

## PART THIRTY-ONE

### The Wiltshire to New Zealand Line

including the family line of Captain Clive Franklyn Collett (Ref. 31O16)

*Updated August 2011*

The July 2009 update saw the withdrawal of a random Collett family from the Appendix Two at the end of this line, which has now been placed in its rightful place in Part 35 – The Melksham Line

This is the family line of Phil Collett (Ref. 31R1) which is denoted by the names in capital letters and Shirley Anderson nee Collett (Ref. 31Q22) of Wiltshire whose line is denoted by the names underlined

It is also the family line of Ian King of Plymouth whose great great grandmother was Sarah Elizabeth Collett (Ref. 31N31), and Paul Martin of Stokesley in North Yorkshire whose grandmother was Florence Collett (Ref. 31P10)

Previously this line started with William Collett (Ref. 44K7) whose earlier family members, dating back to 1595, can be found in Part 44 – The Malmesbury District Line (incorporating Broughton Gifford), with another branch of the family featuring in Part 35 – The Melksham Line. However, new information received from Brian Townsend during 2011 indicates that the family had earlier ancestors living within the village of South Wraxall near Melksham, where this line now starts. In addition to which the line from the aforementioned William Collett has been retained for completeness

Even earlier than all of this, the family line of Captain Clive Franklyn Collett of New Zealand, was contained in two separate files which have now been amalgamated into this single line

**Philip Goddard** (Ref. 1R8) was the eldest son of Nell Collett (Ref. 1Q5) and Leslie Goddard and was born in Swindon on 02.08.1947. As a member of the Royal Air Force for almost fifteen years he had a great interest in everything to do with aviation. And so it was that, just prior to his untimely death in January 2005, he was making steady progress gathering together the details of the family and the life of the New Zealand First World War fighter pilot Captain Clive Franklyn Collett.

This section of the Collett family history was initially completed using the information he had collected, and to which other information has since been added.

There are locations in New Zealand in this family line that also appear in Part Six – The New Zealand Line, but to date no direct connection has been made that would link the two lines together

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All of the locations referred to in this family line such as South Wraxall, Bradford-on-Avon, Atworth, Box, Monkton Farleigh, Walcot in Bath, Frankleigh in Bradford, and Melksham, all lie within a few miles of each other

In addition to all of the Colletts listed in this family line, many others with a South Wraxall connection have been found during its compilation. For future reference, and in the hope that they might one day be included in the main body of this file, they are currently listed in Appendix Two and Appendix Three.

**31J1** **John Collett** was born at South Wraxall around 1700. He was a carpenter, and around thirty years old when he married Elizabeth of South Wraxall, with whom he had a son late in his life. The fact that his known son Jonathan was born at South Wraxall in the early 1750s, when John would have been fifty, may suggest that he was married twice during his life, with the much younger Elizabeth being his second wife.

**31K1** **Jonathan Collett** Born in 1751 at South Wraxall

**31K1** **Jonathan Collett** was baptised at South Wraxall on 08.07.1751, the son of John and Elizabeth Collett of South Wraxall. According to the parish records for St James' Church in South Wraxall, Jonathan Collett was 26, single and a carpenter of that parish, when married a Betty (Elizabeth) Batten, age 25 and spinster of that parish, on the 23.03.1778. Also listed in the church records are the details of only four of the couple's seven children, and they are William, James, James, and Mary.

|             |                         |                                      |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>31L1</b> | <b>Jonathan Collett</b> | Born in 1784 at South Wraxall        |
| <b>31L2</b> | <b>John Collett</b>     | Born in 1787 at South Wraxall        |
| 31L3        | William Collett         | Born in 1790 at South Wraxall        |
| <b>31L4</b> | James Collett           | Born in 1792; died 1795 at S Wraxall |
| <b>31L5</b> | James Collett           | Born in 1795 at South Wraxall        |
| 31L6        | Mary Collett            | Born in 1797; died 1797 at S Wraxall |
| <b>31L7</b> | <b>Mary Collett</b>     | Born in 1798 at South Wraxall        |

**31K2** **William Collett**, whose place and date of birth or baptism has not so far been determined, married Ann Morris at South Wraxall on 06.10.1791. That event possibly fixes William's date of birth as being prior to 1770. However, with South Wraxall being less than five miles from Melksham, there is the possibility that William had previously been married to Hester (Rudman) Redman, and was the son of Thomas Collett and Jane Woodman (Ref. 44J12). Therefore, Ann Morris may have been his second wife.

The only confirmed child of William and Ann that has been found to date is John, who was born at South Wraxall, but it seems highly likely that Drinkwater, who was also born at South Wraxall, was also the son of William and Ann, particularly since both John and Drinkwater later settled in nearby Atworth.

It is possible, although not proved, that it might have been William and Ann who were the parents of George Collett who was born at South Wraxall in 1796, of Thomas Collett who was born there in 1802, and William Collett who was born there in 1808. At the moment, the known details of these three gentlemen can be found in Appendix Two at the end of this file, but who have now been included here in the hope that their place within this family might be confirmed in due course.

|                              |                           |                                      |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>See Appendix 2 - 31m2</i> | <i>George Collett</i>     | <i>Born in 1796 at South Wraxall</i> |
| <b>31L8</b>                  | <b>John Collett</b>       | Born in 1799 at South Wraxall        |
| <b>31L9</b>                  | <b>Drinkwater Collett</b> | Born in 1801 at South Wraxall        |
| <i>See Appendix 2 - 31m4</i> | <i>Thomas Collett</i>     | <i>Born in 1802 at South Wraxall</i> |
| <i>See Appendix 2 - 31m4</i> | <i>William Collett</i>    | <i>Born in 1808 at South Wraxall</i> |

**31L0** **WILLIAM COLLETT** (Ref. 44L8) was born at Melksham in March 1785 and was baptised there on 09.01.1786, the son of William Collett and Hester (Rudman) Redman [see Part 44 – The Malmesbury District Line for more details]. He later married Harriet Mence at St James' Church in Paddington, London on 21.12.1811. Harriet was born at St Pancras in London around 1790.

William has been inserted here, simply because there is a connection with the village of South Wraxall through the information provided by his eldest son William Collett in the later census records, and the fact that Mary Collett (Ref. 31L7) married Thomas Rudman (Redman) in 1820. It may also be of interest that, in Part 35 – The Melksham Line, there is also a marriage between Joseph Collett (Ref. 35K16) of Broughton Gifford and Jane Rudman (Redman) of Melksham.

In addition to this, it was previously thought that William may have been related to John Collett (Ref. 31L2) below, who was born around the same time. The similarity here is that William later moved to London, where the children of John also moved, following his premature death and that of his wife Charlotte.

It would seem that the early years of the married life of William and Hester were spent within the Melksham area where their first two children were born, even though those same two children were later baptised after the family had moved to London in the early months of 1814. It may be of interest that their eldest son William later gave his place of birth as South Wraxall. However, it was in London that all of the couple's other children were born.

At the time of the first UK national census in June 1841 William and Harriet were living at Shoreditch where many of their children were born. The census listed William and Harriet as both having a rounded age of 50 - most adult ages were 'rounded' to 5 and 10 years in this first census, while the age of children was recorded more accurately.

William's and Harriet's children on that occasion were recorded as sons Charles 20, Edwin 17 and George 12, and daughters Helen 15, and Louisa who was 10, the couple's four eldest children having already left the family home by that time.

Ten years later William was more accurately described as being 65, while his wife was 61. At that time their place of residence was within the St Leonards district of Shoreditch, and with them was their widowed son Charles, age 29, their unmarried son George, age 21, their daughter Louisa who was 19, and son Frederick who was 17.

William died just over five years later on 27.10.1856 at Dalston, a district without the Borough of Hackney in London. A search of the 1861 Census has not revealed the existence of his wife, so it may be assumed that Harriet had also died sometime after 30<sup>th</sup> March 1851 and before 7<sup>th</sup> April 1861.

|              |                                         |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31M1</b>  | <b>Harriet Collett</b>                  | Born in 1812 |
| <b>31M2</b>  | <b>William Collett</b>                  | Born in 1814 |
| <b>31M3</b>  | <b>Hester Collett</b>                   | Born in 1815 |
| <b>31M4</b>  | <b>Henry Collett</b>                    | Born in 1817 |
| <b>31M5</b>  | <b>Charles Collett</b>                  | Born in 1821 |
| <b>31M6</b>  | <b>EDWIN COLLETT</b>                    | Born in 1824 |
| <b>31M7</b>  | <b>Helen Collett</b>                    | Born in 1825 |
| <b>31M8</b>  | <b>Alfred Collett</b>                   | Born in 1827 |
| <b>31M9</b>  | <b>George Collett</b>                   | Born in 1829 |
| <b>31M10</b> | <b>Louisa Caroline Collett</b>          | Born in 1831 |
| <b>31M11</b> | <b><u>Frederick William Collett</u></b> | Born in 1833 |
| <b>31M12</b> | <b>Horace Walter Collett</b>            | Born in 1835 |

**31L1** **Jonathan Collett** was born at South Wraxall around 1784, and was possibly the eldest child of Jonathan Collett and Elizabeth (Betty) Batten. He later married Jane and their only known child (so far) was born at South Wraxall, where he also died, at the age of just five years.

Within Appendix Two at the end of this file, is the previously unknown husband of Mary Collett (Ref. 31m1) who was a widow at 57 in the census of 1841. There is therefore the possibility that her husband may have been previously married to Jane, thus making Mary the second wife of Jonathan Collett. This assumption has been included here in the hope that it might be proved or disproved at some time in the future.

|       |                     |                         |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 31M13 | John Batten Collett | Born in 1806; died 1811 |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|

**31L2** **John Collett** was born at South Wraxall during August in either 1786 or 1787, the son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Betty) Collett. It was at Melksham that he married Charlotte Crook on 28.11.1811. John's occupation was that of a farmer and he died at South Wraxall, two years before his wife, on 22.08.1835 at the age of 48, following which he was buried there in the family tomb – see details below.

Charlotte Crook was born in 1789 and came from the village of Beanacre, near Melksham. She died

at South Wraxall on 09.09.1837 at the age of 48, following which she was buried with her husband in the family tomb.

In the first national census of 1841 the children of John and Charlotte were living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford", within the Bradford Union North Western registration district. This is understood to be South Wraxall, which lies two miles north of Bradford-on-Avon which distinguishes it from Wraxall in Somerset, to the south of Shepton Mallet, and Wraxall near Nailsea to the west of Bristol.

John and Charlotte are known to have had at least eight children between 1811 and 1830, as listed below, and all of whom were born at South Wraxall near Bradford-on-Avon.

However, only the baptism records for two of the children have been located, and they are the brothers John and Andrew.

At their baptism, in the Church of St James at South Wraxall, their parents were confirmed as John and Charlotte Collett. In addition, the brothers' appearance in the census of 1841 also serves to confirm a further three of their siblings.



In the census document that year the family was still involved in farming, since all of the members of the family, irrespective of their age, were recorded as being 'yeoman'. They were Wm Collett, age 24, who was married and the head of the household, 'Betsey' Collett 23, John Collett 20, Arabella Collett 19, and Andrew Collett who was 11.

The Will of yeoman farmer John Collett made on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1833 and proved on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1836, named his wife Charlotte as executor of his estate, in which everything was bequeathed to his wife Charlotte, and upon her death to his son William, providing that she did not re-marry following his demise. With Charlotte dying just two years after John, the estate presumably then passed onto their surviving children. It was shortly after the census in 1841, that the children of John and Charlotte moved to London, except their son Andrew who went to live in Bath.

The churchyard of St James in South Wraxall contains the tomb of this particular Collett family, where John and his wife Charlotte are laid to rest, with their children Matilda and Edward, and possibly others although the names have long since disappeared with age.

On one side are the words, "*Also Edward the infant son of John and Charlotte Collett who died Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 1828 aged 14 months. Also Matilda their daughter who died May 14<sup>th</sup> 1841 aged 24 years*"

This means that she could not have been alive at the time of the 1841 census which took place on 6<sup>th</sup> June, suggesting that Betsey Collett was not an alternative name for Matilda, but two separate children.



|              |                               |                    |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31M14</b> | <b>Elizabeth Collett</b>      | Born in 1812       |
| <b>31M15</b> | <b>William Batten Collett</b> | Born in 1815       |
| <b>31M16</b> | <b>Matilda Collett</b>        | Born in 1817       |
| <b>31M17</b> | <b>Betsy Collett</b>          | Born in 1818       |
| <b>31M18</b> | <b>John Collett</b>           | Born in 1820       |
| <b>31M19</b> | <b>Arabella Jane Collett</b>  | Born in 1822       |
| <b>31M20</b> | <b>Edwin Collett</b>          | Born in 1826       |
| <b>31M21</b> | <b>Andrew William Collett</b> | Born on 01.04.1829 |

**31L7** **Mary Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1798, the youngest child of Jonathan Collett and Elizabeth Batten. It was on 04.01.1820 that Mary Collett, of South Wraxall, married Thomas Rudman (Redman) at St James' Church in South Wraxall, just one of many links between the Collett family and the Rudman (Redman) family around that time.

Thomas was baptised at South Wraxall on 11.03.1798, and the marriage produced nine children for the couple, and all of them baptised at South Wraxall. They were Samuel (bp. 12.08.1821), William (bp. 25.12.1822) who died on 30.04.1864, George (bp. 07.06.1827), Michael (b. 27.03.1831) who died

before 1839, John (bp. 23.02.1834), Mary Watson Rudman (bp. 10.06.1836), Caleb (bp. 18.03.1838) who died before 1880, Michael (bp. 09.06.1839), and Henry Rudman (bp. 27.03.1842).

**31L8** **John Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1799, although the exact details of his birth and his parentage have still to be discovered. What is known is that he married Martha, probably sometime just after 1820, and their two known sons were born while they were living at Atworth.

Although no baptism record has been found for son John, the Atworth parish record for son Thomas gave the name of his parents as John and Elizabeth Collett. According to the census of 1841 John and Martha were living within the Bradford-on-Avon registration district, where both of them were listed with a rounded age of 40.

Although rather strangely, there is a record of an Edwin Collet being baptised at Atworth on 10.08.1845, to parents John and Elizabeth Collett, the same description as twenty years earlier for Thomas Collett. Martha or Elizabeth would have been around 45 years of age, so it is quite possible that Edwin was the son of John and Martha.

What happen next in the life of this family remains a mystery, no record of John Collett around the age of 50 has been located in the 1851 Census, while his wife Martha Collett, age 55, was listed as living alone within the south-eastern registration district of Bradford-on-Avon.

It would further appear, although not proved, that Martha/Elizabeth may have died during the next decade, and by 1861 John reappeared and was listed in the census return for that year. In the Atworth census, within the south-eastern Bradford-on-Avon registration district, John Collett was 60 years old and a widower, and had living with him his son Edwin Collett who was 15. Ten years later in 1871, John Collett was 71 years old.

According to the next census in 1881, widower John Collett was 81 and was working as a general labourer, while living at Main Street in Bradford-on-Avon. Living with him was his unmarried son Thomas Collett who was confirmed as having been born at Atworth.

Atworth lies to the north-west of Melksham and is situated fairly close to South Wraxall. It seems very likely that John and Martha may have had more than just the three children indicated below.

|              |                       |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>31M22</b> | <b>John Collett</b>   | Born in 1823 at Atworth           |
| <b>31M23</b> | <b>Thomas Collett</b> | Born in 1825 at Atworth           |
| <b>31M24</b> | <b>Edwin Collett</b>  | Baptised on 10.08.1845 at Atworth |

**31L9** **Drinkwater Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1801, and was very likely the son of William Collett and Ann Morris, and the brother of John Collett of South Wraxall (above).

Around the mid to late 1820s he married Ann with whom he had four children, all born at nearby Atworth. It was also at Atworth around this time that the family of Drinkwater's brother John Collett (above) and his wife Martha were living with their two sons John and Thomas.

Similarly, two of the sons of Drinkwater and Ann were named John and Thomas, perhaps another indicator that Drinkwater and John were brothers. In the census of 1841, Drinkwater was listed with a rounded age of forty, as was his wife Ann, while their children were John 11, Hannah 9, Thomas 1, and William who was under one year old.

It seems likely that son Thomas may have been born during the first few months of 1840. Tragically during the following years the family not only suffered the loss of mother Ann, but also the death of her two youngest sons, perhaps as a result of the same illness.

Although Drinkwater was recorded as being 42 in the next census in 1851, it is highly likely that this was an error in translation, having regard for his given age ten years later in the census of 1861. The census return for 1851 described Drinkwater Collett as a widower who was working as an agricultural labourer, while he was living at Upper Wraxall. His place of birth was confirmed as South Wraxall.

The only member of his family still living with him at Upper Wraxall was his daughter Hannah who was seventeen and born at Atworth. She was described as being 'at home', presumably because she was

looking after her father as his housekeeper.

Hannah may have married during the next ten years since, in 1861 Drinkwater Collett was a lodger at the home of James Pearce in Lower Street in Chalfield-by-Wraxall. He was described as a widower of sixty years of age from South Wraxall, at which time he was still working as an agricultural labourer.

|       |                        |                                                  |
|-------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 31M25 | John Collett           | Baptised on 09.08.1829 at Atworth                |
| 31M26 | Hannah Tabitha Collett | Baptised on 25.09.1836 at Atworth                |
| 31M27 | Thomas Collett         | Baptised on 14.06.1840 at Atworth; infant death  |
| 31M28 | William Collett        | Born during the first half of 1841; infant death |

**31M1** **Harriet Collett** was born at Melksham around 1812, shortly after her parents were married there during the previous year. She was approaching two years of age when her parents left Wiltshire and moved to London. And it was after their arrival in London that she was baptised in a joint ceremony with her brother William (below) on 01.06.1814 at Old Church in St Pancras, when her parents were confirmed as William and Harriet Collett.

It is understood that Harriet was later married to become Harriet Dalloway. This is believed to have taken place in London, where the couple lived for many years in the Shoreditch area of the city, and where Harriet's three younger brothers were born. In the 1881 Census Harriet Dalloway, age 67, was a widow who had been born at Melksham, who was working as a laundress, while living at 31 St James Street in Shoreditch.

Living with her at that address was her daughter Ellen Dalloway, who was 22 and a milliner, born at Shoreditch. Ellen was very likely the youngest of Harriet's children taking account of the difference in their ages.

**31M2** **William Collett** was believed to have been born at Melksham in 1814, although he later stated that he was born at South Wraxall, near Bradford-on-Avon. While he was still only a few months old, his parents left Wiltshire, when they moved into London. And it was there, at Old Church in St Pancras that William was baptised in a joint ceremony with his older sister Harriet (above) on 01.06.1814.

It would appear that once he became an adult, he returned to his Wiltshire roots, where he met his future wife and where he began his occupation as a carpenter, just one of many men in this family who worked with wood. It was during the early 1840s that he married Ellen (Helen) who had been born at Monkton Farleigh in Wiltshire in 1818.

By the time of the next census in 1851, the family of William and Ellen Collett was living at Bubble Hill (*Rubble Heep in 1861 and Bubble Heap in 1881*) in Monkton Farleigh, where William from 'South Wraxhall' was 34 and a carpenter. His wife Ellen from Monkton Farleigh was 32, although the census return seemed to have her age incorrectly as 38.

On that occasion William and Ellen already had four children, all born at Monkton Farleigh, and they were Edwin who was five, Ann who was four, Whyatt who was three, and William who was two years old. The family was supported by a general domestic servant, Mary Elliot who was 15 and from Bradford-on-Avon.

Ten years later the family was listed within the census of 1861 as residing at Rubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh. William Collett, age 44 and from 'South Wraxhall', was a carpenter, while his wife Helen was 42 and from Monkton Farleigh. Living there with them were eight of their children who were all born at Monkton Farleigh, and they were Edwin Collet, age 15 who was also a carpenter, Ann Collett, age 14 who was a servant, Whyatt Collett, age 13, who was still at school, as was William Collett who was 12, Thomas Collett who was eight, and Helen Collett who was four. The two youngest members of the family were George Collett, who was three, and May Collett (sic), who was one year old.

Part of the family was still living at Monkton Farleigh in 1871, when William Collett was 56, Helen Collett was 52, and the four children still living at home with them were Whyatt, age 23, Ellen who was 15, George who was 12, and Mary who was ten years old.

In 1881 William, age 64 and from South Wraxall, was still working as a carpenter, while living at Bubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh with his wife and one of his children.

His wife Helen was 62, and their unmarried son George Collett was 22. George was confirmed as having been born at Monkton Farleigh and his occupation was that of a carpenter, like his father William, and his older brothers Edwin and Whyatt.

|             |                          |                                  |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>31N1</b> | <b>Edwin Collett</b>     | Born in 1845 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N2</b> | <b>Ann Collett</b>       | Born in 1846 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N3</b> | <b>Whyatt Collett</b>    | Born in 1847 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N4</b> | <b>William Collett</b>   | Born in 1848 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N5</b> | <b>Mary Jane Collett</b> | Born in 1851 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N6</b> | <b>Thomas Collett</b>    | Born in 1853 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N7</b> | <b>Helen Collett</b>     | Born in 1856 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N8</b> | <b>George Collett</b>    | Born in 1858 at Monkton Farleigh |
| <b>31N9</b> | <b>Mary Collett</b>      | Born in 1859 at Monkton Farleigh |

**31M3** **Hester Collett** was born on 07.10.1815 at St James in Clerkenwell, Middlesex and was later baptised at Pentonville Chapel in St James on 25.10.1815.

Hester married Edward Randall and by 1861 the couple were living in Clerkenwell with their four children. Esther was 45, Edward was 38, and their daughters Emma and Elizabeth were 12 and 4 respectively, while their sons William and Charles were 8 and 3.

Twenty years later in 1881 Esther A Randall who had been born at Clerkenwell was 65 and a widow. At that time she was working as a general servant at the home of James D Cook a thirty-three years old maker of printing material living at 6 Gayhurst Road in Hackney with his large family.

**31M4** **Henry Collett** was born on 05.09.1817 at Shoreditch in Middlesex and was later baptised at Christchurch St Leonard in Middlesex on 29.10.1817. However, with no apparent record of him in any census it is likely that he had died before 1841, although he would have been 24 and may have left the UK by then.

**31M5** **Charles Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 15.04.1821 and was baptised there at St Leonard's Church in Shoreditch on 14.10.1821. At the time of the census in 1841 Charles, age 20, was living at Shoreditch with his parents.

He married (1) Elviner Mayhew Merry on 26.05.1847 at Hackney in London. Elviner was born on 04.09.1824 at Shoreditch and was the daughter of George and Charlotte Mayhew. However, within a year of their wedding day Elviner died on 15.02.1848 while the couple were living at Hackney. She was buried at Abney Park Cemetery in London on 19.02.1848.

The 1851 Census recorded Charles as being a widower aged 29, by which time he had returned to living with his parents at Shoreditch St Leonards. During the period after the death of his wife Charles met (2) Martha Yates whom he eventually married at Hackney on 24.07.1852.

Charles died eight years later while he was still living in Hackney area and, just like his first wife he too was buried at Abney Park Cemetery on 15.03.1860. It is not known whether their marriage produced any children during the 1850s.

**31M6** **EDWIN COLLETT** was born at Shoreditch on 09.01.1824 and was baptised at St Leonard's Church in Shoreditch on 30.01.1824. He was listed as being 17 years of age in the census of 1841, when he was living at Shoreditch with his family.

He married Mary Cook on 15.04.1847 at Lambeth in Surrey. Mary was born at Southwark in London in 1824 and was the daughter of William Cook. The couple's first two children were born at Lambeth but they then moved to live at Leytonstone where the next four children were born.

By 1851 Edwin was aged 27 and Mary was 28 and the family was living at Leytonstone in the West Ham registration district of East London.

Rather strangely there was no obvious census record of the family in the UK in 1861 even though their last three daughters were born at Hackney either side of this date. However, both Edwin and Mary were listed in the 1871 Census and were living at Hackney where Edwin was 47 and Mary 48.

Two of their children were missing from the family in 1871 and these were their eldest daughter Mary who had died ten years earlier and their second daughter Clara who is also believed to have died, but no record to confirm this, apart from her absence in 1871, has so far been found.

Edwin's and Mary's remaining children were listed as Horace 23, William 20, Julia 17, Eugenie 14, flora 12, Lily 10, and Elvina who was eight years old.

Again, rather oddly, the family appear to be missing from the 1881 Census, but had reappeared by 1891 and on that occasion Edwin and Mary were living at Wandsworth when they were 67 and 68 respectively.

Just over two years later Edwin died at Brixton on 15.07.1893, following which his wife later moved to Croydon. It was at Croydon where she was living in 1901, age 78, and it was also there that she died on 27.03.1919.

|              |                             |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31N10</b> | <b>HORACE EDWIN COLLETT</b> | Born in 1848 |
| <b>31N11</b> | <b>Mary Louise Collett</b>  | Born in 1849 |
| <b>31N12</b> | <b>William Collett</b>      | Born in 1850 |
| <b>31N13</b> | <b>Clara Collett</b>        | Born in 1852 |
| <b>31N14</b> | <b>Julia Collett</b>        | Born in 1853 |
| <b>31N15</b> | <b>Eugenie Collett</b>      | Born in 1856 |
| <b>31N16</b> | <b>Flora Emily Collett</b>  | Born in 1858 |
| <b>31N17</b> | <b>Lily Collett</b>         | Born in 1860 |
| <b>31N18</b> | <b>Elvina Mary Collett</b>  | Born in 1863 |

**31M7** **Helen Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 31.12.1825 and was baptised there a month later on 27.01.1826 at St Leonard's Church. She was aged 15 in 1841 and was living with her family at Shoreditch. At sometime within the next ten years it seems very likely that she was married as there was no record of her as Helen Collett in 1851.

**31M8** **Alfred Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 03.07.1827 where he was baptised the following year at St Leonard's Church on 16.03.1828. Unlike his siblings he was not living with his family at Shoreditch in 1841 when he would have been 13 or 14 years old, nor has he been located anywhere else.

**31M9** **George Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 07.07.1829 and was baptised there on 20.09.1829 at St Leonard's Church. By 1841 he was aged 12 and was living at the family home in Shoreditch.

Ten years later he was aged 21 and was still living with his parents at Shoreditch St Leonards, but no trace of him has been found thereafter.

**31M10** **Louisa Caroline Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 31.07.1831. She was baptised on 18.09.1831 seven weeks later in St Mary's Church at nearby Haggerstone. In 1841 she was aged 10 and in 1851 was aged 19 and on both occasions was living with her parents at their Shoreditch home.

Four years later she married John Cairns on 10.09.1855 at St John's Church in Hackney. John's parents were Charles Cairns and Frances Rockcliffe.

**31M11** **Frederick William Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 29.05.1833 and was baptised there at St Leonard's Church on 10.07.1833.

He married Sindia Frances Turner on 18.05.1857 at Old Church in St Pancras. Sindia was born in 1836 at Bethnal Green and was the daughter of Joseph Turner.

At the time of the birth of their only child, Frederick was working as a book keeper with a carrier



company at a time when he and Sindia were living at 18 Weymouth Terrace in Shoreditch.

By 1881 Frederick and Sindia had moved to Islington and were living at 11 Pleasant Row. Frederick was aged 47 and was confirmed as having been born at Shoreditch. His occupation was that of a cabman. His wife was aged 44 and was of Bethnal Green and she was working as a milliner.

Whether by coincident or not, but living at 5 Pleasant Row in nearby Shoreditch in 1871 was Frederick's cousin Andrew William Collett (below) and his family.

And it was also at Islington that Frederick died in 1886. Sindia, who was referred to sometimes as Lydia in some census records, died in 1901.

**31N19**                      **Charles Frederick Collett**                      Born on 25.09.1857

**31M12**    **Horace Walter Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 22.08.1835 where he was baptised on 11.09.1835 at St Leonard's Church. Sadly he only lived to be four years of age before he died at Bethnal Green on 21.11.1839 and was buried there at St Matthews Church.

**31M14**    **Elizabeth Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1812, the eldest child of John Collett and Charlotte Crook. It would appear that she only survived for a few years, when she died in 1815.

**31M15**    **William Batten Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1815, and around the time that he was twenty years old his father died in 1835, and two years after that, his mother died in 1837, leaving William to look after the welfare of his four younger surviving siblings.

During the spring of 1839 William Batten Collett married Sarah Penelope James at South Wraxall, the marriage being registered at Bradford-on-Avon during the second quarter of that year. Sarah was born at Newgate Street in London in 1816. Once they were married, the couple initially settled in South Wraxall where their first child was born in 1840.

The census of 1841 recorded that William and Sarah were living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" in Wiltshire with their first child Matilda, who was one year old. William's occupation was stated as being that of a yeoman, *def. 'a man who cultivates his own land'*. It was as Wm Collett, age 24, that he was recorded, while his wife Sarah was 23.

Living with the couple and their daughter were four of William's siblings, and they were Betsey, 23, John 20, Arabella who was 19, and Andrew who was 11. All of them were noted as yeoman. Supporting the family at that time was Ann Shepherd, age 20, who was a servant.

Shortly after the census day in June that year the family was extended by the birth of a son while William and Sarah were still living within the Bradford-on-Avon area, although like all their other children, he was also baptised in London, to where the family moved just after he was born. The child's second forename of Miles is very interesting, because the Collett family were known to have formed a relationship with the Reverend Miles, after whom the child was named, as were others of William's family. It therefore seems very likely that the Rev Miles helped William to support his brothers and sisters following the death of both parents in the 1830s.

It now also appears that three out of the four siblings of William, who were living with him at South Wraxall in 1841, also made the journey to London with him or sometime after. Only his youngest brother Andrew William Collett (below) seems not to have made that move, since he is known to have moved to Bath when he was still in his teenage years.

It seems rather curious that no further children were added to William's family during the remainder of the 1840s, unless of course they suffered premature death. By the time of the 1851 Census William and Sarah were living in London when their family home was at 20 Prospect Place in St Mary Stoke Newington, within the Finsbury & Hackney registration district of the city. William, age 36 and from Bradford, Wilts, was a gardener, and with him was his wife Sarah, age 35 and from London, and their three children.

Curiously William, and his two eldest children, were all recorded as having an impediment; either

indicating that they were blind, deaf or dumb, since for each of them there was a tick in the final column of the census return. The three children were Mary Matilda Collett, age 11 and a scholar from Bradford, Wilts, William Henry Miles Collett, age 9 and also a scholar from Bradford, and John Miles Collett who was only two months old and born at Stoke Newington.

Ten years later in 1861 William B Collett, age 46, was still a gardener, but with the addition of being a journeyman as well. On that occasion he and his family were living within the Edmonton with Tottenham registration district, and with him was his wife Sarah P Collett, age 45, and four of their five children. They were Henry who was 20, Edward who was nine, Amy who was seven, and Francis who was four years old.

William's occupation had changed back to farmer by 1871, this being consistent with him being described as a yeoman thirty years earlier. The family living at Tottenham comprised William B Collett 56, his wife Sarah 54, and their daughter Amy who was 15, and their son 'Frank' (Francis) who was 13.

According to the next census of 1881 William and his wife were living at The Poplars, 9 Markfield Road in Tottenham. William gave his place of birth as South Wraxall and his aged as 67. His occupation was then recorded as that of a dairyman. Markfield Road was still there in 2009.

His wife was aged 63 and her place of birth was confirmed as the City of London. Living with William and Sarah was their youngest daughter Amy who was then married to James Watson of London.

Also listed with the family was granddaughter Ada Collett aged 13 years a milkmaid born at Tottenham. She was the daughter of the couple's oldest son William Henry Collett. It can safely be assumed that Ada was working with her grandfather William at that time and in the same dairy business.

Sarah Penelope Collett nee James died at Edmonton during the second quarter of 1888, and was followed one year later by her husband William Batten Collett, who also died at Edmonton, during the second quarter of 1889.

|              |                                    |                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>31N20</b> | <b>Mary Matilda Collett</b>        | Born in 1840 at South Wraxall  |
| <b>31N21</b> | <b>William Henry Miles Collett</b> | Born in 1841 at South Wraxall  |
| <b>31N22</b> | <b>John Miles Collett</b>          | Born in January 1851 at London |
| <b>31N23</b> | <b>Edward Collett</b>              | Born in 1852 at London         |
| <b>31N24</b> | <b>Amy Collett</b>                 | Born in 1854 at London         |
| <b>31N25</b> | <b>Francis James Collett</b>       | Born in 1857 at London         |

**31M16** **Matilda Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1817, the daughter of John and Charlotte Collett. Sadly, following the death of first her father in 1835, and then her mother in 1837, Matilda died on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1841 at the age of 24, when her body was placed inside the Collett family tomb with her parents and her younger brother Edwin Collett (below).

**31M17** **Betsy Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1818, the daughter of John and Charlotte Collett. With both of her parents having died during the six years prior to the census on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1841, Betsy and her three younger siblings were looked after by her older married brother William Collett and his wife Sarah. So in the 1841 census for "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford", Betsy was recorded as Betsey Collett age 23, living at the South Wraxall home of her brother William, with all of her surviving brothers and sister.

In the previous version of this family line, Betsy Collett and Matilda Collett (above) were considered to be the same person, but the inscription on the family tomb at St James Church in South Wraxall, proves that Matilda had died prior to the 1841 census, and therefore see could not have been Betsy Collett, hence the reason for her inclusion now as an additional child of John and Charlotte Collett.

Just a short while later Betsy's married brother William Batten Collett left South Wraxall, when he and his family moved to London. Betsy and her brother John and her sister Arabella also travelled to London, although it has not been determined if this happened at the same time as William's move, or a little thereafter. With no further record found of Betsy Collett, it must be assumed that she was very likely married in London during the 1840s.

**31M18** **John Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1820, but was baptised at Bradford-on-Avon on 17.05.1820, the son of farmer John and Charlotte Collett. He was only 15 years old when his father died, and two years after that his mother died in 1837.

According to the census in 1841, John Collett was 20 and was living in "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" within the Bradford Union North Western registration district with his older married brother William who was head of the household. Other members of his family living in the same dwelling were John's sisters Betsy (above) and Arabella (below), together with his younger brother Andrew (below). All of them, including the girls, were described as yeoman.

It is known that John's married brother William Batten Collett settled in London during the early 1840s, and that John and his sisters Betsy and Arabella also left Wiltshire for the city, either at that same time or shortly thereafter. It is established that the orphaned siblings had some contact with the Reverend Miles while in London, with John's older brother William naming his children after him, and his younger sister Arabella being employed by him. It is also known that when the Reverend Miles and his wife left London for Bingham in Nottinghamshire, Arabella went with them. It is therefore possible that John also ended up in Bingham, since it was there that a John Collett died during the first quarter of 1851.

There would appear to be no other John Collett that this could apply to, so it is therefore a possibility that this was John Collett from South Wraxall. And if so, it then brings into question all of the following details below, written about him. As a further side issue, there was another John Collett, a labourer who was recorded at 6 West Row in the Chelsea St Luke area of London in 1851, who was 28 and born at Bradford in Wiltshire, less than two miles from South Wraxall. Living there with him was his wife Ellen Collett from Kent (formerly Ellen Page of Medway, Kent) who was 21 and a laundress. But for the moment he has been discounted.

The following notes on the John Collett who said he was from Broughton Gifford, whose wife may have been Sarah Whitby, have been retained here until such time as it can be verified that this was NOT John Collett, the son of John and Charlotte Collett. Thanks go to Brian Townsend, who raised these issues during 2011.

It may well have been in London where John met his future wife, since it would appear that he married Sarah from Harwich in Essex sometime before the census in 1851. By that time John and Sarah were living at Rose Cottage in Atworth Chapelry, near Melksham, where their two known children were born.

However, it is the census return for 1851 that raises a big question regarding John Collett, since his place of birth was given as Broughton Gifford, rather than South Wraxall, although the villages are only two miles away from each other. In addition to that, the occupation of John Collett, age 31, was that of a master shoemaker, for which he employed two men and two boys. His wife was confirmed as Sarah Collett, age 27 and from Harwich.

It is possible that Sarah was Sarah Whitby, because living with the couple was widow Sarah Whitby, who was 60 and from Harwich in Essex. There were two other females visiting the Collett household on that occasion, and they were sisters Emily Lewis, 14, and Laura Lewis 12, who were both born at Atworth.

The couple's two children were born at Atworth over the following six years, so in 1861 the census return that year recorded the family of four as, John Collett, who was 42, his wife Sarah Collett who was 37, their daughter Sarah M Collett, who was eight years old, and their son John S Collett who was three years old.

It was during the next decade that John Collett died, following which the next census in 1871 gave more precise details of Sarah and her two children. The census return for the Bradford-on-Avon South-Eastern district listed widow and head of the household as Sarah Halstead Collett, age 48, her daughter as Sarah Mary Collett, who was 18, and her son as John Stanier (sic) Collett, who was 13.

And again in the census of 1881 Sarah H Collett, age 59 and from Harwich in Essex, was a widow living at Main Street in Bradford-on-Avon. Also living on Main Street that same year was 81 years old John Collett (Ref. 31L8) and his son Thomas (below) aged 56.

Living with Sarah was her unmarried son John S Collett, age 23, who was a carpenter who had been born at Atworth. By that time Sarah's unmarried daughter Sarah Mary Collett was 27 and had already left the family home, and was living and working at Shaw Hill House on the Bath Road in Melksham.

31N26  
31N27

**Sarah Mary Collett**  
**John Stamin Collett**

Born in 1853  
Born in 1857

**31M19** **Arabella Jane Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1822. It was as Arrabella Collett, age 19, that she was recorded in the 1841 census for "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford", when she was living there with her older married brother William Batten Collett (above), following the deaths of both of their parents during the previous five years.

It was also during the 1840s that the orphaned Collett children gave up living in South Wraxall, when they moved to London, either with or just after their married brother William moved there. It may have been before they left for London that they were comforted in their grief at the loss of their parents by the Reverend Miles. At the time of the census in 1841 the Rev. Miles was living in London where he was receiving training for the ministry. It may therefore have been him, who was instrumental in the families move to the capital city.

What is certainly known is the Rev. Miles became a married man during the 1840s and that after that he left London when he took up a position at Bingham in Nottinghamshire. His move north may have also coincided with his offer of work to Arabella Collett, who eventually joined him and his wife there. Such was the impact the Rev Miles had on the young Collett family, that Arabella's brother William Batten Collett, gave the Miles name to some of his children.

By the time of the Bingham census in 1851 the Rev. Robert H W Miles, age 32, and his wife Mary Miles, age 27, had six children, and to help look after them they employed Arabella Collett age 28. Ten years later Arabella Collett was still being employed by the Reverend Miles when, according to the 1861 Census for Bingham, she was recorded as being Anabella J Collett, age 38. At that time the Miles family was living at a house in Church Street in Bingham, just to the east of Nottingham.

It was five years later at Bingham, and during the first quarter of 1866, that Arabella Collett married George Oaks. At the time of the Bingham census in 1871 the couple were residing at a dwelling in the Market Place where George Oakes, age 54 and from Nottinghamshire, was a printer and an auctioneer, while his wife Arabella Oakes from Wraxhall in Wiltshire was 48. George Oaks was born in 1817 at Mansfield Woodhouse in Nottinghamshire, and at the time of the previous census in 1861 he was married to Ann by whom he had a daughter Jane who was born in 1844. Sadly for George his second married to Arabella only lasted for ten years, when he died at Derby during 1876, at the age of 59.

Following the death of her husband, Arabella was living at Alma Cottage in Chilwell, to the west of Nottingham, in 1881 when she was recorded as being an annuitant. It was also while she was still living in Nottinghamshire that she died there in 1890, at the age of 68.

**31M20** **Edwin Collett** was born at South Wraxall in December 1826, the son of John Collett and Charlotte Crook, but also died there on 27<sup>th</sup> February 1828 when he was only fourteen months old. With the death of his parents in 1835 and 1837, and then the death of his sister Matilda in 1841, a family was erected in the churchyard of St James Church in South Wraxall, where they were all laid to rest.

**31M21** **Andrew William Collett** was born at South Wraxall on 01.04.1829 and was baptised that same day at St James' Church in South Wraxall, the son of John and Charlotte Collett nee Crook.

Following the death of his father when he was only six years old, followed by the death of his mother when he was only eight years of age, Andrew William Collett was placed under the care of his older married brother William Collett (above) at his home in "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" where he was 11 years old in the census of 1841.

At the time of his marriage to Sarah Curnick, nine years later on 12.05.1850 at Walcot Parish Church in Bath, Andrew was a resident at 7 Guinea Lane in the Walcot district of the city. In addition to this, the marriage register also confirmed that his late father's name as John Collett, and that he was a farmer.

Sarah was the daughter of Robert and Hester Curnick and was baptised on 03.06.1827 at Winsley a village to the west of Bradford-on-Avon. In 1841 Sarah was living with her parents at Beanacre near

Melksham, but at the time of the wedding her address was given as being 5 Myrtle Place in Walcot.

Ten months after their wedding day the couple were living at Atworth in the Melksham registration area where they were recorded in the 1851 Census. Andrew, age 22, was a cabinet maker, and his wife Sarah was 24. Shortly after this the couple moved to live at Portsea in Portsmouth where their first child was born.

It would appear that they were only at Portsea for a short while since their next two children were born while the family was living south of the Thames in London. However, their fourth and fifth children, Sarah and William, were born at Shepton Mallet and Clifton in Bristol respectively, before the family returned to London where the last two children were born.

These changes of address in fairly quick succession perhaps indicate that it was Andrew's occupation as a cabinet maker that was the reason for their mobility.

At the time of the birth of their son John Collett in March 1856, Andrew and Sarah were living at 54 Hardwick Place in Plumstead near Woolwich, but five years later in 1861 the census confirmed that the family had moved again and on this occasion they were living at 20 Holywell Row in Shoreditch.

*Appendix Four, at the end of this family line includes another connection with Plumstead.*

The family at that time comprised Andrew, who was 32, his wife Sarah, and their children, Margaret Collett (who must have been Mary) was eight years old and born at Portsmouth, Thomas R Collett (who must have been John R) was five, Sarah E Collett was three, and William A Collett was under one year old.

In addition to the changed names for the couple's two oldest children, there was no daughter Charlotte. Instead there was a child by the name of Blanche who was the corresponding age of six years that Charlotte would have been. The differing name for their oldest son continued in subsequent censuses.

Further changes of address took place during the 1860s and the 1870s. In 1871 they were living at 5 Pleasant Row in Shoreditch at which time the family comprised Andrew 42, Sarah 44, and their children Mary A Collett 18, John R Collett 15, William A Collett 11, Henry 5, and 2 years old George.

It may be of interest to note that in 1881, 11 Pleasant Row in nearby Islington was the home of Andrew's cousin Frederick William Collett (above) who was born at Shoreditch.

By the twenty-second of April in 1877 the family was residing at George Street in Bethnal Green, but four years after that they had moved yet again, and were recorded in the 1881 Census as living at 31 Homer Road in the Homerton area of Hackney.

The family at that time was made up of cabinet maker Andrew who was 52, Sarah, age 54, who was an upholstress born at Winsley in Wiltshire, and their sons William, age 20, who had been born at Bristol, Henry, age 15, who had been born within the City of London, and George who was eleven and who had been born at Shoreditch.

The house at 31 Homer Road must have been a fairly large property since it was also home to two of Andrew's and Sarah's married children. The first of them was their son Thomas (previously John) and his wife Sarah, and the second was their eldest daughter Mary and her husband William Cottle, plus their three children.

Sometime during the next ten to fifteen years Andrew and Sarah moved to 2 The Grove in Mare Street in Hackney where they were living at the time of Andrew's death. He died on 28.10.1899 at the Homerton Infirmary (Hackney Wick Infirmary) in Hackney, the cause of death being recorded as senile decay, and acute pneumonia with which he had suffered during the previous eight days.

Following the death of her husband, Sarah left The Grove and settled in her new home at 72 Chalgrove Road in Hackney where she continued to work as an upholsterer. However, Sarah was only a widow for just over two years when she died on 12.01.1902 at the Braxton Infirmary in Hackney. The cause of death was recorded as senile decay and bronchitis.

**31N28**  
**31N29**

**Mary Arabella Collett**  
**Charlotte Matilda Collett**

Born in 1852  
Born in 1854

|              |                                 |                    |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31N30</b> | <b>John Robert Collett</b>      | Born on 21.03.1856 |
| <b>31N31</b> | <b>Sarah Elizabeth Collett</b>  | Born on 23.04.1858 |
| <b>31N32</b> | <b>William Andrew Collett</b>   | Born in 1860       |
| <b>31N33</b> | <b>Henry John Collett</b>       | Born in 1865       |
| <b>31N34</b> | <b>George Frederick Collett</b> | Born in 1869       |

**31M22** **John Collett** was born at Atworth in 1823, and was the eldest of two sons of John and Martha Collett. He married Ann in the late 1840s and they subsequently moved to Maesteg in South Wales where they were living in 1851. The only other person listed living with the couple on that occasion was John's younger brother Thomas (below), although four years later Ann presented John with a daughter.

No record of the family has been found in 1861 but, according to the census of 1871, they were still living at Maesteg near Bridgend. John Collett was aged 47 and his place of birth was confirmed as having been Atworth, while his wife was 48 and their daughter Mary Collett was 14 years old.

Sometime during the next decade the family move to 2 Concrete Cottages in Cwmdru in Glamorgan where they were living in April 1881. John's occupation was that of a carter and haulier at the age of 57 and Ann was 58. No place of birth was given for either of them in the 1881 Census, by which time their daughter had married and left the family home.

|              |                         |              |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31N35</b> | <b>Mary Ann Collett</b> | Born in 1856 |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|

**31M23** **Thomas Collett** was born at Atworth in 1825, the son of John and Martha Collett, although for his baptism at Atworth on 20.02.1825, his parents were named as John and Elizabeth Collett. At the time of the 1851 Census he was confirmed as having been born at Atworth and was 26, while living at Maesteg near Bridgend in South Wales with his brother John (above).

Although no record of Thomas has so far been found in 1861, he was back living with his recently widowed father at Bradford-on-Avon by April 1871, when he was unmarried at 46.

He never married and in 1881, when he was 56, he was still living with his eighty-one years old father John Collett at Main Street in Bradford-on-Avon. Under occupation, the census return described Thomas as being a former domestic servant.

**31M24** **Edwin Collett** was born at Atworth where he was baptised on 10.08.1845, the son of John and Elizabeth Collett. By the time of the census in 1861, Edwin's mother had died, and he was living with his father John Collett. At that time Edwin Collett of Atworth was 15, and the registration district in which he and his father were residing was Bradford-on-Avon South Eastern.

**31N1** **Edwin Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh where he was baptised on 10.08.1845, the eldest child of William and Ellen Collett. By the time of the census in 1851 Edwin was listed as being aged five years, and ten years later in 1861, he was 15, and had already left school and was working with his father as a carpenter. On both occasions he was living with his family in Monkton Farleigh, at Bubble Hill, then Rubble Heep, which may well be one and the same place.

It seems likely that it was his occupation as a carpenter that resulted in him travelling a lot to find work and, at the time of the next census in 1871, the only Edwin Collett of the right age was working at Branborough in Doncaster, at the age of 25.

Shortly after that it would appear that he returned to the west country and initially settled in Bath, where he married Mary Ann and where their first child was born. Within a year, the family of three had moved to Bristol, where their second child was born, before returning to Bath for the birth of their third child. It is possible that it was during those years in the late 1870s that Edwin suffered an accident that rendered him blind, which forced him to give up his work as a carpenter.

According to the 1881 Census, Edwin and Mary Ann Collett were living at 7 Dover Terrace in the Walcot district of Bath. The census return on that occasion confirmed that Edwin, age 35, had been born at Monkton Farleigh and that he was blind and an out of work carpenter. His wife was 31 and her place of birth was confirmed as Bath. The couple's three sons at that time were listed as William H Collett, age six years, who had been born at Bath, Edwin G Collett, age four, who was born at Bristol, and ten months old Reginald H Collett, who had also been born at Bath.

With Edwin unable to earn a wage his wife Mary Ann was the income provider through her work as a milliner. The family also took in lodgers to supplement Mary's income and living with them at that time was lodger and bird stuffer Julia Stower aged 24 from Box. The couple's fourth son was born during the following year, while the family was still living at Walcot in Bath.

Sometime after the birth of the child and before 1891, Edwin Collett died, leaving his widow and three of his four sons still living at Walcot by the time of the census that year. Mary Ann Collett was 41, William H Collett was 16, Edwin G Collett was 14, and Arthur T Collett was eight years old. By 1901 his wife Mary A Collett of Bath and aged 51 was a widow and was continuing her occupation as a milliner while still living in Bath. With her was her youngest son Arthur who was 18 and also born at Bath.

Mary Ann Collett was again recorded as living at Bath in April 1911 when she was 61. And it was while she was living at 6 Highbury Terrace in Bath in October 1917 that she received the tragic news of the death of her youngest son Arthur who was killed at Ypres in the Great War.

|             |                              |              |
|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31O1</b> | <b>William H Collett</b>     | Born in 1874 |
| <b>31O2</b> | <b>Edwin G Collett</b>       | Born in 1876 |
| <b>31O3</b> | <b>Reginald H Collett</b>    | Born in 1880 |
| <b>31O4</b> | <b>Arthur Thomas Collett</b> | Born in 1882 |

**31N2** **Ann Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1846, where she was baptised on 09.08.1846, the daughter of William and Ellen Collett. She was four years old in the Monkton Farleigh census of 1851 when she was one of four children living there at Bubble Hill with her parents. Ten years later, in the Monkton Farleigh census of 1851, she was still living there at Rubble Heep with her family when she was 14 years old.

At the age of 35 she was still a spinster and was working as a domestic servant and house maid at Clifton in Bristol. The census of 1881 recorded her as Annie 35, living and working at the home of George R Woodward a magistrate, alderman and vinegar maker of 1 Cornwallis Grove in Clifton.

It seems likely that she eventually married a Mr Mortimer as an Ann Mortimer born at Monkton Farleigh was aged 45 and 55 in the 1891 and 1901 Census records and was living at Trowbridge for the latter.

**31N3** **Whyatt Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1847, the son of William and Ellen Collett. It was a Bubble Hill that he and his family were living in 1851, and at Rubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh in 1861 when he was 13 and still attending the village school. It was there also that he was living ten years later in 1871 when he was 23.

It was around two years after that when Whyatt married Jane during, since according to the census in 1911 they were described as having been married for 37 years. By the time of the census in 1881 Whyatt, age 33 and a carpenter, like his father and eldest brother Edwin (above), was living at 8 Lambridge Street in the Walcot district of Bath. Living with him was his wife Jane, age 37, who was confirmed as having been born at Churchill in Somerset.

Living with them were their sons Edgar aged six years who had been born at Atworth, Whyatt aged three years who had been born at Frankleigh in Bradford-on-Avon, and one year old Frederick who had been born at Walcot, plus their daughter Frances who was five years old and also born at Frankleigh.

Three more children were added to the family over the next ten years and sometime between 1884 and 1888 the family left the Walcot district of Bath and by 1891 they were recorded as living at Twerton to the west of Bath. That year's census recorded the family as Whyatt aged 43, Jane 47 and their children Edgar 16, Frances 15, Whyatt 12, Frederick, 9, Sidney 8, Albert 5, and Helen aged 4.

At the turn of the century they were still living at Twerton where 53 years old Whyatt was employed as a carpenter and binder. Jane was then 57 and just five of her children were still living in the family home. These were Whyatt 23, Frederick 21, Sidney 18, Albert 16 and Helen aged 14.

The Bath census of 1911 also confirmed that Whyatt and Jane were living at 106 West Avenue in Twerton. Carpenter and joiner Whyatt Collett of Monkton Farleigh was 63, while his wife Jane from Churchill near Weston-super-Mare in Somerset was 67. The only member of their family still living with them at that time was their son Whyatt.

|              |                               |              |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31O5</b>  | <b>Edgar William Collett</b>  | Born in 1874 |
| <b>31O6</b>  | <b>Frances E Collett</b>      | Born in 1875 |
| <b>31O7</b>  | <b>Whyatt Collett</b>         | Born in 1877 |
| <b>31O8</b>  | <b>Frederick John Collett</b> | Born in 1879 |
| <b>31O9</b>  | <b>Sidney James Collett</b>   | Born in 1883 |
| <b>31O10</b> | <b>Albert E Collett</b>       | Born in 1885 |
| <b>31O11</b> | <b>Helen Collett</b>          | Born in 1887 |

**31N4** **William Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1848, where he was living with his family at Bubble Hill in 1851 and Rubble Heep in 1861, at the age of two and 12. Just after he was twenty years of age he married Harriet who was eight older than William, she having been born in London in 1840.

Although no picture of William has been unearthed to date, the smart young lady shown on the right is believed to be his wife Harriet 'Hetty' Collett, the photograph possibly being taken on her wedding day.



Olive, the eldest daughter of Florence Collett (Ref. 31P10) who was born in 1922, remembers visiting Great Aunt Hetty Collett around 1930 when she was ninety years old.

The early married years for the couple were spent in London, initially at Putney where their first child was born, and later at Hoxton just north of Shoreditch. Like many of the Collett men in this family line, William was a carpenter and joiner and it was his work that then took him to Birmingham where the couple's third child was born.

By 1881 William and his family had left Birmingham and were then living at 84 Warrington Road in Prescott near St Helens in Lancashire. He was 33 and was working as a joiner. His wife Harriet was 40 and their three children were Annie 10, Helen 8 and Minnie 7.

Although no record of the family has so far been located in 1891, William and Harriet left Prescott sometime during the twenty years after 1881 and had moved to the Manchester area. This move, like those before, may have been as a result of William securing new work.

By the end of the century all of the couple's three daughters were married and had moved out of the family home leaving their parents living alone at Salford in Manchester. In the 1901 Census for Salford William was 52 and a timber joiner from Monkton Farleigh while his wife Harriet was 60 and of Islington in London.

Within the next ten years William's wife passed away, and so by 1911 he was a widower aged 62 who was still living in Lancashire, but in the Blackburn registration district. William's place of birth was once again confirmed as Monkton Farleigh in Wiltshire.

|              |                       |                                |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>31O12</b> | <b>Annie Collett</b>  | Born in 1870 at Putney, London |
| <b>31O13</b> | <b>Helen Collett</b>  | Born in 1872 at Hoxton, London |
| <b>31O14</b> | <b>Minnie Collett</b> | Born in 1873 at Birmingham     |

**31N5** **Mary Jane Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1851 but after the thirtieth of March. She was not recorded living with her family at Rubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh at the time of the census in 1861, and therefore she may have suffered an infant death.



**31N6** **Thomas Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1853 and was eight years old in the April census of 1861, when he and his family were living at Rubble Heep in the village. By the time of the next census in 1871 Thomas was no longer living with his family, and after a further ten years he was listed in the census of 1881 as being a bachelor at the age of 27. The census record also confirmed that his place of birth had been Monkton Farleigh.

On that occasion in his life Thomas working as a butler in the service of Justice of the Peace for Wiltshire Horatio N Goddard at his home at The Manor, Clyffe Pypard south of Wootton Bassett. Seven other servants were employed at the house, supporting Horatio and his wife, their daughter and her husband, and their two grandchildren children.

By the turn of the century Thomas was 47 and was living in Bristol where he was no longer in employed in domestic service, but was recorded as being an ex-butler. His place of birth at that time was simply stated as being Bradford-on-Avon.

**31N7** **Helen Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1856 and was four years old at the time of the 1861 Census when she was living with her family at Rubble Heep, while attending the village school in Monkton Farleigh. It was as Ellen Collett, age 15, that she was recorded with her parents in the next census for Monkton Farleigh in 1871. Thereafter there is no record of her as Helen or Ellen Collett, so it must be assumed that she was married by 1881.

**31N8** **George Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1858 and was three years old and living at Rubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh with his family in 1861. He was 12 years old ten years later in 1871, when still living there, and was a bachelor at the age of 22 in 1881. On that occasion George was still living with his parents William and Helen Collett at Bubble Heep in Monkton Farleigh, when his occupation was that of a carpenter like his father and his older brothers Edwin, Whyatt and William (above).

**31N9** **Mary Collett** was born at Monkton Farleigh in 1859 and was one year old at the time of census in 1861 when she was recorded as May Collett, the youngest child of Edwin Collett and his wife Helen. It seem very likely that she was named in honour of her older sister who died when she was still very young.

She was correctly recorded as Mary Collett, age ten years, in 1871 when she and her family were still living at Monkton Farleigh. Ten years after that, Mary Collett of Monkton Farleigh was curiously recorded as being 25 years old, when she was still single and was employed as a parlour maid by the Rector of Monkton Farleigh Thomas H Tooke. It is assumed that after that time she became a married lady.

**31N10** **HORACE EDWIN COLLETT** was born at Lambeth on 20.01.1848. By the time he was 23 Horace was still a bachelor and was still living with his family at Hackney in April 1871. Some time thereafter he emigrated to New Zealand.

When he arrived in New Zealand has not been determined but it was there on 04.09.1882 that he married Alice Marguerite Radford. The wedding took place at a private residence in Marlboroughtown which today is Spring Creek in the Marlborough region of New Zealand's south island.

Alice had been born on 21.11.1860 at Shoreditch and was the daughter of Samuel Radford and his wife Sarah Anne Helena Benham. How or when she sailed to New Zealand has also not been discovered, but there is a possibility that she met Horace during the sea voyage.

At the time of the birth of the couple's second son at Blenheim within the Marlborough district, the child's birth record stated that his father Horace Collett was from Tauranga on the Bay of Plenty to the south of Auckland on the north island of New Zealand.

And certainly Horace was living on the north island of New Zealand when he died on 20.12.1902 at Auckland and was buried the following day at Purewa Cemetery at Meadowbank in Auckland.

His widow Alice survived him by almost thirty years when she later died at Epsom (near Meadowbank) in Auckland on 18.08.1931. Alice was buried with Horace at Purewa Cemetery in Meadowbank the day after she had died.

|              |                               |              |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31O15</b> | <b>HORACE CLAUDE COLLETT</b>  | Born in 1883 |
| <b>31O16</b> | <b>Clive Franklyn Collett</b> | Born in 1887 |
| <b>31O17</b> | <b>Norman Edwin Collett</b>   | Born in 1888 |
| <b>31O18</b> | <b>Spencer Huia Collett</b>   | Born in 1892 |

**31N11** **Mary Louise Collett** was born at Lambeth on 15.03.1849. She was a few months short of her thirteenth birthday when she died on 01.11.1861 at Hackney and was buried at Abney Park Cemetery on 06.11.1861.

**31N12** **William Collett** was born at Leytonstone on 30.09.1850 and was aged 20 in 1871 when he was still living with his parents. Having seen his older brother Horace (above) sail off to a new life in New Zealand, it seems likely that this may have influenced him to emigrate to South Africa.

Once in South Africa William met and later married Anna Susanna Basson who was born at Uitenhage in South Africa in 1860. It is likely that the couple were married just after 1880 although no record of this has so far been found.

Their marriage produced five children for William and Anna and this may have happened while they were living at Port Elizabeth before William died there at the age of fifty-three.

He died at Moor Park in Port Elizabeth in South Africa on 21.11.1902, while Anna lived on at Port Elizabeth for another forty-three years before she died on 17.07.1945 at Port Elizabeth on the Cape of Good Hope.

|              |                                          |                                   |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>31O19</b> | <b>William Edwin Collett</b>             | Born circa 1884                   |
| <b>31O20</b> | <b>Constance Louise Beatrice Collett</b> | Born circa 1886 at Port Elizabeth |
| <b>31O21</b> | <b>Horace Owen Collett</b>               | Born circa 1888                   |
| <b>31O22</b> | <b>Reginald Harry Collett</b>            | Born circa 1890                   |
| <b>31O23</b> | <b>Neville Collett</b>                   | Born circa 1892 at Port Elizabeth |

**31N13** **Clara Collett** was born at Leytonstone on 03.04.1852 but it would appear that she too, like her sister Mary (above), also suffered a childhood death as no further record of her has ever been found. Certainly she was not listed with her family at Hackney in 1871.

**31N14** **Julia Collett** was born at Leytonstone on 30.12.1853 and she was aged 17 at the time of the Hackney census of 1871 when she was still living with her family.

She later married Henry Astill Geake on 13.04.1882 at All Hallows Church in Tottenham. Henry was born at Mayfair in 1855 and both of their children were born at Southwark.

In 1901 Julia and Henry were living within the St Saviours area of Southwark. Julia was listed as being 47 and born at Leyton in Essex, while Henry was 45 and of St Georges Hanover Square in Mayfair. His occupation was described as being a clerk in holy orders with the Church of England.

Still living with them was their son Harry B Geake who was 17 years old and who was working as a bank clerk. His place of birth was confirmed as having been at Southwark. The couple's daughter Frances C Geake was 15 and was undertaking her education at Devonport in Plymouth.

Henry Geake died at Croydon in Surrey on 01.11.1915 and was followed six years later by his wife Julia Geake on 07.01.1921.

|              |                                |                           |
|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>31O24</b> | <b>Harry Blake Geake</b>       | Born in 1883 at Southwark |
| <b>31O25</b> | <b>Frances Constance Geake</b> | Born in 1885 at Southwark |

**31N15 Eugenie Collett** was born at Leytonstone on 04.04.1856 and was baptised at Leyton in Essex six months later on 19.10.1856 as the daughter of Edwin and Mary Collett. By April 1871 she was fourteen and was living at Hackney with her family.

No record of Eugenie or her family has been found in the census of 1881, but by 1891 she was 35 and living in the Wandsworth area of London with her parents, and this was followed ten years later by the 1901 Census in which she was 44 and living in Croydon with her widowed mother.

By April 1911 Eugenie Collett was living in the Lambeth area of London at the age of 54, so this would seem to indicate that she was never married. What is known is that it was as Eugenie Collett that she died at Croydon on 08.04.1935.

**31N16 Flora Emily Collett** was born at Hackney on 19.12.1858 and was twelve years of age at the time of the 1871 Census when she was still living with her parents at Hackney.

**31N17 Lily Collett** was born at Hackney on 26.07.1860 and was 10 in 1871 when living at Hackney with her family. It seems very likely that she may have emigrated to South Africa with her older brother William (above) but this happened after she was married and after her four children had been born.

She married William Thomas Hooker on 08.08.1883 at All Hallows Church in Tottenham. William was the son of William Thomas Hooker and Sophia Elizabeth Newman and was born at Bethnal Green in 1853.

Their children were all born in London, the first two at Stoke Newington and the second two at Stamford Hill.

Sometime after 1890 the whole family moved to live in South Africa where they settled at Pinetown in Natal. William died when his youngest child was around twelve years of age leaving Lily to bring up her children single-handedly.

William died at Pinetown on 18.01.1902 and was buried there in the St John's Church Cemetery. Lily lived a widow's life for the next forty-two years before she too died at Pinetown on 02.09.1944 and was also buried in St John's Church Cemetery with her husband.

It is believed, although not confirmed, that their two sons William and Henry died in 1912 and 1959 respectively, and both of them in South Africa.

|       |                      |                                 |
|-------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 31O26 | Cicely Hooker        | Born in 1884 at Stoke Newington |
| 31O27 | Violet Louisa Hooker | Born in 1886 at Stoke Newington |
| 31O28 | William Edwin Hooker | Born in 1887 at Stamford Hill   |
| 31O29 | Henry Charles Hooker | Born in 1889 at Stamford Hill   |

**31N18 Elvina Mary Collett** was born at South Hackney on 08.03.1863 and was recorded as being 8 years old in the Hackney census of 1871. It seems unlikely that she ever married but it would appear that she joined her sister Lily (above) when she and her family emigrated to South Africa.

Elvina died at Pinetown in Natal on 09.08.1931 and like her brother-in-law and her sister Lily, she too was buried in the cemetery of St John's Church in Pinetown.

**31N19 Charles Frederick Collett** was born at Shoreditch on 25.09.1857 and at the time his parents registered the birth the family was living at 18 Weymouth Terrace in Shoreditch.

Charles was a gold chain maker and in 1879 he married (1) Louisa Grist who was born at Chelsea in 1857. The couple started out their married life at Shoreditch where their first child was born.

By the time of the 1881 Census Charles and Louisa were living at 115 Shaftsbury Street in Shoreditch. Charles and Louisa were both aged 24 and their places of birth were stated respectively as Shoreditch and Chelsea.

Living with them was their one year old daughter Florence and a lodger, the widow Mary Ann Thompson who was a mantle maker of 41 from Whitechapel. Shortly after the census day Louisa presented her husband with their second child.

In the mid 1880s Charles moved out of the family home in Shoreditch, leaving Louisa to look after her two daughters alone. A divorce for the couple may have followed, since Charles later married or simply lived with (2) Mary Ellen Carter.

Mary was the daughter of Peter Carter and Emma Gee and was born at Poulton near Fairford in Gloucestershire in 1855.

Certainly on the birth certificate for the couple's first child their names as the parents were recorded as being, Charles Collett – the father, and Mary Collett – the mother. The same birth certificate, which was for their son Frederick, gave their address at that time as 85 St John Street Road in Holborn.

By the turn of the century Charles F Collett 43 was working as a commercial coachman while living at Clerkenwell with his wife Mary E Collett 46 and of Fairford, and their three youngest children, all of whom were listed as having been born at Clerkenwell. These were Charles 9 and twins May and Rose who were six.

Also at that time Charles' first wife Louisa and her two daughters were living in Shoreditch. The census of 1901 recorded the three of them as Louisa Collett 41 who was born at Knightsbridge, Florence Collett aged 21 and born at Hoxton, and Eleanor Collett 19 who was also born at Hoxton.

All three ladies were employed at that time by the shirt manufacturer Lee & Scorf as all three were listed as being shirt makers for the company. It is unsure exactly what happened to Louisa and her daughters after this time as no record of any of them has been found in the census of 1911.

On the other hand, Charles and Mary were listed in the Islington area of London with just three of their four children. Charles was 54, Mary was 56, their son Charles was 18 and the twins were both 16.

Their son Frederick was married by then and was also living nearby in the Islington district of London.

|              |                                               |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31O30</b> | <b>Florence Louisa Collett</b>                | Born in 1880 |
| <b>31O31</b> | <b>Eleanor G Collett</b>                      | Born in 1881 |
| <b>31O32</b> | <b><u>Fredrick Charles Philip Collett</u></b> | Born in 1887 |
| <b>31O33</b> | <b>Charles Collett</b>                        | Born in 1892 |
| <b>31O34</b> | <b>May Collett twin</b>                       | Born in 1894 |
| <b>31O35</b> | <b>Rose Collett twin</b>                      | Born in 1894 |

**31N20** **Mary Matilda Collett** was born at South Wraxall during the first half of 1840, and appeared at the age of one year in the 1841 Census for Bradford-on-Avon registration district which included South Wraxall. It is not known if she survived beyond childhood as no further census records for her have been found to date.

**31N21** **William Henry Miles Collett**, who was referred to as Henry, was born at South Wraxall in 1841 but after the sixth of June when the first national census was conducted that year, so placing his date of birth between then and the end of that year.

By the time of the 1861 Census he was 20 and was living with his parents at the family home in Tottenham. A few years later he married Mary A around the middle of the 1860s and together they had two daughters, both of whom were born at Tottenham.

The 1881 Census recorded William H Collett as an out of work publican aged 39 who had been born at South Wraxall. Living with him at 2 Cambrian Cottages in Markfield Road in Tottenham was his wife Mary who was 48 and who had been born at Ipswich and their oldest daughter Elizabeth aged 15.

The couple's younger daughter Ada Collett was 13 as was recorded in the census as living nearby at the home of her grandfather William Collett at The Poplars, 9 Markfield Road in Tottenham. Her occupation was that of dairymaid, so she was presumably working with her grandfather who was a dairyman.

31O36  
31O37

Elizabeth Collett  
**Ada Collett**

Born in 1866 at Tottenham, London  
Born in 1868

**31N22** **Edward Collett** was born at Tottenham in 1852 and was aged 9 when he was living with his parents at Tottenham in 1861. What happened to him after that has still to be established.

**31N24** **Amy Collett** was born at Tottenham in 1854 and was recorded as living there with her family aged 7 and aged 15 in censuses of 1861 and 1871. She later married James Watson who was a hairdresser and who was born in the City of London in 1856.

According to the 1881 Census, Amy Watson, age 26 and a hairdresser, and her husband James, age 25, were living with Amy's parents at The Poplars, 9 Markfield Road in Tottenham.

**31N25** **Francis James Collett**, who was often referred to as Frank, was born at Tottenham in 1857. He was aged 4 and 13 in the censuses of 1861 and 1871 and was living with his parents at their home in Tottenham.

Towards the end of the 1870s Francis married Elizabeth and by the time of the 1881 Census the couple were living at 12 Bridport Place in Hoxton overlooking Shoreditch Park.

Francis was listed as being aged 24, a packing case maker and carpenter, while his wife Elizabeth was a wooden box maker aged 25 who had also been born at Tottenham. Living with them was their four months old daughter Florence, who was also born there.

By the turn of the century the family of three was still living at Tottenham and the 1901 Census listed them as Francis James Collett, age 44 and born at Tottenham, his wife Elizabeth Jane, age 45 and of Shoreditch, and their daughter Florence Amy who was 20 and who had been born at Hoxton.

Francis' occupation at that time was that of a cabinet maker. Ten years later in April 1911 the family of three were living within the Edmonton district of London, which includes Tottenham, and was Francis who was 54, Elizabeth who was 55, and their daughter Florence who was 29.

**31O38**

**Florence Amy Collett**

Born in December 1880

**31N26** **Sarah Mary Collett** was born at Atworth in 1853, and as Sarah M Collett age eight years she was recorded in the census of 1861 with her brother John S Collett (below). According to the 1881 Census, Sarah was aged 27 and a spinster and was working as a parlour maid for Thomas Jenkins Heathcote a 63 years old magistrate at Shaw Hill House in the Bath Road in Melksham

During 1882 Sarah married George Hayward who was also born at Atworth in 1848. In 1901 the couple were still living at Atworth where George was a machine timber sawyer aged 52, while his wife was listed as being 48. Living with them were their three sons Sidney 17, Harry 14 and William 12 and their daughter Ellen 13 who were all born at Atworth.

**31N27** **John Stamin Collett** was born at Atworth near Melksham in 1857, the son of master shoemaker John Collett and his wife Sarah. As John S Collett he was listed in the census of 1861 as being three years old. It was ten years later in the census of 1871 that his full name was incorrectly recorded as John Stanier Collett, when he was 13, and by which time his father had passed away.

At the time of the 1881 Census, bachelor John S Collett was 23 and by then had taken up the occupation of his earlier ancestors by becoming a carpenter. His place of birth was once again confirmed as being Atworth and, at that time in his life, he was still living with his widowed mother Sarah H Collett at Main Street, in Bradford-on-Avon.

Sometime during the next few years, and around 1885, John married Mary from Portsmouth in Hampshire with whom he had the seven children listed below. The couple initially made their home in Atworth where their first two children were born, before moving to live in Reading.

This was confirmed by the census conducted in April 1891 when the family was living in Reading where carpenter John was then working. However, missing from the family group in the census that year was John's wife Mary who would have been 32.

Instead the census return simply listed the family was made up of John S Collett 33 and his two sons John E Collett who was 4, and Harry T Collett who was 3, both of them like their father having been born at Atworth.

Four further children were added to the family during the following decade and all of them born while the family was living in Reading. By March 1901 the family was almost complete, with pregnant Mary awaiting the arrival of the couple's last children sometime after the day of the census.

The full listing for the Reading family was carpenter John 43, Mary 42, John 14, Henry 13, Rose 9, Elsie 7, Frederick 5, and Edward who was two years old, the last four children all confirmed as having been born in Reading.

Later that year Mary presented John with a daughter while they were living at Reading, and it was at 12 Hart Street in Reading that the family was still living in April 1911. John gave his place of birth as Melksham, the nearest large town to the village of Atworth, and his occupation as carpenter and builder. He was 53 and his wife of 26 years was confirmed as Mary who was 52.

That year's census recorded the children of John and Mary as John 24, Henry 23, Rose 19, Elsie 17, Frederick 15, Edward 12, and Kate who was nine.

|              |                             |                    |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31O39</b> | <b>John E Collett</b>       | Born in 1886       |
| <b>31O40</b> | <b>Henry Thomas Collett</b> | Born on 12.12.1886 |
| <b>31O41</b> | <b>Rose Collett</b>         | Born in 1891       |
| <b>31O42</b> | <b>Elsie Collett</b>        | Born in 1893       |
| <b>31O43</b> | <b>Frederick Collett</b>    | Born in 1895       |
| <b>31O44</b> | <b>Edward Collett</b>       | Born in 1898       |
| <b>31O45</b> | <b>Kate Collett</b>         | Born in 1901       |

**31N28** **Mary Arabella Collett** was born at Portsea in Portsmouth in 1852. Shortly after she was born the family moved to London where in 1856 they were living at 54 Hardwick Place in Plumstead

Rather oddly she was referred to as Margaret aged 8 in the 1861 Census and was living with her family at 20 Holywell Row in Shoreditch. Ten years later, aged 18 and listed as Mary, she was still living with her parents who had moved to 5 Pleasant Row in Shoreditch St Leonards from where she was working as a carpet sewer.

It was in Shoreditch in 1872 that Mary married chair maker and cabinet maker William Augustus Cottle who had been born at Shoreditch in 1850. Over the next nine years the marriage produced three children for the couple.

In 1881 the census revealed that the family was living at 31 Homer Road in Hackney, which was the home of Mary's parents Andrew and Sarah Collett.

The census also confirmed that she was born at Portsmouth and was aged 28. Her occupation at that time was stated as being that of a carpet sewer as it had been ten years earlier, this being the same occupation also taken up by her sister Sarah (below).

Mary's and William's first child was Andrew 7 named after his grandfather and born at Shoreditch followed by William 3 named after his father and born at the City Road Hospital. Their daughter Alice was 18 months and baby William who was just one month old and had been born at Hackney.

What seems slightly unusual was that the couple's second and fourth children appeared to share the same christian name being listed in the census as 'William Collett' and 'Wm Collett'.

The family was still living in Hackney 28<sup>th</sup> October 1899 but had moved to 2 Grove Passage off Mare Street, although no record of them has so far been found in the census of 1901.

|       |                  |                                    |
|-------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 31O46 | Andrew Cottle    | Born in 1873 at Shoreditch, London |
| 31O47 | William Cottle   | Born in 1877 at London             |
| 31O48 | Alice Cottle     | Born in September 1879 at Hackney  |
| 31O49 | William H Cottle | Born in March 1881 at Hackney      |

**31N29** **Charlotte Matilda Collett** was born at Peckham near Southwark in Kent in 1854. In 1856 she was living with her parents at 54 Hardwick Place in Plumstead but, by 1861 they had moved to 20 Holywell Row in Shoreditch where she was referred to as Blanche aged 6. Ten years later as Charlotte Collett, age 16, she was a resident of St Lukes in Finsbury.

Three years after in 1874 she married (1) Charles Pollikett at Bethnal Green. He was the son of John and Hannah Pollikett and was born in the City of London in 1853.

In 1861 he and his parents were living at 2 Constitution Hill off Southwood Lane in Hornsey and ten years later they had moved to 5 Constitution Hill. It was at this latter address that the couple made their home and from where all of their eight children were born.

According to the 1881 Census, Charlotte, aged 26 and born at Woolwich, was living with her husband Charles aged 27, a domestic gardener who had been born at City Road Hospital. Living with them were their first three children Edith 6, Frederick 4 and William who was 18 months. Also listed with the family was 40 years old lodger and widower Alfred Pearl, a harness maker.

In 1881 Charlotte's mother-in-law Hannah Pollikett, a 66 years old widow and a nurse, was a visitor at Seeley's Farm in Back Lane, Streatham in Surrey, the home of cowman John and Eliza Hart.

The family lived all of their life at 5 Constitution Hill in Hornsey as confirmed by the 1881, 1891 and 1901 Census records. In the latter Charlotte, who was 46 and born at Woolwich, was living with her whole family with the exception of married son Frederick.

Frederick had married Alice Beatrice Housden and at 24 he was living at another address in Hornsey from where he was working as a toilet attendance at a local museum.

Sometime before the end of the century Charlotte's husband Charles died and after a few years as a widow she married for a second time in Edmonton but this took place after thirty-first of March 1901.

|       |                     |                                   |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 31O50 | Edith Pollikett     | Born in 1875 at Hornsey           |
| 31O51 | Frederick Pollikett | Born in 1877 at Hornsey           |
| 31O52 | William Pollikett   | Born in September 1879 at Hornsey |
| 31O53 | Arthur Pollikett    | Born in 1883 at Hornsey           |
| 31O54 | Sidney Pollikett    | Born in 1885 at Hornsey           |
| 31O55 | Walter Pollikett    | Born in 1887 at Hornsey           |
| 31O56 | Herbert Pollikett   | Born in 1890 at Hornsey           |
| 31O57 | Ethel Pollikett     | Born in 1894 at Hornsey           |

**31N30** **John Robert Collett**, who was referred to in different ways during his life, was born on 21.03.1856, the son of Andrew Collett and Sarah Curnick. At the time of his birth, they were living at 54 Hardwick Road in Plumstead near Woolwich. In the 1861 Census he was referred to as Thomas R Collett aged five years, when he was living with his family at 20 Holywell Row in Shoreditch.

By 1871 he and his parents had moved house and were living at 5 Pleasant Row in Shoreditch where he was referred to as John R Collett, age 15. Exactly five years later, and following immediately after his twentieth birthday, he became a married man.

He married Sarah Elizabeth Sharpington on 27.03.1876 at St Thomas' Church in Bethnal Green. Sarah was born in 1857 at St Lukes in Shoreditch and was the daughter of John and Frances Sharpington of 10 Hill Street in Shoreditch. In the 1871 Census Sarah's occupation was that of a domestic servant. All of John's and Sarah's five children were born at Hackney.

According to the census in 1881 he was recorded as Thomas Collett, age 24, who had been born at Woolwich. His occupation at that time was that of a French polisher. His wife Sarah was 23 and of Shoreditch, and she was also listed as a French polisher. On that occasion the couple were living at

31 Homer Road, the home of Thomas' parents Andrew and Sarah Collett.

Not with John and Sarah in 1881 was their eldest son William, so it is very likely that Sarah was with-child on the day of the census, resulting in the birth of their first child later that same year. There is possible confusion with his year of birth since he was 11 and 21 in the two following census returns, while in 1911 he gave his age as 29, which would correspond more accurately with an 1881 birth.

It was in 1891 that John, age 35, and his wife Sarah, age 33, were residents in the West Hackney area of London, and living with the couple by then were their first four children. William Collett was 11, Sarah Collett was eight, and John Collett was three, and Henry Collett was one year old.

Just less than three years later John Robert Collett (previously Thomas) died on 23.01.1894, while he was living at 3 Haywoods Buildings in Homerton in Hackney. It is not known if he died before or after the birth of his final child.

Following the death of her husband and Sarah married (2) John Cook in 1896 with whom she had three more children. So by the time of the next census in March 1901 Sarah Cook, age 43 and from Shoreditch, was living with her husband brick-maker John Cook, age 44 and from Wandsworth, at 1 Suther Street in Hackney. Also living at that address was the five Hackney born children of Sarah and John Collett, as well as Sarah's three children by John Cook.

Sarah's eldest son William Collett, age 21, was working as a glass blower, while his sister Sarah Collett, aged 18, was a Gladstone bag maker. Sarah's three youngest sons were listed as John Collett, age 14, Henry Collett, age 12, and Frank Collett, who was six years old, and all of them were still attending school.

The three Cook children were twin Robert Cook and Thomas Cook, both four years old, plus Harriet Cook who was two years old. During the next few years Sarah three eldest Collett children left the home of John Cook, to make their own way in the world. So by the time of the 1911 Census only Henry Collett, age 17, and Frank Collett age 14, were still living with Sarah and John.

Sarah was 54, while John was 57, and their three children were Robert Cook, age 14, Thomas Cook also 14, and Harriet Cook who was 12. It was thirteen years after that, when Sarah Cook formerly Collett, nee Sharpington, died at Bow in 1924.

|              |                                      |                                 |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>31O58</b> | <b>William Collett</b>               | Born in 1881 at Hackney, London |
| <b>31O59</b> | <b>Sarah Matilda Collett</b>         | Born in 1883 at Hackney, London |
| <b>31O60</b> | <b>John George Collett</b>           | Born in 1887 at Hackney, London |
| <b>31O61</b> | <b>Henry (Harry) Francis Collett</b> | Born in 1889 at Hackney, London |
| <b>31O62</b> | <b>Frank Collett</b>                 | Born in 1894 at Hackney, London |

**31N31 Sarah Elizabeth Collett**, who was also known as Elizabeth, was born at Town Street in Shepton Mallet on 23.04.1858. Within the first two years of her life her parents moved from Shepton Mallet to Clifton in Bristol and shortly after back to London where they lived before she was born.

This was confirmed by the 1861 Census in which Sarah was aged 3 and was living with her family at 20 Holywell Row in Shoreditch. Upon living school she took up the occupation of a carpet sewer like her older sister Mary Arabella (above).

She married Walter Clarence William Lifford on 22.04.1877 at St Thomas' Church in Bethnal Green when her address was given as George Street in Bethnal Green. Walter's address was given as Cambridge Heath Road, also in Bethnal Green.

Walter was the son of Joseph and Amelia Jane Andrews of 9a Seabright Street in Bethnal Green, who was born on 26.03.1858 at 2 Wood Street in Clerkenwell. He was baptised at St Thomas Charterhouse in Finsbury on 24.04.1859. His first job was as an errand boy, but his later occupation was that of a French polisher.

What is of interest is that in 1871 Sarah and Walter were neighbours and possibly childhood sweethearts. The Collett family was living at 5 Pleasant Row, while the Lifford family home was at 4 Pleasant Row in Shoreditch.



Eight months after they were married Sarah gave birth to their first child while living in Shoreditch. However, at the time the birth was registered their address was given as 31 Homer Road in Hackney, the home of Sarah's parents Andrew and Sarah Collett.

In 1881 Sarah and Walter had moved back to Shoreditch where all of their other children were born. Living with them at that time at 32 Union Street in Shoreditch were their daughters Sarah Amelia aged 3 years and baby Agnes who was seven months old.

By 1891 the family had moved back to Hackney and were living at 11 Bower Road where Walter and Sarah spent the remainder of their lives together. In April 1911 Walter was 53 and Sarah was 52, and the only members of the family still living with them were Harry 24 and Jane who was 20.

It was over eleven years later that Sarah died at 11 Bower Road in Hackney Wick on 03.09.1922, the cause of death being valvular disease of the heart.

Walter died very soon after his wife on 16.10.1922, by which time he was listed as living at 230 High Street in Hackney. He officially died of pulmonary congestion from a throat wound caused by suicide whilst of unsound mind. Perhaps he found it difficult to come to terms with the death of his wife only six weeks earlier.

|              |                                         |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>31O63</b> | <b>Sarah Amelia Lifford</b>             | Born on 12.12.1877                |
| 31O64        | Agnes Edith Lifford                     | Born in August 1880 at Shoreditch |
| 31O65        | Walter Clarence Lifford – cabinet maker | Born in 1883 at Shoreditch        |
| 31O66        | Harry Joseph Lifford                    | Born in 1886 at Shoreditch        |
| 31O67        | Jane Lifford                            | Born in 1890 at Shoreditch        |

**31N32** **William Andrew Collett** was born at Clifton in Bristol in 1860. Shortly after he was born the family returned to London. For the census the following year, and under one year old, William was living with his parents at 20 Holywell Row and ten years later at 11 years of age they had moved again and were living at 5 Pleasant Row, both in Shoreditch.

By 1881 the family had left Shoreditch and had moved to Hackney and were living at 31 Homer Road where William was 20 and his occupation was that of a porter.

Shortly after this in 1883, William married Emily Smith at West Ham in London. Emily was born in 1863 at Bow in London. Their first child was born while the couple were living at Clapton, but all of their remaining children were born at 229 Wick Road in Hackney.

In 1901 the family had moved again and was living at 222 Morning Lane in Hackney. The census recorded William aged 40 as having been born in Bristol and that he had changed his occupation and was a carpet planner, a trade allied to that of his older sisters who were carpet sewers.

The rest of his family living at Morning Lane comprised his wife Emily aged 37 who was born at Bow, and their daughters Emily 17, Isabella 13, Harriett 11, Maud 4, and Rose who was two years old.

Ten years later in 1911 William and his daughters were living in the West Ham area of London, but so far no trace has been found of his wife. William was 51, Emily 27, Isabella, 23, Harriet 21, Edith 14, and Rose was 12.

|              |                         |                                 |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>31O68</b> | <b>Emily Collett</b>    | Born in 1883                    |
| <b>31O69</b> | <b>Isabella Collett</b> | Born in 1887                    |
| 31O70        | Harriett Louise Collett | Born in 1889 at Hackney, London |
| 31O71        | Edith Maud Collett      | Born in 1896 at Hackney, London |
| 31O72        | Rose Collett            | Born in 1898 at Hackney, London |

**31N33** **Henry John Collett** was born in the City of London in 1865. In both 1871 and 1881 he was living in the family home at 5 Pleasant Row in Shoreditch and at 31 Homer Road in Hackney respectively, and while at the latter he was working as a carman's van boy at the age of 15.

By the time he was 25 he was still single but was living at 4 Union Street in Chatham in Kent where he was working as a horse keeper in 1891.

Three years later Henry married Marion Rider in 1894 at Hackney. Marion was born in 1869 at Poplar in London. Their first two children were born while the couple were living at Hackney, while the last three children were born at Stoke Newington.

According to the 1901 Census the family was living at 26 Arthur Road in Stoke Newington from where Henry aged 36 was employed as a bricklayer's labourer.

Marian was confirmed as being aged 32 and born at Poplar, while their children were Sarah 6, Marian 4, Edith 3, and 2 years old Henry.

By April 1911 the family, minus Henry, was living in the Hackney area of London. Marion Collett of Poplar was listed as being 46 on this occasion which may be a misinterpretation of 42. Living with Marion were four of her five children, these being Sarah 16, Marion 14, Henry 12, and Andrew who was eleven.

|       |                       |                                 |
|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 31O73 | Sarah Collett         | Born in 1895 at Hackney, London |
| 31O74 | Marion Amelia Collett | Born in 1896 at Hackney, London |
| 31O75 | Edith Collett         | Born in 1897 at Stoke Newington |
| 31O76 | Henry C Collett       | Born in 1898 at Stoke Newington |
| 31O77 | Andrew Collett        | Born in 1899 at Stoke Newington |

**31N34** **George Frederick Collett** was born at Shoreditch in London during 1869, the son of Andrew William Collett and Sarah Curnick. Two years after the birth, he was living with his family at 5 Pleasant Row aged 2 years and ten years after at 31 Homer Road aged 11 years. Both addresses were in Shoreditch. His occupation was that of a general labourer.

On 19.11.1893 he married Harriet Maria Jordan at Limehouse in Stepney. Harriet was the daughter of George Jordan and Charlotte Hall and was born on 16.02.1875 at Mile End Old Town in London.

The couple initially set up home in Mile End where their first child was born. Sometime during 1894 and 1895 the family moved to the neighbouring area of Bow, where their next child was born.

Shortly after the birth the family moved again, this time to 6 Eleanor Street in Bromley, just immediately south of Bow, where their next two children were born. All of this was confirmed in the 1901 Census for Bromley in the Tower Hamlets district of London.

The family listed at that time was made up of George 31 a general labourer who was born at Mile End (sic), his wife Harriet aged 26 and also of Mile End, and their children George 7 of Mile End, Florence 5 of Bow, and Harry 3 and Charles aged one year who were both born at Bromley.

Three further children were born into the family over the following ten years, during which time the family continued to move between Canning Town where two of the children were born and nearby Plaistow where another was born.

According to the census of 1911, George F Collett of Holborn (sic) was 42 and was an iron worker living with his family at 8 Suffolk Road in Plaistow, in the West Ham district of London. Suffolk Road is situated adjacent to the East London Cemetery and near to the Memorial Recreation Ground.

George's wife of eighteen years was Harriet M Collett who was 37 and from Mile End, and their seven children were confirmed as George 17, Florence 15, Harry 13, Charles 11, Lillian 6, Thomas 4, and baby William who was seven months old.

And it was at Canning Town in London that it is believed George Frederick Collett died on 07.04.1923 at the age of 54. This still has to be confirmed because of the closeness of George Collett (Ref 28O49) who lived around this same place and at the same age.

|              |                              |                                 |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>31O78</b> | <b>George T Collett</b>      | Born on 02.02.1894              |
| <b>31O79</b> | <b>Florence E Collett</b>    | Born in 1895                    |
| 31O80        | Harry L Collett              | Born in 1897 at Bromley, London |
| 31O81        | Charles A Collett            | Born in 1899 at Bromley, London |
| <b>31O82</b> | <b>Lillian Alice Collett</b> | Born in 1906                    |

|       |                   |                                        |
|-------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 31O83 | Thomas H Collett  | Born in 1908 at Plaistow, Canning Town |
| 31O84 | William G Collett | Born in Sept 1910 at Canning Town      |

**31N35** **Mary Ann Collett** was born at Maesteg in Wales in 1856 and was 14 in the Maesteg census of 1871 when she was living with her parents John and Ann Collett.

Just before her twentieth birthday she married coal miner James Evans who was four years older than Mary and who had been born at Carew in Pembroke.

In 1881 the couple were living at 3 MacGregor Row in Cwmdu where Mary Ann was 24 and her husband was 28. Their three children at that time were Edith Alice aged 5, James John aged 2, and Eliza Jane who was just six months old. All three children had been born at Maesteg.

**31O1** **William H Collett** was born at Bath in 1874 and in 1881 was aged 6 and was living with his family at 7 Dover Terrace in Walcot. Around 1895, when he was 21 years of age, William married Clara or Clarissa and shortly thereafter she presented William with the first of their two children.

By the end of March 1901 William H Collett was 28 and his occupation was that of a joiner. He was still living in Bath with his wife and four years old son Harold, where all three of them were born.

Ten years later the family was still living in Bath, but at 4 Hanover Place in the Kensington district of the town. All four occupants of the premises were confirmed as born at Bath, and they were William Collett 37, his wife C Collett who was 30, and son Harry 13, and daughter Ethel who was seven.

On this occasion William was simply described as being a carpenter.

|      |                        |                      |
|------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 31P1 | Harold (Harry) Collett | Born in 1897 at Bath |
| 31P2 | Ethel Collett          | Born in 1903 at Bath |

**31O2** **Edwin G Collett** was born at Bristol in 1876 and was just 4 years old at the time of the 1881 Census. Towards the end of the century, around 1898 he married Lily May who was born at Wellow just south of Bath and with whom he had five daughters and all of them were born while the family was living in the Walcot area of Bath.

According to the Bath census of 1901 the couple's first child had already been born. Edwin was 24 and his occupation was that of a plumber and a gas fitter. His wife Lily was 22 and their daughter Violet was one year old.

Ten years later the family was still living at Walcot and the census that year recorded their address as 5 Dover Terrace in Walcot in Bath, and that Edwin and Lily had been married for twelve years.

Edwin George Collett aged 34 from the St Pauls district of Bristol was still working as a plumber and a gasfitter. His wife Lily May was 33, and their five children were Violet May 11, Gladys Mary 9, Kathleen Lily 7, Hilary Edith 4, and Georgina Daisy who was two years old.

Also living with the family at that time was 'step-brother' George William Batch who was 13 and from Compton Martin near Cheddar. In addition to this seventy-one years old widower James R Hooper of Bath and 'of independent means' was also living with the family on that occasion.

|      |                        |                              |
|------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 31P3 | Violet May Collett     | Born in 1899 at Walcot, Bath |
| 31P4 | Gladys Mary Collett    | Born in 1901 at Walcot, Bath |
| 31P5 | Kathleen Lily Collett  | Born in 1903 at Walcot, Bath |
| 31P6 | Hilary Edith Collett   | Born in 1906 at Walcot, Bath |
| 31P7 | Georgina Daisy Collett | Born in 1908 at Walcot, Bath |

**31O3** **Reginald H Collett** was born in June 1880 according to the census of 1881 for the Walcot district of Bath, which listed him aged ten months, while living with his family at 2 Yew Cottages. His absence from his family at the time of the next census in 1891 and the later one in 1901, probably indicates that he did not survive, and very likely died around the same time as his father Edwin during the 1880s.

**3104** **Arthur Thomas Collett** was born at Bath in 1882 and most likely at 7 Dover Terrace in the Walcot area of the city where his family had been living during the previous year. He was the youngest of the four sons of Edwin and Mary Ann Collett and following the death of his father when he was only a few years old, Arthur T Collett, aged eight years, was living with his widowed mother and two older brothers at Walcot in 1891. At the age of 18 he was still living with his widowed mother Mary at the family home in Bath, when his occupation was that of a leather renderer.

When he was around thirty years old he joined the British army to fight for King and Country. He was Private T/205129 with The Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment and was tragically killed during The Third Battle of Ypres on 04.10.1917 aged 34.

At that time he was married to Beatrice E Collett of 26 Belgrave Crescent in Bath. The details recorded at the time of his death confirmed that he was the son of Mrs M A Collett of 6 Highbury Terrace in Bath.

This corresponds to Mary A Collett a milliner who was married to Edwin Collett and who, in 1881, was living at 7 Dover Terrace in Walcot in Bath. Arthur's father, Edwin who was born in 1845 is thought to have died prior to 1891 as no record of him has been found in the census that year.

Arthur's name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial (Panel 14 to 17, 162) which is situated north-east of Ieper. It is one of four memorials to those missing in the Belgian Flanders area of the Ypres Salient. The memorial bears the names of 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

**3105** **Edgar William Collett** was born at Atworth in 1874 and shortly after he was born he and his parents move from Atworth to live at Frankleigh, just north of Bradford-on-Avon. This only lasted a few years before the family moved again to Walcot in Bath where Edgar was recorded as being aged 6 in the 1881 Census.

The family was living at 8 Lambridge Street in Walcot but five years later in 1886 the family moved house again, this time to the west side of Bath to settle at Twerton.

Ten years later Edgar and his family were still living at Twerton where Edgar W Collett was 16. It was in early 1901 that Edgar married Helen Elizabeth who was born at Westonbirt in Gloucestershire 1876. Also immediately after they were married the couple moved north to Lancashire.

By the end of March in 1901 Edgar was a journeyman carpenter and joiner aged 27 and it was his work that had taken him and his new bride south Manchester where the couple were living at that time. His wife at that time was confirmed as Ellen who was 24.

Helen may well have been with-child on the census day, as it was later that year that their first child was born. Within the following year the family of three returned south and in 1903 they were living in Swindon where the second of their two daughters was born.

Not long after that Edgar and Helen returned to Bath where in April 1911 they were recorded as living at 196 Coronation Avenue in Twerton. Edgar William Collett was 36 and he gave his place of birth as being the Wiltshire village of Frankleigh near Bradford-on-Avon. His occupation at that time was still that of a journey carpenter. The census also confirmed that the couple had been married for ten years.

Edgar's wife was listed as Helen Elizabeth aged 34 of Westonbirt, and their two daughters were nine years old Helen Elizabeth of Manchester and Dorothy Melinda of Swindon who was seven.

|      |                         |                            |
|------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 31P8 | Helen Elizabeth Collett | Born in 1901 at Manchester |
| 31P9 | Dorothy Melinda Collett | Born in 1903 at Swindon    |

**3106** **Frances E Collett** was born at Frankleigh north of Bradford-on-Avon in 1875. She was recorded in the 1881 Census as aged 5 and was living at 8 Lambridge Street in Walcot with her family. Ten years later Frances and her family were living at Twerton where she was 15 years of age.

However, by 1901 she was married to general labourer George Fulford who was born at Devonport in 1881. The census stated that Frances' place of birth was Bath and that she was aged 25 years.

**3107** **Whyatt Collett** was born at Frankleigh in 1877 and was aged 3 in April 1881 while living at Walcot and was aged 12 in 1891 while living at Twerton. He took up work as a painter and glazier and in 1901 was living with his parents at Twerton. His place of birth on that occasion was given as Bath and his age was 23.

And he was still living with his elderly parents ten years later at their house at 106 West Avenue in Twerton. Whyatt was 33 and a house painter and decorator and his place of birth was confirmed as Frankleigh.

Rather strangely Whyatt was recorded as being married although no record of a wife has so far been found. Presumably if she had died prior to 1911, he would have been listed as a widower, which he was not.

It is possible, although not proved, that his wife may have been Margaret who was born at Twerton and who was 27 and was also living at Twerton at that time.

**3108** **Frederick John Collett** was born at Larkhall in the Walcot area of Bath in 1879 as confirmed by the census details in 1901, although the 1881 Census simply stated he was born at Bath.

He was the son of Whyatt and Jane Collett, and a school photograph of 'Jack Collett', on the right, is believed to be Frederick John Collett since it is in the same style as the school photograph of his younger brother Albert Collett (below) taken a few years later. Perhaps Jack was his school name.



Around the time that he left school, his parents moved to Twerton, where in 1901, Frederick was a stonemason aged 21, still living there with his parents.

Virtually within a few months of the census day in 1901 Frederick married Rhoda Mills who was also born at Bath in 1879. The couple remained living in Bath, and it was there that their four children were born, and where the family was living in April 1911.

The census that year confirmed the family was living at 49 Lower Bristol Road where Frederick John Collett was a mason and a builder who had been born in Bath and who had been married for ten years. His wife was Rhoda aged 33, and their children were Florrie 8 and Emily who was two years.

It was during the next few years after the census in 1911, that Frederick and Rhoda added to their family with a third daughter. However, it was much later that their only son was born.

This time lapse was caused by the Great War, in which Frederick saw active service with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Manchester Regiment as Private 302272 Frederick John Collett. It was during the campaign that he sustained an injury.

The certificate issued to Frederick at the time of his discharge from the army carried the following words: "No 302272 Pte Frederick John Collett of the Manchester Regiment - Served with honour and was disabled in the Great War. Honourably discharged on 20<sup>th</sup> December 1918"

This family group photograph was taken in the back garden of their Bath home during 1924 when Frederick's and Rhoda's youngest child was between one and two years old.

From left to right, the picture shows the couple's three daughters: 16 years old Emily Collett (standing); 22 years old Florence Collett (seated); and Ivy Collett (holding a book) who would have been around 10 years of age.

Standing behind them is the suited Frederick John Collett himself, who would have been in his mid forties, and seated in front of him and holding their baby son Edgar, is his wife Rhoda Collett nee Mills.



31P10  
31P11  
31P12  
31P13

**Florence Collett**  
**Emily Collett**  
**Ivy Collett**  
**Edgar Collett**

Born in 1902  
Born in 1908 at Bath  
Born circa 1913 at Bath  
Born circa 1922 at Bath

**31O9** **Sidney James Collett** was born at Larkhall in Walcot in 1883 and was aged 8 in 1891 when he was living with his family at Twerton. On leaving school he joined the Royal Navy and in 1901 he was aged 17 and was serving with the RN in Cornwall.

So far, no record of Sidney has been found in 1911.

**31O10** **Albert E Collett** was born at Larkhall in Walcot in 1885, the son of Whyatt and Jane Collett. This may have taken place at 8 Lawbridge Street where Albert's family was living four years earlier in 1881.

Not long after he was born his family moved from Walcot when they settled in Twerton to the west of the city and where Albert was five years old in 1891.

On leaving school he began his working life as a carpenter, working alongside his father Whyatt. This was confirmed in the census of 1901 when he was 16 and still living at Twerton with his parents.

This photograph of Albert was likely taken during the last year of his schooling.



By April 1911 Albert Collett of Bath was 26 and was living at Pontypridd in Monmouthshire in Wales with his wife Florence, who was also 26, and the couple's first child, two months old Ellen Collett. It would be reasonable to assume that further children were added to the family after 1911.

31P14

Ellen Collett

Born in February 1911 at Pontypridd

**31O11** **Helen Collett** was born at Twerton in Bath in 1887 where she was living with her parents in 1901 aged 14 while she was still attending school.

**31O15** **HORACE CLAUDE COLLETT** was born on 23.09.1883 at Blenheim in the district of Marlborough on New Zealand's south island. He later moved across to live on the north island and settled in Wellington.

It was in the Petone district of Wellington that Horace married Elizabeth Farr on 24.05.1905. Elizabeth was born on 03.04.1882 at Waverley in the Taranaki district of the north island of New Zealand and was the daughter of Frederick Farr and his wife Ellen McConagy.

And it was also while the couple were living at Petone that all of their children were born.

This caricature was drawn by a courtroom artist in 1913 – see details below.



In 1913 Horace was working in Wellington at the shop of Spencer George Radford where he was the manager. During the period from 26<sup>th</sup> December 1912 to 13<sup>th</sup> January 1913 they had been a number of night-time burglaries in the town, including a break-in at Radford's Shop. The culprit was eventually arrested and appeared before the Wellington Senior Magistrates Court on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

The proceedings from the court case were reported in the New Zealand Truth newspaper on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 1913 under the headline "A Burglarious Bobby – Constable Remmer's Remarkable Raids". It was reported that Alfred Charles Remmer, an imported English Police Constable, owed money in England and carried out numerous raids on a least five different shops while he was on night duty. His haul included clothes, jewellery, cigars, cigarettes, razors, cutlery, etc.

The newspaper article included the above drawing of Horace Collett, who was described as the head shop-man at Radford's, who identified the items stolen from his shop.

Elizabeth died on 22.03.1938 while she and Horace were still living at Wellington and was it was there that she was buried in Karori Cemetery.

Horace must have moved north from Wellington to Auckland after the death of Elizabeth as he died while a patient at Auckland Public Hospital. He passed away on 29.03.1952 and was buried at Waikumete Cemetery in the Henderson South district of Auckland on 01.04.1952

|              |                                 |              |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31P15</b> | <b>DAVID HORACE COLLETT</b>     | Born in 1905 |
| <b>31P16</b> | <b>Claude Frederick Collett</b> | Born in 1907 |
| <b>31P17</b> | <b>Kenneth Paul Collett</b>     | Born in 1908 |
| <b>31P18</b> | <b>Desmond Bruce Collett</b>    | Born in 1910 |
| <b>31P19</b> | <b>Clement Joseph Collett</b>   | Born in 1912 |
| <b>31P20</b> | <b>Clive Emmett Collett</b>     | Born in 1915 |
| <b>31P21</b> | <b>Joy Mary Collett</b>         | Born in 1917 |
| <b>31P22</b> | <b>Philip Edwin Collett</b>     | Born in 1919 |
| <b>31P23</b> | <b>John Anthony Collett</b>     | Born in 1920 |

**31O16** **Clive Franklyn Collett** was born on 28.08.1887 at Spring Creek, just north of Blenheim within the Marlborough district of the south island of New Zealand. It is also acknowledged that some documents later gave his year of birth as being 1886.

It may be of interest to note that, within the register of electors for Blenheim, which was first established in 1894, there was no record of any Collett living there. However, in the birth record for Clive Franklyn Collett, his father Horace Edwin Collett was recorded as being from Tauranga, which is on the north island, at the Bay of Plenty in south of Auckland.

It is now considered that Clive travelled to England during the First World War, to serve as a pilot with the Royal Flying Corp. He was originally based in London, and it was while he was there that he met Margaret Cumming, with whom he subsequently had a daughter. Margaret had been born at Lambeth in London on 23.05.1899, and was in her mid-to-late teenage years when they met, but it was his very busy schedule at the height of the conflict that meant they never had the opportunity to become a married couple. Sadly at the time of his death, during a flying accident in 1917, he was still a bachelor, even though by then he was the father of a nine month old girl.

Clive played a very active role in World War One as a member of the Royal Flying Corp.

More details of his military career can be found in the website folder entitled **Clive Franklyn Collett**.

However, he was never able to return to New Zealand as he was tragically killed when the captured German Albatros fighter plane he was test flying crashed into the Firth of Forth on 23.12.1917. His body was buried at the Comely Cemetery in Edinburgh, grave reference number K903.

Even more tragically, he was killed only nine months after the birth of his only child who, like the child's mother, was also born at Lambeth, just across the River Thames from the House of Parliament in London.



Following his death his Royal Air Force service record dated 13<sup>th</sup> August 1918 included the name of Miss Harriet M Collett as the person to be informed of any casualty. In this document she was referred to as 'aunt' and her contact address was given as 117 Central Hill at Upper Norwood in London. This information would have been recorded at the start of his military service, and before he had formed a relationship with Margaret Cumming, the mother of his daughter. And the fact that there was no reference at all to him leaving a wife and child once again confirms that he was never married.

Nearly ninety years after he was killed, Clive's grand-daughter was living in Australia. This was Mandy Perry nee Wade and she was interviewed on New Zealand radio in 2005 about her grandfather when she was one of the guests of honour at the Omapa "Wings over New Zealand" festival, this being a display of military and commercial aircraft. See Appendix One for a detailed article of the interview, and two other items regarding the life of Capt C F Collett.

**31P24**                                      **Marion Collett**                                      Born on 16.03.1917 at Lambeth

**31O17**      **Norman Edwin Collett** was born at Blenheim in the Marlborough district of south island New Zealand on 15.01.1888. By the time his father died in 1902 the family had moved to Auckland on the north island.

He later married (1) Kathleen Emily Tuthill on 03.09.1911 at Greerton near Tauranga on the Bay of Plenty where she was born in 1895. Her parents were Robert Tuthill and Alice Jane Litchfield.

Sometime during the twenty years after the birth of their fourth child, Norman's wife Kathleen died and he then married (2) Viola Alla Elizabeth Soar in 1946.

Twenty years later Norman died on 02.04.1966 at Glen Eden on the western outskirts of Auckland and was buried at the Waikumete Cemetery in nearby Henderson South on 05.04.1966.

|              |                                   |                    |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 31P25        | Edwin Robert Chateaufneuf Collett | Born on 31.03.1912 |
| <b>31P26</b> | <b>Eric Franklin Collett</b>      | Born in 1913       |
| 31P27        | Eileen Alice Ethel Collett        | Born on 29.12.1917 |
| 31P28        | Kathleen Ruth Collett             | Born on 24.02.1919 |

**31O18**      **Spencer Huia Collett** was born at Blenheim in the Marlborough district of south island New Zealand on 06.11.1892. By the time he was ten years old he and his parents were living at Auckland on the north island where Spencer's father Horace died just six weeks after his tenth birthday.

After the Great War in which his brother Clive was killed, Spencer later married Charlotte Sarah Minnie Archer at Auckland in 1920. Charlotte was the daughter of Edmund Archer and Mary Neild and was born at Auckland in 1877.

It would appear that Spencer and his wife lived at Epsom where Spencer's widowed mother also lived, and it is possible that they lived at the same address.

Although fifteen years younger than his wife, it was Spencer who died relatively young on 15.07.1937 at Auckland Infirmary in Epsom. Two days later he was buried at Purewa Cemetery on 17.07.1937



where his mother Alice had been buried with her husband almost exactly six years earlier.

Spencer's wife survived her husband by over thirty-two years and sometime after his death she moved to the Grey Lynn district of Auckland not far from the city centre. And it was while at Grey Lynn that Charlotte passed on 01.11.1969.

Like her husband and his parents, Charlotte was also buried at Purewa Cemetery at Meadowbank in Auckland on 03.11.1969.

**31019 William Edwin Collett** was the eldest son of William Collett (1850-1902) of Leytonstone in London and Port Elizabeth in South Africa and his wife Anna Susanna Basson (1860-1945) of Uitenhage and Port Elizabeth. It seems likely that William was born at Port Elizabeth around 1884 although the date and place are not confirmed. The only known fact about him is that he died in 1957.

**31021 Horace Owen Collett** was the second son of William Collett and Anna Susanna Basson of Port Elizabeth where he was probably born around 1888. He later married Lillian J Norton, but no further information about him or his wife, or whether they had any children, has been discovered at this time.

**31022 Reginald Harry Collett** was the third son of William and Anna Collett of Port Elizabeth in South Africa. It is possible that he was also born at Port Elizabeth around 1890, but it has been confirmed that he died in 1961.

**31030 Florence Louisa Collett** was born at Hoxton in 1880 and was one year old in the 1881 Census when she was living with her parents at 115 Shaftesbury Street in Shoreditch. Shortly after the census day her family was enlarged with the birth of a sister for Florence.

For whatever reason, a couple of years later Florence's father Charles Collett walked out on his family leaving Florence's mother Louisa to care for her and her sister Eleanor (below). Although unusual at that time, her parents may or may not have been divorced when Florence's father took up with his second 'wife'.

Curiously by 1891 Florence was not listed with her mother and her sister whose whereabouts has still to be discovered. Instead Florence at the age of eleven was living at Mile End Old Town.

However, ten years later at 21 Florence was back living with her mother and sister Eleanor (below) at Shoreditch, where all three of them were working as shirt makers for the company of Lee & Scorf.

**31031 Eleanor G Collett** was born at Hoxton after 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1881. At the turn of the century she was aged 19 and was working with her mother and older sister Florence (above) as a shirt maker for Lee & Scorf while living at Shoreditch.

**31032 Fredrick Charles Philip Collett** was born at 85 St John Street Road in Holborn on 31.12.1887. According to the census of 1901, Frederick C Collett was 13 and was living with his family in Clerkenwell. Furthermore his place of birth was recorded as being Clerkenwell.

St John Street is a long road that starts at Finsbury in the north and runs south through Clerkenwell to Holborn, so it is possible that the family's address in 1901 was the same as thirteen years earlier.

Seven years later when Frederick twenty years old he married (1) Alice Emily Webb on 12.07.1908 at St Thomas' Church in Islington. Alice was the daughter of Harry Webb and his wife Elizabeth Moore and was born at Islington in 1888.

Frederick's occupation at the time of his wedding was that of a carman, as confirmed on the marriage certificate. Three years after they were married the couple were living within the Islington registration district of London, where Fred of Clerkenwell was 23 and Alice of Islington was 22. Listed with them was their daughter Ada who was just seven months old and born at Islington.

At the outbreak of the First World War Frederick initially joined the Rifle Brigade but later transferred to the Royal Engineers. He reached the rank of sergeant and saw active service during the campaign. He is seen in the photo on the right in uniform and with the medals he received after the war.



Sadly a few years after the war Alice died at the age of 33 following a cerebral apoplexy which caused her to collapse in the street on 19.07.1921.

This happened just six months after she gave birth to her last child who was born while the family was living at 29 London Road in Islington.

The year after losing his wife Frederick married (2) Louisa Prestage and he and the family moved away from London Road.

Tragically this marriage was also short lived for Frederick when he died at Hammersmith on 04.10.1928 after being with Louisa for just six years. Following his passing he was buried at Mortlake Cemetery.

At the time of his death he and Louisa were living at Duncane House in Duncane Road in Hammersmith and his occupation as stated on the death certificate was that of a (horse) mail driver. The cause of death was given as a tubercular abscessed lung.

Frederick's occupation around the time of the birth of his youngest child and his only son James in Islington, was that of a coal carman, as confirmed by the child's birth certificate.

|              |                                     |                    |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31P29</b> | <b>Ada May Collett</b>              | Born in 1910       |
| <b>31P30</b> | <b>Lily Collett</b>                 | Born in 1912       |
| <b>31P31</b> | <b>Henry Collett</b>                | Born in 1915       |
| <b>31P32</b> | <b><u>James Charles Collett</u></b> | Born on 04.01.1921 |

**31O33** **Charles Collett** was born at Clerkenwell in 1892 according to the 1901 Census in which he was nine years old and living with his family at Clerkenwell. Ten years later he was 18 and was still living with his parents but within the Islington area of London.

**31O34** **May Collett**, who was one half of a set of twins, was born at Clerkenwell in London in 1894. In both the 1901 and 1911 census records May was listed as being 6 and 16 respectively, living with her parents at first in the Clerkenwell area and then within the Islington registration district.

**31O35** **Rose Collett**, who was one half of a set of twins, was born at Clerkenwell in London in 1894. She was six years old in the Clerkenwell census of 1901 and was 16 years old in April 1911 when she was still living with her family who were then living in the Islington area of London.

**31O37** **Ada Collett** was born at Tottenham in 1868 and was aged 3 in 1871 and 13 in 1881. At the time of the latter, Ada was a milkmaid living and working with her grandfather dairyman William Collett of South Wraxall at his home at The Poplars, 9 Markfield Road in Tottenham.

**31O38** **Florence Amy Collett** was born at Hoxton in December 1880. By 1901 she was aged 20 and was still living with her parents in Tottenham. She had no stated occupation at that time.

**31O39** **John E Collett** was born at Atworth near Melksham in 1886, where his father John Stamin Collett had been born nearly thirty years earlier. By April 1891 John's parents had left Wiltshire and were living in Reading and where John was recorded in the census return as John E Collett aged 14 of Atworth.

Ten years later in March 1901 John Collett from Atworth in Wiltshire was 14 and was already working

as a labourer at the Huntley & Palmers Biscuit factory – see historical note below.

John was still an employee at the biscuit factory in April 1911 when he was 24 and single. He was still living with his family at 12 Hart Street in Reading and his place of birth on this occasion was recorded as being Melksham, the same as his father and younger brother Henry (below).

**31040 Henry Thomas Collett**, who was referred to as Harry T Collett age 3 in 1891, was born at Atworth near Melksham on 12.12.1887. At the time of the 1891 he was living at Reading with his father John S Collett and his older brother John E Collett. His mother Mary must have been away visiting family or friends at that time.

Ten years later in 1901 he was recorded simply as Henry Collett aged 13 from Atworth in Wiltshire, while he was still living with his family in Reading, where his father John was working as a carpenter.

It was just over four years later that Henry Thomas Collett signed on with the Great Western Railway in Reading on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1905. The work appears to have only last for just over one year, since the GWR Staff Records confirmed that he left the company on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1906.

By April 1911 Henry was 23 and was still living with his parents at 12 Hart Street in Reading. However, sometime after October 1906 Henry was re-employed by the Great Western Railway since his occupation at the time of the 1911 Census was recorded as being that of 'G W railway labourer'.

The 1911 Census return listed his place of birth as Melksham rather than nearby Atworth, and it was also Melksham that was stated as being the birth place of his older brother John (above) and his father John, when they too had been born at Atworth.

**31041 Rose Collett** was born at Reading in 1891. In the census of 1901 she was nine years old and ten years later, at the age of 19, she was working as a laundry maid while still living with her family at 12 Hart Street in Reading.

**31042 Elsie Collett** was born at Reading in 1893 and was listed as being seven years old in the census conducted on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1901. In April 1911 she was 17 and was still living with her family at 12 Hart Street in Reading from where she was employed as a packer at the local Huntley & Palmers Biscuit factory

*The Huntley & Palmers factory was on the Kings Road in Reading not far from the railway station to which it was linked with its own internal railway line for distributing the biscuit worldwide. At the peak of its success in 1903 the company was largest biscuit maker in the world, producing around 400 different types of biscuit, and employing over 5,000 workers.*

**31043 Frederick Collett** was born at Reading in 1895 which was where he was living with his family in 1901 aged 5 years and again in 1911 aged 15. By that time he had left school and was working as a boot repairer while living at 12 Hart Street.

**31044 Edward Collett** was born at Reading in 1898 and was two years old in the census of 1901 and was 12 by April 1911 when he and his family were living at 12 Hart Street in Reading.

**31045 Kate Collett** was born at Reading in 1901 but after the end of March that year, since she was not listed with her family in the census return. Ten years later she was nine years old and living with her family at 12 Hart Street in Reading from where her father John was a carpenter and a builder.

**31058 William Collett** was born at Hackney in 1881 and after the census day on the third April that year. Three years before the death of his father John in 1894, the census in 1891 placed William Collett, age 11, living with his parents and three younger siblings in the West Hackney district of London. Following the death of his father, his mother married John Cook in 1896.

At the age of 21 years William Collett was a glass blower living at 1 Suther Street in Hackney with his widowed mother Sarah and his stepfather John Cook. Also living there were William's sister Sarah, and his three brothers John, Henry, and Frank (below), together with his two half-brothers Robert and Thomas Cook, and half-sister Harriet Cook.

In April 1911 a William Frederick Collett of Hackney was 29 and was living within the West Ham area of London, but nothing has so far been found that can confirm this is the correct William Collett. It was during the following year that, as William Andrew Collett he married Eliza Elizabeth Lloyd in 1912, and they had one son, Peter, who sadly died while still an infant later that same year.

The only other known fact is that William Collett died two years after his son in 1915, although there is no apparent military record of this William Collett being killed during the Great War so, at the age of 34, he may have been a civilian casualty of the war.

|       |               |                         |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 31P33 | Peter Collett | Born in 1913; died 1913 |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|

**31O59 Sarah Matilda Collett** was born at Hackney in 1882, the daughter of John Robert Collett and Sarah Elizabeth Sharpington. In 1891 she was eight years old, and by the time of the census in 1901, Sarah Collett, age 18, was a Gladstone bag maker living with her mother Sarah Cook and stepfather John Cook. Also living at 1 Suther Street in Hackney were her four brothers, and three children from her mother's second marriage.

Five years later in 1906 she married George Alfred John Perkins at Hackney. According to the census five years later in April 1911, Sarah Matilda Perkins, age 28, was living in the Edmonton registration district of London at that time with her one year old daughter Ivy Perkins. Where her husband and eldest daughter were on that occasion has not yet been determined.

Tragically it was just six years later that Sarah Matilda Perkins nee Collett died during 1917, when she was only around thirty-four years of age, and around the same age as her brother William (above) when he died two years earlier. Her daughter Ivy Velina Perkins later married Albert William Townsend, and it was her son, Brian Townsend, who kindly provided some details about his ancestors.

Of her two other children, Doris May Perkins was married three times, the first marriage producing two children, while her son George Alfred John Perkins married Enid Roberts.

|       |                            |                         |
|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 31P34 | Doris May Perkins          | Born in 1907; died 1996 |
| 31P35 | Ivy Velina Perkins         | Born in 1909; died 1988 |
| 31P36 | George Alfred John Perkins | Born in 1911; died 2000 |

**31O60 John George Collett** was born at Hackney in 1887, the son of John and Sarah Collett. He was three years old in the West Hackney census of 1891, when he was living there with his family. John was six years old when his father died in 1894, following which his mother married John Cook in 1896.

According to the census in 1901 John Collett, age 14, was still attending school, while living at 1 Suther Street in Hackney with his mother and his stepfather, and their three Cook children, plus the other four members of his Collett family.

Ten years later in April 1911, John George Collett, age 23 and born at Hackney, was still living in the Hackney area of London, just prior to his marriage to Elizabeth Davenport not long after. It was also later that same year that the couple's first child was born, and was followed by a further three children over the next six years, although tragically the last of them died when he was just one year old.

|       |                         |                            |
|-------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 31P37 | John George Collett     | Born in 1911               |
| 31P38 | William Henry F Collett | Born in 1913               |
| 31P39 | Sarah Elizabeth Collett | Born in 1915               |
| 31P40 | Frederick Collett       | Born in 1917; died in 1918 |

**31061** **Henry Francis Collett**, who was also known as Harry, was born at Hackney in 1889. It was as Henry Collett that he was recorded in the West Hackney census of 1891, when he was one year old and living with his family. Three years after that his father John Collett died, and his mother married John Cook in 1896 with whom she had three children before 1901.

On the March census day that year Henry Collett from Hackney was 12 and still at school, when he was living at 1 Suther Street in Hackney with his mother and her new husband, their three children, and Henry's brothers and sister.

Henry was still living with his mother and stepfather ten years later in April 1911, who were still living in the Hackney area of London. Henry Collett from Hackney was 21 on that occasion. However, another eighteen years would pass before he married Gladys Rose Wood in 1929, by which time he was forty years old. Gladys may have been of a similar age, since no children arising from the marriage have been found.

**31062** **Frank Collett** was born at Hackney in 1894, the youngest child of John Robert Collett and Sarah Elizabeth Sharpington. His birth may have taken place just before, or just after, his father died in January 1894. Two years later his mother re-married, and by the census in 1901 Frank Collett age six years was living at 1 Suther Street the home of John Cook and his wife Sarah, Frank's mother. Also living there were Franks' four siblings, and with the three Cook children of his mother.

He was still living there with them in Hackney in 1911 when he was 17, although by then the only member of his own family still living with him and his mother was his brother Henry (above).

Just eleven years after that Frank Collett married Mabel E Lutterloch in 1922 and they had two children. Sadly the youngest child was only two years old when Frank Collett died in 1934 at the age of only 40.

|       |                |              |
|-------|----------------|--------------|
| 31P41 | Frank Collett  | Born in 1923 |
| 31P42 | Gerald Collett | Born in 1932 |

**31063** **Sarah Amelia Lifford**, who was often referred to as Amelia, was born on 12.12.1877 at Shoreditch – as recorded in the 1881 Census. However, at the time of registration of the birth, and perhaps because of problems after her birth, Sarah Amelia (and presumably her mother) was living at the home of her grandfather Andrew William Collett at 31 Homer Road in the Homerton area of Hackney.

This appears to have been only a temporary arrangement since by 1881 she and her parents, together with her younger sister Agnes were listed as living at 32 Union Street in Shoreditch. Ten years later she and the family were living at 11 Bower Road in Hackney.

Sarah left the family home in the Spring of 1898 when she married (1) William John Challis in Poplar. William was born in 1876 but tragically died shortly after they were married. He died between October and December 1899 at St Olaves in Bermondsey.

According to the census of 1901, Amelia Challis at 23 was a widow living at 12 Bower Road in Hackney and her occupation was given as being a carpet sewer, this being the same occupation as her mother who was still living at 11 Bower Road in Hackney.

After four and a half years as a young widow Sarah married (2) William Charles Pocock on 23.07.1904 at the Parish Church of St Mark in Victoria Park, Poplar. At the time of the wedding Sarah's address was curiously given as 11 Bower Road in Poplar rather than in Hackney. This might also indicate that she was living with her mother rather than at 12 Bower Road. William's address was given as 1 Salter Street in Poplar.



However, by the end of 1904 Sarah and William were living at 18 Finnisen Road in North Finchley as confirmed by the registration of the birth of their first child in December that year.

Further changes of address were recorded for the birth of the couple's other children. These being 2 Frederick Place at Friern Barnet in North Finchley in June 1906, 13 Fifth Avenue in Enfield in August 1907, and 155 Bynes Road in South Croydon in February 1910.

The census of 1911 confirmed that the family living at Bynes Road was made up of William Pocock, age 28, Amelia Pocock, age 33, and their children William Pocock who was six, Amelia Pocock who was four, Walter Pocock who was three, and Charley Pocock who was just one year old.

By 1912 the family had moved a few doors along the street to 131 Bynes Road from where the couple's remaining children were born. It was also where on 13.03.1934 that Sarah Amelia died and where William died two years later on 07.02.1936.

William Pocock was born on 22.04.1882 and was the son of Charles Pocock and Mary Ann Crittle. His parents were living at Stone Street Farm in Crockham Hill, Westerham near Sevenoaks in Kent at the time of his birth. In 1891 he and his parents were living at Station Approach in Oxted, Surrey and ten years later they were living at 8 Stanhope Road in Finchley.

His occupation at the time of his marriage to Sarah Amelia Challis was that of a general labourer. In 1907 he was working for a stonemason but returned to being a general labourer until around 1918 when he was employed by the local corporation, gaining promotion to road foreman in the late 1920s.

According to the census in April 1911, Amelia Pocock was 33 and her husband William was 28. At that time they were living at 155 Bynes Road in South Croydon their first four children. These were William who was 6, Amelia who was 4, Walter who was 3, and one year old Charley.

|              |                               |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>31P43</b> | <b>William Charles Pocock</b> | Born on 26.12.1904            |
| <b>31P44</b> | <b>Amelia Pocock</b>          | Born on 01.06.1906            |
| 31P45        | Walter Pocock                 | Born on 23.08.1907 at Enfield |
| 31P46        | Charley Pocock                | Born on 27.02.1910 at Croydon |
| <b>31P47</b> | <b>Richard Pocock</b>         | Born on 26.03.1912 at Croydon |
| 31P48        | Elizabeth Pocock              | Born on 02.08.1914 at Croydon |
| 31P49        | Jane Pocock                   | Born on 25.05.1916 at Croydon |
| 31P50        | Mary Ann Pocock               | Born on 23.09.1919 at Croydon |
| 31P51        | Molly Pocock                  | Born on 08.07.1921 at Croydon |
| <b>31P52</b> | <b>Henry Pocock</b>           | Born on 05.09.1923            |

**31O68** **Emily Collett** was born at Clapton in London in 1883 but shortly after she was born her parents moved to 229 Wick Road in Hackney. On leaving school she took up the work of a tailoress and was living with her parents at 222 Morning Lane in Hackney in 1901 aged 17.

Sometime during the years following 1901 Emily's mother died and by April 1911 unmarried Emily, who was 27, was living at West Ham with her father and all of her sisters.

**31O69** **Isabella Collett** was born at 229 Wick Road in Hackney in 1887. At the young age of 13 she had left school and was working as a boot beader, while living in the family home at 222 Morning Lane in Hackney

By April 1911 Isabella Collett of Hackney was 23 and was living in the West Ham area of London with her widowed father William Collett and sisters.

**31078** **George T Collett** was born at Mile End in London on 02.02.1894, the eldest son of George F Collett and Harriet Maria Jordan. He was listed as being aged seven in the census of 1901 when he was living at 6 Eleanor Street in Bromley with the rest of his family.

By April 1911 George was 17 and his occupation was that of a 'general hand' possibly working with his father George at the local iron works. At that time he and his family were living at 8 Suffolk Road in Plaistow in Essex.

**31079** **Florence E Collett** was born at Bow in London in 1895 and she was five years old at the time of the census of 1901 when she was living with her family at 6 Eleanor Street in Bromley

Ten years later she had left school and was working as a box maker while living with her parents at 8 Suffolk Road in Plaistow.

**31082** **Lillian Alice Collett** was born at Plaistow in the Canning Town area of East London on 05.06.1906, the daughter of George Frederick Collett and Harriet Maria Jordan.

She married Frederick Arthur Jones on 22.08.1931 in the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Essex. They had a son Brian Jones who was born in Essex and who married Jean in 1965. It would appear that the couple emigrated to South Australia, where they later died. Their mother Lillian died at the Essex County Hospital in London on 02.01.1983.

**31P10** **Florence Collett**, who was known as Florrie, was born at Bath in 1902, the eldest of four children of Frederick John Collett and Rhoda Mills. When Florrie married she had a daughter Olive who was born at Bath in 1927 who still lives there to this day. A second daughter, Eileen, was born to the couple in 1932.

In turn, Olive was married, and it was her son Paul Martin, from Stokesley in North Yorkshire, who kindly provided the new information on the family and children of Frederick John Collett and his wife Rhoda Mills.

**31P11** **Emily Collett** was born at Bath in 1908, the second child of Frederick John Collett and Rhoda Mills.

The picture of Emily on the right is part of a larger group photograph, probably taken to mark the second birthday of her niece Olive, the daughter of Emily's older sister Florence (above) in 1929.

This event may have also coincided with Emily's own twenty-first birthday celebration.



**31P12** **Ivy Collett** was born at Bath between 1911 and the start of the First World War in 1914.

It is thought that this might have taken place around 1913, which would place Ivy as being around 16 years old when this photograph was taken of her in 1929.

The large group picture from which it was taken, also included Ivy's older sister Emily Collett (above), her brother Edgar Collett (below), and her niece Olive, the first child of her elder married sister Florence.



**31P13** **Edgar Collett** was born at Bath in 1922, the only son of Frederick John Collett and Rhoda Mills.

This snapshot of Edgar has been extracted from a larger group photograph that was taken of him and his two youngest sisters around 1929, when he was about seven years old.



During his life Edgar worked in the building trade. He married went on to marry Gladys who came from the Birmingham area, and they had only one child, their son William.

**31Q1** **William Collett** Date of birth not revealed

**31P15** **DAVID HORACE COLLETT** was born on 16.11.1905 at Petone near Lower Hutt in the Wellington district of the north island of New Zealand. He later married Mabel Whaler on 06.01.1933.

Tragically Mabel died only six years after the marriage on 17.07.1939 while David never remarried and died on 07.04.1983 and was buried at Karori Cemetery in Wellington.

**31Q2** **JOHN DAVID COLLETT** Born in 1933  
**31Q3** Pauline Elizabeth Collett Born on 06.07.1935

**31P16** **Claude Frederick Collett** was born on 22.05.1907 at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington. He later married Eileen Frances Mary Abbott on St Valentine's Day 1936 at Basilica in Wellington. Eileen was born on 04.11.1912 at Wellington and was the daughter of Oliver Power Abbott and his wife Catherine Mary Patterson.

Claude died on 27.10.1961 at the Home of Compassion in Wellington and was buried on 30.10.1961 at Pauatahanui about fifteen miles north of Wellington.

**31Q4** **Kevin Michael Collett** Born in 1938  
**31Q5** **Roger Oliver Collett** Born in 1939  
**31Q6** **Catherine Frances Collett** Born in 1942  
**31Q7** **Juliet Elizabeth Collett** Born in 1944  
**31Q8** **Christopher Edwin Collett** Born in 1950

**31P17** **Kenneth Paul Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 26.08.1908. There is no record that he every married and he died on 30.09.1994 at Wellington and was buried in Karori Cemetery on 04.10.1994.

**31P18** **Desmond Bruce Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 27.03.1910. Much later in his life, when he was forty-one, he married Betty Ellingham in 1951 with whom he had one son. His wife Betty was born on 24.08.1911.

Desmond died on 23.08.1981 at Hastings near Napier in the Hawkes Bay district of the north island of New Zealand.

**31Q9** **Jonathan Desmond Collett** Born in 1953

**31P19** **Clement Joseph Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 09.10.1912 and he later married Joyce Rownall in 1936. Clement's wife Joyce was born on 08.10.1916.

Clement died on 30.10.1978 and was buried at Waikumete Cemetery in Henderson to the west of Auckland on 01.11.1978.



|              |                        |                    |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31Q10</b> | <b>Evan Collett</b>    | Born in 1936       |
| <b>31Q11</b> | <b>Maxine Collett</b>  | Born in 1938       |
| <b>31Q12</b> | <b>Neil Collett</b>    | Born in 1940       |
| <b>31Q13</b> | <b>Ronald Collett</b>  | Born in 1942       |
| <b>31Q14</b> | <b>Irealia Collett</b> | Born in 1944       |
| <b>31Q15</b> | <b>Brian Collett</b>   | Born on 29.05.1956 |

**31P20** **Clive Emmett Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 29.12.1915, one of the sons of Horace Claude Collett and his wife Elizabeth Farr. He later married Joyce Marie Thomas on 06.04.1940, following which the marriage produced two sons for Clive and Joyce.

While Clive died at Nelson on New Zealand's south island on 03.10.2003, he was buried six days later on 09.10.2003 at St Peter Chanel Catholic Church in Motueka, which lies about thirty miles north of Nelson. It was Clive Emmett who gathered much of the information regarding his uncle, and the younger brother of his father, Clive Franklyn Collett.

|              |                            |              |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31Q16</b> | <b>Paul Clive Collett</b>  | Born in 1945 |
| <b>31Q17</b> | <b>Glenn Allen Collett</b> | Born in 1948 |

**31P21** **Joy Mary Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 01.03.1917. In 1938 she married Cyril Balmforth who was born in 1917. It would appear that Joy and Cyril lived all of their life together at Wellington as it was there that Joy died on 05.10.1951 and was buried at the Karori Cemetery.

Cyril lived the next thirty years as a widower before he passed away on 30.12.1982.

|              |                            |                    |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31Q18</b> | <b>Colleen A Balmforth</b> | Born on 05.01.1939 |
| <b>31Q19</b> | <b>Thomas Ed Balmforth</b> | Born in 1941       |

**31P22** **Philip Edwin Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 26.05.1919. There is currently no record to suggest that he ever married. What is known is that he died at Hutt Hospital in Lower Hutt on 18.11.1987 and was buried in Taita Lawn Cemetery at Lower Hutt on 20.11.1987.

**31P23** **John Anthony Collett** was born at Petone near Lower Hutt in Wellington on 09.07.1920. He later married Dorrell Jean Sprange on 08.03.1947 at Knox Church in Christchurch on New Zealand's south island.

John died on 21.01.2000 at Hillsborough Hospital in Auckland and was buried there on 25.01.2000 at the Waikumete Lawn Cemetery.

|              |                               |                    |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31Q20</b> | <b>Sandra Eliz Collett</b>    | Born on 07.07.1948 |
| <b>31Q21</b> | <b>Lorena Dorrell Collett</b> | Born on 13.08.1951 |

**31P24** **Marion Collett** was born at Lambeth in London on 16.03.1917, the only child of Clive Franklyn Collett and Margaret Cumming. Marion was just nine months when her father died in a flying accident during the December of that same year. It is now believed that her father was never married to her mother, possibly due to his very busy schedule as a fighter pilot during the Great War.

New information received from Justin Wade in New Zealand in May 2010 also confirms, that following the death of her father, Marion and her mother Margaret remained living in England after the war, and that they were both still living there during the Second World War.

It was during that time in her life, when she was in her mid-twenties, that she met Ronald Wade. He was from Adelaide in South Australia and was attached to the Royal Air Force as a bomber pilot. At the end of the war in 1945, Ronald returned to Australia from where he wrote to Marion asking her to join him there, so that they could be married.

And so it was that Marion Collett left England for Australia, where she married Ronald Wade. No actual details of the wedding are known at this time, although it is hoped further information will be received in due course regarding this and her life down under.

What is known at this time is that Marion presented Ronald with a daughter Mandy Wade who was born in Australia. In 2005 Mrs Mandy Perry nee Wade was the guest of honour at the "Wings over New Zealand" festival of military and commercial aircraft at Omaka, when she was interviewed on New Zealand radio about her grandfather Captain Clive Franklyn Collett, the First World War fighter pilot.

During the interview she commented that she was currently living in Australia at that time. It is also possible that she was not the only child of Marion Collett and Ronald Wade, and it is again hoped that further details will follow. See Appendix One for details of the interview published in the Marlborough Post.

The only other known fact about Marion Wade nee Collett, is that she died in Australia on 03.09.1984.

The father of Justin Wade who kindly supplied this new information, was the brother of Ronald Wade.

**31P26** **Eric Franklin Collett** was born in New Zealand on 25.10.1913. It is not known if he was ever married but he died on 06.04.1993 at Tauranga on the Bay of Plenty where he was buried on 10.04.1993.

**31P29** **Ada May Collett** was born at Islington in London in later August or early September in 1910. By the time of the national census for Islington in April 1911 she was simply listed as Ada Collett aged seven months, the daughter of Fred and Alice Collett.

She later married Solomon Smith in Coventry during 1935, with whom she had two children. Solomon was born at Coventry in 1911 and he was the son of John William Smith and his wife Sarah Ann Tolley.

Their son Cyril James Smith was born on 09.11.1936 and their daughter Doreen was born twelve years later in December 1948.

Later in their lives Ada and Solomon moved to Gloucester to be close to where their daughter Doreen lived at Cinderford in the Forest of Dean. And it was at Gloucester that Solomon died in 1999, closely followed by Ada in 2000.

**31P30** **Lily Collett** was born in 1912 and was known to have been married, but seemed to disappear during the years of the Second World War.

**31P31** **Henry Collett** was born in 1915 and died only a few months after he was born.

**31P32** **James Charles Collett** was born at 29 London Road in Islington on 04.01.1921.

Whilst still in his teenage years James was conscripted into the Royal Artillery but after just forty days he was discharged on medical grounds.

He then spent the war years in London working at the Royal Navy stores in Harrods. He also worked as a fire watcher and volunteer fireman.



This photograph of James was taken during 2001.

He married Peggy June Battersby on 04.04.1953 at Christchurch near Bournemouth in Hampshire. Peggy was born on 23.09.1931 and was the daughter of Thomas H Battersby and Eva Coote Johnston.

Sadly Peggy died when she was only 52 years of age on 14.01.1984, while James died at

Bournemouth on 15.06.2002 aged 81.

**31Q22**  
**31Q23**

**Shirley Ann Collett**  
**David John Collett**

Date of birth not revealed  
Date of birth not revealed

**31P43** **William Charles Pocock**, who was referred to as Bill, was born on 26.12.1904 at 18 Finneson Road in North Finchley. He married Sarah Gladys Dyer on 25.12.1931 at St Augustine's Church in Croydon. At that time he was a scaffolder living at 141 Bynes Road in Croydon just a few doors along the road from where his parents lived at 155 Bynes Road.

His wife Sarah was born on 20.09.1904 and she was the daughter of Albert James Dyer and Mary Murrell. It is interesting to note that Sarah and her family lived at 141 Bynes Road in Croydon, the same address given by William at the time of their wedding.

Following their marriage William and Sarah lived the whole of their lives as residents of Bynes Road although it was from 147 Bynes Road that William died on 21.01.1975 followed by Sarah on 24.10.1978.

William's death certificate recorded that he was a retired painter and decorator and that he died of chronic bronchitis and pulmonary emphysema.

**31P44** **Amelia Pocock** was born on 01.06.1906 and she married Lionel Ernest King. The couple were known within the family as Millie and Ernie. These are the grandparents of Ian King of Plymouth who kindly provided the details for this family line.

**31P47** **Richard Pocock** was born on 26.03.1912 in the family home at 131 Bynes Road in Croydon. However, after a bout of measles which lasted for twelve days, following by three days of croup, Richard died on 24.04.1915 after eight hours of convulsions.

**31P52** **Henry Pocock** was born on 05.09.1923 in the family home at 131 Bynes Road in Croydon. He was a clerical officer in the general register office in Croydon.

He never married and died on 15.03.1994 while living at 147 Bynes Road in Croydon. The cause of death resulted from a ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm, atherosclerosis, and chronic obstructive airways disease.

His final address perhaps suggests that he lived with his much older brother William Pocock and his wife Sarah or that he inherited or took over the property when William and Sarah died in 1975 and 1978 respectively.

**31Q2** **JOHN DAVID COLLETT** was born at Christchurch on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1933, the eldest son of David Horace Collett and his wife Mabel Whaler. John later married Pauline Mary Blogg on 12.05.1962, with whom he had six sons. It was his third son, Geoff, who provided new family details in 2011, following publication of an article about his great great uncle Clive Franklyn Collett in the Nelson Mail in April 2011. It was during the subsequent exchange of emails that Geoff said his father was still living in New Zealand.

**31R1**  
**31R2**  
**31R3**  
**31R4**  
**31R5**  
**31R6**

**PHILLIP JOHN COLLETT**  
**Paul David Collett**  
**Geoffrey Peter Collett**  
**Michael Anthony Collett**  
**Dean Joseph Collett**  
**Brent Patrick Collett**

Born in 1963  
Born on 10.12.1964  
Born on 09.11.1966  
Born on 18.03.1968  
Born on 15.07.1970  
Born on 26.08.1971

**31Q4** **Kevin Michael Collett** was born on 17.05.1938 at Wellington in New Zealand.

- 31Q5** **Roger Oliver Collett** was born on 21.10.1939 at Wellington in New Zealand where he later married Catherine Barbara Ellerm on 30.01.1965 at the Church of the Holy Cross in Mirmar.
- Catherine was born also at Wellington on 13.05.1942 and she was the daughter of Percy Ellerm and his wife Gwendoline Letitia Wilson.
- |             |                                 |              |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31R7</b> | <b>Martin Roger Collett</b>     | Born in 1965 |
| <b>31R8</b> | <b>Michelle Frances Collett</b> | Born in 1967 |
| <b>31R9</b> | <b>Antony Gerard Collett</b>    | Born in 1975 |
- 31Q6** **Catherine Frances Collett** was born on 31.01.1942 at Wellington in New Zealand where she later married Gerald Bernard Wagg on 09.05.1964. Gerald was born on 23.09.1941 at Lower Hutt in Wellington and was the son of Terence and Rachel Wagg nee Fitzgerald.
- The couple's first child was born at Wellington, while the other three children were all born at Taupo in the Waikato district of the north island of New Zealand overlooking Lake Taupo.
- |              |                          |                    |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 31R10        | Michael Damian Wagg      | Born on 08.04.1965 |
| <b>31R11</b> | <b>Bernard Mark Wagg</b> | Born on 02.02.1967 |
| 31R12        | Claudine Mary Wagg       | Born on 23.10.1970 |
| 31R13        | Rebecca Therese Wagg     | Born on 15.05.1975 |
- 31Q7** **Juliet Elizabeth Collett** was born on 12.03.1944 at Wellington where she later married Raymond Jones on 03.06.1967.
- |              |                      |                       |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>31R14</b> | <b>Vanessa Jones</b> | Date of birth unknown |
| <b>31R15</b> | <b>Gregory Jones</b> | Date of birth unknown |
- 31Q8** **Christopher Edwin Collett** was born at Wellington on 08.05.1950. His work may have taken him to Germany where, in his late twenties, he met Ingrid Reiger whom he married on 28.09.1978. It has not been established whether the marriage produced any children for Edwin and Ingrid.
- 31Q9** **Jonathan Desmond Collett** was born in New Zealand on 28.05.1953 and he later married Donna Gibbons with whom he had a son who was born in Australia.
- |       |                              |                           |
|-------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 31R16 | Adam Desmond Alister Collett | Born in 1987 in Australia |
|-------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
- 31Q10** **Evan Collett** was born in New Zealand on 24.10.1936 and he later married Ann Parker on 20.08.1960.
- |              |                          |                    |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31R17</b> | <b>Elizabeth Collett</b> | Born in 1961       |
| 31R18        | Lyall Collett            | Born on 04.11.1962 |
| 31R19        | Ronald Collett           | Born on 22.11.1965 |
| 31R20        | Janine Collett           | Born on 08.04.1970 |
- 31Q11** **Maxine Collett** was born in New Zealand on 22.05.1938 and she later married (1) Trevor Burney on 08.06.1960. Tragically Trevor died relatively young on 08.01.1986 but not before the marriage had produced three children for the couple.
- Following Trevor's death, Maxine then married (2) James McGinley on 26.03.1988.
- |              |                      |              |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 31R21        | Mark Burney          | Born in 1962 |
| <b>31R22</b> | <b>Angela Burney</b> | Born in 1965 |
| 31R23        | Lorena Burney        | Born in 1972 |
- 31Q12** **Neil Collett** was born in New Zealand on 12.12.1940 and he later married Pauline Harris on 07.06.1962.

|              |                             |                    |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>31R24</b> | <b>Donna Maria Collett</b>  | Born in 1964       |
| 31R25        | Dean Anthony Collett        | Born on 24.07.1965 |
| 31R26        | Tina Michelle Collett       | Born on 16.09.1966 |
| <b>31R27</b> | <b>Shane Joseph Collett</b> | Born in 1968       |
| 31R28        | Cindy Ann Collett           | Born on 07.11.1970 |
| 31R29        | Gwendoline Rose Collett     | Born on 06.07.1974 |
| 31R30        | Belinda Jane Collett        | Born on 12.01.1976 |

**31Q13** **Ronald Collett** was born in New Zealand on 04.05.1942 and tragically died while still a young man on 16.10.1965.

**31Q14** **Ireala Collett** was born in New Zealand on 02.02.1944 and she later married Steven Nixon on 06.02.1965.

|       |              |                    |
|-------|--------------|--------------------|
| 31R31 | Fiona Nixon  | Born on 18.07.1968 |
| 31R32 | Louise Nixon | Born on 03.12.1970 |

**31Q16** **Paul Clive Collett** was born in New Zealand on 04.04.1945 and he tragically died when only eighteen years of age on 16.07.1963.

**31Q17** **Glenn Allen Collett** was born in New Zealand on 02.12.1948 and he later married Jacquie.

**31Q18** **Colleen A Balmforth** was born at Wellington on 05.01.1939 and she later married Ian Jesson in 1960.

**31Q19** **Thomas Ed Balmforth** was born at Wellington in October 1941 and he later married Alison Maunder in 1965.

**31Q20** **Sandra Eliz Collett** was born on 07.07.1948 and this may have been at Christchurch on the south island of New Zealand where her parents were married the year before. She later married David Roper in 1969.

**31Q22** **Shirley Ann Collett**, whose date of birth is not known, was a member of the Women's Royal Air Force.

It was while she was in the Women's Royal Air Force that she met (Andy) Irwin John Anderson who she later married in 1974.

And it was Shirley that kindly provided the additional information that has enabled this family line to be developed.



**31Q23** **David John Collett**, whose date of birth is not known, later married Diane Ryall around 1990.

**31Q24** **William Collett**, whose date of birth has not been revealed, was the only son of Edgar Collett of Bath and his wife Gladys from the West Midland. Through his life he has been known as Billie Collett and in 2010 he was living in the village of Priston to the south-west of Bath.

**31R1** **PHILLIP JOHN COLLETT**, who is known as Phil, was born in New Zealand on 05.04.1963 the eldest of the six sons of John David Collett and his wife Pauline Mary Blogg. In December 1987 he married Cindy Morris who was born on 26.03.1965. The couple's three sons were born while the family was living at Palmerston North.

As a Colonel with the New Zealand Army, Phil was made an Officer of the United States Legion of Merit in 2006. It was hearing the stories about his great great uncle Clive Franklyn Collett from his father John and his great uncle Clive Emmett Collett that Phil was inspired to join the armed forces.

Phil also recalls when he was younger seeing the great man's Military Cross and bar. The family is justifiably proud of their association with such an illustrious ancestor and, to this day, a photograph of the World War One ace can still be found displayed in Phil's house.

|      |                      |                                        |
|------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 31S1 | Mathew James Collett | Born on 01.12.1991 at Palmerston North |
| 31S2 | Andrew Alan Collett  | Born on 24.03.1993 at Palmerston North |
| 31S3 | Max William Collett  | Born on 15.06.1995 at Palmerston North |

**31R2** **Paul David Collett** was born in New Zealand on 10.12.1964, the second son of John and Pauline Collett. In 2011 Paul is living in Japan, where he is married to Akiko Yamamoto.

**31R3** **Geoffrey Peter Collett**, who is known as Geoff, was born in New Zealand on 09.11.1966, the third son of John and Pauline Collett. In April 2011 when Geoff was a journalist working at the Nelson Mail, he had an article published in the newspaper about his great great uncle Clive Franklyn Collett that was spotted by Martin Collett in Australia, who then informed Brian Collett in England.

There then followed an exchange of emails that resulted in Part 31 – The Wiltshire to New Zealand Line being updated. Geoff currently lives with his partner Katie MacBeth in Nelson, near Richmond, at the northern end of South Island.

As well as his own newspaper article from the Nelson Mail, it is also thanks to Geoff that we now have copies of two earlier newspaper articles relating to Captain Clive Franklyn Collett. The first was printed in the Evening Post in February 2001, and the second in the Malborough Express during March 2005. All three articles can be found in Appendix One at the end of this file.

**31R4** **Michael Anthony Collett**, who is known as Mike, was born in New Zealand on 18.03.1968. He is married to Katie Drury, and they and their two children currently live in Palmerston North.

|      |                |                                 |
|------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 31S4 | Zoe Collett    | Date and place of birth unknown |
| 31S5 | Thomas Collett | Date and place of birth unknown |

**31R5** **Dean Joseph Collett** was born in New Zealand on 15.07.1970, the son of John and Pauline Collett. In the spring of 2011 Dean was living in Melbourne with his partner.

**31R6** **Brent Patrick Collett** was born in New Zealand on 26.08.1971, and was the youngest of the six sons of John David Collett and his wife Pauline Mary Blogg. In June 2010 Brent's partner Nicola Henry of Canterbury provided him with a son while the couple were living in Melbourne, Australia.

|      |                         |                                |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 31S6 | Frederick Henry Collett | Born in June 2010 at Melbourne |
|------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|

**31R7** **Martin Roger Collett** was born on 01.11.1965 at Wellington in New Zealand and was later baptised at the Church of the Holy Cross in Miramar to the east of Wellington.

**31R8** **Michelle Frances Collett** was born on 31.05.1967 at Wellington. On 01.12.2001 she married Mark Campbell Gallagher at St Stephen's Anglican Church in Parnell on the east side of Auckland city. Mark was born on 06.01.1961 at Auckland.

31S6 Blake Mark Gallagher Born on 26.11.2003 in Auckland

**31R9 Antony Gerard Collett** was born at Auckland in New Zealand on 29.10.1975.

**31R11 Bernard Mark Wagg** was born on 02.02.1967 at Taupo in the Waitako district of the south island of New Zealand. He later moved to Australia where he married Ilse Barbara Brooks. Barbara was an Australian girl having been born at Victoria in 1970.

The couple were married in Melbourne on 14.07.2001 and the marriage produced three children for Bernard and Barbara.

|      |                       |                                 |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 31S7 | Saskia Barbara Wagg   | Born on 19.10.2000 in Melbourne |
| 31S8 | Quinn Gerry Wagg      | Born on 18.09.2001 infant death |
| 31S9 | Astrid Catherine Wagg | Born on 17.04.2004 in Melbourne |

**31R14 Vanessa Jones**, whose date of birth is not known, later married Mark Spackman in 1993 at Palmerston North on New Zealand's north island.

**31R15 Gregory Jones**, whose date of birth is not known, was born in New Zealand and he later married Anita Ciesionik on 11.09.2003 at Rarotonga in the Cook Islands.

**31R17 Elizabeth Collett** was born in New Zealand on 08.06.1961 and she later married Michael Power in 1980 with the marriage producing three children for the couple.

|       |                |                    |
|-------|----------------|--------------------|
| 31S10 | Richard Power  | Born on 06.04.1980 |
| 31S11 | Veronica Power | Born in 1982       |
| 31S12 | Antonia Power  | Born on 20.12.1988 |

**31R22 Angela Burney** was born in New Zealand in 1965 and she later married Carl Walker.

**31R24 Donna Maria Collett** was born in New Zealand on 03.06.1964 and she later married Mr Porteous with whom she had three children.

|       |                    |                    |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 31S13 | Michael Porteous   | Born on 19.12.1984 |
| 31S14 | Christine Porteous | Born in 1986       |
| 31S15 | Emma Jane Porteous | Born on 18.07.1989 |

**31R27 Shane Joseph Collett** was born in New Zealand on 09.02.1968 and he later married Robyn Binnee on 19.11.1988.

## APPENDIX ONE

### THREE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES RELATING TO CAPT CLIVE FRANKLYN COLLETT (Ref. 31O16)

This first article appeared in the Wellington Evening Post on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2001.

*“Lord Of The Rings director Peter Jackson has set his sights on recreating the heroic acts of a Blenheim man for this year’s Classic Fighters Marlborough Airshow. Mr Jackson owns an authentically-finished replica of a First World War Sopwith Camel, which will fly for the first time at the Easter air show. While the Camel is best known as the machine flown by cartoon character Snoopy in his fantasies, Mr Jackson’s plane will not play on that theme. When the biplane battles with a Fokker Triplane, it will be in the livery of Marlborough First World War flying ace Clive Collett, who clocked up 12 kills before dying at the age of 31. Captain Collett, who was born in Spring Creek, went to war with the Royal Flying Corps. He crash-landed and died in Scotland in 1917, while flying a captured Albatros, the type of aircraft he had shot down at least eight times.”*

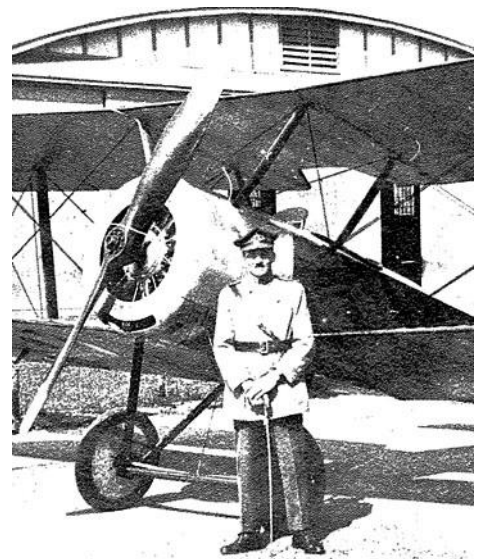
The second article, written by Robert Smith, was published in the Marlborough Express on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2005. The grand-daughter mentioned in the article was Mandy Wade, the daughter of Marion Wade nee Collett (Ref. 31P24).

*“The grand-daughter of Blenheim-born pilot Clive Collett, the first ace to score a victory in a Sopwith Camel in World War 1, was on hand to see the replica of her grandfather’s plane soar above the crowd at the air show over the weekend. For Australian woman Mandy Perry, seeing the replica aircraft with the same colours and number as Captain Collett’s was a dream come true. Mrs Perry’s mother was born out of wedlock when Captain Collett was based in the UK, with marriage plans tragically cut short with Collett’s death in a crash in 1917. Mrs Perry said her grandmother was working in a music hall when she met Captain Collett in 1916. The two had planned to marry after the war, with Collett illegally sending her one of his silk parachutes to turn into a wedding dress. Collett, who was born in Spring Creek in 1886, was killed while flying a captured German fighter in Scotland on December 23, 1917. Mrs Perry’s mother married an Australian airman in World War Two and while Mrs Perry was always aware of her connection to Collett, she only recently met members of her extended family in New Zealand. When she attended the Wanaka air show last year, she saw the replica of Collett’s plane on display there, but it was only a static display and she decided to return to the Omapa show to see it in flight. Returning to New Zealand to see the Camel fly also gave her the chance to see her grandfather’s place of birth. ‘It was a bit of a double whammy. I’ve already visited his grave in Edinburgh and now I’ve been to his place of birth as well as seeing his plane.’ Mrs Perry said it was ‘just magic’ to see her grandfather’s plane flying. ‘It was just so easy to imagine that it was him up there in the fields over France. It felt like a crossover between reality and unreality. I certainly never expected to ever see it flying.’ Before his death, Collett was a pioneer in many areas, including parachuting, for which he put on a display for the royal family.”*

This third article was written by journalist Geoff Collett (Ref. 31R3) and was printed in the Nelson Mail on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011, in the lead up to Anzac Day.

*“In the lead-up to Anzac Day, Nelson Mail journalists are sharing their family war stories. Today, Geoff Collett writes about a World War I flying ace”.*

*“My great, great uncle Clive killed Germans in the war. He lined them up in his sights and shot them, mostly using a couple of Vickers machine guns attached to his Sopwith Camel biplane, high above the hell holes of the European battlefields of the Great War. Sometimes, they nearly killed him. A couple of times he nearly killed himself. And once – that’s all it takes, of course – he did, accidentally but inexplicably. I’ve never been one for family history and always been ambivalent about war stories. I was vaguely aware of the various feats which had made Captain Clive Collett world-famous in the Collett family, but when I started reading through my father’s Clive Collett file, I have to say awe was the over-riding feeling. His was a war fought at the very edges of technology and risk. He was a flying ace, downing 12 German aircraft in combat within the space of about six weeks – three of them in one 45-minute burst. He had the dash, the daring and the big balls that made the fly boys of that war, the stuff of so much legend.”*



**WAR HERO:** Captain Clive Collett pictured here with his Sopwith Camel.



*“His story is filled with scrapes and near things, various accounts of his flimsy biplane coming to one form of grief or another – perhaps shredded and crippled by Hun shells, or blowing a valve after he overdid an attacking dive on enemy aircraft, usually forcing him to nurse it back to safety and an emergency landing. One of his combat reports tells of how he and his foe were so close that they nearly collided as he emptied his Vickers into its fuselage. Another recounts following a stricken German plane until it landed; Clive finished it off with a long burst until it exploded into flames. Then he fled home with a badly injured hand, keeping to 30 feet above the trees of Houtholst Forest to prevent the other pursuing Germans getting a fix on him with their guns. Sometimes he didn't quite make it. He smashed his face up badly in one crash, removing him from combat duties for most of a year. Instead, he did experimental stuff, including becoming the first man under British command to jump from a plane with a parachute. The story of that tells how he drolly noted the presence of ambulance and fire tender on the airfield below just before he jumped, pointing out what a fat lot of use they would be if things didn't work out.”*

*“He got a medal – the Military Cross, and then its Bar. His citation talked of gallantry, devotion and dash, and his habit of single-handedly taking on large formations of enemy aircraft. In a weird way it seems almost inevitable that he died pointlessly, miles from the nearest enemy gun. He was flying a captured German Albatros off the coast of Scotland a few days before Christmas 1917 when for no known reason the plane crashed into the water. Some speculate a part broke loose and hit him, knocking him out or worse. He was 31. He left a young widow (although the record is contradictory as to whether they had ever married) and a baby daughter. I've never known anything of his offspring. We're a big and widely-scattered family. My great uncle, also a Clive, accumulated plenty of material on him, however, and made sure the legend lived on in our branch of the family tree. Clive Franklyn Collett's grave is somewhere in Edinburgh; a memorial plaque stood for some time in his hometown of Tauranga. He has a section devoted to him in the website on Collett genealogy. Someone has given him a Wikipedia page. My brother, also a military man, advises that the RNZAF museum holds material on him. I read somewhere that Peter Jackson, the film-maker, modelled his replica Sopwith Camel on Clive's. Such are the ways we remember our war dead.”*

## APPENDIX TWO

### THE DETAILS OF AN UNPLACED COLLETT FAMILY OF SOUTH WRAXALL

Where this story begins is with Thomas Collett who was originally believed to be the eldest son of John and Charlotte Collett (Ref. 31L2). They were married in 1811 and it was believed that Thomas was born in 1812, as previously listed in the main body of this file, based on various census records.

However, whilst John and Charlotte may have had a son Thomas, born in 1812, it is not the one who was previously included in this family line, since it has since been discovered that he was born around ten years earlier in 1802. In addition to this, it is now known that he had two brothers, George, born in 1796, and William born around 1808. There may even have been a fourth and older brother, since in census of 1841 for South Wraxall there was a widow Mary Collett living close by the three brothers, who were all living next door to each other, in three separate dwellings that year.

It is therefore more than likely that the three brothers were in fact the children of William Collett (Ref 31K2) and Ann Morris, who were married at South Wraxall in 1791, where their known son John Collett was also born.

So this section of this South Wraxall family starts with so-far **unknown Collett parents** who had a family that contained at least three or even four sons, and it is hoped that in due course the link will be found to connect the people in this appendix to one of the many Collett families of Wiltshire.

It may be significant that a later generation of this family settled in the Lyncombe-with-Widcombe area of Bath, and it was there also on 13<sup>th</sup> January 1801 that a George Collett was baptised, who was the son of Thomas and Amy Collett. If the child was around five or six years old at the time, he could well be George Collett born at South Wraxall in 1796, even though the favoured option is still that he may have been the son of William Collett and Ann Morris, as previously discussed above.

|             |                        |                               |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>31m2</b> | <b>George Collett</b>  | Born in 1796 at South Wraxall |
| <b>31m3</b> | <b>Thomas Collett</b>  | Born in 1802 at South Wraxall |
| <b>31m4</b> | <b>William Collett</b> | Born in 1808 at South Wraxall |

**31m1** **Unknown Collett son** who married Mary. By the time of the census in 1841 Mary Collett was a widow at the age of 57 and was living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with her two sons Thomas, who was 20, and William who was 16. All three of them were described as agricultural labourers.

It is very likely that they were other children for Mary and her husband, in addition to just the two listed below. From the later record found, it is believed that Mary's son Thomas eventually married Sarah from Poulshot near Devizes, and it is this which distinguishes from his cousin Thomas, the son of George (below), who married Sarah from Lacock.

One person who may have been her former husband, might be Jonathan Collett (Ref. 31L1) born around 1784, the eldest son of Jonathan Collett and his wife Elizabeth Batten.

|             |                       |                                  |
|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>31n1</b> | <b>Thomas Collett</b> | Born circa 1820 at South Wraxall |
| 31n2        | William Collett       | Born circa 1826 at South Wraxall |

**31m2** **George Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1796 and by 1820 he was a married man. So far it has been determined that he and his wife had at least three children. However, according to the census in 1841 George Collett, age 44, was a widower and a sawyer living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with his three children. They were Thomas, who was 20, George, who was 19, and Sarah who was 14 years old. All three children were working as agricultural labourers.

Living next door to George and his family on one side was his unmarried brother Thomas, while on the other side was his widowed brother William, with his young family.

Over the following years the two widowed brothers George and William joined forces, and by 1851 were sharing the same abode at "Upper Wraxhall in the village of South Wraxhall". Head of the household was George Collett, age 54 and born at South Wraxall, whose occupation was still that of a sawyer. The only member of his immediate family still living with him was unmarried son Thomas.

The three other members of the household were William Collett, described as brother, John Collett who was George's nephew, and Jane Collett who was described as 'niece at home', presumably indicating that she was acting as housekeeper for the men of the house. George's own daughter, Sarah, would have been in her early twenties by then so she was very likely married.

|             |                       |                               |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>31n3</b> | <b>Thomas Collett</b> | Born in 1820 at South Wraxall |
| <b>31n4</b> | <b>George Collett</b> | Born in 1822 at South Wraxall |
| 31n5        | Sarah Collett         | Born in 1826 at South Wraxall |

**31m3** **Thomas Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1802 and in the census of 1841 he had a rounded age of 35. At that time he was unmarried and was living alone in "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" where he was working as a carpenter. Living in the dwelling next to Thomas was his widowed brother George (above) with his family, and next door to him was his other widowed brother William (below) with his family.

Almost immediately after the census in 1841, Thomas Collett married Sarah who was ten years younger than Thomas. Over the next ten years Sarah presented her husband with five children, and all of them were born while Thomas and Sarah were still living at South Wraxall.

By the time of the South Wraxall census of 1851, Thomas from 'South Wraxhall' was 48 and was still working as a carpenter. His wife Sarah was 38 and her place of birth was confirmed as Lacock (recorded as Laycock), just north of Melksham. The five children living with them at "Upper Wraxhall in the village of Wraxhall" were Mary, age 10, Thomas who was eight, Sarah who was six, Thirza who was four, and Henry who was one year old, with the three oldest children attending the village school.

So far it has not been determined where the family was living in 1861. Only their eldest and youngest daughters have been located, although they were not together at that time. Mary Collett from South Wraxall was 19 and was recorded in the Bridgwater area of Somerset, while Thirza Collett was living in the Corsham area of Wiltshire, where she was referred to as Theresa Collett, age 14, who was also born at South Wraxall.

By the time of the census in 1871 the family was living within the Bradford-on-Avon north-western registration district where Thomas was 68, Sarah was 58, and the only children still living with the couple were sons Thomas, who was 28, and Henry who was 21. It would appear that Thomas Collett died sometime during the next years later, since in 1881 Sarah Collett was a widow living with her married daughter Thirza Gale at 1 Bridge Cottages, in the village of Box in Wiltshire.

Curiously in the census of 1881, the birth place of the widow Sarah Collett, age 69, was stated as being South Wraxall, rather than Lacock. Her daughter, Thirza A Gale was 34 and her place of birth was correctly given at South Wraxall, so perhaps it was Thirza who provided the census enumerator with her mother's details.

Thirza's husband was Samuel Gale, age 39, a stone quarry foreman who had been born at Box. And living with them was their son George H Gale who was 10 and their daughter Sarah Gale who was seven years old, both of them recorded as having been born at Box, only a couple of miles north of South Wraxall.

With no later record of Sarah Collett in the census of 1891, it is probably safe to assume that she died during the 1880s.

|              |                         |              |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31n6</b>  | <b>Mary Collett</b>     | Born in 1841 |
| <b>31n7</b>  | <b>Thomas Collett</b>   | Born in 1843 |
| <b>31n8</b>  | <b>Sarah Collett</b>    | Born in 1845 |
| <b>31n9</b>  | <b>Thirza A Collett</b> | Born in 1847 |
| <b>31n10</b> | <b>Henry Collett</b>    | Born in 1850 |

**31m4** **William Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1808. It must have been around 1830 that he became a married man, although it was fairly short-lived. As far as can be determined the marriage produced just two children for William and his wife, before she died, either giving birth to their second child, or during the birth of a third child who also did not survive. With their daughter called Jane, it is possible that William's wife was also Jane.

According to the census in 1841, widower William Collett, age 34, was an agricultural labourer living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with his two children, John was eight, and Jane who was seven years old. It is possible that the name of his daughter might well have been the name of his wife.

During the next few years William and his two children moved into the home of his brother George (above), as confirmed by the next census in 1851. Widower William Collett, age 42 and an agricultural labourer from South Wraxall, was recorded as the brother of head of the household George Collett.

Likewise, his two children were confirmed as John Collett, nephew of George Collett, and Jane Collett, niece of George Collett.

|              |                     |                               |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>31n11</b> | <b>John Collett</b> | Born in 1832 at South Wraxall |
| <b>31n12</b> | <b>Jane Collett</b> | Born in 1835 at South Wraxall |

**31n1** **Thomas Collett** was born at South Wraxall, possibly during 1818, according to the later census records when his age was 42 and 52. In 1841 he was living with his widowed mother Mary Collett, age 57, at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" when he was 20 and working as an agricultural labourer, like his mother and his younger brother William, age 16.

In the late 1840s it would appear that he married Sarah who was born at Poulshot, near Devizes, around 1817.

By the time of the next census in 1851 the marriage of Thomas and Sarah had produced a daughter for the couple, who was born while they were living at South Wraxall, although no obvious record of the family has been found so far in the census returns for that year.

Over the following decade Sarah presented Thomas with three more children and all of them were born after the family had settled in the village of Yatton Keynell. And it was there that they were still living at the time of the census in 1861. Thomas Collett from South Wraxall was 42 and was working as a quarryman. His wife Sarah was 44, and their four children were Hanna Maria who was 11, William who was five, Elizabeth who was three, and Job who was just one year old. It is possible, although not proved, that other children were born in the six years between 1849 and 1855.

According to the census of 1871, the family, less their eldest daughter Hanna, was living in West Yatton in the parish of Yatton Keynell. Thomas' age is unclear in the census return, it being either 50 or 60. His place of birth was again confirmed as South Wraxall, and his occupation on that occasion was a stone-cutter and a quarryman.

His wife Sarah was 52 and from Poulshot, while the three children still living with their parents were William, age 16 and an agricultural labourer, Elizabeth who was 13, and Job who was 12 years old, who was already working as an agricultural labourer with his older brother. The couple's eldest daughter, Hanna Maria, would have been 21, and therefore she may have been married by then.

During the next few years Thomas Collett from South Wraxall died, leaving his wife Sarah to be recorded as a widow in the census of 1881. 'Sara Collett', age 63 and from Poulshot, was described as being 'kept by her sons', a reference to her unmarried sons William and Job, who were still living with their mother at Giddea Hall in Yatton Keynell at that time.

*It may be of interest that living at Giddea Hall over forty years earlier was Hester Collett (Ref. 35L26) and her husband Henry and their family. Hester died at Giddea Hall during January 1842, having married Henry Collett at Yatton Keynell on 27.10.1814. Where Henry Collett, who was butcher, and his family came from is still a mystery waiting to be solved.*

William Collett, age 26 and from Yatton Keynell, was working as a stone quarryman like his late father, while his brother Job, who was 22 and of Yatton Keynell, was employed as a general labourer. Completing the family on that occasion was Sarah's grandson, Lot Collett, who was seven years old and also born at Yatton Keynell. So far it has not been determined which of Sarah's four children was the parent of Lot Collett.

Ten years later Sarah Collett was 73 years old, and was still living at Yatton Keynell, although by then all of her children had left the family home.

|             |                          |                                |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 31o1        | Hanna Maria Collett      | Born in 1849 at South Wraxall  |
| <b>31o2</b> | <b>William Collett</b>   | Born in 1854 at Yatton Keynell |
| <b>31o3</b> | <b>Elizabeth Collett</b> | Born in 1857 at Yatton Keynell |
| <b>31o4</b> | <b>Job Collett</b>       | Born in 1859 at Yatton Keynell |

**31n3** **Thomas Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1820, the eldest known son of sawyer George Collett and his wife. Following the death of his mother Thomas was still living with his father at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" in 1841 when he was 20 and was working as an agricultural labourer with his brother George and sister Sarah.

He was still unmarried in 1851, when he was 30 and was still living with his widowed father George at "Upper Wraxhall", where he was still employed as an agricultural labourer. Living with him and his father, was his uncle William Collett and his two cousins John Collett and Jane Collett, they being the two children of widower William Collett.

**31n4** **George Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1822 and was the son of sawyer George Collett. In 1841 George junior was living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with his widowed father and his older brother Thomas (above) and his sister Sarah, when he was 19 and an agricultural labourer, working with his brother and sister.

**31n7** **Thomas Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1843 and was eight years old in the 1851 Census for "Upper Wraxhall in the village of South Wraxhall" within the Bradford-on-Avon South-Eastern registration district where he was living with his parents Thomas and Sarah Collett, and the rest of his family.

Twenty years later at the age of 28 Thomas was living within the north-western registration area of Bradford which once again confirmed he was born at South Wraxall.

It was around four or five years later that he married Martha who was ten years younger than Thomas, Martha having been born at Annington-on-Avon (?) in 1852. According to the 1881 Census Thomas Collett of South Wraxall was 38 and was employed as a sawyer and parish clerk at Lower Wraxall near Bradford-on-Avon, while his wife Martha was 28.

The marriage had produced four children for the couple by that time and all of them had been born at South Wraxall. These were Thomas Jonathan Collett who was four, Henry Collett who was three, Alice Collett who was two, and William Collett who was just three months old.

It seems very likely that shortly after the census day in 1881 Thomas' wife Martha died, since it would appear that he later married Cecilia Morris. Cecilia was the daughter of George Morris of South Wraxall and his wife Ann, and she was still living with her parents at Lower Wraxall in 1881 aged 28

Certainly in the next two censuses of 1891 and 1901 Thomas' wife was referred to as Cecilia. In the first of these Thomas was aged 48 and living with him was his wife Cecilia aged 38 and all four of his children aged 14, 13, 12 and 10 respectively.

However, just after the turn of the century only Thomas aged 58 and Cecilia aged 50 were still living at South Wraxall. The census of 1901 confirmed that Cecilia was born at South Wraxall like Thomas who was working as a domestic gardener.

Their daughter Alice had left home to be married by then and two of their sons had moved to Yorkshire where they were employed on the railway. The couple's other son Henry was still living locally in Bradford-on-Avon.

|             |                                |              |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31o5</b> | <b>Thomas Jonathan Collett</b> | Born in 1876 |
| <b>31o6</b> | <b>Henry Collett</b>           | Born in 1877 |
| <b>31o7</b> | <b>Alice Collett</b>           | Born in 1878 |
| <b>31o8</b> | <b>William Collett</b>         | Born in 1880 |

**31n8** **Sarah Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1845 and was six years old in the 1851 Census, when she was living at "Upper Wraxhall" with her family. However, no record of her or her family has been located in the census of 1861, nor has any record of Sarah been found in 1871, by which time she was very likely married.

**31n9** **Thirza A Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1847 where she was four years old in 1851, when living at "Upper Wraxhall" with her parents. In 1861, at the age of 14, when she was recorded as Theresa Collett, she was living and working at Corsham in Wiltshire. She later married Samuel Gale who was born at Box in Wiltshire and with whom she had at least two children.

According to the 1881 Census Thirza A Gale aged 34 and her husband Samuel aged 39, a stone quarry foreman, were living at 1 Bridge Cottages in Box. Living with them were their two daughters Alice Gale aged 12 and Sarah Gale aged 7, and their son George H Gale aged 10, and all of them born at Box.

Also living with the family was Thirza's widowed mother Sarah Collett, age 69, whose relationship to Samuel Gale as head of the house was that of mother-in-law.

**31n10** **Henry Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1850 and was one year old at the time of the 1851 Census. On that occasion he was the youngest of the five children living at "Upper Wraxhall" with his parents, carpenter Thomas Collett, and his wife Sarah. No other record has been found for Henry until the 1881 Census by which time he was married with three children.

During those intervening years Henry had married Elizabeth around the early half of the 1870s. Although Elizabeth had been born at Marshfield in Gloucestershire in 1853, once they were married the couple lived at Bath, where their three children were born.

According to the census of 1881 Henry and his family were living at 2 Yew Cottages in Lyncombe-with-Widcombe district of Bath just a mile from the city centre. Henry of South Wraxall was 31 and was working as a dairyman.

His wife Elizabeth of Marshfield was 27 and listed with the couple was their three children Alice aged 4, Thomas aged 3, and baby Frank who was just three months old, and confirmed as having been born in Bath.

Ten years later the family still living at Lyncombe-with-Widcombe was Henry 41, Elizabeth 38, Alice 14, Thomas 13 and ten years old Frank. It is this link to Lyncombe-with-Widcombe which may be the key to unlocking the family's origins in the late 1700s and early 1880s.

The whole family was still living at Bath just after the turn of the century. In the Bath census of 1901 Henry was no longer a dairyman but was described as a farmer aged 51, his wife Elizabeth was 48, and their unmarried children were Alice 24, Thomas 23, and Frank who was 19.

During the next few years Elizabeth died leaving Henry a widower by the time of the census of 1911. The census that year recorded Henry Collett as being a 61 years old widower, and a farmer who had been born at South Wraxall.

On that occasion he was living at Violet Bank in Widcombe Hill in Bath, at the home of his eldest son Thomas Henry Collett, and his wife, and their three daughters.

|              |                                |              |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>31o9</b>  | <b>Alice Elizabeth Collett</b> | Born in 1876 |
| <b>31o10</b> | <b>Thomas Henry Collett</b>    | Born in 1877 |
| <b>31o11</b> | <b>Frank Albert Collett</b>    | Born in 1880 |

**31n11** **John Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1832, the eldest known child of agricultural labourer William Collett, whose wife may have been Jane. Shortly after the birth of his sister Jane (below), his mother died, so by 1841 John and Jane were living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with their widowed father.

By that time, even at the age of only eight and seven, both John and his sister were recorded as being agricultural labourers, which very likely means that they did not receive a school education. Living next door to the family was John's uncle George Collett, and it was with him and his son Thomas that John and Jane and their father were living in 1851.

On that occasion 'nephew' John Collett from South Wraxall was 18 and was still working as an agricultural labourer, probably working alongside his father, while living at "Upper Wraxhall".

It is not clear where John was at the time of the census in 1861. However, it is known that it was around that time when he married Mary who was born in Llanelly, so it was very likely that he was already living and working in South Wales by then.

It was also in Llanelly that the couple settled and where all of their children were born. Up to the time of the census in 1871 Mary presented John with three children, although with the big age difference between the second and the third, there may well have been another child who did not survive.

According to the census return that year, John Collett, age 38 and from South Wraxall, was working as a coal miner. His wife Mary was 35, and their three children were Mary A Collett who was eight, John Collett who was six, and Jane Collett who was not yet one year old, and had been named after John's sister, who was living nearby in Llanelly, and possibly his unknown mother. Sadly baby Jane she did not survive for long, and was not listed with the family in 1881.

Three more children were added to the family during the 1870s, so by 1881 John and Mary had five children living with them at Slopes in Llanelly, in the registration district of Crickhowell. John from South Wraxhall was 48 and a coal miner, his wife Mary was 45 and was from Llanelly, and their five Llanelly born children were Mary A Collett, age 18, who was a general labourer, John D Collett who was 16 and a coal miner, William who was eight and Henry who was six, both attending school, and daughter Harriet who was four years old.

Ten years later, John Collett from South Wraxall, was still living at Llanelly in 1891, when he was 58, his wife Mary was 55, and the children still living with them on that occasion were William Collett, who was 18, Henry Collett, who was 16, and Harriet Collett who was 13.

By 1901 John Collett of South Wraxall was a widower at the age of 68. Even at that age, he was still working as a coal miner and hewer, while still living in Llanelly with two of his adult children. John Dd Collett was 36 and a coal miner hewer, and keeping house for him and his father was Harriet Collett who was 23.

During the next decade John's only surviving daughter Harriet, was very likely married. By the time of the census in 1911, John was living in the Clydach area of Llanelly and Crickhowell at the age of 78, and still living with him was his unmarried son John David Collett who was 46.

|              |                        |                          |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 31o12        | Mary A Collett         | Born in 1862 at Llanelly |
| 31o13        | John David Collett     | Born in 1864 at Llanelly |
| 31o14        | Jane Collett           | Born in 1870 at Llanelly |
| <b>31o15</b> | <b>William Collett</b> | Born in 1872 at Llanelly |
| <b>31o16</b> | <b>Henry Collett</b>   | Born in 1874 at Llanelly |
| 31o17        | Harriet Collett        | Born in 1876 at Llanelly |

*In 1871 there were just three Collett families living in Llanelly. In addition to the family of John Collett of South Wraxall (above), there was the family of George Collett (Ref. 1053) who was 36 and from Cirencester, and the family of widow **Jane Collett (Ref. 31n11/1)** age 35, from Bradford-on-Avon. For more details of the family of George Collett go to Part 1 – The Main Line, 1800 to 1880.*

*Ten years later, in 1881 the widow Jane Collett, age 45, was living there at Llamarch with her coal miner son William J Collett (Ref. 31n11/2) who was 22. Both of them had been born at Bradford-on-Avon. Although it has still not been determine who Jane's husband was, her son, referred to as John William in the census of 1891, was married by then, and was still living in the Crickhowell & Llanelly registration district. 'John William Collett' was 32, his wife Emily was 33, and their four children were as named below with ages 8, 6, 3, and 2.*

*The census of 1901 confirmed that **William John Collett (Ref. 31n11/2)** from Bradford-on-Avon was 42, and was living at Abertillery where he was a coal miner and a grocer. His wife Emily was 43 and from Llanelly, and just four of their six children were still living with the couple. They were Frank Hy Collett, age 16, a coal miner and hewer, Frank (Fred) Wm Collett, age 11, Mary Ann Collett, age 9, and Frances Emily Collett who was seven years old.*

*The couple's eldest daughter, Florrie Collett, age 18, was still living in the Llanelly area, where she was working as a shop assistant, and it was also in Llanelly that their son Ernest was living at the age of 13, perhaps even with his sister.*

*During the first few years of the new century, the three eldest children were married. So by April 1911 the children still living with their parents at Clydach were the three youngest ones. William John Collett was 52, as was his wife Emily, while the three children were Frederick William Collett, age 21, Mary Ann Collett, age 19, and Frances Emily Collett, who was 17.*

|              |                            |                          |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>31o18</b> | <b>Flora Jane Collett</b>  | Born in 1882 at Llanelly |
| <b>31o19</b> | <b>Frank Henry Collett</b> | Born in 1884 at Llanelly |
| <b>31o20</b> | <b>Ernest Tom Collett</b>  | Born in 1887 at Llanelly |
| 31o21        | Frederick William Collett  | Born in 1889 at Llanelly |
| 31o22        | Mary Ann Collett           | Born in 1891 at Llanelly |
| 31o23        | Frances Emily Collett      | Born in 1893 at Llanelly |

**31n12** **Jane Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1835, and it may have been during the birth, or shortly after that her mother died, who may also have been Jane. So by the time of the census in 1841 Jane, aged seven years, was living at "Wraxhall Chapelry, Bradford" with her widowed father William and her brother John (above). Surprisingly at such a young age, Jane was already classed as an agricultural labourer.

However, the position changed for her over the following years, when she and her family moved in with her uncle George Collett who lived next door to the family in 1841. According to the South Wraxall census of 1851, Jane Collett, age 15 of South Wraxall, was working as the housekeeper for her father and her brother, at the "Upper Wraxhall" home of her uncle and her cousin Thomas Collett.

It would appear that Jane left South Wraxall and moved to South Wales with her brother John, since it was there at Llanelly in the Crickhowell registration district, where John was living with his family in 1871, that she was living at the age of 35.

**31o2** **William Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell in 1854, the eldest son of Thomas and Sarah Collett. He was five years old and 16 years old in the two census records for Yatton Keynell in 1861 and 1871. On the latter occasion, he was working as an agricultural labourer, but upon the death of his father during the 1870s, it would appear that William took on his work as a quarryman.

He was still unmarried by the time of the census in 1881, when he was still living with his mother and younger brother Job Collett (below) at Giddea Hall in Yatton Keynell. The census confirmed that he was stone quarryman, and that he and his brother, were supporting their widowed mother.

During the next ten years, William's mother died and his brother left the family home in Yatton Keynell to be married. By the time of the census in 1891, William too had left Yatton Keynell, although no record of him appears to exist after 1881.

**31o3** **Elizabeth Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell in 1857 and was the youngest of two known daughters of Thomas and Sarah Collett. She was three years old in 1861 and was 13 years old in 1871, when she was still attending the village school at West Yatton. By 1881, at the age of 23, Elizabeth was working as a domestic servant at the vicarage in Sutton Benger, to the north of Chippenham, the home of Frederick Griffiths, the Curate of Sutton Benger.

It is possible that her mother's grandson, Lot Collett who was seven years old and living with her at Giddea Hall in 1881, was in fact the base-born son of Elizabeth Collett, although this has not yet been verified.

With the non-appearance of Lot Collett in any later census, it is possible that Elizabeth was married sometime after 1881, and that Lot also took the name of her husband, if indeed he was her son.

31p1                      Lot Collett                                      Born in 1873 at Yatton Keynell

**31o4** **Job Collett** was born at Yatton Keynell in 1859, the youngest of the four known children of Thomas and Sarah Collett. He was one year old in 1861, and was 12 years old in 1871 when he was working as an agricultural labourer, while he was still living at Yatton Keynell with his family.

Ten years later, and following the death of his father, Job Collett was 22 and a general labourer, while he was living with his widowed mother, whom he was supporting with his older brother William (above).

By the time of the next census in 1891, Job, age 30 and of Yatton Keynell, was married to Alice who was 22 and who had just presented him with their first child. The census recorded the child as 'name not known', which would indicate that the birth at Yatton Keynell had only just taken place immediately prior to the census day, and that its parents had still to decide upon a name.

It seems likely that a second child was born to the couple two years later, since in the April census of 1911, a Wilfred Collett, age 18 and born at Yatton Keynell, was still living there, but not with any member of the Collett family, and no record of them has been found in that year's census, or the census of 1901.



31p2  
31p3

Unnamed Collett child  
Wilfred Collett

Born in 1891 at Yatton Keynell  
Born in 1893 at Yatton Keynell

**31o5** **Thomas Jonathan Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1876 and was four years of age in 1881 and was living with his parents at Lower Wraxall where his father was the parish clerk.

He was still there ten years later aged 14 but within the following decade Thomas moved north to Yorkshire. By the time of 1901 Census he was living in Wombwell just south of Barnsley where he was 24 and was working as a railway roads guards.

By 1911 it would appear that he had left Yorkshire and moved twenty-five miles due west to Lancashire where he was recorded as Thomas Emanuel Collett aged 34 living within the Oldham registration area. His place of birth was confirmed as South Wraxall, and living with him was Emily Collett who was fifty-five years old.

Curiously there were four other Colletts living in Wombwell in March 1901, two of whom were also working on the railway. They were Thomas J Collett 45 of Bidford-on-Avon who was a station master, his wife Emily H E Collett 48 of Stonehouse in Gloucestershire, and their two sons Martin who was 21 and a college student, and Walter 18 who was a railway clerk. The details of Thomas James and Emily Harriet Elizabeth Collett, and their family, can be found in Appendix 1 within Part 56 – The Line of Thomas Collett of Alcester, under Ref. 56o1.

**31o6** **Henry Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1877 and was aged 3 in 1881 and was living with his parents at Lower Wraxall where his father was the parish clerk. He was still living there in 1891 and in 1901 at the age of 23 he was working as a groom, while living at Bradford-on-Avon Without Entire.

**31o7** **Alice Collett** was born at South Wraxall in 1878 and was 2 years old in 1881 and was living with her family at Lower Wraxall where she was also living ten years later aged 12. Her absence from the 1901 Census may be an indication that she was married by then.

**31o8** **William Collett** was born at South Wraxall in December 1880 and was recorded as being three months old on the third of April, the census day, in 1881.

At the age of ten years he was still living at Lower Wraxall with his parents but, like his older brother Thomas (above), he too moved north to Yorkshire to seek work around the turn of the century.

According to the 1901 Census he was living at Normanton near Wakefield where, at the age of 20 he was working as a railway horse driver.

**31o9** **Alice Elizabeth Collett** was born at Bath in 1876 and was 4 in 1881. At that time the family was living at 2 Yew Cottages in the Lyncombe-with-Widcombe district of Bath. By the turn of the century Alice was still a spinster aged 24 and was continuing to live with her mother and father in Bath.

**31o10** **Thomas Henry Collett** was born at Bath in 1877 and three years later was recorded living with his family 2 Yew Cottages in Lyncombe-with-Widcombe just one mile south-east from the centre of Bath. The whole family was still together in Bath twenty years later when Thomas was 23 and was working with his father and simply described as a farmer's son.

Very shortly after the census day in 1901, Thomas married Florence with whom he had three daughters over the following four years. It was during this period in his life that his mother Elizabeth died, so Thomas and his wife and family remained living with Thomas' father to help him run the farm.

By April 1911 the family was confirmed as living with widower and farmer Henry Collett at Violet Bank in Widcombe Hill just south-east of the city of Bath. Thomas Henry Collett aged 33 and born at Widcombe was described as 'son' and a farmer.

His wife of nine years was Florence Collett aged 34 and also of Widcombe, who was described as 'daughter-in-law'. Living with them were their three daughters Gladys Winifred 7, Kathleen Florence 6, and five years old Margery Millicent, all three listed as born at Widcombe.

|      |                           |                                   |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 31p4 | Gladys Winifred Collett   | Born in 1903 at Widcombe, nr Bath |
| 31p5 | Kathleen Florence Collett | Born in 1904 at Widcombe, nr Bath |
| 31p6 | Margery Millicent Collett | Born in 1905 at Widcombe, nr Bath |

**31o11** **Frank Albert Collett** was born at Bath in December 1880 and shortly after he was born the family was recorded as living at 2 Yew Cottages in the Bath district of Lyncombe-with-Widcombe. The 1881 Census gave his age as being just three months.

Like his older brother Thomas (above), Frank also worked with his father when he left school and in 1901 he was 19 and was described as a farmer's son while still living with his family in Bath.

Around 1905 Frank married Ada who was born at Bath in 1879 and who presented him with a son the year after they were married.

By April 1911 the family of three was living at Lyncombe Vale Farm in Bath, where Frank Albert Collett aged 30 was a dairyman. Living there with him was his wife Ada who was 31 and his four years old son Henry.

|      |               |                      |
|------|---------------|----------------------|
| 31p7 | Henry Collett | Born in 1906 at Bath |
|------|---------------|----------------------|

**31o15** **William Collett** was born at Llanelly in 1872, the son of John Collett of South Wraxall and his wife Mary from Llanelly. He was attending school with his brother Henry (below) in 1881, when he was eight years old and living with his family at Slopes in Llanelly. Ten years after that in 1891, at the age of 18, he was still living there with his family.

William was married to Sephorah from Abertillery before the end of the decade and already had a daughter by the start of the new century. In March 1901 William was 28 and a coal miner and hewer, his wife was 27, and their daughter 'Ethel Mary Collett' was one year old and had been born after the couple settled in Abertillery. Sephorah may well have been with-child on the day of the census, since their second child was born later that same year.

One more child was added to the family after that, and by April 1911 the family was living within the Bedwellty district near Bargoed. William and Sephorah were both 38, and their children were Ethel May Collett who was 11, John Gordon Collett who was nine, and Eveline Collett who was three years old.

|       |                     |                             |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 31p8  | Ethel May Collett   | Born in 1899 at Abertillery |
| 31p9  | John Gordon Collett | Born in 1901 at Abertillery |
| 31p10 | Eveline Collett     | Born in 1907 at Abertillery |

**31o16** **Henry Collett** was born at Llanelly in 1874 and was six years old in 1881 when he was living with his family at Slopes in Llanelly, from where he was attending the local school. He was still living with his family in 1891 when he was 16. In March 1901 Henry Collett, who was 25 by then, was living at Abertillery, like his brother William (above), where he too was also a coal miner and hewer.

It is not clear, at this time, what happened to Henry after 1901, since no obvious record for him has been found in the census of 1911.

**31o18** **Flora Jane Collett** was born at Llanelly in 1882, the eldest child of William John Collett of Bradford-on-Avon and his wife Emily from Llanelly. It was there also that she was living with her family in 1891 when she was eight years old. During the next few years her family more to Abertillery, but on leaving school Flora started work as a shop assistant.

*This was confirmed by the census in 1901 when, as Florrie Collett, age 18, she was still living in Llanelly, with just her younger brother Ernest living with her. Over the next decade she married David Samuel Davies, and by 1911 the childless couple were living at Clydach, where both of them were recorded as being 28 under their full names.*

**31o19** *Frank Henry Collett was born at Llanelly in 1884, the eldest son of John and Emily Collett. He was six years old in 1891, and 16 in 1901, by which time he and his family were living at Abertillery, where he was working as a coal miner and hewer.*

*It was towards the end of the next decade that Frank married Mary, and their marriage had produced two children for the couple prior to the next census in 1911. By then the family was living at Clydach, where Frank H Collett was 26, his wife Mary E Collett was also 26, and their two children were Lily M Collett who was two years old, and Edna M Collett who was only five months old.*

|       |                |                                   |
|-------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 31p11 | Lily M Collett | Born in 1908 at Llanelly          |
| 31p12 | Edna M Collett | Born in November 1910 at Llanelly |

**31o20** *Ernest Tom Collett was born at Llanelly in 1887 and was three years old in 1891 when he was living there with his family. During the 1890s it would appear that his family moved to the Abertillery area, while Ernest remained in Llanelly, with his older sister Flora (above). In 1901 he was 13, while Florrie was a shop assistant.*

*Once he reach the age of twenty-one he married Frances with whom he had a son before the census in April 1911. At that time Ernest Tom Collett was 23, his wife France was 22, and their son Weigian James Collett was seven months old, while the family was living in the Clydach area of Crickhowell.*

|       |                       |                                    |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 31p13 | Weigian James Collett | Born in September 1910 at Llanelly |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|

### APPENDIX THREE

#### OTHER COLLETTS BORN AT SOUTH WRAXALL BUT NOT YET DIRECTLY LINKED TO ANY FAMILY IN THIS FILE

**1851** The first three of the following four individuals were all born at South Wraxall and were all listed as living in the “Bradford-on-Avon, South Eastern” registration district at the time of the 1851 Census. The fourth one, George Collett, was born at South Wraxall, but was living in Halifax in 1851 with his wife Susannah, age 20, and their one year old son William – see also the subsequent census records.

|         |                             |         |                            |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 31Ap/01 | Elizabeth Collett           | Aged 67 | Born in 1783               |
| 31Ap/02 | Henry Collett               | Aged 40 | Born in 1810 – see 1861    |
| 31Ap/03 | Thomas Collett              | Aged 28 | Born in 1822 – see 1871    |
| 31Ap/04 | George Collett (in Halifax) | Aged 25 | Born in 1825 – see 1861-81 |

Of these, it might be assumed that Elizabeth may have been the mother of Henry, while the two youngest, Thomas and George, may have been brothers.

**1861** Two of the following three individuals, who were all born at South Wraxall, were listed as living in the “Bradford-on-Avon, South Eastern” (SE) and “Neath, Margam” (NM) registration districts at the time of the 1861 Census.

The other one was George who was living at Halifax in 1851. In 1861 he was living at Kirkleatham near Guisborough, Middlesbrough with his wife Susannah 29 and son **William Collett** who was 11 and born while the couple were living in Halifax – see also the subsequent census records.

|         |                    |         |                         |
|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| 31Ap/02 | Henry Collett (SE) | Aged 50 | Born in 1810 – see 1851 |
|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------|

|         |                                 |         |                            |
|---------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 31Ap/04 | George Collett (in Kirkleatham) | Aged 35 | Born in 1825 – see 1851-81 |
| 31Ap/05 | John Collett (NM)               | Aged 31 | Born in 1830 – see 1871    |

**1871** The following five individuals were all born at South Wraxall and four of them were listed as living in the “Bradford-on-Avon, South Eastern” (SE) or “Bradford-on-Avon, North Western” (NW) registration districts at the time of the 1871 Census.

The second on the list, George, was still living at Guisborough near Middlesbrough with his wife Susannah 39 and son William 21, as he had been in 1861 – see also the subsequent census records.

|         |                              |         |                            |
|---------|------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| 31Ap/03 | Thomas Collett (NW)          | Aged 48 | Born in 1822 – see 1851    |
| 31Ap/04 | George Collett (Guisborough) | Aged 45 | Born in 1825 – see 1851-81 |
| 31Ap/05 | John Collett (SE)            | Aged 41 | Born in 1830 – see 1861    |
| 31Ap/06 | Henry Collett (SE)           | Aged 39 | Born in 1831               |
| 31Ap/07 | Harry Collett (NW)           | Aged 14 | Born in 1856               |

It may be logical to assume that Thomas Collett, age 48 (above), was the father of Harry, who was 14, as both of them were residing in the same registration district. Likewise John and Henry may have been brothers.

**1881** The following details of just five so-far unplaced members of the Collett family born at South Wraxall have been extracted from the 1881 Census and are and marked \*\*\*

\*\*\* 31Ap/04 George Collett Aged 55 Born in 1825

George Collett and his wife Susannah, age 49 and from Idle in Bradford, were living at 16 Chaloner Street in Guisborough, where George was a grocer from ‘Rexel in Wiltshire’ (Wraxall). They were the parents of William who was listed with them in the previous census records. Living with the couple on that occasion was their niece Hannah J Child, who was 12 and from Eston in Middlesbrough.

It may be of interest to note that in 1871 the couple’s ‘niece’ was living with them at that time, but under the name Hannah Collett who was two years old. It would therefore seem possible that she may have been the base-born child of a relative whose mother eventually married a mister Child, with Hannah then adopting her mother’s married name. George and Susannah were support by Sarah Bennard who was 15 and from Marske in Yorkshire, who was employed as domestic servant.

At that same time in 1881, George’s and Susannah’s son William Collett from Halifax, was 29 and was married to Emma J Collett who was 24. With them at 25 and 27 Redcar Road in Guisborough were their three children who were **Edith J Collett** who was six, **George W Collett** who was four, and **Maud M Collett** who was one year old. Emma and her children were all born at Guisborough.

William’s occupation was that of a grocer like his father George, and he and his family were supported by Eliza Bennett, age 15 and from Bransby in Lincolnshire, was a servant at their home.

Living in the premises next door, at 29 and 31 Redcar Road was the family of George Collett from Wortham in Suffolk (Ref. 20P14). George was also a grocer who, at the age of 36, was married to Sarah Jane from Leeds who was 35. Living with them were their five children, and they were Ada E Collett 11, Maria A Collett 9, Sarah E Collett 6, Maud E Collett 4, and George E Collett who was two. All of the children had been born at Guisborough. This family was support by servant Amelia Nincks who was 17 and from Germany. See Part 20 – The Suffolk to Australia Line for further family details.

George Collett of South Wraxall does not appear in any census after 1881, although his wife Susannah and son William do. Susannah was still living at Guisborough in 1901, when she was listed as being 68, and a retired grocer. The separate details for William and his family can be found under the individual census records for 1891, 1901 and 1911 provided below.

\*\*\* 31Ap/08 Thirza Collett Aged 49 Born in 1831

Thirza was a widow living on her own at Paslow Common, High Ongar in Essex in 1881 and her place of birth was confirmed as Wraxall. She also appears to have been a widow ten years earlier, when she was 38 and was living at Bobbingworth, not far from High Ongar. On that occasion in 1871, she had two sons living with her, William Collett who was eight, and Arthur Collett who was six years old.

By 1881 according to the census return, her son Arthur, age 16, was born at Bath and was living at 10 Gresham Street in St John Zachary in London, from where he was employed as a cashier. He was listed as nephew to Henry Cooper, age 45 and from Walton-on-Thames, who was a packer and porter, and his wife Rhoda Cooper, age 47, who was born at South Wraxall. This might indicate that Rhoda was in fact **Rhoda Collett** before she married her husband and therefore the sister to Arthur's father.

\*\*\*

|           |                 |         |              |
|-----------|-----------------|---------|--------------|
| 31Ap/08/1 | William Collett | Aged 18 | Born in 1862 |
| 31Ap/08/2 | Arthur Collett  | Aged 16 | Born in 1864 |

\*\*\*

Another Collett born at South Wraxall was Henry T Collett, a bachelor who was 25, and who was working as a coal miner. He was a lodger in the Ystradyfodwg home of Rees James at 80 Dumfries Street in the town.

|         |                 |         |              |
|---------|-----------------|---------|--------------|
| 31Ap/09 | Henry T Collett | Aged 25 | Born in 1855 |
|---------|-----------------|---------|--------------|

\*\*\*

The final South Wraxall Collett in the 1881 Census was Mercy Elizabeth Collett:

|         |                         |        |                         |
|---------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| 31Ap/10 | Mercy Elizabeth Collett | Aged 6 | Born in 1874 – see 1901 |
|---------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|

The entry is rather strange in that the six years old child was the daughter of spinster Rebecca Collett, age 47, and from Bathford in Somerset. Rebecca was described as the 'daughter-in-law' (sic) of head of the house Job Smith. He was a widower at the age of 66, and was employed as a farm labourer. It appears that Job, who was born at Kington (St Michael?) in Wiltshire, was the father of Mercy as she was listed as 'daughter' in the census record. At that time they were living at Channels in Bradford-on-Avon

Rebecca Collett also appeared in the 1841 Census, at the age of seven years, when she was living with her family in the Chippenham & Corsham registration district. Her parents were William and Ann Collett, both 40, and she had a sister Mary who was also seven years old. In 1851 she was 16, and by 1861 she was living and working in the Wandsworth & Clapham area of London at 27. She was still there in 1871 when she was 37. For further information on her daughter Mercy Elizabeth Collett, see the 1901 Census (below).

1891

In 1891 the family of William Collett of Halifax comprised William, who was 41, his wife Emma, who was 38, and their children Edith J Collett 16, George W Collett 14, Maud M Collett 11, **Elizabeth E Collett** 9, **Ethel Collett** 5, **Evelyn Collett** 2, and **Arthur Collett** who was under one year old.

1901

|         |                         |         |                         |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| 31Ap/10 | Mercy Elizabeth Collett | Aged 26 | Born in 1874 – see 1881 |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|

Mercy, who was six years old in 1881 and living in Bradford-on-Avon, was living in Bristol by 1901, where she was working as a general domestic servant at the age of 26.

By 1901 William Collett of Halifax was 51 and was working as a house painter, while still living at Guisborough with his family. His wife Emma J Collett was 48, and the only children still living at the family home were Edith Collett, age 26, who was a cook/domestic servant, Ethel Collett who was 15, Evelyn Collett who was 12, and Arthur Collett who was 10 years old.

The couple's eldest son George was married to Eliza from Falmouth in Cornwall by then, but was still living nearby in Guisborough. George, who was a tailor, and his wife were both 24, and Eliza had recently presented her husband with their first children, Harold Collett who was still under one year old.

1911

Ten years later in April 1911, William Collett of Halifax and his wife had left Guisborough in the North Riding of Yorkshire, and had settled north of the River Tees at Stockton, in the neighbouring county of Durham.

William was 61, his wife Emma Jane Collett was 58, and still living with the couple were their two unmarried daughters Ethel, who was 25, and Evelyn who was 22.

William's son George Collett, however, was still living in Guisborough with his wife and their two sons. George William Collett, like his wife Eliza, was 34, and their two sons were **Harold William Collett** who was 10, while the other male child had only just been born and had yet to be given a name. He was simply referred to as '**baby Collett**'.

## APPENDIX FOUR

### A Bath, Plumstead, Nottingham and carpentry connection

In 1881 Francis Collett aged 32, who was born at Bath in 1849, was married to Emma who was also 32 and born at Islington in London. He was a wood working machinist and he and his family were living at 9 Richmond Place in Plumstead where in 1856 cabinet maker Andrew William Collett (Ref. 31M21) had lived at 54 Hardwick Place.

As both Andrew William Collett and his wife Sarah were in residence at Bath at the time of their wedding in May 1850 there is a chance that Francis may have been their base-born son, but this has not been proved. It is simply the three aspects of being born at Bath, employed in woodwork, and living at Plumstead that support this assumption.

Andrew and Sarah left Bath after they were married and were living in Portsmouth in 1851 and five years later in Plumstead, while Francis Collett was still living in Bath in 1851 aged 2 and in 1861 aged 12. However, sometime between 1861 and 1871 Francis had also moved to London where in 1871 aged 22 he was listed in the St Saviour Southwark district of the city.

By 1881 Francis and his wife Emma had three children, Francis Frederick aged 6 and born at Nottingham, Kate Laura aged 3 and Annie Maud aged one year, both having been born in London. The Nottingham connection could also be significant as that was where Andrew William Collett's sister Arabella Collett lived.

Francis and Emma were still living at Plumstead in 1901 when they were both 52 years of age. Living with them was their son Frederick aged 26 and born at Nottingham who was working as an electrical machinist, and their daughter Annie aged 21. It also seems likely that the couple had more than the three children above and in particular Lily who was aged 9 in 1901 and was born at Batheaston where Francis was stated as having been born in the 1901 Census