

Frank Walter Collett died at Chippenham on 08.04.1935 when he was approaching 80 years of age. The Will of Frank Walter Collett was proved at Winchester on 10th July 1935 and this left effects of £7,917 9s 11d to his wife Lucie and to Frederick John Burden, accountant. Frederick was his brother-in-law, who by then was a widower, who was also named in the 1917 Will of his wife Mabel Burden, and in the 1923 Will of Rosa Collett, his mother-in-law.

35O69
35O70

Cecil Henry Collett
Francis Austin Collett

Born in 1891 at Barnwell; after 5th April
Born in 1983 at Banwell

35N86 **Louisa Naomi Collett** was born at Lushill near Castle Eaton in 1858, the second child and eldest daughter of Henry Collett and his first wife Elizabeth Buckland. Louisa married George Allen Wayte Bryant in Chippenham during 1883. George was the son of George Bryant and Mary Catherine, and was born at Langley Burrell in 1856.

During the first seven years of their life together, Louisa presented her husband with four children while they were living at Langley Burrell. Catherine E Bryant, known as Kate, was born in 1884 and died at Salisbury in 1965, Francis George H Bryant, known as Frank, was born in 1886 and died at Weymouth in 1964, Florence L Bryant was born in 1888, and Graham Henry Charles Bryant was born in 1890 and died at Chippenham in 1960.

The Bryant family was documented in the 1891 Census as living at Commons Farm in Langley Burrell, Chippenham, but by the time of the next census in 1901, and again in 1911, they were living at Manor Farm in Chippenham Without. On the occasion of the 1891 Census, Louisa's mother-in-law, Mary Catherine Bryant, age 72, was also living with the family.

Louisa Naomi Bryant nee Collett died at Chippenham during 1941, her husband George Bryant having died in the previous year on 02.02.1940. Probate of the Will of George Allen Wayte Bryant on 11th March 1940 left an estate of £7,690 4s 6d to Graham Henry Charles Bryant, milk-buyer, and Edmund Portman Awdry, solicitor. At the time of his death, George Bryant was residing at 2 Greenway Park in Chippenham.

35N87 **Mary Kate Collett** was born at Lushill near Castle Eaton during the last quarter of 1861, the third child of Henry and Elizabeth Collett. It was during 1884 that she married Charles Banks with whom she had a daughter, Hilda Blanche Banks, who was born 1886.

At the time of the census in 1891, Mary Kate Banks, age 29, was living with her daughter Hilda Blanche, age 5, at The Brewery in Langley Burrell, the home of her father, Henry Collett and her step-mother Rosa Collett. Also living there was her brother, brewer Charles H Collett, and her half-siblings, Mabel, Laura Rose, Godfrey, and Stanley B Collett.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Ten years later, in the 1901, Mary Kate Banks, age 39 and a book-keeper, was living at 105 Frogwell House, the home of her step-mother Rosa Collett. Also living there was her daughter, Hilda Blanche Banks who was 15 and a millinery apprentice, together with Mary Kate's half-siblings, Mabel Collett, Laura Rose Collett, Stanley B Collett, a solicitor's clerk, and her cousin Percy Harris Collett (below) who was 27 and a farmer's son.

Mary Kate Banks nee Collett died at Frogwell House in Chippenham on 09.01.1909. Her Will was administered and proved in London on 6th February 1909 and stated that her daughter, the spinster Hilda Blanche Banks, was the sole beneficiary of her estate of £143 11s 9d.

35N88 **Charles Henry Collett** was born at Pew Hill in Chippenham in 1866. Just after he was born his family settled in the village of Langley Burrell on the northern outskirts of Chippenham, where his father took over The Brewery. And it was at The Brewery, as Charles Henry Collett aged four years, that he was living with his family in 1871.

Later that same year Charles' mother died, and the following year his father married Charles' aunt Rosa Wright. The family continued to live at The Brewery in Langley Burrell, where Charles was 14 in 1881, and again in 1891 when he was 24.

After his father died in 1896, Charles chose not to stay with his stepmother. Instead he went to live with his uncle Joseph Collett (his father's older brother) at Bowerhill, near Melksham. According to the census in 1901, Charles Collett of Chippenham was 34 and a visitor at the house of his uncle, farmer Joseph Collett of Keevil. It was stated in the census that Charles Collett was 'living on own means'.

Ten years later in 1911, no record of a Charles Collett born in Chippenham around 1866 has been found. It is established that it was while he was at Devizes in Wiltshire around June 1935 that Charles Henry Collett died, although it is not known if he ever married after 1901.

35N89 **Daniel Warren Collett** was born at Langley Burrell in 1867, where he was baptised on 01.12.1867, the son of Henry Collett and Elizabeth Buckland. At the age of three years, he was living with his family at Langley Burrell in April 1871 when his name was recorded as Daniel Warren Collett. A few months

after that his mother died, and the following year his father married his cousin Rosa Wright.

In 1881 Daniel and his family were living at The Brewery in Langley Burrell. On that occasion he was listed as Daniel M Collett, age 13, and whilst that may have been a misinterpretation of W, some members of the later family believe his named was Daniel Maurice Collett or Daniel Morris Collett.

After that time, no record further of Daniel Collett of Langley Burrell has been found.

35N90 Edwin Graham Collett was born at Langley Burrell in 1872, the first child from the second marriage of Henry Collett to his cousin Rosa Wright, which took place earlier that same year, and following the death of Henry's first wife in 1871.

By the time of the census in 1881, Edwin G Collett was eight years old when he was living with his parents and his five younger siblings, plus his five older half-brothers and half-sisters at The Brewery in Langley Burrell

Sadly Edwin Graham Collett died at Langley Burrell when he was around 13 years of age, the death being recorded in Chippenham during the first quarter of 1886. By then he may have already left school, and therefore his death might have been the result of an accident while he was at work.

35N91 Roland Collett was born at Langley Burrell in 1873, the son of Henry Collett and his second wife Rosa Wright. He was seven years old in 1881, when he was living with his family at The Brewery in Langley Burrell.

Ten years later he had completed his education and had left the family home in Langley Burrell. He was working as a printer compositor in 1891, while staying at 31 Springfield Road in the Barton Regis & Ashley area of Bristol, a boarding house run by Louisa Harris.

It would appear that he took a temporary break from his career in printing when, by the end of the century he had followed in his father's footsteps and was working in the brewery trade.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



According to the census in March 1901, bachelor Roland Collett, age 27 and from Chippenham, had returned to the town, where he was the inn keeper at the Rose & Crown Inn at 14 Market Street.

Also living at the Rose & Crown Inn, was Florence Mary Collett, domestic servant, who was described as the cousin of head of the household Roland Collett.

It was six months later that Rowland Collett married his cousin Florence Mary Collett at Melksham on 04.09.1901. Florence was the daughter of Joseph Collett, and was born at Trowbridge in 1874, but apart from that it is not clear how the couple were related. The marriage produced no children for Rowland and Florence, who then emigrated to Canada.

It would appear that Roland sailed to Canada ahead of his wife, perhaps to secure a life there before she joined him. What is known is that Florence M Collett sailed from Liverpool on the SS Ionian and arrived at Quebec on 1st May 1905. Accompanying her on the voyage were her brothers-in-law, Godfrey Collett and Stanley B Collett (both below). The ship's passenger list recorded that she was a farmer bound for Grenfell in Saskatchewan, and that Godfrey, a brewer, was going to Winnipeg with his brother Stanley who was a farmer.

Once reunited in Canada, it was Roland and Florence who initially settled in Winnipeg, while Godfrey and Stanley ended up in Grenfell. Rowland then reverted back to his experience in the printing world, and with his knowledge of English, he pursued a new career as a publisher and an editor. This he carried on for over twenty-seven years, working on the Sinaluta Times newspaper in Sinaluta, Saskatchewan, which he himself had established.

No record of the couple has so far been found in the Canadian census records for 1906 and 1911. However, in 1916 they were both 46 years old when they were living in Sinaluta, Saskatchewan, within the District of Qu'Appelle.

Roland Collett died at Sintaluta, Saskatchewan in Canada on 04.06.1934. His funeral was attended by a large number of people which was a “testimony to the love and esteem in which he was held”. Roland and Florence were both buried at Sintaluta, although it is not known exactly when Florence Mary Collett died.

On his death, the newspaper described him as “One of our most popular and respected citizens”. According to his biography, published in the Sintaluta Times, Roland came to Canada in 1905 and lived in Winnipeg, Manitoba before moving to Sintaluta in 1907 to found the Sintaluta Times newspaper of which he was publisher and editor. He was very active in his community. His brother Herbert J Collett and his family lived in Grenfell, Saskatchewan about twenty-five miles east of Sintaluta.

35N92 Mabel Collett was born at Langley Burrell in 1875 and at the time of the Langley Burrell census of 1881 she was five years old and was living at The Brewery with her parents Henry and Rosa Collett.

In 1891 she was 15 years of age, and was 20 years old when her father died in 1896.

By March 1901 Mabel was one of three children still living at Langley Burrell with their mother Rosa Collett. Neither Mabel, nor her sister Laura (below) were credited with an occupation, it was just their brother Stanley (below) who was working at that time.



Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins

Ten years later, in April 1911, Mabel and her sister were still unmarried when Mabel was 35 and was still living in Chippenham. It was not until the second quarter of the following year that Mabel Collett married Frederick J Burden at Chippenham, although they had no issue due to their advanced ages.

The couple had only been married for five years when Mabel Burden nee Collett died on 20.05.1917, when she was buried in the churchyard of the Church of St Nicholas Hardenhuish in Chippenham, where her sister Laura was also buried, nearly thirty years later.

The Will of Mabel Burden was proved on 23rd August 1917 at Salisbury, and included the following words: “Mabel of the Folly, Chippenham Wiltshire, wife of Frederick John Burden, died 20 May 1917. Administration at Salisbury to the said Frederick John Burden, accountant, effects £251 13s 10d.”

Frederick Burden was also named as the recipient of the effects of his mother-in-law, Rosa Collett when she died in 1923, amounting to £419 1s 6d, and his half-brother-in-law, Frank Walter Collett who died in 1935.

35N93 Laura Rose Collett was born at Langley Burrell during the third quarter of 1876 and was four years old and living with her family at The Brewery in Langley Burrell in 1881, and again in 1881 when she was 14.

Five years after that her father died, and by 1901 she and her sister Mabel (above) and brother Stanley (below) were the only members of the family still living at Langley Burrell with their widowed mother.



Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins

Laura Rose Collett was still unmarried by the time of the census in April 1911, when she was 34 and was still living in Chippenham with her sister Mabel. However, that arrangement ceased in 1912 when Mabel was married. Laura never married and died at Langley Burrell on 14.07.1945, following which she was buried with her sister Mabel Burden nee Collett at the Church of St Nicholas Hardenhuish in Chippenham.

35N94

Herbert James Collett was born at Langley Burrell on 25.07.1877, which corresponded with him being three years old in the census of 1881 and 13 years old in 1891.

However, an alternative source states that the year he was born was 1876, although this would mean that he would have been 4 or 5 in 1881, and 14 or 15 in 1891, which would also make him the same age as his sister Laura, with whom he was obviously not twinned.

When he was three years old, he was living at The Brewery in Langley Burrell with his parents, but ten years later, the census in 1891 placed him living within the Bath & Batheaston registration district, when he was 13 and attending the Weston Boarding School.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Five years later his father, the brewer Henry Collett died in 1896, following which Herbert emigrated to Canada. He arrived at Halifax in Nova Scotia on 29th March 1897, having sailed on the SS Parisian from Liverpool. His ultimate destination was Indian Head in the North West Territory, today known as Saskatchewan. In the 1901 Census of Canada, Herbert was living in the Assiniboia East District of the North West Territory (Indian Head) and was listed as a domestic in the home of Stephen Campkin.

After seven years living in Canada, Herbert married Florence Mary Hextall on 29.10.1903 at Winnipeg, Manitoba. Florence was born at Knaptoft in Leicestershire on 01.02.1881 and, in the census that year, Florence was just two months old. At that time she was living at Manor Farm in Knaptoft with her parents, farmer Thomas Bentley Hextall of Medbourne in Leicestershire and Mary Ann Hextall nee Bryan from (Great) Oxenden in Northamptonshire.

It was during the following year, in 1882, that her father sold Manor Farm at Medbourne to the Cunard Steamship Company which was going to build a railway line through it, with the farmhouse being converted into a guesthouse. With the sale completed, Thomas Bentley Hextall and his brother-in-law Ashby James Bryan, left England to start of new life at Indian Head where he established a new Manor Farm at Grenfell. It was the following year that his wife and their children, including Florence, joined him there, making the crossing of the Atlantic on board the SS Circassian, sailing out of Liverpool, via Merville in Ireland, and arriving at Quebec on 7th May 1883.

Over the following years Florence and her mother returned to England on a number of occasions and, on one of those visits, they were recorded in the Market Harborough registration district census of 1891. On that occasion they were staying at the home of Florence's grandmother, when Florence Mary Hextall was 10 years old. The place of her mother's birth was Great Oxenden, which lies just a few miles south of Market Harborough, and was very likely where her grandmother was still living.

The marriage of Herbert James Collett and Florence Mary Hextall produced five children for the couple, and all of them born at Grenfell, where the family lived for the majority of the remainder of their life together. In the 1906 Census of Canada Western Provinces Manitoba, Saskatchewan & Alberta, Herbert Collett and his wife Florence were living in the Qu'Appelle District of Saskatchewan, just south of Grenfell. Herbert, age 27, was a farmer, Florence was 25, and with them were their first two children, Herbert N Collett who was one year old, and Phyllis M Collett who had only been born earlier that same year.

The family referred to their place of resident in 1906 as the Ott Place, and living there with them at that time were two hired hands, Reginald Newman who was 36, and Harold Smallcombe who was 27. In the same census, and living nearby were two of Herbert's brothers. They were Godfrey Collett who was a domestic servant at the home of Florence's brother, William Bryan Hextall, and Stanley Beaconsfield Collett who was a lodger in a rooming house in Grenfell.

Five years later in 1911, Herbert was not listed in the census with Florence, who was recorded as the married head of the household, living at Grenfell in Qu'Appelle Sub District with her four children. They were Neville who was six, Phyllis who was five, Doris who was three, and Leslie who was one year old. The family was not living on a farm at that time, but instead they were living in the town of Grenfell.

It may be of interest that none of the three brothers, Herbert, Godfrey, or Roland, who had settled in Saskatchewan, were recorded as living there in the 1911 Census, only their brother Stanley was listed. However, within the census of 1916, Herbert and Roland were listed, while Stanley had returned to England by then.

In that census in 1916, Herbert was back living with his family which, by that time, was once again living just south of Grenfell in the Qu'Appelle District, but not on the same farm as in 1906. On the census return, the Collett family was listed as family #64, and just above them on the same page was family #59, that of Florence's brother, William Bryan Hextall. At that time Herbert and his family were living at Crowe Farm, where Florence was 35, and their children were Neville 12, Phyllis 10, Doris who was nine, and Leslie who was seven.

In 1929 Herbert and Florence moved to the Ceylon Farm, to the south of Grenfell and remained there until 1945. The couple then moved to Regina, Saskatchewan where they owned a rooming house on Halifax Street.

Five years later Herbert James Collett died at Regina on 17.08.1950, following which Florence sold the house on Halifax Street and moved to Dewdney Avenue in the town. She survived there for a further twenty-one years and died at Pioneer Village in Regina on 30.11.1971, and was buried with Herbert in the Regina City Cemetery on 3rd December 1971.

35071	Herbert Neville Collett	Born in 1904 at Grenfell
35072	Phyllis Mary Collett	Born in 1906 at Grenfell
35073	Doris Mabel Collett	Born in 1907 at Grenfell
35074	Eric Leslie Collett	Born in 1909 at Grenfell
35075	Florence Evelynne Collett	Born in 1919 at Grenfell

35N95 **Godfrey Collett** was born at Langley Burrell on 11.08.1879, the son of Henry and Rosa Collett. In 1881 he was one year old and eleven years of age in 1891 when, on both occasions, he was living with his family at Langley Burrell.

Ten years later, in the census of 1901, when he would have been 21, Godfrey Collett from Chippenham, was recorded as a draper's traveller and a boarder at the Foresters Arms in Andover St Mary's in Hampshire. His age was recorded as 26, which may have been a misinterpretation of 20.



Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins

Four years later, Godfrey and his brother Stanley (below), accompanied their sister-in-law and cousin, Florence Mary Collett, the wife of their brother Roland, when they emigrated to Canada. The party sailed out of Liverpool on the SS Ionian, arriving in Quebec on 1st May 1905. The ship's passenger list described them as Godfrey Collett, a brewer going to Winnipeg, Mary F (Florence Mary) Collett, a farmer going to Grenfell, and Stanley B Collett, a farmer going to Winnipeg.

Upon their arrival in Canada it would appear that their plans were reversed, with Godfrey and Stanley going to Winnipeg, and with Florence Mary travelling to Grenfell, where she was reunited with her husband Roland. During the following year, Godfrey was recorded in the census of 1906 as residing in the Western Provinces of Canada, where he was working as a domestic servant at the home of William Bryan Hextall, the brother of Florence Mary Hextall who had married Godfrey's brother Herbert James Collett (above).

When he left Saskatchewan is not known, since there are no family records of him. However, according to his niece, Phyllis Collett, "Uncle Godfrey settled in Vancouver, British Columbia and married a widow who already had a boy and a girl, he having no children of his own". From their death records it is evident that the widow he married was Mabel May Chatten, who was born at Longham in Norfolk, England on 01.01.1889.

The 1911 Census for the Western Provinces of Canada included Mabel May Chatten, age 22, as single and living in Strathcona, Manitoba with her brother, George Chatten, who was head of the household and married. Also living there were her parents, John and Mary Jane Chatten. The record showed that George Chatten had arrived in Canada in 1903, with Mabel joining him in 1910, and her parents arriving in 1911. Although George was married, there was no wife with him at that time.

By the time of the census in 1916, the Chatten family was living at Battle River in Alberta, when widower George Chatten and his seven years old daughter Mabel May Chatten were living there with his parents.

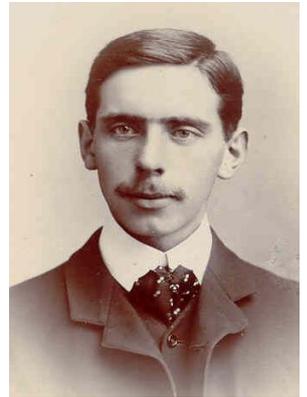
Godfrey Collett died at New Westminster in British Columbia on 14.11.1954, and was survived by his wife for almost twenty-eight years, when Mabel May Collett nee Chatten died on 27.02.1982, while at White Rock in British Columbia.

35N96 Stanley Beaconsfield Collett was born at Langley Burrell on 24th April 1881, exactly three weeks after the census day, and was the sixth and youngest child of Henry Collett and his second wife Rosa Wright.

By the time of the next census in 1891 Stanley was nine years old and was still living at Langley Burrell with his parents, Henry and Rosa Collett.

Following the death of his father in 1896, and upon leaving school, Stanley worked in a solicitor's office. This was confirmed by the Langley Burrell census in March 1901, when he was named as one of three children still living at Langley Burrell with his widowed mother, when he was 19 and employed as a solicitor's clerk.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



After that Stanley is known to have joined his brothers in Canada, but returned to England before the outbreak of war in 1914. Subsequently he went to New Zealand and, when the war started, he enlisted with the New Zealand Rifle Brigade. He was living and working in Palmerston North when he enlisted at Trentham Camp on 22nd December 1915. At that time he was working as a clerk for Captain Preece and was staying with a possible relative, Mrs Collett, at 44 Main Street in Palmerston North, whom he referred to as a friend. His entry form confirmed that he was the son of Mrs R Collett of Ferndale, The Folly in Chippenham, Wiltshire, but very curiously he stated that he was 24 and not 34, and that he had been born on 24th April 1891 and not 1881. Perhaps he was concerned he would be rejected if he was considered to be too old.

When asked if he had served in any military service prior to this time he stated he had been with the Wiltshire Yeomanry. At his medical on 20th December 1915 it was revealed he had a scar on his upper lip, and a deformity of the right thumb, that he was 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighing 147 lbs, with brown hair and blue eyes. Although no date of birth was required, the medical examination form did say that he was 34 years old.

After four months training in New Zealand, Stanley eventually sailed from Wellington on 1st April 1916 and arrived at Suez on 2nd May. Eighteen days later he was on French soil and it was on 28th May that he marched into camp at Etaples. On 2nd June 1916 he was promoted from private to temporary corporal, and twenty-four days after that he was appointed temporary sergeant, a rank he relinquished at his own request on 11th November 1917. One year earlier, on 22nd November 1916 he was based at Rouen, where he remained until his death. On 12th January 1918 he was attached to the New Zealand 4th Army, but rejoined his own unit two months later.

The only item listed on his conduct sheet referred to an incident on 23rd October 1917 when he was charged with being drunk on duty.

Tragically Rifleman Stanley Beaconsfield Collett, service number 25/1689, of the First & Third Battalion of the New Zealand Rifle Brigade died from the wounds he received during the Battle of the Somme. He was shot in the back and abdomen on 5th April 1918 and was removed from the battlefield to the relative safety of No.3 Canadian Stationary Hospital, where he later died from his injuries that same day, when he was just short of his thirty-seventh birthday. His passing was reported by the Reverend S Wilkinson attached to the 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital.

In addition to his name being listed at the Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension No.1 in the town of Doullens, in Northern France, where he was buried, his name can also be found of the War Memorial in Chippenham, and on a memorial plaque at the Church of St Nicholas Hardenhuish in Chippenham.

The story of his life while in Canada is as follows, as kindly provided by Geraldine Hopkins nee Collett.

Stanley arrived in Quebec on 1st May 1905, having sailed on the SS Ionian from Liverpool with his brother Godfrey and his cousin and sister-in-law, Florence Mary Collett. The ship's record described him as a farmer travelling to Winnipeg in Manitoba with his brother Godfrey, who was a brewer. In the end though, the brothers ended up in Grenfell.

In the census the following year, Stanley was listed as a lodger at the home of John Wray of Grenfell, Saskatchewan, the same area where his two brothers Godfrey and Herbert were also living at that time.

The Saskatchewan Land Grants show that Stanley Beaconsfield Collett was granted Part NW, Section 34 in Township 13, Range 8 West of the 2nd Meridian, which is near Grenfell, Saskatchewan. In the 1911 Census of Canada, he was described as a farmer living there alone, and with no livestock on the premises. By that time his brothers, Godfrey and Herbert were not recorded in the 1911 Census, but Herbert's wife, Florence, and their children were living in Grenfell.

When his life as a farmer did not work out as he had planned, Stanley returned to England. He sailed out of St. John in New Brunswick, Canada on the Empress of Ireland, a Canadian Pacific Ship which arrived in Liverpool on 27th April 1912, and it was then two years later that Stanley emigrated to New Zealand.

35N97 Fanny Harris Collett was born at Keevil in 1860, the first child of Joseph Collett and Susan Harris. She was the only child living at Keevil with her parents in 1861, when she was listed as being under one year old. It would appear that she did not survive beyond childhood, since she was no longer living with her family in any later census records.

35N98 Edith M Collett was born at Keevil in 1862 and was eight years old by the time of the Keevil census in 1871. During the late 1870s, Edith and her family left Keevil when her father took over a farm in the village of Bowerhill immediately to the south of Melksham. By the time of the census in 1881, Edith had left the family home and was living and working in London.

The census return for the Fulham & St Peter Hammersmith registration district recorded her as Edith Collett from Keevil in Wiltshire, who was 18 years of age and who was starting out in life as a nurse.

Over the next few years her work as a nurse took her to Hastings in Kent, where in 1891 she was living and working in the St Mary in the Castle area of the town. Her next move was to the Isle of Wight, and it was there, in the centre of the island at Gatcombe, that she was living and working in 1901. By that time in her life Edith Collett from Keevil was 38 and was a nurse caring for the sick.

During the first decade of the new century Edith's father died, and so she returned to the family home in Bowerhill to look after her elderly mother. This was confirmed in the April census in 1911 when Edith Collett, age 48 and from Keevil, was living at Bowerhill with her elderly mother Susan Collett and her brother Percy Collett (below).

35N99 Frances Louisa Collett was born at Keevil in 1864 and was seven years old by the time of the Keevil census in 1871. Sometime around the mid-to-late 1870s her family moved to a farm in Bowerhill where Francis L Collett from Keevil was living with her parents at the age of 17, and when she was described as a farmer's daughter.

She was still living there with her parents and her brother Charles (below) ten years later, the census on that occasion listing her as Frances Louisa Collett, age 26 from Keevil. By March 1901 she was still not married, and was once again living at Bowerhill with her parents when she was 36.

However, on that occasion, the Charles Collett living with Frances and her parents was not her brother Charles from Keevil, but her cousin Charles Henry Collett (above) from Chippenham, the son of Henry Collett and his first wife, the late Elizabeth Buckland.

It would appear that Frances never married, since by 1911 she was living in the Westbury area of Wiltshire where she was recorded as Francis Louisa Collett from Keevil who was 46. No other Collett was living with her at that time.

35N100 Charles E Collett was born at Keevil in 1867 and he was three years old by the time of the Keevil census in 1871. By 1881 he and his family had left Keevil and were settled on a farm in Bowerhill near Melksham where the family lived for many years thereafter. In 1881 Charles E Collett from Keevil was 13 and was still attending school.

At the age of 23, Charles Collett from Keevil was still living with his parents at Bowerhill, but around the start of the new century he married Mary from Biddestone who was many years younger than Charles.

According to the census in 1901, Mary B Collett was only 21, compared to Charles who 33. Over the following years Mary presented Charles with two children, although others may have been born to the couple after April 1911. The census that month listed the family living at Bowerhill as Charles Collett, age 43 of Keevil, and his wife Mary who was 31, and with them their two children Edward Collett who was seven, and Joseph Collett who was one year old.

35O76	Edward Collett	Born in 1903 at Melksham
35O77	Joseph Collett	Born in 1909 at Melksham

35N101 Alice E Collett was born at Keevil in 1869 and was one year old by the time of the Keevil census in 1871. Ten years after that, she and her parents were living at Bowerhill, where Alice E Collett from Keevil was 11 years old and attending school. No record of Alice has been found after this time, and this may be because she was very likely married by 1891.

35N102 Percy Harris Collett was born at Keevil in 1873, just prior to his family's move from Keevil to the village of Bowerhill to the south of Melksham. He was the youngest child of Joseph Collett and Susan Harris and, in the Bowerhill census of 1881, Percy H Collett from Keevil was seven years old.

At the age of 17 he was recorded as residing within the Devizes area of Wiltshire, when he was described as Percy H Collett from Keevil, in the 1891 Census. During the next ten years he returned to his family, to work with his father on the farm at Bowerhill.

The census in 1901 gave his full name as Percy Harris Collett and the fact that he was born at Keevil. At that time he was described as a farmer's son, even though he was not actually with his father Joseph Collett on that occasion. Joseph Collett was at Bowerhill, while Percy, age 27, was staying with his widowed aunt Rosa Collett at Frogwell House in the Chippenham.

However, within a few years, his father died, and by 1911 Percy Collett, age 37 and of Keevil, was once again living with his mother Susan Collett at Bowerhill. He was still a bachelor, and living there with him was his older sister and nurse, Edith Collett of Keevil (above), who was caring for their elderly mother.

35N103 William Collett was born at Biddestone in 1864 and was 17 in April 1881. By then he had followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a journeyman baker, while he was still living at the family home in Church Street in Lacock just north of Melksham.

During the next decade he married Emily Jane who was born at Lacock in 1865, and it was at Lacock where they were living in 1891 and where their three children were born. That year's census recorded the family as William Collett, age 27, his wife Emily J Collett 25, and their two children as Maud who was two, and Clara who was not yet one year old.

Ten years later the family living at Lacock comprised William Collett, age 37, who was a butcher, his wife Emily who was 35, and their three children, Maud who was 12, Clara who was 10, and Louie who was eight years old.

According to the Lacock census of 1911, William of Biddestone was 47, his wife Emily Jane was 45, and living with them were their two daughters Maud 22 and Clara 20, and their son Louie who was 18, all of them confirmed as having been born at Lacock.

35O78	Maud M Collett	Born in 1888 at Lacock
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35079	Clara Collett	Born in 1890 at Lacock
35080	Louie Collett	Born in 1892 at Lacock

35N106 Harry Collett was born at Biddestone in 1872 and was aged eight years in the census of 1881, when he was living with his family in a cottage at Church Street in Lacock. He was still living at Lacock with his parents in 1891 when he was 18.

Sometime during 1890s Harry travelled to London where he met and married Maria who was born at Lambeth in 1872. Their three children were all born in London and by April 1901 Harry and his family had returned to Wiltshire and were living at Lacock, near to his parents, and his brother and his family.

The census recorded the family as Harry Collett of Biddestone, age 28, whose occupation was that of a house painter, his wife Maria of Lambeth, and their three children Winifred who was five, William who was four, and Harry who was three years old. Harry's first born son was named in honour of his older sibling Edwin, who had died while still in his teenage years.

According to the next census in April 1911, the family was still living at Lacock. Harry Collett of Biddestone was 38, his wife Maria was 37, and their Battersea born children were Winifred who was 15, William who was 14, and Harry who was 13.

Sometime during the next six years Harry Collett must have died since, by October 1917, his wife Maria was named as the sole next-of-kin, when she was notified of the death of their son William, who had served with the Royal Field Artillery during the battle of Ypres Salient.

Maria Collett's address was recorded at that time as being Nethercote Hill in Lacock, near Chippenham in Wiltshire.

35081	Winifred Minnie Collett	Born in 1895 at Battersea
35082	William Edwin Collett	Born in 1896
35083	Harry Collett	Born in 1897 at Battersea

35N107 Herbert Lewin Collett was born at Melksham in 1874. He was six years old in 1881 when he was living at the family home in Church Street in Lacock, and was still there ten years later in 1891 when he was 16. A few years later he secured a job with the Great Western Railway in Chippenham, where he met his future wife.

During 1897 Herbert married Annie with whom he is known to have had at least four children, and all of them born whilst the couple were living at Chippenham. In 1901 Herbert was 26 and was employed as a carpenter by the GWR, at their signal works in Chippenham.

His wife Annie of Chippenham was 26 and their first two children were Frederick aged two and Ethel who was not yet one year old. The couple's next two known children were born eight years apart, which may indicate that there might have been other children in between, who did not survive.

According to the next census in April 1911, the family of six was living within the Froghamshire district of the town of Chippenham, where Herbert was a carpenter of 36 from Melksham, living with his wife Annie also 36, and their four children Frederick 12, Ethel 10, Herbert who was eight years old, and baby Elsie who was ten months old.

35084	Frederick Collett	Born in 1898 at Chippenham
35085	Ethel May Collett	Born in 1900 at Chippenham
35086	Herbert Lewin Collett	Born in 1902 at Chippenham
35087	Elsie Annie Collett	Born in June 1910 at Chippenham

35N119 Henry Collett was born at Broughton Gifford where he was baptised on 29.08.1841. Around the early half of the 1860s he married Ann who was born at Bradford-on-Avon, and it was there that their first child was also born.

Not long after the birth of the child, Henry and Ann left Bradford-on-Avon and moved to Downton, just south of Salisbury. It was probably Henry's employment as a policeman that prompted this move. While at Downton a further three children were added to the family.

Around 1873 the family moved again, on that occasion to Biddestone near Chippenham, where three more children were added to the family. However, seven years later in 1880 the family moved the relatively short distance to Langley Burrell, where they were recorded as living in April 1881.

The full family was living in a police house in Langley Burrell, to the immediate north-east of Chippenham, which was referred to as the Police Station. By that time Henry had been promoted to the rank of sergeant at the age of 38, and his place of birth was confirmed as Broughton Gifford.

Living with him was his wife who was listed as Anne R Collett who was 34, together with their seven children Harry 15, Sarah 13, Arthur 12, James who was nine, Annie who was seven, Frederick who was three, and Mary who was one year old.

Sometime during the next twenty years Henry left the police constabulary and returned to working on the land. According to the census for Melksham Without in 1901 Henry Collett, age 59 of Broughton Gifford, was a farmer living with his wife Annie R Collett who was 54 and from Bradford-on-Avon.

By the time of the next census in April 1911, Henry and Ann had moved from Melksham to Swindon. Henry Collett was 69 and his wife Ann Rebecca Collett was 64. The couple's birth places were confirmed once again as Broughton Gifford and Bradford-on-Avon.

35O88	Harry D Collett	Born in 1865
35O89	Sarah Jane Collett	Born in 1867
35O90	Arthur Collett	Born in 1869
35O91	James Collett	Born in 1871 at Downton
35O92	Annie L Collett	Born in 1873 at Biddestone
35O93	Frederick George Collett	Born in 1877
35O94	Mary B Collett	Born in 1879 at Biddestone

35O1 **Martha Tarrant Collett** was born at Chester, Pennsylvania on 26.02.1851, the eldest of the three children of George Tarrant Collett and his wife Mary Ann Hill. She married James H Martin on 1st March 1884. William died on 24th January 1907, while Martha survived for a further thirty-seven years, when she died at Chicago Heights in Illinois on 26th January 1944.

35O2 **Mary Collett** was born at Chester on 11.05.1853 the second of the three children of George and Mary Collett. Mary never married and died at Chester on 14th February 1897.

35O3 **James Tarrant Collett** was born at Chester, Pennsylvania on 27.03.1855, the only son of George Tarrant Collett and his wife Mary Ann Hill. James was only nineteen months old when his father was involved in an accident at the lumber yard where he work, which resulted in his premature death.

James married Mary Emma Start who was born on 14th June 1857. Mary died on 26th August 1917, while James was living at Chester when he died on 22nd March 1931. It was also at Chester that all of their seven children were born.

35P1	George M Collett	Born on 04.07.1878 at Chester
35P2	Mary Ann Collett	Born on 10.07.1879 at Chester
35P3	George S Collett	Born in 1881 at Chester
35P4	Henry Sheppard Collett	Born on 23.11.1882 at Chester
35P5	Martha Tarrant Collett	Born on 12.08.1884 at Chester
35P6	James Howard Collett	Born on 14.03.1890 at Chester
35P7	Ethel Lee Collett	Born on 01.12.1896 at Chester

35O4 **Henry John Collett** was born at Corsham in 1847 and was baptised there on 28.05.1848, the eldest child and first of five sons of Stephen and Catherine Collett. By 1850 Henry and his family were living in Whitley near Melksham and where Henry Collett was three years old in the census of 1851. Around

1860 his family moved again, on that occasion to Norrington Common near Broughton Gifford, where he was 13 and an agricultural labourer in 1861.

Henry was missing from his Norrington Common family in 1871, but curiously upon his return ten years later, and following the death of his father, Henry J Collett from Corsham was 28 (sic) when he should have been 33. At that time his was living with his widowed mother, and his occupation was that of a bootmaker.

Ten years later he was listed as John Collett in the census of 1891 when he was still living with his mother at the age of 37 (sic), again an error, since he should have been 43. It was as John Collett that he later married Annie who was many years younger than John, having been born at Dauntsey in Wiltshire in 1865.

By March 1901, and again as John Collett, he was 45 (sic) instead of 53, when his place of birth was also confirmed as Corsham. On that occasion he was living in the village of Whitley, near Melksham, with his wife Annie and their first child, when he was continuing to work as a bootmaker. The next four children were also born at Whitley, where John's family was still living in April 1911.

The census that year recorded the Collett family at Whitley as John Collett of Corsham, age 54 and not 63, together with his wife Annie who was 40, and their five children. It seems obvious perhaps that Henry John Collett was embarrassed by the great difference in their actual ages, that he pruned his own age by nearly ten years.

The children of Henry John and Annie Collett in 1911 were John Collett who was 10, Stephen Collett who was eight and named after Henry John's father, Alice Collett who was six, Tom Collett who was three and named after Henry John's brother, and Ethel Catherine Collett who was ten months old and named after Henry John's mother.

35P8	John Collett	Born in 1900 at Whitley, Melksham
35P9	Stephen Collett	Born in 1902 at Whitley, Melksham
35P10	Alice Collett	Born in 1904 at Whitley, Melksham
35P11	Tom Collett	Born in 1907 at Whitley, Melksham
35P12	Ethel Catherine Collett	Born in June 1910 at Whitley, Melk'm

3505 **Thomas John Collett** was born at Corsham in 1848, and was baptised there on 22.04.1849, the second child of Stephen and Catherine Collett. By the time of the census in 1851, Thomas and his family were living at Whitley near Melksham, when he was recorded as Tom Collett aged two years and from Corsham.

Around 1860 the family left Whitley, when they moved to Norrington Common near Broughton Gifford. And it was there that they were living in 1861, although there was no Thomas or Tom amongst the seven children with Stephen and Catherine, but there was a John Collett who was 12 who had already left school who was working as a shoemaker.

In 1871 it was the same situation, with no Thomas or Tom, but a John Collett who was 21 living with his parents at Norrington Common. Around five years later Thomas (John) Collett married Sarah Elizabeth who was born at Trowbridge in 1853, and the couple settled in the village of Shaw, near Melksham and not far from Norrington Common, where his widowed mother was still living around that time.

By the time of the census of 1881, the marriage had produced the couple's first child. The family of three was living in a house on the Corsham Road in Shaw, where 'Tom Collett of Corsham' was 28 (sic) and a stone cutter, his wife Elizabeth was 27, and their son Herbert was just three months old. Thomas John Collett would have been 32 at that time, so was continuing the family trait of not giving the correct information.

Over the next ten years a further four children were added to the family. According to the 1891 Census for the Melksham area, the head of house was referred to as Tom Collett, age 39 (sic), his wife was Sarah E Collett 37, and their five children were Herbert who was 10, Amelia who was six, Agnes who was four, Frederick who was three, and Francis who was under one.

It was around that time when the family moved to Broughton Gifford, where their next child was born, and where they were still living in 1901. By that time Tom had given up being a stone cutter and was then an inn keeper at the age of 49 (sic), while his wife was then referred to Elizabeth Sarah Collett who was 46.

Their children on that occasion were Amelia 16, Agnes 14, Frederick 13, and Francis 11, all born at Shaw, and Sarah who was nine, Florence who was four, Arthur who was three, and John who was under one, and all of them born at Broughton Gifford. Only the couple's eldest son Herbert was missing from the family, and he was living and working in South Wales.

Curiously in April 1911, Tom and Elizabeth were listed at different locations, perhaps for work reasons. Tom Collett of Corsham stated he was 62 (his correct age for a change), and at that time he was recorded within the Bradford-on-Avon registration with his sons Herbert 29, Frederick 23, Arthur 13. Acting as housekeeper for the four of them was Tom's daughter Agnes Collett who was 22, but was actually 24.

At the same time Tom's wife, Elizabeth Sarah Collett, age 57, was living at Shaw within the Melksham registration district, where the family had been living twenty years earlier. Listed with Elizabeth were her two youngest daughters Sarah who was 19, and Florence who was 14, together with her youngest son John who was 10 years old.

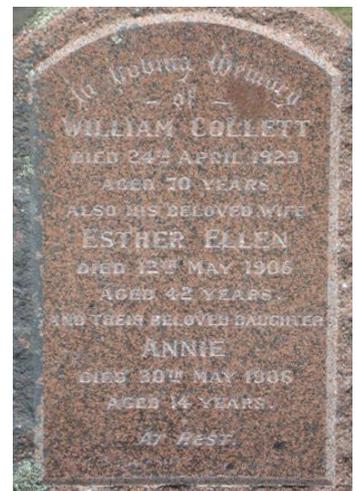
35P13	Herbert J Collett	Born in 1880 at Shaw, Melksham
35P14	Amelia Catherine Collett	Born in 1884 at Shaw, Melksham
35P15	Agnes Mary Collett	Born in 1886 at Shaw, Melksham
35P16	Frederick Thomas Collett	Born in 1887 at Shaw, Melksham
35P17	Francis Collett	Born in 1890 at Shaw, Melksham
35P18	Sarah Ann Collett	Born in 1892 at Broughton Gifford
35P19	Florence Maria Collett	Born in 1896 at Broughton Gifford
35P20	Arthur Martin Collett	Born in 1898 at Broughton Gifford
35P21	John Collett	Born in 1900 at Broughton Gifford

3506 **William Collett** was born at Whitley near Melksham in 1850 or 1851, but before the census day in 1851 which was on 30th March, since he was listed as being under the age of one year, when with his parents and his two older brothers at Whitley. By 1860 the family was living at Norrington Common, and by the time of the census in the following year William had already left school. At the age of 10 he had started work on the land, when he was recorded as an agricultural labourer.

By the time of the next census in 1871 William Collett was no longer living with his parents, who by then had seven children. Where he was on that occasion has not yet been determined, but it is known that three years after that he sailed on the ship James Wishart to New Zealand, where he landed on 5th July 1874.

It was there that he married Esther Ellen Sweeney on 6th February 1881 at Hamilton, and they settled on a farm just out of Paeroa in the Thames Valley, where they had thirteen children. William Collett died on 24th April 1929, and a headstone in Paeroa marks his grave, which he shares with his wife and daughter Annie who both died during May 1906. The details on the headstone read as follows:

In Loving Memory of
 William Collett died 24th April 1929 aged 70 years
 Also his beloved wife Esther Ellen died 12th May 1906 aged 42 years
 And their beloved daughter Annie died 30th May 1906 aged 14 years
 At Rest



The double death of his wife and daughter within three weeks of each other might suggest that they both suffered from the same cause of death.

William's death certificate poses a few questions, perhaps because his family did not know a lot about him and his origins back in England. The certificate first confirms that he died in Thames Hospital in Paeroa, and that his occupation was that of a labourer. The cause of death was heart failure, with which he had been suffering for over six months. His parents were named as Stephen and Catherine Collett, his father being a butcher. He was buried two days after he passed away, on 26th April 1929.

Rather strangely his place of birth was given in error as Epping Forest in Wiltshire, the latter word having been crossed out and replaced with Essex. It did however correctly confirm that he had been living in New Zealand for the past 55 years. However, his age given for the time he married Esther Ellen Sweeney deceased was very much in error at 22 years, when in fact he would have been 30 or possibly 31. The informant of the death was undertaken G F Twentyman, rather than a member of his family.

Of his family, the certificate listed his children in error as four males rather than five, aged 39, 35, 29, and 27, (who would have been John, William, James, and Thomas), and eight daughters even though he only had seven who had survived. The eight ages included the missing son Albert, who was 44. The remainder were 47, 45, 30, 29, 26, 25 and 23 (who would have been Sarah, Catherine, Rose, Mary, Lucy, Ivy, and Violet).

35P22	Sarah Ann Collett	Born in 1881 at Paeroa, NZ
35P23	Catherine Collett	Born on 21.10.1883 at Paeroa, NZ
35P24	Albert George William Collett	Born in 1885 at Paeroa, NZ
35P25	Rose Jubilee Collett	Born in 1887 at Paeroa, NZ
35P26	John Henry Collett	Born on 02.07.1888 at Paeroa, NZ
35P27	Annie Maria Collett	Born in 1891 at Paeroa, NZ
35P28	William Ivan Collett	Born in 1893 at Paeroa, NZ
35P29	Mary Jane Collett	Born on 03.11.1895 at Paeroa, NZ
35P30	James Leach Collett	Born on 28.07.1898 at Paeroa, NZ
35P31	Thomas Collett	Born in 1900 at Paeroa, NZ
35P32	Lucy Collett	Born in 1902 at Paeroa, NZ
35P33	Ivy Myrtle Collett	Born in 1904 at Paeroa, NZ
35P34	Violet May Collett	Born on 12.10.1905 at Paeroa, NZ

3507

James Collett was born at Whitley near Melksham around 1854. However, over the following years his parents recorded his age as 9 in 1861, as 16 in 1871, and 24 in 1881 when, on each occasion, he was living with his family at Norrington Common near Broughton Gifford. At the time of the latter census in 1881 he was still living with his widowed mother in the family home, and at that time in his life his occupation was that of a stonemason.

Just after the census day in 1881 James married Louisa who was born at Bristol in 1857. The couple initially lived in the nearby village of Shaw where their first child was born, before moving two miles north to Corsham where all of their remaining children were born.

According to the Corsham census of 1891 James was 34, Louisa was 32, and their three children at that time were Louisa Frances aged 7, Reginald William who was 5, and three years old Harold Edward Collett.

And it was at Corsham that the family was living in March 1901. James Collett of Whitley was now a house builder at the age of 46 and was employing his two oldest sons in the family business. He wife Louisa was 43. The couple's children were Louisa 17, Reginald 15, Harold 13, Hilda 9, Elsie 6, and Emily who was three.

Ten years later in April 1911 James was listed as still living at Corsham in the Chippenham registration district where he was 56 and Louisa was 53. The only children still living with them were Reginald William Collett 25, Elsie Kathleen Collett 16, and Emily Estella Collett who was 13, although the couple's eldest daughter Louisa was also still living nearby in Corsham.

35P35	Louisa Frances Collett	Born in 1883
35P36	Reginald William Collett	Born in 1885
35P37	Harold Edward Collett	Born in 1887
35P38	Hilda Collett	Born in 1891 at Corsham
35P39	Elsie Kathleen Collett	Born in 1894 at Corsham

3508 Sarah Ann Collett was born at Whitley in 1856, the daughter of Stephen and Catherine Collett. By the time of the census in 1861 Sarah Ann Collett was five years old, when she was living with her family at Norrington Common. Ten years later she was still living there with her parents at the age of 14. With no record of her found in the next census of 1871, it must be assumed that she was married by that time in her life.

3509 Benjamin H Collett was born at Whitley around 1858 and was three years old in the Norrington Common census in April 1861 and was still living there with his family in 1871 when he was 12. In 1881 at the age of 21 Benjamin was still living at the family home in Norrington Common, just south of Whitley, with his widowed mother Catherine, when his occupation was that of a carpenter.

Nearly twenty months after that census day in 1881 he married Ruth Mortimer at Bradford-on-Avon on 28.11.1882. Ruth was born at Broughton Gifford during the third quarter of 1858 and was the daughter of Joshua Mortimer and Ruth Wakeley who were both born in Broughton Gifford and who both died at nearby Norrington Common.

During the first seven years of their life together, Ruth presented Benjamin with six of their nine children, the first being born while the couple were still living at Broughton Gifford, the next two after the family had moved to Frome and the next three at Trowbridge.

At the time of the 1891 Census for the Trowbridge and Melksham area Benjamin was 31, Ruth was 32, and their six children were William 7, Sarah 5, Ewart 3, Lena 2, and Kerwin who was only a few months old.

Over the following decade four further children were added to the family. The first three of these was born while the family was still living in Trowbridge, and the last child was born after the family had moved to Twerton in Bath.

Less than six months into the century tragedy struck the family when Benjamin died during the period April to June in 1900 while the family was living at Twerton leaving Ruth a widow to look after her young family alone.

According to the census recorded in the March of the following year, Ruth Collett from Bradford-on-Avon was 42 and was living on her own means with eight of her children. These were William 17, Ewart 13, Lena 12, Amy 10, Kerwin 8, Ashleigh 6, Nelson 5, and Alice who was three years old.

Ten years later in April 1911 Ruth still had seven of her children living with her at Maybrick Road in Twerton. Ruth was 52, and with her were her sons Ewart 23, Kerwin 20, Ashleigh 16, and Nelson 14, and her daughters Lena 22, Amy 18, and Alice who was 13.

At the time of the census of 1901, the widow Ruth Collett was living right next door to Arthur Mortimer (1894-1960) of 47 Maybrick Road in Twerton who was the great grandfather of Roger F Mortimer (born 1947) who kindly supplied the information about his Mortimer/Collett family. Roger's father was Francis Arthur Mortimer who was born eight years later on 27.01.1919

However, by 1911, the Mortimer family of James and Maria, son Arthur and daughter Edith had left the Bath area and had moved to Norton Road in Southborough in Tunbridge Wells in Kent. James Mortimer had become the pastor of the Strict and Particular Baptist Chapel in Western Road, Southborough around that time where he continued until his death on 6th September 1943 when he was buried in the churchyard at Broughton Gifford with Maria who had died earlier.

Benjamin's widow Ruth Collett remained living at Twerton for the rest of her life and survived her husband by almost 25 years when she died at Bath during the first quarter of 1925.

35P41	William Collett	Born in 1883
35P42	Sarah Ann Collett	Born in 1885
35P43	Joshua Ewart Collett	Born in 1887
35P44	Lena Mary Collett	Born in 1888
35P45	Kerwin Collett	Born in the autumn of 1890 at Trowbridge

35P46	Amy Ruth Collett	Born in 1892
35P47	Benjamin Ashleigh Collett	Born in 1894
35P48	Nelson Collett	Born in the summer of 1896 at Trowbridge
35P49	Alice Catherine Collett	Born in 1898

35O10 **Mary Jane Collett** was born at Broughton Gifford before the seventh of April in 1861, and was baptised there on 20.12.1861, the youngest of the seven known children of Stephen and Catherine. Although included with her family in the census of 1861, at under one year old, Mary was not listed with the family in 1871, which may indicate that she had not survived beyond infancy.

35O11 **William Thomas Collett** was born at Brighton in Sussex in 1856, the eldest son of William Collett and Elizabeth Fox, both of Melksham, who were only married in October 1856, so William may have actually been base-born. Certainly his parents fled from Melksham to Brighton to be married, which may indicate that this was the reason why.

Two years after he was born, William and his parents were living in Devizes, where his sister Maria (below) was born. After she was born, the family returned to their home town of Melksham, where William's sister Sarah (below) was born four months prior to the census in 1861.

At the time of the census William T Collett from Brighton was four years old, when he was living in Melksham with his father William, who was a shoemaker, his mother Elizabeth, who was a binder, and his two sisters. Sadly, just three years later in 1864, and following the addition of two more children into the family, William's father died at Melksham at the age of 30.

A little while after that, William's mother married George Truman and in 1871 she and her new husband were still living in Melksham with William's three youngest siblings. Where William, age 14, and his sister Maria, age 12, were on that occasion has not been determined, since a thorough search of the census in 1871 has revealed nothing of the pair.

Upon achieving adult age, William married Sarah Ann who was the same age as William, but had been born in Wiltshire, possibly at Keevil just three miles from Melksham. Once married the couple headed north-east towards Northamptonshire and were living at Lower Havelock Street, Kettering in 1881. According to the census William Collett, age 24 and from Brighton, was a labourer at an iron works and was married to Sarah Collett, also 24, who was recorded as having been born at Leenal Head in Wiltshire. This must be an error in translation, since no place of this name is known within the county.

It was during the next decade that Sarah presented William with two children, and both of them born at Kettering, where the family was still living at the time of the census in 1891. William Collett and Sarah A Collett were both 34 years old, while their two children were Willie Collett who was three, and Fred Collett who was one year old.

A third son was born into the family four years later, but it is possible that the family was somehow overlooked at the time of the census in March 1901, since no record of any member has been located. William and Sarah would have been 44, and their three sons would have been 13, 11, and 5. It is also possible that the couple had other children before 1887 and between 1889 and 1895, who did not survive.

However, ten years later in April 1911, William and Sarah were once again recorded as living in the town of Kettering, but on that occasion the only one of their three known children still living with them, was their youngest son Edward Archie Collett, age 15. William Collett from Brighton was 54, and his wife from Wiltshire was Sarah Ann Collett who was 53.

No record of their eldest son William or Willie has been found within the UK Census of 1911, while their son Frederick was married with a family of his own by then, and was also living in Kettering – see individual entry.

35P50	William (Willie) Collett	Born in 1887 at Kettering
35P51	Frederick (Fred) Collett	Born in 1889 at Kettering
35P52	Edward Archibald (Archie) Collett	Born in 1895 at Kettering

35O12 **Maria Collett** was born in 1858 at Melksham where she was baptised on 26.12.1858, the eldest daughter of William and Elizabeth Collett. The only other record of her so far found, was in the census of 1861 when she was two years old and living at Melksham with her family.

Three years later her father died and it is not sure what happened to Maria, or her older brother William, after her mother remarried George Truman.

35O13 **Sarah Jane Collett** was born at Melksham in December 1860, and was baptised there on 27.01.1861. The baptism record confirmed that she was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Collett, and the census later that year listed Sarah J Collett as being just four months old.

With her father dying at the age of thirty when Sarah was just four years old, her mother remarried and in 1871 Sarah Jane Collett was 10 years old and, together with her two younger brothers James and Frederick, she was living at Semington Road in Melksham (right next door to the New Inn). That was the home of George Truman and his wife Elizabeth, the children's mother.

Ten years later in 1881, Sarah Jane Collett, age 20 of Melksham, was a housemaid and a domestic servant at the Uppingham Boarding School in Rutland. The school was situated on the London Road and it would appear that Sarah was living at Redgate House.

35O14 **James Collett** was born at Melksham in 1862, the son of William and Elizabeth Collett. James was just two years old when his father died in 1864, following which his widowed mother married George Truman of Melksham.

According to the Melksham census of 1871 James Collett of Melksham was eight years old and was described as the stepson of George Truman of Semington Road. Also living with their mother and her new husband was James' sister Sarah (above), and brother Frederick (below).

With the passing of another ten years, James was 18 and by the time of the census of 1881 he was working as a mat maker. At that time in his life he was still living in Melksham with his brother at the home of his mother Elizabeth Truman and her second husband George Truman, at Semington Lane.

It was around four years later that James married Sarah who was seven years older than James. The marriage produced two daughters for the couple, both born at Melksham, where the family was living at Woodview Road in 1891, and again in 1901.

It is possible that James worked at a quarry or similar establishment, since in 1891 he was described as being 28 and an engine driver of a stationary engine, which perhaps indicates it was not a railway engine, and therefore not with the Great Western Railway.

His wife Sarah was 35 in 1891 and was employed as a yard sorter in a local matting factory, despite having two young children. The couple's two daughters were listed as Beatrice M Collett, who was four, Lily E Collett, who was two years old.

Ten years later James was 38 and was continuing to work as a stationary engine driver, while living Woodview Road with Sarah who was 44, Beatrice who was 14, and Lily who was 12 years old.

By 1911 the couple's eldest daughter was married and had left the family home, although she was still living in Melksham with her husband. So at that time James Collett was 48, his wife Sarah was 56, and the youngest daughter was listed in the census return as Lily Elizabeth Collett aged 22.

35P53
35P54

Beatrice Maud Collett
Lily Elizabeth Collett

Born in 1886
Born in 1888 at Melksham

35O15 **Frederick William Collett** was born at Melksham in 1864, around the time that his father William died. It seems very likely that, in view of the fact that he already had an older brother called William, his mother Elizabeth decided to give him the additional name of William as a tribute to her late husband.

Following the death of his father, Frederick's mother married George Truman of Semington Road in Melksham. And it was there that Fredk W Collett, age six, was living with his mother and stepfather in 1871. Also living with him, was his older siblings Sarah and James (above).

On leaving school Frederick became a blacksmith's labourer, as recorded in the Melksham Census of 1881 when he was 16 and living in Semington Lane with his brother James Collett (above) and their mother Elizabeth Truman.

Although no record of Frederick has been found in either of the census returns for 1891 and 1901, he was living in Melksham with his wife Emma in April 1911. Frederick William Collett of Melksham was 47, while his wife Emma was 52. There were no children living with them at that time, but this does not necessarily mean that it was a childless marriage.

35O16 Sarah Jane Collett was born at Rock Elm, Pierce in Wisconsin on 26.11.1862. By the time of the US census of 1880 she was 17 and was still living with her parents on their farm at Rock Elm. She later married John George Rabb who was the son of Adam Rabb and Catherine Evanson.

John Rabb was born in Germany on 02.05.1855. The couple were living at Cassian, Oneida in Wisconsin when John died on 07.09.1920. Less than thirteen years later, at the time of her death, Sarah was living at Brooks, Marion in Oregon when she died on 19.01.1933.

35O17 Libby Collett was born at Rock Elm, Pierce in 1864 and was 15 in the 1880 census for Rock Elm. It is known that she later married Joseph Jackson.

35O18 Edwin Matthew Collett was born at Rock Elm, Pierce in 1866. At the age of 13 he was referred to as Edwin Collett in the US census of 1880. It was as Mattie Collett that he later married Helen Gless.

35O19 Belle Collett born at Rock Elm, Pierce in 1868, but was missing from the family home in Rock Elm at the time of the 1880 US Census. She was later married to become Belle Weldon.

35O20 Minnie Collett was born at Rock Elm, Pierce in 1870 and was ten years old in the US census of 1880 for Rock Elm. She was later married, when she became Minnie Taylor.

35O26 Ernest Collett was born in 1875 at Bethnal Green, where his mother Emily was also born. And it was with his family at 126 Broke Street in Shoreditch that he was living in 1881 when he was five years old. During the following few years his father George Collett died leaving him and his sister Minnie (below) living with their mother by April 1891 when he was 15.

By the end of the century Ernest had left the family home and, in March 1901, he was living in the Hackney area of London where he was working as a quantity surveyor at the age of 22.

35O27 Minnie Collett was born at Shoreditch in 1878 and was living there with her family at 126 Broke Street in 1881 at the age of two years. Following the death of her father she was living with her mother and brother Ernest (above) ten years later in the Islington & Upper Holloway registration district of London.

On leaving school she took up work as a vellum binder, as confirmed by the census of 1901, when she was 22, and was still living with her mother in the St Leonard Shoreditch area of London.

35O28 Lillian Collett was born at Melksham in 1882, the only daughter of farmer Albert Henry Collett and his wife Emily Anne from Trowbridge. She was eight years old in 1891 and 18 in 1901, and on both occasions she was living with her family in Melksham.

When her parents moved to Romsey in Hampshire, Lillian stayed in Melksham and in 1911 she was living at the Melksham home of her uncle Charles S Collett and aunt Florence, Charles' younger sister. Also living there with them was Lillian's grandmother, the octogenarian Harriet Collett and the mother of Charles and Florence.

35029 **Albert Edwin Collett** was born at Melksham in 1887, the only son of farmer Albert Henry Collett and his wife Emily Anne. He was three years old in 1891 and 13 in 1901, and on both occasions was living with his family at the family home in Melksham.

Like his sister Lillian (above), Albert also stayed in Melksham when his parents moved to Romsey in the neighbouring county of Hampshire. And in 1911 Albert Edwin Collett was unmarried at the age of 23.

35030 **Gilbert William Collett** was born at Melksham in 1887 and he was three years old in the census for Melksham of 1891. Ten years later he was still living in Melksham with his parents when he was 13 years old.

Upon leaving school, he headed for London to seek work, and in 1911 unmarried Gilbert William Collett from Melksham was 23, when he was living and working in the Croydon registration district of Surrey.

35033 **Henry John Collett** was born at Steeple Ashton in 1878 and was two years old when living at Church Street in Steeple Ashton with his parents in 1881. Ten years later he was 12 years old and, although it is known that his youngest sibling was born in 1898, there was no record of his father in 1901.

Instead Henry, who was 22 and working as a wheelwright, was living at Keevil with his widowed mother Martha F Collett and his younger siblings, Amy Collett 13, William F Collett 11, Reginald F Collett who was eight, Walter G Collett who was six, and Elsie M Collett who was two years old. His missing brother Edward Clement Collett (below) was living and working at Lacock at that time.

35034 **Joseph Herbert Collett** was born at Steeple Ashton in 1881, but after the third of April that year. He was nine years old in 1891 when living with his family in the nearby village of Keevil. No trace of him has been found around the turn of the century, when he would have been approaching twenty.

However, by April 1911 Joseph Herbert Collett of Steeple Ashton was 29 when he was living within the Melksham registration district.

35035 **Lilian Mary Collett** was born at Steeple Ashton in 1882, the daughter of Henry John Collett and Martha Feltham. By 1891 she and her family were living at Keevil, where they had lived some years before Lilian was born. At that time Lilian Mary Collett was eight years old, but ten years after that, at the age of 18, she was working as a general domestic servant at Bremhill near Calne in Wiltshire. On that occasion she gave her place of birth as Keevil.

During the next decade Lilian left Calne to seek work in Bradford-on-Avon, and it was there that she was recorded at the time of the census in 1911. However, she was recorded as Lilian Callett (sic), age 28 and from Steeple Ashton.

35036 **Edward Clement Collett** was born at Steeple Ashton in 1884 and was six years old in 1891, when he was living with his parents in the next village of Keevil. By 1901 he was living at Lacock to the south of Chippenham where he was 17 and where he was working as a baker.

By April 1911 he was once again living with his family at Keevil, when he was 26 and his place of birth was confirmed as Steeple Ashton.

35038 **William Frederick Collett** was born at Keevil in 1888 and that happened just after his parents returned to live there from nearby Steeple Ashton, and where they had lived during the early years of

their marriage life. And it was at Keevil he was living with his parents in 1891, when he was two years old.

He was still living there with his family in 1901, when he was 11, but towards the end of the next decade William travelled south-west to seek work at Yeovil in Somerset. The census in 1911 located him in the Yeovil area, where he was William Frederick Collett from Keevil who was unmarried at 22.

35056 William Thomas Collett was born at Melksham in December 1872, the eldest child of William Collett and Sarah Hayward. By April 1881 William, who was eight years old and born at Melksham, was living at Partridges Yard in Wantage with his mother Sarah and his three younger siblings, while his shoering smith father was away working in Swindon and was in lodgings at 38 Newport Street in the town.

No trace of William has been found in the census of 1891 when he would have been 18, and when the rest of his family was living in the South Hamlet area of Gloucester, where his father established the family coach building business of Wm Collett & Sons.

However, William did eventually returned to Gloucester, where he joined forces with his father William Collett in the family business. It was also around the middle of the 1890s that William married Rosa who was born at Gloucester in 1870.

By the time of the census in 1901 William Collett, age 28 and from Melksham, was a coach-smith working with his father and younger brother Fred in the family business in Gloucester. Living there with him was his wife Rosa M Collett, age 30, and their sons William F Collett who was two years old, and Granville L Collett who was five months old. All three of them were confirmed as having been born at Gloucester.

The family of four was recorded at Gloucester ten year later in the April census of 1911. William Thomas Collett of Melksham was 39, his wife Rosa Minnie Collett of Gloucester was 41, and their two sons were William Frederick Collett who was 11, and Granville Livingstone Collett who was 10.

35P55
35P56

William Frederick Collett
Granville Livingstone Collett

Born in 1898 at Gloucester
Born in October 1900

35057 **Fanny Elizabeth Collett** was born at Wantage in 1874 and was listed as living there with her mother and her siblings at Partridges Yard in 1881 when she was six years old. Over the following years her family settled in Gloucester, where Fanny Collet was 16 in 1891.

When Fanny set out in the world on her own, she moved north to Birmingham, where she was recorded as living March 1901. The census that year confirmed that Fanny Collett, age 26 and from Wantage, was working as a watch finisher in the city, although on that occasion she had referred to herself as Annie Collett.

It must have been just after that, when she returned to Gloucester, where she married Walter John French. By the time of the census in 1911, their marriage had produced a daughter for Fanny and Walter, when they were still living in Gloucester.

Walter John French was 34, his wife Fanny Elizabeth French from Wantage was 36, and their daughter Doris Fanny French was six years old. There is a chance that further children were added to the Gloucester family over the following years.

35059 **FREDERICK COLLETT** was born at Wantage in Berkshire in 1879. In 1974 local government changes to county boundaries meant Wantage became part of Oxfordshire.

In 1881, aged just one year old, Frederick Collett was living with his family at Partridges Yard in Wantage. Only his mother Sarah A Collett and his two sisters and older brother were at home with him on 4th April that year, since his father William Collett was working in Swindon, where he was in lodgings.

In 1901 Frederick was working with his father William Collett and older brother William Collett at the family business of Wm Collett & Sons coach builder in Gloucester. Frederick's job title at that time was coach painter and he later went on to take over and manage the business, which was eventually handed down to his grandson.

It was in 1906 that Frederick married Julia, who may have been Julia Ricketts since, living with the couple in April 1911, was 72 years old widow Emily Ricketts.

Frederick was 31 in 1911 and was living at 2 Robinson Road in Gloucester with his wife and daughter. The census confirmed that Frederick was a coachbuilder and that was had been born at Wantage. His wife Julia of Gloucester was 30, and their daughter Vera was three years old.

35P57	Vera Julia Dorothea Collett	Born on 26.03.1908
35P58	OLIVE COLLETT	Born in 1912

35O60 **Gertrude Annie Collett** was born at Small Heath in Birmingham in 1875. Soon after she was born her parents moved, first to Evington to the east of Leicester, before settling in Leicester itself. And it was there, at 61 Myrtle Road, that the family was living in 1881 when Gertrude was five years old.

Myrtle Road lies within the ancient parish of Leicester St Margaret, approximately one mile east of the main line railway station and is still there today, just off Evington Road.

The 1891 Census recorded the family as still living at East Leicester, where Gertrude was 15. With her father dying in 1900, Gertrude was supporting her widowed mother at the time of the census in 1901, when she was helping her look after the family, while her mother carried on the family glass business.

Sometime later in her life, Gertrude eventually married Emile Paul Victor Foucard. He was born in London in 1869 and it was with him that she had three children. It would appear that once they were married, the couple emigrated to Australia.

And it was in Brisbane that Emile died in 1946, followed by Gertrude, who died in Sydney during 1959. One of their three children was Jeanne Rose Foucard who was born in 1919, who was still living in Australia in 2007. She was the mother of Don Cameron of Belmont in New South Wales, who kindly provided the details of his family back to William Henry Collett of Slaughterford.

35O61 **Herbert Frank Collett** was born at Evington on the eastern outskirts of Leicester in 1877. By 1881 he was three years old when he was living with his family at 6 Myrtle Road in Leicester, from where his father ran a successful glass making business, which Herbert joined on leaving school.

He was 13 in 1891 and, in the next census in 1901, he was a worker in leaded glass at the age of 23. At that time he was living with his mother and his four sisters in Leicester, his mother having taken over the family business following the death of Herbert's father during the previous year.

No trace of Herbert has been found in the 1911 UK Census, so there is a possibility that he may have joined his sister Gertrude (above) in Australia.

35O62 **Edith Mary Collett** was born at Evington to the east of Leicester in September 1880, and six months later she was recorded as living with her family at 6 Myrtle Road in Leicester.

She was 10 years old in 1891 and was still living in Leicester with her family, as she was ten years later. At the age of 20, in the census of 1901, she was living with her widowed mother Sarah Ann Collett and rather oddly she gave her occupation as being 'act needles fancy' (?).

Edith Mary Collett was still living with her mother and sister Mabel (below) in April 1911 when she was unmarried at 29.

35O63 **Beatrice Emily Collett** was born at 61 Myrtle Road in Leicester in 1883 and was living there in 1891 at the age of seven. Ten years later in 1901 she had left school and was working as a pupil teacher, while still living in the family home in Leicester with her widowed mother and her sisters Edith (above

and Mabel (below).

35064 Mabel Eveline Collett was born at 61 Myrtle Road in Leicester in 1885. She was five and fifteen in the Leicester censuses of 1891 and 1901 and in the latter she was living with his mother and may have been hoping to work with her sister Beatrice (above) as she was described as a candidate for pupil teacher.

Ten years later in 1911 Mabel Eveline Collett was 25 and was still living with her mother Sarah Ann Collett and her older sister Edith Mary Collett (above).

35067 Ernest Collett was born at Acton in 1877, the eldest child and only son of Robert William Collett and Christine Louisa Grove. No trace of him or his parents and younger sister Florence has been found in 1881, but by 1891 he and his family were living in the Wandsworth & Clapham area of London.

On that occasion Ernest was 13 years old, and ten years later in 1901 he was 23 when he was working as an ironmonger's assistant, while living with his family at The Two Brewers Inn at 76 Perry Hill in Lewisham, where his father was the pub manager.

It was within the next two years that Ernest married Ellen, and by the time of the next census in April 1911, the marriage had provided the couple with their first two children. It is not known at this time if there were other children born into the family after 1911.

That year's census return placed the family living in the Lewisham area of London, when Ernest Collett from Acton was 33, his wife Ellen was 29, and their two children were Doris who was six, and Ernest who was two years old.

35P59	Doris Collett	Born in 1904 in London
35P60	Ernest Collett	Born in 1908 in London

35071 Herbert Neville Collett, who was known as Neville, was born at Grenfell in the North West Territories of Canada on 27.08.1904, the eldest of the five children of Herbert James Collett and Florence Mary Hextall.

Neville was listed in the census of 1906 for the Western Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan & Alberta as Herbert N Collett when he was living at Grenfell, in the Qu'Appelle District with his parents Herbert J and Florence M Collett and his sister Phyllis. Twelve years after that he was still living at Grenfell with his parents and his siblings Phyllis 10, Doris 9, and Leslie 7. And living nearby were his Hextall cousins, Thomas, Frederick, Dorothy, and Gwen.



Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins

Herbert Neville Collett worked in the dairy industry in Regina, Saskatchewan and later in the towns of Trail and Nelson in British Columbia, before running his own dairy at Grand Forks in British Columbia, which was known as the Sunshine Valley Dairy.

Neville married Janet Marie Bonthron on 25.06.1930 at Grand Forks in British Columbia. Janet was born on 28.12.1908, the daughter of William Logie Bonthron and Stella Maude Davidson. Their marriage produced just the one son for Neville and Janet, who was born at Grand Forks.

Herbert Neville Collett died at Grand Forks in British Columbia, Canada on 09.12.1971 at the age of 67. Nearly twenty-two years after the death of her husband Janet also died while she was living at Grand Forks, when she passed away on 26.07.1983 at the age of 74. They were both buried at Grand Forks.

35P61	Wayne Neville Collett	Born circa 1932 at Grand Forks
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35072 **Phyllis Mary Collett** was born at Grenfell in Saskatchewan on 19.03.1906, the eldest of the three daughters of Herbert and Florence Collett.

Phyllis was recorded in the 1906, and 1911, and 1916 Census Reports for Saskatchewan and, prior to being married, she worked as a legal secretary.

It was on 17.07.1937 that she married Lewis Aytoun McCombie at St. Andrews Ceylon Church, near Grenfell. Lewis was born on 01.08.1901 at Troon in Scotland.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Phyllis and Lewis raised their family at Winnipeg in Manitoba, where Lewis was a dental technician. Lewis A McCombie died at Winnipeg in Manitoba on 20.02.1991, aged 90, and was survived by his wife by nearly seventeen years.

Their marriage produced two children for Phyllis and Lewis, and they were Sylvia Joan McCombie, who was born at Winnipeg on 12.12.1938, who died there on 23.02.1989, and Ronald Lewis McCombie who married Jacqueline Verna Robertson at Nipawin in Saskatchewan on 14.05.1966, with whom he has two children, Katherine Zoe McCombie and Lewis John McCombie.

Sylvia Joan McCombie married (1) Allen Ross Pallen during May 1961, with whom she had three children, Gregory Ross Pallen, David Stuart Pallen, and Valdene Joan Pallen, before they were divorced. She later married (2) Bruce Cairns, and her son David eventually adopted the name David Stuart Cairns.

After the death of her husband, Phyllis left Winnipeg and moved to Saskatoon in Saskatchewan, where her son was residing at the Lutheran Sunset Home. She celebrated her 100th birthday with many of her immediate and extended family travelling to Saskatoon on 19th March 2006. Phyllis Mary McCombie nee Collett died at Saskatoon just under two years later, when she passed away on 15.01.2008. Both Phyllis and Lewis were buried at Green Acres Memorial Gardens in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

35073 **Doris Mabel Collett** was born at Grenfell on 02.11.1907, the daughter of Herbert and Florence Collett. Doris was nine years old in the Grenfell census of 1916, when she was living there with her family.

On 05.07.1941 she married James Francis Alexander Magee who was born on 22.12.1907 at Wolseley in Saskatchewan, the son of Richard Magee and Eva Porter. Doris was a schoolteacher in Saskatchewan and Sandy Magee, as he was known, was a butcher and owned Magee's Meat Market in Regina.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



During their life together they lived in Regina at various addresses including, Smith Street, Osler Avenue, and Dewdney Avenue. They owned a cottage at Sandy Beach, Lake Katepwa in Saskatchewan which their family and extended families enjoyed. Upon the death of both Doris and James, the cottage was passed onto their children, and they were Sandra Joyce Magee, Trevor Brooke Magee, and Murray Kenneth Magee.

James (Sandy) Magee died on 01.06.1989, at the age of 82, while the couple were living at Regina in Saskatchewan, where Doris Mabel Magee died just a few years later on 31.03.1993 at 85. Both Doris and Sandy were buried in the Magee Family plot at Wolseley Cemetery in Saskatchewan.

35074 Eric Leslie Collett, who was known as Les, was born at Grenfell on 25.06.1909, the youngest son and fourth children of Herbert and Florence Collett.

In the 1911 Census, Eric Collett was two years old when he was living in the town of Grenfell with his mother and his three older siblings (above). Where his father was at that time is not known.

Eric married Vera Helene Medforth at St Chads Chapel in Regina, Saskatchewan on 18.09.1937. Vera was born on 1912.1909 at Toronto in Ontario, the daughter of Charles Nelson Elsworth Medforth and Catherine Jane Ostrom.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Over the years following their wedding, Vera presented Les with three daughters, who were all born in Regina and who are all still living in 2010, so their personal details have been withheld.

Les and Vera lived on Robinson Street, Angus Street, and Royal Street, in Regina over the years. The house on Royal Street was built by Les, and he also built a cottage on Pasqua (Qu'Appelle) Lake, in Saskatchewan. Les worked in the dairy industry in Regina before partnering with his brother-in-law, Bill Elder, husband of Florence Evelyne Collett, in 1947 to form Modern Insulators, a roofing and insulation company based in Regina.

Eric Leslie Collett died at Regina, Saskatchewan on 22.05.1974. It was over twenty-five years later that Vera died at Regina on 15.07.1999. Les and Vera are both buried in Riverside Memorial Park in Regina.

35P62 Roberta Frances Collett

Born at Regina; date of birth withheld

35P63 Geraldine Leslie Collett

Born at Regina; date of birth withheld

35P64 Dianne Mae Collett

Born at Regina; date of birth withheld

35075 Florence Evelyne Collett was born at Grenfell on 28.05.1919, and was the youngest of the five children of Herbert James Collett and Florence Mary Hextall.

She married William James Elder at Regina, Saskatchewan on 17.07.1943. James was known as Bill Elder and was born on 21.07.1913 at Kipling in Saskatchewan, the son of George Gabriel Elder and Emma Jane White.

During their married life Florence presented Bill with two daughters, Gaylene Florence Elder, and Joyce Evelyne Elder.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Bill Elder and his brother-in-law, Les Collett (Eric Leslie Collett above) were business partners in Regina, where they owned and operated Modern Insulators, a roofing and insulation company. Bill was also an active member of the Regina Home Builders Association. Over the years, Evelyn and Bill resided at Eighth Avenue and Horace Street in Regina, and the couple spent many happy years trailering through Western Canada.

Bill Elder died at Regina on 21.04.2003 at the age of 90 while, in 2010 his widow Florence was living in Regina at the age of 91.

35082 William Edwin Collett was born at Battersea in 1896 and was the son of Harry Collett of Biddestone in Wiltshire and his wife Maria Collett of Lambeth. Sometime after 1898, but before 1901, William's family left Battersea, where his siblings were born, and returned to his father's Wiltshire roots.

The family settled in the village of Lacock, just south of Chippenham where, in 1901, William was four years old, and where in 1911 he was 14.

William later enlisted with the army and eventually became Corporal 48324 William Edwin Collett with C Battery of the 82nd Brigade Royal Field Artillery. He saw front line action in Belgium at the Ypres Salient, during the Third Battle of Ypres, which was also referred to as the Battle of Passchendaele.

Tragically he was killed on 27.10.1917 at just 21 years of age, and his name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial for those missing in action. He was posthumously awarded the Military Medal.

By the time of his death, it was only his mother Maria Collett of Nethercote Hill in Lacock who was named as his next-of-kin.

35088 Harry D Collett was born at Bradford-on-Avon in 1865 and by April 1881 he was living at Langley Burrell, just outside Chippenham, with his family where he was working as an apprentice painter and plumber aged 15.

Harry eventually join the army and served overseas, and this was the reason was he was not located in Great Britain in the next census in 1891. However, it was around that time that he was serving in Ireland, and it was there that he met and married Mary.

This marriage produced five children for the couple, the first two of which were born at Limerick, the next one during a posting to Malta, the next one at Plumstead near Woolwich in London, while their last child was born at South Tidworth in Wiltshire, following Harry's tour of duty.

It was in March 1901 that family was recorded as living in the South Tidworth area of Wiltshire, midway between Amesbury and Andover. The family comprised Harry Collett from Bradford-on-Avon, age 35, who was described as an ex-soldier and clerk with the Royal Engineers Office, his wife Mary Collett, age 34 and from Ireland, and four of their ultimate five children, they being John, age nine from Ireland, Annie seven also from Ireland, Frederick who was four from Malta, and Clara who was one year old from Plumstead.

Whether his retirement was due to an injury sustained during his time in the army, is not known, but it is known that by April 1911 Mary Collett was a widow living in the Windsor area with four of her five children. Mary Josephine Collett was 45, and her children were Annie Evelyn 17, Frederick Victor 14, Clara Kathleen Collett 11, and Eileen Norah Collett who was nine years old.

By that time Harry's and Mary's eldest son John Henry Collett was 19 and was employed as a plumber, while lodging at the home of his uncle Frederick George Collett (below) at Burtleston Cottages in Shipton Bellinger, to the east of Amesbury.

35P65	John Henry Collett	Born in 1891 at Limerick
35P66	Annie Evelyn Collett	Born in 1893 at Limerick
35P67	Frederick Victor Collett	Born in 1896 at Malta
35P68	Clara Kathleen Collett	Born in 1899 at Plumstead, London
35P69	Eileen Norah Collett	Born in 1901 at South Tidworth, Wilts

35089 Sarah Jane Collett was born at Downton south of Salisbury in 1867. Her father's job as a policeman meant the family moved around a lot, and after she was born Sarah's parents moved first to Biddestone, and then to Langley Burrell.

On leaving school, as the eldest daughter, Sarah worked in the family home (a police station) as a general servant, supporting her mother in caring for the family. In 1881 she was 13 years old. It seems highly likely that she was married by the time of the next census.

35090 Arthur Collett was born at Downton near Salisbury in 1869, and he was 12 years old at the time of the 1881 Census for Langley Burrell, where his parents were living and where his father was a policeman.

No trace of him has been found in either 1891 or 1901, but by April 1911 Arthur Collett of Salisbury was 42, when he was living at Romford in Essex with his wife Alice Maud Mary Collett who was also 42, and their family.

35093 Frederick George Collett was born at Biddestone in 1877 and was three years old in the Langley Burrell census of 1881, and was 13 in 1891. No record of him has been found in 1901 when he may have been abroad with the army, perhaps even in South Africa, taking part in the Boer War.

What is known is that in 1896 Frederick married Harriet Hannah who was born at Grays in Essex in 1877 but, just like her husband, Harriet was also absent at the time of the 1901 Census.

By April 1911 Frederick George Collett from Biddestone was employed by the War Department as a range warden, while living with his wife and only child at Burleston Cottages in Shipton Bellinger, to the east of Amesbury.

Frederick was 34, Harriet was 33, and their son Frederick John Henry was four and had been born at Shipton Bellinger. Lodging with the family were William Smith 50 a bricklayer from Stroud; Charles Woodley 47 a bricklayer from Goring; and John Henry Collett aged 19, a plumber's labourer from Limerick in Ireland. The latter was Frederick's nephew, the son of his older brother, the late Harry D Collett (above).

35P1 **George M Collett** was born at Chester, Pennsylvania on 4th July 1878, the first of the seven children of James Tarrant Collett and Mary Emma Start. Tragically he only survived for twenty days, when he died there on 24th July 1878.

35P2 **Mary Ann Collett** was born at Chester on 10th July 1879, the eldest daughter of James and Mary Collett. She lived a long life and died at Chester on 14th March 1974 at the age of 95, only two months after her sister Martha (below) passed away.

35P3 **George S Collett** was born at Chester during 1881 and was named in honour of his brother who died very young. Sadly he too did not survive and died at Chester on 20th July 1882.

35P4 **Henry Sheppard Collett** was born at Chester on 23rd November 1882, and he was still living in Pennsylvania when he died on 24th February 1956 at the age of 73.

35P5 **Martha Tarrant Collett** was born at Chester on 12th August 1884. She was still living in Pennsylvania at the time of her death on 15th January 1974, just two months before her older sister Mary Ann (above)

35P6 **James Howard Collett** was born at Chester on 14th March 1890, the youngest son of James Tarrant Collett and his wife Mary Emma Start. James married Elsie Emma Rost with whom he had one child who was born at Chester. It was on the 6th March 1962 that James died while he was still living in Pennsylvania.

35Q1 **James Martin Collett** Born on 23.04.1919 at Chester

35P7 **Ethel Lee Collett** was born at Chester on 1st December 1896, the youngest of the seven children of James Tarrant Collett and Mary Emma Start. Ethel died on 4th July 1986.

35P13 **Herbert J Collett** was born at Shaw near Melksham in December 1880 and was just three months old at the time of the census of 1881. His family was still living at Shaw ten years later, when Herbert was ten years old. His family later left Shaw and moved to Broughton Gifford, where they were living at the time of the census in 1901.

By that time Herbert was an employee of the Great Western Railway and on the thirty-first of March that year he was recorded as 20 and living at Griffithstown, near Pontypool in Monmouthshire, where he was working as a locomotive engine fireman. On that occasion he gave his place of birth as Whitley, which is the village adjacent to Shaw, and was where his father's family lived for many years.

Ten years later Herbert was listed as being 29 in the April census of 1911, and on that occasion he was living and working in Bradford-on-Avon with his father Tom, his brothers Frederick and Arthur (below), and his sister Agnes.

35P14 **Amelia Catherine Collett** was born at Shaw in 1884 and was six years old in 1891. Shortly after the census day that year, her family moved from Shaw to nearby Broughton Gifford and, towards the end of the next decade, Amelia left school and entered the world of education.

By March 1901 she was 16 when she was recorded as living with her family at Broughton Gifford, and at that time was described as a paint mistress in a national school.

35P15 **Agnes Mary Collett** was born at Shaw in 1886 and was four years old in the Shaw census of 1891. During the following year Agnes and her family travelled the very short distance from Shaw to Broughton Gifford, where they were living in 1901 when Agnes was 14.

By 1911 Agnes Collett was 22 (sic) – she was actually 24, and was performing the role of housekeeper for her father and three of her brothers, Herbert, Frederick and Arthur, in the Bradford-on-Avon area, while her mother was away from the family home at that time.

35P16 **Frederick Thomas Collett** was born at Shaw in 1887. He was three years old in 1891, while still at Shaw, and was 13 in 1901 after his family had moved to Broughton Gifford. Ten years later when he was 23, Frederick was living within the Bradford-on-Avon registration district with his father Tom, his brothers Herbert (above) and Arthur (below), and his sister Agnes (above).

35P26 **John Henry Collett** was born at Paeroa in New Zealand on 2nd July 1888, one of the thirteen children of William Collett from Wiltshire in England and his wife Esther Ellen Sweeney. It was his great grandson Regan Silcock from Hamilton in New Zealand who kindly provided the details of the family of William Collett, her great great grandfather.

35P27 **Annie Maria Collett** was born at Paeroa in New Zealand during 1891 and sadly she died just eighteen days after her mother Esther Ellen Collett nee Sweeney, when she passed away on 30th May 1906 at the age of 14 years. She was buried in the same grave as her mother, and they were joined in 1929 by Annie's father William Collett. The headstone bearing the names of all three of them marks the grave in New Zealand.

35P17 **Francis Collett** born at Shaw in 1890 just before his parents moved to Broughton Gifford, and it was there that he was living with his family aged 11 years in 1901. Within the next ten years he moved out of the family home and was living and working in Devizes in 1911. The census that year recorded him as Frank Collett, age 20, who was from Shaw.

35P35 **Louisa Frances Collett** was born at Shaw in 1883 and was seven years old in 1891. By the end of the century her parents had moved to Corsham where they were living in 1901, when Louisa was seventeen.

By 1911 she had left the family home in Corsham, but was living and working close by, and still in Corsham within the Chippenham registration district. However, on that occasion the census had reversed her forenames, so she was recorded as Frances Louisa Collett, age 27, unmarried and from nearby Shaw.

35P36 **Reginald William Collett** was born at Corsham in 1885 and it was there he was living with his parents in 1891 at the age of five years. His father James Collett was a stonemason and a house builder so, on leaving school, Reginald joined his father in the family business, as confirmed by the census of 1901, when he was 15 and his occupation was that of a house builder.

Ten years later in April 1911, Reginald William Collett was 25, when he was still living at Corsham with his family, and was still working there in the family business.

35P37 **Harold Edward Collett** was born at Corsham in 1887 and was three years old in the Corsham census

of 1891. Ten years later he had left school and, at the age of 13, he was working as a house builder with his father and older brother Reginald (above). No record of him has been found in the census of 1911.

35P41 William Collett was born at Broughton Gifford during the last quarter of 1883. On leaving school it would appear that he worked with his father Benjamin Collett who was a carpenter, until his early death in 1900. By March 1901 William was 17 when he was living with his widowed mother and working as a joiner man with his younger brother Ewart (below).

No record of William has been located in the census of 1911.

35P42 Sarah Ann Collett was born at Frome during the third quarter of 1885. When she was around three years old her family left Frome and moved to Trowbridge where they were living in 1891, when Sarah was curiously listed as being seven years old, which may have been an error in transcription. Ten years later her widowed mother was living at Twerton in Bath, while Sarah Collett at the age of 15 was living and working in Broughton Gifford.

Around the time that she was twenty-two Sarah married Samuel Champion at Malmesbury during the second quarter of 1907. So by April in 1911 Sarah Ann Champion, age 25, was living at Twerton with her husband Samuel who was 28.

It was at Broughton Gifford that Samuel died on 21.11.1962, and he was followed by Sarah sixteen years later, when she also died there on 20.08.1978. Both of them were buried in the grounds of the Broughton Gifford Baptist Chapel.

35P43 Joshua Ewart Collett was born at Frome during the spring of 1887. Shortly after he was born his family left Frome and moved to Trowbridge, where they stayed for almost ten years, before finally settling in Twerton near Bath.

It was as Ewart aged three years that he was listed in the census of 1891. Ten years later he had left school and had taken up the same trade as his late father, who was a carpenter. It was again as Ewart Collett that he was listed in the census of 1901, when he was still living with his mother in Twerton. His occupation at the age of 13 was that of a joiner man, like his brother William (above), with whom he was probably working.

By 1911 he was the oldest member of his family still living with his mother at Twerton when, at the age of 23, his place of birth was confirmed as Frome.

35P44 Lena Mary Collett was born at Trowbridge in the fourth quarter of 1888 and it was there she was living with her family in 1891 at the age of two years. Towards the end of the next decade Lena's family moved from Trowbridge to Twerton in Bath, where she was living with her widowed mother, when she was 12 years old.

When she was 22, Lena was still living with her mother at Twerton. It seems possible that she never married and the only other known fact about her is that she died at Broughton Gifford and was buried at the Baptist Chapel there on 23.09.1951.

35P46 Amy Ruth Collett was born at Trowbridge during the third quarter of 1892. Towards the latter part of that decade her family left Trowbridge and moved to Twerton where, sadly, her father died not long after. By March 1901 she was recorded as being 10 years old, when living with her mother and the rest of her family at Twerton.

Ten years later in April 1911, Amy was 18 and was still living with her family at Twerton. Sometime later she married Albert Ralph, who was born in 1895. The marriage produced one daughter for Amy and Albert, and that was Margaret Ralph.

Amy died while living at Trowbridge on 05.02.1965 and was buried with other members of her family at the Baptist Chapel in Broughton Gifford. And it was there also that Albert was buried, following his death on 27.08.1977.

35P47 Benjamin Ashleigh Collett was born at Trowbridge in the third quarter of 1894. Within a few years his family moved to Twerton in Bath, where his father died and where, in 1901, he was listed as Ashleigh Collett aged six years. And ten years later in April 1911, he was still listed with his family as Ashleigh Collett, when he was 16.

It was twelve years later, during the autumn of 1923, that he married Nellie Cam who was seven years old that Benjamin. The wedding took place at Calne in Wiltshire, although there are currently no details to confirm whether or not they had any children.

What is known is that Benjamin died on 23.11.1963 and was buried in the grounds of the Broughton Gifford Baptist Chapel. Nellie his wife survived for a further two years, before she died on 03.11.1965 and was also buried at Broughton Gifford with her husband.

35P49 Alice Catherine Collett was born at Twerton immediately to the west of Bath in 1898. Within two years of being born her father was dead, following which sad event she and her brothers and sisters were looked after by their mother. The Twerton census records of 1901 and 1911 confirmed that Alice was three years old and thirteen years old respectively.

Just a few months after her brother Benjamin (above) was married in 1923, Alice Collett married William Ferris Wilfred Day, towards the end of that year. William was born in 1897 and their marriage produced a daughter for the couple.

Alice Day nee Collett died on 10.02.1972 and was buried at the Baptist Chapel in Broughton Gifford like many of her Collett family. Her husband passed away just over twelve years later on 12.07.1984, and he too was buried at Broughton Gifford.

Ruth Day (Alice's daughter) went on to marry Leslie Richards with whom she had four children – David J Richards, Philip G Richards, Rachel M Richards, and Sarah R Richards.

35P51 Frederick Collett was born at Kettering in 1889, the second known son of William Thomas Collett of Brighton and Melksham, and his wife Sarah Ann Collett from Wiltshire. As Fred Collett, he was one year old in the Kettering census of 1891, but curiously no record of him or his family has been located within the UK Census of 1901.

Around the time that he was approaching twenty years of age, he married Frances Mary who presented him with two children prior to the next census in April 1911. At that time Frederick, age 21, and his family were still living in Kettering, where his two sons had been born. His wife was confirmed as Frances Mary Collett, also 21, and their two sons were Frederick William Collett who was one year old, and Leslie Edward Collett who was just six months old.

Also still living in Kettering at that time, was Frederick's parents, together with his younger brother Edward Archie Collett. It is possible that the marriage of Frederick and Frances Mary Collett produced more children over the years following the census in 1911.

35Q2	Frederick William Collett	Born in 1909 at Kettering
35Q3	Leslie Edward Collett	Born in October 1910 at Kettering

35P53 Beatrice Maud Collett was born at Melksham in 1886 and was four years old in 1891, when she was living with her family at Woodview Road in Melksham. Ten years later she was still living there with her family, when she was 14 and was working as a dressmaker's apprentice.

Sometime during the latter half of the next decade, Beatrice married Albert Edward Pearce and, once they were married, they too settled in Melksham. And it was there that the childless couple were living in April 1911 when Albert Pearce was 35 and his much younger wife Beatrice was 25.

35P56 Granville L Collett was born at Gloucester in October 1900. It would appear that he married fairly late in his life judging by the date of birth of his known son John. It is also very likely that there were other children born out of Granville's marriage.

The extension of this family line to Granville's son John has been achieved and confirmed through the use of a combination of records and a DNA study conducted by Barry Collett in the USA.

35Q4 John Collett Born in February 1941 at Gloucester

35P57 **Vera Collett** was born on 26.03.1908 and celebrated her 99th birthday in March 2007.

35P58 **OLIVE COLLETT** was born in 1912 and she was later married, when she became Olive Simnett, and her marriage produced a son.

35Q5 **ALLAN SIMNETT** Date of birth not disclosed

35P61 **Wayne Neville Collett** was born after 1931 at Grand Forks in British Columbia, the only child of Herbert Neville Collett and Janet Marie Bonthron. He married Catherine Kimberley Elizabeth MacLachlan on 10.11.1966 at Chilliwack in British Columbia. Catherine was the daughter of John Murdock MacLachlan and Ann Oliver MacClure.

35Q6 Elizabeth Annamarie Collett Date of birth not disclosed
35Q7 Meghan Catherine Collett Date of birth not disclosed

35P62 **Roberta Frances Collett**, whose date of birth is not known, was the eldest daughter of Les and Vera Collett, and was born at Regina. She married Anthony Roy Theaker on 04.08.1962 at St. Peters Anglican Church in Regina. Tony was born on 19.06.1938 at Sacramento in California, USA, the son of James Arthur Theaker and Ila Faye Welliver.

Roberta was a teacher in Calgary, Vancouver, and Regina, while Tony was an insurance agent and farmer at Wilcox Saskatchewan. Their marriage produced a son for the couple, Trent Peter Theaker.

Tony Theaker died at Calgary in Alberta on 22.11.2000, while Roberta was still living in 2010.

35P63 **Geraldine Leslie Collett**, whose date of birth is not known, was the second of three daughters of Eric Leslie (Les) Collett and Vera Helene Medforth, and born at Regina. Geraldine married Reginald William Hopkins on 04.08.1975 at St. Georges-on-the-Hill Anglican Church in Islington, Ontario. Reginald was the only son of William Rowland Hopkins and Norah Carolyn Erson.

Over the years, Gerri presented her husband with two children, Shawn Michael Hopkins, and Daren Andrew Hopkins. And it is to Gerri that we are indebted for the tremendous amount of information that she kindly supplied during 2010, to enable a major update of this family line to be completed.

35P64 **Dianne Mae Collett**, whose date of birth is not known, was the youngest daughter of Les and Vera Collett, and was born at Regina. She married David Bruce Melville Ness at Calgary on 30.06.1973. David was the son of Thomas Robertson Melville-Ness and Alice Idabelle Richards. Dianne Mae Collett is Dave's second wife and they have no children.

35Q1 **James Martin Collett** was born at Chester on 23rd April 1919, the only child of James Howard Collett and his wife Elsie Emma Rost. James later married Eleanor Marie Smith and they had three sons who are all living today in Pennsylvania. James Martin Collett died in Philadelphia on 10th March 1995.

All of the information for this Pennsylvania family has been kindly provided by Kristen Collett who lives in Brookhaven in Pennsylvania, which is just two towns away from Chester where the majority of her ancestors lived and were born.

35Q5 **ALLAN SIMNETT** inherited the company Wm Collett & Sons established by his great grandfather William Collett (Ref. 35N54). In 1973 he set up the export division of the company under the trading name of Collett Export Limited.

The business is now based at Ledbury in Herefordshire where it is controlled by Allan, his son and his daughter.

APPENDIX 1

Land Tax Assessments 1780 - 1831 for Slaughterford in Wiltshire as they relate to William Henry Collett (Ref. 35L20), yeoman of Slaughterford

According to the Records of Land Tax Assessments held in the Wiltshire Records Office, William Collett was leasing substantial land at Slaughterford from the Honorable Charles William Wyndham between the years 1803 to 1826. William's tax assessment on this land for the initial period between 1803 and 1811 was Six Pounds Seven Shillings and Six Pence per year.

From 1812 to 1816 the rate was increased to Twelve Pounds Fifteen Shillings then, from 1817 the rate increased to again Twelve Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Six Pence with the exception of 1819 which was assessed at Twelve Pounds Fifteen Shillings.

The variation in the tax rate for 1819 may have been connected with him leasing some additional land from the late Charles Gardner which was assessed at Two Shillings and Six Pence.

He leased land twice from the late Charles Gardner, once in 1817 and again in 1819, and on both occasions he paid Two Shillings and Six Pence in land tax.

Up until he ceased leasing land from Charles Wyndham in 1826, William was paying Twelve Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Six Pence in land tax.

Of all the people in Slaughterford paying land tax, the Land Tax Assessment showed that William Collett paid the largest amount. For example, in 1817 the nearest tax rate was assessed at Three Pounds Fifteen Shillings compared to William's tax rate of Twelve Pounds Fifteen Shillings.

In 1827 the land that William had been leasing was taken over by John Gibbs at the same tax rate.

After 1826 William Collett ceased to be a land tax payer in Slaughterford. This may suggest that at the age of 46 William retired from farming and that he and Sarah left Slaughterford to live at Cornwell House in Walcot in Bath where Sarah is known to have died many years later.

APPENDIX 2

The Collett and Buckland Families of Kington St Michael near Chippenham

35I1 Jacob Buckland married Mary Day at Kington St Michael on 17th April 1798. And it was at Kington St Michael that the couple's four known children were born, although there may have been others.

One of these, a possible fifth child, Elizabeth Buckland, has been added to the list of children, since at her marriage to Joseph Collett in 1833 the two witnesses were Edwin Buckland and his sister Ann Buckland. Five years earlier in 1828, their sister Mary Buckland had married Joseph's older brother Daniel Collett, and in between Edwin Buckland had married Louisa Collett of Kington St Michael.

In the Chippenham & Christian Malford census in June 1841 Jacob Buckland was given a rounded age of seventy years, while his wife Mary's rounded age was sixty-five, and living nearby in Kington St Michael was their son Edwin with his wife Louisa and their family.

35m1	Elizabeth Buckland (<i>unconfirmed</i>)	Born circa 1805
35m2	Mary Buckland	Born in 1807
35m3	Edwin Buckland	Born in 1809
35m4	Ann Buckland	Born in 1810
35m5	William Buckland	Born in 1816

35m1 **Elizabeth Buckland**, the unconfirmed eldest daughter of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day, was born at Kington St Michael around 1805. On 9th May 1833, when Elizabeth was around twenty-seven years of age she married Joseph Collett, a 43 years old bachelor of Kington St Michael.

***Further details of the family of Joseph and Elizabeth Collett,
and the continuation of this line are provided from Ref. 35L27 onwards***

35m2 **Mary Buckland** was born at Kington St Michael in 1807, the daughter of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day. She was twenty-one when she married Daniel Collett at Kington St Michael on 18th February 1828. Daniel was in his late forties, having been born at Kington St Michael in 1779.

***Further details of the family of Daniel and Mary Collett,
and the continuation of this line are provided from Ref. 35L22***

35m3 **Edwin Buckland** was born at Kington St Michael in 1809, the eldest son of Jacob Buckland and May Day. He was just approaching twenty-five when he married Louisa Collett at Kington St Michael on 11th January 1830, Louisa having been born at Kington St Michael around 1805.

By 1841 Edwin was 33, and his wife Louisa was 35, and they were recorded in the census as residing within the Chippenham & Christian Malford registration district. Listed with them on that occasion were their first five children, Sarah 11, Jacob 9, Elizabeth 7, Edward 4, and Arthur who was two years old. In total, the marriage produced eight children for the couple, all as detailed below.

However, Louisa Buckland nee Collett died during the birth of the couple's last child, who also did not survive the ordeal. It may have been this tragic event that resulted in two of Edwin's sons being looked after by other members of his family, since Edward and Arthur were both missing from the family at the time of the census in 1851, but both of them were back living with their father in 1861.

So by the time of the next census in 1851, farmer Edwin Buckland was a widower at the age of 43. His place of birth was confirmed as Kington St Michael, and it was there that he was still living on a farm of 150 acres, where he employed six labourers.

Living there with him were his five surviving children, and these were unmarried Sarah 20 who was a school teacher, Jacob 19 who was a butcher, Elizabeth 16 who was 'at home', and sons Joseph 9 and Edwin 7 who were both attending the village school, possibly where their older sister worked.

Such was the status of the family that Edwin employed two house servants, and these were Elizabeth Gale who was 22, and James Miles who was 20. Everyone in the household was born at Kington St Michael except James Miles who came from nearby Chippenham.

Ten years later in 1861 Edwin Buckland was 53, and the only children still living with him at Kington St Michael were his two sons Edward who was 24, and Arthur who was 21.

The full list of eight children comprised: Sarah Buckland (born 1830); Jacob Buckland (born 1831); Elizabeth Buckland (born 1833, died 1872 in Chippenham); Edward Buckland (born 1836); Arthur Henry Buckland (born 1838); Joseph Buckland (born 1842); Edwin Buckland (born 1843); and George Frederick Buckland (born and died in 1848).

The most noteworthy of these was Elizabeth Buckland (below) who later married her cousin Henry Collett, the son of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland, her father's sister.

35n1

Elizabeth Buckland

Born in 1834

35m4

Ann Buckland was born at Kington St Michael in 1810, where she was baptised on 3rd June 1810, the daughter of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day. She was around twenty-five years of age when she married James Wright at Kington St Michael on 7th May 1835.

The married is known to have produced a number of children for the couple, one of which, Rosa born within the Chippenham area, since the birth was recorded at Chippenham registration office during the third quarter of 1842.

The couple's other known children were Alfred Wright (born 1839), James Wright (born 1843), Henry Wright (born 1845), and Elizabeth K Wright (born 1851).

The census in 1851 James Buckland and his Ann were both 39, while living with them at Chippenham was their four children Alfred 11, Rosa 8, James 7, and Henry who was 6. Ten years later their daughter Rosa Wright was eighteen and was living and working in the Highworth area of Swindon.

The rest of her family was still living in the Chippenham area in 1861, when James Wright was 48, his wife Ann was 50, and their four children at that time were Alfred 21, Henry 16, and Elizabeth K Wright who was nine years old.

The most noteworthy of the children of James Wright and Ann Collett was Rosa Wright (below) who later became the second wife of her cousin Henry Collett, the son of Daniel Collett and Mary Buckland, her mother's sister.

35n2

Rosa Wright

Born in 1842

35m5

William Buckland was born at Kington St Michael before 1816, and it was there that he was baptised on 29.09.1816, the youngest son of Jacob Buckland and Mary Day.

35n1

Elizabeth Buckland was born at Kington St Michael in 1834, where she was baptised on 12th June 1834, the daughter of Edwin Buckland and Louisa Collett.

35n2

Rosa Wright was born in July 1842, the daughter of James Wright and Ann Buckland of Kington St Michael. The birth was registered at nearby Chippenham during the September quarter of that year, although she was baptised at Chippenham on 14th July 1842, and this recorded that she was the daughter of James and Ann Wright.

Rosa Wright married her cousin Henry Collett at Bath Avon in Somerset during the second quarter of 1873, following the death of his first wife in 1872. Henry's first wife was also Rosa's cousin, she being Elizabeth Buckland, the niece of Rosa's mother Ann Buckland, and the daughter of Edwin Buckland and Louisa Collett.

Rosa Collett nee Wright died at Langley Burrell on 08.11.1923, which disproves earlier information which suggested she had died at Highworth in 1895.

Photograph courtesy of Gerri Hopkins



Curiously though, it was at Highworth that Rosa Wright was living away from her family at the time of the census in 1861 when she was eighteen years of age. It was also at Highworth, where Henry Collett and his first wife and their young family were living at that time.

And again ten years later, at the age of twenty-eight, the census in 1871 recorded that she was a visitor at the Langley Burrell home of her cousin Henry Collett and his family.

***Further details of the family of Henry and Rosa Collett,
and the continuation of this line are provided from Ref. 35M57***

