

Information for people interested in the history of the Glenister family.

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The beGINning

This issue of the Glenister Information Newsletter has news of my personal circumstances, contacts, projects, and personalities, and a new look with the inclusion of photographs.

Firstly then, a personal note. I would like to announce that I have recently married. My wife, Cheryl, and I were married on the island of St Lucia in the Caribbean on 29 December 1992. We decided to tie the knot after being together for 8 years, although we first met when we were age 11 at junior school. I have the end of term class photo, and there we are, side by side in the front row - little did we know we were to be side by side for life.

Also on a personal note, my job can take me to different parts of the country, and since January I have been working from Newcastle upon Tyne. This has made it difficult to deal with correspondence and to produce this issue of the newsletter, so please excuse the delay in replying to correspondence.

Notwithstanding this, new contacts have been made through a number of avenues, from personal recommendation, a general "mail shot", advertisement in magazines, and trade directories. From these I have made a major step forward in my own family history and I have been able to assist others with their own family history.

I decided to have a major push on finding out more about my own branch of the family, and in particular my great-grandfather's generation who lived at Boxmoor around 1890-1920. As a result I have found a number of previously unknown cousins and a wealth of family history information in photographs, documents, and memories.

I also set about tying up a number of loose ends of Glenister families, and identified a few cases where I considered it worthwhile buying certificates from St Catherine's house. From these I was able to link together a number of the loose ends into larger branches, answering questions which had kept me puzzled for a while, and finding the connection between the Glenister and Hazelgrove families which had been puzzling Jack Hazelgrove.

Two significant connections were made to existing well researched branches of the Glenister family. The first links Carol Ann Currie of Ontario, Canada with a new contact Beryl Ashton of Christchurch, Dorset. The second links Peter Glenister of Luton to new contact Leigh Glenister and his father Bertrand Glenister, both of Luton.

Due to the number of changes which are expected as a result of recent contacts, I have held over for a future newsletter the update on the league table of Glenister family trees.

My thanks to all those who sent newspaper clippings of Glenister events, including Ernie Bradley, Alan Glenister, Karen Heath, Dorothy Manthey, and to Kath Glenister for the loan of her photographs. ■

Contacts and correspondence

As usual, contact and correspondence with researchers old and new continues.

I made a major breakthrough when I set out to trace descendants of my great great uncle Joseph Austin Glenister (see "The £ note man" in issue 3). I located his daughter in law, **Eileen Glenister** of Cromer, Norfolk, who put me in touch with his son **Donald Glenister** of Swindon, who in turn put me in touch with cousins previously unknown to me: **Marjorie Turner** of Swansea, **Eunice Hazlewood** of Shaftesbury, **Joyce Feazey** of Markyate, and **Jean Lewis** of Hayes, Middlesex. Through these contacts I have been able to find a lot of old photographs of Glenisters, including the oldest known photograph of Amos Glenister, my great-great-grandfather, outside his smithy in Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, from about 1870 (further details in "The Boxmoor Generation" in this issue).

Alan Glenister of Kings Langley wrote to me with details of other Glenisters he remembered, including **Norman Glenister**, who ran a furnishing business in Hemel Hempstead area around 1960-1970, but moved to run a pub (a common Glenister occupation - see "Time Glenisters please" in issue 3). I made contact with Norman who has agreed to provide me with some information.

My sister, **Christine Ellis**, having initiated my contact with **Alan Glenister**, went a stage further and wrote to all Glenisters in the Luton and Dunstable area. The replies included a number of relatives of **Peter Glenister** who knew of his earlier work on the family tree, and new contacts with **Brian Glenister**, **Leigh Glenister** and his father **Bertrand Glenister**, and **Constance Glenister**. With the purchase of just one birth certificate we were able to connect Brian's family to an already known family line linking back to 1598. Leigh and Bertrand are also descended from a branch of the same tree. Constance is descended from the same root as Kath, Mollie, Joy, and Daphne, linking back to 1751.

I was contacted by **Beryl Aston** of Christchurch, Dorset, who saw a note of my interests in the register of the Guild of One Name Studies. We have been able to connect Beryl's family to the same branch as Carol-Ann Currie of Canada, much to their mutual delight. Beryl has also uncovered some potential links between her branch of the family and the Bryant & May match company and with the hot houses at Kew Botanical Gardens.

I received a surprise call from **Michael Glenister** of Fordingbridge, Hampshire who saw the note of my interests in the magazine "Family Tree". Michael's family originate from the Wandsworth area of London, although they are now spread over much of southern England. Michael put me in touch with his brother **Geoffrey Glenister** of Reading and we traced their family to the Wandsworth area around 1910. This brought to light an interesting link between Glenisters born in Pinner, Middlesex around 1815 who were working as hay binders in Wandsworth in 1861. I can't imagine there being much hay to bind in Wandsworth these days!

Julie Baker of Berkhamsted also saw a note of my interest in the magazine "Family Tree" and wrote to me (see "...and Questions" in this issue).

I had a letter from **Paul Wicks** of Watford, who I had contacted after seeing a note of his interests in the directory "Family History Knowledge". Paul had been tracing his family connection to the Glennersters of Watford (see "...and Questions" in this issue).

I received an enquiry from **Richard Smith** of Inverness, Scotland, who found a note of my interest through the Guild of One Name Studies (see "...and Questions" in this issue).

I made contact with **Dave Bradshaw** of Ontario, Canada who has distant links to Glenisters in Ontario and possibly in Brooklyn, New York, USA, and Plumstead, London (see "...and Questions" in this issue).

I initiated contact with two Glenisters who are "in the public eye". I found a mention of **Robert Glenister**, the actor, in the Spotlight Directory of actors and wrote to him through his agents. He replied quickly, regretting that at present, due to the pressure of work, he could not provide any information. I also wrote to **Rob Glenister**, who plays for the Harlequins Rugby Football Club, care of the club who had agreed to forward my letter. The next weekend I received a telephone call from **Peter Glenister**, Rob's father, who has agreed to help. Peter has a number of interesting historical documents, including a family bible dating from the 1850s which contains names and birthdays of the family.

I am sure that I have received other correspondence, but for now I will draw the line here. I will include notes of any further contacts and correspondence in a future issue. ■

Answers...

This section sets out the answers to questions on Glenister connections from earlier issues of GIN.

In Issue 3 **Jack Haselgrove** sought details of the Glenister husband of Mary Ann Haselgrove.

While tying down some "roots" on my unconnected trees I ordered a birth certificate for Walter Henry Glenister, registered in March 1871 at Birmingham. The certificate showed:

name: Walter Henry Glenister
born: 5 Jan 1871
at: Albert Place, Wynn Street
father: Edwin Glenister
occupation: Commission Agent
mother: Mary Ann Glenister, formerly **Haselgrove**

residence: Albert Place, Wynn Street, Birmingham

The question was answered. The father's name, Edwin, is quite unusual in the Glenister family, so tracing him was fairly easy. Edwin's details are:

born: 5 Jan 1842, Luton
baptised: 8 Jan 1845, St Mary Luton
married: Dec 1864, Barton
died: Mar 1892, Ecclesall

This link has established a connection between Jack's family and the longest Glenister tree currently known, which starts with the marriage of Matthew Glenister and Elizabeth Shad in 1598 at Hemel Hempstead. This tree was extensively researched by Peter Glenister and it appears to be the root from which all Glenister families in Luton are grown (although there are a few known Luton descendants from other roots).

I also found a descendant of the Glenister-Haselgrove line in the registers of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (see "Glenisters at work" in this issue).

In issue 3 **Carol Anne Currie** was trying to contact descendants of her great grandfather's brother, the only member of the family who remained in England when the others emigrated to Canada some time between 1868 and the early 1870s. In particular the children of Edward John Glenister and William George Glenister.

When I received a letter from Beryl Aston listing details of her father, I immediately recognised her as one of the descendants of EJG who Carol Anne wanted to contact. I put Carol and Beryl in touch and they are now working on their combined family tree, and still trying to locate descendants of WGG.

In issue 3 **Andy Glenister** (me!) was trying to trace descendants of Albert Joseph Glenister, his children Donald William Glenister, and Irene Glenister, and the children of Marjorie Annie Glenister.

I have had success on all of these and more, and I have described how I progressed in "The Boxmoor generation" in his issue.

In issue 3 there was an extract from the Daily Telegraph of 3 October 1992 which noted the birth of Samuel David James Glenister on 19 September 1992, the son of Simon and Heather Glenister (nee Bowen).

Val Fermer wrote to me with details of how she was related to Simon and Heather, making the new arrival her second cousin one generation removed.

In issue 3 I noted that in many census returns I had found the place of birth given as Camden, Surrey, and I asked whether this related to Camden in Middlesex.

When **Marjorie Turner** read this she looked up Camden in a London street atlas, and finding a Camden Road in the Carshalton area of south London, she suggested I try around there. A couple of phone calls to the local public library (always a useful starting point), then the main borough library led me to the Minet Collection where the helpful archivist found that Camden is mentioned in Blanche's "History of Camberwell" as a district in Peckham, originally in Camberwell, and now part of the London Borough of Southwark. Now I have added the census returns and parish registers for this area to my ever increasing list of things to do.

In response to my request for general information on Glenisters, **Alan Glenister** gave me a few snippets:

L C Glenister, the chief accountant of the London North Eastern Railway in the 1940s and was based at Kings Cross, London.

Norman C Glenister, who traded as a carpet fitter in Hemel Hempstead in the 1960s, he set up a retail furniture business with his uncle Mr Lock at Ruislip in the 1970s, and in 1977 he left the district to take up a public house in Devon.

? Glenister was a noted [no pun intended!] violin maker in the London area in the early part of this century.

I knew of Laurence Charles Glenister (1887-1953), the grandson of William Montague Glenister ("The father of the Hastings police force") and the first cousin of Malcolm Glenister. Quite by coincidence I found N C Glenister in the telephone directory for the Exeter area, so I made contact and, yes, it is the same Norman C Glenister, and he has promised to help. The violin maker was a complete mystery, but I had come across a number of Glenister wills which gave an occupation of "instrument maker" and I expected these to lead to something. However, I was pleasantly surprised when my new contact **Peter Glenister** mentioned that he already knew of a William Glenister who fitted the bill, and that he had a photograph of this William surrounded by his violins.

From rugby fan **Jack Haselgrove** of Leicester I received cuttings from the programme for the Rugby Union Cup Final between Leicester Tigers and Harlequins, with brief biography and picture of **Rob Glenister**, the Harlequins versatile scrum half. (It came with the hope that Rob wouldn't do too much damage to the Tigers!). ■

...and Questions

This section poses further questions about Glenister family connections sent in by researchers. If you can help solve any of the problems posed, please let me know.

Bertrand Glenister of Luton remembers his father being contacted in the 1960-1970s by a genealogist who was locating descendants of a deceased Glenister to be

beneficiaries of the estate. Unfortunately Bertrand does not have much in the way of hard detail, and only vague recollections (I have worked with less before - Ed). He believes the matter related to a family in the US, but it may have been elsewhere. He remembers that when the estate was settled his father received a letter listing the beneficiaries and their inheritance. This would be an interesting link to follow through, since I am not aware of any connection between this family (descended from Matthew Glenister and Elizabeth Shad) and the USA. Any ideas?

Julie Baker of Berkhamsted is interested in the ancestors of Thomas Newell and Rebek Glenister who married at the parish church of Northchurch on 21 February 1663. Unfortunately the parish register does not give the parents' names. Julie is researching the name Newell in the area of Berkhamsted, Northchurch, Frithsden, and Aldbury, also in Acton and Shepherds Bush area of Middlesex. So far all the Newells in these areas have been connected to her. Thanks to Julie for the extracts from parish registers and census records relating Glenisters which she sent me.

Paul Wicks of Watford, has traced a large part of the Glennerster family around the Watford area, and is interested in finding out more about John and Barbara Glenister who had a family of eleven children over the period from 1789 to 1807. Their first child, William Townsend Glenister was baptised in London at St Andrew, Holborn, in 1789, while the remaining ten children were baptised at the parish church in Watford between 1790 and 1807. Nothing is known of John and Barbara, so a good starter point would be to find their marriage. Some time later the name of this family changed from Glenister to Glennerster, a variant which seems to be have originated around Watford.

Richard Smith of Inverness, Scotland is looking for the more information on William and Mary Glenister, the parents of John Glenister who was baptised at Cheddington on 4 July 1730 and married at Cheddington on 5 December 1753 to Sarah Newens. Richard is looking for further details of William and Mary and of any other children. The Glenister name joined Richard's family when Sarah Glenister, the grand-daughter of John and Sarah Newens, married William Fountain at Cheddington in 1800; William and Sarah are Richard's 3*great-grandparents.

Dave Bradshaw of Gloucester, Ontario, Canada has links to Glenisters in Port Hope, Ontario and potential links back to the Plumstead district of London. The earliest confirmed link is Gordon W Glenister (born 1911 died 1985), who married Clara May Willsey in 1939 and had three children: Gloria Marie (born 1940), Douglas Meritt (born 1942), and Bonita Marlene (born 1944). The forename Meritt is particularly striking and may link with the marriage of James Glenister and Mary Merritt at St Pancras on 31 January 1842. This family was briefly examined by Ruth and I some time ago, and we came to the supposition that James and Mary emigrated from England to the USA after the birth of their first child, William James Thomas Glenister (born 1842 Plumstead), perhaps some time around the birth of their second child James Merritt Glenister (born about 1848).

Andy Glenister is looking for any information on the children of Alfred Glenister and Sarah Saunders. Alfred was born at Boxmoor in 1839, the son of Joseph Glenister

and Mary Ann Jordan, and married Sarah at St John Boxmoor in November 1862. He worked as a blacksmith, living in Kings Langley until he died in October 1885, to be followed within a month by Sarah. Andy would like to find out if Alfred and Sarah had any children.

Andy Glenister is looking for any information on the children of Joseph Thomas Glenister and Mercy Chilton. Joseph was born at Boxmoor in 1870, the son of Joseph Glenister and Elizabeth Rifford, and married Mercy at St John Boxmoor on Christmas day 1893. He worked as a gardener, living in High Street, Kings Langley. After Joseph died in 1919, Mercy lived until 1939 at Little Manor, Boxmoor with her brother-in-law Arthur, who ran the garage business Berkhamsted Motors, at Gossoms End. Andy would like to find out if Joseph and Mercy had any children. ■

The origin of the name

There have been numerous suggestions as to the origin of the name Glenister, including derivation from Scottish and Welsh. Bertrand Glenister has suggested another origin based on Norman-French.

Although the name Glenister does indeed have a Gaelic ring to it, there are few scots who recognise the name as having a scottish origin. The mentions of the name found in the Cambridge in the 13th century and the preponderance of the name around the Herts-Bucks-Middx area suggest an origin closer to the South. There was very little movement of population prior to the industrial revolution, and it is difficult to conceive of a scot in the earlier post norman times (when surnames first came into common use) travelling down to settle in the South.

The name may be derived from the old french verb "glener" meaning "to glean" which is to used to describe the action of collecting from the fields the crops and straw which remain after the harvest. The suffix "-ist" means the art or skill, as in "chemist" or "agriculturalist". Many surnames have Norman-French origins (eg Fletcher from "fleche" meaning "arrow"), since this was the language of the first Plantagenets who ruled England.

It is probable that our Glenister ancestors were sons of the soil - like most of the population in norman England. ■

Dead drunk

Extract from the death certificate of Thomas Glenister, a helper at a cab proprietor's stables, who died at Marylebone in 1842 aged 35. The cause of death is given as:

inflammation of the spinal marrow from a fall while drunk ■

Arms and the man

Although earlier generations of Glenisters may have used coats of arms, no official grant was made until 1991, when Tony Glenister received Letters Patent from the Kings of Arms.

We know that Glenisters have used coats of arms, but investigations have revealed no trace of an official grant of arms (see "The heraldic connection" in issue 1). When Tony Glenister (see "Who's Who" in issue 2) finished his service as master of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London, a city livery company, he wanted to follow the custom of the society for past masters to provide some record of their service which included a representation of their arms. When Tony found that none had ever been granted to a Glenister he made an application for his own Grant of Arms.

The official process of consultation with the heralds and officers of the College of Arms, including Garter King of Arms and Clarenceux King of Arms resulted in the issues of Letters Patent of armorial bearing, with the grant inscribed on a sheet of vellum, and sealed with the seal of the Kings of Arms. The grant uses the special flowery language of heraldry:

Per fess dancetty Gules and Or a Goat salient horned and hooved Argent all countercharged And for the Crest upon a Helm with a wreath Or and Gules A Boar Sable tusked and hooved Or mouth Gules supporting with the dexter foreleg a banner of the Arms fringed Or and Gules the staff Or and lancehead Sable Mounted Gules doubled Or

This blazon, a mixture of English and Norman-French, can be translated as:

The shield is divided horizontally down the middle (per fess) with a zig-zag line (dancetty) and is coloured red (gules) and yellow (or). In the centre is a goat leaping (salient) with horns and hooves of white (argent) and a body the alternative colour to the background (countercharged). The crest, which sits on a helmet with a wreath of yellow (or) and red (gules), is a black (sable) boar with yellow (or) tusks and hooves and a red (gules) mouth, holding with the right (dexter) foreleg a fringed banner depicting the arms on a yellow (or) staff



with a black (sable) point. The crest has a flowing attachment (mounted) of red (gules) which shows a yellow (or) reverse side (doubled).

The arms have been "embellished" with two a depiction of two honours previously granted to Tony: the badge and motto of the Order of the British Empire, and the Territorial Decoration. Another addition is a motto, which is a matter of personal choice, rather than an integral part of the arms. Tony has chosen a motto derived from a play on the images in the arms. The latin word for boar is "aper" which suggests another latin word "aperte" meaning openly. This links with further latin to form the alliterative motto *Aperte atque Aequae* meaning "openly and fairly".

Thanks to Tony for providing a transcript of the Letters Patent and a copy of the coat of arms. ■

Glenister in Star Chamber in 1579

In a previous issue I wrote about Glenisters who had been criminals. Now I have some details of a Glenister as the victim of a crime.

At the Public Record Office I was browsing through the various indices, and in the index of documents put before Star Chamber, I found a mention of John Glenister. The index contains only the name and the document reference number (STAC5 G.8/37), with no further details of the document, its content, or its context.

I ordered the document, and when it was delivered I was not much the wiser. The document was a single sheet of yellowed parchment, not folded, about 18 inches across by 12 inches deep. The document was a manuscript written in a style which I found very difficult to read. The writing started quite large, becoming smaller and smaller down the page. I could recognise some words, but there were many unrecognisable characters and abbreviations. I decided I needed expert help.

I sent a copy of the document to Dr Peter Franklin, a professional palaeographer whose name I had found in the magazine "Family History". Dr Franklin responded quickly with a brief letter, noting that the script was not particularly difficult (for him maybe!), and that only a few words were illegible, due to damage at the edges of the document. He dated the document as 1579, and provided a neatly typed transcript. I have reproduced the transcript below, retaining the original spellings.

To the Queenes most excellent Ma(jes)tie,

In most humble wise Complaininge, sheweth unto yo(u)r most excellent Ma(jes)tie yo(u)re poore, true, faithfull and obedient Subiect, John Glenister of Bed...e in the Countye of Bedf(ord), Labourer, That wheras heretofore, that is to saye, in the terme of St Hillary in the 21st yeare of yo(u)r most highnes p(ro)sperous raigne, one Richard Charnocke esquire sued fourth of yo(u)r highnes Court com(m)onlye called the kinges bench at westm(inster) A writt com(m)onlie called A Latitat against one Thom(a)s Spillinge of Clophill in the said Countie of Bedf(ord),

husbandma(n), to the shierief [sic] of Bedf(ord) directed to Attache the body of the said Thomas to make awnsw(e)r to the said Richard Charnocke at A certeine day in the said writt p(re)fixed.

And for thexecutinge [sic] thereof, one John Colbecke, gent(leman), beinge then undershirief of the said Countye, did in the name of the high shirief then beinge, and under the sealle of his office, direct his warrant unto yo(ur) said Subiect as his sp(e)c(i)all bailief for that tyme to arrest the body of the said Thom(a)s Spillinge for his apparance accordinge to the tenor of the said writt, By v(ir)tue whereof yo(u)r ma(jes)ties said Subiect on the 24th day of M(ar)ch in yeare abovesaid did arrest the bodye of the said Thom(a)s Spillinge at Clophill aforesaid in the said County of Bedf(ord) according to the tenor of the said warrant to him directed, and shewed unto him the said warrant.

But so it is most gracious Sovereigne lady, that ymediatly uppon the said arrest beinge orderly made, the said Thom(a)s Spillinge very contemptuouslie & w(i)thout all feare or regard of yo(u)r ma(jes)ties lawes did not onelie make rescous unto yo(u)r said Subiect, disobeieing the said arrest & warrant, albeit it was shewed unto him, But also he together w(i)th one M(ar)garet Spillinge his wife & John Spillinge his son(n)e, w(i)th c(er)teine oth(ers) yet unknowen to yo(u)r said orator, did chiefly by the meanes & p(ro)curem(en)t of the said Thom(a)s, to thintent to deliv(er) him from the said arrest & from the custody of yo(u)r said Subiect, did then & there w(i)thout all feare of god or regard to yo(u)r Ma(jes)ties lawes, beinge riotouslie & unlawfully assembled & arrayed w(i)th div(er)s riotous & forcible weapons, that is to saie w(i)th staves, daggers, spitts, Clubbes, pichforkes, w(i)th div(er)s oth(e)r forcible weapons as well invasive as defensive, make an assault uppon yo(u)r said poore subiect & did grevously beatte, wound and evill intreat, So that of his life he did dispaire, som(m)e of them run(n)inge fiercely at him w(i)th a spitt, thinkinge to run(n)e him thorough, oth(e)r of them holdinge him by the throte & thrustinge his handes into his mouth to choke him, & the said Thom(a)s Spillinge hiself crienge out and biddinge them to kill me, & most maliciously all of them togeth(er) did goe about & had almost lifted him hedlonge over a great hedge into a very deepe dich, so that if compan[[y]] had not bene by good happe there putt to assist him, he most likelie bene to have had his necke broken.

By reason of w(hi)ch riotous, unlawfull & disorderly deallinge the same Thom[[a)s]] Spillige was rescued most forcibly from yo(u)r said poore subiect & he him self very sore hurt, wounded & evill intreated to his great losse & hinderance & to the p(er)nic(i)ous & evill [[example]] of all oth(e)r intendinge truely to extente yo(u)r ma(jes)ties p(ro)ces.

For remedy wherof & to thend that the riotous p(er)sons before named may reicive condigne punishm(en)t accordinge to there deserts, wherby oth(ers) may be discouraged from doenge the like, wherby yo(u)r ma(jes)ties lawes may be the more duely & speedly [sic] executed, w(hi)ch w(i)thout due servinge of p(ro)ces cannot be, May it therfore please yo(u)r most excellent Ma(jes)tie, the p(re)niss(e)s [sic] considered, gr(a)unt to yo(u)r said Subiect yo(u)r highnes most grac(i)ous

writt of Subp(o)ena, to be directed to the said Thom(a)s Spellinge, M(ar)garet Spellinge & John Spellinge, Comaundinge them therby p(er)sonally to appeare before yo(u)r ma(jes)t(ie)s most hon(our)able p(ri)vy co(u)ncell in yo(u)r ma(jes)t(ie)s most hon(our)able Co(u)rt of Starre chamb(er) at Westm(inster) a c(er)teine day & und(e)r a c(er)teine payne thereon to be limited, Then & then [sic] to awnsw(e)r to ye p(re)miss(e)s, And furth(er) to stand & abide such ord(e)r & direcc(i)on therein As to yo(u)r [[ma(jes)t(ie)]] shall seame agreable w(ith) right & Eq(ui)tie, And yo(u)r said Orator shall daily pray to god accordinge to his most bound duety for the longe continuance of yo(u)r Ma(jes)ties most grac(i)ous [[&]] p(ro)sperous raigne.

Original spellings are given throughout. Abbreviations are expanded within round brackets. Editorial notes are given in square brackets. Illegible or uncertain words or parts of words which have been conjectured are enclosed in double square brackets.

Star Chamber was a court outside the jurisdiction of common law, and operated by using royal rights and privileges to address minor offences. The court was abolished in the 1600s. A latitat is a writ based on the supposition that the person summoned is in hiding.

I have no further details of John Glenister or of Richard Spilling, but perhaps these could be the subject of future research. ■

Confusion down under

Some family history is easy to trace through the official records, with a neat succession of birth, marriage, children, and death. However, occasionally there are circumstances where our ancestors seem to have gone out of their way to make things difficult to follow. Brownwen Thomas tells a tale of confusion and frustration as she sorted out her ancestors down under.

I established that my great grandfather Frederick was the youngest of 13 children of John Putnam Glenister and his wife Jane Blackhall. The difficulties started with the discovery that there were quite a number of ancestors named John Putnam Glenister, all grandsons the original JPG. Like a jigsaw, I had to put each JPG into his correct family placing, but one JPG in particular proved rather more difficult.

I knew that John Putnam Glenister, the second son of Henry James Glenister and Anne Lee, was born in Lewisham, Kent in June 1851, and was 3 years old when he and his parents emigrated to Victoria, Australia.

His death certificate, issued in 1894, was the start of some useful misinformation: it said that he was born in Ballarat, Victoria, that he had been married once, to Anne Dallaway, and had one child, Lillian Anne Glenister, born in 1893. From other information I had collected, it became clear that these details were not completely true.

I found details of JPG's eldest son, and these were more confusing: his birth was registered in 1875 at Garawilla, New South Wales, as Ebenezer Glenister, his marriage registration gave his name as Henry James Glenister, but he died and was always known by his family as Henry John Glenister. To make things worse, HJG's birth certificate gave his mother as Mary Orr, but I could find no record of her marriage to JPG.

I was told that HJG had a brother Frederick, so I went in search of him through the records of birth. On the way I found two more children of JPG: Annie Glenister, born in 1877 at Goragilla, New South Wales (father JPG, mother Mary Orr), and George Percival Glenister Orr, born in 1880 at Goolbi, New South Wales. I presume from GPGO's name that by time he was born, JPG had deserted Mary Orr in New South Wales, and had returned to Victoria, taking with him the five year old Henry John Glenister.

In 1882 JPG eventually committed himself to marriage to Ann Dallaway. Again, I presume that Ann raised Henry John, since when he married he gave his mother's name as Ann (although he gave his own name as Harry James!). In 1883 JPG and Ann had a daughter, Lillian Anne Glenister, but in August 1886, while having a second child, Ann died of "miscarriage and peritonitis".

From this point onwards the confusion grew, and I fell victim to further disinformation and false assumption!

On a separate inquiry I had obtained the death certificate for Robert John Putnam Glenister who had died following an accident at the naval depot at Williamstown, and the record of his marriage to Elizabeth Killey. Both of these gave his parents as John Putnam Glenister and Emily Jane Glenister, nee Dick. I knew that, apart from his war service, he had lived all his life in Victoria, so I set out to find his birth. However, all my requests for registration details were returned showing "No record". I was became frustrated at this point.

To work around this little problem, I obtained a copy of the war service records for John Putnam Glenister, which gave his age when he enlisted in 1914 as 24. Based on this I requested the certificate for the birth of JPG in 1890.

I eventually received the birth certificate for John Putnam Baker Glenister (registered as Gluiester), giving his parents as John Putnam Glenister and Emily Jane Dick, maiden name Baker, married on 5 January 1886. Confusion! JPG's wife name was Ann, and this could couldn't refer to a second marriage as Ann didn't die until August 1886!

To try to make sense of this I requested the marriage certificate for JPG with the details as given: wife Emily Jane Dick, maiden name Baker, date 5 January 1886. No Record!

As a last desperate attempt I wrote to all the churches in Williamstown asking for information. I received a response from Holy Trinity church, where Emily Jane Dick

married George Thurbin Baker on 12 February 1886. But this was one month AFTER she was supposed to have married JPG! More confusion. I don't know what happened to George Baker - I couldn't find a death registration for him before his wife Emily was having JPG's children.

I then found the death registration for John Putnam Baker Glenister in 1890 aged 3 months, and this was really confusing. How could he be born, die 3 months later, and then serve in the armed forces?

I was beginning to think that I was dealing with more than one JPG, but with each certificate I obtained, there was enough information to tie them together, but enough incorrect information to cause further confusion.

I decided to try a completely novel approach. I looked for registrations with the same forenames but different family names. I started with Dick, but no luck. I then looked under Baker, and found the birth of Robert John Putnam (Glenister) Baker, no father was registered, only a mother, Emily Jane Dick. I heaved a sigh of relief.

I then found the birth of John Putnam Baker in 1894, and another piece of the jigsaw fell into place. I think that before RJPG enlisted he had requested a copy of his birth certificate, but he was supplied with a copy of his older brother's details (b1890), not realising that his own birth had been registered under as RJP Baker. So when RJPG enlisted in 1914, he was actually aged 20, but had a certificate which proved he was aged 24.

So my John Putnam Glenister, the second son of Henry James Glenister and Anne Lee, was a man of many parts: he had a relationship with Mary Orr (from which sprang 3 children), a marriage to Ann Dallaway (1 child), and a relationship with Emily Jane Baker (nee Dick) (4 children).

I just hope I don't have to untangle any more characters like this! ■

The earliest emigrant

There have been a number of Glenister emigrants from England to Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the USA. This is the earliest known record of such an emigrant.

Extracted from "List of emigrants to America 1600-1700", edited by Hotten, published by Genealogical Publishing Company, Utah in 1974.

Persons transported from London to Virginia, leaving on 10 August 1635 aboard ship "Safety":

Robert Glenester, age 25

As yet I have not tried to trace the family of this early emigrant. ■

The soldier's children

Connections between the Glenister family and the military are uncommon, so I was quite surprised when two very separate pieces of information came together to suggest a link between a Glenister soldier in 1879 and a family in Hemel Hempstead.

The General Register Office has separate records for civil and military jurisdictions. The records of events for civilians are maintained by the district registrars, while records of events for soldiers are maintained by the military registrars.

In the index of military registers I found an entry for the birth of William Henry Glenister in 1879 connected with the 43rd Regiment at Fort St George. The certificate itself showed the parents as William and Ellen Glenister, and that William was a Lance Corporal in the 43rd Regiment of Light Infantry. I had no connection with any other Glenisters.

Later I received from Karen Heath an extract from the parish registers of St Mary Hemel Hempstead which listed the baptism of Elizabeth Anne Glenister on 11 May 1887, the daughter of William Glenister, an Army pensioner, and Ellen, who lived at Austins Place.

These two pieces seemed to fit together nicely, suggesting a link between the soldier from Fort St George and a family in Hemel Hempstead.

I then found the GRO index entry for the death of William Henry Glenister, aged 2, at Hemel Hempstead in June 1881, and the parish register entry for the burial of William Glenister, of Austins Place, aged 56, at St Mary, Hemel Hempstead on 27 September 1898.

From this pieces of information I have surmised that William was born around 1842 in the Hemel Hempstead area, joined his local Army regiment, served with them until pensioned out sometime between 1879 and 1887, and died in 1898 at Hemel Hempstead.

The next step is to examine the records of Army discharges held in the Public Record Office; these are kept in date order, with each regiment held separately, so William should be easy to find. From the discharge document it should be possible to locate the date of enrolment, which should lead to the records of enrolment, which could be very interesting. As well as giving the soldier's name, they should also give details of his physical appearance, his trade, and the names of his parents. I would also like to find a record of the marriage of William and Ellen, but as William was probably serving in the Army at the time, the marriage may have taken place wherever the regiment was staying.

On a final note, the 43rd Regiment of Foot, originally raised in 1741, served with distinction in Canada under General Wolfe, particularly in the capture of Quebec in 1759. In 1908 they were renamed the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. ■

The Boxmoor generation

In following up one branch of my family I have discovered a number of cousins previously unknown to me, and found a wealth of family history material including photographs, documents, and memories.

I decided to have a real push on tracing the "Boxmoor generation" of my family - they lived at Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead around 1890-1920. I had heard my grandfather, Alfred William, speak of this generation as his father, uncles, and aunts. It included my great grandfather, also called Alfred William, and his brothers and sisters, Amos, Joseph, William, Tom, Beatrice, and Nance. I knew the names of the family members, and of some of their children, but I had no idea whether they were still alive, and I had not made contact with them.

I started with Joseph Austin Glenister (see "The £ note man" in issue 3), my grandfather's uncle, whose death in 1954 I had found a mention of among my grandfathers papers. From the public records I found details of Joseph Austins's son, Albert Joseph: his birth in 1912, marriage to Eileen Woods at Berkhamsted in 1939, and death in 1979 at Broadstairs, Kent. I made enquiries in the area where Albert Joseph had lived, and had a long chat with neighbours who remembered Joe, as he was always known, and they gave me the address of his wife, Eileen, now living in Cromer, Norfolk.

I contacted Eileen, who although unable to help with the Glenister history herself, did give me the address of Joe's step brother, Don. I wrote to Don, spoke to him on the telephone, and visited him in March at his home in Swindon. We swapped stories and looked at old photographs, including some of Joseph Austin's brothers William and Tom who died in the first world war. Don also gave me the address of other relatives, including the children of Joseph Austin's other brother and sisters: Amos, Annie (always referred to as "aunt Nance"), and Beatrice, and the children of Joseph Austin's daughter, Irene.

Amos' daughter, Marjorie Turner, lives in Swansea and has grandchildren of her own. Beatrice married Sydney Prime in September 1914 at Hendon and had three daughters. I have made contact with her daughter Eunice Hazlewood living in Shaftersbury, Dorset. Eunice has an original manuscript autobiography from her father covering his early life, and she has agreed to copy it for me. Nance married Tom Maishman in July 1917 at St John Boxmoor and had three daughters. I have made contact her daughters Joyce Feazey of Markyate, Hertfordshire and Jean Lewis of Hayes End, Middlesex (less than 5 miles from where I live!). Joyce has a number of old photographs, including one of my great great grandfather Amos William Glenister as a working blacksmith at his forge in Cornerhall. This would be the earliest photographed Glenister, and I have arranged to have copies made of these photographs to have a real impression of what my ancestors looked like. Carol Young, the daughter of Irene Sims, still lives in the Boxmoor area, and also has a number of old photographs to show me.

Each of these newly discovered cousins has given me more information about the Boxmoor generation, not only the photographs, but also personal reminiscences and family rumours. I heard of two previously unknown daughters of Amos William and Lois Amelia, both called Lois, who died as infants, and I have confirmed this from my extracts from official records.

I also have other rumours of family connections to follow up, and these may see the light of day in a future article. ■

The lawyer's papers

The arrival of a mystery parcel in the mail brought me into contact with the legal world (on the right side of the law).

I received a large envelope addressed to "Mr R Glenister, CPS, Room EP 2.011, 1 Embankment Place, London". I thought the incorrect initial and company name were simple errors, since the rest of the address was absolutely correct, right down to the room number. On opening the envelope, I found a bundle of legal documents, tied with red barrister's ribbon, no covering letter, but a simple "with compliments" slip from a barrister's chambers. Now, this is not the sort I usually receive at work, and I wondered why it had come to me.

I noticed that the cover of the top document in the bundle had details of a legal case, a prosecution heard in 1978, with the names of the defendant, the defendant's barrister, the prosecution barrister, and the prosecution legal officer. The legal officer's name was R E Glenister, CPS. Alongside the name was a telephone number: 01-213 xxxx.

I then realised how the papers must have found their way to me.

First, the clerk at the barrister's office had telephoned the number given on the papers, thinking it was the Crown Prosecution Service, and asked for Mr Glenister. Now since 1978, when the papers were made out, there have been quite a few changes in the London telephone system - the change from 01- to 071- and 081-, and the exchange numbers 071-213 and 071-214 are all allocated to the firm for which I work. Second, the person in my firm who received the call knew that I wasn't on that number, so found the only Glenister in the internal directory and transferred the call. Third, my secretary gave the caller the address of the Mr Glenister as requested. Fourth, the envelope arrived as addressed.

I called the CPS to contact Mr Glenister, but he was unavailable, so I simply forwarded the documents with my compliments slip too. I checked my records of Glenisters and discovered that the intended recipient was Richard Edwin Glenister (the son of Clement Edward Glenister - see "The footballing Glenister" in issue 2).

I wish this sort of thing would happen with bundles of £20 notes! ■

Glenisters at work

I spent an hour looking through the reference section of a public library and found a number of Glenisters mentioned in the directories of professional bodies and armed services.

Medical Register 1992 - Medical practitioners

Tony William Alphonse Glenister MRCS LRCP Lond 1947 MB BS 1948 Lond

Peter Wilfrid Glenister BChir 1977 MB 1978 Cantab

Butterworths Directory 1992 - Solicitors in private practice

Louis Oliver Glenister (November 1956, Partner)
Glenisters, Field End Road, Eastcote, Middlesex

Derek Edward Glenister (March 1963, Partner)
Glenisters, Field End Road, Eastcote, Middlesex

Ian James Glenister LLB (Newcastle) (June 1977)
Longueville Gittins, Oswestry, Suffolk

Mrs Josephine Glenister BA (Assistant) (March 1985)
Baldocks, Guildford, Surrey

List of Members 1989 - Institute of Chartered Accountants

John Frederick Glenister FCA 1949
16 Hyde Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 4QS

Julian Reginald Glenister ACA 1987
Hill Grove Cottage, Nash Hill, Lyminge, Folkstone, Kent CT18 8ED

Mrs Lorna Alison Glenister ACA 1981
1 Carnegie Gardens, Barton Hils, Luton, Beds LU3 4SQ

List of Members 1992 - Institute of Chartered Surveyors

David John Glennerster FRICS
The Wheeler Group Consultancy, Haverfordwest, Dyfed

Navy List 1992 - Active List

Lt Cdr Richard Vincent Glenister BSc CEng MIEE
MOD (Bath) (seniority 01.05.76)

Army List 1992 - none

Air Force List 1992 - none

Register of pharmaceutical chemists 1992 - Royal Pharmaceutical Society

Leslie Charles Haselgrove Glenister
37 Ashcombe Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, Avon BS23 2XD

Physiotherapists register

Joan Glenister MCSP
22 Honeysuckle Road, Widmer End, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 6BW

Radiographers register - none

Occupational therapists register - none

Opticians register (Ophthalmic and dispensing) - none

Dentists register - none

Veterinary surgeons register - none

Spotlight Directory 1992 - Actors (leading)

Robert Glenister
Markham & Froggatt Ltd, 4 Windmill St, London W1P 1HF (071-636 4412)■

Glennerster graves

The Glenister name appears in a number of spellings, but the Glennerster variation is particularly found in the Bushey area of Hertfordshire, and just across the county border in Rickmansworth, Buckinghamshire.

The parish registers of Bushey contain entries with both spellings for the same person, the only difference appear to be which priest wrote them. From this I infer that the alternative spellings are due to differing interpretations of the sound of the name as spoken.

Although the Glennerster name appears to be most populous around Bushey, just 15 miles away there is a group of Glennerster graves in the churchyard at Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire.

The quiet village of Hedgerley stands just off the main A40 trunk road, two miles from Gerrards Cross, the nearest town of any size. The churchyard of St Mary contains the graves of the following Glennersters:

Frederick, died 5 August 1908 age 67 [born 1841], and
Mary, died 23 November 1921 age 81 [born 1840].

John Thomas, died 15 March 1962 age 64 [born 1898], and
Jane, died 23 May 1953 age 85 [born 1868];

John, died 13 December 1950 age 77 [born 1873], and Sarah, died 23 November 1948 age 79 [born 1889];

Walter, died 4 April 1961 age 84 [born 1877], and Ethel May, died 9 August 1980 age 98 [born 1882];

It seems likely that these families are descended from the Glennersters who lived in the Bushey area, although this link is yet to be confirmed. ■

Bedfordshire apprentices

The records of apprenticeships can give an indication of how some of our working ancestors earned a living. This extract from the Bedfordshire History Society was sent to me by Bertrand Glenister.

William Crouch, son of Thomas Crouch, victualler, to Edmund Glenister of Caddington, Butcher, £10 from 1715.

Henry Glenister, son of Robert Glenister of Bedford, victualler, to Robert Manning, cooper, £7 from March 1718.

Thomas Higbid, son of Michael Higbid of Leighton Buzzard to William Glenister, barber surgeon, £30 from August 1718.

Nicholas Glenister, son of Nicholas Glenister of Bedfordshire, to Thomas Dilley of Clifton, tailor, £5 eight years from 1 October 1711.

This extract shows a wide range of occupations, including victualler (grocer), butcher, cooper, tailor, and barber-surgeon, all within a span of seven years. There are some interesting variations in the fees too, with an apprenticeship to a barber surgeon commanding more than three times the other trades. ■

The jeweller's question

Who is the mystery Glenister with a penchant for expensive gifts?

In mid December last year, just prior to our wedding, my wife-to-be and I were buying our wedding ring in Hatton Garden, the jewellery area of London. The jeweller asked if I was related to "the Glenister who comes in here every year, just before Christmas to buy something for his wife". The jeweller couldn't remember this Glenister's first name, but thought that he was connected with the printing industry in some way.

Can anybody identify this Glenister? ■

Making the connection with computers

You've probably seen the bulletin boards in shops where you can pin up notices with "for sale" and "wanted" messages, but did you know you can access a worldwide electronic bulletin board for family history by using a computer and a local telephone call?

There are a growing number of electronic bulletin board systems (BBSs) which can be used to exchange information of all sorts. A BBS is like a giant pin-board where you can post messages which can then be read by others. To access a BBS, you connect your computer to the telephone system using a modem, and call the number of the computer which runs the BBS. When the BBS answers your call, you tell it who you are, and then you can leave messages for other users.

To make it easy to use the BBSs, the messages are separated into areas (or conferences) each addressing a specific subject. There are conferences for just about every subject under the sun, including, of course, family history, and computers themselves, although almost any hobby or interest (including driving, knitting, ham radio...) is served by a BBS somewhere.

Most BBSs are limited to certain conferences, reflecting the particular interest of the BBS operator (called sysop in BBS jargon). The sysop is usually an enthusiast in some subject and wants to make contact with like-minded people to exchange information and views and to get help with research. Some BBSs are also run by companies, particularly computer companies, who provide them as a service to their customers, and as a "for sale" board to advertise their products.

The real power of the BBS concept comes into effect when the BBS is connected to a wider network of BBSs. With this approach each BBS on the network transfers a copy its messages to all the other BBSs on the network at a set time. When the transfer process is complete every BBS on the network has a copy of all the messages from all the other BBSs in the network. With a network which links the UK, Europe, the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa the result is worldwide coverage.

I use a BBS called the North West Family run from Wallasey, Liverpool by Bob Fraser. With NWFamily I have made contact with a number of other family history searchers, exchanging information, and picking up useful tips on how to find and use information. I posted a message addressed to "All" with details of my interests, and I received a reply from Dave Bradshaw of Gloucester, Ontario, Canada. Dave has some distant Glenister relatives and now we are trying to find out where they fit in.

The BBS network for genealogy includes a number of specialised services to help research.

The Tafel Matching Service (TMS) helps people with similar interests make contacts. To use TMS, researchers send a condensed description of a family tree (called a Tiny Tafel or TT) to their local BBS which forwards it to a central clearing house. The

matches. Unfortunately though my TMS submission has not located any other Glenister families.

Other services include the distribution of oceans of information and computer software to help with family history.

You don't need to be a computer expert to use a BBS (although the computer jargon can sometimes be intimidating), and it can give access to a wide range of information and people with similar interests. If you are tempted to try give me a call and I'll help you get started. ■

Probate index for 1992

The following extract summarises all the Glenister entries from the index at the Principal Probate Registry, London for 1992

Cecil William Glenister

of Kilfillan House, Graeme Dyke Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
died 26 Aug 1992, Probate at Newcastle on 26 Nov 1992

Dennis Arthur Glenister

of Bagmans Farm House, Horton Road, Woodlands, Wimbourne, Dorset
died 20 Jan 1992, Probate at Winchester on 29 Jun 1992

Doris Mammoth Grace Glenister

of 42 Taynton Road, Merstham, Surrey
died 15 Feb 1992, Probate at London on 25 Mar 1992

Doris Rose Clifton Glenister

of 27 Clifton Road, London N8
died 17 Nov 1991, Probate at London on 13 Jan 1992

Florence Alice Glenister

of 10 Springshott, Letchworth, Hertfordshire
died 18 May 1992, Probate at Brighton on 13 Jul 1992

Gladys Glenister

of 31 Chailey Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex
died 18 May 1992, Probate at Brighton on 13 Jul 1992

Henrietta Ethel Glenister

of 1 David Avenue, Cliftonville, Margate, Kent
died 31 Mar 1992, Administration at Oxford on 27 Apr 1992

John Corbett Glenister

of 16 Temple Road, Epsom, Surrey
died 21 Dec 1991, Probate at Brighton on 10 Feb 1992

Oliver Glenister

of The Chilterns, Brandreth Ave, Dunstable, Bedfordshire
died 22 Dec 1991, Probate at Manchester on 21 Feb 1992

Thomas William Glenister

of Lyndale, Scorton, Richmond, North Yorkshire
died 17 Oct 1983, Probate at Leeds on 15 Jun 1992 ■

In the news

The Glenister name is not often seen in the news, but these few clippings have come to light recently.

Thanks to Ernie Bradley, Alan Glenister, Karen Heath, Dorothy Manthey, and my mother for the contributions.

Vicky relishes the spadework



WITH spade in hand, Vicky Glenister is ready for her Raleigh International challenge in Zimbabwe.

Vicky, 22, of Sandy Lodge Lane, Northwood, is working alongside 80 other volunteers building clinics in Chingele and Gotsi.

They are also working with Surgical Eye Expeditions (SEE), a team of American eye surgeons, to help restore the sight of more than 300 people.

Vicky will be back from Southern Africa this week in time to spend Christmas with her family.

In the first two weeks of the project, Raleigh International teams made more than 3,500 bricks and shifted more than 800 barrow loads of concrete.

Ruislip-Northwood Gazette, 16 Dec 1992

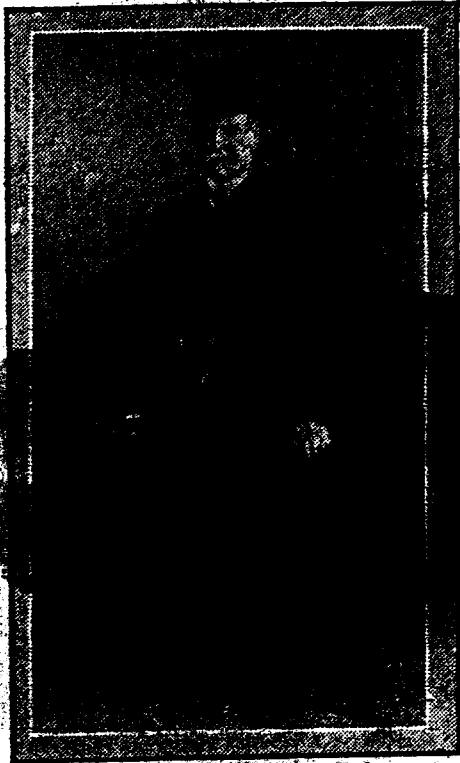
Vicky, born in 1970, is the great-great-great-granddaughter of William Montague Glenister (see "The father of the Hastings police force" in issue 2); her ancestors are Graham Dennis G (1932-), Louis Oliver G (1903-1971), Louis Oliver G (1879-1944), Louis Oliver G (1855-1924), William Montague G (1828-1894).

Mr Glenister is George Henry Glenister (1847-1920), the great-grandfather of researcher Kathleen Glenister of Weaverham, Cheshire. GHG was born in Hemel Hempstead, and, working on the railways, married at Hammersmith in 1874 and moved to Stafford in 1875 where his first child was born. He rose through the ranks from porter, through clerk, to become the stationmaster at Crewe until his retirement. The family can be traced back from GHG through 4 generations to the marriage of William Glenister and Elizabeth King at Flaunden, Hertfordshire in 1751.

David W Glenister is the brother of researcher Ruth Glenister of New York, USA. David's ancestors are Francis Whiffen G (1906-), Francis William G (1878-1957), Joseph Absalom G (1846-1939). JAG married in Aylesbury in 1867, emigrated with his wife soon afterwards, and started a family in New York state in 1868. The family can be traced back from JAG through 8 generations to the marriage of William Glenister and Annie Robinson at Winslow in 1601.

FIFTY YEARS OF RAILWAY WORK

Mr. Glenister, the stationmaster at Crewe, is retiring after fifty years of railway service. He started his career at the Camden Goods Department, and later went to the passenger department at Stafford, where he remained for twenty-four years. From Stafford he went to Crewe fourteen years ago, and at that important station he saw many alterations and improvements necessary to



Mr. Glenister, stationmaster of Crewe.
(Photographed by [unclear] Crewe.)

meet the demands of the ever-increasing traffic. Mr. Glenister has had much to do in connection with the passage of Royal trains through Stafford and Crewe. He has been a real friend to the invalid and juvenile traveller, and he has made it almost a hobby to look after the interests of passengers who were unable to look after themselves.

David W. Glenister

Memorial services for David W. Glenister, 57, will be held Nov. 29 at the South Shore Yacht Club.

Glenister, of Dominica, West Indies, and formerly of Cudahy, died Thursday of cardiac complications at a hospital in Martinique, West Indies.

Glenister earned a bachelor of science in biology and a master's degree from the University of Syracuse at Utica, N.Y. He graduated cum laude from Princeton University, where he earned a doctorate in medical physiology.

He became an assistant professor of physiology at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

In 1982, Glenister joined the Ross University School of Medicine in Dominica as associate professor of physiology and later became the chairman of the department of physiology.

He is survived by his close friend, Jane Christie of Milwaukee; his parents, Frank Glenister, of Oswego, N.Y., and Gladys Parker of Mexico, N.Y.; two brothers, Robert, of Stafford Springs, Conn., and Donald, of Kansas City, Mo.; and three sisters, Ruth Glenister of Hagaman, N.Y., Althea Glenister of Buffalo, N.Y., and Doris Trevvett, of Poland, N.Y.

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. Nov. 29 at the South Shore Yacht Club, 2300 E. Nock St., where Glenister was a member for 18 years.

Unknown, about 1912

Milwaukee Sentinel, 2 Nov 1992

WM. GLENISTER, *Violin Maker,*
23. BEAK STREET, REGENT STREET, LONDON.

Awarded Second Prize in Cobbett Violin Competition 1918 and 1919.

And a prize winner in the Cobbett Competition of 1923.

More about William Glenister (1850-1936), the corn dealer-violin maker, in a future issue.

Glenister revels in his role as Quins' Mr Utility

HARLEQUIN Rob Glenister knows all the jokes, old and new, about Ware, which is where he lives. Wear, as in sports-wear, is also his job. But where he plays on the field is not a matter for leg-pulling. It is a serious challenge to a man of many parts.

Last week in the league match at Gloucester, Glenister was outside-half. At other times in the cut and thrust of the senior game he has represented Quins as full-back, centre and wing, with the odd appearance up front in sevens. Tomorrow at Twickenham in the Pilkington Cup final he will be scrum-half.

Considering that he left Bedford, his first port of call on the senior circuit, because of increasing duties as utility player, Glenister has been remarkably patient since joining Quins in 1987 and a midweek debut against Maidstone. Quins, too, enjoy his versatility while acknowledging that, first and foremost, he is a scrum-half.

The need to adapt swiftly to the different requirements of sundry positions behind the scrum is a fact of sporting life for Glenister, the national sales manager of British Knights, a sport and leisure-wear company. But while not analysing in depth skills which gladden the hearts of coaches in this age of the squad system, Glenister offers a couple of modest reasons for his success.

He says: "Basically I'm a scrum-half. That's what I do best. But in being asked to play elsewhere, I've this terrific protection. There's no fear of failure, no pressure on you. I've been chosen out of position and if there's a mistake, then strictly that's not necessarily my fault.

By John Mason

"From early days I was being asked to play full-back or fly-half. At Bedford, when I started, Brian Gabriel was there. Ian Peck was playing the odd match and David Elkington was around, too. As an 18-year-old seeking to go as far as I could, scrum-half opportunities were limited.

"It was my grandfather who suggested I moved to Quins. He was a Wasp and there didn't seem a lot of room there either, what with Nigel Melville and Steve Bates on the lists. So Quins it was, thanks to the persua-

'Basically I'm a scrum-half, but when I play elsewhere, I've no fear'

sion of grandfather and Peter, my father.

"I just turned up at Quins training. I didn't know anyone in the committee sense. I hadn't been approached. I went there to see what I could do and I'm delighted I did. I've thanked grandfather, too."

It was a hard slog for a while and, ironically, having worked his way to the first-choice side, there were often duties as full-back, the position in which Glenister spent seven of his 21 senior matches in 1988-89. He enjoyed that season immensely, as did his colleagues.

Besides being the club's leading try-scorer, the players voted him clubman of the year, a coveted seal of approval by those who, week in, week out, unsung in all

winds and weathers, inhabit the sharp end of the game.

I attended that awards dinner at a pub in East Twickenham and well remember the roar of applause that greeted the announcement that Barnet-born Glenister, late of Hitchin Boys, was the winner. There are many prizes in sport for the able and the dedicated: the one which has the most special of places is that which, in effect, says your team-mates think you give 100 per cent plus.

It is, of course, on the Glenisters that all aspiring clubs depend. He has scored approaching 300 points in 125 matches for the club besides having a leading role in a score of sevens tournaments, large and small.

Training alone occupies two nights a week and that does not include a road running session or gym work. There is a busy fashion-orientated job — his area stretches from Plymouth to Scotland and 40,000 miles of driving a year — as well as six weeks in Europe and America attending trade fairs, meetings, and the like.

Alison Glenister not only keeps a careful eye on the business and household diary, but also watches her husband's matches. Glenister, whose father is first team secretary, says he is grateful for her encouragement in the training routines — a hard but supportive taskmaster.

Outside the family, Glenister is convinced that much of his commitment to Quins would not be possible without the goodwill of an understanding employer. A win tomorrow, he suggests, would be one way of thanking everyone who has helped him.